

**Support to Aid Coordination and Management in Somalia project**



**Key achievements during the reporting period**

- The Aid Information Management System (AIMS) is fully automated and functional
- The ACU managed to continue operations and coordinated meetings key among them Covid 19 response meetings for the FGS virtually and others physically providing a robust mechanism for coordination at short notice and in emergency.

**Project data**

MPTF Gateway ID	00113235
Geographical coverage	Somalia All regions
Project duration	1 Nov 2018 – 31December 2021
Total approved budget	USD 4,614,351
Programme funding level	USD 4,614,351
Estimated delivery rate	100%
Participating UN entities	UNDP, UN RCO
Implementing partners	(FGS) Aid Coordination Unit – OPM and MOPIED
Project beneficiaries	FGS (OPM and MOPIED); Civil society groups, FMS
NDP pillar	PWG 3 Building Effective & Efficient Institutions
UNCF Strategic Priority	Improvement of how the government is organized and the way it works and strengthening of the elements that allow government to operate
SDG	
Gender Marker	2
Related UN projects within/outside the SJF portfolio	N/A
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## Section 1: Executive summary

### Brief introduction to the project

The Joint Programme ‘Support to Aid Management and Coordination in Somalia’ is positioned under the UN Strategic Framework to focus on supporting institutions to improve peace, security, justice, the rule of law and safety of Somalis; and strategic plan (Goal 2); and strengthening accountability and supporting institutions that protect (Goal 3). The project was established to support aid coordination and effectiveness in Somalia’s recovery and development and has aimed to support the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and the Federal Member States (FMS) to develop their core capacities to coordinate the implementation of national and regional priorities, coordinate and manage development assistance to Somalia and to help engage the FMS in the overall state building agenda. The project has sought to support the establishment and operations of the revised aid architecture; strengthen government capacity to lead aid coordination processes, and consolidate efforts provided by UN agencies and the World Bank to provide more effective, coherent, efficient support with reduced transaction costs. 2021 was the final year of project implementation and most of the activities in the last half of the year were to close the project as well as work on the next level project document.

### Situation update / Context of the reporting period

The year 2021 in Somalia began with serious political challenges over the electoral process. This led to the deferment of the FGS elections and cast uncertainty on other important government processes which include the smooth flow and functioning of the aid coordination architecture. The uncertainty with the electoral process meant that a key component of the aid architecture which is the Pillar Working Group meetings were not conducted as timely as would have been anticipated. The project was scheduled to end on 30 June 2021 but was further extended in a Project Steering Committee meeting by another 6 months until 31 December 2021 to cater for the development of a new project document which would run from 2022 – 2024. In the second half of the year, the Aid Coordination Unit appointed a new Director who hit the ground running meeting with donors in Mogadishu and Nairobi as well as the UNCT. The distribution of roles between the MOPIED and the ACU in the aid coordination architecture remained a disputed matter throughout the year. To tackle this issue, one of the key resolutions in 2020 was the establishment and launch of the Integrated Coordination Team (ICT), a new structure which would be made up of the Head of the Aid Coordination Unit (ACU), the four Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) Pillar Leads, the MoPIED Pillar Leads, a senior representative from the Ministry of Finance and representative from Ministry of Women and Human Rights. However, by the of December this ICT had not been established as deliberations continued between the MOPIED and the OPM. On the governance of the project, the Project Steering Committee managed to hold two meetings, one on 30 June 2021 another one on 21 December 2021. The first meeting deliberated on several issues but chiefly voted to extend the extension by another 6 months. The second meeting officially closed the project. A final project evaluation was conducted by an international independent consultant and has been finalized providing direction to a much needed innovative approach to aid coordination and management architecture in the future. A new project document to this effect has been drafted and will wait further deliberations as soon as the electoral process is finalized and a new government is in place.

### Highlights of the project during the reporting period

1. The ACU has delivered on the support systems for a refined aid architecture with all the Standards Operating Procedures (SOPs) finalized and ready for deployment to all concerned stakeholders. This should strengthen and bolster the revived aid architecture system.
2. Administrative processes such as the HACT audit/spot checks and Third party Monitoring verification did not find key issues with the accounting and programmatic processes at the ACU showing that capacity building efforts and transfer of skills to government staff has been successful.
3. In its quest for digitization of the aid architecture, the ACU successfully managed to oversee the majority of its meetings virtually., both national and international have adapted easily to remote meetings, and it is expected to keep using these systems even once the Covid-19 pandemic is under control (in combination with physical meetings), as they reduce implementation costs, contribute to lower carbon emissions, and allow for agile exchange of information and ideas.
4. Progress has been made from the initial use of manual Excel spreadsheets to today’s fully automated online portal (AIMS), which has gained real traction with stakeholders over the past year.
5. On aid information management, the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MOPIED) managed to run a data collection process that led to the collection of data which was used to successfully produce the 2020 AID Flows report.

### Summary of key achievements during the reporting period

A total of 13 PWGs meetings bringing together diverse groups such as civil society, representatives of women, the disabled, government, and the international community were convened by the ACU. These meetings were held to deliberate on diverse

critical issues including the release of funds for different projects related to the effects of the Covid 19 pandemic as well as economic resuscitation efforts. The continued support to the Covid 19 pandemic coordination efforts at the FGS and FMS levels provided by the ACU is also testament of a system that has been well developed and is adaptive to any new conditions. This is testament to the robustness and resilience of the architecture and its ability to function in the specific challenging context of Somalia. With regards aid information management, the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development continued conducting trainings on the use of the Aid Information Management System, worked on the validation of data collected from implementing partners on the AIMS and advanced the preparation of the year's Somali Aid Flow Report. The information contained in the report has been used by several stakeholders to have an overall view of how aid flows into Somalia as well as ensure transparency. This has assisted the international donor community to know where and how to prioritize their aid in instances where such information was not readily or easily available. The ACU heeded calls to ensure that the work of the whole aid coordination system was digitized during the Covid 19 pandemic and other exigencies that might make it difficult for people to meet physically. This was important in ensuring that the coordination and aid work of the FGS and the FMS continued running thereby saving lives and contributing to the recovery of Somalia from the ravages of the locusts invasion, drought, floods as well as the Covid 19 pandemic.

## Section 2: Progress Report Results Matrix

OUTCOME STATEMENT			
Capacity for aid coordination processes is improved and increasingly Somali owned and led			
SUB-OUTCOME 1 STATEMENT			
i) a more inclusive, effective, and efficient aid architecture; ii) strengthened national ownership and capacity for aid coordination processes; iii) better coherence in the international community's support for aid coordination and effectiveness.			
Output 1.1: SDRF progressively shifts towards a more efficient and strategic decision-making body			
INDICATOR	TARGET	PROGRESS ON OUTPUT INDICATOR	
		REPORTING PERIOD (YEAR)	CUMULATIVE
Frequency of briefings to PWG core group members on the SDRF operations manual	PWG core group members briefed on SDRF operations manual once a year	YES <sup>1</sup>	YES
Percentage of aid architecture fora that comply with agreed minimal core requirements for effective management and strategic-focused management	By the end of the project 80% of aid architecture fora comply with agreed minimal core requirements for effective and strategic-focused management <sup>2</sup>	75% <sup>3</sup>	75%
Number of PWGs (2021 reporting changes to percentage) that comply with agreed minimal requirements for effective and strategic focused management	All PWGs that comply with agreed minimal requirements and strategic focused management (2021 reporting states target as "By end of project 80% of fora comply with agreed minimal core requirements"	In previous architecture 70% compliance by seven out of 8 PWGs. Eighty-one percent compliance by SDRF SC.	70%
Number of SDRF SC meetings that comply with agreed core requirements of effective management and strategic focus	Increased % of SDRF SC meetings comply with agreed core requirements for effective	0 <sup>4</sup>	0

<sup>1</sup> Reporting Period (Jan – Dec 2021) PWG Core Groups were regularly briefed on the refined aid architecture and latest developments, usually by the Head of the ACU. Briefings were this time shared by email to all the core groups. A national consultancy firm finalized the development of awareness raising and products to improve understanding of the aid architecture and its different processes. These include, amongst others, a leaflet on the refined aid architecture, Standard Operating Procedures for the preparation of SDRF SC and for PWG meetings, ToRs for the ICT, or a self-assessment questionnaire on the adherence of PWGs to the SDRF Operations Manual..

<sup>2</sup> Consolidated tracking sheets

<sup>3</sup> A total of thirteen meetings were conducted. The tracking sheets used by the ACU show a 100% compliance rate and it is anticipated that when the Inclusive Politics, Security and SDRF SC resumes its meetings, the rate of compliance will go up to approximately one hundred per cent.

<sup>4</sup> No SDRF SC meetings have been held in the reporting period due to the political developments in the country.

	management and strategic focus		
Issues relevant to FMS are increasingly considered in the SDRF	Each FMS report back on challenges and progress made against components of PWGs AWPs which are relevant for them at least twice a year	0 <sup>5</sup>	0
Somali Partnership Forum organized regularly in a successful manner	At least one successful SPF held with UNDP/UN Integrated Office playing a supporting role	0 <sup>6</sup>	0.
<b>&lt;UNDP ONLY: sources of evidence (as per current QPR)&gt;</b>			
ACU Tracking sheets Pillar Working Group Minutes PWG Attendance sheets PWG Agenda			
<b>Output 1.2.: National capacity for aid management and coordination enhanced</b>			
National stakeholders trained satisfactorily on relevant topics which enhance institutional capacity for effective aid management and coordination	All training activities conducted follow recommendations highlighted in Third Party Monitoring exercise	4 <sup>7</sup>	4
Standard operating procedures (SOPs) and/or guidance packages for improved aid management developed	At least four SOPs are documented and rolled out with clear roles and responsibilities distribution, with associated comprehensive guidance packages (when required)	12 <sup>8</sup>	12
<b>&lt;UNDP ONLY: sources of evidence (as per current QPR)&gt;</b>			
SOPs for the aid architecture Training materials Training satisfaction survey results			
<b>SUB-OUTCOME 2 STATEMENT</b>			
<b>Monitoring NPS, MAF, UCS implementation</b>			
<b>Output 2.1 Improved national capacity to monitor NPS, MAF and UCS</b>			
MOPIED and ACU have the capabilities to monitor NPS implementation	At least one aid coordination workshop organized per year in line with need	0 <sup>9</sup>	0
Progress on MAF implementation regularly monitored and reported	2 MAF progress reports produced per year	0	0

<sup>5</sup> No SDRF SC meetings have been held in the reporting period due to the political developments in the country.

<sup>6</sup> Same as above

<sup>7</sup> During Q1 2021, four trainings have been carried out by the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development on AIMS (one to AIMS focal points from implementing agencies held on the 3rd February; one for staff of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 12th February, upon request; one for UNICEF staff upon request on 15th February; and another one to OPM staff on 24th March), and three on the refined aid architecture to the Federal Member States of Hirshabelle (16th January), Galmudug (28th January) and Southwest (31st January).

<sup>8</sup> The Consultancy firm Horn Population Research and Development – (HRPD) developed a series of documents (12) that have been presented to the ACU and are scheduled to be presented further to the PWG meetings for use as reference documents in the aid architecture. These are: ICT Capacity Development Plan and TORs; Guidance Note on Strategic Focusing for the SDRF SC; Aid Architecture Leaflet; Operations manual – SDRF Funds; SOP ICT; SOP PWG; SOP Strengthening PWG Engagement; SOP – Organisation of SDRF meetings; SOP Management of Cross cutting Issues; SOP – Coordination of Humanitarian Development and P Triple Nexus and SOP – Pilar Working Groups. An aid effectiveness workshop will be used to disseminate this information.

<sup>9</sup> Workshop not conducted but the system is now capable of conducting monitoring operation on the NPS implementation through the MAF processes. No report produced in the reporting period yet. The workshop is planned in May and it is proposed to focus on future support to the operationalization of the Somali aid architecture, and also serve to present the package of awareness raising products on the refined aid architecture and address aspects related to risk management and use of online collaborative tools for improved communication and engagement, under the leadership of the ICT.

Aid flows analyzed and reported regularly	At least one annual progress report produced for aid flows per year	0	0
<b>&lt;UNDP ONLY: sources of evidence (as per current QPR)&gt;</b>			
AIMS ( <a href="https://aims.mop.gov.so/home">https://aims.mop.gov.so/home</a> )			
MAF Templates			
AIMS use satisfaction survey results			

### Section 3: Narrative reporting on results

#### Progress towards outcomes

##### OUTCOME STATEMENT

##### **Somali owned aid coordination and management that supports state building priorities, contributes to stability, and responds to citizen needs**

With the political impasse and elections stalemate in the first half of 2021, there was work behind the scenes to build a strong aid coordination and management system. The different Pillar Working Groups consisting of the Security; Inclusive Politics; Economic Development, Social Development, and the Gender, Human Rights and Inclusion Pillar Working Groups as well as the SDRF SC ideally all convene to achieve stability and respond to citizens' needs in Somalia. The Pillar Working Group meetings were subdued in the first quarter and then there was an improvement in the second quarter. However, the Inclusive Politics and Security Pillar Working Groups failed to meet due to the political differences in the country. The project hopes that with the resolution of the political impasse and the holding of elections, all the Pillar Working Groups will resume meetings that will contribute to this important result.

To show that the aid coordination mechanisms in Somalia continue to develop and evolve over time, while most of the transversal issues are actively monitored in the respective pillars, in the reporting period there was a realization of the need for active and standalone engagement in the environment and climate agenda. The ACU, Directorate of Environment and Climate Change and UN teams worked on the formation of an environment and climate change working group to ensure active and dedicated deliberations on the climate change topic. To date, there have been several core group meetings around this issue.

##### **Reporting against Outcome - Capacity for aid coordination processes is improved and increasingly Somali owned and led**

The project has in the reporting period strengthened the aid coordination process by taking on the all-important tasks to review the different architecture, bodies, and other supporting mechanisms to ensure that there is smooth operationalization of the aid architecture. A consultancy firm, HRPD was contracted to work on developing standard operating procedures for the refined aid architecture and has managed to deliver these in record time. The documents have been approved by the ACU and now await to be disseminated to all the core groups through an aid effectiveness workshop that will be conducted in the Third Quarter. Currently, the agenda setting, setting up of meetings, determination of dates and venues is all done at the ICT level in consultation with the Pillar leads which are all Somalia led.

##### **ACU tracks and analyses consistency of participation in SDRF SC and PWG meetings**

In the aid architecture mechanism, the Pillar Working Groups are supposed to have bimonthly meetings. This translates into twelve meetings every 6 months. In the reporting period, there were thirteen meetings that were conducted for all the PWGs as well as the Gender Cross cutting one. The ACU has a robust means of tracking the participation of all stakeholders such as donors, UN agencies, the FGS as well as the FMS through monitoring attendance by employing a tracking sheets mechanism. This mechanism is online and kept in the Google Drive folders of the ACU such that it is readily available for verification purposes. It is important to note that in the reporting period there were no SDRF meetings conducted.

##### **Level of international donor financing channeled through SDRF funds (%)**

The Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility (SDRF) serves as both a coordination framework and a financing architecture for implementing the National Development Plan (NDP). It brings together three multi partner trust funds under common governance arrangements to promote coordination, alignment with national priorities, and reduced transaction costs for government: the African Development Bank Somali Infrastructure Fund (ADB SIF), the United Nations Multi Partner Trust Fund (UN MPTF), and the World Bank Multi Partner Fund (WB MPF).

The share as well as the volume of development aid channeled through SDRF Funds declined in 2020 after record high contributions in 2019 (Figure 5). Contributions to the WB MPF declined 23% from US\$ 115 to US\$ 88.2 million. No donor contributions were made to the ADB SIF, which had received US\$ 30.2 million in 2019. Contributions to the UN MPTF remained relatively stable at US\$ 71.5

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compared with US\$ 74.5 in 2019. The European Union has been the largest contributor to the SDRF Funds since they were established, with US\$ 212 million in total contributions between 2014 and 2020.

#### **Level of adherence to SDRF Operations Manual (% of PWGs)**

In the previous aid architecture, Federal Member States have been raising their issues of interest in SDRF meetings but not in a structured manner. In the refined aid architecture it has been proposed to structure discussions around commonly agreed themes of interest, with FMS providing inputs. This proposal is described in a guidance note developed by the Somali firm hired by the Aid Coordination Unit. The proposal suggests strengthening the role and contribution of Federal Member States in SDRF SC meetings by setting a fixed space in all meetings for FMS to lead sessions dedicated to strategic theme of their interest. There is an agreement of holding one Somali Partnership Forum per year. However, given the current political instability there have been no discussions on the possibility of having one in 2021.

#### **Existence of tools and plans for development financing diversification**

The ACU has developed a diversification strategy which has been annexed to the new project. It is comprehensive and will be implemented in the next project of the aid coordination when this current one ends in December 2021.

#### **Sustainability of the Somali aid coordination function**

The sustainability of the aid coordination function has been addressed during the implementation of the project. The number of ACU salary staff positions paid by the project has been reduced from nineteen at the beginning of implementation to six since mid-2019. Sustainability of the project is not assured and will require continued substantial external aid and resources in the immediate term. Any next phase needs to consider issues of sustainability and establish multi-year roll out of robust exit strategies, hallmarked by a continued commitment to ensuring aid coordination in Somalia is Somali owned and led. The refinement of the aid architecture and the ongoing process of strengthening of the integration of the ACU into the OPM have resulted in a more harmonized contribution of government institutions to the aid coordination function. The new project document in support to aid coordination already drafted considers the need to shift towards improved financial sustainability and proposes a phased approach by which the government increasingly covers the costs of salaries of staff engaged in critical aid coordination functions, covering 100% of those costs by the end of the implementation of the project in 2024. The project also proposes a reduction of operational costs by promoting the use of online communication tools and meetings. A sustainability plan is attached to the project document already drafted. The sustainability plan will consider financial requirements for a sustainable aid coordination function and considers opportunities for improved cost-effectiveness through the use of online communication tools, which have been explored in the current project through a consultancy, as well as the structure of the refined aid architecture.

#### **Reporting against Sub-Outcome 1 - Strengthened Effectiveness and Coordination through the SDRF Aid Architecture**

##### **Output 1.1: SDRF progressively shifts towards a more efficient and strategic decision-making body**

The Aid Coordination Unit has, over the reporting period, been monitoring the work conducted in the PWGs with a view to ensuring that they comply with the agreed minimal requirements for effective and strategic focused management. To achieve this, the ACU uses a tracking sheet to track implementation of commitments for effective organization and management of PWG and SDRF SC meetings. The ACU through the ICT in the reporting period circulated documents in most of the meetings relevant to meetings held. The ACU is charged with archiving and ensuring that all documents are stored securely, which they managed to do. This process requires in addition that minutes from all meetings are circulated within one week of each meeting and posted to the ACU Google Drive. The minutes for most of the meetings have been made. ACU has made efforts to update mailing lists for PWG members and update them in Google Drive; however, more consistency and accuracy is required. Meeting invitations are sent in many of the cases at least one week before meetings and posted to ACU Google Drive, while supporting documents are usually sent one or two days before the meetings.

**The table below gives an explanation on the frequency of PWG meetings during the reporting period.**

Pillar Working Group meetings held	Date	Other documents	Details about the meeting
Social Sector Pillar Working Group	April 26, 2021	Minutes, Zoom participation recording, tracking & attendance sheets documentations are available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ MAF milestones updates.</li> <li>☑ Updates from the Sub Working Groups</li> <li>☑ Intervention by the Gender and Human Rights as cross-cutting issues.</li> </ul>
Economic Pillar Working Group:	April 26, 2021	Minutes, Zoom participation recording, tracking & attendance sheets documentations are available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ Overview of National Agriculture States.</li> <li>☑ Overview of National Livestock</li> <li>☑ States. Fisheries development.</li> <li>☑ Productive sector development and Trade.</li> <li>☑ Private sector contribution to productive sector.</li> </ul>
Gender, Human Rights, and Inclusion Pillar Working Group	June 14, 2021	Minutes, zoom participation recording, tracking & attendance sheets documentations are available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ Update on the Universal Periodic Report</li> <li>☑ Update on COVID19 Vaccine Rollout – WHO.</li> <li>☑ Update on Women Political Participation - women's quota.</li> </ul>
Social Sector Pillar Working Group	June 24, 2021	Minutes, zoom participation recording, tracking attendance sheets documentations are available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ Overview of pillar work done in the past 6months, challenges and the way to plan for the next 6months.</li> <li>☑ Update of MAF 2021 from sub working groups,</li> <li>☑ Presentation of sub-working groups updated Annual Work Plan for the next 6months.</li> </ul>
Economic Pillar Working Group:	June 29, 2021	Minutes, zoom participation recording, tracking & attendance sheets documentations are available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ Natural resources and environment.</li> <li>☑ Financial Reforms.</li> <li>☑ Trade reforms and regional Integrations.</li> <li>☑ Infrastructure.</li> </ul>
Gender, Human Rights, and Inclusion Pillar Working Group	July 17, 2021	Minutes, zoom participation recording, tracking attendance sheets documentations are available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ Endorsing of the last meeting's minutes</li> <li>☑ Presentation on Switzerland commissioned research on Minority Inclusion Learning Review for its Horn of Africa portfolio</li> <li>☑ Presentation on the UNPBF Women Peace and Security Programme,</li> <li>☑ Presentation from the Office of the Puntland Human Rights Defenders</li> </ul>
Gender, Human Rights, and Inclusion Pillar Working Group	August 17, 2021	Minutes, zoom participation recording, tracking attendance sheets documentations are available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ Endorsing of the last meeting's minutes</li> <li>☑ Presentation of Switzerland commissioned research on Minority Inclusion Learning Review for its Horn of Africa portfolio</li> <li>☑ Presentation on the UNPBF Women Peace and Security Programme</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ Presentation on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Project</li> </ul>
Economic Development PWG	August 25, 2021	Minutes, zoom participation recording, tracking and attendance sheets, Other documentations are available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ Special focus was given to Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF) particularly infrastructure part.</li> <li>☑ Minister of Public Works, Reconstruction and Housing (MoPWHR) made the official opening with over thirty participants from Federal and State Government representative, donors, IFIs, UN and other implementing partners.</li> <li>☑ The Ministry of Public Works presented an overview of ongoing, completed and the pipeline projects/programs through the infrastructure sub-working group.</li> <li>☑ AfdB presented ongoing and pipeline projects and activities they are managing currently across Somalia</li> <li>☑ Triplane, UNIDO &amp; MoCI presented the industrial zone and other activities related to the infrastructure sector.</li> </ul>
Economic Development PWG	October 25, 2021	Minutes, zoom participation recording, tracking and attendance sheets, Other documentations are available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ Review MAF monitoring frameworks</li> <li>☑ Progress and pipeline presentations on Financial Reforms and Development programs</li> <li>☑ Overview of ECF, IDA/ Development funds (10 minutes)</li> <li>☑ DG, MoF</li> <li>☑ ILED Programme EU</li> <li>☑ Digital Economy UNDP</li> <li>☑ Support to SMEs growth, MoCI &amp; UNIDO</li> <li>☑ SoBS achievements &amp; plans, SoBS</li> <li>☑ Summary and next meeting agenda</li> <li>☑ Closing remarks</li> </ul>
Gender, Human Rights, and Inclusion Pillar Working Group	November 2, 2021	Minutes, zoom participation recording, tracking attendance sheets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ Endorsement of the Women Peace and Security project</li> <li>☑ Presentation on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Project</li> <li>☑ Latest Updates on the UPR</li> <li>☑ NAP on Women Peace Security</li> <li>☑ Reflections on GHRIPWG (what works, changes and future priorities)</li> </ul>
Core Group for Social Development Pillar Meeting	4 November 2021	Minutes, attendance sheets, Photos and Other documentations are available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ Overview of Pillar work done in past six months and acceleration efforts of Sub-working groups on the Thematic Areas of SDP,</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ Preparation for the Main Pillar Working Group Meeting in Late November,</li> <li>☐ MAF 2021-2022.</li> </ul>
Economic Development PWG	December 7, 2021	Minutes, attendance sheets, Photos and Other documentations are available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ Review MAF monitoring frameworks OPM &amp; ALL</li> <li>☐ WB Portfolio and pipeline presentation to the Economic Pillar Working Group</li> <li>☐ Overview of WB portfolio, WB</li> <li>☐ Pipeline Projects, WB</li> <li>☐ Country Economic Memorandum, WB</li> <li>☐ 2020 Audit Report presentation, OAG</li> <li>☐ Economic PWG review (10m) Chairs</li> </ul>
Social Development Pillar Working Group Meeting	16 December, 2021	Minutes, zoom participation recording, tracking and attendance sheets, Other documentations are available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of assessing SDP Annual Achievement, challenges and lesson learned</li> <li>• Review Agenda and endorse</li> <li>• Drought Emergence and Humanitarian Situation</li> <li>• Environment &amp; Climate Change</li> <li>• Updates &amp; Hydro-Met Landscape</li> <li>• Presentation ED,</li> <li>• Review MAF Monitoring Framework</li> <li>• Social Development Sub-Working Groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing and Pipeline Social Development Projects</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

#### Output 1.2: National capacity for aid management and coordination enhanced

This component of the project focuses on enhancing the capacity of national stakeholders in the government and Federal Member states to be able to effectively manage and coordinate aid coordination. Several trainings were conducted by the MOPIED on the AIMS for several bodies including donor agencies, Federal Member States as well as staff members of the OPM during the reporting period. These trainings enhanced the use of the AIMS as well as improved the understanding of what the AIMS seeks to do in Somalia. The Ministry has conducted four trainings on the use of the Aid Information Management System during the quarter: the first one, focusing on data entry, was held on 3 February for AIMS focal points from implementing agencies; dedicated sessions were organized upon request for staff of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 12 February, and for UNICEF staff on 15 February; while another training session, focused on data visualization one to OPM staff on 24 March.

#### Reporting against Sub-Outcome 2 – Monitoring NPS, MAF and UCS implementation

##### Output 2.1. Improved national capacity to monitor NPS, MAF and UCS

The project seeks to have MOPIED and ACU in a position that they can monitor the three functions, the NPS implementation, MAF and UCS implementation. To achieve this, at least one aid coordination workshop is envisaged per year in line with need. Firstly, the Somali Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF) is built around the key organizing principle of mutual accountability. Capacity development for MOPIED and ACU, which aimed to build the capacity to monitor implementation of the NPS did not take place in 2021 but was scheduled due to the prioritization of all preparations related to the SPF in 2020.

Progress on MAF implementation was planned to be carried out in the Q1, 2021 by the Integrated Coordination Team through an aid coordination survey.

The use of Country Systems (UCS) working group, focused on Public Financial Management (PFM) was constituted with milestones agreed for improving the quality of national systems and frameworks for the period 2021-2023<sup>10</sup>, however this work has not developed further since June 2021 when the group met to look at 'support needed for stimulation of national systems' aside from the ACU Director undertaking an induction presentation to new co-chairs of UCS working group focused on MAF monitoring and its contribution to quality coordination processes. These commitments comprised: Increased application of common methodology for assessments of government institutions and/or increased sharing of assessments; concerted joint efforts to strengthen coordination of capacity injection and salary/top-up support; reducing risk of duplication and ensuring consistent, joined up approaches are applied.

#### **Monitoring aid flows and AIMS implementation**

During the first quarter of 2021 the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development requested development partners to further update their project data in the Aid Information Management System. Donors were requested to enter information of their envelopes for Somalia in 2021 and if possible for successive years. Once information was received, the Ministry reviewed and validated the data, approaching focal points of development agencies when there was the need to clarify information uploaded or needed complete data. Based on the data updated in the system by development partners, the Ministry advanced in the development of the Somalia 2020 Aid Flows report. The report has been finalized and approved by the MOPIED and it will be shared at the next SDRF meeting in the third quarter of 2021. The 2021 Aid Flows Report indicates that the share as well as the volume of development aid channeled through SDRF declined in 2020 after record high contributions in 2019. Contributions to the WB MPF declined by 23 percent from USD115 to USD88.2 million. No donor contributions were made to the ADB SIF, which received USD30.2 million in 2019. Contributions to the UN MPTR remained stable as USD71.5 compared to USD74.5 in 2019. The European Union (EU) has been the largest contributor to the SDRF with USD 212million in total from 2014 to 2020.

In addition, improvements in the AIMS have been done and support to maintenance has been provided through a consultancy. Improvements undertaken in the system include the improvement of the selection of organizations under the multiselect option; the enhancement of the management of the funders/implementers list under data entry option; the setting up of a space on the homepage for linking to documents; the inclusion of a "date of last update" column on the organization page; the addition of added help text to the envelope page about the Fiscal Year; showing the full range of years in the dropdown of the envelope reports page; allowing data export in USD; the addition of an 'organization' filter to the excel download; the improvement of the management of formatting vs export on the email users option; summing on amounts has been made possible when adding disbursements from source data; the 'join a project' option has been moved to the projects list like 'suggest a change'; the addition of a marker filter to the data entry screen; the fixing of bugs and incorporation of feedback; the improvement of the provision of detailed localization data (sub-location level); tacking exchange rates in different sections; addressing the issue of project deletion requests - and manager users - when they get a notification or an email; allowed reporting by sub-sector by selecting parent sectors; allowed reports to be filtered by two markers at once; the reduction of the loading time needed to match from AIMS column on data; fixes in International Aid Transparency Initiative Parser for the version 2.03 done.

#### **Project Management**

Project support was rendered in three areas. The first was finance and project management wherein the ACU was supported with the payment of salaries and other requisite expenses borne by the institution. In addition UNDP continued to support and give guidance to two international consultants working on the development of a new project document (2022 – 2024) as well as the final project evaluation. The international consultant on project document development and finalization delivered the expected document managed to present his consultations report with the UNCT, UNDP and the FGS. He also submitted a report that centered on mapping scenarios and trajectories for aid coordination and management under the political situation. With the current political situation and the delayed elections, it was deemed feasible to produce a bridging gap document that would seek interim support for at least six months from the Somalia Donor Group until a new government was in place. The consultant managed to submit this document and it is currently under review by UNDP and the FGS. The international consultant also developed a scenario mapping tool and next steps document which was presented to UNDP and the ACU.

With the project set to end on 30 June 2021, the last project board meeting was held on 2 June 2021. The meeting was co-chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the OPM and UNDP's Resident Representative. The Board meeting was attended by all the donors for the project, the RCO, UNDP and staff from the ACU. Sound deliberations took place on a variety of issues concerning the project. Among other highlights he noted that a Somali-owned open-sourced Aid Information Management System (AIMS) has been developed and is now fully functional and hosted by the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MOPIED), that the aid architecture has been simplified and aligned to the structure of the National Development Plan and is now less costly than before, and that the project has contributed to the national response to the Covid-19 pandemic. He also noted that the participation of the Federal Member States (FMS) had now been enhanced and that greater focus is now being given to ensuring project accountability and taking all stakeholders' views into consideration. He thanked the funding partners in the meeting for their financial support to the project and for technical assistance provided to the staff of the Aid Coordination Unit (ACU). He added that, while the government is fully committed to moving towards a more sustainable management of the aid architecture, joint efforts will continue to be needed to ensure continuity of the aid coordination and management processes in Somalia, particularly in the post-Covid-19 period. The meeting discussed progress, challenges, and plans for the project. It was agreed to extend the ongoing "Support to aid management and coordination in Somalia" project from 1 July to 31 December 2021 using the estimated balance of approximately USD 350,000. While the aid coordination project will now end on 31 December, a new project document in support to the aid coordination function to be implemented until December 2024 has been drafted. The project aims at

<sup>10</sup> USC Roadmap 2021-2023

operationalizing the refined aid architecture in a cost-effective manner, improving the strategic focus, and strengthening engagement of Federal Member States.

The Aid Coordination Unit underwent the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) spot-check authorized by UNDP for the second half of 2020. The HACT framework states that a financial spot-check should be conducted for implementing partners which received cash advances and/or direct payments for accountability and assurance purposes. The firm that was chosen to conduct this exercise was KPMG. The financial spot-check commenced on 25 December 2020 albeit being the fall break. The spot-check was conducted through remote communication and documentation was shared by online electronic means. In late March 2021, ACU responded to some recommendations by KPMG, however; the outcome of the report has not yet been finalized as of this reporting period.

The Federal Government of Somalia's annual audit, conducted by the Office of the Auditor General, commenced on 15 February 2021 for the year 2020. ACU cooperated with the team from the Office of the Auditor General by online means to their satisfaction.

The annual micro assessment audit as mandated by the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) framework of the UNDP covering the period of 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020 commenced on 20 January 2021. The ACU uses these annual audits as a tool to improve consistency within its own systems, internal control mechanisms and policies. The 2020 annual audit conducted by Deloitte and Touché has rated ACU as having a satisfactory performance overall on a scale of satisfactory/unsatisfactory/not applicable. Areas subject to assessment were human resources, finance, procurement, asset management, cash management, and general administration. The annual audit satisfactory outcome is indicative of the Aid Coordination Unit's system development over the years and its continuous commitment to system strengthening and capacity development.

The final project evaluation was concluded end of December. The Evaluation focused on the entire implementation period of the project (November 2018 – December 2021). The purpose of the evaluation was to assess the processes, achievements and bottlenecks faced. The evaluation was designed to be forward thinking and to draw lessons and provide information on the nature, extent and where possible, the effect of the Aid Coordination project to the FGS and the rest of the FMS. The evaluation will therefore inform the development of the next steps in shaping the aid coordination and management structure and arrangements in Somalia in the future. The international consultant has shared a draft report which is currently under review. The international consultant also made a short "take aways" presentation from the evaluation at the Steering Committee Board Meeting on 21 December.

The project conducted the final steering committee meeting on 21 December 2021. The meeting, which was attended by technical level personnel from UNDP, the Swiss, the EU, USAID, the UN Integrated Office as well as the ACU deliberated on several issues key among which was the official closure of the project. Presentations on progress were made by Mukhtar Ahmed, the Director of the ACU, Mohamed Gele, the team leader of the AIMS as well as UNDP staff on the financial and admin matters. The future of the project was discussed in the meeting and it was noted by all parties that the current political situation defined by the delayed elections had hampered progress on the discussions. Any future discussions would be based on the decisions made by the new government.

#### **Number of beneficiaries and feedback from beneficiaries**

This project works to build aid coordination and management platforms as well as the AIMS within the FGS and FMS institutions. The number of people reached by the project include those Government staff that have undergone trainings as well as attended important meetings to deliberate on issues covered under the four Pillar Working Groups. Feedback from the users of the Aid information management systems note that the platform has been working well and suits their needs for aid data and information.

### **Section 4: Project implementation**

#### **COVID 19 Response**

The Aid Coordination Unit was nominated into the Covid-19 Task Force on 12th February 2021 to assist in the coordination and response to the latest Covid-19 second wave. The Unit was tasked with facilitating coordination of different bodies established by the Somali Government in response to this latest crisis, including the Covid-19 Task Force set up by the FGS Prime Minister, the OPM Team on Covid-19, the Health Sector Covid-19 Coordination Teams and the Covid-19 Coordination Committee.

The Aid Coordination Unit has supported logistical arrangements and coordination of the task forces which overall have been coordinated by the Office of the Prime Minister. In particular, the Aid Coordination Unit availed a vehicle to be used for the transport of essential personnel necessary for the response. ACU staff also assisted in the management and the distribution plan of the Covid-19 vaccines in Banadir Region.

Addressing the needs for information sharing and coordination of all stakeholders has been key to tackling the pandemic. The Aid coordination Unit led international coordination efforts and organized numerous meetings for information sharing and resource mobilization. One of key meetings was between the Somalia Donor Group and the UN DSRSG with the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister and other key government officials. The ACU continues to support the COVID Coordination Committee and the Ministry of Health on COVID related matters including vaccination support.

### Key constraints and challenges and associated corrective actions

Project implementation has been significantly affected by external factors, including the ongoing electoral/political transition, which has resulted in the halting of the operationalization of many of the structures and processes of the aid architecture, and the covid-19 outbreak, which caused the discontinuation of in-person meetings and obliged the project to shift quickly to the utilization of online communication tools. This slowdown in the functioning of the aid architecture has meant that the project has concluded in December 2021 following a number of extensions, not having delivered all planned outputs that would have contributed to greater sustainability in the system, and with no end of project dialogue between development partners and the government. Coordination support to the subnational level remains a challenge with the absence of dedicated support focal points from Federal Member States (FMS). Though there has been concerted efforts to ensure inclusivity, there will be a need for all stakeholders to think through to support to identification of dedicated focal points to ensure effective and timely subnational coordination and FMS initiative-taking inclusion in the decision-making process.

While Covid-19 has posed serious disruptive challenges to the coordination mechanism and general modus operandi of all aspects of professional engagements, the government has been in the forefront in ensuring a robust response and coordination mechanism to contain and manage the disease and its corresponding economic socio-economic impact both in the short-term and in the longer-term. While the experience gained in 2020 has served to adopt protocols and engage in new ways of working in an agile manner, the management of the effects of the pandemic, including coordination arrangements and agile decision-making to effectively respond to the urgent and changing needs and priorities will continue to be a challenge in the near future until the expansion of the virus through different waves is under control. In what regards new ways of working and communication, the ICT has used to organizing online meetings and stakeholders are becoming more comfortable with the virtual coordination with the travel restrictions imposed by the COVID pandemic.

#### Risk management

Type of risk	Description of risk	Mitigating measures
<b>Political</b>	Change of Ministers and senior staff in the Ministries	The change at the Prime Minister level at the FGS came with other changes in the Government structures. These have been noted but did not result in any significant changes in the workings of the ACU. The project document has not yet been signed and it is hoped that the document will be signed and no further delays will be experienced.
<b>Security</b>	Serious deterioration of the security situation	The situation is closely monitored, and instructions by DSS are followed.
<b>Coordination</b>	Lack of agreement on coordination and cooperation arrangements	The project has recruited an international consultancy firm and a national consultant who have reviewed existing aid coordination and management arrangements in Somalia. They have produced sixteen documents that outline different views leading to new structures, SOPs and TORs for the different PWGs as well as how to navigate the aid coordination architecture.
<b>Operational</b>	Delay in Recruitment of project management and International and national full-time technical staff	Recruitment is planned well in advance, and engaging HR contractors is explored to ensure timely deployment of required staff both national and international. With the departure of the international project manager, stop gap measures have been put in place while the project seeks to recruit an IPSA 11 who will steer the project to its closure in December 2021.
<b>Technical assistance</b>	Absence of qualified consultants to implement the assignments	UNDP is using its rosters for the present assignment as well as a recruitment company. This has allowed to recruit international

		consultant for the refinement of aid architecture. ToRs of consultancies are shared and agreed with project board members.
<b>Capacity</b>	Capacity to absorb change is slower than rate of delivering change	ACU has identified capacity development needs (including system and policy development) based on recommendations of independent capacity assessments and is requesting the project to respond to these priorities.
<b>Adaptation to changing environment</b>	Scope creep / changing requirements	Program management monitors short project stages to enable adjustments and better management of scope, given the volatile political and security situation and changing environment.
<b>Programme management</b>	Programme Board failure	Project board has enough authority to make decisions on strategy and budget. All the board meetings have been held in a cordial and fruitful manner
<b>Aid architecture</b>	There is a tendency to develop coordination arrangements for different 'programmatic' entries in separation from the Aid Coordination Architecture. Aid Architecture becomes too fragmented with multiplicity of arrangements hindering efficiency and engagement in NDP aid structure and driving costs upwards which may not be met by current Joint Project	Continuous advocacy for a simple and single aid coordination structure is being conducted. A survey has been conducted to understand perception of Somali institutions, stakeholders, and partners on the aid architecture and how it can be improved.

### Learning impact

The disconnect between MOPIED and ACU has inhibited results and exacerbated the short comings of a project-based approach.

Establishment of the Gender Equality, Human Rights, and Inclusion Working Group does not guarantee gender mainstreaming and requires an integrated approach spearheaded by MOPIED and ACU.

The involvement of FMS is vital to the effectiveness and efficiency of aid coordination and management in Somalia.

AIMS is an asset and reflects global good practice, but its long-term value to Somalia can only be assured if all elements of Government show ownership, and a comprehensive commitment is made to the contribution of data and full use of the system.

Whilst the reduction of the number of pillars in the NDP9 was considered a successful cost saving measure and a logical response to the FGS's capacity constraints, a structural change of this kind required further harmonization and rationalization measures inclusive of a comprehensive review of the resource parameters of the project and its capacity to fulfill its obligations to all elements of the aid architecture.

The reliance on consultants to build short term inputs to the aid architecture does not replace the need for longer term and step wise strategies to build national capacity and increase the employment opportunities for national employees within the system.

Sustainability strategies, including those that promote the incremental capacity development and employment of nationals within the system require implementation throughout the life of the project and a multi-year approach.

Sustainability and exit strategies, if no implemented, have a significant impact on the long-term benefits of the project. Such sustainability strategies require review and adjustment as part of monitoring cycles to ensure their implementation continues to take in to account any changes within the country context.

### Coordination with other UN entities including UNSOM/UNSOS within and outside the SJF portfolio

UNDP's support to aid management and coordination in Somalia in being conducted in close collaboration with the UN Integrated Office.

### Role of the UN Somalia Joint Fund

The project budget for the whole duration is recoded as: MPTF (USD1,853,537.06); DFID (USD 1.260,813.95); USAID (USD 1,500,000). Thus a sizable portion of the funds have been from the SJF. The financial and human resources provided through the project are considered to have facilitated the planned support to targeted government institutions, and in doing so supported the basic core functions of aid coordination. The funds have supported the secretariat for the ACU situated within the Office of the Prime Minister with staff fully supported by the UN Multi Partner Trust Fund (MPTF). The convening of meetings between the FGS and the FMS within the different Pillar Working Groups, for instance, is reported to have increased the relevance of the project, overall facilitating growth in the different partnerships between FGS, the FMS, civil society, and the international community.

The strategic thinking support extended by the team at the SJF to the ACU as well as collaboration with UNDP has been phenomenal and assisted in the smooth running of the project.

### Synergies with other funds (UN and non-UN) working on similar issues

*NTR*

### Partnerships

#### SDG Implementation Facility for Conflict-Affected and Fragile Situations

Implementation of project in support to women's active engagement in the gender-sensitive implementation and monitoring of the NDP 9. Development of communications products for use for advocacy and awareness raising purposes. The funding for this project came from the UNDP HQ CRU.

#### Monitoring and oversight activities

Monitoring activity	Date	Description	Comments & Recommendations
[I.e. Project Board Meeting]	3 June 2021	In what was supposed to be the last Board meeting of the Project, the meeting was held virtually chaired by the PS of the OPM and the UNDP RR with all the donor agencies in attendance.	Somali-owned open-sourced Aid Information Management System (AIMS) has been developed and is now fully functional and hosted by the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MOPIED), that the aid architecture has been simplified and aligned to the structure of the National Development Plan and is now less costly than before, and that the project has contributed to the national response to the Covid-19 pandemic. He also noted that the participation of the Federal Member States (FMS) had now been enhanced and that greater focus is now being given to ensuring project accountability and taking all stakeholders' views into consideration. He thanked the funding partners in the meeting for their financial support to the project and for technical assistance provided to the staff of the Aid Coordination

			Unit (ACU). It was agreed to extend the ongoing "Support to aid management and coordination in Somalia" project from 1 July to 31 December 2021 using the estimated balance of approximately USD 350,000.
[I.e. DIM Audit] Annual General Audit of the Federal Government of Somalia	15 February 2021	This is an annual scheduled by the FGS. Officers from the Auditor General visited the ACU offices and interacted with the relevant staff on various issues.	The report will be released in the net half 2021.
UNDP Micro HACT Assessment for 2020	20 January 2021	This was supposed to have been done in 2020 but due to unforeseen circumstances was not done. It was then deferred to January 2021.	Report released
Project Board Meeting	21 December 2021	Final Project Steering Committee meeting attended by technical officers.	Meeting officially closed the project. Preliminary findings of the final project evaluation presented. Donor partners made representations and responses were given .

### Communication activities

The Aid Coordination Unit organizes meetings of all SDRF aid coordination bodies, namely Pillar Working Groups, SDRF Steering Committee and the Somali Partnership Forum. For the later one, which is the highest-level political body of the facility, ACU/OPM assures high level visibility. The ACU is active on social media platform – Twitter and uses the handle @acusomalia. Thus far, the handle has 286 Tweets and 3292 Followers from across all occupations as well as in the diaspora and at home in Somalia. Evidence of meetings, engagements can also be found in the pictures section on the twitter handle. The ACU continues to set up its own website at Opm.gov.so.

## Section 5: Project management

Number of project board meetings held	2
Number of UN staff (international/national) funded by the project	1 International (6 months) 1 National UNV (6 months)
Number of government personnel funded by the project? What are their functions and where do they work?	7
How has the project ensured the visibility of SJF donors during the reporting period?	Due to the Covid 19 pandemic and the virtual meetings that were held over the year, there were not so many visibility exercises conducted save for those held online on the Twitter and Fb handles of the MOPIED and the ACU- OPM.
Projected funding needs for next year	N/A

## Section 6: Cross-cutting issues

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### Gender equality and women empowerment

Whilst the establishment of the Gender Equality and Human Rights and Inclusion Working Group is noted and has overseen actions to address Somalia's international obligations to human rights instruments, it does not guarantee mainstreaming which requires a comprehensive approach across all elements of the aid architecture spearheaded by MOPIED and ACU.

Proportion of gender specific outputs in the project	Total number of project outputs	Total number of gender specific outputs
	2	0
Proportion of project staff with responsibility for gender issues	Total number of staff	Total number of staff with responsibility for gender issues
	7	1

### Human-rights based approach

The profile of human rights, gender and inclusion has been raised through the establishment of a dedicated working group upon the request of development partners concerned for little progress in gender mainstreaming across the project. However, there is concern that formation of this working group has in fact negatively affected mainstreaming and has not led to MOPIED and the ACU driving any levels of human rights mainstreaming across all pillars in a consistent way.

Has the programme included a protection risk assessment in its context analysis, including on gender issues, and taken measures to mitigate these risks to ensure they are not exacerbated, or new risks created?	Result YES
Number of programme outputs specifically designed to address specific protection concerns	Result 0
Number of programme outputs designed to build capacity of duty bearers to fulfil their human rights obligations towards rights holders.	Result 0

### Leave no one behind

The principles of LNOB have been indirectly inculcated into the project by way of ensuring that the PEWG meetings discuss and deliberate NDP key issues such as the fight against poverty, disease, natural disasters, refugees and the most vulnerable. Funds have been allocated to fund the NDP sectors where resources have been identified as being needed the most. These interventions resulting from the meetings that have taken place facilitated by the aid coordination platforms ensure that no one is left behind in Somalia. The Aid Information Management System continuously provides data that is critical in ensuring that donors and the government are able to ensure accountability and that funds are targeted at the most vulnerable and needy.

### Social contract and legitimacy

NTR

### Humanitarian-development-peace nexus

One of the six cross-cutting imperatives of Somalia's ninth National Development Plan (NDP-9) is to strengthen the interface between humanitarian, peacebuilding, and development planning. The Somalia aid coordination and management function has identified the triple nexus (HPD) platform and noted that it has the potential to make aid more effective and efficient. The triple nexus seeks to put people's experience at the center, build local capacities and ensure a holistic response to current needs and root causes. The nexus represents an opportunity to engage with these root causes and recognize that humanitarian crises can be caused and/or heightened by poor development policies and a lack of inclusive and appropriate development investment. Moreover, the NDP-9 further commits to building capacity of the core government functions including the "management of the humanitarian-development nexus". To operationalize this, the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) in 2020 articulated a new Somalia Aid Architecture structure with a Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility (SDRF) and a Security and Justice Committee (SJC). The Triple Nexus Steering Committee is a joint initiative, with overall leadership provided by the FGS. It functions at a national level but is informed by local information and global experience. The Steering Committee has the authority to form time-bound task forces necessary for the achievement of the nexus elements of the NDP-9 or the goals of the Pillar Working Groups. Any such nexus task force requires a clear Terms of Reference and agreed composition and should only remain in place until its task has been achieved. More technical works on this to be followed through in the third quarter. Including hosting the first meeting to agree on the terms of reference and scope of the Triple nexus team in addition to defining the composition.

## Environment and climate security

NTR

### Prevention of corruption

The project is implemented under an LOA modality using the DIM modality. To ensure that the ACU staff were knowledgeable about corruption and ethics matters, UNDP conducted trainings on financial management and reporting. In addition, two HACT assessments and a spot check were conducted by the audit firms to ensure that the purchases, procurement as well as any other financial transactions conducted by the ACU were legitimate. The ACU reports on a quarterly basis to UNDP where financials are reviewed. The staff have to submit only staff performance reports for their salaries to be released into their individual accounts where direct payments are made.

### Project sustainability

Sustainability of the Somali aid coordination function to be measured by ACU salaries and costs transitioned from UNDP to government budget was not addressed. Project reporting has documented that ACU staffing was reduced from 18 to 7 with ACU salaries paid by the project reduced from 18 to 6 as part of the realignment of the aid architecture. This represents one salary being covered by a source other than the project leaving project outcomes quite some way from achieving this result. The development of AIMS in Somalia is hallmarked by the careful and skillful way in which it has been developed. The Somalia AIMS is considered to be of a remarkably high quality, with current users totaling three hundred and mostly government and NGOs. Its long-term sustainability requires ongoing attention and a universal commitment by government and partners to its full use. The project results framework updated for the period January to December 2021 includes several outputs specific to building sustainability, including the diversification of funding, the transitioning of ACU salaries and costs to the government budget, and continued capacity development and resilience to work and contribute remotely. None of these strategies are at a point that they would contribute to any level of sustainability beyond the life of the project.

#	Target group		Dates	Number of participants			Title of the training	Location of the training	Training provider
	Ministry, District or UN staff	Others		M	F	Total			
1	Hirshabelle FMS		16 January 2021	5	2	7	Training on the use of the AIMS portal	VIRTUAL	The Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development
2	Galmudug State		28 January 2021	3	1	4	Training on the use of the AIMS portal	VIRTUAL	The Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development
3	Southwest State		31 January 2021	3	0	3	Training on the use of the AIMS portal	VIRTUAL	The Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development
4		Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	3 February 2021	1	1	2	Training on the use of the AIMS portal	VIRTUAL	The Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development
5	MOPIED		12 February 2021	9	4	12	Training on the use of the AIMS portal	VIRTUAL	The Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development
6		UNICEF	15 February 2021	2	5	7	Training on the use of the AIMS portal	VIRTUAL	The Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development

7	OPM staff		24 March 2021	7	1	8	Training on the use of the AIMS portal	VIRTUAL	The Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development
<b>Total number of participants</b>				30	14	44			

## Section 7: Looking ahead: Focus on the future

With the project ending in December 2021, stakeholders in the ACU, MOPIED, the donor community as well as UNDP with the assistance of an international consultant discussions were conducted on the future of the project. A draft successor project document 2022-2024 was prepared in June 2021. Initially there was a discussion around having a bridging project from Jan – June 2022 but this failed to gain traction and was not pursued in the end. After several consultations with meetings at the highest level of stakeholders, it was agreed that the discussion around a new project on aid coordination and management, its architecture, funding, and operations would commence after a new government had been put in place. Key issues that are set for discussion include the harmonization of work between the MOPIED and the ACU in the OPM, the setting up of the Integrated Coordination Unit, the funding of the institution, the structure of the aid coordination mechanism and ensuring that the FMS participated in decision making. Thus, a new project/program is expected to commence in late 2022.

## Section 8: Human interest story: Voices from the field

The project engaged on a project that sought to empower women story tellers from Somalia to document their stories through storytelling and video captions as well as photo images for advocacy purposes. What transpired was a collaboration between a group of Somalia women from different Federal Member States who were sourced by a team operating in Somalia, called Somali Storytellers.

They managed to track six women who gave different stories, had videos taken and described their successful engagements with the Somali economy, finance system, human rights situation, sports, and business communities in various parts of the country such as Galmudug, Mogadishu, Garowe etc. The project also leveraged on the support and collaboration given to it by the Innovations Team in UNDP Somalia as well as the Inclusive Politics Portfolio in UNDP Somalia who paid different sets of money for the some of the consultancies and provided guidance on engaging the different communities. The six different stories that have been created are as follows:

Galmudug – the story of the lady who raised funds for the construction of the airport.

Banadir – the lady who set up the restaurant venture and now employs women in Mogadishu.

Puntland – Women’s involvement and the women’s basketball team

Jubaland – Financial inclusion and the lady who trains women on the use of the EVC platform

Southwest State – Women’s involvement in politics in Dinsoor

Hirshabelle – sexual violence against women story