



**SOMALIA UN MPTF**

**PROGRAMME ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT**  
**Period: 1 January – 31 December 2020**

<b>Project Name</b>	Joint Programme for Support to Universal Suffrage Elections in the Federal Republic of Somalia UNDP Award ID000107518/ Project ID 000107800
Gateway ID	00108826 (MPTF Project ID)
Start date	1 January 2018
Planned end date	31 December 2021
Focal Person	Irfan Mahmood
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Participating UN entities	UNDP and UNSOM (Integrated Electoral Support Group)
NDP Pillar	PWG Pillar 1: Inclusive Politics: Achieve a stable and peaceful federal Somalia through inclusive political processes and effective decentralization – SWG-3 Elections
UNSF Strategic Priority	Deepening federalism and state-building, supporting conflict resolution and reconciliation, & preparing for universal elections
Location(s)	National Programme – Mogadishu based
Gender Marker	2

<b>Total Budget as per ProDoc</b>	\$ 15,526,044
MPTF sources:	\$12,756,269.56
Non-MPTF sources:	PBF: 0
	Trac: 1,960,289.50
	Other: 3,235,394.14

	<b>PUNO</b>	<b>Report approved by:</b>	<b>Position/Title</b>	<b>Signature</b>
1.	PWG-1 - UNDP	Jacqueline Olweya	OIC - Resident Representative	

PUNO	Total MPTF Funds Received			Total non-MPTF Funds Received		
	Semi Annual 2020 (2)	Cumulative	Annual 2020	Semi Annual 2020 (2)	Cumulative	Annual 2020
	1 July - 31 Dec 2020	From prog. start date	1 Jan – 31 Dec 2020	1 July - 31 Dec 2020	From prog. start date	1 Jan – 31 Dec 2020
PWG-1 - UNDP	<b>0</b>	<b>12,756,269.56</b>	<b>5,144,550.10</b>	<b>1,303,780.96</b>	<b>5,195,683.64</b>	<b>1,303,780.96</b>



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JP Expenditure of MPTF Funds <sup>1</sup>				JP Expenditure of non-MPTF Funds		
PUNO	Semi Annual 2020 (2)	Cumulative	Annual 2020	Semi Annual 2020 (2)	Cumulative	Annual 2020
	1 July - 31 Dec 2020	From prog. start date	1 Jan – 31 Dec 2020	1 July - 31 Dec 2020	From prog. start date	1 Jan – 31 Dec 2020
PWG-1 - UNDP	<b>775,679.75</b>	<b>6,776,613.95</b>	<b>2,662,707.51</b>	<b>706,842.48</b>	<b>4,597,358.08</b>	<b>1,657,154.34</b>

### ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

1. The National Electoral Law at Federal Level was adopted by Parliament on 19 February and signed into law by the President of the Federal Republic of Somalia on 20 February 2020.
2. The Amendments to the Political Parties Law was passed by the House of the People in July 2020 and awaits assent of the Federal President.
3. The construction of the data center at the new NIEC compound was completed in May 2020 and handed over to the NIEC.
4. At NIEC's request, IESG provided technical support to the NIEC's for their report on preparations and options to conduct universal suffrage elections to the House of the People on 27 June.
5. 108 political parties provisionally registered by the NIEC.
6. The Project Board Meeting approved the Annual Work Plan for 2021 and the project cost extension for one year for the UN Joint Electoral Support Programme for the continuation of support to the NIEC to fulfill its constitutional mandate of preparing and conducting universal suffrage elections in 2024/25.
7. In December, the House of the People passed an amendment to the NIEC Establishment Law to extend the NIEC Board of Commissioners term of Office for another six years to July 2027.

<sup>1</sup> **Uncertified expenditures.** Certified annual expenditures can be found in the Annual Financial Report of MPTF Office (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/4SO00>)



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### HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In February 2020, the Somalia Federal Parliament adopted electoral bill, which was signed into Law by the President of the Federal Republic of Somalia.

The last time Somalia had a universal suffrage election was in 1969. The Electoral Law proposes a first-past-the-post electoral system with 275 constituencies in the House of the People and 54 Upper House seats. However, several key issues required clarification for the law to be implementable and following advocacy by the UN and the international community, Parliament established a joint ad hoc committee to formulate recommendations to address key issues in the Law, in consultation with the NIEC, the federal member states and other stakeholders. The IESG supported discussions between the ad hoc committee and the NIEC from 31 March to 2 April. The committee presented its recommendations to the House of the People (HoP) on 17 June. Four resolutions were passed by the HoP including a commitment to guarantee a minimum of 24 per cent women's representation in Parliament among other issues.



Mogadishu, 20 February 2020: President Farmaajo and Speakers of both Houses of Parliament hold up the electoral Law which the President signed at the closing of Parliament's 6<sup>th</sup> session.

On 27 June, the NIEC Chairperson presented the Commission's report on preparations and options for the upcoming federal elections to the House of the People as close as possible to the constitutional deadline.

IESG used the good offices of the UN to repeatedly encourage the Speaker of the House of the People to introduce the Amendments to the Political Parties Law which was pending since May 2019. The Amendments to the Political Parties Law was passed by the House of the People in July 2020 and currently awaits the President's assent.

NIEC provided provisional registration to 45 political parties during the year, bringing the total number of parties provisionally registered to 106 on 31 December.

IESG provided support for the construction of a Data Centre at the new NIEC headquarters compound in Mogadishu, which was handed over to the NIEC in May 2020. The Data Centre is part of the operational support provided by the UN to enable the NIEC to efficiently conduct electoral operations. Financial support of US\$ 835,922 was provided through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF).



Mogadishu, 27 June: NIEC Chairperson, Halima Ismail, presents the Commission's report on election preparations to the House of the People.



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IESG received the endorsement of the international donors in December for the 'UN Joint Electoral Support Programme' for continuation of support to the NIEC to fulfill its constitutional mandate of preparing and conducting universal suffrage elections in 2024/25. The Project Board Meeting met on 16 December and approved the Annual Work Plan for 2021 and the project cost extension for one year, January-December 2021.

The House of the People passed an amendment to the NIEC Establishment Law in December to extend the NIEC Board of Commissioners term of Office for another six years to July 2027. The endorsement of the Upper House is also required.



Mogadishu, 16 December 2020: Co-Chairs UNDP Res Rep Jocelyn Mason, NIEC Chairperson Halima Ismail and IESG Director, Deryck Fritz at the Project Board meeting with donors online.

### SITUATION UPDATE

On 31 August 2020, the UN Security Council adopted resolution 2045 extending the mandate for twelve months. The mandate called for a consensual process for the elections and asked the UN to exercise good offices, provide technical operational assistance for the delivery of elections that are free, fair, inclusive, and have a direct component, enabling as many citizens to participate as possible. The mandate simultaneous efforts to develop a roadmap towards universal suffrage elections in 2024/25 should commence with the view to holding electoral stakeholders accountable.

To strengthen the coordination of the international community on the required technical support for the NIEC's electoral preparations, the NIEC and IESG held a series of electoral information sharing meetings with international electoral stakeholders during the first half of the year. These meetings were jointly chaired by the Deputy Special Representative for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (DSRSG) and the NIEC Chairperson.

In April, IESG introduced to international partners its new Chief, Mr. Deryck Fritz, who has extensive electoral experience with the UN system and Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs). Following discussions between the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and the Federal Member States (FMS) between July and September, IESG held bi-weekly meetings with donor partners to discuss implications of the indirect electoral process and donor support.



Mogadishu, 15 January 2020: Electoral Information Sharing meeting co-chaired by NIEC Chairperson Halima Ismail and DSRSG Rai Zenenga.

IESG provided technical advice to the NIEC to prepare and present their report to the House of the People in June



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2020, outlining the operational plan to implement the Electoral Law and hold federal parliamentary elections within the constitutional timeline. Stakeholders subsequently called for timely elections with no term extension and urged for an inclusive decision-making process to agree on a viable electoral model, to be implemented within the term of the current administration. As a result, IESG provided technical advice to the NIEC and a governmental Technical Committee on different options and scenarios for hybrid elections for consideration by the FGS and FMS leaders during the ensuring political negotiations. Although it was hoped by many in Somalia and in the international community that the electoral model agreed upon by the federal and state leaders would have been more participatory, it was the result of a consensual approach, and has the backing of the key political stakeholders. In this regard, the agreement on the indirect model contributes to the current political stability in Somalia. It is important that there is always broad consensus among all key stakeholders at every stage of the implementation of the process so that the process remains credible, legitimate, peaceful and acceptable to all.

Following the 17 September 2020 political agreement to hold indirect elections, and the exclusion of the NIEC and political parties from the indirect process, the UN and donor principals have consistently engaged with the Somali leaders throughout the evolution of the electoral process on the need for a more participatory and inclusive electoral process and that the consensual commitments made in the Mogadishu agreement are kept.

The new model is similar to the 2016 electoral process of clan-based indirect voting with minor changes including: 1) an increase in delegates from 51 to 101; 2) electoral constituencies increase from one to two locations in each FMS; and 3) and a 30 per cent % quota for women’s seats in Parliament. Representatives of the Upper House will be indirectly elected through the Federal Member State Parliaments. The Federal Parliament approved the agreement on 26 September, and clarified that the current Parliament will remain in office until the new Parliament is sworn in. Electoral committees have been established both at the federal and member state level to manage the electoral process. However, due to political disputes both Puntland and Jubaland refused to establish their electoral committees. The federal electoral management body has issued revised timelines for the elections, but those timelines are expected to slip further into 2021. The FGS has requested technical, financial and logistical support from the UN for the indirect elections.

The NIEC is moving ahead to develop a new strategic plan for 2022-2026 to ensure preparations are in place for universal suffrage elections in 2024/25. IESG provided support to the NIEC to prepare a draft roadmap to help guide preparations for the elections in 2024/25. The NIEC has shared the roadmap with the Prime Minister who has established a task force to consult with all stakeholders on the roadmap before submission to parliament for endorsement.

**SEMI-ANNUAL & ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT RESULTS MATRIX**

<b>OUTCOME STATEMENT</b>			
Citizen expectations for voice, development, the rule of law and accountability are met by stronger systems of democratic governance.			
<b>Output 1: The institutional capacity of the NIEC is strengthened</b>			
<b>INDICATOR</b>	<b>TARGET</b>	<b>PROGRESS ON OUTPUT INDICATOR<sup>2</sup></b>	
		<b>REPORTING PERIOD (2020)</b>	<b>CUMULATIVE</b>
1.1. NIEC support operationalized at FMSs level and Benadir	NIEC institutional structure strengthened including NIEC	6	6

<sup>2</sup> Fill in only the numbers or yes/no; no explanations to be given here.



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	presence in the FMS (6 locations)		
1.2. Technical capacity of NIEC staff increased (target: demonstrated capacity during roll-out of electoral operations)	NIEC operational capacity development and training plan developed to conduct operations both at HQ and field level	Yes	Yes
Sources of evidence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ NIEC quarterly progress reports for 2020</li> <li>○ NIEC 5-year Strategic Plan (2017-2021)</li> <li>○ Social Media articles: NIEC Website (www.niec.so); NIEC Facebook page; NIEC twitter; UNSOM/UNDP Facebook page, twitter</li> <li>○ Official documents signed between UNDP and the NIEC (Work Plan, Letter of Agreement)</li> <li>○ Training and workshop reports/materials</li> <li>○ NIEC advisor monthly reports</li> <li>○ IESG staff back to office reports</li> <li>○ IESG Newsletters</li> </ul>			
<b>Output 2: Output 2: NIEC supported to enhance public awareness of electoral processes, including promotion of women’s participation</b>			
2.1. Development of NIEC Voter Education strategy for elections including voter registration, including specific provisions for women’s engagement.	NIEC Voter Education operational plan for the electoral process including Voter Registration phase developed and shared with NIEC Field Offices and stakeholders.	Yes	Yes (but n/a due to change in electoral model i.e. indirect elections)
2.2. No. of NIEC stakeholder sessions, plus number of sessions specifically on women participation in electoral processes.	Develop and implement inclusive NIEC external relations strategy with key stakeholders, such as political parties, universities, CSOs including women and youth associations, media.	Yes	Yes
Sources of evidence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ NIEC quarterly progress reports for 2020</li> <li>○ NIEC quarterly reports to the Somali Federal Parliament</li> <li>○ Social Media articles: NIEC Website (www.niec.so); NIEC Facebook page; NIEC twitter; UNSOM/UNDP Facebook page, twitter</li> <li>○ Official documents signed between UNDP and the NIEC (Work Plan, Letter of Agreement)</li> <li>○ Training and workshop reports/materials</li> <li>○ NIEC advisor monthly reports</li> <li>○ IESG staff back to office reports</li> <li>○ IESG Newsletters</li> </ul>			
<b>Output 3: Support to the NIEC’s electoral operations</b>			
3.1. NIEC conducts Political Parties registration and candidate nomination process	Political Parties enabled to achieve official registration by NIEC.	45 (provisional)	106 (provisional)
3.2. % of potential voter registration /polling areas and centers verified (target: 100% in all secure areas)	Voter registration/polling centers in identified secured areas vetted by security forces	No (n/a)	No (n/a)
3.3. Comprehensive voter registration plan developed, including technical measures to enhance women’s registration and participation in elections if held in 2020.	NIEC VR plan fully developed and implemented.	No (n/a)	No (n/a)
3.4. Comprehensive operations plan for polling developed if elections held in 2020-21.	NIEC polling plan fully developed and implemented.	No (n/a)	No (n/a)



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3.5. NIEC acquires necessary equipment and materials to conduct voter registration (and polling)	NIEC successfully supported in the procurement of necessary voter registration (and polling) material and equipment	No (n/a)	No (n/a)
Sources of evidence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o NIEC certification political parties</li> <li>o NIEC operational plans for VR; updates on GIS mapping of voter catchment areas</li> <li>o IESG workshops materials for NIEC Voter Registration (VR) planning</li> <li>o Social Media articles: NIEC Website (www.niec.so); NIEC Facebook page; NIEC twitter; UNSOM/UNDP Facebook page, twitter;</li> <li>o Official NIEC presentations to donor partners and international community.</li> <li>o IESG staff reports and IESG electoral operations planning</li> <li>o Training and workshop reports/materials</li> <li>o NIEC advisor monthly reports</li> <li>o NESTF reports</li> <li>o IESG Newsletters</li> </ul>			
<b>Output 4: Establishment of permanent NIEC office facilities</b>			
4.1. Establishment of permanent NIEC office facilities	NIEC Data Centre to be completed by second quarter 2020	Yes	Yes
	Construction on central warehouse, Electoral Dispute Resolution building and enhanced security protection for the NIEC compound to begin in second quarter of 2020.	Yes	Yes
Sources of evidence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Document of handover of NIEC Data Center to NIEC</li> <li>o Construction reports from UN entities</li> </ul>			
<b>Output 5: Development of an enabling electoral legal framework supported</b>			
Electoral law	Electoral Law adopted by Parliament, signed by the President, published in Official Gazette and enforced	Yes	Yes
Regulations drafted to complete electoral law on Constituencies, Women's Quota, the Upper House seat distribution and on Somaliland as required by the Electoral Law, and necessary procedures to implement these processes drafted.	Resolutions passed by House of the People as addendum to the electoral law.	Yes (Ongoing)	Yes (Ongoing)
<b>Procedures and regulations drafted on electoral process:</b> Voter Registration, Political Party Registration and Candidate Nomination, Observers, Political Party Agents and Media Accreditation, on Dispute resolution, and Polling and Counting, electoral dispute resolution mechanism.	Procedures and regulations on electoral process finalized. Electoral Dispute Resolution Mechanism procedures finalized.	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Amendments to Political Parties Law adopted by Parliament (awaiting Presidential assent)	Yes (ongoing)	Yes (ongoing)
Sources of evidence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Parliament passed the electoral bill on 19<sup>th</sup> February</li> <li>o Bill signed into Law by the President of FGS on 20<sup>th</sup> February</li> <li>o NIEC briefings and reports on electoral law</li> <li>o NIEC briefings and report on Amendments to Political Parties Law.</li> </ul>			



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- House of the People passed the Amendments to the Political Parties Law on 22 July. Presidential assent required.

**Output 6: Successful Programme management Support**

Unqualified audit report	Project unqualified audit report	Yes	Yes
Quality and timeliness of support services for electoral activities	Thorough implementation of the agreed Work Plan and responsible resource management	Yes	Yes
	Support services for electoral activities are provided in a timely and qualitative manner.	Yes	Yes

- Sources of evidence:
- Audit reports
  - Third Party Monitoring and Spot Checks
  - HACT audit reports
  - Progress Reports
  - Project document / AWP / LOA
  - Meeting with donors and NIEC
  - Project board meeting

**NARRATIVE**

In the run-up to the planned 2020/21 elections, the Integrated Electoral Support Group (IESG) provided the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) with capacity building and training on electoral management for the Board of Commissioners and Secretariat on information technology, logistics, operations, administration & finance, public outreach as well as the provision of technical support to the Political Parties Registrar Office. IESG and NIEC legal teams collaborated on reviewing the electoral legislation including supporting the Joint Parliamentary Ad Hoc Committees on the Electoral Law. IESG has also provided support for the construction of a Data Centre at the new NIEC headquarters compound in Mogadishu and which was handed over to the NIEC in May 2020. The team continues to provide support for ongoing construction work at the site including a warehouse completed in December 2020 and an office block which will be completed during the first quarter of 2021.

IESG provided technical advice to the NIEC to prepare and present their report to the House of the People in June 2020, outlining the operational plan to implement the electoral law and hold federal parliamentary elections as close as possible to the constitutional timeline. Stakeholders subsequently called for timely elections with no term extension and urged for an inclusive decision-making process to agree on a viable electoral model, to be implemented within the term of the current administration. As a result, IESG provided technical advice to the NIEC and a governmental Technical Committee on different options and scenarios for hybrid elections for consideration by the FGS and FMS leaders during the ensuring political negotiations.

Following the commitment by the National Consultative Council to support universal suffrage elections in 2024/25, IESG aims to support NIEC to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of electoral process in Somalia through an adequate organizational infrastructure that is efficient and effective. IESG has continued to provide capacity development support to the NIEC including electoral technical advisory support and budgetary assistance to build a solid and credible independent electoral institution, capable of planning and managing electoral processes according to its mandate and strategic plan.





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**Output 1: The institutional capacity of the NIEC is strengthened:**

IESG continued to provide the technical and administrative capacity building and support to the NIEC Secretariat including the Board of Commissioners. A series of institutional capacity development programs were implemented during the year on electoral capacity development, operational management support, and organizational development through direct technical engagement with NIEC, on-the-job trainings, and specifically designed workshops including online courses. NIEC advisors provide technical support within the institution. They play key roles in assisting with the formulation of policies and procedures and building the capacity of NIEC staff through the transfer of knowledge to bolster staff skills to enable them to discharge their roles effectively.

With the Corona virus pandemic compelling global use of alternative working arrangements, the NIEC embarked on using virtual platforms to continue with their work since March 2020. To assist the familiarization of NIEC staff with MS Teams, NIEC personnel were trained in November on using the platform. Staff are now able to use the platform to create teams, convene meetings, share documents, conduct workshops including using breakout groups and also utilizing the system as a social media platform

To help the M&E and Human Resources (HR) units to prepare quality reports, IESG conducted workshops in November on Report Writing Skills on MS-Teams. The training was designed to clarify data collection methods, analyzing content required for reports, accuracy in reporting and the important role of the M&E unit within the

**Purpose of M&E for NIEC**



organization. The unit developed the M&E plan and engaged all departments to make contributions which assisted in organizational buy-in and understanding of the importance of providing accurate and timely information. All departments are now making a concerted effort to provide information to the M&E unit which assists management to make informed decisions on projects implemented based reports compiled by the unit.

During November and December, IESG conducted training on Teambuilding for 48 NIEC staff (12 women and 36 men) in collaboration with the UNSOS Training Unit. The

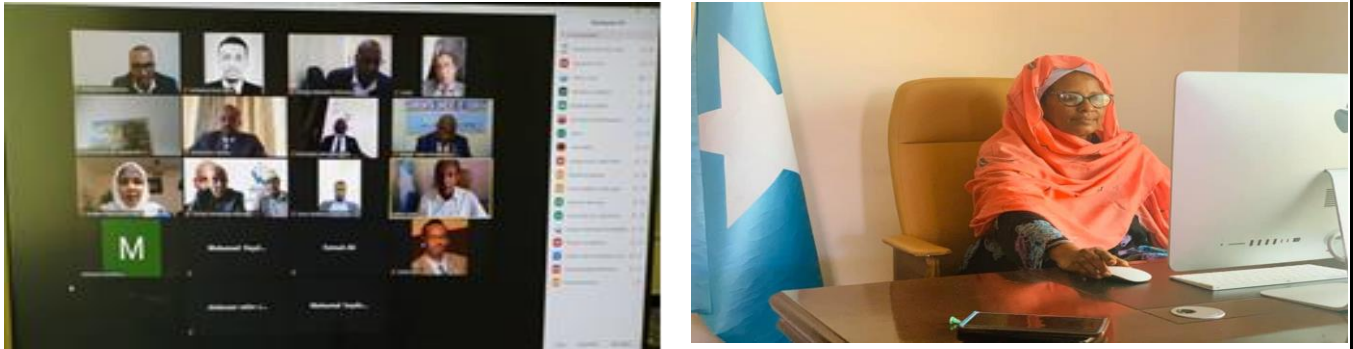
HR department, in partnership with IESG continues to offer NIEC staff on-line training to enhance their knowledge and skills so to enable them to discharge their roles effectively. E-learning training courses offered via the UN training platform INSPIRA were completed this year with 80 NIEC staff (59 men and 21 women) undertaking several courses aimed at enhancing their knowledge and skills in their respective technical areas. The courses offered include management, administration and report writing among others.

As part of strengthening the NIEC’s administrative and financial systems, the Joint Programme for Electoral Support implements specific aspects of its programme through a Letter of Agreement (LOA) with the NIEC that includes a budget of USD 1,004,600 for 2020. The LoA enables the NIEC to implement certain activities by directly administering the budget, managing resources and conducting procurement processes as per the regulations. IESG provides technical advisory support to strengthen the NIEC’s Directorate of Administration and Finance to ensure effective management of the LOA including ensuring, HR and procurement related activities follow all the necessary regulations and procedures to meet the requirements of the LOA. The NIEC in collaboration with the IESG established the International Assistance Partners Group which meets bi-monthly to discuss progress on



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implementation of assistance to the NIEC. The purpose of the group is to ensure coherence in support, complementarity and avoid duplication of effort among the partners providing technical assistance support to the NIEC.



The NIEC Chairperson addressed the representatives of eight newly registered political parties and invited them to make all necessary preparations and efforts to become officially registered.

### **Output 2: NIEC supported to enhance public awareness of electoral processes, including promotion of women's participation:**

To enhance its engagements in the Federal Member States and with women's groups, the NIEC conducted intensive consultations with stakeholders in Mogadishu and the different regions of the country during the year. The NIEC visited each of the federal member states and discussed with leaders and civil society groups including women's groups on the progress towards holding 'one person, one vote' elections in 2020/21. The NIEC continued to meet with various political parties to provide updates on NIEC's preparations for registration and to encourage parties to prepare for official registration by developing their organizations according to the known legal requirements.

The NIEC Public Outreach department developed a Public Outreach strategy to offer guidance on civic education and voter awareness. The NIEC also conducted a series of nation-wide public service broadcasts on civic education over a 5-week period in February/March to sensitize citizens about the requirements for voter registration using TV, radio and social media to reach communities.

NIEC, with IESG and other partners, supports women's and youth's political participation as both groups face gaps in capacity or resources to enable them to compete effectively. The women and youth acknowledged that the only option for their voices to be heard is for them to integrate political parties and to exercise their right to vote.

To strengthen and promote gender balance at the workplace, NIEC recruited women to work at its main office in Mogadishu and in the FMS Offices. Three out of the six directors are women and three women are members of the Board of Commissioners. NIEC continues to strengthen the Gender unit to ensure gender mainstreaming within the NIEC as well as supporting women's participation in the electoral process. NIEC Commissioners, senior advisors and directors engaged in a two-day group discussion to discuss ways to enhance gender mainstreaming at the NIEC workplace. To enhance NIEC capacity on gender, NIEC gender focal points participated in trainings to bolster their skills and knowledge to enable them to discharge their roles more effectively.

Regular virtual exchanges with the Office of Political Parties Registrar (OPPR) were held during the year. In



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collaboration with the NIEC Legal team, IESG discussed details on the outline of one person one vote electoral processes and requirements for political parties candidate nomination and accreditation of observers, political parties agents and media representatives with the OPR. OPR are currently focused on providing provisional registration to political parties with 108 registered by the end of 2020.

They are also drafting procedures to enable parties obtain permanent registration when the Amendments to the Political Parties law becomes effective. IESG continues to provide advice to the OPR on procedures which will allow for a faster verification of the basic criteria that political parties have to meet for official registration. The next phase of the process will only be implemented fully once the Amendments to the Political Parties Law, which were adopted by Parliament in July 2020 are signed by the President.

### **Output 3: Support to the NIEC's electoral operations:**

The NIEC developed several options of concepts of operations addressing voter registration and electoral process. These options papers aimed at providing alternative approaches to the implementation of the electoral process geared toward meeting constitutional benchmarks. Each concept of operation was supported with a budget and timeline.

Given the agreement reached by FGS and FMS leadership on the conduct of the forthcoming 2020/2021 elections, the 2016 electoral model of indirect elections was adopted and NIEC excluded from the process.

The NIEC, with IESG technical support, drafted the Voter Registration Operation plan which outlines key operational benchmarks, the process for voter registration and contains information on the legal framework, logistics, security, public outreach and civic education, voter registration centers, voter registration procedures, dispute resolution and voter registry data consolidation.

However, following the agreement reached between the FGS/FMS on the conduct of the forthcoming polls, it was agreed that the much anticipated OPOV elections shall be delayed until 2024/2025 and instead indirect elections shall be held in 2021. This change in the electoral model made voter registration irrelevant to the indirect process however the work and planning accomplished during the period under review will be relevant for preparing the 2024/2025 OPOV.

During the year the NIEC Department of Voter Education, with assistance from IESG developed a voter education plan which was shared and discussed in detail with the VE sub-committee. The plan was also shared with the NIEC FOs to provide their inputs and comments. The NIEC Public Outreach department discussed with all FO Voter Education officers and adopted their suggestions in the final version of the plan.

Other key documents prepared during the year included the logistics movement plan, a recruitment and training strategy for NIEC temporary operations staff, as well as logistic Standard Operating Procedures covering areas such as the management of the NIEC vehicle fleet. IESG provided the NIEC with technical support for the identification and mapping of potential voter registration sites. IESG assisted the NIEC in designing an online mapping tool which to be used by both the NIEC and the National Electoral Security Task Force (NESTF) to jointly finalize the identification of voter registration sites after the security forces have vetted the tentative list of locations established by the NIEC. IESG supported the NESTF on preparing its workplan, planning the conduct of security assessments of the provisional voter registration sites in the Federal Member States (FMS) and in the



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Banadir Region, which would drive the preparations for the security operations budget. IESG provided technical and financial support to the establishment and operationalization of the NESTF including funding for the establishment of the NESTF Secretariat infrastructure as well as technical inputs in the draft concept of operation to secure voter registration.

### **Output 4: Establishment of permanent NIEC office facilities:**



In May 2020, the Joint Programme for Electoral Support completed and handed over to the NIEC the NIEC data center. The new data center is part of the operational support provided by the UN to enable the NIEC to efficiently conduct the electoral operations. USD 835,922,00 for construction of the data center was made available through DFID and MPTF funded by EU, Germany, Norway, SIDA and USAID.



Mogadishu, December 2020: Electoral Dispute Resolution Centre under construction at new NIEC compound.

The data centre is part of a range of infrastructure assistance construction projects for the new NIEC compound which also includes a hard wall warehouse for storage of sensitive and non-sensitive electoral materials supported by UNSOM/UNSOS and an Electoral Dispute Resolution Centre by UNOPS with support provided by the UN Peacebuilding Fund. The warehouse was completed in December 2020. The offices and security infrastructure will be completed during the first quarter of 2021 enabling the NIEC to move its headquarters into the new compound.

IESG has supported NIEC in establishing its field offices in each of the FMS and Banadir (except Somaliland) in order to implement its mandate throughout the country. IESG provides the technical advisory support and operations management to NIEC field staff and offices including provision of vehicles, equipment and furniture and office supplies. to assist NIEC preparations for electoral operations in the FMS. However, Puntland issued instructions to the NIEC in February 2020 to temporarily close the NIEC offices due to their political differences with the Federal Government. Negotiations continue between the NIEC and Puntland to allow their office resume daily operations. To ensure the smooth running of NIEC Operations in the FMS, the NIEC field offices in Garowe, Kismayo and Dhusamareb were financially supported by the Joint Program through payment of office rents.



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### **Output 5: Development of an enabling electoral legal framework supported:**

On 23 January 2020, NIEC and IESG met with the Upper House Ad Hoc Committee to discuss concerns related to the draft electoral bill. The NIEC outlined the various articles that required revision including ensuring 30% women's representation in the bill and requested the Ad Hoc Committee to consider the proposed revisions that would enable the electoral law to be implementable. The Ad Hoc Committee's report was submitted to the Upper House on 29 January for second reading and then returned to the House of the People for endorsement. The Committee did not include the NIEC's recommendations. President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed "Farmaajo" signed the electoral bill into Law on 20 February 2020 following passage by Parliament of the draft electoral bill on 19 February. The law has a number of gaps and contains provisions that make it difficult to implement. There is no provision to guarantee women's 30 per cent quota to ensure women's representation in the parliament.

On 28 February, in Mogadishu, the Speakers of both Houses of the Federal Parliament appointed a 17-member Joint Ad-Hoc Committee to draft recommendations to complement the Electoral Law, which are not implementable by the NIEC in its current form. In addition, the law has a number of technical specifications that present

major challenges to implementation. Support was provided to the NIEC by IESG in order to advise the Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament. Part of this support included convening an advisory panel on elections that met from 29 Feb to 5 March, to offer independent advice to the NIEC on options for implementation on key issues and challenges in the Electoral Law and Political Parties law that require resolution to operationalize elections. The Committee reviewed four key legislative issues in the electoral law: a) Seats allocation for both Houses of Parliament (constituency); b. Women's quota; c) Election of members of the two Houses hailing from the Northern Regions ("Somaliland"); d) Representation rights of Banadir region. The House of the People passed resolutions clarifying the four key articles by the end of June. The Speaker of the House of the People justified the passage of the resolutions under Article 47 of the Provisional Constitution giving authority to the House of the People to regulate electoral legislation. His decision to facilitate the debate in the House of the People rather than in a joint sitting of Parliament caused tensions between both Houses.

The House of the People endorsed amendments to the



Mogadishu, 23 January 2020: NIEC and IESG meeting with Upper House Ad Hoc committee to discuss concerns related to the draft electoral bill.



Dhusamareb, 5-7 September 2020: The NIEC, and Office of the Political Parties Registrar (OPPR), with IESG support, held a workshop in Dhusamareb, Galmudug State, with assistance provided by the Joint Programme for Electoral Support. The workshop, attended by all NIEC field staff from Federal Member States, explained how the different phases of the political parties official registration process would be implemented.



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Political party's law in July 2020, paving the way for the official registration of political parties when the President gives his assent to the bill. The amendments include the payment of USD 30000 to register a party and the requirement to register 10,000 members. The text of the amendment is not available and there is a lack of clarity as to whether the members of a party will need to be registered voters. IESG worked closely with NIEC by providing technical assistance and comments to the review of the Political Parties law. On 11 June, the NIEC met with the Parliamentary Committee on Internal Affairs, Regional Administration and Security to discuss their concerns related to the amendments and highlight timelines contradictions with the Electoral Law. The IESG legal and procedural team supported, advised and mentored the NIEC legal team over the year. Outcomes of such meetings included drafting various documents on accreditation for observers, party agents and media, and review of the political party's registration procedures among many others.

IESG continued to provide the Office of the Political Party Registrar with guidance and advice in drafting procedures for the registration of political parties, accreditation of party agents for elections and proposed mechanisms for checking party memberships.

**Other Key Achievements: n/a**

### **COVID-19 response:**

IESG provided daily technical support to NIEC staff across the broad spectrum of electoral activities, using the teleconferencing tools such as WebEx, Zoom and Microsoft teams to facilitate meetings with all stakeholders. IESG in collaboration with NIEC, prepared a series of documents in both English and Somali for the NIEC's Board of Commissioners consideration. These documents include:

- Coronavirus Policy and Coronavirus Protocol
- Business Continuity Policy, Business Continuity Plan and Business Continuity Checklist
- Sexual Harassment Policy and Procedures
- Questions & Answers on COVID-19
- Various reporting templates

Since the Covid-19 pandemic, flexible work arrangements for IESG and NIEC staff were made to protect staff and to help combat the spread of the virus. IESG provided two zoom licenses for the NIEC and one zoom license for the Parliamentary Ad Hoc Committee to enable timely consultations with all staff and stakeholders. Training has been organized through zoom and Microsoft Teams for NIEC staff and IESG provided links to on-line electoral administration courses and 36 secretariat staff obtained certification. 80 NIEC staff members enrolled for UN INSPIRA online courses in management, administration and report writing among other topics.

### **Challenges (incl: Delays or Deviations) and Lessons Learnt:**

The Electoral Law adopted on 20 Feb 2020 delegated the authority to Parliament to regulate fundamental aspects of the electoral process rather than give the authority to the NIEC. The law lacked clarity in many articles and as a result a parliamentary ad-hoc committee was established to clarify four key issues without which it would not be possible to implement the law. The Amendments to the Political Parties Law was passed in July 2020 and is awaiting the assent of the President. The delay in adopting this law impacts the ability of political parties to gain



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official registration and become fully operational. The quality of the legal framework remains a challenge as it is contradictory and insufficient, clearly reflecting the lack of legal drafting knowledge in the parliament and the executive.

The Mogadishu Agreement signed by the National Consultative Council on 17 September to hold indirect elections and to remove both the NIEC and political Parties from the indirect process has resulted in a protracted and challenging political dispute between stakeholders. This has resulted in the indirect electoral timeline being postponed a number of times during December. Although excluded from the indirect electoral process, the NIEC continues to underscore the importance of inclusivity in the forthcoming polls and has urged stakeholders to respect and protect the 30% women quota and underscored the need for equal representation in the upcoming polls.

Following the 17 September 2020 political agreement, the UN and donor principals have consistently engaged with the Somali leaders and stakeholders throughout the evolution of the electoral process on the need for a more participatory and inclusive electoral process and that the consensual commitments made in the Mogadishu agreement are kept.

The Federal Parliament approved the Mogadishu agreement on 26 September, and clarified that the current Parliament will remain in office until the new Parliament is sworn in. The federal electoral management body has issued revised timelines for the election of the Upper House on 23 and 29 December but neither of these calendars were honored. The FGS has requested technical, financial and logistical support from the UN for the indirect elections. Donors were very clear that they would not be in a position to support the electoral budget until the outstanding political issues are resolved including confirmation on how the women's quota will be achieved.

The NIEC are moving ahead to develop a new strategic plan for 2022-2026 to ensure preparations are in place for universal suffrage elections in 2024/25. The NIEC has shared a roadmap with the Prime Minister that establishes key milestones to achieve this goal. The Prime Minister has established a task force to consult with all stakeholders on the roadmap before submission to parliament for endorsement.

### **Peacebuilding impact:**

N/A

### **Catalytic effects:**

Following two projects are being supported/funded through the UN Peace Building Fund:

1. Support to Mechanisms to Prevent and Manage Conflict During Elections Project with funding/budget of USD 2.5 M. The objective of the project is to put in place a conflict prevention mechanism by establishing a lean Electoral Dispute Resolution Mechanism understood by all, so that electoral complaints are not mishandled and lead to election-related violence.
2. Support to NIEC Electoral Dispute Resolution Mechanism with funding/budget of USD 2.5 M. The aim of the project is to prevent and manage conflict related to planned electoral activities in 2020-21 and to prevent violence and to manage the response to violent incidents that may arise under the indirect electoral model.



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**Gender**

The joint programme for electoral support works closely with the UNSOM Gender Unit, UNDP’s project on women’s participation in political processes and UN Women’s support programme, and civil society organizations including women’s groups to enhance participation of women in electoral processes as potential voters and participants in electoral processes. Targeted activities in support of the NIEC include capacity building of female personnel in electoral administration and field work. The joint programme has been assisting the NIEC to conduct activities and plan projects to promote participation of women in electoral processes – including as potential voters, candidates and election officials, and as overall participants in electoral processes. The electoral law did not include a quota for women’s representation in parliament. However, the parliamentary ad-hoc committee established in February to develop recommendations in consultation with the NIEC and other stakeholders, proposed a resolution which was passed by the House of the People in June providing for a 24% women’s quota in Parliament. Following the decision of the National Consultative Council to conduct indirect elections in 2020/21, the September 17 agreement includes a clause to protect the 30 per cent women’s representation in Parliament.

	<b>Total no. of Joint Programme Outputs</b>	<b>Total no. of gender specific Outputs</b>
Proportion of gender specific outputs in Joint Programme <sup>3</sup>	5	<i>All outputs include specific gender components</i>
	<b>Total no. of Staff</b>	<b>Total no. of staff with responsibility for gender issues</b>
Proportion of Joint Programme staff with responsibility for gender issues <sup>4</sup>	20	2

**Human Rights**

Somalia is a signatory to different international and regional treaties and is obliged to follow key human rights standards, includes clauses as stipulated in Art 25 of the ICCPR that “every citizen shall have the right and the opportunity, without unreasonable restrictions, to vote and to be elected at genuine periodic elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret ballot, guaranteeing the free expression of the will of the electors, the right of every citizen to vote”. The joint programme was designed according to this fundamental right with the aim to move the country from a clan-based limited franchise electoral process as in 2016/17 into universal suffrage elections in 2020/2021. Specific objectives in this regard, amongst others, include enhancing the independence of the NIEC, promoting inclusiveness during the voter registration, and ensuring a level playing field for all stakeholders is included in the electoral legislation.

Following intensive discussions in Dhusamareb in July and August between the FGS and FMSs, a political agreement was reached on 17 September in Mogadishu on an indirect electoral formula to conduct the 2020-

<sup>3</sup> Gender Specific Outputs are those that are specifically designed to directly and explicitly contribute to the promotion of Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment.

<sup>4</sup> Staff members are those contracted to undertaken work for the Joint Programme including full time staff, consultants, advisors, interns, etc. Staff members with responsibility for gender issues are those who have gender related activities included in their Terms of Reference.





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2021 federal elections and the agreement was endorsed by Parliament on 26 September. The agreement excludes both the NIEC and political parties from the indirect electoral process which is essentially a slightly expanded version of the 2016 electoral process. The indirect model is based on electoral constituency caucuses. Each caucus of 101 delegates will elect an MP to a seat in the HoP. The delegates will be nominated jointly by clan elders, civil society organizations and by FMS.	
Has the Joint 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?	<b>Result (Yes/No)</b>
	<i>Yes</i>
No. of Joint Programme outputs specifically designed to address specific protection concerns.	<b>Result (Number)</b>
	<i>4</i>
No. of Joint Programme outputs designed to build capacity of duty bearers to fulfil their human rights obligations towards rights holders.	<b>Result (Number)</b>
	<i>1</i>
<b>Other</b>	
Does the Joint Programmes have a national cost-sharing component (i.e. funds and/or other resources provided by the FGS and/or FMS (including in-kind contributions)? (if 'Yes', describe below).	<b>Results (Yes/No)</b>
	<i>No</i>
Have FMS(s) been engaged in one or more of the following: design, planning, implementation, coordination and/or monitoring of the Joint Programme?	<b>Results (Yes/No)</b>
	<i>No</i>
<b>Describe nature of cost sharing:</b>	
<p><b>Communications &amp; Visibility</b> – Highlight communication activities/products (press releases/conferences, media missions, pictures/videos, social media, website, brochures/newsletters, banners) and donor visibility (in addition to any visibility measures on the mentioned communication activities/products, visibility on training curricula, equipment and office facilities). If applicable, provide additional explanation on limitations to communication and visibility measures, e.g. security risks or no opportunities for communication and visibility.</p> <p>The project disseminates bi-monthly newsletters and ensures visibility of donors. Project ensures updates on UNDP Somalia and HQ website including reference to donor support and funding. Project ensures public information material has appropriate donor logos represented, wherever possible. IESG has been advocating with NIEC to improve donor recognition in their press briefings, workshops, meetings and conferences and to reflect donor logos on all invitations, agendas, reports, banners and related materials when using donor funds to support such activities. Where appropriate, NIEC is requested to photograph events or actions supported by IESG and respective donors and share these with IESG with the necessary information on the event.</p> <p>Banners with donor logos: EU, Germany, Norway, Sweden, UKAID, UNDP, UNPBF and USAID have been designed and used by the NIEC when organizing workshops and printing some literature.</p> <p>In addition, IESG organized additional coordination meetings with international electoral assistance providers to the NIEC, to share updates and strengthen coordination amongst international implementing partners.</p> <p>In accordance with the EU-UNDP joint Guidelines on Electoral Assistance, the Joint Programme provides monthly</p>	



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updates to UNDP's Global Project for Electoral Cycle Support (GPECS). These monthly global updates are shared with the EU as part of the EU-UNDP communications and visibility framework for electoral projects. The Joint EC-UNDP Task Force on Electoral Assistance, based in Brussels, launched the website on the UN's electoral assistance to Somalia, supported by the EU. The website aims to inform EU partners and the public at large on the UN's electoral assistance programme in Somalia, as well as on other EU-supported UNDP electoral projects in the world. <https://somalia.ec-undp-electoralassistance.org/>

Electoral support project information including donor support is available at UNDP Somalia website at <https://www.so.undp.org/content/somalia/en/home/projects/un-electoral-support-project.html> Besides regular bilateral meetings with IESG, NIEC presented electoral updates to international partners.

### **Looking ahead**

IESG will continue to provide technical advice and support to the NIEC to prepare to conduct voter registration and universal suffrage elections in 2024/25. Review of the electoral legislation, political agreement among the stakeholders and the NIEC's new five-year strategic plan will facilitate the discussions among stakeholders to support the roadmap to achieve universal suffrage. In terms of programming, it is essential for international partners to ensure they continue to advocate with stakeholders to advance the preparations and achieve agreed milestones to guarantee direct elections are held in 2024/25.

Key activities planned for next year includes:

- Strengthening of NIEC's capacity in areas of technical electoral knowledge and expertise, as well as NIEC's capacity in areas of organizational and operational management.
- Support NIEC's outreach to and engagement with national and sub-national stakeholders, including Political Parties, CSOs, media.
- Technical assessment for a pilot project for voter registration and subsequent assessment report.
- Establish independent and sustainable NIEC HQ infrastructure in Mogadishu.
- Support for the review of the Electoral Legislation.
- Project effectively managed and successful support provided in planning, implementation, coordination, operations management, administration, budget and financial management, reporting, M&E, audit, spot checks.



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**ANNEX 1. RISK MANAGEMENT**

Type of Risk <sup>5</sup>	Description of Risk	Mitigating Measures
Political	There is a risk that the past ‘clan-based’ 2016 electoral process, and political uncertainties, including on federalism, constitution and political inclusiveness, could draw away focus, willingness and resources from the preparations and capacity development required for universal elections.	<p>January 2018: The Government issued its Roadmap for elections in 2020/2021, confirming its commitment to universal suffrage elections. This commitment was also underscored in the FGS-FMS NSC meetings in February and June 2018 and MAF Oct 2019. The renewed mandate of UNSOM underscores the UN’s support to universal elections.</p> <p>Although it was hoped by many in Somalia and in the international community that the electoral model agreed upon by the federal and state leaders would have been more participatory, it was the result of a consensus approach, and has the backing of the key political stakeholders. In this regard, the agreement on the indirect model contributes to the current political stability in Somalia.</p> <p>A key component of the broader work on democratic reform will be the continued planning and preparations for the holding of one person one vote elections in 2024/25, and in this regard, the work on a “roadmap” or implementation plan, with clear and achievable benchmarks is vital.</p>
Political	Risk that limited government capacity and unknown access and effectiveness at the sub-national level affects sound programme implementation, supervision, monitoring and evaluation.	<p>IESG assists the NIEC with its engagements with the FMSs and provides support to the NIEC’s sub-national electoral offices.</p> <p>Use of UN good offices to advocate with Puntland who have stopped NIEC operations due to their political differences with the FGS.</p>
Political	Risk that protracted discussion on the electoral legal framework, in particular the implementation of the Electoral Law, would jeopardize the electoral timeline and the affect the preparations for voter registration.	<p>Electoral Law (adopted 20 Feb 2020) is contradictory and insufficient. IESG supported NIEC advocacy to seek clarification from Parliament on the electoral law.</p> <p>UN good offices advocated with Speaker of House of the People to introduce the Amendments to the Political Parties Law, which was subsequently passed by the House of the People on 22 July and currently awaits the assent of the</p>

<sup>5</sup> Environmental; Financial; Operational; Organizational; Political; Regulatory; Security; Strategic; Other.



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		President.
Security	Risk that political instability, lack of political will, political capacity, and conflicts (including AS) derail the process towards universal suffrage elections.	<p>UN good offices to advocate for dialogue between FMSs and FGS to reach political consensus on electoral modality.</p> <p>Close coordination with security sector, including deployment of international security advisor in IESG to provide de-politized polling center threat assessments.</p> <p>NESTF established Sept 2019. UN good offices used to advocate with Police Commissioner to fully operationalize NESTF and prepare electoral security plan.</p>
Operational	Risk that the complexity of conducting operations in Somalia would affect sound programme implementation, supervision, monitoring and evaluation.	The Joint Programme (JP) is designed to provide tailored international capacity development to the NIEC, with international advisors in specific electoral roles.
Political	Risk that the electoral regulatory framework would not be developed in time affecting progress towards universal elections.	The JP is designed to provide tailored international advisers on electoral systems, guiding the counterparts throughout the drafting of electoral legislation. UN good offices used to advocate for timely completion of electoral legislation. NIEC will undertake a review of the electoral legislation and advocate with parliament to revise the laws to enable implementation of the elections in 2024/25.
Environmental	COVID-19 pandemic may affect operational plans for conduct of elections	COVID-19 pandemic has brought forward use of electronic tools which are now widely accepted and used to conduct meetings and trainings with NIEC and other stakeholders. Budget provision will be made for procurement of personal protection equipment (PPE) to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 during the implementation of electoral operations.
Security	Security conditions adversely impact the frequency with which UN advisers can work closely with government partners and other stakeholders.	UN to use alternative means such as virtual media tools including videoconferencing. The Joint Programme is working with other actors, including agencies, programmes and the Mission/DSS to find the best way for UN electoral advisors to work together with government partners. NIEC staff become more familiar with use of electronic tools to regularly consult with IESG advisors.
Financial	Long-term sustainability of electoral processes in Somalia could become an issue if the national electoral management bodies (NIEC) does not receive sufficient funding through the government budget and is dependent on	The Joint Programme works together with the NIEC, donor partners and other stakeholders to ensure an adequate budget for the NIEC's operations in the Government's annual budget. The Joint Programme is extended until 31



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	international funding.	December 2021 to support NIEC’s current priorities. The FGS provided a budget for the NIEC’s staffing costs and some regular operational expenses in 2021.
Financial	Lack of funding from the donors may cause substantial risk of not achieving the objectives of full joint Programme.	Minister Finance presented the budget to donors on 17 January 2021 to support indirect elections. Donors resources USD 8.6 M are available to joint electoral support programme which requires donors’ concurrence to make use of these funds to support indirect elections.
Inclusive Politics	Risk that the Project would have inequitable or discriminatory adverse impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups.	Within the guidance of the Government and federal institutions, the project supports NIEC to conduct consultative forums with the public and works with media to ensure adequate information sharing and transparency on the process to all sections of society.
Inclusive Politics	Risk that the Project would exclude any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups, from fully participating in decisions that may affect them.	Within the guidance of the Government and federal institutions, the project supports NIEC to conduct consultative forums with the public and works with media to ensure adequate information sharing and transparency on the process with all sections of society. IESG works with other sections of the UN to enhance the capacity of any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups, to participation and claim their rights.
Inclusive Politics	Risk that duty-bearers do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the Project.	IESG assists Somali counterparts (NIEC/Parliament/MoIFAR) to provide input in the drafting of the electoral legislation and to enhance MPs knowledge on the electoral law and meet their obligations to the people.
Inclusive Politics	Risk that rights-holders do not have the capacity to claim their rights.	The UN strategy on universal suffrage elections considers the capacity of rights-holders to claim their rights.
Inclusive Politics	Risk that the proposed Project would have adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls.	Project activities have gender components and gender plans and these are considered through all project activities e.g. trainings on “Gender Responsive Elections”. There is collaboration amongst UN gender experts and focal persons from the Joint Programme for Electoral Support and the Joint Programme on Women’s Political Participation and Empowerment (UN Women, UNDP and UNSOM), the UN Resident Coordination Office (RCO) and UNDP CO on gender concerns.



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**ANNEX 2. MONITORING AND OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES**

<b>Monitoring Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description &amp; Comments</b>	<b>Key Findings / Recommendations</b>
Four Electoral information sharing meetings	15 Jan, 24 Feb, 7 Apr, 19 May 2020	Electoral updates to international partners	Presentations and Meeting minutes
IESG, PAMG and Donor Group Meetings	Fortnightly	Electoral and political updates to international partners	Presentations
Assistance Partners Meetings	Bi-monthly	Discuss progress on implementation of assistance to NIEC	5 sub-working groups established and co-chaired by NIEC and Assistance Partners Focal Points.
IESG Field Missions	Jan and Feb 2020	Various – meetings in the FMS. Meetings with Donors in Nairobi.	Back to office reports
UNDP Somalia country office audit including Elections Project	Feb 2020	No audit findings related to Elections Project	No findings
Harmonized Approach for Cash Transfer (HACT) Audit	Mar/ Apr 2020	HACT audit of project activities under LoA b/w UNDP and NIEC conducted by third party 'Deloitte'	Unqualified findings with following two recommendations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. NIEC should procure an automated accounting software and train the finance team in the usage of such a software.</li> <li>2. NIEC should update its fixed asset register and ensure that the register contains the asset purchase date, asset tag number and the asset condition.</li> </ol>
Financial Spot Check of NIEC	Jan_ Dec 2020	Financial spot check of project activities under LoA b/w UNDP and NIEC conducted by third party 'Deloitte'.	Satisfactory spot check exercise with following two recommendations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Management should endeavor to implement recommendations from third party assurance activities.</li> <li>2. The Commission should acquire an accounting system to record and store financial transactions to prevent errors arising from manual accounting processes.</li> </ol>
Verification of conduct of activities	Jan- Dec 2020	On-going verification of project activities by DFID contracted third party 'LAMPS' and UNDP third party 'Research care Africa'.	No findings
Engineering site visits	Jan- Jun 2020	Regular site visits of UNDP Engineering team to NIEC data center. Regular site visits by IESG staff to review construction progress at NIEC compound (Jan-March 2020).	NIEC Data Center project completion report and regular reports during the construction period.
Project Board Meeting	16 Dec 2020	Project board was updated about the progress made and challenges that arose during 2020. The 2021 AWP was presented with the request for project cost extension for the period Jan-Dec 2021. The request was approved.	Project Board approved the annual work plan for 2021 and the project cost extension for one year.



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**ANNEX 3. TRAINING DATA**

Sl. No	Target Group		Dates	No. of participants			Title of the Trainings	Location of the Trainings	Training Provider
	NIEC	Others		M	F	Total			
1.	NIEC Staff (Training Unit)		22 Jan 2020	6	6	12	Vote counting simulation exercise for the House of the People and Upper House elections for NIEC Training Unit & IESG	Mogadishu,	IESG
2.	NIEC Board of Commissioners and Staff		29 Jan 2020	20	6	26	Vote counting simulation exercise for the House of the People for Board of Commissioners & Sec staff	Mogadishu	IESG
3.	NIEC Staff (Training Unit)		2 Feb 2020	2	0	2	Orientation training for two newly recruited staff in NIEC Training Unit	Mogadishu	IESG
4.	NIEC Staff (Public outreach team)		3 Feb 2020	6	2	8	Voter Education campaign preparation for Voter Registration Process for Public Outreach team	Mogadishu	IESG
5.	NIEC Staff (IT team)		5 Feb 2020	8	0	8	Training on defining constituencies for HoP and implementation model for IT teams	Mogadishu	IESG
6.	NIEC Staff (Training Unit and HR Director)		9 Feb 2020	4	1	5	Capacity development for training team on VR recruitment and TORs for NIEC Training Unit and HR Director	Mogadishu	IESG
7.	NIEC Staff (logistic team)		11 Feb-2020	2	0	2	Capacity building in development on SOP vehicle management for NIEC Ops staff	Mogadishu	IESG
8.	NIEC Staff (Public Outreach team)		18 Feb 2020	6	3	9	Public Outreach activities meeting for Public Outreach team	Mogadishu	IESG
9.	NIEC Monitoring Staff		Jan and Feb 2020	3	1	4	Monitoring and Evaluation	NIEC HQ	NIEC Advisor
10.	NIEC Field Office Staff		Feb 2020	4	1	5	By-election training for NIEC field office	Kismayo – Jubaland	NIEC-Operation Department
11.	NIEC Board of Commissioners and Senior Sec staff.		29 Feb - 05 March 2020	10	7	17	Advisory Panel on Elections workshop	Mogadishu	IESG
12.	NIEC Board of Commissioners and Advisors		10 Mar 2020	9	3	12	Simulation of polling and vote counting, tallying for Upper House and concepts/definitions on spoiled/invalid/valid ballot papers -	Mogadishu	IESG
13.	Board of Commissioners and Secretariat staff		17 Mar 2020	25	5	30	Presentation on result forms retrieval steps and confidence measures	Mogadishu	IESG



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14.	NIEC Advisors		22 Mar2020	2	0	2	Elections workshop on UH options	Mogadishu	IESG
15.	NIEC Staff (Public Outreach team)		02-14 May 2020	4	0	4	Graphic Design training session	Virtual	IESG
16.	NIEC Staff (Training Unit)		2 Jun 2020	3	2	5	Induction Training for newly recruited NIEC Training Officers	Virtual	IESG
17	Logistics Unit		5 July		2	2	On 5 July, IESG logistics held a briefing for NIEC logistics manager on movement plans of material for the two models of Standard Voter Registration, and Same-Day VR and Polling.	Virtual	IESG
18	Voter Education Unit		6 July	3	1	4	Mentoring on drafting of Voter information campaign plan for polling period.	Virtual	IESG
19	Voter Education Unit		7 July	1		1	One to One Online training session for the NIEC focal point on how to utilize the Radio channels for the Voter Education Campaign in Somalia.	Virtual	IESG
20	NIEC		8 July	4	2	6	Trained Field Coordinator and Logistics Unit to develop Recruitment and Training Plans.	Virtual	IESG
21	Voter Education Unit/ Graphic Design		12 July	3	0	3	Brainstorming mentoring session on redesigning of the NIEC logo	Virtual	IESG
22	Training Unit		21 July	3	2	5	Working session for NIEC Training Officers on facilitation skills Training	Virtual	IESG
23	Public Outreach Department		10 Aug	3	1	4	Briefing session on using of alternative tools in Public Information campaigns	virtual	IESG
24	NIEC Logistics Unit		19 Aug	9	1	10	Training on Basic Common Practices for Warehouse Operations (Electoral Materials Management)	Virtual	IESG
25	ORPP officials, Heads of NIEC FMS Offices, Commissioners		5-7 Sep	33	7	40	Official Registration of Political Parties - implementing the law	Dhusamareb, Galmudug in person.	NIEC
26	Voter Education Unit		16 Sep	2	0	2	Training on Voter Education Budget (Voter Education materials production)	Virtual	IESG
27	Monitoring and Evaluation Unit		19 Sep	2	1	3	M&E	Guidance and Orientation for the NIEC M&E Unit	Virtual
28	NIEC Staff enrolled		27th Sept-December	70	21	91	Inspira trainings made available to NIEC staff by UNSOM	Institutional Capacity building Inspira trainings	E-Learning





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								course including: (BSAFE; I Know Gender; Information Security; Presentation Skills; Facilitation Skills; Respect of Diversity; Justice and Corrections; , Human Rights Responsibilities; Core Values;and Integrating gender into peacekeeping.	
29	Gender Focal Points		6 Oct	8	4	12	Basic Gender Mainstreaming and gender perspective tools	Virtual	NIEC Advisor Dr. Hassan
30	NIEC Directorate of Administration and Finance		13 Oct	8	2	10	Internal Control Framework (including Segregation of Duties)	Virtual	IESG
31	NIEC Operations (Field staff)		19 Oct	9	1	10	Warehouse Operations Management	NIEC headquarters	IESG
32	NIEC All Staff		25 Oct	61	26	87	Security brief	Virtual	IESG
33	NIEC Directorate of Administration and Finance		2 Nov	9	5	14	Procurement Review and Approval Committee, Procurement Evaluation Committee and Procurement Unit Responsibilities	Virtual	IESG
34	NIEC Directorate of Administration and Finance		9 Nov	7	4	11	Principles of Public Procurement, Fraud & Corruption and Conflict of Interest	Virtual	IESG
35	NIEC Staff		10-14 Nov	58	26	84	Training on Code of Conduct	NIEC Main Office	NIEC HR/Legal departments
36	Monitoring and Evaluation Unit		17-18 Nov	1	1	2	Report writing Skills Training	Virtual	IESG
37	NIEC Field Staff		18 Nov	6	4	10	Training on Electoral Logistics Management and Supply Chain		IESG
38	NIEC Directorate of Administration and Finance		23 Nov	6	4	10	Payment Authorization, methods, supporting documents, petty cash	Virtual	IESG
39	NIEC Staff HQ and FO		4 Nov &	36	12	48	MS Teams Training	Virtual	IESG



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			3 Dec						
40	NIEC Staff HQ and FO		9 Nov & 10 Dec	36	12	48	Teambuilding (interactive/live training sessions)	Virtual	IESG/UNSOS Training Unit
41	NIEC Directorate of Administration and Finance		30 Nov	7	5	12	Vendor Registration, Banking arrangements,	Virtual	IESG
42	Monitoring and Evaluation Unit		2 Dec	1	1	2	Monitoring and Evaluation concepts	Virtual	UNDP Monitoring and Evaluation team/IESG
43	Teambuilding Training		7-10 Dec	16	12	28	Teambuilding training for Secretariat staff	Virtual	IESG & UNSOS Training Unit
44	NIEC Directorate of Administration and Finance		14 Dec	13	10	23	Performance Management and Training and Development	Virtual	IESG
45	NIEC Directorate of Administration and Finance		21 Dec	7	4	11	Procurement Evaluation procedures session 1	Virtual	IESG
46	NIEC Directorate of Administration and Finance		28 Dec	7	4	11	Procurement Evaluation procedures session 2	Virtual	IESG



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Annex 4: Pictures – IESG electoral assistance to NIEC (2020)



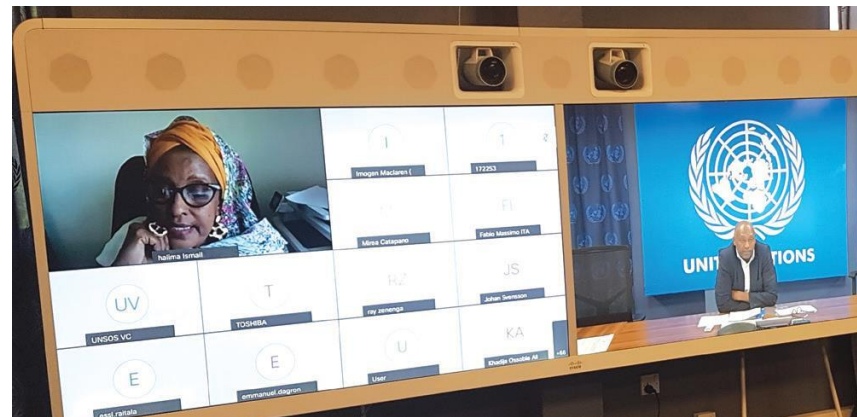
Mogadishu, 28 May 2020: UNDP hands over keys of new NIEC Data Center Building to NIEC.



Dhobley, Jubaland, 17 February 2020: A joint field mission by IESG, NIEC and UNSOS to meet with UNMAS and UNSOS staff and review storage facilities for electoral materials.



Mogadishu, 29 March 2020: SRSG James Swan with Chairman of the Joint Parliamentary Ad Hoc Committee on Elections, Hon. Ibrahim Yarow and Committee member Senator Mahdi.



Mogadishu, 19 May 2020: NIEC-IESG co-chair monthly electoral information sharing meeting.



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Mogadishu, July 2020: NIEC meets with Civil Society Leaders to discuss electoral issues.



Dhusamareb, 5 Sept 2020: NIEC Chairperson Halima Ismail, Deputy President of Galmudug and Speaker of the State Parliament, Hon. Mohamed Nur Ga'al, address the NIEC field staff attending the Political Parties registration workshop hosted by NIEC, with support of IESG.



Mogadishu, 24 September 2020: NIEC Chairperson Halima Ismail participates in a virtual meeting with the African Union and provides updates on electoral preparations in Somalia.



Mogadishu, 13 July 2020: OPR meeting with political party representatives, supported by IESG.



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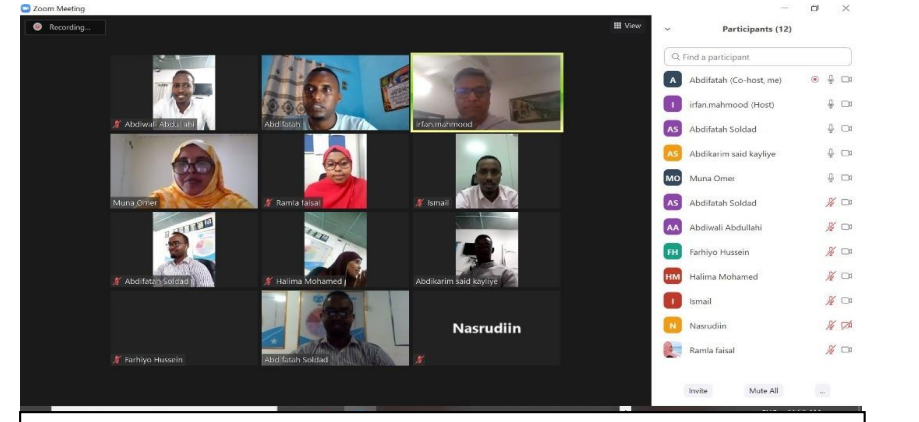
16 December 2020, Mogadishu: NIEC Chairperson Ms. Halima Ismail and Mr. Jocelyn Mason, UNDP Resident Representative co-chair the virtual project board meeting with donors. Mr. Deryck Fritz, Director, Integrated Electoral Support Group also attended the meeting.



Mogadishu, 2 December 2020, Mogadishu: NIEC Staff attend a presentation on NIEC Code of Conduct. This was facilitated by the NIEC HR and Legal departments.



Mogadishu 29 Jan 2020: IESG and NIEC conduct simulation of options for tabulation of votes for NIEC Staff.



Mogadishu, 14 Dec 2020: NIEC staff attend training session on Performance Management and Training and Development



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**NIEC Activities (Videos, Articles and Trainings links):**

<https://www.facebook.com/289885044681280/videos/325112272039069/>

<https://www.facebook.com/289885044681280/videos/2545415542343649/>

[UNDP E-learning training platform](#)

[Political Parties issued with temporary certificates](#)

[https://www.facebook.com/NIECSomalia/videos/wargelin-xisbiga-cadaaladda-iyo-dib-u-heshiisiinta/366404784524582/?\\_so=\\_permalink&\\_rv=\\_related\\_videos](https://www.facebook.com/NIECSomalia/videos/wargelin-xisbiga-cadaaladda-iyo-dib-u-heshiisiinta/366404784524582/?_so=_permalink&_rv=_related_videos)

<https://t.me/c/1138310526/1648>