



MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND

Newsletter Q4 2020

Dear Partners,

While this newsletter covers programmatic activities in the fourth quarter of 2020, my foreword will not dwell on the past but look forward to what promises to be an eventful year for the MPTF in Somalia.

The latest addition to the portfolio is the new UNFPA Country Programme for 2021-2025, which was endorsed by the Social Development Pillar Working Group on 11 February. Congratulations to UNFPA with much appreciation for your continued partnership with the MPTF. The Joint Programme on Human Rights came to an end on 31 March. The final meeting of the steering committee held on the same day, chaired by H.E. Hanifa Mohamed Ibrahim and Mr. Adam Abdelmoula, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia. A new human rights programme is under development and was discussed at the Gender and Human Rights Pillar Working Group meeting on 22 February. Other new programmes that are in the pipeline include the Sameeynta joint programme on durable solutions, expected to be tabled for discussion in the Social Development Pillar Working Group at its next meeting.

At the overarching MPTF level, work has started on building a more efficient and strategic Fund that is at the center of the UN's support to Somalia's pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals. New programmatic initiatives across the pillars and cross-cutting imperatives of the ninth National Development Plan are being planned. The challenge from a fund management point of view is to ensure that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Key to achieving this is to define the MPTF's role in Somalia in the terms of reference and to articulate the Fund's strategic value in an investment plan. The contribution of partners to these processes will be critical to lay the foundations for a stronger MPTF.

As we proceed with the plans to strengthen the MPTF and address long-standing concerns, we have been encouraged by the expressions of support for this process from key national and international partners. The recognition of pooled funding as a strategic tool in Somalia gives us impetus and has left us reassured that we agree on its importance for the UN to "deliver-as-one."

Sincerely,

Peter Nordstrom

Senior Trust Fund Manager

UN MPTF OVERVIEW

-  Active Joint Programmes
-  Active Donor Partners
-  Commitments
-  Deposits

FUND CAPITALIZATION

-  Denmark: USD 45.2 m
-  European Union: USD 79.8 m
-  Finland: USD 12.3 m
-  Germany: USD 32.8 m
-  Italy: USD 25.1 m
-  Netherlands: USD 16.8 m
-  Norway: USD 39.0 m
-  Government of Somalia: USD 3.3 m
-  Sweden: USD 107.3 m
-  Switzerland: USD 28.5 m
-  United Kingdom: USD 36.6 m
-  USAID: USD 4.5 m



UN Peacebuilding Fund: USD 8.6 m

RECONCILIATION & FEDERALISM

With the UN's support, the Federal Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation of Federal Government of Somalia (MoIFAR) and its Federal Member State (FMS) line ministries began in June the implementation of activities outlined in the National Reconciliation Plan (NRP). One of the key planned activities in the NRP is to conduct conflict mapping. The purpose was to map active conflicts in the country that have ongoing negative impact on the lives of citizens and to collect data of active conflict at district, regional and national levels.

Right after training, the data collectors and facilitators from the respective FMS line ministries carried out the data collection in their respective states, regions and districts. Data was collected through qualitative methods using key informant interviews and focus group discussions coupled with literature review and observations.

The main findings from Galmudug, Puntland and Jubaland on sources of conflict included prolonged clan revenges, discord over limited pasture, water and other resources like animals, land disputes over its ownership, terrorism, social disagreements, political tensions and power struggling between neighboring communities.

The pilot exercise on data collection will inform a participatory methodology of conflict and peace mapping with a subsequent target to informing the formulation of regional reconciliation plans. The pilot embedded technical capacities in the Somali institutions rather than relying on external expertise approach on critical issues like conflict mapping, which needs to factor in the deeper contextual sensitivities involved therein. The participatory method of conflict mapping provides a shared understanding on the nature of conflicts as well as the nature of required reconciliation at communal level.

ELECTORAL SUPPORT

As part of the Integrated Electoral Support Group's (IESG) efforts to ensure a gender-inclusive process, IESG joined the UN Gender-Elections Task Team (GETT) which was established in November to define a common UN approach to gender equality and women's participation in the indirect elections and adopt a strategy to make these topics a priority. Since last November, the GETT members (UN entities with shared mandates – UNDP, UN Women and UNSOM (IESG, Gender, Political, Human Rights and Strategic Communications) have coordinated their efforts to promote the 30 percent women's representation in the elec-

toral process, including the electoral committees and federal parliament.

The indirect electoral model adopted by the Somali National Consultative Council in September 2020 guarantees 30 percent quota for women in Parliament, but does not outline the tools, mechanisms or guidelines on how the quota is to be achieved. The UN is developing a two-pronged strategy to help translate the goal into a reality in the indirect elections as well as for the anticipated 2024/25 universal suffrage elections. This strategy is developed around five main areas of support: 1) advocacy; 2) provision of technical support; 3) support to mobilising women through civil society organisations, women leaders and other community champions; 4) public and target group outreach; and 5) strengthening strategic partnerships.

In addition, IESG in cooperation with the Swedish government agency the Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) started planning to support the establishment of Women's Situation Desks (WSDs) in each of the 12 Joint Operation Centers (JOCs) in the constituencies where voting will take place. These Centers will plan, coordinate and manage security operations for the elections around the country. WSDs will ensure that reports and complaints of electoral violence against women, including harassment and intimidation, are reported and addressed properly.

In light of COVID-19 restrictions which limited the face-to-face trainings, IESG in cooperation with the United Nations Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS) Training Unit introduced NIEC staff to UN Inspira self-paced learning courses where 80 NIEC staff completed the following courses: BSAFE (online security awareness training), presentation skills, I Know Gender, Information Security Awareness, facilitation skills and Respect for Diversity.

IESG also worked closely with the NIEC leadership to plan a reflection retreat for all NIEC staff to reflect on its activities over the past five years, identify strengths and compile lessons learned. This exercise is one of the milestones leading up to the long-term strategic planning process that the NIEC is undergoing. The strategic plan should guide the NIEC's work to plan and implement universal suffrage in 2025.

SECURITY SECTOR GOVERNANCE

The Joint Security Sector Governance Programme has supported the State Ministry of Security in Jubaland for two years. The programme seeks to enhance the Ministry's ability to create a safer environment for people in Jubaland and increase effective civilian oversight over the Police. The programme includes

capacity injection, capacity building and support to basic operations. The Ministry is showing steady progress, which is mostly contributed to dedicated staff members in the ministry who have been hired and trained through the support of JSSGP in the areas of leadership, management, core office skills and thematic expertise, human resources management, asset management, procurement and financial control and reporting.

Ms. Aisha Farah is one of eight JSSGP funded staff members who plays an important role in the Ministry. Ms. Farah works on community security, gender and human rights and plays a role in identifying human rights violations, crimes, abuses and other threats in the region. She also works on referrals of SGBV survivors, abandoned children and vulnerable women at risk. Similarly, Mr. Mohamed Dek Odawa who is also funded by JSSGP and is the ministry's civilian oversight officer performs the ministry's key accountability and oversight role which has increased transparency through effective reporting of the activities of the security forces in Jubaland.

JOINT CORRECTIONS PROGRAMME

Despite COVID-19 restrictions in place, implementing partners under the Joint Corrections Programme (JCP) looked for alternative implementation modalities to ensure support to JCP target facilities was not hindered.

At Garowe Central Prison in Puntland, UNODC prison experts remotely worked to plan and develop the training sessions in line with rehabilitation principles of violent extremist prisoners. As a result, prevention of violent extremism (PVE) management training was launched in October. Alongside this training, UNODC began the inception phase of the basic education sessions in line with rehabilitation efforts in Garowe, including classes in mathematics, English and Somali language and religious studies.

Construction projects and infrastructural rehabilitation interventions under the JCP were able to continue under the implementation of hygiene practices and health measures. UNOPS construction of an additional block as part of Phase 2 of the Mogadishu Prison and Court Complex (MPCC) reached its final phase prior to completion by December. In addition to this, vocational training sessions at Garowe Central Prison were able to continue with the provision of PPE through the JCP's prisoner welfare project.

In December, in collaboration with the Somali Custodial Corps Headquarters in Mogadishu, UNODC's Global Prisons Challenges Programme facilitated the basic training of 50 prison officers.

This training falls under JCP's outcome of increased capacity of the Somali Custodial Corps, while also reaching gender markers and increasing the number of officers trained on international standards for places of detention in target facilities.

Recreational and sports sessions form a component to the psychosocial rehabilitation project at the Baidoa prison. In October, a football tournament took place amongst prisoners participating in the project. Sewing machines, materials and equipment were also delivered to the prison for sessions on clothes making and garment fabrication. The project aim to build on the momentum, achievements and lessons learned from the first three phases; the overall objective being to ensure that prisoners with a prior involvement with Al Shabaab (AS) do not re-join AS after release from prison.

In complementing the previous interventions supported by JCP in May and June, UNODC facilitated the delivery of COVID-19 relief items, hygiene equipment and welfare items to Bossaso Central, Garowe Central Prison and Mogadishu Prison and Court complex (MPCC) in November and December.

AID MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION

The roll out of the new aid architecture in Somalia was accelerated in the last quarter of 2020 with the decision of H.E. Prime Minister Mohamed Hussein Roble to organize a Somali Partnership Forum (SPF), the highest-level body of the aid architecture, in December. The decision obliged the newly formed coordination bodies to gather, interact and prepare the Ambassador-level event, which took place on 7 December.

The Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF) emerged one more time as a key tool to implement the existing partnership between Somalia and the international community by agreeing on differentiated but complementary commitments for 2021 and measuring progress of implementation of agreed milestones for 2020. This was done by the Pillar Working Groups (PWGs) of the Somali Development and Reconstruction Facility (SDRF) and the Security & Justice strands of the refined aid architecture. The PWGs and strands discussed the extent to which the priorities in their respective sectors were being effectively addressed and agreed on priorities for the new year.

Both PWGs and strands followed the guidance of the Mutual Accountability Task Force, composed by representatives of a limited number of institutions of the Federal Government, and donor and UN agencies. The Task Force also coordinated the organization of the SPF and provided a methodology for the col-

lection of information as well as orientation in terms of deadlines for submission of materials and consolidation. The Federal Member States (FMSs) engaged in discussions at the PWG and strand level.

On the Inclusive Politics front proposed milestones relate to safeguarding progress on the Constitutional review, ensuring a peaceful and fair electoral process, or advancing in the establishment of a dialogue and consensus building on the federal settlement. Security-related proposed milestones aim to contribute to progressing on the implementation of the Somalia Security Transition Plan to enable security transition by the end of 2021. Other milestones include developing and implementing a sustainable model on institutional reforms in line with the National Security Architecture Agreement, agreeing and implementing an inclusive consensus-based justice and corrections model, or revising the national P/CVE strategy. Economic Development outcomes related to natural resources management, implementation of financial reforms, strengthening trade and financial integration, or improvement of infrastructure were also discussed. For the social development pillar, milestones were proposed on the areas of education and training (including TVET), health & nutrition, food security & resilience, social protection and durable solutions. Finally, on the partnership principles section commitments were agreed on dialogue and aid architecture, gender, human rights & inclusion, framework for governing nongovernmental organisations and national statistics development.

PRODUCTIVE SERVICES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The overarching objective of the Productive Sectors Development Programme for Somalia is to nurture an economic ecosystem to be able to create more inclusive and sustainable economic opportunities and jobs for all of Somalia, and in particular for youth and women. In this context, UNIDO Somalia established an Enterprise Development Unit (EDU) located at the Hiran Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Beledweyne. The EDU has been designed and developed to provide entrepreneurship development training and business counselling to the beneficiaries enrolled for services in the EDU. The EDU in Beledweyne, is part of a network of four EDUs located in Mogadishu, Kismayo and Baidoa. Hosted by the local branches of Somali Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the EDUs are designed to support Somali small and medium enterprises (SMEs) sector improve their competitiveness and access to market, with training, counselling and access to finance support. The network of

EDUs is a UNIDO flagship intervention aiming at supporting Somalia's economic development.

Mohamed Dhi'is Abdi, a 32 year-old farmer, is one of the 20 graduates from the first cohort of SMEs supported by the EDU in Beledweyne. Mr. Abdi manages a farm business in Beledweyne, bought by his father back in 2008. Mr Abdi transitioned the farm through different stages, from producing only lemons, to diversifying towards banana, papaya, sweet lemon, and avocado. Mr. Abdi continuously experiments, being the first to crop avocado in Beledweyne, while also realizing honey production.

The young farmer after graduating from EDU Beledweyne's Training of Entrepreneurs, delighted and enthusiastic, said that the training enhanced his business skills. Mr. Abdi stated, "Management tools such as Costing/Pricing and Products Marketing Management, were relevant to my business operations as areas of improvement." In addition, Mr. Abdi has received one-on-one business counselling, consisting of on-site advice and guidance to improve management skills, diagnose personal business problem or generate further business ideas and opportunities that have helped him gain skills but also the necessary confidence to move to the next level.

In the coming weeks the young farmer is looking forward to gain access to finance through the UNIDO Credit Facility for SME's in the form of below market mark-up-based loan, to purchase agro-machinery to expand his business further.

UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMME

The Puntland administration, with UNFPA support, launched the Puntland COVID-19 Socio-Economic Impact Assessment report in late 2020, which is an effort to understand and document the effects and impact that the pandemic has on Puntland households in various socio-economic fields and areas. The report shows that the pandemic is affecting the economic, health and education sectors and segments of the population.

The Ministry of Health of Puntland established a COVID-19 isolation area. It provides access to life-saving Emergency Obstetric Care, and Neonatal Care (EmONC) services to COVID-19 positive pregnant lactating women and COVID-19 suspected pregnant and lactating women.

Banadir Hospital, a mother and child hospital, is the main referral hospital that delivers free Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (EmONC) where 15 per cent of mothers who were in labour were unable to deliver normally and have undergone Caesarean section to deliver the baby safely. During pregnan-

cy, life-threatening obstetric emergencies are common, and without immediate health intervention, many mothers will lose their lives or the lives of their babies. During this period of the COVID-19 pandemic mothers with pregnancy-related complications received care to avert preventable maternal mortality. Thirty-four percent of these complications were severe anaemia during pregnancy. Some of the mothers received a blood transfusion for the correction of anaemia during pregnancy.

The Director of Banadir Hospital, Ms. Fartun Sharif, informed UNFPA that she is proud of the hard work by the health care workers. “They work day and night to ensure safe deliveries and offer other lifesaving services under strict infection prevention control of the COVID-19 disease to save lives while staying safe and avoiding transmission of the disease,” she said.

Not all babies born alive in the hospital are carried to full-term; some are born prematurely, before the mother has reached 37 weeks of gestation. Others are born with a low birth weight of less than 2.5 kg and others are born with a very low birth weight of 1.5 kg. To help these babies survive, they will be placed in

an incubator which provides the newborns the environmental conditions needed to thrive. UNFPA, with the generous support of donors, procured newborn essential equipment including 10 incubators and six infant radiant warmers to functionalize the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at the Banadir Hospital. This is the only NICU in a public hospital with a well-established and functioning equipment that delivers services for free in Mogadishu.

Beyond its direct effect on mortality, the COVID-19 pandemic is disrupting the provision of health care services globally, resulting in an increase in the number of deaths from non-COVID-19 causes. Somalia had faced the same situation in the early days of the pandemic. But UNFPA, MOH and partners with the generous support of donors, has undertaken all efforts in avoiding hard-earned health gains to be reversed. UNFPA is committed to maintaining the access to high-quality essential maternal and newborn health services, thriving for positive health impact to Somali women and children and contributes in the reduction of maternal mortality in Somalia.

This publication has been produced with the assistance of Denmark, European Union, Finland, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Somalia, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, USAID, and the UN Peacebuilding Support Office. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office for Somalia and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of Denmark, the European Union, Finland, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Somalia, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, USAID, and the Peacebuilding Support Office.

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