

FGS-UN Joint Programme for Sustainable Charcoal Reduction and Alternative Livelihoods (PROSCAL), Somalia

Date: Wednesday, 14 December 2022

Venue: Airport Hotel, AAIA (in Hybrid: Airport Hotel Conference Room and Virtual)
10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE 6th PROGRAMME STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING LOCAL (PSC).

Agenda:

Time /Agenda Item	Presenter
10:30 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. Opening Remarks by the PSC Chair	H.E. Amb. Khadija Mohamed Al Makhzoumi, Minister, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Federal Government of Somalia (Co-chair), and Mr. Jocelyn Mason, Resident Representative, UNDP Somalia (Co-chairing on behalf of the DSRSG/HC/RC)
1050 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	Remarks by Donors
11:10 a.m. to 11:40 a.m. Program Presentation	Federal Ministry of Environment and Climate Change and participating UN agencies (UNDP, FAO and UNEP)
11:40 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Discussion on Program extension, update on the terminal evaluation and formulation of next generation prodoc	Discussion on Program extension, Update on terminal evaluation and formulation of next generation prodoc
Comment and feedback 12.00 p.m. to 12.30 p.m.	PSC members/ attendees
12.30 p.m. to 12:35 p.m.	Closing remarks by the PSC Chair

Participants:

1. Mr. Jocelyn Mason, Resident Representative UNDP Somalia, Co-chairing on behalf of the DSRSG/HC/RC
2. H.E. Amb. Khadija Mohamed Al Makhzoumi, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Federal Government of Somalia (MoECC-FGS)
3. H.E. Ali Isack Omar, Minister, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Southwest State

4. H.E. Mohamoud Hussein Yusuf (buli), Minister, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Hirshabelle State
5. H.E. Mohamed Abdi, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Jubaland
6. Mr. Abdulkani Barrow, Program coordinator, MoECC-FGS
7. Abdullahi Khalif, Snr. Principal Advisor, MoECC-FGS
8. Mr. Ahmed Hassan Sudi, technical advisor, MOECC-Hirshabelle
9. Eng. Abdifatah Hared, Director of Planning, MoECC-FGS
10. Ms. Hamdi Abdi Isse, Special Secretary, MoECC-FGS
11. Mr. Abas Shoble Mohamed, MoECC-FGS
12. Mr. Sabir Murithi, MoECC-FGS
13. Mr. Sayid Omar, MoECC-FGS
14. Mr. Dahir Tahlil, MoECC-FGS
15. Mr. Ahmed Weli Dahir Mohamed, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Rural Development, Galmudug
16. Mr. Mohamed Omar Ise, Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range (MoLFR-FGS)
17. Mr. Rashid Ateye, UN Environment Programme
18. Sahra Sharif, Norway Embassy, Kenya
19. Mr. Peter Nordstrom, Senior Trust Fund Manager, Somalia Joint Fund Secretariat
20. Ms. Teodra Traljac, UN Environment Programme
21. Mr. Mohamed Nur, Resilience Program Officer, FAO Somalia
22. Ms. Rym Ben Zid, Senior Environment Advisor, FAO Somalia
23. Mr. Ugo Leonardi, Technical Advisor, FAO-SWALIM
24. Ms. Amren Yassin, Programme Specialist, POQA Unit, UNDP Somalia
25. Mrs. Beatrice Gitongori, Finance/Programme Analyst, RCC Portfolio
26. Mr. Abdul Qadir Rafiq, Portfolio Manager, Resilience and Climate Change (RCC) Portfolio, UNDP Somalia
27. Mr. Salah Dahir, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Specialist, RCC Portfolio, UNDP Somalia
28. Mr. Hassan Abdirizak Ahmed, National Project Manager, Programme for Sustainable Charcoal Reduction and Alternative Livelihoods (PROSCAL), RCC Portfolio
29. Mr. Mohamed Adan, Programme Associate, PROSCAL, RCC Portfolio
30. Mr. Ahmed Mohamud, Programme Specialist, RCC portfolio

Regrets:

1. Mr. Kamau Waithaka, Programme Manager- Environment, Climate Change, Water and Energy, Embassy of Sweden, Nairobi, Kenya

PSC Minutes:

H.E. Amb. Khadija Mohamed Al Makhzoumi, Minister, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Federal Government of Somalia, co-chaired the meeting with Mr. Jocelyn Mason, Resident Representative, UNDP Somalia CO, and acknowledged the presence of the Federal line ministries, Ministers of Environment from the Federal Member States, UN participating agencies, and donors. In her opening remarks, appreciated the generosity and support of the donor partners, Norway and Sweden” for their contributions to implement the Joint Programme. Equally, thanked the implementing partners

(FAO, UNDP and UNEP) for their tireless effort to make this program a success. Speaking about the relevance of the Programme for Somalia, she mentioned that even though there has been a significant decrease in charcoal exportation from Somalia, the international demand is still prevalent, whereas the demand at the national level is mostly due to the lack of alternative energy sources for household use. This is because the urban population in Somalia is the primary consumer of Charcoal, and unless there is a sustainable transition towards alternative sources of energy solutions to Charcoal use, this demand is likely to increase with growth in the urban population as well as the revitalization of the national economy. She added that the production and use of Charcoal are detrimental to people's livelihood and their well-being. For instance, in Somalia, the production of Charcoal causes environmental degradation and food insecurity; it also supplies cash to elements and organizations responsible for the conflict. Against this backdrop, she underscored that one of the president's first actions during his re-election in mid-May this year was to create the first Federal Ministry of Environment and Climate Change. Also, a national campaign for greening the country and a plan to plant 10 million trees was launched to strengthen people's resilience and withstand climate change-induced implications. Moreso, Somalia requested to join the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100), restoring 100 million hectares of deforested and degraded land in Africa by 2030 and the Great Green Wall. She reiterated that the tremendous changes that the country has experienced in recent years demonstrate the power of commitment to move the country forward to meet our people's aspirations for a better future and that a better future begins with developing and protecting our environment for future generations. The Federal Government of Somalia considers this flagship program an important priority, which is expected to clear the way for more restorative environmental programs to increase support and reduce domestic charcoal consumption. She added that the Federal Government of Somalia is committed to adopting new measures by regulating the charcoal industry and being ready to start the PROSCAL program's second phase. Furthermore, efforts are underway to support a sustainable charcoal reduction in Somalia and to expand the nurseries for more ecosystem restorative measures and extensive reforestation activities. While acknowledging the unrelenting support from all the stakeholders, she emphasized that the program's first phase was underfunded and requested for additional funds to make the program's second phase successful.

In his opening remarks, Mr Jocelyn Mason, Resident Representative, UNDP Somalia CO, thanked her Excellency Amb. Khadija Mohamed Al Makhzoumi, for co-chairing the Programme Steering Committee meeting. He also acknowledged all participants for their participation. He then introduced the participants to the four agenda points of the PSC meeting. First to review the 2022 programme progress and focus on strategic actions that require discussion by the Steering Committee. Second to endorse to extend of the programme duration by 3 months (from December 2022 to March 2023) at no cost to finalize the final evaluation of the program, formulation of next-generation program document and pending activities. Third, approve three (3) months' work plan for 2023. Fourth, advocate for the approval of the National Charcoal and Forest Policies by the Council of Ministers and the start of its implementation.

Discussing the programme's success, he mentioned that significant achievements were made, including the finalization of charcoal and forestry policies, awareness raising about the issues of unsustainable charcoal trade at regional/international levels, and evidence-based monitoring of impacts of Charcoal production. The Programme also accelerated the diffusion of alternative energy and provided alternative livelihoods to Charcoal Value Chain Beneficiaries. He also, highlighted that the resurgence of illegal charcoal export in 2022 is a major setback to the gains made so far by the programme and to the

environment and economic well-being of the Somali people. This demonstrates that the illegal export of charcoal from Somalia remains a major challenge to the environment, peace and security. He further emphasized the importance of deepening cooperation with Gulf countries in addressing charcoal issues and resource mobilization for the next phase of the programme. Highlighting the funding opportunities, he said that the launching of SJF in 2023 is a key milestone to ensure UN Joint Programmes under the Resilience and Climate Change pillar are provided with sustained funding streams. So, the program team should accelerate the formulation of high-quality next-generation program documents to be submitted to the SJF for funding. He further, invited the project team to present the project while highlighting a proactive session of reviews and constructive feedback from the members of the PSC.

Presentation:

The *project brief, agenda, and presentations* were circulated to the PSC Members before the meeting and are annexed as <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MLEOjIEGg3CPpfK74Mc5ioavEu5fJVgi/view?usp=sharing>

Mr. Abdulkani Barrow, Senior National Programme Coordinator, MoECC-FGS, presented the program background to the members of the PSC. He enlightened participants on the reasons for Charcoal Business expanded from the year 2000 onwards. These include; Limited Livelihoods Opportunities; Institutions' lack of enforcement capacities; High demand from the Gulf countries leading to illegal trade; the Weakening of traditional decision-making systems; Repeated natural disasters and prolonged conflicts, and Limited sources of energy to meet basic needs. He also, informed the members that the Programme comprised three components: 1) Capacity building and Regional Cooperation; 2) Alternative Energy, and 3) Alternative Livelihoods for Charcoal Value Chain Beneficiaries.

On behalf of UN Environment, Mr. Abdirashid Ateeye, Programme Officer, presented the progress of UNEP activities under Component one, he informed that National Range land management Policy has been drafted and under review. Also, the updating of the National charcoal policy and National forestry policy is completed while the harmonization of the three policies and implementation action plan is ongoing and expected to be completed by the end of December. As part of initiatives to reinforce charcoal monitoring, Charcoal Forensic Analysis training was conducted in Mombasa, by NFI with the collaboration of UNEP and UNODC. Participants from Saudi Arabia, UAE, Oman & Kenya took part.

Mr. Hassan Abdirizak Ahmed, National Task Manager UNDP, presented the progress on capacity building, awareness raising under component one and alternative energy under component two of the program. He state that the program provided technical and operational support to seven sector ministries including the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change-FGS, Galmudug Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Rural Development, HirShabelle Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Southwest Ministry of Environment and Forest, Jubaland Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Puntland Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, and Somaliland Ministry of Environment and Climate Change. On the sensitization aspects, six (6) awareness-raising workshops were held engaging 502 stakeholders (40% women). Through media campaigns, more than 2,214,363 people (42% women) were sensitized on sustainable natural resource management. For Component 2; In partnership with the private and local authorities, more than 6,410 households (95% women headed) have transitioned to environment-friendly

sustainable sources of energy, comprising of fuel-efficient stoves and alternatives to charcoal, reducing deforestation and charcoal consumption, while creating employment. In addition, 4 Public institutions (2 orphanage schools and 2 health centres) transitioned to the use of solar thermal heating systems in combination with LPG and efficient stoves for institutional cooking (serving around 2,000 beneficiaries per year). To enhance the sustainability of production and use of fuel-efficient stoves, 40 (5 women) artisans trained and provided with toolkits in Kismayo, Baidoa, Beletwein and Dhusamareeb. In Somaliland 24 (16 women) trained in business networking, production and marketing of efficient stoves. Start-up grants were given to 20 producers and retailers. In Puntland 70 women retailers received subsidized energy-efficient stoves. Further, two youth companies (innovative Charcoal production from invasive *Prosopis juliflora*) were supported to produce “green” charcoal. Regarding Component 3; Five (5) Nursery sites were established in partnership with the Environment Ministries of the Federal Member States (Kismayo, Baidoa, Jowhar, Dhusamareb & Beletweyne). In addition, PPP model agreements have been established for each nursery site, and tree nursery groups and producer associations are trained in each state to promote their sustainability. Furthermore, consultative meetings with key stakeholders, including the private sector and producer associations for marketing and production of tree seedlings at sites were held at the States level.

Mr Hassan`s presentation covered the decisions and Follow-up Actions Steering Committee Meeting: 10th March 2022, Programme Strategy, 2023 AWP, and Key Issues and Challenges.

Copy of the presentation attached as https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1bZ8Bzx5k-5KbmkXpk_NMLpMZ5rm7NfQ9/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=101183427218989265382&rtpof=true&sd=true

Comments and Feedback: The Co-chairs invited the participants for comments and feedback after the program presentation. The comments from participants and responses are recorded in the table below:

Comments / Feedback/Decisions	Responses
<p>Abdifatah Hared, Director of Planning, MoECC, FGS</p> <p>Enquired why FAO has not supported the establishment of tree nursery in Mogadishu like the other federal member states.</p>	<p>A tree nursery was established at the Mogadishu port in collaboration with Federal Ministry of Livestock, Forest and Range.</p>
<p>Ugo Leonardi, FAO-SWALIM</p> <p>Charcoal Monitoring Reports (2011-2021) are available and can be shared with the members of the PSC if interested to understand the overall understanding of the Charcoal issues and impacts.</p>	<p>Agreed and annexed as part of the PSC presentation</p>

<p>Sahra Sharif, Norway Embassy</p> <p>Asked for detailed elaboration on the local artisans who were trained on the fabrication of fuel-efficient stoves.</p>	<p>Agreed:</p> <p>40 (5 women) artisans trained on fabrication and marketing fuel efficient in Kismayo, Baidoa, Beletwein and Dhusamareeb. The trainees in each location were provided with toolkits for the fabrication of energy efficient stove (for both charcoal and firewood). The trained local artisans were engaged in the production 500 fuel efficient enabling them to get short-term employment as well as enhancing their newly acquired skills. In addition, 24 (16 women) trained in business networking, production and marketing of efficient stoves in somaliland. Start-up grants were given to 20 producers and retailers</p>
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Concluding Remarks and PSC Decision:

H.E. Amb. Khadija Mohamed Al Makhzoumi, Minister, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Federal Government of Somalia, in her closing remarks, appreciated the constructive engagement of the participants in PSC meetings/discussions. She also, emphasised that her ministries with the leadership of the federal Government senior officials will be committed to the implementation of the current phase and the next phase.

The 6th PSC meeting concluded with the approval of the Programme agenda:

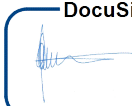
1. The program Steering Committee (PSC) endorsed a three-month no-cost extension from 1st January 2023 to 31st March 2023) to finalize the final evaluation of the program, formulation of the next-generation program document and pending activities.
2. The 2023 Annual Workplan plan with a 3-month timeline approved for implementation
3. Acknowledgement of the 2022 progress, 2023 fast-tracking initiatives, and acceleration of the remaining activities.

PSC Minutes approved by:

Mr. Jocelyn Mason, Resident Representative, UNDP Somalia Co-chair (on behalf of the DSRSG/HC/RC)

Date: 05-Jan-2023

Signature:

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H.E. Amb. Khadija Mohamed Al Makhzoumi, Minister, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Federal Government of Somalia Co-chair

Date: 09-jan-2023

Signature: 