

Third Party Monitoring Report of the Joint Programme for Sustainable Charcoal Reduction and Alternative Livelihoods (PROSCAL) Project



An LPG cylinder in use by a beneficiary in Calanley village in Kismaayo

Q1 & Q2 - 2021

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Executive summary

Program status: The implementation of the Joint PROSCAL delayed by internal disagreements between the Ministry of Livestock, Forestry & Range, and the Directorate of Environment and Climate Change (Office of the Prime Minister) on what ministry should implement. The disagreements led to the non-implementation of the bulk of the activities especially during Quarters 1 & 2, 2021. Nevertheless, the issue was finally settled with the Directorate of Environment & Climate Change (DoECC) given the greenlight to take the lead role in the implementation of the PROSCAL.

Despite the difficulties that faced the PROSCAL program during the first 6 months of 2021, DoECC successfully delivered 1800 cylinders of LPG gas to the Ministries of Environment for Hirshabelle, Galmudug and Southwest State – Jubaland State consignment having been delivered in the last Quarter of 2020. Each of the three FMSs received 600 units of the LPG cylinders distributed as follows; Baidoa (600), Dhusamareb (600), Jowhar (300) and Beletweyne (300). The actual distribution was accompanied by an awareness package on the disadvantages of using charcoal as it causes air pollution and degrades the environment through deforestation and cutting down of trees.

Post distribution monitoring of LPG cylinders:

A total of 384 respondents participated in the PDM out of which 38% (n=145) were male respondents and 62% (n=238) were female respondents. The survey therefore confirms that all targeted beneficiaries received one unit of the LPG cylinders which shows it that the distribution was conducted in accordance with the plan of the Directorate of Environment and Climate Change.

Regarding beneficiaries' perception and knowledge on whether the criteria used for selecting beneficiaries to receive the LPG gas cylinders clearly communicated and applied - 76% agreed that the criteria was clearly communicated and applied and 21% somewhat agreed. Additionally, 77% of respondents reported that the criteria of selecting the beneficiaries for the LPG cylinders was fair with another 21% indicating that the process was somewhat fair.

Furthermore, the survey sought to enquire whether the implementing partners' (Ministries) created awareness on how to use the cylinders - 98% of the households agreed that the Ministry officials created awareness on how to use the LPG gas cylinders. In fact, only 8% of households surveyed indicated having challenges in using the LPG gas cylinders, with majority (82%) having no issue in using the cylinders.

In terms of quality of the cylinders, 56% were very satisfied with the quality of the distributed cylinders with 38% reporting being satisfied. This is indicative of the appreciation by the beneficiary community regarding the cylinders. This high opinion regarding the quality shows that almost all beneficiaries have put the cylinders into good use. For example, 55% of the households surveyed reported that the LPG gas received from the Ministry contributed to a great extent to respond to their needs with 38% indicating the contribution was to a moderate

extent. On whether the beneficiaries are comfortable using the cylinders, nearly all (99%) respondents think that the LPG cylinders are better to use as compared to other energy sources.

Challenges:

1. There was a severe delay in program implementation and signing of the LOA with UNDP due to the disagreements between the DoECC and Ministry of Livestock and Range at the FGS level.
2. Officials at the Ministry of Environment and Wildlife in Southwest State noted that they were not provided with a copy of the LOA that the DoECC signed with UNDP. They reported that there is need to refer to LOA when implementing projects – and this was not provided to them.
3. Beneficiaries in Baidoa noted that there was limited awareness created by the Ministry of Environment and Wildlife in Southwest State. This could be the lack of necessary communication from DoECC or skills to conduct the campaigns.
4. Beneficiary communities across visited FMSs reported that the number of LPG cylinders distributed is much less than the demand of the vulnerable households who cannot afford it. For example, in Kismayo, the price of the gas cylinders have increased from \$26 to \$40 – beneficiaries noted that the price changed after demand was created by the distribution through PROSCAL. Project staff also reported that the price change was due to logistical supply chain challenges following the Covid-19 pandemic.
5. In Jubaland, Kismayo Gas Company Kismayo has monopolised the market and no any other company distributed LPG, which means they control the market and can adjust prices as they wish.
6. There is persistent use of charcoal by majority of the community members for cooking and other home use. This exacerbates deforestation and goes against the objectives of the PROSCAL.

Recommendations:

1. The Federal Government of Somalia should regulate the gas distribution market and should allow competitive markets where all competent firms can distribute LPG products. This would break monopoly that drive prices higher that would in turn lock out vulnerable households.
2. There is need to distribute more LPG cylinders to vulnerable households. This would enable more people to embrace and understand the convenience that comes with the gas cylinders. Consequently, more people will shun the use of firwoods which is a danger to the environment.
3. DoECC should ramp up its awareness and campaigns to promote the use of LPG cylinders which is a low carbon fuel source and easy to use.
4. The Joint PROSCAL programme should consider creating alternative source of income for people whose livelihoods depend on the charcoal burning.
5. The FGS should incentivize the use of LPG gas cylinders by introducing zero-tax to all products that are related to LPG or might promote the use of LPG fuel source. UNDP project staff should also follow up on this recommendation as discussed in public private partnership dialogue workshop that was earlier on held in Mogadishu. r

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background on the project

Somalia is among the world's most vulnerable countries to the impacts of climate change, which are to a large degree the result of poverty, environmental degradation, migration and conflict. More than 80% of Somalia's landmass is arid and semi-arid and experiences extreme weather conditions. Historically, drought has been an on-going issue for the country - five main factors cause environmental degradation, which further exasperates the frequency and consequences of drought. These include: population growth cost of rural colonization, deforestation, soil erosion, and climate change.

As a result, most of the country has been experiencing a devastating drought for the past few years and consequences have been severe; for example, springs, which contribute 11% of groundwater, have lost as much as 90% of the water (Hussein, 2017). Furthermore, due to the relatively low degree of institutional resilience and absorptive capacities, there are not many policies or programmes to mitigate or adapt to these perennial droughts and address the impacts of climate change.

This **Joint Programme for Sustainable Charcoal Reduction and Alternative Livelihoods (PROSCAL)** is in response to the UN Security Council resolution 2036 (2012) that seeks international cooperation to ban illegal exports of Charcoal from Somalia. The programme envisages a comprehensive response strategy to support the Security Council's Resolution. In implementing its mandate, PROSCAL builds upon successful projects executed by UN agencies to support the ban and uses the UN Joint Programming modality to harmonize approaches and maximize synergies. Building on existing collaboration efforts of partner organisations and governments, the programme emphasizes joint work plans, monitoring and evaluation of activities, and offers a forum for policy harmonization between national governments on activities related to the charcoal trade ban in the region.

1.2 Project Objectives & Outcomes

The programme envisages a comprehensive response to support the Security Council resolution. The

specific objectives of the programme are four: 1) Support government in Somalia as well as countries in the Horn of Africa and the region to produce pertinent legal instruments and strengthen enforcement mechanisms at national, regional and local levels; 2) Promote alternative sources of energy to reduce local charcoal consumption; 3) Provide alternative livelihoods to the Charcoal Value Chain Beneficiaries (CVCBs) involved in the charcoal production and trade; and, 4) Country wide reforestation and afforestation to regain the productive potential of the environmentally degraded lands.

2.0 Methodology

2.1 Approach

The third party monitoring was guided by the use of project indicator checklist provided and approved by UNDP. The monitoring team targeted staff of the implementing departments across governance levels in the country. These include ministry officials at the FGS level, Puntland, Jubaland, Galmudug, Hirshabelle, and Southwest States. Overall, the TPM adopted key informant interviews during the monitoring process as well as observation to verify activities accomplished as at the TPM visit. Additionally, the monitoring team carried out Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) of the LPG gas cylinders that were distributed across FMSs.

2.2 Data collection

The monitoring adopted the use of pre-designed questionnaires/checklists to gather relevant information related to the project under review. Geo-tagged photos were also collected where evidence was available. Trained TPM researchers administered the questionnaires during the data collection and summary notes were prepared from those interviews.

2.3 Data processing

After the data collection phase of the monitoring exercise, the team collated the raw data for analysis. Findings of the qualitative data, collected as transcripts from all interviews with project staffs were analyzed in detail to inform this report. Further, observation notes from the field were also used to complement the information collected.

2.4 Data quality

Field data were validated and triangulated to ensure quality. The rationale for triangulation was that the use of multiple methods and sources overcomes the weaknesses associated with using single methods and sources. Any inconsistent information, errors were communicated/cross-referenced with the field teams and corrected before finalizing the fieldwork. Geo-tagged photography was also adopted to ensure it complements our narrative report.

3.0 Findings

3.1 Program Implementation Status

The implementation of the Joint Programme for Sustainable Charcoal Reduction and Alternative Livelihoods (PROSCAL) was affected by internal disagreements between the Ministry of Livestock, Forestry & Range, and the Directorate of Environment and Climate Change (Office of the Prime Minister) on whose docket the lead partner falls. The TPM learnt that this friction has resulted in unforeseen delays in the program implementation, especially in early 2021 causing interruptions in the smooth implementation of program activities.

However, the issue was finally resolved in June 2021 with the Directorate of Environment & Climate Change (DoECC) taking the lead role in the implementation of the Joint Programme for Sustainable Charcoal Reduction and Alternative Livelihoods.

Despite the difficulties that faced the PROSCAL program during the first 6 months of 2021, DoECC successfully delivered 1800 cylinders of LPG gas to the Ministries of Environment for Hirshabelle, Galmudug and Southwest State – Jubaland State consignment having been delivered in the last Quarter of 2020. Each of the three FMSs received 600 units of the LPG cylinders distributed as follows; Baidoa (600), Dhusamareb (600), Jowhar (300) and Beletweyne (300).

Programme staff also reported that the DoECC was able to sign the LOA during Q3, 2021, hence the greenlight to continue implementing the program. Therefore, as at the monitoring dates, final planning and implementation of the other activities at the Directorate of Environment was in top gear.

3.2 Distribution of LPG Cylinders

The TPM team confirmed that the LPG gas cylinders were distributed in all the FMSs – with each FMS receiving 600 cylinders of the cylinders.

Hirshabelle State: The Ministry of Environment in partnership with Som Gas distributed 600 LPG gas cylinders free of charge, 300 for Jowhar and 300 for Beletweyne. The distribution was accompanied by an awareness package on the disadvantages of using charcoal as it causes air pollution and degrades the

environment through deforestation and cutting down of trees. Ministry officials further indicated that they carried out follow-up outreach to monitor if beneficiaries were facing any challenges.



File picture: Pictures showing distribution of LPG cylinders in Jowhar, Hirshabelle

Galmudug State: The Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Rural Development (MECCRD) conducted a meeting attended by the Ministry heads and staff with the aim of distributing 600 LPG gas cylinders and cooking stoves to the community. MECCRD distributed the cylinders and cooking stoves to different rural and urban locations, including; 200 sets for Dhusamareb (200 gas cylinders with 200 cooking stoves), 150 for Adaado, 120 for Abudwaq, 50 for Guricel 50, 20 for Hurshe, 20 for Balanbale, 20 for Godinlabe and 20 for Xeraale. Alongside the distribution process, Ministry officials created awareness on the importance of using LPG as a form of energy – they also demonstrated on how to safely use the cylinders since they are pretty a new phenomenon, especially in the rural villages.



File picture: Beneficiaries who just collected their cylinders and stoves in Dhusmamareb, Galmudug



A mother using the LPG cylinder in Dhusamareb, Galmudug

Southwest State (SWS): The Ministry of Environment and Wildlife has distributed 600 LPG cylinders amongst the beneficiaries in Baidoa District. The main beneficiaries were mostly from households that were able to afford the refilling costs to ensure that the cylinders do not remain redundant in future. most vulnerable groups such as IDPs, women groups, and people living with disabilities. However, Ministry officials admitted that there was no broad awareness campaign and educative sensitization that was rolled out by the ministry, a part from practical demonstration on how to use the cylinders.



File picture: SWS Ministry of Environment & Wildlife staff distributing LPG cylinders



Pictures of the gas cylinders and cooking stoves ready to be handed over to beneficiaries in Baidoa

Jubaland State: In Jubaland State, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism staff distributed 600 units of LPG gas cylinders to selected residents of Kismaayo city in December, 2020. Kismaayo Gas Company was awarded the contract of distributing the gas cylinders and they have successfully delivered to cylinders to the intended beneficiaries.



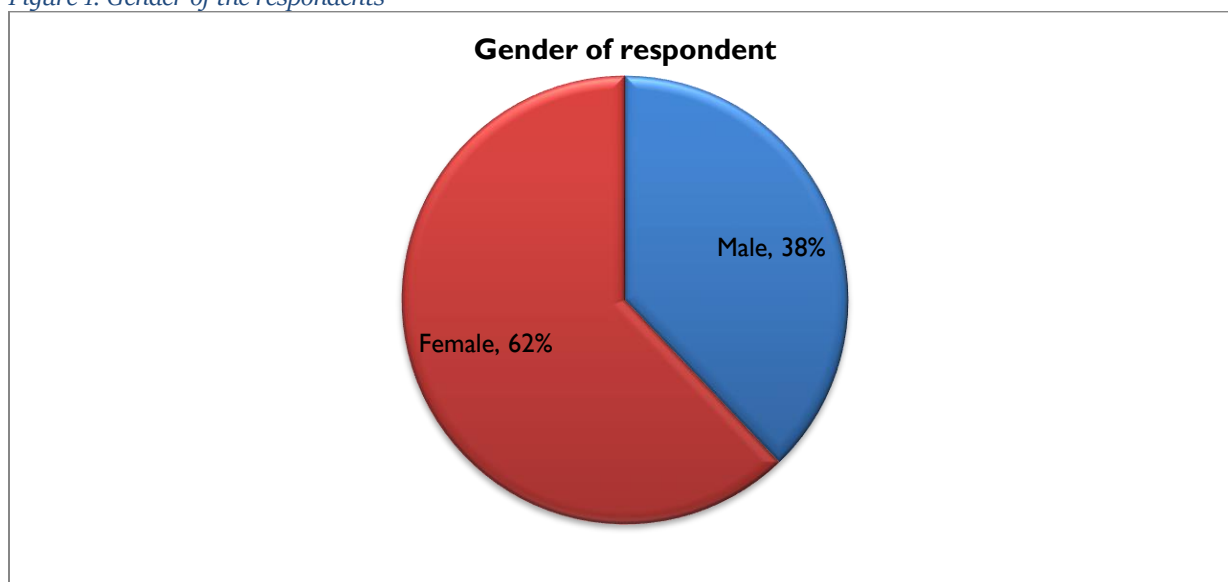
Photos taken by the TPM team showing how useful the gas cylinders are in Kismayo

3.3 Post Distribution Monitoring of LPG Cylinders

3.3.1 Introduction

A total of 384 respondents participated in the PDM of the Joint Programme for Sustainable Charcoal Reduction and Alternative Livelihoods household survey. Out of these numbers, 38% (n=145) were male respondents and 62% (n=238) were female respondents.

Figure 1: Gender of the respondents



In terms of age distribution, 46% (n=177) of the participants were <35 years and over a half (54%) n=207 were 35 and above years old.

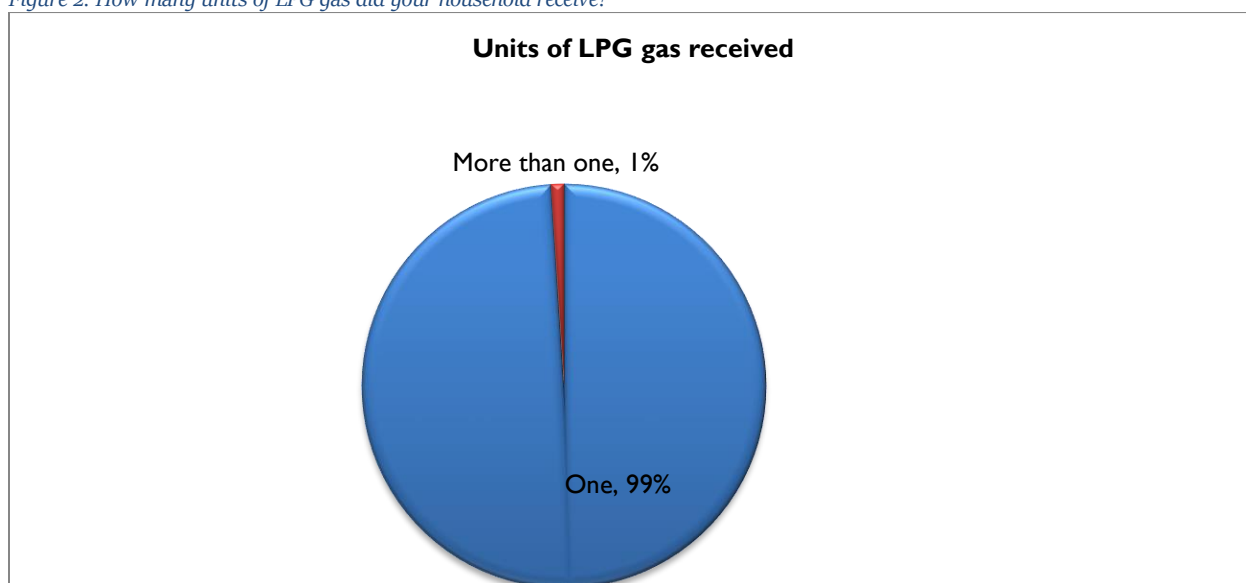
Table 1: Age of the respondents

Age group	Frequency	Percent
<35 years	177	46%
35 and above	207	54%
Total	384	100%

3.3.2 Number of cylinders received

Out of the 384 households interviewed, 99% (n=380) had one units of LPG gas and only 1% (n=3) had received more than one unit of LPG gas. The survey therefore confirms that all targeted beneficiaries received one unit of the LPG cylinders which shows it that the distribution was conducted in accordance with the plan of the Directorate of Environment and Climate Change.

Figure 2: How many units of LPG gas did your household receive?



3.3.3 Knowledge on who distributed the Cylinders

The survey also sought to gauge the beneficiaries' knowledge on who exactly was behind the distribution of the gas cylinders. An overwhelming majority (96%) n=366 of the respondents knew who distributed the LPG gas cylinders, however, 4% (n=18) of the respondents did not know who distributed the LPG gas cylinders.

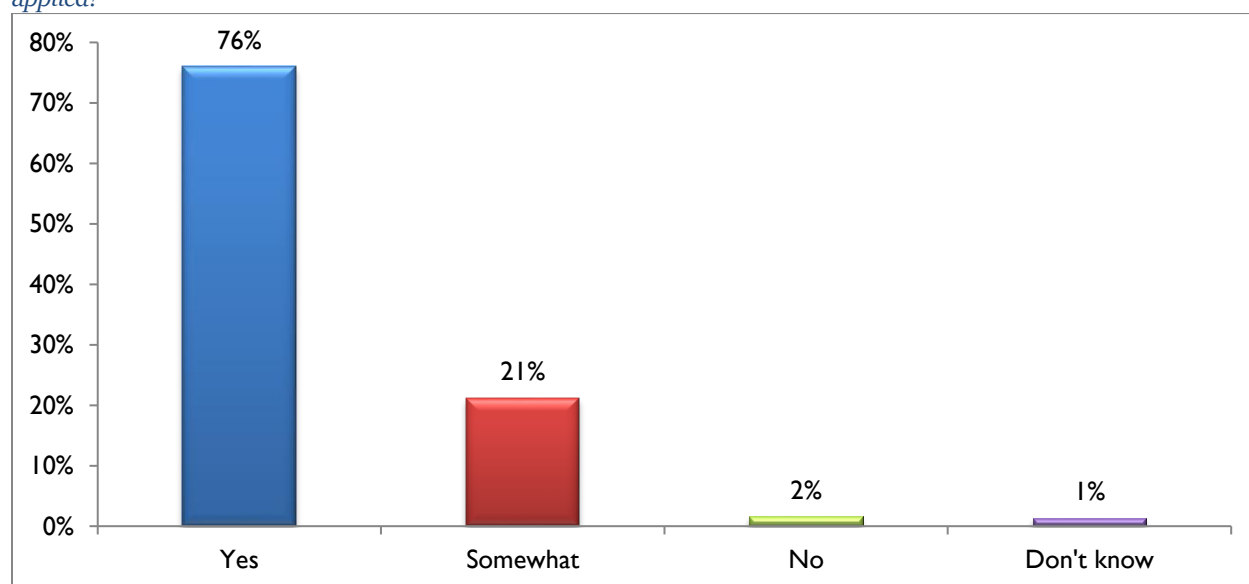
Table 2: Do you know who distributed the LPG gas cylinders?

Do you know who distributed the LPG gas cylinders?	Frequency	Percent
Yes	366	96%
No	18	4%
Total	384	100%

3.3.4 Targeting and selection criteria

The survey examined the beneficiaries' perception and knowledge on whether the criteria used for selecting beneficiaries to receive the LPG gas cylinders clearly communicated and applied. Over three quarters (76%) of the survey respondents agreed that the criteria used for selecting beneficiaries to receive the LPG gas cylinders was clearly communicated and applied and 21% somewhat agreed. Only a negligible proportion of 2% and 1% reported it wasn't applied or communicated to the, or didn't know respectively.

Figure 3: Was the criteria for selecting beneficiaries to receive the LPG gas cylinders clearly communicated and applied?



Additionally, over three quarter (77%) n=293 of the households surveyed reported that the criteria of selecting the beneficiaries for the LPG cylinders was fair with another 21% indicating that the process was somewhat fair. This is a clear indication of the transparent nature of the targeting and selection process through which the beneficiaries of the LPG cylinders were identified.

Table 3: In your opinion how fair were the criteria?

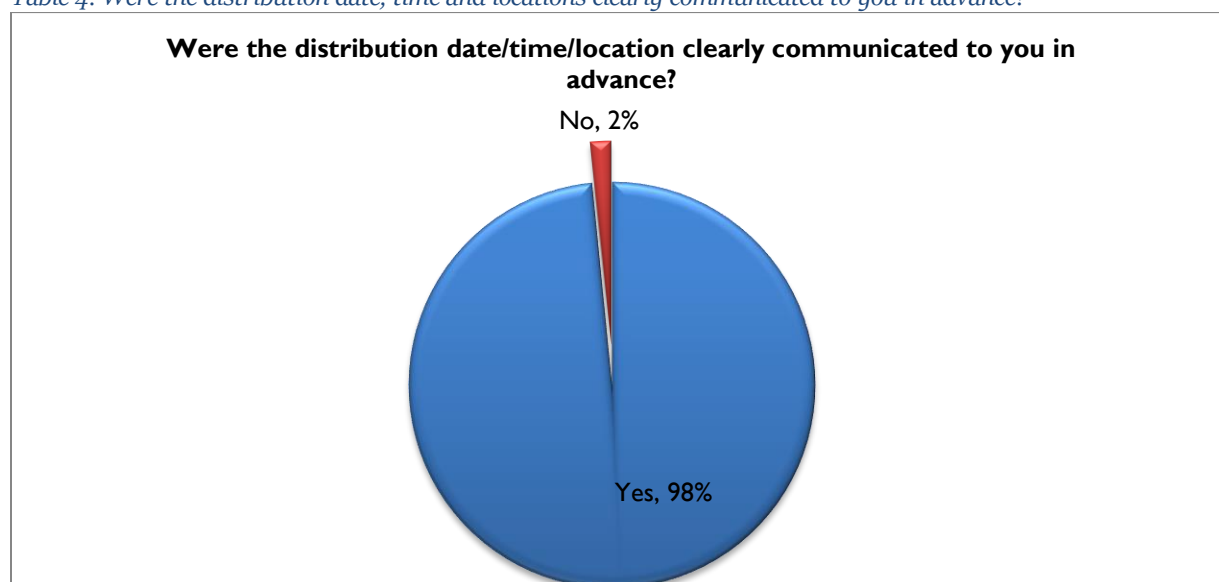
In your opinion how fair were the criteria?	Frequency	Percent
Fair	293	77%
Somewhat fair	87	22%

Not fair	3	1%
Don't know	1	0%
Total	384	100%

3.3.5 Convenience of distribution process

The TPM further enquired the beneficiaries on whether the location, date and time of the distribution was clearly communicated in advance. Majority (98%) n=377 of the households surveyed agreed that the distribution date/time/location was clearly communicated to them in advance. This shows that the distribution process was largely carried out on a date, time and location that was convenient to the beneficiaries.

Table 4: Were the distribution date, time and locations clearly communicated to you in advance?



3.3.6 Awareness on the use of LPG Cylinders

The LPG cylinders being a rather new source of energy in most locations in Somalia, especially in the rural communities and more so the vulnerable members of the community, the PROSCAL programme implementation had a component of sensitizing potential users on the proper management and use of the gas cylinders. Therefore, the survey sought to enquire whether the implementing partners'

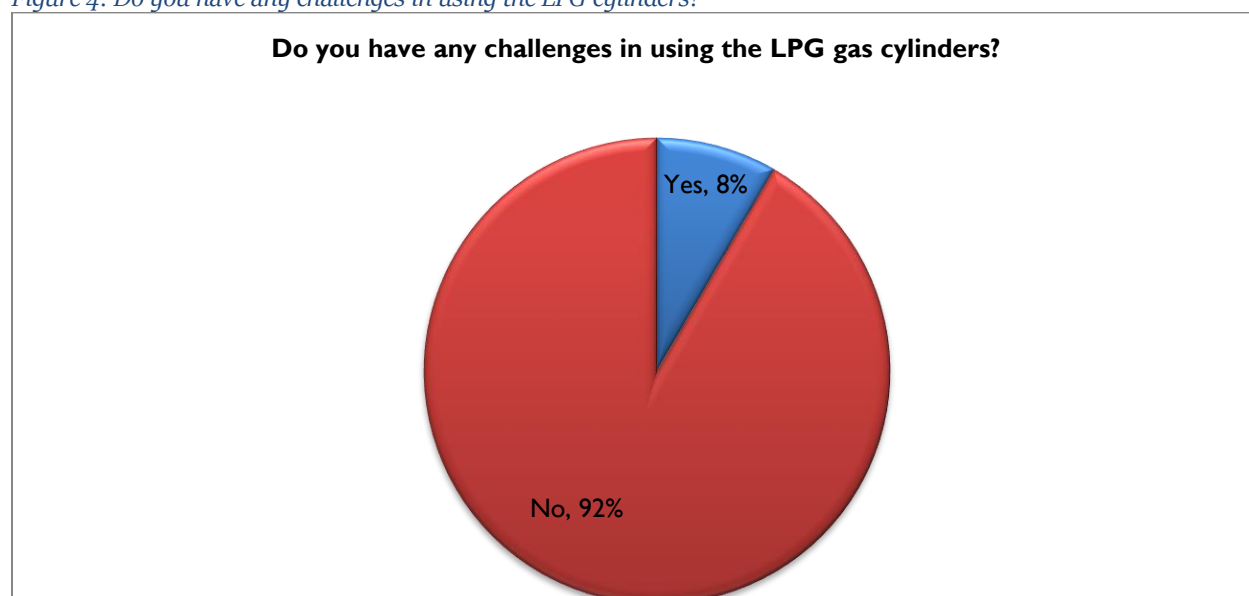
(Ministries) officials distributing the LPG gas created awareness on how to use the cylinders. 98% of the households surveyed agreed that the Ministry officials created awareness on how to use the LPG gas cylinders. This was also confirmed by the interviewed ministry officials who said that it was a must-be-done component of the distribution process.

Table 5: Did the implementing partner (Ministry) officials distributing the LPG gas create awareness on how to use the cylinders?

Did the implementing partner (Ministry) officials distributing the LPG gas create awareness on how to use the cylinders?	Frequency	Percent
Yes	377	98%
No	7	2%
Total	384	100%

To gauge whether the beneficiaries really have a problem using the cylinders which might be new to them, the survey enquired whether they face any challenges using the LPG. Only 8% (n=32) of households surveyed indicated having challenges in using the LPG gas cylinders, with the overwhelming majority (82%) having no issue in using the cylinders.

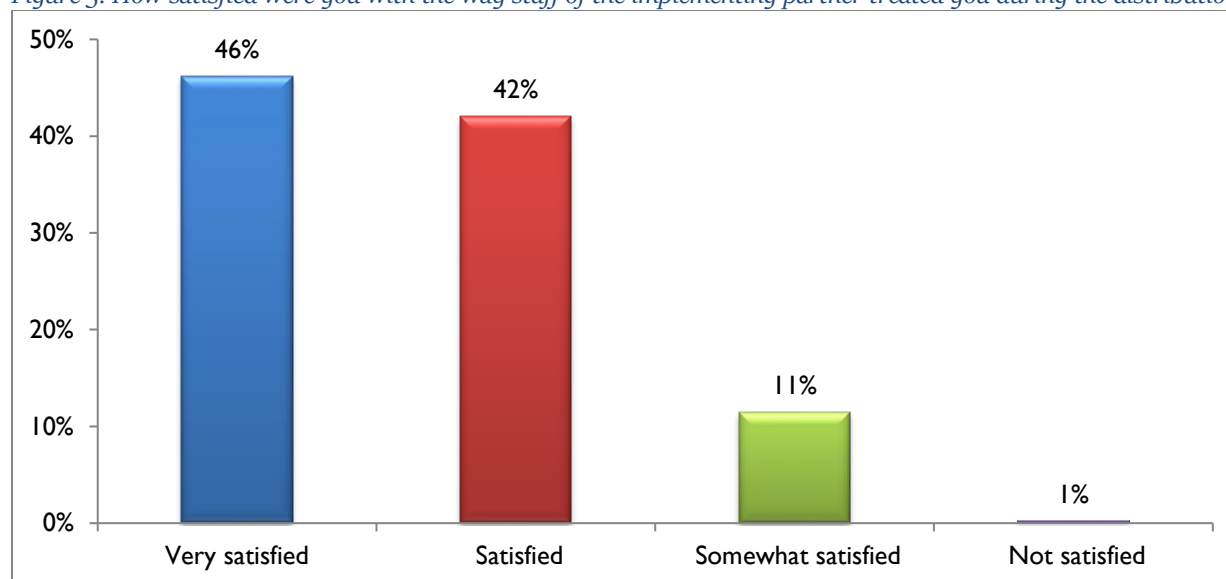
Figure 4: Do you have any challenges in using the LPG cylinders?



3.3.7 How distribution staff treated beneficiaries

The survey enquired how beneficiaries were satisfied with the way staff of the implementing partner treated them during the distribution. 46% of the households surveyed were very satisfied with the way the staff of the implementing partner treated them during the distribution. Similarly, 42% were also satisfied with the way the staff of the implementing partner treated them during the distribution.

Figure 5: How satisfied were you with the way staff of the implementing partner treated you during the distribution?



3.3.8 Quality of the LPG cylinders

Over a half (56%) n=216 of the households' survey were very satisfied with the quality of the distributed cylinders with 38% reporting being satisfied. This is indicative of the appreciation by the beneficiary community regarding the cylinders.

Table 6: Overall, how satisfied are you with the quality of the distributed cylinders?

Overall, how satisfied are you with the quality of the distributed cylinders?	Frequency	Percent
Very satisfied	216	56%
Satisfied	146	38%
Somewhat satisfied	20	5%
Not satisfied	2	1%

Total	384	100%
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The high opinion of the beneficiaries regarding the quality of the cylinders shows that almost all beneficiaries have put the cylinders into good use. For example, 55% of the households surveyed reported that the LPG gas received from the Ministry contributed to a great extent to respond to their needs with 38% indicating the contribution was to a moderate extent.

Table 7 In your opinion, to what extent did the LPG received from the Ministry contribute to respond to your need?

In your opinion, to what extent did the LPG received from the Ministry contribute to respond to your need?	Frequency	Percent
To a great extent	211	55%
To a moderate extent	146	38%
To a minimal extent	27	7%
Total	384	100%

On whether the beneficiaries are comfortable using the cylinders, the survey enquired whether they think the LPG gas is better to use/utilize and manage as compared to other energy sources. Nearly all (99%) n=381 of the households surveyed think that the LPG gas is better to use/utilize and managed as compared to other energy sources. Again, this confirms appropriateness of the distribution of the LPG cylinders.

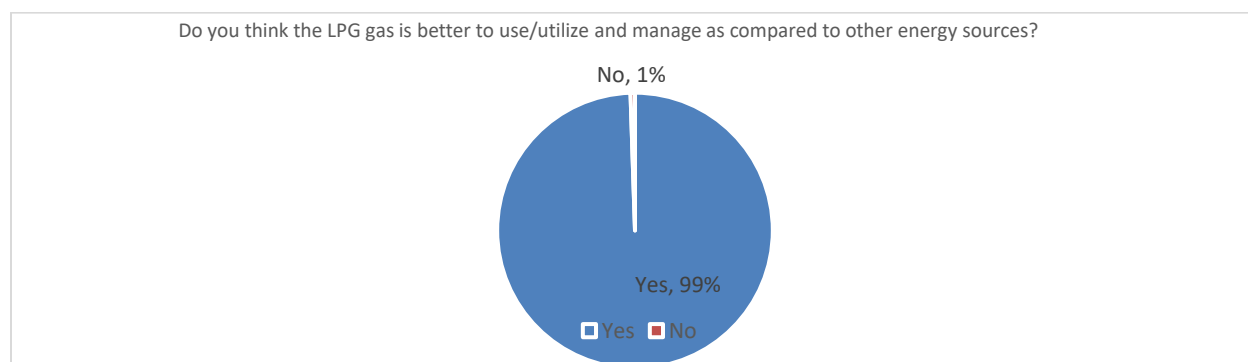


Figure 6: Do you think LPG is better to use and manage than other energy sources?

In fact, over a half (51%) n=193 of households surveyed reported that the LPG gas works very much better for them than the other forms of fuel.

Table 8: In your opinion, does the LPG gas work better for you than the other forms of fuel?

In your opinion, does the LPG gas work better for you than the other forms of fuel?	Frequency	percent
Somewhat	191	49%
Very much	193	51%
Total	384	100%

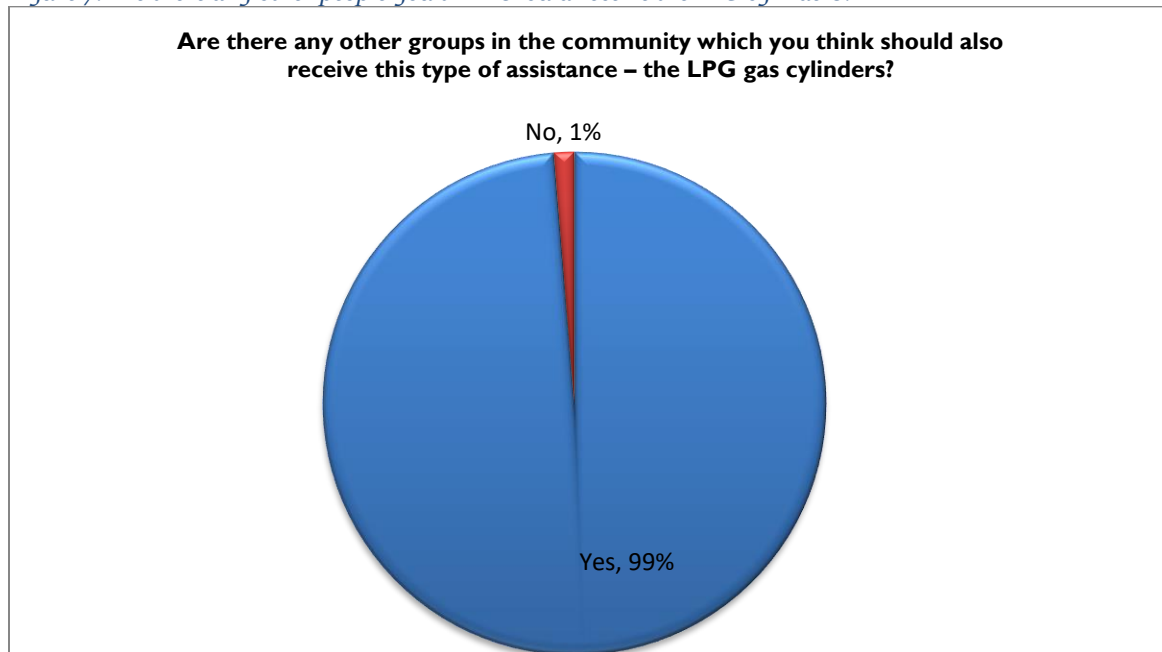
Beneficiaries also reported that there is need to distribute more LPG gas cylinders to the other community members. Nearly all (99%) of the households surveyed think that there is need to distribute more LPG gas cylinders to other community members.

Table 9: Do you think there is need to distribute more LPG gas cylinders to the other community members?

Do you think there is need to distribute more LPG gas cylinders to the other community members?	Frequency	Percent
Yes	381	99%
No	2	1%
Total	383	100%

On whether the other members of the community should also receive this type of assistance – the LPG gas cylinders, 99% of the households surveyed reported that there are other groups in the community that should also receive the LPG cylinders.

Figure 7: Are there any other people you think should receive the LPG cylinders?



3.4 Challenges

1. There was a severe delay in program implementation and signing of the LOA with UNDP due to the disagreements between the DoECC and Ministry of Livestock and Range at the FGS level.
2. Officials at the Ministry of Environment and Wildlife in Southwest State noted that they were not provided with a copy of the LOA that the DoECC signed with UNDP. They reported that there is need to refer to LOA when implementing projects – and this was not provided to them.
3. Beneficiaries in Baidoa noted that there was limited awareness created by the Ministry of Environment and Wildlife in Southwest State. This could be the lack of necessary communication from DoECC or skills to conduct the campaigns.
4. Beneficiary communities across visited FMSs reported that the number of LPG cylinders distributed is much less than the demand of the vulnerable households who cannot afford it. For example, in Kismayo, the price of the gas cylinders have increased from \$26 to \$40 – beneficiaries noted that the price changed after demand was created by the distribution through PROSCAL.

5. In Jubaland, Kismayo Gas Company Kismayo has monopolised the market and no any other company distributed LPG, which means they control the market and can adjust prices as they wish.
6. There is persistent use of charcoal by majority of the community members for cooking and other home use. This exacerbates deforestation and goes against the objectives of the PROSCAL.

4.0 Recommendations



1. The Federal Government of Somalia should regulate the gas distribution market and should allow competitive markets where all competent firms can distribute LPG products. This would break monopoly that drive prices higher that would in turn lock out vulnerable households.
2. There is need to distribute more LPG cylinders to vulnerable households. This would enable more people to embrace and understand the convenience that comes with the gas cylinders. Consequently, more people will shun the use of firwoods which is a danger to the environment.
3. DoECC should ramp up its awareness and campaigns to promote the use of LPG cylinders which is a low carbon fuel source and easy to use.
4. The Joint PROSCAL programme should consider creating alternative source of income for people whose livelihoods depend on the charcoal burning.
5. The FGS should incentivize the use of LPG gas cylinders by introducing zero-tax to all products that are related to LPG or might promote the use of LPG fuel source.

5.0 Annexes

5.1 List of persons interviewed

Name of person interviewed	Position	Date	Contact
Abdulkani Barrow	PROSCAL Project Manager - DoECC	03-05-21	abdulkani@environment.gov.so +252612881320
Ismail Mustafa	DG Ministry of Environment and Wildlife - SWS	23-10-21	0617216143
Ahmedweli Dahir Mohamed	Technical Advisor MECCRD – Galmudug State	20-10-21	0615041785
Yasin Ahmed Mohamud	Technical Consultant Ministry of Environment – Hirshabelle State	23-10-21	06155532691
Maslah Mowlid Mohamed	PROSCAL Technical Advisor Jubaland	22-10-21	0615922210

5.2 Data collection tools

 KII TPM Questions for	 PDM TPM Questions for
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