



# GDPP ANNUAL REPORT

*July 2020 – June 2021*



 AUSTRIAN  
DEVELOPMENT  
AGENCY



ROYAL DANISH EME  
Addis Ababa



ROYAL NORWEGIAN EMBASSY



Embassy of Sweden  
Addis Abeba

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ATI	Access To Information
AWPs	Annual Work Plans
ADA	Austrian Development Agency
CCI	Council of Constitutional Inquiry
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EBC	Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporation
EHRC	Ethiopian Human Rights Commission
EIO	Ethiopian Institute of the Ombudsman
EFY	Ethiopian Fiscal Year
EMA	Ethiopia Media Authority (formerly Ethiopia Broadcasting Authority)
ENYVCSP	Ethiopian National Youth Volunteer Community Service Programme
ERC	Ethiopian Reconciliation Commission
FEACC	Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission
EPRDF	Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front
HoF	House of Federation
HoPR	House of People's Representatives
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IGR	Inter-Governmental Relations
INSA	Information Network Security Agency
IPs	Implementing Partners
IRCE	Inter-Religious Council of Ethiopia
LJAAC	Law and Justice Affairs Advisory Council
MBAs	Mass-Based Organizations
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoFPDA	Ministry of Federal and Pastoral Development Affairs
MoFEC	Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation
MoP	Ministry of Peace
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MP	Member of Parliament
NEBE	National Election Board of Ethiopia
NHRAP	National Human Rights Action Plan
OAG	Office of the Attorney General
OAI	UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations
OFAG	Office of the Federal Auditor General
OHCHR	Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights
PM	Prime Minister
PMB	Project Management Board
PMO	Prime Minister's Office
PTC	Programme Technical Committee
RBM	Result-Based Management
REACCs	Regional Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commissions
RRF	Results and Resources Framework

RSCs	Regional State Councils
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SNNPR	Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples Region
TOT	Training of Trainers
UN	United Nations
UNCAC	United Nations Convention against Corruption
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

## GDPP ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

Reporting Period	July 2020 – June 2021 (EFY 2012/13)
Donors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC)</li> <li>- Denmark</li> <li>- Norway</li> <li>- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)</li> <li>- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</li> </ul>
Country	Ethiopia
Programme Title	Governance & Democratic Participation Programme (GDPP)
Project ID	00104955
(Atlas Award ID)	00103024
Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Political processes of federal and regional state legislative bodies are more inclusive and effectively delivering on their constitutional mandates.</li> <li>2. Federal and regional state systems of governance are more accountable, transparent and are delivering public services in more inclusive and responsive ways.</li> <li>3. Citizens are more empowered to voice their concern and actively participate in decision-making processes at all levels of the governance and political systems.</li> <li>4. Systems and mechanisms for promoting social cohesion, managing diversity, preventing, and managing conflicts, fostering dialogues and building peace are further strengthened at national, regional, and local levels.</li> <li>5. Access to justice enhanced and human rights promoted and protected across Ethiopia.</li> </ol>
Strategic Plan and/or CPD Outcomes	<p>CPD Outcome: Citizens' expectations for voice, development, the rule of law and accountability are met by stronger systems of democratic governance</p> <p>Signature solution 2: Strengthen effective, inclusive and accountable governance</p>
Implementing Partner(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. House of Peoples Representatives (HoPR)</li> <li>2. House of Federation (HoF)</li> <li>3. Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (FEACC)</li> <li>4. Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC)</li> <li>5. Ethiopian Institute of Ombudsman (EIO)</li> <li>6. Office of Attorney General (OAG)</li> <li>7. Office of Federal Auditor General (OFAG)</li> <li>8. Ministry of Peace (MoP)</li> </ol>

	9. Council of Constitutional Inquiry (CCI) 10. National Election Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) 11. Ethiopian Broadcast Authority (EBA) now Ethiopia Media Authority
Project Start Date	01/06/2017
Project End Date	30/06/2022 ( <b>including 6 months cost-extension period from Jan-June 2022</b> )
July 2020-June 2021 Annual Work Plan Budget	<b>USD 6,786,894.00</b>
Total resources required	USD 40,000,000.00
Revenue received <sup>1</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>U UNDP</b> <span style="float: right;">\$ 651,700.00</span></li> <li>• <b>Donors</b></li> <li>- Austrian Development Agency (ADA) <span style="float: right;">\$ 0.00</span></li> <li>- Denmark <span style="float: right;">\$ 965,065.00</span></li> <li>- Norway <span style="float: right;">\$ 964,410.00</span></li> <li>- Swedish Int'l. Dev't. Cooperation Agency <span style="float: right;"><u>\$ 1,908,846.00</u></span></li> <li>Total <span style="float: right;"><u>\$ 4,472,020.00</u></span></li> <li>• Total revenue received to date (2017-2021) <span style="float: right;"><b>\$ 21,680,880.00</b></span></li> </ul>
Unfunded budget	USD 22,791,140.00
UNDP Contact Person	Donna Bugby-Smith Senior Governance Adviser UNDP Ethiopia Email: donna.bugby@undp.org Tel.: +2511 5443846

<sup>1</sup> Budget allocation per AWP is greater than available resource b/c of carry-over of resource from 2020.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is the 4th Annual Report for the Governance and Democratic Participation Programme (GDPP) covering the period July 2020 to June 2021. The current iteration of programme is due to end on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. The main objective of the programme remains unchanged which is to support Ethiopia sustain the momentum of the reforms and the democratic transformation underway since 2018. The focus continues to strive to enhance the institutional capacities and frameworks required to consolidate and deepen good governance principles, systems and practices by strengthening democratic institutions. The need to bring a greater plurality of voices closer to and create the space to enable the voices of the citizens to influence governance in Ethiopia has never been more important.

The ongoing investment in building strong governance and oversight institutions, creating an enabling environment for greater public transparency and accountability as well as strong state-citizens relations, remain key guiding principles for GDPP. That is not to say that there are no remaining challenges; internationally it is generally accepted that democracy underpinned by peace/stability and development are mutually reinforcing. That is to say, advances in one may produce advances in the other in a process of mutual interaction and reinforcement. In short, countries may experience virtuous circles of democracy in development in which gains on one arena are reinforced by gains in the other. But such a process can take time and investments for the long haul as the changes and reforms are all moving parts affected by external factors; more so in a country that is so complex and with very little democratic culture.

Thus, democratic transformation is a process which requires perseverance, patience, and concerted effort. While focus could be placed on specific critical areas at a given time, transformational change by its nature requires a longer view. Democratic governance is key to social and economic growth in Ethiopia. The creation of the enabling environment for more innovative transformational democratization initiatives at Federal and Regional levels has been challenging for some of the Implementing Partners (IPs) and this has been complicated further by the impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and in late 2020, the emerging conflicts in the country which has in some cases shaken confidence in the transformational democratization process.

But despite the challenges, Ethiopia in 2021 saw the 6<sup>th</sup> National Elections took place with a good turnout of voters. This demonstrates that the hunger for democracy is unwavering which reflects the will of the people in their desire to have a forward-looking democracy. While the elections were far from perfect, some important foundations were laid down. The increase in citizens wanting to engage with democratic institutions through such innovations as the use of toll-free lines to the EIO or EMA as opposed to having to physically attend IP locations and the engagement of Civil Society more regularly in the work of EHRC and FEACC demonstrate that the democratic institutions that GDPP

supports are growing in confidence and gaining a better understanding their key representational and oversight roles in the country.

The Report contains examples of the impact the transformational democratization reform agenda is having with changes across many of the democratic institutions partnering with GDPP. This indicates that the accumulated impact that GDPP is making are becoming more obvious. It was against that background that the GDPP Programme Management Board in June 2021 took the decision to review and endorse the need to revisit the institutional scope and thematic focus of GDPP. That revision was taken in light of the 2020 GDPP Mid Term Review recommendations in order to maximize the impact of GDPP by narrowing down the focus of the Programme. This also demonstrated that further investment in a now tried and tested model such as GDPP not only makes sense in development terms, but it will also ensure that the gains made through GDPP support are not lost. And that any future iteration of democratic governance support can build upon the firm foundation created by GDPP. This is timely given that the incoming Administration with the mandate of the popular vote, will want to maintain and further enhance the transformational democratization agenda. So much still remains to be done.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Governance and Democratic Participation Programme (GDPP) is a five-year, comprehensive, multi-stakeholder programme funded by Austria, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and is managed by UNDP. It was developed jointly with the Government of Ethiopia and in close consultation with relevant stakeholders. GDPP was a direct response to the GoE's request for support to the governance sector. The Programme was launched in June 2017 and is scheduled to end on December 31, 2021, implemented through a National Implementation Modality (NIM).

The overarching objective of the Programme is to support the country to sustain efforts towards enhancing institutional capacities and frameworks for strengthening good governance and deepening democratic participation.

There are three GDPP broad outcome areas, including:

- A. improved inclusion, social cohesion and sustainable peace;
- B. responsive, accountable and inclusive systems of governance; and
- C. empowered and responsible citizens.

GDPP focuses on five inter-related and complementary outputs:

- 1) Political processes of federal and regional state legislative bodies are more inclusive and effectively delivering on their constitutional mandates.
- 2) Federal and regional state systems of governance are more accountable, transparent and are delivering public services in more inclusive and responsive ways.
- 3) Citizens are more empowered to voice their concern and actively participate in decision-making processes at all levels of the governance and political systems.



- 4) Systems and mechanisms for promoting social cohesion, managing diversity, preventing, and managing conflicts, fostering dialogues, and building peace are further strengthened at national, regional, and local levels.
- 5) Access to justice enhanced and human rights promoted and protected across Ethiopia.

Ethiopia is undergoing a profound structural transition that touches on fundamental issues of governance, economic organization, an approaching demographic transition and significant environmental disruption, not least climate change. In the area of governance, serious issues of identity versus unity, the nature of the Federation and the role of the State, the nurturing of a plural society with scope for many and diverse stakeholders and voices, participation and inclusion, the rule of law and justice, respect for human rights, and transparency are being debated and addressed, to varying degrees, with a content of flux and uncertainty about outcomes.

The importance of good governance that is home grown and contextualized became even more critical as Governments sought to react to and cope with the impact of the pandemic. In Ethiopia, the importance and observance of the rule of law has defined and there is clear evidence that the governance structures are now firmly in place and the role of the democratic institutions which GDPP supports, recognize their key oversight role in the country.

The Programme supports the country sustain efforts towards good governance and deepening democratic participation in line with the Constitution and International Human Rights Conventions to which Ethiopia is a signatory. Progress in these areas are critical and will enable the country to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP II) and the Ethiopia: A New Horizon of Hope and the 10-year Perspective Plan.

The GDPP Implementing Partners (IPs) were able to adapt to be able to deliver their approved Workplans despite having to cope with the new normal – social distancing , more online collaborations including Zoom meetings. UNDP worked closely with the individual IPs to both cope with the new reality of remote working, relying on digital services whilst simultaneously sought to encourage innovation and more creativity to try to maintain the implementation of the agreed Workplans.

The period of this Report there have been challenges across the humanitarian and development sectors across the country. Though such challenges could not have been predicted it is good to note that the investments made through GDDP – helping to build strong governance and oversight institutions have remained strong despite the shifting and challenging governance landscape.

This Report highlights examples of the impact that the transformational democratization reform agenda pursued by the government, is making in many of the democratic

institutions that GDPP supports. That is not to say that ongoing support is not needed any more – democratization is a long process which evolves to reflect the policies and laws made by the Government whilst seeking to respond to the needs and ambitions of the citizens. The process to consolidate democracy in the country requires a much broader and complex process of institutionalization and building capacity within the democratic institutions to be able to respond to the changing political and governance landscape of the country and to sustain the positive outcomes.

## 2. CONTEXT

The implementation of the programme is anchored within a multi-stakeholder approach involving eleven Implementing Partners.

1. House of Peoples Representatives (HoPR)
2. House of Federation (HoF)
3. Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (FEACC)
4. Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC)
5. Ethiopian Institute of Ombudsman (EIO)
6. Office of Attorney General (OAG)
7. Office of Federal Auditor General (OFAG)
8. Ministry of Peace (MoP)
9. Council of Constitutional Inquiry (CCI)
10. National Election Board of Ethiopia (NEBE)
11. Ethiopia Media Authority (EMA formerly the Ethiopian Broadcast Authority)

Following the far-reaching changes ushering in following Prime Minister Abiy coming to power in 2018, the political and democratic space has been demonstrably opened up which has provided real opportunities for work in the governance sector. However, the democratic and political governance landscape remains complex and liable to unravel in the face of so many internal and external challenges not least of which are internal challenges with a country in transition seeking to craft and shape its own form of democracy.

When GDPP was launched in mid-2017 democratic governance was a sector where little had changed in terms of the creation of an enabling environment for democratic reforms. Prior to the launch of GDPP it is fair to say that there was a limited governance space/environment to consider major changes to the democratic landscape. The legislative framework limited the ability of civil society to have the means/platforms to engage in advocacy and policy level engagement. The media sector played a limited role in providing independent, impartial information to the citizens. And whilst democratic institutions had been established, their institutional capacity to play a meaningful role in fostering good governance was weak. In fact, most of them struggled to ascertain their professional autonomy and their credibility in the eyes of the public was challenged.

Four years later, Ethiopia continues to see significant political, economic, and administrative reforms that seek to fundamentally alter the country's model of governance. The transition ongoing since 2018, has undoubtedly placed significant strain on the fragile political consensus in the country. Undoubtedly the opening of the political space and shift to a more participatory governance has the potential to safeguard these development gains while preserving the country's stability. But a negative aspect has been that opening up the space has seen the resurface of past unresolved grievances, regional aspirations for greater autonomy, and interethnic tensions have re-emerged.

In spite of a generally positive development trajectory, significant structural challenges, reflecting a country in transition, will determine future development potential and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Ethiopia faces a number of structural challenges which will impact on the ability of the country to achieve its national development objectives and the global SDGs.

2021 turned out to be, what could be considered an "*annus horribilis*" in so far as Ethiopia was both severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the unrest that followed the Law Enforcement Operations launched in Tigray in Northern Ethiopia has combined to adversely impact the overall development trajectory of the country. Added to which decision making was to a certain extent slower insofar as preparations were underway for the delayed National Elections which eventually took place for a large portion of the country in June 2021.

Notwithstanding these external influencing factors, the role and value addition of GDPP was recognised at the Programme Management Board level. The progress achieved to-date also reflects the emerging enabling environment that saw prior GDPP support yielding results. The importance of the independence of democratic institutions – for instance, the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission, the House of People's Representatives, and the Ethiopian Institute of Ombudsman are steadily strengthening their oversight role. The necessity of having independent and effective democratic institutions are gradually taking take root albeit with significant remaining scope for further evolution, strengthening and gains in performance.

But the institutional capacity weaknesses in the public sector despite the creation of the enabling environment for more innovative transformational democratization initiatives at Federal and Regional levels, has proved to be more challenging for some of the Implementing Partners (IPs). The idea of moving from a "business as usual" model to the adoption of more innovative and transformative approaches such as the need for greater transparency and citizen engagement has had to be nurtured.

Reflecting the November 2020 GDPP PMB meeting the recommendations arising from the independent Mid-Term Review it was agreed that GDPP was delivering on its intended outputs, but the Board noted that institutional development is a long-term endeavour which requires adequate time for interventions to be seen to demonstrate

results. Board Members acknowledged that GDPP had been conceived before the new reform agenda was launched in 2018 which ushered in significant transformational changes across the political and democratization landscapes. The implication was that to end GDPP as scheduled in December 2021 would be a lost opportunity in the context of institutional development.

Furthermore, the Board in order to both maximize results and enable the focus of the programme to be better defined through a revised institutional scope and thematic focus commissioned an Options Paper to consider the MTR findings and re-shape and scale up assistance to those democratic institutions found to be responding positively to GDPP support. Against that background the June 2021 Programme Management Board approved the proposal to limit the institutional cope to a more manageable level, and to scale down thematic focus of the programme with a 6-month cost extension period.

During that cost extension period January – June 2022 work would commence to formulate a new iteration of democratic governance support that would include specific focus on voice and participation, greater accountability and integrity, gender and social inclusion themes, civil society, and Regional and media stakeholders' issues.

The Board approved that the following Implementing Partners were to be included in the 6-month cost extension phase: The House of People's Representatives ( HoPR), House of Federation (HoF); Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC); Federal Ethics & Anti-Corruption Commission (FEACC); Ethiopian Institute of Ombudsman (EIO); and the Ethiopian Media Authority (EMA).

It was further agreed that the Ministry of Peace (MoP); Office of the Attorney General (OAG) and the National Elections Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) will depart GDPP at the end of December 2021 and support will be provided through either existing or emerging standalone programmes.

The remaining IPs were confirmed to depart from GDPP on December 31<sup>st</sup>,2021 included the Office for the Auditor General (OFAG) and the Council for Constitutional Inquiry (CCI).

### III. PROGRAMME ACHIEVEMENTS/PROGRESS (2020/21)

#### Output 1: Political Processes of Federal and Regional Legislative Bodies are Inclusive and Effectively Delivering on their Constitutional Mandates.

GDPP supported the strengthening of oversight functions of relevant democratic institutions and made direct contributions through the support provided to improve the balance of power among the three branches<sup>2</sup>, more specifically through a stronger oversight capacity of the House of People's Representatives. Indeed, the Parliament focused on establishing systems and enhancing the skills of legislators to effectively undertake their oversight role and taking steps to make the work of the Parliament more open and transparent.

##### 1.1. Legislative Bodies & Democratic Institutions capacities strengthened for discharging their oversight functions, with specific emphasis on women and minorities.

Over the last two years, the **House of Peoples' Representatives (HoPR)** has launched and worked through its own internal Parliamentary Reform Programme that encompasses holistic improvements in supporting the core mandates and functions of the House. In an effort to support that process, a range of technical advisory teams composed of MPs, staff and distinguished scholars were established. These technical teams coalesced around the core thematic areas of legislative, oversight and scrutiny, representation, IT & communications, procurement and finance and devised action plans to guide the implementation of new ways of working including working to enhance the range of human, financial and material resource services provided by the House Secretariat.

Specific achievements during the reporting period include the development of a **Legislative Manual** that sets out the details of the **Federal law-making process**. The impact of the Manual was further enhanced by bringing Regional Stakeholders, particularly the senior lawyers from each Regional Council and Speakers of the Regional Councils together to contribute to the contents of the Manual. The Manual is the first of its kind in Ethiopia and is expected to guide law makers/legislative drafters during the lawmaking process. The development of this Manual will help by bringing a consistent approach in the law making process, it aligns the legal procedures, respects the hierarchy of laws, and helps to better understand the impact of laws in a more simplified manner which will be informative for a wider audience.

The Secretariat of the House has developed an **Induction and Lessons sharing manual for New Entrant MPs**. This is important as a means to support the institutional development of the Legislature to help acquaint the new MPs with the procedures and the overall functions of the House. The expectation is that will be a substantial intake of first-time legislators. The Manual will be useful to help newly elected MPs to be better

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<sup>2</sup> Executive, Legislature & Judiciary

able to get to grips with their key lawmaking, oversight and representational responsibilities.

During the reporting period a **Secretariat Guideline** which sets out the restructuring of the Secretariat to enhance and be better able to respond to demands of a modern and newly elected Parliament was published. An **MPs Handbook** was developed to introduce the workings of the Parliament to MPs as well as the role of the Secretariat. Although the Handbook is primarily a Guide for MPs, it also helps MPs to appreciate that the House is a public institution, by which the public has the right to know what is going on in the House. This will help to highlight the need and importance of creating the space to enhance citizen's participation in the work of the HoPR. Both the MPs Handbook and Secretariat will be adopted as Regulations for the House which helps to ensure that there is an institutional commitment in place towards making the Parliament more open/accessible to the public.

**Four Parliamentary on-demand/action-oriented research** assignments were conducted, validated and action plans developed with the recommendations arising from the research. The research topics included: 1) the Parliamentary Diplomacy; 2) The effectiveness of the Standing Committee Structures, Challenges and Recommendations; 3) The Effectiveness of the new CSO Proclamation, challenges, and solutions, and 4) Effectiveness of Parliamentary Whistleblowing, and Complaint Handling Mechanisms. All the research requests emanated from the Standing Committees and the Floor of the House. This demonstrates that there is now a growing demand from the HoPR to have access to good quality research in order to discharge their core lawmaking/oversight functions.

*In the twenty first century, Parliaments are much more open to their public and guided their decisions based on well-researched evidence and facts. When parliamentarians are exposed to see the real world through this lens, their discussions and debates are elevated to higher altitude which would help to discharge their core functions in mellowed way. Often developing parliamentary democracies are hardly able to have proficient staff that can meet the expectations of Parliamentarians so to deliver the needed professional services, particularly of action-oriented research.*

Following the establishment of the Parliamentary Research Network in 2020 and development of its technical working guideline, the **first ever Annual Parliamentary Research Conference** under the title “**Parliament, Democracy and Human Rights**” was held in February 2021 in Addis Ababa.

16 research papers were presented by Scholars from the Parliamentary Research Network (PRN). This Network provides a platform that helps to enhance the capacity of the Parliamentary Secretariat to blend its practical knowledge with expert contributions from research institutions, academia, and other relevant stakeholders.



This also helps to open up the space for increased civic engagement through the House having access to independent sources of research. The Conference has benefited all participants by sharing information and debating topics including the role of Parliaments, the Rule of Law and Human Rights; Parliament, Constitution and Constitutionalism; Parliaments in the Digital Age; and Parliaments and the Sustainable Development Goals.



Scene from the PRN Conference 2021

The Parliamentary Research Network (PRN) has been further institutionalized through the development of **working guidelines** for the PRN members to be endorsed by the PRN General Assembly. The establishment of the network as well as the launching of the Research Conference helps better link the research community to the Parliament. The findings and evidence contained within the research papers will help the House to deliver more informed debates and decisions within the House which in turn will result in improvements in the lawmaking and oversight processes.



At the end of the Conference, the HoPR Secretariat signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with PRN members that will ensure the long-term sustainability of the PRN beyond the life of GDPP.

The **MPs' Library references/research** support has been enhanced. During the reporting period, on-job training has been provided to the targeted 6 parliamentary library staff (50% female) that enhanced their skills and

knowledge about the provision of appropriate parliamentary library services to the new MPs and external users of the library. Furthermore, the Programme has also been able to support the newly established Sidama Regional State Council. This newly established

Council has benefited from sharing knowledge and lessons learned from the HoPR Library team and this has helped to advance its own plans to set-up a data center that would enable the Council to establish a paperless system.

During the reporting period it has been evidenced that there have been improvements in the performance of both the **MPs and the Standing Committees**. The quality of debates appreciably improved and as at June 2021 some 38 Proclamations, two Regulations and 11 Resolutions were passed by the House. This marks a change insofar as previously the Executive tabled draft legislation and the House routinely approved the legislation with little interrogation by the legislature about the merits and expected outcomes of the draft legislation. The changes observed during the reporting period indicates a growing level of confidence and independence of the House.

In preparation for the new incoming Parliament, the HoPR and the Secretariat have taken steps to be better able to discharge the core functions of a Parliament and also improved the quality of the Secretariat services included better information flows, better quality of minutes recorded, undertaking parliamentary research and being able to access independent, external sources of research and information which will result in more informed decision making by the HoPR. As a direct result of the GDPP support the incoming **Parliament will find much better working systems and infrastructure that will help to strengthen and enhance parliamentary democracy.**

**Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (FEACC)** provided training on **Gender Mainstreaming** for FEACC management and team leaders for a total of 31 staff (13 female). The training was provided in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and helped to enhance the awareness and skills of the participants and has resulted in more attention being paid by FEACC in the development of their annual plan towards ensuring greater focus on equity, inclusiveness, and empowerment of women in all its operations.



FEACC has worked to further build the institutional capacities of its staff to be better able to deliver their roles and responsibilities. During the reporting period, training about the **Institutional Anti-Corruption Strategy; Asset Registration and Disclosure, Ethics and**



**Moral values of employees** was rolled out. The training helped to enhance the capacity of FEACC staff to effectively deliver the core function/mandates of the Commission. A total of 104 staff (72M & 32F) attended the training. The training topics included the implications of the revised FEACC Proclamation plus the FEACC 10-year strategic plan. Through those interventions' improvements in the motivation and productivity of the staff have been observed as they are now better able to appreciate their role in seeking to achieve the FEACC objectives. This is demonstrated by the work associated by the Declaration of Assets Register (DARS) which in 2020 saw the staff log manual information about some 220,000 Government appointees/public officials' assets. But FEACC management have recorded a substantial increase in the numbers of records recorded by FEACC staff to 629,000 Federal level government appointees/public officials' assets being registered.

The **House of Federation (HoF)** accomplished three major activities during the reporting period under this Output. These included conducting a **reform assessment on promoting unity in diversity; and** seeking to ensure **sustainable peace, constitutional supremacy and constitutionalism** in Ethiopia. Work to **ensure the effectiveness and fairness of infrastructural investment** through an analysis and then amending the specific purpose grant fiscal transfer parameters and process. These interventions have helped to **strengthen and develop systems and frameworks** that help to both consolidate the HoF mandate to fully discharge its responsibilities and also to reflect its role to represent the voices and needs of the Regional States. These initiatives were delivered in collaboration with Addis Ababa University which provides a solid analytic base to help shape the recommendations and proposed next steps for the HoF. The creation of the formal links with the University will be helpful as home-grown academia can be a source of external information available to HoF.

The House of Federation is a federal institution that reflects both the self-rule and shared-rule rights of Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (NNP) of Ethiopia. If disagreements or misunderstandings occur between NNP or States, the HoF is responsible for seeking to find workable solutions to resolve disputes. At its core, HoF seeks to create better mutual understanding among the respective parties with the goal of promoting greater unity and establishing one political community based on the tenets of mutual respect and consent. This has been and remains a significant challenge within the Federation as evidenced by ongoing disputes and conflicts within the country.

Therefore, through GDPP support, an **assessment** was conducted to examine the issues associated with unity and diversity towards sustainable peace in the Ethiopia context. The end product was a **reform document on strengthening unity in diversity and ensuring sustainable Peace**. The document examined the current situation and set out standards about how to manage diversity/identity issues including the group right to self-determination and the right to citizenship. The need to balance complementary roles and maintain the intricate balance between the acceptance of diversity and consolidation of the national unity of Ethiopia (Constitution Art. 62/4) featured in the assessment. The

compilation of the reform document involved active participation of stakeholders from across the country. Responding to the assessment's findings and the critical challenges confronting Ethiopia, frameworks and mechanisms have been proposed in order to balance shared-rule and self-rule rights in line with the country context as well as drawing on international best practices/experiences from other multi-nationality federations. HoF endorsed the recommendations arising from the assessment which are expected to align with GTP II and the broader outcomes related to efforts to consolidate social cohesion in Ethiopia.



*Experts and stakeholders while formulating frameworks to promote unity in diversity to ensure sustainable peace*

The Ethiopian Constitution defines the fiscal relationship between federal and sub national governments by indicating the respective revenue/expenditure responsibilities. The Constitution empowers HoF to allocate resources to Regions and City Administrations (Art. 62/7 of the Constitution and Art. 3/6 of the Proclamation No. 1261/2021). The Constitution has various provisions to ensure equal access to publicly funded social services and to ensure equal opportunities and fair distribution of wealth. Furthermore, those provisions seek to ensure systems and mechanisms for the fair distribution of wealth, inclusiveness, equal opportunity, and access to social and economic services of citizens and States.

**HoF** is mandated to determine the division of revenues derived from joint Federal and State tax sources and the subsidies that the Federal government may provide to the States. Proclamation No. 1261/2021 defines the responsibility of HoF for setting the formula for the distribution of subsidies and devising mechanisms for revenue sharing derived from joint tax sources.

Furthermore, **HoF** is also mandated to monitor the proper implementation of revenue shared, ensure fair distribution of Federal infrastructure, evaluate the effectiveness of the shared revenue and Federal transfers to ensure proportional/balanced development among the States. The objective is to enable HoF to be able to take corrective measures to bring about balanced development in the socio-economic sectors among the States. The goal of these responsibilities is to **promote the equality of the peoples of Ethiopia to consolidate their unity based on their mutual consent by providing equal access and opportunities** for different local governments. The key responsibility of HoF is to

build one economic and political community where all States/citizens have equal access to social and economic services irrespective of their region or identity.

Given the key role of **HoF** in fiscal federalism which includes providing expenditure and revenue assignment to the States, it subsidizes sub national governments to address fiscal gaps (both vertical and horizontal) through different forms of Grants. The Block Grants (based on a given formula) are transferred without any earmarking allowing the Regions to allocate as they wish. In addition, there are also **Specific Purpose Grants (SPGs)** which are restricted to a specific purpose. The main purpose of SPGs is to address equity issues and promote sub national governments growth and their potential to attract investment through supporting infrastructure investments. SPGs have special role in balancing sub national development by financing horizontal fiscal gaps and minimizing the potential for asymmetric growth and development at sub national levels.

During the reporting period **HoF** conducted an **assessment** and **developed new mechanisms/frameworks about the fairness of SPG fiscal transfer and infrastructural distributions**. In addition, monitoring and evaluation tools to examine the effectiveness of the allocations to ensure equitable distribution of federal infrastructure among Regional States were developed and adopted by HoF. These actions will further enhance the effectiveness of HoF to be better able to discharge its key role in ensuring equitable allocation of resources across the States.



Stakeholders' platform to evaluate the fairness and effectiveness **SPG** infrastructural investment

Ensuring Constitutionalism requires legislative acts, judicial decisions, and administrative acts and law enforcement mechanisms to be defined. **HO** has an overarching responsibility to oversee interpret and determine the practicability of Constitutionalism in Ethiopia.

**HoF** commissioned through its relationship with Addis Ababa University, an **assessment** which resulted in the development of a **Reform document on the principles of Constitutional interpretation, Rules of Procedure, and enforcement mechanisms of HOF Constitutional determination**. This has defined the principles and guidance about Constitutional Interpretation which were endorsed by HoF. This initiative will help to

further strengthen the key role HoF will need to play as the Constitution of Ethiopia evolves in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



Fiscal federalism experts and stakeholders' discussion platform

Taken together these key interventions with the HoF have been able to realize improvements at a number of levels in how HoF operates and includes improvements in the HOF organizational working procedures, discipline, integrity, responsibility, and accountability including the strategic design and intervention of Nation building, ensuring rule of law, sustainable peace and enhancing proportional development.

**The Ethiopian Institute of Ombudsman (EIO)** has the authority to undertake self-initiated investigation on systemic issues or suspicion of maladministration even if does not receive a complaint. This is an important tenet within any independent democratic institution. As reported in a prior Annual Progress Report, the Ethiopia Institute of Ombudsman (EIO) has developed a "Own-Motion investigation manual" that enables the Institution to conduct a functional investigation, and also allows EIO to standardize self-initiated investigations.

During the reporting period **EIO** conducted an investigation into possible administrative maladministration within the Tourism Investment sector. This **oversight monitoring** focused on selected institutions at the Federal level associated with tourism including the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Tourism in Ethiopia, Job Creation Commission, Ethiopian Wildlife Development and Lawyer Authority, Archaeological Conservation Authority and Regions with places that are particularly popular for their tourism services. In line with the EIO workplan a consultative workshop has organized to discuss on the key findings/gaps identified and to consider recommendations.

During the reporting period an **Own-Motion Investigation** was conducted to investigate the grievances of employees in Industrial Parks in three Regions (Amhara, Oromia and SNNPR) and two City Administrations (Addis Ababa and DireDawa). The grievances received from the complainants included - their claim for the right to a fair minimum wage; lack of respect for labor rights as per Proclamation 1156/2011; incidents of workplace sexual harassment; denial of the right to organize and other allegations of workplace maladministration. **EIO** conducted a thorough investigation which was followed



by a consultative workshop where 50 (F13 M37) stakeholders drawn from the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, Investment Commission and Ethiopian Workers Association Confederation (EWAC) at Federal and Regional level considered the findings arising from the investigation. It was agreed that all relevant stakeholders/institutions to put all possible efforts as per their mandates to materialize the recommendations forwarded. **EIO** provided recommendations for both the government executives and stakeholders to play their role in improving the workplace conditions and will also monitor the proper implementation of the recommendations at all levels.

**Training on leadership** has been conducted for the **EIO** management at different levels to enhance their leadership skills and knowledge. A total of 55 leaders (F15 & M40) attended the training. In addition, a bespoke EIO communication officers skills development training was provided to 15 officers (6 Federal, 9 EIO branch offices). These are core skills and techniques that will help ensure that the work and profile of the EIO are raised and citizens are made more aware of the work of the EIO.

**The Ethiopia Media Authority (EMA)** provided a training for 47 “**News content and advertisement monitoring experts**” during the reporting period about critical thinking, content and advertisement monitoring, and conflict sensitive reporting. The training enhanced the skills and understanding of trainees about these important and behavioural forming topics. In addition, it helped to create a platform for experience sharing among media professionals that resulted in self-regulation content and advertisement.

The new Mass Media law which has expanded the role and responsibilities of **EMA**, and the proliferation of online media has necessitated the enhancement of EMA’s capacity to regulate and monitor the sector. The new law coincided with the 6th National Election and the need to counter an alarming trend in hate speech and misinformation particularly on social media. **EMA** has conducted technical and system audits and identified gaps that need to be addressed in order to be able to discharge its responsibilities.

In response these challenges, during the reporting period **EMA** with support from GDPP organized a tailored training about Media Content and Advertisement Regulation for its 40 staff drawn from Public and community media, Commercial media, Advertisement and Online media Monitoring Directorates and research Directorate (12F & 28M) participated in the training. The training was able to enhance the skill and knowledge of the trainees about the professional ethics of monitoring; data capturing and analysis and reporting/feedback provision techniques. At the end of the training, drawing on international experience, the participants were able to draft content and advertisement monitoring and reporting formats, standardized key terminologies and indicators for monitoring; data analysing templates and guidelines to be able to provide feedback for media houses. This enables EMA to engage with the media and advertising companies effectively and positively during the 6th National Election enhancing media self-regulation; and it was also able to put in place a system to help deliver its new monitoring and regulatory mandate.

Around the world, there is a disturbing upsurge of xenophobia, racism, and intolerance. Hate speech, including using online platforms, has become one of the most frequent methods for spreading divisive and discriminatory messages and ideologies. The **EMA** recognized the growing concern in Ethiopia that hate speech triggers or fuels violent conflicts. It was therefore important to highlight and create greater awareness about the **new anti-hate speech and disinformation Proclamation**. GDPP support brought together media owners, various governmental and civic society associations in order to openly discuss the impact hate speech can have in a society. The awareness session increased participants awareness about the corrosive nature of hate speech, its impact on the community and country at large, how to counter hate speech and disinformation while upholding freedom of opinion and expression. 125 media professionals, EMA staff, Federal and Regional Police members participated in the training.

Work to integrate gender into the work of IPs saw 180 EMA staff participate in a training programme about **women empowerment and gender mainstreaming** which aimed to help the EMA departments better integrate gender considerations into all their programming and administration activities.

**OFAG** has recognized the importance of enhancing and strengthening its role as a Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) through the introduction of a range of technologies and systems to be better able to fulfil its key remit in monitoring the use of public sector finances including the power to audit grants/subsidies awarded to Regional Governments. In order to discharge its mandate, the Audit Training Institute (ATI)/Data center (Disaster Recovery Site) has been upgraded through the installation of a variety of hardware/software solutions including: Audio & Video Conference Solutions and training rooms; Network Operation Center (NOC) Wall Screen; monitoring Software Solutions. These interventions have enabled OFAG more effectively and efficiently deliver on its Constitutional mandate. Those IT focused interventions were supplemented by the development of skills-based training about the OFAG Audit Recommendations Tracking System and Application of the Software on Balanced Score Card System.

**OFAG** has strengthened, prompted by the impact of the pandemic to enhance its Remote Audit capabilities and technology-based communications to enhance its ability to share and integrate all OFAG's internal and external audit information sharing which will allow OFAG to start a remote audit in the country and strengthen communications as part of its business continuity plan. OFAG plan to undertake a nationwide remote audit and strengthen communications through the On-Premises and Cloud-based Remote Auditing and Conference Solutions which will ensure effective & efficient communications of the Audit findings and recommendations to all stakeholders.

**OFAG** improved its **Audit Recommendation Tracking Information System [ARTS]** which is essential for a Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) to monitor the implementation and resolution of audit recommendations. The system will help to automate the processing, reporting, and utilization of audit recommendations for the respective auditees. OFAG is

also working to use a **Balanced Scorecard Automation [BSCA]** approach. The outcome of these initiatives will **enhance the transparency and accountability of Auditees through remote auditing, effective communication with key stakeholders and the public.**



OFAG ATI/Data Center

With the support of GDPP the **National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE)** has received a range of institutional capacity building assistance to enable it to better discharge its role as an electoral management body. This included the development of the NEBE Communication Strategy to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of NEBE staff and other stakeholders about effective election related communications. The Strategy included information about NEBE internal and external communications about its operations and service delivery. In line with the new Communication Strategy, NEBE also produced and disseminated different communication tools/materials about election related information including - video productions, brochures, newsletters, websites, about major milestone election process events were issued to Political Parties, CSOs and other key stakeholders.

In the reporting period, with GDPP support the **Office of Attorney General (OAG)** developed and put in place a policy about training, education, & awareness raising about its **strategy on crime prevention & suppressing trafficking of persons to abroad**. That policy has helped to strengthen its oversight capacity and has a specific emphasis on women, children, and other vulnerable groups.

Following the transfer of the mandate for tackling stolen assets recovery and management from FEACC to OAG and the Federal Police Commission, **OAG** developed the **Asset Recovery Management law and manual**. The Manual clarifies the mandates and procedures that the newly established directorate for Asset Recovery will follow when dealing with recovering and managing stolen assets. During the reporting period **OAG** developed 3 **training manuals about investigation, prosecution, and litigation skills** in order to standardize the training it provides to its staff and stakeholders to improve delivery of its investigation functions. The capacity of 35 prosecutors (5F & 30M) were

enhanced about crime investigation through training organized by OAG. The training provided was against a background of many of the prosecutors not having an appreciation of crime investigation. So, the objective of the training was to enhance the capacity of prosecutors/heads by strengthening their skills, knowledge, and competencies about crime investigation to contribute towards undertaking better crime investigation. In the training senior leads from the Economic Crime Affairs; Organized and Transnational Crime Prosecution; Corruption and Organized Crime; Witness, & Whistle Blowers' Protection; Civil and Criminal Justice Administration participated as well as 11 Branch Offices<sup>3</sup>. In addition, training was also provided to 40 medium level officials (8F & 32M) to enhance their knowledge about Federal Court Proclamation No 1234/2021. The training provided to the medium level officials from Branch Offices and 29 respective directorates<sup>4</sup> was both to familiarize them with the Proclamation which has been frequently amended since the original Federal Court Proclamation No 25/1996 which had resulted in some confusion about interpretation of the intent of the Proclamation.

**OAG** undertook **3 research/studies/assessments** and compiled 1 compendium of over 250 laws & directives to support its work to strengthen OAGs investigation & execution functions. The themes/agendas of the three studies/assessments focused on the legal gaps for addressing violence against women & children: the implementation of the crime justice policy, and case interruptions.

During the reporting period **MoP** sought GDPP support to conduct a comprehensive institutional capacity assessment of the Ministry focused on the Federal level. This recognized the volume and complexity of mandates entrusted to the Ministry and in an effort to make it fit to purpose leading to the development of a tailored capacity building plan which also integrates knowledge management approaches towards strengthening the overall capacities of the Ministry that would enable it to deliver on its core mandate more effectively and efficiently.

### **Output 1.2: Professional independence of Democratic Institutions enhanced to effectively discharge core functions.**

GDPP continued to provide support to democratic institutions in strengthening their independence and effectiveness. Programme support has seen a number of platforms created/renewed which emphasizes the importance of building strong institutional networks for advocacy and the advancement of key priority issues.

**Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (FEACC)** organized an **awareness creation and sensitization workshop** for Regional-based Ethics Officers. This is for the first time that FEACC have delivered training to the Regional Ethics Officers. The training

<sup>3</sup> Diredawa Branch Office; Akaki Kaliti; Lideta Branch; Arada; Nifas Silk Lafto; Yeka; Addis Ketema; Kirkos; Bole; Gullele & Kolfkeranyo

<sup>4</sup> Diverse Criminal Affairs Prosecutors Office; Economic Crime Affairs Director; Director General, Corruption Crimes; Plan, Budget Preparation Monitoring & Evaluation; Press Secretariat; Economic Crimes; Organized & Transnational Crimes Prosecution Director General; Federal Law Implementation Follow Up; Legal Awareness, Education & Training; International Cooperation On Legal Affairs; Information Technology; Office Of Corruption & Organized Crime; Women, Children & Crosscutting Affairs; Office of Public Prosecutors Administration Council; Legal Advisory, Complaint and Grievance Handling Office; Witness & Whistle Blowers Protection; Office of Civil & Criminal Justice Administration Division; Head of Legal Advisory, Complaint & Grievance Handling Office; Director General Legal Studies, Drafting & Consolidation; Finance Administration; Property Administration & General Service; Director General Civil Justice Administration; Director General Asset Recovery; Justice System Reform & Project Coordination; Office of National Partnership Coalition Secretariate; Criminal Procedure & Evidence Law Project Office; Head of Offices Attorney & Deputy Attorney Generals



included: the duties and responsibilities of Regional Anti-Corruption Commission's role in preventing corruption and promoting ethics and integrity. At total of 315 (93F & 222M) Regional Ethics Officers participated in the training. During the reporting period two **FEACC and REACCs coalition forums** took place with the participation of 9 REACCs Ethics Officers. The coalition forums brought together technical experts and helped to raise awareness about the importance of interventions to reduce corruption, enhance ethics and integrity and to act as a coordinating forum with the participation of 414 (366M & 48F) Ethics Officers.

This has helped to enhance the REACC staff impetus to work with FEACC and to implement their core function in an effective and efficient way. The benefits and opportunity for positive competition and experience sharing has helped to create a more collaborative culture to promote the importance of the working together to tackle corruption in the Regions.

A key achievement in the reporting period saw two Regions, Afar and Somali that did not have Proclamation about asset registration receive support that resulted in the formulation and ratification of two **Asset Registration Proclamations** in Afar and Somali Regions and the two REACCs and the process of asset registration has gotten underway.

In the period covered in the report, the **House of Federation** has undertaken two specific activities to enhance the institutional support available to legislators. These included: restructuring of the HoF Secretariat and development of new organizational structures, standards, and procedures. Notwithstanding the significance of the HoF mandate, the need for efforts to strengthen its own institutional capacity through creating a more professional and appropriately skilled Secretariat was an indication of the growing independence of HoF.

During the reporting period **HoF** a **restructuring** exercise of the Secretariat including a review of the **existing organization structure, legal framework**, work methods and relevant staff profiles relative to the needs of the House was completed. As the result a **new and responsive HoF secretariat structure** was designed including a **performance evaluation system/tool**. These reform interventions and the relating changes have been endorsed by HoF.

The **Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC)** with support from GDPP has developed the **Human Resource System and Process**. Through this support the Commission has enhanced the efficiency and effectiveness of its HR function especially in the rollout of the new EHRC organizational structure. Themes included: designing end-to-end system for staff capacity development; coordinating annual training and development plans for staff; and training on performance management, staff development and talent management. This has helped in the finalization of the HRIS (human resources information systems); the reorganization of the HR department; revision of HR policies and procedures. At the organizational level this has enabled EHRC to put in place human resource systems

that are equitable to female employees and enables the Commission to be better able to deliver its mandate more effectively and efficiently.

A key development during the Reporting period signifies the increasing credibility and independence of the **EHRC**. From 16 May to 30 August 2021, the EHRC and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) conducted a joint investigation into alleged human rights violations and abuses, and violations of international humanitarian law, and refugee law committed in the context of the conflict in Tigray, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. The objectives of the joint investigation were to provide a faithful account of the human rights situation in Tigray including its gender dimension; further the accountability process and advocate for effective remedies; provide clear and actionable recommendations; and identify serious violations to ensure redress for victims and prevent recurrence. The investigation was carried out within the framework of relevant international legal norms, including international human rights law, humanitarian law, refugee law and criminal law, as well as Ethiopian domestic law. Prior to the commencement of the investigation, the Joint Investigation Team (JIT) agreed on its methods of work to guide the investigation and applied best practices regarding victim and witness protection, rules of procedure, international investigative standards, report writing, and archiving. Consistent with the practice of international fact-finding bodies, the JIT adopted a “reasonable grounds to believe” standard of proof for factual determinations on individual cases, incidents and patterns of violations.

**EHRC** has also developed and **re-launched a user-friendly and interactive website** to enhance EHRC’s visibility and outreach. This has also included building the capacity of staff about IT security, email, and internet use; digital advocacy; social media analytics. The Commission produced promotional audio-visual materials to enhance EHRC’s visibility; and rebrand EHRC as an independent, credible voice for the voiceless. It was able to transmit key human rights messages and enhance collaboration and partnership with media houses to advance and deepen a human rights culture. The Commission made wise IT investments based on an assessment of immediate and longer-term needs of the Commission including the development of an **IT security policy**. Once the IT security policy is endorsed and implemented, it will enable the Commission to have systems and structures in place to gather, securely store and protect the sensitive and confidential information that it receives as a result of its mandate. The website posts up to date information and reflects the increase in the profile of the EHRC on such topics as the June 2021 elections<sup>5</sup>.

During the reporting period **EHRC** moved to new office premises which is accessible to people with disabilities, has an upgraded internet network which will enable the work to upgrade the EHRC IT system to enhance the efficiency of its operations which is a critical element of an effective national human rights institution. Hardware procurement included 5 multi-function network printers that will enable the EHRC teams to print, scan, file share remotely and improve EHRC’s operational workplace efficiency.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://ehrc.org/a-6-point-human-rights-agenda-for-elections-2021/>

The programme contributed to enhancing **EHRC's partnership with the media**; in analyzing the current state of the media and communication work as well as and identifying gaps plus clarifying EHRC's stakeholders and target audiences. The support has also contributed to the development of the EHRC **communication strategy** with bespoke guidelines and tools to guide its communication work in line with EHRC's 5-year Strategic Plan.

The **EHRC** had recognized that a structural challenge in financial reporting to the Parliament and development partners was that financial documents may not always have been hand delivered by branch offices to the Head Office. In collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and with GDPP assistance, capacity building support was provided to all 8 branch offices of the EHRC to facilitate the effective introduction of IFMIS which provides a secure and regular way of storing financial information for the effective and efficient operations. As a result, all branch offices are using the IFMIS with ongoing support to progressively improve and make effective use of the system. This has helped streamline and improve the efficiency of the financial operations of the Commission.

**EHRC** in collaboration with the Ethiopian Management Institute provided **RBM (Result-Based Management)** capacity building training to 25 of its Head and Branch offices. RBM is a recognized approach to improve programme delivery, strengthen management effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability by defining realistic expected results, monitoring progress toward the achievement of expected results, integrating lessons learned into management decisions and reporting on performance.

This reflects the Commission's determination to create a result based institutional culture. As a result of the capacity building training, staff members are now **developing ToRs, proposals, plans of action, monitoring and reporting** on activities both on their regular and donor funded projects using the results-based management approach. EHRC is now better able to plan, implement and monitor activities based on pre-defined expected results and are able to measure progress and take remedial measures in real time.

**EHRC** took steps to create greater awareness among staff members from Head and Branch offices (*Assosa, Jimma, Mekelle and Hawassa*) to better understand the interplay between mental health and human rights, identifying psychosocial issues in a state of crisis, dealing with burnout and vicarious trauma prevention, stress management and relaxation techniques, psychological first aid, trauma sensitive interviewing, etc. Mental wellness was promoted and EHRC's investigators were equipped with the skills to appreciate the "do no harm" principles, prevent unintentional harm or repercussions on the mental wellbeing of victims, and secondary trauma, a condition that can produce a range of cognitive, emotional, and behavioral consequences, including elevated anxiety and distress, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder.

**EHRC** entered into a partnership agreement with the Ethiopian Psychiatry Association to collaborate on the safeguarding the mental health of individuals and groups EHRC staff come in contact with, as well as the mental health of EHRC staff, particularly staff directly

involved in the monitoring and investigation work of the EHRC. Human rights investigators are often exposed to violent scenes, review graphic imagery of potential war crimes and human rights abuses. As a result, they may be at risk of developing secondary trauma. The support provided helped create greater awareness within EHRC mental health conditions, the need to avoid inducing unintentional harm or repercussions to the mental wellbeing of victims and witnesses. This demonstrates the growing independence of the EHRC to be able to ensure its staff are suitably skilled in order to effectively discharge their mandate.

Based on the **EHRC** Gender Mainstreaming Guideline (GMG) developed in 2020 **GMG training** cascaded to the Head Office, Hawassa, Bahir Dar, Semera, Jimma, Gambella, Assosa and Jigjiga Branch Offices to enable all staff members to understand and implement gender mainstreaming in all the Commission functions and services. **EHRC** engaged a gender consultant and developed an anti-sexual harassment and workplace ethics policy and grievance redress mechanism guideline. To foster greater social inclusion EHRC in collaboration with the Ethiopian Lawyers with Disabilities Association, conducted a disability audit of its new head office premises to enhance a culture of inclusion in the work of EHRC.

In compliance with international election principles, the **Ethiopian Institute of Ombudsman** conducted field observation and media monitoring to ensure that information was made available to the electorate, civic and voter education as well as the special needs of persons with disabilities and the elderly were all taken into account. The field observations were conducted in 58 selected constituencies and 187 polling stations. Since free and fair elections cannot be achieved without adequate and accurate information, the right to information during elections is an indispensable right. Cognizant of this principle, EIO provided recommendations to correct the gaps observed to all the concerned bodies. The recommendations provided by EIO included all PwD-related information needs to be provided through various media and other means of communication from start to finish, to raise awareness of the rural communities about the election through various media approaches and access to the media needs to be in a simple and consistent manner with the help of technology and specific attention should be paid to people with disabilities.

GDPP supported **NEBE** to devise its own data security policy and IT guidelines. In rolling out the newly developed data security policy and IT guideline, NEBE organized familiarization sessions for their staff working in both Head office and Regional branch offices. These awareness raising sessions have improved the skills & knowledge of the NEBE staff about the effective management of information technology to help ensure professional independence of an election management body.

**NEBE** organized two sessions for enhancing the knowledge of its staffs on change management, election operational reforms and how to use the newly developed IT system. The sessions have been instrumental in building the institutional capacity of NEBE to be better able to deal with change management and to enhance the understanding and appreciation of the value added through efficient electoral operational reforms.

GDPP also supported for a **NEBE** study tour to South Africa in order to gain insights and share experiences/lessons learned from a well-established election management body about the technical support needed by an Election Board. This South – South engagement helped NEBE as a nascent election management body, to gain insights about key themes such as leading and coordinating election observation, inclusivity and elections, civic and voter education, external relations. The findings from the study tour will be discussed by the Board and will feed into the wider lessons learned exercise that will be commissioned at the end of the 2021 election cycle.

During the reporting period GDPP supported the **Ethiopian Media Authority (EMA)** to **establish a call centre** where the public can file complaints about **Media House reports @ 9192** to enhance EMA's capacity to handle complaints as well as report incidents/claims of hate speech as part of its monitoring mandate. This platform has brought EMA closer to the public and made it far easier for citizens to use the free-phone service to register complaints. EMA has confirmed that there has been an increase in the number of callers as a result of the launch of the call centre. EMA staff were also trained in **Media Monitoring** in order to be able to track incidents of hate speech or reporting that could incite violent extremism.

**EMA** organized a training for media practitioners and EMA staff during the reporting period about the new Election directives, the impartiality principles of media coverage about elections and election monitoring. The training included the Tigray Mass Media Agency (TMMA) staff and focused on the concept of fair and balanced reporting drawing on real life examples. This has helped and improved media reporting by TMMA during the reporting period. For the first time in the history of EMA, 41 **women media practitioners** received training about the role of women's participation and ownership of media which has helped to lay the foundations for future collaborations between Ethiopian women media practitioners and the EMA.

**EMA** media monitoring staff benefitted from **training and lessons learned from Kenya** about media election monitoring experiences. This activity was critical in preparation for the 2021 6<sup>th</sup> National election as the hands-on training helped EMA to develop standard reporting formats, establish a better definition of the terminologies and processes for proving feedback which EMA believe have positively contributed to the media professionalism exhibited during the election period.

## **Output 2: Federal and regional state systems of governance are more accountable, transparent and are delivering services in more inclusive and responsive ways.**

GDPP supported democratic institutions to enhance transparency and accountability through strengthening the information systems and seeking to improve the ability of citizens to be able to access information.



## 2.1. Information recording, analysis, management and dissemination systems and accountability mechanisms strengthened.

During the reporting period, **FEACC** engaged a national consultancy to conduct the **3<sup>rd</sup> National Corruption Perception Survey**. A national validation workshop was organized to validate the Survey findings and included stakeholders from different democratic, government and private institutions. A total of 252 (217 M, 45 F), senior government officials and experts from the HoPR, the Office of the Attorney General, Ethiopian Human Rights Commission, Office of Federal Auditor General, and Ethiopia Ombudsman Institute, House of Federation, Federal Police and Federal Supreme Court, Regional Governments, REACCs Commissioners, Universities, Private institutions (Nib Bank, United Bank, Awash Insurance and Anbessa Insurance), CSOs (VECOD), Transparency Ethiopia and ISAP (Initiative for Social Accountability Promotion), Media (EBC, Walta, Fana, Bisrat FM, NAHU TV, ENA, Addis TV and ESAT), Associations.

The validation workshop was participatory and enabled participants to reflect and share their views on the Survey findings and methodological approaches. In addition, it helped to provide valuable inputs and comments in order to enrich the end of assignment report and strengthen collaboration in the fight against corruption. The Survey report will be published and widely distributed to all relevant institutions, HoPR, stakeholders and Universities.

The process of conducting the nationwide survey was driven and managed by the **FEACC** appointed technical committee. This not only demonstrates ownership but will also ensure the longer-term institutional capacity of FEACC to mount future surveys has been created.



During the reporting period the work to devise a holistic **National Anti-Corruption Policy and Strategy** was completed. This work and the National Survey assignment were severely impacted by the social distancing regulations introduced when the COVID-19 pandemic struck Ethiopia.

The origins of the need for a holistic Anti-Corruption Policy & Strategy were a direct result of the prior GDPP-funded study tour to Indonesia in 2019. Following that study tour **FEACC** agreed, based on lessons learned that a comprehensive Anti-Corruption policy and strategy document was required. These two key documents provide clear directions about the actions needed to tackle corruption. A validation workshop was organized with the participation of relevant stakeholders - high-level government officials, all democratic and other government institutions. Federal Supreme Court, Regional governments, REACC Commissioners, Universities, Private institutions, CSOs and Associations, the media, FEACC top leadership and HoPR. The now agreed Policy & Strategy will be tabled in the HoPR following the inauguration of the new Parliament by the end of 2021.



The revised **FEACC** Proclamation 1236/2013 Article 7(9) required the development of a Code of Conduct for public officials. The commitment of the Government is clear to ensure accountability and transparency in the public sector.

During the reporting period **FEACC** developed a **Code of Conduct for higher public officials** which aims to enhance accountability and transparency in the government system. The **Code of Conduct** is expected to improve the systems of governance both at the Federal and Regional levels to be more accountable and transparent and to deliver public services in more inclusive and responsive ways. It was developed by a team of legal experts (including the FEACC legal adviser). In the preparing the document FEACC has taken into account other countries' experiences (i.e., Code of Conduct for public officials), the Federal Civil Service Commission legal framework/reforms and international. The Code was endorsed by FEACC top management.

By implementing the Code of Conduct for public officials as a group will help to ensure that individual decisions are transparent and accountable to the citizens and should be implemented in an ethical manner. The Code of Conduct will be officially submitted to

HoPR to be ratified by the new Parliament before the end of 2021. In addition, it will be translated into English to be communicated to the donors and development partners to create a common understanding.

The United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) is the only legally binding universal anti-corruption instrument. GDPP through its support to **FEACC** provides assistance to enable the implementation, monitoring and reporting on UNCAC review recommendations on two key chapters - corruption prevention and asset recovery in the implementation review process.

Ethiopia as country will accordingly be reviewed by two independent countries based on the report through the facilitation of UNODC. As a result of the country level review, it will be ranked on its achievement in the implementation of UN Convention Against Corruption. The key indicator and evidence for review are the country laws, proclamations, and its practical implementation in the efforts to tackle corruption.

During the reporting period **FEACC** through the established National Technical Committee drawn from different federal institutions including the Federal Police, Attorney General, National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE), FIC (Financial Intelligence Center), Federal Civil Service Commission, Federal Supreme Court, Procurement and Property Disposal Service, Procurement and Property Administration Agency and MoF collaborated in gathering information to include in the UNCAC report. The Report will be submitted to UNODC before the end of 2021.



During the reporting period **FEACC** has been registering the assets of Government appointees, elected officials, and public servants to prevent conflict of interest and promote transparency and accountability. The **Declaration of Asset Registration System (DARS)** is a computer system developed to improve the quality of Asset registration. As a direct result of the introduction of DARS FEACC has been able to access asset registration data more efficiently and is now able to provide public officials assets information more easily. The encoded data in the system is verified and approved by the FEACC employees. In addition to that FEACC has decreased its environmental footprint by reducing the need for paper-based records and that also means that there are cost reductions because storage costs have been eliminated.



**FEACC** in collaboration with Information Network Security Agency (INSA) organized a capacity building training for DARS operating staff (a total of 49 staff, 30 M and 19 F) from the Asset Registration and disclosure directorate: Data encoders, Data verifiers, Networking and Data base expertise benefited from the training. The training focused on Cyber Security and System functionality of DARS. The system has been completed recently and a separate room has been set-up for DARS, and data entry clerks recruited, and the functional asset registration system has been established.

Until last year (2012 EFY) only 220,000 Government appointee and Public officials' assets were registered all manually. But that number has risen to 629,000 Federal level Government appointee and Public officials. This reflects the commitment of the FEACC leadership and assigned Ethics Officers working in each institution. Work is underway to encode the data and upload into the DARS system.



**FEACC** organized a sensitization workshop for Ethics Officers working at the federal institutions (public offices, government enterprises and universities) to acquaint them with the Commission's mandate, provide them with information about the required technical procedures of their duties and responsibilities in light of the FEACC reforms. A total of 475 Federal level Ethics Officers participated in the workshop. The experience sharing and sensitization workshop motivated and created positive competition between Ethics Officers to accomplish their core mandate.

The **Council of Constitutional Inquiry (CCI)** upgraded its **free call centre and case-flow management system for improving service delivery** during the reporting period. The upgrading of the systems helped CCI to enhance its efficiency & effectiveness in handling constitutional cases. The free call centre and case-flow management systems have been instrumental in allowing citizens to complete their requests for Constitutional Inquiry Council cases online and they can also track the status of individual cases. This has also helped to reduce the number of applicants who have physically come to the CCI offices. This helps to foster greater transparency and accountability for the citizens when pursuing/tracking their requests for Constitutional interpretation.

**CCI** developed the **Gender Mainstreaming Manual** of the Secretariat to improve sensitivity and responsiveness in addressing the special needs of women, children, and other vulnerable groups. The manual is ready for publication and rollout before the end of 2021.

In the reporting period, with support of GDPP, **CCI** conducted 3 research assignments on various constitutional issues & related topics<sup>6</sup>, and it organized discussion forums on the findings & recommendations. The 3 research documents have been ready for publication and dissemination for strengthening CCI's accountability mechanisms.

GDPP supported the **OAG Legal Justice Affairs Advisory Council (LJAAC)** through the provision of human rights legal expertise. With the support of the consultants LJAAC developed a **manual on human rights impact assessment**, conducted a diagnostic study on the rights of a child, and carried out the study on compensation for human rights violations during criminal proceedings.

## **2.2: Complaints handling & feedback mechanisms for ensuring accountability and customers'/clients' satisfaction installed/strengthened, with emphasis on women and youth.**

During the reporting period **EIO** completed an assessment of sexual harassment complaints handling systems in Public Institutions at Federal level. The necessary information has been gathered from 14 purposely selected Federal institutions including Federal Attorney General, Ministry of Women, Children and Youth Affairs, Addis Ababa Police Commission, One Stop Centers for Victims stationed at Minilik Hospital and Gahandi Hospital and selected Sub-Cities Administrations using information gathering tools: questionnaire, interview, and observation. The analysis and interpretation of the data has been conducted thoroughly. After completing the analysis/identification of the problems and stating the possible solutions, the consultative workshop has organized with 54 (18F & 36M) concerned stakeholders drawn from the aforementioned data source Institutions. The findings included: poor complaints systems; unclear legal framework to curb Domestic Sexual violence/ Harassment; poor access to timely justice for victims: lack of awareness about the fact that sexual harassment is unacceptable. **EIO** will continue to follow up on the remedial actions arising from their investigation.

## **Output 3: Citizens are empowered to actively participate in decision making and political processes at all levels of governance**

GDPP through its support to Implementing Partners within the context of the wider transformational democratic governance agenda being pursued since 2018, has seen a variety of steps taken to open up the political space. There is a recognition that the reform agenda also needs to address structural governance and political challenges, underpinned

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<sup>6</sup> (i) Legal and System Challenges to Constitutional Interpretation & execute the Decisions of Constitutional Interpretation made by HoF (ii) The Right to Apply for Constitutional Interpretation in light of the FDRE Constitution; (iii) The Roles of Courts on Constitutional Interpretation in light of the FDRE Constitution.

by more systematic public engagement. GDPP Output 3 recognizes the importance of such approaches.

### 3.1. Policies, systems, and institutional frameworks for citizen active participation, particularly women, youth and other vulnerable groups in decision-making processes strengthened at all levels

The **House of People's Representatives** through GDPP support has developed a **Parliamentary Civic Engagement Framework/Guide** during the reporting period. The public has a key role in any democracy both to benefit from democracy interventions and also to be able to help shape public policies. Previously there was no clear framework to engage citizens nor stakeholders in that process. Hence, an **assessment on civic engagement** in parliamentary work was conducted to inform the civic engagement framework/Guide. Following the adoption of the framework which will enhance the participation of citizens, institutions, the media, and the public in the work of the parliament, there are now greater opportunities for increased transparency and accountability about the work of the HoPR.

As part of the joint work of UN Women and UNDP, a **Parliamentary Gender Audit** (of both the House as an entity and the Secretariat) was completed. The audit sought to enhance the gender issues in the Parliament's core lawmaking, oversight, and representational functions. As a result of the gender audit actions plans tailored to the needs of both the Legislators and the House Secretariat to mainstream gender in the House have been agreed which will ultimately help make Parliament more gender sensitive.

In order to institutionalize gender within the work of the **HoPR** a **Gender Equality Advisory Team (GEAT)** anchored in the House Secretariat will be established. The GEAT provides a platform to bring together renowned Ethiopian gender experts and practitioners to help enhance and support gender mainstreaming in the HoPR. A range of gender advisory services including supporting the scrutiny of draft legislation, overseeing the work of the Executive in implementing public policies, production of knowledge documents such as policy briefs will be key functions of the GEAT. This will further anchor and institutionalize gender into the work of the HoPR as the leading democratic institution responsible for law making, oversight and representation in Ethiopia.

The long-held ambition of the **HoPR** has been the **digitization of the House's** documentation. This will ensure that researchers and the wider public can have access to a range of Parliamentary documents, and it will enable the preservation of historical records of Ethiopia's democratic development. Such documents will foster greater understanding about the work of the House including for judges to understand the legislative intent of the law, researchers, students, teachers, citizens, the media, and all stakeholders. It will also foster greater transparency and accountability about the work of the House.

During the reporting period the **HoPR** saw the installation of the digitization system. Furthermore, to expand the availability of books/periodicals, a digital library is under development, which will expand MPs access to e-books and a minimum of 30,000+ books and other online materials. This will help the legislators to have access to independent information which will help enhance, inform, and improve decision making and improve the quality of Parliamentary debates.

GDPP has supported **HoPR** to develop **Parliamentary Education Modules for users (esp. for students and Visitors)**. Currently the House relies upon a simple oral explanation delivered to citizens/visitors to the House. HoPR recognized the need to have tailored modules to reflect the specific needs of the groups of visitors. Work is underway to devise three educational modules to meet the needs of the following groups: persons not in formal education; children from grade 1-8; high school students - university level. These modules will help ensure that the information about the House is appropriate to the audience wanting to learn about the work of the Parliament and their role as citizens in a democracy. It will also help to increase accessibility to the HoPR by citizens and young people.

**HoPR** also recognizes that there are a number of ways to communicate to the public about the work of the House. Therefore, HoPR have started work to develop a **Parliamentary Studio to set-up a broadcast parliamentary media**. This is a cost sharing initiative where GDPP supported the procurement of studio materials and ICT accessories (such as workstations, firewall and others) which will be matched by the HoPR to develop a Parliamentary studio.

The **Ethiopian Human Rights Commission** through GDPP support has embarked on two joint initiatives with civil society organizations for the effective promotion and protection of human rights. In collaboration with the Consortium of Ethiopian Human Rights Organizations, EHRC jointly organized a national and two regional consultation dialogues in Hawassa and Bahir Dar on election and human rights pre-election 2021. The national consultation dialogue was attended by 60 participants from CSOs, while 34 participants attended the regional consultation in Hawassa, and 30 participants attended the Bahir Dar event representing different CSOs working at Federal and Regional levels. The national dialogue was live streamed to reach a wider audience on the CEHRO and EHRC websites. The platforms created civic space for the enhanced and active participation of CSOs in the human rights monitoring during the General Election. The dialogues also enabled CSOs to coordinate their work in relation to human rights monitoring of the electoral process.



Media Link:

1. <https://youtu.be/KOwdGTZFjiQ>
2. <https://youtu.be/OMcoFhFvLG8>

3. ሲቪክ ማህበራት ምርጫው ሰላማዊ ሆኖ እንዲጠናቀቅ የራሳቸውን ሚና መጫወት እንደሚገባቸው ተገለጸ አዲስ አበባ፣ ሚያዝያ 1፣ 2013 (ኤፍ ቢ ሲ) የሲዳማ ክልል ጠቅላይ አቃቤ ህግ ማቶ ማሩ 6ኛው ሀገራዊ ምርጫሰላማዊ ሆኖ እንዲጠናቀቅ ሲቪክ ማህበራት የራሳቸውን ሚና መጫወት ይገባቸዋል ሲሉ ገለጹ። ከላውጡ በኋላ ከተሰራው ስራዎች ውስጥ አንዱ የሲቪክ ማህበራት ሚናቸውን ከፍ እንዲያጉ ለማድረግ በርካታ ስራዎች መከናወኑን አንስተዋል። የማህበራቱን ሚና ከማሳደግ ባለፈ አሳሪ ህጎችን የመፍታትና ተቋማትን ለመገንባት የተከናወኑ ተግባራቶች <https://www.fanabc.com/ሲቪክ-ማህበራት-ምርጫው-ሰላማዊ-ሆኖ-እንዲ/>

**EHRC** collaborated with the Ethiopian Lawyers with Disabilities Association (ELDA) to conduct a disability audit of EHRC as part of the organizational reform of the Commission. The audit findings informed the work that saw the establishment of a separate EHRC department focused on the rights of persons with disabilities.

In collaboration with the Center for Human Rights of the University of Pretoria, **EHRC** organized the first Ethiopian High School Human Rights moot court competition aimed at promoting education, participation, and protection of rights of children. The overall objective of the activity was to promote children's rights to education, the right to be heard, the right to be free from corporal punishment, sexual harassment and harmful traditional practices. The project also had the objective of improving the participating students' knowledge, skills, and attitudes towards upholding and defending human rights. Both written and oral competitions were organized in all 8 of the ten regional states and two federal city administrations. More than 40 teams (80 students) participated. Twenty teams (40 students, out of which 22 were female) won their respective regional competitions and eight finalist teams were brought to Addis Ababa for the final round from 7–15 May 2021. Two female students from Etege Menen females' Residential School from Addis Ababa won the competition. The event was recorded and was transmitted together with the key messages of the Chief Commissioner Daniel Bekele on the Ethiopian National Education Television (TVET) available at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PS5st0-8p\\_0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PS5st0-8p_0) and Fana Broadcasting Corporation.

The moot court opportunity enabled participating students to explore the concepts of child rights and avenues for upholding and defending access to justice and due process rights. Their acquired knowledge has been demonstrated by applying national and international laws and principles of human rights into their written essays and oral pleadings. Their



passion to claim and defend human rights has also been manifested in their heated oral arguments throughout all phases of the competition. The competition created a great chance to introduce contestants to pleading and trial procedures ensuring due process and protection of rights of the accused. Furthermore, participating students forwarded their views and arguments in front of human rights activists and real judges. Such experience of participating students is expected to build their communication skills and confidence to assert rights and arguments in public.

In addition, regional and national competitions have benefited non-participating students, other school communities, and the society at large to acquire knowledge about human rights from attending and watching recorded oral pleadings. The moot court platform has generally passed a message that students (children) can speak about human rights and stand for the respect and fulfillment of their rights. This will contribute to a **positive attitudinal change about human rights and defending human rights** among participating students, coaches, judges, other school communities and society in general.



**EHRC** produced 3 TV programme about human rights and elections which were aired on Fana TV station which has good viewership. This helped to raise awareness about human rights issues pre, during and post-elections 2021.

As part of the work associated with the relocation of the EHRC to its new Head Office and to enhance the visibility of EHRC which is now more accessible to the public and considering the high price of airtime, EHRC opted to use the LED screen funded by GDPP, to display human rights messages at a strategic and central point in the city.

The **Ethiopian Institute of Ombudsman** established good **governance collaborative forums** in two regions - Amhara/Bahir Dar that comprise of 50 members (36F & 14M), plus at South/Dila comprising of 45 members (25F & 20M). Furthermore, a consultative workshop was conducted in Adama with the previously established Federal level forum with a total of 44 members (18F & 26M). These established forums engage with EIO to enhance **good governance and service delivery** at all levels. In addition, the Forums help to support the speedy implementation of the recommendations and decisions provided by the Ombudsman to correct malpractices identified through its investigations.

**Ethiopian Media Authority** organized a consultative workshop during the reporting period for 80 Political Party representatives about the issue of fair utilization and consensus about media coverage in the elections and to discuss a basic Code of Conduct. The workshop also advised the Political Parties about how to utilize the media to reach out and engage with their constituencies in order to ensure peaceful election campaigns and avoid potential conflicts.

Through prior GDPP support, **EMA** assisted community radio groups through provision of a **technical hands-on training** for 10 community radio and school mini-media and community media center staff to strengthen their in-house capacity to manage their community radio stations and solve technical problems. **EMA** organized a **national platform** to support and strengthen the Media Council and Media Associations as part of EMA's mandate to strengthen the media association. This platform has helped the National Media Council to continue promoting media self-regulation and seeking to increase the Council's membership base.

In early 2020 the GoE sought assistance in order to target an initiative centered around youth in Ethiopia. The unprecedented youth bulge presents both an opportunity and a threat for Ethiopia. While there is no straightforward causation between a youth bulge and certain positive or negative socio-economic and political outcomes, the rise in the number of young people with limited economic opportunities and participation in socio-political processes is a cause for concern. The country can tap into its young population to sustain economic growth and development that could power generations to come. However, this growing youth population could also become a threat that could spell doom to peace and stability. Indeed, without tangible and strategic youth centered agenda, the country is at the risk of political, security, economic and social implosion.

In response to this daunting challenge and to tap into its growing youth population, foster a sense of national unity, integration, build a cohesive society at peace with each other, 2020 saw SIDA approve the allocation of funding to respond to the GoE request for assistance to support the launch of an Ethiopian National Voluntary Community Service Programme (ENVCSP) in February 2020. The Programme aimed to promote a culture of public service, to foster national integrity, to enhance respect for diversity, social cohesion and peaceful coexistence, thereby contributing to sustainable peace and stability in the country. Further, the programme will serve as a platform to empower the youth through the acquisition of knowledge and skills and by enhancing their employability and entrepreneurship capacities. Under the leadership of the **MoP** and in close partnership with other stakeholders, and with the technical support from UNDP, the Programme will strive to achieve the following inter-related and complementary outputs:



- i. A National Volunteers Community Service Programme institutional and policy framework developed and put in place,
- ii. A culture voluntarism national harmony, social cohesion and integration promoted benefiting both service members, hosting communities and the public at large, and
- iii. Ethiopian youth empowered to constructively engage in national development and governance processes and to be champions of peace and contribute to nation building, to peaceful co-existence and sustainable peace.

Despite a challenging start, its launch has been a significant success in creating a sustainable youth-focused initiative in the country. During the first phase of implementation from 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021, the following activities were achieved:

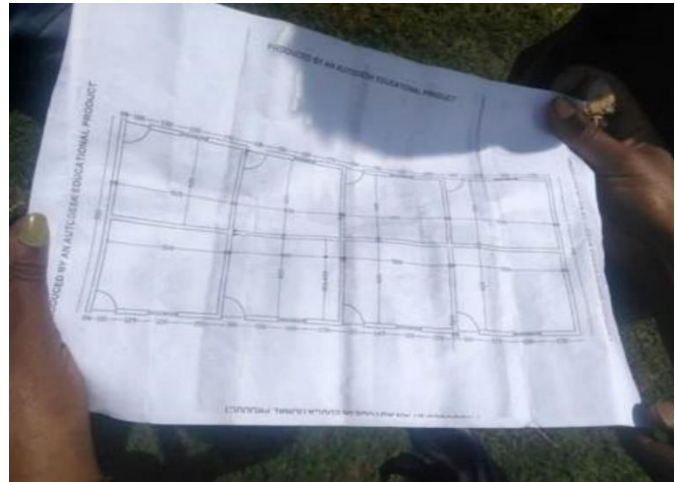
- The ENVCSPP was rolled out to 10 Regional States and 2 City Administrations.
- The programme model outlining its components and eligibility criteria was developed and used to guide its operations.
- Management and Monitoring structures were created at both the MoP and at the Regional level.
- Seven pre-deployment training modules including: Life and Leadership skills; Civic Right and Social Virtues; Media Smart Youth; Building National Consensus; Entrepreneurship and Employability; Peace and Peacebuilding and Volunteer Community Service were developed to guide and facilitate the pre-deployment of the volunteers;
- 10,943 youth were trained and inducted to serve targeted communities, and:
- Out of those trained, 9,646 youth were deployed, of which the 8,600 youth currently serve communities in agricultural, health, water development, ICT, education, environmental, social, and other community mobilization activities.



**ENVCSPP –Volunteers in action**



The ENVCSF helped to create the long missing youth focused agenda and constructive dialogue platform. The 10,000+ youth volunteers from all parts of the country, gained knowledge and skills that enabled them to explore different cultures and a broader worldview of other communities. Feedback from the youths deployed indicates that they have been able to establish family ties within the community that they were serving. The



volunteers technical support, particularly in agricultural, engineering and health related activities were appreciated in addressing the problems of the local communities. The Youth were engaged in repairing/constructing houses, harvesting crops, treating patients - all of which was valued by the community. This pilot intervention thus fulfilled the identified gap in empowering the youth and promoting greater social cohesion. Based on the lessons learned the GoE are now considering how best to anchor the programme within a strong institutional and sustainable policy framework so as to expand its reach in the years to come.

### 3.2. Awareness of citizens on the functions of legislative bodies, executive organs and democratic

**FEACC** through GDPP has supported CSO's to enhance their capacity and play critical role towards fighting corruption in the country. During the reporting period FEACC has been working with 10 selected leading civil society organizations including Vision Ethiopian Congress for Democracy (VECOD); Initiative for Social Accountability Promotion (ISAP) and Transparency International Ethiopia (TI) plus other groups working on ethics and anti-corruption themes.

**FEACC** in collaboration with the 3 CSOs organized four forums/workshop to discuss and explore the role of CSOs; Civil society and good governance challenges; the role of the media and political parties in ensuring good governance; the rule of law and fighting corruption. 198 Civil Society and Media leaders; public sector experts; representatives of Political Parties; Youth Associations; Women's Associations and Government institutions participated. The forums enabled the sharing of best practices and experiences in promoting ethics and anti-corruption efforts across civil society. Furthermore, it strengthened the civil society - FEACC partnership to work on a common anti-corruption agenda at the community and CSOs members' level.

The framing and engagement of Civil Society in the anti-corruption agenda not only helps highlight the work of **FEACC** and also helps to build the confidence of CSOs to collaborate in the fight against corruption. This intervention created a foundation on which the

collaborations set out within the new Anti-Corruption Policy & Strategy specifically engagement with civil society can be taken forward.

The **EIO** mandate seeks to promote good governance and freedom of information, the Constitutional and human rights of women, children, people with disabilities and the elderly, to ensure that rights are upheld and that administrative abuses are tackled. EIO has ten Regional educational centers in Amhara, Oromia South and Sidama using three languages- Amharic, Afan Oromo and Sidamigna.

During the reporting period **five promotional spots and eight programmes** were transmitted through the educational media channels over an eight-week period. In addition, those promotional spots and programmes have also been disseminated to schools via the school's mini media. Taken together these interventions help to increase awareness amongst rural communities in 4 regions about the role of the EIO and this can help ensure that more citizens are aware of their rights. As a result, more people are aware about the fact that they are now able to file their complaints to the Institution via the **EOI 7502 toll-free line**. The introduction of the toll-free line proved to be popular as the number of complaints increased significantly. Before the new toll-free number EIO had projected there would be 3,800 complaints. However, following the introduction of the toll-free number EIO received 4,465 complaints. This demonstrates the value addition of having a system that does not require citizens to travel to the EIO to lodge their complaints.

**NEBE** transcribed and published **1 new electoral law into braille and video, audio, and sign languages** to reach persons with disability (sight & hearing impairments). 10,000 copies in braille and 15,000 copies into video, audio and sign languages were produced and distributed. The distributed copies of the audio & sign languages helped to reach over 100,000 peoples with hearing impairments to better understand the impact of the new electoral Proclamation/Law which helped them to actively participate in exercising their electoral voting rights.

**NEBE** supported 13 Voter Education Providers & CSOs to enable them reach 7.4M women, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups about their voting rights. With the support of GDPP, NEBE organized three consultative sessions with the identified **3 observer CSOs on election related issues** (such as observation, monitoring, voter registration, voter education, gender, disability, inclusion etc.) which enabled the CSOs to actively engage with and play their role in the June 2021 General Election.

In the reporting period, **NEBE** in collaboration with UNWOMEN organized a conference, to provide feedback about the **gender mapping study among political parties**. In the mapping study, seven sample Political Parties were selected and covered by the exercise.

The findings of the mapping study demonstrated showed that only 2 Parties had

women in leadership positions (1 party leader & 1 deputy leader). **NEBE** organized a platform to discuss and advocate for **Political Parties to be more gender sensitive and inclusive**. The advocacy platform was attended by 125 (56 women & 65 men) Political Party members and discussed the findings & recommendations of the gender mapping study. Participants of the advocacy session confirmed their commitment towards increased attention to appoint more women into their Political Party leadership positions by seeking to restructure the leadership of their respective Political Party.

A **platform for advocating political parties on gender sensitiveness & responsiveness** was also established and the first conference brought together 45 participants (36 women & 9 men) representing **NEBE**, Political Parties, Media and CSOs about Preventing Violence Against Women in Elections (VAWE) was held that helped to raise awareness about the causes and consequences of VAWE on women's participation in elections.

In the reporting period, with the support of GDPP, **CCI** organized an awareness raising training session to 62 women, youth and other vulnerable groups and raised their awareness about Constitutional rights and how to exercise those rights. The session inspired the participants to seek to claim their special needs rights in the context of the Constitutional rights provisions.

#### **OUTPUT 4: Systems and mechanisms for promoting social cohesion, managing diversity, preventing, and managing conflicts, fostering dialogues, and building peace are further strengthened at national, regional, and local levels.**

GDPP has been supporting MoP and HoF under Output four to improve systems and mechanisms that help support interventions towards promoting social cohesion, managing diversity, preventing conflicts through fostering dialogues and peace building processes. UNDP has also taken the initiative to undertake a comprehensive conflict Analysis to better understand the conflict dynamics and to inform programming. Further, UNDP has also developed a Concept Note that provides the framework for the development of a 'stand-alone' Peacebuilding Programme, but progress was delayed due to the sensitivities involved, which is further complicated by the ongoing conflict.

##### **4.1. Policy/Strategy and platforms established/strengthened for an effective peace architecture of conflict prevention and peace building at all levels of governance.**

A Comprehensive Assessment was also conducted by the **MoP** during the reporting period. The report shed light on the management of ethnic, occupational, and other forms of diversities including the structural and attitudinal constraints impacting minority rights at national and regional levels. In addition, two workshops were organized aimed at raising community awareness to enhance **community participation in decision-making** processes in matters related to peace and development and prevention of conflict and violence.

**MoP** conducted an assessment about the Inter-Governmental Relations (IGR) Institutional frameworks, functions, knowledge, and skill gaps including gender issues at the Regional and Sub-Regional level. A key finding was that the concept of **Intergovernmental relations** and the newly **ratified IGR legal framework** are very new and not well understood by stakeholders. But the IGR forums to be established in Regions provide the means for wider dissemination of the strategic policy documents and thus help create greater awareness about the implications of the IGR policy.

During the reporting period, the Ministry in collaboration with the **House of Federation and IGR Technical Committee** from the Regional States developed a 3-year Comprehensive Capacity Development Plan to guide the implementation of the IGR. The final plan will become effective in the new fiscal year.

In addition, **MoP** conducted a workshop to **develop the needed procedural manuals, charters, and directives** that underpin the establishment and effective functioning of the IGR Secretariat and supporting platforms. The participants included the IGR Technical Committee members from the Regional State, the leadership, and experts from the MoP, experts, and officials from the House of Federation.

During the reporting period an **awareness raising forum** was held with 22 Members (17m & 5F) of the IGR Technical Committee representing the Regional States in the Eastern and South-Eastern Regions - Afar, Somali, Oromia, Sidama, SNNPR and Gambella. Furthermore, support was also provided towards **strengthening 4 existing IGR Peace and Development Cooperation forums** in Tigray-Amhara-Afar; Oromia-Gumuz-Amhara-Gambella; SNNPR- Oromia-Sidama-Gambella, and Somali-Oromia-Harar-Afar-Dire Dawa Peace and Development Cooperation Forums. Likewise, **2 new IGR forums between Amhara and Afar**; and **Sidama-Oromia- SNNPR** were formed.

GDPP supported **MoP** to develop a training module on **basic knowledge of Federalism and Intergovernmental Relations** which was trialed and approved by the Ministry. Three further modules focused on Language Policy, Concessional occasional Democracy, Human Rights Democracy, and Good Governance and Rule of Law have been devised. In line with the **IGR, awareness-raising training** was provided to 70 institutional leaders about the concept of Intergovernmental Relations, the ratified IGR legal framework, and on issues related to IGR forums establishment among the neighboring Regional States.

In order to build the capacity for various stakeholders including scholars, leaders, federalism experts and MoP staff to understand the implications associated the IGR Policy a **national conference** was organized by **MoP** about **Federalism, Ethiopian Federal Constitution, and IGR**. Eight scientific research papers were presented at the conference by professors and scholars. 130 participants of which 32% were women benefited from the conference.

## 4.2 Policy/Strategy and platforms established /strengthened for an effective peace architecture of conflict prevention and peace building at all levels of governance.

Through GDPP funding, **MoP** conducted a **consultative forum** which brought together 200 (133M & 67F) community leaders, religious leaders, women, and youth representatives and officials from all over the country whose jobs are concerned with peace and stability. The motto of the forum was "***Challenges of peacebuilding and solutions***". 3 live programs and 7 documentaries are transmitted through different local media about community dialogue, a national public opinion survey assessment, national dialogue process and other peace works in the Ministry in collaboration with the Peace Media Network.

The **MoP** in collaboration with concerned federal and regional state government organs, civil society as well as international organizations and NGOs, is also responsible for ensuring that satisfactory mechanisms have been established at the regional and local levels for the effective delivery and coordination of assistance and protection in situations of internal displacement. In addition, when necessary and appropriate, the MoP brings issues concerning critical national consensus to the attention of the Government and follows their implementation.

In response to the structural and conjectural challenges, the **MoP** developed a new 10-year strategic plan, which complements the National 10-year Perspective Plan. The strategy document (still in draft) places the focus on Peace Mapping, looking to identify and use social capital as a positive rather than focus on conflict, community based dialogues, strengthening local peace structures, peace media (to counter hate speech, promote peace and reconciliation), human centred rule of law, improving federal-regional and inter-regional relations, community participation (especially of women and youth), and strengthening institutional capacity to prevent and resolve conflicts. The capacity assessment and bespoke action plans were submitted to the Ministry and are now under consideration by **MoP** leadership.

During the reporting period some initial programmatic interventions with the Ethiopian Reconciliation Commission (**ERC**) were undertaken. The **ERC** was established through proclamation in February 2019 with an initial three-year term. Between June 2020 and June 2021, GDPP provided technical support to the **ERC** as part of a pilot project to advance national reconciliation efforts. The support focused on three main areas: 1) strengthening institutional capacity; 2) advancing a political consensus on a national reconciliation model; 3) increasing social cohesion, public knowledge of the ERC, and support for the national reconciliation process. To this end, UNDP has so far been able to provide technical support through direct deployment of five short term technical advisers and the mobilization of international experts in transitional justice and communications. This additional technical capacity has thus far enabled the ERC Secretariat to finalize its strategy, develop its organogram and staffing plan, draft a communication strategy, initiate a revision of its



legal framework, produced statement taking training guides, templates, statement takers code of conduct and guideline. The support also contributed to design a radio-talk show and SMS polling survey concept that can be rolled out by the ERC to gather feedback and generate public awareness on/about its mandate. During implementation, challenges that include structural deficiencies - institutional capacity, legal framework, and budget, increased political tensions in the country as well as the impact of COVID were constraining to embark on national level political consensus and reconciliation processes that could have contributed to social cohesion in the Country. Following the changes in Government, the ERC is also now falls under the mandate of the **MoP**.

#### **4.3. Developed/strengthened systems & mechanisms to promote national consensus & nation building at all levels**

During the reporting period, **MoP** with the support of the programme created **Community, youth, Women, elders, and student's peace forums** at different levels of the Regional structure and in public Universities and schools. Monitoring and evaluation of existing forums was also undertaken to assess if the forums remained active. Based on the assessments capacity development training was delivered to x2 University student's peace forums.

The **MoP** recognizing the importance of targeted support to engage the youth in the discussions about national consensus and nation building. A **national-regional network of University Peace Forums** was established and skills-based training about handling conflicts to University Peace Forum Leaders was delivered with 07M and 91F students from all public universities. The training helped to create a sense of motivation and raised awareness among the students about their role in peacebuilding work and handling conflicts in and around their universities. The expectation arising from the training is that as these were upcoming leaders the message is that if projects are well planned, engage stakeholders and are inclusive then this will help to transform the country.

**MoP** organized a community peace dialogue for 1500 community members in 2 rounds at Regional level where participants were able to discuss and better understand the key role that local community members can play to mitigate conflicts in their local communities.

**MoP** organized a **training workshop** to a total of 961 (855M & 106F) leaders from political parties, media, and professional associations under the motto "**Peace Starts from Me**" with the intention to help develop a culture of dialogue. The training enabled participants to enhance their emotional intelligence, discuss about social capital, the rule of law, citizens' dignity and to better understand the ambitions of Ethiopia's draft Peace Policy and related strategic documents.

A **consultative forum has been conducted for 80 peace actors** including religious leaders, parliamentarians, and traditional leaders to discuss and share experiences about the individual and institutional roles and responsibilities, concerning the creation of sustainable peacebuilding and national consensus in Ethiopia. The forum also provided the

opportunity for participants to consider their role in the process and the strategies needed to help support the anticipated National Dialogue.

The **Ministry of Peace**, in collaboration with the Inter-Religious Council of Ethiopia (IRCE) held a training and consultation forum with 165 participants under the theme "***Our Religious Values for Peace and Unity***". At this forum, current common challenges of religious institutions were discussed. This was further supplemented by a workshop under the theme of "***The role of Religious institutions in Peace Building, The opportunities and Challenges***". This brought together 200 Religious organization leaders, youths, women, preachers, as well as officials from each Regional Peace and Security Bureaus.

During the reporting period the **Ministry of Peace** organized a consultative workshop for ***returnees and the host communities*** in SNNP region- Mizan Tepi and Gurage Zones, and at Amhara Region – Western Gojam and Semen Shewa Zones. This was done in collaboration with local civil society groups who came together to assess the livelihoods, coexistence, and social cohesion challenges facing the communities. These locations were places where IDPs from the surrounding areas have been affected by ethnic violence and conflicts (Guraferda, Hallaba, Metekel, Chagni, and Ataye). The situation affected IDPs, returnees, and host communities. A total of 170 participants attended the workshop out of which 64 were men and the remainder were women.

The workshop brought together both the returnees and the host communities. Local government and non-state actors jointly assessed local situations in these localities specifically their livelihoods, how to strengthen co-existence between communities in conflict, and social cohesion challenges. This event was implemented with limited resource availability and weak integration/coordination capacities within the policymaking and technical level support. Lessons learned from this exercise will help in developing future recovery and stabilization projects to support communities that need the support of the **MoP** and other federal agencies, and the development partners.

The **police reform work** forms part of the work of the **MoP** and the Federal Police. Support provided during the reporting period include the installation of software technology that could help to **control the illegal arms movements** in the country. Training was provided to **300 Regional Community Police Officers and Community Representatives** about the revised concepts and approaches involved in community policing.

The development of the new **Police Doctrine** has been completed after incorporating inputs from different stakeholders. Implementation manuals and roadmaps necessary to implement the Police Doctrine for example **Neighborhood Police; Community Patrolling; and Independent Advisory Group (IAG)** have been established. Two rounds of **Training of Trainers for 68 Police and Security Office leaders** of all the Regional States and City Administrations were completed.

The **Police Doctrine and implementation standards, and the IAG and Community Patrol manuals** were translated into four languages (Oromifa, Tigrigna, Somali, and Amharic) and widely disseminated.

The **IAG and Community Patrolling have been implemented at National and local level administrations(Kebeles)** in cities and Regional States including Amhara, Oromia, SNNPR, Benishangul Gumuz (except Metekel Zone Assosa Woreda), Harari, Sidama, Afar, and Addis Ababa are all operational.

The implementation in Gambella and Somali Regions was challenging with limited commitment of the leadership and budget shortages. However, with the support from **MoP** and Federal Police, the IAG and Community Patrol structures were established. With regards to Tigray Region, though the implementation started at the Mekelle Sub City level, work has been halted due to the ongoing situation in the Region.

A **monitoring visit** was conducted by the experts of **MoP** and The Federal Police to selected regional states. The aim was to evaluate the results of the IAD and Community Patrolling Structures in selected regions including Amhara, Sidama, SNNPR, Harari, Oromia Regional states, and the two city Administrations (Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa). Based on the findings a **consultative forum** with 60 participants from Regional Peace and Security Bureaus, and Federal Police experts took place in Bahir Dar. There is a commitment to **establish a National IAG** after the 6th National elections.

During the reporting period **MoP** provided **conflict early warning and conflict management** training for 63 Federal Police leaders assigned to oversee the security at Universities. The training was organized in partnership with the Federal Police and Science and Higher Education Ministry. The aim was to prevent incidents of conflict and seek to secure peace at all Federal Universities. **Another training on conflict early warning and response** was provided in Hawassa for 45 Police Commissioners and Peace and Security Bureau Directors.

## **Output 5. Access to justice enhanced and human rights promoted and protected across the Ethiopian society.**

GDPP supported EHRC and OAG to strengthen efforts to enhance access to justice and promote and protect human rights across the Ethiopian society. In light of this, a number of interventions have been undertaken during the reporting period.

### **5.1. Regulatory and procedural systems strengthened for effective access to justice and redress mechanism.**

**EHRC** in collaboration with a local CSO, North East Policy Think Tank (NEPTT), developed background papers about **rights to adequate housing and the right to work and workers' rights**. The topics included an overview of economic, social, and cultural rights, conceptual underpinning of socio-economic rights, the right to adequate housing and the right to work and workers' rights. Staff members were also trained about how to collect

data on the right to adequate housing and the right to work and workers' rights in their respective Regions. This helps to further enhance the institutional capacities within the EHRC at Federal and Regional level.

During the reporting period **EHRC** in collaboration with ELDA examined issues associated with the **rights of persons with disabilities** to identify the main barriers, overlapping or multiple discrimination on several or combined grounds, assess availability and quality of data collection and analysis system on disability. This helped to identify issues requiring further investigation such things as gaps in data or information about disability and the incidence of disability rights violations. That work informed the work of the newly established EHRC Department on Persons with Disabilities' Rights. This was further supplemented (in conjunction with ELDA) by a **consultation workshop** with organizations working on and with persons with disabilities. The event brought together 26 representatives (20M & 6F) from CSOs of persons with disabilities established across different disability types both at Federal and Regional level. The participants discussed issues including concepts, figures and basic facts on disability, legal and institutional frameworks on disability, stakeholders in the implementation of disability rights, barriers for the effective realization of disability rights in Ethiopia and intervention areas for EHRC to consider further.

## **5.2. Capacity of public and law enforcement bodies to abide by human rights laws and regulations strengthened.**

**EHRC** following the Training of Trainers provided in Q2 of EFY 2013, conducted a further **nine training sessions on women and children's rights** for sector officials working with women and children: in Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa and 7 Regional States which enabled 449 participants (198 m, 251 f) to benefit from the training. Participants discussed how to apply the new knowledge and skills in their day-to-day work and committed to include reflection sessions with lower-level government structures about women and children's rights as part their plan of actions arising from the training.

**OAG** organized a **one-day consultation forum** with 50 participants took place to consider the role and responsibilities of Police and the Justice sector in relation **to promoting and protecting human rights during the electoral process in 5 Regions**. In addition to discussions about the roles and responsibilities of the Police and Justice sector, the discussions also dealt with issues about how duty bearers should put the knowledge acquired into practice as they perform their tasks.

In the reporting period, **OAG** with the support of GDPP provided **skill enhancement and awareness training** about the rule of law to enhance the capacity and skills of the Prosecutors, Legal personnel, and Law Enforcement bodies. **OAG** conducted three training sessions and raised the awareness of 423 police officers, prosecutors, regional senior officials, OAG middle level officials, and federal & regional public prosecutors about prevention of violence & crimes against women & children; human rights-based investigations; and anti-terrorism laws & crime investigation tools and techniques.

Since 2018 as part of the transformational agenda the Government has launched bold and comprehensive reforms and this also includes within the justice sector which has been evidenced by legislative reviews, structural and leadership changes in key justice institutions. The thematic areas to be addressed as part of the wider efforts to reform the Justice Sector include: a) advancement of respect for fundamental rights and institutional accountability; b) promoting integrated justice delivery; c) improving criminal justice services; d) promoting Civil Justice Service; and e) raising public awareness and understanding of the law. Against this background during the reporting period work has been undertaken to mount a rapid comprehensive justice sector assessment in Ethiopia covering all the key justice institutions including police, prosecution, the judiciary and the prison system. The assessment seeks to capture the current policy framework/standards/institutional set ups/implementation practices which are directly related to justice sector reform in Ethiopia. The objective is to devise a broad justice sector-wide programme framework to inform effective justice system reform at all levels. The assessment is due to be completed in December 2021 will identify potential entry points across the justice sector and recommend specific areas for reform elaborating the short, medium and long-term reform initiatives needed to support reforms across the justice sector.

### **5.3. Established/Strengthened mechanism for monitoring, compiling, and reporting of human rights protections and violence.**

**EHRC** conducted a **stakeholder meeting** that brought together 60 participants from relevant stakeholders. to consider the human rights situation of women who have been forced to live onto the streets with their children. The monitoring work revealed that most of the women were forced to live on the streets with their children because they were not able to generate enough income to sustain their family due to the COVID 19 restrictions. Further work based on the feedback received by **EHRC** is under consideration.

In the context of the **EHRC** work to support people with disabilities a consultation meeting was held with key stakeholders to monitor the implementation of the rights of persons with disabilities in Anjibara Town. The 32 participants (12 female) discussed the challenges faced by people with disabilities and agreed to incorporate relevant activities in their respective action plans.

The **EHRC** undertook a **study tour to the Kenyan National Commission for Human Rights (KNCHR)** in collaboration with the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) and OHCHR. The study tour comprised of 5 staff members, including the Chief Commissioner and one female member. The study tour was organized to share experiences and learn from other NHRIs and included discussions about the use of technology in case management as EHRC wish to modernize its complaint handling mechanism. This demonstrates the importance EHRC places on sharing South-South experiences as both a learning and networking opportunity. Sadly, the proposed visit to the Ugandan Human Rights Commission, which had been also been identified by OHCHR



and NANHRI as a source of good practice, was not possible as a result of the COVID 19 restrictions.



The case flow of EHRC's complaint handling mechanism was reviewed to enhance its effectiveness, gender responsiveness, child friendliness and inclusiveness at the head and branch office level. **EHRC** intend to develop an IT based case management system in the next reporting period. This will help improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the EHRC case management systems and responsiveness.

**OAG** conducted **three consultative sessions** with 247 key stakeholders (of which 30% women) and comprised of CSOs, federal & regional officials, higher education institutions and other key actors, about the draft 3<sup>rd</sup> National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP). **OAG developed the 3<sup>rd</sup> NHRAP** drawing on the inputs received from the stakeholders which were instrumental in demonstrating the wider ownership of the NHRAP to guide the work of taking actions to enhance human rights in Ethiopia.

**OAG** with **MoP** jointly conducted monitoring of the human rights situation in 28 Police and 11 Prison centres and carried out consultations with the appropriate authorities about the findings and recommendations. The monitoring was intended to monitor the human rights situation of detainee's and prisoners in police and prison centers in order to identify gaps and actions required to ensure the promotion, protection, and respect of the human rights of persons in the prison or under police custody.

#### 4. PROGRESS ON ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS BY INDICATORS (JULY 2020 – JUNE 2021)

**Output 1: Political processes of federal and regional state legislative bodies are Inclusive and effectively delivering on their constitutional mandates**

The implementing partners which performed the activities to contribute to achievement of the output are: HoPR, EHRC, FEACC, EIO, OAG, EBA/EMA, HoF, and OFAG; NEBE; CCI

Indicators	Targets (as per 2020/2021 AWP)	Cumulative annual results achieved current fiscal year per target/indicator	Target Met <sup>7</sup>	Remarks
<b>Sub-output 1.1: Legislative bodies and democratic institutions capacities strengthened for discharging their oversight functions;</b>				
<b>Sub-output indicator 1.1.1: Number of systems, frameworks, and tools developed or strengthened for enhancing oversight capacity;</b>	<p>1 IT &amp; data system for upgrading Audit Training Institute (ATI).</p> <p>1 IT security policy &amp; 2 communication strategies (EHRC &amp; NEBE); and 1 policy on training, education &amp; awareness raising and 1 strategy on crime prevention &amp; suppressing trafficking of persons (OAG).</p>	<p>The legislative bodies and democratic institutions such as <b>HoPR, HoF, FEACC, EIO, OAG, EBA/EMA, EHRC, OFAG</b> strengthen systems, developed policy &amp; strategy, conducted research/assessments, and also developed frameworks/guidelines/tools for enhancing their capacity for effectively discharging their oversight function.</p> <p>The ATI of <b>OFAG</b> strengthened through upgrading the IT and data centre system.</p> <p>1 IT Security Policy &amp; 1 Communication Strategy developed and made ready for rollout by <b>EHRC</b>.</p> <p><b>OAG</b> developed and put in place 1 policy on training, education, &amp; awareness raising, and 1 strategy on crime prevention &amp; suppressing trafficking of persons to abroad.</p> <p><b>NEBE</b> also rolled out and publicized for its own staffs and key stakeholders/partners its newly developed communication strategy.</p>		

<sup>7</sup>Below Target (4): less than 75%; Close to Target (3): 75-89%; On Target (2): 90 -105 % and Over Target (1): greater than 105%.

	<p>7 frameworks for strengthening oversight functions (HoPR &amp; HoF); and also 9 guidelines/manuals for induction, training, gender, and sexual harassment (HoPR, HoF, EHRC, FEACC, EIO and OAG).</p>	<p><b>HoPR</b> developed 1 framework for horizontal &amp; vertical integration of democratic institutions, and HoF developed and put in place 6 operational frameworks/standards (2 frameworks for promoting national security &amp; ensuring sustainable peace; 2 on constitutional supremacy &amp; constitutionalism; and another 2 on grant distribution fairness &amp; implementation effectiveness).</p> <p><b>EHRC, FEACC and EIO</b> developed and rolled out gender audit &amp; mainstreaming manuals/guidelines. The gender guideline developed by <b>EIO</b> encompassed other vulnerability issues like disability &amp; elderly. <b>EHRC</b> also developed guideline/tool to deal with sexual harassment. Although <b>EHRC</b> planned to develop one tool on sexual harassment, at the end of the reporting period, it was able to develop and roll out three guidelines such as anti-sexual harassment &amp; workspace ethics guideline, grievance redressing mechanism guideline, and disability audit guideline.</p> <p><b>HoPR</b> developed induction &amp; lessons sharing manual for new entrant Parliament Members for familiarization of House's oversight functions when they would be onboard.</p> <p><b>OAG</b> developed assets recovery &amp; management manual and validated it with the participation of 35 key stakeholders. <b>OAG</b> also developed 3 training manuals on investigation, prosecution, and litigation skills. The overall achievement of targets for developing systems, policy/strategy, frameworks, and tools is 100 percent; and it is on target.</p>	On target	
<p><b>Sub-output indicator</b></p> <p><b>1.1.2: Number of platforms established or</b></p>	<p>15 assessments/studies/research in various topics/areas for strengthening oversight functions.</p> <p>HoPR (6 assessment/study/research).</p>	<p><b>HoPR</b> conducted 2 assessments, 1 assessment of the standardized oversight &amp; legislative guideline of the House &amp; another 1 on structure of the Secretariat. HoPR also undertook 4 research/studies on topics such as parliamentary diplomacy, effectiveness of standing committee's structure, effectiveness of new CSO's</p>		

organized to enhance oversight functions.	EHRC (1 assessment) EIO (2 study) HoF (2 assessments) and OAG (3 studies/assessments & 1 compendium).	<p>proclamation, and effectiveness of parliamentary whistleblowing for using the findings &amp; recommendations for enhancing the effectiveness &amp; efficiency of the Parliament in discharging its legislative &amp; oversight functions and roles.</p> <p><b>EHRC</b> conducted 1 institutional capacity assessment for identifying gaps for strengthening the Commission through reform. Based on the assessment findings &amp; recommendations, the Commission entered into structural reform to make itself gender sensitive and responsive to the needs of its clients &amp; the public.</p> <p><b>HoF</b> carried out 2 reform assessments for making structural adjustments. Two assessment reports produced and made ready for validation &amp; endorsement.</p> <p><b>EIO</b> conducted 1 study on its achievement to identify gaps and another 1 on country-wide own motion investigation for improving the service it provides to workers in the industrial parks.</p> <p><b>OAG</b> undertook 3 research/studies/ assessments and compiled 1 compendium of over 250 laws &amp; directives. The themes/agendas of the three studies/assessments focused on such as legal gaps for addressing violence against women &amp; children, the implementation of crime justice policy, and case interruptions.</p> <p>100 percent of the target achieved;</p>	On target	
<p><b>Sub-output indicator</b></p> <p><b>1.1.3:</b> Number of training sessions for enhancing knowledge and skills of staffs on oversight functions conducted;</p>	EBA/EMA targeted 702 of its staffs, journalists/media professionals and other key stakeholders to provide training on various topics which would be instrumental to effectively discharge of its oversight functions and mandate.	<p><b>EBA/EMA</b> provided training to 465 experts &amp; media professionals for enhancing their skills and knowledge on various areas/topics. The topics that the training focused on were critical thinking, content &amp; advertisement monitoring; conflict sensitive reporting; women empowerment &amp; gender mainstreaming; and hate-speech &amp; dis-information proclamation. The achievement is 70% of the target.</p> <p>The IPs such as <b>HoPR, OAG, EIO, EHRC</b> and <b>FEACC</b> provided capacity building training to 872 staff about a variety of topics to enhance their skills and knowledge</p>	On target	EBA/EMA set unrealistic target which couldn't be fully achieved due to the COVID 19 pandemic and also election and other issues which made the staff, journalists/media professionals and other key stakeholders very busy with little spare time to participate in training.

	<p>The IPs such as HoPR, OAG, EIO, EHRC and FEACC targeted 883 of their staffs to participate in skill-based training for enhancing their knowledge and skills on oversight functions.</p>	<p>to effectively discharge key oversight functions. The training topics included: minutes/note taking &amp; legal drafting (<b>HoPR</b>); assets recovery &amp; legal drafting, and assets evaluation &amp; forensic account (<b>OAG</b>); consultative training workshop on findings of monitoring visit (<b>EIO</b>); HR programming &amp; performance-based management, and gender mainstreaming &amp; sexual harassment (<b>EHRC</b>); and leadership &amp; strategic management, effective service delivery, and ethics &amp; corruption prevention (<b>FEACC</b>). The IPs achieved 98% of their target. The overall achievement of targets of the indicators for capacity building trainings is 90 percent</p>		<p>However, the overall achievement of the targets for the indicator that the IPs contributed to is on target.</p>
<b>Sub-output 1.2: Professional independence of Democratic Institutions enhanced in discharging their core functions;</b>				
<p><b>Sub-output Indicator</b> <b>1.2.1:</b> Number of standards, procedures, and tools developed or strengthened to enhance professional independence;</p>	<p>6 coalition &amp; coordination forums among federal &amp; regional actors (FEACC); 1 data security policy &amp; 1 IT guideline (NEBE); and also 1 assessment on restructuring &amp; 4 operational standards (HoF).</p>	<p><b>FEACC</b> organized 4 coordination and coalition forums for enhancing integration and support among federal and regional actors for promoting integrity and anti-corruption. Two coordination forums organized with federal and regional officials &amp; key stakeholders for promoting integrity and fighting corruption. The other two coalition forums conducted with federal and regional Ethics Officers for strengthening their collaboration and integration in fighting corruption, as well as monitoring &amp; reporting corruption. In the organized four coordination &amp; coalition forums about 1,100 federal and regional representatives &amp; participants were attended. The achievement during the reporting period is 67%. <b>NEBE</b> developed 1 data security policy &amp; 1 IT guideline and rolled out for enhancing professional independence. 20 staff of NEBE's Head Office and Regional Branch Offices were familiarized with the new data security policy &amp; IT guideline. The achievement is 100% of the target. <b>HoF</b> conducted 1 assessment on restructuring of the Secretariat &amp; produced report, and also developed and rolled out 2 operational standards/frameworks in</p>	<p><i>Close to target</i></p>	<p>The restriction of movement and gathering of peoples due to COVID 19 pandemic was the major challenge and constraint for failing to achieve the set targets.</p> <p>In addition, the setting of overstated/over ambitious targets during the Results Framework preparation in 2017/2018 and also lack of critical analysis on the risks that might hamper implementation could be another factor for under achievement of the targets.</p>



		supporting the professional independence of staffs of the newly restructured Secretariat. The achievement of the target is 60%. The overall achievement is 75% of the targets.		
<b>Sub-output Indicator</b> <b>1.2.3:</b> Number of professional staffs whose <b>knowledge on application of standards, procedures and tools</b> confirmed for securing professional independence;	EBA, EIO and NEBE targeted 517 (EBA = 300, EIO = 157, and NEBE = 60 in three sessions) of their staffs, media professionals & other key stakeholders for improving knowledge on standards & tools for securing professional independence. EIO also planned to organize 5 awareness raising sessions.	<b>EBA</b> provided training to its staffs and media professionals (184) for enhancing their knowledge on election reporting, and also new media laws, mass media policy & election directives. The achievement of the target is 62%. <b>EIO</b> conducted knowledge enhancement training with participation of 151 of its staffs. The training increased knowledge of staffs on the areas of use of sign language; strategic planning & management; and communication. 96% of the target achieved. <b>NEBE</b> organized 2 sessions for enhancing the knowledge of its staff on change management, election operation reform & reform initiative, and also how to use the newly developed IT system. 55 NEBE staff participated in the sessions organized. The achievement of target on the sessions is 67%; and for participants 92% of the target achieved. The overall achievement of targets for the indicator is 76%	<i>Close to target</i>	The restriction of movement and gathering of peoples due to COVID 19 pandemic was the major challenge and constraint for failing to achieve the set targets. The setting of overstated/overambitious targets during the Results Framework 2017/2018 preparation and also lack of critical analysis on the risks that might hamper implementation could be another factor for under achievement of the targets. The media professionals/journalist and other key stakeholders who were supposed to take part in the planned knowledge & skills enhancement training sessions couldn't attend due to busy schedule on election related media activities and other issues.
<b>Output 2: Federal and regional state systems of governance are more accountable, transparent and are delivering services in inclusive and responsive ways; The implementing partners which performed the activities to contribute to achievement of the output are: FEACC, EIO, &amp; CCI;</b>				
<b>Sub-output 2.1: Information recording, analysis &amp; management systems and accountability mechanisms strengthened;</b>				
<b>Sub-output indicators</b> <b>2.1.1:</b> Number of <b>systems</b> established or	<b>Targets:</b>  Indicator 2.1.1 and 2.1.2:	In the reporting period, <b>FEACC</b> finalized the National Anti-Corruption Policy & Strategy and also Third National Corruption Perception Survey.		The development of system/web-portal for anti-corruption information & knowledge management by FEACC, and also

<p>strengthened, and <b>regulations</b> introduced for improving information recording, analysis &amp; management.</p> <p><b>2.1.2: Number of accountability mechanisms</b> in place for ensuring effective service delivery.</p>	<p>The IPs such as FEACC, EIO and CCI targeted to develop or strengthen policy and regulations systems and mechanisms and also database and IT systems for improving information recording, analysis, and dissemination.</p> <p><b>FEACC:</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 2.1.1:</b>1 National Anti-Corruption Policy &amp; Strategy Document; National Corruption Perception Survey Report; and 1 system/web-portal for anti-corruption information &amp; knowledge management.</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.2:</p> <p>FEACC also planned to introduce 1 regulation (code of conduct for public officials) and 1 review report on UNCAC two chapters.</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.1:</p>	<p>The National Anti-Corruption Policy &amp; Strategy as well as the Third National Corruption Perception Survey finalized, and reports produced. The findings, recommendations and lessons learned from both policy &amp; strategy and perception survey were validated and disseminated during the validation workshop conducted with the participation of key federal &amp; regional partners &amp; stakeholders.</p> <p>The policy &amp; strategy as well as the perception survey are instrumental for formulation and strengthening of laws, directives, frameworks, and tools for effective prevention and combatting of corruption and also strengthening of integrity &amp; ethics at different levels in the nation.</p> <p>The achievement is 100% of the target.</p> <p><b>FEACC</b> strengthened its functional IT-based system for Declaration and Registration of Assets System (DARS) through provision of capacity building training to its staff working on the IT system of DARS. The development of 1 system/web-portal for enhancing anti-corruption information &amp; knowledge management was not executed during the reporting period.</p> <p><b>FEACC</b> prepared 1 Code of Conduct for public officials and is scheduled to be tabled and endorsed by the new Parliament (October 2021), 1 draft report on UNCAC two chapters (corruption prevention &amp; assets recovery) submitted to the National Steering Committee for review. When the two documents are endorsed, they will be instrumental for strengthening accountability mechanism for effective service delivery. The achievement of targets is 75%</p> <p><b>EIO</b> strengthened its call centre &amp; synchronized IT system to ensure effective service delivery through hearing</p>	<p>Close to target</p>	<p>assessment on service provision and production of two publications by CCI are underway through contractual processes.</p> <p>The setting of overstated/overambitious targets during the RF preparation and also lack of critical analysis on the risks that might hamper implementation could be another factor for the achievement to be close to target.</p>
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	<p>EIO targeted to automate 1 IT system.</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.2: EIO planned to upgrade 1 case flow management system.</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.1: CCI planned to upgrade 1 free call centre and 1 case flow management system and also develop Gender Mainstreaming Manual.</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.2: CCI targeted 1 assessment on service provision; 3 research on various topics which relate to constitutional issues; 3 discussion forums; and 2 publications.</p>	<p>complaints, handling cases, and providing feedback. The system has enhanced efficiency and effectiveness of the information recording, analysis &amp; management system of EIO by giving access to the public for airing their complaints immediately and receiving faster feedback. EIO also upgraded 1 case-flow management system via improved VPN infrastructure for strengthening accountability mechanism. The achievement is 100% of the target.</p> <p>CCI upgraded 1 free call centre and 1 case-flow management system for improving service delivery. The upgrading of the systems helped CCI to enhance its efficiency &amp; effectiveness in handling constitutional cases. CCI also developed Gender Mainstreaming Manual through consultation and solicitation of inputs from the staffs and key stakeholders.</p> <p>In the reporting period, CCI conducted 3 research assignments about various Constitutional issues &amp; related topics, and also organized 3 discussion forums on findings &amp; recommendations for soliciting inputs. The planned 1 assessment, and 2 publications were not conducted in the reporting period. The achievement of the targets is 73%.</p> <p>The overall achievement of targets for the indicators is 80%.</p>		
<b>Sub-output 2.2: Complaints handling &amp; feedback mechanisms for ensuring accountability and customers'/clients' satisfaction installed/strengthened, with emphasis on women and youth;</b>				
<b>Sub-output indicator:</b> <b>2.2.3: Number of awareness raising, or familiarization tools and channels developed and used to promote</b>	<p>EIO targeted for 1 platform and 2 assessments on complaint handling &amp; information/feedback mechanisms.</p>	<p>EIO conducted 1 assessment on complaint handling of sexual harassment in federal public institutions. The findings &amp; recommendations of the assessment are instrumental for raising awareness of victims, CSOs and citizens on complaining and combating harassments against women and youth in public institutions. The one</p>	<p><b>Below target</b></p>	<p>Activity only just getting underway in the reporting period.</p> <p>The setting of overstated and overambitious targets during the RF preparation and also lack of critical analysis on the risks that might hamper implementation could be</p>

complaints and feedback mechanisms, with emphasis on women and youth;		platform and 1 assessment were not undertaken during the reporting period. The achievement of the target is 33%;		factors for the achievement to be below target.
<b>Sub-output 2.3: Awareness of information providers and seekers promoted for ensuring quality service provision;</b>				
<b>Sub-output indicator:</b> <b>2.3.2: Number of sessions conducted for raising awareness of information providers and seekers on service delivery;</b>	EIO planned to conduct 1 forum for raising awareness of information providers & seekers.	The planned 1 forum for raising awareness of information providers & seekers was not organized by <b>EIO</b> in the reporting period.  The achievement is 0% of the target.	<b>Below target</b>	EIO planned to organize the forum in collaboration with the Press Secretariat Office of the PM as it was the coordinator, lead, and supervisor of information communicators for ensuring access to information. However, when EIO approached the Press Secretariat Office to jointly organize the awareness raising forum, the Office didn't show interest. So, the forum could not take place.
<b>Output 3: Citizens are empowered to voice their concerns and participate in decision-making and political processes at all levels of governance</b> <b>The implementing partners which performed the activities to contribute to achievement of the output are: HoPR, EIO, EHRC, FEACC, MoP, NEBE; EBA/EMA and CCI</b>				
<b>Sub-output 3.1: Policy, system, and institutional frameworks for citizens active participation, particularly women, youth and other marginalized groups in decision making processes strengthened at all levels;</b>				
<b>Sub-output indicators:</b> <b>3.1.1: Number of policies, systems and institutional frameworks established or strengthened for ensuring active</b>	<b>Targets:</b>  Indicator 3.1.1 and 3.1.3:  The IPs such as HoPR, EIO, and EHRC targeted to establish/strengthen policy, systems, and frameworks	<b>HoPR</b> developed a new Parliamentary Handbook of the House which would be launched in October when the new Parliament established. The handbook will be instrumental familiarize and guide the work of the new Member of Parliaments (MPs). As part of the development of Civic Engagement Strategy, <b>HoPR</b> conducted an assessment on civic engagement and produced report & validated. Based on		

<p>participation in decision - making process.</p> <p><b>3.1.3: Number of staff awareness raising forums on participation platforms/mechanisms in decision making and political processes organized;</b></p>	<p>and/or organize awareness raising forums/platforms/mechanisms for ensuring active participation of citizens in decision making and political processes.</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.1: HoPR targeted to develop 3 strategy, guidelines &amp; handbooks, and also 1 comprehensive assessments on law making mechanisms &amp; practices, and civic engagement.</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.1: EIO planned to 3 functional &amp; effective collaborative networks/forums.</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.1: EHRC targeted for 4 platforms to be organized for expanding political &amp; civic spaces.</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.3: Planned 80 CSOs (30% working on women and vulnerable groups) to participate in platforms/forums to promote citizens participation.</p>	<p>the assessment on civic engagement, HoPR also developed the framework on civic engagement. The strategy will be developed and will be introduced in the next reporting period for facilitating active participation of the public in the work of the House.</p> <p>The development of the Gender Mainstreaming Guideline was not undertaken in the reporting period due to delay on compilation of the Gender Audit Assessment document which is prerequisite.</p> <p>The assessment on law-making mechanism &amp; capacity on gender mainstreaming was also finalized and ready for rollout.</p> <p>The achievement of the targets is 75%.</p> <p><b>EIO</b> established 2 good governance collaborative forums in two regions (Amhara and SNNPR) for strengthening collaboration of federal &amp; regional actors with <b>EIO</b> for promoting good governance and improving service delivery. In the forums organized in the two regions, 95 participants took part. EIO also conducted one consultative workshop at federal level for strengthening collaboration in the already established federal forum for promoting good governance and service delivery. 44 key actors participated in the consultative workshop. 100% of the target for establishing/ strengthening collaboration forum was achieved.</p> <p><b>EHRC</b> organized 2 platforms for expanding political and civic spaces.</p> <p>20 CSOs (of which 70% working on disability) participated in the platform/consultative forum organized to raise awareness on concerns of people with disabilities. The forum has been instrumental in motivating and inspiring the CSOs to work and advocate on the human rights issues of peoples with disability. EHRC also organized consultation forum with 60 CSOs and other key stakeholders for gathering feedback on draft Criminal Procedure and Evidence Code.</p>	<p>On target</p>	
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		<p><b>EHRC</b> organized 3 national &amp; regional dialogue sessions with 20 CSOs on election and human rights related issues; with attendance of 124 participants. The organized dialogue forums created civic space to enhance the active participation of CSOs on human rights monitoring in the general election. <b>EHRC</b> also organized 3 platforms on the rights of peoples with disability: with participation of 124 CSOs' representatives (of which 40% working on women and vulnerable groups) for promoting the rights of peoples with disability.</p> <p>The achievement of the targets is 100%.</p> <p>The overall achievement of targets for the indicators is 93%.</p>		
<b>Sub-output 3.2: Awareness of citizens on the functions of legislative bodies, executive organs and democratic institutions raised;</b>				
<p><b>Sub-output indicator:</b></p> <p><b>3.2.1:</b> Number of outlets developed and put in place for raising the awareness of citizens on the functions of IPs.</p> <p><b>3.2.2:</b> Number of citizens who are <b>aware of or familiarized with the functions</b> of legislative bodies, executive organs, and democratic institutions.</p>	<p><b>Targets:</b></p> <p>Indicator 3.2.1 and 3.2.2: The IPs such as HoPR, EIO, EHRC, FEACC, MoP, NEBE, EBA/EMA and CCI planned to develop &amp; put in place outlets and also raise awareness of citizens on the functions of legislative bodies, executive organs, and democratic institutions.</p> <p>Indicator 3.2.1: HoPR targeted to establish 1 digitized parliamentary documentation system.</p> <p>Indicator 3.2.2: EIO planned to organize 1 training session to 400 mini-</p>	<p>The establishment of 1 digitized system for documentation of parliamentary materials, documents, and tools by <b>HoPR</b> is underway. The setup of the digitized system was finalized in the reporting period. The scanning of documents, materials, and tools for inputting in the digitized system was also carried out in the reporting period for making the system functional for reaching the public through information sharing and awareness creation when the new Parliament is fully onboard.</p> <p>The achievement is 100 % of the target.</p> <p><b>EIO</b> organized consultative workshop with the officials of Education Media Centre (EMC) and raised the awareness of 65 officials/participants on EIO's mandates, access to information &amp; good governance. EIO also established 14 Ombudsman Clubs in different regions and provided awareness raising training to 350 Clubs' members and raised their awareness on access to information &amp; good governance. 5 promotional Spots on good governance and freedom of information transmitted through 10 Regional Media Centres in four</p>	<p><i>Close to target</i></p>	

	<p>media members; 5 radio spots via 4 regional channels; and 15 radio programmes.</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.2: EHRC targeted 24 awareness raising sessions/platforms on human rights related issues.</p> <p>Indicator 3.2.1: FEACC planned 3 forums on ethics, integrity &amp; anti-corruption for supporting 2 CSOs and 1 Professional Association.</p> <p>Indicator 3.2.2: MoP targeted 5 training &amp; community dialogue sessions on peace &amp; citizens engagement: with 1500 participants/community members. And also 2 awareness raising workshops to community members for enhancing participation in decision making in matters of common concerns. Support to 1 CSO to enable to engage in prevention of violence &amp; conflict.</p> <p>Indicator 3.2.1: NEBE targeted to organize 6 sessions for raising awareness of CSOs on election related issues. And also planned to transcribe and publish amended</p>	<p>different languages for raising awareness of the public on access to information, reporting/filing complaints and good governance. The promotional Spots and awareness raising sessions conducted enabled the public to file their complaints online using the toll-free line. The achievement of the targets is 95%.</p> <p><b>EHRC</b> produced and transmitted 3 programmes for raising the publics' awareness on human rights issues at the time of pre, during and post-election.</p> <p><b>FEACC</b> selected 3 CSOs for providing support and organized 4 forums with the 3 CSOs to strengthen collaboration and exert joint effort on anticorruption promotion and combating corruption at community &amp; citizens levels. 100% of the set target is achieved.</p> <p><b>MoP</b> conducted 2 rounds of national dialogues/conferences among community groups on peace. In the two rounds of national dialogue sessions around 1500 community representatives participated and committed to work on peace in their communities.</p> <p><b>MoP</b> also conducted 1 comprehensive assessment on management of ethnics, occupational &amp; other forms of diversity; and produced report. The achievement of target for raising awareness of community members on peace is 100%.</p> <p><b>NEBE</b> transcribed 1 new electoral law/proclamation into braille and also video, audio, and sign languages to reach persons with disability (sight &amp; hearing impairments). 10,000 copies in braille and 15,000 copies into video, audio and sign languages were produced and distributed. The distributed copies of the audio &amp; sign languages helped to reach over 100,000 peoples with hearing impairment with the new electoral proclamation/law for enabling them to exercise their rights for voting and participation in election.</p> <p><b>NEBE</b> also supported 13 Voter Education Providers &amp; CSOs to enable them reach around 7.4 million women,</p>	
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	<p>laws &amp; directives into braille and sign languages.</p> <p>Indicator 3.2.2: NEBE targeted to support 5 Voter Education Providers, and also 400 CSOs for consultation on election related issues. NEBE/UNWOMEN planned 1 conference for raising awareness on preventing Violence Against Women in Election (VAWE); 1 gender mapping of Political Parties for identifying gaps; and 1 platform to advocate about gender sensitiveness &amp; responsiveness of Political Parties.</p> <p>Indicator 3.2.1: EBA planned to organize 4 promotional spots &amp; 1 national platform to strengthen Media Council.</p> <p>Indicator 3.2.2: EMA targeted to raise awareness of 1000 media workers &amp; volunteers and political party members.</p> <p>Indicator 3.2.2 CCI planned to organize 2 sessions to raise awareness of 200 citizens/participants on constitutional issues.</p>	<p>disabled persons, and other vulnerable groups about their rights of voting &amp; participation in election. 3 election observation sessions organized with 3 observer CSOs.</p> <p>In the reporting period, <b>NEBE</b> &amp; <b>UNWOMEN</b> collaboratively organized 1 conference on preventing Violence Against Women in Election (VAWE) and raised the awareness of the participants on the causes and consequences of VAWE on women's participation in election. The awareness raising conference was attended by 45 participants (36 women &amp; 9 men) who represented NEBE, Political Parties, Media, and CSOs. NEBE with support from UNWOMEN undertook 1 gender mapping study of political parties. Seven sample Political Parties selected and covered by the mapping exercise. Then only 2 parties were found to have women in leadership position (1 as party leader and another 1 as deputy leader). <b>NEBE</b> &amp; <b>UNWOMEN</b> organized 1 platform to advocate for political parties to be gender sensitive &amp; responsive. Around 125 (56 women &amp; 65 men) who represented political parties were advocated to enable them gender sensitive and responsive in their political activities and appointment of members in the leadership positions.</p> <p>The achievement of the targets is 90%</p> <p><b>EMA</b> established 1 national platform on anti-hate speech and raised awareness of public representatives on the new anti-hate speech &amp; disinformation proclamation. EMA conducted onsite monitoring visit and provided technical support to 5 Community Radio/Promotion Spots. 1 national platform organized to strengthen Media Council. EMA organized 1 sensitization workshop with 80 political party representatives on fair utilization of media coverage &amp; basic code of conduct during elections. <b>EMA</b> also provided training to the staff of 10 Community Radio,</p>	
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		and School & Community Media Centres and enhanced their capacity in managing Community Radios. The achievement of the target to the indicators is 80%. <b>CCI</b> organized 1 awareness raising training to 62 women, youth and other vulnerable groups and raised their awareness on constitutional rights and need & how to exercise those rights. The achievement of target is 50%. The overall achievement of targets for the indicators is 85%.		
<b>Output 4: Systems and mechanisms for promoting social cohesion, managing diversity, preventing, and managing conflicts, fostering dialogues, and building peace are further strengthened at national, regional, and local levels;</b>				
<b>Sub-output 4.1: Systems on diversity management and social cohesions</b> developed and put in place at all levels;				
<b>Sub-output indicators</b> <b>4.1.1:</b> Number of <b>systems</b> on diversity management and social cohesion developed and put in place.  <b>4.1.3:</b> National comprehensive <b>assessment</b> on diversity management and social cohesion conducted, with emphasis on women and marginalized groups.  <b>4.1.4:</b> Number of <b>awareness raising forums</b>	<b>Targets:</b> Indicator 4.1.1, 4.1.3 and 4.1.4: The IPs such as HoF and MoP targeted to develop and put in place systems on diversity management and social cohesion at all levels. Indicator 4.1.3 HoF targeted 1 comprehensive assessment and 4 regional arrangements Indicator 4.1.4 HoF planned 1 consultative platform/forum for raising awareness Indicator 4.1.1 MoP targeted 1 capacity development plan: and 2 modules on federalism, 1 manual, 2 charters and 1	HoF conducted 1 comprehensive assessment on constitutionalism & the supremacy of law. In this reporting period, the compilation of data and drafting of report is underway. HoF also organized 1 consultative platform on the newly established administrative arrangement for South-Western Peoples of Ethiopia for soliciting inputs in drafting constitutional document. The achievement of targets is 75 percent. <b>MoP</b> developed 1 capacity development & response plan for strengthening IGR. The plan is ready for roll out. For strengthening IGR, the Ministry developed 1 manual, 1 charter, and 1 directive and made them ready for action to ensure effective function of IGR.  <b>MoP</b> conducted 1 comprehensive assessment on IGR institutional frameworks, functions, and knowledge & skills gaps and put in place for strengthening IGR. <b>MoP</b> formulated 1 national & regional IGR framework to help establishment of 2 IGR forums. Developed 1 training modules on federalism and IGR. MoP also organized 2 platforms/forums for discussing on issues of federalism	Close to target	

organized for promoting diversity and social cohesion;	<p>directive for effective functioning of IGR.</p> <p>Indicator 4.1.3</p> <p>1 comprehensive assessment</p> <p>Indicator 4.1.4</p> <p>MoP planned 4 awareness raising training session; 3 panel discussion forums; 1 high level conference with 160 participants.</p>	<p>(1 high-level conference on federalism, constitution, and IGR and 1 panel discussion session on federalism &amp; IGR). In the organized 2 forums, 180 representatives from relevant institutions and staffs of MoP participated. It also conducted 2 awareness raising &amp; capacity building training sessions (1 on inter-governmental relations and 1 on federalism &amp; IGR). 92 participants who represented federal &amp; regional IGR focal institutions and other stakeholders attended the two training sessions. The achievement of the targets is 90%.</p> <p>The overall achievement of targets for the indicators is 85%.</p>		
<b>Sub-output 4:2: Policy/strategy and platforms established/ strengthened for an effective peace architecture of conflict prevention and peace building at all levels of governance;</b>				
<p><b>Sub-output indicators:</b></p> <p><b>4.2.1:</b> National peace policies/strategies and mechanisms developed/adopted.</p> <p><b>4.2.4:</b> Number of awareness raising forums organized on conflict prevention and peace building, with specific emphasis on women and marginalized groups/minorities;</p>	<p><b>Targets:</b></p> <p>Indicator 4.2.1: HoF targeted 1 national conflict prevention &amp; peacebuilding strategy to be formulated/adopted.</p> <p>Indicator 4.2.4: MoP planned 2 national dialogues and 1 peace day event; 10 TV &amp; Radio programmes; and 1 national event.</p>	<p>HoF formulated 1 national conflict prevention &amp; peacebuilding strategy. In the reporting period, all required data collected, and analysis &amp; drafting of the strategy is underway. 85% of the target achieved in the reporting period.</p> <p>MoP conducted 2 national peace dialogues and 1 peace day event to support communities for recovery and building peace. In the sessions conducted 200 community &amp; religious leaders, women &amp; youth representatives and public officials participated. MoP also broadcasted through local media 8 radio &amp; TV programmes and raised awareness of communities on peace, social cohesiveness, and national identity. The achievement of targets is 95%.</p> <p>The overall achievement of targets for the indicators is 90%.</p>	On target	



### Sub-output 4.3: Developed/strengthened systems and mechanisms to promote national consensus and nation building at all levels;

#### Sub-outputs indicators:

**4.3.1:** Number of **peace reconciliation initiatives** organized by different social groups (women, youth, elders, etc.).

**4.3.2:** Number of **networks** with relevant stakeholders established for national consensus and nation building;

#### Target:

Indicator 4.3.1:  
MoP targeted establishment of 6 national & 10 regional dialogue forums; and 2 assessments (1 situation and another 1 public & private media).

Indicator 4.3.2:  
MoP planned to establish 6 Peace Council Networks (2 national & 4 regional); and 12 Independent Advisory Groups Networks.

**MoP** established 2 community, youth, women, elder and students' peace forums, and also provided 2 capacity building trainings to University Students' Peace Forum's members for promoting national consensus & nation building. It also established 1 national-regional network of Universities' Peace Forums in a national event which attended by 198 representatives of Universities.

**MoP** organized 5 workshops/forums for promoting peacebuilding, national consensus, and nation building (1 national workshop on peacebuilding, and 4 consultative & discussion forums with peace actors, representatives of religious institutions and also returnees & host communities). The topics discussed in the workshops/forums focused on peacebuilding & national consensus; concerns of sustainable peace building & national consensus; challenges of religious institutions and roles of religious institutions on peace building; and peaceful coexistent & social cohesion. The total of 1576 peace & religious actors and other key stakeholders participated in the workshops/forums organized.

**MoP** also conducted 3 training sessions to 300 regional community police officers & community representatives on the revised concept of community policing for enhancing skills to promote sustainable peacebuilding. The planned 2 assessments were not conducted in the reporting period.

The overall achievement of the targets is 85%

Close to target

### Output 5: Access to justice enhanced and human rights promoted and protected across Ethiopia.

The implementing partner which performed the activities to contribute to achievement of the output is: EHRC and OAG;

### Sub-output 5.1: Regulatory and procedural systems strengthened for effective access to justice and redress mechanisms;

<p><b>Sub-output indicators</b></p> <p><b>5.1.2: Number of legal frameworks and platforms established or strengthened to promote and enhance information provision on access to justice;</b></p>	<p><b>Target:</b></p> <p>Indicator 5.1.2:</p> <p>EHRC targeted to conduct 4 investigations on selected human rights violation; establish 2 platforms to promote and enhance information provision; and conduct 2 research assignments on systemic human rights issues; and.</p>	<p><b>EHRC</b> conducted 8 investigations on the complaints against denial of access to justice and violation of the rights of IDPs, women &amp; children and other vulnerable groups. The monitoring and investigations were carried out in two regions (SNNPR &amp; Amhara), and Mikahadra. The investigation reports produced and discussed then passed to the responsible bodies to take actions. The target for investigation of human rights violation is over-achieved (200%).</p> <p>The plan for establishing 2 platforms to promote/enhance information provision was not delivered in the reporting period, and target was not achieved (0%).</p> <p>The overall achievement of the targets is 70%.</p>	<p><b>Below target</b></p>	<p>The data collection for 2 research planned by EHRC couldn't be carried out because of the challenges of COVID 19 and the election campaigns</p> <p>The setting of overstated and overambitious targets during the RF preparation and also lack of critical analysis on the risks that might hamper implementation could be another factor for under achievement of the targets.</p> <p>The urgency of the need on the ground for undertaking investigation on human rights violation necessitated EHRC to prioritize investigations and led to over achievement of the set target.</p>
<p><b>Sub-output 5.2: Public and law enforcement bodies' awareness on human rights laws and regulations promoted</b></p>				

<b>Sub-output indicators</b> <b>5.2.3:</b> Number of awareness raising sessions conducted to advocate or enhance awareness and knowledge of law enforcement organs on human rights promotion.	<b>Target:</b>  Indicator 5.2.3: EHRC targeted to organize 4 human rights education sessions.  Indicator 5.2.3: OAG planned 2 awareness raising trainings (1 training on human rights-based investigation, and another 1 on prevention of violence against women & children).	<p><b>EHRC</b> organized 9 awareness raising training sessions to 449 sector officials working on women &amp; children and raised their awareness on women &amp; children rights and committed themselves to reflect issues related to women &amp; children rights in their lower-level government structure. The participants of the awareness raising sessions on human rights particularly women &amp; children were drawn from 7 regions and two city administration. The target for organizing human rights education sessions is overachieved (225%).</p> <p><b>OAG</b> conducted three training sessions and raised awareness of 423 police officers, prosecutors, regional senior officials, OAG middle level officials, and federal &amp; regional public prosecutors on prevention of violence &amp; crimes against women &amp; children; human rights-based investigation; and anti-terrorism laws &amp; crime investigation. The achievement of targets is 100%. The achievement of targets for the indicator is overachieved (200%);</p>	<div></div> <p>Over target</p>	<p>The training of trainer organized earlier on human rights education helped to increase the number of trainers to conduct the awareness raising sessions. In addition, the extra effort made by the Commission are the factors for the over-achievement of the set target.</p>
<b>Sub-output 5.3: Established/strengthened mechanisms for monitoring, compiling, and reporting of human rights protection and violation;</b>				
<b>Sub-output indicators: 5.3.1:</b> Number of mechanisms established or strengthened for monitoring, compiling, and reporting of human rights	<b>Targets:</b>  Indicator 5.3.1: EHRC targeted assessing effectiveness of 1 mechanism/case-flow management and establishing 1 electronic case-flow management mechanism/system; and 4 monitoring/assessments on human rights situation.	<p><b>EHRC</b> initiated assessment of the existing case-flow management &amp; complaint handling mechanism for identifying gaps on systems' effectiveness, gender responsiveness &amp; child friendless. The achievement on conducting the assessment and producing report is below target as it was initial stage of recruitment of Consultants and internal discussion.</p> <p><b>EHRC</b> conducted 8 monitoring/assessments on various human rights situation of women, youth, IDPs and other vulnerable groups. The Commission compiled/produced the reports of its 8 assessments and validated and disseminated the findings and recommendations to relevant stakeholders at federal and regional levels.</p>	<div></div>	<p>The setting of overstated and overambitious targets during the RF preparation and also lack of critical analysis on the risks that might hamper implementation could be another factor for under achievement of the targets. However, as part of the South-South collaboration the EHRC undertook as visit to the Kenya Human Rights Commission to examine their case management system. That study tour was delayed given the COVID travel restrictions. As a result of that study tour a fast-track</p>

<p>protection and violations.</p> <p><b>5.3.3:</b> Number of stakeholders participated in <b>familiarizing forums organized</b> on the mechanisms for reporting of human rights protection and violations;</p>	<p>Indicator 5.3.1 OAG planned 2 consultations and launching sessions on National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP)</p> <p>Indicator 5.3.2: OAG targeted 2 consultation sessions (CSOs engagement); and 11 training sessions (for awareness raising on the NHRAP); and 25 media programmes on human rights issues; and 1 Communication Strategy</p>	<p>3 monitoring/assessments focused on human rights issues of women, children, and other groups. The focus areas of the three assessments were on such as 1 on status of prevention of and response to Gender Based Violence (GBV)/Violence Against Women &amp; Children (VAWC) in selected institutions; 1 on the impact of COVID 19 on the prevention and response to GBV and Harmful Traditional Practices (HTP) in the seven regions and Addis Ababa City; and another 1 monitoring of rehabilitation centres for children in conflict with law.</p> <p><b>EHRC</b> also monitored 2 prisons and detention centres and consultation of findings and recommendations conducted in in Amhara and Gambella regions.</p> <p>Two monitoring/assessments of human rights situation of Internally Displaced Peoples (IDPs) in Shire (Tigray region) and Metekel (Benishangul and Gumuz region). One monitoring/assessment of human rights situation of Peoples with Disability (PWD ) &amp; elders living in Jijiga, Harar &amp; Dire Dawa.</p> <p>The achievement of target for monitoring/assessment is overachieved (200%).</p> <p><b>OAG</b> conducted three consultative sessions with different categories of stakeholders, which comprised CSOs, federal &amp; regional officials, higher education institutions and other key actors, on the draft 3<sup>rd</sup> NHRAP. In the three consultation sessions around 247 representatives of key stakeholders participated and provided inputs.</p> <p><b>OAG</b> also developed the 3<sup>rd</sup> NHRAP with inputs solicited in the three consultations sessions conducted on the draft document.</p> <p><b>OAG</b> with MoP jointly conducted monitoring of human rights situation in 28 police and 11 prison centres and carried out consultation on the findings.</p> <p><b>OAG</b> couldn't deliver targets for conducting 11 awareness raising training sessions on NHRAP; 25 media</p>	<p><b>Below target</b></p>	<p>procurement process is underway to ensure a new IT based case management system will be in place by the end of 2021.</p> <p>The urgency of the need on the ground for undertaking monitoring/assessments of human rights situation of IPDs and other vulnerable groups necessitated EHRC to prioritize monitoring/assessment of human rights situation and led to over achievement of the set target.</p>
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		<p>programmes on human rights issues; and development of 1 Communication Strategy.</p> <p>The achievement of targets is under achieved (40%).</p> <p>The overall achievement of targets for the indicators are 70%</p>		
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## 5. IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

Despite the many very positive developments in the political arena and significant changes/reform initiatives that have been observed in the Ethiopian political landscape since 2018, many of which have had a direct impact on governance dynamics, the oversight functions and role of democratic institutions have been impaired in 2020/21 to deliver the transformational activity towards enhancing the democratization process in the country. The reasons include the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic but the Law Enforcement Operation in Tigray Region that commenced in November 2020 has seen a deterioration in the security situation with emerging conflicts in many parts of the country.

Thus 2020/21 was marked with critical challenges and setbacks that adversely affected and slow down the GDPP intervention/activities to achieve its intended results as expected. These include.

- (a) The **political and security situation of the country**, notably the ongoing military conflict that erupted in the Northern part of the country has resulted in significant impediments in the implementation and timely completion of programme deliverables. The escalating security and instability situation of the country has overshadowed the governance and democratization agenda initiated by the Government. It has also negatively impacted some of the consultancy assignments in which consultants were forced to reschedule and postpone their plans for data collection from the regions and consultations several times. There has been evidence in some IPs but largely observed in FEACC's intervention while undertaking the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Corruption Perception Survey and formulation of the Anti-corruption Policy and Strategy, that took far longer to be finalized. Due to the ongoing conflicts witnessed in most parts of the country, many Implementing Partners with Regional branch offices had serious challenges to reach out their local counterparts and provide the required support. Besides, the limited resources /funding has become more difficult because despite the strong interest by IPs to support the sub-national counterparts through GDPP funds there were limited funds as the programme entered its final phase.
- (b) The **COVID-19 pandemic** remained a critical challenge for most IPs that impaired their ability to work effectively and implement the programme interventions. The pandemic and the subsequent measures put in place by the Government to mitigate the spread and impact of the virus made it difficult to ensure timely and effective completion of planned activities. For instance, in FEACC it delayed the preparation and data collection of the survey and policy development and the consultants were forced to reschedule their plans several times. The COVID-19 pandemic has also resulted in major changes across the public service as many staff were forced to work remotely and forced to grapple with poor connectivity and power outages.
- (c) **Procurement related issues** both for service and goods purchases were challenging for some implementing partners. For instance, in the case of the HoPR who committed to a digitization project UNDP used its global procurement services to obtain best value for money equipment. However, the pandemic severely disrupted the supply chains which in non-COVID times would have seen a swift delivery, installation, and a good level of customer satisfaction. The restrictions on air freight and customs clearance delays all had a direct impact on the procurement process. This was further compounded by the HoPR changed the governmental intelligent client supplier

which delayed the formalization and confirmation of the technical specification. But at the time of this report the equipment has been delivered, installed, user training provided, and maintenance contract put in place. On the other hand, some IPs like EHRC and OFAG faced serious challenges while using **IFMIS a centrally controlled procurement processing system** run by the Ministry of Finance. The complicated nature of the system and the frequent system failures have been major obstacles in getting procurement needs addressed in a timely manner. It is noted that the processing of procurement requests by IPs using the GoE Public Procurement Regulations remains slow with IPs preferring to request that UNDP undertakes most procurement.

- (d) **Mobilizing the top leadership** of the Institution in support of the programme as observed in prior Progress Reports remains a key challenge in a number of the IPs. As remarked in some of the progress reports, the Programme witnesses' delays and faces serious implementation hurdles when the top leadership does not provide the requisite strategic guidance and takes decisions in time. This is heavily impacting all the programmatic cycle (planning, implementation, impact/results).
- (e) **The horizontal, vertical collaboration and synergies** within the Implementing Partners towards executing a transformational initiatives/reforms were often lacking as interventions proposed for inclusion in the Workplans were not transformative and tended to be activity driven. The Programme team investigated the reason for these challenges and some IPs opined the fact that there was a lack of internal coordination among the various IP directorates about the approach of GDPP. This was particularly in the case of the lack of coordination between the internal IP finance and procurement directorates which resulted in delayed programme delivery for example delays in processing smooth and speedy procurement orders including hotel services and delays in making payments for goods/services.
- (f) The **general (pre-and post) election process** of the country has contributed a delays in the timely implementation of programme activities for most IPs. It was especially difficult in organizing validation workshops, consultative meetings and field visits since most Government officials were on election-related assignments. In addition, the political tensions pertaining to Political Parties' contestation also diverted attention of programme stakeholders from active engagement. National political insecurities and social instability has also been critical challenges adversely impacting full commitment and implementation of the agreed AWP during the reporting period.
- (g) **Poor quality Result Based Reporting** of most IPs has been a regular feature during the reporting period. This is despite prior investments where UNDP and the MoF provided tailored based training about RBM to the IP staff using a user-friendly result reporting template to capture the impact of interventions. This challenge means that documenting results is very poor as the reports are all focused on reporting on activities. This is a significant area of weakness as it undermines the ability of the Programme to demonstrate that the support provided has achieved tangible results that can be reported to relevant stakeholders.
- (h) **A considerable delay** has been recorded in some IPs during the reporting period vis-à-vis programme delivery (implementing activities against the agreed timeline of the work plan), timely utilization/liiquidation of advanced funds and timely submission of reports.

## 6. LESSONS LEARNED

It is worth mentioning that democratization process and transformational changes in governance takes time, patience, flexibility/adaptability to exploit opportunities that may be presented during implemented. That requires the concerted efforts of various actors and stakeholders to realize concrete results on the ground. The Government is committed to tackling new approaches to institutional development to support the reform agenda as articulated in the 10 Key Principles which GDPP seeks to mirror in all its approach to capacity development. Ultimately GDPP seeks to provide the support to the democratic institutions so that they are better able to meet the needs of the people. As GDPP has been supporting 11 key democratic institutions and a Ministry the last four and half years towards enhancing their institutional capacity and supporting the ongoing reform initiatives the following are the key lessons learnt during the reporting period.

- (a) Despite the challenges the Programme has made some progress and achieved results that contributed to the democratization process. However, there is still much work to be done in terms of **institutionalization of systems and mechanisms** to further enhance the democratization process and good governance in the country. There is in fact a consensus built in acknowledging the role of oversight institutions, but a robust effort needs to be made by the Federal Institutions to using very practical steps to enable the impacts of GDPP support to be cascaded and replicated to the sub-national levels since this is the point where the citizens interact directly with democratic practices and principles.
- (b) The risk log and mitigation measures that have been identified and developed during the planning process of the programme has contributed in some way to minimize the shortcomings and risk of slowdown of some activities and programme delivery. But in the fluid political environment in the country during the reporting period which is unlikely to be reduced in the short term then the impact of political insecurity/instability in the country will need to feature more prominently in the risk logs with appropriate mitigation measures put in place to reflect changes in the country.
- (c) The Programme structures such as PMB has been an important platform for the success of the programme and has contributed a lot in making high-level policy decisions. However here is a disconnect between the strategic and more operational management of the Programme. These governance mechanisms are important to ensure that the Programme stays on course, can ensure that a platform is in place to tackle issues associated with implementation which can then be referred to the strategic level for review/endorsement of the technical committee recommendations. This fosters ownership and accountability at both levels. GDPP has observed that within individual IPs such as FEACC having these type of mechanisms helps tackle programmatic management of individual interventions and fosters ownership at the technical and strategic levels.
- (d) Ownership and commitment of top government leadership are essential to effectively implement programme activities and achieve expected results. The programme execution modality that allows IPs to identify their own priorities, devise their own plans, design their own activities, and manage the use of funds has created strong national ownership. However, despite these positives, the pace

of programme delivery has been affected by lengthy government bureaucratic systems/processes. It has also been observed in some IPs that the lack of responsibility to set policy and provide clarity/make decisions has resulted in senior officials being reluctant to provide necessary guidance, thus delaying implementation of agreed programme activities. Notably, some IPs interventions focused on peripheral and routine activities rather than transformational initiatives designed to have longer lasting and more meaningful impacts/results.

- (e) A timely decision/approval by higher officials /signatories/ of IPs in approving of Term of Reference, procurements, physical and financial reports are instrumental to ensure speedy programme delivery, and this needs real improvement. This needs the IP Senior leaderships attention.
- (f) Despite some efforts very good examples of IPs working to enhance the participation of civil society organizations in the programme implementation there remains a reluctance to wholeheartedly embrace the very important role that civil society should play in a modern democracy. The enabling environment created by the repeal of what was considered was a repressive CSO Proclamation provides the chance for meaningful CSO engagement. Civil Society can be a good source of independent research and information for democratic institutions. Civil Society and the role they can play in programme implementation helps support greater transparency, accountability, and empowering citizens in the public decision-making process.
- (g) Engaging relevant the IP directorates and staff at various stages of the programme (planning, implementation, M&E) is crucial to enhance ownership, accountability, and sustainability of the programme interventions. A participatory and all-inclusive approach to the implementation of the interventions positively contributed to the success of the programme.
- (h) To ensure timely implementation of the AWP, virtual meetings has been an effective instrument of communication. In certain situations where virtual meeting are not appropriate for various reasons (connectivity and availability) other methods of communication were applied apart from telecommuting: Organizing small meeting platforms of critical focal persons and arranging interpersonal meetings. This has been a case in some IPs, for instance, HoF, FEACC. The methods ensured business continuity and the ability to adopt to and manage the COVID-19 complexities including contextual political insecurities and related social instabilities.
- (i) GDPP team has significantly contributed to the outputs through regular virtual follow up and monitoring of the project execution. This support and technical backstopping have shaped the course of effective implementation of GDPP programme at the IP levels. Besides, the team has routinely visited IPs as part of on-spot check, monitoring, and technical support for effective and efficient implementation of the AWP. This targeted GDPP support has made a significant contribution to help support the IPs to be able to adapt to changing contexts and speed up programme implementation amid the range of political, security, instability uncertainties and complexities.
- (j) The comprehensive national assessment undertaken by HoPR on the gaps and challenges of existing legislation in addressing violence against women and children provided a good opportunity for various stakeholders to work jointly, that creates a room for share of ideas and experiences. As members of the team are from various Institutions with a diversified mandate, such

inputs helped to enrich the document with a broader plurality of voices all with the common objective of reducing violence against women and children.

- (k) The use of alternative training modalities (in county training) deployed by OAG has enabled to train and certified 40 prosecutors in asset valuation and forensic accountants, which otherwise only four prosecutors could be certified if the training had been delivered overseas. This could be regarded as best practices and a home-grown solution to ensure sustainability of the GDPP interventions. .

## 7. CONCLUSIONS AND WAY FORWARD

Since the country is going through a wider political and administrative reform/change, greater focus and substantial investment remains necessary to continue to support the work to improve transparency, inclusivity, and accountability. The importance of taking proactive steps to be able to tap into the citizen's voices and demands which in turn will help to inform public policymaking will also help ensure that no one is left behind as Ethiopia strives towards the realization of ambition of attaining lower Middle Income Status by 2025. This will also ensure that the democratic reforms are people centered.

During the reporting period, GDPP continued to provide a range of high-quality technical assistance to government partners with the aim of solidifying the democratic gains and advancing the public policy reforms. Despite a challenging political context, Implementing Partners both at Federal and to a lesser extent also sub-national levels recorded notable advancement on issues related to democratization, human rights, participation, and accountability social cohesion. Nonetheless, there is still a need for IPs to focus more on their core functions and mandates towards creating an institutional framework for greater public participation in public policy formulation and resulting decisions, increased accountability of state institutions, using the information gathered through the increasing use by the public of the toll free call lines to influence changes in existing policies or laws if the citizens who are the ultimate beneficiaries of democracy believe that the policies are not working> Through greater transparency about what democracy means at an individual level helps to strengthen and deepen the democracy dividend and helps to foster greater social cohesion which ultimately will see the fruition of the transformational democratization agenda with improvements in the quality of life for all citizens in Ethiopia.



## Summary of Budget Allocation Per IP & Output<sup>8</sup>

**31 July 2017 - 30 Oct. 2021**

DESCRIPTION	IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS												
	CCI	EHRC	EIO	FEACC	EBA/EMA	HoF	HoPR	MoP	NEBE	OAG	OFAG	UNDP	Total
<b>Output</b>	<b>3 &amp; 4</b>	<b>1,2 &amp; 5</b>	<b>1, 2 &amp; 3</b>	<b>1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>1 &amp; 3</b>	<b>1 &amp; 4</b>	<b>1 &amp; 3</b>	<b>1 &amp; 4</b>	<b>1 &amp; 3</b>	<b>1,2 &amp; 5</b>	<b>1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>6</b>	
Budget Per AWP Allocation	932.772	2.019.084	1.215.897	1.948.509	1.274.567	1.416.754	2.378.540	2.251.897	1.776.432	1.770.654	1.050.087	3.645.691	21.680.884
Disbursement	824.359	1.807.654	1.115.891	1.739.625	1.169.043	1.342.372	2.263.347	2.140.781	1.656.595	1.533.411	814.178	3.527.884	20.485.237
Residual Balance	108.413	211.430	100.007	208.884	105.524	74.382	115.193	111.116	119.837	237.243	235.909	117.807	1.195.647
% age of Delivery	88%	90%	92%	89%	92%	95%	95%	95%	93%	87%	78%	97%	94%

**N.B.** - Outstanding Advance (\$578,080) + Commitments (\$379,909) will be included in the exp. at the end of the year .

<sup>8</sup> In USD

**Total Contribution Per Donor**  
**July 2017 - Dec. 2021**

Donor	Contribution					Total
	July - Dec. 2017	Jan.-Dec. 2018	Jan. - Dec. 2019	Jan. - Dec. 2020	Jan. - Dec. 2021	
SIDA***	\$ 3.352.892	\$ 581.328,00	\$ 3.118.613,00	\$ 518.188,00	\$ 1.908.856,00	\$ 9.479.877,00
Austria	\$ 296.209	\$ 284.414,00	\$ 555.556,00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1.136.179,00
Denmark	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1.066.667,00	\$ 1.074.755,00	\$ 965.065,00	\$ 3.106.487,00
Norway	\$ -	\$ 702.494,00	\$ 939.519,00	\$ 867.397,00	\$ 946.410,00	\$ 3.455.820,00
UNDP	\$ 2.087.521	\$ 1.205.000,00	\$ 600.000,00	\$ 510.000,00	\$ 100.000,00	\$ 4.502.521,00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 5.736.622</b>	<b>\$ 2.773.236,00</b>	<b>\$ 6.280.355,00</b>	<b>\$ 2.970.340,00</b>	<b>\$ 3.920.331,00</b>	<b>\$ 21.680.884,00</b>

## Governance and Democratic Participation Programme (GDPP)

### Allocation Vs. Expenditure Per Output

**July 1,2017 - Oct. 30, 2021**

Output	As per Project Document			July 2017 - Dec. 2021		% age of Utilization Per Output
	Output	IPs		Allocation Per Output	Expenditure Per output	
Output 1:	Political processes of federal and regional state legislative bodies are inclusive and effectively delivering on their constitutional mandates	EIO/EHRC/HoF/NEBE/OFAG/HoPR/FEACC/OAG/EBA		6.638.100	6.529.905	98%
Output 2:	Federal and regional state systems of governance are more accountable, transparent and are delivering services in more inclusive and responsive ways	EIO/EHRC/OFAG/NEBE/FEACC/OAG		2.918.889	2.847.060	98%
Output 3:	Citizens are empowered to actively participate in decision-making and political processes at all levels of governance	EIO/NEBE/HoPR/FEACC/CCI/ EBA		3.193.500	2.495.917	78%
Output 4:	Systems and mechanisms for promoting social cohesion, managing diversity, preventing and managing conflicts, fostering dialogues and building peace are strengthened at national, regional, and local levels	MoP/CCI/HoF		4.015.250	3.904.210	97%
Output 5:	Access to justice enhanced and human rights promoted and protected across the Ethiopian society	EHRC/OAG/EBA		2.270.500	2.111.610	93%
Output 6***:	Project is Managed and Delivered Efficiently and Effectively	UNDP		2.644.645	2.597.017	98%
	<b>Total</b>			<b>21.680.884</b>	<b>20.485.720</b>	<b>94%</b>

**N.B.:** This report is prepared until 30 Oct. 2021. Therefore, subject to change when all outstanding amounts are settled in Dec. 2021.

Pls. note that commitments for procurement of services/goods, outstanding advances are GMS+DPC not included in the expenditure