



# MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND

Newsletter Q3 2019

Dear Partners,



On behalf of the UN in Somalia, I am pleased to share with you the third quarterly newsletter of 2019 for the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund (UN-MPTF) for Somalia.

I have recently returned to Somalia as the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator. I see the tremendous strides this country has made in its peacebuilding and State-building endeavours and want to ensure that the UN continues to support these efforts.

The third quarter saw several important events that will contribute to the country's vision for its future development. The Federal Government of Somalia and its international partners endorsed a Mutual Accountability Framework at October's Somalia Partnership Forum. These shared objectives will ensure that Somalia continues its upward trajectory across the humanitarian, development and peacebuilding nexus. The UN is about to embark on the development of a new UN Cooperation Framework (UNCF) to replace our current UN Strategic Framework (UNSF) which will help the UN better align its collective support to the ninth National Development Plan (2020-2024).

The UN-MPTF remains an effective mechanism for delivering results and sustaining progress in Somalia and will be a driver of collective UN implementation and coherence under NDP 9 and the new UNCF. Next week, the Steering Committee of the Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility will review joint programme proposals in several critical areas, including electoral security, durable solutions for protracted displacement, economic development and peacebuilding.

I reaffirm the UN's commitment to support Somalia and wish to express my sincere appreciation for the generosity of our donor partners and I look forward to being part of this multifaceted endeavour.

Sincerely,

**Adam Abdelmoula**

*Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General,  
Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia*

## UN MPTF OVERVIEW

- 18 Active Joint Programmes
- 12 Donor Partners
- \$390m Commitments
- \$337m Deposits

## FUND CAPITALIZATION

-  Denmark: USD 41.8 m
-  European Union: USD 76.2 m
-  Finland: USD 9.2 m
-  Germany: USD 24.7 m
-  Italy: USD 19.6 m
-  Netherlands: USD 11.5 m
-  Norway: USD 39.9 m
-  Government of Somalia: USD 3.3 m
-  Sweden: USD 90.4 m
-  Switzerland: USD 25.4 m
-  United Kingdom: USD 36.6 m
-  USAID: USD 2 m
-  UN Peacebuilding Fund: USD 8.6 m

## RECONCILIATION & FEDERALISM

From 5 to 16 September, Galmudug Reconciliation Conference was held in Dhusamareb that brought together high-level officials from the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and Galmudug, including the President of Somalia, H.E. Mr. Mohamed Abudllahi Farmajo, President of Galmudug State, H.E. Mr. Ahmed Du'ale, Federal Minister of Interior, Federal Minister of Internal Security, Members of Federal Parliament and clan elders, as well as 720 other delegates from all districts and clans of Galmudug. The conference provided a common platform to all the clans of Galmudug in order to identify root causes of conflicts and to offer possible solutions to resolve the recurring political and social conflicts in Galmudug and to create a peace dialogue that will lead to the establishment of an inclusive Galmudug administration. As a result, Galmudug clans agreed to maintain peace and work together while the reconciliation process moves forward.

In August, the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Democratization with the support of the project held the first reconciliation conference in Qardho, Puntland State, aimed to reconcile two clans who have engaged in several conflicts in the Karkaar region. With the help of the governor of the Qardho district, the conference ended in a positive manner. The elders of the two clans reached an agreement to convene in future to address outstanding issues and committed to implement and convey to their communities what they have learnt during the workshop, and to begin the healing process in their communities. The conference produced a communique that was presented during the workshop in which clan elders showed their commitment to end conflicts and to resume an amenable relationship.

From 26-29 September, the Ministry of Constitution and Federal Affairs of Jubaland State conducted a local reconciliation workshop for civil society organisations (CSOs), university students and ministry staff in Kismayo. The participants committed to continue working on local reconciliation in villages, districts and regions of Jubaland State.

## CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Following the completion of the review of the provisional constitutional chapters 6-15, the constitutional review bodies (Ministry of Constitutional Affairs (MoCA), Independent Constitutional Review and Implementation Commission (ICRIC) and the Oversight Committee (OC)) began public consultations with different groups including women, youth, CSOs, religious repre-

sentatives, as well as key relevant institutions at the Federal and Federal Member State (FMS) levels.

The Fourth Forum of Parliamentary Oversight Committees on Constitution Review and Implementation was held in Garowe which discussed the proposed amendments of Chapters 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15 of the Provisional Federal Constitution. The Forum reiterated its call for the Federal Government and FMS to accelerate political dialogue and to reach political agreement to prevent further delay in the completion of the constitutional review process.

A joint retreat of the constitutional review bodies was held from 15-17 September which provided an opportunity for the three mandated institutions to develop a detailed workplan towards the adoption of the constitution.

## PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT

The ad hoc committee on the electoral law has conducted consultations in Southwest, Puntland and Hirshabelle States, during which they met with state presidents, CSOs, parliamentary committees and other relevant institutions. The committee is also planning to conduct a similar consultation in Galmudug.

The Budget and Finance Committee of the House of the People conducted consultations on the Revenue Management Bill in Southwest State and Puntland State.

On 14-15 August, the Project facilitated in Mogadishu a two-day training on the role of parliaments in promoting good governance and federalism for 45 members of parliament (MPs) of Hirshabelle State House of Representatives. The purpose of the workshop was to equip MPs with skills they need to promote transparency, accountability, peaceful citizenry and good governance through their legislative, representative, oversight and conflict resolution functions, thereby making Hirshabelle State responsive to the present and future needs of its people.

## WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION, LEADERSHIP & EMPOWERMENT

Twelve Somali women parliamentarians have attended a UNDP supported leadership training in Addis Ababa in July, as part of UN initiative to support gender equality and women's political participation in Somalia. The female MPs who took part came from the House of the People of the Federal Parliament of Somalia, and the Upper House, or Senate.

The training aimed to increase the MPs' skills in advocating for gender equality and the rights of women and girls, and in taking more prominent leadership roles in decision making in government. It also looked at how to strategically address the underlying social causes of gender inequalities and to identify initiatives for positive change. Those taking part were also trained to carry out the same training for other female members of parliament and women leaders in Somalia.

Senator Shukri Aden, of the Upper House of the Somali Federal Parliament, said training on leadership was vital for women. "These trainings are key in that they help us to forge strategic alliances and to create a platform for women leaders, so that we can work together to advance gender equality and women's empowerment in Somalia."

Somalia's Gender Inequality Index remains one of the highest in the world, at 0.777, with a maximum of 1 denoting complete inequality, placing Somalia at the fourth-highest position globally for gender inequality. Lack of access to education, gender-based violence, high maternal mortality, female genital mutilation, high numbers of women becoming internally displaced, and high percentage of child marriage are some of the obstacles that contribute to inequality and which create obstacles for women in equally participating in public and political life.

However, women's representation in politics in Somalia has been increasing in recent elections, following the acceptance of a 30 percent quota for women's representation in parliament at federal and federal member state level. The quota, which was won through sustained advocacy by Somali women's groups with UN and international support, paved the way for women to then win 25 percent of seats in parliament in the 2016 federal electoral process. In 2019, Somali women also developed a Women's Charter, which calls for fifty percent representation in political and socio-economic arenas.

Hon. Nouria Isse, an MP of the House of the People of the Federal Parliament, said that she is committed to using the knowledge she gained to train other female members of the parliament at both federal and federal state level. "Because of this training, we now have in house leadership experts who can train a larger number of women parliamentarians, parliamentary committees and federal member states assemblies," she said.

## ELECTORAL SUPPORT

The National Federal Parliament established an ad-hoc Com-

mittee on 20 July to review the draft electoral law and to report back to Parliament within sixty days. During August, the Committee held consultations with the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) and the UN's Integrated Electoral Support Group (IESG), as well as with CSOs, media and political parties. NIEC and IESG emphasized the need to revise the draft electoral law and provided technical recommendations to give the NIEC the necessary flexibility to conduct elections in the most efficient and cost-effective manner. IESG is working closely with the NIEC to advocate with the ad-hoc Committee to focus on specific articles that require revisions. The Committee also conducted consultations with electoral stakeholders in South West State, Puntland and Banadir. The Committee extended its workplan from the end of September to mid-October when it is due to submit its report to the Parliament. The adoption of the electoral law is essential for NIEC to plan for the start of voter registration in early 2020 to meet the timeline outlined in the government's inclusive politics road map. The draft bill would be the country's first electoral law in over fifty years and includes provisions that have significant electoral operational implications. The draft bill currently includes a provision for a minimum quota of 30 per cent for women parliamentarians.

The NIEC, with IESG assistance, continued to work on refining the list of recently identified potential voter registration sites for Banadir, South West State, Hirshabelle and Galmadug. When finalized, the list will be submitted to the NIEC Board of Commissioners for approval.

On 18 September, the Minister of Internal Security appointed the 16-member National Electoral Security Task Force which will be chaired by the Police Commissioner. IESG's Senior Electoral Security Adviser will represent UNSOM on the Task Force. A coherent and integrated security coordination mechanism which includes key security actors from the FGS, FMSs, the NIEC and AMISOM will lead security planning and coordination for voter registration and other electoral activities across the country.

On 20 August, the NIEC held a workshop on women's political participation in Mogadishu. The workshop was attended by women from CSOs, political parties and women parliamentarians from both Houses of the Federal Parliament. The workshop aimed to inform women on their role in the electoral process and politics. NIEC Chair and Commissioner called upon the participants to actively participate in the political and electoral processes as the country gears up for universal suffrage elections in 2020.

## UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMME

With the support of the programme, the Federal Republic of Somalia launched the development of the first-ever statistical law for the country to ensure the collection, analysis and dissemination of accurate data to inform development programmes. UNFPA supported the members of the parliamentary budget, finance and planning committee in carrying out consultations starting 14 July with Rwandan members of parliament and statistical experts to come out with a draft law to be presented to the parliament before the end of the year.

Fifty-five young people from across Somalia made commitments to run for political positions and support each other informally to contribute to the country's peace building efforts and development. The group met in Mogadishu in July and agreed on reviving the youth caucus in the Somali Federal Parliament by establishing a mentorship network for young women and strengthening advocacy capacity of youth-led organisations.

## AID MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION

During the third quarter, government and development partners have joined efforts to organize the Somalia Partnership Forum (SPF), the highest-level aid coordination body for inclusive, strategic political dialogue in the country, which took place on 1-2 October in Mogadishu. The forum aimed at facilitating linkages between the political process, security needs, human rights protection and development activities through an integrated approach. An SPF Secretariat composed of different workstreams was established to undertake content development, communication, logistics, security and protocol issues.

Consensus has been reached on must-not-fail priorities for 2019 and 2020, the SPF Communique was drafted and agreed upon with the international community, and three side events to the forum (Strategic Water Management, breakfast event on Debt Relief, and a lunch between the EU Heads of Delegation and the Prime Minister) were held. The Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF) was affirmed as the key tool to orient policy discussions in the SPF and to measure effectiveness of the partnership between the government and development partners.

The 2020 MAF for Somalia provides a scorecard for light-touch monitoring of a limited set of high-level commitments - both for government and international partners - to be achieved between October 2019 and December 2020 in the five thematic areas of Inclusive Politics, Security and Justice, Economic De-

velopment, Social Development, and strengthening Partnership Principles. The MAF serves to complement the more detailed monitoring frameworks of the government roadmaps and the National Development Plan (NDP9). The MAF was fully agreed upon and endorsed at the SPF.

## JOINT PROGRAMME ON LOCAL GOVERNANCE

The Municipality of Hargeisa, the Ministry of Public Works and the Government of Somaliland, in partnership with UN-Habitat and UNICEF – as part of the UN Joint Programme on Local Governance (JPLG), launched the Hargeisa Urban Visioning Week, held from 1-5 September. Under the #ChildFriendlyCity initiative, for the first time, children were invited to participate and provide their views and opinions on how they envision their future city. On 31 August and 1 September, a group of 47 children and young people discussed what they like and dislike about their city, as an important contribution to the Urban Vision Week. Participatory tools such as “likes/dislikes, risk mapping, prioritization, visioning, body mapping” were used to engage the children.

The Municipality of Mogadishu laid the foundation stone for two main markets (Karan and Hamarweyne) and one primary school (Deynile) in three districts in Mogadishu. The Karan community market in Mogadishu was completely destroyed during the civil conflict in Mogadishu and its rehabilitation will benefit three neighbouring districts of Abdiqiz, Shibus and Yaqshid.

On 19 August, the Puntland Minister of Public Works, Housing and Transport and the Mayor of Garowe launched a new phase for the implementation of the Garowe Spatial Strategic Plan. The Ministry set up a two-month implementation plan for the opening of new roads to the city surroundings to cope with the highly urbanising city of Garowe.

## YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SOMALIA (YES)

The first National Employment Forum led by the Government of Somalia took place in Garowe in July. The event, led by government departments responsible for setting employment policy and managing employment programmes, will be cascaded to other stakeholders from civil and non-governmental organisations in 2020 so it can become an inclusive platform for resolving the unemployment crisis in Somalia.

A delegation from the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, all FMS and Benadir Regional Administration participated

in the event which highlighted job creation as a national priority, broadened job creation projects which extended to all parts of Somalia, addressed skills gaps through TVET interventions, and resulted in the creation of a National Employment Council and an FGS/FMS coalition to lead on employment policy implementation and programming in Somalia.

Ten fish processing centres have been constructed and equipped in Bosaso, Berbera and Kismayo. Vulnerable communities, such as Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), most of whom are women, have benefited by taking ownership of the facilities and creating sustainable businesses. Twenty-four groups comprised of five persons each are now self-employed and have received fully functional dry-fish-centres with solar power capabilities and waste processing units. The beneficiaries have acquired skills in fish processing and entrepreneurship, along with basic literacy and maths. They also benefited from business development services and grants to set up and manage the Centres.

## SUSTAINABLE CHARCOAL REDUCTION AND ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS

In preparation for the upcoming charcoal monitoring field survey, the project supported training of staff of implementing partners on field survey methodology including data collection and analysis. The survey was to take place in Jubaland in October and is expected to generate detailed information on charcoal production in three districts (Kismayo, Afmadow and Badhaadhe).

In September, as part of the Programme's support to alternative energy solutions for charcoal use, the Puntland Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Climate Change distributed 150 sets of liquified petroleum gas cylinders (LPGs) to over 150 households (95% women headed households) of IDP and host communities.

Demonstrating sustainable LPG use will result in less pollution and dangerous emissions in homes and in the environment, which can disproportionately affect women, boys and girls. Women headed households were targeted to increase the uptake of LPG amongst urban populations, as women often manage day-to-day household living, are often key distributors of charcoal in the marketplace, and can be key influencers in the community in promoting clean energy and alternative livelihoods.

Speaking at the handing over ceremony, H.E. Mr. Abdirashid Elmi Gelle, Puntland State Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Climate Change, appreciated the project support and underscored that his ministry is committed to sustainable natural resource management and project support transitioning to alternative energy options to charcoal use, and that "there's an urgent need for Puntland Government to adopt charcoal policy to conserve remaining trees and other valuable biodiversity." He also said that "an additional 250 sets of LPGs and more than 2000 energy efficient cooking stoves have been procured by the Ministry with the support of the programme, and planned for distribution in the fourth quarter of 2019." The new energy efficient cooking stoves will burn 50% less charcoal than traditional cooking stoves, which will help to reduce demand for charcoal in the long term.

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