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Access To Justice Project

PROJECT:
Access To Justice Project

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Governance and Rule of Law

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CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

FEDERAL LEVEL

The reform agenda advocated in Q1 by the new Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (MoJC) was demonstrated in Q2 founded on the priority of delivery of services to Somali people. MoJC undertook significant strategic level engagements and directions, provided clear leadership of the PSG 3 Justice Working Group (WG) and progressed with initiatives to strengthen the capacity of the MoJC, which was further enhanced with the appointment of Permanent Secretary, Mr Hussein Qassim Yusuf. Implementation of Compact PSG 3 priorities has commenced. Utilizing a sector (police, justice and corrections) approach PSG 3 WG has identified the Somali Rule of Law Programme Priorities to inform programming of support and also to be utilized for resource mobilization to the sector under the Compact framework. The UN 'one door' approach is facilitating responsiveness to key stakeholders with the UN Integrated Team capitalizing on synergies

PUNTLAND

Q2 saw continued UN engagement with the new administration in Puntland through the Minister of Justice on the re-establishment of the Office of Human Rights Defender. The President and all senior officials consulted signaled strong support and have requested the UN to assist with the technical processes as well as facilitate the financial resources to establish a functioning office by Q4. Q2 saw a deterioration of the security situation in Puntland though implementing partners have demonstrated resilience and overall implementation continues as planned. Discussions continued in Q2 in relation to the Puntland rule of law priorities identified in the government second five- year development plan 2014-2018 and the Puntland Priorities and the links to the Compact PSG 3 Justice WG processes and future UN programming under the Compact framework.

SOMALILAND

The Ministry of Justice continued exercising its leadership and coordination role in both the monthly Justice Sector National Judiciary/Justice Reform Steering Committees and with the quarterly Justice Sector Coordination Meeting successfully conducted. The HJC also continues to show strong leadership and commitment towards the establishment of a competent, accountable and efficient judiciary; in conjunction with the political will to implement the Judicial Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Rules. Discussions have commenced with the MoJ on a more coordinated approach by the UN in order to deliver improved results and to facilitate the design and implementation of a programme in order to support the operationalization of the PSG 3 Justice priorities under the Somaliland Special Arrangement.

RESULTS

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| SL | Indicator | 2.4.2.1 Number of legal professionals that have received training on sexual and gender-based violence | G |
| | Result | 56 (F:4,M:52) including 27 (F:0,M:27) judges from Regional and Appeal courts; 14 (F:2,M:12) prosecutors & 15 (F:2,M:13) police investigators from Hargeisa, Berbera, Boorama, Buroa, Laas anod, Erigavo & Gabiley were trained on the prosecution of rape and other GBV crimes. | |
| | Comment | The training on the prosecution of rape cases was part of the advanced judicial training on prosecution of serious & organized crimes for SL judges, prosecutors & police. This will contribute to the capacity of the overall SL Justice Sector to effectively deal with rape & GBV crimes. | |
| SL | Indicator | 2.2.1.1 Number of public servants that participated in organized trainings | G |
| | Result | 127 (F:25,M:102) persons trained. These include 87 (F:10,M:77) trained under the advanced judicial training programme, 24 judicial interns (F:7,M:17) and 16 (F:8,M:8) staff of Boorama and Buroa Baahikoob Centres. | |
| | Comment | HJC & UoH launched advanced judicial training which has two components: advanced training on prosecution of serious and organized crimes for judges, prosecutors and police investigators and training on court case management for court leaders and registrars. | |
| SL | Indicator | 2.4.2.3 Number of legal aid centre's supported | Y |
| | Result | 4 including 2 in Maroodijeex region (both in Hargeisa) and 2 in Awdal Region (1 in Boorama District and 1 in Boon District) were supported during Q2. | |
| | Comment | From Q3 onwards support will also be provided to an additional 2 centres: 1 operated by the Somaliland Women Lawyers Association (Hargeisa with outreach to Gabiley & Buraø) and 1 operated by Somaliland Lawyers Association (network to provide representation throughout Somaliland). | |
| SL | Indicator | 2.4.2.2 Number of citizens receiving legal aid, disaggregated by gender | Y |
| | Result | 1,055 (F:301,M:754) which included 33 Refugees, 62 Asylum seekers, 142 IDPS, 26 members of minority clans, and 203 detainees who were released from police custody & prisons in Hargeisa, Boorama and Madhera. | |
| | Comment | In Q3 support will be provided to further improve recording of client type and numbers to enable analysis of future service requirements. | |
| SL | Indicator | 2.4.2.5 Number of rape and SGBV cases, disaggregated by dismissals and convictions | G |
| | Result | 165 rape/ SGBV incidents reported as recorded by AGO. 87 cases went through the formal prosecution process resulting in 17 convictions, 10 dismissals, 33 pending and 27 under police investigation. | |
| | Comment | In Q2 there has been a significant increase in number of offenders reported and convicted on rape cases, noting in Q1 81 incidents reported with 3 convictions. The recently established BaahiKoob Centers plus awareness raising and trainings on prosecution of rape cases contributed this change. | |
| SL | Indicator | 2.4.2.4 Number of cases fully adjudicated in court, disaggregated by criminal and civil cases | G |
| | Result | 4,771 (2,277 criminal and 2,494 civil) adjudicated by 15 courts in Hargeisa, Berbera, Boorama, Buroa and Erigavo and the Supreme Court. 190 of these cases were adjudicated by the Mobile Courts. | |
| | Comment | Courts disposed of 3,718 cases, which is equivalent to 79% completion rate. Data gathering & reporting format prepared and court staff trained. In Q3 courts intend to record and consolidate more detailed periodical court case statistics to inform planning and resource allocation decisions. | |
| SL | Indicator | 2.2.1.2 Number of policies / reforms designed, enacted, and implemented | Y |
| | Result | 3: 2 policies and 1 reform designed: Legal Policy-making Guidelines drafted and awaiting validation. The HJC has sought further inputs on the Comprehensive Court Fee System policy. Justice Sector Information Gathering Matrix developed. | |
| | Comment | Ongoing support to MoJ to progress with policies will be undertaken to enable the final validation activities to be completed. The MoJ Judicial Reform Implementation Support Unit developed the matrix to facilitate coordination and alignment of justice sector reforms. | |

RESULTS

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| SL | Indicator | 4.3.1.3 Number of cases that women win in courts or traditional mechanisms to protect their economic assets | G |
| | Result | 32 of 77 cases in which women received representation from legal aid lawyers were concluded in favour of women's economic rights. Most of these cases were in the areas of maintenance, dowry and child support. | |
| | Comment | There is no system to record decisions of traditional elders or religious elders. Most of the property cases such as land cases are usually resolved by elders and religious leaders even when initial advice has been provided by legal aid lawyers. | |
| PL | Indicator | 2.4.2.1 Number of legal professionals that have received training on sexual and gender-based violence | G |
| | Result | 35 (F:2,M:33) members of Mobile Court Teams were trained on SGBV to enable them to understand the concepts and issues related to SGBV cases that are filed with the Mobile Courts. The training included a session on specific SGBV type offences under the Puntland Criminal Code. | |
| | Comment | In this training the Mobile Court Teams were also trained on the Puntland Family Law (Act) that was passed in 2013 which also covers some elements of SGBV such as economic deprivation of one's spouse or his or her children. Domestic violence cases are frequently filed with the Mobile Courts. | |
| PL | Indicator | 2.4.2.4 Number of cases fully adjudicated in court, disaggregated by criminal and civil cases | G |
| | Result | 1,827 cases (535 criminal and 1,292 civil) adjudicated by 16 courts during Q1 and Q2. | |
| | Comment | Courts disposed of 1,286 cases, which is equivalent to 62% completion rate. 47 cases (13 criminal and 34 civil) were appealed to the Supreme Court, which was able to conclusively determine 40 out of the 47 cases. | |
| PL | Indicator | 2.4.2.2 Number of citizens receiving legal aid, disaggregated by gender | G |
| | Result | 492 (F:259,M:233) received legal representation in 228 civil cases and 264 criminal cases. 342(F:178, M: 164) of the cases were resolved; 151 (F: 83, M:68) are pending while 8 (F:3, M:3) were dismissed. | |
| | Comment | IDPs represented 63% of the total of persons that received legal representation. 102 or 20.7 % were SGBV cases. PSU reached out to 252 people (F: 133, M: 119) in legal awareness sessions . | |
| PL | Indicator | 4.3.1.3 Number of cases that women win in courts or traditional mechanisms to protect their economic assets | G |
| | Result | 54 out of 95 (78 maintenance and 17 dowry) cases related to women's economic rights were decided in favour of women. 17 of these cases were settled at the pre-trial stage and taken back to the elders. There were no property rights cases reported in Q2. | |
| | Comment | There is currently no data collection on cases decided by traditional elders and no process of registering the decisions of elders and religious leaders. The MoJ with support from the UNDP Community Security Project is undertaking work in this area. | |
| PL | Indicator | 2.4.2.3 Number of legal aid centre's supported | G |
| | Result | 5: 4 Puntland Legal Aid Centre Offices (Garowe, Gardo, Galkayo and Bosasso) and 1 Legal Aid Clinic at the Puntland State University Faculty of Law (Garowe). 9 (F:2,M:7) legal aid lawyers, 39 (F:16,M:23) paralegals and 7 (F:4,M:3) interns provide legal aid services. | |
| | Comment | The provision of legal aid services is getting negatively impacted by the deteriorating security situation in Puntland especially in the Bari region (regional capital is Bosasso) with 3 villages no longer accessible. | |
| PL | Indicator | 2.3.3.1 Level of progress on establishing human rights institutions, safeguards, and oversight arrangements with a focus on enhancing women's security is "high", "medium", or "low" | Y |
| | Result | Medium: The President, the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Constitution, Federal Affairs and Democratization have agreed to reestablish the Office of Human Rights Defender. | |
| | Comment | The UN has been actively involved to reestablish the Office of Human Rights Defender. Next steps are for MoJ to nominate potential candidates to the Puntland Council of Ministers to consider, and then Parliament is required to select one of the candidates. Parliament reconvenes in October 2014. | |

RESULTS

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| FL | Indicator | 2.4.2.2 Number of citizens receiving legal aid, disaggregated by gender | G |
| | Result | 380 (F:108,M:272) were provided with legal advice and representation. 167 (F: 82, M:85) of these case s were resolved. 63 (F: 19, M:44) are pending. 27 (F:9, M: 18) were dismissed. In this group were 95 survivors of SGBV, 120 IDPs, 100 minorities, and 39 children. | |
| | Comment | In addition, the paralegals of the 3 Legal Aid Providers contributed to settling disputes in 321 cases through mediation and arbitration at IDPs camps in Mogadishu and reached 1463 (F: 1236, M: 227) people in legal awareness sessions. | |
| FL | Indicator | 2.4.2.3 Number of legal aid centre's supported | G |
| | Result | 3 legal aid offices in Mogadishu supported with a total of 11 (F:6,M:5) lawyers, 51 (F:43,M:8) paralegals and 20 (F:10,M:10) interns. | |
| | Comment | In the absence of government support to provide legal aid, these legal aid offices are the only source of legal assistance for vulnerable and economically deprived groups including women, children, survivors of SGBV, IDPs, and minorities. | |
| FL | Indicator | 2.4.2.5 Number of rape and SGBV cases, disaggregated by dismissals and convictions | G |
| | Result | 95 SGBV cases reported to 3 legal aid partners of which 19 were taken to court (7 convicted, 6 released and 6 in process) and the remaining 76 survivors provided psychosocial support and counseling. | |
| | Comment | Legal aid partners advise that survivors of SGBV are reluctant to report and even if reported they are reluctant to take their cases further due to low confidence in the justice system and fear of retaliation. Legal awareness campaigns to address this issue will be undertaken. | |
| FL | Indicator | 2.1.1.1 Number of required laws, disaggregated by draft by the legislative or executive branch, enacted by Parliament, and implemented by the executive | Y |
| | Result | 2 Laws: Judicial Services Commission Act drafted by MoJC and passed by Parliament 30 June. This Act is the first step to enable the Judicial Service Commission and the Constitutional Court to be established. Judicial Organizational Law being drafted by MoJC in preparation for further consultations. | |
| | Comment | Policy and Legislative Drafting Unit established in MoJC, initial trainings undertaken of newly recruited legal drafters and legal drafting manual prepared. | |
| SL | Indicator | Number of cases adjudicated by Mobile Courts | G |
| | Result | 190 cases (124 criminal & 66 civil) involving 218 people (F:128,M:90). Hargeisa (56 cases,66 people) Berbera (21 cases, 30 people) Buroa (32 cases, 37 people) Erigavo (27cases,30 people) Boorama (30 cases,30 people) and Gabiley (24 cases, 25 people). | |
| | Comment | Mobile courts disposed of 155 cases out of 190 they adjudicated. Mobile courts also undertook legal and human rights awareness raising activities. | |
| SL | Indicator | Level of performance of the AG Office is "high", "medium" or "low" | G |
| | Result | Medium: Hargeisa Regional Office of the Attorney General prosecuted 674 cases and disposed of 306 (199 convictions & 107 released). This amounts 45.4% clearance rate. | |
| | Comment | Cases prosecuted by Hargeisa AGO include 40 cases involving the 50 juvenile accused of gang robbery and rape. The prosecutors in charge of the Women & Child Prosecution Unit have identified the need to have specialized training on case management and dealing with SGBV and juvenile cases. | |
| SL | Indicator | Number of Districts with access to formal justice either through the presence of permanent courts or routine visits of Mobile Courts. | G |
| | Result | 37 out of originally 52 districts have courts: this include 15 with permanent court facilities and 22 with appointed judges but no permanent court facilities. The Mobile Courts provide services to people living in 25 districts and surrounding villages. | |
| | Comment | Mobile courts go to districts & villages outside their permanent seats to hear cases falling under their jurisdiction which include some districts with permanent court facilities and also those without. Total number of districts difficult to ascertain due to recent redistricting in SL. | |

RESULTS

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| SL | Indicator | Number of legal professionals that have benefited from training or received scholarships | G |
| | Result | 39 (F:16,M:23) in the scholarship programme at Universities of Hargeisa and Amoud. At the end of the academic year in June, 15 (F:9,M:6) will have completed their final year. | |
| | Comment | Of the 24 (F:7, M:17) remaining under the scholarship programme they will all be studying at Amoud University. | |
| SL | Indicator | Performance of the High Judicial Council in relation to oversight, accountability of sitting judges and prosecutors improved | G |
| | Result | Medium: The HJC for the first time enforced the Judicial Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Rules. 10 judges were dismissed on account of judicial misconduct including corruption, undue absenteeism and failure to attend mandatory judicial training. | |
| | Comment | It is expected that Judicial trainees appointed in Q1 will fill these posts after completing their training in Q4. | |
| PL | Indicator | Performance of the High Judicial Council in relation to Oversight, transparency and accountability of sitting judges and prosecutors improved | G |
| | Result | Medium: The HJC was able to inspect 8 courts & 2 offices under the AGO (prosecutors) in the regions. The findings included: 8 courts visited need rehabilitation; a lack of updated laws in Somali (English versions not available either); need for court bailiffs and police presence. | |
| | Comment | Majority of the recommendations of the Inspection Reports require financial resources to implement. The remainder can be rectified through administrative action. The training of registrars on case management is planned for Q3. | |
| PL | Indicator | Number of Districts with access to formal justice either through the presence of permanent court facilities or routine visits by Mobile Courts | G |
| | Result | 20 districts out of 39 served by 20 district courts in Puntland and 8 appeal courts. The Supreme Court only sits in Garowe but is able to serve the regions through the Mobile Courts. The Mobile Courts serve 29 villages in 11 districts. | |
| | Comment | 39 Districts receive legal awareness programmes undertaken by PLAC and with 7 of these districts also receiving such programmes by MoJ. The radio programmes include information on legal aid services, the Mobile Courts, human rights, rights of women and other topical issues in the sector. | |
| PL | Indicator | Number of cases adjudicated by Mobile Courts | G |
| | Result | 114 cases (59 criminal & 55 civil) involving 114 people (F:76,M:38). 97 of these cases were resolved and only 33 were successfully enforced. | |
| | Comment | The work of Mobile Courts has been negatively affected by the deteriorating security situation in Puntland. The Mobile Court Teams are following up on the enforcement of the judgments in collaboration with clan elders, religious leaders and the police. | |
| PL | Indicator | Number of legal professionals that have benefited from training or received scholarships | G |
| | Result | 63 (F:24,M:39) scholarships were provided this academic year. 43 in second year and 18 in fourth year. | |
| | Comment | This includes 10 (F:10,M:0) full scholarships, 49 (F:14,M:35) tuition only scholarships, 3 (F:0,M:3) full scholarships for Judiciary and law enforcement, and 1 (F:0,M:1) tuition only scholarship for a member of the Judiciary. | |
| FL | Indicator | Number of legal professionals that have received legal training and/or benefited from scholarships | G |
| | Result | 50 (F:25,M:25) in the scholarship programme at Mogadishu University of which at end of academic year in June, 37 have completed second year and 13 completed first year studies. | |
| | Comment | 86% of students passed their exams, 10% failed in some courses and 4% missed the exams. Students who failed some courses will retake those exams. The project is working with the University to address the problem of absenteeism from the exams. | |

RESULTS

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| FL | Indicator | Number of districts with access to formal justice either through the presence of permanent courts or routine visits by Mobile Courts | Y |
| | Result | 12 out of the 16 districts of the Mogadishu area are served by 12 district courts. However 7 are serving from outside their districts at the Benadir Court Complex due to security issues. | |
| | Comment | Planning is for Mobile Courts to commence in Q3 in the areas of Baidoa (Bay), Marka (Lower Shabelle), Jowahr (Middle Shabelle) and Beledweyne (Hiiraan). | |
| FL | Indicator | Performance of the High Judicial Council in relation to oversight, transparency and accountability of sitting judges and prosecutors improved | Y |
| | Result | The adoption of the Judicial Services Commission Act on 30 June is a milestone in establishing mechanisms for vetting, licensing and appointing judicial personnel and ensuring accountability and oversight in the justice sector. | |
| | Comment | The next step is the appointment of the nine members of the Commission. However, there has been some reports in the media of opposition from various groups to some provisions in the Judicial Services Commission Act. | |
| SL | Indicator | Number of site visits by Managers and project staff | G |
| | Result | 55: Site visits to Berbera, Buroa, Boorama and Gabiley and monitor and/or support technically to 12 project sites in Hargeisa. UNDP Programme & M&E project verification missions conducted in Q2. | |
| | Comment | DFID initiated third party monitoring of mobile courts which indicated mobile courts functioning well in making delivery of justice more accessible and affordable, and that community has confidence in the mobile courts. UNDP Assessment of Development Results mission conducted. | |
| PL | Indicator | Number of site visits by Managers and Project staff | G |
| | Result | 36: Staff make regular visits to project partners including accompanying mobile court missions and legal awareness sessions. These visits serve as on-site monitoring activities and also to build the capacity of partners in delivering activities. | |
| | Comment | DFID initiated third party monitoring of legal aid which indicated functioning well with enhanced access to justice services being provided and that awareness raising campaigns effective. UNDP Assessment of Development Results mission conducted. | |
| FL | Indicator | Number of site visits by Managers and project staff | G |
| | Result | 36: The UN Integrated team conduct twice weekly site visits and national project officers spend at least one day each week working within MoJC to provide technical support. | |
| | Comment | With the new agreements in Q2 the project team has also engaged with MoJC and partners to improve the quality of reporting by providing narrative and financial reporting training. UNDP Assessment of Development Results mission conducted. | |

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ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

FEDERAL LEVEL

The foundations of support to the MoJC were achieved in Q2 with the appointments of advisors to the MoJC primarily finalized. Overall 28 national personnel (18 advisors and 10 law graduates) have been recruited by the MoJC to provide technical support for the joint implementation support unit, institutional capacity development, prisons and corrections, judicial affairs, legal policy, legal drafting, finance and administration. Orientations and initial trainings have been undertaken for the team with the MoJC having developed an initial training needs assessment. Legal aid providers continued to provide critical support. Implementation of the Project AWP activities will increase in pace during Q3 which will be facilitated through harnessing the strengths of the UN Integrated Team.

PUNTLAND

A Mobile Court Review was conducted in May for four days with 35 (F:2,M:33) members of the mobile court teams from the regions (Bari, Mudug, Karkar and Nugal) participating. A review of the activities, achievements and the challenges was undertaken along with sharing lessons learned and exploring ways of solving common challenges. Two of the key challenges identified were the low levels of successful enforcement of judgments and the absence of police stations in some districts. Under the action plan developed, the judicial authorities will dialogue further with the police and the mobile court teams will work more closely with elders. Implementation of other activities in Q2 increased in pace with the commencement or extension of agreements with key counterparts and partners.

SOMALILAND

A Mobile Court and case management review was conducted in June for three days with 45 (F:10,M:35) members of the mobile court teams and justice sector personnel participating. A review of the activities, achievements and the challenges was undertaken along with sharing lessons learned and exploring ways of solving common challenges. Three of the key challenges identified were the need for vehicles, financial constraints also linked to sustainability issues, and the need to strengthen the relationships between the district courts and police stations. Implementation of activities in the AWP in Q2 progressed well with the commencement or extension of agreements with key stakeholders and legal aid partners.

PARTNERSHIPS

Throughout Q1 and Q2 there has been a strong focus to ensure full alignment to the mutual commitments under Somali Compact Partnership Principles including dialogue through the PSG 3 WG on the implementation of the Compact, identification of a new rule of law flagship programme to support the implementation of key Compact priorities including capacity development and institution building components, and adjustments where necessary of current activities to the PSG 3 priorities. PSG 3 WG is now established and functioning with regional representation and civil society participating. In Puntland partnerships are being further developed through the Justice Sector Working Group and in Somaliland the Judiciary Reform Implementation Technical Support Unit of the MoJ is fostering partnerships and information sharing for justice actors and stakeholders.

Internal to the UN, and as reported previously, the UN Joint Justice and Corrections Section was established, under the arrangement of the Global Focal Point for Rule of Law, to capitalize on synergies and provide national partners with a single entry point for UN support. At present it comprises UNDP and UNSOM staff, UNODC and UNOPS co-located personnel, and other UN entities are invited to join and may do so particularly once the proposed UN Joint Rule of Law Programme, currently being discussed and developed, is endorsed and funded through the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Somalia.

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PEACE AND CONFLICT

Legal aid services and outreach of mobile courts provides support to peace building through mechanisms where disputes can be resolved without resorting to violence. Also support to government institutions to deliver services helps delegitimize violence by private actors by promoting the usage of state structures such as courts and police and instilling confidence in such structures. The Somali Observatory of Conflict and Violence Prevention 2013 and 2014 assessments provide evidence of growing confidence in the formal courts in some areas of Somalia. However in the majority of other areas still prone to conflict, people opt for the informal justice providers such as religious leaders and traditional elders due to their perceived fair judgments and ease of access. To further support peace building the need for more mobile court outreach and closer engagement with informal justice providers and possible linkages with the formal justice system will be addressed.

GENDER

Promoting and ensuring equal opportunity for the participation of women in all dialogues, as beneficiaries, in trainings, award of scholarships, engagement in workshops, and the recruitment for advisory support or graduate positions continued in Q2. Ensuring robust opportunities within the scholarship and graduate programmes provides the foundations for future women leaders. In order to achieve maximum impact a comprehensive strategic sector approach has been undertaken in relation to sexual and gender based violence which entails: police trained on managing SGBV cases, women & children's desks either established (or proposed) in the prosecutors' offices, Judiciary trained on SGBV cases, support to and training of mobile courts that deal with SGBV cases, support and specific training undertaken for legal aid providers, support to centres (such as BaahiKoob services) that provide medical and counselling support, and addressing the issues in legal awareness campaigns.

UPCOMING QUARTER

To deliver on the Project AWP implementation will need to be ramped up in Q3. Mobile Courts are planned to recommence in Mogadishu with a focus on IDP camps. Support to high priority infrastructure assessments and works, addressing judicial security needs, and support to the Judicial Service Commission start up, will be key priorities. PSG 3 WG meetings will continue along with consultations (and aiming for endorsement) of the proposed UN Joint Rule of Law Programme. In Puntland support to the MoJ will be provided with the conduct of a Judiciary Needs Assessment then development of a Strategic and Implementation Action Plan. Training for 33 court registrars on the Puntland Criminal and Civil Procedure Codes and Case Management will be undertaken. In Somaliland the advanced judicial training will be finalized in Q3. A review workshop on the enforcement of the Judicial Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Rules for judges and prosecutors will be conducted.

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REFLECTIONS / LESSONS

The Somali Compact provides the strategic objectives and key priorities as the basis for aligning assistance behind the Government's vision. The 2014 Project AWP was aligned to the Compact PSG 3 objective and key priorities. All activities, including under the Rule of Law (RoL) in Somalia Bridging and Inception project, were designed to provide immediate initial support to the PSG 3 priorities and form the foundations for the new UN Joint RoL Programme.

In Q1 and Q2 there have been some challenges faced in project implementation beyond the control of the Project, and whilst measures were undertaken to mitigate such challenges, they have impacted upon delivery. For example at the Federal Level the changes in MoJC and following the election in Puntland the changes in MoJ resulting in some delays. These changes, which also resulted in changes to key government senior and support staff, have required the building of new relationships and establishment of appropriate coordination mechanisms to ensure full ownership over the project activities.

Further, the processes for the development of a new UN Joint RoL Programme, have also taken longer than expected due to the Compact Architecture for dialogue and coordination which has been noted by some as possibly 'too heavy a mechanism'. The Compact established the mechanisms for dialogue on programmes through the PSG WGs and for the endorsement for such programmes through the Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility Steering Committee (SDRF SC) in plenary format. The SDRF SC in plenary format only held its first meeting on 12 June and in relation to endorsement of new funding priorities, requested all the PSG WGs to discuss further and present priorities for funding at the next SDRF SC, expected on 16 August.

Development of an even more robust monitoring and evaluation system, with solid baselines to further inform evidence based programming has been a priority in Q2 and will be further progressed in Q3.

In establishing a new partnership for more effective international assistance the Compact requires a paradigm shift in the way aid is provided, away from 'business as usual' to more innovative, flexible and risk-taking approaches based on a set of partnership principles and mutual commitments. The UN has embraced this change through the provision of a single entry point for UN support, full integration of UNSOM and UNDP teams, agreement to a sector based UN Joint Rule of Law Programme with innovative and flexible delivery mechanisms and full support to the Compact processes of using PSG 3 WG as the forum for dialogue and consultation. It is envisaged that by Q4 a new UN Joint RoL Programme will be developed, fully consulted, agreed and funded to enable commencement in Q1 2015.

| CUMULATIVE PROJECT FINANCIAL SUMMARY | |
|---|-----------|
| APPROVED BUDGET | 7,843,127 |
| TOTAL (DISBURSEMENTS + COMMITMENTS) | 2,589,313 |
| BALANCE OF FUNDS | 5,253,814 |
| % DELIVERY (AGAINST APPROVED BUDGET) | 33% |

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LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

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| A2J: | Access to Justice |
| AGO: | Attorney Generals Office |
| AWP: | Annual Work Plan |
| HJC: | High Judicial Council |
| IDLO: | International Development Law Organization |
| IDPs: | Internally displaced persons |
| JSC: | Judicial Services Council |
| MC: | Mobile Courts |
| MOJ: | Ministry of Justice |
| PLAC: | Puntland Legal Aid Centre |
| PSG: | Peace and Statebuilding Goal |
| PSU: | Puntland State University |
| RoL: | Rule of Law |
| SGBV: | Sexual and Gender Based Violence |
| SOLLA: | Somaliland Lawyers Association |
| SWLA: | Somaliland Women Lawyers Association |
| MoJC: | Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs |
| JISU: | Joint Implementation Support Unit |
| PLDU: | Policy and Legal Drafting Unit |
| UoH: | University of Hargeisa |