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Gender Project

PROJECT:
Gender Project

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PROGRAMME:
Gender

REPORT PERIOD:
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Final

DONORS:
UNDP TRAC
UNDP BCPR
Norway
Denmark

CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

FEDERAL LEVEL

UNDP continues to work with limited mobility in Mogadishu after the attack on the UNCC. The overall security situation has resulted in some delays in the programme. The establishment of UNSOM as an integrated mission since June 2013 has meant that steps are being taken to improve internal coordination within the UN. In August, UNSOM hired a Senior Gender Advisor based in Mogadishu. A good working relationship has been established between her and the UNDP Gender Unit on issues where the mandates overlap. This will help facilitate continuous technical support on gender issues to the Ministry for Human Development and Public Services until UNDP can again establish a continued presence on the ground. The MoHDPS has developed a draft Gender Policy and with the support of UNDP and UNSOM is now implementing a road map for its completion and adoption. Parliamentary recess within the period meant that members were not available for activities under the MCG with IIDA.

PUNTLAND

The district level elections that were scheduled for 15 July were cancelled the day before, and there is no clear message as to whether the elections have been cancelled or only postponed. This has created confusion regarding the entire political process, which includes nomination of MPs as well as a new President; and uncertainty within individual ministries, and thus a reluctance or inability to push through any new legislation or initiatives. However, the situation also means that the serving women District Councillors will retain their positions for the time-being so the Project will continue to provide capacity building support to them. At MOWFSA, the Vice-Minister was away for two months (June/July) and upon her return, the Minister has been away. This has resulted in another delay to activity implementation. Lack of clarity on the relationship between Puntland and the Federal Government remains a barrier to programmatic linkages on gender across the regions.

SOMALILAND

In August, the Somaliland Regional Court convicted 21 men found guilty of gang-raping two women in Hargeisa; sentencing 20 of them to 10 years in jail while one man was sentenced to 5 years. This came amid accounts by the Ministry of Interior of increase in reported rape cases in Somaliland. 221 cases were reported from Jan-Sep 2013 in Hargeisa alone; and on 27th September, the police received 8 cases of rape, including rape against children under the age of 10. The figures for 2012 stood at 195 according to the Sexual Assault Referral Centre, Baahi-koob. The situation impacts on the capacity of existing structures to respond to the rising incidents and the need to scale up prevention-based initiatives. Women in the Army received ranks as the government of Somaliland distributed ranks among different army divisions on 6th August 2013. The actual numbers of women awarded ranks is yet to be released but this development marks an improvement in women's representation in public service.

RESULTS

SL	Indicator	4.4.1.1 Level of progress in revising and implementing existing gender policies and laws is "high", "medium" or "low"	Y
	Result	SGBV Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) translated into Somali and 500 copies were disseminated to 30 stakeholders involved in SGBV work. The workshop was held in Hargeisa and two other dissemination workshops will be in Burao and Borama.	
	Comment	The SOP was translated into Somali and the participants found the Somali version very easy to understand and useful for their work as GBV service providers.	
SL	Indicator	4.4.2.1 Number of reported incidences of sexual and gender-based violence	G
	Result	The second training on the Judicial Monitoring (JMT) Tool was conducted by NAGAAD. 36 participants (12 male and 24 female) from women NGOs and other SGBV stakeholders have been trained on SGBV and the Judicial Monitoring Tool.	
	Comment	The tool is designed to help the systematic and consistent collection of data on SGBV cases, particularly for 46 NAGAAD members, and more generally for SGBV stakeholders.	
SL	Indicator	4.1.1.2 Number of women that participate in decision-making bodies	G
	Result	There is a small, but significant, increase in women's participation in decision-making. Two female ministers have been appointed, now making 4 women in the cabinet. 10 are in the local councils out of 353, and 1 in a parliament of 82 members.	
	Comment	The quota scheme is not moving forward due to resistance from Parliament. Women's organizations are currently strategizing on how to move forward on this issue.	
SL	Indicator	4.1.2.3 Number of dialogue spaces created to discuss women's rights and role in Somali society	G
	Result	Quarterly consultative meeting on SGBV with line ministers and CSOs was held in Q3. This meeting was attended by 30 relevant stakeholders, including SGBV working group members, Gender Responsive Police Steering Committee, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labour & Social Affairs.	
	Comment	The objectives of this meeting were twofold: to establish a strong base for advocacy and lobbying and on making effective use of SGBV related policy and laws, as well as, advocacy for law reform.	
SL	Indicator	4.2.1.1 Number of women's groups actively participating in local, district and national forums and influencing policies and practices	G
	Result	Good data on women in decision making, women's rights activists, and gender based equality NGOs has been collected and structured and will be published in Q4. So far 30 women NGOs have been identified as involved in women's issues in SL.	
	Comment	Getting the right information and the right organization/people has not been very easy and it has prompted going to regions and meeting with organizations based in the regions.	
SL	Indicator	4.4.1.3 Level of CEDAW & UNSCRs compliance of laws and policies is "high", "medium" or "low"	G
	Result	Inter-agency gender coordination mechanism enhanced by conducting two inter-ministerial coordination meetings in Q3.	
	Comment	There are concerns over the consistency and relevance of Gender Focal points in the inter-agency coordination and their capacity to influence gender mainstreaming in their parent ministries.	
SL	Indicator	4.1.2.1 Number of targeted advocacy campaigns implemented	G
	Result	SGBV capacities for NGOs, other stakeholders and service provider enhanced through training of 60 paralegals (33F and 27 M) conducted in September and paralegal manual developed.	
	Comment	Despite the fact that they are working as paralegals, it's noted that the participants have very limited legal background and communication skills.	
PL	Indicator	4.1.2.1 Number of targeted advocacy campaigns implemented	G
	Result	Through CSO IP RDI, a radio programme on FGM was held, with a local doctor, a sheikh and representatives from MOWFSA and GBV related NGOs. They debated on the cultural and religious beliefs behind FGM and addressed it's health and social impacts.	
	Comment		

RESULTS

PL	Indicator	4.4.1.1 Level of progress in revising and implementing existing gender policies and laws is “high”, “medium” or “low”	R
	Result	Due to Puntland's political situation, the Gender Policy seems to have been deemed a non-priority. The Strategic Plan for MOWFSA, however, is still in process, with a consultant now hired to come to Garowe to develop this with key stakeholders in Q4.	
	Comment	The Gender Unit is discussing with MOWFSA on an alternative strategy for promoting the draft gender policy and advocating its adoption through endorsement by religious leaders	
PL	Indicator	4.4.2.1 Number of reported incidences of sexual and gender-based violence	Y
	Result	The Judicial Monitoring Tool developed by WAWA has now been finalized and the database established. A validation workshop took place in July with key representatives from relevant bodies represented. Training for WAWA member organizations will take place in Q4.	
	Comment		
FL	Indicator	4.4.1.1 Level of progress in revising and implementing existing gender policies and laws is “high”, “medium” or “low”	Y
	Result	An LOA has been signed with MHDPS including support for a national gender policy, and discussions are ongoing to develop a suitable 'road map' for consultations and drafting of the policy.	
	Comment	Discussions on the 'road map' for developing the National Gender Policy happens in coordination with other UN agencies and donors.	
FL	Indicator	4.4.1.3 Level of CEDAW & UNSCRs compliance of laws and policies is “high”, “medium” or “low”	Y
	Result	Low - Discussions are ongoing with MHDPS to develop a suitable 'road map' for consultations and drafting of a National Gender Policy and National Action Plan for 1325, to ensure compliance with CEDAW and UNSCR 1325 across government activities.	
	Comment	Discussions on the 'road map' for developing the National Gender Policy happens in coordination with other UN agencies and donors.	
FL	Indicator	4.1.2.3 Number of dialogue spaces created to discuss women’s rights and role in Somali society	R
	Result	An MCG was signed with IIDA to support women MPs through training on legislative processes and provide them legal analysis on gender issues to enable them be effective legislators. The project will raise awareness of the public and women specifically on women’s rights in the Provisional Constitution	
	Comment	Start of the project was delayed due to the attack of the office in Mogadishu in June.	
SL	Indicator	Database of women in decision making, women's rights, and gender based equality NGOs established	Y
	Result	Good data on women in decision making, women's rights activists, and gender based equality NGOs has been collected and structured and will plan to publish in the Q4.	
	Comment	Getting the right information and the right organization/people has not been very easy and collecting this data from regions has taken more time than envisaged.	
SL	Indicator	One follow up consultative forums for women khat sellers held	G
	Result	Yes. Women khat sellers were empowered to claim their rights through a consultation on the challenges of their trade and their needs, formation of a representative committee and support to meet and discuss their needs with the Social Department of Hargeisa Municipality	
	Comment	Representative committee of this forum seems more energetic and proactive in communicating with MOLSA and engaging with other stakeholders.	
SL	Indicator	Draft implementation plan for SL gender policy developed and approved	G
	Result	Implementation plan for SL gender policy is being finalized and validated. It will then be disseminated in Q4 to broader range of stakeholders including government ministries, CSOs, INGOs and UN agencies as well as donors.	
	Comment	The implementation plan of the Gender Policy is meant to guide all the stakeholder involved in gender work. Getting a baseline data for the plan has been the difficult part of the process	

RESULTS

	Indicator	Exchange programme for Somali women's rights advocates with the broader discussion in the Islamic world on women's rights in Islam engaged	
SL	Result	Two women activists identified to attend trainings on Arab Regional Training for Women, Peace, and security and Women's Empowerment and Leadership Development for Democratisation (WELDD) Program Orientation of Peace Module (TOT)	Y
	Comment	These trainings are delayed by the Arab spring in the Middle East	
	Indicator	Number of scholarship grantees continuing in 2013; number of trainings held for the scholarship recipients.	
SL	Result	Payment of the second semester fee for the tertiary scholarship students released and the students have completed the first year of the scholarship. Ministry of Education has monitored the progress of the students and found that students performed good in the first semester.	Y
	Comment	Students will be commencing their second year on October 2013. the final grades of the first year is not yet officially issues, however, major challenges have not reported yet.	
	Indicator	Number of scholarship grantees continuing in 2013; number of trainings held for the scholarship recipients.	
PL	Result	Programmes include medicine, business administration, nursing, shari'ah law and economics. A monitoring mission in April revealed that one scholarship recipient was forced to drop out of school due to health issues, but the other 29 girls are performing well. Attendance is consistent & grades good.	Y
	Comment	In Q4 training on public speaking is expected to take place for scholarship recipients, as part of the larger, longer term effort to build leadership skills in the young women.	
	Indicator	Inter-ministerial coordination body established, focal points appointed, number of inter-ministerial meetings held, number of trainings provided.	
PL	Result	With the Minister and Vice-Minister away, this group has not yet been established. However, focal points (either DG or Head of Unit level) have been identified, and training will be provided on gender mainstreaming in Q4.	Y
	Comment	To date, the identified ministry focal points (5 women and 2 men) include those MOWFSA already has working relationships with - Health, Planning, Labour and Youth, Security, Interior and Education.	
	Indicator	Sub-office gender focal points quarterly meetings held	
SL	Result	One meeting among UNDP projects gender focal points was held and discussed more on the the ways of making quarterly progress reports more gender sensitive and how Gender Unit can support in doing this.	G
	Comment	No challenge in terms of reporting the gender section in the quarterly projects reports are reported	
	Indicator	Number of GEWE Project Board quarterly meetings held	
SL	Result	Project Review Board for Q2 and Q3 held in Hargeisa. A new format has been adopted to reflect overall achievements towards collective results. Participation was excellent and the meeting productive.	G
	Comment	It was attended by all government counterparts and CSO partners. DANIDA also attended the meeting and reaffirmed their support to the project.	
	Indicator	Number of GEWE Project Board quarterly meetings held	
PL	Result	Project Review Board for Q2 and Q3 held in Garowe. A new format has been adopted to reflect overall achievements towards collective results. Participation was excellent and the meeting productive.	G
	Comment	All partners except for MOE were in attendance. MOWFSA suggested more frequent meetings with CSO partners to better coordinate, to which all agreed.	
	Indicator	Report of khat forum submitted.	
PL	Result	The Consultant has submitted the report and it is being reviewed by the Gender Unit. It will be finalized by Q4.	Y
	Comment	The report provides a history of khat in Somalia, and combines this with findings from the forum, including the effects of khat chewing, the challenges faced by sellers and recommendations for support	

RESULTS

PL	Indicator	Number of trainings provided to police, judicial monitoring tool developed and number of awareness raising campaigns on GBV.	G
	Result	Training for Police was provided in Garowe on gender/SGBV, and also resulted in a series of recommendations relating to increasing the representation of women in the Police Force. These have been shared with the Police Project.	
	Comment		
PL	Indicator	Sub-office gender focal points quarterly meetings held	Y
	Result	While participation was low, UNDP gender focal points requested a "refresher" training on the Gender Mainstreaming Tools Handbook, which will be followed up in Q4.	
	Comment		
ALL	Indicator	Number of grants awarded to women's CSOs	Y
	Result	Expression of Interest for new partners has been advertised and Request for Proposals sent out for those pre-qualified CSOs. These CSOs will be implementing Community Conversations to create dialogue spaces for women's rights and gender equality at the grassroots level.	
	Comment	These new partners will mainly focus on the grassroots communities in search of attitudinal and behavioral change on gender and women's issues, making CCE-CC an integral tool.	

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ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

FEDERAL LEVEL

Two consultants have been hired under the MCG with IIDA to provide support to women parliamentarians in Mogadishu. The legislative process consultant will provide a guide to the legislative process to enable women MP's to influence new legislation more effectively. A legal consultant will provide gender analysis of the constitution and relevant legal issues to support women MP's in reviewing gender aspects of upcoming legislation and promote gender relevant amendments into the constitutional review process. In addition, an illustrator has been assigned work with the legal consultant and develop user friendly images to promote public awareness on the rights of women as stipulated in the provisional constitution.

PUNTLAND

The work of WAWA has been accelerated in this last quarter, with a number of important activities having been carried out, led by consultant Burhan Omar, Dean of the Faculty of Law at PSU. Specifically, WAWA held a pre-testing workshop for the Judicial Monitoring Tool (13-14 July) in Garowe, with representatives from the Supreme Court, Judiciary, Legal Aid, MOWFSA and NGOs working on GBV present to add their inputs into the tool. The JMT has now been finalized and the database established. Training on the usage of the tool for WAWA's 46 member organizations will take place in Quarter 4. WAWA also held a consultation with the Puntland Police Force in Garowe, which aimed to introduce the topics of gender to the police in order for their work to be carried out more sensitively.

SOMALILAND

Implementation Strategy (Action Plan) for the Somaliland Gender Policy finalized and validated in August in a workshop attended by line ministers and inter-agency gender focal points and other stakeholder. In addition, quarterly inter-agency gender focal points coordination meeting was held. A consultative meeting on SGBV with line ministries and other SGBV stakeholders was also held. Validation and dissemination of SGBV Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) was also carried out. 500 copies of SOP were printed and distributed to all relevant institutions. Two important trainings had also been implemented in this reporting period: paralegals training and judicial monitoring training for case workers and SGBV stakeholders.

PARTNERSHIPS

The Gender Unit contributed analysis and technical input to a strategy for the GBV working group under the Protection Cluster in order to promote strategic and better coordinated response to GBV from UN and NGO actors in Somalia. Within the GTG, UNDP, UNSOM and UN Women are leading coordination of technical support for a National Gender Policy and 1325 National Action Plan by UN, NGO's and donors. UNDP also contributed significant input to joint UN gender comments for the New Deal Compact, forwarded through the CSO representative.

Following the joint gender and HIV/AIDs training on Community Capacity Enhancement through Community Conversations (CCE-CC), the Gender Unit and the HIV/AIDS project also agreed to make joint grants to CSO partners using the methodology for awareness raising and community-led social change. This will ensure mutual mainstreaming of Gender and HIV/AIDs into roll outs of the CCE-CCs.

In Puntland, the Gender Unit has been grateful for the cooperation of the Police Project, both with WAWA related activities, as well as its participation in the GBV Working Group led by MOWFSA. The police officer seconded to UNSOM has in particular been collaborative, and gave inputs at the PL regional GBV WG Strategy meeting held in August.

The Gender Unit conducted a joint mission with PREP to support in identifying suitable and viable businesses for women headed households in Eyl for micro-grants/livelihoods and monitoring of on-going capacity buildings for women.

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PEACE AND CONFLICT

Advocacy on the draft Gender Policy in Puntland has met with much resistance from religious leaders in Cabinet; leading to a stall in the process. The Gender Unit is now discussing with the MOWFSA on an alternative strategy to mitigate this setback. The proposal is to engage respected religious leaders external to the Cabinet and through advocacy win their endorsement of the Policy as the popular opinion of religious leaders in Puntland.

In Somaliland, resistance to the proposed quota bill for women's representation from the house of elders in Parliament has also resulted in lack of progress in that regard. The Gender Unit is currently considering a proposal from the NAGAAD Women's Network to embark on a sustained advocacy with religious, traditional and opinion leaders to win popular and influential support for the bill ahead of the parliamentary elections in 2015.

GENDER

The Gender Unit continues to support other CO projects in mainstreaming their different processes and activities through review of project documents and TORs, contributions to surveys and studies and attending Project Review Boards. The Gender Unit now has permanent representation on the ISC where they can review all the CO's proposed contracts with NGOs and Government counterparts for gender sensitivity; while the Gender Specialist sits on the CAP in her personal capacity.

The sub-office Gender Focal Point meetings were held in Garowe in June and Hargeisa in July. Participants in Garowe requested a "refresher" on the Gender Mainstreaming Tools Handbook, which will be carried out in Quarter 4.

The Gender Unit facilitated the CO's application for the Gender Equality Seal certification. The preliminary online self-assessment exercise of the Gender Seal provided the opportunity for internal stock-taking, and revealed good progress in a number of areas.

UPCOMING QUARTER

The Gender Unit will close its Request for Proposals in the first week of October and will then finalize those proposals which are seen to fit the goals and objectives as laid out in the RFP. It is expected that a number of MCGs, from both existing CSO partners, and with new ones, will be finalized by the end of the year. MOWFSA will also finalize its existing LOA in the last quarter of 2013, completing its Strategic Plan, with the support of a Consultant expected in Garowe in November, as well as the establishment of and training for an inter-ministerial coordination mechanism. A number of other trainings, for both government and CSO partners are also scheduled for the last quarter, including project management and advocacy, gender frameworks, and public speaking. Implementation of the LOA with MoHDPS will commence, including selection of 30 young women to receive scholarships for tertiary education, support for development of a national gender policy and capacity building.

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REFLECTIONS / LESSONS

Securing the buy-in of top-government officials is central to a successful gender mainstreaming. Through the experience of establishing the inter-ministerial gender coordination mechanisms in Puntland and Somaliland, it was learnt that prior engagement with top officials in the form of gender training or some form of orientation on gender would have been important in identifying the most relevant ministerial gender focal points and ensure consistency in representation.

The convening and co-chairing of Project Board meetings by the counterpart Minister and UNDP Heads of sub-offices has proved to be more productive and crucial in demonstrating ownership, accountability and drawing more clear recommendation to address issues and challenges in project implementation.

CUMULATIVE PROJECT FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
APPROVED BUDGET	2,212,974
TOTAL (DISBURSEMENTS + COMMITMENTS)	1,049,306
BALANCE OF FUNDS	1,163,668
% DELIVERY (AGAINST APPROVED BUDGET)	47

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LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

- CAP - Contracts, Agreements and Procurement Committee
- CCE-CC - Community Capacity Enhancement - Community Conversations
- CEDAW - Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women
- CSO - Civil Society Organisation
- EOI - Expression Of Interest
- FL - Federal Level
- IP - Implementing Partner
- ISC - Implementation Steering Committee
- JMT - Judicial Monitoring Tool
- LOA - Letter of Agreement
- MCG - Micro-Credit Grant
- MoHDPS - Ministry of Human Development and Public Services (Mogadishu)
- MOLSA - Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Somaliland)
- MOWFSA - Ministry of Women and Family Social Affairs (Puntland)
- NAGAAD - Nagaad Network
- PL - Puntland
- RDI - Relief and Development International
- RFP - Request for Proposals
- SL - Somaliland
- SOP - Standard Operating Procedures
- PSU - Puntland State University
- WAWA - We Are Women Activists
- UNSCR - UN Security Council Resolution
- UNSOM - UN Mission in Somalia
- WAWA - We are Women Activists