



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

Gender Project

PROJECT:
Gender Project

PREPARED BY:
Victoria Nwogu
Bihi Egeh
Nasra Islan

PROGRAMME:
Gender

REPORT PERIOD:
Q1 - 1 January to 31 March 2014

DATE SUBMITTED:
4/24/2014 2:47:21 PM

STATUS:
Final

DONORS:
UNDP TRAC
UNDP BCPR
Denmark

CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

FEDERAL LEVEL

The cabinet reshuffle in January resulted in 25 ministers, 25 deputy ministers and 5 state ministers which is 3 times the size of the previous cabinet but the new list consists of 4 women (2 ministers and 2 deputy ministers) marking less than 10% representation.

UNDP supported a delegation from the Federal Government, Puntland State and civil society from Somaliland to participate, for the first time, at the 58th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York, from 10 to 21 March 2014. The 2014 58th CSW focused on evaluating the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) framework from a gender perspective. The priority theme for the 58th CSW was "Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls." The delegates to the CSW participate in a number of events where they made contributions on the Somali context and met counterparts from other countries and even the UN Secretary General.

PUNTLAND

On the 8th of January, a new President and Vice President were elected. Following this a new cabinet was appointed comprising of 46 members with 5 women: 2 Ministers (the Minister for Women Development and Family Affairs and the Minister for Constitution, Federal Affairs and Democratization) and 3 Deputy Ministers. These appointments of female Ministers brought the proportion of women's representation in the Puntland cabinet to 10%.

The new Parliament selected by the clans and endorsed by the Puntland Vetting and Resolutions Committee in December 2013 has only 2 female members out of 66 members.

In this period, 4 new CSOs (FAWESOM, TAG, TIDES and GECPD) were awarded MCG - Micro-Credit Grant and started implementation of GEWE sub-projects.

SOMALILAND

The World Women's day, 8th March was splendidly celebrated all over the country and magnificently in Hargeisa. Senior government officials, including the Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, international non-governmental organizations and the First Lady joined the commemoration that took in Hargeisa and they all spoke in one voice reaffirming that women's empowerment is indispensable for sustainable development.

RESULTS

SL	Indicator	4.4.1.1 Level of progress in revising and implementing existing gender policies and laws is "high", "medium" or "low"	G
	Result	A post-election study on women's participation for the local council elections has been conducted and the first draft of the study report is produced. The study informs the women's political participation programmes in Somaliland for effective planning.	
	Comment	The purpose of this study is to assess and document women's participation in elections in Somaliland, focusing on the recent municipal elections. Study revealed 39% of those who had negative attitude towards women's political participation were women themselves.	
SL	Indicator	4.1.2.1 Number of targeted advocacy campaigns implemented	G
	Result	Four Community Capacity Enhancement (CCE) sessions held in Berbera. Two sessions were focused on introduction about CCE project and relationship building with the community and the stake holders. The two other sessions were discussed on the understanding on gender and women's rights.	
	Comment	The religious leaders and the local councilors were used as community entry points and the turn out of the participants were very good in all sessions.	
SL	Indicator	4.1.2.2 Number of people reached by advocacy campaigns (est.)	G
	Result	211 people (167 female and 44 men) have been reached through community conversations sessions held in Berbera raising advocacy on issues on Gender, GBV and women's rights.	
	Comment	These sessions were held in two villages in Berbera: Sha'ab Area and the Batalale. The participants have been introduced to the CCE project and have discussed the benefit and the need for this kind dialogue. They have also discussed about the general concepts about the Gender and women's rights.	
PL	Indicator	4.1.2.2 Number of people reached by advocacy campaigns (est.)	G
	Result	310 people (175 female & 135 men), religious leaders, clan and traditional elders, youth and other influential members of the communities were reached through community conversations sessions held on issues of FGM, GBV and women's rights in Islam	
	Comment	The community conversations conducted in the communities of Eyl, Galkayo and four IDP camps in Garowe have brought together men and women in the community and created dialogue opportunities between a cross sectional representation of community groups in these places.	
SL	Indicator	Number of inter-agency gender coordination members trained on gender mainstreaming	G
	Result	In collaboration with Somaliland's Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, UNDP's Gender Unit conducted a five-day training on gender mainstreaming for 35 inter-agency Gender Coordination Members in Somaliland which comprises gender focal points from both	
	Comment	The training for the government focal points across the ministries and CSOs was to build their capacities as gender focal points who have been appointed to sit on the inter-ministerial coordination body established by the Gender Minister in SL.	
SL	Indicator	# of young women benefiting from scholarship for tertiary education.	G
	Result	30 young women benefiting from scholarship for tertiary education. The students have successfully started the second year.	
	Comment	Tuition fees and the stipend for the students' transportation and text books for the first semester of the second year was disbursed	
SL	Indicator	Counseling and Networking office established in MOE &HE to provide counseling and networking services primarily to the scholarship beneficiaries and other students	G
	Result	Counseling and Networking office established in MOE &HE and the counseling staff were recruited. They will provide counseling and networking services primarily to the scholarship students and other students.	
	Comment	Counseling and Networking office established in MOE &HE aims to provide academic and personal advice to students most closely attuned to academic needs or personal situation to help overcome challenges faced by the students	

RESULTS

SL	Indicator	Study on FGM prevalence conducted (Y/N)	G
	Result	Yes-Study was commenced and data collection is underway. The study seeks to show the current prevalence of FGM in Somaliland.	
	Comment		
SL	Indicator	Quota on women's political participation is approved by the parliament	G
	Result	The Project is currently reviewing a proposal on a quota for women's political participation by working with NAGAAD.	
	Comment	Women activists, CSOs and women's networks are currently developing strategies to build strong network of stakeholders to push the women's Quota forward	
SL	Indicator	Women Councillors (#), women MPs (#) and ministers (#) with capacity to advocate for women's rights and connected to gender advocacy networks.	G
	Result	25 people (10 women Councillors and 15 women from CSOs and Gov ministries) were provided a five days training on Gender, Advocacy and leadership.	
	Comment	As a result of learning the benefit of networking and information sharing, the women Councillors, during the training, have established Somaliland Women Councillors Network and have nominated a secretary who will take care of communications and information sharing among the network.	
SL	Indicator	Women Councillors (#), women MPs (#) and ministers (#) with capacity to advocate for women's rights and connected to gender advocacy networks cont.	G
	Result	In relation to the advocacy strategy that MOLSA developed last quarter, Advocacy Group for advocacy for women's quota was Established.	
	Comment	The group comprises government representatives with lead of MOLSA, CSOs, NAGAAD, women activists and women in the political parties. The Advocacy group has set out an action plan and will strategically engage with legislative to push the Women's Quota agenda.	
SL	Indicator	# of inter-agency gender coordination meetings held	G
	Result	Two inter-agency gender coordination meetings held. One was held on February 26th, 2014 with 21 (18F & 3M) Focal Points and the other on March 23rd, 2014 with 21 focal points attended (17F & 4M).	
	Comment	These meetings have shared information in relation to gender mainstreaming and progress of the implementation Gender policy. The focal points have also discussed the challenges on gender mainstreaming in their respective ministries.	
PL	Indicator	Number of youth (M:F) participating in dialogues on prevention of GBV and behavioural change.	G
	Result	25 selected youth groups (14 male and 11 female) were given 10 days training on basics of gender, SGBV prevention, leadership, and advocacy.	
	Comment	These selected youth held meetings and dialogues with their communities on issues of SGBV prevention and designed community actions plans on addressing SGBV collectively as well as inviting the media to play key role by hosting talk shows with the representatives of the community.	
PL	Indicator	Number of people (M:F) targeted through awareness raising on SGBV	G
	Result	Youth forums organized attended by 114 people (62 female and 52 male) between the youth advocates and representatives of the community raising awareness on SGBV from a preventative perspective.	
	Comment	Talk shows were held inviting media as well focusing on community cooperation on the prevention of sexual gender based violence and how the communities can work together to address and put in place measure to prevent SGBV	

RESULTS

PL	Indicator	Number of young women benefiting from scholarship for tertiary education.	G
	Result	30 young women scholarship beneficiaries are now in the first semester in their second year of study.	
	Comment	The scholarship beneficiaries were identified in 2012. Tuition fees for the semester have been disbursed and students are successfully pursuing their education with no challenges reported so far..	
FL	Indicator	Number of women political aspirants and candidates identified at local level for upcoming local level elections	G
	Result	32 political aspirants were identified in 16 districts of Mogadishu through a mapping and identification process	
	Comment	The women will be trained on advocacy and leadership skills in the coming quarter.	
ALL	Indicator	Study on women's involvement in the private sector conducted	G
	Result	A study on women's access to economic resources and involvement in the private sector was conducted and is aimed at informing the design of project interventions to promote women's economic development and especially their ability to grow their businesses beyond micro credits.	
	Comment	The study produced a number of recommendations on identifying entry points for scaling up women's participation in the private sector and recommend effective programme interventions that will allow women to become self-sufficient on a sustainable level	
ALL	Indicator	Number of advocacy meetings for women's quota conducted.	G
	Result	2 - UNDP Supported the Somali Women Leadership initiative to hold two meetings in Garowe and Mogadishu with various national authorities including President, prime Minister, Parliament, Elders, politicians etc to mobilize support to secure positions in the new Federal and Puntland Cabinet	
	Comment	Somali Women Leadership Initiative brought to together about 50 women to strategize about how they were going to lobby for women's representation within the reshuffling of the FGS and the Puntland elections. The meetings resulted in a Communiqué demanding women's quota.	
ALL	Indicator	Number of CSOs supported to Sensitize male and female youth on prevention of SGBV	G
	Result	10 CSOs (2:SL, 6:PL and 2:SC) were supported in this reporting period to sensitize male and female youth and empowered their engagement on SGBV prevention. 6 CSOs (1: SL, 3:PL, 2:SC) have been supported to implement CCC-CE, community awareness on SGBV prevention.	
	Comment	5 advocate youth groups clubs consisting of 100 members (50 female and 50 male) were established within schools in Garowe. The youth clubs are mentored and empowered to emerge as gender equality advocates for gender friendly policies within the schooling environment and in their communities.	
ALL	Indicator	Number of women benefitting from private and/or public measures to support women's preparedness for leadership and decision-making roles	G
	Result	UNDP collaborated with UNSOM and UNWOMEN to support a series of consultative meetings nationwide with women leaders, activists and CSOs on women's leadership in South Central & Puntland focusing on assessing progress to date & adjusting efforts to effect changes in leadership	
	Comment	The consultative meetings were an occasion to understand the changes Somali women propose to undertake when in positions of leadership and look forward and identify needs for support to achieve progress on women's political participation and leadership.	
ALL	Indicator	# of women with increased advocacy capacity through international exposure visits to engage with the broader discussion in the islamic world on women's right in Islam.	G
	Result	14 Somali delegates from the three regions attended the 58th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women held from 10th to 21st March, 2014 in New York. In collaboration with UNFPA and UNWOMEN, UNDP Gender Unit supported the participation of the Somali delegation to this event	
	Comment	The Somali delegates actively attended and participated in series of side events alongside the main official panel discussions and dialogues. They had a fruitful meetings and gained diverse experience from other states including Muslim and African countries with whom they have commonalities.	

RESULTS

ALL	Indicator	Media award given for reporting women's rights	G
	Result	The Gender Unit, in collaboration with the United Nations Information Group and national journalists associations, successfully supported the Somali Media Awards in Hargeisa, Mogadishu, and Garowe and 12 journalists (4 from each region) won awards in 4 categories including Gender and Women's Right	
	Comment	The UN Media Awards ceremonies in each of the respective areas were attended by government ministers, political parties, civil society members, UN/INGO representatives and others and awards of computers and recorders were given to the winners.	
ALL	Indicator	Number of Women CSOs and key personnel in government trained on grant management and gender advocacy skills	G
	Result	11 CSOs, key personnel of Ministries of Gender and Education were trained on grant management (proposal writing, budget management, implementation and reporting), and conflict sensitive gender advocacy and networking skills from the 3 regions of Somalia.	
	Comment	The training for the CSOs as well as key personnel in the gender machineries was conducted to build their capacities in advocacy on women's issues and to have the skills required of them to effectively implement GEWE programming.	

Gender Project



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

FEDERAL LEVEL

UNDP's Gender Unit, in collaboration with the United Nations Information Group and national journalists associations, successfully supported the Somali Media Awards in Mogadishu, Hargeisa and Garowe and 12 journalists received awards. The awards endeavor to identify, acknowledge, inspire, support and promote media excellence in Somalia.

In collaboration with UNFPA and UNWOMEN, UNDP Gender Unit has supported the participation of the Somali delegation at the 58th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women to held from 10th to 21st March, 2014 in New York. About 14 Somali delegates from the three regions attended the event and the respective agencies had technically, logistically and financially supported the delegation to attend this important event for the first time.

PUNTLAND

UNDP's Gender Unit, in collaboration with the United Nations Information Group and national journalists associations, successfully supported the Somali Media Awards in Garowe. UNDP collaborated with UNSOM and UN Women, to support the Gender Ministry in Puntland to commemorate IWD and Somali Women Leadership Initiative to convene a consultative meeting bringing together women in Puntland, to mark the IWD. The meeting focused on the role and future of Somali women's leadership. The meeting deliberated on their achievements, challenges and produced several recommendations on the way forward to enhance the role of the women leaders, especially in the political sphere. 11 CSOs & key personnel from gender ministries from the 3 regions were trained on grant management and gender advocacy skills

SOMALILAND

In relation to the advocacy strategy that MOLSA developed last quarter, "Advocacy Group" comprising government representatives with lead of MOLSA, CSOs, NAGAAD, women activists and women in political parties, was established for advocacy for women's quota. The Advocacy group has set out an action plan and will strategically engage with legislative to push the Women's Quota agenda.

As part of the Somali delegation who made to the 58th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women held from 10th to 21st March, 2014 in New York with the support of UNDP, UNFPA and UNWOMEN, the representative of Somaliland CSOs- NAGAAD E.D, Ms. Nafisa- had a courtesy meeting with the UN Secretary General, and discussed with him the situation of Somali women.

PARTNERSHIPS

In this quarter, the UNDP Gender Unit collaborated with UNSOM, UN WOMEN and UNFPA in supporting the Somali Women Leadership Initiative to advance women political participation and commemorate International Women's Day.

In partnership with UNFPA and UNWomen the unit supported a Somali Delegation to participate for the first time at the 58th Commission on Status of Women meeting in New York.

Also UNDP Gender Unit in collaboration with United Nations Information Group and national journalists associations successfully supported the Somali Media Awards in Hargeisa, Mogadishu, and Garowe and 12 journalists won awards (four from each region) in Gender and Women's Rights. The quality of the winning pieces displayed significant growth in a complex landscape and potential for the better with support and nurturing.

Gender Project



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

PEACE AND CONFLICT

The CCE-CC methodology involves engaging communities at the local level to transform values and practices that are inimical to social cohesion and collective progress. The methodology creates platform for dialogue on burning issues (such as gender, peace-building, security and HIV/AIDS) that are not otherwise subject of public discussion due to perception as taboo subjects. Dialogues are skillfully facilitated to boost community ability and skills to recognize their own concerns and agree on solutions. As the CCE-CCs are being rolled out for the first time in 6 communities nationwide, work with religious leaders is vital to anticipate and check potential religious resistance that may lead to conflict regarding promotion of women's rights.

GENDER

The Gender Unit continued to provide gender mainstreaming support across all UNDP programmes and operations. All 2014 work plans have been thoroughly reviewed, feedback provided to project teams and appropriate gender markers assigned. In response to the recommendations from the initial gender seal assessment of the CO, the CO's Gender Focal team has been reformulated and merged with the Senior Management Team. Gender issues will form a standing agenda item at the SMT monthly and can be included as AOB at any weekly meeting. In the same vein, the Gender Action Plan for improvement on the gender seal initial assessment has been adopted as the CO's Gender Action Plan for 2014.

The Gender Unit continues to be represented on all CO executive committees where contracts, project documents, procurement and recruitment processes are thoroughly reviewed through a gender lens.

The Gender Strategy Progress Report for 2013 is in the final draft stage. It will be published in the next quarter.

UPCOMING QUARTER

In the upcoming quarter, the planned activities include: Gender Training for UNDP Programmes and Operations Staff, CCE-CCE Refresher Training, continued implementation of MCGs, Development of Strategic Plan for Ministry of Gender in Puntland, Developing and signing an agreement (MCG) on Advocacy on Women's Quota with NAGAAD in Somaliland; and finalizing the gender studies conducted in Somaliland: FGM prevalence study and Post-election study on women's participation in the local council elections.

In May, the project will conduct a validation of the draft study of women's role in the private sector with key stakeholders, donors and partners in all three regions. The event will double as an advocacy opportunity for women's effective inclusion in the private sector as the target audience will probe issues of how to increase women's access to resources, women's employment and viable strategies for stimulating women's entrepreneurship in Somalia.

Gender Project



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

REFLECTIONS / LESSONS

Participation at international forums by the counterparts is not only an effective strategy for interacting and learning experiences from the world, but also served as a fresh injection of motivation and self esteem of the Somali women. The Somali delegation including civil society from Somaliland made a very historic presence and remarkable participation, for the first time, at the 58th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York, from 10th to 21st March 2014. The delegates expressed their gratitude for the networking, learning and advocacy opportunity that the 'outing' provided them as they perceived their attendance at this important event as having the potential to herald the re-emergence of the women of Somalia onto the international gender arena. Comparative to other participants at the CSW58, participants clearly noted that there Somalia is making slow but encouraging progress - given the challenges on the ground - towards achieving gender equality and women's empowerment. However, what is lacking is systematic processes of drawing the lessons/success stories of these achievements and effectively documenting and publicizing them. Planning for the delegation's travel to the event raised a couple of lessons such as the need to allow ample time for planning. There were significant causes for anxiety on the logistics. The CSW is a fixed annual event, the decision to support the Somali delegation - being a collaborative inter-agency effort - could have been made earlier and planning commenced. Effective coordination and preparation of the thematic areas of focus for the delegates' participation ensured that their attention and contributions at the event were strategic and they were able to make meaningful use of their time attending relevant portions of the CSW activities. For example, the side events on FGM and women's political participation which were chosen as the focal themes for the delegates' participation.

The changing central government structures - especially in Puntland and Mogadishu - continued to occasion significant delays in project implement due to the need to engage with new counterparts and secure their buy-in to interventions and agreements designed with their predecessors. The reformulation of the Ministry responsible for gender in Mogadishu for instance led to some uncertainty as to how - and with whom - to implement the gender tertiary scholarships which initially fell under one portfolio when the previous ministry had responsibility for both gender and education. The project has also had to wait for reconstitution of gender coordination mechanisms which will include gender focal points from other government sectors in both regions in order to deliver gender mainstreaming training planned since last year; with the consultant on standby. Another consultant has also been on standby since November 2013 to help with development of the Puntland Gender Strategic Plan.

CUMULATIVE PROJECT FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
APPROVED BUDGET	1,335,508
TOTAL (DISBURSEMENTS + COMMITMENTS)	292,905
BALANCE OF FUNDS	1,042,603
% DELIVERY (AGAINST APPROVED BUDGET)	22

Gender Project



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

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