

HIV / AIDS Project



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

PROJECT:
HIV / AIDS Project

PREPARED BY:
Mubarik Mohamoud
Ruth Pfeleiderer

PROGRAMME:
HIV / AIDS

REPORT PERIOD:
Q2 - 1 April to 30 June 2014

DATE SUBMITTED:
7/20/2014 10:15:57 AM

STATUS:
Final

DONORS:
UNICEF (Global Fund)
UNDP TRAC

CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

FEDERAL LEVEL

All three zones continue to work closely together in the HIV response. In particular, this was evident in the development of the HIV National Strategic Plan 2015-19. There is one NSP, with 3 operational plans that reflect the regional differences. The NSP was validated and endorsed in a Meeting in Kampala in April in by representatives from all Somali zones, government (AIDS Commissions and MoH), civil society, PLHIV, key at risk populations, and also UN and donors.

PUNTLAND

Puntland AIDS Commission continued to be active despite the fact that it has no agreement with UNDP, and relies on direct payments, which makes implementation of activities more challenging (this is due to financial mismanagement by a former staff in 2012). UNDP has decided to develop a new LoA with PAC in Q3, covering the period until December 2014.

The election in February did not have an effect on the staffing of the AIDS Commission, with the Executive Director retaining his position.

SOMALILAND

This Quarter (Q2) in Somaliland many HIV activities took place in different regions namely Burao, Berbera, Borama and Hargeisa. Apart from the community conversations, other HIV activities including "Know your rights" and Psychosocial counseling trainings took place in Hargeisa and Burao. AIDS commission has conducted 3 IPTCS/M&E meetings and quarterly communication meeting. These meetings improved coordination and streamlining IPTCS data of all HIV stakeholders in Somaliland. UNDP provided technical support to HIV Gender assessment survey in coordination with SOLNAC and UNAIDS.

SOLNAC continues to provide leadership in the HIV response. The Ministry of Health is becoming much more involved, and wanted to take the lead. There were tensions between two entities regarding their respective roles, which became very apparent in the NSP Kampala validation meeting. These were addressed at zonal level, and relations have significantly improved.

RESULTS

SL	Indicator	3.1.2.5 Number of people reached through HIV & AIDS awareness raising	G
	Result	In Q1 and Q2, a total of 2,651 persons were reached in the target areas. Out of these: Q1: Total = 1,129. Q2: Total = 1,522	
	Comment	76% of people reached in Q2 were women. The majority of people reached in this quarter participated in the community conversation project in Berbera, Burao and Hargeisa.	
PL	Indicator	3.1.2.5 Number of people reached through HIV & AIDS awareness raising	G
	Result	A total of 1,530 have been reached in PL during the 6 month period. Q1: Total = 768. Q2: Total = 762, F: 526, M: 236)	
	Comment	The results come form Community conversation sessions being implemented in Garowe and Bossaso.	
FL	Indicator	3.1.2.5 Number of people reached through HIV & AIDS awareness raising	G
	Result	A total of 1,142 people were reached in PL during the 6 month period. Q1: Total = 340. Q2: Total = 802, F: 526, M: 236 and for 40 persons the sex is not known.	
	Comment	The results come form Community conversation sessions being implemented in Mogadishu and Gedo region, and training of influential leaders.	
SL	Indicator	Community Conversations on HIV take place in # identified project sites for a period of 12 months	G
	Result	49 Community conversations on HIV took place. Q2 results: total = 25, of these 18 in Berbera (4 villages), 4 in Boroma and 3 in Hargeisa.	
	Comment	CC sessions target so-called hot spots where there are more at risk people living. Religious and community leaders and PLHIV act as resource persons. CC sessions allow the communities to discuss burning issues beyond HIV. Communities are becoming more actively involved in organising the CC sessions	
SL	Indicator	Approximately # of people participate in Community conversations inn 12 months	G
	Result	1246 (F: 948; M: 298) people reached through CC sessions in Somaliland.	
	Comment	Community conversation sessions are reducing stigma and discrimination against PLHIV. It is realistically seen that PLHIV in the community are now participating CC sessions and sharing their experiences. Many people are coming to CC sites to get basic HIV information as well.	
SL	Indicator	# of Community committee and leaders provided with training on Basic HIV & AIDS in Hargeisa, Borama and Berbera	Y
	Result	Local council refresher training on HIV will be conducted in Berbera in July.	
	Comment	Refresher training on HIV for Berbera local council was postponed to July by YOVENCO NGO.	
SL	Indicator	# of administrative support provided to Somaliland National AIDS Commission	G
	Result	The support from the Global fund covered the running costs of the AIDS commission e.g. salaries of staff, communication costs, utilities costs and costs to host coordination meetings etc.	
	Comment	The support ensured that Somaliland National AIDS Commission (SOLNAC) have the capacity to coordinate and monitor a multisectoral, sustainable response to HIV & AIDS.	

RESULTS

SL	Indicator	# of AIDS commission: Coordination meetings (IPTCS and M&E)	G
	Result	3 IPTCS and M&E meetings took place in Q2 in Somaliland	
	Comment	AIDS Commission conducted 3 IPTCS and M&E working group meetings with key stakeholders to support and coordinate programme activities, share information, review and streamline M&E/IPTCS data and programme activities.	
SL	Indicator	# of Quarterly Communication meeting	G
	Result	One quarter communication meeting took place in Somaliland	
	Comment	AIDS commission conducted quarterly communication and human resource meeting to improve coordination and communication among HIV stakeholders and partners in Somaliland	
SL	Indicator	# of times messages aired on Radio stations	G
	Result	3 HIV messages aired on daily basis from Hargeisa Radio on 5 days week.	
	Comment	AIDS commission monitors HIV radio programs that have been released from Hargeisa radio.	
SL	Indicator	# of PLHIV accessing legal aid	G
	Result	Training on 'Knowing your rights' in Boroma and Burao: T: 100, F:60, M:40) and 'Beneficial disclosure' for PLHIV. (Q1: T:50, F:29, M:21). All trainings Q2: T:75, F:53, M:22).	
	Comment	The objective of these trainings was to increase the knowledge of the participants on the concepts of human rights in the field of HIV/AIDS and identify violations of human rights relating to HIV/AIDS- where they occur and their impact.	
SL	Indicator	# of Quarterly Review meetings	R
	Result	No Quarterly review meeting took place in Somaliland in Q2	
	Comment	The reason was that AIDS commission was busy on UNAIDS Gender HIV analysis assessment survey. The Q2 review meeting will take place in July.	
PL	Indicator	Community Conversations on HIV take place in # identified project sites for a period of 12 months	G
	Result	30 Community conversations on HIV took place. Q1 and Q2 results each: total = 15, of these 9 in Bossaso (4 villages), 6 in Garowe (2 villages)	
	Comment	The involvement of resource persons such as religious leaders, local government officials, PLHIV and PAC M&E staff, who have received training on HIV/AIDS, contributes to strengthen the CCs and reduce stigma.	
PL	Indicator	Approximately # of people participate in Community conversations in 12 months	G
	Result	A total of 1,341 people participated in CC sessions. Q1: 374 in Bossaso and 205 in Garowe. Q2: T:762, F:526, M:236. 456 in Bossaso and 306 in Garowe.	
	Comment	The majority of participants are still women, but the number of men reached is increasing. the involvement of men is important in the reduction of stigma	

RESULTS

PL	Indicator	# of Community committee and leaders provided with training on Basic HIV & AIDS in Puntland	G
	Result	In Q1, 240 people participated in HIV and leadership training in Bossaso. There were no trainings planned for Q2.	
	Comment	The trained community leaders act as resource persons in the community conversation sessions. Their opinions play a large role in shaping the community attitude towards HIV&AIDS.	
PL	Indicator	# of administrative support provided to Puntland AIDS Commission	G
	Result	PAC was able to provide coordination support to the PL multi-sectoral HIV response through regular coordination meetings, monitoring and field visits, and leading the development of the new HIV National Strategic Plan 2015-19.	
	Comment	The support from the Global fund covered the running costs of the AIDS commission e.g. salaries of staff, communication costs, utilities costs and costs to host coordination meetings etc.. Monitoring visits to IPTCS sites took place in June.	
PL	Indicator	# of AIDS commission: Coordination meetings (IPTCS and M&E), communication, quarterly review meeting	G
	Result	monthly IPTCS working group meeting: Q1: 1 meeting, Q2 - 3 meetings. 1 Quarterly programme review meeting in Q2	
	Comment	During Q1 PAC focused on organising the zonal consultation for the new National Strategic Plan. During Q2, regular coordination meetings have resumed. There has been no Commission meeting to date.	
PL	Indicator	# of AIDS Commission meetings	G
	Result	no meeting took place during Q1 and Q2 of 2014	
	Comment	This is planned for Q4.	
FL	Indicator	Community Conversations on HIV take place in # identified project sites for a period of 12 months	G
	Result	16 CC sessions have been conducted in Mogadishu and Gedo regions. Q1: 4 sessions. Q2: 12 sessions.	
	Comment	The good relationship between the local authorities in Mogadishu and the implementing partner AAWDO means that the authorities are very supportive of the CCs and also act as resource persons.	
FL	Indicator	Approximately # of people participate in Community conversations in 12 months	G
	Result	A total of 838 people have participated in CCs in Mogadishu and Gedo. Q1: 111 in Mogadishu and 98 in Gedo. Q2: Mogadishu: T:327, F:234, M:93. Gedo region: T:302, F:154, M:148)	
	Comment	CCs in Gedo started in March. The partner HDC have close links with the local authority in those areas, AIDS commission and PLHIV network. They manage several VCT sites. The CCs will bridge the gap between services and communities and encourage more people to access services.	
FL	Indicator	# of Community committee and leaders provided with training on Basic HIV & AIDS	G
	Result	A 4 day training was provided for 40 people (F:32, M:8) in June.	
	Comment	The main objective of this training was to equip them with basic information on HIV and AIDS. The training also aimed at gaining their backing and support to roll out Community Conversation on HIV. Trainees included Community Elders, Teachers, Health workers, Religious Leaders and loc. govt.	

RESULTS

FL	Indicator	# of administrative support provided to South-central AIDS Commission (SCAC)	G
	Result	SCAC was able to provide coordination support to the PL multi-sectoral HIV response through regular coordination meetings, monitoring and field visits, and leading the development of the new HIV National Strategic Plan 2015-19	
	Comment	The support from the Global fund covered the running costs of the AIDS commission e.g. salaries of staff, communication costs, utilities costs and costs to host coordination meetings etc.	
FL	Indicator	# of AIDS commission: Coordination meetings (IPTCS and M&E), communication, quarterly review meeting	Y
	Result	A 2 day consultation in Mogadishu and 3 day consultation in Baidoa took place in January for the development of the HIV National Strategic Plan. One joint communication and mobilisation meeting took place in June.	
	Comment	There were delays in developing a LoA with SCAC for 2014 activities, and that led to a reduction in coordination meetings. It should be mentioned that SCAC organised the participation of all relevant stakeholders in the NSP Validation meeting in Kampala in April.	
FL	Indicator	# of AIDS Commission meetings	G
	Result	no AIDS Commission meeting took place to date.	
	Comment	This is planned for Q4	
FL	Indicator	# of times messages aired on Radio stations	G
	Result	A total of 1,092 times one of 15 standardised radio messages was aired.	
	Comment	4 radio stations that have the largest coverage are airing one of 15 standardised messages 3 times a day for 4 months. Radio Kulmiye, Radio VOD, Radio Banadir and Radio Risaala .	
ALL	Indicator	A new HIV national Strategic Plan for 2014-2019 developed, together with operational implementation plans for SL, PL, FG.	G
	Result	The NSP and operational plans were developed in Q1 and validated in April. Finalisation after more comments in July.	
	Comment	Finalisation after more comments in July. The accompanying M&E plans will also be finalised in July. The NSP forms the basis for the development of a new proposal to the Global Fund, to be submitted in August. Extensive consultations took place in all 3 zones, a with all stakeholders.	
ALL	Indicator	HIV policy review, finalisation, launch and printing.	R
	Result	to activity to date to finalise policies.	
	Comment	this activity has been postponed to 2015.	
SL	Indicator	# of site visits by Project staff	G
	Result	1 (Attended Know your rights training for PLHIV in Buraao) 1 (Participated CC sessions in Hargeisa) 1 (Consultative meeting for conducting Gender HIV assessment)	
	Comment	The HIV Area Project Manager was hired recently and Joined office in May 15 but managed to attend as many meetings and activities of Q2 in Somaliland	

RESULTS

PL	Indicator	# of site visits by project staff	G
	Result	All coordination meetings in Garowe were supported by UNDP. UNDP also provided regular technical support to TASS, who are based in Garowe.	
	Comment	In Q3 the project officer will visit Bossaso. The Nairobi-based HIV specialist was not able to travel to Puntland in Q2.	
FL	Indicator	# of site visits by project staff	G
	Result	The project officer visited the new CC sites in Gedo region, and continuous support to SCAC and AAWDO in Mogadishu.	
	Comment	Purpose is to monitor activities and provide technical support. The security situation remains a challenge and at times limits the movements of UNDP staff. the Nairobi-based HIV specialist was not able to visit Mogadishu during Q2.	

HIV / AIDS Project



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

FEDERAL LEVEL

A highlight for all three zones was the participation of a range of stakeholders in the validation meeting for the HIV National Strategic Plan 2015-19 in Kampala in April. The NSP is supported by three zonal operational plans. In July the accompanying M&E plan will be finalised. The NSP is the guiding document for the HIV response in Somalia for the coming years, and for the development of the next Global Fund proposal, which will be submitted in August.

PUNTLAND

PAC continued to be active despite the fact that it has no agreement with UNDP, and relies on direct payments, which makes implementation of activities more challenging. UNDP has decided to develop a new LoA with PAC in Q3.

SOMALILAND

In Somaliland, Community Conversations garnering much attention from the people. 1246 people (F: 948; M: 298) have been reached in 25 Community conversation sessions on HIV conducted in target areas of Berbera, Borama and Hargeisa. There is HIV Radio messages that is aired from Hargeisa radio on daily basis targeting the general population to reduce stigma and discrimination. AIDS Commission conducted 3 IPTCS and M&E working group meetings with key stakeholders to support and coordinate programme activities, share information, review and streamline M&E/IPTCS data and programme activities. President of Somaliland reiterated his support towards NAC during the yearly official speech of the president in front of the cabinet and the parliament.

PARTNERSHIPS

SL: Somaliland National AIDS Commission (SOLNAC) is the main government institution mandated to nationally coordinate HIV response in the region and supported by UNDP HIV unit. YOVENCO and Talowadag are the key partners for HIV & AIDS projects. They are very strong partners that are implementing Community Conversation on HIV in Berbera, Borama and Hargeisa. TALOWADAG PLHIV network has taken up the role of implementing CC in Hargeisa and Borama and also supporting in empowering PLHIV through provision of skill development trainings and know your rights trainings.

PL: UNDP works with the Puntland AIDS Commission (PAC). NGO partners implementing the community conversations are Badbaado in Bossaso and TASS in Garowe. They continue to be strong partners.

FL: UNDP continues to work closely with South-Central AIDS Commission (SCAC) to help them better coordinate and support all HIV stakeholders. UNDP works with 2 local NGOs, AAWDO and HDC to support the rights of PLHIV. These NGOs have also started Community Conversations in Gedo and Benadir regions.

ALL: UNDP has been working very closely with UNAIDs (as the lead) and other UN agencies on the development of the HIV National Strategic Plan.

HIV / AIDS Project



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

PEACE AND CONFLICT

There continues to be a misunderstanding about the different roles of the Ministry of Health and the AIDS Commissions in the HIV response, which has led to tensions between the two government institutions. Competition for resources is a contributing factor. The tensions were particularly strong in Somaliland, but SOLNAC and MoH managed to address the issues and relations have significantly improved. The work of the MoH is critical in addressing all medical components of the HIV response, as is the role of the AIDS Commissions in relation to strengthening and coordinating the multi-sectoral response.

Of concern is the current representation on the Global Fund Steering Committee, which is still dominated by the MoH. Somalia aims at setting up a Country Coordinating Mechanism (which is the main coordinating body for the Global Fund). This will address many of the issues of representation.

GENDER

Majority of HIV unit programme beneficiaries remain women (approx. two thirds). Community Conversations attracted many women and girls and this has improved women's HIV information. Community Conversation empowered women and provided a platform to raise their issues and explore local solutions. The participation of all UNDP project staff in the UNDP gender training will contribute in future to further strengthen the gender component of the project. The HIV project now has 3 male project officers, one female project assistant, and one female HIV specialist.

UPCOMING QUARTER

1. Development of the Global Fund Concept Note under the New Funding Model (Global Fund proposal). UNDP is taking the lead in hiring the consultant and organising zonal consultations (through support to the AIDS Commissions) and the Global Fund Steering Committee meeting. UNDP is also providing technical input into the proposal.
2. Continued support to AIDS Commissions
3. UNDP will continue to provide on going technical support for HIV coordination meetings
4. Continuation of monthly HIV Community Conversations
5. JUNTA retreat in July
6. Focus on integrating HIV into UNDP programme and project documents currently being developed.
- 7: Resource mobilisation efforts outside the Global Fund

HIV / AIDS Project



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

REFLECTIONS / LESSONS

Funding from the Global Fund for the Somali HIV response will be significantly reduced in the coming three years, compared to previous years. Since the Global Fund still remains the main donor, and provides the bulk of funding, there will be a significant funding gap from 2015. The NSP outlines the priority HIV activities, and the Global Fund proposal will not even cover half those costs. Therefore, it is imperative for UNDP and partners to explore additional sources of funding, and to dispel the myth that through the Global Fund the HIV response in Somalia is covered. The JUNTA and UNCT believe in the importance of a continuation in supporting the HIV response in Somalia, in order to be able to contain the epidemic and to prevent an increase in incidence and prevalence of HIV, and to be able to provide treatment, care and support to those effected.

Community Conversation sessions has attracted many people to get HIV basic information. It is community driven approach where participants explore cultural practices that fuels HIV transmission. Communities prepared local action plans to fight against HIV and some CC sites committee even supported socio-economically to PLHIV. Continuation and supporting Community conversation approach will be important to continue as part of HIV response in Somalia.

CUMULATIVE PROJECT FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
APPROVED BUDGET	1,562,621
TOTAL (DISBURSEMENTS + COMMITMENTS)	580,695
BALANCE OF FUNDS	981,926
% DELIVERY (AGAINST APPROVED BUDGET)	37.16%

HIV / AIDS Project



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

CC – Community Conversations on HIV

IPTCS – Integrated HIV Prevention Treatment Care and Support

PLHIV – People Living with HIV

SCAC – South Central AIDS Commission

SOLNAC – Somaliland AIDS Commission

VCT – Voluntary Councelling and Testing

PAC- Puntland AIDS Commission

PL - Puntland

SL - Somaliland

FL - Federal Level