

HIV / AIDS Project



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PROJECT:
HIV / AIDS Project

PREPARED BY:
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PROGRAMME:
HIV / AIDS

REPORT PERIOD:
Q3 - 1 July to 30 September 2012

DATE SUBMITTED:
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STATUS:
Final

DONORS:
UNICEF (Global Fund)
Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria
UNDP TRAC

CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

FEDERAL LEVEL

UNDP have been supporting South Central AIDS Commission (SCAC) for 2 years and have built up a strong working relationship with the commission. However, the commission have also been affected by the delay in funds from the Global Fund for 2012. Work has also been delayed due to the recent elections in Mogadishu. In South Central there are also on-going discussions as the AIDS Commission falls under the Ministry of Health, whereas in Somaliland and Puntland the President is the Chair of the AIDS Commissions in order to support mainstreaming HIV into all sectors work.

With the opening up of more towns in the south, UNDP and other HIV actors are looking at ways to expand HIV awareness and care services to Kismayo, Marko and the Kismayo - Dadaab corridor, however with the expected cut in the Global Fund grant for Somalia for 2013 & 2014 this is likely to be a challenge.

PUNTLAND

UNDP have also been nominated to take over from UNICEF (the principal recipient of the Global Fund for Somalia) to support the Puntland AIDS Commission (PAC) for Phase II of the Global Fund grant (2012-2014) and Puntland has been affected by the delay in disbursements from the Global Fund for work expected to take place in Q3.

Due to poor financial and narrative reporting from the Puntland AIDS Commission (PAC), UNDP has also not been able to release the next tranche of funds to Puntland AIDS Commission (PAC) which has delayed the implementation of the HIV work plan in Q3. However, funds are expected to arrive from the Global Fund in October 2012, and therefore we are hopeful that this challenge will be addressed. It is also envisaged that the new Head Of Sub Office in Garowe (UNDP) will meet with the Minister Of Planning to help iron out poor financial reporting challenges that we are experiencing with the Puntland AIDS Commission.

SOMALILAND

During Q3 UNDP participated in a series of meetings and discussions, together with the UN Joint Team on AIDS (JUNTA) to discuss UNDP taking over from UNICEF as the lead UN agency to support the Somaliland AIDS Commission (SOLNAC). This decision is based on the globally agreed UNAIDS division of labour that is based on UNDPs comparative advantage in having close relationships with other government sectors, that are in a position to support mainstreaming HIV.

Also the Global Fund Phase II grant for Somalia has been delayed (funds for 2012 had still not been released at the end of Q3) which is having a negative impact on the morale of many in the sector. In addition the Global Fund grant for 2013 & 2014 has been cut substantially from \$10 to \$7 million. Therefore the UN Joint Team on AIDS need to explore other fund raising channels such as the CAP as well as strengthening mainstreaming HIV into the work of all projects / programmes supported by UN agencies.

RESULTS

ALL	Indicator	3.1.2.5 Number of people reached through HIV & AIDS awareness raising	G
	Result	1960 people reached (1252 women, 708 men)	
	Comment	Community conversations reached 1960 people in Q3. In addition HIV messages were aired on radio stations in Somaliland, Puntland. However, it is difficult to identify exact numbers reached.	
ALL	Indicator	3.2.1.1 Number of policies, legal and institutional frameworks revised, updated and/or formulated for inclusive growth	Y
	Result	1	
	Comment	Due to poor financial reporting from PAC UNDP has not made progress in Puntland on this work. In South Central work on finalising the HIV Policy was affected by the elections.	
ALL	Indicator	3.2.3.1 Number of women and youth engaged in micro, small and medium enterprises and have access to micro-finance	Y
	Result	0	
	Comment	The HIV Unit in collaboration with PREP have signed an agreement with Talawadag Network for People Living with HIV in Somaliland, however programme implementation has been delayed to Q4.	
SL	Indicator	# of PLHIV who attend 2 days 'Know Your Rights' training in Berbera & Burao	G
	Result	35 (18 male, 17 female)	
	Comment	PLHIV received 4 days training on 'knowing your rights' and became more familiar with their basic rights. In addition a PLHIV support group was established in Berbera.	
SL	Indicator	# of PLHIV who received ongoing counselling per quarter	G
	Result	192	
	Comment	Group counseling was established as result of the high percentage of women PLHIV. The counseling provided information on HIV prevention and treatment services, which include information on PMTCT,	
SL	Indicator	# of people who attend 5 days leadership training	G
	Result	32 (11 female, 21 male)	
	Comment	The training was based on UNDP's Leadership for Results Toolkit. It aimed to strengthen leaders' ability to inspire & motivate individuals to take action.	
SL	Indicator	# of adults trained on HIV	Y
	Result	0	
	Comment	This is based on integrating HIV into other UNDP projects on-going training with the police, judiciary and youth at risk, and takes place when training is facilitated.	

RESULTS

SL	Indicator	# of youths who were trained on HIV	Y
	Result	0	
	Comment	The Youth At Risk project did not have any training for youth in Burao in Q3. HIV training is integrated into on-going training provided by the AVR project for Youth At Risk.	
SL	Indicator	# of community conversation sessions held in Togwajaale and Berbera	G
	Result	24	
	Comment	Community conversations (15 in Berbera and 9 in Togwajaale) enhanced local communities' capacity to discuss HIV prevention, care, treatment and support interventions in their community	
SL	Indicator	# of community conversation session beneficiaries	G
	Result	1265 (840 female, 425 male)	
	Comment	There has been an increased commitment to Community conversations by village committees, and regular participation by the from community members (individuals) has been observed.	
PL	Indicator	# of community conversation sessions held in Bossaso and Garowe	G
	Result	12	
	Comment	The community conversations have become an interesting venue for the local community to discuss and exchange views about the effects of HIV. Community conversations attract people to monthly sessions.	
PL	Indicator	# of community conversation session beneficiaries	G
	Result	695 (412 female, 283 male)	
	Comment	The participation of local council members, religious leaders and VTC experts have shown leadership and in turn increased the number of people attending these meetings.	
PL	Indicator	# of PLHIV trained on IGA (PREP synergy)	Y
	Result	0	
	Comment	Two local NGOs have been identified and selected to implement this IGA intervention in Puntland. Both IGA proposals are in their last stages of being finalized.	
PL	Indicator	# of PLHIV offered financial support to start IGA activity (PREP synergy)	Y
	Result	0	
	Comment	As mentioned above NGO partners are currently finalising their proposals. Financial support for PLHIV is expected to be offered in Q4.	

RESULTS

PL	Indicator	# of PLHIV who attend 2 days 'Know Your Rights' training	Y
	Result	0	
	Comment	This training is linked to proposals mentioned above which are currently being finalised to support IGA as well as 'Knowing Your Rights' training for PLHIV in Bossaso and Garowe.	
PL	Indicator	# of participants in final policy review meeting	R
	Result	0	
	Comment	This activity has been held up due to poor financial and narrative reporting from Puntland AIDS Commission.	
PL	Indicator	# of policy copies printed and distributed	R
	Result	0	
	Comment	The HIV Unit needs to finalise outstanding issues linked to poor financial reporting from Puntland Aids Commission before this activity can take place.	
PL	Indicator	# of web site visits (hits) per quarter	Y
	Result	TBD	
	Comment	The Puntland Aids Commission website is live but we do not have this information.	
PL	Indicator	# of HIV regional working groups held	R
	Result	0	
	Comment	All work with Puntland AIDS Commission has been suspended until financial irregularities have been clarified.	
PL	Indicator	# of 'religious leaders networks' implementing 'Cairo 2011' visit outcomes	Y
	Result	1	
	Comment	One religious leader who participated in the Cairo visit spoke in Friday sermons at mosques in Garowe and Gardo urging people to be aware of HIV and fight against stigma.	
PL	Indicator	# of religious leaders who attend high level advocacy Garowe workshop	R
	Result	0	
	Comment	Strong partnership with PAC is needed to make this high level advocacy workshop a success. Ministry of Religious Affairs might be an alternative institution to work with noting challenges with PAC.	

RESULTS

PL	Indicator	# of people who attend 5 days leadership training	G
	Result	36 (17 female, 19 male)	
	Comment	The participants come from government departments and civil society and agreed on break through initiatives to address HIV, peace & gender issues in their work/communities.	
PL	Indicator	# of youths who were trained on HIV	Y
	Result	0	
	Comment	In Q2, basic HIV training was provided to 313 youth at the youth in Bossaso and Galkayo under the AVR project. The next HIV training will be conducted when a new group brought on board by AVR project.	
PL	Indicator	# of adults trained on HIV	Y
	Result	0	
	Comment	HIV training is integrated into other UNDP projects when appropriate. No such training took place in Q3 in Puntland.	
PL	Indicator	# of local government staff and local leaders trained on HIV	Y
	Result	0	
	Comment	District council members as well as many influential leaders and business people in both Garowe and Bossaso were given basic HIV and Aids training in Q2.	
FL	Indicator	# Meetings with SC Authorities to finalize the policy	Y
	Result	0	
	Comment	Delayed due to the delay in the release of funds from the Global Fund for 2012.	
FL	Indicator	# of participants who attend the above meeting to finalize the policy	R
	Result	0	
	Comment	Postponed to Q4	
FL	Indicator	# of final policy (in Somali language) Printed and disseminated	R
	Result	0	
	Comment	Postponed to Q4	

RESULTS

FL	Indicator	# of Religious leaders network implementing Cairo 2011 visit outcome	G
	Result	1	
	Comment	Mogadishu based RL network actively worked with SCAC to reorganise PLHIV network in Mogadishu and continue to offer spiritual counselling to PLHIV.	
FL	Indicator	# of people who attend 5 days leadership training	G
	Result	15	
	Comment	15 HIV / gender/ peace actors attended Leadership for Results training held in Hargeisa. The team developed a Breakthrough Initiative they are expected to work on before 2nd phase of the training.	
FL	Indicator	# of PLHIV offered financial support to start IGA activity in S & C in partnership with PREP	Y
	Result	0	
	Comment	Partnership agreement with a local implementing partner is being discussed and expected to be finalised in Q4	
FL	Indicator	# of PLHIV who attend 2 days Know your right Training	Y
	Result	0	
	Comment	A local implementing partnership Agreement is being finalised for the activity to be implemented in Q4	
FL	Indicator	# of PLHIV trained on IGA (PREP synergy)	Y
	Result	0	
	Comment	Finalized the IGA proposal and MCG signed, the release of the first payment is under way.	
SL	Indicator	# of intersite review meetings held	G
	Result	1 reflection meeting held in Berbera	
	Comment	The session provided an opportunity to discuss the progress & challenges of rolling out Community Conversations on HIV and the important role of community facilitators with NGO partners.	
PL	Indicator	# of intersite review meetings held	R
	Result	0	
	Comment	Postponed to Q4	

RESULTS

PL	Indicator	# of meetings attended by Gender Advisor	Y
	Result	0	
	Comment	The Puntland Aids Commission has not reported any progress of this activity.	
FL	Indicator	# of policy finalization meetings with authorities	R
	Result	0	
	Comment	Postponed to Q4 due to the election in South Central	
ALL	Indicator	# of site visits by project staff, disaggregated by region	G
	Result	36	
	Comment	HIV Area Project Managers in all zones undertook regular meetings with all our partners, conducting at least one project visit per week each.	



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ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

FEDERAL LEVEL

14 participants from South Central Somalia attended Leadership for Results training in Hargeisa in July 2012. This included representatives from government ministries, institutions, local government, CSO's, PLHIV, religious leaders, and the media. The training aimed to equip leaders and stakeholders with the capacity to inspire and sustained committed action and stimulate new thinking, new action

PUNTLAND

The community conversations have steadily progressed and attracted more people due to the strong participation of district council members and community leaders. Lack of positive cooperation from the Puntland Aids Commission have hindered the finalization of Puntland HIV policy document. Processes ongoing to formalize partnership with 2 new local NGOs to implement IGA project for PLHIV.

SOMALILAND

The CCE tool enhanced communities' ability to engage in dialogue that helped them to identify key drivers of HIV epidemic in Berbera & Togwajale. Through the ongoing monthly dialogue communities realized that the best way to deal with structural drivers of the epidemic is to involve religious leaders as leading actors in community awareness and addressing stigma and discrimination.

PARTNERSHIPS

Somaliland: Our collaboration with 2 NGOs implementing community conversations on HIV continue to be very strong. The HIV Unit also have a strong relationship with the Network for PLHIV in Somaliland and are excited about the new IGA initiative targeting People Living with HIV that we will support in collaboration with PREP. The 'Leadership for Results' training conducted for 33 people in Hargeisa (July) provided an opportunity to strengthen our relationships to support mainstreaming HIV into the work of a variety of partners. The HIV radio activity is currently being evaluated and next steps planned thereafter.

Puntland: Our partnership agreements with 2 local NGOs implementing Community Conversations continue to be strong. The HIV Unit is also close to finalising two agreements with two new local NGOs to support PLHIV with income generating activities. Our greatest challenge in Puntland is working with as well as receiving acceptable narrative and financial reports from Puntland AIDS Commission.

South Central: There was strong participation of HIV actors from South Central in the Leadership for Results training (July) which we hope will help build capacity of partners in South Central. UNDP continues to have a strong relationship with South Central AIDS Commission (SCAC), however work in South Central has been delayed due to the election as well as the delays in Global Fund funding for 2012.

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PEACE AND CONFLICT

Following a decision by UN agencies for UNDP to take over as the lead UN Agency to support Somaliland and Puntland AIDS Commissions, there was strong resistance from each Commission. This resulted in a series of communication between UNDP, UNICEF and the Ministries of Planning in each region. However, as the above relates to the globally agreed UNAIDS division of labour, following a meeting with the Resident Coordinator and the Executive Director of Somaliland AIDS Commission we are hopeful that this issue has now been resolved and that UNDP will be able to build strong working relationships with each Commission. Also in order to address weak financial reporting we would like to request for PPU to arrange LOA financial management training. N.B. UNDP has been the lead UN Agency supporting South Central AIDS Commission (SCAC) for the last 2 years where partners have commented they have noticed a significant improvement in their capacity in terms of coordinating the HIV response.

GENDER

Women continue to represent the majority of participants in most of the training supported by the unit. This includes at community conversations on HIV supported in Somaliland and Puntland, as well as training conducted for PLHIV on 'Knowing your Rights'. We have also ensured in the new income generating initiative with are finalising with PREP that 70% of the project's beneficiaries should be women. In addition during the Leadership For Results training that our unit recently supported in collaboration with the gender and peace building units we made a concerted effort to ensure that at least 50% of participants from each zone were women.

Indeed we have had to make a planned effort to reach out to more men to participate in community conversations on HIV, which we have managed to achieve by supporting separate sessions for young male youth.

UPCOMING QUARTER

The key activities that our unit will focus on in Q4 will be holding 'Review and Planning Meetings' with each AIDS Commission to agree on how best UNDP can support them to deliver their work in 2013. This will feed into our UNDP work plan for 2013. We shall also work closely with PREP to ensure that the new initiative supporting income generating activities for People Living with HIV (PLHIV) is given all the support it requires to be successful. Lastly, noting the cuts in the Global Fund for Somalia UNDP is playing a key role in collaboration with other UN Joint Team on AIDS colleagues to see how best we can mainstream HIV & AIDS into the CAP for 2013 -2015.

Due to the delays in Global Fund monies for 2012 as well as challenges we are having in working with Puntland AIDS Commission (PAC), plus noting we are still waiting for a new government to be confirmed in South Central it is likely we will need to review and adjust the HIV work plan for 2013.



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REFLECTIONS / LESSONS

Lessons learnt and reflections from Q3 include:

1. NGOs and Non-State Actors in Somalia such as Radio SBC are strong partners to work with to help raise awareness about HIV in Somalia
2. By mainstreaming HIV into the work of other projects at UNDP e.g. Youth At Risk and the Police, UNDP can reach a large group of high risk individuals in Somalia
3. Noting cuts from the Global Fund, the need to mainstream HIV into the work of all projects at UNDP needs to be strengthened in 2013 work plans.
4. The HIV Unit worked with the gender and peace building units at UNDP to support 'Leadership for Results' training in Somalia in July. This joint initiative provided an opportunity to strengthen internal synergies and increased cooperation among local leaders who devised breakthrough initiatives on these three cross-cutting issues as a collective responsibility. However, a lesson learnt is that when supporting training such as this that tries to address three such critical issues, it is easy to under-estimate the amount of time needed for such a workshop/meeting.
5. The leadership training was co-facilitated by a prominent religious leader in Somaliland which proved an added value in addressing sensitive issues such as HIV and Gender. We would recommend other UNDP projects to do the same to strengthen buy-in from local counterparts on sensitive issues.
6. Experience from the leadership training in Hargeisa is that due to flight availability it is far better to plan for people from South Central to participate in training in Hargeisa rather than in Garowe.
7. Due to the cuts in the Global Fund grant for Somalia, UNDP and other members of the UN Joint Team on AIDS need to try and integrate HIV and AIDS into the CAP for 2013-2015 which will be a three year CAP.
8. In order to strengthen linkages between People Living with HIV (PLHIV) and Legal Aid Clinics supported by UNDP, it is recommended that all training on 'Knowing your Rights' that UNDP supports should be facilitated by Lawyers from the Legal Aid Clinics. However, to ensure that all lawyers these lawyers are sensitized on issues related to HIV and do not discriminate against PLHIV the HIV and justice project plan to host training for all these lawyers.
9. There is a need to strengthen linkages between the HIV unit and JPLG to explore opportunities of including HIV in district development plans.

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CUMULATIVE PROJECT FINANCIAL SUMMARY

APPROVED BUDGET	1,219,156
TOTAL (DISBURSEMENTS + COMMITMENTS)	1,015,845
BALANCE OF FUNDS	89,767
% DELIVERY (AGAINST APPROVED BUDGET)	92%