

Gender Project



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CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

FEDERAL LEVEL

With the election of the national federal parliament in Mogadishu, there are a number of new opportunities for women's rights and gender equality. Despite advocacy for a quota of 30% women, and its inclusion in the Garowe II principles, this was not included in the final provisional constitution, and to date, only 14% are women. Constitution article 133 specifically sets out a process for amendment of the provisional constitution, within the first term of parliament, before it is ratified into a final constitution.

The establishment / appointments to key parliamentary committees, including the National Human Rights Commission, also presents an opportunity for representation of women, and the inclusion of gender sensitive issues into these thematic areas. Schedule D identifies 22 priority laws to be enacted and a Gender Policy is also expected to be developed.

PUNTLAND

In September, the gender project received the news that the Minister for Women Development and Family Affairs, Asha Gelle, had been replaced in a cabinet reshuffle. This minister had been particularly supportive of UNDP's gender project, and many of the LOA advancements and other local initiatives had been due to her good reputation, relationships, and perseverance. It is not yet clear who the replacement will be.

Additionally, prior to the removal of the minister the draft Gender Policy for Puntland, which she had been pushing for adoption, was rejected by the cabinet as it did not enjoy the support of the majority male members, including the President.

SOMALILAND

Somaliland's National Electoral Commission (NEC) has announced the local council election will be on the 28th of November 2012. This election will see the largest number of women council candidates, 142, running to win seats in their respective regions and districts. Women activists hailed this number as a promising sign for women's confidence amid facing formidable challenges from legislative bodies. Advocacy groups for women and minorities in Somaliland have raised concerns about their political role in government after members of the lower house voted down a provision that would have established a quota for their representation in parliament - "The bill was defeated because assigning quotas for particular groups is unconstitutional" said first Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Farah, after the vote. President Silanyo submitted a report to parliament in July 2012 on ways to encourage women and minority groups inclusion.

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PROGRAMME:
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RESULTS

SL	Indicator	4.1.2.1 Number of targeted advocacy campaigns implemented	G
	Result	MCG / LOAs signed with NAGAAD / MOLSA respectively, and advocacy campaigns on women's rights planned	
	Comment	A number of advocacy campaigns will be launched in Q4 focusing on local elections and the importance of women's inclusion. The advocacy campaigns will continue until the election on 28 November	
SL	Indicator	4.1.2.2 Number of people reached by advocacy campaigns (est.)	Y
	Result	TBD	
	Comment	NAGAAD's planned advocacy campaigns on the women's quota will reach a significant number of people via media outlets	
SL	Indicator	4.1.2.3 Number of dialogue spaces created to discuss women's rights and role in Somali society	G
	Result	2 dialogues were conducted to discuss women's rights to political participation	
	Comment	NAGAAD organized women's groups and activists and met with president of Somaliland to push for the women's quota. NAGAAD also conducted a sensitization meeting with religious and traditional leaders	
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	MOLSA and UNDP have signed an LOA to carry out civic education campaigns.	
	Comment	Civic education campaigns are planned for Q4 and a number of CSOs are engaged in conducting campaigns alongside MOLSA.	
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	Low	
	Comment	LOA has been signed with MOLSA to develop an implementation plan for the Somaliland National Gender Policy. The activity will be implemented in Q4.	
PL	Indicator	4.4.1.2 Somalia government ratifies CEDAW	Y
	Result	130 women reached in consultative meeting to discuss realization of the 30% quota.	
	Comment	The women agreed on a communique on implementation of the 30% quota in the new political structures. Women in regions reached through advocacy campaigns by MOWDAFA	
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	TBD	
	Comment	The activity implementation is delayed due to the change in the ministry and will be implemented in Q4 once the new MOWDAFA minister resumes office.	

RESULTS

FL	Indicator	4.1.2.2 Number of people reached by advocacy campaigns (est.)	R
	Result	TBD	
	Comment	CSO selection process for implementation of the related activity is still ongoing.	
FL	Indicator	4.4.1.1 Level of progress in revising and implementing existing gender policies and laws is "high", "medium" or "low"	R
	Result	Low	
	Comment	The changing political landscape in Somalia with the election of the NFP and end of the transition necessitated a pause in activities planned with the MOWFC.	
ALL	Indicator	4.1.1.1 Number of women that complete leadership training programmes	G
	Result	30 women selected from all 3 regions completed the leadership trainings.	
	Comment	Due to challenges with flight availability, not all invited participants could attend the trainings.	
ALL	Indicator	4.1.3.1 Number of 'champions' identified among boys/men as a direct result of gender equality advocacy and training	G
	Result	48 men selected from all 3 regions completed the leadership trainings.	
	Comment	Due to challenges with flight availability, not all invited participants could attend the trainings	
SL	Indicator	Number of civic education campaigns conducted on increasing women's participation in the local council elections	G
	Result	The LOA is signed with MOLSA to conduct these civic campaigns but none have been implemented yet	
	Comment	The necessary paper work has been finalized; it is a strategic time to carry out these campaigns as the local elections will be held in Q4 of 2012	
SL	Indicator	Number of women elected in the 2012 district council elections	Y
	Result	The election is yet to happen	
	Comment	The district council election is schedules for November 28, 2012	
SL	Indicator	Advocacy on affirmative action strategy agreed and implemented by MOLSA and women's groups	Y
	Result	TBD	
	Comment	This was not reached but it is in the planing stage.	

RESULTS

SL	Indicator	Number of women offered scholarships to pursue tertiary education	G
	Result	LOA signed with MOE, committees for selection of scholarship beneficiaries nominated.	
	Comment	4 meetings have been conducted, and the committee is nominated and awaiting results of the exam which is one of the criteria for providing the scholarships	
SL	Indicator	Number of women candidates for political offices identified and trained	G
	Result	142 women candidates for local council elections identified across SL regions / districts	
	Comment	In comparison to the previous elections, this is a relatively high number. Training will be carried out once the final candidates are confirmed by their parties.	
SL	Indicator	Number of women offered scholarships to pursue tertiary education	R
	Result	Nil	
	Comment	Preparations have started; indicator target will be reached in Q4	
PL	Indicator	Number of women attending the PL consultative forum on 30% affirmative action for women in leadership	G
	Result	130 women reached in consultative meetings to realization of 30% quota for women	
	Comment	The women agreed on a communique on implementation of the 30% quota for women in the new political structures in Somalia. Women in regions reached through advocacy campaigns by MOWDAFA	
PL	Indicator	Number of women attending community dialogues / conversations in raising awareness for human rights (from an Islamic perspective)	Y
	Result	The selection process is completed and review of proposals from women's CBOs ongoing	
	Comment	Implementation of MCGs will start in Q4	
PL	Indicator	Number of women candidates for political offices identified and trained	Y
	Result	The selection process is completed and review of proposals from women's CBOs ongoing	
	Comment	Implementation of MCGs will start in Q4	
PL	Indicator	Number of women offered scholarships to pursue tertiary education	Y
	Result	LOA was signed with the MOE and management committee established.	
	Comment	Work plan for implementation developed and committee will meet in Q4 to agree on the selection criteria.	

RESULTS

PL	Indicator	Gender policy adopted, published and disseminated	Y
	Result	Gender Policy was presented to Cabinet and was not passed. The Gender Strategic Plan review ongoing	
	Comment	Due to the change of the Minister in MOWDAFA, the adaptaion process of the policy was halted until the new Minister resumes in office	
PL	Indicator	Number of inter-agency gender coordination mechanism meetings	R
	Result	TBD	
	Comment	Delays in implementation of activities due to the change of minister in MOWDAFA.	
PL	Indicator	Number of community awareness raising campaigns on FGM conducted and people reached	R
	Result	TBD	
	Comment	Delays in implementation of activities due to the change of minister in MOWDAFA.	
PL	Indicator	Number of FGM practitioners and young women participating in inter-generational dialogues on FGM	R
	Result	TBD	
	Comment	Delays in implementation of activities due to the change of minister in MOWDAFA.	
PL	Indicator	Number of women practitioners trained and number of women making a living from the alternative livelihood provided	R
	Result	TBD	
	Comment	Delays in implementation of activities due to the change of minister in MOWDAFA.	
PL	Indicator	Number of youth involved in dialogues on GBV prevention	R
	Result	TBD	
	Comment	Delays in implementation of activities due to the change of minister in MOWDAFA.	
PL	Indicator	Gender resource center established	R
	Result	List of equipment for the center been agreed and procurement process initiated	
	Comment	Discussions with UNHABITAT will confirm when and how fast the Gender Resource Centre can be built and what is achievable in 2012	

RESULTS

FL	Indicator	Number of people reached in community awareness campaigns on GBV and FGM	R
	Result	Nil	
	Comment	Activity not started. CSO selections process is still ongoing	
FL	Indicator	Number of FGM practitioners and young women participating in inter-generational dialogues on FGM	R
	Result	Nil	
	Comment	Activity not started. CSO selections process is still ongoing	
FL	Indicator	Number of male and female youth involved in dialogues on GBV prevention	R
	Result	Nil	
	Comment	Activity not started. CSO selections process is still ongoing	
FL	Indicator	SC draft gender policy adopted	R
	Result	Nil	
	Comment	LOA with MOWFC suspended due to political transition processes in Somalia	
FL	Indicator	Number of inter-agency gender coordination mechanism meetings	R
	Result	Nil	
	Comment	LOA with MOWFC suspended due to political transition processes in Somalia	
ALL	Indicator	Number of gender related breakthrough initiatives implemented by GEWE champions	G
	Result	9 breakthrough initiatives were established by the beneficiaries of the leadership training.	
	Comment	The Gender, HIV and Peace units continue to monitor and support implementation by the trainees	
ALL	Indicator	Number of grants awarded to women's CSOs	G
	Result	1 MCG signed with NAGAAD to advocate for women's quota in Somaliland	
	Comment	9 out of 29 NGOs nationwide were pre-qualified. The 9 successful NGOs underwent a physical verification and RFPs were sent to them. Assessment of the received proposals is ongoing.	

RESULTS

ALL	Indicator	Leadership training report for GEWE male and female champions obtained	G
	Result	Leadership training report finalized with participation disaggregated by sex.	
	Comment	The report also details all the breakthrough initiatives developed by the trainees and documents lessons for future trainings.	
ALL	Indicator	Number of GEWE Project Board Quarterly meetings held	G
	Result	Project Review Board meetings were held in the 2nd and 3rd quarter in Puntland and Somaliland.	
	Comment	Project Board meetings could'nt be held in the South Central due to a congestion of activities in the region due to political processes to end the transition and non-start of GEWE implementation there	
ALL	Indicator	Equipment and car bought, consultant hired to support MOLSA	G
	Result	2: 1 vehicle each has been procured for the ministries in PL and SL.	
	Comment	The vehicles will be delivered at the end of October	



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ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

FEDERAL LEVEL

Activities have not commenced in the region due to recent political developments and the ongoing CSO selection process.

PUNTLAND

The change of the MOWDAFA minister who was a supporter of GEWE implementation has been removed hence delays in implementation of some activities. The national consultative meeting and advocacy campaign for implementation of the 30% quota was successful and a comprehensive communique was collectively agreed and adopted. A TOR for a gender consultant was developed to support LOA implementation.

SOMALILAND

In this reporting period, so far 2 LOAs and 1 MCG were signed with MOLSA, MOE, and NAGAAD respectively. For MOLSA's case, a TOR for a consultant to lead the implementation of the LOA activities was developed and finalized with them, and recruitment is underway. In collaboration with NAGAAD, women candidates for local elections were identified - 142 candidates are registered and confirmed.

PARTNERSHIPS

The project has actively engaged in collaborating with other projects. The gender and PREP programmes were both intending to partner with Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in Somaliland, so a joint LOA was developed, with activities planned to complement and inform each other. Similarly, both the gender project and Access to Justice (A2J) projects planned to support WAWA and NAGAAD, CSOs in Puntland and Somaliland, respectively - and the gender project will now take responsibility for a MCG in close coordination with A2J. Leadership training was provided for gender champions in Somaliland and Puntland in close collaboration with the UNDP Peace and HIV programmes. In addition, the project will be working with UNPOS to implement activities to support the recently elected women MPs in the Federal Parliament of Somalia and CSOs to push for women's issues, with Quick Impact Funds received from BCPR. This follows on from a meeting attended by the project in Mogadishu, organized by UNPOS, to meet with the women MPs and discuss their priorities and areas of immediate support to be provided by the UN. The project continues to represent UNDP in the inter-agency 'Gender Theme Group', and also attends the 'GBV Working Group'. Lastly, the project participated in the 'Open Day for Somalia' organized jointly by UNPOS, UNDP, and UN WOMEN and the women gave recommendations for strategic interventions for Somali women and peace.

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PEACE AND CONFLICT

Continuous consultations in the development of the project and involvement of relevant stakeholders in implementation will significantly prevent any anticipated internal conflicts in project implementation.

GENDER

The second 'Gender Focal Team' meeting was held in Nairobi on 27 September, with the theme: 'Women's Participation in Public Life and Decision-Making in Somalia: Securing Quantities while Guaranteeing Quality Participation.' The cross-cutting nature of the topic was noted by all participants. With the "100 Days" window following the election of the new parliament and government in Somalia, the meeting discussed opportunities for increasing women's participation and representation in the new and emerging political processes. As an immediate action, the project will also conduct mapping of existing UNDP initiatives that address gender to create linkages, address gaps in terms of immediate priorities, etc. In addition, the gender project provided inputs to RBAS for the 'Gender Steering and Implementation Committee Reporting Template: Progress Report on the Implementation of the Gender Equality Strategy 2012'.

UPCOMING QUARTER

Activities to be prioritized in Q4 include media consultations to assess the capacity and constraints faced by media in Somalia in terms of reporting (both quantitatively and qualitatively) on women's issues; follow-up on the recently held leadership trainings; the disbursement of university scholarships for young women in Puntland and Somaliland; finalization of MCGs with CSOs in all 3 regions on awareness raising around FGM / SGBV, political participation and the provision of support to female MPs in the new National Federal Parliament, as well as awareness raising about the role of women in politics and government in the lead up to local elections in Somaliland.

Some activities in the work plan have been delayed due to delays with partners, but implementation in the coming quarter is expected to pick up with increased staff and the signing of LOAs.



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REFLECTIONS / LESSONS

Working through local CSOs / CBOs, is a particular challenge as capacities are generally low. The project planned micro-capital grants for all 3 regions of Somalia, and put out an Expression of Interest in July, which had to be followed up with a review of qualifications and physical verifications. This was timely, as it involved a number of UNDP staff, and is a reminder that capacity development for these organizations must be built into the support provided to them. To date, the MCGs have not been finalized, as following the RFPs, the proposals received still did not meet UNDP standards, and are being revised until strategic and relevant activities are agreed upon. The MCGs under GROL which were shifted to the gender project faced similar problems, as their proposals did not meet UNDP standards and are also still being revised.

Another issue for the project has been the political changes in Puntland, where a cabinet reshuffle resulted in the Minister for Women's Affairs being replaced. It is not yet clear what this means for the project, as she had been both an advocate for UNDP's interventions as well one of the main players in pushing gender equality forward in the state. Close communication with the ministry will be carried out in the coming weeks, and an introduction with the new minister will be organized as soon as they arrive.

New recruitment in this quarter has resulted in the gender project now having its full complement of staff i.e. a Project Manager, an International UNV (field based), an international JPO (Nairobi based), 2 field based national staff officers, and an intern in Nairobi.

The quarterly project review boards have proved an invaluable vehicle for communicating and reaching consensus with partners on project milestones, achievements and constraints. The all-inclusive representation of all partners and primary clients on the boards have ensured that expectations are effectively managed and diverse roles and contributions all have to play in achieving project milestones are clarified without conflict.

CUMULATIVE PROJECT FINANCIAL SUMMARY

APPROVED BUDGET	1,139,479
TOTAL (DISBURSEMENTS + COMMITMENTS)	338,642
BALANCE OF FUNDS	800,837
% DELIVERY (AGAINST APPROVED BUDGET)	30

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