

Environment Project



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PROJECT:
Environment Project

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PROGRAMME:
Poverty Reduction & Environment
Protection

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DONORS:
UNDP TRAC
UNDP BCPR
Japan
GEF

CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

FEDERAL LEVEL

The run-up to the New Deal Conference on Somalia, held under the auspices of the European Union on 16 September in Brussels, saw a series of deliberations around the Peace and State Building Goals (PSGs) for the Country. The Somali Compact adopted at the conference has prioritised sustainable development and management of natural resources as the priority area for the revitalisation and expansion of Somali economy. The draft Economic Recovery Plan, presented at the Conference in support of the Compact, has specific reference to sound natural resources management as a critical area of support. In this regard, UNDP's strategic programmes on charcoal and climate change will directly contribute to the objectives of the Economic Recovery Plan and the Compact.

The volatile security situation in the South had implications on the implementation of planned initiatives. For example, solar energy project for Baidoa hospital has been delayed due to travel restrictions for the assessment teams.

PUNTLAND

A fairly positive energy was observed within the environment institutions (government and non-government) of Puntland during the quarter. This has been largely the result of commencement of EU funded (around Euros 25.0 million) programme to support Puntland in institutional capacity building, rehabilitation of degraded rangelands and promoting alternates to charcoal for meeting the basic energy needs. UNDP has consulted EU offices and the institutions engaged in project implementation to avoid overlap of similar activities planned through UNDP support. UNDP has also been co-opted as observer member of the EU's project steering committee.

With the elections for the next government drawing closer – existing set-up is in a mode of urgency for getting funds to show on-ground results to the constituents. However, this potentially can compromise the quality and accountability standards required by the supporting organisations.

SOMALILAND

The Somali Compact emerging from the New Deal Conference has a separate section on "Somaliland Arrangement". The PSG4 on Economic Foundation for Somaliland is specific in highlighting the root causes of environmental degradation. Implementation of environmental strategy, that addresses desertification, promote alternates to charcoal and protect land, water, forest and marine resources, has been prioritised for economic recovery in Somaliland. Need for promoting affordable energy sources and sustainable development of extractive industry is also included in the Compact. UNDP's environment and energy portfolio is fully aligned to support these areas of the Compact through its on-going and planned activities in the region.

The government of Somaliland convened environment coordination platform (established with UNDP's assistance) for sector coordination. The Minister of Environment chairs the platform and findings of the platform feed into the progress reports of Somaliland 5 year plan.

RESULTS

	Indicator	3.3.1.2 Number of sector plans developed that are disaster and environment sensitive	
SL	Result	One sector plan for disaster risks reduction in Somaliland planned.	R
	Comment	Activities for the achievement of this indicator have been at standstill due to delays in the approvals of UN Joint Programme on disaster risk management.	
	Indicator	3.3.2.2 Number of community-based infrastructure established to mitigate the impact of floods and droughts	
SL	Result	1 reservoir of 10,000 cubic meters capacity and 50 community infrastructures completed in Ban Awl for water harvesting and floods mitigation. A total of around 225 households and 350 pastorals benefitting from this scheme.	G
	Comment	All the works have been completed and result achieved. 30% of the beneficiaries are women.	
	Indicator	3.3.2.3 Number of public – private partnerships developed to manage waste sustainably	
SL	Result	1 demo project on trash to cash (through public private partnerships) for urban waste management planned.	Y
	Comment	Activities leading to this result could not be initiated due to paucity of funds. The concept note is now being revised to undertake scaled down activities within the scope of available funds.	
	Indicator	3.3.2.1 Number of communities and beneficiaries using alternative and renewable energy sources	
SL	Result	Procurement for the installation of 3 solar energy systems in hospitals in progress.	G
	Comment	Procurement process is in final stages of approvals. Activities for Somaliland for the installation of solar systems will be completed in the fourth quarter as originally planned.	
	Indicator	3.3.1.2 Number of sector plans developed that are disaster and environment sensitive	
PL	Result	2 sector plans (environment policy and disaster preparedness / response strategy) planned.	R
	Comment	Activities for the achievement of this indicator have been at standstill because of shortage of funds.	
	Indicator	3.3.2.2 Number of community-based infrastructure established to mitigate the impact of floods and droughts	
PL	Result	Construction of 75 floods training (flood protection works) infrastructures and rehabilitation of 2,000 hectares of degraded land planned.	Y
	Comment	Additional funds are needed to initiate activities leading to this result.	
	Indicator	3.3.2.1 Number of communities and beneficiaries using alternative and renewable energy sources	
PL	Result	Procurement for the installation of 3 solar energy systems in hospitals in progress.	G
	Comment	The procurement process is in final stages of approvals. The activities for Puntland for the installation of solar systems will be completed in the fourth quarter as originally planned.	
	Indicator	3.3.2.3 Number of public – private partnerships developed to manage waste sustainably	
PL	Result	1 demo project on trash to cash (through public private partnerships) for urban waste management planned.	R
	Comment	Additional funds are needed to initiate activities leading to this result.	

RESULTS

	Indicator	3.3.1.1 Level of progress to develop a National Adaptation Plan of Action in consultation with civil society is "high", "medium" or "low"	
FL	Result	National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) completed. Follow-up project for the implementation of NAPA formulated. The project is aimed at enhancing climate resilience of the vulnerable communities and ecosystems in Somalia. Level of progress is high.	G
	Comment	NAPA follow-up project endorsed by the government and is currently being appraised by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for funding. USD 8.9 million will be secured for Somalia under this project.	
	Indicator	3.3.1.2 Number of sector plans developed that are disaster and environment sensitive	
FL	Result	Marine ecosystems strategic action programme and policy harmonisation plan for the management of marine environment initiated for Somalia.	G
	Comment	The action programme and policy harmonisation plan are part of a regional project of UNDP/GEF that covers 9 countries of Western Indian Ocean. The sectoral plans to be completed in 2014.	
	Indicator	3.3.2.1 Number of communities and beneficiaries using alternative and renewable energy sources	
FL	Result	Procurement of 4 solar energy systems for hospitals and other health facilities in progress to improve access to reliable sources of energy. On average selected health facilities cater for 2,200 patients per month with women to men ratio of 45:55.	Y
	Comment	The activities are behind schedule by 6 weeks. This is mainly due to the delay in completing the procurement process that involved approvals from UNDP regional office.	
	Indicator	3.3.2.5 Number of policy dialogues facilitated on current trans-boundary water management and extractive industries practice	
FL	Result	Draft National Environment Policy for Somalia completed by the Ministry of National Resources, Federal Government of Somalia. Draft policy has recommendations for the trans-boundary water management and extractive industries.	Y
	Comment	Draft National Environment Policy covers the trans-boundary water management issues. The public debate on the draft policy will take place during quarter 4 of 2013.	
	Indicator	Capacity building of Ministry of Minerals, Water and Energy Resources for the effective implementation of Energy Act	
SL	Result	Capacities needs to be established within the framework of Energy Act.	Y
	Comment	The indicator is part of the UN-Government Joint Programme for Sustainable Charcoal Production and Alternative Livelihoods. Progress towards the indicator will be dependent on funds availability.	
	Indicator	Ministry of Energy has assessed the potential of using alternatives to charcoal for meeting the basic energy needs.	
SL	Result	Possible alternates to charcoal identified.	Y
	Comment	The indicator is part of the UN-Government Joint Programme for Sustainable Charcoal Production and Alternative Livelihoods. Progress towards the indicator will be dependent on funds availability.	
	Indicator	Economic potential of marine resources available.	
PL	Result	Initial discussions held with FAO to undertake the assessment using the resources under the GEF/FAO project for the preparation of National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP).	G
	Comment	Formal agreement of FAO to be conveyed to the government of Puntland during quarter 4.	
	Indicator	Enhanced capacity to negotiate international conventions and multi-lateral environmental agreements.	
PL	Result	Ministry of Environment and UNEP brought on-board to sensitise 25 participants from Puntland on environmental conventions and protocols. Further details on participants mix will be available in November 2013.	G
	Comment	Sensitisation workshop to be held in November 2013.	

RESULTS

	Indicator	New value chain of Sustainable Wood Fuel introduced to support local communities who have lost income as a result of the charcoal ban	
FL	Result	Preliminary analysis of the charcoal value chain beneficiaries completed. However, the establishment of value chain for sustainable wood fuel is delayed.	Y
	Comment	The indicator is part of the UN-Government Programme on Sustainable Charcoal Production and Alternative Livelihoods. UNDP is leading the resource mobilisation efforts to secure funds from donors.	
	Indicator	3,500 unemployed youth and women - F:2000 and M:1500 -(who were occasionally hired for charcoal production) professionally trained through vocational and skills training to promote appropriate technologies	
FL	Result	700 unemployed youth and 300 women engaged in charcoal value chain to be trained during Year-I of the charcoal programme implementation.	Y
	Comment	The indicator is part of the UN-Government Programme on Sustainable Charcoal Production and Alternative Livelihoods. UNDP is leading the resource mobilisation efforts to secure funds from donors.	
	Indicator	Market for Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) for two major towns developed and energy efficient cook stoves widely promoted to establish local energy efficiency ventures to reduce the charcoal use.	
FL	Result	Preliminary discussions held with the officials in public and private institutions to develop the business plan for wider diffusion of alternate technologies (including LPG and energy efficient stoves).	Y
	Comment	The indicator is part of the UN-Government Programme on Sustainable Charcoal Production and Alternative Livelihoods. UNDP is leading the resource mobilisation efforts to secure funds from donors.	
	Indicator	Complete Strategic Environmental Assessment for Somalia and train 30 officials of public sector institutions for undertaking environmental impact assessments.	
FL	Result	Concept note for undertaking the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and training of 30 officials finalised.	R
	Comment	Implementation of activities towards this indicator has been postponed to 2014 due to funding constraints.	

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ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

FEDERAL LEVEL

Development partners meeting was convened with the objective of raising funds from potential donors. Concept note on charcoal programme has been submitted to the Government of Japan for securing funds under supplementary budget. Bilateral meetings held with Sweden, Norway, Italy and European Union to discuss the details of the programme.

USD 8.9 million project on climate change adaptation submitted to GEF

PUNTLAND

Coordination meetings were held with Ministry of Environment, Care International and African Development Solutions (ADESO) to finalise first year work plan of charcoal programme. In addition, UNDP has agreed to undertake a policy study on "Economics of Land Degradation" in Puntland. FAO support for undertaking the marine resources assessment was also discussed.

Ministry of Health was consulted to finalise locations for solar energy systems.

The upcoming election in Puntland has increased the political activities in region. This has also brought to fore cases with probable financial misappropriation by some of Ministries. Environment project has taken a cautious approach and has not entered into any implementation level agreement with the Puntland institutions.

SOMALILAND

The options for revitalising the Disaster Risks Management Programme (DRM) for Somaliland were considered. UNDP and UNOCHA agreed on scaling down the proposed Joint Programme and focus on activities relating to institutional capacity development, awareness raising and early warning systems. During the first phase, one region of Somaliland will be selected for establishing the coordination mechanisms, setting up of the early warning systems and capacity building of the key officials in the region.

The new Minister of Environment was briefed on the funding situation and possible future support from UNDP.

Ministry of Health was consulted to finalise locations for solar energy systems.

PARTNERSHIPS

EXTERNAL PARTNERS:

Ministry of National Resources, Federal Government of Somalia, to access environment financing from global funds, such as, Global Environment Facility (GEF).

Government ministries and local communities for the implementation of projects for environment management, energy efficiency, renewable energy and disaster risks reduction.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and FAO to partner for the implementation of sustainable alternatives to Charcoal Trade and Use.

Least Developed Countries Climate Fund (LDCF) to fund preparation and implementation of National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) in response to Climate Change for Somalia.

Government of Japan for the promotion of Alternative Sources of Energy (solar in particular) in hospitals and other public buildings in Somalia.

INTERNAL PARTNERS:

Charcoal initiative to engage the projects under Governance and Rule of Law (GROL) Programme and UN Joint Programme on Local Governance (JPLG) for activities related to development of legal frameworks and enforcement

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PEACE AND CONFLICT

Risk mitigation against conflicts is an integral part of all project implementation activities. The environment project works within the UNDP's Peace and Development framework to highlight potential risks of conflict and opportunities for peace building. All new initiatives to be implemented under the project are reviewed to ensure that conflict prevention and peace building elements are fully integrated at the design and work planning stages.

Project had a discussion with the Minister of Environment and informed him of the on-going investigations on the use of funds by the Ministry of Youth in Puntland. Implications on the findings of the investigations on the future agreements with implementing partners were discussed. Minister expressed his understanding and agreed for putting in place proper checks to minimise the risks of misappropriation.

GENDER

Gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment are critical to the sustainability of initiatives aimed at improving environmental management. It is widely recognised that women are the real natural resources managers in developing countries, as they carry the responsibility of harnessing natural resources to meet the basic needs of families.

The recently approved Strategic Plan of UNDP (2014-17) considers natural resources management, access to energy, energy efficiency, climate change adaptation & mitigation and disaster risks reduction as key to promote sustainable development pathways. The activities and programmes under these areas would have to be gender responsive to fully capitalise on the potential of UNDP work in Somalia. The activities and programmes under these areas would have to be gender responsive to fully capitalise on the potential of our work in Somalia. All the activities in environment project work plan are categorised from gender perspective.

UPCOMING QUARTER

Milestones:

- 1) Fund raising for the Charcoal Reduction Programme.
- 2) Approval of final project document for accessing additional funds from GEF under National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) to the GEF Secretariat.
- 3) Installation of solar energy systems in selected hospitals, health centers and other public buildings utilising funds from the Government of Japan.
- 4) Complete draft National Environment Policy and Action Plan with federal government.

Risks: Paucity of funds can delay the planned activities for the year 2013. While the project has a robust pipeline of new initiatives the results will only be achieved if additional donor funds are allocated for implementation.



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REFLECTIONS / LESSONS

- 1) The focus on natural resources management, environment and climate change in the New Deal Compact and draft Economic Recovery Plan for Somalia provides the opportunity to have long term response to environmental challenges in Somalia. The natural alignment of on-going and new initiatives of UNDP under the environment and energy portfolio will contribute to the objectives of the New Deal Compact.
- 2) Consultations with the line ministries while finalising the work plan for 2013 proved to be extremely useful. There is strong buy-in and support from the government in Somalia, communities and donors/development partners to address the environmental challenges as part of the development process. Regional and local interventions to address the root causes of environmental degradation in Somalia attract diverse implementation partners from the government, UN and civil society.
- 3) It is important to continue capacity building programme for the environment related institutions in the Federal Government of Somalia. The Federal Government is keen to work in the areas of environment, disaster risks reduction and energy. Environment related programmes can also be designed to overcome political barriers and contribute to peace building efforts.
- 4) Understanding of challenges in the areas of environment, climate change and disasters risk reduction (DRR) is fairly high among decision makers across all three regions. However, implementation capacities are extremely weak, resulting in disjointed approach that threatens to stall the implementation of medium to long term development programmes. The planning processes and identification of regional priorities are not very well established, resulting in delays in approvals and the implementation of programmes.
- 5) For community based initiatives at the local level, it is important for all components of the UNDP-PREP programme to work together. The objectives of the UNDP-PREP programme components are mutually supportive and can substantially complement each other.
- 6) The shifting focus of the international community to the federal government has created competing demands from the governments of Puntland and Somaliland. It is important to keep a balance according to the needs of various regions.
- 7) Environment and natural resources management initiatives need to have a certain degree of continuity for a wider impact. It is important for donors to consider multi-year funding allocations for environment related initiatives.
- 8) The attack on the UN Common Compound in Mogadishu will have implications for implementation modalities of on-going/planned projects. It is important to assess these implications and come up with a set of options that can be realistically implemented.

CUMULATIVE PROJECT FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
APPROVED BUDGET	USD 1,009,711.00
TOTAL (DISBURSEMENTS + COMMITMENTS)	USD 511,137.00
BALANCE OF FUNDS	USD 498,574.00
% DELIVERY (AGAINST APPROVED BUDGET)	51%

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LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

- CC – Climate Change
- DRM – Disasters Risk Management
- DRR – Disasters Risks Reduction
- EU – European Union
- GEF – Global Environment Facility
- LDCF – Least Developed Countries Fund
- LPG – Liquefied Petroleum Gas
- NAPA – National Adaptation Programmes of Action in response to Climate Change
- NBSAP – National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
- PREP – Poverty Reduction and Environment Protection Programme
- PSGs – Peace and State Building Goals
- SEA – Strategic Environmental Assessment
- UNCBD – United Nations Convention on Biodiversity
- UNCCD – United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
- UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
- UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme
- UNFCCC – United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- UNOCHA – United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs