UNDP Somalia • C.2 Project Quarterly Results

Environment Project



PROJECT: Environment Project

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PROGRAMME: Poverty Reduction & Environment Protection

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CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

FEDERAL LEVEL

The Office of the Prime Minister designated the Federal Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals as the focal point for environment portfolio. The Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals has established an Environment Directorate headed by the Deputy Director General. The newly established Directorate is facing technical and financial capacities constraints and expects international community's support to make it fully functional. The key priorities highlighted by the Ministry to UNDP for capacity support are: a) finalisation of environment policy; b) establishment of environment coordination platform; c) enhancing capacities to negotiate in environment conferences; d) support for mobilising global funds; and, e) implementation of do-able actions to deal with unsustainable production of charcoal.

PUNTLAND

There is obvious uneasiness within the institutions of Puntland due to the enhanced focus of international community on the federal government. In April 2014 a national conference on environment and natural resources was held under the auspices of the Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism with the support of UNDP. The Ministry has a new leadership at the helm and the conference provided the opportunity to prioritise key environment actions for the State of Puntland. the priorities for 2014 include: a) Introduction of environmental education systems; b) Implementation of community based initiatives on natural resources management and climate change adaptation; c) Validation of environment and disasters management policies through public debates; d) Introduction of alternative sources of energy and alternative livelihoods for the charcoal producers. UNDP's environment portfolio will have substantial contributions in these areas of work.

SOMALILAND

The Government of Somaliland has allocated funding for the Environment Management through the Somaliland Development Fund (SDF). This has helped in the establishment of new offices for the Ministry of Environment and Rural Development. The Ministry is also in the process of strengthening its regional presence for enforcement of environment policy and effectively monitor actions that have negative impacts for the environment. The key areas of focus for the Ministry include: a) providing alternative sources to charcoal; b) mass awareness campaigns with environmental messaging; c) climate change adaptation with rehabilitation of grazing reserves and water harvesting schemes; and, d) solid waste management in the populated areas of Somaliland. During the outcome board meeting of UNDP with the government, the government appreciated UNDP support and expressed the need for UNDP to continue with the environment related initiatives in Somaliland.

RESULTS						
SL	Indicator	3.3.1.2 Number of sector plans developed that are disaster and environment sensitive				
	Result	2 policies and planning frameworks (Environment Policy and 5 Year Development Plan) reviewed to mainstream Climate Change Adaptation across sectors.	G			
	Comment	Environment Policy and 5 Year Development Plan reviewed during the formulation of the project document on climate change adaptation. Activities level details worked out to address the gaps in the existing policy and the 5 year development plan.				
SL	Indicator	3.3.2.1 Number of communities and beneficiaries using alternative and renewable energy sources				
	Result	Burao hospital equipped with 25KVA solar energy system. The system meets 60% of the electricity demand of the hospital.	G			
	Comment	On average 15,000 patients in Burao hospital benefit annually from the solar energy based electricity supply systems. The system was made fully operational during the quarter and local technicians trained in operation and maintenance of the system.				
PL	Indicator	3.3.2.1 Number of communities and beneficiaries using alternative and renewable energy sources				
	Result	Garowe and Galkayo hospitals equipped with 25KVA solar energy systems at each location. The systems meet 60% of electricity requirements at the two hospitals.	G			
	Comment	On average 22,000 patients in Garowe and Galkayo hospitals will benefit annually from the solar energy based electricity supply systems. 40% of the electricity needs of the two hospitals will be met from the solar energy based systems.				
PL	Indicator	3.3.1.2 Number of sector plans developed that are disaster and environment sensitive				
	Result	Puntland Environment conference held. The conference reviewed the draft policy framework and developed key strategies for environment and disaster management for the new government.				
	Comment	Environmental policy and disaster preparedness strategy is expected to be finalized for Puntland under this activity. However, the activities leading to this result could not be initiated due to funding constraints.				
	Indicator	3.3.2.1 Number of communities and beneficiaries using alternative and renewable energy sources				
FL	Result	The equipment has been delivered in Baidoa. However, installation of the equipment was delayed because of security related travel restrictions to Baidoa.				
	Comment	On average 17,000 patients in Baidoa hospital will benefit annually from the solar energy based electricity supply systems. 40% of the electricity needs of the hospital will be met from the solar energy based system.				
	Indicator	3.3.1.2 Number of sector plans developed that are disaster and environment sensitive				
FL	Result	Sectoral vulnerabilities and adaptation needs for selected sites initiated. Adaptation activities to be implemented with the aim of mitigating potential risks from climate related extreme events in water, livestock and agriculture sectors.	G			
	Comment	Vulnerability and impact assessments updated with different climate change scenarios for the key sectors and population groups. Implementation of adaptation activities will be initiated after the approval of the national programme on adaptation by Global Environment Facility (GEF).				
SL	Indicator	Strengthen the capacity of Ministry of Environment in sector coordination and monitoring.				
	Result	Sector coordination institutionalised within the government of Somaliland. Ministry of Environment takes lead in sector coordination.				
	Comment	Concept note for sector coordination completed. Approval of the concept note and implementation to start from 3rd quarter.				

RESULTS

SL	Indicator	Organise environmental awareness campaigns with messaging on trees plantation, water conservation, energy conservation.				
	Result	World Environment Day observed in Somaliland with mass awareness and trees plantation campaigns.				
	Comment	The Ministry of Environment took lead in mass awareness through electronic media as well as organising events with the local communities for environmental actions. Over 80,000 trees were planted on the World Environment Day (5th June).				
PL	Indicator	3 Maternal Child Health Centers (MCHs) equipped with solar energy systems and freezers.				
	Result	Solar energy systems to be commissioned by end of second quarter of 2014. Induction of new government impacted on the progress of this activity.				
	Comment	Solar energy equipment is stored in Garowe. However, security situation in Puntland has prevented the technical teams to get to the proposed sites and install the equipment.				
	Indicator	Global Environment Facility (GEF) requirements for implementation of climate adaptation activities met using Least Developed Countries Climate Fund (LDCF).				
FL	Result	National programme formulated with the objective of building resilience of the most vulnerable communities and eco-systems against climatic extreme events.				
	Comment	Formulation of the programme completed. Final approvals from GEF to be secured during thrid quarter of 2014.				

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ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

FEDERAL LEVEL

UNDP continued to play a prominent role in the Peace and Statebuilding Goal 4 Working Group on Economic Foundations. The flagship initiative on natural resource management will take the form of a UN Joint Programme on Sustainable Charcoal Production and Alternative Livelihoods. The Joint Programme will involve UNEP and FAO and is in response to the UN Security Council resolution 2036 (2012) that seeks international cooperation to ban illegal exports of Charcoal from Somalia and promote alternative sources of energy and livelihoods.

Completed the formulation of project document for the project titled: "Enhancing the Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Communities and Ecosystems" by the Global Environment Facility (GEF)/Least Developed Countries Climate Fund (LDCF).

PUNTLAND

Solar energy equipments installed in Garowe and Galkayo hospitals. The systems have the capacity of 25 KVA each and would meet 60% of the total energy demand of the hospitals. The solar system is backed up with the local utility and diesel generators. The system will improve access to reliable sources of energy for the hospital and would have major lives and cost savings.

Puntland Environment Conference held in April 2014. Key priorities recommended by conference participants are: a) Introduction of environmental education; b) Implementation of Community based initiatives on natural resources management; c) Validation of environment and disasters management policies through public debates; d) Introduction of alternative sources of energy to combat degradation due to charcoal use. SOMALILAND

World Environment Day (5th June) commemorated in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Rural Development. Main activities included, advocacy campaigns on electronic media, plantation of trees with local communities, anti-littering campaigns etc.

Stakeholder consultations held to select activities for the climate change adaptation project. Vulnerability assessment of selected geographical areas completed.

Somaliland priorities for 2014 validated during the outcome board meeting.

PARTNERSHIPS

EXTERNAL PARTNERS:

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.

African Development Bank (AfDB) for adaptation to climate change.

International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) for energy sector gap analysis.

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.

During the quarter, the project had to delay the installation of solar energy system in Baidoa hospital due to security related travel restrictions.

GENDER

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

The 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. All the activities in the environment project work plan of 2014 are developed with a gender lens.

UPCOMING QUARTER

During 2014, the Environment project will focus on five major areas. This would include: a) full-scale implementation of UN joint programme on charcoal; b) addressing the climate change using the global funding available to Somalia; c) improve access to reliable sources of energy; d) solid waste management under public- private-partnership model; and e) institutional strengthening for improved environmental management, climate change response and disasters risks reduction.

During third quarter, Environment project will complete the installation of solar energy system in Baidoa hospital and selected maternal child health centers. The project will also finalise the project document for the climate change adaptation project and take required actions for resource mobilisation for the charcoal programme.

Stakeholder consultations would be held to finalise the National Environment Policy and Action Plan.

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REFLECTIONS / LESSONS

Weak institutional structures, and fragile political and security conditions in Somalia prove to be obstacles to the implementation of environment related activities. Although the Environment project has been able to successfully position UNDP to assist FGS in taking the environment agenda forward, the political changes negatively impact the progress towards lasting results. With a new federal set-up in place, efforts will be made to bring clarity and the anchoring of "environment" work in the new institutional structure.

Another challenge has been the omission of a number of flagship (fully-developed and approved) UN/Government joint programmes in the results matrix of the "New Deal Compact" and the the "Economic Recovery Plan" for Somalia. Both supra frameworks consider the unsustainable production and use of charcoal as the key driver causing depletion of economic assets in Somalia. However, both the Compact and ERP appear to have overlooked the UN/Government Joint Programme on Charcoal. During recent discussions in the task groups of the Peace and Stabilisation Goals (PSGs), it has been agreed to include Charcoal programme in "PSG 4 – Economic Foundations" of the Compact.

Though the Environment project has been successful in bringing Somalia on the canvas of the global environment financing, the traditional donors (except for Norway and Japan) are yet to be convinced on the urgent funding needs to tackle the environmental issues. The investments in better environmental management will have a direct impact on improving the security conditions and peace building in Somalia – where 80% of population is dependent on the natural resources assets. The commitment of traditional donors in material terms is essential to change the situation from a largely reactive humanitarian response to proactive development centred investments in Somalia.

CUMULATIVE PROJECT FINANCIAL SUMMARY				
APPROVED BUDGET	USD 566,933			
TOTAL (DISBURSEMENTS + COMMITMENTS)	USD 341,688			
BALANCE OF FUNDS	USD 225,245			
% DELIVERY (AGAINST APPROVED BUDGET)	60%			

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LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

AfDB - African Development Bank

CC - Climate Change

DRM - Disasters Risk Management

DRR – Disasters Risks Reduction

ERP - Economic Recovery Plan

EU – European Union

FAO - Food and Agriculture Organisation

FGS - Federal Government of Somalia

FL - Federal Level

GEF - Global Environment Facility

IRENA - International Renewable Energy Agency

LDCF - Least Developed Countries Fund

LPG - Liquefied Petroleum Gas

NAPA - National Adaptation Programmes of Action in response to Climate Change

PL - Puntland

PREP - Poverty Reduction and Environment Protection Programme

PSGs - Peace and Stabalisation Goals

SE4All - Sustainable Energy for All

SL - Somaliland

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