

HIV / AIDS Project



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PROJECT:
HIV / AIDS Project

PREPARED BY:
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PROGRAMME:
HIV / AIDS

REPORT PERIOD:
Q4 - 1 October to 31 December 2012

DATE SUBMITTED:
1/30/2013 4:16:31 PM

STATUS:
Final

DONORS:
UNICEF (Global Fund)

CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

FEDERAL LEVEL

The Federal level AIDS Commission in Mogadishu has been under UNDPs management since 2009. In November UNDP held a review and planning meeting in Hargeisa with all staff from the AIDS Commission to discuss 2013 workplan. The AIDS Commission highlighted that following the election of the new President in Somalia, they were in the process of engaging relevant government authorities to ensure they are strategically placed to support HIV and AIDS work in future. UNDP also supported UNAIDS to conduct a consultation meeting in Mogadishu in December 2012 to help finalise a National M & E Framework with HIV stakeholders from South Central Somalia, being developed to further strengthen the response. As well as enjoying a strong relationship with the AIDS Commission UNDP also supports an NGO called AAWDO in South Central who provide support to People Living with HIV on 'Knowing their Rights'.

PUNTLAND

Unfortunately UNDP was unable to conduct a review and planning meeting with Puntland AIDS Commission (PAC) before the end of 2012, due to financial mismanagement issues at PAC. As a result PAC was asked to reimburse UNDP \$10,220 of which half was paid back to UNDP by the end of 2012, with PAC committing in writing that the remainder of the funds would be reimbursed to UNDP. This delayed UNDP signing a new LOA with PAC in 2012 which meant that even once funds were received from the Global Fund in October 2012 UNDP was not able to transfer funds to PAC. This included top-up salary payments for staff for 9 months. UNDP and PAC agreed that instead of channelling these funds through PAC, UNDP would make these payments directly to PAC staff via Dahabshil. In January 2013 the HIV Unit will meet with PAC to agree and discuss how we can further strengthen financial management issues at PAC.

SOMALILAND

UNDP signed an MOU with UNICEF to support work with the three AIDS Commissions on the 30th October 2012. Following this UNDP held consultation meetings with Somaliland AIDS Commission to see how best UNDP can support them in 2013. The main objectives of the meeting was to firstly review work carried out by Somaliland AIDS Commissions in the past with UNICEF, secondly, address concerns raised during the transfer of their management from UNICEF to UNDP and thirdly to plan strategically for 2013 with a view to see how best UNDP can support the AIDS Commissions to carry out its mandate. The meeting also provided an opportunity for UNDP to develop a closer working relationship with all staff working with Somaliland AIDS Commission.

RESULTS

SL	Indicator	3.1.2.5 Number of people reached through HIV & AIDS awareness raising	G
	Result	7500 people (the majority of whom were women) participated in Community Conversations on HIV in Q4.	
	Comment		
PL	Indicator	3.1.2.5 Number of people reached through HIV & AIDS awareness raising	G
	Result	1648 people (the majority of whom were women) participated in Community Conversations on HIV in Q4	
	Comment		
FL	Indicator	3.1.2.5 Number of people reached through HIV & AIDS awareness raising	G
	Result	South Central AIDS Commission hosted an event for approx. 200 people on World AIDS Day	
	Comment		
SL	Indicator	# of PLHIV who attended 4 days 'Know your rights' training in Burao	G
	Result	35 persons (22 Female and 13 Men)	
	Comment	35 PLHIV received 4 day training on knowing your rights to raise the awareness and promote the rights of the PLHIV in Somaliland.	
SL	Indicator	# of adults trained on HIV	G
	Result	27 person (9 Female and 18 male)	
	Comment	27 person were trained on basic knowledge on HIV and AIDS using a human rights based approach , as well as how they could play a more active role in responding to HIV in their community.	
SL	Indicator	# of community conversation (CC) sessions held in Togwajaale and Berbera	G
	Result	24 Community Conversations on HIV took place in Q4 of 2012	
	Comment	Monthly CC's provides a platform where community members continue to learn facts about HIV & AIDS and are increasingly able to counter wrong beliefs and misconceptions linked to HIV and AIDS	
SL	Indicator	# of community conversation session beneficiaries	G
	Result	1234 persons (835 Female and 399 male)	
	Comment	Community Conversations continue to reach more women with information on HIV. Monthly sessions also provide a safe avenue for women to discuss and learn more about HIV and AIDS.	

RESULTS

SL	Indicator	# of intersite reviews meetings held	G
	Result	1 planning and review meeting with SOLNAC	
	Comment	UNDP and SOLNAC conducted a 3 day planning and review meeting and consultations on the annual workplan for 2013.	
PL	Indicator	# of community conversation sessions held in Bossaso & Garowe	G
	Result	A total of 412 persons benefited from 12 Community Conversations on HIV in Q4 2012.	
	Comment	An equal no. of CCE sessions took place in Garowe and Bossaso. This platform continues to provide an unparalleled opportunity for the community to discuss & gain knowledge on HIV and reject myths	
PL	Indicator	# of community conversation session beneficiaries	G
	Result	A total of 12 CCE sessions were held successfully	
	Comment	Unlike Somaliland, CCE in Puntland is 2 days per month in the same community. This was based on the felt need that the communities required more time to internalize HIV information	
PL	Indicator	# of PLHIV supported to set up Income Generating Activities	Y
	Result	0	
	Comment	MCGA was signed with TIDES (Garowe) and YAHAN (Bossaso) to target a total of 100 PLHIV in setting up IGAs. The MCGs are supported by the PREP Unit.	
PL	Indicator	# of PLHIV members and CSOs trained on Human Rights in the context of HIV services access and stigma reduction	R
	Result	0	
	Comment	Puntland Representatives expected to participate in training in Hargeisa in Dec 2012 were unable to attend due to logistical challenges. A separate training will be held for them in 2013	
PL	Indicator	# of PLHIV members and CSOs trained on Human Rights in the context of HIV services access and stigma reduction	R
	Result	0	
	Comment	Puntland Representative to the training which was held in Hargeisa in Dec 2012 were unable to attend due to logistical challenges. A separate training will be held for them in 2013.	
FL	Indicator	# of community conversation sessions held in Gedo and Banaadir Regions	R
	Result	0	
	Comment	Community Conversations on HIV are yet to be rolled out in South Central Somalia	

RESULTS

FL	Indicator	# of Community Facilitators trained on CCE Methodology	R
	Result	0	
	Comment	CCE yet to be rolled up in South Central. This is due to budgetary cut from GF and limited funds available to support expansion	
FL	Indicator	# of PLHIV members and CSOs trained on Human Rights in the context of HIV services access and stigma reduction	G
	Result	A total of 5 pax from Mogadishu attended a 5 day Training of Trainers workshop in Hargeisa.	
	Comment	The trained persons are expected to lead the 'Know your rights' training for PLHIV in South Central Somalia.	
FL	Indicator	Action Plan for 2012 developed, based on Operational Plan developed	G
	Result	Action plan for 2013 in place	
	Comment	A 3-day review and planning meeting was held. A draft 2013 workplan was developed and partnership with UNDP reviewed with a view to improve it.	
FL	Indicator	Technical and administrative support to SCAC	G
	Result	Salaries and all operation cost paid	
	Comment	GF grant was released late in 2012, however, UNDP managed to clear all the pending salaries and operations cost to SCAC. This helped clear all pending bills.	
ALL	Indicator	Support all AIDS Commissions to commemorate the WAD 2012	G
	Result	WAD held successfully	
	Comment	UNDP contributed funds for specific activities arranged for World AIDS Day by each AIDS Commission.	
SL	Indicator	# of site visits by project staff, disaggregated by region	Y
	Result	UNDP HIV Area Project Manager participated and kept in close contact with all UNDP HIV partners	
	Comment		
PL	Indicator	No. of site visits by project staff, disaggregated by region	Y
	Result	UNDP HIV Area Project Manager participated and kept in close contact with all UNDP HIV partners	
	Comment		

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FL	Indicator	# of site visits by project staff, disaggregated by region	Y
	Result	UNDP HIV Area Project Manager participated and kept in close contact with all UNDP HIV partners	
	Comment		



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ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

FEDERAL LEVEL

CCE project is yet to be rolled out in SC. In addition the IGA project was shelved due to weak capacity of implementing partners. However in Q4 UNDP supported an NGO to conduct several sessions on 'Knowing your Rights' for members of South Central Network of People Living with HIV which has approximately 500 members.

PUNTLAND

The Community Conversations on HIV project is reaching the heart of the community and providing factual information on HIV. The project is progressing well and helping to reduce stigma and discrimination associated with HIV. UNDP has started an Income Generating Activities (IGA) project for PLHIV in Puntland in 2012 in collaboration with the PREP Unit.

SOMALILAND

Community conversation on HIV produced tangible outputs in building the capacity of the participants of all targeted villages. The beneficiaries acquired knowledge and experience from interacting with People Living with HIV (PLHIV) as well information and knowledge gained from resource persons invited to monthly sessions such as Doctors from Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT) Clinics.

PARTNERSHIPS

Somaliland: YOVENCO & HAVOYOCO are the main local NGOs partnering with the HIV programme at UNDP to implement the Community Conversations on HIV project in Berbera & Togwajaale. Noting UNAIDS Division Of Labour UNDP took over from UNICEF as the main UN Agency responsible for supporting Somaliland AIDS Commission. UNDP also continues to work and support the Network of People Living with HIV (TALOWADAG) in Somaliland in terms of building their capacity to enable them to better support PLHIV by increasing their awareness about their basic rights, providing counseling and providing PLHIV with IGA support.

UNDP works with BADBAADO (Bosaso) and TASS in Garowe to implement the Community Conversations on HIV Project in Puntland. In addition TIDES and YAHAN came on board as IGA partners in Puntland to help roll out the IGA project supported by PREP. Puntland AIDS Commission (PAC) is the HIV Unit's main partner in government. In South Central UNDP works closely with South Central AIDS Commission (SCAC) as well as with an NGO called AAWDO who help provide training on 'Knowing your Rights' to People Living with HIV in and around Mogadishu.

New Partnerships: As mentioned above as per UNAIDS Divisions of labor, UNDP took over the administration and support to Somaliland and Puntland AIDS Commissions late in 2012. This will add to the work of the HIV Unit in 2013 and require significant support.

Lastly, UNDP works in close partnership with UNAIDS Somalia.



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PEACE AND CONFLICT

In 2012 UNDP experienced significant challenges in working with Puntland AIDS Commission, which was partly a result of financial mis-management and clan issues. This was due to the Finance Director coming from one Clan and the Executive Director of the AIDS Commission coming from another Clan. UNDP is still trying to find away to overcome these challenges which affect the internal work at the Commission as well as UNDPs work with Puntland AIDS Commissions work.

In Somaliland, Somaliland AIDS Commission (SOLNAC) resisted quite hard UNDP taking over from UNICEF as the main UN agency to manage all Global Fund support for the Commission. As a result a meeting was arranged between the Executive Director of Somaliland AIDS Commission (SOLNAC) and the Resident Coordinators Office. With the added support of the UNAIDS Country Coordinator the matter was finally resolved in late November 2012.

GENDER

The majority of participants that participate in Community Conversations on HIV continue to be women in both Somaliland and Puntland. Noting that women are more vulnerable to HIV infection than men (due to biological, social and economic factors) the HIV programme is fairly comfortable with this. Nevertheless as addressing gender issues involves men and women steps are being taken to try and increase male involvement in the programme. Noting that women also represent the largest numbers of People Living with HIV (PLHIV) in Somalia, the support the HIV Unit provides to PLHIV in Somalia i.e. Knowing your rights training as well as Income generating support to start their own small businesses - directly benefits women. The HIV Unit in collaboration with PREP colleagues agreed that 70% of the beneficiaries for the IGA project had to be women.

UPCOMING QUARTER

Somaliland: Q1 of 2013 will focus on: Support SOLNAC to implement HIV Coordination Activities, Discussions developing new HIV Strategic Framework , Community Conversations on HIV Evaluation, IGA project for People Living with HIV, Training Journalists on HIV, Radio Hargeisa re-airing HIV Radio messages and Fine tune draft 2013 workplan.

Puntland: Q1 2013 will focus on: Conduct Review and Planning meeting with Puntland AIDS Commission (PAC), Community Conversations on HIV Evaluation, Renew MCGs to continue CCE activities, IGA support to People Living with HIV (PLHIV) and Fine tune 2013 workplan.

South Central: Q1 2013: Support South Central AIDS Commission to coordinate HIV activities, Discussions developing new HIV Strategic Framework, Conduct Training on HIV for Journalists, Air HIV Radio Messages thus far only aired in Somaliland and Puntland, Knowing your Rights training for People living with HIV and Find new partner for the IGA project in SC.



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REFLECTIONS / LESSONS

Lessons Learnt and reflection from Q4

- 1) Community Conversations on HIV continue to achieve fairly significant results in terms of increasing the uptake of Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT) in HIV Hot Spots in Somalia, reducing stigma and discrimination associated with HIV, as well as providing an opportunity for People Living with HIV to tell their stories and interact with local communities.
- 2) The involvement of People Living with HIV & AIDS (PLHA) in all programmes that address HIV is one of the most effective ways of overcoming stigma and discrimination linked to the disease which continues to fuel the spread of the disease in Somalia.
- 3) There is a need to continuously train local authority and influential people (teachers, Religious leaders, traditional healers) in basic information on HIV and AIDS as they are able to play a crucial role in supporting the response of HIV and AIDS in their respective areas, as well as minimizing the myths and misconceptions of HIV and AIDS at the community level. It is also not an easy process to change mind sets of individuals which is why training for the above focus group is recommended once a year.
- 4) Further support to local government representatives to harmonize and include Community Conversations on HIV outcomes into District Development Plans of the local authority is still required.
- 5) UNDP needs to strengthen the involvement of Somaliland and Puntland AIDS Commissions in Community Conversations on HIV, as well as strengthen linkages with the Joint Programme for Local Governance (JPLG) to ensure the long term sustainability and local authority ownership of these dialogues.
- 6) Strengthening the relationship between each AIDS Commission and other government ministries, will help reach more people with HIV prevention, care and treatment information, strengthen sustainability of the HIV response in Somalia as well as strengthen accountability mechanisms of each AIDS Commission.
- 7) To increase mainstreaming HIV in all sectors work, the HIV Unit needs to strengthen linkages with other UNDP Programmes e.g. GROLS, Police Project, Access to Justice Project, PREP and the Gender Project.

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CUMULATIVE PROJECT FINANCIAL SUMMARY

APPROVED BUDGET	\$1,852,129
TOTAL (DISBURSEMENTS + COMMITMENTS)	\$1,476,625
BALANCE OF FUNDS	\$374,583
% DELIVERY (AGAINST APPROVED BUDGET)	80%