

## HIV / AIDS Project



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PROJECT:  
HIV / AIDS Project

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PROGRAMME:  
HIV / AIDS

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### CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

#### FEDERAL LEVEL

Two consultation meetings to support the development of the new HIV Strategy for Somalia 2014-2018 took place at the Federal level in Q1. The first took place in Mogadishu from 22 – 23 January 2014, the second took place in Baidoa from 27th -30th January 2014. In order to support the successful implementation of the HIV Strategy 2014-2018, and help ensure that the strategy is implemented, UNDP also arranged for the strategy to be costed. This adds value to this critical piece of work and will support Somalia in ensuring adequate funds are mobilised to support its implementation.

#### PUNTLAND

To support the preparation of the new HIV Strategy 2014-2018, UNDP supported Puntland AIDS Commission (PAC) to arrange a 3 day consultation meeting in Puntland from 3rd to 6th February 2014. This provided an opportunity for all stakeholders working on HIV to provide their own inputs into the development of this new strategy for Somalia. Getting the buy in from all stakeholders to develop the new HIV Strategy for Somalia was a critical part of the process to ensure ownership of the new HIV Strategy and that Somalis' feel that this is 'their' document. We are hopeful that the benefits of this highly participative process will continue to bear fruit in the years to ahead once we start to implement the strategy.

#### SOMALILAND

Quarter 1 was a busy quarter for the HIV Programme, which has been working closely with the three AIDS Commissions in Somalia, UNAIDS, the Principal Recipient for the Global Fund (UNICEF), UN Agencies and other relevant stakeholders in Somalia to develop a new costed HIV Strategy for Somalia 2014-2018. This was a large undertaking and will guide the HIV response in Somalia over the next five years. It is also a requirement that will form the basis for the next proposal that Somalia prepares to submit to the Global Fund for future funding for HIV in Somalia, due in Quarter 2 of 2014. The current HIV Global Fund grant will come to an end on 31st December 2014.

To support the preparation of the new HIV Strategy, UNDP in collaboration with Somaliland AIDS Commission (SOLNAC) arranged a 3 day consultation meeting in Somaliland to provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to participate and provide their own inputs into the development of this new HIV strategy for Somalia.

## RESULTS

SL	Indicator	3.1.2.5 Number of people reached through HIV & AIDS awareness raising	G
	Result	Total: 1,129 (Over half of the people reached were women)	
	Comment	The majority of people reached in Q1 participated in the Community Conversations on HIV Project rolled out in Berbera, Hargiesa and Boroma.	
PL	Indicator	3.1.2.5 Number of people reached through HIV & AIDS awareness raising	G
	Result	Total: 768 people reached	
	Comment	The majority of people reached participated in Community Conversations on HIV being rolled out in Bosaso and Garowe.	
FL	Indicator	3.1.2.5 Number of people reached through HIV & AIDS awareness raising	G
	Result	Total: 340 people reached	
	Comment	The majority of people reached participated in Community Conversations on HIV being rolled out in Mogadishu, Dollow and Bulahawa districts (Gedo Region).	
ALL	Indicator	1.1.1.1 Level of findings and recommendations from relevant research and data analysis that is incorporated in programming decisions is "high", "medium" or "low"	G
	Result	Research from the last five years reviewed to support future programming on HIV in Somalia.	
	Comment	During Q1 UNDP worked closely with the three AIDS Commissions in Somalia, UNAIDS and other UN Agencies working on HIV in Somalia to develop the new HIV Strategy for Somalia 2014-2018. This included reviewing research conducted on HIV in Somalia done by various UN Agencies over the last few years	
SL	Indicator	# of community conversation (CC) sessions held in Berbera, Hargeisa and Borama	G
	Result	24 Community Convesations on HIV took place in Somaliland in Q1.	
	Comment	18 Community Conversations on HIV took place in Berbera and were carried out by our partner NGO YOVENCO. 3 CC's took place in Boroma, and another 3 in Hargeisa. These were implemented by our partner Talawadag.	
SL	Indicator	# of people reached through the Community Converdaton on HIV	G
	Result	Total: 1,029 (Female:659; Male:350)	
	Comment	This project continues to be strengthened by the active involvement of the Mayor and Local Government Representatives. It also continues to strengthen links between health service providers and encourage people to make use of HIV testing centres, to find out their HIV status.	
SL	Indicator	# of community committees and leaders provided with training on Basic HIV and AIDS in Hargeisa and Borama	G
	Result	50 people participated in HIV and Leadership Training in Q1 (Men: 28; Women: 21)	
	Comment	This training was carried out in Boroma and Hargeisa which are two new areas where the Community Conversations project has been expanded to. Talawadag, the Network of People Living with HIV in Somaliland are one of UNDP's partners helping to role out this project in these two new districts.	

## RESULTS

SL	Indicator	# Administrative support provided to Somaliland AIDS Commission	G
	Result	This support from the Global Fund covers the running costs of the AIDS Commission e.g. salaries of staff, communication costs, costs to host regular coordination meetings etc.	
	Comment	The support ensured that Somaliland National AIDS Commission (SOLNAC) have the capacity to coordinate and monitor a multisectoral, sustainable response to HIV and AIDS.	
SL	Indicator	# AIDS Commissions:Coordination meetings (IPTCS and M&E)	R
	Result	No IPTCS meeting took place in Q1 in Somaliland.	
	Comment	The reason no meeting took place was partly the result of Q1 being a busy month preparing the new HIV Strategy for Somalia 2014-2018.	
SL	Indicator	# quarterly communication meeting	R
	Result	No meeting took place this quarter.	
	Comment	This will be discussed with our partner in Q2.	
SL	Indicator	# of commission meetings	R
	Result	No Commission meeting took place in Q1.	
	Comment	To be discussed with partner in Q2.	
SL	Indicator	# of times messages aired on radio stations	Y
	Result	UNDP still awaits confirmation on the number of messages aired in Q1 from Somaliland AIDS Commission (SOLNAC).	
	Comment	Instead of paying Radio Hargiesa to air each HIV message, UNDP agreed with SOLNAC to purchase equipment for Radio Hargiesa. The Executive Director of SOLNAC handed over this equipment to the Director General (DG) from the Ministry of Information in Q1 to support messages on HIV to be aired.	
SL	Indicator	# of PLHIV who participated in a 'Know your rights' training	G
	Result	50 People Living with HIV participated in this training in Q1. 29 Women and 21 Men.	
	Comment	The main aim of this training is to build the confidence of PLHIV and support them in 'Knowing their Rights'.	
SL	Indicator	# of Quarterly Review meetings	R
	Result	No Quarterly Review meeting took place in Somaliland in Q1.	
	Comment	The reason for this was the focus on developing the new HIV Strategy for Somalia 2014-2018 which was the main focus of all our work in Q1.	

## RESULTS

PL	Indicator	# of Quarterly Review meetings	G
	Result	One HIV Quarterly Review meeting took place in Q1 as planned.	
	Comment	The Vice President and Minister of Health (MOH) participated in this meeting and expressed their commitment to the fight against HIV and AIDS, and especially to fight against stigma and discrimination associated with People Living with HIV (PLHIV).	
PL	Indicator	# of PLHIV who participated in a 'Know your rights' training	Y
	Result	No training was planned in Q1.	
	Comment		
PL	Indicator	# of times messages aired on radio stations	R
	Result	None	
	Comment	UNDP and Puntland AIDS Commission (PAC) are still working on an agreement with local radio stations to assist them to continue to air messages on HIV. Puntland was the region to air the most radio messages on HIV in 2013.	
PL	Indicator	# of commission meetings	R
	Result	No Commission meeting took place in Q1.	
	Comment	To be discussed with partner in Q2.	
PL	Indicator	# quarterly communication meeting	R
	Result	No meeting took place this quarter.	
	Comment	This will be discussed with the AIDS Commission in Q2.	
PL	Indicator	# AIDS Commissions:Coordination meetings (IPTCS and M&E)	Y
	Result	One meeting took place. Twenty one (21) people from a variety of different stakeholder groups participated in this meeting.	
	Comment	The following stakeholders gave updates of their work at the meeting – Save the Children, PUNCHAAD, YPEER, KAALO, TIDES, BADBAADO. Following this WHO and the MOH gave an update on the Sero surveillance survey.	
PL	Indicator	# Administrative support provided to Puntland AIDS Commission	G
	Result	This support from the Global Fund covers the running costs of the AIDS Commission e.g. salaries of staff, communication costs, costs to host regular coordination meetings etc.	
	Comment	The support ensured that Puntland AIDS Commission (PAC) have the capacity to coordinate and monitor a multisectoral, sustainable response to HIV and AIDS.	

## RESULTS

PL	Indicator	# of community committees and leaders provided with training on Basic HIV and AIDS in Garowe and Bosaso (Puntland).	G
	Result	240 people participated in HIV and Leadership Training in Q1. Waiting for report from partner to disaggregate data according to sex	
	Comment	The Mayor of Bossaso officially opened the training in Bosaso and encouraged all participants to be active during the training to understand the nature of HIV&AIDS and how to prevent it. The relationship the local NGO BADBAADO has built up with the Mayor of Bosaso is commendable.	
PL	Indicator	# of people reached through the Community Conversation on HIV	G
	Result	Total: 579 people reached. 374 in Bosaso and 205 in Garowe.	
	Comment	Data disaggregated by sex is yet to be received by partners implementing this project in Puntland.	
PL	Indicator	# of community conversation (CC) sessions held in Garowe and Bosaso	G
	Result	15 Community Convesations on HIV took place in Somaliland in Q1	
	Comment	9 Community Conversations on HIV meetings took place in Bosaso. 6 CC's took place in Garowe.	
FL	Indicator	# of community conversation (CC) sessions held in Mogadishu and Gedo Region.	G
	Result	4 Community Conversations on HIV took place in South Central in Q1.	
	Comment	One Community Conversation on HIV took place in the in Bullahawa and another in Dollow (both in Gedo Region) in Q1. Two Community Conversations on HIV took place in Mogadishu (Benadir Region) in Q1.	
FL	Indicator	# of people reached through the Community Conversation on HIV	G
	Result	209 people participated in Community Conversations on HIV in Q1 at the Federal Level	
	Comment	111 participants participated in Community Conversations in Mogadishu. 98 people participated in Community Conversations on HIV in Gedo Region in the border towns on Dollow and Bulahawa.	
FL	Indicator	# of community committees and leaders provided with training on Basic HIV and AIDS at the Federal Level	G
	Result	131 people participated in HIV and Leadership Training in Q1. 51 in Benadir Region, 40 in Dollow and 40 in Bulahawa (Gedo Region). UNDP is still waiting for reports from partners to disaggregate data according to sex	
	Comment	This work was carried out by UNDP's partner AAWDO based in Mogadishu and by HDC in Gedo Region. The majority of people that participated in these meetings in Dollow and Bulahawa were representatives from Local Government. In Benadir participants were a more varied group of influential leaders.	
FL	Indicator	# Administrative support provided to South Central AIDS Commission (SCAC)	G
	Result	This support from the Global Fund covers the running costs of the AIDS Commission e.g. salaries of staff, communication costs, costs to host regular coordination meetings etc	
	Comment	The support ensured that South Central AIDS Commission (SCAC) have the capacity to coordinate and monitor a multisectoral, sustainable response to HIV and AIDS.	

## RESULTS

FL	Indicator	# AIDS Commissions:Coordination meetings (IPTCS and M&E)	Y
	Result	UNDP still awaits a report on this meeting from South Central AIDS Commission	
	Comment	No reports received to date from partner. This is partly due to Q1 being a busy month preparing the new HIV Strategy for Somalia for 2014-2018.	
FL	Indicator	# quarterly communication meeting	R
	Result	No meeting took place this quarter.	
	Comment	This will be discussed with AIDS Commission in Q2.	
FL	Indicator	# of commission meetings	R
	Result	No Commission meeting took place in Q1.	
	Comment	To be discussed with partner in Q2.	
FL	Indicator	# of times messages aired on radio stations	G
	Result	372 messages aired by 4 Radio stations in Q1.	
	Comment	Radio stations that participated in this project were as follows: Radio Kulmiye; Radio VOD; Radio Banadir and Radio Risaala. All four radio stations signed agreements to air these HIV messages with South Central AIDS Commission (SCAC).	
FL	Indicator	# of PLHIV who participated in a 'Know your rights' training	Y
	Result	No training on 'Knowing your Rights' was planned to take place in South Central in Q1.	
	Comment		
FL	Indicator	# of Quarterly Review meetings	R
	Result	UNDP still awaits a report on this meeting from South Central AIDS Commission	
	Comment	No report on this meeting received to date	
SL	Indicator	# of site visits by project staff	Y
	Result	1 (HIV Consultation meeting to develop the new HIV Strategy for Somalia 2014 - 2018)	
	Comment	The HIV Area Project Manager took up a more Senior Position at UNDP in January 2013. Therefore the programme has been recruiting a new staff member to oversee our HIV work in Somaliland. We expect the new HIV Staff member to come on board in Quarter 2 and to carry out more site visits to projects4	

## RESULTS

PL	Indicator	# of site visits by project staff	Y
	Result	3 (Garowe x 3) IPTCS Meeting, HIV Review meeting, HIV Strategy Consultation meeting)	
	Comment	UNDP's HIV Area Project Manager based in Garowe continues to participate in as many meetings that UNDP partners host in Puntland.	
FL	Indicator	# of site visits by project staff	Y
	Result	3 (2 Mogadishu, 1 Baidoa)	
	Comment	UNDP's HIV Area Project Manager based in Mogadishu continues to participate in as many meetings that UNDP partners host in Mogadishu, Baidoa and in the Gedo Region (Dollow and Bulahawa).	

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### ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

#### FEDERAL LEVEL

The main achievement in Q1 of 2014 was the development of a Draft Costed HIV Strategy for Somalia from 2014-2018. This will form the basis of the next grant application to the Global Fund, noting that the current HIV grant for Somalia will end on 31st December 2014. Participants at the consultation meetings included Representatives from the Office of the Prime Minister, Office of the President, Civil Society Organisations, UN agencies, International Organisations as well as the Baidoa local authority.

A second highlight in Q1 at the Federal level was the roll out of the Community Conversation on HIV in 4 new sites in Benadir and Gedo region.

#### PUNTLAND

Various high level Government Officials participated in HIV meetings in Puntland in Q1. This included His Excellency the President, the Vice President and Minister of Health (MOH). All expressed their commitment to the fight against HIV and AIDS, and especially to fight against stigma and discrimination associated with People Living with HIV (PLHIV). Getting high level representatives to take on a leadership role in the HIV response in Puntland is to be commended. Both the VP and the MOH expressed a strong commitment to support more awareness work on HIV. The Vice President commented " I'm urging to all PL and Somalia community that PLHIV have not to hide their HIV status, they have to come out and we will give all of them our support".

#### SOMALILAND

The HIV Community Conversation Project continues to reach a significant number of women and men in Somalia. It also appears the project resonates strongly with Somalis' based on the large number of people that regularly participate in these meetings. The CCE project is also helping to bridge the gap between health services (VCT, ART etc) and communities which is essential in order to increase the uptake of these services in Somalia. Noting the success of the project is having, it would be desirable to expand the project even further – to reach more areas off the 'tarmac road – if additional funds from the Global Fund can be allocated to this work.

### PARTNERSHIPS

SL : Somaliland National AIDS Commission (SOLNAC) is the main government institution mandated to nationally coordinate HIV response in the region and supported by UNDP's HIV unit . YOVENCO and Talawadag are strong partners that are implementing community conversation on HIV in Berbera, Boroma and Hargeisa. Somaliland National HIV and AIDS Network (SAHAN) is a local partner that support mainstreaming initiatives between other UNDP projects and HIV unit, and have been instrumental in conducting HIV training for Youth for Change beneficiaries , TALOWADAG PLHIV Network has taken up the role of implementing CC in Hargeisa & Borama and also supporting in empowering PLHIV through provision of skill development trainings and income generating activities.

FL: UNDP continues to work closely with South-Central AIDS Commission (SCAC) to help them better coordinate and support all HIV stakeholders. UNDP works with 2 local NGOs, AAWDO and HDC to support the rights of PLHIV. These NGOs have also started Community Conversations in Gedo and Benadir regions.

PL: UNDP works with the Puntland AIDS Commission (PAC). NGO partners implementing the CCs are Badbaado in Bossaso and TASS in Garowe. In collaboration with UNDP PREP programme the HIV programme worked with an NGO called TIDES to support and IGA project for PLHIV.



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### PEACE AND CONFLICT

There continues to be a misunderstanding about the different roles of the Ministry of Health and the AIDS Commissions in the HIV response, which has led to tensions between the two government institutions. Competition for resources is a contributing factor. The new Strategic Plan will clearly define their respective roles. The work of the MoH is critical in addressing all medical components of the HIV response, as is the role of the AIDS Commissions in relation to strengthening and coordinating the multi-sectoral response. In Puntland, after financial mismanagement issues in 2012, UNDP did not enter into a new LoA with PAC and continues to make direct payments. This has strained relationships and affected the work of PAC. Also in PL, the Director of the NGO partner YAHAN, who was contracted to support IGA with PLHIV, disappeared with a large sum of project funds, resulting in the project being halted. The reluctance of the authorities to properly address this issue is of concern.

### GENDER

Over two thirds of all those reached by the HIV programme in Somalia in Q1 were women. The exact figures of women and men are sadly not yet available as UNDP is still waiting to receive some reports from partners. Nevertheless, there has been a general trend that our programme continues to reach more women than men. The majority of those reached participated in Community Conversations on HIV, which highlighted that early marriages, polygamy, male promiscuity, rape, poverty & divorce are the main causes of HIV among women & girls. Similarly, in our work with People Living with HIV issues such as a lack of awareness about HIV, polygamous marriage, early/forced marriages, poverty & unemployment were raised as key issues that make women & girls particularly vulnerable to HIV. In efforts to address some of these concerns, the HIV unit has started to support several Community Conversations that target young men (youth) alone.

### UPCOMING QUARTER

1. Validation Meeting for new HIV Strategy for Somalia 2014-2018.
2. Development of Concept Note and New Proposal for the Global Fund to support a 5 year HIV Programme in Somalia.
3. Audit of the three NACS. UNDP will complete an audit of the three AIDS Commissions over the next quarter. As per UNDP financial regulations and rules, audits are an integral part of sound financial and administrative management, and part of the UNDP accountability system.
4. In Q2 UNDP will provide capacity building training for the new Director of Admin and Finance at PAC, to familiarise him with UNDP financial and administrative procedures that all UNDP partners must adhere to, in our efforts to strengthen these areas of work at PAC
5. UNDP will continue to provide on- going Technical Support for HIV Coordination meetings
6. Continuation of monthly HIV Community Conversations with 6 partner NGOs – 2 per region
7. Follow up on HIV Radio Project and airing HIV messages in all parts of Somalia

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### REFLECTIONS / LESSONS

Community involvement has played a central role in the fight against HIV and AIDS in generating individual and social change. As result of implementing Community Conversations on HIV in Somaliland & Puntland, significant milestones have been achieved in increasing communities' involvement and commitment to the HIV response. This includes addressing critical issues such as stigma and discrimination which has been identified as a barrier for people seeking information, Voluntary counseling and Testing (VCT), and treatment services (ART & PMTCT) in Somalia. As a result of success stories obtained by implementing CC on HIV in Somaliland and Puntland, the HIV unit has started to roll out the CC initiative in South Central in close liaison with Gender unit to develop common synergies in implementing the monthly session addressing HIV and gender. Involving the media is a great way of improving access to accurate information on HIV and AIDS and reporting about the lives and perspective of people most affected by HIV. Fifteen (15) different messages have now been broadcast multiple times on local radios stations in Sommaliland, Puntland and South Central. These messages address the thematic objectives of creating more awareness on Prevention, Care and Support. The media has significant potential to contribute to healthier communities by spreading accurate messages on HIV, for example by addressing stigma and discrimination associated with the disease and to make a difference in the lives of People living with HIV. In 2014 the HIV Programme needs to strengthen synergies with other UNDP projects to ensure that HIV is mainstreamed in all UNDP projects. This will assist Somalia to implement a successful national multisectoral HIV response in Somalia. It is critical that HIV related activities are included in all UNDP Projects at the project planning and work planning level, rather than treating HIV mainstreaming as an adhoc issue.

<b>CUMULATIVE PROJECT FINANCIAL SUMMARY</b>	
APPROVED BUDGET	\$1,132,189
TOTAL (DISBURSEMENTS + COMMITMENTS)	\$350,803
BALANCE OF FUNDS	\$781,386
% DELIVERY (AGAINST APPROVED BUDGET)	30.98%

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### LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

CC – Community Conversations on HIV  
IPTCS – Integrated HIV Prevention Treatment Care and Support  
PLHIV – People Living with HIV  
SCAC – South Central AIDS Commission  
SOLNAC – Somaliland AIDS Commission  
VCT – Voluntary Councelling and Testing  
PAC- Puntland AIDS Commission  
PL - Puntland  
SL - Somaliland  
FL - Federal Level