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 executive arm of the Federal Government of Somalia was changed by the President and a new Prime Minister was appointed during the reporting period. The number of ministries also increased from 10 to 25 in the new setup. The Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister are aware of UNDP's Environment and Energy portfolio. Climate change adaptation and UN joint programme on charcoal are considered to be of high priority. UN joint programme on charcoal is likely to be the flagship initiative under Peace and State building Goal 4 – Economic Foundations of the New Deal Compact.

The new ministerial portfolios of the Federal Government of Somalia lack clarity about the anchoring of "environment" in the government institutional structure. UNDP has requested the Prime Minister for his directive to clarify this situation. The lack of clarity is likely to impact on the mobilization of funding for Somalia from global environment funds.

PUNTLAND

The election of a new President and appointment of new ministers have set the course towards re-establishment of a development strategy for the region. The new political leadership is demanding clarity on sharing of international development assistance. The possibility of having an agreement on Puntland specific arrangements in the New Deal Compact is under discussion. Environment and Natural Resources Management (NRM) is likely to feature high among the government priority list. On-going operations of AMISOM in the south and dispersal of Al-Shabab towards the North put development related activities in Puntland at risk.

One current UNDP staff member, Mr. Guled Salah Barre, has been appointed as the Minister of Environment in the new setup. This is a positive development and is already establishing the basis for results oriented interventions for climate change adaptation, disasters management, multi-lateral environmental agreements and institutional capacity building.

SOMALILAND

The Government of Somaliland is fully committed to utilize financial allocations under Somaliland Development Fund (SDF) to implement priorities identified in the Somaliland National Development Plan (NDP 2012-16). These development priorities are anchored in special arrangements for Somaliland in the "New Deal Compact". The main areas being supported through SDF are: a) Infrastructure Development; b) Health; c) Agriculture; d) Environment; e) Livestock; f) Fisheries; and g) Youth Employment.

During recent work planning discussions between the government of Somaliland and UNDP, it was emphasized that UNDP's Environment portfolio should contribute towards the implementation of the NDP. Based on the comparative advantage of UNDP, the focus should be on capacity development of environment and disasters management institutions, enhancing resilience to climatic disasters, address the issues of unsustainable charcoal use and promote innovative technologies to overcome energy deficit.

RESULTS						
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. 40% of the electricity needs of the hospital met from the solar energy based system.				
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	Somaliland government brought on-board to mainstream climate change adaptation in the environment policy and Somaliland National Development Plan.				
PL	Indicator	3.3.2.1 Number of communities and beneficiaries using alternative and renewable energy sources				
	Result	25 KVA Solar energy system installed in Garowe hospital and is currently going through testing phase. Solar energy system for Galakayo to be installed during April 2014.				
	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.				
	Indicator	3.3.1.2 Number of sector plans developed that are disaster and environment sensitive				
PL	Result	Preparations for the Puntland Environment conference completed. The conference will review the draft policy framework and develop key strategies for environment and disaster management for the new government.	G			
	Comment	Environmental policy and disaster preparedness strategy is expected to be finalized for Puntland under this activity.				
	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 will be updated with different climate change scenarios for the key sectors and population groups.				
SL	Indicator	Strengthen the capacity of Ministry of Environment in sector coordination and monitoring.				
	Result	Capacity needs assessment undertaken with the ministry. A concept note prepared to support the ministry of environment for sector coordination during 2014.	G			
	Comment					

RESULTS						
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					
FL	Indicator	Global Environment Facility (GEF) requirements for implementation of climate adaptation activities met using Least Developed Countries Climate Fund (LDCF).				
	Result	Technical assistance being provided to the federal government and governments of Somaliland and Puntland to comply with the GEF procedures.	G			
	Comment					

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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.

Formal approval was secured 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

The new Minister of Environment briefed on the work plan of environment and energy project. Main areas of support, agreed with the Minister, include capacity development, finalization of environment policy and act and implementation of measures to mitigate the risks of climate related disasters.

Solar energy equipment installed in Garowe hospital. The system has a capacity of 25 KVA and would meet 60% of the total energy demand of the hospital. 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.

SOMALILAND

Climate change adaptation needs identified for Somaliland. Geographical areas to be covered under the climate adaptation project were prioritised in consultation with the government and development partners. The prioritisation was based on a criteria covering the regional development priorities, alignment with the Somaliland arrangements in the New Deal Compact, climate risks and accessibility during implementation.

Solar energy equipment installed in Burao hospital. The system has a capacity of 25 KVA and would meet 60% of the total energy demand of the hospital. 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.

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 systems in Baidoa and Galkayo hospitals 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.

Puntland Environment Conference will be organized during the second quarter of 2014. The objective of the conference would be to promote sustainable

management of natural resources through government and donor programmes, especially for pastoral and poor rural communities in Puntland.

A follow-up project to the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) in response to climate change will be finalised with the federal government.

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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 518,818.00			
TOTAL (DISBURSEMENTS + COMMITMENTS)	USD 131,444.00			
BALANCE OF FUNDS	USD 387,374.00			
% DELIVERY (AGAINST APPROVED BUDGET)	25%			

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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