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Resilient nations.*

JAPAN SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET 2016-2018

FINAL REPORT

Japan – UNDP Partnership Fund Final Report	
Title of Project: Community Stabilization through the Socio-economic Integration of Vulnerable Youth	
Project ID:	00099720
Executing Agency:	UNDP Somalia
Reporting Period:	1 April 2016 – 30 April 2018
Original Budget:	\$1,500,000
Amount Executed:	\$ 1,411,051.13
Contact person:	Jocelyn Mason, UNDP Resident Representative

1. Abbreviations

Atlas	UNDP’s Enterprise Resource Planning System
AWP	Annual Work Plan
BoQ	Bill of Quantity
CP	Country Programme
CPD	Country Programme Document
CSO	Civil Society Organization
GMS	General Management Services
IDPs	Internal Displaced Persons
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MPTF	Multi Partner Trust Fund
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NRAs	Newly Recovered Areas
NYK	Nippon Yusen Kabushiki
PPR	Project Progress Report
PSG	Peace and State-building Goal of the Somali New Deal Compact
RBAS	Regional Bureau for Arab States
SBAA	Standard Basic Assistance Agreement
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

2. INTRODUCTION

Even though classified as ‘newly recovered’ or ‘liberated’ areas numerous communities in Somalia continue to experience a lack of authoritative government structures, sporadic armed conflict, low levels of economic recovery and endemic humanitarian needs. Many have been profoundly affected by recurrent droughts and have been struggling with the additional burdens of damaged livelihood assets and high levels of household displacement. The vulnerability of these communities is being compounded by a soaring youth unemployment rate of 19.5% (ILO, 2018) and demographic pressures caused inter alia by a burgeoning youth population of 47%, (UN DESA, 2017) and the expected return of Somali refugees from Kenya and Yemen.

The project was developed in response to the challenges faced by Somali youth by strengthening community stabilization and resilience in two selected NRAs, Kismayo and Baidoa. The project combined successful elements of past and on-going UNDP projects aimed at social reconciliation, community stabilization and youth employment.

These include social and civic rehabilitation in order to socially and economically empower youth, and increase income generating activities,

In particular, the project built on and carried forward achievements and lessons learned from the ‘Youth for Change’ project which was generously supported by the Government of Japan through its supplementary budget in the period 2011-15.

Key achievements under the *“Community Stabilization through the Socio-economic Integration of Vulnerable Youth”* **project** include the provision of social rehabilitation support and employment skills to vulnerable youth (IDPs, refugees, ex-offenders, and youth at risk of engaging in illicit activities such as piracy and terrorism). This is considered an important intervention to expedite the re-integration of the affected youth into Kismayo and Baidoa, thus promoting community stabilization.

The overall goal of the project was to expedite community stabilization and sustainable recovery. The specific outputs were:

- 300 youth at risk (including IDPs, refugees and ex-offenders) provided with social rehabilitation support, market-based vocational training and education and / or basic business skills (approximately 150 in each location (Kismayo, Baidoa).

3. Project Progress

The agreement between the Government of Japan and UNDP was signed in April 2016, and the Programme was granted a 9-month cost extension until 30 April 2018. Over the implementation period, UNDP has assisted the FGS in reaching most of the targets under the agreement with the Government of Japan.

Output 1: 300 youth at risk (including IDPs, refugees and ex-offenders) provided with social rehabilitation support.

1.1 Social Rehabilitation

The social rehabilitation component of the project ensured that youth acquired social and civic skills that supported them to become active community members and engage in state building and peacebuilding initiatives in Kismayo and Baidoa.

The community and youth partnership was strengthened as evidenced by the commitment of the youth in participating in the social rehabilitation activities. The youth participated in courses that were complemented

with trauma healing, arts, drama, sports, Islamic education, and community volunteer activities. The social rehabilitation classes were implemented over a six-months period.

During the project implementation period an extensive orientation was conducted for all project staff to familiarize them with the overall scope and structure of the project as well as specific project interventions. In the first phase of the project implementation, communities in Kismayo and Baidoa were engaged to ensure that there is a thorough understanding of the project objectives and targeted groups in order to facilitate outreach and identification, and manage community expectations.

As of April 30, 300 youth had taken social rehabilitation courses related to i) artisan courses: electrician, ICT/computer, dressmaking/tailoring, Carpentry/woodwork, and Beauty salon.

1.2 ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

Economic integration components incorporated in the project have also significantly increased the youth's prospects of obtaining sustainable employment, thus contributing to poverty reduction and increased community resilience.

During the project implementation period the roll-out of a variety of courses on rule of law, social skills, leadership and youth empowerment, as well as activities, including peace building and social reintegration activities was completed. This was a pre-requisite for the implementation of economic integration support activities. A total of 130 youth in Kismayo and 110 youth in Baidoa who had already graduated were given the opportunity to participate in cash for work initiatives, market-based vocational education and training, and basic business skills training.

Activities implemented under the project resulted in the rehabilitation of three infrastructure and community assets through cash for work. Investments in the rehabilitation of critical productive and community assets provided short-term employment opportunities for youth beneficiaries, as well as tangible improvements in the quality of local services and increased local productivity.

4. PROGRESS AGAINST OUTPUTS & PLANNED ACTIVITIES IN ANNUAL WORK PLAN

OUTPUT 1: YOUTH AT RISK PROVIDED WITH SOCIAL REHABILITATION SUPPORT, MARKET-BASED VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION AND/OR BASIC BUSINESS SKILLS – 300 YOUNG ADULTS (150 IN EACH LOCATION)

Narrative update on Progress towards Output			
<p>During the reporting period, two new local NGO partners were selected after the suspension of the previously engaged NGOs, CERPA and HOPEL (further explanation provided under paragraph 8: Challenges). Warsheikh Rural development (WARDO) based in Baidoa and Human Development Concern (HDC) which operates in Kismayo were selected through a competitive procurement process and they started mobilizing teams to start project activities in both Baidoa and Kismayo once contracted. Re-establishing the relationship with targeted beneficiaries was carried out in a participatory manner, focusing preliminary on previously selected beneficiaries and community elders. Local authorities and state administrations were consulted throughout to ensure building on advances made in social rehabilitation and economic reintegration.</p>			
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress to date
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Number of youth (women and men, boys and girls) socially rehabilitated Number of youth economically integrated into their communities and provided with market-based vocational training and/or basic skills 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> No availability of statistics on youth who were socially rehabilitated or in need of social rehabilitation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 300 (150 x 2 NRA) youth (at least 40% women and girls) socially rehabilitated providing them with structured training in peace building, social skills, governance and rule of law, youth empowerment and leadership, as well as gender and environment 300 (150 x 2 NRA) youth (at least 40% women and girls) economically supported and provided with training, education and with micro-grants for the purchase of basic equipment and materials 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 300 Youth, 50% women, 50% men in both areas (150x2 NRA) acquired marketable vocational skills to improve livelihood opportunities 300 youth (150 Baidoa, 150 Kismayo) with 50/50 gender representation were economically supported and provided with educational training, and micro grants in terms of basic equipment and materials
Planned Activities as per Annual Work Plan		Progress Against Activities	
<p>300 youth at risk provided with social rehabilitation and economic reintegration in the NRAs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two NRAs selected based on a range of criteria including priority communities identified by UNHCR on the basis of existing levels of displacement and / or the potential for high levels of return. Beneficiaries identified, reach-out and sensitized Project teams prepared for implementation Social rehabilitation and mentoring for youth provided Market-based vocational training and education and business skills training provided. Job placements schemes established, and apprenticeships offered 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kismayo and Baidoa were selected as the target NRAs for this project and all activities have been completed in the two districts. In consultation with the community elders, local authorities and state administrations, the beneficiaries' identification and selection process and trainings has been undertaken to ensure sustainability of the project, training materials such as, manuals and other equipment has been handled over to the community. Beneficiaries received equipment's, such as laptops, tools for carpentry, and other essential tools 	

Sources of Evidence for Results Progress and Achievements

- Terms of Reference for the RPA process
- Pictures and Back to Office Report (BTOR)

5. OUTPUT 2 – FOUR COMMUNITY AND / OR PRODUCTIVE ASSETS REHABILITATED (two in each location)

Narrative update on Progress towards Output

After competitive contracting processes were carried out and contracts were finalized, the bill of Quantities (BoQs) and engineering designs for the selected community productive assets were prepared. Four local partners were selected to undertake community asset rehabilitation. After completion of the rehabilitation, UNDP project teams held meetings with community members, state administration and district authorities to come up with management arrangements for the selected productive infrastructure to operate, maintain them for the benefit of the local communities in both locations.

Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress to date
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No. of community assets rehabilitated 2. No. of socially rehabilitated youth workers, sex disaggregated, provided with short term employment 3. Overall income earned by socially rehabilitated youth workers. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 0 # of community assets rehabilitated 2. Limited job opportunities for target beneficiaries in the area. 3. No income for the target beneficiaries. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 4 community assets (2 in each location) 2. 300 short term employment opportunities 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community center in Kismayo, youth center with complete sports equipment in Baidoa, and access road in Baidoa were rehabilitated. 2. 300 short term employment opportunities were created

Planned Activities as per Annual Work Plan	Progress Against Activities
<p>Four community productive assets rehabilitated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relevant authorities and communities consulted to identify productive assets for rehabilitation - A local partner identified and selected for the work. - Bill of Quantities (BoQs) and implementation plan reviewed and approved by UNDP using cash for work modality for short-term employment - Rehabilitated assets handed over to communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In consultation with relevant authorities and communities in Baidoa and Kismayo districts, 4 community productive infrastructures were identified and selected, including market access road and youth center in Baidoa and youth sports and learning facility and theatre center in Kismayo. • Responsible Partnership Agreement (RPA) process completed and CEPRA and HOPEL have been selected as partners for this project. Both UNDP and the local partners signed the RPA agreement. • Partners received first installments and subsequently started project activities in both locations. • Bill of Quantities were prepared for all selected community productive assets.

Sources of Evidence for Results Progress and Achievements

- Pictures and BTORs
- RPA agreement
- Terms of Reference for the RPA (attached to the contract)
- BOQs and Engineering Designs

6. Output 3: Project effectively and efficiently implemented and managed

Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress to date
# of project board meetings held # of project progress reports generated	0 project board meetings held 0 project progress reports generated	2 project board meetings held 2 project progress reports generated	During the duration of the project implementation, project staff generated progress reports quarterly and annually. 2 project board meetings were held both in 2016 and 2017.

7. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES (GENDER, HIV/AIDS, PEACE AND CONFLICT, HUMAN RIGHTS)

The project encouraged the participation of women and girls and targeted at least 40% women direct beneficiaries in order to increase women's access to employment and other opportunities unleashing the full potential of the community. In general, the project gave due consideration to all vulnerable groups including minorities, women, people living with HIV/AIDS, Internally Displaced People (IDPs) and people with disabilities. Supporting vulnerable groups will have significant impact on the society as a whole and it is a live transforming intervention for the direct and indirect beneficiaries of the project.

8. CHALLENGES / LESSONS LEARNT

During the reporting period, following monitoring of project implementation, the misuse of funds by the local partners was discovered. UNDP subsequently sent an independent third-party monitoring to evaluate these findings. This resulted in the confirmation that funds were indeed misappropriated. UNDP informed the Office of Internal Audit who came to Mogadishu to initiate an official investigation. As a result, it was concluded that the allegations were of true nature, and the local partners removed from any further engagement in the project activities.

The project faced delays following the suspension of the two previously engaged local NGOs, (CERPA and HOPEL) and due to the need to recruit new local partners to continue the implementation of the project activities. The start of the new phase of project implementation faced additional delays related to a variety of factors. The previous project implementors disputed fund misappropriation findings, and newly elected local authorities in Kismayo and Baidoa had limited knowledge and capacity to support the project. As a result, it was essential to empower them to be able to support and contribute to the project activities. Subsequently, the local government collaborated, and supported project staff to focus on the preparations of the new project phase. Given those challenges, a six-months extension to the project was requested and agreed between the partners.

Out of the four community asset infrastructures that were identified to be rehabilitated, only three were completed, thus, the fourth community asset rehabilitation was delayed as it was occupied by Internally displaced people and the local government took long time to relocate them. As the matter of relocating IDP's is a sensitivity issue and without concrete action by the regional government the project was not able to implement the planned activity. Thus, the reason why there is the balance which is approximate to the amount allocated to the activity that was not implemented.

To mitigate risk partners from implementing UNDP projects and such incident recurring, UNDP will continue strengthening the risk mitigation measures and capacity assessments by conducting trainings for the partners about rules and regulation on fraud and corruption. Risk mitigation plans are required to be in place, which includes and not limited to, prequalifying NGO partners by assessing their financial management capacity, and ability to implement project activities responsibly, furthermore, additional mitigation measures was put in place, such as disbursing very small advance installments to the partner, more frequent spot checks are done, close and frequent programmatic and Third Party monitoring is done.

9. COMMUNICATIONS AND VISIBILITY

The project particularly focused on providing visibility through the implementing partners, through social media using Facebook and Twitter.

Selected links related to the support under this project are below:

<http://wardosom.org/community-stabilization-project/>

<https://twitter.com/WardoSomalia/status/961644014717022208>



Photo 1: Access Road in Baidoa newly



Photo 2: Kismayo Community Center



Photo 3: beneficiaries taking lessons



Photo 3: Kismayo Community Center



Photo 3: Kismayo Community Center Opening



Photo: Baidoa youth graduation

10. MONITORING AND OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES

Missions have been conducted in the target locations by the project team, in addition to several monitoring activities. Monitoring activities were conducted bi-monthly to ensure the unfortunate misuse of funds does not get repeated.

11. Interim FINANCIAL REPORT

Donor	Annual Work Plan	Available resources for the year	Contribution as % of AWP	Expenditure	Balance ¹	% Delivery	Comments
Japan	1,500,000	1,500,000	100%	\$ 1,389,554.97	\$ 110,445.03	92.6%	
TOTAL	1,500,000	1,500,000	100%	\$ 1,389,554.97	\$ 110,445.03	92.6%	

¹ Available resource for the year minus funds disbursed till now.