



NATIONAL WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC PLAN– A FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION



Summary Report

Consultation Workshops
Federal Member States

September 2020
Mogadishu, Somalia

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | | |
|------------|---|-----------|
| 01 | BACKGROUND | 02 |
| 02 | CONSULTATION OBJECTIVE | 03 |
| 03 | CONSULTATIONS STRUCTURE | 06 |
| 04 | CONSULTATION PROCESS | 08 |
| 05 | KEY AREAS OF DISCUSSION FOR THE NATIONAL WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT | 10 |
| 06 | KEY PRIORITIES FOR THE NATIONAL WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT | 17 |
| 6.1 | WATER GOVERNANCE AND SECTOR COORDINATION | 18 |
| 6.2 | EQUITY, PRODUCTIVITY AND SUSTAINABLE WASH SERVICES | 19 |
| 6.3 | RESILIENCE AND CLIMATE CHANGE | 20 |
| 6.4 | INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT | 22 |
| 06 | LIST OF INSTITUTIONS PARTICIPATING | 24 |



01 BACKGROUND

The purpose of the stakeholder consultations at Federal Member States on the national water resource strategy development was to listen to the needs and priorities of Federal Member States regarding the agenda for water and sustainable development. The consultations were structured to capture the voice of stakeholders on water and obtain a deeper qualitative understanding of individual federal member state priorities. The state level feedback adds values to the wider dialogues being undertaken by the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources and contributes to shaping strategic priorities.

The National Water Resource Strategy Technical Workshop in March 2020 that took place in Mogadishu triggered the need for a range of consultative exercises both within and external to the government ministries at Federal Member State level to identify priority areas for the national water resource development framework. The Minister of Energy and Water Resources stressed the importance of having a sound consultation process prior to the 2nd technical workshop that is planned to take place in October 2020 in Mogadishu.

The state level consultations on water complement and reinforce other activities, such as the Online discussions and consultations with experts and practitioners, as well as review of the available data through literature review. In particular it strengthens the stakeholder input to governmental processes. These consultations represented an important opportunity to listen to the voices of people in the different locations and reflect them in the new water resource management framework.

02 CONSULTATION OBJECTIVE

The consultations were organized in order to establish strategies and priority actions, helping to identify major challenges and possible solutions for water resources management in Somalia. Specifically, the workshop was geared towards addressing a number of key technical areas. For each area a set of principles will be identified, that determine how the particular area will be developed and managed, a set of objectives that will shape implementation, and a plan for action. Furthermore, a Compact, a mutually agreed agreement between the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and the donor community to support and address key water sector needs, and a Road Map of prioritized projects for implementation, will be developed. It is critical that the strategy is well understood by all involved, represents a bottom-up process, and is written in such a way that it provides a direct support to sector development.

To achieve this, a large set of meetings will be conducted across Somalia to collect knowledge and experience of working with water in the country, and to identify such principles and objectives that shall provide a structure to sector development. This, presented in a user-friendly and easy-read format, constitutes the strategy.



RESULTS

- 1 A Somalia Water Resources Compact:** A commitment by all engaged in the water sector to support water resources development in Somalia.
- 2 National Dialogue:** A country wide exchange of ideas, information, and experiences, in turn generating improved capacity, empowerment and cooperation
- 3 National Water Resources Strategic Plan:** Develop a governance structure and identify the principles and strategic activities for each specific water thematic area. This result has four sub-components: (i) Water Governance; (ii) Water Services; (iii) Resilience and Climate Change, and (iv) IWRM.
- 4 Water Resources Development Road Map:** This document is aligned to the strategy. It takes the identified strategic activities and turn them into priority projects.



CONSULTATION WORKSHOP

Date and location: March - Sept, 2020

Participants:

(i) Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, Ministries of Planning, Agriculture, Livestock, Environment, and Senior staff from relevant federal and state ministries
(ii) representatives of the NGOs, UN agencies, private sector and community.

Objectives:

(i) Establish a common understanding about the strategy: what a strategy is and how it supports the sector, how it will be developed, and what it will focus on and deliver;

(ii) Undertake technical discussions on (a) water sector governance and sector coordination (b) productivity and sustainable WASH services; (c) build resilience and promote sustainable development (d) integrated water resources management. Discussions will feed directly into relevant strategy components.

Logistics:

MoEWR at FGS and FMS facilitated the consultation process and was supported by UNDP and UNICEF



03 CONSULTATIONS STRUCTURE

The consultations consisted three key elements, listed below

A

Plenary Sessions - The purpose of this sessions was to identify and discuss the principal issues indicated in the presentation regarding the strategy development and other issues raised by the the participants in preparation for more detailed individual work.

B

Working Group Sessions- The participants were grouped into four. Each group discussed a key theme. Under each theme there were several key points to guide the group discussions.

C

Final discussion- After the working group presentations, the participants discussed the issues raised and the recommendation made. The consultation workshop didn't not attempt to reach a consensus on individual issues. Its focus was to obtain a full discussion of issues and issues for subsequent use in drafting the National Water Resource Management Strategy.

D

Final discussion- The consultation were complimented by field visits to the major water supply systems and field discussion with the community including displaced communities, pastoralists and farmers.



AGENDA

| Time | Activity |
|---------------|--|
| 8:00 – 9:00 | Registrations |
| 9:00 - 9:10 | Welcome and summary of workshop objectives |
| 9:10 – 9:20 | Opening Remarks: Ministry of Energy and Water Resources Representatives from the Federal Member States |
| 9:20 - 9:40 | Remarks from the FMS technical line ministries |
| 9:40 - 10:00 | Remarks from the local government |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | Water and Sustainable Development – From vision to action. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Water crises in Somalia- Causes, effects and impact. ● What is the purpose of the water strategy? ● How can a water strategy help Somalia? ● How the Somali water resources strategy will be developed -process and activities? Presentation |
| 10:30 -10:45 | Break |
| 1:45 – 2:00 | Group Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Water sector governance and sector coordination ● Ensure Equity, Productivity and Sustainable WASH Services ● Build Resilience and Promote Sustainable Development ● Enhance Integrated Water Resources Management |
| 2:00 - 4:30 | Presentation, Plenary discussion and closing remarks |

04 CONSULTATION PROCESS

The national consultations were facilitated by the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources. The consultations were carried out during the period March to September 2020 in a five federal member states.

The consultations consisted of a one day session chaired by the Ministries of Energy and Water Resources at the different federal member states and one day field visits to observe the existing water supply systems. Participation varied involving different technical line ministries, community members, NGOs, and Private Sector. Getting a broad stakeholder representation was of critical importance in the consultations. As the circumstances brought by COVID-19 only permitted a limited number of participants, each state invited a balance of stakeholders covering the three key sectors of society:

government (e.g. ministry officials, agencies and local government), the private sector, civil society (e.g. NGOs and academics) and community members including displaced communities.

A particular effort was made to include participants from non-water institutions and community, given their impact on water matters. The Ministry team previous experience of engaging with various other sectors and stakeholders enabled a good participation. There was considerable variation between states, but in each location it included mainly government ministry and agency officials from agriculture, environment, energy and water and health, but also from local government. It is clear the different line ministries are starting to recognise the importance of cross sector coordination and an integrated approach for sustainable water resources management and development .

The key issues challenges faced during the consultations include:

The federal member states have no up to date plans, strategies and legal instruments that could inform the consultation

Federal member states have limited resources and capacity to mobilise action and are not clear where their priorities lie. There is no framework for planning and mobilising action on water with a clear priority for maintaining action on water in all of these states

Stakeholders have no access to reliable data and information to inform them better of the challenges of water resources management

The role and involvement of the federal member states and local government in water sector is very limited

The consultations at the Federal Member States were very rich and there were some common themes arising that have been highlighted, including proper coordination structures, addressing climate shocks, investing in supply systems, capacitating the local actors in the water sector development and establishing an enabling environment for water sector development. The establishment of an effective water resources management system at all level (Federal, State and Local Levels) is one fundamental issues that was debated during group discussions.

While each federal member state identified a selection of priority actions to be applied to advance sustainable water resource management as a means to harvest their potential social and economic benefits, promote peace and security and reduce the adverse environmental effects. Most of these priorities were similar. A significant observation from the list of priorities arising from the consultations is that achieving improved management of water resources is of extremely high importance to all the Federal members. It was also clear that federal member states are committed to collobrating and adopting an integrated approach to water resources management. However, most of the federal member states were recently established and lack the capacity, resources and experience to work towards the development of the water sector.



05 KEY AREAS OF DISCUSSION FOR THE NATIONAL WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

In summary- key challenges hindering the water resources in Somalia are:

Poorly coordinated, aligned and barely put in practice national policies and strategies because of limited funding, monitoring and enforcement capacity. It has also being difficult to raise the profile of water as not only a strategic priority but with the broader economic, social and environmental benefits for all.

Lack of clear administrative boundaries between municipal, federal and intra-state boundaries. For instance, two or more water management bodies are in charge of water supply system management making it difficult to enforce water related regulations. Failure to address complex water challenges also results from overlapping and poorly coordinated institutions.

Lack of water resources plans at basins, local, state and national level that can define available water resources, map out existing challenges, and set clear priorities for water system development and management. There is no reliable data and information on water resources and the current data varies across states and regions, preventing building consensus on priority actions and effective decision making on who get what and when.

The lack of collaboration across ministries hamper policy coherence among water, agriculture, energy, environment and land use. The fact that the National water council is not fully functional and municipalities/local government have limited capacity and are mostly not involved in water system management is another compounding factor. The limited capacity of state, local and basin level institution in terms of funding, staffing and knowledge, making it impossible to get a fully-fledged implementation of any plans.

Lack of water resources plans at basins, local, state and national level that can define available water resources, map out existing challenges, and set clear priorities for water system development and management. There is no reliable data and information on water resources and the current data varies across states and regions, preventing building consensus on priority actions and effective decision making on who get what and when.

The lack of collaboration across ministries hamper policy coherence among water, agriculture, energy, environment and land use. The fact that the National water council is not fully functional and municipalities/local government have limited capacity and are mostly not involved in water system management is another compounding factor. The limited capacity of state, local and basin level institution in terms of funding, staffing and knowledge, making it impossible to get a fully-fledged implementation of any plans.

There is no consistent approach in defining water resource financing pool to guide decision facilitate on allocation and efficiency use of resources.

Absence of government led solutions to challenges of water shortage, quality control, and enforcing regulations- leadership of government institutions at National, State and Federal. There are fragmented and uncoordinated projects on water sector development reactive to humanitarian/emergency responses.

Poor relationships between service providers, public sector institutions and water users bring lack of accountability of service providers contributes.

The lack of regulation and mismanagement on ground water extraction is leading to problems like rapid depletion of resource and inequitable access for all. Privatization of the water sector with no regulations in place on supply, water tariff, and pricing.

Water scarcity in rural areas affecting humans (women and children), livestock and farming. Affordability and Quality of Water (No clean and drinkable water except the bottled water). All this contributing to conflicts arising from water sources, water use, access and resource sharing.

The following sections follow the structure of the consultations and address:



WATER GOVERNANCE AND SECTOR COORDINATION

| Discussion Areas | Discussion Points |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues and problems related to water resource management • functions of government levels • Roles of the community, private sectors and water user associations • Collobrations between FGS, FMS and Local Government | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility and availability of water • Water related conflict especially during droughts • Increasing Population and demand. The number of population is increasing rapidly and water availability is reducing. There is need to explore new sources of water and put in place a water management system. E.g. Explore possibility to connect water from 20-30 KM away from town where there is enough water available • Displacement and population movement increasing pressure on main cities and towns • Lack of regulatory framework and enforcement capacity in all states • Limited coordination and collaboration between FGS, FMS, Local Governments and Community • Confusion on roles and responsibilities between FGS, FMS, and Local Governments • Lack of policies, laws, and frameworks at National and State Level • Absence of the Monitoring and oversight role of the government in projects implemented across the country • Private sector is unregulated and different fee rates are charged by the companies • Limited/lack of capacity of the local government to manage and regulate water sectors • Absence of new technology and infrastructure to explore alternative water sources • Key challenges facing the government include: Security, Economy (lack of budget), limited capacity to manage the water sector, and companies are often more powerful than government ministries so they don't abide the few existing laws • SOPs for rehabilitation/contruction of water supply system to avoid NGO led adhoc and fragmented projects. • Improve the role of water committees: Increase awareness of the local community so that they feel ownership, include the committee other members of the community (e.g. women groups, minorities, displaced community) to ensure it is representative • Improving the system: Increase water availability (new water sources), introduce water management systems, and establish unions for the companies |

ENSURE EQUITY, PRODUCTIVITY AND SUSTAINABLE WASH SERVICES

| Discussion Areas | Discussion Points | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| | Sources | Quality | Challenges | Recommendations |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues and problems related to water resource management • functions of government levels • Roles of the community, private sectors and water user associations • Collobrations between FGS, FMS and Local Government | Unprotected shallows | Poor quality for drinking | Quality and standards | Systems improvement / SOPs/ Regulations |
| | Water companies | Unbalanced Minerals High pricings | Unprotected, Poor standards/ Lack of regulatory framework, Limited investement | Maintenance of the existing system/ Capacity building/ Harmonization of price |
| | Protected shallows-sponsored by NGOs | Unsafe for drinking | There was no proper water management system | Water Chanel for water flow |
| | Boreholes | Poor quality of water forhuman consumption | Water scarcity Not reliable | Water harvesting system |
| | Water catchments | Utilized by the agropastoral Unsafe (sewage pipes are too close) | Water catchments are polluted, unprotected | Waste management policy |
| | Saline water | Not drinkable | Urban waste is disposed in the ocean | Better technology for cleaning/ regulation and control |



RESILIENCE AND CLIMATE CHANGE

- The impact of the climate change On water availability
- If and how climate change and water is included in decision making and planning of the government.
- What resilience implies in Somalia perspective with specific focus on issues related to water resource management?
- How can we capacitate local government to manage early warning systems and water points during crises period.
- How can we capacitate community resilience in order to manage early warning systems and water points during droughts period?
- High temperature leads to high evaporation rates which ultimately results drought
- Due to climate changes there arose floods. This causes displacement ,destruction of agriculture and loss of properties
- Spread of water borne diseases such as cholera,malaria,Bilharzia e.t.c
- Soil erosion-Climate changes causes deforestation
- Water scarcity-Climate change leads to water shortage. This makes it for the poor community to get enough water to sustain their lives
- Before establishing any planning activities there should be a room for climate change adaptation i.e. contingency plan, environment impact assessment
- The respective ministries/authorities should take the lead against climate change impacts
- Early warning systems are not functional. People only rely on indigenous knowledge which disrupted by Climate Change

Recommendations

- Capacity building for the government and local community
- Formulation of policies and strategies
- Mapping water resource points
- Develop good urban planning system
- Installation of early warning equipments
- Establishment of data management system
- Creation of community awareness and sensitization
- Awareness raising on the effect of drought and how to mitigate it.
- Distribution of drought resistant crops and farm inputs for the farming community
- Construction of water pans /dams
- Training the community on the effective and efficient use of the minimal water during drought period
- Rangeland management
- Creation of Community based organization to dissemination from the local govt to the community level

INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (IWRM)

- Sustainable and efficient water use management
- Environmental sustainability to protect the water resources base , as well as associated ecosystems
- Sustainable and efficient water use management from your regional level
- Public participation in water resources policy, planning and management at local level
- Investment for water resources infrastructure
- Current regulations and standards what exists, what is needed
- Lack of funding for water sector (the available investment is not coordinated from both government, private sector and developmental partners).
- No available data in both hydrology and hydrogeology studies
- No proper institutional arrangement for water services (lack of government responsiveness, capability and accountability).
- No proper water distribution system in main districts e.g. There is unplanned water pipeline network.
- Lack of gender consideration in water management (especially women)
- Lack of enforcement of the water law due to the absence of water law provisions (water quality standards frameworks, water management policy, water tariff control policy, catchment protection policy and other related policies or regulations annexed to the water law).
- Limited qualified or skilled professionals in water sector.
- Lack of monitoring of water in both surface and ground water
- Lack of proper water infrastructure systems.
- Lack of strong coordination of the stakeholders in water sector (public and private).
- No information management mechanism
- Lack of community participation in water supply and management projects



Recommendations

- Human and institutional capacity development in water sector
- Establishment of information collection, storage and management mechanism
- Development water supply master-plan (Demand & Supply projection, population survey, Environmental impact assessment, hydrology and hydro-geological studies) in all main cities and town
- Improvement of water infrastructure (rehabilitation of water non-functional existing strategic boreholes, shallow wells and water pans)
- Establishing water monitoring equipment (hydro-metric stations for ground water monitoring, river stations and weather forecasting for hydrology and set up of central water laboratory in Kismayo)
- Establishment of investment advocacy and coordination office
- Construction of Ministry regional offices for proper coordination
- Gender mainstreaming in water sector
- Agreement engagement with neighboring government on trans-boundary water management and upstream catchment protection.
- Establishment of early warning mechanism flood forecasting, weather forecasting, disaster risk reduction and communication mechanism

KEY PRIORITIES FOR THE NATIONAL WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

In summary

Safe drinking water is the basis for the well-being of people and a basic human right which is already being enshrined in the Somalia national constitution

The environment and water quality are being negatively affected primarily by waste and this challenging the quality and safety of drinking water

Water is recognised as a pivotal ingredient for the development of all key sectors and mainly the agriculture and livestock sectors which is a large part of Somali's population. The development of water sector has the potential for making a greater contribution to national development in the future

Water is also a medium for destruction if the recurrent disaster such as floods due to climate change and poor water system management is not addressed. This has extreme impact on social, economic and environmental dimensions, and has consequences for growth and development.

The consultations identified key areas that should form potential strategic goals for developing Somalia's national water resources. This included:

Improving water resources management should be cross-sectoral and that the leadership of Federal Member States and Local government is key

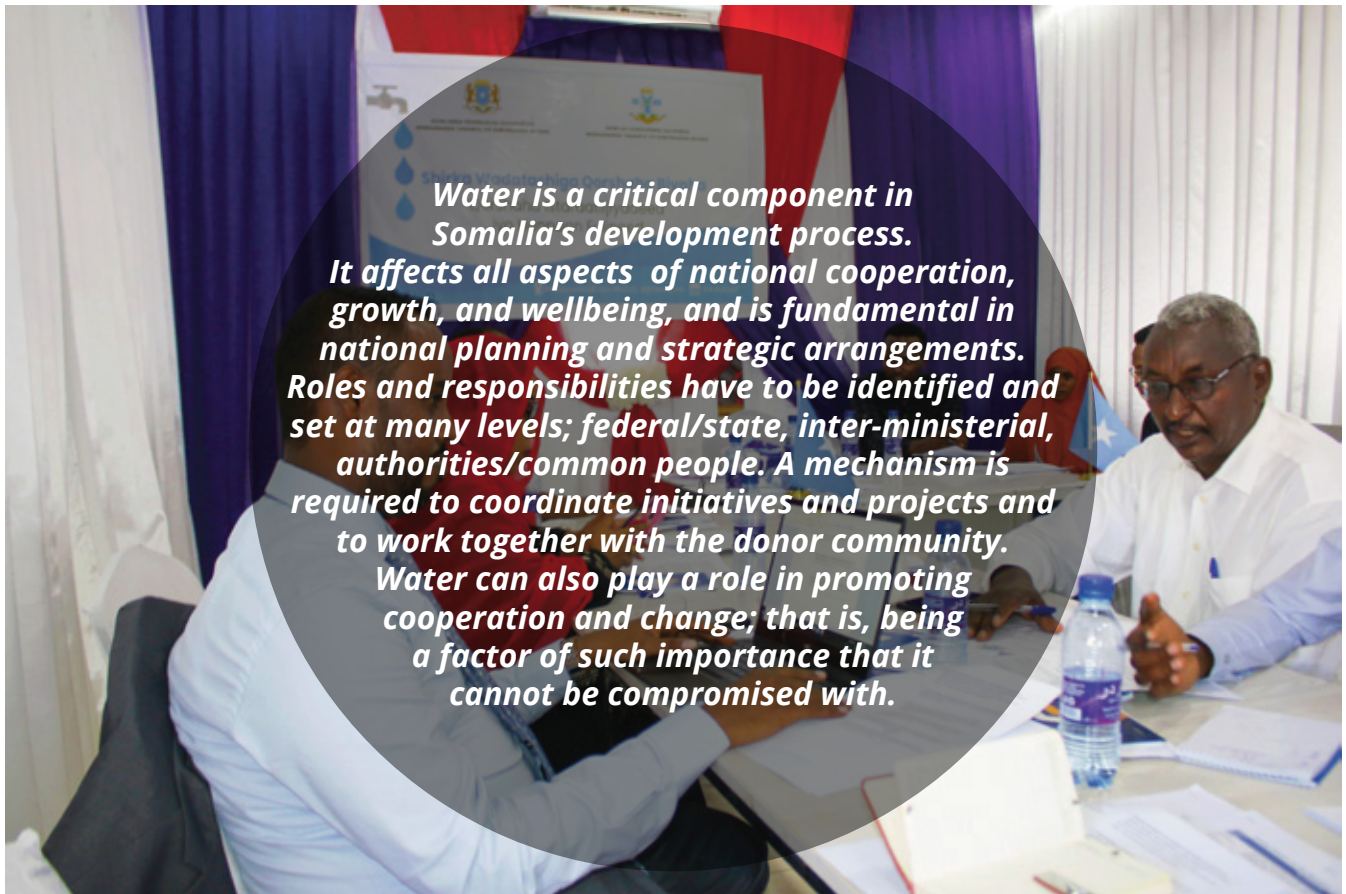
Ensure there is access to safe and reliable drinking water supplies and sanitation for all people in urban cities, rural areas, and in the displaced settlements

Develop better understanding on the available water resources, quality, challenges and opportunities through reliable and solid data

Develop short-term, medium and longer-terms actions to mitigate the impacts of extreme events and climate change.

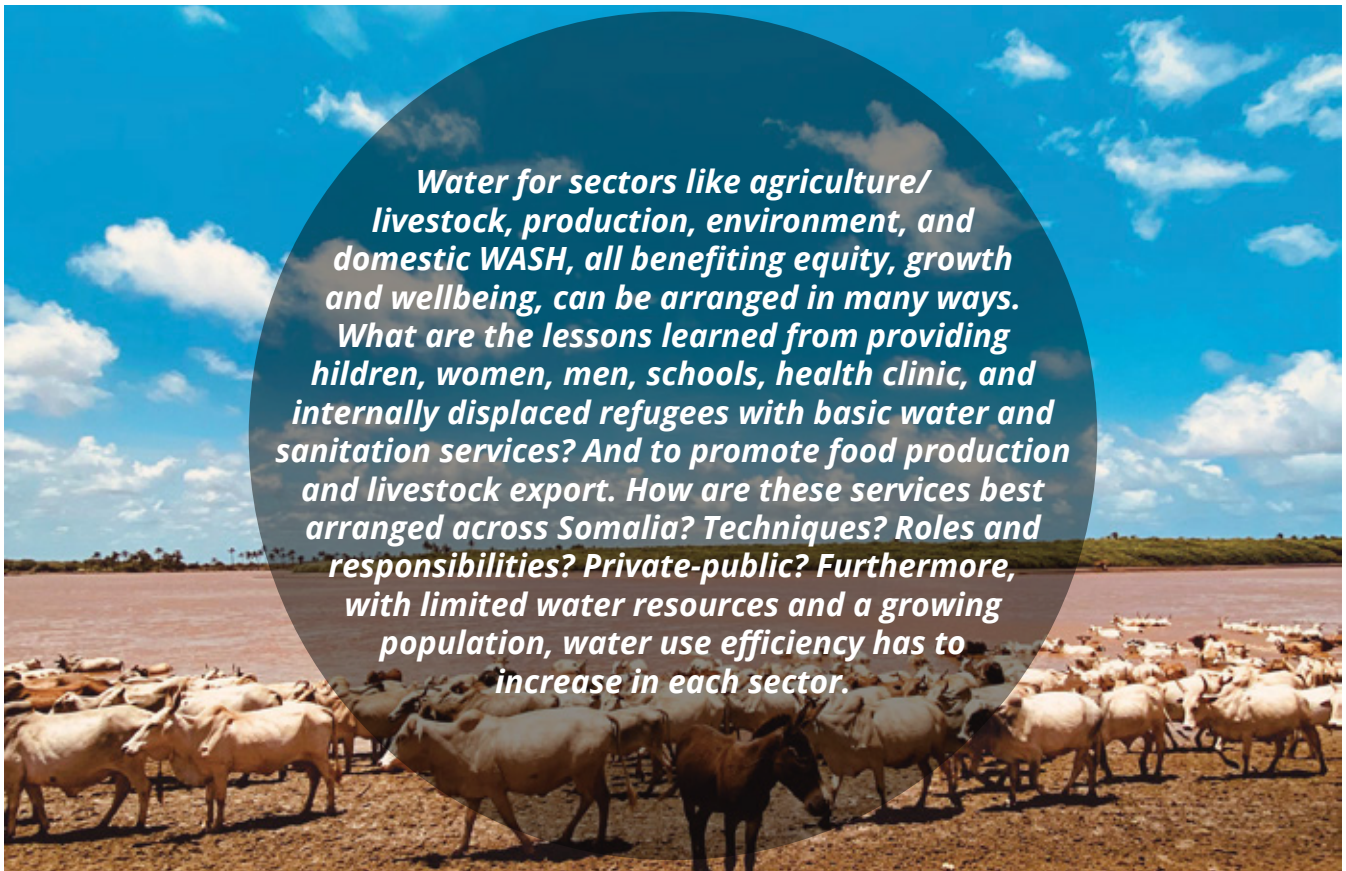
Investing in proper water supply systems

6.1 WATER GOVERNANCE AND SECTOR COORDINATION



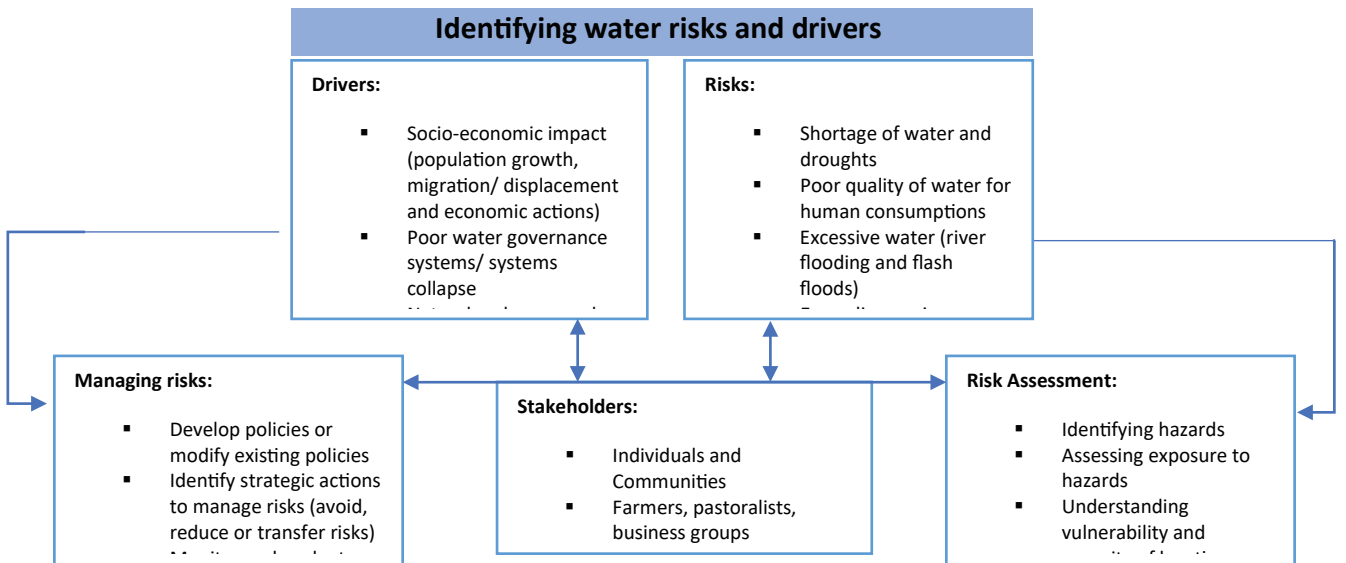
- Adopt legal framework and policies that can be applied to water resources management at the national and local levels with particular attention to regulation/enforcement/compliance
- Institutional arrangements with appropriate technical and financial capacity (especially at the national and local level)
- Develop mechanisms for coordination and cooperation with clear structures at Federal, State and Local Levels
- Defining the tasks and functions of institutions related to water resources management to improve coordination and integration of the cross-sector programme
- Develop State level Strategic Plans focusing on Ground Water, Surface Water and for River Basin water resources management for all states
- Improving coordination on water resources management at the federal, national, local and basin levels by the establishment and functioning of inter-sectoral and intra-state level water resources management coordination structures
- Ensure there is cross-sectoral agreement between line ministries related to water resources on the need to manage it in an integrated way at federal and state level
- Promote public-private partnerships on water supply systems development, maintenance and management increasing the opportunities for small national businesses or entrepreneur
- Ensure that highly skilled professionals are trained for the water sector to make sure human resources are available

6.2 EQUITY, PRODUCTIVITY AND SUSTAINABLE WASH SERVICES



- Ensure all communities including the rural and displaced communities have access to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation
- Special attention to the population increases in main towns where economic activities are intensifying and the availability and negative impact on the quality of water resources is growing without any particular action being taken to limit the damage.
- Explore effective ways to develop water and sanitation infrastructure and proper water storage facilities
- Priority the rehabilitation and improvement of irrigation systems to increase agricultural productivity and reduce water wastage.
- Ensure the sustainability of services, improve conservation techniques, like rain water harvesting
- Ensure wastewater treatment process are developed to avoid polluting fresh-water and the environment

6.3 RESILIENCE AND CLIMATE CHANGE



- Climate change affects the water cycle- increasing frequency and intensity of extreme events such flooding and droughts- water sources drying, deteriorating water quality and availability with some regions becoming wetter in some seasons and dry in other seasons.
- Vulnerability and exposure of populations and ecosystems and assets to climate change are very high in Somalia
- Prioritizing actions that address the short term, medium term and longer-term challenges faced by communities living in semi-dry lands and riverine areas.
- Identifies an urgent ways to mitigate water related disasters such as floods and risks from climate variation
- Uncertainty and information gaps associated with climate change impact on fresh water sources pose challenges for informing policy level decisions – Limitations in data modeling
- Early warning systems to reduce potential damages- Integrate water into the DRR sector
- A future oriented policy that takes into account climate change variability is key



6.4 INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Integrated water resources management (IWRM) covers all fields of the water sector. It provides the structure that enables water security to be achieved. It includes water governance – the political, social, economic and administrative systems that influence water's use and management; who gets what water, when and how, and who has the right to water and related services, and their benefits – water resource availability (quantity, quality, location, timing) and bulk supply; operational allocation, pricing & trade-offs; ecosystem services, watershed/landscape management, and storage; transboundary waters; and capacity development and research.

- Improving availability and access to information and strengthening knowledge sharing and management at different levels (Federal, State and Local Levels)
- Promote traditional water resource management methods while improving access to new technologies at local level
- Ensure proper surveys and plans inform strategies, action plans and programs that address water sector development
- Shifting the funding from scattered and disaster oriented responses to more on funding for infrastructure development and maintenance.
- Ensure there are agreed standards, norms, guidelines, and benchmarks are development and applied for WASH at all level
- Revenue enhancement and promote system to raise revenue through billing from those who can pay and collection within municipalities to invest back and develop water infrastructure
- Adopt appropriate technologies that are affordable, culturally acceptable, easy to operate and maintain, and uses locally available materials and knowledge systems
- Strengthening community water management users committee and associations taking into the gender representation and improving their roles in planning, implementation and supervision of water resources management and development initiatives
- Building the capacity of the private sector and ensure their actions are proper regulated.

07 LIST OF INSTITUTIONS PARTICIPATING

| | Institutions |
|------------------------|--|
| Government | Ministry of Energy and Water Resources |
| | Ministry of Humanitarian and Disaster Management |
| | Ministry of Agriculture |
| | Ministry of Livestock |
| | Ministry of Planning and Economic Investment |
| | Ministry of Fishery |
| | Ministry of Women and Human Rights |
| | Ministry of Health |
| | Environment Directorate/ Ministries |
| | Local Government- Region |
| | Local Government- District |
| | Other relevant ministries |
| NGOs | WASH Cluster |
| | International Agencies |
| | National NGO |
| Private Sectors | Private Sector |
| | PPT Companies |
| Community | Representatives from the IDP |
| | Representatives from the water users – Village level |
| | Representatives from the Farmers |
| | Representatives from Women Groups |

