

Gender Project



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PROJECT SUMMARY

4.1: Gender equality and the empowerment of women implemented through advocacy initiatives in partnership with civil society and public institutions

1. Somali women's rights activists were provided opportunities for trainings and exchange to foster strong ties with regional and international debates on women's rights as inspiration for formulation of effective gender advocacy messages and strategies. 2. In cooperation with UNIG, UNFPA, UNESCO & 2 national journalist associations the gender unit established a media award scheme that rewards excellence in journalism that highlights gender and other relevant social and developmental issues. The winners will be announced in the three zones in January 2014. 3. During the year, the gender unit through Micro-Capital Grants (MCGs) provided a total of \$308,000 to seven Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) across the Somali region to conduct advocacy and awareness-raising on issues ranging from SGBV, livelihoods, gender justice, FGM and women's political participation. To enhance their capacity for deeper community engagement and advocacy on topics often perceived as 'difficult' social issues (e.g. FGM, HIV/AIDS, child/forced marriages) representatives from 6 NGOs, women politicians, local government officials, religious leaders and local community representatives were trained on the Community Capacity Enhancement – Community Conversations (CCE-CC). 4. The gender unit in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in Somaliland (MOLSA) and support from Ministry of Youth & Sports raised awareness of 30,000-40,000 youth attending the Somaliland National Sports Tournament on SGBV and more specifically on rape by using behavioral change communication materials in the stadium. 5. A second phase of the leadership training was provided to a total of 77 participants (from the government, civil society, and sectors such as media, education and health; with a total of 36 women) from all three Somali regions.

4.2: Women's participation in peace building, representation, civil service and public life increased at all levels

1. MoWFS in Puntland and MOLSA in Somaliland undertook a mapping of women's rights activists and NGOs focusing on gender equality. The mapping provides valuable data such as 45 local organizations focused specifically on women's empowerment and gender equality in Puntland and 40 in Somaliland. The data is available for the Ministries and stakeholders to call on when carrying out initiatives related to gender – to widen their network of coverage, call on expertise, etc. 2. Efforts to promote women's political participation were increased nationwide through the conduct of workshops, consultative and advocacy forums, and awareness-raising on women's rights to participate in decision-making.

4.3: Women are empowered in social and economic development

1. The gender unit continued provision of tertiary scholarships to 60 young women from disadvantaged backgrounds, in both Somaliland and Puntland. The scholarship recipients are now entering their second year of studies in a range of programmes (including medicine, business administration, Shari'a law and economics, IT, nutrition, etc). 2. During the year, consultative forums on women and khat were held in Puntland and Somaliland, with khat sellers and representatives from civil society participating in the event. The forums provided opportunities to discuss the socio-economic impacts of the khat industry on women, identify thematic areas, approaches and communication channels to be employed in advocating their rights to the government authorities. 3. In Puntland, procured equipment, furniture and children's play materials worth \$100,000 for the Puntland Women's Resource Center.

4.4: Women supported by appropriately designed, implemented and enforced legal and policy frameworks in line with CEDAW, the Maputo Protocol and Security Council Resolutions 1325 (2000), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009) and 1820

1. UNDP is supporting effectively coordination on gender mainstreaming within all government work in all three regions. This includes support for strategic planning, developing a gender policy and establishing gender coordination mechanisms with focal points from all ministries and relevant CSOs. In Somaliland an Implementation Plan for the Somaliland National Gender Policy was developed and an inter-ministerial gender coordination mechanism established. At the federal level, UNDP was able to sustain the support for a national gender policy, resulting in a road map for consultations and re-drafting of the draft gender policy developed in May 2013. 2. In search of effective response and consistent reporting on SGBV, the gender unit supported the Somaliland Women's Network, NAGGAD and WAWA in Puntland to train NGOs and service providers, conduct sensitization workshops and develop a paralegal manual as well as judicial monitoring tools. 3. MoWFS provided 60 FGM practitioners across the state with business development skills trainings and small grants (\$300 each) to start alternative livelihoods



Gender Project

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CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

FEDERAL LEVEL

Access for UNDP staff has remained limited, but is beginning to open up. Capacity in the Directorate for women, children and social affairs is low and activities tend to be ad-hoc instead of strategically prioritized. In June, the Ministry of Human Development and Public Services (MoHDPS) participated in a workshop in Kampala, organized by AMISOM, to develop a draft gender policy for Somalia. UNDP and other international partners have since provided support to the ministry to review the policy which will continue into 2014.

The government has limited capacity to investigate and prosecute GBV cases, and through the year have focused more on pressing charges against alleged rape victims. This limits protection for GBV survivors and has led to decrease in reported cases. The GBV WG has developed a 3-year strategy to respond to challenges re. GBV. A government-led gender coordination forum is being developed with participation from international donors, UN agencies and AU/AMISOM.

PUNTLAND

The district level elections that were scheduled for 15 July were cancelled the day before, and there is no clear message as to whether the elections have been cancelled or only postponed. This has created confusion regarding the entire political process, which includes nomination of MPs as well as a new President; and uncertainty within individual ministries, and thus a reluctance or inability to push through any new legislation or initiatives. However, the situation also means that the serving women district Councillors will retain their positions for the time-being so the Project will continue to provide capacity building support to them. The final list for Puntland parliament members have been announced with 1 female MP out of 66 members. Lack of clarity on the relationship between Puntland and the Federal Government remains a barrier to programmatic linkages on gender across the regions. Little progress is being made in the advocacy towards passage of the draft Gender Policy.

SOMALILAND

The only female member of the Guurti (House of Elders) resigned in 2013 as a result of lack of female support in a chamber, where 81 of the full quorum of 82 are male. Somaliland Parliament removed discussion on the quota for women in the parliament from its agenda items at the start of the year. Somaliland President, in his annual speech, addressed the parliament and reaffirmed his commitment towards the quota and urged the parliament to get it approved. Two female ministers positions were appointed as a result of the president's reshuffle: one as Minister of Environment, and the other as Vice Minister of Labour and Social Affairs

The Parliamentary election, which was expected to take place early in 2014, was postponed.

Regional Court (August 4th) sentenced 21 men found guilty of gang-raping two women in Hargeisa; twenty of the men were sentenced to ten years in jail while one man was sentenced to five years. 221 SGBV (rape) cases have been reported from January to September 2013 .

RESULTS

SL	Indicator	4.1.1.2 Number of women that participate in decision-making bodies	G
	Result	14-Women's participation in decision-making bodies increased in this reporting period: two female ministers have been appointed, now making four women in the cabinet; 10 women are elected in the local councils out of 353.	
	Comment	The quota scheme is not moving forward due to reluctance from Parliament, but women's organizations and MOLSA are currently strategizing on how to move forward on this issue.	
SL	Indicator	4.1.2.1 Number of targeted advocacy campaigns implemented	G
	Result	14 advocacy campaigns on gender equality, women's and human rights implemented, against the target of 9, across all the districts in Hargeisa and directly reached 640 participants (396 male and 244 female).	
	Comment	These advocacy campaigns were organized in the form of meetings and debates on the women's rights and were attended by the diverse people from local Councillors, village committees, IDPs and the youths.	
SL	Indicator	4.2.1.1 Number of women's groups actively participating in local, district and national forums and influencing policies and practices	G
	Result	In partnerships with MOLSA, 40 gender based equality NGOs are identified involving local, district and national forums and are mainly promoting gender equality and women's empowerment	
	Comment	Database providing information on the women's rights and gender equality based NGOs and also women running for political office as well as women achievers in Somaliland finalized as a repository of information for programming	
SL	Indicator	4.4.1.1 Level of progress in revising and implementing existing gender policies and laws is "high", "medium" or "low"	G
	Result	Medium-SGBV Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) was translated into Somali, validated and 500 copies of it were disseminated to more than 90 participants from different stakeholders involved in SGBV work	
	Comment	During the dissemination workshops the participants found the Somali version very easy to understand and useful in its application for their SGBV work and showed commitment in application and using the translated SOP.	
SL	Indicator	4.4.2.1 Number of reported incidences of sexual and gender-based violence	G
	Result	Hargeisa alone, 221 SGBV (rape) cases have been reported by Bahi-koob from the period between January to September 2013. Comparatively, the figures for 2012 stood at 195.	
	Comment	in 2013, the number of rape and SGBV cases, dis aggregated by dismissals and convictions ,326 rape cases reported in Hargeisa(90%), Boorama & Buroa. This increase in SGBV incident reporting is attributed to awareness raising campaigns and the enhanced coordination on SGBV in this reporting period	
SL	Indicator	4.1.2.3 Number of dialogue spaces created to discuss women's rights and role in Somali society	G
	Result	Information sharing and coordination around SGBV is enhanced through four Quarterly Consultative Meetings on SGBV with line Ministers and CSOs, service providers and other relevant SGBV stakeholders held in 2013	
	Comment	These meetings were held on quarterly basis and were attended by 30 relevant stakeholders, including SGBV working group members, Gender Responsive Police Steering Committee, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labour & Social Affairs with the objectives of discussing urgent or standing SGBV issues	
PL	Indicator	4.4.1.1 Level of progress in revising and implementing existing gender policies and laws is "high", "medium" or "low"	Y
	Result	Low-Due to Puntland's political situation, the Gender Policy seems to have been deemed a non-priority. The Strategic Plan for MOWFSA, however, is still in process, with a consultant now hired to come to Garowe to develop this with key stakeholders in 2014	
	Comment	The Gender Unit is discussing with MOWFSA on an alternative strategy for promoting the draft gender policy and advocating its adoption through endorsement by religious leaders	

RESULTS

PL	Indicator	4.1.2.2 Number of people reached by advocacy campaigns (est.)	G
	Result	445 participants took part in gender advocacy workshops	
	Comment	Topics included community sensitization and inter-generational dialogues on FGM, Gender Equality and women's participation in public life.	
PL	Indicator	4.4.2.1 Number of reported incidences of sexual and gender-based violence	G
	Result	The Judicial Monitoring Tool developed by WAWA has now been finalized and the database established. A validation workshop took place with key representatives from relevant bodies represented. Training on JMT conducted for 92 WAWA member organizations.	
	Comment	Since the JMT Tool has been just finalized and relatively new, it has not been used to gather cases on reported incidences of sexual and gender based violence. This is expected to happen in 2014.	
FL	Indicator	4.4.1.1 Level of progress in revising and implementing existing gender policies and laws is "high", "medium" or "low"	Y
	Result	Low-Road map for consultations and review of National Gender policy incl 1325 NAP has been endorsed by Government, UN GTG, donor GTG, World bank and IIDA.	
	Comment	National Gender policy is foreseen to be completed by June 2014, and all actors have endorse the road map so all support will be align to a consolidated process.	
ALL	Indicator	4.4.1.3 Level of CEDAW & UNSCRs compliance of laws and policies is "high", "medium" or "low"	G
	Result	Low-55 selected participants drawn from relevant line ministries, civil society organizations and women networks have been equipped with the skills they need to appreciate and apply gender and human rights frameworks in planning and programming, and in advocacy for women's human rights	
	Comment	The objective of the training was to enhance the knowledge and the use of CEDAW & UNSCRs among other International Human Rights and Gender frameworks by the women activist and other selected people involved in gender and human rights issues to influence the policies around these issues	
ALL	Indicator	4.1.1.1 Number of women that complete leadership training programmes	G
	Result	36 women and 41 men from government and CSOs (from three regions) were enhanced their leadership skills in March through conducting the second phase of the Transformational Leadership training. Breakthrough Initiatives carried out between the trainings by the participants have reached 2,513 people	
	Comment	The Transformational Leadership Development Programme (LDP) was first introduced to gender, HIV and peace building efforts in Somalia in July 2012 to focus on leadership due to its important role in responding to difficult social issues including gender inequality that is prevalent in Somalia.	
SL	Indicator	Number of women's groups actively participating in local, district and national forums and influencing policies and practices	G
	Result	In partnership with HAVOYOCO, 129 (56 male and 73 female) participants (12 elected local councils, 5 MPs, 34 district community committees, 34 IDP mothers and 44 youth members) have been built their capacity by providing 5 workshop trainings on gender equality	
	Comment	The participants from community and the IDPs had a through discussion with MPs and local Councillors on women's rights and the role that the officials can play in advancing these rights.	
SL	Indicator	No of women Khat sellers reached and participating in consultations.	G
	Result	40 women Khat sellers have been engaged and are empowered to claim their rights. Consultative forum for women Khat sellers held and documented their concerns and the appropriate response mechanisms for their problems formulated. A leadership structure is formed with five representative Committees	
	Comment	The representative committees of women khat sellers and MOLSA had taken a meeting with the Social Department of Hargeisa Municipality on the women's challenges of their trade and their needs. Hargeisa Municipality were receptive this move.	

RESULTS

SL	Indicator	No. of young women taking advantage of scholarship and completing tertiary education.	G
	Result	The 30 students benefiting from the tertiary Scholarship for young girls have successfully completed the first year and the payment of the second year's first semester fee is released.	
	Comment	The students are pursuing their study and no challenges have been reported during this reporting period. A monitoring mission found performance of the students good. The project envisaging to support the MOE&HE to establish a counseling and networking office to provide counseling services .	
SL	Indicator	Number of reported incidences of sexual and gender-based violence	G
	Result	In response to low and inconsistency SGBV reporting, a Judicial Monitoring Tool (JMT) is developed by NAGAAD to collect, monitor, follow up and evaluate GBV case proceedings. 114 participants (72 F & 42 M) from women NGOs and other SGBV stakeholders have been trained on the Judicial Monitoring Tool	
	Comment	The tool is designed to help the systematic and consistent data collection on SGBV cases for the use of all SGBV stakeholders aiming to increase SGBV incident reporting across Somaliland. The tool will be implemented in 2014	
SL	Indicator	Number of reported incidences of sexual and gender-based violence	G
	Result	In collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Social affairs (MOLSA) and with the support of Ministry of Youth and Sports, between 30,000-40,000 youth sports spectators has been raised their awareness on SGBV and more specifically on rape by using Behavioral Change Communication Materials on SGBV	
	Comment	200 stickers carrying on SGBV prevention messages were produced and distributed, 10 billboards were hoisted in the stadium. Because of its popularity and its attraction of huge crowds, mainly youth, the event of Somaliland National Sports Tournament has proved to be strategic in conveying messages	
SL	Indicator	Number of sensitization meeting held and number of people reached	G
	Result	180 traditional and religious leaders sensitized and their capacity on SGBV improved via conducting six Sensitization workshops across the six regions of Somaliland in preventing and responding the SGBV which its prevalence is alarmingly on the increase in Somaliland.	
	Comment	The leaders have been given on the basic knowledge on SGBV, its forms/types or nature, manifestations and consequences be it social, psychological, biological etcetera.	
SL	Indicator	Technical capacity of inter-ministerial gender coordination mechanisms enhanced through workshops/trainings on gender mainstreaming and logistic support	G
	Result	Gender mainstreaming training for Inter-agency gender Committees is conducted in Hargeisa, Somaliland on 6 to 8 February, 2013 in order to enhance the technical capacity of inter-agency gender coordination members.	
	Comment	The main objective of the training was to equip members of Inter-agency gender Committees with skills and knowledge of gender mainstreaming assuming that they will be in a better position to participate in gender issues in Somaliland particularly the implementation of National Gender Policy	
SL	Indicator	Level of progress in revising and implementing existing gender policies and laws is "high", "medium" or "low"	G
	Result	Medium-an implementation Plan or framework for Somaliland National Gender Policy was developed- the document is comprehensive and sets the Policy implementation frameworks and blueprints until 2017. Broader stakeholders from government, UN agencies and civil society have validated the plan	
	Comment	In the absence of implementation plan, Somaliland National Gender Policy could not be translated into concrete actions. But, now the developed implementation plan has become the guiding document when it comes to gender interventions in Somaliland and has been very integral in 2014 workplanning.	
SL	Indicator	Level of progress in revising and implementing existing gender policies and laws is "high", "medium" or "low"	G
	Result	Medium-Inter-ministerial consultations held and as result 13 out of 25 ministries have appointed their gender focal points and are participating Inter-agency gender coordination. Four coordination meetings were held in 2013	
	Comment	Inter-Agency Gender Committee members hail from Ministerial, Civil society and representatives from UN Agencies Gender Focal Points which endeavors to promote linkages and effective participation of all key actors in the implementation of gender policy	

RESULTS

SL	Indicator	Number of people reached by advocacy campaigns (est.)	G
	Result	In partnership with HAVOYOCO, 769 participants (452 male and 317 female) from the five districts and the IDPs in Hargeisa (including elected local councils, 5 MPs, 34 district community committees) have improved their knowledge and understanding on Gender, Women's and Human rights .	
	Comment	These people were reached in the form of debates, meeting and workshops and had generated an interested discussions on gender and the role of women in the Somali context and how this has contributed to impeding women from performing in public.	
SL	Indicator	Number of awareness raised in reduction of SGBV and FGM prevalence	G
	Result	An inter-generational Dialogue on FGM initiated and 70 female and male youth benefited. Awareness on FGM is raised in two IDPs in Hargeisa through conducting five community gatherings on FGM with 750 participants of these awareness gatherings on FGM. 500 pcs of IEC materials on FGM distributed	
	Comment	In connection with awareness raising on SGBV and FGM, 50 participants, from IDPs, women NGOs, police were given a training on SGBV. it's implemented in a participatory manner and its programmes includes SGBV forms, consequences and preventives measures to be taken by the community	
PL	Indicator	Database on women's rights and gender equality based NGOs and women in decision making updated	G
	Result	The database has been finalized and received by MOWFSA/UNDP	
	Comment	The database will serve as a pool of resource persons to draw on for future gender interventions	
PL	Indicator	Number of inter-agency gender coordination mechanism meetings	R
	Result	This mechanism has not been established	
	Comment	The advocacy for the passing of the Gender Policy is serving as a tool through which to introduce this idea to ministries and MOWSFA has included this in their work plan	
PL	Indicator	Gender Resource Center established	Y
	Result	The procurement has been finalized and the construction by UNHABITAT is on-going	
	Comment		
PL	Indicator	Number of scholarship grantees continuing in 2013; number of trainings held for the scholarship recipients.	Y
	Result	29 scholarship grantees successfully completed year one and started year two.	
	Comment	Programmes include medicine, business administration, nursing, shari'ah law and economics. A monitoring mission in April revealed that one scholarship recipient was forced to drop out of school due to health issues, but the other 29 girls are performing well. Attendance is consistent & grades good.	
PL	Indicator	Inter-ministerial coordination body established, focal points appointed,number of inter-ministerial meetings held, number of trainings provided.	R
	Result	This group has not yet been established. However, focal points (either DG or Head of Unit level) have been identified, and training will be provided on gender mainstreaming in 2014	
	Comment	To date, the identified ministry focal points (5 women and 2 men) include those MOWFSA already has working relationships with - Health, Planning, Labour and Youth, Security, Interior and Education.	

RESULTS

PL	Indicator	Number of consultative forums for women khat sellers held; appropriate response mechanism identified.	G
	Result	A consultative forum held for 60 women khat sellers and representations from women NGOs	
	Comment	The forum revealed useful insight and perspectives of female khat sellers; provided on the socio-economic impact of the khat industry on them and a history of khat in Somalia, the effects of khat chewing, the challenges faced by sellers and recommendations for support	
ALL	Indicator	Community conversations on gender equality and women's rights supported with the active participation of male and female champions and women's CSO groups or networks.	G
	Result	29 (19 female and 10 male) participants supported to undertake 10 day training on Community Capacity Enhancement- Community Conversations methodology (CCE-CC) to generate and sustain long term inter-active dialogue around gender issues	
	Comment	The CSOs implementing the CCE-CC interventions have already submitted their proposals and the MCGs will be signed immediately to commence activities.	
SL	Indicator	Sub-office gender focal points quarterly meetings held	G
	Result	Four meetings among UNDP projects gender focal points was held and discussed more on the ways of making quarterly progress reports more gender sensitive and how Gender Unit can support in doing this.	
	Comment	The gender focal points are meant to support the mainstreaming activities of their respective projects in collaboration with Gender Unit. There is great need for refresher training for them; reinforced responsibility and commitment is also integral	
SL	Indicator	Number of GEWE Project Board quarterly meetings held	G
	Result	4 Project Review Board meetings held in 2013. A new format has been adopted to reflect overall achievements towards collective results. Participation was excellent and the meeting productive.	
	Comment	These regular meetings with project board have been regraded as crucial exploring options for challenges together and sharing information in reducing the duplication of efforts.	
PL	Indicator	Number of GEWE Project Board quarterly meetings held	G
	Result	Project Review Board for Q2 ,Q3 and Q4 held in Garowe. A new format has been adopted to reflect overall achievements towards collective results. Participation was excellent and the meeting productive.	
	Comment	All partners except for MOE were in attendance. MOWFSA suggested more frequent meetings with CSO partners to better coordinate, to which all agreed.	
PL	Indicator	Number of trainings provided to police, judicial monitoring tool developed and number of awareness raising campaigns on GBV.	G
	Result	31 police trained on gender/SGBV and also resulted in a series of recommendations relating to increasing the representation of women in the Police Force. These have been shared with the Police Project. 105 Custodial Corps (95 male and 10 female) and 120 inmates were trained on human rights	
	Comment	This was one training followed by a consultative forum on increasing the number of women in the Police Force.	
PL	Indicator	Sub-office gender focal points quarterly meetings held	R
	Result	While participation was low, UNDP gender focal points requested a "refresher" training on the Gender Mainstreaming Tools Handbook, which will be followed up in 2014	
	Comment		

RESULTS

PL	Indicator	Number of grants provided to FGM practitioners	G
	Result	60 FGM practitioners trained on business development skills and provided with grants.	
	Comment	60 FGM practitioners across Puntland trained in skill-building for establishing small businesses and grants of \$300 disbursed	
PL	Indicator	Female candidates identified; number of training held for the candidates; female networks established; gender sensitive internal party policies and practices implemented	G
	Result	Consultative Forum on Advancing Women's Representation in the Local Government Elections held	
	Comment	The consultative forum held resulted in a declaration of demands for stakeholders and brought together women from diverse groups, including the Puntland Women Councillors Network, women aspirants and NGOs	
ALL	Indicator	Number of grants awarded to women's CSOs	G
	Result	Expression of Interest for new partners has been advertised and Request for Proposals sent out for those pre-qualified CSOs. Now the proposals and agreements is finalized. These CSOs will be implementing Community Conversations to create dialogue spaces	
	Comment	These CSOs will be implementing Community Conversations to create dialogue spaces for women's rights and gender equality at the grassroots level. These new partners will mainly focus on the grassroots communities in search of attitudinal and behavioral change on gender and women's issues via CCE-CC	
ALL	Indicator	Exchange programme for Somali women's rights advocates with the broader discussion in the Islamic world on women's rights in Islam engaged	G
	Result	3 women activists were participated in Gendering Human Security, Conflict Transformation & Peacebuilding Course training in October and November 2013, as an exchange or South to South Programme which was meant to enhance the knowledge and experience of the Somali women	
	Comment	The training was useful and relevant to their work.	

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ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

FEDERAL LEVEL

To support the government in developing a national gender policy that reflects input from all relevant stakeholders, UNDP and UNSOM took the lead on coordinating contributions from interested partners. This resulted in a road map for consultations and re-drafting of the gender policy initially developed with the support of AMISOM. The road map rests with the government and is endorsed by UNDP, UNSOM, UN Women, UNFPA, the Donor-Gender group; including the EU, the World Bank and IIDA. Development of the gender policy is expected to run from December 2013 to June 2014 and all partners will align their support around the process defined in the road map.

PUNTLAND

The following activities contributed towards promoting women's participation, raising awareness on gender issues and strengthening the capacity of gender activists and law enforcement agents: Launch of the PL Women Councilors Network and a consultative Forum on Advancing Women's Representation in the Local Government Elections; exchange programme for women's rights activists; Support to CSOs through MCGs to carry out awareness raising on GEWE issues like SGBV and FGM; development of Judicial Monitoring Tool for SGBV; workshop for Police force on gender and GBV; MoWFSA database of gender NGOs and women achievers; selection of 4 new organizations to be supported in Puntland in 2014; Consultative Forum for women khat sellers; and grants for alternative livelihoods to 60 FGM practitioners

SOMALILAND

In 2013, Implementation Strategy (Action Plan) for the Somaliland Gender Policy finalized and aligned with SNDP and the Somali Compact and which in turn has laid the foundation this year the 2014 workplanning. The other major things are include: establishment of the the inter-ministerial and inter-agency gender focal points to lead gender mainstreaming in the government and other agencies; inter-agency gender coordination meetings; SGBV meetings with line ministries and other SGBV stakeholder; development of JMT, translation and dissemination of SGBV Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs); paralegals training; continuation of scholarship programme; selection of two additional partners and finalization an agreements with them; huge awareness raising; and capacity building for partners

PARTNERSHIPS

Through the GTG, UNDP has been instrumental in coordinating consolidated input from all UN gender focal points for the national gender policy and provided input for high-level political processes under the New Deal process.

To support the government in developing a national gender policy(NGP) that reflects input from all relevant stakeholders, UNDP and UNSOM therefore took the lead on coordinating support from interested partners. This resulted in a road map for consultations and re-drafting of the gender policy endorsed by the government, the GTG, donor gender group, the World Bank and IIDA. The NGP is planned to be finalized by June 2014.

The UNDP gender unit entered into cooperation with UNIG, UNFPA, UNESCO and two national journalist associations to present a media award that rewards excellence in journalism and highlights relevant social and developmental issues. The awards reward "best reporting on gender issues" as one out of four categories. The winners of the Somali Media Award 2014 will be announced in the three zones in January 2014.

UNDP helped ensure that the GBV working groups strategy reflected rule of law elements in a consolidated manner. UNDP contributed to plans for a high level round table discussion on GBV bringing together national and int'l armed forces operating in Somalia, the EU training mission, national and int'l NGO's working on GBV in Somalia and relevant UN agencies. The roundtable discussion is planned for Mogadishu in February 2014.

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PEACE AND CONFLICT

Through work with religious leaders (directly and by its various partners), the gender programme tries to anticipate and check potential religious resistance that may lead to conflict regarding promotion of women's rights. Advocacy on the draft Gender Policy in Puntland met with much resistance from religious leaders in Cabinet; leading to a stall in the process. In Somaliland, resistance to the proposed quota bill for women's representation from the house of elders in Parliament has also resulted in lack of progress in that regard. The Gender Programme is considering a proposal from the NAGAAD Women's Network to embark on a sustained advocacy with religious, traditional and opinion leaders to win popular and influential support for the bill ahead of the parliamentary elections in 2015.

GENDER

The Gender Unit continues to interact and liaise with all other programmes to support their mainstreaming efforts countrywide through review of project documents and TORs, contributions to surveys and studies and attending Project Review Boards. The Gender Unit now has permanent representation on the LPAC and ISC where they can review all the CO's proposed new projects and contracts with NGOs and Government counterparts for gender sensitivity; while the Gender Specialist sits on the CAP in her personal capacity.

The Gender Unit facilitated the CO's application for the Gender Equality Seal certification. The result of the preliminary online self-assessment exercise of the Gender Seal rated the CO at 58% (bronze) with 25 positive scores out of 44 benchmarks. The CO was commended – amongst other things - for showing gender transformative results in stand-alone initiatives and for having put in place 'solid' management systems and mechanisms for gender mainstreaming.

UPCOMING QUARTER

In 2014, it's envisaged to embark major activities on women's political participation particularly on women's quota, capacity building for women local councilors, engaging with political parties and completing the Post-election study on women's political participation in the local elections.

Establishment of the counseling and networking office in the ministry of education and higher education, continuation of the scholarship payments and capacity building for the scholarship beneficiaries. Promote gender equality through training in and implementation of conversations methodology, advocacy, raising awareness of women's rights

Capacity building for inter-agency gender coordination members and kick starting of the the CCE-CC in selected districts to address gender inequality.

Exchange programs for Justice actors on mainstreaming gender and human rights into the justice and security sector interventions; and Transformational Leadership for Results Training for MPs and DGs

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REFLECTIONS / LESSONS

Securing the buy-in of top-government officials is central to a successful gender mainstreaming. Through the experience of establishing the inter-ministerial gender coordination mechanisms in Puntland and Somaliland, it was learnt that prior engagement with top officials in the form of gender training or some form of orientation on gender would have been important in identifying the most relevant ministerial gender focal points and ensure consistency in representation.

The convening and co-chairing of Project Board meetings by the counterpart Minister and UNDP Heads of sub-offices has proved to be more productive and crucial in demonstrating ownership, accountability and drawing more clear recommendation to address issues and challenges in project implementation.

Capacity building for all partners, government and civil society alike, is also an ongoing concern, and requires strategic intervention into key areas. Public speaking, for example, so that people in decision-making positions are able to communicate clear and convincing messages, is one such need that has been identified, and the Gender Unit will follow this up in the coming quarter.

The training on Community Conversations that took place at the end of the second quarter was also insightful, in that its methodology, to dig deep about individual, personal beliefs and practices, has already proved that it will be worthwhile in its community level implementation. Participants, including CSO staff, religious leaders, district level government officials and community members, underwent subtle shifts in thinking regarding a range of topics, including child marriage, FGM and SGBV, which were reflected in group discussions and facilitated exercises. The Gender Frameworks Training focusing on international instruments such as CEDAW was noted quite useful.

In Somaliland, the need has been observed to establish a gender department in MOLSA instead of maintaining the Gender Unit. This will help to meet the overarching priorities and demanding responsibilities of gender work within the Ministry due to its multiple functions. In addition, in order to make feasible impact, it was suggested that gender to be regarded as standalone pillar in national priorities- Somaliland National Development plan and the Somali compact - rather than remaining a cross-cutting issue.

In Puntland, engagement with FGM practitioners has proved to be extremely insightful. The 60 women that participated in skills building training opined that they had not been expressly consulted in other work being done on FGM awareness raising, which, given their roles and the respect they receive from communities, seems to be an oversight. The Gender Unit has identified that working with these women is of immediate priority, and that the efforts to provide them with alternative livelihoods could prove to have a great impact.

CUMULATIVE PROJECT FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
APPROVED BUDGET	2,145,760
TOTAL (DISBURSEMENTS + COMMITMENTS)	1,418,657
BALANCE OF FUNDS	727,103
% DELIVERY (AGAINST APPROVED BUDGET)	66%

Gender Project



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LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

CAP - Contracts, Agreements and Procurement Committee
CCE-CC - Community Capacity Enhancement - Community Conversations
CEDAW - Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women
CSO - Civil Society Organisation
EOI - Expression Of Interest
FL - Federal Level
IP - Implementing Partner
ISC - Implementation Steering Committee
JMT - Judicial Monitoring Tool
LOA - Letter of Agreement
MCG - Micro-Credit Grant
MoHDPS - Ministry of Human Development and Public Services (Mogadishu)
MOLSA - Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Somaliland)
MOWFSA - Ministry of Women and Family Social Affairs (Puntland)
NAGAAD - Nagaad Network
PL - Puntland
RDI - Relief and Development International
RFP - Request for Proposals
SL - Somaliland
SOP - Standard Operating Procedures
PSU - Puntland State University
WAWA - We Are Women Activists
UNSCR - UN Security Council Resolution
UNSOM - UN Mission in Somalia
WAWA - We are Women Activists