

Project Advisory Committee (PAC)
Summary of Discussions

Review Meeting No.3/2015 held on February 18th, 2015

Present:

David Akopyan, Chair
Ahmad Alhammal
Stephen Kinloch
Amren Yassin
Abdihakim Farah
Komila Rakhimova
Albert Soer
Bushra Hassan
Oana Ungureanu
Nimmo Ahmed-Secretary

Presenters:

Kayed Janazreh
Abdul Qadir
Abdirisak Hussein
Beatrice Gitongori

1 presentation

Presentation 1. Project document on Support to building inclusive institutions of Parliament and inclusive political process in Somalia

The Local Economic Development Somalia (LEDS) project aims to promote rapid economic stabilization and recovery in selected areas of Somalia with a particular emphasis on communities experiencing (or expecting to experience) significant inflows of refugees and IDPs.

The project will rehabilitate local infrastructure that is critical for economic recovery, strengthen local service delivery and contribute directly to employment creation through short and long term job creation activities and support for the supply of market-based skills. The project is closely aligned to the Federal Government of Somalia's priorities as contained in the PSGs 4 and 5 of the Somalia New Deal, the Economic Recovery Plan and the Stabilization Plan for Newly Recovered Areas.

It is intended that lessons learned from the project will contribute to the formulation of a larger and longer-term 'Flagship Project' aimed at expediting the integration of refugees and IDPs and reducing urban poverty.

Total Budget: USD\$ US\$ 1,662,623

PAC comments and recommendations:

1. The panel queried why the project's target is only to undertake rehabilitation in 3 regions yet in the agreement they have mentioned 6.
2. The panel enquired why the document states that three infrastructure projects are being implemented (for a total of USD 896,000) and yet the three outputs formulated are all related to the same construction/rehabilitation activities.
3. The panel raised a question on how the project will measure direct and indirect beneficiaries and differentiate between the two.
4. The project was asked how they are going to measure medium to long-term jobs.
5. The project was informed by the panel that the project management budget does not seem to match the budget guidelines in place. The project informed the panel that the budget was calculated according to the new guidelines in place.
6. The panel raised a question on how the project will monitor activities in the 6 districts which are vast and diverse. The panel informed the project that they have project officers who will monitor activities in those regions.
7. The panel advised the project that in future a mechanism for measuring results and impact be indicated.
8. The project was requested by the panel to review the baselines which are not well articulated.
9. The project was requested to indicate one solid output that articulates different benefits under different categories instead of having 3 similar ones.
10. The activities in output 2 need to be well articulated and also include missing indicator under output one.
11. The project was requested to elaborate the experience they have had in Somaliland and Puntland mentioned in the document.
12. The panel advised the project to identify where it can collaborate in future with JPLG if it receives additional funds.
13. The project was requested to capture more Somaliland related issues in the narrative.
14. The panel wanted clarification on the stop shops mentioned in the document since it does not clearly reflect in the annual work plan and whether the project will be working on this when it gets more funds.
15. The panel informed the project that since it has direct link with UNHCR it should work more closely with it to achieve broader impact.
16. The project was requested to strengthen its situation analysis to justify the intervention described in the RRF. There is no disaggregated statistics on women, on employment etc. Gender team will provide one/two paragraphs which will be based on private sector and women brief that the team produced last year. The team will also assist with this.

17. In regards to working on business development services and one stop shops with focus on providing services for women, the project to coordinate with gender team to avoid duplication since they have similar planned activities.
18. As 1st January 2105 all the projects which are above USD 500,000, have to apply environment and social screening procedure. The project to therefore fill in the matrix for environment and social screening procedure.
19. The project was informed that there is disconnect between the outputs and the activities.
20. It is not clear which flagship programme the project is referring to in output 3.
21. In Output 1, the project needs to exactly describe what needs to be constructed.
22. The project to clarify in output 3 how much money is UNHCR contributing to this project and the expected timeline.
23. The project to also mention which management team will be managing this project and whether is the same team managing the other two documents. The project informed the panel that the team managing this is different from the others.
24. The panel requested the project to include basic numbers on statistics about IDPs and their locations in order to be able to understand the selection of project sites.
25. The panel requested the project to indicate in the business centers and value chain analysis what the center will provide and number of beneficiaries.
26. It is clear in the document that construction will create short term employment but not clear how long term employment will be created.

The panel concluded that the project document needs to be substantially revised and resubmitted to LPAC for virtual review. In addition to the comments made during the meeting, the chair will provide detailed comments to the document in track changes. The document will be forwarded to the Country Director for approval once all the comments have been incorporated and addressed.

David Akopyan	Signature: _____	Date: _____
Ahmad Alhammal	Signature: _____	Date: _____
Stephen Kinloch	Signature: _____	Date: _____
Amren Yassin	Signature: _____	Date: _____
Abdihakim Farah	Signature: _____	Date: _____
Komila Rakhimova	Signature: _____	Date: _____
Albert Soer	Signature: _____	Date: _____
Bushra Hassan	Signature: _____	Date: _____
Oana Ungureanu	Signature: _____	Date: _____

Approved:

George Conway, Country Director Signature: _____ Date: _____