

Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) Meeting Minutes

Support for Strengthening Climate Change Adaptation Planning for the Federal Republic of Somalia

Date of LPAC Meeting: 29 April 2020 and 03 May 2020

List of Participants:

1. Ms. Jacqueline Saline Olweya, Deputy Resident Representative Programme, UNDP Somalia (LPAC Chair)
2. Mr. Ahmed Yusuf Ahmed, Director General, Directorate of Environment and Climate Change, Office of the Prime Minister, Federal Government of Somalia
3. Mr. Najeb Ahmed- Abdullahi, Environment Expert, Directorate of Environment and Climate Change, Office of the Prime Minister, Federal Government of Somalia
4. Mr. Ali Daud Mohamed, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Prime Minister, Federal Government of Somalia
5. Mr. Abdul Qadir Rafiq, Portfolio Manager, Resilience and Climate Change, UNDP Somalia
6. Mr. Albert Soer; Portfolio Manager, Institutional Development, and Economic Recovery and Development, UNDP Somalia
7. Mr. Dragan Popovic, Portfolio Manager, Inclusive Politics, UNDP Somalia
8. Mr. Sherif El Tokali, Innovation Specialist, Accelerator Lab, UNDP Somalia
9. Ms. Gloria Kiondo, Head, Programme Oversight and Quality Assurance Unit, UNDP Somalia
10. Mr. Abdihakim Farah, Programme Specialist, Programme Oversight and Quality Assurance Unit, UNDP Somalia
11. Mr. Garikai Mabeza, M & E Specialist, Programme Oversight and Quality Assurance Unit, UNDP Somalia
12. Ms. Samira Hassan Ahmed, Programme Specialist / Acting Head of Somaliland Area Office, UNDP Somalia
13. Mr. Musa Duale Aden Programme Specialist / Acting Head of Puntland Area Office, UNDP Somalia
14. Mr. Benard Cheruiyot Korir, Head a.i., Procurement Unit, UNDP Somalia
15. Mr. Salah Dahir, M & E Specialist, Resilience and Climate Change Portfolio, UNDP Somalia
16. Mr. Abdi Yusuf, Programme Officer, Resilience and Climate Change Portfolio, UNDP Somalia
17. Mr. Ahmed Mohamoud, Programme Officer, Resilience and Climate Change Portfolio, UNDP Somalia
18. Mr. Awil Abdinor, Programme Officer, Resilience and Climate Change Portfolio, UNDP Somalia
19. Ms. Zaitun Aware Project Associate, Resilience and Climate Change Portfolio, UNDP Somalia
20. Ms. Beatrice Gitongori, Programme Analyst, Resilience and Climate Change Portfolio, UNDP Somalia
21. Mr. Mohamed Adan, Project Associate, Resilience and Climate Change Portfolio, UNDP Somalia
22. Ms. Everline Shireka, Admin Officer, Resilience and Climate Change Portfolio, UNDP Somalia
23. Mr. Hassan Abdirizak Ahmed, National Manager, Charcoal Programme, UNDP Somalia
24. Mr. Nabil Youssuf Abdi, Project Officer, Cross Cutting Capacity Development Project, UNDP Somalia
25. Mr. Rashid Mohamed, National Coordinator, Drought Recovery and Response, UNDP Somalia

Agenda annexed as: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1tK-bntn_m_fIKPl0Arptll4qaTjAhux4

Opening Remarks:

Ms. Jacqueline Olweya, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP-Somalia, in her opening remarks, welcomed the participants and said that UNDP is pleased to partner with the Federal Government for this important initiative. The project is first ever UNDP-Green Climate Fund (GCF) project in Somalia. She acknowledged the very good efforts put in place by Government of Somalia in terms of mitigating impacts of Climate Change and moving forward environment related issues through the leadership of the Directorate of Environment and Climate Change, Office of the Prime Minister. She added that significant progress has been made on policy developments, including national climate change policy, national environmental policy and related acts. While acknowledging the progress made in recent years, she noted that vulnerability to Climate Change for Somalia is very high and associated shocks negatively impact the institutions and communities across the country. She added that the project will support upstream actions to influence planning and budgeting systems for integrating climate change adaptation at national and sub-national levels.

She then introduced to the participants to the two objectives of LPAC meeting. First to review the project and propose improvements and second to endorse the project for final approval. She then invited the participants for their introduction.

Mr. Ahmed Yusuf Ahmed, Director General, Office of Environment and Climate Change, Office of the Prime Minister, appreciated the UNDP and GCF support to Somalia. He briefed the participant on the country context and said that impact of the COVID-19 was felt globally and Somalia as well. He said that there are 500 confirmed cases in Somalia with 30 reported death. He underscored that the COVID-19 Pandemic impacted the continuity of ongoing and planned projects including the Cross-Cutting Capacity Development, Biennial Reporting Update, and the Integrated Water Resource Management. He also highlighted the impacts of the recent flash floods that occurred in many parts of Somalia including Beletweyn, Gardo and Gedo region. In Gardo alone there are reported loss of lives and livelihoods, collapse of key business centers and more than 50% of the town got displaced. He reiterated that an urgent solution to these climatic shocks and interventions including emergency response is of priority for the flood affected districts and regions.

The Director General said that the project was long awaited, the project is climate change adaptation and Climate Change is a key issue in Somalia as its effect is evident in the form of recurring droughts and flash floods in many regions and districts. He cited that Green Climate Fund (GCF) has already approved the project, and good to see the efforts of the last two years or so, and sincerely thanked all those who were involved and worked tirelessly as we look forward to the completion of remaining stages including its implementation.

Ms. Jacqueline Olweya thanked the Director General for highlighting the current Country context as it is now and reiterating the need for this project. She said that not only COVID-19 is a challenge for Somalia but also the floods that really compounds the efforts to try and mitigate its impacts. She emphasised that the GCF Readiness project is much needed as it would reinforce national efforts to respond to the challenges highlighted by the Director General.

Presentation:

Green Climate Fund (GCF) document on "Support for Strengthening Climate Change Adaptation Planning for the Federal Republic of Somali", *Project presentation and agenda* was circulated to the LPAC members prior to the meeting and are annexed as:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1FI70axYrKifq3R7EJTMTP5kt6BjGOV>

Mr. Abdul Qadir Rafiq, Portfolio Manager, Resilience and Climate Change, presented the project to the LPAC. The Project was approved for funding by the Green Climate Fund on 4th December 2019.

As part of the project overview, he said that the project is funded by Green Climate Fund with the objective to “Strengthen the Climate Change Adaptation planning for the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and Federal Member States (FMSs). He briefed the participants about GCF and main eligibility criteria for countries to secure funding from GCF. He also shared the approval process of GCF for the project.

Briefing the participants on the project strategy, Abdul Qadir mentioned that Somalia is one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to the impacts of climate change. The FGS is committed to the establishment a national climate change adaptation planning framework to serve as a baseline and to guide future climate change adaptation policies and projects. The project addresses each of these issues and builds upon the foundation that were created when the country formulated its National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) in 2013. The project also addresses the priorities that were elucidated in the country’s Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and is consistent with the 9th National Development Plan.

The project will be implemented through three strategically linked components, each of which contains a set of sub-components with relevant detailed activities. At the end of the project, each of the three components will result in an outcome, including: 1) Robust National institutional coordination and capacity for Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) planning; 2) Enhanced State-level technical capacity for climate change adaptation planning; and 3) Accelerated Financial planning for CCA at national and sub-national level.

Outcome 1 focuses more at the Federal level with Directorate of Environment and Climate Change being the lead. To come up with proper federal level adaptation planning the Directorate will engage other ministries including Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management, and Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development. This will also require coordination and consultations among state and non-state actors.

Outcome 2 focus on the federal member states where varying level of capacities do exist. The project will support capacity development, scoping studies, adaptation planning, development of the awareness guidelines, establishment coordination structure for Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), integrate CCA in budgetary systems and identify priority adaptation measures in each of the federal member states.

Outcome 3 focus on the formulation of a National Adaptation Financing Plan for CCA Strategy, identification of several projects for CCA, establishment of CCA fund and setting climate proofing guidelines for investment projects.

The presentation also covered: i) Gender Mainstreaming as per UNDP and GCF requirements; ii) linkages to the National Development Plan, UN Strategic Framework and UNDP Country Programme Document; iii) Project management structure; iv) UNDP/GCF Implementation Procedures; v) Monitoring and Evaluation; and, vi) Project Assurance Checklist. Further details are in the presentation annexed to the minutes.

Comments and Feedback:

The Chair opened the floor for comments and feedback after the project presentation. The comments from participants and responses are recorded in the table below:

Comments / Feedback	Responses
1. There is need to reflect the current country context as many facts in the project document have changed including the capacity, roles and responsibility, and coordination mechanisms within the government structure at national level, and between the Federal and State Levels. Also, climate change awareness and knowledge in the country has enhanced while the political will and focus of the federal government on climate change has improved and Directorate of Environment and Climate Change established within the office of the Prime Minister.	Agreed Relevant sections of the project document will be updated to incorporate the current context.
2. Reinforce the Project strategy to reflect future climate proof projections including synergy, adaptation initiatives and regional dimension as climate change is neutral and has no boundaries.	Agreed Further discussions will also be held during the project Inception Workshop. Relevant inputs and agreed strategies will be incorporated to the GCF NAP Project.
3. Re-alignment and reallocation of the Project sub-components and activities to accommodate synergy and reflect current priority of the Government especially activity 1.1.1 to 1.1.8.	Agreed UNDP to undertake the realignment and reallocation and share with Directorate for concurrence.
4. Consideration on the development of holistic National Climate Change Adaptation Plan rather that the Strategy proposed in the GCF NAP Project document.	Agreed This will be incorporated, provided it would not require a resubmission to GCF Secretariat
5. The Financing Framework to be developed under the project to include bankable project proposals to facilitate access to climate change funding mechanisms.	Agreed
6. Restructuring of the Project management with inclusion of more government entities including the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Livestock Forest and Range at federal and federal member states. Also, project decision making, and implementation should be Government led.	Agreed Project Board can co-opt additional members. Project Board will be co-Chaired by the NDA (or his/her designate) and UNDP Resident Representative.
7. Reallocation of resources on gender related activities to promote meaningful gender mainstreaming and	Agreed

Comments / Feedback	Responses
measure positive transformation.	This will be incorporated and detailed out during the project Inception Workshop. Specific Gender sub-components and activities will have relevant allocated budgets.
8. Elaborate well the Project stakeholders' role, and responsibility.	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Directorate of Environment and Climate Change to select Universities, NGOs, Private sector actors, and other stakeholders.</p> <p>This will be also be discussed at the Project Inception when all the stakeholders at federal and federal member states are present to accommodate ownership and accountability while conforming to the project objectives.</p>
9. Establishment of Country Climate Profile, Vulnerability framework, and Country Climate Risk analysis while making use of the existing policies, and literatures of the Climate Change Resilience, Initial National Communication, Biennial Update report, Cross Cutting Capacity Development, National Determine Contributions and the Green House Gas Inventory.	<p>Agreed</p> <p>GCF NAP is not a stand-alone project and will explore complementarities with other projects and programmes to inform the CCA Planning Process. Project will undertake those activities that become as an obvious gap against required level of information or data.</p>
10. Revise the Project Logical Framework as project context overtaken by events especially the M & Evaluation benchmarks and milestones.	<p>Agreed</p> <p>The Project Results Framework will be revisited during the project Inception Workshop to accommodate the changes on project sub-components, indicators and activities. Best practice of the UNDP/GCF result based managements and principles will also be applied.</p>
11. Hosting of the Project Team – The Project Team to be housed and hosted at the Directorate of Environment and Climate Change, Office of the Prime Minister. The Directorate will provide enough space for the entire team.	<p>Agreed</p> <p>This is the practice for the beneficiary to host project team. The government would allow the Administrative and Finance Assistant to operate from UNDP offices since UNDP manages the project finances.</p>
12. A more holistic Climate Change Fund be established rather than the Climate Change Adaptation fund referenced in component 3 of the project document.	<p>Agreed</p> <p>The does not entail much change, and the climate change fund covers wider issues.</p>

LPAC Decision:

The meeting approved the project subject to the incorporation of the agreed recommendations by the LPAC meeting. UNDP will incorporate feedbacks received at the LPAC meeting in the Project Document and share with UNDP/GCF team in regional office to process delegation of authority to sign the Project Document.

Minutes compiled by:

Salah Dahir, M & E Specialist, Resilience and Climate Change Portfolio, UNDP Somalia.

Minutes reviewed by:

Abdul Qadir Rafiq, Portfolio Manager, Resilience and Climate Change, UNDP Somalia

Minutes Approved by:

Ms. Jacqueline Saline Olweya, LPAC Chair, Deputy Resident Representative (Programme), UNDP Somalia