

















Collective feedback Mechanism for beneficiaries of The Somalia Return Consortium



The issue: International agencies working in Somalia manage their operations mostly via remote management from Nairobi, Kenya, due to security constraints. International staffs do not always have full and continuous access to projects' areas. Managers rely mainly on reports from national staff on the ground, third part monitoring and/or their contractors.



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Mechanism, contact Rita



The idea: A shared Feedback System offers beneficiaries a channel to voice their concern and provide direct feedback on the support offered by members of the Somalia Return Consortium.

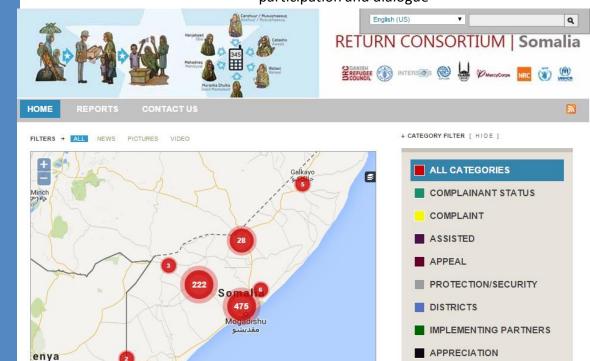
- •Calls and SMS from Somalia are received 24/7 and a response is provided within days.
- •All feedback is published and shared online through an innovative communications platform that aims at promoting humanitarian aid accountability and transparency.
- •The feedback is analyzed and provides the Consortium with an evidencebase informing revision and adjustment of the assistance provided.

Online innovative communication platform

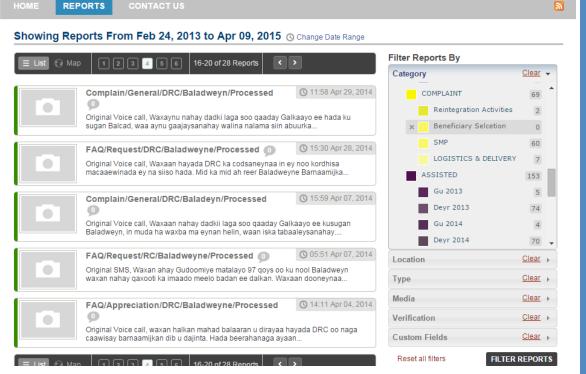


The objective The Return consortium beneficiary feedback mechanism significantly narrows down the distance between the target beneficiaries and aid agencies for meaningful participation and dialogue

STATUS







Type of feedback received:

- Information on the security of the return area
- Need for extra support
- Request for humanitarian assistance.
- Quality and quantity of services provided.
- •Appreciation of support from the Somalia Return Consortium

<u>Example of Feedback received</u>: "We would like to inform you that we have crossed the border from Kenya and returned to Somalia. But we are stuck in the outskirts of the border town Dhobley for one hour without knowing what the reason for this delay is. Our children are affected by the situation and cannot cope with the heat here. "

<u>Response of the Somalia Return Consortium</u>: The Somalia focal point liaised with the local authority who in turn instructed the check point managers to allow the family to proceed with the journey.

Key success factors

- •Strong commitment of the management of the agencies involved into the Return Consortium beneficiary feedback mechanism and adequate resources
- •No cultural barriers in using the mechanism/ Roll out of the feedback mechanism to all returnees.
- Network coverage in all return areas. Beneficiary culture of using phone.
- •Operational system that can be used to capture both operational and sensitive complaints.
- UNHCR funding ensuring the service is free to beneficiaries
- •Maximum utilization of other products like clickatel to enhance feedback for beneficiaries, Interactive Voice Response and sms live monitoring and sms tracker for accountability purposes

Challenges to be overcome:

- •Telecom service providers charging beneficiaries for services despite the fact that costs are already covered by the system.
- •High level of illiteracy among the beneficiaries to use SMS.
- •Roll out of the feedback mechanism especially in insecure areas.

You want support to develop a good practice fiche? Please contact Astrid de Valon, devalon@unhcr.org

IASC Task Team on Accountability to Affected Populations and Protection from sexual Exploitation and Abuse (AAP/PSEA)

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Standing Committee