

Country Brief on the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus

Somalia

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Results Group 4

CONTEXT



The crisis in Somalia is among the most complex and long-standing in the world. Three decades of political instability, conflict and violence, and recurrent climatic shocks have disrupted livelihoods and basic service delivery, devastated human capital and physical infrastructure, and contributed to severe impoverishment, food insecurity and protracted displacement. Three additional shocks – a desert locust

upsurge, extensive flooding, and the COVID-19 pandemic – deepened the scale and scope of humanitarian need in 2020, and their consequences will continue to exacerbate humanitarian needs in 2021. The response led by the Government, local authorities and the international community addresses the most urgent needs, but additional development efforts are needed to implement sustainable solutions.

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IASC Inter-Agency Standing Committee

THE NEXUS APPROACH

Implementing the humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) nexus continues to be a priority in Somalia. Dating back to the 2016/17 drought response, a number of good practices were developed under the leadership of the DSRSG/RC/HC in support of the Government. This included the development of four collective outcomes, which were revised in 2020 and are reflected in both in the Humanitarian Response Plan

(HRP) and the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025. In 2020, the Government established a new Somalia Aid Architecture and launched the National Development Plan 9 (NDP9, 2020-24), both of which prioritize the HDP nexus. A high-level Triple Nexus Steering Committee led by the DSRSG/RC/HC was approved by the Prime Minister to strengthen coordination among the inter-

national community across the HDP nexus and help meet the collective outcomes. Three priorities were agreed in the areas of water and floods, durable solutions, and anti-corruption. Dedicated multi-stakeholder taskforces were established to provide strategic advice to the Triple Nexus Steering Committee and ensure more coherent and sustainable programming in each of these thematic areas.

OPERATIONALIZING THE NEXUS

KEY STEPS



1. Leadership and capacity

Leadership has been critical in advancing the nexus approach in Somalia. The DSRSG/RC/HC has led analysis and planning processes to ensure effective collaboration between humanitarian and development partners, including the response to COVID-19. The UN Integrated Office and OCHA support the DSRSG/RC/HC in the leadership on the HDP nexus, including in analysis and planning processes as well as the establishment of the high-level Triple Nexus Steering Committee.



2. Joint analysis and sharing of analyses

In 2020, the UNCT conducted the Common Country Analysis (CCA), which included joint analysis across humanitarian, development and peace actors and outlined drivers of risk, vulnerability and need.



3. 'Collective outcomes' OR HDP priority areas

In addition to the four collective outcomes agreed in 2017/18 and revised in 2020, three priority areas were agreed and corresponding thematic taskforces established in 2020. In addition to programming covered under the HRP and the Cooperation Framework, these task forces will help achieve the four revised collective outcomes.



4. Joined-up planning and programming

The planning for the new Cooperation Framework and the HRP aligned in 2020, presenting an opportunity to make progress on collective priorities. The HRP was streamlined to focus on immediate assistance and front-line response. Resilience-building activities were instead shifted into the Cooperation Framework. A key adjustment in comparison to the 2020 HRP is the removal of the previous strategic objective around livelihoods, basic social services and resilience. As part of this process, for the first time, the activities supporting people in food "stress" (IPC Phase 2) are included in the Cooperation Framework instead of the HRP.



5. Financing

In 2020, Somalia has seen significant positive developments enhancing the prospects of additional financing, particularly related to the recently reached Heavily Indebted Poor Country Initiative (HIPC) status, which is urgently needed to address needs and vulnerabilities. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) approved US\$395.5 for the upcoming three years, while the World Bank stated that Somalia's debt will be reduced upon

HIPC completion (from \$5.2 billion to \$557 million). In addition, the World Bank will avail new IDA investments fostering immediate relief for the flooding, locust and COVID-19 response. In April 2020, a \$137.5 million Crisis Recovery project was approved to address the locusts, flooding and COVID-19 shocks by partnering with UNDP, FAO, OCHA, WHO, WFP, and UNICEF.

Collective Outcomes



Outcome 1

By 2025, more people in Somalia, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, benefit from equitable and affordable access to Government led and regulated quality basic social services at different state levels.



Outcome 2

By 2025, the number of people impacted by climate change, natural disasters and environmental degradation is reduced.



Outcome 3

By 2025, the proportion of vulnerable Somalis with scaled-up and sustained resilience against environmental and conflict-related shocks is increased, based on better management of life cycle risk, food security and better nutrition outcomes.



Outcome 4

By 2025, the capacities of local, national and customary institutions and communities are strengthened to achieve durable solutions and increase the resilience, self-reliance and social cohesion of urban communities affected by displacement.

Thematic Priority Areas and Task Forces



Water and Flood

Focus on root causes and longer-term development to enable sustainable solutions to devastating flooding in Somalia. The Taskforce will develop a roadmap on flood response, with some activities incorporated in the HRP and others with a longer-term, more developmental dimension.



Durable Solutions

Build on and support implementation of the national Durable Solutions Strategy launched in March 2021, providing multiple entry points to foster a nexus approach.



Anti-Corruption

Support the Somali government with accession to the UN Convention against Corruption and Somalia's participation in the UNCAC biennial Conference of State Parties.

LESSONS LEARNT

GOOD PRACTICES



Reflecting collective outcomes in both HRP and UNCF. The strategic objectives set out in the HRP are aligned with those of the Cooperation Framework and both plans reflect the collective outcomes. In the Project Module of the HRP, every project submitted has been reported against the collective outcomes. The Cooperation Framework, on the other hand, incorporated the collective outcomes under the strategic priority on Social Development.



Establishment of thematic, multi-stakeholder task forces to ensure a coordinated approach. For example, the Water and Flood Task Force formed in 2020 brought together humanitarian and development actors, including government officials and donors, to develop a roadmap on flood response. It aims to improve humanitarian-development collaboration, assess future flood response priorities and identify opportunities on flood mitigation and river management.

CHALLENGES



Progressing from information-sharing, coordination and joint planning to implementation has been challenging. This is linked to lack of availability of development funding for key nexus areas, such as basic social services, and to the slow disbursement of development funds.



There is continued risk aversion towards more sustainable programming in volatile contexts. Donors seem to acknowledge the need to support longer-term programming to test innovative approaches that can make a systemic difference. However, in their decision-making they are risk-averse and require detailed predictions, which sometimes cannot be made in a volatile environment, where innovative approaches are most needed.



SPOTLIGHT ON **GENDER**

The 2021 HRP committed to ensuring an age, gender and diversity analysis in all interventions, as well as specific activities to empower women, girls and boys, and prevent and respond to GBV. The Cooperation Framework includes indicators that are disaggregated by gender and age, looking at both women and girls as well as men and boys. UNFPA, UNWOMEN, the CCCM Cluster, and the GenCap are collaborating on a multi-sectoral rapid gender assessment to identify current gender equality issues, perceptions, and participation barriers among women's camp committees in IDP sites, as well as UN Women community structures.



SPOTLIGHT ON **LOCAL ACTORS**

The high-level Triple Nexus Steering Committee has been endorsed by the Prime Minister. The Federal Government of Somalia, the UN SRSG and DSRSG/RC/HC have agreed TORs for the Committee with the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MOPIED). The committee will include NGO and Federal Member State representation. All taskforces work in close partnership with government authorities. The water and flood taskforce is working very closely with the Government as it develops its Water Management Strategy. The durable solutions task force is being coordinated at multiple levels and by various stakeholders, including in most Federal Member States, by localized and government-led durable solutions coordination platforms. The anti-fraud and anti-corruption taskforce is promoting a multi-stakeholder dialogue on anti-corruption to: a) address areas of concern within the UN family and; b) provide guidance both to Government and stakeholders.



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