

IGAD DRDIP QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Vol 3 | Issue 1

Issued on July 2020



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Implementation of Development Responses to Displacement Impacts Project in Somalia

The project is funded by the World Bank under the Regional Grant to Somalia

Capacity and Institutional Assessment for Development of Areas of Return and Integration in Somalia

In July 2017, IGAD was mandated by its constituent Member States and the World Bank to implement the second phase of the “Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project” (DRDIP II). The project aims to enhance the capacity of the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and that of regional and local governments to take a lead role in planning and coordination of displacement-responsive area-based multisectoral development in places of return and reintegration; and to promote durable solutions that tackle forced displacement.

In the second phase, Somalia will be supported to engage more in regional dialogues on forced displacement and mixed migration. These dialogues will focus on solutions to promote accelerated processes of return, socio-economic integration and resettlement of displaced populations, particularly IDPs and refugees from Kenya, Djibouti, Yemen and the Gulf Cooperation Countries (GCC). Other Member States implementing the DRDIP Project are Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda.

In the second quarter of 2018, FGS, IGAD Regional Secretariat on Forced Displacement and Mixed Migration

(IGAD RS) and the WorldBank commissioned capacity and institutional assessment for development of areas of return and integration in Somalia. Besides providing overall guidelines on the overall implementation of DRDIP in Somalia, the main purpose of the assessment was to identify the existing gaps that need to be addressed in order for the FGS to plan and develop areas of return and integration in order to attain cohesive and sustainable transformative change. The task also sought to provide an appraisal of what works and what does not with regard to durable solutions in Mogadishu, Kismayo, and Baidoa. Final report on the assessment was completed in the last quarter of 2019.

Summary Findings and Recommendations

The assessment came up with one overarching finding which has been subsequently unpacked into five specific recommendations.

Overall finding: Representatives of governmental and non-governmental institutions responsible for the developing areas of return and integration are deprived of informational, technical and financial ability to appropriately anticipate and respond to the needs of displaced, returning and host populations. The levels of awareness and ability to implement proper development interventions are low at FGS level and practically non-existent at state and local government levels.

Overall Recommendation: Roll out a phase-structured and coordinated capacity-building programme on the appropriate approach for the development of areas of return and integration targeting federal, state, and local authorities in all Federal Member States (FMS). The capacity-building program should incorporate modules that collectively deliver improved development policy planning, coordination and programmes for displaced, returning, and host populations.

Specific Findings and Recommendations:

1. As a prerequisite to undertaking area-based development planning, governments should periodically collect and analyse background data that would inform area-based development in different areas of return and reintegration. The FGS has limitations in collecting and collating data on refugee returns and internal displacement. Consequently, it relies partly on information gathered by non-governmental entities using tools and methodologies whose accuracy may not be easily verified.

Recommendation: To provide technical support towards strengthening the availability of data to inform development planning. This will be achieved through the following two measures; (i) Improve the capacity of the Federal Government as well as the State and Local Authorities in all FMS to regularly collect, collate and analyse their own data on displacement, including IDPs and returns. This should include the provision of technical capacity and support towards the adoption of low-cost, easy-to-use, and efficient digital data collection tools that can be deployed in remote areas. (ii) Develop and maintain GIS databases for all FMS that include mapping of pressure points, services, spatial and master planning, including land tenure, administration and usage regimes.

This should be complemented by a mapping exercise that geo-tags existing social services to determine which services are in areas of return and integration. GIS databases will be delivered through an spatial mapping and profiling of the needs of returnees, IDPs and host communities at each of the lowest administrative units in the three targeted urban areas of Mogadishu, Kisimayu and Baidoa regions.

Recommendation: Provide technical support to different levels of government to strengthen Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) systems that include displacement indicators, M&E frameworks, data analyses, documentation of reports as well as participatory M&E techniques. These capacity-building initiatives under the MEL system should be structured to align with and complement the data collection and knowledge management activities. The MEL system should build the data management capacity of key relevant government authorities, document community voices, interact with normative and traditional leadership structures and engage with local CSOs.

2. Progress has been made to improve coordination of development funding to address displacement challenges. In July 2019, the Federal Government established a Durable Solutions Secretariat (DSS) consisting of 14 government agencies, whose mandate is to coordinate humanitarian and development support for durable solutions at regional and district levels, which until now remains linked to specific organisational mandates and priorities. However, there are still significant gaps in the coordination of development programmes targeting displaced, returning, and host populations.

Recommendation: Improve coordination between institutions engaged in development programming for displacement with emphasis on durable solutions in areas of return and integration. This should be done by (i) Streamlining existing coordination mechanisms including the DSS in order to resolve existing overlaps in the mandates, roles, and responsibilities at the Federal Government and state level (ii) Strengthening coordination between the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs (NCRI), Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADMD) and the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MoPIED) (iii) Linking coordination mechanisms on durable solutions from the DSS to the FMS level. (iv) Adopt a phased roll-out of Regional Durable Solutions Platforms in the major urban centres and areas

of return.

3. As a signatory to global and continental instruments on displacement, Somalia has a relatively strong policy framework for addressing displacement. The challenge has been to domesticate and formalise these intentions. The NCRI has initiated a process of formalising policy and legislation through the National Action Plan 2017-2020 derived from the NDP and CRRF. However, the implementation of this Action Plan has been hindered by resource constraints.

Recommendation: To Scale-up efforts to support policy and legislative agenda on durable solutions. This should be done through (i) Supporting domestication of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention) through adoption of the National IDP policy; (ii) Developing resettlement and protection of eviction guidelines for the settlements in all FMS most affected by displacement and (re)integration; (iii) Facilitating discussions to review Somalia's National Development Plan 2017-2019 and develop a durable solution strategy.

4. For inclusive, and participatory development approaches to take root in Somalia, it is important to build on the foundational principles of decentralised governance namely transparency, accountability, local involvement and capacity. If displacement solutions are to be sustainable, a hybrid approach that combines both top-down flow of resources and bottom-up identification of needs is desirable. At the moment, the level of community engagement in identification of development needs within the locales is still low. For returning, displaced and host communities to effectively come together with local government and collectively

identify development priorities, support should be extended to building their capacity in designing, implementing, and evaluating projects that address urgent needs including; access to long-term shelter, safe water, sustainable energy sources, road infrastructure, education, health, and livelihoods support. However, the experience in Somalia is that caution should be exercised to ensure that participatory and community-led development projects do not evolve to pose a greater threat to social cohesion or undermine local governance.

Recommendation: Support the implementation of Community Action Plans in all FMS and advocate for development interventions to target the lowest, administrative level through improved community driven development (CDD) approaches from where the Community Action Plans (CAPs) can be derived with full engagement of lower government institutions. Specific actions include: (1) Ensuring the greatest possible level of representation and active participation of returnees, IDPs, and host community members in CDD programming meetings; (2) Facilitating the participation of women especially in conservative communities, potentially through a separate forum; (3) Designing programmes that simultaneously target the vulnerable and marginalised communities (identified through agreed vulnerability criteria through a participatory approach) and those with the highest development potential. In this regard, it is important to consider the variable power dynamic between returnees, IDPs, and host communities and remain sensitive to the risk of establishing a parallel service delivery system that may alienate existing leadership structures, especially where community members take up governance responsibilities in vital community projects.

Consultations on the Implementation Plan

IGAD RS and the World Bank held consultations with relevant line ministries within FGS to identify and incorporate their priorities and capacity needs related to implementing durable solutions into an Implementation Plan (IP). The IP forms the basis of support through the Regional Grant to Somalia. Besides the consultations and document reviews between the IGAD RS and the World Bank, IGAD RS organised two workshops in Somalia that brought together key FGS players in durable solutions programming.

The first consultation workshop was held in Mogadishu on 30-31 July 2019, to review and incorporate further recommendations on how best to coordinate government agencies and institutions engaged in durable solutions in Somalia and take a more holistic approach to displacement, without losing the focus on return and reintegration and the whole-of-government-approach to implementing durable solutions. It was premised on the need to provide collective recommendations from the Federal Government and Federal States of Somalia on the capacity needs towards



Consultations during the development of the Implementation Plan in Mogadishu, Somalia | 2019

providing durable solutions to returnees in Kismayo, Baidoa and Mogadishu.

The workshop was attended by government agencies and key relevant ministries including the MoPIED, Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management, Durable Solution Unit, The National Commission for Refugees and IDPs, Benadir Region Administration and relevant representatives from Federal Member States.

The second workshop took place on 23-26th September 2019 and was conducted jointly with the World Bank and stakeholders from the various government agencies and institutions in Somalia. The consultations provided a platform for delegates representing FGS ministries and agencies to present and discuss their capacity needs and priorities for consensus and incorporation into the Implementation Plan. Delegates presented costed plans and key priorities to the participants for discussion.

The results of Mogadishu consultations, together with the recommendation from the Somalia Capacity Assessment, formed the bedrock for the development of an Implementation Plan that incorporates identified capacity needs and priorities.

“The establishment of Durable Solutions Secretariat, that is comprised of 14 different ministries and agencies, affords the government a coordinated approach to spearhead all durable solutions efforts in Somalia. The government is hopeful that the support of the IGAD RS - World Bank Grant will enable the durable solutions secretariat to achieve more in terms of coordination and establishing data owned by the government and getting sustainable solutions to the displacements and durable solutions for refugee returnees.

Mr. Ali Osman, The Director General of the MoIFAR

Outline of the Implementation Plan

The overall objective of the Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project under the Regional Grant to Somalia (DRDIP II IGAD) is to considerably enhance the capacity of the FGS and that of regional and local governments to take a lead role in supporting return and (re)integration of Somali refugees and promote durable solutions that tackle forced displacement.

A two-year (2020-2021) Implementation Plan and budget was developed by IGAD RS, in close collaboration with government of Somalia and the World Bank. The detailed Plan defines key activities and charts out practical ways and means to achieve objectives for the Regional Grant to Somalia. It is based on the recommendations of the Somalia capacity and institutional assessment.



FGS delegates who participated first consultations on the draft report on Somalia Capacity and Institutional Assessment in Mogadishu, Somalia | 2019

Focus of DRDIP implementation in Somalia

The Implementation Plan focuses on five intervention areas and related activities. Specific agencies will lead the implementation of each of the activities utilising the whole-of-government-approach while ensuring close collaboration with other stakeholders in Somalia.

Below, the project implementation areas are expounded in detail:

Strengthening existing coordination mechanisms at both federal and regional level: The Plan intends to improve coordination between institutions engaged in development programming for displacement with emphasis on durable solutions in areas of return and integration. This will be accomplished through strengthening existing coordination mechanisms including the DSS in order to resolve existing overlaps in the mandates, roles and responsibilities at the level of both the Federal Government and the Federal Member States. Towards this end, the following activities will be implemented:

- Durable Solution Coordination Forums between federal Durable Solutions Secretariat, FMS and BRA;
- Supporting coordination efforts between resilience and durable solutions actors in areas of return;
- Developing a coordination plan to guide relocation of IDPs to their places of origin;
- Improved coordination of NCRI activities at the national and sub-national levels;
- Strengthening the capacity of Durable Solutions Unit (DSU) (within MoPIED) to perform its roles;

The IGAD RS is working closely with FGS in **scaling up efforts to support policy and legislative agenda on durable**

solutions by providing technical support towards:

- Development of a social cohesion policy;
- Development of the Strategic Plan (2020-2024) for National Commission for Refugees and IDPs (NCRI);

Providing technical support to strengthen information system for durable solution to forced displacement issues:

This is aimed at strengthening the information base necessary to support development of areas of return and integration through providing capacity and support to the Federal Government as well as the State and Local Authorities in all FMS to regularly collect, collate and analyse their own data on displacement, including IDPs and returnees. This support includes provision of technical capacity and assistance towards the adoption of low-cost, easy-to-use and efficient digital data collection tools that can be deployed in remote areas. Development and capacity to maintain geo-databases (GIS) for Kisimayu, Baidoa and Mogadishu will also be provided. Under this intervention area, the Regional Grant will support the following four activities:

- Development of a durable solutions database (digital platform/ dashboard for information management) including data on IDPs;
- Upgrade and expansion of the refugee-returnees registration system to include IDPs so as to ensure accurate and secure data collection;
- Mapping of existing of socio-economic services in areas of return and reintegration (Baidoa, Kismayo, and Mogadishu);
- Strengthening the communications, publications and

multi-media production for the durable solutions efforts on forced displacement challenges;

Provide specific technical assistance: This intervention aims to enhance the technical and operations capacity of the core institutions working on forced displacement issues under the umbrella of DSS. Under this intervention area, the grant will support the following five activities:

- Facilitation and coordination of efforts for national and regional durable solutions;
- Providing capacity (training of trainers, ToT) on durable solutions to NCRI staff both at the national and regional levels;
- Technical assistance to support the Durable Solutions Unit (DSU) within the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MoPIED);
- Technical assistance to Support Resilience and Durable Solutions Directorate;
- Responding to 'just-in-time' needs expressed by governments authorities.

Enhanced and effective Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning System: This area calls for complementary efforts to build data collection capacity of the Federal Government and local authorities as well as document the voice of the community, interact with normative and traditional leadership structures, and to engage with local CSO's. As

such, the Regional Grant to Somalia is providing necessary technical support towards (i) enhanced and effective Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning System; (ii) improved capacity of relevant government entities to monitor and learn from ongoing programming through strengthening existing Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning systems that include displacement indicators, M&E frameworks, data analyses, documentation of reports as well as participatory M&E techniques.

These capacity-building initiatives are structured to align with and complement the data collection and information-banking activities that aims to monitor and evaluate the overall durable solutions interventions led by DSS, as well as strengthen internal Monitoring and Learning Systems at the ministries of MoFAR, MoHADM and DSU in MoPIED.

Specifically, the intervention will implement the following activities;

- Organising a semi-annual review meeting for the durable solutions;
- Development of an M&E plan to monitor durable solutions initiative for the DSS/DSU;
- Strengthening existing Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning systems that includes monitoring, data collection, data analyses and documentation of reports;
- In-house training for M&E and Result Based Management (RBM);

Launch of the Durable Solutions Secretariat

The Federal Government of Somalia launched the high-level Inter-ministerial Durable Solutions Secretariat for finding sustainable solutions for displacement in Somalia at an event that was held in Mogadishu on 28th October 2019.

The Secretariat comprising of 14 government institutions was launched by H.E Deputy Prime Minister Mahdi Mohamed Guled at the event, which was facilitated by H.E Minister Gamal Mohamed Hassan and attended by Federal Government Ministries, IGAD, Donors, UN, and INGOs.

Addressing internal displacement requires moving beyond purely humanitarian responses, and developing an integrated approach to conflict prevention and stabilisation, resilience building, disaster risk management, and long-term development planning.

The Federal Government of Somalia has committed to finding durable solutions for its people, and this is a national priority affirmed in the Ninth National Development Plan and the Governments Road Maps. The establishment of this high-level Inter-ministerial Durable Solutions Secretariat also stands as testimony to the government's commitment to sustainable long-term solutions.

The Deputy Prime Minister highlighted that it values the continued strong partnership with the international community and provides this notice that all Durable Solutions programmes and initiatives in the country will be coordinated through the Durable Solutions Secretariat to ensure that they are sustainable and efficient use of resources, ensure that government institutions, both at the

federal and regional levels, are taking their specific roles and that they are in line with government priorities.

The Minister in charge of Planning, Investment and Economic Development, Ambassador Jamal, emphasised that all durable solutions programmes and initiatives will require the verification and approval of the Durable Solutions Secretariat before implementation.

IGAD RS presented to partners the Regional Grant for Somalia (DRDIP II) and potential areas that the Project will support including capacity and institutional building in areas of return and (re)integration.

Implementation of the Project during COVID-19 pandemic

To ensure that the project implementation continues in spite of the uncertainties, risks and restrictions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, IGAD RS convened a virtual meeting between the World Bank, the Federal Government of Somalia and IGAD RS. The meeting sought to create a common understanding and agreement on activities whose implementation could be accelerated during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Delegates agreed to shelve all activities that require physical gathering. This primarily affected all coordination activities as scheduled in the Implementation Plan. It was resolved that eight (out of 21) activities will be considered for immediate implementation pending No Objection from the World Bank. These priority activities constitute consultancies and technical support that can be provided without need for a physical gathering. The following are some of the activities being implemented during this period:

Activity	Lead government agency
Development of a social cohesion policy	MoIFAR
Technical assistance towards supporting Resilience and Durable Solutions Directorate	MoHADM
Development of a durable solutions database (digital platform/dashboard for information management) including data on IDPs	Durable Solutions Unit (DSU) under MoPIED
Strengthening existing Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning systems including monitoring, data collection, data analyses, and documentation of reports	
Development of a NCRI Strategic Plan (2020-2023)	National Commission for Refugees and IDPs (NCRI)
Upgrade and expansion of the NCRI's Refugee - Returnees Registration System	

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IGAD DRDIP programme is implemented with the support of:

