

Management Response Template

PROSCAL MTR UNDP Somalia

February 27, 2020

	<p>Recommendation No. 1: Revision of the Programme strategy to concentrate resources on (a) the creation of institutional capacities of coordination of the Charcoal policy with other policies and interventions and (b) the integration of the awareness raising campaign with the demonstration actions.</p> <p>- the creation of institutional capacities of coordination of the Charcoal policy with other policies and interventions, by supporting the MoLFR political advocacy capacities (participation to coordination meetings, networks, events, etc. concerning energy, environmental, reforestation policies, etc.; elaboration, presentation, dissemination of policy papers presenting the challenges of Charcoal production),</p> <p>- the integration of the awareness raising campaign with the demonstration actions, by establishing champions (e.g., promotion of alternative technologies in schools and hospitals) and intensifying the spread of the materials on alternative energy sources and efficient charcoal production; the collaboration with other initiatives should be sought to disseminate lessons learnt across a broader public.</p> <p>Such approach is essential to integrate the impact of the individual actions with the creation of the political engagement and people’s consensus on the Charcoal policy. Such as re-directing of the strategy should be mainstreamed through the coordination / communication actions forecast for the production of the Charcoal act. It shifts the emphasis of the Programme implementation toward the creation of capacities at the policy making level and the strengthening of the interaction with complementary policies and interventions. Its awareness raising component has to be reshaped to exploit champions and lessons learnt of the demonstration projects.</p> <p>A greater emphasis on the integration between the Charcoal and Energy policies should consider the incentives to invest in the infrastructures for the distribution of LPG.</p>				
	<p>Management Response: Agreed</p> <p>The revision of program strategy to accommodate further enhance institutional capacities, harmonization of environment and energy policies as well promoting demonstrative/innovative action-oriented awareness raising is well noted. The Programme will build on the recommendations and lessons learnt of the evaluation to achieve synergy and results across all the three components.</p>				
	Key Action	Responsible	Due Date	Status (Initiated, in progress, completed)	Comments

	1.1 Revision of the program strategy	Programme	May 2020	Initiated	Program implementing UN partners (PUNOs) and the lead ministry (MoLFR) have started discussions on revising the program strategy. Enhancement of institutional capacities and coordination of the national and sub-national counterparts is part of the ongoing LOA with MoLFR.
	<p>Recommendation No. 2: Strengthen the reforestation component of the Programme by designing its continuation after its conclusion. The restoration of the rangeland vegetation has to be articulated through a fully-fledged sector strategy that considers the different purposes and conditions of community-forestry, commercial tree plantations and rangeland conservation. This action is broader than the Programme scope and requires the mobilization of new partners and extra resources.</p> <p>Tree plantations and rangeland reserves are justified by the creation of a large biomass that supplies the export market and preserves soil, water and the environment in critically endangered biosystems. These should be offered the opportunity to invest in public reforestation initiatives (combining commercial plantations with forest areas protection) to ensure the access to licit sources of charcoal. The MoLFR has to swiftly design and promote this action to exploit the favorable political and commercial situation created by their enforcement of the charcoal ban by the Gulf states.</p> <p>Community forestry is justified by the supply of charcoal and other rangeland products (timber, wild fruits, honey, etc.) for the local consumption of charcoal. These actions require the NGOs collaboration with Somali agricultural institutions in supporting the rural communities' livelihood diversification. This will be an incentive to the stabilization of Somalia through the communities' engagement in the conservation of the rangeland resources.</p> <p>A greater emphasis on the integration between the charcoal and reforestation policies – a core field of the MoLFR action and where it has greater chances of producing a long-term impact - should consider the economic incentives for each stakeholder in investing in the expansion of the rangeland biomass</p>				
	<p>Management Response: Agreed</p> <p>Reforestation and sustainable rangeland management can be developed as a standalone project. Somalia can access resources from the global funds, bilateral donors, private sector and diaspora which can support reforestation activities by adopting ecosystem-based approach and engaging local communities.</p>				

	There are also other projects that are targeted at resilience building, improving rangelands and natural resource management (NRM). Environment Institutions and MOLFR can be further supported to take the lead in coordinating reforestation activities and their sustainability.				
	Key Action	Responsible	Due Date	Status (Initiated, in progress, completed)	Comments
	2.1 Full scale reforestation programs	Ministry (MoLFR)	December 2020	Partially initiated	Somalia can mobilize additional resources from its Global Funds, bilateral donors, private sector and diaspora to implement reforestation activities.
	<p>Recommendation No. 3: The simplification of the disbursement procedure has to be completed by the strengthening of monitoring and reporting system. As there is little value in revisiting the midterm indicators, it would be preferable to perform the assessment of the Somali Environmental institutional capacities as well as of the stakeholders of the demonstration projects. The baseline on the local capacities is a critical indicator to measure the programme immediate outcome, impact and potential sustainability.</p> <p>It will also contribute during the revision of the programme strategy including: (a) the elaboration of a plan for the creation of capacities supporting the Charcoal policy connection with other relevant existing policies (b) the systematization of information and elaboration of an awareness raising campaign exploiting champions and lessons learnt, (c) the elaboration of a proposal for the transfer of remote sensing based capacities to the Somali institutions through Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES), programme in Addis Ababa / IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) services in Nairobi , and (d) the elaboration and promotion among Gulf states of a proposal for funding reforestation in the Jubaland along the priorities mentioned above. The (e) action is inside the European Union funded activities of the mentioned entities in support of the Horn of Africa governments, i.e. that the mobilization of funds relies greatly on the political willingness of the federal government and federal member states.</p> <p>Management Response: Partially Agreed</p> <p>The challenge of fund disbursement was one-off issue that affected only the second tranche of the EU funds. Joint reporting mechanism already exists. MPTF joint programing has the advantages of avoiding multiple reporting and reduces the transaction costs.</p> <p>FAO-SWALIM has initiated trainings and skills transfer for the national counterparts while linking them up with regional mandated institutions is being discussed at strategic level.</p>				
	Key Action	Responsible	Due Date	Status (Initiated, in progress, completed)	Comments

	3.1 Simplifications of the MPTF funds and revisions on the Programme Result Framework	PUNOS, MoLFR and Donors	August 2020	Partially initiated	Efforts are underway to engage PUNOS and Natural Resources Management institutions on the revision of the Programme Document. Reinforcement and streamlining of the Environment and Energy Policy, action-oriented awareness campaigns, charcoal policies, transfer of remote sensing-based monitoring systems to the Somali institutions, promoting innovated solutions and mobilization of resources from the Gulf Countries for Reforestation Programmes would be part of revised programme strategy and Programme Results Framework.
	<p>Recommendation No. 4: The execution of these activities may take up to two year. The revision of the Programme plan is justified by the need to create the conditions for the sustainability of the Charcoal policy.</p> <p>The revision of the Plan of activities of the PROSCAL should explore the opportunity of a no-cost extension agreement based on (a) the revised strategy aimed at the creation of capacities, raising of awareness and coordination with complementary policies and interventions and (b) the unspent Programme budget. These changes are the conditions that will ensure the change of pace and mobilization of the PROSCAL resources to make possible the implementation of the Charcoal policy country wide.</p>				
	<p>Management Response: Agreed</p> <p>The two year no cost extension to the program is well noted. The Programme will enhance the coordination mechanisms for the implementation of the Charcoal Policy while building on the recommendations of the Mid Term Evaluation to create the conditions necessary for the sustainability of the Charcoal policy.</p> <p>More so, efforts will be made to mobilize additional resources and conduct the impact assessment of PROSCAL to inform a new phase of the program that builds on PROSCAL and in line with the newly developed Somalia's National Development Plan (NDP9). The new phase will also be aligned with the UN Strategic Framework Somalia to be formulated.</p>				

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	4.1 Extension of the Programme to support the implementation and sustainability of the Charcoal Policy	PUNOS and Programme Steering Committee (PSC)	August 2020	Initiated	At Strategic level, the Programme has been trying to convene the PSC after receiving the initial evaluation report in December 2019. This has not been possible because of the political issues and non-availability of the government co-Chair. However, the PSC meeting is expected to be held in March 2020. Rationale on the implementation of the Charcoal Policy and its sustainability will be presented to PSC for decision.