Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) Meeting Minutes
Support for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) to Ensure Water Access and Disaster Reduction for Somalia's Agro-Pastoralists Project

Date of LPAC Meeting: 18 September 2019

Chair: Ms. Jacqueline Saline Olweya, Deputy Resident Representative Programme, UNDP-Somalia

Participants:

1. Mr. Ahmed Yusuf Ahmed, Director General, Office of Environment and Climate Change, Office of the Prime Minister, Federal Government of Somalia
2. Mr. Abdiwahid Ibrahim Ahmed, Director General, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources (MoEWR), Federal Government of Somalia
3. Engineer Omar Shurie, National Coordinator Integrated Water Resources Management, MoEWR, Federal Government of Somalia
4. Mr. Ahmed Mohamed Hassan; Metrology Expert, MoEWR, Federal Government of Somalia
5. Mr. Khalif Dalmar, Office of Environment and Climate Change, Office of the Prime Minister, Federal Government of Somalia
6. Ms. Fahima Abdi Mohamud, Office of Environment and Climate Change, Office of the Prime Minister, Federal Government of Somalia
7. Mr. Abdul Qadir Rafiq, Portfolio Manager, Resilience and Climate Change, UNDP-Somalia
8. Ms. Gloria Kiondo, Head of Programme Oversight and Quality Assurance (POQA) Unit, UNDP-Somalia
9. Mr. Peter Sonerell, Head of Human Resources (HR) Unit, UNDP-Somalia
10. Mr. Hassan Abdirizak, Project Manager, Joint Programme on Charcoal, UNDP-Somalia
11. Mr. Salah Dahir, M & E Specialist, Resilience and Climate Change Portfolio, UNDP-Somalia
12. Eng. Mohamed Aden, Civil Engineer, Resilience and Climate Change Portfolio, UNDP-Somalia
13. Mr. Abdihakim Farah, Programme Specialist, POQA Unit, UNDP-Somalia
14. Ms. Beatrice Gitongori, Programme Analyst, Resilience and Climate Change Portfolio, UNDP-Somalia

Agenda annexed as: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1m5dAQ5ITGfWR7EwEXNtJbRJhiJ038y2K

List of Participants Annexed as:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1KnVlsZ949YtBEjO3Ibe07XLX17ywcuQ9

Opening Remarks:

Ms. Jacqueline Olweya, LPAC Chair / Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP-Somalia, in her opening remarks, welcomed the participants and said that it is initial few weeks of her assignment in Somalia and this is her first LPAC for an important project. She stated that the second Global Environment Facility / Least Developed Countries Climate Fund Project (GEF /LDCF2) supports climate change adaptation especially improving the water access and disaster risks reduction and resilience of the Agro-Pastoralists across Somalia. She added that significant progress was achieved from the implementation of the

GEF/LDCF1 project including the Somalia`s Recovery and Resilience Framework, Initial National Communication Report, and completion of the National Climate Change Policy. While acknowledging the progress made in the previous project, she noted that Somalia continues to be amongst the most vulnerable countries in the world. One that experiences negative consequences of climate change including increased frequency and intensity of droughts and floods. Water scarcity remains a serious threat to Somalia's socio-economic development.

She drew the attention of the participants to the two objectives of LPAC meeting. First to review the project to suggest constructive improvements in the project document 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, Federal Government of Somalia, appreciated the UNDP and GEF support to Somalia for number of initiatives in the areas of integrated water resource management, climate change adaptation and disaster preparedness and response. He highlighted the inter-linkages between environment, climate change and water resources management and need to address related challenges around scarce natural resources. He mentioned that Directorate of Environment has recently been reformed and the new structure is ready to take charge of all environment related mandates, including social and environmental screening and environment safeguards of national and community level projects.

Mr. Abdiwahid Ibrahim Ahmed, Director General, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources (MoEWR), Federal Government of Somalia, appreciated UNDP support in the Energy and Water Sectors. He expressed his pleasure on final approval of the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) project from GEF that had undergone a long process of conceptualisation and development. He then requested Engineer Omar Shurie, National Coordinator for the IWRM, MoEWR to share his initial comments. Engineer Omar Shurie emphasized the need for collaboration and coordination among the natural resources and environment ministries at national and sub-national level to coordinate better the implementation of the IWRM project across Somalia. Highlighting the challenges, he said that there are no reliable data collected since the start of civil war in spite of longest coastline in continental Africa. The weather and climate information are critical for both the in-land and coastal areas. In his capacity as Somalia representative to World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), he had been raising the need for improving network of data collection and analysis in MoEWR. This calls for an urgent intervention by the IWRM project in partnership with other agencies such IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Center (ICPAC), African Development Bank, World Bank etc. There is also need for holistic water approach to groundwater and surface water resources. Coordination and clustered approach of the Somalia IWRM project with other project will minimize overlaps and magnify impacts of the Water Access and Disaster Risk Reduction for Somalia's Agro-Pastoralists.

Presentation:

Global Environment Facility (GEF) document on "Somalia: *Support for Integrated Water Resources Management to Ensure Water Access and Disaster Reduction for Somalia's Agro-Pastoralists, Project presentation, Social and Environmental Safeguards, and agenda* was circulated to the LPAC members prior to the meeting and are annexed as:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1wmvDjdbSYK6jKVN6YzArlC1-GG9N2-fC

Mr. Abdul Qadir Rafiq, Portfolio Manager, Resilience and Climate Change, UNDP-Somalia presented the project to the LPAC. Participants were informed that the project was approved for funding from Global Environment Facility (GEF) on 23 July 2019 with the objective to "Reinforce technical and operational capacities at Federal and Federal Member States to manage water resources sustainably to build the climate resilience of agro-pastoralists". The project follows an inclusive, participatory and an Integrated Water Resources Management approach to significantly improve the Water Access and Disaster Risk Reduction for the agro-Pastoralist communities. Also, the project focuses on the development of a multi-sectoral Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Strategy, capacity building support in planning sustainable water resources development schemes for all states down to local levels, improving groundwater and surface water sources and increase resilience and promote agro-pastoral value chains.

The project will be implemented through three strategically linked components, each of which contains a set of outputs with their respective activities. At the end of the project, each of the three components will result in an outcome, including: 1) Robust National water resource management policy integrating clear national and state responsibilities, 2) Accelerated Transfer of technologies for enhanced climate risk monitoring and reporting on water resources in drought and flood prone areas, and 3) Improved water management and livelihood diversification for agro-pastoralists.

The proposed project conforms to the GEF Strategy on Climate Change Adaptation. These components are also aligned with the priorities of National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) for Somalia finalised by the Federal Government of Somalia with support of UNDP and GEF. In addition the project fully complies with the SDG`s Climate Action, National Development Plan, and UNDAF/Country Programme Document.

Project presentation also covered the Project Management and Implementation Procedures, Monitoring and Evaluation, Financial Management, Quality Assurance and specific procedures applicable to projects funded by the GEF.

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
Office of Environment and Climate Change, Office of the Prime Minister, Federal Government of Somalia, highlighted the need to include support to Environment Office in the areas of Environment Impact Assessment, Water Quality Standards Setting and other functions that link up with this project. This support can be from component 1 of the project.	The specific needs will be discussed in detailed as part of the project inception workshop. This will be a 2 or 3 days event to go through detailed work planning and adjust activities that might have changed from the project formulation phase. The relevant activities for Environment Impact Assessment / Environment Screening for the water sector can be supported from this project. In addition, other pipeline projects, such as, National Adaptation Plan Support Programme

Comments / Feedback	Responses
	and Cross-Cutting Capacity Development Project with the Environment Directorate will also be able to fill the capacity gaps and support the reformed structure of the Directorate.
Reflecting in the project document inter-relatedness between environment and water resources with issues such as conflict prevention/management, peacebuilding and security.	Agreed – additional information to be added to the project document prior to signing of the project document.
MoEWR acknowledged their involvement throughout the project formulation phase. The proposed components and activities are extremely important for integrated water resources management and reduce the risks from climate induced shocks. The former GEF Operational Focal Point was also involved the project formulation. MoEWR committed to work with the Environment Office to implement activities that are relevant for performing Environment Office mandate.	Agreed. Close coordination between Environment Office and MoEWR will be ensured during the implementation of project. As recorded earlier, UNDP, Environment Office and MoEWR will work on the specific needs as part of project inception.
Need to consider the transboundary nature of the issues at hand (water resources; agro-pastoralism etc.)	Agreed – project to support and link up with other cross-boundary initiatives to cover the water resources and agro-pastoralism aspects.
Under Component 2, strengthen partnerships component including with the private sector in view of their role in sustainable environmental management/utilization and impact through technology transfer.	The private sector will be engaged, particularly as part of improving network of weather and climate forecasting equipment under component; 2. Role of private sector will also be highlighted in the project document for O&M and technology transfer. The changes to be reflected in the project document prior to final approvals.
Justification for choice of project sites to be included in the project document.	Annex N of the project document covers the details of site selection. The main criteria used included access to locations of proposed infrastructure, vulnerability to climatic shock and alignment to the national or sub-national priorities. Regions considered as high risk from security perspective were not included to avoid delays in implementation. GEF funds are time-bound and any risks that are likely to delay

Comments / Feedback	Responses
	implementation must be factored in sites selection during project formulation.
Strengthening/broadening consultations during the work planning phase of the project.	Agreed and to be detailed out during project inception phase with clearly defined roles and responsibilities.
MoEWR expressed the need to have the implementation period of 3 years instead of 4 years.	Implementation period has been kept 4 years as GEF only allows one-time projects extensions. Projects can be completed earlier (in this project case in 3 years) if implementation is smooth and project objectives are met.
Organize meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister upon his return to the office to deliberate on the next steps. UNDP Resident Representative may also join in this meeting.	Meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister to be organized to discuss the portfolio and key priorities needing UNDP support.

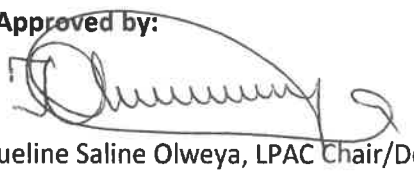
LPAC Decision:

The meeting approved the project subject to the additions and follow-up actions on points raised by the LPAC participants. Resilience and Climate Change Team of UNDP to incorporate feedback received at the LPAC meeting in the Project Document in track changes and share with UNDP/GEF 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 Approved by:



Ms. Jacqueline Saline Olweya, LPAC Chair/Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP-Somalia