



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*



Peace building and
conflict management



People-centered
governance and law



Economic recovery and
environmental protection



Protecting and
empowering women



UNDP Somalia Country Programme 2011-2015



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conflict management



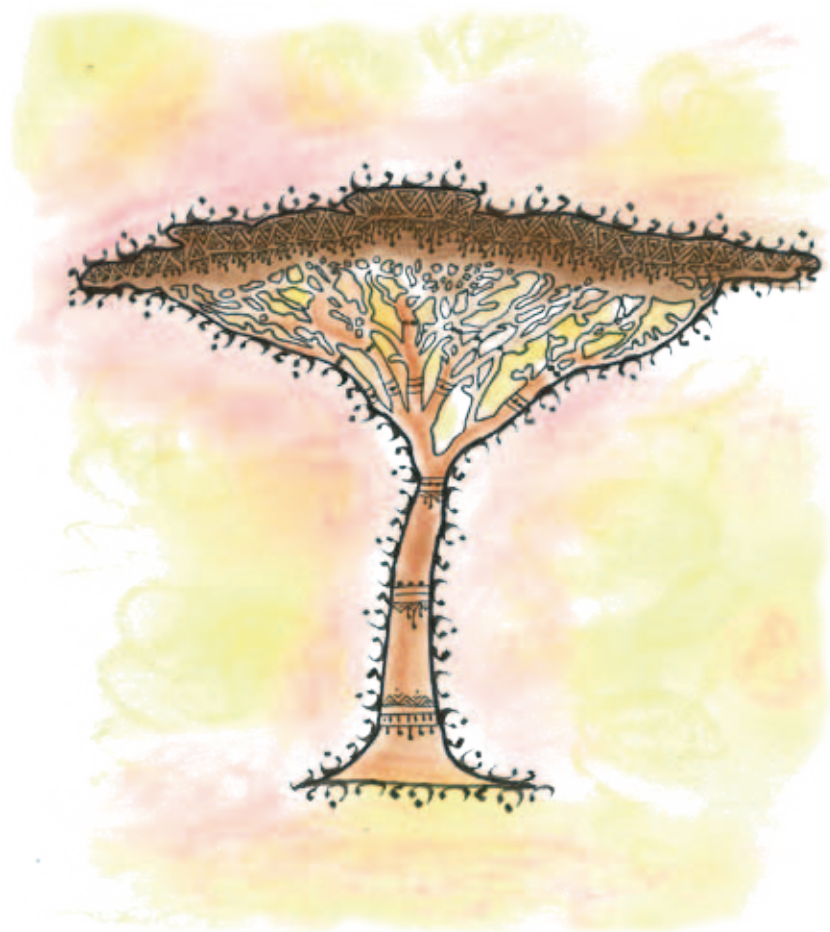
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Somali context:

In 2011, the worst humanitarian crisis seen in Somalia in nearly 20 years brought further tragedy to an already fragile country. Sparse rains, a spike in global food prices, and chronic insecurity in Somalia's south has resulted in famine across parts of the country, taking tens of thousands of lives, mostly children under five, and putting millions more at risk. Even before this, state collapse and 20 years of civil war has driven Somalia's human development indicators to global lows and the average person can only expect to reach 50 years of age.

Despite these significant challenges, there are existing and emerging pockets of stability in Somalia. Greater investments in recovery and development efforts can help make progress towards peace and reduce people's vulnerability over the long-term.

Our role:

UNDP has a global mandate to support countries to manage conflict and disaster risks, and to build individual, regional and national resilience to environmental, economic and conflict-based shocks. Progress towards peace in Somalia is fragile and reversible. In the pockets of stability that exist and are emerging, UNDP is assisting authorities and communities to consolidate their gains by supporting them to provide better services, especially for the vulnerable, basic security, and conflict resolution processes.

Our Partners:

UNDP works in close partnership with Somali government institutions, civil society, local and international non-government organizations, as well as sister UN agencies including: FAO, ILO, UNAIDS, UNCDF, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOCHA, UNODC, UNOPS, and UNSOA.

Our Donors:

UNDP mobilizes resources for recovery and development in Somalia. At the time of writing this booklet UNDP's donors include: Belgium, CERF, Danida, DFID, EC, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, Sweden, USAID.

The country programme 2011-2015

In 2011, UNDP started a new five-year programme that aims to deliver recovery and development assistance to Somalia. The programme is aligned with the United Nations Somalia Assistance Strategy (UNSAS), which guides all UN assistance to Somalia and is based on priorities identified by Somali authorities. The strategy focuses on making progress towards peace and meeting people's humanitarian and recovery needs by addressing gender issues, boosting social services, improving livelihoods, reducing poverty, promoting good governance and improving human security.

Over five years, UNDP will expand its existing partnerships with federal and regional governments, civil society, and communities across Somalia. The focus is on long-term assistance that builds the skills of authorities to deliver essential public services, basic security, and conflict resolution processes. As the political and security situation in each region develops differently, UNDP adapts its approach based on different needs and accessibility in south and central Somalia, Puntland and Somaliland.

Access to some parts of the country remains extremely difficult due to the fragile security situation. To address this challenge, UNDP works through local partners to reach communities in all regions of the country, helping them to understand their rights, to access services, and to improve their incomes. At the same time, UNDP continues to expand its work by increasing the number of partnerships with civil society, youth, elders, religious and traditional leaders, and the diaspora. Across all its work, UNDP ensures that women's empowerment and gender equality are a priority.

Country programme outcomes:

Peace building and conflict management

UNDP aims to foster a consensus-based approach to governance reform and natural resource management in Somalia. UNDP also works to build the capacity of institutions, such as the police and local governments, as well as communities, to prevent, manage, and resolve local-level conflict.

People-centred governance and law

UNDP works with regional governments to help them increase public service delivery and basic security. UNDP also works with civil society and citizens to establish local governance systems and to participate in decision-making so that services function in the interests of all Somali men, women and children.

Economic recovery and environmental management

Where the security situation allows, UNDP helps to revitalize the economy through support to the private sector, and by increasing livelihood opportunities for women and men. UNDP also supports building the skills of authorities and communities so they can manage natural resources for a sustainable future.

Protection and empowerment of women

Under this country programme UNDP is expanding assistance towards protecting and empowering Somali women and girls. UNDP will promote women as leaders and advocates for women's rights and equality. Through a wider engagement with young people, communities, and institutions, UNDP will boost efforts to help end violence against women.

Outcome 1

Peace building and conflict management

In this area, UNDP is assisting in two ways. Where access is possible at the local level, UNDP supports efforts to build conflict resolution skills to resolve disputes before they turn violent. At the same time, UNDP work to develop initiatives that strengthen relations between the community and authorities to contribute to deepening peace and cooperation across Somalia. At both the regional and federal levels, UNDP continues to promote a participatory process of constitution-building as a basis for agreement on the structure and functions of the state.

Consensus for peace

UNDP is working to expand and increase partnerships with stakeholders within Somalia, as well as looking to increase its engagement with the diaspora. The focus is on fostering a common understanding of what drives conflict and what capacities for peace exist. The aim is to strengthen collaboration between state and civil society.

Progress towards peace in Somalia requires rebuilding trust and cooperation between civilians and authorities, as well as between different clans. UNDP is also working with institutions, authorities and communities where access permits to create more space for inter-clan and inter-regional cooperation. For example, UNDP is working with youth organizations across all three regions to identify youth-specific challenges and better understand their potential role in peace building.

Through local partners, UNDP reaches out to those most affected by the conflict - women, young people, the poor and people who have been displaced due to conflict or environmental conditions. The aim is to help them better understand their rights, as well as involve them in decision-making processes, such as developing a constitution.

Research for peace

UNDP also supports research and analysis to create knowledge about the way forward in Somalia. A key contribution will include a national Human Development Report on youth, conflict and development, which will be launched in 2012.

Below, the Universal Television team, supported by UNDP, visit Dadaab, a refugee camp located in northern Kenya, where approximately 400,000 Somali refugees reside, to share information about the constitution development process.



UNDP's work is contributing towards:

A peaceful transition to democratic governance

Partnerships and processes that reduce armed violence in communities

Authorities and civil society across Somalia participate in efforts that further peace and cooperation



The Geediga Nabada (Peace Caravan) is a team of 20 national artists, musicians and poets who began touring Somaliland and Puntland in 2010. Supported by UNDP, their aim is to educate and inspire Somalis to use non-violent means to resolve conflict. Their performances are also designed to spark discussions among audiences about issues affecting communities' safety and security. While the caravan is popularizing the message of peace, District Safety Committees, also supported by UNDP, are helping communities to take practical steps to monitor and reduce violence in their neighbourhoods.

Skills for peace

UNDP also supports institutions, civil society and communities to strengthen their abilities to manage conflict peacefully. For example, local authorities currently benefit from enhanced conflict resolution and mediation skills, enabling them to negotiate grievances that could otherwise result in violence.

Meanwhile, through District Safety Committees, UNDP supports communities to take practical steps to monitor and reduce violence in their own neighbourhoods. Through these committees, communities and local authorities can assess causes of violence and roll out plans that respond to these drivers, for example, by reducing the number of weapons, or raising awareness about women's rights. The aim is to involve the whole community so that everyone's concerns are heard, particularly those of women and youth.

New areas of engagement:



Training in negotiation and conflict management for communities and institutions



Expanding collaboration and increasing trust between the state and communities

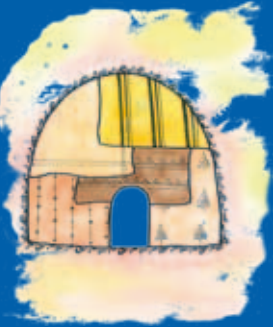


Empowering different groups (including women, youth, marginalised and vulnerable groups) to voice their opinions in peace processes



Supporting leadership to look beyond short-term gains and commit to long-term peace and reconstruction

Outcome 2



People-centred governance and law

Progress towards peace in Somalia requires authorities to be equipped with the skills and resources necessary to provide basic public services and security. Likewise, communities, especially those far from urban centres, need to trust that governments act in their interests. Through budgetary and operational support, as well as institutional capacity-building, UNDP is assisting Somali authorities to expand services as well as basic security and access to justice. The focus is also on increasing collaboration between ordinary citizens and authorities.

Developing state functions and accountability

In south central Somalia, UNDP continues to support authorities to be able to provide services effectively and maintain political stability through inclusive and participatory processes. For example, UNDP continues to train civilian police, and works with the judiciary to forge stronger links with legal assistance.

In Somaliland and Puntland, where greater stability has allowed state institutions to develop more rapidly, citizens' sense of personal security and access to better policing services are improving. Public services in these areas are also getting better. UNDP continues to support state authorities and public institutions. This work involves developing human resources, increasing the ability of institutions to create and roll-out policies and laws, improving financial management, and rehabilitating essential infrastructure.

In Puntland, one goal is to triple the number of properly vetted police who are trained and practicing human rights-based policing. In Somaliland, UNDP is supporting the government's police reform process and continues to provide human rights training to police.

To ensure the public sector is transparent and accountable, UNDP is supporting the development of public integrity institutions across Somalia. Work is already underway to strengthen mechanisms that improve police oversight. This includes a Police Advisory Committee and a Stipends Monitoring Committee.

UNDP's work is contributing towards:

More public institutions providing public services, particularly to those most in need

Improving policing practices and judicial systems through an enhanced knowledge of international standards

A transparent and accountable security sector, which performs to international standards





In Somaliland and Puntland, participatory planning has led to greater accountability and transparency at the local level. Public expenditure plans have been developed and rolled out in six districts in Somaliland and four districts in Puntland, with UNDP support. In these districts, citizens are now more aware and able to demand services from the government. The government has also been equipped with improved skills and finances to respond effectively to the needs of local communities.

Responding to people's needs

UNDP continues to support legal protection, especially for vulnerable groups and minorities, including women. This includes assisting civil society organizations to gain the skills and resources they need to provide legal aid across Somalia. It also includes helping authorities to expand people's access to justice through mobile courts and civilian policing, especially in Somaliland and Puntland.

Meanwhile, as part of its work with local government in Somaliland and Puntland, UNDP continues to promote opportunities where citizens can actively participate in local decision-making.

Political processes that are inclusive

Through technical assistance, UNDP is supporting governments across Somalia to develop legal frameworks, institutions and procedures that are democratic, while also improving the ability of civil society and other stakeholders to better understand and engage in these processes.

In Somaliland improving the skills of the legislative and executive to formulate policies and draft laws in line with the government's reform agenda is central to UNDP support. Meanwhile, in Puntland the focus is on improving law-making skills. In south central Somalia, UNDP continues to assist the constitution development, public consultation, and civic education and inclusion processes.

New areas of engagement:



Establishing model police stations in Somaliland and Puntland that will be more responsive to community needs and will foster partnerships between communities, local authorities and the police



Legal empowerment – Placing paralegals within communities to improve access to legal advice; teaching people what their legal rights are and how they can access them



In Somaliland and Puntland, UNDP is helping the justice sector to improve its ability to deal with serious crime, including piracy, according to due process



Establishing Women's Civilian Protection Units in Benadir to improve community safety, supporting alternative sentencing as part of restorative justice and supporting the Youth for Change joint programme

Outcome 3



Economic recovery and environmental protection

The fragile security environment continues to seriously undermine recovery and economic development in large parts of Somalia, yet there are pockets of stability where it is possible for communities to develop more sustainable livelihoods. In these areas UNDP is supporting better conditions for private sector growth through microfinance and infrastructure support. Meanwhile, state authorities are drawing on technical advice from UNDP to improve regional governments' abilities to plan for development and manage natural resources better.

Rebuilding skills for economic governance

A lack of data on development needs and challenges in most parts of Somalia means that governments are unable to make informed decisions when it comes to recovery and development planning. UNDP works with regional governments and civil society organisations to establish the systems needed to collect and analyse data related to the Millennium Development Goals. This data - alongside sessions that involve local government and civil society prioritizing interventions - will enhance planning and provide people with the resources they need to improve their lives. Where local government is absent, and where access is possible, UNDP's non-government partners are working with communities to create and manage their own development plans.

Fostering better conditions for businesses and livelihoods

The private sector across Somalia has proven to be extremely resilient and is seen as an important engine for economic recovery. To support entrepreneurs, the governments in Somaliland and Puntland are working with UNDP and the private sector to roll out financial services, such as microcredit, and to put in place conditions that will help small businesses to grow. This work will involve establishing policies and regulations that, for example, make financial services more widely available. In south central Somalia, UNDP helps to improve government institutions' abilities to assume a greater role in economic growth. Meanwhile, UNDP will continue to look for ways to work more closely with the private sector and civil society on economic recovery.

UNDP provides income-generating opportunities to several communities in Somalia, including in south central, through labour intensive short-term employment. UNDP will expand this support by helping communities to identify and pursue longer-term income opportunities and to rebuild their local infrastructure, such as markets, roads and water canals.



UNDP's work is contributing towards:

Increasing incomes, employment and diversifying livelihood assets

Better natural resource management

An improved environment for small businesses



Creating and improving peoples' means of income

Authorities in Somaliland, Puntland and south central have identified the restoration of key sectors, such as livestock, crop production and fishing, as priorities. UNDP is helping to achieve this in several ways. The focus is on expanding livelihood opportunities through small grants to entrepreneurs, distributing assets, and creating short-term jobs for the community to restore local infrastructure. Improved infrastructure will link farmers to markets and reduce the cost of doing business. With UNDP support, state authorities will expand financial services, especially for young people and women. In some cases vocational training will also be offered. These efforts are expected to diversify income opportunities, making people and the economy less vulnerable to external shocks.

Supporting better natural resource management

In areas prone to conflict, environmental degradation increases people's vulnerability to disasters. UNDP supports authorities to better manage the already deteriorated and over-exploited rangelands. Authorities are drawing on UNDP's advice and technical assistance to introduce affordable alternative sources of energy that can create jobs and reduce current dependency on charcoal. One source being investigated is biogas production. UNDP is also supporting authorities to work with communities to manage natural resources and set up disaster response plans. These efforts will boost the resilience of communities to environmental shocks.

New areas of engagement:



Expanding support in the area of Islamic microfinance



Helping to create the conditions for small businesses to grow



Support to development of better natural resource management policies, regulatory frameworks, and increased public awareness

Outcome 4



Supporting the protection and empowerment of women

According to a June 2011 global survey by the Thomson Reuters Foundation, Somalia is among the most dangerous places on earth to be a woman. Here women suffer high levels of maternal mortality, female genital mutilation, and have limited access to education and healthcare.

Somali authorities have identified the empowerment of women, through greater asset ownership and participation in decision-making processes, as a priority for peace and development. To support authorities to achieve this, UNDP is expanding its work in the area of protecting and empowering women and girls in Somalia. Between 2011 and 2015, UNDP will support Somali stakeholders to promote women as leaders and advocates for rights, equality and peace. Meanwhile, through a wider engagement with young people, communities, and institutions, UNDP will boost efforts to help end violence against women.

Around the world, UNDP focuses on gender equality and women's empowerment not only as a human rights issue, but also because women are a pathway to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and sustainable development. In Somalia, assisting authorities and civil society to protect and empower women is already central to UNDP's work.

In all regions, UNDP works with ministries responsible for women's development and the Ministries of Interior to increase women's representation in district councils, and to provide training and mentoring to ensure they can perform effectively. UNDP is also assisting institutions and authorities to improve their abilities to provide better access to security and justice for women.

Meanwhile, UNDP's economic recovery efforts provide equal opportunities for women, including access to assets, such as land and credit. In partnership with all stakeholders, UNDP involves women in peace processes wherever possible.

The Ministries of the Interior, Health and Justice, with UNDP support, established women and children's desks in Somaliland police stations. In 2009, 42 people, including 26 women, were trained to work on the desks. By 2010 officers had seen a steady increase in the number of women using the desks. This increase is attributed to more women feeling comfortable about contacting the police because of the desks.

UNDP's work is contributing towards:

More women and groups empowered to promote social change and gender equality

More women participating in all areas of decision-making

More economic opportunities for women

Less violence against women

Women gaining better access to social services

Women having better access to justice and legal protection





UNDP's economic recovery efforts provide equal opportunities for women, including access to assets, such as land and credit. Here in the Mohamed Moge camp in Hargesia, women are benefiting from UNDP support to raise chickens and thereby to improve their income opportunities.

Promoting women and men as leaders and advocates

Women who are active in government, civil society and the private sector are well placed to champion women's rights and equality. Through leadership training and mentoring services, UNDP aims to empower Somali women to be able to determine and lead their own agenda, as well as inspire others.

At the same time, UNDP will strengthen the capacity of women's organizations to mobilize and advocate for change. UNDP will work with influential men and women, such as religious leaders and elders, engaging them to take the lead in promoting women's rights and protecting them against traditional practices such as genital mutilation.

Ending violence against women

UNDP will work with young men and women to identify positive role models. Meanwhile, through its non-government partners, UNDP will provide opportunities for communities to discuss women's rights and gender equality issues in a safe space.

UNDP will provide advice and technical support to draft, enact and enforce policies and laws that ensure women's political representation. UNDP will provide advice and technical support to draft, adopt and implement policies and laws that ensure women's political representation, equal access to economic resources, and protection against violence, including female genital mutilation.

In Somaliland, UNDP continues to support the Sexual Assault Referral Centre. The centre provides medical, psychological and legal support to survivors of sexual violence.

New areas of engagement:



Supporting men and women to become champions for gender equality and women's empowerment



Strengthening women's leadership capacities so they become effective leaders and role models to other women and to society on the contributions women can bring to development.



Women's social and economic development – providing scholarships for young women to pursue 'non-traditional' careers in areas such as science, mathematics, energy, economics, accounting and public administration.



Promoting community dialogue and attitudinal change on women's human rights issues such as FGM



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Acacia trees dot the desert landscape of Somalia and are often the places where different clans, communities and individuals come to discuss issues and to resolve their problems.



The Aqal is a traditional Somali house, offering protection and security to nomads wherever they roam.



In the parched landscape of Somalia, the camel is the most valued of all livestock, and this ship of the desert is a symbol of development and prosperity.



The dhil is used to hold camel milk and men and women have equal access to it.