



Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation  
Wasaaradda Qorsheynta iyo Xiriirka Caalamiga ah  
وزارة التخطيط والتعاون الدولي

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## Monthly Update

September 2017

### This Month in Review

September was an important month for Puntland Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation. The objective of this short document is to briefly update all vital stakeholders regarding the Ministry's achievements. Throughout the ages, proper communication between both public and private institutions and the public was essential to the success of said institution. This short document upholds this principle. Below one shall find brief descriptions and/or highlights of the achievements of the Ministry in the month of September 2017, segmented based on departments.

## 1 STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

Overall Mandate: All aspects of statistics policies and standards. Data collection and entries, and safeguarding all the statistical resources and studies.

### DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS September 2017

#### 1.1 Survey Field Work Completion

Maternal and Mortality Ratio (MMR) and the individual nomadic pilot survey in Puntland was successfully completed on 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 2017. In the nomadic data collection individuals aged 15 and above within the nomadic communities were targeted regardless of their gender and/or status in the community or household. The MMR data on the other hand targeted the household head and/or the spouse. In their absence, a mature household member who understands the household composition and details of household members such as age, marital status, recent births and deaths in the household was selected for the interviews.

In total **6,727 interviews** were conducted in Puntland for both Nomadic and MMR (2419 nomadic individual interviews and **4308 MMR** interviews) Each of the field teams led by the respective supervisor provided a short field mission report. The report has covered the following to inform future field missions, report writing and project monitoring:

- Field challenges
- Efficiency
- Relevance
- Effectiveness
- Sustainability
- Inclusivity and gender

## **1.2 MOE Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and remote sensing (RS)**

The Department of Statistics trained 5 staff from Ministry of Education (MOE) to support and develop their skills in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and remote sensing (RS).

During the five days training workshop, participants were taken through concepts and application of Geographic Information System and Remote Sensing. All team members have gained knowledge and experience in creating and implementing spatial models, Map making skills, Map design etc.

## **1.3 Puntland gender booklet and report**

To fill the existing data and information gap particularly in gender statistics the Department started analyzing the gender report and drafting the first two chapters of the report aimed for completion in October.

On the other hand, a booklet on gender statistics is also under the preparations; a team Gender unit is collecting the data and so far they have completed the first three chapters (Population, Education and Income). We are expecting that by the end of November the booklet will be available.

## **1.4 UPDATE URBAN SAMPLING FRAME:**

As part of the preparation of the SHDS, the staff from the GIS unit in the department of Statistics has updated the urban frame geo-databases by digitizing the structures in the enumeration area. This involved linkages and verification of enumeration areas. The team has successfully mapped 17 urban towns which will constitute the Puntland urban frame.

The GIS unit team also started the digitization of settlements from the rural frame. The rural communities consists of Bargaal ,Boocame , Gumbax , Kalabaydh, Murcanyo , Waaciye , Xafuun. Bareedo, Horfadhi ,Saaxo , Tawfiiq , Buraan , Bursalax, Ufeyn, Dangorayo , Dhudhub , Shaxda, Billidhidin ,Rako, Xingalool, Fiqifulley , Xarfo , Xumbeys, Carmo, Widhwidh , Dharkagenyo.

## **1.5 Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Training in Djibouti**

Three staff from economic statistics participated in a workshop training on GDP. The aim of the workshop was to improve the capacity of the staff, eventually leading to the production of the Puntland GDP. During the training, staff and instructors made discussions about the current status of the GDP then made assessment on data sources needed for GDP. The instructors provided recommendations for the compilation of the GDP expenditure estimates and eventually after the training a framework for GDP expenditure estimates was agreed upon. The team who participated in the train-

ing are currently collecting the data needed to estimate the GDP before the final training in Kampala to finalize the trainings and produce a final GDP estimate.

## 1.6 Other Activities

1. ICT staff developed a database for SCB project
2. Dissemination of main activities from the department through the department's website, Twitter & Facebook
3. Review of SDG indicators
4. Two staff participated in a training on R programming held in Puntland State University .
5. The department representatives participated in a Joint High-Level Statistics Forum in Nairobi
6. Two department staff participated in a workshop of finalization of SHDS tools
7. Update of Rural and urban sampling frame.

## 2 AID COORDINATION DEPARTMENT

Overall Mandate: All aspects of aid coordination, agencies and NGOs registration, and SWGs. Oversight the implementation of the project in the regional. Facilitating visas for international staff of INGOs and agencies.

### DEPARTMENT OF AID COORDINATION MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS September 2017

#### 2.1 Puntland Development Forum (PDF)

The Puntland Development Forum (PDF) is the Puntland State of Somalia's Aid Coordination system; a State analogue of the Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility-the Federal State Aid Coordination system. The PDF aims to tackle the challenges of overlap and duplicity, ineffectiveness and inefficiencies, lack of communication, coordination and overall direction. The PDF groups the activities of the government and its development partners into six thematic groupings: Governance, Justice, Security, Infrastructure, Social and Livelihood. These sectors are all-inclusive and fully represent the Stakeholders of those sectors.

As of the 31<sup>th</sup> of September 2017, every sector held its inaugural meeting at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, where the terms of reference and a six month calendar of meetings were endorsed by the chair, co-chair and members of each sector; as well as, a second and in some instances a third meeting. During the latter meetings, some sectors, such as the Justice Sector decided to map the challenges explicit and implicit in their sector, with the objective of producing solutions written in the form of concept notes. While other sectors, such as the Infrastructure Sector, produced a draft full project proposal. The Infrastructure Sector discussed the details of a project proposal titled: "Puntland Fishery Industry Catalyst Project (PFICP)." The Security sector developed a "Security Sector Strategic Framework," that shall act as a guiding document aligned with the

Revised Puntland Development Plan (2017-2019), the Somalia National Development Plan (2017-2019), and International Sustainable Development Goals.

One of the main objectives of the PDF is to develop highly-technical project proposals on behalf of the Puntland Government. The process under which this objective is achieved is as follows:

- A. The relevant government institution develops an idea and presents the idea written in a concept note format at its relevant PDF sector.
- B. The Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation develops the concept note in a full project proposal.
- C. MoPIC presents this project proposal at the relevant PDF sector meeting.
- D. MoPIC submits the project proposal to the relevant line Ministry for feedback.
- E. The relevant line Ministry then presents a second draft of the project at the Sector meeting
- F. The relevant line Ministry then submits the project proposal to an NGO or UN Agencies whose mandates align with the activities proposed by the project for final edits
- G. The final version of the project is presented by both the relevant line Ministry and the UN Agency or NGO that finalized the project at the next PDF sector meeting

In the month of September specifically, three sector working groups, namely Justice, Security and Governance were held, while Infrastructure, Livelihood and Social were not. Infrastructure could not be held as a result of not meeting the quorum, this was due to the fact that the chair Ministry was consumed with other very important matters that were time sensitive. Livelihood and Social are both undergoing agreed upon changes in chair leadership and the newly selected chairs shall commence their leadership by conducting meetings in the month of October.

## **2.2 Federal Non-Governmental Organizations Bill Endorsement**

Somalia is undergoing monumental positive changes that as a summation can be termed as the ‘Era of State Re-building,’ despite the obvious obstacles it faces. As in tune with this Era, The Federal Government of Somalia Ministry of Planning, Investment, and Economic Development (MoPIED) undertook the initiative to draft a Federal Non-Governmental Organizations Bill, through an internal consultation with the Federal Member States of Somalia. This bill aims at constructing a system and mechanisms through which the Somalia Federal and State Governments can productively engage and provide ethical oversight of the registration and operations of Non-Governmental Organizations actively conducting operations within the borders of Somalia. In the month of September, Puntland Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation actively participated in the discussions by offering constructive critiques of the Federal MoPIED proposed model, and putting forth a vision of an alternative model that all-concerned stakeholders can endorse. During the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the National Development Council, a Puntland delegation led by State Minister of Planning, HE. Ahmed Ibrahim Awale participated in the final discussion of this bill, resulting in a Federal NGO Bill that is truly in the interest of all stakeholders that was worthy of endorsement and that in fact, was endorsed by the Federal Government of Somalia and all Federal Member States. The Bill will now continue onto the next stages of its ratification, and Puntland MoPIC through this monthly newsletter shall keep its stakeholders informed of the process.

## 2.3 Tax Facilitation Office (UN Non-Staff Taxation) & Registration Office

During the month of September, the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) Tax Facilitation Office was extremely successful in continuing and normalizing the collection of taxes from United Nations Non-Staff employees. The Ministry works closely with the Ministry of Finance and the United Nations Agencies to be able to fulfill this achievement.

MoPIC Tax Facilitation Office does not collect taxes per se, but rather facilitates this vital activity on behalf of the Ministry of Finance. For instance, MoPIC determines which individuals employed by the United Nations is obligated to pay a certain tax rate, compiling this list, deciphering the salary grade of those individuals, and providing them with a guideline document that explains the necessity of the public tax being sought, and the mechanism through which an individual needs to pay said tax. These facilitation activities ensure the Ministry of Finance fulfills its very significant mandate of public tax collection. Seventy-five percent of The World Food Programme eligible employees under the UN Non-staff employee tax scheme have begun fulfilling their tax obligation and Puntland MoPIC is confident the remaining twenty-five percent shall be tax compliant relatively shortly.

MoPIC Tax Facilitation Office continues to facilitate the collection of taxes from International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) staff, premises, and vehicles.

MoPIC Registration Office has registered fourteen non-governmental organizations that fulfilled Puntland State of Somalia's NGO registration requirement.

## 3 OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

Overall Mandate:	Administrative management of the ministry and provision of internal services; administrative control of regional and district offices
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### DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS September 2017

#### 3.1 MoPIC Staff Capacity Building Training Conducted

MoPIC Operations Department developed a training course and facilitated training sessions for all the Ministry's interns on the protocols and procedures of the Ministry to enable the interns to fully participate in the activities of the Ministry. These capacity building training sessions came to a fruitful close during the month of September.

## 4 PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Overall Mandate: All aspects of State planning, governmental planning coordination. Handling the media and communication to the public.

### DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS September 2017

#### 4.1 MOPIC in collaboration with SOM-REP organized drought recovery designing workshop at PDRC

Given the recent cyclical drought as a result of climate change, experienced in Puntland and Somalia, the government of Puntland State of Somalia has initiated a joint consultation Workshop with support from SOM-REP, where the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) has conducted step-by-step policy review and strategy for the drought recovery that will holistically address vulnerabilities of pastoralists, IDPs, returnees and people with special needs including women and children.

#### 4.2 Department Structure Reviewed and Developed

The Puntland Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation (MoPIC) is cognizant of the essential importance of reviewing, developing, in short, updating its various departments' organizational structures to ensure that the Ministry is capable of fulfilling its mandate in an ever changing social and economic environment. To this end, MoPIC Planning Department for the month of September reviewed and developed its departmental structure to stay relevant and be proactive in delivering its mandates.

#### 4.3 Prepared 3 Section Heads Terms of Reference for the Planning Department

The World Bank is spearheading a capacity building initiative through a partnership with the Puntland Government in the implementation of the Capacity Injection Project (CIP). One of the main objectives of the World Bank CIP is to provide for the personnel needs of the beneficiary institutions. MoPIC as the lead technical institution partnered with the World Bank in implementing the CIP is also a beneficiary institution, and thus, its Planning department prepared three terms of reference for section heads.

#### 4.4 Department Needs discussed, developed, and submitted to UNDP Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP)

Puntland MoPIC has been a beneficiary institution of the UNDP Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP). The UNDP SIP was the key supporter of the Revised Puntland Development Plan (2017-2019), instrumental in its drafting, development and dissemination. Through this partnership, Puntland MoPIC was able to clearly articulate the priorities and needs of the Puntland Government and its people. Puntland MoPIC was then able to cooperate and collaborate with the Federal Govern-

ment of Somalia during the development of the Somalia National Development Plan (2017-2019) and insert the Puntland State of Somalia's needs and priorities into the NDP.

Being cognizant of the vital nature of the Puntland MoPIC and UNDP relationship, and the fruits of our shared labors to the incredible benefit of the Puntland State, Puntland MoPIC's Planning Department discussed, developed, and submitted to the UNDP SIP its department's needs.

## **5 MONITORING & EVALUATION DEPARTMENT**

Overall Mandate: All aspects of monitoring and evaluation standards and knowledge base. Conducting M&E for projects and providing support to the projects.

### **DEPARTMENT OF M&E MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS September 2017**

#### **5.1 Monitoring of NRC Projects/ Programs**

It is a mandate of MoPIC Monitoring and Evaluation department to monitor and evaluation all running and completed projects/ programs ensure a project/program's effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and beneficiaries satisfaction as well as to find out the challenges and way forward of that specific project.

#### **5.2 Participated on the discussion and validation workshop of Federal M&E Policy**

A Puntland delegation led by the State Minister of Planning, His Excellency, Ahmed Ibrahim Awale attended the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the National Development Council (NDC) to discuss various, highly significant issues pertinent to the entire nation. One of those issues was the Federal Monitoring and Evaluation Policy. The Puntland delegation submitted a critique of the Policy and stern recommendations that must be incorporated before our State can endorse any Policy. The Federal Government of Somalia welcomed the written critique and the Council insisted that all remaining Federal Member States submit their recommendations and critiques within two weeks from the closing of the 4<sup>th</sup> session of the NDC. Puntland MoPIC shall keep its stakeholders informed of the outcome of these consultation sessions.

### **5.3 Validation Meeting for M&E Database with High Level Management of MoPIC including Ministers.**

After finalization of the database it was unavoidable to have a contribution from the stakeholders to ensure the relevance and applicability of the database. There was a final consultation meeting with vital stakeholders. This consultation meeting was chaired by Minister of Planning and International cooperation Hon: Shire Haji Farah and attended by all High level management such as State Minister Hon: Ahmed Ibrahim Awale, Director General Mr. Hussein Abdi Jama, all departmental Directors, Consultants and section heads. The meeting underlined how this database is important and helpful to avoid duplication and overlapping with respect to programs and projects as well as aid mapping for the planning stage of the projects/ programs. The final result of this meeting was the validation of the M&E database.

### **5.4 Continued discussion for Annual Joint Monitoring Mission with the NGOs**

Monitoring and Evaluation Department have been proceeding since the last two months with consultation meetings with UN, INGOs and LNGOs for the purpose of regular annual joint monitoring missions for all the projects to improve collaborations and information sharing among government institution and agencies' operations in Puntland. This process will help both parties to achieve expectations of every projects as well as realize challenges faced by agencies implementing projects in Puntland and thus addressing them fully leading to increased beneficiaries confidence.

### **5.5 Participated in Monthly Coordination meeting of NGOs Consortium to explain the process of Annual Joint Monitoring Mission**

Monitoring and evaluation team led by Departmental Director attended the meeting after an invitation from the NGO Consortium to further clarify the joint monitoring process for the year of 2017. The M&E team and NGOs realize the importance of the yearly monitoring missions- NGOs underlined how this will help their visibility and future repetition of their projects. The meeting was quite productive, and all attendees agreed to accelerate and continue such meetings. It is also the responsibility of every NGO to participate in the annual joint monitoring mission.

## 6 SELECTED PICTURES



*From left to right D. Minister of Environment, Minister of Planning, Minister of youth, and D. Minister of Agriculture*



*Minister Shire Haji and DG Hussein Abdi met with TAHPI Consultant.*



*High Level Statistics Forum meeting in Djibouti.*



*MOPIC in collaboration with SOM-REP organized drought recovery designing workshop at PDRC*



*DAI-PIMS Project review meeting.*



*Statistics Department quarterly review meeting*

To Contact MoPIC, kindly provide any comments or suggestions, as well as short submissions for the next monthly update to the following email addresses: [mopic@plstate.so](mailto:mopic@plstate.so) or [info@mopicplgov.net](mailto:info@mopicplgov.net)