



**Acknowledgements**

The evaluators would like to thank everyone who took the time to provide their ideas and

## Table of Contents

# I. Executive Summary

## (i) Project Data

because security considerations forced the relocation of the training and meetings to higher-cost venues. Otherwise, funds were well used and directed to project activities.

The **impact** of the project on the participants was positive and significant. The impact on









WKH WUHH´ DV PHQ JDWKHU L<sup>5</sup> However, the KDG Government in Mogadishu has streamlined the cabinet and in the 2016 elections a quota of 30% of women in the lower house will be in place. UN agencies are advocating for a Gender Policy to be included in the new Constitution. Somalia is historically party to a number of regional instruments and KDV VLJQHG EXW QRW UDWLILHG WKH 3URWRFRO WR WKH \$IUL on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol), however weak implementation and WKH GRPLQDQFH of law in Somalia makes it difficult to achieve in everyday life.

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<sup>5</sup> UNWOMEN: Eastern and Southern Somalia, 2016.

III.

(ii) Logical framework

xBaseline study and

x4 forums for CSOs,  
government and other  
organizations  
x3 meetings in each district  
with local government  
officials  
xDevelopment of a  
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## IV. Evaluation findings

### (i) Relevance

7KH 32:(5 SURMHFW ZDV GHVLJQHG E\ &(' LQ FRQVXOWDWLRQ Z  
a departure from their regular work. Engaging a large number of CSOs was a new experience.

7KH QHHG IRU DFWLRQV WR LQFUHDVH ZRPHQV SROLWLFDO  
evident, in particular given ongoing negotiations on a new Constitution and elections looming in 2016. What is not clear in the project design, however, is whether CED foresaw the empowerment of women involved in the CSOs themselves, or whether they considered the CSOs as a vehicle for reaching out to empower women in broader Somali society.

The Project Document states that the CSOs are the intended direct beneficiaries, and it makes sense to strengthen and promote the political participation, particularly, of women who have already stepped up to take a leading role in civil society. A number of the CSOs that parti  
FLSDWHG DUH SURIHVVLRQDO ZRPHQV JURXS DQG LW LV O  
these groups might result more quickly in enhanced political participation, for example. On the  
RWKHU KDQG WKH 3URMHFW 'RFXPHQW QRPLQDWLQJ 3 PL O  
beneficiaries, and both the title of the project and the principal objective suggest that the broad population of women in the Banadir region is also a target for empowerment. An important question to be answered in evaluating the design of the project, therefore, is whether and how this gap between empowerment of the CSOs and impact on broader Somali society would be bridged.

The evaluation looked at this and interviews with CSO participants asked both how much the project had empowered them in their work and personally, and the extent to which they had reached out to other women with a specific view to empowering them socially, economically and politically. The Terms of Reference (ToR) drawn up for the recruitment of the CSOs include, among other things, the requirement that CSOs should have a proven track record in  
ZRPHQV HPSRZHUPHQW WKDW WKH\ VKRXOG EH 3URRWHG LO  
communi W\` DQG WKDW WKH\ VKRXOG KDYH D WUDFN UHFRUG RI V

The findings of the enquiry LQWR WKH  
outreach are covered in particular in the sections on Impact and Sustainability, however there are elements in the project design itself that are interesting in this respect.

Foremost of these is the inclusion in the project of 20 Resource Persons ± one nominated by and attached to each CSO after training -- whose job for four months was to mentor the CSO staff, monitor and help deliver cascade training within the organization, and generally promote the &62V¶ DELOLW\ WR UH  
constituencies with a specific view of empowering more women.



Training session for the Resource Persons

\$OVR GHVLJQHG WR IXUWKHU UHLQIRUFH WKH &62V¶ FDSDFLW  
the organizations that allowed them to share ideas, increase their understanding and learn

from each other. The project also included plans to develop a regional network of the CSOs. DQG D QDWLRQDO DQG UHJLRQDO VWUDWHJ\ RQ ZRPHQ¶V H completed, the network did not eventuate.

Important, too, in gauging how far the project reached out is the content of the training given to the CSOs. Was it likely to increase their ability to reach out to women, advocate for them and, importantly, put in place protection mechanisms as the women grew in confidence and moved to claim their rights?

In fact, the training materials reviewed seem not to have been designed with this in mind; rather WKH\ IRFXVHG RQ XSJUDGLQJ WKH &62V¶ VNLOOV LQ JRYH mainstreaming within their organizations. Only a component on advocacy looked beyond the organizations, and more to national and local authorities than to women. This seems to have been something of a missed opportunity; while it was certainly important to build the governance and management capacities of the CSOs, some specific training on, for example, media relations and campaigning might also have been useful. It is also important that any project designed to empower women, thus potentially affecting their relationships within the family and community, include a specific component on self-protection and support through designated protection mechanisms such as helplines or drop-in centres.

Grassroots campaigns organized by the CSOs also received support through the project and did allow for broader targeting of empowerment messages. However IEC materials produced were not used to support these campaigns; they were instead distributed through local authorities. Conversely, the CSOs were fully involved in a series of TV and radio debates both as panelists and audiences. These were a good way to give the CSOs an opportunity to speak out, to HQJDJH ORFDO MRXUQDOLVWV LQ WKH LVVXH V DQG WR empowerment. Since TV and particularly radio are the most common forms of information dissemination in a region where literacy rates are low, the media components of the project seem to have been particularly relevant.

\$ ILQDO HOHPHQW RI LQWHUHVW LQ WKH SURMHFW ZDV FDWDO\VVV These people, many of whom were men in leadership positions within the communities, were recruited to spread the PHVVDJHV RI ZRPHQ¶V HPSRZHU in conjunction with the grassroots campaigns. One Community catalyst interviewed was a teacher and religious leader who was also consulted on the nature of the messages and said KH FRQVLGHUHG WKHP <sup>3</sup>H[FHDOHQW DGSURWHLG KHOLMRE Z FRPPXQLHV¶ QHJDWLYH YLHZV RQ ZRPHQ¶V ULJKWV DQG H SHRSOH¶V SHUFHSWLRQV ± w`b¶¶±@ OHQW







implement similar projects on a larger scale in future or to expand this project into other regions, security permitting.

Indeed, almost all those interviewed ±CED staff, CSO partners, Resource Persons and Community catalysts ±

Women from some of the CSOs also helped organize and participated in the school debates. One shy to debate at the beginning became more confident after taking part in several debates; they asked if we were going to come back to organize more debates for

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WKHP´

VXSSRUWLQJ WKLV QHWZRUNLQJ ZLWK D ZRPHQTV HPSRZHUPH  
 even just a social one, where the women can come together and share progress reports and  
 information. The Ministry of Women also advised that they are working to bring members of  
 WKHLU 3 SURWHFWLRQ FOXVWHU to the National Water Alternative Project. QHWZRUNLQJ  
 at least some of the CSOs.

Nevertheless, a large number of people and organizations ±from the CSOs to community  
 leaders, representatives of regional  
 and national authorities, school  
 children and media ±were mobilized  
 through this project and there is every  
 likelihood that at least some of these  
 ZLOO FRQWLQXH WR DG  
 rights.



Public forum

This leads to Conclusion (x).

Now that lessons have been learned  
 and seeds have been planted in a  
 number of different forums -- schools,  
 TV and radio audiences, public forums  
 ±CED has in fact solid foundations for  
 continuing the activities of this project in a follow-up project that might work in another region  
 of the country, with a different group of CSOs or with the same group for more intensive  
 training, particularly focusing on public outreach including media relations and targeted  
 campaigns.

(vi) UNDEF Value added

All the materials, including banners and IEC output, carried both the UNDEF emblem and the  
 flag of Japan that provided specifically earmarked funding to this project through UNDEF.

There was particular **value-added for UNDEF** in this project because, in a country where many  
 81 RUJDQLJDWLRQV DUH ZRUNLQJ RQ ZRPHQTV LVVXHV DQG ULJ  
 at a time of emerging democratic processes and took advantage of this to orient activities and  
 RXWFRPHV WR SURPRWLQJ ZRPHQTV) \$DWW\$SRDWWKGLHQWUH  
 focus that is not in the mandate of other UN agencies and that was both crucial and timely.

This leads to Conclusion (xi).

## IV. Conclusions

Based on the evaluation findings, the team concludes:

(i) The project was relevant. It was well designed, with a number of components – particularly the use of Resource Persons and the inclusion of a media component – that helped it both to empower women in the 20 participating CSOs and beyond. It was also timely, given discussions on a new Constitution and elections announced for 2016.

(ii) There was insufficient attention to issues of protection for women whose empowerment might put them at risk. It is a sad reality that, as women become empowered or even make attempts to improve their situation, they may face reprisals at home







### Annex 3: People Interviewed

CED staff and consultants	
Abdullahi Ali Hassan	Executive Director
Mohamud Ali Salat	Project Coordinator
Faiza Noor Ali	Project Officer
Abdikadir Abdirahman Mohamed	M&E Officer
Ismahan Yusuf Abukar	Community Mobilizer
Minyu Mugambi	Consultant
CSO partners	
Farhiya Mohamed Kheire	Somali Women Journalist Organization(SWJO)
Aliya Aden Abdi	Inter Community Development Service(INCOMDES)
Fozia Abdulatif	Amal Woman Organization for Development(AWOD)
Saadia Osman Gedi	Saredo Relief Foundation

Abdirahman Mohamed Hiraabe	Wardhigleey District
Mukhtar Osman Mohamed	Wadajir District
Ahmed Mohamed Sh. Abukar	Kaaraan and Abdulaziz Districts
Osman Mohamed Kudow	Holwadaag District
Abdulahi Sh. Ahmed	Hodan District
Other interviewees	

Abdifatah Maalim Noor

