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INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND POLICY SUPPORT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL PHYTOSANITARY REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR SOMALIA

May 2019

SDGs:



Countries:

Somalia

Project Codes:

TCP/SOM/3601

FAO Contribution:

USD 488 000

Duration:

14 July 2016 – 31 March 2019

Contact Info:

FAO Representation in Somalia

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Implementing Partners

Ministry of Agriculture (MoA).

Beneficiaries

Direct beneficiaries included key staff of MoA. Indirectly, the project benefited farmers, local authorities, national retailers, agro-dealers, and other national and international stakeholders.

Country Programming Framework

CPF Pillar 2: – Institutional Capacity Development and Policy Support. Output 2.1.2: Key policies, legal and regulatory instrument formulated for productive sectors and implemented. Output 2.1.4: Technical capacity created within key relevant ministries to conduct food, nutrition and livelihood security assessment and analysis.



BACKGROUND

Two decades of civil conflict have caused major constraints to development in Somalia. Low human and institutional capacity, extreme rural poverty, low agricultural productivity and high prevalence of food insecurity, combined with the steady flow of returnees and refugees, continuing risks of local conflicts, and a lack of reliable and consistent information have played a significant role in slowing the country's path to economic recovery. In this context, women and girls are particularly vulnerable; they are over-represented in illiteracy levels and under-represented in agriculture extension services, despite the vital role they play in agricultural production; 46 percent of the work force in the sector is female. The project aimed to address the absence of specific policies and the limited technical capacity of the extension services of MoA to ensure that the Ministry can provide adequate and technically sound support and extension services to Somali men and women farmers.

IMPACT

The strategy and draft legislation produced under the project will enable the country to develop its agriculture sector, safeguard its biodiversity and promote trade in agricultural commodities, while the training provided will enable phytosanitary services to be delivered to farmers and national stakeholders.

ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS

The project reinforced the capacity of five core MoA departments by providing training in technical concepts and cross-cutting subjects, including gender mainstreaming, accountability to vulnerable and affected populations, monitoring and evaluation, report writing and skills development in project management cycles. Altogether, 36 government officers, of whom six were women, were trained, as well as eight laboratory technicians. A study tour to Kenya was also conducted for six senior MoA staff members. A strategy for gender-responsive phytosanitary capacity development for Somalia was developed, along with a new Plant Protection Act, and the necessary training for these provided. Both the strategy and the new Act were validated at a workshop to ensure stakeholder input. Overall, the project established a basis for the country to commence the process of becoming a contracting party of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

IMPLEMENTATION OF WORK PLAN

All activities were completed by the end of the project, though a no-cost extension was required to allow for the preparation of the final reports from Government partners; this was granted in January 2019. The IPPC/FAO Phytosanitary capacity evaluation (PCE) tool was applied in good time, but there were delays in establishing the strategy and holding the validation workshop as the list of nominees to the event was received late. Strategy meetings were also delayed as these were held in Kenya during the prolonged electoral process in the country. All activities were completed within the planned budget of USD 488 000. A budget revision was approved to allow the inclusion of a Letter of Agreement (LoA) with the Somalia Disaster Resilience Institute (SDRI) to support capacity-building activities; the validation workshop was also hosted by SDRI under this LoA.

FOLLOW-UP FOR GOVERNMENT ATTENTION

As soon as a functional National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO), supported by law, is in place, the Government of Somalia should embark on extensive training of staff as well as on setting up the necessary infrastructure to host the NPPO.

SUSTAINABILITY

1. Capacity development

The project produced one policy document - the phytosanitary strategy - and one legal document - the Plant Protection Act. These will ensure the integration of international standards provided by the IPPC and guide the formation of an NPPO, which is fundamental to the sustainable delivery of services. As Somalia's economy is driven by agriculture, the achievements of the project will remain sustainable.

During implementation, MoA staff formed valuable new partnerships with their peers from other countries and had the opportunity to visit several relevant institutions, including Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Services (KEPHIS), Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Institute and *Société Générale de Surveillance* (SGS). Additional training was also provided in the establishment of a functional NPPO in Somalia. By updating the knowledge of existing MoA staff members, the project enabled the staff to perform their duties better.

2. Gender equality

Although the number of women working in MoA was limited, all efforts were made to involve them in project activities. Of the 36 people trained, 17 percent were women; of the eight people involved in developing the phytosanitary strategy and reviewing the Plant Protection Act, 37 percent were women. In addition, the MoA-Federal Government of Somalia phytosanitary focal person is a woman, who participated in every stage of the development of the Plant Protection Act and phytosanitary strategy.

3. Technological sustainability

The PCE tool developed by FAO enables countries to determine their development needs by undertaking a national survey that encourages engagement with other national parties and stakeholders. This exercise was conducted by MoA staff. When the relevant legislation is enacted, MoA staff will be able to respond to challenges identified in the PCE analysis. The tool also needs to be rolled out to a larger group of MoA employees to support field activities.



4. Economic sustainability

The European Union funded OUTREACH II project will address some basic requirements for the establishment of the NPPO and the further training of MoA staff. When the law is passed, it will be possible to attract additional funds for related project activities for Somalia.



DOCUMENTS AND OUTREACH PRODUCTS

- ❑ Phytosanitary Strategy for Somalia. Strategic paper. FAO/IPPC. Mogadishu. November 2017. 30 pp.
- ❑ Training Needs Assessment Report. Report. FAO. Mogadishu. December 2017. 25 pp.
- ❑ Plant Protection Act (draft). Legal document. FAO. Addis Ababa. January 2018. 39 pp.
- ❑ Training Report. Report. SDRI. Mogadishu. October 2018. 26 pp.
- ❑ Validation Workshop Report. Report. SDRI. Mogadishu. January 2019. 7 pp.
- ❑ Plant Protection Act (final version in English). Legal document. MoA. Mogadishu. January 2019. 32 pp.
- ❑ Plant Protection Act (final version in Somali). Legal document. MoA. Mogadishu. January 2019. 36 pp.

ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS - LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Expected Impact	Impact Statement Increase and improve provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner		
Outcome	Outcome Statement Establishment of a solid foundation for the implementation of wider phytosanitary and capacity development programmes that will address short and medium-term needs of MoA		
	Indicator	1. Number of MoA staff trained. 2. Phytosanitary strategy developed. 3. Draft legal/regulatory instruments aimed at new phytosanitary legislation crafted.	
	Baseline	1. Gaps identified in MoA staff. 2. No phytosanitary strategy in the country. 3. No legal/regulatory instrument available	
	End Target	1. 26 MoA personnel, of whom a minimum of 13 are women, trained. 2. Phytosanitary strategy for Somalia developed. 3. Draft legal framework crafted.	
	Comments and follow-up action to be taken	1. MoA to identify trainers with the desired qualifications carried out training; suitable trainees selected by MoA as stipulated in the LoA; MoA conducted all training to the agreed standard following FAO guidelines. 2. Full collaboration of MoA and other stakeholders during PCE exercise. 3. Full collaboration by MoA in the drafting process.	
Output 1	Output Statement Improved technical capacity of MoA staff (emphasizing equal number of women and men) related to specific technical components and cross-cutting competencies		
	Indicators	Target	Achieved
	Improved technical capacity of 26 staff members (with strong emphasis of equal number of women and men) of MoA from five core departments related to specific technical components and cross-cutting competencies.	26 persons trained	Yes
Comments	Altogether, 36 government officers were trained. Of these, only six were women as MoA employees are predominantly male. Training activities took place from July to September 2018 in Mogadishu and were conducted by SDRI, a Mogadishu-based learning institution. The training was well received by all participants.		
Activity 1.1	Activity Title Conduct a detailed capacity development needs assessment		
	Achieved	Yes	
	Comments	The evaluation was completed by a consultant recruited for this purpose using project funds. Tools were developed and administered to all MoA staff and a report capturing the findings was drafted.	
Activity 1.2	Activity Title Training in technical concepts and cross-cutting subjects		
	Achieved	Yes	
	Comments	The training was a success with the target exceeded (36 MoA staff were trained) because of the value placed on it by MoA. As it was done locally using foreign experts, MoA staff felt that visits to institutions in neighbouring countries would add value on all subjects covered. This project also paid for a consultant to train eight laboratory technicians in Hargeisa in collaboration with the OSRO/SOM/515/EC project. As part of capacity-building, a team of six MoA senior staff toured Kenya for a total of 14 days, from 18 June to 1 July 2018. They visited several counties to better understand the development approaches adopted in Kenya.	

Output 2	Output Statement National Phytosanitary Regulatory Framework created and endorsed by relevant national and international organizations and technically competent bodies		
	Indicators	Target	Achieved
	Phytosanitary strategy and draft legal/regulatory instruments developed and validated.	Plant Protection Act and phytosanitary strategy; validation workshop.	Yes
Comments	A phytosanitary strategy for Somalia as well as a new Plant Protection Act were developed and a validation workshop was held to obtain stakeholder input on the two documents.		
Activity 2.1	Activity Title Application of the PCE tools including phytosanitary management and legislation modules		
	Achieved	Yes	
	Comments	<p>FAO Somalia called on the services of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department-IPPC at Headquarters and a consultant in the application of PCE tools was recruited. Working with MoA staff, the exercise was successfully undertaken and a strategy developed. Training activities took place in Kenya as the security situation in Somalia was not conducive to this exercise. Four training sessions were held in 2017 (19-21 March, 7-9 June, 15-18 July and 4-8 December).</p> <p>The PCE team of eight toured the ports of Mombasa and were trained in commodity standards at SGS. The tour took place from 6 to 14 July 2017. As part of exposure to phytosanitary processes, the team also toured KEPHIS and the Kenya Plant Quarantine Station from 29 November to 2 December 2017.</p>	
Activity 2.2	Develop a strategic plan for phytosanitary capacity development		
	Achieved	Yes	
	Comments	<p>Based on the results of the PCE tools, a Phytosanitary Strategy for Somalia was developed by FAO and IPPC in November 2017. The process was supported by IPPC. The Government of Somalia must now follow through with the areas identified during the PCE exercise and setup a Phytosanitary System for Somalia.</p> <p>When a functional NPPO, supported by law, is in place, the Government will have to embark on extensive training of staff as well as on setting up the necessary infrastructure to host the NPPO.</p>	
Activity 2.3	Activity Title Validate the assessment and strategic plan with MoA and local experts		
	Achieved	Yes	
	Comments	<p>Various stakeholders were invited to Mogadishu to review the PCE results and to validate the report. Somalia, having a federal system, must ensure that all states are briefed before any national legislation is presented to Parliament in Mogadishu. All five states, as well as the Federal Government, participated in a meeting organized by SDRI through an LoA with FAO on 30-31 December 2018.</p>	
Activity 2.4	Activity Title Draft priority legal/regulatory instruments		
	Achieved	Yes	
	Comments	<p>Somalia's plant protection laws are not in line with current international treaties and agreements. Somalia is also not a party to IPPC; something the new draft would factor in. Through the FAO Development Law Branch Legal Office in Addis Ababa, an international expert in Phytosanitary Law was recruited to review the old law provided by the Federal Government and modernize it as required. Using project funds, the law was further reviewed by a Somali lawyer to ensure that it conformed to local norms before being officially presented to the Government.</p> <p>The next step is to present the bill to Parliament for legislation.</p>	
Activity 2.5	Activity Title Validate draft legal /regulatory instruments with MoA and local consultants		
	Achieved	Yes	
	Comments	<p>Various stakeholders were invited to Mogadishu to review the draft law and to validate the document. Somalia, having a federal system, must ensure that all states are briefed before any national legislation is presented to Parliament in Mogadishu. All five states, as well as the Federal Government, participated in the meeting organized by SDRI through an LoA with FAO.</p> <p>The next step is for the Government to pass the law and establish structures to be created under this law.</p>	

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