



**MINISTRY OF PLANNING, INVESTMENT AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (MOPIED)**

M O P I E D M O N T H L Y

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2026





INTRODUCTION

March 2026 marked a significant milestone in advancing the strategic mandate of the Ministry of Planning, Investment, and Economic Development of the Federal Government of Somalia, as efforts intensified to strengthen national planning leadership, institutional coordination, and accelerate priority development projects. Throughout the month, the Ministry undertook a series of high-level engagements and initiatives to reinforce domestic and international partnerships, enhance monitoring and evaluation systems, and ensure that all development interventions are fully aligned with the National Transformation Plan (NTP 2025–2029).

These efforts reflect the government's clear direction toward building effective institutions, promoting investment, and delivering sustainable development outcomes that have a tangible impact on the lives of the Somali people.



Minister of Planning Chairs Meeting to Strengthen Inter-Ministerial Coordination and Accelerate Somalia Joint Fund Projects



31 March 2026 – The Minister of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MoPIED) of the Federal Government of Somalia, H.E. Mahmoud A. Sheikh Farah (Beenebeene), chaired a high-level meeting focused on strengthening coordination and collaboration among government institutions, particularly the Ministries of Planning, Interior, and Public Works.

The meeting centered on accelerating the implementation of projects under the Somalia Joint Fund, jointly managed by the Federal Government of Somalia and the United Nations. Particular attention was given to Saameynta Phase II (Saameynta 2.0), which is expected to commence soon.

The meeting was attended by the Minister of Public Works, Housing and Reconstruction, H.E. Ayuub Ismail; the Director General of MoPIED, Mr. Mohamed Shire; the Director General of the Ministry of Interior, Mr. Abdulkadir Elmi; the Director General of the National Center for Rural Development and Durable Solutions, Ms. Zahra Abdi; as well as departmental directors and technical advisers.



Somalia Strengthens Digital Economy and Regional Integration with New MoU



31 March 2026 - Minister of Planning, Investment and Economic Development, H.E. Mohamud A. Sheikh Farah (Beenebeene), attended the signing ceremony of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Hormuud Telecom and the German Development Cooperation (GIZ), aimed at advancing Somalia's inclusive digital economy.

The agreement strengthens public-private collaboration, supports innovation, enhances youth digital skills, and creates employment opportunities.

The partnership is fully aligned with Somalia's National Transformation Plan (#NTP2025_2029), which prioritizes private sector-led growth, digital transformation, and job creation. It also reinforces Somalia's role in regional integration within the East African Community (EAC), promoting trade, market connectivity, and shared economic growth across the region.



Somalia's New Compact with Capital



30 March 2026- FOR DECADES, the narrative of Somalia was written in the ink of crisis. But as the dust settles on our successful journey through debt relief and the restoration of macroeconomic sanity, a new script is being drafted. It is a story not of aid, but of arbitrage; not of recovery, but of returns. On March 30th, in Mogadishu, we reached a quiet but critical turning point in this narrative. The validation of the SOMINVEST Capacity Needs Assessment (CNA) Report is more than a bureaucratic exercise; it is the blueprint for how Somalia intends to compete in the global marketplace for capital.

The timing is not accidental. Following the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative, Somalia's balance sheet has been cleansed, and international confidence is ticking upward. Yet, as any seasoned frontier-market investor knows, a stable macroeconomy is merely the ticket to the game. Winning the game requires institutional plumbing that works. For too long, the "investor journey" in Somalia has been a fragmented odyssey, reliant on informal referrals and the endurance of the intrepid. Our goal, aligned with the National Transformation Plan (NTP 2025–2029), is to replace this disjointed model with a predictable, digital-first machinery.

The findings of our assessment were clear-eyed and unsentimental. While SOMINVEST has built a solid foundation—a clear mandate, a dedicated team, and a focused strategy—we have been hamstrung by systemic gaps. The report highlighted a lack of integrated digital management, a "siloed" approach to inter-agency coordination, and a deficit in the analytical tools required to turn raw data into policy insight. In short, we had the will, but we lacked the modern "One-Stop Shop" weaponry required to compete with regional peers.

In a moment that underscored this very shift toward technological integration, the Director of SOMINVEST, Mohamed Dubo—joining the workshop virtually—emphasized the scale of the ambition: "We are moving into a full spectrum digital in investment promotion, attraction, facilitation and support to ensure we harness the power of technology in increasing our institutional efficiency and capacity."

This sentiment was echoed on the ground by the Director General of MoPIED, Mohamed Shire, who noted the shift from strategy to action: "Strengthening SOMINVEST is essential to realizing Somalia's economic transformation agenda. We are moving from assessment to implementation, focusing on systems, coordination, and measurable results that boost investor confidence and open new opportunities."



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The reforms we have now committed to for the 2026–2027 period are designed to strip away this friction. The centerpiece is the deployment of a sophisticated Digital Investment Management (CRM) platform. In the modern age, an investment promotion agency without a digital nervous system is flying blind. This platform will track every lead from the first inquiry to the first brick laid, ensuring that "aftercare" is a permanent service rather than a polite afterthought.

Furthermore, we are establishing a central investor contact desk—a single, authoritative point of entry that replaces the current labyrinth of institutional referrals. This is about more than just efficiency; it is about accountability. When a global firm looks at our infrastructure, energy, agriculture, or fisheries sectors, they should not have to navigate the corridors of five different ministries. They should have one door, one process, and one standard of excellence.

Skeptics may argue that technical reforms are secondary to security or political stability. They are wrong. Institutional strength is the most potent signal of political stability. By codifying our investment facilitation into a unified service model, we are telling the world that Somalia's commitment to business is institutionalized, not personality-driven. We are building a system that outlasts political cycles.



The opportunities are immense. Our blue economy, bolstered by the longest coastline in Africa, remains one of the continent's great untapped frontiers. Our energy sector is ripe for a transition to renewables that could power not just our nation but the region as well. Our agriculture and livestock sectors, the traditional backbone of our economy, are crying out for the value-addition that only high-quality foreign direct investment (FDI) can provide.

Somalia is no longer a country waiting for help. We are a nation preparing for business. We invite the global investment community to watch this space closely. The friction is fading; the systems are rising. Somalia is open, and for the first time in a generation, we have the map to prove it.



MoPIED Hosts National Dialogue on Somalia's Participation in the 4th GPEDC Monitoring Round



29 March 2026 – The Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development convened the National Dialogue on Somalia's participation in the 4th round of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (GPEDC) to review the country's monitoring outcomes and identify priority actions for stronger, more effective development cooperation.

The dialogue highlighted Somalia's progress in inclusive planning, transparency, and strengthening national systems, with increased confidence among development partners reflected in the growing use of country procedures. It also identified key challenges, including limited engagement with civil society and the private sector, data quality issues, coordination gaps, and institutional capacity constraints.

Participants underscored the need to move from monitoring to action by strengthening accountability, improving data frameworks, expanding stakeholder engagement, and ensuring development cooperation remains fully aligned with national priorities.





Somalia and UNICEF Strengthen Partnership to Advance National Transformation Plan Implementation



29 March 2026 - The Minister of Planning, Investment and Economic Development of the Federal Government of Somalia, H.E. Mahmoud A. Sheikh Farah (Beenebeene), held a productive meeting with the UNICEF Representative in Somalia, Sandra Lattouf, to discuss strengthening cooperation and advancing the implementation of the National Transformation Plan (NTP 2025–2029). The discussions focused on aligning the implementation of UNICEF's Country Programme (CPD 2026–2030) with national priorities, particularly in planning, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), and institutional coordination.

The meeting also emphasized scaling up responses to food insecurity and malnutrition, with special attention to women and children, strengthening government capacity and coordination systems, enhancing human resource development, and accelerating joint advocacy and resource mobilization efforts to sustain development programmes amid declining international support. This partnership is central to delivering effective interventions that drive sustainable and transformative change across Somalia.





SOMINVEST Strengthens Regional Investment Cooperation at COMESA Annual Meeting



29 March 2026 - The Somalia Investment Promotion Office (SOMINVEST) of the Ministry of Planning, Investment, and Economic Development attended the COMESA National Investment Promotion Agencies (IPA) Annual Meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, demonstrating Somalia's dedication to regional investment cooperation and attracting capital. The high-level event brought together investment agencies, policymakers, and COMESA partners to align strategies, share best practices, and boost investment flows. SOMINVEST's Director, Mr. Mohamed Dubo, joined 17 agencies in discussions on regional collaboration to foster economic growth. The meeting emphasized that coordinated regional efforts are vital for competitiveness, reducing fragmentation, and unlocking investment opportunities.

Sessions reviewed the 2025 COMESA Investment Report, discussed the 2026 approach, and covered investment promotion tools, investor facilitation, and aftercare services. Participants highlighted the importance of evidence-based strategies and strong institutional capacity in attracting foreign direct investment, drawing on UNCTAD data.

SOMINVEST is committed to implementing reforms, including improving investment frameworks, digital systems, and inter-agency coordination. Somalia aims to position itself as an investment-ready market through macroeconomic progress, reforms, and alignment with the NTP 2025–2029.





MoPIED and FAO Strengthen Partnership on Resilience and Food Security



March 12, 2026 — The Director General of the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MoPIED), Mr. Mohamed Shire, met with a delegation from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) at the Ministry's headquarters in Mogadishu to strengthen cooperation on resilience, food security, and development coordination.

The FAO delegation was led by Mr. Ezana G. Kassa, Head of Programme for FAO Somalia, and included Ms. Verenica Mutiro, Deputy Head of Programme, and Mr. Aneel Memon, Head of FAO Somalia's Emergency Cash Programme.

The meeting was also attended by senior Ministry officials, including Mr. Mohamud Said Nur, Director of Monitoring and Evaluation; Ms. Warda Salad Yusuf, Acting Director of Planning and Head of the Resilience Section; and Mr. Abdullahi Abdi Nor (Duqow), Head of Projects and Programs.

Discussions focused on strengthening cooperation in monitoring and evaluation systems, resilience programming, and coordination of food security initiatives. Also reviewed progress on the FAO Country Programming Framework (CPF) and discussed ongoing and pipeline projects supporting the productive sector, livelihoods, and food systems in Somalia.

Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing coordination and ensuring development programs are aligned with Somalia's national development priorities, delivering sustainable benefits for communities across the country.





MoPIED Strengthens Coordination with COOPI and Action Against Hunger to Align Programmes with Somalia's National Transformation Plan



March 9, 2026 - The Monitoring and Evaluation Department of the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MoPIED) held separate meetings on Monday in Mogadishu with senior representatives from COOPI (Cooperazione Internazionale) and Action Against Hunger (ACF) to strengthen collaboration and ensure that their programmes align with Somalia's National Transformation Plan (NTP 2025–2029).

The discussions focused on improving coordination between the government and development partners, strengthening Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) systems, enhancing data sharing, and ensuring that ongoing programmes effectively contribute to Somalia's national development priorities.

The meetings were chaired by the Director of the Monitoring and Evaluation Department, Mr. Mohamud Said Nur, who highlighted the importance of strong partnerships in delivering sustainable and accountable development outcomes.

"Effective coordination with development partners is essential to ensure that programmes implemented across the country support Somalia's national priorities and deliver tangible results for our people," said Mr. Mohamud Said Nur, Director of the Monitoring and Evaluation Department.

Through these engagements, MoPIED continues to reinforce its role in strengthening development coordination, promoting results-based monitoring, and ensuring that partner-supported programmes contribute to the successful implementation of the National Transformation Plan (2025–2029).





Ministry of Planning and the United Nations Align on Strategic Cooperation and Fund Optimization



March 3, 2026 – H.E. Mohamud A. Sheikh Farah (Beenebeene), Minister of Planning, Investment, and Economic Development, held a high-level consultative meeting with George Conway, the UN Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia.

The meeting, held at the Ministry's headquarters, focused on the finalization of the United Nations Cooperation Framework (UNCF). This framework serves as the cornerstone for aligning international developmental support with Somalia's national priorities, ensuring a unified approach to the country's growth.

A primary agenda item was the resolution of operational bottlenecks within the Somalia Joint Fund (SJF). Minister Beenebeene emphasized the importance of streamlining these processes to enhance the efficiency of resource delivery and project implementation across the country.

"Our partnership with the United Nations remains vital to Somalia's economic trajectory," said Minister Beenebeene. "By refining our joint frameworks and addressing operational challenges, we ensure that every dollar invested in Somalia yields the maximum possible impact for our citizens."

The Ministry of Planning remains committed to fostering transparent, efficient, and results-oriented partnerships that drive sustainable development and long-term economic stability.

