THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA

The National Durable Solutions Strategy (2020 – 2024)

BUILDING A BETTER TOMORROW

National Durable Solutions Strategy
(2020-2024)

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Suggested citation:

Durable Solutions Unit of the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development, Federal Government of Somalia. The National Durable Solutions Strategy 2020-2024.

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This report was produced by the Federal Government of Somalia, with support from the Norwegian Refugee Council, Somalia and key donors.

FOREWORD FROM THE MINISTER

I am delighted to present you with the Somalia National Durable Solutions Strategy 2020 - 2024, which outlines the strategic visions and goals we have identified to help us fulfill our mission to better serve vulnerable members of our society.

The strategic objectives of this Strategy aim to achieve durable solutions for displacement affected communities in Somalia through evidence-based analyses, a bottom-up and inclusive consensus building approach and the employment of integrated and systematic programming. Specifically, the National Durable Solutions Strategy (NDSS) will act as an operational roadmap setting out a collective vision to guide the implementation of durable solutions programing over a five-year period in Somalia.

"We are Investing to Build a Sustainable Future for Displaced Communities in Somalia."

In order to implement these strategic objectives, we need to develop an enabling environment in which our human, financial and physical resources are appropriately allocated and deployed. Hence, this strategy will serve as a cornerstone for the Federal Government of Somalia's endeavors to address displacement in Somalia in a sustainable manner.

The Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MOPIED) approaches the next phase of implementation with unprecedented hope, building on the success of developing a National Strategy. Against this background of success, internal and external circumstances require that the MOPIED explores future opportunities and possibilities that will only yield meaningful results through integration within the National Development Plan (NDP 9).

As we promote the Strategy, its implementation and its significant contributions to the overall implementation of Somalia's NDP-9 remain a priority. In addition, in accordance with the strategic objectives identified in this strategy, MOPIED

will focus on Government led processes while identifying and developing durable solutions programs and policies in Somalia.

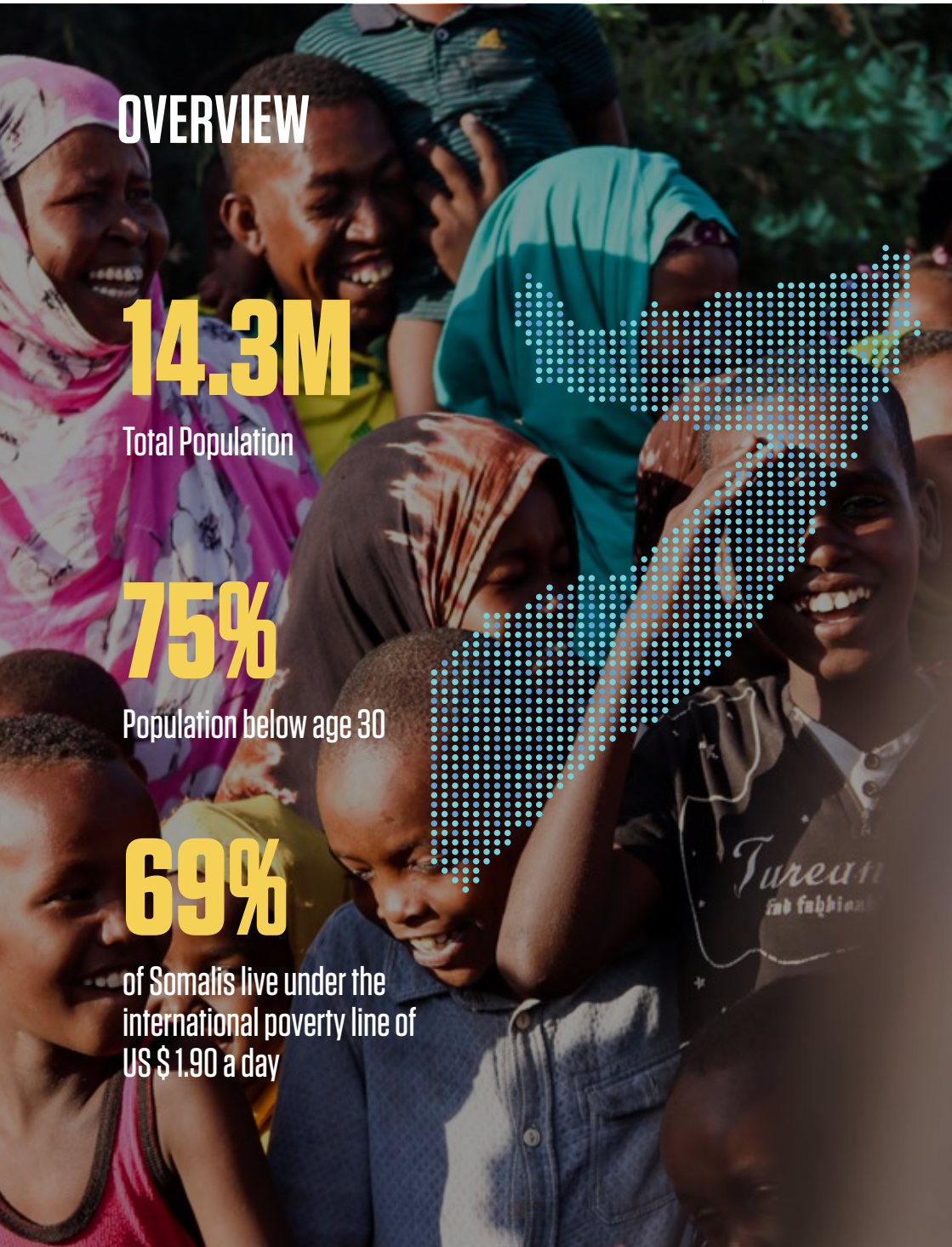
I am certain that, with government leadership and wide-range collaboration, the goals we aspire to accomplish will in time translate into milestones of which we can all be proud. By investing in durable solutions to displacement, we are investing in building a better future for the people of Somalia, as well as other regional communities. Therefore, I would like to extend my sincere invitation to all of you to join hands with us as we implement this unique initiative.

The National Durable Solutions Strategy represents the concerted efforts of the Federal Government of Somalia, its partners and stakeholders, whose valuable input has been incorporated in this document. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for giving us your support during the process of consultation and drafting.

In the end, the development of this Strategy would not have been possible without the tireless work and leadership of Ms. Zahra Abdi Mohamed, Director for Durable Solutions at MoPIED whose commitment to the displacement affected communities has resulted in the development of this landmark National Durable Solutions Strategy for resolving Somalia's protracted displacement.

Amb. Gamal M. Hassan

Minister of Planning, Investment and
Economic Development
The Federal Government of Somalia



OVERVIEW

14.3M

Total Population

75%

Population below age 30

69%

of Somalis live under the international poverty line of US $ 1.90 a day

2.6M+

Number of IDPs

761,000

Somalis live in protracted displacement outside Somalia

85%

of refugee-returnees are satisfied with their decision to return

91,828

Persons have returned to Somalia between 2014-2020

Access to services is particularly limited for the rural population, IDPs and nomads. Despite better conditions in cities, urban populations still struggle with hunger, high absolute poverty

According to the Somalia Poverty and Vulnerability Assessment (SPVA), almost nine of 10 Somali households are deprived of at least one fundamental dimension: access to income, electricity, education, or water and sanitation.

BACKGROUND

What is the National Durable Solutions Strategy?

The National Durable Solutions Strategy for Somalia is a roadmap developed to solve displacement. This is with the belief that displacement affected communities are able to become self-sufficient and re-join mainstream society if they:

- Have access to services and can live somewhere protected against evictions
- Can participate in public affairs as full citizens
- Have access to sustainable livelihoods and employment
- Have access to justice

Why was it developed?

Somalia still faces challenges to solving forced displacement. The Federal Government of Somalia with its partners realised that these challenges can be addressed holistically. The National Strategy pave the way for the progressive realisation of an enabling environment in which DACs including Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), refugees, asylum seekers, refugee returnees and vulnerable host communities can gradually access durable solutions in an equitable and nondiscriminatory manner.

What is the duration of the plan?

The NDSS will be in effect for 5 years between November 2020 and 2024 for its first phase and later a second phase from 2024 – 2040.

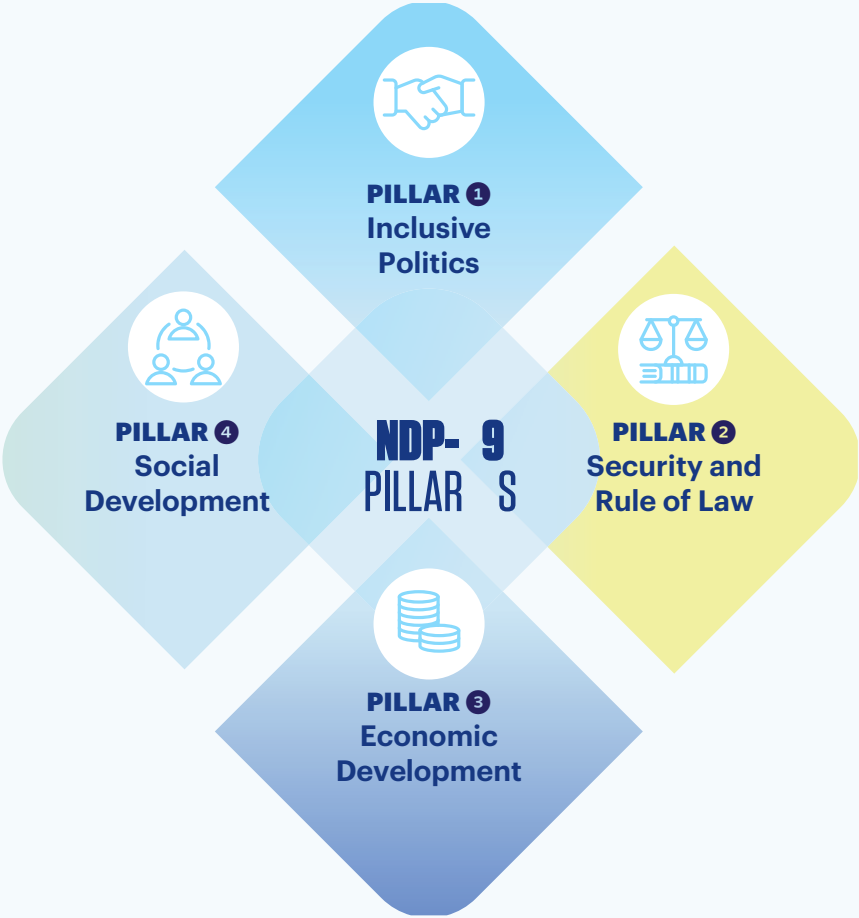
What is the National Development Plan (NDP-9 2020-2024)?

The Somalia NDP-9 is a national strategy for poverty reduction and inclusive growth. It addresses the root causes of poverty and aims to improve the impacts of poverty experienced by households and individuals. The plan has 4 pillars. The NDP9 has 4 pillars are:

- Inclusive Politics
- Security and Rule of Law
- Economic Development
- Social
- Development

How does the National Durable Solutions Strategy fit into the National Development Plan?

Progress towards poverty reduction will require the targeting of Displacement Affected Communities, in line with the NDP-9. Therefore, prioritizing durable solutions is crucial to long term displacement policy and is integrated into each of the 4 pillars.



Source: National Development Plan (NDP-9 2020-2024)

What are the Durable Solutions Principles?

- **Government-led:** Shifting away from agency led humanitarian delivery/response and towards interventions spearheaded by local government led by government authorities at Federal, state and local level to ensure sustainability and ownership.

- **Participatory:** Interventions should be community based allow for the concerned population to choose their preferred solutions, define their own priorities and actively participate in the planning and implementation of activities to achieve sustainable and affordable durable solutions.

- **Comprehensive:** Interventions should address the needs and vulnerabilities of all "displacement affected communities" including IDPs, returnees, and host communities to enable reconciliation, avoid creating tensions and enable social cohesion among its members.

- **Area based:** Interventions should be geographically targeted and adapted to local context to consider that each area requires its own specific approach based on the specific living conditions,

needs, opportunities and risks in a certain location.

- **Rights and needs:** based Interventions should address the vulnerabilities and needs, including economic needs of displacement affected communities and their human rights.

- **Collective and integrated:** Interventions should cover many sectors and stakeholders, and contribute to strengthening partnerships and collaboration between various actors - Government, UN system, NGOs, private sector, donor partners – from the humanitarian, development, peace and state-building sectors.

- **Multi-year:** Interventions will need to have a multi-year time frame and budget, allowing for flexible programming that can adapt to changing environmental dynamics and needs.

- **Gender/age/disability and minority – sensitive:** Interventions should consider the gender, disability, minority clan and age dynamics at play and give special attention to the concerns of women and youth. Including marginalisation based on clan membership (with an emphasis on minority clans). Interventions should be conflict-sensitive and contribute to sustainable peace-building and development by going beyond 'do no harm'.

- **Sustainable:** Interventions should facilitate locally-led solutions by the government, civil society, private sector and communities themselves. They need to strengthen the government's role through systematic capacity building support institutional processes and frameworks enabling durable solutions at all levels. Interventions prioritise delivery through existing government and community structures and aim at including displaced populations into these rather than establishing parallel structures.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND KEY AREAS OF FOCUS FOR INTERVENTIONS

OBJECTIVE 1

To increase the resilience of displacement affected communities by ensuring equitable access to public services, housing with security of tenure, and social safety nets through a rights and needs based approach.

OUTCOME

Local integration, relocation and reintegration for 5,000 Refugees, 25,000 Refugee-Returnees (approximately 4,000 HH) and 50,000 IDPs (80,000) within 5 years across Federal Member States through provision of and access to basic services and shelter and housing with security of tenure.

PRIORITIES

i. **Equitable Access to Basic Services**
ii. **Housing and Tenure Security**
iii. **Land Governance and Management**
iv. **To Create an Environment Conducive for Achieving the Outcome Under SO1**

OBJECTIVE 2

To increase accountability of authorities towards displacement affected communities by ensuring participation in peace and state building processes through guaranteeing their safe and security and access to legal identity.

OUTCOME

Increase in inclusive planning processes and initiatives put in place to guarantee the political and social participation of DACs including securing access to legal identity documents.

PRIORITIES

i. **Enhancing Participation of and Accountability to DACS**

ii. **Providing DACs with Identity Documents**

iii. **To Create an Environment Conducive for Achieving the Outcome Under SO2**

OBJECTIVE 3

To increase access to sustainable livelihoods and employment opportunities by displacement affected communities by creating conditions conducive to the achievement of their self-reliance.

OUTCOME

25% of 250,000 new jobs generated within 5 years will be allocated for IDPs and refugee-returnees by creating an environment that enables the private sector to support growth in sectors that hold the greatest potential for both value-added and employment opportunities in the short to medium term years are occupied by Displacement Affected Communities.

PRIORITIES

i. **Urban Livelihoods**

ii. **Rural Livelihoods**

iii. **To Create an Environment Conducive for Achieving the Outcome Under SO3**

OBJECTIVE 4

To increase access to justice and rule of law by displacement affected communities by strengthening formal and informal justice structures.

OUTCOME

Substantially more DACs have access to traditional, transitional or formal justice, in particular with regard to evictions, restoration of HLP rights, Sexual Gender Based Violence and other forms of violence.

PRIORITIES

i. **Strengthening Access to Formal Justice Structures and Systems**

ii. **Strengthening Access to Informal Justice Structures and Systems**

iii. **Strengthening Access to Transitional Justice Structures and Systems**

iv. **To Create an Environment Conducive for Achieving the Outcome Under SO3**

OBJECTIVE 5

Invest in EARLY and long-term solutions to prevent displacement caused by floods.

OUTCOME

Flood-induced displacement that recurs along the Shabelle and Juba rivers is reduced by 50%.

PRIORITIES

i. **Mitigation and Prevention of Flood-induced Displacement**

ii. **To Create an Environment Conducive for Achieving the Outcome Under SO5**

In summary, the NDSS draws extensively from key legal and policy frameworks including:

- African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention)
- Banadir Regional Administration Durable Solutions strategy (2020-2024)
- Puntland Local Integration Strategy (2018 – 2022)
- Durable Solutions Preliminary Operational Guide (2016)
- Economic Development Roadmap (2017-2020)
- Education Sector Strategic Plan (2018-2021)
- Global Compact on Refugees/ Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF)
- IGAD Nairobi Declaration on Somali Refugees and accompanying National Action Plan on Durable Solutions (2017)
- IGAD Regional Strategy on Forced Displacement and Mixed Migration (2017-2022)
- Inclusive Politics Roadmap 2017-2020
- Inter-Agency Standing Committee Principles on Durable Solutions
- Interim Protocol on Land Distribution for Housing to Eligible Refugee-Returnees and IDPs 2019
- IOM's global framework for Progressive Resolution of Displacement Situations (2016)
- National Development Plans 8 and 9 (2017-2019; 2020 -2024)
- National Disaster Management Policy 2017
- National Employment policy and the draft National Investment Promotion Strategy
- National Eviction Guidelines (2019)
- National Policy for Refugee-Returnees and IDPs (2019)
- National Refugees Act (2020)
- National Roadmap for Social Development Sector (2017- 2020)
- National Social Protection Policy (2019)
- National Environmental Policy (2020)
- National Climate Change Policy (2020)
- Recovery and Resilience Framework (2018)
- Refugee Status Eligibility Committee Framework (Draft)
- The Kampala Declaration on Jobs, Livelihoods, and Self-Reliance for Refugees, Returnees, and Host Communities (2019)
- UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (1998)
- UN Secretary General's Decision on Durable Solutions and Operational Guidelines (2016)

DURABLE SOLUTIONS SECRETARIAT MEMBERS

In order to attain a whole-of-government approach with collective outcomes, the Ministry of Planning in coordination with relevant line ministries and Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) established the Durable Solutions Secretariat (hereafter referred to as "the secretariat") in October 2019. The secretariat brings together 14 government institutions that provide technical expertise and high-level strategic guidance and oversight to ensure that durable solutions initiatives are prioritised and implemented in Somalia across levels and are in line with the NDP-9, RRF, and other relevant government frameworks and policies.

The secretariat brings together 14 government institutions that provide technical expertise and high-level strategic guidance and oversight

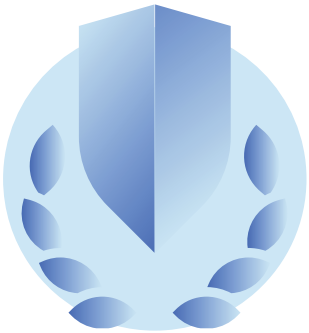
- Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)
- Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MoIFAR)
- The National Commission for Refugee and IDPS (NCRI)
- Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADM)
- Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MoPIED)
- Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MoLSA)
- Ministry of Public Works, Reconstruction and Housing (MoPWHR)
- Ministry of Women and Human Rights (MoWHR)
- Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MoAI)
- Ministry of Energy and Water Resources (MoEWR)
- Ministry of Fishery and Marine Resources (MoFMR)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA)
- Directorate for Environment and Climate Change (DECC) – Office of the Prime Minister
- The Immigration and Naturalization Directorate

CROSS CUTTING THEMES

Urbanisation and Infrastructure

The NDP-9 presents a window of opportunity to set a positive trajectory for urbanisation, that could enhance economic development, stabilization and resilience. This will require policy frameworks, regional and city level planning and strengthened local governance. There is an active land market and a pipeline of urban infrastructure projects by development banks. Land value increases that result from urban infrastructure investment could be leveraged towards addressing urban challenges, including durable solutions for internally displaced populations at scale. Additionally, infrastructure development is a key factor for productivity, sustainable economic growth and durable solutions. Investment in infrastructure shall be a priority as DACs require basic infrastructure to be restored and protected in order for them to make informed decisions around solutions and options. A number of good practices in land registration, urban planning and municipal revenue already exist in various parts of Somalia and could be replicated, further developed and complemented with various land tools to support the achievement of durable solutions at scale and sustainable urbanization. Strategic engagement with development actors such as the World Bank remains key. The Bank's focus and work on urban resilience aims to strengthen public service delivery capacity at the sub-national level and support the reconstruction of key urban infrastructure in targeted areas.

Infrastructure development is a key factor for productivity, sustainable economic growth and durable solutions



Protection

The primary responsibility for protection rests with the national authorities, in accordance with national and international legal instruments. In Somalia, the UN system has identified three priorities that form that basis of its Centrality of Protection Strategy. The strategy takes into account the role and contribution of all the relevant actors- governments, UN agencies and other development actors- to achieve the protection goals. The three priorities include: (1) Enhancing ways to identify and address differential forms of exclusion, including those based on societal discrimination, power structures, vulnerability, age, and gender and strengthening inclusion of and ensuring accountability by community-based and other non-traditional humanitarian responders, for more effective protection to affected population; (2) Addressing critical protection concerns with increasing displacement in IDP sites and collective centers, including heightened protection risks/threats that have emerged in the failure to end displacement through appropriate solutions; (3) Engaging with conflict-affected communities and parties (national and international) to the conflict to minimise disproportionate and indiscriminate targeting of civilians and civilian assets vital for survival. These three priorities are also reflected in the DINA and RRF.

The strategy takes into account the role and contribution of all the relevant actors- governments, UN agencies and other development actors- to achieve the protection goals

Social Exclusion/ Structural Discrimination

Social exclusion is defined as a process or state that prevents individuals or groups from full participation in social, economic and political life and from asserting their rights. It derives from exclusionary power relationships resulting from social identity (e.g. race, gender, ethnicity, caste/clan/tribe or religion) and/or social location (areas that are remote, stigmatised or suffering from war/conflict) or a combination of those. In Somalia, dimensions of exclusion link to social groups, ethnic and livelihood groups, gender, age, displacement status, and disability. As articulated in the DINA, Somali society is dynamic and hierarchical, involving shifting interactions and alliances between social groups, sub-groups, ethnic groups and other social groups. These interactions contribute to evolving relations and divisions and particularly between the power of social groups, with consequent marginalisation and discrimination of lower status groups. Minority and marginalised groups, dislocated from social support networks and traditional and formal decision-making structures, are frequently vulnerable to exploitation and deprivation, having minimal political representation and limited access to education, formal employment, remittances, or humanitarian relief. IDPs for example also suffer discrimination based identity status, appearance, livelihood grouping and community of origin and demonstrate worse levels of nutrition, health, education, access to employment and other services than their (also very poor) neighbours in host communities. In IDP camps in peri-urban and urban areas where the displaced live in continuing and often worsening conditions of deprivation, social exclusion is deepened and takes a spatial form.

In Somalia, dimensions of exclusion link to social groups, ethnic and livelihood groups, gender, age, displacement status, and disability.

Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

AAP should be respected in the search for durable solutions in Somalia. Mechanisms should be put in place so that DACs who have complaints are able to address their concerns to those in authority without fear and that government agencies at all levels should take steps to provide immediate and life-saving actions to DACs. In addition to this, both national and local authorities should grant and facilitate rapid and unimpeded access for humanitarian and development actors to DACs seeking durable solutions. This strategy will adopt the IASC operational framework and commitments on AAP which envisages an active commitment to use power responsibly by taking account of, giving account to, and being held to account by the people humanitarian organisations seek to assist. The FGS will work to ensure that everyone has equal opportunities without discrimination. Provision will be made for displacement affected persons with specific vulnerabilities such as widows, orphans, children, women headed-households, persons with disabilities (physical or mental), and persons with chronic illnesses.

This strategy will adopt the IASC operational framework and commitments on AAP which envisages an active commitment to use power responsibly by taking account of, giving account to, and being held to account by the people humanitarian organisations seek to assist

Gender

As a cross-cutting issue, gender needs to be streamlined across all the strategic objectives put forth in the NDSS. This requires a better understanding of the different barriers faced by displacement affected men, women, boys and girls in accessing services, economic resources and political opportunities but also to leverage their contribution to achieving durable solutions. The collection and use of sex- and age disaggregated data and the strengthening of gender responsive governance in the short, medium and long term will facilitate the design and implementation of gender-sensitive policies and interventions. Displaced women are also at a greater risk of exclusion in case of divorce, polygamous marriages and widowhood which further exposes them further protection risks.

The collection and use of disaggregated data and the strengthening of gender responsive governance in the short, medium and long term will facilitate the design and implementation of gender-sensitive policies and interventions.

Youth

The great challenge facing Somalia is that a high proportion of young people have little or no access to productive resources and very limited employment opportunities; consequently, the young tend to be more often unemployed. Many young Somalis are trapped in an environment of violence, fear, unemployment and poverty. Additionally, majority of youth are excluded from governance, peace building and state building efforts. The youth need to become active citizens and be provided with necessary services by the government to be protected from vulnerability. The NDSS shall promote direct engagement with displacement affected youth to align proposed interventions with their ongoing transitions and concerns.

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In line with the 2019 National Youth Policy, the FGS affirms its commitment to its youth population that it is setting and meeting the priorities and development needs of its youth both men and women. Locally driven, youth-focused strategies and interventions can empower displacement affected youth and communities to own development processes and outcomes, making people more likely to support programmes since they are a party to them. This strategy will align its priorities with the National Youth Policy and will place emphasis on recognising and listening to the voices of displacement affected youth in order to respond to their challenges and priorities within the context of durable solutions.

Climate Change

The NDSS shall consider the effects of climate change on solutions. It includes analysing how it affects decisions and choices within the context of durable solutions, its implications on the sustainability of a solution and climate change. Climate smart and climate adaptation measures must become an integral part of durable solutions interventions targeting poor rural and nomadic populations that are at risk of being displaced by climate related disasters. Additionally, the FGS in partnership with other key stakeholders aims to mobilise resources for increased investments linked to disease prevention, animal health and nutrition, improved crop productivity through better production methods and climate resilient techniques and the strengthening of value-chains to deliver improved economic results in a sustainable way.

Climate smart and climate adaptation measures must become an integral part of durable solutions interventions targeting poor rural and nomadic populations that are at risk of being displaced by climate related disasters.

"At heart, of the National Durable Solutions Strategy for Somalia is nothing but developing sustainable solutions to displacement through a whole of government" and "whole of society" approach and aims at solving displacement by bringing change that If displacement affected communities can have access to services and can live somewhere with security of tenure protecting them against evictions (SO1); can participate in public affairs as full citizens (SO2); have access to sustainable livelihoods and employment (SO3); as well as access to justice (SO4), then they can achieve durable solutions because they are able to become self-sufficient and re-join mainstream society. If durable solutions are to be achieved in Somalia, collaboration is required between the Federal Government of Somalia and partners across the board. It is premised on building alliances between groups with similar interests and goals, and communication is required to sustain these goals and to coordinate interventions and activities".

Zahra Abdi Mohamed
Director for Durable Solutions
Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development
The Federal Government of Somalia

The National Durable Solutions Strategy

(2020 – 2024)

With Technical and Financial
Support from:

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