

SOUTHWEST STATE OF SOMALIA

DIRECTORATE OF DURABLE SOLUTIONS AND URBAN RESILIENCE

A presentation prepared for GP20

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INTRODUCTION TO MIDNIMO PROJECT

Somalia has faced displacement crises since 2011 and 2016 the highest number of IDPs displaced in the country after the droughts, conflicts/Violence and environmental challenges faced by the people in the rural areas and they decided to migrate to the urban areas to seek for better services. Baidoa city alone is hosting **517** IPD Sites, Consisting of **59,921** Families, and **392,274** Individuals.

End of 2016 Midnimo project came up with noble solution. The project was intended to enhance local leadership capacities to facilitate the sustainable return, recovery, social integration and peaceful co-existence of displacement affected, returnee, other migrant groups and host communities in South West State, Jubaland and Hir-Shabelle, Somalia.

Midnimo made a tangible progress by conducting intensive community consultations through participatory discussions in the development of Baidoa Community Action Plan (CAP.) The communities identified drivers of instability and conflict resolution mechanisms, peaceful co-existence, recovery and approaches to durable solutions in their localities. The CAP for Baidoa is now a living document and updated periodically, it was widely accepted by many Humanitarian and developmental partners in Baidoa including the World Bank

Midnimo Planning Process and Stakeholders

- ❑ The Ministry of Planning & Investment and Economic Development (MOPIED), the Ministry of Interior of South West State (SWS) of Somalia, Governor's Office of Bay Region, the Mayor/District Commissioner's Office in Baidoa, South West State of Commission for Refugees & IDPs served the core stakeholders for Midnimo with support from Implementing partners; IOM and UNHABITAT.
- ❑ Midnimo was a Government-led process and through the support of the local leadership led the pre-planning process. The Government nominated a Core Facilitation Team (CFT) of five members which supported the project and the team composed of the following Govt agencies and The side picture shows all stakeholder engagement consultations



MIDNIMO-Baidoa City planning and Land Laws for SWS CONSULTATIONS

- ❑ UNHABITAT supported series of consultations meeting held in Baidoa 2017 and 2018 supported to discuss the needs of the city on urban planning, land laws and city extension.
- ❑ The consultations brought together key stakeholders of the project to discuss the land law framework and the contents of the draft law for South West State of Somalia and the Baidoa city extension plan in light of the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable urban Development. In the end of 2019,
- ❑ The draft land law passed by the cabinet ministries and waiting now for the approval of the Southwest State parliament.



Midnimo-Baidoa IDP Resettlement Plan

- ▶ In the support of durable solution for displacement crisis and the **New Urban Agenda Cities2030 and Sustainable Development Goals11 on cities**, the office of the mayor with the support from relevant Government Ministries was committed in providing land to resettle the influx of IDPs in Baidoa and showed support to tackle the rabid urbanization of Baidoa city
- ▶ Midnimo being the taskforce of this, IOM-CCCM and other agencies in Baidoa, worked on forming land committees based at municipal level and options for relocation process to take off.

The Impact in Figures for SWS, Jubaland and Hir-Shabelle

- ▶ About **842,225** people (**54%** female; **49%** male) drawn from IDPs, returnees and host communities directly benefitted from improved access to education, health, water, safety and security, markets, livelihoods, recreation and transport in the seven project districts.
- ▶ This was achieved through upgrading/rehabilitation/construction of community prioritized schools, hospitals, water sources, markets, police stations, prisons, airport and stadiums. This advanced the basic rights of IDPs and returnees and concurrently improved "absorption capacity" of host communities.
- ▶ Short-term employment opportunities were provided to **300** vulnerable youth, women and men selected to work on the community-identified projects for example cleanup campaigns.
- ▶ More than **3,000** people were engaged in art, sports and culture events leading to improved acceptance, tolerance and integration.

Summary of Midnimo Project lessons learned

- ▶ project supported Increased social Cohesion between local clans and coexistence between IDPs, Host and Returnees in living together peacefully. and encouraged community based approaches and the process became good example for the rest of Somalia
- ▶ Government to take the lead and being accountable to the project stakeholders including donors. And the Municipality were able to deliver wider service delivery to the community.
- ▶ The Project Contributed building strong community and trust ship between the Government and Community where able make decisions about what they want to achieve

Challenges

- ❑ Short of expertise. The project supported important public policy issues such as (assisting in drafting land laws) but funds were not available for hiring consultants needed for implementation and evaluation of such agendas in the long term.
- ❑ Sustainability of the project: There was lack of continuity for such noble project and limited resources and huge needs as well as limited capacity on understanding durable solutions as the term durable solutions is new to Somalia

Some Recommendation

- ❑ **Capacity building for government institution and all government departments and municipalities on durable solutions and resilience building approaches so that they are in a position to implement DS programmes and resilience building initiatives at their respective units.**
- ❑ **Draft on durable solution strategies and policy documents at the state level that are compatible to National development strategies at the national level.**
- ❑ **Ensure the full engagements with Private Sector and welcoming of Diaspora to create conducive environment that they can have investment opportunities in Somalia in order to contribute the country's economy and development, because diaspora who have done huge Investment in in Somalia transferred new skills and knowledge and contribute to durable solutions.**

“If you want to go quickly go alone. If you want to go far go together”



Thank you
Abdullahi Ali Watiin
Director of Durable Solutions and Urban Resilience
Ministry of Planning South West state
Former Mayor of Baidoa

Any Question?