

their role within that formal judicial system remains weak. Across this justice ecosystem, marginalised groups, including women, IDPs and minority clans, are often denied access to fair settlement of disputes, posing a significant threat to the sustainability and inclusivity of ongoing peace efforts. In addition, the limited participation of communities in shaping security and justice responses and in reducing tensions has also contributed to disconnect authorities/institutions and civil society, which is vulnerable to manipulation by violent extremist groups. This has left communities disfranchised, without access to fair and unbiased security and justice services, fuelling a culture of mistrust and conflict among and within communities as well as between population groups.

Identification of main stakeholders and corresponding institutional and/or organisational issues (mandates, potential roles, and capacities) to be covered by the action.

The primary stakeholders - also beneficiaries - of this action will be Somali communities, in particular women, youth and minorities, considering they are at the forefront of suffering from the lack of respect of rule of law and inadequate security and justice service delivery. Through stronger community engagement, the demands and expectations of Somali citizens with regards to security and justice will be better understood, allowing for more beneficiary-friendly, locally appropriate, and accepted responses. The action will build on platforms that already exist in some locations (e.g. community action forums, district peace committees, community conversations and ADR centres) that could be replicated in other areas.

Engaging with clan elders, religious and community leaders as well as with women's organizations and youth to reduce the influence of harmful social norms as part of a coherent effort to strengthen the rule of law locally will be essential. Given the influence of the Somali business community, direct engagement with their concerns will be an essential ingredient for success. Special attention will be given to women and the most vulnerable groups by identifying, analysing and challenging unequal power relations and discriminatory norms to reach a transformative impact.

Improving accessibility, efficiency, quality and predictability of security and justice outcomes for ordinary people will imply continuing to invest in security and justice institutions while putting more emphasis on oversight bodies, from state to federal level. This may include key ministries (defence, security, and justice as well as related ones such as finance and women and human rights), parliamentary committees related to defence, security, justice and finance as well as commissions on human rights, anti-corruption and the civil service. The evolution of the political situation and the security context, as well as the traction with potential beneficiary entities and the complementarities with other programmes will feature among the criteria to identify beneficiary institutions and bodies at FGS and FMS level.

2.3. Additional Areas of Assessment – N/A (no budget support action)

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1. Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to promote human security and sustainable peace.

The Specific Objectives (Outcomes) of this action are:

1. to enhance inclusive, gender sensitive and accountable approaches to rule of law issues at local level that contribute to public confidence (community engagement);
2. to increase local coverage and effectiveness of justice services for citizens, especially for women, minorities and vulnerable groups (access to justice);
3. to expand accountable and inclusive police services that respect the rights of citizens while fostering federal coordination on police development (police component);
4. to strengthen security and justice institutions as well as civilian oversight bodies to meet the expectations of, and address concrete problems experienced by, citizens (institutional support).

The Outputs to be delivered by this action contributing to the corresponding Specific Objectives (Outcomes) are:

- 1.1. enhanced ability of local actors to promote attitudes and norms necessary to address specific security and justice problems;