Employment For Peace in Somalia

InFocus Programme, Crisis Response and Reconstruction

Funded by The Government of Italy
The challenge of Somalia

Somalia is faced with the immense challenge of achieving peace and stability and beginning the process of reconstruction. After the destruction caused by the 1988 civil war and lower level damage caused by subsequent factional fighting, most of Somalia is suffering from the effect and delayed impact of violent clan conflicts.

Challenges:

- The economic infrastructure has been destroyed.
- There is widespread unemployment and young men turn to the gun for means of economic support.
- There is widespread displacement of people and social disintegration.
- In the context of violence, insecurity, lack of public institutions, extreme poverty, militias are able to thrive.
- Lack of security is considered as the major constraint to successful operations in many parts of Somalia.

What we are doing in Phase 1

Post Conflict Recovery Model/EIIP/LED

ILO/PERPS is supporting local economy recovery using a post conflict model that has been used successfully in other conflict afflicted countries such as Mozambique, Cambodia and in several countries in South America. The model involves two main components:

- An employment intensive job creation component that acts as an entry point to the community provides incomes and immediate temporary employment.
- A Local Economic Development component that includes a territorial approach to the development of a local Economic Forum.

Employment Intensive Infrastructure Project (EIIP)

The rehabilitation of infrastructure is vital for the social, economic, and physical needs of Somalia.

It's rebuilding through Labour Based Methods has potential for creating massive immediate employment and incomes. It can act as an entry point, restoring hope and revitalizing local communities. It can also provide
timely support to DDR initiatives by providing productive employment to large numbers of demobilized militias and their host communities as a first step in reintegration.

Local Economic Development

This includes:

- Development of a local forum involving public and private sectors, donors, agencies, NGOs working in a particular area.
- The forum identifies economic opportunities and potentials.
- In many of the forums opposing sides have come together.

ILO Sub-projects in Somalia

1. Central Somalia

Employment intensive civil works in Mogadishu

In Mogadishu a community based employment project has commenced in six of the sixteen districts. This is a test to determine if it is possible to execute EIIP effectively in this challenging environment. The project is being implemented by a local NGO. Separate contracts for monitoring, evaluation and rights protection have been awarded to another NGO and a private engineering consultant.

A major landmark has been the achievement of consensus with the representation of all sixteen districts. The project employs 600 people, 70% of whom are women. This is the first small step in establishing a community based local economic development forum in Mogadishu.
2. North East (Puntland)

With NESHA the project has commenced a pilot EIIP project on the Jeriban to Gaarad road. This will introduce Labour Based Methods (LBM) to Puntland and act as an entry point for longer term Local Economic Development along the Galkayo to Gaarad corridor. Approximately 4,000 workdays of employment has been created.

3. North West (Somaliland)

In the North West a more stable environment has allowed a number of EIIP projects to be launched. Subprojects include:

**Support to Somaliland Roads Authority (SRA)**

The objective of this project is to develop capacity to manage community based employment intensive infrastructure work.

**Training and Demonstration Site**

A road close to Hargeisa has been selected by the SRA as a Training and Demonstration site. This is used to provide practical technical training to community supervisors and technical personnel from local institutions. A workforce of between 50-100 people are employed in accordance with training course requirements.

**EIIP Rural**

**Ceerigabo Community Contracting Programme**

The nine site supervisors trained by the project and SRA are supervising road improvement works involving the employment of 200 people for a period of four months drawn from the four villages between Ceel Efweyn and Ceerigabo. Approximately 15,000 working days of employment has been created. This is the largest employment project in the Sanag region.

**Shaficci group Community-Based Organization**

This CBO was formed primarily on the initiative of the local community and their leaders to improve the unpaved section on the main road from Dilla to Boroma.
The maintenance contract has been awarded to the Local Community Based Organisation through SRA. Approximately 7,500 workdays of employment have been created.

- **EIIP Urban**

  Support to Hargeisa Municipality to construct a 600m long surface water drainage scheme

  The municipality carried out the design and supervision on the project. The construction works were contracted out to local contractors. It has created approximately 4,500 working days of employment and acted as a starting point for a longer-term initiative to contribute to a sustainable waste management system.

  Burao Surface Water Drainage Scheme

  This is similar to the Hargeisa project. The immediate objective of this project is to create temporary employment in Burao by the lining of the main surface drainage channel in town. This will also act as an entry point for the project to the wider Burao community. Approximately 5,000 workdays of employment will be created and the general level of sanitation will be improved in town.

  Kossar Community Resource Centre

  The Kossar Community consists of 1000 returnees families who have identified water, jobs and housing as some of their priorities.

  The construction of a community resource centre (a workshop to produce blocks, windows and door frames) will provide jobs training and supply building materials for a planned low cost housing project. It also acts as an entry point for a long term Local Economic Development (LED) effort to the community.

**Other Initiatives**

Over 3,000 appropriate technology, and local economic development publications have been procured as a first step in establishing resource centres as part of the LED Regional Technical Units to be established in phase two.
The Future*

In the North West and North East the ILO intends to expand the scale of EIIP projects and with other agencies support the development of LED forums and projects in the targeted areas.

In Mogadishu subject to a successful outcome of phase 1 the project will continue to support the sixteen district to identify and implement community based employment projects but will also encourage the inclusion of the private and other sectors to provide a broader support base.

The rate of engagement in other areas will depend on security, the capacity of local authorities and communities and more importantly their commitment to adhere to basic humanitarian principals.

ILO Areas of Intervention

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* Subject to funding
ILO TOOLS

Community Contracting

The combination of labour-based method with community participation presents many advantages in terms of community empowerment, ownership, job creation and income generation as well as capacity-building and partnership development. The social stigma associated with manual labour seems to be less when it is linked as part of a community effort rather than as hired labour to a contractor. The sub-clan/local community systems can be a positive force for development. Considering the framework of community contracting it can be a solid means of mobilizing and organizing communities.

EIIP

Access to decent work is a basic human right that contributes to human dignity. ILO’s Employment Intensive Infrastructure Projects help conflict affected communities through employment promotion. EIIP projects through labour-based techniques have potential for creating massive immediate employment and income generation, guaranteeing that most labour recruited is local.

Gender

Traditionally women have played an overtly submissive role in the Somali society. However many women are heads of households and are responsible for their families. The Employment Intensive Infrastructure Project in Mogadishu employs 600 people, of whom about 70% of workers are women. These are often the most vulnerable groups in society.

Equal access to work for both men and women is pursued at all levels of project implementation.
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