

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



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OTHER FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES

UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES

PROPOSED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES

Recommendation by the Executive Director

Assistance to the Government of Somalia

Population programme

Estimated UNFPA contribution:	\$ 6 million
Estimated value of the Government's contribution:	\$ 6 million
Duration:	Five years
Estimated starting date:	January 1980
Executing Agencies:	United Nations International Labour Organisation (ILO) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Health Organization (WHO)
Government Co-operating Agency:	State Planning Commission

I. Summary

1. UNFPA proposes to assist the Government of Somalia, a priority country for UNFPA assistance, in the amount of \$6 million over five years (1980-1984). This amount will support a comprehensive population programme drawn up in accordance with the recommendations of a needs assessment mission that visited the country in 1979. The programme includes projects to help establish a data base for the formulation and implementation of socio-economic programmes and projects; studies of population and manpower planning questions; improvement and expansion of maternal and child health and family planning services, especially in rural areas; promotion of public awareness and understanding of Somalia's population problems and issues through education and communication activities; and support for the initiation of programmes related to women, employment and development.

II. Background

2. Somalia covers an area of 637,657 square kilometres. Total population is estimated at 3.6 million, and population density is five persons per square kilometre. About three-fourths of Somalis live in rural areas, and 60 per cent are nomadic or semi-nomadic. Children under the age of 15 account for 43.8 per cent of the population, and 47.9 per cent of all women are between the fertile age of 15 to 49.

3. The crude birth rate is 48.3 per thousand, the crude death rate 20.42 per thousand. The population growth rate is 2.79 per cent per year.

4. Life expectancy at birth is about 43 years. An estimated 25 to 35 per cent of live-born children die before the age of five, mainly due to respiratory and intestinal diseases. Malnutrition is widespread. Maternal mortality and morbidity are also very high due to malnutrition, anaemia, toxæmia, other diseases, and tuberculosis, as well as to complicated pregnancies and abortions.

5. The per capita gross national product was an estimated \$130 in 1978.

6. The Three-Year Development Plan (1979-81) gives priority to providing effective health services, including the improvement of nutrition and of environmental sanitation and to the partial or total eradication of some communicable diseases (malaria, bilharzia, etc.), and to strengthening family health and maternal and child health and family planning services, particularly in the rural areas. Other population-related goals outlined in the plan are: a drastic reduction, if not total elimination, of illiteracy; higher enrollment in primary, secondary and technical and vocational schools; improvement in the status of women and increased involvement of women in socio-economic activities.

7. The Government has no explicit policy on population growth and family planning. It has indicated that the levels and trends of its population growth, as well as its fertility rates, are acceptable. However, the Government recognizes the benefits of child spacing and intends to integrate its promotion into the maternal and child

health services of the Ministry of Health. The Government is also aware of the paucity of demographic and other economic and social data, (including data on the nature and magnitude of the pressing problems of internal migration), and the lack at all levels of qualified manpower urgently needed to meet Somalia's development goals.

8. UNFPA allocated a total of \$1,704,678 for population projects in Somalia through 1978, with \$850,788 budgeted for 1979 and \$198,240 for 1980. About two-thirds of these funds supported the population census project, initiated in 1972, which led to a complete enumeration of the urban and rural populations and of nomads. UNFPA also supported a population survey project, a follow-up to the census project, which represents the first phase of a multi-purpose household survey programme. About 11 per cent of UNFPA's allocations have supported a maternal, child and family health project, initiated in 1978. This project, which aims at providing integrated maternal and child health services, including nutrition and family planning, started operations in Mogadishu and four rural areas; it has provided advisory services and in-service training courses for nurses/midwives and supported the renovation of existing clinics.

9. The only other population-related assistance is a project launched in 1979 by the World Food Programme which contains also assistance to maternal and child health services.

III. The programme

10. In developing the proposed programme of assistance, UNFPA and the Government of Somalia have taken into account the population-related problems and issues confronting the country and the findings and recommendations of the needs assessment mission. The programme includes some projects that are continuations of previously assisted activities described above.

11. The long-term objectives of the proposed programme are: To enable the Government to deal with population questions and related problems by creating a data base and by up-grading the skills and increasing the number of personnel at all levels who are involved in planning; and to promote the integration of population-related policies and action programmes in plans for economic and social development.

12. The immediate objectives are: to strengthen the capability of the Central Statistical Department in the field of demographic surveys and studies on internal migration and other population questions, and to assist preparations for the next population census, planned for 1985; to develop the methodology required to establish a civil registration and vital statistics system and test the system in selected pilot areas; to establish a Human Resources Department in the State Planning Commission and build up its programme of work in population and manpower planning and other development activities; to improve the delivery of maternal, child and family health services all over the country, with special emphasis on rural areas; to develop the technical and administrative infrastructure in the Ministry of Education needed to promote awareness of the country's population-related problems

through population education; to strengthen the institutional capacities of the Ministry of Health, so it can undertake with other relevant ministries and organizations, population information, education and communication programmes; to assist in establishing and supporting a Workers' Population Education Unit in the Institute of Workers' Education; and to support the establishment of a Women's Unit in the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

13. The projects making up the Somalia programme, described below, are all in the pending stage of programming, except for the project mentioned below, in paragraph 17, which is still in the process of formulation.

Basic data collection and analysis

14. UNFPA proposes allocating a total of \$2,115,670 for three projects, all involving the Central Statistical Department of the State Planning Commission.

15. Strengthening demographic survey capability: Under this project, an extension of the population survey project described above, UNFPA will assist the Department in planning, organizing and carrying out various demographic/socio-economic surveys, (e.g., on the labour force, migration, fertility); emphasis will be on the collection of basic and vital population information. UNFPA assistance, amounting to \$1,670,000, over four years, will provide six experts and three short-term consultants; administrative expenses; local personnel payments; training, including fellowships, workshops, and seminars, and equipment, including vehicles and data processing facilities. The United Nations is the Executing Agency. The Government's contribution will be approximately \$221,500.

16. Preparation for the 1985 population census: UNFPA proposes assisting the Department with preparatory work for the planned census. The project provides for the establishment of a Geography Section within the Department for pre-enumeration activities such as preparing census maps and related cartographic materials and designing and testing census documents and enumeration procedures; and for census education and communication. UNFPA's contribution will cover a census adviser, administrative expenses and local personnel payments, training, and equipment including vehicles. The Executing Agency is the United Nations. The Government's contribution will be approximately \$339,400.

17. Development of a civil registration and vital statistics system: UNFPA has been requested to put aside \$130,000 for a project covering the first phase of this undertaking, during which the Department will study the feasibility of setting up such a system; during the second phase, after the field enumeration of the 1985 population census, the system tested during the first phase will be improved and expanded. The United Nations will be the Executing Agency.

Population dynamics and policy formulation

18. Establishment of a Human Resources Development Department, State Planning Commission: UNFPA proposes allocating \$371,000 to assist in establishing this department, which will serve as a focal point for all activities related to the

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development of human resources in the country and will undertake the analysis, elaboration and implementation of population, manpower, and training programmes and policies. The project will produce a detailed report indicating the present and future disposition of manpower by sector and occupation; it will make policy recommendations and provide a blueprint of a population and manpower planning strategy and the corresponding education and training needs. UNFPA will support two international experts, administrative expenses, local personnel payments, fellowships and workshops, and equipment. The Executing Agency will be ILO. The Government's contribution will be approximately \$48,350.

Maternal and child health/child planning

19. Strengthening service delivery: UNFPA proposes allocating \$1,700,000 for a five-year project which will build on an earlier UNFPA/WHO project in this area, with the following components: strengthening family health and maternal and child health and family planning services, particularly in rural areas; training health personnel in maternal and child health and health-oriented family planning; and services and research leading to regulation of female circumcision, so as to minimize the health hazards associated with this widespread practice. The project will increase the number of maternal and child health service delivery centres from 63 to 117, and increase coverage from the present 34 per cent of the population to the total population, by training and deploying 964 traditional birth attendants. UNFPA will support the costs of one medical officer, administrative expenses, salaries for field trainers, traditional birth attendants and other local staff, fellowships and other training, medical and other equipment, and supplies, including contraceptives. WHO is the Executing Agency. The Ministry of Health is responsible in the country. The Government's contribution will be approximately \$922,500.

Information, education and communication

20. UNFPA proposes allocating a total of \$1,250,400 for two projects in this category.

21. Population education through the Ministry of Education: UNFPA will provide \$437,000 for a project that will build the technical and administrative infrastructure in the Ministry of Education needed for the promotion of general awareness of population growth and its implications. A Population Education Section will be established in the Ministry; it will be assisted, under the project, to integrate population and family life education in the curricula of primary and secondary schools; to produce teaching materials on population and family life education for primary and secondary schools; to train teachers in population and family life education at teacher training colleges; to strengthen the already existing family life centres; and to publish a population and family life education newsletter; also to organize a national seminar on population education in collaboration with other ministries. UNFPA assistance will cover experts and consultants' services; administrative expenses; local personnel payments; sub-contracts; fellowships and other training, including seminars, workshops and study tours; and audio-visual and other equipment. UNESCO will be the Executing Agency and the Government's contribution will be approximately \$4,318,000.

22. Strengthening population information, education and communication through the Ministry of Health: UNFPA proposes allocating \$639,400 to assist the Ministry of Health to promote awareness of problems relating to rapid population growth, by means of intensified information, education and communication activities throughout the country. The project will reinforce personnel in the Ministry's Health Education Services Unit and in other Government ministries. Among activities planned are seminars and workshops for opinion leaders and policymakers at all levels to familiarize them with policy questions; a survey of existing channels of communication and how they could be improved; the production of audio-visual materials and literature and organization and support of radio, press and television campaigns on population, health and related subjects. UNFPA's assistance will cover experts and consultants' services; administrative expenses; fellowships, seminars, and workshops; and audio-visual and other equipment. The Government's contribution has not yet been specified. UNESCO will be the Executing Agency.

23. Establishment of a Workers' Population Education Unit in the Institute of Workers' Education: UNFPA will provide \$174,000 to support a four-year project to establish a Workers' Population Education Unit in the Institute of Workers' Education. The project's overall objective is to create awareness among trade unions of the implication of population matters for socio-economic development, and to help workers understand the relationship between population and the quality of life. Specific goals include motivation and technical support for the General Federation of Somali Trade Unions to organize population and family welfare education among workers; introducing population education into the regular curricula of the Institute; producing education materials especially designed for workers; and integrating population activities into the ongoing programmes of trade unions and affiliated organizations. UNFPA will support an expert in population education; seminars for trade union members, rural workers, and working women; equipment; and the production and printing of curricula, posters and leaflets. The Government agency responsible will be the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. ILO will be the Executing Agency.

Special programmes (including women's programmes)

24. Establishment of a Women's Unit, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs: UNFPA plans to allocate \$375,000 for a two-year project to establish this unit, which would guide policies, undertake research, organize workshops, design training courses, and promote and co-ordinate programmes related to women, employment and development. In-depth pilot studies will be made in rural and urban areas to identify specific jobs suitable for women, conditions under which women work and live and their social status, and how women's productive labour can affect marriage, fertility and mortality. The project will produce a detailed report indicating the disposition of the female labour force by sector, region and occupation, and future supplies and requirements of female labour and the corresponding educational and training needs. The project will also issue research papers, propose policies aimed at improving the position of women, and produce training materials. Collaboration will be close with all Government agencies and organizations dealing with women and their socio-economic development. UNFPA will support two experts, administrative expenses, local personnel payments, grants to institutions, fellowships and workshops, and equipment. The Government's contribution will be about \$32,000, and the responsible Government agency will be the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. ILO will be the Executing Agency.

Programme reserve

25. UNFPA proposes to set aside funds amounting to \$187,930, as a programme reserve to be allocated when future programming needs become apparent.

26. The proposed UNFPA allocation, by category and year, are as follows:

	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>
Basic data collection and analysis	250 000	635 700	543 500	686 470	-	2 115 670
Population dynamics and policy formulation	-	140 500	118 500	112 000	-	371 000
Maternal and child health/family planning	390 000	290 000	310 000	350 000	360 000	1 700 000
Information, education and communication	721 600	420 800	56 000	26 000	26 000	1 250 400
Special programmes (women in development)	-	162 500	212 500	-	-	375 000
Sub-total	1 361 600	1 649 500	1 240 500	1 174 470	386 000	5 812 070
Reserve						<u>187 930</u>
						6 000 000

27. The status of programme development at the time of writing was as follows:

	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>
Pending	1 361 600	1 599 500	1 190 500	1 154 470	376 000	5 682 070
Foreseen	-	50 000	50 000	20 000	10 000	130 000
Reserve						<u>187 930</u>
						6 000 000

IV. Recommendation

28. The Executive Director recommends that the Governing Council:

(a) Approve the programme for Somalia for the period 1980-1984 in the amount of \$6 million; and

(b) Authorize the Executive Director to allocate the funds and make the appropriate arrangements with the Government of Somalia and the Executing Agencies.

