

## DRC Diaspora Programme NARRATIVE REPORTING FORMAT (FINAL)

This form is to be used for the narrative reporting of projects approved by agreement on or after June 2013

The purpose of the report is for you and your local partner to give your own critical assessment of the project. You and the Diaspora Programme can then use the conclusions from the reported work as a foundation on which to improve your future development work. The content of the report also forms part of the results that the Diaspora Programme reports to Danida.

Please keep your answers/descriptions as brief and specific as possible.

<b>Name of organisation:</b> Southerne Somali Peace and Development Organisation (SSPDO)	<b>Project title:</b> Construction of Vocational Training Center and Conduct of two skill Training	<b>Project number:</b> 742-2014-77
<b>Place of implementation:</b> Hamar Weine District, Mogadishu Somalia.	<b>Funding received so far:</b> 375417,8 + 20536( Additional fund)	<b>Reporting period:</b> 01/04/2015 – 31/12/2015

### 1. Project objectives (change achieved)

- a) State the project objective(s) as given in the approved application:  
The overall objectives of the project are 1) To improve the overall living conditions of the young generations aging between 18-35 years who were deprived from schooling opportunities during the civil unrest in Somalia for the past three decades through vocational skill training. 2) Building the capacity of the local authorities to tackle and assume the responsibility of this challenge in the long-term through the construction of a training centre, provision of the basic training equipments of the centre and the conduct of two skill-trainings. Enter text here
- b) Are there any observable signs that change is taking place in the direction of these objectives? If so, please describe them.  
There are observable signs of which we mention some of them:
- 1- Attendance; the attendance of both boys and girls are more stable comparing to previous project, which reflect the attraction of the vocational training's importance to the young generation in the district.
  - 2- Community leaders and parents have been supportive to the project from planning stage to the completion of the implementation. Again this reflects the

growing confidence building between SOCDA/SSPDO implementing organizations and DRC funder in one hand and the H/weine district community as whole who have taken the offer seriously and ready to maintain the deal on the other hand.

- 3- Growing participatory actions and willingness among the H/Weine district's community in particular young generations whom are in need of skills to improve their daily lives.

Enter text here

- c) Describe other positive and negative effects of the project (beyond those that were planned)

The service of the training Centre has a wider scope of serving either other neighbouring district like H/Jab-jab, Shangani, Bondheere and Waberi. If it is taken seriously and used properly the undoubtedly it will have very positive effect. If it goes the oboist direction, which is unlikely, then the effect will be negative.

Enter text here

## 2. Project outputs (results)

Expected outputs	Indicators	Results achieved at this point in time
A Training Centre comprising of two training halls 5m. by 10m. each is completed and put into functional.	Signed construction contract, site pictures before and after construction, inauguration ceremony photoos and reports.	Construction land released by District Authority and project budget released and reach in time and construction completed and put into functional.
24 young women in H/Weine district are trained and acquired tailoring, dressmaking and clothdying skills.	Registration, daily attendance record keeping, certificates awarded during closure of the traing, monitoring, photoos and reports.	Beneficiaries were selected by the DA and Community leaders, qualified trainers and assistants were employed, training materials were purchased and course programmes in good progress with full attendance of the trainees in the training course.
24 young and men in H/Weine district are trained and acquired Carpentry skills.	Registration, daily attendance record keeping, certificates awarded during closure of the traing, monitoring, photoos and reports.	Beneficiaries were selected by the DA and Community leaders, qualified trainers and assistants were employed, training materials were purchased and course programmes in good progress with full attendance of the trainees in the training course.

One row per output. Add rows as needed.

- a) Notes/additional information regarding above table

Enter text here

## 3. Project implementation

- b) Describe the main activities carried out

Construction site released – Construction completed – Equipments purchased – Trainees selected - Trainers and assistants employed and courses began and Completed accordingly – Closing Ceremony took place and awarded Certificates delivered.

A Moment before the project implementation is due to start, our local partner SOCDA pointed out that the publication of Bid invitations on news papers is likely to create insecurity to the local staff of SOCDA. SSPDO therefore requested derogation for procurements to DRC DP, which has been approved. All procurement plan for construction of training Centre and purchase of training materials were carried out according to the DRC requirement. Meetings with DA, CBOs and elders of H/Weine District were conducted with the purpose of trainees and trainer's selection and upgrading their capacity to taking the future responsibility of the Training Centre.

Construction site was identified with DA and Community leaders, within the district administrative compound, considering that the Centre will belong to the district and its people.

24 young girls selected by DA/Community leaders were instructed and trained with Sewing machines provided by the project, for tailoring, dying, painting and cloth making, acquiring the necessary skill for their future employment opportunities and awarded Certificates.

24 young boys selected by DA/Community leaders were instructed and trained with carpenter machines for making chairs, boards cupboards cutting woods acquiring the necessary skills for their future employment opportunities.

Enter text here

- c) Were activities carried out as planned during the reporting period?

The construction of the training Centre has been completed on time without notable problem or delay. The procurements plan for the training materials started soon after the construction was about to end; however delays caused scarce availability of some training materials especially the Carpenter machine occurred during procurement procedure.

Delays in the selection of the trainees and trainers occurred from the DA side due unspecified reasons. But after a series of meetings with them things were sorted out and finalised. Enter text here

- d) What needs to be adjusted to ensure that tasks and activities are implemented and that outputs are produced?

Due to delay in the selection of the trainees and trainers from the DA side, SSPDO/SOCDA have to make an adjustment in the training programme by increasing hours of the training from 2 hours to 3 hours per day to compensate the time lost.

Application for More on additional fund: In the wake of the work done in the last months of the project implementation period, appeared to need more training materials to increase and gain an effective capacity of the trainees and the allocated budget was not enough.

The reason for applying the additional fund is:

A- During the identification project, the allocated budget was under estimated.

B- The energetic young girls and boys after months of theory and practical works, have become more eager to do more practical work to become more skilful and competitive in the market. The eagerness is reflected to that girls trainer is one of the beneficiaries of the previous project, which gives them an indication of SOCDA/SSPDO/DRC projects are sustainable and reliable. Enter text here

e) Describe and explain any current deviations from the project plan.

Due to changes in the dollar rate and subsequent adjustments coupled the above mentioned delays slight change of the project's life time, as the Diaspora programme was in final stage and was due to end in October 2015, was made reducing it from 8 months to 7 months. Enter text here

f) Describe any significant changes in the project design and implementation compared to original design and explain the reason for the changes.

No significant changes happened from the original design, but slight change in the implementation occurred with regard to purchasing one complex carpentry machine with seven functions was replaced by two machines with three functions each due unavailability of the original machine. Enter text here

g) Describe which parts of project implementation worked well, and why?

The construction of the training Centre and related procurement plan have worked well, and successfully completed before time. The procurement procedure started in good time, and the construction company was effective and committed. Enter text here

h) Describe which parts of project implementation you had difficulties with, and why?

Several meetings with DA for the selection of the trainees and trainers by the DA and elders took place in the district office without any conclusion. The DA made condition for the selection of the trainees to increase the trainee's transportation fee from 10 USD/ month to 30 USD/ month, which was unacceptable for SOCDA/SSPDO and not affordable according to the project budget.

The reasons for the conditions vary:

- 1- A hidden agenda from the new contact person or from DA in general.
- 2- The previous vice district commissioner who was SOCDA contact person was transferred to another district. Probably he did not give enough orientation to the new contact person on the project objectives and implementation procedures.
- 3- Or, even though the new contact person was briefed many times by SOCDA staff but he was not in a position to understand what the project is all about.

The problem is solved by itself, without any change or liability toward corruption and mismanagement.

Enter text here

- i) Describe one or more lessons learned / success stories you experienced during implementation so far.

There are two lessons learned from DRC Diaspora Program which are:

1. **Security:** Even though security is improving in Somalia, yet it is not 100% sure. The selection of the training Centre within the local authority's compound has ensured us 100% the security and safety of the trainers and trainees.
2. **Corruption:** Despite the fact that SOCDA have had a truthful discussion with the local authorities, community leaders as well as the beneficiaries of the previous project as well as the new project in the early stages of the project development about where and what the project funds cannot be used completely sealed the doors of any ambition for corruption, But, the new local Authority have shown acts of opposite direction of it which has led SOCDA and SSPDO to overcome with strong resistance until they have abandoned their strategy and tactics. **Fluctuation of availability of certain materials and Corruption**

Enter text here

#### 4. Cooperation and coordination

- a) Describe the diaspora input to project implementation (financial as well as social):

The Diaspora organisation SSPDO is in constant contact with the local partners for consultation and guidance as to the compliance with the DRC requirements. We have established an effective communication system through Skype, Viber and Dropbox where we exchange information on weekly basis and save documents easily. Financially SSPDO covers mainly contributions related to the monitoring part of the project both international as well as local travels and dedicate time to project design and control project management and financial control.

Enter text here

- b) What has worked well and what has worked less well in your internal cooperation within the diaspora organisation?

Everything has worked well due to our superb communication and information exchange system. Enter text here

- c) Describe the local partner's input to project implementation (financial as well as social):

The local partners, SOCDA, has the responsibility of ensuring the smooth going of the training Centre and its programme and procurement of the required materials. They are in constant contact with the training staff, trainees, local Authority and local elders. The local partner's financial input covers contributions to control trainee and trainers attendance and keep the Training Centre functioning, as well as making sure with the consent of the local Authority the sustainability of the Centre. Enter text here

- d) What has worked well and what has worked less well in your cooperation with the partner organisation?

Most of the things worked very well with the local partners according to the original plan. Some difficulties with purchasing of procurements took place during the implementation stage, however solution has been found to overcome, which could part of the learning process.

Enter text here

- e) How effective has project management within your organisation been? What can be improved?

SSPDO has effectively managed their part to implement the project. They have submitted all necessary documents to the partner organisation and clarified all the issues the partner organisation doubted as they arise so that everything works very well. The necessary improvements could be:

More training in the procurement and finance system to upgrade the SSPDO's capacity management and control financially the local partner like those workshops and practical trainings in the past Enter text here

- f) How effective has project management within the partner organisation been? What can be improved?

Remarkable improvements of financial management systems have gained the SOCDA admin during workshop held in Hargeysa which upgraded her capacity. This is a good achievement and created a self confidence. More similar workshops or management and procurement system would farther upgrade and improve the capacity of the staff. Enter text here

- g) Have you cooperated on the project with organisations and stakeholders in the region other than your partner organisation? If yes, describe with whom and on which issues.

Enter text here

- h) Describe any activities/meetings held with local groups such as elders/tribal/youth etc. or relevant local authorities in order to strengthen the local ownership aspect or sustainability of the project:

Formal and informal meetings took place in the district compound to discuss about project related activities, specially the construction of the

Training Centre and selection of the target groups with extra explanation of ownership as well as building their capacity to run the training centre in the future. Enter text here

## 5. Target group (beneficiaries)

- a) Describe the target group.
- b) In general the Somali civil war and its aftermath have had many adverse effects to all the Somali society. The most dramatic of all is the emergence of whole young generations aging up to 30 years old with little education and no skills at all. With no other options open to them, some of these youngsters started to flee the country specially to the Gulf countries as well as to Europe seeking for better life. Many of them did not make it and died in the journey either across the Sahara Desert or across the Red Sea or the Mediterranean Sea. Others resorted to drugs, criminal activities and prostitution. Some others were recruited and joined the local militia such as the Islamist insurgents of Al-Shabab turning them into killing machines of their own people. While some others joined the piracy gangs that shook and threatened the smooth and free sailing of the commercial vessels in the Somali as well as international maritime waters.

Enter text here

- c) Number of women and girls reached by the project?  
24 young girls aged between 18 to 35 years have been reached and participated the project training, selected by district community leaders including women organisation.

Enter text here

- d) Number of men and boys reached by the project?  
24 young boys aged between 18 to 35 years have been reached and participated the project training, selected by the district community leaders.

Enter text here

- e) How has the target group participated in the implementation and follow-up of the project?

The community in H/Weine district in general and the direct beneficiaries in particular relate to this project as useful and very beneficial to the community, particularly to young generations. They are very aware of the project since it started and follow it with keen interest to its progressing. They participate and fully backup the project and are very eager to see the concluding results.

Enter text here

## 6. Financial management

Budget follow-up	Budgeted (at time of application)	Spent (by end of project)
<b>Total budget</b> (incl. Own Contribution, as	<b>454380</b> Enter total amount budgeted here	Enter total amount spent here

given in application)		
<b>Own Contribution</b> (as given in application)	<b>67089</b> Enter total amount budgeted here	Enter total amount spent here
<b>Diaspora Program grant</b> (amount applied for from DRC, as given in application)	<b>387291</b> Enter total amount budgeted here	Enter total amount spent here

- a) Provide information concerning budget issues which have not been going according to the original budget plan and provide reasons for this.  
Enter text here
- b) Have you had any problems securing the budgeted own contribution? If yes, what problems, and how did you manage them?  
Enter text here

## 7. Risk assessment and risk management

<b>Risks (expected and experienced)</b>	<b>Results / management</b>
	<b>How was this risk managed?</b>
Enter each stated risk as given in the approved application (one row per risk, add rows as needed)	Enter the results and how you have managed each stated risk.
State other risks that have arisen that were not described in approved application (one row per risk, add rows as needed)	Enter results and how you have managed the risk.

- a) Describe if and how the risks experienced during project implementation have changed your view on risks and how this will affect your risk analysis for any future projects.  
Enter text here

## 8. Sustainability

- a) By the end of the project, what observable evidence/signs were there that point towards the achievement of sustainability for the project's results? **Declaration letter by the DA**  
Enter text here
- b) Have the project's results and the future management of activities been handed over? How, and to whom?  
Enter text here

## 9. Diaspora as development agents

- a) How has the implementation of your project affected your view on the diaspora's role as development agent?



The main ideas behind the Diaspora programme were to ensure the full success of projects that are accountable, transparent and free from corruption. Participation in minimum cost-sharing was introduced in all the projects. Emphasis focused only on these issues. The two main things that affected our views during the implementation of this project are:

1- Institutions, whether public or NGOs, are trying to stand on their own feet and their economic situations are far below our expectations. Therefore the bulk of own contribution in the project will fall on SSPDO's shoulder,

2- The old-aged Danish expression "Noget for noget" (Something for something), prevails here particularly within the local authorities. It is not corruption as such. But some assistance in strengthening their capacity.

Enter text here

b) In your opinion, how were you as diaspora perceived in your role as development agent:

a. By the beneficiaries

The common people in general and the beneficiaries in particular perceived the Diaspora's role as development agent as something very positive, concrete and having touchable results to the solution of their problems.

Enter text here

b. By the local authorities

The local authorities are somehow sceptical over the diasporas role hence their negative aspect is stronger than their positive aspect. Therefore, Diaspora organizations have difficulties in dealing with the local authorities, specially in the starting of project. But we are very optimistic that this attitude will disappear with time and after the success of the first project.

Enter text here

c) Please describe any difficulties you may have experience with local authorities/beneficiaries while implementing the project.

No problems have been experienced with the beneficiaries so far in implementing the project. On the other hand, minor difficulties, mainly persistent request on some sort of assistance which we couldn't justify, were experienced with local authorities. It is really pinching and irritating but never reached a level that jeopardise the project

Enter text here

d) After your experience with implementing a project, name three things you would handle differently for any future project you wish to carry out. Describe why and how.

We consider that we would have handled only one thing differently from the way we have handled in implementing this project. That is we would have handled designing and cloth dying either as a separate training course or would have been prolonged the duration for at least six months as it

required more time and practice to learn more about various decorating designs. Enter text here

- e) What capacities would you like to have received more training in in order to improve your ability to work as a development agent?

The training received from DRC-DP before and after the project was very helpful, but too many information in one or two days were not enough to understand the whole package. It requires more than that to digest the whole admin and finance process after the project approval and budget allocations before the project approval. That will help the Diaspora organisation to upgrade their capacity.

Enter text here

- f) What is your opinion about the set-up of the Diaspora Programme and how well it is suited to its purpose to strengthen the role of diasporas as development agents?

The set-up of the Diaspora Programme suites well to its purpose in strengthening the role of the Diaspora organizations as development agents. It is a process under development for us as well as DRC and needs a continuous improvement based mainly on the feedbacks of the projects that are completed. We are of the opinion that a lot of management responsibilities, which are now done by DRC should be gradually transferred to the Diaspora organizations. Enter text here

## 10. Other information

Enter text here

## 11. Attachments

Attach signed lists of participants for all training / workshop events which have taken place during the reporting period, as well as photos showing implementation of the project.

*Important: Please send the report electronically to [diaspora@drc.dk](mailto:diaspora@drc.dk)*