

## Explanatory Note for the Shock Responsive Pilots

The development of Somalia Social Protection Policy (SSPP) is a political milestone that begins weaving the fabric for the social contract between the government and the people of Somalia. Playing a pivotal role in guiding the implementation of phase 1 of the SSPP that looks at employing a phased approach with the Social Protection (SP) programme and driving discussions from a fragmented approach to longer-term, predictable, reliable and sustainable approach— centred on the needs and development of the Somalia people. Hinged on this, is the collaboration between the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and development and humanitarian actors in the design and roll-out of Baxnaano (formerly Shock Responsive Safety Nets for Human Capital) implemented in rural areas in 21 districts across the member states and, the design of the EU-ILED funded social transfers scheduled for implementation in 2020.

In-line with the Social Safety Net/ Social Transfers (SSN/ST) programmes, the government and humanitarian actors also acknowledged that a number of covariate shocks effects Somalia citizens and does negate the positive effects that would otherwise be realised. The SSPP laid out the necessity to introduce a ‘temporary seasonal safety net with the goal of preventing greater poverty, food insecurity, and malnutrition caused by shocks’. Such a safety net should be implemented to respond to immediate needs caused by the impact of the covariate shocks on communities, expanding at early signs of crisis to protect consumption, assets, and human development gains; providing assistance and contracting at the recovery phase. Because of this, and through ECHO funding to the Somali Cash Consortium (SCC), the Donor Working Group (DWG) agreed to implement and test shock responsive safety net pilots linked to existing safety nets to inform on the nationwide programming.

### Objectives of the shock responsive pilots

The overall objective is to develop a standard operating procedure on protocols for expanding and contracting the SSN/ST programmes.

#### Specific Objectives

- Promote a learning on coordination mechanisms with government and other agencies (donors, implementing partners, financial service providers, agencies providing early warning early action data and beneficiaries)
- Comparisons between existing sets of early warning early action triggers
- Learning on social accountability systems and feedback mechanisms
- Examine processes and protocols in using existing beneficiary registration systems and cash delivery systems by various actors including; WFP and SCC

### Safety nets programmes to link with the shock response pilots

- Baxnaano – a government-led programme reaching 1.2 million Somalis in rural areas of the country. This programme is nutrition linked and targeting households with children under 5 years old. The learning from the shock response pilot will be that of a hybrid approach ( using WFP SCOPE, a beneficiary registration and cash delivery system, and vertical expansion) – documenting on processes and protocols with using existing beneficiary registration and cash delivery systems, and the development of a

robust communication strategy when engaging with beneficiaries in informing on the rationale for additional assistance.

- Child sensitive social protection. Save the Children programme ongoing in Hargeisa IDP camp targeting 300 poor and vulnerable IDP households. The main component of the project is regular cash transfers in the form of child grants, with complementary activities for improving parenting practices as well as enhancing sensitivity of parents, caregivers and service providers towards child nutrition, education and protection. The SR pilot intends to provide a learning on horizontal expansion to new arrivals and/or IDPs not enrolled in the programme and vertical expansion to those recipients targeted by the SN.
- Building Resilient Communities in Somalia (BRCiS) consortium SN programmes. The consortium was formed in 2013 and working with six partners in various fields in Nutrition, WASH, Health and Food Security. In addition, to multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) and SN programmes which benefit from these areas of expertise. The SR pilot will target 1300 households reached by 3 agencies and test the localised indicators, triggers and thresholds agreed by the members in informing on EWEA programmes and receive assistance through vertical expansion/top-up.

### Coordination Mechanism

The pilots will engage with various stakeholders to foster coherence in alignment with the SSPP and ensure government structures at all levels are observed. The mechanism will be jointly defined starting from the Federal level to the district level while, the flow of information relative to the triggering of the response will emanate from the community and district level to the Federal level. The tiered approach will look at:

- Federal government through forming connection with MOLSA, MoHADM and other relevant ministries – these institutions will ensure the pilots align to the SP policy and implementation plan.
- Member States and Regional Governments –institutions at these levels will ensure policies are observed but also be involved in the process development
- District authorities –the district authorities together with community selected village elders will chair discussions on early warning data that will be shared with them and activate the response in the event of a shock.

### Triggers and indicators

The pilots will observe the two main existing triggers and thresholds jointly developed by various actors and widely observed in the country. This includes: -

- FSNAU – which collects nationwide data collated at the district level, and informed by five broad sets of indicators that being: health, nutrition, climate, market prices and population movement
- BRCiS – more granular and localised set of indicators based on areas of operation and triangulated with the FSNAU data

## Monitoring and Evaluation Learning Framework

The pilots will add on a set of indicators to the identified safety nets logical frameworks to inform on the learning based on the four thematic areas below. In addition, external expertise will be sought out to evaluate and gather learning from the pilots.

The thematic areas of learning on which the pilots will focus are:

- Coordination mechanism : engagement with different level of governments and actors in the activation of the shock response that's in line with needs
- Triggers: simplified and appropriate triggers that are frequently updated and timely in responding to both localised and widespread shocks
- Community understanding and feedback: develop a clear communication strategy which articulates when and why the SNs' expand and contract, and the feedback loops.
- Processes and protocols for beneficiary registration systems and cash delivery systems

Figure 1: Map for the Shock Response Pilots

