Training course on economic reintegration of children and youth associated with armed forces or armed groups
Turin, 6-10 February 2012

Template for country presentations
## (post) conflict situation in SOMALIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Somaliland</th>
<th>Puntland</th>
<th>South-Central Somalia</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fragility level</strong></td>
<td>Fragile</td>
<td>Post-conflict</td>
<td>Conflict</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Political situation</strong></td>
<td>Aims to achieve independence Elected government (2009) lead by Silanyo ex-SNM Introduced multi-party system in 2011</td>
<td>Elected government (2010) lead by Farole (his son is openly linked to piracy)</td>
<td>Weak UN/int. community supported TFG Al-Shabaab, ASWJ, and other independent states</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Economical situation</strong></td>
<td>Own currency Nat. Bank Nat income from livestock trade to the Middle East Remittances Informal private sector</td>
<td>Nat income from general trade (Bossasso) and piracy ransom Remittances Informal private sector</td>
<td>Huge inflation Nat income from UN/int. community Remittances</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Armed parties using children below 18</strong></td>
<td>Clan militias e.g. Talex 2 Private company militia</td>
<td>Clan militia Freelance militia SSC Nat. army Galgala insurgents Pirates</td>
<td>Clan militia Freelance militia ASWJ Al-shabaab TFG Himan and Heeb forces Pirates</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## The use of children/youth in armed conflict

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Causes of recruitment</th>
<th>Lack of alternative opportunities, education, government authority and protection; strong clan affiliation and protection; general radicalization; social status (masculinity); forced recruitment</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Circumstances in which they released | SSC: (1) Self-demobilization (mainly AS, ASWJ) – gathered into TFG run camp (Marino camp)  
SL/PL/SSC: (2) Offered amnesty by the government in SSC/PL  
   (3) Offered amnesty by the MoI/MoS but no legal framework yet (Law 63 in SL)  
   (4) Alternative sentencing – parole/probation pilot in SL and PL in the framework of Youth at-Risk / Youth for Change project |
| Approximate proportion | Official process in SSC 1000 (UNICEF under 18)  
Self-demobilize 3000 in the whole Somalia (2011) |
| Re-recruitment | Especially into clan and freelance militia  
Official armies e.g. TFG  
Lack of prevention effort by the governments and aid agencies (first in its kind is the Youth at-Risk project) |
Number of armed groups by category

- Clan-based militia
- Freelance militia
- Political/radical armed groups
- Local/international criminal groups
- Private/market/neighborhood security

Proportion of groups including children (<18) = 62%

Youngest members = **10 years old**, but average around **14 years old**, all in Mogadishu
Youth (18-30) associated with armed forces or armed groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main characteristics of above 18</th>
<th>(Data extracted via Youth-SMS software)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education:</td>
<td>approx 30% illiterate; 30% semi-illiterate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health:</td>
<td>4% disabled in SL/PL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family situation:</td>
<td>10% married; 30% orphan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attitude/behavior:</td>
<td>criminal youth mainly opportunistic in SL and PL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community acceptance:</td>
<td>not yet assessed/ quantified but specific image creating projects in within the social reintegration</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Main challenges to reintegration</th>
<th>- No legal framework yet</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Short term economical / social opportunities</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Lack of conducive environment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Lack of culture of peace</td>
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<td>- Continuous crime/violence/conflict</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Stigmatization of women</td>
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<td>- Managing expectations</td>
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| Skills vs school | - Majority want to learn skills and work |
**Children (under 18) associated with armed forces or armed groups**

| **Children to be reintegrated** | SL: 350 (2011/12); PL: 350 (2011/12); SSC: 500 (2004 – 2012)  
Only males; possibilities for extending to SSC |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Main characteristics of under 18** | - Little to no education given lack of infrastructure  
- High numbers of street children, IDPs and other vulnerable youth  
- Lower proportion of those formerly associated with armed groups  
- Information that under 18s are target of recruitment |
| **Main challenges to reintegration** | - Desensitization of violence through 20 years of violence  
- In Islam, 15 years constitutes adulthood  
- Children in current programs do not have access to economic aspects of reintegration  
- Lack of long-term educational support |
| **Skills vs school** | - SL: almost as many want education as those who want skills and jobs  
- Many under 18 have aspirations of starting their own businesses |
Reintegration of children/youth

Most youth have been reintegrated so far into urban environments

- Traditional DDR did / does NOT work in Somalia
- Alternative approach, which should not be alone but part of the wider community safety that supports stabilization
- Should be supplemented with community based policing and firearm registration
- Transforms into continuous alternative sentencing
- Bottom up – top down meet in the middle at regional level
Evidence-based programming:

Youth at-Risk/Youth for Change programme

**Goal:** Improve Safety & Security at the Community Level

**Strategic Components:**

1. *Decentralized Partnership* between the Community and the State Security Sector;

2. Sustainability ensured through *Economic Integration* coupled with *Peace & Social Transformation*;

3. Link Security to longer-term development and stabilization;

4. Alternative Sentencing Probation / Parole mechanism
Target beneficiaries

700 Children & 1300 Adults Associated with Violence

Target groups:

1. Former Armed Group Members (i.e. defectors);

2. Disenfranchise Children and Youths through community referral from Criminal Groups;

3. Individual Delinquent within the Community.

4. Youth in prison for petty crime or disciplinary reasons (Parole Mechanism);

5. Alternative sentencing - Youth via Police youth awaiting criminal court charge (Probation Mechanism);
Community Safety Mechanism

Outreach Profiling Validation

Registration

< 18 Child Integration

Labor Intensive Projects

> 18 – Peace, Social, Economic Integration

Enterprise/ vocational training and support

Case Management – Alternative sentencing

Process
Economic Integration Curriculum

- Labour Intensive Project
- Income Generating Activities
- Vocational Training
  - Labor Market Surveys
  - Skills training
  - Apprenticeship
- Enterprise Training
  - Business Development
  - Skills/ Cooperative Formation/ Grants
- Enabling Environment
  - Business licensing,
  - National Action Plans