

# THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA VOLUNTARY NATION REVIEW

2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



# INTRODUCTION

- The Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) is privileged to present its first submission of the Voluntary National Review (VNR) report.
- SNBS would also like to acknowledge and thank the UNDP and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation for their support of the VNR process.
- Under the leadership and coordination of the Somalia National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS), the compilation of the VNR report followed an inclusive, consultative, and participatory process involving active contributions from civil society, women and youth groups, the private sector and the and Federal Member States' (FMS) representatives.
- Since this is Somalia's first VNR, the process has been a unique and a welcome opportunity to reflect on Somalia's immense progress, whilst also gauging national capacity and gaps, particularly in policy and law making. This process has also helped to reaffirm FGS's national commitment towards the implementation of the SDGs.

# METHODOLOGY

- During the VNR process, SNBS engaged and consulted 500+ prominent members through more than ten consultation workshops with civil society, Government and the private sector, including a dedicated session with Somalia's youth. Specifically, the consultation with Federal Member State (FMS) Directors General (DG) and Federal level DGs was an ample opportunity to deliberate progress, present and validate data on each SDG with relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies.
- **SNBS used both primary and secondary data to measure progress.**
- Secondary data sources from the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and the United Nations as well as reports from prominent institutes, think tanks, INGOs and NGO's alike, were referenced in Somalia's VNR report.
- Since the establishment of the SNBS, Somalia has made much advancement in generating primary level data. Specifically, SNBS and its predecessor DNS has produced, the Somalia Health and Demographic Survey 2020 (SHDS) in partnership with UNFPA, Labour Force Survey 2019 (LFS) in collaboration with International Labour Organization, Somalia High Frequency Survey (SHFS) - wave one 2016 and wave two 2017 in partnership with the World Bank, Population Estimation Survey 2014 and the Banadir Region Covid-19 Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Report among others. These primary level surveys have informed and helped track the progress of the Sustainable Development Goals in the VNR report.

## TRACKING AND MONITORING THE ATTAINMENT OF SDGs

Somalia has developed an online data visualising Dashboard and an online Goal Tracker to monitor the performance of the SDGs

Both platforms strengthen coordination and data availability providing all national stakeholders with a transparent and interactive platform to track and check Somalia's progress towards the SDG Goals.

Specifically, the Dashboard presents and visualizes all available data within each goal by reporting against the targets and indicators

The Goal Tracker explores the data and has in it the function to download sources. Notably, the Tracker also presents the Federal Republic of Somalia's VNR report as available to download.



DASHBOARD: <https://somaliasdg.nbs.gov.so>

GOAL TRACKER: <https://goaltracker-mec0pr4ml-goal-tracker.vercel.app/platform/somalia>

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## CHALLENGES

The VNR process provided the opportunity to identify the various challenges which impede Somalia's ability to reach SDG targets and the report writing process itself, most notably:

- Weak coordination for consolidating, measuring, and reporting on SDG national progress.
  - Insufficient monitoring and reporting of SDG implementation by relevant institutions affected the quality of submissions on progress which required more time and capacity to rectify which SNBS didn't have.
  - Shortage of primary level data sources meant that data has mostly been collected from secondary sources. Thus, it has been difficult to verify the data and discern which data sources to include and which to ignore-no standardization.
  - The lack of baseline data for some of the indicators made it difficult to track their progress.
- election period, which has at times made it difficult to get the full participation of relevant stakeholders.
- Budget and cost constraints have limited the participation of stakeholders compared to the needs and expectations. Lack of funding can also be attributed to the difficulties faced in data collection and sourcing.

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## POLICY AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

Somalia developed its Ninth National Development Plan 2020 - 2024 (NDP-9), which acts as the country's Acting Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (IPRSP). The Government has aligned and mainstreamed the NDP-9 with the SDG's to provide a national framework for institutional renovation.

The NDP-9's aims to reduce poverty and inequality through four pillars:

- 1) inclusive and accountable politics;
- 2) security and rule of law;
- 3) economic growth; and
- 4) social development.

Eighty out of the 103 indicators from the NDP-9 are directly aligned with the SDG's.



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## PROGRESS ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



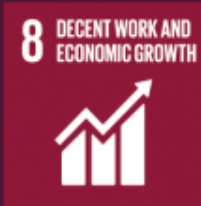
## GOAL 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

- **Remittances** are an important source of income, especially in Somalia where the unemployment rate is 21.4% with respective rates of 18.4% and 27.4% for males and females. This, coupled with a fragile economy, leaves a large part of the population without a stable and secure income, these circumstances make remittances an important livelihood source for Somali households.
- Somalia's economy has registered several achievements since 2021, despite severe drought that affected agricultural production and livestock export. Some of the most notable achievements include 8% increase of GDP in the first and second quarters of 2018, up from 6% in 2016.
- However, Somalia's real GDP decreased by 0.3 per cent in 2020. This is the lowest growth over the last economically unstable decade. A significant factor has been the triple threats that include persistent effects of 2019 flooding, locust invasion, and the Covid-19 crisis as this value differs from the corresponding growth in 2019 (a 3.3 per cent increase).
- **Domestic Inflation.** During the first quarter of 2021, the headline inflation rate remained in the single digits and relatively stable. However, the inflation rate in Somalia has been increasing in the last two years. There are major concerns that deteriorating macroeconomic conditions due to global oil crises, droughts and COVID-19 will increase staple food prices while loss of income from remittances is likely to further exacerbate food security challenges. The main drivers for the increase in inflation are rising prices in health, food, transport, housing, water, electricity, and gas.

### Inflation Drivers:

CPI 2020	Annual Change	CPI 2021	Annual Change	CPI 2022	Annual Change
Annual Inflation	4.11%	Annual Inflation	4.63%	Annual Inflation	6.65%
Food	2.06%	Food	2.81%	Food	12.14%
Health	15.64%	Health	16.15%	Health	11.34%
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas	4.92%	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas	6.82%	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas	5.64%
Transport	3.52%	Transport	4.98%	Transport	5.47%





## GOAL 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

- The export of animals represents the largest share of Somalia's export earnings. The three types of livestock that Somalia exports are Sheep/Goat, camel, and cattle. The exports from Somalia other than livestock are Animal skin products, Crops & Vegetable Oil, forest products and others. Livestock (\$103,265,600.00), Crops and vegetable oil (\$19,566,966.67) as well as other exports (\$15,004,452.00) were the leading commodities exported by the local economy in Q4-2021. Together, these commodities made up 92.39 per cent of the total exports.
- As the comparative figures between the fourth quarters of 2021 and 2020 below show, the fourth quarter for 2021 has the highest per centage increase in exports (10.21%) compared to the same quarter in the previous year. Livestock export contribution to the economy was in the tune of US\$110 million in the first quarter of 2021.

**Table 2: summary of exports (October –December) 2020 & 2021**

S/N	Summary of Export for 2021		Summary of Export for 2020	Per centage change
	Category	2021 Q4	2020 Q4	
1	Livestock	\$103,265,600.00	\$89,802,265.00	14.99%
2	Animal Skins Products	\$8,416,500.00	\$3,126,700.00	169.18%
3	Crops & Vegetable Oil	\$19,566,966.67	\$38,827,991.67	-49.61%
4	Forest Products	\$2,929,320.00	\$1,527,168.00	91.81%
5	Other	\$15,004,452.00	\$2,076,264.00	622.67%
	Total	149,182,838.67	135,360,388.67	10.21%

**GOAL 9: INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**  
**GOAL 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL**



- **3G mobile Network-** the ICT sector has flourished under a self-regulated private sector system and is known to be a key contributor to the economy, as demonstrated by the population's significant progress in increased access to 3G mobile data, increasing from 38.7% in 2016 to 65.2% in 2017.
- The proportion of the population using drinking water services increased from 55% in 2015 to 65 per cent in 2019.
- Significant progress is also recorded in the proportion of people practicing open defecation, which has decreased from 35% in 2015 to 18% in 2019,

## GOAL 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELLBEING



- Somalia has reduced maternal mortality from 732 in 2015 to 692 per 100,000 live births

Table 1: Somalia's Key Health Indicators

Indicator	2006	2016	2019	WHO AFRO Regional Average (2016)
Maternal Mortality Ratio (per 100,000 live births)	1040	865	692	536 *(2017)
Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	45.1	39	N/A	26
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	103.3	80.4	N/A	51
Under-five Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	170.5	128.4	N/A	80.5
Total Fertility Rate (no. of births per woman)	7.2	6.3	6.9	N/A
Adolescent Fertility Rate (births per 1,000 women; 15-19 years)	127.17	102.14	140	102.1 *(2015-2020)
Stunting (age-for-height among children under five years of age)	N/A	25.3% (**2009)	28%	29%

- Covid19 hit in a period where the country was still recovering from the 2017 drought. The Ministry of Health and Human Services delivered a good vaccination campaign which led to the administering of 2.6 million doses reaching 1.3 million people. The first batches were allocated to health care workers, other frontline workers and elderly people. Thus far around 17 per cent of the population has received the vaccination.

## GOAL 4: QUALITY EDUCATION



- Somalia increased literacy, particularly for women, from 32 per cent to 44.4 per cent of Somali women aged 15-24, respectively.
- The completion rate at the primary school level increased from 4 per cent in 2006 to 15.5 per cent in 2016. The completion rate at secondary school level was 65.4 per cent in 2019.
- Enrolment rates are still low, indicating that many children who are eligible for school are missing out. According to administrative data, there were approximately 171,000 learners registered in lower elementary schools in 2020, compared to a population of almost 1.2 million eligible.

## GOAL 2: ZERO HUNGER

## GOAL 7: AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



There was a lack of progress recorded in a number of SDGs

- Under Zero Hunger, the majority of Somalia's adult population, 79 per cent, is experiencing moderate or severe food insecurity. In 2022, food security in Somalia worsened with an estimated 4.8 million people (or 31% of the total population) already experiencing Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or higher) outcomes.
- Timely humanitarian interventions during the 2016-2017 severe drought stopped more extreme outcomes, however the same response is required to prevent the risk of life-threatening food security and nutrition results, including a famine in mid-2022.
- In Affordable and Clean Energy, there was a decrease in the proportion of the population with access to electricity from 52 per cent in 2017 to 49 per cent in 2019 due to inadequate infrastructure and regulatory framework.

# GOAL 5: GENDER EQUALITY



## GBV service provision across Somalia

- In 2016, there were over 7,200 reported GBV cases and in the months of January and February 2022 alone, there were nearly 1,600 cases of GBV recorded. The increase is attributed to worsening drought conditions and floods.
- GBV service provision remains low compared to the needs and vast geographical landscape and IDP women and children in particular, face insecurity and violence in their displacement settings. The majority of the 76 per cent reported GBV incidents were reported by IDPs.
- In 2021, there was slight improvement in the prioritization of GBV prevention, response, and mitigation, however, the efforts remain inadequate in light of number of people in need of GBV services.

## COVID-19 Pandemic

- Somali families, especially female headed households, continue to feel the impact of COVID-19 with the loss of jobs and reduced purchasing power. GBVIM reports from the last quarter of 2021, showed that IPV rates had reduced from 61 per cent to 43 per cent. This can possibly be attributed to the fact that women and adolescent girls are no longer in lockdown and are able to move out of the house to do their daily chores or business. Nevertheless, it will take time to fully recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on livelihoods and businesses.

## Women in Leadership Roles

- Somalia also fell short of the 30 per cent women quota in the 2022 elections, where a total of 54 women, 20 per cent, were elected out of the 275 House of the Peoples seats, achieving fewer than the 24% attained in the 2016 elections.



# GOAL 13: CLIMATE ACTION

- Somalia is one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to the impacts of climate change. Since 2011, Somalia has suffered from more frequent and prolonged climate related disasters such as droughts, floods with the addition of cyclones and even locust infestations in the last two years. These disasters continue to destroy Somalia's eco-systems, threaten food security and increase conflict over resource scarcity.
- In 2016, The Federal Republic of Somalia became a signatory of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change which has helped to advance the development of climate related adaptation mechanisms as a national priority. Somalia only contributes less than 0.0003% of greenhouse gas emissions
- The latest drought, in 2021, hit as the country was still recovering from the 2017 drought which led to a humanitarian situation affecting 4.5million people and displacing 700,000.
- The Somali Government has made considerable efforts to institutionalize and mainstream adaptation to build resilience to the worsening impacts of climate change. The Office of the Prime Minister established the Federal Directorate of Environment and Climate Change.
- In December 2021, the President inaugurated the IGAD (Africa's Intergovernmental Authority on Development) climate change research centre. The number of people affected by disasters is 232 per 100,000 according to data from 2018.
- In March 2017, the Federal Government of Somalia established a new Ministry, the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADM) mandated to lead the Governments humanitarian aid and emergency response coordination.
- In June 2022, the President announced the creation of a new Ministry of Environment and Climate Change.

# CONCLUSION

- Since this is Somalia's first VNR, the process has been a unique and a welcome opportunity to reflect on Somalia's immense progress, whilst also gauging national capacity and gaps, particularly in policy and law making. This process has also helped to reaffirm FGS's national commitment towards the implementation of the SDGs.
- It is our hope that this report acts as a reference point and good baseline review of progress to build upon in future VNRs, as well as inform policymakers and International Partners alike. We also hope to have highlighted the SDGs as a national priority by viewing it as a mechanism which aligns with and accelerates the national objectives of the NDP-9.
- Somalia has a long way to go to achieve the SDGs and considerable support is needed to be able to accelerate progress at the level required for attaining the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.



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# THANK YOU!

**Somalia National Bureau of Statistics**