

This action will build capacities of federal, member state and local authorities on engaging with women entrepreneurs and women's cooperatives, sector groups and associations. Support to women's only media house in the country will also support the development of a democratic culture by providing the Somali population with information on problems in society and serve as a medium for deliberation on issues of relevance to women and girls. Women's economic and social empowerment will also serve to enable women's political participation, which is a fundamental prerequisite for gender equality and genuine democracy.

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

This action will apply the 'do no harm' principles in relation to the conflict dynamics of the areas where activities will be carried out. To improve social cohesion and peacebuilding, the analysis that will guide the design of interventions will be informed by the real needs and perceptions of Somali women, men, girls and boys who are the most affected by conflict and insecurity. While Somali women's participation in peacebuilding and conflict has been limited, it may improve as women become socially and economically more empowered.

Disaster Risk Reduction

Somalia is extremely prone to climate-related disasters affecting both rural and urban households at a large scale every year. Most of Somalia is characterised as arid and semi arid, and drought and inconsistent rainfall are underlying threats. Somalia has endured multiple severe drought episodes since 1965. The ongoing severe drought is estimated to negatively affect 8.3 million people in Somalia by mid-2023.

Somalia's economy and population remain highly vulnerable to natural hazard shocks. In the absence of stable institutions, the combination of conflict, environmental degradation and a harsh climate have resulted in multiple large-scale humanitarian crises. Recurrent natural disasters affect the most vulnerable populations. The ongoing drought in Somalia and the wider Horn of Africa is particularly harsh for women and children, who travel longer and longer distances on foot to reach food, water and safety. The ongoing drought is estimated to be the cause of rising levels of SGBV, sexual harassment, domestic violence, early and forced marriages and FGM across Somalia.

Other considerations if relevant

This Action will take a gender-transformative approach, i.e. by addressing the rigid gender norms and imbalances of power. The Action will focus on promoting change in social attitudes, including by actively engaging men and boys and putting focus on young people as drivers of change. Partnerships and dialogue will be sought with local actors, civil society and women's organisations. Taking into account the challenges in relation to displacement and migration, and the existing large number of female IDPs, returnees and refugees in Somalia, these women will be included as beneficiaries of this action.

3.4 Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
External environment	Risk 1: Insecurity from violent community conflicts and the threat of Al Shabaab prevents or stalls implementation at the local level.	Medium/High	High	Political economy and conflict analysis carried out during inception phase as well as regular review of the political and security context through the cycle of the action. Partners will develop clear criteria before commencing activities in an area. In addition, ensuring an integrated, territorially focused and gender responsive, bottom-up programming (for