



USAID | **SOMALIA**
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Synthesis Report

TRANSITION INITIATIVES FOR STABILIZATION (TIS) SURVEY SYNTHESIS REPORT

September 2014

This publication was produced at the request of the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared independently by International Business & Technical Consultants, Inc. (IBTCI).

COVER PHOTO

SOMALIA, TRANSITION INITIATIVES FOR STABILIZATION (TIS), 2014

This report was prepared by Robert Grossman-Vermaas, and was supported by Lea Antic and Samuel Malmberg.

TRANSITION INITIATIVES FOR STABILIZATION (TIS) SURVEY SYNTHESIS REPORT

September 30, 2014

This publication was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared under IQC Number AID-RAN-I-OO-09-00016, Task Order Number AID-623-TO-11-00002 by International Business & Technical Consultants, Inc. (IBTCI).

DISCLAIMER

The authors' views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

CONTENTS

- CONTENTS ii
- ACRONYMS..... v
- EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 1
 - CONCLUSIONS..... 2
 - RECOMMENDATIONS..... 4
- INTRODUCTION 5
- PURPOSE..... 5
- BACKGROUND 6
 - THE TRANSITION INITIATIVES FOR STABILIZATION PROGRAM..... 6
 - MEASURING STABILIZATION 7
- THE TIS SURVEY..... 9
 - OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH 9
 - RESEARCH PURPOSE..... 9
 - CONCLUSIONS AGAINST TIS THEORY OF CHANGE..... 10
 - STUDY DESIGN, ANALYSIS AND LIMITATIONS 11
- TIS SURVEY KEY FINDINGS 12
 - INTRODUCTION..... 12
 - SOMALIA..... 13
 - SOMALILAND..... 18
 - PUNTLAND..... 23
 - MOGADISHU..... 27
 - SOUTH CENTRAL 29
- CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS..... 33
 - CONCLUSIONS..... 33
 - RECOMMENDATIONS..... 38

TABLE OF FIGURES

FIGURE 1: TIS THEORY OF CHANGE AND INDICATORS..... 13

FIGURE 2: TOP LEVEL INDICATORS 1 AND 2..... 14

FIGURE 3: LEVELS OF SATISFACTION WITH SERVICES ACROSS SOMALIA..... 15

FIGURE 4: EXPRESSIONS OF SATISFACTION AGGREGATED FOR ALL 7 ESSENTIAL SERVICE SECTORS INCLUDING PROVISION OF EDUCATION, HEALTH, ROADS/TRANSPORT, ELECTRICITY, ACCESS TO MARKETS, JUSTICE, AND WATER 15

FIGURE 5: SATISFACTION OF SERVICES ACROSS SOMALIA BROKEN DOWN BY GENDER 16

FIGURE 6: CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT IN TIS SITES THROUGHOUT SOMALIA..... 17

FIGURE 7: CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT IN NON-TIS SITES THROUGHOUT SOMALIA..... 17

FIGURE 8: PERCEPTIONS OF SECURITY IN TIS AND NON-TIS SITES THROUGHOUT SOMALIA . 18

FIGURE 9: SATISFACTION WITH THE PROVISION OF SERVICES (TIS SITES) 19

FIGURE 10: SATISFACTION WITH THE PROVISION OF SERVICES (NON-TIS)..... 19

FIGURE 11: EXTENT TO WHICH CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT HAS INCREASED OVER ONE YEAR (NON-TIS SITES)20

FIGURE 12: EXTENT TO WHICH CONFIDENCE IN THE GOVERNMENT HAS INCREASED OVER ONE YEAR (TIS SITES).....20

FIGURE 13: CONFIDENCE THAT THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS ARE ABLE TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY (TIS SITES)21

FIGURE 14: CONFIDENCE THAT THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS ARE ABLE TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY (NON-TIS SITES).....21

FIGURE 15: STATEMENTS ABOUT HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE IN NEIGHBORHOOD/AREA (NON-TIS SITES)22

FIGURE 16: STATEMENTS ABOUT HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE IN NEIGHBORHOOD/AREA (TIS SITES).....22

FIGURE 17: AGREEMENT WITH STATEMENTS ON COMMUNITY COLLABORATION AND MISTRUST (TIS AND NON-TIS SOMALILAND)22

FIGURE 18: SATISFACTION WITH THE PROVISION OF SERVICES (NON-TIS SITES)23

FIGURE 19: SATISFACTION WITH THE PROVISION OF SERVICES (TIS SITES).....24

FIGURE 20: TO WHAT EXTENT, IF AT ALL, HAVE MEMBERS OF THIS COMMUNITY BEEN INVOLVED IN ANY OF THESE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES? (TIS AND NON-TIS).....	24
FIGURE 21: CONFIDENCE THAT THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS ARE ABLE TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY (TIS SITES)	25
FIGURE 22: CONFIDENCE THAT THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS ARE ABLE TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY (NON-TIS).....	25
FIGURE 23: STATEMENTS ABOUT HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE IN NEIGHBORHOOD/AREA. (TIS SITES).....	26
FIGURE 24: EXTENT TO WHICH CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT HAS INCREASED OVER ONE YEAR (NON-TIS) SITES).....	26
FIGURE 25: EXTENT TO WHICH CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT HAS INCREASED OVER ONE YEAR (TIS SITES).....	26
FIGURE 26: BETTER OFF ECONOMICALLY AND FINANCIALLY THAN ONE YEAR AGO (TIS SITES).....	27
FIGURE 27: SATISFACTION WITH PROVISION OF SERVICES (TIS SITES)	28
FIGURE 28: STATEMENTS ABOUT HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE IN NEIGHBORHOOD/AREA (TIS SITES).....	28
FIGURE 29: EXTENT TO WHICH CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT HAS INCREASED OVER ONE YEAR (MOGADISHU SITES).....	29
FIGURE 30: SATISFACTION OF PROVISION OF SERVICES (TIS SITES).....	30
FIGURE 31: SATISFACTION OF PROVISION OF SERVICES (NON-TIS).....	30
FIGURE 32: COMMUNITY INCLUSION, COLLABORATION, PARTICIPATION, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (TIS SITES)	31
FIGURE 33: COMMUNITY INCLUSION, COLLABORATION, PARTICIPATION, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (NON-TIS SITES).....	31

ACRONYMS

ACAR	African Centre for Applied Research
AMISOM	African Mission to Somalia
DAI	Development Alternatives, Inc.
FGD	Focus Group Discussions
FGS	Federal Government of Somalia
GOS	Government of Somalia
IBTCI	International Business & Technical Consultants, Inc.
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MEPS	Monitoring and Evaluation Program for Somalia
NSC	National Security Council
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PFM	Public Financial Management
PMP	Performance Management Plan
SO	Stabilization Objective
SYLP	Somali Youth Livelihood Program
SYLI	Somali Youth Leaders Initiative
TIS	Transition Initiatives for Stabilization
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is a synthesis of the key findings from the comprehensive Transition Initiatives for Stabilization (TIS) Stabilization Report, and is written by the Monitoring & Evaluation Program for Somalia (MEPS), under the IQC Number AID-RAN-I-OO-09-00016, Task Order Number AID-623-TO-11-00002 by International Business & Technical Consultants, Inc. (IBTCI). It is designed to be read either independently or in parallel to the more detailed analysis of the TIS Stabilization Report.

The purpose of this report is to provide USAID/Somalia with a synthesis of the findings from the 2013/2014 Transition Initiatives for Stabilization (TIS) performance benchmarks research project and its resultant report, known as the TIS Stabilization Report. The TIS Stabilization Report is a comprehensive volume that describes in detail the findings from a nationwide survey of over 3,100 respondents in comparison TIS and non-TIS intervention sites in Somalia. The survey findings were further contextualized by 33 focus group discussion findings.

This report consists of key findings sourced directly from the TIS Stabilization Report, and from additional analysis that more closely aligns these findings to the TIS and USAID stabilization objectives in Somalia, and therefore includes, where applicable, a disaggregation of responses by gender and age. Its objectives are two-fold:

- I. To provide USAID/Somalia with a defensible “snapshot” - or benchmark - of perceptions relating to the TIS Theory of Change, and its indicators (and thus of TIS activities overall):
 - a. Increased public trust and confidence in nascent government;
 - b. Promote increased dialogue and consensus based decision-making between government and citizens so as to create social cohesion and political connectivity.

It should be noted, however, that this snapshot is not meant to act as a situational baseline for the current TIS program, but it can nevertheless, and with additional quantitative metrics within an M&E plan, inform any proposed baseline for a follow-on TIS program. The report is also not intended to be evaluative; it is a status report on attitudinal comparisons between TIS and non-TIS sites. Despite this fact, this report can serve to inform any subsequent performance evaluation.

2. To provide USAID/Somalia with defensible – and evidence-based – findings that when analyzed individually or in aggregate, may validate the TIS Theory of Change and possibly illustrate, indicate or imply relative impact(s) that TIS activities may have had on TIS communities and on the attitudes and behaviors of residents in these communities.

This measurement of relative impact is one taken cautiously, however, as there is little baseline data to support a scientifically rigorous impact analysis. Additionally, there are few “clean” sites – i.e. locations without any donor intervention, which is required to support a true treatment and control comparison. Impact defined in this report refers to conducting an objective review of the data to reveal trends or themes that may support TIS contribution to a changed state of affairs, or statistical correlation to a changed state of affairs. Ultimately, the report endeavors to synthesize the key findings of the survey so

as to provide *actionable* recommendations to TIS and to USAID based on the analysis of observations on the current program.

The following conclusions and recommendations are derived from the findings described within this report, and equally critically, from the TIS Stabilization Survey Report.

CONCLUSIONS

1. ***There are undeniable, evidence-based findings that suggest that indicators are overwhelmingly more positive in TIS sites than those in non-TIS sites***, and that perceptions of social cohesion; connectedness; community involvement; confidence in government and local administration; and satisfaction with essential services are overall significantly higher in TIS sites than in non-TIS sites. But the correlation between this positive trend in TIS sites and the presence of TIS interventions is inconclusive.
2. ***There is evidence of positive change in TIS sites (and non-TIS sites for that matter), and evidence of positive attitudinal differences between TIS and non-TIS sites between now and one year ago***, but contribution, let alone attribution, is impossible without the presence of baseline data, an analysis based on activity mapping (see Figures 6 and 7), or analyses derived from any follow-on performance and/or impact evaluations.
3. ***There is a correlation between positive responses, the sub-level indicators and the two TIS top-level indicators (Public Trust and Confidence in Government & Social Cohesion and Political Connectedness)***. This implies a logical linkage to the TIS Theory of Change, but it does not imply a validation of the Theory of Change.
4. ***The findings suggest that perceptions of security are very high in the surveyed areas, and that these perceptions are generally comparable in both TIS and non-TIS sites***. There is, however, no correlation between perceptions of security and the presence or non-presence of TIS activities.
5. ***The findings suggest that there is an overall higher level of social cohesion and political connectedness in TIS sites than in non-TIS sites, but this is variable with some non-TIS sites having higher perceptions of cohesion as evidenced in community involvement***. The higher values in TIS sites do not imply that TIS activities enhanced social cohesion in the TIS sites, but that there is a possible contribution.
6. ***The findings suggest that in TIS sites there is an overall sense of satisfaction with one's financial and economic life compared to that of one year ago***. That said, there is a sizeable number of respondents who feel that things have either stayed the same or gotten worse, e.g., 31% in the overall category in Mogadishu. This number is relatively high, should not be ignored, and thus requires further analysis to uncover the reasons for such a high number, e.g., the fear of, or presence of, resurgent insecurity, increased economic growth leading to competition for resources and markets, etc. The numbers in Puntland are also significantly lower than those in Somaliland and South Central.

7. ***There is an overall higher satisfaction with services in TIS sites than in non-TIS sites.*** But the correlation between this satisfaction and TIS interventions is inconclusive. It does suggest possible contribution in some cases, but this too is variable across sectors and regions.
8. ***There are mixed perceptions about the confidence in and responsiveness of the central government and local administration.*** In all regions there is a strong sense of confidence in the central government and local administration, and the responsiveness of the central government and local administration.
9. ***The findings suggest that there is a significantly greater perception of community involvement, ownership, and decision-making power in TIS sites than in non-TIS sites,*** but the correlation between this greater perception and TIS interventions is inconclusive.
10. ***Puntland is an outlier.*** An analysis of findings from the Puntland dataset suggests some intriguing conclusions. In general the data sets for the TIS and non-TIS sites in Puntland are anomalous in that they tend to suggest that perceptions of confidence, personal involvement, and outlook are generally more positive in many non-TIS sites.
11. ***The findings suggest that TIS activities may have had more positive impacts in some regions than in others,*** and with some activities more than others. However the correlation between TIS and the positive impacts is inconclusive. The data suggests that overall perceptions of confidence in the central government are higher in TIS sites than in non-TIS sites (except for Mogadishu, which does not have a comparison site), and that satisfaction with services is overall higher in TIS sites than in non-TIS sites.
12. ***There are some distinctions between perceptions of males and females, and those aged 15-29 and 30-45, but contrary to assumptions about targeting certain demographic groups in stabilization programs, these distinctions are not patterned or predictable.*** In other words, one should not necessarily pursue planning gender or age-focused programmatic interventions, except perhaps in the areas of confidence, cohesion, and connectedness, where the findings suggest very positive perceptions among males and females aged 15-29.
13. ***The findings suggest that TIS activities in certain regions may have contributed to positive perceptions, but not necessarily to stabilization.*** There is evidence that suggests that the positive perceptions identified in all TIS sites may be the result of donor interventions, and possibly too of TIS's activities. But in the absence of a clearly defined and executed evaluation that explores the utility of a survey as comprehensive as the TIS Stabilization Survey to overall program achievements, TIS's contribution to the stabilization (or stability) of Somalia is relatively unknown.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The section that follows suggests operational/programmatic and evaluative recommendations based on the above conclusions.

OPERATIONAL/PROGRAMMATIC RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Based on the findings and conclusions, USAID and TIS may wish to explore the relative impacts of TIS programming in each of the regions respectively, noting that there appear to be more appreciable responses in some regions (South Central) than others. This may help to better align programming with expected – or desired – outcomes, impacts, or returns on investment.
2. In an effort to provide actionable utilization of the survey findings, USAID and TIS may wish to review the specific types of activities in each region in an attempt to “map” the more positive responses to specific TIS activities (or areas of focused TIS activities). This can help to support more focused and impactful programming decisions.
3. USAID and TIS may wish to more comprehensively analyze the data by age and gender to capitalize on the significantly more positive responses to the four sub-level indicator questions, and in particular those relating to confidence in central government and local administration; satisfaction of services; social cohesion; and empowerment, from those aged 15-29, for example.

EVALUATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. USAID and TIS may wish to plan for, and conduct, performance evaluations and/or impact studies (e.g., pre- post-test for specific activity sites in pilot areas) of the TIS program and any follow-on TIS-like program in Somalia. Such efforts would provide more comprehensive, evaluation, evidence-based and methods triangulated conclusions and recommendations on TIS programming.
2. USAID and TIS may wish to conduct a thorough and comprehensive review of stabilization programming and measurement “best practices” (e.g., USG, USAID/CMM, OECD, UNDP) so as to both inform future TIS programming with increased acumen, and inform the design of any follow-on surveys and survey instruments that would measure stability, or peoples’ perceptions of stability over time.
3. USAID and TIS may wish to engage in several forms of additional analysis, e.g., conflict analyses, appreciative inquiry, which may help to augment the actionable information from the TIS Stabilization Survey data so as to help it develop future programs.
4. Should the TIS Stabilization Survey continue to be fielded on a regular, patterned basis, and its response data analyzed according to the top-level TIS indicators, then it can be used as one means for USAID to measure progress within a stabilization continuum from instability to stability.

INTRODUCTION

This report is a synthesis of the key findings from the comprehensive Transition Initiatives for Stabilization (TIS) Stabilization Report, and is written by the Monitoring & Evaluation Program for Somalia (MEPS), under the IQC Number AID-RAN-I-OO-09-00016, Task Order Number AID-623-TO-11-00002 by International Business & Technical Consultants, Inc. (IBTCI). This report is designed to be read independently or in parallel with the more detailed analysis of the TIS Stabilization Report.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide USAID/Somalia with a synthesis of the findings from the 2013/2014 Transition Initiatives for Stabilization (TIS) performance benchmarks research and its resultant report, known as the TIS Stabilization Report. The TIS Stabilization Report is a comprehensive volume that describes in detail the findings from a nationwide attitudinal change survey of over 3,100 respondents in comparison TIS and non-TIS intervention sites. The survey findings are further contextualized by 33 focus group discussion findings. This report focuses primarily on an analysis of the TIS Survey Report findings.

This report consists of the key findings sourced directly from the TIS Stabilization Report, and from additional analysis that more closely aligns these findings to the TIS and USAID stabilization objectives in Somalia, and therefore includes, where applicable, a disaggregation of responses by gender and age. Its objectives are two-fold:

- I. To provide USAID/Somalia with a defensible “snapshot” - or benchmark - of perceptions relating to the TIS Theory of Change, and its two indicators (and thus of TIS activities overall):
 - a. Increased public trust and confidence in nascent government;
 - b. Promote increased dialogue and consensus based decision-making between government and citizens so as to create social cohesion and political connectivity.

It should be noted, however, that this snapshot is not meant to act as a normative baseline for the current TIS program, but it can, nevertheless, and with additional quantitative metrics within an M&E plan, inform any proposed baseline for a follow-on TIS program. The report is also not intended to be evaluative; it is a status report on attitudinal comparisons between TIS and non-TIS sites. Despite this fact, this report can serve to inform any subsequent performance evaluation.

2. To provide USAID/Somalia with defensible – and evidence-based - findings that when analyzed individually or in aggregate may validate the TIS Theory of Change and possibly illustrate, indicate or imply relative impact(s) that TIS activities may have had on TIS communities and on the attitudes and behaviors of residents in these communities.

This measurement of relative impact is one taken cautiously, however, as there is little baseline data to support a scientifically rigorous impact analysis. Additionally, there are few “clean” sites – i.e. locations without any donor intervention, which is required to support a true treatment and control comparison.

Impact defined in this report refers to conducting an objective review of the data to reveal trends or themes that may support TIS contribution to a changed state of affairs, or statistical correlation to a changed state of affairs. Ultimately, the report endeavors to synthesize the Key Findings of the survey so as to provide *actionable* recommendations to TIS and to USAID based on the analysis of observations on the current program.

The structure of the report is as follows: There is first a background section, which will allow the reader to contextualize the survey findings relative to USAID's, and more specifically to TIS's, stabilization programming in Somalia. In this section there is also a concise discussion of USAID's goals and objectives in Somalia, and of how TIS's objectives are "nested" within this hierarchy, designed to contribute to several stabilization outcomes. This section will also act as an illustrative backdrop for the subsequent key findings sections, and any discussion of contribution or relative impact. Next, there is a presentation of the key findings, first in aggregate nationwide, and then by region. The findings are also presented disaggregated by age and gender, under the assumption that stabilization programming - including TIS, SYLP and SYLI, for example - traditionally targets short-term grants and activities toward male and female youth. The disaggregation by age and gender also reveals some statistically significant differences in the perceptions of males and females, but more so between those respondents 15-29 years of age and those 30-45 years of age. The report will close with a series of conclusions derived from the findings, and proposed programmatic/thematic, operational and M&E recommendations.

BACKGROUND

THE TRANSITION INITIATIVES FOR STABILIZATION PROGRAM

USAID/Somalia has two objectives under its overarching goal of enhancing stability and furthering USG-wide strategies in the region. The first Stabilization Objective (SO1) is to strengthen local and national capacity to promote good governance. By strengthening Somali capacity to promote good governance and broad-based political processes, USAID stabilization programs will help lay the foundation for future development interventions that can improve sustainability over time. Due to the politically fractured nature of Somalia (Somaliland, Puntland, Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), and potential for newly emerging regional administrations), the activities and results achieved under this Objective will vary depending on the geographic location. As a case in point, while one of Somaliland's top priorities is to develop regulations to increase private sector investment, the FGS is focused on the development of governance such as implementing the provisional constitution, strengthening nascent ministries, supporting local governance frameworks, and preparing for a national referendum and elections expected in 2016.

The second Stabilization Objective (SO2) is to improve social service delivery and economic growth. Stabilization cannot be obtained without addressing people's basic needs and opportunities at the local level. Enabling the delivery of basic social services, such as education and health, and improving economic growth, fosters USG foreign policy objectives of promoting peace and stability in Somalia by mitigating the underlying conditions causing poverty that encourage extremism, instability, and terrorism. Assisting the government in providing education services, and improving the environment for local businesses and investors is also essential to improving their credibility. Basic knowledge and skills learned through education programs set the foundation for upward mobility and economic growth as well as promote social cohesion.

In an effort to program against SO1 and SO2, USAID launched the Transition Initiatives for Stabilization (TIS) Program in 2011. TIS, co-implemented by Development Alternatives Inc. (DAI) and the International Office of Migration (IOM), is an in-kind grants program whose overall objectives are to increase the visibility of, and confidence in, government through: improved service delivery; collaborative and strategic partnerships between government institutions, private sector, and civil society; and, increased access to peace, recovery, and development information. These types of community-driven activities, carried out in targeted areas, are meant to increase economic opportunities in the short term, build confidence in the peace process, and contribute to the development of a more comprehensive recovery plan. Specific project activities include small-scale infrastructure rehabilitation of markets, roads, local government buildings, and community to government dialogue.

According to the TIS Theory of change, “collaboration between citizens and government leads to increased ownership and improved abilities to mitigate conflict and develop meaningful social cohesion and political connectivity to improve institutional confidence and trust”. TIS serves as a catalyst that encourages greater engagement between communities and government, while strengthening the confidence in peaceful political processes. These initiatives mirror USAID/Somalia’s SO1 and have the potential to ebb violent outbreaks that may cause destabilization in Somalia through programs that provide flexible and quick mechanisms to complement current efforts.

Important to the stabilization process and recognized by USAID/Somalia is ownership, and TIS ensures Somali ownership, down to every level; all activities are selected and designed by Somali community and government consensus in the course of more than 20 USAID-facilitated Strategic Planning Workshops. To date, TIS has implemented 450 small-grant activities together with government officials, civil society members, and public sector representatives. The grants are in-kind, and valued at \$38 million.¹

MEASURING STABILIZATION

According to the USAID/Somalia Performance Management Plan (PMP), the Office has defined *stabilization* as “the process by which underlying tensions that might lead to resurgence in violence and a breakdown in law and order are managed and reduced, while efforts are made to support successful long term development and increased institutional capacity”. Stabilization has become a prevalent theme in USAID/Somalia’s narrative with the underlying recognition that stabilization programs will play a vital role in supporting counterinsurgency efforts and that “the development response is one part of a broader USG effort to address national security concerns”.² While USAID believes stabilization is a necessary precursor for achieving long-term development goals, this notion is caveated by the fact that stabilization programming must reflect both the differences and the linkages between the two, in terms of objectives, beneficiaries, modalities and metrics.³

Given the above definition, there are several metrics tools available to stabilization programmers in USAID that can be used to aid in measuring stability in fragile environments, with many using statistically based indexes and political economy methodologies for understanding the nature and risk of state fragility and the maintenance of stability. The OECD “Measuring Progress”⁴; the UNDP “Users Guide

¹ Transition Initiatives for Stabilization (TIS-Somalia).” U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), 15 Aug. 2013. <<http://www.usaid.gov/somalia/fact-sheets/transition-initiatives-stabilization-tis-somalia>>

² *The Development Response to Violent Extremism and Insurgency*. Washington, DC: USAID, 2011.

³ Shah, Rajiv. *Administrator’s Stabilization Guidance*. Washington, DC: USAID, 2011.

⁴ “Measuring Well-Being and Progress: Understanding the Issue.” OECD, 2013.

in Measuring Fragility”⁵; the Foreign Policy/FFP “Failed States” index ⁶; the Index of State Weakness in the Developing World from the Brookings Institution⁷ are some of the more robust attempts at defining the means to measuring stability, each of which has different methodologies and analytical techniques for doing so. Still, large variations exist in how donors and international agencies measure state fragility, and which countries are classified as stable, and why. Some tools have been criticized as being arbitrary or subjective, methodologically questionable, lacking in transparency, and as producing only a snapshot of the condition of a state at particular point in time, rather than explaining how change occurs. Nevertheless, some maintain there is value in measuring and classifying stability, in that it helps us to understand causality, to monitor changes over time, and to pre-empt or avoid crisis by recognizing and responding to deteriorating situations. The TIS Stabilization Survey is a hybrid of some of these tools, focusing on measuring both institutional capacity, social cohesion and connectedness, and declining conflict drivers. It is also a means to measure – or identify – a state of being, rather than a means to measure progress towards pre-identified goals. That said, if the TIS Stabilization Survey continues to be fielded on a regular, patterned basis, and its response data analyzed according to the top-level TIS indicators, then it can indeed be used as one means to measure progress within a stabilization continuum from instability to stability.

⁵ *A User’s Guide to Measuring Fragility*. Washington, DC: UNDP, 30 Sep. 2009.

⁶ *The Failed States Index 2013*. Washington, DC: FFP, 2013.

⁷ Rice, Susan, and Stewart Patrick. *Index of State Weakness in the Developing World*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution, 2008.

THE TIS SURVEY

OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH

In May 2013, USAID and TIS determined the need to examine its existing approach to measuring progress against its activity objectives, and indeed within the context of USAID/Somalia's Stabilization Objectives. In concert with USAID and supported by a short-term technical expert, TIS determined that the first step was to assess the measurability and applicability of the activity objectives as stated in the TIS contract. This examination was undertaken by the TIS DAI and IOM teams, USAID/Somalia, and key leaders from the MEPS program, implemented by IBTCI. The team found that USAID/Somalia's goal and the three TIS contract objectives served as excellent guiding principles for the TIS model, but needed to be honed in order to ensure measurability and reflect how the activity's model had manifested on-the-ground. As such, the above-mentioned team developed a Theory of Change and two top-level indicators.

The TIS Theory of Change was based on the hypothesis that:

Collaboration between citizens and government leads to increased ownership and improved abilities to mitigate conflict and develop meaningful social cohesion and political connectivity to improve institutional confidence and trust.

The resultant two top-level indicators authored by the TIS team were:

- Indicator 1: Increased public trust and confidence in nascent government
- Indicator 2: Promote increased dialogue and consensus based decision-making between government and citizens so as to create social cohesion and political connectivity

Discussions with TIS around how best to arrive at measures of the two top-level indicators resulted in the creation of seven sub-level indicators, which were in turn mapped to and measured through a series of survey questions (see figure 1). At the survey analysis stage, answers and scores derived from the individual survey questions were grouped to the appropriate sub-level indicators, which were in turn aggregated to the top-level indicators of trust & confidence and increased dialogue & consensus. This analytical hierarchy was used to support a degree of alignment between people's responses in both TIS and non-TIS sites, and the intrinsic "heart" of TIS programming as defined by its top-level indicators. The survey analysis was then informed – and contextualized - by rich, and sometimes emotive responses derived from male and female FGDs held throughout Somalia.

RESEARCH PURPOSE

The purpose of the research was to measure (through a quantitative benchmark survey) and to explore further (through post-survey qualitative FGDs) the role of TIS in improving government visibility and credibility, social cohesion and political connectivity across Somalia. The premise upon which the study was based was that TIS may have contributed to more positive (or more negative) outcomes and impacts. The survey sought to provide comprehensive benchmark data to determine the existence of this contribution and to produce measures against which future activity can be assessed. The survey is a benchmark (rather than a baseline) because the TIS intervention has been in existence

for over three years and, as such, any pre-intervention, baseline measures are not possible to determine and/or act as a scientific comparison.

Specifically the survey sought to:

- Establish the extent to which the interventions supported by TIS and its partners are having the desired effects on individuals and communities, and how they align with the two top-level indicators
- Establish whether any observable effects on the perceptions and behaviors of individuals as members of their communities can be attributed to the TIS supported interventions. Details of the Research Purpose and Methodology are in the TIS Stabilization Survey Report

A number of key takeaways have been identified from this extensive body of research across four regions in Somalia (Somaliland, Puntland, South Central and Mogadishu) within TIS project sites and comparable non-TIS project sites. These takeaways are designed to assist the TIS team and USAID to better contextualize the outcomes of their activities and to make programmatic adjustments where appropriate. Before summarizing these below, some observations of the survey findings against the TIS Theory of Change are discussed.

CONCLUSIONS AGAINST TIS THEORY OF CHANGE

It has always been acknowledged that, due to the lack of visibility of all the stabilization and development activities across Somalia, direct attribution to TIS of observable changes in confidence in and attitudes towards government, political inclusion and cohesiveness would not be possible or prudent. While that remains the case, in relation to the TIS Theory of Change, this survey data shows distinct directional indications that the TIS interventions are playing a role in overall improvements in the lives of Somalis and in their living conditions however, the degree and magnitude of that role is as yet inconclusive.

Most, but not all, of the seven sub-level indicators and the two top-level indicators show better performance in the TIS sites than in the non-TIS sites in the key areas of improved government visibility, responsiveness and performance, together with more positive attitudes towards political inclusion through citizen involvement in community projects. However, in drawing conclusions based on the benchmark numbers yielded from the survey it must be remembered that there are many government, donor and NGO activities in all of the survey sites and many individual projects (within and without the scope of TIS) were mentioned by respondents. The majority of citizens think that the projects and activities they see taking place in their communities are supported by their governments with the assistance of foreign donors and NGOs.

It may be more prudent to interpret the findings of this study in terms of *directional evidence* rather than a *causal relationship* between higher levels of confidence in government, more positive attitudes towards government and increased feelings of political inclusivity where the TIS interventions are present. Any future surveys, designed to measure and track progress against the benchmark indices produced by this survey, will provide clearer indications of the relative impact of the TIS activity.

The key takeaways have been drawn from the study and are discussed below in no particular order of primacy.

STUDY DESIGN, ANALYSIS AND LIMITATIONS

The study was designed to provide benchmark data from quantitative survey research, combined with post-survey qualitative focus group discussions. For a complete description of the survey methodology and fielding, refer to the TIS Stabilization Survey Report.

The survey took the form of an in-home face to face survey among a total sample of 3,101 Somali adults (aged 15 and over) sampled to cover TIS sites and Non-TIS sites in order to form 'treatment' and 'comparison' groups. The survey was conducted in September and October 2013 across four main geographical regions: Somaliland, Puntland, South Central and Mogadishu. Fieldwork was conducted by a local Somali-based field agency (Northern Management Consultants) under the management and supervision of the African Centre for Applied Research (ACAR). The survey design evolved from a quasi-time series approach to a census of the areas of the country where there were active TIS interventions and with equivalent samples in the areas of the country where there were no active TIS projects, but which conformed to the TIS criteria of being viable, secure and accessible areas in which to work.

The survey sample was designed as a 'purposive' sample, incorporating two closely matched or equivalent samples in each of the main geographic regions of Somalia.

At the survey analysis stage the many questions and variables within the survey data necessitated the creation of indices which grouped the questions/variables into a hierarchy of top-level indicators and weighted indices, as per the below:

1. Top-level indicator: Public Trust and Confidence in nascent government was made up of the following four sub-level indicators
 - 1.1 Satisfaction with service delivery
 - 1.2 Confidence in government
 - 1.3 Attitudes to government
 - 1.4 Security

2. Top-level indicator: Social Cohesion and Political Connectedness which was made up of the following three sub-level indicators
 - 2.1 Political inclusion
 - 2.2 Community cohesion
 - 2.3 Feeling of Oneness and Pride

There were a number of limitations to the survey, as noted in the TIS Stabilization Report. Moreover, as the survey was meant to include a random sample frame in the regions of Somaliland, Puntland, South Central and Mogadishu, there are understandably variable definitions and understandings of key survey question terms, such as a) local vs. central government; b) "corruption"; c) NGOs. As such, these constructs were explored more fully during the FGDs so as to both systematize and standardize the use of these terms in the research and to inform the analysis.

TIS SURVEY KEY FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION

TIS programming involves three key interrelated components: 1) capacity-building to both central and local government and priority institutions; 2) light infrastructure development; and, 3) livelihood, income generation and job creation.⁸ While Somalia has been embroiled in a prolonged crisis since 1991, the move in mid-2012 from a transitional government to the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), coupled with the acceptance of a Provisional Constitution and the removal of al-Shabaab influence from key economic centers has provided grounds for cautious optimism. These political developments have created a possible window of opportunity through which external assistance, such as TIS, can be extended to support a legitimate Somali government in its efforts to bring about a democratic and constitutionally-administered state able to provide security and basic services for its people. Ongoing civil strife has led to the collapse of the state and its key institutions, as well as political fragmentation, with most of Somalia currently controlled by quasi-governmental or non-state entities that have varying degrees of local support. While the regions of Somaliland and Puntland have relative stability, the contested South-Central region is in many areas controlled by al-Shabaab insurgents and continues to experience high levels of crime, sporadic armed conflicts, and violence which serve to undermine peace.⁹ Given the notable differences in priorities, constraints and political landscapes endemic to each cluster region in Somalia, as well as the fluid and unpredictable conditions of the nation-at-large, DAI and IOM have recognized the need for nuanced, targeted, and localized programming in order to achieve goals in each respective region. While mitigating piracy and fostering an enabling environment for livelihood promotion have taken center stage in Puntland, TIS programming in South-Central, Somalia's most fragile region, has largely focused on peace building and conflict recovery. Initiatives in Somaliland and Mogadishu, on the other hand, generally consist of institutional capacity building and strengthening, with a particular focus on political transition and post-conflict reconciliation in Mogadishu.

This section will begin with key findings across Somalia. A brief contextual description of illustrative TIS programming in each of the regions then follows, accompanied by an analysis of the TIS Stabilization Survey Data, by region.

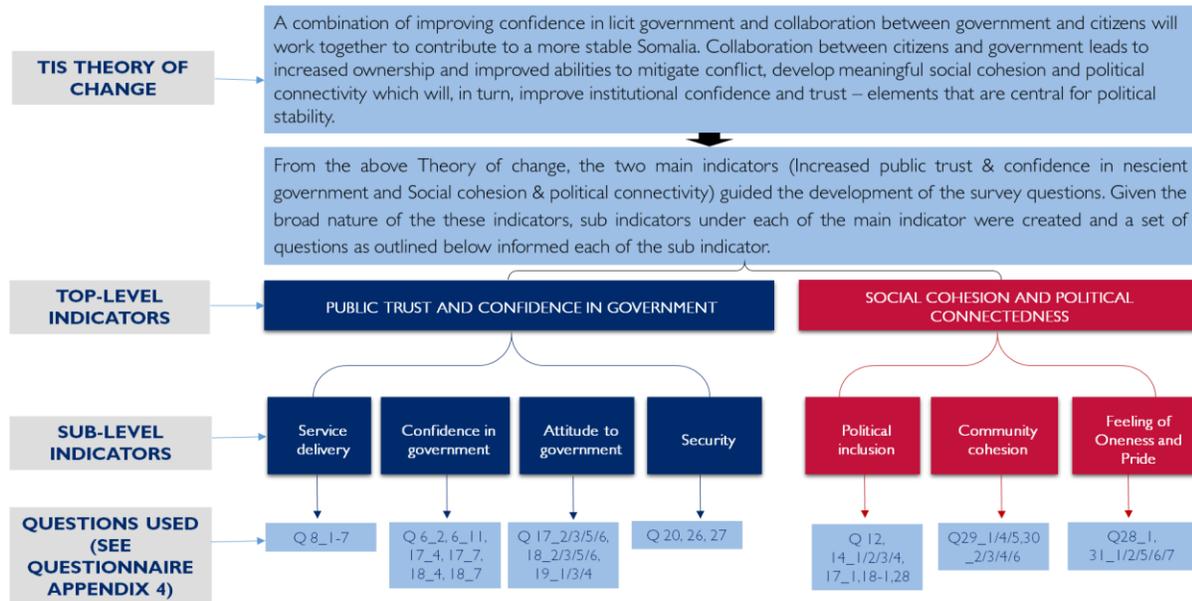
The analysis represents only the most key findings, based on the “indicators to questions/question to indicators” hierarchical methodology described in the TIS Stabilization Report (see figure 1). It also takes into account IOM's and DAI's respective interests in specific questions within the survey, and how these responses correlate to their respective areas of operation as they align to the top-level indicators.

⁸ “IOM/DAI Cooperative Agreements for Transition Initiative for Somalia (TIS).” 2011.

⁹ IOM-TIS Activity Report List, September 19, 2013. Also retrievable from USAID/Somalia M&E Clearinghouse, Data Entry Module – Program: IOM-TIS, Section B20: Grants.

Therefore the analysis focuses on the themes of public trust and confidence in government and social cohesion and political connectedness, with a focus on the programmatic interests of both IOM and DAI in the context of TIS's objectives.

FIGURE 1: TIS THEORY OF CHANGE AND INDICATORS



SOMALIA

This section will highlight the key findings, aggregated to the nationwide level, and relative to a) the two TIS indicators, and b) selected sub-level indicators. Additional analysis will follow below in the four regional sections.

According to the survey, and based on how people judge their economic and financial lives now, compared with one year ago, life for Somalis living in 'viable' areas of the country – as defined by security and access – has generally improved. Almost two thirds (65%) of those living in TIS sites and 60% of those living in Non-TIS sites said that their economic and financial lives were 'better now than a year ago'.

Improved security (45% TIS/ 54% Non-TIS) and community unity (35% TIS/ 24% Non-TIS) are key factors behind these positive feelings about how life is generally better now. There is widespread agreement, however, that service delivery (largely the role of central government) is lacking and that many more basic services are needed (health, infrastructure and education, to mention a few). Nonetheless, the general impression emerging from this study is that people feel that life is better now than it was a year ago.

Looking across each the seven sub-indicators which make up the two top-level indicators identified by the TIS team as measures of outcome, there are higher numbers (indices) for six of the seven sub-indicators in the TIS sites than in the Non-TIS sites. The exception is for Community Cohesion where

the index is the same across the TIS and the Non-TIS sites. Further, for five of the seven sub-indicators, the differences are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level.

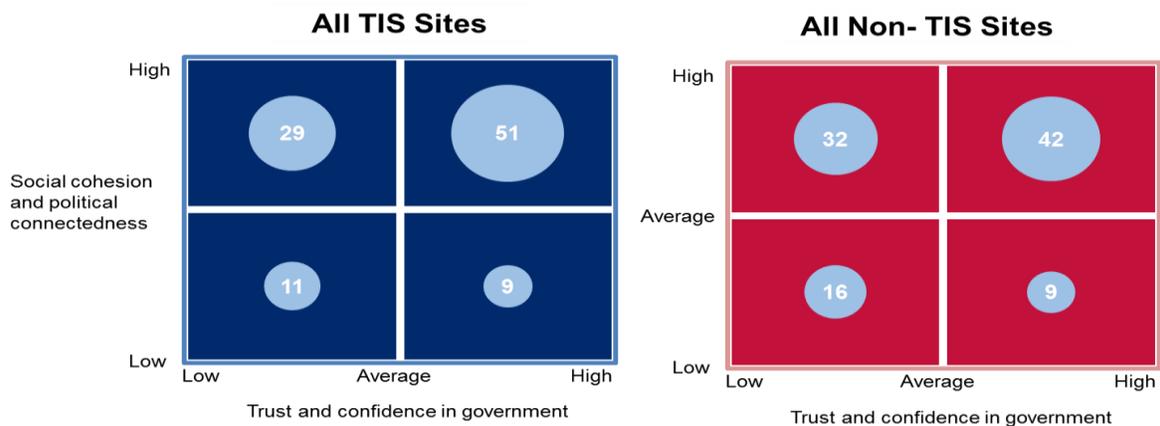
The two top-level indicators also show statistically significant differences between the TIS and the Non-TIS sites:

- Top-level indicator 1: Public Trust and Confidence in nascent government: 69 in TIS sites/ 66 in Non-TIS sites
- Top-level indicator 2: Social Cohesion and Political Connectedness: 74 in TIS sites/ 71 in Non-TIS sites

Somalis, in both TIS and Non-TIS sites believe that their governments, local and central, are becoming more responsive to their needs and slowly improving service delivery. However, the main problem, which continues to permeate all levels of all governments (and NGOs to a degree) is that of corruption, nepotism and clan favoritism. This perception of endemic corruption generates suspicion and mistrust of all levels of government.

On overall perceptions, the chart below plots the two high level indices according to the percentages of respondents across the TIS Sites and the Non-TIS Sites who scored high/ high; high/low; low/low across the two high level indicators. The chart shows that 51% of survey respondents in TIS sites gave high scores (65 and over) to the questions that aggregated to the two top-level indicators, compared with 42% of respondents in the Non-TIS sites. Social cohesion and political connectedness is greater than trust and confidence in government, as the percentages of respondents lying in the top half of the quadrant (high for social cohesion and political connectedness) are greater than those in the lower half. In any follow-up surveys an increase in the figure in the top right quadrant for the TIS sites would support the view that the TIS activity is making the desired contribution to increased levels of trust and confidence in government and in social cohesion and political connectedness. When analyzing according to the sub-level indicators, there are significant differences between TIS and non-TIS sites.

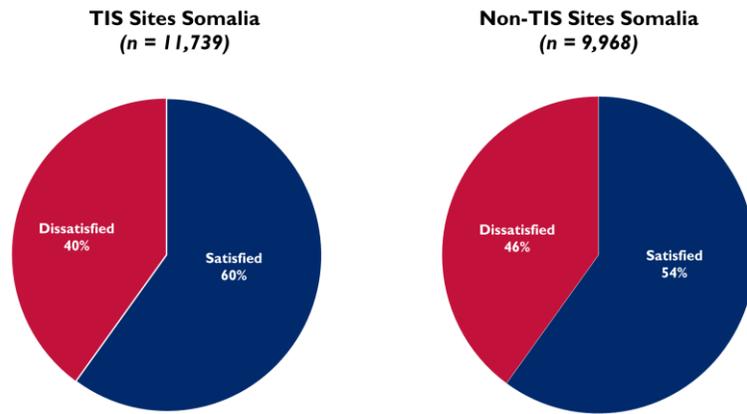
FIGURE 2: TOP LEVEL INDICATORS 1 AND 2



SATISFACTION WITH SERVICES

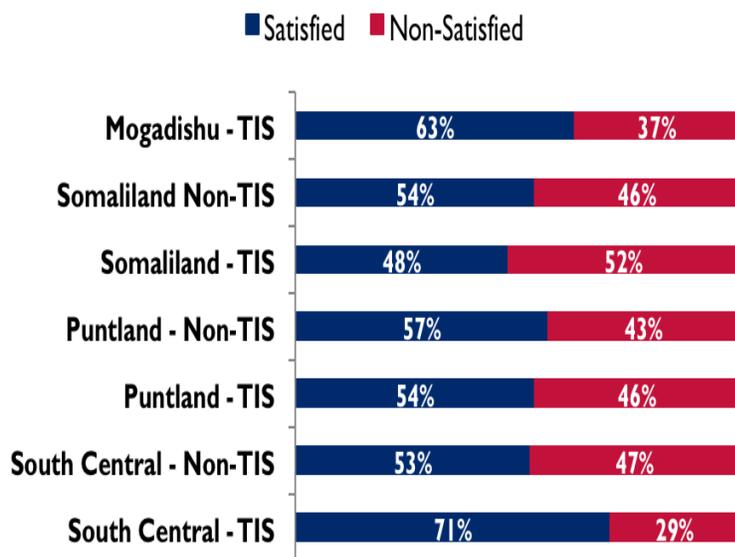
The overall percentage of personal satisfaction with all available services, e.g., health, education, roads, water, electricity, access to markets, justice provided by the government and by private providers across all persons surveyed was 60%, as shown in Figure 3, combining all demographic groups, and in all regions, compared with only 54% satisfied in non-TIS sites. This is an important distinction, and is a statistically significant difference.

FIGURE 3: LEVELS OF SATISFACTION WITH SERVICES ACROSS SOMALIA



When comparing regions by levels of satisfaction, one finds that respondents in South Central Somalia were distinctly more satisfied (71%), as shown in Figure 4, than in those areas which were more likely to be permissive and safe to begin with. In Somaliland TIS sites, for example, only 48% of respondents were satisfied, and 52% were dissatisfied with services - a marked 23% less than respondents in South Central.

FIGURE 4: EXPRESSIONS OF SATISFACTION AGGREGATED FOR ALL 7 ESSENTIAL SERVICE SECTORS INCLUDING PROVISION OF EDUCATION, HEALTH, ROADS/TRANSPORT, ELECTRICITY, ACCESS TO MARKETS, JUSTICE, AND WATER

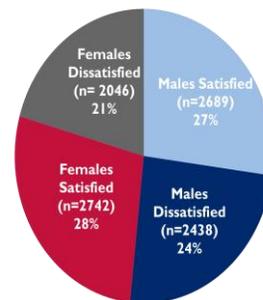


as there are several possible explanations for this divergence: it may be that as South Central has only recently experienced sizable levels of donor intervention due to increased access and security to the region, respondents, as a result, are considerably more “happy” with this level than they were in recent memory; conversely, as regions such as Somaliland become more stable over time, and as a result begin to experience enhanced and reliable access to services, there is a tendency for respondents to become increasingly more impatient or agitated should this access be disrupted, discontinued or does not increase at expected rates. Or it could simply be that respondents’ expectations in South Central are so much lower than in other regions,

that any visible improvements in services elicit a positive perception. It is an important statistical difference that may warrant further exploration by USAID to determine a sustained or increased level of commitment to South Central.

Levels of satisfaction by gender co-vary greatly with age and location. The chart below shows overall levels of satisfaction and non-satisfaction by gender, and refers to the total sampled population. Overall, women were more likely to be satisfied than men (and less likely to be dissatisfied). It should be noted that in the data coming out of the sample frame, males out-numbered females slightly, therefore the total pie slices seen in this chart add up to 51% for males and 49% for females.

FIGURE 5: SATISFACTION OF SERVICES ACROSS SOMALIA BROKEN DOWN BY GENDER



In aggregate, the genders were quite similar. In TIS sites, aggregating all answers by sector, males and females both were favorable, overall, 60% of the time. In Non-TIS sites the genders diverged, overall. Males were satisfied 52% of the time (n >5,100) and females were satisfied over 57% of the time (n > 4,780). More striking differences by gender appear when looking more specifically at sectors and age groups, as seen below in the following regional analyses.

Aggregating across all regions, the level of satisfaction in the TIS sites was not greatly different, but it was significantly different from the non-TIS sites. The differences were the greatest for markets (the largest difference), roads, and electricity/power. No significant difference was seen in the overall sample in education. With water, the effect and direction was different: respondents from non-TIS sites were more satisfied than respondents from TIS sites. This too has potential strategic and operational implications for both USAID and TIS, as they determine if they should focus on areas or services with a lesser degree of satisfaction, e.g., water; and/or emphasize a divided theory by enhancing support to those services in the existing TIS sites with higher levels of satisfaction, e.g., markets; and/or look to extend services support grants to current non-TIS sites.

In the education sector, one pattern seen with regard to education is that older respondents tended to be dissatisfied, i.e., between 33% and 51% in Somaliland, Puntland and Mogadishu. Younger groups tend to be most frequently satisfied, with the highest rates among middle age groups. While the satisfaction for education varied markedly by age/gender category, overall there was no difference between TIS and non-TIS sites. In TIS areas the satisfaction rating was 65% and in non-TIS areas the satisfaction rating was 64%. Across Somalia, patterns of satisfaction with education varied by gender but fit no evident pattern.

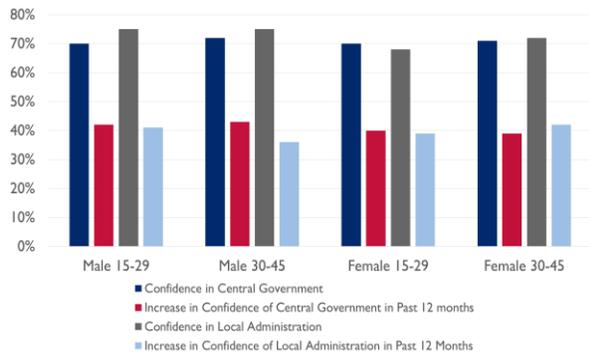
The main patterns seen with access to justice were that the sense of satisfaction was low in Somaliland (TIS and non-TIS sites), low in Puntland (TIS and non-TIS sites), low in Mogadishu (TIS) and low in non-TIS South Central. Meanwhile, it was high in TIS South Central.

Across all age and gender groups, satisfaction with the provision of electricity was very high (above 71% in each group) except in South Central TIS sites, where it was consistently low, with most groups reporting less than 50% satisfaction. In the health sector there was very little variance, except that there was a more satisfied level of response from older females.

CONFIDENCE IN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

There is a marked and statistically significant difference in respondents' perceptions of confidence in the central government and local administration between TIS and non-TIS sites. There also appears to be a significant difference between how males and females feel in the non-TIS sites, but not in the TIS sites.

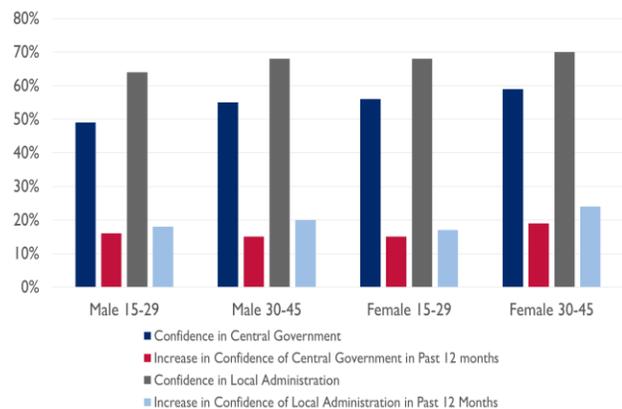
FIGURE 6: CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT IN TIS SITES THROUGHOUT SOMALIA



What's more staggering is the increase in confidence over the past year, which has gone from 15-19% for all males and females in the non-TIS sites, to 39-43% for all males and females in the non-TIS sites. This indicates an immediate and sharp rise in confidence. Overall confidence across all groups is 49-50% in non-TIS sites and 70-71% in TIS sites, which is a significant difference. In terms of both current and future TIS programming, this represents a possible increased focal area – providing grants that are aligned with civic participation and education in government processes; access to local and central government; enhancing community/government participation; and, enhancing government mechanisms for providing essential services.

This suggests a correlation between TIS interventions and the social and gender cohesion among and within the TIS sites, but this cannot be determined with any causal accuracy. Less than 49% of males aged 15-29 in non-TIS sites have confidence in the central government, noting that “central government” in this analysis was by necessity defined and thus interpreted differently in each region, whereas 70% of the same age group have confidence in the TIS sites. 56% and 70% of females of the same age group feel confident in non-TIS and TIS sites respectively.

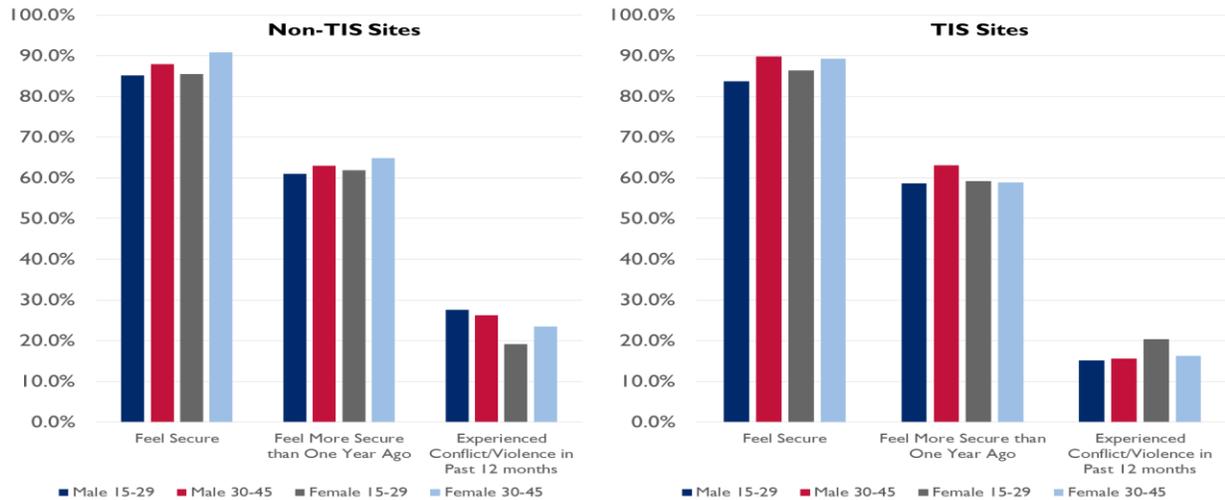
FIGURE 7: CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT IN NON-TIS SITES THROUGHOUT SOMALIA



SECURITY

According to the survey data there are no appreciable differences in respondents' perceptions of security between TIS and non-TIS sites, but when asked whether they "feel more secure" now compared to one year ago, there was a slight rise in levels in males and females aged 30-45.

FIGURE 8: PERCEPTIONS OF SECURITY IN TIS AND NON-TIS SITES THROUGHOUT SOMALIA

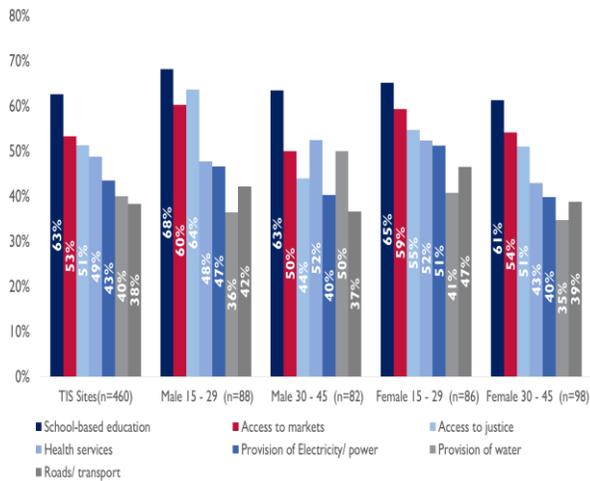


SOMALILAND

Somaliland declared independence in May 1991, ending its union with southern Somalia. Since the fall of the Central Government of Somalia that same year, the region has made significant progress in establishing state structures that serve as the foundation of a decentralized system of governance. Somaliland experienced peaceful, democratic elections in August 2010, which resulted in a smooth transfer of power. While the self-declared state has a relatively stable administration, albeit without international recognition, most government institutions possess limited infrastructure and work-space, in addition to lacking the technical capacity to carry out their mandates, formulate policy which addresses the dire needs of their citizens, and provide basic services.¹⁰ Furthermore, though the participation and broader representation of the entire community has served as a crucial element to Somaliland's hard-won peace and socio-political stability, it has not translated into its engagement in day-to-day operations of various public institutions. This has resulted in several significant consequences including government institutions that are increasingly out of touch with the needs and aspirations of the people. Establishing a learning culture of collaboration within public institutions has been a consistent struggle in Somaliland, and the region has had very limited enhancement of capacity building and service delivery actors.

¹⁰ IOM-TIS Activity Report List, September 19, 2013. Also retrievable from USAID/Somalia M&E Clearinghouse, Data Entry Module – Program: IOM-TIS, Section B20: Grants.

FIGURE 9: SATISFACTION WITH THE PROVISION OF SERVICES (TIS SITES)

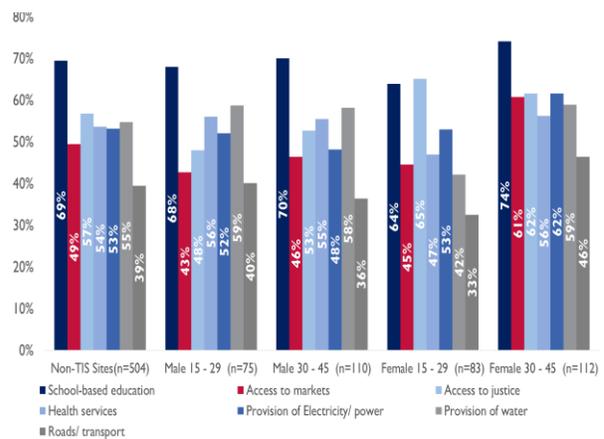


TIS programming in Somaliland has focused on institutional strengthening and consensus building, thereby improving service delivery and perception of government bodies while empowering local communities to take an active role in public decision-making. Since the outset of the program, TIS-IOM has worked in partnership with the Ministry of Finance to connect, through software networking and infrastructure, all public financial management (PFM) functions across the six regions of Somaliland, ensuring efficiency and mitigating the culture of corruption while aligning customs operations, revenue collection and fiscal budget planning.¹¹ Through several grants, TIS-IOM assisted the Somaliland government in gauging its work for

greater impact by financing coordinators and evaluators to assess key successes and challenges within relevant ministries in addition to creating a platform for information sharing and learning. By providing and coordinating feedback on program achievements, perceived value of activities, and progress towards stated objectives, TIS is generating a sense of accountability and credibility, and building the government’s capacity for strategic planning. Furthermore, TIS-IOM and TIS-DAI have constructed the necessary workspaces for innumerable public institutions and government bodies in both major cities and rural areas, including the Ministry of National Planning and Development; Ministry of Interior; Ministry of Public Works, Housing and Transport; public assembly venues; and the district governments of Berbera, Odweyne, Burco and Gar’adag, where the shortage of technical equipment, poor working conditions and lack of other working tools had compromised the quality of services offered. Additionally, TIS-DAI has financed critical road infrastructure throughout both urban and rural Somaliland, fostering linkages between communities and their administration authorities and economic opportunity, while improving access to and movement within the region, and in turn, interrelationships among differing ethnic groups.

An analysis of findings from the Somaliland dataset is revealing. In terms of satisfaction of service delivery, there are stark comparisons between TIS and non-TIS sites, with overall satisfaction varying between TIS and non-TIS sites. That said, there is a significantly higher satisfaction with access to markets in the TIS sites (in part a possible correlation to the enhanced road works from TIS grants), but the inverse holds true, with a large

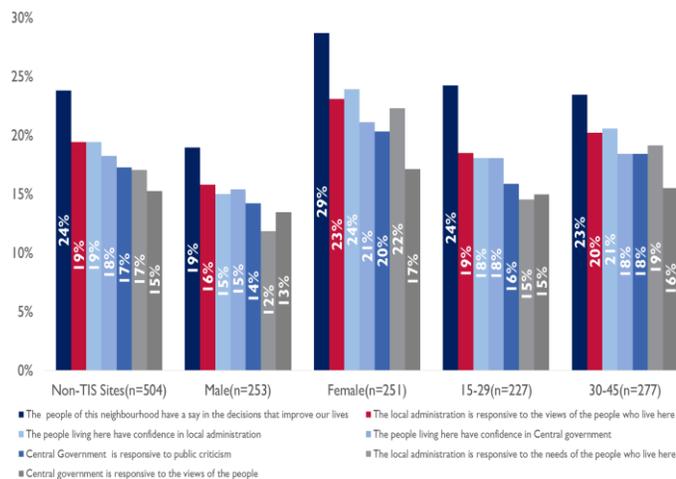
FIGURE 10: SATISFACTION WITH THE PROVISION OF SERVICES (NON-TIS)



¹¹ USAID/Somalia M&E Clearinghouse. Retrieved from www.MEPSInfo.net/de/.

statistical significance, for all other services. This is a compelling finding, and assumes some degree of dissatisfaction in TIS sites in Somaliland, for some cause, and/or some degree of satisfaction in the non-TIS sites, for some cause. As suggested above this may be due to a degree of development stagnation or malignancy in the region, as other regions of the country become larger targets for intervention dollars, or it may be due to an increased sense within the population that while the region has indeed reaped the benefits of TIS (or other donor) interventions, there is the perception that perhaps there has been little continued progress or sustainment of progress. This finding is more marked in Somaliland males and females aged 30-45, who have been witness to many changes to service delivery in recent years.

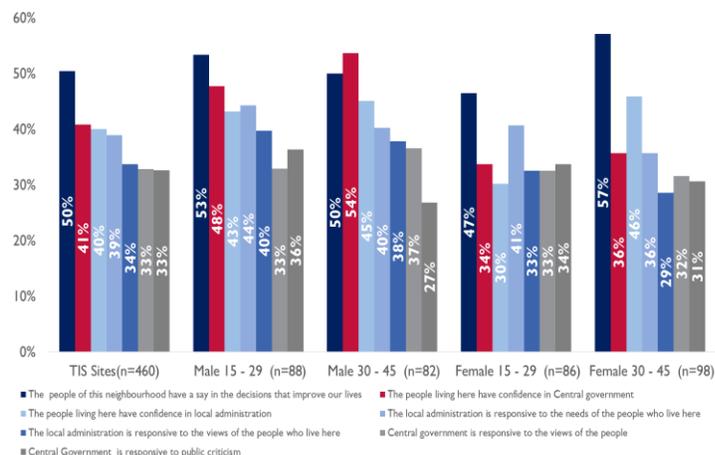
FIGURE 11: EXTENT TO WHICH CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT HAS INCREASED OVER ONE YEAR (NON-TIS SITES)



An equally significant finding is that 85% of all TIS site respondents feel confident that the central government can improve their lives, whereas only 81% feel this way in non-TIS sites. This is statistically significant, and implies a degree of increased confidence in central government. The inverse holds for respondents confidence in religious leaders, local administration and police, whom respondents feel more confidence in in non-TIS sites 81%, 78%, 71% respectively in non-TIS sites to 65%, 65% and 58% respectively in TIS sites. Confidence in the local community is consistent in both sites at 69%.

In terms of social cohesion, community involvement, community integration and “oneness” and overall outlook, when asked to recall perceptions now and one year ago, there is a very strong and statistically significant difference between TIS and non-TIS sites, and between males and females within these sites (see Figures 11 and 12).

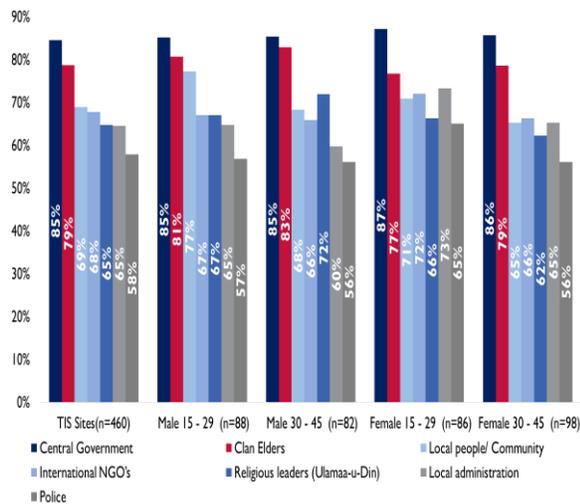
FIGURE 12: EXTENT TO WHICH CONFIDENCE IN THE GOVERNMENT HAS INCREASED OVER ONE YEAR (TIS SITES)



In TIS sites 50% of respondents thought that people in their immediate community have more say now than one year ago, with 25% stating the same in non-TIS sites. Similarly, in TIS sites 41% have more confidence in the central government than one year ago, with 19% stating the same in non-TIS sites. There is a similar pattern for confidence in local administration (40% to 19%); and with overall perceptions of government responsiveness (Figure 11 and 12). In TIS sites, there is a vast disparity of opinion

between males and females aged 15-29, with males in this group feeling generally more positive, and in particular about the neighborhood’s decision-making powers; confidence in the central government. This is a similar pattern for males and females 30-45 years of age.

FIGURE 14: CONFIDENCE THAT THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS ARE ABLE TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY (TIS SITES)



In terms of general outlook, 85% of the respondents in Somaliland TIS sites were confident that the central government would be able to improve their lives, with 79% feeling that clan elders would be able to. All other groups were at 69% or below, with males and females being consistent across age groups. Markedly, in non-TIS sites, 81% of respondents felt that religious leaders (Ulamaa-u-Din) would be able to improve their lives, with 80% feeling that clan elders would be able to. Perceptions that the central government could improve their lives was on par with the local people/community at 69%, below the police at 71%. This is a complex data set, but the findings lead to an assumption about the perceived efficacy of the central government in TIS sites, and perhaps to a correlation between TIS programming at the central government level in Somaliland and peoples’ perceptions of the

government’s aptitude.

When asked the question about who and how decisions were made in their respective communities, TIS and non-TIS site respondents had no significant differences in their opinions, with 84% in each stating that the people themselves had the most role in making decisions. There is however a significant difference in gender and age with 89% of males aged 15-29 and 88% of females aged 15-29 in TIS sites stating this, implying that they had more confidence both in their role in the decision-making process in the community (or with the community contracting process, for example), and in the role of the government, two key precepts to TIS programming.

FIGURE 13: CONFIDENCE THAT THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS ARE ABLE TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY (NON-TIS SITES)

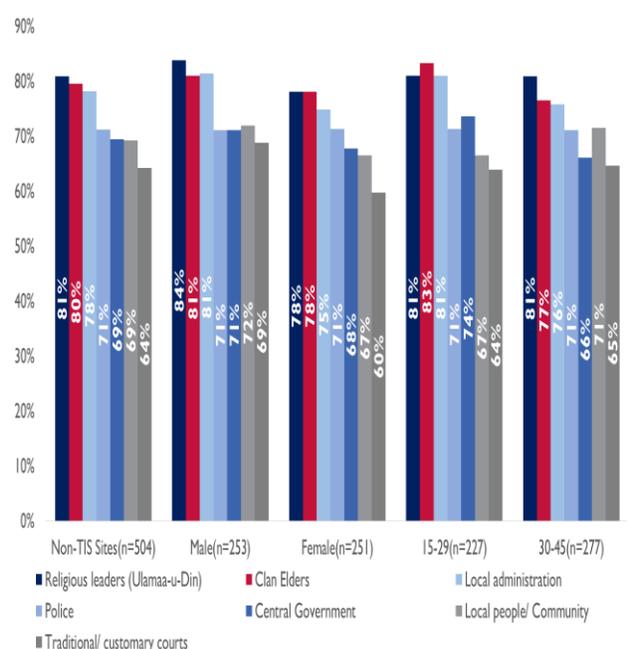


FIGURE 16: STATEMENTS ABOUT HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE IN NEIGHBORHOOD/AREA (NON-TIS SITES)

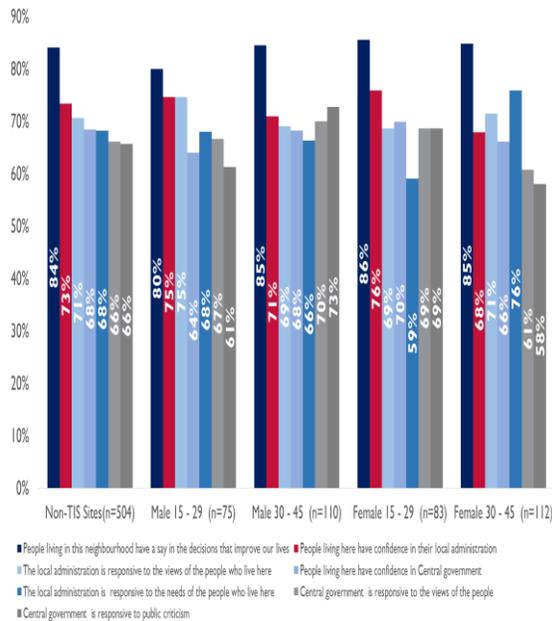
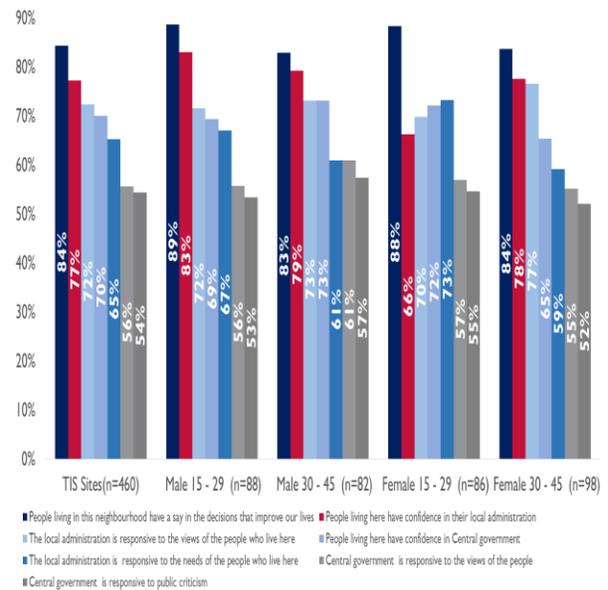
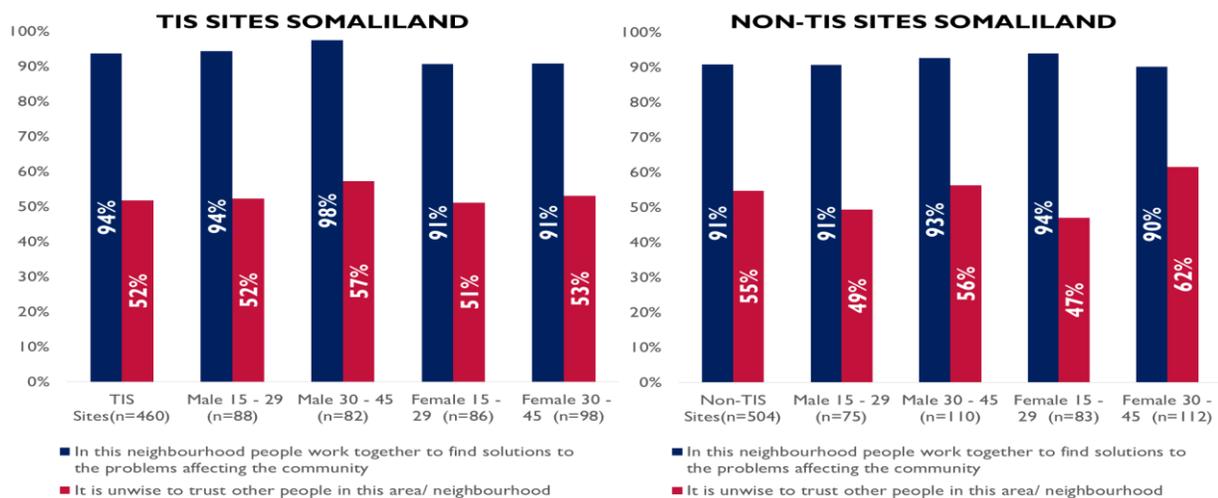


FIGURE 15: STATEMENTS ABOUT HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE IN NEIGHBORHOOD/AREA (TIS SITES)



There is also a small statistically significant difference between TIS and non-TIS sites to support the conclusion that communities in TIS sites are more likely to work together to solve problems, than in non-TIS sites.

FIGURE 17: AGREEMENT WITH STATEMENTS ON COMMUNITY COLLABORATION AND MISTRUST (TIS AND NON-TIS SOMALILAND)

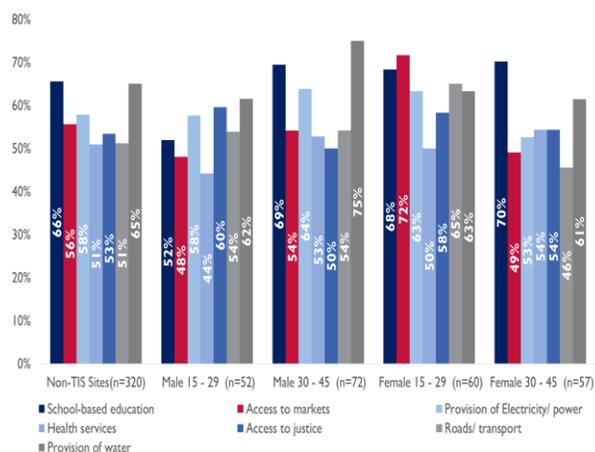


PUNTLAND

Puntland established a regional autonomy based on the federal charter in 1998. Unlike neighboring Somaliland, Puntland does not seek outright independence from Somalia, nor international recognition as a separate state. The Puntland government has established a functional system with relative stability, though undermined by lack of capacity, accessibility and economic opportunity, as well as piracy. The continuing civil war in South-Central Somalia has also led to an influx of Somalis from these regions that has placed pressure on the state's already fragile socio-economic recovery. The youth, which make up approximately 70 percent of the population under 30 years old, are particularly vulnerable to suicide and sea piracy due to their lack of education and skills.¹² Moreover, the presence of a huge number of unskilled, unschooled and unemployed ex-combatant youth further fuels instability, migration and violent conflict that undermine efforts to promote peace, security and socioeconomic development. Limited investment in roads, aging road networks and the lack of road rehabilitation have rendered certain towns and districts inaccessible and negatively affected trade and other economic activities in the region.

TIS programs in the region have sought to improve connectivity and accessibility to potential markets, creating viable conditions for economic growth, in addition to combating piracy and providing productive livelihood promotion opportunities for youth. In supporting the local government to fulfill its responsibilities, TIS-DAI has partnered with municipalities in districts such as Eyl, Iskushuban and Jariban, to name a few, to build roads and road networks which connect key clusters of economic activity, including supply and end markets.¹³ Transportation services in Puntland have been declining steadily due to limited road investment, aging road networks and the lack of road rehabilitation, which had negatively affected trade and commerce. With restricted movement due to poor road networks, the cost of transporting goods and services in Puntland had increased immensely, in turn increasing the standard of living in the community but also adversely influencing the youth to join piracy activities in search of better living standards. TIS-DAI has facilitated trainings and workshops for youth aimed at skill development, entrepreneurship, anti-piracy, and promotion of productive income-generating activities in various districts including Iskushuban, Jariban, Bossaso and Bandarbayla, increasing confidence in local authorities and reducing the appeal of piracy.

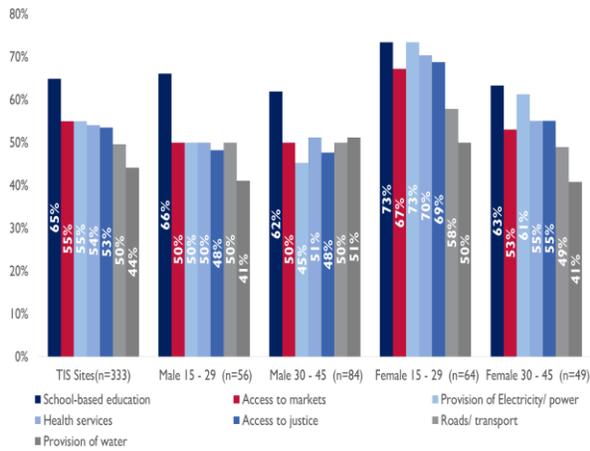
FIGURE 18: SATISFACTION WITH THE PROVISION OF SERVICES (NON-TIS SITES)



¹² *The National Youth Policy of The Puntland State of Somalia*. Dec. 2008.

¹³ USAID/Somalia M&E Clearinghouse. Retrieved from www.MEPSInfo.net/de/.

FIGURE 19: SATISFACTION WITH THE PROVISION OF SERVICES (TIS SITES)

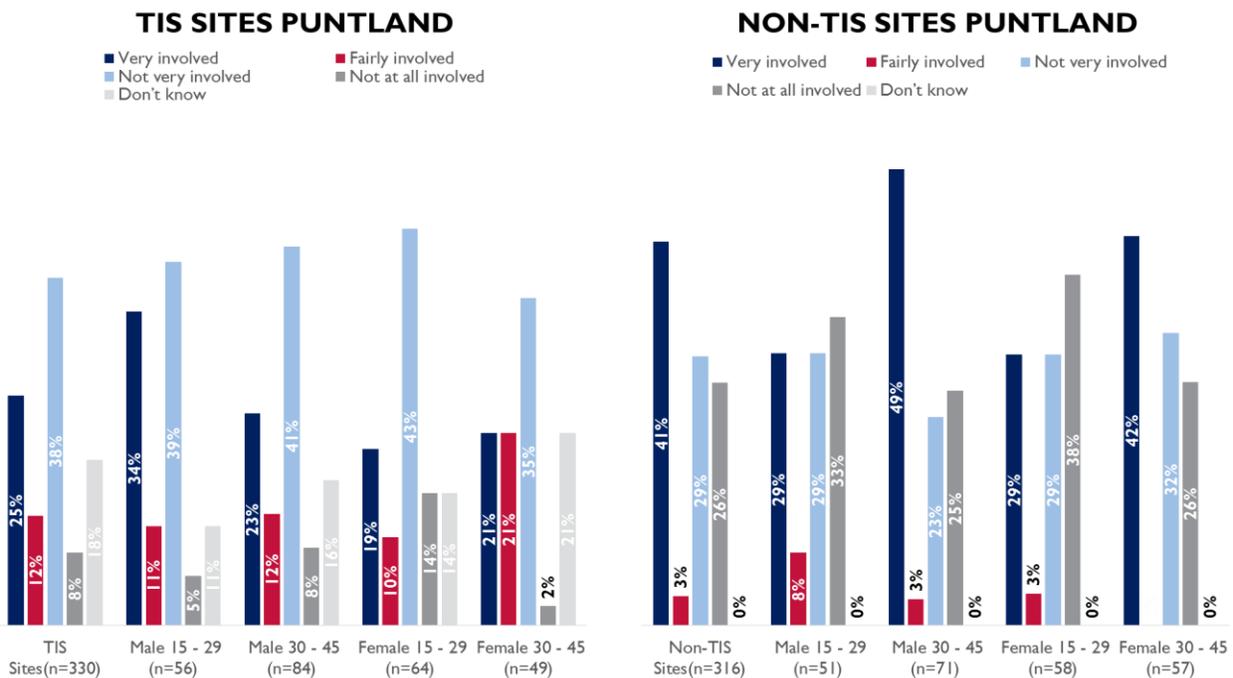


An analysis of findings from the Puntland dataset suggests some intriguing conclusions. On satisfaction with service delivery, there is a statistical difference between those respondents in TIS and non-TIS sites. There is also a relatively low level of satisfaction in both TIS and non-TIS sites in Puntland, one that is an anomaly compared to other regions that should be noted with interest. For example, further analysis reveals that while in both TIS and non-TIS sites, satisfaction with education was consistently high at 65% and 66% respectively, among males in non-TIS sites there was a higher satisfaction level for water services. Regardless of the road-work support TIS

has provided in Eyl, Iskushuban and Jariban, for example, satisfaction with road work in TIS sites was among the lowest levels at 50% (with slightly higher levels being see among females aged 15-29 at 58%), and at levels comparable to those in non-TIS sites.

In reviewing the TIS Activity Reports, and the Quarterly Reports, it is evident that TIS activities in Puntland emphasize grants and activities that target youth involvement, alternative livelihoods, income-generation and entrepreneurship skills, and an increased confidence in the government. As Figure 20 reveals, however, there is an overall lesser level of community involvement in activities in TIS sites than non-TIS sites, although there is no correlation that this lack of involvement is associated with specific

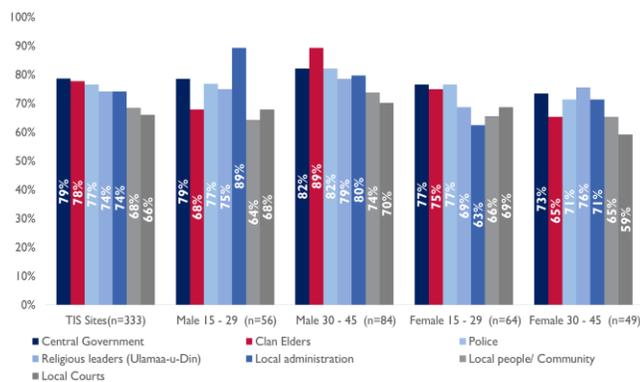
FIGURE 20: TO WHAT EXTENT, IF AT ALL, HAVE MEMBERS OF THIS COMMUNITY BEEN INVOLVED IN ANY OF THESE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES? (TIS AND NON-TIS)



TIS activities. This question relates directly to the concepts of social cohesion and connectedness within the TIS Theory of Change. There is a significant difference between TIS and non-TIS sites with 27% being very involved or involved in TIS sites and 44% being very involved or involved in non-TIS sites, with 35% of males aged 15-29 and 37% of males aged 15-29 respectively. Given that the total number of respondents is a small sample of 56 and 51 respectively, this is not statistically significant but it is noteworthy showing some findings relating to involvement and cohesion being higher in non-TIS sites than TIS sites.

When asked a recall question about perceptions of one’s economic and financial life now compared to one year ago, 59% of TIS site respondents selected “better off today”, and of the overall, 63% of males aged 15-29 selected “better off today”, and 66% of females aged 15-29 selected “better off today.” Given the focus areas of TIS activities in Puntland this is positive and revealing. This is dampened however by noting that of the males in non-TIS sites, 63% of them also selected “better off today” than one year ago.

FIGURE 21: CONFIDENCE THAT THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS ARE ABLE TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY (TIS SITES)



received 68% of responses. 89% of males aged 30-45 selected the elders as being able to improve lives with the central government next at 82%, both at a high level of confidence, while only 65% (the second lowest of the choices) of females aged 30-45 selected the elders and 73% the central government, indicating a decidedly lower level of confidence in these groups. Interestingly, 89% of males aged 15-29 selected local administration as its favored selection (the low number of respondents – fifty-six – renders this finding not statistically significant), while females of the same age group were very mixed. In non-TIS sites 84% of respondents selected clan elders and 69% selected the central government. This is very comparable to the TIS sites. Indeed all age and gender groups selected clan elders and the central

As mentioned above, TIS programming has also emphasized an increased confidence in the government, an outcome that is nested within the overall TIS Theory of Change. In analyzing the major responses, i.e., the most selected Likert responses, to confidence levels in various entities being able to improve lives, there is a significant difference between the TIS and non-TIS sites. In the TIS sites, 79% of total respondents selected the central government, while 78% selected clan leaders, as the next favored selection. The community as a response

FIGURE 22: CONFIDENCE THAT THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS ARE ABLE TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY (NON-TIS)

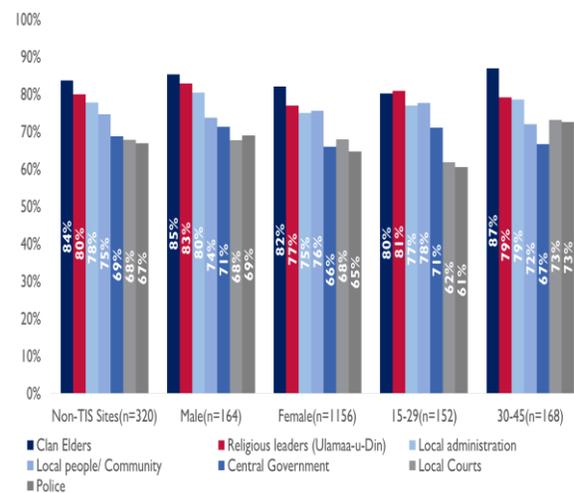
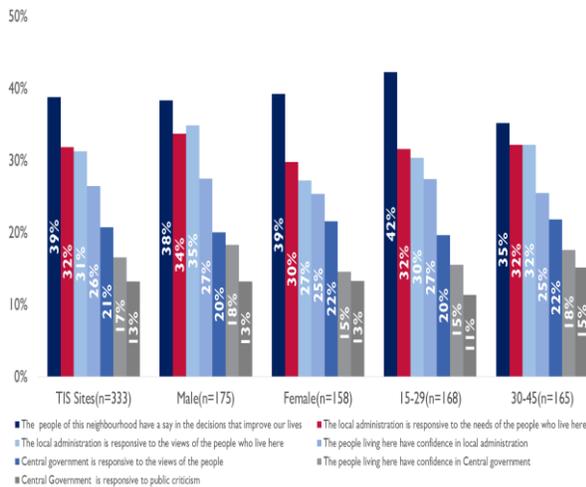


FIGURE 23: STATEMENTS ABOUT HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE IN NEIGHBORHOOD/AREA. (TIS SITES)



government as their favored selections of organizations able to improve lives. This is revealing as it suggests a very cohesive set of attitudes relative to those from the TIS sites.. It also corresponds to data in Figure 22 that suggests that there is less confidence in the central government than in many other providers of services or stability, including more traditional providers such as elders and religious leaders.

In general the data sets for the TIS and non-TIS sites in Puntland are anomalous in that they tend to suggest competing perceptions of confidence, personal involvement, and outlook, often with more positive perceptions being exhibited in the non-TIS site sample. There are also no statistical differences observed between TIS and non-TIS sites

relative to instances of local collaboration, meetings, etc. Interestingly, at times the data suggests that in non-TIS sites attitudes or perceptions towards local and central government and corruption are more positive.

That said, and as per responses relating to perceptions of change since the previous year (see Figures 24 and 25), there is a clear and significant difference between TIS and non-TIS sites on perceptions of participatory involvement in community affairs, local administration responsiveness, central government responsiveness, and overall confidence in central government, with those in TIS sites demonstrating more positive responses overall.

FIGURE 25: EXTENT TO WHICH CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT HAS INCREASED OVER ONE YEAR (NON-TIS)

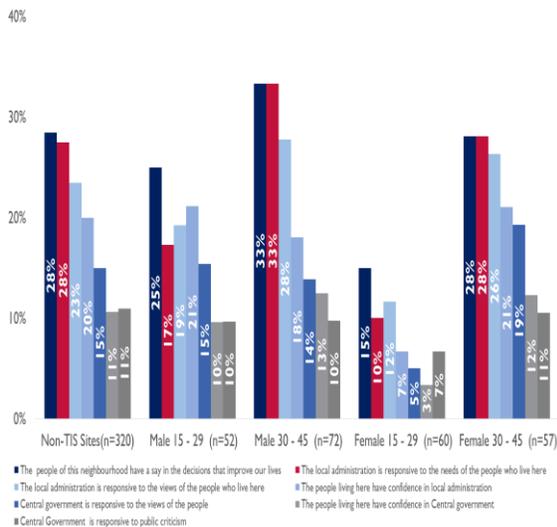
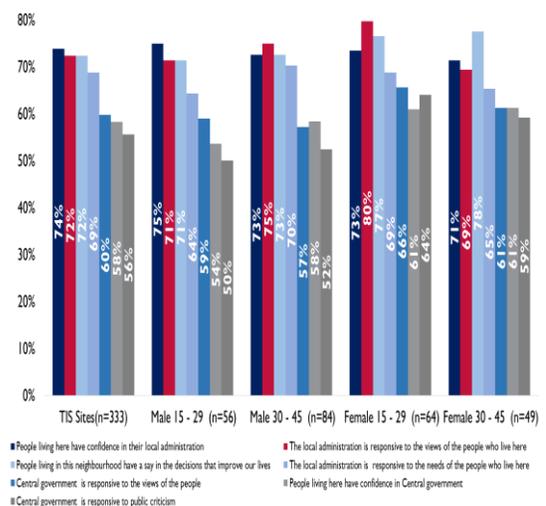


FIGURE 24: EXTENT TO WHICH CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT HAS INCREASED OVER ONE YEAR (TIS SITES)

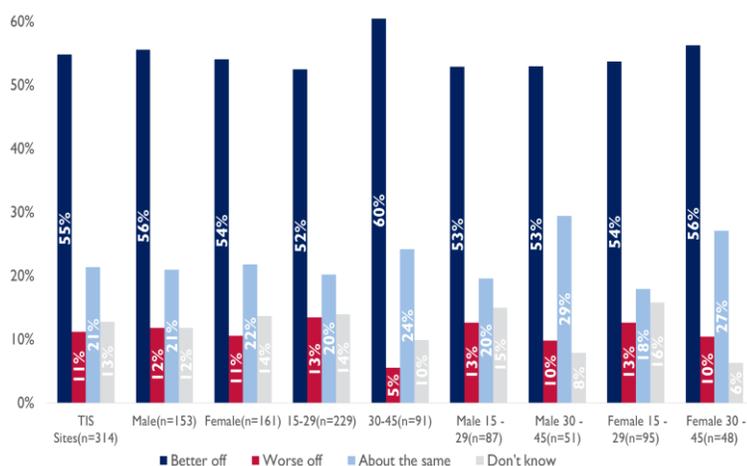


MOGADISHU

The Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) has been able to exercise limited control within the capital Mogadishu following the withdrawal of Al-Shabaab from parts of the city starting in 2011 and the move from the Transitional Federal Government (TFG). There have been indications of some return to normalcy with significant construction underway and greater access across the city due to improvements in security. Some credible traditional leaders are re-emerging along with an evolving municipal and district level administration. However, Mogadishu remains a volatile environment in which to operate, and the current situation is by no means irreversible. The FGS has limited capacity to establish sustainable peace across its national territory, and is affected by numerous internal and external drivers of instability such as a legacy of inter-communal violence, widespread presence of clan-based and religious militia, and entrenched corruption associated with a war economy.¹⁴ TIS programming has played a pivotal role throughout the political transition in Mogadishu by supporting the Transitional Federal Government, capitalizing on the security gains made by AMISOM, and strengthening the current regime's mandate.

In 2012, TIS-DAI sought to enable the National Steering Committee on Reconciliation and Stabilization, a part of the TFG, to adopt a national strategy for sustainable reconciliation and stabilization in the newly liberated areas of South-Central Somalia through provision of office space, survey assessments, and recruitment of quality personnel. Subsequently, TIS-DAI provided critical support to the Somali Constitutional Assembly, with the aim to encourage the participation of Somali citizens in deciding upon the provisional adoption of the Constitution.¹⁵ This step was necessary to finally move Somalia to a more permanent form of government after almost a decade in transitional status. TIS-IOM has financed numerous activities in Mogadishu, including institutional strengthening, service provision, and conflict

FIGURE 26: BETTER OFF ECONOMICALLY AND FINANCIALLY THAN ONE YEAR AGO (TIS SITES)



recovery and healing training. IOM's Employment for Peace grants have cleared garbage from the city streets and provided employment opportunities for jobless youth across eleven districts of Mogadishu. Furthermore, IOM has rehabilitated and renovated the Benadir Administration offices, training halls, and conference rooms, improving its capacity to provide services to its residents and meet basic standards of performance. The more neglected side of sustained chaos in Somalia has been the psychological effects of the cycle of violence and victimhood. Weak

governance, resulting from an erosion of traditional forms of governance coupled with the effects of

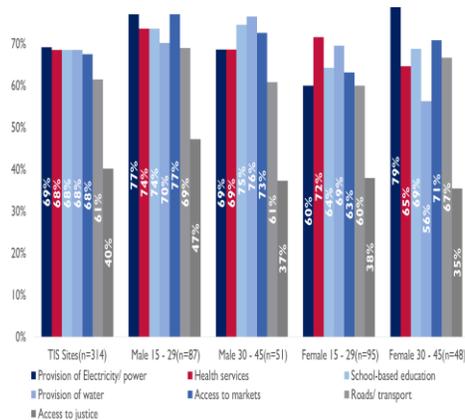
¹⁴ DFID Somalia Support to Community-based Stabilisation efforts in Mogadishu. London, England: DfID. <iati.dfid.gov.uk/iati_documents/3717382.docx>.

¹⁵ USAID/Somalia M&E Clearinghouse. Retrieved from www.MEPSInfo.net/de/.

current and historical trauma, has left the population with no confidence in the rule of law. TIS-IOM, in close collaboration with the Benadir Administration, conducted extensive trauma healing training for facilitator representatives from each district. The trained facilitators have participated in community forums, conferences and dialogues across Mogadishu.

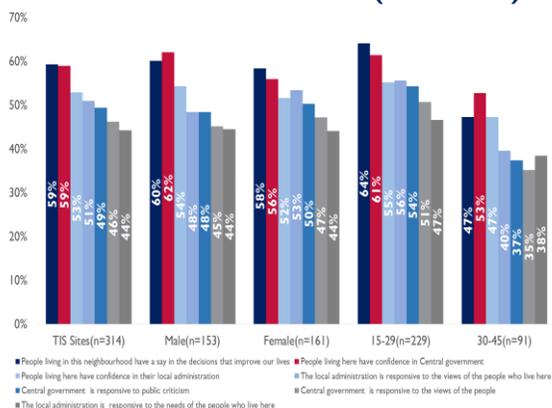
As the survey data suggests, there is a moderate level of overall economic and financial satisfaction in Mogadishu compared to one year ago, with generally consistent levels across males and females, with the 30-45 age group feeling generally more positive than one year ago. An interesting finding is that there is a sizeable number of respondents who feel that things have either stayed the same or gotten worse (31% in the overall category). This number is quite high, and is thus worthy of further analysis to uncover the reasons for such a high number, e.g., resurgent insecurity, increased economic growth leading to competition for resources and markets, etc. As a note, these levels of satisfaction, or general well-being, are the lowest of all the regions, and in line with some of the data from the non-TIS sites in Puntland.

FIGURE 27: SATISFACTION WITH PROVISION OF SERVICES (TIS SITES)



In terms of overall satisfaction with the provision of and/or access to services, Mogadishu's numbers are consistent with those from other regions, and are plateaued with very little variance across the sectors, save for roads and access to justice which are at 61% and 40% respectively in the overall category. Interestingly, satisfaction with health services with females aged 30-45 is 9% lower than with males aged 15-29, a variance that is presumably not surprising given respective needs. Equally illustrative to TIS is that satisfaction with access to justice is the lowest across all demographic groups, considerably lower

FIGURE 28: STATEMENTS ABOUT HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE IN NEIGHBORHOOD/AREA (TIS SITES)



than all other sectors, and ebbs with females aged 30-45 at 35%.

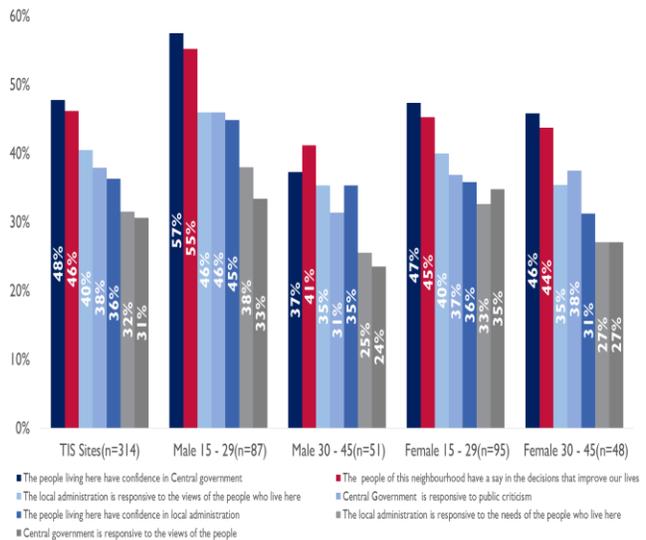
Regarding perceptions of inclusion, collaboration, participation, and confidence in local administration and central government, respondents in Mogadishu vary. The overall perceptions are also the lowest of all the regions. A superficial read of Figure 28 would imply that residents feel somewhat positive about their level of self-determination, with 59% of overall respondents feeling that they have some say in the decisions to improve their lives, with an even more positive response rate for youth with 64% of those aged 15-29 feeling that they have some say in the

decisions to improve their lives. This is in contrast to 47% of those aged 30-45. There is also a very low perception of the central government's responsiveness to the views of the people, and in particular among those aged 30-45 (35%), and its responsiveness to criticism, again with the lowest opinion being among those aged 30-45 (37%). Of note however, is that those aged 15-29 have a significantly higher opinion on these issues with 51% feeling that the central government is responsive to the views of the

people, and 54% feeling that the central government is responsive to the criticisms of the people. While perhaps not statistically different, the implication is that youth feel much more inclusive and confident in the central government. This pattern is repeated with confidence in local administration.

Relative to other regions, survey respondents in Mogadishu feel that the community has a low level of confidence in the central government, and even lower levels of confidence in local administration. Perceptions of responsiveness of the central government and local administration are very low at 31% and 32% respectively. There is however considerable variance among males and females and among age groups, with males aged 15-29 feeling most positive, and with males and females 15-29 feeling more positive than males 30-45. Females 15-29 and 30-45 had comparable perceptions.

FIGURE 29: EXTENT TO WHICH CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT HAS INCREASED OVER ONE YEAR (MOGADISHU SITES)



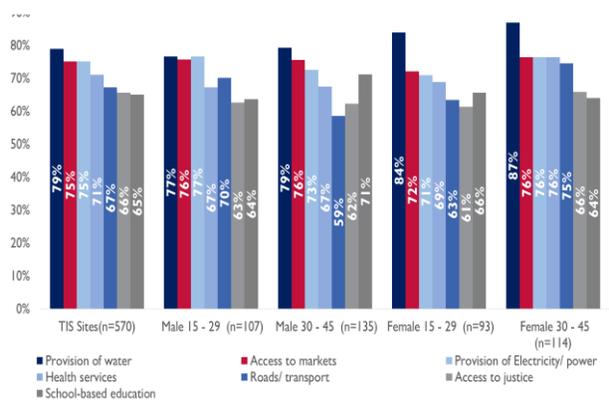
There are several important methodological considerations when analyzing the data for Mogadishu, and more so when drawing conclusions from the findings. There is no comparison group for the Mogadishu sample, other than the other regions, and this form of comparative analysis is rather weak indeed. There are no comparison non-TIS samples, and in an environment in which there is a considerable donor intervention, considerable fluidity in the security situation, and a communal sense of fatigue and war-weariness, each finding will need to be viewed somewhat independently from the other regional analyses. It is certainly the case that each finding can be informative, but each may not necessarily illustrate – or imply - TIS impact.

SOUTH CENTRAL

South Central, the most fragile region in Somalia, has made tangible advances in ousting Al-Shabaab with the help of IGAD forces, the African Mission to Somalia (AMISOM), and the Somali National Forces, yet inter-clan conflict, Al-Shabaab attacks and instability are still rampant. Though peace prevailed in some parts of this region throughout the years, the area has suffered chronic neglect in terms of dilapidated public infrastructure and poor and non-existent provision of public services. Many residents of South-Central have lost their livelihoods, suffered lasting physical injuries, and endured psychological trauma. Rampant insecurity, drought, and loss of livelihood opportunities have led to a massive amount of internally displaced residents. The sporadic, unpredictable violence and resulting civil strife have disproportionately affected women and youth.

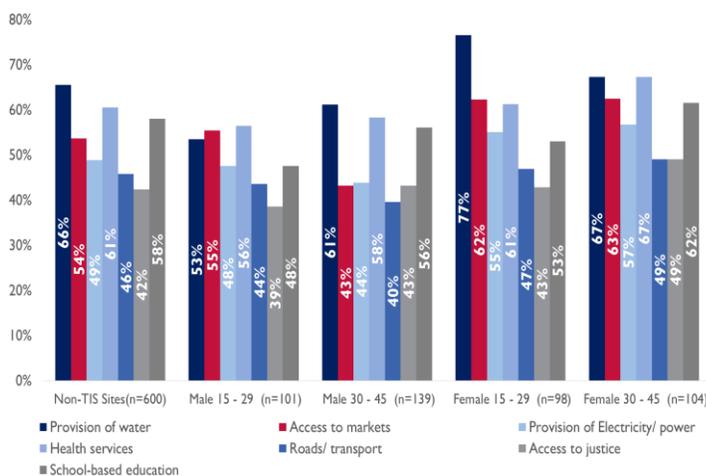
TIS activities in the region are focused on supporting long-term stability and peace-building efforts, with particular attention on women, the reduction in the appeal of extremism to youth, and productive local livelihood opportunities. TIS programming in the region has been underpinned by the premise that communities working together on development initiatives can, over time, build trust and greater resilience to outside violence. DAI, the only TIS implementing partner conducting activities in this region, has financed the construction of several community venues to facilitate peaceful dialogue and timely conflict resolution.¹⁶ It is assumed that such venues may play a role in mitigating the volatilities in the region, fostering reconciliation, and strengthening community relations by enabling constructive dialogue and joint handling of community issues. Unemployed youth in the region are at an elevated risk of joining outlawed militia organizations due to a lack of other sources of income, and many have been enticed to join such groups, potentially contributing to the re-emerging cycle of violence. TIS-DAI has financed the cost of several new outdoor market facilities as well as vocational venues for women and youth organizations throughout the region, thereby aiming to create conditions for viable commerce activities, in addition to increasing the involvement and participation of women and youth in community matters. Moreover, in order to combat resource scarcities and any potential resulting conflict, TIS-DAI has supported increased access to freshwater sources in several communities around the region, further helping to promote and nurture positive communal relationships.

FIGURE 30: SATISFACTION OF PROVISION OF SERVICES (TIS SITES)



Given the breadth of TIS activities, and the wide geographical distribution of grants, often in inaccessible

FIGURE 31: SATISFACTION OF PROVISION OF SERVICES (NON-TIS)



areas, the analysis of the survey data for South Central must be read with some degree of conjecture, or of estimation of outcome and impact, rather than as a definitive illustration of impact. This being the case, there are decidedly high levels of positive perception in most sub-level indicators, and as a more recent area of operations for TIS programming, the findings may prove insightful.

In terms of overall levels of satisfaction with services, the levels are very high to high across the sectors in the TIS sites relative to the non-TIS sites, with the provision of water being the highest at

¹⁶ USAID/Somalia M&E Clearinghouse. Retrieved from www.MEPSInfo.net/de/.

79% overall, and not surprisingly at 84% for females aged 15-29, and 87% for females aged 30-45. An analysis of the TIS sites where higher responses were recorded would be beneficial, assuming that these are areas where TIS has provided, or is providing, support to water activities.

Noting, as above, that TIS has financed the cost of several new outdoor market facilities, it is also interesting to note the relatively high level of satisfaction relating to access to markets. Here too, an analysis of where the higher of these responses is would be beneficial, assuming that these are areas where TIS has provided, or is providing, support to market activities. Access to justice is a relatively lower response at 66% overall in TIS sites, and its lowest level at 61% for females aged 15-29. When compared to the non-TIS sites' responses, however, the TIS sites' responses are still quite high, with the overall non-TIS sites' responses for access to justice at 42%, and, interestingly, its lowest level at 39% for males aged 15-29. Education was as at the lowest level of satisfaction in both TIS and non-TIS sites at 65% and 58% respectively.

There are resoundingly favorable responses to questions relating to confidence in local administration and central government. 81% of respondents in TIS sites feel that people within the community have a say in decisions that improve their lives, and 87% feel that people in the community have confidence in the central government. The highest level for these two variables is with females aged 30-45 at 90% and 88% respectively. That said, the levels for the perception that people within the community have a say in decisions that improve their lives in non-TIS sites was also high, at 80%. Of

FIGURE 32: COMMUNITY INCLUSION, COLLABORATION, PARTICIPATION, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (TIS SITES)

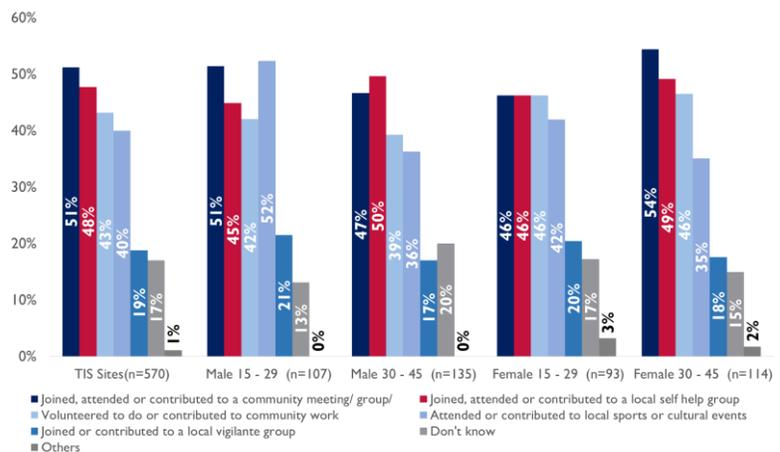
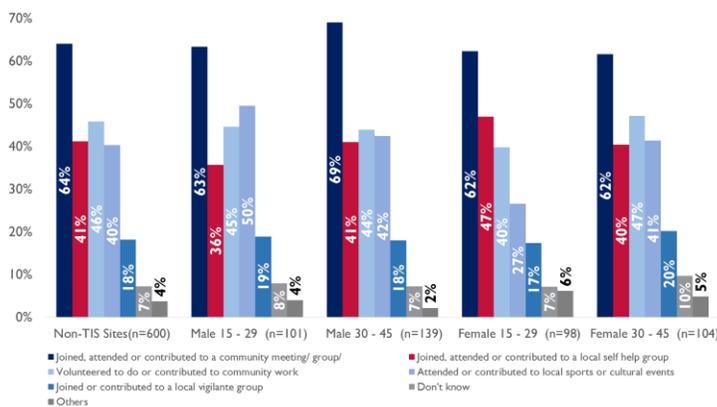


FIGURE 33: COMMUNITY INCLUSION, COLLABORATION, PARTICIPATION, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (NON-TIS SITES)



more interest, in non-TIS sites only 50% (compared to 81% in TIS sites) feel that people in the community have confidence in the central government, with the lowest being among males aged 15-29 at 45%, whereas 64% of respondents feel that people in the community have confidence in local administration, with the highest being females aged 30-45. This is a notable finding in that there is a marked level of favorable perceptions of the central government in TIS sites. On community inclusion, collaboration, participation, and civic engagement,

there are more complex findings. In TIS sites, 51% of the overall respondents suggested that they had joined, attended or contributed to a community meeting or group session, with females aged 30-45 having the highest rate at 54%. 48% of the overall respondents stated that they had attended a self-help session (e.g., a trauma healing, peace building or social reconciliation session), with males and females aged 30-45 having the highest levels at 50% and 49% respectively. Relative to TIS programming activities relating to social inclusion and cohesion, and to trauma healing and social reconciliation, this is an encouraging finding. However, a review of the non-TIS site data suggests comparable - or greater - levels of involvement community participation and inclusion.

In non-TIS sites, 64% of respondents suggested that they had joined, attended or contributed to a community meeting or group session (51% in TIS sites), with males aged 30-45 having the highest rate at 69%. But in the non-TIS sites, 41% of the overall respondents stated that they had attended a self-help session, with females aged 15-29 having the highest level at 47%. These are compelling findings that may support the conclusion that there was relative impact in community inclusion, social cohesion and healing activities in TIS sites. However, without knowing of the other actors' activities in either the TIS or non-TIS sites in South Central, this conclusion is unsubstantiated.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This report has two objectives:

1. To provide USAID/Somalia with a defensible “snapshot” - or benchmark - of perceptions relating to the TIS Theory of Change, and its indicators; and,
2. To provide USAID/Somalia with defensible findings that when analyzed individually or in aggregate may validate the TIS Theory of Change and possibly illustrate, indicate or imply relative impact(s) that TIS activities may have had on TIS communities and on the attitudes and behaviors of residents in these communities.

As noted at the outset, impact defined in this report refers to conducting an objective review of the data to reveal trends or themes that may support TIS contribution to a changed state of affairs, or statistical correlation to a changed state of affairs. The report endeavors to synthesize the key findings of the survey so as to provide *actionable* conclusions and recommendations to TIS and to USAID.

It should be noted, too, that this report – and the TIS Stabilization Survey Report - do not act as baselines for the current TIS program, but can, with an analysis of available quantitative metrics, inform a follow-on TIS program should this be necessary.

Importantly, this report is also not intended to be evaluative; it is a status report on attitudinal comparisons between TIS and non-TIS sites. That said, this report can serve to inform any subsequent performance or impact evaluation of the TIS program.

The following conclusions and recommendations are derived from the findings described within this report, and equally critically, from the TIS Stabilization Survey Report.

CONCLUSIONS

1. ***There are undeniable, evidence-based, findings that suggest that indicators are overwhelmingly more positive in TIS sites than those in non-TIS sites***, and that perceptions of social cohesion; connectedness; community involvement; confidence in government and local administration; and, satisfaction with essential services are overall significantly higher in TIS sites than in non-TIS sites. But the correlation between this positive trend in TIS sites and the presence of TIS interventions is inconclusive. There is a higher positive perception of all indicators in South Central, and a much lower level in Puntland. There are clear anomalies in Somaliland, where satisfaction with services fluctuates, but confidence in central government and clan elders is very high. In Mogadishu, the analysis represents stasis, with relatively lower levels of positive perceptions across the indicators. This is not uncommon in transitioning environments, where the intervention population has endured decades of conflict, disruption, lack of opportunity and instability, often resulting in a sense of conflict apathy and weariness.

2. ***There is evidence of positive change in TIS sites (and non-TIS sites for that matter), and evidence of positive attitudinal differences between TIS and non-TIS sites between now and one year ago***, but contribution, let alone attribution, is impossible without the presence of baseline data, an analysis based on activity mapping, or analyses derived from any follow-on performance and/or impact evaluations, all of which this survey can inform.
3. ***There is a correlation between positive responses, the sub-level indicators and the two TIS top-level indicators (Public Trust and Confidence in Government & Social Cohesion and Political Connectedness)***. This implies a logical linkage to the TIS Theory of Change, but it does not imply a validation of the Theory of Change. There is insufficient data to validate the Theory of Change.
4. ***The findings suggest that perceptions of security are very high in Somalia overall, and that these perceptions are generally comparable in both TIS and non-TIS sites***. There is, however, no correlation between perceptions of security and the presence or non-presence of TIS activities. There is also no evidence that supports a correlation between TIS activities and enhanced security, or feelings of security.
5. ***The findings suggest that there is an overall higher level of social cohesion and political connectedness in TIS sites than in non-TIS sites, but this is variable with some non-TIS sites having higher perceptions of cohesion as evidenced in community involvement***. The higher values in TIS sites do not imply that TIS activities enhanced social cohesion in the TIS sites, but that there is a possible contribution. There are inconsistencies, however. In non-TIS sites there is a consistently higher level of “working together”, having a say in community decisions, and being involved in the community consultative and contracting processes. These are key stabilization precepts for TIS, and one suggestion that is outlined below is that TIS consider more asset-based approaches when planning activities, e.g., using participatory planning approaches that identify and capitalize on *existing* societal strengths – rather than gaps or needs - such as youth entrepreneurship; social cohesion; camaraderie among male and female groups; women’s leadership in reconciliation initiatives; religion and religious leadership; and community cohesion, when developing activities with the communities themselves.
6. ***The findings suggest that in TIS sites there is an overall sense of satisfaction with one’s financial and economic life compared to that of one year ago***. That said, there is a sizeable number of respondents who feel that things have either stayed the same or gotten worse, e.g., 31% in the overall category in Mogadishu. This number is relatively high, should not be ignored, and thus requires further analysis to uncover the reasons for such a high number, e.g., the fear of, or presence of, resurgent insecurity, increased economic growth leading to competition for resources and markets, etc. The numbers in Puntland are also significantly lower than those in Somaliland and South Central.
7. ***There is an overall higher satisfaction with services in TIS sites than in non-TIS sites***. But the correlation between this satisfaction and TIS interventions is inconclusive. It does suggest possible contribution in some cases, but this too is variable across sectors and regions. For example, as a result of much work with the Somaliland Ministry of National Planning and

Development; Ministry of Interior; Ministry of Public Works, Housing and Transport, and financing critical road infrastructure throughout both urban and rural Somaliland, there is a significantly higher satisfaction with access to markets in the TIS sites (in part a possible correlation to the enhanced road works from TIS grants). However, the inverse holds true for all other services, and is statistically significant. Despite work in TIS sites, the data suggests that many beneficiaries are still dissatisfied with services provided. Inversely, there appears to be a certain level of satisfaction with services in sites where TIS was not implemented. As suggested above this may be due to a degree of development stagnation in Somaliland, as other regions of the country become larger targets for intervention dollars, or it may be due to an increased sense within the population that while the region has indeed reaped the benefits of TIS (or other donor) interventions, there are perceptions that there has been too little continued progress or sustainment of progress. In Puntland, there is also a relatively low level of satisfaction in both TIS and non-TIS sites, one that is an anomaly that should be noted with interest. Further analysis reveals that while in both TIS and non-TIS sites, satisfaction with education was consistently high at 65% and 66% respectively, among males in non-TIS sites there was a higher satisfaction level for water services. Regardless of (or independent of) the roadwork support TIS has provided in Eyl, Iskushuban and Jariban, for example, satisfaction with road work in TIS sites was among the lowest levels at 50% (with slightly higher levels being seen among females aged 15-29 at 58%), and at levels comparable to those in non-TIS sites. Of interest to TIS, in Mogadishu access to justice is the lowest across all demographic groups, and is considerably lower than all other sectors, and ebbs with females aged 30-45 at 35%.

8. ***There are mixed perceptions about the confidence in and responsiveness of the central government and local administration.*** In all regions there is a strong sense of confidence in the central government and local administration, and the responsiveness of the central government and local administration. But there are anomalies. On the high point, in Somaliland, 85% of all TIS site respondents feel confident that the central government can improve their lives, whereas only 81% feel this way in non-TIS sites. This is statistically significant nonetheless, and implies a degree of relative confidence in central government between the sites. TIS programming has emphasized an increased confidence in the government, an outcome that is nested within the overall TIS theory of change. In analyzing the major responses, i.e., the most selected Likert responses to confidence levels in being able to improve lives in Puntland, there is a significant difference between the TIS and non-TIS sites. In the TIS sites, the number one answer, with 79% of the responses, was the central government. In non-TIS sites 84% of respondents selected clan elders, ranking the traditional clan institution first in confidence. Still, 80% also selected the central government, making it a close second. This is very comparable to the TIS sites, and is thus inconclusive. Relative to other regions, survey respondents in Mogadishu feel that the community has a low level of confidence in the central government, and even lower levels of confidence in local administration, a pattern that should be further explored, and one that may be a result of latent psychological weariness caused from experiencing years of conflict.
9. ***The findings suggest that there is a significantly greater perception of community involvement, ownership, and decision-making power in TIS sites than in non-TIS sites, but***

the correlation between this greater perception and TIS interventions is inconclusive. In almost all regions, there is a higher level of involvement, inclusion and decision-making. In Somaliland TIS sites 50% of respondents thought that people in their immediate community have more say now than one year ago, with 25% stating the same in non-TIS sites. Similarly, in TIS sites 41% have more confidence in the central government than one year ago, with 19% stating the same in non-TIS sites. Puntland is an outlier: there is an overall lesser level of community and individual involvement in activities in TIS sites than non-TIS sites, although there is no correlation that this lack of involvement is associated with specific TIS activities. There is a significant difference between TIS and non-TIS sites with 27% being very involved or involved in TIS sites and 44% being very involved or involved in non-TIS sites, with 35% of males aged 15-29 and 37% of males aged 15-29 respectively. This is noteworthy. In Mogadishu there are even more revealing findings. The overall perceptions of inclusion, self-determination and community connectedness are the lowest of all the regions. A superficial read would suggest that residents feel somewhat positive about their level of self-determination, with 59% of overall respondents feeling that they have some say in the decisions to improve their lives, with an even more positive response rate for youth with 64% of those aged 15-29 feeling that they have some say in the decisions to improve their lives, but this too is lower than all other regions including, Somaliland, Puntland, and South Central. The reasons behind these levels should be further explored, and they could be the result of a sense of latent cynicism and war tiredness.

10. ***Puntland is an outlier.*** An analysis of findings from the Puntland dataset suggests some intriguing conclusions. In general the data sets for the TIS and non-TIS sites in Puntland are anomalous in that they tend to suggest competing perceptions of confidence, personal involvement, and outlook, often with more positive perceptions being exhibited in the non-TIS site sample. There is also little or no statistical differences observed between TIS and non-TIS sites relative to instances of local collaboration, meetings, etc., and at times the data suggests inverse perceptions to attitudes to local and central government and corruption, with non-TIS sites exhibiting more positive responses. Additionally, there is a relatively low level of satisfaction in both TIS and non-TIS sites in Puntland, one that is an anomaly that should be noted with interest. In reviewing the TIS Activity Reports, and the Quarterly Reports, it is evident that TIS activities in Puntland emphasize grants and activities that target youth involvement, alternative livelihoods, income-generation and entrepreneurship skills, and an increased confidence in the government. As the findings reveal, however, there is an overall lesser level of community and individual involvement in activities in TIS sites than non-TIS sites.

11. ***The findings suggest that TIS activities in certain regions may have had more positive impacts in some regions than in others,*** and with some activities more than others. However the correlation between TIS and the positive impacts is inconclusive. The data suggests that overall perceptions of confidence in the central government are higher in TIS sites than on non-TIS sites (except for Mogadishu, which does not have a comparison site), and that satisfaction with services is overall higher in TIS sites than in non-TIS sites. This does not suggest a correlation between TIS activities and the higher perceptions, but it is suggestive. In short, activities emphasizing confidence in central government and local administration may result in higher levels of confidence in central government and local administration. Activities

emphasizing a) service delivery and type of service; and b) government provision of service delivery may result in perceptions of greater satisfaction of these services. In the sample, the more impactful types of services are understandably those that are identified by the communities as being most desirable for the communities in the short-term, e.g., boreholes in arid areas; roads to improve access to markets and to enhance delivery chains, etc. It is also clear from the evidence that perceptions are very positive in TIS sites in South Central, and this may be the result of long-awaited support to activities in the region. That said, given the scale and sector breadth of TIS activities in the region, often in inaccessible areas, the analysis of the survey data for South Central must be read with a degree of conjecture, rather than as definitive evidence of impact. In terms of overall levels of satisfaction with services, the levels are very high to high across the sectors in the TIS sites relative to the non-TIS sites, with the provision of water being the highest at 79% overall. An analysis of the location of the higher of these responses would be beneficial, assuming that these are areas where TIS has provided, or is providing, support to water activities. Noting, as above, that TIS has financed the cost of several new outdoor market facilities, it is also interesting to note the relatively high level of satisfaction relating to access to markets. Here too, an analysis of where the higher of these responses is would be beneficial, assuming that these are areas where TIS has provided, or is providing, support to market activities.

12. ***There are some distinctions between perceptions of males and females, and those aged 15-29 and 30-45, but contrary to assumptions about targeting certain demographic groups in stabilization programs, these distinctions are not patterned or predictable.*** In other words, one should not necessarily plan for gender or age-focused future programmatic interventions, except perhaps in the areas of confidence, cohesion, and connectedness, where the findings suggest very positive perceptions among males and females aged 15-29. The findings indicate that, overall, there is very little difference in levels of service satisfaction between males and females, although there are distinctions at the sector and regional levels. The findings also indicate that males and females aged 15-29 are generally more positive in their outlook and their levels of satisfaction than males and females aged 30-49. There is variance in opinions between males and females on service satisfaction by sector, but overall convergence on opinion on connectedness and cohesion. Of note while overall perceptions were generally higher in all TIS sites when compared to non-TIS sites, the pattern of responses of males and females aged 15-29 and 30-45 was generally consistent across both sample sites. There were some notable differences. In Mogadishu, for example, there are comparable levels of satisfaction with services, but a clear difference in perceptions among males and females with respect to access to justice, with only 35% of females satisfied. There is also a positive response rate for youth with 64% of those aged 15-29 feeling that they have some say in the decisions to improve their lives. This is in contrast to 47% of those aged 30-45. Additionally, while there is an overall marked and statistically significant difference in respondents' perceptions of confidence in the central government and local administration between TIS and non-TIS sites, there also appears to be a significant difference between how males and females feel in the non-TIS sites, but not in the TIS sites. This suggests a correlation between TIS interventions and the social and indeed gender cohesion among and within the TIS sites, but this cannot be determined with any causal accuracy. Overall confidence across all groups is 49-50% in non-TIS sites and 70-71% in TIS

sites, which is a significant difference. In terms of both current and future TIS programming, this represents a possible increased focal area – providing grants that are aligned with civic participation and education in government processes; access to local and central government; enhancing community/government participation; and, enhancing government

13. ***The findings suggest that TIS activities in certain regions may have contributed to positive perceptions, but not necessarily to stabilization.*** There is evidence that suggests that the positive perceptions identified in all TIS sites may be the result of donor interventions, and possibly too of TIS's activities. But in the absence of a clearly defined and executed evaluation that explores the utility of a survey as comprehensive as the TIS Stabilization Survey to overall program achievements, TIS's contribution to the stabilization (or stability) of Somalia is relatively unknown.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The section below suggests operational/programmatic recommendations and evaluative recommendations based on the above conclusions.

OPERATIONAL/PROGRAMMATIC RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Based on the findings and conclusions, USAID and TIS may wish to explore the relative impacts of TIS programming in each of the regions respectively, noting that there appears to be more appreciable responses in some regions (South Central) than others. This can be accomplished through small, pilot, pre- and post-tests at future TIS intervention sites, and may help to better align programming with expected – or desired – outcomes, impacts, or indeed returns on investment. As mentioned above there may be some merit in reviewing activities in Puntland as there are inconsistent findings to emerge from that region. There may also be some advantage to reviewing the Somaliland responses according to TIS activities, as the responses seem to imply small, incremental, or in some cases indiscernible, differences between TIS and non-TIS sites.
2. In an effort to provide actionable utilization of the survey findings, USAID and TIS may wish to review the specific types of activities in each region in an attempt to “map” the more positive responses to specific TIS activities (or areas of focused TIS activities). The IOM and DAI Activity Lists are an exceptional source of information for this mapping exercise. This will help to map the key activities, types of activities, area of intervention, to the most relevant positive and negative survey responses, e.g., the roadwork in Puntland. This can help to support more focused, impactful, programming decisions.
3. USAID and TIS may wish to more comprehensively analyze the data by age and gender to capitalize on the significantly more positive responses to the four sub-level indicator questions, and in particular from those aged 15-29 relating to confidence in central government and local administration; satisfaction of services; social cohesion; and empowerment.

EVALUATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. USAID and TIS may wish to plan for, and conduct, performance evaluations of the TIS program and any follow-on TIS-like program, as well as discrete activity-based pre-/post tests in future TIS interventions in Somalia. Such efforts would provide more comprehensive, evaluation, evidence-based and methods triangulated conclusions and recommendations on TIS programming. A performance evaluation could use the Stabilization Survey and its substantive data sets to inform and augment data sets from beneficiary interviews; TIS Activity Lists; M&E Plans; US and donor stabilization guidance notes, etc., to suggest much more empirically-based conclusions and recommendations. In the case of future programming, USAID and TIS may wish to use the existing TIS Stabilization Survey data to inform a baseline instrument for a quasi-experimental impact evaluation, purposively including many of the same control sampling sites. The impact evaluation could also be a difference in differences design, comparing changes over time in selected follow-on TIS sites so as to better and more ably show progress along the stabilization continuum, and more defensibly show correlations between TIS activities and positive change.
2. USAID and TIS may wish to conduct a thorough and comprehensive review of stabilization programming and measurement “best practices” (e.g., USG, USAID/CMM, OECD, UNDP) so as to both inform future TIS programming with increased acumen, and to inform the design of any follow-on surveys and survey instruments that would measure stability, or peoples’ perceptions of stability over time.
3. USAID and TIS may wish to engage in several forms of analysis that may help to augment the actionable information from the TIS Stabilization Survey data so as to help it develop future programs. For example, USAID and TIS may wish to undertake additional conflict analyses of the specific regions for a more updated understanding of the conflict drivers that affect each of them, individually, rather than as contributory pieces of a holistic model of instability. USAID and TIS may also wish to undertake Appreciative Inquiry or asset-based sessions to formulate future focus areas of activity in Somalia, exploring – in participatory sessions – joint visions for the future of Somalia within a framework that aims to better understand, appreciate, and incorporate the roles and values of key societal assets, such as women in peacebuilding or youth in entrepreneurship and mentoring. The TIS Stabilization Survey holds rich data to support such a session, one which could result in richly normative “should do” suggestions for future programming.
4. Should the TIS Stabilization Survey continue to be fielded on a regular, patterned basis, and its response data analyzed according to the top-level TIS indicators, then it can be used as one means for USAID to measure progress within a stabilization continuum from instability to stability.

U.S. Agency for International Development
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20523