

REPUBLIC OF SOMALILAND



JUDICIARY SECTOR

NDP III PRIORITIES 2025-2027



MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



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Abbreviation

ICT	Information and Communication Technology
JUD	Judiciary (Sector Code in NDP III Tables)
MDA	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning
MoPND	Ministry of Planning and National Development
NDP III	National Development Plan Three
RBM	Results-Based Management
SCS	Supreme Court of Somaliland
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals





1. Introduction

The Somaliland Judiciary, as an independent and co-equal branch of government, is prioritizing its strategic development for the remainder of the National Development Plan III (NDPIII; 2025-2027). This outlines a focused and evidence-based plan, established through a comprehensive mid-term review, to direct resources towards the most critical and achievable goals: enhancing access to justice for all citizens and strengthening the institutional capacity of the judicial system to ensure a professional, efficient, and accountable judiciary.

1.1. Mandate of the judiciary sector

The mandate of the Somaliland judiciary is fundamentally to exercise the judicial power of the state as an independent and co-equal branch of government, separate from the executive and legislative pillars. Established under Chapter Four of the constitution, its primary function is to adjudicate all legal disputes through a hierarchical system of courts, ranging from district courts to the Supreme Court, which also serves as the Constitutional Court. This mandate is executed with full independence, as judges are guided solely by the law and are shielded from interference from other government branches. To safeguard this critical autonomy, the constitution places the judiciary under the administrative authority of the High Judicial Commission, ensuring that its operations and

integrity are upheld in accordance with the principle of separation of powers.

This sector booklet presents the judiciary sector's contributions to NDP III, including its alignment with national development pillars and SDGs, progress highlights, prioritization rationale, methodology, and agreed priorities for 2023–2027. It also provides an overview of sector monitoring mechanisms, coordination structures, and institutional responsibilities. By consolidating progress to date and clarifying future priorities, the booklet serves as a roadmap for policymakers, development partners, private sector actors, and civil society to jointly accelerate progress in the sector.

1.2. Pillar and SDGs Alignment

The judiciary sector is also Pillar as its own after it was added to the NDP3 in the last term to accommodate the courts, While the Ministry of Justice remains in the Governance sector/pillar.

On the other perspective, the judiciary sector is implicitly aligned with the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically the 16th goal (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) as:

- ❖ **16.1** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere
- ❖ **16.2** End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children



- ❖ **16.3** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all
- ❖ **16.4** By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime
- ❖ **16.5** Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms
- ❖ **16.6** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels
- ❖ **16.7** Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels
- ❖ **16.8** Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance
- ❖ **16.9** By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration
- ❖ **16.10** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements
- ❖ **16.A** Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime
- ❖ **16.B** Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development

1.3. Historic Achievements

The Somaliland Judiciary made significant strides in strengthening its institutional foundation. Key achievements included the rehabilitation of key court infrastructures, such as the Supreme Court and regional courts. The judiciary also demonstrated its growing capability by adjudicating high-profile and politically sensitive cases, including election disputes and security-related matters, thereby asserting its role as a central state institution. Furthermore, there was a focused effort to integrate human rights standards, provide legal aid, and handle cases involving sexual and gender-based violence through specialized training and dedicated court sessions, all contributing to a more structured and professional judicial system.

2. NDP-III PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS 2023-2025

Over the planned activities, the judiciary sector achieved this NDPII mid-year Evaluation which quantitatively shows a crucial score of 75% performance. This incredible achievement is surely being rolling out a great succession of around 3 quarters over the planned activities. So that, the expectation of the coming over predictions towards achieving the remained planned items, and replanned prioritization process in the coming 2.5 years is highly viable.

The total number of Planned operational benchmarks for these 2.5 years were 12 items, which marked with 100%, however, the reportedly actualized and implemented are 9 activities (reported operational benchmarks) are 75% out of the total planned ones.

3. PRIORITIZATION RATIONALE

The Somaliland National Development Plan III (NDP-III) was officially launched in March 2023 to serve as the country's guiding framework for sustainable development. However, the implementation of the plan has faced significant setbacks due to unforeseen national and global events. Delayed elections and armed conflicts in the eastern Sool region diverted national attention and resources away from planned development initiatives. At the same time, the global economic crisis and subsequent reduction in international aid further constrained fiscal space, limiting the government's ability to deliver on its development commitments. These challenges have forced the government to reallocate portions of the development budget toward urgent security and election-related expenditures, leaving critical development priorities underfunded or delayed. The combination of political, security, and financial pressures has disrupted the pace and balance of NDPIII implementation, reducing the plan's ability to deliver results as originally envisioned.

Given these realities, a mid-term review was deemed essential to recalibrate NDPIII for the remaining implementation period (2025–2027). The review provides an opportunity to re-prioritize interventions, ensuring that scarce resources are directed toward the most pressing and feasible development needs. It also strengthens the alignment of ongoing initiatives with the country's long-term Vision 2030 while responding to current contextual challenges. Specifically, the objectives of the mid-term review are to: (i) prioritize outcomes and critical outputs; (ii) refine indicators to allow for more accurate monitoring of progress; (iii) adjust cost estimates to reflect present realities; (iv) reassess potential budget and financing sources; and (v) address emerging implementation challenges. These adjustments will enhance accountability, efficiency, and impact in the delivery of NDPIII. In summary, the mid-term review is both a corrective and strategic exercise. It acknowledges the unforeseen disruptions that have constrained progress while providing a clear roadmap for improved implementation. By focusing on realistic priorities, recalibrated costs, and credible financing strategies, the government aims to safeguard the relevance of NDPIII and ensure its continued contribution to Somaliland's socio-economic transformation.



4. PRIORITIZATION METHODOLOGY AND PROCESS

The prioritization methodology was designed to be evidence-based, participatory, and results-oriented, ensuring both technical rigor and broad ownership. The process began with a comprehensive stocktaking of the first 2.5 years of NDPIII implementation. This review identified what had been achieved, what remained incomplete, and where significant gaps persisted. Interventions already delivered were set aside, while unfinished and high-impact priorities became the focus of the review.

Using standardized tools and agreed criteria, interventions were then scored and ranked against dimensions such as strategic alignment with NDPIII and SDGs, urgency, feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and equity. This process was supported by extensive consultations including 48 meetings with Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), as well as sector-level discussions with development partners to validate evidence and secure consensus. Once priorities were identified, cost estimates were recalculated, financing options were reassessed, and the results were consolidated into sector-specific booklets. These booklets will serve as the national framework for guiding investment, coordination, and monitoring of NDPIII for the period 2025–2027.

5. Judiciary Sector RBM

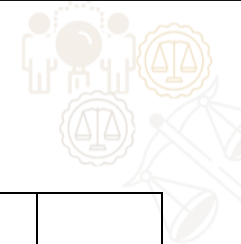
The Somaliland judiciary has established two fundamental priorities: ensuring its legal system is comprehensively accessible to all including every citizen, resident, refugee, asylum seeker, visitor, and entity within the country, while simultaneously driving the improved institutional capacity of its judicial framework to guarantee that this accessibility is underpinned by professionalism, efficiency, and robust governance.

The Judiciary Sector tables are shown in two main formats. The first is the **NDP Outcome table**, which has five columns: *NDP Outcome, Indicator, Unit, Baseline (2021), and Target (2027)*. This table shows the main goals and targets. The second is the **Critical Output table**, which has ten columns: *Critical Output, Operational Benchmark, Type of Target, Priority, Cost Estimates, the years 2025, 2026, 2027, and the Responsible Institution (MDA)*.



Strategic Objective JUD - SO-1:		To provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable, and inclusive judiciary institutions and mechanisms at all levels.						
NDP Outcome		NDP Outcome Indicator		Unit		Baseline (2021)		Target (2027)
JUD - 1: Somaliland's judiciary is accessible to the citizenry, residents, refugees, asylum seekers, visitors and any other person or entity in the country.		JUD - 1.A: Average completion rate of the Outcome's combined operational benchmarks. calculated as ((No. of fully completed milestones by end NDPIII * 100% + Proportional completion of each quantitative operational benchmark) divided by (the total number of operational benchmarks for this outcome)).		%				80%
		JUD - 1.B: Proportion of district courts, which have operational mobile units that hold regular sessions in remote and hard-to-reach areas (out of a total of 58 district courts).		%				75%
Critical Output	Operational Benchmark	Type of Target	Priority Level	Total Cost estimates	The remaining NDP-III period			MDA Resp.
					2025	2026	2027	
JUD - 1.1: Mobile courts expanded from the current regional level to district and village level in remote and hard-to-reach areas.	JUD - 1.1.a: All staffing, administrative, financial, infrastructural, logistical, and other operational preparations are in place to ensure a successful roll-out of the mobile court system at district level.	Milestone	High	3,000,000		In progress	Completed	SCS

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	JUD - 1.1.b: District mobile courts are holding regular sessions in remote and hard to-reach areas, according to schedule.	Milestone	High	5,00,000	--	Completed	Permanent	
	JUD - 1.1.c: Number of district courts with mobile units established (out of 58 district courts).	Accumulated	High	4,000,000	25	35	50	SCS
NDP Outcome		NDP Outcome Indicator			Unit		Baseline (2021)	Target (2027)
JUD - 2: Improved institutional capacity of the Somaliland judiciary system.		JUD - 2.A: Average completion rate of the Outcome's combined operational benchmarks. calculated as ((("No. of fully completed milestones by end NDPIII * 100% + Proportional completion of each quantitative operational benchmark) divided by (the total number of operational benchmarks for this outcome)).			%		---	>80%
Critical Output	Operational Benchmark	Type of Target	Priority Level	Total Cost estimates	The remaining NDP-III period			MDA Resp.
					2025	2026	2027	
JUD - 2.2: Operational the newly constructed Judicial In-service Training Institute	JUD - 2.2.a: Architectural design of the Judicial Training Institute has been submitted and approved by the competent authorities.	Milestone	High	100,000	Comp'			SCS
	JUD - 2.2.b: Construction of the Judicial Training Institute has been completed.	Milestone	High	3,000,000	In prog'	Comp'd		SCS

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	JUD - 2.2.c: All preparatory processes finalized to render the Judicial Training Institute fully operational (staffing, budget, equipment, course curriculums, etc.)	Milestone	High	1,000,000		In prog'	Comp'd	SCS
"JUD - 2.3: Judiciary personnel capacitated on ICT, procedures, ethics, leadership, human rights, sharia law, judgement writing skills, safety procedures, and organized crimes "	JUD - 2.3.b: Number of judges that participated in training events containing one or more of the targeted subjects (out of approximately 300 judges).	Annual total	High	800,000	75	150	150	SCS
	JUD - 2.3.c: Number of judiciary support personnel that participated in training events containing one or more of the targeted subjects.	Annual Total	medium	500,000	150	200	200	SCS

6. Annexes

6.1. Annex 1: NDP III MEAL Calendar (2025–2027)

Type of report	"Year N "(This is the Implementation year)												" Year N+1"						By whom?					
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J		J				
Quarterly Operational	<i>Submission to DG</i>	31			30			31			31													All PSDs of all MDAs
	<i>MDA internal validation</i>		15			15			15			15												
	<i>Sharing with SCF-chairs</i>		20			20			20			20												
	<i>Compilation for the whole year</i>												28											
Sector Outcome Progress Report	<i>Data collection Outcome targets</i>											28												PSDs of sector lead MDAs
	<i>Submission to DG</i>												15											
	<i>Analysis and validation w/SCF</i>												31											
	<i>Sharing with MoPND/CSD</i>												5											
Annual Operational Progress Report	<i>Compilation of Annual Report</i>															10								PSDs of sector lead MDAs
	<i>Submission to DG</i>															15								
	<i>MDA internal validation</i>															30								
	<i>Sharing with MoPND/M&E</i>																	15						
	<i>Sharing with MoPND/CSD</i>																	15						
	<i>Sharing with relevant SCF chair</i>																	15						
National Progress Report	<i>Compilation of all MDA reports</i>																15							MoPND (M&E dept. and CSD)
	<i>Outcome data check by CSD</i>																30							
	<i>Submission to DG of MoPND</i>																			10				
	<i>Analysis and validation NPC</i>																				25			
	<i>Report dissemination</i>																					31		

Sector Coordination Calendar

SECTORS COORDINATION MEETING CALENDAR in 2025												
Sectors	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Cross Cutting Youth						30			29			29
MOHRA Sub-Sector			15			15			15			15

6.2. Annex 2: MDA List

1. Supreme Court (SC)

