



I. General Information	
Title of Position:	Local Government Expert
Type of Contract:	Consultant
Duration of the assignment:	12 months with possible extension subject to performance.
Duty station:	Garowe, Puntland, at the Vice President's Office (Champion's Office)
Supervisor:	Chief of Staff, Puntland President's Office
Issue date:	10th April 2019
Deadline for application:	21th April 2019
II. Context of the assignment	
<p>Puntland is implementing decentralization policy reform and has a politically decentralized governance model. The districts with local government law are given the primary responsibility for service delivery, but with limited corresponding financial transfers from the Ministry of Finance to fulfill this mandate.</p> <p>Local government and sector line ministries provision of social services is also constrained by extremely limited capacity in both human and material resources. The limitations in financial resources, human resource capacities as well as physical facilities continue to limit access to basic services in Puntland. Financial resources are often inadequate with mandated responsibilities.</p> <p>Decentralization Policy framework is in place with a clear set of guiding principles, goals and objectives made ultimately by the concerned Sector line Ministries led by the ministry of Interior and Partner Local Authorities after a process of dialogue and consultation. It sets a framework within which water resources, water supply systems, livestock, health facilities and primary education, hygiene and sanitation aspects are managed in a sustainable way at lowest levels of government. Puntland Government leadership continues to display the political will required to realize decentralization reform where structural weaknesses persist. Experience in other countries has shown that local governance reforms are more effectively implemented</p>	

when a president or vice-president champions the process of enhancing local good governance and related services delivery reforms.

Due to this backdrop Puntland government gave more support to the decentralization and local governance at the policy level, this was marked by the appointment of the vice president as the champion of decentralization and local governance and, it has been agreed that there will be a secretariat office headed by the chief of cabinet to help the vice president in issue.

In this context, the office of the V president with support from the Joint Program wishes to recruit the Local Governance Expert to be based in the Vice president's office in Garowe. The incumbent will be supervised by the Director General of the office of the president. s/he will have the responsibility of supporting the vice president's office in facilitating discussion on decentralization and local governance reform in Puntland, the approval and the implementation of the decentralization policy, with the primary goal of enabling local governments deliver services to the communities according to the standards processes and procedures of the central government.

The position is limited for a period of 12 months. UNDP JPLG agreed to support the Vice president's office as the champion of decentralization hire a consultant, to support the vice president's office to advance the decentralization process in Puntland. s/he will be part of the secretariat team and will support the IMCLG with the help of the decentralization secretariat at the vice president's office. The expert is required to perform the following duties:

Objective

The main objective of the assignment is:

- To provide technical inputs and recommendations on decentralization policy and its road implementation and local self-governance. This will include working closely with the respective IMCLG sector ministries and the Ministry of Interior to review and analyse existing sectorial policies, strategies and systems and make recommendations on assignments of roles and responsibilities within the sectors to local governments, and with the other consultants attached to the sectors.
- To build on the past experiences of Puntland Local Governance since 2003 and the Joint Program Local Governance Program since 2009- 20018 and set up a realistic timeline for the next 5 years

III. Summary of Key Functions:

1. Ensure that the Office of the Vice President plays an active role in decentralization policy, strategic thinking and knowledge and information sharing; informs government institutions, and other relevant stakeholders about government policy towards decentralization.
2. Review Past experience on Local governance and decentralization in Puntland, and relevant laws, rules and regulation, and advice the vice president's office and the IMCLG on any discrepancies and relevant changes required.
3. Support Vice President's office to ensure efficient day-to-day updates of all information and reports about decentralization policy and road map in Puntland level
4. Support Decentralization Dialogue forums between the districts and the Service Sector Ministries to promote mutual understanding cooperation on the way forward for Decentralization Policy Implementation.
- 2. Support and facilitate IMCLG and the vice president monitoring missions to the districts to monitor the progress in made in the implementation of decentralization road map in Puntland**

IV. Specific Tasks:

Ensure that the Office of the Vice President plays an active role in decentralization policy, strategic thinking and knowledge and information sharing; informs government institutions, and other relevant stakeholders about government policy towards decentralization.

- The Consultant must prepare the reports in English and Somali circulate and share with the IMC and other partners in the programme.
- Support the Vice president's office in the preparations of the IMCLG meetings, to produce better outputs of the IMCLG meetings
- Facilitating, report Compiling, filing, summarizing and presenting decentralization meeting results, reports, outputs agreements and progress to the office of V president and the IMCLG meetings.
- Coordinating MOI progress on decentralization and the V president's office
- Advice the V president chaired IMCLG on the decentralization process and liaise with MOI in drafting the decentralization policy for Puntland
- Advice the V president and the IMCLG on bottle necks of the decentralization in Puntland
- Supports IMCLG in developing and adopting a road map for the implementation of the Puntland decentralization policy
- Frequently interacts and meets MOI to discuss decentralization challenges and advice the VP chaired IMCLG for solutions to overcome these challenges

- In collaboration with MOI and the VP chaired IMCLG facilitate the implementation of a decentralization strategy and the road map for the implementation of the decentralization policy.

Review Past experience on Local governance and decentralization in Puntland, and relevant laws, rules and regulation, and advise the vice president's office and the IMCLG on any discrepancies and relevant changes required.

- Advise the V president about the areas of support required by MOI to facilitate and promote local democracy, participation and accountability through viable stakeholder involvement in decentralization.
- Gather information and related documents on how to promote demand driven as well as supply driven decentralization policy and advise the V president chaired IMCLG meetings.
- Prepare presentations for and facilitate IMCLG meetings addressing technical/procedural aspects of decentralization with particular focus on decentralization policy implementation;
- Identify challenges in devolving functions and related finance to the districts, these challenges include but not limited to sectoral laws, policies and strategies, financial regulations, strategies and policies.
- Support the Vice president chaired IMCLG to gather relevant information including sector line ministries plans, reports and other material to enhance knowledge and understanding of the different interest groups and stakeholders.
- Identify blockages and bottlenecks within the central and local governments, and advise the Vice President on how to create a synergetic relationship between the two levels of the government, so that both are geared towards enhancing public service delivery.

Support Vice President's office to ensure efficient day-to-day updates of all information and reports about decentralization policy and road map in Puntland level.

- Assist the vice president's secretary and the secretariat team in the preparations of the IMCLG meetings, and producing reports on decentralization meeting and discussions
- Collaborate closely with all staff in the Vice presidents and other Puntland State officials to help ensure effective implementation of the decentralization process and appropriate use of the support provided by the Joint Program
- Identify gaps and challenges and prepare update notes for the Vice president to problem solving and facilitate MOILG to call on the vice president's office to help solve identified problems.
- Help facilitate team building, daily communication and coordination between all the Vice president staff, MOILG and JPLG to ensure improved output.

Support Decentralization Dialogue forums between the districts and the Service Sector Ministries to promote mutual understanding cooperation on the way forward for Decentralization Policy Implementation.

- Ensure districts and ministries participation in the dialogue forums and share the agenda and timing for the meeting in advance with all the relevant participants.
- Facilitate the dialogue forums and ensure that information on decentralization services to the districts is clearly presented.
- Produce media including documentaries and videos and written reports on the dialogue forums and circulate.
- Circulate all the dialogue forums reports among the meeting participants, districts IMC and other stakeholders.

Support and facilitate IMCLG and the vice president monitoring missions to the districts to monitor the progress in made in the implementation of decentralization road map in Puntland.

- Conduct monitoring missions to the districts, collect information and data on district support to health, education and water.
- Document the impacts and results of decentralized at the district level, prepare success stories, beneficiaries and with figures such as the sex dis-aggregated data.
- Hold meetings with the visited district mayors, local councils and district's administrative department directors and discuss decentralization implementation progress, document challenges and share with the vice president and the IMC.
- Share these reports with the Vice president and the IMCLG members, and advice quality control of all activities related to decentralization and local governments to secure efficient decentralization process and subsequent implementation plan.

V. Final product/deliverable

The outputs will be:

1. The office of the Vice president plays an active role in decentralization policy and road map implementation
2. The Office of the Vice President facilitates consultations and discussions between the central government and the local government to accelerate the decentralization process in Puntland.
3. Due to the support of the Vice President's office the sector ministries and the local government cooperate and are on the same page on the implementation of decentralized service delivery, and the functions are devolved from the central to the local governments.
4. The vice presidents advocate and chairs the IMCLG meetings and discuss Decentralization Policy road map implementation.

5. Services are provided at the district level in a participatory and transparent manner, to enhance ownership and empowerment.
6. The V president office and MOILG coordinate and collaborate in the decentralization policy implementation.
7. The Vice presidents organizes dialogue forums between the sector ministries and districts, conducts tour to the districts and finds solutions for the implementation of challenges in the policy implementation.

VI. Qualifications

Education:	Master’s Degree in Social Science, Public Administration, Political Science or any other relevant field. Additional qualifications in training methodologies and adult learning are an added advantage.
Experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> At least 7 years of relevant experience working in a government institution or a policy development institution <input type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive understanding of local governance and experience working in or with a local government institution. <input type="checkbox"/> A solid understanding of Somalia’s local government system. <input type="checkbox"/> Experience in multi-cultural environments, and in conflict environments <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Management experience and experience working as an advisor/consultant an asset. <input type="checkbox"/> Self-motivated and self-driven and ability to work with a minimum of guidance. <input type="checkbox"/> Ability to push processes forward, to be persuasive and at the same time collaborative, supportive and diplomatic. <input type="checkbox"/> Ability to be calm and well humored while under pressure
Language Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluency in written and spoken Somali and English required.

VII. Application submission

Interested and qualified candidates are requested to send their applications including CV, Cover letter and scan copy of credentials to recruitment.oop@plstate.so, Applications that do not meet the above requirements will be disregarded. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Women are strongly encouraged to apply.