Development of Land Policy

Who: Ministry of National Planning and Development


Outcome: Inform the National Land Policy developing process by conducting a series of targeted scoping studies.

Why: Over the last decade a number of studies have been undertaken into and reports published about the land governance situation in Somaliland. A study funded by UN – Habitat in 2011 specifically attempted to come up with a draft Urban National Land Policy which to date has remained contested. Article 12 of Somaliland Constitution indicates that “land is a public property commonly owned by the nation, and the state is responsible for it”. However, due to weaknesses in the land governance, widespread land grabbing and illegal enclosures today dot the Somaliland landscape. The situation is exacerbated by the recent increase in price of land, resulting in land grabbing mainly for prospective purposes. In view of the above, Somaliland is desirous of development of a National Land Policy to comprehensively govern land administration issues.

What: Conduct an inclusive scoping study to inform the drafting of a comprehensive National Land Policy by exploring past, present, and foreseeable land dynamics, and by consulting a broad range of stakeholders and land users to determine a just, equitable approach to land governance and management conducive to Somaliland’s societal and economic development.