

SOMALIA

Public Administration Country Profile

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SOMALIA

[Click here](#) for detailed map



Source: [The World Factbook - Somalia](#)

Somalia has been without a central government since the overthrow of former president Siad Barre on 27 January 1991. North West Somalia (formerly British Somaliland), declared itself independent after the collapse of the Siad Barre regime, in May 1991. It was, however, never recognized by the international community.

Since 1991 to date there have been fourteen Somali peace initiatives, including the ongoing Inter-governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)-led peace process. In August 2000, after months of negotiations between various Somali civil society groups in neighboring Arta, Djibouti, a Somali Transitional National Government (TNG) was established for an interim 3-year period, with a President, Prime Minister and Transitional National Assembly, which began work in Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, in October 2000. However, most of the military factions did not collaborate with the newly established TNG, leading to the outbreak of violence in Mogadishu and Southern Somalia.

In view of difficulties that the TNG faced on the ground to stabilize Somalia, the IGAD Heads of State decided in Khartoum in January 2002 to revitalize the Somali peace process and launched the Somali National Reconciliation process.

Source: [The United Nations in Somalia - Fact Sheet](#)

Government type

Transitional, parliamentary government

Independence

1 July 1960 (from a merger of British Somaliland, which became independent from the UK on 26 June 1960, and Italian Somaliland, which became independent from the Italian-administered UN trusteeship on 1 July 1960, to form the Somali Republic)

Constitution

Transitional Federal Charter adopted 15 September 2003, amended January 29 2004 ([click here](#))

Legal system

No national system; Shari'a and secular courts are in some localities

Administrative divisions

18 regions

Source: [The World Factbook - Somalia](#)

1. General Information

1.1 People	Somalia	Ethiopia	Eritrea	1
Population				a
Total estimated population (,000), 2003	9,891	70,678	4,141	
Female estimated population (,000), 2003	4,983	35,584	2,081	
Male estimated population (,000), 2003	4,908	35,094	2,060	
Sex ratio (males per 100 females), 2003	98	99	99	
Average annual rate of change of pop. (%), 2000-2005	4.17	2.46	3.65	
Youth and Elderly Population				b
Total population under age 15 (%), 2003	48	46	45	
Female population aged 60+ (%), 2003	4	5	4	
Male population aged 60+ (%), 2003	3	4	3	
Human Settlements				c
Urban population (%), 2001	28	16	19	
Rural population (%), 2001	72	84	81	
Urban average annual rate of change in pop. (%), '00-'05	5.84	4.63	6.29	
Rural average annual rate of change in pop/ (%), '00-'05	3.56	1.97	3.72	
Education				d
Total school life expectancy, 2000/2001	..	5.2	5	1
Female school life expectancy, 2000/2001	..	4.1	4.2	1
Male school life expectancy, 2000/2001	..	6.2	5.7	1
Female estimated adult (15+) illiteracy rate (%), 2000	86.9 ⁱ	52.9	55.5	2
Male estimated adult (15+) illiteracy rate (%), 2000	74.9 ⁱ	69	32.7	2
Employment				e
Unemployment rate (15+) (%), 2000	47.4 ⁱ	..	..	1
Female adult (+15) economic activity rate (%), 2002	56.4 ⁱⁱ	72 ⁱⁱⁱ	..	2
Male adult (+15) economic activity rate (%), 2002	56.4 ⁱⁱ	90 ⁱⁱⁱ	..	2

Notes: ⁱ UNDP (Somalia) - The Socio-Economic Survey 2002, Annex (2004); ⁱⁱ Not gender specific; ⁱⁱⁱ 1999

1.2 Economy	Somalia	Ethiopia	Eritrea	2
GDP				a
GDP total (millions US\$), 2002	..	5,989	582	
GDP per capita (US\$), 2002	..	89	135	
PPP GDP total (millions int. US\$), 2002	..	48,754	4,129	
PPP GDP per capita(int. US\$), 2002	..	724	958	
Sectors				b
Value added in agriculture (% of GDP), 2003	..	41.8	15.4	
Value added in industry (% of GDP), 2003	..	11.0	23.8	
Value added in services (% of GDP), 2003	..	47.2	60.8	
Miscellaneous				c
GDP implicit price deflator (annual % growth), 2003	..	14.5	14.8	
Private consumption (% of GDP), 2003	..	78.1 ¹	111.3	
Government consumption (% of GDP), 2003	..	19.3 ¹	51.7	

Notes: ¹ 2002

¹ [United Nations Statistics Division](#):

^a [Statistics Division and Population Division of the UN Secretariat](#); ^b [Statistics Division and Population Division of the UN Secretariat](#); ^c [Population Division of the UN Secretariat](#); ^{d1} [UNESCO](#); ^{d2} [UNESCO](#); ^{e1} [ILO](#); ^{e2} [ILO/OECD](#)

² [World Bank - Data and Statistics](#):

^a [Quick Reference Tables](#); ^b [Data Profile Tables](#); ^c [Country at a Glance](#)

1.3 Public Spending	Somalia	Ethiopia	Eritrea	
Public expenditures				3
Education (% of GNP), 1985-1987	..	3.1	..	a
Education (% of GNP), 1995-1997	..	4	1.8 ⁱⁱ	a
Health (% of GDP), 1990	..	0.9	..	
Health (% of GDP), 1998	..	1.2 ⁱ	..	
Military (% of GDP), 1990	..	8.5	..	b
Military (% of GDP), 2000	..	9.4 ⁱ	22.9 ^j	b
Total debt service (% of GDP), 1990	..	3.4	..	
Total debt service (% of GDP), 2000	..	2.2	0.5	

Notes: ⁱ 1999; ⁱⁱ Data do not include expenditure on tertiary education

1.4 Public Sector Employment and Wages						
<i>Data from the latest year available</i>		Somalia 1991-1995	Somalia 1996-2000	Sub-Saharan Africa average ⁴ 1996-2000	Non-Franco- phone Africa average ⁴ 1996-2000	Low income group average ⁴ 1996-2000
Employment						
Civilian Central Government ⁵	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	0.3	0.4	0.5
Sub-national Government ⁵	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	0.3	0.4	0.5
Education employees	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	0.6	0.8	0.9
Health employees	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	0.3	0.2	0.6
Police	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	0.1	..	0.3
Armed forces	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	0.3	0.3	0.3
SOE Employees	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	..	..	13.1
Total Public Employment	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	..	..	..
Wages						
Total Central gov't wage bill	(% of GDP)	..	..	6.1	6.9	5.4
Total Central gov't wage bill	(% of exp)	..	..	28.9	26.4	24.7
Average gov't wage	(,000 LCU)	..	..	
Real ave. gov't wage ('97 price)	(,000 LCU)	..	..	
Average gov't wage to per capita GDP ratio		..	..	4.8	2.8	4.4

Source: [World Bank - Public Sector Employment and Wages](#)

³ UNDP - [Human Development Report 2002](#)

^a Data refer to total public expenditure on education, including current and capital expenditures.

^b As a result of a number of limitations in the data, comparisons of military expenditure data over time and across countries should be made with caution. For detailed notes on the data see SIPRI (2001).

⁴ Averages for regions and sub regions are only generated if data is available for at least 35% of the countries in that region or sub region.

⁵ Excluding education, health and police – if available (view [Country Sources](#) for further explanations).

2. Legal Structure

War torn Somalia does not have a formal constitution but it enjoys a constitutional tradition dating back to 1961, when the newly independent republic adopted its first constitution by referendum. Representatives of the Transitional National Government (TNG) and various political factions signed a transitional federal charter on September 15, 2003 in Nairobi, Kenya. The acceptance of the charter represented the completion of one of the goals of the TNG's three-year mandate. Pending the charter's implementation, the TNG, created by a peace conference in Djibouti in 2000, operates under an interim constitution that replaced the constitution of 1979, amended in 1990, which had provided for a presidential system under which the president served as both the head of state and the head of government.

Source: [UNDP \(Programme on Governance in the Arab Region - POGAR\) - Somalia: Constitution](#)

For more information: [The United Nations in Somalia - Fact Sheet](#)

2.1 Legislative Branch

Unicameral National Assembly; a transitional 245-member National Assembly began to meet on 13 August 2000 in the town of Arta, Djibouti and is now based in Mogadishu.⁶

women in parliament: 25 out of 245 seats: (10%).⁷

Somalia has not had a viable central administration since the former president Mohamed Siad Barre was ousted in 1991. In 2000, however, a Transitional People's Assembly (TPA) resulted from a peace conference held at Arta, in Djibouti. The TPA has 245 members, appointed by clan chiefs for a three year-term of office. 25 seats of the parliament are assigned to women. Many of the nominated members are from the Somali Diaspora. A subsequent agreement in Nairobi, Kenya early in 2004 establishes a new body, the transitional federal parliament, to carry on the work of the TPA. The parliament will have 275 members appointed at the sub-clan level throughout Somalia. It will serve for a transitional period of five years beginning in mid 2004. 12 percent of its members will be women. 61 members will be appointed by each of the four major clans, and the remaining clans will collectively select the remaining 31 members.

Fact box:

elections: ..

election results: ..

The TPA was sworn in on August 13, 2000 and reconvened in October in Mogadishu. The Assembly elects the president of the republic, who is sworn in before five regional presidents. The president then appoints a prime minister and a cabinet, with the approval of the Assembly. In 2000 the TPA elected Abdiqasim Salad Hassan as president and Abdallah Derow Isaq as speaker of the House. The new parliament to be formed in 2004 will maintain the same procedures for selecting a speaker and a president.

Under the interim constitution the TPA also has the right to take votes of confidence in the ministers. On October 29, 2001 it exercised its prerogative by voting to withdraw its confidence in the Transitional National Government. The prime minister resigned, stating, "I would like to seize this opportunity to state that I respect the decision of the Transitional People's Assembly and will fully abide by it. I call upon the members of my cabinet and the rest of my colleagues to also comply with this decision. This decision is indicative of a working democracy and is a reflection of

⁶ Source of fact boxes if nothing else stated: [The World Factbook - Somalia](#)

⁷ [UNDP \(Programme on Governance in the Arab Region - POGAR\) - Somalia: Gender](#)

Somalia's determination to move towards democratic governance as stipulated by the interim constitution approved at Arta peace conference in Djibouti." Another vote of confidence was taken to remove the current prime minister late in 2003, but it was ignored because the vote was taken without a quorum.

The Transitional People's Assembly's other main function is to ratify the laws submitted to it by the executive branch.

The TPA was supported by some factions in the country, but the powerful Somali Reconstruction and Reconciliation Council (SRRC) and the administration of Puntland denied its legitimacy. The government, the SRRC and Puntland have all signed the agreement on the new parliament, though disputes continue over the clan-based allocation of its seats, and some factions oppose the new parliament as well.

Source: [UNDP \(Programme on Governance in the Arab Region - POGAR\) - Somalia: Legislature](#)

2.2 Executive Branch

cabinet: Cabinet appointed by the prime minister and sworn in on 20 October 2000; as of 1 January 2002, the Cabinet was in caretaker status following a no-confidence vote in October 2001 that ousted HASSAN's predecessor

elections: ABDIKASSIM Salad Hassan was elected president of an interim government at the Djibouti-sponsored Arta Peace Conference on 26 August 2000 by a broad representation of Somali clans that comprised a transitional National Assembly

The Transitional National Government (TNG) was unable to provide law and order even in the capital of Mogadishu. Some of the important warlords did not recognize it. In March 2001, the Chairman of the Somali National Alliance (SNA), Hussein Aideed, for instance, formed the Somali Restoration and Reconciliation Council (SRRC) in Ethiopia in March 2001. The SRRC voices much the same desires as the TNG to restore order in Somalia, but the two coalitions of clan leaders are bitter enemies. Other dominant clans in Somaliland and Puntland, respectively to the northwest and northeast of Somalia, have established separate governments not recognized by the TNG. The TNG, the SRRC, and the administration of Puntland are all parties to agreements on the new transitional federal government signed on September 15, 2003 and on January 29, 2004, giving hope that perhaps this new transitional government will wield more authority than the TNG. Subsequent to the announcement of the agreement, however, some factions complained of ambiguity in the new transitional charter, particularly in the method of selection for parliamentary ministers. Somaliland adopted its transitional constitution in a referendum conducted in May 2001.

Source: [UNDP \(Programme on Governance in the Arab Region - POGAR\) - Somalia: Constitution](#)

Fact box:

chief of state: ABDIKASSIM Salad Hassan (since 26 August 2000); as of December 2002, there was no executive branch in southern Somalia; Interim President ABDIKASSIM was chosen for a three-year term by a 245-member National Assembly serving as a transitional government; the political situation, particularly in the south remains fluid
head of government: Prime Minister Muhammad Abdi YUSUF (since 8 December 2003)

2.3 Judiciary Branch

Following the breakdown of national government, most regions have reverted to either Islamic (Shari'a) law with a provision for appeal of all sentences, or traditional clan-based arbitration.

As of early 2004, the judiciary in Somalia, like some of the other branches and institutions of government, is not fully functioning. The Constitution, which operated

until 1991, guaranteed an independent judiciary. In September 1993, a re-establishment council was created to restore the judicial system. The body, located in Mogadishu, was created according to the provisions of UN Security Council [Resolution 865](#). Dr. Abd al-Rahman Haji Ga'al served as the chair of the Judiciary Re-establishment Council (JRC). In 1995 UN peacekeeping forces withdrew from the region. Following this, regions outside of Mogadishu returned to the traditions of Islamic law. In October 1996, a new Islamic judicial system was enacted with an Appellate Court. Judgments made in the local Islamic courts could be appealed to the Appellate Court, and no decision rendered in the Islamic courts could be enacted without Appellate Court ruling. In August 1998, the Governor of the Banaadir administration declared that Shari'a legal principles would govern the judicial system in Mogadishu and its environs. Somaliland's constitution enshrines Shari'a as the foundation of the legal system.

The following is a description of the judicial system as of 1991. At the base of the judicial structure were the Qadis or religious judges and District Courts. The former had civil jurisdiction and applied Islamic law. The 84 District Courts were subdivided into civil and criminal departments. The Civil Division was empowered to hear all cases in which the cause of action arose under Islamic law or customary law and all other minor civil matters. The eight Regional Courts had two sections, General and Assize. The two Courts of Appeal were located in Mogadishu and Hargeysa. The Supreme Court, located in Mogadishu, was the highest judicial authority and served as the final court of appeal for all civil, criminal, administrative, and auditing matters.

In addition, there were several courts with specialized jurisdiction. The Military Supreme Court located in Mogadishu heard cases involving members of the armed forces. The National Security Court located in Mogadishu heard cases involving the internal and external security of the state.

While there is no final judicial authority in Somalia as a whole, there are regional courts that exercise broad judicial powers. Somaliland has a Supreme Court that oversees the judiciary and has authority over elections. In Puntland, the Constitutional Court is empowered to mediate disputes regarding the constitutional authority of government officials.

Source: [UNDP \(Programme on Governance in the Arab Region - POGAR\) - Somalia: Judiciary](#)

2.4 Local Government

The nation of Somalia has lacked a central government since 1991. In the last decade, local institutions have emerged, particularly in the northern regions, to compensate for the lack of a central government. Reports by the Somali Aid Co-ordination Body have stated that local administrative units in the country tend to be responsive and responsible in trying to meet the public's needs. Still, political institutions in Somalia remain very weak due to the on-going violence, lack of resources, and lack of institutional capacity. The new Transitional People's Assembly (TPA) that was created in the fall of 2000 during peace talks in Arta, Djibouti, has stated a commitment to a decentralized government. But the two most developed regional administrations, Somaliland and Puntland, remain hostile towards the TPA and unification.

The most developed local governments in Somalia are in the northern regions of Somaliland and Puntland. Somaliland seceded from Somalia in 1991 and declared itself a sovereign nation, but no other nations have recognized it as such. Over the last decade, the municipal governments in Somaliland have steadily increased their

attempts to provide governance to the region. In the last five years, these governments have begun to collect revenues, again providing them with fiscal autonomy. In the fall of 2000, Somaliland announced that municipal elections would be held some time in the next 18 months. Puntland declared itself an autonomous region in 1998 in support of creating a decentralized federal state in Somalia. As this northern region has largely avoided the fighting, local institutions have been able to rebuild and expand over the last decade. Municipalities are administered by an executive mayor and an assistant mayor who reports to an advisory city council. In both Somaliland and Puntland, these institutions have been hampered by a lack of institutional capacity to plan and effectively rebuild the public infrastructure.

The Standing Committee of the Friends of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) has supported a "building block" concept of rebuilding Somalia. Instead of working to re-establish a central government as the current TPA is attempting, they suggest creating 5-6 regional government units that could then be united in a federation or confederation. Somaliland and Puntland are seen as the institutional model for the other regions, but several challenges exist in the central and southern regions. In the central Hawiye region, Egyptian and Libyan-backed groups tried to create a local administration in 1997-1998. Inter-clan conflicts undermined the creation of a police force and other local institutions by creating infighting that led to its eventual collapse. In the Juba valley region, leaders of the Darod clans attempted to create a local administration in October 1998, but fighting between the clans blocked implementation. A Rahenweyne local administration was established in the Bay and Bakool regions, including a Supreme Governing Council in 1995. But fighting and lack of resources led to its collapse. Although the building block concept may be an attractive alternative to forced unification, in practice most of the blocks have failed to survive the on-going clan conflicts.

Source: [UNDP \(Programme on Governance in the Arab Region - POGAR\) - Somalia: Decentralization](#)

3. The State and Civil Society

3.1 Ombudsperson

Source: [Institution](#) - [Title](#)

3.2 NGOs

Source: [Institution](#) - [Title](#)

3.3 Civil Society

During the civil war that followed the ouster of the Siad Barre regime in 1991, hundreds of international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), United Nations agencies and other regional organizations came to Somalia to help the victims of the war and provide assistance to thousands of displaced people who were in desperate need of food, medicine and water. These international bodies needed local partners to help them with the distribution of humanitarian aid and arrange local security and logistics. In this context, hundreds of civil society organizations (CSOs) were formed to meet the increased demand for local partners.

Although many of these organizations withered away, some remained and are still functioning. In addition to the emerging private sector, a range of entities of the civil society at large, elders, Islamic courts, business groups, women associations, local NGOs have emerged in Somalia to play a variety of roles in defining community priorities and making resource allocation decisions.

The government-owned Xiddigta Oktobarn is the only daily newspaper. The paper is published by the Ministry of Information and National Guidance. The ministry also publishes a variety of weekly and monthly magazines. Radio Mogadishu is owned by the government.

The Agricultural Development Corporation, the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture, and the National Agency of Foreign Trade are the important umbrella organizations in the country. Trade unions are legal, but none exist in Somalia.

Source: [UNDP \(Programme on Governance in the Arab Region - POGAR\)](#) - [Somalia: Civil Society](#)

4. Civil Service

4.1 Legal basis

Source: Institution - Title

4.2 Recruitment

Source: Institution - Title

4.3 Promotion

Source: Institution - Title

4.4 Remuneration

Source: Institution - Title

4.5 Training

Source: Institution - Title

4.6 Gender

Source: Institution - Title

5. Ethics and Civil Service

5.1 Corruption

2003 CPI Score relates to perceptions of the degree of corruption as seen by business people and country analysts and ranges between 10 (highly clean) and 0 (highly corrupt).

Corruption Perceptions Index							
		2003 CPI Score	Surveys Used	Standard Deviation	High-Low Range	Number Inst.	90 percent confidence range
Rank	Country						
1	Highly clean	9.7	8	0.3	9.2 - 10.0	4	9.5 - 9.9
..	Somalia	..	..	..	..	..	..
133	Highly corrupt	1.3	8	0.7	0.3 - 2.2	6	0.9 - 1.7

Source: [Transparency International - Corruption Perceptions Index 2003](#)

Surveys Used: Refers to the number of surveys that were used to assess a country's performance. 17 surveys were used and at least 3 surveys were required for a country to be included in the CPI.

Standard Deviation: Indicates differences in the values of the sources. Values below 0.5 indicate agreement, values between 0.5 and c. 0.9 indicate some agreement, while values equal or larger than 1 indicate disagreement.

High-Low Range: Provides the highest and lowest values of the sources.

Number Institutions: Refers to the number of independent institutions that assessed a country's performance. Since some institutions provided more than one survey.

90 percent confidence range: Provides a range of possible values of the CPI score. With 5 percent probability the score is above this range and with another 5 percent it is below.

Source: [Institution - Title](#)

5.2 Ethics

Source: [Institution - Title](#)

6. e-Government

e-Government Readiness Index:

The index refers to the generic capacity or aptitude of the public sector to use ICT for encapsulating in public services and deploying to the public, high quality information (explicit knowledge) and effective communication tools that support human development.

The index is comprised of three sub-indices: Web Measure Index, Telecommunications Infrastructure Index and Human Capital Index.

Web Measure Index:

A scale based on progressively sophisticated web services present. Coverage and sophistication of state-provided e-service and e-product availability correspond to a numerical classification.

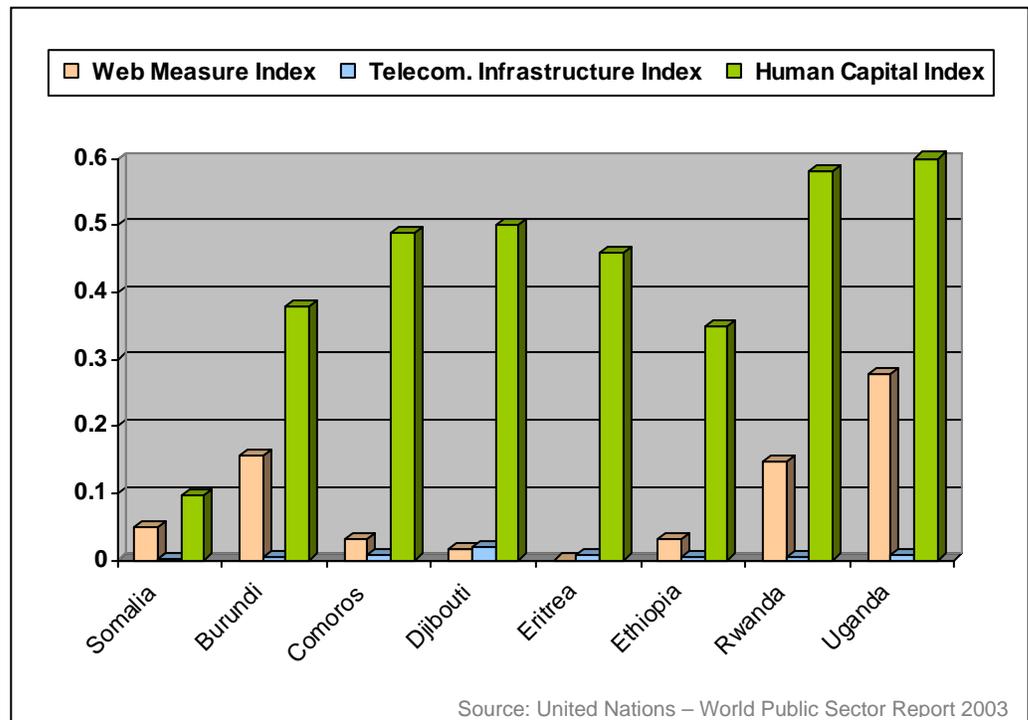
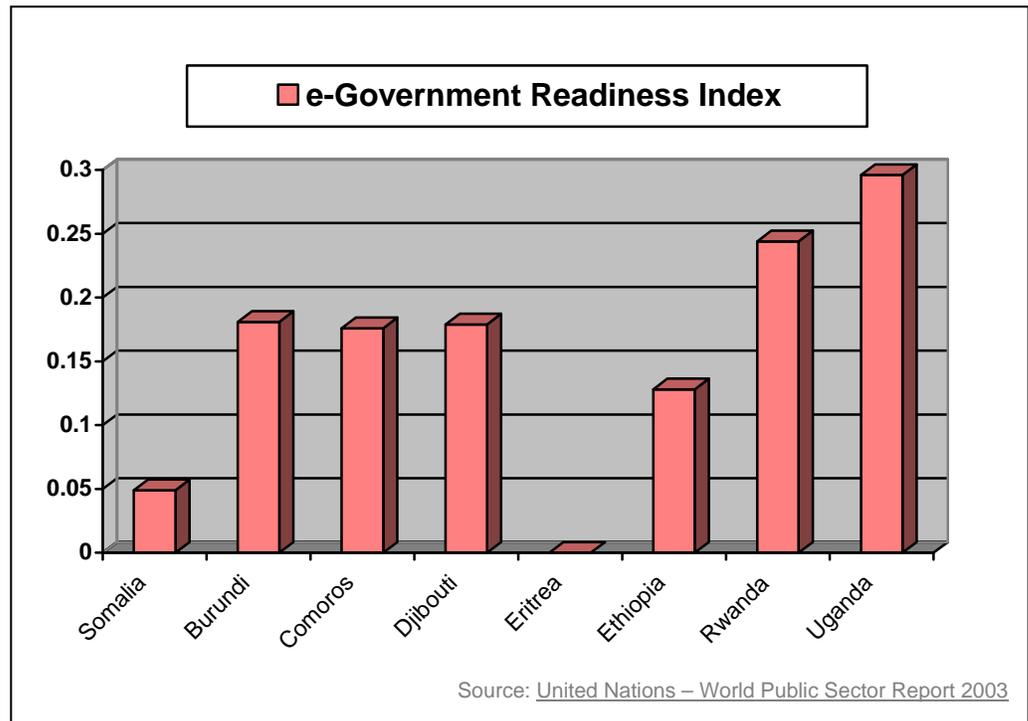
Telecommunications Infrastructure Index:

A composite, weighted average index of six primary indices, based on basic infrastructural indicators that define a country's ICT infrastructure capacity.

Primary indicators are: PC's, Internet users, online population and Mobile phones. Secondary indicators are TVs and telephone lines.

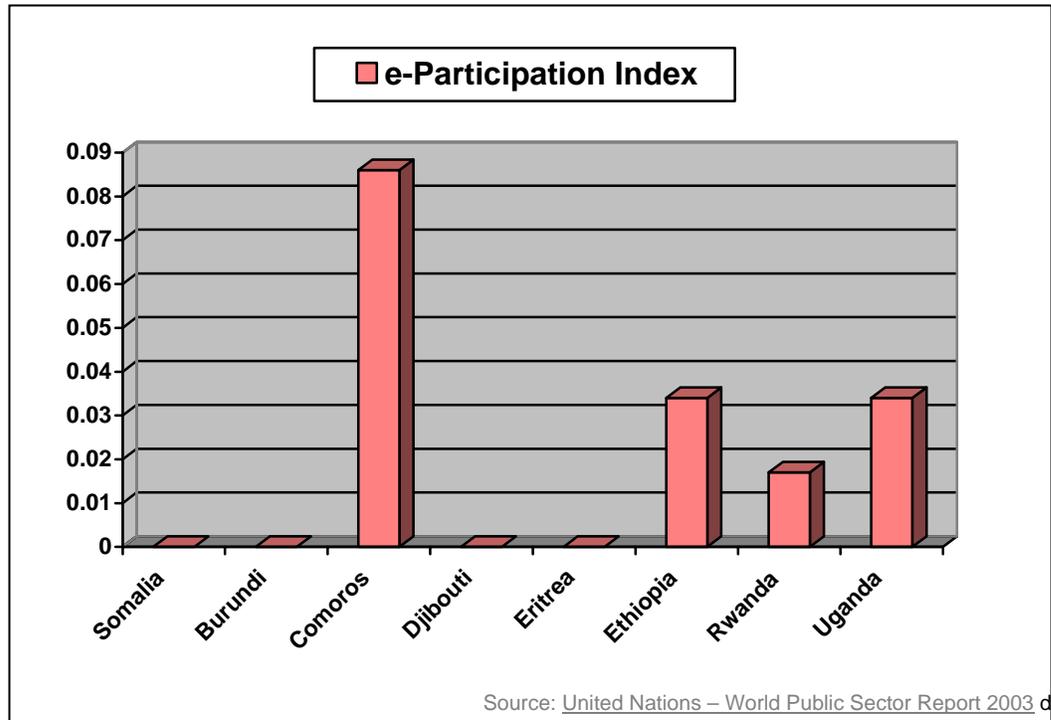
Human Capital Index:

A composite of the adult literacy rate and the combined primary, secondary and tertiary gross enrolment ratio, with two thirds of the weight given to adult literacy and one third to the gross enrolment ratio.



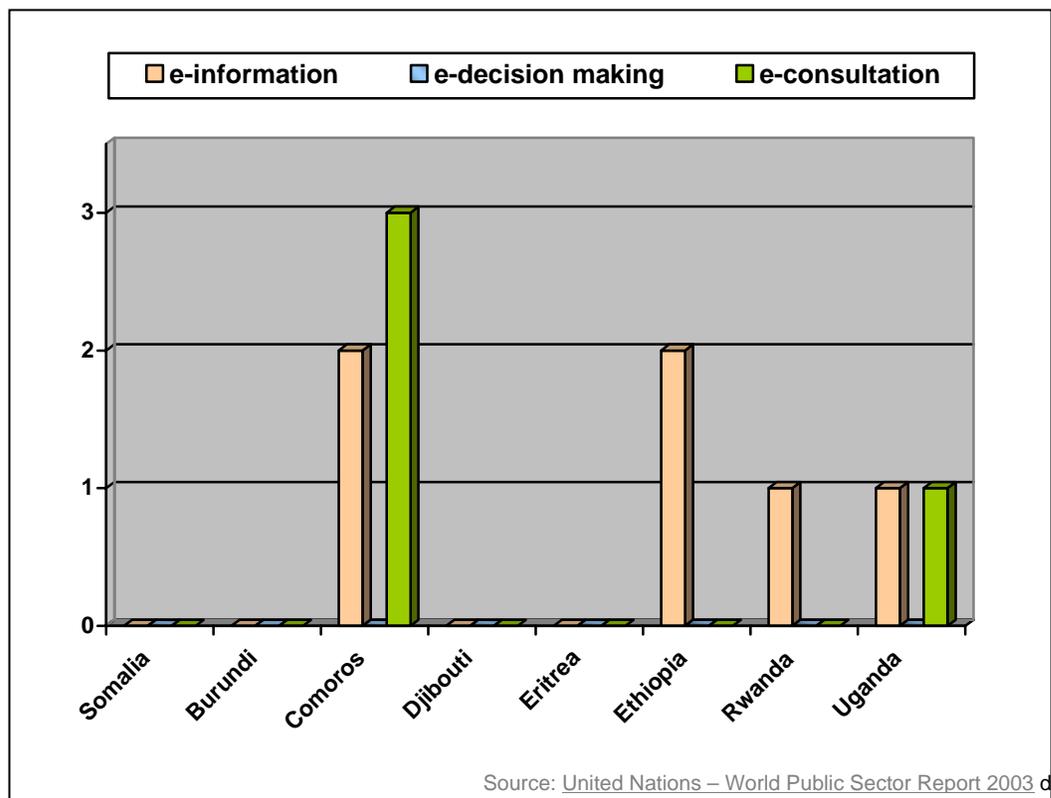
e-Participation Index:

Refers to the willingness, on the part of the government, to use ICT to provide high quality information (explicit knowledge) and effective communication tools for the specific purpose of empowering people for able participation in consultations and decision-making both in their capacity as consumers of public services and as citizens.



e-information:

The government websites offer information on policies and programs, budgets, laws and regulations, and other briefs of key public interest. Tools for disseminating of information exist for timely access and use of public information, including web forums, e-mail lists, newsgroups and chat rooms.



e-decision making:

The government indicates that it will take citizens input into account in decision making and provides actual feedback on the outcome of specific issues.

e-consultation:

The government website explains e-consultation mechanisms and tools. It offers a choice of public policy topics online for discussion with real time and archived access to audios and videos of public meetings. The government encourages citizens to participate in discussions.

7. Links

7.1 National sites

Authority	Topic
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7.2 Miscellaneous sites

Institution	Topic
African Development Bank (ADB)	http://www.afdb.org/
African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (CAFRAD)	http://www.cafrad.org/
African Union (AU)	http://www.africa-union.org/
European Union (EU)	http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/ACP countries
International Labour Organization (ILO) - NATLEX	http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.home
New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)	http://www.nepad.org/
United Nations in Somalia	http://www.unsomalia.net/
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)	http://www.uneca.org/
UNPAN	http://www.unpan.org/virtual_library-byregion.asp
World Bank (WB)	http://www.worldbank.org/so