



January 2017

# Raad

***“Changing Somalia. One Life at a Time...”***

*Raad’ is a Somali word for ‘Footprint’-ADRA Somalia iconizes it’s interventions in Somalia/Somali land as foot prints left on peoples heart as reported in this bi-monthly newsletter*

## **Best Practice, Lessons Learnt And SOMGEP Close-out Workshop In Berbera.**

The Berbera workshop was a unique event that brought together staff from various departments and offices together to reflect on the practices, lessons learnt and management of ADRA Somalia Education Projects. The event also marked as a close-out workshop for the first phase of Somali Girls Education Promotion Project (SOMGEP). The education projects that were focused on during the project included:

- Somali Girls Education Promotion Project (SOMGEP)
- Strengthening Equity, Access and Quality in Education (SEAQE)
- Elmidoon Enhanced Action (ELENA)
- Waxbarashada Wa Iftin II (WWI II)

The staff who attended the workshop were drawn from Nairobi, Hargeisa, Garowe and Galmudug Offices. Program, Finance, Logistics, Security, IT and PR departments were all represented. A total of 24 staff attended the workshop that was held in Hargeisa and in Berbera.

The theme of the workshop was “Reflecting on the best practices, lessons learnt and synergies in ADRA Education Projects in Somalia.”

The agendas that were given attention during the workshop included the following:

- Overview of ADRA Education Projects
- SOMGEP: Why it was a complex Experience?
- Project Start-up, implementation and close-out
- SOMGEP Financial Management
- Programmatic best/bad practices, lessons learnt  
Success stories
- Financial and Procurement Best/Bad practices and lessons learnt
- Quality in Programming and Implementation

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on 4th-8th December 2016.....1

## Special points of interest

- The Workshops Objectives
- The Workshops Expectations
- GEC Funding Schemes
- GEC Transition
- DFID Approval of SOMGEP II  
And EGEP II for another 4.5  
years

## The Workshop Objectives/Expectations

### Objectives.

1. To reflect on the progress, challenges and lessons learnt in the implementation of SOMGEP Project
2. To gain an understanding of ADRA Education projects in Somalia
3. To reflect on the best practices and lessons learnt in the programming of Education Projects
4. To reflect on the practices and lessons learnt in Financial Management of ADRA Projects

5. To reflect on the procurement and human resource practices in ADRA

6. To provide a platform for staff bonding, exchange of ideas and provide opportunities for cross-learning

### Expectations

1. The participants are expected to be active in the group work and during presentations
2. The participants are expected

### The SOMGEP Experience- Meeting DFIDs complex requirements under the GEC funding scheme (Abdifarhan F. Gure, GEC/SOMGEP Initiative Manager)

The Project was implemented in a complex consortium of 2 INGOs and 8 LNGOs. CARE and ADRA leading in the implementation in 3 regions/zones. Geographical target areas were spread over three administrations (Somaliland, Puntland and Galmudug). We were working with Fund Manager (FM) and/or contracted Third Party Monitors. PWC an audit firm with complex financial rules applied on both Program and Finance is the Fund Manager. The rules included:

Payment by Results or alternative

Value for Money – Economy/Efficiency/Effectiveness

Quarterly audits of program and finance

The M and E requirements were complex and we had to work with an Evaluation Manager and/or subcontracted partners. The research was based on a longitudinal study to establish what works to improve marginalized girls' learning and retention.

The Financial Management systems were also complex. Budget template e.g. long list of chart fields and the use of "two budgets" - Internal for monitoring expenditure and donor template for reporting, "16 mini quarterly projects"- Quarterly forecast, Quarterly reports and Quarterly Audits.

The Success of Implementation was measured against 37 GEC project across 18 countries including HUB 4 Countries (FCAS- Somalia/Afghanistan/South Sudan).

Despite this complexity the project was rated by DFID as a top performing project for two consecutive years. The project was also rated Green for all the three years. The Project also scored an A+ on its log frame in year 3. A+ rating means substantially exceeded the expectation. This success can be attributed to the following factors:



Excellent CARE Global collaboration. CSOM/CIUK/CUSA - Successful project implementation, donor relationships and technical support.

Strong consortium partnership with ADRA Somalia guided by consultative approach

Quality of baseline and mid-line studies' reports which has been highly appreciated by the fund manager and evaluation manager.

Country Office Leadership dedication and support in CARE and ADRA ensured success of the project

Consistency in area teams working with communities makes community engagement successful.

Private sector and Diaspora Engagement and with their local community.

Engagement with Religious Leaders as an innovative Social Change Approach.

Internal M and E requirements met through boosting M and E team - Lessons learnt from Baseline (huge difference between baseline and midline).

Dedicated Grant Officer/Grant Manager Improving the Financial Management.

Technical Leads and Area Leads/Teams improved engagement with governments/LNGO partners and Institutional partners.

#### How ADRA Somalia Contributed to the Success of SOMGEP

- Successful implementation of the project in Mudug and Galmudug despite the constant security issues in Gal-kaido. ADRA in most cases did not delay/postpone or miss a milestone in any given quarter despite the security challenges.
- Quality Quarterly reports and other project information.
- Dedicated Staff both at delivery and management level- CN/Proposal development, joint planning.
- Strong partnership that was recognized by the FM and the third party monitors. Presence of ADRA in all monitoring events/workshops.
- Strong Management of the project: PM and team from ADRA were serious about the project and always remained at par with CARE and achieved all the targets and the project is on track, hence the green rating.
- Transparency in the implementation: No fiduciary risk concerns on ADRA raised at implementation as well as by monitors during quarterly monitoring.
- Contributed to the learning gained from the project: Success stories/lessons learnt and case studies from ADRA target schools have always been part of the QPR sent to the donor. Some of ADRA's approaches were picked by FM for replication e.g. Waaberi group, Religious leaders forums in GM, Female teachers at Al-Furqan Primary, Female religious scholars in Galdogob, Integration of Qur'anic and regular school in Wargallo.
- Willingness to learn from mistakes and quick action in correcting them: Finance related issues

## GEC Transition

On 7 July 2016, the Secretary of State announced a further £100m in support for the GEC

The additional funding will support two objectives:

The Transition Window: to continue and improve the impact seen on current beneficiaries

Leave No Girl Behind Window: a separate funding window will support a new cohort of out of school adolescent girls

cohort of GEC girls to have a meaningful level of literacy and numeracy as soon as possible?

**2.** How will you get your current girls to complete their current cycle and transition to the next?

**3.** How will you ensure the sustainability of your plans and share what you are learning?

DFID and the FM are asking projects to consider and propose:

**1.** How will you support your current



*ADRA Staff who attended the workshop.*



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*"I am sure everyone here in this workshop from ADRA has played a role in the success of SOMGEP Project. I also thank the other PMs especially of SEAQE/ELENA/ WWI for their synergies and complementarities with SOMGEP. Kindly acknowledge your contribution to the green rating. "Said the SOMGEP project Manager.*

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*ADRA Staff participation during the workshop.*

