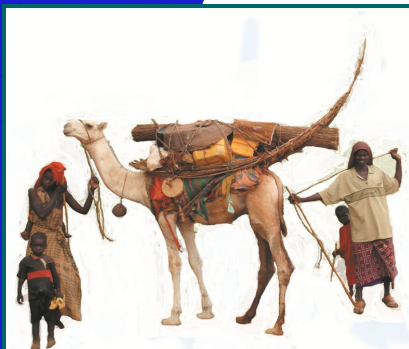




ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT
AND RELIEF AGENCY



'RAAD' is the Somali word for **'footprints'**. ADRA Somalia iconizes its interventions in Somalia/Somaliland as footprints left on the people's hearts as reported in this bi-monthly newsletter.



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A bi-monthly newsletter of ADRA Somalia

August/September 2010

Cookstove Training Held in Puntland

Energy use in Somalia/Somaliland is considered to be very low by world standards and the country's energy scenario is characterized by high dependence on biomass based fuels (charcoal and firewood). Degradation of the environment due to wanton cutting down of trees for charcoal burning continues to be a major challenge to conservation efforts.

In order to improve the skills of producers to create good quality and environmentally friendly cookstoves, ADRA recently provided a training to 10 selected cookstove producers from Puntland, Somaliland and South Central Somalia.

The training was held at the Garowe Vocational Technical Centre (GVTC) in Puntland and was entirely practical and involved instructions on moulding, cladding, welding, brick making, firing, shaping and assembling; all of which are essential processes involved in producing an efficient firewood cookstove.

Trainees were glad to have received vital skills on cookstove production as these would greatly assist them in remaining relevant and competitive in the cookstove markets of South Central Somalia, Somaliland and Puntland.

The training was closed by Eng. Khalif, the Director General in the Puntland Ministry of Public Works, who observed that the skills acquired by trainees would go a long way in ensuring that rapid destruction of the environment is reversed as a result of production of efficient firewood cookstoves.



Some of the completed Cookstoves on display



A Practical demonstration on how to create good quality liners



A Group Photo of the Trainees and Facilitators

Editorial

Energy plays an integral role in development and poverty reduction and is central to sustainable development as well as poverty reduction efforts. It affects all aspects of development - social, economic, and environmental; including livelihoods, access to water, agricultural productivity, health, population levels, education and gender-related issues. Since 2001, ADRA has been promoting access to energy services in Somaliland and Puntland through demonstrating and raising awareness on the efficacy of renewable energy in powering economic diversification. This month's issue of 'RAAD' explores some of the energy projects that have been implemented by ADRA over the years and the positive changes that they have brought upon the beneficiary population.

Enjoy the reading...

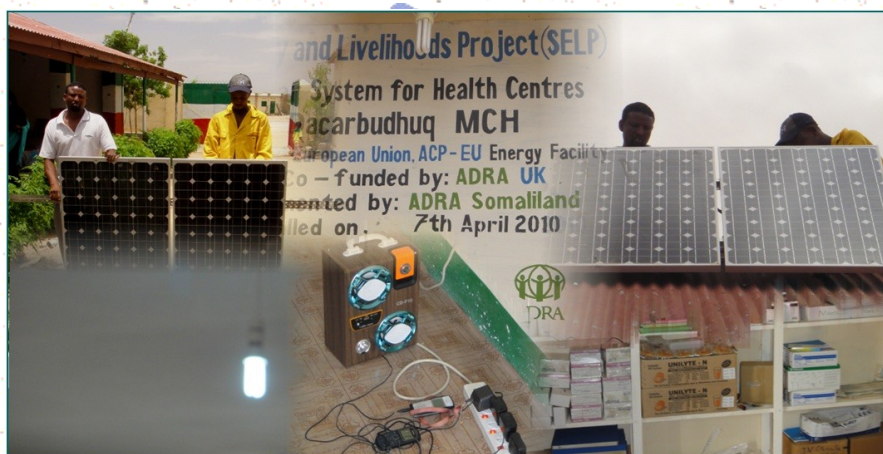
"Changing the World, one life at a time..."

Rural Hospitals Benefit from Solar Panel Installations

Quality health centers constitute a vital component of essential services required in Somaliland and Puntland. The presence of electricity in health centers goes a long way in ensuring that basic and essential services can be provided to patients and medicines can be refrigerated. In addition, communication equipment can be used regularly thus improving management, distribution of information and logistics. However, the availability of electricity to support these health centers is less than adequate in Somaliland and Puntland. However, the Countries are blessed with abundant solar energy resources and though this resource stands to provide reliable electricity, it is largely untapped.

To address this situation, ADRA Somalia through the ongoing Somalia Energy and Livelihoods Project (SELP) that is funded by the European Union ACP EU Energy Facility has been installing solar PVs in selected health centers in Puntland and Somaliland.

These solar panels are now providing power for various end uses and the electricity produced offers much better lighting compared to kerosene which was being used previously: Electricity lighting has greatly improved emergency treatment, child delivery and maternity care, surgery, administrative tasks and other related medical functions. Outdoor lighting has also made the rural health clinics more accessible at night.



Local Farmers' Cooperative Receives Hybrid Water Pump

Jowle Cooperative Farm based in Garowe Town, Puntland, recently benefitted from a hybrid water pump installation on their 10 acre farm. A hybrid renewable energy system utilizes two or more energy production methods, usually solar and wind power.

The major advantage of a hybrid system is that when solar and wind power production are used together, the reliability of the system is enhanced. Additionally, the size of battery storage can be reduced slightly as there is less reliance on one method of power production. Often, when there is no sun, there is plenty of wind as is the case in Somalia.

Mohamed Hersi, one of the managers of the farm is very animated when discussing the benefits currently being derived from this new installation: "Our farm is now being irrigated round the clock since water is readily available. As a result, our harvest is bound to increase substantially this season owing to this terrific intervention", he excitedly says.



Prior to the hybrid installation, the Farm was using two generators to pump water. These generators were quite old and dilapidated and always needed constant repairs. Fuel consumption was also very costly with both of them using up to 6 liters of diesel per day at a cost of US\$ 7.

According to Hersi, operating costs have greatly reduced now and the farm has—as a result—ventured into new income generating activities including poultry keeping and brick making, and this has greatly enhanced the livelihoods of the Cooperative's 20 plus members.

Currently, the Farm grows vegetables and fruits (lemons, water melons and oranges) for sale at the local market and with the new system, plans are underway to cultivate a large chunk of the farm that was previously under utilized due to lack of adequate water. According to Hersi, this part of the farm will be used to plant more fruit trees. "Mahad Sanid ADRA", (Thank you ADRA), he concludes and briskly proceeds to supervise the feeding of recently acquired poultry.

Wind-Powered Water Pump Transforms Local Village

It is often said that behind every face there is a story. The story of Dohaguban Community in Rural Somaliland is one of joy, relief and endless gratitude. It is now over 3 months since ADRA installed a wind powered water pump at the village and the immense impact it has had on this community is vividly and aptly captured by three faces:

"This new wind pump is an intervention whose time had finally come", observes Mohamed Hersi, the WASH Committee Chairman of Dohaguban. According to him, the community has for so long suffered from lack of adequate water. "Long distances used to be covered daily in search of water both for livestock and for household use", he explains-with a forlorn look on his erstwhile beaming face. "With this new intervention, villagers no longer have to trek for hours in search of water. School going children too will now be able to concentrate on their studies. Thank you ADRA for this timely intervention", he concludes.

The joy and relief written on ZamZam's face is too conspicuous to ignore. "No more long distance walks for me, my children and my 18 goats!" she excitedly says. "Now that the water source has been brought much closer, I now have enough time to carry out more beneficial activities. Within the next few days, I plan to open a tea shop here at the village", she exclaims.

Although quite advanced in age, Khadar Djibril Ali still remembers all too well the last time there was a functional borehole at the village: "I was still a young man full of life during those days. Although it served us quite well, it broke down only a couple of months after it had been installed. I do hope that this current one will stand the test of time because I know the importance of a good water supply system. Our village thanks you for this noble gesture," he says.

Through another ongoing intervention funded by ADRA Switzerland and Swiss Solidarity Chain, ADRA Somalia through a local contactor has recently laid pipes that will bring water much closer to the village. In addition, an elevated water tank as well as water *kiosks* are also being constructed at the village.



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