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'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 monthly newsletter.

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Provision of Emergency Water and Sanitation Assistance in Somalia

South-Central Somalia has been under a protracted state of conflict for over 18 years now. This situation has led to failure of Somalia as a state and the result is that communities have been left to find their own means of tackling societal issues.

With the lack of a central government, issues like drought, flooding, internal displacement of persons, poor infrastructure etc continue to afflict communities in Somalia. Over the years, livelihoods of both resident and internally displaced persons/communities have been adversely affected as a result of these protracted wars, drought and flooding especially in 2007 and 2008.

Despite insecurity and a myriad of other challenges, ADRA has continued to carry out projects in Somalia especially in the

fields of water and sanitation, education and policy development.



A newly rehabilitated shallow well at Bunbeegay village in South Central Somalia

One of the Projects currently being implemented is called 'Hiran-Bay Emergency Water and Sanitation Assistance (HEWASA)' and whose principle objective is to assist the victims of continuing insecurity and climatic hazards in South Central Somalia specifi-

cally by increasing access to sustainable safe water and improved sanitation and hygiene conditions. The Project is funded by the European Commission Humanitarian Office (ECHO) through ADRA Germany and ADRA Somalia as an implementer.

It is estimated that a total of 80,000 people will benefit directly through the Project. These include 20,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Hiran and 15,000 in Bay regions. The beneficiaries comprise IDPs who are mainly women and children displaced due to armed conflicts, local communities with some of the families hosting large numbers of IDP families and nomadic pastoralists who frequent the area in search of water and livestock pasture.

Editor's Note

Welcome to the first edition of 'RAAD' for the Year 2009. We are grateful to God for being with us throughout the year 2008 and enabling us to see this New Year.

The Year 2008 proved to be quite a challenging year for ADRA Somalia due to the fragile security situation in Somalia. We hope and pray that the New Year 2009 will bring

peace, harmony and co-existence in Somalia.

This month's issue of 'RAAD' profiles two new projects currently being undertaken by ADRA Somalia: Support to Integrated Basic Education Services (SIBES) and Hiran-Bay Emergency Water and Sanitation Assistance (HEWASA). A successful case story of cook stove producers in Somaliland

who were trained by ADRA Somalia in 2008 and have proceeded to set up successful cook stove production businesses is also contained in this issue.

Enjoy the reading and happy new year to you all.

Providing Quality Education Services in Somalia/Somaliland

Since 1991, Somalia/Somaliland has undergone profound socio-economic and political changes, including severe political instability, numerous civil wars and natural disasters e.g. droughts.

The consequences of civil war and natural disaster resulted in increased poverty and deterioration in living standards for the population. This widespread poverty has impelled families to focus on survival and basic needs, leaving little resources for education needs.

In addition to the widespread 'income poverty', there is danger of an increase in 'capability poverty' if large numbers of children will not derive the benefits needed for their life from the basic education system.

For illiterate and uneducated children, it is hard to access and use information, make the right choices in their lives, to be healthy and economically productive, and develop their skills and knowledge for increasing

their human and economic potential. The risks are higher for children who have a higher tendency to drop out of school, in particular children from poor families, minority groups, children with disabilities and girls.

projects in different regions of Somalia and Somaliland.

The Project is funded by the European Commission and is a consortium between Save the Children UK, Save the Children Denmark and ADRA

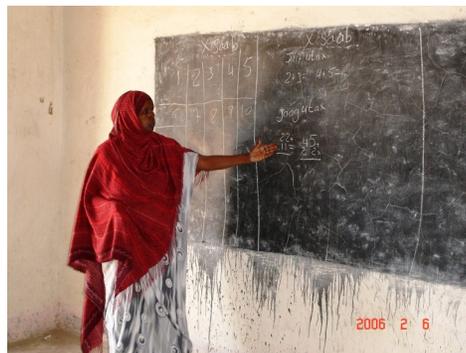
Somalia. Its main aim is to contribute to improved well being of children and youth in Somalia and Somaliland through improving access to basic education for targeted groups of children and adults with equal gender parity in Puntland State of Somalia and Somaliland by the end of the project life span.



Learning in a makeshift classroom in Somalia. The SIBES Project aims to increase access to basic education services in the country.

It is against this backdrop that ADRA Somalia has been carrying out education projects in Somalia and Somaliland. The latest Project dubbed 'Support to Integrated Basic Education Services (SIBES)' hopes to draw from experiences gained while implementing similar

"Widespread poverty has impelled families to focus on survival and basic needs, leaving little resources for education needs."



An adult learner makes a point. The project is targeting around 5,000 adults by 2010.

Success Story: Production of Efficient Cook stoves in Somaliland

Ms. Farah Amboro is a small scale businesswoman based in Hargeisa, Somaliland. Prior to participating in a training on efficient cook stove production that was organized by ADRA Somalia in late 2008, she was involved in the production and sale of cook stoves which were environmentally unfriendly and produced a lot of smoke and subsequently ended up consuming more charcoal than required.

Because of the inefficiency of these cook stoves, many households in Somaliland ended up using a large chunk of their income to buy charcoal for cooking. Respiratory disorders were also commonplace as a result of inhalation of too much smoke from these inefficient cook stoves.

A training was therefore organized by ADRA Somalia aimed at improving the skills and number of artisans involved in cook stove

production as well as building institutional capacity of the cook stove industry in Somaliland to produce good quality cook stoves. A total of 35 trainees were selected to participate in the training. They were trained on production of quality ceramic liners; cladding production and assembling of improved ceramic stoves as well as fabrication of moulds and kiln construction and use in firing ceramic liners.

During the Somaliland Energy Trade Fair held in Hargeisa in late 2008, several trainees exhibited their products at the Event. These cook stove stands went on to scoop first position of 'Best Exhibit' and in making the decision, the Chief Judge – Elder George Okeyo – observed that improved cook stoves were

cheap to acquire and are very energy efficient and would as a result benefit many households in Somaliland.

Farah Amboro has now taken up the task of promoting efficient cook stoves in Somaliland. During the Energy Trade Fair, she was very thankful to ADRA Somalia for the training she received. She encouraged fellow women to switch to improved cook stoves since they are cheap, environmental friendly and would significantly reduce charcoal consumption.

Amboro termed the improved cook stoves as "supporters of weak wives".

ADRA plans to conduct a similar training in Puntland State of Somalia in February 2009.

Amboro referred to the improved cook stoves as 'supporters of weak wives'



Cook stove production in progress



Completed cook stoves on display



Trainees pose for a group photo after completion of the training

Upcoming Trainings

Somalia Energy and Livelihoods Project Training on Solar PV Installation

ADRA Somalia plans to conduct a training on solar PV installation in Puntland State of Somalia in February 2009. The main objective of the training is to improve the capacity of solar PV technicians to meet the growing needs of the solar PV industry in a sustainable manner.

Specifically, the training aims to increase the number of trained technicians who can effectively design, install and maintain solar PV systems as well as improve the skills of existing technicians.

The training will involve both theoretical and practical lessons as well as visits by trainees to existing solar PV installations in Puntland.

Somalia Energy and Livelihoods Project Training on Cook stove Production

ADRA Somalia plans to conduct a training on efficient cook stove production to selected cook stove producers from the Puntland State of Somalia in February 2009.

The training aims to improve the skills and number of artisans involved in cook stove production, build institutional capacity of the cook stove industry to produce good quality cook stoves and to improve productivity in the cook stove supply chain.

At the end of the training, it is expected that the trainees will be able to:

- Improve their skills in production of good quality liners;
- Improve their skills in production of good quality metal claddings; and,
- Be able to institute a quality control mechanism for cladding and liner production.

CREDITS

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'RAAD' is the Somali word for 'footprints'. ADRA Somalia symbolizes all its interventions in Somalia/Somaliland as footprints left in the people's hearts as reported in this monthly newsletter. Its mission is to inform and motivate all Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) global offices and staff. For inclusion in the newsletter's mailing list or to have your email changed, please contact the Editor.