



A monthly newsletter of ADRA Somalia

October 2009

ADRA Conducts Clean-up Campaign in Buloburte Town

'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.

Buloburte Town in Beletweyne District of South Central Somalia was recently spruced up and given a new look as a result of a sanitation and clean-up campaign that was carried out by WASH Committee Members, Village Elders and Locals with ADRA taking on a facilitator's role.

Lack of good sanitation practices in Somalia has led to an increase in waterborne diseases such as cholera. In addition, poor disposal of waste materials has left major towns and surrounding villages looking unsightly and unkempt. The sanitation and clean-up campaign was therefore aimed at improving the image of Buloburte Town and surrounding villages as well as creating awareness on the need to have clean and healthy surroundings.

A couple of days before the clean-up, a

publicity campaign conducted by WASH Committee Members and Local Authorities assisted by ADRA Field Staff was carried out informing locals of the planned activity.

ADRA facilitated the process by providing locals with cleaning equipment including wheelbarrows, spades, brooms and soap. Moreover, ADRA also constructed several garbage pits where collected trash would be burnt.

The clean-up activity took a whole day and it involved volunteers from the villages of Indhoel, October, Hantiwadag and Bulobareil.

ADRA plans to hold similar clean-up and sanitation campaigns in different regions of South Central Somalia.

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The clean-up activity in progress



Collected trash ready for burning in pits

The recently concluded Hiran-Bay Emergency Water and Sanitation Assistance (HEWASA) Project had a principle objective of assisting victims of continuing insecurity and climatic hazards in South Central Somalia specifically by increasing access to sustainable safe water and improved sanitation and hygiene conditions. The Project was funded by the European Commission Humanitarian Office (ECHO) through ADRA Germany with ADRA Somalia as an implementer.

Energy Needs Assessment Workshop Held in Puntland

Communities in Somalia lack capacity to effectively carry out proper energy needs assessments and in an attempt to address this issue, ADRA through the ongoing Somalia Energy and Livelihoods (SELP) Project recently held a five day workshop on 'Community Energy Needs Assessment' in Puntland State of Somalia. The workshop was aimed at equipping players in the energy sector of Puntland with requisite skills that are necessary when carrying out needs assessment of different communities vis a vis proposed projects.

The five day workshop was carried out at Garowe Teachers Education Centre and saw a total of 26 participants drawn from relevant ministries, business associations, industry players, consultants, academia and NGOs being trained.

The workshop was officially opened by the Director General in the Ministry of Public Works and Transport and he encouraged participants to use the training received to benefit the country's emerging energy sector. The DG was also thankful to ADRA for its continued support in helping promote alternative energy options in Puntland and further assured the Agency of continued support from his Ministry.

The workshop followed a similar one that ADRA had carried out in Somaliland.



Top: Participants of the training during a visit to Tawakal Farm

Above: A group photo of the participants and facilitators

WASH Project Provides Relief to Local Village

Guhre Abokor Daur is the Water, Sanitation and Health (WASH) Chairman of Hiran Village, one of several villages that recently benefitted from ADRA Somalia's WASH projects.

"Prior to ADRA's intervention, water problems were commonplace in our village; the only *berkad* (underground water tank) available was not functional, our boreholes were too saline and we had a chronic shortage of household and community latrines, which led to an increase in waterborne diseases.



Mr. Guhre during the interview

Subsequently, buying water from vendors became the only option to us and was quite expensive .

With ADRA rehabilitating the *berkad* as well as desalinating and rehabilitating our boreholes, we are now able to have access to clean water and drastically reduce the need to buy it from vendors. In addition, the long distances that we used to cover in search of clean water have now been greatly reduced.

Moreover, the new latrines built by ADRA will go a long way in improving the poor sanitation of our village, a challenge that we have been experiencing for quite some time now.

Thank you ADRA for all your kind assistance, and may you long continue to touch lives", he concludes with a broad smile.

Success Story

Promoting Access to Education Services in Puntland

Darwish Primary School, in Garowe, Puntland was established over 40 years ago as an elementary school. Children completing grade 4 would join other intermediate schools in Puntland for grades 5-8 until the 2005/2006 academic year, when the school started its own intermediate school, facilitating easy transition to intermediate classes for students completing elementary school. The European Commission funded Basic Education Development project (BED), and implemented by ADRA supported the construction of 2 new classrooms that housed the first group of learners enrolled for intermediate level. ADRA has continued to render support to the growth of Darwish through the EC funded Support to Integrated Basic Education Services (SIBES) project, which started in July 2008. The support is in form of learning materials, capacity development and provision of extra learning spaces, where an additional classroom was constructed to accommodate the increased population of learners.

On 30th July 2009, the school marked a significant moment of its history when 220 pupils (112 girls and

108 boys) graduated from grade 8 after passing their Intermediate level exams. It is important to note that the school has utilised well the assistance provided to increase access and quality of education to the children enrolled. The school is well managed with twenty two professional teachers supervising over 1,500 learners enrolled. This has ensured effective use of assistance provided resulting to increased access of basic education to learners both adults and children who use the facilities for basic education services.

The School's Head teacher – Mr. Mohamed Ali – was grateful for all the support extended by NGO's to the School and urged for more support to be given to the Country's growing Education sector. His sentiments were echoed quite aptly in a play on '*Ignorance is an Enemy*' that was performed by students of Darwish during the graduation ceremony. The play which was impressively acted in both English and Arabic languages (which are taught at the school) essentially expressed the need for all to have access to basic education.



Darwish School Students act a play on 'ignorance' during the graduation



One of the new classrooms built by the SIBES Project



Part of the Darwish School students during the graduation

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