



'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.



In this Issue...

Power of Education	1
Achieving Improved Education Outcomes in Somalia	2
Improving Access to Safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Services in Somalia	3



"Changing Somalia. One Life at a Time..."

November/December 2015

The Power of Education

Education is a basic human right, as well as a precondition for any serious effort to return peace, prosperity, and justice to Somalia's citizens on a lasting basis. The Education system in Somalia was destroyed due to the civil war and the subsequent collapse of the central state in 1991. Prolonged periods of instability and intermittent conflict constrained the ability of local populations and the international community to rehabilitate the country's educational facilities and resources.

Education can provide structure and stability for children who have been traumatized by war. Good education can help reduce gender inequalities, child exploitation, and the likelihood of future violence in the wider society.

If this generation of Somali children is to find hope for the future, there needs to be an emphasis on education. Without education the achievements for success will not happen. With every educated student comes the potential for a leader of tomorrow. The struggle to educate children in Somalia has brought foundations like ADRA to give Somali children in Somalia that opportunity.

Somali parents and community leaders know the importance of education and dream of giving every school-age child a chance to go to school and learn. Many parents and community leaders have taken education into their own hands, but they still don't have the necessary resources. Because of these obstacles and additional difficult circumstances, millions of children are not getting an education, and to give a helping hand ADRA Somalia implemented ELMIDOON project "seeking knowledge" with funding from the European Union (EU) in Banadir region from December 2012 to November 2015.

The education system exhibits very low access opportunities and poor quality of education at all levels, with striking disparity between male and female enrolment rates, among administrative regions, and amongst various social and economic groups therefore the project will consolidate and improve the existing education opportunities and provide additional quality primary education opportunities in two cities in Somalia (Mogadishu and Baidoa), hence many children will get access to good and better education and become future leaders of tomorrow that Somalia needs. Under this project the mother support group was established in 12 primary schools in Mogadishu so as to bring together mothers and teachers to address challenges of education and to tap into the influential that mother can have in enrolment and attendance of school by children especially girls. Also 8 primary schools were rehabilitated in Mogadishu through the Elmidoon project. The estimated beneficiaries in this project are 16,269 learners of which 45% are girls.

The Objective of the project is to revive and promote education at all levels and to give every child and citizen equal access to free public education as well as affordable private education.



Achieving Improved Education Outcomes in Somalia

Education empowers people to transform their lives and the societies in which they live, education enables people to read, earn better wages, care for their health, and have a voice in their communities. It also makes people aware of their rights and opportunities

More than half of all out-of-school children are girls. When families cannot afford to send all their children to school, they often choose to send the boys, believing that it is a better long-term investment and the girls can then help with the family chores at home. Early marriage and pregnancy can also prevent girls from attending school, and some countries even have laws that prohibit pregnant girls from attending school or returning to school after their child is born. Safety and security is also a concern for some families, and parents may be less likely to allow their daughters to travel long distances to school.

A civil war broke out in Somalia in 1991 and many different groups competed for control of the government. Education then became one of the major casualties of the civil war and even today Somalia's education system remains largely in ruins.

Education in my opinion is knowing everything that can be known, and learning everything that can be learnt. I believe every child can learn if he or she gets the resources and qualified educators to guide regardless of race, gender and socio-economic status. To help all the children get access to learning ADRA Somalia implemented a project known Waxbarashada waa iftiin" Education is Light" in Puntland from December 2012 to November 2015 with funding from the European Union (EU). The purpose of the project is to strengthen the delivery of education services in Somalia. This project has offered Learners more and better education services to choose from, such that education offered in various sub-sectors and over the sector as a whole will be more relevant to their needs, interests and capabilities, both knowledge-wise and financially.

Through Waxbarashada waa Iftiin project, 5 classrooms have been rehabilitated, 25 classrooms have been built, 21 latrines rehabilitated, 13 Berkads/water storage have been constructed and 231 CEC members have been trained 30% being female, therefore education services are now accessible for all, including marginalized groups and individual with special needs. The project benefits mostly the learners, the families they belong to, local society, enterprises, government and society as a whole.

Overall objective of the project is that Education and training efficiently and effectively delivered contributing to poverty alleviation within a peaceful, secure and democratic Somalia and the Specific objective is that Education and training services, responsive to the priority requirements of the Somali population, efficiently and equitably delivered.



Improving Access to Safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Somalia

Populations affected by armed conflict in Somalia have experienced severe public health consequences mediated by population displacement, food scarcity, and the collapse of basic health services, giving rise to humanitarian emergencies. War and civil strife have been largely responsible for this epidemic of mass migration that has affected almost every region in Somalia.

In addition to political instability, Somalia has faced recent natural disasters, including severe ongoing drought and Rains and localized flooding, this has resulted in poor pasture, poor livestock conditions and livestock loss. Limited access to safe water also has serious repercussion on the health households who are forced to use unsafe water, leading to prolonged sickness. Availability of clean water is vital to the eradication of poverty and diseases, and to the long-term attainment of sustainable economic and social development in Somalia.

During the conflict many water and sanitation, health facilities were destroyed thus the situation in Somalia continues to worsen due to drought, high food prices and lack of basic services, therefore In order to increase access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene services in Somalia, ADRA has implemented Restoration of Access to WASH Facilities and Services for Vulnerable Population project (RAWFS) with funding from Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) in Qansadhere District in November 2014 to November 2015. This projects aim was to address serious water supply and sanitation problems that were affecting the population in the region. security issues has made it more and more difficult to operate in qansadhere district but with all those challenges ADRA has managed to implement the project. The RAWFS Project has been supporting and rehabilitating 4 boreholes which serves 9,000 beneficiaries, it has also been rehabilitating and supporting 5 shallow wells that serves 2,250 beneficiaries.

Out of the targeted 12,750 beneficiaries of the project an estimate of 10,950 women, men, boys and girls have benefitted from the project in the district. Through the project ADRA improved communities' access to a sustainable source of water and sanitation, and promoted hygiene practices by rehabilitating water supply sources such as boreholes, shallow wells and water cisterns.

The objective of the project is to improve access to water, hygiene and sanitation services to vulnerable women, girls, boys and men in Qansadhere District, Bay region through restoration of community WASH facilities and targeting local community institutions consisting health centers and schools.

