



# WAAPO ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

## ABOUT WAAPO

Women Action for Advocacy and Progress (WAAPO) is a Somaliland-based non-governmental organization founded by women in 1997. WAAPO's works to protect and support women, youth, and children by providing practical and emotional support, protection, economic empowerment, and education, as well as campaigning for long-term change in their lives. WAAPO is one of the most well-known local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Somaliland for its work in the areas of protection, livelihood and Youth innovation. WAAPO manages the only safe house that exists in Somaliland.

WAAPO is actively involved in the fields of gender equality, advocacy and human rights, including Women, Youth, and Children rights, Gender-based violence and child protection, social economic empowerment, livelihood development and youth education, general protection.

### About the Project:

WAAPO is currently implementing four intervention program funding by UNICEF incl, Community care, Children on the move (Safe house and CP Desks) and Upshift project, to provide protection services for SGBV girls and women survivors through the Community Care approach, strengthening the referral system for survivors of SGBV, transitional shelter support and empowerment of children with disabilities to promote self-reliance and

independence through social reintegration. SGBV cases will continue to be referred to 3 shelters established in Borama, Burao and Hargeisa for counselling, transitional shelter provision and medical support. Through a network of Child Protection Desks, WAAPO will strengthen the referral process for child survivors needing medical, legal assistance and reunification with families

The integrated emergency response program for drought-affected communities, including Lascanod conflict, is a six-month from (march to august) emergence response program financed by UNICEF. The project targeted four regions, including Sool (incl. Lascanod), Sanag, Togdheer, and Marodijeex. The program consists of child protection in emerging, SBC, Wash, and GBV for the most vulnerable people which was afflicted by conflict, climate change, and drought.

CORE PROGRAM	DURATION	LOCATION	TARGET COMMUNITIES
Upshift Program	March,2022 – Feb 2026	Maroodijeex, Awadal, Sool, Sanag, & Togdheer.	Women & Children affected all forms of abuse.
Community Care Program			
Safe House Program			

Integrated Emergence Responses ( Cp,gbv, Wash And Sbc)	March,2023- August,2023	Sool, Togdheer and Marodijeex.	Sanag, and	Communities affected by droughts and conflict
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## 1 : Social Norms

### 1.1. Strengthening of Safe House operations, CP-Desks, and GBV prevention:

#### Safe House Support

A total of 181 Women has accessed and 151 Children (59 Boys 92 Girls) for child abuse & accompanies.



**PSS, Case management, legal & medical support via referral & emergence cash**

A total of 3219 Person ( 1870F; 1349 M ) received safety and security\_in CP-Desk, Safe space and centers

#### Awareness-raising and education on GBV/CP prevention & responses

A total of 9782 Person (5447F; 4335 M) reached through and CP awareness campaign



**MHPSS, Counseling, referral and case management through CP-Desk;**

4320 individuals ( 2322 Female; 1998 Male) were supported mobile and remote GBV/CP service delivery, hotline, and home-visit campaigns

## 2. Community –Care Program:

#### 14-Weeks TOT for the CDL-

8 CDL were selected and

#### Community dialogue sessions

A total of 2340 persons (1080M

#### Prevention messages on key

8120 individuals (5000F 3120M)

#### Public declaration event

300 participants attended incl.



## 2 Child Protection In Emergence

### 2.1 GBV & CP In Emergence prevention and responses

- Established 4 protection desk in drought/Conflict affected areas incl. Kalabaydh & Buhudle. & deployed -frontline workers dedicate to provide case management service and referral .
- A total 66 (41F; 24 M) vulnerable women displaced from the drought & conflict supported Start-Up business grants and training incl. Buhudle & Kalabaydh district.
- 320 vulnerable women received NFIs & dignity kits; & A total 420 vulnerable women accessed one-time emergence cash assistance for emergency referral support.
- A total of 10210 individuals were also received quality service through case management service incl. PSS and referrals.
- A total of 7780 persons ( 2420F, 2240M, 1440B, 1680G ) were reached though GBV In emergence awareness raising, prevention activities & capacity building.
- Established of ( 12 ) community based committees/ groups working on SGBV /CP –In emergence.
- A total 1410 Persons ( 720 Girls; 690 Boys ) has been attended youth talk vie student roundtable ( Hero –in me school clubs) on issue around social norm, SRHR, hygiene practice, and FGM/C and early marriage,
- Conducted; Evidence based research on GBV/CP-In emergence – particularly conflict areas inc. Buhudle and Kalabaydh.

### Pictures, Mobile outreach on hygiene promotion & CP prevention message



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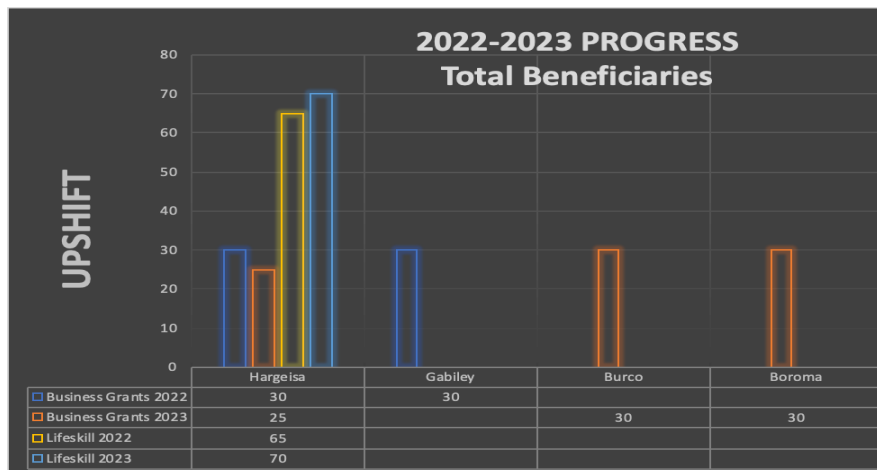


### 3: Adolescent and youth empowerment

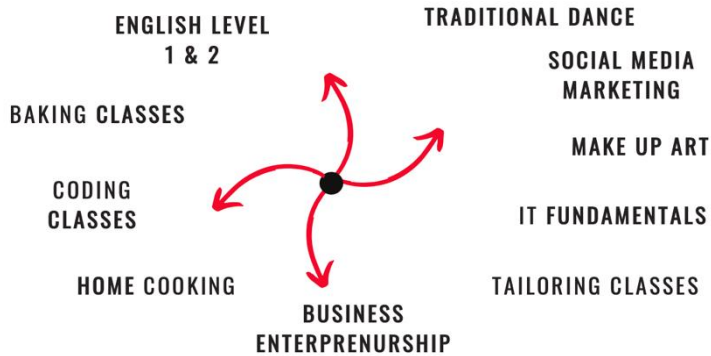
#### UPSHIFT Program:

Business entrepreneurship & start-up funding;

- Cohort (1); A total of 60 young people; ( 21F 39M) In Gabilay & Hargaisa;
- Cohort (2); A total of 85 young people;( 36F 49M) In Borama, Burco & Hargaisa. –
- Total 31 Business groups.



#### Life-Skill Classes



- Trained Upshift cohort team in U-Report platform usage and life skills.
- Successfully registered youth in the program.
- Run the first U-Report polls
- Positive outcomes observed.



### Main Concerns – Challenges

- Access implication in Lascanod and nearby due to conflicts.
- High demand for the Income generation (start-up funds) among survivors of GBV, C-care beneficiaries due the economic implications contributed by drought, conflict & climate changes.
- Insufficient Start-up Grants hinders the potential of their ventures and obstacles durability of the start-up.
- Domestic violence, force marriage & family abuse prevalence rate is increased ( GBVIMS report) in eastern regions due to the economic pressure & social norms.
- Limited GBV/CP In - emergency prevention campaign & as well as safe centers beyond major cities.
- Barriers entailed with the relocated-phase-out ICs from the Safe-House, incl. their safety, stigma, and living costs.

### Priorities and areas of focus

- Expand WAAPO-Safe house in Cerigabo district and nearby Las,anood.
- Scale-up C-Care program in hard-to reach locations incl. Buhudle, Ainaba, Zialac & Baligubadle district.

- Scale-up Social-economic reintegration (livelihood) Through Upshift in Sool & Sanag region.
- Cash/voucher assistance support as mitigation for GBV/FGM and separation of children.
- Continuation of GBV/CP-in-Emergence prevention and responses program incl. Safe centres in hard-to reach & conflict district.
- Youth in climate changes efforts; Integrate Upshift and C-Care youth beneficiary for climate change efforts
- Strengthening MHPSS for the Safehouse drought effected communities
- Integrate Emergence response project ( CP, SBC & GBV) mainstreaming with other sectors Wash/Nutrition/ Health and livelihood.
- Lift-up life skill and employability opportunities for the youth & victims of GBV affected by crises incl. children conflict with law, migrants, drought/climate change affected.
- Self-care for our frontline workers; and Zero – tolerance PSEA commitment prioritization
- Set-up youth innovation & adolescent friendly –centre in Burco and Borama.

## Overview Of The Project

- **About the project** : Strengthened GBV prevention and response ( shelter support ) project In Somaliland.
- **Output 1:** Enhanced multisectoral capacity to prevent & address GBV using a continuum approach, including in humanitarian settings.
- **Programme Cycle.** : 2021-2025 **Start Date:** 2022-01-01 - **End Date:** 2022-12-3
- **Implementing Partner:** WAAPO . WP ID 1
- **Location** : Hargaisa, Burco and Boram Somaliland.

### Brief Summary of Activities

1. Shelter Support (MHPSS, Material support and case management support)
2. Conduct Community engagement and outreach on GBV prevention and responses

**With the support of UNFPA**, This report highlights the main result, and progress for the implementation of the protection and support for GBV survivors in the Somaliland project, which is funded by UNFPA to WAAPO; for the period of 1, April – 30, December.2023

### Project Achievements:

#### Activity 1: Shelter Support incl. MHPSS for the survivors of GBV and SGBV prevention sessions

WAAPO operates three Safe Houses in Somaliland that provide accommodation, three meals a day, child supplies, hygiene supplies, medical assistance, safe transportation to other services, mental health, and psychosocial support. Over the reporting period, a total of 38 women survivors, along with their children and other survivors, accessed Safe House support and other forms of assistance. Moreover, 80 survivors relocated from WAAPO Safe Houses, and Safe House residents were given hygiene kits.

Furthermore, during the reporting period, WAAPO's psychosocial workers and counsellors assisted a total of 167 survivors of GBV all of whom were female. These individuals had experienced psychosocial problems or showed signs and symptoms of traumatic depression and stress due to SGBV problems. WAAPO provided them with quality and ethical supportive services through the case management system, including group counselling, one-on-one counselling, and referrals. Through these efforts, WAAPO has demonstrated its commitment to providing holistic support to survivors of SGBV and creating safer communities for all.

During the reported period, WAAPO conducted three workshops in the IDP sites to connect the communities with the existing GBV services, such as safe house support and GBV case management, as well as services available to other GBV actors. The aim was to strengthen referral pathways & improve access to the available services. The workshops were attended by a total of 60 individuals, with 39 females and 21 males, and they were actively participating from three different regions, with 20 persons in each.

In addition, WAAPO has arranged 16 community engagements and outreach sessions on SGBV prevention and responses in six IDP sites located in Hargaisa, Borama, and Burco. The outreach sessions focused on various issues related to GBV mitigation, VAW, protection risks impacting women and girls during emergencies, and different forms of GBV, including traditional harmful practices like FGM/C and early marriage. The outreach sessions were successful in reaching out to a total of 516 individuals, comprising 334 females and 182 males..

### Main concern and challenges

- Women and girls are **exposed more risks on SGBV** due to problems related to land ownership, constant evictions, lack of permanent / poor structured shelters in the displaced IDPs from droughts.
- Due to poor street lightening & lack of functional market squares in the newly IDPs sites from drought effected areas (women go afar distance for shopping), are **subjected to both physical and sexual assaults**.
- Intimate partner violence, domestic violence and family abuse prevalence rate is increased due to the **economic pressure contributed by drought**.
- Early/force marriage prevalence is also **increased in eastern SL regions** due to the droughts.
- **Limited housing allowance for the SGBV survivors** relocated from WAAPO Safe house to their family/community of origin.
- Relocated ICs from the Safe house particularly are faces stigma, discrimination, homeless, sever living condition problem.
- **Lack of the material support**, recreation activities and life skills program for the survivors of GBV in the Safe house and SGBV stop centers is also reported; and their prevalence is increasing Incl. the safe house & relocated cases
- **Limited referral support assistance for the survivors of GBV** in the eastern Somaliland region regions incl. Sool, sanaag and Buhoodle district as there is no safe house in Sool and Sanaag region.
- **Safe house admission case load is increased** due to the drought in Togdheer region despite the scarcity of safe house capacity.
- **Primary prevention for the GBV mitigation** incl. tradition harmful practice targeting IDPs and newly displaced communities is very limited particularly hard to reach locations.
- **Female vulnerable adolescents** incl. unwanted pregnancy and teen pregnancy at risk of protection concern needed unique services such reintegration with their peers, school transport and income generation activities.
- **Gender sensitivity and mainstreaming** in drought effected communities is also needed in drought effected communities to ensure women are taken resource, aid distribution and decision making.







## UNHCR PROJECT FUND

### ACTUAL PROGRESS ACHIEVED TOWARDS PLANNED RESULTS

With the project funded by UNHCR; WAAPO has been implemented SGBV prevention project that are targeted refugee and asylum seekers in Somaliland Under the Pillar-1; To ensure the participation of community in SGBV prevention & response enabled and sustained. During the reported period from Jan-December, 2023; under the pillar 1 (refugee & asylum seeker); WAAPO has been reached a total of 3722 Persons ( **F 2602 1120 M** ); and we have given protection service such safety and security ( Safehouse) hygiene supplies, relocation support, referrals, PSS Case management, legal & medical via referral as well as awareness-raising and education on GBV prevention & responses

To response GBV protection concerns has been raised due to the emergence sittings in Somaliland including Las,Anod conflict; WAAPO has extended its SGBV intervention program in drought and conflict areas and targeted most vulnerable women and girls in the IDPs; during the reported period from March – Jun, 2023; A total 14921 persons ( F 9932; 4989 M)

Refer the below attached table for the actual progress we have achieved towards planned results

Output(s) Statement	Key Output activities	Output Indicator(s)	Pop. Type	Achieved Target against the plan		
				Female	Male	Total
Participation of community in GBV prevention and response enabled and sustained	Provision of GBV Safe house and GBV stop desk in Berbera (RC) where survivors can receive safety and security, PSS Case management, legal & medical via referral. Awareness-raising and education on GBV prevention & responses	# Of community-based committees/ groups working on SGBV prevention and response	Refugees and asylum seekers,	2602 persons	1120 Persons	3722 Persons
OA4: GBV	Participation of communities in GBV and child protection prevention and response enabled and sustained (Drought Emergency)	# of community-based committees/ groups working on GBV prevention and response	IDPs	9932 persons	4989 persons	14921 Persons

#### Changes:

To strengthen GBV in emergencies, **WAAPO has been subjected amendment On March, 2023**; The amendment program are intended to provide protection services for the most vulnerable displaced individuals especially women and girls across three districts in 3 regions in Somaliland namely Togdheer (Burco), Sool (Laas Canood, Kalabaydh, Buuhudle), and Ceerigavo (Sanaag) with the goal of increasing access to multisectoral response service for the GBV to the conflict and drought-affected communities. This will be done by implementing the proposed interventions that identify protection risks for most vulnerable individuals, human rights violations, and service gaps related to GBV prevention and responses in conflict and drought-affected areas through risk assessments, protection monitoring, strengthened referral pathways, and implementation of protection activities related to GBV.

The proposed activities has been provided timely access to life saving interventions for the most vulnerable GBV survivors and those at risk of GBV, strengthen existing safe centres and frontline staff and establish/strengthen GBV stop desks.

## 2. **Recommendation for amendments**

For future amendment program on GBV program intervention we would like to suggest as per the below recommended GBV program intervention

- Enhance outreach programme as preventative measure to curb GBV particularly hard to reach locations.
- Initiate innovative approach to boost life skill and employability opportunities for the survivors of GBV affected by crise incl. migration, drought and climate change.
- Integrated PPA Programme Nexus Protection( GBV) main streaming with other sectors Wash/Nutrition/ Health and livelihood.
- In crisis like Las'Anod situation, women and girls are most likely to be affected more than the other community economically hence Social economic empowering programs for women and girls is needed.
- Develop and implement prevention strategies, including awareness-raising campaigns, community mobilization, and advocacy for policy and legal reforms led by the POCs vie IP.
- Conducting GBV assessments in the hard to reach location and conflict or drought occur, by including some resource during the emergencies to inform GBV response planning and implementation.
- Strengthening GBV referral systems between MESAF, GBV actors, UNHCR and POCs by allocatin resource through IP in order strengthening referral pathways for GBV survivors. GBV actors work together to ensure that survivors receive comprehensive and timely support,
- Support WAAPO development and rsource for GBV response guidelines and protocols incl. Safe house policies, hotline SOPs and sensitize their staff
- Allocate resource to endorse and implement GBVIMS by providing IPs such tools, equipment, laptops, in the centers and officer located in the hard to reach location
- Sensitization for the PSEA both the CSOs staff, partners, POCs and imigartioin is also recommended.