

## PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE EMERGENCE RESPONSE – FUNDED BY UNICEF

Date: 20- September, 2023

Name of the IP	Women action for advocacy and progress organization ( WAAPO).
Name of the Project	Strengthening the protective environment for women and children at risk of violence, abuse and exploitation in Somaliland.
Areas of focused	Integrated emergence response project.
Duration	March – August, 2023
Location	Sanaag, maroodijeex and Maroodijeex regions



Child Friendly space “Ubadgargaar Autsim Special Needs School.” Supported by UNICEF/WAAPO In Hagiassa

## 1. PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Lack of access to adequate specialized services for GBV/CP mitigation and response in emergencies will lead to loss of lives of women and girls in the long term and exclude them as equitable stakeholders in Somaliland development. Affected women and girls may succumb to negative coping mechanisms such as forced marriage including child marriage and exchange of sex for food and/or livelihood.

According to the UNFPA GBViE report 2022 indicated that intimate partner violence (IPV), sexual assault and abuse are on the rise, as drought conditions worsen in regions and states in Somalia including Gedo, Lower Juba, Southwest state and Banadir, and in Somaliland including Maroodi-Jeeh, Togdheer, Awdal, and Sanaag. This situation is expected to deteriorate further, as Somalia and Somaliland face the risk of a fourth consecutive failed rainy season in early 2022. Reports of rape and IPV, due to lack of proper shelter and privacy in crowded IDP settlements and distance to water points are emerging and increasing. Child marriages have become a negative coping mechanism for families to escape poverty, exposing the girl child to real or threatened physical and sexual abuse, poor nutrition, and increased chance of maternal neonatal death.

The inadequate access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene facilities has heightened the risk of disease outbreaks, especially in IDP camps. So far Health Cluster partners have reported an increase in suspected cases of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD)/Cholera in several districts. Girls will be at risk of dropping out of schools if they don't have access to menstrual hygiene materials coupled with lack of designated toilets for girls is a contributing factor for girls to drop out of schools.

## 2. OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT:

The integrated emergency response program for drought-affected communities, including Las, anod conflict, is a six-month emergency 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.

One of the most significant initiatives we are currently working on for the SBC Program is "Reduction in death and illness through promotion of healthy behaviour and demand for lifesaving services: Using the social & behaviour change approach." This project will strengthen protection, social and behavioural change and accountability to the affected population, and to protect the most vulnerable women and girls and children affected by the drought through scaled up SBC program.

2. Protection for the children in emergencies strengthened: The project will strengthen protection to children at risk and child survivors, UASC and children on the move (CoTM) through providing case management (CM) services that meet their unique needs

3. Reduction in death and illness through promotion of healthy behaviour and demand for lifesaving services: Using the social & behaviour change approach.

4. Provided lifesaving WASH in emergencies services; to provide lifesaving essential WASH services to vulnerable drought-displaced communities.

### 3. Core Program Activities :

Set up GBV& CP protection desk in four district with frontline workers deployed, 2. Child Friendly Spaces Emergence, 3. Emergence cash support for almost 120 HHs, 4. Start-ups small business for GBV survivors, 5. GBV mobile outreach to provide case management incl. PSS and referral and 6. SBC intervention to strengthen community resilient in humanitarian situation and provide Info for service delivery and CBP. 7. hygiene promotion and hygiene supplies distribution for the most vulnerable women/girls ; 8. Empowering children-in Schools affected by the emergencies, and last CP and GBV in emergence prevention through workshop and sessions to prevent risk associate for the GBV in emergence and SEA and lastly conduct widely baseline and end-line research for the GBV/CP in emergencies.

### 4. Progress description :

To response GBV protection concerns has been raised due to the emergence sittings in Somaliland including Las, Anod conflict; WAAPO has extended its CP/SGBV intervention program in drought and conflict areas and targeted most vulnerable women and girls in the IDPs;

During the reported period from March – August , 2023; A total 7620 persons ( F 4220, 0 Male) has been accessed to **survivor-centered response services** incl. **Safety and security**, psychosocial support, CMR, access to medical and legal/justice via referral in GBV one-stop centers and Safe house that meet the minimum standards as well as the distribution of hygiene kits. In which 140 vulnerable individual affected by drought (140 Female 0 Male) received **NFIs and dignity kits** as well as 240 persons (240 Female 0 Male) accessed **one-time emergence cash assistance** for emergency referral support.

Moreover a total of 10210 individuals were also received **quality service through case management service** incl. PSS and referrals. Furthermore, to increase the communities' knowledge and awareness of GBV in emergence and to better understand the concept of gender inequality that contribute drought and to tackle GBV problems; during the reported period a total of 7780 persons ( 2420F, 2240M, 1440B, 1680G ) were reached though **GBV awareness raising, prevention activities, GBV-in emergence capacity building** with district authorities and risk mitigation to address gender-based violence through UNICEF-supported programmes.



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To strengthened child protection in emergence by providing access to quality service for the communities affected by drought. During the reporting period, a total of 5762 children received **psychosocial counseling from WAAPO social workers** and frontline staff at frontline protection desks, of which 3320 were UASC (1560 Boys, 1760 Girls) and had access to FTR and reunification with their family of origin.

During the reporting period, the project has been **supported/established of ( 12 ) community-based committees/ groups working on SGBV** prevention and response particularly communities affected by drought and conflict incl. Buhudle, Kalabaydh ( nearby Lasaanod district), ceerigavo, as well as Burco and Gabilay district.

Moreover, to **empowering children-in Schools** to tackle issues that concerned for their life incl. child protection, adolescent right, children on the move, hygiene promotion, and SRHR; A total 1410 Persons ( 720 Girls; 690 Boys ) has been attended **youth talk via student roundtable** on issue around social norm, SRHR, hygiene practice, and FGM/C and early marriage, in which 1210 person ( 790Girls, 420Boys) were attended **hero-in-me school clubs meetings** on parental knowledge of positive child-rearing, & protection and 530 persons ( 320 Girls, 210 Boys) has been participated FGDs discussion with the project beneficiaries incl. school and Non-school children. The session aims to educate children with the knowledge and tools they need to protect them, practice good hygiene, and understand their rights in terms of their health and well-being.

During the project implementation period, WAAPO was also implemented **social economic empowerment and reintegration support (Livelihood) activities** that was aimed to provide income opportunities for vulnerable women and girls affected by droughts, GBV female survivors and adolescents for their own economic development. During the selection the beneficiaries were chosen in collaboration with local community actors MESAF's. The main list was chosen for the WAAPO protection desk and WAAPO-Safe center record. A total 66 (41F; 24 M ) vulnerable women displaced from the drought ( 15 Buhudle; 15 Kalabaydh, 15 Burco and 20 Hargaisa) were also assisted **start-ups business funding** and they have benefited from business training, social innovation boot camp, and start-up business grants; they have been grouped into 16 Business groups, registered their business legalities, opened a banks, developed their business plans and each group were consist of 4 person and has been granted a total of \$2000



IMG-20230502-WA0016



IMG-20230502-WA0003



IMG-20230430-WA0010



IMG-20230427-WA0035



IMG-20230427-WA0023



IMG-20230415-WA0013



IMG-20230413-WA0037



IMG-20230412-WA0050



IMG-20230412-WA0045



IMG-20230412-WA0039



### Project Progress Against the Results Framework.

Result statement	Performance indicator/s	Location	Female	Male	Boys	Girls	Total
<b>GBV IN EMERGENCIES:</b> Families and communities demonstrate strengthened to protect women and girls from violence.	# Of survivors who have accessed and benefited to survivor-centered response services Incl. Safety and security, psychosocial support, access to medical and legal/justice, CMR in GBV one-stop centers and Safehouse that meet the minimum standards	Laascanood, Buhudle, Burco, Hargeisa, Gabiley,	980	756	384	220	2340
	Percentage of UNICEF-targeted women, girls and boys in humanitarian situations provided with risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions to address gender-based violence through UNICEF-supported programmes.		2420	2240	1440	1680	7780
	Indicator 1.3.1: # of individuals received quality service through case management service incl. PSS and referrals.		4220	2840	1840	1310	10210
<b>CHILD PROTECTION IN EMERGENCY;</b> Children and women in humanitarian situations and crises are safer and access better quality protection services.	Percentage of UNICEF-targeted girls and boys in humanitarian situations provided with psychosocial support, including access to child friendly spaces with intersect oral programming interventions.	Laascanood, Buhudle, Burco, Hargeisa, Gabiley,	2240	1670	1274	578	5762
	% increase in overall care by parents/ caregivers as reported by children among the target IDP households		0	0	2480	1760	4240
	Percentage of UNICEF-targeted unaccompanied and separated girls and boys in humanitarian contexts who were provided with alternative care and/or reunified		0	0	1560	1760	3320

During the project; the project team was learnt key challenge and some of the recommended actions Incl.  
Main Challenges:

- Access implication in Lascanod and nearby due to conflicts.
- Emotional and Mental Well-being for the most vulnerable women/girls affected by conflict in Las,Anod incl. women and girls
- High demand for the Income generation (start-up funds) for the survivors of GBV due the implication for their relocation from Safe house & Insufficient Start-up Grants hinders the potential of their ventures and obstacles durability of the start-up.
- Domestic violence, force marriage and family abuse prevalence rate is increased due to the economic pressure contributed by drought
- Limited GBV/CP In - emergency awareness raising advocacy & public outreach campaigns as well
- Limited of GBV/CP stop centers, safe centers beyond major cities hence difficulty to reach communities in the distant towns due to limited resources (Buhudle/Kalabaydh and Ceerigabo)
- Limited access for Case Worker as user to enter data (limited user rights) as well as mapping of services for GBV case Workers gaps to identify services gaps and facilitate interventions for the different GBV issues
- Inadequate mapping for the available services to help frontline in emergence fill in the gaps and intervene on a variety of GBV concerns related to emergence



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✔ IMG-20230524-WA0031



✔ IMG-20230524-WA0008



✔ IMG-20230523-WA0171



✔ IMG-20230523-WA0145



✔ IMG-20230523-WA0143



✔ IMG-20230523-WA0131



✔ IMG-20230523-WA0126



✔ IMG-20230511-WA0012



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✔ IMG-20230510-WA0063



✔ IMG-20230510-WA0058



✔ IMG-20230510-WA0054



✔ IMG-20230510-WA0052



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## 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 crisis (drought, climate change and conflict in Las,Anod) incl. migration, drought and climate change.
- Scale-up GBV - **Social-economic reintegration (livelihood)** through Upshift - preferable Safe house relocated cases & drought affected women.
- Provide **cash/voucher assistance** support as mitigation for GBV/FGM and separation of children.
- **Continuation of Safe centres** in hard-to reach location in **Buhudle, Kalabaydh and Ceerigabo** district to provide safe & confidential space for case management, counselling and referral.
- Encourage other **UNICEF sections/clusters and actors** to engage the trained CDLs & Upshift communities to motivate their engagement beyond project lifetime (U-Report lesson)
- Integrate Emergence response project ( CP, SBC & GBV) mainstreaming 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.
- We recommend continuing providing sensitization workshop and training to building trust and partnerships with the community can increase buy-in and support for behavior change initiatives.
- Develop and implement prevention strategies, including awareness-raising campaigns, community mobilization, and advocacy for policy and legal reforms led by the POCs via 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, UNICEF and women/children affected drought by allocating 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 resource 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, communities and imigartioin is also recommended.
- Recommended, to Integrate Emergence response project - Programme Nexus Protection ( CP, SBC & GBV) mainstreaming with other sectors Wash/Nutrition/ Health and livelihood.
- We recommend continuing providing sensitization workshop and training to building trust and partnerships with the community can increase buy-in and support for behavior change initiatives.



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