

SOMALIA



Country Snapshot



Population:	7.4 million
Independence:	1960
Life expectancy at birth:	49 for women and 46 for men
Adult literacy rate:	17.1%
Population access to clean water sources:	23%
Annual per capita income:	113\$
Infant mortality rate:	132 per 1,000 births
Maternal mortality rate:	1,600 per 100,000 live births
HIV prevalence:	1%

Source: Somalia From Resilience Towards Recovery and Development-A country Economic memorandum for Somalia-The World Bank-2006 and Human Development Report-UNDP-2001

Program Overview

CARE Somalia has been operational since 1981 when it began to provide support to refugees at the invitation of the former government of the Somalia Democratic Republic. CARE's programming activities since then have included large-scale emergency relief and refugee assistance activities, water facility construction, primary health care, small scale enterprise development, local institution building, primary school education, and agriculture.

With the outbreak of civil war in 1991, CARE moved its main office to Nairobi, but continued to maintain sub-offices in Puntland, Somaliland and Southern Somalia. CARE Somalia works in partnership with Somali and international NGOs, civil authorities and local communities.

Food Security and Livelihood

About 1.4 million people in North, Central and Southern Somalia face a humanitarian emergency. The crisis is most severe in southern Somalia, where 1.1 million people are in need of urgent humanitarian assistance and livelihood support. CARE Somalia is addressing this situation through four projects.

The Development Irrigated Agriculture Project in Lower Shabelle aims to improve household income amongst rural families by increasing agricultural production and marketing opportunities. The Strengthening of Livelihoods Project in the Gedo region aims to improve food security and promote a higher degree of self-reliance amongst poor people in the Northern Gedo region and amongst those who are particularly vulnerable to the effects of continued civil conflicts and drought. The Livelihoods Recovery Project in Puntland aims to help the vulnerable communities to recover from recent natural disasters and reduce their vulnerability to future disaster. Its focus is water and environment management and enterprise development. The Food Security Project in Sool Plateau aims to improve the

livelihood and food security of at least 13,500 pastoralists in Bari and Nugal regions of Northeast Somalia.

Tsunami Livelihoods Restoration and Strengthening Project

In Puntland, CARE supports approximately 5400 households in 41 communities that have been affected by the Tsunami. The aim of this project is to restore and strengthen the livelihoods of fishing communities along the Indian Ocean Coast who were adversely affected by tsunami in December 2004.

To strengthen livelihoods, CARE provides improved water and sanitation facilities, garbage management services, primary education, basic health care services and new and improved houses. CARE is also supporting the fishing communities to diversify their incomes from lobsters and shark fins to harvesting of more sustainable and available fish stocks. The project aims to strengthen the capacity of the Puntland Authority, fishing communities, CARE and partner NGOs to better manage future disasters. CARE works closely with local non government organizations, fishermen's associations and community water, education and health committees.



Photography: © CARE



Emergency Response

An estimated 1.8 million people are in need of urgent humanitarian assistance and livelihood support in Somalia. The crisis is most severe in the south, where 1.1 million people are in need of urgent support, while an estimated 400,000 are Internally Displaced People. Alarming malnutrition rates of more than 20% are found in parts of Gedo and in the central regions of the country where CARE is distributing food and non food items, sending water trucks, and providing basic health and sanitation services. Three projects are currently being implemented. These include the Rural Food Security Program, the Gedo Water Project, and the Water and Sanitation Project. Over 95,000 households benefit from this type of assistance.

Major Donors

United States Agency for International Development (USAID), World Bank, Dutch Embassy, UN Agency for Refugee Assistance (UNHCR), European Commission, Danish Embassy, Frederick Watson, Kresge Foundation and Disaster and Emergency Committee (DEC-UK).

CARE International members supporting current programs

CARE Norway, CARE UK, CARE Netherlands, CARE Deutschland and CARE USA

Health and Social Sector

The absence of an effective central government in Somalia, especially in the central regions, means social services are unavailable to the majority of Somalis. CARE Somalia works with local partners to increase access of marginalized groups, especially women, to educational and health services.

In Education, CARE promotes access to primary education by training teachers, especially female teachers; providing materials to training institutions; supporting government ministries to register and monitor teachers; working with other agencies to develop training and teaching curriculums; and providing vocational education for out of school youths.

In promoting access to health services, CARE focuses on Maternal and Child Health (MCH) by ensuring access to preventative and curative services for mothers and children. This is achieved through rehabilitation and/or construction of MCH centers, procurement of basic medical and non-medical supplies, training of community-based health workers, strengthening community management committees, training of health workers in public institutions, and the establishment of referral systems. CARE also supports the creation of accountability mechanisms in the delivery of health services. The organization advocates for an increase in health budgets, more accountability of hospitals managers to health users, and building capacity of communities to ask for services from government.

Contact Information

David Gilmour, Country Director: dgilmour@ci.or.ke

Paul Daniels, Assistant Country Director: pdaniels@ci.or.ke

Tel.: +254 (0) 20 280 7000 or 272 6255 or 271 5092

