



Education, School ICT Lap.



Making The Dream of Prosperity into Reality

Annual Narrative

Report 2023



Published by **TASS**
Division of Communication

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Bosasso, BQZC5 0254, Somalia

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Book Title: Annual Narrative Report 2023.
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Abbreviations

TASS	Tadamun Social Society	CP	Child Protection
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons	IDTR	Identification Documentation Tracing & Repatriation
WASH	Water Sanitation & Hygiene	UASC	Unaccompanied and Separated children
SOMGEP	Somali Girls Education Project	CPC	Community Protection Committee
CEC	Community Education Committee	FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
ABE	Alternative basic Education	IWD	International Women's Day
ALP	Accelerated Learning Programme	DAC	Day of African Children
TB	Tuberculosis	ATMIS	African Union Transition Mission in Somalia
MTB	Mycobacterium tuberculosis	DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus	GPE	Global Partnership for Education
GBV	Gender Based violence	DOT	Directly Observed Treatment

Foreword

I am delighted to present to you our annual report for the year 2023. In this report, you will find highlights of our achievements and impact in the past year, as well as stories of the people whose lives we have improved through our programs and initiatives. You will also learn about our strategic priorities and goals for the future, as we aim to consolidate our gains and expand our reach.

Reflecting on the year, it was a year of significant challenges and resilience for Somalia marked by concurrent crises including a historic drought, floods, disease outbreaks, and conflicts. The country faced a protracted complex emergency where half the population required humanitarian assistance. Despite these adversities, our collective efforts have been a beacon of hope touching the lives of over 296,288 people across various sectors. Our impact extends beyond numbers; it's about the lives we've touched and the communities we've uplifted.

Our initiatives have been instrumental in saving lives, enhancing nutrition, building resilience, and fostering human capital development. We are particularly proud of our food assistance programs which have

Executive Foreword

been particularly impactful, providing sustenance to 201,600 people from 37,600 households.

This remarkable outreach was made possible through the generous support of our funding partners and donors who have demonstrated remarkable commitment and solidarity with our cause, the unwavering support of the government and the dedication and hard work of our staff and volunteers who have gone above and beyond to deliver on our promise of creating positive change. It is also a tribute to the courage and resilience of the people of Somalia, who have shown remarkable determination and optimism in the face of adversity. We are profoundly grateful for your trust and confidence in our work, and we hope that you share our satisfaction in what we have accomplished together.

As we look ahead to 2024, we are filled with optimism. Our roadmap includes expanding our reach, enhancing our services, and continuing to drive positive change in every corner of Somalia. The needs remain substantial. An estimated 1.7 million children aged 6 to 59 months face acute malnutrition and 6.9 million people will require humanitarian assistance. We are committed to continuing our work, but we cannot do it alone.

We need your continued support, now more than ever. Your contributions are the lifeline of our operations and the hope for the people we serve. Let us carry forward the spirit of collaboration and compassion that defines our work and make 2024 a year of unprecedented impact and enduring progress.



Abdirahman Abdirisak
TASS Executive Director

Who We Are | About Tadamun

Tadamun Social Society (TASS) is relief and development organization serving the people in Somalia since 1992. We aim to human suffering, build resilience, foster growth and development towards a stable society where all people meet their needs and enjoy their rights.

Our mission is to provide humanitarian assistance to people in need, create space for human rights and freedoms, foster social and economic prosperity and good governance to improve livelihoods and human dignity.

We are a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization legally registered and recognized by Federal Government of Somalia and Federal Member States and Regions including Puntland and Southwest States and Bay region.

Our presence and geographical footprint in over 50 districts in Somalia, supported by a committed cadre of over 150 staff members, strong partnerships with local and international NGOs and UN agencies, robust infrastructure, expertise, widespread acceptance, and strong working relations with the communities empower us

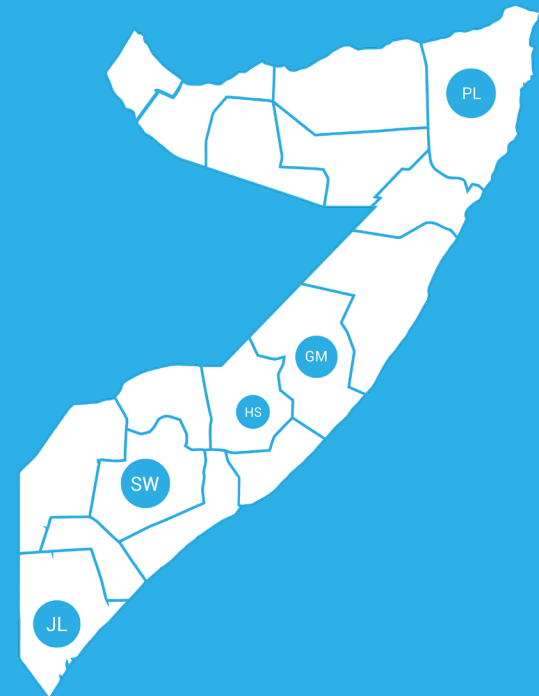
to have extensive reach and profound impact on the communities we serve. We are committed to building better communities and transforming lives by championing gender equality, women and youth empowerment, environmental sustainability, climate change and poverty reduction.

Our program areas encompass disaster management operations, education, health, nutrition and social services, food security and livelihoods, protection, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).

In 2023 alone, TASS reached over 296,288 of Somalia's most vulnerable including children, men and women, the elderly, marginalized, refugees, asylum seekers with many living in hard-to-reach, internally displaced or nomadic communities. Looking ahead, we hope to double the number of people reached and expand to new locations by 2026, to deliver essential services to those most in need.

Our resolve is to continue this journey of empowerment and transformation, ensur-

ing that every individual we touch can pave their way towards a brighter, more stable future.



i. PL – Puntland, GM – Galmudug, HS – Hirshabelle, SW – South-west, JL - Jubbaland.

Reflections On The Past Year And Vision For The Future.

Reflecting on the year 2023, we are reminded of the resilience and fortitude of the Somali people amidst a series of unprecedented humanitarian challenges. The country grappled with a series of major natural and man-made disasters and conflicts that significantly impacted the humanitarian situation and shaped the operational landscape in Somalia. The year saw 2.9 million internal displacements primarily due to flooding (**57%**), conflict or insecurity (**22%**), and drought (**18%**).

The protracted drought from 2020 to 2023, described as the most severe in recent history, decimated livelihoods, displaced millions and exacerbated food insecurity across the nation heightening the urgency for humanitarian intervention. The conflict in **Las'Anod** further compounded the situation, **with over 300 people killed and between 154,000 to 203,000 civilians displaced**. The violence in Las Anod, which began with a crackdown on civil protests in February 2023, resulted in a tragic loss of life and significantly increased humanitarian needs with the majority of those displaced being women and children.

Despite these challenges, the collective efforts of humanitarian and development actors in Somalia led to a reduction in the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance from **8.25 million in 2023 to 6.9 million in 2024**. Somalia achieved a significant financial milestone in December 2023

when the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank approved the nation's efforts under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative. This approval resulted in a substantial reduction of Somalia's debt, cutting it down from a staggering 64% of its GDP in 2018 to less than 6% translating into savings of approximately \$4.5 billion in debt services, which could potentially enhance the management of public funds and positively influence poverty reduction trends. Further, Somalia's recent inclusion in the East African Community in 2023 opens up new avenues for economic growth and regional integration.

While the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance has seen a **17% reduction in 2024**, the need remains substantial. According to UN OCHA's 2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan for Somalia, an estimated 4.3 million people face crisis or emergency level food insecurity, and 1.7 million children are at risk of acute malnutrition, including 430,000 who are likely to be severely malnourished. Somalia also faces complex security issues that overlap with the ongoing withdrawal of the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) troops. This process started in mid-2023 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2024.

Reflections On The Past Year And Vision For The Future.

The gradual reduction of **ATMIS forces** has introduced a multi-faceted threat landscape. One of the consequences of this evolving security situation is the potential increase in the movement of internally displaced persons towards urban areas. Such movements could put additional pressure on already strained urban infrastructure and escalate the demand for humanitarian assistance.

Our vision for the future, in light of the foregoing, is to build on the progress made and to continue reducing humanitarian needs through strategic and targeted initiatives to prevent loss of life, sustain livelihoods, and address critical protection risks. We aim to enhance our response strategies, ensuring safe and dignified access to basic services and livelihood opportunities for the most vulnerable populations.

We will also focus on strengthening our **education, health, and WASH programs** to support communities in newly accessible areas. Our commitment to an integrated humanitarian-development-peace nexus will drive our efforts to build long-term durable solutions.

We cannot overstate the importance of continued and increased support from our funding partners and donors. Your contributions enable us to reach those in dire need and make a tangible difference in their lives.

We invite you to join us in this noble cause by donating or getting involved. Your support remains as crucial as ever. Together, we can create a brighter future for Somalia, one where every individual has the opportunity to thrive in a more peaceful and sustainable country.

To donate or get involved, please reach out to our team, and together, we can make a lasting difference.

Our Impact And Reach

TASS programs reached slightly below **300,000 people** more than half of them children.



Food Assistance, Food Security, And Livelihoods.



Somalia experienced a severe drought in **2022-2023**, which was the worst in 40 years following five consecutive poor rainy seasons. This led to water shortages, crop failures, and high levels of livestock migration and deaths.

The drought affected more than **4.3 million people, with 169,000 displaced in search of water, food, and pasture**. The drought was particularly harsh in Jubaland, Southwest and Galmudug states (central regions), and parts of Puntland.

To prevent severe food security outcomes and accelerated depletion of livelihood assets in recognition of the critical role livestock play in the sustenance of the local economy and nutrition, **TASS distributed supplemental livestock feed to the most vulnerable agro-pastoral households in Bosaso district addressing livestock feed shortage problem and helping to maintain the body condition and productivity of the livestock.**

This was crucial in enhancing the resilience of the beneficiaries by strengthening their livelihoods and coping strategies. The program was implemented in Partnership with Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

TASS delivered essential food supplies to 37600 vulnerable households impacted by the prolonged drought providing a lifeline during a period of extreme hardship.

The food distribution program was designed to address the basic nutritional

needs of vulnerable families, providing them with the sustenance necessary to avert famine. The program focused on the most vulnerable, including children, women, the elderly, and the disabled in Bandir, Galmudug, Puntland, Hirshabelle, Jubbaland and Southwest states of Somalia.

The program was implemented in partnership with King Salman Relief and Aid Foundation Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center.



Over **201,600** drought & conflict affected people receive **Food assistance.**



37,600 households receive **Food assistance.**

500 HH received supplemental livestock feed to **prevent deterioration of livestock body conditions and maintain herd sizes.**



50 Metric tons of supplemental livestock feed distributed.



3,000 people, 79% female, benefit from improved dietary intake and additional income from livestock products.



500 farmers trained on sustainable agricultural practices.

50 lead farmers trained on advanced **livestock management skills.**



28 influential leaders engaged to create awareness on **climate smart agricultural practices.**

Health Programs.



Tuberculosis (TB) is a major public health problem in Somalia especially in the semi-autonomous region of Puntland. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), Somalia has an estimated TB incidence of 269 per 100,000 population per year, which is among the highest in the world.

A national TB prevalence survey conducted in 2019 with the support of WHO and other partners found that the prevalence of bacteriologically confirmed pulmonary **TB in Puntland was 253 per 100,000 population**, which was slightly lower than the WHO estimate but still indicates a high level of transmission and underdiagnosis of TB in the region. Somalia also faces a significant TB/HIV co-infection problem, with an **estimated 7% of TB patients also living with HIV in 2019**. TB is the leading cause of death among people living with HIV in Somalia.

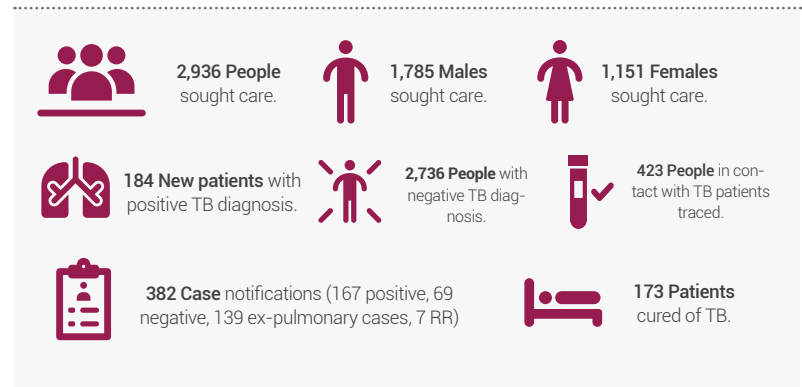
TASS, in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Mercy USA for Aid and Development has operated the Bosaso TB Control Center, the most extensive and oldest TB control center in Puntland. The center has provided live-saving TB diagnostic and treatment services including outpatient and inpatient treatment, nutritional support, and health education to over 50,000 people since its inception in 1996.

In 2007, the center began TB/HIV co-management and launched two DOT centers in two villages in Bossaso to meet escalating community health needs, enhancing accessibility to services and bringing care closer to the community thereby increasing its reach within the community. The center has since provided free HIV prevention, diagnostic and anti-retroviral treatment services as well as provision of preventive therapy and viral load monitoring

for people living with HIV. These services are essential to reduce the morbidity and mortality associated with TB/HIV co-infection and to improve the quality of life of people living with HIV in Puntland.

In 2023, Bosaso TB control center provided diagnostic and treatment services to **2,936 people** who sought care with **1,785 being male and 1,151 females**. Of these, 184 individuals out of all the cases received a positive TB diagnosis. The vast majority, 2,764 individuals, were found to be TB-free. The center actively engaged in community outreach programs, organizing health camps and awareness campaigns to educate the public about TB and HIV prevention, early detection, and treatment.

These efforts contributed to increased awareness, improved health-seeking behaviors and the long-term well-being and resilience of the community.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene (WASH)



Our **WASH programs** focus on improving water supply and sanitation systems, promoting hygiene behavior change, and building community capacity to maintain and manage water resources. **In 2023**, We equipped schools with water distribution and storage facilities including connection to water pipelines and installation of PVC water tanks enabling children to access safe potable water for drinking and personal hygiene. We also dug shallow wells and provided water trucking services to conflict and drought affected communities.

TASS provided **emergency water trucking services to the most affected populations** in TASS supported schools at the height of the relentless drought in Somalia that caused a severe scarcity of safe drinking water. Additionally, TASS distributed Aqua Tabs for use in purification of water. This significantly improved access to safe drinking water and personal hygiene practices among students, teachers, and members of communities in adjacent villages contributing to a more conducive learning environment and reducing health-related absences.

Recognizing the differential impact of the drought on girls particularly adolescent girls who face significant barriers due to increased domestic work and a lack of sanitary supplies as families prioritize survival over personal hygiene, TASS provided 6-12 months' worth of sanitary kits to adolescent girls in schools. The provision of these kits was vital in maintaining the self-esteem and confidence of adolescent girls, which in turn supported their ability

to cope with stress and feelings of insecurity often associated with menstruation that often cause school dropout.

To improve sanitation and hygiene behaviors, we conducted school-based hygiene promotion and awareness sessions on **sanitation and hygiene improvement and prevention of Acute Watery Diarrhea/Cholera transmission** for school children, parents, Community Education Committee (CEC) members, teachers and communities in program locations contributing to the improvement of health outcomes.



Slightly over **1,200 adolescent girls** in schools received sanitary kits.



6,000 drought affected people gained access to clean water through shallow wells drilled in communities most in need.



1,200 drought affected people reached through water trucking services.



Close to **9,800 school children** accessed safe, potable water in their schools.



Approximately **17,500 people** reached through hygiene promotion and behavior change communication campaigns.



17 schools received water purification tablets



Slightly over **40 schools** benefitted from water supply and storage support.

Protection Programs.



The prevalence of **gender-based violence (GBV)** and violations of child rights remains a critical concern in Somalia. Gender-discriminatory social norms and harmful traditional practices such as **Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)** and **early/forced marriage** contribute to the perpetuation of violence and discrimination against women and girls. These harmful practices violate human rights, hinder progress towards the achievement gender equality and safety for all the children.

Our protection programs focus on prevention, mitigation, and response to GBV and child rights violations. We work in close collaboration with local authorities, line ministries, and community-based protection structures to identify and respond to cases of violence prioritizing the empowerment of survivors. This enables them to reclaim their dignity and pursue a life free from violence. We aim to dismantle the barriers that prevent children especially girls from realizing their full potential in a protective environment through targeted interventions and community advocacy on gender equality and human rights.

Our collaboration with community-based protection structures ensures a grassroots level impact, fostering a community-led approach to tackling GBV and child rights violations.

In 2023, our protection programming offered comprehensive and age-appropriate support services and advocacy reaching slightly **over 49,350 people** in various locations in Somalia. Services included medical, psychosocial, and legal support, dignity kits, temporary shelter in TASS's child-friendly spaces and safe houses, family tracing and reunification of separated and unaccompanied children. The impact of our services on survivors, particularly children, has been profound.

The successful reunification of separated and unaccompanied children with their families has contributed to enhanced family unity and stability. At the community level, our prevention efforts and awareness sessions have led to increased knowledge and a shift in attitudes towards eliminating harmful practices, thereby promoting a safer and more equitable environment for all.



Slightly **over 49,350** people reached.



619 Children (362 boys, 257 girls) with disabilities supported.



60 Child protection committees in 26 IDPs, 34 host communities established and strengthened.



Over **8,114 women and children** received Mental Health and Psychosocial Support service.

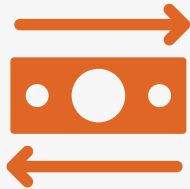


Over **776 unaccompanied and separated children** reunified with their families.



140 Child Welfare Committee members trained on case management

Protection Programs.



180 women and adolescent girls receive capital to support their businesses.



430 Adult persons (302 women and 128 men) declared in public that they believe that FGM/C should be eliminated.



400 influential community members trained on positive parenting.



18 Parents of maimed boys/girls received non-food items (NFIs).



20 Focal points trained on psychological first aid in target schools.



100 People trained on disaster risk-reduction (DRR) in school-based workshops.

Education Programs.



TASS in partnership with **UNICEF, UNHCR, UN OCHA's SHF** and the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and other stakeholders in the education sector implemented education projects aimed at improving access to safe, quality, and inclusive education.

Education support packages provided through these projects included construction or rehabilitation and equipping of classrooms, administrative offices, computer labs and gender-sensitive water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities, supply and installation of water storage facilities, student placement in and support in public and community schools, provision of safe drinking water and school meals, distribution of learning materials and hygiene kits, student scholarship support, provision of teacher incentives, and training of teachers and school-based child rights clubs.

To increase demand for education within the community, TASS engaged with community education committees, which are critical for increasing education coverage and sustainable management of educational resources and infrastructure.

Our education initiatives have had a profound impact, ensuring children affected by drought and conflict, including those with disabilities, have access to a safe and protective learning environment by addressing immediate educational needs but also laying the groundwork for sustainable learning environments that will benefit future generations. In 2023, our education programming helped retain over **31,400 children in supported primary and secondary schools**, positively impacting gross enrolment, student survival rates and gender parity.



Over **5,600 school children** **school** received nutritious meals twice daily.



51 teachers in 17 drought affected schools received incentives.



5,700 school children received learning materials.



4,379 refugee and asylum children in primary and secondary school received school fee support.



5 schools benefited from gender-segregated latrines with **handwashing facilities**.

Orphan Support Program



Life for children in Somalia is fraught with many challenges and life is a constant struggle against the odds. The effects of conflicts and natural disasters compounded by recurring floods and droughts related to climate change have been particularly devastating for families and children. The situation is further exacerbated by a volatile political and security environment. The interplay of these factors has left deep scars for many in the country and especially for the children.

TASS's Orphan Support Programs have over the years been pivotal in providing a lifeline to orphaned children, particularly in Puntland. The programs adopt a holistic approach that caters to the immediate needs of the children and their caregivers by providing monthly financial assistance for the caregivers to procure basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter but also considers the long-term best interest of the children by ensuring that the children remain in school and continue their education. The caregivers are empowered through positive parenting trainings to make decisions in the best interest of the children before they receive the unconditional financial support. This enables them to manage the funds to cover competing needs including school fees while also catering to essential living costs like food. TASS steps in on occasion to provide dry food rations to the families of these children when there are external shocks such as severe droughts to avert famine and negative coping mechanisms that often accompany such events.

In 2023, TASS with the support of Qatar Charity, extended its helping hand to **1,400 orphans in in Puntland**. This aid was a vital component in sustaining educational pursuits and access to necessities of life keeping hope alive for the children and their families when the situation was dire.



Communities Care Program.

Primary Prevention And Response To Sexual Violence Against Women And Girls Affected By Conflict.



Nadiifo Awakening!

Nadiifo's life at 45 has undergone profound transformation over the past year. "I was just a housewife with a small shop," she recalls. But her involvement in the Communities Care Program has ignited a fierce determination to combat the injustices faced by women and girls in her community. "The program taught us to speak out

for ourselves," she asserts, reflecting on her newfound ability to challenge harmful traditional practices like Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and early marriage openly.

The Community Care program implemented by TASS with funding from UNICEF and technical support from CISP was launched in Israac Village, Galkayo district of Puntland Somalia in January 2023. Eight Community Discussion Leaders were selected and trained to lead discussions on changing harmful social norms. Over eight months, they facilitated 26 sessions each, involving 12 group members, and developed community action plans.

Nadiifo vividly recalls those gatherings—the hushed conversations under the scorching sun, the fierce debates in the shade of classroom walls. "We learned to call a spade a spade," she says, her eyes alight with newfound courage. Once confined to the traditional role of a housewife with a modest village shop, she has now become an advocate for women's rights, thanks to the program's empowering sessions.

She had to balance between several.

A mother of 12 with seven boys and 5 girls, her journey of transformation was not easy. Hers was a tough balancing act between competing roles tending to her customers at the shop, performing her domestic chores and participating in regular discussion sessions. She was determined to make a change, perhaps because the issues that were discussed hit close to home as someone who had experienced early marriage, or because she had witnessed the hardships women and girls endure in her community. "FGM, early marriage—they were chains we could break," she says.

Nadiifo's narrative reflects a broader awakening, where victims are encouraged to seek justice and support from government and non-governmental institutions. This cultural transformation, fostered by the program, is gradually dismantling the harmful traditional practices that perpetuate gender inequality. The program has equipped

Communities Care Program.

Primary Prevention And Response To Sexual Violence Against Women And Girls Affected By Conflict.

participants with knowledge and tools to address gender-based violence and harmful practices and empowered them to initiate conversations and seek solutions at the community level. According to Nadiifo, the silence that once shrouded gender-based violence is breaking. Her

courage to speak out and spread awareness is creating ripples throughout her village, fostering an environment where the rights of women and children are not just protected but celebrated. "I believed that a girl should not talk about her rape... but when I participated in this awareness program... I understood that a girl should report rape," she

shares. Her voice has become a powerful instrument for change, inspiring others to question and confront oppressive norms.

Nadiifo Abdi;
*Beneficiary, Community
Care Program.*

Financial Summary.

Overview of the year's financial performance

TASS reported positive financial performance for the whole year of 2023.

TASS attributed its strong financial performance to improving its finance staff capacity, sound financial policy & procedures and strong internal control systems in place and employed.

Overall, **TASS's financial performance reflects its strong position and ability to adapt to changing conditions.** Partners, donors, and stakeholders can expect continued growth and transparency from TASS in the future.

Note: Details of the financial report will be accessed to TASS audit report 2023.

The Year In Pictures.

Several pictures that reflect major activities of the past year.



Making The Dream of Prosperity into Reality

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