



PUNTLAND YOUTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
(PSA)

ANNUAL REPORT

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Acronyms and abbreviations

CAAFAG	:	Children associated with forces and armed groups
CRC	:	Child Rights Clubs / Child Rights Committees
FGM/C	:	Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting
GBV	:	Gender Based Violence
GEWE	:	Gender Equity and Women Empowerment
HIV	:	Human Immune Virus Syndrome
HRAP	:	Human Rights Approach to Programming
ICT	:	Information, Communication Technology
IDP	:	Internally Displaced Persons
IEC	:	Information, Education and Communication
INGO	:	International Non-Government Organization
IWD	:	International Women's Day
IYCF	:	Infant and young Children Food
LSBE	:	Life Skills Based Education
MOE	:	Ministry of Education
MOWDAFA	:	Ministry of Women Development and Family Affairs
M&SS	:	Monitoring and Support Supervision
NFE	:	Non Formal Education
PAC	:	Puntland Aids Commission
PAHCO	:	Puntland Aid for Homeless Children Organization
PLWA	:	People living with AIDS
PMN	:	Protection Monitoring Network
PSA	:	Puntland Youth and Social Development Association
PSS /PST	:	Psychosocial Support / Psychosocial Therapy
RECEIVE	:	Relevant, Efficient, Coordinated, Effective, Impactful & Empowered
SBC	:	Somali Broadcasting Corporation
SMS	:	Short Message Sending
TOT	:	Training of Trainers
UNDP	:	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	:	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
UNICEF	:	United Nations Children's Fund
UNHCR	:	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Executives Director's Foreword

I am very pleased to share PSA's journey and the achievements of 2018. It is a proud moment for us. A moment to cherish and celebrate, pause and reflect, and move into the future with new learnings and a greater commitment. 2018 was the year of understanding, experimentation, challenges, hope, perseverance, thoughtfulness, anxiety, joy and gratification. It has been about being true to our vision and mission.

Today, PSA is in an exemplary position thanks to the skills and commitment of our teams, which remain dedicated to provide quality service to all our beneficiaries. As the Executive Director, I am proud of PSA. Proud of an organization that was able to professionalize itself and adapt to the challenges of our times while staying attentive to what we do best: contributing to the development of people, communities and households in the social and humanitarian spheres. We need to keep up this work, day after day. We need to reinforce our position while remaining united and committed to our mission. At the same time, we must keep in mind that our organization does not exist on its own, but through the interaction and integration of the people who are part of it. It is our reason for our existence.

Lastly, on behalf of the Members of the Board of Directors (BOD) and the entire PSA family, permit me to acknowledge the support from each one of you for the success we recorded in 2018. To our Donor Partners and members namely UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP, OCHA, government of Puntland and other organizations, who contributed financially and technically, we fully appreciate your support, without which we would not have been able to achieve the results we are reporting today.

To all, thank you

Abdifittah Mohamed Sugule

Executive Director

Executive Summary

The year 2018 was yet another remarkable year with significant achievements for PSA. It is our pleasure to share the 2018 Annual report with you.

Our Annual Report provides an overview of the work of Puntland Youth and Social Development Association (PSA) in 2018 fiscal year.

First, we are grateful for all the staff, partner organizations and agencies who worked tirelessly to effect changes at their various levels through concerted efforts across the board. It is these efforts that keep moving us closer towards our goal according to our Strategic Plan, which focuses on alleviating and transforming lives across Puntland.

The Board of Directors (including the Executive Director) continues to offer critical strategic guidance for PSA. We are especially grateful because they are available for consultation and assist the organization to achieve its maximum potential by offering the requisite guidance and direction.

The programmes rolled out were significant in a number ways as PSA marked its sixteen (16) years of existence as National Non-Governmental organization.

For 2018, our projects were namely: protection, livelihood, health, youth rehabilitation and emergency support, we also held various international days' commemoration; in addition PSA entered partnership with various funders in extending its scope of operations. The document serves to give a summary picture of what transpired over the year. The main report is divided into 5 sections: Introduction, Programme achievements, Lessons learnt, challenges then conclusions and recommendations

As ever, we remain committed to PSA Vision, Mission and Values. It is this commitment that drives the contemporary programmes that PSA implements. Our success is deep rooted into cherished principles accountability, mutual partnership and community engagement.

It is through partnership, support and understanding that the all PSA work is achieved. We thank all our partners who have supported our work this year by assisting in advocacy and implementation of sensitive interventions. We are also grateful to our development partners who supported our finances, thereby allowing all operations to run smoothly.

To all, we say: ***Thank you***
Abdihakiim Ahmed Mohamed
Program Manager

1.0. INTRODUCTION

Due to an unprecedented drought caused by failed rains in the last four consecutive seasons which led to drying up of pastures, water sources, crop failure and the consequent negative impact on the health and nutrition of children and population in general, the year 2018 has been particularly a busy and demanding year in resolving the underlying effects of drought and supporting communities to pick themselves up and be self-sustaining and self-reliant once again

For these we implemented projects that reflects the real needs of the targeted beneficiaries. Part of our intervention involves quality monitoring and support supervision (M & SS) and/or monitoring and evaluation (M & E) service.

2.0. PROGRAMME ACHIEVEMENTS

Puntland Youth and Social Development Association (PSA) core scopes are livelihood, child protection, GBV, health, education, HIV/AIDS, cultural conservation, emergency aid, peace building and human rights based development as well as an advocacy programmes.

2.1 PROTECTION PROGRAMME

CAAFAG PROJECT

In 2018, PSA with UNICEF implemented a Provision of interim care arrangement and reintegration program for Children Associated with Armed Forces or Armed Groups (CAAFAG) project in Puntland.

All beneficiaries were taught on various subjects such as; numeracy, literacy, social change, peace and rule of law, gender & youth leadership, Arts & Drama and Islamic studies. They also performed extracurricular activities including; sports tournaments, poems, quiz competitions, farming and other recreational activities.

The main objective of the project was to contain and prevent conflicts by engaging adolescent at risk through creation of employment and livelihood opportunities at the district level.

MAIN PROGRESS:

The following are achievements that were realized during the period of the project implementation.

PSYCHOSOCIAL COUNSELING

Within the period of the project implementation phase, psychosocial counselling played a very important role in the mental and emotional well being of the children, we hired a psychosocial therapist, who was a professional in the field; he developed a program where children were taken through a counselling sessions on a regular basis, the children were counseled based on their specific needs, the area that was given more focus was post-traumatic stress disorder and its symptoms. One of the noted issues was the difficulty of the youth in trusting adults; this is because of their previous experience, where they were abducted from the qur'anic madrasas, schools, and farms/pasture fields, and sent to fight in wars they knew little about.



Some of the children were put in a forced labour to ferry food stuff, water and ammunition to the fighters, for all these, they needed deeper psychological therapy.

We also trained the youth on basic psychological support skills on how to identify and tackle psychological problems in their families and communities.

Also the children records were documented. This helped alot the counsellors to keep track on progress of each individual child from the time. Core areas were on child's behaviour, class performance and physical well-being were ascertained through observation and interviews.

The psychosocial counseling was both individual and group counseling. In March we increased the number of hours of psychosocial counseling due to the escape incident.

FAMILY TRACING AND RE-UNIFICATIONS

Within the period, we managed to invite all of the parents/guardians to visit the centre to check on their children, all the parents turned- up for the visit, they had time to talk and counsel their children on various issues and motivate them to change their destiny and be focused on their lives, we provided transport and accommodations to them.

Additionally, in order for the children to get in touch with their families, we facilitated phone-calls for children to their families and relatives, all of them always got to talk with their family members on weekly basis, we also took an initiative to invite parents to visit the Centre, whenever they visited the rehabilitation Centre at Garowe, the Parents took 3 to 4 days spending with their children at the Centre.



Furthermore, parents of the youth helped a lot by playing their part in the rehabilitation process, they offered their full support through-out rehabilitation process. Whenever they visited the Centre, they were happy to see and meet their children.

On 26th November, the children left the Garowe CAFAAG Centre to be picked by their families in Mogadishu, UNICEF and MOJ spearheaded the process until the children were handed over to their respective parents and relatives.

MEDICAL CHECK-UPS AND REFERRALS

On weekly basis, the doctor visited the Centre and managed several medical cases of the children; he also conducted awareness on health related issues, we also did medical referral for several children who needed a specialists, the doctor also conducted hygiene and sanitation awareness and consciousness on various issues whenever he visited the facility.

Additionally, we contracted a dentist who occasionally came to the Centre to check on the children's teeth and mouth problems.

ENGAGED PARTICIPANTS ON RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES:



Recreational activities formed an integral part of the CAFAAG rehabilitation programme, we ensured Physical education programs were well-planned and well-implemented, we engaged the youth on quality physical education programs. The recreational activities were meant to improve the health and well-being of children; it contributed to their empowerment, and promoted their physical and mental development.

The children involved themselves in physical exercises, sports, TV Watching and TV games, inter-groups competitions, drama, role plays and Songs. It also included captivating sports competitions among the children, and the winners were always rewarded.

We also organized EID DAY football tournament between the children, where they were put in pools and played against each other, and the team that won was rewarded with a trophy.

We also fixed bookshelves in all sleeping rooms and stock them with books, so that the children could have what to read at their free time, the books include short stories, comedy books, science and other interesting books written in Somali language.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES AND SESSIONS

The religious scholar visited the Centre regularly and had lengthy sessions with the children, he taught the youth on various religion concepts touching on various moral aspects and self-consciousness, on some days the scholar was joined by other religious leaders where they held sermons and discussions with the youth on various issues touching on spirituality and religion, the scholar also used the opportunity to counsel the children on how to be law abiding citizens and be role model for the generations to come and decency as part of personal transformation.

In addition, one of influential religious scholar who is a member of the Al-minhaaj visited the centre and had sermons and discussion with the youth on various issues touching on spirituality, the scholar used the opportunity to counsel the children on how to be inspirational and be role model for the generations to come, he also taught them on Allah's/God's

forgiveness, no matter the weightiness and how bad our sins as human-being may-be, he reminded them that Allah will always forgive everyone so long as you seek him and follow his teachings.


MENTORSHIP:

On mentorship, we organized various mentorship sessions that were conducted to encourage and motivate the youth and transform them to be the beacon of hope in the society, various mentors were invited and visited the youth and engaged them in mentorship, motivation talks and discussions, that were carried out by sheikhs, community elders, leaders, business people and professionals.

Throughout the implementation period, we facilitated a two-hour per week mentorship sessions, which proven to be helpful to the children in a big way, the children use the session also to connect with the staff members, as well as build lasting friendships and trust, through motivational stories from the speakers on how they change and transformed their destiny the youth were always inspired and motivated, we also included mentorship clubs among the youth.

CONDUCTED NFE LITERACY AND LSBE TRAINING CLASSES FOR THE 34 YOUTH UNDER CAAFAG.

On NFE, the classes were facilitated through interactive participatory approach, where the youth were taught on writing and reading Somali and Arabic languages, basic mathematic concepts such as counting, addition, subtraction and multiplication was also done, the instructors used 12 hours in a week to train the beneficiaries on the courses, on areas that exam showed there was weakness the children were given remedial classes, at the end of the project the youth could flawlessly read and write Somali and Arabic languages, also they were instilled with knowledge on sciences and health.



34 youth
Trained on
various skills

The courses provided learners with a good insight into learning key life skills, literacy and numeracy skills by building and enhancing literacy and numeracy skills using practical examples throughout the course, the course covers a range of modules and provides multiple examples for assessment.

On LSBE, the 34 youth were trained on various ways and mechanism of refraining themselves from all forms of violence, abuse and exploitation by providing them with the necessary knowledge/skills through Life skills based education (LSBE) sessions, these sessions empowered the youth and gave them a chance to positively learn from each other, it also equipped them with skills on how to improve their standard of living with a general positive impact on humanity, more so it enhanced their self-esteem and decision making, for instance, they were given knowledge of how to tackle extremely complicated issues in life.

They also learned roles of young people in the community and their participation in society activities; main skills covered included Self-awareness, Self-esteem, Self-control, conflict resolution and negotiation. At the end of the project they had understood the importance of a having peaceful and cohesive society.

They were also trained on peace and conflict resolution and distributed documents written Somali languages about the role of every individual in peace and cohesion and also taught them on women's right and social gender inclusion, they actively participated and aired their view on the subject.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING



As per the training regiment, the core skills training sessions were rolled-out as planned this included electricity, mobile repairing, Computer, Tailoring and TV installations classes; the core skills training were completed as planned and the sessions included both theory lessons and practical sessions.

In addition, examination was part of the training; it was used to ascertain the progress of the courses and to review class performance.

The training course syllabuses were prepared in advance and it ensured that the syllabus was successfully completed in time and the students sat for their final examination towards the end of the project, throughout the project implementation phase, the students were instilled with various techniques in regard to their course, the training was done in phases, where the students learn more than one course, after first session, the students were swapped between courses.

The attendance was always encouraging and in the final exams all the students passed their exams, 52% of the students got A, 23% of them got B, 16% got C and 9 got D.

In addition, we introduced an agriculture lessons and classes after realizing that the majority of the beneficiaries came from farming background and they are affectionate and keen on farming, we helped the youth to develop gardens where the beneficiaries could practice their farming by planting variety of vegetables as part of improving their farming skills.

CHILD RIGHT TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT STRUCTURES

We formed community-based child protection mechanisms (CBCPMs) on local-level groups and processes that responded to violations against children and to prevent children from risks. CBCPMs are key parts of child protection systems since they operate at grassroots levels such as village level in rural areas and neighborhood level in urban areas, which is where children and families live and where children may be exposed to significant risks on an ongoing basis. Also, they are rich in potential child protection resources such as parents, teachers, and religious leaders among others.

ORGANIZE ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS FOR INTELLECTUALS, GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS, AND COMMUNITY OPINION LEADERS

We realized that free access to basic social services for children is essential in rehabilitation process, for this we organized an advocacy campaigns for intellectuals, government institutions, and community opinion leaders to commit themselves to protect the children and support survivors of abuse, exploitation and neglect. They are the focal points to spot violations

against children, and raise awareness about children's rights, and help refer children and families to specialist services if needed.

We brought on board multi-sectoral programs and inter-agency cooperation, to create protective "child-friendly" environment for the CAAFAGS and also sensitize various groups to help children of war in all ways to get back to their normal lives, be it material or moral support; we did the advocacy through meetings, forums and media campaigns.

PSYCHOSOCIAL TRAINING FOR THE FAMILIES OF PARTICIPANTS

PSA held Psychosocial Care and Support programme through a training that entailed educating families and parents on existing psychosocial therapies and psychosocial generality in order to create a cadre of psychosocial advocates within family units, which will help in resilience and coping capacities of families affected by disaster.

Objective

1. To develop capacity of the parents and other family members psychosocial care and support.
2. To demonstrate activities/interventional approaches to enhance the coping capacity of the affected population
3. To strengthen the mechanism to support the psychosocial interventions within the community.

CASE MANAGEMENT TRAINING

In line with standards operating procedures, our staff attended case management training that helped them to respond effectively to individual child protection cases when they arise, the case management training included; Family tracing and reunification of separated and unaccompanied children during emergency responses, support for the return and reintegration of children from exploitative or abusive circumstances such as hazardous labour or association with armed forces and groups, harmful and unnecessary institutional care.

The Objectives was to train key partners and staff to understand the practice of case management within child protection programmes, enable participants to identify issues and gaps in implementation and recommend remedial measures in compliance with local and international standards.

REVIEWS AND ADJUSTMENTS

From time to time, we held consultation and review meetings with all the stakeholders, the meetings were to review the progress against ideal performance at each particular stage of the project that helped us to come up with applicable strategies on how to make the project more successful.

Also as part of recovery plan and strategy after the escape incident, we gave the children new clothes, shoes and other items in order to motivate and make them happy and resume their usual activities. More so, after the escape incident, we made some few infrastructural changes and repairs; we replaced some of the CCTV cameras and set them up in all appropriate places and sections. We also changed all the door locks and cut/ pruned trees that we felt the children might climb when trying to escape.

More so, we provided awareness and sensitization to all the children on the benefits of the reintegration center and risks that they put themselves in trying to escape, we also reminded them that the Centre is not a place for punishment but it is a facility to rehabilitate them for their general good.

Furthermore, we printed IEC materials with messages on risks and dangers of associating with armed groups and importance of peace and cohesion; we fixed the materials on all the walls at the Centre including classes and dormitory.

- **Eid day**

On Eid, we organized EID DAY football tournament between the children, they were put in pools where they played against each other, and the team that won was rewarded with a trophy, also as part of the celebration, the children were given new pairs of clothes.

- **Hygiene and sanitation team**

We organized several successful hygiene and sanitation awareness sessions with the youth, demonstrations of hand washing, water handling and safe storage was done, the team members were involved in the demonstrations and rewards were awarded to various participants who were active in question – and - answer sessions.

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES TRAINING

We provided awareness and sensitization to all the children on the benefits of the reintegration Centre and the rehabilitation process.

We also provided the children with trainings on cross cutting issues; they learned about peace building, conflict resolution, HIV/AIDS, environment protection and other topics.

DELEGATIONS AND VISITS

We also received various delegations, one was UNICEF team led by Mr. Kamal who visited the Centre to familiarize themselves with the operations and state of affairs at the CAAFAG Centre, and they held discussions and talks with the children and staff on various issues and offered recommendations touching on the project.

In addition we welcomed the Netherlands mission team; they acquainted themselves with the activities at the Centre and progress.

We also welcomed UNODC team and updated them on the progress of the reintegration Centre, they also had time to intermingled and talk with the children including the parents of the children who had visited the Centre, they also assessed the children dormitories, the team also facilitated training on Centre's staffs and security persons in the Centre.

GRADUATION CEREMONY

On 23rd November 2018, we held a closing/graduation ceremony, which was fully attended UNICEF, government officials and representatives from all the stakeholders, the graduates were advised to put in practice the skills they have learned and work hard in transforming lives and community at large, they were also advised to desist from crime and risky behaviors that may put their lives in jeopardy and danger. The beneficiaries promised to be role models to their peers and play part in general good of the larger society.

Event's Objectives:

- Beneficiaries to feel and see the fruits of their hardwork
- Community to see and appreciate children's performance and commitment.
- Children who worked hard to be rewarded with certificates.

PSA with the UNICEF and various leaders awarded the beneficiaries with rewards and certificates, the graduants were also advised to put in practice the skills they learned in changing their lives and community at large and not go back to violence and other social upheavals, they were also reminded to be role models to their peers and play part in general good of the larger society.

GBV Prevention and Response Project

In 2018, PSA in conjunction with UNHCR and MOWDAFA implemented GBV prevention and response project, the project was on combating gender-based violence against women, girls, boys and men in all IDPs camps and settlements in the three target districts of Bosaso, Gardo and Garowe.

The project involved raising of public awareness, influence decision makers to strengthen legal mechanisms, and strengthened justice mechanism on GBV cases, in addition the project provided educational seminars on psychosocial for police, teachers, health workers, IDP committees, CBOs and paralegal groups in target districts, this was meant to improve services on GBV at community level and improve coordination among stakeholders through linkage and coordination.

HIGHLIGHTS

409 GBV cases report

281 on Physical Assaults

61 on Attempted Rape

22 on Rape Cases

12 on FGM

33 on Others

In the months of January to December, a total number of 409 GBV cases were brought to our attention from the three targeted IDP settlements of Bossaso, Qardo and Garowe. 281 cases were physical assault, 83 cases were on sexual assault (61 attempted rape and 22 rape), FGM/C were 12, other were 33 including by denial of resources and early/forced marriage, their ages ranged from 10 to 43, the locations of the incidents were **Bosaso:** Washiton IDP, Bulu Mingis A, Bulu mingis B, and Bulu Abow B, Shabele B, Abow A, Raf & raxo, Garible, Farjano, Ajuran, Garible, jiira-garoob, **in Qardo:** Shabele, Tawakal, Hormuud, Xingood, Kaambo two (Host community), Xiingood, Xorgoble (Host Community), Kaambo 1 and **in Garowe:** Kaam one, Banadir, Riiga, Kaam two, Kaam Marka, Siliga, Waberi (host community), Al-khayraad, Alla-Amin, Hiiran and Shabeele IDP's.

MEDICAL SERVICES AND SUPPORT

During implementation phase, we offered medical support to 351 survivors of GBV, 168 in Bosaso, 107 in Garowe and 76 in Gardo, the cases were on physical assault, sexual assault (attempted rape and rape), FGM/C and others. The medical assistance and check-ups were carried out at Bossaso/Garowe General Hospital and liman Hospital Qardo.

Psychosocial counselling plays an integral part in handling GBV cases, we offered emergency psychosocial assistance to survivors of GBV from IDP camps, the counselling helped them heal their psychological wounds and rebuild social structures after the ordeals they have gone through, it also make them be active survivors rather than passive victims.

GBV Advocacy

On advocacy, we conducted FIVE (5) advocacy Workshops on SGBV- prevention and response, two in Qardo, two in Bosaso and one in Garowe, where 125 participants took part, the participants were from MOWDAFA, MOI, local council, Governor's office representatives, legal aid, police, MOJ, IDP committees and other stakeholders.

As a norm, we also successfully conducted 12 monthly FGM/C workers Forum in Bossaso, which was attended by all cluster members, we used the platform to discuss the progress of the anti-FGM/C campaigns and initiatives conducted and way forward including the need to organize joint voluntarily activities, where 16 days activism event activities were discussed in length and all member organizations agreed to make financial contribution, the monthly meetings also help in promoting coordination, addressing challenges, response and risk mitigation, priorities identification and approaches on various FGM/ GBV cases.

We also attended and actively participated in Bossaso, Qardho and Garowe GBV/CPWG meetings and updated them on various progress we have made, in addition we attended and actively participated in case management meetings in Bossaso, Qardho and Garowe.

More so, we printed GBV advocacy materials (Posters, T-shirts, Leaflets, Posters) bearing GBV messages as part of community attitude change mechanism, we also reinforced three GBV Working groups at district level in collaboration with local district officials, & MOWDAFA regional representatives, this was a way to improve coordination among GBVs and local authority in strengthening GBVs performance.

Additionally, we organized IDP s awareness sessions to sensitize and educate them on the risks and dangers of FGM/C, FGM/C policies, religious FATWA and the binding laws that forbid the practice.

Also under advocacy, we sensitize the population on the sexual offences Act enacted on 20th August and assented on 28th November 2017 by Puntland parliament as a result of GBV Sub Cluster members and stakeholders lobbying, we also raise awareness on the existence of Fatwa on FGM/C, which is in parliament waiting for approval.

Lastly, on weekly basis we conducted visits to all IDPs camps and made follows on the previous reported cases to assess their health and psychosocial status.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORTED

Part of the activities within the period, included four capacity building training for GBV stakeholders in Bossaso, Qardho and Garowe. The training were in cooperation with our various partners, namely MOWDAFA, UNHCR and other agencies, the objective of the trainings was to equip the participants with skills related to prevention and response to GBV cases in a professional way.

The training was aimed in obtaining, improving, and retaining GBV skills, knowledge, coordination and other resources needed for GBV response and prevention, it was attended by community members and IDP's Focal Points members.



Furthermore, we participated in case management and psychosocial training organized and held by MOWDAFA in cooperation with UNICEF and UNFPA, the training was on prevention and response activities and its mainstreaming, building the capacity of GBV staffs and community partners, build leveraging of local resources into the model of GBV prevention partners, update and disseminate the MOWDAFA protocol on GBV, strengthen the referral mechanism for GBV survivors. We also organized one capacity building training for GBV stakeholders in Qardo, the training was a two day training which was facilitated by MOWDAFA and it met its objective where the participants were equipped with skills related to protection.

Lastly, we conducted regular monitoring visits jointly with UNHCR for the purpose of improving quality of the project activities and services by providing technical support to the field staff, empower social groups and other community support structures including training staff and review on SOP/4W matrix, which was compiled by GBV working group.

MATERIAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED

ITEMS DISTRIBUTED

135 Dignity kits
204 Dry food

Within the period, we distributed to GBV survivors 135 dignity kits (40 in Garowe, 65 Bosaso and 30 Gardho), the material assistance also included dry food distribution to 204 beneficiaries (71 in Garowe, 98 Bosaso and 35 Gardho) the dignity kits helped the survivors to meet their immediate hygiene needs and freed them to participate in their daily lives as well as allowing them to spend their money on other needs.

The dignity kits were procured by the partner in consultation with and in accordance to standards set by UNHCR.

The criteria we used in selecting the beneficiaries of dignity kits and food assistance:

- ✓ Single women with big families and whose husbands have died or left them.
- ✓ Pregnant woman with four or more children.
- ✓ A recent survivor of GBV with a child and she is yet to resume her job
- ✓ Mother with many children and the husband is unemployed
- ✓ Divorced woman with many children



PARTICIPATION OF COMMUNITY IN SGBV PREVENTION AND RESPONSE ENABLED AND SUSTAINED

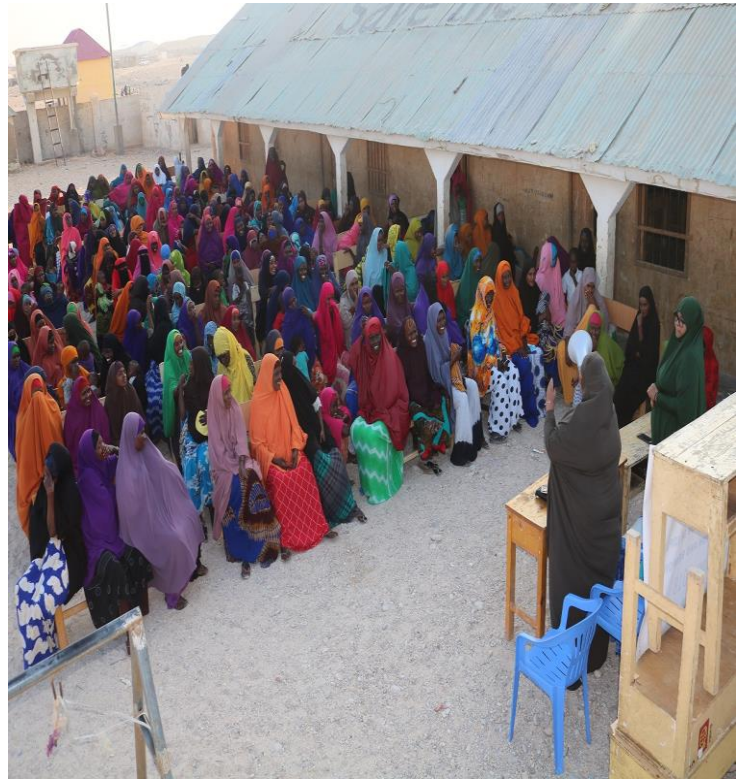
within the period orientation & refresher training for GBV Case Workers on Case Management and Community engagement at the start of the project.

We held three women to women dialogue sessions in Bosaso, Qardo and Garowe IDPs settlements where importance of prevention, interventions and response of GBV issues were discussed in length, it reached a total of 700 women.

Also in March, in coordination with MOWDAFA we jointly held commemoration of Women's Day 8th March to spearhead GBV Prevention at district level in the targeted three districts, participants included GBV network members, religious and traditional leaders, MOWDAFA/MOJ regional Staff, local districts and CBOs, we will use the platform to discuss progress, challenges and way forward of GBV issues. In addition, we held women to women dialogue session in Bosaso, Qardho and Garowe IDPs settlements where importance of prevention, interventions and response of GBV issues were discussed in length, it reached a total of 700 women.

More so, within the period, in regard to 16-Days of activism, on 25th November 2018, PSA and other 55 participants from international NGOs, local NGOs, government agencies and other organizations jointly held various activities as part of its commemoration, 2018 theme was ***"End Gender-Based Violence in the World of Work"***, the last event for 16-Days of activism was on 10th December, where we participated in the world human rights day commemoration, where milestones made on all inalienable rights and freedoms including a right to education, a decent living, health care and a right to live free from any form of discrimination among others regardless of sex, clan, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status were celebrated and ways to improve more on them were discussed.

We also produced radio broadcast messages that reached 30,000 beneficiaries, this was part of attitudinal change approach on GBV issues; the messages used were very appealing and engaging to the community and target groups.



Additionally, we also held quarterly School awareness sessions on GBV that reached 1400 students of all genders in Al-Nawawi School, As-har Secondary school and Al-Muntada secondary school including their teachers, we also came up with child rights clubs that will create a pool of youth to spearhead the GBV eradication campaigns in their localities. We chose to involve schools in our awareness because schools are important grounds for normative change and have the potential to address gender inequalities and prevent GBV in long term. The awareness sessions not only raised awareness on GBV but also build the skills of students and staff to create equitable and respectful relationships within the school.



PSYCHOSOCIAL COUNSELING PROVIDED

On psychosocial counselling, a total of 409 GBV survivors of all the cases reported were provided with counselling and emotional support, this also involved follow up counselling sessions on weekly basis, psychosocial counselling is imperative in handling GBV cases they help in healing survivors psychological wounds after the ordeals they have gone through, it also make them be active survivors rather than passive victims.

Within the period, we handled 281 serious cases that we offered psychosocial counseling, the counseling was a critical intervention that the survivors benefitted from, Psychosocial support is a very important component in Gender Based Violence response, it provides appropriate care, protection and social integration that addresses aspects of thoughts, emotions, behavior, memory, learning ability, perceptions and understanding

FAMILY MEDIATION

As part of family dispute resolution mechanism, within the period we handled a total number of 175 cases (131 in Bosaso, 7 in Garowe and 37 in Qardho)

The families needed mediation and conciliation on various family issues, the activity involved resolution of family disputes by promoting the participants' voluntary agreement and encouraging understanding that focuses on individual and common interests. We worked with the participants to explore options, decisions and agreements for the general good of the family.

The objective was to increase the self-determination of participants and their ability to communicate, promote the best interests of children; and reduce the economic and emotional costs associated with the resolution of family disputes.

REFERRAL MECHANISM

Under the project, we established a referral system that was a comprehensive institutional framework that connected various entities with well-defined and delineated mandates, responsibilities and powers into a network of cooperation, with the overall aim of ensuring the protection and assistance of survivors, to fully aid recovery and empowerment, the prevention of GBV and the prosecution of perpetrators, our referral mechanisms worked on the basis of efficient lines of communication and establish clearly outlined referral pathways and procedures.

A total of 14 cases were referred to us by other agencies, 9 Bosaso, 3 in Garowe and 2 in Qardho, in addition, we referred 35 cases to other partners, 29 Bosaso, 3 in Garowe and 3 in Qardho

2.2 HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Community based IYCF intervention Project

PSA in partnership with UNICEF in 2017/2018 implemented a community based IYCF intervention in Bossaso -Puntland, the project's goal was to protect, promote and support breastfeeding In Bossaso city with target population of 448,009 IDPs and host communities , the timeframe for the project was twelve (12) months.

The project focused on the following areas:

- **Establishment of IYCF support groups** for pregnant women and lactating mothers of children 0-5 months; mothers of children 6-23 months; and other community members in IDP camps and host community. IYCF promoted optimal breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices by providing a space (MBA centres) where participants shared knowledge, information, and their own IYCF experiences as well as provide mutual support to one another.
- **Community social mobilization**, we engaged and supported participation of community leaders and religious groups to shift attitudes and norms to better support Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN)
- **Behaviour change communication** we involved face to face dialogue with individuals or groups, to inform ,motivate, problem solve or plan, with the objective to promote, and support exclusive breastfeeding practices
- **Advocacy** we created awareness and encouraged community leaders and local authorities to take actions that enables the adaptation and promotion of practices- EBF, complementary feeding, demand and utilization of Multi micronutrient powders/ tablets for children 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating mothers respectively.



MAIN PROGRESS:

The following are achievements that were realized during the period of the project implementation.

MAPPING AND IDENTIFICATION MEETING

Through the initiative all the participants from all the IDP camps and villages in Bosaso were able to understand and appreciate the project's goals and objectives in detail with the entire cross cutting issues associated with it being deliberated and explained in detail.

LAUNCH OF THE PROJECT AND MEETING WITH THE STAKEHOLDERS

The key objective of the ceremony was to brief and update the stakeholders about the project and also to strengthen cooperation and seek the unequivocal support.

The launching ceremony was held in Bosaso, Puntland, Somalia and was attended by all of our stakeholders including local administration, targeted villages/IDPs, elders, Sheikhs, youth representatives, regional coordinators of MOH, MOWDAFA, UNICEF and other organizations.

ORIENTATION FOR COMMUNITY COMMITTEES (COMMUNITY GATE-KEEPERS) AND RECRUITMENT OF STAFF

We held orientation meeting which was attended by thirty one (31) participants, this included the local authorities, focal points and village committees, we used the meeting to highlight project's objectives to them, the ministry of health and UNICEF representatives also outlined the projects goals and merits to the participants, the meeting was imperative because we got a chance together with our partners to sensitize the local community on breastfeeding and its support mechanism, breast-feeding in regard to Islam religion, new strategies on how to make breastfeeding popular among communities and also we had an opportunity to develop district level plan to encourage breastfeeding among the families in the region. The participants were very supportive of the initiative and they promised to support it unequivocally.

In addition, during this reporting period, we managed to develop a detailed program's work plan, program check list & risk register and recruitment plan, where we recruited 5 of project's staff that ensured the project's goals and objectives are attained within the stipulated timeframe, this included BCC officer, IYCF counselors (nurses), MOH Bosaso district supervisor and nutrition specialists. Also the community selected 10 CBW's workers from their respective localities based on the criteria we stipulated to them.

Additionally, we held a meeting With MOH, ministry of women and family affairs (MOWDAFA), Bosaso municipality, IDP focal Points-MOI and MOH, where we informed them and updated them on the new project's objectives and its expected outputs, including the modalities of its implementation and the support we require from them.

More so, we mobilized communities of the respective targeted villages and visited the villages in person where we held briefing meetings with them and discussed various issues, we also held a separate meeting with IDP gate keepers where urged them to nominate peer-support mothers as per the criteria that we outlined to them, eventually, they Selected 22 of Peer-support groups mothers.

TRAININGS

On training, we facilitated training of Mother to Mother support peer groups, for 3 days from 9-11 September 2017, in total 22 mothers selected across IDPs communities took part and they were educated and trained on their roles on facilitation of support group meetings IYCF program, they promised to effectively play their roles in their respective localities.

Additionally, we conducted training for community based workers as IYCF Counselors, the training also lasted for 3 days, a total of 12 participants took part in the training, they comprised of 10 CBW's, 5 supervisors, 2 nurses, 2 facilitators, 3 government representatives (MOH & city councils).

Furthermore, we trained 18 promoters, campaigners and proponents, two promoters for each location, their scope and mandate was to organize promotion sessions and participate in house to house visits and give support mother to mother peer groups.

Lastly, the nurses that were hired for the programme received one day training on breastfeeding in line with the project's implementation by the ministry of health (MOH) and further five (5) days training by UNICEF in Garowe.

ESTABLISHING AND EQUIPPING MOTHER BABY FRIENDLY AREAS TO PROVIDE SKILLED IYCF SERVICES

In the ten (10) IDPs camps that were under the IYCF project, we established Mother-Baby Areas (MBAs) where counselling was done which included breastfeeding section for mothers who came for consultation to breastfeed in privacy.

The areas were also equipped with necessary materials, including mats, toys and other necessary items, a total of 3,831 pregnant, lactating, babies and caregivers received MBA services.

GROUP COUNSELLING

On counselling, we held a total of 259 group counselling (mother to mother support group) sessions in MBAs which benefitted 3,057 persons (2194 F & 863 M). Also, at each counselling session we delved on various issues comprising the emotional wellbeing, coping strategies to deal with their day-to-day matters.



We also counsel the women on nutrition and their hygiene, especially hand-washing and general wellbeing of them and their general family as a whole.

INDIVIDUAL COUNSELLING

On counselling, we did individual IYCF counselling for pregnant women and lactating mothers, which reached 2147 persons (873 mothers with infants 0 to 6 months of age, 614 mothers with children 7 to 24 months of age and 660 pregnant women)

To make the Programme more effective in achieving its goals, we advise and counseled mothers on priority areas such as: early initiation of breastfeeding and avoidance of prelacteals and water; debunk various myths on breastfeeding; emotional and overall support to the lactating mothers; advocacy with gatekeepers such as mother in laws/husbands and other family members to support breastfeeding; information on where to go in case of difficulty in breastfeeding; breastfeeding in case of working mothers; and ill effects of infant milk substitutes.



In addition, we also advise the mothers on optimal feeding and care practices, for instance the optimal use of locally available foods, strategies to improve availability and affordability of quality foods.

MICRO-NUTRIENT TABLETS AND POWDER

We distributed Multi-micronutrient tablets to 997 pregnant women and 750 lactating mothers as a means to support breastfeeding, also we distributed Multi-micronutrient powders sachets for children 6-24 months that reached 2,580 children in all sites.

Multi-micronutrient powder (MNP) is a powder mixture of 15 essential vitamins and minerals that young children needs for improved nutrition and are vitamin and mineral powders that can be added directly to soft or mushy semisolid or solid cooked foods prepared in the home to improve the nutritional quality of foods for young children. The single serving sachets allow families to fortify a young child's food at an appropriate and safe level. Vitamins and mineral powder helps improve the body's immune system, child's appetite, child's ability to learn and develop. Vitamins and mineral powder makes children health, strong and active and prevent Vitamin and mineral deficiencies.

HOME VISITS

Within the implementation period, we carried out home visits that reached 452 households, in addition during our home visits we joined mothers at the MBAs, MCH and OTP centers, more so in order to promote and support breastfeeding.

We also used the visits to observe and monitor hygiene and sanitation conditions in homes/families, and also assessed if there were malaria, measles, mal-nutrition and other cases that needed intervention. In addition, we distributed baby gifts hampers, clothes, hygiene promotion kits and Simple toys, the materials were given to mothers that attended MBAs.

MUAC screening

On Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) which we used for the assessment of nutritional status MUAC, a total of 2089 children were screened under the IYCF project, we also made referrals to other centers including OTP, MCH and SFP.

IEC MATERIALS

we designed and printed leaflets, T-shirts, posters, banners and billboards, the messages that were printed on the materials were translated into Somali language so that it can be fully understood by our target audience and groups, later on the IEC materials were distributed to all the target areas and fixed on all appropriate areas including sticking them on cars, MCH, hospitals, community centres, schools, tea shops and Markets, we also erected the billboards at the sites.

MEDIA OUTREACH

On outreach, we compiled and formulated media messages and released them to TV/radio talk shows (aired twice in a week), the messages reached extensive audience both directly and indirectly.

To ensure that the objective and goals of the IYCF project were achieved and attained, MOH and PSA often conducted joint monitoring and evaluation exercise, this helped us a to know the progress and ascertain the gaps that needs interventions.

REVIEW MEETING

Furthermore, in February 2018 , we managed to conduct the mid-year review meeting which was attended by 30 participants, namely MOH technical team, local authority, IDP & Host committees, CBW, nurses, Program Staff, we

reviewed what has been achieved so far based on indicators, we also deliberated on challenges and way forward, in general it was very useful meeting.

On July 2018, we managed to conduct the End review meeting which was attended by 25 participants, namely MOH technical team, UNICEF, local authority, IDP & Host committees, CBW, nurses, Program Staff, we reviewed what has been achieved so far based on indicators, we also deliberated on challenges and way forward, in general it was very useful meeting.

PROMOTION AND SENSITIZATION CAMPAIGNS

In order to achieve maximum penetration of messages on breastfeeding and build an enabling environment for the programme, awareness generation and advocacy activities, we designed and printed leaflets, T-shirts, posters, banners and billboards, the messages that were printed on the materials were translated into Somali language, so that it can be fully understood by our target audience and groups, later on the IEC materials were distributed to all the target areas and fixed on all appropriate areas including sticking them on cars, MCH, hospitals, community centres, schools, tea shops and Markets, we also erected the billboards at the sites.

Additionally, on outreach, we compiled and formulated media messages and released them to TV/radio talk shows (aired twice in a week), the messages reached extensive audience both directly and indirectly, it also included awareness raising meetings in all nine targeted locations, the main topics covered were awareness on exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months, complimentary feeding after the sixth months, the importance of feeding on balanced diet to expecting mothers and lactating mothers, information on locally available nutritious food, referral mechanism for malnourished children and problems associated with bottle feeding.

As a model of motivation, we distributed baby gifts hampers, clothes, hygiene promotion kits and toys, the materials were given to mothers that attended MBAs.

Also, we trained promoters, campaigners and proponents, two promoters for each location were mandated to organize promotion sessions and participate in house to house visits and give support mother to mother peer groups.

Portable wireless amplifier radios were part of the gadgets used to pass the information. The sessions were meant to educate and remind the mothers on the benefits of breast-feeding to their children and also the



hygienic requirements of every household, how breast milk promotes sensory and cognitive development, and protects the infant against infectious and chronic diseases and that exclusive breastfeeding reduces infant mortality due to common childhood illnesses such as diarrhoea or pneumonia, and helps for a quicker recovery during illness, proper hand washing and general hygiene and sanitation and learn also that breast milk promotes sensory.

More so, through social media, we published IYCF messages, Videos to the Facebook & Youtube with the purpose of reaching many people.

The awareness events were held in targeted sites to educate the community members on the benefits of breastfeeding, the session included role-models and mentors who are shining examples to the breastfeeding mothers, they shared their success stories in line with breast-feeding and how they overcame various challenges.

Lastly, on publicity, we aired and broadcasted radio messages, TV and radio talk shows that were released through SBC radio and TV, this included social media, where we published IYCF messages, Videos to the Facebook & YouTube. We also plan to produce documentary film towards breastfeeding; the messages were basically on multiple micronutrient powders (MNPs) that acts as complementary Foods, when and where to bring children to the health facility, personal hygiene (cleanliness) practices prevent disease.

MONITORING AND SUPERVISION

Firstly, as part of pre-evaluation survey, we did assessment on MBAs which became part of our ultimate assessment at the end of the program (post-evaluation), this was to ascertain the impact of the program.

Also, we conducted home visits and also joined mothers at the MBAs, during the home visits, we got a chance to observe and monitor hygiene and sanitation situations in homes/families, we also assessed if there were malaria, measles, malnutrition and other cases that needed intervention.

Furthermore, we did periodical monitoring to ascertain if all activities were rolled out as per the prescribed standard operating procedures or if there were cases of code of violations in our media messages and in our other activities, we did this through seeking views and thoughts of those who our messages and campaigns reached them.

Also we conducted joint monitoring with MOH through supervision of MBAs, interviewing mothers at the MBA Centre, home to home visits supervision, group/individual counseling session's supervisions, meetings with IYCF staffs and sought their views on the gaps they feel should be filled.

Field monitoring was done twice per week and MOH conducted their own weekly monitoring visits to all the sites to evaluate the activities that were being rolled out, this was a way to support the oversight functions of the projects and fund recipient agencies with the timely collection and analysis of data for internal performance assessments and the substantive reporting on results.

More so, In November, Mr. Dayib of UNCEF nutrition department visited the targeted areas in Bosaso to carry out M&E exercise; he attended part of the counseling sessions and acquainted himself with the all process, he also got a chance to conduct interviews with the beneficiaries touching on activities being rolled out in regard to the requirements of the project.

DOCUMENTARY

We produced IYCF documentary film that summarizes and highlights all the project's milestones and successes within the implementation period.

COMMUNITY PROJECT PHASE-OUT MEETING

The event was held on 2nd August 2018 and was attended by CBW, mother to mother peer supports, IDP committees and PSA staff.

The objective was to deliberate on how to sustain project's goals and gains after the end of the project implementation phase.

The participants through the meeting agreed to sustain some of the project's activities such as counselling, this is because the CBWs and mother peer support resides within the community, the two groups promised to offer their services voluntarily as a way of giving back to the community, also follow up mechanism was discussed.

2.3 LIVELIHOOD

VOUCHER FOR ASSET (VFA) PROJECT

LAND PREPARED

9,000 M² vegetable/fruits
garden

30,000 M² for fodder

In 2018, PSA in partnership with WFP implemented drought recovery program - VFA project designed to allow households to meet basic food needs during this lean season, the implementation period were 6 months, from July - December 2018, the project targets three villages of Karin, Ufayn sare & Tisjiic Villages in Bari region Somalia, the total number of households were 550 households with all of them being above 18 years of age.

The project expected outcome was to create and produce assets required to cushion and save lives during the drought and other hardships including protecting livelihoods by strengthening and mainstreaming the traditional and local coping strategies by empowering households in the area to be food secure including their general well-being, as planned the following activities were accomplished:

- 9,000 M² of vegetable/fruit/crop gardens and 30,000 M² land for fodder Production were cleared, ploughed and planted.
- Two (2) Shallow Wells (round) were constructed.
- Training of farmers by agronomist was conducted to help farmers improve the quality and production of crops and livestock





In addition, field monitoring was carried out twice a week to appraise the progress of all the activities as planned, the exercise enabled us to identify problems that were not foreseen during the planning phase, the process was very useful in coming up with timely solutions and avoiding any constraints. This also included numerous evaluation exercise which offered us a prospect to track implementation and outputs systematically and measure the effectiveness of the project.

Lastly, within the period, we used the opportunity to conduct needs assessment surveys through community consultation about their next priorities in 2019 calendar, the systematic process objective was to determine and address needs, or "gaps" between current conditions and desired conditions of the communities in the mapped areas, the surveys involved all the demographics in the target areas, men, women, elders and farmers/village committees views were captured and recorded.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES: To improve food security and nutrition situation of vulnerable households including restoring and maintaining livelihood, and creating additional community assets.

PROJECT OUTCOMES: The project expected outcome was to build and create assets essential in saving lives and protection of livelihoods by strengthening the traditional and local coping strategies which are vital in empowering of food insecure communities and households economically and to be food secure.

The main factor being to restore and build farmers assets, in terms of crop and livestock production that contribute to livelihoods improvement, resilience and food security.

In addition, the aim of the project was to reduce risks and increase the capacity of households to manage shocks and to protect communities from the effects of natural disasters like droughts. By re-establishing and building the infrastructure, means the farmers will now go on with their farming with expectation of good yields and hence strengthening their food-security and economic status by selling the surplus as part of self-employment, furthermore it contributes to the peaceful coexistence amongst the local communities

Lastly, one of the outcomes is that it deter the community from further illegal migration to other countries in search of jobs and other opportunities and also it plays a role in the stability of Somalia.

CROSS CUTTING ISSUES: For equality and equity, we always ensured women concerns, issues and agendas are given utmost attention, where we made sure women were incorporated into leadership committees, we also sensitize the beneficiaries on women rights and protection, including general human rights, it always formed part of our usual discourses and debates in line with the project.

2.4 ADVOCACY

Advocacy is a cornerstone of many NGOs. At PSA, we have endeavored to advocate for policy legislation to bring about better social-economic and human rights conditions for vulnerable persons. PSA joined other non- state actors as well as government departments to commemorate events as an awareness raising and advocacy strategy. There were 6 commemorations and they are reported on here:

Somalia Independence Day Commemoration

Somalia gained its independence on 1st July and every year the day is marked with pomp and color and fanfare. This time around on this day, with the help from PSA, our youth commemorated the day with immense joy, fanfare and magnificence. They participated in a series of thematic activities, namely; songs, poems, questions crowning the day with a scintillating theatrical performance alongside the singing of the Somalia national anthem. The stellar show received a standing ovation from all the participants. The latter were later served with snacks and drinks.

Somali National Youth Day Commemoration

The International Youth Day is observed all over the world and Somalia was not left behind. Puntland Youth and Social Development Association (PSA) organized a colorful event where we invited schools and college students. The day was marked with processions, speeches, recitations, music and youth presentations and recitations, study circles and community service projects involving the youth.

Establishment of Puntland state (1st August) Commemoration

On 1st August we joined the citizens of Puntland state in celebrating and marking the 19th Anniversary since Puntland State was established. The event was attended by youths, students, parents and members of the public. The participants were entertained by the Youth for Change (Y4C) children who presented songs, drama, poems and dances to mark this emotional day.

International Women's Day Commemoration

Celebrations for this international day have always been championed by MOWDAFA. Like all such days, it serves to highlight the importance of the theme of the day-in this case women's rights. PSA is proud to have participated in it. International Women's Day (IWD), originally called International Working Women's Day, is marked every year on 8th March. In the different regions, the sub themes of the celebrations ranged from paying homage, appreciation and recognition of outstanding women in economic, political and social achievements. This will continue as the need to empower women and eliminate discrimination against them is only beginning.

16-Days of activism

on 25th November 2018, PSA and other 55 participants from international NGOs, local NGOs, government agencies and other organizations jointly held various activities as part of its commemoration, 2018 theme was “**End Gender-Based Violence in the World of Work**”, the last event for 16-Days of activism was on 10th December, where we participated in the world human rights day commemoration, where milestones made on all inalienable rights and freedoms including a right to education, a decent living, health care and a right to live free from any form of discrimination among others

regardless of sex, clan, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status were celebrated and ways to improve more on them were discussed.

Human rights day Commemoration

The 10th December being Human Rights Day, PSA commemorated the day by engaging members of the public in dialogue on human rights violations and promotion in the country. The participants were mainly youth and various stakeholders which included government officials and many of our partners.

The total number of the participants was 300 and our human rights team used the occasion to educate and sensitize the participants on human rights issues. We reminded the participants that everyone has internationally recognized fundamental rights regardless of their clan, age or gender and their observance was an obligation to us all. We also educated them why they have to respect and value other people's rights as well and not forgetting that patriotism, nationalism, good governance and freedom of assembly all encapsulate respect of universal human rights and tolerance for one another. The event was fully covered by the media and testimonies from various stakeholders were well documented. SBC, Radio Dajlir, Radio Batur are among those stations which featured documentaries about PSA activities.

2.5 MEDIA

Social media tools such as Facebook, YouTube, twitter and blogging sites have become part of the daily lives of thousands of people in the world including Puntland and Somalia in entirety. Youth being the world's fastest growing and largest segment of social network users in the world. Social media has been shown to strengthen social actors' ability to challenge and change way of life in relation to society, providing platforms for debate, reflection, influencing and mobilizing people. To better understand the potential of social media we engaged young people in raising awareness and motivating them to participate various social and community development initiatives especially in preventing any form of violence.

Lessons Learnt

- Innovative solutions are essential in success of any project
- Monitoring and supervision play an integral role in any project.
- Community consultations in planning and implementation are very imperative, it instils the sense of ownership to the local community and it is good for sustainability as community structures of children, youth, women and other vulnerable persons will sustain the activities long after project's implementation phase.
- Every situation is unique and needs careful thoughtfulness to take decisions. Meticulousness at every level is important.
- People operate from their lenses, which can require a significant effort to change, but they largely mean well. Perseverance is key.
- Outcomes are critical and determine the strategies. Impact is a non-negotiable.

Challenges:

- Due to inadequate funding, we were limited in our outreach to rural and interior areas on various intervention programmes.
- The sites were too vast to cover within a day when we had activities.
- The time allocated for some activities was too short and, in some instances, we had to accord more time than it is in the work plan.

Conclusion:

Somalia context is fluid. It is important to ensure our interventions are addressing the core needs of communities and continually relevant to the evolving context. Having evidence-based intervention will therefore be the focus of PSA in the coming years. This will include generating and investing more resource on assessment and evaluation effort, and provide a common framework to understand the need. Although we continued to experience challenges in raising resources for our core programme of changing and transforming lives. The year 2018 was largely successful and PSA remains faithful to its mission of improving and alleviating lives and the well-being of communities in Puntland, especially the most vulnerable.

We urge and appeal to our funding agencies, government, Somali community and Diaspora to continue walking with us in this journey of transforming communities across the region, their support will go a long way in assisting the most vulnerable members of the society which comprise drought affected community members, IDP's, orphans, Youth/Women at risk and other groups.