PROGRAM APPROACH

Children and youth (aged 16 – 24 years) in Somalia make up approximately 70% of the population. Often they are unemployed and at risk of being recruited into militia, engaging in piracy, illegally migrating across borders or facing a life of poverty in urban settlements.

Urban youth in Somalia and Somaliland face considerable challenges. Governance is seen as the preserve of elders, leaving youth excluded from political processes. Those from marginalized groups – such as minority clans, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and refugees – are socially excluded. In a country with the fourth highest level of gender inequality in the world (UNDP, 2012), girls and young women face double discrimination, with both age and sex counting against them. However, young men are also vulnerable, with unemployment leaving them easy targets for recruitment into radical groups and militias.

Our Urban Youth Program works with young women and men who are out of school with limited livelihood opportunities and/or are socially marginalized. Within this group, CARE focuses on the most disadvantaged, including IDPs, illiterate girls, female youth from marginalized clans, ex-combatants and unemployed graduates.

The program supports job creation and other livelihood opportunities through formal and non-formal education (with a focus on girls’ education), vocational training, capacity-building for teachers and government institutions and inclusive governance and peace building initiatives.

The Urban Youth Program is working towards a peaceful Somalia and Somaliland where young women and men are exercising their right to be part of social, political and economic life. The envisioned process for achieving this is explained in the diagram below.
Waxbarashada Waa Iftiin (Education is Light)

**LOCATION:** Puntland  
**TIMESCALE:** November 2012 - November 2017  
**DONOR:** EU  
**BUDGET:** €7,583,333 (EUR)/$9,054,350 (USD)  
**PARTNER/S:** ADRA, Red Barnet/Save the Children Denmark, VU University Amsterdam  
**BRIEF:** Waxbarashada Waa Iftin seeks to contribute to a sustainable, cohesive education system offering relevant services to different age groups in Puntland. Specifically, the project is building capacity of 100 staff from Puntland’s Ministry of Education and 1,000 teaching and managerial staff (20 - 25% women). It is also reaching 21,000 children and adults (50% female) with formal education and 2,400 others with non-formal education (NFE) and 700 with Technical & Vocational Education & Training (TVET).

Strengthening Civil Society and Public Sector-SCOPES

**LOCATION:** Puntland AND ISWA  
**TIMESCALE:** January 2016– December 2017  
**DONOR:** EC  
**BUDGET:** 1,066,667 (EUR)  
**PARTNER/S:** MUDAN AND WARDI  
**BRIEF:** The Strengthening Civil Society and Public Sector project intends to contribute to the development of a participative democracy in Somalia by developing a sustainable engagement between civil society actors and the public sector. The overall purpose of the project is to contribute to the development of an effective civil society engagement towards the achievement of the strategic objectives of Peace building and State-building Goal (PSG) 1 of the Somali Compact, namely achieve a stable and peaceful federal Somalia through inclusive political processes.

Codna Cod Kama Dheera (Every Voice Counts)

**LOCATION:** Puntland and South central  
**TIMESCALE:** January 2016 - December 2020  
**DONOR:** EC  
**BUDGET:** 2,180,357 EUR  
**PARTNER/S:** MUDAN AND WARDI  
**BRIEF:** Codna Cod Kama Dheera seeks to include young Somali women and men in decision making and policy development by building and strengthening their capacity to influence the federal constitution and federal youth and gender policies through advocacy, linkages with various stakeholder and different actors and lobbying.

Enhanced Access to Education in Conflict-Affected Areas of Somalia and Yemen (EAECASY)

**LOCATION:** Kismayo, Dhole, and Afmadow districts (possibly Gedo) in Jubaland region and Aden  
**TIMESCALE:** 4 years  
**DONOR:** EC  
**BUDGET:** 4,000,000 EUR  
**PARTNER/S:** MoE Jubaland  
**BRIEF:** To maintain and contribute to improved access to quality primary and lower secondary education for 35,000 children (45% female) in Somalia and Yemen.

TVET and Higher Education for Boosting Road Infrastructure Development and Growth of Energy Services (THE BRIDGES) Project

**LOCATION:** Hargeisa, Galkacyo, Garowe, Kismayu and Jubaland  
**TIMESCALE:** January 2017– December 2019  
**DONOR:** EU  
**BUDGET:** €3,900,000  
**PARTNER/S:** Eindhoven University of Technology, Golis University, Hargeisa Technical Institute, Roads Development Authority and SOM power  
**BRIEF:** The project aims to support the Government of Somalia/Somaliland plans to enhance inclusive economic growth and reduce poverty and will assist in the development of high quality skills both for gainful employment and sustainable economic development. The project will assist 500 youth (30%) women to access employment s focused skills, strengthen the capacity of 30 lecturers/trainers and 15 existing government staff and train 22 TVET trainers (9 from Somaliland and Puntland each and 4 from Jubaland).
Durable Solutions for IDPs and Returnees in Somalia (DSIRS)

LOCATION: Puntland (Bossaso and North Galkacyo) and Galmudug (South Galkacyo, Cadaado and Dhusamareb).

TIMESCALE: January 2017–December 2020

DONOR: EU

BUDGET: $10,000,000

PARTNER/S: Save the Children (SCI), IMPACT, ACTED, local partner Save Somali Women and Children (SSWC) and key ministries in Puntland and Galmudug

BRIEF: The project aims to contribute to sustainable integration of IDPs, returnees and refugees in Somalia and more specifically improve access to basic quality services and relevant and sustainable livelihood opportunities for youth at risk of migrating and radicalization, as well as vulnerable IDPs, returnees and host communities to enhance integration and social cohesion in Puntland (Bossaso and North Galkacyo) and Galmudug (South Galkacyo, Cadaado and Dhusamareb).