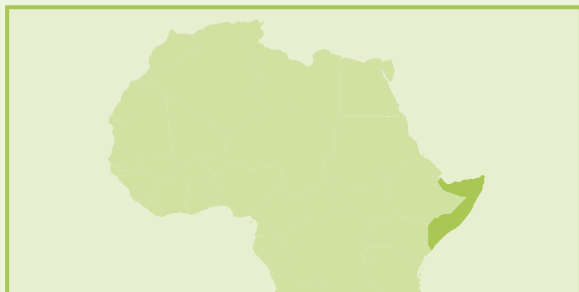


Enhancing Somalia's responsiveness to the management and reintegration of mixed migration flows (RE-INTEG programme)



EU Trust Fund for Africa – Horn of Africa



EUTF PARTNERS:



Africa's Voices Foundation (AVF), CARE, Concern Worldwide (CW), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), International Development Law Organization (IDLO), International Organization for Migration (IOM), UN-Habitat, UNHCR, World Health Organization (WHO), World Vision (WV)

Objective of the programme

To support the sustainable and durable reintegration of returned refugees, durable solutions for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and to anchor populations within Somalia

Key successes

- > Increased intention and willingness among IDPs and returnees to stay in their current location and among youth to remain in their place of origin
- > Increased numbers of children enrolled in school, including a 55% increase in Jubaland



COUNTRY:
Somalia



BUDGET:
EUR 54.3M



From **09/2016**
to **12/2025**

The RE-INTEG programme in Somalia aimed to address gaps in the management of incoming refugee and returnee flows, improve legal frameworks related to migration, implement migration policies, enhance cross-border cooperation, and increase basic service provision and livelihood opportunities in areas of departure and return. **As a result, displacement-affected communities (DACs) in Somalia, including internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugee returnees and host communities, are now benefitting from improved access to basic services and enhanced legal, material and physical security.**

One of the REINTEG projects was led by CARE and provided livelihood support and improved access to education, health care, WASH, child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) services for DACs in Puntland and Galmudug States. The project provided 918 trainees with Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in fields such as nursing, pharmacy, plumbing and electrical work. After finishing the training, many of the trainees joined existing businesses or started their own business offering services such as tailoring, electrical and mechanical services and beauty treatments.¹

The father of a hearing-impaired trainee participating in the electronic repair vocational skills class at the Galkacyo vocational training centre in Puntland observed: 'I was reluctant at first, as I was afraid he would be let down once more, but the project staff assured me that my son would receive the attention and support that will enable him to learn and use the skills he is taught.'



An electronic repair vocational skills class at the Galkacyo vocational training centre in Puntland © CARE

*The man's son adds: 'Before the commencement of the training course, I did not have hope of being in a classroom, but now I sit with other students and learn just like them even though I am different. I am happy I can learn and one day I will open a repair shop and support my family.'*²

How did the EUTF help?

The RE-INTEG programme consisted of several projects implemented by multiple implementing partners, each in a different area of Somalia. The following information will focus on the four RE-INTEG projects that were implemented by NGO consortia (led by WV, NRC, CW and CARE) and the RE-INTEG project implemented by IDLO.³ All four consortia aimed to **increase access to basic services and create realistic livelihood opportunities in the main accessible areas of return and departure**, while IDLO aimed to **support the development and implementation of policies for return, reintegration and protection of IDPs and refugees.**



The endline evaluations of the projects showed progress towards achieving durable solutions in the programme's implementation areas. The RE-INTEG projects led by CW, NRC and WV all reported **an increase in intention or willingness among IDPs and returnees to remain in their current location** with an average increase of 26% and among youth to stay in their place of origin with an average increase of 28%.

A number of factors likely contributed to this increased willingness to stay. Firstly, RE-INTEG **supported access to resources, education, livelihood opportunities and housing, land and property (HLP) rights by DACs**. The CW, NRC and WV projects all reported an increase in equal access to resources by DACs and non-DACS (with an average increase of 14%). Three projects noted an increase in school enrollment rates in their implementation areas (by an average of 37%), two projects reported income increases for IDPs (with an average increase of 247%), and all four NGO-led projects reported an increase in access to HLP rights.⁴

Secondly, RE-INTEG **contributed to a better policy environment for DACs**. Three projects reported an increase in DACs stating that the government is responsive to their rights and needs (with an average increase of 30%), and IDLO supported the government to ratify the Kampala Convention, a binding continental treaty to protect IDPs and to adopt a national policy on IDPs, refugees and returnees.⁵

Keys to success

RE-INTEG provided long-term support for DACs in a way that had never been done before in Somalia, notably by combining:

1) An area-based approach to designing activities. The projects used area-based needs assessments (rather than nationwide studies) to inform the design of activities.⁶

¹ Trends Dynamics Consulting, 'End line evaluation of Durable Solutions for Returnees and IDPs in Somalia (DSRIS) Project.', 2020.

² EUTF, 'Abdullahi, a special needs child from Somalia, finds his place in the classroom through vocational skills training', 24 August 2018.

³ The reason for the focus on these projects is that the IDLO and NGO-led consortia all have an available final narrative report, mid-term or endline evaluation and also have comparable indicators.

⁴ CARE: 800 IDP households were provided with land and resettled in Galkacyo South, WV: 15% at baseline to 60% at endline, NRC: 61% at baseline to 62.5% at endline, CW: the report states that the project 'overperformed' with regards to putting 'accessible HLP mechanisms in place to ensure access to land and/or secure tenure' but does not give outcome data.

⁵ International Development Law Organisation, 'Final Narrative Report', 2022.

⁶ Consilient and Concern Worldwide, 'Enhancing Integration of Displacement Affected Communities in Somalia. Endline Evaluation Report.', 2020.

⁷ Intermedia development Consultants, 'Wadajir-Enhancing Durable Solutions for and Reintegration of Displacement Affected Communities in Somaliland. Endline Evaluation Report.', 2020; Jubaland Solutions Consortium, 'Durable Solutions and Reintegration Support to Displacement Affected Communities in Jubaland State of Somalia. End Line Survey Report.', 2020.

⁸ See note 6.

⁹ See note 7.

Disclaimer

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The research for this success story was conducted from March to June 2023, was based on project documentation, and presents the situation at that moment.



A training on GBV for IDPs to build capacity and improve access to GBV services in Galkayo, Puntland © CARE

2) Community-driven actions. For example, the projects led by WV and NRC integrated the needs of the communities into community action plans⁷ and the project led by CW supported 'DAC forums' that decided on the implementation of activities.⁸

3) Close collaboration with the government. For example, the project led by NRC conducted monitoring and assessment missions with the government, which accelerated the government's decision-making process on topics such as the location of schools. Meanwhile, the project led by WV worked with the Somaliland government from inception and as a result received significant support from the government, which notably provided a 50% discount on land certificates for IDPs.⁹

Building on success

RE-INTEG's success in implementing durable solutions-focused projects, using area-based approaches and collaborating closely with the government has reportedly inspired other donors to follow suit. Examples include the UK FCDO-funded Danwadaag programme (£5.5M), the EU-funded BREACH (€17M) and Xalfoon (€10M) programmes, and the Saameynta programme (\$18M) funded by the Somalia Joint Fund. These programmes will cover the RE-INTEG CW implementing area, though gaps remain in the areas covered by the CARE, WV and NRC projects.



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