



SKN's Annual Report

2022

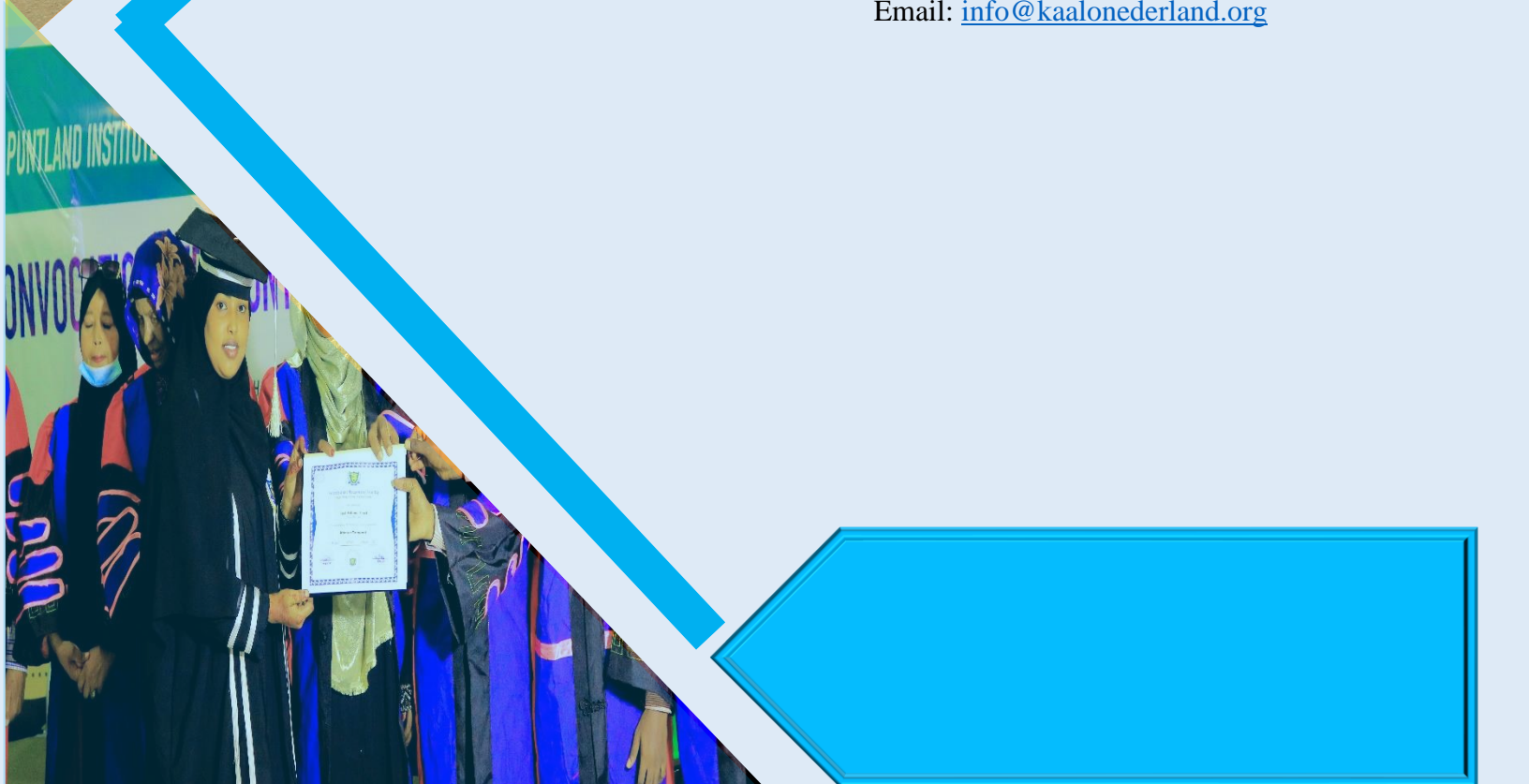


★ **KAALO**
Nederland

Stichting Kaalo Nederland (SKN)

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ABBREVIATIONS

1. SKN -- Stichting Kaalo Nederland
2. PIMAT – Puntland Institute of Management and Technology
3. FSL – Food Security and Livelihoods
4. MCH – Maternal Child Health
5. NGO – Non-Governmental Organization
6. BEFiP – Basic Educational Facilities in Puntland
7. EWTFD – Emergency Water Trucking and Food Distribution
8. YETE – Youth Empowerment Through Education
9. IGWO – Income Generation for Women

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FOREWORD

As I pen down this foreword for our annual report, I am filled with a sense of pride and gratitude for the remarkable journey we embarked on over the past year. Together, we navigated challenges, celebrated successes, and most importantly, made a lasting impact on the lives of those in need.

In the field of education, our commitment to fostering knowledge and empowerment has never been stronger. From providing free solar energy to schools to establishing fully-equipped computer labs, we have strived to create environments where every child can dream and achieve. The stories of bright-eyed students overcoming obstacles to pursue education inspire us and reaffirm the transformative power of learning.

In the realm of food security and livelihoods, our initiatives have taken root, providing sustenance and hope to communities facing adversity. Through the provision of food packages and clean drinkable water to draught-affected rural households and their livestock, lives have been saved. SKN has also been an active member of the Food Security Cluster in Puntland, participating meetings, assessments and report generation for decision -makers.

Empowering women has been at the forefront of our mission. Our initiatives in women empowerment have sought to break down barriers, promote equality, and provide avenues for skill development. We've witnessed firsthand the strength and determination of women who, given the right opportunities, become catalysts for change within their communities. Their stories resonate with the core values of our organization and fuel our commitment to fostering gender equality.

In parallel, our focus on youth skills development has created pathways for the next generation to shape their destinies. Through mentorship programs, vocational training, and empowerment initiatives, we've seen young individuals transform into confident leaders ready to contribute positively to their societies. The beneficiaries are reaping the fruits of this project as I write this foreword. Their enthusiasm and ambition are the building blocks of a brighter future.

As we navigate the complex landscape of humanitarian and development work, I am deeply grateful for the unwavering support of our dedicated team, partners, and donors. Your commitment to our shared vision has been the driving force behind the successes we celebrate today.

Looking ahead, our journey continues with renewed vigor. The challenges that lie ahead are met with the conviction that together, as a united community, we can create sustainable change. The coming year holds the promise of new opportunities, innovative solutions, and, most importantly, the chance to make an even greater impact.

I invite you to explore the pages that follow, where the stories of resilience, empowerment, and positive change come to life. Thank you for being an integral part of the Stichting Kaalo Nederland family. Your support is the cornerstone of our ability to make a meaningful difference in the country.



Abdisalam Ali

SKN Executive Director

TOTAL DONATION REVENUE **Executive Summary**

\$550K

This year has been extraordinary for SKN. We have experienced sustainable growth, accomplished remarkable milestones, and concluded the year with optimism.

We have established sustainable development initiatives, we have created employment opportunities for the youth, we have saved lives – both human & animals and we have elevated the standard of living of refugee families living in IDPs camps.

To delve deeper into our achievements and impact, please refer to the main data points presented in this report.

STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED



\$500K

PROGRAMS LAUNCHED



4

DONOR RETENTION RATE



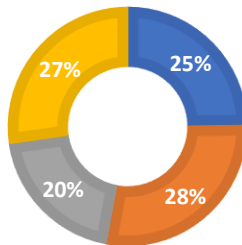
98%

DONATION GROSS REVENUE PER QUARTER

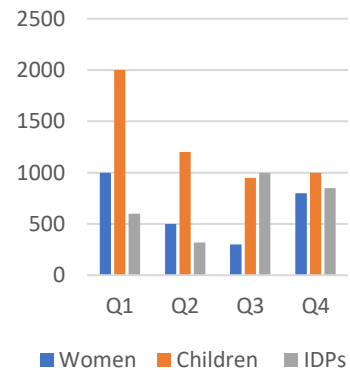


PROJECT SECTORS

- FSL
- Education
- Youth Skills
- Income Generation



BENEFICIARY DEMOGRAPHICS



ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND

Founded in 1994 by Somali Dutch intellectuals, Stichting KAALO Nederland (SKN) is an esteemed international non-governmental organization (NGO) with a clear and impactful mission. The primary goal of SKN is to initiate and execute sustainable livelihood projects, thereby providing essential support to the most vulnerable communities in Somalia. This support extends across critical sectors such as food and shelter, education and skill development programs, health facilities, water and sanitation, projects promoting food security, child protection and human rights, and initiatives empowering impoverished women and young people. The overarching aim is to alleviate poverty and combat unemployment in Somalia.

As a dynamic organization, SKN has been instrumental in spearheading numerous reconstruction projects within Somalia. A hallmark of our approach is the close collaboration maintained with partners in Somalia and international organizations. The foundation of our initiatives consistently stems from a thorough understanding of the demands and needs of vulnerable communities, including internally displaced persons, particularly impoverished children, youth, and women, fostering an invaluable and irreplaceable support base.

Within the region of Puntland in Somalia, SKN collaborates closely with local organizations to implement sustainable development projects tailored to the unique needs of the population. Notable achievements include the construction of shelters, schools, hospitals, water reservoirs, and impactful fishing projects, catalyzing significant economic growth in Somalia. Recognizing the heightened opportunities for young people in Somalia, SKN actively engages in initiatives to provide



viaible alternatives, reducing the susceptibility to radicalization and discouraging perilous journeys.

SKN's primary focus is on sustainable development projects that directly address the urgent needs of the local population. Historically, our emphasis has been on projects in the domains of education and health.

Additionally, significant efforts have been directed towards assisting mothers and children from nomadic and farming communities. Currently, our attention is concentrated on (vulnerable) young people in the state of Puntland, with initiatives commencing in the capital city, Garowe.

Stichting KAALO Nederland (SKN) remains steadfast in its commitment to advancing sustainable development, uplifting vulnerable communities, and fostering positive change in Somalia, as whole, and Puntland in particular.

MISSION, VISION & GOALS

MISSION

SKN's mission is enhancing and supporting the livelihoods of poor communities in Somalia through environmentally sound and sustainable development projects while focusing on solidarity with the poor communities, advocacy, transparency, human rights, and volunteerism.

VISION

SKN envisions a future characterized by sustainable development, widespread access to education, skillful empowerment, gender equality, and robust economic growth. By strategically integrating these pillars into our humanitarian and development initiatives, we aim to catalyze positive change, fostering resilient communities and contributing to a world where individuals, particularly women and children, thrive with enhanced opportunities and well-being.

GOALS

1. **Poverty Alleviation:** We strive to eradicate poverty and its root causes by promoting economic empowerment, access to education, and skills development, fostering self-reliance among the disadvantaged.
2. **Humanitarian Assistance:** We respond swiftly and effectively to humanitarian crises, providing life-saving aid, shelter, food, and medical support to those affected by natural disasters, conflict, or other emergencies.
3. **Gender Equality:** We are committed to advancing gender equality and empowering women and girls to participate fully in social, economic, and political life, thus breaking down barriers to progress.
4. **Healthcare and Education:** SKN works to enhance access to quality healthcare and education, recognizing their pivotal roles in building healthy, educated, and productive communities.
5. **Community Resilience:** We support communities in building their resilience to environmental, economic, and social challenges, enabling them to adapt and thrive in the face of adversity.
6. **Advocacy and Capacity Building:** We engage in advocacy efforts to influence policies and systems that affect our target populations, while also building local capacities for sustainable development.
7. **Collaboration and Partnerships:** SKN collaborates with governments (national-level & state-level), other NGOs, donors, and the private sector to create synergistic approaches for greater impact and to mobilize resources for our programs.
8. **Accountability and Transparency:** We uphold the highest standards of accountability and transparency in our operations, ensuring that resources are utilized efficiently and ethically.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

1. Solar Energy & Computer Labs for Remote Schools - BEFiP



The Basic Educational Facilities in Puntland (BEFiP) program, initiated by SKN in 2021, is a comprehensive and multi-phased development program.

The primary goal of this program is to provide essential educational amenities to schools situated in remote towns, encompassing resources such as solar energy, computer laboratories, and furniture.

In 2022, the successful execution of the program's second phase made a significant impact, benefiting five schools located in distant villages where electricity is either unavailable or economically unfeasible.

These schools are in the towns of Garyaqaan, Kalabary, Uus-gure, Sinu-jiif, and Eyl, received extensive support, including the installation of ten solar panels with eight batteries, an inverter, and sufficient cabling for each setup. Additionally, a fully-equipped computer lab was established in each of these schools.

The solar systems provided adhere to European standards and come with a fifteen-year warranty, ensuring that, with proper maintenance, they will serve future generations yet to come.

Project Impact & Lessons Learned

Impact

Because of this project, all five previously mentioned schools now enjoy uninterrupted access to free electricity around the clock.

As a result, thousands of children, previously unfamiliar with computers, now have the opportunity to utilize fully-functional computer labs, acquiring essential practical computer skills.

Furthermore, students from these educational institutions can extend their learning hours by attending night sessions for revision and remedial lessons.

The positive impact of this solar energy project is not limited to schools alone; it has also extended its benefits to other public facilities, including hospitals and Maternal and Child Health centers, where solar energy serves as a reliable source of electric power.

Lessons Learned

- ✓ *Sustainability requires multi-stakeholder collaboration* – collaborating and being in contact with the beneficiaries ensures that the solution lasts.
- ✓ *Monitoring Contributes to sustainability* – regular visits to the established equipment enforces careful handling.
- ✓ *Addressing technological gaps* - Providing access to computer labs not only enhances educational opportunities but also bridges the digital divide, preparing students for an increasingly technology-driven world.

2. Emergency Draught Response Project - EWTFD



In September 2022, Stichting Kaalo Nederland executed an emergency drought-response initiative aimed at ameliorating the adverse conditions experienced by 270 rural and urban families profoundly affected by the drought during that period.

The project extended relief to a total of 1625 individuals and their livestock. Each family received three parcels of uncooked food items (comprising rice, sugar, and wheat flour), a jerrycan containing cooking oil, and a supply of 5000 liters of potable water.

The project's focal point was the arid expanse of Iyaxda within the borders of Dangorayo district, with a particular emphasis on the rural and urban sectors of Budunbuto. This region is characterized by aridity, lacking established boreholes, and the nearest water source is situated more than 60 kilometers away from these locations.

The primary objective of the Emergency Water Trucking and Food Distribution (**EWTFD**) project was to save the lives of nomadic communities affected by droughts and their livestock. Through the provision of water and food packages, the project played a crucial role in sustaining these families until the onset of the Dayr season rains. Despite its modest scale, the initiative had a substantial positive impact on the affected populace.

Project Impact & Lessons Learned

Impact

Even though this was a one-time emergency response project, it created more impact than anticipated. Because of this project, countless lives – both human and animals have been saved.

During the implementation of the project, some of the beneficiaries contributed to the project's execution by voluntarily working with our implementing team. This paved the way for a close relationship between SKN and the local communities in that area. It had opened a communication channel through which both parties exchanged ideas and shared thoughts.

Lessons Learned

- ✓ *Contextual Understanding* - Adapting aid strategies to align with the nomadic way of life ensures greater effectiveness.
- ✓ *Seasonal Variability* - Recognizing the seasonal variations, especially in relation to water scarcity, is crucial. The project emphasized the need to align interventions with the specific climatic conditions, ensuring that resources are effectively distributed during periods of heightened vulnerability.
- ✓ *Community Engagement* - Establishing open channels of communication with nomadic communities fosters trust, allowing aid providers to better comprehend local needs and preferences.
- ✓ *Water Source Accessibility* - Identifying reliable and accessible water sources remains a pivotal consideration.
- ✓ *Delegating is the way to overcoming logistical challenges* – reaching nomadic societies to thoroughly know of their situations is a challenging task. Collaborating with their community leaders and delegating them to do such tasks is identified to be effective.

3. Youth Empowerment Through Education - YETE

The Youth Empowerment Through Education (YETE) project constituted a fully-funded two-year scholarship initiative focused on Secretary and Office Administration, exclusively benefiting girls from underprivileged families.

This initiative, with dual objectives, aimed firstly to address the shortage of qualified female secretaries in the capital city of Puntland and secondly to create employment opportunities for girls facing financial constraints and hence can't afford to go to university.

The project was jointly executed by Stichting KAALO Nederland (SKN) and the Puntland Institute of Management and Technology (PIMAT), the latter being an institution established and overseen by SKN. PIMAT was established to provide free education to the underprivileged youth in Puntland.

Throughout the project's duration, the trainees underwent comprehensive training encompassing Office Management, English Proficiency, Computerized Accounting, Communication, and Advanced Computer Literacy.

Each trainee was given a minimum of one month of paid internship within local organizations such as ministries, NGOs, businesses, and health centers.

Remarkably successful, the project witnessed several beneficiaries securing employment even before the completion of their internship programs.

The impact of the project was transformative, substantially altering the lives of the girls involved, with a majority now employed in respectable positions utilizing the skills acquired during their education at PIMAT.

Project Impact and Lessons Learned



Impact

The project's impact transcended quantifiable metrics. As a result of this initiative, individuals who were previously unskilled and devoid of prospects for higher education or meaningful employment are currently occupying positions of significance within esteemed institutions, including universities and ministries. The project stands as a catalyst for a profound transformation in the lives of its beneficiaries.

Lessons Learned

- ✓ *Societal Impact* - a tangible shift in life trajectories beyond employment, with education serving as a catalyst for confidence and hope was noted.
- ✓ *Practical Application Through Internships* - Beneficiaries securing positions before completing internships highlighted the importance of a hands-on component in educational interventions.
- ✓ *Transformative Power of Free Education* – we observed the transformation of unskilled individuals into contributors in high-ranking offices, including universities and ministries.

4. Income Generation for Women – IGWO



The Income Generation for Women (**IGWO**) project was a women-empowerment initiative aimed at educating and empowering economically disadvantaged women in the Camp Shabelle **IDPs** center. The target demographic, comprised of women in **IDP** camps, lacked access to formal education and essential skills for sustainable livelihoods. The initiative was created to address this gap by creating employment opportunities for these women.

Spanning six months, the project focused on imparting hands-on tailoring skills to the beneficiaries, accompanied by training in coloring and dyeing techniques. Upon the project's completion, all beneficiaries acquired proficiency in both tailoring and dyeing. Armed with these skills and supported by modest start-up capital provided during the project, a significant majority of the beneficiaries successfully established their own businesses.

Furthermore, the project achieved a notable milestone in fostering economic independence among the women. Many of the beneficiaries not only acquired skills for self-sufficiency but also translated their newfound expertise into viable entrepreneurial ventures, thereby contributing to their financial autonomy and improving their overall quality of life.

Project Impact & Lessons Learned

Impact

The project's most significant impact lies in the creation of employment opportunities for unskilled refugee women. Following the practical application of acquired skills, the project's beneficiaries transitioned into the realm of entrepreneurship, experiencing newfound financial independence. Additionally, as mothers began generating income through their proficiency in tailoring and dyeing, there was a notable improvement in the quality of life for their families. Several mothers, empowered by their newfound skills and financial stability, initiated the practice of sending their children to school, a noteworthy development facilitated by their enhanced economic capacity.

Lessons Learned

- ✓ Empowerment through Skills Acquisition - The project underscored the transformative potential of providing skill-based education to refugee women.
- ✓ Entrepreneurial Ventures and Financial Independence - The practical application of learned skills resulted in a shift towards entrepreneurship among the beneficiaries.
- ✓ Positive Ripple Effects on Families - The project had a cascading effect on the lives of beneficiaries' families, as mothers generating income improved overall family well-being.
- ✓ Importance of Tailored Development Programs – Programs designed to the specific needs and challenges of refugee women proved essential for the project's success.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

✎ Children Got Access to Technology

Embarking on a mission to transform education, our initiatives brought cutting-edge technology to the heart of remote towns. Picture this: vibrant computer labs now illuminate schools that once had no access to such marvels. For the children who had never encountered a computer before, this is a game-changer. They are now stepping into the digital age, equipped with the tools to explore, learn, and master practical computer skills. The impact is not just about technology; it's about opening doors to a world of possibilities for these eager minds.



✎ We created Employment Opportunities



Our impactful initiatives didn't merely create jobs; they crafted pathways to dreams. Picture this: young, aspiring women finding not just employment, but their dream jobs, all thanks to the transformative touch of SKN's initiatives. Through education and empowerment, we turned aspirations into achievements.

✎ We sustained Lives

In the challenging period of drought, amid widespread suffering where both people and livestock faced the harsh realities of thirst and starvation, our emergency projects emerged as vital interventions. They functioned as life-saving reliefs, providing sustenance and support that temporarily preserved many lives.



✎ We created Sources of Income for Refugee



Our initiatives helped poor refugee women break the cycle of poverty and achieve financial freedom. This also elevated the standard of living of many families and contributed to the children's future in the long term.

SUCCESS STORIES

STORY1: FROM DARKNESS TO DAZZLING

Jama Hirsi Isse the principal of one of the schools that benefitted from the first phase of BEFiP program. Jama has been invited to the initiation of the second phase of the project to share his experience and insights. Here is the story Principal Jama told us:

“Our school, located in one of the remote towns, was a fortunate beneficiary of the inaugural phase of this transformative project. Preceding its initiation, our school and the entire town of Budunbuto were plunged into darkness at night, lacking a reliable source of electric power.

“The initial and most profound impact of the project was the introduction of light to our school during the night, resulting in the town alighting with newfound radiance. The pervasive darkness that once enveloped the town was dispelled, marking a significant change.

“The installation of solar energy facilitated evening revision lessons for our students, a factor distinctly reflected in their improved performance post-national exams. The additional study time, made possible by solar energy, played a pivotal role in enhancing academic outcomes.

“Harnessing the potential of solar power, we launched an education program catering to adults in the town during the evening. These individuals, who did not attend school in their childhood, now attend classes at night, broadening access to education.

“The project's impact extended beyond our school premises to the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) facility in Budunbuto, which lacked electricity. Recognizing the broader capacity of solar energy, we extended power cables to the MCH, ensuring uninterrupted 24/7 electricity. This illuminated not only the MCH but also symbolized the project's holistic impact on community welfare.

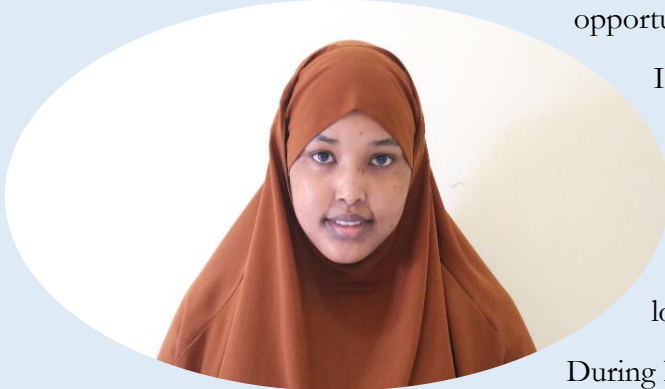
“Another transformative outcome was the provision of computer labs for the children of our school. Previously a distant dream, computers became tangible tools for practical computer skills, thanks to SKN's support. The shift from theoretical to hands-on computer education empowered our students for the digital age.

“The solar energy initiative also served as the catalyst for a lucrative small business. We began producing and selling popsicles to the town and school children, not only providing a refreshing treat during the Holy month of Ramadan but also generating additional income to finance crucial school operations. The project's multifaceted influence, spanning from education to entrepreneurship, has significantly uplifted our school and the entire community.”



STORY2: REALIZED DREAM

Farah, a determined 24-year-old, faced obstacles in pursuing her dream of becoming an office secretary. Despite having to leave school after grade eight due to family issues, Farah's passion for her chosen field persisted. Returning to education after a hiatus, she found herself in a non-formal Islamic institute, limiting her options to Sharia Studies upon graduation. Undeterred, Farah graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Islamic Sharia after three years, but employment opportunities eluded her.



In a fortuitous turn of events, Farah discovered a program that offered a chance to realize her dream. After a rigorous application and acceptance process, she became one of the fifteen beneficiaries. Four years of unwavering dedication later, Farah is now a full-time office secretary at a local university in Garowe.

During her internship at Frontier University, Garowe, Farah's skills and commitment impressed the university team. Before completing her internship, she received an offer for a full-time secretary position, and she eagerly embraced the opportunity. Farah is now living her dream, working as a secretary at a prestigious organization, a testament to her perseverance and the transformative impact of the program.

STORY3: TRANSFORMED LIFE

Mohamed Ahmed is a father of four. For the thirty-seven years he has been in this world, Mohamed lived as a nomad man who moved around with his flock of goats and two he-camels in pursuit of water and pasture. Although he lived a hard rural life, he felt contented with what he had and how he lived. His sixty goats were a source of food and income for him and his family while he used his two male camels for means of transportation. The two camels carried the children and the belongings of the family when the family moves from one place and had to travel a long distance. They were also used to carry jerrycans of water from distant wells and boreholes. The goats supplied him and his family with milk, meat and butter. He also used to sell a goat or a goatskin to buy clothes and other possessions for his wife and children.

For years, Mohamed lived that simple life with his family until subsequent draughts started to come one after the other. At first, the family were able to cope with the hardships of the draughts by seeking help from relatives, selling some of their livestock or getting aid from humanitarian programs. With draughts being longer than they used to be as a result of the drastic climate changes caused by global warming and other factors, the goats started to become weak and gradually died of starvation, thirst, malnutrition, and diseases. At this point, life became harder for Mohamed's family. They couldn't find what to eat for days and they were afraid for their young children. It was then that they fled their settlements and came to the town.

When Mohamed and his family came to Eyl, they had no wealthy relatives to support them neither did the father who is supposed to provide for his wife and children had the skills to do so. Life was

getting harder by the day, but they at least had access to water. Mohamed's wife, Amina, became pregnant.

This made him worry about his family even more. Mohamed fed his children and wife with small rations of food that he buys with the little wage he gets from doing hard-labor in the market. This wasn't a regular job he did on daily basis. He rather woke up in the morning and started walking in the streets of the town looking for someone to who needs some mundane tasks done for a few Somali shillings.

Mohamed sometimes, helped construction workers manually mix sand, cement and gravel. Other mornings, he would help a farmer plow his land. And some other times, he would unload sacks of rice, sugar or wheat flour from a truck carrying them back and forth on his back and shoulders. However, these tedious tasks didn't pay Mohamed enough to fully feed his pregnant wife and four children. This was hard on Mohamed yet necessary. He had to do whatever it took to put food on the table for his family.



Mohamed was hardly capable of enduring the hard labour and he was so hopeless. It was then that our team met Mohamed while looking for people to meet the requirements of benefitting from the fishing project. He was registered for the intervention since he met all the criteria needed.

Mohamed became one of the beneficiaries of a fishing project supported by Wilde Ganzen and implemented by Stichting Kaalo Nederland and their local partner Hodan Fishing Cooperative. Of the sixty people who benefitted from the project, Mohamed was the one with the most touching story.

As soon as the training started, Mohamed was assigned to join a small fishing crew of which some were training with him. This was done because he desperately needed a source of income to support his family of four children and a pregnant wife. He got the opportunity to learn and earn at the same time. Due to his workaholic nature, Mohamed mastered the fishing skills he was taught in a short period of time. With the regular wages he received from working with his fishing crew, Mohamed started providing for his family more efficiently. He had so much confidence in himself and the skills learned from the training program. He plays a very active role in his fishing crew. Mohamed's story teaches us that with the right enablers and empowerment, people can achieve a lot in their lives. It also teaches us that small projects like the one we recently implemented can have tremendous effects on their beneficiaries and completely transform many lives. For Mohamed and many of his colleagues, this project was a total game changer.

As the training was finalized and the trainees mastered all the fishing skills that were included in the program, we handed fish-preserving equipment to them. This equipment will help them store the fish they catch under a cold temperature until it reaches the market. The project was immeasurably successful.

2022 IN PHOTOS



Educational facilities for Schools in Remote Towns



Computer Labs Establishment



Children Learning Practical Computer Skills



Fishing Equipment for local fishermen



Emergency Water Trucking



Saving Livestock

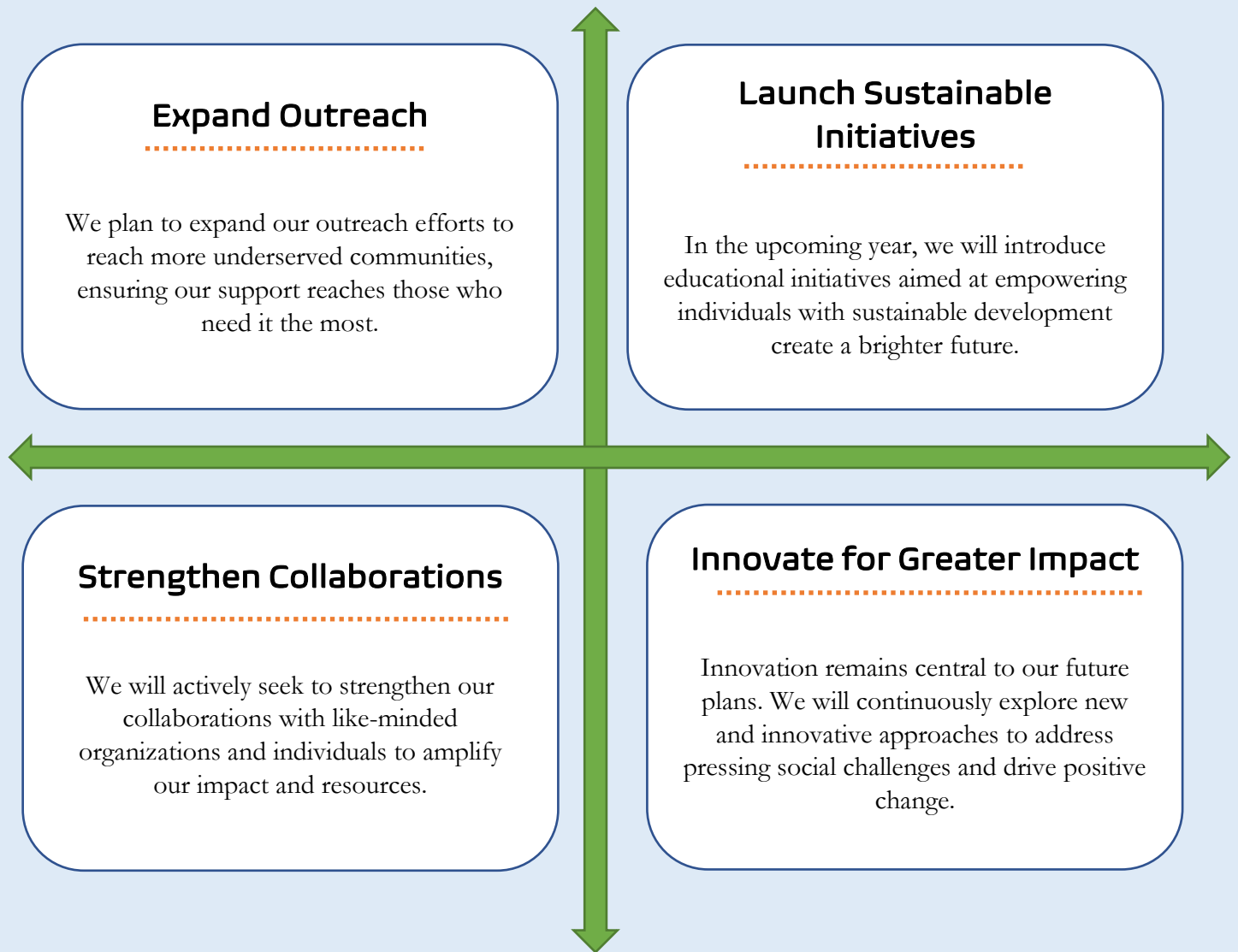


Women Empowerment



Equipping the Youth with Skills

FUTURE PLANS



Stichting Kaalo Nederland

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