



## **HANDICAP ASSESSMENT REPORT**

### ***Brief Introduction Agency for Assistance and Development of Somalia-AADS***

Agency for Assistance and Development of Somalia abbreviated as AADS is defined as non-governmental, non-political, non-partisan and nonprofit making organization, flexible and committed to provide humanitarian programs answering to the community's basic needs relevant on the current situation in Somalia. Agency for Assistance and Development of Somalia-AADS is an open to all without distinction of origin, race, color or creed, in accordance with the purpose of Agency for Assistance and Development of Somalia-AADS inception and its existence.

The Agency for Assistance and Development of Somalia-AADS is operating in Somalia particularly South West State, Jubaland State, Hirshabelle State and Banadir region. The organization was established on 02/03/2008. Therefore Agency for Assistance and Development of Somalia-AADS was founded by a professional group of people from the different parts of the Somali society living inside and outside of the country

The main reason of its foundation was under difficult circumstance of development of the social services based on the unity and incorporation (amalgamation) of the Somali society and encourages the existence of never-ending peace through capacity building and constant orientation towards the human rights and protection.

Agency for Assistance and Development of Somalia-AADS is mainly focused on education, health and nutrition, emergency relief and rehabilitation, livelihood, mother health care for communities in operational regions. Agency for Assistance and Development of Somalia-AADS has built its reputation at grassroots level as a visionary organization capable of working with communities mutually to alter the current course of conflicts and disempowerment at communal and individual level in the regions.

Agency for Assistance and Development of Somalia-AADS is registered as local NGO under the law of Somali Republic. It has offices in the capital city of Mogadishu as well as Bay Region. Agency for Assistance and Development of Somalia-AADS believes in cooperation in general, Cooperation with local communities and target beneficiaries at primary levels; and International organizations at secondary second level. For the qualified human resource personnel Agency for Assistance and Development of Somalia-AADS puts on emphasis to hire and select the best-qualified applicants that may contribute to the achievements of the organizational vision, mission and goals.

## **Overview**

For over decades, civil war and insurgents has been the most contributing factor to disability in Somalia. This has been so due to use of guns, hand grenades, land mines, rockets etc to fight perceived enemies of certain interests. The result of this has been the escalation of disease, disabilities, deaths, illiteracy and poor livelihoods.

People with disabilities have been identified as a particularly marginalised and at risk group within Somali society as a result of the numerous attitudinal, environmental, and institutional barriers they face, and the lack of concerted efforts to include them. This rapid review identifies available evidence on the experiences of people with disabilities living in Somalia. There is ample anecdotal evidence and acknowledgements that the negative experiences of people with disabilities is a pressing issue across Somalia, as well as a very small number of research reports looking at disability in Somalia. As a result there are still numerous evidence gaps in relation to the experiences of people with disabilities living in Somalia. Even research reports which have been conducted on disability in Somalia acknowledge that little research has been produced and further research is needed. This assessment was carryout on June 2019

## **AADS's intervention:**

In June 2019, AADS organized a team of 3 persons (2 men and 1 woman) for a field assessment of all forms of disability in Banadir, and Bay regions, Somalia.

The team was trained and equipped with tools as Questionnaires and data from historical backgrounds and internet.

## **Target Groups**

1. Local Authorities
2. Religious Groups
3. Disabled persons/victims.
4. Local and International NGOs.

## **Aim of interview**

To prepare effective base line data on disability/handicap in South Central Somalia

## **Type of disabilities:**

1. Blindness.
2. Loss of limbs.
3. Loss of hearing and speech.
4. Mental disability.

## **Methodology of the assessment**

- ⊙ Field visits and meetings
- ⊙ Group discussions and knowledge sharing
- ⊙ Individual interview
- ⊙ Observations and visibilities
- ⊙ Visit to different handicaps centers.
- ⊙ Focus group discussions and report analyses

### **Places visited**

- ❖ Wadajir district
- ❖ Dharkeynley district
- ❖ Martini hospital in banadir
- ❖ Karan district
- ❖ IDPS camps between mogadishu and afgoe
- ❖ Baidoa district

### **Findings**

- Lack of data on disability in Somalia has contributed to limited awareness of disability issues among policy makers, planners, community leaders, services providers and the general public.
- The provisional federal constitution provides equal rights before the law for persons with disabilities and prohibits the state from discriminating against them, although authorities have not enforced these provisions.
- People with disabilities experience stigma in Somali society and disability is considered a very shameful and sensitive topic. Disability is generally associated with physical impairments rather than other types of disabilities, and intellectual disabilities are especially taboo.
- Children with disabilities have very limited access to any educational opportunities and face widespread discrimination in the education sector, both from teachers and other students.
- Children and adults with all types of disabilities have often not been included in programmes aimed at supporting people in Somalia, including humanitarian assistance. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) with disabilities have been victim to multiple forced evictions which makes it harder for them to maintain their livelihoods, amongst other things

### **Areas of assistance needed**

- Participatory of equal job opportunities
- Development of skill Trainings and creation jobs
- Capacity building and awareness
- Food support
- Proper medical treatment
- Artificial legs and wheel chairs.
- Shelters and white cane.
- Learning centers for special needs persons.
- Foster parenting by local residence

### **Conclusion**

- To establish vocational skill training centers for persons with disables to get job placement and supporting socio-economic to empowered and start up new small scale of business.
- To provide necessary tools and skills for self employment as well as basic education
- To provide schools for the children with disabilities.
- More surveys and researches need to be done in south central region.



## PICTORIALS



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