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Somali Peace Line (SPL)

SPL Annual Report 2024



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Executive Summary

Somali Peace Line envisions a stable Somalia in which all its citizens exercise their rights and resolve their conflict peacefully. The organizations seek to promote mechanisms for sustainable peace and enjoyment of rights by all. The mandate of SPL covers protection, promotion of human rights, and facilitation of peaceful co-existence of communities.

To realize this, SPL has a strategic focus developed by the leadership, management, and all senior program staff. In line with that strategic plan, the organization has engaged partner organizations and implemented four projects during this reporting period — January to December 2024. SPL has also consulted with civil society organizations, local and national authorities, and international organizations for advocacy and the realization of its objectives and goals.

In 2024, SPL ran Seven projects with two different organizations: SOMNORAD framework projects phase three with Save the Children International (SCI) and funded by NORAD; Empowering Displaced Families and Children through CVA and Child Protection interventions in Abudwak; Challenging Harmful Attitudes and Norms for Gender Equality and Empowerment in Somalia (CHANGES 2) in partnership with SCI, and funded by GAC and RNE, and Building CSOs' Agency for advocacy, and social accountability - Dan-jire Project directly funded by the European Union; SafeSteps: **providing integrated child protection and Gender-based Violence Prevention and Response Services in Galkayo District** directly funded by SHF, Advancing Children's engagement at the regional, Pan-African governance and international platforms, in partnership with Children's Voice Today and funded by DANIDA, Youth in the Lead: Arts and Culture for Inclusive Social Change funded by EU in partnership with LPI, and Transitional Justice and Reconciliation Advancement through "Xeer" funded by LPI. The coverage areas of the program are Abudwak, Adado, Gaalkacyo and Dusamareb in Galmudug, Baledweyn, and Jowhar in HirShabelle, Baidoa in Southwest.

In 2024, Through its projects, the SPL program reached 14,680 direct beneficiaries. Out of these beneficiaries 6,175 were children (2,914 boys and 3,261); 180 were youth 90 MY, 90 FY) and 7,362 were adults (3,131 men and 4,231 women), and 963 were people with disabilities including 449 children (214 boys, and 222 girls) and 514 adults (252 men and 262 women), the program has also reached approximately 180,000 indirect beneficiaries through distributing IEC material, and airing radio programs, interviews, talk-shows,); This, SPL worked with 66 suppliers in all areas, and employed 28 people to reach these beneficiaries.

SPL staff had training and capacity building workshops including physical and virtual on the following topics: SHF Procurement Policies and Procedures, PSEA Training, Referral mechanisms (pathways) and assisted referral training, Case management, CPIMS+ primero platform, Aid diversion, GBV mitigation, coordination and response strategies, and Psychological First Aid and GBV. These trainings enhanced the capacity of SPL to deliver program implementation, support and financial management.

In 2024, Somali Peace Line managed a total fund of 1,210,108.45 USD. The funding came from international donors, Like the EU, MFA Finland, GAC, RNE, NORAD, and SHF which funded SPL directly, or channelled the funding through international NGOs co-implementing projects with Somali Peace Line namely, SCI, and LPI. Of the total program income, 949,093.69 USD was utilized, and 261,014.76 USD became the closing balance of the year.

Context update

Aiming to maintain a balance of power between the Federal Government and Federal Member States (FMS), Somalia's federal system was established under the Provisional Constitution. The interactions between these tiers of government have, nevertheless, frequently been difficult. There have occasionally been conflicts between the FMS—which consists of HirShabelle, Jubaland, Southwest State, Galmudug, and Puntland—and the Federal Government regarding matters like political representation, resource distribution, and security obligations. Political impasses have occasionally resulted from these tensions, which have an impact on service delivery and governance. Although the establishment of cooperative initiatives, like the National Consultative Council, has been made to tackle these problems, institutionalizing successful intergovernmental relations is still a work in progress.

In 2024, Somalia experienced a series of significant political, security, and developmental events that shaped the nation's trajectory. The Ministries of Women and Human Rights Development in HirShabelle and Southwest took proactive steps by drafting disability and FGM bills, reflecting ongoing legislative efforts to address critical human rights issues. However, the Federal Parliament's rejection of the Somali Children's Act on January 15, 2024, underscored the complexities of aligning new legislation with Sharia law, highlighting the challenges in advancing children's rights within the existing legal framework.

Internationally, Somalia's political landscape was marked by a conflict with Ethiopia over an agreement between Ethiopia and Somaliland, which claims independence from Somalia. This agreement, involving Ethiopia's access to the Red Sea, was met with strong opposition from international bodies such as the United Nations, the African Union, and the Arab League, all of whom emphasized Somalia's territorial integrity. Despite these tensions, Somalia achieved a significant milestone by being elected as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council on June 6, 2024, a position it had not held since 1972. This election was a testament to Somalia's growing influence on the global stage. Additionally, the Ankara Agreement, mediated by Turkey in December 2024, reaffirmed Somalia's territorial sovereignty and nullified Ethiopia's previous Memorandum of Understanding with Somaliland. This agreement was praised for its potential to normalize relations between Somalia and Ethiopia and enhance regional stability, with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan playing a crucial role in the mediation process.

Security issues remained a major concern throughout the year, with numerous incidents highlighting the ongoing challenges. Clan conflicts were prevalent in various regions, including Baidoa, Buur Hakabo, Diinsor, and the Middle Shabelle region. These conflicts often resulted in casualties and prolonged tensions. For instance, on February 7, 2024, a clash between Rahaweyn Elaay sub-clans in Buur Hakabo led to injuries, while a conflict in Diinsor on March 26, 2024, between Geledle and Dabare clans resulted in civilian deaths. Al-Shabaab (AS) continued its attacks, including an improvised explosive device (IED) explosion on June 15, 2024, near Baidoa, which killed six soldiers and wounded eleven others. On June 8, clashes between two rival clans killed more than 60 people and injured over 105 others in the rural areas of Laandheer, Qalanqale, and Jabsiile villages, located between Abudwak and Herale towns in the Galgaduud region. According to the assessment, the fighting caused the displacement of an estimated 2,327 families (13,962 people). A local clan militia intercepted and seized two trucks loaded with small arms that had crossed the Ethiopian border, escorted by government forces. This led to a fierce battle between the clan militias and Somali armed forces, resulting in 17 deaths and 30 injuries on both sides. On December 6, 2024, AS fighters attacked a police base in Baidoa, leading to a brief gunfight. In late December, six Somali National Army (SNA) soldiers were killed in El-Baraf, Middle Shabelle, in a clan revenge attack, exacerbating tensions between the Hawadle and Abgaal clans. This incident highlighted the ongoing challenges of clan-based violence and the need for continued peace efforts. The Somali government and traditional leaders-initiated negotiations to defuse the conflict and bring the rival groups to a resolution, emphasizing the importance of justice and reconciliation. The African Union Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) also began withdrawing its troops, handing over bases in Jowhar to Somali Security Forces on June 20, 2024. This transition raised concerns about potential security vacuums, although assurances were given that the withdrawal would not compromise security. The withdrawal included the handover of the Horseed Forward Operating Base (FOB) and other strategic locations, emphasizing the need for Somali forces to take greater responsibility for national security.

Humanitarian and development efforts were also notable during this period. The Sabun-FAO dam project was launched on June 5, 2024, aiming to benefit over 300,000 farmers. Acting Prime Minister Salah Ahmed Jama was involved in launching the Sabun-FAO dam project, underscoring the government's focus on development and international cooperation. This project, supported by the United States and the United Kingdom, was seen as a significant step towards enhancing agricultural productivity and economic development. In Hirshabelle, ongoing infrastructure projects included the construction of police stations, hospitals, schools, and solar streetlights, reflecting a commitment to improving public services and governance. These efforts were part of a broader strategy to promote inclusive governance and empower women and youth, as emphasized by Hirshabelle President Ali Gudlawe Hussein during his visits to various liberated regions. President Hussein's focus on development, unity, and reconciliation was evident as he met with local officials, residents, and community leaders to understand their needs and challenges, urging intensified efforts to combat Al-Shabaab.

Environmental challenges, such as floods and droughts, continued to impact local populations, causing displacement and straining resilience mechanisms. Despite these challenges, there were efforts to strengthen security, governance, and humanitarian aid, suggesting potential improvements in the future. The ongoing environmental issues underscored the need for sustainable development practices and effective disaster management strategies to mitigate the adverse effects on vulnerable communities. The successful admission of Somalia to the East African Community (EAC) was a major step toward regional integration and the completion of the debt relief process, which alleviated financial burdens and opened new economic opportunities. President Mohamud also emphasized the lifting of the long-standing arms embargo, which allowed Somalia to enhance its defense capabilities. In addition, Somalia's election to the UN Security Council for the 2025–2026 term reflects its increasing clout and dedication to world peace and security. These achievements highlight how Somalia has improved its standing in international affairs and overcome historical obstacles.

Overall, the year 2024 in Somalia was characterized by a mix of political, security, and developmental challenges and achievements. While significant progress was made in international relations, legislative efforts, and development projects, ongoing security issues and environmental challenges underscored the need for sustained efforts to ensure stability and growth. The involvement of key political figures and international support played crucial roles in navigating these complexities and striving towards a more stable and prosperous Somalia.

1. Building CSOS' Agency for Advocacy, and Social Accountability - Dan-Jire Project



In 2024, Somali Peace Line (SPL) implemented the second year of a project that would enhance the knowledge and awareness of the CSOs, facilitate meaningful access, and promote their influence in policy dialogue at state levels in HirShabelle and Southwest. The Action would also introduce social accountability mechanisms to both communities and local government officials (state and district), would help them engage in an accountability audit of public services and develop action plans for the betterment of these services.

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to participatory and inclusive policy dialogue and promote community-led accountable mechanisms for better service delivery in HirShabelle and Southwest states of Somalia.

The project has two outcomes which are: outcome: (1) strengthened the capacities of local CSOs to engage in policy dialogue, implementation, and monitoring of national development plans and programs, through a series of related capacity building, collaborative agenda-setting, policy influence, and constructive engagements with policy and decision makers at HirShabelle and Southwest State, and outcome (2) enhanced local governance through the empowerment and participation of CSOs (incl. community platforms, grassroots organizations, and non-state actors) in public decision-making processes and in social accountability at HirShabelle and Southwest State.

Strategies, Activities and Achievement



The project has directly impacted 1275 individuals, including 683 men and 592 women. Among these, 123 individuals are living with disabilities, with 46 men and 21 women. This distribution underscores the project's extensive reach and its inclusive approach, benefiting a diverse cross-section of the population, including those with disabilities. Twenty Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) received extensive training in advocacy and networking, equipping them with a thorough understanding of advocacy practices and principles, effective skills for crafting and delivering advocacy

messages, efficient networking techniques to bolster CSO collaboration, improved proficiency with digital tools, and a long-term action plan for sustained advocacy efforts.

Gender mainstreaming, disability inclusion, and conflict sensitivity training raised the awareness of thirty people from CSOs, disability organizations, and regional government representatives about gender and disability issues, as well as their support for people with disabilities' equal opportunities and rights. To demand their rights and influence decisions at regional and national levels, two discussion forums for Disability People's Organizations (DPOs) were held in Jowhar and Baidoa.

CSOs held two quarterly consultation meetings during which they developed advocacy plans and discussed ongoing policy issues, government programs, and plans. In one of the meetings, CSOs held talked about disability inclusion. At the end of their meeting, the organizations issued an advocacy plan on disability inclusion. The participants of the

National Disability Policy study workshop gained a comprehensive understanding of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and its linkages to national disability policies and laws.

To boost public participation in decision-making processes, the project organized several radio talk shows covering crucial topics such as child rights, budget transparency, the roles of youth and business in state building, community development, and climate change. Talk shows on disability rights were broadcast through Bay & Bakol radio and Jowhar radio with the aim to make people aware of the problems of disabled people and to participate in decision making.

The action supported community platforms to assess and monitor the quality of key public services using social accountability. Almost 192 people have participated in the assessment targeting public schools, hospitals and health centres in Baidoa and Jowhar. A dialogue forum with participation from both service users and suppliers were conducted and finally joint community action plans were developed. Some of the previously identified issues in the interface meetings in 2023 were addressed with the assistance of INGOs and communities.

Additionally, the third and fourth community platform assessment sessions were carried out in four public schools and four public clinics in Baidoa, using social accountability tools to assess the standards of basic education and health services within community settings. The project organized two interface meetings and action planning sessions in Baidoa, bringing together communities, service providers, CSOs, and government representatives to discuss social accountability and improve service delivery. Five community action plans (CAPs) were created during these meetings to hold service providers accountable and address identified gaps.

Two workshops on budget transparency and responsiveness were conducted to explore opportunities and challenges related to participatory budgeting, creating informed citizens who can hold the government accountable. To better understand government priorities and raise community concerns, two workshops on government budget analysis were held for CSOs, guiding them on how to enhance domestic resource mobilization.

Several public consultation sessions were organized in both cities for government ministries to increase public participation in policy discussions. The project also advocated for the approval and implementation of a child rights bill addressing critical issues such as child rights and child labor. An advocacy forum on youth policy was held in Baidoa and Jowhar, and the Youth and Sports Ministries and CSOs discussed the nine pillars of the national youth policy, which focused on the policy's priority areas and strategic activities.

The project supported four public hearings—two in each area—to enhance public involvement in civic processes, ensuring that policies benefit vulnerable members of society and that resources are utilized efficiently. A participatory planning forum was arranged to discuss challenges requiring coordinated efforts from the government, CSOs, and community structures. Lastly, to assess project progress, a midterm review was conducted. These achievements underscore the project's dedication to fostering a participatory, accountable, and inclusive governance framework in Somalia.

2. Youth In the Lead: Arts and Culture for Inclusive Social Change

The Life & Peace Institute (LPI), in partnership with Somali Peace Line (SPL), is implementing a three-year Action to promote and protect peace, human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy, and the rule-of-law in Somalia through rights-based, conflict-sensitive social contact peacebuilding. The Action is born from the applicants' longstanding experience working across all segments of Somali society (including elders, women and youth, traditionally marginalised clans, local and federal administrations, among other groups) using inclusive processes in building and sustaining peace. The action is inspired by the partners' success in centering youth as key actors for peace in their communities. It was designed through consultations in the target area, in-person reflections and virtual design meetings, using adapted conflict and stakeholder analysis models. Building upon LPI and SPL's previous and current collaborative programming, the Action scales up LPI and SPL's adapted Sustained Dialogue model that integrates youth as key actors in building and strengthening peace and social cohesion, through adapting a multi-dimensional approach of inclusive dialogue through arts, culture, and sports to increase social cohesion.

The **global objective (GO)** of this Action is: the promotion and protection of: (i) human rights and fundamental freedoms, (ii) democracy, and (iii) the rule of law in Somalia. The inherent assumption in achieving this objective is that social contact between different groups can improve intergroup relations under the right conditions. These conditions include community willingness to participate and engage and the quality of moderation of the engagement process. The **specific objective (SO)** of this Action is: to support CSOs to contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights, foster freedom of expression and enhance peacebuilding, conflict prevention and social cohesion, through arts, culture, and sports.

Five interrelated **outputs** build towards the Action's SO: **Output O1.1** Peacebuilding and human rights capacities of diverse youth (female and male and including marginalised groups) and civil society are enhanced; **O1.2** Diverse youth strategically engage in Sustained Dialogue processes that inform their further engagement with state and non-state duty bearers; **O1.3** Interactive and inclusive peace, human rights and democracy-themed theatre and arts conducted in communities in and around Abudwak; **O1.4** Inclusive consultation processes through an existing youth platform in Abudwak are enhanced; and **O1.5** Abudwak community and state and non-state duty bearers are strategically influenced by established youth platforms to formulate or implement gender and youth-aware policies at various levels.

Strategies, Activities and Achievement

Following consultation with local leaders, 180 young people, 90 females and 90 males, 10% of whom are disabled,



PHOTO 1: SD YOUTH DURING THEIR SD SESSION

were chosen to participate in the project. Thirty moderators of the SD sessions were trained on leadership, monitoring and evaluation, peace building, conflict management and conflict analysis, the role and characteristics of SD moderators, moderation skills, and the sustained dialogue process. For six months, SD groups met bimonthly to develop their relationship, discuss community problems, and finally identify and

select actionable issues. SD moderators held monthly meetings to share successes and challenges in the SD process, as well as how to resolve them. To strengthen their relationships, the groups held cross-SD meetings in which they all participated. They shared information and learned from one another.

Sustained Dialogue sessions enhanced trust and relationship among SD participants. SD participants have meetings outside the group meetings. They discussed social issues, sports, and trending issues in the community. They showed solidarity for SD participants who married by fundraising for them to contribute to the cost of the weddings. These

meetings brought together diverse people who otherwise would not have this opportunity. It created space for information sharing and strengthened their bond and solidarity as youth.

The project Enhanced youth-led Community engagement. SD groups held peace-promoting activities outside of SD sessions, On 27 August 2024 in Abudwak, SD groups organized a conference that brought together various segments of society, including elders, women, authorities, religious scholars, and security. The goal of this meeting was to encourage security forces who were conducting security operations in the area, to control the spread of small arms and fight against drugs in the area, to promote community policing and to support the elders' decision to kill anyone who kills someone intentionally (Qisaas). This shows that the Youth took leadership role to address some of the pressing issues in their community. They established relations with important actors for peace, and they promote their image as an actor for peace in the community. This gave them broader recognition by state and non-state actor on youth agency.



Photo 5 Diverse community stakeholder attending the community wide stakeholder engagement organized by SD youth in Ugaas (the crown elder) palace

The project contributed to growing engagement on Governance issues, between SD youth and local authorities. The SD groups attended meetings organized by the administration to discuss the construction of a market where people could do business, and they promised to help build the market. Selected members of the SD groups participated in an accountability meeting where the district administration was asked questions on their assigned tasks. This highlights improved recognition of role of youth in the community by the local authorities. It also shows increased community participation and trust with local administration.

SD youth groups developed action plans on the following issues : Youth inclusion in peacebuilding; empowering young people to participate in peace building and governance; Discussion forum on women participation in peace process; promotion of peace and security in the town; the relationship between lack of knowledge and insecurity, tribalism and security, discrimination; organize community discussions to raise awareness about minority rights and issues; Community discussions on promoting relationship between IDPs and host community; drug abuse; and the role of youth in community development. The groups actions will include

1. Awareness Campaigns: Organizing community events and using social media to educate people about the importance of peace and security.
2. Dialogue Sessions: Facilitating open discussions between different community groups to address conflicts and find common ground.
3. Discussion Forums: Hosting forums where experts and community members can discuss issues related to security and peace and propose solutions.
4. Research Projects: Conducting studies to understand the root causes of conflict and identify effective strategies for promoting peace.
5. Peace Matches: Organizing sports events, such as football matches, to bring people together and promote unity and understanding.

3. Transitional justice and reconciliation advancement through “XEER”



This project is the result of the SPL's extensive experience using inclusive processes to create and maintain peace with all segments of Somali society, including women, youth, elders, traditionally marginalized clans, local and federal administrations, and other groups. The SPL's success in elevating youth to the forefront of peace activism serves as inspiration for the action. Young men and women, traditional elders, women, and religious leaders are among the diverse groups that the project will bring together.

The overall objective of the action is to advance Transitional Justice and Reconciliation through intergenerational forums to contribute the decisions taken by traditional elders in Jowhar are much fairer and reflecting young women and men's priorities and viewpoints.

The SPL held an intergenerational dialogue meeting in Jowhar on September 28, 2024. The meeting was attended by 30 people, including elders, youth, women, representatives from minorities, groups, disabilities, religious groups, and local government officials. This meeting was part of a small project to advance Transitional Justice through Xeer, in which SPL collaborated with LPI.

Strategy, activity and outcomes

Introduction On September 28, 2024, the Somali Peace Line (SPL) held an intergenerational dialogue meeting in Jowhar, attended by 30 participants, including elders, youth, women, minorities, and local officials. This meeting aimed at the advancement of Transitional Justice (TJ) through Xeer, in collaboration with the Life & Peace Institute (LPI).

Opening Words: Mr. Mohamed Abdi, SPL Program Manager, introduced the meeting's purpose: understanding the past, bridging generational divides, fostering collective memory, and building a shared vision. He outlined Somalia's historical injustices during three key periods: colonialism, post-independence (1960-1991), and the civil war (since 1991). He highlighted the ongoing instability, displacement, and human rights violations, exacerbated by the rise of Al-Shabaab and the lack of representative governance.

Transmitting Historical and Cultural Knowledge: Elders described pre-civil war Somalia as peaceful and prosperous, with free education and healthcare. They recounted the rise of oppression and tribalism in the 1980s, leading to the government's overthrow in 1991. The collapse of the central government resulted in widespread instability and the erosion of cultural and religious values. Elders noted that traditional Xeer remains in rural areas but is less known in cities. They also discussed the impact of Siad Barre's rule, marked by authoritarianism and clan favoritism, which led to widespread human rights violations and the outbreak of civil war.

Role of Women, Youth, and Elders in Conflict Resolution: Participants defined peace as stability, security, and justice, while conflict was seen as violence, strife, and injustice. They discussed the roles of women (arranging meetings, raising awareness, establishing ceasefires, raising children, resolving minor disputes), youth (disarming, conflict resolution, conducting research on conflict and peacebuilding), and elders (decision-making). Cultural norms often limit women's and youth's participation in conflict resolution, with proverbs reflecting societal attitudes towards their roles.



Women and Youth Participation in Reconciliation: Opinions varied on who should make community decisions, with some favoring elders and local authorities, while others included women and youth. Women and youth are represented in various councils, such as the district council and Duubab+, but their participation in decision-making is limited. Participants emphasized the need for government support to enhance youth and women's roles in peacebuilding and conflict resolution. They highlighted the importance of equipping youth with skills for violence prevention, conflict resolution, and leadership, and creating platforms for youth engagement in governance and peacebuilding.

Intergenerational Partnership and Collaboration: Elders expressed concerns about youth and women's involvement in decision-making, fearing disruption and loss of control. Government officials worried about losing authority. However, youth and women highlighted their potential contributions to peace education, agreement promotion, and financial support. Building trust between generations requires cooperation, justice, and mutual respect. Participants suggested that elders and government officials collaborate with youth and women in areas such as awareness, fundraising, organizing campaigns, defense, security, and investigating cases.

Overall Impact: The dialogue fostered a better understanding of the past and developed a strategy for future collaboration. Despite differing views, particularly on women's participation, the youth successfully convinced elders of the importance of inclusive decision-making for lasting peace. The meeting concluded with a consensus on the need for intergenerational partnership and collaboration to achieve sustainable peace and justice.

4. Empowering displaced families and children through CVA and child protection interventions in Abudwak (MFA project)

In 2024, Somali Peace Line co-implemented Integrated emergency food and child protection assistance for newly displaced drought and conflict affected communities in Abudwak district, Somalia. SPL was tasked to implement *Result 2: Girls and boys including children with disabilities at risk of violence, neglect, exploitation and family separation, and their caregivers, have improved access to gender, disability and age-appropriate prevention and response CP services.*

Strategies, Activities and Achievement

The project reached 302 beneficiaries including 1060 children (464 boys, 596 girls), and 1942 adults (838 boys, 1104 girls) with 384 persons with disabilities including 61 boys, 84 girls, 109 men, 130 women).

In this reporting period, the project identified 150 families are a target for the roll out of Safe Families package. In September 2024, Somali Peace Line (SPL) conducted a four-day training session for Safe Families mentors and facilitators in Abudwak, Galgaduud region. The training aimed to prevent physical and humiliating punishment of children at home by educating parents and caregivers on child development, child rights, and positive parenting. The sessions, held at Bilan Bar and Restaurant, involved 24 (14M, 10F) including 2M, 1F with disabilities. The participants including former mentors and facilitators, and new ones selected from community schools. The training focused on building trust, understanding child protection principles, and promoting non-violent, gender-sensitive parenting practices.

The project conducted nine structured and inclusive children's group sessions for 150 children aged 10-14 years (68



girls without disability and 7 girls living with disabilities, 70 boys without disability and 5 boys living with disabilities). The project also engaged the parents and caregivers of these children and provided 10 structured and inclusive positive parenting group sessions for 150 parents (78 females without disability and 12 females with disability, 51 males without disability and 9 males with disability) that included female and male caregivers from Abudwak Galgaduud region, and two adult-child interaction sessions. The sessions

were conducted at Garasle, Danwadaag, Barra-dhere, Laandheer, Jaqafwaabir and Dayacan IDP camps in Abudwak district.

The parents/other caregivers were equipped with knowledge and skills to build good understanding with their children. Improved relationships between parents/caregivers and their children had been observed, the parents/ other caregivers have been educated about the risk that their children may face and how to detect if their children are abused or distressed, the communication between parents/ other caregivers, their children and spouses has been improved, Parents learnt non-violent ways of solving conflicts with their children. Caregivers expressed a commitment to implementing the strategies learned in their everyday lives, particularly the techniques for respectful communication and problem-solving. Caregivers reported being more patient, understanding, and supportive of their children's emotional and developmental needs. fathers and other caregivers understood the concept of 'Circles of responsibility', i.e. the roles of different actors in protecting young people from violence and harm. Most of the caregivers reported improved communication with their children, with a focus on non-judgmental listening and empathy. They understood the importance of communicating clearly and respectfully with spouses and partners. This enables adults to understand each other, and this is important for violence free homes. Adults communicating respectfully are role model to their sons and daughters. The children were able to express their feelings openly, and parents engaged in active listening,

offering more reflective responses. Several parents noted that the interaction helped them recognize the importance of spending quality time with their children to foster a deeper bond.

The project provided comprehensive multi-sectoral case management support to a total of 384 children, comprising 195 girls and 189 boys. Among these, 28 boys and 40 girls were children with disabilities. These children faced a variety of challenges, including medical issues, emotional abuse, neglect, and physical abuse. Specifically, medical support was provided to 259 children, with 166 suffering from physical injuries and 93 from general medical issues. This medical support included referrals to healthcare providers, covering all expenses to ensure the children received the necessary treatment. Psychosocial first aid was extended to 50 children (32 girls and 18 boys) who were victims of discrimination and bullying. Our team conducted counselling sessions for these children and addressed the issue of bullying in community awareness programs, so that teachers and parents are aware of the issue and help these children feel emotionally supported and enable them to attend school without fear of abuse. Additionally, 26 children (12 girls and 14 boys) were identified as neglected, lacking food, at risk of child labor, or begging in the streets.

The project distributed dignity kits to vulnerable adolescent girls and boys in the project's target communities in Abudwak in July and September. The aim was to promote vulnerable children's dignity by providing essential well-being items. The project team identified 248 vulnerable boys and girls from the target IDPs and provided dignity kits tailored to their needs. Through this activity project reached, 248 vulnerable adolescent girls and boys in IDP camps, 69 Boys, 179 girls) among them were 34 CWD (10 Boys, 24 Girls). The selection process focused on the children between the 10 to 17 from vulnerable households, including those headed by women and children. The selection was also informed by their livelihood conditions and economic status. The items provided included sanitary products, hygiene supplies and clothing, which addressed the basic health and protection needs of these children. This also promoted dignity and well-being. The distribution met the immediate needs of these children.

The project trained Community Action Committees (CACs) Daryeel Disability Organization and service providers at Bulsho Group Hall in Abudwak, in August and September. The training aimed to strengthen CACs and service providers, equipping 60 participants from various project actors and locations (42 CACs representatives (21CWCs and 21VRCs), 10 from daryeel disability group and 8 other service providers from Six sites of the project target locations) with the knowledge and skills to effectively identify and respond to SGBV cases involving people with disabilities. The training participants included representatives from CWCs, VRCs, local authorities, police, court, and disability groups. The training employed a participatory and interactive approach, utilizing presentations, group discussions, role-plays, practical exercises, brainstorming, and lectures. The sessions increased participants' awareness of SGBV, disability rights, and child protection. Participants were trained in handling disclosures with confidentiality, conducting sensitive interviews, and offering appropriate support and referrals, including medical, legal, and psychosocial assistance. The training also emphasized the importance of collaboration with relevant stakeholders and establishing referral pathways for comprehensive support. There was also an improvement in the reporting of SGBV cases and a noticeable shift towards positive cultural practices. Community engagement played a crucial role in changing attitudes towards child rights and disability issues.

The project worked with trained Community Action Committees (CAC) and Daryeel Disability Organization Organized awareness sessions on child protection, disability rights, and the negative effects of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Methods used included participatory approaches, discussions, and evidence-based inclusive practices. Follow-up activities like home visits and community dialogues helped identify target children with protection concerns and engage the community. The project reached 1300 beneficiaries (450 male, 850 Female) including 157 persons with disability 69 male and 88 female. Key outcomes included increased awareness of SGBV, disability rights, and child protection; improved reporting of SGBV cases; and a shift towards positive cultural practices. Community engagement was crucial in changing attitudes towards child rights and disability issues. While no major challenges were reported, repeated training sessions were deemed necessary due to strong cultural beliefs. The sessions effectively fostered positive social norms and increased community involvement in child protection and rights.

The project worked to promote inclusive community disaster management by involving children and individuals with disabilities



in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) committees consisted of 72 members, including 18 males, 18 females, 18 boys, and 18 girls, with 11 adults and 7 children having disabilities. The project team sat with the communities to identify, and risks and hazards associated with the climate and the conflict; and in the process each IDP camp drafted DRR plan for the risks/hazards identified. In times of natural disasters and armed conflicts communities face multiple challenges. These include health and safety, SGBV, and child protection problems. The DRR committees developed 7 action plans on SGBV and safety of children and individuals with disabilities, particularly highlighting the risks in IDP camps,

especially at night due to the lack of lighting. Sensitization sessions and community dialogues were conducted to increase awareness and encourage community participation in SGBV prevention. The project engaged a total of 504 beneficiaries, including 139 males, 173 females, 95 boys, and 97 girls, with 33 individuals identified as having disabilities. To improve security and reduce nighttime incidents, 30 solar lights were installed in strategic areas of six IDP camps, with five lights in each camp. This initiative led to a noticeable reduction in nighttime incidents, enhancing overall security and allowing women and girls to confidently access services within the camp at night. The project also emphasized the importance of community involvement in developing and implementing inclusive disaster management plans, ensuring the safety and well-being of all community members.

The project supported the Galmudug Subnational Child Protection and GBV meetings held in Dhuusamareeb, chaired by Sayid Omar. Cluster members shared key updates included the unification of CP and GBV Subnational clusters to improve participation and save time, though the referral pathway update remained pending. The meetings highlighted gaps such as the unavailability of PEP kits in regions like Gal'kayo, Adado, and Abudwaq, and the sharing of SGBV victims' incidents on social media in Galka'yo. The influx of IDPs in Herale, Abudwaq, Adado, and Guriel, driven by clan conflicts, led to limited access to water and essentials, increasing GBV and CP risks. Limited access to the Primero+ system among partners resulted in duplicated efforts, and GBV and CP services were not visible on the CCCM dashboard. No protection services exclusively targeted women and children with disabilities in Galmudug. Action points included IRC's plan to procure PEP kits, media training on SGBV reporting in Galka'yo, needs assessments in new IDP areas, full utilization of the Primero+ system, and resolving visibility issues with the CCCM cluster. Discussions revealed over 20 deaths due to clan conflicts, with two children and one female injured, and five children killed by unexploded materials in July. Partners agreed to advocate for child safety and raise awareness about unexploded materials and Dr. Khadra Mohamoud, representative from Galmudug Ministry of Women and Human rights presented the new anti-FGM law and awareness campaigns, though implementation faced funding and technical challenges. Partners were requested to support the anti-FGM law in their districts and villages.

5. CHANGES 2 PROJECT

Somali Peace line continued to implementing CHANGES 2 Project in its fourth year. Funded by Global Affairs Canada and the Royal Norwegian Embassy, SPL covers 4 of 16 the target districts in Somalia/Somaliland, namely Adado, Dhusamareb, Balaedweyn, and Baidoa. The project aims to strengthen gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. The project will achieve four intermediate outcomes: decreased discriminatory social norms, increased voice and agency of VYA and OA girls, and economic empowerment of women in Somalia to make life decisions, including sexual reproductive health and rights. Additionally, the project will create an enabling environment that supports gender equality and women's rights and enhance social and economic empowerment of women to have greater household and community involvement in decision-making.

Strategies, Activities and Achievement

The project reached 660 beneficiaries including 651 adults (251 men, 400 women) and 9 children (2 boys, 7 girls). As it was the last year of the grant, the project implemented fewer activities.

The project team facilitated three days of community discussions between caregivers and community members on gender equality and healthy social norms around the Voices videos in the two target districts (Adado and Beletwe). The main purpose of the sessions focused on encouraging gender parity and strengthening constructive social standards in the neighbourhood by means of direct participation and discourse on the video material. Thus, the project stimulated critical thinking and discourse on significant gender-related concerns, resulting in a constructive transformation on gender equality within the community. It promoted dialogue and understanding among caregivers regarding gender equality and positive social norms, encouraged the adoption of positive social norms and behaviors that challenge gender stereotypes. The project built a base of understanding and responsibilities among caregivers to improve knowledge and attitudes at household and community levels on gender-discriminatory social norms.

Project staff, in cooperation with 10 trained community dialogue members from each target community, conducted action plan development sessions to strengthen referral mechanisms and community mobilization to prevent GBV, FGM, and CEFM. These sessions involved influential and respected community members, including women and men, to discuss their roles as goodwill ambassadors in social change and decision-making processes. The main objectives were to develop practical plans to strengthen referral mechanisms, increase awareness of available services, mitigate SGBV risks, address harmful social norms, and reduce community stigmatization of SGBV survivors. A total of 100 participants (54 females, 46 males), including seven individuals with disabilities (5 females, 2 males), participated in these sessions to develop community-specific action plans.

The outcomes included the identification and establishment of clear referral mechanisms within the community, strategies to facilitate the reporting of GBV incidents, and increased knowledge of available services for SGBV survivors. Participants agreed on effective dissemination of information regarding referral pathways and prevention mechanisms, aiming to eradicate stereotyping of survivors and victims. The action plans developed focused on raising awareness and building capacity through community workshops, training sessions, and awareness campaigns. They also emphasized engaging with local authorities and policymakers to prioritize GBV prevention and response efforts, conducting mass community awareness through local radios and gatherings, and organizing focus group discussions to enhance understanding of GBV prevention mechanisms.

Project staff conducted one-day sessions in Adado and Beletwein to develop key action plans with community influencers on messaging about gender equality, positive social norms, and CEFM/FGMC prevention. These sessions brought together community influencers, including clan elders, line ministries, police heads, local authorities, community leaders, women groups, religious leaders, youth leaders, and gender activists, to discuss ways to disseminate messages regarding gender equality and prevention mechanisms. The specific goals were to create more effective law enforcement measures, improve community knowledge and methodologies, provide stronger protection and detection mechanisms, support vulnerable girls and women, and enforce laws that protect gender equality and support positive social norms. A total of 60 participants (30 men, 30 women), including seven individuals with

disabilities (5 males, 2 females), were selected from the two project target areas to participate in these meetings and develop community-specific action plans.

The outcomes of these activities included community leaders agreeing to take responsibility for reducing and eradicating harmful social norms and GBV violence within their communities. Some participants took the initiative to advocate for women's and young girls' rights, and there was a realization of the need to lobby for gender laws that protect women's rights. The participants developed actions to reach the larger community with key messages about gender equality and positive social norms. Community influencers also developed and agreed to effectively deliver these actions, ensuring a broader impact and fostering a safer and more equitable environment for all community members.

The project provided medical and psychosocial support referrals services to 42 survivors including both adults and young children in Adaado, Dusamareb, Beledweyn, and Baidoa districts. Among these were sixteen domestic violence or intimate partner violence (IPV) cases of women aged between 18 and 41 years who suffered physical injuries after they had been assaulted by their husbands; seventeen rape cases of women aged between 23 and 36 years; four defilement cases for young girls and boys aged between 5 and 16 years; and two FGM cases for young girls aged between 8 and 9 years. The project also supported two young children aged 12 and 13 from Adaado who need urgent medical support after the siblings suffered serious injuries due to exploitation. These children in this case were transferred to Mogadishu, hence currently handled by MoWHG. All these cases were given psychosocial support and medical referral in Gargaar Hospital in Beledweyn and Akhuuna Medical Centre in Baidoa while follow-up was made. Among these cases, some of these cases were referred by SCI in Adaado, DRC in Beledweyn, Bay women in Baidoa, and line ministries.

The project facilitated four quarterly GBV working group coordination meetings, twice per target district (Beledweyne and Adaado). The meetings were attended by members of the organisations that offer child protection and GBV services to the survivors. A total of 94 participants (52 female, 42 male) who were from different GBV working groups, line ministries, and local authorities attended this meeting to share their service availability and accessibility, establish working relationships, and identify existing gaps that needed to be addressed.

The GBV working group members gave updates on how they responded to such situations in relation to the GBV cases. These responses included referrals on medical, material, and psychosocial support for GBV survivors; advocacy and public outreach campaigns on GBV prevention, response, and mitigation; community awareness and humanitarian responses in form of temporary shelters to those affected by flooding and AS attacks; and distribution of dignity kits to vulnerable women and girls in IDP camps in the two intervention areas. Other issues raised during the meeting included inadequate funds for organisations working on GBV prevention and response and insecurity in the areas. Besides, some of the GBV working groups mentioned that due to the flooding of the river Shabelle in the Hiran region, inter-clan militia clashes, and AS attacks resulting in insecurity and high inflation in the market, which paved the way to increased cases of GBV, like rape. The increased number of people coming to the IDP camps is alarming, while high inflation has created a lot of chaos among families. The flooding of the river Shabelle has caused the displacement of people in Beledweyn and its surroundings, which limited the accessibility of humanitarian responses for two months from late April to late May.

The project team conducted refresher training for Girl Shine facilitators and mentors for Girl Shine Curriculum model delivery in Adaado and Beledweyn Districts, respectively. By using a set of selection criteria, the project staff selected 24 facilitators. The project team interviewed the candidates to assess and evaluate their skills, knowledge, and experience of gender-based violence, child safeguarding, and child rights. These selected team were given refresher training as facilitators and mentors to deliver curriculum to child clubs; thus, they were given 3 days of a girl shine life skill curriculum model per district. On the other hand, after the training was completed, the project team further evaluated 24 members in order to select the best 16 members who could effectively deliver the model.

The trained project team provided an introduction for the participants and a general overview of the model. During the training, different methodologies and participatory approaches were used to build the capacity of the facilitators and mentors to understand and reflect on the methodology for running the Girl Shine Life Skills curriculum sessions with considering knowledge and understanding adolescent girls aged between (10-14) and (15-19) years. Through the

mentors and facilitators training manual, they were able to understand the specific gender-sensitive facilitation skills required to deliver gender norms in the curriculum to adolescent girls. They were also able to train target VYA and OA groups in and out of schools so that they could provide them with skills and knowledge to identify types of GBV and seek support services if they experienced gender-based violence during emergency situations. A total of 24 female participants drawn from the 8-intervention location from old districts (4 Adaado and Beletwein) were trained.

The project team conducted three days of training in each district for representatives from women's rights organisations, local women's groups, the Ministry of Women and Human Rights, the Ministry of Health, the Girls Rights Club, the Ministry of Justice, and local administration in Adaado and Beletwein Districts. A total of 40 members (16 female and 24 male), drawn from local women groups, women's rights organisations, girls rights clubs, and line ministries in Adaado and Beletwein District, were trained.

Participants of this training were trained on advocacy and accountability and adoption of existing laws, gender equality, laws and commitments. The purpose of the training was to explain key gender equity principles and strategies that may be applied in their program intervention, enhance Women Rights organization as well as any Civil Society Organizations basic understanding of gender, gender equality and women empowerment, increasing knowledge on gender equality and awareness, enlighten on the prevalence of gender-based violence as a violation of human and women's rights, improve the understandings of different approaches and strategies of mainstreaming gender, integration and women empowerment. This guided members of Women Rights Organisations/groups on how to promote gender and gender mainstreaming in their organisations. This will enable them to empower women and girls and strengthen gender equality in fragile settings; this can help transform vicious circles into virtuous ones, supporting inclusive societies, sustainable peace, and development where women actively participate in peace and state-building processes. These processes offer unique opportunities to increase women's rights and empowerment and capacitate advocacy and accountability. During the training, the participants were shared with FGM bill that was passed in Galmudug and is under process in HirShabelle, so that they get familiar with it or contribute their input.

6. NORAD PROJECT 2024

Somali Peace Line started implementing the 3rd phase Norad framework Project 2024 – 2027 in partnership with the Save the Children International. The project was implemented in Hiran (Baledweyne, Mataban, Bergadid, and Jawil) and Galgudud (Dhusamareb, Abudwak, Balanbale, Herale, and Mirjecley). The activities implemented this year fell under the following outcomes: **Outcome 1.1:** Enhanced participation of children (disaggregated by age, gender, disability, etc) in the decision-making process at all levels (school, community, state and federal); **Outcome 1.2:** Children, Communities and CSOs (disaggregated by age, gender, disability, etc) hold the government accountable on child rights; **Outcome 1.3:** Government enact and implement laws and policies on children; **Outcome 2.1** Strengthened capacity of duty bearers to prevent and respond to abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence against in Somalia in project target areas; **Outcome 2.2** Gender Sensitive Community-based child protection structures including children groups prevent and respond to abuse, neglect, and violence against children in project target areas; **Outcome 2.3** Attitudes and practices concerning violence against children in communities and schools are changed to value and respect children; and **Outcome 3.4,** Boys and girls learn in a safe and protective learning environment; **Outcome 3.5** Enhanced climate resilient and learner resilient education system. These outcomes are under the thematic areas of Child right governance, Child protection and education.

Strategies, Activities and Achievement

In 2024, SPL implemented the first year of the NORAD Project frameworks in partnership with Save the Children International, reaching a total of 5640 beneficiaries. This included 3156 children without disabilities (1434 boys, 1722 girls) and 119 CWD (72boys, 47 girls), and 2254 adults without disabilities (1029 M, 1225 F) 111 adults with disabilities (65M, 46 F). In 2024, the project achieved substantial achievement under the outcomes aligned with the three program issues of child rights governance, child protection and education.

These achievements included enhanced children's participation and influence in the decision-making process at school and community levels. The project strengthened the capacity of duty-bearers to prevent and respond to child protection problems including abuse, violence, neglect and exploitation against children in target areas. Furthermore, gender-sensitive, community-based child protection structures, including children's groups, were established to prevent and respond to child protection concerns. Lastly, the project worked to change attitudes and practices contributing to violence against children in communities and schools while promoting resilience to climate awareness among students and an eco-friendly environment at schools.



The establishment of child rights forums provided children with platforms to identify and address issues affecting their rights. DRR Clubs assessed the risks in the learning environment, and then planned and implemented them to mitigate them, contributing to safer spaces for children. Capacity building was central to the project's success, with parents, teachers, community groups, and traditional leaders trained on child rights, participation, and advocacy. Community dialogues were facilitated between adults and children, challenging harmful social norms and fostering collaboration to advance child rights. Public awareness campaigns were also conducted, amplifying efforts to address critical child protection issues and promoting community-wide awareness of children's rights.

The established and strengthened child welfare committees played a significant role in identifying and responding to children with protection concerns, thus improving the referral pathways. This ensured a timely and effective response to case management.

In child-centred social accountability, children and CSOs assessed the access and quality gaps of health and education services in their areas using the community scorecards. They also lead advocacy efforts to address the identified gaps in interface and advocacy meetings facilitated by the project producing collective action plans. Tree planting initiatives aimed to address the impact of climate change, greening school environment increased the students' awareness of climate change, and their responsibility to protect the environment through experiential learning opportunities. In this regard, the project enhanced child participation and advocacy, fostered child protection and built environmental resilience in educational settings.

Child right Governance

The project made significant strides under the issue of child rights governance, focusing on the outcome of enhancing children's participation and influence in decision-making processes at various levels. Through a total of 12 activities aligned with 4 outputs, the project reached 1,282 beneficiaries, including 380 adults (179 men and 201 women without disabilities; 8 men and 5 women with disabilities) and 855 children (391 boys and 464 girls without disabilities; 20 boys and 14 girls with disabilities). These activities were designed to prioritize and realize children's rights while empowering them to engage in meaningful decision-making processes.

The project began by mapping out and establishing new child forums and child parliaments, laying the foundation for sustained child participation. The members of the forums received leadership, team building, lobbying, advocacy, and child rights reporting mechanisms. The child members had their skills improved enabling them to develop and implement advocacy action plans to respond to the child rights issues that matter most in their communities. The project facilitated a platform for the children to discuss, identify, and advocate for solutions to the key challenges hindering their rights. Recognizing the role of the adults in facilitating child participation, the project targeted and trained different groups from the community including parents, community structures, teachers, and traditional leaders on advocacy child participation and child rights.

These trainings aimed to shift attitudes and create a supportive environment for children's voices to be heard. Community dialogues between adults and children were facilitated to challenge harmful social norms and practices that hinder child participation. The project further supported children in demanding their rights and influencing decisions that affect them by engaging in decision-making processes at school, community, district, and state levels. Children, along with CSOs received child-centred social accountability training, providing them with skills and tools to assess gaps in education and health services. They used community scorecards to identify access and quality gaps in the educational and health service delivery in their community. They presented the findings to the service providers and the duty-bearers including government officials and parents. Collective action plans to address and advocate the identified gaps were developed.



To amplify awareness of child rights and celebrate their achievements, the project supported children in commemorating Universal Children's Day marked on 20 November supported the HirShabelle Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development in holding a closing event of the 16 days of activism and advocating for the legal rights of the girls. They focused on sharing the participants including government officials with a drafted bill against FGM. The events highlighted the collective responsibility of the realization of children's rights and well-being and advocated for their agency. The theme of this year's "Listen to the Future", highlighting the importance of empowering children to have aspirations about their future.

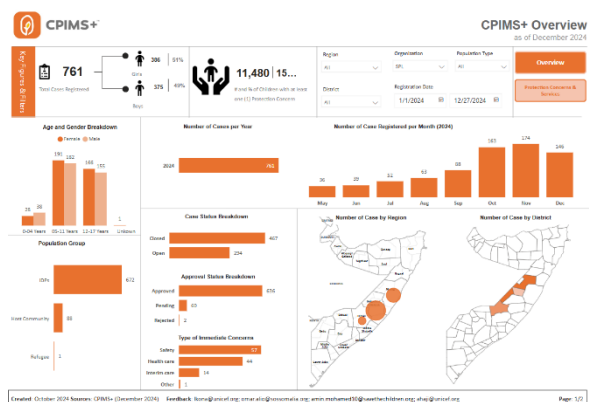
Child Protection

In the child protection, the project successfully implemented 19 activities aimed at achieving three key outcomes: strengthening the capacity of duty bearers to prevent and respond to abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence; establishing gender-sensitive, community-based child protection structures, including children's groups, to address

and mitigate risks; and transforming attitudes and practices within communities and schools to value and respect children while preventing violence against them.

The project achieved significant progress, reaching 2,568 beneficiaries, including 1,316 adults (592 men and 724 women), 1,113 children (514 boys and 599 girls), and 139 individuals with disabilities (45 men, 31 women, 40 boys, and 23 girls). These efforts created safer and more supportive environments for children, aligning with the project's overall objectives. The project provided support (financial and technical) to SPL to recruit case workers. This enhanced their capacity in the use of the standard operating procedures of CPIMS+ (primero platform) and improved the case management work in the target communities.

Direct support was offered to child protection and SGBV cases, while community members—including parents, teachers, and leaders—were trained on identifying and addressing cases of child abuse. The project established and strengthened Child Welfare Committees within communities, equipping them with registers to document child protection concerns and addressing gaps in their mechanisms. CWCs identified child protection concerns and environmental risks and hazards along with the children's groups and linked them with the DRR strategies and school improvement plans. Inclusive child protection referral systems were strengthened to reduce experience of abuse and violence and facilitate their access to services such as counselling and medical care.



The project made efforts to reduce corporal punishment against children and delivered the Safe Families model to 200 children and their caregivers/parents. Mentors and facilitators were trained, and they delivered 10 positive parenting group sessions, 9 structured and inclusive children's group sessions, 2 adult-child interaction sessions, and community dialogues on equitable, gender-sensitive, positive parenting using updated posters with religious and traditional leaders and other influential groups/persons in the community.

Education

In Education, the project reached a total of 1,790 beneficiaries. This included 258 men, 300 women, 529 boys, and 659 girls, as well as individuals with disabilities 12 men, 10 women, 12 boys, and 10 girls. The project improved the children's protective environment against discrimination, abuse and SGBV, enhanced climate resilience in education systems, and developed a DRR plan of action at school and community levels. To achieve these, the school staff, including school management, teachers, and Community Education Committees (CECs), were trained on the teacher's code of conduct, child protection, and effective responses to cases of child abuse. Children's groups were equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to assess risks in their schools and communities, linking these efforts with School Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), School Improvement Plans (SIPs), and climate risk analysis and planning. To foster safe learning environments, the project established two counselling rooms in two schools (one in each school), where children could seek counselling services, strengthen the referral systems, and launch community awareness campaigns on the impact of GBV on education and how to address harmful traditional norms and practices to promote safe and inclusive education. Greening initiatives in schools fostered climate change resilience at school levels, where children were supported to plant trees in their schools which was a positive learning opportunity for environmental responsibility for the children. The project established and strengthened Children's DRR clubs, equipping them to identify DRR issues and plan mitigation measures. Additionally, parents and caregivers were engaged as partners in sustaining children's learning through targeted mental health and psychosocial support initiatives, creating a nurturing and supportive environment for education. The successful implementation of these activities ensured significant progress toward achieving the expected outcomes under Issue 3, contributing to safer, more inclusive, and climate-resilient education systems in the project's target regions.

Cross cutting issues: The project made significant strides inclusive, reaching 220 individuals with disabilities, including 42 children who received direct case management support, and training 10 individuals with disabilities as

mentors. The project prioritized gender sensitivity, with females constituting 21% of beneficiaries and children 56%, while empowering girls through support groups and stopping an early marriage case. Advocacy efforts included annual community hearings, tree planting, road safety improvements, and strengthening Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), which enhanced child protection and school retention rates. Additionally, 3,218 children were engaged in leadership roles, conducting peer-to-peer awareness sessions, and driving initiatives like disaster risk reduction and social accountability, fostering safer, inclusive environments.

Challenges: The project faced significant external challenges during the reporting period. Clan conflicts in Galgudud and illegal checkpoints in Hiran hindered staff movement between key project areas, such as Abudwak, Heral, Mirjecley, Baledweyne, Jawil, and Mataban. These obstacles delayed activity implementation and posed safety risks to staff and beneficiaries. To mitigate these issues, the project recruited temporary social workers using savings from HR budgets to carry out community-level activities and case management in conflict-affected remote areas. Activities requiring technical assistance were carefully planned and implemented in accessible main towns to navigate security complexities. The project phased delay of the SGA which caused activities' implementation packed in the short time we had. To mitigate, SPL continues planning, budget monitoring, coordination, adjustment and adaptation with the context was done to utilize the time effectively. Additionally, the project faced challenges due to limited resources allocated for case workers, understaffing at the field level, and the critical nature of their assignments. SPL team proposed an increase in the budget line case workers to ensure quality case management and effective project implementation.

7. SAFESTEPS Project: Providing Integrated Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence Prevention And Response Services in Galkayo District

SafeSteps is an integrated child protection and gender-based violence project funded by Somali Humanitarian Fund (SHF) and implemented by Somali Peace Line (SPL) in South Galkacyo especially Buulaley village, Deegan IDP, and Doxo Mudug IDP. The duration of the project is one year starting from 1st August 2024 to 31st July 2025. The overall project objective is to foster a protective environment and empower children and women addressing the multifaceted challenges they face and ensuring their well-being and access to essential child protection and gender-based violence services in Galkayo in 2024/2025.

The project has two outcomes:

Outcome one (GBV): Women and girls at risk of all forms GBV including intimate partner violence and rape in Galkayo have increased access to well-coordinated, gender- and age-sensitive quality GBV services by the end of the project

Outcome two (Child protection): Children at risk of abuse, neglect, violence, exploitation, family separation, and severe distress in Galkayo have increased access to well-coordinated, gender- and age-sensitive quality protective services by the end of the project.

Strategies, Activities and Achievement

In the first six months of implementation, the SafeSteps project has made progress in child protection, increasing access to services for children at risk of abuse, neglect, violence, and exploitation; family separation; and severe distress in Galkacyo. It supported 2,080 (969 boys and 1,111 girls) children to access much needed services, including case management, psychosocial support, and awareness of child rights and child protection, tailoring the services to their needs. The project established and operationalised CFS and W/GF spaces with twin latrines providing recreational activities for boys, girls, and children with disabilities, including indoor and outdoor activities, and operating it as a service delivery point where caseworkers and PSS counsellors. The case management services supported 344 children with various protection concerns, providing comprehensive, need-tailored responses. Awareness campaigns educated community members on EORE, GBV, and child protection issues and empowered them to prevent and respond. The project also created a protective environment and empowered women and girls in the target areas, addressing GBV and providing basic services.

In this reporting period, 2,218 females (1,101 women and 1,111 girls) received access to gender- and age-sensitive GBV services. 342 GBV cases received survivor-centred interventions, including medical & material support, counselling, and family support. 39 women received unconditional cash transfers reaching \$5,070, reducing the risk of further violence and exploitation. Community awareness; protection establishment of referral mechanism; distribution of dignity kits to 440 women and girls; training 30 actors on GBV mitigation; and delivery of GBV/FGM messages to 1,000 individuals increased confidence of target women and girls in preventing GBV issues and addressing cases. Capacity-building and awareness-raising activities significantly contributed to the project's success, empowering survivors and enhancing community resilience against GBV.

Gender based violence

The project reached 2103 individuals including, 1096 adults (127 men, 969 women) and 1007 children (404 boys, 603 girls) including 159 people with disabilities (55 women, 12 men, 23 boys, and 51 girls). The project provided specialized GBV case management support to 342 survivors (261 women, 81 girls), addressing their safety, survival, dignity and psychosocial needs. Physical violence topped the GBV incidents recorded with 164 cases, followed by sexual violence 83, psychological abuse 45, denial of resources 32, forced marriage 14, and rape 4. The project supported them with medical support including referral for clinical management of rape, psychosocial counselling, material support, and an awareness of the process for legal support. However, all rape cases preferred the traditional

system to solve their cases. The project also offered 39 women unconditional cash transfers and delivered GBV messages to 1000 beneficiaries (264 adults, and 736 children). The provision of dignity kits, MHM, and PSS kits to vulnerable women and girls including survivors of GBV, coupled with counselling improved the confidence, self-esteem, and emotional well-being of the survivors. The project also empowered GBV frontline staff, and other partner staff on PSEA, GBV mitigation, case management, PSS & PSEA to identify, refer or respond to the GBV cases.

As a result, the project provided 1576 females (973 women and 603 girls) access to coordinated, gender and age-sensitive GBV services including capacity building, GBV Case management, provision of dignity and menstrual and hygiene management kits, PSS kits and unconditional cash transfer. The project responded to 342 GBV cases and provided survivor-centred interventions including medical and material support, counselling, and family support. Thirty-nine (39) cases benefited from the project's unconditional cash transfer, thus, the project mitigated further the risk of violence, abuse, and exploitation of these vulnerable women. The project improved the psychosocial well-being of GBV survivors by providing them counselling, and moral and material support, empowering them to lead healthy and positive lives in their families and communities. GBV awareness and capacity building increased the community's confidence to address and respond to GBV cases that were previously seen as taboo.

Child protection

The project succeeded in building and equipping two CFS and WGFS in Deegaan and Doxo mudug. It provided case management support to 344, and PSS support to 236 children; provided life-saving awareness to 994 individuals including men, women, and children on child protection, explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA); trained 16 social workers; and deployed 6 of them who provided on-site community awareness, case management, psychosocial first aid, and referrals for specialized care. As a result, community awareness of the identification of children with protection concerns increased and they are more empowered to report and refer children to services in need including case management PSS support. The supported children's well-being improved after they received medical and material support, group and individual PSS sessions, and referral to education services. Parents' understanding of the benefits of psychosocial support for their children improved and more parents refer their children to child-friendly spaces where they get support regularly.

As a result, the SafeSteps project has increased access to children at risk of abuse, neglect, violence and exploitation, family separation and severe distress in Galkacyo. It supported 1073 (565 boys, and 508 girls) children to access much-needed services including case management, psychosocial support, and awareness of Child rights and child protection tailoring the services to their needs. The project established and operationalized CFS and W/GF spaces with twin latrines providing recreational activities for boys, girls and children with disabilities including indoor and outdoor activities, and operating it as a service delivery point where the caseworkers and PSS counsellors interact with children and women in the WGFS/CFS, and offer CP and GBV case management, PSS support, referrals, and awareness-raising activities to the vulnerable children in the target communities. The case management services support children suffering from different protection concerns ie, physical violence, neglect, separation, serious medical issues, and sexual violence. After providing comprehensive need-tailored responses, engaging duty bearers to assume responsibility, and raising awareness of the community on CP issues, the children, including those with disabilities have increased access to a safer, and more protective environment. Empowered parents and community leaders committed to protecting children, providing them services to survive and develop i.e. education, protection, recreation, & health.

To seek evidence of the progress, the project conducted the first PDM, focusing on the impact of psychosocial support activities and the distribution of dignity kits to vulnerable women and girls and GBV survivors in Deegan IDP, Doha Mudug IDP, and Bulaley Village. The objectives were to assess the beneficiary selection process, verify receipt of intended items, measure the satisfaction of the beneficiaries, evaluate the distribution process and item utilization, and analyze the accountability. A stratified random sampling resulted in 208 (151F, 47G, 10B) interviews was used. This data was driven from 440 beneficiaries who received the distribution. The interviews were targeted according to the sampling (Deegan 91 individuals, Doha Mudug 75, Bulaley 42). The findings showed 95% of the respondents were

female. 87% of the respondents felt safe and supported, 68% had improved coping mechanisms, and 69% felt comfortable discussing comfortable discussing experiences. 76% reported improved self-esteem, 75% had better sleep, and 59% reported having better concentration. These showed improved psychosocial well-being. 79% of the respondents reported strong satisfaction with the distribution, while 19% were somehow satisfied, making up 98% of respondents were satisfied with the distribution. The PDM also focused on accountability, and 97% received the distribution information beforehand, while 70% of the respondents were aware of feedback channels. No one reported paying for the enrolment for services.

Gender and Disability inclusion

The project has prioritised gender equality, women's empowerment, and disability inclusion in multiple areas. First, the project deliberately targets reaching out to vulnerable women, girls, and people with disabilities in all the activities. For instance, these previously disadvantaged groups regularly received awareness on how to demand their rights, available services offered by the project and other organisations, and proper channels to report violations against them. Awareness messages delivered to them contained topics like PSEA, GBV prevention and response, referral pathways, EORE, and CP risks related to traditional norms, including child early and forced marriages and deepened by the emergence situation. Thus, SPL empowered them to advocate for themselves, resist and report all forms of abuse and exploitation, and stand up against gender discriminatory norms and practices. The project also trained local authorities and humanitarian actors on the same topics so that communities can receive timely responses to identified cases and demand their rights. In this reporting period, 60% of the beneficiaries reached were women and girls, 40% were men and boys, 44% were adults, 56% were children, and 8% were people with disabilities equivalent to 282 people with disabilities, including 185 children (94 boys, 91 girls) and 97 adults (65 female, 32 male).

Coordination

The project has coordinated with other SHF-funded projects in the area, as well as other projects funded by other donors. Regularly attended ABC coordination meetings, SHF partners coordination meetings, and Galmudug CP AoR. In all these coordination meetings, we share the information and data in the meetings and participate in the joint assessment agreed upon. For example, in January 2025, the ABC meetings agreed to conduct a joint rapid needs assessment in conflict-affected areas to better understand the humanitarian situation in 11 villages that were affected by the Jiicboor situation (violent clan conflicts). SPL contributed with an enumerator and a car for the data collection. With the other SHF partners, SPL engaged in joint mobilisation and awareness in all areas to share all project information to enhance convergence and be complimentary. Utilising referral mechanisms, the project team referred medical cases to KAAH and rape cases to the main Galkayo Hospital supported by IMC and IRC to receive the pep kits.

Challenges

In this reporting, the project encountered some challenges. In the during-action meeting review for Standard 1 Allocation 2024, SPL learned that SWCCA is implementing CP and GBV activities in Dagaari as we do which is an overlap of services. The meeting took an action point that one of the organizations should relocate from Dagaari to another area. SPL and SWCCA as a side meeting and agreed for SPL to relocate to another community that is in need of the services and avoid the duplication of efforts. We applied for approval of site change from Dagaari to Degaan IDPs camp and received with in the first quarter. However, the duration of the approval process, we had to delay the implementation of the activities in the new site and also delay the procurement of and the contracting of the contractor to build the CFS/WGFS. On the other hand, the project faced challenges of delay of project activities in Bulaley village, which faced recurrent conflict and sporadic Dayr rainfalls, which caused the target population to move out of the target areas in search of pasture for their livestock or for their safety at times. Somali Peace Line established active information-sharing channels and coordination with the community leaders and other partners and developed flexible plans to adjust activity implementation in response to the context updates from the area.

8. Advancing Children's engagement at the regional, Pan-African governance and international platforms project.



Somali Peace Line has worked with Children's Voice Today in Child-led Initiative Program funded by DANIDA. The project target areas are Somalia, Rwanda, and South Sudan. The Overall Goal of the project is to advance children's participation/engagement in promoting resilience of children, young people, families and communities affected by conflict, climate change and migration in the East and Horn of Africa.

Outcome 1: Children's engagement enhanced in promoting regional policies and legal frameworks are comprehensive and holistic in addressing the rights of children and youth in the East and HoA.

Outcome 2: Strengthening capacities of regional child-led groups on inclusive preparedness, protection and advocacy towards promotion of child and youth rights and access to quality services in both development and humanitarian settings.

Strategies and activities

SPL facilitated for child rights clubs in Mogadishu to virtually have meeting with their peers in these countries, discuss and identify the issues affecting the children and develop advocacy messages. The meetings were convened on May 18, 2024, and December 21, 2024. The meetings brought together 74 children (34 boys and 40 girls) from Somalia, South Sudan, and Rwanda.

To improve education, the children advocated for free primary education, increased public schools, and equipping schools with necessary materials and qualified staff. They emphasized the need for inclusive education, programs for total school enrollment, improved school feeding programs, and establishing Girls Safe Rooms to ensure hygiene and protection for girls.

Addressing climate change and environmental issues was another major focus. The children called for strengthening environmental protection programs, disaster management plans, and providing relief support for children affected by natural calamities. They stressed the importance of engaging children in decision-making and implementation of environmental protection programs, increasing budget allocation for climate change projects, and conducting community awareness campaigns.

Protecting children from violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect was highlighted as crucial for their proper development. The report calls for reforming and implementing child rights policies, investing resources to address issues like drug abuse, child labor, and child soldiers, and enforcing laws to punish child rights abusers.

Child participation was also emphasized, with a call to empower children on their rights and responsibilities, strengthen child structures at different levels, and ensure their involvement in decision-making processes.

Improving health and nutrition services for children was another key area. The children advocated for increasing and equipping health facilities, especially in rural areas, institutionalizing sexual reproductive health services, increasing qualified staff, and allocating resources for nutritional services and awareness.

Addressing poverty was seen as essential, with recommendations to support income-generating activities for poor families and provide basic necessities for children in poor families.

Lastly, the report addressed political instability and crises, advocating for peace in member countries, monitoring children's rights during political crises, and providing psychosocial and material support to affected people.

The report concludes with outputs such as identifying common issues for regional and international advocacy, suggesting solutions and messages for advocacy, and quotes from participants expressing the importance of the meetings. Challenges included unstable internet connectivity. Agreed actions for the future involved CVT continuing to seek opportunities and platforms for child-led initiatives, capacity building, and establishing partnerships with more stakeholders at regional and Pan-African levels. The meetings were crucial for involving children in planning and decision-making processes, agreeing on topics to focus on at regional levels, and combining efforts to advocate for their issues.



STAFF CAPACITY BUILDING

- 1) ***Capacity building and deployment of social workers and mobile CP/GBV mobile teams, September 11th to 16th September 2024- Held by SPL***, Attended by Project Coordinator, Project Officer, 2 GBV caseworkers, 2CP caseworkers, 2 PSS. The training was This training focused on enhancing participants' skills in managing child protection cases and addressing gender-based violence (GBV). Through interactive workshops and discussions, attendees gained essential knowledge about the root causes of GBV and effective case management processes.
- 2) ***Virtual online training on Access for SHF Partners-September 17, 2024. Attended by project coordinator and project officer-*** The training course explored the definition of humanitarian assistance, providing a solid foundation for understanding its core principles. Then delved into the concept of humanitarian access, examining the various constraints that hinder and impede the ability of humanitarian workers to deliver effective assistance. Also focused on comprehensive overview of global access constraints and the key indicators used to assess them. Following this, it also focused on the tools OCHA utilizes to collect data on access challenges and learn about the role expected of humanitarian colleagues in this process.
- 3) ***Virtual Online PSEA Training for SHF Partners on Wednesday 06th November 2024. Attended by Project coordinator and Project officer, 2 GBV Caseworkers, 2 CP caseworkers and 2 PSS-*** The Virtual Online PSEA Training for SHF Partners focused on preventing sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian work. It covered key responsibilities, reporting mechanisms, and accountability measures to ensure a safe and respectful environment for all. Participants learned about SHF policies, survivor support, and proactive prevention strategies. The training reinforced a zero-tolerance approach, emphasizing the importance of ethical conduct and safeguarding in all operations.
- 4) ***Referral mechanisms (pathways) and assisted referral training held 30th November 2024 by SPL. Attended by Project coordinator and Project Officer-*** It focused on strengthening GBV referral mechanisms and assisted referrals, involving the establishment of clear referral pathways and protocols to connect survivors with relevant support services in Galkacyo. SPL provided training and capacity-building support to local service providers to improve their ability to identify, safely refer, and accompany GBV survivors throughout the referral process, ensuring they receive comprehensive, coordinated, and survivor centered care. To establish comprehensive referral pathways, the targeted participants were selected from 4 main sectors including health, cash, GBV clusters and local authority including the police for legal purposes.
- 5) ***Online Aid diversion SHF partner training on 09th December 2024- Attended by SPL Operation Manager, Project coordinator and Project officer-*** The training introduced key concepts of **aid diversion**, reporting requirements, and organizational roles in the reporting chain. Led by the SHF and the Risk Management Unit in the HC's office, the session emphasized accountability and risk mitigation in humanitarian aid.
- 6) ***SHF Procurement Policies and Procedures*** – The training was held virtually on 24th March 2024 and attended by SPL finance and operation's team. This training was facilitated by SHF. The training was focused on the procurement Manual outlines all the steps and phases to be followed throughout the allocation processes and defines SHF – specific regulations and procedures.

SUCCESS STORIES FOR THE YEAR

At just 11 years old, Issa has endured a loss that would shake anyone, much less a child.*

Issa once lived a simple, happy life in his village with his large family of 11 siblings - three girls and eight boys. The family's needs were met comfortably through their livestock, which provided their main source of income. Fresh water was accessible, and they felt safe and secure in their home. For Issa, life was filled with joy. He loved spending his free time playing games and football with his friends around the village, enjoying the familiar warmth and freedom of his surroundings.

One morning, that peaceful life changed suddenly and drastically. Militiamen arrived in the village, surrounding Issa's home with three vehicles. The men forcefully entered, threatening the family, and abducted his brother Ali* who is 13 years old. Ali is older than Issa. These two brothers were inseparable, always seen together as they completed their chores like taking care of the livestock after studying or playing during their free time. Ali was Issa's closest sibling and best friend. As they took Ali* away, Issa and his family heard gunshots ring out nearby. The terror of that moment shattered the family's sense of safety, leaving them no choice but to flee. They left their village, moving to a camp for internally displaced people (IDP) where their grandmother was already residing, hoping to find refuge from the violence that had claimed their loved one.

At the camp, Issa struggled with the trauma of witnessing his brother's death and losing his home. When he arrived, he was weak, sick, and deeply affected by what he had experienced. His grandmother, Halima* saw how much he was hurting and reached out to the community committee, who then contacted an organization for support. Thanks to these connections, Issa began receiving counselling sessions and essential items like a mattress, blanket, mosquito net, and school uniform. Save the Children local partner Somali Peace Line (SPL) case worker Amran*, provided him with regular counselling and comfort, creating a space where he could express his pain and start to heal.

With the support he received, Issa gradually began to rebuild his confidence and sense of security. He formed new friendships in the camp, started attending school again, and developed a routine that brought back a sense of normalcy to his life. In third grade, he has found joy in learning, with social studies becoming his favourite subject. Studying the country's regions, which he also supports in sports, brings him happiness. Though he still misses his brother and feels sadness when he thinks about his old life, he has started dreaming again, hoping one day to become a teacher who will help others and build a future for himself.

Today, Issa is in a better place emotionally. He's in a good mood, happily playing football with children his age and engaging with his schoolmates. Though the memories of his brother's loss linger, Issa has rediscovered happiness and hope for a future where he can continue learning and growing with the support of those around him.

Success story: youth advocating their role in peace building.

The story of youth advocating for peace in Abudwak, Somalia, is a powerful testament to the transformative potential of young people in conflict-ridden areas. This initiative, led by Somali Peace Line (SPL) in partnership with the Life and Peace Institute (LPI) and funded by the European Union, aimed to empower youth through arts, culture, and sports to foster social cohesion and peacebuilding.

The project mobilized 180 young men and women, engaging them in a seven-month dialogue process that built trust, cohesion, and agency. These young leaders were trained to advocate for their role in community issues, particularly peacebuilding, which is crucial in the volatile region of Abudwak, Galmudug.

On August 31, 2024, a significant community meeting was held at the Sultan Palace. This gathering brought together elite community members to discuss critical issues such as community awareness, weapon management, drug control, and enhancing police-community relations. Youth representatives delivered compelling poems and speeches, emphasizing the importance of peace and the vital role of youth in fostering community cohesion.

Prominent figures, including a respected Sheikh, a Women Representative, the Community Sultan, and the District Mayor, voiced their support for the youth initiatives. They highlighted the detrimental impact of drug abuse on peace and urged the community to combat this menace. The meeting concluded with a strong sense of unity and a commitment to ongoing peace efforts.

The youth continued their advocacy, organizing another meeting on October 10, 2024, with elders and district administrators to push for an inclusive peacebuilding process. This was particularly important given the active violent conflict between the Abudwak and Herale communities. The elders and administrators welcomed the youth's initiatives, recognizing their crucial role in peacebuilding.

On December 7, 2024, the youth were invited to participate in intra-clan dialogues to prepare for inter-clan negotiations between the Abudwak and Herale communities. They sensitized the elders on the importance of unconditional peace. By December 9, 2024, the youth participated as observers and pressure groups in peace negotiations, influencing key decisions.

The negotiations resulted in several agreements, including a 60-day ceasefire, a \$30,000 fine for breaching the ceasefire, and the continuation of peace talks. Although the youth did not directly participate in the negotiations, their influence was evident in the elders' decisions, underscoring their significant role in peacebuilding.

This success story highlights the power of youth in driving social change and peacebuilding. Their dedication, resilience, and ability to mobilize and influence their community demonstrate that young people are not just the leaders of tomorrow but the changemakers of today.

ANNUAL PROGRAM INCOME & EXPENDITURES

Introduction

In 2024, Somali Peace Line managed a total fund of 1,210,108.45 USD. The funding came from international donors, Like the EU, MFA Finland, GAC, RNE, NORAD, and SHF which funded SPL directly, or channelled the funding through international NGOs co-implementing projects with Somali Peace Line namely, SCI, and LPI. Of the total program income, 949,093.69 USD was utilized, and 261,014.76 USD became the closing balance of the year.

SPL Programme Income & Expenditure Jan - Dec 2024

Description			
A.	OPENING BALANCE ON 2024		57,101.26
B.	Income		
	Own Income		
	From membership and contributions	0	
	From products and services	0	
	Other own income	0	0
	Income from donors	Projects	
		From membership and contributions	0.00
		SCI projects	436,951.72
		LPI Art project	211,656.41
		Eu- Danjire project	177,163.07
		OCHA-Safe steps project	319,999.99
		Children's Voice today	7,236.00
B. TOTAL INCOME			1,210,108.45
C.	Expenditures		
	Administration / Overhead costs		
	Personnel costs	236,952	
	Investment in fixed assets or depreciation	0	
	Direct Program Cost	638,102.70	
	Indirect Program Support Cost	74,039.16	
	Other expenses (specify)		
C. TOTAL EXPENDITURES		949,093.69	
D. CLOSING BALANCE (A + B - C)		261,014.76	261,014.76

WHO ARE WE?

SPL is a non-profit and non-governmental local organization, established to contribute towards bringing lasting and sustainable peace, advocate for human rights of disadvantaged groups, capacity building, social harmony, and good governance. Somali Peace Line was founded in 1995, following the second International Congress of Somali Studies in Paris, France that looked at the "Culture of Peace in Somalia. This is a five-year strategic plan for Somalia Peace Line (SPL) for the period 2020-2024. The plan is informed both by SPL's vision, mission, and values and its strategic intent to continue serving the communities.

SPL Vision

A stable Somalia in which all its citizens exercise their rights and resolve their conflicts peacefully

SPL Mandate

The mandate of SPL covers protection, promotion of rights, and facilitation of peaceful co-existence of communities

SPL Mission

Committed to promoting mechanisms for sustainable peace and enjoyment of rights by all

SPL has defined its strategic focus by clarifying its mandate and making a thorough analysis of its external and internal environments. To maximize the impact of its work on the Somali society, SPL will, over the coming five years, focus on delivering the following strategic objectives (SO):

SO1: To develop conducive and mutual collaborations with the Government at central and state levels as well as other non-governmental organizations in the sector of peacebuilding and conflict transformation.

SO2: To diversify and grow SPL financial and other resources

SO3: To maximize community impact and outreach.

SO4: To improve the vision-based Research in SPL

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SO 1

To achieve this Strategic objective of *“To develop conducive and mutual collaborations with Government at central and state levels* as well as other non-governmental organizations in the sector of peacebuilding and conflict transformation” SPL will pursue the following strategies-

1. Create a culture of mutual trust and respect
2. Improve the capacity of the government to implement law and order
3. Cooperate with the government to influence policy development and implementation
4. Cooperate, network, and partner with non-governmental organizations focused on peacebuilding, conflict transformation, and social harmony

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SO 2

To achieve this strategic objective of ‘ ***To diversify and grow SPL financial and other resources*** ‘ SPL will conduct the following strategies-

1. Develop resource mobilization capabilities
2. Maximize SPL’s visibility in the funding and resource-sourcing space
3. Diversify Funding and Sourcing of resources
4. Safeguard the resources raised

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SO 3

To achieve this strategic objective of ‘ ***To maximize community impact and outreach*** ‘ SPL will conduct the following strategies-

1. Communicate the impact of SPL on the community
2. Promote community capacity on conflict resilience and conflict transformation skills
3. Collaborating with communities
4. Equip, empower youth, women, and children in peacebuilding and enable them to develop local mechanisms of conflict resolution, social reconciliation, and mutual understanding

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SO 4

To achieve this Strategic Objective of ‘***To improve and focus on Research and knowledge exchange in SPL*** ‘, SPL will pursue the following strategies:

- 1 Develop and equip a fully ledged Research function in SPL
- 2 Transform SPL documents and achievements into Publications
- 3 Attract renowned guest speakers to give SPL mission-centered talks