

# PROFILE – OUR SPECTRUM AND BEYOND

## TAAKULO SOMALI COMMUNITY

2022





## OUR SPECTRUM AND BEYOND; IMPROVING CULTURE OF DELIVERING BETTER SERVICES.

In the last thirteen (13) years, we have been responding to the emergency humanitarian needs in Somalia, Somaliland, and Somali Region Ethiopia. In response to major local factors, as such the effects of prolonged droughts in Somaliland’s east regions, Somali region of Ethiopia and Southcentral Somalia, Taakulo has taken a maneuvering role with the support of our generous partners/donors

The development of sustainable infrastructure and shifting greater resources to hard-to-reach areas has been our core priority for years; with the funding support of our partners, we delivered a health facilities/center, health equipment, sand-dams, check-dams, boreholes, shallow-wells and schools in Somaliland and Somalia by this 2022, all being sustainable infrastructure.

**As ever, our staff have an utmost responsibility to ensure the positive impact of works are serving towards our mere end: better life for all.**

**Mohamoud M. Duale**  
Executive director

## ABOUT US



### WHO WE ARE?

Taakulo Somali Community is commonly known by the acronym “TAAKULO”. TAAKULO is a multifaceted non-governmental, non-profit making, non-political and nonpartisan development and humanitarian aid organization established in 2007 and headquartered in Hargeisa, Somaliland, and have regional offices throughout Somaliland, Somalia, and Somali region of Ethiopia.

Taakulo is a Somali word denoting “helping/aiding”. TAAKULO is dedicated to assisting the disadvantaged people and communities throughout Somalia and Somaliland by engaging in the development and related activities and providing emergency relief assistance, resilience building, facilitating, and promoting local community engagement and programs that emphasize self-reliance with dignity.

TAAKULO Organization was established to assist the Somali community, to whom time has tested their resilience to the tipping point, drought and famine scavenging their livelihood, war and conflict avenging their economy on the other hand. Projects are basically based on the needs of the communities in which they are implemented where the beneficiaries always take part in the planning process. TAAKULO engages in a long-term commitment,

partnership approach with the beneficiaries in implementing the Projects. The objective is to set up integrated programs i.e. Health, education, Water, Hygiene and Sanitation, Livelihood, Orphan sponsorship program, disability and children with special needs, peacebuilding, improving food security in the country among others.

TAAKULO has successfully managed to build a significant relationship with government institutions, UN agencies, International NGOs and grassroots, this cherish the work of TAAKULO in terms of funding, complementarity, knowledge & information sharing. TAAKULO has a clean re



## BEARING RESOURCES FOR COMMUNITY IN MOST RIGID AREAS.

While our core ambition is; better life for all, our staff at country office and field staff are dedicatedly work to achieve that end, in this 2021, our programmes delivered sustainable resources for communities in groundbreaking areas where we never experienced before: as of the conflict torn southern states of Somalia, where pioneered an innovative solutions to tackle challenges of water shortage crisis.

At Taakulo Somali Community, we believe that by providing greater capacity, resources and live-saving assistances during emergencies will result appropriate and effective results for the most deprived, vulnerable, and marginalized communities. And by that bold belief, in this 2021, we have served for 2.4 million people include 0.2 million people in emergencies.

**We are pragmatically developing, our efforts of providing sustainable recourses are becoming more innovative and sustainable, due to the trust we have built among our partners. and most importantly, our beneficiaries.**

Ilyas H. Mohamed  
Operations Manager



## OUR VISION & MISSION

### MISSION

Committed to promoting the standard of living and alleviating all deprivations of the affected communities through resilience building, lifesaving, emergency response, mobilizing resources, lobbying, and representing the voiceless at all levels through partnering with government, Donors, UN, INGOs, local, public, civil society and private sector.



### VISION

To see that the community interventions are based on mutual commitments made to the poor and marginalized people to build trust; shared concepts to empower them to have successful livelihoods with their full respect and dignity while promoting action learning process while implementing projects for experience building.



### OUR CORE VALUES

- Humanity.
- Impartiality.
- Neutrality.
- Independent.
- Integrity.
- Transparency and Accountability.





WE REACHED

**2.4 MILLION**

THROUGH OUR WORK, INCLUDE:

**1.0M**

IN LIVELIHOODS

**0.8M**

IN WASH SUPPORT

**0.2M**

IN EMERGENCIES

**0.1M**

IN EDUCATION

**0.2M**

IN HEALTH

**0.1M**

IN PROTECTION

**2.3\$**

MILLION OF FUNDS

**13**

REGIONS WHERE WE WORK

**20**

SUSTAINABLE PROGRAMMES

**7**

EMERGENCY PROGRAMMES

## WHAT WE DO

Our holistic approach is geared towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by basically transforming lives. TAAKULO interventions are based on SDGs, TAAKULO Strategic Plan and National Development Plans of the areas TAAKULO works i.e., Somaliland, Somalia & Ethiopia. Our priority sectors are Food Security & Livelihoods (FSL), Water Hygiene & Sanitation (WASH), Education, Health & Nutrition, Protection, Democracy, and peacebuilding.

Our main goal is to contribute to saving lives, alleviating human suffering, and reducing poverty by improving the wellbeing of drought and conflict-affected women and children in Somalia and the Somali region of Ethiopia. Since 2015 Somalia was experiencing recurrent droughts every three years and has been preventing famine to happen again. We witness in 2011 a devastating famine that led to the death of more than a quarter million people. The severe drought is a result of two or more consecutive seasons of poor rainfall. In the worst affected areas, poor rainfall has wiped out crops and killed livestock, while communities are being forced to migrate where they can get food and water to survive. Similarly, acute malnutrition remains high and widespread across Somalia. In that response, we strive to deliver humanitarian services as per below sectors:



## Food Security & Livelihoods

Somalia's recurrent droughts has resulted pastoralists in the country encounter water and pasture shortages, rapidly weakening livestock body conditions, and declining livestock reproduction prospects. Many poor households lack adequate resources to cover the increased costs of protecting their herds which is leading livestock deaths from starvation and disease in the affected regions. According to the situation reports many farmers in agropastoral and riverine areas have already exhausted their food stocks from the preceding below-average harvests. Household purchasing power is rapidly declining due to the reduction of key income sources coupled with sharp increases in domestic and imported cereal prices.

Somalia's people live in deplorable and deprived conditions. Livelihoods are broadly based on subsistence farming and pastoralism with limited opportunity to earn wages. To contribute to food insecurity and livelihood vulnerability, we deliver services reducing food insecurity by improving households' immediate access to food through provision of unconditional multipurpose cash & conditional cash assistance depending on food security phases and restore livelihoods related to food and income sources through agricultural/fishing support and provision of business grants.

Promoting longer term livelihoods solutions for women, we ensured the establishment of structured business-groups, where we provided a collective business training entangled the better business management with women-led businesswomen of whom, basically able to uphold resilience of their business through technical know-how.



## Water, Hygiene and Sanitation

Somaliland, Somalia and the Somali region of Ethiopia locates in one of the most disaster-prone regions of the world and is regularly faced with recurrent drought, floods, cyclones and conflict-driven emergencies which resulted in a severe water shortage following the poor performance of the last rain seasons. To reduce the recurrent water shortages and dependency on water trucking activities, Taakulo delivers emergency water trucking during the emergency, constructed shallow wells and drills boreholes which is a more sustained solution for water shortages during droughts.

Taakulo has long-established experience for WASH interventions through Somalia, Somaliland and Somali Zone of Ethiopia. Taakulo implemented both hardware and software projects including but not limited to the provision of sustainable water sources (Boreholes, shallow wells, Berkads and Sand dams), construction/rehabilitation of strategic water points i.e. Kiosks, Pipelines, boreholes, shallow wells, water dams, Berkads, water trucking, latrine's construction, water cholorization. In software, Taakulo conducts WASH training for the affected community, local authorities, conduct hygiene promotion activities and establishes WASH committees.



## Protection and Human Rights

Somalia continues its slow emergence from decades of civil war, albeit that the armed conflict with al Shabaab continues. Lack of Rule of Law remains the biggest obstacle for protection of the basic human rights with basic policing functions, access to justice and correctional facilities only being available in limited locations, in practice Mogadishu and in the regional capitals to varying degrees.

Somalia is a patriarchal society where women's rights continue to be violated. Women and girls' rights continue to be seriously violated. Sexual & gender-based violence is widespread, including assaults, rape, sexual violence. Children's rights remain a concern – despite the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 2015. In particular, recruitment, use, and detention of children in conflict across all parties continue to compromise Somalia's human rights record.

**Taakulo stands for those affected by humanitarian and conflict crises to be protected and receive basic services including legal aid. Our area of this sector is child protection, gender-based violence, housing, land and property. Taakulo has been an active role in the protection section which mainly implements all protection-related activities with also mainstreaming protection for all organization's projects.**

The most significant protection activities conducted by Taakulo are including; awareness campaign regarding Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting-FGM/C, early marriage and promotion of girl's education, these campaigns were made in different ways such as events, debates, distribution of ICE materials, radio messages, school awareness, each activity delivered a specific message such as health and psychosocial impact of FGM/C on girls, effect of FGM/C and early marriage to the girl's education, promotion of the right of education for girls, creating a safe or/and friendly spaces for adolescent girls and elimination of menstruation stigma among the girls.



## Health

Health indicators in Somalia are among the lowest in the world. The immunization coverage rate for measles is 46% countrywide and even lower in hard-to-reach areas. Only one in three Somalis have access to safe water; one in every nine Somali children dies before their first birthday; and the maternal mortality ratio is 850 deaths per 100 000 live births. The health care system in Somalia remains weak, poorly resourced, and inequitably distributed<sup>1</sup>. Additionally, Ethiopia is listed under the poorest health status related to other low-income sub-Saharan countries and the Somali Region remains extremely poor health status when compared with other regional states of the country.

**Based on the health situation of Taakulo's areas of operation, to improve poor health systems in the country Taakulo assists hospitals for the provision medical equipment and supplies, construction and rehabilitation of health centres, support children and lactating women's nutrition. Taakulo also trains specialised doctors in a different speciality including orthopaedic, paediatrics, Neurosurgery, qualified nurses. Taakulo envisioned to expand health activities to Somalia and Ethiopia to contribute national health strategy and reduction of preventable diseases and child mortality.**

Through enduring into our commitment of ensuring the continuity of basic health services to reach an end of: mother and child are access to promised health services.

Taakulo have largely targeted rural health facilities in remote areas and hospitals, in urban areas where capacity to access advanced health-equipment is limited. In 2021, our health programme has advancingly contributed the Sustainable Development Goal SDGs #3 – ensuring health lives and promoting wellbeing for all ages – through providing communal centres, namely MCHs at far to reach rural areas, our efforts include the supply of medical equipment for both rural and urban MCHs and Hospitals.

Specifically, our health programme has ensured the continuity of health-services to further decrease maternal-mortality and related chronic diseases; we have provided stretching beds, delivery tables and essential medical drugs. Rural communities have a challenge in accessing prominent health services at large, periodically in night-time, as electricity remain the core problem so often. In this yet, 2021, we have ensured rural community's access to renewable power sources, by installing PV solar arrays “panels” to rural MCHs so as mother and children would be served during night-time.



## Environment and Climate Change

Our story of tackling environmental degradation and aridity to enable sustainable farming and adequate clean water for rural communities. Climate change is real and happening now. The average global surface temperature has warmed 0.8°C in the past century and 0.6°C in the past three decades (Hansen et al., 2006), in large part because of human activities (IPCC, 2001). A recent report produced by the U.S. National Academy of Sciences confirms that the last few decades of the 20th century were in fact the warmest in the past 400 years (National Research Council, 2006). The greenhouse gas emissions, the leading cause of climate change, continue to rise, the mean global temperatures will increase 1.4 – 5.8°C by the end of the 21st century (IPCC, 2001).

Here, Somaliland and Somalia are highly susceptible to the effects of climate change and extreme weather. Without anticipatory preventive approaches, these factors are likely to exacerbate existing vulnerabilities and reduce the people's livelihood options, which in turn may have negative impacts for stability and security in Somalia. More frequent and intense droughts and floods undermine food security and worsen livelihood conditions in Somalia, adversely affecting marginalized groups, fuelling grievances, increasing competition over scarce resources, and exacerbating existing community tensions and vulnerabilities<sup>1</sup>.

Approximately 70% of Somalis are dependent on climate-sensitive agriculture and pastoralism. As floods and droughts become more severe and frequent in Somalia, there is a need to find approaches that can reduce the sensitivity of farmers and pastoralists to increasing rainfall variability. With natural resource degradation also rampant throughout Somalia, most notably for the production of charcoal, Somalia is becoming increasingly vulnerable to conflicts over scarce resources (UNDP 2020).<sup>2</sup>

In response, Taakulo and its member state departments – thematically in Somaliland (country office), Somalia, and Somali region of Ethiopia – have largely built a stronger culture to enable a stronger capacity for rural communities' access to livelihoods and adaptation to climate change driven crisis in advance, through the settings, on the large, related to infrastructure and sustainable solutions as of sand-dams, check-dams, boreholes, and shallow-wells.

According to its entanglement to durable solutions, has embedded a significant contribution in resuming or predominantly extending the service-continuity of livelihood sources. Solely the sand-dams, Taakulo's cutting edge approach in tackling land-degradation, migration of topsoil and extinction of farmland-ranges at the suburbs or, along the riverbanks of rural villages; have extraordinarily packed communities to settle, by lessening climate related-risks at optimal, and further, transformed the livelihoods of thousands by providing an adequate water for drinking and punctiliously, for farming in a year-long-basis.

## Democracy, and peace building

<sup>1</sup> Climate in Somalia Fact Sheet, February 2021, Norwegian School of Internal Affairs.

<sup>2</sup> UNDP Somalia: Enhancing climate resilience of vulnerable communities and ecosystem in Somalia.



Women in the Horn of Africa face multiple barriers including lack of financial resource to hold political campaigns, limited experience in the political life and lack of political networks to effectively participate in politics. Achieving significant representation levels of women in the politics sits among the top priorities of almost all of the countries in the Horn of Africa. The countries are rolling out different strategies to realize this milestone. For instance, reserving specific quota for women.

In Somaliland, multi-party system has been practising since 2002 where the constitution allows for a maximum of three political parties, thus, the three political organizations that gain the most of votes casted during the local council's elections become political parties that eligible to contest the presidential election. The constitution guarantees individual rights to freely associate with any political party among the eligible parties and vote for their representatives, president and local council members with their mere will.

Local councils, representative and the president are directly elected by the people with fixed terms. However, these terms are often subject to extensions usually linked to reasons beyond those stated by the constitution including disagreements between the political parties led by legal ambiguity and divergence of political views. As of today, three presidential elections and two local councils and parliamentary elections have been held so far and peaceful transfer of power has been recorded across these elections.

Despite the constitutional guarantees people's rights to organize in any political party of their choice without domination of external forces, however, clan leaders largely influence the political system that indirectly limits individual's rights to contest. Women and minority groups often face cultural and social barriers to meaningful political participation.

Civil society organizations and non-political networks run by intellectuals with interest in the democratization and peace-building process of the country have been increasing recently. TAAKULO is a member of Somaliland non-state Actors Forum – SONSAF, the largest civil society platform and other networks to join its voice and advocacy strategies to the larger crowd.

TAAKULO has been particularly involved in the democratization and the peacebuilding through the following.

**Voter registration:** TAAKULO with its strategic partnership with the local communities played a critical role in awareness raising and mobilization of the communities to increase their understanding in the importance of registration to be eligible voter before the election

**Lobbing and networking;** TAAKULO with other like-minded organizations challenges the structural cause that limit participation of women and other minority groups in the politics

**Collaboration:** TAAKULO closely collaborates with the government to address grassroots level issues that cause long-term civil unrest and inequality

**Election monitoring:** TAAKULO with other civil society actors formed an independent election monitoring committee with mandate of overall monitoring of the electoral process

Supported women's political participation through lobbing and advocating for 30% quota for women in the parliament.

## **Our Partners**

TAAKULO have an outstanding partner in which we collaborate eradicating poverty, improving livelihoods of Somali communities, enhancing health care systems, lifesaving responses, protecting vulnerable children, girls & women and among others. Our partners have assisted the capacity of the organization and strengthened our systems.

TAAKULO has been assessed by international and UN Organizations which certified that TAAKULO has the capacity and systems to implement Humanitarian and Development programs and has rated low risk partner. In addition to that, TAAKULO has been audited by the most credible audit firms i.e. Price Waterhouse and Coopers (PwC), Deloitte and Touché, Baker Tilly Merali's (BTM). Below is the list of our donors and partners:

1. UNICEF (United Nation International Children's Emergency Fund)
2. DERF (Danish Emergency Relief Fund)
3. SHF-OCHA (Somalia Humanitarian Fund)
4. WFP (World Food Program)
5. ADFA (Australian Doctors for Africa)
6. Danish Muslim Aid (DM-AID)
7. World Vision Somalia (WVS)
8. Kinder Not Hilf (KNH)
9. NAFIS Network for FGM
10. ISRA-UK
11. Human Aid-UK
12. Czech Republic Development Cooperation
13. OXFAM Novib
14. International Solidarity Foundation (ISF)
15. International Aid Services (IAS)
16. Plan International (PI)
17. World Concern Development organization
18. Welthungerhilfe (WHH)
19. SOS Children's Village

## **Our Annual Portfolio**

In the last two years, Taakulo Somali Community went through improved financial stamina compared to the last 2 years, despite the funding challenges since the pandemic, which affected the world largely in the last two years. Here, the total grant income of 2021 and 2020 was USD2.3 million and in 2019 USD2.2 million respectively. These small funds have made a huge impact and changed the lives of thousands of vulnerable communities in particular women and children.