



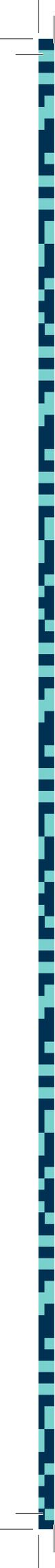
SOMALIA STABILITY FUND
THE IMPACT PAPER

THE IMPACT PAPER – SEPTEMBER 2021

IMPLEMENTED BY ADAM SMITH INTERNATIONAL

DELIVERING PEACE & STABILITY IN SOMALIA





'A STRING IS NEEDED TO GATHER SCATTERED BEADS'

SOMALI PROVERB

Cover image credit: ©AMISOM

All patterns and colours used in this
publication are inspired by Somali textiles

GOALS INTEGRATION

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HOW DO YOU REBUILD A COUNTRY AFTER DECADES OF DEVASTATING CONFLICT?

How do you rebuild a country after decades of devastating conflict? **In a country of 16 million, we've improved the lives of over 2.9 million Somalis over the past 8 years;** we've also helped their government to progress, thrive, and function, and their communities to blossom. We've helped to bring warring clans together and improved livelihoods for thousands.



TS

WHAT IS SSF?

The Somalia Stability Fund is a multi-donor programme working towards a peaceful, secure, and stable Somalia. It offers Somali stakeholders a source of multi-year funding that can respond to local needs and opportunities.

The Stability Fund aims to contribute to enhancing stability in Somalia through the following programmatic outputs:

i Fault-lines for political conflict (FGS-FMS, inter & intra state) are identified and appropriately addressed.

iii Increased government visibility and community engagement,

ii Enhanced popular participation in governance, particularly for women and excluded communities.

iv Reduced community vulnerability to conflict.

A KEY ROLE

SSF played a catalytic role supporting the establishment and consolidation of 3 out of 5 Federal Member States (FMS) in Somalia.

3/5 FMS'



INVESTMENT AND IMPACT

Over 190 investments delivered by working through 55 Somali private sector and civil society organisations.

Delivered improved socio-economic opportunities to over 2.9 million Somalis.

2.9M

ADDRESSING PROMINENT FAULT LINES

Addressed fault lines in over 20 districts in Somalia, accounting for more than 25% of districts in Somalia. These have contributed to addressing intra-community, intra-state, and inter-state conflicts encompassing all 5 states in Somalia.

OVER 20 DISTRICTS

WHAT
IS THE
**SO MAI
STABI
FUND?**



QUALIA

QUALITY

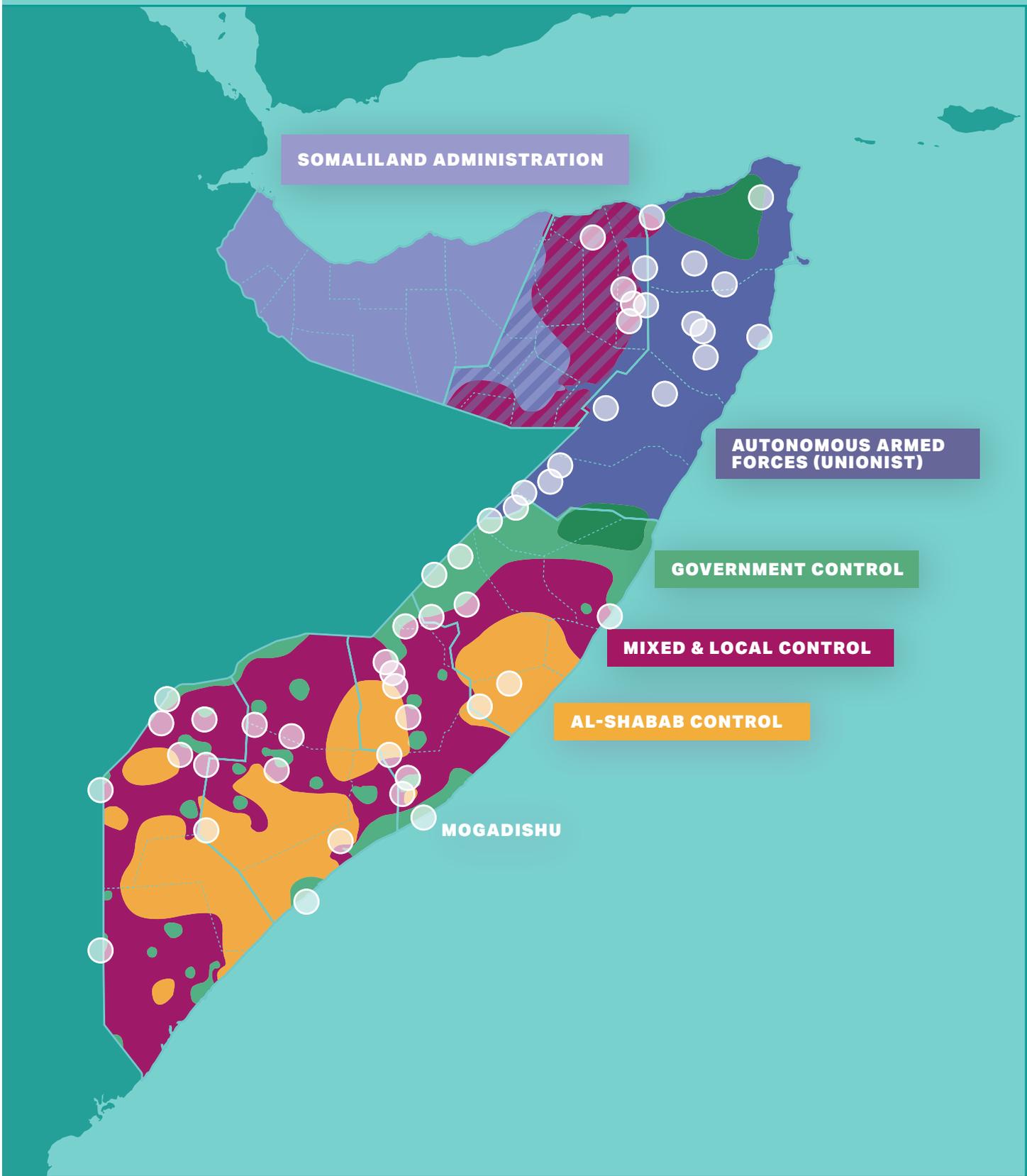
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SSF II is a flexible fund supporting the development of a peaceful, stable, and secure Somalia. The Fund adapts to emerging lessons and the evolving and dynamic context in Somalia. SSF's strategy is inspired by problem-driven iterative adaptation principles: it identifies and articulates a core problem at the root of instability in Somalia and determines how to address it. SSF takes this approach to achieve four key outputs:

1. Addressing fault lines for political conflict based on priorities identified in the macro-analysis.
2. Enhancing popular voice and participation, particularly for women and excluded groups.
3. Increasing government visibility and community engagement around key priorities such as services and livelihoods.
4. Reducing community vulnerability to conflict through targeted conflict-resolution approaches.

SSF phase II began in October 2016 and will end in December 2021. In this second phase alone, the Fund has managed to crowd in £91.2M from seven donors and a total of £160M since inception. SSF phase II is delivering a portfolio of transformative investments across Somalia and the disputed regions of Sool and Sanaag. The Fund proactively engages government, civil society, and communities to understand their priorities and deliver investments that meet their peace, stability, and security needs. This includes a range of complementary economic development, support for Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI), democratic governance, and conflict-resolution investments that tackle key stability challenges in more than 67 districts.

**ACROSS ALL
PHASES, SSF
HAS BEEN ABLE
TO CROWD IN
A TOTAL OF
£160,000,000
FROM SEVEN
DONORS**



WHY WAS SS

SSF was established following the London Somalia Conference in 2012 to provide targeted support in strengthening government legitimacy and reducing political and communal conflict, and thus realise the overall goal of enhanced stability in Somalia.

SSF CREATED

The London Somalia Conference happened at a key moment in Somalia's history, as the country was emerging from one of the worst humanitarian crises in the world. African and Somali troops had pushed Al-Shabab out of Mogadishu and other areas. The transitional institutions came to an end in August 2012, and the people of Somalia were seeking clarity on what would follow. The situation was still precarious at that time, and in urgent need of support from the international community, who acknowledged that Somalia's future rested with the Somali people, but had to be supported by coordinated international efforts.

WHEN SSF COMMENCED IN 2013, THE REALITY ON THE GROUND WAS THAT:

- There was no universally accepted political system in place
- Only 1 Federal Member State (FMS), Puntland, was formed with nascent institutions
- The other 4 FMSs were forming in very fragile locations with severely limited resources and capability, with almost no people, systems, buildings, procedures, laws, or equipment
- Somalia's Stability Index was 113.9/120 (with a score of 1 being highly stable and 120 being highly unstable)
- Many 'fault lines' were identified across Somalia. Fault lines are defined as local or national-level divisions that have caused (or contributed to) conflict in Somalia
- Economic activity and employment were severely restricted across the country, including in conflict hotspots
- Related to the above, many marginalised and minority communities were excluded from participation in governance and government
- Women's participation in governance was also extremely low

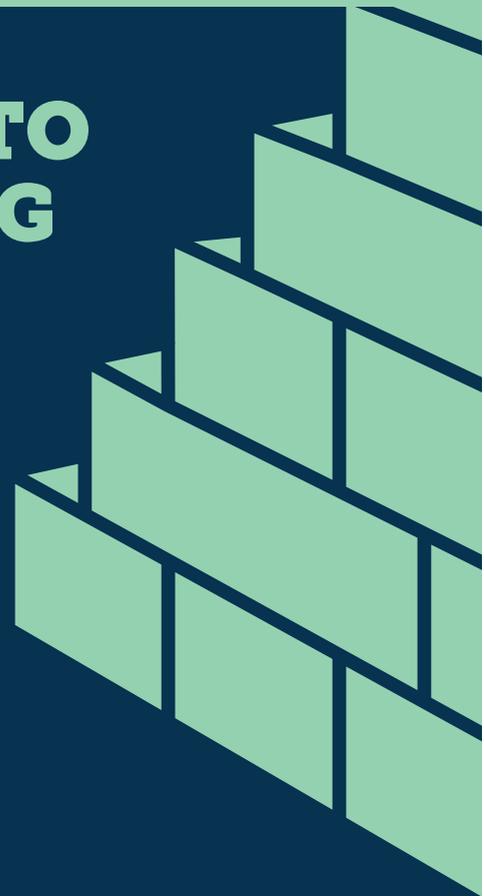
GOVERN

In Somalia, the absence of visible, effective, and legitimate government at the subnational (as well as national) level is a key driver of conflict and protracted insurgency. To address this fundamental challenge to the country's stability and future, a devolved, federalised system of government had been agreed but not yet implemented.

In parallel, SSF had to navigate a dynamic environment that often sees rapid shifts in political alignments and swift escalations of violence, as well as new political and conflictual barriers to implementation. Effective engagement would demand high levels of sustained political analysis together with an agility to respond to the ever-changing conflict fault lines.

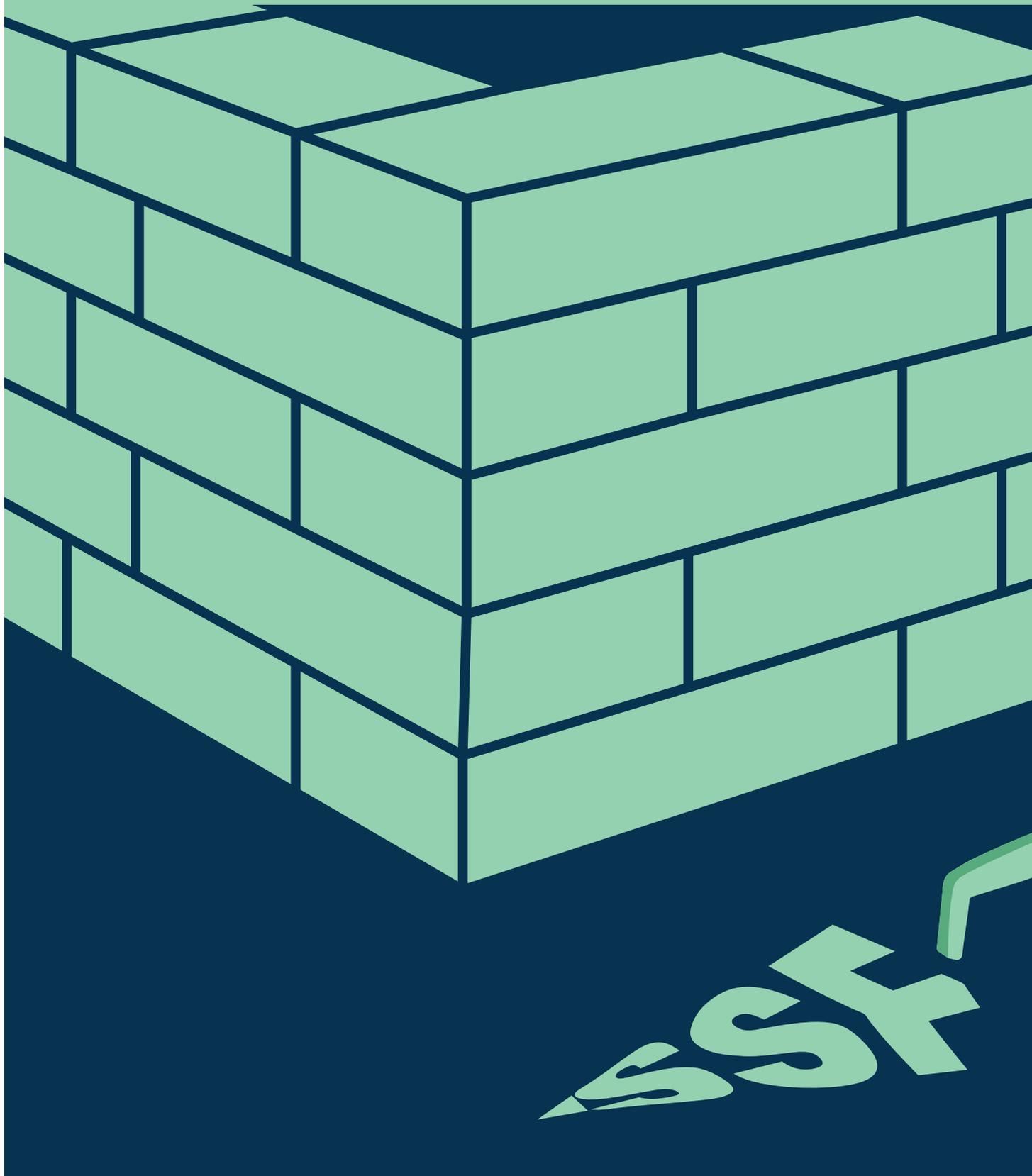
IMPLEMENT

SSF WAS DESIGNED TO SUPPORT 5 BUILDING BLOCKS REQUIRED TO MOVE TOWARDS STABILITY AND PROSPERITY:¹



- Fair power structures that broaden inclusion, accountability, and transparency over time, while managing tensions to prevent violence in the short term
- Inclusive economic development which creates widespread benefits, reduces incentives for conflict, and curbs illicit economies
- Conflict-resolution mechanisms—both formal and informal—that help to manage conflict, help people to cope with the legacies of violent conflict, and strengthen women’s role in the resolution process
- Effective and legitimate institutions, both state and non-state, that build trust with those whom they govern, and grow in effectiveness over time
- A supportive regional environment that enables communities to be more resilient to transnational stresses and shocks, including organised crime and violent extremist ideologies

¹ DFID’s 2016 Building Stability Framework



IMI
TTOO

SSF'S
PACT
KIT

SSF HAS A BROAD TOOLKIT OF APPROACHES TO ADDRESS STABILITY CHALLENGES IN SOMALIA

GOVERNANCE

Strengthening the capacity of Somali authorities to respond to their communities

Policy analysis and advice

Technical assistance

Emergency response support, e.g., drought, flooding, C-19

Inclusive district council formation

Parliamentary and legislative strengthening

Human capital development

RESEARCH & POLITICAL ANALYSIS

Ensuring investments are guided by best practice and are contextually responsive

Analysis of macro-level conflict and political fault lines

Granular localised contextual analysis

In-depth research into reconciliation processes, conflict risks, local governance, and democratisation

Lesson-learning and best practice analysis

Rapid analysis of emerging political shifts to inform investments, strategy, and donors



INFRASTRUCTURE

Enabling the environment for institutions, businesses, and society to function and thrive

Rehabilitation of police stations, roads, airstrips, fisheries, depots, government buildings, community buildings, boreholes, and solar street lights

GENDER EQUALITY & SOCIAL INCLUSION

Aiding women, youth, and socially marginalised groups to overcome their social and political exclusion

Women's political participation

Human rights monitoring and training

Women's economic empowerment

Women peacebuilders

Community-driven development

PEACEBUILDING

Enabling communities to resolve their conflicts and build stronger social relations

Conflict resolution

Reconciliation dialogues

Mediation support

Peace negotiator training

Peace dividends

LABOUR & LIVELIHOODS

Providing skills and institutions that can strengthen economic gains for communities

Technical and vocational education and training

Awareness-raising campaigns

Savings and credit associations

Cooperative establishment



FUND MANAGEMENT

FUND MANAGEMENT APPROACH

Somalia is a complex and diverse country facing an array of different challenges across different sectors and locations. By selecting a well-connected and well-informed team with networks at federal, state, and local level in Somalia, the Fund has been able to better understand the context, enabling it to deliver a sustainable, impactful, and flexible portfolio of investments to improve the lives of Somalis and strengthen stability in Somalia.

SSF underpins this locally-driven approach with granular analysis and regular scenario planning, which helps to ensure that SSF is proactively able to identify and adapt to changes at the national, state, and local level. SSF leverages its in-house policy analysis team, its research partners, and flexible facility of short-term experts to ensure that the Fund has an up-to-date and robust evidence base to complement the staff's local knowledge on the ground. This approach equips the Fund to make well-informed decisions to maximise the impact of investments and minimise the risk of delivery. SSF is assisted by funding from major donors in Somalia, and is also able to leverage the networks of these donors to advance the Somalia stability agenda. The donors play a critical role in engaging various Somalia stakeholders in committing to the stability efforts supported by SSF.





Image credit: ©AMISOM

PROBLEM-DRIVEN ITERATIVE ADAPTATION (PDIA) FLEXIBLE & ADAPTATIVE CONFLICT-SENSITIVE PROGRAMMING

A guiding principle of SSF's strategic approach is the need to be flexible and adaptive in its programming towards the changing context in Somalia. Part of the art of flexible and adaptive programme implementation is knowing when to intervene and when to refrain. In an investment implemented in Bardhere, while social reconciliation was part of the workplan, SSF's partner Nordic International Support Foundation (NIS), in close consultation with SSF, decided to drop this component. This decision was informed by the growing tensions in Bardhere, and factors determined out of SSF's control that were partly a result of political conflict within Jubaland. This conflict-sensitive decision helped to insulate the project from falling prey to the inter- and intra-clan power dynamics and tensions in Bardhere. SSF seizes opportunities for engaging in conflict resolution when our analysis suggests that there is a window of opportunity to do so.

WHAT HAS SSF ACHIEVED?

IRAFACH



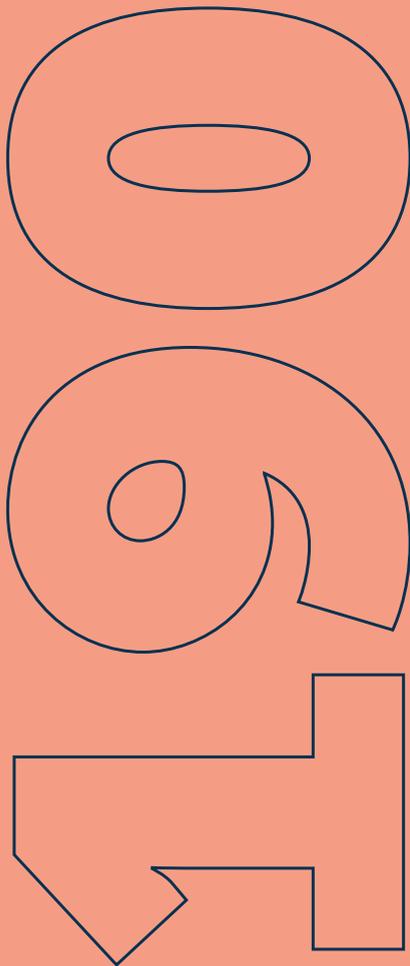
IRAFACH



2.9M

Delivered improved socio-economic opportunities to over 2.9 million Somalis

SSF REACH



Over 190 investments delivered by working through 55 Somali private sector and civil society organisations



HOBY
ABUDWAQ
ADADO
ADALE
AFGOOYE
AFMADOW
ALULA
BAARDHEERE
BADHAN
BAIDOA
BALACAD
BALANBALE

\$1.8M

Over the course of the project, SSF's CDD (community-driven development) projects raised over \$1.8m from 8,000 Somali people across 9 districts

7/72

Delivered investments across over 67 of 72 districts in all 5 of Somalia's FMSs

BALANCE	DH	MOGADISHU	WAJID
BAN	DHOOBLET	MUDUG	WARSHEIKH
BELET HAWA	DHUDHUB	NUGAAL	XARADHEERE
BELETWEYNE	DHUSAMAREEB	PUNTLAND	XERAALE
BERDALE	DOLLOW	QANDALA	XIRIIRO
BOCAME	ELWAK	QARDHO	XUDUR
BOSSASO	ERIGAVO	RAXO	YAQSHID
BURAO	GALKACYO	SANAAG	
BUUHOODLE	GARBAHAREY	SOOL	
CEELBUUH	GAROWE	TALEEX	
DANGOROYO	GODOBJIRAAN	TOWFIIQ	
DANWADAAG	HARO	TUKARAQ	

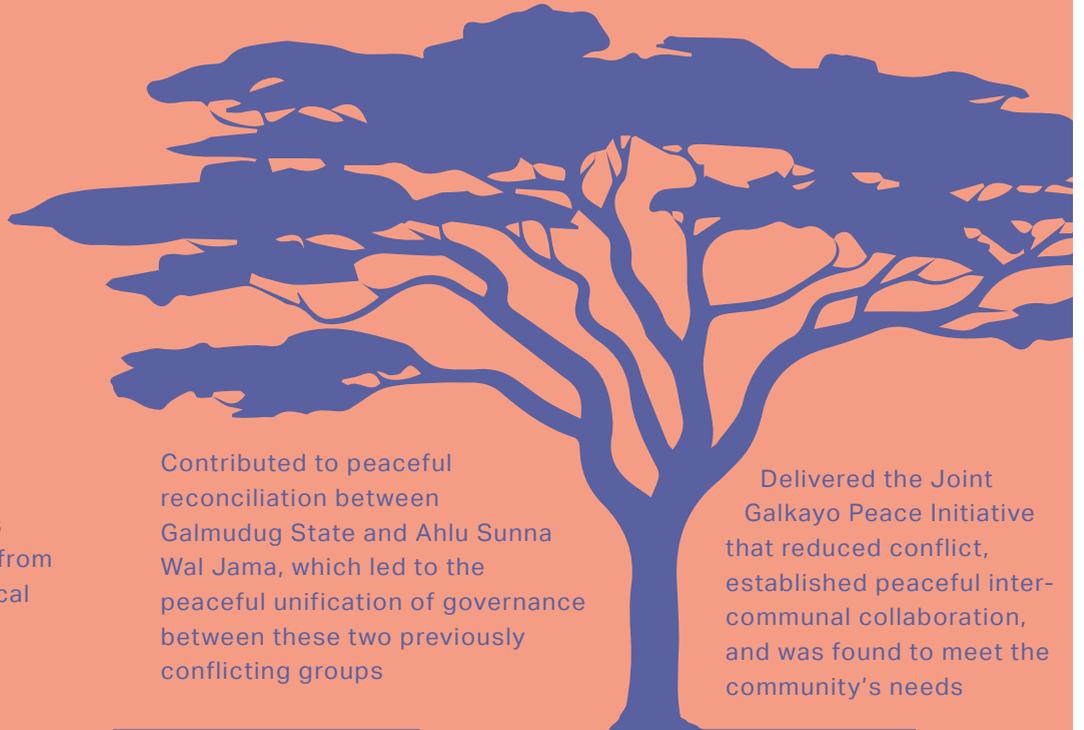
SSF REACH

16000
BUSINESSES

Facilitated access to finance
for over 1,600 businesses

000
ENTERPRISES

Over 1,000
enterprises
benefitted from
SSF technical
assistance



Contributed to peaceful
reconciliation between
Galmudug State and Ahlu Sunna
Wal Jama, which led to the
peaceful unification of governance
between these two previously
conflicting groups

Delivered the Joint
Galkayo Peace Initiative
that reduced conflict,
established peaceful inter-
communal collaboration,
and was found to meet the
community's needs

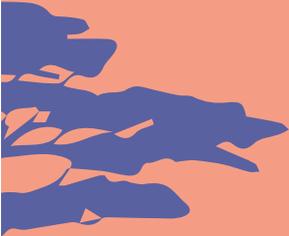
FUND LEVEL IMPACT

Provided Personal
Protective Equipment
and face masks
to hospitals, and
awareness-raising
around C-19
compliance measures
that reached over
1 million people



JILT BARAWE AIRPORT

Built the Barawe airstrip providing access to markets, medical supplies, and humanitarian support for the town of 100,000 persons that previously had all supply routes blockaded by Al-Shabab



Supported 334 new Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises to be established

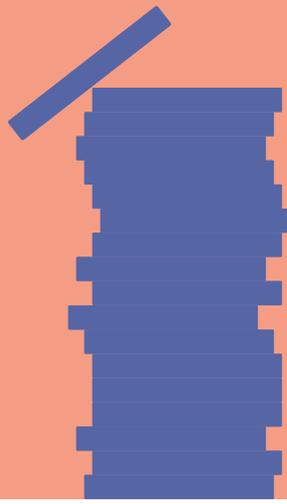
334

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14,000

Technical Vocational and Employment Training support reached over 14,000 young Somalis in SWS alone. SSF also supported the creation of over 2,400 jobs for vulnerable individuals

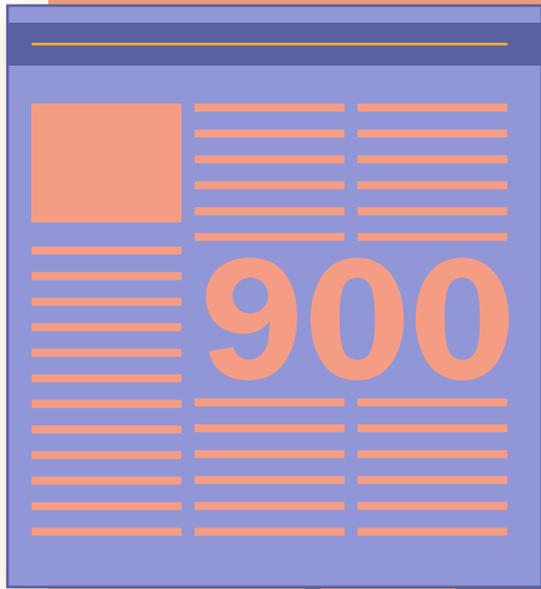
18% increase in income for men and women with SSF-supported job placements



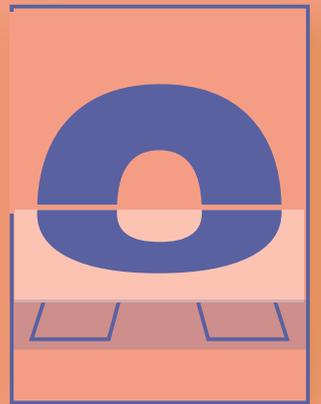
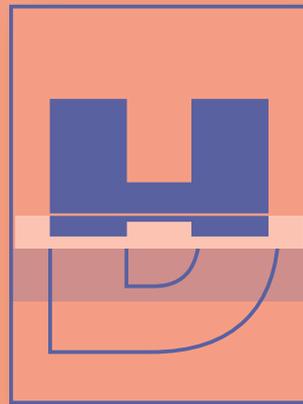
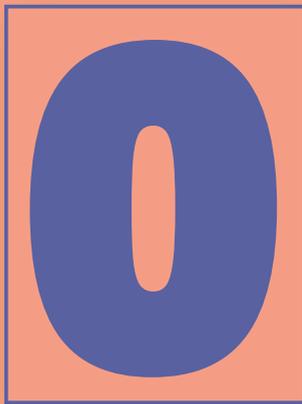
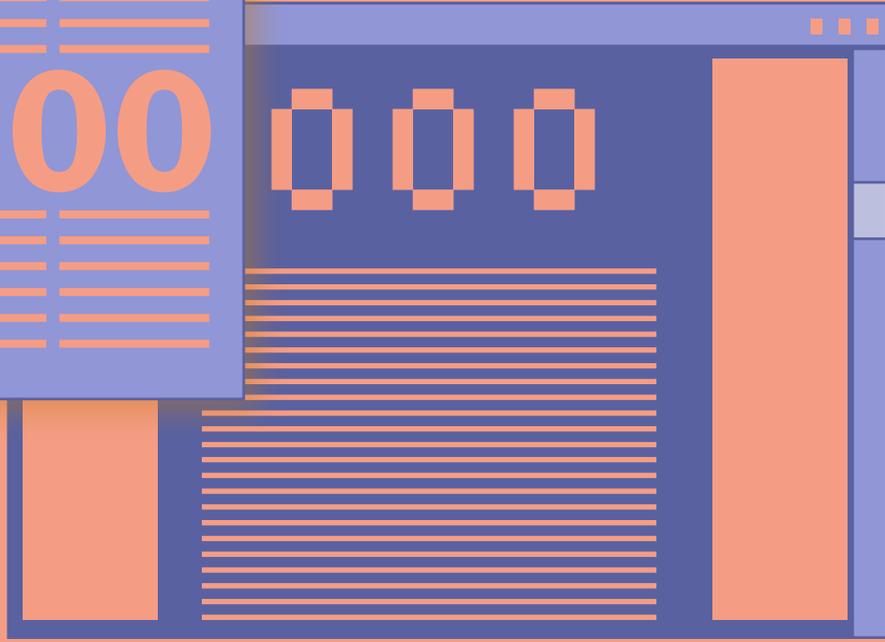
18%

FUND LEVEL IMPACT

FUND LEVEL IMPACT



Reached over 900,000 people through media awareness-raising campaigns to address critical issues such as women's rights



Rehabilitation of Hobyo airstrip reduced travel time to Mogadishu from 2 days of dangerous travel across insecure areas by road to 2 hours via plane

Supported 3,030 individuals to join cooperatives and business associations which work to increase their incomes

3,030

Supported 124 cooperatives with equipment and linkages to markets

124

To date, SSF-supported investments have mobilised \$1,821,882 in community-matching funds.

\$1,821,882

OURS

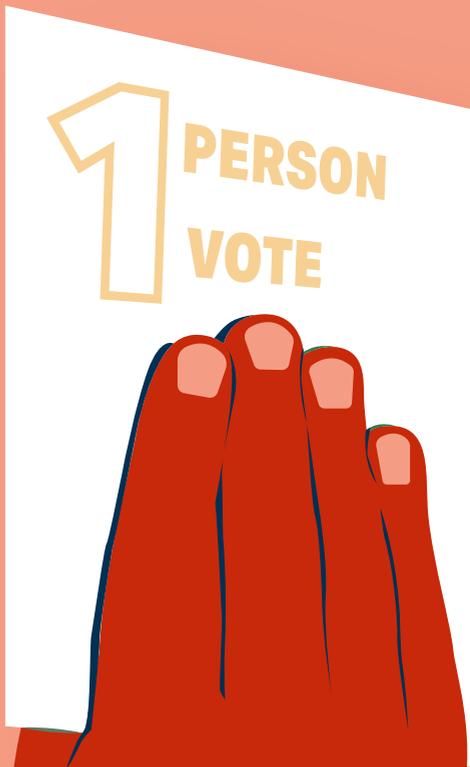
FUND LEVEL IMPACT

IMPACT

Contributed towards addressing fault lines in 'over 20% districts in Somalia accounting for over 25% of formed districts. These contributed to addressing intra-community, intra-state, and inter-state conflicts including 5 of the major underlying causes of conflict in Somalia. (see Case Study 1). page 36



Held over 20 reconciliation and healing talks to address the drivers of clan-related conflict.



Supported the creation and passing of Puntland's Voter Registration Act, a key step on the way to one-person, one-vote elections



Supported the (s)election of over 33 women across key decision-making positions (district Council, MPs and Council Leaders) across 5 FMSs.

SYRIA 110.7

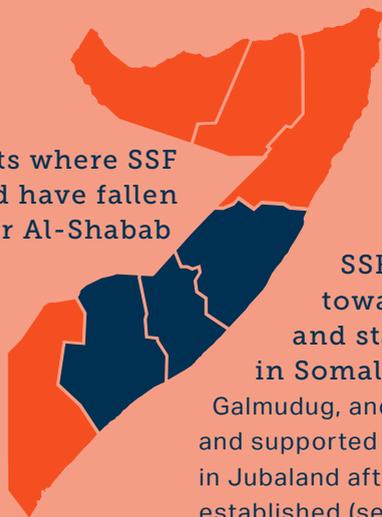
SOMALIA 110.9

YEMEN 111.7

During SSF II, Somalia's overall stability improved by 2.1 points on the Fragile States Index (to a score of 110.9/120)

IMPACT

No districts where SSF intervened have fallen back under Al-Shabab control.



SSF contributed towards establishing and stabilising 3/5 FMSs in Somalia: Hirshabelle, Galmudug, and South West State, and supported state building in Jubaland after the state was established (see Case Study 2) p52

Rehabilitated or constructed 147 infrastructure projects benefitting over 336,804 people



INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

SSS HAS INVESTED HEAVILY IN SOMALIA'S INFRASTRUCTURE TO IMPROVE GOVERNMENT VISIBILITY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT





HYDRO-ELECTRIC

FARMS

SOLAR POWER GRIDS

BOREHOLES

POLICE STATIONS

YOUTH, WOMEN & COMMUNITY CENTRES

UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS & VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRES

ROADS

FENCING

MARKETS

BALL STADIUMS

ECONOMIC FACILITIES

OMS

ADDRESSING PROMINENT FAULT LINES

At the outset, SSF identified prominent political and conflict fault lines within Somalia that fuel either active violent conflict, or destructive and conflictual social and political relations. SSF subsequently contributed towards reducing violence, building social relations, and the stabilisation strategy of the Federal Government of Somalia's (FGS) Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs, and Reconciliation. Additionally, SSF helped to convene stabilisation donors and peer agencies to better coordinate and integrate their planning. Among the fault lines SSF addressed are:

Inter-communal conflict in Mataban:

Through supporting dialogue and social reconciliation meetings bringing together different communities, SSF contributed to reducing conflict, while the peace dividends projects selected by a cross-section of the community brought once-conflicting clans together to address shared challenges and prevent escalation of future violence.

State-society conflict in Gedo: SSF-supported 'DIALOGUE' project used community resource mobilisation to deliver on community priorities for 35 groups across Gedo. These investments, co-funded between SSF and communities, promoted participatory decision-making processes and generated high levels of local ownership, collective action, and strengthened state-society mutual accountability and trust.

Galmudug – ASWJ tensions: SSF provided technical and logistical support to bring the non-state armed group, ASWJ, to the negotiating table, and to foster Galmudug-ASWJ peace negotiations, ultimately contributing to achieving a unified Galmudug government in Dhusamareb.

North-South Galkayo Conflict: SSF built on the capacity of local peace infrastructure by engaging existing community peace structures in North and South Galkayo and their respective administrations in Puntland and Galmudug. SSF fostered district and community-level discussions to enhance community capacities to identify, understand, resolve, and prevent conflicts. SSF helped to build the foundations for lasting cooperation, helping not only to promote peaceful coexistence, but also to create economic opportunities for men and women in Galkayo.

IMPACT ST



Image credit: ©AMISOM

STORIES

TAILORED TO TI



Image credit: @SSF

THE CONTEXT



SSF recognises that Somalia is a complex and diverse country facing a wide array of challenges in different locations. To deliver impactful investments, it is vital to understand the unique geographical, socio-political, and economic factors across the Fund's locations. This enables SSF to deliver a sustainable, impactful portfolio of investments to improve the lives of Somalis and strengthen stability in Somalia. To ensure SSF has this strong understanding, the Fund takes a locally-led approach to selecting and managing its portfolio. The Fund has a devolved team of staff operating across all five Federal Member States and in Mogadishu. These locally-embedded staff have strong contextual understanding, and networks that position them exceptionally to appreciate local priorities, recognise local challenges, and identify key entry points to deliver impactful and sustainable investments.

SSF underpins this locally-driven approach with granular analysis and regular scenario planning, which helps to ensure that SSF is proactively able to identify and adapt to changes at the national, state, and local level. SSF leverages its in-house policy analysis team, research partners, and flexible facility of short-term experts to ensure that the Fund has an up-to-date and robust evidence base to complement the staff's local knowledge on the ground. This approach equips the Fund to make well-informed decisions to maximise the impact of investments and minimise the risk of delivery.



Image credit: ©AMISOM



STRATEGIC OPPORTUNISM TO MAXIMISE IMPACT

SSF's flexible approach enables the Fund to respond to local priorities across Somalia, and consequently deliver maximum impact in each of the locations that the Fund works. By taking a holistic view of its portfolio, SSF leverages its size to deliver a joined-up set of investments and crowd support from other actors, such as local communities, the private sector, and development partners. This enables the Fund to deliver a level of impact far greater than the sum of its investments.



CATALYSING PENT-UP POTENTIAL

Across SSF's economic development portfolio of \$11,000,000 in investment, the Fund has delivered improved socio-economic opportunities to over 2.9 million Somalis. These investments have been critical in enabling the Fund to improve access to finance in locations for previously excluded Somalis, build skills to assist vulnerable groups to access jobs, and develop cooperatives to strengthen collaboration, efficiency, and revenues among small and medium-sized businesses. Ultimately, SSF facilitated the delivery of 38,300 jobs for Somalis, improving the economic outcomes for those individuals and their communities.



'38,300 JOBS DELIVERED FOR SOMALIS'



SOMALIS HAVE RECEIVED SOCIO-ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES DELIVERED BY SSF

A DELIBERATELY INTEGRATED APPROACH

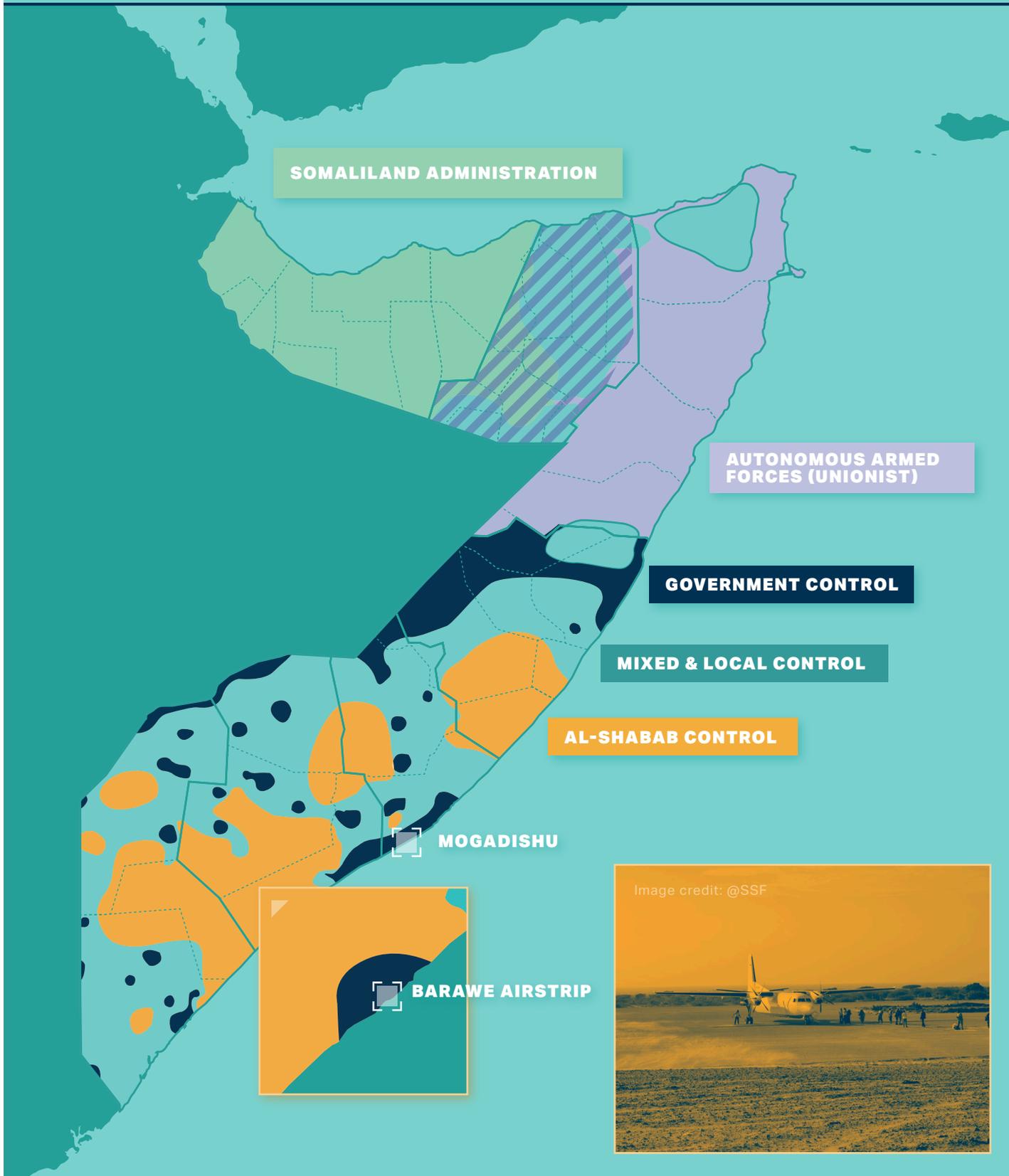
SSF has strategically integrated investments to ensure that they complement each other and achieve much more than the sum of their parts. For instance, in Barawe, SSF delivered a cohesive set of investments to drive improved economic outcomes, community reconciliation, and skills for the local community. SSF clustered investments around the flagship Barawe airstrip. The airstrip alone had a major impact in breaking the Al-Shabab siege and facilitating trade, medical, and humanitarian support to reach the town. Furthermore, in order to fully capitalise on the opportunities that the airstrip offers the town, SSF also delivered a set of complementary investments to leverage the buy-in and the community engagement that the investment cultivated among local communities. For instance, the Fund provided solar-powered refrigeration to two fishing cooperatives and trained 260 cooperative members on modern and efficient fishing methods to help the fishing sector to capitalise on new exports to the lucrative Mogadishu market. In the SSF endline evaluation, 93% of respondents noted that the fishing infrastructure support delivered on the community's needs. The fishing project coupled with the airstrip provided opportunities to unlock economic potential and equipped communities to become less vulnerable to poverty.

'93% OF RESPONDENTS NOTED THAT THE FISHING INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT DELIVERED ON COMMUNITY'S NEEDS.'

In addition, SSF leveraged the airstrip investment as an entry point to lead community dialogue and reconciliation among the town's residents. This focused on strengthening community cohesion and harnessing the economic resources that the airstrip created for inclusive development for all communities in Barawe. The Fund opened community discussions on key issues including district resource management, community group relationships, and state-society relations. SSF convened elders', youth, and women's groups from different clans at forums and trainings, and helped to set up a district Peace Committee as a mechanism to address critical reconciliation discussions on sensitive issues. The Fund also used social media and on-the-ground events to provide a platform for underrepresented groups to add their voice to address issues in Barawe, and to ensure that a wide range of groups in Barawe were represented in reconciliation efforts. This demonstrates how SSF's approach to integrating investments has enabled the Fund to deliver impact well beyond what a standalone investment could achieve.

Image credit: @SSF







MOBILISING COMMUNITY RESOURCES

SSF takes a community-driven development approach to mobilising local resources to deliver on community priorities. This increases the reach of SSF and its ability to invest in delivering impact through supporting community priorities. To date, SSF-supported investments have mobilised \$1,821,882 in community-matching funds. More importantly, it has driven increased local ownership of investments, community cohesion, and enhanced growth in community trust in government. Community priority investments have acted as a rallying point for local communities, including previously hostile clans, to come together and discuss shared priorities and needs. This is the type of critical communication that breaks down barriers and reduces conflict, as evidenced by the success in Gedo, where communal conflict decreased substantially and brought communities together to identify shared priorities and raise funds.

Through galvanising community support and collaboration, SSF delivered essential infrastructure needed by communities across Somalia, such as schools, medical centres, and roads. For instance, in Abudwaq, SSF achieved improved engagement among different communities, and raised \$355,000 in community funds—matched with \$255,000 in SSF funds—for upgrading the airstrip while strengthening ties and breaking down barriers between clans, fostering reconciliation, and promoting collaboration in sharing of resources.

**'RAISED \$355,000 OF
COMMUNITY FUNDS TO
MATCH WITH \$255,000
OF DONOR FUNDING
TO SUPPORT THE
REHABILITATION OF
ABUDWAQ AIRSTRIP'**

A large, leafy tree with a thick trunk and dense canopy, set against a solid teal background. The tree is positioned on the left side of the page, with its branches extending towards the right.

DEMONSTRATING THE DIVIDENDS OF PEACE

SSF delivered impact by coordinating investments that improve governance, livelihoods, and economic outcomes for individuals and communities within towns using community reconciliation and peacebuilding interventions, as well as supporting infrastructure development where these are prioritised by the communities. This approach demonstrated that prosperity comes in tandem with peace. In total, SSF supported 147 infrastructure projects. For instance, in Galkayo, SSF delivered investments such as solar street lights, roads, and police stations. These have improved livelihoods and stability, and reduced dependence on Al-Shabab-dominated supply routes. For instance, the solar street lights in Galkayo enabled small, female-led businesses and street vendors to operate for longer hours and potentially increase their daily income.

Concurrently, the Fund delivered the Joint Galkayo Peace Initiative (JGPI) bringing together previously warring clans. By coordinating these two approaches, SSF demonstrated the economic advantages

of peaceful inter-communal collaboration and leveraged this to support dialogue and engagement around the shared priorities of the (previously warring) communities of North and South Galkayo. By demonstrating the dividends of peace, SSF shifted local actors away from a 'zero-sum' approach and identified areas of mutual interest to collaborate. As conflict in Galkayo reduced, communities began to recognise and reap the rewards of peaceful collaboration—as demonstrated by one local administrator observing “The current political and social interactions of the two regions is at its best...in history.” The success of the JGPI is demonstrated by the stark reduction in communal conflict in Puntland (mostly driven by the Galkayo conflict) with fatalities reducing from 48 in 2018 to 17 in 2019.

In Baidoa, on the other hand, the construction of the Ministry of Finance building meant people were able to see the government's physical presence, as they saw the 'state' concretised in the building.

RAPID RESPONSE AND RESILIENCE-BUILDING

SSF balances proactively building resilience, emergency response, and risk mitigation to disasters such as flooding, drought, and pandemic that have affected communities across Somalia. SSF recognises the threats posed by disasters, leading communities to fall into poverty, driving community conflicts, and opening entry points for Al-Shabab influence. SSF responded to a range of emergencies across Somalia, including rapid response to C-19 by providing Personal Protective Equipment and face masks to hospitals, and awareness-raising around C-19 compliance measures that reached over 1 million people. SSF also responded to disastrous weather events, such as flooding in Jowhar and Beletweyne, by providing food and essential supplies. By mitigating the impact of crises in Somalia, SSF prevents communities from slipping back into division and conflict in competition over limited resources. SSF has also built resilience in disaster-prone areas to mitigate the negative impact of disasters on Somalia. For instance, in Jowhar and Beletweyne, SSF trained farmers in more resilient agricultural approaches. The Fund also provided technical support and capacity-building to local communities in Jowhar and Beletweyne on solar-powered equipment, with specifically tailored provision to meet the needs of each community; for instance, in Beletweyne, to ensure that equipment is resilient to flooding of the river basin.



**1,000,000
PEOPLE
REACHED
BY SSF
COVID-19
INITIATIVES**



Image credit: ©AMISOM

BUILDING FEDERAL MEMBER STATES

As part of SSF's priority to support the establishment of Somalia's federal model of government, the Fund has been supporting the formation and consolidation of Somalia's Federal Member States.

CASE STUDY





SSF played a critical role in supporting the formation of 3/5 of Somalia's FMSs: Hirshabelle, Galmudug, and South West State. The Fund provided critical logistical support to political negotiations and consensus building on power-sharing agreements in these states, including support on the determination of state parliaments and presidents.

Subsequently, SSF has been working with all 5 FMSs to build more inclusive, effective, and visible administrations that can deliver services to their communities. Across all of the FMSs in which SSF works, the Fund has built and rehabilitated critical infrastructure such as government buildings, schools, hospitals, and universities to improve government capacity and visibility. The Fund also built the capacity of parliaments, drove economic development, and cascaded down state formation to the third tier of government, i.e., district administration. State building under SSF includes:

Parliamentary strengthening: SSF supported setting up structures to improve the legislative process such as parliamentary committees, increasing oversight of the executive branch through awareness-raising on the role of parliament, and strengthening the relationship between MPs and their constituencies through improved civil society engagement and feedback loops

Economic development: SSF built critical infrastructure such as roads and airstrips, as well as improved access to finance, jobs, and training for Somalis. This has driven increased employment, higher incomes and a workforce better equipped to capitalise on the opportunities available in Somalia

District council strengthening: SSF has been the primary agency delivering stabilisation activities in 6 newly recovered districts in Somalia: Bardhere, Baidoa, Xudur, Berdale, Mahaday, and Adale. In addition, SSF has been advancing inclusive district level governance through implementing the Wadajir Framework—the FGS's framework for establishing district councils in conflict-sensitive ways—and has supported the development of new and inclusive district councils in 9 districts across Somalia.

A UNIFIED DONOR APPROACH



'SSF II... HAS EXPANDED FROM AN INITIAL SIZE OF £62.7M TO A NEW FUND SIZE OF £91.2M'

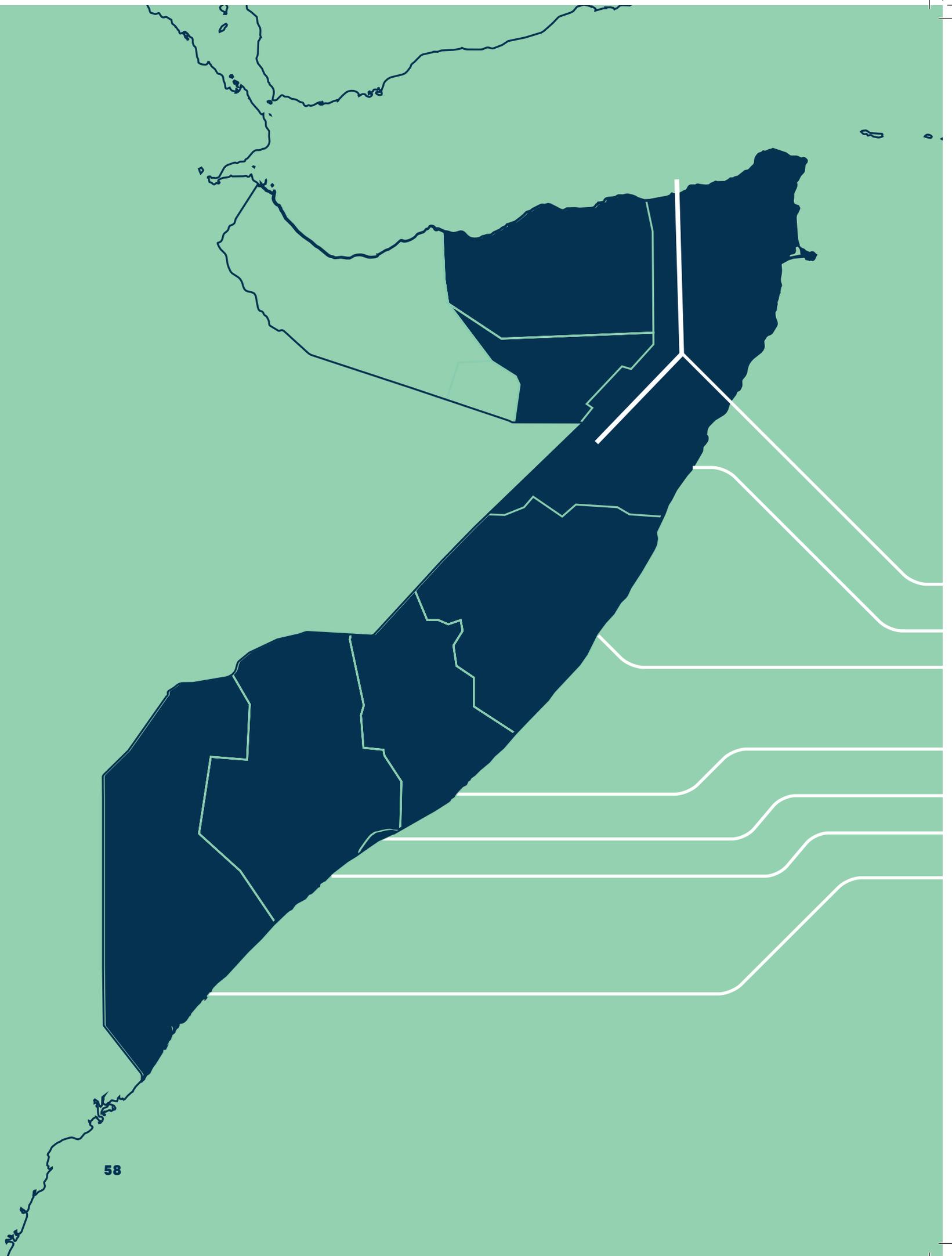
**TOTAL DONOR CONTRIBUTION BY
DONORS BETWEEN SSF I & II**

£160,000,000

SSF II

A key success of SSF has been its ability to bring together donors, pool funds, and share insights that maximise impact. The Fund invested in industry-leading analysis in Somalia, which enabled it to take a politically savvy approach to understanding the unique and evolving challenges across Somalia and to identify local, state, and national-level entry points to address challenges.

This demonstrates to donors that SSF is a flexible, locally informed, and evidence-based vehicle for channelling funds to deliver maximum impact when addressing Somalia's stability challenges. The success of this approach is clearly demonstrated by the growth of the Fund, which has expanded from an initial size of £62.7m to a new fund size of £97m, demonstrating the trust that SSF has inspired in its donors. This demonstrates the leverage that SSF has achieved with the UK's initial investment by crowding in increased funds from other donors, and the value that SSF has delivered to the FCDO on this UK-led instrument.





SSF II SPEND BY STATE¹

\$4,856,637 SOOL & SANAAG

\$17,618,418 PUNTLAND

\$16,597,246 GALMUDUG

\$5,870,419 MULTI-REGION

\$11,913,722 HIRSHABELLE

\$3,231,488 BANAADIR

\$14,865,015 SOUTH WEST

\$12,788,713 JUBALAND

¹ this is the spend at the time of this papers production in November 2021

MEET HABIBA ABDULLAHI



MAMA HABIBA ABDULLAHI
RECORDING HER SALES OF
THE DAY INSIDE HER GROCERY
SHOP IN HUDUR TOWN



My name is Habiba Abdullahi a business woman residing in Hudur town of Bakool region of South West State of Somalia. I am living with my ten children, five grand children and my elderly mother in the same plot and I am the sole bread winner for the entire family.

I own and manage a small grocery shop in Hudur for more than four years which is the main source of food and cash income for my extended family. The initial capital I started with my business was from the sale of the only productive asset I had (a donkey cart). For the last four years I was managing my grocery shop, I didn't know my profit and loss because I could not read or write anything.

I have never thought of expanding my business and the only thing I was always worried everyday was not to lose my initial investment which is the startup capital. Around last year October 2018 I heard a call for application for free entrepreneurship training announced in Hudur by SOS-MMC through Hudur local administration and I got interested and applied it. I went through the beneficiaries' selection criteria and was successfully accepted as eligible candidate for the entrepreneurship training. I appreciate the knowledge and the practical experience I got from the 3 months training and i am confident that I can now do a proper book keeping and know my profit and loss accounts. I also came up with a business plan and presented to SOS to expand my existing business and i am hopeful that I will qualify for the micro credit. I am grateful and I thank the implementing partner agencies SOS-MMC and the Donor SSF for giving me this opportunity of lifetime.

**HOW ARE OUR ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
INTERVENTIONS
CONTRIBUTING TO THE
PEACE AND STABILITY OF
THE PROJECT LOCATIONS,
THE REGION AND THE
COUNTRY AT LARGE?**

The economic development intervention facilitated the acquisition of skills and opportunities that young people need to generate income and find employment. The interventions worked on both the supply and demand side by increasing youth employability through life skills, financial literacy, and technical skills development and working to increase the supply of real jobs through business development and entrepreneurship. This also creates alternative sources of income and if the youth are able to meet basic needs for themselves and their families, they may be less likely to engage in violent or criminal behavior to access economic resources.

The project helped to promote peace and development by providing families in the project locations by encouraging new business start ups and by providing an opportunity to organise the community around constructive, non-violent CBOs for micro credit.

The project has carefully ensured that the local people are involved from the onset of the project in mobilization and selection of beneficiaries irrespective of their economic, political and social background. The increased community responsibility promoted acceptance of the project in the target locations.

The project involved various sections of the population in a selection panel during the business plan competition which increased the communities' trust for the project. This structure carefully balanced between a special focus on youth, women and a more general, community-targeted approach that does not distinguish between population groups.

ACHIEVEMENTS AGAINST THEMATIC PRIORITIES

SUPPORT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES AT STATE AND DISTRICT LEVELS.

SSF II played a critical role in supporting the establishment, building capacity, and improving the ability and recognition of state and district-level governing mechanisms in Somalia. To date, SSF investments to strengthen governance in Somalia have delivered in all states and 67 districts. This includes:

Strengthening governance structures at district level. The Fund is a key partner to local government on the rollout of the Wadajir Framework (the FGS framework under which the local government district council formation process is built). To date, the Fund has contributed to the completion of the District Council Formation (DCF) process in Warsheikh and supports the delivery of the Wadajir Framework in 9 other districts: Goldogob, Balanbale, Abudwaq, Hobyso, Beletweyne, Baidoa, Iskushuban, Qandala, and Alula. Alongside driving the establishment of districts as a critical third tier of Somalia's federal system, SSF has also undertaken critical reflective studies and developed tools to help other actors to support Wadajir Framework implementation and to strengthen the effectiveness of district councils once they are formed. For example, SSF has shared key lessons for actors operating in newly created districts on resource mobilisation to ensure that district councils are able to sustain service delivery to their population.

Responding to a request from the Speaker of the Federal Parliament to convene a Speakers' Forum involving speakers from all five FMSs. SSF's State Parliamentary Strengthening (Gole-Kaab) programme conducted strategic planning to set the agenda and agree on clear expectations for the outcome of the Speakers Forum, convened in April 2019 in Garowe, to ensure that it was set up for productive deliberations.



The Forum resulted in agreements on the harmonisation of parliamentary process, rules of procedure and legal drafting, collaboration and information sharing on legislative processes, support to the constitutional review process, and cooperation around overcoming the current political impasse between the FGS and the executive branch of most of the FMSs.

Stabilising newly recovered areas. SSF has helped to stabilise several formerly Al-Shabab-held locations such as Bardhere, Baidoa, Xudur, Berdale, Mahaday, and Adale. Through support such as rehabilitating district council offices, markets, mother and child health centres, and cash-for-work activities, SSF played a critical role in stabilising these locations. No areas where SSF intervened have fallen back under Al-Shabab control.

Strengthening government capacity at FMS and FGS level. To improve government capacity in Somalia, the Fund embedded

advisors into the states of Hirshabelle and Galmudug, and at the federal level through advisors in the Prime Minister's office, and supported stabilisation within the Ministry of Interior which has improved the capacity of these different tiers of government. In addition, the Fund supported logistical and capacity-building to state and federal parliaments through Gole-Kaab, which built the capacity of the legislative branches of government and drove increased female participation in leadership positions. For example, Gole-Kaab contributed to:

1. the selection of a woman as Second Deputy Speaker in SWS
2. the establishment of a female caucus in Galmudug Parliament
3. instigating a resolution-mandating GESI analysis as part of all future proposed legislation in Puntland



Increasing government visibility at state and district level through investments demonstrating the government's ability to deliver on its key priorities. For instance, SSF constructed government buildings in Jubaland, Galmudug, and Puntland and delivered on other major commitments in collaboration with state and district governments, such as the Barawe airstrip, Hoby Road, and solar street lights in several towns across Galmudug. SSF's endline reports suggest that the Fund's investment in these government visibility enhancements contributed to strengthening peacebuilding processes and supported district council formation activities.

Driving state-level governance improvements for accountability and government service delivery in Somalia. For instance, the Fund supported the Office of the Puntland Human Rights Defenders (OPHRD) to strengthen the community's, police's, and journalists' knowledge and adherence to fundamental human rights. SSF delivered trainings and media campaigns on critical issues including freedom of expression, community safety rights, community policing, human rights principles, policing conduct, sexual and gender-based violence, and access to justice, consequently leading to improved cooperation between the community and the police.

Promoting one-person, one-vote democratic elections in Puntland. As part of SSF's support for Puntland's democratisation agenda, the Fund delivered support to the Transitional Puntland Election Commission (TPEC) to develop its strategic plan and conduct several research pieces exploring affordability and conflict risks and the legal basis of the elections. The recommendations from these key research pieces were presented to the Puntland government and donors to help inform their deliberations and decisions regarding the way forward in progressing the Puntland democratisation agenda. This has been critical in enabling the passing of Puntland's Voter Registration Act. The Fund continues to support TPEC including the procurement of voter registration, media equipment, and salary support to TPEC's secretariat to prepare the state for pilot elections in 2021, and ultimately to state-level elections in 2023.

**'[SSF] RECOMMENDATIONS...
CRITICAL IN ENABLING THE
PASSING OF PUNTLAND'S
VOTER REGISTRATION ACT'**

ADDRESSING COMMUNITY CONFLICT AND BUILDING CONFLICT-RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

SSF has played a critical role in driving reconciliation in Somalia. The Fund has driven major reconciliation processes in states and districts, fostering inter-communal collaboration through community-driven development initiatives. The Fund has undertaken critical research to identify interventions in at-risk areas following disputed elections and has researched approaches to reconcile some of the major fault lines in Somalia. SSF achievements include:

Image credit: ©AMISOM



Providing support to the Joint Galkayo Peace Initiative which was critical in reducing communal conflict in Galkayo. SSF built the capacity of peace actors by working with existing community peace structures to create highly effective Joint Peace Committees (JPCs) with target communities in Galkayo North and Galkayo South and their respective administrations in Puntland and Galmudug. SSF fostered district administration and community discussions to enhance community capacity to prevent, resolve, and contain conflicts through the establishment of effective and integrated community-management and dispute-resolution systems. SSF's endline evaluation found the investment to be responsive to community needs and effective at addressing the conflict. It highlighted that SSF's investments enabled the free movement of people and goods and enhanced opportunities for businesses from across both communities to grow.

Facilitating government engagement with Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama (ASWJ) by providing technical and logistical support and behind-the-scenes negotiation in Galmudug. The Fund supported the reconciliation process to incorporate ASWJ forces into the state, unifying the state under one government in Dhusamareb and bringing ASWJ-controlled territory under the control of the Galmudug state. The success of the peace process both averted violent conflict in the short term and strengthened the government's ability to govern the state.

'RAISED \$1.8M THROUGH THE SOKAAB PLATFORM FROM 8,000 PEOPLE SO FAR, ATTRACTING UP TO 58% COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PROJECTS'

Employing an innovative community-driven development approach which built community cohesion and trust between communities and government in locations across Somalia. SSF's CDD projects have raised \$1.8m through the Sokaab Platform from 8,000 people so far, attracting up to 58% community contributions for projects. For instance, through the 'DIALOGUE' project in Gedo, SSF delivered an approach that clearly defined rules around access to SSF funds to support community priority projects delivered through the state treasury accounts. This contributed to a reduction of conflict in the region and increased collaboration among clans with fractious relations in the districts of Bardhere and Garbahare. In both of these districts, the Fund brought partners together to discuss shared priorities and raise funds to deliver critical infrastructure, such as the rehabilitation of irrigation systems and the establishment of a sesame processing unit and an agro-vet shop. SSF built on this success in Gedo to roll out this approach across Somalia. For instance, in Sool, SSF invested in a community consensus-building approach designed to increase trust among communities and deliver tangible, shared benefits.

Context unders

Ensuring that all components of the Fund's work are informed by detailed contextual understanding. The Fund undertakes targeted research to inform and guide SSF's strategies for engagement and to share lessons and analysis with SSF's partners. SSF research includes:

1. An Election Conflict Hotspots Analysis paper, prepared by SSF in response to the federal electoral impasse in 2021, which highlighted potential types of electoral violence that may occur and the geographic spread that these may take. This research has directly guided two agile interventions to deploy peace mediators and peace communications, preventing and mitigating violence in the forthcoming national electoral process.
2. Detailed regional context analysis to identify conflict fault lines in each of the 5 FMSs. These papers are regularly updated and provide the basis upon which SSF has determined its engagement strategies. For example, the 2021 Hirshabelle fault lines assessment paper highlighted the role of environmental shocks and climate change on conflict in Hirshabelle, leading to the design and implementation of climate conflict-mediation programming there.
3. The DCF 'Lessons Learned' study, completed in early 2020, highlighting the importance of slowing DCF and investing more into preliminary reconciliation in DCF process. In this way, the Fund is adaptive and driven by local needs. As a result, the Fund takes a "Do No Harm" approach to its work, while ensuring that the complex requirements of reconciliation are fully addressed before progressing to contentious governance challenges.



tual
standing

Alindi fabric is one of the many traditional fabrics worn by Somali women. It is often worn at weddings by brides and bride's maids.

MAINSTREAMING GENDER EQUITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION ACROSS THE FUND

Mainstreaming Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) has been pivotal to ensuring that the Fund delivers on its commitment to support the most vulnerable groups in Somalia and address these issues that have traditionally been neglected in Somalia's conservative society. In each FMS, SSF has implemented GESI investments focused on supporting women and marginalised groups to increase their participation in political processes and economic opportunities, and to raise awareness of their rights. SSF's GESI approach blended specific investments focused on achieving Gender Equity and Social Inclusion with ensuring that these priorities are mainstreamed across the entire portfolio. These include:

Supporting activism to drive women's representation. SSF delivered media awareness, constituency outreach, and community development training to all MPs in FMSs to challenge women's perceptions and shift their understanding of what meaningful female participation in governance means. For instance, SSF funded a convention for 300 women and male champions to address women's representation and issues affecting women in Somalia. The convention was attended by a diverse group of participants from all sectors of society including civil society, women's organisations and groups, youth group organisations, traditional elders, religious leaders, various private sector representatives, Somali diaspora, members of academia from across the country, women's rights advocates and activists, politicians, and people with special needs/disabilities.

The convention secured endorsement for The Women's Charter from key attendees—including officials from the FGS and all 5 FMSs, Benadir Regional Administration and civil society leaders—and their commitment to supporting its implementation. The Charter highlights the importance of furthering women's leadership in the reconstruction of the country

Driving improved representation of women within the DCF process at district level. SSF rolled out a 30% quota for women's priorities as part of the peace dividends within the Wadajir Framework implementation in Galmudug which empowered women to choose their priorities, including the construction of women's centres in Abudwaq and Balanbale as well as a health clinic in Hobyo. Notable successes from this support include the election of a female Mayor in Beletweyne, the (s)election of 10 women to the 21-member Dinsoor District Council, and an increase in women's representation in districts where SSF provided support such as Galkayo, Bossaso, Dahar, Ufeyn, Buran, and Badhan.

Strategically targeted radio advocacy programming to drive more participatory governance and reduced community vulnerability to conflict—particularly for the most vulnerable in society. For instance, the IMAQAL investment comprised a suite of media interventions, including radio, press, TV, social media, and on-the-ground forums, to engage Somalis on critical GESI issues, to understand the perceptions of Somalis, and to tailor programming to tackle the root causes of GESI problems. The IMAQAL investment proved highly effective at engaging citizens to address these problematic topics, with the programme reaching and engaging at least 900,000 people through interactive radio, while receiving over 335,200 messages of opinion and comments, demonstrating how effectively it engaged Somalis on sensitive, but critical, issues.

Mainstreaming GESI within SSF's economic development portfolio to ensure that GESI outcomes were prioritised. SSF funded marginalised groups and women's economic empowerment through a suite of investments to improve economic outcomes. For instance, SSF led a project to support 300 aspiring youth and women on "How to start, improve and expand a business", giving access to quality labour market and employment services and access to essential financial opportunities, including disbursing 180 loans to support these businesses. Alongside providing direct support to these women, the project undertook a gender-sensitive labour market assessment and skills gap analysis to inform a set of income-generating projects that women can benefit from. By mainstreaming GESI at the heart of SSF's investments, the Fund contributes to addressing the gender biases in Somalia's traditionally conservative society.

'REACHING AND ENGAGING AT LEAST 900,000 PEOPLE THROUGH INTERACTIVE RADIO, WHILE RECEIVING OVER 335,200 MESSAGES OF OPINION AND COMMENTS'



Image credit: ©AMISOM



EMPOWERING SOMALIS TO REALISE THEIR ECONOMIC POTENTIAL

SSF delivered a portfolio of economic development investments that identified significant challenges to economic growth in Somalia, and put in place mechanisms to enable Somalis to unlock the country's economic potential. SSF ran a set of complementary investments at federal, state, and local levels that have: allowed Somalis to access training, education, and finance; facilitated the improvement of value chains; upgraded infrastructure; and set up national-level structures to outline and identify approaches to address Somalia's underlying capacity issues. This includes:

Support to improve Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) to support young Somalis with the equipment of skills required to match the jobs available. By ensuring that young Somalis can find employment and prosper, their likelihood of reverting to crime or engaging with Al-Shabab is significantly reduced. In South West State alone, SSF's TVET support reached over 14,000 young Somalis. SSF also supported the creation of 2,438 jobs for vulnerable individuals.

Support the development of a cohesive strategy for human capital development mechanism (HCDM) that fed into the National Development Plan informed by

baseline data collected from across the country on education, health, labour, agriculture, livestock, and fisheries. The HCDM has not only been critical in informing states on their HCD priorities but also played a key role in providing an area of shared priority for improved engagement between the FGS and FMS. The findings of the strategy have already been disseminated to key stakeholders and have received support from both state and federal ministries.

Support investment in critical infrastructure across Somalia to facilitate economic growth, increase employment opportunities, and open new markets for Somali firms. SSF rolled out solar street lights, built key connecting routes for trade such as Beletweyne Road, and other infrastructures such as the rehabilitation of airstrips in Hobylo and Abudwaq and the construction of a new airstrip in Barawe in South West State. For instance, in Hobylo, the SSF-co-funded rehabilitation of the airstrip transformed the local economy by opening access to markets across Somalia.



POTENTIAL



Previously, travel from Hobyo to Mogadishu took 2 days on dangerous roads through unstable territory whereas, with the new airstrip, flight time is less than 2 hours. This has proved transformative for local industries; for instance, the local fishing industry has increased revenues, employed more staff, and spread economic benefits across the town. Lobster caught in Hobyo can now be sold to the lucrative market for \$16/kilo, whereas previously, it could not be transported for sale. This has expanded Hobyo's fishing industry—with new fishermen and divers being employed—and has furthered investments in improved refrigerating infrastructure to meet the more lucrative Mogadishu market demands.

Building a set of mechanisms to improve the ease of doing business for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Somalia through approaches such as cooperatives, enabling small businesses to capitalise on the benefits and boosts in incomes that arise from economies of scale. SSF supported over 1,600 businesses with improved access to finance for start-up capital, loans, and growth capital to build their businesses. This critical support was aligned with technical support, including linkages to markets and focused technical assistance. Over 67% of businesses supported by SSF reported improved business performance as a result of this support.

Adam Smith
International



Norwegian Ministry
of Foreign Affairs



**iskaashiga
jarmalka**

DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
Netherlands



Sweden
Sverige



**MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF DENMARK**

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DELIVERING PEACE & STABILITY IN SOMALIA