



MA Somalia 2024 Annual Report

2024

Figure 1: Midwife at Balcad District Hospital Maternity Ward providing essential care to mothers and newborns in Somalia. (January 1, 2024)-
Source: <https://mediabox.soskd.org/dam/contentitems/ab30128630704599a336b1f50097800f>

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Reporting period:	2024
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (2 pages)

1. National context and stakeholders (½ page)

In 2024, Somalia faced a complex humanitarian crisis, affecting 6.9 million individuals, including 4.3 million children. While humanitarian needs declined by 17% from 2023 due to improved food security, acute malnutrition persisted, with 1.5 million children under five affected. Reports from the Somalia National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS) indicated that over 60% of children lacked essential health services, and 79% of internally displaced children were without mental health and psychosocial support, exacerbating vulnerabilities and deepening protection risks.

The Federal Government of Somalia has undertaken significant initiatives that have improved governance and security. Notably, there were no major terrorist attacks recorded in Mogadishu in 2024, marking a shift in the security landscape. Additionally, the government initiated a constitutional reform process, which is ongoing and could lead to an electoral process with universal suffrage. Legislative progress has also been made, with the Somali Parliament passing key national policies, including the Disability Act, labor laws, and national ID laws. These policies aim to strengthen government institutions, enhance service provision, and improve regulatory frameworks.

Economically, Somalia launched a three-year Extended Credit Facility (ECF) to support post-HIPC development, but external funding volatility, including a U.S. aid freeze in early 2025, disrupted NGO-run healthcare and nutrition programs. Inflation averaged 5% in 2024, raising the cost of essential goods and increasing reliance on humanitarian aid. While governance and security improvements offer hope for stability, ongoing conflicts, climate change, and displacement continue to strain communities and service delivery.

The Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development (MoWHRD), which oversaw SOS CV Somalia's Alternative Care programming, underwent a name and leadership change in 2024, becoming the Ministry of Family and Social Affairs. This transition aligns with a broader government strategy to refine its vision and mandate. SOS Somalia will maintain its collaboration with the ministry, ensuring continuity in child protection and family strengthening efforts.

The National Transformation Plan (NTP) 2025-2029 was launched as a strategic roadmap to foster inclusive development, governance, and climate resilience. The plan prioritizes four key pillars: transformational governance, sustainable economic growth, social and human capital transformation, and environmental resilience. By aligning with the NTP, SOS Children's Villages Somalia aims to enhance child protection, education, healthcare, and community resilience through strengthened partnerships with government agencies and stakeholders.

Strategic partnerships with government agencies, donors, and private sector actors have been essential in sustaining interventions. Key partners include UNICEF, WFP, EU, USAID, Save the Children, and national institutions such as the Ministries of Youth & Sports and Labor & Social Affairs. These collaborations have enhanced child protection, nutrition, education, and economic empowerment initiatives. With improved governance structures and ongoing constitutional reforms, SOS CV Somalia will continue working with key stakeholders to expand service delivery and advocate for children's rights.

MA Somalia faced immense operational pressure in 2024, driven by increased health service demands, rising malnutrition, and displacement. Patient consultations surged straining resources, while food security and nutrition programs struggled to meet growing needs. Alternative Care (AC) admissions rose, necessitating stronger reintegration and mental health support. Severe flooding damaged infrastructure, disrupting essential services, and funding constraints forced cost-effective, high-impact strategies. Despite these challenges, SOS CV Somalia actively contributed to revising the Essential Package of Health Services (EPHS) with the Federal Ministry of Health, reinforcing its role as a key healthcare provider and ensuring service sustainability.

2. Member association analysis (1 page)

Strategy implementation status [see 2.1]

Achievements

- Overall participants reached: The total number of participants reached by MA Somalia in 2024 stood at 1,629,925, significantly surpassing the target of 812,123 and showing a major improvement from the 1,292,644 reached in 2023. This highlights MA's strong capacity for outreach and service delivery.
- Alternative Care Programs: The number of children and young people in alternative care programs slightly decreased from the planned 255 to 223 in 2024. However, a significant achievement is seen in the percentage of young people who are self-reliant and economically empowered post-alternative care, which exceeded the target of 75%, reaching an impressive 100% in 2024.
- Family Strengthening Programs: In 2024, the number of children, young people and caregivers benefiting from the family strengthening programs saw a sharp 14.5% decline, from 3,675 in 2023 to 3,143 in 2024,

reflecting an increase of 392 more beneficiaries from the planned (2,751) FS participants in 2024. Educare and Climate Smart Farming and Sustainable Livelihood (CSFL) remained stable, with only slight reductions (-0.2% and -1.4%, respectively), ensuring continuity in FS services. Moreover, the percentage of families who became self-reliant upon exiting the program remained at 0%, indicating a critical challenge in achieving sustainability.

- Humanitarian Action: MA Somalia has significantly exceeded its target in humanitarian response, reaching 1,614,101 participants in 2024 compared to the planned 806,000. 1% (12,453) of humanitarian action programs reach was contributed by education in Emergency (EIE). This represents a major milestone in providing lifesaving health, nutrition, and WASH services, showcasing a substantial expansion in humanitarian assistance.
- Education: A remarkable increase was observed in the number of children and young people with access to quality education, soaring from the planned 3,031 to 13,969 in 2024. 89% (12,453) of these data was reached through EIE supporting creating access for crisis affected children in SWS program location. The percentage of children achieving at least satisfactory educational performance was maintained at 95.7%, slightly below the 2023 achievement (96%) but still exceeding the 2024 target of 75%.
- Institutional Funding: The organization secured €14.45 million in institutional funding in 2024, surpassing the planned €12 million but falling below the 2023 funding level of €15.92 million. This suggests strong financial mobilization efforts, although funding levels slightly declined compared to the previous year.
- Committed to Results Award 2024 – Both program locations in MA Somalia received the award, with Banadir (Mogadishu) achieving 100% compliance in basic tools and 94% in standard tools, while Southwest (Baidoa) reached 100% and 83%, respectively. This underscores a strong culture of structured program management, systematic learning, and impact tracking.
- Strategic Compliance Progress – As of August 2023, the HGFD minimum requirements tracker dashboard highlights NA Somalia's alignment with compliance benchmarks. Child Safeguarding, PSHEA, Programme Quality, and RBM Rollout fully met requirements, while National Strategy, Internal Audit, Code of Conduct, Connect SOS Rollout, and Cyber Security showed progress but require further efforts.
- Safety and Security Training – In 2024, 78.5% (55 out of 70) staff across Burhakaba, Hudur, Jowhar, Adale, and Balcad received safety and security training through a hybrid approach. An action plan was periodically reviewed by the MA Security Advisory Team. Despite budget constraints, one National Management Team (NMT) member successfully completed INSO's Advanced Security Training.
- Donor Expansion and Funding Growth – MA Somalia strengthened its position in the development sector by forming two new consortia for Protection and Education, in addition to two existing ones. Engagement in 24 funding calls led to approvals for 12 applications, securing a €9.93 million budget. The organization played a key role in leading 14 funding proposals while securing major donors like the World Bank, USAID, ECHO, ECW, and FCDO.
- Growth in International Sponsorship – The sponsorship program expanded with 90 new children enrolled in 2024—79 under the SFC project and 11 under the FFC project. Seven children were reintegrated with their families, and six were newly admitted. Sponsor engagement remained strong with 2,719 active international sponsors, including 1,659 child sponsors and 1,060 village sponsors. PSA and International Office-led efforts resulted in 183 new sponsors.
- Audit Recommendation Implementation – The MA Somalia implementation of audit recommendations significantly improved, with 76% (19 recommendations) fully executed in 2024, up from 52% (13) in 2023. All partially implemented recommendations (2) were completed, while non-implemented recommendations dropped from 40% (10) in 2023 to 24% (6) in 2024, reinforcing compliance and accountability.
- Advancing Digital Transformation and Cybersecurity – One digital literacy training was conducted per location, covering SOS Business Applications and Cybersecurity Awareness, reaching at least 70% of co-workers. While the goal was 100% enrollment in SoSafe cybersecurity training, implementation faced delays. The MA also achieved over 90% end-user device coverage across all locations and 100% in CORE program areas, with ongoing efforts to maintain standardization and compliance. A key milestone for digitalization was the establishment of a digital village at the nursing school, supported by a \$25,000 seed fund. Additionally, the MA is preparing to launch Rafiki, the Digital Care Assistant, which has been adapted to the local language and cultural context to provide Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) to caregivers. User testing is set to begin in early 2025.
- Sustainable Workforce Management – A committee was formed to oversee the restructuring of 102 outsourced staff (security, maintenance, and cleaning). The TOR for outsourcing was published, shortlisted providers conducted site visits, and final selections were scheduled for February 2025.
- Youth Empowerment and Advocacy – Eleven young people from SOS CV Somalia engaged with officials, CSOs, and scholars at the Human Capital Forum to discuss youth employment. Six youth (3 male, 3 female) participated in Somalia's National Youth Day, meeting with the President to address employment challenges. Internationally, four young people (2 male, 2 female) represented MA Somalia at the Eco Champion Summit in Nairobi, advocating for climate change awareness.
- Advocacy – MA Somalia actively contributed to global child rights initiatives, including the World Children's Day "Stomping for Peace" campaign, where Somali children joined peers from 38 countries in advocating for peace. Additionally, MA Somalia co-organized the Local Conference of Youth Somalia, promoting youth inclusion in Somalia's National Youth Policy 2023–2030, and partnered with the Somali Child Rights

Coalition to commemorate the Day of the African Child, emphasizing inclusive education and removing barriers to learning.

Challenges

- Funding challenges remain the most common challenges experience; the humanitarian needs of the crises affected population outweighs the response capacity of the partners due to the limited funds. Hence SOS CV Somalia has prioritized the most important response areas for the affected population
- Financial Sustainability & Donor Dependency: Over-reliance on a few large institutional donors and a €1.38M funding gap in 2024 pose risks to program continuity. Strengthening financial sustainability through diversified funding sources, including private sector partnerships, is crucial for long-term impact.
- Policy & Advocacy Barriers: Bureaucratic delays and legislative resistance have hindered the approval of key child protection policies, with the rejection of the Child Rights Bill being a major setback. Enhanced advocacy efforts are needed to influence policy change and secure legal protections for children.
- Resource Constraints in Education & Workforce Linkages: The SOS College of Health Science faces infrastructural and financial limitations, affecting student access and practical training. Additionally, weak employment and entrepreneurship linkages for graduates hinder economic empowerment, requiring strengthened workforce integration strategies.
- Child Safeguarding & Financial Constraints: Budget limitations have delayed the implementation of the Youth & Child Safeguarding and PSHEA Policies to 2025, while a full safeguarding audit could not be completed. These gaps pose risks to child protection efforts, necessitating urgent financial investment to uphold safeguarding standards.
- Climate Resilience & Infrastructure Damage: Flash floods have severely impacted WASH and health infrastructure in IDP outreach sites, disrupting essential services. Recurring droughts and El Niño-induced floods further threaten food security and family livelihoods, underscoring the need for disaster resilience strategies to sustain long-term program outcomes.

Lessons learned [see 2.2]

- Conducting child-led participatory assessments in all targeted schools under the ECHO EiE project enabled students to actively identify risks and develop school-specific mitigation action plans. This approach enhanced child protection, reduced risks, and gradually contributed to increased school enrollment. Empowering children in risk assessment and decision-making fosters a safer learning environment and strengthens their resilience.
- El Niño flash floods severely damaged WASH and health infrastructure in IDP mobile outreach sites, impacting service delivery. Climate-induced disasters pose a significant risk to essential service delivery, particularly for vulnerable populations in IDP sites. Strengthening disaster preparedness, resilience planning, and climate adaptation measures is crucial to ensuring continuity in humanitarian response and essential health services.
- A full organizational-wide audit could not be conducted, leaving potential safeguarding gaps unaddressed. An organization-wide safeguarding audit is essential to identify and mitigate risks. Without it, gaps in policies, response mechanisms, and implementation remain unknown, increasing vulnerabilities.
- Lack of trained internal investigators limits capacity to handle complex child safeguarding complaints effectively. Having trained internal investigators is crucial for handling safeguarding violations promptly and effectively. Without them, serious cases may remain unresolved or improperly managed, posing risks to children's safety and organizational credibility.
- The demand for mental health and psychosocial support services for children exceeds available resources. Addressing children's mental health needs is fundamental to their overall well-being and recovery from adverse experiences. A lack of sufficient services can lead to long-term developmental and emotional challenges.
- Upgrading connectivity, infrastructure, and network security devices to meet global and regional standards improved system performance and reliability. Strengthening digital infrastructure is critical for improving operational efficiency, data security, and program delivery.
- Need for Enhanced Local Resource Mobilization: Expanding private sector partnerships and corporate social responsibility (CSR) engagement could reduce reliance on external donors.
- Stronger partnerships with government security agencies enhanced operational safety. Collaborative security efforts mitigate risks and improve the safety of staff, beneficiaries, and assets.
- **Optimizing Donor Dependency:** Diversifying income sources and strengthening long-term agreements with donors can improve financial sustainability and resilience.

[Source: T13b. Lessons learned log-MA Somalia.xlsx](#)

Cross-cutting topics [see 2.3]

- **Age, Gender, and Diversity Mainstreaming-** SOS CV Somalia ensures gender equality and social inclusion across all programs, reaching **1,629,925** participants, of whom 67% are female and 52% are children under 17. The digital literacy efforts, such as the Digital Village initiative, enhance technological

access for caregivers and youth. Awareness campaigns on gender-based violence (GBV) have strengthened referral pathways, ensuring protection and psychosocial support for survivors.

- **Protection Mainstreaming-** Child safeguarding remains a priority, with structured policies ensuring safe learning spaces and enhanced case management. In IDP settlements, targeted interventions have improved child protection case management, benefiting over 1.6 million direct participants. Aid integrity was reinforced through the investigation and resolution of two aid diversion cases, ensuring resources reached vulnerable communities.
- **Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)-** In 2024, SOS CV Somalia facilitated 3,188 mental health consultations, with 94% (3,012) being new cases, demonstrating increased demand for MHPSS services. However, only 6% (176) were follow-up consultations, highlighting a need for sustained care. Integration into primary healthcare services has improved accessibility, while awareness campaigns continue to reduce stigma and promote psychosocial well-being.
- **Governance & Leadership-** SOS CV Somalia plays a pivotal role in national child protection governance, co-chairing the National Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR) and leading the Case Management Taskforce (CMTF), expanding its reach from 7 partners in 2021 to 37 in 2024. The rollout of Primero CPIMS has led to a surge in reported child protection cases from 706 in March 2023 to 13,807 by December 2024. Investigations into two aid diversion cases reinforced transparency and governance.

Sustainability actions [see 2.4]

In 2024, SOS Children's Villages Somalia has advanced sustainability across **social, political, financial, and environmental** dimensions to ensure long-term impact. This was achieved in the following dimensions.

- **Social Sustainability:** Through participatory planning and capacity-building initiatives, the organization enhanced community ownership and self-reliance among caregivers, youth, and local organizations. The integration of education, child protection, and livelihood programs created a holistic support system that fosters resilience. Additionally, the SOS College of Health Science contributed to sustainability by developing skilled healthcare professionals through pre-service and in-service training.
- **Political Sustainability:** SOS Children's Villages Somalia aligned its programs with national policies and strengthened partnerships with key government ministries in health, education, agriculture, and social welfare, ensuring program continuity beyond external funding. Advocacy efforts promoted child rights and social inclusion, while engagement with local authorities and traditional leaders reinforced governance structures. To ensure institutional sustainability, the SOS College of Health Science established a Board of Directors, providing strategic oversight for long-term growth.
- **Financial Sustainability:** MA Somalia reduced financial dependency by diversifying funding sources, securing support from international donors, private sector stakeholders, and philanthropic partners. The expansion of income-generating activities, including vocational training and enterprise development, empowered youth and caregivers economically. Strengthened financial management and resource mobilization strategies further enhanced financial resilience. The SOS College of Health Science also contributed by generating revenue through training programs and implementing a strategic business plan to ensure long-term financial sustainability.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** In response to climate challenges, MA Somalia Integrated climate-smart agriculture, eco-friendly infrastructure (including energy-efficient schools and health facilities), and community-led conservation (reforestation and environmental awareness campaigns). These efforts enhanced food security, strengthened community resilience, mitigated climate risks, and promoted environmental responsibility, and fostered long-term ecological balance and sustainability within communities.

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1. NATIONAL CONTEXT AND STAKEHOLDERS (2 PAGES)

General description of national context (1 page)

Significant Contextual Changes

- In 2024, Somalia faced a complex humanitarian crisis affecting children, families, and young people. The Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) identified **6.9 million** individuals, including **4.3 million** children, in urgent need of assistance. Despite an overall **17%** reduction in humanitarian needs from 2023, largely attributed to improved food security, acute malnutrition persisted, with **1.5 million** children under five affected. Reports from the Somalia National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS) indicated that over **60%** of children lacked access to essential health services, and **79%** of internally displaced children were without mental health and psychosocial support. These conditions exacerbated vulnerabilities, deepening displacement, poverty, and protection risks for families and young people.
- Politically, constitutional amendments proposed by President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud in April triggered tensions with regional states, notably Puntland and Jubbaland, both of which sought increased autonomy. These political rifts diverted national attention from social services, hindering investments in child welfare, education, and protection. Economically, Somalia launched a three-year Extended Credit Facility (ECF) to support post-Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) development. However, external funding remained volatile, with a U.S. aid freeze in early 2025 disrupting NGO-run healthcare and nutrition programs.
- Somalia experienced an average inflation rate of **5%** in 2024, slightly lower than in previous years. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) data from SNBS indicated an increase in the cost of essential goods, affecting household purchasing power and contributing to food insecurity. Rising fuel prices and global economic pressures further impacted the affordability of essential services, increasing reliance on humanitarian assistance.
- Socially, conflicts, displacement, and economic distress strained community structures, while technological progress remained slow due to limited infrastructure investments. Legally, fragmented governance hampered child protection law enforcement and restricted vulnerable populations' access to justice.

Effects on the Member Association (MA)

- The evolving crisis placed intense pressure on MA Somalia's operations, requiring rapid scaling-up of services across multiple sectors. Health facilities saw a **33%** increase in patient consultations, straining medical supplies and staff capacity. The demand for food security and nutrition programs exceeded planned targets, driven by rising malnutrition rates and displacement. Alternative Care (AC) programs faced increased admissions, requiring greater support for child reintegration and mental health services. Severe flooding damaged infrastructure, disrupting service continuity in health, education, and protection programs. Additionally, funding constraints and logistical challenges impacted timely resource allocation, forcing the MA to adopt cost-effective, high-impact strategies to sustain its operations.
- As part of its response to health sector demands, MA Somalia played a pivotal role in implementing the Essential Package of Health Services (EPHS). In collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health, the MA contributed to revising the EPHS framework, ensuring that high-impact, cost-effective interventions were prioritized to improve healthcare access in underserved regions. This strategic alignment strengthened MA Somalia's role as a key healthcare provider within the national system, enhancing service integration and sustainability.

Member Association (MA) Staff Response

- MA Somalia mobilized **574** project staff to address the crisis, ensuring the continuation of lifesaving services while adapting to emerging needs. Health and nutrition teams expanded service delivery, integrating mobile outreach and emergency response interventions. To address food insecurity, the MA introduced hydroponic farming initiatives, empowering vulnerable families with sustainable food production solutions. Child protection and psychosocial support mechanisms were reinforced, including structured MHPSS services, community child protection networks, and awareness campaigns on child rights.
- To enhance efficiency and accountability, MA Somalia prioritized digital transformation, rolling out Pharmaceutical Information Management Systems (PIMS) and other data-driven solutions to streamline service delivery. Capacity-building efforts played a critical role in strengthening staff resilience, with over **250** employees trained in safeguarding, emergency response, and program management.

Key partners at national level (1 page)

Through strengthened partnerships with government agencies, donors, and local stakeholders, MA Somalia secured additional resources and enhanced service integration, ensuring that vulnerable children, families, and communities received comprehensive and sustainable support. These collaborations played a crucial role in mitigating the impact of inflation, political instability, and funding fluctuations, allowing MA Somalia to maintain and expand its services in 2024.

Table 1.2 Key partners

Name of partner	Description (purpose of partnership)	Progress in last year (key actions taken)	Effectiveness of partnership (contribution to results)	Formal agreement signed
UNICEF	Support for integrated health, nutrition, education, and child protection services	Provided lifesaving services to individuals; strengthened child safeguarding mechanisms	Enhanced access to healthcare, education, and child protection.	Yes
WFP	Nutrition support for malnourished children and vulnerable families	Provided food assistance to 245,224 individuals, including children under five.	Improved nutritional outcomes and reduced food insecurity among vulnerable populations	Yes
Ministry of Youth and Sports	Advocacy and policy alignment for youth empowerment	Signed MoU; engaged 11 young people in the Human Capital Forum; supported youth leadership initiatives	Strengthened youth advocacy and engagement in decision-making processes	Yes
Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs	Collaboration on social protection and alternative care programs	Facilitated visits to program locations; strengthened policy implementation on child welfare	Enhanced government engagement in child protection efforts	Yes
IBS Bank	Corporate sponsorship for Alternative Care (AC) programs	Sponsored one house in the SOS Children's Village; supported financial literacy programs	Increased local corporate engagement in child welfare initiatives	Yes
Turkish Maarif Foundation	Educational support for secondary school students	Supported 4 students in gaining scholarships for secondary education	Improved access to higher education for vulnerable children	No
Damal Cafimaad Consortium	Health system strengthening through pharmaceutical management	Implemented Pharmaceutical Information Management System (PIMS); trained 19 staff	Improved efficiency in medical stock management and healthcare service delivery	Yes
Save the Children & Joining Forces Alliance	Child rights advocacy and legislative reform	Advocated for Child Rights Bill; supported establishment of Joining Forces Alliance	Strengthened policy influence and child protection advocacy	Yes
Premier Bank	Support for AC through corporate sponsorship	Renewed house sponsorship for a second consecutive year	Sustained private sector contribution to child welfare	Yes
Hormuud-Salaam Foundation	Support for infrastructure development in AC programs	Contributed \$10,000 towards the construction of a multipurpose hall	Improved living conditions and facilities for children in care	Yes
EU & ECHO	Education in Emergencies (EiE) support	Supported 6,152 children in formal/non-formal education; provided teaching/learning materials	Increased school enrolments and retention in crisis-affected areas	Yes
USAID & CRS	Funding for emergency response and resilience-building programs	Funded projects targeting health, nutrition, and protection services for vulnerable populations	Strengthened emergency preparedness and service delivery in crisis areas	Yes
BMZ	Climate-smart agriculture and food security initiatives	Trained 50 youth in sustainable agriculture; established 5 hydroponic greenhouses	Improved food security and climate resilience for vulnerable families	Yes

Human Appeal & Ministry of Health	Health screening and medical support for school children	Conducted eye screenings for 97% of students in HG Primary and Secondary School	Improved healthcare access for school-aged children	Yes
SOS Norway, Canada, Denmark	Funding and programmatic support for SOS CV Somalia	Secured sustained funding for key projects, including education and child protection	Ensured financial stability and continuity of child-focused programs	Yes

2. MEMBER ASSOCIATION ANALYSIS (5-7 PAGES)

Strategy implementation status (2-3 pages)

2.1.1 ALTERNATIVE CARE

(a) Achievements

- In 2024, the AC program reached 223¹ participants across three service delivery projects in Mogadishu, exceeding the planned target of 216 by 3% and achieving 56% of the national strategic goal of 400 participants. A total of 23 children were admitted into alternative care, while 14 successfully reintegrated into the community. Demographically, 76% (164 participants) were aged 0-17, with males aged 0-17 (104) making up 47% of total participants, reinforcing the program's primary focus on childcare. The distribution across service types included 62 in Family Foster Care (FFC), 81 in Family-Like Care (FLC), and 80 in Semi-Independent Living (SIL). The program exceeded its targets in two of the three service types, with FFC surpassing its plan by 11% (111% achievement), SIL exceeding by 1% (101%), and FLC meeting its target (100%). These results highlight effective program implementation, strong foster care placements, and a sustained demand for youth transitioning into independent living, ensuring that children and youth receive the necessary support.
- The AC program continued to emphasize family-based care solutions, successfully transferring 4 children from FLC to FFC after reunification, while 6 new children were admitted into FLC, and 14 exited following reintegration. The program facilitated the community integration of one FLC family, with another prepared for transition by early 2025.
- The MA Somalia Gatekeeping Guideline was developed and approved by the National Management Team (NMT), with implementation currently underway. The program conducted participatory child safeguarding risk assessments and mitigation strategies, ensuring that children in care remained protected. In 2024, in terms of the number of households there are 25 households across the AC program, achieving 96% of the planned target (26). Breakdown by service type included: FFC (12 households, 92% of target), FLC (12 households, 100%), and SIL (1 household, 100%). The slight shortfall in FFC (-1 household) highlights minor challenges in placement or reunification, which require further monitoring.
- A total of 215 school-aged children accessed education, demonstrating strong academic performance. 10 Grade 8 students excelled in the SCPE Examination, with 4 joining Turkish Maarif Secondary School, while 7 secondary students secured university placements, and 5 graduates entered the job market.
- The AC program actively enhanced partnerships and advocacy efforts by signing a MoU with the Ministry of Youth and Sports, focusing on advocacy and policy alignment. Additionally, the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs visited program locations, reinforcing inter-agency cooperation. A strategic partnership with IBS Bank led to the sponsorship of a house in the Children's Village, further contributing to sustainable care solutions.
- The program invested in enhancing child protection and caregiving capacity through training on MA Gatekeeping Guidelines and positive parenting for 19 child and youth care practitioners. Additionally, 20 children participated in PSHEA training, and 40 young people developed life skills in problem-solving, decision-making, time management, and communication.
- In an effort to empower children and youth, the Children's Parliament was restructured, and 35 children received refresher training on child rights and responsibilities. Additionally, 10 young people participated in the Human Capital Development Forum and Somalia National Youth Day, where they engaged with leaders and policymakers on issues affecting children and youth.
- Mental health and psychosocial support remained a priority in 2024, with counselling provided to 58 children and youth, addressing academic struggles and personal challenges. Additionally, MHPSS training was conducted for 23 young people, emphasizing self-care, resilience, and emotional well-being. The program also organized 80 psychosocial support sessions for FS families, addressing challenges in childcare, parenting, school enrolment, and problem-solving.

¹ [Statistical Key Figures 2023-2024 - Power BI](#)

- The AC program strengthened economic empowerment efforts, enabling 12 young people to secure internships, while one graduate obtained full-time employment. Furthermore, 31 young people completed employability and entrepreneurship training, with 3 launching businesses in tailoring, sweets production, and grocery retail. Additionally, 14 young people enrolled in TVET programs, focusing on photography, videography, cooking, barista skills, electricity, computer skills, and beauty.
- Through the 16 Days of Activism Campaign, the program raised awareness on critical issues such as female genital mutilation (FGM), early marriages, harassment, and the importance of girls' education, fostering a commitment to gender equality.

(b) Challenges

SOS Children's Villages Somalia in its implementation of the AC programs has encountered several critical challenges in implementing its programs for vulnerable children and young people.

- Difficulty in obtaining academic results and attendance reports from universities hindered effective monitoring of youth progress. To address this, formal communication was initiated with universities, requesting regular updates. As a result, communication has improved, and we are now receiving the necessary reports from four universities with the highest number of enrolled young people.
- Insufficient documentation during admission has delayed the placement of vulnerable children in alternative care. Collaboration with local authorities was initiated to improve documentation processes. However, progress has been slow as planned training for local authorities was not conducted. To mitigate this, cooperation has now started with the police unit for child protection and women.
- Peer pressure has led to drug abuse, indiscipline, and poor time management among young people. In response, training programs on drug abuse prevention and time management were implemented. So far, 25 youth have received refresher training, equipping them with strategies to manage these challenges effectively.
- Identity crises among children and young people in the program remain a concern, particularly for those separated from their families. Family tracing and DNA support were introduced to help reconnect them with their families. Three boys and one girl have been supported in this process, with the young girl's case reaching the DNA testing stage, awaiting results.
- Early marriage, particularly among reunified girls, disrupts education and forces them into adult responsibilities prematurely. To combat this, awareness efforts on the negative impacts of early marriage and the importance of education were enhanced. As part of this initiative, 13 young girls received training on early marriage prevention and PSHEA (Protection from Sexual Harassment, Exploitation, and Abuse).
- Migration has led to university dropouts, particularly among young people moving to Egypt, jeopardizing their prospects. To address this, awareness sessions on the risks of migration and its impact were provided, along with initiatives focusing on skills training, employment opportunities, and financial support to reduce economic pressures driving migration. Counselling and awareness efforts are ongoing.

2.1.2 Family strengthening

(a) Achievements

- In 2024, the total participants across projects declined by 14.5% (from 3,675 in 2023 to 3,143 in 2024), reflecting a potential shift in strategic priorities. Educare and Climate Smart Farming and Sustainable Livelihood (CSFL) remained stable, with only slight reductions (-0.2% and -1.4%, respectively), ensuring continuity in services.
- SOS Children's Villages Somalia has made notable progress in supporting FS participants through the FS Educare, Climate Smart Farming and Sustainable Livelihood (CSFL) and Somalia Banadir Hydroponic Project. The data indicates that in 2024 3,143 participants have been reached in FS cluster, with 50% reached in Educare, 48.6% in CSFL and 1.4% in Somalia Banadir Hydroponic Project, demonstrating a near-equal distribution of participants across both programs. Despite the overall decline, the actual beneficiary reach (3,143) exceeded the planned target (2,751) by 14.2%, primarily due to CSFL's strong expansion (+27.4%), stable Educare performance (+1.3%). The FS projects in the MA support 400 households (50% in FS Educare and 50% in CSFL) and 613 caregivers across the 2 projects above.
- Age and gender representation indicate that by age group, children (0-17 years) comprised the majority 2,224 (70.8%), with 1,112 females and 1,112 males, emphasizing a strong child-focused approach in FS Educare and CSFL. Adults (18+ years) accounted for 29.3% (919 individuals), including 454 females and 465 males, reflecting a targeted effort in adult education and economic empowerment. The overall gender distribution remained equal (50% female, 50% male), ensuring equitable access to education and livelihood opportunities across all interventions. suggests that both programs are effectively meeting the needs of the communities, reaffirming their relevance and impact.
- During the reporting period an average of 17,779 indirect participants have been reached by FS program in MA Somalia through the CFE service type.
- The 2024 self-reliance rate for households exiting DFE services stands at **0%**, with one recorded exit but no self-reliant exits. This highlights a pressing challenge in transitioning families towards sustainable independence. In contrast, 2023 recorded an **85%** self-reliance rate, exceeding the 70% target, showcasing the effectiveness of past interventions in empowering families. The current trend underscores the urgent need to strengthen and implement robust post-exit support mechanisms to ensure families

achieve long-term self-sufficiency. The exit assessment will be done in Q1 2025, and performance will be updated thereafter.

- Crisis-affected school-aged children supported under the FS Educare project have improved learning outcomes through enhanced enrolment, attendance, participation, performance, and retention. As a result, **2,074** learners (**1,060 boys & 1,014** girls) have been successfully enrolled in public schools supported by the project, ensuring access to quality education and a pathway to long-term academic success.
- Families and caregivers have strengthened their ability to care for and protect their children, fostering safer and more nurturing home environments. Through mentorship provided to 200 FS caregivers during family home visits, the initiative has contributed to improved child well-being, reduced domestic violence, and accelerated household self-reliance, ensuring sustainable family resilience.
- The capacity of public schools has been strengthened to provide quality education, equipping stakeholders with the skills necessary to support learners effectively. Teachers, child rights clubs, CECs, and other key actors have received training in school management and pedagogy, enhancing their ability to deliver inclusive, child-friendly education in project-supported schools.
- Community-based self-help groups played a pivotal role in sustainable poverty reduction, voluntarily raising awareness through community discussion forums, meetings, and door-to-door campaigns. Their commitment, ownership, and passion for communal voluntary tasks were widely recognized and appreciated, reinforcing the sustainability of grassroots-led interventions.
- A total of **80** psychosocial support sessions were conducted for FS families facing childcare, parenting, enrolment, and problem-solving challenges. These sessions incorporated emerging issues such as climate change, equipping caregivers with better coping mechanisms. Moreover, **200** FS families received a second-phase loan disbursement based on their business plans, strengthening their financial independence.
- A second-phase family development plan was conducted for **200** FS families using a participatory approach. Daily home visits monitored childcare practices, enrolment progress, business growth, and other family goals, ensuring continued improvement. A second-round core assessment was also conducted and updated via the PDB2 platform to assess family capacity and aspirations.

(b) Challenges

- **Low Self-Reliance Rate:** The 2024 self-reliance rate for households exiting DFE services remains at 0%, highlighting a critical need for stronger post-exit support mechanisms and financial inclusion initiatives to enable sustainable independence.
- **Economic Hardships and Limited Market Opportunities:** High inflation, limited income-generating opportunities, and inadequate access to financial services continue to hinder families' ability to establish sustainable livelihoods, making economic resilience a major challenge.
- **Climate Change and Environmental Factors:** Recurring droughts and El Niño-induced floods have significantly affected agriculture and small businesses, exacerbated food insecurity and limiting families' economic stability.
- **School Enrollment and Retention Barriers:** Financial constraints, child labor, and early marriage continue to threaten children's retention in schools, particularly among vulnerable families, despite progress in initial enrollments.
- **Inadequate Funding for Long-Term Impact:** The short funding cycles for FS programs limit the depth and sustainability of interventions, reducing the potential for long-term impact and systemic change.
- **Challenges in Family Mentorship and Parenting Support:** Despite efforts to provide psychosocial support and family mentorship, domestic violence and weak parenting skills continue to affect overall child well-being and household stability.
- **Economic Constraints:** High inflation and economic instability have made it difficult for vulnerable families to sustain their livelihoods, limiting the long-term impact of financial assistance programs.
- **Limited Income-Generating Opportunities:** Many families, particularly in IDP camps, have limited access to sustainable income sources, making them dependent on humanitarian assistance.
- **Climate-related Disruptions:** Recurring droughts and El Niño-induced floods have significantly affected agricultural activities, reducing food security and income generation for families involved in farming.
- **Social and Cultural Barriers:** Traditional gender roles and cultural norms sometimes hinder women's participation in economic activities and decision-making within households, affecting family strengthening efforts.
- **Access to Financial Services:** Many vulnerable families lack access to financial services, including savings and credit facilities, which limits their ability to invest in income-generating activities.
- **Short-term Funding Cycles:** The short duration of donor-funded programs poses a challenge to achieving long-term sustainability in family strengthening interventions.
- **Limited Government Support:** Weak social protection systems and limited government involvement in supporting vulnerable families hinder the scaling up of family strengthening initiatives.

2.1.3 Humanitarian Action (Protection-CpiE &GBV, EiE, Health, Nutrition and WASH)

(a) Achievements

- Through integrated humanitarian action, strategic partnerships, and innovative approaches, SOS Children's Villages Somalia continues to drive transformative impact, exceeding targets and fostering sustainable solutions for vulnerable communities.
- In 2024, SOS Children's Villages Somalia provided lifesaving essential services to 1,614,101 million crisis-affected individuals, exceeding the 2024 target by 25.6% through integrated humanitarian action across multiple sectors. This achievement represents 53% of the 2026 strategy target of 3,018,016 participants, marking significant progress toward the organization's long-term humanitarian goals. among the 1.6+ million reached with humanitarian action programs, 67% were female (1,079,758 participants), while 33% were male (534,343 participants). Children and adolescents (0-17 years) accounted for 52% (846,046 participants), while 48% (768,055 participants) were adults aged 18 and above.
- Health interventions reached the largest number of participants, 1,193,359 participants (74%), addressing critical healthcare needs. Nutrition support was provided to 245,224 participants (15%), improving child and maternal well-being. WASH interventions benefited 84,643 participants (5%), enhancing access to clean water and sanitation facilities. Protection services supported 76,691 participants (5%), ensuring child safety and response to gender-based violence risks. Education in emergencies (EiE) reached 12,453 children (1%), helping maintain learning continuity for displaced and vulnerable students. Additionally, Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) was provided to 2,204 individuals (0.14%), offering direct financial support for basic needs.
- During the reporting period out of the 76,691 protection participants reached the MA Somalia through generous funding from UNICEF, FCDO and Heimstaden projects supported 1,289 UASC children (51% girls and 49% boys) were registered through the national CPIMS platform .89% of the UASC cases have been closed after undergoing through the case management processes through provision of essential and standard services e.g. FTR, PSS, Food assistance, Interim care, medical support, material assistance, dignity kits and the remaining 15% UASC are still open in the CPIMS and are anticipated to be closed in Q1 & Q2 2025.
- The scale-up was driven by drought and El Niño response efforts, expansion to new locations (Bay region districts), new grants (Damal Cafimaad, WFP, SOS CV Global Emergency Response projects), and service integration. Additionally, an innovative approach combining nutrition support with hydroponic farming enabled 15 women whose children received nutrition treatment to improve their livelihoods through modern farming methods.
- Digitalization of Humanitarian Action- With support from Cafimaad Plus Consortium **three** district hospitals & mobile clinics have successfully implemented Pharmaceutical Information Management System (PIMS)& digitalized consultations which will help to be better accountable to donors and last mile recipients.
- EPHS Alignment & outsourcing- Efforts to align our health program with EPHS program are making good progress with the successful hiring of a consultant to lead the progress and two district hospitals are on target for eventual alignment and transfer to government control. Another consultant to lead the sourcing of security, cleaning, gardening and maintenance services has also started work to outsource the services earmarked for such.
- Data Quality Management & Health Management & Leadership (HLM) trainings – The leadership of the HA program have been trained in DQM & HLM for efficiency and effectiveness in HA services. In total 25 mid-level managers were trained as a result. The DQM training has resulted in better data quality and reliability of HA data and strengthening of DHSI2 Dashboards and near real-time reporting. 10 staff trained in healthcare leadership and management, with plans for further capacity building. 19 staff (9 males, 10 females) trained in PIMS for efficient pharmaceutical management. 10 staff (5 males, 5 females) trained on OGOW System between May and August 2024. Conducted five mortality case presentations, leading to improved patient care practices.
- In the reporting period, MA Somalia, through the Climate-Smart Agriculture Initiatives Program, strengthened resilience and sustainable livelihoods by implementing the Livestock Restocking Initiative, which supported 15 female-headed households with goats, fodder storage, and targeted training to enhance household income and food security. Additionally, five climate-smart greenhouses equipped with hydroponics and drip irrigation technologies were constructed, benefiting 50 young people through hands-on training in sustainable agriculture and access to diverse seed varieties, fostering long-term food security and resilience.
- MA Somalia humanitarian programs developed and endorsed community-led selection criteria to ensure transparency and inclusivity in humanitarian program implementation. Additionally launched an awareness campaign to combat misinformation and promote local ownership of humanitarian interventions.
- SOS CV Somalia has significantly strengthened child protection coordination and case management by co-chairing the National Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR) and leading the Case Management Taskforce (CMTF) in Somalia and Somaliland. Since assuming leadership, SOS CV Somalia has expanded the CMTF from 7 partners in 2021 to 37 partners by 2024, enhancing national and subnational coordination, capacity building, coaching, and monitoring of CP AoR partners. Additionally, SOS CV Somalia has played a key role in supporting the rollout of the Primero CPIMS, improving data-

driven child protection interventions. As a result, reported child protection cases increased from 706 in March 2023 to 13,807 by December 2024, demonstrating significant progress in case management and response mechanisms nationwide.

- In July 2024, MA developed and launched the 2023-2027 Humanitarian Action Strategy, providing a structured roadmap to assist 6 million vulnerable individuals by 2027. By 2024, 1.2 million people are targeted IN 2024 to benefit from multi-sectoral emergency response, resilience-building, and recovery efforts, reinforcing long-term impact in healthcare, education, and protection services across crisis-affected regions.

(b) Challenges

- **Flash Floods Damaging WASH and Health Infrastructure in IDP Outreach Sites**-The occurrence of flash floods severely impacted WASH and health infrastructure in IDP outreach sites, posing significant risks to service delivery and public health. An assessment was promptly conducted to evaluate the extent of the damage, leading to immediate repairs. To ensure long-term resilience, structural reinforcements and flood mitigation strategies are set to be implemented in 2025.
- **Medical Supplies Damaged Due to Flooding**-Flooding also caused severe damage to essential medical supplies, disrupting healthcare operations. In response, an emergency procurement of critical medicines was initiated, and improvements in storage systems were recommended. To enhance preparedness, ongoing efforts are focused on strengthening supply chain resilience and upgrading storage facilities.
- **Negative Publicity from False Accusations Against SOS Hospital**-The organization faced reputational risks due to false accusations targeting SOS Hospital, threatening public trust and service continuity. A formal investigation was conducted, and findings were transparently shared to counter misinformation. To mitigate future reputational risks, a crisis communication plan is being developed to ensure effective and proactive responses.
- **Safeguarding Incidents Requiring Decisive Action to Ensure Patient and Beneficiary Safety**-Safeguarding concerns emerged, necessitating thorough investigations and decisive actions to uphold the safety of patients and beneficiaries. Appropriate disciplinary measures were taken against those responsible. To prevent future occurrences, continuous monitoring and staff training initiatives have been put in place, reinforcing the organization's commitment to safeguarding standards.

2.1.4 Education

(a) Achievements

Summary of key achievements for MA developmental Education programs (ECD, EDU and EET)

- During the reporting period, the Education programs implemented by MA Somalia successfully reached a total of **1,626** participants across various educational initiatives, reinforcing the organization's commitment to expanding access to quality education and skill development for vulnerable children, young people, and adults. This achievement reflects a strategic focus on Education (74%), Employment and entrepreneurship training (23%), and Early Childhood Development (3%), ensuring a balanced approach to foundational learning and sustainable livelihoods.
- A significant proportion of participants were children and adolescents aged 0-17 years, with **550** females (36%) and **646** males (43%) engaged in early childhood and formal education programs. The Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Education (EDU) initiatives both funded by HGFD played a crucial role in providing structured learning and academic support, benefiting **22** female and **34** male participants in ECD, while **528** females and **612** males enrolled in SOS HG primary and Secondary school.
- Additionally, the program made significant strides in employment and entrepreneurship training, targeting young adults and caregivers aged **18** and above. A total of **342** adult females (**21%**) participated in Employment and entrepreneurship training, equipping them with critical skills for financial independence and sustainable livelihoods. Moreover, **89** adult males (**5%**) benefited from tailored skill-building initiatives, reinforcing the program's efforts to expand economic opportunities for diverse demographic groups. The key achievements within MA Somalia's education strategic initiatives are outlined below, showcasing the program's significant impact and success.

Entrepreneurship and Employment training (EET)-SOS college of health science and The Next Economy (TNE) project funded by ICELAND.

- During the reporting period, a total of 425² participants (26%) were engaged in Employability and Entrepreneurship Training (EET) programs, reinforcing the SOS College of Health Science's commitment to skills development and vocational training. Of these, 318 participants (20%) attended SOS College of Health Nursing, strengthening Somalia's healthcare workforce through specialized training, while 112 participants (7%) were engaged in the EET TNE ICELAND initiative, reflecting a commitment to international learning and

² [Statistical Key Figures 2023-2024 - Power BI](#)

diverse vocational training opportunities. Despite these achievements, EET participation declined from 497 in 2023 to 318 in 2024 (-179 participants), signalling the need for greater investment in vocational education, scholarships, and workforce development initiatives to sustain opportunities for young professionals.

- The SOS College of Health Science continued to play a pivotal role in strengthening Somalia's healthcare workforce. In 2024, the institution achieved key milestones, including the successful completion and launch of the National Nursing Curriculum in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Education (MoE), and other key stakeholders. This milestone ensures standardized, high-quality nursing education across the country. The college was officially upgraded to a full-fledged Health Science College, expanding its academic programs to meet diverse healthcare needs. These advancements contributed to the certification of 60 nurses and the enrolment of 90 new students, including individuals from marginalized communities, further strengthening the availability of trained healthcare personnel. Additionally, the Digital Villages Project was introduced to equip students with essential ICT skills, enabling them to leverage digital tools for learning, research, and healthcare innovation.
- A key focus of the program was Employability and Entrepreneurship Training (EET), which targeted young adults and caregivers aged 18 and above. During the reporting period, 283 adult females (19%) participated in employment and entrepreneurship training, while 35 adult males (2%) benefited from empowerment initiatives, furthering financial independence and sustainable livelihoods. However, performance data from 2023 to 2024 indicates a decline in participation, with EET enrolment dropping from 497 in 2023 to 423 in 2024 (-72 participants). This decline highlights the need for increased investment in vocational training programs, scholarships, and workforce development strategies to ensure young professionals continue receiving adequate support.
- In line with academic expansion, the college introduced a Midwifery Program to address the critical shortage of skilled midwives, contributing to improved maternal and child health outcomes in Somalia. To enhance student learning, three specialized faculty members were recruited: a tutor for Arabic/Islamic studies, an English tutor, and a medical laboratory tutor, strengthening academic support, particularly for the newly introduced foundation year. The institution also took strategic steps toward long-term sustainability, forming partnerships with humanitarian organizations like Save the Children International (SCI) to provide specialized staff training, while revenue generated from training programs was reinvested in infrastructure and resources.
- The adoption of the Higher Education Management Information System (HEMIS) facilitated efficient student and staff data management, ensuring streamlined academic operations. Additionally, collaborations with hospitals like Banadir Hospital provided students with hands-on clinical experience in specialized areas such as ICU and Paediatrics, ensuring they gain practical exposure to real-world healthcare settings. Furthermore, the faculty demonstrated notable progress in research, publishing high-quality research papers in reputable high-impact journals, enhancing the institution's national and international visibility as a center for academic excellence. These research efforts contributed valuable insights into healthcare challenges, shaping policy and practice, and further solidifying the college's role as a key player in Somalia's healthcare education landscape.

SOS HG Primary and Secondary School

In 2024, SOS HG Primary and Secondary School reinforced its commitment to quality education, student well-being, and academic excellence through strategic infrastructure upgrades, teacher capacity building, and enhanced student support systems. The renovation of seven classrooms and two libraries created an improved learning environment, while 27 teachers received training in advanced pedagogy, safeguarding, and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), strengthening instructional quality. Additionally, 20 student government members were equipped with leadership skills, fostering youth participation in school governance.

- A key milestone was the graduation of 71 Form Four students, with an impressive 95.7% university admission rate, underscoring the school's effectiveness in preparing students for higher education. Enrolment increased from 1,025 in 2023 to 1,140 in 2024, with a 70% participation rate in SOS HG schools, reflecting strong trust in structured formal education. The school also ensured inclusive learning for vulnerable students, integrating 108 students from AC/FS programs, with 99% achieving satisfactory academic performance.
- Furthermore, collaborations with the Ministry of Health and Human Appeal facilitated eye screenings for 97% of students, improving overall student health and learning outcomes. An 80% increase in parental engagement strengthened the school's support system, enhancing student performance and retention. Through technology-driven learning innovations, the school advanced digital literacy, equipping students with critical skills for the modern workforce. These achievements reflect SOS HG Primary and Secondary School's strategic role in delivering equitable, high-quality education while fostering leadership, inclusivity, and future-ready skills development.

Early Childhood Development (ECD) – Strengthening Foundational Learning

- The Early Childhood Development (ECD)³ program played a crucial role in building a strong foundation for young learners, ensuring early access to quality education. The introduction of an ECD curriculum within the

³ [Content Item - Aprimo \(Somalia ECD Mogadishu children in kindergarten Nadia Mohamed\)](#)

educational framework provided structured learning opportunities for young children, enhancing cognitive, social, and emotional development. Additionally, the renovation of classrooms and increased parental engagement significantly boosted student enrollment and retention rates. The integration of interactive learning approaches in ECD programs has further improved student engagement, fostering a dynamic and supportive learning environment.

- The program specifically focused on supporting children from AC and FS initiatives, ensuring vulnerable children receive quality education. In 2024, **15 children (27%)** from AC/FS were enrolled in ECD, with all of them achieving satisfactory academic performance. Additionally, **56** children sat for assessments, demonstrating the program's effectiveness in preparing young learners for formal education.
- Furthermore, performance data between 2023 and 2024 shows an increase in ECD participation, growing from **44 in 2023 to 56 in 2024 (+12 participants)**. This positive trend highlights the success of early learning interventions, parental engagement initiatives, and the improved capacity of ECD centers. The expansion of structured early learning curricula and interactive teaching methodologies has been instrumental in preparing young children for primary education and lifelong learning success.
- The introduction of an ECD curriculum, combined with increased parental involvement, significantly boosted enrollment and student follow-up, ensuring a strong foundation for early learning. Despite only **3% (56)** of participants being enrolled in ECD programs, the focus on early childhood education is a promising step toward strengthening cognitive and social development. Expanding ECD programs further could enhance access to foundational learning opportunities.

(b) Challenges

Despite the significant achievements of MA Somalia's education programs, several strategic challenges have emerged, requiring targeted interventions to sustain and enhance the program's impact.

- Declining Participation in EET- One of the most pressing challenges is the notable decline in participation in Employment and Entrepreneurship Training (EET), which decreased from 497 participants in 2023 to 318 in 2024 (-179 participants). This reduction indicates limited access to vocational training, potential funding constraints, or reduced engagement in skill-building initiatives. Addressing this decline requires increased investment in vocational training, expanded scholarship opportunities, and stronger linkages to employment pathways to ensure that young adults and caregivers can achieve financial independence and sustainable livelihoods.
- Resource Constraints in the SOS College of Health Science -The SOS College of Health Science faced significant resource constraints, including inadequate classrooms, limited practical training sites, and financial barriers for students from impoverished backgrounds. A shortage of funding also hindered the college's ability to scale infrastructure and expand program offerings, limiting access to quality healthcare education. These constraints emphasize the urgent need for increased financial support and investments to ensure sustainable program growth and enhanced learning environments. Expanding partnerships with government agencies, donors, and the private sector will be critical to overcoming these barriers and ensuring that aspiring healthcare professionals receive the necessary training.
- Unequal Growth Across Education Sectors- While EDU and ECD programs experienced growth in participation, the total number of participants in education programs declined from 1,566 in 2023 to 1,514 in 2024 (-52 participants).
- Budget and Resource Limitations in SOS HG Primary and Secondary School- Despite an 11% increase in the budget, resource constraints persisted, affecting the scope and quality of educational initiatives. One key challenge was equipping the newly renovated libraries with books, which limited students' access to academic resources. Financial constraints also impacted the frequency and depth of professional development programs for teachers, affecting efforts to enhance classroom instruction. Additionally, teacher attrition posed a temporary challenge, with two teachers leaving their positions. However, with HR support, qualified replacements were quickly identified, minimizing disruptions to the learning process. Addressing these constraints will require enhanced resource mobilization, increased investment in teacher development, and strengthened partnerships to secure learning materials and technology.
- Barriers to Early Childhood Education Expansion- The increase in ECD participation from 44 in 2023 to 56 in 2024 (+12 participants) is a positive trend; however, the overall proportion of ECD within the education programs remains low (4%). This indicates challenges in scaling up early childhood education due to infrastructure limitations, teacher shortages, and funding constraints. Expanding ECD accessibility, parental engagement, and teacher training programs will be essential to ensuring that foundational learning opportunities reach more children.
- Need for Strengthened Economic and Workforce Linkages-The success of education and skill development initiatives relies on strong connections to employment and economic opportunities. While graduates from primary, secondary, and vocational programs are increasing, job placement and entrepreneurship support remain key challenges. Strengthening collaborations with the private sector, government agencies, and development partners will be crucial in creating pathways for sustainable employment, internships, and business development opportunities for graduates.

2.1.5 Advocacy

(a) Achievements

- MA Somalia has been at the forefront of advocating for children's rights and young people empowerment by actively engaging with government institutions, civil society organizations, and international stakeholders. A key milestone was providing technical support to the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development (MOWHRD) in finalizing the National Policy on Children Without Parental Care, with an MoU signed between MA Somalia and the Ministry to enhance collaboration. The organization also worked alongside UNICEF, Save the Children, and other partners to push for the Child Rights Bill, which was approved by the Cabinet but later rejected by Parliament, requiring further revisions. Additionally, MA Somalia played a central role in the formulation and establishment of Somalia's Joining Forces Alliance, hosting multiple meetings to strengthen the alliance's operational framework.
- Young people empowerment remained a priority, with 11 young people from SOS CV Somalia participating in the Human Capital Forum, where they engaged with government officials, CSOs, and scholars to discuss youth development and employment opportunities. Furthermore, 6 young people (3 male, 3 female) attended Somalia's National Youth Day, where they met with the President of Somalia to discuss youth employment challenges and the transition from alternative care to independent living. On an international scale, 4 young people (2 male, 2 female) represented MA Somalia at the Eco Champion Summit in Nairobi, focusing on climate change awareness and youth activism.
- MA Somalia also played a crucial role in global child advocacy campaigns, including the World Children's Day "Stomping for Peace"⁴ campaign, where Somali children joined peers from 38 countries in calling for peace and child protection in conflict zones. Additionally, MA Somalia co-organized the Local Conference of Youth Somalia, advocating for the role of young people in shaping a sustainable future in line with Somalia's National Youth Policy 2023–2030. As part of its commitment to children's rights, MA Somalia collaborated with the Somali Child Rights Coalition to commemorate the Day of the African Child, highlighting the importance of inclusive education and eliminating barriers to learning.

(b) Challenges

- A critical strategic challenge faced by MA Somalia is the delayed approval and implementation of key child protection policies and legislation due to bureaucratic hurdles and legislative resistance. Despite sustained advocacy efforts, the Parliamentary rejection of the Child Rights Bill represents a major setback in ensuring comprehensive legal protection for children in Somalia. While the bill successfully passed the Cabinet approval stage, it was ultimately sent back for revisions due to concerns over key clauses, including the legal age definition of a child. This rejection underscores the complex political, cultural, and legal challenges involved in advancing child protection legislation in Somalia. Without a clear legal framework that aligns with international child rights standards, vulnerable children remain at risk of exploitation, neglect, and abuse, highlighting the urgent need for continued policy advocacy and legislative engagement.
- Similarly, the prolonged stagnation in finalizing the National Policy on Children Without Parental Care (CWPC) presents another significant roadblock to establishing a structured and legally recognized framework for children without parental support. Despite MA Somalia's technical support to the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development (MOWHRD) and the signing of an MoU to strengthen collaboration, the policy remains unapproved due to bureaucratic inefficiencies and shifting government priorities. This delay hinders the implementation of comprehensive care systems, leaving thousands of children without the necessary legal safeguards and institutional support.
- The failure to advance these key legislative and policy reforms not only undermines child protection efforts but also creates challenges in coordinating national and international child welfare programs. To address this, MA Somalia must intensify its policy advocacy strategies, engage key decision-makers, and strengthen multi-sectoral partnerships to push for the adoption of these crucial frameworks. Additionally, leveraging media advocacy, public awareness campaigns, and grassroots mobilization will be essential in generating public pressure on policymakers to prioritize child protection laws. Without urgent action, the continued delays in policy implementation and legislative approval will pose significant obstacles to ensuring a safe, protective, and legally secured environment for children in Somalia.

2.1.6 HUMAN RESOURCES

(a) Achievements

- Workforce Overview- In 2024, the Human Resources department effectively managed a workforce of 574⁵ staff members across multiple locations—487 in Banadir, 61 in Baidoa, and 26 at the National Office. To strengthen human capital, 10 new employees were recruited while 10 resigned, with no dismissals, reflecting a positive workplace environment. A proactive recruitment strategy ensured all National Management Team

⁴ [Content Item - Aprimo \(Somalia Stomping for peace Stomping in action\)](#)

⁵ [Statistical Key Figures 2023-2024 - Power BI](#)

(NMT) positions remained filled, while **52** vacant posts across other levels were systematically addressed. Despite a **35%** annual staff turnover, strategic workforce planning and capacity-building efforts enhanced retention, operational efficiency, and performance, reinforcing SOS Children's Villages Somalia's commitment to a high-performing and engaged workforce essential for delivering sustainable impact.

- **Special Onboarding-** To facilitate a smooth transition for newly recruited employees, a comprehensive onboarding program was implemented. The program included mandatory training on organizational policies, departmental visits, and skill-building sessions to ensure that new staff fully understood their roles and responsibilities. This initiative not only enhanced employee integration but also fostered alignment with the organization's strategic objectives. By providing a structured onboarding experience, the HR department minimized adaptation time, allowing new employees to contribute effectively to their respective roles.
- **Capacity Building-Training and development** played a pivotal role in enhancing employee motivation and performance. A total of 253 employees (127 females, 126 males) participated in various training programs aimed at improving professional competencies. Key training sessions covered organizational policies, including the Code of Conduct, HR Terms and Conditions, and Child and Youth Safeguarding. Leadership development was prioritized through sessions on performance appraisal, leadership, and health management, equipping staff with essential managerial and supervisory skills. Additionally, technical training on data quality, ultrasound, digitalization, and cybersecurity awareness was provided to strengthen operational efficiency. Furthermore, protection training on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and related protection measures was conducted to reinforce safeguarding policies within the workplace.
- **Employee Performance and Rewards-** To enhance job performance and align individual contributions with the National Strategic Plan, the HR department conducted one-on-one performance meetings with over 250 employees. These meetings played a crucial role in refining the performance appraisal process, introducing a simplified evaluation template, and helping employees set SMART objectives. Additionally, cascading sessions were conducted in Heliwa to ensure that employees understood how their roles contribute to national objectives. In recognition of high-performing employees, 36 staff members received promotions, salary revisions, and internal job opportunities, reinforcing a culture of performance-driven career growth. In response to employee feedback, the HR team is developing a structured reward and recognition program to establish transparent guidelines for promotions and incentives.
- **Organizational Structure and Policy Implementation-** To strengthen operational efficiency, the national organogram was reviewed and finalized in collaboration with the National Management Team and the International Office Region (IOR). This restructuring aimed to improve coordination, streamline workflows, and optimize resource allocation. Additionally, policy compliance was reinforced through the full implementation of the conflict-of-interest policy, with all 700 employees signing a declaration form to uphold ethical workplace standards. To prevent violations such as nepotism, comprehensive background checks were introduced as a mandatory part of the recruitment process. Furthermore, awareness campaigns were launched to ensure that employees fully understand and comply with HR policies.
- **Recruitment and Workforce Planning-** In response to employee concerns regarding career growth opportunities, the HR department took proactive steps to enhance internal recruitment and workforce planning. An employee satisfaction survey revealed that 20% of respondents were dissatisfied with internal promotions. In response, a commitment memo was issued emphasizing merit-based hiring and prioritizing qualified internal candidates for career progression. Several positions were subsequently advertised internally, allowing staff to explore new career opportunities within the organization. Additionally, to support sustainable workforce management, a committee was formed to oversee the restructuring and retrenchment process for 102 outsourced staff, including security, maintenance, and cleaning personnel. The Terms of Reference (TOR) for outsourcing were published, shortlisted service providers conducted site visits, and final selections were scheduled for February 2025.
- **Health & Safety Compliance-** The HR department prioritized employee health and well-being by integrating comprehensive medical screenings into the recruitment process. All new hires were required to undergo medical checkups for Hepatitis B and C, Syphilis, and HIV before commencing employment. Additionally, a health assessment was conducted for existing employees to identify vaccination gaps, ensuring that all staff members received necessary immunizations. This initiative not only promoted workplace safety but also contributed to employee well-being, reinforcing the organization's commitment to a healthy and productive workforce.

(b) Challenges

- Throughout 2024, the Human Resources Department faced several challenges affecting employee welfare, compensation, and operational efficiency. While some corrective actions have been initiated, further interventions will be required to achieve sustainable solutions. Below is a summary of the key challenges, the actions taken, and their status.
- One of the most pressing challenges has been salary disparities and the limited annual salary increase of 3%, which created dissatisfaction among employees, particularly those in similar roles receiving different compensation. In response, discussions were held at the Management Meeting, and it was agreed that a salary revision will be implemented during the 2025-2026 period. Additionally, liaison efforts with the International Office Region (IOR) have commenced to establish a new, standardized salary band that will ensure equitable and competitive compensation across all staff levels. Furthermore, financial provisions for

salary adjustments have been included in the new budget proposal, laying the groundwork for implementation once funding is secured.

- Another key concern has been the limited insurance coverage for staff, particularly in areas such as dental, eye care, maternity, and the number of dependents covered. Due to budget limitations, the organization has been unable to expand insurance coverage to include these categories. While no immediate actions have been taken to revise the staff benefits package, it is anticipated that future financial interventions may provide the additional capacity needed to enhance employee insurance benefits. Efforts will continue to explore potential opportunities for improving coverage as part of long-term workforce welfare planning.
- Additionally, the insufficient budget for HR system implementation and transition has hindered the department's ability to fully digitize and streamline HR processes. Some strategic HR system improvements had been planned for 2024, but due to financial constraints, these initiatives have been deferred to the next budget period. The department remains committed to strengthening HR operations by integrating digital solutions that will enhance efficiency, data management, and payroll processing in the coming years.
- Despite these challenges, the HR department continues to work towards sustainable solutions by engaging with management, advocating for financial resources, and prioritizing key interventions that will improve employee satisfaction and operational effectiveness. Moving forward, continued discussions with IOR, targeted financial planning, and phased implementation of strategic initiatives will be essential in addressing these ongoing concerns.

2.1.7 CHILD SAFEGUARDING

(a) Achievements

- SOS Children's Villages Somalia continues to uphold its strong commitment to child safeguarding by ensuring a robust and responsive reporting and resolution mechanism. In the reporting period, a total of four (4) child safeguarding cases were identified and addressed. Notably, all cases were successfully closed, demonstrating the organization's swift and effective response to safeguarding concerns.
- Additionally, no pending child safeguarding cases remain open, reflecting the efficiency and diligence of the safeguarding system. There were zero recorded incident papers, indicating strong preventive measures and adherence to safeguarding protocols.
- Beyond child safeguarding, the organization also effectively handled 26 other reported cases related to fraud, conflict of interest, and other ethical concerns. All 26 cases were investigated and closed, underscoring SOS CV Somalia's commitment to transparency, accountability, and ethical integrity.
- MA Somalia has made significant progress in strengthening child protection systems by implementing comprehensive safeguarding measures. MA Somalia in the reporting year successfully trained 696 staff members (331 female, 365 male) on the Child & Youth Safeguarding Policy and Regulations, ensuring they are equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to protect children effectively. Additionally, comprehensive child safeguarding risk assessments were conducted across all program locations, with active participation from both children and adults to identify risks and implement mitigation strategies. To enhance safeguarding structures, Child Safeguarding (CS) sub-committees were established in multiple locations, and 47 members (20 female, 27 male) received specialized training in awareness raising, prevention, reporting, and response mechanisms.
- In Baidoa, 200 women participating in the BMZ project received training on parental care, child rights, and positive parenting, equipping them with the necessary skills to support children's development and well-being. MA Somalia also introduced weekly art therapy sessions for 69 children and young people (29 boys, 40 girls) in the SOS Children's Village, providing a creative and therapeutic space for emotional healing, self-expression, and resilience-building. Furthermore, 58 staff members were trained on Visiting Regulations, reinforcing the importance of respecting children's safety, privacy, and dignity across all SOS care settings.
- To further strengthen child safeguarding measures, a Child Safeguarding Audit was conducted for the BMZ-HGFD-funded project, assessing risks such as child involvement in farming and exposure to hazardous equipment. Despite financial constraints, MA Somalia successfully underwent the Keeping Children Safe (KCS) assessment and received Level 1 Certification, ensuring that its child safeguarding practices align with international standards. These achievements underscore MA Somalia's commitment to creating a safe, protective, and empowering environment for children and young people.

(b) Challenges

- Despite significant progress in strengthening child protection systems, MA Somalia faced several challenges in fully implementing its child safeguarding initiatives. One of the most pressing issues was budget constraints, which impacted on key safeguarding activities. Due to financial limitations, the translation and contextualization of the new Youth & Child Safeguarding Policy and PSHEA Policy could not be completed in 2024 as planned and had to be postponed to 2025. This delay affects the accessibility of safeguarding policies for staff, caregivers, children, and young people, making it difficult for them to fully understand and engage with the regulations that protect their rights. To address this, MA Somalia

has developed ToR and is in the process of hiring a local consultant to facilitate the translation and contextualization of these crucial policies in the coming year.

- Another challenge was the inability to conduct the TOT for accredited investigators of safeguarding complaints. The training, which was planned for two internal investigators to handle sensitive child safeguarding complaints, could not be implemented due to budgetary limitations. The absence of trained internal investigators limits the organization's capacity to effectively respond to complex safeguarding concerns, potentially delaying justice for affected children and young people. Ensuring adequate resources for this training remains a critical priority moving forward.
- Additionally, financial constraints also affected the planned Child Safeguarding Audit. Although the audit was partially conducted under the BMZ-HGFD-funded project, a full organizational-wide assessment could not be completed. This limitation hindered the ability to identify and address safeguarding gaps across all programs comprehensively. However, as an alternative, MA Somalia successfully underwent the Keeping Children Safe (KCS) assessment and achieved Level 1 Certification, ensuring that key child safeguarding measures were still in place. While the certification demonstrates a strong commitment to safeguarding standards, the inability to conduct a full audit means that some critical risks and areas for improvement may remain unaddressed.
- Furthermore, MA Somalia faces challenges related to the sustainability and operationalization of Child Safeguarding Sub-Committees. While the committees have been successfully established and trained, there is a need for continuous capacity-building, resources, and monitoring to ensure their effectiveness in raising awareness, preventing abuse, and handling safeguarding concerns at the local level. Without ongoing support and reinforcement, there is a risk that these committees may become inactive or ineffective in the long term.
- Lastly, the growing demand for mental health and psychosocial support services for children remains a significant challenge. While art therapy sessions have proven effective in providing emotional relief and trauma healing for children in SOS care, the limited availability of trained mental health professionals and specialized interventions restricts the organization's ability to fully address the psychological needs of children affected by abuse, neglect, and displacement. Expanding access to therapeutic programs, counseling, and child-friendly mental health services remains an urgent need to support children's overall well-being.
- Despite these challenges, MA Somalia remains committed to overcoming these barriers by securing additional resources, strengthening partnerships, and implementing innovative approaches to enhance child safeguarding measures and ensure that every child grows up in a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment.

2.1.8 INTERNAL PROCESSES AND DIGITALISATION

2.1.9.1 Digitalization

(a) Achievements

- In 2024, significant strides were made in enhancing connectivity, infrastructure, and network security across SOS CV Somalia. The Member Association (MA) successfully implemented global and regional minimum standards in CORE and Emergency Response (ER) locations, ensuring improved network resilience. A dedicated server room was established for the National Office (NO), and the network was extended to two additional floors with standard devices. Furthermore, Meraki security gateways were allocated to four emergency locations, with plans to acquire the remaining devices for full network coverage. The MA also achieved an impressive end-user device coverage rate of over 90% across all locations and 100% in CORE program areas. Efforts are ongoing to maintain standardization and ensure full compliance across all sites. Additionally, bandwidth was doubled in key locations, including the National Office, Alternative Care (AC), Medical (MED), and Baidoa program sites, significantly enhancing connectivity and operational efficiency.
- To strengthen business continuity, the MA ensured the availability of backup devices for critical infrastructure and network security, accompanied by the necessary documentation to support these measures. Another notable achievement was the implementation of a digital village at the nursing school, supported by a seed fund of \$25,000. This initiative serves as both an ICT lab for nursing students and a digital literacy training centre for program participants, including youth, children, caregivers, and teachers. The long-term vision includes expanding services to FS participants and the broader community. Currently, the village has 10 computers but given the growing demand—350 nursing students plus other key stakeholders—there is a pressing need to expand the facility to 50-60 computers and recruit additional staff. The initiative aims to reach 2,060 participants by 2025.
- The MA is also preparing to launch and implement the Digital Care Assistant, Rafiki, which has undergone extensive adaptation to suit the local language and cultural context. Initially designed to provide Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) to caregivers, Rafiki is set to begin user testing in early 2025. Smartphones were procured for caregivers in preparation for the launch. Future plans include expanding the platform's content in collaboration with internal and external stakeholders to address broader topics.

- In the realm of digital literacy and cybersecurity, the MA successfully conducted one digital literacy training per location, targeting co-workers using SOS email accounts and covering key aspects of SOS Business Applications and Cybersecurity Awareness. These trainings reached at least 70% of co-workers across different locations and staff levels. While the goal was to enrol 100% of co-workers in SoSafe cybersecurity awareness training via the SOS virtual platform, implementation was delayed. However, preliminary approvals have been granted, and the process has begun, with training scheduled for early 2024. Similarly, the plan to enrol 30% of co-workers in the International Computer Driving License (ICDL) digital literacy program is in progress, though budget constraints may necessitate a revision of targets.
- The MA also undertook a comprehensive assessment of medical stock management systems to identify gaps and explore alternative solutions. Based on user requirements, a solution proposal has been developed as part of the official Global Support Centre (GSC) process improvement initiative. The proposal, a prerequisite for the Application Lifecycle Management (ALM) process, is expected to be shared in Q1 2024, paving the way for further implementation.
- Lastly, the MA advanced its efforts in implementing Connect SOS within the regional framework, particularly in areas such as Dynamics 365 (HR & Supply Chain Management) and Prodigy. A readiness assessment was completed, identifying the MA as a Scenario 2 organization, which necessitated the development of concept notes, a results framework, and a financial plan. These actions have been carried forward into 2024, with documentation expected to be finalized in the first quarter.
- Overall, the MA has made remarkable progress in digital transformation, infrastructure enhancement, cybersecurity, and business continuity. These efforts contribute significantly to strengthening SOS CV Somalia's capacity to deliver high-quality services while ensuring operational resilience and sustainability.

(b) Challenges

- The launch of the Digital Care Assistant (Rafiki) was delayed due to technical issues. However, these issues have been resolved, and selected users are set to begin testing. The system testing is scheduled for Q1 2025 before the full rollout.
- Despite targeting 100% enrolment in SoSafe cybersecurity training, no progress was made during the reporting period. However, preliminary approvals have been secured, and the process has been initiated with RRC. The training is now planned for Q1 2025.
- The Digital Village currently operates with only 10 computers, far below the target of 50-60. Plans are in place to increase the number of computers and recruit additional staff. The expansion is ongoing, though additional resources are still required.
- Budget constraints have impacted enrolment in the ICDL digital literacy training, leading to potential adjustments in the original targets. Alternative funding sources are being explored, and the training is scheduled for Q1 2025, although the number of participants may be revised.
- Following an assessment of medical stock management gaps, a solution proposal has been developed. The Application Lifecycle Management (ALM) process is now underway, with the proposal set to be submitted for review and approval in Q1 2025.
- The Connect SOS framework rollout requires additional documentation and planning. The concept notes, results framework, and financial planning are currently being finalized. This action has been carried forward to 2025, with expected completion in Q1.

2.1.9.2 FINANCE AND CONTROLS

(c) Achievements

- **Strong Financial Planning & Execution:** The organization effectively allocated and utilized a total budget of €15.8M, ensuring consistent funding distribution across multiple sites.
- **Diversified Income Sources:** A mix of local fundraising, international private donations, government funding, and institutional donors (e.g., UNICEF, WFP, USAID, and ECHO) reduced dependency on a single funding stream.
- **High Institutional Donor Engagement:** Substantial funding from major institutional donors such as UNICEF (€746,972.16), WFP (€919,152.12), and CRS/USAID (€1,342,349.33) strengthened program sustainability.
- **Strong National Office (NO) Cost Control:** The national office maintained a low percentage of overall costs (9%), ensuring that the majority of funds were directed toward programs.
- **Effective Fund Utilization:** Budget consumption was steady across the four quarters, demonstrating effective financial management and program execution without significant bottlenecks.

(d) Challenges

- **Funding Gap:** The total revenue (€14.45M) fell short of the total budget (€15.83M), indicating a funding gap of approximately €1.38M, which may have impacted planned program activities.
- **Unequal Distribution of Funds:** Some program sites received significantly higher funding compared to others, potentially affecting service delivery equity.

- **Over-Reliance on a Few Large Donors:** A significant portion of the income comes from institutional partners and PSA donors (e.g., PA HGFD Germany: €1.79M, PA Norway: €1.72M). Any changes in their funding priorities could pose sustainability risks.
- **Limited Local Fundraising:** Local fundraising (private and corporate contributions) was relatively low (€40,272.60), highlighting the need to strengthen local income generation.
- **Fluctuating Budget Consumption Across Quarters:** The second quarter had a lower budget consumption (€2.94M) compared to other quarters, which may suggest delays in fund disbursement or project implementation challenges.

2.1.9.3 AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE

(e) Achievements

- In 2024, SOS Children's Villages Somalia made significant strides in strengthening financial operations, program oversight, audit compliance, and ethical governance. These achievements reflect our commitment to accountability, transparency, and continuous improvement.
- A comprehensive review of SOS Somalia's Heliwa location was conducted, focusing on financial operations and sampled programs, including Med Mogadishu, R0002042 ER Somalia 22c HoA HA, and Mogadishu SFC, YFC, and FFC. This review covered activities from January to December 2023, with findings and recommendations shared with the area management. To ensure transparency and participatory engagement, entry and exit meetings were held with the Heliwa management team on 17 March 2024 and 3 June 2024, respectively.
- Following up on the 2022 RO cross-functional audit assignment, SOS Somalia demonstrated remarkable progress in implementing prior audit recommendations. The percentage of fully implemented audit recommendations increased to 76% (19 recommendations) in 2024, compared to 52% (13 recommendations) in 2023. Additionally, all partially implemented recommendations from 2023 (2 items) were successfully completed, resulting in 0% of partially implemented items in 2024. The percentage of not implemented recommendations decreased from 40% (10 recommendations) in 2023 to 24% (6 recommendations) in 2024, showcasing a commitment to improving organizational compliance and accountability.
- SOS CV Somalia undertook an in-depth investigation of allegations documented in Report 944 regarding SOS Children's Village Mogadishu. Findings and recommendations were shared with the Regional Office (RO) and management, leading to the development of an action plan. Key issues investigated include allegations of improper hiring practices, such as the hiring of cars and employment of close family members within the organization, with feedback provided on 29 February 2024. Additionally, concerns regarding staff dissatisfaction with services provided by Amanah Insurance Company, leading to service denial or inaccessibility at some healthcare facilities, were addressed with feedback provided on 20 March 2024. Furthermore, allegations of unequal salary distribution across various functional departments within SOS Somalia were investigated, with additional feedback provided on 20 March 2024.
- An investigative assignment was also executed in response to a whistleblower report concerning claims of unfair targeting and salary suspension while awaiting a local investigation into allegations of CS misconduct. The findings and recommendations were shared with the RO and management, ensuring a fair and transparent resolution process.

(f) Challenges

- In 2024, SOS Children's Villages Somalia faced several strategic challenges that impacted the execution of planned activities. One major challenge was the planned review of SOS Somalia National Office for the period from January 2023 to December 2023, which had to be postponed. This was due to an urgent request from the National Director of SOS Somaliland to prioritize an investigation assignment at the Berbera location, commissioned by the IO and IOR. The investigation, conducted as per the approved TOR dated 6 June 2024, was endorsed by the Hub Director of SOS Children's Villages Somaliland and Djibouti, Mr. Mustefa Haji Adow. The findings and recommendations from this investigation were shared with the IOR, IO, and SOS Somaliland management, leading to the development of an action plan for implementation.
- One of the challenges encountered was the additional workload arising from assignments outside the internal audit annual work plan. To address this, discussions were held with management to minimize unplanned investigative assignments and ensure that, unless they conflict with Member Association (MA) management roles, they should be handled by the MA Incident Management Team. This approach aims to optimize resource allocation and maintain audit schedule integrity.
- Another challenge faced was delays in the submission of documents and information by auditee staff, who perceived the audit activities as disruptions to their daily routines. This issue was further exacerbated by the coinciding period of Holy Ramadan. As a corrective measure, SOS CV Somalia plans to schedule future audits earlier in the year before Ramadan to avoid similar disruptions. Consequently, the next audit execution is planned to take place after Ramadan in 2025 to ensure smoother operations and improved collaboration with auditee staff.

2.1.9 FUND DEVELOPMENT

(a) Achievements

- Expansion of Donor Base and Funding Growth- In 2024, MA Somalia made significant strides in expanding its donor base through strategic partnerships with expert organizations. The establishment of two new consortia dedicated to Protection and Education programs, in addition to the existing two consortia, strengthened its credibility as a key development sector player. These collaborations facilitated access to major donors, including the World Bank, USAID, ECHO, ECW, and FCDO. The organization actively pursued funding opportunities, engaging in 24 funding calls and securing approvals for 12 applications, leading to a budget portfolio of €9,930,899. MA Somalia also demonstrated its leadership in fundraising by proactively leading 14 applications. Additionally, participation in the EU platform in Brussels enabled a deeper understanding of EU funding processes, and while two EU applications were unsuccessful, lessons learned will help position the organization for future opportunities.
- Strengthened Partnerships and Strategic Alliances- MA Somalia reinforced its donor engagement strategy by fostering strong relationships with PSAs, which played a crucial role in donor retention and attracting new funding sources. Productive collaborations with SOS Norway, SOS Canada, and SOS Denmark contributed to securing sustained support. Additionally, the organization strategically aligned itself with key UN agencies, including UN-OCHA, UNICEF, UNFPA, and WFP, further establishing its role in addressing humanitarian and development challenges. By nurturing these partnerships, MA Somalia strengthened its capacity to deliver impactful programs while diversifying funding streams.
- Growth in International Sponsorship and Child Support-The international sponsorship program witnessed notable growth in 2024, with 90 new children registered under the program—79 under the SFC project and 11 under the FFC project. In line with SOS CV's commitment to family reunification, seven children were successfully reintegrated with their families. At the same time, six new children were admitted into the program, with three already registered and three awaiting finalizations. The program maintained strong sponsor engagement, with 2,719 active international sponsors, including 1,659 child sponsors and 1,060 village sponsors. Efforts led by PSAs and the International Office resulted in the recruitment of 183 new international sponsors, ensuring continued financial support for children in need.
- Enhanced Digital Content and Correspondence-To strengthen donor engagement and transparency, MA Somalia enhanced its digital content strategy by producing over 600 pieces of high-quality digital content, including photos and videos, shared through the IGDAM system and DSapp (Donor Service Application). In addition, the organization dispatched over 6,000 sponsorship-related letters, including welcome letters, thank-you notes, mid-year and end-of-year updates, and parcel letters via DHL to international sponsors. These efforts resulted in a 98% quality feedback rate, demonstrating the organization's commitment to maintaining high standards in donor communication and engagement.
- Local Income Development and Corporate Sponsorship- MA Somalia prioritized financial sustainability by expanding local income development initiatives. In 2024, the organization successfully secured local corporate sponsorships, raising a total of \$20,000 from both new and existing partners. Notably, IBS Bank Somalia contributed \$10,000 and sponsored a house in the SOS Children's Village Mogadishu, while Premier Bank renewed its house sponsorship for a second consecutive year. Hormuud-Salaam Foundation also supported the initiative with a \$10,000 contribution towards the construction of a multipurpose hall. Additionally, the Local Committed Givers initiative saw the recruitment of 49 individuals who collectively pledged an annual contribution of \$14,400, further strengthening MA Somalia's locally driven funding sources.
- Communication, Branding, and Visibility Enhancement- Brand visibility and strategic communication efforts were key focus areas in 2024, leading to increased awareness of SOS CV Somalia's mission and impact. The organization enhanced its branding efforts through widespread social media campaigns, engagements with local television networks (Shabelle and SNTV), and the publication of compelling success stories on its official website. Additionally, impactful project documentaries were developed, covering initiatives such as the SOS College of Health Science, Hydroponic Smart Farming, Educare, SOS Kindergarten, and the "Stomping for Peace" campaign. Staff members were equipped with branding materials, and 25 program staff received training on branding and communication to ensure consistency in messaging and visibility.
- Active Participation in High-Profile Events and Advocacy Platforms- In 2024, MA Somalia actively participated in key national and international events to boost visibility and advocacy efforts. These included the SOS College of Health Science Curriculum Review, Women's Day celebrations, the TNE Boot Camp, the Ministry of Agriculture Expo (Agritech), the Jiilka Manta Event, and International Youth Day. The organization also played an integral role in Somalia Youth Day (15 May), the Somalia Youth Hub (a pre-consultation forum for the UN Summit of the Future), and the National Youth Consultation (organized by the Ministry of Youth and Sports and National Development). Additionally, MA Somalia hosted SOS Day Celebrations, strengthening stakeholder engagement and increasing awareness of its programs and impact.
- Digital and Social Media Growth-The organization's digital engagement strategy yielded impressive results, with a 55% increase in social media followers, adding 4,775 new followers and reaching an audience of over 266,000. The volume of social media posts increased by 20%, with 146 posts published across Facebook and Instagram. Additionally, eight new videos were uploaded to the organization's YouTube channel, further expanding its digital footprint. Website engagement also improved, with the introduction of career pages on the SOS Somalia website, enhancing visibility and engagement with potential supporters and partners.

- Digital Fundraising and Payment System Advancements- MA Somalia made substantial progress in digital fundraising by implementing a structured digital fundraising strategy. A comprehensive donor survey was conducted to identify donor personas and optimize messaging strategies. To improve accessibility and convenience for donors, the organization secured three API gateways for widely used payment methods. Additionally, a partnership is being developed with IOR developers and the ESAF digital fundraising advisor to facilitate both international and local payments, addressing the limitations of local payment systems in processing transactions globally and locally. These advancements will significantly enhance the organization's ability to attract and retain donors and committed givers through digital platforms.
- These strategic achievements highlight MA Somalia's commitment to financial sustainability, donor engagement, digital innovation, and child welfare, positioning the organization for continued growth and impact in the coming years.

(b) Challenges

- MA Somalia FDC faced several challenges in 2024, one of which was the rejection of two EU funding applications despite its active participation in the EU platform in Brussels. This setback underscored the need for a deeper understanding of EU funding mechanisms, strategic alignment with EU priorities, and enhanced proposal development. In response, the organization conducted a thorough analysis of feedback from the unsuccessful applications and refined its approach to position itself more effectively for future EU funding opportunities. This process is ongoing, with efforts focused on improving proposal quality and exploring alternative EU funding avenues to maximize chances of success.
- Another significant challenge was the limited engagement of local corporate sponsors, which impacted the organization's ability to secure sustainable funding. To address this, MA Somalia intensified its outreach efforts, fostering stronger relationships with local banks and private sector stakeholders. These efforts have started yielding results, with the organization successfully securing \$20,000 from new and existing corporate sponsors, including key contributions from financial institutions. The process remains ongoing, with continued emphasis on expanding corporate partnerships to enhance financial sustainability.
- Inconsistent branding and communication across different platforms also posed a challenge, leading to variations in the organization's public messaging and visibility. To mitigate this issue, MA Somalia implemented a targeted training program for staff on branding and communication, ensuring a standardized approach to messaging and content dissemination. Additionally, branding templates were distributed across teams to reinforce consistency. While the initiative has shown positive progress, ongoing efforts are being made to maintain uniformity and strengthen the organization's identity across all communication channels.
- Another operational challenge was the difficulty in processing international payments due to local system limitations, which affected donor transactions. Recognizing the urgency of this issue, MA Somalia partnered with DPO to establish a seamless international payment processing system. This corrective action has been fully implemented, ensuring smooth and efficient donor transactions. With this improvement, the organization is now better equipped to facilitate international donations, enhancing financial accessibility for supporters worldwide.

2.1.10 SAFETY AND SECURITY

(a) Achievements

MA Somalia maintains a dedicated Safety and Security unit that upholds its commitment to staff safety, crisis preparedness, and secure humanitarian access. Through proactive risk management, strategic coordination, and continuous capacity building, the unit ensures the safe and effective implementation of programs, even amid financial and operational challenges.

- Capacity Building in Safety and Security- In 2024, a total of 55 out of 70 staff (78.5%) received basic safety and security training across Burhakaba, Hudur, Jowhar, Adale, and Balcad through a hybrid approach. An action plan was developed and periodically reviewed by the MA Security Advisory Team to enhance preparedness. Despite budget constraints leading to the cancellation of MA-planned training courses, one National Management Team (NMT) member was successfully sponsored for Advanced Security Training organized by INSO.
- Security Equipment Maintenance & Readiness- Security equipment maintenance was strengthened with satellite yearly airtime subscriptions activated to ensure communication readiness. Additionally, fire extinguishers were replaced (3), newly established (8), and maintained (5) across the national office and program locations to enhance fire safety and emergency response measures.
- Humanitarian Access and Crisis Management- Efforts to strengthen humanitarian access included Humanitarian Access Negotiation Training for 6 frontline staff, with the remaining 44 staff planned for training in 2025 due to budget constraints. Crisis management was enhanced, with two critical incidents successfully managed, while preventive measures mitigated other potential crises before escalation. Lessons learned were documented to inform future security and risk management strategies.
- Strengthening Security Collaboration & Coordination- MA actively participated in bi-weekly INSO security forums, Somalia NGO Consortium meetings, and UNDSS-organized Saving Lives Together forums, contributing to security coordination efforts. Additionally, liaison with government security agencies at federal,

state, district, and regional levels ensured effective support for humanitarian operations, compound security, and the safe distribution of humanitarian aid.

(b) Challenges

- Budget constraints led to the cancellation of planned security training, impacting staff preparedness. To address this, sponsorship from INSO was secured, financial resources were reallocated, and the remaining training was carried over to the 2025 Annual Plan. Additional funding is currently being mobilized to complete the remaining sessions.
- There were gaps in security equipment maintenance, including fire extinguishers, satellite devices, and smoke detectors. To mitigate risks, yearly satellite airtime subscriptions were activated, three fire extinguishers were replaced, and additional fire safety equipment was established. Maintenance is now integrated into operational planning with regular assessments in place.
- Limited participation in humanitarian access and security forums due to resource constraints restricted engagement with key security stakeholders. The MA prioritized bi-weekly INSO forums, periodic NGO Consortium meetings, and UNDSS-led security discussions to remain updated on security developments. This engagement is ongoing to ensure regular access to critical security information.
- Coordinating with government security agencies for safe humanitarian operations proved challenging. To overcome this, the MA strengthened engagement with security agencies at all levels, ensuring their timely involvement in compound security and aid distributions. As a result, government security agencies are now actively supporting humanitarian operations when required.
- Supplier selection for logistics transportation caused procurement and delivery delays. A targeted headhunting process was conducted to identify reliable transporters, and supplier vetting procedures were strengthened before contracting. This challenge has been resolved, with vetted suppliers now ensuring smoother logistics operations.
- The lack of a pre-established network with key influential elders and local authorities before crisis events hindered effective response coordination. To address this, a crisis team was formed to initiate and activate networks with community leaders. This initiative has been successfully implemented, with functional crisis networks improving response efficiency when needed.

Lessons learned (1 page)

In 2024 the lessons learned by the MA emphasize financial sustainability, strategic planning, governance, and digital transformation as key to strengthening program impact. Local resource mobilization, diversified income, and improved financial forecasting reduced donor dependency, while direct engagement and brand awareness boosted funding success. Governance improvements, compliance, and safeguarding measures enhanced transparency, though audit delays highlighted the need for proactive planning. ICT upgrades, cybersecurity training, and digital literacy improved efficiency, but budget constraints slowed progress. Climate-related disruptions, particularly El Niño-induced floods, affected WASH and health infrastructure, stressing the need for disaster preparedness. Child safeguarding efforts advanced, though mental health support remained limited. Embedding Results-Based Management (RBM), data-driven decision-making, and strategic partnerships was essential for sustainable impact.

Table 2.2 Lessons learned

Type	Lesson learned	Action(s) to be taken	Status of action
Challenge	Need for enhanced local resource mobilization to reduce reliance on external donors.	Expand private sector partnerships and strengthen corporate social responsibility engagement. (CSR)	Ongoing – Initial engagements with corporate partners.
Good Practice	Prompt handling of allegations and development of action plans lead to improved governance.	Strengthen investigative frameworks and implement structured response mechanisms.	Completed – Cases investigated and resolved.
Challenge	Upgrading ICT infrastructure improves system performance and reliability.	Expand network security, digital literacy training, and cybersecurity awareness.	Ongoing – Partial rollout, budget constraints remain.
Challenge	El Niño floods severely damaged WASH and health infrastructure, impacting service delivery.	Strengthen disaster preparedness plans and reinforce infrastructure resilience.	In Progress – Assessments conducted; response strategies being developed.
Observation	Continuous capacity-building is required for the sustainability of Child Safeguarding Sub-Committees.	Conduct regular training and monitoring to ensure effectiveness.	Ongoing – Training sessions conducted,

			monitoring needs improvement.
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Source: [T13b. Lessons learned log-MA Somalia.xlsx](#)

CROSS-CUTTING TOPICS (¾ PAGE)

Age Gender Diversity mainstreaming.

- SOS CV Somalia continues to integrate gender-responsive and inclusive approaches into all programs, ensuring equal access to education, livelihood support, and financial services. The Family Strengthening Program has achieved near gender parity, with 50% of participants being female and 50% male, promoting equal opportunities for all.
- Community engagement initiatives have strengthened the participation of elderly individuals and youth in decision-making processes, ensuring that all voices are represented in local governance and program planning. Additionally, awareness campaigns on gender-based violence (GBV) have been conducted, leading to stronger referral pathways for survivors to access legal and psychosocial support.
- To enhance digital inclusion, the Digital Village initiative has promoted digital literacy among caregivers, youth, teachers, and FS participants, fostering age- and gender-sensitive capacity-building programs that ensure equal participation in technology-driven opportunities.

Environment

- SOS CV Somalia has integrated climate resilience and sustainability measures into its programs. The BMZ Climate-Smart Farming initiative introduced sustainable agricultural practices, reducing vulnerability to drought and enhancing food security.
- Efforts to mitigate deforestation and climate change impacts included tree-planting campaigns and climate resilience training, equipping communities with knowledge and skills to protect their environment.
- The El Niño flash floods severely damaged WASH and health infrastructure, particularly in IDP mobile outreach sites, disrupting essential services. In response, emergency assessments and interventions were conducted, with future resilience strategies focusing on reinforced shelters, emergency response protocols, and climate adaptation measures.
- To enhance environmental protection, WASH programs incorporated water conservation measures, ensuring communities have sustainable access to clean water while promoting climate-resilient solutions.

Disabilities

- SOS CV Somalia remains committed to disability inclusion, ensuring that all children and families have access to equitable services. Disability-friendly infrastructure has been incorporated into learning centers, health facilities, and WASH projects, improving accessibility for individuals with disabilities.
- To enhance inclusive education, special education materials and adaptive learning tools have been distributed to children with disabilities in project-supported schools, enabling them to participate fully in learning activities.
- Community awareness programs have played a crucial role in reducing stigma and fostering the social inclusion of persons with disabilities. Additionally, the Digital Village initiative has incorporated accessibility features, ensuring individuals with disabilities can participate in digital literacy programs and technology-driven learning. Future expansions will include assistive technologies, further enhancing access to digital education for marginalized groups.
- Through Heimstaden project CFS interventions in 2024, a total of 20 children with disabilities (15 boys and 5 girls) benefited from the services provided by the Child Friendly Spaces (CFSs). These children received targeted support aimed at promoting their physical and emotional well-being, with a focus on their inclusion in community-based activities.

Protection Mainstreaming

- Maintaining protection remains a core focus, with strengthened child safeguarding measures ensuring safe spaces for children. Staff and volunteers received training on safeguarding policies, reporting structures, and best practices, reinforcing a zero-tolerance approach to abuse and exploitation.
- Child-friendly spaces and schools have implemented structured safeguarding policies, ensuring secure learning environments. In IDP settlements, targeted efforts have enhanced child protection case management and access to psychosocial support, addressing vulnerabilities in displacement contexts.
- A robust protection framework was demonstrated through investigations into safeguarding and patient safety cases, reinforcing SOS CV Somalia's commitment to ensuring safety and dignity for all participants. Protection-sensitive programming has been integrated into all interventions, ensuring that safety, dignity, and security remain at the forefront of service delivery.
- SOS CV Somalia also reinforced aid integrity by investigating and addressing two aid diversion cases, ensuring that humanitarian assistance reaches its intended beneficiaries, particularly in hard-to-reach districts.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

- SOS CV Somalia has significantly expanded its community-based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services, ensuring that children, youth, and caregivers receive the necessary support to enhance their emotional well-being.
- In the reporting year 2024, MA Somalia made significant strides in expanding Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services, with **3,188** consultations conducted, reflecting growing demand and improved access to mental health care. Notably, **94%** of cases (**3,012**) were new diagnoses, demonstrating increased awareness and strengthened outreach efforts. However, only **6%** (**176** cases) were follow-up consultations, indicating a critical gap in sustained care and long-term patient support. Integration of MHPSS into primary healthcare services has contributed to improved accessibility, yet disparities persist, particularly in early childhood interventions, with children under five accounting for only **9** consultations, underscoring the need for targeted pediatric mental health programs.
- MA Somalia facilitated structured individual and group therapy sessions, focusing on positive discipline and emotional resilience to empower participants with coping mechanisms. Additionally, community awareness initiatives were launched to reduce mental health stigma and promote help-seeking behaviors, fostering a more supportive and inclusive environment for mental well-being.

HIV/AIDS

- Integrated HIV/AIDS Services within Maternal and Child Health Programs – Health facilities have strengthened efforts to ensure that HIV testing and counseling are embedded within antenatal, delivery, and postnatal care services, enhancing early detection and prevention of mother-to-child transmission.
- In the reporting year 2024, MA Somalia made significant progress in expanding HIV testing services, with 20,677 individuals tested, of whom 66% were female and 34% male, reflecting strong gender-sensitive interventions, particularly in maternal health programs. The majority of those tested were adults aged 25+ years (66.4%), followed by young adults aged 20-24 years (21.9%) and adolescents 15-19 years (11.4%), indicating improved youth-focused HIV awareness and service access. However, pediatric testing (0-14 years) remains critically low at only 0.3%, highlighting a gap in early infant diagnosis programs.
- Expanded HIV/AIDS Service Delivery to Underserved Communities – Targeted outreach programs have been implemented to improve access to HIV prevention and treatment services in remote and rural areas, ensuring equitable healthcare for vulnerable populations.
- Increased Awareness Sessions on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment – Health centers, schools, and IDP settlements have hosted community-led awareness initiatives to promote HIV prevention strategies, reduce stigma, and encourage voluntary testing.
- Enhanced Collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Local Organizations – Stronger partnerships have been fostered with ministry of health and local organizations to guarantee sustained access to antiretroviral therapy (ART) and essential HIV support services, improving long-term treatment outcomes.
- Strengthened Community Health Outreach Services – Mobile health teams and community-based interventions are providing confidential counseling and accessible treatment options, ensuring individuals receive the necessary support in a safe and stigma-free environment.

Governance & Leadership

Through strong governance and strategic leadership, SOS CV Somalia continues to drive impactful child protection reforms, fostering a more coordinated, data-driven, and responsive child protection system across Somalia and Somaliland.

- Despite resource constraints, SOS CV Somalia remains committed to strengthening leadership within MA Somalia by annually nominating and sponsoring the National Management Team to participate in leadership and management training organized by the Regional Resource Centre (RRC) in Nairobi. This ongoing investment in leadership development enhances strategic decision-making, governance, and organizational effectiveness, ensuring sustained leadership excellence within the MA.
- SOS CV Somalia has significantly enhanced child protection governance, coordination, and leadership by co-chairing the National Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR) and leading the Case Management Taskforce (CMTF) in Somalia and Somaliland.
- Since assuming leadership, SOS CV Somalia has expanded the CMTF's reach from 7 partners in 2021 to 37 partners by 2024, strengthening national and subnational coordination, capacity-building, coaching, and monitoring of CP AoR partners. This expansion has bolstered case management systems and improved service delivery for vulnerable children.
- Additionally, SOS CV Somalia has played a pivotal role in supporting the rollout of Primero CPIMS, a digital case management platform that has enhanced data-driven child protection interventions. As a result, reported child protection cases have surged from 706 in March 2023 to 13,807 by December 2024, showcasing significant progress in case management and response mechanisms nationwide.
- SOS CV Somalia has strengthened collaboration with various stakeholders e.g. ministries and local authorities, ensuring that MA Somalia programs align with national policies and development priorities.
- Community leadership structures have been strengthened through engaging local leaders and stakeholders in decision-making processes to improve program ownership and sustainability.

- Capacity-building initiatives for community-based organizations have enhanced governance and accountability, ensuring effective service delivery and local leadership development.
- Transparency, accountability and governance in humanitarian aid distribution were reinforced through successful investigations and resolutions of two aid diversion cases particularly in hard-to-reach districts, ensuring that resources reach intended participants. A proactive crisis response to a damaging online allegation against SOS Mother and Child Hospital in Mogadishu safeguarded the organization's reputation and commitment to ethical service delivery and demonstrated strong organizational leadership.
- To further strengthen internal governance, oversight mechanisms have been enhanced, ensuring program integrity and compliance with best practices in humanitarian accountability.

Human Rights

- SOS CV Somalia remains committed to promoting and protecting human rights, particularly for IDPs and marginalized communities. In collaboration with other like-minded organizations MA Somalia programs have facilitated access to legal aid and advocacy services, ensuring that vulnerable groups receive necessary protection and support.
- Collaboration with local and international stakeholders has strengthened efforts to combat discrimination and uphold the rights of children and communities. Increased engagement with local authorities has amplified advocacy efforts, influencing policy changes to promote social justice and human rights.
- Through rigorous investigations into aid diversion and safeguarding cases, the organization reaffirmed its commitment to ethical governance, ensuring that aid reaches its intended recipients without interference.
- Transparency in aid delivery was upheld, holding individuals accountable for unethical practices, including the dismissal of staff involved in the misuse of humanitarian assistance. Additionally, crisis management efforts focused on ensuring freedom from misinformation, promoting fact-based public communication in response to allegations.

Result based management

- SOS CV Somalia has continued to demonstrate excellence in [Results-Based Management \(RBM\)](#) compliance, reinforcing its commitment to accountability, evidence-based decision-making, and continuous learning. Through strong monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems, the organization has successfully tracked progress and impact across all program areas, ensuring data-driven interventions and adaptive programming.
- The Banadir (Mogadishu) program location has been awarded the "Committed to Results Award 2024," achieving **100%** compliance in basic tools and **94%** in standard tools, reflecting a robust culture of sustainable results and systematic learning. Similarly, the Southwest (Baidoa) program location has achieved **100%** in basic tools and **83%** in standard tools and was also awarded "Committed to Results Award 2024", showcasing strong adherence to structured program management and impact tracking.
- To further enhance RBM compliance and program efficiency, SOS CV Somalia has adopted digital tools for real-time data collection, analysis, and reporting, improving decision-making, efficiency, and accountability. The Digital Care Assistant (Rafiki) project, structured under a results framework, ensures a measurable impact on caregivers and MHPSS support, while the Digital Village initiative, also aligned with results-based management, aims to reach **2,060** project participants by 2025, expanding digital literacy and inclusion across communities.
- Additionally, biannual joint field monitoring visits, conducted in collaboration with MA NMT, local authorities, and line ministries, along with regular project and program reviews, have strengthened accountability, learning, and adaptation. Lessons learned are regularly documented to guide future improvements and best practices.
- SOS CV Somalia remains an active member of humanitarian coordination forums and clusters, prioritizing reporting and advocacy initiatives. The organization regularly provides key humanitarian data to relevant clusters, including the 5W matrix dashboard, [DHIS2](#), and Report Hub, contributing to national and global response efforts.

SUSTAINABILITY ACTIONS (% PAGE)

In 2024, SOS Children's Villages Somalia has implemented various measures to ensure the sustainability of its programs and interventions, focusing on social, political, financial, and environmental sustainability to support long-term impact and community resilience.

Social Sustainability- SOS Children's Villages Somalia has strengthened local ownership and community engagement by adopting participatory planning approaches. This ensures that beneficiaries play a central role in project design and implementation, fostering a sense of responsibility and long-term commitment. Capacity-building initiatives for caregivers, community-based organizations, and youth have been integral in promoting self-reliance and leadership within communities. Additionally, the integration of education, child protection, and livelihood programs has created a holistic support system that enhances the resilience of vulnerable families and children, ensuring long-lasting social sustainability. The SOS College of Health Science also contributes to social sustainability by enhancing human capital in the health sector through pre-service training for health science students and in-service training for healthcare professionals. This ensures continued access to quality education, strengthens community resilience, and improves healthcare services for the long term.

Political Sustainability- The organization has strengthened collaboration with government ministries, particularly in the health, education, agriculture, and social welfare sectors, to align programs with national policies and ensure continuity beyond external funding. These partnerships enhance institutional support and pave the way for policy-driven sustainability. Advocacy efforts have also been key in influencing policy and promoting child rights, protection, and social inclusion at both national and regional levels. Furthermore, SOS Children's Villages Somalia actively engages with local authorities and traditional leaders to enhance governance structures and community support mechanisms, ensuring that sustainability efforts are deeply rooted within local governance systems. As part of its institutional sustainability efforts, the SOS College of Health Science is establishing a Board of Directors to oversee strategic planning and decision-making, ensuring long-term governance, institutional growth, and financial health. The board will play a key role in guiding sustainability efforts and ensuring alignment with national health and education policies.

Financial Sustainability- To reduce dependency on a single funding stream, SOS Children's Villages Somalia has diversified its funding sources by strengthening partnerships with international donors, private sector stakeholders, and philanthropic organizations. This diversification enhances financial resilience and ensures uninterrupted service delivery. Additionally, the implementation of income-generating activities, such as vocational training and enterprise development, empowers youth and caregivers to achieve economic independence. Internally, the organization has reinforced financial management and resource mobilization strategies, fostering financial stability and sustainability for the long term. The SOS College of Health Science also plays a significant role in financial sustainability by generating local income through pre-service training for health science students and in-service training for healthcare professionals, ensuring a steady revenue stream. The college actively seeks grants and funding from national and international organizations to strengthen its financial capacity. Additionally, the development of a comprehensive business plan outlines long-term financial strategies, including income generation, cost management, and investment in infrastructure and human resources. These measures ensure the institution's financial resilience and its continued ability to provide quality education and training.

Environmental Sustainability- Recognizing the impact of climate change, SOS Children's Villages Somalia has integrated climate-smart agriculture and sustainable water management practices to enhance food security and community resilience to climate shocks. The organization promotes eco-friendly infrastructure development, including energy-efficient schools and health facilities, to minimize environmental impact. Moreover, community-led initiatives such as reforestation and environmental awareness campaigns are actively encouraged to foster long-term ecological balance and sustainability.

3. OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMME(S) (½-1 PAGE PER PROGRAMME)

Programme location: **Banadir**

Program Location Summary

- During the reporting period, Banadir program location made significant strides across its core programs, delivering impactful interventions in Alternative Care, Youth Empowerment, Family Strengthening, Humanitarian action, and Education. In Alternative Care, 23 children were admitted, 14 reunified with families, and psychosocial support was provided to 58 children and youth. Youth programs benefited 85 participants through education and skills training, with notable successes in employability and entrepreneurship, as 12 secured internships and three launched businesses. Additionally, community-based child protection initiatives strengthened child safety, while financial literacy and microcredit programs enhanced family resilience. In 2024, SOS Children's Villages Somalia provided humanitarian assistance to 1,614,101 individuals, with 46% (739,455 people) reached in the Banadir (Mogadishu) program location. These individuals received essential, life-saving services, including healthcare, nutrition, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), education, protection, and multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA), strengthening resilience and support for crisis-affected communities. Meanwhile, humanitarian interventions reached over 402,000 outpatient consultations and 35,000 nutrition participants, with significant support provided to survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and children in need of psychosocial care.
- Education programs achieved remarkable results, with 95.7% of students passing their Form Four exams and gaining university admission. Investments in infrastructure, including the renovation of classrooms and libraries, enhanced learning environments, and the College of Health Science was upgraded to a full-fledged institution, certifying 60 nurses and enrolling 90 students in nursing and midwifery programs. Digitalization efforts progressed with the successful integration of the PIMS and EMR systems, as well as the launch of the OGOW system to improve healthcare access. Financial oversight and compliance mechanisms were strengthened, ensuring transparency and risk mitigation through regular audits and staff training. Key cross-cutting themes, such as gender equity, safeguarding, and mental health support, were effectively mainstreamed into all program areas.
- Key lessons emphasized the importance of community engagement, strategic partnerships, gender sensitivity, and early intervention in emergency response. However, challenges such as resource constraints, security risks, health pressures, and delays in digital transformation persisted. Sustainability efforts focused on economic empowerment, financial inclusion, infrastructure investments, and environmental sustainability through climate-smart agriculture and hydroponic farming. With a well-trained workforce of 214 project staff

and strong partnerships across government and humanitarian sectors, SOS CV Somalia remains committed to delivering high-impact programs that promote child welfare, youth empowerment, and resilient communities.

Program analysis

Key results [see 2.1]

Alternative Care

(a) Achievements

- During the 2024 reporting period, Banadir program location Alternative Care (AC) cluster has supported 223 participants across key service types—SIL (35.8%), FLC (36.3%), and FFC (27.8%)—demonstrating a balanced and inclusive service distribution. This strong uptake underscores our commitment to impactful programming, while the absence of participation in SGH and OAC highlights opportunities for strategic growth. Building on the 2023 achievement of 210 participants, our ambitious 2024 target of 255 reflects a 22% growth trajectory, reinforcing our dedication to expanding service reach through capacity building, resource mobilization, and targeted outreach to enhance program impact and sustainability.
- 23 children were admitted to AC programs, and 14 reunified with families. 229 children and young people are enrolled in AC care program (
- Counseling and psychosocial support provided to 58 children and youth.
- Training on gatekeeping guidelines benefited 19 child and youth care practitioners.
- Cultural heritage events and academic awards ceremonies fostered pride and recognition.
- Counseling and psychosocial support were provided to 58 children and youth, addressing emotional, academic, and behavioral challenges.
- 31 youth participated in employability and entrepreneurship training; 12 secured internships, and 3 established businesses.
- Vocational training reached 6 youth in skills like cooking, barista, electricity, and beauty.
- 85 young people benefited from SIL education and skills training.
- 31 youth participated in employability and entrepreneurship training, with 12 securing internships and 3 launching businesses.
- Unification of two youth councils to ensure greater youth representation in decision-making.
- 50 youth engaged in greenhouse farming using hydroponics for sustainable income generation.

(b) Challenges

- Early Marriages Among Reunified Girls – The prevalence of early marriages among reunified girls has significantly hindered their access to education and personal development opportunities, limiting their long-term prospects for self-reliance and empowerment.
- Youth Migration and Educational Disruptions – Increased migration among youth has contributed to high school dropout rates, exposing them to heightened risks of exploitation, instability, and diminished future opportunities.
- Financial Mismanagement of Business Start-up Funds – The diversion of business start-up funds for immediate financial needs has compromised the long-term sustainability of entrepreneurial initiatives, undermining economic empowerment efforts.
- Challenges in Accessing Academic Reports – Difficulties in obtaining academic reports from universities have created administrative bottlenecks, necessitating the establishment of formalized communication protocols to ensure timely access to essential educational records.
- Negative Impact of Smartphone Overuse – Excessive smartphone usage among youth has negatively affected their educational performance, mental well-being, and overall productivity, highlighting the need for structured digital literacy and responsible technology use initiatives.

Family strengthening

- In a significant step toward empowering communities, the Banadir Hydroponic Project has successfully equipped 43 out of 3,143 FS participants with climate-resilient agriculture skills. This initiative enhances economic self-sufficiency while strengthening families by providing sustainable income-generating opportunities. Representing 1% of the FS program's reach (30% female, 70% male), this effort reinforces SOS Children's Villages' commitment to supporting families at risk of separation.
- While the project's current reach remains limited, its innovative approach to sustainable livelihoods and community empowerment lays a strong foundation for future scaling and replication. By investing in skills development for both men (70%) and women (30%), SOS Children's Villages is fostering inclusive economic opportunities that contribute to long-term family stability and child protection.
- Through a strategic partnership with IBS Bank, FS participants have gained access to microcredit loans and savings programs, fostering financial independence. Beneficiaries were introduced to banking systems and supported in

meeting account requirements for greater financial inclusion. Additionally, a livestock tracking system was introduced, issuing birth certificates for livestock to help families establish bank accounts and access financial services.

- To further strengthen livelihoods and food security, 15 female-headed households received goats, fodder storage, and livestock management training, ensuring sustainable income sources. Additionally, 50 youth participated in agriculture training and received diverse seed varieties, promoting sustainable farming practices and improved food security.

Humanitarian Action

- In 2024, SOS Children's Villages Somalia provided humanitarian assistance to 1,614,101 individuals, with 54% (874,646 people) reached in the Southwest State (Baidoa) program location. These individuals benefited from comprehensive, life-saving services, including healthcare, nutrition, WASH, education, protection, and multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA), ensuring critical support for crisis-affected communities.
- Expanded Emergency Health and Nutrition Services: Provided 402,416 outpatient consultations and reached 35,862 nutrition participants, surpassing the target by 179.3%.
- Hygiene Support for Vulnerable Households: Distributed soap to 7,423 households with children suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), achieving 92.7% of the target.
- Capacity Building in Healthcare Leadership: Trained 10 staff in healthcare leadership and management, with plans to expand training in 2025.
- Strengthening Child and Youth Safeguarding: Trained 100 staff on the Child and Youth Safeguarding Policy to enhance protection measures.
- Improving Patient Care through Mortality Reviews: Conducted five mortality case presentations, leading to improved patient care and treatment protocols.
- Child Protection and GBV Services: Reached 55,104 individuals with child protection and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) support services.
- Psychosocial Support for Children: Provided 10,253 children access to indoor and outdoor recreational activities in Child-Friendly Spaces to supporting their psychosocial well-being, mental health, social development and emotional well-being.
- Support for GBV Survivors: Assisted 400 GBV survivors with case management and dignity kits to restore dignity and resilience.
- Emergency Water Access: Delivered clean water through emergency water trucking, benefiting 9,000 individuals.
- Quality Improvement in Health Facilities: Strengthened quality improvement initiatives across SOS health facilities to enhance service delivery.
- **Data-Driven Decision-Making:** Improved data accuracy and monitoring systems through the implementation of digital platforms and PIMS (Patient Information Management Systems).

Challenges

- A significant challenge faced in 2024 was the increased caseload and resource constraints across humanitarian health and nutrition services. The surge in patient numbers led to frequent stock-outs of essential medicines and lab reagents, disrupting service delivery. Additionally, limited availability of oxygen cylinders in hospitals strained resources, particularly during periods of high demand, impacting critical care services.
- Conflict and insecurity in regions such as IJI and Adale districts further complicated humanitarian response efforts. Escalating inter-clan conflicts heightened vulnerabilities, leading to the displacement of thousands and increasing the demand for emergency assistance. Insecurity also restricted access to some remote areas, making it difficult for humanitarian teams to reach affected communities and provide essential services.
- Another key challenge was delayed fund releases and budget approvals, which directly impacted the timely implementation of life-saving interventions. Delays in donor fund disbursements hindered the procurement of critical supplies and the rollout of key humanitarian programs. Similarly, the late approval of the ECHO budget caused setbacks in procurement, delaying vital activities and reducing the efficiency of emergency response efforts.
- Despite growing demand, limited capacity for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services remained a pressing issue. Stigma and cultural perceptions continued to discourage engagement with mental health programs, while staff recruitment challenges in remote districts slowed the expansion of MHPSS services. Moreover, hesitancy among families and caregivers due to fear of discrimination prevented individuals from seeking mental health support, leaving many in need without access to care.
- High Community Expectations: Communities demanded additional services, such as livelihoods support, beyond the project's scope.
- Lastly, procurement and supply chain challenges further affected humanitarian action. Difficulties in procuring WASH supplies due to availability constraints disrupted hygiene and sanitation interventions, impacting vulnerable households. Additionally, cash flow constraints led to delays in bill payments and service provision, affecting the overall efficiency of program delivery.

Education

- During the reporting period, the Education programs implemented by MA Somalia successfully reached a total of 1,626 participants across various educational initiatives, reinforcing the organization's commitment to expanding access to quality education and skill development for vulnerable children, young people, and adults. This achievement reflects a strategic focus on Education (74%), Employment and entrepreneurship training (23%), and Early Childhood Development (3%), ensuring a balanced approach to foundational learning and sustainable livelihoods.
- 97% of HG School students received eye screenings.
- 95.7% of students passed Form Four exams and gained university admission.
- Renovation of 7 classrooms and two libraries improved learning environments.
- Increased parental involvement by 80% in school activities.
- SOS College of Health Science was upgraded to a full-fledged Health Science College.
- 60 nurses certified, 90 students enrolled in nursing and midwifery programs.
- Enhanced Parental Engagement in Education: Increased parental involvement in school activities by 80%, fostering better educational outcomes for children.

Digitalization

- Successful integration of PIMS with EMR between September and November 2024.
- Launch of the OGOW system in Balcad in August 2024, enhancing healthcare access.
- Go-live phase for PIMS in December 2024 to ensure operational efficiency.
- Increased enrollment of staff in SOS Regional Resources Centre and Cisco Networking Academy courses.

Finance and Controls

- Strengthened financial oversight mechanisms to enhance transparency and accountability.
- Introduced microcredit and savings programs to promote financial independence among participants.
- Conducted financial training sessions for program staff to improve budget management and reporting.

Child safeguarding, Audit and Compliance

- Conducted internal audits to ensure compliance with organizational policies and donor requirements.
- Trained **455** staff on safeguarding policies, PSEA regulations, and child rights.
- Implemented financial risk assessments to identify potential vulnerabilities and strengthen controls.
- Regular monitoring visits conducted to ensure adherence to best practices in financial management and program implementation.

Lessons learned [see 2.2]

- **Community Engagement:** Local involvement in project design enhanced acceptance and sustainability.
- **Partnerships & Capacity Building:** Collaboration with universities, financial institutions, and ministries strengthened service delivery.
- **Youth & Technology:** Responsible technology use must be promoted to enhance learning outcomes and well-being.
- **Gender Sensitivity:** Addressing cultural biases through continuous advocacy ensures equal opportunities.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** Early intervention in conflict-affected areas reduces vulnerabilities and mitigates risks.

Risks [see 2.3]

- **Early Marriages & Migration:** Increased dropouts and reduced participation in youth programs.
- **Resource Constraints:** Limited funding and infrastructure affect program expansion.
- **Security & Conflict:** Ongoing inter-clan clashes threaten stability and service delivery.
- **Health Sector Challenges:** Increased caseloads lead to stock-outs of essential medicines and staff shortages.
- **Digitalization Delays:** API integration and server limitations hinder ICT implementation.

Cross-cutting topics [see 2.4]

- **Mental Health & Psychosocial Support:** Structured MHPSS interventions enhanced coping mechanisms for vulnerable groups.
- **Gender Equity:** Targeted training and advocacy promoted gender-responsive programming.
- **Safeguarding & Child Protection:** **455** staff trained on safeguarding policies, with risk assessments conducted to strengthen child protection mechanisms.
- **Digital Transformation:** Successful launch of PIMS and OGOW system improved healthcare service efficiency.

Sustainability actions [see 2.5]

- **Economic Empowerment:** SOS Children's Villages Somalia advanced youth self-reliance through entrepreneurship and vocational training programs, equipping young people with marketable skills for long-term economic stability.

- **Financial Inclusion:** The implementation of microcredit and savings programs fostered financial independence, enabling families and young entrepreneurs to build sustainable livelihoods.
- **Infrastructure Investments:** Renovations of schools and health facilities enhanced service delivery, ensuring long-term access to quality education and healthcare for communities.
- **Technology Integration:** Continuous ICT training and system upgrades improved digital sustainability, strengthening operational efficiency and program effectiveness.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** The expansion of hydroponic and climate-smart agriculture initiatives promoted food security and resilient farming practices, contributing to sustainable livelihoods.

Organisational expertise and resources

- **Human Capital:** 214 project staff onboarded and trained in leadership, safeguarding, and technical skills.
- **Health & Education Expertise:** Established nursing and midwifery programs to strengthen healthcare workforce capacity.
- **Partnership Networks:** Strong collaborations with government bodies, financial institutions, and humanitarian partners enhanced service delivery.
- **Monitoring & Evaluation Systems:** Digital tools and data-driven decision-making improved project tracking and impact assessment.

Programme location: Southwest (Baidoa)

Program location summary

The Southwest program location has faced multiple climate shocks, including prolonged droughts, El Niño floods, and locust infestations, which have significantly impacted the livelihoods of vulnerable communities. Alongside these environmental challenges, rising inflation, economic hardships, and persistent insecurity, particularly from Al-Shabaab activities, have exacerbated humanitarian needs. Despite ongoing military offensives and efforts to stabilize the region, over 100,000 people have been displaced, further straining already limited resources and services. The situation underscores the critical need for sustained humanitarian and development interventions to support displaced populations and affected communities.

In response, SOS Children's Villages Somalia is implementing eight key projects across six districts: Baidoa, Hudur, Burhakaba, Berdale, Qansaxdhere, and Dinsor. These projects, funded by multiple donors, address vital sectors including health, nutrition, education, and family strengthening. Notable initiatives include Educare-FS-Baidoa, which enhances access to education and family resilience, and Damal Caafimaad, a program that strengthens healthcare services. Additionally, the WFP Nutrition Program combats malnutrition among vulnerable groups, while EiE ECHO and Education Cannot Wait (ECW) ensure educational continuity for children affected by conflict and displacement. Climate-smart farming initiatives under the BMZ project promote sustainable agriculture, while Kafiya Plus II integrates WASH and protection services. Heimstaden Projects further support vocational training and economic empowerment, equipping communities with long-term survival tools.

Together, these initiatives contribute to stabilizing affected populations, improving access to essential services, and fostering long-term resilience. However, significant challenges remain, particularly in securing sustainable funding, addressing infrastructure gaps, and strengthening economic resilience among vulnerable families. Continued collaboration with government entities, local communities, and international donors is essential to ensuring the sustainability and impact of these interventions. SOS Children's Villages Somalia remains committed to building resilient communities by addressing immediate needs while implementing long-term solutions that promote self-sufficiency and stability.

Program analysis

Key results [see 2.1]

Family Strengthening

- In 2024, SOS Children's Villages Somalia successfully assisted 3,100 Family Strengthening (FS) participants, representing 99% of the total program reach (3,143). Of these, 50% (1,553) were female, ensuring equitable support for both men and women.
- A key focus remained on children and young people, who comprised 72% of those supported, reinforcing the organization's commitment to child-centered development and protection. The program also ensured comprehensive support for adults (18+), who made up 18% of the reach, emphasizing economic empowerment and self-reliance.
- All participants were supported through the Community Family Empowerment (CFE) service type, demonstrating a holistic and community-driven approach to family strengthening. Furthermore, program

interventions were evenly distributed, with 49% of participants benefiting from the FS Educare project and 51% engaged in Climate-Smart Farming and Livelihood initiatives.

Humanitarian Action

- Delivered integrated health, nutrition, and protection services to 739,455 IDPs and flood-affected populations.
- Provided emergency WASH interventions, reaching 17,293 individuals with hygiene promotion and sanitation support.
- 22,768 individuals assisted through gender-based violence (GBV) and child protection awareness sessions.
- Facilitated the distribution of emergency relief items, improving living conditions for displaced families.
- Provided Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) to 12,794 individuals, supporting family resilience.
- Implemented nutrition and food security programs, benefiting families affected by economic constraints and climate shocks.
- Established family support groups, enhancing community-based resilience and self-reliance.

Youth Care

- Conducted vocational training programs under the Heimstaden Projects, equipping youth with technical skills.
- Provided targeted education and employment pathways for young people through TVET initiatives.
- Supported youth entrepreneurship through small-scale business grants and mentorship programs.

Education

- 12,453 children (87.3% girls) enrolled in formal and non-formal education programs.
- Established 8 Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS) to support displaced learners.
- Provided teacher training for 83 educators, enhancing instructional quality.
- Distributed essential teaching and learning materials to over 5,000 students.
- Implemented structured psychosocial support programs, benefiting thousands of children in crisis-affected areas.

Internal Processus and Digitalization

Digitalization

- Improved data management and reporting through the adoption of digital monitoring tools.
- Enhanced the use of KOBO tools in student enrollment tracking and project monitoring.
- Strengthened real-time data collection to improve decision-making and accountability.

Finance and Controls

- Strengthened financial reporting mechanisms, ensuring greater transparency in project funding.
- Improved budget tracking and allocation to optimize resource utilization.
- Implemented streamlined procurement procedures to mitigate delays and enhance efficiency.

Audit and Compliance

- Conducted internal and external audits to ensure project compliance with donor and regulatory requirements.
- Strengthened risk management strategies to enhance program accountability and financial integrity.
- Implemented standard operating procedures (SOPs) for financial control and compliance adherence.

Lessons learned [see 2.2]

- **Community Engagement is Key:** Engaging elders, local leaders, and relevant ministries ensured community acceptance and improved project success.

→ Integrated Approaches Yield Better Results: Combining health, nutrition, WASH, and protection interventions enhanced the overall impact and reach of projects.
→ Localized Procurement Mitigates Delays: Contracting local suppliers for materials and services helped overcome procurement challenges and ensured timely implementation.
→ Flexible Implementation Strategies are Essential: Adapting activities based on security dynamics and climate conditions increased efficiency and responsiveness.
→ Strengthened Referral Pathways Improve Service Delivery: Linking different service providers enabled better healthcare, protection, and psychosocial support for participants.
Risks [see 2.3]
→ Security Risks: Continued presence of Al-Shabaab and clan conflicts hinder movement and access to services in some areas.
→ Climate-related Risks: El Niño-induced flooding and drought conditions have disrupted project activities and increased humanitarian needs.
→ Logistical and Supply Chain Risks: Delays in procurement and limited infrastructure in remote areas affect timely service delivery.
→ Economic and Inflation Risks: Rising costs of goods and services due to inflation strain project budgets and reduce purchasing power for participants.
→ Short Project Lifespan: Short-term funding cycles create challenges in achieving long-term impact and sustainability.
Cross-cutting topics [see 2.4]
→ Gender and Protection Mainstreaming: Ensured equal participation of women, men, girls, and boys in project activities, addressing specific needs of vulnerable groups.
→ Child Safeguarding and Protection: Strengthened mechanisms to prevent child abuse and exploitation, ensuring safe learning and living environments.
→ Disability Inclusion: Implemented disability-friendly infrastructure and ensured participation of persons with disabilities in all project interventions.
→ Environmental Sustainability: Introduced climate-smart agricultural practices and water conservation initiatives to mitigate the impact of climate change.
→ Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP): Strengthened feedback and complaints mechanisms, ensuring participants had a voice in project implementation.
Sustainability actions [see 2.5]
→ Capacity Building for Local Structures: Strengthened local institutions, including community education committees and health management teams, to sustain project outcomes.
→ Government Integration: Ensured alignment with government policies and frameworks to promote ownership and long-term support.
→ Private Sector Partnerships: Engaged local businesses and cooperatives to enhance livelihood opportunities and economic resilience.
→ Infrastructure Investments: Constructed durable learning spaces, health facilities, and WASH infrastructure to ensure continued service delivery beyond project duration.
→ Community Ownership and Participation: Encouraged active involvement of community members in project planning and implementation to foster sustainability.

Organisational expertise and resources

- **Technical Expertise:** SOS CV Somalia has extensive experience in education, health, nutrition, protection, and WASH programming, ensuring high-quality implementation.
- **Strong Partnerships:** Collaboration with government agencies, donors, UN organizations, and local NGOs strengthens service delivery and resource mobilization.
- **Digitalization and Data-Driven Decision-Making:** Utilization of digital tools like KOBO for real-time monitoring and evaluation enhances accountability and efficiency.
- **Robust Financial and Compliance Systems:** Strong financial controls, audits, and compliance mechanisms ensure transparency and effective fund management.
- **Emergency Response Capacity:** Proven ability to rapidly mobilize and respond to crises, as demonstrated during the El Niño floods and displacement crises.

ANNEX

ANNEX 1: HYPERLINKS TO RELATED MATERIALS

Topic	Person responsible	Source of information	MA file should be saved to:	Hyperlink
Actual statistics of the MA	National MEAL Coordinator	Compass report accessed via the following path: Compass -> Federation Steering -> Statistical Key figures -> SKF Participants/ SKF staff -> filter for MA and year	No longer required	Statistical Key Figures 2023-2024 - Power BI
List of board members	National director	MA fills in template list of board members	Federation planning & steering: MA annual reports	MA Somalia has no board members
MA mid-term plan	National director	MA fills in template for mid-term planning	Federation planning & steering: Mid-term & annual plans	Final MA Somalia 2024 Annual Plan .xlsm
MA annual plan	National director	MA fills in template for annual planning	Federation planning & steering: Mid-term & annual plans	Final MA Somalia 2024 Annual Plan .xlsm
MA website	National director	Member association website	Not applicable: provide link only	Home - SOS Children's Villages Somalia
Online directory page for MA	National director	SOS Online Directory	Not applicable: provide link only	Statistical Key Figures 2023-2024 - Power BI

ANNEX 2: SUMMARY OF MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF THE MEMBER ASSOCIATION

[Provide an overview of major activities that occurred at the national level for the reporting period (e.g. audits, trainings/workshops, visits, etc.). Please mention which mid-term objective these activities support and what the results of the activity were.]

Major activities of the MA	Date	Corresponding national mid-term objective	Results
Alternative Care (AC) program expansion – Reached 2,231 participants across three service delivery projects in Mogadishu, surpassing the target by 3%. Admitted 23 children into alternative care, with 14 reintegrated into the community.	2024	Strengthening childcare and protection services	Improved care placements, successful reintegration efforts, and exceeded targets in Family Foster Care (111%) and Semi-Independent Living (101%).
Development and approval of Somalia Gatekeeping Guidelines by the National Management Team (NMT).	2024	Enhancing policy frameworks for childcare	Gatekeeping implementation initiated, ensuring better regulation of child admissions and placements .
Education support for children in alternative care – 215 school-aged children accessed education, with 10 Grade 8 students excelling in national exams and 7 secondary students securing university placements.	2024	Promoting access to quality education	Enhanced academic performance and transition to higher education/employment.
MoU signed with the Ministry of Youth and Sports to strengthen policy advocacy and youth empowerment.	2024	Expanding advocacy and policy engagement	Reinforced inter-agency collaboration and alignment with national youth policies.
Economic empowerment initiatives – Enabled 12 young people to secure internships, one graduate obtained full-time employment, and 31 young people completed employability and entrepreneurship training.	2024	Strengthening livelihoods and youth self-reliance	Three businesses launched; 14 young people enrolled in TVET programs.
Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) activities – Provided counselling for 58 children and youth; organized 80 psychosocial support sessions for FS families.	2024	Improving child well-being and resilience	Strengthened emotional well-being and coping strategies for children and caregivers.
Livelihood and food security initiatives – Supported 15 female-headed households with goats, fodder storage, and training; engaged 50 youth in sustainable agriculture training.	2024	Enhancing sustainable livelihoods	Increased household resilience and income-generating capacity.
Digitalization and ICT Expansion – Launched Digital Village initiative at SOS College of Health Science; began adaptation of Digital Care Assistant (Rafiki) for caregivers.	2024	Promoting digital literacy and access to technology	Equipped 350+ students with ICT skills; expanding to 2,060 participants by 2025.
Child Protection and Safeguarding Training – Trained 696 staff members on Child & Youth Safeguarding Policy;	2024	Ensuring safe and protective environments for children	Strengthened safeguarding practices and Keeping Children Safe (KCS) Level 1 Certification achieved.

established child safeguarding sub-committees in multiple locations.			
Humanitarian Response & Crisis Relief – Provided essential services to 1.6 million crisis-affected individuals, surpassing the target by 25.6%.	2024	Expanding humanitarian outreach and emergency response	Improved healthcare, nutrition, and WASH services; child protection cases supported under CPIMS increased from 706 to 13,807.
Participation in global advocacy events – Somali youth represented SOS CV Somalia at Human Capital Forum, National Youth Day, and Eco Champion Summit.	2024	Strengthening youth advocacy and leadership	Increased youth engagement in policy discussions and decision-making.
Expansion of local and international funding – Secured €9.93M in funding, established two new consortia, and recruited 90 new child sponsors.	2024	Ensuring financial sustainability and donor engagement	Strengthened funding diversification, secured major institutional grants
Community engagement in gender equality & child rights – Organized 16 Days of Activism Campaign, raising awareness on FGM, early marriages, and girls' education.	2024	Promoting child protection and gender equality	Increased community awareness and strengthened advocacy efforts.
Training on governance and leadership – Conducted leadership and management training for National Management Team (NMT) members.	2024	Strengthening governance and leadership	Improved strategic decision-making and program management capacity.
Enhanced security and humanitarian access – Conducted Humanitarian Access Negotiation Training for 6 frontline staff; strengthened security collaboration with INSO and UNDSS.	2024	Ensuring safe and secure program implementation	Improved security preparedness and effective crisis response mechanisms.