



**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

Annex 8

Gender assessment and project-level action plan

For the GCF-FAO Project “Climate Resilient Agriculture in Somalia (Ugbaad)”

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

B2B	Business to Business Meeting
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of All Discrimination Against Women
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GII	Gender Inequality Index
HDI	Human Development Index
IDP	Internally Displaced People
MESAF	Ministry of Employment Social Affairs and Family
MWHRD	Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development
MSME	Medium Small and Micro Enterprise
ND-GAIN	Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
SIGI	Social Institutions and Gender Index
TVET	Technical and Vocation Education Training
VSLA	Village Saving and Loan Association

Part 1. Introduction

Objective of the project, country, and target areas.

1. **Climate Change in Somalia:** The Horn of Africa (Somalia, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Eritrea, Sudan and South Sudan) – is vulnerable to climate variability and security-related threats such as violent conflicts – due to its food insecurity and fragile livelihood systems which are vulnerable to climate change. Somalia is listed as a Least Developed Country by the UN and also ranked among the 11th most vulnerable countries by the Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative (ND-GAIN) Index, which measures vulnerability to climate change. Women, children, elderly people, people living with disabilities, minority clans, and other marginalized people often bear the brunt of climate change.
2. In Somalia pastoralists constitute over 50% of the population, inhabiting arid or semi-arid areas with very high temporal and spatial rainfall variability. The adverse changes in rainfall and weather patterns due to climate change have led to prolonged and recurrent droughts in Somalia, which have exacerbated famines and the scarcity of pasture and water resources. Agricultural production systems have also constantly recorded below long-term average returns, against a backdrop of Somalia being a net importer of cereals and grains even on bounty seasons. Protracted and recurrent exposure to shocks has resulted in low capacity to absorb, respond, mitigate, cope, adapt to climate shocks and conflicts. The coping capacity of institutional and physical infrastructure is also generally poor or lacking across the country, cutting across health services, early warning, food systems, and economic opportunities, which adds another structural layer of vulnerability for affected communities
3. **Impact on Women:** The climate in Somalia is projected to become drier, warmer, more erratic and extreme – with grave impacts on livestock, crops, forestry and fisheries-based livelihoods. Cumulative impacts of droughts negatively affect livelihoods, resulting in chronic food insecurity, massive displacement and resources-based conflicts. Women and children constitute over 80 per cent of internally displaced persons (IDPs). Women's high dependence on climate sensitive livelihoods make them particularly vulnerable to shocks, affecting their ability to adapt and recover. This is compounded by their limited and/or constrained access to economic and natural resources, rights of ownership and control over land and decision-making power, a dynamic that is aggravated in displacement settings. In developing countries, including Somalia, women contribute up to 45 – 80 percent of production across crop, livestock, and fisheries value chains (Kibria, 2016). However, gender inequalities and dynamics have excluded them from, or limited their participation in decision-making, production systems, rights of ownership and management of natural resources, as well as resolution of conflicts emanating from the same.
4. The project aims to scale up climate resilient agriculture, sustainable landscape management and ecosystem based adaptation to increase resilience of communities and ecosystems to climate change and extreme weather events that affect agriculture and other livelihoods. It will directly benefit 1.1 million people (50% women). It consists of three outcomes: (i) restored landscapes are resilient and sustainably managed, (ii) local livelihoods are resilient to climate change, and (iii) an improved institutional enabling environment for sustainable landscape management and climate resilient agriculture is in place at Federal Member State and Federal Levels.
5. The targeted areas of the project were identified based on a climate risk analysis, which considered climate hazard, exposure, and vulnerability, and the agroecological zones in Somalia. The government provided a list of priority districts within the target regions, most of them being newly liberated districts.
6. The states, regions, and districts where the project will be implemented are listed below.
 - Southwest state, Lower Shabelle region, Afgoye, Baraawe, Kurtunwaarey, and Qoryooley districts
 - Hirshabelle state, Middle Shabelle region, Cadale district
 - Jubaland state, Lower Juba region, Kismayo district
 - Puntland state, Nugal region, Eyl and Garowe districts
 - Somaliland state, Togdheer region, Odweyne district
 - Galmudug state, Mudug region, Hobyo district

7. **Women’s adaptive capacity and vulnerability to climate change in Somalia:** Women in Somalia, especially those in rural areas, are most affected due to reliance on natural resources affected by climate for their livelihoods. They are at the frontline confronting the challenges of climate change but are poorly equipped and under-resourced to respond to the challenges. They have limited access to economic resources, rights of ownership and control over land and decision-making power. As climate change increases the scarcity of resources and men migrate, women are pushed to assume new responsibilities becoming heads of households. However, they are not included in key decision-making spaces due to socio-cultural norms and gender-based discrimination. Conflict has eroded the gains made in education, healthcare, and employment before the civil war and deepened gender inequality. Women and girls are more likely to engage in risky coping mechanisms and be exposed to gender-based violence.¹
8. The Somalia National Adaptation Plan of Action describes pastoralist communities, IDPs, and women as the most vulnerable group to climate change due to low access to information, markets, services, and technology required for climate-resilient livelihoods. Women are vulnerable because of the gender division of labor, their unequal access to material and resources, non-material and their low participation in decision-making.

Objective and rationale for the gender assessment

9. Gender inequality is very high in Somalia, as various global gender inequality measurements indicate. This gender inequality heightens the vulnerability and lowers the adaptation capacity of not only women but also their families, who depend on them and their communities. Therefore, it is important to understand how existing gender relations contribute to gender inequality and women’s ability to participate in and benefit from the project, as well as how gender relations might prevent the project’s objectives from being achieved. This understanding is created through a gender analysis, which will identify potential gender-based constraints the project needs to address and strategies that can be used to address the identified gender-based constraints.
10. The objective of this gender assessment is to understand how gender relations in Somalia and the project districts, in particular, affect the way men and women experience the problem of climate change and their ability to participate in and benefit from the interventions of this project. Based on the findings of the assessment, a gender action plan that can be implemented by the project to address identified gaps is developed, along with a list of indicators that can be used to measure progress in closing these gender gaps.

¹ Draft Somalia NDC Implementation Plan and Institutional Frameworks, Resource Mobilization and Monitoring & Evaluation Plan

Part 2. Methodology

11. The methodology for the assessment included desk review, primary data collection through a survey administered to farmers, and key informant interviews. Extended consultations have taken place in the project target districts at community level: (i) in Odweyne district, Todgheer region, Somaliland, (ii) in Cadale district, Middle Shabelle, Hirshabelle, (iii) in Hobyo, Mudug region, Galmudug, (iv) in Kismayo district, Lower Juba, Jubaland, (v) in Eyl District, Nugaal region, Puntland, (vi) in Garowe District, Nugaal region, Puntland. Focus Group Discussions have been conducted at community level have been conducted with small holder farmers where women and youth were represented. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with Farmers' Cooperatives where women and youth were also represented.
12. Gender and climate change-related national policy documents, national gender profiles developed by FAO and UN Women, and documents like the last Demographic and Health Survey of Somalia were included in the desk review.
13. A telephone survey questionnaire was administered to 257 mostly women farmers in seven project districts located in six states: Afgoye, and Cadele, Hirshabelle state Eyl, and Garoowe, Puntland state Hobyo of Galmudug state. Kismaayo, of Juba land state and Odweyne Somaliland state. The survey respondents were selected from the following livelihood and demographic categories.
 - Participation in agro-pastoralist livelihood and any one of the following three major Value Chains: Sesame, Maize and Sorghum
 - Representatives of various age groups
 - Representatives of different clans including minorities
 - Single women heads of households including widowed women making up (10% to 15% of the sample).
14. Finally, key informant interviews were conducted in Somaliland state with the Ministry of Employment, Social Affairs, and Family, the Ministry of Livestock, and a civil society organization called PENHA, a women-led network that supports livelihood activities in Odweyne district.
15. The survey questions administered to farmers tried to capture information on gender relations in agriculture, including the participation of men and women in various agricultural activities; their access to extension services, inputs, and markets; their roles in decision-making over agricultural activities and income; and the distribution of responsibilities for unpaid care work.
16. The key informant interview questionnaire was used to capture more qualitative information about gender relations in agriculture. Key informants were asked about the livelihood activities that men and women engage in and the kind of challenges they face; how farmers are targeted for the provision of various agricultural services, such as extension services and credit; the existence of farmers' organizations and barriers to participation in the organizations; and the needs of men and women farmers in livestock and crop agriculture.

Part 3. Legal and Institutional Framework

3.1. National gender policy framework and implications for the project

17. Provisions that protect the rights of women were first included in the Federal Republic of Somalia's provisional constitution when it was formulated in 2012. The constitution recognized the need to ensure the representation of women in national institutions and the three branches of government, protect their social and economic rights, protect women from violence, and eliminate discrimination against women in the workplace. Consequent national development plans also integrated gender equality provisions. The New Deal framework developed in 2013 included commitments to address gender disparity in various sectors.²
18. The 9th National Development Plan of Somalia (2020-2024) had adopted strengthening gender, human rights and social equity as one of its cross-cutting policy objectives. The four pillars of the National Development Plan: Inclusive and accountable politics, improved security and the rule of law, inclusive economic growth and improved social development have each gender related targets and indicators. Under the inclusive and accountable politics pillar, increasing the representation of women in district councils and local governance institutions is set as one target. Under the economic development pillar, investment in livestock and agriculture sectors to create employment opportunities for rural women and youth is prioritized. In order to diversify the economy, investment in skills training in TVETs targeting sectors where women are overrepresented is encouraged. Under the social protection and human development pillar national policies and strategies are developed to protect vulnerable groups. Among these are the development of the Somali Women's Charter, the FGM Act and the National Gender Policy.³
19. Somalia has made good progress regarding Women Peace and Security (WPS)/ National Action Plans (NAPs), having launched its NAP in September 2022, led by the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development, supported by the Government of Sweden through UN Women Somalia. The NAP acknowledges inclusion and participation of Somali women in peacebuilding and decision-making at all levels as a critical foundation for effective governance, sustainable peace, and development. In addition, the NAP seeks to address issues that plague women in Somalia such as sexual and gender-based violence, access to justice, participation in transitional justice mechanisms, as well as climate change among others.
20. **A National Gender Policy** was adopted by the Federal Government of Somalia in 2016 to guide gender integration in its peace and state-building process. The objective of the gender policy is to create an enabling legal, policy, and institutional environment to achieve gender equality and equal opportunities. Specific policy objectives consist of eliminating all forms of gender-based discrimination and reducing gender inequality, increasing women's participation in decision making, promoting behaviour change to shift gender norms and taking affirmative action as a corrective measure to equalize opportunities. Other main objectives of Gender policy include enacting international legal frameworks like Convention on Elimination of All Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and introducing new bills against FGM and sexual offenses. It also aims to increase women's representation in political and leadership positions and track public budget allocation to gender equality objectives.⁴
21. The National gender policy has four thematic priority areas: economic empowerment, health, education and political participation. Under the economic empowerment thematic priority area, the policy aims to increase the representation of women in national chamber of commerce to address concerns of women entrepreneurs. It also aims to establish funds accessible to women, support them to diversify income sources, establish a quota for women's employment in decision making positions in private and public sector and develop national vocational entrepreneurs' skills enhancement programme.⁵
22. States such as Puntland and Somaliland also drafted their state gender policies. For example, the Somaliland National Gender Policy was developed in 2009 by the Ministry of employment and social

2 UN Women and AFDB, 2020. Country gender profile: trends of change in a fragile and fragmented context

3 Somalia National Development Plan, 2020-2024

4 UN Women and AFDB, 2020. Country gender profile: trends of change in a fragile and fragmented context

5 Federal Republic of Somali, 2015. National gender policy.

affairs and family. The overall goal of the policy is to facilitate the mainstreaming of the needs and concerns of women, men, girls and boys in all areas of sustainable development and poverty eradication. The policy has several priority areas covering different sectors. Its specific objectives include elimination of inequality in access to resources, ensuring equal participation in decision making in social, political and economic life, changing attitudes and practices that are discriminatory and mainstreaming gender in all sectors of development. Under its poverty reduction and economic empowerment and livelihoods thematic area, the policy aims to create an enabling environment for women to participate in natural resources management and support small scale entrepreneurs to create jobs and adult literacy.⁶

23. At the Federal level, the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development (MWHRD) of the Federal Government of Somalia is mandated to advance the promotion and protection of gender equality and human rights, including the rights of women, children and other vulnerable groups. The Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development was established by the federal government in 2013 to lead the development of laws and policies that help to implement the National Gender Policy and coordinate the efforts of various sector ministries and development partners. Gender focal points are expected to be established in all sector ministries. Periodic stakeholder forums are expected to be carried out for consultation and review of the implementation of the gender policy.⁷
24. The states of Puntland and Somaliland set up similar state-level women's machineries. The Ministry of Family Affairs in Puntland is responsible for mainstreaming gender in different sectors, and in Somaliland, this responsibility is taken by the Ministry of Employment, Social Affairs and Family (MESAF).⁸ The mandate is to serve specific target groups of the society, especially women, children, people with disabilities, and other socially disadvantaged groups including refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs, returnees, and minorities to ensure their rights of accessing basic services, fair employment opportunities, and protection support are protected. MESAF is expected to set up multi-sectoral committees from national to district levels to ensure gender mainstreaming, coordination and implementation of a multi-sectoral approach. Gender focal points are expected to be created in each government ministry to enhance coordination and mainstreaming across sectors. Implementation of the gender policy will be in a collaborative effort between government, NGOs and UN agencies and development partners.⁹
25. However, despite the development of the Federal and state level National Gender Policies and the efforts, in national development plans, the implementation leaves a lot to be desired.
26. **National Climate Change Policy** of the Federal Government of Somali developed in 2020 recognizes that gender equality is an important precondition for successful climate change adaptation and mitigation response. The policy states the need to generate data on gender to understand gender specific needs and impacts of climate change. It highlights the importance of collaborating with women rights organizations and bringing them to the table in climate change discussions and processes. It stresses the importance of building the capacity of relevant institutions to mainstream gender in climate change policy formulation and the need for gender equitable financing to integrate gender dimensions in the design of climate funds. The policy commits to increase the resilience of vulnerable groups including women through community led adaptation, livelihood diversification and better access to basic services and social protection.¹⁰ In the state of Somaliland National Climate change policy developed in 2023 as well gender mainstreaming is stated as one of the policy priority areas.¹¹
27. **The National Adaptation Programme of Action on Climate Change** developed in 2013 recognized women, youth, and pastoralist communities as the most vulnerable to climate change. Women and youth groups participated in the consultations that led to the identification of priority areas for adaptation both at the federal level and in the states of Puntland and Somaliland. However, in the actual adaptation plans of both the federal government and the state of Somaliland, there are no specific strategies

⁶ The Republic of Somaliland, National gender policy, 2009.

⁷ Federal Republic of Somali, 2015. National gender policy.

⁸ FAO. 2021. National gender profile of agriculture and rural livelihoods – Somalia. Mogadishu. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb6316en>

⁹ The Republic of Somaliland, National gender policy, 2009.

¹⁰ Somalia National Climate Change Policy, 2020

¹¹ Somaliland National Climate Change Policy, 2023

developed to target and address the needs of women. The only document that specifically references women is the adaptation plan of the state of Puntland, which mentions “providing training and support to women given their large role in agriculture.”¹²

28. **The Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)** of Somali updated in 2021 recognizes that women are at a disadvantage compared to men in all socio-economic and human development indicators and that the impact of climate change disproportionately affects women because of their lack of access and control to critical resources to adapt to changing climate conditions. The NDC calls for gender equality and the empowerment of women in climate change decision making. Specific gender targets developed under the NDC consist of allocation of a quota of 30% for representation of women in climate change decision-making, making the Ministry of Gender and Human Rights part of the NDC governance structure, and mainstreaming gender in national and sub-national climate change policy frameworks. The document also commits to undertaking gender analysis to inform climate adaptation and mitigation sector’s gender needs, to strengthening the of the most vulnerable including women through social safety nets and promoting meaningful access and transfer of climate finance to promote gender responsive technology. Finally, the document also highlights the need for developing insurance systems to enable vulnerable groups, including women to rebuild economic life following exposure to disaster and support vulnerable groups, particularly women in climate change adaptation efforts.¹³
29. Overall, the assessment of the national policy framework and institutions indicates that there is a strong political will to promote gender equality in climate change. However, there are gaps in the institutional capacity of the government to turn this commitment into action. The project needs to build the capacity of national partners on gender-sensitive agriculture program delivery to ensure the project’s interventions reach and benefit both men and women. The gender action plan needs to include further assessments and capacity-building plans on gender for ministries of agriculture at federal, state, regional, and district levels.

3.2. Gender legal framework and implications for the project

30. Somalia has ratified both the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights as of January 24, 1990. Article 3 in both covenants calls for states to ensure the equal rights of women and men in the enjoyment of the rights outlined in the covenants. However, Somalia has yet to ratify major international conventions that protect the rights of women and girls. For example, Somalia has signed the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Protocol of the African Charter on Human and People Rights and the Rights of Women in Africa. However, both conventions have not been ratified by the state to become part of the national legislation. The Federal Ministry of Women and Human Rights established a CEDAW ratification and advocacy committee in 2019 to fast-track the process. However, ratification has not taken place to date.
31. Somalia has also signed and recognized the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, which is the first comprehensive and transformative global agenda for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.
32. New national laws that protect women’s rights are under development. The Federal Government of Somalia and the states of Somaliland and Puntland have developed bills on FGM/C and sexual offenses that are waiting for approval by the states. The federal government and both states have also introduced quotas for women’s representation in national leadership positions. In the federal government and Puntland state, a 30% quota for women’s representation in leadership positions has been instituted, while in Somaliland, a 25% quota is assigned.¹⁴
33. The assessment of the legal frameworks shows that fundamental laws that protect rural women’s rights to own assets and access services are not yet in place in Somalia. For example, ratification of the CEDAW convention would have required states to implement Article 14 of the convention, which

¹² Federal Republic of Somalia, 2013. National Adaptation Programme of Action on Climate Change (NAPA)

¹³ Draft Somalia NDC Implementation Plan and Institutional Frameworks, Resource Mobilization and Monitoring & Evaluation Plan, 2024

¹⁴ UN Women and AFDB, 2020. Country gender profile: trends of change in a fragile and fragmented context

compels states to provide equal opportunities to women in rural areas and take measures that achieve gender equality in the agriculture sector. Therefore, the project needs to engage traditional and clan leaders and communities to sensitize them on the importance of ensuring women's participation and representation in landscape and natural resource governance committees in the absence of legislation that can mandate these measures.

Part 4. Overview of Gender Inequalities in the Country

4.1. Poverty and demography

34. Women make up 49% of the population in Somalia, according to the 2014 population estimation survey carried out by the UNFPA and the Somalia Ministry of Planning. Women-headed households make up 32% of total households. Male migration due to drought and conflict has resulted in an increased trend of female household headship. There is a high level of poverty in Somalia, especially among nomadic communities and rural dwellers.¹⁵ The Human Development Index (HDI) of Somalia is one of the lowest in the world, with a value of 0.380, putting the country in the lowest human development category in 2022. A higher proportion of women-headed households in nomadic communities and urban areas live in poverty as compared to male-headed households.¹⁶ FAO's food security and nutrition analysis shows that female-headed households are overrepresented in the category of households with poor food consumption and have fewer assets.¹⁷
35. Various global measures show the prevalence of a high level of gender inequality in Somalia. The Gender Inequality Index (GII) for Somalia is 0.776 (with a maximum of 1 denoting complete inequality), placing the country as the fourth-lowest country for gender equality globally. The Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) in Somalia for 2014 was 0.4594, categorizing the country as highly discriminatory against women.¹⁸
36. Women's participation in the labor force and employment is lower than that of men. A 2016, UNFPA data showed that the labor force participation rate is 64% for men and 37% for women, while the employment rate is 49% for men and 27% for women. Reasons for women's low labor force participation include women's unpaid care work responsibility, enrolment in schools, and lack of permission from male members of the family, according to a 2017 World Bank report. For men, the reasons include enrolment in schools, disability or illness, and conflict.¹⁹ Sixty percent of men and 68% of women are employed in the agriculture sector. Most employed women are self-employed (55%) or employed by a family member (28%) in both agricultural and non-agricultural sectors. And 43% of women employed in the agriculture sector are not paid.²⁰
37. **Young people** in Somalia have fewer livelihood opportunities, and they are affected by unemployment and low access to resources such as land, livestock, and credit. A 2016 UNDP survey showed that 40.2% of young people between the ages of 25 and 29 (54% men and 29.5% women) are employed. Over 45% of young people were economically inactive, not working or looking for work. Young people, especially young women, face difficulty securing livelihoods due to a lack of available jobs, poorly developed skills, and limited access to credit and capital assets. Young women's employment options are lower than men's because of lower levels of education, discrimination, and social and family pressure to marry early. Lack of livelihood opportunities leads poor young women to engage in prostitution, while young men migrate or get involved in extremist militant groups.²¹
38. Young men own less land than older men because ancestral land is becoming less and less with each sub-division, and existing portions are now almost too small to sub-divide. Young men are given few

¹⁵ The federal democratic republic of Somalia, 2020. The Somali Health and Demographic Survey.

¹⁶ Somalia National Bureau of Statistics, 2023. Somalia Poverty Report.

¹⁷ FAO. 2021. National gender profile of agriculture and rural livelihoods – Somalia. Mogadishu. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb6316en>

¹⁸ FAO. 2021. National gender profile of agriculture and rural livelihoods – Somalia. Mogadishu. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb6316en>

¹⁹ UN Women and AFDB, 2020. Country gender profile: trends of change in a fragile and fragmented context

²⁰ The federal democratic republic of Somalia, 2020. The Somali Health and Demographic Survey.

²¹ Somalia country gender profile: trends of change in a fragile and fragmented context, AFDB & UN Women

heads of livestock when they marry, and the livestock ownership of younger men is less than that of older men. Young women have even less access to land and livestock.²²

39. **Elderly people** aged 60 and above made up 4.5% of the population in 2020. There is a lack of data on the situation of elderly people and their vulnerability to poverty in Somalia. A study conducted by HelpAge International among internally displaced people (IDP) in Somalia showed elderly people make up 15% of those living in IDP settlements. The majority of the elderly people were women who were widowed or divorced and single heads of households. There were few programs that specifically target and support elderly people and address their needs. The study also found declining community support for older people. There was limited consultation with elderly people in program development and the provision of support to IDP communities. Older women were often victims of sexual and gender-based violence. Many older women worked as sanitation workers or maids in host communities, were poorly paid, and suffered from health problems like chronic back pain because of the tasks associated with their work. Older men did not work and depended on their wives for support. There was no system of home delivery of food rations for vulnerable people because food is distributed through blanket general distribution centres.²³

40. **Women headed households**

41. Four in 10 households in Somalia are headed by women. The proportion of women-headed households is high in Mogadishu and other urban centers (52%) and IDPs (54%), compared to rural households (37%). Women-headed households are grouped into two categories: de jure women household heads, who are divorced, separated, or widowed, and de facto female household heads, who are married but their husbands are living away from the family home.²⁴

42. A World Bank survey in 2019 showed that the incidence of poverty is higher for male-headed households than for female-headed households in IDPs and non-displaced communities. However, the difference in incidence of poverty between male and female-headed households is smaller in non-displaced communities (3%), while it is higher in IDPs (11–14%). Among the non-displaced community, widow-headed households have a higher risk of poverty. IDP families with children with single female caregivers experience higher poverty than IDP families without children. In IDP households, where there are more female income earners, the risk of poverty is lower. The study suggested looking beyond the gender of the household head to several other factors, like the number of children and the number of income earners in a family, to understand vulnerability to poverty. It also highlighted that the association between a household's demographic composition and its income profile shows women's lack of economic empowerment and caring responsibility elevates poverty risk, even in the context where male-headed households have an overall higher risk of poverty.²⁵

43. **Other vulnerable groups**

44. Poverty rates are high in Somalia, with 7 out of 10 households living below the poverty line. However, some communities are more affected and deprived. Three-fourths of the population in rural areas, IDP settlements, and households living among nomadic communities live in deeper levels of poverty. For example, IDP households are 10% more likely to be poor than non-IDP households.

45. Twenty-six percent of the population in Somalia lives in nomadic areas. Twenty-eight percent of nomadic households are headed by women. Looking at multi-dimensional indicators of poverty, nomadic households experience more deprivation compared to other households or communities. Ninety percent of nomadic households are in the lowest wealth quantile.

46. Nomadic households have low access to education. The net enrolment rate among nomadic communities is 12% for primary and secondary education levels. Seventy-three percent of the people in nomadic communities live more than 30 minutes away from the nearest school. Only one in five people living in nomadic communities can read and write. Seventy-eight percent of nomadic male household members and eighty-four percent of female household members have no access to

22 FAO 2024. Gender baseline assessment report for the Somalia information and resilience building action phase II.

23 Crisis affected older people in Kenya and Somalia, HelpAge International, 2012.

24 World Bank, 2019. Somali Poverty and vulnerability assessment: findings from wave 2 of the Somali high frequency survey.

25 World Bank, 2021. Differences in household composition: hidden dimensions of poverty and displacement in Somalia.

education. They have low access to health services, and most women receive no assistance from health professionals during childbirth.

47. Nomadic households have poor access to water supply and sanitation services. Only 35% of nomadic households have access to water, compared to 55% of rural households and 76% of urban households. A higher proportion of nomadic households need to travel longer than 30 minutes to fetch drinking water compared to rural and urban households. No nomadic household uses appropriate water treatment before drinking. Only 1% of nomadic households have access to improved sanitation, compared to 26% of rural and 23% of urban households. Less than 1% of nomadic households use electricity for lighting.

4.2. Health

48. The health system in Somalia is fragmented and under-resourced to meet the healthcare needs of the population. Various health measurements indicate the general low health status of the population, including women. Life expectancy at birth was 53 in 2021, which is lower than the average of 71 years for the Arab world. The infant mortality rate of 71 per 1,000 live births is high compared with the Arab world average of 26 per 1,000 live births.²⁶ Maternal mortality at 692 per 100,000 live births in 2020 is one of the highest in the world. Only 32% of births are assisted by a healthcare provider and 31% of mothers receive antenatal care. The main obstacles for women to access health services include lack of money (65%), distance of health facilities (62%), and lack of permission to access health services (42%). Poor women and women living in nomadic communities are most affected by a lack of health services.²⁷
49. Women and children are affected by poor nutrition and the prevalence of diseases. Twenty-eight percent of children under the age of five and 12%, respectively, are affected by stunting and wasting. Twenty-six percent of women in nomadic communities and 16% in rural communities are underweight. Diseases such as acute respiratory disease due to the high use of firewood and shrubs for cooking in households and diarrhoea affect children the most.²⁸
50. The prevalence of HIV/AIDS is low in Somalia (0.55%). Sixty-six percent of women aged 15–49 have heard of HIV/AIDS. The proportion of women who have heard of HIV/AIDS is lower among those in nomadic and rural areas (45 percent and 69 percent, respectively) than in urban areas (81 percent).²⁹
51. Early marriage and teen pregnancy are prevalent in Somalia. The 2020 DHS found that 16% of ever-married women were married by the age of 15, and 34% were married by the age of 18. Fourteen percent of women between the ages of 15 and 19 have given birth or are pregnant with their first child. Teen pregnancy is highest among the lowest-income groups. Sixty-two percent of women between the ages of 15 and 49 know about modern contraception methods. However, despite the high level of knowledge, actual use of modern contraception methods is low (7%). There is a high level of unmet contraception needs (37%) in rural and nomadic areas.³⁰
52. More than half of the population in Somalia has access to improved drinking water and sanitation facilities. Sixty-five percent of households use improved sources of drinking water. Access, however, is low for nomadic communities (34%) and rural communities (55%). Forty-five percent of nomadic households and 13% of rural households have to travel more than 30 minutes to get improved drinking water. Few households (16%) treat water before drinking. Fifty-seven percent of households have access to improved sanitation facilities. However, access to improved sanitation facilities is low among rural households (49%) and nonexistent among nomadic communities.³¹

²⁶ World Bank Database

²⁷ The federal democratic republic of Somalia, 2020. The Somali Health and Demographic Survey

²⁸ The federal democratic republic of Somalia, 2020. The Somali Health and Demographic Survey

²⁹ The federal democratic republic of Somalia, 2020. The Somali Health and Demographic Survey

³⁰ The federal democratic republic of Somalia, 2020. The Somali Health and Demographic Survey

³¹ The federal democratic republic of Somalia, 2020. The Somali Health and Demographic Survey

4.3. Literacy and education

53. Educational attainment among women is very low. Overall, 75% of women aged 15–49 have not attended any formal schooling. Twelve percent of women have some level of primary education, but only 3% completed primary schooling. Moreover, 5% of women attended secondary school, but only 3% completed secondary education. Three percent of women have completed higher levels of education.
54. Literacy among women aged 15–49 varies by place of residence. Among women residing in urban areas, 50% are literate, compared to 37% among those living in rural areas and 5% among women living in nomadic areas.³²

4.4. Voice and Representation

55. A patriarchal culture prevails in Somalia, and women are often excluded from political decision-making at national and community levels. At the national level, women hold 25% of the seats in the federal parliament through a quota system. In the states of Puntland and Somaliland, women hold only 1% of the parliament seats. Twenty percent of the federal government cabinet positions are held by women, while in Somaliland, women make up only 4% of the cabinet positions, and in Puntland, only 1 out of 18 cabinet positions are held by women.
56. Women's limited representation in leadership and national decision-making positions is one of the reasons for the slow implementation of gender commitments included in the national gender policy and development plans and for the slow ratification of international conventions protecting the rights of women. There is high resistance from traditional clan and religious leaders to implementing the political office quotas assigned to women.³³ At the community level, in rural areas, most decisions are made by clan-based committees that are entirely composed of men, excluding women.³⁴
57. Women's decision-making at the household level is low compared to men. In the 2020 DHS, 90% and 60% of women, respectively, reported that they take part in decisions about how to spend the cash they and their spouses earn. However, 45% said husbands alone make decisions on major household purchases. A significant proportion of women respondents also said decisions on their health care and mobility are made by their spouses. Forty-five percent of women said their spouses decide whether they should seek health care, and 48% said their spouses decide whether they can visit family members and relatives.³⁵

4.5 Entrepreneurship

58. In the economic sector, women are overrepresented in the informal sector. Women's entrepreneurship is constrained by low levels of literacy and access to support services and networks. Women have limited access to financial literacy, vocational, and business skills training. They have low access to formal credit due to their limited ownership of property and productive assets, including land. A study commissioned by FAO and UNDP in sorghum, maize and sesame value chains in Somalia showed that women's participation in the value chains is constrained by their limited access to land and finance. Seventy one percent of women participating in the study expressed lack of finance to buy drought resistant improved seeds and to access irrigation water by clearing or desilting water canals that pass through their farm.³⁶ Although there is an emergence of micro-finance institutions, such as Micro Dahab, which provide loans to MSMEs, and a growing trend in the development of village-level saving and loan associations (VSLAs), women's main source of capital to start their businesses is remittance. Most women entrepreneurs are engaged in petty trading ventures as a survivalist-oriented business activity. Women's limited mobility due to shortage of time because of their unpaid care and domestic work

³² Somalia Health and Demography Survey, 2020

³³ UN Women and AFDB, 2020. Country gender profile: trends of change in a fragile and fragmented context

³⁴ FAO. 2021. National gender profile of agriculture and rural livelihoods – Somalia. Mogadishu. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb6316en>

³⁵ The federal democratic republic of Somalia, 2020. The Somali Health and Demographic Survey.

³⁶ SCALA Private Sector Engagement Facility Report 2024

responsibility or socio-cultural norms that restrict women from moving freely in public spaces constrains the development of their businesses^{37,38]}

4.6. Access to and control over resources

59. Women in Somalia play a key role in both livestock and crop agriculture activities. They are responsible for the production of smaller livestock, dairy processing, and marketing, while men are responsible for the herding, slaughtering, and selling of larger animals. In crop agriculture, women are responsible for labour-intensive tasks such as sowing, weeding, harvesting, threshing, and dehusking, while men are responsible for tasks such as land preparation and ploughing. In the fisheries sector, women participate in processing. Women are also fully responsible for unpaid care work activities, such as fuelwood collection, which is time-consuming and exposes them to security risks, especially for women living in internally displaced people's (IDP) camps. In marketing, men are involved in agriculture export activities, while women engage in selling small amounts of produce (cereals and vegetables) in local markets. Women also participate in the sale of fodder and grass.³⁸
60. Despite their role in the household economy, women have limited access to and control over land and other assets. Results from the 2020 DHS show only 15% and 35% of women own land and a house, respectively, jointly with their spouses or alone. Older women are more likely to have ownership of land and a house compared to younger women. For example, 60 percent of women aged 45-49 years own a house, compared to 10 percent of women aged 15-19. Twenty-six percent of women aged 45-49 own land, compared to 4 percent of women aged 15-19.³⁹
61. Land is communally owned in Somalia and assigned to households for specific use by elders. Women's access to land is curtailed by discriminatory customary practices. Customary laws do not consider women as independent legal people, and they are excluded from owning land. Women don't own land, but they can have access rights through their husbands or brothers. However, they can easily lose their access to land when they become widows if they have no children or if they remarry outside of the family. Land grabbing by male relatives after the death of a husband or father is very common in south-central Somalia. Traditional land dispute settlement mechanisms usually do not favour women's land claims, as traditional and religious leaders often resist women's land rights. Land insecurity is especially high among women-headed households.⁴⁰
62. Women have control over smaller livestock, such as goats, sheep, and chickens, while men have control over larger cattle and camels. However, the formal ownership rights of all livestock lie with the male heads of households. The marketing of livestock is usually controlled by men, who also decide on the income earned from the sale. Women have control only over the income earned from selling milk.

4.7 Access to information

63. Women's access to agriculture extension services is limited due to time and mobility constraints as a result of unpaid care work responsibilities and social norms. Women often don't participate in technical and vocational training as they tend to be organized far away from their village. Low levels of education and literacy among women are also a constraint on their participation. Women are not able to access veterinary services offered by the government, such as livestock vaccination services. Agriculture extension agents or animal health workers tend to be mainly dominated by men because it is considered socially unacceptable for women to move around without supervision.⁴¹
64. Ninety-three percent of women in Somalia do not access any form of media, including newspapers, radio, and TV, at least once a week. Media access is especially low among the poorest category of women. TV is relatively more used by women in the highest wealth category to access information, while for the poorest households, radio is the most frequently used source of information. The use of

³⁷ UN Women and AFDB, 2020. Country gender profile: trends of change in a fragile and fragmented context

³⁸ FAO. 2021. National gender profile of agriculture and rural livelihoods – Somalia. Mogadishu. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb6316en>

³⁹ The federal democratic republic of Somalia, 2020. The Somali Health and Demographic Survey

⁴⁰ FAO, 2016. Women's land rights and territorial rights of Somali minorities in Somaliland.

⁴¹ FAO. 2021. National gender profile of agriculture and rural livelihoods – Somalia. Mogadishu. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb6316en>

the internet is very low. Only 17% of women have ever used the internet. Among rural women, only 12% have ever used the Internet, while in nomadic communities, only 1% have used the internet before. Mobile ownership is high among women with 75% of women owning a mobile phone. Mobile ownership is slightly less among women with no education (72%) compared to women with higher education (98%). Sixty-seven percent of rural women and 59% of women living in nomadic communities own a mobile phone.⁴²

4.8. Access to finance

65. Women's access to and control over credit is limited. A study commissioned by FAO and UNDP in sorghum, maize and sesame value chains in Somalia found that 71% percent of women participating in the study expressed lack of finance. The reason for lack of finance for 44% was their inability to qualify for loan from banks. This was due to limited financial literacy for 29% of the respondents, because banks require a male guarantor for 25% of the respondents and lack of security to access loans for 20% of the respondents. Sixteen percent of the respondents also said they were not allowed to take loan and another 16% said capping the amount money women can access from banks was a problem for them.⁴³
66. Only 4% of women in Somalia have bank accounts, according to the 2020 DHS. Although very few women own bank accounts, the introduction of mobile money has enabled women to have a level of financial control. Sixty-four percent of women use their mobile phones for financial transactions.⁴⁴

4.9. Sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment (SEAH)

67. Conflict and displacement have heightened the risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) against women and girls. Men die due to the conflict or migrate from home, leaving women to assume headship roles. Women-headed households, especially those living in areas under the control of extremist groups, are displaced due to the loss of economic opportunities. Women and children make up 70–80% of the population in IDPs.⁴⁵ SGBV is common in IDPs because of instability, social breakdown, and limited leadership and control. Single women and women from minority groups are especially vulnerable to abuse because of the lack of clan protection. The persistence of clan mediation in SGBV cases exempts men and boys from facing prosecution, and there is a tendency to stigmatize and shame victims. Women in IDPs have little access to formal legal recourse.⁴⁶

4.10. Other forms of GBV

68. Spousal violence is prevalent in Somalia. In the 2020 DHS, 12% of ever-married women reported that they had been abused physically by a spouse, while 4 percent reported emotional abuse by a spouse. The prevalence of spousal violence is high in urban areas (20%), compared to rural (14%), and Nomadic areas (11%). Few women (17%) out of those who experienced spousal violence have sought help. Thirty-six percent of women believe a husband is justified in beating his wife for a given number of reasons. The attitude that justifies spousal violence is especially high (44%) among women in poorer households.
69. FGM is highly prevalent in Somalia. Among women aged 15–49 years, 99 percent have been circumcised. Out of these, 64% have gone through pharaonic circumcision, which is the most severe form of circumcision. A huge proportion of women respondents (76%) in the 2020 DHS said they want the practice to continue, while 72% believed that it is a religious obligation.⁴⁷

⁴² The federal democratic republic of Somalia, 2020. The Somali Health and Demographic Survey

⁴³ SCALA Private Sector Engagement Facility Report 2024

⁴⁴ The federal democratic republic of Somalia, 2020. The Somali Health and Demographic Survey

⁴⁵ FAO. 2021. National gender profile of agriculture and rural livelihoods – Somalia. Mogadishu. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb6316en>

⁴⁶ UN Women and AFDB, 2020. Country gender profile: trends of change in a fragile and fragmented context

⁴⁷ The federal democratic republic of Somalia, 2020. The Somali Health and Demographic Survey

Part 5. Gender Inequalities Exacerbated by Climate Change

70. The Somalia National Adaptation Plan of Action describes pastoralist communities, IDPs, and women as the most vulnerable groups to climate change. Although most communities must face climate risks and impacts, vulnerability of individuals varies depending on their adaptive capacity which is influenced by their gender, geography, types of livelihoods, and age.
71. Pastoralists depend on range land grazing for their livestock and have very few fixed assets, which makes them vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. People living in IDP camps due to conflict or drought are vulnerable due to limited livelihood opportunities and pressure put on natural resources around IDP settlements. Women are vulnerable because of the gender division of labor, their unequal access to material and nonmaterial resources, and their low participation in decision-making. Women play a vital role in the management of natural resources and are often the most affected when negative impacts of climate variability and associated conflicts strikes. Conflicts disrupt social, economic, and natural systems, with devastating impacts on women's livelihoods, household poverty, and agricultural productivity. Gender inequality and disempowerment among women further exposes women to vulnerability given their lack equal rights of ownership and control over land, property and other productive assets compared to their male counterparts. Their lack of participation in decision-making on the above matters undermines their capacities to cope, recover and adapt to climate change shocks, the situation is further compounded when gender roles and household structures are altered, for example when men die in conflict, or migrate with livestock in search of pasture and water, women assume the role of heads of households - forced to provide for their homes despite the customary disempowerment.
72. During a drought, while men migrate in search of employment, women are forced to become heads of households and primary breadwinners with limited assets and resources at their disposal. In crises, women must find solutions to feed their families. They must walk long distances, 5-8 km at times, to get water. They have challenges accessing fuelwood for household use and face security risks as they travel in search of fuelwood. When community elders meet to resolve issues around natural resources and disasters, women are not represented.
73. FAO's recent publication has revealed that extreme weather events would reduce the incomes of female-headed households significantly more than those of male-headed households⁴⁸. Due to women's limited participation in economic sectors including non-farm employment, female-headed households have less opportunities to compensate on-farm income loss by off-farm earnings, compared to men.
74. Women play a key role for food security in Somalia. Women are forced to adopt negative coping strategies when food is limited during droughts due to limited resources. They cope by limiting food consumption and prioritizing other members of the household, which exposes them to malnutrition.
75. Climate change would increase the vulnerability and exposure of women and girls to GBV and SEAH. Young girls are forced to go into commercial sex work for survival in the event of droughts. Women are also exposed to an increased risk of sexual and gender-based violence in IDP camps during migration.⁴⁹
76. Increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events could increase the risk of families undertaking early marriage for their female children. As families are anxious to secure economic security in case of extreme weather events, there has been an increased trend in cases of FGM to ensure marriageability of their female children⁵⁰.

⁴⁸ FAO. 2024. The unjust climate – Measuring the impacts of climate change on rural poor, women and youth. Rome.

⁴⁹ Federal Republic of Somalia, 2013. National Adaptation Programme of Action on Climate Change (NAPA)
⁵⁰ UNFPA Somalia, 2021, Situation of Women and Girls - Drought in Somalia

Part 6. Gender Issues in the project implementation sites

6.1. Gender profile of the implementation sites

77. The project implementation sites are located in six states of Somalia, namely, South West, Hirsabelle, Puntland, Galmudug, Jubaland, and Somaliland. Most of the households in the implementation districts can be categorized as poor (74%), while about 26% are categorized as being in the middle wealth group.

Table Population in target districts

Region	District	Children	Men	Women	Elderly	Total
Lower Juba	Kismayo	201,831	46,777	43,510	11,581	303,700
Lower Shabelle	Afgooye	289,821	83,436	81,201	17,766	472,223
	Baraawe	34,657	9,203	9,662	1,253	54,775
	Kurtunwaarey	42,617	10,188	9,454	2,209	64,467
	Qoryooley	81,036	21,419	20,264	3,824	126,545
Middle Shabelle	Cadale	45,884	10,958	11,714	2,370	70,925
	Jowhar	241,759	57,966	53,777	12,398	365,900
Mudug	Hobyo	99,265	27,968	25,622	6,161	159,016
Nugaal	Eyl	87,316	22,738	22,028	11,752	143,834
	Garowe	173,307	49,628	45,802	11,820	280,557
Togdheer	Owdweyne	50,341	14,009	14,440	4,099	82,889

Source: UNFPA, 2014, Somalia - Subnational Population Statistics

78. The main sources of income for households in the project sites are farming (51%), followed by livestock sales and cash assistance (28%), and humanitarian cash support (14%). Very few households (7%) rely on income from small businesses. The main crops cultivated by households include maize, sorghum, cowpeas, mug beans, and vegetables. Fodder production is also common in Somaliland.

79. Women are more involved in crop farming activities, carrying out tasks such as planting, weeding, harvesting, and collecting. Men are responsible for watering crops or irrigation. In livestock production, women are responsible for the production of smaller livestock like goats and sheep and dairy processing and marketing, while men are responsible for moving livestock to range lands and selling large quantities of livestock.

80. Gender roles and relationships on the project sites are similar to gender relations in the broader country context described in the previous sections. A strong patriarchal culture based on a clan system predominates in the project sites. There are huge gender inequalities in various aspects of life. Women and girls have limited rights under customary laws, and they are excluded from decision-making institutions in the community.

6.2. Gender gaps identified

81. The project sites are largely agro-pastoral areas where households rely both on crop and livestock production for their livelihoods. Most farm decisions, such as the type of seed varieties to cultivate, farm inputs and technologies to use, or the type of livestock breeds to rear, are made by men. According to survey respondents, these decisions are made by men alone in 50% of the cases or in consultation with women in their households in 30% of the cases. In the survey, women made decisions alone in 12% of the cases where the households were led by single women.

82. Survey respondents in the project sites mentioned that women are reached by agricultural extension and nutrition training in 83% of the cases. However, previous assessments carried out by FAO and UN Women show women's access to agriculture extension services is limited due to time and mobility constraints as a result of unpaid care work responsibilities and social norms. A qualitative assessment carried out with key informants in Somaliland also indicated that women's time is limited by unpaid care

work responsibilities in addition to their roles in agriculture production. Men typically perform less than 1 hour of work on domestic and unpaid care work activities and usually work for half a day on productive activities. Women, on the other hand, work from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. in various productive and care activities. This can limit their ability to participate in agricultural training, visit marketplaces, develop their network, and access information.

83. Access to credit is limited for both men and women in the project sites. The most common sources of credit are vendors. Households get goods and services on credit from stores and pay them off in kind. Mobile financial transactions are common. There is also an emergence of village-level saving and loan associations organized with the support of NGOs. Women are engaged in VSLAs and able to pool small funds.
84. VSLA (Village Saving and Loan Association) is a self help group of women who come together, form groups, save small amount of money every month and take small loans from those savings. The groups are trained on the VSLA methodology and life skills. The groups have five management committees and a guiding constitution. Through VSLAs, group members would learn the culture of saving. This would give women the opportunity to access loans that can be used to start or improve an existing business, cover emergencies since access to formal loans is a challenge and it requires documentations. FAO works towards linking these VSLA groups to formal financial services and this would give women the opportunity to access ample amount of loans that can be used to improve and diversify their income
85. Both men and women engage in the marketing of agricultural products. However, their level of engagement is hugely different. Men usually sell large quantities of livestock in local and export markets, while women sell livestock products such as meat and dairy in local markets. Income from the sale of livestock is controlled by men, while women can control income earned from the sale of dairy and meat.
86. Key informants interviewed indicated that women in the project sites have needs for training on livestock production, information about markets, support to access markets, and extension services such as vaccination services, fodder, feed, and water for livestock. Women also indicated the need to improve their control over income from livestock production. Men indicated a need for access to fodder, feed, and water.

6.3. Barriers

87. The barriers to gender equality in agriculture in the target areas are socio-cultural norms and capacity gaps at institutional and policy levels.
88. Socio-cultural norms influence various aspects of life that contribute to limiting women's roles, opportunities, and the benefits they can enjoy in agriculture. Gender-based social norms assign almost all unpaid care work to women, which limits the time they have to engage in productive work, participate in agricultural trainings and meetings, participate in political activities, or spend time on their businesses. Social norms also restrict women's ability to travel to access various agricultural services, inputs, and markets. Social norms influence who makes decisions in the household on agricultural inputs and technologies, the use of assets like land and livestock, and the use of income from agricultural production. Most of these decisions are made by men with very limited consultation with women. Women's ability to make decisions on a wide variety of issues, starting from their engagement in economic activities to mobility and their health, is curtailed by social norms.
89. Gender-based social norms also indirectly restrict women's ability to access agriculture extension advisory services. Various studies show women's access to agricultural extension is improved when there are female extension agents. Literature review and key informant interviews in the project districts show there are no or a very limited number of female extension agents because of the belief that it is inappropriate for women to move from place to place without supervision.
90. At the institutional level, there are capacity gaps in agriculture advisory services to provide gender-sensitive services. Extension services don't take into account women's mobility restrictions or unpaid care work responsibilities. There is limited entrepreneurship training support for women engaged in the

off-farm segment of agrifood systems. Although there are some positive developments, financial institutions do not have products that are responsive to the needs of women entrepreneurs.

91. At the national level, there are challenges in turning policy commitments into action. Gender targets set in national development plans are not turned into implementation programs backed by budget. Policy documents like the NAPA, while recognizing women's vulnerability to climate change, fail to identify specific measures to reduce their vulnerability in the action plan. Women's land and property rights are challenged because of the failure or slow process to ratify international legal instruments that protect women's rights, like the CEDAW, and enact national laws that can check the customary practices that discriminate against women.

6.4. Gender roles and barriers in maize, sesame, sorghum and fodder value chains

6.4.1. Sorghum value chain

92. About 80% of the sorghum production in the project districts is produced by subsistent smallholder producers who grow sorghum mostly for their own consumption, with little surplus sold directly to consumers, middlemen, or retailers. Sorghum is used by smallholders for household consumption and as fodder for livestock in agro-pastoralist areas.
93. Smallholder producers usually use family labor for production and rarely use inputs such as certified seeds and fertilizers for sorghum production. They usually use their own seeds saved from the previous harvest or emergency seed provided by NGOs. Most of the production activities and harvesting are done using hand tools.
94. Women are involved at all stages of the value chain in production, processing, and marketing. In some production areas, they own about 50% of the total sorghum production. Women are involved in planting sorghum, weeding, harvesting, winnowing, storing, and processing it into flour. Men are responsible for land preparation and threshing, and they also participate in plating, weeding, harvesting, and transporting together with women. Women are solely responsible for processing, taking sorghum to mills in small towns.
95. Women make up most of the retail vendors in local cereal markets, working in open-air stores and selling sorghum grains with the husk removed or as flour. They buy the sorghum from whole sellers in off-seasons or directly from producers in harvest seasons. Young people are mostly involved in the marketing and distribution of sorghum.
96. The profit margins of retailers and wholesalers are low compared to other actors who participate in the value chain, such as producers and middlemen. Due to the high quality of imported sorghum, retailers of locally produced sorghum don't make much money.
97. Farmers access production information on best practices of sorghum cultivation, land preparation, planting, climate-related information, pest management, and harvesting from extension workers or other farmers. They get information on market demand, consumer preference, and pricing from traders and middlemen.⁵¹

6.4.2. Maize value chains

98. About 70% of the maize production in the project districts comes from smallholder producers with an average land size of 0.2–3 hectares. Maize production systems are irrigated, but rain failure in the Shebelle river basin affects farmers ability to irrigate their farms. Climate-related temperature variations are also increasing the risk of pests.

⁵¹ FAO 2024, Sorghum, Maize and Sesame value chains in Somalia, Scala private sector engagement facility report.

99. Both men and women participate in maize value chains in production and marketing. Men are responsible for the purchase and application of inputs such as fertilizers and pesticides. Both men and women participate in planting, irrigating, weeding, and harvesting.
100. Women are involved in trading maize, selling small volumes of maize in local markets. They also sell maize stalks for fodder. Men are involved in transporting large quantities of maize to markets to sell to commercial traders.⁵²

6.4.3. Sesame value chain

101. Sesame is a commercial crop in the project districts. Smallholder producers and commercial farmers are involved in sesame production. Most of the producers are smallholders with 1–2.5 hectares of land. Commercial production accounts for only 20% of the total sesame production. Sesame is produced in both irrigation and rain-fed systems.
102. Village traders buy from small producers and aggregate and sell to whole sellers, oil millers, and exporters. Oil millers or processors are mostly located in the capital city of Mogadishu, with a few processors also located in towns like Baidoa and Jowhar. Retailers serve as links between processors and local consumers. About 25% of the production is exported. Waste from the processed oil is used as animal feed.
103. Women play a key role in the sesame value chain. Women make up 70% of the work force in the sesame value chain. At the production stage, while land preparation and planting are done by men, most other activities are undertaken by women and youth. Women are engaged in processing, cleaning, salting, and drying. Women dominate small-scale sesame trading and oil processing cooperatives.
104. There are projects that support women in accessing information about good farming practices in sesame production through farmer field schools and demonstration plots and by hiring female extension agents to reach women farmers.⁵³

6.4.4. Fodder Value chain

105. The fodder value chain in the project districts includes fresh cut green grass, maize, and sorghum chopped and fed to animals, as well as whole dry sorghum stalks stacked, milled, and fed to animals.
106. Both men and women participate in the fodder value chain. Men are responsible for planting sorghum, maize, and millet that will be used for fodder, applying pesticides to fodder crops, and cutting and stacking sorghum stover. Women are responsible for preserving seed for the new season, preparing irrigation trenches in fodder farms, doing the weeding, harvesting green sorghum and maize fodder, and, together with men, transporting sorghum stovers on a donkey to markets. Organized women groups participate in the fodder value chain by leasing land to grow sorghum for use as green or dry fodder and engaging in fodder processing, such as milling, adding grain, and packing.
107. Women are also fully responsible for feeding and fattening livestock and milk production and marketing. However, their control over livestock is limited. Women usually own only goats and sheep that have been given to them as gifts. However, they have control over the money from all milk production. They particularly control sheep and goats.⁵⁴

52 FAO 2024, Sorghum, Maize and Sesame value chains in Somalia, Scala private sector engagement facility report.

53 FAO 2024, Sorghum, Maize and Sesame value chains in Somalia, Scala private sector engagement facility report.

54 FAO, 2024. Gender baseline assessment report for the Somalia Information and Resilience Building Action Phase II.

6.4.5. Challenges and gender related barriers in the value chains

108. The challenges smallholder farmers face in the sorghum, maize, sesame and fodder value chains are similar. In all three value chains, a lack of inputs for producers, such as improved certified seeds, low use of fertilizers, and mechanization services, is a challenge for smallholders. It contributes to low productivity.
109. The absence of adequate extension and research services to support farmers in making decisions on the selection of appropriate seeds and farming techniques is another challenge. Access to credit for smallholders is also limited. Middle men provide credit to farmers, sometimes accepting surplus grain as profit.
110. Lack of access to market information and market opportunities is a challenge for women cooperatives engaged in sesame and fodder production. A project on promoting inclusive markets in Somalia has tried to address the gaps in market access by developing a digitalized market information system that provides real-time data on market prices, demand, and supply.
111. Women participating in the value chains face additional barriers due to gender relationships. For example, women have limited access to land or face land tenure insecurity arising from socio-cultural norms and a lack of legal systems that protect their right to land. Land is passed through patrilineal lines. Women don't inherit land. Widows with children may have control over land and decide on it together with male relatives and grown-up children. Women can be allocated land to grow fodder and vegetables by their husbands.
112. Women have challenges accessing extension services due to their unpaid care work responsibilities, which limit the time they have, to participate in agricultural trainings and meetings.
113. Although both men and women farmers lack access to credit, women's access is further constrained because they are not able to meet the requirements for credit, such as collateral. Socio-cultural norms do not allow women to take out loans from financial institutions. Banks ask women who apply for loans to prove a male guarantor or cap the amount of loan women can access. Banks consider women borrowers to be at high risk. Poor literacy levels also prohibit women from borrowing.

6.5. Intersectional nature of gender inequality

114. While the gender assessment showed women as a group have limited access to assets and resources, livelihood opportunities, and decision-making power as a result of gender relationships, it also indicated that other factors such as geographic location, age, household demographics, and wealth status contribute to the social and economic empowerment and wellbeing outcomes of individuals and households. People can experience deprivation and inequality as a result of their age, wealth, geographic location, and household composition. These other forms of inequality, however, interact with gender inequality to create multiple layers of vulnerability and deeper levels of deprivation for women and girls.
115. In the project districts and in the country at large, most households are poor and live below or close to poverty lines. However, men and women living in rural areas, IDPs, and nomadic communities experience deeper levels of poverty. Multidimensional indicators of poverty show nomadic communities have the highest level of deprivation, with low access to education, health, water supply and sanitation, electricity, and internet services.
116. Age is a factor affecting the economic and social wellbeing of individuals, with young and elderly people experiencing discrimination and inequality. Young people have lower access to land, livestock, and other assets and have limited livelihood opportunities. However, the situation of young women is even more vulnerable than that of young men because, in addition to age, gender-based socio-cultural

norms restrict their livelihood opportunities. Young women are even less likely to own assets such as land or livestock. They have fewer opportunities for employment due to discrimination. They face pressure to marry early. Young women from poorer households are vulnerable to engaging in commercial sex work. Elderly men and women are increasingly experiencing vulnerability due to weakening community support mechanisms and the absence of targeted programs that address their needs. Elderly women living in IDPs experience deeper levels of vulnerability. Age combined with household status can create worse outcomes for elderly women. Elderly widows are vulnerable to poverty, and they are often victims of sexual, gender-based violence in IDPs.

117. Household size and composition affect households' vulnerability to poverty. Female-headed households are not necessarily poorer than male-headed households. However, looking beyond the gender of the household head at other household dynamics reveals that different household demographic factors combined with gender heighten households' vulnerability. For example, widow-headed households have a higher risk of poverty. Families with single female heads, a large number of children, and a lower number of people earning income in the household are at greater risk of poverty. Land insecurity is higher among women-headed households. Women-headed households living in areas controlled by extremist groups have lower economic opportunities and are vulnerable to displacement. Single women and women from minority clan groups are vulnerable to SGBV in IDPs and have little option for formal legal recourse.

Part 7. Strategies to integrate gender into the project

7.1. Formulation and implementation

118. The gender action plan in this section is developed by analyzing how the gender relationships described above will affect the way men and women can participate and benefit from the project intervention. The section below provides gender-based constraints that can affect the realization of the objectives of the project under each of the project components. This is followed by strategies and actions that can be adopted by the project to address these gender-based constraints. The final section also includes inward-looking strategies that will help the project staff and partners develop the capacities needed to deliver a gender-sensitive project.
119. The gender action plan takes account of the deeper levels of inequality and deprivation experienced by women in IDPs and rural communities and widowed women who are heads of households as well as women headed households with larger number of children and lower number of economically active members in the household. The gender action plan also recognizes the limited livelihood opportunities and discrimination affecting young women and the specific vulnerabilities experienced by elderly women. All of these factors will be taken into account in targeting and selection of beneficiaries under the different components of the project. The project will ensure the inclusion of women from minority clan/ ethnic groups in all consultation activities. The implementation of the gender action plan will be led by an international Gender, Social Inclusion and IP Specialist (part time) and a national Gender Specialist (full time) in collaboration with the National Project Coordinator, international Technical Advisor as well as relevant technical experts.
120. Under component one, the project aims to establish participatory landscape and natural resources management and governance systems at sub-watershed levels. Due to social norms that restrict women's mobility and representation in the public sphere, women are likely to be excluded from the consultation process and management committees. Young people, especially young women are also likely to be excluded from the consultation processes and management committees. The project will address the barrier to women's participation by organizing community dialogues targeting clan and traditional leaders, men and women, on the importance of including women in landscape management committees and in consultations to design landscape management plans. The project will also set quotas for the representation of women and young people in landscape management committees at various levels as well as for proportion of women who will participate in landscape management

consultations. In addition, gender assessment (including SEAH/GBV related risks) will be included in a detailed conflict sensitivity assessment to be conducted under sub-activity 1.1.2.2, which will inform the project implementation approach.

121. Component two of the project aims to develop the resilience of local livelihoods to climate change by improving the management of water supply systems, building capacities on climate-resilient agriculture practices, and supporting farmers to develop climate-resilient value chains. Existing gender relations can pose various challenges that affect the achievement of the project objectives under this component. While the involvement of women in Water User Association Committees (WUAC) can improve the sustainable management of water supply schemes, traditional norms can restrict the participation of women in WUACs. Women's ability to benefit from the trainings on climate-resilient agriculture practices may be limited due to time and mobility restrictions and a culture of exclusion by agriculture extension agents who do not consider women as clients. A gender-blind value chain development intervention can limit women's ability to benefit from value chain development activities as women have limited access to entrepreneurship support services and credit due to structural barriers.
122. The project will address these barriers in the following ways: The project will set a quota to increase the representation of women in WUACs and train women committee members on scheme management and basic maintenance. The training on scheme management and basic maintenance will also target young people, especially young women. Training and supporting women to engage in traditionally male-dominated roles has the potential to shift attitudes within the community about gender roles, and the trained women can also become role models for other women in the community. To ensure women's access to advisory support in climate-resilient agriculture practices, the project will make a conscious effort to select women among the lead farmers/ facilitators who will receive TOT and facilitators training by setting a quota system. Effort will also be made to include young people, especially women among the trainees to become facilitators on climate resilient agriculture extension practices. Women extension agents and facilitators are better able to reach other women farmers. Each lead farmer and facilitator will be expected to reach from 15 to 30 other farmers.
123. The project will also include a gender assessment of the rural advisory services system to identify barriers and good practices to improve women's access to advisory services in the country and develop a gender strategy for the agriculture extension department. The gender and rural advisory services assessment will be conducted in partnership with the ministry of agriculture using a tool developed by FAO, Gender Sensitive Rural Advisory Services Assessment Tool (GRAST).
124. Following the assessment, capacity-building training on how to develop and deliver gender-sensitive advisory services will be cascaded down, targeting agriculture extension staff at various levels. The training will be based on the gaps identified in the gender and rural advisory services assessment. The training will be conducted using a training manual developed by FAO for agriculture extension agents. The topics that will be covered in the training include: basic gender concepts and why gender equality matters; gender gaps in Somalia in agriculture and extension services; the role of women in agriculture production and the gaps in access to assets and advisory services; gender analysis tools that can be used by extension agents, such as, the use of seasonal calendars and daily activity chart to plan and deliver agriculture extension activities; gender division of labour in agriculture and extension advisory services using different scenarios as examples on how extension agents can reach and provide services to women farmers; institutional mapping of extension service providing organizations and women's access to these organizations; gender sensitive stakeholder analysis and gender sensitive agriculture value chains development. At the end of the training, the extension agents will be asked to develop short- and long-term action plans that will help them address the challenges they face in reaching women farmers in extension advisory services and the support and resources they need to implement the action plan.
125. The training will be conducted at the national level to train national and state agriculture department staff on a TOT of gender-sensitive advisory services. Then the training will be conducted in each of the six project states, inviting extension agents from the project districts in collaboration with national agriculture experts who have received the ToT. The results of the training and changes in the knowledge and practice of extension agents will be monitored using the action plans developed at the

end of the training. The training will also have a KAP assessment that will be administered at the beginning and end of the training.

126. Under component 2, the project will support women candidates for being elected as board members of WUACs through capacity building for the WUACs including raising awareness of the importance of women as women representation in the decision making positions need to be enhanced. Under Activity 2.1.2, the project will rehabilitate and restore irrigation and water supply infrastructures based on a detailed needs assessment. The project will also consult with WUACs to develop frameworks for equitable access to water and conflict prevention mechanisms. In addition, the project will deploy water-saving techniques to farmers, such as drip irrigation kits and solar-operated pumping systems, and provide training to increase water use efficiency. In this activity, it is important to ensure that the water infrastructure constructed and rehabilitated is also informed by the water use needs of men and women. For example, in addition to using water for productive purposes, women also shoulder the responsibility of securing water for cropping and for livestock. The training on water-saving technologies should include women and youth farmers. Women and youth farmers should also be supported to access drip irrigation kits and solar operating pumping systems organized in farmer groups.
127. The project will undertake several activities to ensure the benefit of women from value chain development interventions. A gender-sensitive seed value chain analysis will be conducted to understand sources of seed for women and men, their ability to pay, and storage capacity to develop a subsidy system that takes account of the needs of both men and women. Women's groups engaged in seed production will be identified and supported through training to engage in the seed multiplication business. The project will also identify value chains where women are overrepresented and have a potential for growth to provide support to women entrepreneurs in vocational and business skills development and investment readiness, linking them with financing institutions and markets. In targeting of beneficiaries in value chain development interventions the project will target groups of women who are vulnerable to poverty, such as, single women heads of households with large family size and fewer number of economically active household members and widowed women heads of households with limited ownership of assets. The targeting will also focus on young people, especially young women with limited livelihood opportunities.
128. The success of women entrepreneurs supported by the project will be measured through indicators such as the number of women entrepreneurs who have been able to enter into new and more lucrative value chains and the number of women entrepreneurs who have been able to access new markets and increase their sales and income.
129. The project will engage financial institutions to influence the development/improvement of financial products that are suitable for women agripreneurs, such as non-collateral-based credit systems, for example, loans through group guarantee systems. Selected women agripreneurs will be supported to develop business plans using FAO's Rural Invest Tool. B2B meetings will be organized between women business owners and financial institutions to help them present their business plans and identify funding opportunities. Finally, the project will also train women entrepreneurs on financial readiness and provide them with small grants to register their businesses, carry out audits, and fulfil other requirements that prepare them to access credit. In targeting and selectin of women entrepreneurs for support attention will be paid to include young women and single women heads of households supporting large families and widowed women heads of households as much as possible.
130. Under activity 2.3.4, the project will support the rehabilitation of market infrastructure, including rural roads and cattle corridors, to ensure that access is un-interrupted even during climate extremes. Furthermore, the project also creates new market poles to promote local exchanges and increase economic activity among local users. Given that women play a significant role in agriculture trade, especially in local markets, it will be important to ensure that they are consulted in the construction of market infrastructure, such as rural roads and district and village-level regrouping points for small ruminants. Gender-sensitive market infrastructure would include sex-segregated sanitation facilities and measures to ensure safety and security in the market.
131. Component three of the project focuses on developing an institutional enabling environment for sustainable landscape management and climate-resilient agriculture at the state and federal levels.

One of the outputs to realize this outcome is increasing farmer and livestock producers' access to climate information through digital early warning and decision-making tools through agreements with cell phone service providers. Although a significant proportion of women in the project sites have mobile phones, most women don't access the internet. There is no evidence of the use of mobile devices to access information for agriculture. The project will conduct a gender assessment on how men and women farmers access information on agriculture and the barriers to using digital services to access information on agriculture, including good practices and approaches that facilitate access and use of digital information for agriculture decision-making by men and women farmers. The assessment will inform the development of the early warning system and other digital agriculture advisory services. Care will be taken to ensure the information shared through the digital platform is relevant to women and the value chains they are engaged in, and the format is accessible to women with low levels of literacy. The project will also organize sensitization events to encourage the use of digital tools by women to access information on agriculture.

132. Finally, the project will organize a gender capacity-building training for FAO and partners' staff to enable them to deliver the project activities and outputs in an inclusive manner. The training will cover topics such as basic gender concepts, how to undertake gender analysis and use information from gender analysis to inform the project cycle, sector-specific approaches, and strategies that can be used to integrate gender in climate change programs and projects. The training will also strengthen the capacity of participants to become fully aware of SEAH/GBV risks and involved in preventing and responding to SEAH/GBV related issues. An annual gender review will be carried out by the country's gender focal point to monitor the progress in gender mainstreaming in the project and to bring partners together to review progress and share experiences around gender mainstreaming.
133. The project team will ensure that female field staff either from FAO field offices or from the Service Providers will be involved when the project engages with communities and provide trainings. The project team will make sure, with the support of local authorities and village elders, that women will be invited to trainings, meetings and FFS sessions in target communities by raising awareness of local authorities and village elders on the importance of gender equality. Female field staff with the support of international and national gender specialists will assess in each of the target districts whether separate training sessions/meetings need to be organized for women or whether mixed groups of women and men can be targeted. Female field staff will play a role on influencing an individual's self-confidence or self-awareness while enhancing a woman's capacity to speak and to be able to determine what is more likely to work in their situation. Any barriers for women to participate in the project activities will be further assessed by field staff and international/national gender specialists at the inception phase and throughout the project implementation.
134. The project will address GBV/ SEAH and gender inequality using an integrated approach that will enhance the interaction among Gender on economic activities. The project will use approaches such as the Gender Action Learning System as part of operationalization of VSLAs under sub-activity 2.3.3.1. Gender Action Learning System (GALS) is a community-led empowerment methodology using specific participatory processes and diagram tools that aims to give women as well as men more control over their lives as the basis for individual, household, community and organizational development⁵⁵. The methodology as well as the steps of the GALS methodology are described in a manual described by IFAD⁵⁶. This methodology includes 5 phases : (i) **Change catalyst** starts with a change catalyst workshop which is an introduction to GALS basic tools (1 to 2 months), (ii) **Community Action Learning** starts after the catalyst workshop, and includes implementation of desired change, upscaling through peer sharing, monitoring and documentation (12 months), (iii) **Participatory Gender Review** which is a qualitative and quantitative assessment of achievements in terms of gender relations, (iv) **Livelihoods and Value Chain Development** which focus is to increase income, production and access to market and mainstreaming into economic and social dynamics and, (v) **Sustainability** which includes linking into national institutions public and private actors with community volunteers.

55 <https://p4cda.net/gender-action-learning-system-gals/>

56 https://www.ifad.org/documents/38714170/45173373/htdn_gals.pdf/38ec05a9-d0a9-3559-6306-d73b5db550dc?t=1648470620545

7.2. Monitoring, evaluation, and reporting

135. The project will collect sex-disaggregated data throughout the log frame where relevant. Gender-sensitive quantitative and qualitative indicators will be used to monitor and measure the progress of outputs included in the gender action plan. The section below provides a list of gender indicators included under different project outputs and outcomes.
136. Under component one, the project will collect data on the proportion of women and young people who are included in landscape management committees. The project will also monitor the number of dialogue meetings organized with traditional and clan leaders and other members of the community to sensitize people about the importance of including women and young people in consultation processes during the participatory design of landscape management plans and the need to ensure they are represented in community structures established for landscape and natural resources management.
137. Under component two, the project will collect quantitative data on the proportion of women and young people represented in WUACs and the proportion of women lead farmers selected and trained in climate-resilient agriculture practices. Data will also be collected on the number of trainings organized and the number of agriculture extension agents trained in gender-sensitive extension advisory services. On the development of climate-resilient value chains, the project will collect data on the number of women's groups supported to organize in seed multiplication groups and the number of women and youth entrepreneurs trained in business skills development, financial management, and vocational training. The project will collect data on the number of women and youth entrepreneurs who have been able to enter into new and more lucrative value chains and the number of women and youth entrepreneurs who have been able to access new markets and increase their sales and income. The project will also collect data on the number of dialogue meetings organized between financial institutions and women and youth entrepreneurs, the number of women and young people who are supported to develop business plans, and the number of women-led businesses and businesses owned by young people that received credit. The project will also monitor the number of gender sensitive financial products and services developed by financial institutions engaged by the project.
138. Under component three, the project will monitor the proportion of women users out of the total users of digital early warning and agricultural advisory services. Various gender assessments will also be conducted throughout the project, which will help to capture qualitative information.
139. Under output 3.1, improving legal frameworks and implementation modalities on natural resource management, the project will conduct a gender review of the legal and institutional framework on sustainable land management to identify gaps. Following the review, policy dialogues will be conducted to address gaps identified in the gender review of the legal and institutional frameworks of sustainable land management and to improve coordination between different sectors.
140. There will be a participatory annual project review to assess the progress made in mainstreaming gender in the project implementation. The review will also be used as an opportunity to bring implementing partners together and share experiences on what is working well and what needs to be improved in gender mainstreaming in the project.

7.3. Mitigation of the risks related to SEAH and GBV

141. The project will be guided by FAO's guidelines on gender equality and the prevention of gender-based violence, which are included in the organization's Framework for Environmental and Social Management. The guideline aims to strengthen capacity to prevent, mitigate, and respond to GBV and abuse that may occur in connection with any FAO-supported activity. It also aims to prevent and minimize the unintended negative effects that can increase vulnerability and exposure to GBV, heighten tension between men and women, and ensure proper and timely referral to relevant services for cases of disclosure of GBV and other abuse, including sexual exploitation and abuse, that may occur in connection with any FAO-supported activity.
142. The project will raise the awareness of stakeholders participating in the project about the links between GBV/SEAH and food insecurity in the context of the project in Somalia and opportunities for FAO to prevent GBV/SEAH and contribute to the protection of vulnerable individuals. The project will

build the capacity of staff and other project stakeholders on the rights of serviced communities and the responsibilities of FAO personnel, implementing partners, and suppliers. It will also build their capacity on the guiding principles outlined below, which will be implemented by the project.

143. The guiding principles that will be implemented by the project to address the risks of gender-based violence include: (1) Understand local context and build on local capacities, respect to local culture; (2) Ensure safety and dignity of all people and avoid causing harm; (3) Ensure inclusive access paying attention to issues that prevent people from accessing services and support provided by the project; (4) Ensuring participation and empowerment of men and women by communicating the program activities and engaging them in the project cycle using locally appropriate channels; (5) Coordination and partnership with organizations with GBV/SEAH expertise within the project areas; (6) Ensuring accountability to target population by setting up mechanisms to receive feedback on adequacy of interventions and to understand and address concerns
144. The project will also adhere to a zero-tolerance policy for sexual exploitation, sexual abuse, and sexual harassment. The project will adopt victim-centered feedback, a compliant mechanism, and referral services.
145. FAO Somalia has a dedicated unit dealing with GRM and in-house developed GRM system (Co-Compliance, Complaint and Feedback) to handle complaints and feedback, and associated policies. CoCO is a system that integrates and manages the data on compliance, complaints and feedback gathered via the different tools available (hotline, call centre, TiMO-monitoring via digital solution, SMS surveys, emails, etc). The CoCo system enables FAO to respond to communities' concerns systematically and timely, thus increasing community voice and power. CoCO is accessible and responsive to vulnerable people, including women, people with disabilities and other minority groups. FAO Somalia Staff who handle the CoCO system are trained in gender sensitivity as well as on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA/PSEA).
146. Beneficiaries are made aware of FAO's toll-free Hotline number, operating on 24hours basis, that they can call at any time to provide feedback, complaint and report cases of fraud, diversion, sexual exploitation, and abuse. Beneficiaries can also lodge complaints or give feedback regarding FAO activities in the field via FAO's Implementing Partners and Local Representatives who are recorded in FAO's E-Platform. Hotline is communicated via several means such as during sensitization and communication sessions, in the consent form, radio campaigns, leaflet, call centre and mandatory bulk SMS Voice messages. FAO's Hotline is in FAO Hargeisa field office and is handled by two FAO staff members who are Somali speakers and speak also local dialect. The Hotline number is toll-free to the callers and covers the entire Somalia thus allowing the most vulnerable to call without cost.
147. Awareness/radio campaigns are launched to accompany all major activities to inform the population at large and beneficiaries specifically of activities, criteria and entitlements associated with participation in FAO projects. Bulk SMS (text and voice) are sent systematically to beneficiaries before activity starts to provide FAO Hotline and entitlement. FAO conducts regular radio Public Service Announcements specific to PSEA/GBV to encourage beneficiaries and communities to report incidents to FAO and provides FAO's Hotline number and information where else to denounce it.
148. FAO Somalia established clear reporting channels and response mechanisms for beneficiaries and community members and favors the direct contact with beneficiaries via the Call Centre, FAO's toll-free hotline, Voice SMS and AAP staff handling CoCo; however other mechanisms are available to communities via elders, implementing partners, district authorities, other platforms managed by other organizations (TalktoLoop, Radio Ergo), and anonymous emails.
149. The GRM will be survivor-centered and gender-responsive and will have specific procedures for SEAH, including confidential reporting and safe and ethical documenting. To ensure the GRM is accessible, inclusive, and survivor-centered, clear information on how to access the GRM will be widely disseminated among stakeholders. The GRM will be designed to be easily accessible to all project stakeholders. Training and awareness-raising sessions will be conducted to ensure all personnel involved in the grievance process understand the importance of a survivor-centered and gender-responsive approach. There will be set timelines to monitor timely responses to grievances submitted. This includes a 10-day period to acknowledge receipt of a grievance and a 30-day resolution period,

during which time efforts will be made to resolve the grievance comprehensively. Detailed information on the mechanisms that will be set up for the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, harassment, and grievance response mechanisms is provided in Annex 6 and 7 of the proposal.

Part 8. Gender Action Plan (GAP)

Gender Action Plan of the project " Climate Resilient Agriculture in Somalia "				
Project Expected Results	Indicators and Targets	Timeline	Responsibility	Budget
GCF Outcome level: Reduced emissions and increased resilience				
<u>ARA1 Most vulnerable people and communities</u>	Core 2: Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached 1,152,142 direct beneficiaries (576,071 women) 972,689 indirect beneficiaries (486,344 women)	By the end of the project (Y7)	FAO	Reaching women beneficiaries requires 50% of total project budget, i.e. USD 47,450,749
<u>ARA2 Health, well-being, food and water security</u>	Core 2: Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached 1,152,142 direct beneficiaries (576,071 women) 972,689 indirect beneficiaries (486,344 women)	By the end of the project (Y7)	FAO	Reaching women beneficiaries requires 50% of total project budget, i.e. USD 47,450,749
<u>ARA1 Most vulnerable people and communities</u>	Supplementary 2.1: Beneficiaries (female/male) adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood options 629,612 direct beneficiaries (314,806 women)	By the end of the project (Y7)	FAO	Reaching women beneficiaries requires 50% of the project budget for outcome 1 and 2, i.e. USD 38,167,345
<u>ARA2 Health, well-being, food and water security</u>	Supplementary 2.3: Beneficiaries (female/male) with more climate-resilient water security 899,300 (449,650) direct beneficiaries benefitting from improved access to water	By the end of the project (Y7)	FAO	Reaching women beneficiaries requires 50% of the project budget for output 1.2 and 2.1, i.e. USD 27,150,434

<u>ARA1 Most vulnerable people and communities</u>		Supplementary 2.4: Beneficiaries (female/male) covered by new or improved early warning systems 949,799 direct beneficiaries (474,900 women)			By the end of the project (Y7)							FAO	Reaching women beneficiaries requires 50% of the project budget for outcome 3, i.e. USD 3,036,191	
GAP Expected Outcomes, Activities and Targets											Cost			
Project activity/ sub-activity	GAP activity	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Y 1	Y 2	Y 3	Y 4	Y 5	Y 6	Y 7	Responsibility	Exclusively dedicated for GAP	Included in Project Activity
Component 1:														
Outcome 1: Restored landscapes are resilient and sustainably managed														
<i>Expected gender outcomes: Landscape and natural resource management and governance structures are responsive to the needs of women as well as men in the community</i>														
Output 1.1 Improved participatory landscape and natural resources management and governance are established at watershed and village levels														
1.1.1 Strengthen the information base for climate-informed local land use planning	N/A													
1.1.2. Develop climate-informed inclusive landscape management plans	Organize community dialogues targeting clan leaders, traditional leaders, men, and women on the importance of including women in landscape management	# of dialogue meetings organized	0	31	X	X						FAO	6,000	

	committees and in consultations to design landscape management plans as well as issues related to SEAH/GBV.																
	Conduct a gender assessment (taking SEAH/GBV risks into account) as part of conflict sensitivity assessment	# of conflict sensitivity assessment including gender assessment	0	1	X										FAO		119,089
	Set quotas for representation of women and young people in consultation meetings on landscape management	Proportion of women and young people participating in landscape management consultation meetings	0	50% for women 30% for young people, half of whom are women	X	X	X	X							FAO		1,236,038.8
	Set quotas for the representation of women and young people in landscape management committees and for participation of women in meaningful positions	Proportion of women and young people in landscape management committees and proportion of women in meaningful positions.	0	50% women 30% young people, half of whom are women	X	X	X	X							FAO		Already included in the project budget, GAP activity not require significant specific budget
Output 1.2. Agricultural and Agro-pastoral Landscapes are restored and under sustainable management																	
1.2.1. Conduct landscape restoration through local	Ensure women receive material and technical support for the implementation of landscape management	Promotion of women and young people receiving material and technical support	0	50% for women 30% for young people, half of whom are women		X	X	X	X	X	X				FAO		Already included in the project budget

landscape management committees and community-based associations	Set a quota to increase the representation of women in the landscape management Committees for participation in training	The proportion of women in Landscape Management committees	0	50% for women 30% for young people, half of whom are women			X	X	X	X	X	X	FAO		Already included in the project budget
Component 2:															
Outcome 2: Local livelihoods are resilient to climate change															
<i>Expected gender outcomes: Women in the project districts have improved resilience to climate change</i>															
Output 2.1. Resilient water supply is secured and sustainably managed															
2.1.1 Strengthen water management capacity at State and local level	Set quota to increase the representation of women in water user association committees (WUAC) and train women on scheme management and basic maintenance, (preventative maintenance)	Proportion of women and young people in water users committees	0	50% women, 30% young people of whom half are women									FAO		Already included in the project budget, GAP activity not requiring significant specific budget
	Training for women in leadership and community dialogues with WUACs on the importance of women's representation and participation. The trainings will focus on influencing an individual's self-confidence, knowledge, or self-awareness while enhancing a woman's capacity to speak and	# of leadership trainings organized for women WUAC members	0	31			X	X	X	X				FAO	5,000

	to be able to determine what is more likely to work in their situation																
2.1.2. Increase access to water resources and climate-smart irrigation infrastructure	Women will be consulted in the development and rehabilitation of water infrastructures	Proportion of women participating in consultation meetings in the development and rehabilitation of water infrastructures	0	50% of those participating in water infrastructure consultation meetings	X	X								FAO			Already included in the project budget, GAP activity not requiring significant specific budget
	Quotas are set for representation of women and young people in consultation on equitable access of water and conflict prevention mechanisms organized with water users associations	Proportion of women and young people participating in consultation meetings on equitable access to water and conflict prevention	0	50% women, 30% young people of whom at least half are women	X	X								FAO			
	Quotas are set for the number of women and young farmers trained in water saving technologies and efficient use of water in different cropping systems Quotas are set for the number of women and young farmers groups who will be supported to acquire drip irrigation kits and solar operated	Proportion of women and young farmers trained in water saving technologies # of women and youth farmers groups who have acquired drip irrigation kits or solar pumps	0	50% women trained, 30% young people trained of whom half are women	X	X	X	X	X	X					FAO		149,042

	pumping systems through the project																
Output 2.2. Local communities practice locally-specific Climate Resilient Agriculture																	
2.2.1 Disseminate CRA practices to farmers	Make a conscious effort to select women and young people among the lead farmers who will receive TOT and facilitators training, by setting a quota system, as they are better able to reach other women farmers.	Proportion of women and youth lead farmers trained # of additional women and youth farmers reached per trained lead farmers	0	50% women 20% youth of whom half are women 20 additional women and youth farmers reach per trained lead farmer/facilitators	X	X	X	X	X	X				FAO			1,848,116
2.2.2 Build the capacity of MoA at Local, State and Federal level to support communities in the adoption of CRA practices	Conduct a gender assessment of the rural advisory services to identify barriers and good practices to improve women's access to advisory services in the country and develop a gender strategy for the agriculture extension department.	# of gender and rural advisory services assessment conducted	0	1	X									FAO			8,000
	Organize cascading down capacity-building training of agriculture extension staff at national state and regional levels on how to develop and deliver gender-sensitive advisory services.	# of trainings organized # proportion of women farmers reached by trained extension agents as a percentage of the total farmers they have reached	0	7 trainings organized At least a 20% increase in proportion of women farmers reached by trained extension agents out of the total farmers they have reached		X	X	X	X	X				FAO			20,000
Output 2.3. Farmers derive additional income from climate resilient value chains																	

2.3.1 Improve access to climate resilient inputs for crop and livestock production	Conduct a gender seed value chain analysis to understand sources of seed for women and men, ability to pay, and storage capacity in order to develop a subsidy system that takes account of the needs of both men and women.	# of gender-sensitive seed value chain studies conducted	0	1											FAO	30,000	
	Identify/ organize women groups to engage in seed multiplication, nurseries and feed production cooperatives and provide them with training	# of women seed multiplication/ nurseries/ feed production groups supported	0	30			X	X	X						FAO		1,203,980
2.3.2. Build the capacity of producer groups to develop sustainable climate-informed business plans	Identify value chains where women and youth are overrepresented and have a potential for growth and provide support to women and youth entrepreneurs in vocational and business skills development, and investment readiness and link them to financing institutions and markets	# of women entrepreneurs supported by the project # of youth entrepreneurs supported by the project # of women and youth entrepreneurs joining new value chains # of women and youth entrepreneurs	0	50% of the total target number of entrepreneurs (for women) 30% of total target number of entrepreneurs half of whom are women (for youth)			X	X	X	X	X	X		FAO		1,641,558	

		accessing new markets # of women and youth entrepreneurs who have increased their sales and income															
2.3.3 Increase MSME, cooperatives and farming group access to agricultural credit	Engage financial institutions to influence development of financial products that are suitable for women and youth agripreneurs, such as non-collateral based credit systems, for example loans through group guarantee systems.	# of dialogue meetings organized with financial institutions and women and youth entrepreneurs	0	6			X	X	X				FAO				6000
	Support women and youth agripreneurs to develop business plans using FAO's rural invest tool and Organize meetings between women business owners and financial institutions to help them present their business plans.	% of women and youth agripreneurs supported to develop business plans	0	60				X	X	X			FAO				36,000
	Train women and youth entrepreneurs/cooperative members/VSLA members on financial readiness that	# of women and youth trained on financial readiness	0	50% of the total target number of entrepreneurs/cooperative/VSLA members (2,100 women)			X	X	X	X			FAO				319,376

	prepares them to access credit	# women who are accessing finance	0	50% of the total target number of entrepreneurs/cooperative/VSLA members (1,750)		X	X	X	X			FAO		
	Train communities (including SEAH/GBV issues) by using GALs approach	% of VSLA members received training (including SEAH/GBV issues)	0	100			X	X	X			FAO	200,000	
2.3.4 Increase all-season access to market for smallholder producers, cooperatives and farmer groups	consultations will be organized with women groups on the construction of market infrastructure, such as rural roads and district and village-level regrouping points for small ruminants Gender-sensitive market infrastructure such as sex-segregated sanitation facilities and measures to ensure safety and security in the market place will be implemented	# of consultation meetings held with women groups on construction of the market infrastructures Evidence of measures taken to ensure gender sensitivity of the market infrastructures	0	10				X	X	X	X	FAO		Already included in the project budget, GAP activity not requiring significant specific budget
Component 3														
Outcome 3 : An improved institutional enabling environment for sustainable landscape management and climate-resilient agriculture is in place at State and Federal Levels														
<i>Expected gender outcomes: Early warning systems and services are more sensitive to the needs of women farmers</i>														
Output 3.1. NRM legal frameworks and implementation modalities are improved														
3.1.1 Update legal and institutional	conduct a gender review of the legal and institutional framework on	# of reviews conducted	-	1		X						FAO	30,000	

frameworks for sustainable landscape management	sustainable land management to identify gaps																
3.1.2 Strengthen policy dialogue and coordination between sectoral ministries at State levels	conduct policy dialogues to address gaps identified in the gender review of the legal and institutions frameworks of sustainable land management and to improve coordination between different sectors	# of dialogues conducted	-	6 (one policy dialogue meeting per state)		X	X							FAO			12,000
3.1.3 Strengthen the capacity of the MoECC to access and channel climate finance	Promote women's staff participation in training	% of women participants	0	30 % women					X	X	X			FAO			496,722
3.1.4 Build capacity for the monitoring, assessment, analysis and early warning related to the impacts of climate on food and nutrition security	Promote women's staff participation in training	% of women participants	0	30 % women	X	X	X							FAO			164,390

3.1.5 Build capacity of MoAI for climate informed irrigation planning	Promote women ⁵⁷ 's participation in consultation	% of women and youth participants	0	50 % women			X	X						FAO		10,000
Output 3.2. Increased access to climate information among last mile users																
3.2.1 Collect, disseminate and share relevant climate and land data to support decision making at all levels	Conduct a gender assessment on how men and women farmers access information on agriculture and the barriers to use digital services to access information on agriculture, including good practices and approaches that facilitates access and use of digital information for agriculture decision making by men and women farmers.	# of assessment on gender and digital services in agriculture	0	1			X							FAO	18,000	
	Use the gender assessment to inform the development of the early warning system and other digital agriculture advisory services. Ensure the information shared through the digital platform is relevant to women and the value chains they are	Proportion of women users out of the total users of the early warning and digital advisory service		0	50% of total users			X	X	X					FAO	

⁵⁷ Including female youth

	engaged in and the format is accessible. Organize sensitization events to encourage the use of digital tools by women to access information on agriculture.																	
Project management																		
	Conduct training on gender mainstreaming in projects, gender-based violence and links with food insecurity, FAO's guideline and key principles on prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment, responsibilities of FAO personnel, partners and suppliers under the guideline for FAO staff and implementing partners	# of trainings (including SEAH/GBV related risks) organized	0	6 trainings	X	X	X	X	X	X				FAO			72,000	
	Setup a project grievance response mechanism and train project staff and partners involved in grievance response process	# of trainings organized # of cases SEAH and GBV cases reported # of reported SEAH and GBV cases resolved/ addressed in a timely manner	0	6 trainings	X	X	X	X	X	X				FAO			72,000	

	Raise awareness of various community groups participating in the project activities	# of sensitization events conducted	0	24	X	X	X	X	X	X		FAO	7,200	
	(e.g. natural resource management committees, Wash committees, cooperatives etc) on GBV, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and grievance response mechanisms	# of SEAH and GBV cases reported using the grievance response mechanism	0	TBD	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	FAO	70,000	
...	Conduct annual gender reviews to review progress in mainstreaming gender in the project and share lessons on what is working well and what needs improvement Annual gender reviews will be used to revise the training on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse	# of gender review reports produced # of review meetings organized	0	5		X	X	X	X	X	X	FAO	30,000	
	Engagement of International Gender, Social Inclusion and IP Specialist (part time) & National Gender Specialist (full time)				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	FAO	578,676	
TOTAL													1,118,876	8,082,562

APPENDIX 1: FIELD CONSULTATIONS: PARTNERS AND QUESTIONS

1. Consultation Partners

Federal Member State	Region	District	Location	Date	Type of Stakeholders	Female Participants	Male Participants
Galmudug	Mudug	Galmudug, Mudug, Hobyo	Hobyo	March 6	Communities	3	7 (2 Youth)
Hirshabelle	Middle Shabelle	Hirshabelle, Middle Shabelle, Cadale	Cadale		Communities		
Jubaland	Lower Juba	Jubaland, Lower Juba, Kismayo	Jeerinley		Communities	1	9
Puntland	Nugaal	Puntland, Nugaal, Eyl	Eyl		Communities Smallholder farmers		6
Puntland	Nugaal	Eyl	Godobjiran		Farmers' cooperative		
Puntland	Nugaal	Puntland, Nugaal, Garowe	Cuun Village		Communities : Cuun Cooperative	1	4
Puntland	Nugaal	Garowe	Cuun Village		Small farmers' community	3	13
Puntland	Nugaal	Garowe	Dangoroyo village		Farmers' cooperatives, small holder farmers	4	10
Toghdeer	Odweyne	Somaliland, , OdweyneOdweyne	Qaloocato and Abdi Farah Villages	March 11	Communities	10	20

2. Questionnaire for telephone calls

Series Number

2. Date

3. Name of Provider

4. Telephone Number

5. Call Status Reached- participated in survey

Reached- not willing to be interviewed

Wrong number

Not answering

Switched off

Inexistent

6. Beneficiary name provided

7. What is your name as registered by the NGO?

8. Name match No Yes N/A

9. Gender of respondent Female Male

10. Age of the respondent?

11. What is the relationship of the respondent with the head of the household? A) Respondent is the head of the household. B) The respondent is the spouse of the head of the household C) The respondent is the child of the head of the household D) The respondent a sibling or relative of the head of the household E) others, specify

10. District provided

11. Which district do you live in?

12. District match No Yes N/A

13. Village provided

14. Which village do you live in?

15. Village match No Yes N/A

16. Are you the owner of this phone number? Yes No

17. Are you a farmer?

18. do you own land for farming?

19. which member of the household has the ownership right? (the male head of the household, the spouse, children?) Do different members of the household have ownership rights over different plots of land?

19. What type of seeds did you grow?

20. Who in the household makes the decision about the type of seeds to grow? (the male head of the household, the spouse, children?) And why?

20. What are the main types of wealth in your community (for example, rich, middle-class, or poor households)?

21. what are the Main sources of household income?

22. Who in the household controls each of the different sources of household income? (the male head of the household, the spouse, children) Are specific income sources solely controlled by the male head of household? Why? Are there specific sources of income controlled solely by women in the household? Why?

22. Which breed of livestock do you prefer? Which breed of livestock is preferred by men in the household? Which breed is preferred by women in the household?

23. Do you received any livestock and agriculture trainings?

24. Which member of the household usually participates in livestock and agriculture training? Why?
- 24 If yes, do you receive any GAP and nutritional training?
25. Which member of the household usually receives the GAP and nutritional training? Why?
- 25 If yes, do you receive any treatment and vaccination training?
26. which member of the household usually receives treatment and vaccination training? Why?
- 26 Do you have any market to sell livestock and livestock products in your villages?
27. Which member of the household usually sells livestock and livestock products in the village? What kind of livestock and livestock products are sold by male members of the household? Why? Which type of livestock and livestock products are sold by female members of the household? Why?
- 27 if yes, how frequently do you visit the market? How frequently do men in the household visit the marketplace? How about women?
28. On average, how much do you take to sell per visit?
29. Is there a difference between the amount sold by male and female members of the household per visit? Can you explain the difference?
29. On average, how much do you sell annually?
- 30 How much do women members of the household sell on average annually? How about male members of the household?
30. How do you transport the produce to market? How do men in the household transport produce to market? How about women?
31. Who does unpaid care work activities in the household, for example, looking after children and the elderly, cooking, fetching firewood and water, cleaning and washing? How many hours per day do women spend doing these activities? How about men?
32. What are the kinds of activities performed by women in crop and livestock production and processing in the household?