East Action Organization
Action for Betterment

ANNUAL IMPACT & ACHIEVEMENTES REPORT

(JANUARY 2024 – SEPTEMBER 2025)

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DIGITAL INCLUSION, FOOD SECURITY, GENDER EQUALITY, AND RESILIENCE BUILDING WITH EAST ACTION ORGANIZATION (EAO)

JIGJGIGA, SOMALI REGIONAL STATE
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“EAO Zero Hunger Innovation Projects Photo at Hinjabi Farming Site”



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Executive Summary

Women-led impact at scale: EAO reached 6,000+ direct and 30,000+ indirect beneficiaries across Somali Region and Dire Dawa.

East Action Organization (EAO), founded in 2019, is a women-led civil society organization dedicated to advancing dignity, resilience, and equality in Ethiopia's Somali Regional State. From 2024 to September 2025, EAO reached more than **6,000 direct beneficiaries** and **30,000 indirect beneficiaries** across **23 Districts in 11 zones and Dire Dawa City** through **17 impactful projects**.

This period was marked by milestones in **digital inclusion (SAFE-MIT)**, **targeted food assistance**, **youth apiculture cooperatives**, **gender equality & GBV prevention**, and **climate-smart agriculture**. EAO's work demonstrates that humanitarian action can be inclusive, transformative, and women-led—anchored in community trust and global recognition.

Impact Achieved

Transforming vulnerability into resilience through climate-smart agriculture, apiculture, youth empowerment, and inclusive health services.

EAO is proudly a women-led national organization, with women occupying over 55% of senior roles and board positions. This structure ensures that programs remain inclusive, gender-responsive, and transformative.

In food security, more than **600 households** were supported through climate-smart agriculture, irrigation farming, and soil conservation. Families improved their incomes, strengthened nutrition, and reduced vulnerability to drought and invasive species such as Prosopis (Garanwaa).

The flagship project, **Honey, We're in This Together**, trained **50 marginalized youth** (27F, 23M) in modern beekeeping, cooperative leadership, and financial literacy. The initiative, supported by UNESCO and SEVENTEEN, registered three youth-led cooperatives, distributed beekeeping equipment, and linked youth to markets. Women now hold more than half of leadership roles in these cooperatives.

In youth empowerment, EAO trained **2,000 young people** in vocational skills, ICT, entrepreneurship, and civic engagement. **Zanuddin's Daily Voice campaign** reached over **20,000 followers** with 100+ awareness videos on migration, SRHR, and civic leadership.

In health and SRHR, more than **5,000 women and youth** accessed maternal health, psychosocial support, and disability-inclusive services. GBV prevention and women's economic empowerment programs received recognition from the Somali Regional Women and Children Affairs Bureau.

Through the **Sport for Resilience Initiative**, over **1,500 youth** participated in mixed-gender sports, reducing community tensions by 30% and increasing positive interactions by 25%.

Humanitarian assistance during drought and displacement was praised for its dignity-focused and inclusive approach, reaching thousands of vulnerable households.

Achievements at a Glance (2024–2025)

A snapshot of our milestones in leadership, livelihoods, advocacy, health, peacebuilding, and global recognition.

- Women-led governance with 55%+ of senior positions held by women.
- 600+ households supported with farming and apiculture livelihoods.
- 50 youth trained in beekeeping; 3 cooperatives established.
- 2,000+ youth trained in ICT, entrepreneurship, and civic leadership.
- 20,000+ online youth reached through Zanuddin's Daily Voice.
- 5,000 women and youth reached with maternal health and SRHR services.
- 1,500 youth engaged in mixed-gender sports, reducing tensions.
- 420 individuals supported through inclusive food and cash assistance.
- Three persons with disabilities hired in long-term roles.
- Regional and global recognition through UN, IMF–World Bank, and UNESCO platforms.

Program Highlights

SAFE-MIT: Digital Inclusion & Advocacy

Amplifying disability voices through digital storytelling, online campaigns, and rights-based migration awareness.

In September 2025, EAO trained **11 changemakers with disabilities** in digital storytelling and advocacy. The **Equal Voices Online campaign** produced 100+ videos, reaching 20,000 youth and reframing migration narratives through a disability-inclusive lens.

Accessibility gaps were stark—participants had to be physically carried to training venues due to lack of wheelchairs and adapted transport. This demonstrated urgent donor needs for mobility aids, adapted transport, and inclusive ICT hubs.

Targeted Food Assistance for Inclusive Communities

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Ensuring dignity in humanitarian aid through inclusive food and cash distribution for 420 vulnerable individuals.

Through this program, **70 households (420 individuals)** received food and cash assistance. Each household was provided with rice, wheat flour, and a 1,500 ETB cash grant. Special priority was given to elderly, women, and disability-headed households, with volunteers assisting those with mobility limitations.

Zero Hunger Innovation Program

Improving food security for 600+ households through climate-smart agriculture and drought resilience.

This program supported **600+ households** through irrigation farming, soil conservation, and drought resilience. Communities improved resilience to drought and invasive species, while achieving stronger food security and nutrition outcomes.

Honey, We're in This Together

Building youth-led livelihoods with apiculture cooperatives, equipment, and market linkages.

EAO, with UNESCO and SEVENTEEN support, trained **50 youth** in apiculture, distributed modern beekeeping equipment, and facilitated cooperative registration. Market linkages connected youth producers to 15 honey buyers, with branded honey products launched in 2025.

Youth Empowerment & Digital Literacy

Training 2,000+ youth in ICT, entrepreneurship, and civic leadership for tomorrow's change-makers.

EAO trained **2,000 youth** in ICT, entrepreneurship, leadership, and civic engagement. Initiatives such as **Zanuddin's Daily Voice** mobilized online conversations on SRHR, migration, and accountability, influencing both peers and policymakers.

Gender Equality, GBV Prevention & PSEA

Strengthening safeguarding systems with staff training, community awareness, referral pathways, and accountability mechanisms.

As a women-led organization, EAO has invested heavily in safeguarding and protection. Between December 2024 and January 2025:

- **Capacity Building:** 25 staff and 5 new recruits trained on PSEA standards; Ewryoca staff oriented.
- **Community Awareness:** 423 individuals sensitized across Fafan, Jarar, and Shabelle zones on GBV/PSEA prevention and reporting.
- **Safeguarding & Accountability:** PSEA complaint boxes installed, Somali-language awareness materials distributed, and referral pathways strengthened to connect survivors with health, psychosocial, and legal support.

These initiatives built trust, strengthened accountability, and reinforced EAO's reputation as a guardian of dignity and protection.

Achievements & Outcomes (2024–2025)

From advocacy to employment, our programs created lasting impact through digital campaigns, inclusive relief, and disability leadership.

- Eleven disability advocates launched digital campaigns.
- 420 individuals received inclusive food and cash assistance.
- 3 staff with disabilities employed in permanent leadership roles.
- Mr. Ahmed Guray appointed as EAO Disability Focal Person.
- GBV referral pathways connected survivors to life-saving services.
- Regional and global recognition elevated Somali voices internationally.

Challenges & Lessons Learned

Accessibility and safeguarding must be embedded in every program budget to ensure true inclusion.

Despite significant achievements, gaps remain. Cash support was below household needs, and lack of mobility aids and adapted transport limited participation of persons with disabilities.

The lesson is clear: **assistive devices, accessibility infrastructure, and safeguarding mechanisms must be integrated into every program budget** to ensure equity and inclusion.

Sustainability & Next Steps

Scaling assistance, investing in mobility aids, creating inclusive ICT hubs, and institutionalizing safeguarding leadership.

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EAO is embedding inclusion and safeguarding into its institutional structure:

- Scaling food and cash assistance to **100+ households annually**.
- Resource mobilization for wheelchairs, prosthetics, crutches, and adaptive transport.
- Establishing **Digital Advocacy Hubs** with inclusive ICT tools.
- Institutionalizing GBV/PSEA focal persons and safeguarding networks.
- Expanding partnerships with disability- and women-led organizations.

Recognition & Partnerships

From UNESCO to World Bank–IMF, EAO's women-led model is recognized as a trusted partner in resilience and equality.

EAO has been recognized as a trusted partner at both national and global levels:

- Showcased at the **World Bank–IMF Annual Meetings (2023)** for women-led climate resilience.
- Recipient of the **UNESCO Youth Fund Grant** for gender-responsive climate action.
- Endorsed by the **Somali Regional President's Office**.
- Active in the **Ethiopia PSEA Network**, **CHS Alliance**, **UN ECOSOC**, **USAID Partner Portal**, and **UN Partner Portal**.

Donor Call-to-Action

Join us in removing barriers and creating pathways to dignity, inclusion, and resilience for Somali Region communities.

EAO invites partners to sustain and expand this impact by:

- Funding **assistive devices** such as wheelchairs, prosthetics, and adaptive seating.
- Supporting **accessible transport and infrastructure** for disabled participants.
- Expanding **food and cash assistance** to more households.
- Investing in **inclusive ICT hubs** for digital advocacy.
- Backing **policy advocacy** to institutionalize GBV/PSEA in humanitarian frameworks.

Together, we can ensure that barriers become pathways to dignity, participation, and resilience.

Contact Information

Get in touch with EAO for partnerships, support, and collaboration.

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✅With subtitles added, this version is **reader-friendly, skimmable, and professional** — ideal for donor applications and public sharing.

Would you like me to now **design this into a Word/PDF report with styled cover and branding**, or do you want to review the text one more time first?

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20. Online Presence

 www.eastaction.org
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Beneficiaries and Appreciations photo

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SOMALI REGIONAL STATE SHEBELLE ZONE ADMINSTRATION

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This certificate is awarded to

East Action Organization (EAO)

This certificate has been Awarded to East Action Organization for their outstanding Contribution And Active support for displaced peope in flood hited Areas in Shebelle zone river surroundings woreda

Date: 9/7/2023

Signature:


SOMALI REGIONAL DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT (DRM)

Certificate of Appreciation

This certificate is awarded to

East Action Organization (EAO)

In the recognition of your generous contribution to internal displaced people (IDPS) Advances in internal fund contribution support for 300 Household for life saving in Shebelle zone of Aqal-rar IDPS camp at Kelafo Woreda this donation made life better for women, children and elderly people.

We thank you for your contribution.
Somali Regional State Disaster Risk Management Bureau (DRM)

Date:

Signature:



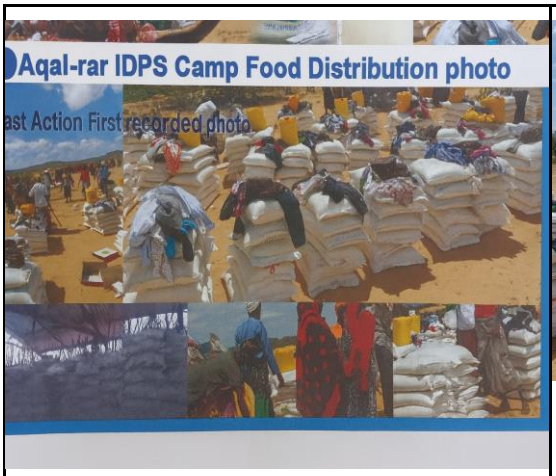



Aqal-rar IDPS Camp Food Distribution photo






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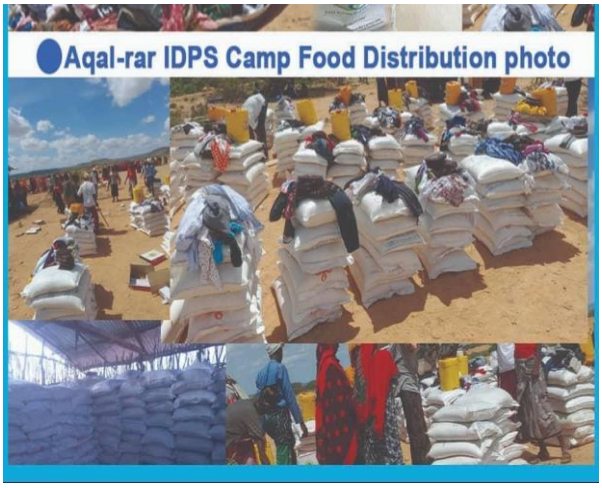








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Sports in  **EAO**

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EAO Zero Hunger Innovation Projects Photo

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Disability-inclusive photos here

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Photo of our staff member with a disability serving as the Disability Inclusion & Social Protection Officer at East Action Organization. He holds two Bachelor's degrees.









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“EAO staff supporting persons with disabilities to access training venues — highlighting the urgent need for wheelchairs and inclusive mobility support in the Somali Regional State.”









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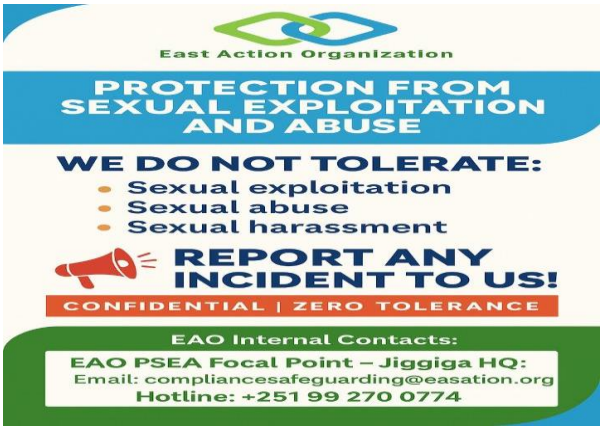
Prosopis (Garanwaa).



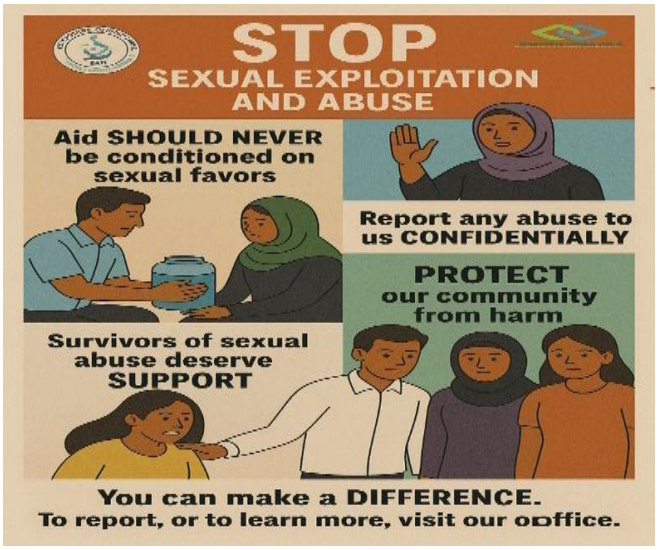


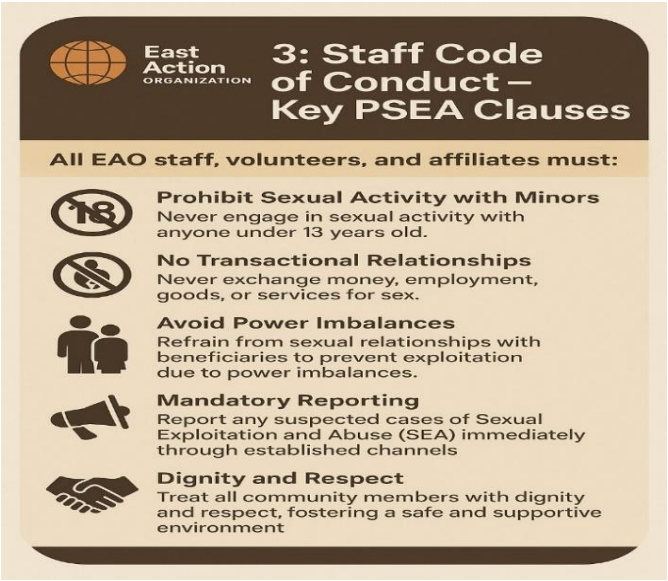
Samples of Printed PSEA Awareness Posters and Training Photos

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Annual Message from the Executive Director



Dear Colleagues,

As we close the year, I want to thank you for your tireless efforts and commitment. Together, we delivered impactful humanitarian support across Fafan, Shabelle, and Jarar Zones—providing cash assistance, food, NFIs, health and WASH services, and dignity kits. Over 6,000 people directly benefited, and more than 30,000 lives were positively impacted.

Our women-led leadership remains our strength, with over 55% of leadership roles held by women. This year, we implemented 17 projects, responsibly managed 12.37 million ETB, and strengthened our technical capacity, partnerships, and compliance.

Let's carry this momentum forward—continuing to serve with purpose, integrity, and compassion.

Thank you for making this impact possible.

Dr. Nejat Nejib Aden
Executive Director, East Action Organization

Photo from "From Data to Action: EAO Joins the National PSEA Workshop at Harmony Hotel and the Monthly PSEA Network Meeting at the IOM Office"

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24 Annual Meetings of the IMF and World Bank took place in Washington, D.C.

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Meeting Photos

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Location: at EAPO Office Attendees:
President of Jigjiga University Project Committee
Chairman United Africa Logistics
Blue Nile Consultants Manager









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