Girls in Somalia face unimaginable hardships when pursuing an education. Less than 50 percent of Somali girls attend primary school. Only 25 percent of women aged 15 to 24 are literate according to the latest countrywide census.

Relief International (RI) supports 227 schools in fragile and conflict-affected regions of Somalia’s newly formed Federal Member States of Galmudug, HirShabelle and Benadir Regional Administration; Puntland; and Somaliland. Since 2007, our teams have worked hand-in-hand with girls, boys, parents, teachers, community leaders and government ministries to devise and implement tailored interventions to benefit school-aged girls. RI’s programs are designed to be both responsive and flexible to serve the diverse needs of girls living in settings ranging from displacement camps and remote rural communities to high-density urban areas. RI’s “Educate Girls, End Poverty” program in Somalia is made possible by UK Aid’s flagship Girls’ Education Challenge in partnership with two of our peer international NGOs.

**CHALLENGES FACED BY SOMALI GIRLS**

- **UNDER-RESOURCED SCHOOLS**
- **EARLY MARRIAGE**
- **FINANCIAL COST OF SCHOOLING**
- **LOW VALUE PLACED ON GIRLS’ EDUCATION**
- **LACK OF FEMALE TEACHERS**

**OUR INTERVENTION**

**GIRL LEVEL**
- Train female mentors
- Distribute sanitary kits
- Provide cash support
- Supply uniforms
- Lead enrollment & retention campaigns
- Teach life skills
- Support Girls’ & Boys’ Leadership Networks

**SCHOOL LEVEL**
- Supply schools with teaching materials
- Teach remedial classes
- Develop digital learning platform
- Provide teachers with Continuous Professional Development
- Provide teacher incentives

**INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL**
- Support the Ministry of Education (MoE) Education Sector Strategic Plan and Gender Policy Framework implementation
- Train in gender and leadership skills
- Train in monitoring skills
- Strengthen child protection systems

**COMMUNITY LEVEL**
- Train Community Education Committees to support local schools
- Support School Development Plan implementation
- Lead men and boys’ workshops
- Equip Leadership Networks to advocate for school needs
- Lead community dialogues

65,938 Girls reached

**KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED TO DATE**

- 55,737 BOOKS/EDUCATION MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED
- 218 CLASSROOMS BUILT OR RENOVATED
- 3,747 CASH STIPENDS AWARDED TO MARGINALISED GIRLS
- 55 DROUGHT-AFFECTED SCHOOLS SUPPORTED WITH FOOD RATIONS
- 197 HEAD TEACHERS TRAINED
- 216 FEMALE TEACHERS TRAINED

**OUTCOMES SO FAR...**

- 93% Of cash-supported girls in school for three years
- 80% Of out-of-school girls now enrolled in school
- 45% Increase in community support for girls’ education
- 27% Rise in enrollment
- 18% Increase in girls’ psychosocial wellbeing
- 9% Increase in girls’ attendance
- 93% Of cash-supported girls in school for three years
- 3 in 4 Head teachers attend dialogue forums with MoE

*These results are summary findings from a project evaluation conducted in June 2017 by Social Impact.

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