



2017 ANNUAL REPORT SOMALIA /SOMALILAND



Ensuring Somali Children Survive, Learn and are Protected

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

We are the world's leading Non-governmental independent organisation for children.

We save **children's lives**. We fight for **their rights**. We help them **fulfil their potential**.

Our Vision is a world in which **every Somali child attains the right to survive, be protected, develop and participate**

We work to **inspire breakthroughs in the way the world treats children and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives.**

Across all of our work, we pursue several core values: **Accountability, Ambition, Collaboration, Creativity and Integrity.**

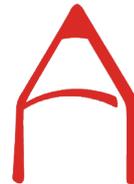
OUR 2030 AMBITION FOR CHILDREN

SURVIVE



No child dies from preventable causes before their fifth birthday

LEARN



All children **learn from a quality basic education**

BE PROTECTED



Violence against children is no longer tolerated

FOREWORD

Dear friends,

On behalf of the Save the Children Somalia team, it gives me great pleasure to introduce our 2017 annual report.

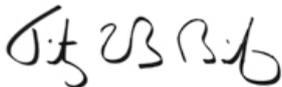
Save the Children believes every child deserves a future. Around the world, we give children a healthy start in life, the opportunity to learn, and protection from harm. We do whatever it takes for children (every day and in times of crisis) transforming their lives and the future we share. Our vision is a world in which every child attains the right to survival, protection, development, and participation. Our mission is to inspire breakthroughs in the way the world treats children and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives.

Save the Children has worked in Somalia/Somaliland for 67 years and currently has over 600 staff across 14 offices: Hargeisa, Boroma, and Burao in Somaliland; Bossaso, Garowe, Gardo, and Galkayo in Puntland; and Belet Weyne, Adaado, Abudwaq, Baidoa, Dhobley, Kismayo, and Mogadishu in new Federal States in central/southern Somalia. Our long operational presence and large geographical footprint have afforded us an in-depth understanding of the complexities of operating in such a challenging but rewarding environment. Concurrently, we have established positive work relationships with key stakeholders, most importantly the Government of Somalia and Somali communities nationwide.

In 2017, Save the Children massively scaled-up our programming in response to the drought, reaching 2.5 million people (of which 1.6 million were children) through our humanitarian and development programming in Education, Health, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL), Child Protection, and Child Rights Governance. Save the Children is currently managing 58 active awards, received from a broad range of institutional donors. In 2017, we spent \$117 million across all our Somalia programs.

I am tremendously proud of Save the Children Somalia's accomplishments in 2017, and I wish you happy reading.

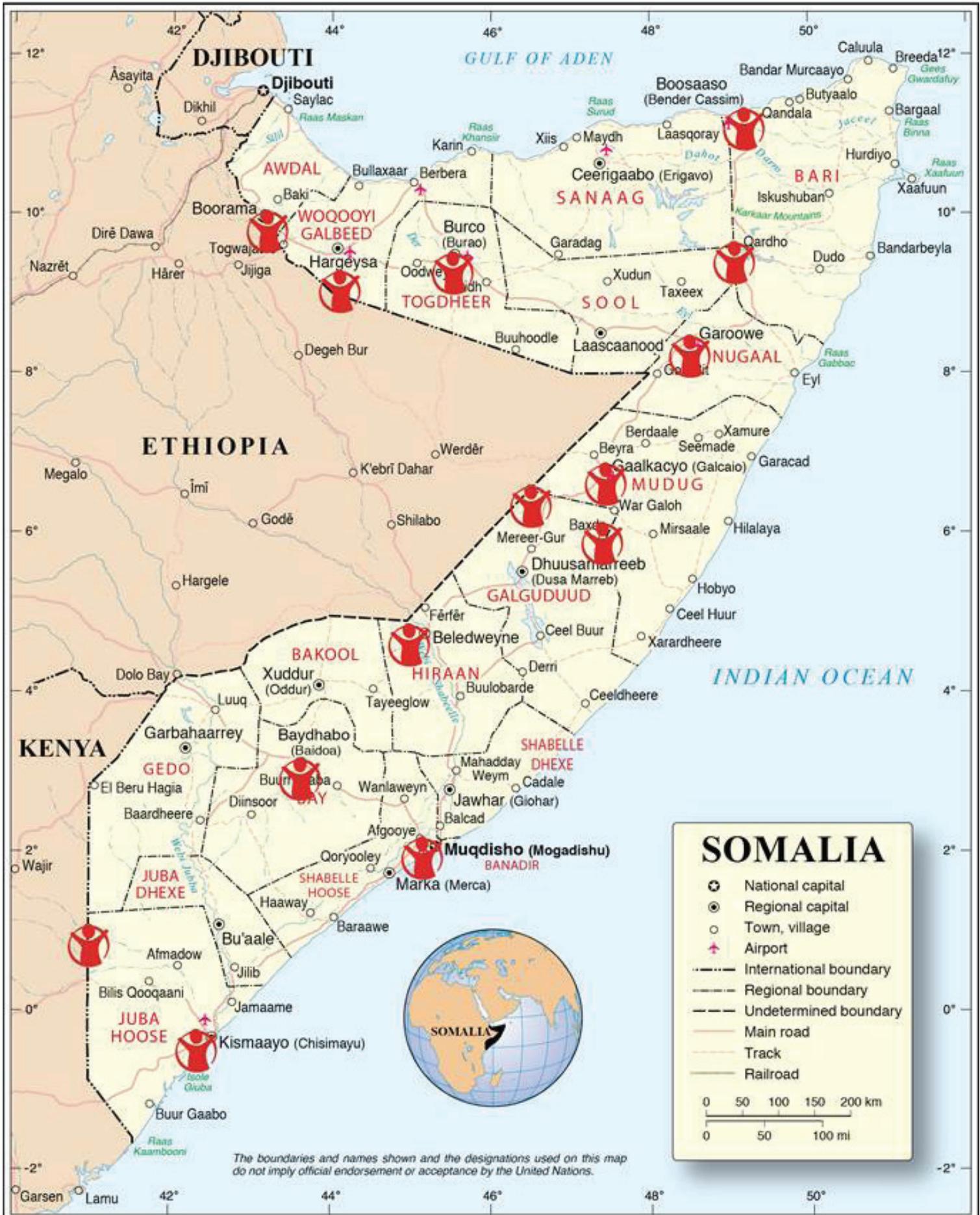
Yours most sincerely,



Timothy Bishop
Country Director



SAVE THE CHILDREN OFFICES



2017 CONTEXT OVERVIEW

New Government

In 2017, the people of Somalia elected a new Federal Government. The new government revived the hopes of many Somalis in the country and in diaspora. It was fully supported by the international community that continued to work very closely providing both development and humanitarian assistance to the people of Somalia. A National Development Plan was approved in 2017 setting the agenda for the Government and development partners like Save the Children.

Among its many priorities, the new Federal Government continued to strengthen the administrative and governance systems, enabling stronger partnership in both development and humanitarian programs. Federalization process continues with the establishment of the Hirshabelle State. In addition, Somaliland held relatively peaceful presidential elections in November 2017.

Drought /Emergency Response

Somalia has been experiencing protracted drought following four consecutive failed rainy seasons. The situation got worse in 2017 resulting into humanitarian crisis with food shortages, livestock deaths and mass displacements. The humanitarian agencies worked closely with the government to scale up life-saving interventions reaching to millions of Somalis in need. Save the Children was at the forefront of the humanitarian response, providing children and their families with health and nutrition services, WASH, cash transfers and ensuring children's schooling is not interrupted.

Securing Child Rights

In 2017 a number of policies and legal instruments protecting the rights and welfare of children were passed. In Puntland and Somaliland, laws were passed banning Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C). This has been a breakthrough in the fight against FGM/C in the country. In addition, a Sexual Offenses Bill was passed by the House of Representatives of Somaliland and is waiting for final signature from the President.

Once approved, the law will fill a huge gap in protecting victims and punishing perpetrators of sexual violence in Somaliland. Save the Children worked closely with local partners to lobby and advocate for the development and approval of these instruments for children.

Trends to watch out for in 2018

Somalia will continue to experience the impact of the protracted drought through out 2018. However the GU rains are expected to be above average in some parts of Somalia, contrary to the earlier predictions. The Federal Government of Somalia has committed to a development agenda prioritising financial reforms, inclusive politics, youth employment and conflict resolution. To achieve this, the government will need support to strengthen its capacity as well as access to long term resources to deliver services to its people.

In 2018, we will be developing our Country Strategic Plan 2019 – 2021. The three-year plan will lay out the strategic choices we are making to achieve our Ambition for Children in Somalia. As compared to the previous Country Strategic Plans (CSP), this plan will be very focused on how to use our limited resources and time to advance our three breakthroughs for children.

Three contributions to our breakthroughs currently under development are in the areas of Pneumonia, Early Learning and Children affected by War & Conflict. We will spotlight these as our “centenary commitments” since 2019 marks our organization's 100th year. These commitments will be integrated into our 2019 -21 plans. In addition, we will focus on increasing the uptake of our Common Approaches. They are best understanding and knowledge of how to solve the most adverse problems affecting children.

NO CHILD IN SOMALIA/SOMALILAND DIES BEFORE THEIR 5TH BIRTHDAY

2030 TARGET

- Reduce under five deaths from preventable diseases by half - From 146/1000 to 73/1000.
- Reduce New Born Mortality Rate by half - From 46/1000 to 23/1000.
- Reduce death from Malnutrition to 10% and reduce GAM to <10%.
- Improve early initiation of breastfeeding to over 75%.
- Improve Exclusive Breastfeeding to over 75%.

PROGRESS MADE IN 2017

- **Health and Nutrition:** Reached 2,294,954 people out of which 1,354,053 were children and 679,689 women
- **Maternal Health** - Provided modern contraceptives to 13,689 new Family Planning users; 35,024 doses of tetanus vaccines provided to pregnant women; 38,063 women attended four or more Antenatal care services; 31,077 women assisted by Skilled Birth Attendants and 31,194 women provided with various PMTCT (Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV infection) services.
- **Child Health** - 61,833 children under 1 year received the third dose of pentavalent vaccine; 4,549 children under 5 years treated for fever or malaria; 64,419 cases of pneumonia or acute respiratory tract infections treated with antibiotics and 61,989 children under the age of five with diarrhoea were treated with Oral Rehydration Solution (8,999 Cholera/Acute Watery Diarrhoea cases treated (3,912 children under 5 years and 5,011 children over 5) with 111 deaths (CFR of 1.7%).
- **Malnutrition** - 217,947 children with acute malnutrition treated (this is nearly 67% of the cluster-projected caseload of children with acute malnutrition). 50,639 Pregnant and lactating women treated for acute malnutrition. Infant Young Children and Feeding (IYCF) reached 176,268 baby/mothers pairs.
- **WASH interventions** reached 581,255 individuals including 282,452 children. Temporary access to water was delivered through boreholes (15), shallow wells (12), rain water harvesting Berkeds (26) and emergency water trucking (173,238.39 cubic meter of water). In partnership with government, all the rehabilitated boreholes were installed with Hybrid Solar System - this will at least provide an annual saving of about \$10,800 compared to a generator powered system of a similar capacity. A new borehole was drilled at Balli Caraaale in Togdheer region in Somaliland at a depth of 310m and average yield of 13m³/hr.
- **Integration with other sectors** - Save the Children supported school feeding, water in the schools, AWD/Cholera prevention, and hygiene promotion. Cash transfers programmes reached over half a million people with at least three rounds of unconditional cash transfers. Child sensitive social protection project focussed on raising awareness of parents and care givers on IYCF practices, education and protection. Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) cash transfers in Puntland and Hiran Region was integrated with IYCF messages targeted at mothers.
- **Policy Change** - A health budget analysis study (allocation and spending) was conducted in both Somaliland and Puntland. Advocacy sessions have been organised for government policy makers and relevant donors to allocate more resources (budget as well as human) in the health sector.

2017 EVIDENCE

- Evidence from 30 Nutritional Assessments (SMART Surveys) confirmed that the Global Acute Malnutrition dropped from 17.4% to 13.8%. (Dec 2017 FSNAU).
- Assessment of school nutrition intervention in Baidoa shows an improvement of about 13% of students' knowledge on nutrition and hygiene due to formation of nutrition clubs.
- There has been a significant impact on dietary diversification by 14% compared to control group after participating in nutrition clubs. Studies in 10 schools also show Save the Children intervention reduced anaemia among adolescent girls by 40%.
- Water availability in Save the Children working areas reached an average of 13.5 litre/person/day which is more than the Somalia WASH Cluster water ration for drought affected communities which is 7.5 litres/person/day. In sanitation, we have achieved less than 30 people per latrine in target IDP camps and drought affected villages.
- Post-distribution monitoring of ECHO cash beneficiaries show that over 95% of the households are able to secure at least 3 meals a day by the third transfer compared to only 50% household at first disbursement. A randomized control trial study has shown that additional capital transferred for income generating activity has increased monthly household income from businesses by 6 to 17 dollars.

ALL CHILDREN IN SOMALIA/SOMALILAND HAVE ACCESS TO BASIC QUALITY EDUCATION

- Increased Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) for Somaliland (SL) and Puntland to 80% and 70% for Central South Somalia (CSS).
- National learning outcomes are increased to 80% (Quality)
- QLE indicators are made part of the national education quality assurance systems and applied widely.

PROGRESS MADE IN 2017

- Save the Children enrolled 171,672 (44.73% Girls) children through Basic Education, Alternative Basic Education and Education in Emergency. (45,501 children (44.89% girls) from the rural communities (pastoralist/agropastoralist), 22,377 IDPs & host communities and 774 from children with special needs). Progress was also made in prohibiting physical and humiliating punishment (PHP) in Save the Children intervention schools in Somaliland.
- Long-term resilience programmes including child sensitive social protection programme in Somaliland, youth livelihoods (vocational and life skills training), income generating activities and village savings and loans associations (VSLAs) were delivered.
- Key accomplishments on vocational skills, entrepreneurship and life skills training programmes include development of Technical Vocational Educational Training (TVET) strategy and competency based skills training curriculum which were approved by Somaliland government.



2017 EVIDENCE

- Findings of the mid-year Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA) of 457 students from 24 sample intervention schools indicates 55% and 62.4% of the assessed children achieved age and grade appropriate reading and comprehension skills respectively contributing to improved learning outcomes.
- Percentage of learners passing all competency tests increased from 22% at baseline to 32% at midline.
- The midline assessment also showed clear progress in the quality of learning environment (QLE) with 62% of the schools meeting all four guiding principles at midline compared to only 10% at baseline.
- Operations data from two e-labs in Garowe has shown that access to literacy apps on tablet has substantially increased school enrolment at grade 1 to 4.
- Various PDM on cash transfer project have demonstrated that about 4% of cash transferred is utilised in enabling children access education.
- Preliminary tracer studies on youth trained and supported with post-training grants has indicated an average of 73% employment rates.
- Reports in the intervention schools show signs of increased awareness of PHP in some of the intervention schools and teachers have started applying positive discipline techniques in schools.
- Percentage of adults reported being aware of any incidence of PHP to children in their community has increased from 21% to 78% between baseline to midline. More importantly, they are way more likely to report taking any action compared to before (3% vs. 72%).
- A study conducted to assess the effects of girl friendly spaces (GFS) on school attendance of adolescent girl's shows that girls in schools with GFS are about 15% points less likely to miss school in the past one month preceding the survey.

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN IS NOT TOLERATED IN SOMALIA/SOMALILAND

2030 TARGET

- Reduce the FGM prevalence rate from the current 98% to 45% in Somalia
- Reduce the rates of Child Early and Forced Marriage (CEFM) from 31% to 16%
- Reduce Physical and Humiliating Punishment (PHP) in Somalia from 78% to 34%.

PROGRESS MADE IN 2017

- Child protection, Child Act, FGM policies and Sexual Offences Bill were developed and approved by the Government of Somaliland. In addition, Prohibition of PHP is included in these laws and policies (Child Act, FGM and Sexual Offence Bill) in Somaliland.
- Save the Children provided capacity enhancement trainings for the Community Education Committees(CEC) members and Child clubs promoting meaningful participation in managing education, protection of children from all forms of abuse and ensuring that children's rights are met.
- In coordination with the MoE, Save the Children trained teachers on teacher's code of conduct and positive disciplining.
- In collaboration with the community and the child protection team, we supported the establishment and strengthening of Child Welfare Committees(CWC) for out of school children and child rights clubs in the schools.
- We established a referral and reporting system in school with follow-up mechanisms. These actions raised the awareness of the school community on protection and engagement of children in school management and decision making through their club representatives.
- Cash transfer programmes combined with long-term resilient livelihood programming contributed to reduction in negative coping strategies that exposes children to violation and abuse including child labour and separation from their families.
- Vocational, entrepreneurship and life skills trainings as well as post trainings grants have increased access to employment for youth.

2017 EVIDENCE

- A number of data sources show that Somalia has made significant progress in reducing child marriage. Percentage of girls aged 15-19 years who have ever been married has declined from 26% in 2006 to about 10% by 2017. This has been also confirmed by a recent study conducted by a consortium of NGOs including IRC, Care International and Save the Children published in July 2017 that put prevalence to around 14%.
- Studies also show shift in circumcision practices whereby fewer girls are going for the most severe form of FGM/C. However, Save the Children continues to be champion of zero tolerance of any form of FGM/C in the country.
- An assessment of child protection in primary schools supported by Save the Children in Puntland and South-Central Somalia show that children are more aware about their rights.
- About 77% and 57% of the children in the survey reported peer-fight and corporal punishment as a threat to their safety and violation of rights. The study also finds positive association between number of child protection activities in school and children's school attendance.



HOW OUR THEORY OF CHANGE DROVE OUR 2017 SUCCESS

BE THE INNOVATOR

- For the drought response, the early establishment of Fast Action Surge Team (FAST) enabled quick response to new needs and in hard to reach areas without diverting resources from elsewhere. In the addition, the FAST teams enabled increased support to partner based responses and rapid scale up of existing programming.
- Critical response data (reach, funding, staffing, supply chain and security) was updated on the Management Information Report on a weekly basis enabling detailed oversight of the response. Data was then effectively used by management levels internally, but also to facilitate timely and powerful external communications.
- Emergency Health Unit team fully integrated into the Country Office model to provide excellent technical gap filling and increased response capability.
- In relation to the Knowledge priority, the Research Evaluation Accountability Learning and Monitoring team were able to fund raise for research grants and through this generate high quality research and evidence, the team initiated rigorous impact assessments that supported the drought response and enable Save the children be a leading voice for the most vulnerable in Somalia.
- A Child Wellbeing Report Card initiative kicked off in 2017. It engages community child researchers who collect data from other children on the extent to which their wellbeing and rights are being realized.
- An integration matrix has been created to identify specific interventions across themes/sectors that can be connected or leveraged on. The Country Office intends to use this matrix following a child life-cycle approach to ensure that the three breakthroughs are achieved by age specific integrated programming for every child.
- Piloting of E-literacy: - in collaboration with Save the Children Norway and Alphabet kings (private institution), we piloted e- literacy as an innovation to literacy skill development of in and out of school children in Puntland. The initial progress of children's acquisition of the literacy skill is encouraging. They are so motivated and enthusiastic using the tablet and other exercise and the teachers are motivated too.
- The increased linkage between Evidence, Programme Implementation and Advocacy/Policy work is gaining momentum in Somalia and will be a major implementation approach for the new country strategic plan from 2019-2021.

BUILD PARTNERSHIPS

- Key strategic donors (Department for International Development (DFID), Humanitarian Aid department of the European Commission (ECHO), Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) and Office of Food for Peace (FFP)) invested heavily in the 2017 humanitarian response, with Save the Children being one of the key implementing partners. This covered most sectors, however the largest growth was in the Food Security and Livelihoods (specifically Unconditional Cash Transfers), Health and Nutrition portfolios.
- Save the Children Members also invested heavily in the Somalia CO Category 1 response, providing technical support and fundraising throughout the year. Various member-led appeals (DEC, SHO) enabled the humanitarian response to scale up.
- Our local partners continued to be our great resource where we worked with Tadamun Social Society (TASS), Galkayo Education Centre for Peace and Development (GECPD), Somali Peace Line (SPL), Centre for Peace and Development (CPD), Gargaar Relief and Development Organisation (GREDO), Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Somaliland (CCBRS), Youth Volunteers for Development and Environmental Co (YOVENCO), Horn of Africa Voluntary Youth Committee (HAVAYOCO), African Network for the Prevention & Protection against Child abuse & Neglect (APPCAN) and Nagaad Network to achieve our ambition for children
- The Country Office scaled up its commitment and invested heavily in the various coordination structures including relevant line ministries, NGO consortia, clusters and advocacy through UN-Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).
- Our commitment to work closely with the Government was realized where we increased our support and investment in the capacity of the government to deliver on the National Development Plan. By the end of the year, we had 2132 incentivized staff.

BE THE VOICE

- Save the Children has been an active player in advocating for stronger legal instruments and standards that promote and protect children's rights in Somalia. As a result, a number of laws and policies were developed and approved including laws against FGM/C, Sexual offenses Bill and Child Right Bill.
- We created space for policy dialogues and engagements for key stakeholders and children, taking advantage of key moments such as the launch of the End of Childhood report, Day of the African Child, International Day of the Girl Child and World Pneumonia Day.
- At the national and global level, Save the Children has been an active voice in the campaign for debt relief for Somalia. We believe that debt relief will enable the Somalia Government to access long-term development financing that will allow the country to provide the right services and systems for the children in Somalia.
- Through our Every Last Child Campaign, we managed to create space for children, particularly girls to engage with policy makers and express their views on key challenges affecting them and the future they want. The campaign used non-traditional approaches including a girls-only sports tournament to mobilise girls, amplify their voices and engage with policy makers.
- We proactively engaged the media to raise the profile of key issues affecting children in Somalia and focusing on the impact of drought on Somalia children and their families and the need for early action and responding at scale. The governments and key partners appreciated these efforts as they helped support fund raising initiatives across the world.
- Gender mainstreaming became a focus in Q4 and is in the 2016-2018 Country Strategic Plan. The Gender Key Performance Indicator has demonstrated a growth to 73% of proposals being gender sensitive or transformative in Q4 of 2017.

ACHIEVE RESULTS AT SCALE

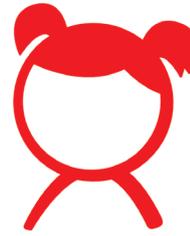
- Save the Children was successful in fundraising with over 80% submitted proposals approved. This led to a scale up from USD 45 million annual spend in 2016 to USD 117 million in 2017. This has scaled our beneficiary reach from 1.2M in 2016 to 2.8M in 2017. The massive growth in portfolio supported the Country Office expansion in terms of human resources and operational capacity and infrastructure. This ensured that the CO was operating at scale throughout 2017 to achieve the Country Annual Plans.
- Similarly, strong financial management was required throughout the year to ensure effective management of Cost allocation methodology (CAM) and Effort Reporting (ER), whilst budget forecasting and spend was complicated by the growing portfolio
- Quality bench marks (QBM) and MEAL system has been strengthened and made more efficient through greater digitization, and continues being one of the major tools for ensuring minimum standards of quality. However, additional efforts were taken by thematic specialists to further improve quality. For improving targeting effectiveness, child poverty and MEAL teams have revisited the selection criteria to adapt to changing humanitarian context in Somalia.
- Due to prolonged drought, there has been more effort in monitoring the malnutrition situation in the country through SMART surveys, which have been utilized to raise the alarm, advocate for more resources and scale up our programming to reach the most vulnerable children.
- Resilience programming has been supporting communities with equipment for measuring river water level and flow in south-central Somalia. In 2017, this early warning system was utilized effectively to predict and prepare community for a flash flood in Hiraan region.

PROGRESS IN NUMBERS

2017 Reach

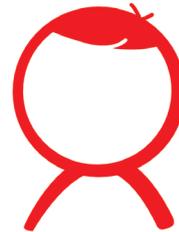


1,717,809
Children



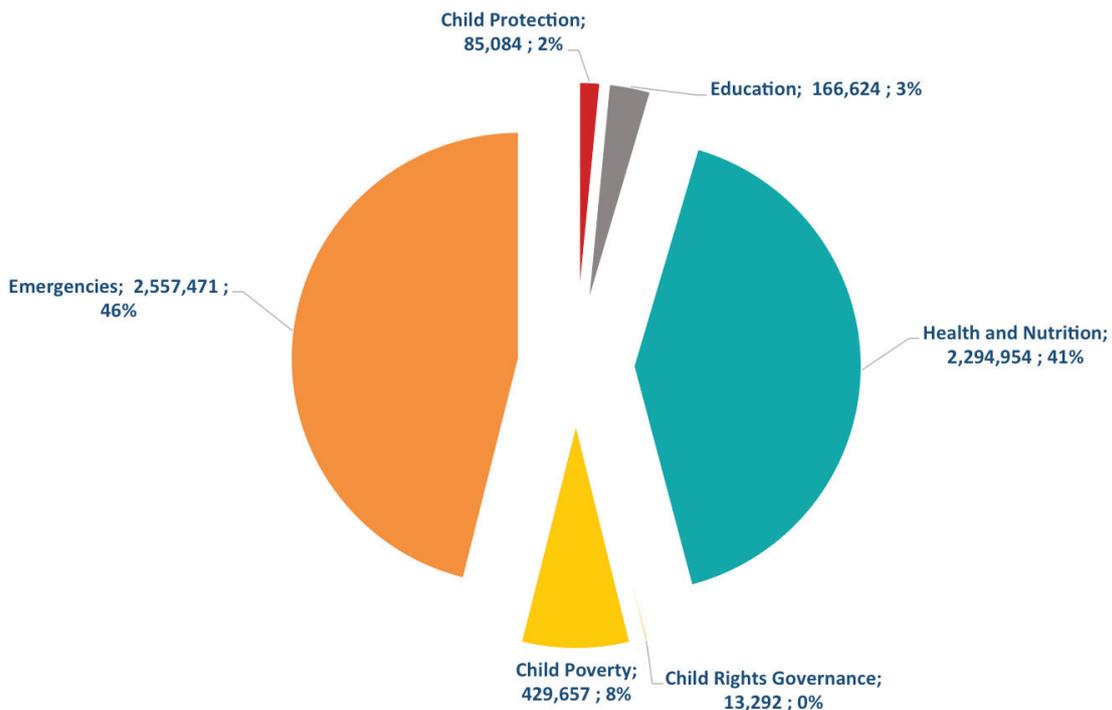
894,029
Girls

1,096,572
Adults



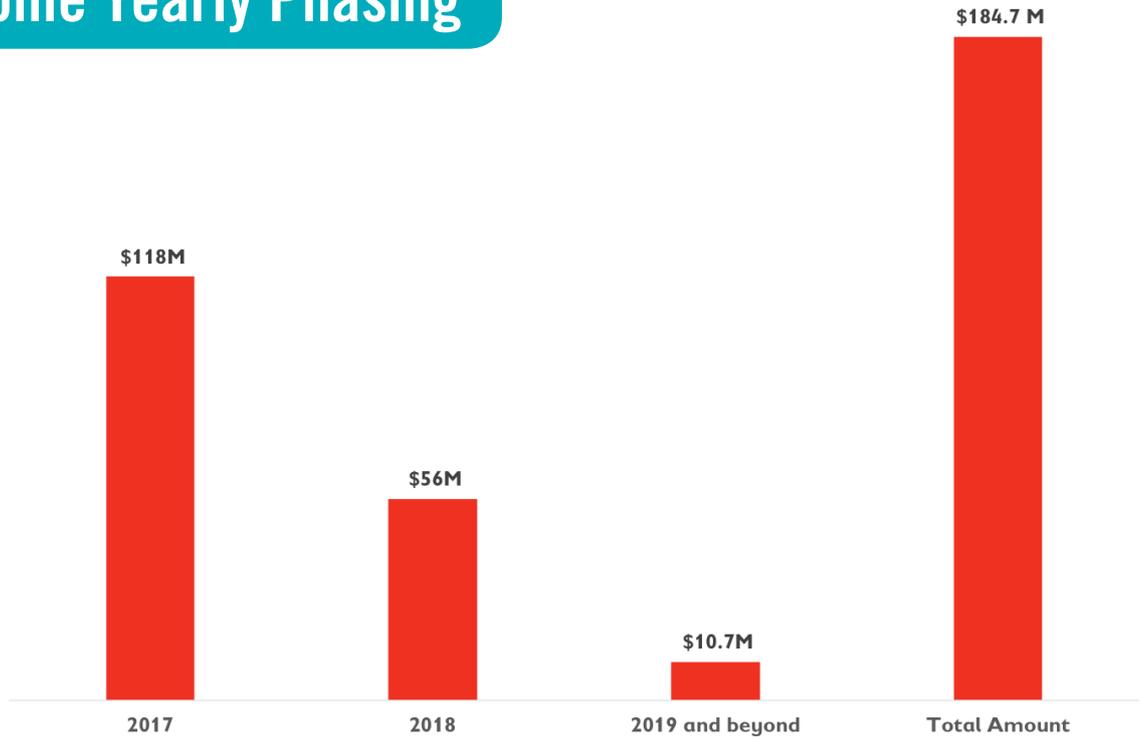
823,780
Boys

Total Reach By Sector



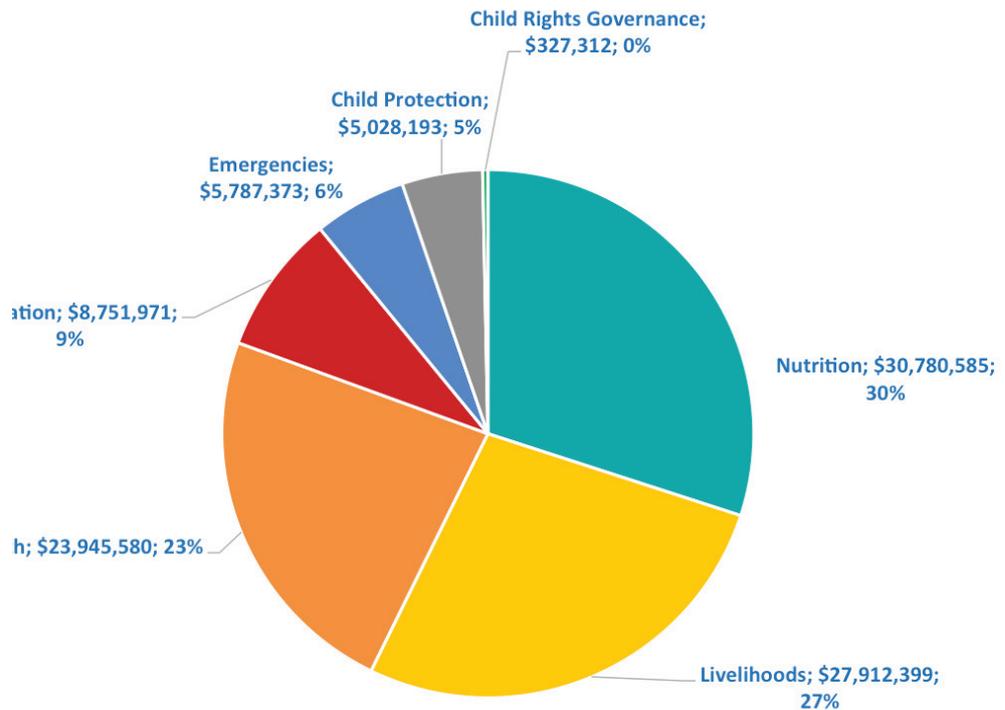
2017 INCOME & SPEND

2017 Income Yearly Phasing



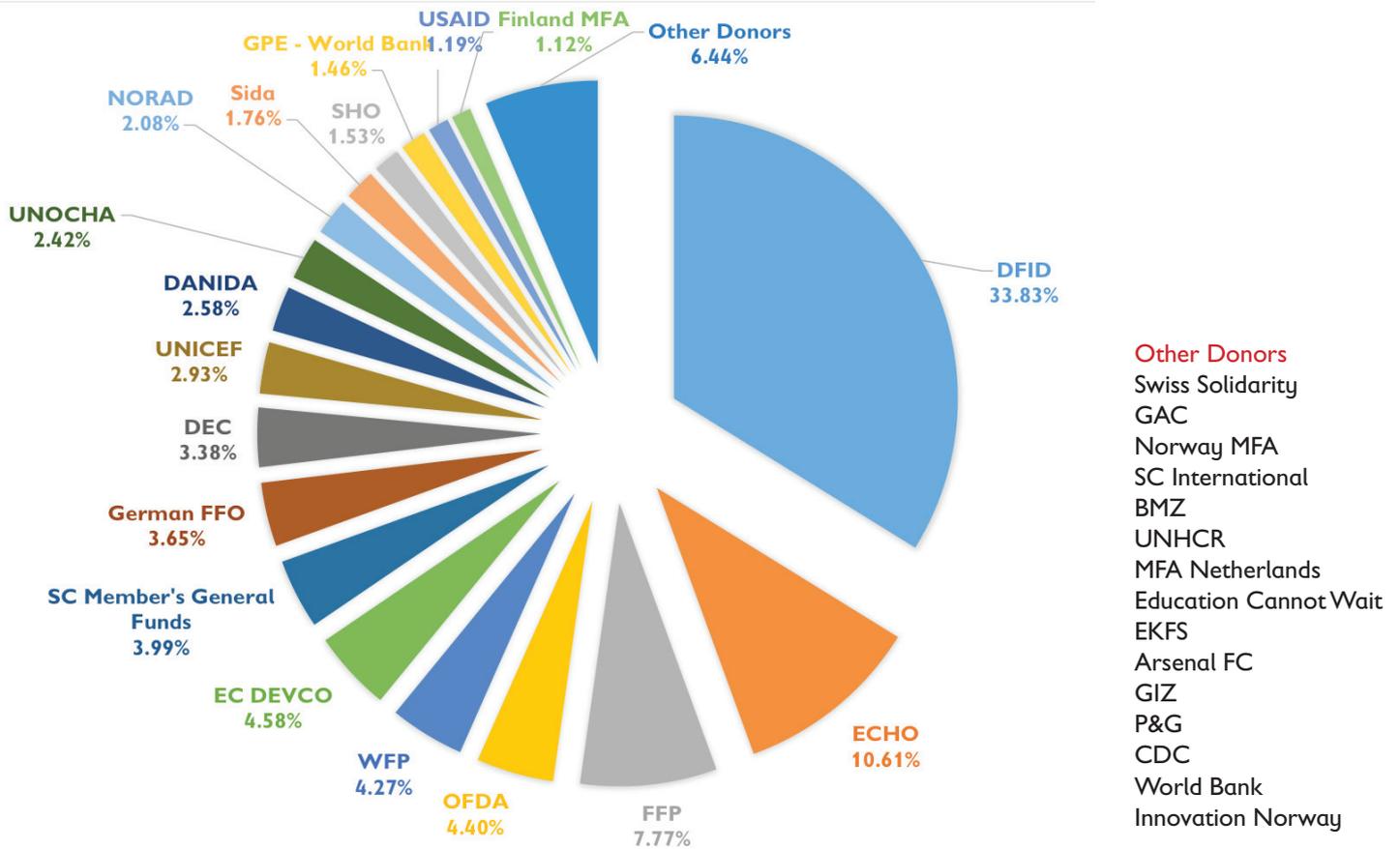
2017 SPEND
\$117.5M

2017 SPEND BY SECTOR

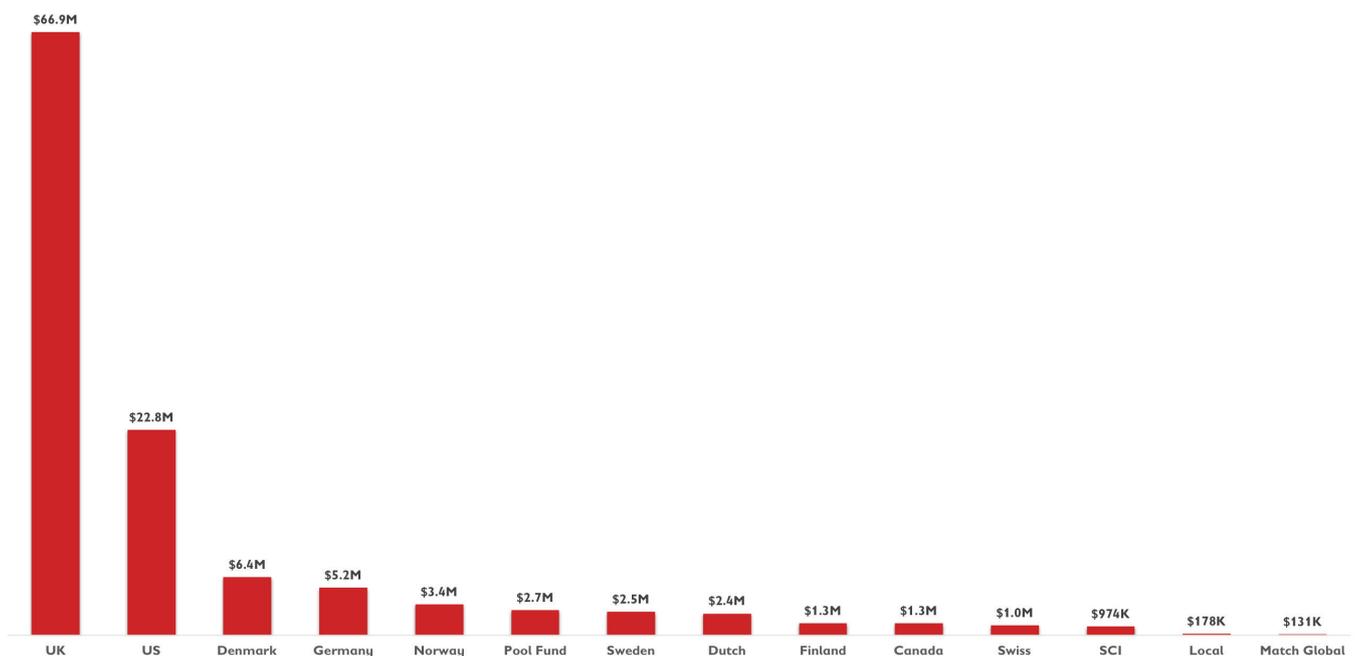


DONOR PORTFOLIO

2017 Spend by Donor



Spend by Save the Children Member in Millions





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