



# ANNUALLY REPORT 2024

"Largest ODPs network in Somalia with over 15 organizations and school members and 100 individual membership[committed the contribution and implementation of disability inclusion in Somalia".



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## FOREWORD

It's more than words and pictures that can describe the work of the SDN in one document. As a member of the former board of directors, I realized the work of disability inclusion in Somalia is a starting point that needs huge investment and attention from the stakeholders. This means mainstreaming the disability inclusion everywhere in Somalia, both in the private and public sectors.

The PWDs in the world are estimated to be more than 1.5 billion; that means in 8 persons 1 has disability or impairment. Somalia is a country without a national disability census and statistics. We use an international rate from the WHO. This is about 10% to 15% of the nations in the world that have some form of impairment. In Somalia, an estimation says that nearly 20% of the society is affected by the situation on the ground, decades of armed conflict, and poor public and private service in Somalia.

The work of the ODPs is remarkable in the disability inclusion revolution in Somalia, where groups of PWDs organized themselves and formed associations, schools, and camps that support the PWDs in Somalia. After they have felt exclusion from the existing service and institutions. The schools for the visually impaired and the schools for the hearing impaired is made voluntarily by professionals and experts with impairment or disabilities.

SDN, after four years of operation, it served three elections this means that each term of leadership is two years. And the third leadership governing the SDN was elected on 11 January 2025 in Mogadishu, where the former governing body, whose mandate had expired, handed over the responsibility to the new governing body. I am very pleased to serve as SDN's chairperson for two consecutive terms. And the bylaws restrict it from the third time.

I hope that I have. The work of disability inclusion in Somalia is huge and needs commitment from the PWDs and the ODPs with other stakeholders. The unity of disability inclusion championing actors is the best solution where other stakeholders can support the work as a third part. The first part the PWDs, the beneficiary; the second part is the ODPs actors of them and the Donors the third part. Without the connection and cooperation of this stakeholder, much can remain delayed.

Finally, I recommend that the stakeholders establish a better situation that can pave the way for the cooperation of the stakeholders of the disability inclusion in Somalia. The PWDs are the target groups, while the ODPs are actors. This needs to be identified by the stakeholders, both Somalian CSOs. Donors and Government instructions. There is hope for disability inclusion that is respect and cooperation between the two sides. The disabled people and the non-disabled people.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We are very much indebted and acknowledge the contribution, cooperation, and partnership of our stakeholders working on disability inclusion and overall human rights protection and the humanitarian programs in Somalia. The federal government institutions, the executive and the legislation, collaborated with SDN for the consolation of policy and legislation supportive of the disability inclusion programs in Somalia.

We acknowledge the role and inputs from the member's organization working human rights advocacy, formal and non-formal education, shelter of the displaced Persons in the IDP camps. Inside and outside Mogadishu Banadir region and other region in Somalia. Where we have lesion offices and partners on the ground. Working the disability inclusion in Somalia.

We acknowledge the partners who made possible the implementation of our objectives and goals for disability inclusion in Somalia both the local civil society of Somalia and the INGOs, donor scountries and the federal government Somalia institutions including the NDA national d disability agency and the ministry of family and human right in Somalia.

The list of partners we acknowledge the fallowing institutions HI Humanity Inclusion, Save children, gift of givers, SodMA Somalia Disaster Management agency , HINNA support women, UNSOM, EFASOM, AET, InAble Africa and other organization that work the overall Somalia human rights and humanitarian development programs in line with CRPD disability inclusion.

Therefore, we highly appreciate the work, the role, the contribution and cooperation of each one both non-state actors and state actors in Somalia in the work disability inclusion program. We hope the cooperation of the 2025-2025 The next two years in Somalia. There is huge work in front of us that needs great actors and partners.



## SDN PROFILE

### SDN background

SDN is a consortium of 15 organizations, with full members and 6 organizations waiting procedural membership requirement completion. a community-owned network of 21 organizations in the New Year.

The largest ODP consortium in Somalia was established in 2020. With investment from the commitments of the first GDS Global Disability Submit 2018 through the TOFI program supported by Atlas Alliance and NAD.

### SDN Vision

Creation of an inclusive society where individuals with disabilities have equal opportunities to thrive, fully participate and contribute to every aspect of life, free from discrimination and barriers.

### SDN Mission

Champion disability inclusion by promoting awareness, ensuring accessibility, advocating for policy change, and providing resources and support. We are committed to empowering people with disabilities and fostering an environment where diversity is celebrated and every individual is valued for their unique abilities.

### SDN Goal

Increased Participation of the PWDs in public and private life and work, free from barriers and discriminations. Protect Persons with diverse impairments from all forms of violations and abuses in the society. Access rehabilitation services and Dren and youth. Political participation for PWDs members interested



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Program manager



**Mr.Abdimalik Mohamed Gure**  
Project officer



**Mr.Yahye Salad Ali**  
finance officer



**M.ss Deqo Mohamed Isaaq**  
MNE Officer

## Executive Summary

SDN is local registered consortium disability inclusion with 15 organization working the protection, humanitarian, education, emolument and political participation work in Somalia. The organization has worked the last year 2024 and implemented project that serve the disability inclusion in Somalia with partners of stakeholders the donors and government intuitions. The program were mostly joint venture supported by partner and implemented by the SDN

SDN has worked the implementation of ToFi program together for inclusion with partners the save children Somalia. This program supported number of activates in the year 2024 that focus the disability inclusion advocacy with engagements of the government the policy makers and the legislators who worked several bills in the last year 2024. SDN worked to insure that the polices were inclusive and the laws are also inclusive

SDN members has organized number of activities in the year 2024 with their partners and member contributions. Each partner work has scale overall SDN vision and mission. The member organization has particularly strategic plan of action inline the disability inclusion in Somalia. Touching one or more than side of the objectives. This is based the target of the SDN both primary and intermediate. Where we give priority in the work implementation, coordination and achievement.

SDN worked several activities touching in the report. Several workshop that focus disability inclusion advocacy and awareness program training the PWDs participated by both male and females with or without impairment. Conference of thematic areas disability inclusion political participation for the PWDs and access the decision making organs and tables the ODPs the actors of the PWDs. Where we have managed to meet the PWDs with police makers and lawmakers in the year to share with their needs and problems in the government services.

SDN organized recreational program for the disability people both physical and sensory impairment, the games between visual impaired teams, hearing impairment teams and physical challenged teams. With distribution of play grand facility rent, sport wears and football, handball and goal-ball. This is participated by thirty teams from the players of the PWDs. This injected them skills, equipment and supporters. More importantly most these games were broadcasted through the media that fascinated thousands of persons.

SDN members worked the inclusive education serving school for the visual impaired, hearing impaired students. These schools are separated school that serve over 350 students. Last year nearly 350 students sate exam. Where national final exam for 2023-2024 is sate by tens PWDs students in the both intermediate and secondary graduation the national examination. Unlucky the children with sensory impairment has made complaint in the national exam for lack braille and sign language long lasted problems with in the inclusive education in Somalia. There is gap of professional personnel and machines that support this with exam works in Somalia.

SDN has worked in the year 2024 humanitarian aid distribution for the members of the PWDs with support from partners. The program served several project benefited almost several hundred persons. Food distribution supported by SoDMA supported 400 PWDs and cash transfer made by HSF Hourmud Salam foundation 200 PWDs in the year 2024. Wheelchair distribution for disability people specifically the paralyzed and crawling people. Nearly 500 person is served. These has supported several hundreds persons with disabilities and members of their families.



**“Free Of Barriers Matters more for the Persons with Impairment Accessibility.”**



## February 20, 2024 World Social Justice Day event is held in Mogadishu-Somalia

On Tuesday, February 20, 2024, in Mogadishu, members from the DPOs, the disabled people's Organization, organized the World Social Justice Day event. The event was attended by members from PWDs, Persons with Disabilities human rights activists, scholars, and professionals.

The event was implemented by the SDN Somalia Disability Network one of the most active and operational networks in the country with 15 member organizations serving education, human rights, livelihood, gender, and development programs.

the chairperson of SDN Mr. Abdullaahi Hussein Osman opened the event and made a brief outline of World Social Justice Day. This is an international day established by ILO for the protection and improvement of society. This focuses on the right of the citizens to employment, housing, social security, and political participation.

Somalia's federal government and ILO opened Mogadishu decent jobs project for the Somali people. We encourage the stakeholders of this program to ensure disability inclusion. Somalia is one of the countries with the highest number of disability people in the society more than 15% estimation of 3 million people who do not participate in social and policy. Excluded the public and private programs.

### Key Speakers

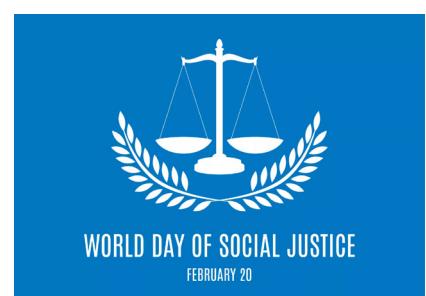
Mr. Ahmed Hassan Dige, a professional social worker candidate Mogadishu University student for the social. Said we are very pleased to participate and organize this event. I am a professional social worker who will graduate next year. I will appreciate to participate in the people working the disability inclusion for the decent job's programs.

Mrs. Sadia Mohamed, a member of the Badnadir Region Women's Disability Organization said I am

female with a disability and can work equally with non-disabled people. There is a wider exclusion for public and private opportunities. As gender and disability. Really barrier that humiliated thousands of women and girls with disabilities.

The participants made a Press Statement

1. We demand the inclusion of decent jobs programs
2. We demand extensive participation of TVET for disability people in somalia
3. We demand the participation of the decision-making table for the social
4. We demand the implementation of CRPD in Somalia





## SOMALI CHILD RIGHTS PROTECTION DISABILITY INCLUSION

Child Rights Draft bill discussion for specific articles is held in Mogadishu on 10 February 2024. The panel discussion is organized by Somalia child rights coalition. The issue impacting Somalia's children in the social the basic rights and policies in the country.

The plane was invited SDN Somalia Disability Network, SPL Somalia Peace Line, SWCC Somalia women's advocate organization, and religious groups. The panelists made presentations for the issues impacting the children in Somalia, include ratification of the CRC articles

The topic was the CRC Article returned back from the parliament that lawmakers refused some articles in the CRC. Age, Adoption, and the freedom of expression for the Somalia children.

SDN has raised children with impairment to have equal rights with other children, both boys and girls. The parent should give

equal attention and care to the children regardless of their gender and impairments. Equality for education, health, and care for children.

Furthermore, the children with disabilities specific needs to be reacted mobility aid, assistive technology, communication access and basic need for the children with impairments in Somalia. And the accessibility for the public and private sector service in Somalia.

Some Times children with disabilities are used in child labor begging in the public streets and the money is collected guardian.

Exposed to hot sun and winds all day. Subjecting the child for the attention of the people to respond soon.

This draft bill ratification of Somalia will help Somali children from many problems in their life both children with disability and children without disabilities in Somalia.

We strongly submitted our demand to the parliament to pass the CRC child rights convention in Somalia. Somali joined the CRC in 2012 and vacated a number of articles w





## THE DISTRIBUTION IFTAR with the Support SODMA and Salama Foundation.

On Monday 18 March 2024 in Mogadishu, the Distribution of Iftar Food was made for the Disabled in Mogadishu with the support of the Disaster Management Agency and Ministry of Interior and Federalism. The aid food is distributed to 400 families from the PWDs the physical, blind, and deaf people.

Somali Disability Network Made has made the registration of the beneficiary and the production ID card for the beneficiaries. Selected the most valuable teams who may suffer food scarcity for the Iftar in the breakfast and dinner. The people who benefited from the aid thanked the all partners

The Howlwadag District in the Banadir region local authority made possible the security and logistics for the consignment. The SDN staff has worked hard screening the cards, the queue of the beneficiaries, and the order in the people by giving special attention to the people who may have more visibility in the accessibility. The SODMA Somalia Disaster Management

Agency made possible the distribution of the food, the logistical support, and the monitoring of the distribution with members of their staff. And the Ministry of Interior and Federalism has supported the overall permit to work SDN which is a registered local NGO based in Mogadishu with liaison offices in the regions.

In Ramadan month SDN has managed the distribution of Iftar aid for 600 families directly 400 families food aid distribution from the SODMA and the 200 families cash voucher from the Hormud Salaam Foundation that supports the vulnerable people in Somalia including the PWDs. Notable for inclusive education they run the most equipped boarding school for blind children

Disability inclusive Humanitarian

# Training on Disability Inclusion in Humanitarian Action,

October 12th to 13th, 2024, in Mogadishu, Somalia, addressed the persistent issue of disability exclusion in humanitarian interventions. Organized by the Institute of Education for Disabled People (IEDP) in collaboration with the Somali Disability Forum (SDIF) and supported by the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UN SOM), the workshop brought together 25 participants. Among them were 18 individuals with disabilities and 7 representatives from organizations supporting disability rights.

As a key outcome of the training, participants developed a set of recommendations aimed at strengthening disability inclusion in Somalia's humanitarian efforts. The report also highlighted the need for increased funding and capacity-building for disability organizations to participate more actively in humanitarian coordination efforts. Going forward, it is essential to ensure that disability inclusion becomes an integral part of Somalia's humanitarian policies and practices to protect the rights of persons with disabilities during crises.

## The Overall Objectiv

The main objective of the workshop was to raise awareness among persons with disabilities and other stakeholders about the importance of disability inclusion in humanitarian processes, in line with the CRPD and other international frameworks Group Work and Brainstorming Sessions

Participants were divided into small groups and tasked with generating ideas for improving disability inclusion in Somalia's humanitarian efforts. This interactive session likely fostered collaboration and idea-sharing between different stakeholders, ranging from NGOs to government representatives.

## Broader Implications

Overall, the two days of the training provided a structured yet engaging platform for participants to deepen their understanding of disability inclusion within humanitarian contexts. The importance of disability inclusion is multifaceted—it is not merely about access to services but about empowering individuals to participate fully in their communities and decisions affecting their lives.

## The Recommendations of the activity

Based on the outcomes of the workshop, the following recommendations are made to promote disability inclusion in Somalia's humanitarian efforts.

- 1.-Continued efforts are needed to raise awareness of disability inclusion among humanitarian actors.
- 2.- Humanitarian organizations and disability advocates should work together to ensure that persons with disabilities are included in decision-making processes.
- 3.-Disability advocates should push for the adoption and implementation of policies that align with the CRPD and ensure that persons with disabilities are fully integrated into humanitarian action.
- 4.-Government officials, humanitarian workers, and other decision-makers should receive training on disability inclusion to ensure that their actions are aligned with international standards and frameworks
- 5.-It is essential to establish mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the progress of disability inclusion efforts in Somalia. This will help ensure accountability and provide a basis for future improvements.





## Fundamental Human RIGHTS TRAINING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITY

SDN organized a two-day training for its network organizations of persons with disabilities on fundamental rights. It was held at Primo Palace Hotel in Mogadishu and attended by 38 individuals from organizations of persons with disabilities, civil society organizations, and women and youth-led organizations in the Banadir regional administration.

On the first day, the participants learned about human rights, specifically the rights of persons with disabilities, human rights protection, and inclusion for persons with disabilities

On the second day, the facilitator provided participants with translated copies of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and made a presentation on it. Additionally, there was a brief presentation about the Somali professional constitution, specifically the articles that protect

and defend the rights of persons with disabilities

### **objective of the training**

1. To enhance the knowledge and experience of persons with disabilities and civil society organizations on the CRPD article using the translated Somali version to improve participants' understanding.
2. To support organizations of persons with disabilities in acquiring knowledge and skills on the CRPD and UPR (Universal Periodic Review) to participate in the advocacy and approval of the draft National Disability Bill, and a common understanding of the history of human rights.
3. To understand the CRPD and support the convention's implementation by holding governmental institutions accountable for including persons with disabilities in their planning, policy, legislative functions, and service delivery.

### **Lessons learned from the training**

1. A sight-handicapped girl shopped for cosmetics and makeup among other girls. When she asked for what she wanted, the makeup artist laughed and told her, "You are blind. Why are you concerned with beauty when you cannot see yourself in the mirror? "No man wants your face, so stay at home and hide." This scenario illustrates a big gap and encourages us to raise awareness to change negative assumptions about people with disabilities.

**DISABILITY  
RIGHTS ARE  
HUMAN RIGHT**



## NATIONAL DISABILITY DRAFT BILL PASSED

On Monday 28 October 2024 Somali federal government 11th parliament upper house passed national disability rights act, draft bill that served two reading before and the third reading is made today with overwhelming vote all the 28 Senator voted for yes with up their hand.

The member from the NDA National Disability agency and the Ministry of Family made brief speech in front of the assembly. Mr. Abdullahi From the civil society disability expressed his concern for some articles omitted from the draft bill.

All in all this national disability act will give voice and power member from PWDs and the ODPs with collective and individual obligations the political participation 5% and employment in public and private sector 5%. This act will reduce barrier in the infrastructures, the exclusion of systems and the discriminations of the public and private opportunities the employment, investment and partnership with ODPs key representatives of the disabled people society in Somalia.



### SOMALIA FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTIONAL REFORM PROCESS

Senator Naim Hassan Gardhweyne, the chairperson of the upper house committee for justice and human rights, made a contribution to the Somalia Federal Constitutional reform joint assembly for the house of people and upper house

on March 2024. Education should be inclusive, Braile and Sing Language should be nationalized, the child mature age should be 18 years.

The input came from members of the PWDs and ODPs Mr. Abdullahi Hassan, and members of the SDN network. Senator Naima is one of the colleagues that advocate in the legislation for disability inclusion.

She has given broader consultation and public hearings for the disabled people in the process of drafting bills. This gives an active role the PWDs in the discussion-making tables.



## ACCESSIONABILITY ADVOCACY TO DISCUSS SERVICE PROVIDERS

On Sunday 24th June 2024 SDN organized a two-day advocacy forum on service accessibility for persons with disabilities the purpose of the workshop was to discuss service providers such as private and public, CSOs and DPOs, to Ensure persons with disabilities access the service of the public and private institutions.

On day one The Chairperson made clear the objectives and goals of the two-day workshop and the Advocacy to the participants.

On Day Two Advocacy started with a presentation on the convention that applies the accessibility of persons with disabilities and promotes reducing

### OBJECTIVE OF WORSHOP

- 1.Organized a two-day Advocacy discussion with service providers private and public and DPOs
- 2.Engaged with service providers, and stakeholders to provide service reasonable accommodation

to PWDs

3. Ensured persons with disabilities service deliverable accessibility advocacy

### Lesson learned

1. Members of the participants presented cases of discrimination in the public market. a woman was trying to buy goods from the supper market, unfortunately, the owner discriminated and gave her charity cash. Where the person was a customer with huge money. The problem is the owner deals with disability rather than the person. “

2. Member of the participants from the PWDs Participating in the two-day workshop deaf persons visit the hospital for medical checkups. He met with communication challenges with the hospital doctor who could not understand the sign language. “The medical care facilities have no access for the visually and hearing-impaired people the braille

and sign language”

3. Members of the Participants without disability from the medical care presented physical barriers that in most cases the hospital has no ramp in the department except the theater operation. The visit of the general medicine partitions is very complicated without a ramp. “This shows that most Hospital in the country has no ramp, accessibility for PWDs both physically challenged and sensory impairment “



# Professional Skills Trainings Workshop for The Visual Impaired Youth

## THREE DAYS TRAINING the VISUALLY EMPAIRED YOUTH PROFESSIONAL SKILLS MARKETING

UDHAN implemented a three-day training program organized by the Visual Youth organization. The workshop is participated by 30 persons both male and female. Most of them are university graduates seeking jobs in the market.

This workshop helped the trainees to develop personal goals and objectives for future job marketing in the public and private sectors in Somalia.

This training will help visually impaired youth gain skills for modern job marketing in Somalia. Preparing documents, searching Google for opportunities, and using email to send the request.

This workshop is prepared by UNDHAN, a visually impaired youth organization member of SDN, with partners of support teams. The organization works with disability inclusion in the public and private sectors in Somali





Support ODPs Implementation of their advocacy plans  
Date 22-23 July 2024  
Venue: Prima Palace Hotel

## ADVOCACY DISABILITY MINSTREEMING IN ALL PROGRAMS WORKSHOP

started on 22 -July and ended on 23 July 2024. The workshop aims to strengthen mainstreaming for persons with disabilities in all stages of project development (design, implementation, need assessments, and monitoring). On the first day, The chairperson of SDN welcomed the participants and offered brief information on the TOFI project, . After that the season started with questions and consultation towards mainstreaming Disability in all phases of programs and also discussed the main challenges faced by people with disabilities. One The second-day SDN Team presented Disability mainstreaming and targeting for individuals with disabilities. , During the presentation, the SDN team showed participants four things that must be done by agencies to reach inclusion and target disability in programs.

These four must-dos could help organizations make their programs more inclusive

- Ensure meaningful participation for PWDs
- identify and remove barriers that prevent PWDs from participation
- empowerment and capacity development for PWDs
- Collect disaggregate data into sex and Disability.

### OVERALL OBJECTIVES

1. Strengthening mainstreaming and inclusion for persons with disabilities at all stages of programs (design, implementation, including need assessments and monitoring).
2. Promote and ensure persons with disabilities and organization of persons with disabilities are included as stakeholders in all programs.

3. To address social challenges to remove all the barriers and ensure that persons with disabilities are 'not left behind' at all levels (policy planning, project programming, implementation, and monitoring)

### Lesson learned and key recommendations

- One of the participants from CSOs was a nominator they were collecting need assessment data used the six Washington group questioners, we discovered more people with disabilities. In this situation, we discovered that the majority of people in our society only recognize disabilities in those who use wheelchairs, therefore, we need to create more awareness about the various types of Disabilities. recommended that all participants apply or use the Washington Group questionnaire.

### DISAGGREGATED DATA BY PERSON WITH DISABILITIES



## CSOs and OPDs input Universal Periodic Report Somali 2024

SDN participated in the preparation of the UPR Somalia in 2024 as part of team CSOs leaders invited to meet high-level delegation from the United Nations Office independent expert for Somalia.

SDN made the contribution for the disability in the fact-finding mission team.

The ODPs have presented the barriers in social inclusion the education, employment, and health care facilities for the disabled people in Somalia. The high expenses leads to them. The paralympic games is not supported in Somali by the private and public sectors

The CRPD report for the state and shadow has not been submitted from Somalia. There is no national disability census and statistics available. The decision-making organs participation for the PWDs is limited if the nomination of NDA national disability has not been consulted.

The disability inclusion programs in Somalia are not supportive and cooperative. They organized and implemented partners without disability.

This causes some time failure the progress of the inclusion. The protection programs in Somalia do not include children, youth, women, and aging people. These groups are outside of the decision-making table. The humanitarian and development investments are not inclusive for all

The jobs and opportunities of disability inclusion are grabbed by non-disabled persons. The decision makers of these recruit people they prefer for interest. Leaving the graduate and professional PWDs unemployed.

The UPR universal periodic report does not make a good capture for the complaints raised to the independent expert in the last 3 reports. This challenges the advocacy for disability inclusion.



## The INTERNATIONAL WEEK OF DEAF PEOPLE September 2024

On Sunday, September 2024, the Somali Disability Network organized the International Week of the deaf people in Somalia. Team from the SDN made a visit to the centers of the deaf schools particularly the Madina Deaf School located in Wadajir District Banadir region Mogadishu the capital city of Somalia. who made convenient the comprehensive understanding for the CRPD books articles.

International Deaf Week is an annual event celebrated worldwide to raise awareness about the rights, culture, and contributions of deaf people. Typically, it is observed during the last full week of September, which also includes the International Day of Sign Languages. The Madina School for the deaf is a public-private primary, intermediate and secondary school hosting more than one hundred students most of them girls with total deaf and some hearing impairment for some students. The students in the school gathered in one place where they exchanged ideas and stories with the deaf people and students. The team from the SDN distributed of one hundred hard copies of the UN CRPD convention rights Persons with Disabilities with double translations of English and Somalia.

### Problems in the school

1. The school has resource scarcity for the extension of the establishment of new classes for the secondary classes for the deaf students in the area.
2. The school has problems with teacher capacity building for the curriculum, the sign language, and the class management that made reduced achievement of the school.
3. The school has problems with students learning materials for deaf children text books, bags, and

notebooks for the students and excursive books as well playground for recreational.

### Recommendation

1. The Recommendation To The Education Donors Madine School for the Deaf is public and private and is excluded from the access and beneficiary of special needs education and inclusive education support the emergency education support program provides feeding and cash for education incentive support that can encourage many families to send their children to the schools.
2. The recommendation to the Ministry of Education Madine School for the Deaf is public-private and should be added to the school benefiting education funding the private and public schools investment. The teacher's payment, education equipment, and educational learning material for children.

# EVERYONE IS



# WELCOME!



Humanity & Inclusion project team conducted a three-days Training of Trainers for members of the Somaliland Disability Inclusion Task Force (SDITF) and Somalia Interagency Disability Inclusion Task Team (SIDITT). The SDITF and SIDITT consist of technical experts responsible for providing technical support, capacity building, and coordination on disability-inclusive humanitarian action within their respective organizations and the broader humanitarian community. Both groups operate under the Disability Inclusion Working Group (DIWG) and sub-protection Cluster from both Somalia and Somaliland.



The Paralympic Games are a major international multi-sport event for athletes with disabilities. They are held every four years, following the Olympic Games, and feature athletes who compete in a range of disabilities, such as visual impairment, mobility impairment, intellectual disabilities, and others. Somalia is not part of the national, regional, and international



## PARALYMPIC GAMES IN SOMALIA TO CREATRE INVIROMENT

On Wednesday 18 September 2024, SDN organized an inclusive sports event to create awareness in the communities the aim of the event is to make an awareness campaign for the Paralympic Games and show the community that people with disabilities can take part in all social Activities and remove bad perceptions such as stigmatization .

The Event took place in Beerta Banadir in Mogadishu it was one of the most interesting games that ever happened in Stadium Beerta Bandir, the viewers were shocked at how people with disabilities played and this changed their perceptions.

The wheelchair handball match between two teams among wheelchair users has presented one of the most exciting games in the stadium where they have good skills for wheelchair running and ball taking in the game. The amputee football match between two teams made an interesting play in the studio where most fans and people watching made lough for the skills of the teams.



The visually impaired teams played goal ball matches between two visually impaired teams with balls that were different from the normal balls available in the markets

### The overall objectives

1. Arrange inclusive sports events and public outreach campaigns to raise community awareness for issues of Disability inclusion to take part in all social Activities.
2. Organize Paralympic games for three Teams from physically challenged persons and visually impaired persons through matches of public awareness campaigns for Disability inclusion.

### Outcome

1. Public attitude changed for the community to realize the rights and role of persons with disabilities in sports and paralimetic games.
2. Increased participation in recreational programs for persons with a disability physically challenged and visually impaired persons.
3. promoted Disability inclusion for the person with a disability through paralimetic games and playing

matches for different types of disability people.

### Key recommendations

1. Mr. Diyow a member of the wheelchair handball team I feel that nothing can disappoint our ambition for professional Paralympic players in Somalia and internationally
2. Mr. Ahmed a member of the Amputee football team, as persons with disabilities we organized ourselves with scarce resource expenses for sports football, and athletics for the members of the amputee youth and children. On our side, there are some problems surrounding us, making us limited to being actively involved in the amputee sports football and athletics in Somalia
3. Mr. Dalmar Cadow Malin a member of the visually impairment team, we thank SDN for organizing this game with the support of Save the Children International through the TOFI program we are very pleased to make an attitude change, we showed the community and stakeholders of Somali sports that Disability can an able to take part all social activities.





## DISABILITY INCLUSION COALITION ESTABLISHMENT

On 10 December 2024, Garowe Puntland SDN participated in a four-day training workshop on UNCCRP shadow and the establishment of Tusk force. The participants gained skills for shadow report drafting.

The member worked on the establishment of the Tusk force for shadow report drafting. The member made frame work establishment the team from the network. Some of the participants disagreed with the intervention from the donors and facilitators.

Finally, some of the OPDs proposed extending the partnership. Some others quit the establishment framework work, including SDN, representing 15 organizations

On 17 December 2024 in Mogadishu, Members from the OPDs organized several days of consultation meetings in Mogadishu, which led to the establishment of the ad hoc coalition working on disability inclusion in Somalia.

Participated in over 23 ODPs where they made the announcement about the Somali disability inclusion coalition that has strong stakeholders representing large ODPs with over 23 members. The mandate of the coalition is the coordination of overall disability inclusion work in Somalia. Engagement with government institutions, advocacy constitution work inclusion disability, draft the state report, and pass national disability act the government.

Members of the ODPs and PWDs in the country appreciated the establishment of the disability inclusion coalition with their commitment and contributions rather intervention





### Wheelchair Distribution to persons with Disabilities with the support Gift of Givers

On 15 October 2024, the Somali Disability network distributes wheelchairs to persons with disabilities with the support of gifts of givers.

32 persons have benefited from these wheelchairs and most of them vulnerable in the community children with disabilities, women with disabilities, and even older patient's people. SDN thanks Gift of Givers for their collaboration and their support.

In line with CRPD and disability inclusion, responsibility for access to assistive technology for all people with impairment. SDN worked to ensure this in the strategic plan of action. There are hundreds or thousands of PWDs who have mobility aid problems in Somalia. These people consist of all types of people: the children, youth, and aging people of both male and female.

Children with disabilities need more mobility aid that can help them secure mobility. To go the schools and child friendly spaces in the public gardens equally the children with out impairment who are more accessible the movement in the day to day operation of world.

The youth with impairment need assistive technology that can help them reshape their lives with more accessibility free from any barriers in the social, development, culture, and education. There are several PWD youth in secondary and university in Somalia. Of course, they have diverse impairments, physical, hearing, and sight.



## SOMALI CHILDREN

Most Children with disabilities in Somalia face a variety of challenges in life, often requiring extra support, understanding, and accommodations.

Some of the main problems they may encounter include:

Children with physical disabilities often face challenges in accessing public spaces, schools, or playgrounds that are not designed to accommodate their needs. This can limit their participation in social and educational activities. Inaccessible transportation systems or vehicles can make it difficult for children with disabilities to travel to school, appointments, or other social events. Not all schools are equipped with the necessary resources or trained staff to support children with disabilities, which can affect their ability to receive quality education.

Children with disabilities may be segregated from their peers due to lack of inclusive practices or because of physical limitations, leading to feelings of loneliness and exclusion.

Some children may not have access to the therapy or specialized learning resources they need to thrive academically or socially.

Children with disabilities are often subject to bullying or discrimination, which can harm their self-esteem and emotional well-being. The challenges of dealing with physical or cognitive impairments, along with social exclusion, can increase the risk of mental health issues, including anxiety, depression, or low self-confidence.

Children with disabilities may struggle to make and maintain friendships social interaction due to communication barriers or social isolation. Social stigma and a lack of awareness among peers can contribute to rejection or exclusion, which can

impact their social development.

Families with children with disabilities often face significant medical and care-related expenses, which can lead to financial strain. Specialized therapies, medications, equipment, or home modifications can be expensive. Parents or guardians may need to adjust their work schedules or provide additional care at home, potentially resulting in lost income or other career challenges.

This forced some of the parents and guardian to make money by begging the streets with children in wheelchairs

Children with disabilities may have an increased risk of other health issues, such as respiratory problems, heart conditions, or chronic pain, depending on the nature of their disability.

Children with multiple or severe disabilities may require ongoing medical attention, which can be physically, emotionally, and financially taxing for families.

As children with disabilities grow older, they may face difficulties transitioning to adulthood. This can include challenges with finding employment, living independently, or accessing further education. After leaving the education system, young adults with disabilities may struggle to find adequate support or services, which can affect their ability to live fulfilling lives.



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KA HORTAGA TACADIYADDA KA DHANKA  
DUMARKA IYO GABDHABA NAAFADA AH

**16 GBV**  
**DAYS** **25 Nov 10 Dec 2024**

AAN HUBINO BADQABKA IYO DIFAACA  
DUMARKA YO GABDHABA NAAFADA  
DHIBAATOYINKA KA DHANKA AH

**Let us Insure Protection and  
Safety of Women and Girls With  
Disability From All Violence**

DUMARKA WA HOOYO, WALAAL IYO CARUURTEYNA

**The Theme: DRAWING ATTENTION TO THE ALARMING ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

On Thursday, 10 December 2024, an event is held in Mogadishu to magnify the gender based violence against the women and girls in Somalia. A group of female disability rights protection activists organized the event. HINDWO HiDIG Disability Women Organization and BOWDO Banadir disability women organization.

The event is held in the SDN office jointly by two member organizations of SDN Somali Disability Network that work on gender disability inclusion protection. The 16-day GBV event is participated in by several organizations, mostly

from the DPOs (disabled people organizations. The people who participated in the event were 20 persons, most of them females from the disability people and the non-disability people.

The problems raised in the meeting are more the violation against the human rights, discrimination for social, economic, marriage and dements. The discrimination in the humanitarian and development programs. In a country heavy depend of humanitari-

an aid. Nearly have of the population deepen it. The PWDs are the people who need humanitarian aid for the basic lives, health care and shelter.

#### THE DISCUSSION MADE IN THE EVENT.

The participants in the event exchanged ideas that present the overall gender disability protection and empowerment in Somalia. And the overall violations that exist around in the country. In some cases females with disabilities lose support and protection from organized crimes. Where women and young girls with disabilities are vulnerable to the crimes.

**1. VULNERABILITY OF THE GBV**  
Some of the participants raised cases and arguments that the majority of the females with disabilities are women and young girls. Suffering weakness and lack of skills to mobilize prevention for the GBV and protection in the action of the GBV. A great number of disabled females have low levels education and skills that could help them identify protection and privation of the GBV from themselves.

**2. THE RESPOND FOR THE VICTIMS**

The women and girls with disabilities who is faced by GBV or VAW case should be given emergency respond. In the first reporting to the security institutions in the nearby area the crime happen. Note the case and collect supporting materials the medical report, the witness and material of action. In the theoretical case abuse verbal or restrict of right can also be documented and reported to the security institutions. And for any case of consecration of THE 16 DAYS GBV EVENT HELLD IN MOGADISHU 6 property and metical can be record- ed. Finally open file for the case with consent of person in the adult age, with consent of guardian or persons



## WOMEN AND YOUNG GIRLS WITH DISABILITIES PROBLEMS

Women and girls with disabilities in Somalia are great in the number compare to the male with disabilities. Most of them are hidden back woods or kept in the homes where they suffer some time disproportional human rights violation compare to the male with disabilities in Somalia who may have active involvement in the society. While female with disabilities suffer some time GBV violence against women.

In some cases women with disabilities are mostly widowed with one or two children divorced for their impairment in some conditions. Some of them their children taken by the family of the father while some other are left them without family support from the future.

Young girls with disabilities have another kind of problems compare to the young male with impairment. They don't get easily marriage because of their impairment. Most of the suffer barrier in the sating for their imparments. The young girls in the age of dat-ing are subjected violent attach

mostly verbal and in some occasion physical. Although rape exist so far we have not seen cases in court compare the justice of girls without impairment access for courts. In most cases violation against girls with impairment are solved by arbitrary laws among the family both the victims and offender.

Over all children, youth and women with impairments in Somalia suffer equally more with Somalia people in the post conflict state Somalia served more than three decades of armed conflicts. A fragile state recovering destruction in the public and the private sectors.

There number of females with impairments realizing the need to join the disability inclusion and established organization serving girls and women with disabilities in Somalia. These organizations are not popular In the civil society equally the organization led by male with disabilities.

In the education sector Somali girls with impairment are very law

in the enrolment for the education compare to the male with impairment. Beside the girls with disabilities face disproportional education dropouts for verity reason.

Discrimination as genders, disability and barriers in the education instructions infrastructures ad-hoc toilets and dressing room for the girls students with impairments.

In the employment women and young girls suffer exclusion for their impairment attributed attitudinal discriminations that some of the employers believe that they very weak physical and sensory to accomplish their duties in the job. This has subjected female with impairment higher rate of unployed in the society and in the disability people.





## celebration of international white cane safety day 15th -October 2025

on 15 October 2024 SDN organized a celebration of International White Cane Safety Day with the promotion of Inclusion Celebrating Abilities and Advocating Access for People with visual impairment.

This event has gained the eyes of many people who admired how visually impaired persons use the white cane with their hands in the street. The event involved 30 people most of the participants were persons with visual impairment people both male and female made awareness that gained a lot of eyes.

### Overall objective

- To increase public understanding of the importance of white cane which users with visual impairment.
- To encourage the Drivers to respect white can users while passing streets and understand it's a sign of people living with visual impairments.

### outcome

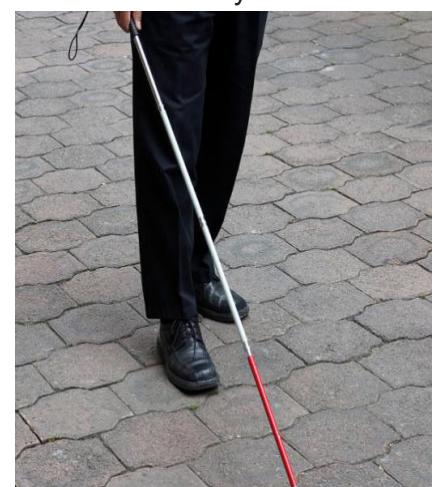
- Increased public understanding of the significance of a white cane and the rights of people with visual impairment
- Reduced the stigmatization associated with blindness and promoted an inclusive society
- Enhanced inclusive attitudes in communities, a supportive environment where visually impaired people are respected and included in all aspects of life.

### Key challenges

1. Drivers may not always see cane users, especially in busy intersections or poorly lit areas, increasing the risk of accidents.
2. Insufficient access to orientation and mobility training can leave users unprepared for navigating complex environments
3. High noise levels can make it difficult for cane users to detect sounds that help with orientation, such as traffic or other pedestrians

### Key recommendations

1. Implement campaigns to educate drivers about sharing the road with visually impaired pedestrians, emphasizing the need for vigilance.
2. Promote universal design principles in urban planning to create environments that are inherently accessible for all users.
3. Encourage the development and accessibility of assistive technologies that can complement the white cane, such as GPS devices and smart mobility aids.



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### Public hearing on national disability Bill organized by Upper house parliament Somalia

On 05 October 2024 in Mogadishu the upper house committee for justice and human rights organized public hearing for the national disability act participated by CSOs, PWDs, ODPs, legislators, ministries and speaker of the upper house the 11th parliament of Somalia FG.

The public hear was to make consultation the PWDs in the drafting process of the national disability which passed the house of the people and is now in front of the senate upper house. The participants were given the chance to make input. The article that need to be changed, removed and new inputs.

SDN has made contribution the consultation with some five article new, 6 articles amendment and three article removal. Specifically the role of the ODPs, PWDs in the implementation, establishment national disability fund account, establishment ad hoc committee for national disability inclusion in Somalia and the details of the disabled people participation the employment, policy and election.

SDN took consultation meeting public hear of the national disability act 2023 draft progress in the house of the bill with committee human rights and women and child protection for house of the people 11th par-

liament. This is the third time participated national disability public hearing.

The speaker of the parliament upper house, Senator Abdul hashi Abdullahi promised to the PWDs immediate pass for the draft bill if stakeholder of the public hearing for national disability act does the work.



## ZERO TOLERANCE DISCRIMINATION DAY

on 1 march 2024 in Mogadishu Somalia Marked the international Zero Tolerance

Discrimination Day on 1 March 2024 with the Paralympic Games supported by Astaan Sport TV. with the theme of Team Isku Mid.

The match ended with 9-7. the of Mr Mahdi is beaten by Mr. Ciiltire 2-0. an amazing game unusual



## ADVOCACY INCLUSIVE ELECTION AND ELECTROL PROCESS

21st November 2024 SDN organized a one-day advocacy workshop in Mogadishu, Somalia on, to address the inclusion of persons with disabilities (PWDs) in electoral processes.

The workshop served as a platform for knowledge-sharing, open debates, and expert panel discussions, culminating in actionable recommendations for policymakers, electoral officials, and advocates.

The workshop highlighted the systemic marginalization of PWDs in Somalia's electoral processes. Despite existing frameworks like the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the lack of implementation continues to hinder the active participation of PWDs in elections.

This workshop was designed as a critical platform to address the persistent challenges that

persons with disabilities (PWDs) face in accessing their political rights, particularly within the context of electoral participation in Somalia.

### Overall objective

- 1 . Advocate for the inclusion of PWDs in Somalia's electoral processes.
2. Promote understanding of the barriers and challenges faced by PWDs during elections.
3. Facilitate knowledge-sharing among disability and civil society organizations on best practices for inclusive electoral advocacy.

**INCLUSIVE  
ELECTION**

## Panel Discussion

The panel discussion featured six experts from various sectors, including electoral bodies, disability advocacy groups, and technology developers. The panel focused on the following key themes:

1. The Status of Somalia's Electoral Processes
2. Challenges and Opportunities for PWDs in Elections
3. Steps Toward Achieving Inclusive Electoral Systems

## Challenges

1. Inaccessible Voting Stations and Materials
2. Insufficient Representation of PWDs in Decision-Making Bodies
3. Lack of Awareness and Understanding among Electoral Bodies

## Recommendations

1. Advocate for the Inclusion of PWDs in Electoral Policies and Legislation
2. Train Electoral Officials and Policymakers on Disability Inclusion
3. Ensure Physical and Digital Accessibility of Polling Stations
4. Educate Communities about the Importance of PWDs' Participation in Elections
5. Promote PWDs in Leadership and Decision-Making Roles within Electoral Bodies
6. Develop Mechanisms to Track Progress in Inclusive Electoral Practices

# INCLUSIVE ELECTORAL PROCESS



## ADVOCACY INCLUSION PWDs IN ELECTION AND ELECTORAL PROCESS



## International Day of Persons with Disabilities 3rd December 2024

The International Commemoration Day of Disability was celebrated in Mogadishu, Somalia, on December 3, 2024, under the theme "Leadership of Persons with Disabilities for an Inclusivity and Sustainable Future. The event provided a platform to reflect on the progress made and the challenges remaining in fostering inclusivity for People with Disabilities (PWDs) in Somalia.

Key achievements in promoting inclusivity were

participants also examined persistent challenges, including limited access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities for PWDs, as well as the stigma and discrimination that hinder their full participation in society.



International  
Day of  
Persons with  
Disabilities  
3 DECEMBER

acknowledged, such as legislative advancements, increased advocacy efforts, and the growing recognition of disability rights.

## Challenges raised

1. Barriers faced by PWDs: This section likely delved into the systemic and structural obstacles that continue to affect PWDs in Somalia.
2. Inaccessibility: Lack of physical infrastructure, such as wheelchair-accessible buildings, public transportation, and inclusive sanitation facilities.
3. Education: Limited availability of accessible educational resources, lack of trained teachers on disability-inclusive methodologies, and a scarcity of special education schools or integrated classrooms.
4. Employment: High unemployment rates among PWDs, compounded by discrimination in hiring processes and workplaces that fail to accommodate the needs of disabled employees.
5. Technology: Digital platforms and assistive technologies could provide new opportunities for education, work, and social engagement for PWDs

## Recommendation

1. Ensure healthcare services, including mental health services, are accessible and tailored to the needs of PWDs.
2. Train healthcare professionals to provide specialized care for PWDs, including understanding the specific needs of women and girls with disabilities.
3. Strengthen collaborations with international organizations, leveraging global expertise and resources to support local disability inclusion initiatives.
3. Allocate a specific percentage of the national budget for disability-inclusive development, ensuring sustainable funding for disability-related programs



# Live radio talk shows campaigns/panel discussions as the celebration of the 3 December International Day of Persons with Disabilities, 2024

Presented by: Somali Disability Network (SDN)

Supported by: Save the Children the International

16, DECEMBER 2024

RADIO GOOBJOOG

16, DECEMBER 2024



## Live radio talk shows campaigns/panel discussions as the celebration of the International Day of Persons with disabilities

On 16 and 17 December 2024 SDN organized live Radio Talk show campaign\panel discussion celebration of 3rd December International Day of Persons with disabilities. SDN celebrated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities by holding live radio Talk show comping, the aim is a debate on the rights of people with disabilities and the progress made by disability organizations in the recognition of the rights of people with disabilities in Somalia.

This debate was held on Goobjog media group and Radio Danan. The Discussion focused on the barriers faced by persons with disabilities and the progress made by disabled people in the last 10 years. The debate is a discussion in which the whole

community participates by listening to the debate on Radio FM, the participants express their views and ask questions to the panel list from the debate and the community listening to the radio FM,

### Overall objective

1. To raise public awareness, foster meaningful dialogue, and inspire collective action toward the inclusion, accessibility, and empowerment of persons with disabilities, in alignment with the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.
2. To commemorate the International Day of Persons with Disabilities promote disability inclusion and create an equal society for persons with disabilities

### Topics discussed

- Celebration of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on December 3, 2024.
- The situation of persons with disabilities in the last ten years and what has been achieved
- Importance of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- Discrimination and Abuse Faced by Persons with Disabilities

### Recommendations

- to raise awareness of discrimination against Somali women with disabilities.
- To create business opportunities for disabled Somali women.
- There should be equal participation for all communities.
- To increase such debate of talking the issues of disability rights





## World Day of Remembrance Road Accident Victims 17 November 2024

World Day Of Road Accident Victims Remembrance event is held in Mogadishu on 17 November 2024 in the office of the SDN Somali Disability Network. Every year the third Sunday of November is organized in the world. Remember the number of people gets accidents in the world some die and some got nasty wounds that may lead to disability.

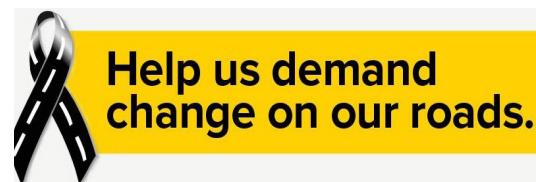
The event is organized by members from the disabled people and their ODPs organizations network. A brief of the event is made by the members of the Somali Disability Network one of the largest ODPs consortiums in Somalia with over 15 organizations serving protection, humanitarian aid, education, shelter and health care for the PWDs in Somalia. The World Day of remembrance for Road Traffic victims is firstly established in 1993 by the European Union Road Safety Council and endorsed by the United Nations the year 2005. Many countries in the world accepted the day as an international for tribute of the people who lost their lives and survivors of the world victims traffic road accidents. To ensure the rights of the families of dead persons or survivors who are suffering the legacy of the accidents.

In Somalia where there are countless road accidents

every day that cause both death and wounds which may lead disability to for the victim people. Most of these victims suffer a lack of support for medical treatment where majority of the victims are faced with negligence which may result in death and loss of limbs or permanent disability.

### Objective of Event

1. To organize an event the World Day of Road Accident Victims Remembrance in Mogadishu Somalia
2. To raise the legacy of road accidents in Mogadishu the capital city of Somalia
3. To raise the disabled people's problems in the public roads and streets movement
4. propose active measures and policies for road safety and the improvement of driving skills and behavior



## The participants of the event

The people estimated to participate are 50 both male and female with representation of the main types of disabilities. 31 persons participated in the meeting physically, while 19 participants in the online platform to make wider the participation. The majority of the people who participated in the event are disability while some other number participated in non-disabled society.

## The findings of the Event

1. Lack of traffic light technologies in the streets of Mogadishu is the largest cause of the traffic risk on the roads of Mogadishu the capital city of Somali.
2. Most survivors of road traffic accidents suffer inaccessibility to rehabilitation that can support them get physiotherapy to regain their health.
3. Disability resulting from road accidents can lead to significant economic hardship for individuals and families. Survivors may face high medical costs and long-term care needs.
4. Broken bones, joint injuries, and ligament damage can result in chronic pain and limited mobility, affecting a person's ability to work, engage in physical activities



## The recommendation of the Event

1. Overall drivers need improvement professional skilled trained persons can get a license for driving both vehicles and motorcycles may improve the safety of all people using the streets.
2. Awareness-raising programs for the education of symbols should include the symbols of disability people both visually impaired white cane stick, deaf people, and physical disability persons symbols, and enhance the skills of the drivers for the protection of disability people in the street.
3. Overall motor and motorcycle fitness for driving in the street is important it can reduce the risk of vehicles with poor conditions driving in the streets of Mogadishu this can improve driving the roads.



The main causes of road accidents include High volumes of traffic, which can lead to congestion, tailgating, and sudden stops, increasing the chance of rear-end collisions. Inadequate or malfunctioning traffic signals and signs can create confusion and increase the risk of accidents.

# 10

## DECEMBER

### 2024



**SDIF**  
SOMALIA  
DISABILITY  
INCLUSION  
FORUM  
MADASHADA DADKA NAAFADA

## INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

**Theme “Our rights, our future, right now.”**



### International Human Rights Day 10 December 2024

On 10 December 2024 International Day of Human Rights meeting is held in Mogadishu by many different groups the civil society and government. This meeting is held by members of the ODPs the organizations of persons with disabilities. The event is coordinated by the SDN Somali disability network with some of its members and other organizations working on human rights in Somalia.

The event is participated by 15 persons 4 females and 11 males representing most types of disability people the physically challenged and the visually impaired participated.

Overall human rights is an international day the 76th the seventh and sixth anniversary celebrated in worldwide the theme of the year is “Our rights, Our

Future, Right Now.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948. The declaration outlines fundamental human rights that should be protected for all people, regardless of nationality, ethnicity, gender, or religion.

Every year, Human Rights Day often features a specific theme that highlights particular human rights challenges or achievements. Events, discussions, and campaigns are organized worldwide to mark the occasion and encourage further progress toward the realization of human rights for all.

## The objectives of the meeting

- 1.Organize a meeting for International Human Rights Day 10 December 2024
- 2.To discuss the overall human rights in Somalia and disability
- 3.To raise awareness for the disability legislation disability act and CRPD
- 4.To produce a call-

### call to action

1. The federal government Ministry of Family and Human right Development should work on the implementation of CRPD and the national disability act with the NDA national disability agency and OPDS.
2. Ensure the implementation of real disability inclusion interventions and programs with partner the ODPs and PWDs in the decision-making and the implementation as well as the beneficiary of the programs in Somalia directly and indirectly.
3. The NDA national disability agency should demonstrate the implementation of its mandate for the protection and development of the PWDs and cooperation with ODPs the organizations representing the disability people's interests.



# UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

### Mainstreaming disabled people in the elections

The federal government of Somalia announced one person, one vote for the next election in 2026 in Somalia. This is a very good point where indirect election voted by small people selected from the population is stopped.

The federal government 11th parliament 5th session started government proposal constitutional reform work procedures.

SDN has worked on the mobilization of team leaders who will work the coordination of inclusiveness for election in Somalia 2026, specifically one man, one vote.



## Media Forum on Inclusive Education Advocacy Workshop

on 15 December 2024 The Somali Disability Network (SDN), in collaboration with Education For All Somalia (EFASOM), conducted a one-day advocacy workshop on inclusive Education in Mogadishu, to address the inclusion of persons with disabilities (PWDs) in education programs through media outreach. The event brought together 30 participants, including representatives from disability organizations, civil society organizations (CSOs), and other stakeholders, to identify challenges and propose solutions for fostering an inclusive education system in Somalia for people with disabilities. The inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in education programs is a critical component of democratic governance. In Somalia, the education landscape has historically excluded PWDs due to a combination of structural,

societal, and institutional barriers. These challenges are compounded by the lack of robust legal frameworks, inadequate implementation of international conventions, and deeply ingrained societal stigmas.

Participants explored the existing legal frameworks, such as the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), and assessed Somalia's progress in adhering to international commitments to PWD inclusion. Despite the country's ratification of the CRPD and other international agreements, implementation gaps remain wide, often resulting in the continued marginalization of PWDs.

## Workshop Objectives

1. Advocate for the inclusion of PWDs in Somalia's education programs.
2. Promote understanding of the barriers and challenges faced by PWDs during education.
3. Facilitate knowledge-sharing among disability and civil society organizations on best practices for inclusive education advocacy.
4. Develop actionable recommendations for policy-makers, education sector, and CSOs.

## Key speakers

Anab Muhiyadin Abdullahi, Project Officer of EFASOM, provided a broader perspective on the importance of inclusive education programs as part of a holistic approach to community development and empowerment. Anab's speech highlighted the role of civil society organizations, such as EFASOM, in advocating for marginalized groups and facilitating dialogue between local communities and policymakers. She stressed the need for continued advocacy for equal rights, noting that while progress has been made, there is still much to be done to ensure that education systems are accessible and inclusive.

Abdullahi Hassan, Chairperson of the Institute of Education for Disability People (IEDP), addressed the participants by underscoring

the critical link between education, public participation, and disability inclusion. He noted that persons with disabilities often face significant barriers not only in accessing education but also in understanding their rights and participating in education programs

## Recommendations

1. Educate stakeholders on the importance of providing reasonable accommodations, including assistive technologies, sign language interpreters, and accessible education places.
2. Provide accessible education facilities in formats suitable for PWDs, such as large print, Braille, and audio formats.
3. Launch advocacy campaigns targeting policymakers, lawmakers, and education committees to highlight the necessity of disability-inclusive education reforms.





## Two-Day Workshop on CRPD Convention rights for Persons with Disabilities with support NDA

A two-day workshop on the rights of persons with disabilities (PWDs) under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) was successfully held in Mogadishu from November 24 to 25, 2024.

Organized by the Somali Disability Network (SDN) in collaboration with the National Disability Agency (NDA), the workshop aimed to enhance the understanding and capacity of disability-focused organizations, government bodies, and civil society organizations (CSOs) to effectively implement CRPD principles in Somalia.

The event brought together 34 participants, including 24 individuals with disabilities, representing various sectors. Among them were 17 women and 17 men, ensuring a balanced and inclusive discussion. The participants engaged in comprehensive dialogues on the practical application of CRPD principles, highlighting key challenges faced by PWDs in Somalia and identifying actionable solutions to address these gaps. Discussions focused on aligning national policies and legal frameworks with CRPD guidelines to ensure the full inclusion and empowerment of PWDs in all aspects of society. The workshop marked a significant

step toward reinforcing the capacity of stakeholders to advocate for and implement policies that uphold the dignity, rights, and inclusion of PWDs in Somalia. It also underscored the critical role of collaboration in ensuring the effective realization of CRPD principles at the local and national levels.

### Workshop objectives

1. Increase Awareness: Enhance participants' understanding of the CRPD Convention and the rights of persons with disabilities.
2. Promote Collaboration: Foster collaboration between disability organizations, government ministries, and CSOs for better advocacy and engagement.
3. Advocate for Inclusion: Strengthen advocacy efforts to ensure the recognition and implementation of disability rights in Somalia.

### Key speakers

1. Abdiwali Mohamed Ahmed, the Program Coordinator of the Iftin Foundation, echoed the commitment to fostering an inclusive environment for marginalized communities, particularly people with disabilities. Abdiwali emphasized the need for continuous collaboration and dialogue among organizations, government institutions, and community

leaders to build a society where no one is left behind.

2. Abdullahi Hussein Osman, the Chairperson of the Somali Disability Network (SDN), highlighted the critical role of inclusivity in building a more equitable society for people with disabilities. He emphasized the importance of raising awareness about the challenges faced by PWDS.

### Recommendations

1. Provide training for health, education, and social service professionals to increase their knowledge of disability-friendly practices, universal design, and providing accessible services for PWDs.
2. Conduct a national census to obtain accurate data on the number of PWDs in Somalia, their living conditions, and the barriers they face in accessing education, healthcare, employment, and social services.
3. Strengthen the capacity of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), government agencies, and disability organizations to implement CRPD effectively in Somalia

#CRPD-Somalia

# International Disability Day 2024 Event Organized By WFP In Mogadishu

On Monday, 02 December 2024, SDN participated in the international disability day held in Mogadishu at Digale Hotel pre-organized event to mark the IDD 2024. The event was "Amplifying the leadership of persons with disabilities for an inclusive and sustainable future". Event was organized by WFP Somalia office and participated by different people from the CSOs, ODPs PWDs, united nation office, NDA and ministries.

In the event panel discussion was made participated several person two from the PWDs, two from the UN agencies and one persons from the CSOs Somalia. Protection, accessibility, and implementation of the disability inclusion has the core points discussed

## The Panel discussion

A group panelist from the UN, PWDs, and Government have debated and answered questions from the participants. What is the barriers and problems facing disabled people in Somalia? Mostly

argued the disability exclusion and inclusion in Somalia.

## The key speakers in the event

Mrs. Christian Young the head of the HRPG office for the United Nation Transposal Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNTMIS) presented that protection of human rights and the implementation of the UNCRPD can contribute best to disability inclusion in Somalia with cooperation OPDs and the NDA along with broader disability inclusion stakeholders in Somalia.

Mrs. Wafaa Saeed the UNICEF Somalia residence coordinator participating in the event, said UNICEF budget includes disability inclusion. We have employed several experts for inclusion, we mainstreamed cross-cutting issues for disabled people, mostly the children with disabilities in the inclusive education programs. We appreciate the participation of such this event

Mr. George Conway deputy special repressive of the SG, resident and humanitarian coordination for the United Nations Transitional Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNTMIS) said they are very much interested in disability inclusion in the humanitarian coordination. The United national disability Inclusion Strategic Plan will be adopted in Somalia. The UNCRPD implementation can help the solution of the all mentioned problems and concern of the disability people in Somalia.

Mr. Mohamed Osman the deputy minister for the family and human rights ministry in Somalia, said we are working very hard to reach a point that we can insure the protection, empowerment, and development of Somali disability people. So far, we have worked and made progress. the ministry of femali and human rights

#WFPSomalia  
#AccesibiliyMatters





# XUSKA MALINTA DHALINARADA ADUUNKA

## INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY AUGUST 12- 2024

**THEME: FROM CLICK TO PROGRESS= YOUTH DIGITAL PATHWAY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**INTERNATIONAL  
YOUTH DAY  
AUGUST 12**

 SDN Office



INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY ORGANIZED BY DISABILITY YOUTH.

On 12 August 2024, Members of Somali disability people youth with disabilities organized an event for the International Youth Day. Organized by SDN Somali Disability Network.

The event, held in Mogadishu at the SDN office conference room, was attended by nearly 20 people, including PWDs and non-disabled members of the youth and students. The participants made speeches and lectures about the International Youth Day.

The members from the youth persons acknowledge

the role of the government to support the PWDs Persons with disability is good. Establishment of a national disability agency 2020-2024 The four-year mandate ends this year. They demand accountability and transparency for the selection of the new council.

The youth with disability expressed their concern in the exclusion of the development programs where they have no role the disability inclusion project. There are a number of disability specialists and experts employed by donors and local agencies most these jobs are occupied by non disabled persons.

2024 Embracing Unity and Freedom". Theme:"Vaccines for a Healthier Future". Theme:"Inclusive Quality Education".



## TVET program for Disability people SANCA CENTER

Sanca Center for the disability people care and development is based in Mogadishu and established 2016 by groups people most of them disability people.

The center works the support for the disabled people and their families with humanitarian aid, technical vocational skills training and employment service for the youth and the adult people in Mogadishu.

Sanca Center has several departments that serve collectively the improvement the livelihood for the disability class for training handcraft skills sewing machines, welding, beauty salon and henna arts for the women, food cooking arts, home decorations and carpenter, masonry and plumber. These people the disabled people and members of their families.





**20 December 2024**

**Maalinta Caalamiga ah  
ee Wadajirka Aadanaha**

**International Human  
Solidarity Day**

## **Theme**

**Social Inclusion, Poverty Eradication, And Global Cooperation.**

### **INTERNATIONAL HUMAN SOLIDARITY DAY 2024**

On 20 December 2024, an International Human Solidarity conference was held. The event is attended by 15 persons, male and females most of them PWDs and DPOs. The theme of the year was social inclusion, poverty eradication, and global cooperation. Members participating in the meeting have made arguments and discussion for human solidarity where PWDs and the non-disabled people can share commonalities in the social and policy in Somalia.

The members discuss poverty and disability in Somalia, which has disproportional consequences to the people. The majority of PWDs and unemployed individuals are in the largest ratio in poverty. The participants discussed the disability people protection laws, the CRPD signed Somali government 2019, which has not been implemented effectively on the ground in Somalia. Where education, health, and employment are very low.

The political participation of the government and the partnership with donors by the ODPs is very low, nearly zero. The employment for the public and pri-

vate sector the PWDs professional is very low. The members participating in the meeting raised the unity of the PWDs and ODPs in an organized platform.

The establishment campaign to mobilize the ODPs and PWDs to join the Somali disability inclusion coalition was recently established by 23 ODPs in Mogadishu on 17 December 2024 after three days of consecutive disability inclusion consultation and training workshop.



# Two days of CRPD Training shadow Report and process of writing

Disability inclusion coalition I established in Mogadishu by groups PWDs and ODPs, after three days of discussion for the disability inclusion and CRPD implementation. The training and consultation meeting is participated by 40 persons representing 23 organizations, institutions and schools serving disability inclusion education, humanitarian aid and human right protection in Somalia

The participant realized the need bad for the establishment united platform that can bring in one umbral the diverse organizations and institutions operation in the country Banadir region and federal state region representatives. Where members has

voted the establishment of the coalition, the structure, the mandate and the duration of leadership.

This coalition will fill in the gap in the disability inclusion in Somalia where the overall work are diverse scattered without united collaborations , procedures and regulation of action for the day-to-day operations of the coalition. Where most of the PWDs and ODPs representative underscore the hope for better achievement for the objective and goals of the disability inclusion in Somalia.

The objective of the Training Organize a day's workshop to training the ODPs the UN-CRPD report the state and

shadow report. The ODPs advocate for the government to submit a state report to the CRPD, which Somalia ratified in 2019. To establish a coalition that advocates CRPD state report drafting work

The achievement was that the participant has learn the CRPD article and specifically the reporting articles that elaborates the implementation cycle Article 33 - National implementation and monitoring, Article 34 - Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Article 35 - Reports by States Parties, Article 36 - Consideration of reports, Article 37 - Cooperation between States Parties and the Committee.





## OPDS CONSULTATION MEETING WITH THE GOVERNMENT Organized BY SDN

One Monday, 11 November 2024, a consolation meeting is held in Mogadishu for the OPDs, the organizations of Persons with disabilities, the civil society, and the government of Somalia. The meeting is aimed at the consultation for the UN CRPD implementation, the adoption of the articles, and the establishment of human rights protection organ. The meeting made it possible to open dialogue between the OPDs and the government.

Members from the persons with disability organizations network in Somalia took a consultation meeting with government institutions in line with disability inclusion. The Banadir region disability directorate, national disability agency and ministry of family and human right development in the federal government of Somalia. The disability inclusion process is working as a starting

point where political participation is written in the national disability act passed by the parliament early this month.

The OPDs meeting with government implementation procedures was very important and supportive to the invitation, coordination for the target participants of the OPDs consultation with government institutions. The SDN network is very much pleased with teenagers. Next month, OPDs will work the coordination of meeting where fund sources may be positive for the beneficiaries in the humanitarian aid, development programs, human rights protection, and political participations.

The panel discussion is made for the participants with questions leading the UN CRPD implementation in the country Somalia. The conference organizer

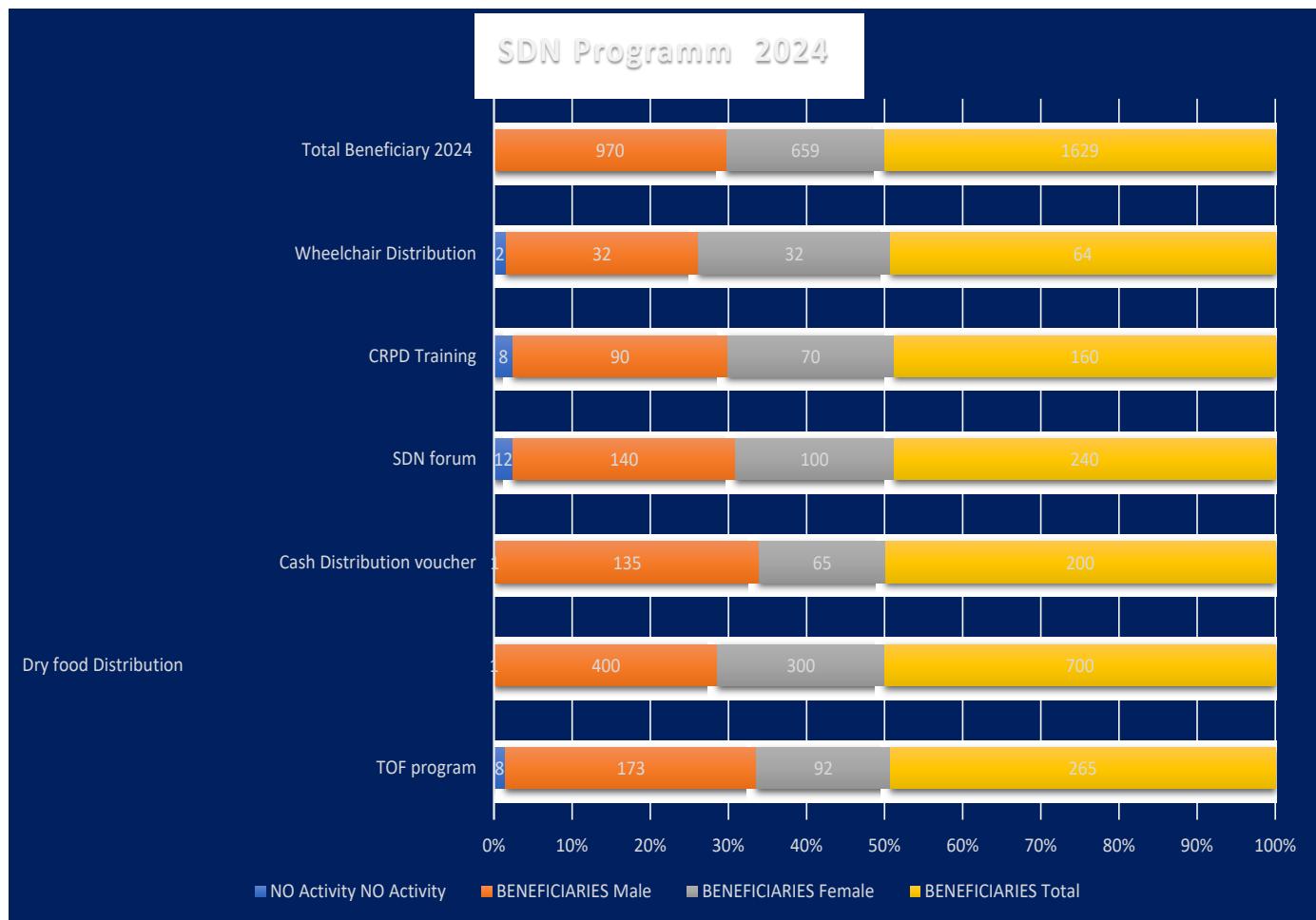
organized two panel discussions with different people. Panel one was invited with OPDs network, Banadir region disability directorate, national disability agency, and the ministry of family and human rights development in Somalia.

Participants are given two minutes to ask two to three questions more relevant to topics and questions for the UND CRPD implementation process the establishment bodies, committees for the disability rights working people. Or the drafting of the state report from the government and the shadow report for the children with disability in Somalia,

Disability inclusion stakeholder: the SDN Somali Disability Network, Banadir Region Disability Director, NDA National Disability Agency and Ministry of Family and Human Rights

# ANNUAL PROGRESS INFOGRAPHIC DATA

No	Activity Name	No Activity	Beneficiaries		
			Male	Female	Total
1	TOF program	8	173	92	265
2	Dry food Distribution	1	400	300	700
3	Cash Distribution voucher	1	135	65	200
4	SDN forum	12	140	100	240
6	CRPD Training	8	90	70	160
6	Wheelchair Distribution	2	32	32	64
			970	659	1629



# LIST OF OPD MEMBERS

NO	ORGANIZATION FULL NAME	ACRONYM
1	Somali disability cluster	SDC
2	Institute Education for disabled people	iEDP
3	Somali disability people development organization	SDPPSO
4	Dayah Disability organization	DDO
5	Banadir Women's Disability Organization	BOWDO
6	Sanco center Disability organization	SANCA CENTER
7	Visual impaired youth organization	UDHAN
8	<u>Hidig</u> disability women organization	HIDWA
9	Karama Disability organization	KARAMA
10	Somali organization for disabled women Empowerment	SODWE
11	Al <u>cadala</u> disability Camp	AL CADAALA
12	Somali Crowle Disability Organization	SCDO
13	Somali Disability Enterprise Cooperation	SDEC
14	Somali Disability Youth Association	SODYA
15	<u>Galmudg</u> Disability women Organization	GAWDO

## **The Closure of the Report**

In the closure of this annual report 2024 covering a year of growth, progress and challenges for the organization work in the engaged with stakeholders, satisfaction of beneficiaries and the partners of the program that we served jointly the above mentioned achievements for the implementation of the programs and partnership works. With donors that invested the program implemented to support mainstreaming disability inclusion in the private sector and public sector.

SDN implemented program that touches diverse areas and sectors for the interest of the beneficiaries and the goals of the partners. Protection program for the human rights, advocacy for the participation of decision making organs and the establishment of policies and laws, awareness raising for education, employment and social inclusion the PWD in Somalia. The establishment inclusive for communication and learning skills through nationalization of sign languages and braille.

SDN faced number of challenges in the implementation of the 2024 programs under staffed, limited capacity, limited funding to achieve its goals inline the vision and the mission of the network and member organizations in Somalia. The gap for the partnership with ODPs and the donors, the capacity injection of the staff and exclusion of the decision making tables and organs for the partnership, investments and grants. As well the exclusion of Somalia CSOs as full actor participating the election for the leadership.

## **The Recommendations of the Report**

SDN recommends to the members organizations the ODPs, the individual PWDs membership to be active and increased. Key source of the operations for the SDN that contribute pool of candidates' professional skilled. Partner donors and consultants that service technical guide and correction of the system, Managerial and staff

SDN recommends to the private sector in Somalia both profit and profit organizations NGOs, Business and professional skilled workers in Somalia to wake up and utilize inclusive for all participation in the both side in the private and public organs in Somalia. This can help to presented report the gaps, problems and the progress in every year in the disability inclusion in Somalia

SDN recommendation to the donors in Somalia the international NGOs, government funds and UN agencies work should be part of the disability inclusion implementation in Somalia. Primarily mainstreaming in the internal organization work, policies, system and strategic plan of action in Somalia offices and programs as well as the project. Specifically the participation of the staff recruitments and partnership organizations.

SDN recommendation to the government for the inputs and contribution of the PWDs and ODPs cooperation for the implementation of existing laws and policies like CRPD implementation and report state and shadow report from the Somalia. Mainstreaming disability inclusion all institutions of the FGS as cross cutting the education, health care, employment, public works, justice and investment all are very important to the disability inclusion in Somalia.