

Ownership and Sustainability

Training given to women councilors and the MOWDAFA will be imperative in strengthening their voice in governance and promoting peace building in Somalia.



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Promoting Women's Political Participation for Development of Peace and Security in Puntland

2012-2014



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Puntland Government of
Somalia

What is the Promoting Women's Political Participation for Development of Peace and Security in Puntland (PROWOPP) Project?

PROWOPP is a two year initiative being implemented by Adeso in Puntland, Somalia. The project is aimed at promoting gender equality and women's empowerment and political participation in Somalia to foster the development of an inclusive, transparent and accountable society. PROWOPP expects to reach 300 women councillors and women civil society organizations, in addition to working closely with the Puntland Ministry of Women Development and Family Affairs (MOWDAFA).

The initiative will provide consistent capacity development through technical support, institutional capacity building and training on various thematic areas, including: policy and advocacy; conflict resolution; and monitoring and evaluation. In addition, 100 men will receive training on inclusion of women in local governance issues, decision making and peace processes in order to make more space for women's participation in political and civil processes. The project will also provide technical and capacity building support to the MOWDAFA to prepare their 2012-2014 Strategic Plan and a consolidated gender strategy that will engage Somali women from different walks of life in their own peace and reconstruction efforts.

The PROWOPP project is supported by the European Union and will run from September 2012 until January August 2014, with funds of €597,488.

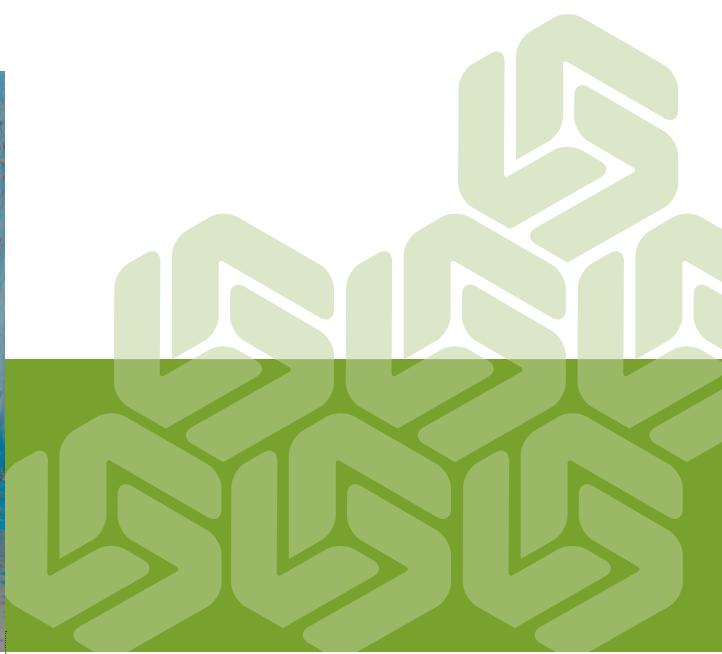


Women and Political Participation in Somalia

Despite the crucial role they play within society, Somali women are still not adequately involved in political decision-making, and are sidelined in their efforts to meaningfully participate in political processes. As such, politics and peace-making remain almost exclusively male domains.

Women are consistently excluded from key discussions and have little or no say in the development of Somali society. MOWDAFA's 2009-2011 Strategic Plan recognizes that Somali women continue to face poverty, food insecurity, lack of economic empowerment, limited participation in decision making and peace processes, and that the situation has deteriorated in the past decade. This is despite various international declarations and conventions, such as the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) which calls for women's participation in peace negotiations and in post-conflict reconstruction.

The situation calls for a gender sensitive response strategy which ensures that the UNSCR 1325 is integrated into a national action plan focusing on implementation mechanisms that will see women actively engage in political processes that will promote sustainable national development.



The impact of PROWOPP in Somalia

The PROWOPP initiative is expected to increase the number of women engaged in governance and peace processes in Puntland through:

Improved capacity of women civil society representatives and councillors' through training on various thematic areas, including: policy and advocacy; conflict resolution; and monitoring and evaluation.

- 300 women will be trained in self advocacy, political engagement and political organization
- 100 men will be trained on inclusion of women in local governance issues, decision making and peace processes.
- Provide technical and capacity building support to the MOWDAFA to prepare their 2012-2014 strategic plan.
- Train the MOWDAFA on understanding the UNSCR 1325.
- Support the development of an action plan for UNSCR 1325 that will ensure effective participation of women's representatives.

