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Darwin Initiative Extra Annual Report

To be completed with reference to the “Project Reporting Information Note”:

(<https://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/resources/information-notes/>)

It is expected that this report will be a **maximum of 20 pages** in length, excluding annexes)

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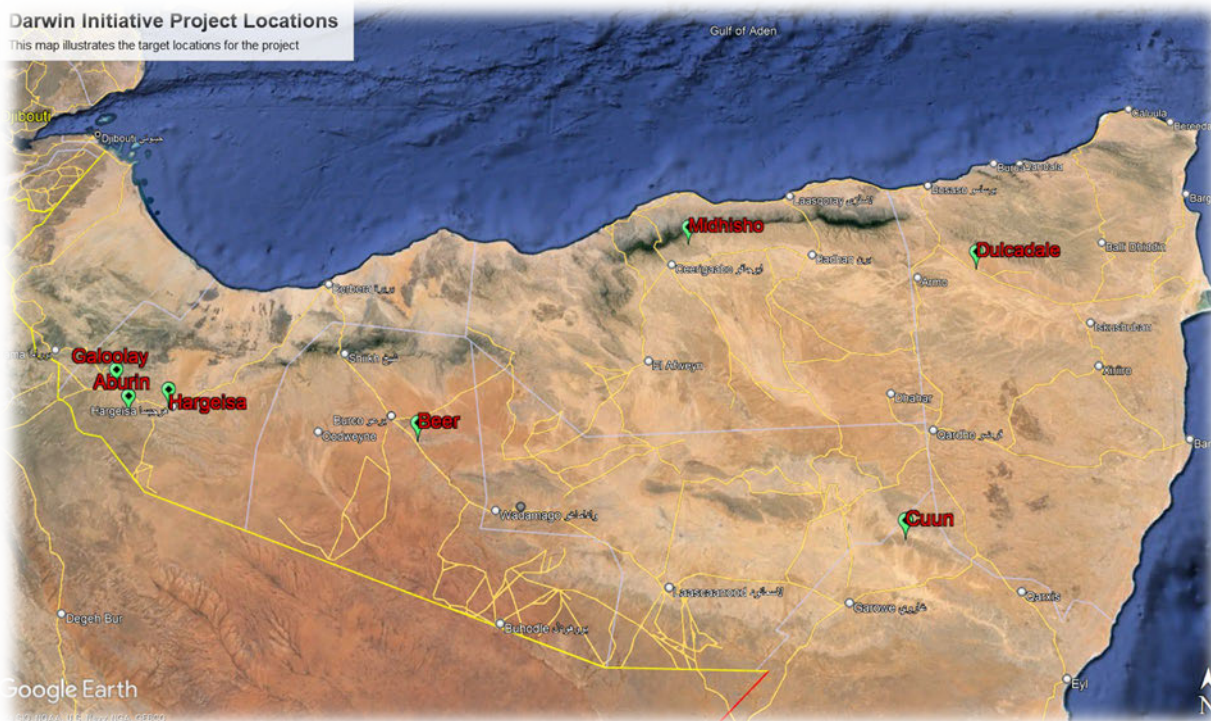
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Darwin Initiative Project Information

Project reference	DAREX003
Project title	Climate resilience, food, and livelihood security for agro-pastoralists in Somalia
Country/ies	Somalia (Somaliland and Puntland)
Lead Partner	The Development Fund of Norway
Project partner(s)	ADO, HAVOYOCO, KAALO and Amoud University
Darwin Initiative grant value	£2,276,561.00
Start/end dates of project	1st April 2022 – 31st March 2027
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2023 – Mar 2024) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	(1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024) Annual Report 2
Project Leader name	Elin Cecilie Ranum
Project website/blog/social media	Utviklingsfondet Somalia https://www.facebook.com/DevelopmentFundNorway/
Report author(s) and date	Elin Cecilie, Bjarte Birkeland. Jacob Walla, Issmael Shebal, Khadar Dahir, Maryam Mahamoud and Abdisamad Hassan

Darwin Initiative Project Locations

This map illustrates the target locations for the project



Map 1: Darwin Initiative Project Target Locations

1. Project summary

According to multiple documents “included Grant proposal and FY 2022 report”, both Somaliland and Puntland have suffered significant loss of plant genetic diversity, degradation of natural resources, agricultural land, and pasture areas. The civil war resulted in the loss of seeds and local varieties as the population fled the regions, leading to the collapse of research facilities, agriculture extension services agencies, and institutions such as the National Ministry of Agriculture. Factors such as livestock overgrazing and unmanaged agricultural activities in rangelands have contributed to the degradation of natural resources and arable land. Additionally, extreme weather events and the impacts of climate change, including unpredictable and fluctuating rainy seasons, prolonged dry seasons, recurring droughts, floods, and outbreaks of crop diseases and pests, have further exacerbated the challenging conditions for agriculture in these regions. These negative climate and biodiversity changes pose a significant threat to the livelihoods of rural communities in Somaliland and Puntland, increasing their risk of food insecurity. Based on the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), these regions consistently fall between Phases 3 to 5 (Crisis, Emergency, and Catastrophe/Famine). The already growing food insecure population continues to face nutritional health issues, resulting in increased mortality rates and reduced economic growth.

Furthermore, in Somaliland, Puntland, and Somalia as a whole, there is a deficiency in policies, strategies, and resources to effectively tackle the pressing issues surrounding food security and related challenges such as the deterioration of agro-biodiversity and other natural resources. Specifically, the lack of a comprehensive seed strategy, which encompasses plans for repatriating plant genetic resources from the community seed banks, national and regional gene banks, assessing and identifying the pool of plant genetic resources, and ensuring their conservation and sustainable use, hampers efforts to counteract the loss of agrobiodiversity. Moreover, inadequate storage facilities in Somaliland's gene bank exacerbate the risk of genetic resource erosion, compromising the ability to adapt agricultural production to climate change and safeguard future food security. The Seed Security Assessment carried out by DF

and its partner organizations is ultimately contributing to the collection and selection of seed varieties within the target villages.

The project will focus on its seed security and land reclamation actions in five agro-pastoralist communities. It will build upon the experiences of the Darwin Initiative Round 24 to engage relevant stakeholders, including line ministries, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders at the policy level.

The five target villages are Beer, Midhisho, and Galoolay in the Togdheer, Sanaag, and Maroodi-jeex regions of Somaliland. Dulcadale and Cuun villages in the Bari and Nugaal regions of Puntland state of Somalia will also be included.

2. Project stakeholders/ partners

As reported earlier, DF is the lead organization and is responsible for the overall coordination of the project, working closely with three local LNGOs and one local university that are responsible for implementing the project across the target project locations where they have strong and well-established working relationships with local communities. The current project builds on pre-existing partnerships among all relevant stakeholders, including government entities, to create cohesion, and all partners were involved in the design of the new project. On another note, DF and partners continued to advocate for CSB services and available seeds with government and agriculture sector stakeholders in the food security cluster and production sector meetings. An important result during the reporting period is that the Ministry of Agriculture Development of Somaliland, in collaboration with INGOs, has sustained the purchase of seeds from the CSBs. This generates revenue and contributes to the development of CSB structures and services, ultimately strengthening the sustainability of the seed banks at the community level. Additionally, DF and partners have facilitated the active participation of existing CSBs in the World Food Day event that took place in October 2023, both in Puntland and Somaliland. DF informed the partners about Somalia's official inclusion in the ITPGRFA. Despite the disconnect between Somaliland, Puntland, and the Somalia central government, FAO aims to establish mutual connections and foster collaboration on matters pertaining to the ITPGRFA. In this reporting period, issues emerged regarding mismanagement within HAVOYOCO. Consequently, DF recommended an extended audit, leading HAVOYOCO to terminate its partnership with DF without proper consultation. As a result, several activities faced delays, as previously communicated in correspondence between DF and the supporting donors, including the Darwin Initiative. Discussions on how to initiate the implementation of the delayed activities are currently in progress.

3 Project progress

Considering the multitude of challenges encountered by the project in the last fiscal year, the progress achieved is tangible. For further details, kindly refer to Sections 3.1 to 3.5.

3.1 Progress in carrying out project activities

Activity 1.1 A two-day Gender sensitivity training to ensure that SSA are inclusive and comprehensive was conducted in each project site with a total of 90 attending (39 women and 51 men).

Activity 1.2 Conducted Seed Security Assessment (SSA) in 3 communities with local communities and other local actors. A Seed Security assessment aimed to assess the availability, accessibility of seeds and highlight ana concerning decline in indigenous seeds in the target locations due to recurrent climate change shocks, crop pests and diseases. was conducted by

Amoud University and implementing partners in Aburiin, Midhisho and Dulcadale. (Reference: SSA Reports).

Activity 1.3 SSA knowledge sharing workshop was conducted in Dulcadale Puntland with participation of 25 members from community, government, and NGOs.

Activity 1.4 In the current year, two Community Seed Banks (CSBs) have been established in Midhisho and Dulcadale, demonstrating the community's dedication to preserving local biodiversity. The land for the CSBs was generously donated by community members and officially registered as public land and demonstration fields for new CSBs have been set up in both areas, showcasing the diversity of seeds and promoting sustainable agriculture.

Activity 1.5 The implementing partners have supported the previously established Community Seed Banks (CSBs). In Galoolay, the seed bank compound and the greenhouse have been fully rehabilitated. Additionally, a new 24 by 8-meter greenhouse has been constructed in the Beer CSB to generate income. Drip irrigation has also been installed at the demonstration field. In Cuun, hermetic bags have been provided to control and prevent pests and diseases replacing the normal bags that caused spoilage of valuable stored seed crops, including cowpeas. Furthermore, the partners have organized training sessions to enhance the skills and knowledge of the CSB members, empowering them to effectively manage and improve their respective CSBs, including training on internal control systems.

Activity 1.6 A new gene bank has been constructed at the Ministry of Agriculture center in Somaliland. Initially, the purpose of this genebank was to build a seed bank in Aburiin seedbank which Somaliland considered as the national seedbank. However, the Ministry of Agriculture of Somaliland has requested that the gene bank be constructed at their compound instead.

Activity 1.7 A training program on crop and seed selection was attended by a total of 24 (54% female and 46% male) technical committee members from the Beer and Cuun CSBs. During the program, the participants received expert guidance on various aspects of seed management. This included optimal seed selection, maintaining seed health, and implementing proper processing and storage techniques. The training also emphasized the important role of decision-makers in ensuring seed security and maximizing crop yields. Additionally, the program aimed to raise awareness among committee members and the wider community about the significance of producing high-quality seeds and preserving indigenous crop varieties.

Activity 1.8 In Beer, the implementing partner has developed a new bylaw for machinery and equipment and has also revised and updated the existing bylaws. Furthermore, a consultation workshop was conducted in Cuun village with the CSB to promote collaboration in the development of the new machinery bylaws.

Activity 1.9 A total of 45 of CSBs' committee members attended the training sessions, with 38% female and 62 % male disaggregation in the villages of Beer and Cuun. During these sessions, the management committees received instruction on various topics, such as inventory management, record keeping, monitoring of seed distribution, transparency, and accountability. Additionally, the participants were introduced to internal control systems that were designed to protect assets, prevent fraud, and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

Activity 1.10 A two-day professional training on seed handling was conducted to CSB Management Committees and government extensionists in both Somaliland and Puntland and attended by 59 participants (59% male and 41% female). The training primarily focused on seed processing and preservation, covering aspects such as seed storage, cleaning, packaging, and seed treatment. Special attention was given to the importance of implementing best practices in seed handling.

Activity 1.11 Amoud University has partnered with Haramaya University to collaborate on Plant Genetic Resources. Amoud University has conducted a thorough analysis of the required seeds in collaboration with other partners and CSBs, guided by the SSA findings. However, the procurement process for the adaptable PGRs was not concluded within the reporting year due

to an extended discussion process, the need to obtain acceptance from Ethiopia Biodiversity Institute, and a phytosanitary certificate, as well as the ongoing conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia. Unfortunately, this situation has caused a delay in acquiring the adaptable PGRs within the expected timeframe. Fortunately, Puntland has been collected six new varieties for Cuun CSB.

Activity 1.12 During this reporting period, the project procured six new seed varieties for the Cuun Community Seed Bank. These seeds will be used to conduct adaptation tests in various environmental conditions, including different soil types, climates, and altitudes. The acquired seeds include Onion (Hadramowt), Carrot (Carrot Nantes), Spinach (Foodhook Giant), Melon (Ananas), and Chilli Pepper (Long Red Cayenne), totalling 500 grams, 250 grams, 250 grams, 250 grams, and an unspecified quantity, respectively. The performance and adaptability of these seeds will be evaluated, and if successful, they will be multiplied for distribution. The participatory trials for these new seed varieties have already begun and will be documented once completed.

Activity 1.13 One dam in Beer village was rehabilitated to facilitate irrigation for the Beer Community Seedbank (CSB) and its demonstration fields. A new shallow well was constructed and solarized for the newly constructed Community Seed Bank's demonstration farm in Dulcadale village. Furthermore, the project installed solar power to improve a shallow constructed in 2022 on the Cuun Community Seed Bank's demonstration farm.

Activity 1.14 Two days of training sessions on tomato pests and disease management were provided to 80 farmers (82.5% male and 17.5% female) to enhance tomato production and minimise crop losses in Galoolay Puntland. Additionally, in Beer village, a partnership was established between three farmers' cooperatives and an implementing partner, involving the supply of seeds and tillage hours to the farmers. It was mutually agreed that 50% of the harvested seeds must be returned to the CSB, and the farmers complied with this agreement.

Activity 2.1 Amoud University conducted a seed market survey in Hargeisa and Burao to identify potential opportunities for seed businesses and gather valuable data on crops, seed sources, supply and demand, and government involvement as well.

Activity 2.2 The project procured 500 glass bottles for the Cuun Community Seed Banks to protect seeds from humidity and storage pests and facilitate organization and identification through proper labelling. The Beer Community Seed Bank acquired 30 silos of seed storage containers to promote seed storage and branding. These blue plastic containers are designed to be airtight and have a capacity of up to 177 kg of seeds. Additionally, the project provided 30 containers with a storage capacity of 25 kg, along with 14 traditional hand threshers and 40 small plastic bottles capable of holding 25 kg. Furthermore, the project has developed marketable logos for the beer community, thereby enhancing the CSB branding and visibility.

Activity 2.3 The project conducted awareness campaigns in targeted village communities to promote the availability of high-quality seeds. These campaigns reached 450 households in the villages of Dulcadale, Midhisho, and Beer during the current year. The participants were categorized based on gender, with 198 females and 252 males, representing 44% and 56% of the total participants, respectively. The workshops comprised in-depth discussions that emphasized the benefits of obtaining these seeds from Community Seed Banks (CSBs) and their crucial role in enhancing crop yields and overall productivity.

Activity 2.4 With the help of the partners organizations, committees from all Community Seed Banks (CSBs) raised awareness among smallholder farmers about the seed availability at CSBs. This outreach extended beyond the CSB sites to neighbouring communities. As usual, smallholder farmers were urged to return the same or a greater quantity of seeds borrowed from the CSB, ensuring they distinguish between seeds obtained from the community seed bank and those acquired elsewhere.

Activity 2.5 Two business plans were developed for the Seedbanks of Cuun in Puntland and Beer in Somaliland to set up a clear sales and marketing strategy aimed at generating income for the Community Seed Banks (CSBs). Additionally, the members of the CSBs received training

on these plans to enhance their ability to generate revenue. Valuable input was gathered from CSB members, Farmer Cooperatives, grassroots organizations, and partner staff throughout the development process.

Activity 2.6 Some of partners in Somaliland and Puntland actively participated in the World Food Day events held in Berbera, Somaliland, as well as in Garowe, Puntland in 2023. This event was organized by the Ministries of Agriculture for Somaliland and Puntland respectively. Our partner made a noteworthy presence during the event, effectively showcasing their projects and accomplishments. Similarly, in Puntland, our implementing partner made a significant contribution to the commemoration of World Food Day. (Ref.: photos in annex).

Activity 2.7 The Community Seedbanks formed client partnerships with local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and relevant government agencies, such as the Ministry of Agriculture in various ways. They actively participate in networking and outreach activities, including conferences, workshops, and events like the World Food Day conference/fair, which attract NGOs and government entities. Through these platforms, the Seedbanks aim to build connections and establish fruitful relationships with like-minded NGOs, recognizing the potential synergies in collaborating to enhance seed conservation efforts and support local communities. This engagement allows Seedbanks to expand their network and create potential market opportunities for their services.

Activity 2.8 The distribution of seeds from community seed banks to farmers is progressing smoothly, with farmers readily accepting and trusting the seeds provided by the community seed banks. They have also recognised the high quality of seeds available and accessible in the seed banks, leading to increased adoption and confidence in utilizing them for their agricultural activities.

Activity 3.1 In the targeted communities, a total of six water infrastructures were implemented, consisting of four rehabilitated shallow wells and two newly constructed shallow wells. Specifically, two wells were rehabilitated in Beer village, while four others were constructed and rehabilitated in Dulcadale village. Some of the wells were equipped with solarization. Additionally, a 250-meter water canal was rehabilitated in Midhisho, and a water retention gully was reinstated in Midhisho. Geomembrane-plastic sheets (LDPE) were provided to 20 households in Beer and five households in Midhisho, while in Aburin and Galoolay, a total of 60 households received these sheets, with 40 households in Aburin and 20 households in Galoolay. Overall, a thorough count of 93 water infrastructures were either constructed or rehabilitated to support irrigation in the target communities.

Activity 3.2 A total of 100 agro-pastoralists participated in an inclusive four-day training program in Dulcadale, Cuun, Beer, and Midhisho, aimed to enhancing their knowledge and skills in rainwater conservation and utilization practices. These participants, 38 were female and 62 were male. The training sessions were designed to address the pressing issue of water scarcity resulting from consecutive droughts.

Activity 3.3 The project provided water bladder storage units to 25 smallholder farmers in Dulcadale, 10 water tanks for irrigation in Beer village, and 30 hand tools (hoes, rakes, and shovels) to 30 farmers in Midhisho village, enhancing access to water and promoting sustainable farming practices. To enhance access to and promote sustainable water management practices among smallholder farmers at the household level.

Activity 3.3 A training on water availability and seasonal planting was conducted to 45 farmers in Beer and Dulcadale villages with 17 females and 28 males. The program aimed to empowering them by teaching them about seasonal rainfall patterns, proper planting techniques, and water-saving practices like rainwater harvesting and soil moisture conservation.

Activity 3.4 A training program was conducted in Beer and Dulcadale villages to instruct community members on water availability and seasonal planting. 45 participants attended, with 37% females and 63% males. The program aimed to empower them by teaching them about seasonal rainfall patterns, proper planting techniques, and water-saving practices like rainwater

harvesting and soil moisture conservation. The training focused on recognizing rainfall patterns and implementing water-saving practices.

Activity 4.1 A total of 450 farmers and government extension officers participated in training sessions to improve seed quality and reduce postharvest losses in Somaliland and Puntland. There were 250 participants, with 120 females and 130 males from Somaliland and In Puntland, there were 200 participants, with 68 females and 132 males.

Activity 4.2 At the World Food Day fair 16th October 2023, representatives from community seed banks actively participated, this event provided an opportunity for them to interact and engage with a larger number of stakeholders and gather valuable market information presented there.

Activity 4.3 Two Climate Adaptive Village (CAV) workshops were conducted in Dulcadale, Puntland, and Midhisho in Somaliland with a four-day timeline. In each site, 42 participants (31 male and 11 female) from the community, relevant government agencies, and grassroots organisations, including community-based organisations, women, and youth, participated, and finally, two community local adaptation plans were produced to address and prioritise adaptation actions and strategies.

Activity 4.5 The participatory mapping and assessment was conducted in the villages of Midhisho and Dulcadale. Data was collected from 45 agro-pastoralists (18 females and 27 males) through interviews and questionnaires.

Activity 4.6 Soil bunds covering 18,150 linear meters (90.75 hectares) were constructed on degraded areas in Somaliland and Puntland's targeted villages of Aburiin, Galoolay, Beer, and Dulcadale. The project additionally implemented a cash-for-work programme, which provided income opportunities to 170 workers in construction at a standard payment rate of 1.2 USD per linear meter set by Somaliland's Ministry of Agriculture and Environment. Moreover, a strategically positioned gabion basket structure that extends 120 meters in length and covers 1.2 hectares was constructed in flood-prone areas, benefiting seven farms in Dulcadale and Midhisho. The grand total of treated land is 91.95 hectares out of 90 hectares for 2023 target.

Activity 5.1 The Puntland Seed Policy has been translated into the local language (Somali), reaching communities and stakeholders to gather their valuable feedback and suggestions.

Activity 5.2 A workshop was conducted with participation of eight panels of civil society organizations (CSOs) to advocate for the enactment and enforcement of a seed policy workshop (a stakeholder meeting on policy work).

Activity 5.3 400 smallholder farmers were sensitized on their rights pertaining to seed access. The program targeted villages in Somaliland and Puntland, specifically Cuun, Ducadale, Midhisho, and Beer, with 37% female and 63% male participants. The awareness aimed to raise awareness about the significance of conserving local seed varieties and revitalizing crop varieties that have been lost within the communities of the project's target villages.

Activity 5.4 The ministry of Agriculture and Development (MOAD) in Somaliland submitted the draft of the national seed policy to the ministerial cabinet for review. In the case of Puntland, their seed policy has been translated into the local language (Somali) and is currently undergoing the final stage of validation. This process involves 17 policy makers, including ministers and general directors.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1: Two CSBs are established with all necessary equipment, training, and management structures, 3 existing CSBs are better equipped to deliver quality seeds

Two community seed banks (CSBs) were established in Midhishoe and Dulcadale to promote seed diversity and sustainable agriculture (Act 1.4). In addition to setting up these CSBs, support

was extended to existing ones, such as the full rehabilitation of facilities in Galoolay and the construction of a new greenhouse in Beer village. Training on internal control systems was provided to CSB committees to enhance their skills and knowledge (Act 1.5). Simultaneously, a new gene bank was built at the Ministry of Agriculture centre in Somaliland, with a comprehensive training program for technical committee members on advanced seed production and conservation methods (Activity 1.6). A Gender Sensitivity Training for Seed Security Assessment was conducted for 90 farmers, with 39 females (43%) and 51 males (57%) participating (Act 1.1). The training aimed to address gender disparities among smallholder farmers, covering topics like gender analysis and strategies for engaging diverse stakeholders.

Two Seed Security assessments were carried out in Puntland and Somaliland, emphasizing seed accessibility and conservation of endangered seeds (Act 1.2). The findings highlighted concerns such as the decline of indigenous seeds due to climate change-related shocks and inadequate formal seed systems. Stakeholders, including government entities, NGOs, and CBOs were briefed on these findings during a stakeholder event in Garowe (Act 1.3). To strengthen internal controls, bylaws for machinery and equipment were developed and revised (Act 1.8). Committees were trained on inventory management and transparency in seed production (Activity 1.9). Furthermore, training sessions on seed handling and preservation best practices were conducted for CSB Management Committees and extensionists (Activity 1.10). New seed varieties like Onion, Carrot, and Spinach were procured for adaptation tests, alongside water infrastructure projects supporting irrigation in various communities (Activities 1.12 and 1.13).

Output 2 Five CSBs (2 new and 3 existing) supported to sell their seeds in markets outside their local communities.

The project has supported Community Seed Banks (CSBs) as to strengthen their capacity to commercialise seeds outside their local communities. Amoud University conducted a seed market survey in Hargeisa and Burao, which identified opportunities for seed businesses and gathered data on crops, seed sources, supply and demand, and government involvement. The survey emphasized the need for improved seed varieties suitable for local conditions. Based on this, it is recommended to prioritize training programs on seed production, quality control, marketing, and entrepreneurship (Activity 2.1). The Cuun Community Seed Bank procured 500 glass bottles to protect seeds from moisture and storage pests, while facilitating organization and identification. The Beer Community Seed Bank acquired storage solutions such as silos, smaller containers, hand threshers, and plastic bottles to enhance its effectiveness. The project also developed marketable logos to improve the branding and visibility of the seed bank (Activity 2.2).

Awareness campaigns were conducted in Dulcadale, Midhisho, and Beer, reaching 450 households. The workshops focused on the benefits of obtaining quality seeds from Community Seed Banks (CSBs) and their role in improving crop yields. Various communication channels, including community meetings, were used to educate community members about the importance of quality seeds in agriculture (Activity 2.3). Two business plans were developed for the Cuun and Beer Community Seed Banks, with a focus on sales and marketing strategies to generate income. CSB members received training on these plans to enhance their revenue generation capabilities. Input was gathered from CSB members, farmer cooperatives, grassroots organizations, and project staff during the development process (Activity 2.5). In October 2023, project partners actively participated in World Food Day events organized by the Ministries of Agriculture in Somaliland and Puntland. During these events, the partners showcased their projects and achievements, and shared knowledge on seed handling and management (Activity 2.6).

Output 3. 2500 smallholder farmers have improved access to water for agriculture use

The project has implemented actions that improve access to water for smallholder farmers. The rehabilitation of a dam in Beer aimed to irrigate the seed bank greenhouse and field. Additionally, six shallow wells were renovated in Beer and Dulcadale villages, some equipped with solarization technology. These interventions increased crop yields. Water canals in Midhisho village were

rehabilitated, and a gully or water point was restored for irrigation purposes. Geomembrane plastic sheets were distributed to 85 households, and water channels were prepared for efficient water collection and storage, improving community resilience. (Activity 3.1).

A four-day training program was conducted for 100 agro-pastoralists in Dulcadale, Cuun, Beer, and Midhisho and it enhanced knowledge and skills in rainwater conservation and utilization practices to address water scarcity and food shortages. Thirty-eight percent of the participants were female, and 62% were male. The training significantly improved the community's ability to harvest and use rainwater efficiently. (Activity 3.2).

Water access and management were enhanced in rural communities. Water bladder storage units were distributed to 25 smallholder farmers in Dulcadale, and 10 water tanks were provided for irrigation purposes in home gardens in Beer. Hand tools were given to 30 farmers in Midhisho to facilitate farming techniques. These initiatives supported efficient water usage and cultivation practices. (Activity 3.3).

A training was conducted for 45 farmers in Beer and Dulcadale villages, focusing on assessing water availability and developing seasonal planting plans. Seventeen female attendees and 28 male attendees participated in the training. The program empowered community members with knowledge and skills related to water availability and seasonal planting, emphasizing proper techniques and water-saving practices. (Activity 3.4).

A total of 128 water infrastructures were constructed, rehabilitated, and distributed across the target locations this year, providing access to water for approximately 523 smallholder farmers.

Output 4. 2500 smallholder farmers have new agricultural skills and access to improved quality soil.

The project undertook diverse activities to improve agricultural practices and tackle climate change challenges in Somaliland and Puntland. In Activity 4.1, 450 participants received training in good agricultural practices, pest management, and climate-smart techniques, with a balanced gender distribution. Activity 4.2 involved showcasing quality seeds at a fair to engage stakeholders and gather market insights. Workshops in Activity 4.3 aimed to develop local adaptation plans and enhance resilience through Climate Adaptive Village (CAV) initiatives. Participatory mapping in Activity 4.5 highlighted the need for community involvement in soil and water conservation. Finally, Activity 4.6 soil bunds and gabion basket structures were constructed to mitigate soil erosion and flooding, bolstering overall resilience, and protecting agricultural assets in targeted areas.

Output 5. Capacity of public officials to draft, enact and operationalize seed policy in Somaliland and Puntland is strengthened.

In Activity 5.1, the Puntland Seed Policy was translated into Somali to improve accessibility and gather feedback for inclusive and transparent policy formulation. Activity 5.2 in Somaliland involved a workshop to enact and enforce the seed policy with broad civil society participation, fostering coordination and action plans. Activity 5.3 conducted a comprehensive awareness program for 400 smallholder farmers in both regions, emphasizing seed access rights and local seed preservation. Finally, Activity 5.4 saw the submission of the final draft of the national seed policy in Somaliland for cabinet review, while the policy in Puntland is nearing validation.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

The project's intended outcomes are to enhance agricultural production, promote crop diversity, and generate income for agro-pastoralist households in five communities. This is achieved by improving access to locally adapted high-quality seeds through the facilitation of enabling seed policies. Despite the challenges posed by severe and prolonged drought in Somaliland and Puntland, collaborative efforts have made significant progress in ensuring agricultural sustainability, community empowerment, and policy advocacy. Achievements include the

establishment and enhancement of Community Seed Banks (CSBs), the promotion of sustainable farming practices, the advancement of gender equality, and the improvement of water access, soil management, and quality. These initiatives have not only increased agricultural productivity and income for agro-pastoralist households but have also enhanced resilience against the impacts of climate change through Climate Adaptive Villages (CAVs) initiatives.

Outcome indicator 0.1. (a) % of people in crisis or worse (IPC phase 3,4,5) in post Deyr season in the targeted Districts. (b) % of people in minimal situation (IPC phase 1) in post Deyr season in targeted Districts.

The proportion of the population experiencing crisis or worse conditions has remained steady at 20% throughout the post-Deyr season in the targeted areas, with no observed changes as of 2021. However, the FSNAU IPC portal reports that 42% of the population in these villages currently falls into the minimal situation or IPC Phase 1 category. The drought's impact is further evidenced by a decline in the percentage of individuals in the minimal situation (IPC Phase 1), which has decreased from 57% in post-Deyr 2021 to 42% in 2023, as previously projected.

Outcome Indicator 0.2. Somaliland and Puntland National Seed Policies are enacted and disseminated by 2027.

The Somaliland Seed Policy has completed several rounds of review and is now prepared for final approval by the cabinet, incorporating feedback from legal experts. Concurrently, Puntland's seed policy has been translated into Somali and is currently undergoing the last stages of validation. These advancements reflect significant progress in developing comprehensive and context-specific seed policies in line with program objectives.

Outcome Indicator 0.3. The 2 new Community Seed Banks (CSBs) distribute in total 10 tonnes of seeds in 2027 and generate an economic surplus.

Two Community Seed Banks (CSBs) have been established in Midhisho and Dulcadale this year, with the completion of their construction phase. Plans are underway to equip them with all necessary tools and equipment, along with the establishment of CSB committees in both villages.

Outcome Indicator 0.4. The 3 current CSBs combined increase the sales of surpluses from a total of USD 3,000 in 2021 to a total of USD 8,000 in 2027.

This year, all three existing CSBs have achieved successful sales, resulting in a collective surplus increase in revenue. The project has made significant progress in generating surplus sales of seeds and produce, with the total amount increasing from \$3000 USD in 2021 to \$6402.3 USD in 2023-2024 (\$3402.3 USD for 2023) (Output 2).

Outcome Indicator 0.5. Number of varieties conserved in the 5 CSBs increases from 71 to 140 varieties (from 13 crop species) by 2027.

This year, one Community Seed Bank (CSB) expanded its seed varieties by introducing six new ones, thereby increasing the total to 77 varieties. However, collaborations with regional universities on Plant Genetic Resources (PGRs) encountered delays in obtaining adaptable PGRs. These delays were primarily due to extended discussions, necessary certifications, and challenges related to regional conflicts.

Outcome Indicator 0.6. (DI-A04) 40 technical committee members attending training in seed management (ref. indicator 1.3) are applying new capabilities acquired from the training 6 months after training.

The training program significantly improved the 24 technical committee members' understanding of advanced seed production, conservation techniques, and decision-making processes related to seed security. Enhanced skills in seed selection, health maintenance, processing, and storage directly contributed to increased seed handling efficiency and sales performance throughout this year (ref. Act 1.7)

Outcome Indicator 0.7. (DI-B06) 6 Local Communities involved in the programme, with strengthened rights to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

5 communities involved in the programme and enhanced their rights to plant genetic resources by establishing Community Seed Banks (CSBs) and providing support to existing CSBs. This

involved conducting Seed Security Assessments (SSA), organizing knowledge-sharing workshops on SSAs, delivering Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) trainings, and conducting awareness sessions.

4 Monitoring of assumptions

As stated in the grant proposal (Annex 2), a total of 17 assumptions were identified. These assumptions have been closely monitored throughout the reporting period and have largely remained valid. However, a few require additional attention, outlined below:

1. **Political Stability and Security:** The prevailing political calm and security in Somaliland and Puntland have been maintained. Despite ongoing conflict in Ethiopia, the impact on cross-border trade, market conditions, and farm-gate prices has been minimal. However, violent conflict erupted in Las Anod, an area contested by Puntland, resulting in restricted access to project areas in Puntland since December 2022. As a result, the project has shifted to remote monitoring to ensure progress.

2. **Climate Resilience:** The project areas have been affected by sustained and extreme weather events and climate change-related shocks, including the most severe and prolonged drought in over four decades. This has caused delays in project activities, such as water shortages impacting seed trials, testing, and multiplication at the Community Seed Banks (CSBs). To address this, the project has prioritized the construction and rehabilitation of water structures, along with training on water conservation agricultural practices.

3. **Political Will for Seed Policies:** The enactment and implementation of national seed policies in Somaliland and Puntland rely on political will and commitment. However, due to the focus on drought response and conflict dynamics, this issue has been deprioritized by the respective governments. To mitigate this risk, the Dialogue Forum (DF) has extensively engaged with government authorities and other relevant stakeholders, resulting in commitments to improve the seed policy drafts developed under the project. In Somaliland, the relevant entity was able to submit its seed policy draft to all relevant parties for review, who pointed out multiple areas require improvement. Subsequently, the relevant stakeholders made significant changes to the policy, which is now ready for its final review. Similarly, in Puntland, the relevant entity has organized multiple events to translate and review the seed policy draft for enactment.

5 Impact: achievement of positive impact on biodiversity and poverty reduction

This project overall goal is to increase climate resilience, food and livelihood security for agro-pastoralists in Somaliland and Puntland by 2027. It is important to note that Somalia has ratified the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food & Agriculture (ITPGRFA) in 02. September 2023 and became a contracting party on 01. December 2023. This entry into force of the plant treaty in Somalia will strengthen this project's alignment with the overall objectives of the plant treaty, especially farmers' rights.

This project has established two new community seed banks and has strengthened the three existing CSBs, currently around 77 local and improved crop varieties are conserved in the three CSBs which is a great achievement in realisation of the article 9 in the plant treaty. In addition, at the time of reporting work on enacting the seed policies in the two regions of Puntland & Somaliland is ongoing. If the policies get approval of the lawmakers, it will be a guiding document to help in regulations of seed system and conservation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in the two regions.

In addition, the project has restored degraded land by constructing gabions and soil bunds which contributes to improved management of natural resources (water, forest, soil), protects and

boosts local biodiversity. Equally important Climate Adapted Village approaches introduced by the project will contribute to better production and ease pressure on biodiversity.

Somalia continues to contend with frequent shocks in the context of widespread fragility, conflict, and violence. Recurrent climate-related shocks such as cycles of droughts, floods, locusts' infestation, volatile international commodity prices, as well as increased insecurity and conflict have interrupted the country's growth trajectory and slowed the transition from fragility. Growth has been modest and does not generate the jobs needed to reduce poverty. It averaged only 2 percent annually in 2019–23 with an average negative real GDP per capita growth of 0.8 percent (World Bank Factsheet,2024)¹.

This project through the rehabilitation and construction of gabions, soil bunds and adoption of climate smart technologies for water harvesting, local adaptation plans for climatic shocks is contributing towards the strengthening of agriculture productivity and hence poverty reduction.

6 Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

The project aims to support the development and implementation of seed policies in Somaliland and Puntland. This will be achieved through technical assistance and involvement of local communities and civil society organizations in policy processes. The project's advocacy efforts will focus on the recognition of Farmers' Rights and the adoption of measures for the sustainable use and conservation of plant genetic resources in seed policies. For instance, the project ensured that international treaties, such as farmers' rights and the ITPGRFA, are accorded significant importance in seed policies. Also, it is important to note that Somalia has become a contracting party of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) in 01.12.2023, and the project is aligned with the overall objectives of the plant treaty.

Section 3.2 of the report indicates that there has been some progress in the translation of the seed policy into Somali in Puntland and a workshop on enacting the seed policy was conducted in Somaliland. The stakeholders are still lobbying for the review and enactment of the seed policies in their respective regions to pave a way for its adoption as a legal document. In addition, the project has made significant contributions to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources (PGRFA) in accordance with articles 5 and 6 of the ITPGRFA. The construction of the national gene bank in Somaliland, supported by the project, is crucial for the conservation of PGRFA and aligns with the recommended approaches of the ITPGRFA, particularly 5.1.b and 5.1.e. Additionally, the project's efforts to conduct seed security assessments, establishment of the two new Community Seed Banks (CSBs) in Midhisho and Dulcadele, and strengthening of the three existing ones contributes to the objectives outlined in articles 5 (5.1.a, b, c) and 6 (6.2.c, d, f) of the plant treaty. By promoting collaboration between the national gene bank and CSBs, the project plays a vital role in the full implementation of articles 5 and 6. Moreover, the project ensures the active participation of agro-pastoralists in decision-making processes related to PGRFA, as stipulated in article 9 on Farmers' Rights of the ITPGRFA. This is achieved through engagement with CSBs, agricultural practices, seed fairs, and the commercialization of seeds.

At international level, two major events within the framework of the ITPGRFA took place during the first year of the project. A Symposium on Farmers' Rights was organized in New Delhi, India in September. DF's project leader attended the symposium, providing recommendations on how Farmers' Rights could be strengthened. DF's project leader gave a presentation on legal experiences supporting Farmers' Rights based on the experience of Norway. In November, the 10th Governing Body of the ITPGRFA took place in Rome. DF's project leader was part of Norway's delegation. The decision to reconvene the Ad Hoc Committee on Conservation and Sustainable Use and to establish an Ad Hoc Expert Group on Farmers' Rights were two major outcomes of the GB10. DF was nominated CSO representative for the Ad Hoc Committee on Conservation and Sustainable Use.

¹ [REDACTED]

While it is too early to evaluate the project's impact on various Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the first and second years of implementation has already made notable contributions to targets 2.3, 2.5, 13.1 and 13.3 of the SDGs. These contributions include the promotion of sustainable and diversified agricultural production, increased access to water, improved access to seeds, and the conservation of PGRFA.

A Climate Adapted Village workshop was conducted in Midhiso and Dulcadale which resulted in the drafting of two local adaptation plans that were produced to address and prioritize adaptation actions and strategies. These plans aim to reduce the exposure and sensitivity of the target villages' population, enhance their adaptive capacity, and build resilience against the challenges posed by climate change (Ref. Activity 4.3).

7 Project support for multidimensional poverty reduction

It is premature to measure the overall project impact related to poverty reduction as this is the project's second annual year reporting period. However, the project has managed to implement some activities that enhanced availability of water for irrigation for homestead gardens, access to quality local adapted and improved seeds, and knowledge in control of crop pests and diseases and lastly though not the least awareness raising on marketing of vegetable & agrobiodiversity products. This in the long-term will contribute to household income generation and livelihood among the targeted communities.

Following the disruption of established livelihood means because of the conflict, drought and flooding households are coming back to their original areas of domicile; where what they had as their productive assets have been destroyed. This limits their options to generate income to support their households; thus, increasing the chances of them engaging in negative coping strategies such as sale of the little of what is left of their endowments. To mitigate this risk, the project engaged unskilled household members in some wage labour activities under CfW schemes like constructing gabions, soil bunds to control soil erosion; from which they can earn some money to meet some of their basic household needs. This intervention will therefore enhance food access in the short-term and minimize negative coping mechanisms, such as sale of productive assets like livestock, and incurring large debts. The improved and rehabilitated agricultural infrastructures will contribute to the increase of production and productivity, hence enhanced food, and livelihood security. This initiative concurs with the Food Security Cluster third-line sector objectives 2 and 3 livelihoods support programme² response dimensions which recommends the rehabilitation of livelihood assets and infrastructure/facilities of the most vulnerable and food insecure through CfW, thereby decreasing their need for food assistance.

The project so far has achieved some progress on the sales of surpluses of seeds produced in the 3 CSBs from a total of █████ in 2021 USD to █████ in 2023-2024 █████ for 2023) (indicator 0.4), which is a 43% achievement in 2023 of a total target of █████ by 2027(Indicator 2.2). A significant number of crop varieties conserved in the three (3) CSBs has also increased from 71 to 77 as per 2024. However, more will be achieved upon completion and operationalisation of the 2 new CSBs to achieve the target of 140 crop varieties (indicator 0.5). Moreover, the primary clients that purchased seeds from community seedbanks in this year of 2023, were individual commercial farmers and partner projects.

8 Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

² [targeting and prioritization of beneficiaries.pdf \(fscluster.org\)](#)

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board ³ .	2/5= 40% women
Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women ⁴ .	As reported earlier the proportion remains 0% (However, DF partner organizations have in total 3 female staff directly involved in the project).

GESI Scale	Description	Put X where you think your project is on the scale
Not yet sensitive	The GESI context may have been considered but the project isn't quite meeting the requirements of a 'sensitive' approach	
Sensitive	The GESI context has been considered and project activities take this into account in their design and implementation. The project addresses basic needs and vulnerabilities of women and marginalised groups and the project will not contribute to or create further inequalities.	
Empowering	The project has all the characteristics of a 'sensitive' approach whilst also increasing equal access to assets, resources and capabilities for women and marginalised groups	X
Transformative	The project has all the characteristics of an 'empowering' approach whilst also addressing unequal power relationships and seeking institutional and societal change	

The project has been designed with the primary objective of actively promoting gender equality by enhancing women's participation in project implementation, increasing their influence in decision-making processes, and improving their food and livelihood security. A deliberate effort will be made to ensure that a minimum of 40% of the project participants at the community level are women and female-headed households.

Furthermore, the project will strive to reduce gender inequality by ensuring equal participation of women in participatory processes such as the Seed Security Assessment (SSA) and Participatory Variety Selection (PVS). The SSA process will specifically identify the needs and gaps in managing Plant Genetic Resources (PGRs) for women, while also strengthening their involvement in policy decision-making and the formulation of strategies for the Local Adaptation Plan (LAP) & National Adaptation Plan (NAP) to climate change. Meaningful participation for all individuals engaged in the project has been ensured through the collection of gender disaggregated data for relevant outcome and output indicators. The data collection system has been designed to clearly depict gender-specific results, including attendance lists for trainings and meetings, as well as member and user lists for community seed banks. In addition, specific targets for women's participation have been included in the results frameworks for certain indicators, and results will be reported accordingly. It is important to note that if the desired gender equity outcomes are not fully achieved, the project will instead focus on minimizing the existing disparities as much as possible. Based on lessons learnt, the most effective approach for transforming community attitudes towards gender equality in the Somali context has been found to involve the engagement of traditional leaders. Given the project emphasis on inclusivity, with

³ A Project Board has overall authority for the project, is accountable for its success or failure, and supports the senior project manager to successfully deliver the project.

⁴ Partners that have formal governance role in the project, and a formal relationship with the project that may involve staff costs and/or budget management responsibilities.

a specific focus on people with disabilities and youth, meticulous planning was undertaken to ensure their meaningful inclusion into each activity.

9 Monitoring and evaluation

DF collaborates closely with rural communities to enhance their resilience and promote their active participation in local sustainable food systems. In pursuit of our project objectives, we have implemented an interactive Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL) system, comprising of a Systematic Results Framework and Registers designed to consistently gather relevant data and information. The quality of project data is assured through guidance, along with validation by partners and stakeholders using recognized evaluation principles and protocols.

The IPC, utilized in the LFA, highlighted the significant percentage of people in various IPC phases, emphasizing the imperative to address food insecurity in these areas. Furthermore, regular program monitoring visits, conducted independently or jointly with finance, are instrumental in assessing the progress, efficiency, and impact of our programs. Surveys are also systematically conducted to evaluate and measure program outputs and outcomes, as well as to identify any deviations from targets, enabling us to take appropriate corrective actions.

To ensure the responsible utilization of project funds and resources, both DF Finance and the Program team play pivotal roles in evaluating the "value for money" of projects. Throughout the reporting period, DF and its partners have organized learning events such as quarterly and ad-hoc review meetings to critically assess project progress and accomplishments. Additionally, we provide extensive capacity-building support to partners in reporting processes and data management to ensure the delivery of high-quality data. During this reporting period, changes were made to the project's core indicators, resulting in the introduction of new indicators: Outcome Indicator 01: (a) Percentage of people in crisis or worse (IPC phase 3, 4, 5) in the post Deyr season in the targeted Districts. (b) Percentage of people in a minimal situation (IPC phase 1) in the post Deyr season in targeted Districts. Outcome Indicator 0.2: Somaliland and Puntland National Seed Policies are enacted and disseminated by 2027. A strategic segregation of targets per year was introduced to enable precise measurement of results and identification of any deviations from targets. The project has established measurable targets for intermediate and immediate indicators to monitor progress in accordance with project plans. Moreover, qualitative information is systematically collected to complement quantitative data. Beyond our implementing partners, proactive engagement with other stakeholders is maintained to ensure the effective implementation of project activities.

10 Lessons learnt

- Support for advocacy-related activities, such as the development of seed policies and raising awareness about farmers' rights to plant genetic resources for smallholder farmers, has significantly enhanced cohesion and collaboration between smallholder farmers and relevant authorities across the board.
- Legislation on new seed policies has raised concerns among seed dealers, as they are now required to meet additional restrictions and requirements that were not previously in place.
- The government lacks the capacity to sufficiently ensure the effective implementation of seed policies. Therefore, it is necessary to seek assistance from international organizations in order to ensure proper implementation.
- Given the prolonged drought, the project has placed significant emphasis on interventions for soil and water conservation. These interventions are vital to ensure basic agricultural production, prevent land degradation, and maintain active involvement from local communities in CSB management and operations.
- The provision of HDPEs (high-density polyethylene) or plastic geomembranes to farmers in Aburiin village was an innovative initiative. Farmers who received HDPEs were able to cultivate cash crops, which will contribute to their income and dietary diversity.

- Partnership with our strategic partner Amoud University in conducting training, seed security assessment and participatory action research to the stakeholders has proven vital for the knowledge transfer from researchers to the farmers and practitioners.
- The most effective approach for transforming community attitudes towards gender equality in the Somali context has been found to involve the engagement of traditional leaders in awareness training.
- Community nutrition improvement with the conservation of water practices enhances vegetable production for dietary diversity and income generation.
- The introduction of silos grain storage facilities has proven to be highly impressive, effectively mitigating storage losses and spoilage issues that were prevalent when Somali farmers relied on underground pits for grain storage.

11 Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)

No.	Comment	Next Annual Report	DF response
1	The report explains the difficulties of the project implementation well. However, it is not easy for the reviewer to assess the achievements without evidence. Please add to the next report more evidence (photos, reports, assessments, agenda) to showcase your great work and to help the reviewer.	X	This report has been added annex indicated evidence including photos, reports and etc.
2	<i>Indicator 0.4: The three current CSBs increase the sales of surpluses from USD 3,000 in 2021 to USD 8,000 in 2027.</i> This indicator is unclear: is the increase targeted for each CSB or are the numbers a total number? This could be clarified.	X	Indicator was rephrased as to make it more clear in the revised LF submitted with the change request in December 2023. Indicator 0.4 is cumulative for all the CSBs across the project lifecycle.
3	Indicator 0.1 seems more a baseline than a progress indicator. Could you please try to clarify what and how exactly you will measure this in the coming years?	X	The IPC phases are standard indicators of food security. The IPC phases are calculated as the average percentage per district. Results will be measured by comparing updated IPC figures with IPC figures from the project's initial year. ..
4	It would be very helpful to have some additional indicators also for year 1 and year 2 of the project to improve the monitoring process.	X	This was addressed in the revised log frame included in a change request submitted in December and approved by BCF in January, where targets for specific years, including year and 2 were included in the

			indicator.
5	Reporting against Output level indicators could be improved in the next report	X	It has been improved in section 3.2. in this reporting year of 2023-2024.

12 Risk Management

As mentioned in the FY 2022 report, the project has a risk register that provides a comprehensive overview of all internal and external risks relevant to the context of Somaliland and Puntland. During this reporting period, one new risk has emerged in addition to the previously reported risks. There have been disputes in both Somaliland and Puntland, leading to civil conflicts in both areas. Consequently, all project locations are relatively secure. However, partners and DF are taking extensive precautions when traveling within these project locations to mitigate further risks. An updated risk register is attached to this report as an annex.

Through DF's financial monitoring routines, suspicion of mismanagement of funds by one of the project partners was discovered. DF informed BCF about the issue and will conduct a forensic audit. The partner decided to end the partnership with DF. DF is in dialogue with BCF on the way forward and has initiated dialogue with all pertinent stakeholders to mitigate the impact of the HAVOYOCO's exit of the project.

13 Sustainability and legacy

The success and longevity of the project hinge on bolstering local ownership and capabilities in managing Community Seed Banks (CSBs), thus fostering a sustainable business model for high-quality, locally adapted seeds. The project is strategically structured to achieve the following objectives:

- Empower community members to effectively manage CSBs beyond the project's duration, supported by the creation of robust business plans to ensure financial sustainability. This entails expanding CSBs and engaging new farming communities in Somaliland and Puntland.
- Heighten/Increase awareness and build capacity in agrobiodiversity management and conservation at both community and governmental levels, safeguarding and promoting a broader range of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.
- Advocate for adoption of farmers' rights to the national seed policies ensure the sustainable conservation and utilization of plant genetic resources. Active engagement with stakeholders, including farmers, government officials, NGOs, and others, will facilitate policy alignment supportive of CSBs
- Expand and enhance capacity in land and conservation practices, emphasizing approaches easily adopted, maintained, and replicated, particularly amidst climate variability challenges. Measures such as soil and water conservation structures, coupled with improved access to improved crop varieties, will boost yields among project farmers, inspiring emulation among neighbouring communities.
- Further strengthen the capacity of the three project partners and ensure their sustained involvement in project activities.

14 Darwin Initiative identity

DF consistently incorporates the Darwin Initiative logo into all Education, Information, and Communication materials related to the projects. Partners introduce the Darwin Initiative to relevant stakeholders, such as government officials, CSB representatives, farmers, other communities' members. Banners featuring the Darwin logo and UK funding are used during trainings and project gatherings, meetings campaigns, while billboards display program information alongside the Darwin and UK funding logos. Clear distinction between the contributions of the Darwin Initiative project and those of DF's other projects is ensured in reports to donor partners. This year, documentary video capturing program areas, success stories, and program identity were created, in response to feedback from last year, to further communicate program achievements. Regular recognition of accomplishments continues DF's website and social media platforms.

15 Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	Yes
Have any concerns been reported in the past 12 months	Yes (possible mismanagement of funds as elaborated above)
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	Yes <div style="background-color: black; width: 150px; height: 15px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <i>N.B. Abdisamad has been newly appointed as our Safeguarding Focal Point following the departure of the previous focal point.</i>
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	No, the current safeguarding focal point is new to the role. We are planning to conduct a training on PSEA for him during Q2-Q3 2024?
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Past: 71% [5] Planned: 100% [7]
DF staff in Oslo and CO have received safeguarding training on DF's code of ethics. Replications to partner staff have been conducted.	
Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses.	
N/A	
Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so please specify.	
New staff at the DF's Country Office in Somalia will participate in a one-day PSEA training during year 3 of the project (Q2: Jul-Aug 2024). Additionally, the other team will undergo a refresher training on the same topic.	
Please describe any community sensitisation that has taken place over the past 12 months; include topics covered and number of participants.	
During the reporting year, DF Somalia delivered comprehensive anti-corruption training, encompassing a code of ethics, to its partners. The training covered various critical topics, including sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment (SEAH), behaviour towards community members and colleagues, equal opportunity, drug and alcohol policies, procedures for raising concerns and lodging complaints, and investigative practices. Subsequently, partners reported integration of these acquired insights into their pre-existing training programs and awareness sessions. This integration has played a pivotal role in fostering heightened consciousness within the community. The training was	

attended by a total of 29 individuals, including representatives from partner organizations and the DF Somalia country office.

Have there been any concerns around Health, Safety and Security of your project over the past year? If yes, please outline how this was resolved.

Local movement between Somaliland and Puntland was not possible for partners due to the new restriction was imposed at Hargeisa airport. High outbreak of Dengue fever has been reported by Somaliland Ministry of Health and Development (MOHD) in Somaliland (Hargeisa, Gebiley and Borama) in October 2023, which created burden on the under resourced clinical facilities.

16 Project expenditure

16.1.1 Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024)

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2023/24 Grant (£)	2023/24 Total Darwin Initiative Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				Staff costs for DF was less than budgeted as the agronomist post was vacant for 3 months
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				Costs for HAVOYOCO under this line is under spent due to the ongoing case.
Operating Costs				Costs for HAVOYOCO under this line is under spent due to the ongoing case.
Capital items (see below)				Costs for HAVOYOCO under this line is under spent due to the ongoing case.
Others (see below)				Cost for local audit was more than budgeted which increased the

				spending under this line.
TOTAL	658,519	506,153*	77%	

*Please note that the amount of total Darwin Initiative costs does not include costs related to activities that were delayed because of the freeze of funds to HAVOYOCO and payment of salaries to project staff. DF has shared an overview of these costs to BCF and would like to discuss how to ensure that these funds are included in the actual claim or transferred to the annual budget for 2024-25. The total amount of these costs are estimated to USD 69,062, approximately GBP 55,282.

Table 2: Project mobilised or matched funding during the reporting period (1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024)

	Secured to date	Expected by end of project	Sources
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project (£)			Norad framework agreement
Total additional finance mobilised for new activities occurring outside of the project, building on evidence, best practices and the project (£)			

17 Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

.....

18 OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements or progress of your project so far (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

I agree for the Biodiversity Challenge Funds to edit and use the following for various promotional purposes (please leave this line in to indicate your agreement to use any material you provide here).

File Type (Image / Video / Graphic)	File Name or File Location	Caption including description, country, and credit	Social media accounts and websites to be tagged (leave blank if none)	Consent of subjects received (delete as necessary)
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No

				Yes / No
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19 Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against logframe for Financial Year 2022-2023

Project summary	Progress and Achievements April 2023 - March 2024	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>Increased climate resilience, food, and livelihood security for agro-pastoralists in Somaliland and Puntland</p>	<p>(Report on any contribution towards positive impact on biodiversity or positive changes in the conditions of human communities associated with biodiversity e.g. steps towards sustainable use or equitable sharing of costs or benefits)</p>	
<p>Outcome (Insert agreed project Outcome statement) Agricultural production, crop diversity and income generation for agro-pastoralist households in 5 communities are strengthened by improved access to locally adopted and high-quality seeds, facilitated by enabling seed policies.</p>		
<p>Outcome indicator 0.1</p> <p>0.1 (a) % of people in crisis or worse (IPC phase 3,4,5) in post Deyr season in the targeted Districts</p> <p>(b) % of people in minimal situation (IPC phase 1) in post Deyr season in targeted Districts</p>	<p>The percentage of the population in the crisis or worse phase has remained steady at 20% during the post-deyr season in the targeted areas, showing no changes as of 2021. However, as per the IPC portal FSNAU, 42% of the population in these villages currently falls into the minimal situation or IPC phase 1 category. The impact of the drought is further evidenced by a reduction in the percentage of people in the minimal situation (IPC phase 1), dropping from 57% in post-Deyr 2021 to 42% in 2023.</p>	
<p>Outcome indicator 0.2</p> <p>Indicator 0.2. Somaliland and Puntland National Seed Policies are enacted and disseminated by 2027</p>	<p>The Somaliland Seed Policy has undergone several reviews and is now ready for final approval by the cabinet, with input from legal experts. As for Puntland, their seed policy has been translated into the local language (Somali) and is currently in the final stage of validation.</p>	<p>Submission of this policy to the cabinet for final review and approval, alongside planning for the dissemination process.</p>
<p>Indicator 0.3. The 2 new Community Seed Banks (CSBs) distribute in total 10 tonnes of seeds in 2027 and generate an economic surplus</p>	<p>Two Community Seed Banks (CSBs) have been established in Midhisho and Dulcadale this year, with their construction recently finalized.</p>	<p>To complete the furnishings and installation of equipment in the CSBs, finalize the community committees, and commence efforts to enhance local seed systems and agrobiodiversity.</p>
<p>Indicator 0.4. The 3 current CSBs combined increase the sales of surpluses from a total of USD 3,000 in 2021 to a total of USD 8,000 in 2027.</p>	<p>This year, all three existing CSBs have achieved successful sales, resulting in a collective surplus increase in revenue. The project has made significant progress in generating</p>	<p>Continue our efforts to achieve the target of \$8,000, with only</p>

	surplus sales of seeds and produce, with the total amount increasing from \$3000 USD in 2021 to \$6402.3 USD in 2023-2024 (\$3402.3 USD for 2023) (Output 2).	20% remaining to be reached in the next period.
Indicator 0.5. Number of varieties conserved in the 5 CSBs increases from 71 to 140 varieties (from 13 crop species) by 2027.	This year, one CSB increased its seed varieties by adding six new ones, bringing the total to 77. However, collaborations with regional universities on Plant Genetic Resources faced delays in acquiring adaptable PGRs due to extended discussions, required certifications, and regional conflicts.	Continue ongoing collaborations and agreement processes with regional universities and seed centers to acquire additional seed varieties and Plant Genetic Resources (PGRs) in the next period.
Indicator 0.6. (DI-A04) 40 technical committee members attending training in seed management (ref. indicator 1.3) are applying new capabilities acquired from the training 6 months after training.	The training program enhanced 24 technical committee members' understanding of advanced seed production, conservation, and decision-making for seed security. Improved skills in seed selection, health maintenance, processing, and storage contributed to increased seed handling and sales this year (ref. Act 1.7)	Provide similar training sessions to the technical committee members who did not attend the seed management training this year, with the aim of achieving the predetermined targets in the upcoming period.
Indicator 0.7. (DI-B06) 6 Local Communities involved in the programme, with strengthened rights to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture	5 communities involved in the programme and enhanced their rights to plant genetic resources by establishing Community Seed Banks (CSBs) and providing support to existing CSBs. This involved conducting Seed Security Assessments (SSA), organizing knowledge-sharing workshops on SSAs, delivering Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) trainings, and conducting awareness sessions.	
Indicator 0.8. (DI-A03) 18 local/national organisations with capacity and capabilities improved as result of the project*	Six local organizations/partners have improved their capacities through formal trainings and workshops delivered by the project. These activities included sessions on budgeting, planning, and reporting, as well as quarterly review workshops. Practical training on the Climate Adaptive Villages (CAV) approach, workshops on community seed security assessment, and sessions to review the national seed policy were also conducted. Specialized training on code of conduct, anti-corruption measures, and procurement processes were provided. Regular monitoring and feedback mechanisms were implemented to ensure continuous support and enhancement in project activities.	
Output 1 Two CSBs are established with all necessary equipment, training, and management structures, 3 existing CSBs are better equipped to deliver quality seeds		

<p>Indicator 1.1: Two CSBs constructed and equipped with seed cleaning machines, airtight containers, weighing scales, drying ovens, fridges, hygrometer, Zeolite beads, electric fans (solar driven), seed germinators and storage facilities by 2025.</p>	<p>Two Community Seed Banks (CSBs) have been built in Midhisho and Dulcadale this year, showcasing the community's dedication to preserving local biodiversity. Demonstration fields have also been set up in both areas to promote sustainable agriculture and seed diversity effectively.</p>	<p>To equip the newly constructed CSBs in both villages with all the necessary tools and machinery.</p>
<p>Indicator 1.2: The CSB management committees are functional, with regular meetings, bylaws, and elected leadership by 2027.</p>	<p>The existing CSB management committees are operational with well-structured and elected leadership. They conduct regular meetings and have developed a new bylaw concerning machinery and equipment, in addition to revising and updating existing bylaws.</p>	<p>Develop and train the new CSB management committees to establish elected leadership and conduct regular meetings. Lead them in developing internal control systems and managing seed handling and access within the community, with the overarching goal of enhancing local seed systems and agrobiodiversity.</p>
<p>Indicator 1.3: 40 technical committee members trained for 5 days in crop and seed selections, seed health and cleaning, registration of seeds, seed processing and storage, seed monitoring, seed regeneration and recording of seeds (management) by 2026.**</p>	<p>A comprehensive training program on crop and seed selection, including seed health maintenance and proper processing, was provided to 24 technical committee members from the CSBs. Of these participants, 54% were female and 46% were male. The training significantly improved their knowledge of advanced seed production and conservation methods.</p>	<p>Continue providing similar trainings to the remaining technical committees from the CSBs to achieve the set targets for the upcoming period.</p>
<p>Indicator 1.4: Eight water infrastructures constructed and rehabilitated at community CSBs by 2027. (3 in 2023, 3 in 2024 and 2 in 2025)</p>	<p>Three water infrastructures were constructed and rehabilitated at CSBs in various targeted locations in 2023.</p>	<p>Continue ongoing efforts in the construction and rehabilitation of water infrastructures at the remaining CSBs to achieve the set targets for the next period.</p>
<p>Output 2. Five CSBs (2 new, 3 existing) supported to sell their seeds in markets outside their local communities</p>		
<p>Indicator 2.1. Two CSBs are established with all necessary equipment, training, and management structures, 3 existing CSBs are better equipped to deliver quality seeds</p>	<p>Two new CSBs were constructed, and various supports were provided to the three existing CSBs, including the construction of a new greenhouse and full rehabilitation of seed bank compounds and greenhouses. Drip irrigation systems were installed in the demonstration fields, and hermetic bags were provided to control and prevent pests in some of the seed banks. Training sessions were conducted to enhance the skills and knowledge of the CSB members, among other initiatives.</p>	<p>Provide increased support for the existing Community Seed Banks (CSBs) in order to enhance their capacity to deliver high-quality seeds. In addition, ensure that the newly constructed CSBs in both villages are equipped with all necessary tools and machinery. This includes the selection, training, and strengthening of the</p>

		management structures for the new CSBs, thereby enabling them to effectively initiate efforts in delivering high quality seeds.
Indicator 2.2: Five CSBs have started selling their produce outside of local markets by 2025.	The three existing CSBs effectively sold surplus seeds and produce to diverse customers. Furthermore, they exhibited their seed produce at the national seed fair organized by the Ministries of Agriculture.	The Community Seed Banks (CSBs) aim to improve seed handling and production activities, as well as expand their presence in local markets and communities, and to achieve the set targets of increasing sales in the next period.
Output 3. 2,500 smallholder farmers have improved access to water for agricultural use		
Indicator 3.1. 225 water infrastructures constructed or rehabilitated for irrigation in the targeted 5 communities and 1 community in the NSB by 2027 (96 in 2022, 110 in 2023 and 19 in 2024.)	This year, 128 water infrastructures, including earth dams, shallow wells, water canals, water retention gullies, HDPE geomembrane-plastic sheets, water tanks, and gallbladders, were constructed, rehabilitated, or provided, enriching irrigation support in the target communities.	To ensure the provision of water infrastructure for irrigation and domestic use in the five targeted communities and NSB, in order to achieve program targets in the upcoming fiscal year.
Output 4. 2,500 smallholders have new agricultural skills and access to improved quality soil		
Indicator 4.1: 2,500 (1,750 men and 750 women) smallholder farmers and 55 government extension officers trained for 12 days in good agricultural practices and climate smart agricultural practices to improve seed quality/reduce postharvest losses by 2026**	A total of 450 individuals, including farmers and government agents, participated in training sessions held in Somaliland and Puntland. Of these participants, 42% were female, and 58% were male. They gained expertise in good agricultural practices, pest management, and climate-smart techniques to improve seed quality and reduce postharvest losses.	To provide Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) trainings to farmers and government extension officers, alongside other stakeholders, to achieve the set targets for the upcoming year, and to continue improving seed quality and reducing postharvest losses through these initiatives.
Indicator 4.2. 500 hectares of land improved through establishment of soil and water conservation structures by 2026. (82 in 2022, 91 in 2023, 180 in 2024, 100 in 2025 and 47 in 2026).	Constructed 18,150 linear meters of soil bunds, covering 90.75 hectares in degraded lands in Somaliland and Puntland to enhance land productivity and agro-pastoral sustainability. Also built a 120-meter-long gabion basket covering 1.2 hectares for flood management in flood-prone areas.	
Output 5. Capacity of public officials to draft, enact and operationalize seed policy in Somaliland and Puntland is strengthened		

<p>Indicator 5.1: Puntland Seed Policy is translated to local language (Somali) by 2023</p>	<p>The Puntland Seed Policy has been translated into the local language (Somali), and its dissemination among communities and stakeholders demonstrate a commitment to inclusivity, transparency, and participatory governance in policy formulation and execution.</p>	<p>Widen the coverage and operationalize the seed policy among the community and stakeholders for effective implementation in the next period.</p>
<p>Indicator 5.2: 60 policy makers trained on seed policy and farmers rights by 2024.**</p>	<p>17 policy makers were sensitized and oriented on farmers' rights to access high-quality seeds, and they were actively involved in the development of the national seed policy and review processes.</p>	<p>Ensure ongoing efforts to engage pertinent policymakers to help establish the legal and regulatory framework governing seed production, distribution, and quality standards, ensuring that seed-related activities comply with national laws and international standards, and to achieve established targets during the next reporting period.</p>
<p>Indicator 5.3: Somaliland and Puntland Seed policies, passed and disseminated by 2027.</p>	<p>The Somaliland Ministry of Agriculture and Development (MOAD) presented the first draft of the national seed policy to the ministerial cabinet for review. After gathering valuable inputs from stakeholders, the policy is now ready for final review and approval by the cabinet, with input from legal experts.</p>	<p>Continue finalizing the policy by submitting it to the cabinet for final review and approval. Develop plans for its dissemination, enactment, and enforcement to ensure effective implementation of the seed policy.</p>
<p>Indicator 5.4. 2,500 smallholder farmers' knowledge on Rights to seeds enhanced by 2027.** (650 in 2023, 925 in 2024 and 925 in 2025).</p>	<p>An awareness program on smallholder farmers' seed rights was conducted among the target locations with 400 participants (37% female, 63% male). The program aimed to advocate for farmers' access to high-quality seeds at affordable prices and promote the conservation and regeneration of local crop varieties in the target villages.</p>	<p>Continue conducting awareness programs on seed rights among communities in the program's target locations to advocate for farmers' access to high-quality seeds at affordable prices.</p>

Annex 2: Project’s full current log frame as presented in the application form (unless changes have been agreed)

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: Increased climate resilience, food and livelihood security for agro-pastoralists in Somaliland and Puntland.			
Outcome: Agricultural production, crop diversity and income generation for agro-pastoralist households in 5 communities are strengthened by improved access to locally adopted and high-quality seeds, facilitated by enabling seed policies.	0.1 (a) % of people in crisis or worse (IPC phase 3,4,5) in post Deyr season in the targeted Districts (b) % of people in minimal situation (IPC phase 1) in post Deyr season in targeted Districts 0.2 Somaliland and Puntland National Seed Policies are enacted and disseminated by 2027 0.3 The 2 new Community Seed Banks (CSBs) distribute in total 10 tonnes of seeds in 2027 and generate an economic surplus 0.4 The 3 current CSBs combined increase the sales of surpluses from a total of USD 3,000 in 2021 to a total of USD 8,000 in 2027. 0.5 Number of varieties conserved in the 5 CSBs increases from 71 to 140 varieties (from 13 crop species) by 2027. 0.6 (DI-A04) 40 technical committee members attending training in seed management (ref. indicator 1.3) are applying new capabilities acquired from the training 6 months after training.	0.1 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification online database and Food consumption score card (Indicator 0.1) 0.2 Project Monitoring Reports (Indicator 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5) 0.3 Seed policies in Somaliland and Puntland (indicator 0.2) 0.4 CSB business plans and registers (indicator 0.3 and 0.4) 0.5 Seed bank biodiversity Registers (indicator 0.5) 0.6 Most Significant Change stories and/or Focus Group Discussions with smallholder farmers	0.1 <i>The proposed national seed policy and related regulatory framework is enacted and implemented in an effective and timely manner:</i> Political will and commitment to enact and operationalise the national seed policy in the two regions - including establishment of the National Seed Bank - is critical to goal achievement. Sustainable seed production by smallholder farmers and seed security overall depends on a conducive policy environment, a clear legal framework for the operation of CSBs, and efficient regulation by public authorities. Ineffective operationalisation of the seed policy could threaten commercial viability by delaying or disrupting value-chain development and marketing channels. 0.2 Project areas do not experience sustained and extreme weather events and cc-related shocks, or serious

	<p>0.7 (DI-B06) 6 Local Communities involved in the programme, with strengthened rights to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture</p> <p>0.8 (DI-A03) 18 local/national organisations with capacity and capabilities improved as result of the project*</p>		<p>and long-lasting outbreaks of crop disease.</p> <p>0.3 Political calm and security prevail in Somaliland and Puntland. The continuing conflict situation in Ethiopia does not “spill over” with negative implications for cross-border trade, market conditions, and farm-gate prices.</p> <p>0.4 Adverse effects of the Covid-19 pandemic are minimised and mitigated by national authorities and local communities.</p> <p>0.5 Exchange rates fluctuation is within acceptable range and supports delivery with planned budget.</p> <p>0.6 Adequate capacity of DF partners to effectively implement and deliver planned results according to schedule and within the budgetary frame.</p>
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. Two CSBs are established with all necessary equipment, training, and management structures, 3 existing CSBs are better equipped to deliver quality seeds</p>	<p>1.1 Two CSBs constructed and equipped with seed cleaning machines, airtight containers, weighing scales, drying ovens, fridges, hygrometer, Zeolite beads, electric fans (solar driven), seed</p>	<p>1.1 Activity database (indicator 1.1,1.3,1.4)</p> <p>1.2 Project registers (indicator 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4)</p> <p>1.3 Participants’ register (indicator 1.2 and 1.3)</p>	<p>1.1 Strong ownership and effective participation by local communities, traditional leadership and other key stakeholders.</p>

	<p>germinators and storage facilities by 2025.</p> <p>1.2 The CSB management committees are functional, with regular meetings, bylaws, and elected leadership by 2027.</p> <p>1.3 40 technical committee members trained for 5 days in crop and seed selections, seed health and cleaning, registration of seeds, seed processing and storage, seed monitoring, seed regeneration and recording of seeds (management) by 2026.**</p> <p>1.4 Eight water infrastructures constructed and rehabilitated at community CSBs by 2027. (3 in 2023, 3 in 2024 and 2 in 2025)</p>	1.4 FGD with smallholder famers (all indicators under output 1)	1.2 Willingness of local communities to respect gender equality and adequately support inclusion of women – including in decision-making roles – in programme activities.
2. Five CSBs (2 new, 3 existing) supported to sell their seeds in markets outside their local communities	<p>2.1 Detailed business plans, including plans for marketing and sales, developed and implemented for 5 CSBs by 2024</p> <p>2.2 Five CSBs have started selling their produce outside of local markets by 2025.</p>	<p>2.1 Business plans (indicator 2.1)</p> <p>2.2 Activity database (indicator 2.1)</p> <p>2.3 Project register (indicator 2.2)</p> <p>2.4 Seed bank registers (indicator 2.2)</p>	<p>2.1 Strong ownership and effective participation by communities, traditional leadership and other key stakeholders.</p> <p>2.2 Active participation of women.</p> <p>2.3 Effective and timely access to relevant markets.</p>
3. 2,500 smallholder farmers have improved access to water for agricultural use	3.1 225 water infrastructures constructed or rehabilitated for irrigation in the targeted 5 communities and 1 community in the NSB by 2027 (96 in 2022, 110 in 2023 and 19 in 2024.)	<p>3.1 Project register updated quarterly</p> <p>3.2 Field measurements and project register updated quarterly</p>	3.1 Strong community ownership supports effective delivery of results. Communities facilitate active participation of women in all aspects of training.

			3.2 Adequate support from the NSB facilitates effective delivery.
4. 2,500 smallholders have new agricultural skills and access to improved quality soil	<p>4.1 2,500 (1,750 men and 750 women) smallholder farmers and 55 government extension officers trained for 12 days in good agricultural practices and climate smart agricultural practices to improve seed quality/reduce postharvest losses by 2026**</p> <p>4.2 500 hectares of land improved through establishment of soil and water conservation structures by 2026. (82 in 2022, 91 in 2023, 180 in 2024, 100 in 2025 and 47 in 2026).</p>	<p>4.1 Activity database (indicator 4.1 and 4.2)</p> <p>4.2 Training report (indicator 4.1)</p> <p>4.2 Participants register (indicator 4.1)</p> <p>4.3 Field measurements and project register updated quarterly (indicator 4.2)</p> <p>4.3 Monitoring report, photos (indicator 4.1 and 4.2)</p>	<p>4.1 Communities facilitate active participation of women in all aspects of training.</p> <p>4.2 Public officials facilitate selection and active participation of relevant extension officers.</p> <p>4.3 Rehabilitation/restoration of degraded landscapes is promoted through a concurrent emphasis on resilient, sustainable and productive agricultural systems, including pastoral and agro-pastoral systems.</p>
5. Capacity of public officials to draft, enact and operationalize seed policy in Somaliland and Puntland is strengthened	<p>5.1 Puntland Seed Policy is translated to local language (Somali) by 2023</p> <p>5.2 60 policy makers trained on seed policy and farmers rights by 2024.**</p> <p>5.3 Somaliland and Puntland Seed policies, passed and disseminated by 2027.</p> <p>5.4 2,500 smallholder farmers' knowledge on Rights to seeds enhanced by 2027.** (650 in 2023, 925 in 2024 and 925 in 2025).</p>	<p>5.1 Activity database (indicator 5.1 and 5.5)</p> <p>5.2 Project register updated quarterly (indicator 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4)</p> <p>5.2 Meeting reports from policy dialogues, key informant interviews (indicator 5.2)</p> <p>5.3 National Seed Policy (indicator 5.4)</p>	<p>5.1 Sufficient buy-in from policy makers is secured. Relevant officials (i.e. decision-makers) are selected and participate actively, and successfully complete, training.</p>

Activities

Output 1

- 1.1. Provide training on gender-sensitive seed security assessment (SSA) to 3 local partners.
- 1.2. Conduct Seed Security Assessment (SSA) in 3 communities with local communities and other local actors.
- 1.3. Hold SSA knowledge sharing workshop targeting 2 government agencies, 6 NGOs, 11 INGOs, 22 farmer groups and cooperatives, 6 women and youth associations, 12 local committees, 6 academic institutes engaged in SSA knowledge sharing and dissemination.
- 1.4. Construct 2 new CSBs (one in Dulcadale Puntland and one in Midhisho in Somaliland), and equip them with seed cleaning machines, airtight containers, weighing scales, drying ovens, fridges, hygrometer, Zeolite beads, electric fans (solar driven) and seed germinators. (Locations are changed as informed in the half-year report for 2023-24.)
- 1.5. Scaling up and supporting 3 existing CSBs (2 in Somaliland and 1 in Puntland).
- 1.6. Scaling up the existing National Community Gene Bank CSB (NCSB) in Somaliland, e.g. construction of seed storage facility, procurement of seed processing and cleaning machine, seed moisture measurement machines, seed scaling machines, seed treatment and planter machines.
- 1.7. Train 40 technical committee members for 5 days in crop and seed selections, seed health and cleaning, registration of seeds, seed processing and storage, seed monitoring, seed regeneration, recording of seeds (management) and packaging.
- 1.8. Provide technical support to CSBs and NSB to operate machinery and equipment.
- 1.9. Work with CSB management committees to develop internal control systems on seed production and provide training to strengthen CSB management.
- 1.10. Provide seed handling, and development trainings for CSB Management Committees and Government extensionists
- 1.11. Collect Plant Genetic Resources (PGRs) in Somaliland and Puntland and obtain adaptable PGRs from regional gene banks based on needs pinpointed in the SSAs.
- 1.12. Conduct adaptation tests and participatory varietal selection trials of new varieties.
- 1.13. Construct and rehabilitate water infrastructures at community CSBs and the NSB: 2 boreholes in Galoolay and Beer, extension of pipes and water tank in Cuun, 500m of water canal in Midhisho, 1 new strategic shallow well in Dulcadale and upgrading of water dam at the NSB. (Locations changed as informed in the half-year report for 2023-24.)
- 1.14. Pilot other initiatives to improve seed availability, access and quality based on priorities/opportunities identified in the SSAs.

Output 2

- 2.1. Conduct market survey to confirm business opportunities.
- 2.2. Support CSBs and NSB with packaging and branding of seeds.
- 2.3. Raise awareness of 2500 (1750 men and 750 women) smallholder farmers on the availability of quality seeds in the CSBs and NSB.
- 2.4. Promoting linkages between the small holder farmers and CSBs Management Committee to enable small holder farmers to borrow seeds.
- 2.5. Develop and support the implementation of business plans, including a sales and marketing strategy, to generate income for the new 2 CSBs and existing 3 CSBs and NSB.
- 2.6. Attendance at annual seed fairs and exhibitions.
- 2.7. Marketing campaigns of CSB seeds through local media outlets, dialogues, and social gatherings.
- 2.8. Direct marketing to potential customers, including government and aid agencies.
- 2.9. Establish and/or access a distribution system.

Output 3

- 3.1. Construction and rehabilitation of water infrastructures for irrigation in the targeted 5 communities and 1 community in the National CSB: rehabilitation of 12 shallow wells and distribution of 12 plastic pipes for farm irrigation in Dulcadale, Cuun and Beer, extension of 500m water canal in Midhisho and distribution of 200 LDPEO plastic sheets in Galoley and Abuurin. (Locations changed as informed in the half-year report for 2023-24.)
- 3.2. Build the capacity of the 750 smallholder farmers on rainwater conservation and usage.
- 3.3. Provide 225 smallholder farmers with household level water storage facilities to irrigate home gardens.
- 3.4. Build the capacity of 50 smallholder farmers on assessing water availability and assist them to draw proper seasonal planting plans based on the forecasted onset of rainfall.

Output 4

- 4.1. Provide trainings to 2500 (1750 men and 750 women) smallholder farmers and 55 government extension officers for 12 days in good agricultural practices, pests management and climate smart agricultural practices to strengthen seed quality and reduce postharvest losses.
- 4.2. Sensitize 2500 smallholder farmers with market information.
- 4.3. Support the development and implementation of 5 climate adaptation action plans with communities and local government/partners.
- 4.4. Enhance the capacity of 5 communities on soil and water conservation through training and awareness raising.
- 4.5. Conduct participatory mapping and assessment to develop community soil and water conservation plans.
- 4.6. Construct 500 hectares of holistic watershed management structures
- 4.7. This initiative demonstrates a proactive approach to tackling the challenges presented by flash floods, thus contributing to the resilience and sustainability of agricultural practices in the project area.

Output 5

- 5.1. Translate Puntland Seed Policy to Local language (Somali)
- 5.2. Support CSOs to lead advocacy initiatives on enactment of seed policy.
- 5.3. Sensitize 2500 (1750 men and 750 women) smallholder farmers and 60 policymakers on farmers rights to seed.
- 5.4. Orient 60 policymakers (government officials and parliamentarians) on enactment and enforcement of seed policy (Puntland and Somaliland).
- 5.5. Disseminate Somaliland Puntland Seed Policies to Somaliland and Puntland Region and District.

20 Annex 3: Standard Indicators

20.1.1 Table 1 Project Standard Indicators

DI Indicator number	Name of indicator	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
E.g. DI-A01	E.g. Number of people in eligible countries who have completed structured and relevant training	People	Men	20			20	60
E.g. DI-A01	E.g. Number of people in eligible countries who have completed structured and relevant training	People	Women	30			30	60
E.g. DI-B01	E.g. Number of new or improved habitat management plans available and endorsed	Number	New	1			1	2
E.g. DI-B01	E.g. Number of new or improved habitat management plans available and endorsed	Number	Improved	1			1	3

In addition to reporting any information on publications under relevant standard indicators, in Table 2, provide full details of all publications and material produced over the last year that can be publicly accessed, e.g. title, name of publisher, contact details, cost. You should include publications as supporting materials with your report. Mark with an asterisk (*) all publications and other material that you have included with this report.

20.1.2 Table 2 Publications

Title	Type (e.g. journals, best practice manual, blog post, online videos, podcasts, CDs)	Detail (authors, year)	Gender of Lead Author	Nationality of Lead Author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)

21 Annex 4: Onwards – supplementary material (optional but encouraged as evidence of project achievement)

This may include outputs of the project, but need not necessarily include all project documentation. For example, the abstract of a conference would be adequate, as would be a summary of a thesis rather than the full document. If we feel that reviewing the full document would be useful, we will contact you again to ask for it to be submitted.

It is important, however, that you include enough evidence of project achievement to allow reassurance that the project is continuing to work towards its objectives. Evidence can be provided in many formats (photos, copies of presentations/press releases/press cuttings, publications, minutes of meetings, questionnaires, reports etc.) and you should ensure you include some of these materials to support the Annual Report text.

If you are attaching separate documents, please list them here with an Annex reference number so that we can clearly identify the correct documents.

22 Checklist for submission

	Check
Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the correct template (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and deleted the blue guidance text before submission?	X
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with BCF-Reports@niras.com about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	X
Have you included means of verification? You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	X
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 16)?	
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	X
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	X
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	