



Candlelight

for Environment, Education and Health

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>Candlelight for Environment, and Health</i>	4
<i>Outcomes and Impacts 2021 in Snapshot</i>	5
<i>Environment and Livelihoods</i>	6
<i>Environment</i>	7
<i>Food security and livelihoods</i>	8
<i>Multi-purpose cash transfers</i>	9
<i>Village savings & loan associations and self-help groups</i>	10
<i>Hawa's story</i>	11
<i>Improving livelihoods through sisal production</i>	12
<i>Innovative raised bed - home gardening</i>	13
<i>Capacity building and agricultural support for smallholder farmers</i>	14
<i>Livestock and animal production</i>	15
<i>Sa'ada's story</i>	16
<i>Fodder production for livestock feed</i>	17
<i>Animal welfare</i>	18
<i>Amina's story</i>	20
<i>Innovative fishery for job creation</i>	21
<i>Education and skills development</i>	23
<i>Water, sanitation And hygiene</i>	28
<i>Health and nutrition</i>	29
<i>Gender and protection</i>	31
<i>Khadra's story</i>	32
<i>Emergency and humanitarian response</i>	33
<i>Beneficiary feedback</i>	34



Message from the **CHAIRMAN**

Despite the prolonged global economic crunch, the impact of COVID-19, and increasing emergencies caused by conflicts and climate change, the year 2021 has been another productive and busy period for Candlelight. Service delivery to communities through projects in all of its different sectors continued.

Due to climate-related emergencies, the utilization of large funding portions went to Candlelight interventions positioned to address the negative impacts of the long-standing and persistent drought affecting Somaliland.

Moreover, the cumulative effects of droughts, environmental degradation, COVID-19, and soaring prices for food, fuel, and other commodities meant less to eat for poor and lower-middle-class families.

The various interventions carried out by Candlelight across the six regions of Somaliland aimed at improving the lives of our beneficiaries would not have been possible without the dedication and support of our staff, partner communities, funding agencies, and collaborating government agencies.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere thankfulness to our funders for providing and maintaining support to our programs, to Candlelight staff for diligently contributing to the realization of our objectives, to the communities who worked with us for their receptiveness and cooperation, and to government counterparts for their supportive role.

Ahmed Ibrahim Awale



Message from the **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

I am proud to say, 2021 has been another successful year for Candlelight. Our goals and expectations in improving circumstances for the most marginalized communities in Somaliland through dedication and commitment were successful.

Candlelight is diligent in tackling environmental issues posed by climate change, natural disasters, and human impacts to counteract the rapid national environmental degradation reaching every corner of the country.

To overcome these challenges, Candlelight adheres to its core values and mission statement while developing strategic objectives to secure measurable and tangible results. Candlelight also operates to adapt to the needs of its recipients and donors and accordingly maneuvers to stay well informed.

Candlelight implemented numerous projects and programs this year to upscale its operations, overcome existing human suffering, and reach the lives of vulnerable people in all six regions of Somaliland. Our thematic support areas remain pivotal, continued emphasis on supporting natural resource management, environmental conservation, livelihoods, WASH, nutrition, and education stand firm.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all our donors and partners who have graciously supported our work with invaluable technical and financial support. These contributions have assisted in improving the lives of the most vulnerable, unheard, and isolated people in Somaliland. Our collaborations have strengthened social, economic, and political platforms that symbolize hope for future generations.

I encourage all staff at Candlelight to remain steadfast in their commitment to our vision, mission, and core values. I champion continual personal and career development and inspire you all to continue your endeavor on this noble path of supporting the varied needs of the most underprivileged.

Abdirizak Bashir Libah

Candlelight for Environment, Education and Health

IDENTITY

Candlelight for Environment, Education & Health is a non-profit organization founded in 1995 dedicated to improving the quality of lives for underserved and marginalized communities of Somaliland. Through the development and deliverance of humanitarian interventions that support sustainable community growth in line with its core mission.

Candlelight works all over Somaliland, implementing numerous projects in the sectors of environment and livelihoods, education and skills training, health and nutrition, gender and protection, emergency response, and humanitarian support.



Our Vision

Peaceful, environmentally conscious and productive society



Our Mission

Building partnerships to improve the quality of community and lives through environmental conservation, and fair access to quality education, health, and humanitarian services



Core Values

Candlelight upholds the institutional and ethical values stipulated here below:

INTEGRITY:

Honesty and trust, transparency and accountability, ensuring all our work meets the best standards.

EQUITY AND FAIRNESS:

Embrace diversity, gender equality, impartiality, and non-discrimination in all our activities, while endeavoring to target the most vulnerable communities.

EXCELLENCY: Confident and persistent commitment to the pursuit and delivering the highest quality service on all fronts

COLLABORATION AND TEAM

SPIRIT: Internal and external collaboration through knowledge co-creating, embedding participation, forming an inspiring workplace, and celebrating employees' efforts.

CULTURAL NORMS AND

VALUES: respecting community values and traditions, promoting sensitivity and tolerance, welcoming ideas from all, shaping positive attitudes and behaviors, and encouraging harmony and understanding.

Outcomes and Impacts

2021 in Snapshot

 **2,355**

People received multi-purpose cash transfers both conditional and unconditional to cover their immediate food and nutrition needs.

 **866**

Farming households were trained on climate change adaptation strategies, Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), Urban farming techniques, Integrated pest management, Agri-business, sustainable soil management practices, sustainable use of water resources and fodder production.

 **2,495**

Households beneficiaries received water supply points including, sub surface dams, shallow wells and barkerds (water storage pools) for their families and livestock.

 **18,435**

People were received health care including 7,170 children under the age of 5 were screened MAM & CMAM and then 2,180 positive cases of MAM & CMAM were selected, 2,310 were immunized where 5,140 outpatients were treatment and 1, 635 were provided health consultation.

 **77,030**

Linear meters of soil bunds approximately eight hectares of farming and rangeland including the irrigation channels were constructed or rehabilitated and reseeded through Cash for Work.

 **1,000**

Livestock such as goats and sheep were distributed to 50 venerable households who lost their livestock during the drought.

 **18,760**

People received Covid-19 hygiene and sanitation trainings and awareness with IEC material through Covid-19 campaign.

 **1,695**

Our schools offered formal education to 1,175 students and 522 TEVT trainees graduated from our VTC centers.

 **10,867**

People received FGM/C and GBV awareness, trainings, consultations on negative consequences of FGM and GBV and provided dignity kits.



Environment and Livelihoods

Climate change continues to wreak havoc across Somaliland, pressuring the livelihoods of fragile citizens and internal migrants already vulnerable. The year 2021 brought heavy rains resulting in floods that damaged crops, the latter part of the year brought droughts leaving farmlands and rangelands that had already been subject to overgrazing and charcoal burning degraded. As the drought intensified and swept across districts the number of internally displaced people climbed sharply. Large concentrations of families and livestock along water resources could lead to resource related conflict overtime.

Environmental conditions have been harsh, especially for the vulnerable and populations whose income depend on livestock and crops. Multifaceted challenges have left many confused and helpless. Resources have been limited and demand for our services growing. The suspension of Somaliland's international livestock trade left many families out of pocket and financially stuck. Tensions intensifying as millions of livestock lost their lives due to ongoing droughts. Food supply chain disruptions and import inflation due to COVID-19 has rocket food prices. More and more families are depending on food and water aid.

Candlelight have been busy reaching the most needing communities to provide essential humanitarian support, increase community resilience and sustainability. To address long-term challenges Candlelight supports vulnerable communities acknowledge, adapt to and mitigate climate related shocks at household, community, and regional levels. supports farmers develop agricultural practices to improve food security,

Environment



During this reporting period, Candlelight successfully rehabilitated degraded farming & rangeland through our cash-for-work program. Soil bunds stretching over 77,030 linear meters of farm and rangeland were constructed or rehabilitated and later reseeded with locally appropriate drought-resistant fodder seeds.

Irrigation channels and drip systems were either constructed or rehabilitated. A total of 181 hectares of pastureland and forest areas have been protected from deforestation and reseeded with climate-resistant seeds, seeds of different natures, the *Cenchrus Ciliaris* as an example. A variable, nutritious, and soil-enriching grass species that reduces soil erosion and improves water infiltration. A plant chose to produce nutritional feed for livestock grazing.

Candlelight established a comprehensive research study to examine endangered, indigenous, and non-invasive value trees and their propagation methods. This study identified 23 indigenous value species, consisting of 19 trees and 4 shrubs. Two commercial tree nurseries are now up and running to promote the production of indigenous food and value trees. 190 beneficiaries were given training on agroforestry, sustainable protection, reproduction, use, distribution, and marketing of identified valuable trees.

The University of Hargeisa and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change continue to collaborate on pushing the findings of this study further. A total of 49 members from 5 forest management committees received training on managing communal grazing systems, improving forest reservation, and preventing deforestation and unsustainable use of natural resources.



FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

Recurring droughts and disasters driven by climate change have triggered anguish in farmers. The productivity of farmlands nationwide is on a steady decline, and much of Somaliland's food production is coming to a halt. Diminishing land resources is causing communities to witness their livelihoods plummeting. The numbers of desperate and dependent households are on the rise.

Candlelight collaborates with food security sub-clusters and groups to gather vital data to determine the prevailing food security situations on the ground.

Candlelight prioritized households falling into vulnerable groups, women-headed households, IDP, households with pregnant or lactating women, and disabled persons.

Candlelight helped vulnerable communities restore their livelihoods by assisting in generating income sources for under-served communities, especially those impacted by water shortages. Several interventions intended to support vulnerable communities took place. These include multi-purpose cash transfers, capacity-building training, and agricultural support.



Distribution of essential food items to 1012 HH

Multi-Purpose Cash Transfers

Increasing food prices, recurring droughts, unemployment, youth migrating to seek alternative opportunities in developing cities, and declining human resources are weakening village life. Children today are raised on stories of what village life once was. With a lack of intervention, many villages have failed, breaking their communal backbone. Consequently, vulnerable communities in Somaliland are increasingly relying on cash-based assistance to assist with their basic daily needs. Our cash-for-work programs intend to address food insecurity and help people regain their nutritional needs.

Multi-purpose conditional and unconditional cash transfers were distributed to 2,343 households. Unconditional cash transfers were distributed to highly vulnerable groups (identified above), while conditional cash transfers targeted abled men and women who engaged in works to rehabilitate agricultural and pastoral lands. Rehabilitation activities involved the construction and restorations of balis, irrigation canals, soil bunds,

and other activities aiming to improve the regeneration of natural resources and agricultural production.

Sool and Sanaag are among the worst drought-affected regions in Somaliland. Water scarcities in these regions have spiked water prices, leaving many farmers unable to water their crops. Subsequently, several farmlands across the country are unworked. Candlelight completed numerous rehabilitation programs for the replenishment of such lands.

Despite delayed rainfall and COVID-19-related obstacles, activities to replenish farmlands and rangelands were successful and cash-for-work payouts were given to beneficiaries through mobile money installments.



VILLAGE SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATIONS AND SELF-HELP GROUPS

Our projects supporting village savings & loan associations (VSLA) and self-help groups (SHGs) promote the creation and running of small-scale businesses and the circulation and inclusion of finances to improve livelihoods in poor communities across Somaliland. These projects mostly attract women, thereby challenging social norms. Women who contribute financially to their households often feel more confident participating in household and community decisions. The trickle-down effect of empowering women improves solidarity among otherwise marginalized groups and serves as an example for upcoming



All members of VSLA and SHGs were supported with operational provisions and appropriate training. Training offered included; numeracy and literacy, capacity building, the concept of saving, and loans management. Further sources of provisions were distributed to cover need gaps like seeds, solar lamps, and simple building materials for the construction of small shops/kiosks. The support benefited 745 households.

HAWA'S STORY



Hawa, a single mother of seven kids from Erigavo, sold bread for income. Unable to make ends meet, Hawa struggled to feed her family. With no one to rely on, she turned to Candlelight for support. Hawa joined an SHG in her village supported by Candlelight, borrowing 800,000 shillings to invest in a charcoal business startup. Hawa has since improved her family's food security and sent her children to school. Hawa looks forward to being able to provide for her family in new ways.





IMPROVING LIVELIHOODS THROUGH SISAL PRODUCTION

The plant fiber of sisal, *Agave sisalana* is traditionally known for its use in rope making, a tradition passed down for generations. Nowadays, Sisal fibers make variety of household and personal items. To strengthen Sisal farming for improved yield capacity, Candlelight supported 140 beneficiaries, 70 males and 70 females from rural and vulnerable villages in the region of Saaxil. Beneficiaries received training in sisal farming techniques to increase the capacity for sisal plantations and were further supported with communal irrigation channels for access to water, distribution of Sisal seeds and seedlings, and the delivery of agricultural hand tools. After the decortication of the Sisal plant, farmers use its waste product for animal feed and bio-fertilizers. Increasing awareness of the eco-friendly and biodegradable nature of Sisal products has surged global value for

The program delivered training to help beneficiaries improve entrepreneurial skills to help households with income generation. Beneficiaries received training to help them develop the competence to generate Sisal custom-made designs for items such as handbags, baskets, and carpets with added market value to increase income from sales. Sisal product collection points were set up in four villages and managed by the most actively engaged Sisal businessperson in each village. Sisal collection points serve a market link between sisal producers and sisal buyers. Retailors of Sisal products in Hargeisa and other towns also benefited from the project.



“Before Candlelight, women struggled to contribute financially to their households. Thanks to Candlelight, our new skill sets enable us to build better and more resilient livelihoods for our families.”

“We can now work and use our skills wherever we are. We sit under trees and make sisal bags while observing our herds”.

INNOVATIVE RAISED BED - HOME GARDENING

To help vulnerable families improve their livelihoods and socio-economic statuses. Candlelight conducted home gardening projects for a total of 64 beneficiaries in the regions of Awdal and Togdheer. The objective was to help support beneficiaries to develop techniques and skills that would allow them to improve their food production and income-generating capacities.

Both urban raised gardening beds and self-owned plots of land were utilized. Beneficiaries received practical demonstrations from qualified and trained instructors. Post-monitoring evaluations found participants were able to apply skills learnt efficiently and saw improvements in independently sustained gardens producing increased yields of



Training included; land preparation and sowing, water and weed management, soil nutrition, and harvesting. Beneficiaries received seeds of onion, tomato, and hot pepper. In addition, with tools such as shovels, rakes, pickaxes, and geo-plastic membrane water storage bags to help facilitate their independence.

Post-monitoring evaluations found participants were able to apply skills learnt efficiently and saw improvements in independently sustained gardens producing increased yields of vegetation.

CAPACITY BUILDING AND AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT FOR SMALLHOLDER FARMERS

Smallholder farmers are often found vulnerable and challenged with climate afflictions such as recurring droughts and high temperatures, which often result in crop failures, leaving farmers in despair. In addition, flourishing rangelands are targets to nomads who flock around in search of greener pastures from neighboring regions and charcoal burners who are in search to cut trees. Additional pressures are pushing agro-pastoralists to inner cities to seek alternative lifestyles. Unfortunately, economic situations do not improve for all who move to the cities. Many find themselves stuck and deprived.

To protect vulnerable farmers and agro-pastoralists across Somaliland from weakening livelihoods, Community Adaptation Plans (CAV) were drawn out with the involvement of local community members to address vulnerabilities in 5 target villages, Bali Abane, Gunburaha, Ruqi, Bahadhamal, and Garbahaarey. Collective community efforts in identifying and prioritizing climate-smart agricultural strategies to mitigate climate change saw enhanced community resil-



Candlelight provided agricultural training to 866 agro-pastoralists and farming households to increase identified skill shortages. Candlelight carefully designed all training programs to help strengthen the productive capacities of farmers. Training sessions were delivered by experienced facilitators such as agronomists delivered training. Training areas included sustainable climate change adaptation techniques, crop production, soil cultivation, moisture harvesting and sustainable use of water resources, integrated pest management techniques, post-harvesting management, and market linkage methods to draw developed income generation strategies.

Climate change awareness sessions and workshops were held in villages such as Garbahaadley. The slogan ‘Ogow (knowledge), Qabo (action), & Joogtayn (sustainability)’ was displayed in target villages to motivate community mindfulness and to encourage the action of adaptation measures. CAV activities strengthen community climate adaptive capacities. These activities include the construction of soil bunds to minimize flash floods, the construction or rehabilitation

of dams and berkads (water pools) for water conservation, the construction and rehabilitation of irrigation channels, and the plantations of climate adaptive seeds and seedlings such as Leucaena, Neem, tamarind, Ziziphus mauritania and Mahogany for windbreak, shade and greener pastures. Farmers received tillage hours, climate-resilient and high-yielding seeds, and agricultural tools.

Candlelight's post-monitoring evaluation found that 87% of CAV plans active and improved village coordination in seeing through identified environmental vulnerabilities.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTION

of dams and berkads (water pools) for water conservation, the construction and rehabilitation of irrigation channels, and the plantations of climate adaptive seeds and seedlings such as Leucaena, Neem, tamarind, Ziziphus mauritania and Mahogany for windbreak, shade and greener pastures. Farmers received tillage hours, climate-resilient and high-yielding seeds, and agricultural tools.

Candlelight's post-monitoring evaluation found that 87% of CAV plans active and improved village coordination in seeing through identified environmental vulnerabilities.



ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS THROUGH LIVESTOCK DISTRIBUTION

Candlelight distributed a total of 1,000 sheep and goats to 50 deprived and marginalized households. Each household received 20 breeding goats and/or sheep. Distributions took place in the villages of Gunburaha, Baha-dhamal, and Bali-abane.



SA'ADA'S STORY

"My name is Sa'ada Mohamed Jaama. I am a married woman with seven children and a beneficiary of Candlelight's restocking program. Candlelight offered me 20 goats; I now have 48 shoats. "My life has taken a turn for the better, I am now able to feed my family interpedently and make additional income selling animal products. My family and I have recovered from the hardship of climate induced loss. We now have a vision for our future and a renewed sense of hope. Furthermore, we have become respected pastoralists in our village this has positively impacted my confidence.

I thank Candlelight for supporting me at my weakest, strengthening my spirit, and helping me provide for my family. Without this support, my life would have taken a drastic turn for the worse".

FODDER PRODUCTION FOR LIVESTOCK FEED



To replenish exhausted rangelands for livestock feed, Candlelight assisted farmers and livestock keepers in developing climate adaptive strategies to combat climate change catastrophes. Selected farmers received training to enhance agricultural capacities for sustainable fodder production. Training subjects covered included; improved fodder production, preservation techniques and livestock management. This support provided capacity building for 210 beneficiaries. Trainees were equipped with theoretical and practical skills to continue their fodder production independently after training. Tools such as baling boxes and sickles were given to beneficiaries to facilitate efficiency



ANIMAL WELFARE

Disease prone malnourished livestock weakened by droughts have become a growing concern. To support livestock keepers, Candlelight provided complete training for 32 males and females from 7 villages to become Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs). Further training on animal disease surveillance and treatment was also given. Beneficiaries were given a veterinary kit, each comprising of hooper trimmer, Burdizo, Bolus Gun,

20-litre spray pump, albendazole suspension and bolus, pen-streps, alamycine spray, Oxytetracycline, ivermectin, and disposable syringes. Candlelight constructed and/or rehabilitated 7 dams, 12 berkeds (water pools), 6 shallow wells, and water troughs increasing access to water for a total of 2,945 marginalized and vulnerable farming households and their livestock across Somaliland, targeting regions most impacted by drought.



Cost-effective and reliable solar-powered water pumping systems were installed on several shallow wells to ease access to water. Solar panels were placed on the outskirts of sub-surface sand dams to generate electricity. Four beneficiaries were trained in the operations and maintenance of solar systems in four target villages. Solar pumping irrigation systems were set up in recipient communities to assist farming households with increasing crop production.



AMINA'S STORY

Amina Abdi, a beneficiary from the village of Wayle-Sidke: “Candlelight met our needs by reconstructing the community’s only well. Approximately 500 people and their livestock use this well for water. The well had a negative psychological impact on the community as accessing it for water involved exposure to high levels of danger. Many badly injured in their pursuit of water.

Unfortunately, a few lost their lives in the process. Reaching its water was near impossible. Only strong-bodied individuals were able to do so. Since its restoration, we no longer fear or worry. The water kiosk has made access to water safe and efficient. We can now collect water at any time, day and night without the accompaniment of men. Children, elderly, pregnant women, and other vulnerable individuals can collect water safely now.

We thank Candlelight for their support, a huge weight has been lifted and we are overwhelmingly thankful and pleased.”



We thank Candlelight for their support, a huge weight has been lifted and we are overwhelmingly thankful and pleased.”

INNOVATIVE FISHERY FOR JOB CREATION

To construct a factual analysis of Somaliland's fishing industry, Candlelight conducted a Fish value chain and market study in the district of Berbera. The study assessed the sectors potential for employment, production, and export. The study also aimed to provide description of available opportunities and challenges surrounding existing domestic and overseas markets.

The research aimed to bring out suitable models to link smallholders to input and output markets to improve the benefits that fishermen, fisherwomen, and other value chain actors derive from the chain. Oxfam received our findings for their programming.

Somaliland has a coastal line of 850 km, the second longest in East Africa. It is home to many fish species such as tuna, albacore, lobster, swordfish, shark, and other fish. However, the sector is still largely artisanal and untapped. If supported and developed, Somaliland's fisheries could bring enormous economic growth and improve food and nutrition security for families across the country. Currently estimations show that Somaliland's fishing industry only accounts for roughly one percent of its Gross Domestic Product. This sector could provide an improved social safety net by providing jobs, especially for rural coastal populations who are among the poorest and most vulnerable. Potential investors are at present time averted for reasons that include challenges currently limiting the industry such as lack of specialized knowledge and skills, lack of government and cooperative involvement, poor infrastructure, illegal fishing, high costs of operations, lack of market-



Berbera carefully selected 40 beneficiaries (28 male and 12 female) to participate in a course offered by Candlelight. The course provided beneficiaries practical training with theoretical teachings over four months. The program covered safety at sea, repairing fishing gear, the establishment of cooperatives, entrepreneurship, and fish quality assurance. Further training on personal hygiene, fish handling, fish processing, fish preservation, value addition, and business management was given to mostly female fishmongers. SHGs that comprised women fishmongers were each given business startup kits, freezer refrigerators, and basic fish processing tools that were owned and managed by the SHGs.

To help beneficiaries create and sustain businesses, Candlelight established four self-help groups to increase collaboration among anglers in responding to challenges. All members were equipped with essential fishing gear to increase capacity growth. To support SHG members gain access to advanced fishing vessels for better fish catch and enhanced income. Candlelight handed over four fishing vessels with inboard diesel engines to the Ministry of Livestock and Fishery for their handling and services to members of SHGs in Berbera. All members of our four SHGs received training in vessel use and maintenance.



EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

FORMAL EDUCATION

Candlelight owns and runs two primary schools and one secondary school. The schools are situated in the cities of Burao and Erigavo. Candlelight's secondary school in Burao has performed exceptionally over the years, making it a reputable school in its municipality. Students' performances and satisfaction have steadily increased. Candlelight continues to review its teaching methods to meet each student's individual needs and enhance student engagement.

Our secondary school teachers receive support with their professional development goals to strengthen their teaching capacities. This support included effective teaching methods, practices to accommodate the needs of struggling students, and strategies to encourage positive attitudes towards learning. Effective teaching starts with excellent teachers. Candlelight embraces this saying and progressively seeks new ways to enhance student achievements and develop the capacities of its schools.



The tables below illustrate the number of male and female student intakes for each school this year:

Students	Erigavo Primary School			Burao Primary School		
	No. Of Boys	No. of Girls	Total	No. Of Boys	No. of Girls	Total
This year (2021) Grade (1-8)	103	120*	223	146*	155	301
(2020) Grade (1-8)	80	120	200	152	143	295

Burao Secondary School			
Students	No. Of Boys	No. of Girls	Total
This year (2021) Form (1-4)	348	303	651
(2020) Form (1-4)	323	283	606

The tables above compare this year's and last year's students' admissions. This year student enrollments increased across the board with the exception (marked with*) of the no. of boys admitted into our primary school in Burao, which dropped by six intakes, and the no. of girls admitted into our primary school in Erigavo that stayed the same.

Technical & Vocational Skills and Employment



More than 70% of Somaliland's adolescents and young adults are out of work and in desperate need of an opportunity to expand their skills and find stable employment. To improve this figure Candlelight offers various vocational courses that are job directed and demand-driven. Candlelight promotes life skills for sustainable futures among young men and women. Youth from disadvantaged backgrounds, disabled or with special needs receive additional support and equal access to our services.

The socio-economic diversity among our trainees allows people from different walks of life to come together, interact, and form new ideas and connections.

Our VTCs are located in Hargeisa, Burao, and Erigavo. This year a total of 537 trainees, including 11 with special needs undertook vocational training in the following subjects culinary art, cake decorating, tailoring, carpentry, aluminum welding, henna & beautification, fashion and design, plumbing, electrical wiring, curtain designing, furniture making, interior design, cladding, nursery planting, and roof water harvesting. Selected students received supplementary numeracy & literacy classes, depending on need.

Candlelight commits to ensuring its centers have appropriate training facilities, tools, equipment, and qualified instructors to ensure all training activities are delivered to the best capacity. Our courses are popular and attract more interest than we can facilitate at present. Candlelight hopes to find opportunities to open new centers and source skills development training to a higher volume of youth.

Contracted MoU agreements were made effective with four businesses, Hadhwanaag Furniture, Carwo Kheyraad Tailoring, Faati Decoration & Events, and Heego Aluminum Workshop to support trainees in internships and eventual permanent jobs. Candlelight has established good connections with local businesses to help facilitate employment for graduates where possible.

Our latest graduation ceremony was held in Burao and saw the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Labor in attendance. Our VTC in the city was named Burao's leading vocational training center. Candlelight received praise for contributing to reducing unemployment rates. Candlelight's dedication has earned national recognition, and as a result, our centers have gained community confidence and popularity. Our graduation ceremonies feature on the most popular TV channels.

On course completion, graduates who performed exceptionally were further supported with startup kits and financial capital to assist their potential and help them excel in their respective fields. Post-graduates were offered employment and entrepreneurship mentoring where requested.

Selected trainees were enrolled in newly established SHGs, to gain essential business skills, to develop innovative entrepreneurship thinking and form sustainable connections.

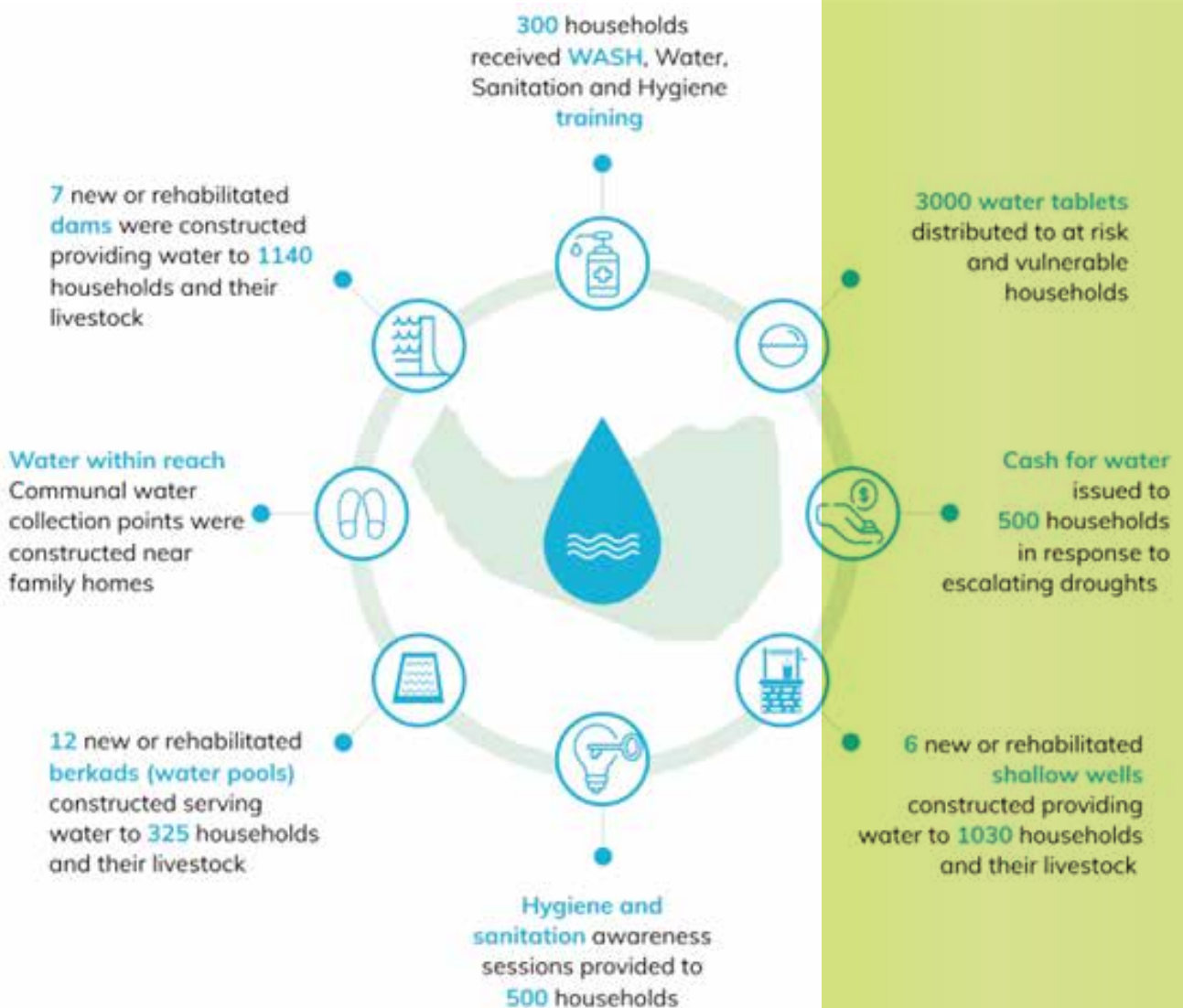


Graduate trainees running a SHG to further their entrepreneurial capacity collectively. A total of 50 graduate trainees join SHG in Burao this year



*Cladding Trainee in a Placement
with Heego Workshop in Burao*

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE



This year Candlelight ran multiple WASH projects across Somaliland to support vulnerable families and their livestock with access to water. Candlelight's WASH projects underpin economic development, food security, and water for basic survival needs. Delayed rainfalls have pushed pastoralists and their livestock to flock across the country in search of water. Resulting in higher concentrations of people along the infrequent water source left, fueling tensions and resource conflicts.

To help communities manage their water sources independently, Candlelight supported the establishment of water committees. These committees received essential tools and water management training to regulate communal water use for sustainability and equal access to water. Beneficiaries further received hygiene and sanitation awareness. Post-monitoring evaluations showed that an overwhelming majority of 98% of beneficiaries reported that Candlelight's intervention improved their access to water and that of other households in their community.

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

COMBATting MALNUTRITION



Malnutrition is a growing public health concern, affecting an increasing number of children yearly and typically resulting from food insecurity and poverty. Thousands of children nationwide show symptoms of impaired growth, affecting their ability to achieve optimal levels of physical and intellectual development. To help alleviate and prevent malnutrition, Candlelight directed efforts toward screening, treating, and immunizing children and pregnant women. Candlelight spreads malnutrition awareness, provides vulnerable families with UCT for essential food items, and provides training to healthcare workers and volunteers.

Economic Enhancement

- 402 IDP and host communities HH received UCT to improve access to food
- 325 vulnerable HHs with malnourished children receive UCT (CMAM)
- 5 health centers supported with solar installation, medical tools and equipment

Training and Awareness

- 6000 beneficiaries benefit from health and nutrition sessions
- 3 immunization campaigns carried out together with the Ministry of health
- 200 PLW (pregnant and lactating women) from 12 villages were fully trained in IYCF
- 13 Community health mobilizers trained in detection of malnutrition
- 160 people received awareness to promote behavioral change in their communities relating to appropriate nutritional intake
- 7420 people received general awareness on health and nutrition

Social and Community Context

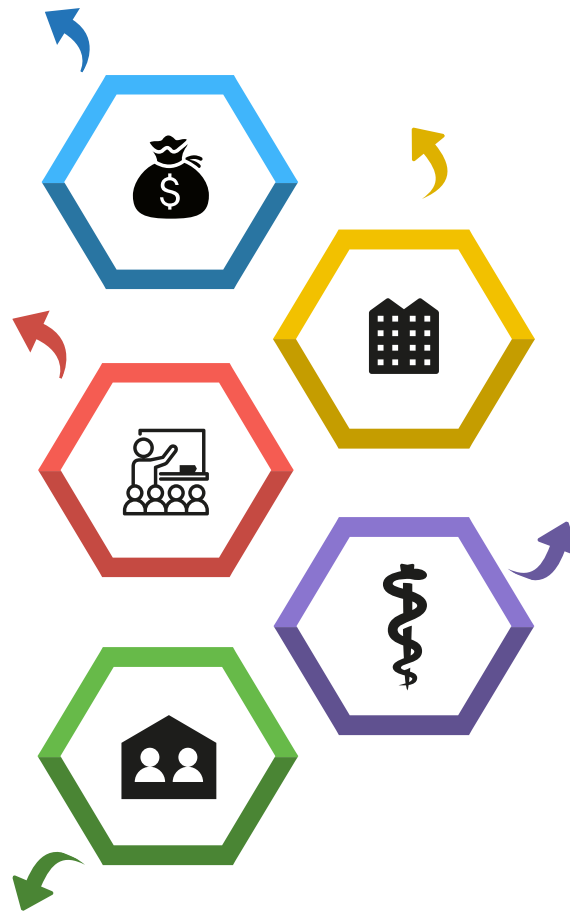
- 12 villages benefitted from emergency and lifesaving health care
- 7 Berkads (water storage pools) rehabilitated to increase access to water for
- 576 vulnerable families

Households and Individuals

- Out of 9,448 HH assessed at least 10% (945 HH) were food insecure
- 1020 households were supplied with emergency food items
- In targeted areas 86% of household (HH) respondents in the Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) reported an increase in the number of meals per day

Health Care Access and Support

- 7,170 children screened for SAM and MAM
- 1,580 Children from 12 villages enrolled in MAM
- 600 children from 12 villages enrolled in SAM
- 14 Healthcare providers trained in inpatient care and case management of SAM with medical complications
- 1,635 pregnant & lactating mothers were consulted on antenatal and postnatal care and received multiple micro-nutrient supplement
- 2,310 children and PLW Immunized against Tetanus, Pertussis, Hepatitis, Influenzas, Polio, and Measles
- 5140 individuals received treatments for minor ailments such as UTI/ STIs, AWD and URI
- 100 children and women were referred to health centers



GENDER AND PROTECTION



Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and Female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM-C) are unethical social violations that continue to plague our society today. These practices rob the confidence and dignity of victims. Despite prolonged efforts from numerous organizations and groups such customs prevail. The absence of viable legal frameworks can no longer be ignored.



Minister Mustafa Mohamoud Ali from the Ministry of Employment, Social Affairs, and Family

Candlelight is dedicated to reinforcing rights-based social change and inclusive policy-making in the areas of SGBV and FGM-C. The rights and safety of our women and children are to be solidified in law. Candlelight endeavors to seek out government officials willing to participate in ending SGBV and FGM/C.

Candlelight organized a knowledge attitude and practice (KAP) assessment in collaboration with the University of Hargeisa in target communities. The assessment identified current attitudes, knowledge gaps, beliefs and practices that both promote and prevent the end of SGBV and FGM/C. From the data

collected, a detailed approach was organized and 12 members from different community-based organizations were trained on advocacy, lobbying and strategy development. The participants were also oriented on how to develop and deliver effective SGBV messages. An experienced TOSTAN facilitator was enlisted to run a non-formal, human rights-based education program to selected beneficiaries. The program focused on ways to accelerate changing social norms to rid harmful practices such as SGBV and FGM/C. 13 community facilitators, from 12 villages received necessary training to assist SHGs in their communities coordinate SGBV/ FGM day-to-day awareness activities. Shortly after the training, the community facilitators identified 10 female survivors of SGBV in their vicinity. All survivors receive individualized care and support. To strengthen community collaboration 40 duty bearers, including police officers, teachers, healthcare staff and representatives of CSOs received SGBV capacity building training.

131 beneficiaries from communities across Somaliland were trained in identifying, reporting, and spreading awareness on FGM/C and SGBV. At least 1508 households benefited directly from our awareness on the harmful practices of FGM/C.

A multi-component strategy aimed to reach as many people as possible on transforming attitudes and behaviors towards ending SGBV/ FGM/C was employed. The most popular Somaliland TV and radio news channels broadcasted our GBV/FGM/C messages, reaching an additional 21,618 individuals. Our social media pages are gaining popularity and public engagement. Our social media platforms recently featured two live stream debates on the subjects of GBV/FGM/C.



Khadra, a former Circumciser, now an ambassador against Female Genital Mutilation



Khadra, preparing for another day of routine circumcisions, before joining our program.

KHADRA'S STORY

Khadra was an underprivileged mother with a disabled son and in desperate need of money when she became a circumciser 20 years ago. "Cutting girls was the norm, an ancient practice that provided me a living. Some girls opted for circumcision due to societal pressure. They would say I want to be circumcised just like my best friend. They thought the surgery was a good thing and wanted to fit in. Unfortunately, many girls would attempt to run away before the procedure due to the anxiety and fear it caused them.

"Countless girls suffer physical and mental anguish because of these procedures. I remember the screams and the tears. Nevertheless, we were following traditions, who was I to challenge that? One day, something unexpected happened. A procedure went wrong. For the first time, I questioned my occupation. A little girl was brought to me by her parents for genital mutilation. Sadly, the little girl caught tetanus and became seriously ill. Her wound did not heal properly, and she suffered severe seizures. She is now permanently disabled. The pain stayed with me for a long time, this was my breaking point, so I decided to quit.

"Luckily, Candlelight allowed offered me better prospects. I received training and was given a sewing machine free of charge. I have since become self-employed and live a much better life. I never want anything to do with genital mutilation. I was ignorant at the time. Thanks to Candlelight, I have transformed my life. I am now an ambassador against Female Genital Mutilation and warn my community about its harm".

EMERGENCY AND HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

RESPONDING TO COVID-19

2021 saw the spread of COVID-19, particularly in the main cities of Somaliland. The number of COVID-19-related deaths had reached 588, and the total number of positive cases was 8,381 by the end of December. During the peak of the pandemic, hospitals faced an influx of patients in critical conditions. Unfortunately, hospitals across the country were lacking appropriate medical resources, and trained staff to manage patients with COVID-19. Internationally, Somaliland was placed on a travel ban for all but essential travel. In public, social distancing and preventative measures were almost non-existing, several people even reported skepticism about the validity of COVID-19. To help educate the public on the validity, dangers, and safety measures of COVID-19, Candlelight ran several impactful projects carefully designed to reach large numbers of people in targeted communities.

Measures to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 included the distribution of over 15,260 copies of IEC materials and the training of medical mobile teams and volunteers who actively engaged with target communities nationwide. Target villages received COVID-19 & General hygiene sessions, and 10 villages saw the establishment of public hand washing stations. Hygiene and sanitation kits containing basic hygiene items, such as buckets and soaps were distributed to over 1,000 households.

15 MCH centers were supported with hygiene and sanitation kits including hand washing soap, garbage cans, brooms for sweeping, cleaning gloves, bleach and disinfectant liquids, buckets, and mops to support cleanliness and hygiene.

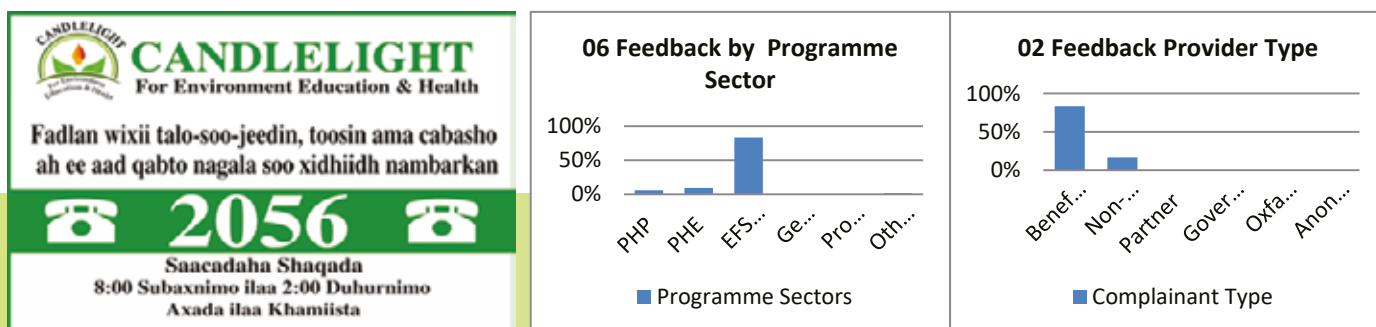
Candlelight initially planned to provide COVID-19 management training to front-line workers and community volunteers. However, similar efforts were in progress in many parts of the country. To prevent duplication of work, Candlelight arranged a meeting with Togdheer's regional COVID-19 task force. A joint decision was made to change training activities to fumigation of healthcare facilities. Candlelight, therefore, disinfected 8 healthcare facilities.

The outbreak of COVID-19 affected the implementation plans of several projects. Activities that required gatherings, such as training programs had to be suspended or amended to meet COVID-19 guidelines. Vehicle-mounted loudspeakers were utilized to spread COVID-19 messages to as many communities as possible. Non-essential staff members were encouraged to work from home. Personal protective equipment such as mobile hand washing stations, sanitizers, and other essential protective items were given to medical staff and mobile teams. COVID-19 guideline measures and awareness information were integrated into all project and activity plans.

BENEFICIARY FEEDBACK

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM

In 2021, Candlelight received 174 cases from its target areas and other sites. Statistically 74% of feedback providers were male the remaining 26% were female. The distribution of posters advertising our toll-free number in the three years our accountability system has been effective has resulted in 29 feedback cases from non-beneficiary. Therefore, 145 feedbacks on issues such as requests for assistance, complaints about delays, or interventions praising came directly from our beneficiaries. Feedback came from all six regions (Maroodi-Jeex, Togdheer, Sanaag, Sool, Sahil, and Awdal) of Somaliland through various channels; hotline, suggestion box inside Candlelight's branches, or emails, the most effective mode is the hotline number. The chart below shows 170 feedbacks, 4 were from PDM assessments.



In the programmatic sector, 10 cases refer to the PHP sector, mostly complaining about the released time of wages by community health volunteers and requests for medical assistance. Also, 10 feedbacks were PHE resulted by request of Berkad or Dam rehabilitation. A large number of the 174 feedbacks related to EFSVL category mainly positive (gratitude) feedback, complaining of UCT and CFW timing delay and extension requests for Cash transfers period or water assistance as drought conditions worsen. Therefore, the type of feedback received in 2021 was 34% of the 174 cases from the feedback were positive, 46% requested assistance, and 20% were dissatisfied with Candlelight's projects. Feedback was mostly managed within the stated time frame of up to 20 days response time, 5 cases took longer to manage.

The accountability mechanism brings multiple benefits. For example, we received a diarrhea outbreak case from Hareed and immediately made contact with Erigavo's General Hospital rapid support was given to those infected. This shows how the CRM has acted as a referral bridge for the provision of urgent services to communities. In general, the feedback system has improved and strengthened projects while strengthening the relationships Candlelight has with communities.

OUR PARTNERS

1. CARITAS
2. Danish Refugee Council
3. European Union
4. International Organization for Migration
5. International Solidarity Foundation
6. Kindernothilfe (KNH)
7. Norwegian Development Fund
8. NRC/EU
9. OXFAM-NOVIB
10. Save the Children
11. Somalia Humanitarian Fund
12. U.S. African Development Foundation (USADF)
13. Welth Hunger Hilfe (WHH)



ANNUAL REPORT



Balance sheet

Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31st December 2021
Statement of Financial Position

<u>Notes</u>	AS at 31 Dec 2021 USD
Non-current Assets	
Property, plant & equipment	1 681,062
Long Term Loans and Advances	2 -
Total Non-Current Assets	681,062
Current Assets	
	[3]
Cash and Bank Balance	319,171
Accounts Receivables	213,793
Total current assets	532,964
Total Assets	1,214,026
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	
	[4]
Less Current Liability	
Supplier balances	
Interproject balances	355,168
Accounts payable	18,727
Total	373,895
Capital and reserves	
	[5]
Capital funds	631,062
General Fund	183,018
Restricted Fund	26,051
Total	840,131
Total Equity & Liabilities	1,214,026

These Financial Statements were approved by the Board members on 31 Aug 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Chairperson / Executive Board Member
.....

Treasurer
.....

Date: 31st Aug 2022

Candlelight Income and Expenditure

Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31st December 2021



Note	AS at 31th Dec 2020 USD
1 Income A	
Balance from end of 2020	467,652
Grant and Donations Received	2,607,618
Other Income	162,197
Total Income	3,237,467
3 Expenses B	
Project Expenses	2,135,807
Administration Expenses	606,471
Other Expenses	121,294
Total Expenditures	2,863,572
Fund balance as year ended	373,895

Chairperson / Executive Board Member

.....

Treasurer

.....

Date: 31st Aug 2022



Balancesheet

Financial Statements

For The Year Ended 31st December 2021

Statement of Financial Position

<u>Notes</u>	AS at 31 Dec 2021 USD
Non-current Assets	
Property, plant & equipment	681,062
Long Term Loans and Advances	-
Total Non-Current Assets	681,062
Current Assets	
	[3]
Cash and Bank Balance	319,171
Accounts Receivables	213,793
Total current assets	532,964
Total Assets	1,214,026
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	
	[4]
Less Current Liablility	
Supplier balances	
Interproject balances	355,168
Accounts payable	18,727
Total	373,895
Capital and reserves	
	[5]
Capital funds	631,062
General Fund	183,018
Restricted Fund	26,051
Total	840,131
Total Equity & Liabilities	1,214,026

These Financial Statements were approved by the Board members on 31 Aug 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Chairperson / Executive Board Member

.....

Treasurer

.....

Date: 31st Aug 2022

Candlelight Income and Expenditure

Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31st December 2021



Note	AS at 31th Dec 2020 USD
1 Income A	
Balance from end of 2020	467,652
Grant and Donations Received	2,607,618
Other Income	162,197
Total Income	3,237,467
3 Expenses B	
Project Expenses	2,135,807
Administration Expenses	606,471
Other Expenses	121,294
Total Expenditures	2,863,572
Fund balance as year ended	373,895

Chairperson / Executive Board Member

.....

Treasurer

.....

Date: 31st Aug 2022