GCE’s Action Week

2-8th May, 2011

SOMALIA GAW 2011
FINAL REPORT
"It is a Right, Make it Right!  
Education for Girls and Women NOW!"

The Big Story!
There is no tool for development more effective than the education of girls
(Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary General)

Education, particularly that of girls, has many profound impacts on the development of a country. It is key to individual opportunity and national growth and the dignity of self-reliance ... No country has lifted itself out of poverty without educating its people ... Education is therefore one of the best investments the world can make.
(Shriti Vadera 2007, former International Development Minister, UK)

Women and girls’ education: introduction

The education infrastructure of Somalia has been weakened by decades of colonial neglect, followed by the outbreak of a civil war in 1990 that has led to widespread population displacement and paralysis of social services. Superimposed on this context are challenges of access to education for girls. Cultural norms and practices contribute to disproportionately low access to schooling.

In some circumstances, Somali parents value education but face obstacles sending girls to school. They faced practical challenges educating their daughters. These were primarily economic barriers (e.g. school fees), and the role of girls in Somali culture, especially the need for girls to be at home to attend to household chores.

This briefing explains what happens when girls get the opportunity to have good quality education, and how it affects both their individual life chances and capacity to contribute to economic and social development. It also highlights the factors that keep girls marginalised, and what can be done to get more girls in the classroom and learning the skills that can transform their lives. It also highlights effective measures to give second chance learning to women who have missed out.

- Girls who go to school have higher self-esteem and are less likely to suffer violence and be vulnerable to exploitation.¹
- Women who have been to school are more able to resist violence and abuse.²
- Educating girls and reducing the gender gap promotes democracy.³
- Increased female education both empowers individual women and also, through their increased agency, acts ‘to improve the well-being of their children and help transform society itself’.⁴

¹ http://www.unicef.org/mdg/maternal.html
**THE BIG STORY HANDBOOK (A guide to the Big Story in your country)**

**INTRODUCTION**

EFASOM will do commitments with the ministry of education that primary and secondary school administrations at least provide free education, specifically girls that do no have school fees.

**With the efforts of Somalia, the Big Story** will be the main action that the GCE is promoting in 2011. The action for this year will revolve around “story telling”. Women and Girls will tell their personal stories about the impact an education or the lack of it has had on their lives. We also want men and boys to tell their stories but for all of the stories to relate to women’s experiences and why all women and girls must have the right to a quality education.

**ACTION WEEK REPORT**

SOMALIA has taken part the GAW activities this year. Yesterday, we started the big event of the Global Action Week.
GCE Action Week Report 2011: Women and Girls’ Education
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REGISTRATION:

Throughout Puntland state of Somalia will take part the event. Following specific schools signed commitment MOUs with EFASOM. The Ministry of Education has accepted GAW 2011 in all regions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Pupils</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Al-Mamunun Primary School (Galkayo)</td>
<td>Galkayo</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al-Waha Secondary School (Garow)</td>
<td>Garowe</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bossasso Public Secondary School (Bossasso)</td>
<td>Bossasso</td>
<td>570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burtinle Primary School (Burtinle)</td>
<td>Burtinle</td>
<td>440</td>
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<tr>
<td>Darwiish Primary School (Garowe)</td>
<td>Garowe</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Gambool Secondary School (Garowe)</td>
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<td>Garisa Secondary School (Bossasso)</td>
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<td>490</td>
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<tr>
<td>Haji Mire Primary School (Bossasso)</td>
<td>Bossasso</td>
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<td>Halane Primary School (Bossasso)</td>
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<td>Omar Samatar Secondary School (Galkayo)</td>
<td>Galkayo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ugas Yasin Primary Schools (Bossasso)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>7,000</td>
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