



CANDLELIGHT for Environment, Education and Health

ANNUAL REPORT 2013

**Sha'ab Road
Hargeisa, Somaliland
Postal address: P.O. Box 10012, Djibouti
Republic of Djibouti
Tel. 00 252 2 523146
Contact person: Fardus Awil Jama, Executive Director**

E-mail: candasli@yahoo.com Webpage: www.candlelightsom.org

Contents Page

Page no

WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN, BOARD of Directors	2
Executive Director's note	3
Who we are	3
VISION, MISSION, AND CORE VALUES	5
GOVERNANCE BODY	6
Emergency assistance provided to drought-affected communities in coastal areas of Awdal and Sahil and Madrodi-jeex regions	7
Resilience building and drought recovery for the pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities' project,	8
Strengthening Pastoral and Agro-pastoral Community Economy in Dubur, Sahil region.	9
Dutch Reconstruction Cross-Border Project	10
Enhancing livelihoods and community based natural resources Management	12
Improving Women's Status through Economic Empowerment in Somaliland	13
Basic Education for Pastoralist Children Project in Sanaag region	14
Youth employment and training	15
Girl's Education Promotion Project	16
Girl's Education Challenge	17
Youth Education Pack	18
Towards eradication of FGM/C activities	19
FUNDING AGENCIES	20
SUMMARY PROJECTS INCOME AND EXPENSES REPORT As ended Year 2013	21

WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The year 2013 has been another busy period for Candlelight. Our organization continued to expand and consolidate its gains in organizational development, reputation, and service delivery.

In retrospect, we started our dreams and noble ideas, eighteen years back; and over those years, we have been learning, growing and extending our services to our target beneficiaries, and positively impacting their lives toward the better.

The interventions of Candlelight can now be felt on all the six regions of Somaliland, whereby our staff are reaching thousands of people providing them with education and training, carrying out and disseminating FGM eradication messages, HIV/AIDS awareness raising, environmental management projects, and responding to humanitarian situations.

Yet, the impact of our work fuels in us (staff and management) a renewed enthusiasm and energy to do more work in the future.

I would like to thank the partner organizations for their support, the beneficiary community for receptiveness and cooperation, the line ministries for their guidance and the last but not the least, Candlelight staff for their commitment whereby the synergy achieved through the combination of the efforts of the stakeholders has contributed to creating a lasting impact on the communities.



Ahmed Ibrahim Awale
Chairman

Executive Director's Note

To our esteemed stakeholders

I am honored to be the third Executive Director in the history of Candlelight. Our organization celebrated its 18th anniversary in 2013, a significant milestone for any nonprofit organization, particularly one from such humble beginnings. This fledgling effort incorporated on October 1995 as Candlelight for Health, Education and Environment - launched us on what is now an 18 year journey of changing the lives of countless women, children, youth, IDPs, disabled people and pastoral communities of the entire country, Somaliland.

As the year ended, Candlelight reflects on what has been accomplished throughout the year. 2013 will be remembered for the dramatic changes that have been made in the organization's top management positions. After an extended period of time, crowned with the honesty, commitment and dedication of the previous management, the Board have appointed new Executive Director. The notion was to accelerate and foster dramatic achievements that have been accomplished over the years. As the year ends, Candlelight looks back on its interventions and outstanding impacts that have been realized; improvement on community livelihoods, protection on environment, promotion on girls' education, reduction on youth unemployment, towards eradication of harmful practice of FGM/C and stand against gender inequality in Somaliland.

Candlelight is committed to continue its programmed efforts irrespective of their locations and with the support and generosity of our esteemed partners. We look forward to another busy year of impactful work.



Thank you
Mrs. Fardus Awil Jama
Executive Director

Who We Are

CANDLELIGHT for Environment, Education and Health is a non-governmental organization that has been engaged in reconstruction and development work in Somaliland for the past eighteen years. Established in 1995, CANDLELIGHT quickly grew from being a nascent institution to developed, effective and credible organization. This enabled Candlelight to build partnership relations with multiple funding agencies, public institutions and grass root communities.

CANDLELIGHT came into being in post-conflict period where public infrastructures were destructed or rendered inoperable. In such backdrop, CANDLELIGHT studied carefully diverse community needs and then, strategically prioritized health, education and environment as its thematic intervention areas. Now, CANDLELIGHT has strong presence in all Somaliland regions where it has been implementing projects aimed at improving the standard of living of the different communities with specific focus on pastoralists and agro-pastoralists, women, children, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and minorities.

Here is a summary of CANDLELIGHT interventions:

a) Environment/Natural Resource Management/Livelihood:

Candlelight has its separate natural resource management department which carries out the different environmental and livelihood programmes. The department is run by a team of experienced staff with multi-disciplinary skills, such as community trainings, soil and water conservation, gender mainstreaming in environmental activities, climate change, sustainable agriculture and energy.

Major areas of focus include:

- ✓ Community trainings on climate change adaptation, environmental protection,
- ✓ Training sustainable agriculture practices with provision of seeds, hand tools and farm tillage hours to resource poor farmers.
- ✓ Training on fodder production and livestock management practices
- ✓ Soil and water conservation techniques
- ✓ Mainstreaming gender and environment
- ✓ Promoting alternative energies
- ✓ Roof water harvesting methods
- ✓ Nurseries management and reforestation program
- ✓ Construction and rehabilitation of water sources
- ✓ Construction of sub-surface dams
- ✓ Construction of shallow wells
- ✓ Construction of feeder roads
- ✓ Income generation/diversification activities with focus on pastoral and agro-pastoral communities. This includes bee-keeping trainings and material inputs, farmer's assistance packages.
- ✓ Research & documentation

b) Education:

- ✓ Running and supporting youth vocational training centres in Burao, Erigavo and Hargeisa
- ✓ Running and supporting formal education
- ✓ Promotion of girl-child education through provision of scholarships for displaced, poor and orphaned girls;
- ✓ Conducting motivational speeches in the schools
- ✓ Advocacy on gender awareness and education;
- ✓ Provision of primary education for pastoralist children through mobile schools, camel library and audio radio teaching program.
- ✓ Increasing employment opportunity through creation of small business for students

c) Health:

- ✓ Awareness raising program on FGM/C, HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs),
- ✓ Community education on the effects of Female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/FGC),
- ✓ Design and production of IEC materials
- ✓ Conducting sensitization training for teachers, CECs, youth and religious leaders.
- ✓ Training for trainers (ToT) training on FGM/C
- ✓ TV and Radio debates
- ✓ Posting articles on FGM/C implications on social networks
- ✓ Support to the mentally sick patients of Hargeisa Group Hospital
- ✓ Training on hygiene and sanitation in pastoral and agro-pastoral communities

d) Humanitarian interventions during emergencies:

- Unconditional cash relief program for disabled and marginalized groups
- Cash for work for increasing employment opportunity
- Water trucking to affected communities during drought periods
- Human and livestock health interventions
- Distribution of food and non-food items (NFI's)

VISION, MISSION, AND CORE VALUES

Vision Statement

Candlelight envisions a peaceful and environmentally conscious society with equitable access to resources and quality social services.

Mission statement

Candlelight is a non-governmental organization that strives to bring about positive changes in communities through environmental conservation, provision of quality education and creation of awareness rising on health issues.

Core Values

- ✓ Demonstrate integrity, transparency, and accountability to community, donors and public authorities.
- ✓ Respect for community norms and culture in all our dealings.
- ✓ Promotion of human rights and gender equality.
- ✓ Build relationships with all stakeholders through participation, cooperation, collaboration, teamwork openness and regular communication.
- ✓ Create enthusiasm and impact through need-based interventions.
- ✓ Abide by the laws of the country and advocate positive change.

Objectives

- Working towards the improvement of the environmental situation of the country.
- Advancing education by the provision of facilities for schooling and other learning opportunities as well as vocational training for the youth
- Improving the living conditions of low-income women, pastoralists and agro-pastoralists by helping them through income generation/diversification activities
- Awareness creation on health issues and health promotion programs and women's reproductive health.
- Responding to humanitarian needs of affected communities during disasters.

GOVERNANCE BODY

Candlelight is governed by a Board of Directors of seven members entrusted with overall responsibility of the organization through provision of oversight, leadership and guidance. A management team comprised of heads of departments and is headed by an executive director who is in charge of execution of day to day operations in accordance with advice and policies laid down by the Board of Director. Following are the names of the Board:

Names	Designation	Profession
Ahmed Ibrahim Awale	Chairman	Environmentalist, writer and a businessman
Ali Mohamoud Halliyeh	Deputy Chairman	AFA/CFP with many years of working experience in the Arabian Gulf and currently engaged in Financial / Management consultancy.
Amina A. Guleid	Secretary	Educationist and Consultant
Ahmed Yousuf Elmi	Treasurer	Accountant by profession and currently Senior Officer of a popular money transfer Company in Djibouti.
Ahmed Nur Hussein	Member	Agronomist and development worker based in Nairobi.
Jawahir Ahmed Abdi	Member	Women activist with long experience in community work.
Sahra Kaahin	Member	Lengthy experience in community development work.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT DURING 2013

Emergency assistance provided to drought-affected communities in coastal areas *of Awdal, Sahil and Madrodi-jeex regions*

The overall goal of the project was to mitigate the human suffering and strengthen the resilience of the communities in the target areas who are predominantly pastoralists and agro pastoralists. The communities were subject to a number of years of extended drought which caused the decimation of their resources – mainly livestock. The target beneficiaries were 1350 HHs benefited from unconditional cash relief and cash for work activities carried out in the project target areas. During and after the project implementation, one of the success indicators include the increase (50%) in the purchasing power of the targeted communities, and overall improvement in the food security situation.



Unconditional cash relief programme in Awdal region

Resilience building and drought recovery for the pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities' project,

El-Afweine and Erigavo district, Sanag region

This project was funded by FAO and was started in November 2012 continuing through mid 2013. The project was intended to build the resilience of the pastoral and agro-pastoral communities in 23 locations in Sanag region through cash for work activities.

The cash for work was utilization on water sources rehabilitation, improving access roads, rangeland rehabilitation, and other infrastructural community needs. In total 22 water catchments have been rehabilitated whereby their storage capacities have been addressed. The aim of this project is to build productive and sustainable infrastructure in order to increase the access and availability of food in the drought affected areas. Candlelight worked to mobilize the community,

which led to the successful rehabilitation of 22 water catchments and 7 feeder roads. Candlelight realized an increase in food security and an end to water shortage. Furthermore, this project created short-term employment opportunities for people living in these drought-affected communities. Cash for work was successful because it enabled the community to choose their own means of livelihood and be agents in their own recovery.



Rehabilitation of feeder roads and water catchments
in Sanaag Region

Strengthening Pastoral and Agro-pastoral Community Economy in Dubur, Sahil region.



Enhancement for food security programme,
in Dubur Sahil region

The goal of this project is to improve agriculture, production practices and contribute poverty reduction in the communities by carrying out trainings on best agronomic practices, infrastructural inputs such as shallow wells, sand storage dams construction, tools and seeds distribution. Capacity building on marketing issues for farmers with special focus on women as well as tailor-made micro business management training were included.



Construction of Sand storage Dams,
in Dubur Sahil region

Dutch Reconstruction Cross-Border Project

The program began in December 2012 and is jointly implemented by a number of local organizations including Candlelight. It targets ten pastoral and agro pastoral villages that are located along the border of Somaliland and Ethiopia. The overall goal is to contribute to the development of these communities and enable conditions for human security. This will be accomplished by working to make these communities less vulnerable to problems like conflict and drought, increasing their representation in policy making processes and by solving border issues between Somaliland and Ethiopia.

Candlelight feels that it is also particularly important to focus on activities that will empower women and youth in those areas. Some of the specific activities that have taken place are: disease surveillance, vocational training for youth, organizing women's savings, loans, training and technical support on production chains for fodder, live animals and construction of market structures. So far, the project has been on track and Candlelight looks forward to continuing its efforts to the full accomplishment of the objectives.



Training for Community Animal Health Workers Baligubadle



Training on business skills and establishing Village Savings and Loan Associations in Dhagax dheer villages, Togdheer.

Construction of market structure in Burao, Togdheer Region



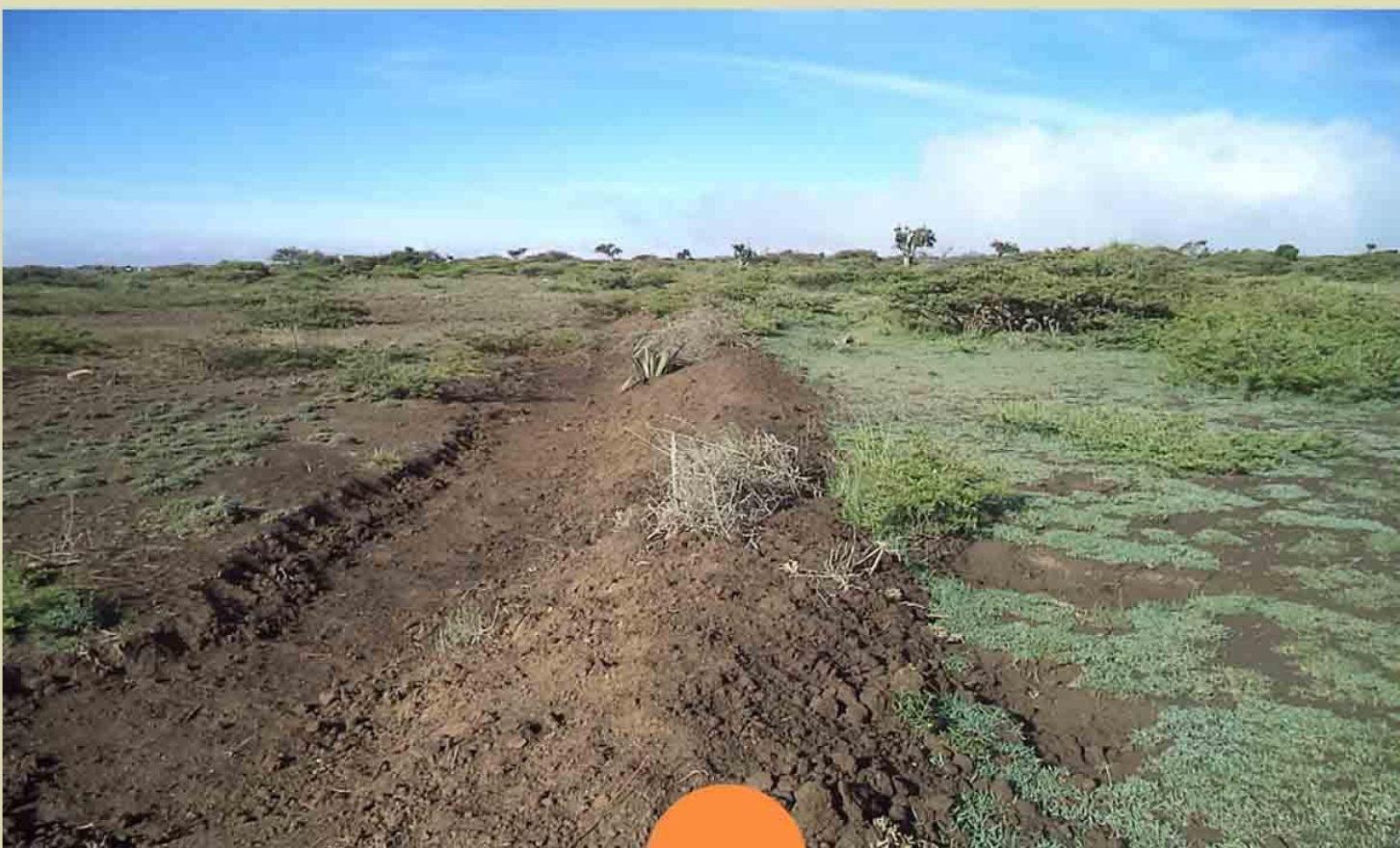
Enhancing livelihoods and community based natural resources management

in Ga'an Libah, Selahley, and Balli-Gubadle districts.

In an effort to create a more sustainable system for managing natural resources and improving food security and resilience among pastoral and agro pastoral communities, Candlelight carried out an assortment of activities in these areas which include: agricultural inputs, soil and water conservation, trainings and distribution of hand tools and seedlings.

In order to make this program successful, Candlelight used different means for the creation of project ownership which is crucial for the continuity of its result.

This includes the recognition of their role in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and feedback. Outreach trips where project staff interacted, exchanged experiences and challenges with the communities were also organized. These communities have been equipped with knowledge to continue these efforts. This project has proved to be a good example of how the negative effects of droughts can be mitigated.



*Soil and water conservation programme,
Ga'anlibah and Baligudable, Salaxlay*

**CandleLight
for Environment, Education and Health**

**ANNUAL
REPORT
2013**