

DANWADAAG PROGRAM

ANNUAL MEETING FOR SHGA/ FEDERATIONS AND STAKEHOLDERS FOR MUTUAL LEARNING AND ADVOCACY



The annual Self-Help Group Approach (SHGA) meeting, convened by the NAFIS Network in Hargeisa, brought together key stakeholders committed to advancing grassroots women's empowerment in Somaliland. The gathering served as a vital platform for reflection, recognition, and forward-looking collaboration between SHG federations and partners from line ministries, international and local NGOs, municipal authorities, and financial institutions.



Highlights



Mr. Muse Jama, Executive Director of the NAFIS Network, opened the event with a message of appreciation for the women leading the SHGA and the promoted Organizations who have supported it. He emphasized the power of collective action and shared learning, noting the program expanded to all six regions of Somaliland.

Till 2013 as a pilot initiative in the Maroodi Jeex region, the DANWADAAG Program has evolved into a national movement and a powerful example of bottom-up community development. Today, women across Somaliland are SHG members. The movement continues to drive progress in economic, social and political empowerment.



Mr. Khalid Jaylani, representing Amal Bank, shared the success of the HODMIYE and BADHITAAR programs, which provide profit-free loans to SHG women. Hundreds of women have benefited, with strong repayment rates.

Through the HODMIYE Program DANWADAAG women have accessed loans ranging from **\$500 to \$1000** which they have successfully used and repaid, Now the BADHITAAR initiative overs up to **\$3000** in business financing, empowering women to grow and expand their small businesses. We call on all DANWADAAG members to take full advantage of this opportunity.





Mrs. Hinda Gahnug, Chairperson of the Kaaba Federation in Hargeisa, emphasized the growing role of SHG women as frontline community leaders particularly in areas of establishing or expanding of small businesses, mother and Child health, and support for vulnerable families. She called on stakeholders to support the construction of DANWADAAG office.



Mr. Mohamed Hashi, Director General of the Ministry of Justice, highlighted the collaboration between the ministry and SHG women, particularly in facilitating community-level access to justice through ADR centers. He acknowledged the crucial role of DANWADAAG members in ensuring vulnerable communities benefit from the services through awareness, guidance, and linkage.



Mr. Jamal Osman, Council member speaking on behalf of Hargeisa Local Government, praised DANWADAAG Program and pledged continued municipal support which they take part all the development across all districts of Hargeisa. He also called for stronger engagement between donors, government, and SHG women to further community development in Somaliland.



Mrs. Khadra Omer, Chairperson of NAFIS Network, concluded the meeting with a heartfelt reflection of 14-year journey of DANWADAAG program. She acknowledged how women showed strong, resilience, unity, and leadership. She reaffirmed the commitment to advancing the SHGA program as a model of inclusive and sustainable development.

Conclusion

In conclusion The SHG Annual Meeting reaffirmed the shared commitment among Government institution, civil society organizations, financial institutions and SHG/federation women to build a more inclusive future for women who lives all regions and districts in Somaliland.

DANWADAAG members experienced continues to demonstrate that sustainable transformation begins from the ground up led by the people who seeks to create community development.

By placing women at the center of development efforts, the SHGA not only strengthened individual capacities but also builds cohesive communities driven by self-reliance, mutual support, and local leadership.

The meeting highlighted real-life stories, innovative financial inclusion, and shared visions for scaling impact inside the community which all led by the women specially who lives in IDP settlements and Slump areas.