

SAA CID



Faadumo Mohamed Hassan

Girl education is not popular in Somalia

Despite the lack of functional government since January 1991, and the systemic insecurity and endless factional conflict, lives go on in the midst of the anarchy and chaos. Children still dream, and deeply desire education. In this context, organisations and small businesses have taken up the challenge of education and have provided outposts of hope in this apocalyptic landscape.

Hawo Tako Primary School, in Hamar-weyne District, is one of the schools that has continued to function with community support since 1991.

The school provides basic primary education to Hamar-weyne residents.

Hawo Tako Primary School is one of the partner schools of SAACID-Somalia, who oversees the implementation of the scholarship program for Oxfam Novib.

Faadumo Mohamed Hassan – student

Faadumo is one of the 14 girl students at Hawo Tako Primary, who has been chosen to be a beneficiary of free education under an Oxfam Novib education scholarship program for girls. Faadumo is now in standard four in lower primary school. Faadumo comes from a very poor family.

“My name is Faadumo and I was born in Mogadishu in 1996. I live with my mother, and my brothers. I live in Hamar-weyne District. I have 4 brothers. One of my brothers is older than me, while my other 3 brothers are younger than me. None of my brothers attend school, because my mother can’t afford the school fees. My 3 younger brothers attend Quranic School. I was registered at this school 4 years ago. I started in grade one in lower primary, and now I am in grade four in lower primary. I am very happy to be one of the students at Hawo Tako Primary School. Since I began classes, I have been receiving the education without any fees. The Headmaster of the school told me that I am one of the girl students presently benefiting from the sponsorships program provided to our school by Oxfam Novib.

I have known nothing but war my whole life. In fact, war is my life; I cannot imagine a life without all the bombardment and killing. When the conflict is close, my school is often closed”.

The livelihood of Faadumo’s family

“My father was a minibus driver, but he went to Yemen 3 years ago, to try and secure a better life for us. He sometimes calls us; and he sometimes sends us \$50 every 3 months.

My mother works at Hamar-weyne Vegetable Market, where she sells green vegetables. I don’t know the amount she earns every day, but we usually eat 2 meals in every day, so we are doing okay.

When I am at home I usually do the house work. I usually prepare the food for the family and also clean the house and wash the family’s clothes. I usually read my lessons after I finish the housework.

I take 8 subjects. My favourite subjects are English and Social Studies.

In the future, I am going to be a teacher, because I want to support and educate all the impoverished girls like me”.