



# Newsletter

From Crisis to Care - Q1 2026 Update - 31 March 2026

● NEW WAYS ORGANIZATION

● STANDING WITH COMMUNITIES IN NEED

## A message from The Executive Director

As we usher in 2026, I am filled with profound gratitude for the collective resilience that defines the New Ways Organization. Looking back at 2025, it was a year of "Dimensional Ascension," a pivotal period where we successfully transitioned from temporary humanitarian fixes to building truly sustainable foundations for the future of Somali communities.



Our impact over the past year has been both deep and measurable. In the realms of health and nutrition, we reached thousands through primary care and specialized Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) training, while our nutrition programs in Bulo Marer and our health project in Diinsoor provided life-saving treatment and empowered families and improved their health status.

In Education, we expanded access for marginalized children across the Mudug and Galgaduud regions, ensuring that conflict and displacement do not silence the potential of the next generation. Furthermore, our commitment to Climate Resilience, in partnership with GIZ, saw the implementation of climate-smart farming and soil management in Afgoye and Baidoa, helping local farmers adapt to increasingly erratic weather patterns.

However, these successes were achieved against a volatile international aid landscape. We faced significant headwinds, including the termination/reduction of major programs like USAID and the reallocation of global philanthropic funds. While rising operational costs and bureaucratic barriers tested our agility, we responded by diversifying our funding base and embracing innovative financing. We have moved decisively from a model of mere survival to one of strategic investment in local resilience. Looking ahead to 2026, our focus is clear: scaling impact.

We are proud to announce the launch of a WASH project in Afgoye and a protection project including child protection and GBV in Burhakaba of Baidoa district. We will continue to pivot toward the field, ensuring that every dollar spent is an investment in community independence. Our mission is not just to help people survive, but to ensure they thrive.

Thank you for walking this path with us.

With gratitude and optimism,

Abdullahi Ali

## Somalia Drought Update and Emerging Flood Risks

### The coming months will be critical

Here is New Ways' Drought impact video link <https://we.tl/t-yXwRoMBa4nqEMmP3>

Somalia continues to face a fragile and evolving climate situation in the first quarter of 2026, marked by prolonged drought conditions and growing concerns over potential flooding in the months ahead. After consecutive seasons of below-average rainfall, many regions, particularly in southern and central Somalia are experiencing severe water shortages, declining agricultural production, and increased displacement.

In areas such as Lower Shabelle, Galmudug, and parts of the South West State, communities are struggling with depleted water sources, rising food prices, and loss of livestock. Pastoral and agro-pastoral households have been disproportionately affected, as grazing lands continue to shrink and water points dry up. As a result, many families have been forced to migrate in search of water and pasture, increasing pressure on already vulnerable host communities and internally displaced persons (IDP) settlements.

The drought has also heightened public health risks. Limited access to clean water and sanitation has contributed to an increase in waterborne diseases, including Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) and cholera. Malnutrition rates among children remain a serious concern, with food insecurity and reduced dietary diversity affecting the most vulnerable households. Despite these challenges, early climate forecasts indicate a high likelihood of above-average rainfall during the Gu season (April–June 2026). While the rains are essential for recovery, they also present a significant risk of flooding, particularly in riverine areas along the Shabelle and Juba rivers. Flood-prone districts may face flash floods and river overflows, which could damage infrastructure, destroy crops, and displace communities once again.

The combination of drought-affected land and sudden heavy rainfall increases the risk of severe flooding. Dry, compacted soil is less able to absorb water, leading to rapid surface runoff and heightened flood intensity. Informal settlements, especially IDP camps located in low-lying areas, are particularly vulnerable to flooding due to inadequate drainage and fragile shelter conditions.



The transition from prolonged drought to heavy rainfall increases the likelihood of severe flooding. Hardened, dry soils reduce water absorption, leading to rapid runoff and heightened flood intensity. Informal settlements, especially IDP sites located in low-lying areas, are at heightened risk due to poor drainage systems and inadequate shelter infrastructure.

#### **Anticipatory action is critical at this stage.**

Humanitarian partners are prioritizing early preparedness measures, including pre-positioning of emergency supplies, reinforcement of river embankments, rehabilitation of drainage systems, and community-based early warning and awareness campaigns. Integrated interventions that address both drought recovery and flood preparedness are essential to mitigate the impact of this dual climate shock.

Timely donor support is urgently needed to scale up these efforts. Investing in climate-resilient infrastructure, early action, and community preparedness will not only reduce immediate humanitarian impacts but also protect livelihoods and strengthen long-term resilience.

## Highlights from Our Projects

### Climate resilient resource management project

Through joint integrated work with GIZ, we are building sustainable nursery and greenhouses in Afgoye and Baidoa. The partnership between the New Ways Organization (NWO) and GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) represents a strategic shift from traditional emergency aid to long-term, climate-resilient development in Somalia. At the heart of this collaboration is the transformative project in Afgoye and Baidoa, where we are establishing sustainable nurseries and modern greenhouses to redefine local food systems. Empowering Afgoye and Baidoa Through Innovation Afgoye and Baidoa has long been the "breadbasket" of the region, yet its farmers face increasing threats from erratic rainfall, soil degradation, and seasonal flooding. By integrating NWO's deep community roots with GIZ's technical expertise, we are introducing controlled-environment agriculture.

#### Building a Foundation: The Sustainable Nursery

The project's nursery serves as the "engine room" for local biodiversity. Here, we are not just growing crops, but cultivating climate-smart seeds specifically adapted to Somalia's arid conditions. This nursery provides a reliable source of high-quality, disease-resistant seedlings for the wider farming community. By focusing on soil management and organic fertilizers, we ensure that the agricultural output is both healthy for the consumer and restorative for the land.

The project's gender-responsive is designed to empower women and peace-building process. A critical cornerstone of our partnership in Afgoye and Baidoa is the gender-responsive nature of the project. In Somali agricultural systems, women have traditionally provided the labor but lacked the decision-making power and access to technology. By specifically targeting women-headed households and youth, we are dismantling these structural barriers.

Women are now being trained as the primary operators of our sustainable greenhouses and nurseries, gaining technical expertise in high-value crop management and seed propagation. This shift does more than just increase family income; it elevates women into leadership roles within the local farming cooperatives. Through this economic empowerment, women are gaining the financial independence to invest in their children's education and health, effectively turning a single greenhouse into a catalyst for multi-generational change.



By placing technology and resources directly into the hands of women, we are ensuring that the future of Baidoa and Afgoye's food security is both inclusive and unbreakable.

#### Impact and Sustainability

Beyond the infrastructure, this joint effort is about knowledge transfer. We are training a new generation of "agripreneurs" particularly women and youth in modern farming techniques, financial literacy, and market access. This ensures that the greenhouses are not just temporary structures, but self-sustaining businesses that bolster the local economy. As we look toward 2026, the NWO-GIZ partnership in Afgoye and Baidoa stands as a blueprint for resilience. We are proving that even in the face of climate change, sustainable innovation can turn a challenge into an opportunity for growth and food independence.



# Our Joint Resilient Education Programme

## Supporting 51 schools in Galgaduud and Mudug

The Joint Resilient Education Programme (JREP), implemented by the New Ways Organization (NWO) in partnership with the Ministry of Education of Galmudug State and supported by UNICEF, is a cornerstone of educational reform in central Somalia. This strategic initiative targets 51 schools across Galgaduud and Mudug regions, focusing on transforming learning environments for children in areas historically affected by climate shocks and conflict.

### Strategic Objectives and Impact

The programme is designed to bridge the gap between emergency humanitarian aid and long-term developmental resilience. By targeting 51 specific schools, the NWO aims to:

- **Enhance Access and Enrollment:** The project works to increase the number of students, particularly girls and children from Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps, by removing financial and social barriers.
- **Infrastructure and WASH:** A significant portion of the programme involves rehabilitating classrooms and installing climate-resilient Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) facilities. This includes gender-segregated latrines and clean water systems, which are vital for student health and retention.
- **Quality of Instruction:** To ensure that "access" translates to "learning," the programme provides teacher incentives and professional training, aligning the local curriculum with national standards.



### In A Meal Will Keep Me in School: Nasteho's Story

In Dhuusamareeb, 9-year-old Nasteho forward to school each morning at Gurmad Primary School—one of only a few public schools serving children in her community. But like many students in Somalia, her education is threatened by a simple but critical issue: hunger.

For children like Nasteho, a daily school meal can mean the difference between staying in school or dropping out. In communities affected by poverty, displacement, and drought, families often prioritize survival over education. Without food, children struggle to concentrate, attend regularly, or continue their studies.

Nasteho's mother, Ubah Hashi, values education deeply but faces difficult choices. "I don't want my children to follow the same path I took," she says. Yet without school meals, keeping her daughter in school becomes uncertain.

Through the Joint Resilience Programme (JRP), supported by UNICEF and World Food Programme, partners like New Ways Organization are improving access to education by supporting teachers, providing learning materials, and strengthening schools across Galmudug. School feeding is one of the most effective interventions, with studies showing it can significantly increase attendance and retention.

However, some schools, including Nasteho's, still lack feeding programs. According to the school principal, a single daily meal can keep children in class, improve concentration, and ease the burden on struggling families.

For girls especially, the impact is even greater. Hunger increases the risk of dropout, child labor, and early marriage. A reliable meal not only supports learning but also protects their future.

Nasteho remains determined. "I want to keep learning," she says. But for her and many others, that future may depend on something as basic as one meal a day.

# Our Joint Resilient Education Programme

Supporting 51 schools in Galgaduud and Mudug

## Regional Significance

In Galgaduud and Mudug, where nomadic lifestyles and recurrent droughts often interrupt schooling, the JREP provides a "resilience" framework. This includes the provision of school supplies and the establishment of Community Education Committees (CECs), empowering local parents and leaders to take ownership of their children's educational future. Ultimately, the New Ways Organization's efforts under this joint programme serve as a vital lifeline, ensuring that the next generation in Galmudug has the tools to thrive despite the environmental and economic challenges of the region. The JRP project doesn't just support schools, teachers and administrators, its empowering girls. The story of 9-year-old Nasteho is a living testament that education is a powerful tool that empower and inspire girls to dream more.

## Empowering Teachers and Administrators

In the Galgaduud and Mudug regions of Galmudug State, the New Ways Organization (NWO) implements a rigorous training framework for teachers and headteachers as part of the Joint Resilient Education Programme (JREP). These trainings are essential for stabilizing the education system in areas frequently disrupted by climate shocks and displacement. For the teaching staff in the 51 supported schools.

NWO focuses on:

- **New National Curriculum:** Training centers on the effective delivery of the Somali national curriculum, ensuring teachers can transition from traditional methods to modern, learnercentered pedagogy.
- **Inclusive Education:** A significant component involves training 90+ teachers in Inclusive, Protective, and Socio-Emotional Learning (SEL). This equips them to support children with disabilities and those suffering from trauma in IDP camps.
- **Psychosocial Support (PSS):** Teachers are trained as first-line responders to provide mental health support, helping students manage the stress of conflict and drought



## Training for Headteachers

### Leadership

Headteachers play a critical role in ensuring effective school management, quality education delivery, and student retention. Through the project, headteachers receive specialized training in school leadership, governance, and administration to strengthen their capacity to lead resilient and inclusive learning environments.

### Leadership and Governance:

Headteachers undergo structured School Management and Leadership training focused on improving decision-making, planning, and accountability within schools.

### Resource Management:

Training equips school leaders with practical skills to manage capitation grants, teaching materials, and school supplies efficiently, ensuring transparency and proper utilization of resources.

### Community Engagement:

Headteachers are supported to work closely with Community Education Committees (CECs) to strengthen community ownership of schools.



Headteachers are trained to plan for and respond to emergencies such as drought and displacement. This ensures continuity of learning during crises and minimizes disruption to students' education.

## Our WASH Project Updates



The The New Ways Organization (NWO) has significantly expanded its Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) interventions throughout 2025 and into early 2026, particularly in the Lower Shabelle region. Recognizing that access to clean water is fundamental to both public health and education, NWO has shifted from short-term emergency water trucking to more sustainable, climate-resilient infrastructure solutions.

### Sustainable Water Systems:

NWO has prioritized the rehabilitation and construction of water points, including boreholes and shallow wells, alongside the installation of solar-powered systems where feasible. These interventions ensure reliable access to safe water while reducing dependence on costly and temporary emergency responses.

### Hygiene Promotion and Disease Prevention:

With the increasing risk of Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) and cholera outbreaks in parts of Somalia, NWO has strengthened its network of trained Hygiene Promoters. These teams carry out house-to-house awareness campaigns and school-based sessions.

### Distribution of Hygiene Kits:

To support vulnerable households, particularly in IDP settlements, NWO has distributed thousands of hygiene kits. These include essential items such as aqua-tabs for water purification, soap, jerrycans for safe water storage, and sanitary pads to support menstrual hygiene management for women and girls.

### Community Engagement and Behavior Change:

Beyond distribution, NWO focuses on long-term behavior change by engaging community leaders, women's groups, and school clubs. This approach ensures that hygiene practices are understood, adopted, and sustained within communities.

### Community Committees:

New Ways Organization (NWO) has established WASH Committees at each project site to promote community ownership and long-term sustainability. These committees, made up of trained local volunteers, play a vital role in the operation and maintenance of water and sanitation facilities.

### Local Maintenance Capacity:

Committee members are trained in basic plumbing and minor repairs, enabling them to quickly address issues such as leaking pipes or broken taps without relying on external support. This reduces downtime of facilities and ensures continuous access to safe water and sanitation services.

### Community Ownership and Accountability:

The committees strengthen local responsibility by involving communities directly in managing WASH services. They also support hygiene promotion activities and help ensure that facilities are used and maintained properly.

### Climate Resilience and Sustainability:

In response to increasing climate challenges, including forecasts of below-average rainfall in Somalia, NWO integrates climate-resilient solutions into its programming. This includes water harvesting systems such as roof catchments and large storage bladders installed in schools and health centers. These systems capture and store rainwater during short wet seasons, providing a critical water reserve during prolonged drought periods.

Through this integrated approach, WASH interventions go beyond service delivery to build community resilience, ensuring that essential services remain functional even during climate shocks.



## Our Health project in Diinsoor is saving lives

### The story of 3-year old Marwan is a testimony

In the remote Diinsoor District of the Bay Region, where geographical isolation and systemic fragility often create barriers to life-saving health interventions, the compelling burn case and recovery of three-year-old Marwaan Yusuf stands as a profound testament to the impact of accessible, localized primary healthcare in places where healthcare provision is limited to bigger towns. For vulnerable communities in Waaberi village, an accidental injury in a high-risk environment can quickly escalate into a life-threatening situation without immediate clinical intervention. This was the critical reality of mother Nacima Dahir Cali when her young son sustained a severe burn to his upper chest in November 2025. Knowing that every moment counted, Nacima rushed to the Ahmed Gurey Health Facility for help. This center, run by New Ways Organization and supported by the Somalia Humanitarian Fund, provides a vital lifeline for families in the area, offering the urgent care children need when every second is critical for their survival.

When Naciima brought her child to the health centre, the medical team acted quickly. They moved him straight from the front door into a specialized care plan to make sure the burn didn't lead to a dangerous infection or permanent scarring. The doctors and nurses have utilized their resources in the centre to give medical assistance to Marwan. "We gently but thoroughly cleaned the wound using a simple salt-water solution (normal saline) and a medical disinfectant (iodine). Once the area was clean, they applied high-quality sterile bandages." This created a clean "shield" over his skin, which kept germs out and allowed his body to start the natural process of growing new, healthy skin. One of Marwaan's nurses reflected on his wounds.

"When Marwaan was admitted, the severity of the trauma was compounded by the mother's acute distress," notes Dr. Isack Abdinur, the lead Medical Officer at the facility. "Our primary objective was to stabilize the patient through immediate pain management and strict infection control. In a humanitarian context like Diinsoor, the window for effective intervention is narrow; providing quality care in that first hour is what prevents long-term disability or mortality."

"This clinical response was reinforced by an integrated pharmacological regimen tailored to the specific needs of a pediatric patient. The care we provided was only half of the battle," Dr. Isack explains. "By ensuring Marwaan received high-quality topical treatments and antibiotics simultaneously, we successfully bypassed the complications that usually lead to surgical needs in these remote areas" Dr. Isack explains "We want medical supplies and hygiene equipment to conduct such burn cases," Isack went on emphasizing the need for medical resource in his centre. During Marwaan's recovery period, the medical team has met with Naciima to provide a comprehensive fire and safety plan to avoid future burn cases in her family and community. The team helped Nacima build the skills to prevent future accidents before they start. Nacima Dahir Cali reflected on this empowerment, saying: "From the moment we arrived at Ahmed Gurey, the team treated my child with dignity and took the time to explain the 'why' behind every bandage. I realized that my quick decision to come here, rather than trying home remedies, was what kept my son's heart beating."

After twenty-one days of sustained care, Marwaan's wound transformed without secondary complications. This case highlights that NWO's mission goes beyond acute treatment; it is about reinforcing the primary healthcare system to ensure that the most marginalized populations have access to dignified and accountable services. New Ways Organization remains a vital frontline partner in Somalia, where health crises and environmental shocks continuously challenge the resilience of the healthcare sector. By maintaining well-equipped facilities and a trained workforce in hard-to-reach districts like Diinsoor, NWO directly reduces preventable child mortality and contributes to the stabilization of local health systems. "The education we provide is just as life-saving as the medicine itself," Dr. Isack Abdinur concludes. "By building the capacity of caregivers like Nacima to recognize risks and respond correctly, we are strengthening the first line of defense at the household level. Marwaan's recovery is a benchmark for what can be achieved through sustained humanitarian investment." New Ways is grateful to the ongoing support of the [Somali Humanitarian Fund](#) that not only supports communities but health wounds hearts and minds. We will continue to be an organization that serves the most vulnerable communities in Somalia.

# Improving Child Nutrition and Saving Lives

## Combating Child Malnutrition

In Somalia's central regions, including Lower Shabelle, New Ways Organization (NWO) operates a life-saving nutrition network that bridges the gap between emergency response and long-term health. As of 2026, with nearly 1.85 million children facing acute malnutrition nationwide, NWO's integrated and community-based approach is more critical than ever.

Below is an overview of how NWO combats child malnutrition through a multi-tiered strategy:

### 1. Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM)

NWO implements the internationally recognized Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) approach, ensuring that children receive care tailored to the severity of their condition. This system is structured into key service components:

#### Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP):

Children diagnosed with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) without medical complications are enrolled in OTP. They receive Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF), a nutrient-dense, high-energy supplement, and attend regular follow-up visits for monitoring and recovery support.

#### Stabilization Centers (SC):

Children with SAM and medical complications are referred to Stabilization Centers where they receive intensive, 24-hour inpatient care. Treatment includes medical support, therapeutic feeding, and close monitoring until they are stable enough to transition to outpatient care.

### 2. Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams (MHNTs)

To reach hard-to-access and underserved communities, NWO deploys Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams. These teams deliver essential nutrition and health services directly to remote villages and internally displaced persons (IDP) settlements.

MHNTs conduct active screening of children under five, provide treatment for moderate and severe malnutrition, offer maternal and child health services, and deliver nutrition counseling to caregivers. This outreach model ensures early detection and timely treatment, reducing the risk of severe complications and death.

### 3. Community-Based Prevention and Awareness

NWO complements treatment services with strong community engagement and prevention efforts. Community health workers and volunteers conduct regular awareness sessions on infant and young child feeding (IYCF), breastfeeding practices, hygiene, and dietary diversity.

Mothers and caregivers are trained to identify early signs of malnutrition, seek timely care, and adopt improved feeding practices, helping prevent cases before they become severe.

### 4. Nutrition Supply Chain and Support

NWO ensures a consistent supply of essential nutrition commodities, including RUTF, and therapeutic milk.

Strengthening supply chains and coordination with partners ensures uninterrupted service delivery even in challenging and insecure environments.

### 5. Linking Nutrition with WASH and Food Security

Recognizing that malnutrition is driven by multiple factors, NWO integrates nutrition programming with WASH and food security interventions. Access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene reduces disease burden, while livelihood and food support interventions improve household resilience and dietary intake.



## A Story of Nutrition Success

In Somalia, conflict and drought drive malnutrition. New Ways health projects funded by our donors address this crisis through our mobile health teams and life-saving RUTF that restore children's health. Abdiqani is an example of how early intervention can save children's health. Every week, New Ways Nutrition Centre in Bulamarer conducts vital screenings to monitor malnutrition levels. By identifying at-risk children early, we provide life-saving interventions and specialized treatment. These regular check-ups are essential for tracking children at risk.

Our staff is leaving the change in their communities. Here's a story of one of our female community health mobilizers. How Fadumo Orey is Turning Knowledge into Life-Saving Care in Somalia. In the dust-swept town of Diinsoor where the horizon meets the heat of the Somali sun, Fadumo Orey walks with a purpose that transcends beyond her role as a mother of two. She is a community health mobilizer, a vital link between her neighbors and the life-saving services provided through a Somalia Humanitarian Fund project implemented by New Ways Organization, a nonprofit humanitarian organization in Somalia. In a region where healthcare is limited to bigger towns, Fadumo's daily rounds prove that sometimes the most powerful medicine is simply the right information delivered with kind words at the right time. For Fadumo, health literacy is not a technical concept but a daily practice of survival. Her hometown district of Diinsoor faces the constant weight of climate-driven droughts and a strained medical infrastructure. In these harsh conditions, knowing when to seek help is often the "narrow bridge between life and loss." Fadumo carries this responsibility personally, spending hours walking around displacement camps and local settlements to ensure that no mother loses a child to a preventable illness simply because they did not recognize the warning signs in time. "I tell the mothers in my village that a clinic is only a building until you have the knowledge to walk through its doors. Awareness is the first step of the journey to healing." - Fadumo. Her community outreach focuses primarily on practical, life-saving knowledge that families can use the moment she leaves their doorstep. She teaches parents to identify the heavy breathing of pneumonia or the tell-tale fever of malaria before they become critical emergencies.

She shows caregivers how to use color-coded nutrition tapes to monitor their children's health, ensuring they reach stabilization centers before the disease gets worse.

Fadumo also champions safe motherhood, gently guiding expectant women toward prenatal checkups and professional facility-based deliveries to reduce the tragic rates of maternal mortality.

Her approach is built on a foundation of trust between her community and medicine. Rather than lecturing, Fadumo listens. By hosting community circles under the sprawling shade of local trees, she creates a safe space for women to voice their fears and debunk the myths that often keep people away from formal medical care.

Throughout her health awareness sessions, Fadumo thinks the best way to seek timely health intervention is to get rid of traditional misconceptions around medicine.

A lot of women prefer traditional treatments over modern medicine, Fadumo added while reflecting the challenges her community faces when seeking heart care provisions.

Through the SHF-funded project, Fadumo Orey engages communities through open dialogue, helping families understand that protecting a child's health begins at home.

"A healthy community is one that knows how to protect its children every day," says Fadumo.

Her work has led to more timely referrals, improved hygiene practices, and increased use of basic treatments such as oral rehydration.

Health facilities report fewer critical cases, as families now seek care earlier.

Motivated by her role as a mother, Fadumo is helping build a future where health is seen as a right, not a luxury.

"When we share knowledge, we give each other the strength to survive."

Through her daily outreach, she demonstrates that while resources may be limited, awareness and community action can save lives.

