

**ACTIONAID INTERNATIONAL SOMALIA/SOMALILAND  
PROGRAMME PROFILE**

## Action International Somalia/Somaliland (AAIS) at Glance

### About ActionAid Somalia

ActionAid is a global justice federation working to achieve social justice, gender equality and poverty eradication. ActionAid works to strengthen the capacity and agency of people living in poverty and exclusion, especially women, to assert their rights. We work with communities, people's organisations, women's movements, groups and networks, social

### Vision

A Somalia without conflict, poverty and injustice in which people influence decisions and enjoy their rights with dignity.

### Mission

To empower people living in protracted crisis, poverty and social movements towards sustainable peaceful solutions, equality and justice through engaging right holders and duty bearers in creating sustainable change.

### Brief History

ActionAid has been operating in Somalia and Somaliland for over 28 years, implementing integrated programmes on women's rights, humanitarian response, resilience building, food security and education. Over the period, the country

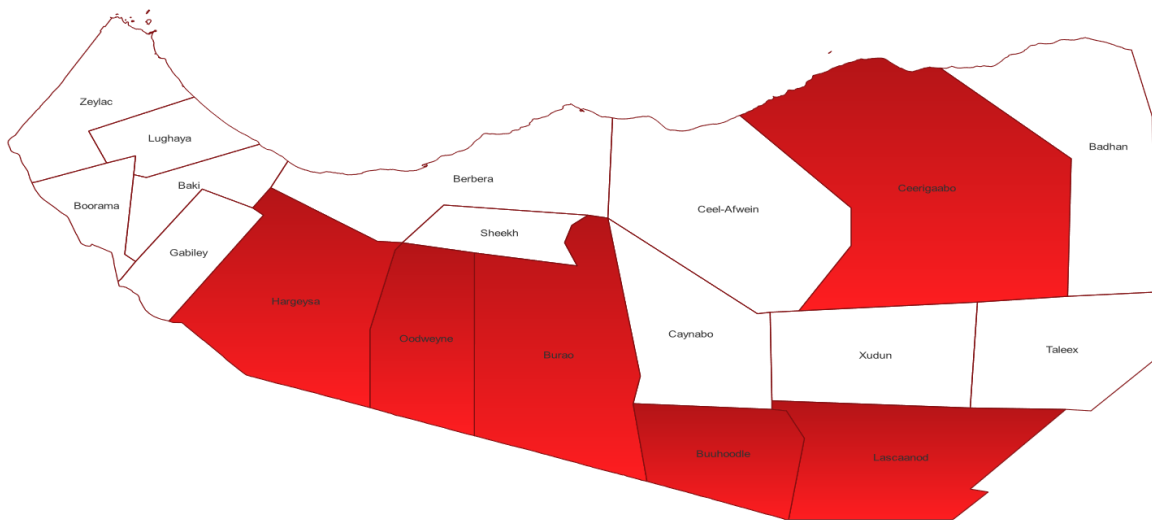
movements, and other allies to overcome the structural causes and consequences of poverty and injustice. We connect the work we do at community level with broader efforts and struggles for justice at every level to make the greatest contribution towards a just, equitable and sustainable world.

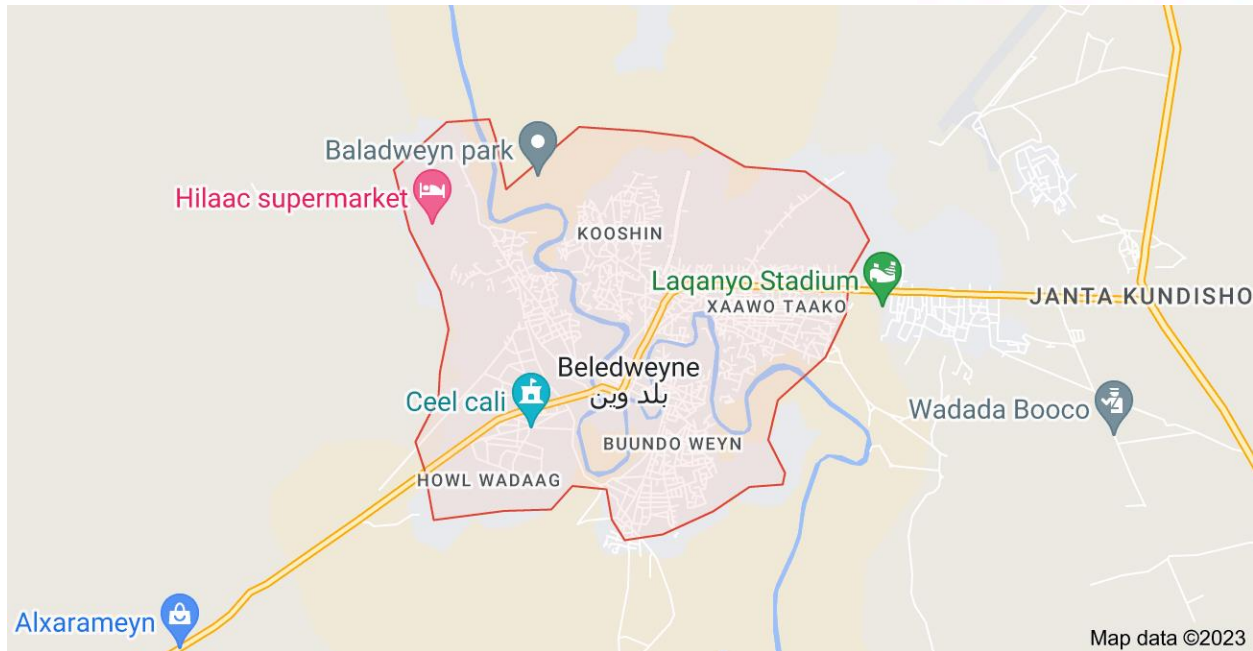
strategies have been fully aligned with ActionAid's global strategies and shifted in geographical scope depending on needs and opportunities. Between 2006 and 2009, ActionAid extended its operations to Puntland (one of the federal states of Somalia) and

other regions of Somalia in response to the Tsunami crisis and periodic droughts. During those interventions, ActionAid was able to build strategic relationship with local authorities and community-based organisations as well as other agencies operating out of Somaliland. The most recent Country Strategy Paper (CSP) – ‘Action Towards Justice’ was implemented between 2013 – 2017 and mainly focused on women’s rights, economic diversification, education, human security, and youth empowerment. The CSP period was extended to 2018 and a new CSP was subsequently developed to succeed the previous

one. The current CSP, “‘People’s Action Toward Social Justice,” which is being implemented from 2019 – 2024 reflects the changing dynamics and context in Somalia including one of the longest crises in the world arising from conflict and negative impacts of climate change. A new CSP which will represent ActionAid’s recommitment to partner with communities and their organizations in addressing injustices and effects of climate change will be developed towards the end of 2024 and will be launched in 2025.

### Geographic Coverage





ActionAid works in over 200 communities across Somaliland and Somalia. ActionAid expanded into Somalia in 2022 and has so far responded to the Beledweyne flooding and continues to partner with local CSOs in Somalia to reach out to needy and vulnerable communities.

### Our Theory of Change

**Social justice, gender equality and poverty eradication** are achieved through purposeful individual and collective action to shift unequal and unjust power, whether it is hidden, visible or invisible, from the household level to local, national, and international levels. Empowerment of people living in poverty and exclusion is crucial. Active and organised people develop and drive change, which will transform power when led primarily by those who are directly affected, and by individuals committed to deepening democracy and achieving social justice. **Collective efforts and struggles are more impactful when linked through solidarity, campaigning and common cause** between communities, people’s organisations, social movements, citizen’s groups, and other allies to strengthen the power of people to drive structural change. This includes advocacy, campaigning and policy influencing to engage with power structures from local to global.

### Programme Priorities

**Priority 1: Address root causes of violence against women and girls, enhance women’s access to economic opportunities and justice.**

#### Focus Areas

- ❖ Strengthen women’s groups and movements to challenge the root causes of GBV.
- ❖ Promote women’s/girl’s economic empowerment and entrepreneurship.
- ❖ Increasing access to justice for vulnerable women and girls.

**Priority 2: Advance women-led humanitarian response and promote resilience building to address climate, sudden-onset and conflict induced disasters.**

#### Focus Areas

- ❖ Advance Women-Led Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery for communities affected by disasters in a transparent and accountable way.

- ❖ Promote resilient livelihoods and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) for vulnerable people living during recurrent climate shocks.

**Priority 3: Advance green alternatives and promote climate justice.**

**Focus Area:** Youth organizing and activism on climate justice.

ActionAid works with young people, their organizations, movements, and networks to promote green alternatives through climate justice advocacy and youth-led climate actions. ActionAid has established youth convening spaces and hubs known as Global Platform which are localized and promote youth leadership and co-creation.

**ActionAid's Niche**

ActionAid is community rooted. Our interventions are rooted at the community level. We promote the agency of people affected by crises, emergencies and that seek social justice by providing them with capacity and resources to act on common issues identified. ActionAid has excellent organizing capacity which enables communities and rights holders to mobilize and take actions as collectives in demanding and protecting their rights. Our approach to capacity building and partnership is empowering as we target community-based people's organizations, movements, networks, and coalitions. We transfer capacities and resources to people's organizations and promote organic movement building led by women and young people.