



# UN WOMEN SOMALIA

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# HALF 1 2023 NEWSLETTER

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*International human rights instruments also protect a number of basic rights, the enjoyment of which is crucial for a meaningful electoral process..*

## Lead Delegation from the CSW 67 Updates.

**T**he CSW67 held in New York was organized by a priority team of innovation and technology change education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. UN Women Somalia sponsored the lead delegation, headed by Minister Khadija Mohamed Diriye, and the director of gender, Sadia Mohamed Nur, to attend. The focus of the CSW67 provided an opportunity for the government of Somalia to share its experience and good practices with the global community on measures towards achieving gender equality and women's empowerment in the context of innovation, technology, and digitalization.

On March 14, 2023, a Somalia delegation

participated in an interactive bilateral meeting between UN Women executive director Ms. Sima Bahous and the AU Leaders in charge of gender and human rights affairs. On March 15, 2023, the delegation participated in high-level side events co-hosted by the AU Gender and Youth Directorate and addressed a sharing of experience on strengthening digital rights and online safety measures to protect women and girls. On March 16, 2023, the delegation had a meeting with the deputy executive director of UNFPA and the Canadian permanent mission in New York.

## A Day recognize and celebrate Women's achievements in Somalia.

UN Women Somalia undertook several joint UN activities to recognize and honor the achievements of women leaders and free-

dom fighters in Somalia. The theme of DigitalALL:” Innovation and technology for gender equality” highlighted the disproportionate impact on women, especially those in poli-

tics and leadership positions. It was inspiring to see the efforts of UN Women Somalia and other stakeholders in promoting gender equality.



*UN Women Country Programme Manager during the commemoration of the international women’s Day on 8th March 2023.*



*Ministry of Women Human Rights Development commemoration of the international women’s day on 8th March 2023.*



*Honorable Minister Fahima Osman During the commemoration of the IWD in Southwest state*

DigitALL was a celebration of women’s achievements and the tireless work of women leaders and freedom fighters in Somalia. The Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development has taken the lead to achieve a 30% women’s quota in the election, and the South-West Minister of Women and Human Rights Development has called on the police to be more vigilant and protect women and young children during the night.

**Facilitated Discussion in formulating strategic actions on how women could more proactively participate in peace, security issues, and developmental matters.**

Mario Salat Hassan works with the Hambila organization in Garowe, Puntland to advance women’s participation in decision-making processes. He participated in a consultative workshop to help devise



*Mario of Hambila Organization in Garowe.*

practicable measures in the development of Puntland’s Local Action Plan on Somali Women’s Charter and UNSCR 1325.

The purpose of the plan is to improve the protection of the rights of women and girls through increased participation and representation of women at all levels of decision-making, the protection of women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence, and enhanced participation in peace and development processes. Coordination with other government stakeholders, civil society organizations, academic and research institutions, and the media is essential for the Puntland Action Plan (PLAP) to be implemented effectively. Mario is committed to building the capacity of women for their participation in the upcoming

Puntland election, expected in January 2023. She emphasizes that there is a women’s network in place to help women as they rise through the ranks to the top positions.

### Discussion by the Women Network on Sustainable Peace.

The Joint Programme on Women’s Peace and Protection was established in 17 districts to promote women’s meaningful participation in peacebuilding processes and sustain peace at the national and community level. The women’s network has been convening monthly meetings to discuss topics around peacebuilding and conflict resolution. UN Women is developing training content to train the network to strengthen and double their existing knowledge in peacebuilding and conflict resolution.



lution.

Maryan Ali is a state MP in Dhusamareb, Galmudug who has been appointed by her community to represent them. She is known for championing women’s rights and advocating for GBV survivors to access multisectoral services within 72 hours. She has been part of the committee that has been actively taking part in conflict reconciliation for the tribal conflicts in Dhusamareb for the last few years. She encourages other women to join and see

the miracles that women are doing towards their inclusion in peacebuilding activities.

### Women Engagement in Community Awareness Raising on Covid-19 in IDP Camps in Baidoa.



Habibo Mohamed Ali, a 50-year-old mother of 3 orphaned children, fled her village in Qasaxdhere in mid-2022 due to drought. She sought refuge in Baidoa and now resides in the Yemen IDP camp. The Women’s Leadership, Empowerment, Access, and Protection in Crisis (LEAP) project was implemented to prevent COVID-19 infections among women and girls displaced into IDP and refugee camps. Habibo is now more informed and willing to carry the message to the remote villages.



Posters showing the risks of FGM



*UNW team led by Dr. Sadiq, the country Program Manager accompanied by Dr. Naima Abdirahman Gulled {MOWDAFA}*

Habibo says “UN Women and partners should re-double efforts to educate communities about the dangers of FGM and forced marriage, which can take time.

### **Promoting the Mobility and dignity of women and girls in Jilaab 2 IDP Camps.**

On January 21, 2023, a UN Women Somalia team visited LEAP-Covid-19 project locations in Garowe district and interacted with program beneficiaries and the Nomadic Assistance for Peace and Development (NAPAD) implementing partner. Mama Fowsiyo Noor, camp leader of Jilaab 2 IDP in Garowe district, spoke on behalf of the community and provided and disseminated COVID-19 prevention messages.

The LEAP COVID-19 project funded by the Government of Japan aimed to promote women and girls’ dignity, self-esteem, and confidence by engaging

social media influencers on TikTok, radio spots, and hygiene promoters. A dignity kit was distributed to 485 beneficiaries based on criteria such as being the head of a household living in IDP camps, Women with special needs, households with at least one disabled or elderly person, identified GBV survivors, and women and girls at risk of GBV.

### **Gender based violence in Crime Statistics in Somalia**

In the GBV crime statistic workshop held in Somalia it was logged that Somalia has a mixed legal system consisting of civil law, Islamic law, and customary law (Xeer). It is used by most Somalis to resolve disputes and access justice but does not have external accountability and violates the Provisional Constitution with regards to the rights of women and marginalized groups. Al Shabab courts are governed by Islamic law, but do not uphold the rights



*Distribution of dignity kits to IDP women and girls in Mogadishu.*



*The team from the SNBS and players from the criminal justice system in the GBV Crime statistic workshop in Mogadishu held on 6th and 7th of March 2023.*

of marginalized groups. The legal system and statistics related to it cannot be seen in isolation from Somalia’s history.

The Federal Government (FG) is committed to strengthening its institutions and improving the rule of law. The UNSOM Joint Justice and Corrections Service (JJCS) is mandated to support the government by providing strategic policy advice and implementing joint justice and corrections programs.

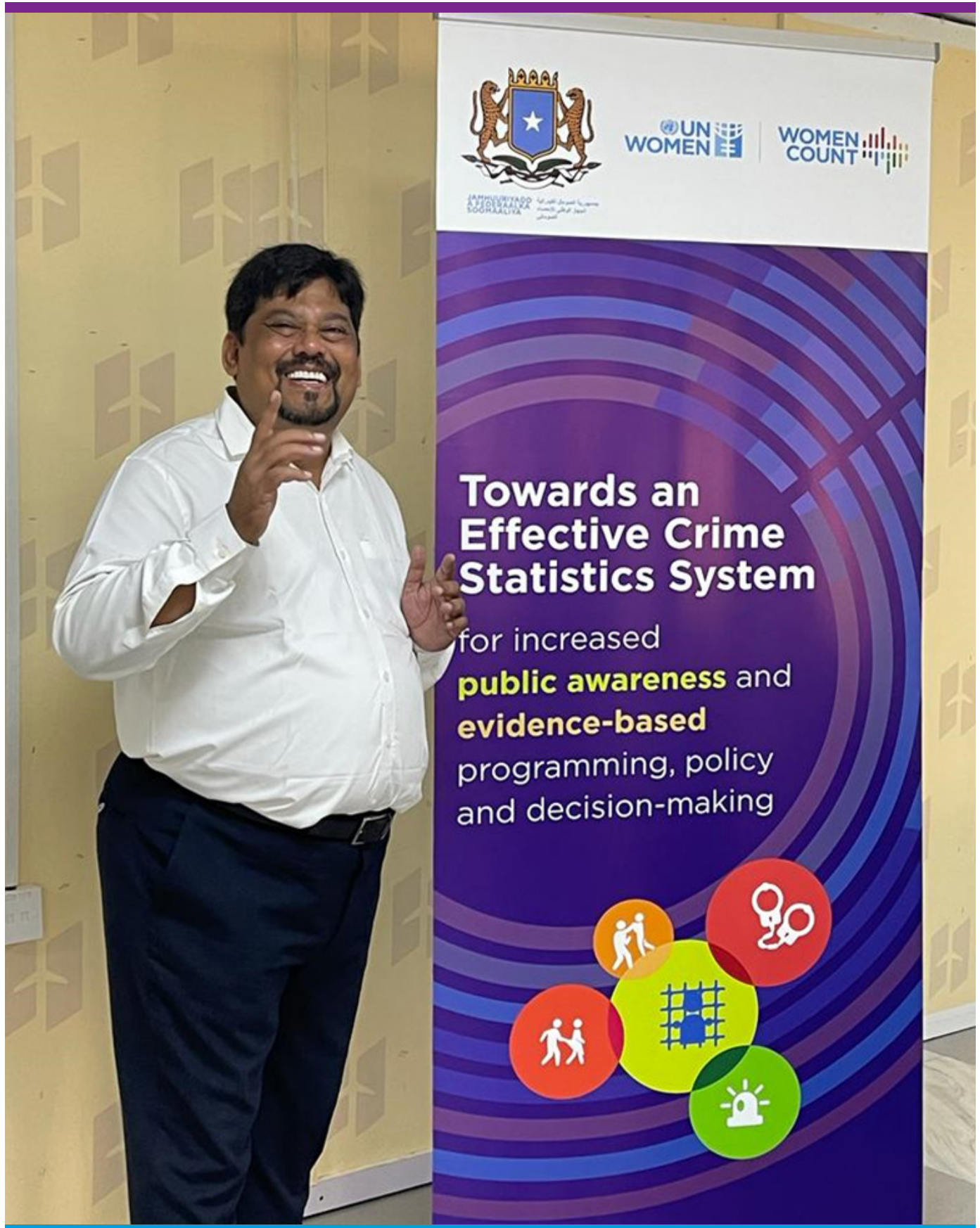
UN agencies and CSOs have partnered with the FG Ministry of Justice, Supreme Court, Attorney General Office, and the Federal Member States (FMS) to strengthen the federal systems and build the capacity of officials. The UNDP Joint Rule of Law Program is a partnership between the United Nations, the Government of Somalia, and the international community.

The Somali National Bureau of Statistics’ goal is to fill existing data gaps in crime statistics, measure changes in crime levels, evaluate policies, and understand the various facets of crime in Somali contexts.

The overall goal of the assessment was to assess and map the various sources of crime statistics, identify data and capacity gaps, and develop an action plan. It included a SWOT analysis and a high-level mapping of administrative data sources to identify data and capacity gaps. The expected output was an assessment report with a mapping of various data sources and broad data and capacity gaps.

The workshop discussed the issues of rape, corruption, and judicial system in South Africa. It concluded that there is good coordination between departments within institutions, but problems with coordination between institutions and between the FGS and FMS. Statistics on the prevalence of violence are provided by the 2020 SDHS and UNFPA 2017 questionnaire surveys. Social norms and practices, especially amongst traditional leaders, continue to hamper progress.





The team from the SNBS and players from the criminal justice system in the GBV Crime statistic workshop in Mogadishu held on 6th and 7th of March 2023.



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