

# NCA Somalia Program

## Collaboration with Private Sector Creates Jobs in Somalia

### INTRODUCTION AND PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

Piracy has plagued the Puntland region of Somalia for many years starting from 2007, and those most affected were idle/unemployed young men (youth) who were most likely to be recruited into piracy. NCA, together with partner the Garowe Vocational Training Centre (GVTC), sought to contribute to ending piracy by initiating the alternative livelihoods to piracy project, targeting these unemployed and uneducated group. 700 youth who were former pirates, and who previously were engaged in piracy and youth at risk-who had lost their livelihood (fishing) due to piracy along the coastal areas of Puntland, were targeted through this project during the last 4 years. 400 youths were enrolled into a 3 months vocational training at GVTC where they undertook training in masonry, electricity, carpentry etc. Another 300 youths were enrolled in Business skills training (BST) for a period of one (1) month.

### RESULTS:

In a collaboration between GVTC and a private company providing electricity to Garowe - the Nugal Electrical Company (NEC) and facilitated by NCA, a tailor-made electrician course curriculum was developed to ensure that what graduates learnt met the company's labour demand. As a result of this, about 20 of the graduates from the electricity training at GVTC have been employed at NEC and currently there are 12 of them still working with NEC.

After vocational training, 400 other students who were trained in other skills were given a start-up kit which contained the minimum tools required to help them set up their own enterprises.

As confirmed by end of phase one ALP evaluation report, 60% of the vocational skills graduates i.e those who did not go formal employment, have managed to start their own businesses in their area of expertise. The business skills training graduates were given a start-up grant of 500 USD and the evaluation report confirmed that 75% of the 300 BST graduates have started their own retail shops especially in Garowe IDP camps where there is large population who depend on shops to buy food. These youths are now useful members of Puntland society, who are now earning a decent income and taking care of their families and wider society. They earn an average of 150 USD per month from their businesses and this has kept them away from piracy and human trafficking business across the red sea which attract idle youths in Puntland. These youths are now not only able to support their families, but they are accepted and respected members of the community.

Another important result of this intervention is that that it has contributed to the reduction of piracy incidences off the Coast of Puntland by keeping these youth positively engaged and giving them alternative sources of livelihood.



Former pirate Ahmed now works as an electrician for the Somali electricity company NECSOM in Garowe. Collaboration with the electricity company on the vocational education of former pirates has given him and other graduates a sustainable job and income. **Photo: Camilla Grøtta/Norwegian Church Aid**



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## LESSONS LEARNED:

The initiative by NCA, GVTC and NEC to develop a market-driven, tailor-made curriculum that meets labour market demands has proved very effective in ensuring those trained actually get employment soon after completing training. This is an initiative that NCA will strive to replicate in other project areas, as well as use it as a cross-country programme learning.

## PROJECT/PROGRAMME SCOPE:

The project targetted 700 youth who were either ex-pirates or at risk of being recruited into piracy. Total funding for these interventions over the last 3 years is NOK9.591.799; **of which 5.787.473,00 has been funded by Norad**; while the rest is from DNK, Norges Rederiforbund and NCA own funds.

## SOURCES:

NCA Somalia 4-year report; NCA Global report on results 2011-2014

## PARTNERS:

This project was under the Livelihood and Trade programme, and was implemented by NCA in partnership with the Garowe Vocatinal Training Centre (GVTC)..



Aisha has completed a course in shallow water fishing and value addition of fish products. A total of 300 people in the former pirate town of Eyl have completed different forms of vocational education.

**Photo: Abdullahi Mohamed Ahmed/Norwegian Church Aid, Somalia**



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