

SAMAFALA



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EDITORIAL

Dear Friends,

With all the tragic events in the Middle East, we fear that the Horn of Africa, and especially Somalia, is “forgotten”. The tragic humanitarian situation continues and aggravates.

The appeals from the local authorities, the UN agencies and the other humanitarian organizations are ineffective to the international community. We deplore that some rich countries increased the armament, and decreased the humanitarian help.

We, in Caritas Somalia, we can never give up hope for a better future for millions of Somalis; we continue our tireless efforts to assist the population, mainly the most vulnerable, women and children.

At the end of Ramadan and Lent, we are reminded that fasting is acceptable by God only if we extend our hands to the poor. Without giving, the holy time of the year becomes fruitless. Let us be generous to our brothers and sisters, so God may hear our petitions and bless us.

Happy Ramadan and Blessed Easter,

Faternally,

Mgr. Jamal Daibe

Apostolic Administrator of the diocese of Mogadishu

NEWS

26.12.2025 Israel officially recognized Somaliland, becoming the first country in the world to do so.

28.01.2026 The United Nations launches an urgent appeal for \$852 million to address the humanitarian crisis in Somalia and protect those most affected by climate and security shocks.

08.03.2026 The Somali Parliament approved the new Constitution, replacing the provisional 2012 one and redefining the structure of the state after more than 20 years of civil war.

CARITAS PROJECTS

Restoring dignity through water, hygiene and protection

In many parts of Somalia, access to clean water and safe sanitation remains a daily challenge. In the Bulo Burti district in the Hiiraan region, recurring droughts and fragile infrastructure particularly affect vulnerable families,



especially women and children. These hardships are rooted in a complex set of underlying factors, including the consequences of the closure of USAID, tensions between the central government and several federal member states, the persistence of Islamist insurgency, and the growing impact of climate-related shocks.

Through the project “Water, Hygiene and Protection in Somalia”, implemented by Caritas Somalia with the support of Caritas Italiana and in collaboration with Volunteers for Agricultural Development, we worked together with local communities to address these urgent needs.

The project provided safe drinking water to 400 households (about 2,800 people) in the villages of Jabolle and Elmi Sadiq through a water trucking service. In addition, 40 latrines were constructed, including facilities accessible to persons with disabilities, and 10 solar lights were installed near sanitation areas to improve safety at night, particularly for women and girls.

Community engagement was central to the initiative. Water Management Committees were established and trained to maintain the infrastructure, while 1,550 community members participated in hygiene awareness sessions on safe water management and the prevention of waterborne diseases.

The project also focused on dignity and protection: 750 dignity kits were distributed to vulnerable women and adolescent girls, and 1,000 women and girls took part in training sessions on gender-based violence prevention.

Through this initiative, Caritas Somalia continues its mission of supporting vulnerable communities and strengthening

their resilience, helping ensure safer and healthier living conditions for those most in need.

PeaceMed: dialogue, method, and cooperation

“Peace is not only the absence of war, but something to be built every day with patience and responsibility.”(Pope Leo XIV)

Starting from this reflection, there was an opportunity to take



part in the PEACEMED – Initiative for Peacebuilding in the Mediterranean project, a regional initiative co-funded by the Italian Government and supported by Caritas Italiana, Caritas Ambrosiana, and

Caritas MONA, with the technical support of Rondine – Cittadella della Pace.

PeaceMed brings together civil society organizations from 20 countries across the Mediterranean region, the Middle East, and the Horn of Africa, with the aim of strengthening skills for non-violent conflict transformation and promoting a sustainable network for peace. The program includes training activities, international exchanges, and practical tools for shared collaboration. The project will continue until March 2026, with the approval of a letter of intent among the partners and the creation of a permanent peace network in the Mediterranean, marking an important transition from training to structured cooperation.

In this context, Sara Ben Rached represented Caritas Somalia, participating in the program’s activities and contributing to the regional dialogue among the involved organizations. Her participation strengthened the voice of the Horn of Africa within the shared process of learning and cooperation.

One of the most significant aspects of the experience was learning a practical methodological approach based on listening, participation, and dialogue. This method makes it possible to give everyone a voice, value each contribution, and transform conflict into an opportunity for shared growth. This practical dimension of the training represents an essential tool for promoting more constructive relationships and strengthening a culture of peace in different contexts of action.

TESTIMONY

Nuria and Andrea: “An experience that inspired us”

We are Nuria and Andrea and we come from Barcelona. Last year we completed our degree in Communication for Organizations, and we currently collaborate with Caritas Maroc, supporting them and their partners in strengthening communication and visibility.



We had the opportunity to travel to Djibouti for a week to meet the team of Caritas Somalia and create their website from scratch. Working closely with Sara, the director, we helped design the structure and content of the site and then developed all the pages. Through this process we discovered the incredible work Caritas Somalia carries out for vulnerable communities, especially women and children.

What impressed us most was seeing how such a small organization can achieve so much. Sara’s dedication, passion, and strength were truly inspiring. Despite working in a very complex context and often from a distance, she manages to lead meaningful projects that support families and children in very difficult situations.

Beyond the professional experience, the human side of this project made it truly special. We were welcomed with great warmth, and working together was both inspiring and very enjoyable. It was also very moving to learn about the lives of the children and families that Caritas Somalia supports.

For us, creating the website was a way to help give visibility to an organization doing such important humanitarian work.

We feel very grateful to have been part of this project and proud to contribute, even in a small way, to the mission of Caritas Somalia.

FROM OUR HISTORY

This chapter traces the history of Caritas Somalia from its foundation until now.

1989: Caritas Somalia amid emergencies and community projects

Caritas Somalia’s activities in 1989 were deeply marked by the death of its president, Mons. Colombo. Following the drought of 1986-1987, the organization built new water distribution points in Wanle Weyn, carried out reforestation in 10 villages using the “food for work” method, constructed 175 local dwellings, and distributed 400 fruit trees in Kulmis, in addition to digging a basin to collect rainwater.

The nurse training program, managed by the Consolata Sisters, was launched, while at Benadir Hospital in Mogadishu

and in Magnagabo (Gelib), a nutrition project for children under five was started. This included the provision of supplementary food and education for mothers on hygiene, health, and nutrition: 360 children were assisted.

Caritas Somalia also supported women with mental health issues through manual activities and assisted 200 young people disabled due to polio. Caritas' presence in the country has always ensured tangible support for the most vulnerable communities, even in times of crisis.

For more information and donation please contact

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