

Integrated Development Focus(IDF-S)

Via Khalil District Hospital idfbhawa@yahoo.com / info@idfsomalia.org Website: www.idfsomalia.org

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SUCCESS STORY

A. Women IDPs:

Success Story 1:

Name: Sudo Abdullahi Adan

Location: Belet-hawa

I am and IDP women with 6 children who lives in the outskirts of Belet-Hawa town. Although I continue to have a hard life and I am always busy and tired, I am constantly smiling now. Since I was a child, I loved to beautify women and girls. This passion led me to take beautification courses in Belet-Hawa town, offered by WFP/IDF. I then started working in various places, and now I beautify women and girls in Belet-Hawa town and the IDP camps. Now I am planning to open my own kiosk for beautification with the money I saved from the food aid voucher transfer given to me WFP/IDF. With shaking hands, she chose her sewing machines, and bought rolls of material and thread. The moment my little kiosk is opened will be the biggest and happiest time since I became an IDP. Women and girls are now coming from afar seeking my skill in beautification. Some of them who come by foot are walking many kilometers – but they know that it is worth it, because I am an extremely good beautifier. When asked about difficulties that she has encountered, she just looks around and does not say one word of complaint. When asked about good moments she smiles a lot a starts telling stories about her kids, funny orders, and burning bread in the morning on a very old stove. When asked about her project, she becomes more serious; "the best way any one can help is by giving a skill and tools which allow him/her to be independent, self-reliant and free again" even though the real freedom, the possibility to return home, is still far from reality.





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Success Story 2:

Name: Sadia Sirad Mohamed

Location: Malkariyey

I live with my extended family and three kids in Malkariyey village. I am one of the three wives my husband married. All of us have own own fields to cultivate, although the land is the property of our husband. Everybody can decide guite independently what to do in their fields, but we usually discuss with our husband what to grow. We were cultivating even prior to WFP/IDF assistance but were able to produce enough for families. With help of WFP/IDF assistance, we gained knowledge and skills manage our farms sustainable in the face of climate change. We were trained Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) and Conservation Agriculture (CA) to withstand the impact of climate change and produce enough food for our families. Prior to this assistance our crops were failing and our yields were scanty. With assiatnce, we expanded our activities. We grow maize, cowpea, onion, tomatoes, watermelons, vegetables, etc. A part of what we produce is for home consumption and part is for sale in the local markets. Our income has increased, and I am allowed to save money in the Village Saving and Loans Association. I even started my own small business. Thanks to WFP/IDF, I have improved my agricultural knowledge and skills and my economic situation have not gone unnoticed by other community members: My neighbors have changed their attitude towards me. They used to underestimate my abilities and I wasn't perceived as important at all. This has changed. They see that I'm able to make my own living, that I can save money and if needed, I'm able to cover medical expenses, and that I can make a commitment. They respect me now. For example, they come to ask me for advice, or how they can take part in the project. In terms of household dynamics, she explains: "My relationship with my husband has always been quite fine. We haven't experienced any serious problems, but what changed after the assistance is that I feel equal. I have my financial resources, and it's me who decides what to do with them. This makes me feel that I am on the same level as my husband. Generally, I feel I have more control over my life. I can plan better, and I rely on my own work and things I produce. I have also decided to have more kids, but only when the three I already have grown up a bit more. So I have started planning when to get pregnant. It gives me more control.

