



**2022**  
**Annual Report**  
**Diaspora Project Support (DiPS)**

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# About DiPS

Diaspora Project Support (DiPS) is a Danida funded project under the DRC's Diaspora Programme.

DiPS aims to support and enhance diasporas' capacity to respond to needs of people affected by conflict and displacement through:

1.

## The DiPS Fund

Financial and technical support to diaspora-led projects implemented by Danish diaspora organizations in **Somalia/Somaliland** and **Afghanistan**

2.

## Capacity Development

Workshops and trainings, peer learning, and organizational development for **Somali** and **Afghan** diaspora organizations in **Denmark**

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## 2022 IN REVIEW

**15**

Afghan diaspora organisations applied for funding

**33**

Somali diaspora organisations applied for funding

**9**

Diaspora organisations granted funding

**1,665,921**

DKK granted to diaspora-led projects

**85**

Diaspora organisations reached through technical capacity support

**128**

Diaspora representatives reached through technical capacity support

**27**

Events held to provide technical support

**98%**

of Diaspora organisations reporting improved knowledge and skills from capacity development activities

## WHY DIASPORA?

DRC and DiPS recognises diaspora as crucial transnational civil society actors who play a substantial role in supporting people affected by conflict and displacement. Every day, diaspora around the world support people in their countries of origin through remittances, information and knowledge sharing, advocacy, and other means. The funding provided by DiPS to diaspora-led development and rehabilitation projects supports sustainable and innovative projects with a high level of complementarity between diaspora and local actors. Through providing funding and capacity support to diaspora DiPS aims to enhance their role as effective and important actors in development.

## DiPS GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

DiPS has a governance structure consisting of the elected Somali and Afghan Advisory Boards and appointed Executive Committee. The Advisory Board enhance the transparency, accountability, and quality of DiPS` s work by including perspectives from diaspora representatives in the assessment and selection of DiPS applications. The Executive Committee includes three civil society and diaspora experts who take the final decisions on the assessment and selection of DiPS applications. During 2022 the Advisory Board and ExComm were involved in the assessment of projects selected at the June 1st and November 1st deadlines.

## ADVISORY BOARD 2022-23

### Afghan Advisory Board

- Fawad Momand
- Khalid Naseri
- Maryam Rahimi
- Zeinab Rahimi
- Tahmina Salik



### Somali Advisory Board

- Abdulkadir M. Ga`al
- Anisa Abdi Isse
- Dekha Hussein
- Sahra Abdinassir Mohamed
- Yassin Osoble

# 1. The DiPS Fund

During 2022, nine new diaspora-led projects were granted funding and started implementation of development and rehabilitation projects. The expected implementation period for these projects is from December 2022 until December 2023.

## PROJECTS IN AFGHANISTAN



*Photo provided by Afghansk Kulturforening (AKF)*

**Diaspora Organisation: Afghansk Kulturforening (AKF)**

**Amount Granted: 182,800 DKK**

Local Partner : The Alingar New Generation Society  
Location: Laghman, Afghanistan

This project aims to support the economic empowerment of women through providing six months of training in sewing of garments and handicrafts. The diaspora organization will facilitate the sale of the garments in Denmark and abroad, with 50% of the profits going directly to the women and the remaining 50% to be used to run and maintain the business.

**Diaspora Organisation: Katib Kultur Forening**  
**Amount Granted: 300,000 DKK**

Local Partner: Kakrak Social and Cultural Council. Location: Khakrak, Ghazni, Afghanistan

This will construct a library in connection to a school which both boys and girls will have access to. Activities include construction of the library, provision of furniture, and donation of books by the diaspora. In the future, Katib Kultur also will continue to contribute financially to the running of the library and aims to establish a cultural exchange between Danish and Afghan school children.

**Diaspora Organisation: Right2Health**  
**Amount Granted 142,400 DKK**

Local Partner: Rahmand Khayr Foundation  
Location: Kunar, Afghanistan

This project aims to address the problem of poor dental hygiene in Afghanistan and contribute to improved dental health for young children by conducting awareness raising workshops about preventive dental care and providing dental care packages to 5,000 young children in 10 schools across seven districts of Kunar. The diaspora includes dentists based in Demark who will travel to Afghanistan to conduct the workshops.

# A closer look...



**Location:** Copenhagen, Denmark



**Location:** Alingar, Lagham, Afghanistan

**Afghansk Kulturforening (AKF)** is an Afghan diaspora organisation based outside of Copenhagen, Denmark. Granted funding in 2022, this project aims to increase economic opportunities for the women of Alingar district by providing sewing training and sewing machines so that they can produce and sell garments.

The need for the training was identified by the diaspora during a visit to Alingar by AKF's chairperson, Shoukat. Since August 2021, economic opportunities for women have become extremely limited and the project aims to address this issue. The team at the project location consists of two siblings whom will be primarily responsible for the project, the brother in corresponding with the market owners and community leaders and the sister in collaborating and working with the women who will benefit from the training.

The diaspora organisation will work with their local partner, **The Alingar New Generation Society**, a community-based organization who have been active in Alingar since 2008. The project will also benefit from AKF and Alingar New Generation Society's previous experience with constructing a library and cultural center in Alingar with funding from DiPS (see below).



*Photos provided by Afghansk Kulturforening (AKF)*

The library is still active today and is supported by running contributions from diaspora to provide free education to children in Alingar. AKF's long-term experience working with Alingar New Generation Society and in Alingar is expected to contribute to the successful implementation of the current project as the project activities are planned and implemented together with the community.

# PROJECTS IN SOMALIA/SOMALILAND

## **Diaspora Organisation: Khayr Foundation**

**Amount Granted: 299,458 DKK**

Local Partner: Karama Charity Foundation  
Location: Werder, Dollo Zone, Somali Region of Ethiopia

This project aims to increase access to water and enable successful farming for the Dolo bila collective, a greenhouse collective that was established with support from DiPS in 2021. The diaspora organization has secured a contribution from the local authorities to fund more than 50% of the costs of constructing the borehole, and will in collaboration with authorities and their local partner ensure the drilling and management of a borehole that will be the property of the collective.

## **Diaspora Organisation: Qaw Relief Organisation in Denmark (QRO)**

**Amount Granted: 149,998 DKK**

Local Partner: Kaah Relief and Development Organisation  
Location: Bari, Puntland Region, Somalia

This project will contribute to improved maternal health by supporting the a year-long training of 20 community midwives in collaboration with the local Ministry of Health. The trainees will be selected from rural communities and then deployed back to the communities to serve the local maternal care needs.

## **Diaspora Organisation: Somaliland Kvindeforening**

**Amount Granted: 148,503 DKK**

Local Partner: United Trust Action (UNITA)  
Location: Burao, Togdheer, Somaliland

This project will contribute to establishment of a library and community-education hub funded by international diaspora, with a special focus on environmental awareness and recycling. SWA will contribute to the establishment of the hub through their expertise in environmental awareness and community engagement and through activities such as training youth environmental ambassadors, establishing a playground made of recycled goods, and capacity building of library workers on methods for engaging and training youth.

## **Dispora Organisation: Action for Relief and Development (ARD)**

**Total Amount Granted: 149,950 DKK**

Local Partner: ARD-SOMALIA  
Location: Baardheere, Jubbaland, Somalia

This project aims to support the livelihoods of 200 farmers in Bardhere village. This will be done by conducting a training of trainers for 29 farmers about fertilization and crop rotation to increase yield and protect the environment as well as providing tools to 200 farmers and supporting the farmers with land preparation. Practical trainings on these topics will be delivered by the diaspora project manager who is a Danish-based agricultural expert.

## **Diaspora Organisation: Takulo Forening**

**Amount Granted: 144,622 DKK**

Local Partner: Khadija Foundation  
Location: Ali Farah Village, Oodweyne, Somaliland

This project will contribute to the start-up of operations of an Maternal and Child Health Clinic (MCH) in, which has been established by the community and diaspora. Takulo will install a solar photovoltaic system at the MCH for the purpose of lighting, refrigerating medicines, sterilizing equipment, and operating life-saving medical devices. The project will also provide the MCH with medical equipment to improve services for mothers and children.

## **Diaspora Organisation: Arte Foundation**

**Amount Granted: 148,644 DKK**

Local Partner: Ministry of Health  
Location: Jijiga and Godey, Somali Region of Ethiopia

This project aims to enhance awareness and capacity of local medical practitioners to prevent and treat obstetric fistulas, a common but stigmatized complication arising during labor. Members of the diaspora who include medical experts will collaborate with the Ministry of Health and hospitals in the Somali Region of Ethiopia to provide preventative training on obstetric fistulas for surgeons and new doctors at several hospitals in the region.

# A closer look...



**Location:** Aarhus, Denmark



**Location:** Baardheere, Gedo, Jubbaland, Somalia

**Action for Relief and Development (ARD) DK** is a Somali diaspora organisation based in Aarhus, Denmark. The objective of this project is to transfer knowledge from agricultural experts in Denmark to farmers in a village in the Gedo region of Somalia. The project is led by Adam Garad - an expert in Agricultural Technology at Jordbrugets Udannelses Center, Denmark.

The diaspora organisation will work with their local partner, **ARD Somalia** to implement the project. ARD Somalia is a non-political organisations based in Gedo region of Somalia, that formed in 2003 with support from the international Somali diaspora in response to the increasing needs.

In July 2023, Adam Garad will visit the project site to train approximately 29 local farmers on irrigation methods and weed control as well as proper use and timely allocation of livestock manure and fertilizers. Through the training it is expected that the farmers will be able to increase the yield from their crops as well as reduce nutrient leaking to streams, rivers, and the sea after harvest. The project is particularly relevant considering the immense challenges Somalia and the entire Horn of Africa is facing due to the drought.



*Photos provided by Action for Relief and Development (ARD) DK*

The DiPS fund has been a **“gate opener”** for the local organization, Garad tells us, "because they not only have received funds but have gained **important knowledge** on project management, implementation and procurement processes".

# 2. Capacity Development

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Workshops and trainings throughout all phases of applying for and implementing projects through the DiPS fund.

Concept Note Writing Workshops, October 2022

In October, DiPS facilitated three concept note writing workshops in Copenhagen, Aarhus and online, to provide guidance to diaspora organizations planning to apply at the next deadline. Through presentations, group work, case studies and brainstorming exercise, the workshop provided guidance to **16** diaspora organisations on the budget and concept note format, as how to meet DiPS's assessment criteria.



*Photo taken by the DiPS Team*

## PEER LEARNING

Inspirational and knowledge-sharing events among diaspora.

Somali Community event with Abdisalam Hereri, May 2022

In May 2022, DiPS supported Somali diaspora in hosting British-Somali veteran journalist Abdisalam Hareri in Denmark. He conducted interviews for his documentary program "Hareri and Somali Diaspora in Denmark", shedding light on the dispersed Somali communities around the world and their connections with their home country. During his visit, Hareri interviewed **17** Danish-Somalis and met with **237** Danish-Somalis across Denmark, including through an evening event hosted at DRC.





# ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## One-on-one support to organisations

Organisational development workshops focus on longer term support spanning from 4-6 months that is tailored to the individual needs and ambitions of participating diaspora organization, with a focus on supporting their development as sustainable organizations. The aim is to support organizations with challenges they face or areas they wish to strengthen.

For example, participating organizations could receive support to create a concrete plan for motivating and retaining volunteers in the organization, setting up a strong board, or how to hold a general assembly. During 2022 three diaspora organizations received organisational development support through DiPS.



During our organizational development course...we found that what we do here in Denmark is not fully connected to what we want to do in Somalia. We therefore decided to start a new association called SomRio. During the course we learned how to transform our plans to a vision and mission. We also created a long-term strategy with an action plan and learned how to write goal-oriented applications for fundraising.

### Mahammed, Faiza, Fardowsa and Mohamud from SomRio

**98 %** of diaspora organization partners reported that DRC capacity development support was useful and relevant to their ambitions



# DiPS

Are you interested in developing your diaspora organization...?

...Find out more about our upcoming capacity development events here!

Are you interested in applying for the DiPS fund...?

...Find out about the upcoming deadline here!

Stay tuned via our website and Facebook page!

## Photo Credits

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Page 9: (from left to right) Sam Tarling, Jamil Ghafuri, Martin Thaulow, Jamil Ghafuri

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**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
OF DENMARK**  
*Danida*