

SCS Djibouti: *Programme de Renforcement des Capacités des Associations de Djibouti (PRECAD)*

Overview

The Programme de Renforcement des Capacités des Associations de Djibouti (PRECAD) (2018 – 2020, \$2.9 million) is a USAID/Djibouti-funded initiative to strengthen civil society organizations (CSO) to foster accountable governance and improve service delivery. Led by FHI 360, PRECAD supports Djiboutians to engage in constructive dialogue with government officials with the aim of improving service delivery in education and health, especially for women and vulnerable populations.

Djibouti Context

Over 20 percent of Djibouti's population lives in extreme poverty, and indicators for individual and civic well-being are low. contextual factors include weak governance, persistent barriers to citizen participation, limited civil society capacity to effectively advocate for improved governance and inclusive service delivery, and cultural barriers to gender equality, youth empowerment and social inclusion.

Major Program Components

Improve governance in the education and health sectors through:

- Strengthening CSOs in the education and health sectors, by improving their strategic planning, project management and fundraising capabilities, their networking and advocacy skills
- Hosting multi-stakeholder engagements (Whole System in the Room (WSR) workshops) where civil society and public sector actors working in education or health can identify opportunities for action, collaboration or coalition building
- Financing CSO micro-projects in education and health, addressing priorities identified during the WSR workshops

Promote more effective advocacy for gender equality, equitable service delivery, and protection of vulnerable populations by CSOs by:

- Strengthening CSOs dedicated to Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)
- Hosting multi-stakeholder engagements (GESI WSR workshops) where civil and public sector

actors working in gender equality and social inclusion can identify opportunities for action, collaboration or coalition building

- Financing CSO micro-projects addressing priorities identified during the WSR workshop (gender priorities in education and health, etc.)

Improve the enabling environment for CSOs in Djibouti by:

- Developing the capacity of 12 CSOs to better serve the Djiboutian population
- Encouraging collaboration between international stakeholders and CSOs to implement activities defined in CSO strategic plans
- Fostering CSO coalitions in the health and education sectors and on GESI issues

Achievements

- Secured buy-in of the Djiboutian government, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Women and Family, to develop joint action plans with civil society for improving service delivery.
- Selected 12 education-, health- and GESI-focused associations to take part in PRECAD's capacity building program.
- Enrolled 68 education-sector stakeholders in a WSR Education workshop. Participants identified seven education-sector priorities, each of which is championed by a working group to develop action plans.
- Provided 24 hours of training for 48 members of Djiboutian associations and government ministries in Advanced Participatory Methods to promote better communication among various actors in the education, health, and GESI sectors.
- Facilitated rapid organizational evaluations for 10 partner associations, to identify their institutional strengths and weaknesses. PRECAD will deliver tailored technical assistance, training, and coaching to respond to these needs.

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