



**INTERNATIONAL  
SOLIDARITY  
FOUNDATION**

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**Performance Report  
2020**







Mother Rahma and daughter Isra in Somaliland. Photo: Nyasha Kadandara

This Performance Report should be read together with ISF’s annual report to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), which is prepared in Finnish, and the ISF Development Cooperation Programme 2018–2021. This Performance Report and the MFA Report constitute ISF’s Annual Report. The Performance Report is designed to have minimal overlap with the MFA Report. The content of both documents is summarized below.

Performance Report:

- Changes in ISF operating environment
- Results and impact of ISF’s development programme (ISF programme objectives 1 and 2)
- Challenges and lessons learned during the year

MFA Report:

- Civil society space in programme countries and how ISF strengthens it (ISF programme objective 3)
- Relevance of ISF programme for Finnish development policy priorities (incl. inequality, gender, climate change, human rights, disabled people)
- Communication and global education in Finland (ISF programme objective 3)
- Results-based management
- Administration
- Programme funding and financial reporting

These two documents describe progress and challenges in implementing ISF’s development programme in 2020. These documents are complemented with project-specific results descriptions (previously annexed to the Annual Report), which are published on the ISF English website.

1. Introduction	3
2. Executive summary	4
3. Changes in operating environment	6
Kenya	9
Somaliland	10
Nicaragua	11
4. Results and impact	12
Objective 1 – Local economies are economically and ecologically sustainable	12
Objective 2 – Empowering communities to prevent violence against women and girls	16
Objective 3 – People and communities are empowered as instigators of global change	21
5. Challenges and lessons learned	22
6. Financial performance	24
Annex 1 List of projects	
Annex 2 Results matrix	



# 2. Executive summary

2020 was the third year of ISF’s 2018–2021 development cooperation programme. The objectives of the programme are:

- Local economies are economically and ecologically sustainable
- Women and men are empowered to prevent violence against women
- People and communities are empowered as instigators of global change

ISF programme beneficiaries in 2020						
	Direct	Women (%)	Indirect	Women (%)	Total	Women (%)
Kenya	5300	64%	30700	50%	36000	52%
Somaliland	8700	59%	44500	73%	50900	72%
Nicaragua	700	47%	3800	53%	4500	52%
TOTAL	14700	60%	79000	63%	91400	63%



Photo: Meeri Koutaniemi

In 2020, despite of the COVID-pandemic, the programme was implemented mostly according to plans in all programme countries: Kenya, Somaliland, and Nicaragua. Some activities were postponed or replaced with new activities to adapt to the pandemic and preventive measures. In most projects, this did not significantly impact the expected outcomes and results although programme beneficiaries had to cope with new challenges and their quality of life was severely affected. The development of the artisan sector in Nicaragua was mostly affected by the decline in markets.

The programme reached close to 15,000 direct beneficiaries, of which 60% were women. In total, it benefited over 90,000 people in the three programme countries.

The programme included 13 projects in three countries, of which 12 were implemented by local partners and one directly by ISF. In Kisii and Nyamira counties in Kenya, ISF’s local partners implemented two projects to prevent violence against women and girls (VAWG), particularly female genital mutilation (FGM), and two projects to promote women’s livelihood. In addition, ISF run the Muungano Gender Forum, which was established in 2018 to create a conducive multi-stakeholder platform to promote gender issues.

In Nicaragua, ISF’s programme included two projects to support the climate resilience of local farmers and the livelihoods of local artisans. In Somaliland, ISF had five projects with local partners to support women’s livelihoods and prevent violence against women.

2020 was the first year of implementation of the 3-year project to prevent female genital mutilation (FGM) in Somaliland, which is funded by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women (UN Trust Fund). In 2020, ISF receiving an additional 430,000\$ from the UN Trust Fund to complement the 3-year project with efforts to respond to COVID-19 and to improve the institutional capacity and resilience of local women’s rights organizations to cope with crises.

## Significant results achieved by ISF so far under its 2018–2021 programme include:

- Increased annual sales of ISF supported value chains in 2020: 1,603,227 USD (2018: 657,469 USD).
- Rainwater harvesting capacity of 280,000m3, which provides water for 388 farms in Nicaragua and Somaliland and benefits food security of 2,200 people.
- 1,046 farms use practices and technology that improve adaptation of farm system to climate change, e.g. rainwater harvesting, drought resistant seeds, greenhouses, drip irrigation and vertical farming.
- Since 2018, ISF Muungano Gender Forum has brought together government and non-government actors to discuss local gender issues in Kisii and Nyamira counties in Kenya. During the COVID-19 lockdown, sessions continued via Facebook live. According to an external evaluation, the Forum has strengthened coordination and improved awareness on gaps in gender equality and women’s rights among key stakeholders.
- In 2020, ISF proceeded with the Alternative Rite of Passage (ARP) approach to prevent FGM in Kenya. The approach will be incorporated into the safety camps organized for high-risk girls during the cutting seasons.
- In Somaliland, the support for FGM, particularly the most severe pharaonic type of FGM, is decreasing in ISF programme communities, while zero tolerance to all types of FGM is gaining ground

### 3. Changes in operating environment

The operating environment in ISF’s programme areas is described in the 2018–2021 programme document. This chapter describes the main changes in the operating environment in 2020. The following table summarizes some key development indicators for ISF programme countries and Finland.

	Kenya	Nicaragua	Somalia	Finland
Transparency International Corruption Index	137/179	161/179	179/179	3/179
Human Development Index <sup>1</sup>	147/189	126/189	No data	12/189
Gender Inequality Index (GII) <sup>1</sup>	0.545	0.455	0.773 <sup>2</sup>	0.050
CEDAW <sup>3</sup> ratification year	1984	1981	not ratified	1986
Maputo Protocol <sup>4</sup> ratification year	2010	n.a.	not ratified	n.a.
FGM prevalence (women ages 15–49) <sup>1</sup>	21%	No data	98%	No data
Child marriage, women married by age 18 (women ages 20–24) <sup>1</sup>	23%	35%	45%	No data
Intimate partner violence against women, ever experienced (women ages 15+) <sup>1</sup>	40.7%	22.5%	No data	30%
Women with account at financial institution or with mobile money-service provider (women ages 15+) <sup>1</sup>	77.7%	24.8%	No data	99.6%
Multidimensional poverty index: % population in severe multidimensional poverty <sup>1</sup>	13.3%	5.5% (2017)	81.8% <sup>5</sup>	No data
Climate vulnerability score (ND-GAIN Country Index 2017)	149/181	108/181	181/181	11/181
Climate readiness score (ND-GAIN Country Index 2017)	152/191	140/191	191/191	6/191
Civic space rating (Civicus)	Obstructed	Repressed	Repressed	Open

1. UNDP Human Development Indicators (Gender & Poverty)
2. UNDP Somalia Human Development Report 2012
3. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
4. Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa
5. Oxford Human Development and Development Initiative 2017 (OPHI). <https://ophi.org.uk/>

When **COVID-19** spread around the world at the beginning of 2020, it had a disruptive effect on ISF operations and the lives of programme beneficiaries. All programme areas were impacted, and the preventive measures taken by the Governments forced ISF to quickly adapt to the new environment.

Kenya was severely hit by the virus, with 125,000 reported cases and 2,000 deaths by March 2021. Somalia is not as badly impacted with 10,000 cases and 470 deaths according to official statistics. The official figures, however, only represent a small portion of actual cases in these countries. In Nicaragua, the official figures are even less reliable as the government undermines the dangers of the virus and hardly maintains any registers. According to Observatorio Ciudadano (COVID monitoring network by the civil society), some 13,000 COVID cases and 3,000 deaths had been reported until January 2021.

While the authorities in Nicaragua understate the dangers of the virus and have taken very few measures to curb it, the authorities in Kenya and Somaliland reacted with much tougher precautions, including the closure of all schools. In Kenya, the Government also closed marketplaces and placed a nightly curfew. Somaliland did not implement a full lockdown but prohibited social events and large gatherings. As the spread of the virus stabilised, some restrictions were lifted, and schools reopened in January 2021.

The preventive measures and the impact of the virus (e.g. complete stop of tourism in Nicaragua) resulted in severe income losses for women. These income losses have increased tensions and violence within households, as families struggle to meet the most basic needs. In Kenya, also police violence has increased after the imposition of a curfew.

Overall, the very tactics to tackle COVID-19—such as cessation of movement, mandatory lockdowns, and isolation at home—are often putting women and girls at risk of violence. For example, in both Kenya and Somalia, school closures and curfews entailed an increase in FGM cases. Despite an increasing concern over the surge of FGM, Governments have not taken corrective action, as they prioritise the pandemic—at the cost of women and girls.

Even though COVID-19 imposed challenges on programme implementation, it has not severely impacted programme results. Large gatherings and trainings were cancelled in all countries, carried out in smaller outdoor groups, or moved to digital platforms and personal counselling. ISF distributed protective gear and supported affected farmers with seedlings and other farming supplies. ISF also accelerated efforts to find new alternative solutions to prevent FGM and support livelihoods. It developed the use of digital platforms (e.g. interactive voice messages, SMS, WhatsApp, Facebook, and podcasts) and traditional media (e.g. radio, TV, megaphones, outdoor advertising) for awareness raising.

In addition to the pandemic, locust invasion posed a big threat to food security in East Africa. In 2020, billions of insects destroyed crops across the region and new swarms of locusts in southern Ethiopia, northern Kenya and Somaliland are now spreading further. In Somaliland, large areas of cropland and pasture were destroyed with severe consequences in an already fragile context. The situation was further aggravated by heavy floods that created an ideal breeding ground for the insects. ISF supported its partner in Togdheer region to participate in national locust control efforts but still some 60% of crops were destroyed in programme villages.





The COVID-19 pandemic has imposed challenges on programme implementation. ISF has provided hygiene products and protective gear. Photo: ISF

## Kenya



People working the fields in Kenya.  
Photo: Nyasha Kadandara

Kenya experienced a relatively peaceful political climate in the first quarter of the year with the economy being stable. In March, Kenya reported its first case of COVID-19, which saw the government put in place heavy preventive measures such as 7pm-5am curfew, containment of movement in high risk areas, working from home for nonessential services, compulsory social distancing, 60% capacity for all public vehicles, and closing of schools at all levels.

These measures brought along anxiety among the citizens, related police violence, and economic challenges as the food and gas prices skyrocketed when traders were cashing in the panic shopping. Also, the cost of public transport increased as they were operating at 60% capacity. Many ISF beneficiaries lost their jobs or businesses, on which they and their families were economically dependent.

There was a sharp increase in crime rate due to COVID-19 restrictions which heavily affected the livelihood among daily waged laborers. Moreover, there was an increase in cases of SGBV, teenage pregnancies, and FGM triggered by people being cramped up in small spaces with abusive family members and by youth being idle at home for nine months.

The restrictions also affected the civil society as many organizations could not conduct their activities nor network among each other. Particularly community sensitization activities were put on hold during the first and second quarter. ISF and partners continued awareness raising through social media platforms, local radio and TV channels, WhatsApp, and SMS. The focus was on disseminating information on COVID-19 and helpline numbers for survivors of violence against women and girls that was on the increase.

The latter part of the year saw social life and economic activities pick up after the COVID-19 restrictions were eased. Political gatherings were on the forefront with politicians campaigning for the Building Bridges Initiative (BBI) upcoming referendum. Schools resumed amid many challenges, including difficulties to observe social distancing recommendations. With schools resuming, there was a strict policy on school activities and outside visitors, which entailed a slow dissemination of ISF's school-based activities. Also, other face to face community sensitization activities resumed, following strictly the Government restrictions and protective measures.



## Somaliland

After the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a global health emergency, Somaliland established a National Task Force to coordinate efforts in early detection, surveillance, and risk communication and infection control. The first case of COVID-19 was detected in Somaliland at the end of March. The government put measures in place to contain the spread of the virus, and religious authorities used Friday sermons to disseminate the information further. The schools were closed, public gatherings were banned, and flights were halted.

COVID-19 combined with extreme weather and locust invasion affected heavily economy in national and household levels in Somaliland. Decline in export earnings, import taxes and flow of remittances caused inflation that led to increased prices of imported food and non-food items. Interruptions in the trade and supply chain reduced availability of locally produced food, which further increased food prices. Reduced flow of remittances, increased food prices and loss of employment increased food insecurity and poverty at household level. Decisions to close schools had impact on the women petty traders in informal sector who earn their income by selling snacks and drinks to close to half a million children (about US \$3 million sales per month).

As COVID-19 limited families' income sources, the allure of cutting daughters and marrying them off for financial gains increased. (read: <https://solidaarisuus.fi/en/cutters-move-from-door-to-door-in-somaliland/>). There was also an increase in cases of partner violence against women and sexual violence by non-partners. ISF activities to prevent FGM and violence against women were carried out mostly as planned despite the pandemic. Some major events were postponed to later in the year, while smaller outside activities were arranged following the Government orders regarding maximum 10 participants and protective gear. Also, digital communications tools (mainly Zoom, Skype, Teams, WhatsApp) were used increasingly to replace face-to-face communications.

In 2020, the political parties agreed to hold local and **parliamentary elections** on May 31st, 2021. An agreement was signed by all political parties in February 2020, which brought an end to the long-standing disagreement between the political parties and the government over the Electoral



Mother and daughter in Somaliland.  
Photo: Nyasha Kadandara

National Commission. Among the factors agreed was the opening of the Voter Registration in Somaliland that was launched in November 2020.

Women and minority groups have been particularly disadvantaged in Somaliland's tribe-based and male-dominated politics. The CSOs in Somaliland have advocated for a bill that would guarantee **23% quota for women and minorities**. The quota was initially incorporated in the Comprehensive Electoral Bill approved by the Parliament in August 2020, but the quota was removed.

In 2018, the Somaliland President signed the **Rape and Sexual Offence Bill** into law. However, religious Imams and traditional elders opposed the Law and demanded amendments. In August 2020, the House of Representatives approved a resubmitted Bill, which was prepared without consultations, and completely changed the objectives of the initial Bill. According to local CSOs, the revised Bill does not protect and promote, but rather violates the rights of women and girls. For example, it allows child and forced marriage, excludes lack of consent and overemphasizes force and coercion in the definition of rape, outlaws forensic evidence in sexual offenses, requires eyewitness for rape and other sexual offenses (rejecting women as witnesses), and prescribes contradictory and vague punishments. The Bill thereby protects the dignity of the accused perpetrator over the rights of the survivors, further enhancing victim blaming and underreporting.

In 2019, the Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) appointed by the Ministry of Religious Affairs issued a **fatwa** (legal opinion on a point of Islamic law) banning pharaonic FGM while legitimizing sunnah cutting. According to local CSOs and Anti-FGM stakeholders, this has led to an increase in pharaonic FGM as there is no definition in place to determine the type of FGM promoted by the SAG. In July 2020, a consultative meeting between Anti-FGM stakeholders and SAG requested the declaration to be amended with the consultation of medical professionals to define what is sunnah cutting and how it can be performed. A second consultative meeting was organized by the ministry in December. However, there was no amendment done, which is seen as a setback to zero tolerance of FGM in Somaliland.

## Nicaragua

Business associations in Nicaragua estimate that about 217,000 people have lost their job due to the recession caused by the political crisis and COVID-19. The most severely affected sectors are tourism and trade. United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean estimates that the national economy in Nicaragua shrank by 4% in 2020. An estimated third of Nicaraguans live in poverty (income below 1.76 USD/day) and annual incomes per person have dived to the 1962 level.

As a result of COVID-19, most handicraft shops in ISF project were closed in the second half of the year and sales dropped. In addition to national markets, sales reduced globally, and the international fairs were cancelled, which complicated efforts to promote export.

In 2020, the political tensions in Nicaragua continued and Sandinista government have converted Nicaragua into a police state where all civic action is effectively monitored and prevented. Freedom of speech and movement of opposition members was controlled by armed forces. In December 2020, Nicaragua's National Assembly approved a law that may prevent opposition candidates from participating in the upcoming presidential elections scheduled for November 2021. The legislation prohibits so-called "traitors to the homeland" from running for public office, defining such persons in broad terms.

In October 2020, Nicaragua's lawmakers approved the Foreign Agents Law which expands government powers to control civil society. The legislation requires civil society organisations that receive funding from abroad to register as foreign agents and submit monthly reports on their use of resources. These organisations are prohibited from political participation. The Parliament can also confiscate their resources and ban them from operating, which it did for some organizations.

The EU Council extended the existing framework for imposing restrictive measures in view of the situation in Nicaragua until 15 October 2021. The framework permits imposing targeted and individual sanctions against persons and entities in Nicaragua. Since the introduction of the framework, six members of Sandinista party have been sanctioned.

In this situation, people are reluctant to participate in activities that could be seen as any form of civic activism, including women's empowerment. There is currently very little room for civil society activism and self-organization. Among ISF beneficiaries there are Sandinistas and non-Sandinistas, which complicates project activities in the current political situation. Non-Sandinistas feel threatened when participating in trainings and sessions that might be considered political, such as gender empowerment. Therefore, ISF programme focused on the economic, production and commercial empowerment of local partners and beneficiaries. Such work can be done peacefully and on a long-term basis without encountering harmful conflicts with the authorities.

The conditions for agriculture continued to deteriorate in ISF programme areas due to climate change. ISF programme operates in a region, where the major environmental and climate trends are negative, seriously threatening the sustainability of production systems. The political and social crisis further deteriorates this problem as decision-makers have lost their interest in environmental policy, protection of nature and natural resources and land-use planning. ISF programme has succeeded in improving climate-resilience at the local level, but these changes occur in small local scale and do not alter the general trends.



## 4. Results and impact

### Objective 1 – Local economies are economically and ecologically sustainable



Martha Mong'are is utilizing vertical farming which enables efficient land use. Women often control small areas of land, which complicates risk reduction and climate mitigation. Photo: ISF



In Nicaragua Manos Nicas artisan Network has taken major steps in becoming a digitally informed support service to craftsmen and women. Photo: ISF

In 2020, ISF supported six partner-led livelihood projects focusing on strengthening entrepreneurs and their business collectives and to enhance small-scale farmers' climate resilience. In Nicaragua, the projects are implemented by a local agricultural cooperative and a network of artisans, while in Somaliland ISF's partners are NGOs who implement the projects together with local cooperatives and entrepreneurs. In Kenya, ISF launched two new projects to support women entrepreneurs and their collective enterprises in food value chains. Major achievements by 2020 include:

- In Kenya, ISF and its partners established promising contacts with private sector and experts that will bear fruit in the years to come. Cooperation aims to link women to national markets and develop new business opportunities in vegan protein value chains.
- In Somaliland, several organisations have visited the seed experimentation plots and seed bank supported by ISF in Beer. Oxfam considers scaling up the seed bank system with ISF partner ADO. The Ministry of Agriculture has been part of the process from the beginning and has gained knowledge on seed testing, selection and sourcing. The seed bank process demonstrates how small development actors can achieve significant impact with careful planning and with the support from professional experts.
- In Nicaragua, Manos Nicas artisan network has taken major steps in becoming a digitally informed support service to craftsmen and women in Nicaragua. Manos Nicas utilizes its international contacts to improve skills in online marketing and trade, and to develop online advisory and quality control services.
- In Nicaragua, most beneficiary women and men farmers have permanently raised their incomes to the adequate living wage level determined by the Global Living Wage Coalition. Women have become important entrepreneurs in the area, they own profitable and professionally managed pig and poultry farms, bakeries, cheese plants and retail shops.

### Women's and men's livelihoods are improved

ISF improves the economic viability of enterprises by establishing missing services (e.g. seed bank and finance) in value chains and linking expertise to development processes (e.g. professional designers, food safety experts). ISF directly supported the business development of 1840 entrepreneurs (1255 women), including over 200 female petty traders in IDP camps (internally displaced persons) in Somaliland who learned to read and write and were trained in basic business skills. ISF improved the commercialization of almost 1,800 farms, 11 agricultural and artisan cooperatives, three micro-enterprises in food production, one artisan network and 84 artisan workshops. In Nicaragua, ISF supported farms and food sector micro-enterprises employ full-time 252 men and 168 women in processing and farm work, and artisan workshops employ 8 men and 6 women.

The annual sales of products monitored by ISF increased over \$600,000 (75 %) from 2019 to about 1,6 million dollars. This positive development owes to climate resilience project in Nicaragua, while the projects in Somaliland suffered from the COVID19 pandemic and natural disasters.

**In Nicaragua**, the yearly sales value in the climate resilience project has quadruplicated in three years, being \$1,543,986 in 2020. In 2020, which was the last year of the project, 88% of men and 85% of women earned over \$200/month and approximately half of the farmers earned over \$300/month, despite the COVID19 pandemic. According to a final evaluation, the incomes of 113 women and 110 men farmers have permanently raised to this level. This group has made profitable business decisions and can be considered professional agricultural entrepreneurs. As a result, women have become important entrepreneurs in the area: women own most of the new bakeries and cheese plants (sales \$67,710 in 2020). Over half of the pig and poultry farms are also owned by women. In addition, women are important retailers that sell local products to neighboring villages and towns.

In northern Nicaragua, the pandemic deepened the already challenging situation of the artisan sector. In 2019,

Manos Nicas doubled its sales after a significant drop in the previous year caused by political crisis, but 2020 pushed down the sales to an unsustainable level. The crisis cut the number of employees in artisan enterprises to half from the previous year and some beneficiaries were forced to sell their materials and equipment to survive.

2020 was an ultimate learning experience for improving artisans' livelihood resilience. Manos Nicas made use of its international contacts in Bolivia, Mexico and USA to assess post-corona trends in the artisan sector. Based on the analysis, Manos Nicas built capacities in social media and digital tools for branding and marketing and developed an online selling system. In Nicaragua, public services do not fulfil the needs of e-commerce and Manos Nicas started to develop distribution and payment systems with the private sector. For safety reasons, Manos Nicas developed a digital advisory service and quality control system and finalised the planning of the Artesania Exitosa entrepreneurship training programme. With the help of a network of international experts, Manos Nicas is becoming a digitally informed support service to the craftsmen and women in Nicaragua.

**In Somaliland**, combined effects of drought in the autumn and floods in the spring, locust invasion, socioeconomic impacts of COVID-19, and the cumulative impacts of previous shocks, increased the number of farmers facing food insecurity in Togdheer. Monitoring data from Beer indicates that 35% of beneficiaries were under the severe food insecurity category compared to 26 % in 2019. Production and sales levels also decreased.

The locust invasion did not affect villages in Sahil as severely as Togdheer. In Sahil, household incomes have increased 4% (annual income \$848) since 2018 due to better water availability, crop diversification (vegetables, fruits and cereals), increased area in cultivation. In 2020, the annual handicraft sales in Somaliland remained at the same level as in 2019, about \$13,000.

ISF's partner ADO organised multi-actor meetings in Togdheer between Hawara cooperative (project target cooperative), technical vocational training institutions, local



government authorities and the Ministry of Agriculture to secure future cooperation and project sustainability. Hawara cooperative's capacity was developed in cooperative leadership and management, locust control, climate smart agriculture and seed selection and seed bank management. ISF supported the investment of a tractor and a disc harrow that allow the cooperative to expand farmland and to control sedimentation of dams and flood damages.

In Sahil, beneficiaries in sisal business established new contacts with retailers, e.g. shops at Hargeisa airport. Women participated in trainings on new techniques and product development. Investments in simple tools to increase production efficiency were also supported. Women's average annual income for sisal products was like in the previous year (\$105). Women still lack skills to make more complicated

## Women's and men's agricultural production systems are more resilient to climate change

ISF supports livelihoods in remote rural areas where climate change and human activities have changed production conditions significantly. In these areas, people's survival and livelihoods depend on climate adaptation.

In this challenging reality, ISF improves the climate resilience of almost 1,800 farms by linking expertise to development processes and facilitating sustainable natural resources management. ISF supports the development of new, climate resilient livelihoods, such as sisal, sesame, wild vegetables, mushroom, goat products (milk, cheese and meat) and greenhouse farming. This is done through training and advice in production and processing, investments, increasing availability of inputs, product development and marketing.

ISF supports farmers to assess the state of natural resources and to carefully plan how to best optimize their sustainable use. In 2020, ISF supported the implementation of two village level Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) plans in Somaliland and 206 farm business and environmental plans in Nicaragua. As a result of improved planning, farmers have for example changed sowing and harvest cycles and diversified production.

sisal products such as bags that could attract city customers. In addition, women's capacity to lead and manage their cooperatives is poor, for example their capacity to negotiate business contracts.

**In Kenya**, ISF and its local partner Nyamira North Women's SACCO cooperated with a Finnish-owned Kenyan food processing company Böna Factory, to improve women's capacity in food safety and pre-processing and to increase women's sales in national markets. The cooperation will focus on mushroom and wild vegetable value chains, including production, drying and local powder processing before selling to Böna Factory for final processing to food products. ISF's other partner Bosinya Women CBO signed a letter of intent with a local food processing company, Mace Foods, for the production and selling of vegetables.

One of ISF programme priorities is to improve water availability and prevent soil erosion in dry areas. By 2020, the rainwater collection capacity was 280,000m<sup>3</sup>, which provides water for 388 farms and families (about 2200 people) in Nicaragua and Somaliland. In Somaliland, 135 farmers cultivate around the water collection dams while many more use the water for crops and livestock, which multiplies the number of beneficiaries. ISF has protected over 800 ha of soil from erosion by increasing vegetation cover (incl. trees), improving farming methods, construction of irrigation systems and soil bunds to reduce flood erosion.

**In Kenya**, ISF provided material and technical support to 1000 farmers (880 women) to maintain food production during the COVID19 pandemic and launched a long-term development process with two women's collective enterprises. 40 farmers (31 women) launched hut mushroom farming and 40 women initiated vertical farming. Women were trained in producing local organic fertilizers. To promote learning and innovation in farming and pre-processing, ISF supported the establishment of experiment plots and facilitated expert cooperation between women

farmers and the private sector, technical institutions and local authorities.

**In Nicaragua**, the climate resilience of 400 farms has been improved. Better access to water increased farm incomes 30% by allowing diversification of production and year-round vegetable farming. New business opportunities for women improved farm profitability and resilience. Goat farming has gained a foothold in the area, milk and meat sales are still small-scale but growing. During the project, over 200 farm environmental and business plans were developed and implemented, which improved cooperative's capacity to understand challenges of and solutions to climate resilience. As a result of the project, COMCAVEM has acquired competence to provide advisory and innovation services to the farmers. COMCAVEM will continue to cooperate with Zamorano University in Honduras and with WFP to improve climate resilience of food chains in North Nicaragua.

**In Somaliland**, 615 farmers used high-quality certified seeds from the Beer community seed bank in Togdheer. ADO implements a participatory seed variety selection (PVS) approach, in which farmers are provided with different seeds for testing and evaluation in their fields after training in seed selection and sourcing. PVS is a cost-effective community level manner to produce quality seeds. Oxfam is interested in the seed bank and their programme beneficiaries used Beer seed bank services. ADO and Oxfam are discussing about possibilities to scale up the seed bank system in Togdheer. ADO signed a seed security policy with the Ministry of Agriculture for improved seed safety.

In Togdheer, farmers held regular meetings to assess and forecast the likelihood of disasters and ways to manage forthcoming hardships. Due to recurrent droughts and systematic awareness raising, farmers understand the importance of restoring and protecting natural resources to avoid loss of soil fertility. The community has protected 55 ha of land from flood erosion by increasing plant cover and constructing soil bunds and irrigation systems. The main canal constructed by FAO that channels flood water to Beer does not function well, which causes siltation and soil erosion in Beer. Despite of the damage control activities, this has negatively affected soil erosion prevention efforts and water collection capacity. The new tractor will



Mother and daughter make baskets from sisal in Somaliland. Women use the baskets for harvesting. Photo: Nyasha Kadandara

help to control silting challenges.

Only 40 out of 80 women who do greenhouse farming in Beer produced vegetables in the greenhouses because of the siltation in the second dam. As a result, there was no water for half of the greenhouses and 40 women farmers cultivated 3 ha of open field, rainfed vegetables that were destroyed by locusts.

ISF supported ADO to participate in the national locust control programme that trained community volunteers to do locust surveillance, detect and identify locust infested areas and spread information to farmers in the respective villages. Communities were given equipment for worm and locust disposal. This early warning system allowed communities to make mitigation measures that saved 40% of the sesame harvest. New land for sesame production was prepared with the new tractor and disc harrow.

ADO applied fodder conservation methods used in the ADO/EU project. As a result, 300 farms in Beer produced and sold fodder to Berbera for additional income.

In Sahil, 35 farms increased crop yield because of the new water collection dam constructed in 2020, diversification of production (vegetables, cereals, beans and fruits), soil conservation and better weed management. Additional 20 farms benefitted from the dam constructed in 2019. A total of 4,000 sisal seedlings were planted at the nursery, matured, and transferred to four project villages. Sisal fibre matures in 3-5 years and the availability of sisal fibre to craftswomen increased significantly in 2020 when earlier planted seedlings started to produce fibre.



## Objective 2 – Empowering communities to prevent violence against women and girls



In the Abagusii community in Kenya, FGM is practiced as an initiation into womanhood. An Alternative Rite of Passage provides an initiation without cutting, allowing girls to gain respect in their communities. Photo: ISF

In 2020, ISF had six partner-led projects and one own project to prevent violence against women and girls (VAWG) in Kenya and Somaliland. These projects specifically address female genital mutilation (FGM), which is highly prevalent in ISF programme areas. They aim at increasing awareness, strengthening attitudes, and raising voices against VAWG among rights holders and duty bearers. Major achievements in 2020 included:

- In Kenya, a manual for the Alternative Rites of Passage (ARP) concept was finished in cooperation with ISF and its local partners, community members and leaders, and local government officials. The concept is used to replicate traditional initiation rituals for pubescent and prepubescent girls who are transitioning to womanhood, but without female genital mutilation/cutting. ARP takes the positive aspects (e.g. celebrations, singing and dancing) of the traditional ritual without compromising girls' bodily integrity. ISF incorporates the concept into the Mentoring Programme (safety camps) it has been running since 2016. The ARP mentoring camp culminates in a public graduation ceremony where the graduates receive certificates of being ambassadors of change while their parents, elders and other community leaders declare abandonment of FGM.
- During the COVID-19 lockdown in Kenya, ISF tested digital solutions (bulk SMS, Facebook live sending, video animations, and WhatsApp messages) to replace planned activities and reach out to communities with information on VAWG, SRHR and COVID-19. ISF and its partners also used digital platforms such as Zoom and Teams to continue regular meetings among themselves and with key stakeholders. ISF continues to use, scale up and develop further these solutions in all programme countries in 2021, and in the 2022-25 programme.
- In Somaliland, ISF introduced OMBEA audio response system to support project monitoring and evaluation in Somaliland. OMBEA enables 30 respondents to participate in a survey simultaneously, thereby saving time and money. It guarantees full anonymity, improving the reliability of responses to sensitive topics like FGM and partner violence. The two datasets collected with OMBEA and indexed survey questions show promising results regarding awareness and attitudes on FGM: 87% of parents have knowledge and attitudes supporting FGM abandonment. 65% of parents state they will leave their daughters uncut, 34% to milder forms of FGM, and only 1% to the most severe pharaonic FGM (infibulation).

### Duty bearers' and opinion leaders' awareness raising against VAWG has strengthened

In Kenya, ISF reached directly nearly 600 duty bearers and opinion leaders, consisting of local authorities, teachers, church leaders, journalists, academics, private sector actors, male champions and other activists in Kisii and Nyamira counties. The ISF-coordinated monthly Muungano Gender Forum launched in 2018 brought together government and non-government actors to discuss local gender issues. During the COVID-19 lockdown, ISF reached new audiences by delivering the sessions via Facebook live. The monthly sessions were accompanied by county collaboration meetings with key officials working on gender issues. According to an external evaluation on the Muungano Gender Forum conducted in late 2020, the Forum has already delivered results in terms of strengthened coordination and improved awareness on gender equality and women's rights among key stakeholders. Extension of the Forum sessions into rural villages in Nyamira county was postponed till 2021 due to COVID-19.

Despite the pandemic, ISF partners arranged sessions with local leaders and village elders, some of whom then organized meetings in their communities to speak against FGM and SGBV. Digital platforms such as Zoom and WhatsApp were used to reach out to duty bearers during the lockdown. These solutions were well received by the communities, and there are plans to continue using and developing them after the pandemic. The restricted access to smart phones among—particularly women in the grassroots communities—must, however, be taken into consideration.

In Somaliland, ISF reached directly over 1,600 duty bearers and opinion leaders, consisting of political and religious leaders, community management committees, civil society organizations (CSO), journalists, and university students. COVID-19 had relatively little effect on the planned activities, some of which were carried out following Government's safety regulations (meetings of maximum 10 people, outside, using protective gear), others organized via remote technologies, and few postponed till autumn or 2021. ISF and local partners

continued efforts to unify local CSOs' message and actions against FGM. ISF partner NAFIS—a network of local CSOs working against FGM—organized regional and national coordination meetings where 300 people participated. In September 2020, ISF introduced a new project with Taakulo Somaliland Community to address FGM and SGBV in Burao District. One of the project's main targets is to support the coordination of FGM and SGBV interventions among local CSOs, community leaders and government institutions in Burao District.

During the 16 days of activism against GBV, a National Conference for Anti-FGM stakeholders was held, and NAFIS broadcasted the commemoration and closing ceremony through TV and radio. NAFIS and CSOs also wrote a press release highlighting the need for a single government agenda on ending FGM. They requested for laws and policies to criminalize FGM and prosecute those practicing and promoting FGM. They also requested civil society led grassroots campaigns in advance the legislation to avoid setbacks; training of health workers to improve FGM response mechanisms and to mitigate medicalization; and engaging of youth as change agents.

Religious and traditional leaders and rural community management committees were engaged in efforts against FGM. NAFIS supported religious leaders in the capital region (Hargeisa) to advocate against FGM in mosques and Qur'an schools. ISF's other partner Candlelight engaged rural religious leaders in training and discussions with urban (often less conservative) religious leaders. Seventeen community management committees in ISF target villages have now made public declarations to eliminate FGM.

30 media professionals were trained on negative impacts of FGM, and on the role of media in awareness raising and community engagement. Candlelight and NAFIS engaged university students and Anti-FGM youth forums in Hargeisa and Burao in writing academic papers and social media postings on FGM, and in organizing awareness sessions on campuses and neighborhoods.



## Community members' awareness of and attitudes against VAWG have strengthened

In Kenya, ISF reached directly over 3,700 community members, including school children, their parents, members of women, men, and youth groups. With support from the Fingo Powerbank initiative, ISF and its local partners were able to replace the face-to-face sessions banned during the COVID-19 lockdown with remote sessions through traditional and social media, and various digital solutions. For example, partners broadcasted radio shows with an audience of up to 5 million people, an average of 450,000 people per show. The shows were interactive, allowing call-in questions and comments from the audience. ISF and partners also engaged new audiences through Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, where they shared photos, videos, and testimonials from the field.

School clubs are an integral part of the ISF programme in Kenya. In 2020, ISF and partners had to find new ways to reach girls and their parents as the schools were closed for most part of the year due to the pandemic, thereby significantly increasing the FGM risk. Project volunteers played a major role in reaching out to girls in their respective villages. Awareness raising on FGM was combined with COVID-19 information. ISF partner Manga Heart also arranged an Anti-FGM workshop for girls, and a Coaching Boys to Men workshops for boys.

Despite the pandemic, ISF proceeded with the Alternative Rite of Passage (ARP) approach that will be incorporated in the Holiday Mentorship Programme ('safety camps') for high-risk girls. While April and August camps were cancelled, in December a three-day pilot programme was organized for 100 girls aged 5-10. The children were taken through the curriculum, which included topics such as Abagusii culture, sexual and reproductive health, gender norms, FGM and bodily integrity, importance of education, interaction and self-efficacy. On the final day, parents to the girls were invited to join. Almost all invitees attended in the historical event where the girls finalized the "ritual without cutting". The event was graced by government officials from the Ministry of Gender and some local church leaders.

In Somaliland, ISF reached directly nearly 6,500 com-

munity members. ISF also finalized the Women's Health and Micro Entrepreneurship Manual—a living document conceptualizing lessons learnt in projects that mainstream FGM awareness raising in livelihood activities. Funded mostly by the UN Trust Fund (2020-22), ISF started the empowerment of internally displaced women who belong to self-help groups (SHG) around Burao and Hargeisa cities. In 2020, 3,600 women were reached by 32 Female Human Rights Ambassadors who conducted weekly sessions for SHGs (each ambassador trains one SHG for a month, and then proceeds to a next SHG, each ambassador reaching altogether 10 SHGs). Eleven girls were reported to have been saved from FGM as the ambassador advised the mother against the practice. Also, five rape perpetrators were detained after the SHG women and the ambassadors collaborated with the police.

Despite COVID-19, the Anti-FGM Committee—consisting of 100 volunteer women and supported by ISF partner SOYDAVO—successfully carried out campaigns, organized training sessions and door-to-door visits in IDP communities around Burao. The Committee launched a peaceful protest against increasing rape cases in Burao and got high-level support from the President of Somaliland. To respond to lack of personal protective equipment and sanitary kits among displaced women, SOYDAVO mobilized and trained project beneficiaries to make washable face masks. More than 5000 masks were produced and distributed to IDP households, together with gloves and liquid hand sanitizers.

Monitoring results in the SOYDAVO project showed that 17% of respondents (men and women in IDP villages) support zero tolerance to FGM (2018 baseline 0%). In the same time, support for the most severe pharaonic FGM (infibulation) has decreased from 26% to 3%. This is aligned with increased understanding on the negative effects of not only pharaonic but also sunna FGM, which is often regarded as a 'milder' practice. Similar results emerged in the annual data collected for the NAFIS and Candlelight anti-FGM projects: 87% of parents have knowledge and attitudes supporting FGM abandonment. Accordingly, 65% of parents state they will leave their daughters uncut, 34% to milder forms of FGM, and only 1% to pharaonic FGM.



ISF partner Manga Heart arranges Anti-FGM workshops for girls. Photo: Nyasha Kadandara

## Women's status in family and local community has strengthened

In Kenya, ISF commissioned a baseline analysis among female beneficiaries of two new livelihood projects. The analysis showed that 97% of these women had experienced partner violence in the last 12 months. 93% think that a man can be justified in hitting his wife in some occasions. The women who experienced partner violence did mainly not refer to any formal support service but instead shared their experience with friends or kept it to themselves. To address the issue, ISF engaged its local partner in VAWG prevention to address VAWG and rigid gender roles in the livelihood projects. This model enhances strategic cooperation between ISF partners and supports them in cultivating their core competence.

In Somaliland, ISF conducted additional programme level monitoring data collection among ADO, SOYDAVO and Candlelight project beneficiaries and stakeholders. The data indicates that women's status in the family and the local community is gradually strengthening, and women are stepping into the business sector. Profits from

women-owned small and micro businesses are however minimal, and most women entrepreneurs hardly make ends meet. Women's economic status is caught in a web of poverty and lack of elementary skills. Most women are illiterate and need the help of men to do basic accounting and communicate with the outside world.

The focus group discussions showed that men are coming to terms with women working and earning income as long as household chores and childcare tasks are not affected. However, men fear that increased incomes give women more confidence to request participation in household decision-making. Simultaneously, men hesitate to expose their earnings to their wives as they believe this may arouse suspicion regarding co-wives and requests for housekeeping funds. Women in turn generally do not query about their husbands' incomes to avoid conflict. Wife-beating is common in the studied communities, especially in rural areas. Both men and women tolerate minor beating but show signs of decreasing acceptance. Also, cases emerge where couples engage in collaborative relationships and transparency.





Amal Ahmed Mohemoud (in the middle) is a midwife who advocates against FGM and spreads awareness about the negative consequences of FGM. Photo: Meeri Koutaniemi

## Objective 3 – People and communities are empowered as instigators of global change

ISF supports and strengthens individuals and communities as agents of global change. This is done primarily by supporting people's participation and empowerment so that they can claim their own rights and contribute to the development of their own lives and communities. Participation and active citizenship are also promoted

through communication, advocacy and global education in Finland. In addition, civil societies in the programme countries are supported through ISF's partner-driven approach that emphasizes strengthening of local partners and cooperatives. The results of this objective are described in the annual MFA Report.

In terms of women's involvement in community-level decision-making, the interviewed men found it essential, as women are more in touch with local and community issues than men. However, women's participation in community decision-making is rare, according to both male and female respondents.

**In Nicaragua**, ISF supported six trainings on gender roles and norms, which were incorporated in farm system development and entrepreneurial trainings. ISF and APEN (Association of Producers and Exporters of Nicaragua) also arranged three thematic seminars covering leadership, self-efficacy, and women's role in artisan value chains in Nicaragua. Most participated via video connection.

Among the female beneficiaries of the Climate sustainability project In Nicaragua, the changes in income levels

indicate improved opportunities to generate income. While 42% of female beneficiaries earned more than 300\$ per month in 2018, this share was 47% in 2020. Simultaneously the share of women earning maximum 200\$ per month was 30% in 2018, and 16% in 2020. The monitoring data collected throughout the year indicates that women's entrepreneurial skills have strengthened. They take new initiatives and find solutions to problems in the production system. Moreover, their works is valued by their male family members.

Beneficiaries in the artisan project—both women and men—suffer heavily from the political instability and COVID-19 crises. They don't feel their opportunities to earn income have improved and are constantly searching for alternative incomes to support their families.



## 5. Challenges and lessons learned

The main challenge in 2020 was the COVID-19 pandemic, which is described in chapter 3. Other new challenges and lessons learned from the year are briefly described here. Note that only newly identified challenges and lessons learned are described here. Many challenges are the same from year to year and described in the 2019 performance report and 2018 annual report.

### Natural disasters and extreme weather conditions in Somaliland

In 2020, Somaliland continued struggling with the desert locust outbreak. According to the Ministry of Agriculture, the locust infestation damaged hundreds of thousands of hectares farm and pastureland across the country. In Togdheer, locusts destroyed 60% of the crops in programme villages, while 40% were saved due to control activities supported by ISF.

Erratic rainfall patterns also led to recurrent droughts and flash flooding and resulting soil erosion. Environmental degradation caused by human influence increase farms vulnerability, and yet there are few interventions geared towards tackling environmental problems in landscape level.

In this challenging situation, long-term development processes do not answer the acute need for income and food security. Many people find agro-pastoralism unproductive, stop farming and rely on humanitarian assistance. In 2020, some 3.5 million people in Somalia needed food assistance.

The problems caused by changing climate and deterioration of ecosystems cannot be overcome with village level activities. Key to effective adaptation and mitigation is systemic level planning that requires a national and multi-stakeholder approach, including farmers, effective and professional authorities and researches, civil society,

and the private sector. However, both universities, the Government and private sector are weak in Somaliland. According to the ND-GAIN index (Notre Dame Uni Global Adaptation Initiative), Somalia is the most climate vulnerable country in the world and least ready to combat the challenge.

To reduce vulnerability, new ways are needed to strengthen not only farmers but also national research and advice capacity, as well as support private sector actors in food value chains.

### Awareness on health risks not enough to eradicate FGM

As reported by other actors working to end FGM, particularly in areas where milder forms of FGM are practiced, awareness raising that focuses on the various negative health effects is not effective. For example, ISF partner Manga Heart reported that people in their target communities have heard that FGM has negative effects, but many of them don't believe it is true. This is common if campaign messages are built upon the risks accruing from the most severe practices, and hence contradict people's lived experiences. The lesson learnt is that the messages must be tailored to the context and be based on types of FGM practiced in the target area. Also, human rights, legal, and or religious arguments, as well as psychological and social effects of FGM should be used to argument against the practice, so that the opposition is not solely based on the physical health impacts. Another strategy, applied by Manga Heart, is to mobilize women who themselves have suffered from such health effects to share their stories, instead of project staff spreading the message.



Erratic rainfall patterns and desert locust outbreaks caused drought and crop loss in Somaliland  
Photo: Ali Mohamoud Abdulahi



# 6. Financial performance

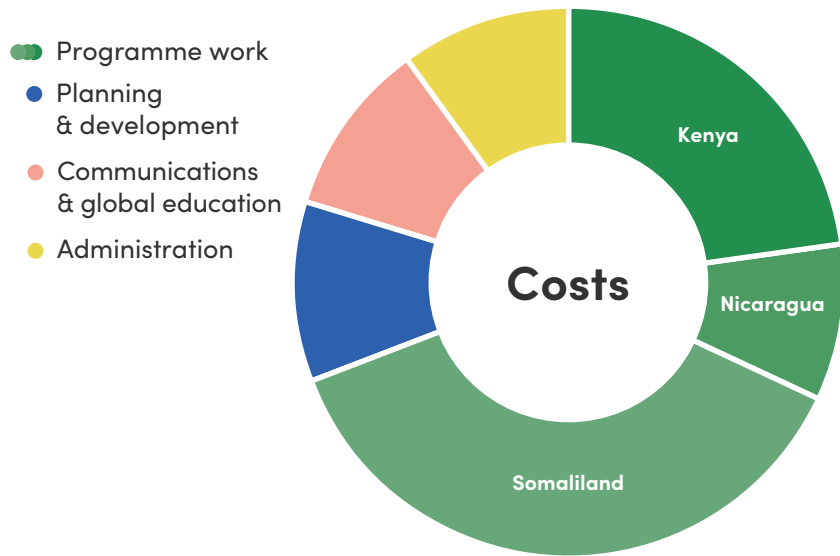
The programme budget in 2020 was 3.26 million euros, including a new allocation for covid-19 response activities from the UN Trust Fund, which was mostly carried over to 2021 due to internal challenges in transferring funds to Somaliland, contributing to the large difference between budget and expenditure (see table below). Savings also materialized from other cancelled and postponed activities due to the pandemic (e.g. monitoring visits, programme evaluations and ISF 50-year celebrations).

The total expenditure of ISF programme amounted to 2.7 million euros. The expenditure was divided as shown in the table and pie chart on the right. Somaliland continued to be the largest operation followed by Kenya and Nicaragua. In total, programme countries accounted for 69% of total expenditure.

The programme was funded by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) in Finland, the UN Trust Fund and private sector donors as follows:

The net fundraising income in 2020 was 603 844 €, of which 366 466 € (incl. Red Nose Day and private donors) was used to fund the programme in 2020. In 2020 ISF was granted an additional UN Trust Fund grant for Covid-19 relief activities in Somaliland of USD 429 312 for two years. Most of these funds will be used in 2021.

ISF Development Programme	Budget	Expenditure
Kenya	660,920	616,613
Nicaragua	248,613	242,120
Somaliland	1,322,056	996,010
Sub-total programme countries	2,231,590	1,854,743
Planning and development	354,716	287,035
Communications and global education	345,115	270,089
Administration	325,713	267,985
TOTAL	3,257,135	2,679,853



Programme funding in 2019	
MFA Finland	1,990,000
UN Trust Fund	288,612
Fundraising, private donors	214,718
Fundraising, Red Nose Day (net)	151,748
Suomen kulttuurirahasto	12,702
Tradeka	12,073
Fingo	7,000
Kansan sivistysrahasto	3,000

# Annex 1 – List of projects

## ISF Projects in 2019

Country	Area	Project name	ISF partner	Project period	Beneficiaries		Expenditure (EUR)
					Direct	Indirect	
Kenya	Kisii	Preventing violence against women and girls	CECOME	2018–2021	2 381	11 876	114620
Kenya	Nyamira	Preventing female genital mutilation	Manga Heart	2018–2021	1 584	10 170	93737
Kenya	Nyamira	Establishment of farmers centre of excellence for women	NNWS	2020–2021	656	3 280	43905
Kenya	Nyamira	Improving women farmers' livelihood resilience	Bosinya CBO	2020–2021	400	2 000	98562
Kenya	Kisii & Nyamira	Muungano Gender Forum	none (ISF-led)	2018–2021	229	3 386	70372
Nicaragua	North Nicaragua	Enhancing farmers' climate resilience in Madriz and Estelí Districts	COMCAVEM	2018–2020	432	2 600	56915
Nicaragua	North Nicaragua	Personal and commercial empowerment of women and men handicraft entrepreneurs	COMCAVEM	2018–2021	298	1 200	105277
Somaliland	Togdheer region	Enhancing agro-pastoral communities' livelihood resilience	ADO	2018–2021	400	2 600	161041
Somaliland	Sheikh District	Supporting sisal value chain development and women's entrepreneurship	Candlelight	2018–2021	560	1 680	170978
Somaliland	Sahil and Awdal region	Community-driven FGM abandonment and women empowerment in Somaliland	Candlelight	2020–2022	4 375	9 620	147078
	All regions		NAFIS				161189
Somaliland	Togdheer region	Preventing SGBV and supporting women's economic role	SOYDAVO	2018–2021	2 985	17 910	150315
Somaliland	Togdheer region	Prevention of SGBV/FGM through improved economic status of vulnerable women	Taakulo Somali Community	2020–2021	360	12 694	74260

Note: More information about the projects can be found on ISF english website: <https://solidaarisuus.fi/en/our-programme/overview>



# Annex 2 – Results matrix

## OBJECTIVE 1: Local economies are economically and ecologically sustainable

OUTCOME / OUTPUT	INDICATOR	BASLINE LEVEL	TARGET LEVEL 2021	FOLLOWUP LEVEL 2018	FOLLOWUP LEVEL 2019	FOLLOWUP LEVEL 2020
OUTCOME: Men and women's livelihood is improved	Men's and women's average monthly net income is increased to a level that ensures a decent livelihood	<b>Nicaragua:</b> 30% of artisan women and 52% of men earn over 100\$/mo. 70% of women in agriculture and 82% of men earn over 200\$/mo. <b>Somaliland:</b> Average annual total income of men 817\$ and women 459\$.	<b>Nicaragua:</b> 75% of artisans earn over 100\$/mo. 100% of agriculture producers earn over 200\$/mo. <b>Somaliland:</b> Minimum 15% increase in income. No decent livelihood level data available.	<b>Nicaragua:</b> 70 % women farmers and 81 % of men earned over 200 \$/mo. Income monitoring of artisans in 2020. <b>Somaliland:</b> income monitored in 2019.	<b>Nicaragua:</b> 100% of women and men farmers earn over 200\$/mo. 57% of women farmers earn over 300\$/mo. and 33% of men earn over 300\$/mo. <b>Somaliland</b> sisal project: Average annual income of women 597\$. Incomes from sisal production (70 women since 2016): 63% earn 51–100 \$/year and 28% earn 101–200 \$/year. New beneficiaries since 2018: 100% earn below 50\$/year.	<b>Nicaragua:</b> 88% of men and 84% of women farmers earned more than 200\$/mo. 42% of men and 47% of women farmers earned more than 300\$/mo. No reliable income data from artisans due to covid19. <b>Somaliland:</b> Average hh income \$848. Average yearly income from sisal products \$105.
	# of men and women whose net income has increased permanently due to the ISF programme	No baseline level	1,020 (550 women and 470 men)	Data will be collected in final project evaluations	Data will be collected in final project evaluations	Data will be collected in final project evaluations in 2021. COMCAVEM: 113w+110m
	Increase in sales per value chain	681,895\$	30% increase	657,469 \$ (excl. sisal).	998,914\$	1,603,227\$
	# of direct private sector jobs supported	Full time jobs in processing and merchandize: 32 (F14) Full time jobs in agriculture: 80	No target level	213 reported full-time jobs (F50%) and 645 seasonal workers (mainly men)	219 reported full-time jobs (F40%) and 225 seasonal workers (F36%)	217 reported full-time jobs and 220 reported seasonal workers.
	# of indirect private sector jobs supported	Indicator is monitored but no baseline or target levels are set. Monitoring indirect jobs is challenging but important for assessing the resilience and sustainability of local economies. Monitoring methodology will be developed jointly with other actors.		Data will be collected in final project evaluations	Data will be collected in final project evaluations	Data will be collected in final project evaluations
OUTPUT: Men's and women's ability to plan their production and products based on client needs is developed	# of women and men entrepreneurs supported in the programme		680 women and 520 men	423 (272 women and 151 men)	744 (425 women and 319 men)	1840 (1255 women and 585 men)
	# of new marketable products developed in the programme		35 products	42 new handicraft products; 1 new food product	81 new handicraft products (2019: 39); 1 new food product	5 new food products, 124 new handicraft products
OUTPUT: Collective enterprises' operational capacity is improved	# of enterprises directly supported		900 small farms, 10 cooperatives and 20 artisanal micro-enterprises	630 farms, 9 cooperatives and 20 artisan micro-enterprises	1,296 farms, 4 food micro-enterprises, 3 agricultural cooperatives, 115 artisan micro-enterprises, 4 artisan cooperatives	1,767 farms, 3 food micro enterprises, 4 agricultural cooperatives, 84 artisan microenterprises, 7 artisan cooperatives
	# of people that benefit from services developed in the programme		3,000 people that are not direct beneficiaries of the programme	900 (estimate)	2,200 (estimate)	4,200 (estimate)
	# of trained male and female peer support persons (capacitated to sustain and increase quality of production)		60 (at least 50% women)	43 (23 women and 20 men)	43 (23 women and 20 men)	68 (46 women and 22 men)



OUTCOME / OUTPUT	INDICATOR	BASLINE LEVEL	TARGET LEVEL 2021	FOLLOWUP LEVEL 2018	FOLLOWUP LEVEL 2019	FOLLOWUP LEVEL 2020
<b>OUTCOME: Men’s and women’s agricultural production systems are more resilient to climate change</b>	Annual production volumes per product are increased in selected value chains	<b>Nicaragua:</b> goat milk 1,500 l/yr (2015), goat meat 0kg <b>Somaliland:</b> sesame 10,880kg and 0 litres of processed oil, 100 bunches of sisal fibre/woman/yr. Production supported by irrigation and greenhouses: tomato 6,750kg, green pepper 3,840kg.	<b>Nicaragua:</b> Goat milk 3,000l/yr (milk or cheese); no target for goat meat. <b>Somaliland:</b> sesame 500% increase, tomato, green pepper, other vegetables and fruits 400% increase, 150 bunches sisal fibre/women/year	<b>Nicaragua:</b> goat’s milk 2710 litres, 450 kg goat meat <b>Somaliland:</b> sesame 500 kg, extracted oil 0 l, no data for sisal. Production supported by irrigation and green houses: tomato 3155kg, green pepper 1345kg, fruit 2000kg.	<b>Nicaragua:</b> goat’s milk 4,000l/yr, 808kg goat meat <b>Somaliland:</b> sesame 4,000kg, extracted sesame oil 0l, 100 bunches sisal fibre/woman/yr. Production supported by irrigation and green houses: tomato 2,365kg, green pepper 1,138, okra 497kg, fruit 0kg.	<b>Nicaragua:</b> goat milk 5000 l, goat meat 1600kg. <b>Somaliland:</b> 149 sisal bunch/women. Vegetables 2155 kg and sesame seed 2400 kg.
	Productivity for selected products is increased	<b>Nicaragua:</b> maize 1,930kg/ha, beans 1,610kg/ha, sorghum 2,440kg/ha <b>Somaliland:</b> sesame 521kg/ha, tomato 4kg/m2, green pepper 9.6kg/m2	<b>Somaliland:</b> sesame 50% increase, tomato 700% increase, green pepper 200% increase.	<b>Nicaragua:</b> maize 1930 kg/ha, beans 1610 kg/ha, sorghum 2570 kg/ha. <b>Somaliland:</b> sesame 340 kg/ha, no sisal data (maturation time 3–4 years).	<b>Nicaragua:</b> maize 920kg/ha, beans 1,540kg/ha, sorghum 2,580kg/ha. <b>Somaliland:</b> sesame 571kg/ha, no sisal data (maturation time 3–4 years).	<b>Nicaragua:</b> maize 2250kg/ha, beans 1415 kg/ha, sorghum 3215 kg/ha. <b>Somaliland:</b> sessame 500 kg/ha
	# of households that have water in critical months of the year is increased	82 households	630 households	Data will be collected in final project evaluations	Data will be collected in final project evaluations	Data will be collected in final project evaluations. COMCAVEM: 253 HHs (1235 people)
<b>OUTPUT: Men’s and women’s capacity to plan their production systems considering exiting resources and climate hazards is improved</b>	# of partnerships with relevant networks, research institutions, universities and researchers that improve partners’ capacity to improve climate resilience		All partners have relevant contacts established.	1 partnership to support goat value chain in Nicaragua	1 partnership to support goat value chain in Nicaragua	<b>Kenya:</b> 2 partnerships for skills development and innovation. <b>Nicaragua</b> 2 partnerships for goat value chain and food production (WFP). <b>Somaliland:</b> 1 partnership with Oxfam to scale up seed bank.
	# of farm or village level natural resources management development plans or environmental plans		<b>Nicaragua:</b> 174 farm economic and environmental plans. <b>Somaliland:</b> 4 village DRR plans and 300 household DRR plans.	<b>Nicaragua:</b> 164 farm economic and environmental plans <b>Somaliland:</b> 2 village DRR plans	<b>Nicaragua:</b> 191 farm business and environmental plans <b>Somaliland:</b> 2 village DRR plans	<b>Nicaragua:</b> 206 farm level plans. <b>Somaliland:</b> 2 DRR plans that 85 % of farmers implement.
<b>OUTPUT: Men’s and women’s capacity to apply climate resilient practices and technology is strengthened</b>	# of women and men smallholder farmers reached through actions strengthening food security, productivity and climate resilience		6000	5000 (estimate)	7,000 (estimate)	12,000 (estimate that includes families that received covid19 support)
	# of farms that use practices and technology that increase climate resilience		790 farms	440 farms	1,296 farms	1,046 farms
<b>OUTPUT: Small producers’ access to water is improved</b>	# of people provided with safe and sustainable water supply (production water)		3,200 people	430	1,02	2,200 people
	Land cover under sustainable forest management or other environmental and soil protection		500ha	370ha	568ha	837 ha

1 According to DCED Guidelines the indicator includes: 1) new jobs created as a result of the intervention and 2) existing jobs supported by the intervention. The indicator includes full-time jobs, seasonal jobs and informal jobs (direct and indirect jobs).

2 Entrepreneurs supported for example by training and counselling, who have received material support or participated in project activities that increase their knowledge on markets.

3 The indicator includes: 1) new enterprises and other “business entities” established as a result of the intervention and; 2) existing enterprises and other “business entities” supported by the intervention and whose operation was able to continue as a result of the intervention. “Enterprises” include cooperatives and business entities in the informal economy. If individual farmers in agriculture or informal economy are de facto entrepreneurs, their farm can be counted as “enterprises”.

4 Services that promote value chain performance, enhance climate adaptation and profitability of enterprises (e.g. joint funds for input purchasing, loan services, services that increase access to production inputs, counselling services). Services can be provided by collective enterprise for its members or an external actor.

5 Data includes farmers and producers reached directly through projects promoting food security and rural development. Farmers and producers whose agricultural, livestock and/or fishery production has been concretely improved are considered as beneficiaries. The indicator is based on an assumption that actions focusing on farmers and producers improve the food security of their family members as well (total number = number of farmers/producers multiplied by average family size).

6 Data includes areas that have been brought under protection as well as areas for which environmentally sustainable management systems have been developed. It includes areas for which sustainable forest management or other improved land management systems have been devised, areas of improved water management.



**OBJECTIVE II: Women and men are empowered to prevent violence against women and girls (VAWG)**

OUTCOME/OUTPUT	INDICATOR	BASELINE LEVEL	TARGET LEVEL 2021	FOLLOWUP LEVEL 2018	FOLLOWUP LEVEL 2019	FOLLOWUP LEVEL 2020
<b>OUTCOME: Community members’ awareness of and attitudes against VAWG have strengthened</b>	% of community members who are aware of negative health effects of FGM (knowledge)	<b>Kenya:</b> 65% (2016 Gender Analysis) <b>Somaliland:</b> pharaonic type 56% sunnah type 45% (2018 baseline study)	<b>Kenya:</b> 80% <b>Somaliland:</b> pharaonic type 70% sunnah type 60%	<b>Kenya:</b> F46%/M34% schoolchildren F55%/M56% comm.groups <b>Somaliland:</b> n.a. 2018	<b>Kenya:</b> F80%/M95% schoolchildren F71%/M57% comm.groups <b>Somaliland:</b> pharaonic type 73% sunnah type 53%	<b>Kenya:</b> F66%/M63% of schoolchildren F57%/M37% comm.groups Somaliland (UNTF parent survey): pharaonic 96% sunnah type 78%
	% of community members who are aware of the law criminalizing FGM (knowledge)	<b>Kenya:</b> 82% (2016 Gender Analysis)	<b>Kenya:</b> 90%	<b>Kenya:</b> n.a. 2018	<b>Kenya:</b> F80%/M99%	<b>Kenya:</b> F93%/M82%
	% of community members who do not think FGM is mandated by religion (knowledge)	<b>Somaliland:</b> F62%/M61% (2018 baseline study)	<b>Somaliland:</b> 80%	<b>Somaliland:</b> n.a. 2018	<b>Somaliland:</b> pharaonic type 91% sunnah type 51%	Somaliland (UNTF parent survey): pharaonic type 95% sunnah type 76%
	% of community members who do not believe women’s morality is guaranteed by FGM (attitude)	<b>Kenya:</b> 25% (2016 Gender Analysis) <b>Somaliland:</b> F83%/M73% (SOYDAVO 2018 baseline)	<b>Kenya:</b> 50% <b>Somaliland:</b> 100%	<b>Kenya:</b> n.a. 2018 <b>Somaliland:</b> n.a. 2018	<b>Kenya:</b> F35%/M37% <b>Somaliland:</b> pharaonic type 88% sunnah type 87%	<b>Kenya:</b> F16%/M18% Somaliland (UNTF parent survey): pharaonic type 90% sunnah type 89%
	% of community members who aim NOT to cut their daughters (behavioural aims)	<b>Kenya:</b> 27% (2016 Gender Analysis) <b>Somaliland:</b> (2018 baseline) 0% aim NOT cut at all 75% aim sunnah cut 25% aim pharaonic cut	<b>Kenya:</b> 50% <b>Somaliland:</b> 50% aim NOT cut at all 50% aim sunnah cut 0% aim pharaonic cut	<b>Kenya:</b> collected end-of-project <b>Somaliland:</b> n.a. 2018	<b>Kenya:</b> collected end-of-project <b>Somaliland:</b> 32% aim NOT cut at all 62% aim sunnah cut 4% aim pharaonic cut	<b>Kenya:</b> collected end-of-project Somaliland (UNTF parent survey): 65% aim NOT cut at all 34% aim sunnah cut 1% aim pharaonic cut
	% of community members who know where victims of VAWG can seek help (knowledge)	<b>Kenya:</b> F81%/M78% (2016 Gender Analysis)	<b>Kenya:</b> 100%	<b>Kenya:</b> F96%/M88% schoolchildren F83%/M81% out-of-school youth n.a. adults	<b>Kenya:</b> F100%/M96% schoolchildren F95%/M79% out-of-school youth F56%/M85% adults	<b>Kenya:</b> F76%/M87% of schoolchildren F94%/M93% of out-of-school youth F82%/M95% of adults
<b>OUTPUT: VAWG and SRHR awareness raising for community members has been conducted (excl. duty bearers and opinion leaders)</b>	# directly reached participants to the trainings, discussions, workshops etc. (excluding duty bearers and opinion leaders)	n.a.	<b>Kenya:</b> total 17,539 F4,410/M3,832 schoolchildren F4,506/M4,791 adults <b>Somaliland:</b> total 4,863 (F3,474)	<b>Kenya:</b> total 5,393 (F3,520): 3,098 (F1,876) schoolchildren 485 (F350) parents 1,810 (F1,294) youth/women’s/ men’s group members <b>Somaliland:</b> total 1,151 (F724): 100 (F50) youth 1,051 (F674) adult	<b>Kenya:</b> total 5,277 (F3,357): 2,712 (F1,594) schoolchildren 545 (F399) parents 1,970 (F1,364) youth/women’s men’s group members <b>Somaliland:</b> total 800 (F475)	<b>Kenya:</b> 3,722 (F2,247) of whom: 2,054 (F1,178) schoolchildren 340 (F245) parents 1,328 (F760) youth/women’s men’s group members <b>Somaliland:</b> total 6460 (F5602) SHG women, youth etc.
<b>OUTCOME: Duty bearers’ and opinion leaders’ awareness raising against VAWG has strengthened</b>	% of sensitized duty bearers/opinion leaders who are aware of the negative health effects of FGM (knowledge)	<b>Kenya:</b> (2017 annual data) 60% duty bearers 80% teachers <b>Somaliland:</b> (2017 NAFIS annual data; 2018 Candlelight baseline data) 90% policy makers 70% student activists (pharaonic)/40% (sunnah)	Kenya/ <b>Somaliland:</b> 100%	<b>Kenya:</b> F43%/M53% duty bearers F67%/M65% teachers <b>Somaliland:</b> n.a. 2018	<b>Kenya:</b> F50%/M35% duty bearers F94%/M100% teachers <b>Somaliland:</b> 100% CMC members 92% religious leaders 100% student activists	<b>Kenya:</b> F53%/M67% duty bearers F55%/M73% teachers <b>Somaliland:</b> 93% CSOs 71% relig.leaders 77% trad.leaders 45% media 73% student activists 85% CLA members
	% of sensitized duty bearers/opinion leaders who are opposed to all forms of FGM (attitude)	<b>Somaliland:</b> 83% policy makers (2017 NAFIS annual data) 5% students (2018 Candlelight baseline data)	Somaliland 100%	<b>Somaliland:</b> 67% policy makers 100% religious leaders 49% CSOs	<b>Somaliland:</b> 67% policy makers 100% CSOs 59% anti-FGM committee members	<b>Somaliland:</b> 67% anti-FGM committee members (for other groups, monitoring aligned with UNTF indicators, see above indicator)
	% of sensitized duty bearers/opinion leaders who actively raise awareness against VAWG among their reference groups (behaviour)	<b>Kenya:</b> (2017 annual data) 20% duty bearers <b>Somaliland:</b> n.a.	<b>Kenya:</b> 100% <b>Somaliland:</b> 100%	<b>Kenya:</b> F30%/M30% duty bearers F72%/M47% teachers Somaliland 80% policy makers 25% religious leaders n.a. anti-FGM committee members n.a. village facilitators, 52% n.a. CMC members n.a. health workers n.a. students 49% CSOs	<b>Kenya:</b> F50%/M40% duty bearers F76%/M89% teachers <b>Somaliland:</b> 67% policy makers n.a. religious leaders 100% anti-FGM committee members 100% village facilitators, 52% CMC members 55% health workers 50% students 100% CSOs	<b>Kenya:</b> F7%/M13% duty bearers F15%/M13% teachers <b>Somaliland:</b> 66% CSOs 18% CMCs 70% SHGs 100% anti-FGM committee members
	# people reached by duty bearers and opinion leaders raising awareness against VAWG	n.a.	<b>Kenya:</b> 84,260 (F50%/30,780) <b>Somaliland:</b> 22,248 (F50%/11,124)	<b>Kenya:</b> 14,900 (F7,450) <b>Somaliland:</b> 4,956 (F2,478)	<b>Kenya:</b> 13,415 (F6,018) <b>Somaliland:</b> 4,520 (F2,750)	<b>Kenya:</b> 7,721 (F3,861) <b>Somaliland:</b> 4,570 (F2,285)



OUTCOME/OUTPUT	INDICATOR	BASELINE LEVEL	TARGET LEVEL 2021	FOLLOWUP LEVEL 2018	FOLLOWUP LEVEL 2019	FOLLOWUP LEVEL 2020
<b>OUTPUT: Awareness raising capacity of duty bearers and opinion leaders has been supported</b>	# of duty bearers and opinion leaders reached/sensitized	n.a.	<b>Kenya:</b> total 1,867 (F638) local authorities, teachers, church leaders, journalists, researchers, chiefs, male champions, CSO activists, project volunteers <b>Somaliland:</b> total 3,700 (F2,700) policy makers, religious leaders, journalists, local authorities, clan/ community leaders, anti-FGM committee members, Community management committee (CMC) members, CSO activists, student activists	<b>Kenya:</b> total 730 (F288) 348 (F146) local authorities 122 (f55) teachers 40 (F15) church leaders 22 (F12) journalist 12 (F8) researchers 40 (F10) chiefs 72 'male champions' 29 (F13) CSO activists 45 (F29) project volunteers <b>Somaliland:</b> total 819 (F555): 15 (F7) policy makers 47 (religious leaders 30 (F20) journalists 14 local authorities 7 (F5) health workers 4 (F3) village facilitators 150 (F150) Anti-FGM Committee members 42 (F28) CMC members 430 (F302) CSO activists 80 (F40) student activists	<b>Kenya:</b> total 826 (F369) 481 (F265) local authorities 69 (F31) teachers 40 (F15) church leaders 22 (F8) journalist 60 (F32) researchers 18 (F8) private sector actors 100 'male champions' 46 (F22) CSO activists 30 (F21) project volunteers <b>Somaliland:</b> total 810 (F553): 15 (F7) policy makers 11 religious leaders 30 (F20) journalists 33 local authorities 11 (F3) health workers 5 (F2) village facilitators 100 (F100) Anti-FGM Committee members 59 (F37) CMC members 430 (F302) CSO activists 120 (F75) student activists 7 (F7) traditional cutters	<b>Kenya:</b> 565 (F189) of whom: 260 (F94) local authorities 50 (F28) teachers 26 (F12) journalists 18 (F10) researchers 14 (F8) private sector actor 130 male champions 38 (F19) CSO activists, 27 (F18) project volunteers <b>Somaliland:</b> 1625 (F1109): 330 CSO members (F166) 640 CLA women 120 religious leaders 60 journalists (F30) 175 CMC members (F73) 200 students (F100) 100 Anti-FGM committee members (F100)
<b>OUTCOME: Women's status in family and local community has strengthened</b>	Women's view of their opportunities to generate own income Women's view of their opportunities to affect decisions on family spending, family planning etc. have improved Women's view of their opportunities to affect decisions on community development have improved Women's view of the risk of domestic violence Women's view of their role and opportunities to abandon FGM Men's view of women's participation in income generation Men's view of women's participation in decisions on family spending, family planning etc. Men's view of women's participation in community development (incl. co-operative decision-making) Men's view of the justifications and acceptability of domestic violence Men's view of their role and opportunities to abandon FGM	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	<b>Kenya:</b> data from livelihood projects (launched 2020) collected end-of-project. <b>Somaliland:</b> mid-term evaluation in Q2/2020 (covering SOYDAVO, ADO, Candlelight projects). <b>Nicaragua:</b> data collected end-of-projects.	See Performance Report 2020: narrative reporting from Kenya, Somaliland and Nicaragua



### OBJECTIVE III: People and communities are empowered as instigators of global change

OUTCOME/OUTPUT	INDICATOR	BASELINE LEVEL	TARGET LEVEL 2021	FOLLOWUP LEVEL 2018	FOLLOWUP LEVEL 2019	FOLLOWUP LEVEL 2020
<b>OUTCOME: Development communication and advocacy have reached new people and raised discussion on the special themes of ISF</b>	# of website visitors	Visitors (2016): 36,119 Increase from previous year: 4,283	5,000 visitors more per year	Total of 36,836 unique visitors on 2 websites (-2.7%)	Total of 66,033 visitors (icl website closed in Feb 2019)	83,612 unique visitors (+26.6% compared to 2019)
	# social media followers	Followers (2016): 10,327	5% increase vs previous year every year	+8.7%	+8.3%	6.3%
	# of people engaged in ISF Facebook page on a daily basis (1)	Engagement (2016): 53,611	60,000 unique users per year	61,309 unique users	56,894 unique users	143,033 unique users
	# of new subscribers to ISF newsletter	21% increase in 2018 vs 2017	10% increase vs previous year	+21%	+16%	5,80%
	Coverage of ISF on broad media (2)	4 (2016)	4 per year	15 media hits	20 media hits	5
	Coverage of ISF on selected media	No baseline level	10 per year	48 media hits	33 media hits	20
	# of expert speeches or other introductions requested from ISF on special themes in Finland and in programme countries	13 (2016)	15 per year	16	18	23
	% of Facebook followers and website visitors who consider ISF's content interesting	Website: 86% (2017) Facebook: 98% (2015)	95%		Data will be collected in 2021.	Data will be collected in 2021.
	% of influencers are satisfied with collaboration	No baseline level	85%	100%	100%	100%
<b>OUTCOME: Global education and volunteering activity have raised people's knowledge on development themes and participation in the activity of ISF</b>	# of people reached in school visits and other global education events	300 (2018)	2019: 700 2020: 900 2021: 1,000 Total: 2,900	300	800	No data collected from 8 visits conducted early 2020 before COVID-19 restrictions
	Labor input of ISF volunteers	375h (2016)	2018: 375 2019: 700 2020: 900 2021: 900	638	27	No data collected, volunteer projects placed on hold during COVID-19 restrictions
	% of students who participated in the global education and felt they learned something new	48% (2018)	60%	48%	67%	N/A
	% of teachers who continued to work on the themes with students even after class	46% (2018)	2019: 60% 2020: 70% 2021: 70%	46%	47.5%	N/A



<b>OUTCOME: Communication on the programme and the results has corresponded the needs of the supporters and engaged them to the activity and themes of ISF</b>	% of supporters who feel ISF has the courage to talk about even the most sensitive topics	No baseline level	80%		Data will be collected in 2021.	Data collected in 2021
	% of supporters who feel ISF is an expert	No baseline level	80%		Data will be collected in 2021.	Data collected in 2021
	# of monthly donors who have cancelled financial support on their own initiative	13% (2016)	< 14 %	15,5%	10%	7%
	# of supporters who donate at least 100 euros per year	2,148 (2017)	6,000 in 2021		Data will be collected in 2021.	Data collected in 2021
<b>OUTPUT: for communication, advocacy and global education</b>	# of web publications		40 per year	59	58	56
	# of publications targeted at donors (newsletters, annual report, donor news)		15 per year	32 (icl magazine cancelled in 2018 and other publications)	40	17
	# of media contacts		10 per year	12	10	10
	# of school visits		40 per year	21	40	2
<b>OUTCOME: Local partners have become stronger actors of civil society</b>	% of ISF implementing partners, who consider that the partnership with ISF has contributed to achieve the partner's strategic objectives at least significantly	No baseline level	100%	No gathered data	100%	100%
	% of partnerships with implementing partners in which the partner's networks support the achievement of the partner's strategic objectives at least significantly	No baseline level	100%	No gathered data	50%	100%
<b>OUTPUT: The role and capacity of the partners have been strengthened</b>	# of capacity building activities arranged or supported by ISF in which partner staff have participated			6	57	<b>Kenya:</b> 8 trainings, 10 expert contacts prod + process, 2 ser PS contact. <b>Nicaragua:</b> CC 2+Manos Nicas 5. SOYDAVO: 3 trainings (cooperative, women empowerment, PWD inclusion).

1 Number of people who engaged with ISF Facebook page. Engagement includes any click or story created. (Unique users)

2 Magazine and its digital versions' reach is over 500,000 or the weekly reach of the web publication is over 300,000. The total reach (net) represents the people that the magazine and its different digital versions (web page, sites, facsimile edition, mobile or table application) have reached together, so it is the total amount/netto of the people who have read one issue of the magazine and/or used some of its digital versions during the week. The weekly reach number reports on a media specific basis how many people the media has reached within a week.