

SWISSO KALMO SOMALIA



30

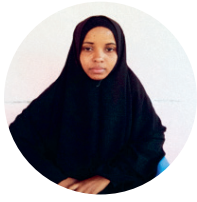
nurse-midwives are being educated during two years.

34,560

safe deliveries per year are enabled by the certified nurse-midwives accompanying them.

A new generation of nurse-midwives
SWISSO Kalmo (SK) was founded in 1993 as an international non-governmental organisation (NGO) and today is registered in Switzerland, Kenya, and Somalia. It is one of the most vibrant organisations in Somalia facilitating development projects in the fields of healthcare, nutrition, and livelihood. SK has helped train a new generation of nurse-midwives, improve standards of maternity care, develop relevant training programmes, regulate the profession of nurse-midwifery, and strengthen the healthcare system in Somalia. It prioritises designing new curricula, revitalising nursing and midwifery schools, training nurse-midwife leaders, as well as on fostering continuous professional development for nurses and midwives. Thus, it promotes safe, good quality patient care delivered by properly trained nurse-midwives.

The programme supported by the Julius Baer Foundation is an accredited two-years course. The nursing-midwifery school provides practical sessions to the students at Hanano hospital in Dhusamareb. It is accessible for students who finished twelfth grade of the secondary school in Dhusamareb, but were not able to go to the capital, Mogadishu, to complete their college studies for various reasons. The primary aims of this practice-oriented qualification are: to strengthen healthcare services for mothers and children living in remote areas; to support, together with the Ministry of Health, the design and implementation of an appropriate legal framework for education and practice of nursing and midwifery; to develop and promote professional standards and guidelines as well as soft regulatory standards; to foster research to improve and advance the professions of nursing and midwifery in Somalia; and to



Rahma Osman Gabeyre
First-year student at SWISSO
Kalmo

“I was born in Dhusamareb town of Galgadud region, south central Somalia. Pursuing higher education was always my dream. But my family was not in a position to financially support me going to Mogadishu for further studies at college. I was disappointed and thought my future career was in jeopardy. When I found SWISSO Kalmo and this opportunity, I felt lucky. I took the admission exam and was fortunate to be one of the selected candidates. I cannot express my gratitude enough because I believe the opportunity is huge and I am going to learn and will obtain my degree while living in my hometown with my parents. Thanks to everyone who contributed.”

Julius Baer Foundation

For more than fifty years, the Julius Baer Foundation has dedicated itself to making meaningful and impactful contributions to society. The grant foundation of the Julius Baer Group was founded in 1965 by Walter J. Bär to support all forms of art and culture, various sciences, and carefully selected charitable causes within Switzerland. The Foundation's reach has extended along with the growth of the Group, and, today it collaborates with partner organisations worldwide in the core areas of Vocational Training, Recycling PLUS, and Wealth Inequality.

How you can contribute

Clients and employees of Julius Baer can support the Foundation.

Your donation will be used specifically for the core area of your wish. IBAN:
CH 94 0851 5072 8789 4200 9

Contact

Julius Baer Foundation
Bahnhofstrasse 36, P.O. Box
8010 Zurich, Switzerland
Tel.: +41(0)58 888 4422
foundation@juliusbaer.com
www.juliusbaer.com/foundation

institutionalise professional approaches to midwifery through formal bodies and associations.

Creating professional care for mothers and babies

Through SWISSO Kalmo, thirty nurse-midwives are educated per training course, thus enabling every year:

- 34,560 safe deliveries
- 216,000 pregnant women to receive appropriate care
- 216,000 babies under age one to get vaccinated

Facts and figures: Somalia

Somalia GDP and living standards are among the lowest in the world. Economic growth is slowly expanding and livestock, agriculture, and fishing are economic mainstays. Domestic revenue is still insufficient to allow the government to deliver services to citizens. According to a UN report, the unemployment rate for youth in Somalia is one of the highest in the world at 67% among those aged 14-29 — 61% among men and 74% among women.

The same report states that 40% of youth are actively looking for work, while 21% are both jobless and out of school with unemployment among the biggest threats facing Somali society.

- Capital: Mogadishu
- Population: 1.4 million
- Languages: the official languages are Somali and Arabic
- After two decades of civil war, Somalia has one of the highest maternal, infant, and child mortality rates in the world.
- Overall unemployment rate: 54%
- Youth unemployment rate: 67%
- During the former regime, education was free at all levels from primary to university. But since its collapse, access to education for poor families has been a major challenge, particularly at higher levels.
- Significant numbers of Somali emigres are going back to invest and take part in restoring peace and rebuilding the country.

For more information about Swisso Kalmo, please visit: www.swissokalmo.ch

“Aqoon la'aani waa iftiin la'aan. (No education — no light.)”
Somali Poem