



Somalia has one of the lowest primary school enrolment rates in the world: four out of every five children are currently denied the right to basic education. Schooling prospects are limited and are mainly concentrated in the urban areas. Scarce financial resources, lack of qualified teaching staff and education resources, displacement and poor school infrastructures limit education opportunities and contribute to discontinuity in school attendance. Gender disparities in enrolment, inadequate skills training opportunities and large scale unemployment among the Somali youth remain also a major challenge.

CISP's education effort

CISP began its education intervention back in 1992, considering it as one of the first priorities for the future of the Somali people. CISP's approach is based on the assumption that a structured and continued support is the only way



to encourage school attendance and limit drop out. Convinced that ad hoc and short-term

interventions cannot achieve the desired results in this sector, CISP has been making significant efforts to carry on its education activities in times of funding disruptions. Sometimes continuity has been made possible thanks to the financial support of the Somali diaspora and the communities (like in the example of [Ceel Dheer school](#)). CISP has indeed witnessed remarkable levels of cooperation with the local communities. A long lasting, stable relationship of trust and mutual commitment built by CISP in almost 30 years of operations in the country is certainly one of the reasons for this success.

CISP's education intervention map



>click on the map

See also [CISP's Education programme](#)

¹Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) for primary education is less than 20 per cent (Somali Joint Need Assessment- 2006).

²GER is 25% for boys and only 15% for girls. Only 13% of the primary school teachers are women (Somali Joint Need Assessment- 2006).