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Sometimes the nearest borehole can be up to 100 kilometers away. Many villages are dependent on water brought there by tank trucks.

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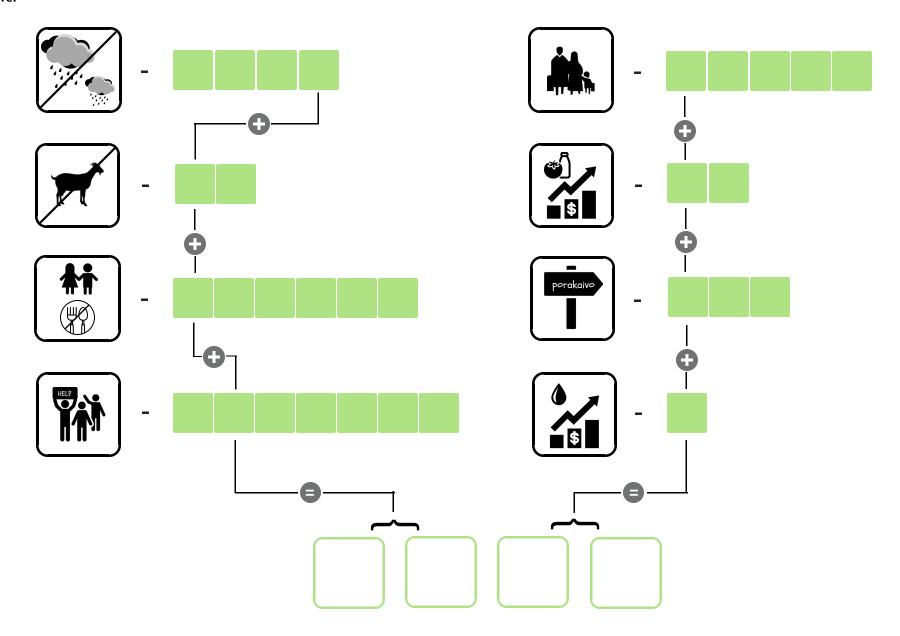
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1.b.

Thankfully, there is also good news: there are ways to improve the situation. While we can't reverse the drought, we can help the people of Somaliland deal with its consequences and overcome the crisis.

One of the ways to help is to empower and educate women, who constitute an extremely important, although often underappreciated, part of the community.

But how can it be done? How exactly does one empower women in Somaliland and how will it help? This is what your team is going to explore with the help of the challenges found in this box. Time to dive in!



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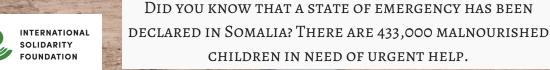
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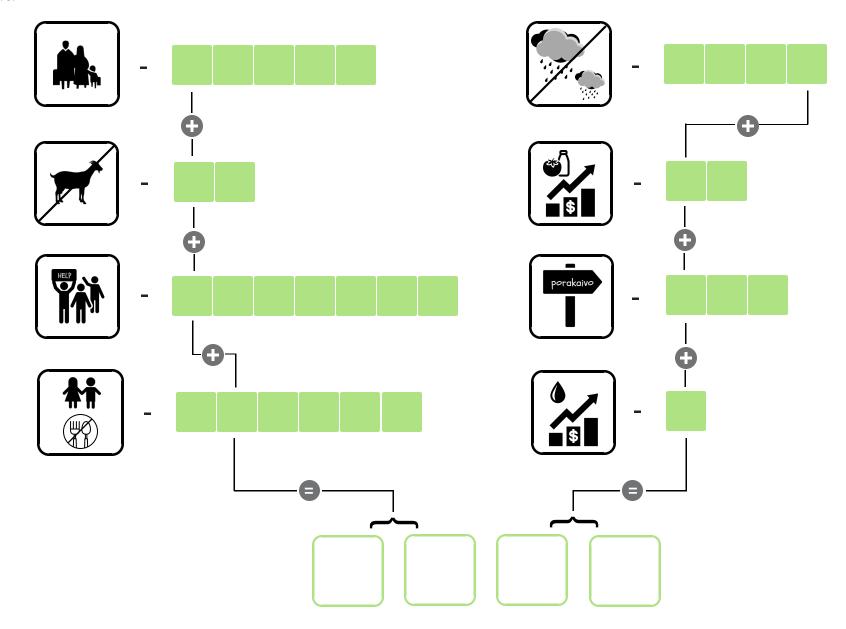
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One of the ways to help is by building greenhouses and teaching the people of Somaliland how to effectively use them. But how do greenhouses actually help? What does one grow in them and why are they so important for surviving the drought?

This is what your team is going to explore with the help of the challenges found in this box.

Time

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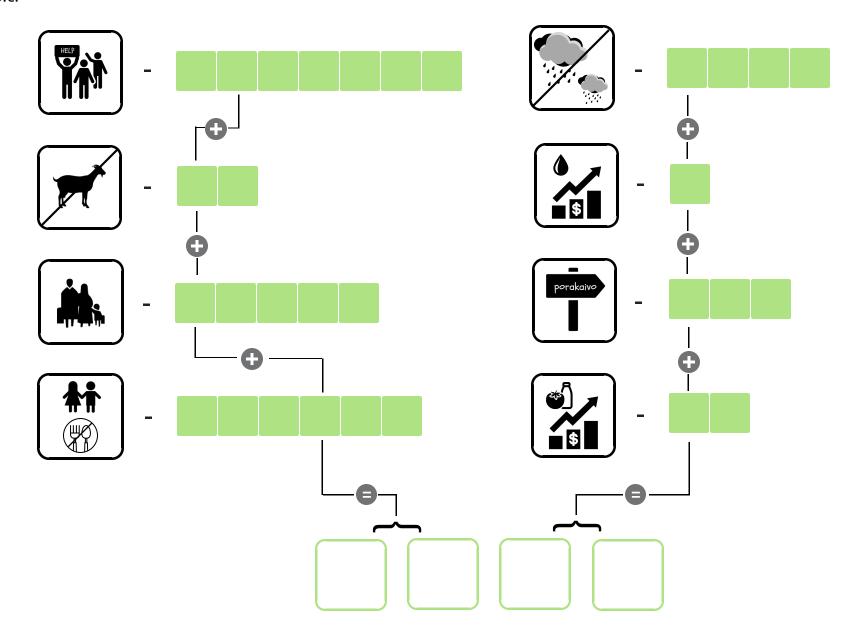
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One of the ways to help is by constructing water collection pools, which are essential for the survival during the drought. But what exactly are water collection pools and why are they so important when the water supply is limited?

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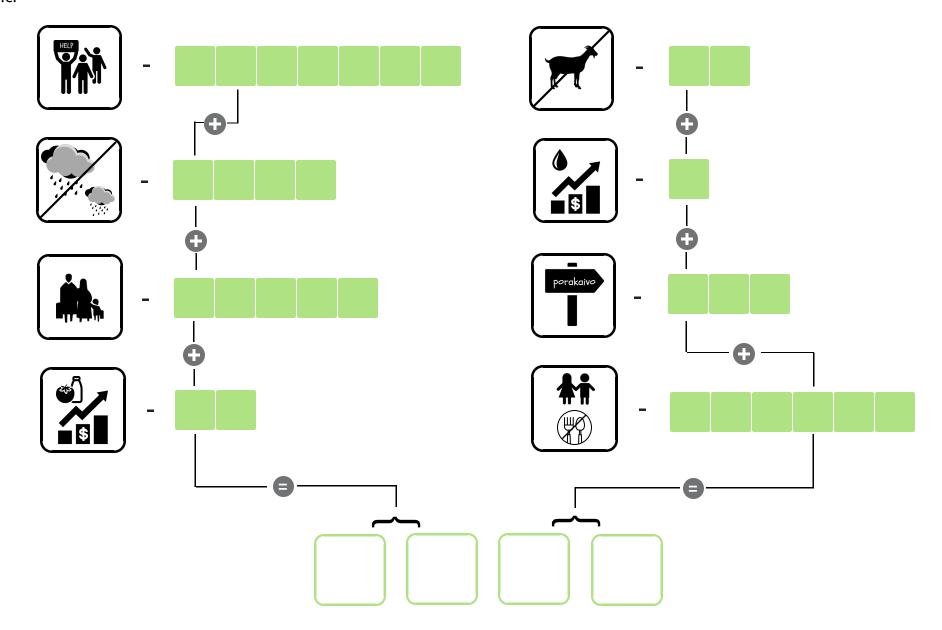
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reverse the drought, we can help the people of Somaliland deal with its consequences and overcome the crisis.

One of the ways to help is by encouraging the cultivation of drought-resistant plants, such as sisal, and teaching the people of Somaliland to utilize this versatile plant to their advantage. But what kind of plant is sisal and how can its cultivation really make an impact and bring about positive change?

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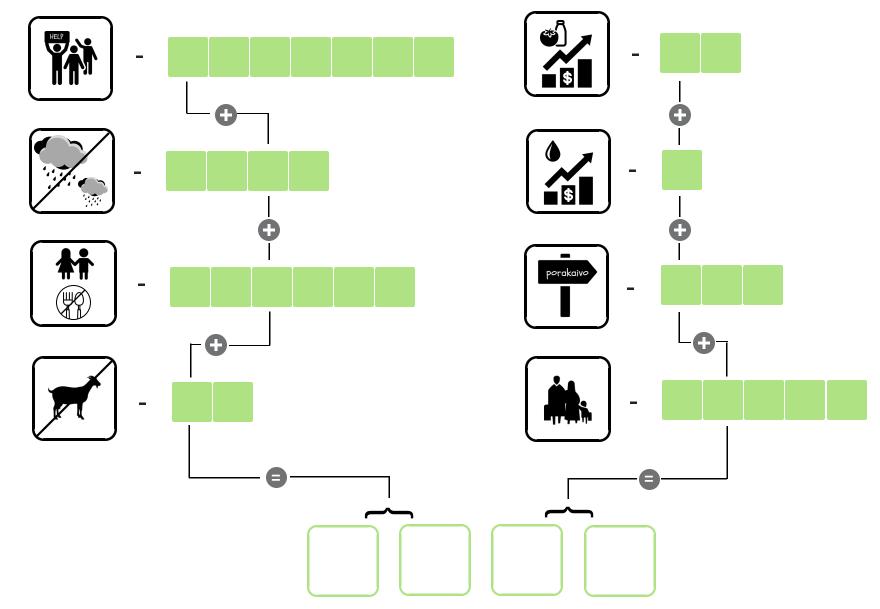
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Thankfully, there is also good news: there are ways to improve the situation. While we can't reverse the drought, we can help the people of Somaliland deal with its consequences and overcome the crisis.

Some of the ways to help include teaching the people of Somaliland new skills and technologies, building greenhouses and water collection pools, and encouraging the people to grow drought-resistant plants. It is, however, just as important to look at the big picture and understand what factors led to the crisis and how each and every one of us can help make sure it doesn't happen in the future.

These are the questions your team is going to explore with the help of the challenges found in this box. Time to dive in!





Rahma Aideed works as a Gender Equality Officer at ADO (Agriculture Development Organization), the International Solidarity Foundation's partner organization. She praises women's training in the area of farming, which is now severely limited due to the drought. Her work includes holistic training for women aimed at improving their status in the community. This is what she tells about her role: "I am the one who shows the women that if they are willing and courageous, they can do the same things as men."

Even within a short time period, there have been many positive changes in women's behaviour and actions. The most important thing has been teaching women cultivation skills.

"After an adequate amount of training when the harvest time came, I took the women to work. We all worked in the field for several days, I was acting as their supervisor. Harvest work was carried out in groups and the division of labor was agreed on within each group."

In addition to farming skills, women have been taught how to manage a small business. "Small businesses sell different kinds of groceries and everyday items."

During the training, the women were also developing their communal work skills.

"We organize trainings aimed at arranging and conducting meetings. The person in training arranges meetings for women, where they can discuss matters of common concern to the community. They may be, for example, deciding on the price of harvested crops, voting on who sells the grain, and discussing other questions related to the sale of crops and logistics."

Rahma Aideed encourages women to break the molds and experiment, which is key to improving living conditions.

"When I started my work, I wondered what I could do to improve the position of women. I started by organizing meetings, where we tell women about the different ways of doing things and assure them that they can do anything they set their mind to, "Rahma explains."

"My goal is to also convince the men that training women is very important. It is a good thing for a man, for children, as well as the whole family."

# Women amongst the drought



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#### Women in Somaliland

The position of women in Somaliland is far from ideal and the crisis caused by the drought makes things even worse. The International Solidarity Foundation in cooperation with Agriculture Development Organization are working hard to change the situation and find long-term solutions.

#### Existing problems are:

- Women are the most marginalized community
- High illiteracy rates in women, because they don't have access to basic education
- When the amount of work increases, \_\_\_\_ are removed from school more often than boys to help with farming and household tasks
- Lack of role models for women
- Women have no \_\_\_\_\_-making power in the community
- Women do not play an important role in the community despite being involved in all day-to-day activities
- Women don't take \_\_\_\_\_ roles
- The unstable financial position of women they have no means of making their own living

#### Steps for solving the problem:

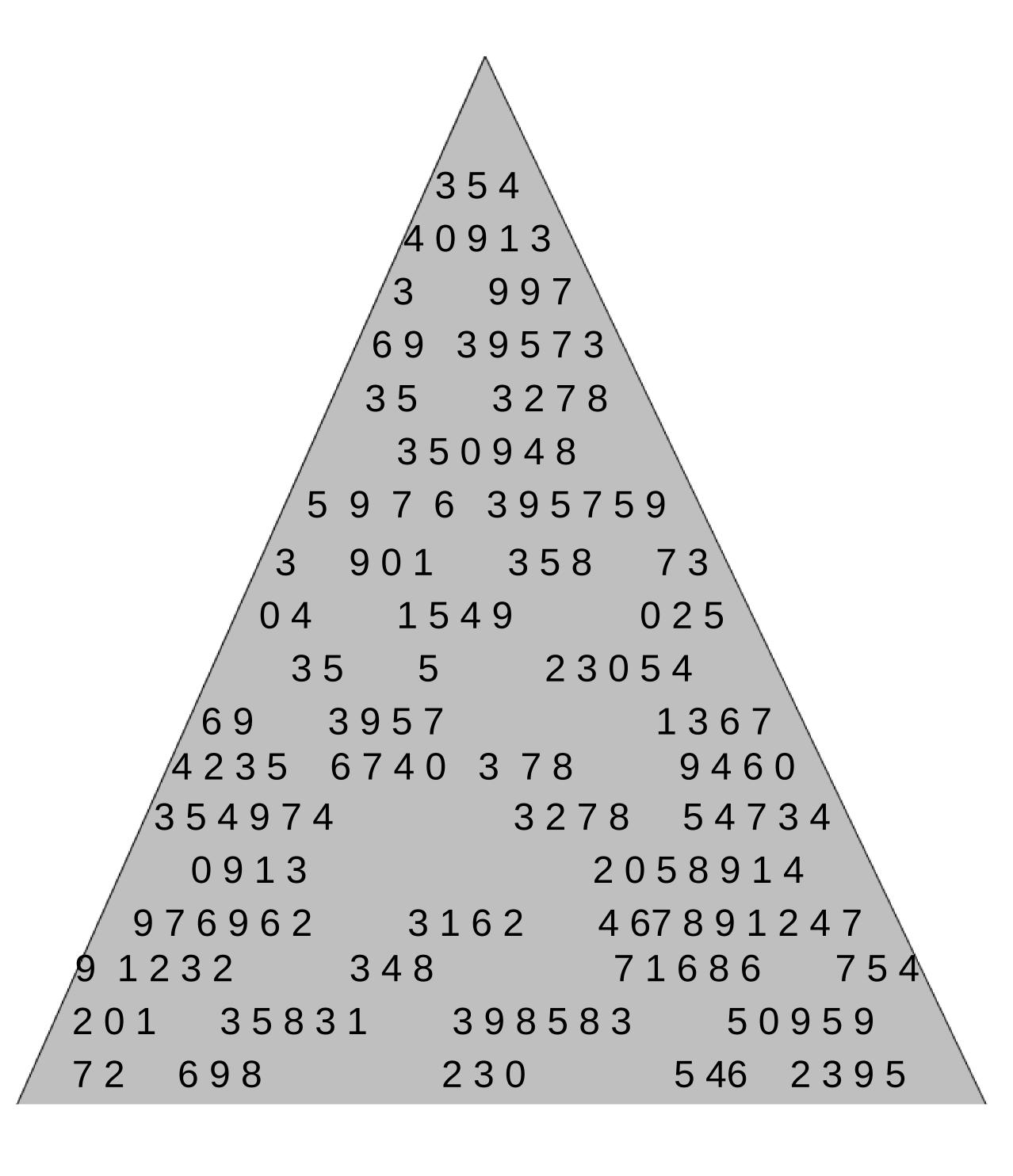
- Removing gender phobia
- Achieving gender equality by giving women the \_\_\_\_\_ to actively participate in public life
- \_\_\_\_\_ women in the decision-making process by:
  - forming women production and income generation groups
  - forming informal women self-help groups
  - organizing village-level \_\_\_\_\_ of issues that are important to women
- Financial \_\_\_\_\_ of women through:
  - developing their skills: from literacy and numeracy to basic business management, production and processing skills;
  - increasing their surrounding awareness by conducting visits to nearby villages and widening of their
  - constructing water collection pools, greenhouses, irrigation systems, creating seed banks, new fields for plants and making sure that \_\_\_\_ actively participate in their management and utilization;
  - producing information to support agriculture production

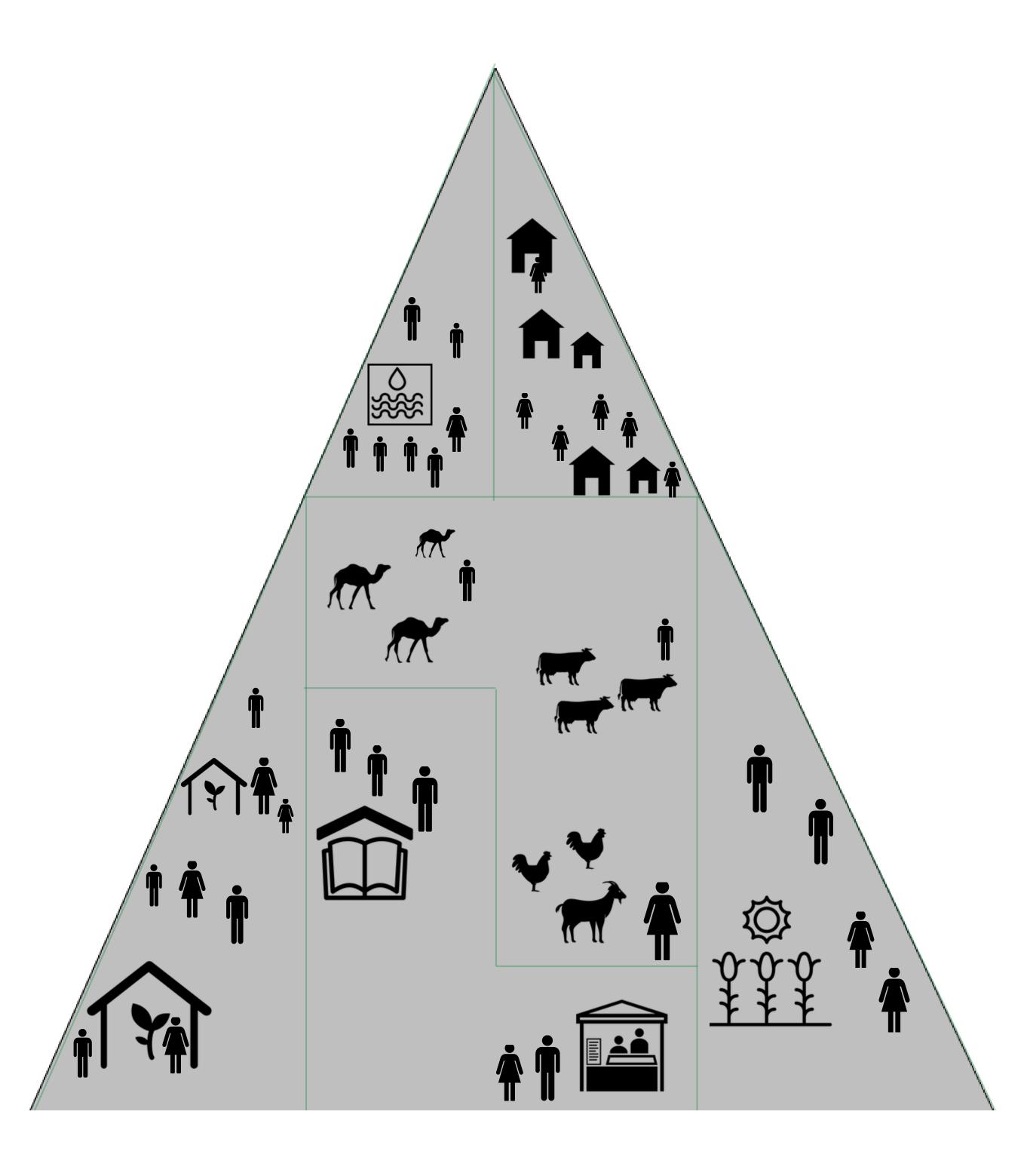


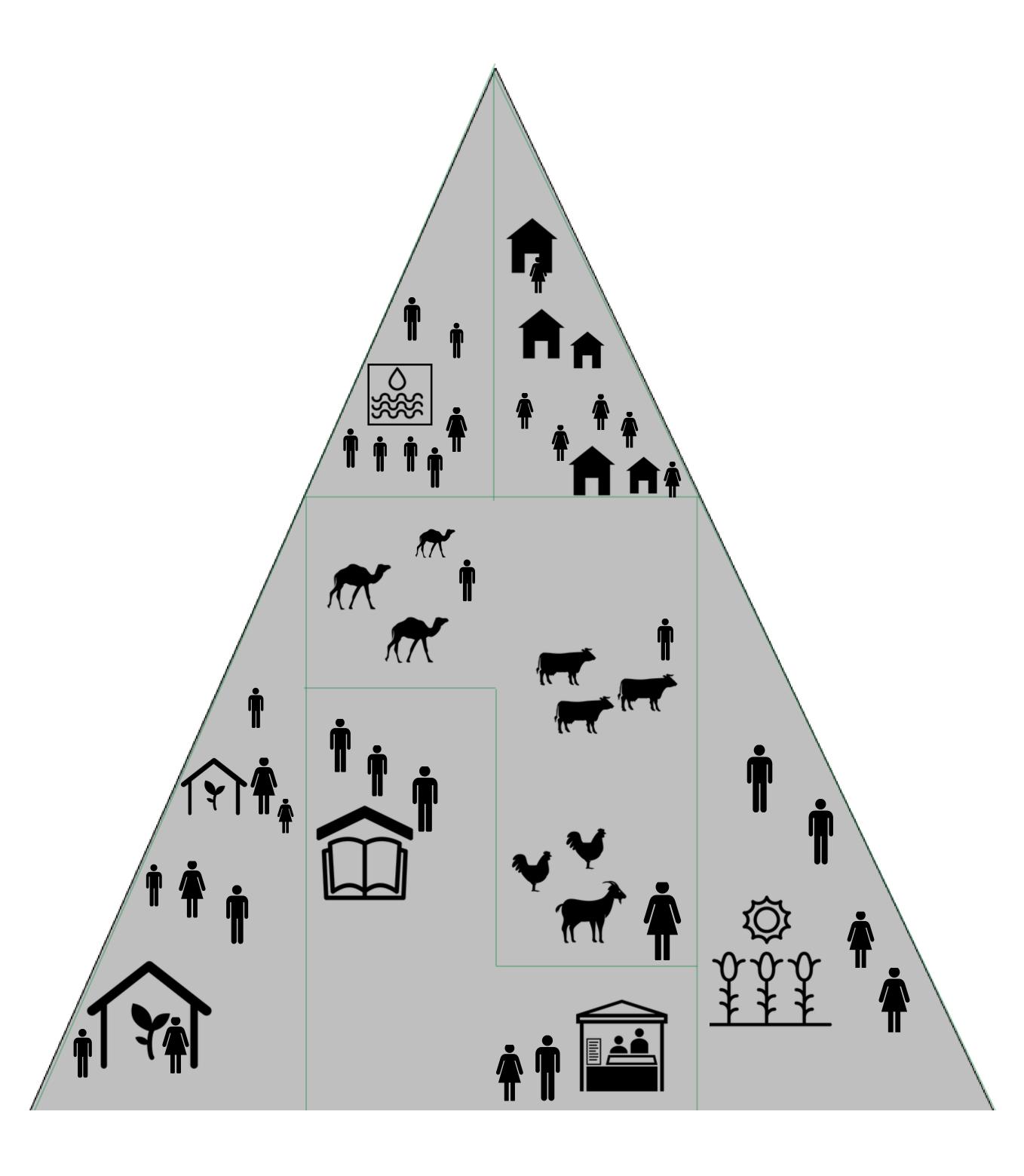
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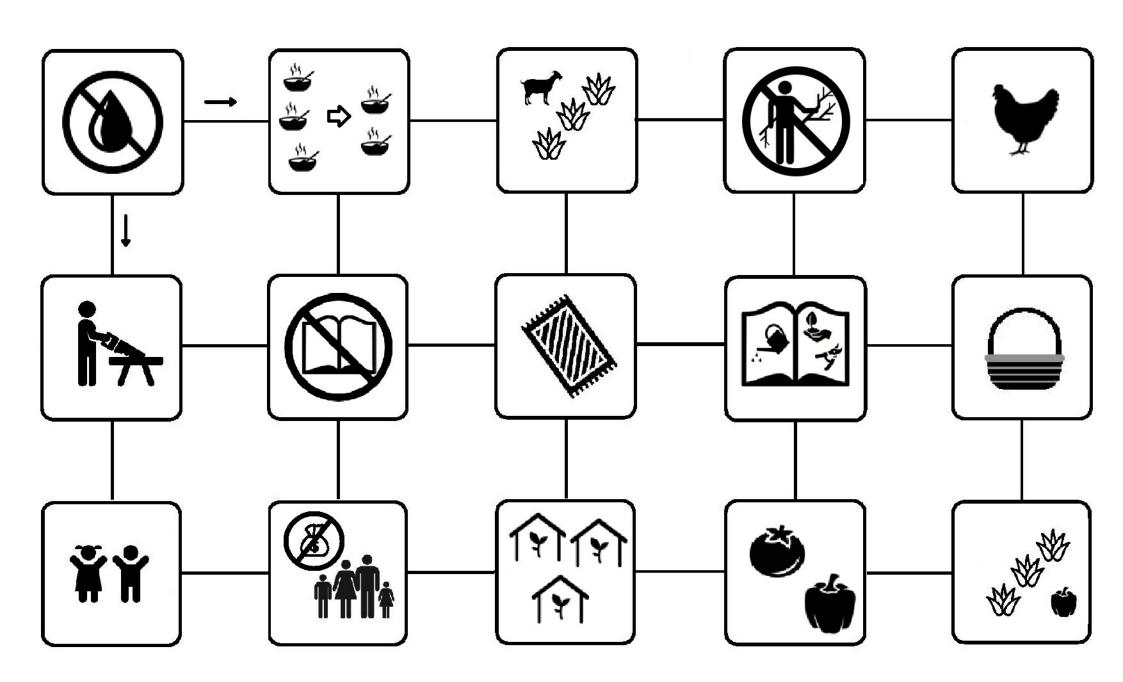
greenhouses, water collection pool, fields, houses, school, market, camels and cows, goats and chickens

#### Fill up the triangle with the village pieces, but leave an empty square





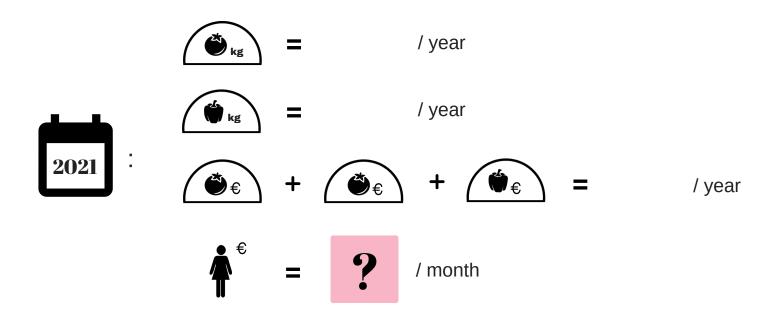




#### Greenhouse in figures



The International Solidarity Foundation has been supporting women's greenhouse groups in the Somalian village of Beer since 2016. In the beginning, the production volumes were quite low but it is estimated that in 2021 a tomato greenhouse will produce 12480 kg tomatoes and a green pepper greenhouse - 6240 kg green peppers every year. The average price of tomatoes is 55 euro cents per kg, while the green peppers cost 1 euro per kg. The women in the Beer village have three greenhouses (2 for tomatoes and 1 for green peppers) and there are 50 women working in the greenhouses. Using these numbers, can you calculate the average monthly salary of a Somaliland woman working in the greenhouses provided that all the vegetables get sold?



## Greenhouse to the rescue

Halimo's Interview

Name: Halimo Jama Mahamud Age: 54 Family: married, 9 children Location: Beer village

How has the drought affected people's lives in Beer?

- Droughts seriously affected every household including mine. Sometimes, people would not get full meals, many families would only be able to eat two meals per day instead of three. Also, formal education was affected, because people from our village had to move to other villages in search of better life, better water supply and vegetation. This resulted in a massive drop-out from schools.

What kind of impact did the drought have on your family's life?

- My business went bankrupt, and when I closed my company I lost the income I used to get from selling fodder and crops. We couldn't pay school fees and buy clothes, so two of my children had to leave school and stay at home. I couldn't pay for anything anymore and was only thinking of how I could feed my family if the situation did not improve in the near future.

How does the greenhouse help in your day-to-day life?



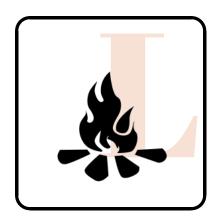
- ADO (Agriculture Development Organization) brought greenhouses into our village and they helped us and our families survive when there were no rains during the last year. The three greenhouses are our only source of income. Before, when we needed vegetables, we had to go to the main cities and it would take time, but now we can find them in our village at more affordable prices. This substantially improved the economic situation in our village. Also, thanks to the greenhouses, I received training in vegetable and fruit cultivation, drip irrigation management, and pruning of crops. I and other women in the cooperative are now able to make some money growing vegetables and it helps us cover our needs, pay school fees, medical costs, and have the power to influence family decisions.

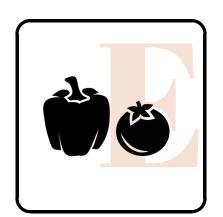
What have you learned in the training?

- The training gave us an opportunity to establish connections with other agricultural businesses in the main town (Burao) in order to develop an effective and sustainable value chain between us and the buyers. I learnt the basics of post-harvest work and handling cash crops, and gained technical and practical knowledge and modern skills of harvesting and storing perishable crops. We were also taught how to handle vegetable cultivation, seedling preparation, sowing seeds, weeding, harvesting and packaging vegetables for the market.

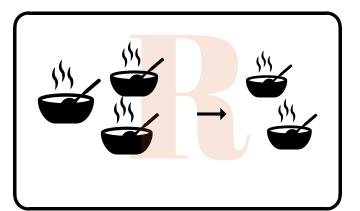
What would your life be like without the training and the greenhouse? How would things be different?

- If I hadn't attended the training, I would not have learned how to use the greenhouse and other technologies associated with it. I would have had to resort to collecting firewood outside the village and selling it to restaurants in order to make a living. By collecting firewood, I would have placed myself under a constant threat of rape, abuse and physical violence from jobless men who sleep under the trees. Now, my family and I get income from the greenhouses and our lives have stabilized. If we did not have that, we would not have been able to make it. We are very grateful to ISF and ADO, who are very helpful and understanding of our problems. Without their support, our situation would certainly be much worse.



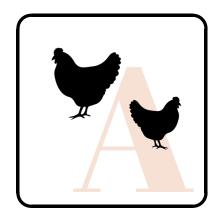




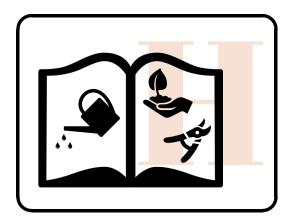












## Ibrahim's Day

Follow the story of Ibrahim's day and find the right directions according to his movements throughout the day.



- (1) goats
- <sup>2</sup> water collection pool
- (3) fields and greenhouses
- village
- (5) school
- (6) market

- (7) Ibrahim's house
- (8) the family's animals
- (9) camels

Ibrahim, a resident of the Beer village, starts his day by eating breakfast and taking camels to the pasture. After the camels have grazed, Ibrahim takes them to a nearby village, bypassing the market where women are selling vegetables and crafts. From there, he continues to the fields and the greenhouses where he cultivates, among other things, sisal, tomatoes and onions. On his way back from the fields, Ibrahim passes by a group of women who are tending to goats - the drought killed most of the cattle, but thankfully some of the animals managed to survive. When he arrives, the family has dinner, and Ibrahim spends some time at home doing things around the house. The day is drawing to a close, but before the sun sets and it is time to go to bed, Ibrahim goes to tend to the family's animals.

#### A moment of relief

Like other East African countries and Yemen, Somaliland has been suffering from a prolonged drought cycle that has significantly reduced human food security. There was no proper rainfall in Somalia for more than two and a half years, which resulted in the cattle of the nomadic people dying \_\_\_\_\_\_, and the farmers' fields getting completely dried up.

"The drought was severe and long lasting. Before the rains started, we had to watch our cattle die in front of our eyes. We've already lost 95% of our livestock. Our crops died and the biggest problem in the last two years was that we \_\_\_\_\_\_ that could bring water to our crops," said Beer Cooperative members Ibrahim Qodah and Hassan Matan.

The shortage of drinking water and food have driven many people into malnutrition. \_\_\_\_\_ has spread pathological diseases such as cholera and diarrhea, and those who have suffered the most are the already vulnerable groups: children, the elderly and the sick. There are thousands of internally displaced refugees and former nomadic people, many farmers had to \_\_\_\_\_\_. The UN has described the humanitarian crisis following the drought as the worst crisis since the Second World War.

"We did not have any drinking water and we were dependent on water and food transportation; there were a lot of cases of malnutrition when people completely lost their strength," the members of the cooperative describe the situation before the rainfall.

"Now, we are thrilled to see \_\_\_\_\_. We intend to use the water for our vegetable and fruit crops. This way, we can increase the income of our cooperative, as well as of the women who are going to handle the cultivation," the members of the cooperative rejoice.

The water collection pool installed as part of the cooperation development project of the International Solidarity Foundation is crucial for the \_\_\_\_\_\_. After the rains began, new seeds were immediately sown in the Beer village cooperative. Many people have lost almost all of their cattle, but now there is \_\_\_\_\_\_ can bring about positive changes and help generate income.

"So far, we've sown 78 hectares of land and now we have \_\_\_\_\_ for growing crops. We no longer have cattle, but we have the hope that we will overcome the drought by cultivating land on a larger scale."





sUrvival during the drought crisis

as drinking water for people and the caTtle

the water collection pool fulL of water

helps us with the grOwing of crops

hope that crop cultivAtion

we were extremely woRried

settle down in Slums in urban areas

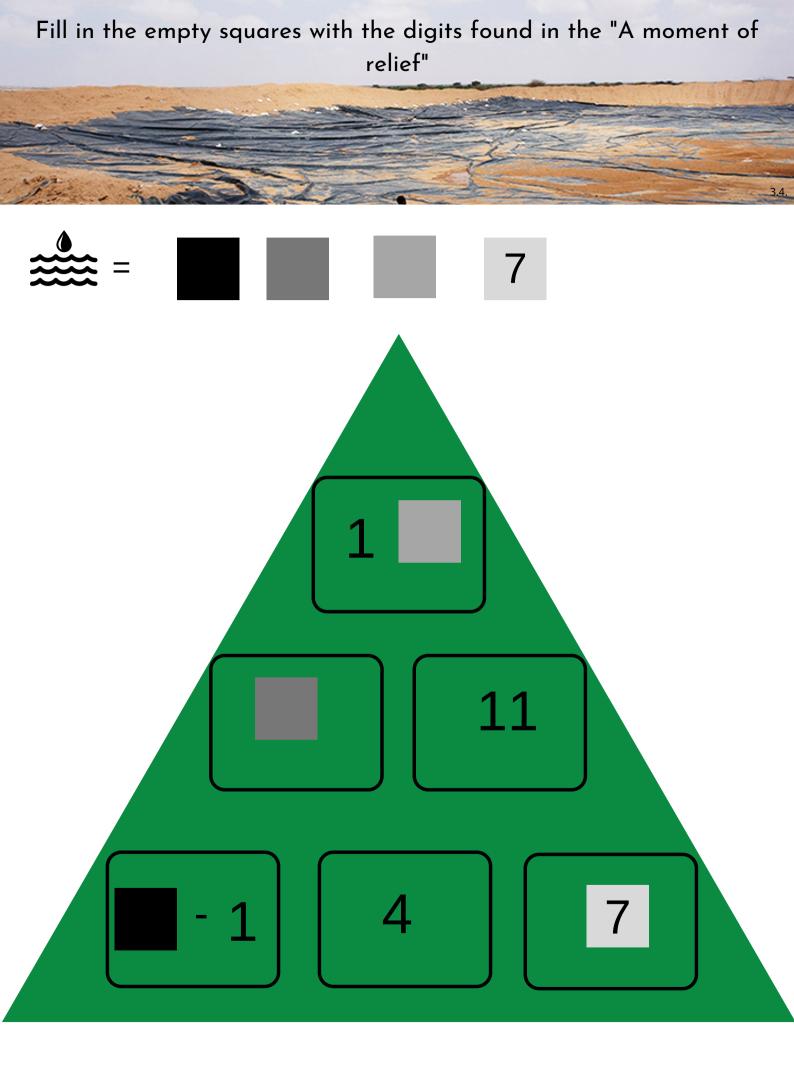
of thirst and starvation

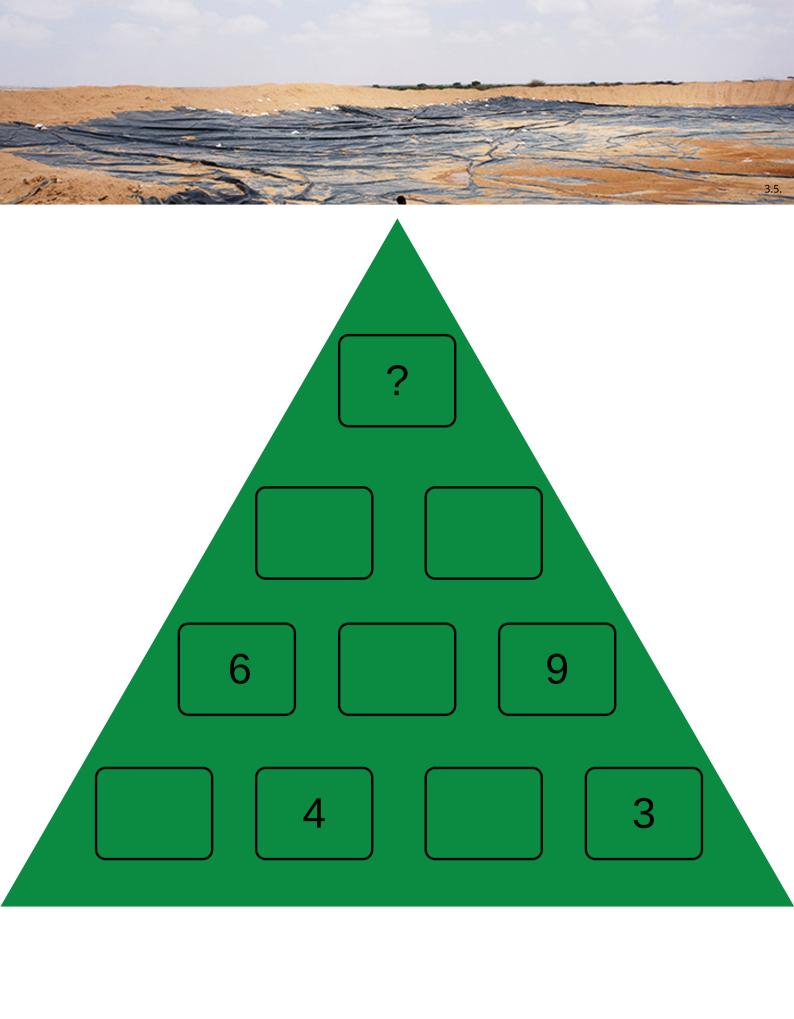
did not geT any rain or floods

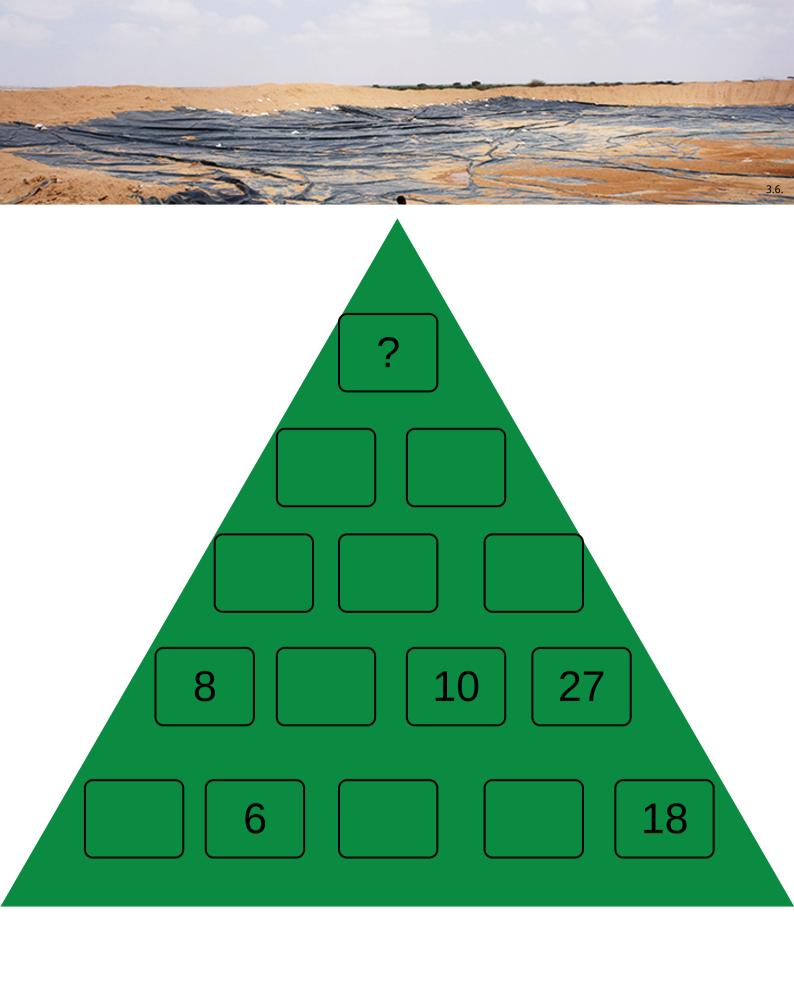
in townS and villages

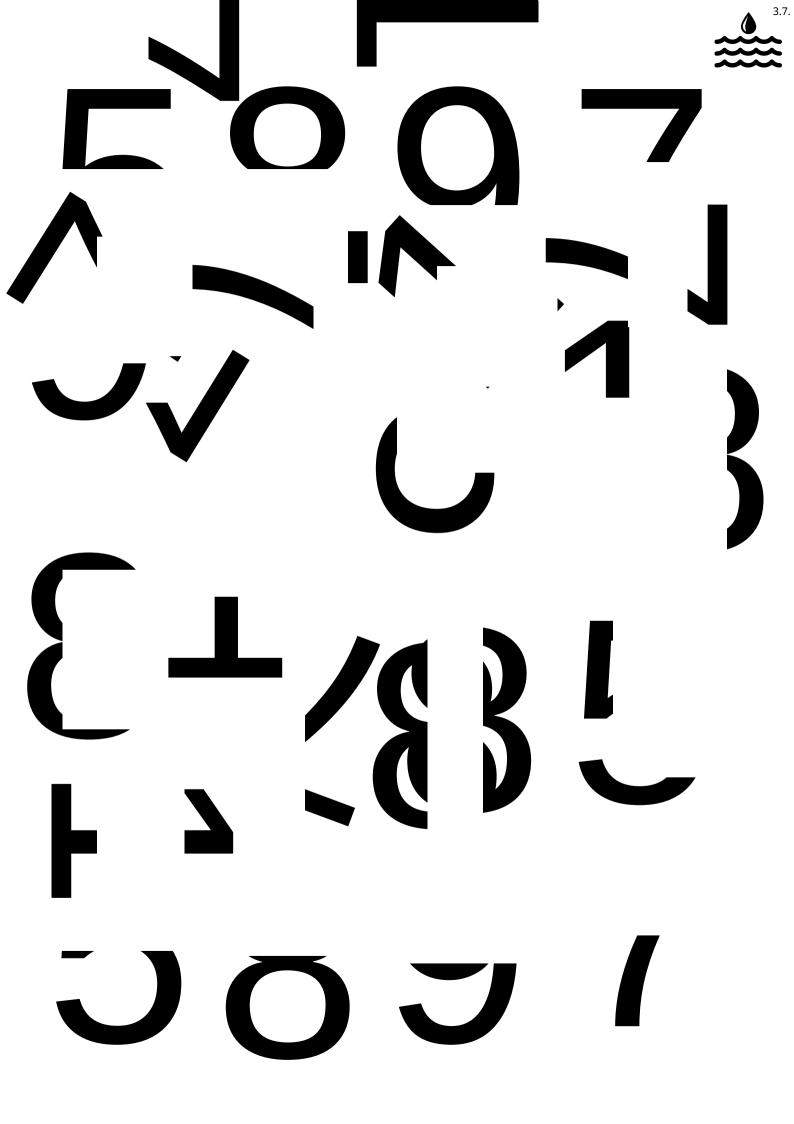
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contaminated drInking water







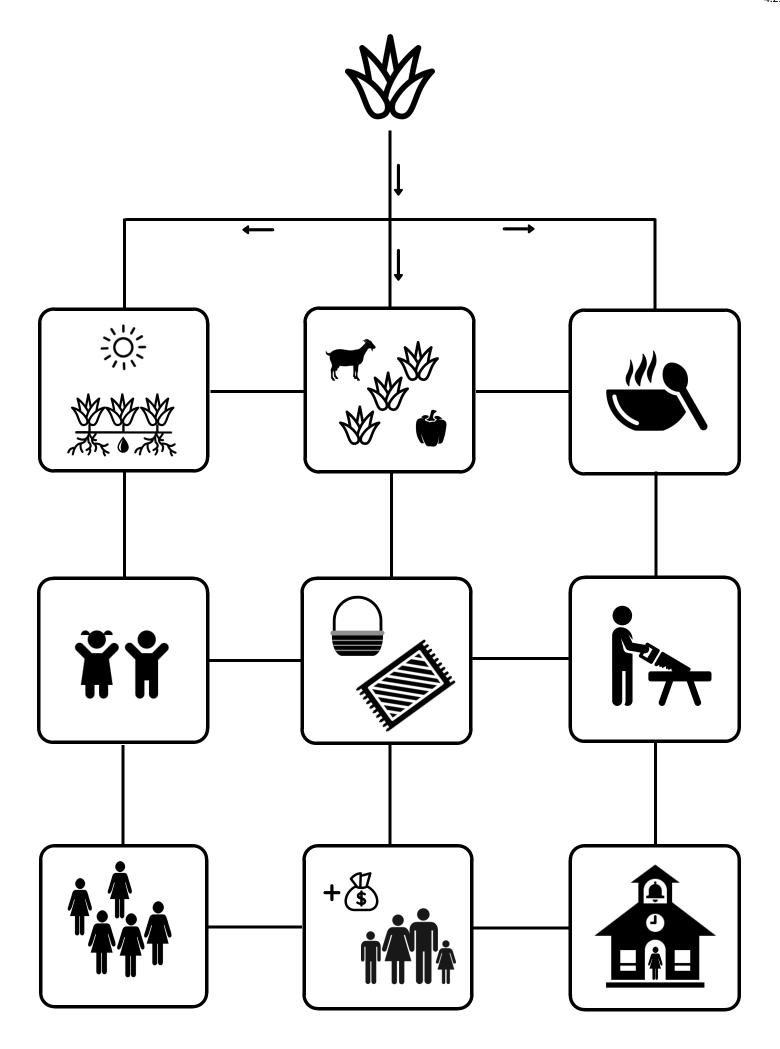


#### Sisal in Somaliland

The sisal plant is invaluable to the people of Somaliland due to its multi-functionality. It grows well in drylands, is drought-resistant, protects soil from water and wind erosion, and improves the ability of soil to retain water. Planting sisal as a living fence also helps protect crop fields from livestock.

Wild sisal is common in Africa, but its fiber is unsuitable for artisanal purposes, so improved sisal varieties were brought to Somaliland by the International Solidarity Foundation. Women in Somaliland use sisal for making baskets, carpets and other products for sale. During the drought, women's extra income from selling sisal goods is extremely important for families.

Thanks to ISF's work in Somaliland, the visibility and status of women in the project area have improved. Women became income earners, women's groups organize meetings and are recognized as an organized, independent group.



# Sisal: a source of financial stability and confidence

The cultivation and use of sisal bring vital income to rural women in Somaliland. Women make different kinds of products and by selling them they can then get food for their families.

Sisal is a versatile plant. Its cultivation helps retain moisture in the soil and it can survive in the driest conditions. It is also fed to the cattle.

In the village of Godawein, a group of women use sisal to make colorful baskets and bags for sale. This way, they have some income that they can use to buy food and water for their families and pay healthcare costs.

"We have given our children a better life," the women say.

Women work together and support each other. As their financial situation improves, the women's skills also improve and their self-confidence increases.



Sisal is used to produce twine and is also suitable, for example, for making furniture and home decor items like rugs, as well as clothing, such as shoes and hats.

The land where the women grow sisal is owned by men, but now that women are involved in providing for the family, they are treated in the village community very differently. These changes, however, do not come easily.

In Godawein, men see women's work and they recognize its importance for the families' food security and livelihood. The sisal products made by women have helped families survive the drought.





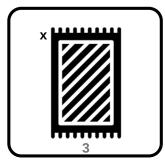


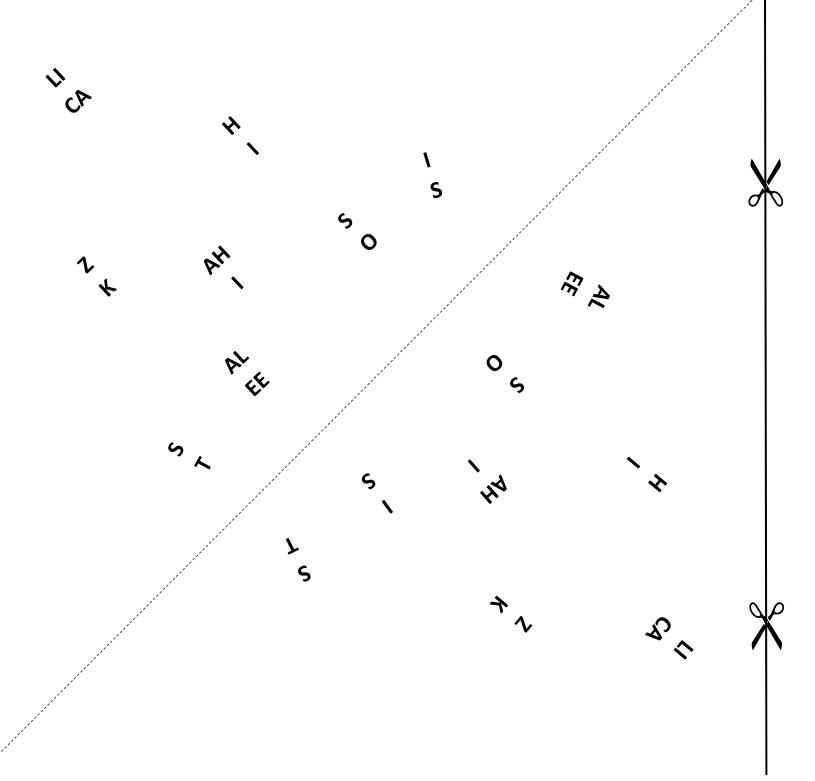












## Sisal

#### Make a cup out of the paper with the letters and lines.



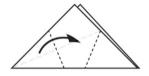
1) Cut off the excess paper by the line with the scissors to get a square piece.

2) Fold the paper in half by the diagonal.

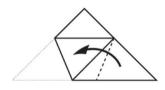
3) Put the folded triangle in front of you with the letters on the outer side.



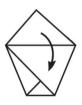
4) Fold the left edge of the triangle to the bottom edge, then unfold. We only need the crease line.



5) Fold the left corner of the triangle to the end of the crease line on the right.



6) Fold the right corner to the left corner.



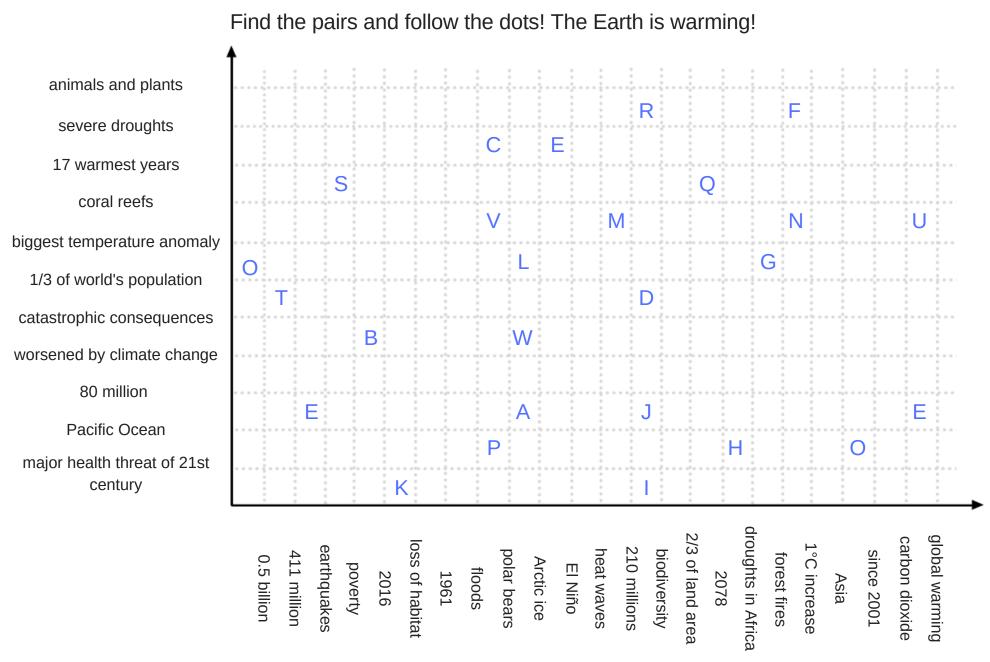
7) Fold the top flap down.



8) Turn the paper over and fold the other flap down, too.



- 9) Find the word SISAL around the cup.
- 10) Find the code under the word SISAL, starting at the same place as SISAL.



#### The Earth is warming. So what?

The severe drought in Somaliland is partly accelerated by environmental degradation. It is made worse by El Niño, a complex and naturally occurring weather pattern that happens when water temperatures in the Pacific Ocean near the equator vary from the norm. There is growing scientific analysis suggesting that the impacts of current and recent droughts in East Africa are likely to have been aggravated by climate change. Global warming is one of the greatest health threats facing humanity in the 21st century.

According to NASA, seventeen of the 18 warmest years in the 136-year record all have occurred since 2001. The year 2016 ranks as the warmest on record, when the temperature anomaly was measured to be 0.99°C. Global warming is likely to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052 if it continues to increase at the current rate. Half a degree might not sound like much, but according to the report by the UN, the consequences of jumping to 1.5°C or 2°C can be catastrophic for the planet and its inhabitants.

Here are some of the predicted outcomes of reaching the temperature anomaly of 2°C:

- Over ½ of the world's population will be exposed to extreme heat waves every five years
- Coral reefs, which provide food and coastal protection for half a billion people worldwide, will mostly disappear
- Multiple plant and animal species will lose more than half of their range
- Up to 80 million people will be exposed to flooding from sea level rise
- Urban population exposed to severe droughts will rise by 411 million

It has been proven that global warming is largely caused and further accelerated by human activities such as deforestation, burning fossil fuels for energy and transportation, handling of waste, and agriculture (especially animal agriculture), so it is extremely important that we realize the impact our individual actions contribute to the problem and find ways to minimize it to the best of our ability.



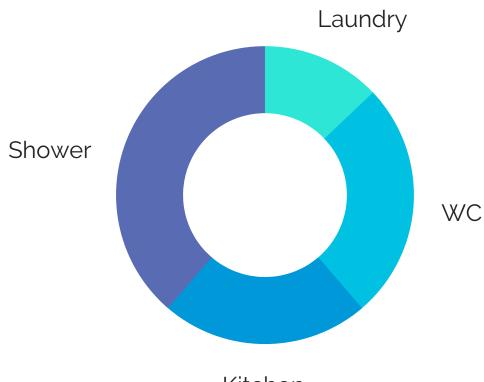
#### Where does the water go?

In Finland, we use a very large amount of water for different routine activities every single day. On average, as much as 20 L is used for laundry alone, which may seem like a big number, but it pales in comparison with how much water is used for some other everyday things. Twice as much water is used every day for flushing the toilet, and three times as much - for showering. An extra 35 L is used in the kitchen.

When you add it all together, you get a huge number, but we hardly ever give it a second thought because here in Finland, we are used to having as much water as we need. It is a completely different story in Somaliland, where water is a precious resource, especially during a drought. Just imagine that in the current situation, it would take a person living in Somaliland 20 days to save up the amount of water needed to take one shower like a person in Finland (without drinking it or using it for anything else).

When you look at these numbers, it is obvious that the difference in average daily water consumption in Finland and Somaliland is staggering, but can you calculate (in litres) how big it actually is?

#### Average daily water consumption in Finland:



Kitchen



























### Why and how to save water?

Although 70% of the Earth's surface is water, 97.5% of it is sea water unfit for human consumption. Both populations and temperatures are ever-rising, meaning that the freshwater we do have is under severe pressure. According to a NASA-led study, many of the world's freshwater sources are being drained faster than they are being replenished.

Water demand globally is projected to increase by 55% between 2000 and 2050. Water is a precious resource, and water conservation is everyone's responsibility. We all need to do our part to use less of it.

Here are some water-saving techniques that you can adopt in your everyday life:

- Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth (it saves 6 litres per minute).
- Use the washing machine and dishwasher only with full loads.
- Take a shorter shower (even reducing the shower time by a few minutes saves around 15-20 litres).
- Try to consume less amounts of water-intensive food: it takes 15400 litres
  to produce 1 kg of beef, while 2500 litres is needed to produce 1 kg of rice and 287
  litres for 1 kg of potatoes.
- When you wash fresh produce, re-use that same water for your houseplants rather than filling up a watering can.
- Keep a large jug of water in the refrigerator for use whenever you need cold water. This will eliminate the need to run the tap and wait for the water to get cold.
- When boiling a kettle, fill it up only with the amount you will definitely use.
- Steam vegetables instead of boiling them.
- Do less laundry many items of clothing, such as jeans and sweaters, don't need to be washed every time you wear them.

# Answers:

	Women in Somaliland	
" •		
Y	Greenhouse:	
	Water collection pool:	
	Sisal:	
<b>M</b>	Small actions/big	
<b>V</b>	picture:	