Ground Truth Solutions is excited to announce a training series on Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) in Somalia.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!

What will the training sessions cover?
Humanitarian staff in Somalia will be invited to participate in five training sessions that will explore core accountability concepts and their application in humanitarian cash and voucher assistance (CVA). The sessions will be held in English and serve to foster a community of practice around accountability to support the practical application of AAP to CVA programmes in Somalia. Due to the uncertainty of travel and Covid-19 regulations, the sessions will be delivered online.

Who can attend?
Humanitarian staff responsible for design, implementation, monitoring or coordination of CVA programmes in Somalia are encouraged to attend. This includes those already working on accountability and those who are keen to better integrate the perspective of affected people into their work. Humanitarian organisations can nominate up to two staff members to participate. We particularly encourage national organisations to apply.

Why does this matter?
Effective AAP is key for timely and quality programme delivery, for upholding commitments to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) and Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS), and from a human rights-based approach. Ground Truth Solutions has been tracking the experiences of aid recipients in Somalia and Somaliland since 2017 and, in this time, CVA recipients have consistently requested more involvement and consultation from aid actors than they receive. Only 25% of cash and voucher recipients we spoke to as part of our data collection efforts in October 2021 feel their opinions are considered by aid providers. This falls short of the AAP objective of the 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) to increase the percentage of respondents who feel their opinions are taken into account from 37% to 50%.

What is the time commitment?
Trainings will take place on a monthly basis starting on the 13th of April 2022 (exact time to be determined). In between each monthly session, an additional 2-3 hours of time commitment will be required to complete a 10-minute follow-up survey to consolidate knowledge and provide feedback; to complete one practical follow-up task putting course content into practice; and to share any learnings from the task or questions from the course in an online group.

What are the resources and costs?
Funded by the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), the training is offered to eligible participants free of charge.
Session overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 13th, 2022</td>
<td>Introduction to the course, why AAP/feedback is important, and why it is relevant to cash providers in Somalia. Collect input from participants to refine subsequent training modules.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 11th, 2022</td>
<td>The state of AAP in Somalia, mapping key initiatives and actors, good practice examples, what we know from existing data including agencies' own feedback mechanisms and assessments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 8th, 2022</td>
<td>Course correction: how can implementing organisations react to some of the feedback from affected people? Prioritising ideas from participants and developing plans of action, ways to monitor them (who needs to do what, who needs to be brought in, and what support is required?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 20th, 2022</td>
<td>Selecting priority indicators at the individual and collective level, setting measurable targets for more accountable CVA, and agreeing on a way forward for individual agencies and the collective level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August (tbd)</td>
<td>Buffer session, Q&amp;A, and on-demand advice to participating agencies.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About Ground Truth Solutions

Ground Truth Solutions' mission is to ensure that people affected by crisis have a say in humanitarian action, from individual projects to global humanitarian reform. Our work is based on two traditions of inquiry: participatory development thinking and the business world’s emphasis on customers’ perceptions of service. Together with a range of partners, we have provided trainings in humanitarian responses all around the world.¹

The Cash Barometer project is an independent accountability mechanism that combines standardised face-to-face surveys with qualitative approaches to allow cash recipients to provide feedback on cash and voucher assistance and participate in decision making. It was launched Somalia in late 2019 and includes multiple rounds of data collection with recipients of cash and voucher assistance, analysis of their feedback, training of aid agencies and an ongoing dialogue on how feedback can inform humanitarian programming.

How do I register?

To register your interest, complete this brief survey here. Please contact Heba Ibrahim (heba@aroundtruthsolutions.org) with any questions. Admission will be done on a rolling basis, deadline for registrations is Friday, 25th March.

¹ For a recent example from Uganda, see here: https://ulearn-uganda.org/aap-training-recap-uganda-refugee-response/