

Country:

Committe: UN Women

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POSİTİON PAPER

With less than half (45.6%) of the population under the age of 15 and almost three quarters (75%) of the population under the age of 30, Somalia has a sizeable youthe and adolescent population. Men’s (15-64) labor force participation was assessed by the International Labaour Organization (ILO) to be 73.6%, while woman’s (15-64) labor force participation was projected to be 23.1%; these numbers have remained largely stable over the preceding 10 years. With 79.2% of the labor force being employed by males and 83.9% by women, agriculture is still the largest employer overall.

A raging civil war, an increase in violent extremism, and a dire humanitarian situation in Somalia during the past two decades have left the country with a poor institutional and bureaucratic infrastructure and seriously undermined social cohesion and togetherness. For many years, Somalia has had a challenging and unstable humanitarian situation due to conflict, instability, and natural catastrophes such droughts, cyclones, floods, desert locust, and COVID-19. One of the greatest groups of internally displaced people (IDPs) in the world lives in Somalia, where evictions, the drought, fear of violence, the battle with al-Shabab, and dread of natural disasters all contributed to the displacement of people. In 2022, it is predicted that 7.7 million Somali women, men, and children would need humanitarian aid.

In Somalia, women's and girls' lives are difficult. Somalia has one of the worst rates of mother and newborn mortality, ranks fourth lowest internationally for gender equality, and has a high prevalence of early marriage. The Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) rate among women aged 15 to 49 is high, at 99.2%, according to the Somalia Health and Demographic Survey (SHDS), which has both immediate and long-term physiological, sexual, and psychological effects. One of the most pervasive forms of human rights abuse, particularly for women, is sexual and gender-based violence (GBV). The danger of SGBV has increased for women and girls after the Covid-19 epidemic. The Federal Parliament presented the comprehensive Sexual Offenses Law in 2018 to address some of the issues (SOB),which, if enacted during the 11th Parliament, will provide protection for sexual assault victims and would be a major step in ending Somalia's culture of impunity for GBV.