



Somaliland





Place: where is this and what is it like?

Where is this case study located? (country, region, continent etc)

*Daami is a small administrative area in the suburbs of Hargeisa. Hargeisa is capital of the autonomous but unrecognised Republic of Somaliland in Somalia. Somalia is a country in the Horn of Africa bordered by Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya. [NOTE: the status of Somaliland is explained in more detail in **In the Frame: Somaliland**]*

What is it like here? (physical, political, economic, social)

*There are roads, and a city. It is dry and dusty.
Many people don't have access to clean water.
There is inequality - rich and poor.
There are people doing business.*

What can you find out about this place?

*There has been a drought since 2020.
There are about 2,000 households. It is a diverse community.
Most residents are Somali who previously lived in Ethiopian refugee camps due to political instability, before arriving in Hargeisa in the late nineties. Others are from local neighbourhoods who moved because of the rising cost of rent. Daami is a unique place because its population is very diverse (Gaboye and Isaaq people mainly).
The land is privately owned, and people rent homes or space. Occasionally there are land disputes amongst the community. Some homes are permanent and made of stone and bricks, whereas others are huts made of wooden sticks and iron-sheets.*



How might it feel to live in this place?

*Look at the facial expressions - particularly the eyes to see if they show how people might be feeling.
The water also expresses feelings of yearning and frustration - feelings of being 'so close and yet so far'.
There may be anxiety and stress caused from drinking unclean water. Stress is also passed from managers and clients to those working for them.
Children may feel unwell or pick up anxiety from those around them. People feel thirsty. Those selling water may feel empowered and grateful.*



Issues: what is happening here and why?

What are the issues here?

*There are questions about ownership of water, the role of water companies and who holds the power.
Unequal access to clean water and wasting of available water.
Water costs and sanitation/hygiene due to Daami dam and a risk of potential flooding of the dam.
Other local issues include land conflict, uncertain employment/livelihood, minor crimes at night.*

Why might these issues be important?

*Homes are at risk of flooding.
When clean water does not reach everyone, those without suffer financially, physically (from poor health) and emotionally (stress).*

How might the issues create tensions?

*Water company owners putting pressure on drivers not to waste water.
Clients putting pressure on drivers to make their deliveries quickly.
Those with money being given more water than they need (meaning less available for others).
Poorer members of society not having enough clean water and becoming sick from drinking unsafe water.
Increasingly high prices for clean water in part caused by higher fuel prices to transport the water.
Corruption and mismanagement meaning formal piped water systems are not working.
Roads are bumpy and 'uncared for' making distribution of water and other resources difficult.
Dry climate ('This land also yearns for me') Somalia/Somaliland is generally arid and semi-arid with two rainfall seasons. Since 2020 the Horn of Africa has been experiencing a drought.*



What if water were not available to you?

*Practical: thirsty, personal hygiene, diet (cooking), tired (having to find water somewhere else), headaches, concentration, energy.
Feelings: worried, anxious, angry, frustrated, despairing, unfair.*



People: who is involved?

Who are the different stakeholders involved?

From the **Stakeholder Cards**, learners might identify some of the following:

Local Government, Estate managers, Women, Children, Men, Families with additional needs, Local vendors, NGOs, Grassroots community organisations.

Who is affected?

Badria and her family.

The Hargeisawis.

Drivers - put under pressure from water companies.

Who is responsible?

Government, Water companies, wealthy people (taking more than their share), those who waste water.

Water board failing to manage the piped systems.

Drought in the region linked to climatic change and so the responsibility of wider global community.

How might people be differently impacted? Are some more vulnerable than others?

The most vulnerable people in society suffer because of water mismanagement, corruption and high costs. Without access to clean water, families resort to drinking water from streams, lakes and rivers which carries risk of disease. We know that when resources are scarce, this creates anxiety. People spend energy trying to find or access their basic needs which reduces the time available to work, to look for employment and to take care of their home and families.



Who do you most connect with? What would you want to ask them?



Solutions: how is the situation being addressed?

How do people respond to the challenges they face?

*Those who are able to pay for their water buy it from water sellers.
Those who have water are selling it to others.
Badria and families like hers are sometimes left with no choice but to drink unclean water.*

Are there any solutions to the situation?

*There could be limits on how much water people can buy to ensure there is enough to go around.
The water company could invest in the infrastructure so that water can be more accessible to everyone.*

What is needed to make the solution possible?

*Government and water company taking responsibility for getting the water into the pipes that are already there.
Grassroots organisations helping.*



If you lived here what would a solution mean to you?

Peace of mind, improved health, save time and money, happier.



Why might being involved in a solution be important?

Empowerment, confidence, resilience, personal wellbeing, self-esteem, dignity.