



2024

# SOMALIA **DISASTER** RESILIENCE CONFERENCE

06<sup>th</sup>-07<sup>th</sup> November, 2024

Organized by



SoDMA



MOGADISHU UNIVERSITY



# Conference Book





## Editors

- Dr. Mustafa Mohamed Ali
- Dr. Abas Omar Mohamed Ali
- Abdishukur Mohamed Muhumud
- Dini Ali Ahmed
- Zakaria Omar Moallim



## Jointly Published by:

- Disaster Research and Training Centre, Somali disaster management agency (SoDMA).

Contact address : Aden Adde Airport road

Website : [www.sodma.gov.so](http://www.sodma.gov.so)

Email : [Communications@sodma.gov.so](mailto:Communications@sodma.gov.so)

&

- Centre for Crisis and Disaster Management, Mogadishu University (MU)

Contact address : Km4 - Mogadishu - Somalia

Website : [www.mu.edu.so](http://www.mu.edu.so)

Email : [info@mu.edu.so](mailto:info@mu.edu.so) / [ccdm@mu.edu.so](mailto:ccdm@mu.edu.so)



## Disclaimer:

This document may be freely reviewed, reproduced or translated, in part or whole, purely on non-profit basis for humanitarian and Disaster Risk Reduction with permission from the SoDMA, MU and with due credits to the author. Receiving information and suggestions on its adaptation or use in actual training situations are welcome.



The document can be downloaded from <http://www.sdrc.so>



## Overall Supervision, Directions and Guidance

- **Abdullahi Mohamed Abdi**, Director of Disaster Research and Training Centre, SoDMA  
Email : [research.training@sodma.gov.so](mailto:research.training@sodma.gov.so)
- **Mohamed Farah Raage**, Director of Centre for Crisis and Disaster Management, MU.  
Email : [mfraage@mu.edu.so](mailto:mfraage@mu.edu.so)

## Conference Managing Committee and facilitators



**Dr Ahmed**  
Abdi Adan  
**Conference Chair**



**Mr. Mohamed**  
Ali Omar  
**Deputy Chair**



**Abdullahi**  
Mohamed Abdi  
**Member**



**Mr. Mohamed**  
Farah Raage  
**Member**



**Eng Ali**  
Hussein Mohamed  
**Member**



**Dr Mustafa**  
Mohamed Ali  
**Member**



**Mohamed**  
Osman Alim  
**Member**



**Dr Abas**  
Omar Mohamed  
**Member**



**Mr. Aweys**  
Mohamed Ali  
**Member**



**Aweis**  
Abdi Gani  
**Member**

**Lead Rapporteurs: Abdullahi Mohamed Abdi  
& Mohamed Farah Raage**

# INTRODUCTION

Somali Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA) and Mogadishu University have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to establish a framework for collaboration and cooperation in the areas of disaster management, research, training, and knowledge sharing. A brief signing ceremony was held at SoDMA HQ on Thursday February 8 2024. Through the MOU, the institutions co-hosted a two-day Somalia Disaster Resilience Conference (SDRC),

Four months before the SDRC, researchers are invited to submit research papers on a particular theme; guidelines and deadlines are shared through social media. Accepted papers are presented during the Conference, and the respective authors are presented their studies. The theme for SDRC 2024, “building disaster resilient communities” was organized from November 6 to November 7 by the Disaster Research and Training Centre, SoDMA and Centre for Crisis and Disaster Management, MU with the support of Plan International.

Somalia’s susceptibility to droughts and floods can be attributed to its semi-arid climate and variable rainfall patterns. Prolonged droughts exacerbate food and water shortages, affecting agriculture and livestock, which are essential to the livelihoods of many in Somalia. Conversely, heavy rainfall and inadequate infrastructure lead to flooding, causing damage to homes, displacing populations, and increasing the risk of waterborne diseases. Recently, climate change impacts have led to an increased frequency of extreme weather events such as famine, drought and floods, which have led to an increase in natural disasters

Hence, The Somalia National Development Plan (2020-2024) emphasizes the need for robust disaster risk management (DRM) as a foundation for resilience and long-term progress. To address these priorities, the Somali Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA) and Mogadishu University with the financial support from Plan International co-hosted a two-day Somalia Disaster Resilience Conference (SDRC). This conference aimed to establish a strong platform for collaboration, research, and innovative approaches to DRM. Specifically, it sought to identify structural barriers impeding community resilience, assess the effectiveness of existing programs, support policymakers with evidence-based insights, and foster knowledge exchange among DRM experts, academics, and practitioners.

The conference gathered a diverse group of participants, including government officials such as the Minister of Energy and Water Resources, Education, Culture and Higher Education, Family Affairs and Human Rights Development, and Interior, Federal Affairs, and Reconciliation. The event also included representatives from the Somalia Chamber of Commerce, university lecturers and students, media, and professionals from various sectors. Highlights of the conference included research presentations and engaging plenary discussions, which provided participants with in-depth analyses of DRM issues, encouraging collaborative dialogue on innovative solutions for resilience building. This gathering of minds created an enriching environment for discussions on building resilient communities, advancing policy frameworks, and driving Somalia's progress in disaster resilience and sustainable development.

## **Overarching Theme: Building Disaster Resilient Communities**

# KEY OBJECTIVES

The SDRC seeks to create a robust platform to address the growing need for collaboration, research, and innovative solutions in DRM. Specifically, the conference aims to:



**Identify and address** structural barriers hindering community resilience-building across Somalia.



**Evaluate and monitor** the progress and effectiveness of existing resilience programs and initiatives.



**Furnish policymakers** with evidence-based research, facilitating informed discussions and sound policy recommendations.



**Promote knowledge** exchange and collaboration among DRM experts, academics, and practitioners to develop innovative solutions.

## AREAS OF RESEARCH SUBMISSIONS

We invited scholars, researchers, and field practitioners to submit research papers on critical themes affecting Somalia's disaster resilience. Topics include, but are not limited to:

- Natural hazards such as drought, floods, and tropical cyclones.
- The socialization of responsibility for risk and resilience, disaster governance, and the concept of adaptive resilience.
- Disaster-induced migration and resettlement: Challenges and Solutions.
- Technological innovations for rapid needs assessment in disaster zones.
- The role of cultural heritage in community resilience and identity.
- Socio-cultural dynamics of disaster aftermath and preparedness; urban disaster risk and resilience.
- Health risks associated with disasters.
- The impact of cash transfer programs on resilience building.

## OPENING REMARKS

### Remarks

H.E. Ali Yusuf Ali Hosh, Minister of Interior, Federal Affairs, and Reconciliation, officially opened the conference, expressing gratitude to the Somali Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA) and Mogadishu University for their coordination of the event. He emphasized the significance of the conference, which brought together participants from diverse fields to discuss critical issues in disaster management.

Reflecting on his own experiences, Minister Hosh recounted historic droughts that have impacted Somalia, such as the Hawaara drought of 1923, the Ari Gaba drought in 1934, and the Dabadheer drought of 1974. He acknowledged the many challenges Somalia has faced over the past 30 years, but also highlighted the country's growing expertise in disaster management, positioning Somalia to now pursue sustainable solutions. In his conclusion, the minister made a strong commitment to collaborate closely with SoDMA and Mogadishu University on any issue related to disaster risk management. He assured that his ministry would support efforts to strengthen disaster resilience and enhance Somalia's preparedness for future challenges.



**Minister, H.E Ali Yusuf Ali Hosh**

Ministry of Interior, Federal  
Affairs and Reconciliation

## OPENING CEREMONY

### Remarks

The Somali Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA) Commissioner remarked that the Somali Disaster Resilience Conference is the first of its kind to be held in the country and emphasized that it will not be a one-time event but an annual platform. He highlighted the importance of drawing on the insights and dedicated efforts of Somali scholars and experts in disaster risk reduction and climate change studies. The Commissioner urged all participants to engage actively and contribute their knowledge and expertise, stressing that collective efforts are essential in building a safer and more resilient future for Somalia.



**Commissioner, Mohamud Moalim Abdulle**

**Somali Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA)**

## OPENING CEREMONY

### Remarks

The President of the Mogadishu University, Dr. Ibrahim Mohamed Mursal, stated that the conference is the result of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed between SoDMA and the Mogadishu University one year ago to conduct research on the challenges facing Somalia. He noted that while no one is immune to these challenges, the saying “knowledge and collaboration yield results” holds true. Dr. Mursal emphasized that Somalia is not inferior to the rest of the world and must believe in its ability to achieve its goals without waiting for others to act. He assured that the Mogadishu University is committed to educating and producing students and researchers in the field of disaster management to contribute to the country’s resilience efforts.



**Dr. Ibrahim Mohamed Mursal**

President of the Mogadishu  
University

## OPENING CEREMONY

### Remarks

Speaker Sadia delivered a speech emphasizing the importance of legislative action in times of crisis. She stated, “While speaking on behalf of the parliament, I assure you that we will expedite the approval of any legislation related to disasters as soon as it is presented to us. We recognize the urgent need for effective measures to address the challenges posed by natural disasters and internal displacement. Our commitment is to ensure that necessary laws are enacted swiftly to provide support and relief to those affected. Together, we must work diligently to strengthen our response and build resilience within our communities.”



**H.E Sadia Yassin**

Deputy Speaker House of the  
People of the Federal Republic  
of Somali

## OPENING REMARKS

### Remarks

H.E. Farah Sheikh Abdulqadir, Minister of Education, Culture, and Higher Education, remarked on behalf of the Ministry of Education and the entire education sector, expressing their readiness to address matters related to disaster prevention and management. He emphasized the ministry's commitment to enhancing knowledge and raising scientific awareness within the Somali community.

The Minister shared his personal experience from 33 years ago when he was working with multinational teams during a crisis. He expressed his dissatisfaction that the same challenges persist because of ongoing disasters. The minister suggested that; a portion of the national budget and taxes be allocated to disaster management, given the high frequency of disasters in the country. Disaster management knowledge and skills be developed, focusing both on preventive measures and on response methods during disasters.



**Minister, H.E. Farah Sheikh Abdulqadir**

Ministry of Education,  
Culture, And Higher  
Education

## OPENING CEREMONY

### Remarks

The minister remarked that the Ministry of Family Affairs and Human Rights is leading efforts in preparing and organizing activities aimed at reducing disaster risks and building resilient communities in Somalia. He highlighted that the country has faced various challenges that have hindered societal progress. The Minister also emphasized that the family is the basic unit of society, noting that the focus should be on finding sustainable solutions to strengthen society.



**Minister, H.E Bashir Mohamed  
Jaamac (Goobe)**

**Ministry of Women and Human  
Rights Development**

## OPENING CEREMONY

### Remarks

Sadia Allin, the Country Director of PLAN International, expressed great joy in participating in the important conference, emphasizing its significance for both the people and the country. She noted that a review of educational institutions, particularly universities, reveals a growing understanding and support from the federal government. Sadia highlighted the crucial role that universities play in guiding the country across various sectors. She stressed that Somalia must adapt to the recurring disasters it faces and assured that PLAN International will continue working towards building communities capable of living with these challenges.



**CD, H.E Sadia Allin**

**PLAN international**

## OPENING CEREMONY

### Remarks

As a union of Somali universities, we will take part in putting into action all the outcomes from this conference, and we will actively support the ongoing efforts that are already in progress.”



**Dr. Mohamed Mohamud Hassan**

Chair of Universities Association  
in Somalia and President of the  
Benadir University

## OPENING CEREMONY

### Remarks

Dr. Galambe, emphasized the importance of supporting Somalia's large youth population, noting that young people are deeply affected by the challenges the country faces. He urged businesspeople who have been successful to increase their efforts in supporting educational initiatives for the youth, to help create a well-educated community. Dr. Galambe stated that Somalia faces many recurring disasters, and the only way to overcome these challenges is through the education of the community.



**Dr. Cabdiraxmaan Cabdullahi**

Deputy Commissioner Chamber  
of Commerce

## OPENING CEREMONY

### Remarks

MP Nuur, remarked that Somalia faces the dual challenges of both floods and droughts, describing them as a misfortune that the country is currently grappling with. He stressed the importance of focusing on finding sustainable solutions to these disasters and emphasized that addressing these challenges should not be left to any single group, whether citizens, state, or federal government, but should be a collective effort.



**MP, Nur Ahmed Diriye**

Deputy chair of committee of  
the interior and security

## OPENING CEREMONY

### Remarks

Minister Bidhaan expressed his appreciation for the discussions on recurring disasters, resilience building, and support for affected communities. He highlighted the critical challenges posed by both floods and severe droughts, which have led to significant economic decline, insecurity, and new displacements. The Minister acknowledged the efforts made by his ministry, including drilling many wells, but noted that the country still faces a serious water shortage due to flawed strategies. He emphasized that this conference would enhance their ongoing efforts and bring forward new ideas for more effective management of the disasters that continuously impact Somalia.



**Minister, H.E. Abdullahi Bidhaan**

Ministry of energy and water  
resources of federal government

## OPENING CEREMONY

### Remarks

Senator Deqa remarked that the conference comes at a crucial time for Somalia. She urged the Federal Government to increase its support for SoDMA, emphasizing the need for greater backing than ever before. Additionally, she encouraged the government to extend its support to the country's universities, particularly Mogadishu University, which has begun conducting research and writing reports on finding solutions to the ongoing disasters in Somalia.



**Senator, Deqa Hassan Hussein**

Chair of committee of the interior, Reconciliation and FMS relation

## OPENING CEREMONY

### Remarks

Director Abdulahi remarked the objectives of the conference. He noted that four months before the SDRC, we invited scholars, researchers, and field practitioners to submit research papers on critical themes affecting Somalia's disaster resilience, guidelines and deadlines are shared through social media. He highlighted the Somali Disaster Resilience Conference would showcase 20 research papers and foster scientific discussions designed to support Somalia's goals and strengthen resilience in mitigating the adverse effects of disasters.



**Abdulahi Mohamed Abdi**

Director for Disaster Research and Training Center at SoDMA

# **Conference Presenters**

## DEYR POST-DISASTER NEEDS ASSESSMENT (PDNA)

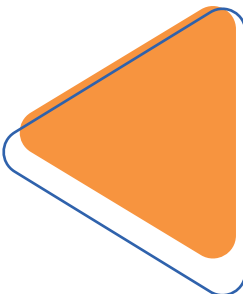
### Summary

Director of the National Emergency Operation Center presented His research paper titled “ Deyr Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA)”. he highlighted That 2023 Deyr floods in Somalia, which affected 2.48 million people and caused significant damages estimated at \$134.1 million, prompted the Rapid Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (R-PDNA) to evaluate the impact across 10 sectors—covering 16 flood-affected districts—leading to key findings that highlighted the most affected areas, particularly agriculture and livestock, with recovery needs estimated at \$250.2 million, and culminating in recommendations to strengthen data collection and enhance coordination mechanisms among federal and international partners.



**Hassan Abdulkadir Isse**

Managing Director of the  
National Emergency Operation  
Centre at SoDMA



# IMPACT OF DISASTER ON CHILDREN’S EDUCATION IN SOMALIA

## Summary

Prof. Mohamud Omar Adam, Chairman of the Somali Teachers Association, presented his research paper titled “Impact of Disaster on Children’s Education in Somalia.” His presentation shed light on the significant challenges that disasters, both natural and human-caused, have on providing education to Somali children. The focus of his research was to identify these challenges and propose potential solutions. Prof. Adam emphasized how disasters have severely disrupted access to education and diminished children’s engagement in learning. His research called for the urgent development of comprehensive policies aimed at advancing education and providing psychosocial support to children. Additionally, he highlighted the importance of training teachers to recognize trauma and distress in students, which is essential for addressing the emotional and psychological impacts of disasters.



**Prof. Mohamud Omar Adam**  
Chairman of the Somali Teachers Association

# TECHNOLOGIES ENABLING SITUATIONAL AWARENESS AND ASSESSMENT DURING DISASTER RESPONSE: A LITERATURE ANALYSIS FROM 2014 – 2024

## Summary

Dr. Abdulkadir Jeilani, a lecturer at Mogadishu University's Faculty of Computer Science & IT, presented a paper titled "Technologies Enabling Situational Awareness and Assessment During Disaster Response: A Literature Analysis (2014–2024)." The study highlighted the rising frequency of global disasters, citing 378 events in 2023, surpassing the 20-year average of 337 annually. Over the past decade, disasters affected 1.6 billion people and caused \$1.7 trillion in damages. Dr. Jeilani emphasized the transformative role of technologies such as AI, machine learning, and big data analytics in improving disaster response through enhanced situational awareness and real-time data processing. He recommended investing in communication infrastructure, utilizing social media and crowdsourcing, integrating advanced analytics, conducting regular training, and exploring predictive and autonomous systems for future resilience.



**Dr. Abdulkadir Jeilani**

Lecturer at the Faculty of  
Computer Science & IT of  
Mogadishu University

# SOMALI COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO EDUCATION IN EMERGENCIES FOLLOWING THE COLLAPSE OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT IN 1991: A CASE STUDY OF FPENS'S COMMUNITY-DRIVEN INITIATIVES

## Summary

Professor Said Abubakar, Dean of the Postgraduate Program at Mogadishu University, presented on “Somali Community Resilience and Response to Education in Emergencies Following the Collapse of the Central Government in 1991,” highlighting how the collapse led to instability that undermined essential services, prompting Somali communities to adopt innovative strategies to sustain education amid ongoing conflicts and emergencies, with the FPENS network significantly increasing school enrollment and gender balance from 1999 to 2023, demonstrating the community’s resilience and the critical role of private schools, while emphasizing the need for continued investment and collaboration with government and international partners to enhance educational outcomes as Somalia recovers.



**PROF. SAID ABUBAKAR SHEIKH**

Dean of Postgraduate Programs  
and Research at Mogadishu  
University

## HOW EDUCATION ENHANCES AWARENESS AND MITIGATES THE EFFECTS OF NATURAL DISASTERS

### Summary

Yonis Abdullahi Hirei, Director of the Centre for Community Service & Continuing Education at Mogadishu University, presented “How Education Enhances Awareness and Mitigates the Effects of Natural Disasters”. emphasizing that national disaster risk reduction measures are insufficient in low-income countries like Somalia, where proactive household measures are crucial to reducing fatalities, injuries, and property damage. His study found that schools and higher education institutions play a vital role in raising awareness about natural disasters, as education enhances cognitive skills and access to information, with formal, non-formal, and informal education positively influencing disaster preparedness. The study concludes that the increasing frequency of natural disasters necessitates a shift from recovery to risk management, highlighting the vulnerability of children and the need for schools to foster disaster awareness.



# THE ROLE OF ENHANCING THE RULE OF LAW IN DISASTER PREVENTION

## Summary

Dr. Mohamed Nasir Abdi, a lecturer at Mogadishu University, presented his paper “The Role of Enhancing the Rule of Law in Disaster Prevention,” emphasizing the need for a legal framework to protect rights during disasters, improve accountability, facilitate coordinated responses, and encourage community participation, while recommending the strengthening of disaster management bodies, accountability for environmental law violations, promotion of environmental awareness, and integration of environmental education.



**Dr. Mohamed Nasir Abdi**

lecturer at Mogadishu  
University

# APPLYING FLOODPLAIN ZONE PLANS AND POLICIES TO BELEDWEYNE, SOMALIA: WHAT WORKS AND WHAT DOESN'T?

## Summary

Abdulrahman M. Dirie, a senior advisor at the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of Somalia (MoECC), presented his paper titled “Applying Floodplain Zone Plans and Policies to Beledweyne, Somalia: What Works and What Doesn’t?” at the Somali Disaster Resilience Conference. He highlighted that floods pose significant risks globally, causing substantial economic, social, and environmental damage, particularly in cities like Beledweyne, where frequent and severe flooding necessitates effective floodplain zoning plans and policies to reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience. His analysis included critical data on rainfall trends and historical water levels in Beledweyne, revealing an increase in rainfall projections from 1960 to 2100, which could lead to more frequent flooding. He recommended implementing **detailed floodplain mapping and risk assessment** to better address these challenges.



**ABDULRAHMAN MOHAMUD DIRIE**

a senior advisor at the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of Somalia (MoECC)

# DISASTER-INDUCED MIGRATION AND RESETTLEMENT IMPLEMENTING FEMINIST AND GENDER-INFORMED DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT (DRM) STRATEGIES AS A SOLUTION

## Summary

Nasima Abukar, a Specialist in Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Consultant, presented her paper titled “A Feminist Reframing of Disaster Risk Management: Mitigating SGBV Risks for Displaced Women and Girls in Somalia.” Her research explores how disaster-induced migration disproportionately affects Somali women and girls, highlighting the necessity for transformative and sustainable gender-sensitive disaster risk management strategies. Her findings indicate several critical issues, including inadequate security infrastructure, exposure to gender-based violence, disruption of traditional support systems, a lack of protection mechanisms in remote camps, limited access to livelihoods, and the exclusion of women from decision-making processes. She concluded that it is essential to address these unique challenges faced by women and girls to effectively mitigate SGBV risks.



**NASIMA ABUKAR**

Specialist in Gender-Based  
Violence (GBV) and  
Consultant

# DISASTER-INDUCED MIGRATION AND RESETTLEMENT IN SOMALIA: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

## Summary

Maryan Diini Maxamed, Administrative Officer at Mogadishu University, presented her paper, “Disaster-Induced Migration and Resettlement in Somalia: Challenges and Solutions.” She emphasized that recurring natural disasters, such as droughts, floods, and locust infestations, combined with prolonged conflicts and socio-political instability, have caused widespread forced migration and internal displacement in Somalia. Her analysis identified approximately 3.45 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), 155,710 returnees, and 9.05 million residents across 17 regions as of January 2024. Notably, 84% of IDPs reside in urban areas within around 4,000 sites, concentrated in Benadir, Bay, and Gedo. To address these challenges, she recommended strengthening coordination, enhancing local governance, securing land tenure through transparent processes, and building community-led response teams to improve disaster management.



**MARIAN DINI MOHAMED**

Administrative Officer at  
Mogadishu University

# CRISIS-INDUCED SOCIOECONOMIC VULNERABILITIES ON FOOD SECURITY IN SOMALIA: SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE

## Summary

Dr. Abas Omar, Director of the Center for Research Excellence at Mogadishu University, presented his paper titled “Crisis-Induced Socioeconomic Vulnerabilities on Food Security in Somalia: Sustainable Strategies for Disaster Resilience,” highlighting that drought is the primary contributor to internal displacement, with urban areas hosting most IDPs, and recommending the development of social safety nets, promotion of climate-resilient agriculture, improvement of infrastructure in displacement camps, incentivization of private sector investment in food systems, and implementation of nutrition and food security education programs.



**DR. ABAS OMAR MOHAMED**

Director of the Center for Research Excellence (CRE) at Mogadishu University



# ASSESSMENT BASED SEASONAL RAINFALL IMPACT FOR DROUGHTS

## Summary

Dr. Eng. Abdirahman Ismail Dhaqane, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at Mogadishu University, presented his paper “Flood Susceptibility Mapping in Somalia: Seasonal Rainfall Impact for Droughts,” which investigated meteorological drought frequency and impacts in the Juba and Shebelle River basins using the Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI), emphasizing the importance of flood susceptibility mapping for identifying vulnerable regions and informing the development of river master plans, land-use plans, and flood-protection strategies to mitigate flash flood damage in Somalia’s southern regions.



**DR. ABDIRAHMAN ISMAIL DHAQANE**  
Dean of Engineering  
at Mogadishu  
University

# DISASTER-INDUCED MIGRATION AND RESETTLEMENT: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS IN SOMALIA: A CASE STUDY OF THE BANADIR REGION

## Summary

Mohamed Hassan Mohamed, Agricultural Census Support Specialist at the Somali National Bureau of Statistics, presented his paper titled “Disaster-Induced Migration and Resettlement: Challenges and Solutions in Somalia—A Case Study of the Benadir Region,” highlighting that the region faces increasing challenges from climate-related hazards, particularly droughts and floods, leading to forced displacement and the emergence of sprawling informal settlements that exacerbate public health risks and precarious living conditions. His study emphasizes the urgent need for targeted interventions to support displaced households and recommends facilitating safe resettlement and return, promoting policy development for resettlement, and strengthening disaster preparedness.



# THE ROLE OF MEDIA IN DRIVING ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE ACTION: A CASE STUDY OF MOGADISHU, SOMALIA

## Summary

Abdishakur Abdirahman Daha, a researcher, presented his paper titled “The Role of Media in Driving Climate Action: A Case Study of Mogadishu, Somalia,” emphasizing the critical role of media in promoting climate action through diverse participant engagement, media preference analysis, content evaluation, and addressing the challenges faced by the media. He proposed that providing comprehensive training to journalists would enhance their skills in environmental education, ultimately empowering them to more effectively inform and mobilize the community around climate issues.





# IMPROVING DROUGHT AND FLOODING RESILIENCE AND RECOVERY IN SOMALIA THROUGH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLANNING

## Summary

Dr. Sharif Osman, PhD, from the Institute of Peace, Water, and Environment at Mogadishu University, presented his research paper titled “Improving Drought and Flooding Resilience and Recovery in Somalia through Emergency Preparedness Planning.” In his introduction, he highlighted issues such as overfishing, deforestation, toxic dumping, and the charcoal trade, which contribute to environmental pollution and result in sluggish disaster response and recovery in Somalia. He concluded that establishing an emergency preparedness center would enable communities to enhance their resilience to disasters, improve overall emergency preparedness capabilities, and streamline the recovery process.



**DR. SHARIFF OSMAN**  
Director of the Institute of Peace, Water, and Environment at Mogadishu University

# THE ROLE OF RIPARIAN ZONES IN ENHANCING FLOOD RESILIENCE IN SOMALIA'S RIVERINE AREAS

## Summary

Abdulaziz Mohamed Abdullahi, PhD, from the African Research Centre in London, presented his paper, “The Role of Riparian Zones in Enhancing Flood Resilience in Somalia’s Riverine Areas.” He highlighted riparian zones—vegetated areas along riverbanks—as crucial buffers for ecosystems, particularly for the Juba and Shabelle rivers, vital for agriculture, water, and livelihoods. Dr. Abdullahi discussed threats such as deforestation, unsustainable agriculture, urbanization, and climate change, all exacerbating flood risks. He emphasized the importance of riparian zone restoration as a nature-based solution to enhance flood resilience by improving water absorption, biodiversity, and floodwater management. Recommendations included sustainable land practices, community engagement, climate adaptation, economic incentives for reforestation, robust governance frameworks, and improved urban planning and infrastructure development.



**Abdulaziz Mohamed Abdullahi**

Founder and director of the African Research Centre in London

# **Panel Discussions**

## **PANEL DISCUSSION 1: BUILDING CAPACITIES AND RESILIENCE THROUGH EDUCATION, TECHNOLOGY, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

This panel, moderated by Dr. Mahdi Musse Hassan, featured four panelists: Prof. Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed, Director General of the East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD); Mustaf Yasin Sheikh, Director General of NCA; Dr. Mohamud Ahmed Jimale, lecturer and Director of the Jamhuriya Center for Graduate Studies at Jamhuriya University of Science and Technology; and Dr. Abdullahi Khalif, NDC Coordinator. The discussion focused on “Building Capacities and Resilience through Education, Technology, and Community Engagement with some of key questions posed by the moderator: “Are there efforts being made by SoDMA and the Mogadishu university to address the recurring floods?” and “What solutions can be implemented to prevent the recurring floods?” Each panelist shared insights into these pressing issues.



## Panelist 1



**Prof. Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed**

Director General of the East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD)

Prof. Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed opened by underscoring the importance of collaboration between SoDMA and Mogadishu University to tackle climate change and enhance disaster resilience. He emphasized that partnership efforts should include awareness-raising workshops, noting, “It is essential for the people and the government to work together and unite in the effort against the existing challenges.”

## Panelist 2



**Dr. Abdullahi Khalif**

NDC Coordinator

Dr. Abdullahi Khalif highlighted that while the country has developed plans to address climate change, the lack of funding for research hinders progress. He stated, “Without funding for research, nothing can be accomplished. If our universities do not produce genuine research, we will not be able to escape the disasters occurring in our country or learn valuable lessons from them.”

## Panelist 3



**Dr. Mohamud Ahmed Jimale**

lecturer and Director at  
Jamhuriya University of  
Science and Technology;

Dr. Mohamud Ahmed Jimale emphasized the need for modern tools, such as artificial intelligence (AI), to reduce risks and improve disaster prediction. He added that these tools could enhance communication systems, aligning Somalia's technology infrastructure more closely with that of neighboring countries.

## Panelist 4



**Mustaf Yasin Sheikh**

Director General of NCA

Mustaf Yasin Sheikh discussed the development of a national strategic plan to ensure accuracy in emergency information. He stressed the importance of a robust communication infrastructure for rapid disaster response and suggested that major companies could support disaster management efforts by providing advanced technologies to improve data collection, aiding effective decision-making.

## PANEL DISCUSSION 2: ADDRESSING THE COMPLEXITIES OF DISASTER-INDUCED MIGRATION AND ITS IMPACT ON COMMUNITIES

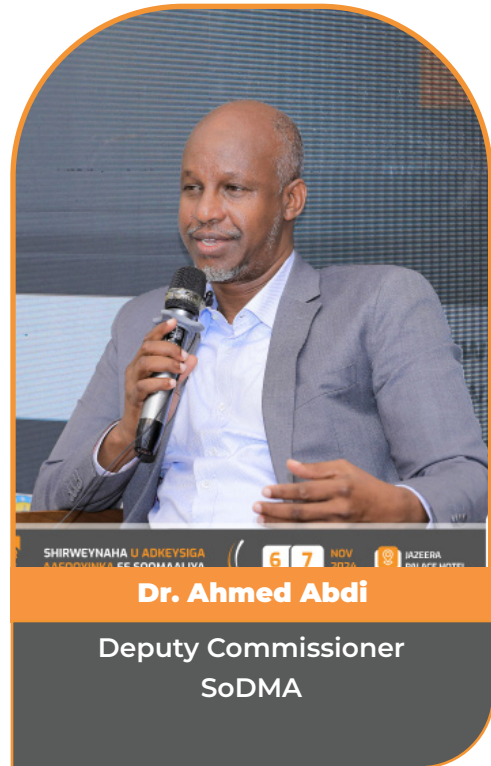
Moderator: Dr. Mustafa Mohamed Ali

Panelist: Dr. Ahmed Abdi Adan, Deputy Commissioner SoDMA, Abdinasir Hashi Senior legal advisor from Immigration and Citizenship Agency, and Abdishakur Abib Hayir, Senior Migration Advisor to the Office of special presidential Envoy for Migration, Returnees and children's Rights (OSPE). The key Questions: What is the role of the government in the resilience of displaced persons? What causes recurring droughts? Do you have a plan for the disasters resulting from conflicts, and how can we prevent them and assist the affected people? What plans do you have regarding the funds allocated to displaced persons? Responses:



## Panelist 1

Dr. Ahmed Abdi Adan took the microphone to address the questions posed. He began by emphasizing that our country and environment are significantly affected by the issue of internal displacement, which is further exacerbated by ongoing conflicts and persistent droughts. He noted that without a solid system in place, effectively addressing this situation seems unlikely. Dr. Adan advocated for a genuine strategy for relocating displaced individuals, highlighting that the



feasibility of returning them is extremely challenging without thorough research. He stressed the importance of considering the economic support available to these individuals to facilitate their recovery, especially as SoDMA strives to rebuild itself. Additionally, he pointed out that whenever a major crisis occurs, the youth are called upon to serve their country with all their strength. He reminded the audience that, according to the law establishing SoDMA, volunteers will be essential during difficult times or disasters that the country faces.

## Panelist 2



DR. AHMED ABDI ADAN  
Deputy Commissioner, SoDMA

2024 SHIRWEYNAHA U ADKEYSIGA  
AAFOOYINKA EE SOOMAALIYA

6 7 NOV 2024

**Abdinasir Hashi**  
Senior legal advisor from  
Immigration and  
Citizenship Agency

Abdinasir Hashi, As the immigration team, we work both locally and internationally to establish procedures aimed at safeguarding the Somali generation. We have a plan to collaborate with the SoDMA agency on general humanitarian issues.

## Panelist 3



AB. JAMAL HAMED HASSAN  
Director of the IGAD centre of excellence for climate adaptation and environmental protection

AHMED SAID MOHAMED  
Director of Immigration and Citizenship Agency

2024 SHIRWEYNAHA U ADKEYSIGA  
AAFOOYINKA EE SOOMAALIYA

6 7 NOV 2024

**Abdishakur Abib Hayir**  
Senior Migration Advisor to the  
Office of special presidential  
Envoy for Migration, Returnees  
and children's Rights (OSPE)

Abdishakur Abib Hayir, the issues of recurring conflicts in the country are caused by climate change, which has further exacerbated the situation overall. In reality, the funds allocated to affected individuals are not effective; our goal is to return them to their homes so they can rebuild their lives.

## **PANEL DISCUSSION 3: ENHANCING RESILIENCE THROUGH STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS: INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO DISASTER RISK FINANCING**

Moderated by Prof. Abdi Ahmed (Baafo) and featuring panelists Hon. Abdiqafar Elmi Hange, Deputy Minister of Finance; Hassan Abdikadir Isse, Managing Director of the National Emergency Operation Centre at SoDMA; and Mr. Ahmed Yusuf, Climate Change Expert.

One of the Key Questions to Panelists included as follows; What is planned regarding the approved budget for disaster resilience? What is the collaboration like between you and the donors to address the current state of instability due to disasters? What are the climate-related challenges that our country faces in terms of disasters?



## Panelist 2



The first responses took Hon. Abdiqafar Elmi Hange stated that the Ministry of Finance plans to ensure the approved budget includes support for the SoDMA Agency, which is dedicated to enhancing disaster resilience.

## Panelist 3



Hassan Abdulkadir Isse emphasized the strong collaboration with donors that involves joint assessments before providing assistance and relief to affected populations.

## Panelist 1

Mr. Ahmed Yusuf highlighted significant climate challenges facing the country, such as air pollution exacerbated by developed nations, expressing satisfaction with the approval of the environmental protection policy law, while also noting the need for increased investment in renewable energy sources to mitigate climate impacts and improve community resilience, along with the importance of integrating climate adaptation strategies into national development plans to effectively address the multifaceted challenges posed by climate change.



# KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE RESEARCH AND PARTICIPANTS

- **Allocate a portion** of the national budget specifically for disaster management.
- **Strengthen data collection** and enhance coordination mechanisms among federal and international partners.
- **urgent development of** comprehensive policies aimed at advancing education and providing psychosocial support to children.
- **the strengthening of** disaster management bodies, accountability for environmental law violations, promotion of environmental awareness, and integration of environmental education.
- **Implementing detailed** floodplain mapping and risk assessment
- **Establish a committee** of experts to conduct extensive research on disaster risk management.
- **Review and improve** the resettlement process for displaced persons.
- **Develop a legal** framework for disaster management to provide clear guidelines and accountability.
- **Promote education** and technology to enhance disaster warning systems and risk management practices.
- **Create volunteer** opportunities for youth to gain experience, especially in disaster management.
- **Document the** conference outcomes and distribute them to relevant institutions, including key government offices, to ensure that insights, recommendations, and actionable items reach decision-makers and stakeholders essential for implementation and follow-up



JAZEERA  
PALACE HOTEL


**2024**  
**SOMALIA DISASTER**  
 RESILIENCE CONFERENCE

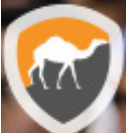
**SHIRWEYNHAHA U ADKEYSIGA**  
**AAFOOVINKA EE SOOMAALIYA**

**6 7** NOV 2024


**JAZEERA**  
 PALACE HOTEL

**QASAB-QAABIYAYAASHA**  

  
**SoDMA**




**2024**  
**SOMALIA DISASTER**  
 RESILIENCE CONFERENCE

**SHIRWEYNHAHA U ADKEYSIGA**  
**AAFOOVINKA EE SOOMAALIYA**

**6 7** NOV 2024


**JAZEERA**  
 PALACE HOTEL

**QASAB-QAABIYAYAASHA**  

  
**SoDMA**



2024  
SOMALIA DISASTER  
RESILIENCE CONFERENCE

SHIRWEYNAHA U ADKEYSIGA  
AAFOOVINKA EE SOOMAALIYA

6 7

NOV  
2024



JAZEERA  
PALACE HOTEL



2024  
SOMALIA DISASTER  
RESILIENCE CONFERENCE

SHIRWEYNAHA U ADKEYSIGA  
AAFOOVINKA EE SOOMAALIYA

6 7

NOV  
2024



JAZEERA  
PALACE HOTEL





2024  
SOMALIA DISASTER  
RESILIENCE CONFERENCE

SHIRWEYNAHA U ADKEYSIGA  
AAFOOVINKA EE SOOMAALIYA

6

7

NOV  
2024



JAZEERA  
PALACE HOTEL

QABANQAABIYAYAASHA



2024  
SOMALIA DISASTER  
RESILIENCE CONFERENCE

Qabanqaabiyayaasha



SHIRWEYNAHA U ADKEYSIGA  
AAFOOVINKA EE SOOMAALIYA  
SOMALIA DISASTER RESILIENCE CONFERENCE



JAZEERA



GOOBTA  
JAZEERA PALACE HOTEL

QABANQAABIYAYAASHA



2024  
SOMALIA DISASTER  
RESILIENCE CONFERENCE

SHIRWEYNAHA U ADKEYSIGA  
AAFOOVINKA EE SOOMAALIYA

6

7

NOV  
2024



JAZEERA  
PALACE HOTEL





2024  
SOMALIA DISASTER  
RESILIENCE CONFERENCE

SHIRWEYNAHA U ADKEYSIGA  
AAFOOVINKA EE SOOMAALIYA

6 7 NOV  
2024

JAZEERA  
PALACE HOTEL



2024  
SOMALIA DISASTER  
RESILIENCE CONFERENCE

SHIRWEYNAHA U ADKEYSIGA  
AAFOOVINKA EE SOOMAALIYA

6 7 NOV  
2024

JAZEERA  
PALACE HOTEL





2024

**SOMALIA DISASTER**  
**RESILIENCE CONFERENCE**