

# FORUM PROGRAM

*September 19 - 21, 2017*

*Maan-Soor Hotel - Hargeisa, Somaliland*



## SOMALILAND INVESTMENT FORUM

September 19-21, 2017 | Hargeisa, Somaliland

*Presented By*



SOMALILAND MINISTRY  
OF TRADE & INVESTMENT



SOMALILAND  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



SOMALILAND MINISTRY  
OF ENERGY & MINERALS

## DEAR SOMALILAND INVESTMENT FORUM ATTENDEE:

We warmly welcome you to Hargeisa, Somaliland for the second annual Somaliland Investment Forum (SIF) presented by Shuraako, a program of One Earth Future, and by the Somaliland Ministry of Trade and Investment, the Somaliland Ministry of Energy and Minerals, and the Somaliland Chamber of Commerce. We want to extend a special thank you to our sponsors and partners who contributed to making this year's event possible.

The SIF 2017 is building on the success of the Somali Investment Forum held in Nairobi, Kenya March 2015; the Somali Renewable Energy Forum held in Hargeisa, Somaliland February 2016; and the Somaliland Investment Forum held in Hargeisa, Somaliland September 2016. This forum will continue dialogue and collaboration among policymakers, donors, and financial institutions with a focus on what's next for the Somaliland business community.

Now, more than ever, Somaliland is emerging as a leader in enterprise and innovation. This past year brought many exciting opportunities to Somaliland and the surrounding region. The \$442 million Berbera Port and Corridor deal will catalyze economic growth and provide livelihoods for years to come. The number of firms registered with the ministry of Trade and Investment has been dramatically increasing and the Somaliland Development Plan listed trade and investment as a priority for 2017-2021. Productive sectors have contributed to a growing GDP and increasing global interest in the region as businesses continue to access the growing pool of capital available in Somali financial markets. While there is much growth on the horizon, there are still many challenges that Somaliland must overcome. Youth unemployment is over 60%, and Somaliland faces its worst drought in years. Now is the time to address these challenges and engage in strategic planning.

Shuraako and One Earth Future believe that a thriving and resilient private sector creates livelihoods, encourages greater civic participation and reinforces effective governance leading to greater peace and stability. It is through this belief in a resilient private sector that we convene stakeholders to encourage dialogue, curate connections, and increase collaboration to build support for entrepreneurs and enhance Somaliland's economy.

Our forums have actionable outcomes. We want to build upon the outcomes of our previous forums in order to create a foundation for growth. At the SIF 2016, Shuraako partnered with Dahabshil Bank International and the Arsenault Family Foundation to launch the Powering Progress Fund, a \$750,000 renewable energy impact fund. The SREF 2016 called for the creation of the Somali Renewable Energy Contact group, tasked with coordinating industry priorities and efforts. We have also connected several entrepreneurs to financing through our Pitch Rings and access to finance events.

Over the next few days we will explore Somaliland's business climate and its potential for innovation and investment. We begin with the current state of the investment environment, continue with a discussion on pathways to a resilient economic future and finally, determine what's next for Somaliland's private sector. Throughout the course of these discussions our focus will be on public policy priorities, opportunities and challenges for the private sector, increasing access to energy, and encouraging the inclusion of women and young entrepreneurs. As we move through the sessions of the forum, we will look at what's working and what strategies we can engage to invest in our future.

We are committed to building a more resilient private sector, and look forward to the collaboration, innovation and coordination among attendees to move us forward.



Sincerely,



Anthony Pelz  
Director, Shuraako

## BACKGROUND:

The Somaliland Investment Forum 2017 (SIF 2017) brings together policymakers, donors, financial institutions, and the Somaliland business community to discuss ways to strengthen private sector investment.

The theme of this year's Forum is supporting private sector development and bolstering the energy sector in Somaliland. During the event we will explore pathways towards a more resilient economic future for Somaliland. Discussion topics include:

- ▶ *Strengthening the energy sector—Innovative systems and financing mechanisms for a sustainable energy future*
- ▶ *Enhancing the private sector enabling environment – Policy, regulation, compliance and the role of the private sector*
- ▶ *Exploring the business climate – Investment strategies for strategic economic sectors*
- ▶ *Advancing inclusion in the private sector – Opportunities for women and youth entrepreneurs*
- ▶ *Catalyzing investment – New financial products and opportunities for financing*
- ▶ *Supporting associations and chambers of commerce – Common needs and challenges and the private sector's role*

Content for the forum will be organized along three tracks:



Presentations, session recordings, and event materials will be uploaded to our website (<http://shuraako.org/forums/sif/hargeisa/2017>) following the event.

## NETWORKING, NOTICES, and LOGISTICS:

We encourage you to take part in the diverse range of activities planned for the Somaliland Investment Forum 2017 - from networking, to the Trade Show, to specialized breakout sessions. This Forum is an excellent opportunity to develop strategic partnerships and collaborate with sector stakeholders.

## NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

There are numerous opportunities to network during the SIF 2017 and we hope you take advantage of them. Lunches, refreshment breaks, and an evening reception offer the opportunity to meet new people, share ideas and make new connections.

## TRADE SHOW

The Trade Show is a unique opportunity to meet and learn about businesses and organizations attending the Forum. Exhibitors will host booths to engage with other Forum participants and share products and service offerings.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

The SIF organizers encourage participants to promote the live event on social media. Use [#SIFHargeisa](#), [#OpenForBusiness](#), and [#InvestInSomaliland](#) to post your experiences, thoughts and insights from the Forum.

## NOTICE AND CONSENT FOR AUDIOVISUAL RECORDING

All SIF 2017 sessions will be audio and/or visually recorded. By attending the SIF Hargeisa, you consent to being filmed, taped, photographed, and/or recorded for the purposes of record taking and generating subsequent reports and/or videos. One Earth Future and Shuraako program reserve the right to use these materials at its discretion including the creation of forum related reports and/or videos.

## SMOKING POLICY

Smoking is absolutely prohibited inside all hotel buildings. There are designated smoking areas outside.

## TECHNICAL CONTACT FOR MAAN-SOOR HOTEL

Technical Operation Assistance: Hassan Ali Baadiye (+252 634786889)

## EVALUATION FORMS

To continually improve our events, please take a few minutes to complete your evaluation and submit it to a SIF 2017 staff member or volunteer (marked by yellow lanyards) at the **end of the Closing Remarks on Wednesday, September 20**. These evaluations can be found in your registration packet.

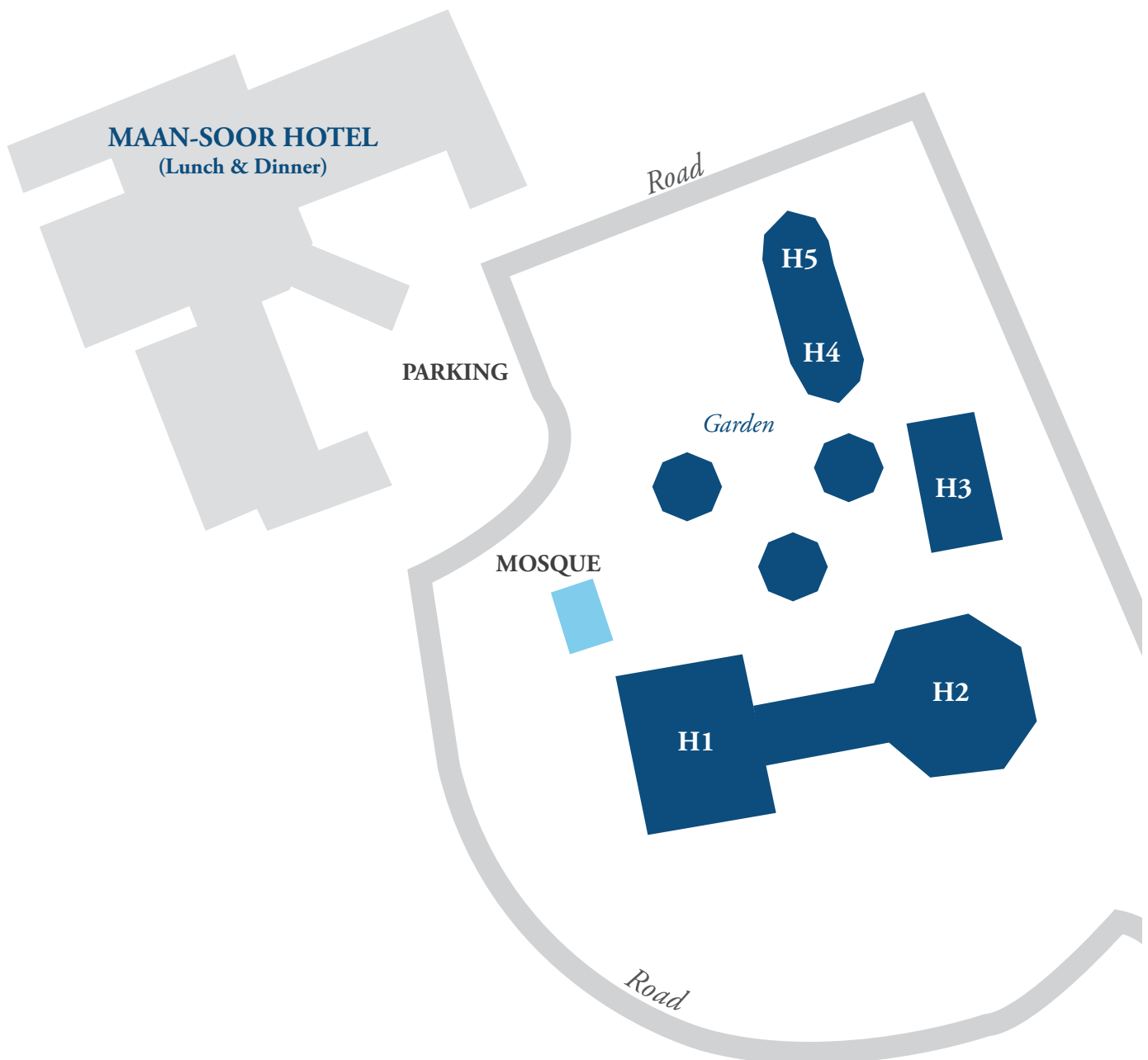
## FLOOR PLAN:

All sessions of the SIF 2017 take place in the Maan-Soor Hotel Conference Area.



**SOMALILAND  
INVESTMENT  
FORUM**

September 19-21, 2017 | Hargeisa, Somaliland



## AGENDA-AT-A-GLANCE:

*Finance Track*  
*Strategy Track*  
*Governance Track*

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

#### Current State: Where We Are

07:00–08:30	<b>Registration</b>		
08:30–09:15	<b>Welcome Remarks</b> (Hoodaale 1)		
09:15–09:45	<b>Keynote Address</b> (Hoodaale 1)		
09:45–10:00	<i>Break</i>		
10:00–11:15	<b>Investment Climate and Government Priorities for Advancing the Economy</b> (Hoodaale 1)		
11:15–12:15	<b>How to Access Finance in Frontier Markets</b> (Hoodaale 1)		
12:15–13:45	<i>Lunch - Sponsored by World Bank Group (1st floor of Maan-Soor Hotel)</i>		
13:45–15:00	<b>Berbera Port: Impact &amp; Opportunities</b> (Hoodaale 1)		
15:00–15:30	<i>Break - Sponsored by Golis Energy (garden in front of Hoodaale Halls)</i>		
15:30–16:45	<b>Encouraging Investment in Fragile States</b> (Hoodaale 1)	<b>The Roles of Chambers and Associations</b> (Hoodaale 4)	<b>Doing Business: Regulation Reform in the Business Environment</b> (Hoodaale 3)
16:45–18:00	<i>Break</i>		
18:00–20:00	<i>Dinner - Sponsored by Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods Project (GEEL) (1st floor of Maan-Soor Hotel)</i>		

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

#### Future State: How do we Get There?

08:45–10:15	Opportunities in Donor Funding (Hoodaale 1)			
10:15–10:30	Break			
10:30–12:00	Developing Somaliland Power Systems-Generation, Transmission, Distribution & Utilization (Hoodaale 1)	Developing Inclusion in the Private Sector (Hoodaale 3)	Expanding the Fisheries Sector (Hoodaale 4)	Developing Somaliland's Real Estate Market (Hoodaale 5)
12:00–13:30	Lunch and Press Conference- Sponsored by World Bank Group (1st floor of Maan-Soor Hotel)			
13:30–15:00	Public-Private Dialogue and Innovative Partnerships (Hoodaale 4)	Improving the Value Chain in Agiculture and Livestock Sectors (Hoodaale 1)	ABAN Masterclass- Introduction to Early Stage Investing (Hoodaale 3)	
15:00–15:30	Break- Sponsored by Premier Bank			
15:30–16:45	Diaspora Entrepreneurs: Pathways to Success (Hoodaale 3)	Strengthening the Healthcare Sector (Hoodaale 4)	Financing Energy Projects: Challenges and Opportunities (Hoodaale 1)	
16:45–17:15	Closing Remarks (Hoodaale 1)			

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

#### What's Next?

08:30–12:30	<b>Pitch Ring</b> (Hoodaale 5)	<b>Energy Sector Coordination Meeting</b> (Hoodaale 3)	<b>GEEL and Secure Fisheries Agriculture and Fisheries Workshop</b> (Hoodaale 4)
10:15–10:30	<i>Break—Sponsored by Adeeg Metal Workshop</i>		
12:30–13:30	<i>Lunch - Sponsored by ESRES</i>		
13:30–15:00	<b>Workshop: Success Factors for Developing the Somaliland Renewable Energy Training Center</b> (Hoodaale 3)		

## DETAILED AGENDA:

*Finance Track*  
*Strategy Track*  
*Governance Track*

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

#### 08:30—09:15 **Welcome Remarks** (Hoodaale 1)

Shuraako, the Somaliland Ministry of Trade and Investment, the Somaliland Ministry of Energy and Minerals, and platinum sponsors USAID and the World Bank Group will provide introductory remarks to open the second annual Somaliland Investment Forum.

**Speakers:** Larry Sampler, President, One Earth Future  
 H.E. Mohamed Omar Shuayb, Minister, Somaliland Ministry of Trade and Investment  
 H.E. Hussein Abdi Dualeh, Minister, Somaliland Ministry of Energy and Minerals  
 Fred Zake, Program Lead, Horn of Africa Initiative, World Bank Group  
 Mohamed Abdinoor, Chief of Party, Growth Enterprise Employment and Livelihoods Project (GEEL)

#### 09:15—09:45 **Keynote Address** (Hoodaale 1)

The Keynote Speaker will draw upon her experiences as a successful entrepreneur to declare Somaliland open for business. She will discuss the business climate and ways to encourage investment in Somaliland. These remarks will set the stage for the rest of the Forum.

**Speaker:** Dr. Amina Hersi Moghe, CEO, Horyal Investment Holding Company Limited

#### 09:45—10:00 *Break*

#### 10:00—11:15 **Investment Climate and Government Priorities for Advancing the Economy** (Hoodaale 1)

A panel of experts will discuss ways to strengthen the enabling environment in Somaliland. Representatives from the Ministry of Trade and Investment and Ministry of Planning and Development, World Bank Group, and private sector will present government priorities for advancing the economy.

**Facilitator:** Abdikarim Gole, Deputy Director, Shuraako—One Earth Future  
**Panelists:** Mohamed Suleiman Elmi, Director of Investment, Ministry of Trade and Investment  
 Mohamud Hussein, Executive Director, Agribusiness Solutions Hub (ASH)  
 Mubareg Abdulahi Ibrahim, Director of Planning, Ministry of National Planning and Development  
 Fred Zake, Program Lead, Horn of Africa Initiative, World Bank Group

#### 11:15—12:15 **How to Access Finance in Frontier Markets** (Hoodaale 1)

A panel of experts will discuss strategies for entering frontier financial markets. They will discuss challenges and opportunities relating to different approaches and financial products.

**Facilitator:** Tony Pelz, Director, Shuraako—One Earth Future  
**Panelists:** Vegard Benterud, Senior Investment Officer, Norfund  
 Lena Berglow Elm, Senior Advisor, Loans and Guarantees, Swedish Embassy  
 Abdirahman Sheikh Hassan, General Manager, Premier Bank  
 Dr. Amina Hersi Moghe, CEO, Horyal Investment Holding Company Limited  
 Abdulhakim Mohamed Ismail, Acting COO, Head of Investment, Dahabshil Bank International  
 Evans Kamau, Investment Officer Infrastructure Advisory, World Bank Group

#### 12:15—13:45 *Lunch - Sponsored by World Bank Group (1st floor of Maan-Soor Hotel)*

#### 13:45—15:00 **Berbera Port: Impact & Opportunities** (Hoodaale 1)

A panel of experts will highlight Dubai World's management and development of the Berbera Port and Corridor.

**Facilitator:** Abdikarim Gole, Deputy Director, Shuraako – One Earth Future  
**Panelists:** Said Hassan Abdillahi, Director, Berbera Port  
 Mohamed Rashid Ismail, Business Development Manager for MEA region, Member of the Board of Directors, DP World Berbera  
 Mohamed Sheekh Omar, Chairman, Somaliland Industry Association  
 H.E. Mohamed Omar Shuayb, Minister, Somaliland Ministry of Trade and Investment

## DETAILED AGENDA, CONTINUED:

**15:00—15:30** *Break - Sponsored by Golis Energy (garden in front of Hoodaale Halls)*

### **15:30—16:45 Encouraging Investment in Fragile States (Hoodaale 1)**

A panel of experts will discuss Dr. Victor Odundo Owuor's paper *Firm Behavior in Fragile States: The Cases of Somaliland, South Sudan, and Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo*. This session will start with a short summary of the report by its principal author and lead investigator. The summary will be followed by a guided panel discussion of forward thinking issues that build on the study findings.

**Facilitator:** Dr. Victor Odundo Owuor, Research Associate, Research—One Earth Future

**Panelists:** Idil Ibrahim Aden, Business Owner, Xarago iyo Raaxo  
 Dr. Kenedid Ali Hassan, Associate Professor, Mount Kenya University  
 Dr. Olufunso Somorin, Senior Policy Officer, Transition Support (Fragile States Department)  
 African Development Bank  
 Dr. Osman Warsame (Degelle), Senior Advisor on Population and Development, United Nations Population Fund- Somalia (UNFPA)

### **15:30—16:45 The Roles of Chambers and Associations (Hoodaale 4)**

A panel of experts will discuss the roles of chambers and associations in Somaliland's private sector.

**Facilitator:** Hailemeleket Asfaw Reda, Representative in Ethiopia, CIPE

**Panelists:** Said Abib, Secretary General & General Manager, Somaliland Installers Association/  
 Kaafi Solar  
 Ibrahim Ismail Elmi, Secretary General, Somaliland Chamber of Commerce  
 Eng. Mohamoud Ahmed Liban, Chairman, Somaliland Energy Association  
 Sucaad Armiyeh Odawa, President, Somaliland Association for Women in Business

### **15:30—16:45 Doing Business: Regulation Reform in the Business Environment (Investment Act) (Hoodaale 3)**

A panel of experts will discuss the Investment Act and the regulation environment in Somaliland's private sector.

**Facilitator:** Mohamed Awale, Director of Planning & Development, Somaliland Ministry of Trade and Investment

**Panelists:** Patrick B. T. Banya, Short Term Regulatory Reform and PPD Consultant, World Bank Group  
 Essa Mohamoud Essa, Director of Planning, Ministry of Public Works  
 Omer S. Abdillahi Isse, CEO, Kaafi Enterprise for Environmental Protection and Sanitation  
 Mustafe Mohamed, Senior Legal Advisor, Somaliland House of Representatives

**16:45—18:00** *Break (garden in front of the Hoodale Halls)*

**18:00—20:00** *Dinner sponsored by Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods Project (GEEL)*



## DETAILED AGENDA, CONTINUED:

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

#### 08:45—10:15 Opportunities in Donor Funding (Hoodaale 1)

Join donor programs as they highlight projects supporting Somaliland entrepreneurs, the private sector, and economic development in Somaliland.

**Facilitator:** Abdikarim Gole, Deputy Director, Shuraako—One Earth Future

**Panelists:** Dr. Abdi Osman Haji Abdi, Somaliland Area Market Development Coordinator, DAI/PIMS  
 Mohamed Abdinoor, Chief of Party, Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods Project (GEEL)  
 Vegard Benterud, Senior Investment Officer, Norfund  
 Tim Bergstrom, Team Leader and Fund Manager, Somali Business Catalytic Fund, DAI Europe  
 Ahmed Ali Mire, TVET and Higher Education Manager, CARE International  
 Harrie Oostingh, Acting Country Director, Oxfam Somalia/Somaliland  
 Larry Sampler, President, One Earth Future  
 George Waigi, Team Leader, Somali Small and Medium Enterprise Facility (BDO/SMEF)  
 Samuel Githinji Wathundu, Investment Director, IFU

10:15—10:30 *Break*

#### 10:30—12:00 Developing Somaliland Power Systems: Generation, Transmission, Distribution & Utilization (Hoodaale 1)

Unreliable and costly energy is a common challenge to all Somaliland businesses. This session explores the response of power system providers to the challenge of reliable and affordable electrification in Somaliland.

**Facilitator:** Liban Mohamed, Energy Director, Somaliland Minister of Energy and Minerals

**Panelists:** Eng. Fardowsa Haji Abdi, Engineer, Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods Project (GEEL)  
 Dr. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdilahi, CEO, Sompower  
 Eng. Mustafa Mohamed Hassan Electricity Power Systems Expert, Elemec Consulting International  
 Eng. Dušan Sirotko, Director, P.U.R.E  
 Johnny Weiss, Principal, Johnny Weiss Solar Consulting

#### 10:30—12:00 Developing Inclusion in the Private Sector (Hoodaale 3)

The session will feature experts discussing opportunities and challenges for female entrepreneurs in the private sector.

**Facilitator:** Sahra Hassan, Associate Field Manager, Shuraako – One Earth Future

**Panelists:** Edna Adan Ismail, CEO and Founder, Edna Adan Hospital and University  
 Fadumo Alin, CEO and Founder, Kaaba Microfinance  
 Rhoda Elmi, CEO and Founder, ElmiMedic  
 Sucaad Armiyeh Odawa, President, Somaliland Association for Women in Business  
 Leila Omar, Managing Director, Solar Land Africa (SLA)

#### 10:30—12:00 Expanding the Fisheries Sector (Hoodaale 4)

Somali fisheries hold much promise for investment and future growth, and can contribute importantly to food and economic security. This panel will review the state of fisheries in Somaliland, identify the barriers to sector development, highlight bright spots for investment, and discuss implications for sustainability and management. Group discussion will help form consensus about the key challenges and ways forward for the fisheries sector.

**Facilitator:** Paige Roberts, Project Officer, Secure Fisheries – One Earth Future

**Panelists:** Dr. Sarah Glaser, Senior Research Associate, Secure Fisheries – One Earth Future  
 Muse Yusuf Ibrahim, Deputy Director of Planning, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources  
 Yusuf Abdilahi Gulled, Regional Program Manager, Fair Fishing  
 Suleban Adam Osman, CEO, Al Fatxi Fishing

## DETAILED AGENDA, CONTINUED:

### 10:30—12:00 Developing Somaliland's Real Estate Market (Hoodaale 5)

A panel of experts will discuss opportunities and challenges in Somaliland's real estate market.

**Facilitator:** Abdikarim Gole, Deputy Director, Shuraako- One Earth Future

**Panelists:** Hodan Hassan, Head of Business Development and International Relations, Dahabshil Bank  
Liban Ahmed Mohamed, Civil/Structural Engineer, Barre Construction and Housing  
Hassan Farah Mohammed, Senior Managing Director, Somlegal Services  
Mohamed Omer Nur, President and Founder, Nur Construction

### 12:00—13:30 Lunch and Press Conference - Sponsored by World Bank Group (*1st floor of Maan-Soor Hotel*)

### 13:30—15:00 Public-Private Dialogue and Innovative Partnerships (Hoodaale 4)

Somaliland's economy is characterized by its robust private sector and limited public sector which makes regulation difficult to achieve. This session will explore public private partnerships and their role in regulation of Somaliland.

**Facilitator:** Patrick B. T. Banya, Short Term Regulatory Reform and PPD Consultant, World Bank Group

**Panelists:** Abdi Abdilahi, Board Member, Boram Water Company (SHABA)  
Mohamed Awale, Director of Planning and Development, Somaliland Ministry of Trade and Investment  
Omer S. Abdillahi Isse, CEO, Kaafi Enterprise for Environmental Protection and Sanitation  
Evans Kamau, Investment Officer Infrastructure Advisory, World Bank Group

### 13:30—15:00 Improving the Value Chain in Agriculture and Livestock Sectors (Hoodaale 1)

The session will feature experts discussing value chain in agriculture and livestock sectors.

**Facilitator:** Nicolas Nyathi, Team Leader- Agriculture Value Chains Team, Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods Project (GEEL)

**Panelists:** Amran Ali Hiis, Founding Member, Milk Care Corporation/Association for Women in Business  
Samuel Karanja, Deputy Team Lead - Agriculture Value Chain, Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods Project (GEEL)  
Ibrahim Omar Kaahin, Director of Programs and Coordination, Ministry of Agriculture  
Saeed Mohamed Omar, CEO, Maandeeq Poultry  
Ahmed Said, Regional Program Coordinator, Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods Project (GEEL)

### 13:30—15:00 ABAN Masterclass - Introduction to Early Stage Investing (Hoodaale 3)

Innovative early stage ventures that have the potential to yield high social impact are the most difficult segment of the SME pipeline to reach. They often have a minimal track record and lack the collateral needed to secure capital from a local bank. In this session we look at trends and developments as well as challenges and solutions in early stage funding across the African continent.

**Facilitators:** David Van Dijk, Co-Founder, Director General, African Business Angel Network (ABAN)  
Stephen Gugu, Director, Viktoria Ventures  
Thomas Van Halen, Investor Relations, VC4A

### 15:00—15:30 Break

### 15:30—16:45 Diaspora Entrepreneurs: Pathways to Success (Hoodaale 3)

The session will feature a panel of Somali diaspora and programs that engage diaspora to discuss pathways to entrepreneurial success.

**Facilitator:** Sahra Hassan, Associate Field Manager, Shuraako – One Earth Future  
Mark McCoy, Investment Management Specialist, Shuraako – One Earth Future

**Panelists:** Mahmoud Dahir Adani, President, Mr. Fruto  
Ahmed Dirir, CEO and Founder, Dubur/ Elite Water Group/ Barqodhereg Farm  
Halimo Mohamed, Founder, Hodan Fish and Chicken Shop  
Farah Ali Osman, CEO, Dualeh Farm

## DETAILED AGENDA, CONTINUED:

### 15:30—16:45 Strengthening the Healthcare Sector (Hoodaale 4)

The session will feature experts discussing various ways to strengthen Somaliland's Healthcare Sector.

**Facilitator:** Dr. Derie Ismail Ereg, Dean of the College of Medicine & Health Sciences, Hargeisa University

**Panelists:** Dr. Abdirizak Yussuf Abdillahi, Chairman, Somaliland Medical Association  
 Dr. Hebaqq Abdulrahman Ismail, Founder and CEO, Bubal Dental Clinic  
 Dr. Edna Adan Ismail, CEO and Founder, Edna Adan Hospital and University  
 Dr. Osman Warsame (Degelle), Senior Advisor on Population and Development, United Nations Population Fund- Somalia (UNFPA)  
 Dr. Sekeriye Abdirisak Warsame, Medical Director, Las Anod Medical Center

### 15:30—16:45 Financing Energy Projects: Challenges and Opportunities (Hoodaale 1)

A panel of experts will discuss challenges and opportunities in financing energy projects.

**Facilitator:** Abdifatah Omar, Planning Coordinator, Ministry of Energy and Minerals

**Panelists:** Sayid-Ali Ahmed Abdi, General Manager, Golis Solar  
 Alexander Filippov, Team Leader- Energy, Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods Project (GEEL)  
 Eng. Mohamoud Ahmed Liban, Chairman, Somaliland Energy Association  
 Samuel Muthamia, Project Manager, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA Somalia)  
 Marc Sellies, Secretariat Team Leader, ESRES

### 16:45 - 17:15 Closing Remarks (Hoodale 1)

Closing remarks will highlight key discussion items from the forum and action items moving forward.

**Speakers:** Abdikarim Gole, Deputy Director, Shuraako—One Earth Future  
 Larry Sampler, President, One Earth Future

## DETAILED AGENDA, CONTINUED:

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

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#### **08:00—08:30 Pitch Ring Participant Check-in**

Entrepreneurs pre-qualified for the Pitch Ring must check-in prior to their presentation and confirm their time assignment.

#### **08:30—12:30 Energy Sector Coordination meeting (Invite-Only) (Hoodaale 3)**

The third Energy and Extractive Sector Coordination Forum (ESCF) is a quarterly forum endorsed at the Somaliland 9th High Level Aid Coordination. The ESCF is an independent session organized by the Ministry of Energy and Minerals.

#### **08:30—12:30 Pitch Ring (Invite-Only) (Hoodaale 5)**

Pre-qualified entrepreneurs will pitch their business and their investment needs directly to investors with pledged capital. This session is closed to the public. All entrepreneurs and investors were pre-qualified prior to the Forum.

#### **08:30—12:30 Secure Fisheries and GEEL Workshop (Hoodaale 4)**

This workshop, presented by GEEL and Secure Fisheries, a program of One Earth Future, will address private sector development of fisheries and agriculture. Representatives from both organizations will present about the challenges and opportunities and how both organizations are supporting these sectors. The workshop will include activities to engage participants and form partnerships to create innovative solutions and investment ideas.

**Facilitators:** Sahra Hassan, Associate Field Manager, Shuraako – One Earth Future

Sarah Glaser, Senior Research Associate, Secure Fisheries—One Earth Future

Samuel Karanja, Deputy Team Lead- Agriculture Value Chain, Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods Project (GEEL)

Nicolas Nyathi, Team Leader- Agriculture Value Chain, Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods Project (GEEL)

Paige Roberts, Project Officer, Secure Fisheries – One Earth Future

Ahmed Said, Regional Program Coordinator, Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods Project (GEEL)

**10:15—10:30 Break-** Sponsored by Adeeg Metal Workshop

**12:30—13:30 Lunch -** Sponsored by ESRES

#### **13:30—15:00 Workshop: Success Factors in Developing the Somali Renewable Energy Training Center (Hoodaale 3)**

Developing a successful and sustainable Somaliland renewable energy training center requires the active and ongoing collaboration of several key stakeholders. High level government policy decision-makers, top representatives from the large energy utility providers, local and regional energy entrepreneurs, and the directors of the foremost educational institutions all need to come together and articulate a shared vision of the future training center. Significant funding from major donors is required to establish and maintain a large scale renewable energy training center. By planning and working closely together with a common mission, the Somaliland renewable energy training center can become a reality.

**Facilitators:** Johnny Weiss, Principal, Johnny Weiss Solar Consulting

Fardowsa Haji Abdi, Senior Energy Expert , Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods Project (GEEL)

Abdishakur Ahmed, Co- Founder, SomLite

## SPEAKER BIOS:



### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

#### DR. AMINA HERSI MOGHE, CEO, HORYAL INVESTMENT HOLDING COMPANY LIMITED

Dr. Amina Hersi Moghe is an award-winning Kenyan/ Somali entrepreneur. She has launched several multi-million dollar projects in Kampala, Uganda such as the Oasis Shopping Mall that is estimated at over 25 million US dollar project and the Laburnam Courts at over 50 million US dollar project. She also runs Kingstone Enterprises Limited, one of the largest distributors of cement and other hardware materials in Kampala.

Dr. Moghe was born in Kenya, where her mother, Sarah Hersi Ali, was a prominent expatriate Somali businesswoman and her uncle, Adam Hersi Ali, served as a Financial Secretary of Treasury in Kenya's Ministry of Finance. As a young girl, Dr. Moghe and her sister regularly joined their family in the cross border trade between Kenya and Uganda. After the death of her father, she and her sister were sent to accounting school by her mother, where they built on their entrepreneurial skills. The loss of two of her daughters in a car accident in 1998 prompted Dr. Moghe's family to suggest she move to Uganda.

Dr. Moghe quickly adapted to her new environment and acted as a convenient link on the ground for her family's commercial trade. She began expanding the family business and entered the real estate sector. She would eventually become one of the wealthiest people in Uganda and come to own a multi-million dollar shopping mall complex and grand scale luxurious apartment complex both situated in the center of the capital. She also runs one of the largest distributors of cement and other hardware materials in the country. In 2008, Dr. Moghe received the Woman Investor of the Year for her large-scale projects that are changing Kampala's skyline. On the 24th November 2012 she won the best woman entrepreneur of the year where she archived a T-MBIRE award. Dr. Moghe employs over 100 employees.



#### FARDOWSA HAJI ABDI, SENIOR ENERGY EXPERT, GROWTH, ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT AND LIVELIHOODS PROJECT (GEEL)

Fardowsa Haji Abdi is a Senior Energy Expert for the GEEL Project with over 12 years of experience in the Utility industry. She is responsible for providing technical assistance to the Somaliland Ministry of Energy and Minerals Resources (MOEM) and key stakeholders focusing on areas such as power sector governance oversight, regulatory framework, sector planning, capacity building and establishing industry best practices. Prior to joining GEEL, Ms. Abdi worked for Georgia Power Company in Atlanta, GA. She provided technical leadership in the areas of System Operations, Transmission Expansion Planning and Protective relaying practices. Ms. Abdi holds a BS in Electrical Engineering from Michigan State University.



#### DR. ABDI OSMAN HAJI ABDI, SOMALILAND AREA DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR, DAI/PIMS

Educated in Germany, Dr. Abdi Osman Haji Abdi holds a PhD in Veterinary Science and Agriculture. Currently, he is the Somaliland Area Market Development Coordinator in DAI-PIMS which is funded by DFID and DANIDA. He was also the Deputy Team Leader of the livestock sector DAI-PEG project which was funded by USAID.

He has 30 years of experience in the private sector, local economic development and economic growth in Somalia and Somaliland. He is a well-known Veterinarian and livestock nutrition expert who has worked closely as a consultant and advisor to various ministers within the ministry of livestock and Somaliland Veterinary Board for the past years.



#### SAYID-ALI AHMED ABDI, GENERAL MANAGER, GOLIS ENERGY COMPANY

Sayid Ali Abdi is a Renewable Energy Specialist who has worked in the renewable energy sector for the past 13 years. Mr. Abdi has installed hundreds of solar and wind turbines sites in the Somali region, and was one of the first renewable energy activists in Somaliland during 2002 who is still active in the sector. As a General Manager of Golis Energy, Mr. Abdi manages renewable energy projects in the Somaliland region.

Mr. Abdi received a Bachelor of Science degree from Atlantic International University and has completed electric, solar, and wind energy trainings hosted by USAID, ADRA, Hovoyoco and Alpha University, in 2000, 2002, 2003 and 2004, respectively. He also studied ACCA Public Financial Management at Forte Hare University in Pretoria, South Africa.



#### ABDIRAHMAN MOHAMED ABDILAH, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SOMPOWER COMPANY

Dr. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdilahi is the Chief Executive Officer of Sompower Company, the largest electric utility in Somaliland. He has completed a PhD in the field of operations of sustainable power systems and specialized in operational planning of power systems and low carbon technologies. He has obtained both his PhD and B. Eng (Hons) at the Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Johor Bahru, Malaysia. Prior to executive position at Sompower, Dr. Abdilahi served as the Energy Technical Advisor for Somaliland's Ministry of Energy and Minerals. Dr. Abdilahi has been recognized for his contributions to the power industry in Somaliland both locally and globally by different organizations and institutions.





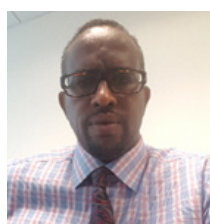
#### **ABDIRIZAK YUSSUF ABDILLAHI, CHAIRMAN, SOMALILAND MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

Abdirizak Yussuf Abdillahi is a Medical doctor and national coordinator of maternal health at the Ministry of Health in Somaliland. He is currently a chairperson of Somaliland Medical Association.

He has advised and served as member of the National Development Plan NDPII 2017-2021 Technical Committee where he was the lead on the Health Sector. In 2010 the Minister of Health of Somaliland appointed him to serve at the Ministry of Health to provide strategic leadership and implementation of maternal health policy as well as leading the Reproductive Health Strategic Plan, annual work plans, supervision tools and preparing nation protocols, guidelines and quality improvements.

In 2009 he was appointed by the Minister of Health in Somaliland as director of Hargeisa Group Hospital (the main referral hospital in Hargeisa). While there the hospital saw considerable improvement in terms of services provided to patients and communication with the stakeholders in the health sector.

He received his academic education from Somali National University in Mogadishu and Shendi University Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences in Sudan.



#### **MOHAMED ABDINOOR, CHIEF OF PARTY, GROWTH, ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT AND LIVELIHOOD PROJECT (GEEL)**

Mohamed Abdinoor serves as the Chief of Party (COP) of the US Agency for International Development (USAID)/Somalia-funded Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihood (GEEL) project, managing a \$75 million portfolio on agricultural value chains, the fisheries sector, the livestock/dairy sector, and renewable energy, including cross-cutting activities addressing the access to financial services and policy and regulatory frameworks. Mr. Abdinoor has 16+ years of work experience, including 10+ years in senior leadership roles and 5+ years working on projects in fragile or post-war economies in the areas of economic growth, resilience, livestock, and livelihoods in developing and conflict states, such as South Sudan, Somalia, Northern Kenya, and the Somali Region of Ethiopia.



#### **SULEBAN ADAM, OWNER/CEO, AL FATHI FISHING COMPANY**

Suleban Adam is the owner and CEO of Al Fathi Fishing Company. Straight from secondary school, Mr. Adam started his fishing business in Berbera, Somaliland in 2004. Starting with only \$150, he built his business by purchasing fish from local fisherman and selling the fish wholesale in Hargeisa markets. After 6 months, he was able to open a shop in Hargeisa and purchased a small fishing boat. Mr. Adam now owns two more stores in Berbera and Burao and supplies fish to a store in Boorma. He also owns a total of 2 boats and manages another 2 boats.



#### **MAHMOUD DAHIR ADANI, PRESIDENT, MR. FRUTO**

Mahmoud Dahir Adani is an entrepreneur and President of Mr. Fruto, a storefront ice cream, sweets and juice bar that he started in February, 2014 while working as senior technical adviser to the Ministry of Communications. Mr. Adani helped develop the Somalia Communication Act (2012) and Media Law (2013). Before returning to Somalia, Mr. Adani lived and worked in the USA as an ICT expert with a host of organizations in the Washington DC area. Mr. Adani is a graduate of McGill University with a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering (1995-1999) and holds a Post-Graduate Diploma in ICT from DeVry Institute of Technology (1999-2000).

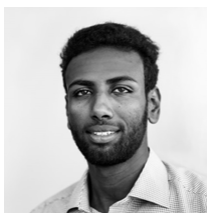


#### **IDIL ADEN, BUSINESS OWNER, XARAGO IYO RAAXO**

Idil Aden has over 10 years of professional career experience and education in HR management and web communication. Ms. Aden has a strong knowledge of labor relations, recruitment, training and development, design and administration of compensation plans, pay and benefit. She is capable of championing strategic initiatives, fostering team synergy and executing effective management strategies.

Ms. Aden is a creative thinker with effective HR management, marketing planning and objective setting abilities combined with strong leadership, team building, communication and presentation skills.

Her specialties include information technology, project planning and implementation, stakeholder engagement, and program management. She has extensive experience in human resources including employee relations, headhunting, work placement, training and development, organizational behavior, human resources planning, staff development, and payroll processing.



#### **ABDISHAKUR AHMED, CO-FOUNDER SOMLITE**

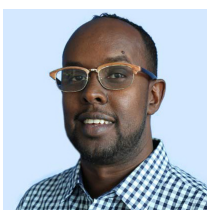
Abdishakur Ahmed co-founded SomLite, an off-grid solar product financing and distribution company that focuses on rural communities in Somaliland. He led the execution of an IRB-certified market research survey to understand energy consumption patterns in local households. As part of this initiative, he successfully launched SomLite's activities in 2014.

Mr. Ahmed was one of 100 Young Global Changers selected by Think 20 GLOBAL SOLUTIONS, a sister event of the G20 Summit in Hamburg, to provide research-based solution proposals to the G20 Summit. He is also a Somaliland representative at the One Young World Summit in Bogota, Colombia 4 – 7 2017. He graduated with a B.A. in Finance from Abaarso Tech University and an M.S. in Engineering Management from Gollis University.



#### **FADUMO ALIN, CEO/FOUNDER, KAABA MICROFINANCE**

Fadumo Alin is the CEO and Founder of Kaaba Microfinance which provides demand-based financial services to low-income and vulnerable groups. She has over 20 years' experience in microfinance institutions and non-profit organizations. She prides herself in having an intimate understanding of the issues that face local development organizations, particularly those in developing countries and conflict zones. Ms. Alin has a Master of Arts in Development Studies from the Institute of Social Sciences, the Netherlands.



#### **MAHAD AWALE, COUNTRY DIRECTOR, SHURAAKO – ONE EARTH FUTURE**

Mahad Awale is the Country Director of Shuraako. He was previously the Field Manager for South Central and Puntland Somalia. He received his Bachelor in accounting from Franklin University and his Master of Business Administration from Ohio Dominican University. Prior to joining One Earth Future, Mr. Awale worked as a Fund Associate for Citi Group where he managed financial accounts of more than 300 clients with funds ranging between \$90 - \$500 million dollars.

In 2000, Mr. Awale began coaching Somali youth soccer teams in Central Ohio and organized annual soccer tournaments for Somali youth across North America. He is also a weekly sports commentator for VOA Somali. In April 2011, Mayor Coleman of Columbus, Ohio awarded Mr. Awale a Community Service Award, and in 2017 he received a lifetime achievement award from the Somali community in Columbus. He was honored for his commitment to public service and his accomplishments working with the soccer community as both a coach and a mentor. He was recognized as an influential change maker who gives back to his community and country. He is fluent in Somali, English and Italian.



#### **MOHAMED AWALE, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INVESTMENT**

Mohamed Awale is the Director of Planning and Development at the Ministry of Trade and Investment, he is an entrepreneur turned into a public servant with an extensive experience in Somaliland foreign affairs, governance and state-building. His political career started as founding member of the ruling party Kulmiye during which he served as assistant to Foreign Affairs Spokesperson of the party since 2007. After the presidential elections in 2010, Mr. Awale was appointed as advisor to the Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Minister. In his diplomatic services at the Ministry of Foreign affairs, he served as the focal point for Development Assistance Projects in the delivery of Nation Development Plans.

Mr. Awale specialized in management, he has attained BBA, followed by a Public Sector Management course and he is doing MSc in Security Sector Management at Cranfield University focusing on state-society relationships. He has attended different conferences in doing business, entrepreneurship, economic security and investment promotion.



#### **PATRICK B. T. BANYA, SHORT TERM REGULATORY REFORM AND PPD CONSULTANT, WORLD BANK GROUP, TRADE AND COMPETITIVENESS GLOBAL PRACTICE**

Patrick Banya is passionate about making a difference in fragile and conflict affected states as a short term regulatory reform and PPD consultant with the WBG's Trade and Competitiveness Global Practice. Mr. Banya has facilitated development of Public Private Dialogue (PPD) platforms in Zambia, Malawi, South Sudan, Sudan and Somaliland in order to promote inclusive private sector recovery and advance peace building. He started work with the IFC in 2007 as a short term consultant and coordinated WBG's Zambia Investment Climate Services Program from 2008 – 2009. Mr. Banya has since supported design and implementation of business environment and investment climate reforms in countries across the Eastern Africa sub-region.

Mr. Banya holds a Master's degree in political economy and government and has 20+ combined years of experience in private sector development and policy reform arenas. He has also consulted for institutions including: Development Alternatives Inc. (DAI), European Union, UNCTAD, UNDP, BDO EA Advisory Services, International Labor Organization, UNIDO, Trademark East Africa, International Trade Centre, COMESA, and others.



#### **VEGARD BENTERUD, SENIOR INVESTMENT OFFICER, NORFUND**

Vegard Benterud joined Norfund in 2006 and holds title as Senior Investment Manager. He is currently working with SME Funds and has previously also been involved with Financial Institutions. Mr. Benterud was a Director on the Board of Norfund between 2015 and 2017. Currently, he is a member of various boards and investor committees within the Norfund SME Funds portfolio. Before joining Norfund he worked as a Portfolio Manager at NBIM, the Norwegian Sovereign Wealth Fund. Mr. Benterud has also held position as Investment Director at the Norwegian Microfinance Initiative, NMI.



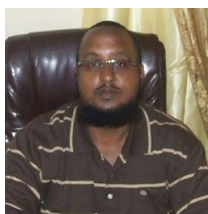
#### **TIM BERGSTROM, TEAM LEADER, SOMALI BUSINESS CATALYTIC FUND- DAI**

Tim Bergstrom leads the Somali Business Catalytic Fund, managing the operational and grant teams to achieve the program objectives. He has 21 years of professional experience, of which 15 years he was based in Africa. He is experienced in managing international trade programs, providing capacity building and market linkages to SMEs and agro dealers. He has effectively managed several large DIFD, USAID, and World Bank funded projects. These include the 12 year \$38,000,000 SAIBL program which resulted in \$330,000,000 in sales to U.S. from South Africa and the £55,000 FoodTrade East and Southern Africa DFIS funded grant program. He also has private sector management experience, including three successful business start-ups based in Southern Africa. Mr. Bergstrom has worked and lived in Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Kenya, Somalia, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.



#### **DAVID VAN DIJK, CO-FOUNDER, DIRECTOR GENERAL, AFRICAN BUSINESS ANGEL NETWORK**

David van Dijk is the co-founder and Director General of the African Business Angel Network (ABAN), a non-profit association founded in early 2015 to catalyze early stage investing in Africa. He is also Managing Director of Stichting IGNITE, an NGO supporting entrepreneurs in conflict affected countries and he is part of the Investment Committee of the IGNITE Fund. He is a member of the Impact Investment Committee of the European Business Angels Network (EBAN). In addition, Mr. van Dijk manages the mentorship program of VC4Africa, the largest online community of entrepreneurs and investors dedicated to building game changing companies on the Continent. Prior to his work in Africa, he worked for the Dutch shipping company Nedlloyd and Danish shipping company Maersk managing and setting up (occasionally closing down) companies in Egypt, West Africa, Russia / former CIS, India and the US. Mr. van Dijk holds degrees from the University of Oregon, Nijenrode, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam & Clingendael, and the Netherlands Institute of International Relations.



#### **AHMED DIRIR, CEO, DUBUR FARM, ELITE WATER GROUP, BARQODHEREG FARM**

Ahmed Dirir fulfilled a lifelong dream of becoming an Organic Farmer when he moved from London, England to Somaliland in 2006. After becoming acquainted with Somaliland's Water Resource Development Sector in his own quest to source affordable water on his home farm, he went on to establish Elite Water Group, which specializes in drilling water boreholes and installing irrigation systems. In 2009, Mr. Dirir had moved on to establish Dubur Organic Farm.

A seasoned farmer with advanced culinary skills, Mr. Dirir is currently establishing an Organic Spice Factory to produce a range of organic spices and mixes ensuring high quality products for regional markets as well International Organic Markets. His passion for Regenerative Agriculture has also led to his establishment of Somaliland Organic Farmers Group (SOFG) who's membership of over 2,000 members worldwide enables Somaliland and Diaspora farmers to join an emerging regional organic farming sector to empower themselves through information-sharing.



#### **H.E. HUSSEIN ABDI DUALEH, MINISTER, MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERALS**

Hussein Abdi Dualeh, as the Minister of Energy & Minerals of the Republic of Somaliland, is charged with directing H.E. President Ahmed Silanyo's agenda to develop Somaliland's energy and mineral resources in an environmentally responsible and sustainable way for the benefit of its people. These include the development of hydrocarbons, hard minerals, and sustainable electric power systems.

Mr. Dualeh is a US educated and trained Petroleum Engineer who devoted a good deal of his career in advancing Somaliland's goal to one day develop and exploit its natural resources. Although he spent his professional career in the Middle East and the US, he nevertheless acted as a longtime advisor to Somaliland governments on natural resources development issues. Prior to his appointment to lead this Ministry, Mr. Dualeh had a successful career with the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) managing multi-million-dollar contracts including compressed natural gas plants and fueling systems.

Mr. Dualeh is a member of several civic and professional organizations, including the Society of Petroleum Engineers. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Oklahoma, USA, and a Certificate in Management from the Office of Executive Education from the University of Southern California.





#### **LENA BERGLÖW ELM, SENIOR ADVISOR, LOANS AND GUARANTEES, SWEDISH EMBASSY**

Lena Berglöw Elm is a first secretary at the Embassy of Sweden in Nairobi and responsible for Loans and Guarantees on behalf of Sida in Africa. She has been working in Nairobi for two years and before that one year at the Sida Head Office in Stockholm. Her area of expertise is in financing and structuring of financing solutions for different kinds of borrowers. During the last years she has mainly been working with transactions in Kenya, Somalia, Tanzania, Rwanda and Uganda. Before joining Sida, Ms. Elm worked with Project and Export Financing at the Swedish Telecoms company Ericsson.



#### **MOHAMED SULEIMAN ELMI, DIRECTOR OF INVESTMENT, MINISTRY OF TRADE**

Mohamed Suleiman Elmi, a tested private sector development specialist, was the leader of the newly emerging Investment Department as part of the ministry's up-and-coming Investment Strategic Reform that lead to investment promotion, employment creation and poverty reduction in Somaliland. Mr. Elmi directed the modification of the investment laws and his key duties included improving the investment enabling environment, providing investor car and after car services, demonstrating an effective investment registration one-stop-shop, and preparing investment policies and regulation.

Mr. Elmi has extensive experience in providing technical and program development services to key Somaliland institutions. He lives in Somaliland where he studied and received his BA in 2008 from Hargeisa University. He received a second degree of Development Studies in 2011 from Admas University. He has also received a Masters in International Relations and Diplomacy from Kampal University.



#### **IBRAHIM ISMAIL ELMI, SECRETARY GENERAL, SOMALILAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE**

Ibrahim Ismail Elmi is the Secretary General of Somaliland Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture. Mr. Elmi is committed to his work as a Secretary. He has experience working with various sectors from small, medium to large businesses. He has good character, leader skills and quality, ease of speech and registered members of the Chamber.

Mr. Elmi organizes events related the Chamber of Commerce activities such as Annual Trade Fairs, Business Forums and Trade and Investment Conferences both inside and outside of the country.



#### **RHODA ELMI, FOUNDER/MANAGING DIRECTOR, ELMIMEDIC**

Rhoda Elmi is a health professional and an entrepreneur. Ms. Elmi holds MSc in Pharmacy from Gothenburg University, Sweden. She is the founder and Managing Director of ElmiMedic, which has offices in Sweden, Somaliland and is a partner of European Pharmaceutical Companies. ElmiMedic supplies its customers in East Africa with medicine that has been approved by the European Medicines Agency. They supply branded and generic pharmaceuticals as well as consumer and nutritional products throughout East Africa.

Ms. Elmi also served as the Ambassador to Sweden for Somaliland from 2012 to 2016. She also previously held positions as a Manager, Business developer, Project manager and Pharmaceutical Director for Swedish pharmaceutical companies.



#### **DERIE EREG, DEAN OF COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES, HARGEISA UNIVERSITY**

Dr. Derie Ereg is a Professor of Anesthesiology and Reanimation in the College of Medicine and Health Sciences at Hargeisa University. He obtained his first Degree in Medicine (MBBS) at the School of Medicine, University of Somalia, Mogadishu in 1979, and obtained his Doctoral Degree in Anesthesiology and Reanimation at Hacettape University, Ankar, Turkey in 1984. He is engaged in research activities and some of his publications include: Knowledge and Attitudes Ab out AI DS/HIV in a Semi-Nomadic Population in Som aliland; 2012, Establishment of Faculties of Medicine with Limited Resources in the Sub-Sahara; 2016, and an ongoing research on The relationship between Khat and Stroke.

Dr. Derie worked in some Gulf countries particularly in Sana, Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia between 1985 and 1992. Thereafter, he resigned to promote the health system of Somaliland where the health sector, educational and social systems were all in ruins. Upon arrival in Berbera airway strip in February 8th in 1992, the first thing that came in his mind was "welcome for nothing" with high temperatures of 450 C and no clean drinking water. Dr. Derie established the College of Medicine and Health Sciences to improve the health system by training qualified doctors, nurses, and midwives to replace the lost and retired health workers. Dr. Derie's expectations were very high and indeed educational outcomes have improved. The number of doctors, midwives, and nurses has grown and there is an increase in number of post-graduate education programs (diploma, masters and doctoral degrees), indicating a significant improvement in the health sector.

#### **ALEXANDER FILIPPOV, TEAM LEADER- ENERGY, GROWTH, ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT & LIVELIHOODS PROJECT (GEEL)**

Mr. Filippov is currently leading an Energy Team of USAID funded Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods (GEEL) project in Somaliland. The energy program supports the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals of Somaliland, aims to improve collaboration between private sector entities including the Somaliland energy association (SEA), and to increase technical capacity within the energy sector. It also helps improve functionality and management of the Hargeisa wind farm and increase the private enterprise competitiveness by developing alternative energy solutions for targeted value chains.

Mr. Filippov is a Certified Energy Manager (CEM) and Certified Measurement and Verification Professional (CMVP). He holds a Master's degree in Electrical Engineering and Cybernetics of Power Systems from Kiev Polytechnic Institute (Ukraine).



#### **SARAH GLASER, SENIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, SECURE FISHERIES – ONE EARTH FUTURE**

Sarah Glaser is Senior Research Associate for the Secure Fisheries program of One Earth Future and an expert in fisheries ecology. She specializes in marine and freshwater fisheries in the Horn of Africa and East Africa with a focus on the links between small-scale fisheries and food security. At OEF, Dr. Glaser directed the research project for Securing Somali Fisheries, a 2015 report on the state of fisheries in Somali waters. She is currently leading a four-year study on the interactions between aquaculture and wild fisheries in Lake Victoria and a project investigating links between fisheries and conflict. Dr. Glaser earned a PhD from Scripps Institution of Oceanography. She is actively involved in the American Fisheries Society, and she has an appointment at the Korbel School for International Studies at the University of Denver.



#### **ABDIKARIM GOLE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, SHURAako—ONE EARTH FUTURE**

Abdikarim Gole is Deputy Director at Shuraako, a program of One Earth Future Foundation. Mr. Gole has more than 15 years of experience in management, international development, finance and business development. Mr. Gole played a leadership role in establishing Shuraako's systems and processes to facilitate investment in the frontier market of Somaliland and Somalia. He is responsible and oversees Shuraako loan portfolio. Prior to joining Shuraako, Mr. Gole worked for the Economic and Community Development Institute, a non-profit organization and Small Business Administration intermediary micro lender in Columbus, USA as a business developer. He received a Master of Science degree in agricultural, environmental, and development economics from Ohio State University. He has a Master of Science degree in Agricultural Economics from Alexandria University in Alexandria, Egypt.



#### **STEPHEN GUGU, DIRECTOR, VIKTORIA VENTURES**

Stephen Gugu had over 10 years of experience in the financial services sector before jumping into entrepreneurship in 2011. He has tertiary education qualifications in Law, Accounting and Finance and completed an International MBA with an emphasis on Entrepreneurship at Vlerick Management School in Belgium in 2011. As a part-time Lecturer at Strathmore University, he gives courses in Entrepreneurial Finance and as a training partner of the East Africa Venture Capital Association on matters relating to finance and investment.

Prior to earning his MBA, Mr. Gugu had a successful career in investment banking. Within this field he rose to the position of Head of Investment Research and Analysis in Stanbic Investments Management Services (East Africa), part of the Standard Bank Group (South Africa). He focused on evaluating investments in equities, fixed income and private equity within East Africa and represented the organization in foreign and local media. Mr. Gugu is the Modelling, Valuation and Negotiation Director at Viktoria Solutions and runs an angel investor network in Nairobi.



#### **YUSUF ABDILAHİ GULLED, REGIONAL PROGRAM MANAGER, FAIRFISHING EU LOT2 PROGRAM**

Yusuf Abdilahi Gulled is the Regional Program Manager for the FairFishing EU LOT2 program. Prior joining to FairFishing, Mr. Gulled earned his Master of International Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid at Kalu Institute in Spain. He also attended Gollis University in Somaliland where he earned MBA of Business Management and Information Technology. Mr. Gulled has experience in working with international NGOs, government institutes, management and leadership, strategic planning, managing fisheries projects, development and educational empowerment programs. For the FairFishing team, Mr. Gulled carries out the Project/Action jointly vis-a-vis the Contracting Authority. He is responsible for taking all necessary and reasonable measures to ensure that the Project/Action is carried out in accordance with the Description of the Action and the terms and conditions of the EU Contract.



#### **THOMAS VAN HALEN, INVESTOR RELATIONS, VC4AFRICA**

Thomas van Halen has more than 8 years of experience in emerging markets. He joined VC4Africa in 2013 and is responsible for its research and investor services. He executes the annual Venture Finance in Africa report which provides detailed information on the progress of pan-African early-stage high-potential growth ventures. This data helps him to connect the VC4Africa investor network ranging from Angel investors to venture capital funds with opportunity-driven entrepreneurs all over the continent. Prior to his role at VC4Africa he conducted business research in Europe, Asia and Africa.

Furthermore he founded two companies in the media and ecommerce industry. He also holds a board position of a non-profit organization based in Kenya. Mr. van Halen earned his MSc in International Business with a specialization in Entrepreneurships and SME Management at Maastricht University and a bachelor's degree in International Business from Universidad Autónoma de Madrid.



#### **ABDIRAHMAN SHEIKH HASSAN, GENERAL MANAGER, PREMIER BANK**

Abdirahman Sheikh Hassan has been the General Manager of Premier Bank Somaliland since November 2016. Prior to joining Premier Bank, Mr. Hassan was the Director of the Banking Supervision Unit at the Central Bank of Somaliland where he led the process of drafting the Somaliland Anti-Money Laundering bill and a Remittance bill. Both bills were submitted to the House of Representatives while Abdirahman was still at the Supervision Unit. Mr. Hassan has a passion for writing about the challenges that Somali financial institutions face and has published the article Somaliland and the Challenges of Financial-Sector Supervision in which he documented his experience at the Central Bank of Somaliland.



#### **HODAN ALI HASSAN, HEAD OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, DAHABSHIL BANK**

Hodan Ali is a Financial Services Executive with over 16 years' experience, offering proven track record, with expertise in cash management, compliance, strategic planning, international relations and project management. Ms. Ali joined Dahabshil Bank International in August 2014 as Head of Investments and Marketing. She was promoted in July 2015 to head the Business Development and International Relations Department.

Ms. Ali worked from 2005 as a Treasury Manager at Bank of America Merrill Lynch in London. She also worked at Rabobank International in the Netherlands (2001) as a Cash Analyst. She speaks fluent Dutch and is proficient in German & French. Ms. Ali has a bachelor degree in International Business Studies from the University of Professional Education in the Hague, Netherlands.

#### **KENEDID A. HASSAN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY (MKU)**

Dr. Kenedid A. Hassan is an Associate Professor at Mount Kenya University (MKU) and the director of the Centre of Frankincense, Environmental and Social Studies (CFESS). He is currently involved in several on-going research projects focusing on the Horn of Africa including the international frankincense trade, journalism and democracy in Somaliland, and the development of nationalist discourses in relation to poetic and musical expressions in Djibouti, Somaliland and Somalia. Book Chapter (in press): Pan-Somalist Discourse and New Modes of Nationalist Expression in the Somali Horn: From Somali Poetic Resistance to Djibouti's Gacan Macaan - French Institute for Research in Africa (IFRA)/Twaweza Publication, 2017. Dr. Hassan has taught courses ranging from international relations and development studies to sociology and popular music, and also held consultancies with governments and international NGOs.



#### **SAHRA HASSAN, ASSOCIATE FIELD MANAGER, SHURAAGO—ONE EARTH FUTURE**

Sahra Hassan is the Associate Field Manager for Shuraako Somaliland and has over 10 years of experience working in the private and public sectors, especially in the areas of portfolio management and business development. She has worked in Somaliland for the last 6 years helping to support the development of thriving MSMEs as an entrepreneur and through working on private sector development projects such as those supported by the World Bank, SOMPREP II (Somaliland Business Fund and Enterprise/Household Surveys). Ms. Hassan earned a Bachelor degree in Business Administration from and Postgraduate Diploma in Management & Leadership from SOAS.



#### **AMRAN ALI HIIS, FOUNDING MEMBER, MILK PRODUCTION COMPANY/ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN BUSINESS**

Amran Ali Hiis is the Executive Director of the Committee of Concerned (CCS), a local NGO that has a long history of serving Somaliland since the early 90s after the civil war. She is also the founding member of Milk Care Corporation (MCC) an enterprise that is committed to providing quality milk containers to the milk vendors of the country with the hope of eliminating the usage of yellow plastic containers currently utilized. In addition, she was also the Director General of Ministry of Family Affairs and Social Development which laid the foundations of policies that are still employed today.





**MOHAMUD HUSSEIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AGRIBUSINESS SOLUTIONS HUB (ASH)**

Mohamud Hussein is Executive Director of Agribusiness Solutions Hub (ASH). He is an economist with over 20 years of experience in the food industry, public sector and research. In the public sector, Dr. Hussein evaluated the impact of public interventions across a wide range of policy programs including uptake of new agricultural technologies, new regulation and return to alternative investment options. His research skills and expertise include analysis of food safety and quality systems, and econometric analysis of food demand and regulation. Dr. Hussein has published research articles in peer-reviewed journals including, Food Policy, Food Quality and Preference, Journal of Agricultural Economics, and Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics. He has a Laurea degree in Agricultural Sciences with Economics (University of Perugia), MSc in Agricultural Economics (Imperial College London) and PhD in Agri-Environmental Economics (University of Kent).



**MUBAREG ABDULAH I BRAHIM, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING, MINISTRY OF NATIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

Mubareg Abdulahi Ibrahim is a development economist that works at Somaliland Ministry of National Planning (MoNPD) and Development who has held different positions. Currently, he is the Director of Planning at the MoNPD. He was the Technical Team Leader for the Somaliland National Development Plan II 2017-2021 preparation process.

Mr. Ibrahim is a lecturer in Economics at the University of Hargeisa (UoH) and other Universities in Hargeisa. He actively participated in a UoH curriculum review. He is a founder, B.O.D member and acting Executive Director for Somaliland Economics Association. He is also a socio-economic researcher that contributed to and conducted number of research studies such as the Somaliland Land Policy Scoping Study, and the Determinants of Small and Medium Enterprises Growth in Hargeisa. He is currently doing research on Youth Violence and Delinquency: The Case of Hargeisa.



**SAID ABIB I BRAHIM, OWNER AND GENERAL MANAGER, KAAFI HORN RENEWABLE ENERGY COMPANY (KAAFI SOLAR)**

Said Abib Ibrahim is the owner and General Manager of Kaafi Horn Renewable Energy Company (Kaafi Solar). He is an approved Renewable Energy Technician, trained in Germany, for the configuration, sizing, and installation of renewable energy systems.

Mr. Ibrahim is the Chief Technician for the supply and installation of more than 300 solar installations (school systems, hospital systems, water pumping systems and freezing systems) in Somaliland, Djibouti and Puntland. He has worked as a solar technician for the past 10 years and was previously an Administration and Finance officer for USAID funded health programs. He also worked as community mobilization trainer for local NGOs.

Mr. Ibrahim is the initiator of the BOSS program (Business Opportunities for the Solar Systems), a program of supporting small rural businesses with solar systems by creating income generating activities in those villages. He is the Co-Founder and Secretary General of the Somaliland Renewable Energy Association, an association with all the known renewable energy installer companies in Somaliland. He has a Master's degree in Human Resources Management and Materials Management from Cambridge College.



**MUSA YUSUF I BRAHIM, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING, MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES**

Musa Yusuf Ibrahim is the Deputy Director of Planning within the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine resources. He has over 5 years' experience in the Planning Department and Fisheries Sector, as well as extensive project management skills.

In his role as Deputy Director, Mr. Ibrahim is responsible for supervising department staff, developing monthly reports, creating training materials and protocols, data collection, and assisting in development reviews, among other duties. Specifically within the fisheries sector, he is involved in a capacity and system building plan which is focused on training fishermen on fish catching systems, how to use fishing equipment, and pre and post training questionnaires/assessments which are being developed and implemented to ascertain the capacity of the employees before and after the training.

Over the last few years some of the projects that he has been involved in include conducting a 2015-2016 Fisherman Registration biometric system funded by FAO, and a 2013-2014 Assistant Media Awareness Campaign Value Chain Project funded by the World Bank.



#### **ABDULHAKIM MOHAMED ISMAIL, Acting COO, Head of Investment, DAHABSHIL BANK**

Mr. Abdulhakim Mohamed Ismail has more than 13 years of experience in the financial services sector and has worked in Somalia, Sudan, and South Sudan. He is currently the Chief Operating Officer of Dahabshil Bank International and acts as the head of Investments. Mr. Ismail holds two Masters Degrees in Banking and Accounting. His professional interests are in the development of the financial services sector, introducing new products to the bank, and addressing difficulties of access to finance in Somalia and Somaliland.

Mr. Ismail was instrumental in introducing the trade and real estate departments to the bank, which are now both fully fledged operations that hold a significant portfolio for the bank. Going forward, Mr. Ismail is working on introducing new technologies to the bank to improve its operations and ensure that customers receive the best available service.



#### **HEBAQQ ABDULRAHMAN ISMAIL, FOUNDER, BUBAL DENTAL**

Hebaqq Abdulrahman Ismail was born in 1984 in Burco city and then moved to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) when she was 3. Her father worked for the Ministry of Interior in UAE for more than 30 years as a Journalist, her mother was a housewife. Growing up in a large household of 7 girls and 2 boys, Dr. Hebaqq was taught to work hard and value education in order to be a strong member of the community.

Though she dreamed to be a writer as a young girl, she shifted her focus toward being a doctor after her father was diagnosed with high blood pressure. In 2010 she graduated from the Ain Shams University Faculty of Dentistry. With few job prospects in UAE, Dr. Ismail returned to Hargeisa to be a lecturer at Amoud University Faculty of Dentistry from 2011-2013. Soon after, she established the Bubal Dental clinic with her sister in a small place in radio Hargeisa. Over time, they moved and expanded from 1 dental chair and 1 dentist, to 15 chairs and 9 dentists (most foreign). In 2016 Dr. Hebaqq opened a radio Hargeisa branch Bubal clinic and also the Bubal Dental School Faculty of Dentistry.

She has also been involved in health TV programs in HCTV (2012) and started a program called Dentist Diary on Radio Hargeisa in 2015. Her biggest dream is to have the first teaching dental hospital, where dental students can offer affordable dental services to the poor- and with luck, to expand and have a branch in every city in Somaliland.



#### **MOHAMED RASHID ISMAIL, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER FOR MEA REGION, DB WORLD BERBERA BOARD MEMBER**

Mohammed Ismail joined DP World in November 2015 where he focuses on business development in Sub-Saharan Africa. Prior to Joining DP World, Mr. Ismail set up and ran GE's Regional Office for the Horn of Africa, at the Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME) and McKinsey & Co.

Mr. Ismail holds an MBA from INSEAD, MSc in Development Economics from the University of Bristol and a BA & MSci in Physics from the University of Cambridge.



#### **EDNA ADAN ISMAIL, CEO AND FOUNDER, EDNA ADAN HOSPITAL AND UNIVERSITY**

Edna Adan Ismail – Born in Hargeisa in the then British Protectorate of Somaliland, Ms. Adan trained as a nurse and midwife in London 1954-1961 before moving to Libya in 1965 to share her skills as a midwife trainer on behalf of the World Health Organization (WHO). She returned to the Horn of Africa in 1967 when her husband, Mohamed Haji Ibrahim Egal, became Prime Minister of the Somali Republic. (He would later become the first President of Somaliland).

Founded as a maternity hospital, over the past 15 years her hospital has grown into a major referral institution. The hospital treats obstetrical, surgical, medical and pediatric cases from across the Horn of Africa. In addition to services relating to maternal and infant health, Edna Adan Hospital has diagnostic laboratory facilities, an emergency blood bank, and provides diagnosis and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, including testing for HIV/AIDS.

Among her numerous awards, Ms. Adan is an officer of the French Legion d'honneur (2012), and a Commandeur Dans l'Ordre National du 27 Juin, Djibouti (1997). Most recently she was short-listed for the European parliament's Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought. She also holds an honorary award from Clark University, the Universities of Cardiff and Pennsylvania, and the Chancellor's Gold Medal from the University of Pretoria.



**ISSA MAHAMOUD ISSA, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND STATISTICS, MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS, HOUSING AND TRANSPORT**

Mr. Issa Mahamoud Issa is the Director of Planning and Statistics for the Ministry of Public Works, Housing and Transport. Mr. Issa is responsible for Planning and annual budget preparation, and coordinating project activities financed by development partners such as JPLG (Joint Program for Local Government Decentralization). He is also in charge of coordinating Somaliland's infrastructure sector which consists of several ministries and agencies.

In addition, Mr. Issa is a Development Economics Specialist with extensive experience in planning, banking and in-depth knowledge of Somaliland governmental institutions and their financial systems. Mr. Issa has a Master's Degree in Development Economics from Ethiopian Civil Service University, Addis Ababa.



**OMAR ABDULLAHI ISSE, CEO, KAAFI ENTERPRISE FOR ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND SANITATION (KEEPS)**

Omar Abdullahe Isse, CEO of KEEPS a public private partnership company. Omar has worked in the humanitarian field with different national and international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) in Somaliland. His work has included designing and implementing large projects and programs throughout all of Somaliland and its associated regions.

In the private sector he has worked with a small scale energy company for almost eight years. He has also been in charge of running KEEPS, a solid waste management and environment protection company which provides sanitation services to ~15,000 clients in parts of Hargeisa city for the last five years. Additionally he deals with the procurement process of purchasing equipment (trucks and heavy equipment) both locally and abroad (negotiation with vendors, service providers and financiers).

He has attended dozens of national and international trainings and workshops in several countries. This includes attending administrative research trainings that focus on comprehensive training in Trauma Awareness, Management of Public Private Partnerships (PPP), Vocational Training Programming, Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA), and Developing Education and Leadership Teams in Action (DELTA).



**EVANS KAMAU, INVESTMENT OFFICER INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY, World Bank Group**

Evans Kamau has over 16 years work experience gained in various positions. He has gained extensive experience in Transaction Advisory Services, corporate finance, investment, and business/financial analysis as an Investment Officer at IFC (World Bank Group) and Transaction Advisor in the Transaction Advisory Services Department of Ernst & Young Eastern Africa Region.

Additionally he has received Senior training on Public Private Partnership and Project Finance from the John F Kennedy School of Government, a Project Management Certification from George Washington University, a Masters in Economics and Bachelors in Economics – University of Nairobi and is a Certified Public Accountant.



**SAMUEL KARANJA, DEPUTY TEAM LEAD- AGRICULTURE VALUE CHAIN, GROWTH, ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT & LIVELIHOODS PROJECT (GEEL)**

Samuel Karanja is an innovative result oriented project manager and agribusiness enthusiast with over 10 years of international work experience in private sector development, inclusive business in agriculture and public private partnerships. He has worked in both international development organizations as well as in the private sector in the East African region, primarily on agricultural value chain development. Dr. Karanja is currently working with the USAID GEEL funded project in Somaliland in the agriculture and livestock value chains to facilitate inclusive economic growth. He previously worked for Equity Bank Kenya where he helped establish an agribusiness docket for financing small scale farmers called Technoserve offering business advisory services to agribusinesses and global communities in Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi to support agribusiness SMEs to expand their trade. He has BSC. Agriculture an MBA and a PhD Strategic Management.



**MOHAMOUD AHMED LIBAN, CFO DAHABSHIL BANK; CHAIRMAN, HECO/ SOMALILAND ENERGY ASSOCIATION**

Mohamoud Ahmed Liban graduated from Mogadishu Polytechnic as a Mechanical Engineer in 1983 and the Thames Polytechnic in London in 1992. In 2014 Eng. Liban successfully merged the four ESP's that supplied Burao into one company called HECO. He later was elected Chairman of HECO. In November 2015, Eng. Liban helped create and was elected Chairman of the Somaliland Electricity Association (SEA) to coordinate and improve the electricity sector in Somaliland.

Following new investments in Somaliland's solar energy sector, Eng. Liban became the project manager of the largest solar project that has been installed in Somaliland to date. The project is a hybrid 1.5 MW Solar with diesel Gensets.



#### **MARK MCCOY, INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST, SHURAAKO- ONE EARTH FUTURE**

Mark McCoy joined One Earth Future in 2015 as a member of the Shuraako investment team. He is specialized in impact investments, emerging markets & fragile state finance and responsible for evaluating, structuring, and presenting investments. He is currently the fund manager for the Somali AgriFood Fund focused on Diaspora investment in agriculture. Prior to joining Shuraako, Mr. McCoy worked as an analyst for Archer Daniels Midland, Brown Commercial Group and entrepreneur of a small business in Nairobi acquired in 2014. He holds a bachelor in Finance and Economics from North Park University and his Master's in Business Administration from the Daniels College of Business.



#### **AHMED ALI MIRE, TVET AND HIGHER EDUCATION MANAGER, CARE INTERNATIONAL**

Ahmed Ali Mire is humanitarian professional based in Somaliland. He has Master of Arts in Peacebuilding from UK and another master in Business Administration from Malaysia. He has been working with NGOs and UN for the last 13 years including CARE international, UNDP and UNHCR among others. Mr. Mire is currently the TVET and higher education manager for CARE International in Somalia and Somaliland, a project that has renewable energy component. From 2011 to 2015 he was the Area Manager for CARE's sub-office in Erigavo managing multi sectoral projects. During his tenure as Area Manager he has successfully implemented more than 30 projects. His biggest achievements include being the first person to start the Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) and capacitating and empowering local leaders in Sool and Sanaag regions up to a level where they can partner with CARE and implement projects. Other notable achievements include his work in peace building mechanisms, structures and capacities he established. Mr. Mire is currently managing an EU funded project with CARE International that aims to produce qualified and skilled youth in renewable energy and roads sectors.

#### **HALIMO MOHAMUD MOHAMED, CEO/FOUNDER, HODAN'S FISH AND CHICKEN HOUSE**

Halimo Mohamud Mohamed is the CEO and Founder of Hodan's Fish and Chicken House in Bosaso, Puntland. Opened in 2012, Hodan's Fish and Chicken House grew from a small building primarily servicing wealthy customers via house deliveries, to a fully operational, two story restaurant. A graduate from Al-Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt, she is a Somali diaspora and successful entrepreneur. Ms. Mohamed also founded Huruuse Hotel and Makocola Factory in Bosaso and Hodan's Beauty and Cosmetics Shop in Sweden.



#### **HASSAN FARAH MOHAMMED, SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR, SOMLEGAL SERVICES**

Hassan Farah Mohammed is a Somaliland lawyer with expertise in Somaliland laws, especially focuses on company, commercial and investment-related laws. Mr. Mohammed was the primary consultant to review and amend Somaliland Company Law, Investment Law, and Commercial Code. He served as a legal consultant for many government ministries, programs including, and international organizations. In addition, Mr. Mohammed assisted in the merger of the biggest energy companies in Somaliland.

Mr. Mohammed holds a LL.B degree in law from University of Hargeisa (UoH), a Post-Graduate Diploma in Peace and Conflict studies from the Institute of Peace and Conflict studies (IPCS), and a Master in Governance and Leadership, from the School of Graduate Studies, University of Hargeisa. He is the Senior Managing Director of Somlegal Services responsible for the day to day management of the firm. He is also the coordinator of the corporate and business component of the Firm.

#### **LIBAN MOHAMED HAJI MOHAMOUD, DIRECTOR OF ENERGY, MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERALS**

Liban Mohamed is an Electrical Power Engineer by training who currently works as the Director of Energy for the Ministry of Energy and Minerals. The Director of Energy is responsible for leading the planning, development, implementation, promotion and execution of structures for the development and regulation of energy, renewable energy and energy efficiency, through research, planning, development of standards and regulations. Mr. Mohamoud's other responsibilities include preparing the National Development plan's energy components, providing information and statistics to the government and other important partners, advising the energy sector, internal, and external stakeholders on technical and regulatory matters pertaining to energy, and developing and implementing strategies, policies and regulations to promote increased affordable power generation and distribution to the private and public sectors.

Previously, Mr. Mohamoud was a university lecturer and engineering consultant. He has extensive experience working on renewable and non-renewable electrical systems. He has worked on designing and implementing home solar power systems of different scales as well as solar water pumping systems for irrigation. He has also done energy auditing for buildings (commercial & residential) and electrical installation design and load analysis for several multi-story commercial buildings. Apart from his engineering work, he was a lecturer at both the University of Hargeisa and Amoud University, the two largest and oldest universities in Somaliland.





#### **LIBAN AHMED MOHAMED, CIVIL/ STRUCTURAL ENGINEER, BARRE CONSTRUCTION AND HOUSING**

Liban Ahmed Mohamed is an experienced Civil and Structural Engineer working for Barre Construction and Housing. His previous experience and education was in Malaysia where he was heavily involved in projects including the Changi airport and Jalan Sutan Ismail bridge deck fabrication. He was a lecturer at the University of Hargeisa where he taught Concrete Technology and Building Technology.

Mr. Mohamed received his Bachelors of Civil Engineering in 2013 and his Master's in Civil Engineering with a focus on Structure and Transportation.



#### **MUSTAFE MOHAMED, SENIOR LEGAL ADVISOR, SOMALILAND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Mustafe Mohamed is a lawyer by profession holding a LLB from University of Hargeisa, Somaliland and a Master's Degree (LLM) in International Trade and Investment Law from University of Pretoria, South Africa. He currently serves as a Senior Legal Advisor of the Somaliland House of Representatives [Parliament]. Mr. Mustafe works as a corporate lawyer with the Ministry of Trade and Investment at HanVard through IFC/ World Bank. He is actively practiced as an advocate at a private law firm namely SAHANSAMO Advocates and Legal Consultants. Mr. Mohamed taught Commercial Law, Property Law and Professional Ethics at Universities of Hargeisa, Somaliland for the past 4 years and currently serves as an Associate Professor of the Faculty of Law and Externships.

Mr. Mohamed is a legal pioneer devoted professional legal service to over a dozen of Legal reviews and advises. He has published and edited several books including "Legislative Drafting Handbook" and "Non-recognition of Somaliland and its Legal Implication for Foreign Investment". His research interests are in the area of International Investment and Trade Law, regulatory law, alternative dispute resolution, and law and justice reform programs.



#### **H.E. OMER SHOAIB MOHAMED, MINISTER, MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INVESTMENT**

H.E. Omer Shoaib Mohamed is the Minister of Trade and Investment at the Ministry of Trade and Investment for Republic of Somaliland. The Ministry is responsible for the promotion of job creation and economic growth by empowering the Somaliland businesses and entrepreneurs.

As the Minister of Trade and Investment of the Republic of Somaliland and with the directive from President, Mr. Mohamed is responsible for the formulation and implementation of the government progressive policies on matters pertaining to trade, investment and protection of the interest of consumers, in such a way that it will contribute positively towards the further development of the Somaliland economy and the well-being of the population of the country.

Mr. Mohamed holds a Master's Degree in Communicable Diseases from Addis Ababa and Bachelor of Public health and Advanced Diploma in pharmacy from Thomson Education Direct, USA.

Prior becoming the Minister of Trade and Investment, Mr. Mohamed worked for COOPI Italian International INGO from 1992 until 1998 and SRCS as consultant from 2005 till 2008. Mr. Mohamed is also an entrepreneur and the founder of DALSAN Health Center which he established in 2000.



#### **SAMUEL MUTHAMIA, PROJECT MANAGER, ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY (ADRA SOMALIA)**

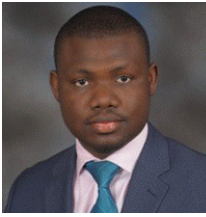
Samuel Muthamia, who is leading the implementation of long-term renewable energy programs in Somalia/ Somaliland, holds a Master's Degree in Development Communication from the University of Nairobi, Kenya and a Master's Degree in International Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid from Humanitarian Aid Studies Centre, Spain. Mr. Muthamia has been involved in energy policy analysis and development for several years and has co-written a number of occasional papers on renewable energy and energy efficiency. Further, he has actively developed and promoted renewable energy access for rural and peri-urban communities in Somaliland and contributed to the formulation of Somaliland's National Energy Policy. Mr. Muthamia retains a special interest in capacity building and TVET curriculum review/development for renewable energy courses in Somaliland.



#### **NICHOLAS NYATHI, TEAM LEADER, AGRICULTURE VALUE CHAINS TEAM- GROWTH, ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT AND LIVELIHOOD PROJECT (GEEL)**

Nicholas Nyathi is currently the Agriculture Value Chains Leader for Growth, enterprise, employment and Livelihood project (USAID project). He has more than two decades of experience working in Africa (Zimbabwe, Kenya, Ethiopia, Ghana and Mozambique) as an agriculture value chain and agribusiness development expert where he has led value chain development processes either as the Program Manager and/or Team Leader in Agriculture. He has implemented market based solutions working with private and public-sector entities in livestock, dairy, cereals, pulses and oil seeds, horticulture, cereals, honey and cocoa value chains. Mr. Nyathi is a holder of an Honors degree in Business Studies and a Master's degree in business administration. He is a certified chartered secretary.





**OLUFUNSO SOMORIN, SENIOR POLICY OFFICER, TRANSITION SUPPORT (FRAGILE STATES) DEPARTMENT, AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK**

Dr. Olufunso Somorin currently manages the African Development Bank's work on addressing fragility and building resilience within the Horn of Africa region. He provides an oversight for national/regional projects worth about USD2.3 billion across strategic focus-areas which include institutional strengthening and capacity development, economic governance, drought resilience and infrastructure development in Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia, Djibouti, Sudan, Eritrea and South Sudan. He leads a number of policy dialogues with national/regional governments on developing policy frameworks for managing local and regional economic and social issues, resilience, peace- and state-building goals, regional integration, food security, climate change and inclusive growth.

Prior to joining the Bank in 2011, Dr. Somorin was an Associate Professional Officer with the Center for International Forestry Research, based in Yaoundé Cameroon. He led a number of a policy-relevant research analyses on mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation into national development policies of the Congo Basin countries. He has published more than 25 peer-reviewed articles on climate policy, natural resources management and sustainable development in many leading scientific journals. Dr. Somorin holds a PhD in International Environmental Policy from Wageningen University, the Netherlands. He has undertaken a number of executive education courses and advanced trainings in many leading institutions, including both Cambridge and Oxford Universities in the UK.



**MOHAMED OMER NUR, PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER, NUR CONSTRUCTION**

Mohamed Omer Nur is the President and Founder of Nur Construction. Since 2014, he has offered complete construction project services, from site selection to construction. Prior to his work in Hargeisa, Mr. Nur worked for a series of architectural firms in Naples, Florida including: RHA- Robert Herrmann Architects, K2 Design Group, Stofft Cooney Architects, and Arno Design Group. His primary responsibilities have involved all phases of design, schematic design, design development and construction documents, as well as preparing and coordinating construction drawings.



**SUCAAD ARMIYEH ODOWA, PRESIDENT, SOMALILAND ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN BUSINESS**

Sucaad Armiyeh Odowa is a businesswoman and entrepreneur. She holds a degree in Development Economics from the University of London SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies). She has been involved in the financial sector in Somaliland as the Operational Director for Horn Money Transfer Company, and she is the owner of several businesses including Café Lalays and Lalays Interiors.

Ms. Odowa also serves as the President of the Association for Women in Business (AWB). The association was founded by a group of business women to provide support for women entrepreneurs in Somaliland who face the challenges of running a business in a male dominated environment. The association is designed to provide services and to be a voice for women in small and medium business. In addition, Ms. Odowa is an activist who has been elected by the Somaliland community in London as Leader and the Chair for Somaliland Society in the United Kingdom.



**ABDIFATAH OMAR, PLANNING COORDINATOR, MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERALS**

Abdifatah Omar is the Planning Coordinator of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals, which coordinates the planning functions of the ministry directorates, sections and units. In 2011 he received his B.Sc. degree from Cairo University from the Faculty of Engineering as a Chemical Engineer, and now is candidate of MA of Project Planning and Management at Hargeisa University.

He has lectured in Faculties of Engineering in both University of Hargeisa and Gollis University respectively; in addition, he had contributed in many research projects and surveys across Somaliland with the collaboration of local and international research centers.



**LEILA OMAR, MANAGING DIRECTOR, SLA INNOVATIVE ENERGY SOLUTIONS**

Leila Omar has thirteen years of comprehensive experience in telecommunication technologies. Ms. Omar began her career as a contractor before becoming a successful entrepreneur. She founded her current company, SolarLandAfrica which focuses on renewable energy for telecommunication companies in Africa, as well private businesses and private homes, to reduce the high cost of electricity, gasoline and unhealthy ceresin and cooking coal. SolarLandAfrica is a profitable company but also helps many companies and low-income communities afford electricity by providing PAYG systems. Ms. Omar received a Bachelor's degree Information and Communication Technologies from Helsinki Business College (HBC) and a Bachelor's thesis from Helsinki Institute of Marketing. She also has a diploma as a youth and leisure instructor from the Institute of Kanneljärvi.

#### **MOHAMED SHEIKH OMAR, CHAIRMAN OF THE SOMALILAND NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION**

Mohamed Sheikh Omar is the Chairman of the Somaliland National Industrial Association. Mr. Omar has over 20 years' experience in business both in country and abroad working and managing businesses from different sectors. As an entrepreneur Mr. Omar founded and successfully set-up various businesses in the industry sector namely Mina Water, Al-Yasir Bakery and Hargeisa plastic factory. Having been involved in the industry sector and co-owner of industrial businesses he recognized the need for having an industrial association to advance the goals of their businesses and to develop the industry sector of the country. Therefore, he contributed the establishment of Somaliland National Industrial Association.

#### **SAEED MOHAMED OMER, CEO, MAANDEEQ GROUP**

Saeed Mohamed Omer is the CEO of Maandeeq Group. With over 11-years' experience in executive management across different sectors in the United Kingdom, Mr. Omer returned home to add value to his country's development. He joined Maandeeq Group as the CEO in June 2017 and is solely accountable for leading the execution and development of Maandeeq's long term approach with the idea of generating shareholder value. He acts as the link between the organization of the company and the board itself. Mr. Omer is passionate about creating change, Maandeeq's innovative Poultry Project is the first large scale farm to be fully operational in Somaliland.



#### **HARRIE OOSTINGH, ACTING COUNTRY DIRECTOR, OXFAM SOMALIA / SOMALILAND**

Harrie Oostingh is a graduated economist with extensive working experience in over 30 countries in Latin-America, Asia and Africa. He has been working in a broad range of programmes mostly in the field of economic development and risk and social inclusion. He spent 10 years in Central America and the Caribbean, working as Country- and Regional Director responsible for programmes in the field of social protection and social inclusion. In 2007 he started working for Oxfam in The Netherlands, where he occupied a number of positions and became responsible for programme quality. He worked together with Oxfam offices in strategic planning, programme development and fundraising. As roving manager he led in the design and implementation of a number of large scale multi-country programmes. Since 2017 he has been (acting) Country Director for Oxfam Somalia / Somaliland and has been instrumental in expanding Oxfam's presence on the ground.

Mr. Oostingh considers himself a professional idealist, able to bring together the right people to get things done. He is keen to find new people and new ideas that can help to resolve social exclusion and injustice.



#### **FARAH ALI OSMAN, FOUNDER, DUALEH FARM**

Farah Ali Osman has 25 years' experience in Kuwait working as a gantry crane operator, supervisor, and manager for the Sheikh Kuwait Ports Agency. In addition, he served in a managerial role from 1992-2008 training officers at the Shuiba Ports Authority in Kuwait.

Mr. Osman came back to Somalia from Kuwait and invested in a farm in Agoli –near Kalabaydh, Gabilay Region, Somaliland. As the farm owner and manager, he introduced modern farming techniques which were not previously popular in the region. Using his knowledge of agriculture and modern farming technology he has managed to grow a successful farming operation. With the assistance of Shuraako and IFAD, Mr. Osman was able to install a greenhouse (40m by 9m) with drip irrigation to produce highly nourished cash crops including fruits. Though the firm specializes in cash crop production, he has also expanded the farm's operations to include poultry and beekeeping. Mr. Osman graduated from Lafoole University in Somalia, he was also a former soccer player for LLP Team in Somalia.



#### **VICTOR ODUNDO OWUOR, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, OEF RESEARCH—ONE EARTH FUTURE**

Victor Odundo Owuor's primary responsibility at OEF is to lead the Business and Governance research track. Victor received his PhD from the University of Texas at Dallas in December 2012. The title of his dissertation was "Destabilizing Dark Networks: The Case of the Somali Piracy Saga and its Financial Implications for Kenya." Dr. Owuor is also a Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist (CAMS) – an internationally recognized designation for those with subject matter expertise in the tackling of money laundering and the combating of terrorism financing. Dr. Owuor's previous accomplishments include a BSc degree in Applied Mathematics/Physics from Willamette University, Oregon and an MBA in International Business/Supply Chain Management from University of Texas at Dallas.

Dr. Owuor joined OEF from University of Texas at Dallas where he was amongst others, an instructor of record for an introductory course on Negotiations and Conflict Resolution. His prior work experience includes nearly two decades of project and operations management in his native Kenya. A significant part of this period comprised a long stint as the founder and chief executive of a progressive construction firm, as well as the principal of a last mile/milk run logistics company for beverage products primarily targeting the bottom of the pyramid sector.



#### TONY PELZ, DIRECTOR OF SHURAAKO—ONE EARTH FUTURE

Anthony “Tony” Pelz was a distressed debt trader on ABN AMRO Bank NV’s proprietary trading desk based in Amsterdam. Prior to proprietary trading, Mr. Pelz worked with several investment banks including Credit Suisse, Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein and ABN AMRO Bank NV in roles ranging from corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions to credit and business development. He has substantial international work experience in Asia, U.S., Europe and Latin America and was based in New York City, Bogotá, Rio de Janeiro and Amsterdam. Mr. Pelz is the author of *The Biotech Trader Handbook*, 2nd Edition and *Option Trading Kung Fu*, 1st Edition. In his spare time, he is active in cyber security, Python, Red Hat Linux and pentesting in his home lab and has attained several professional IT/networking certifications including Cisco CCNA, CCENT and CCNA Security in addition to Security+.



#### HAILEMELEKOT ASFAW REDA, REPRESENTATIVE IN ETHIOPIA, CIPE

Hailemeleket Asfaw Reda has a Master’s degree in the field of Social Work from Addis Ababa University (AAU). He did his undergraduate degree in two fields, i.e. in Law (2009), and Sociology and Social Administration (1999) from AAU. He is also certified in Association Leadership and Management from the Institute for Organization Management (IOM) USA. In addition, Mr. Reda took short courses on Renewable Energy (Germany), Research and Survey Methodology (Oxford Research International), project monitoring and evaluation, and advocacy, etc.

Currently, he is working as the Ethiopian Representative for the Centre for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) (a U.S based international NGO) and an affiliate senior consultant for Precise Consult International. He is a specialist within the Ethiopian Business Membership Organizations (BMOs) in the programs of Capacity Building for Membership Development, Business Advocacy, Public-Private Dialogues, and Empowering Grassroots Associations, etc.



#### PAIGE ROBERTS, PROJECT OFFICER, SECURE FISHERIES—ONE EARTH FUTURE

Paige Roberts has a background in fisheries ecology and biology. At Secure Fisheries, she is part of the scientific research team, providing information on the ecology, history, and governance of fisheries in eastern Africa, with a focus on Somaliland, Somalia, and Lake Victoria. She oversees data management and analysis of fisheries using geographic information systems (GIS). Her work with Secure Fisheries includes the creation of an interactive map of Somali coastal resources. Ms. Roberts holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Miami in marine science and biology. She has extensive field and laboratory research experience on the east coast of the United States, especially the Chesapeake Bay.



#### AHMED SAID, REGIONAL PROGRAM COORDINATOR, GROWTH, ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT & LIVELIHOODS PROJECT (GEEL)

Ahmed Said is currently a Regional Program Coordinator for Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihood project in Puntland State of Somalia, (GEEL is USAID project). He is the first point of contact for GEEL in Puntland and provides technical support in fisheries and overall GEEL activities in Puntland. This means that he develops working relationships with stakeholders, including fisheries firms, to ensure quality product and investment increases, and supports them as they explore and establish market linkages to neighboring countries like Kenya, Ethiopia and Oman.

Mr. Said has over 10 years’ experience working in Government, Private sector and international organizations in the areas of fisheries, education and stabilization activities in Somalia. He completed a Master’s of Science in development studies at JOMO Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology and a post-Graduate Diploma of Education at Islamic university in Uganda.



#### LARRY SAMPLER, PRESIDENT, ONE EARTH FUTURE

Donald “Larry” Sampler is president of One Earth Future, providing strategic direction and growth-focused leadership to the foundation in its efforts to develop programs encouraging peace through collaborative, data-driven initiatives. He brings his considerable experience in the private sector and in post and intra-conflict missions of both the Organization for the Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the United Nations. Prior to joining OEF, Mr. Sampler served as Assistant to the Administrator at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in the Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs (OAPA) leading USAID’s efforts for two of the agency’s largest missions. Sampler has substantial experience in conflict and post-conflict environments working for USAID, the U.S. Department of State, the Institute for Defense Analyses, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and the OSCE mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Mr. Sampler graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology (GIT) with a degree in Physics. He also pursued graduate studies with GIT’s Technology and Science Policy Program where he examined the role of technology in quality-of-life improvements for developing nations. He also has a graduate degree in Diplomacy from Norwich University.





#### **MARC SELLIES, SECRETARIAT TEAM LEADER, ESRES**

Marc Sellies' 35-year career in the power and engineering sectors has generated real reforms in conflict, post-conflict, and post-disaster areas such as Haiti, Afghanistan, and Iraq through the intersection of technology, management, strategy, and policy.

Mr. Sellies is a seasoned project leader with a proven ability to manage multi-disciplinary teams of employees and subcontractors from diverse countries and cultural backgrounds. As an example, he managed a large project in Afghanistan with contractors from Afghanistan, Russia, Tajikistan, India, Iran, and Australia. He has built relationships with high-level stakeholders including the President of Haiti, the Deputy Energy and Water Minister of Afghanistan, and utility CEOs and board members. Throughout most of his international development career, Mr. Sellies has worked in complex political climates rife with ethnic tensions and cultural intricacies.



#### **DUŠAN SIROTKA, DIRECTOR, P.U.R.E., S.R.O**

Eng. Dušan Sirotko is the owner of P.U.R.E., s.r.o. (go-pure.eu), company whose aim is to provide innovative customized solutions to customers all around the world. Eng. Dušan Sirotko was born in Bratislava, Slovak Republic. He graduated from Electro Technical Faculty in Bratislava in 1992 with a degree in microelectronics. He has earned practical certificates with KACO new Energy, SMA, and Fronius.

In cooperation with VONSCH, the Slovak manufacturer of photovoltaic technologies, P.U.R.E is developing better systems, in order to more effectively produce electricity and to offer investors innovative applications. Thanks to this fruitful cooperation, the company has developed more than 20 patents, all in fields of photovoltaics technologies. In 2012, Eng Sirotko became the Renewable Energy Advisor to the Slovak government. As an example of his achievements; in cooperation with Slovak republic, P.U.R.E has developed a 300 mil. EUR package from the EU to Slovakia, aiming to provide subsidies to renewable energy sources. In years 2016 – 2020 P.U.R.E will be focusing on diesel hybrid systems, which are strongly beneficial for the environment and for the investor.



#### **GEORGE WAIGI, TEAM LEADER, SOMALI SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE FACILITY (SMEF)**

George Waigi is the Team Leader of the Somali Small and Medium Enterprise Facility (SMEF), World Bank Project Implemented by BDO LLP in the Somali Peninsula. He has previously worked with the International Labour Organization as a Green Jobs expert, and with the UN as an SME adviser. He has worked as an SME expert for several NGOs in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania over the last 20 years. His main area of specialization is in Business Development Services, Youth Employment, Entrepreneurship and Green Business Development. George has over 20 year's expertise in formulating and designing Micro and Small Enterprise Programmes globally. He holds a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Agricultural Engineering and a MBA in Business and Leadership.



#### **OSMAN WARSAME (DEGELLE), SENIOR ADVISOR ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT, UNFPA**

Osman Warsame (Degelle) is a social scientist and leader in sustainable development in Somaliland. He is currently a senior advisor on population and development matters at the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) office for Somalia, focusing on population policies and studying population dynamics and trends.

He has advised and served as member of the National Development Plan NDPII 2017-2021 Technical Committee where he was the lead on the Social Sector Pillar. In 2013 the President of Somaliland appointed him to serve as the Director General (DG) of the Ministry of Health to provide strategic leadership and implementation of national health policy.

He received his academic education from South Bank University with a Bachelors of Process Engineering, Durham University with Master of Science in Process Technology, Metropolitan University, Master of Arts in Social Research and Policy and PhD in Applied sciences.



#### **SEKERIYE ABDIRISAK WARSAME, MEDICAL DIRECTOR, LAS ANOD MEDICAL CENTER**

Mr. Sekeriye Abdirisak Warsame has been involved in the health sector for almost a decade. He began his career as a nurse and has gradually grown into a more supervisory and administrative focus through his previous works as a medical coordinator and his current role as the Medical Director of the Las Anod Medical Center. In this position he is responsible for overseeing medical staff, approving medical policies and procedures, and for providing credentials and authorizations.

In addition to his work in the medical field, Mr. Warsame has also been active in education. In the past he has been a lecturer at Nugal University for undergraduate programs, and was later an Academic Dean at Gollis University in their Las- Anod Branch. He received his Bachelors of Science in Nursing in 2009, and a Master's of Public Health in 2013.



#### **SAMUEL GITHINJI WATHONDY, INVESTMENT DIRECTOR, IFU**

Samuel Githinji has over 13 years of deal structuring, investing in SMEs, portfolio management, financial and accounting experience. Mr. Githinji has a Bachelor's degree in Actuarial Science and is also qualified as a Chartered Accountant.

Currently, he is an investment director at IFU East Africa office where he leads the investment projects in the region. His specialties include, private equity and venture capital, SME investing, agribusiness, financial services, and accounting and internal auditing.



#### **JOHNNY WEISS, PRINCIPAL, JOHNNY WEISS - SOLAR CONSULTING**

Johnny Weiss has been on the leading edge of solar energy education and training: developing, teaching, and managing renewable energy training programs focused on the practical uses of solar thermal and photovoltaics. He is currently an independent consultant working internationally from Colorado on special solar projects. As an educator, a certified industrial trainer, and a building professional, Mr. Weiss has more than 40 years of experience in the real-world applications of renewable energy technologies.

Mr. Weiss co-founded Solar Energy International (SEI) in 1991. He was the executive director and led SEI for over 20 years, helping establish SEI as a leader in solar education that has trained over 35,000 students. As an associate professor in the 1980's, he developed and taught a college-level vocational solar training program. Mr. Weiss also has hands-on experience as a builder and a licensed general contractor, and is knowledgeable in earth/straw construction. His experience includes project management with solar energy companies and with NGOs working in sustainable development. His recent work concentrates on helping establish renewable energy education centers, training trainers, working with Native American programs and managing solar projects in the developing world.



#### **FRED ZAKE, PROGRAM LEAD, HORN OF AFRICA INITIATIVE, WORLD BANK GROUP, TRADE AND COMPETITIVENESS GLOBAL PRACTICE**

Fred Zake is the Program Leader for the World Bank Group (WBG)'s Horn of Africa Initiative covering 8 countries in the region. He is also the Somalia Country Lead for the Trade and Competitiveness Practice of the WBG, leading teams working on a number of activities to stimulate private sector led growth. A Ugandan Lawyer, he holds an LLM (with Merit) in International Investment Law from the London School of Economics, and an LLB Hons from Makerere University. Mr. Zake has extensive technical and management experience within the WBG, leading teams to support over a dozen client countries in Asia and Africa (e.g. Somalia, Zambia, Comoros, Madagascar, Sudan, Nepal, Bhutan) to shape their investment climate and doing business regimes, unlock investment constraints and catalyze investments in key sectors. Before joining the WBG, he spent over 15 years in private legal practice, management consultancy, business membership organizations and also served as General Manager Retail for a large South African TNC operating in East Africa.



# SPONSORS

# Business Unusual

TRANSFORMING SOMALI BUSINESS  
FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

**The Somali Investment Climate Reform Program (SICRP) (2015–2018)** was established with the overall objective to support Somaliland to address constraints to investment and competitiveness and to build capacities for the government and private sector to engage in evidence-based policy advocacy.

The Program is prioritizing local skills development and buy-in, and seeks opportunities to nurture capacity and confidence within and between private sector and government through dialogue, and incremental reforms which will remove constraints to private sector growth, spur economic growth and help to create jobs. Our approach is to work with the people of Somaliland to generate

sustainable homegrown solutions, and improve and replicate these using our regional and global resources, lessons and skills.

SICRP is part of the International Finance Corporation/World Bank Group's initiatives to support accelerated private sector led growth. The Program works closely with the Somali Core Economic Institutions and Opportunities Program and is funded by the IFC, Denmark, USAID, EU, DFID, SPIRA and the Somalia Multi-donor Trust Fund and its donors.

Some of the key achievements of the Somaliland Investment Climate Reform Program include:

## The Economic Sector Coordination Meeting (ESCOM)

The Government has successfully set up the ESCOM, which is a quarterly consultative meeting that brings together key sub-sectors of the economy to identify private sector development priorities and make reform recommendations to Government. ESCOM has successfully generated many reform proposals, including key policies and legislation, many of which have been adopted for implementation by Government. ESCOM has demonstrated the positive outcomes deriving from an efficiently facilitated and supported Government / private sector engagement.

## Support for reform of Somaliland Companies Act

SICRP facilitated efforts geared towards revision of the Companies Act. The amendments will, in part, provide a firm legal basis for the business start-up registration One Stop Shop being established in Somaliland. SICRP provided advisory input at the Parliamentary committee stage of reviewing the Somaliland Company law. The proposed amendments were submitted to Parliament for its consideration during its April / May 2017 session.

### World Bank Group Contacts:

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Development Specialist  
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Lawrence Mensah  
Communications Officer, East & Southern Africa  
[lmensah@ifc.org](mailto:lmensah@ifc.org)

## Launch of the Economy-wide PPD Platform

H.E. Mohamed Mohamud Silanyo, President of the Republic of Somaliland launched an economy-wide Public Private Dialogue (PPD) platform in May 2017, signaling high-level support from the Government for closer engagement with the business community in order to address Somaliland's business environment challenges. The landmark event endorsed 45 reform recommendations arising out of sector PPD consultations covering infrastructure, trade, energy, ease of doing business and others.

## Peer-to-Peer learning for the Energy Sector

SICRP facilitated an energy sector PPD through a peer-to-peer learning mission to Kenya and Uganda. The mission aimed to enhance the capacity of key stakeholders, including the Somaliland Electricity Association (SEA), to responsibly engage in energy sector reforms. Since then, SEA and other energy sector stakeholders have actively engaged Government on efforts to establish a regulatory framework for the sector including formulation and enactment of the landmark Electric Energy Bill. The Bill was submitted to Parliament for its consideration during its April – May 2017 session.

## Capacity building of key reform change agents

The Program has embedded technical skills within the Chamber of Commerce and the Ministry of Trade, to augment capacity to handle private sector development activities. The consultants and staff work closely with their counterparts to bring international good practice, train local staff, and lead activities in support of Doing Business (DB) reform, Public Private Dialogue (PPD) and overall trade and competitiveness. The project has also supported reform champion training in Singapore, Nairobi, Gabarone, Kampala, Addis Ababa and Hargeisa, as part of the strategy to create a strong cadre of reformers to own and lead the reform program. This capacity will be important as the program seeks to expand into investment policy and promotion, trade facilitation, commercial law reform and institutional capacity building.

## Somaliland Doing Business Action Plan

The Government of Somaliland has developed a Doing Business Action Plan to structure the reform implementation process and identify key stakeholders. The Action Plan is expected to provide a shared vision and clear roadmap for Public and Private sector stakeholders for reform implementation.



## Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods (GEEL)

The Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods (GEEL) program promotes inclusive economic growth throughout Somalia. Through GEEL, USAID will accelerate Somalia's growing integration into the global economy through a combination of initiatives that improve the country's competitiveness; spur new investments; and increase market linkages and business partnerships. This program will boost Somali exports of quality agriculture, fish, and non-pastoral livestock products; reduce reliance on inputs; and increase jobs in regions recovering from years of conflict and recent natural disasters. GEEL will leverage the growing capacities of the government at the federal, regional, and local levels that are building an environment ready for economic growth. Activities will focus on sectors with high potential in Puntland, Somaliland, and existing and emerging federal states, including regions previously inaccessible due to insecurity.





### High-quality professional installations and engineering:

- ➡ on-grid; grid-tie photovoltaic power plants with or w/o back up
- ➡ off-grid; stand-alone photovoltaic power plants
- ➡ fuel save; photovoltaic diesel hybrid systems
- ➡ empowerment; grid empowerment systems with or w/o photovoltaic power plants
- ➡ back-up; grid back-up systems with or w/o photovoltaic power plants



### Company Background:

Sompower is the largest electricity producer in Somaliland with generation and distribution facilities spanning from the capital city of Hargeisa to the western regions. For the last decade, Sompower has slowly evolved from more than 35 small utility companies that used to operate Hargeisa's electricity since after the civil wars. With this unique background, Sompower envisions to continue to shape the electricity industry of the country for the better of the country's businesses, investment landscape and for all citizens by modernizing its facilities and way of conducting business in Somaliland.

The company provides the best possible customer satisfaction by ensuring efficient and sustainable electricity supply in most effective and creative way, also it conducts its business in a respectful manner that considers the sensitivities of every member of society and environment.

Sompower Company selects an experienced and ambitious management team that sees beyond the present into the future and strives to stretch the limits of its existence. Sompower Company aims at widening its geographical coverage in Somaliland providing sustainable power solutions where they are lacking and equally strengthening the current supply by other providers in regions lagging behind and lacking sustainable electricity. The firm will accomplish this by venturing into geographical regions not frequented by their competitors, and by delivering superior client service.

## SPONSORS:

- 'Rags to riches'. Founded in 1970 with a modest capital base.
- Now largest international money transfer business in the Horn of Africa
- Headquartered in London, Nairobi and Dubai, employs over 5,000 people across 126 countries with regional offices in London, Nairobi, Hargeisa, Mogadishu.
- Interests in Banking and Finance, Remittances, Telecommunication, Energy and Power, Commodities & Trading and Real estate

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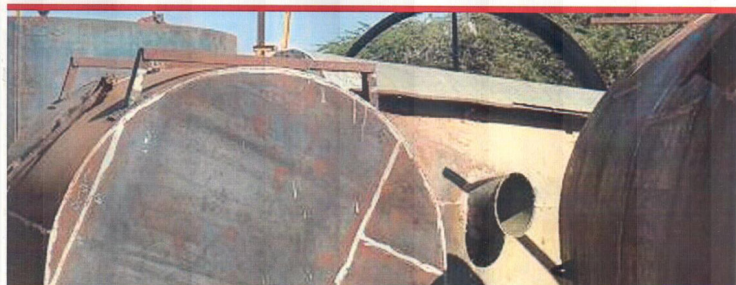
Telecommunications

# ADEEG

## WORKSHOP

Project Type: Investment  
Enterprise Size: Small  
Year Founded: 1998  
Project Sector: Microfinance  
Employees: 30  
Jobs Created: 18

Adeeg Workshop ("Adeeg") is a metal fabrication and repair company in Hargeisa, Somaliland. Adeeg was established in 1998 as a small-scale factory producing, servicing and repairing large metal tanks (water storage) and other metal equipment. The Company's other products include truck/trailer bodies, modifications to truck/trailer steel structures, steel frames for housing, and steel fixtures and furniture. Adeeg has secured prominent clients –for example, the national Fuel Storage Facility at the Berbera Port – due to its proven and quality work. Adeeg's growing demand was hampered by their production capacity.



Somaliland has one the highest costs of electricity in the world and access to affordable, reliable electricity is a significant barrier to growth. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) governing the implementation of the Energy Security and Resource Efficiency in Somaliland (ESRES) Programme was signed in July 2015 between the Government of Somaliland (GoSL) and the UK's Department for International Development (DFID). The MoU stipulates the purpose, objectives, indicative levels of support, monitoring and review mechanisms and arrangements for consultancy services provided under the Programme.

ESRES aims to strengthen energy security and energy access in Somaliland through diversifying Somaliland's energy mix with the introduction of a renewable component. Specifically, ESRES supports the development of regulation, through the provision of technical and capacity building for the Ministry of Energy and Minerals (MoEM) and pilot hybrid mini-grids, which will bring down the costs of electricity and therefore the cost of doing business.

ESRES supports the Government of Somaliland to improve access to affordable electricity for vulnerable communities through the promotion of renewable energies. This choice for renewable energies is based on the premise that green infrastructure investments in fragile states have potentially positive poverty reduction benefits while at the same time reducing the country's vulnerability to the negative effects of climate change. Currently the legal and regulatory framework is incomplete and there is a very low adoption rate of renewable energy technologies by the private sector in Somaliland.

ESRES will be implemented in two phases: Phase I (30 months): pilot-phase; Phase II (24 months): expansion-phase. Phase I of the Programme exists of three components: Component 1: Technical Assistance (TA) to the MoEM for the development of an appropriate policy and regulatory framework for the sector; Component 2: Pilot the development and implementation of hybrid mini-grids; Component 3: Create a Renewable Energy Fund towards the end of Phase I. ESRES activities are overseen by a Joint Steering Committee (JSC). The day-to-day implementation of ESRES is entrusted to an external Programme Manager. The Programme Manager also acts as the Secretariat of the JSC.

## ABOUT SHURAAKO:

Shuraako, the host of the Somaliland Investment Forum - 2017, is a nonprofit implementation program of One Earth Future, operating throughout Somalia. Shuraako, which means “partnership” in Somali, brokers economically beneficial relationships that connect micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) to impact investors to catalyze job creation. This, in turn, contributes to a more resilient and peaceful Somalia. Shuraako achieves this by identifying and recommending eligible Somali businesses to impact investors and charitable funds, and servicing approved financing. Shuraako seeks to foster a thriving business sector by addressing the financial gap in Somalia and brokering productive partnerships that encourage economic development.

One Earth Future is a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization based in Colorado, USA. Founded in 2007, it is an operating foundation with a vision of developing effective, multi-stakeholder systems of governance to achieve a world beyond war—hence its tagline, “Peace through Governance.”

Shuraako believes in the ideal of achieving peace through governance. A responsible private sector creates sustainable business development bringing with it greater civic participation. This creates a reciprocal relationship that feeds a virtuous cycle and ultimately increases prosperity and stability. Through its non-profit initiative, Shuraako catalyzes connections between enterprises and capital that fosters growth leading to peace.

Micro, small, and medium-size enterprises (MSMEs) are the predominant employer in fragile states, and their greatest obstacle to growth is the lack of the right capital at the right time. While growth opportunities exist in fragile states, they often go ignored due to perceived risks and weak institutions. By identifying and profiling MSMEs, Shuraako unveils unique opportunities for investors to make an impact by growing businesses and creating jobs.

Shuraako identifies entities that expressly add value to the local economy; conducting thorough on-the-ground due diligence and establishing strong relationships, the crux of any successful investment. Shuraako judiciously matches capital to Somali entities and manages post-investment execution. In other words, Shuraako provides a critical service to local enterprises demonstrating that stable investments can be made in the Somali region and that there is an appreciation for responsible credit that can be scaled in Somalia.



[info@shuraako.org](mailto:info@shuraako.org)

[www.shuraako.org](http://www.shuraako.org)

## ABOUT SOMALILAND MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INVESTMENT:

The Ministry of Commerce is responsible for the promotion of job creation and economic growth by empowering the Somaliland businesses and entrepreneurs with highly targeted Micro-loan programs, Somaliland Business Fund and United States Agency of International Development programs. These will stimulate the private sector to increase the productivity, create new jobs and increase the tax base. The Ministry works in partnership with business owners, communities, Regional Governments, Local Governments, National Bank, private lenders and the Chamber of Commerce.

The Ministry is also responsible for the formulation and implementation of the Government progressive policies on matters pertaining to trade, investment and protection of the interest of consumers, in such a way that it will contribute positively towards the further development of the Somaliland economy and the well-being of the population of the country.



SOMALILAND MINISTRY OF  
TRADE & INVESTMENT

<http://somalilandtrade.net/>



## ABOUT SOMALILAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY & AGRICULTURE:

The Somaliland chamber of commerce, industry and agriculture was established on October, 25 1993 under a public law No. 35 as an independent entity owned by the business community. The Chairman of the Chamber is Mohamed Shukri Jama and the Secretary General is Ibrahim Ismael Elmi. The Chamber's vision is to strive to forge new bonds of commercial cooperation and opportunities between Somaliland and the rest of the world and to make the country a world class trade market. Its mission is offer guidance and assistance in all types of businesses and to assist exporters and importers in local and the international arena through the provision of market information, training and organization of trade events and opportunities. The Somaliland Chamber of Commerce is a business organization, which is independent from government. It is an organization whose membership is open to all business parties engaged in trade activities. The Chamber welcomes both local and international investors. Application for membership to the chamber is made directly to the Secretary General, subject to the applicant agreeing to be bound by the memorandum of association. Members pay initial registration fees and they are expected to pay an annual subscription fees set by the chamber board of directors that may change from to time.



SOMALILAND CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE

## ABOUT SOMALILAND MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERALS:

The vision of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals is to contribute to Somaliland's social and economic development through the sustainable utilization of the country's energy, minerals and petroleum resources for the benefit of all Somaliland people by 2030. The Ministry's mission is to establish, direct and promote the sustainable utilization of Somaliland's energy, minerals and petroleum resources to support the country's social and economic development through the development and implementation of policies, strategies and programs that guide, facilitate and coordinate the work of government and all other stakeholders in the energy, minerals and petroleum sectors. The core values of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals include: accountability, transparency, environmental sustainability, integrity, innovation and creativity, research and development, gender equity, inclusiveness, empowerment and participation.



SOMALILAND MINISTRY OF  
ENERGY & MINERALS

## STEERING COMMITTEE:

*We want to extend a sincere thank you to our Steering Committee members, without whom this event would not be possible.*

- Abdifatah Omar (Ministry of Energy and Minerals)
- Abdikarim Gole (Shuraako)
- Abyan Mohamed (Somaliland Energy Association)
- Ahmed Haibe (Shuraako)
- Asha Ahmed (Shuraako)
- Doris Olutende (International Finance Corporation - World Bank Group)
- Dr. Abdirisak Yusuf (Somaliland Medical Association)
- Isak Ahmed (SOMRENA)
- Johnny Weiss (Johnny Weiss Solar Consulting)
- Kelsey Frandsen (Shuraako)
- Khalil Ali (Growth Enterprise Employment and Livelihoods Project (GEEL))
- Lawrence Henri (International Finance Corporation - World Bank Group)
- Liban Mohamed (Ministry of Energy and Minerals)
- Marc Sellies (ESRES)
- Mohamed Awale (Ministry of Industry and Trade and Investment)
- Mohamed Yusuf (Growth Enterprise Employment and Livelihoods Project (GEEL))
- Mohamoud Liban (Somaliland Energy Association)
- Mohamud Hassan (Somaliland Chamber of Commerce)
- Mustafe Migane (ESRES)
- Olga Akinyi Oyier (International Finance Corporation - World Bank Group)
- Osman Ahmed (Dayibat)
- Sahra Hassan (Shuraako)
- Said Abib (SOMRENA)
- Sucaad Odawa (Association for Women in Business)

*Sincerely, the Shuraako SIF Organizing Committee –*

*Tony Pelz, Abdikarim Gole, Sahra Hassan, Asha Ahmed, Ahmed Haibe, Kelsey Frandsen*

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

Thank you to all our partners, platinum, gold, silver, bronze, break, and in-kind sponsors, steering committee, panelists and facilitators for participating in and contributing to the Somaliland Investment Forum 2017. Without the generous support of the organizations below, the SIF 2017 would not have been possible.

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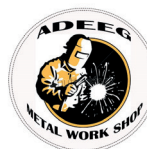
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## SOMALILAND INVESTMENT FORUM

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