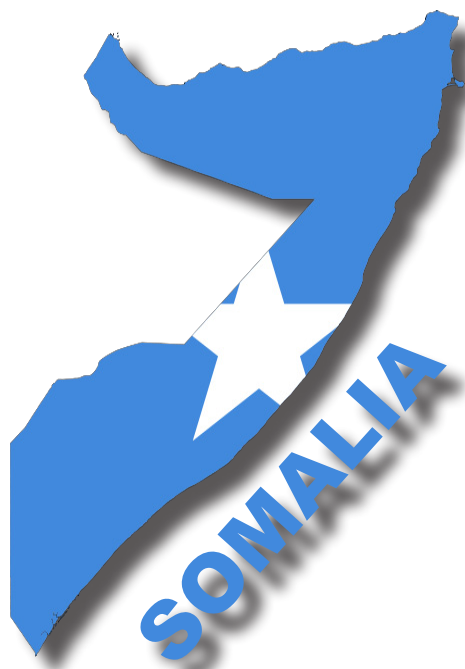


Enhancing Popular Participation in Governance and Sustainable Development in Somalia and Somaliland (Focus on Women and Youth)



Context:

Since 1991, Somalia has not had a government acceptable to a majority of its citizens. In South-Central Somalia the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) constitutes only a semblance of governance being opposed by an armed opposition and relying on Ethiopian military presence for its survival. By contrast, Somaliland has a governing arrangement accepted by most of the people, but this government has not achieved international recognition and its degree of institutionalization is rather weak.

The capacity of Somali society for successful self-organisation (with a vibrant informal sector consisting of self-help organisations and business enterprises) is widely acknowledged.

However, prevailing insecurity in South-Central Somalia and the virtual absence of government structures throughout the country are severe challenges to good governance. Popular participation in the political sphere, especially by women and youth, remains very limited.

Due to persistent conflict and weak government institutions, environmental challenges abound in Somaliland. Management of sanitation is poor, and the widespread use of charcoal as cooking fuel has resulted in reducing the already weak forest cover. Local initiatives, especially pursued by women and youth groups, have begun to address these problems, but require further development.

Partners/ implementing agencies:

- Heinrich Böll Foundation, Regional Office for East & Horn of Africa
- Nagaad Umbrella Organisation (Nagaad, Somaliland)
- Candlelight for Health and Education (CLHE, Somaliland)
- Save Somali Women and Children (SSWC, South-Central Somalia)

Objectives:

- Non state actors in South-Central Somalia and Somaliland contribute to a peaceful, more equitable, open and democratic society
- Participation of women (established and youthful leaders) in peace-building, politics and leadership is enhanced
- Awareness and localized action towards environmental management, climate change and other global environmental issues is increased

Expected results:

- Debate, networking and lobbying among women's organizations, politicians and other relevant stakeholders is increased

Africa - Somaliland and South-Central Somalia: Hargeisa, Burao, Borama and Mogadishu

vant stakeholders is increased

- Enhanced capacity and instruments for environmental management are in place
- Causes and effects of climate change and other global environmental problems, and their relevance specifically to Somaliland, have been identified
- Public awareness, knowledge, and debate around the above-mentioned issues are improved

Activities:

- Creation and activities of Women's Political Caucus, Hargeisa
- Activities of Women's Political Caucus, Mogadishu
- Annual joint meetings of the Women's Political Caucuses
- Gender forums in Mogadishu, Hargeisa, Burao and Borama
- Public forums for young environmentalists
- Case studies on climate change and other global environmental issues in Somaliland
- Capacity building workshops and roundtable discussions on national and global environmental issues
- Media campaigns on gender and environmental protection in South-Central and Somaliland

Target groups:

Local implementing agencies (NAGAAD, SWWC and CLHE); women leaders; National Electoral Commission Somaliland; the Women's Political Caucus members (Somaliland and South Central); members of the Deegaan network (youth); members of Neighbourhood

Committees and Hargeisa Sanitation Committee; Somaliland Ministry for Pastoral Development and Environment (MPDE); the media

Final beneficiaries:

The final beneficiaries of the action will be the people who will have been trained and also the general public who will be reached through the



media. These will specifically include: women leaders; women in general; young men and women; members of the public; the MPDE

Funding:

450.000 € (2008-2011)

ENoP MEMBER FOUNDATION:

Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung

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The Green Political Foundation