



Somali Institute for Development Research and Analysis (SIDRA)

2017 Annual Report

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### **ABOUT SIDRA**

### Who We Are

The Somali Institute for Development Research and Analysis (SIDRA) provides quality research and development services to the public and private entities in Somalia. SIDRA offers technical innovative solutions through knowledge-based policy researches, policy briefings and projects. We generate new knowledge that contributes to addressing the obstacles to the development of Somalia. Our studies, Policy Briefs and Projects mainly focus on Gender and Women's Empowerment, Good Governance and Socio-economic Development of Somalia. SIDRA has since 2015 been a fully registered and licensed non-governmental research and policy support organisation within Puntland State and Federal Government of Somalia.

### **Our Vision**

SIDRA aspires to become the leading development research institute and center of excellence in Somalia.

### **Our Mission**

SIDRA is a center of research that generates new knowledge that aims to be relevant, original and excellent. Our work co-constructs knowledge, alliance, dynamic policy environment and institutional capacity to fit for purpose.

### **Our Focus Areas**

SIDRA's research strategy for 2017 to 2021 is based on the major transition that is taking place across the Somali development landscape. To contribute to this transition, the institute is focusing on three broad areas of;

### **Good Governance**

- **Social Development**
- Democracy
- Poverty Eradication
- Rule of Law
- Education
- Participative Politics
- Health
  - Education
  - Environment & Energy

### **Gender & Women's Empowerment**

- Women Inclusion & Emancipation
- Girl Child Education
- Gender Equity

### Our Team

SIDRA team includes practitioners, research professionals, intellectuals and opinion formers working together as a team to solve challenging and complex cultural, economic, environmental and social development problems affecting Somalia. SIDRA staff, associates and consultants cover a spectrum of expertise – enterprise and business development, economics, environment, public reform, public finance, social services and gender equity.

### **Our Contacts**

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### **MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



For the third year running, SDIRA has been progressing in delivering the best policy support and research services to our clients both in government and nongovernment institutions. It is with this great pleasure

that I pronounce our 2017 Annual Report. In 2017, we were able to improve the performance of the organization by refocusing our thematic goals and objectives. We were able narrow the thematic areas to three namely; Good Governance, Social Development and Gender & Women's Empowerment. We also expanded the sub themes.

This year was a very busy one for us where we were able to carry out different activities and assignments which included among others 3 research studies that were: Assessment Study on Female Police Officers in Police Forces in Somalia, Women and Value Chain Analysis & Private Sector Development Study in Puntland and Understanding the Drivers of Drought in Somalia: Environmental Degradation as a Drought Determinant and 2 policy briefs namely; Gender in Higher Education in Puntland: From Accessibility to Creating Supportive Environment for Women in Higher Education and Research and the Gulf Crisis: Why Somalia should take a Critical Distance.

Among the activities, we participated in the 2nd Annual Gender in Higher Education in Somalia conference 2017, conducted the Research Writing Training for Women Lectures in Higher Education Institutes and entered an

MOU with East Africa University, Garowe Campus (EAU) to advance.

It is therefore with great pleasure and happiness to announce that we were able to increase our portfolio in terms of work output, partnerships and funds. This means that SIDRA is on the right track of steady progress in realizing its vision of being a leading research and policy support think tank in Somalia, one that readily contributes to the collective finding of solutions to the different challenges facing Somalia in terms of good governance and democratization, socio-economic development and women and gender development.

It is from this overview that I take this opportunity to thank all our partners, well-wishers and dedicated team who have contributed to our successes thus far. I also want to thank the consumers of our publications who continue to give us a purpose to exist and serve.

Sincerely,

Guled Salah Barre

**SIDRA Executive Director** 

Somali Institute for Development and Research Analysis (SIDRA)

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

SIDRA carried out work in the Gender and Women's Empowerment thematic area with the aim of addressing the gender inequalities and women exclusion which continues to remain a challenge in our society including; publications such as; Research Study on the Assessment Study on Female Police Officers in Police Forces in Somalia, Policy Brief on the Gender in Higher Education in Puntland: From Accessibility to Creating Supportive Environment for Women in Higher Education and Research and Research Study on the Women and Value Chain Analysis & Private Sector Development Study in Puntland. To enhance education of the girl child, SIDRA launched the Somali Women Higher Education Community of Practice (CoP) - an education and networking platform for Somali women with a passion for promoting the active participation of Somali women in higher education and in academia, another activity aimed at elevating education for women and the girls' child through developing their research capacity.

To contribute to the development of good governance and democracy in Puntland and Somalia at large, SIDRA carried out a variety of activities and produced a couple of publications. SIDRA produced a policy brief titled "The Gulf Crisis: Why Somalia should take a Critical Distance" with the aim of looking into the issues surrounding the Gulf Crisis and how Somalia can be affected and/or why Somalia should maintain a safe distance from it.

SIDRA contributes to the social economic development of Somalia through its knowledge production and policy support works as it one of the key thematic areas on which SIDRA focuses. SIDRA carried out a research Study titled the Understanding the Drivers of Drought in Somalia: Environmental Degradation as a Drought Determinant. To contribute to the enhancement of education in Somalia, SIDRA Institute has signed MOU with East Africa University, Garowe Campus (EAU) to advance research, knowledge development and academic improvements and to collaborate on the area of field research and data dissemination. In another effort to strengthen the reading and writing culture among the Somali youth and communities in Garowe, SIDRA in collaboration with Scansom Publishers and Puntland Women Writers Association organized the Garowe International Book Fair in Garowe. To contribute to poverty alleviation among community groups especially women, SIDRA Institute in partnership with IFC Africa successfully conducted SME Skills Development Program workshop training for FAWESOM on Accounting, Finance and Marketing Management.

SIDRA will continue to contribute to strengthening gender and women's empowerment in Somalia through research, policy formulation and projects aimed at; Ensuring girls' and women's physical and psychological integrity and preventing and combating all forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG) among others. SIDRA will continue to contribute to strengthening of good governance and democracy in Somalia through research, policy formulation and projects aimed at; advocating for good governance in Somali public and private institutions and contributing to government's capacity for knowledge, mediation, resource allocation, implementation and maintenance of key relationships. SIDRA will continue to contribute to the social economic development of Somalia through research, policy formulation and projects aimed at; improving access and equity to education at all levels and improve quality of education at all level and promote science and technology in education among others.

### 1.1. Gender and Women's Empowerment

SIDRA carried out work in the Gender and Women's Empowerment thematic area with the aim of addressing the gender inequalities and women exclusion which continues to remain a challenge in our society. Increasing girl child education, availing employment opportunities to women and allowing for equal political representation for women are among some of the ways through which gender and Women's Empowerment can be realized.

## 1.1.1. Research Study: Assessment Study on Female Police Officers in Police Forces in Somalia

With backing from UNWOMEN, we conducted the study titled "Assessment Study on Female Police Officers in Police Forces in Somalia" which endeavored to identify progress made by the milestones set in the Somali Compact and the Rule of Law Joint Program with its goals of Peace and State building through the federal government of Somalia and the member states. The program aimed at the establishing a wellresourced unit within the Federal Ministry of Justice (MoJ). The study contributed to the Police Component of the UN Rule of Law Joint Programme (2015-2016), and was based on consecutive consultations with the UN Women ROLS Project Manager, the Somali Police Force (SPF) Gender Unit and Technical Team, police forces from all the regions in Somalia and other stakeholders.

This study covered demographics, strategic targets and initiatives, literacy levels and training, roles and functions, obstacles and perceptions, facilities, and sta development policies. Data was collected from 9 locations across the country, including Mogadishu, Kismayo, Baidoa, Borama, Hargeisa, Burao, Garowe, Bosaaso and Qardho through a public survey, a focus group discussion and key informant interviews. The public survey of the Somali police force was carried out at both federal and state levels using elaborate

questionnaires administered to 360 participants. 51 key informants drawn from the police force, civil society, community leaders and government informed this study, and nine focus group discussions were organized at the nine locations, which brought together 161 participants to discuss various issues relating to female police officers in Somalia.

The study analysis was organized along seven result areas: (i) Baseline information, (ii) Strategic and operational niches for deployment of female police o cers across Somalia, (iii) Strategic approaches to gender-responsive human resource policies in police forces, (iv) Areas of support and the training needs for female o cers, (v) Challenges and obstacles to female o cers performing their functions, (vi) Development of security plans and operations to prevent and respond to SGBV, and (vii) Women's participation and representation in the justice and security sector.

# 1.1.2. Policy Brief: Gender in Higher Education in Puntland: From Accessibility to Creating Supportive Environment for Women in Higher Education and Research

In partnership with inasp, SIDRA produced a policy brief titled "Gender in Higher Education in Puntland: From Accessibility to Creating Supportive Environment for Women in Higher Education and Research".

To create a Supportive Environment for Women in Higher Education and Research, establishing new or strengthening existing bodies/committees to implement and monitor the impact of the Gender in Higher Education is necessary. The implementation of local and international scholarship programmes and research courses aimed at motivating and upgrading the skills of girl/women interested in pursuing research is necessary.

HEI environments should be sensitive to the needs of female students and lecturers in the areas of infrastructure, academic programme, and social environment. Public awareness to curb negative stereotypical attitudes towards women in society should be enhanced.

The key policy messages that arose from this study included;

- 1. Put in place gender-sensitive recruitment and promotion process in HEIs.
- Establish new or strengthen existing bodies/ committees to implement and monitor the impact of the Gender in Higher Education Policy as well as the Female Teachers Training Policy within the HEIs.
- 3. Initiate research on higher education, particularly from a gender perspective, to produce responsive and relevant institutional policies.
- 4. Strengthen the implementation of local and international scholarship programmes and research courses aimed at motivating and upgrading the skills of girl/women interested in pursuing research.
- 5. Accelerate gender policy dissemination and translate the policy into tangible actions.
- Initiate/enhance deliberate policy provision to ensure that the HEI environment is sensitive to the needs of female students and lecturers in the areas of infrastructure, academic programme, and social environment.
- 7. Initiate a community awareness programme to curb negative stereotypical attitudes towards women, women's education and leadership in society.

### 1.1.3. Research Study: Women and Value Chain Analysis & Private Sector Development Study in Puntland

In collaboration with KAALO, FAWESOM & GECPD, SIDRA conducted a study titled "Women and Value Chain Analysis & Private Sector Development Study in Puntland". The study was commissioned by a consortium of KAALO Aid and

Development Somalia, Forum for Africa Women Educationist (FAWE) Somalia and Galkayo Education Center for Peace and Development (GECPD). It was carried out in January 2017 assessing Livestock, Agriculture, Fisheries and Service value chains in 5 districts of Puntland though a public survey that engaged 147 respondents, six focus group discussions where total of 149 participants took part and interviews with 39 key informants including leading business owners, district mayors, government officers and business development experts.

## 1.1.4. The 2nd Annual Gender in Higher Education in Somalia conference 2017

To enhance education of the girl child, SIDRA launched the Somali Women Higher Education Community of Practice (CoP) - an education and networking platform for Somali women with a passion for promoting the active participation of Somali women in higher education and in academia.

This follows the huge demand which came out of the 1st Annual Gender in Higher Education in Somalia Knowledge Exchange Conference. The CoP was launched at this year's 2nd annual Gender in Higher Education Knowledge Exchange Conference in September 2017. Among the guest speakers at the 2nd Annual Gender in Higher Education in Somalia conference 2017 were Fatuma Sh. Mukhtar Ali, a lecturer at the University of Southern Somalia in Baidoa.

### 1.1.5. Research Writing Training for Women Lectures in Higher Education Institutes

Another activity aimed at elevating education for women and the girls' child through developing their research capacity. SIDRA conducted a 4-day Research Writing Workshop for 20 female lecturers covering ways of conducting independent research and how to use Moodle for research materials.

This workshop was facilitated by SIDRA Institute and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. The 4-day workshop concluded with an extensive online database systems training.

The 4-day Research Writing Workshop for Academic Female Lecturers working in Higher Education Institutions aimed at strengthening the capacity development and focusing on areas of research training such as Research Problem Formulation, Literature Review, Methods and Techniques, Research Design, Data Collection, Data Analyses, Report Writing and many more. The training was officially opened by the Director of the Higher Education Directorate of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education of Puntland.

### 1.2. Good Governance and Democracy

To contribute to the development of good governance and democracy in Puntland and Somalia at large, SIDRA carried out a variety of activities and produced a couple of publications. These focused on; strengthening democratic institutions and increasing the participation of the citizens in a transparent, effective and efficient, equitable governance as well as holding government institutions and officials accountable.

## 1.2.1. Policy Brief: The Gulf Crisis: Why Somalia should take a Critical Distance

SIDRA produced a policy brief titled "The Gulf Crisis: Why Somalia should take a Critical Distance" with the aim of looking into the issues surrounding the Gulf Crisis and how Somalia can be affected and/or why Somalia should maintain a safe distance from it. The policy brief also aimed at better understand the position the Somali government should take regarding the Gulf crisis, the Somalia Institute for Development and Research Analysis (SIDRA) carried out a policy briefing study in five of the major cities of Somalia (Mogadishu, Kismayo, Baidoa, Garowe and Adado). The study collected data through public surveys and key informant Interviews. For the public interview, 166 respondents were

engaged in each city and a total of 830 respondents completed the study questionnaire. 50 key informant interviews were conducted in the five cities.

Majority of Somali people share the common stand that the country should remain neutral in its position regarding the Gulf crisis. However, despite taking a neutral stand, majority of Somali feel that government actions are pro-Qatar puts into question its neutral question. Somali people are calling for the federal and state government to handle the Gulf crisis carefully. The population expressed concern that the crisis may affect the relationship between the Federal state and member states. Somalia is just emerging from more than two decades of conflict and is making good progress addressing the many political, economic and security challenges it faces. Hence, it should engage all its development partners without taking sides in political differences within the region and elsewhere in the world.

### 1.3. Social Economic Development

SIDRA contributes to the social economic development of Somalia through its knowledge production and policy support works as it one of the key thematic areas on which SIDRA focuses. Our policy briefs and research projects are aimed at informing social policy and economic initiatives development and implementation for government and non-government actors in Somalia.

## 1.3.1. Research Study: Understanding the Drivers of Drought in Somalia: Environmental Degradation as a Drought Determinant

In supporting the sustainable development of Somalia, SIDRA conducted a study titled "Understanding the Drivers of Drought in Somalia: Environmental Degradation as a Drought Determinant". This study analyzed five of the factors, namely population growth, cost of urbanization or rural colonization, deforestation, soil erosion and the climate change.

Drought recurrence is a persistent phenomenon in Somalia. The latest one has continued for the last three years. Although the subdued GU rains that fell between April and May provided some temporary relive, the depressed nature of this critical precipitation means the country is still experiencing the pangs of the drought to a great extent. Rainfall failure is traditionally viewed as primary cause of a drought shock. Available climate change information systems lack details for localized needs.

The raging drought continues to choke a society that has already been weakened by shrinking pasture for livestock well-being and declining rural family income. The effects environmental degradation are such that, even sufficient rainfalls do not adequately solve the problem as they contribute to further erosion in a land whose vegetative cover ability has already been degraded, further reducing productivity. Moreover, the great efforts of the herders to save the herding lifestyle by utilizing new techniques such as expanding water points, and adopting mobile watering and transporting systems exacerbate the problem. In the foregoing, the society is left with only two options; to continue watching the deterioration increase in scale and veracity towards an irreversible national disaster determined, short-term emergency actions combined with long-term solutions such as adoption of a sedentary pastoralist system and integrative natural resource management.

## 1.3.2. Collaboration with academic institutions to enhance education

To contribute to the enhancement of education in Somalia, SIDRA Institute has signed MOU with East Africa University, Garowe Campus (EAU) to advance research, knowledge development and academic improvements and to collaborate on the area of field research and data dissemination.

### 1.3.3. Garowe International Book Fair

In another effort to strengthen the reading and writing culture among the Somali youth and communities in Garowe, SIDRA in collaboration with Scansom Publishers and Puntland Women Writers Association organized the Garowe International Book Fair in Garowe.

The event is an annual event that promotes the literacy, restore cultural values and encourage young emerging writers, poets, and artists. It brings together thousands of participants including authors, artists, poets, linguists, motivational speakers, playwrights, scholars, policy makers, activists, readers as well government's officials from across Somali territories and around world.

## 1.3.4. SME Skills Development Program workshop training for FAWESOM

To contribute to poverty alleviation among community groups especially women, SIDRA Institute in partnership with IFC Africa successfully conducted SME Skills Development Program workshop training for FAWESOM on Accounting, Finance and Marketing Management. The SME Skills Development Program centered on developing a competition strategy for Puntland Women Writers Association (PWWA). The training workshop was attended by 19 women leaders and it was held at FAWESOM Conference Hall Garowe.

This activity paved a way for SIDRA Institute to replicate the provision of SME Skills Development Program throughout Somalia. We used the Business Edge training program meant to improve the management capacity and business performance of small and medium enterprises throughout Somalia.

### **2018 PRIORITY AREAS**

### 2.1. Gender and Women's Empowerment

SIDRA will continue to contribute to strengthening gender and women's empowerment in Somalia through research, policy formulation and projects aimed at;

- 1. Ensuring girls' and women's physical and psychological integrity.
- 2. Preventing and combating all forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG)
- 3. Promoting the economic and social rights/ empowerment of girls and women.
- 4. Increasing the number of girls and women receiving quality primary, secondary and tertiary education
- 5. Promoting women's increased participation in policy, governance and electoral processes at all levels; empowering girls' and women's organizations and human rights defenders
- 6. Supporting agents of change working to shift negative social or cultural norms, including the media, women's grassroots organizations
- Increasing the participation of women in decision -making processes on climate and environmental issues

### 2.2. Good Governance and Democracy

SIDRA will continue to contribute to strengthening of good governance and democracy in Somalia through research, policy formulation and projects aimed at;

- Advocating for good governance in Somali public and private institutions where there is the ability to exercise power, and to make good decisions over time, across a spectrum of economic, social, environmental and other areas
- Contributing to government's capacity for knowledge, mediation, resource allocation,

- implementation and maintenance of key relationships
- 3. Supporting the strengthening of the technical and managerial competence of civil servants is an obvious factor of good governance
- 4. Support the provision of a conducive environment that would enable the growth and well-functioning of civil society and do more to involve civil society in governance-related matters

### 2.3. Social Economic Development

SIDRA will continue to contribute to the social economic development of Somalia through research, policy formulation and projects aimed at;

- Improving access and equity to education at all levels and improve quality of education at all level and promote science and technology in education
- 2. Revitalize health infrastructure and strengthen health service delivery and develop equitable health care financing and information system
- 3. Institute socioeconomic empowerment programmes for all vulnerable groups and provide economic empowerment to the youth and encourage programmes that support development and nature the talent of youth
- 4. Increasing access to social services for disabled and other vulnerable groups

### **SIDRA PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS**



























### SIDRA STAFF



### **Guled Salah Barre**

Co-founder / Executive Director: Guled Salah Barre is the Co-founder and the Executive Director of the Somali Institute for Development and Research Analysis (SIDRA). Before SIDRA, he was a Minister at the Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism of the government of Puntland State of Somalia. Prior to joining the government he worked many years with UNDP Somalia where he coordinated activities under the Poverty Reduction and Environmental Protection (PREP) programme as well as the Joint Programme on Local Governance (JPLG) throughout Puntland. Before joining UNDP, he worked at the East Africa University as Deputy Rector of the Garowe Campus and Lecturer.



## Sahro Ahmed Koshin Deputy Executive Director /

**Programs Manager:** Sahro is the Deputy Executive Director and Programs Manager of SIDRA. Prior to joining SIDRA, she worked with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education for over 5 years. She is a development expert with over 10 years of international experience. She has worked in Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan and Kenya. She has a BA and an MA degree in Cultural Anthropology and a postdoc MA degree in Advanced Development Studies from the Netherlands.



### **Mahad Aden Botan**

Researcher: Mahad Aden Botan was born in Mogadishu in 1979 and attended primary and intermediate school in Mogadishu. Mahad has acquired BBA from East Africa University at Bosaso city. Also Mahad obtained a Master of Science in Business Administration from Omdurman Islamic University. Mahad has worked in many different national and international relief organizations in Somalia in different capacities. Mahad is current working as a researcher at SIDRA.



Salim Said Salim

**Researcher**: Salim Said Salim is a senior lecturer at Puntland State's University faculty of law. He has A Master's Degree in Law and Educational Administration. He works with SIDRA as a researcher on the Governance and Democracy.



### **Mohamed Jama**

Researcher: Mohamed Jama has a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and currently pursuing Masters in Public Administration. He is a senior managerial and organizational development expert with a wide range of experience in the fields of institutional development, public-sector reform, public policy, public administration, strategic management, HRM, programming, PCM, M&E, finance and accounting, budgeting, procurement and compliance. He has more than 7 years of experience in the public sector, civil society, international organizations and the private sector in Somalia and Kenya. Mohamed is working with SIDRA as a researcher.

### **SIDRA STAFF**



Saharla Osman Hassan

Researcher: Saharla is a Somali-American Policy and Community Development Specialist with over 8 years of experience in Somali diaspora civil society development, research on women's empowerment, violence against women and human rights. Her skills include strategic planning, policy development, financial planning and gender issues, project design, monitoring and evaluation, fundraising, media outreach and public relations, advocacy and lobbying, staff training and development, human resource management, equity in the workplace, gender analysis, gender mainstreaming, and participatory research. She is currently working with SIDRA as a researcher.



Samira Duale Dirir

**Operations Associate**: Samira Duale Dirir obtained ICM (UK) Diploma in 2014 from Nairobi Aviation College. She has a Diploma in Business Management and Administration and International Business Communication. She has acquired skills and proficiency in human Resources Management from here experience working with various organizations including Oldenyero investment dealers and Hass Petroleum. Samira is currently the Operations Associate at SIDRA.



Abdigani Hirsi Jama

**Research Assistant**: Abdiqani Hirsi Jama has BA and MA degree in Public Administration and Management from Kampala International University, Uganda. Before joining SIDRA, he has worked with the Mandela Company Group as an evaluation supervisor and with Kaalo NGO as a project assistant. Currently he is working at SIDRA as a researcher on democracy and governance.



Najah Yasin Abdi

Research Assistant: Najah Yasin Abdi has a bachelor degree in Community Development from East Africa University, Garowe. Also, she has a diploma in teaching. Najah has worked with local NGOs and has experience in the field of community development, administration, education, governance and human right. She enjoys writing and has written several blogs (http://najahyasin.blogspot.com/) on pressing social issues. She is currently working with SIDRA as a Research Assistant.



**Mohamed Abdullahi Hussein** 

Research Assistant: Mohamed Abdullahi Hussein has 5years of experience in institutional strengthening and environmental protection and awareness. He earned his BA and MA Degree in Environment Management at St. Lawrence University in Uganda. He has an additional MA degree in natural resource law from Kampala International University, Uganda. He has worked with the environment and natural resources department of Uganda National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA). Mohamed works with SIDRA as an environment and natural resource management research assistant.



**Anab Mussa Hussein** 

Research Assistant Anab Mussa Hussein has a Bachelor Degree in Development Studies from Mount Kenya University. She has experience working in Social development through improving gender and diversity rights, child rights and girl's education. She has worked in empowering women's to have active roles in the decision-making. She is currently working with the SIDRA as a Research Assistant.

### SIDRA RESEARCH FELLOWS



Dr. Abdi Mohamoud Ali: Abdi is a PhD holder in System Dynamics. Currently he is directing the entire Somali Health and Demographic survey process – planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating to ensure the Survey succeeds. He works closely with the ministries of Planning and Health in

Puntland, Somalia. He is not only responsible for the creation of the three-year Statistics Strategic Plan (2019-2021) which provides a roadmap and direction on key priorities in line with Puntland State policy on development, he also developed the Statistics Act Bill for the Ministry of Planning in Puntland. He is member of three professional bodies: 'Royal Statistics Society' and Operational Research Society, UK North West Research Network and the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications.



**Dr. Jeremiah Gitonga Njeru:** Dr. Njeru has a PhD in the Natural Science from the University of Berne, Switzerland and a MSc degree in Hydrology, University of Nairobi. Furthermore, he possesses a BSc degree in the Earth Science from the University of Nairobi, Kenya. Since 2013 he has been

working Food and Agriculture Organization / EC funded Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM) Project.



**Dr. M H Suryanarayana:** Development economist with experience in providing technical assistance in preparation of human development reports, poverty reduction strategy papers, tracking of MDGs. Served as a Senior Economic Advisor, International Poverty Centre, United Nations

Development Programme, and Brasilia and led several UN policy/programme evaluation missions in countries like Brunei Darussalam, Botswana, Nepal and Somalia. As a 'Senior Trainer', designed, developed and conducted a workshop on 'Food Policy Analysis' sponsored by the FAO, IFPRI and the Government of Bangladesh for academicians and policy makers in Bangladesh. Over 25 year's teaching and research experience. Served as consultant for ADB, OECD, UNDP, World Bank, and provided technical assistance (vide UN Missions) to developing country governments including Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei

Darussalam, India, Nepal, Puntland, Somaliland, South Central Somalia and Vietnam.



**Dr. Vanja Berggren:** Vanja is a PhD holder in International health. She is a fulltime appointment as senior lecturer and associate professor in public health (docentur Folkhälsovetenskap) at the Medical Faculty, Lund University, Sweden. She has experience in

supervising PhD students to finalize their dissertations, both as main- and as co-supervisor. She performed post-doctoral periods (2008-2010) in Syria and Saudi Arabia (EU-project Capacity Building in the Middle East) with Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK. She has coordinated research projects in Uganda (cervical cancer and HIV/AIDS), Jordan (breast cancer), Saudi Arabia (malnutrition, physical activity and obesity), in Somaliland and Sweden (Female Genital Mutilation). She has/had research collaborations (including scientific publications) with Egypt, Vietnam, Somaliland and Sudan.



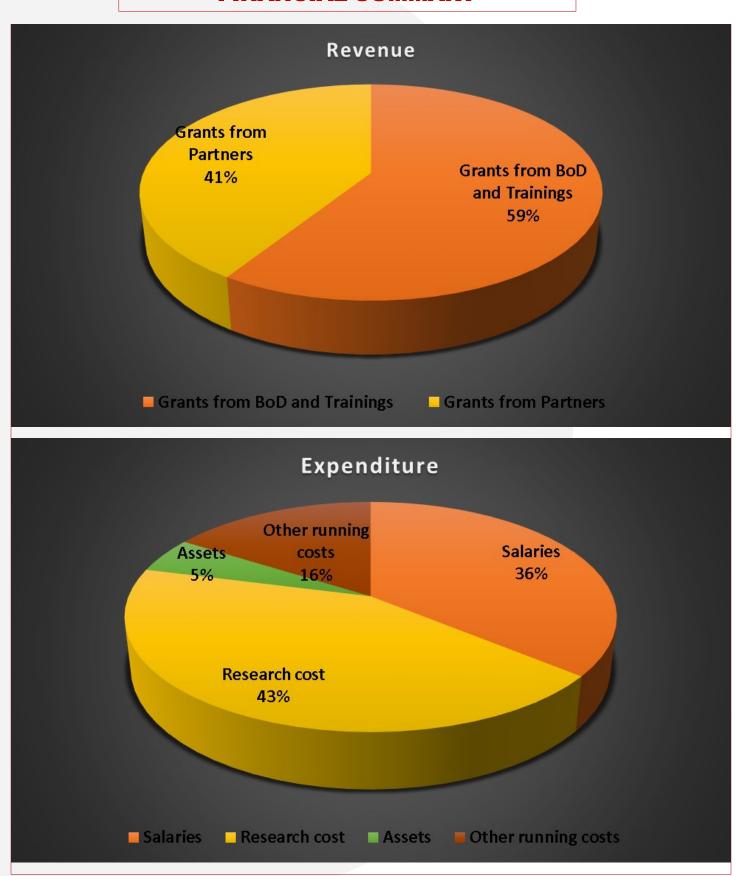
**Dr. Ubah Christina Ali Farah:** Ubah Cristina Ali Farah was born in Verona, Italy, of a Somali father and an Italian mother. She grew up in Mogadishu but fled at the outbreak of the civil war at the age of eighteen. She lived in Rome where she taught Somali language and

culture at Roma Tre University. She holds a PhD in African Studies from the University of Naples; currently she is based in Brussels. She is a poet, novelist, playwright, and oral performer. She has published stories and poems in several anthologies and in 2006 she won the Lingua Madre National Literary Prize. Her novel Madre piccola (2007) was awarded the prestigious Vittorini Prize and has been translated into Dutch and English with the title Little Mother (2011). Her latest novel II comandante del fiume (The commander of the river) has just been published in Italy (October, 2014). She participated in the University of Iowa's prestigious International Writing Program in the fall of 2017 and she's been invited to the MEET (Maison des Ecrivains et Traducteurs de Saint-Nazaire) Residency 2018.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

Publication	Thematic Area	Year
Research Studies		
Understanding the Drivers of Drought in Somalia: Environmental Degradation as a Drought Determinant	Socio-economic Development	2017
Assessment Study on Female Police Officers in Police Forces in Somalia	Gender and Women's Empower- ment	2017
Women and Value Chain Analysis & Private Sector Development Study in Puntland	Gender and Women's Empower- ment/ Socio-economic Develop- ment	2017
Policy Briefs		
The Gulf Crisis: Why Somalia should take a Critical Distance	Good Governance	2017
Gender in Higher Education in Puntland: From Accessibility to Creating Supportive Environment for Women in Higher Education and Research	Gender and Women's Empower- ment/ Socio-economic Develop- ment	2017

### **FINANCIAL SUMMARY**





**Image 1:** Ayan Abdirazaq Abdullahi, Lecturer at East Africa University (EAU) Bosaso discussing issues facing female lecturers in Somalia during the Gender in Higher Education Conference



**Image 2:** Vice Minister of Education and Higher Education in Puntland Dr. Mohamed Ali Farah gives remarks during the Gender in Higher Education Conference



**Image 3:** Hamdi Omar Hassan, Lecturer at Al Hilaal University in Mugadishu taking part in theGender in Higher Education Conference



**Image 4:** Guled Salah Bare, the Executive Director of SIDRA Institute gives his remarks during the Gender in Higher Education Conference





**Image 5:** Participants take interest in the Gender in Higher Education Conference focusing on skills and career development, discussing the issues surrounding Employment and Promotions of Female Lecturers and also discussing issues surrounding Research and Publications of Female Lecturers in Somalia



**Image 6:** Research Writing Workshop for 20 female lecturers covering ways of conducting independent research and how to use Moodle for research materials.



**Image 9:** SIDRA holds a validation workshop for the results on peace and reconciliation in Somalia,



**Image 7:** SIDRA Institute signs MOU with East Africa University, Garowe Campus (EAU) to advance research, knowledge development and academic improvements and to collaborate on the area of field research and data dissemination



**Image 10:** SIDRA Institute in partnership with IFC Africa successfully conducted #SME Skills Development Program workshop training for FAWESOM



**Image 8:** SIDRA moved into a more spacious office premises that formerly housed CARE Somalia



**Image 11:** SIDRA Institute in discussion with Alexandra Castro from Forum Syd Somalia regarding the SME Skills Development Program



**Image 12:** SIDRA congratulated all the lecturers from 11 universities in Puntland who graduated today after taking an intensive research writing course





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