



SOMALILAND ECONOMIC FORUM

**SOMALILAND'S ECONOMIC FUTURE:
INVESTING IN DIVERSIFICATION AND
MODERNIZATION**

PROGRAM AGENDA

14 - 15 OCTOBER 2023

Ambassador- Hargeisa, Somaliland

Introduction

Somaliland's Economic Future: Investing in Diversification and Modernization

The 2023 Somaliland Economic Forum is a two-day event that will bring together government officials, business leaders, academics, and development experts to discuss the future of Somaliland's economy. The theme of the forum is "Investing in Diversification and Modernization."

Somaliland's economy is currently heavily reliant on the exportation of live livestock and agriculture. The 2023 Somaliland Economic Forum will explore ways to diversify the economy away from this reliance on a few key exports.

The forum will also focus on the importance of modernizing the economy through investment in infrastructure, education, technology, and the service sector. By investing in these areas, Somaliland can create a more resilient and sustainable economy that is better able to create jobs and improve the lives of its citizens.

The 2023 Somaliland Economic Forum is the second iteration of this annual event. The 2022 forum was a success, attracting over 200 participants. The 2023 forum is expected to be even larger and more successful.

Objectives

01

Bring together experts from all sectors of society with decision-makers to discuss initiatives that have a tangible impact on the economy.

02

Identify the critical issues affecting the economy of Somaliland and their solutions from the perspectives of professionals and economists.

03

Provide specific and long-lasting suggestions for outcomes that have a significant influence on society as a whole through collaboration across stakeholders with diverse opinions.

Sessions

01 Opening Remarks

07:30 AM -
11:00 AM

Saturday

Sunday Note: Sunday features parallel sessions happening simultaneously in different rooms

13:30 PM -
15:00 PM **Promoting Sustainable
Investment Development**

02

03

**Sustainable
Food Systems**

08:00 AM -
10:00 AM

08:00 AM -
09:30 AM **Trade and Regional
Integration**

04

05

**Mining and
Minerals**

10:30 AM -
12:00 PM

10:30 AM -
12:00 PM **Government Budget
Diversification**

06

07

**Financial Sector
Development**

13:30 PM -
15:00 PM

Welcoming Remarks

01

H.E Dr. Sa'ad Ali Shire, Minister of Finance Development

Discuss on the government's plans and priorities for promoting economic development.

Opening Remarks

02

H.E Musa Bihi Abdi

President of Somaliland

About Somaliland Economic Forum

03

Review of the previous economic forum progress

Presentation of the 2022 Economic Forum report, identification of the progress achieved and remaining challenges.

Facilitated by Nimco Ahmed Ismail.

04

H. E Dr. Ahmed Adan Buuhane

Minister of Planning and National Development

To discuss the SDF's support for economic development in Somaliland, and the specific projects and programs that the SDF is implementing.

Visit to the exhibition hall and break and refreshment (9:15 AM – 10:30 AM)

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

05 **H.E Abdikarim Ahmed Mooge**

Mayor of Hargeisa

Highlight the role of Hargeisa as a regional trade and economic hub.

06 **Dr. Osman Sheikh Ahmed Nuur**

Economist

To discuss the economic benefits of a private sector-based growth and transformation strategy.

07 **En. Abdiqadir Iman Warsame**

Minister of Agricultural Development

To discuss the government's plans and priorities for promoting food security and local production development.

08 **H.E. Mohamoud Hassan Sa'ad**

Minister of Trade and Tourism

To discuss the government's plans and priorities for promoting trade and regional integration, and policy reforms that the government is implementing.

Saturday 14th October

01 Promoting Sustainable Investment 07:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Panel Session: Promoting Sustainable Investment

Opening

- Mohamed Farah Jihad, Head of Pharo Venture
- Mohamed Osman, Director General - MiiD

Presentation from the University of Hargeisa

Presentation of a policy brief on “Determinants of sustainable investment”

Panel discussion

Topics to include:

- The role of the government in promoting sustainable investment
- Challenges and opportunities for sustainable investment in Somaliland
- Recommendations for how the government can play a role in encouraging sustainable investment
- Q&A with the audience

Panelists

- Dr. Mohamed Abdi, Energy Sector Expert
- Abdirashid M. Abdi, Investment Expert
- Mustafe Mohamed Adan, Local Investor
- Fuad Rashid Bullo, Moderator

Closing of day 1 by the Minister of Investment and Industrial Development

Sunday 15th October

02

**Sustainable Food
Systems**

**08:00 AM -
10:00 AM**

Panel Session: Investment in Sustainable Food Systems for Sustainable Food Security

Opening Remarks:

- H.E Dr. Ahmed Ali Maah, Director General of Ministry of Livestock and Fishery Development
- H.E Adan Abdillahi Sh. Muse, Director General of Ministry of Agriculture Development

Presentations:

- Somaliland Agricultural Research Center: “Investment in Sustainable Food System for Sustainable Food Security”
- Amoud University: Unlocking the potential of Somaliland’s Fishery Sector and Marine Ecosystem.
- Burao University: “Livestock Productivity, Investment and Sustainability.”

Panel Discussion:

Topics to include:

- Livestock: rearing, infrastructure, exports.
- Agriculture: development, diversification, management, access to water, access to credit.
- Marine resources: sustainable fishing practices, processing, marketing, cold storage.

Panelists:

- Ahmed Adan Madoobe, Livestock Expert
- Khyre Cali Xasan Mahamed, Fishery Expert
- Ahmed Aden Mohamed, Agriculture Expert
- Abubakar Maxamuud Aadan, Session Moderator

Sunday 15th October

03 Trade and Regional Integration 08:00 AM - 09:30 AM

Panel Session: Trade and regional integration: a new era of cooperation

Opening Remarks:

- MoTT Director General - Abdirashid Sh Ibrahim

Presentation:

- Trademark Africa: " Technical Barriers to Trade along Berbera Corridor."

Panel Discussion:

Topics to include:

- Key opportunities and challenges for Somaliland's trade development.
- Role of the Berbera Corridor in promoting trade and regional integration.
- How Somaliland can become a trade and a service hub.

Panelists:

- Dr. Khalid Ahmed Abdi, Trade Infrastructure and Logistics Expert
- Abdirahman Osman, Country Director for Trademark Africa in Somaliland
- Dr. Ahmed Nour Mouse, ICT Expert for Trade in Services
- Mustafe Mohamed Dahir, International Trade Specialist - Moderator

Sunday 15th October

04 Mining and Minerals

10:30 AM -
12:00 AM

Panel Session: Mining and Minerals

Opening of the session

- Mining video showcase
- Mr Abshiik bashe, Operation Manager, First Africa PLC

Presentation:

- Gollis University: "Barrier of Mining and Minerals on social economics."

Panel Discussion:

Topics to include:

- The key challenges to improving the mining sector in Somaliland
- How Somaliland can attract more investment in the mining sector

Panelists:

- Hinda Jamac Xirse, CEO of Rahma Mining and Company, a leading mining company in Somaliland
- Omar Yusuf Omar, Director of Warsan Energy and Mining Services, a company that provides a range of services to the mining sector in Somaliland
- Dr Abdikadir Hersi Mohamed, Mining Expert and Technical Advisor to Rooble Mining Company, a mining company that is developing a new gold mine in Somaliland
- Eng. Mohamud Jama Mohamed (Jabali), Geoscientist, Hydrologist and Contracting Expert
- Eng. Fahima Mohamed Hassan, Session Moderator

Sunday 15th October

05

**Government Budget
Diversification**

**10:30 PM -
12:00 PM**

Panel Session: Government Budget Diversification

Presentation:

- Civil Service Institute: " Government revenue diversification"

Panel Discussion:

Topics to include:

- Diversifying the revenue base
- Reducing dependence on customs
- Using new technologies to make government budgeting more transparent and efficient
- Government investment

Panelists:

- Ahmed Dalal Farah, Economist
- Abdirisak Siyad Aw Abdi, PFM Specialist
- Abdallah Abdi Hariir, Economist
- Yassin Abdillahi Ahmed, Session Moderator

Sunday 15th October

06 Financial Sector Development

13:30 PM -
15:00 PM

Panel Session: Financial sector development: banking and insurance and digital economy

Opening:

- Welcome and introductions by the moderator
- Keynote address by Chairman of Somaliland Banking Association – Financial expert Khalif Sheikh Omer
- Keynote address by Governor of Central Bank of Somaliland H.E Ali Abdillahi Dahir
- Keynote address by the Chairman of Somaliland Insurance Authority H.E Guled Muse Galal

Presentation:

- Admas University: "Financial Products diversification: Challenges and Opportunities."

Panel Discussion:

Topics to include:

- Product innovation for better financial inclusion
- Adaptation of Fintech
- Policy incentives for more risk sharing instruments
- Legal infrastructure

Panelists:

- Omer Haji Hussien, Insurance Expert and Founder of Takaful Insurance in Somaliland
- Yasin Aweis, Expert in Finance & Banking

- Abdihakim Mohamed Ismail, Expert in Finance & Banking
- Noradin Osman Mohamed, Expert in Finance & Banking -
Session Moderator

Closing of day 2 by the Vice President of the Republic of Somaliland
