



SOMALI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (SOCDA)

Building Strong Communities. Advancing Sustainable Development.



ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

*Empowering Communities.
Strengthening Institutions.
Building Resilience.*



**COMMUNITY
EMPOWERMENT**



**INSTITUTIONAL
STRENGTHENING**



**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**



**PARTNERSHIP &
COLLABORATION**

SOMALI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (SOCDA)

ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

Motto: Empowering Communities for Sustainable Development

1. Executive Summary

The **Somali Community Development Association (SOCDA)** is a locally established civil society organization committed to advancing **democratic governance, citizen participation, human rights, accountability, social inclusion, peacebuilding, and community resilience in Somalia**. Established in February 2025, SOCDA was founded on the conviction that sustainable and legitimate development is achieved when communities are empowered to participate meaningfully in decisions that affect their lives and when local institutions are responsive, transparent, and accountable to citizens.

SOCDA currently operates in **Baidoa District** and has a strategic ambition to progressively expand its programs across South West State based on community needs, emerging priorities, operational feasibility, and available resources. Its locally led approach enables the organization to work closely with communities, civil society organizations, local authorities, traditional and community leaders, and other stakeholders to identify priorities, strengthen local ownership, and develop practical solutions that are context-sensitive and sustainable.

SOCDA's strategic priorities encompass **inclusive and accountable governance, civic participation, human rights and social justice, community-driven development, peacebuilding and social cohesion, women and youth empowerment, livelihoods and economic resilience, access to essential services, climate and disaster resilience, and strengthening the capacity of civil society and local institutions**. Across these areas, SOCDA applies principles of inclusion, non-discrimination, conflict sensitivity, transparency, accountability, evidence-based planning, and community participation.

The organization prioritizes **women and girls, youth and children, IDPs, persons with disabilities, vulnerable households, farmers and pastoralists, host communities, and other marginalized groups**, while also engaging community-based organizations, civil society organizations, local government institutions, community leaders, and other local stakeholders. SOCDA seeks not only to deliver services and activities but also to strengthen the capacity of communities and institutions to identify challenges, influence decisions, advocate for their rights, monitor public institutions, and contribute to sustainable local development.

SOCDA will be managed through a **qualified, accountable, and results-oriented team** with clearly defined responsibilities covering Programme leadership, technical implementation, financial and administrative management, monitoring and evaluation, safeguarding, stakeholder coordination, and reporting. Strong internal controls, performance monitoring, community feedback, risk management, and learning mechanisms will support effective stewardship of resources and delivery of results.

Over the coming years, SOCDA aims to consolidate its institutional systems, strengthen its technical and organizational capacity, build strategic partnerships, diversify resource mobilization, and expand its

geographic reach across South West State. Through collaboration with communities, government institutions, CSOs, donors, development partners, media actors, and other stakeholders, SOCDA seeks to become a **credible, independent, and locally rooted civil society partner** contributing to more participatory, transparent, inclusive, peaceful, and accountable communities.

Ultimately, SOCDA's vision is to ensure that **communities are not merely beneficiaries of development, but active participants and owners of the processes that shape their governance, rights, resilience, and future.**

2. Organization Background

2.1 Organizational Identity and Purpose

SOCDA is a locally established civil society organization committed to strengthening democratic governance, citizen participation, human rights, accountability, and inclusive local decision-making in Somalia. Established in February 2026, SOCDA works to amplify the voices of women, youth, marginalized groups, and communities that are often underrepresented in public decision-making. The organization promotes constructive engagement between citizens, civil society, and public institutions through civic awareness, community consultations, advocacy, and capacity building.

SOCDA's approach is grounded in inclusion, non-discrimination, conflict sensitivity, human rights, transparency, and local ownership. As a locally rooted organization, SOCDA brings an understanding of the political, social, and governance realities of communities in Southwest Somalia and seeks to serve as a constructive bridge between citizens and institutions.

SOCDA is currently consolidating its organizational systems, technical capacity, partnerships, and accountability mechanisms while developing programmes that strengthen civil society participation, social accountability, responsive local governance, and community resilience. Through strategic partnerships with communities, CSOs, local authorities, media, and development actors, SOCDA aims to contribute to more participatory, transparent, responsive, and accountable governance at the local level.

2.2 Geographical Orientation/Presence

SOCDA is established to work across Somalia, with an initial strategic focus on South West State, where governance, development, peacebuilding, resilience, and humanitarian needs remain significant. The organization applies locally led and community-based approaches, working through community structures and partnerships to ensure interventions are responsive to local priorities.

SOCDA currently operates in Baidoa District and intends to progressively expand its geographic presence across other districts of South West State based on community needs, emerging priorities, operational feasibility, and available resources. This phased approach will enable SOCDA to strengthen its local presence and partnerships while maintaining effective, accountable, and context-sensitive Programme delivery..

3. Vision, Mission and Values

Vision

A peaceful, prosperous, inclusive and resilient Somalia where every community has equal opportunities to participate in and benefit from sustainable development.

Mission

To empower Somali communities through inclusive and sustainable development programmes, strengthening local institutions, promoting good governance and human rights, expanding livelihood opportunities, supporting peace and social cohesion, and building community resilience through partnerships and locally led solutions.

Core Values

- Integrity and Accountability
- Transparency
- Community Participation
- Respect for Human Rights
- Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
- Professionalism
- Innovation
- Partnership
- Sustainability

4. Strategic Objectives

Community-Driven Development: By 2030, strengthen community participation and local ownership by supporting community-led planning, priority-setting, and development initiatives across targeted districts of South West State.

Democratic Governance and Accountability: By 2030, strengthen civic participation, transparency, and social accountability by facilitating structured engagement between citizens, civil society, and local authorities in targeted communities.

Education, Health and Nutrition: By 2030, contribute to improved access to quality education and essential health and nutrition services for vulnerable and underserved communities through partnerships, advocacy, and community-based initiatives.

Food Security and Livelihoods: By 2030, improve household food security and economic resilience by supporting sustainable livelihoods, skills development, market opportunities, and income-generating initiatives for vulnerable households.

Women and Youth Empowerment: By 2030, increase the meaningful participation and economic opportunities of women and youth through leadership development, skills training, civic engagement, and livelihood programmes.

Peacebuilding and Social Cohesion: By 2030, strengthen peaceful coexistence by supporting community dialogue, reconciliation, mediation, and conflict-prevention mechanisms in conflict-affected and vulnerable communities.

Climate and Environmental Resilience: By 2030, strengthen community resilience to climate change, environmental degradation, and disasters through locally led adaptation, preparedness, awareness, and resilience-building initiatives.

Human Rights and Social Justice: By 2030, promote and protect human rights and social justice by strengthening community awareness, advocacy, referral mechanisms, and engagement with relevant institutions.

Civil Society and Institutional Capacity: By 2030, strengthen the organizational, technical, governance, and accountability capacities of local CSOs and community institutions to improve their effectiveness and sustainability.

Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response: By 2030, strengthen community preparedness and disaster risk reduction through locally developed contingency plans, early-warning awareness, community response mechanisms, and coordination with relevant actors.

Evidence-Based Planning and Learning: By 2030, establish and institutionalize effective monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning systems to generate reliable evidence for programme planning, decision-making, adaptation, and organizational learning.

Partnerships and Resource Mobilization: By 2030, establish strategic partnerships with government institutions, CSOs, communities, donors, UN agencies, INGOs, and private-sector actors and mobilize diversified resources to expand sustainable, community-led programmes across South West State.

5. Core Areas of Expertise

5.1 Governance, Democracy and Civic Participation

SOCDA supports accountable, inclusive and participatory governance through civic education and awareness, citizen participation in local decision-making, community-government dialogue, transparency and accountability, social accountability mechanisms, institutional capacity strengthening, community engagement in development planning, awareness of rights and responsibilities, and integrity and anti-corruption initiatives.

5.2 Peacebuilding, Reconciliation and Social Cohesion

SOCDA supports community dialogue, conflict prevention and resolution, reconciliation initiatives, social cohesion, youth engagement in peacebuilding, women's participation in peace processes, community-based peace structures, inter-community dialogue, conflict-sensitive programming and Do-No-Harm approaches.

5.3 Human Rights, Protection and Rule of Law

The organization promotes community human-rights awareness, legal and civic education, protection awareness, advocacy, equality and non-discrimination, support to vulnerable and marginalized groups,

awareness of women's and children's rights, and community-level referral and information mechanisms where appropriate.

5.4 Education and Skills Development

SOCDA supports education awareness, literacy and adult learning, teacher and education personnel capacity development, school improvement, youth leadership, vocational and technical skills, life-skills training, career and entrepreneurship awareness, and community engagement in education.

5.5 Health, Nutrition and Community Wellbeing

Programme approaches include maternal and child health awareness, nutrition education, hygiene and sanitation promotion, disease prevention awareness, community health education, psychosocial wellbeing awareness, community mobilization for health services, and health-related advocacy and referral awareness.

5.6 Food Security, Livelihoods and Economic Empowerment

SOCDA supports agriculture and climate-smart farming, livestock and pastoralist support, vocational and technical skills, entrepreneurship and small-business development, income-generating activities, financial literacy, savings and financial inclusion, market-oriented livelihood interventions and women's economic empowerment.

5.7 Women and Youth Empowerment

SOCDA promotes women's economic empowerment, youth entrepreneurship, leadership development, civic participation, skills development, women's participation in decision-making, youth engagement in peacebuilding, gender-equality awareness, GBV-related prevention and awareness, mentorship and networking opportunities.

5.8 Climate Change, Environment and Resilience

The organization supports climate adaptation awareness, environmental conservation, natural-resource management, community-based disaster-risk reduction, tree planting and ecosystem restoration, water and environmental protection awareness, climate-resilient livelihoods, community preparedness and early action, and resilience planning.

5.9 Humanitarian Assistance and Early Recovery

SOCDA supports appropriate humanitarian and early-recovery interventions including emergency community mobilization, disaster preparedness, needs assessments, emergency awareness and information, support to vulnerable households, early recovery, community-based disaster-risk reduction, referral and coordination mechanisms, and resilience-building interventions.

6. Organizational Structure

SOCDA's organizational structure is intended to support effective governance, programme delivery, financial and administrative management, monitoring and learning, community engagement and accountability.

- Governing/Leadership Level

- Executive/Management Level
- Programme and Technical Functions
- Finance and Administration
- Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL)
- Field and Community-Level Implementation

7. Management and Key Personnel

SOCDA will implement the project through a qualified, experienced, and accountable management team with clearly defined roles and responsibilities. The team will provide strong leadership, Programme and technical oversight, financial and administrative management, monitoring and evaluation, safeguarding, stakeholder coordination, and timely reporting.

Project management will emphasize quality, transparency, accountability, risk management, and results-based delivery. Regular planning and review meetings, performance monitoring, financial controls, and community feedback mechanisms will be used to ensure resources are managed responsibly and project activities remain aligned with agreed objectives and expected results.

Key personnel will work closely with community representatives, civil society actors, local authorities, and other stakeholders to ensure that implementation is participatory, inclusive, conflict-sensitive, and responsive to local needs.

8. Financial and Administrative Capacity

SOCDA's organizational framework identifies financial management, procurement and logistics, human resources management, risk management, reporting and documentation as core institutional capacity areas.

- Programme budgeting and financial controls
- Procurement and logistics management
- Responsible resource management and internal controls
- Risk assessment and mitigation
- Human resources management
- Documentation and reporting
- Compliance with applicable laws, agreements and donor requirements
- Prevention of fraud and misuse of resources
- Ethical procurement and transparent decision-making

9. Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL)

SOCDA considers MEAL an essential component of effective programme delivery. Its stated approach is designed to establish measurable indicators, conduct baseline and needs assessments, track implementation against approved workplans, monitor outputs and outcomes, collect beneficiary feedback, document lessons learned, conduct periodic programme reviews, strengthen evidence-based decision-making, adapt implementation based on findings, and report transparently to communities and partners.

Programme quality assurance includes needs assessment, participatory programme design, work planning, risk assessment, monitoring and evaluation, community feedback, periodic reporting, learning and documentation of results and lessons learned.

10. Policies and Internal Systems

SOCDA's source profile describes institutional commitments and systems relating to accountability, transparency, safeguarding, protection, conflict sensitivity, Do-No-Harm, data management, risk management, complaints and feedback, and programme quality. The document does not provide a definitive list of formally approved policy titles.

- Accountability and transparency systems
- Safeguarding and protection measures
- Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse
- Prevention of harassment and discrimination
- Confidential complaints and feedback mechanisms
- Do-No-Harm and conflict-sensitive programming
- Responsible data management and confidentiality
- Risk management
- Programme monitoring and learning
- Financial controls and ethical procurement

11. Beneficiaries and Target Groups

SOCDA prioritizes vulnerable, underserved, and marginalized populations, applying an inclusive, rights-based, and conflict-sensitive approach to ensure that programmes respond to diverse community needs.

Primary Beneficiaries

- Women and girls
- Youth and children
- Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)
- Persons with disabilities
- Vulnerable and female-headed households
- Farmers, pastoralists, and livelihood-dependent communities
- Marginalized and socially excluded groups
- Host communities

Institutional and Community Target Groups

- Community-based organizations (CBOs)
- Civil society organizations (CSOs)
- Community leaders and traditional structures
- Local government institutions and service providers
- Community networks and other local stakeholders

SOCDA will prioritize beneficiaries based on identified needs, vulnerability, exclusion, geographic context, and Programme objectives, while promoting meaningful participation of affected communities in Programme design, implementation, monitoring, and accountability.

1. INSTRUCTIONAL GOVERNANCE AND ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE



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Building Strong Communities. Advancing Sustainable Development.



INTEGRITY



INCLUSION



ACCOUNTABILITY



INNOVATION



IMPACT



Somalia



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