EPCRA
Environmental Protection & Climate Resilience Agency

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE AGENCY

Protecting ***Nature.***
Building ***Climate*** Resilience.

Initial Geographic Focus:
South West State, Somalia



ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

A locally led organization working for a resilient and environmentally sustainable Somalia

https://epcrasom.org

+252 61 4352325

Table Of

Content

About EPCRA	01
Our Vision, Mission and Strategic Direction	02
The Challenge We Address	03
Our Approach	04
Core PROGRAM Areas	05
Our Target Beneficaries	12
Women and Youth & Community-Led Action	13
Our Environmental Action	13
Partnership and Collaboration	14
Knowledge, Research & Innovation	15
EPCRA Environmental & Social Responsibility	15
Commitment to Sustainable Development	16
Geographic Focus	17
Future Direction	17
Why EPCRA	18
Closing Statement	19

ABOUT EPCRA

The Environmental Protection and Climate Resilience Agency (EPCRA) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization working in Somalia at the intersection of environmental protection, climate change adaptation and community resilience.

EPCRA has been established with a clear purpose: to help protect Somalia's natural environment while strengthening the ability of communities and institutions to anticipate, withstand and recover from climate and environmental pressures.

Somalia's environmental and climate challenges are interconnected. Drought, flooding, desertification, land degradation, pollution and ecosystem loss can affect livelihoods, food security, water availability, health, infrastructure and community stability. Addressing these challenges requires more than individual projects. It requires practical solutions that connect environmental stewardship with resilient communities, sustainable livelihoods, stronger institutions and informed decision-making.

EPCRA therefore seeks to bring these priorities together through locally led and sustainable interventions.

The organization will initially focus its geographic efforts on South West State of Somalia, with the potential to expand its work to other Federal Member States as its institutional capacity, partnerships and programs develop



Our Vision

A resilient and environmentally sustainable Somalia where communities, ecosystems and livelihoods thrive in the face of climate change.

Our Mission

To protect Somalia's environment, restore degraded ecosystems and strengthen the resilience of vulnerable communities through locally led, innovative and sustainable environmental and climate solutions.



Our Strategic Direction

01 Strengthening climate resilience

EPCRA will support vulnerable communities and institutions to understand climate risks, strengthen preparedness and develop practical approaches to climate adaptation and resilience.

02 Protecting and restoring ecosystems

The organization will support the protection and restoration of forests, rangelands, wetlands, coastal areas and other important ecosystems.

03 Supporting sustainable livelihoods

The organization will promote climate-smart and environmentally sustainable livelihood opportunities that can help communities adapt while improving economic resilience.

04 Strengthening environmental governance

EPCRA will work to strengthen policy, institutional capacity and environmental governance at relevant levels.



The Challenge

WE ADDRESS

Somalia faces interconnected environmental and climate pressures that affect people, ecosystems and livelihoods. Drought, flooding, desertification, land degradation, pollution and loss of ecosystems can have far-reaching impacts on food security, water availability, health, infrastructure and community stability.

These challenges are closely linked and often reinforce each other, making it essential to adopt integrated, long-term and locally led solutions.

Drought

Recurrent and prolonged droughts reduce water availability, degrade natural resources and increase vulnerability in communities across Somalia.

Flooding

Increasingly frequent and severe floods can damage homes, infrastructure, farmland and essential services, displacing communities and disrupting livelihoods.

Desertification and Land Degradation

Degrading land, loss of vegetation cover and unsustainable natural resource use reduce productive capacity and threaten long-term environmental and economic resilience.

Pollution

Pollution poses risks to environmental quality, public health and the sustainability of communities and natural resources.

Ecosystem Loss

The loss and degradation of ecosystems threaten biodiversity, natural resources and the environmental systems that support communities and livelihoods.

Impacts on People and Livelihoods

Environmental and climate pressures affect food security, water access, health, livelihoods, infrastructure and overall community stability.

Our APPROACH

Locally Led. Evidence Based. Partnership Driven. Sustainable.

EPCRA's approach is based on the understanding that durable environmental and climate solutions are strongest when they are shaped with the people and institutions who will ultimately sustain them.

Locally led solutions

EPCRA will seek to understand local environmental conditions, community priorities and existing capacities before designing interventions. Local knowledge and participation will be important components of program development.

Practical implementation

The organization will emphasize solutions that can move from planning to implementation and that respond to clearly identified environmental and climate needs.

Evidence and knowledge

Research, data, climate-risk assessments and environmental information will support planning and decision-making.

Partnership

EPCRA recognizes that no single organization can address Somalia's environmental and climate challenges alone. Collaboration will therefore be central to its work.

Sustainability

Programs will be designed with long-term environmental, social and institutional sustainability in mind.

Inclusion

Women, youth, vulnerable communities, displaced populations, pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities and other relevant groups will be considered in program design and implementation.



Core

PROGRAM AREAS

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION & RESILIENCE

Climate change adaptation is a central component of EPCRA's mandate.

The organization will support communities and institutions to better understand climate risks and identify practical ways to reduce vulnerability. This may include climate-risk assessments, community resilience planning, early warning and early action, disaster-risk reduction and climate-resilient infrastructure.

Areas of work include:

- Community climate adaptation
- Climate-risk assessments
- Early warning and early action
- Disaster-risk reduction
- Climate-resilient infrastructure
- Community resilience planning

Core **PROGRAM** *Areas*

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & POLLUTION CONTROL

Healthy communities require healthy environments.

EPCRA will promote responsible environmental management and support practical measures to reduce pollution and environmental degradation.

The program will address areas such as solid-waste management, plastic pollution, pollution prevention and sustainable urban environmental management.

Environmental awareness will form an important part of this work because lasting improvements require both institutional action and informed community participation.

Areas of work include:

- Solid-waste management
- Plastic pollution reduction
- Environmental awareness
- Pollution prevention
- Environmental assessments
- Sustainable urban environmental management



Core **PROGRAM** *Areas*

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION & BIODIVERSITY

Somalia's ecosystems represent an important foundation for environmental stability, biodiversity and community livelihoods.

EPCRA will promote restoration and protection of degraded ecosystems while supporting approaches that recognize the relationship between people and natural resources.

The organization's ecosystem work will encompass terrestrial, rangeland, wetland, coastal and marine environments.

Areas of work include:

- Reforestation and afforestation
- Land restoration
- Combating desertification
- Rangeland restoration
- Coastal and marine ecosystem protection
- Biodiversity conservation
- Nature-based solutions

Core **PROGRAM** *Areas*

CLIMATE FINANCE & GREEN ECONOMY

Climate finance and the transition toward a greener economy represent an important area of opportunity for EPCRA.

Many communities and institutions have significant climate and environmental needs but lack the technical capacity or resources required to convert those needs into investment-ready projects. EPCRA intends to contribute to closing this gap.

The organization will seek to strengthen climate-finance readiness, support development of climate project proposals and explore opportunities for green investment and private-sector partnerships.

Areas of work include:

- Climate-finance readiness
- Development of climate project proposals
- Green investment
- Carbon and nature-based initiatives
- Renewable energy
- Green enterprises
- Private-sector climate partnerships



Core **PROGRAM** *Areas*

CLIMATE-RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS

For vulnerable communities, resilience is closely connected to livelihood security.

EPCRA will therefore promote livelihood approaches that respond to environmental realities while helping communities develop sustainable sources of income.

The organization will explore climate-smart livelihoods, alternative livelihood opportunities, green-economy employment and nature-based income generation.

Special attention will be given to opportunities for women and youth.

Areas of work include:

- Climate-smart livelihoods
- Alternative livelihoods
- Youth employment in the green economy
- Women's green enterprises
- Community-based natural-resource management
- Nature-based income generation

Core **PROGRAM** *Areas*

RESEARCH, POLICY & ADVOCACY

Good environmental decision-making depends on good information.

EPCRA will promote research and knowledge generation on climate and environmental issues and will seek to make relevant evidence accessible to communities, institutions, policymakers and development partners.

The organization will support climate research, environmental policy analysis, climate vulnerability assessments and environmental data systems.

Areas of work include:

- Climate research
- Environmental policy analysis
- Climate vulnerability assessments
- Environmental data systems
- Policy advocacy
- Technical publications
- Knowledge products



Core **PROGRAM** *Areas*

CAPACITY BUILDING

Environmental and climate resilience requires capable institutions and informed communities.

EPCRA will therefore place emphasis on training and capacity development for government institutions, communities, civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders.

Capacity-building initiatives may include environmental leadership, youth climate leadership and technical training for local authorities.

Areas of work include:

- Training government institutions
- Training communities and CSOs
- Environmental leadership programs
- Youth climate leadership
- Technical training for local authorities

Our TARGET BENEFICIARIES

EPCRA will prioritize groups and institutions that are particularly exposed to environmental and climate-related risks or that have an important role in building resilience.

These include:

- Climate-vulnerable communities
- Internally displaced and host communities
- Women and girls
- Youth
- Pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities
- Coastal communities
- Small-scale producers
- Local authorities
- Community-based organizations
- Environmental institutions
- Schools and universities





WOMEN AND YOUTH
IN CLIMATE ACTION

Women and young people have an important role to play in building a resilient and environmentally sustainable Somalia.
EPCRA intends to promote meaningful participation of women and youth across its environmental and climate initiatives. .

This includes opportunities for participation in community-based environmental action, climate leadership, green enterprises, skills development, research, awareness and livelihood programs.

For EPCRA, inclusion is not simply about representation. It is about creating meaningful opportunities for people to contribute to environmental solutions and participate in the economic and social opportunities emerging from climate and environmental action.

COMMUNITY-LED
ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

EPCRA believes that environmental programs are more likely to produce lasting results when communities are involved in shaping them.

Community participation can help ensure that interventions respond to actual needs, respect local knowledge and build local ownership.

EPCRA will therefore seek to work with community-based organizations, local leaders, vulnerable households, producers and other relevant stakeholders when developing and implementing programs.

The organization will encourage community resilience planning, environmental awareness, natural-resource management and locally appropriate adaptation measures.

The aim is to move from a model in which communities are simply recipients of assistance toward one in which communities are active participants in defining and implementing solutions.

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION



Government institutions

To support environmental governance, institutional capacity, policy implementation and community resilience.

Communities

To ensure that environmental and climate initiatives are locally relevant and locally owned.

Civil society organizations

To build implementation partnerships, share knowledge and extend community reach.

Development partners and donors

To mobilize resources for environmental protection, climate resilience and sustainable development.

UN agencies

To contribute to coordinated climate, environmental and resilience initiatives.

Research institutions and academia

To strengthen evidence, research, innovation and knowledge generation.

Private sector

To explore green investment, climate finance, renewable energy, green enterprises and environmentally responsible business partnerships.

EPCRA

KNOWLEDGE, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION



EPCRA recognizes that Somalia's environmental and climate challenges require solutions informed by evidence and adapted to local realities.

The organization will promote research and knowledge development in areas including climate vulnerability, environmental change, ecosystem restoration, sustainable livelihoods and environmental governance.

Data and knowledge can help identify where risks are greatest, understand how communities are affected and determine which interventions are most appropriate.

EPCRA therefore intends to develop and use environmental data systems, technical publications and knowledge products that can contribute to better planning and decision-making.

Innovation will be encouraged where it can improve environmental outcomes, strengthen resilience or create new opportunities for sustainable development.

EPCRA

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



Environmental responsibility is at the center of EPCRA's identity. The organization will seek to ensure that its programs contribute positively to environmental sustainability and do not unintentionally create additional environmental pressures.

This means considering environmental implications during project planning, encouraging responsible resource management, supporting pollution prevention and promoting restoration and conservation.

Social responsibility is equally important.

EPCRA will seek to work respectfully with communities and stakeholders, promote meaningful participation and ensure that programs respond to the needs of vulnerable groups.



Our

COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

EPCRA's work contributes to a broader development agenda in which environmental sustainability, climate resilience and human well-being are closely connected.

Its program areas have relevance to several dimensions of sustainable development, including:

> Rather than treating these priorities separately, EPCRA seeks to connect them through integrated environmental and climate interventions.

- Climate action
- Life on land
- Life below water
- Sustainable communities
- Poverty reduction
- Decent and sustainable livelihoods
- Gender inclusion
- Partnerships for sustainable development

EPCRA

GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS

Starting in South West State, Somalia

EPCRA's initial geographic focus is South West State of Somalia, where the organization intends to develop locally relevant environmental and climate-resilience initiatives.

The initial focus provides an opportunity to build strong relationships with communities, institutions and partners while developing practical experience and organizational systems.

Over time, and subject to organizational capacity, partnerships and program opportunities, EPCRA has the potential to expand its activities to other Federal Member States of Somalia.

The organization's geographic expansion will be guided by identified needs, available resources, partnerships and the ability to maintain quality implementation.

Our

FUTURE DIRECTION

Resilience

Helping communities and institutions prepare for climate risks.

Restoration

Supporting the recovery of degraded ecosystems.

Sustainability

Promoting responsible environmental management.

Livelihoods

Creating pathways toward climate-resilient economic opportunity.

Finance

Helping communities and institutions prepare for climate risks.

Partnerships

bringing together government, communities, development actors, academia and the private sector.



??

WHY EPCRA

Integrated environmental and climate focus

EPCRA combines environmental protection with climate resilience and sustainable development.

Locally led orientation

The organization is designed to work closely with communities and local institutions.

Practical program focus

Its program areas are oriented toward implementation, capacity building and measurable environmental and resilience outcomes.

Climate finance ambition

Its program areas are oriented toward implementation, capacity building and measurable environmental and resilience outcomes.

Women and youth participation

EPCRA seeks to create meaningful opportunities for women and young people within environmental and climate initiatives.

Partnership-based model

The organization intends to work across government, civil society, development, UN, academic and private-sector networks.



CLOSING STATEMENT

Protecting Nature. Building Climate Resilience.

Somalia's environmental future and its social and economic resilience are closely connected.

The challenges are substantial, but so are the opportunities to develop solutions that protect natural resources, strengthen communities, support sustainable livelihoods and create new pathways for climate-resilient development.

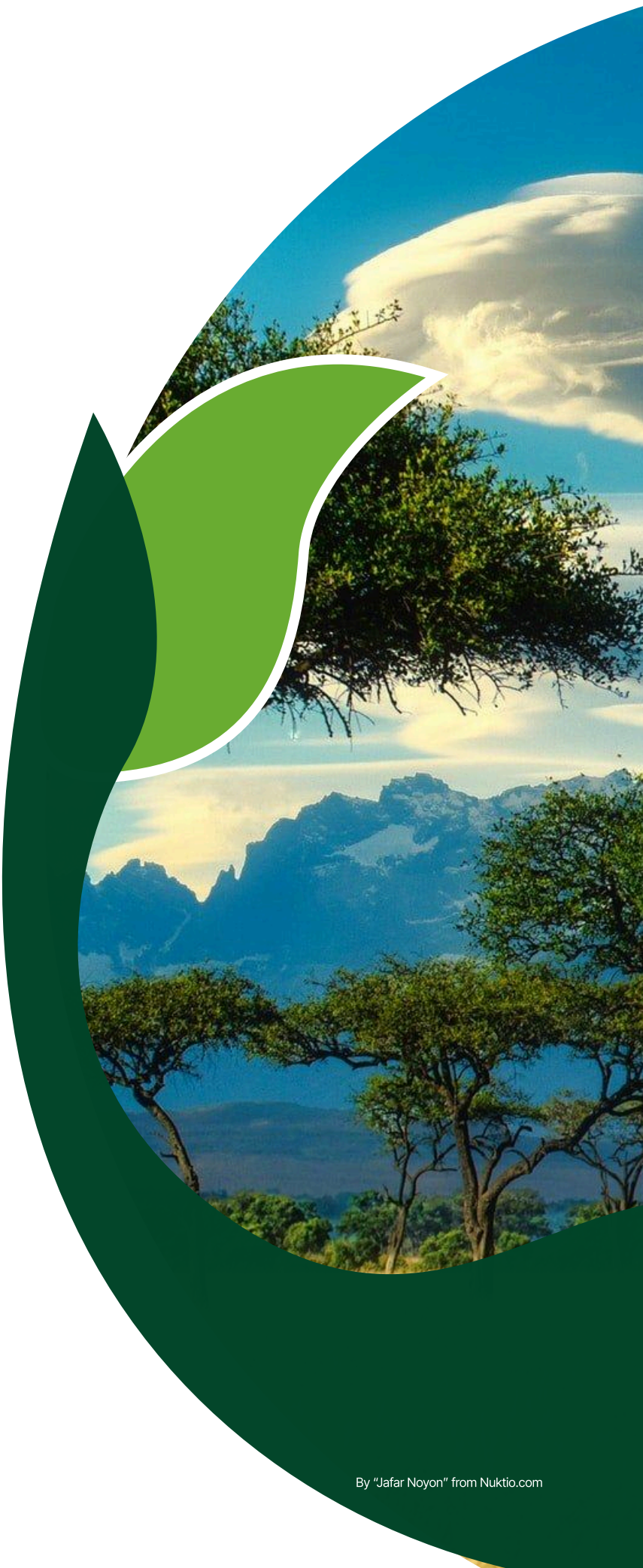
The Environmental Protection and Climate Resilience Agency was conceived to contribute to that effort.

EPCRA seeks to be a practical, collaborative and locally grounded organization—one that listens to communities, works constructively with institutions, builds strong partnerships and turns environmental and climate priorities into action.

Its ambition is not simply to respond to today's challenges, but to contribute to a Somalia in which communities are better prepared for climate risks, ecosystems are protected and restored, livelihoods are more resilient, and environmental sustainability becomes an integral part of development.

EPCRA

Envirenmental Protection &
Climate Resilience Agency



By "Jafar Noyon" from Nuktio.com

Legal Status

Non-profit, non-governmental organization

Country of Operation

Somalia

Sector

Environment, Climate Change and Resilience

Initial Geographic Focus

South West State, Somalia

Contact EPCRA

EPCRA combines environmental protection with climate resilience and sustainable development.

Mogadishu, KM4, Banadir Region

+252 61 4352325

info@epcrasom.org

https://epcrasom.org