



PENHA Somaliland/Somalia

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PASTORAL & ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK IN THE HORN OF AFRICA (PENHA)

PENHA

The Pastoral and Environmental Network in the Horn of Africa is a non-governmental organisation, registered as a charity in England, with its head office in London.

- strictly non-political and non-religious
- an African-inspired and African led-initiative,
- founded in 1989 by researchers and development workers with roots in the Horn, with a deep concern for the future of pastoralists and determination to identify strategies and policies for the improvement of their quality of life.

PENHA operates in the IGAD region of the Greater Horn of Africa - Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Somaliland, and Uganda. PENHA is a member of CELEP (the Coalition for European Lobbies on Eastern African Pastoralism). PENHA country chapters develop their own distinct, locally owned country programs, on the basis of PENHA's core principles.



MISSION

PENHA's mission is to eliminate poverty among pastoralists in the Horn of Africa by empowering communities and fostering sustainable and dignified livestock-based and non-livestock-based livelihoods.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

With a coordinated approach at the grassroots and policy levels, PENHA aims:

- to empower pastoralist communities and their institutions to play a full role in their own development
- to influence development policy and development programme design to foster sustainable livelihoods among pastoralists

CORE PRINCIPLES

- **Bottom-up Approaches** - valuing participation and traditional knowledge
- **Pastoralism** – environmentally sound and economically efficient in drylands
- **Gender Equality** - building human capital and expanding choice, while valuing traditional roles and the family unit.

- **Open Regionalism** – free(-er) movement of people, livestock, goods and services, while remaining open to the world, and maintaining popular, national sovereignty.

PENHA-SOMALILAND - PROGRAM & ACTIVITIES

Since its formal establishment in 2001, PENHA-Somaliland has played a significant role in the development of civil society, advancing a positive vision for pastoral development and implementing a wide range of development interventions. PENHA-Somaliland's program encompasses:

POLICY DEVELOPMENT & DIALOGUE

- influencing development policy
- building the capacity of local and central governments to develop and implement policies and program

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION & BUILDING RESILIENCE

- strengthening pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities' capacity to withstand drought and emergencies
- strengthening post-drought recovery, restoring livelihoods for displaced pastoralists and supporting host communities

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE & DROUGHT RESPONSE

- implementing food-for-work and cash-for-work programs, focused on environmental rehabilitation and essential infrastructure
- re-stocking

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

- Environmental Management Training
- Establishing range reserves
- Implementing environmental rehabilitation projects

WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION

- Analytical Studies & Environmental Impact Assessment
- Rehabilitation of Water Harvesting Structures & Establishment of New Structures

LIVELIHOODS, ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION, TRADE & MARKET ACCESS

- supporting pastoral livelihoods
- value chain studies and interventions, based in USAID's Participatory Market Systems Development (PMSD) approach, with support for honey and fodder production

GENDER EQUALITY & WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

- ensuring policies and programs systematically address the differing needs of both men and women
- reducing gender disparities - in health, education, access to information and participation in public life - while recognizing the central importance of the family and women's traditional roles
- supporting women's efforts to develop their own enterprises, and participate more broadly in economic activity and business networks

EDUCATION, TRAINING & EXPANDING ACCESS TO INFORMATION

- support for and collaboration with local schools and colleges

CONFLICT REDUCTION & PEACE-BUILDING

- national focal point for Novib/Oxfam's regional Resource-Based Conflict Network
- regional workshops with CSOs and local workshops with traditional institutions

PENHA-SOMALILAND'S APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT

PENHA-Somaliland's approach combines: the implementation of innovative interventions and projects with action research and policy dialogue.

A bottom-up, participatory approach is built on genuinely collaborative relationships with people in the communities, and starts with local needs and capacity assessments.

PENHA works with communities – traditional leaders, men, women and youth – to identify local priorities and shape appropriate interventions. Projects have included revolving funds and training for income generation/diversification projects, the provision of productive assets, tools and training to enhance agricultural productivity, as well as the rehabilitation and construction of water harvesting structures. Developing the capacity of communities to organise themselves and plan interventions is regarded as an integral part of all activities, as well as an end in itself.

Over more than a decade of engagement at the community and policy levels, PENHA has developed a wealth of experience and an intimate understanding of the local context, as well as of the complexities of providing humanitarian and development assistance in Somaliland. Strong relationships have been developed with national and local authorities, community leaders, and with other agencies working in the targeted areas. These relationships, with insights and inputs from donor and development agencies, help to make programs more coherent and effective.

Experience, together with close and open collaboration between Somali and expatriate staff, has shaped a team that is keenly attuned to the intricacies of the Somali context, with a deep understanding of the practical implementation of humanitarian and development projects.

PENHA's philosophy, reflected in the attitudes of staffers, makes for genuinely participatory processes, and makes it easier to work in a conflict-sensitive manner throughout.

PENHA strives to integrate relief, rehabilitation and development work.

PENHA's work with communities, with interventions that fit local priorities,

Three strands:

- innovative field interventions,
- action research and
- policy dialogue

These reinforce each other, in a way that strengthens PENHA's role as a facilitator, supporting communities to communicate their knowledge and experience to policy makers, and thereby making interventions more effective.

Core Programme Components:

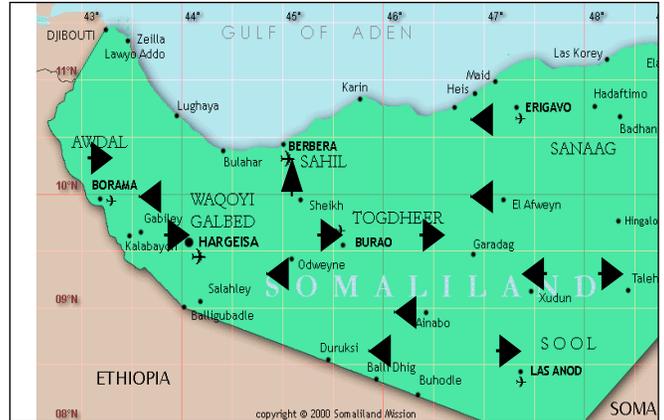
- **Livelihoods** – productivity enhancement, diversification, value chain studies and interventions
- **Environmental Management** – training, construction of bunds/structures, and maintaining grazing reserves
- **Water Supply & Sanitation** – rehabilitation and construction of water harvesting structures
- **Gender Equality & Women's Economic Empowerment**
- **Advocacy & Policy Work** - focused on pro-poor, pro-pastoralist policies, environmental and gender issues
- **Capacity Building** – training and co-working, for local civil society organisations, as well as local and central government

enhance livelihoods and natural resource management, also feeds into work at the policy level. PENHA has consistently worked with the Ministries of Agriculture, Pastoral Development and Environment to develop policy on important issues such as land tenure.

GEOGRAPHICAL REACH - PROJECT LOCATIONS

Since 2001, PENHA has mainly worked across all regions of Somaliland, including:

- 3 Districts in Sanaag Region
- 3 Districts in Sool Region
- 2 Districts in Togdheer Region
- 1 District in Saahil Region
- 2 District in Hargeisa Region
- 1 District in Awdal Region



PENHA's focus on pastoralism makes the pastoral plains of Sanaag, Sool and Togdheer particularly important to us. But in this predominantly pastoral country our reach is broad, and it encompasses the agro-pastoral communities where livestock-keeping and farming complement each other.

PARTNERS

PENHA works closely with line ministries, in particular the Ministries of Pastoral Development and Environment (MoPDE), Agriculture (MoA), Planning (MoPD), Water MoW), and Education (MoE). PENHA also collaborates with regional and district administrations.

Donors & Development partners:

- Comic Relief, Barings Foundation, Danida, EU, UNDP, UN/OCHA, WFP, UNDP/DDR, UNDP/RRIDP NOVIB/Oxfam, FAO, ILO, IFAD

Civil Society Partners & Collaborators

- Haqsoor, Candlelight, Tawakal
- Partners in Somalia: Hardo, RMSN & WOCCA
- Partners in Kenya: Practical Action
- Partners in Uganda: COPACSO (the Coalition of Pastoralist Civil Society Organisations)

Research partners

- National: UNDP/RRIDP, Academy for Peace & Development (APD), and the universities of Ahmoud, Burao and Hargeisa.
- Africa: Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA).
- International: University of London (UCL), University of Greenwich & Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex

In all its work, PENHA-Somaliland collaborates actively with PENHA-Uganda and other PENHA country chapters, as well as PENHA's senior associates in Ethiopia.

Working at five levels:

- **Community level:** building capacity and implementing projects develop
- **District level:** working with representative structures
- **National level:** working with government and development agencies to put into practice pro-poor policy.
- **Regional level:** co-working with PENHA country chapters and seeking to influence key regional institutions - AU, EAC and IGAD
- **International level:** working with CELEP to influence EU policy

PAST INTERVENTIONS

PENHA-Somaliland has a strong track record of successful project implementation:

- Pastoral Poverty Alleviation Project, for pastoral communities in Sanaag and Togdheer regions of Somaliland, with capacity building for local institutions and establishment of new income-generating activities.
- Livelihood Recovery Project, for destitute families from drought-affected communities in the Erigaavo district of Sanaag region.
- Sustainable Livelihoods and Drought Mitigation (SL&DM) Project (as implementing agency for a UNDP program) for drought-affected pastoralists in Sool, Sanaag and Togdheer regions, in collaboration with Candlelight, VETAID and MOPD&E.
- EC Food Security Improvement Project in Sool region of Somaliland, funded by the European Union, with VETAID-UK as a partner (– severe challenges were faced, and important lessons learned).
- Daallo Mountains Range Conservation project in Erigaavo District, where the natural rain forest is at risk from illegal and uncontrolled logging.
- Livelihood Support Project for demobilized soldiers, implementing agency for UNDP/DDR, in Hargeisa, Gebiley and Borama towns in the Awdal and Galbeed regions.
- Water Supply Study & Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for UNDP/AI Nahyan Foundation, providing the basis for a subsequent borehole and water supply program covering 13 communities.



RECENT AND CURRENT INTERVENTIONS

- Livelihoods and Economic Diversification
- Sustainable Employment & Economic Development (ILO/FAO implementing partner)
- Women's Economic Empowerment
- Humanitarian Interventions – food-for-work and cash-for-work
- Action Oriented Research
- Advocacy and Networking – nationally, regionally and internationally

Value Chains – Markets – Diversification

- Value Chain Studies – honey and fodder production
- Workshops with market actors – producers and traders
- Training and productive assets for producers

- Focal point organisation for Novib/Oxfam's **Resource-Based Conflict (RBC) Network for the Greater Horn of Africa** – carrying out research and consultations at community level, organizing/participating in three regional conferences in Uganda, Somaliland and Sudan, supporting the Nairobi-based Secretariat.
- Lead agency for Novib/Oxfam's **Gender Mainstreaming & Leadership Trajectory (GMLT) program**, giving civil society organisations in Puntland, Somaliland and

South-Central Somalia tools for addressing gender across programs and in organisational development.

- Danida-funded **Regional Women's Economic Empowerment Program**

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Promoting an understanding of pastoralism as economically rational, efficient and environmentally sound, and resisting policies that undermine pastoralism.
- Developing a draft Land Tenure Policy for Somaliland, in collaboration with VETAID.
- A key member of the national Participatory Forest management (PFM) working group, contributing to the establishment of a regional unit, policy dialogue and the formulation of forest policy.
- Establishment of pastoral associations, enabling them to be active participants in decision making on environment issues.
- Under the Daalo Mountain Conservation project, implementing 16,400 linear metres of soil and water conservation structures, 11km of rough road rehabilitation, 361 water diversion canals and 485m³ of woody check dams at small gullies along the slopes of the mountain.
- Establishing grazing reserves and promoting sound environmental management, soil and water conservation.
- Promoting gender equality at local and national levels
- Helping women to establish new enterprises or expand existing ones, with revolving funds and business skills training



Specific achievements;

- Mapping areas of grazing land conflict and land disputes, with pastoralists and civil society organizations
- Introducing new approaches and ideas, with a range of training programs – in conflict management and resolution, participatory monitoring and evaluation, lobbying and advocacy for appropriate pastoral development, and the management of common property resources.
- Restocking 702 households with 7,500 heads of goats to support recovery from severe and prolonged drought in Erigaavo district.
- Distributing food and medicine to 3,000 families in Erigaavo district
- Providing food and shelter for 340 families in Burao town after devastating floods.
- A livestock credit-in-kind fund contributed to helped 145 rural women-headed households to build productive capital and establish rotating community.
- Accomplished extensive awareness campaigns on environment conservation and natural resource management through communities and related community organizations.
- Establishment of 15 Pastoral associations at local levels in 4 regions of Somaliland and equipped them to



Dead Animals (Draught disaster)

act as lobbying/advocacy and implementing agents for pastoralism livelihoods development.

- Four district local authorities were trained on good governance and resource management
- 15 Pastoral associations and local committees were trained in environmental rehabilitation and conservation, water management as well as local governance and sustaining of projects.
- 13 grazing reserves and 1 forest conservation activities undertaken and successful completed or under process.
- Reintegrating 73 demobilized custodial crops by providing livestock and small and medium enterprise
- Including local women groups in decision-making process in our programs and instilling gender equity to our staff and partners.
- Creating a national Network on resource based conflict issues and working with the prevention mechanisms of conflict with them.
- Combining agricultural act with range management law to form a cohesive land tenure law.
- Participating in the strategic thinking of PENHA regional office and cross breeding with Uganda office on activities.
- Training pastoral associations and creating training manuals in resource management.
- Training ministerial staff on accounts and IT technology.
- Combining agricultural act with range management law to form a cohesive land tenure law.

Crosscutting Issues

- Natural resource management
- Gender development
- Conflict prevention and resolution

