



SOMALI FISHERIES

Women Association (SOWFA)

Advancing Sustainable Economic Resilience Through Gender Fisheries Empowerment

Date: 02\11\2024.

1. SOWFA-PROFILE

Association Name: Somali Fisheries Women Association

Acronym: (SOWFA)

Type of the Agency: Local-Non-Profit NGO".

Founded Date 05-01-2015

Legal Status: non- registered

Headquarter: Mogadishu-Somalia

Geographical: Somalia Nationwide

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Organizational Background

Somalia Women Fisheries Association “SOWFA”, Is A Non-Profit And Non-State Actor For Women Fisheries Organization Founded In 2020 After Several Consecutive Meeting And Discussions Among Its Founding Members With The Consultation Of The Somali Federal Ministry Of Fisheries And Marine Resource. SOFWA Is Targeted To Improve The Livelihood And Develop Economic Condition Of Somali Women And Youth Working In The Fisheries And Aquaculture Sector Value Chain. SOFWA Is Committed To Advance Sustainable Economic Resilience And Development For Youth And Women Through Gender Fisheries Empowerment In The Whole Nationwide Of Somalia.

SOFWA Vision Statement

Our Vision Is To Empower And Improve The Livelihoods Of Somalia Women And Youth Through Capacitating Fishing Skills And Value Adding Techniques In Order To Enhance The Living-Standard And Economic Resilience For Both Somali Women And Youth Involving The Blue Sector.

SOFWA Mission Statement

To Create A More Developed Economic Stability And Maintain Opportunities For Quality-Oriented Women And Youth Fisheries Through Participating In And Providing The Maximum Benefits To Better Engage With Producing The Highest Quality Seafood Product.

SOFWA - Objectives

1. Improving The Livelihoods And Food Security For The Targeted Group Of Youth And Women
2. Creation And Providing Employment Opportunities For The Marginalized Youth And Women From Idps, And Other Vulnerable Groups From The Different Parties Of The Communities Including Low-Income Group And Widows.
3. Enhancement Of Security And Stability In Location Of The Fish Venders, Markets, And Coops.

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4. Developing The Skill And Capacities Of The Target Group To Increase Production Capacity And Getting Reliable Markets For Seafood Products.
5. Provision Of Modernized Equipment And Training For Marginalized Youth And Women Involved In The Fishery Sector By Fostering Fish Business Markets And Engaging Women Lead Programs To Internatinal And Global Seafood Markets And Networks.

SOFWA - Core Values

- 1) SOFWA Is Committed To Promote Gender Equality And Empowerment Of Youth, Women And Girls, And To Elevate Any Barriers That Prevent Full Participation Of Women, Girls And Marginalize Youths In The Livelihood Opportunities.
- 2) We Believe In Full And Inclusive Participation By All And That Every Person, Man, Women, Or Community Has The Right And Responsibility To Contribute Their Talents, Skills And Resources To The Work We Do, For And With Them.
- 3) We Are Committed To Promote Full And Equal Access To Social Services, Capacity Building Lessons And Skill Development Courses With Opportunities To All.
- 4) We Believe That Community Participation Is An Essential Part Of The Process Of Good Local Economic And Community Development. Therefore, We Consider Participatory Approaches As A Critical Instrument Of Our Association.
- 5) We Are Committed To Work With Marginalized Communities, Improve Their Lives, Alleviate Their Suffering, And Develop A Vision For Change That Will Make A Meaningful Difference In Their Lives And Economic Condition.
- 6) We Consider Partnership As One Of Our Key Organizing Principles; We Are, Therefore, Committed To Developing, Maintaining, And Nurturing Partnerships, Including Alliance And Linkages- With Institutions/Organizations And Individuals Who Identify Our Vision And Mission.

Core Principals

- ❖ Education, Information, And Training.
- ❖ Economic Development.

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- ❖ Independence.
- ❖ Concern For The Community.
- ❖ Cooperation Among Association And Others.

SOFWA–Area Of Work

- ❖ Capacity Building
- ❖ Knowledge Improvement
- ❖ Training And Capacitation
- ❖ Awareness And Empowerment

Founding Statement Of The Association

The Following Are The Founding Priorities: -

- ❖ Somali Women Especially In In Fishery Sectors Bear Unequal And Economic Hardships Occasioned By Poverty, Conflict And Clan-Based Culture Which Promote Strict Male Hierarchy And Authority; Women Are Either Excluded Or Have Less In All Levels Of Life In Decision Making And Market Opportunities.
- ❖ IDP Communities, And Other Marginalized People Including Youth From IDP And Vulnerable Widows With Orphans Are Strictly Excluded From Market Opportunities And Other Social Benefits
- ❖ Women's Accesses to Public and Private Markets Are Too Strict and Limited over Men's Hierarchy and Cultural Violence to Exclude Women's And Girls from Market Opportunity and Economic Participation Freely.

Key Challenges

Although Women In Developing Countries Face Substantive Challenges To Engaging In And Benefiting Equitably From Fishing And Fisheries Sectors And Other Benefit Able Resource, Somalia Fishing Is Often Seen As A Male Activity Over 99%, Including Limited Access To Fishing, Fish Processing And Control Over Assets And Resources, Constraining Gender

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Norms, Time, And Labor Burdens Of Unpaid Work. Barriers To Sustaining Entrepreneurship And Marketing Activities While Decision Making Process And Economic Participation Have Been Limited Due To Cultural Norms And Male Hierarchy Plus Limited Access, Poor Knowledge Of Marine And Fishing And Lack Of Proper Equipment And Tools For Fishing, Marketing And Entrepreneurship.

Organization Key Achievement

SOFWA Trained Small Scale Traders Of 130 (97 Female And 33 Youth) Coastal Communities In Mogadishu On Local Fish Preserving Methodologies And Environment Health And Good Practices Fish Processing And Market Entrepreneurship Skills Which Include: -

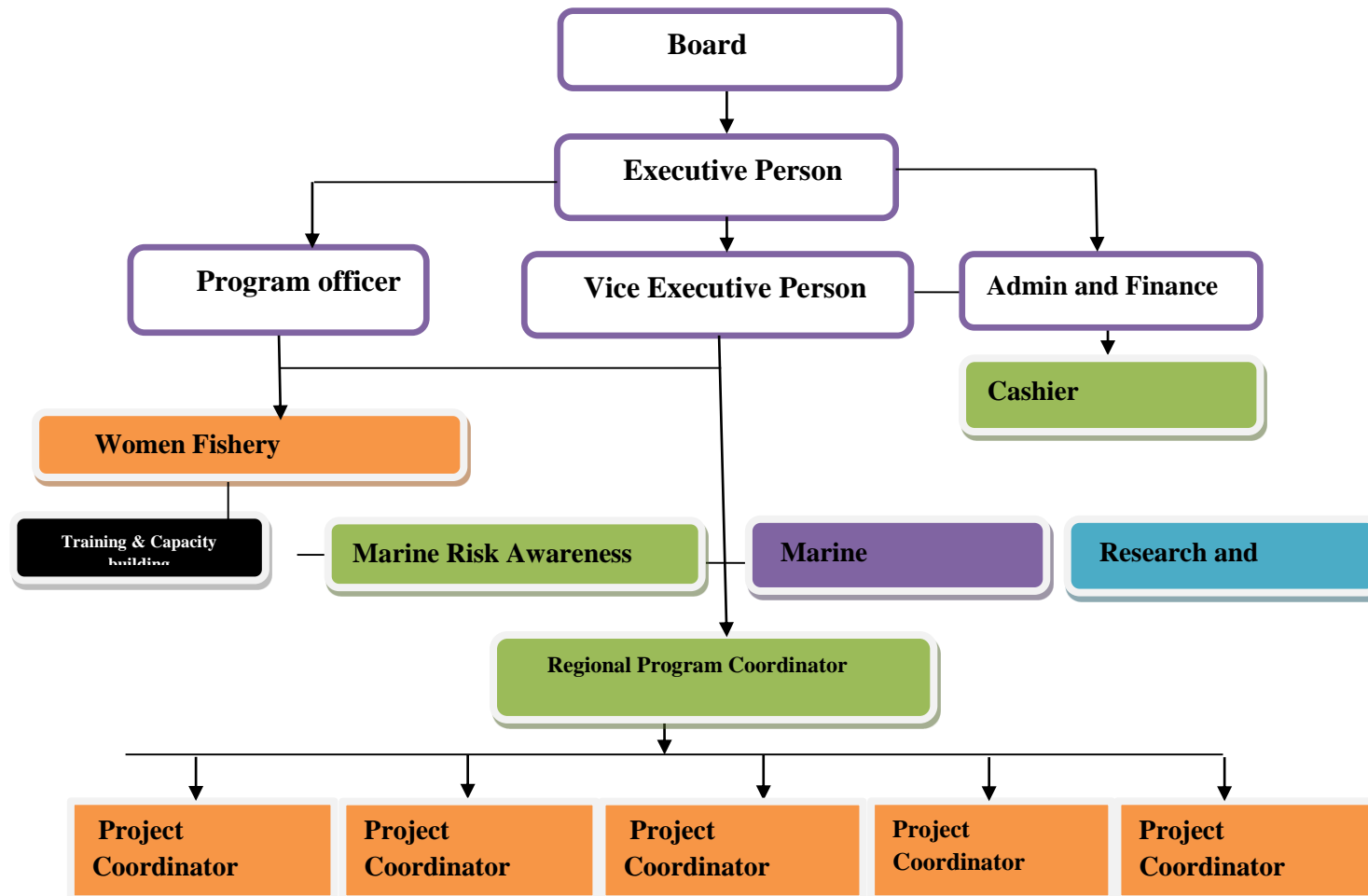
1. Marketing And Entrepreneurship Skills
2. Fish Processing And Production
3. Fish Preservation Techniques
4. Ocean Risks And Climate Challenges
5. Blue Environmental Health And Hygiene
6. Working With Coastal Communities
7. Smoking
8. Salting
9. Drying
10. Sun- Drying.

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SOFWA CHART AND HIERARCHY



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