

HERITAGE

I N S T I T U T E



CITY UNIVERSITY
of Mogadishu

Forum Agenda

RESHAPING SOMALIA'S EDUCATION FOR DEVELOPMENT



Jazeera Palace
Hotel

About the Forum

Education is a cornerstone of state and peace building and a key indicator of human development. Countries around the world spend a significant amount of their national budgets on education as an investment for their country's future. The state of Somalia's education is a complex one. Despite the right to education being enshrined in Somalia's Provisional Constitution, an estimated 70% of school-aged Somali pupils do not have access to basic education. Thanks to the efforts of successive Somalia governments, international partners, and the dedication of local communities, the country's education systems have witnessed slow but noticeable improvements. Recent years have experienced the development of important educational policies, increased overall school enrollment rates, re-established national exams, a new curriculum framework, and limited professional development for teachers. Despite these positive steps, the country is facing considerable educational challenges that require the attention of policymakers, educationalists, researchers, and international partners. As a result, the Heritage Institute for Policy Studies (HIPS) and City University of Mogadishu will host the inaugural Development Forum under the theme "Reshaping Somalia's Education for Development." This forum aims to capture the progress and identify current gaps and future challenges with the hope that researchers, through evidence-based policy research, will bring insights and solutions to the educational challenges the country is facing.

The forum aims to achieve the following specific objectives:

- **Public Education:** To educate the public on the progress and challenges of educational reforms and its potential impact on state-building and economic development;
- **Policy Advancement:** To facilitate a space for linking decision-makers with sound policy advice that is rooted in evidence-based analytical research;
- **Inclusive Education:** To promote the importance of prioritizing and investing in inclusive education for development;
- **Best Practices:** To share ideas on best practices from global experiences in reshaping the country's education system, with insights from scholars and experts.

Participants

This forum will bring together around 300 delegates from academia including experts in the field of education, researchers, universities, civil society organizations and representatives from government institutions (both federal and state level), the private sector, women and youth representatives and marginalized groups.

Method/approach

The Forum will adopt a multi-stakeholder approach, fostering meaningful dialogue, presenting research findings focused on Somalia's education, and collaboration among policymakers, especially ministers of education from federal and state governments, private sector, the education umbrella, academia and researchers. Government officials will articulate national and sub-national priorities for unlocking the potential of young Somalis. The event will also feature panel discussions and presentations of policy reports commissioned by HIPS and City University.

Accepted Research Papers

The forum will feature a diverse range of research papers that delve deep into critical issues within Somalia's education landscape. These 15 accepted papers, selected from a pool of submissions, aim to enrich our discussions and offer valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities facing our education system. Below is a list of these research papers along with a brief description of each

Day One: Saturday 23 September 2023

Time	Description
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Registration and arrival of the delegates
9:00 am	MC - Nasro Kiin Hashi , Journalist
9:00 am – 9:10 am	Welcoming remarks - Professor Abdullahi Ahmed Barise , President, City University of Mogadishu
9:10 am – 9:20 am	Opening statement – Hon Nura Mustafe , State Minister of Education, Culture and Higher Education, FGS
9:20 am – 9:30 am	Inaugural address – H.E. Salah Ahmed Jama , Deputy Prime Minister, FGS
9:30 am – 9:45 am	Keynote presentation: Status of the Current Education in Somalia: Progress, Challenges and Opportunities – Dr. Abdullahi Hussein (Muqaddin) – Virtual
9:50 am – 10:00 am	Poem: The Benefit of Knowledge - Keyse Hussein , Heritage Institute
10:00 am – 12:30 am	Session 1: Educational Administration in Federated Somalia Paper presentations: Chair: Dr. Uweis Abdullahi Ali, Senior Researcher , Heritage Institute <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Exploring Critical Success Factors for Education Finance in Somalia – Dr. Mohamed Ibrahim Nor2. Revitalizing Education Leadership in Somalia: A Comprehensive Model for Selecting, Appointing, and Training School Principal – Mohamed Sh. Ali3. State-Sponsored Education: How Can We Accommodate the Educational Needs of Students with Special Needs and Disabilities in Somalia? – Abdirahman Lunge4. What Role Should the Federal State Play in Regulating Private Education in Somalia – Dr. Abdishakur Tarah (Virtual) Panel discussion: Educational Administration in Federated Somalia <p>It has been nearly two decades since Somalia adopted its federal governance system. However, federalism remains a work in progress due to several unresolved critical issues. One of these pressing concerns is the effective administration of the education system. Specifically, there is a lack of clarity regarding the delineation of authority between Federal Member States (FMS) and the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS). The overlap of power and responsibilities remains unaddressed, despite an abundance of literature on various strategies for decentralizing authority to lower levels of administration. In this context, our panel aims to shed light on the key challenges associated with the administration of education, especially at the K-12 stages. The panel will delve into the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How should education be administered in federated Somalia?2. What challenges do the FMS authorities face in providing education to the population of the states?3. How can the FGS and FMSs fulfill their responsibilities regarding education provision in Somalia?"

Panelists:

1. **H.E. Mohamed Mohamud Abdulle**, Minister of Education, Hirshabelle
2. **H. E. Mustaf Ahmed Idow**, Minister of Education, Southwest
3. **H.E. Mohamed Mohamud Elmi**, Deputy Minister of Education, Galmudug
4. **H. E. Mukhtar Kamil Kuley**, Deputy Minister of Education, Jubaland
5. **H. E. Abdullahi Roble**, Somalia Member of Parliament, Former Puntland Minister of Education
6. **Dr. Abdifatah Barre**, Director of Education, Banadir Regional Administration

Moderator: Abdulkareem Jama, City University of Mogadishu

12:30 – 12:40

Special presentation: Early Childhood Education in Somalia – **Dr. Ali Abdullahi Warsame**, Principal Advisor, Ministry of Education, Culture and Higher Education, FGS

13:30 – 14:30

Lunch / Prayer

14:00- 14:10

Keynote speech – Prof. Abdulla Mansoor

14:10- 16:10

Session 2: Curriculum, Teaching and Learning

Paper Presentations:

Chair: Dr. Yusuf Sheikh Omar, Director, Talo-Wadaag Program, Heritage Institute

1. Impact of Teachers' Instruction Styles on The Academic Performance of Form Four Secondary School Students in Bosaso, Somalia – **Ali Abdijabar Mohamed**
2. The Plight of a Somali Child When Robbed of Their Rights for Education_ Is Effective Policy and Teacher Training a Way Forward – **Shamsudin Abikar Nur**
3. Education in Post-War Somalia_ Developing an Integrated Thematic Model of History Curriculum for Secondary Schools – **Fawzia Osman Essa**
4. Teacher Professional Development Trainings in Crises Affected Context – **Abdirahman Bihi**
5. The Role Education in Peacebuilding in the Conflict-Affected Rural Somalia – **Mohamed Ibrahim Rashid**

Panel discussion: Curriculum, Teaching and Learning

Experts and commentators have observed a commonality among countries in conflict, highlighting elements such as outdated curricula and authoritarian teaching styles within their education systems. In fact, it's possible that the education system, including its curriculum, played a role in instigating conflict in the first place. Nevertheless, the post-conflict period is often viewed as an opportunity to bring about transformation in education. Despite the attention given by successive Somali governments to curriculum and pedagogy, significant challenges persist. The panel will address the following questions:

1. What are the overarching goals of education in Somalia?
2. To what extent does the current curriculum address the nation's post-conflict goals and developmental needs?
3. To what extent does the curriculum deliver on the expressed goals and commitments?"

Panelists

1. **Dr. Abdullahi Omar**, Expert on Curriculum, Ministry of Education, FGS
2. **Hassan Mohamed Ali**, Ministry of Education, FGS
3. **Dr. Abdirizak Takar**, Rector, East Africa University
4. **Mohamed Harun**, Expert, Special Needs
5. **Mohamed Abdulkadir Nur**, Advisor, Ministry of Education, FGS
6. **Dr. Fowzia Osman**, CEO, Aldana Education Management Consultancy

Moderator: Zainab Hassan, Executive Director, Somali Gender Equity Movement (SGEM)

16:10- 16:20

Special presentation: Educating Children with Autism — **Zainab Abdelkafi**, Autism Somali Center

16:20- 16:30

Closing Remarks - End of the First Day

Day Two: Sunday 24 September 2023

Time	Description
9:00 am – 9:10 am	Opening Remarks and Recap of the First Day – Mursal Saney , Deputy Executive Director
9:10 am – 9:20 am	Special Presentation: Dr Mohamed Mohamud Bidey , Chairman, Association of Somali Universities
9:20 am – 9:30 am	Special Presentation: Eng. Mohamud Hassan (Harbi) – Rector of Zamzam University
9:30 am – 12:00 am	Session 3: Transforming Somalia's Higher Education Paper Presentations Chair: Ahmed Shire, Vice President, Puntland State University <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Factors Predicting Women's Recruitment into the Teaching Profession of Higher Educational Institutions in Somalia – Mohamed Abdullahi Gure2. Quality Assurance for Higher Education in Somalia_ Lesson Learned South East Asian Countries_ Experiences – Dr. Abdullahi Ali Mohamed3. Cybersecurity Awareness in Somalia's Higher Education - Fardowsa Mohamed Nour and Zakaria Mohamud Elmi Panel Discussion: Transforming Somalia's higher education landscape. Higher education is experiencing remarkable growth in Somalia. Over the past three decades, the country has transitioned from having just two higher education institutions to now boasting more than fifty. This rapid expansion raises important questions about the sector, including the necessity of such growth in establishing a higher education system. It prompts us to examine the fundamental role that higher education plays and consider whether traditional approaches of classifying higher education into teaching or research-intensive are still relevant in this evolving landscape. The panelists will address the following questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What purpose does the current higher education in the country serve within the nation's development and peacebuilding?2. What challenges do higher education providers face in the country?3. With such rapid expansion, can Somalia afford to have this many universities? How can this be addressed?" The Panelists <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Dr. Hassan Mahadallah, Rector, Somali National University2. Dr. Mohamed Abdulkadir Eno, Rector, University of Southern Somalia3. Dr. Abdulkadir Hikam, Rector, Kismayo University,4. Ismail Yusuf Osman – Director of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, FGS5. Najma Abdirizak Hussein, Rector, Health Science University, Bosaso6. Fouzia Warsame, Director, Somali Institute of Planning, Statistics and Economic Development, MOPED Moderator Dr. Mohamud Yusuf Garre , City University of Mogadishu
12:00 – 12:10	Special presentation: Inclusive Education – Zainab Mohamed Hassan , SGEM
12:10 – 12:20	Special presentation: Preserving Culture and Somali Language in Educational system of Somalia – Hosh Docol , Bicid Maankaaga Godol

14:00- 14:15

Special presentation: Evolution of Somalia's Education System
– **Xil. Sharif Mohamed Abdullahi**, Member of the House of the People

14:15- 16:30

Session 4: The Language Policy in Education Provision of Somalia

Paper Presentations:

Chair: Fadumo A. Ali, City University of Mogadishu

1. Teaching English as a Second Language in Somali Colleges
– **Ahmednur Sheikh Ali Hassan**
2. Language Policy in Somalia – **Dr. Abdinasir Hersi Jama**
3. Lack of Proficiency in the English Language – **Mohamed Elmi**

Panel discussion: The language Policy debate

Language is an integral component of our identity. It serves not only as a means of communication but also defines who we are and carries our culture. Much like all aspects of life, languages evolve, and UNESCO has been raising concerns about languages that are at risk of disappearing within the next century. Education plays a pivotal role in preserving languages, making it crucial for children in Somalia to receive education in their mother tongue. Simultaneously, there's a pressing need to prepare children for the global market, which predominantly utilizes the English language. With these considerations in mind, our panel will address the following questions:

1. To what extent is the language policy in Somalia clear and well-defined, particularly in the context of education? Are there any ambiguities or inconsistencies that need to be addressed?
2. How can Somalia ensure that children receive education in their mother tongue while also preparing them for the English-dominated global market?
3. What strategies and policies should be in place to strike this balance effectively?"

Panelists

1. **Prof. Abdullahi Barise** – Rector, City University of Mogadishu
2. **Prof. Mohamed Hussein Isse**, Member of Board, Mogadishu University
3. **Dr. Dahir Hassan**, Rector, SIMAD University
4. **Eng. Mohamed Ahmed Mohamud**, Rector, Jamhuriya University
5. **Eng. Mohamud Hassan**, Rector, Zamzam University
6. **Dr. Abdulkadir Kadle**, Chairman of FPNS

Moderator: Dr. Afyare Elmi, Executive Director, Heritage Institute

Day Three: Monday 25 September 2023

Research Day on Development-related Papers by City University of Mogadishu and Heritage Institute

Time	Description
9:00 am – 9:10 am	Welcoming Remarks – Dr. Afyare Abdi Elmi , Executive Director, Heritage Institute
9:10 am – 9:20 am	Video Presentation
9:20 am – 9:40 am	Keynote Speech – Government Official
10:00 am – 11:00 am	Session 5: Achieving Sustainable Food Security in Somalia Paper presentations: Chair: Dr. Afyare Abdi Elmi Executive Director, Heritage Institute <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Estimation of Crop Water Requirement for Tomato Plant in Afgoye-Somalia, Using CROPWAT 8.0 Model – Yasin Mohamed Ibrahim2. Identification of Pesticide Application Techniques in Bal'ad, Somalia – Yahye Abdiwali and Mohamed Haji Mayow Abdulle, Mohamed Ali Kahie3. Marine Plants as Bio-fertilizers for Tomato Cultivation in Mogadishu, Somalia - Mohamed Salah, Mohamed Hassan, Mohamed Ali Kahie & Dr. A. Sivakumar4. A Comparative Study of the Landings of Skipjack and Yellowfin Tuna - Mohamed Mohamed Abdallah and Dr. A. Sivakumar
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Session 6: Driving Prosperity: The Nexus of Economy, Finance and Employment Paper Presentations: Chair: Professor Abdullahi Ahmed Barise: President, City University of Mogadishu <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Islamic Economic System: A Remedy Model for Economic Downturns (the Covid-19 Pandemic as Case Study) – Dr. Musicha Nyongesa Shariff2. Youth Unemployment and Security in Somalia – Dr. Uweis Abdullahi Ali, Heritage Institute3. Factors Affecting Youth Entrepreneur's Access to Finance in Mogadishu – Abubakar Abdirizak Mohamed4. College of Agriculture Science and Natural Resources/ Department of Agronomy, City University of Mogadishu – Yasin Mohamed Ibrahim*
12:00 am – 12:30 pm	Closing remarks of the forum – Government official
13:00 – 2:30 pm	Lunch for delegates & Forum ends