

# CALL FOR PAPERS

**2nd Annual Somalia Development Forum (ASDF2024)**

Setting the Agenda for Somalia's Economic Transformation and Growth in Post-HIPC Era

Abstract Submission Deadline: **20 February 2024**  
Notification of Abstract Acceptance: **20 March 2024**  
Full Paper Submission Deadline: **30 May 2024**  
Notification of Paper Acceptance: **30 June 2024**  
ASDF2024 Tentative Conference Dates: **15-16 July 2024**



## ABOUT THE FORUM

In 2023, Somalia achieved a significant milestone by successfully completing the debt relief process under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative. This achievement came after a series of rigorous economic reforms, including the enactment of key legislation such as the Public Financial Management (PFM) Act, the Anti-Money Laundering Law, revenue generation reform, and the strengthening of core economic institutions. The debt relief has paved the way for Somalia to access new external financing, which is vital for economic reconstruction and addressing development needs.

As Somalia embarks on rebuilding its economy after decades of economic challenges, policymakers face the task of setting the agenda for economic transformation in the post-HIPC era. This includes addressing issues related to infrastructure, human capital, public institutions, and ensuring resilience against external shocks such as climate-related droughts. Accelerating economic recovery requires a multifaceted approach rooted in evidence-based policy dialogue to address complex development challenges within the context of a volatile political and security environment.

**The Heritage Institute for Policy Studies (HIPS)**, in collaboration with the **City University of Mogadishu**, is proud to announce the 2nd Annual Somalia Development Forum (ASDF2024), scheduled for July 2024. The forum's theme is "Setting the Agenda for Somalia's Economic Transformation and Growth in the Post-HIPC Era." ASDF2024 will convene policymakers, academics, and development practitioners to present and discuss critical issues concerning economic reconstruction and transformation during this post-HIPC phase.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE FORUM

- To facilitate meaningful and constructive dialogue among key stakeholders on Somalia's economic development agenda.
- To examine and address structural obstacles to sustainable development and growth.
- To assess and monitor the progress of various development programs across the country.
- To provide a platform for policymakers to access evidence-based research, engage in discussions, and receive sound policy recommendations.
- To foster collaboration and knowledge exchange among experts, academics, and practitioners.

**HIPS and City University** invite submissions of research papers to be presented during the forum that offer innovative policy insights across various aspects of development, their connection to inclusive economic growth, resilience, and poverty reduction.

## AREAS OF RESEARCH FORUM

We invite scholars, researchers, and practitioners to submit papers that explore pertinent themes, including but not limited to the following:

- Political economy of state-building – Institutional reforms, social cohesion, power dynamics, external interventions, and public service provision.
- Governance gaps and the role of regulatory frameworks in advancing economic development (e.g., fiscal federalism).
- Supportive monetary and fiscal policies – debt sustainability, reintroduction of the Somali shilling, revenue collection, and government expenditure management.
- Investment in human capital – education, healthcare, and enhancing employment opportunities for young Somalis.
- Reviving productive sectors (agriculture, livestock, and fisheries) to drive growth and development.
- Addressing climate change shocks, climate finance, and ensuring food security.
- Developing critical infrastructure – roads, water, energy, and telecommunications sectors.
- Trade, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), and the impact of rapidly evolving technology.
- The role of Development Financial Institutions (successful cases in SME finance, agriculture, real estate properties, and sustainable energy.)
- Enhancing social safety nets and poverty reduction strategies.
- Strengthening public-private partnerships for economic growth.
- Mobilizing Somali diaspora resources for development.
- Innovative approaches to financial inclusion and microfinance in Somalia

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

**Abstract:** Please submit an abstract of 300-500 words, summarizing the main argument, research methodology, and key recommendations.

**Paper Length:** Submissions should range between 4,000 and 6,000 words, inclusive of references.

**Formatting:** Utilize Times New Roman font, size 12, double-spacing, and maintain one-inch margins.

**Language:** Submissions in Somali or English are accepted. Somali submissions should include an English abstract.

**Originality:** Ensure the originality of your work through proper citations. Plagiarized submissions will be disqualified. Authors must submit empirical research supported by evidence and data. Please refrain from submitting papers already under consideration by other journals. Previously published papers will not be accepted. Researchers holding master's or PhD degrees with at least one prior publication are encouraged to participate.

**Biography:** Include a brief biography (maximum 150 words) outlining your academic and professional background.

**Review Process:** Each paper will undergo a thorough peer review process, with selections based on academic merit and alignment with the objectives and themes of ASDF2024

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**Submission Process:** Send your abstracts and subsequent full papers to [callforpapers@heritageinstitute.org](mailto:callforpapers@heritageinstitute.org) with the subject line "ASDF2024 Paper Submission: [Your Name]".

**Additional Information:** Selected contributors will have the opportunity to present their papers at ASDF2024 before a distinguished audience that includes policymakers, academics, and members of the international community. Additionally, there will be opportunities for publication through HIPS and engagement with a wide network of experts and professionals. Selected participants will receive round-trip tickets and enjoy three nights of hotel accommodations in Somalia.

**Inquiries:** For inquiries regarding the ASDF2024 call for papers, please contact the following email address: [callforpapers@heritageinstitute.org](mailto:callforpapers@heritageinstitute.org)