



YOVENCO

ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE DOCUMENT

YOVENCO stands for Youth Volunteers for Development and Environment Conservation

It is a non-governmental, non-profit making and non-political organization with headquarters in Berbera; sub-offices in Hargeisa and Burao.

www.yovenco.org

About YOVENCO



Youth Volunteers for Development and Environment Conservation (YOVENCO) was founded on 10th March 2001.

It is a non-governmental, non-profit making and non-political organization with headquarters in Berbera; sub-offices in Hargeisa and Burao.

Over the years YOVENCO has been providing timely and relevant assistance to poor and vulnerable communities through the implementation of interventions in Social Livelihoods Development, Health Improvement, Child Protection, Youth Empowerment as well as the Conservation of the Environment.

YOVENCO is duly licensed to operate as a Non-Governmental Organization in the Republic of Somaliland by the Ministry of National Planning and Development.

Since its inception, YOVENCO has collaborated with the local authorities, other aid agencies as well as beneficiary communities to successfully deliver dozens of humanitarian and development projects.

We have also established strategic alliances with other humanitarian and development actors and have become an influential member of Somaliland civil society networks and forums such as the Somaliland National Youth Organization (SONYO) - an Umbrella Youth Network, Somaliland HIV/AIDS Network (SAHAN), Somaliland Child Right Forum (SOCRIF), Berbera Economic Development Forum (BEDF), Somaliland Pastoral Forum (SOLPAF) and the DAN-GUUD consortium for expanding civic space for youth and women.

YOVENCO is renowned as a reputable organization with a proven track record of implementing timely and relevant projects throughout the country.



OUR MOTTO

Empowering people
and
enhancing lives
through
community-driven
initiatives.



OUR VISION

A society where every citizen enjoys access to better livelihood with a dignified life, human rights and social justice promoted and climate change vulnerability reduced.



OUR MISSION

YOVENCO commits to work with people in poverty and exclusion to improve their socio-economic status, protect their rights, promote gender equality and well-being and reduce climate change vulnerability through service delivery, empowerment, and policy advocacy.

Our Core Values



Humanity

Our purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for all human beings.



Integrity

Integrity means that we are truthful and honest in all areas of life, in our professional work, and our personal lives.



Transparency & Accountability

We conduct our activities with complete and open transparency. We try to be accountable and open in all our business practices.



Diversity

Diversity shapes our culture. We appreciate each person's contribution to our common goals and treat everyone equally.



Promoting Resilient Livelihoods, Disaster Risk Reduction, Food Security & Climate Adaptation Programmes

Livelihoods in many areas of Somaliland (Urban and Rural) are complex and dynamic; perhaps the one constant is the day-to-day uncertainty of survival.

The concept of livelihood is about individuals, households, or groups making a living, attempting to meet their various consumption and economic necessities, coping with uncertainties, and responding to new opportunities.

Resilience' has been described as 'the capacity of people or "systems" to cope with stresses and shocks by

anticipating them, preparing for them, responding to them, and recovering from them'.

YOVENCO works to develop vocational skills for poor and vulnerable communities in various sectors to provide them with sustainable employment and income opportunities.

Through this component we work with Pastoralists, fisheries and agro-pastoralist communities with direct economic support and skills development.

YOVENCO in Action

Since 2016, YOVENCO has partnered with the FAO and GIZ to deliver livelihood interventions in the Sahel region.

Over 20,000 people have benefitted from various cash-for-work schemes between 2015 and 2018.

Our work has contributed to:

- Improved community ownership and inclusive participation sustaining environmental water irrigation infrastructure;
- Improved communal water infrastructure in more than 20 villages in Sahel region,
- Improved levels of food security in target villages;
- Improved local economic activity arising from temporary employment opportunities and unconditional cash transfers to vulnerable groups.



Quality & Inclusive Education

Quality inclusive education is a fundamental part of the new Sustainable Development Goal agenda.

In Somaliland, inclusive education refers to a 'system that affords all learners access to free and compulsory basic education and secondary education of real quality, followed by the opportunity to continue with lifelong education and training, so enhancing their personal development and contributing to Somaliland's cultural development, socio-economic growth, and global competitiveness.'

In Somaliland, inclusive education refers to children with special education needs who attend mainstream schools.

We work to address the challenges of thousands of children to access integrated and inclusive education in hard to reach areas of Somaliland.

We work with ministry of education to improve inclusive education, promote enrolment particularly girls and disability students.

We build gender and disability friendly schools and toilets. We work with communities to increase their knowledge on the value of girls' education.

YOVENCO in Action

YOVENCO is working with UNICEF and the Somaliland Ministry of education to promote inclusive education in schools.

Our work has contributed to:

- Improved access to quality basic education for thousands of boys and girls;
- Improved school management and resource mobilization;
- Strengthened financial management capacity and skills;
- Improved school infrastructure in both quantity and quality;
- Increased school enrolment numbers;
- Improved student learning outcomes.



Youth Empowerment & Skills Development

Investing in youth economic empowerment and skills development is one of the most urgent and effective means to drive progress on gender equality, poverty eradication, and inclusive economic growth.

Despite growing evidence of the positive outcomes of youth economic empowerment, young people in Somaliland continue to experience unequal access to education and skills development and face barriers to securing decent employment and opportunities to thrive as entrepreneurs.

To increase access to decent employment and entrepreneurial opportunities, YOVENCO provides vocational training in various fields to poor and vulnerable youth across Somalia.

YOVENCO in Action

Our work has contributed to:

- Enhanced technical skills for thousands of young people;
- Increased employment opportunities;
- Establishment of hundreds of youth-owned small businesses.



Child Protection

Every child has the right to be safe from harm. nevertheless, every year the lives and physical, mental, and emotional well-being of children in Somaliland are threatened by maltreatment such as abuse, neglect, violence, and exploitation.

Children need to be protected, because they are physically, mentally, and emotionally immature and unable to adequately protect themselves.

The younger a child is, the more care and protection he or she will need. As children grow, their physical, cognitive, and social-emotional capabilities evolve and mature, but children are still not fully capable of protecting themselves.

YOVENCO's child protection programming revolves around our efforts to safeguard children from actions or situations that place their healthy development and well-being at risk.

YOVENCO in Action

Our work has contributed to:

- Enhanced Community Based Child Protection Mechanisms (CBCPM);
- Promotion of key child rights issues at central, district and community levels;
- Enhanced capacity of child protection service providers;
- Establishment of first line response to child protection cases at community level;
- Increased awareness of child protection among target communities.



Emergency Response

An emergency is any situation or occurrence of a serious nature, developing suddenly and unexpectedly, and demanding immediate action.

We provide humanitarian response to vulnerable populations affected by conflicts and natural disasters. YOVENCO provides support for the injured, victims of trauma, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable populations.

Our emergency response experts ensure that all the necessary resources are mobilized to rapidly respond to arising needs. We also work with communities to help the most vulnerable populations prepare for disaster risks.



Peace Building & Good Governance

Without the ability of citizens to directly participate in decision-making and hold public officials accountable, the critical benefits of good governance, such as social justice, poverty reduction, and economic development cannot be achieved.

YOVENCO works to promote participatory mechanisms for civic participation in governance.

This, in turn, aligns development priorities with community goals; thus enhancing communication between the state and citizens; expanding the resources available to the poor, and strengthening the capacity of civil society to represent and advocate for their communities.



Gender Equality & Women Empowerment

The empowerment of women is central to women's ability to overcome poverty, cope with shocks and improve their well-being. When women realize their goals, whether it's growing a business, improving their home, or investing in training or education, they are more resilient and able to provide for themselves and their families.

Women's participation and empowerment are fundamental to strengthening women's rights and enabling women to have control over their lives and exert influence in society.

It is about creating just and equitable societies. Gender equality and empowered women are catalysts for multiplying development efforts.

YOVENCO works to increase the role of women in Somali society, this is critical to the resilience and growth of Somaliland.



Water Sanitation & Hygiene

Water is essential in terms of its quantity and quality to sustain life and promote health. Basic sanitation and adequate hygiene behavior and management are essential conditions to create a safe environment that reduces the risk of people's immune systems being undermined as a result of chronic exposure to WASH-related diseases.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) is globally recognized as a key intervention to promote a healthy and clean environment and to influence a change in health promotion behavior and attitudes.

YOVENCO's water and sanitation work help vulnerable communities obtain adequate supplies of safe water and sanitation facilities by drilling new borehole wells, repairing existing wells, developing rainwater catchments, providing water storage, building community filtration systems, and constructing household latrines, refuse dumps, and surface water drainage systems.

Our Donors & Partners



United Nations Development Programme



United Nations Children's Fund



Norwegian Refugee Council



SOS Children's Villages



Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



Save the Children®

Save the Children



United States African Development Foundation



UN Food & Agriculture Organization



EUROPEAN UNION

European Union



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