



Shariqa Rd, Hantiwadag, Garowe, Somalia



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<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3419-6657>**DOB:** 15/01/1989.**Nationality:** Somalia **SEX:** Male.**PRONOUNS:** His/him

PROFILE

Conservation practitioner with over 10 years of experience working in arid and semi-arid ecosystems of Somalia, specializing in community-based conservation, wildlife monitoring, and sustainable natural resource management. Proven track record in designing and implementing rapid field assessments in data-poor and challenging contexts. Founder and Director of the Species Saviour Initiative (SSI), leading Indigenous-led conservation programs focused on threatened and endemic species, particularly antelopes and dryland habitats. Currently an MA candidate in Conservation Leadership at the University of Guelph in Canada, with strong experience in field surveys, stakeholder engagement, and translating data into conservation planning and policy-relevant outputs.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

01/2021 – Present **Founder & Executive Director I Garowe, Somalia**

Employer details

Species Saviour Initiative (SSI) |

Mereysane Rd, Halgan, Garowe, Puntland, Somalia

E: info@speciessaviour.org | <https://speciessaviour.org/>

Main activities and responsibilities

- Founded and lead an Indigenous-led conservation organization focused on threatened and endemic species, particularly antelopes and dryland ecosystems.
- Established partnerships with local custodian committees and developed community-based conservation governance systems.
- Co-developed sustainable harvesting and habitat management protocols integrating Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and scientific methods, now applied across ~300,000 ha of dryland forest.
- Led field-based monitoring, mapping, and documentation of biodiversity and threats in remote landscapes.
- Trained over 4,700 community members in ecosystem stewardship, species protection, and site-level governance.
- Mobilized blended financing from local private-sector partners and donors to support conservation action.
- Oversaw restoration activities including native tree nurseries and planting of 15,700 indigenous trees

Sector :: Biodiversity Conservation | Community-Based Natural Resource Management | Conservation Finance

01/2025 – 07/2025 **Mid-Term Evaluation Expert (Consultant) I Home-based, Somalia**

Employer details

Delegation of the European Union to Somalia – EEAS – Home based

AAl Zone, European Union Diplomatic Compound, - Mogadishu - Somalia.

Vom Hofe Marlene,

marlene.vom-hofe@eeas.europa.eu or delegation-somalia@eeas.europa.eu

- Co-led independent evaluation of a regional maritime security programme using OECD-DAC criteria.
- Assessed performance, sustainability, and value for money of multi-agency interventions (IMO, UNODC, INTERPOL, IGAD).
- Evaluated integration of environmental sustainability, climate risks, gender, and human rights.
- Produced evidence-based findings and recommendations for EU programming.

Sector: Youth Empowerment | Social Innovation | Community Development

02/2024 **Biodiversity & Natural Resource Management Project Assistant**

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UNDP Somalia – Puntland Office | Garowe, Somalia

	2024 Main activities and responsibilities - Supported implementation of UNDP environmental and climate-related projects in Puntland, with a focus on biodiversity conservation and natural resource management. - Contributed to field monitoring activities related to wildlife, rangelands, and protected landscapes. - Assisted with data collection, site visits, and reporting on environmental pressures and community-based conservation initiatives. - Liaised with Ministry of Environment staff and local communities to support project coordination and information sharing
	Sector: Biodiversity Conservation Environmental Governance
01/2023 – 12/2023 Employer details	UPSHIFT Project Manager – Youth Social Innovation & Enterprise UNICEF Somalia Garowe & Hargeisa, Somalia (Puntland & Somaliland) Main Activities and Responsibilities & Results - Managed youth innovation and social enterprise programme addressing environmental and livelihood challenges. - Supported 300+ youth through innovation bootcamps and incubation cycles. - Facilitated 40+ youth-led enterprises in green livelihoods, waste management, and renewable energy. - Coordinated partnerships with government, NGOs, and private sector mentors.. Sector Youth Empowerment, Social Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Community Development
08/2022 – 12/2022 Employer details	Agribusiness & Renewable Energy Specialist (Consultant) Mogadishu EU Global Technical Assistance Facility for Sustainable Energy (EUTAF) EuropeAid, project no: 139956/DH/SER/Multi Contract No 2019/405-992 Mr. Hugo Lucas Porta Key -Expert in charge of the TAF program in Somalia, hugo.lucasporta@eutaf.eu Mogadishu, Somalia Main activities and responsibilities - Co-conducted a comprehensive country-wide sectoral assessment on agribusiness to identify private sector challenges and opportunities in climate adaptation and resilience. - Executed in-depth value chain analyses for livestock, agriculture, and renewable energy sectors to inform the EU's 2023 Action Document for Somalia. - Provided technical expertise for the design and formulation of the EU Action Document, guiding strategic development investments. Co-organized and facilitated a major international conference, bringing together 200+ stakeholders from local and international organizations to identify and develop investment opportunities. Business or sector Climate Resilience
06/2021 – 08/2022 Employer details	Forestry and Resource Management Officer Bosaso, Somalia Horn Aroma Botanica 1st August road, Bosaso, Puntland, Somalia, +252-907 592 912 info@hornbotanical.com www.hornbotanical.com Main activities and responsibilities - Managed and oversaw all sustainable harvesting operations for frankincense resin, ensuring the long-term health of Boswellia populations. - Conducted regular field assessments to monitor tree health, mitigate parasitic infestations, and evaluate resin yields. - Integrated centuries-old Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) with modern sustainable practices, fostering strong collaboration with local harvesting communities. - Ensured full compliance with company standards for ethical sourcing, protecting both the species and their fragile habitats. Business or sector Natural Resource Management Forest Resource Protection
06/2019 - 04/2021 Employer details	Building Rural Communities Climate Resilience Project Officer Garowe, Somalia Puntland Development and Research Center (PDRC) Garowe, Somalia www.pdrcomalia.org Main activities and responsibilities - Spearheaded the on-ground execution of climate resilience and environmental conservation projects, directly managing activities in remote communities to enhance ecosystem protection and sustainable livelihoods. - Organized and led targeted awareness campaigns and capacity-building workshops. These sessions educated communities on climate adaptation, natural resource management, and conservation practices, utilizing participatory tools and visual aids for effective communication in low-literacy contexts. - Oversaw critical field logistics, maintained strong community relations to ensure local buy-in, and conducted regular

monitoring of project activities to assess impact, document outcomes, and ensure alignment with resilience objectives.

- Authored detailed field reports and communicated substantive progress, challenges, and insights to project leaders, contributing directly to strategic planning and iterative project improvement.

Business or sector Climate Resilience, Biodiversity Conservation

01/2013 – 08/2013

Environmental Mediation & Conflict Resolution Associate

Employer details

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Puntland State of Somalia | Garowe, Somalia

Main activities and responsibilities

- Played a pivotal role in mediating inter-community conflicts over natural resources (e.g., water, grazing land), fostering dialogue and peaceful coexistence.
- Successfully trained 250 local leaders and community members in conflict resolution techniques, integrating principles of biodiversity conservation.
- Advocated for and provided insights that influenced the integration of environmental considerations into regional peacebuilding and development strategies.

Business or sector Biodiversity Conservation

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Jan-2025 – Present

Master of Arts (MA) in Conservation Leadership

University of Guelph, Canada

Focus: Biodiversity conservation leadership, environmental crises, systems thinking, and community-led conservation solutions.

Sep 2023 - June 2025

Postgraduate Diploma in Climate Change

Action Institute for Professional Studies, Kenya

Focus: Climate finance, adaptation and mitigation strategies, climate policy, and community-based climate resilience.

Jan 2015 - Jun 2018

Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Community Development

Bosaso University, Somalia

Focus: Development studies, social research methods, participatory governance, and community-driven development.

Jan 2010 -Nov 2012

Undergraduate Diploma in Environmental Management

Makerere University, Uganda

Focus: Environmental management, biodiversity conservation, natural resource governance, and sustainability practices.

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s)

Somalia

Other language(s)

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C1	C1	C1	C1	C1
Arabic	A2	B2	B2	B2	B1

Communication skills

- Strong public speaking and presentation skills developed through community advocacy, national policy engagement, and international forums (including work with the EU Delegation to Somalia).
- Skilled in stakeholder facilitation and dialogue, with experience mediating natural resource conflicts and building consensus among community leaders, government officials, and international partners.
- Effective scientific and technical writing skills, demonstrated through authorship of a peer-reviewed research paper and preparation of project proposals, evaluation reports, and donor communications

Organisational / managerial skills

- Proven leadership and team management, gained through founding and leading an NGO (Species Saviour Initiative) and managing teams of staff and community stewards.
- Strategic planning and project cycle management, from design and fundraising to implementation, monitoring, and evaluation, applied across multiple conservation and development projects.

	Financial and operational management, including budget oversight and resource mobilization for a growing non-profit organization.
Job-related skills	- Conservation Project Design & Management: Expertise in designing, implementing, and monitoring community-centered conservation and livelihood projects. - Policy Analysis and Advocacy: Experience in analyzing environmental policies and leveraging research for advocacy, successfully influencing local government strategies. - Sustainable Resource Management: Practical knowledge of sustainable harvesting techniques and community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) models, specifically for frankincense and dryland ecosystems. - Field Research and Data Collection: Proficient in conducting field assessments, ecological monitoring, and qualitative research, including documenting Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK).
Other skills	<i>Conflict Resolution & Mediation</i>: Formal training and applied experience in resolving natural resource conflicts through work with the Puntland Ministry of Environment and postgraduate studies. <i>Digital Literacy</i>: Competent in standard office software, online collaboration tools, and digital communication platforms for remote and international work.

PUBLICATIONS

Academic Research Experience -

A Three-Year Research Project in Environmental & Forestry Governance

From May 2021 to October 2023, I conducted research focusing on environmental and frankincense forestry governance. I employed mixed **methods (qualitative and quantitative)** to examine the role of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) in sustainably managing frankincense forests in northeastern Somalia. The study explored how indigenous practices can be integrated with scientific approaches to enhance forest management. My findings provided valuable insights, demonstrating the critical role of local knowledge in conservation efforts and offering strategies/policies for integrating traditional and modern practices for long-term sustainability. The project was voluntary and driven by my passion.

- Ibrahim, A. A. (2023). Local knowledge and attitudes of frankincense communities in northeastern Somalia. *Global Ecology and Conservation*, 48, e02748. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gecco.2023.e02748>

Development Projects Reports - Co-Authored

- Antony P. Elmi E. Ibrahim A. Lucas P. (2023). Country-wide Assessment Report – Women Entrepreneurship, Access to Renewable Energy and Agri-food Businesses with a focus on Somalia. Report submitted to the EU Delegation, Somalia. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zEc569_goMGbuf0rry_kJxzJV6Ejt/view?usp=sharing
- Antony P. Elmi E. Ibrahim A. Lucas P. (2023). Stakeholder consultation report – Women entrepreneurship in the agri-food businesses and renewable energies with a focus on Somalia. Report submitted to the EU Delegation in Somalia. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xnKLL4JzR9DwRN82LKtfugUtsQEgNOeb/view?usp=sharing>

Short articles

- Ibrahim A. (2022). Getting a grip on Somalia's gold rush in Milxo. Hiiraan Media. <https://rb.gy/f0pp7>
- Ibrahim A. (2022). Precarious Fault line: Competition for grazing fields among rival clans in northeastern part of Ethiopia. Wardheer News, <https://rb.gy/x3gor>
- Ibrahim A. (2018). Civilian Voice Of War: How social media is fueling the Somalia conflict at grass-root level. <https://rb.gy/7d3x4>