

Background

2.1 Historical context

In June 1960 the Somaliland protectorate attained independent from Britain to become the sovereign state of Somaliland. In July 1960 the independent former Italian administrated Somalia and Somaliland united to form the republic of Somalia. In May 1991, after the civil war in Somalia and the collapse of the said government, Somaliland was self-proclaimed an independent sovereign state known as the Republic of Somaliland.

2.2 ECONOMY

The economy of Somaliland is predominantly based on livestock. The livestock sub sector contributes an estimated 60-65% to the national economy and about 60% of Somaliland populations rely on livestock for their livelihoods. In 1998 Somaliland experienced the first livestock export ban to the main market of Saudi Arabia. The effects were devastating and this saw the Somaliland shilling devalue by nearly 100%, the live weight sales decreased by 48% as compared to the 1997 sales. The 1998 livestock export ban was lifted in 1999. A second livestock export ban to Saudi Arabia was imposed in September 2000. The ban was allegedly imposed as a result of rift valley fever. However studies carried out by a four-man team from United Arab Emirates and a FOA mission found no proof that livestock in particular Somaliland were infected by rift valley fever. While Yemen and Saudi Arabia have remained the traditional markets for Somaliland livestock there, is urgent need to explore new markets for Somaliland livestock and livestock products.

Households experiencing food insecurity in Somaliland increased due to livestock ban. Locally produced food items, mainly sorghum and maize can not meet national food demand. Majority of the Somaliland population relies on imported food items to meet their requirements and with the livestock ban the purchase of these food items becomes difficult for most of the households. Table 1 below shows the effects of exports from the port of Berbera soon after the September 2000 livestock export ban to Saudi Arabia.

**Table 1. Effect Of Livestock Ban, Berbera Port, and Sept-Dec 2000.
Livestock Export From Berber. Sept-Dec
1999 Compared to 2000.**

Livestock	Sep-Dec 1999	Sep-Dec 2000	% change
Sheep & goats	956,772	69,508	-93
Cattle	34,491	2,986	-91
Camels	17,212	2,005	-88
Total	1,008,475	74,499	-92

Sources: FSAU December- January Report, based on UNCTAD 2000.

The majority of the Somaliland populations rely on remittances from family members living in foreign countries for cash incomes. The remittances and the incomes from livestock sale have been able to support a healthy and growing economy in Somaliland since 1991, the gains that has been, made on rebuilding the national infrastructure are at risk. The livestock ban continues to effect every sector of the national economy.

3. Population and socio Indicators.

The current population of Somaliland is estimated at 2.5 million. Of this population approximately 65% are nomadic pastor lists, 15% are agro – paternalists and sedentary agriculturalists and 20% are Urban. The urban population are concentrated in the main underemployment, characterize the urban population, and the

Literacy levels in Somaliland can at best be deduced from figures recorded for the whole of the former republic of Somalia. In 1992 the total estimated illiteracy for Somaliland was 76% well above the average 50 percentages for Greater Horn of Africa countries. With support of partners such as UNICEF and CARE international in Somaliland has been able to re-establish a reasonably functional education system. The health system in Somaliland has not been rehabilitated and at best health facilities are only available in the urban centers.

Somaliland recognizes that a healthy, well – trained labor force is a prerequisite for increased economic production and the same time, education is both a means an end to a responsible citizenry.

4.Natural Resource

Somaliland can distinctly be divided into full ecological regions, the coastal plains, and guban, the water shed mountainous region “ Golis” and the higher altitude plateau Heud’ and Nagal are these distinct ecological regions define the natural resources of Somaliland. The rangelands, forests and wildlife reserve are determined with in these three regions.

The important of the three regions is further amplified by their importance to livestock, the main economic activity in Somaliland. The Guban and Golis provide good grazing for goat and camel while the haud provide good grazing for camel, goat and sheep at the same time in some pockets (Borame, Gabiley, and Odwyene). The Huad also referred to, as oga is good for cereal production, pasture and water availability are dependent on the rains, which vary depending on the altitude of the region. The coastal plains, (guban), have an annual average precipitation of 50 mm, the golis range varying in altitudes from 1483m asl to 1900m asl an annual average precipitation of 550mm and the haud stretching from boram (145m asl- through hargaisa (1280m asl) sheikh (1441m asl) to Erigavo (1744masl) in the north –east have annual rainfall averaging 410mm. With in the haud ate pocket of low rainfall areas suitable only for livestock that include Burao (1042masl) and last-anode (706m asl) with an average annual rainfall of 130mm. Drought are common in Somaliland occurring moderately every 2-3 years and severely every 7-9 years. The traditional production system in the pastoral areas taken in to account the variances of pasture and water availability in the areas during the different seasonal. This traditional system is characterized by well defined seasonal movement of livestock and pastor lists in relation to pasture and water availability: Due to poor natural resources management the productivity of the rangelands and forests have over the years.

The changes in weather pattern, the gradual decrease of precipitation and overgrazing are generally responsible for the deterioration of pastoral lands. The carrying capacity of the pastoral areas has gradually decreased while human and livestock population has increased. Forests have experienced indiscriminate tree felling for charcoal (Compounded by export factor) firewood, building and fencing materials resulting in highly denuded areas that were under thick forest cover only 25 years ago.

The National Environment and Disaster Preparedness authority has the obligation to ensure sustainable natural resource management and utilization and at the same time ensuring environmental protection. This strategic plan lays the framework for sustainable natural resource management for the next three years 2002 to 2004 and aims to ensure that.

- Communication mechanisms between all stake holders and institutions that affect their lives are improved through designing new, participatory structures that respect indigenous knowledge, culture and expertise.
- Paternalism is recognized as a vital economic and social sector in Somaliland and requires increased representation of Village level in the decision making process at local, regional and National levels.
- An agenda for environmental conservation and disaster preparedness is set within the context of an all-inclusive framework that takes into account the paternalists, the government and the partners including donors, international NGOs and Local NGOs.

The NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT, RESEARCH AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AUTHORITY.

The authority is empowered by legislation as the lead government matters pertaining to environment and disasters. Various laws give the authority power to deal with disaster and conserve the environment and natural resource management, use of surface and underground water and grazing lands, to effectively conserve the environment and natural resource management. It is planned to conserve the natural resources into rangelands, forest reserves, natural reserves and habitat/ wildlife part & management areas, natural heritage areas sanctuary and wilderness area scientific/ research areas.

The authority has development policies that will guide the conservation of the environment and implementation of resource management and utilization. The national constitution of April 2000 lays the basis for the implementation of natural resource management through the involvement of local people in planning. The conservation of environment and preparedness for disaster and in particular droughts. The authority embraced the constitutional provision in this strategic plan. The strategic plan implementation framework details the strategic role that rural people will play.

The authority has prepared an environment policy and disaster preparedness policy and guideline objectives of environmental conservation and disaster preparedness detailing the management use and conservation of the environment as a whole especially with droughts.

2.6 Critical problems.

A number of critical problems effecting the conservation of environment and the droughts that is happening on regular basis, these problems could be: -

1. Commonality of drought and foods causing famine.
2. Degraded wild life habitat.
3. Deforestation
4. Improper land use.
5. Lack of awareness among rural communities on proper use of rangelands.
6. Unplanned conservation and management.
7. Inadequate authority capacity to implement legislation polices and measures.

These critical problems form the background against which this strategic plan has been prepared.

2.7. Areas of Interest,

The authority recognizes the following issues that relate to environment projection and conservation and disaster prevention and management as areas where focus needs to be maintained due to their importance at the national level.

- Establishment of protected and reserved areas (territorial and marine).
- Environment conservation.
- Improvement of livelihood of the through by conserving & protecting their environment.
- Improvements of the watershed areas.
- Establish appropriate institutional framework.
- Combating pollution and chemical contamination.
- Empowerment of the pastoral and village community institutions to have control of in disaster prevention and resources management and projection.

3. FRAMEWORK.

The strategic plan implementation framework defines the structure and relationships that will be put in place for effective partnerships, collaboration and coordination among the key players i.e. authorities; communities, the NGOs and other Government Ministries,NERAD Authority and international organizations.

A three level framework arrangement is proposed its organizational structure consists of fund raising and advisory body will be in the structure, which includes Govt, international organization, NGOs.

1. A Technical Unit commission directors which will be over all responsible institution for guiding the implementation of the strategic plan and other programmess.it will be

responsible for promoting linkage at various levels. It is an executive body, under direction of

2. The commissioner of NERAD. Established of focal task force offices in relevant ministries.
3. A number of Regional focal point offices, which will guide planning, and implementation of intervention related to environment conservations and disaster preparedness and mitigation.

3.1 NERAD Technical Unit.

NERAD Authority technical units are made up of technical officers from the technical departments of the authority. The technical committee membership includes the directors of environment conservation and protection, Dept of disaster preparedness and mitigation and Dept of finance administration, and consultants that will be recruited on, need basis. Special advisory team will also part of the structure. which include international organization, NGOs, Govts.

The technical unit will require out side input to function effectively. The skills needed to fulfill the roles and responsibly are not variable with in the authority. As such the authority will request for technical assistance from the NGOs. UN and from any source that is willing to help.

The unit will develop strategies for financial resource mobilization from governments and the international community.

- 3.2 Early warning information, this unit will be special unit that will deal with all respect of production, warning and information and data collection.

The role of responsibilities of the technical unit will include: -

1. In consultation with the national NERAD committee (5 minister) the chairman of NERAD will develop strategic directions for Authority.
2. Prepare broad programmes and project priorities on environment conservation and disaster preparedness.
3. Development specific projection on intuitional development, training and extension services for the communities on regional basis prepared projects through NERAD depts. & Advisory team and submit to donors
4. Review and approve projects prepared and submitted by other local and international agencies prior to implementation.
5. Undertake follow up and evolution of programme activities carried out in the rural environs.
6. Coordinate and promote linkages between all stake holders (Govs, international organization, NGOs, general public and regional authority and communities.
7. Establish environment conservation forum, disaster reduction and prevention forum and environment research forum.
8. Coordinate interventions with the forums, groups and interventional research and Universities.

Membership of Advisory group (Think Tank).

Members are: -

- Commissioner of NERAD Authority (chair)

Organizations are: -

- Section Head, Range Section
- Section Head, Surface Water Section
- Section Head, Forestry Section
- Section Head, Wildlife Section
- Technical Assistant, recruited/ availed from international partners on needs basis
- Representatives of various NGOs (local or international) invited on needs basis.
- Technical assistance of Relevant Ministers Focal Points.

3.3 Regional Natural Resource Coordination Bodies

This coordination body will have the key role of in the establishment and successful functioning of all Regional focal point offices. This will be established starting with East (H.Q Bur co) and one in West (Borame). They will have in this office international organizations and NGOs operating there whose mandate include environment, disaster (Droughts) ecosystem protection and development and representative of Relative ministers (Agric, Pastoral, MOH, MRR&R).

Roles and responsibilities of the regional focal point coordination office will include:

1. Undertake review of local natural management from socio-cultural, ecological legislation and policy perspectives.
2. Coordinate participative (Rural communities, NGOs, MoPDE). Planning and implementation of natural resource management and utilization regional programme.
3. Ensure that NGOS and government services to the communities are appropriate and in line with community priorities.
4. Identify issues that need to be addressed in the short term and long term in each pastoral community.
5. Initiate planning activity for the conservation and preparation for disaster in the communities.
6. Provide technical advice and training of community-based trainers in the communities on conservation and protection of the environment and preparation for disaster and reduction its effect.

Members of the regional resource committees will include.

- Regional coordinator (chairperson)
- Regional authority.
- Representatives from ministry of agriculture.
- Representatives from ministry of lives stock.
- Representatives from ministry of water.

- Representatives of various NGOs (Local and international) with natural resource programmer in the region.

3.3.Focal Points Associations.

The focal point officer's will requires a great deal of capacity building to allow them the to make informed decisions, how ever, their traditional knowledge and experience will be an essential asset to the formulation of management plans.

Roles and responsibilities of the regional focal point will include: -

1. Implementing environment conservation and disaster migrations policies, regulation and legislation and plan of action.
2. With technical assistance from the, undertake planning of the policy and guideline of the authority.
3. Initiate the process of planning management and implementing the programmer on the directive of the chairman and general manager.
4. In implementing all the programmes take into account traditional agreements on sharing of resources, resources competitions, traditional systems of movement in search of pasture and water and traditional elen zones to locations for wastage, pollution etc.
5. Training of village communities on information and Data Gathering.

4.POLICIES.

Policies have been established for environmental conservation and disaster and management procedures. Lack of resources at present is preventing any implementation of the policies, how ever the authority will prioritize areas that need implementation within the plan period and that the limited resources allotted to the authority and assistances of the international organization and donors.

The Range policy lays ground for the management of soils, range vegetation the animals that use the range, forest, watershed and wildlife habitat, the policy specified the frame work for implementation, laying great emphasizes on the need to have greater participation of all players involved in all land use systems including the all communities urban, Agric, Pastoralist and refugees.

The environment and disaster polices lays the basis that will allow the authority to take lead in promoting access to, and sustainable use of natural and cultural resources and to promote environmentally sustainable lifestyles in urban village and farms patrol societies reducing pollution, prepare for disasters and ensuring food security.

5. STRATEGY.

The overall strategy for the three years (2004-2006) strategic plan is based on two broad. Strategic goals.

Strategic Goal1. To improve NERAD Authority capacity to formulate and enforce, regulations and policies on urban, Rangeland, reserves, natural heritage areas and wilderness areas.

To implement the strategic plan the resources capacity of the National Environment Research and Disaster Preparedness has ----to be improved. Currently NERAD as had token staff to prepare the basic documents by dace 2004.

Table 1
Current staff –2004/2006.

		2004	2005	2006
1	Commissioners			
2	Director	2	3	3
3	Officers	4	4	6
4	Regional Coordinates	-	-	6
5	Secretariat	1	1	6
6	Accountant	1	1	1
7	Archie's /Documentation	1	1	1
8	Drivers	2	2	12
9	Weathermen/Cleaner	4	4	7
10	Environment projection units	-	-	60

There is need to increase the number of staff, especially those at the natural resource implementation level.i.e staff based at the district level. Other resources including funds for offices equipment and facilities need to be provided during the strategic plan period. The technical and managerial skills for staff also need to be upgraded, thought training, study tours etc.

To improve the capacity to NERAD Authority to formulate and enforce regulations and policies on the environment protection and preparation interventions and aimed at achieving the following objectives need to be formulated and implemented.

Objective 2. Improved resources for the National Environment Conservation. Research and Disaster preparedness authority.

To improve the human resource capacity, NERAD Authority will liaise with partner international organization willing to support the capacity building. The Authority will draw a proposal for human capacity development indicating training sessions, seminars, study tours and workshops that should be held to build the necessary capacity in the authority

The NERAD will organize internal workshops for the staff to discuss pertinent issues and shares experiences.

The authority through government budgetary allocation will support the opening and maintenance of district offices and increase field based staff to improve extensions services during the strategic plan period. The authority will also prepare proposals for funding with interventions aimed at improved natural resources management, these proposals will include a component of physical resources capacity building for the authority and will adopted a consultative approach with the international bodies to encourage support for the capacity building actives.

Objective 1.2 Appropriate frameworks for regulation, legislation and policy implementation developed.

The lack of resource will hinder the implementation of the legislation and policies is lacking so the authority is developing appropriates framework with in which regulation, legislation, and policy will be implemented. In light of the role to be played by society as a whole, the authority will review the policies to gather with all stakeholders and decision maker to contribute in the implementation of the policies, legislation and regulation. The authority will at the same time review roles to be played by various actors to ensure that policies and regulation are disseminated to all stakeholders.

The role that the regional and district administration can play will also be evaluated in an attempt to ensure greater involvement of other actors from government in awareness creation on natural resources use and disaster prevention among the communities. The international organization can play substantial role in putting progress projects in operation.

Objective 1,3 Established drought natural and heritage reserve s areas and prepare management plan for the various reserves.

Objective 2.1 Improvement awareness, management and conservation the of the environment and prepare disaster and their mitigation,

Objectives 2.2 Increase Participation of the communities in conserving, management of the environments and disaster preparedness especially drought.

Resources from forests and rangelands are improvement for the communities. The deterioration of these resources in the past has to be reversed if the forests and rangelands are to continue providing for the needs and the rural and urban annuals involvements of the pastoral community in planning and management must be emphasized to ensure that the resource are used in a sustainable manner. The communities will be involved in the management reserve areas protected wildlife reserves in collaboration with other organization. The established of drought reserves used only during drought and extended jilal (dry season)

3. The Commissioner is recommending the relative thematic issue and prioritized and prioritized intervention for following three years (2004-2005)

The salient issue of great concern to Somaliland is summarized as follows.

3.1 Environment and disaster prevention information, research and training.

There are little information on environment disaster and other management however it is scattered in various agencies. Even then its presence is only known to few people of at all more over the modern date base and geographical information system is hardly known.

There is also a need to undertake research in environmental fields such as resources degradation. Population pressure and changes, issues such as population. Prevention of biodiversity and the establishment of safety standards and droughts.

3.2 Drought and Environment impact assessment of policies, programs and component project.

At present there are no regulation that demands environment impact assessment programs undertaken. However, the new environment environment and disaster policy of Somaliland demands it but still it is not implemented well enough to ensure that all programs should have environment assessment impact component.

3.3 Disaster Prevention And Environment Education.

There is hardly any environment education in all level of education despite the fact that education policy stresses the need to have environment and disaster prevention education in the curriculum. The promotion of this vital issue in all schools institutions and university is crucial.

3.4 Sustainable Management Of the environment and Natural Resources.

The conservation of biodiversity water sheds sustainable utilization of natural resource life support system such as good soil and water management practices is the based to all development issues inter alia combating desertification, de a forestation and droughts.

3.5 Environmentally Sound Management Of Pollution And Wastage.

Waste particularly toxic chemical. Illegal traffic of toxic materials although new issues have recently promoted special concern to the public and decision makers.

3.6 Disaster Prevention and improvement of the Environment

To reduce the effect of disaster especially drought. The implementation of integrated labor intensive developments program such erosion control and water spreading schemes is imperative.

4.0 Prioritized interventions For 3 Years (2004-2006)

4.1 prioritized interventions.

1. Institution and capacity building of the commission (Newly created in Somaliland.
2. Establishment of fully operational early warning and environment information system.
3. Environment awareness programs on the causes and effects of environmental degradation methods and approaches to reduce it.
4. Training of professional in environmental and disaster participatory planning monitoring assessment and evaluation.
5. Technical assistance in planning assessment and policy and up dating existing legislation on environment conservation and protection and prevention of disasters.
6. Establishment of documentation center and information data bank or environmental related sciences.
7. Training and awareness of population and toxic chemical and waste programs.
8. Situation assessment and identify natural reserves. Protected areas. Wild life Sanctuary and biodiversity areas and scientific interest areas. Natural heritage areas.
9. Preparation of drought preparedness and mitigation policy. Legislation strategy and contingency plan, food security reserve and stock piling
10. Rehabilitation restoration of the institute of Arid lands Research and Training BUROA.
11. Establish labor intensive anti erosion and water spreading sites for training and demonstration (3sites).
12. Emergency preparedness and response to droughts
13. Protracted food Aid for droughts and other disasters for 450,000 beneficiaries (giving special attention to drought prone Regions.
14. Wild life situation assessment and management.

**June – Dec 2004
Tentative Plan.**

Activity	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Cost \$
Institutional capacity building								
a. Construction OR rehabilitation of offices, etc								30,000
b. Vehicle for field work								15,000
c. Training, study tours, workshops, Establishing of DDMS, RDMC, NDMC								12,500
d. Food security.								12,500
e. Finalization of documents (policy, strategy, plans, etc)								12,000
f. Early warning and drought monitoring system								10,250
Establishment and management of drought fund.								2,500
Assessment of Drought situation								4,500
Identification of area for biodiversity, reservation for research and scientific (12 Ecological Zones) Expatriate & Local experts.								-
Intervention and reconstruction of drought. Identification								
a. Identification and Establishment of fodder Bank (fodder Production and preservation areas and supplementary feed								6,250
b. Establishment of drought reserves in each district								7,250
*c. Preparedness: (food, seed, drugs (160,000) families								-

*. NOTE: Will be finalized with the International Organizations, Gov't and NGOs concerned.

* DDMS District Drought Management Committee
 * RDMS Regional Drought Management Committee
 * National Drought Management Committee

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NERAD Organization
2005 – 2006 Tentative Plan

No		Food for work OR cash												Cost \$	Man/day	REMARKS
		2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24			
i.	Institution and capacity building. a. Rehabilitation of Environment And Disaster preparedness and management Institute Buroa.													135,850		
	b. Research on biodiversity. Trend Natural resources, impact of Drought etc.													22,500		
	c. Prepare relative documents, projects													4,250		
	d. Oversee training of young men													6,250		
	e. Workshop seminar and community school and volunteers awareness													12,250		
	f. Recruitment and training of Environment Protection and Drought management units.													42,250	40,000	These will be special unit to enforce law, procedure etc.

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