
WORKING REPORT ON FORUM ABOUT BREAKING THE CHAINS: TACKLING IRREGULAR MIGRATION AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING THROUGH GOOD GOVERNANCE, POLITICAL PARTICIPATION, AND YOUTH, PEACE & SECURITY INCLUSIVENESS IN SOMALIA.

GAROWE-PUNTLAND SOMALIA-2025



Workshop Report by:



Garowe-Puntland

July 2025

Agents Of Peace

Agents Of Peace is a youth a dynamic, youth-led organization working at the forefront of peacebuilding and social transformation in Somalia and Kenya. Born out of the belief that young people are not just beneficiaries of peace but powerful agents of it, our mission is to empower youth to lead their communities towards stability, justice and sustainable development.

In regions long affected by conflict, we focus on equipping youth with the tools and platforms they need to create change. Through leadership training, civic education, and community engagement, we strengthen the role of youth in good governance and conflict resolution.

One of our most urgent priorities is addressing the growing crisis of irregular migration and human trafficking threats that endanger the lives and futures of thousands of young somalis. In response, we launched the forum **“Breaking The Chains: Tackling Irregular Migration And Human Trafficking Through Good Governance, Political Participation And Youth Inclusiveness In Somalia.”**

This groundbreaking initiative brings together young leaders, policymakers, activists, and media professionals to explore the root causes driving youth to take dangerous migration routes such as lack of opportunities, insecurity and exclusion from political and economical life. Through open dialogue and strategic advocacy, we work to identify safe, more empowering alternatives for Somali youth.

We also advocate for greater youth representation in political processes, transparency in governance and access to livelihoods and education. Our mentorship programs, media partnerships and community-based forums aim to inspire a generation of resilient, informed, and courageous youth who say no to exploitation and yes to peace.

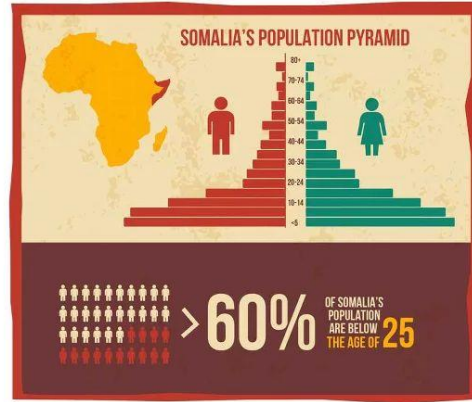
Why Our Work Matters

Somalia has one of the youngest populations in the world but systemic barriers continue to hold back youth potential. Exclusion from education, decision-making, and employment has made young people vulnerable to violence, radicalization, and exploitative migration networks.

At agents of peace, we believe the future belongs to those who build it. That's why we're committed to making space for youth especially young women to lead, influence policy, and defend their rights. By listening to their voices, investing in their growth, and standing beside them, we are breaking cycles of vulnerability and opening pathways to dignity, safety, and leadership.



147 stranded somali migrants assisted to return home from Libya-IOM



World Bank Group

Breaking the chains youth agency amidst conflict, irregular migration and human trafficking in Puntland

Puntland, semi-autonomous region in northeastern Somalia, remains at the frontline of both opportunity and crisis while its youth represent a vital demographic dividend with the potential to build peace and drive development, they are also disproportionately affected by insecurity unemployment, and exclusion -factors that fuel dangerous cycles of irregular migration and human trafficking.

Against the backdrop of Puntland ongoing military campaign against international terror group IS - are resilient extremist group entrenched in the regions Bari mountains-the need to empower youth has never been more urgent. Despite facing a growing insurgency that has doubled in strength due to foreign recruitment and transnational movement, Puntland continues to receive limited support from the federal government, relying instead on local resilience and international partners.

Amid this security vacuum, young people are often caught in the middle -targeted by recruitment networks, traffickers, or compelled to migrate under life- threatening conditions. These pressures underscore the importance of addressing the root causes of migration and trafficking through a youth-centered, peacebuilding lens.

In response, AGENTS OF PEACE Puntland hosted a **high-level public engagement forum** under the theme;

Breaking the chains; tackling irregular migration and human trafficking through good governance, political participation, and youth peace and security inclusiveness in Somalia."

Unlike tokenistic youth forums, this gathering focused on real agency- moving youth from symbolic participants to active drivers of policy, peace, and protection. The forum served as a platform to elevate youth voices, foster intergenerational collaboration, and build consensus on sustainable alternatives to migration empowerment, and stronger governance.

Through inclusive panel discussions, expert insights, and media coverage, the event emphasized that young Somalis are not just victims of conflict and migration- they are change makers, innovators, and the key to long-term stability in Puntland and beyond.

By strengthening youth engagement in peace and security efforts and addressing systemic exclusions, agents of peace is helping build a future where young people choose hope over despair, dignity over exploitation, leadership over silence.

PICTURAL









Agents of Peace(AOP)

www.agentsofpeace.net

Primary Contact Person

Mohammed Abdirizack Abdullahi

Founder and Executive Director

Email: Mohamed.abdullahi@agentsofpeace.net

+254720861131, +245722449202 & +252612223371