

# IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION IN THE ARAB REGION

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By

Abdi Jama Ghedi, environmental economist  
Adviser, Somalia's Ministry of Environment

Mogadishu, Somalia

[jghedi@gmail.com](mailto:jghedi@gmail.com)

Tel:254-722 563 407

## OUTLINE

- **BACKGROUND**
- **SOMALIA WETLANDS**
- **DISTRIBUTION, LOCATION  
and TYPE OF WETLANDS**
- **VALUE OF WETLANDS**
- **LEGISLATION**

# BACKGROUND

- MAP
- SOMALIA ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES:
- SOMALIA DRYLAND WELANDS
- ECONOMY MAINLY BASED ON NATURAL RESOURCES
- WEAK ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY
- LACK ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION
- CONFLICT, POVERTY AND RESOURCE DEPLETION
- DESERTIFICATION, DEPLETION OF BIODIVERSITY, WATER AND MARINE RESOURCES
- INTERNATIONAL ILLEGAL FISHING
- DUMPING OF TOXIC WASTES

# MAP



# SOMALIA WETLANDS

- SOMALIA IS NOT A PARTY TO RAMSAR CONVENTION
- SOMALIA DRYLAND WETLANDS: Characterized by Longer Periods of Desiccation; Higher Levels of Chemical Sedimentation; Succession of aquatic flora and fauna. Utilization of wetlands and flood plains for agriculture, grazing and fishing.
- Jowhar-Warshek, Har Yiblame, Eji-Oobale, Awdghegle-Gandershe, Arbowerow, the Boja swamps, Angole Farbiddu (which includes riverine forest) and lake Radidi (IUCN, 1990).

# **DISTRIBUTION-LOCATION-TYPE OF WETLANDS**

- **Tidal Wetlands (NE & GULF OF ADEN)**
- **Wetlands of the Shabeelle-Jubba Rivers**
- **Wetlands of the Lachs District**
- **Bullehs, Tugs & Dholos**
- **The Central Districts**
- **Artificial Impoundments**

# VALUE OF WETLANDS

- PRODUCTIVE ECOSYSTEMS
- providing food, energy, medicine, building material, dry season grazing and transportation for large human populations, but also rich of rare biodiversity such Nile perch, endemic birds. Specifically, herdsman graze their cattle, goats and camel.

# LEGISLATION

- TFG CHARTER: PROTECION OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND RELATED RIGHTS AND OLD WATER REGULATIONS



# THREATS

- PRESSURE FROM HUMAN ACTIVITIES
- DRAINAGE FOR AGRICULTURE AND SETTLEMENTS
- EXCESSIVE EXPLOITATION BY LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND CHARCOAL EXPORT
- IMPROPERLY PLANNED DEVELOPMENT

# FURTHER ASSISTANCE NEEDED & OUTCOME FROM MEETING

- ACCESS AND RATIFICATION OF RAMSAR CONVENTION
- ASSESSMENT OF SOMALIA'S WETLANDS
- AWARENESS-RAISING & CAPACITY-BUILDING
- GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF RAMSAR CONVENTION, BENEFIT-SHARING & KNOWLEDGE