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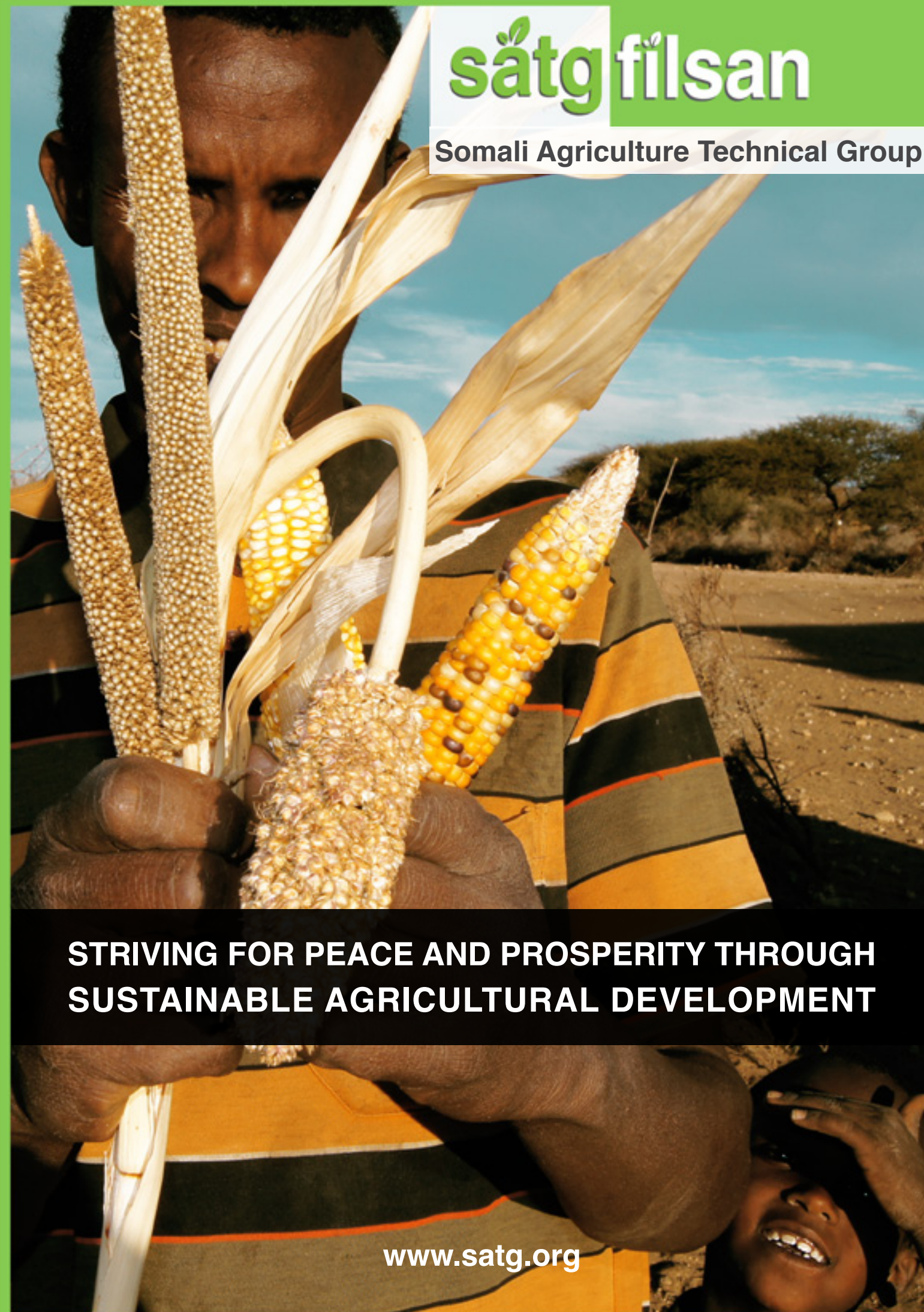


Magazine designed by Mao Marketing

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Somali Agriculture Technical Group



**STRIVING FOR PEACE AND PROSPERITY THROUGH
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

www.satg.org

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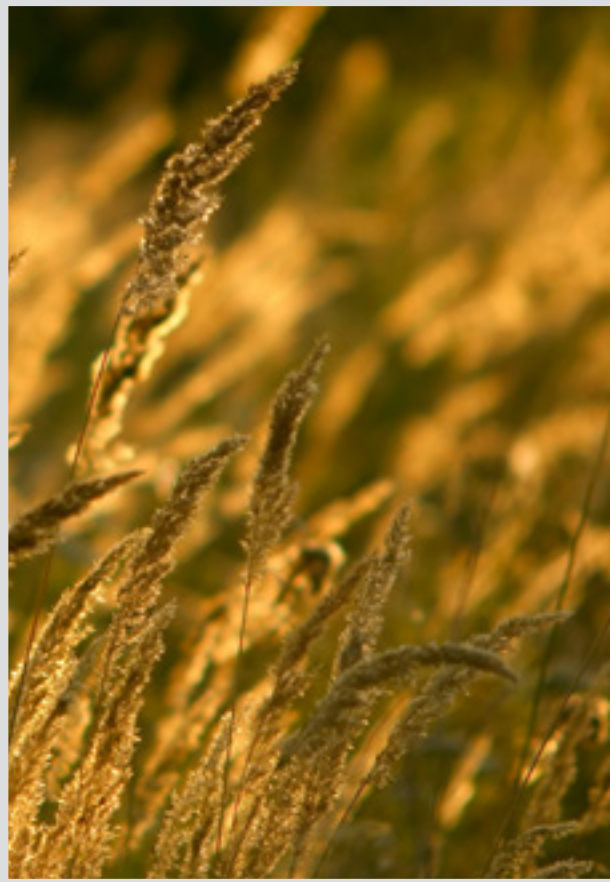
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INTRODUCTION



Section ONE

SATG which stands for Somali Agriculture Technical Group, is dedicated to assisting with the reconstruction of Somalia and its agricultural heritage. Our aim is to restore peace and prosperity through sustainable agricultural development. We seek to achieve this goal by focusing on education, conservation, research, development and networking.

BACKGROUND



Established in 2001, SATG is a registered non-profit association of Somali professionals and friends of the country. SATG was created to provide sustainable solutions to alleviate the rampant food shortages caused by conflict and a lack of agricultural and food policies in Somalia.

SATG draws upon a mix of practical and scientific expertise. Due to our unique in-country presence and staff of field workers, we are close to the daily needs and challenges of everyday Somalis. We are committed to the idea that all work and studies undertaken by SATG have practical, real-world applications. Studies are conducted in key target areas



throughout Somalia, working in cooperation with partners and local farmers.

Agriculture, including livestock, has traditionally been the backbone of Somalia's economy. Pre-war figures indicate that 67% of the country's GDP came from agriculture, livestock and fisheries. SATG envisions a huge opportunity whereby agriculture will not only play a crucial role in the reconciliation and rebuilding of Somalia, but will also be a key component in rejuvenating the Somali economy. This will go a long way towards solving both the social and economic problems affecting the country.



VISION & GOALS

“To strive for peace and prosperity through sustainable agriculture development.”



◀ Conservation

To safeguard the institutional memory of Somalia's agriculture, particularly in times of civil strife.

Development ▶

To assist Somalia's agricultural communities in accessing appropriate and affordable agricultural technology.



◀ Education & Research

To assist in re-establishing and sustaining Somalia's agricultural education and research.



Networking ▶

To cooperate with international, national, regional and local communities in developing sustainable agriculture and conserving Somalia's natural resources.





20/20 VISION DOCUMENTARY

“Agriculture is a system. We need to improve the capacity of the farmers as well as the capacity of institutions both public and private”

Dr. Hussein Haji

There is so much that sets SATG apart from other NGOs, we decided it was time to tell our story. The new video “20/20 Vision” will help explain how our initiatives are rehabilitating agricultural practices in Somalia, and returning the country to its agrarian roots—in ways that are sustainable far into the future.

You’ll learn about the agricultural constraints that have affected Somalia during 20 years of upheaval, and the promising changes we are implementing with our committed partners, from humble demonstration plots to sophisticated hybrid testing. You’ll learn how we are able to make headway under conditions that, on the surface, seem to resist growth.

SATG initiatives are helping shape the future of Somalia. To learn more, please check out our “20/20 Vision” at www.satg.org.

**WATCH THE
VIDEO**



www.satg.org

OUR WORK



Section TWO

In the last 12 years, SATG, in affiliation with other non-profit organizations, stakeholders and partners, has worked directly with farmers to conduct a number of research projects, examining such issues as seed, good production practices, safe use of pesticides, and post-harvest and storage losses. With each new venture, SATG relies on innovative ideas and the latest technologies to collect real data, believing this will produce the best solutions to the agricultural and developmental challenges facing the Somali people.

Technology Testing & Transfer

SATG recognizes that Somalia is gradually entering a new era where technology can play a major role in economic growth and development. Appropriate agricultural technologies are fundamental to enhancing food security and alleviating poverty. Whether the new technology is imported or locally developed, however, it must first be tested for adaptation to the local environmental conditions, and its potential benefits must be understood. This is crucial to ensure it will be adopted by the farming community.

For example, in 2011, African Development Solutions (ADESO), with technical support from SATG, embarked on technology testing in various agro-ecological zones in the Sanaag region of Somalia.

One project involved testing the use of plastic mulch to control weeds and conserve moisture. Demonstration plots,



Implementation of drip irrigation technology testing in Mogadishu, Somalia.

exclusively managed by the farmers, were planted in various fields. Farmers were able to choose the technology that best suited their growing conditions.

In mid-2012, SATG entered into a partnership with CIMMYT (the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center) to test drought-tolerant maize hybrids in Somalia. SATG organized and conducted these trials in the Afgoi district of the Lower Shebelle region.



Drought-tolerant maize hybrid tested in Afgoe Region, Somalia.



This marked the first research trials since the collapse of government institutions in 1990. Maize is the region's most important crop, but productivity (<1 ton/ha) has been low due to poor farming practices and a lack of improved varieties. The testing, which involved 14 drought-tolerant hybrids and two local checks, was conducted in two locations to account for soil and environmental variability.

Both the new hybrids and local varieties produced the highest yields ever recorded in research trials in Somalia, up to 9 ton/ha for some of the hybrids and an average of 6 ton/ha for the local varieties. This was the first time that yields comparable to developed countries had been achieved. The yield increase was attributed to two factors: good seed quality and improved production practices. These results show that maize production in Somalia can be increased fivefold to tenfold simply by

improving the seed system and production practices.

In 2011, SATG also signed a two-year partnership contract with Development Alternatives Incorporated (DAI) for agriculture-related economic growth and value chain development in Somaliland.



Representatives from CYMMYT and SATG working towards developing sustainable seed systems in Somalia.



Technical experts from SATG, University of Minnesota and CIMMYT inspecting drought-tolerant hybrid maize in Kiboko, Kenya.

The USAID-funded Partnership for Economic Growth Program was designed to help local authorities and private sector groups improve the enabling environment for investment, generate more productive employment and improve other livelihood activities. The partnership had two focus areas: 1) evaluate overall private sector development, including women's business development, and explore future interventions to support economic growth; and 2) strengthen specific value chains, including livestock and agricultural production.

In the agriculture sector, DAI partnered with SATG and Amoud University to help increase vegetable productivity and production volumes with the goal of replacing imports and increasing domestic incomes and employment.

SATG provided technical support to Amoud University that included:

- Identification of various vegetable crops and varieties.
- Development of protocols for introducing demonstration plots on major vegetable crops grown in the region.
- Training of trainers and extension workers on crop production practices.
- Training and technical know-how on seed multiplication systems.

In late 2013, USAID organized a two-day workshop to review SATG's findings from the first focus area carried out under DAI/ Partnership for Economic Growth Program, which was the private sector assessment. SATG in partnership with DAI will now conduct demonstration plots on improved technologies in Afgoi, Balad and Aw-Dhegle and reach out to over 30 extension workers, 60 lead farmers and 1,200 farmers in the coming two years of planned activities. This will in turn promote opportunities for short- and medium-term economic gains, with a strong focus on creating employment, wealth and investment in order to strengthen stability and development in targeted geographic areas in South Central Somalia.



Introduction of drip Irrigation technology in Mogadishu, Somalia.

Facilitation of Training & Workshops

SATG also provides tailored support to organizations that require training and workshop facilitation services in Somalia. SATG has run workshops on behalf of various stakeholders, including representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture in Somaliland and Puntland, international development organizations, universities, international and local NGOs, agro-dealers and independent experts.

The objectives of these SATG-facilitated workshops have varied greatly. Among the themes:

- Understand the current and emerging context of agriculture in Somalia
- Identify the key technical and institutional opportunities for agricultural reform in Somalia
- Develop a short list of strategic options that SATG can facilitate and implement, with the ultimate goal of enhancing delivery of agricultural support and research services
- Identify/develop modalities, including resources, for fast-tracking the implementation of agricultural services



University of Amoud students working on tomato production practices.



Students from Amoud University attending a seminar on vegetable production.

In March 2013, SATG held a workshop in Hargeisa, Somaliland, titled "Agricultural Technology Testing and Transfer." Co-hosted with the Somaliland Ministry of Agriculture and Amoud University, the workshop was presented under the banner of the USAID Partnership for Economic Growth.

The objectives were to:

- Share the outcome of trials conducted in Amoud and learn from other experiences
- Understand the current and emerging issues of agriculture in Somaliland
- Identify key technical, institutional and policy challenges and opportunities for agricultural R&D in Somaliland
- Develop a short list of strategic options the Ministry of Agriculture can, in collaboration with other (potential) development agencies and the commercial sector, facilitate/implement to enhance delivery of agricultural support and applied research services

Monitoring and Evaluation of Projects

The SATG team also provides technical monitoring and evaluation support to international and local non-governmental organizations that are operating projects and programs in Somalia. This takes the form of consultative development of baseline and monitoring tools, training and independent monitoring of field teams, and provision of data collection and analysis.

We have a team of dedicated, trained field staff experienced in conducting regular project monitoring, stakeholder interviews and on-the-ground evaluations. Evaluations are conducted by our locally based Independent Field Monitors (IFMs), eliminating the risk of inter-regional travel

in Somalia and ensuring that sound local knowledge is also retained. All activities are planned and coordinated from our Nairobi office, with regular visits to the field.

As an example, SATG has been greatly involved in providing monitoring and evaluation services to the Cash and Voucher Monitoring Group (CVMG) of Somalia. Coordinated by UNICEF, CVMG was established in September 2011 to monitor the effectiveness of cash and food voucher projects implemented at scale and to determine the impacts on local markets and beneficiary households.

Review and Assessment of Programmes

Due to its unique presence and expertise in Somalia, SATG is also called upon to assess and review initiatives on behalf of or in conjunction with other organizations. The goal is often to determine what constitutes success (or failure) in achieving the objectives of a project or program.

Recently, for example, we were involved with project reviews for the Improvement and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources Programme (September 2013), and the Crop Yield Assessment at Household Level in South Central Somalia (December 2012). These were led by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), with field activities implemented by Somali partner organizations.

SATG has extensive experience in assessing project designs, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability.

Other projects reviewed by SATG includes:

- New Investment Initiatives on Economic Growth in South Central Somalia on behalf of DAI/ USAID
- Afmadow Livelihoods and Skills Development Action in Lower Juba on behalf of Adeso
- Livelihood Security Project for relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability in the Lower Shebelle region on behalf of Concern Worldwide
- Study on agriculture practices in the Gabiley region, production constraints, and the way forward for better agriculture intervention on behalf of Concern Worldwide

The reports for these and other projects reviewed by SATG can be found at www.satg.org



Salim Hagi and Frank Chege (SATG) conducting M&E (Monitoring & Evaluation) training in Mogadishu.



PARTNERSHIPS



Section THREE

At SATG, we believe that meeting our goal of a more sustainable Somali agriculture will not come from a single viewpoint, but rather from multiple points of influence and leadership. The co-influence of ideas, scientific knowledge, and partner experience is needed to bring about comprehensive solutions. That is why, to solve the prevailing food crisis in Somalia, SATG works in tandem with like-minded stakeholders and partners from across the world.

University of Minnesota



University of Minnesota Professor (and SATG board member) Paul Porter is working with SATG's Dr. Hussein Haji on a project to seek solutions for sustainable agriculture in Somalia. Specifically, they are researching whether improvements can be made in the quality and quantity of food-aid maize in Somalia by collecting and analyzing food-aid maize and local maize and sorghum grain samples from various locations throughout Somalia. This project also calls for them to build a team of experts to explore ways to facilitate and oversee agricultural sustainability and food security in Somalia. In the last 20 years, this war-torn nation has been living off massive amounts of food aid; now it is time to transition to agriculture sector development programs. .

CGIAR Centres (e.g. CIMMYT)



In 2012, SATG entered into a new partnership with CIMMYT, the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, based in Mexico. The goal was to test drought-tolerant maize hybrids in the Lower Shebelle region of Somalia. Under this partnership, new potential hybrids were identified and seed production of the new hybrids is on-going. For more details, please visit www.satg.org.

Concern Worldwide



In order to make its Somali program more effective, Concern Worldwide, an Ireland-based humanitarian organization, works with SATG to better promote appropriate agricultural technologies. SATG assists Concern Worldwide by studying the agricultural situation of different Somali districts and offering support through best-farming practices and training materials. SATG also undertakes soil-testing processes before introducing appropriate technologies.

Development Alternatives Incorporated (DAI)

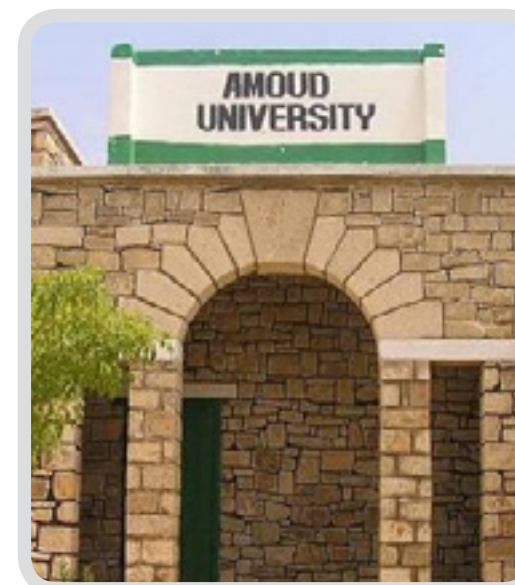


SATG is working with Development Alternatives Incorporated (DAI) to explore agriculture-related economic growth and value chain development in Somaliland on behalf of USAID. The goal is to help local authorities and private sector groups improve the enabling environment for investment, generate more productive employment, and improve other livelihood activities. For more details, please visit www.satg.org. SATG is also set to embark on a new project with DAI on economic sector development in South Central Somalia.

Ministry of National Resources, Somalia

The Ministry of National Resources in Somalia has worked closely with SATG for several years. The re-establishment of the Somali government has not only further strengthened SATG's relations with the ministry, but has also made it easier for SATG to conduct on-the-ground investigations in Somalia. As this new government continues to develop, SATG (and the ministry) will be able to help make the agricultural communities in Somalia more resilient.

Amoud University



Established in 1998, Amoud University can play a vital role in rehabilitating the agricultural body of Somaliland. The school is deeply rooted in the local community and provides an important platform for passing down knowledge and training to a new generation of professionals. Many students from Amoud University have connected with SATG. Working with us, they have been able to take their knowledge and understanding back to their local agricultural communities.



OUR TEAM



Section FOUR

The SATG team consists of a board of directors, executive members, technical and administrative staff, and a pool of “associate member” experts scattered across the globe. The head office is located in Nairobi, Kenya, with representation in Somalia (Somaliland, Puntland and South Central), the United States, Europe and Canada.



Core Consultants

In addition to our board members, SATG has a diverse pool of consultants who generously offer their time and expertise. These experts enable us to deliver informed and innovative solutions to every project and program we are involved in. They include:

- Mohamed Ibrahim, Environmental Biologist (Nairobi)
- Abdulkadir Mohamed Abikar, Agronomist (Afgoi, Somalia)
- Adow Adan Magan, Dryland Cropping Systems Specialist (Baidoa, Somalia)
- Aues Sceck, Economist (Nairobi)
- Abdulbari Saif, Plant Pathologist (ICRPE, Nairobi)
- Peter Bloch, Market Development Specialist (IFDC, Nairobi)
- Mario Younan, Livestock Specialist (Nairobi)
- Hared Abdullahi Nur, IPM Specialist (Hargeisa, Somaliland)
- Salim Hagi, Information and Communication Technologist (Nairobi)
- Frank Chege, Monitoring and Evaluation (Nairobi)
- Nurto Shekh Mohamed, Veterinary and Livestock (Mogadishu, Somalia)
- Amina Sharif Hassan, Agronomist (Canada)

Independent Field Monitors (IFMs)

SATG maintains a team of more than 20 Independent Field Monitors (IFMs) on the ground in Somalia. These are individuals trained and contracted by SATG to implement and monitor all project and program activities, and they are available to mobilize on relatively short notice. Our IFMs are located in various regions within Somalia, including the Central regions, Hiran, Bay, Bakool, Lower and Middle Shebelle, Gedo, and Middle and Lower Juba.



Board of Directors



Dr. Mohamood Noor

Former Vice Minister of Agriculture in Somalia and a consultant for the World Bank (Washington DC)

Since he retired from the World Bank in 2004, Mohamood Abdi Noor, Ph.D., has worked as an agricultural consultant. He studied at the University of Arizona (BSc), University of Wyoming (MSc) and University of Massachusetts (Ph.D.) in plant breeding (1963-1970). He started his career after completing his studies in U.S. universities as a post-doctoral fellow at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Nigeria, (1970-71). He went back to Somalia and became Head of the Central Agricultural Research Station (1971-73), Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and Vice-President of the Somali National University (1973-80) and Vice-Minister of Agriculture (1980-90). In June 1992 he joined the Special Program for African Agricultural Research (SPAAR), at the World Bank and retired from the World Bank as Senior Agriculturist. Since



Dr. Paul Porter

Professor of Agronomy, University of Minnesota (St. Paul)

Professor Paul Porter, Ph.D., is a cropping systems agronomist at the University of Minnesota. His research includes crop rotations, alternative crop systems, rye as a cover crop, and agronomic issues related to local food systems. Before completing his M.S. and Ph.D. in Agronomy at the University of Illinois at Urbana, he was a Peace Corps volunteer in Zaire, now Democratic Republic of the Congo. In the mid-1980s he worked with the "Wyoming Team" on the Bay Region Agricultural Development Project. The courses he teaches at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul include World Food Problems, Evaluating Starvation, Agroecosystems Analysis, Environment, Global Food Production and the Citizen, and Agroecosystems of



Ambassador Jelani M. Habib

Former Kenyan Ambassador to China and Tanzania (Nairobi)

Jelani Habib graduated in 1970 with a BSc Degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Rutgers in New Jersey. Born in 1942 in Lamu County, Kenya, Jelani has over 38 years of professional experience in the public and private sectors. He worked in the private sector in 1971-1972 before joining public service in mid-1972 and has served at various positions in the ministries of trade and foreign affairs. From 1973 to 1982, he served in different capacities in Kenya's foreign missions: London, Cairo, Paris and Washington, D.C., with duties including improving trade, tourism and investment between Kenya and these capitals.

He also represented Kenya in multilateral trade and economic negotiations and conferences under the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and the IMF and World Bank as part of the Kenyan delegation. He was appointed Director of Tourism in 1982 and successfully steered the sector to overtake coffee as the leading



Dr. Richard Jones

Chief of Party, SSTP Project (AGRA). Former Agribusiness Team Leader, IFDC (Nairobi)

Richard Jones, Ph.D., is an agronomist by training and an internationally respect expert on farming systems, seed dissemination and small-scale agribusiness. He began his career in Botswana in 1981, where he was posted by the British Government to work on a smallholder farming systems research project. His research helped improve crop productivity in two important production areas: using post-flood residual moisture in the famous Okavango Delta, and rain-fed agriculture in surrounding areas on sandy soils typical of the semi-arid tropics. It was here that he first began working on millet, sorghum, groundnuts and cowpeas and learnt to appreciate the hardiness of these crops. In 1989, he was awarded a Ph.D. from Reading University. His thesis compared the two types of farming systems in Botswana.



Dr. Hussein Haji

SATG Executive Director and former plant breeder for agriculture and agri-food Canada (Nairobi)

Hussein Haji, Ph.D., has served for twenty years with the Ministry of Agriculture in Somalia. He worked as Senior Researcher and a lecturer of Genetics and Plant Breeding at the Somali National University. He has also served as the coordinator of the national sorghum improvement program and director of the central agriculture research station. He travelled to Canada where he obtained his Ph.D. in Genetics and Plant Breeding at the University of Guelph. Soon after his graduation, he joined Agriculture and Agri-food Canada, where he served for 10 years as a lead scientist in the tobacco breeding and biotechnology department. During his service, he developed both open pollinated as well as hybrid varieties of tobacco using state-of-the-art technologies. While working with Agriculture Canada, Haji joined other agriculture professionals in founding the Somali Agricultural Technical Group (SATG).



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Join our network pool of international, national, regional and local communities who share the vision of sustainable agriculture and conserving Africa's natural resources.

Contact us now to find out more on how to reserve a space for your story or message on our upcoming magazine.

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