



Local Conference of Youth Somalia **2024** **Report**

Contents

- Contents 2
- Introduction and Mission 3
- Methodology 4
 - Program**..... 4
 - Logistics**..... 5
 - 1. Application/Registration Process**..... 5
 - 2. Venue Information** 6
 - 3. Transport and Travel Arrangements** 6
 - 5. Volunteers** 7
- Pre-LCOY EVENTS 8
- Human resources & administration 10
- Marketing and finance..... 12
 - Evaluation 16
 - Recommendations towards the Working Group 20
 - Contact information 23
- Appendix I: Photos 24
- Appendix II: Our Key Sponsors 28
- Appendix III: LCOY Somalia 2024 host 29

Introduction and Mission

Somalia is highly vulnerable to climate change due to its geographic location and socio-political challenges. Recurring droughts, floods, desertification, and food insecurity have long impacted the country, while limited infrastructure and political instability make adaptation and mitigation efforts more difficult. The youth in Somalia, comprising a large portion of the population, are particularly affected but have had limited opportunities to engage in climate action.

The **Local Conference of Youth (LCOY) Somalia 2024** was established to address these challenges and involve young Somalis in the solutions. Recognizing the importance of youth as catalysts for change, LCOY Somalia served as a platform for addressing climate-related issues and enabling Somali youth to take action.

Objectives of LCOY Somalia

LCOY Somalia 2024 aimed to:

1. **Empower Somali youth** as proactive agents of change in climate resilience and sustainable development.
2. **Foster leadership, knowledge-sharing, and capacity building** to equip youth with the skills necessary to address social, environmental, and economic challenges.
3. **Promote collaboration** between intergovernmental bodies, youth-led organizations, and academia to support sustainable initiatives led by Somali youth.
4. **Create opportunities for dialogue, networking, and cooperation**, ensuring young people play an active role in shaping their country's climate action agenda.

Theme of the Conference and Reasoning

The theme of LCOY Somalia 2024 was "**A Sustainable Future Powered by Youth.**" This theme was selected to emphasize the pivotal role of Somali youth in driving climate action and sustainable development. Given Somalia's vulnerability to climate change, it was critical to mobilize young leaders to address these pressing issues and take a leading role in building a sustainable, climate-resilient future.

Perception of the Common Mission of LCOY

The common mission of LCOY globally is to empower youth to be leaders in climate action and sustainable development, providing them with the tools and platforms to influence policy and implementation. LCOY Somalia embodied this mission by offering a collaborative space for young people to engage in meaningful dialogue and build partnerships that promote youth-led climate projects. The conference also encouraged youth to develop sustainable initiatives that contribute to long-term climate resilience in Somalia.

LCOY Somalia 2024 was organized by six key organizations, each bringing unique expertise and commitment to youth empowerment and climate action:

1. **Somalia Youth Hub** – The national youth agency of Somalia, focused on youth development and leadership.
2. **Climate Resilience and Adaptation Network (CRAN)** – An organization dedicated to promoting climate resilience in Somalia.
3. **Somalis for Sustainability (S4S)** – A youth-led initiative focused on sustainability and environmental education.
4. **Alliance for Climate and Peace** – A youth organization promoting the connection between climate action and peacebuilding.
5. **Institute of Climate and Environment Somalia (ICE)** – A research-driven organization dedicated to climate and environmental advocacy in Somalia.
6. **Puntland Sustainable Agri-livestock Network (PUSAN)** – An NGO focused on sustainable agricultural and livestock practices in Puntland, with a strong emphasis on youth empowerment.

These six organizations played a critical role in ensuring LCOY Somalia 2024 provided a platform for meaningful youth engagement, fostering collaboration across different sectors and regions to achieve sustainable outcomes.

Methodology

Program

The process leading to the final program of LCOY Somalia 2024, a two-day event which was held on the 27th of August and 28th of August 2024. The conference aimed to engage youth from across Somalia in discussions around climate leadership, adaptation, mitigation, and sustainability, ensuring that young people play a central role in shaping their country's climate future. The final program was structured to cover a broad range of topics, from climate resilience and green skills to the intersection of climate change and conflict.

Program Schedule for LCOY Somalia 2024

Day 1: Climate Leadership – Policies, Mitigation, and Adaptation

- **10:00 AM:** Doors open – Registration
- **11:00 AM:** Opening Remarks – LCOY Hosts (Hamza)
- **11:25 AM:** Keynote Address – DG of the Ministry of Youth & Sports of Somalia
- **11:30 AM – 12:30 PM:** Panel Discussion on National Adaptation Plan (Moderated by Hamza, with panelists Mohamed Okash, Abdirizak Mursal, and Hafsa Omar)
- **12:30 PM – 1:30 PM:** Duhur prayer & Lunch Break
- **1:30 PM – 2:15 PM (Side Hall):** Workshop on the Effects of Climate Change on Conflict in Somalia (Facilitated by Najib Wehelie)



- **2:15 PM – 2:45 PM:** Consultation on Green Skills and Green Jobs for Youth Pact (Led by Zamzam Ibrahim, UN Green Jobs)
- **3:05 PM – 3:25 PM:** Masterclass on Capacity Building and Global Climate Events (Led by Ahmed Abdi Osman, MOECC Youth Focal Point)
- **3:25 PM – 3:45 PM:** Workshop on Health and Climate (Led by Dr. Abdullahi Aden, Planetary Health Innovation Hub)
- **4:00 PM – 5:00 PM:** Youth Delegate Briefing on Policy Drafting – LCOY Hosts Meeting

Day 2: Climate Action – Emissions, Mobility, and Climate Literacy

- **9:00 AM:** Doors open – Set up
- **10:00 AM:** Opening Remarks for Day 2 – LCOY Host (Mohamed Abdirahman)
- **10:10 AM – 10:55 AM:** Inspirational Climate Stories by Youth IDPs and Farmers (Moderated by Abdirabi)
- **10:55 AM – 11:25 AM:** Presentation on Climate Change and Conflicts Impacting Agriculture and Livestock (By Mohamed Okash, Director of ICE, and Abdirabi, Director of PUSAN, Moderated by Hashem)
- **11:25 AM – 12:00 PM:** Panel on Climate Resilience, Innovation, and Peace (Featuring representative from the Ministry of Agriculture, Mohamed Osman, Director of ACP, Moderated by Abdisalan Ahmed)
- **12:00 PM - 12:30 pm:** Youth innovations for agricultural sustainability: the role of ICT on food production in Somalia, (Presented by Abdikafi Hassan Abdi)
- **12:30 PM – 12:55 PM:** Workshop on Data Tracking for GHG Emissions and Carbon Markets (Led by academic experts and WMO)
- **1:00 PM – 1:45 PM:** Panel on Displacement Amid Climate and Conflict (By Abukar Osman, CRAN Chairperson, Mohamed Omar, Head of National Environmental Peacebuilding, IOM Somalia, and Dr. Abdullahi Aden, Co-Founder, Planetary Health Innovation Hub, Moderated by Mohamed Abdirahman)
- **1:45 PM – 2:45 PM:** Youth Delegate Briefing on Policy Drafting – Second Draft Session
- **4:00 PM – 4:30 PM:** Closing Ceremony and Official Group Photos

Logistics

1. Application/Registration Process

The application process for LCOY Somalia 2024 was conducted online using a Google Form to facilitate easy and accessible application submissions from youth across Somalia. This form was designed to capture essential details from applicants, including their personal information, involvement in climate activism, and motivations for attending the conference.

The selection of participants was guided by YOUNGO's selection framework. YOUNGO employs a transparent and inclusive approach that emphasizes diversity,

representation, and inclusion. In line with these principles, our selection committee used specific criteria inspired by YOUNGO's process. These criteria included:

- **Motivation:** Evaluating the applicant's goals, interests, and commitment to attending the conference.
- **Experience:** Assessing past involvement in youth empowerment, climate action, or related activities.
- **Community Empowerment:** Giving preference to applicants who demonstrate a clear plan to use LCOY as a platform to empower their communities, particularly marginalized groups.
- **Quality of Application:** Ensuring applications were well-prepared, plagiarism-free, and thoughtfully completed.

Out of over 1,000 applications received, 100 participants were selected. The selection was based on a careful review to ensure a diverse and inclusive group of participants, with consideration given to gender, regional representation, and inclusion of youth from conflict areas.

Due to funding constraints, LCOY Somalia could not provide financial support for participants from the Federal Member States. However, we welcomed participants from these states who could self-fund their attendance, ensuring representation from various regions of the country. This self-funding approach allowed us to maintain broad geographical diversity despite the financial limitations.

2. Venue Information

The LCOY Somalia 2024 was hosted at **JAVA Hall**, located in the center of Mogadishu, providing easy access for all participants. The venue was chosen for its central location, accessibility, and suitability for various conference activities.

The venue included a main hall for speakers and panel discussions, accommodating over 200 participants, and two side halls, each with a capacity of 50, designated for workshops and side events. This arrangement provided flexibility for both large gatherings and smaller, focused sessions.

3. Transport and Travel Arrangements

For LCOY Somalia 2024, transportation was organized to be both accessible and environmentally friendly. Collective transport was arranged with buses provided at key locations around Mogadishu to bring participants to and from the venue. This reduced both costs and carbon emissions, promoting sustainable travel practices.

For those coming from regions outside Mogadishu, participants were encouraged to arrange their own transport, with recommendations to use shared rides or local bus services. Unfortunately, due to budget limitations, the event could not provide financial support for travel. However, several participants from Federal Member States self-funded their travel to ensure representation from across the country.

4. Catering Services

In the conference, all participants were catered for during the whole duration of the conference, inclusive of lunch and light refreshments. Several proposals were made to take into consideration the different diet needs that may be required by every participant.

5. Volunteers

To ensure the smooth running of LCOY Somalia 2024, a call for volunteer applications was advertised through our social media channels and partner networks. Out of over 100 applications received, 15 enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers were selected based on their experience, motivation, and commitment to climate activism and youth empowerment.

Volunteer Roles: The selected volunteers were assigned various roles, including:

- **Registration and Information Desk:** Assisting with participant check-in and providing information throughout the event.
- **Session Coordination:** Supporting speakers and facilitators during panel discussions and workshops.
- **Logistics and Setup:** Managing materials, setting up spaces for different sessions, and coordinating with the venue staff.
- **Social media and Communications:** Documenting the event, live-tweeting sessions, and managing social media updates to engage a broader audience.

At the conclusion of LCOY Somalia 2024, all volunteers were recognized for their contributions and dedication with certificates of appreciation, highlighting their valuable role in making the event a success.



Pre-LCOY EVENTS

For LCOY Somalia 2024, there were two designated pre-LCOY events to gather input from Somali youth to create the draft National youth statement (NYS). The first event was an online event conducted through google meet. Delegates were invited from the original registration form. The online event prioritized participation from delegates that identified funding needs to attend the LCOY in person. Most of the participants were from areas outside of the capital, such as Hargeisa, Bosaso, Kismayo, Baidoa, Garowe, Berbera, and Galkayo.

The organizers then split the delegates into focus groups to discuss the eight topic points highlighted for the NYS. Each group had a designated moderator and note-taker. To accommodate participation for all groups, the organizers ensured that both Somali and English were spoken. The session ran for two hours, and the moderates had thought-provoking questions to enable productive discussion on each topic. With all the volunteers, moderators and delegates the attendance for the online event was over 110 attendees.

The in-person pre-LCOY session that took place in the capital used the same format. However, attendance was lower as there were security issues that caused the delay of the event.

The team collected all the input into separate Google Documents and then shared them with the LCOY organizing team, who used the input to create the draft NYS. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Etiam aliquet eu mi quis lacinia. Ut fermentum a magna ut eleifend. Integer convallis suscipit ante eu varius.

“The Pre-LCOY consultation united Somali youth to address climate challenges and draft the National Youth Statement.”





Figure: Somali Youth at Pre-LCOY in-person event

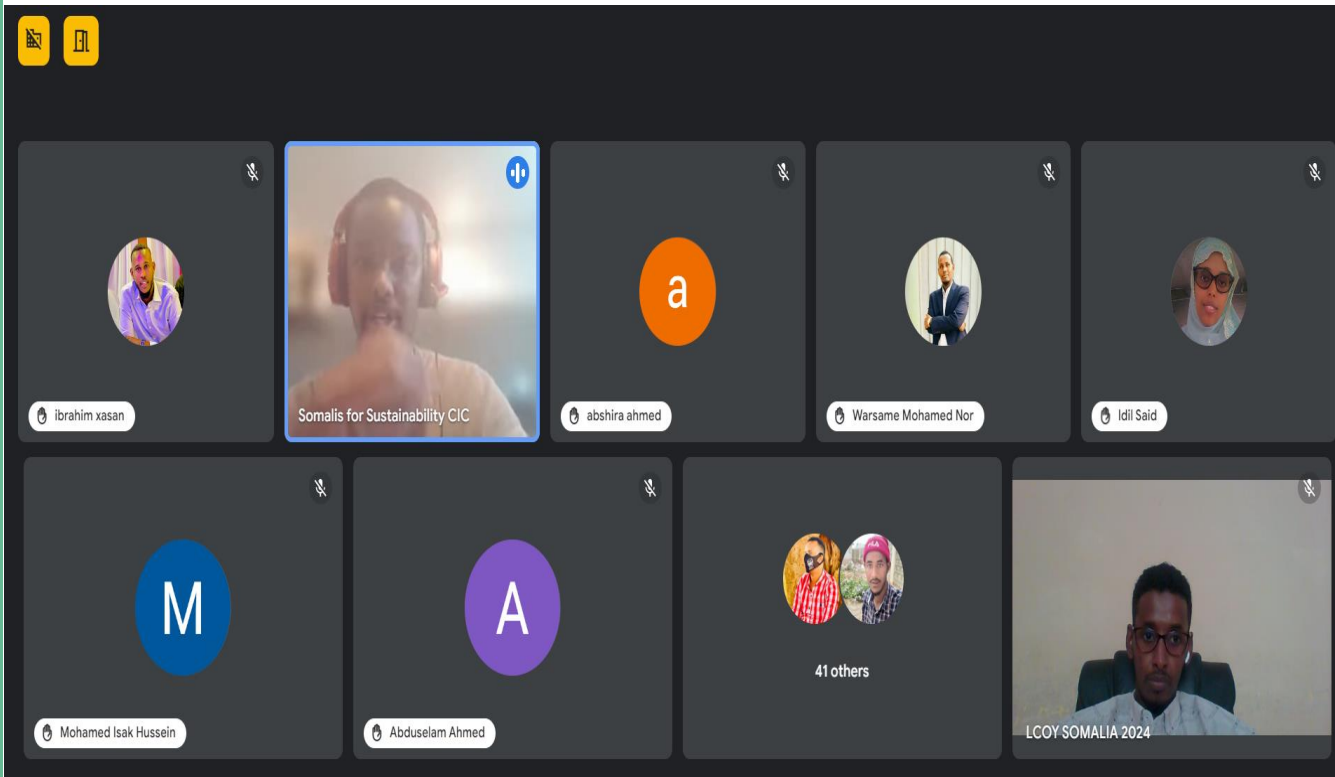


Figure: Somali Youth at Pre-LCOY Online event

Human resources & administration

The organizing structure for **LCOY Somalia 2024** was designed to ensure that each aspect of the conference ran smoothly. Key leadership roles were distributed among the six organizing organizations, with a particular focus on logistics, program development, communication, and coordination.

1. **Lead Partner – Hamza Abdiwahab (Somali Youth Hub)**
 - **Role:** Provided overall oversight on all aspects of the conference and acted as the final decision-maker.
 - **Key Responsibilities:** Mediated between team members, made executive decisions, and ensured the overall event ran according to plan.
2. **LCOY Contact Point – Mohamed Abdirahman (Climate Resilience and Adaptation Network, CRAN)**
 - **Role:** Ensured effective communication between the organizing team and external partners.
 - **Key Responsibilities:** Managed the relationship with the global LCOY team and ensured seamless coordination with external stakeholders.
3. **Head of Events and Logistics – Abdirabi Mohamed (Puntland Sustainable Agri-livestock Network, PUSAN)**
 - **Role:** Led the logistics and event management on the conference day.
 - **Key Responsibilities:** Managed venue setup, refreshments, safety protocols, translation services, and technical equipment, including audio-visual support.
4. **Head of Finance – Abdisalan Ahmed (Alliance for Climate and Peace, ACP)**
 - **Role:** Responsible for financial management.
 - **Key Responsibilities:** Managed the overall budget of the event and reported the expenditures to our precious sponsors.
5. **Head of Program and Agenda – Hashem Mohamed (Somalis for Sustainability, S4S)**
 - **Role:** Responsible for outlining the program and managing workshops.
 - **Key Responsibilities:** Coordinated with speakers, organized workshops, ensured relevant content aligned with the theme, and handled the production of the youth position statement.
6. **Head of Promotion & Delegates – Mohamed Abdirahman (Climate Resilience and Adaptation Network, CRAN)**
 - **Role:** Led the branding, marketing, and delegate recruitment.
 - **Key Responsibilities:** Managed the selection process for delegates, promoted the event across multiple platforms, and ensured broad representation across Somalia.

“The Human Resource and Administration ensured smooth execution of LCOY Somalia 2024 through organized leadership and coordination.”

7. **Head of Partnerships – Hamza Abdiwahab (Somali Youth Hub)**
 - **Role:** Secured funding and managed partnerships.
 - **Key Responsibilities:** Built relationships with sponsors.
8. **Research and Overall Coordination – Abdikafi (Institute of Climate and Environment ICE)**
 - **Role:** Focused on research and supported overall coordination across different departments.
 - **Key Responsibilities:** Provided research input relevant to the conference themes and assisted in the coordination of tasks across teams to ensure smooth delivery.

Organization and Coordination Workforce During the Conference

The success of **LCOY Somalia 2024** required a coordinated effort from a well-organized workforce, including volunteers, moderators, and technical support staff:

1. Volunteers

- **Roles:** Volunteers were responsible for registration, ushering attendees, distributing materials, and supporting logistical tasks throughout the conference.
- **Coordination:** Volunteers were briefed a day before the event and worked under the supervision of the Head of Events and Logistics. They ensured smooth transitions between sessions and supported technical staff.

2. Moderators

- **Roles:** Moderators led panel discussions, workshops, and breakout sessions, ensuring that speakers stayed on time and discussions remained focused.
- **Coordination:** Moderators were selected based on their expertise in climate change, youth engagement, and leadership. They coordinated closely with the Head of Program and Agenda to align with session objectives.

3. Tech Support

- **Roles:** The technical team managed the audio-visual equipment, provided translation services, and handled any technical issues during presentations and workshops.
- **Coordination:** The tech support team was overseen by the Head of Events and Logistics. A rehearsal was held before the event to ensure that all equipment functioned properly.

4. Security and Safety Personnel

- **Roles:** Ensured the safety of all attendees, monitored access points, and provided crowd control.



Thanks to our volunteers for their hard work and dedication in making LCOY Somalia a success. We truly appreciate their efforts.

LCOY

Somalia | 2024

THEME

A Sustainable Future Powered by Youth

ORGANIZERS



Sponsors

- **Coordination:** Security staff were hired for the event and coordinated with volunteers and the logistics team to ensure a safe environment.

5. Catering Team

- **Roles:** Managed refreshments and meal services for attendees during breaks.
- **Coordination:** Worked under the guidance of the Head of Events and Logistics to provide meals on time while ensuring all dietary restrictions were met.

Total Time Effort

The organizing body spent approximately 16 weeks in preparation, with a time commitment of 10-15 hours per week in the initial stages, escalating to 20-25 hours per week as the conference approached. The overall time effort per team member was around 300-400 hours over the course of the preparation period.

Planning Timeline

The planning process followed a structured timeline:

1. **Initial Planning (Weeks 1-4):** Role assignment, venue scouting, and partnership discussions.
2. **Program Development (Weeks 5-9):** Finalizing the agenda, confirming speakers, and launching delegate recruitment.
3. **Logistics and Marketing (Weeks 10-12):** Securing vendors, promoting the event, and selecting delegates.
4. **Final Preparations (Weeks 13-16):** Testing tech equipment, rehearsing key segments, and confirming all logistics.

Best Practices for Group Planning

- **Tools:** The team used **Google Docs** for shared documents and google meet for virtual meetings.
- **Decision-Making:** Decisions were made through a consensus-based approach.
- **Group Planning:** Weekly meetings were held to review progress, with flexibility to adjust timelines and reassign tasks if needed. A strong focus was placed on clear communication and role definition to avoid overlap or confusion.

Marketing and finance

Marketing Strategy and Public Relations Work

Overview:

To maximize participation and increase awareness for the first-ever Local Conference of Youth (LCOY) in Somalia, a marketing strategy was created. We were able to effectively contact a wide range of people by utilizing digital media,

including young people, local authorities, public servants, and foreign partners.

Social Media Strategy:

- **Platforms:** We concentrated on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Facebook because of their widespread popularity and reach within our target audience. You can view our social media pages here:
 - Facebook <https://www.fb.com/lcoysomalia>
 - Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/lcoy.somalia>
 - LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/lcoysomalia/>
- **Content:** To generate interest and maintain audience engagement, we disseminated regular updates, event highlights, and behind-the-scenes content.
- **Engagement:** In order to promote community involvement and a feeling of community surrounding the event, interactive online pre-LCOY events were organized.
- **Hashtags:** Hashtags tailored to the event were made, increasing exposure and promoting user-generated material to expand the event's audience.
- **Website:** A dedicated website for LCOY Somalia has been created to serve as the central hub for information, registration, and updates. This enhances the event's online presence and accessibility. For more details, please visit <http://www.lcoysomalia.org> or contact us at info@lcoysomalia.org / cran.somalia@gmail.com

Promotion Material (Digital):

- **Digital:** We produced eye-catching banners and quick video teasers that went viral online, effectively drawing curiosity and attention.

Press Work and Media Coverage:

- **Press Releases:** Over the course of the two-day event, we worked with local media outlet
- s to share event images and highlight speakers.
- **Interviews:** Key organizing team members and notable speakers were made available for interviews, further promoting the event.

Sponsors and Financial Support

List of Sponsors:

- **Save the Children Somalia.** is an international organization well known for its efforts on behalf of children and youth. It brought speakers to the conference to demonstrate its



dedication to community development and youth empowerment in Somalia.

- **Planetary Health Innovation Hub:** is a hub that concentrates on creative solutions to Somalia's environmental and health problems despite its limited direct engagement, its attendance at the conference demonstrated its commitment to promoting discussion on global health issues.
- **Taking IT Global:** is one of the world's leading networks of young people learning about, engaging with, and working towards tackling global challenges. It played a crucial role in supporting LCOY Somalia 2024, empowering Somali youth to engage in meaningful climate action and discussions. Their contribution was instrumental in the success of the event.
- **Beled Energy:** Beled Power Even though it were not involved in the event itself, the company's sponsorship demonstrated its support for youth-led projects. The company is well-known for its efforts to promote sustainable energy solutions in Somalia.

Sponsor	Contribution Amount (USD)	Purpose of Sponsorship	Additional Involvement
Save the Children Somalia	\$3,500	Venue and catering	Contributed to the guests and the speakers of the conference
Planetary Health Innovation Hub	\$2,500	Venue and catering	Contributed to the guests and the speakers of the conference
Taking IT Global	\$500	Sponsorship of promotions, honorariums, supplies for LCOY Somalia, and transportation costs for the organizers.	Provided technical support for digital media, material and supplies, transportation for organizers and honorariums
Beled Energy	\$200	Sponsorship of the event billboard	Minimal involvement in the event

Accessibility & Inclusivity

The organizing team for **LCOY Somalia 2024** was structured to prioritize both **accessibility and inclusivity** from the planning stages through to the execution of the event. This was achieved in the following ways:

- 1. Diverse Representation in the Organizing Team**
 The team consisted of individuals from different geographical regions in Somalia, including representatives from **Somalia Youth Hub**, **Puntland Sustainable Agri-livestock Network (PUSAN)**, **Somalis for Sustainability (S4S)**, **Climate Resilience and Adaptation Network (CRAN)**, **Alliance for Climate and Peace**, and **Institute of Climate and Environment Somalia (ICE)**. Each organization brought diverse perspectives and experiences, ensuring that decision-making considered the needs of a broad range of youth groups across Somalia.
- 2. Inclusivity in Decision-Making**
 Inclusivity was ensured by involving all key partners in the decision-making process, with each organization having equal input into the conference design, from the agenda to the list of speakers and themes. The lead partner, **Hamza**, provided oversight to ensure that decisions reflected the diverse voices of the team, especially underrepresented groups like women and youth from rural areas.
- 3. Cultural Sensitivity**
 The team ensured that local customs and traditions were respected. Women's voices and perspectives were actively included in all planning

stages, with special efforts made to involve women from regions where they are often underrepresented in public forums.

Accessibility & Inclusivity among Participants of LCOY Somalia 2024

1. Inclusive Participant Recruitment

A **transparent and inclusive nomination process** was implemented to ensure that young people from all regions of Somalia had the opportunity to participate. Delegates were selected from underrepresented regions such as **Jubaland, Southwest, Somaliland, Galmudug, Hirshabelle and Puntland**, with a strong focus on including women, people of color (POC), and marginalized youth.

2. Support for Participants with Disabilities

To accommodate participants with disabilities, the venue was chosen to ensure **physical accessibility**, with ramps and proper seating arrangements available. Volunteers were also assigned to assist individuals with mobility challenges throughout the event. Additionally, audio and visual aids were provided to support attendees with hearing or vision impairments.

3. Inclusive Themes and Workshops

The program was designed to address the concerns of **underrepresented groups**, such as displaced persons, youth from agricultural communities, and those affected by climate-induced conflicts. Workshops were structured to include discussions on gender equity, climate justice, and the specific impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations in Somalia.

4. POC and Underrepresented Groups

The organizing team actively reached out to ensure participation from **POC**, rural communities, and internally displaced persons (IDPs). Specific sessions were dedicated to addressing the unique challenges faced by these groups in the context of climate change, including a **workshop on climate-induced displacement** and a **panel on the role of women and marginalized communities** in climate action.



Evaluation

Planning

Strengths:

- **MoU Signed by All Organizations:** Having a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by each partner organization ensured clear roles and expectations, making the planning process more structured and formal.
- **Clear Role Distribution:** A separate document outlining roles and responsibilities helped minimize confusion and provided accountability among team members.

Weaknesses:

- **Lack of Long-Term Planning:** There was no comprehensive long-term plan that accounted for all aspects of the event, leading to some last-minute adjustments and gaps.
- **Unequal Task Allocation:** We didn't fully leverage the strengths of each team member, leading to unequal distribution of responsibilities.
- **Underutilization of Partner Organizations:** We didn't make full use of partner organizations to their maximum potential, which could have provided more resources and support.
- **Lack of Key Partnerships:** We didn't secure all the necessary partners to fully support the event, which limited the scope of the conference.

Recommendations:

- Develop a long-term, detailed planning strategy that includes timelines, task allocation, and contingency plans.
- Leverage the comparative advantages of all team members and partners to ensure an equal and effective distribution of tasks.
- Ensure more intentional and strategic partnerships are formed early in the process, including stakeholder engagement and mapping.

Funding:

Strengths:

- **Utilized Personal Connections:** Leveraging personal networks helped secure funding, especially when the timeline was tight.
- **Adapted Well to Last-Minute Changes:** The team demonstrated flexibility in responding to unexpected challenges and changes.

Weaknesses:

- **No Formal Funding Strategy:** There was no strategic plan for securing funds, which made the process reactive rather than proactive.
- **Lack of Transparency:** Poor communication around funding details and transparency with stakeholders was a significant challenge.
- **No Central Management Tool for Funders:** Without a central tool for managing and tracking funding, it was difficult to monitor financials.
- **Limited Focus on Local Donors:** The focus on international donors left a gap in engaging potential local donors.

Recommendations:

- Develop a clear funding strategy that includes both local and international donors.
- Implement a central management system for tracking funds and ensuring transparency.
- Engage stakeholders early with regular meetings and updates on the financial situation.



Logistics

Strengths:

- **Quick Decision-Making:** The team demonstrated the ability to make fast decisions and adapt as needed, which helped maintain momentum.
- **Affordable Venue:** The team managed to find an affordable venue and ensured sufficient security and good catering.
- **Volunteer Leadership:** The volunteer management was effective, with a strong leader overseeing the team.

Weaknesses:

- **Unnecessary Spending:** Some resources were wasted on promotional materials that weren't fully utilized, such as branded spaces.
- **Late Venue Booking:** The venue should have been secured at least three months before the event to avoid last-minute stress.
- **Overestimation of Attendees:** Too many chairs were paid for, which could have been avoided with more realistic planning.

Recommendations:

- Plan for venue selection and other logistical needs well in advance, with backup options in place.
- Use internal resources wherever possible to reduce unnecessary spending.
- Conduct a more accurate attendee forecast to avoid over-preparation.

Strengths:

- **Diverse Program Design:** The program was diverse and included a wide range of topics and qualified speakers.
- **Inclusivity:** The program allowed the organizing team to actively participate, and the climate story panel highlighted local champions.
- **National Youth Statement:** A great effort was made in including youth perspectives and feedback in the final statement.

Weaknesses:

- **Late Finalization of Speakers:** Speakers were confirmed too late, leading to challenges in coordination.
- **Too Many Panels:** More hands-on workshops would have been beneficial instead of a heavy focus on panels.
- **Lack of Cultural Elements:** The program was too academic, lacking interactive or cultural elements to engage participants more fully.

Recommendations:

- Finalize the program and speakers at least three weeks in advance to allow for proper coordination.
- Balance panels with interactive workshops and cultural elements for a more engaging experience.
- Ensure a gender-balanced program by actively recruiting diverse speakers.



Digital Media

Strengths:

- **Early Graphic Design:** media did excellent work on early graphic design and branding for the event.
- **Early Social Media Presence:** The event's social media accounts were set up early, helping to establish the online presence.

Weaknesses:

- **Lack of much Social Media Promotion:** Social media engagement was weak leading up to the event and lacked real-time updates.

Recommendations:

- Assign a dedicated social media manager to handle event promotion and real-time engagement.
- Use paid social media promotion to increase visibility and engage local influencers to expand reach.

Delegates

Strengths:

- **Transparency in Delegate Selection:** A clear and transparent system was used to select delegates, ensuring fairness.
- **Diverse Representation:** Good gender and age group representation were achieved among delegates.

Weaknesses:

- **Late Delegate Selection:** Selection was done too late, which affected communication and preparation for delegates.
- **Lack of Diversity:** There was not enough diversity in the delegate selection, with some regions underrepresented.

Recommendations:

- Start the delegate selection process earlier to allow ample time for communication and preparation.
- Ensure greater regional and demographic diversity in the selection process.

National Youth Statement:

Strengths:

- **Inclusive Process:** The statement was developed with lots of input from young people, ensuring broad representation.
- **Well-Structured Document:** The final document was professional and reflected well-considered decisions.



Weaknesses:

- **Need for More Momentum:** The process of finalizing the national youth statement could have been faster, allowing more time for refining.
- **Distribution:** The statement wasn't distributed to all delegates in time.

Recommendations:

- Move faster on drafting and finalizing key documents.
- Ensure all important documents are distributed to delegates well ahead of the event.

Recommendations towards the Working Group

1. Establish Clear and Detailed Planning Frameworks

The LCOY Working Group should provide organizers with a detailed **planning framework** or **toolkit** that outlines timelines, key tasks, and milestones. This should include:

- **Step-by-step guides** for organizing events.
- **Templates** for MOUs, budget planning, and partnership agreements.
- **Best practices** for event management, including logistical considerations and securing venues.
- **Contingency plans** for unexpected issues (funding, speaker cancellations, etc.).

2. Create a Centralized Communication Platform

A central communication platform or **project management tool** (like Trello, Asana, or Slack) would enable all LCOY organizers globally to share updates, collaborate, and access resources. This tool should:

- Allow teams to **track progress** and assign tasks.
- Facilitate **collaboration** across time zones, especially with partners or LCOY teams in different regions.
- Serve as a **knowledge-sharing hub**, where previous LCOYs can share lessons learned, templates, and strategies with new teams.

3. Develop a Comprehensive Funding and Sponsorship Strategy

Many LCOY teams struggle with securing funding. The LCOY Working Group could:

- Provide a **global fundraising guide** with potential sponsors, donor databases, and funding sources that are youth-focused or climate-focused.
- Develop a **partnership strategy** template that helps LCOY teams engage local, regional, and international sponsors.
- Share **success stories** from previous LCOYs on how they secured funding and engaged stakeholders.

4. Offer Training on Inclusivity and Accessibility

To ensure that all LCOYs are as inclusive and accessible as possible, the Working Group should provide:

- **Training modules** on how to make events accessible to people with disabilities, marginalized groups, and those from underrepresented regions.



- **Inclusivity guidelines** that outline best practices for ensuring gender balance, racial diversity, and the inclusion of youth from diverse socio-economic backgrounds.
5. **Strengthen Media and Social Media Support**
LCOYs need strong media presence and visibility. The Working Group could:
- Offer **social media management training** or provide access to a **dedicated LCOY social media toolkit** with promotional strategies, templates, and content guidelines.
 - Collaborate with **social influencers** or youth ambassadors globally to promote LCOYs.
 - Create a **centralized media kit** for each LCOY to ensure consistent branding and messaging.
6. **Early Engagement and Support for Local Organizers**
Engage with LCOY teams much earlier in the process and provide ongoing support. This could include:
- **Regular check-ins** with organizers to track progress and address any challenges.
 - Establish a **mentorship program**, where experienced LCOY organizers can guide newer teams.
 - Provide **real-time feedback loops** on key documents like the agenda, funding plans, and promotional materials.
7. **Provide a Monitoring and Evaluation Toolkit**
To help organizers assess the success of their LCOY, a **monitoring and evaluation toolkit** could be developed. This toolkit could:
- Include **surveys** or **feedback forms** to capture the experience of participants, partners, and delegates.
 - Provide a **template for impact reporting** that organizers can use to document their event's outcomes.
 - Offer tools for **data collection**, such as participant demographics and engagement metrics, to help assess inclusivity and representation.
8. **Streamline the Delegate Selection Process**
To ensure a more diverse and representative group of delegates, the Working Group could:
- Develop a **delegate selection framework** that prioritizes representation from underrepresented communities.
 - Provide **tools for fair and transparent scoring systems** to assess delegate applications and ensure inclusivity.
 - Encourage early **outreach to diverse groups**, ensuring broad participation across regions, genders, and social backgrounds.
9. **Encourage Cultural and Interactive Components**
Many LCOYs focus heavily on panels and academic discussions, but it's important to balance this with interactive and cultural activities. The Working Group could:
- Encourage teams to include **storytelling sessions, local cultural performances, and hands-on workshops**.
 - Provide a list of **cultural and interactive activity ideas** to inspire LCOY organizers.
 - Highlight the importance of **youth-led creative initiatives** (e.g., art, music, theater) that connect climate action with cultural expression.



10. Foster Greater Collaboration Among LCOYs Globally

Encourage greater **cross-collaboration** between LCOYs in different regions to share ideas, resources, and best practices. This could be facilitated by:

- Hosting **global virtual check-ins** where LCOY teams can exchange lessons and experiences.
- Creating **regional LCOY networks** that focus on issues relevant to specific geographic or cultural contexts.
- Organizing a **global LCOY forum** to celebrate successes and drive collaboration across the movement.





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Appendix I: Photos

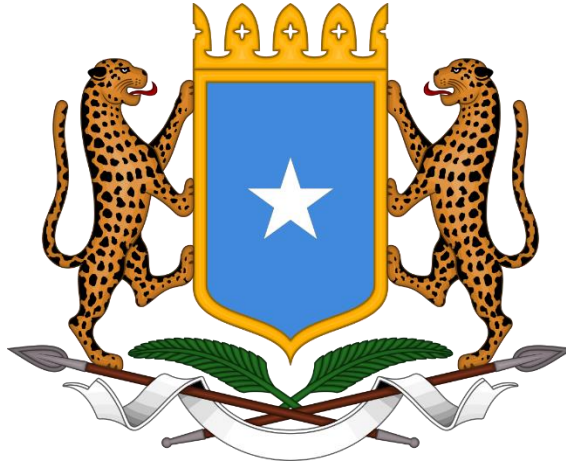








Appendix II: Our Key Sponsors



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Appendix III: LCOY Somalia 2024 host

