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# **Diaspora Bridging Societies and States**

# My Background

- Refugee from Somalia 1992
- Being Refugee-Diaspora In Europe-NL
- Giving back to the country of origin
- Bridge between host country and country of origin
- Engaging diaspora/migrant to the development through HIRDA

HIRDA is a Diaspora development organization founded 1998 by Somali Diaspora in the Netherlands

HIRDA works with CSO s and CBO's in East Africa (Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia) in field of Education, women Empowerment, relief, Remittances sport and Diaspora/migrant/refugees engagement engagement.

- Political engagement
- Economic development
- Social development

- Contributors reconciliations and
- Peace building
- Participation of political arenas

- Financial Remittances
- Social Remittances
  - Skills and technical know-how
  - ideas

- Investment
  - start-up capital for SMEs
- Investment sectors
  - Money transaction offices
  - Telecommunication and media
  - Small-scale industries
  - Real states
  - Trade
  - Agriculture

- Humanitarian and emergency assistance
  - Mobilizing Funds
  - Supporting local organization
- Development assistance
  - Diaspora development organizations
  - Diaspora community networks



- Working voluntary basis
- Lack of government support and partnership
- Absence of a common Diaspora Voice
- leveraging remittance to development
- Xenophobia and discrimination

# Conclusion

- Partnership between Diaspora and international community
- Capacity building for Diaspora community
- Promotion of Diaspora investment in different sectors
- strong Diaspora network (regional)
- Engagement of Diaspora in development sector

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