

2025 | Annual Report

From Community Resilience to National Transformation



MOVING INTO ACTION

From Community Resilience to National Transformation



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Photo credit: Post LCOY Somalia 2025, Mogadishu, Somalia

HIGHLIGHTING SOLUTIONS

Climate Leadership Rooted in Somalia

In 2025, CRAN brought together youth leadership, climate-smart agriculture, renewable energy, disability inclusion, marine conservation, research, and global advocacy into a unified national climate response, ensuring that Somali communities were not only protected from climate impacts but empowered to lead solutions. Through partnerships with MoECC, FAO, UNICEF, CBOs and global networks such as ECOP and YOUNGO, CRAN expanded climate education, food security, clean energy, and inclusive governance across Somalia while elevating Somali voices at COP30, SB62, and UNEA-7, demonstrating that Somalia is both a frontline of climate vulnerability and a hub of innovative, people-centered climate action.

Message from the Chair

The year 2025 tested Somalia's resilience as never before. Recurrent floods, prolonged droughts, food insecurity, displacement, and coastal degradation continued to threaten lives and livelihoods across the country. Yet in the face of these mounting climate pressures, CRAN and its partners did not retreat. We pressed forward.

Building on the momentum of 2024—when CRAN trained hundreds of youths, co-hosted Somalia's first Local Conference of Youth (LCOY), and shaped national climate policy dialogues —2025 became the year CRAN transformed into a national climate leadership platform.

With the support of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MoECC), UNICEF Somalia, FAO Somalia, and Somali civil society partners, CRAN expanded its work across adaptation, youth leadership, renewable energy, climate-smart agriculture, disability inclusion, and research. This report documents how Somalia is no longer only responding to climate shocks—but actively shaping its climate future.

No matter the obstacles, we are pressing forward.

Mr. Abukar Mohamed Osman
Chairperson of CRAN Somalia



Photo credit: Pre-LCOY Somalia 2025, Garowe, Somalia

Executive Summary

In 2025, the Climate Resilience and Adaptation Network (CRAN) emerged as a national platform for climate leadership in Somalia. As the country faced worsening floods, droughts, food insecurity, displacement, and coastal degradation, CRAN moved beyond project delivery to coordinate inclusive, long-term climate action rooted in communities and aligned with national priorities.

Through partnerships with government institutions, UNICEF Somalia, FAO Somalia, and community-based organizations, CRAN strengthened climate-smart livelihoods, education, and policy engagement across Somalia. Farmers were supported through climate-smart agriculture to improve food security and adapt to changing rainfall, while youth were trained in renewable energy and solar technologies to reduce dependence on charcoal and create green jobs. Schools in Beledweyne, Jowhar, and Balcad became hubs of climate learning through CRAN's Climate Clubs and campaigns.

Building on the strong institutional foundation established in 2024—when CRAN trained hundreds of young people, co-organized Somalia's first Local Conference of Youth (LCOY), launched youth-led climate advocacy, and engaged national climate policy processes—2025 became the year of scale, integration, and national impact. CRAN intentionally shifted from fragmented project delivery toward coordinated national climate action, anchored in partnerships with government ministries, UN agencies, community-based organizations, youth networks, and marginalized communities.

At the heart of CRAN's 2025 strategy was a recognition that climate resilience in Somalia must be inclusive, locally grounded, and institutionally embedded. Climate action that excludes farmers, women, youth, persons with disabilities, coastal communities, and displaced populations cannot succeed. CRAN therefore prioritized partnerships that connect grassroots action with national and international decision-making, ensuring that Somalia's climate response reflects the lived realities of its people.

Throughout 2025, CRAN formalized partnerships with national and community-based organizations across Somalia. This created a decentralized climate action network capable of mobilizing communities, sharing climate information, supporting early warning systems,

and implementing locally adapted solutions. These partnerships strengthened trust between communities and institutions, improved coordination during climate shocks, and ensured that adaptation and resilience initiatives were shaped by those most affected.

One of CRAN's most transformative achievements in 2025 was the integration of disability inclusion into climate action. For the first time in Somalia, Somali Sign Language interpreters were trained in climate science, environmental protection, and climate adaptation. This allowed climate information, early-warning messages, and advocacy materials to be accessible to the Deaf community. In parallel, CRAN trained 50 hearing-impaired individuals in Mogadishu on climate change, environmental stewardship, and community advocacy. These participants became active climate actors—contributing to school clubs, campaigns, and local outreach—demonstrating that climate resilience must leave no one behind.

CRAN also made strategic investments in long-term climate education by launching School Climate Campaigns and Climate Clubs in Beledweyne, Jowhar, and Balcad. These clubs transformed schools into centers of environmental leadership, where students learned about climate risks, conducted clean-ups, planted trees, organized awareness activities, and developed leadership skills. By embedding climate literacy into schools, CRAN ensured that Somalia's next generation grows up prepared to confront the climate crisis with knowledge, responsibility, and innovation.

On the national and global stage, CRAN strengthened Somalia's voice through ECOP Somalia, connecting young professionals to global ocean science and blue-economy governance. CRAN also represented Somalia at COP30, SB62, and UNEA-7, advocating for climate finance, youth-led adaptation, ocean resilience, and equitable climate governance.

By the end of 2025, CRAN had become a trusted bridge between Somali communities and global climate systems, demonstrating that Somalia's climate future can be built through youth leadership, inclusion, innovation, and strong national partnerships.



Photo credit: Pre-LCOY Somalia 2025, Garowe, Somalia

A Global Crisis with Local Consequences

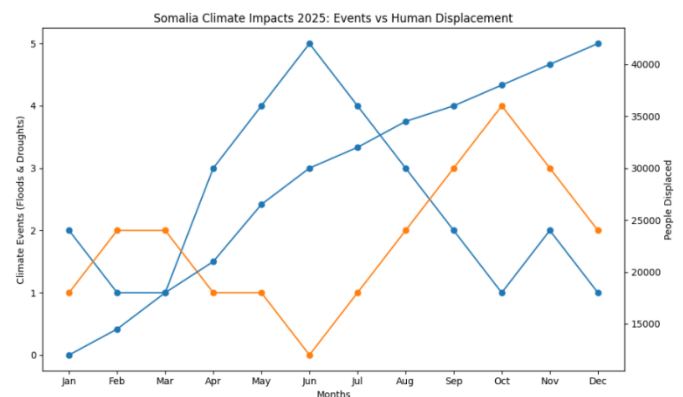
Climate change is one of the defining global challenges of our time, but in Somalia its impacts are felt with exceptional intensity and urgency. Rising temperatures, unpredictable rainfall, prolonged droughts, and increasingly destructive floods are no longer rare events—they are reshaping livelihoods, food systems, and settlement patterns across the country. From riverine communities along the Shabelle and Juba rivers to pastoralist regions and densely populated urban areas, climate shocks are disrupting everyday life and undermining development gains.

These environmental pressures are closely linked to Somalia's social and economic vulnerability. Climate-related disasters destroy crops, reduce livestock productivity, contaminate water sources, and force families to migrate in search of safety and survival. As a result, climate change is a key driver of food insecurity, displacement, and poverty, particularly among women, youth, and marginalized communities. Along Somalia's extensive coastline, warming seas, coral degradation, and shifting fish stocks are threatening marine ecosystems and the livelihoods of fishing communities, placing additional strain on the country's emerging blue economy.

At the same time, Somalia possesses remarkable resilience. Communities have long adapted to environmental uncertainty, and in recent years young people, civil society organizations, and government institutions have increasingly mobilized to confront the climate crisis.

The challenge in 2025 has not only been to respond to emergencies, but to transform this resilience into sustainable systems—through climate-smart agriculture, renewable energy, early-warning systems, and inclusive governance.

Within this context, CRAN has worked to ensure that global climate science, policy frameworks, and international commitments are translated into locally meaningful action. By connecting community needs with national planning and international partnerships, CRAN helps ensure that Somalia's response to climate change is both scientifically grounded and socially just, reaching farmers, students, coastal communities, displaced populations, and persons with disabilities alike.



Organizing the Local Conference of Youth (LCOY) Somalia 2025



Photo credit: Main LCOY Somalia 2025, Mogadishu, Somalia

In 2025, CRAN led the organization of Local Conference of Youth (LCOY) Somalia 2025, further consolidating Somalia's youth climate movement as a nationally recognized pillar of climate governance. Building on the successful inaugural LCOY in 2024, the 2025 edition marked a transition from a single national event into a multi-stage, nationally coordinated youth consultation process designed to ensure that youth voices from across Somalia's diverse regions meaningfully shaped climate policy and advocacy.

The LCOY Somalia 2025 process was implemented

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in partnership with a coalition of local youth-led and community-based organizations, who served as co-implementing partners across Federal Member States. These partners mobilized local youth networks, coordinated community consultations, and ensured that the perspectives of climate-vulnerable groups—including women, IDPs, coastal communities, and persons with disabilities—were reflected in the process. This decentralized implementation model strengthened ownership, legitimacy, and national reach of the LCOY.

The initiative was undertaken with the technical and institutional support of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MoECC) of Somalia, UNICEF Somalia, and FAO Somalia, whose engagement ensured alignment with national climate priorities, youth development frameworks, and climate-smart livelihoods. Their support reinforced the credibility of the LCOY as a formal input into Somalia's climate policy and international reporting processes.

Pre-LCOY Regional Consultations

To ensure inclusive and geographically balanced participation, CRAN coordinated Pre-LCOY consultations in three strategic locations representing different climate and socio-economic contexts:

- ✓ **Jowhar, Hirshabelle State**, representing riverine and flood-prone communities
- ✓ **Baidoa, Southwest State**, representing drought-affected agro-pastoral regions
- ✓ **Garowe, Puntland State**, representing arid and semi-arid zones and governance hubs

These Pre-LCOYs enabled hundreds of young people to engage in localized dialogues on climate risks, food security, water management, renewable energy, displacement, and livelihoods. The sessions generated region-specific priorities that were later synthesized into national policy positions.

Main LCOY Somalia 2025 – Mogadishu

The Main LCOY Somalia 2025 was held in Mogadishu, bringing together youth delegates selected from the Pre-LCOY processes, alongside representatives of government institutions, UN agencies, civil society, and development partners. Over several days, participants engaged in high-level policy dialogues, technical workshops, and thematic working groups covering:

- ✓ Climate adaptation and resilience
- ✓ Climate-smart agriculture and food security
- ✓ Renewable energy and green jobs
- ✓ Coastal and marine protection
- ✓ Climate-induced displacement
- ✓ Youth participation in climate finance and governance

This process culminated in the drafting of the National Youth Statement on Climate (NYS) 2025, a strategic policy document articulating Somali youth priorities, recommendations, and commitments in line with Somalia's National Adaptation Plan, Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), and global climate negotiations.

Post-LCOY Validation and National Ownership

Following the Mogadishu conference, CRAN convened a Post-LCOY Validation Process, bringing youth representatives, partners, and stakeholders together to review, refine, and formally endorse the NYS 2025. This validation ensured that the final statement reflected consensus across regions and stakeholder groups, strengthening its legitimacy as the authoritative voice of Somali youth on climate action.

The validated **NYS 2025** now serves as:

- ✓ A national advocacy tool
- ✓ A reference for government and UN partners
- ✓ A formal youth input to regional and global climate forums

Through this comprehensive, multi-level LCOY process, CRAN demonstrated that youth participation in climate governance can be systematic, inclusive, and policy-relevant. By combining grassroots mobilization, national convening, and institutional partnership with MoECC, UNICEF Somalia, and FAO Somalia, LCOY Somalia 2025 positioned Somali youth as co-architects of the country's climate-resilient future.



Photo credit: pre-LCOY Somalia 2025, Garowe, Somalia



Photo credit: pre-LCOY Somalia 2025, Jowhar, Somalia



Photo credit: pre-LCOY Somalia 2025, Baidoa, Somalia

Climate-Smart Agriculture and Food Security

In 2025, CRAN significantly expanded its leadership in linking climate resilience, food security, and sustainable livelihoods through a comprehensive Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) programme tailored to Somalia's unique environmental and socio-economic context. As one of the most climate-vulnerable countries in the world, Somalia faces a convergence of droughts, floods, land degradation, and conflict-related displacement that directly undermines agricultural production and access to food. CRAN's CSA interventions were designed to address this reality by strengthening the ability of farming communities to anticipate, absorb, and adapt to climate shocks.



Photo credit: CRAN Media Department

Working closely with FAO Somalia and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MoECC), CRAN supported smallholder farmers, agro-pastoralists, and riverine communities to transition toward farming systems that are more resilient, productive, and environmentally sustainable. These partnerships ensured that CRAN's field-level activities were aligned with national agricultural strategies, Somalia's National Adaptation Plan, and international food security frameworks.

Throughout 2025, CRAN delivered a combination of training, demonstration, and community-based extension services focused on key CSA pillars. Farmers were introduced to soil health management techniques, including composting, mulching, and erosion control, which improve moisture retention

and protect fertile land during both droughts and floods. CRAN also promoted water-efficient farming practices, such as improved irrigation, rainwater harvesting, and water-saving crop layouts, enabling communities to make better use of increasingly scarce and unpredictable water resources.

To reduce climate-related crop failure, CRAN encouraged the use of climate-resilient and early-maturing crop varieties and supported crop diversification, helping farmers spread risk and stabilize household food supplies. At the same time, CRAN emphasized agro-ecological approaches that reduce reliance on costly chemical fertilizers and pesticides, lowering production costs while protecting soil and biodiversity.

A critical component of CRAN's CSA strategy was the integration of climate information and early-warning systems into farming decisions. Farmers were trained to interpret seasonal forecasts, rainfall outlooks, and flood warnings, enabling them to adjust planting calendars, choose appropriate crops, and protect assets ahead of extreme weather events. This knowledge reduced losses and increased confidence in planning for future seasons.

CRAN also linked climate-smart agriculture to nutrition and livelihoods, recognizing that food security is not only about production, but also about access to diverse, healthy diets and stable incomes. By promoting diversified cropping systems and sustainable land management, CRAN helped households improve both dietary quality and economic resilience.



Photo credit: CRAN Media Department

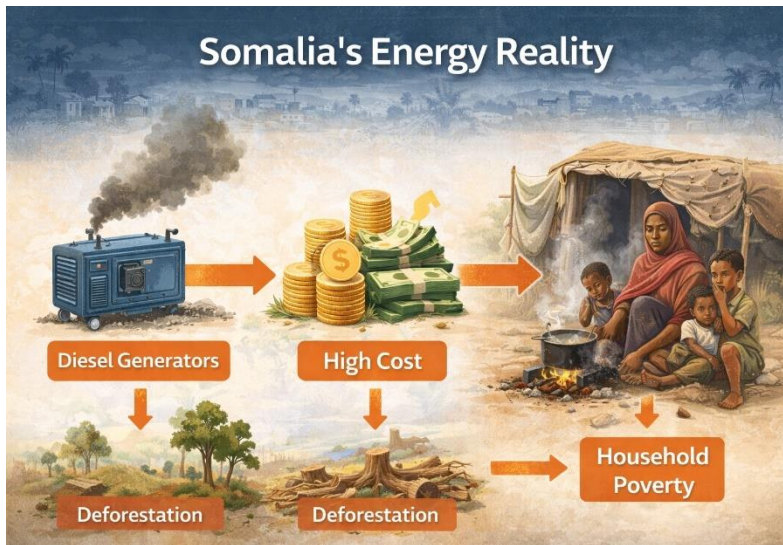
By the end of 2025, CRAN's Climate-Smart Agriculture programme had strengthened the adaptive capacity of farming communities across multiple regions, demonstrating that climate resilience and food security are mutually reinforcing goals. Through its partnership with FAO Somalia and MoECC, CRAN ensured that local CSA successes contributed to national climate and agricultural planning, helping to build a more resilient, productive, and sustainable food system for Somalia.

Renewable Energy & Green Jobs

Powering Somalia's Climate-Resilient Economy

In 2025, CRAN positioned renewable energy not only as an environmental solution, but as one of Somalia's most powerful tools for economic recovery, youth employment, and climate resilience. Across Somalia, households, schools, health facilities, and businesses depend heavily on diesel generators and charcoal, which are expensive, unreliable, and destructive to forests and public health. At the same time, Somalia has some of the highest solar irradiation levels in the world, making solar power one of the country's most strategic climate assets.

CRAN's work in renewable energy was therefore designed to solve three interconnected challenges: energy poverty, youth unemployment, and environmental degradation.



1. Training Somalia's Solar Workforce

As part of CRAN's 2025 strategy to link climate action with economic opportunity, the organization invested heavily in building Somalia's first generation of community-based solar technicians. This initiative directly supports CRAN's broader objectives on renewable energy, youth empowerment, and climate resilience by ensuring that clean-energy systems are not only installed, but locally owned, operated, and sustained.

Participants were recruited primarily from unemployed youth, displaced communities, and graduates of CRAN's School Climate Clubs, reflecting CRAN's commitment to inclusive development. Priority was given to young people living in climate-vulnerable and energy-poor areas, where access to reliable electricity and employment opportunities is most limited.

The training programme combined technical instruction and hands-on practice, enabling participants to master the full lifecycle of off-grid solar systems. Trainees learned how to install and align solar panels, manage battery storage, wire systems safely, diagnose faults, and perform routine maintenance. This practical approach ensured that graduates were not only trained, but job-ready.

Following training, many of the young technicians were engaged in CRAN-supported solar deployments in schools, community learning centres, IDP settlements, and youth-led enterprises. Through this work, trainees generated income while simultaneously delivering essential services to their communities—powering classrooms, clinics, water points, and small businesses with clean, reliable energy.

The programme produced multiple layers of impact. At the household and community level, access to solar power reduced energy costs, improved safety, and expanded opportunities for learning and entrepreneurship. At the environmental level, it reduced reliance on diesel generators and charcoal, helping to curb deforestation and air pollution. At the national level, it contributed to Somalia's climate and energy objectives by building a skilled workforce capable of supporting a long-term renewable-energy transition.

In the year of 2025, CRAN had demonstrated that training Somalia's solar workforce is not only a climate solution, but a pathway to youth employment, economic stability, and community resilience—firmly aligning renewable energy with Somalia's development and adaptation priorities.



2. Solar Energy and Local Livelihoods

In 2025, CRAN ensured that solar energy deployment went beyond infrastructure to become a driver of local economic recovery and household resilience. In Somalia, where energy costs consume a large share of household income and unreliable power limits small business growth, access to affordable, clean electricity can immediately transform livelihoods.

CRAN's solar installations in schools, community learning centers, IDP settlements, and youth hubs enabled communities to launch and expand income-generating activities powered by renewable energy. Small enterprises such as mobile phone charging stations, solar-powered shops, refrigeration for food and medicine, water pumping, and digital services became viable in areas that previously depended on costly diesel generators or had no electricity at all.



Youth trained by CRAN as solar technicians not only earned income from installing and maintaining systems but also became local service providers supporting these new businesses. This created a multiplier effect: clean energy supported enterprises, enterprises generated income, and income strengthened household food security, education access, and health care.

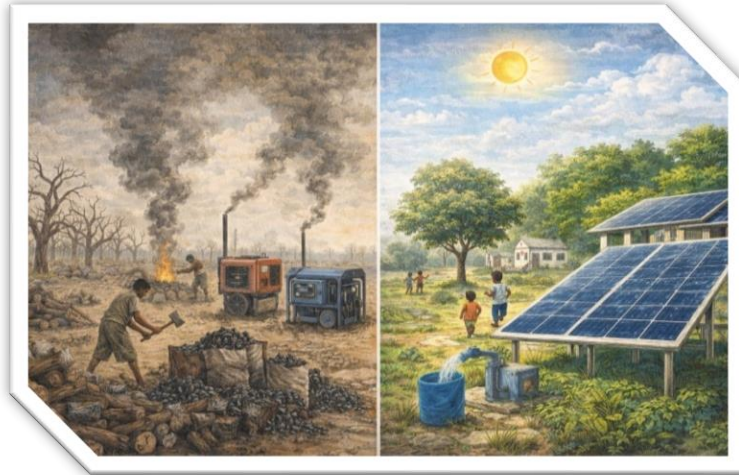
For displaced families and climate-affected communities, solar-powered services provided both economic opportunity and stability. Solar lighting extended business hours, and digital connectivity opened access to information and markets. These benefits were especially important for women and youth, who often rely on small, home-based enterprises for income.

At the same time, replacing diesel and charcoal with solar energy reduced operating costs and protected Somalia's environment. Lower fuel expenses increased profit margins for small businesses, while reduced deforestation and air pollution improved long-term sustainability.

Through this integrated approach, CRAN demonstrated that solar energy is not only a climate solution—it is a livelihood solution, helping Somali families build resilience, dignity, and economic security in the face of climate change.

3. Climate and Environmental Benefits

CRAN's renewable energy, climate-smart agriculture, and community resilience programmes in 2025 delivered far-reaching climate and environmental benefits across Somalia. In a country where deforestation, land degradation, and fossil-fuel dependence directly worsen droughts, floods, and food insecurity, CRAN's work demonstrated how locally led climate solutions can protect both people and ecosystems.

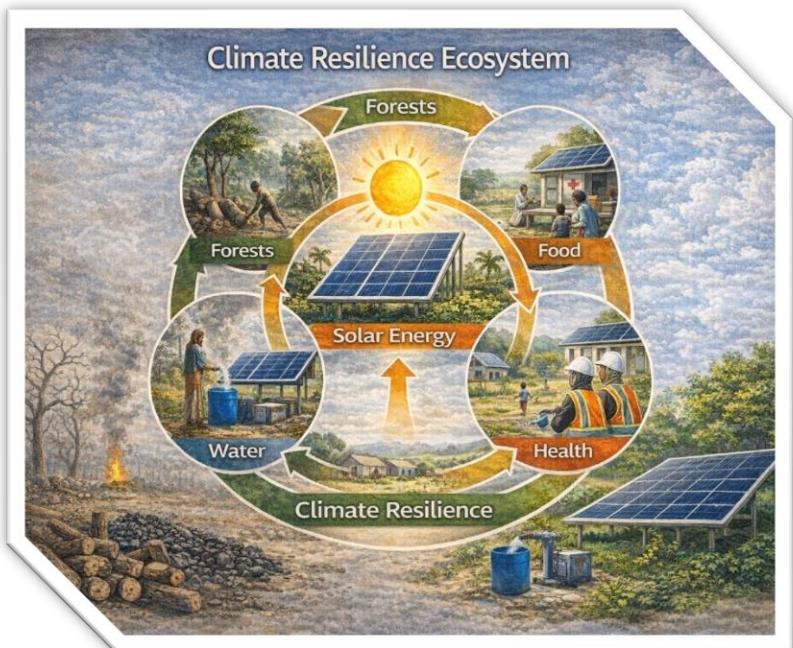


One of the most significant impacts was the reduction in charcoal and diesel use. Charcoal production is a major cause of deforestation in Somalia, accelerating soil erosion, reducing rainfall retention, and destroying wildlife habitats. By promoting solar energy in schools, IDP centres, community hubs, and small businesses, CRAN helped communities shift away from cutting trees for fuel. At the same time, replacing diesel generators with solar power reduced greenhouse-gas emissions and eliminated harmful air pollution that disproportionately affects women and children.

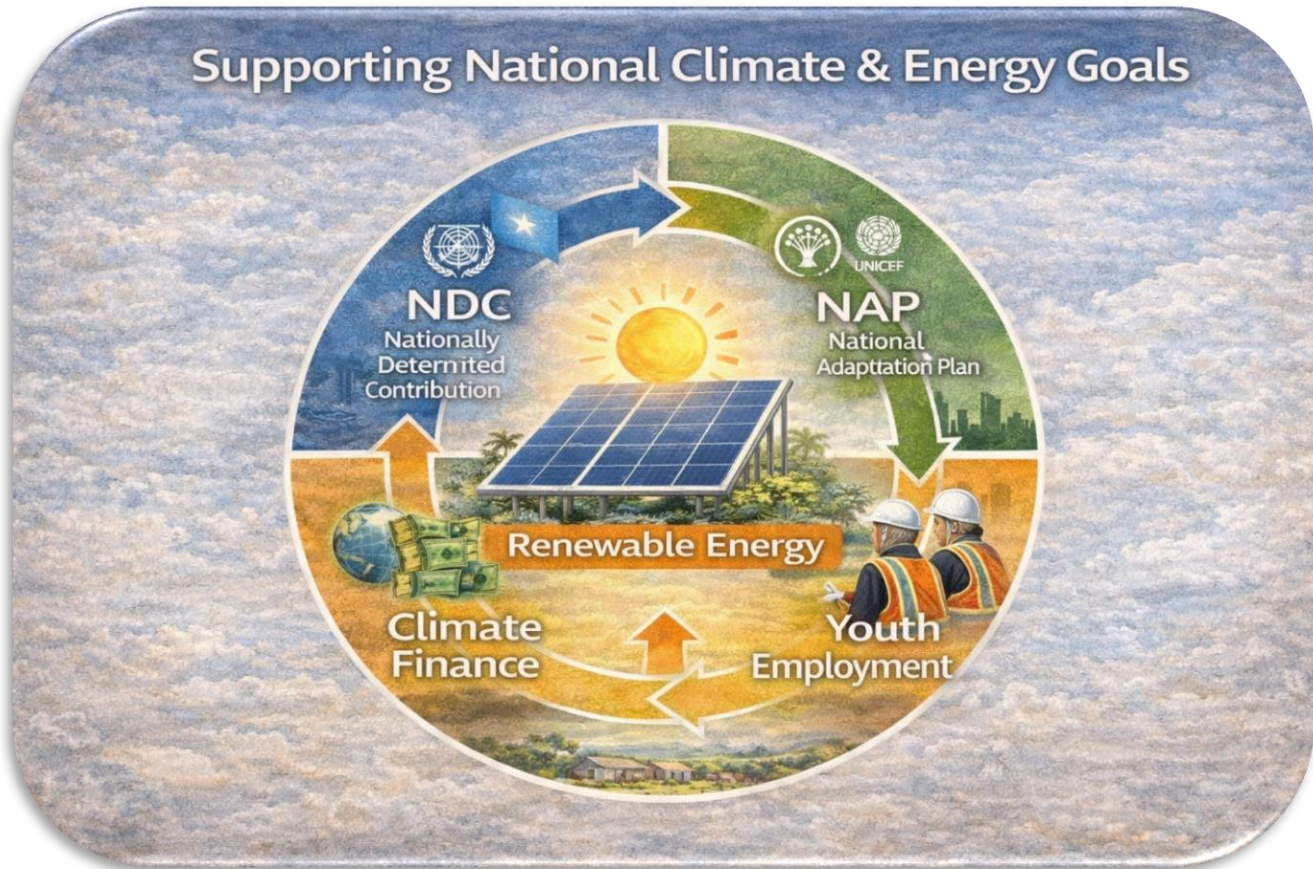
Beyond reducing emissions, CRAN's clean-energy systems strengthened climate adaptation and disaster preparedness. Solar power ensured that water pumps, refrigeration, communications, and lighting continued to function during floods, droughts, and power disruptions. This made early-warning systems more reliable, allowed clinics and schools to stay open during climate shocks, and enabled communities to respond more effectively to emergencies.

CRAN's work also contributed to the protection of land, water, and biodiversity. Reduced deforestation improved soil stability and watershed health, which are essential for farming and pastoral livelihoods. When combined with CRAN's climate-smart agriculture and environmental education programmes, renewable energy became part of a broader strategy to restore ecosystems and sustain natural resources.

Through these integrated interventions, CRAN demonstrated that climate mitigation, environmental protection, and human development are not competing goals; they reinforce each other. In Somalia's fragile environment, clean energy and climate-smart practices are not optional; they are fundamental to building a stable, resilient, and sustainable future.



4. Supporting National Climate & Energy Goals



In 2025, CRAN's renewable energy and climate resilience interventions were strategically aligned with Somalia's national climate and energy frameworks, ensuring that community-level action directly contributed to long-term national priorities. Rather than operating in isolation, CRAN worked closely with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MoECC), and international partners to ensure that its programmes supported Somalia's **Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0)**, National Adaptation Plan (NAP), and emerging energy-transition strategies.

CRAN's solar energy programmes directly contribute to Somalia's commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and expand access to clean energy, particularly in rural, peri-urban, and displaced communities where grid electricity remains limited. By promoting decentralized, off-grid solar systems, CRAN is helping Somalia leapfrog fossil-fuel dependency and build an energy system that is both low-carbon and resilient to climate shocks.

At the same time, CRAN's work strengthens national adaptation priorities. Reliable solar-powered electricity supports early-warning systems, water pumping, health facilities, cold storage, and communications—services that are critical for protecting lives and livelihoods during floods, droughts, and heatwaves. These investments directly advance Somalia's climate adaptation objectives by reducing vulnerability and increasing community preparedness.

CRAN also contributes to Somalia's green growth and youth employment agenda by training young people as solar technicians and supporting solar-powered enterprises. This creates a domestic clean-energy workforce capable of sustaining the energy transition beyond project cycles, reducing dependence on external contractors, and anchoring climate action in the national economy.

Through continuous engagement with government institutions and UN partners, CRAN ensures that lessons from its field programmes inform national policy, climate finance proposals, and international reporting. In this way, CRAN bridges the gap between grassroots innovation and national climate governance—helping Somalia move toward a future that is cleaner, more resilient, and more economically inclusive.



A HIGHLIGHTING SOLUTION
through Inclusive Climate Partnerships

In September 2025, the Climate Resilience and Adaptation Network (CRAN) partnered with the Somali National Association of the Deaf (SONAD) to advance one of Somalia's most innovative climate inclusion initiatives—bringing Deaf and hearing-impaired communities into the heart of climate action.

Photo credit: CRAN Media Department

Inclusive Climate Action

In 2025, CRAN took a historic step toward inclusive climate governance by formalizing a strategic partnership with the Somali National Association of the Deaf (SONAD) through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). This agreement marked the first time a Somali climate organization and a national disability rights institution formally aligned their mandates to ensure that Deaf and hearing-impaired communities are fully included in climate action, environmental protection, and disaster preparedness.

The MoU with SONAD established a shared vision: that climate resilience in Somalia cannot be achieved if entire communities are excluded from information, decision-making, and adaptation support. Through this partnership, CRAN and SONAD committed to co-designing and implementing climate programmes that are accessible, culturally appropriate, and responsive to the specific vulnerabilities and strengths of the Deaf community.

This partnership laid the foundation for a new model of disability-inclusive climate action, enabling CRAN to move beyond traditional outreach and instead work directly with Deaf leaders, Somali Sign Language interpreters, and community networks. Together, CRAN and SONAD began transforming climate communication, early-warning systems, and community engagement so that Deaf and hearing-impaired Somalis could participate as active agents of climate resilience, not passive recipients of information.

What followed was a series of groundbreaking initiatives that reshaped how climate action is delivered in Somalia—ensuring that inclusion is not an afterthought, but a core pillar of the country’s climate response.



1. Training Somali Sign Language Interpreters for Climate Action

In 2025, CRAN recognized that one of the greatest barriers preventing Deaf and hearing-impaired Somalis from participating in climate action was not a lack of interest, but a lack of access to information in their own language. Climate science, disaster warnings, and environmental policies are typically communicated through spoken or written formats that exclude those who rely on Somali Sign Language. To address this, CRAN launched a pioneering programme to train Somali Sign Language interpreters in climate and environmental knowledge, ensuring that they could serve as effective bridges between climate institutions and Deaf communities.

Through structured learning and practical engagement, interpreters were introduced to climate change science, Somalia's specific climate risks, environmental degradation, disaster preparedness, renewable energy, and climate-smart livelihoods. This training enabled them to translate complex concepts into clear, culturally appropriate signs that Deaf audiences could understand and trust. As a result, interpreters are now able to support climate workshops, community dialogues, school programmes, and public consultations, allowing Deaf participants to follow, contribute, and lead discussions on climate resilience. This marked the first time that climate communication in Somalia was systematically adapted for Deaf communities at a national scale.

2. Creating a Somali Sign Language Climate Glossary

As interpreters and Deaf participants began engaging more deeply with climate topics, CRAN identified a critical challenge: many climate and environmental terms simply did not exist in standardized Somali Sign Language. Words such as adaptation, mitigation, resilience, early warning, renewable energy, and carbon had no shared visual meaning, leading to confusion and inconsistency. To overcome this, CRAN facilitated the creation of Somalia's first Climate Glossary in Somali Sign Language.

This process brought together Deaf leaders, sign language interpreters, and climate specialists to agree on how key climate concepts should be represented visually. Through discussion, testing, and validation, new signs were developed and refined so that they were both technically accurate and easy for Deaf audiences to use. The result was a shared vocabulary that allowed climate discussions to become more precise, more accessible, and more meaningful. The glossary is now used in trainings, campaigns, and schools, giving the Deaf community a common language through which to understand climate risks and advocate for solutions.

3. Climate Action Campaigns for the Hearing-Impaired Community

With language and interpretation barriers addressed, CRAN moved to actively mobilize the Deaf and hearing-impaired community through climate action campaigns designed specifically for their needs. These campaigns did not simply provide information; they created spaces where Deaf participants could see how climate change affects their lives and how they can take action.

Delivered through Somali Sign Language and visual storytelling, these campaigns covered floods, droughts, environmental protection, renewable energy, and health risks linked to climate change. Deaf youth and adults participated in awareness sessions, community clean-ups, and environmental activities that made climate action visible and practical. These campaigns also fostered leadership, as Deaf participants began organizing their peers and sharing climate messages within their own networks. Climate change became a collective issue within the Deaf community, rather than something discussed only by others.

4. Capacity Building for the Hearing-Impaired Community

Beyond awareness, CRAN invested in strengthening the long-term capacity of Deaf and hearing-impaired individuals to engage in climate governance and community resilience. In Mogadishu, CRAN provided structured capacity-building sessions for at least fifty Deaf participants, focusing on climate literacy, leadership, rights, and community action. These sessions enabled participants to understand how climate policies affect them, how to communicate with authorities, and how to contribute to local and national climate initiatives.

Through this training, Deaf participants gained the confidence and skills to join School Climate Clubs, youth platforms, and civil society activities. Many became advocates for inclusion in climate planning and disaster preparedness, ensuring that the needs and experiences of people with disabilities are no longer overlooked. This capacity building transformed Deaf community members from recipients of support into active contributors to Somalia's climate response.

Through these four interconnected pillars, CRAN created a new model of disability-inclusive climate action in Somalia. By investing in interpreters, developing a shared climate language, mobilizing Deaf communities, and building leadership from within, CRAN ensured that climate resilience is not only stronger, but also more just, representative, and sustainable.

CRAN Partner Commitments

In 2025, the Climate Resilience and Adaptation Network (CRAN) and its national and community partners worked together under a shared commitment framework to advance Somalia's climate resilience, low-carbon development, and social inclusion. These commitments guide how CRAN aligns local action with national climate priorities and international frameworks, including Somalia's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), National Adaptation Plan (NAP), and the UNFCCC process.

CRAN's partner commitments are organized around four core pillars:

1. Reducing Climate Vulnerability and Environmental Degradation

CRAN and its partners commit to strengthening climate resilience by expanding renewable energy, climate-smart agriculture, ecosystem protection, and low-carbon development, helping Somali communities reduce climate risk while protecting natural resources.

2. Accelerating Climate Action

CRAN commits to working with government institutions, UN agencies, and civil society to integrate climate action into agriculture, energy, education, disaster risk reduction, and youth engagement, ensuring faster and more coordinated climate responses nation-wide.

3. Centering Equity and Inclusion

CRAN commits to placing youth, women, displaced communities, farmers, coastal populations, and persons with disabilities—especially the Deaf and hearing-impaired—at the center of Somalia's climate action, ensuring that climate solutions are fair, accessible, and locally led, and create high-quality jobs.

4. Tracking Progress

CRAN commits to monitoring, reporting, and sharing climate results through national and international platforms, ensuring transparency, learning, and alignment with Somalia's climate commitments and global climate frameworks.

Why These Commitments Matter

Together, these four commitments ensure that CRAN's work is not project-based, but system-building. They create a bridge between Somali communities, national institutions, and the global climate regime—ensuring that Somalia is not only responding to climate change, but helping to shape how inclusive, resilient, and just climate action is delivered in fragile and climate-vulnerable contexts.



HIGHLIGHTING SOLUTIONS

Advancing Somalia's Ocean Leadership

In 2025, CRAN established and hosts ECOP Somalia, the country's National Node under the UN Ocean Decade, coordinated by CRAN's Program Manager. This platform connects Somali ocean professionals and coastal youth to global science and policy networks, ensuring Somalia's 3,300-km coastline is represented in international ocean and climate action.

Photo credit: © Tariq Zaidi / Sony World Photography Awards

Launching Somalia's National Ocean Leadership Platform

In 2025, CRAN reached a major institutional milestone by formally establishing Somalia's National Node of Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOP) under the UN Ocean Decade, positioning Somalia for the first time as an active and organized participant in global ocean science, marine conservation, and blue economy governance. This initiative reflects CRAN's strategic expansion from land-based climate resilience into the ocean-climate nexus, recognizing Somalia's 3,300-kilometre coastline as one of the country's most important yet underutilized climate and economic assets.

The Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOP) Programme is a global initiative under the UN Ocean Decade that supports young ocean professional scientists, policymakers, practitioners, and innovators—who are working to protect and sustainably manage the ocean.

CRAN serves as the full host institution of ECOP Somalia, providing the organizational platform, governance systems, communications infrastructure, and partnership coordination that enable the national node to operate. The initiative is coordinated by CRAN's Program Manager, who leads the national ECOP secretariat and represents Somalia within the global ECOP and UN Ocean Decade governance framework.

This ensures that Somalia's engagement in international ocean science and policy processes is anchored in a nationally accountable, professionally managed institution.

Through ECOP Somalia, CRAN has brought together Somali marine scientists, early-career researchers, fisheries experts, coastal youth leaders, government counterparts, and environmental practitioners into a single coordinated network. This platform enables collaboration across institutions that previously operated in isolation, strengthening national coherence in marine and coastal governance. It also creates clear pathways for Somali professionals to access global research networks, training opportunities, and policy platforms linked to the UN Ocean Decade.

The establishment of ECOP Somalia is particularly significant in the Somali context, where coastal and marine ecosystems are under growing pressure from climate change, overfishing, coastal erosion, and pollution. By connecting local expertise to global science and governance, ECOP Somalia supports evidence-based approaches to protecting coral reefs, managing fisheries sustainably, strengthening coastal livelihoods, and developing a climate-resilient blue economy.

ECOP Somalia also plays a strategic role in youth leadership and capacity building. Through mentorship, training, and international engagement, young Somali ocean professionals are gaining the skills, visibility, and institutional backing needed to shape the future of marine policy and research in the country. This helps ensure that Somalia's next generation of ocean leaders is prepared to address complex challenges at the intersection of climate change, biodiversity, and sustainable development.

By hosting and coordinating ECOP Somalia, CRAN has positioned itself as a national hub for ocean-climate action, linking community-based coastal realities with global science and diplomacy. This integration strengthens Somalia's voice within international ocean and climate processes while ensuring that global commitments are translated into locally meaningful, socially inclusive, and environmentally sustainable outcomes.

Through ECOP Somalia, CRAN is not only advancing marine conservation—it is helping to secure Somalia's place in the global effort to build a resilient, sustainable, and equitable ocean future.





Photo credit: CRAN Media Department

- **Coastal Youth Ocean Leadership Program.** ECOP Somalia will establish a structured leadership programme to equip young coastal professionals with skills in ocean governance, climate adaptation, and community engagement. Participants will receive mentorship, training, and exposure to national and international ocean platforms.
- **National Marine Knowledge Exchange.** ECOP Somalia will create a platform for Somali marine researchers, fisheries experts, and coastal practitioners to share data, lessons, and innovations.
- **Coral Reef and Coastal Monitoring.** Young professionals will be trained to conduct basic coral reef and shoreline assessments using simple, standardized tools. This will help generate Somalia-specific data on reef health, erosion, and biodiversity, supporting conservation planning and early detection of environmental threats.
- **Youth-Led Blue Economy Innovation Hub.** ECOP Somalia will support youth entrepreneurs developing sustainable fisheries, eco-tourism, aquaculture, and marine technology ideas. Through coaching and small grants, young innovators will be enabled to turn ocean-based ideas into climate-smart businesses.
- **Ocean and Climate Literacy Campaigns.** ECOP Somalia will run awareness campaigns in coastal and urban communities to explain how oceans regulate climate, provide food, and support livelihoods. These campaigns will strengthen public understanding and encourage community participation in marine conservation.
- **Marine Policy and Governance Dialogues.** Regular policy forums will bring together youth, government agencies, and civil society to discuss fisheries management, marine protected areas, and climate adaptation. This will ensure that young professionals contribute to national marine policy development.
- **Women in the Blue Economy Programme.** ECOP Somalia will promote women's leadership in marine science and coastal livelihoods through mentorship, skills training, and visibility. This will help close gender gaps in Somalia's emerging blue economy.
- **Regional and Global ECOP Engagement.** ECOP Somalia will connect its members to regional and global ECOP networks, enabling participation in international research, conferences, and training programmes under the UN Ocean Decade.
- **Coastal Community Resilience Projects.** ECOP Somalia will support small community projects that link ocean protection to climate adaptation, such as mangrove restoration, sustainable fishing practices, and coastal clean-ups led by youth.
- **Digital Ocean Data and Storytelling Platform.** ECOP Somalia will develop a digital platform where young ocean professionals can upload field observations, photos, maps, and community stories about Somalia's marine environment. The platform will help raise international visibility of Somalia's ocean challenges and solutions.



Photo credit: CRAN Media Department

From Local Experience to Global Climate Policy

In 2025, CRAN significantly strengthened its role as a knowledge-producing and research-driven climate organization, ensuring that Somalia's climate response is informed by evidence, lived experience, and global best practice. Beyond implementing programmes, CRAN invested in generating and sharing data, analysis, and policy-relevant research that reflects the realities of communities facing climate shocks, displacement, and environmental degradation.

A major milestone in this effort was CRAN's participation in the Environmental & Climate Mobilities Network Conference (#ECMN25), held in Bonn, Germany. At this global forum, CRAN presented a research paper titled "Planned Relocation: A Pathway to Climate Justice and Adaptation for Displaced Communities in Mogadishu, Somalia." This research examined how climate-induced displacement—driven by floods, droughts, and environmental degradation—is reshaping urban Somalia, and how planned, rights-based relocation can offer a more just and resilient alternative to unmanaged displacement.

At the national level, CRAN is using these research insights to inform programme design, policy engagement, and advocacy with Somali authorities and development partners. By grounding climate action in rigorous research and community experience, CRAN is helping to ensure that Somalia's adaptation strategies are not only ambitious, but also just, evidence-based, and people-centered.

Through its growing research portfolio, CRAN has demonstrated that Somalia is not only a site of climate vulnerability, but also a source of knowledge, innovation, and leadership in global climate discourse.

The presentation positioned Somalia's experience within global debates on climate mobility, adaptation, and human rights. It highlighted the specific vulnerabilities faced by internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Mogadishu, including exposure to floods, insecure land tenure, limited services, and social marginalization. At the same time, it demonstrated how well-designed planned relocation, developed in partnership with communities and aligned with national policy can improve safety, restore dignity, and support long-term resilience.

Through this research, CRAN contributed Somali perspectives to international policy dialogues on loss and damage, climate finance, and adaptation planning, ensuring that the realities of fragile and displacement-affected contexts are reflected in global climate governance. The work also strengthened CRAN's partnerships with academic institutions, humanitarian agencies, and climate research networks, opening new pathways for collaborative studies and funding.

"Somalia's climate-displaced communities are not only victims of climate change—they are voices of knowledge, resilience, and justice that the world must listen to."

– Mr. Abukar Osman, Chairperson, CRAN



Global Climate Diplomacy in 2025

In 2025, CRAN positioned Somalia as an active and credible actor in global climate and environmental governance. Recognizing that many of Somalia's climate challenges—such as displacement, food insecurity, ocean degradation, and energy poverty—are shaped by global policy and finance decisions, CRAN engaged strategically in the world's most influential climate and environmental forums. Through participation in the UNFCCC process (SB62 and COP30) and the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-7), CRAN ensured that Somali priorities, community experiences, and youth leadership were integrated into international negotiations and partnerships.

These engagements were not symbolic. They were designed to connect Somalia's locally led solutions—renewable energy, climate-smart agriculture, disability-inclusive climate action, planned relocation, and coastal resilience—to the global systems that determine climate finance, policy frameworks, and technical cooperation. By bridging local realities and global decision-making, CRAN helped transform Somalia from a recipient of climate impacts into a contributor to global climate solutions.

UNFCCC SB62 – Laying the Technical Foundations for Somalia's Climate Action

CRAN's engagement at the 62nd Sessions of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies (SB62) in Bonn focused on the technical rules that govern how climate action is planned, financed, and monitored. The session focused on shaping the technical rules that guide how countries access climate finance, implement adaptation, and address climate-related loss and damage. CRAN used this forum to align Somalia's community-based climate realities with the global climate system.

Early Sessions – Adaptation & National Planning

Discussions on National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and adaptation metrics were directly relevant to CRAN's work with flood-affected and displaced communities in Mogadishu and riverine areas. CRAN contributed Somali experience on climate-induced displacement and informal settlements, ensuring that adaptation frameworks reflect fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

Mid-Session – Loss, Damage & Climate Mobility

SB62 placed strong emphasis on Loss and Damage and the role of climate finance in supporting countries facing irreversible impacts. CRAN's research on planned relocation for displaced communities in Mogadishu positioned Somalia within global debates on climate mobility, human rights, and urban resilience.

Final Sessions – Transparency & Implementation

As negotiations turned toward climate finance access and reporting, CRAN engaged with UN agencies and research partners to strengthen pathways for Somali institutions to access adaptation finance for renewable energy, climate-smart agriculture, and displacement-responsive programming.

COP30 – Turning Global Commitments into Resources for Somalia

COP30 marked the political moment where climate ambition, finance, and implementation converge. CRAN used COP30 to connect Somalia's grassroots climate leadership to global decision-makers.

High-Level Week – Finance and Political Commitments

Discussions on the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG) directly affected Somalia's ability to fund adaptation. CRAN advocated for increased support for fragile, climate-vulnerable states and promoted youth-led and community-based adaptation models developed through CRAN programmes.

Thematic Days – Energy, Food Systems and Youth

COP30's thematic tracks on renewable energy, food security, and just transition aligned directly with CRAN's solar energy, climate-smart agriculture, and youth employment initiatives. Engagements with key stakeholder, and development partners helped link Somali projects to global funding and technical partnerships.

Youth and Civil Society Spaces

Through LCOY Somalia and ECOP Somalia, CRAN ensured Somali youth voices were present in climate negotiations, highlighting adaptation needs, blue-economy priorities, and disability-inclusive climate action.



MEA Days during UNEA-7 Week

During UNEA-7, dedicated Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEA) Days are organized to align the world's major environmental conventions with UNEP's global environmental agenda. These days bring together governments, UN agencies, scientists, and civil society to coordinate action across treaties that govern biodiversity, chemicals, waste, climate, and ecosystems.

The MEA Days typically include focused engagement on the following key global agreements:

1. Biodiversity & Ecosystems Day

This day aligns the Convention on Biological Diversity, CITES, and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands to strengthen global efforts on ecosystem protection, species conservation, and nature-based solutions. For Somalia, this directly supports coastal, marine, and wetland protection through ECOP Somalia and CRAN's conservation work.

2. Chemicals & Waste Day (Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm & Minamata)

This day focuses on reducing pollution from hazardous waste, toxic chemicals, plastics, and mercury. It connects UNEA-7 resolutions to practical action under the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm, and Minamata conventions. This is highly relevant to CRAN's work on marine pollution, waste management, and community environmental health.

3. Climate–Environment Nexus Day

This day strengthens alignment between environmental treaties and climate frameworks under the UNFCCC. It addresses how biodiversity loss, land degradation, pollution, and ocean health interact with climate change, directly supporting CRAN's integrated approach linking renewable energy, climate-smart agriculture, and coastal resilience.

4. Implementation & Finance Day

This day focuses on how MEAs can access climate finance, biodiversity finance, and environmental funding to implement commitments on the ground. It supports countries like Somalia in mobilizing resources for ecosystem restoration, clean energy, waste reduction, and adaptation.



Key takeaways

In 2025, CRAN successfully positioned Somalia as an active contributor to global climate and environmental governance by linking local, community-driven solutions to the world's most influential policy and finance platforms. Through strategic engagement at SB62, COP30, and UNEA7, CRAN ensured that Somalia's priorities—renewable energy, climate-smart agriculture, planned relocation, youth leadership, disability inclusion, and coastal resilience—were embedded in international negotiations, funding pathways, and environmental agreements, strengthening national ownership of climate action while opening new opportunities for global partnership and investment.



Mr. Mohamed Abdirahman
Program Manager

“By bringing Somali voices, research, and community solutions into global climate and environmental negotiations, we are turning vulnerability into leadership and ensuring that international commitments deliver real resilience for our people.”





