

caring for the vulnerable



Udgoon
Sustainable
Development
Initiative

www.usdi-i.org

Message from the Executive Director

Life as such is challenging, and humans have made it more complicated because life has fallen into class and categories where the rich are getting richer, and the poor are dying for lack of food. It is heart-wrenching to see that in this era people are still suffering from hunger, lack of education, lack of clean and safe water, inability to access good health care among other basic human rights.

At USDI, we create and execute impactful and engaging programs aimed at empowering the vulnerable in the society with the ability to access all basic necessities of life to enable them earn respect and dignity for themselves and their future generations.

This work is made possible through the support of partners, well-wishers and volunteers as well as a committed team tirelessly working to ensure the success of the different initiatives outlined herein.

Helping the poor and the needy people is a priceless gift that all of us can do to give meaning to life. We have the responsibility to do all we can to step up our game.



Abdullahi Mohamed Hassan
Executive Director



About

Udgoon Sustainable Development Initiative, USDI.

Udgoon Sustainable Development Initiative (USDI) is a non-governmental organization (NGO) established in 2016 to promote self-reliance and dignity among vulnerable people living in Arid and Semi-arid Lands (ASALs) in Kenya and Somalia. We work with a variety of groups, including local populations, refugees, internally displaced people (IDPs), and returnees and carry out interventions through a multi-sectoral approach in the following areas: Climate Action and Livelihood Resilience, Education, Health Nutrition and Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH), Peace Building, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI), Social Accountability and Emergency Response.

USDI uses a community-based approach and works closely with communities, local authorities and partners.

Towards opportunities and a dignified existence



Vison, Mission & Values —



Subtitle Here

A world where everyone has equal access to resources, opportunities and a dignified existence

To provide comprehensive assistance to the marginalized and vulnerable people in the society and improve their status of life through sustainable development and humanitarian projects/programs

1. Excellence
2. Integrity
3. Respect
4. Empowerment
5. Inclusion
6. Commitment to learning

Where We Work

A map of Kenya is shown with its county boundaries. Two regions are highlighted: a central region in blue and a coastal region in teal. A red line points from the title 'Where We Work' to the blue region. A legend on the left side of the map uses small icons of these regions to list the specific counties they cover.

Garissa, Isiolo, Lamu, Mandera,
Marsabit, Tana River, Wajir and Kilifi



Lower Shabelle, Bay, Juba land,
Banadir, and Bakool

Our Approach

USDI believes in **Participatory Community-Based Approach** and thus our beneficiaries are an integral part of our assessment, planning and implementation process.



Our History

Udgoon Sustainable Development Initiative (USDI) was founded in 2016 by Amina Udgoon Siyad. Originally, the organization was registered as Udgoon Foundation and was rebranded in 2023.

Udgoon, driven by a deep understanding of the challenges faced by communities and especially children and women in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands of Kenya established USDI as a humanitarian, relief, and development organization to address these challenges originally in Garissa County.

The organization's initial focus areas were nutrition support for children and lactating mothers, ensuring access to quality water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities, and implementing emergency responses during crises such as droughts and floods.

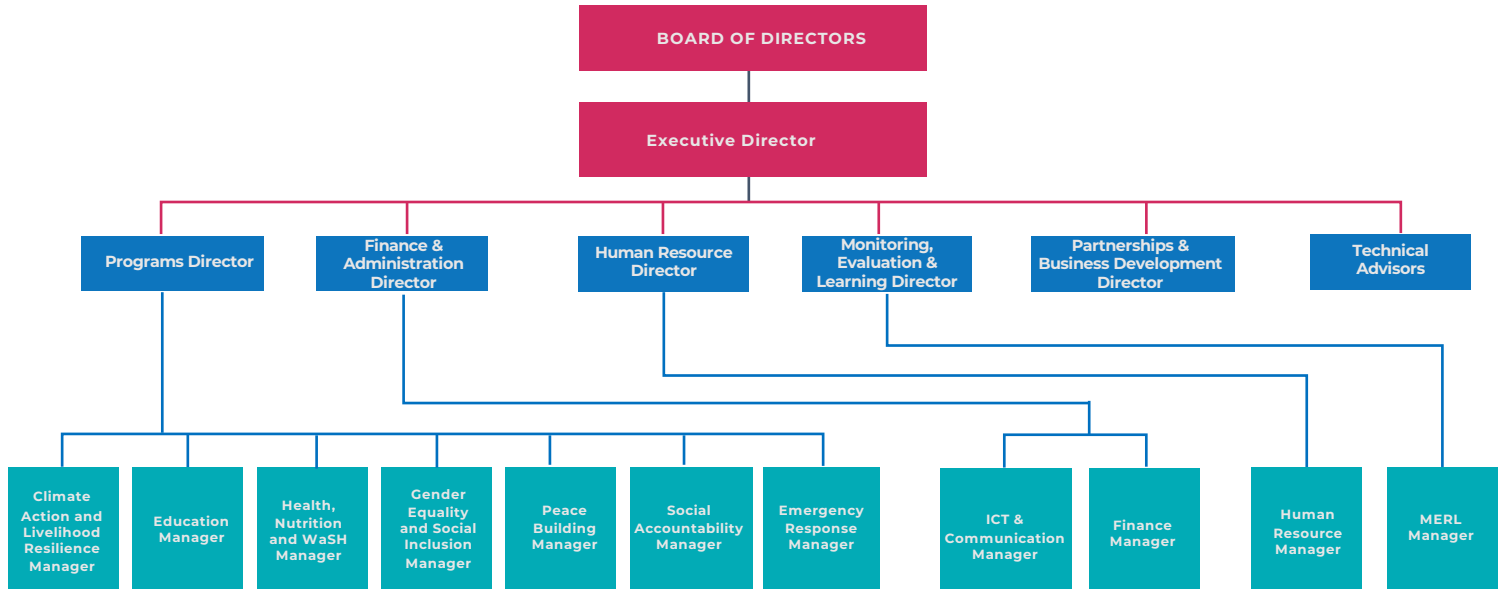
The evolution from the Udgoon Foundation to the Udgoon Sustainable Development Initiative in 2023 reflected a commitment to long-term, sustainable solutions that extended beyond immediate relief efforts. By incorporating the principles of sustainability and development into its mission, USDI has positioned itself as a catalyst for positive change in the broader Arid and Semi-Arid Lands of Kenya as well as Somalia.





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Organization Structure





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thematic areas

Climate Action and Livelihood Resilience

Sustainable Resource Management and Adaptation Strategies – We implement comprehensive initiatives targeting sustainable resource management and adaptation strategies. This involves equipping communities with the necessary tools and knowledge to adapt to changing climates, promoting renewable energy sources, and encouraging sustainable agricultural practices. Through these endeavors, we strive to alleviate the adverse impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations.

Environmental Education and Advocacy – Employing a multi-faceted approach, we seek to raise awareness and enhance understanding of climate change. Our initiatives encompass educational programs informing communities about the causes and consequences of climate change, along with advocacy efforts to influence policy changes at local and global levels. By fostering a deeper comprehension of climate-related issues, our goal is to empower communities to make informed decisions and contribute to a more resilient and sustainable future.

Livelihood Support - We implement comprehensive programs empowering individuals to withstand economic challenges, providing essential resources, vocational training, and financial assistance for sustainable income-generating activities. Additionally, we offer educational sessions on financial literacy and entrepreneurship for long-term economic resilience.





Education

USDI helps to strengthen education systems and remove the barriers that prevent children from attending school. Our support targets the most vulnerable children. In particular, we contribute to equal and equitable education for children with disabilities and girls.

Our interventions address Early Child Development Education (ECDE), Special Education, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in secondary schools as well as Research, Stakeholder engagement and Scholarships in Tertiary Institutions.

Health, Nutrition and Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH)

Health - Our health Programs focus on improving child well-being through proper nutrition. We provide necessary food and non-food items, blanket supplementary and therapeutic feeding programs and nutritional and growth monitoring education to the vulnerable. In addition, we support local communities to grow alternative nutritious foods for sustainability. We also address mental health issues by creating awareness and offering psychosocial support to affected children and women.

WaSH Programs - Addressing critical aspects of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene, we deploy initiatives to enhance access to clean water, promote proper sanitation, and raise hygiene awareness. Through community-driven projects, we aim to create a lasting impact on health and well-being via infrastructure improvements, hygiene education, and sanitation facility establishment. Our strategy includes distributing essential items like water purification tools, hygiene kits, and educational materials to empower communities to safeguard their health.





Peace Building

Through the Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation (CRR) mechanism, our main goal is to establish durable peace. We help parties in conflict have discussions in order to find common ground and peaceful solutions through dialogue and mediation.

Diversity and inclusivity are given top priority, and initiatives to recognise individuality and promote communication between various groups are implemented. Initiatives for economic empowerment support community-led reconstruction projects, while educational programmes incorporate peace education into formal and informal contexts.

By addressing the underlying causes of conflict, our all-encompassing strategy fosters community harmony and resilience. We hope to create societies that are resilient, peaceful, just, and responsible through the use of these tactics.

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) —

The target group under this programme is Children and Women. Our strategy is twofold;

Child Protection - Our programs are designed to stop and address violence against boys and girls, particularly against those who experience sexual abuse, early marriage, or female genital mutilation. Child marriage, female genital mutilation, child trafficking, child labor, commercial child exploitation, and emergency child protection are some of our main areas of concentration.

Women protection against violence - We have a multi-sectoral approach to addressing the numerous issues that women face including the elderly and those living with disabilities. Our key focus is on all forms of Sexual Gender Based Violence. We raise awareness, develop treatment protocols and establish safety centers as well as influence policy.



Social Accountability

Our Social Accountability programmes are centered around fostering a feeling of accountability and community ownership in line with the mechanism of Community Empowerment and Social Justice (CESJ). By actively involving them in decision-making procedures, we enable community members to efficiently oversee and assess public services. Programmes aimed at enhancing capacity offer crucial instruction on the rights and principles of social accountability, promoting comprehension of local governance frameworks.

Moreover, the focus of our advocacy initiatives is on elevating public institutions' transparency and fostering partnership with authorities to establish efficient accountability systems. Our goal is to establish communities that take an active role in determining their own fates by raising awareness and educating people.





Emergency Response

With this programme, we work to minimize suffering, illness, and fatalities in the areas hit by complicated emergencies and natural disasters.

During crisis, we collaborate with other partners to ensure delivery of basic goods and services such as food and medication in affected areas. USDI ensures that the goods and services effectively reach intended beneficiaries especially those most at risk.

In addition, we conduct post crisis initiatives in affected areas to help the community recover from their loss and pick up their normal lives.



Contact Us



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