

Mogadishu energy storage investment

The stakeholder forum brought together senior government officials, UN representatives, and international development partners, marking a significant step forward in Somalia's efforts to enhance water resource management and strengthen climate resilience.

Mr. George Conway, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM), noted, "The multiple government entities, donors, UN agencies, and civil society organizations involved speaks to the collective commitment and innovation that permeates JOSP. It is a true example of nexus programming in practice and a flagship undertaking by the UN in Somalia."

Noting the critical role that JOSP would play in Somalia's agricultural transformation, Hon. Mohamed Abdi Maareeye, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation of the Federal Government of Somalia, said "The benefits of this project will extend far beyond individual farmers. By strengthening the agricultural sector, we lay the foundation for economic growth and national stability. This programme is a testament to what can be accomplished when national and international partners come together with a shared vision for progress and development."

Development partners were strongly represented at the event, including JOSP's key backers, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, the Peacebuilding Fund, and the SJF-- a multi-donor fund actively supported by Canada, European Union, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland.

Emphasizing the importance of effective water management for Somalia's long-term development, Hon. Abdullahi Bidhaan, Minister of Energy and Water Resources, observed, "As we move forward, I am eager to engage in discussions that will deepen our understanding and refine our approach to water governance within the JOSP framework. This programme is more than an infrastructure initiative; it represents a strategic endeavor that will shape the future of water management in Somalia."

In closing, H. E. Abdisalan Abdi Ali, Deputy Prime Minister of the Federal Government of Somalia, expressed his sincere gratitude for the international community's support and reiterated Somalia's strong commitment to the successful implementation of JOSP. "Rehabilitating the irrigation infrastructure as planned under JOSP is the lasting solution that is needed for the communities along the Shabelle River to build resilience to the recurrent droughts and floods, as well as boost agricultural production and livelihood resilience for a better future," he noted.

The JOSP initiative is anticipated to significantly lower the risks of droughts and floods, ensure consistent access to water, enhance agricultural production and productivity, and generate income and job opportunities. This will further support the economic development of this vital agricultural region, ultimately benefiting



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future generations in Somalia through improved water access and increased agricultural output.

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