



MFMR -HIRSHABELLE
Priority Fisheries Value Chain Validation and
Community Consultation Report
Elmaan Site – Hirshabelle State, Somalia
May2026

Date: May 2026

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1. Background

The Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy, through the Somalia Sustainable Fisheries Development Project (SSFDP – Badmaal Project), conducted a site-level validation and community consultation workshop at Elmaan, Hirshabelle State, in May 2026. The activity was organized following the fisheries value chain assessment undertaken through the technical cooperation provided by Iceland in support of the World Bank-funded fisheries development initiatives across the project target sites.

The consultation focused on validating the fisheries value chain assessment findings and identifying priority fish value chains with the highest potential for livelihood improvement, value addition, reduced post-harvest losses, climate resilience, and inclusive economic growth.

The exercise brought together fishers, traders, women groups, youth representatives, cooperatives, local authorities, and community leaders to ensure that the selected priorities reflected the realities and needs of the local fishing communities.

2. Activity Overview

The Elmaan validation workshop was conducted as part of the broader effort to strengthen fisheries sector planning and community participation within the Badmaal project.

Type of Activity:	Priority Fisheries Value Chain Validation and Community
Venue:	Elmaan, Hirshabelle State – Somalia
Duration:	Two days, from 3rd – 4th May 2026
No of Participants :	31 Fishing community Members {22Males and 9Female }
Consultation chaired :	State Project Coordinator
Submitted By :	Sunia Ahmed Rage – Hirshabelle State PIU

Facilitated by:

- Project State Coordinator
- Environmental Specialist
- Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist
- Social Safeguard / GBV Specialist

Participants:

A total of 30+ participants attended the consultation, including:

- Local fishers
- Fish traders and processors
- Women representatives
- Fisheries cooperatives
- Community elders and local authorities

3. Objectives of the Validation Workshop

The consultation workshop aimed to:

- Validate the fisheries value chain assessment findings at site level
- Identify and agree on the priority fisheries value chains for Elmaan
- Strengthen community participation and ownership in fisheries development activities
- Collect direct feedback from fishers and local stakeholders regarding key sector challenges and opportunities
- Promote inclusive decision-making processes involving women, youth, and vulnerable groups
- Align future fisheries interventions with community priorities and market opportunities

4. Methodology and Consultation Approach

The consultation adopted a participatory and community-centered approach to ensure active engagement from all stakeholders.

The workshop activities included:

- Presentation of the fisheries value chain assessment findings
- Open discussions on fisheries opportunities and challenges
- Group consultations with fishers, traders, women, and youth
- Validation of proposed priority value chains
- Collection of stakeholder feedback and recommendations
- Consensus-building discussions facilitated by the PIU team

Participants were encouraged to openly share experiences, concerns, and practical recommendations based on local realities and fishing practices.

5. Key Discussions and Stakeholder Feedback

The consultation generated productive discussions on fisheries development priorities and operational challenges affecting the Elmaan fishing community.

Key issues raised by participants included:

- Limited cold storage and fish preservation facilities leading to high post-harvest losses
- Lack of modern fishing equipment and safety gear
- Inadequate fish handling, processing, and transportation infrastructure
- Limited market access and unstable fish prices
- Need for technical training on fish processing, hygiene, and quality control
- Climate-related risks affecting fishing activities and fish availability
- Need for stronger fisheries cooperatives and community organization

Fishers emphasized the importance of practical support that directly improves livelihoods, increases income opportunities, and reduces fish spoilage.

6. Priority Fisheries Value Chains Identified

Following discussions and community validation, the participants agreed on the following priority fisheries value chains for Elmaan:

- Tuna Value Chain
- Lobster Value Chain
- Demersal Fish Value Chain
- Small Pelagic Fish Processing and Marketing

The selected value chains were prioritized based on:

- Market demand and income generation potential
- Opportunities for value addition and fish processing
- Potential for women and youth participation
- Climate resilience and sustainability
- Reduction of fish losses and improved product quality

7. Fishers' Priority Feedback and Recommendations

The fishers and local stakeholders provided strong and constructive feedback regarding future project interventions.

Priority recommendations included:

- Establishment of ice plants and cold storage facilities to reduce fish spoilage
- Provision of modern fishing gear, boats, and safety equipment
- Capacity building on fish handling, processing, packaging, and marketing
- Support for women involved in fish processing and small-scale fish trade
- Strengthening fisheries cooperatives to improve bargaining power and market access
- Development of fish landing and storage infrastructure
- Improved access to finance and small grants for fishers and youth groups
- Continuous community engagement and consultation throughout project implementation

Fishers highlighted that sustainable fisheries support should focus not only on production but also on improving the entire value chain from harvesting to marketing.

8. Gender and Social Inclusion

The consultation ensured inclusive participation of women, youth, and vulnerable community members.

Women participants actively contributed to discussions related to:

- Fish processing and marketing challenges
- Household livelihood support
- Access to finance and training opportunities
- Participation in fisheries decision-making structures

The workshop reinforced the importance of promoting gender equality and ensuring that fisheries interventions create equitable opportunities for all community members.

9. Outcomes and Expected Results

The consultation successfully achieved the following outcomes:

- Validation and community approval of the priority fisheries value chains for Elmaan
- Increased stakeholder ownership and participation in fisheries development planning
- Improved understanding of local fisheries challenges and opportunities
- Collection of actionable recommendations from fishers and community representatives
- Strengthened coordination between the PIU and local stakeholders
- Foundation established for site-specific fisheries implementation planning

The validated priorities will support the development of targeted annual work plans focusing on fisheries capacity building, fish handling, processing, storage, and marketing interventions.

10. Challenges and Lessons Learned

Although the consultation was successfully conducted, several operational challenges were identified by participants, including limited fisheries infrastructure, insufficient cold chain systems, and market access constraints.

Key lessons learned included:

- The importance of continuous stakeholder engagement and transparency
- The need for practical and market-oriented fisheries support
- The value of involving women and youth in fisheries planning and implementation

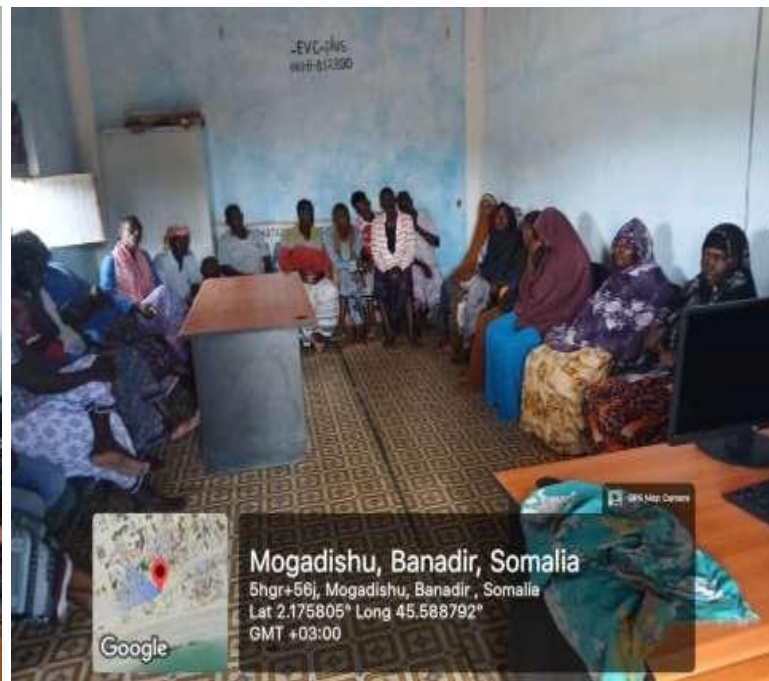
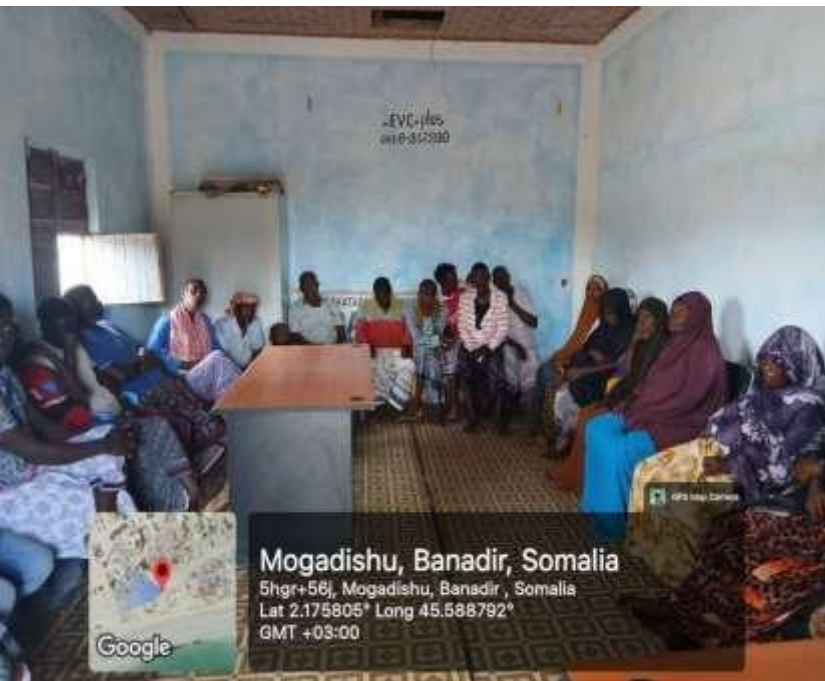
11. Conclusion

The Priority Fisheries Value Chain Validation Workshop conducted at Elmaan successfully brought together local stakeholders to validate fisheries development priorities and strengthen community participation within the SSFDP framework.

The consultation demonstrated strong community commitment toward sustainable fisheries development and highlighted clear priorities for future investment and capacity building. Fishers and community representatives emphasized the need for practical interventions that improve fish quality, reduce losses, strengthen market access, and increase income opportunities.

The workshop represents an important step toward developing inclusive, sustainable, and community-driven fisheries value chains in Elmaan and contributes directly to the objectives of the Somalia Sustainable Fisheries Development Project (SSFDP).

13. Annexes





ATTENDANCE SHEET
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND BLUE ECONOMY
Somalia Sustainable Fishery Development Project-Badmaal Validation
of Priority Value Chains at Site Level (Elmaan),
Ceel macaan -Hirshabelle State-Somalia

Attendance Sheet

Date: April 2026

No	Name	Gender	Community Category	Signature
1	Xalimo Xassan Hirabe	F	women Groups	Xal
2	Saaban maluq maalin	F	women Groups	Cuba
3	Sharifa Xasan Maxamed	F	Fish Traders	Shaf
4	Carabo Mohamed Cumar	F	women Groups	Cuba
5	Mihadigo maxamed maxamad	F	Fisher Traders	Kuba
6	Cali Cumar Macal	M	Fisher Folk	Cali
7	maxamed Xasan Cumar	M	Fisher Folk	Don
8	Abdullahi Nur maxamed	M	Elders	CLT
9	Cumar Jinow Xassan	M	Elders	Cum

10	Caasho Ahmed Mar'ud	F	Fish Traders	Mus
11	Xalimo Ahmed Cali	F	Fish Traders	Shaf
12	Abukar Cali Jimcale	M	Fisherfolk	Mah
13	Mahad Abukar Caahud	M	Fisherfolk	Lea
14	Abdullahi Mar'ud Cali	M	Youth	OTUS
15	Ahmed Mohamed Jimcale	M	Youth	AXMED
16	Mahad Abdulle Muhi	M	Religious leaders	DAIR
17	Adan Macane Cabdi	M	Minority/Marginalized	PHIPX
18	Xasan Ali Mohamed	M	Fisherfolk	SHAF
19	Cabdiqadir Mar'ud Mohamed	M	Fisherfolk	CAD
20	Cuse Xassan Mar'ud	M	Elders/Traditional leaders	CUSE
21	Farxiyo Maxamed Mar'ud	F	South Fish Traders	LAH
22	Adan Maxamed Xassan	M	Youth	QAR
23	Cabdi Maxamed Cali	M	Youth	LEL

24	Abditadir Shukh Xaamud	M	Youth	Mus
25	Xassan Mar'ud Xassan	M	Minority/Marginalized	QAR
26	Sharaf Cumar Alar	M	Fisherfolk	Xan
27	Cuse Cali Ahmed	M	Fisherfolk	Cuse
28	Ceydarus Cali Carabool	M	Religious Leaders	LEP
29	Mahad Sabriye Heebi	M	Elders/Traditional leaders	Mah
30	Pamadi Cadow Mar'ud	M	Youth	Shaf
31	Fadumo Abdinasir Mohamed	F	Fish Traders	CLT
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