



SOMALIA PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION



PROFILE 2025-26

Why Choose Somalia Publishers Association?



Protect Publishing Rights

We advocate for the rights of Somali Publishers, ensuring fair representation in policy discussions and safeguarding copyright and intellectual property rights.



Foster Creativity & Literacy

Promoting a culture of reading, creativity, and the free flow of ideas to rebuild Somalia's intellectual and cultural heritage.



Industry Networking & Support

Access a robust network of industry professionals and resources that empower Somali publishers to thrive in the global market.



Industry Networking & Support

We connect Somali Publishers with international bodies like APNET and IPA, promoting participation in global literacy events and book fairs.

Join SPA to Champion Somali Publishing

THE SOMALIA PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION (SPA)

INTRODUCTION

Established in the wake of Somalia's turbulent history of conflict and fragility, the Somalia Publishers Association (SPA) was born from the need to revive and nurture the local publishing industry. The collapse of state structures during years of civil war left the country without a functioning publishing sector. However, the curriculum reforms in 2017 marked a turning point, as the first indigenous publishers emerged, spearheading efforts to rebuild a culture of reading and learning.

The SPA was formed to support this nascent industry, advocating for the rights of Somali publishers and fostering a resilient publishing environment. It aims to promote creativity, literacy, and the free exchange of ideas, while also engaging with government bodies to protect publishing rights. SPA establishes ethical standards and guidelines, ensures representation in policy discussions, and collaborates with international bodies to safeguard copyright and intellectual property rights. Additionally, it supports Somali publishers in embracing technological advancements and participating in global literary events, helping to rebuild Somalia's intellectual and cultural heritage.

Through its extensive support services, including training, advocacy, and networking, SPA continues to champion the growth and sustainability of Somalia's publishing sector, striving to make Somali voices heard on the global stage.



ABOUT US

The **Somali Publishers Association** (SPA) was founded to address the challenges faced by Somalia's education sector, particularly in the aftermath of the civil war that devastated educational infrastructure and disrupted formal schooling. With recent progress towards peace, SPA supports educational reform by producing culturally relevant learning materials, contributing to the establishment of a standardized national curriculum that ensures quality learning for all children.



Ali Mousse Aden
President of the Association

SPA is dedicated to advancing the publishing industry and promoting literacy by supporting publishers, authors, and stakeholders. It offers training, professional development, and advocacy for members' interests at various levels, ensuring the production of high-quality educational resources and strengthening intellectual property rights. The association also encourages collaboration among book producers and supports initiatives to improve textbook availability and literacy programs nationwide.



Textbook writing workshop

OUR MISSION

INFOGRAPHIC



INFOGRAPHIC

Mission

To promote a vibrant publishing ecosystem that nurtures Somali literature empowers authors, supports publishers, and enhances reading culture through collaboration and innovation.

01



INFOGRAPHIC

Vision

To be the leading force in Somali publishing, ensuring diverse voices are heard and accessible literature flourishes, thereby contributing to Somalia's cultural and intellectual growth and its diaspora.

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INFOGRAPHIC

Core Values

1. **Integrity:** Committing to ethical practices in all publishing endeavours.
2. **Collaboration:** Fostering partnerships among publishers, authors, and industry stakeholders.
3. **Diversity and Inclusion:** Celebrating diverse perspectives and voices in Somali literature.
4. **Innovation:** Embracing new technologies and practices in the publishing process.
5. **Lifelong Learning:** Promoting continuous education and skill development within the publishing community.

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RESOURCES HUB

The Resources Hub serves as a comprehensive repository for members, providing access to valuable materials, including:

- Publishing guides and best practices
- Marketing and distribution resources
- Licensing and copyright information
- Templates for contracts and agreements
- Advocacy tools for promoting literacy and publishing rights

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

The Sustainability Committee is dedicated to promoting environmentally responsible practices within the publishing industry. It focuses on:

- Encouraging sustainable printing methods
- Advocating for digital publishing
- Promoting the use of recycled materials
- Organizing events to raise awareness about sustainability in publishing

PUBLISHING

The SPA supports all facets of publishing, including:

- Traditional and self-publishing avenues
- Digital and print publishing strategies
- Marketing and promotional activities
- Rights management and distribution guidance



MEMBERS

The Somali Publishers Association membership is open to publishers, authors, editors, and anyone engaged in the publishing process. Member benefits include:

- Networking opportunities
- Access to training and development programs
- Participation in industry events and conferences
- Inclusion in a directory of members for visibility and collaboration

OUR MEMBERS

- i) Beder Printing House
- ii) Puntland United Publishers
- iii) Sacba Publishing Company
- iv) Darwiish Stationery Company
- v) Bile Printing Press
- vi) Garaad Publishing Company
- vii) Saahid Publishing Limited
- viii) Hargeisa Printing House

COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

The SPA advocates for the protection of intellectual property rights and helps members understand their copyright obligations. We provide resources about:

- Copyright registration processes
- Fair use and licensing agreements
- Protection strategies for authors and publishers



FREELANCERS

Freelancers play a crucial role in the publishing industry, and the SPA facilitates connections between freelancers and publishers. We provide:

- Opportunities for freelancers to showcase their work
- A platform for publishers to find qualified freelancers
- Guidelines for professional conduct and collaboration

SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

Committed to empowering our members, the SPA offers various skill development programs, including:

- Workshops on writing, editing, and publishing best practices
- Training sessions on marketing, audience engagement, and digital tools
- Seminars on copyright law and publishing ethics
- Networking events to connect with industry professionals

Activities the association wants to carry out

1. Capacity building

- Training workshops
- Membership

2. Promote literacy and reading culture

- Nationwide reading campaigns
- Annual book fairs
- Partner with schools to set up reading clubs

3. Publishing Industry Standards

- Promote Industry Guidelines
- Advocate for Copyright protection

4. Cultural Preservation

- Publish books, journals and magazines in Somalia's culture and tradition
- Documentation of oral initiatives and local folklore

5. Cultural Preservation

- produce curriculum aligned textbooks
- Develop supplementary learning materials to support underserved communities

6. Advocacy and policy engagement

7. Capacity for conflict recovery

8. Youth Engagement

- Organize writing competitions for youth authors and students
- Set up workshops to teach creative writing and editing skills

9. Professional Networking

- Host conferences and forums for publishers , writers and education to share insights and collaborate
- Build partnerships with international publishing houses for knowledge exchange

10. Empowering local authors

- Offering publishing grants or subsidies for emerging authors
- Run workshops on self-publishing and market strategies

11. Showcase success stories

- Document and publish stories of resilience and recovery in the developemnt of learning materials.
- Highlight successful local publishing businesses and social initiatives

CONTACT US

For more information, inquiries, or to become a member, please get in touch with us at:

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