



### **ASPIRE in Somaliland**

# Inclusive and Resilient Economic Development

by strengthening local partnerships



# ASPIRE in Somaliland

Berbera has been an important pillar of Somaliland's economy for many years. Current large scale investments in Berbera provide opportunities for the district to exploit the economic benefits in generating employment and boost service delivery for its citizens. To foster inclusive economic growth, it is necessary for the local public sector stakeholders and the local private sector to collaborate and coordinate.

The Advancing Strong Partnerships for Inclusive and Resilient Economic Development (ASPIRE) project focuses on Berbera as a potential role model for inclusive local economic development (LED) in the region and as an entry point to address regional income disparities. In doing so, ASPIRE builds on Berbera's already established LED forum (Berbera Economic Forum), investments into the Port of Berbera and Berbera's role as an economic hub for the region. In addition, ASPIRE works with the Association of Local Government Authorities of Somaliland (ALGASL) as a target group and implementing partner. ALGASL – as the umbrella organisation for all Somaliland districts – is supported to disseminate and replicate lessons learned and successes of the Berbera pilot across Somaliland.



ASPIRE supports three target groups in their capacity to work together in promoting inclusive economic growth and carrying out their related mandates:

#### Outcome 1



#### Berbera Municipal Authority

BMA's internal processes, policies and resources for promoting LED have been enhanced; The capacity of BMA to provide services to LED stakeholders has improved and the capabillity of BMA to foster social cohesion and inclusiveness on LED has improved.

#### Outcome 2



#### Berbera Economic Forum

The internal structure, processes, policies and resources of BEF have been enhanced; The capability of BEF to provide services to LED stakeholders has improved.

#### Outcome 3



#### Association of Local Government Authorities of Somaliland

The internal processes, policies and resources of ALGASL have improved; The capability of ALGASL to provide LED services has been strengthened and the capability of ALGASL to disseminate and replicate LED resources has been enhanced.

# ASPIRE

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs

# Building better futures

### by stengthening local governments

VNG International is an expert in strengthening local government in developing and transitional countries. Local governments play a key role in the provision of basic services such as water, waste management, health care and housing. They have profound impact on areas like safety, food security, rule of law, and women's rights. Therefore our projects contribute in a sustainable way to better futures for people, communities and countries.

In over sixty projects worldwide, VNG International strengthens local governments, associations of municipalities, and local trainings institutes. VNG International was founded in 1993 by the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (Vereniging Nederlandse Gemeenten, VNG), the world's oldest association of municipalities. VNG International is housed within the association's offices in The Hague, allowing it to easily access the know-how of the Dutch local government sector. VNG International is embedded in the Dutch local government sector, while it also disposes of an international network of experts in the fields of decentralisation and local administration. Besides its offices in the Netherlands, VNG International is represented globally through daughter companies in Tunis, the Czech Republic and South Africa, as well as over 15 local project offices. VNG International's projects are funded by various donors including the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the European Union and the World Bank.

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