



East Africa
Association
for Research
& Development



ANNUAL REPORT

2020

 EastAfricaAsso

 EastAfricaAsso

 EastAfricaAsso



**East Africa
Association**
for Research
& Development

List of Content

Message of the Director General

Contents List

About DAD:

- Vision mission objectives & activities
- Structure and units
- Members

Activities (Symposiums & Panel discussions)

- The Director General of DAD met with the Somali Students in Sivas Turkey
- Covid-19 and the lack of stockpile in Africa
- Covid-19: A Driver of Digital Transformation in Somali Higher Education
- Somali literature and state formation 1960-1991
- Ethiopia's Tigray Conflict: Causes and Complications
- Covid-19 and the lack of stockpile in Africa
- Education in Somalia Past, Present and future
- The Somali Higher Education and the Obstacles of Covid-19
- The role of the Youth in the upcoming elections in Somalia
- Somalia's need for a Visionary Leadership

Visits and Collaborations

- Director General of DAD Dr Ali Shekh Ahmed Attended the International Universities Council Executive Meeting
- The Director General of DAD met with TIKA office coordinator in Somalia
- Director General Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed Participated the Opening of Ceremony of Atiak Sugar Factory in the northern Uganda.
- Launching of Mogadishu University Construction Materials Testing Labs
- Global Somali Diaspora International Online Summit 2020



General Director's Message Prof. Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed

Based on the general strategy and objectives of East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD), annual plans and strategy through which projects and programs to be implemented are determined in accordance with their respective time-frames. This typically entailed conferences, workshops and trainings, public speeches, social activities, and organized trips to East African countries, among other activities. Furthermore, the institute through its experts contributes to international and regional conferences to the end of fostering cooperation with its counterparts around the globe.

Nonetheless, we could not implement our activities as planned due to COVID 19 and its implication in 2020, which caused huge disruption of activities conducted around the world, drastically changing lifestyles forcing states, institutions, and people alike to cope with its pressing demands and circumstances. Thus, our organization have reviewed its annual plans, and decided after thoughtful reflections to postpone some of the activities such as its annual East Africa Development

Turkey due to technical complication and restrictions imposed for public health reasons. While other activities such as workshops and public speeches were conducted through Zoom teleconference, the organization's staff have paid visits to several East African countries such as Uganda, Kenya, and Somalia, actively participating in activities held in these countries. We have also included new components related to Corona pandemic in the annual plan utilizing the available internet-based communication tools, including ones addressing the challenges caused by the Corona pandemic faced by universities and ways to avert its adverse implications.

Finally, we take this opportunity to show gratitude to all of DAD's partners who stood beside it in these challenging times making it possible for us to deliver our programs in the smoothest ways possible. We are keen to further our engagement with all regional and international institutions in East Africa and beyond to boost cooperation towards shared goals and visions to the end of producing knowledge for sustainable development of our people. Hoping to recover from effects of the Corona pandemic in 2021, DAD is willing to deliver its planned programs for this year in a most delicate manner.

Accept our kind regards.

DAD

East Africa Association for Research and Development, shortly known as 'DAD' is a research and development organization that develops solutions to social, economic, and political challenges in East Africa to help make communities throughout the region safer and more secure, healthier, and more prosperous.

DAD was launched on May 2017 by a group of education experts and prominent social leaders from East Africa together with graduates of Turkish universities from Easter Africa who are also involved in youth empowerment, training and research activities.

DAD's goal is to develop the human capital of the region and produce up-to-date and accurate knowledge and analyses in the fields of politics, economy and society and inform policy makers, civil society organizations, businesses and the public on changing political, economic, social and cultural conditions of the region. DAD is nonprofit, nonpartisan, and committed to the public interest.



Vision

Pioneer in research and development to enhance the quality of life in East Africa.

Mission

Promoting peace and development in East Africa through human capital development, extensive research on the challenges of the region and forming a knowledge base that will help leaders in government and civil society leaders get the best available information possible.

Core Commitments

Knowledge: DAD is committed to creating a knowledge base and connecting people to the right information at the right time and in the appropriate format to be useful for decision makers in public and private sector. Information that is independent of context is easily transferable by means of recording, recitation, and graphic representations. We strive to build knowledge from information by adding it the relevant context which affects the meaning and value of knowledge. Our commitment here is producing knowledge about new analysis and perspectives on contemporary issues and getting it into the hands of policy actors in ways that might not have been possible had they not worked together.

Advocacy: Our work will create a bridge between knowledge and power and between state and society. We are committed in enhancing the knowledge base; informing, educating and advising policymakers and the public at large; encouraging public discourse; and providing evidence to legitimize decision-making.

Impact: Our motto is 'towards a better life', a guiding principle to act as a catalyst in social transformation in East Africa through rigorous efforts to influence public debates and institutional strategy making process. By getting involved in the decision-making process we aim to conduct research and advocate for policies that creates positive impact and shaping lives and communities.

Collaboration and Partnership: DAD is dedicated to facilitating, encouraging, supporting, and rewarding productive and equitable research partnerships across academic fields, and with external partners. By raising the questions that matter, our research center co-creates knowledge with governmental agencies and its decision makers, local community organizations, citizens, as well as businesses, practitioners, and workers. Through collaboration and partnership, we aim to bridge the ontological divide between theory and practice and the boundary it creates between the two separate worlds of research (theory) and policy (practice).

Social Engagement: Our researchers use their learning, ingenuity, and creativity to participate in dialogue and work toward common purposes with community partners. Drawing on the strengths and expertise of different stakeholders, they co-create and apply evidence-based research to address shared challenges; guide and develop policies and practices; and seek out and support initiatives that result in tangible improvements for individuals and communities.



Our Departments

DAD Research Center: This unit conducts research to develop solutions for social, economic, and political challenges in East Africa to help make communities throughout the region safer and more secure, healthier, and more prosperous. The Department's main aim is to produce up-to-date and accurate knowledge and analyses in the fields of politics, economy and society and inform policy makers, civil society organizations, businesses, and the public on changing political, economic, social, and cultural conditions of the region. The strategic plan of DAD Research Center expresses its core commitments to knowledge, advocacy and impact through collaboration,

DAD Youth: To build stable and cohesive societies DAD Youth follows a holistic approach of empowering the youth through initiatives and programs prepared to enable young people to discover their abilities and to fill the skill gap that exists. with partnering the non-governmental and governmental organizations the department will offer trainings on life skills, leadership, entrepreneurship, and employability.

East Africa Development Forum: A multi-stakeholder platform for debating, discussing, and initiating concrete strategies and policies for the development of countries in East Africa. Its main aim is to showcase the current and future challenges, opportunities, and strategies to utilize the immense natural resources of the region. The forum also displays policy recommendations for institutional building, good governance, youth empowerment and poverty reduction. The forum brings together heads of states and governments, policy makers, partner states such as Turkish institutions, United Nations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.



East Africa Spectrum Journal

After one year of deliberations it's our pleasure to announce the decision taken by the board of DAD with the firm support and the direction of the director general Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed to launch the East Africa Spectrum Journal in the first quarter of this year 2021. The executive branch of the organization is due to conclude the technical preparations within the designated time frame, since the conceptual and policy framework were ratified within the board discussions.

East Africa Spectrum is an international interdisciplinary peer-reviewed journal, affiliated with East Africa Association for Research & Development (DAD), which is issued twice a year and aims to publish high quality conceptual and empirical writing relevant to East Africa. The journal welcomes critical investigations of social dynamics in the East Africa region, grounded in relevant illustrative, qualitative, evidentiary approaches. The journal encourages innovative contributions from established and new scholars that not only reflect current conceptual thinking but also draw upon Africa to question and challenge established theoretical and methodological paradigms. With an active editorial board that encompasses scholars from a variety of disciplines based at both East Africa and international universities, the journal seeks to foster an inter-disciplinary and global conversation from, with and about East Africa.

Aims & Scope

East Africa Spectrum will be published twice a year by DAD Research Center. It aims to promote fresh scholarly enquiry on the region from within the humanities and the social sciences, and to encourage work that communicates across disciplinary boundaries. It seeks to foster inter-disciplinary analysis, strong comparative perspectives, and research employing the most significant theoretical or methodological approaches for the region.

The region in focus includes Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Djibouti, along the extension of the region's interests such as the Red Sea Corridor and the Gulf. The journal accepts scholarly works in different areas and disciplines on the countries in the Africa, and their diaspora communities around the world. This journal invites submissions from all scholars and researchers, all around the world.

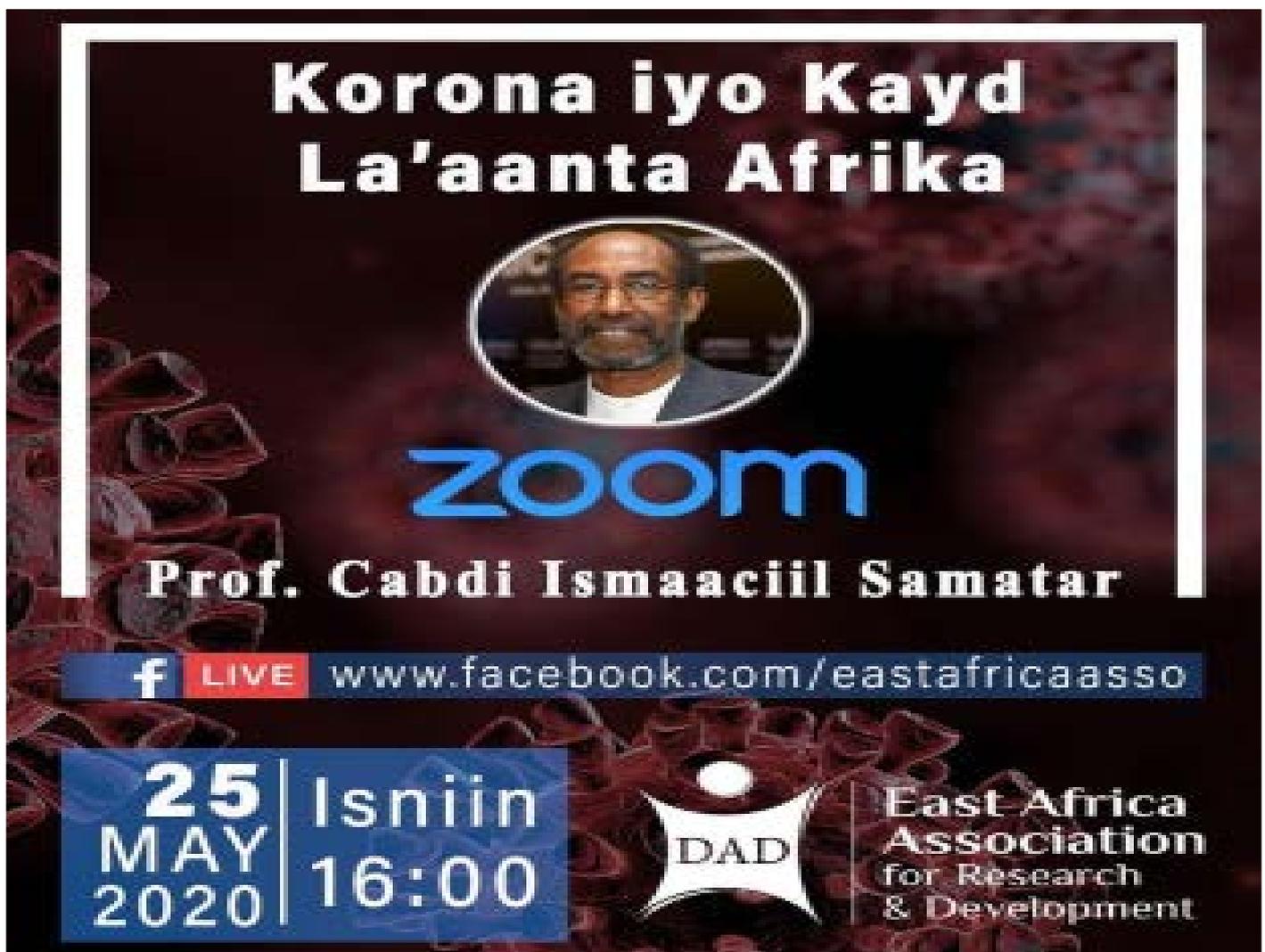
The Editors also welcome submissions on transnational topics that are meaningfully connected to this region from all academic disciplines in the humanities and social sciences, anthropology, cultural studies, development studies, economics, environmental studies, geography, history, international relations, literatures and languages, political economy, politics, social policy, and sociology.

DAD ACTIVITIES

Covid-19 and the lack of stockpile in Africa

25/05/2020

Abdi Ismail Samatar a professor at Minnesota University gave a lecture themed "Covid-19 and the lack of stockpile in Africa". The lecture illuminated light to the unfair economic structure permeated in African economy before the breakout of Covid-19 and how the virus will exacerbate the blight life of millions of Africans. Samatar criticized the economy controlled by the globally governing new liberals which upholds what they called property rights and the free market at the expense of the weak and impoverished mass Africans. Professor Samatar insisted the importance reconfiguring the economic structure in a way tilts towards the interest of the mass underprivileged African people. The lecture came at the peak of the Covid-19 and was broadcasted through online platforms and thousands of people watched around the globe.



**Korona iyo Kayd
La'aanta Afrika**



zoom

Prof. Cabdi Ismaaciil Samatar

f LIVE www.facebook.com/eastafricaasso

25 | **Isniin**
MAY | **16:00**
2020

DAD | **East Africa
Association
for Research
& Development**

The Somali Higher Education and the Obstacles of Covid-19

09/06/2020



East Africa Association for Research and Development DAD organized a symposium themed "Covid-19: A Driver of Digital Transformation in Somali Higher Education" aimed to shed light to the state of digitalization of education in the world and the prospects of this transformation to bolster during the covid-19 and after. Two experts, Mr. Abdullahi Farah Qasim a Senior Enterprise Application Consultant and Mr. Abdullahi Bihi Hussein ICT expert and CEO of Somali REN, which is non-profit organization and a network of the major Somali higher education institutions was invited as a keynote speakers. The two gentlemen elaborated the achievement been made globally in the area of ICT in education and how this development facilitated the collaboration and information exchange in educational environment.

Somali literature and state formation (1960–1991)

04/07/2020



East Africa Association for Research and Development organized a symposium which coincided with the 60th anniversary of the independence and the union of the two Somali regions previously divided by two colonials, Britain, and Italy. The symposium focused the role of Somali literature whether its poetry or other forms of expressions in fighting for liberation and then in the formation of the state after independence in 1960. The key speakers of the symposium were Mr. Mustafa Fayruus and Ahmed Aw Geedi a Somali poet. The speakers elaborated how the literature interacted with the unfolding political, social, and economic transformations as a reflection of peoples' perspectives in the different circumstances. After the independence, the literature showed the mixed positive feeling of the people towards the freedom, whereas after few years after the independence, the literature again revealed the peoples' resentment towards the modicum achievements by the state. Also, the speakers turned to the literature during the military regime and how the literature was divided along the struggling powers over the power and resource. After the collapse of the central government and the eruption of the civil war, despite the low spirit and impact, but showing the misery inherited by the chaos was the centerpiece of the Somali literature according to the speakers.

The Somali Higher Education and the Obstacles of Covid-19

09/06/2020

East Africa Association for Research and Development organized a symposium themed "The Somali Higher Education and the Obstacles of Covid-19". Abdirazak Mohamed Aden the president of Nugal University and Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed the director general of DAD were the key speakers. The symposium was moderated by Dr. Abdikarim Abdi Daud the deputy director of DAD, during the symposium, the current higher education status was evaluated considering Covid-19 and ideas on how to alleviate the negative impacts of the virus on higher education was exchanged. The two speakers affirmed the opportunities for the higher education institutions to integrate their systems with the advanced information Communication Technologies, and this opportunity would not come better than the era of Covid-19.



Director General Met with the Tika office coordina-

05/08/2020



Director General Prof.Dr.Ali Sheikh Ahmed met with H.E. Ilhami DURUS the TIKA office coordinator in Somalia. The Director General extended his appreciation to the Turkey's blessing efforts aimed to bolster the state building in Somalia. Also, they exchanged view on the issue of importance for the relations between the two brotherly nations in the sides of trade, education and state building. Based on that, the significance of the collaboration between East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD) and TIKA in the area of the two organization's specialization was underlined by both sides.

Education in Somalia Past, Present and future

27/09/2020



Director General Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed gave lecture themed "Education in Somalia Past, Present and Future". His remarks went around the trajectory of Somali education since the independence until now and gave ideas towards a better education for the future. Also, the Director General emphasized the tremendous challenges brought by covid-19 to the higher education in Somalia and pointed to the most effective ways to be solved. The lecture which was streamed through online was organized by the "Association of Somali Community in Malaysia". Somali Community in Malaysia and huge number of participants watched the lecture through the different social media platforms.

Ethiopia's Tigray Conflict: Causes and Complications

14/11/2020

East Africa Association for Research and Development DAD organized a symposium themed "Ethiopia's Tigray Conflict: Causes and Complications". The symposium which was streamed by online through zoom and other social media platforms was participated as key speakers by Afyare Abdi Elmi, associate professor at Qatar University, department of International Studies and Mustafa Feyruuz, the director of the Institute of Somali Studies ISOS. Mustaf Feyruuz talked about the history of the amalgamation of the current modern Ethiopian state and how the modern Ethiopian state is built through a military expansion by the Amhara ethnic group between the years of 1855 and 1955, and subsequently, the other ethnicities were incorporated to the state through coercion and without their consent. In the second session of symposium Afyare Abdi Elmi from Qatar University, gave remarks about the structural, political, and economical factors that are behind the conundrum of the modern Ethiopian state. He insinuated that imperial policies inherited Ethiopia a serious structural flaw, despite leadership change in Ethiopia, there is no genuine systematic change. Elmi mentioned that Ethiopia state failed to embrace the multi ethnicity nature of its citizens, thus a large segment of the population is not satisfied with the current status quo.



Ethiopia's Tigray Conflict: Causes and Complications

November 14, Saturday
18:15

MR. MUSTAFA FEYRUUZ

DR. AFYARE ABDI ELMI

Moderator: Abdiwali Sayid



The role of the Youth in the upcoming elections in Somalia

07/11/2020



East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD) organized a round table discussion on the role of the youth in the upcoming parliament and presidential elections. A diverse of ideas about the obstacles youth are facing was exchanged. Also, the opportunities this election entails for the Somali youth was discussed. Notwithstanding the tremendous challenges lies ahead, the ways youth could be a catalyst for political and social change took a considerable time in the round table discussion. The participants underlined the importance of youth participation in the upcoming elections in away ensures the betterment of the country. Because youth represent much of the Somali population their contribution to the politics will facilitate the formation of youth sensitive

Somalia's need for a Visionary Leadership

05/12/2020

East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD) organized a symposium on the theme "Somalia and the Need for a Visionary Leadership". The key speakers were Omar Haraco who have masters on International Relations, Adam Badiic, studied Master of Political Science and International Relations and Mohamed Salah Ahmed PhD a candidate in Political Science. The program which was streamed through Zoom and other social media platforms came at incredibly significant time where elections expected to be held in Somalia within a few months. The aim of the program was to divert the attention of the youth from the disputes and shout of election campaigns to the essence of country's dilemma which is the lack of capable leadership. Due to that, the symposium aimed to shed light to the qualities and virtues of the required leadership. From that background and as a recognition of the youth's tremendous role in social and leadership transformation, educated youth was selected as the key speakers of the symposiums to express youth's position towards the characteristics desired for the future leadership.



Visits and Collaborations

Director General of DAD Dr Ali Sheikh Ahmed Attended the International Universities Council Executive Meeting

09/02/2020



Director General of DAD Dr Ali Shekh Ahmed Attended the International Universities Council Executive Meeting held on 9 February 2020 in Sivas/ Turkey. Along with other members of DAD management, Dr Ali who is a prominent member of the International Universities Council contributed on how well the inter university relations be promoted specially in the case of African universities. The executive meeting was also participated by esteemed rectors and professors from most of Turkish universities.

Launching of Mogadishu University Construction Materials Testing Labs

26/11/2020

On November 26th, Mogadishu University held an opening ceremony for Mogadishu University Construction, Water, Soil, Asphalt & Construction Materials Testing Laboratories funded by Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA). This event was attended by high delegates from both Somali government and Turkish authorities such as Mr. Mohamed Adan Moallim, Somalia's Minister of Housing and Urbanization, Turkish Ambassador to Somalia Mr. Mehmet Yilmaz, TIKA's Somali Coordinator Mr. Galip Yilmaz, Director of Higher Education Affairs for Somalia's Ministry of Education, Culture and Higher Education and Mogadishu University's former rector and member of the Board Professor Ali Sheikh Ahmed who is the current General Director of East Africa Association for Research and Development based in Istanbul.

Also, Mogadishu University's Vice President of Relations and International Cooperation, Vice President of Administration and Finance, members of the faculty of Engineering, Top Management of Maarif Foundation, Turkish Diyanet Foundation, Recep Tayyip Erdogan Hospital, and other notable individuals from the education sector was present in the event.

The laboratories which can conduct tests in five key areas: water, soil, asphalt, concrete, and iron is composed of state of art testing machines brought directly from Turkey. The technologies in these labs represent first of kind in Mogadishu and in Somalia in general and will cover the dire needs for testing construction materials. This testing center will save cost and time for construction companies which were forced to send samples of construction materials abroad for testing.



Global Somali Diaspora International Online Summit 2020

28-29/11/2020

The Executive Director of DAD Mr. Abdiwali Sayid participated the summit which continues happened 28-29 of November 2020. He was a key speaker on a session designated for the the So-malia-Turkey Relations. The session which was moderated by Mrs. Jawahir Dahir the Gaire person of the Global Somali Diaspora was also participated by the Turkey's ambassador in Somalia Mr. Mehmet Yilmaz and the Somalia's ambassador in Turkey Mr. Jama Abdullahi Aidid. Mr. Sayid in his note talked about the role of the youth in strengthening the relations between the two countries.



Director General met a senior advisor to the Republic of Turkey

23/12/2020

Director General of East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD) Prof.Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed have met Prof.Dr. Yasin AKTAY a senior advisor to the president of the Republic of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Ankara. During the meeting issues related to Somalia and Turkey were discussed and view on the best ways to bolster the relations between the two brotherly countries have been exchanged. The Director General extended to Yasin AKTAY his appreciation and gratitude to the government and the people of Turkey for the constructive role Turkey has been playing in Somalia in the last ten years. In his side, Yasin AKTAY revealed his pleasure towards the tremendous achievements in the last ten years in education, trade, healthy and state building. Mr. AKTAY asserted the importance of civil society and businesses in promoting the relations between the two countries.

Turkey has been an outstanding supporter of Somalia since 2011 when president Recep Tayyip Erdogan then prime minister paid a historical visit to Somalia. Since then, Turkey's humanitarian and developmental agencies has been operating in Somalia by undertaking humanitarian and developmental projects like rehabilitation of roads, airports and building mega healthy facilities. Besides that, thousands of Somali students were given scholarships by the Republic of Turkey. Notably, Turkey has its largest embassy building in Mogadishu, a sign of the strong ties between the two countries. The meeting between the two distinguished figures, certainly will contribute to the efforts of creating a dynamic and resilient interconnectedness between the two countries. Also, it is a part of larger efforts of translating the objectives of East Africa Association for Research and Development



The Opening of Ceremony of Atiak Sugar Factory in the northern Uganda

20/11/2020



Director General of East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD) Prof. Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed participated the kick-off ceremony for the Atiak Sugar Factory in the northern Ugandan, the factory is owned by Amina Moghe a Somalian businesswomen. He was among Somali delegate from different spectrums who came to witness the launching of the colorful ceremony on Thursday (October 22, 2020). Likewise, Somali deputy prime minister Mahdi Mohammed Gulaid and the Somalia's first lady Saynab Abdi Moallim was present at the opening ceremony. Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni commissioned the multibillion-shilling Atiak Sugar Factory. Before he was taken to a guided tour to see the establishment of the factory that covers 15.1km across the sugarcane plantation to the banks of River Aswa, Museveni saluted Amina Moghe Hersi for her vision of starting sugarcane growing in northern Uganda, hence the Atiak sugar factory. Amina is a freedom fighter like Museveni because she does not give up," he said. Also, he appreciated for the community of the Atiak for embracing the investment.



**East Africa
Association**
for Research
& Development

 EastAfricaAsso

 EastAfricaAsso

 EastAfricaAsso