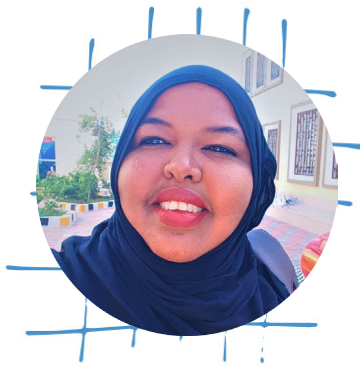


## 2021 POLICY FELLOWSHIP



### SAHRA AHMED KOSHIN

Location:

GAROWE, PUNTLAND, SOMALIA

Organisation:

THE SOMALIA GENDER HUB

Policy Focus:

SOMALI WOMEN IN HIGHER EDUCATION,  
RESEARCH AND ACADEMIA

### About

Mawazo's 2021 Policy Fellow, Sahra Ahmed Koshin, is a Somali-Dutch PhD Candidate at the University of Nairobi and the University of Copenhagen, researching gender issues in Somalia with a focus on diaspora humanitarianism in complex crises. Sahra is the inaugural beneficiary of the [Mawazo Institute's Policy Fellowship Programme](#) – a six-month non-residential fellowship programme for young African women conducting policy-relevant research in Africa– and the Founder and Director of the [Somalia Gender Hub](#), a leading center for research on women and gender in Somalia. The Somalia Gender Hub's aim is to advance studies on gender issues and the provision of data and evidence on gender impacts in order to make progress towards gender equality and women's empowerment in Somalia.

### Policy Experience

Prior to founding the Somalia Gender Hub, Sahra served as a Senior Gender Technical Advisor at the Puntland Ministry of Education and Higher Education's Gender Unit where she developed policy and strategy guidelines for female teacher training and retention, and strategies to keep girls in secondary school. Sahra was also the Deputy Executive Director and Programs Manager at the SIDRA Institute, where she continued to work with the Puntland Ministry of Education and Higher Education on strengthening the capacity of higher education institutions. She also worked as a Senior Gender Advisor to the Federal Government of Somalia, where together with the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development, she helped develop a national action plan for the implementation of the Women's Charter and the [United Nations Security Council Resolution \(UNSCR\) 1325](#).

### Research & Work

Sahra has over 18 years of professional work experience in research, policy analysis, and knowledge management in a wide selection of countries including Somalia, Kenya, the Netherlands, South Sudan, Sierra Leone, and Zambia where she worked on education, women's empowerment and gender equality issues. She has also worked with Somali government institutions and (I)NGOS such as the UN, the EU, AFDB, World Bank, Save the Children, Care International. Sahra is an author, poet, and the winner of several [poetry awards](#) such as the Dutch ECHO and the Dutch Rabobank Poetry Award for Literature in the Netherlands.

### Connect with Sahra:



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### Connect with the Somali Gender Hub (SGH):



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