

EAO's Formal Partnerships and Consortium Engagements

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Short Description

East Action Organization (EAO) has established strong formal partnerships, pre-teaming agreements, consortium arrangements, and strategic collaboration frameworks with international NGOs, national civil society organizations, academic institutions, private-sector partners, and cross-border development actors. These partnerships demonstrate EAO's institutional capacity to work within multi-stakeholder platforms, mobilize joint proposals, implement donor-funded projects, support refugee and host communities, promote youth and women's empowerment, and advance sustainable development across Ethiopia's Somali Region and neighboring cross-border areas.

Through these partnerships, EAO strengthens its role as a credible local implementing partner, consortium member, and regional development actor with the ability to coordinate humanitarian response, climate resilience, livelihoods, protection, education, peacebuilding, innovation, and inclusive economic development initiatives.

Detailed Partnership and Consortium Profile

1. Alight

Alight is one of EAO's key international NGO partners for consortium collaboration, humanitarian programming, refugee and host community support, proposal development, and donor-funded partnership opportunities. The partnership strengthens EAO's ability to engage in larger-scale humanitarian and development responses, particularly in areas affected by displacement, vulnerability, and limited access to services.

Through this collaboration, EAO seeks to contribute local knowledge, community mobilization capacity, regional networks, and implementation experience, while working with Alight to develop strong joint proposals and coordinated interventions. The partnership is especially relevant for refugee inclusion, host community resilience, protection, livelihoods, education, and integrated humanitarian response in Ethiopia's Somali Region.

2. World Vision International Ethiopia (WVIE)

EAO has a pre-teaming agreement with World Vision International Ethiopia focused on refugee and host community inclusion, education, livelihoods, protection, and social cohesion. This agreement reflects EAO's readiness to work with major international development and humanitarian actors in structured consortium arrangements.

The collaboration creates opportunities for joint programming in vulnerable communities, particularly where children, youth, women, refugees, IDPs, and host populations require integrated support. EAO's local presence and community-based approach complement WVIE's international experience, technical capacity, and donor engagement.

3. Africa–Europe Youth Academy (AEYA)

EAO is a member of the Africa–Europe Youth Academy, a multi-country youth-led consortium promoting Africa–Europe cooperation, youth leadership, innovation, climate action, and inclusive development. AEYA brings together youth-focused organizations from different African countries to strengthen intercontinental collaboration and create practical opportunities for young people.

As part of this consortium, EAO contributes its experience in youth empowerment, community resilience, climate-smart livelihoods, digital inclusion, peacebuilding, and grassroots engagement in Ethiopia. The partnership supports youth participation in policy dialogue, capacity building, innovation, cross-border learning, and Africa–Europe cooperation.

4. IOS Partners Inc. and IOSsoft Inc.

EAO has a partnership declaration with IOS Partners Inc. and IOSsoft Inc. focused on women in trade, resilience, market access, inclusive economic development, and private-sector-linked opportunities. This partnership strengthens EAO's ability to connect community development priorities with market-based solutions and digital or technical expertise.

The collaboration is particularly relevant for women entrepreneurs, youth-led enterprises, small producers, cooperatives, and vulnerable groups seeking improved access to markets, trade opportunities, skills development, and economic resilience. It reflects EAO's commitment to inclusive growth and sustainable livelihoods.

5. Jigjiga University

EAO has an academic and innovation partnership with Jigjiga University focused on applied research, community service, policy engagement, innovation, and regional development. This partnership connects academic knowledge with community-based action, helping translate research findings into practical development solutions.

Through this collaboration, EAO and Jigjiga University can jointly conduct community assessments, applied research, policy dialogues, student engagement initiatives, innovation pilots, training programs, and evidence-based development interventions. The partnership strengthens the link between academia, civil society, and local communities in Ethiopia's Somali Region.

6. OWDA

OWDA is a national humanitarian and development consortium partner working with EAO to support community resilience, livelihoods, vulnerable populations, and humanitarian response. This partnership strengthens coordinated local action in areas affected by poverty, displacement, climate shocks, and limited access to essential services.

Through joint engagement, EAO and OWDA can collaborate on food security, WASH, livelihoods, protection, emergency response, social cohesion, and resilience-building initiatives. The partnership reflects shared commitment to improving the wellbeing of vulnerable communities through locally grounded and accountable programming.

7. EWRYOCA

EWRYOCA is a women- and youth-focused civil society partner working with EAO to advance gender equality, youth empowerment, advocacy, and community resilience. The partnership supports coordinated programming around women's rights, young people's leadership, community participation, protection, and inclusive development.

Through this collaboration, EAO and EWRYOCA strengthen their ability to mobilize women, girls, youth, and marginalized groups, while jointly advocating for improved access to services, opportunities, and decision-making spaces. The partnership is especially important for gender-responsive programming and youth-led community transformation.

8. SOSTA

SOSTA is a cross-border resilience partner supporting youth skills development, peacebuilding, livelihoods, and Ethiopia–Somaliland cooperation. The partnership reflects EAO's growing regional role in addressing shared development challenges across border communities.

Through this collaboration, EAO and SOSTA focus on strengthening youth skills, community-based peacebuilding, vocational training, livelihood opportunities, social cohesion, and cross-border cooperation. The partnership is important for communities that share social, economic, cultural, and mobility links across Ethiopia and Somaliland.

9. ACRIF

ACRIF is a cross-border child rights and protection partner promoting inclusive community development and safe societies. The partnership with EAO supports child protection, youth wellbeing, community safety, and inclusive development in cross-border contexts.

Through this partnership, EAO and ACRIF can work together on child rights awareness, protection systems, safeguarding, community education, youth engagement, and cross-border advocacy. The collaboration reinforces EAO's commitment to protecting vulnerable children and promoting safer, more inclusive communities.

10. Other National, Thematic, and Cross-Border Partners

EAO also works with other national, thematic, and cross-border partners that contribute to humanitarian response, climate resilience, youth empowerment, women's economic inclusion, peacebuilding, education, protection, food security, WASH, public health, and local development.

These partnerships allow EAO to expand its technical reach, strengthen referral pathways, mobilize resources, coordinate with regional actors, and implement integrated development interventions. They also show EAO's ability to work flexibly with government institutions, civil society organizations, community structures, academic partners, and international actors.

East Action Organization Consortium Partnerships for Regional Transformation

East Action Organization is proud to lead, co-found, and participate in several strategic consortiums across Ethiopia, Somaliland, and wider regional platforms. These consortiums bring together universities, NGOs, youth-led organizations, women-led organizations, humanitarian actors, and community-based development partners to promote resilience, empowerment, innovation, and sustainable transformation.

EAO's consortium model is based on shared leadership, complementary expertise, joint resource mobilization, community participation, and coordinated implementation. Through these consortiums, EAO strengthens local ownership, cross-border collaboration, evidence-based programming, and inclusive development for vulnerable communities.

National-Level Consortiums

1. Jigjiga Innovation and Action Partnership

Members: Jigjiga University and East Action Organization

The Jigjiga Innovation and Action Partnership is a strategic collaboration between Jigjiga University and EAO. It focuses on academic collaboration, innovation, applied action research, community service, policy engagement, and regional transformation.

This consortium aims to bridge the gap between research and practice by generating evidence-based solutions for community challenges. Through this partnership, EAO and Jigjiga University can jointly design research studies, implement pilot innovations, support youth and student engagement, organize policy dialogues, and develop practical solutions for local development priorities in the Somali Region.

2. Consortium for Action and Development

Members: Organization for Welfare and Development in Action and East Action Organization

The Consortium for Action and Development brings together OWDA and EAO to support humanitarian response, livelihood improvement, resilience building, and sustainable development initiatives for vulnerable populations.

This consortium is designed to strengthen coordinated local response to community needs, especially in areas affected by drought, displacement, poverty, food insecurity, and limited access to services. The partnership combines OWDA's humanitarian and development experience with EAO's community-based implementation capacity and regional networks.

3. Consortium for Women and Youth Advancement

Members: East Action Organization and Every Woman's Rights and Youth Organization for Community Advancement

The Consortium for Women and Youth Advancement is a partnership between EAO and EWRYOCA focused on gender equality, youth empowerment, advocacy, community resilience, and inclusive participation.

This consortium aims to strengthen women's leadership, youth voice, access to opportunities, protection, social inclusion, and community-level advocacy. It supports coordinated programming that empowers women, girls, and young people to participate meaningfully in decision-making, livelihoods, peacebuilding, education, and local development processes.

Interregional, Cross-Border, and Thematic Consortiums

4. Africa–Europe Youth Academy

Members: The Youth Café, Kenya; Binti Makini Foundation, Tanzania; SAYoF, Zimbabwe; and East Action Organization, Ethiopia

The Africa–Europe Youth Academy is a multi-country youth-led consortium dedicated to strengthening Africa–Europe cooperation through inclusive leadership, climate action, innovation, intercontinental youth dialogue, and sustainable development.

Under this partnership, EAO serves as a founding member and Ethiopian consortium partner, contributing its grassroots experience in youth empowerment, climate resilience, social innovation, peacebuilding, and community development. The consortium provides a platform for young people to engage in policy processes, exchange knowledge, access capacity-building opportunities, and implement community-driven projects.

AEYA operates through a formal memorandum of agreement and emphasizes mutual learning, joint advocacy, intercontinental cooperation, and collective impact across Africa and Europe.

5. EAOSOSTA Cross-Border Resilience Consortium

Members: Somaliland Skills Training Association and East Action Organization

The EAOSOSTA Cross-Border Resilience Consortium focuses on youth skills development, peacebuilding, livelihoods, vocational training, and cross-border cooperation between Ethiopia and Somaliland.

This consortium responds to the shared realities of border communities, including mobility, unemployment, social vulnerability, climate stress, and limited livelihood opportunities. Through this partnership, EAO and SOSTA aim to strengthen youth employability, community cohesion, practical skills training, resilience, and regional collaboration.

6. EAO–ACRIF Cross-Border Resilience Consortium

Members: African Children’s Rights Foundation and East Action Organization

The EAO–ACRIF Cross-Border Resilience Consortium focuses on child rights, child protection, youth wellbeing, inclusive community development, and safe societies across Ethiopia and Somaliland-linked communities.

This consortium supports joint action to protect children, strengthen community awareness, promote safeguarding, prevent exploitation and abuse, and improve access to protective services. It also promotes cross-border cooperation for vulnerable children, families, and communities affected by displacement, poverty, insecurity, and social exclusion.

Overall Value of EAO's Partnership Network

EAO's partnership and consortium portfolio demonstrates that the organization is not working in isolation. Instead, EAO is connected to a strong network of international NGOs, national CSOs, academic institutions, private-sector partners, youth-led platforms, women-led organizations, and cross-border actors.

These partnerships strengthen EAO's capacity in the following areas:

Program design and proposal development

Joint resource mobilization

Humanitarian and development implementation

Refugee and host community support

Youth leadership and innovation

Women's economic empowerment

Climate resilience and livelihoods

Education, protection, and social cohesion

Applied research and policy engagement

Cross-border peacebuilding and regional cooperation

Through these formal partnerships and consortium engagements, EAO is well positioned to serve as a trusted local partner, consortium member, implementing organization, and regional development actor committed to inclusive, sustainable, and community-led transformation.