



Abdikhani Ahmed Ali

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ABOUT ME

I am a results-driven and development-focused professional with a Bachelor's degree in Development Studies and certifications in SIYB, WID, and Financial Literacy Training. With over a decade of technical expertise in trade and entrepreneurship development, grants management, capacity building, and stakeholder engagement, I have successfully led programs that empower communities, strengthen MSMEs, and promote inclusive economic growth.

Most recently, I have been serving as Project Coordinator for Lacomp Consult under the ABLI G II Project, funded by the European Union and implemented by the Danish Refugee Council, where I coordinated Business Development Services for 350 MSMEs from both refugee and host communities in Garissa County. My role involved designing and delivering targeted mentorship, facilitating access to finance and formalization services, and building strong public-private partnerships to enhance local enterprise resilience.

I am passionate about fostering sustainable livelihoods, driving innovation, and creating enabling environments for entrepreneurs to thrive. My professional journey is defined by strategic thinking, relationship building, and a commitment to excellence, ensuring timely delivery of impactful projects that transform communities.

PROFILE

I am a dynamic, development-oriented professional with a Bachelor's degree in Development Studies from Mount Kenya University and a Diploma in Community Development & Social Work from Zearstech College. I bring over 10 years of proven expertise in trade and entrepreneurship development, Technology and Innovation, financial education, grants management, and MSME capacity building.

I am certified as an ILO SIYB, WIDB and Financial Education Trainer, having delivered impactful training and mentorship to entrepreneurs, youth, women, and community groups. My professional portfolio includes roles such as Project Coordinator for Lacomp Consult under the ABLI G II Project, Deputy County Trade Officer for the County Government of Garissa, and Project Assistant at KNCCI–Garissa Chapter. In my current role, I successfully coordinate Business Development Services for 350 MSMEs, fostering access to finance, business formalization, and market linkages while building strong partnerships with government agencies, NGOs, and private sector stakeholders.

Recognized for my dedication to capacity building, data management, and inclusive economic growth, I consistently deliver results through strategic planning, stakeholder engagement, and on-time project execution. I am a punctual, goal-driven, and highly adaptable professional who thrives in challenging environments, and I am committed to creating lasting impact in the communities I serve.

EXPERIENCE

I bring over a decade of progressive expertise in trade and entrepreneurship development, MSME capacity building, grants management, and inclusive economic growth, with a strong footprint in both urban centers and marginalized regions of Kenya, including refugee-hosting areas. My professional journey spans government institutions, private sector networks, development partners, and humanitarian organizations, where I have consistently delivered high-impact, results-oriented programs that formalize businesses, expand market linkages, and strengthen economic resilience.

In my current role as Project Coordinator for Lacomp Consult under the EU-funded ABLI G II Project, I spearheaded financial literacy and business planning training for youth collectives and MSMEs in the Dadaab Refugee Complex and host communities. I also play a pivotal role in connecting our beneficiaries to the One Stop Shop service delivery models, facilitating cross-sector collaboration with key agencies including ILO, WFP, DRC, KEBS, MSEA, KRA, and VNG International.

Previously, as Business Information and Innovation Centre Manager at KNCCI–Garissa Chapter, I have successfully designed, implemented, and scaled flagship initiatives such as the Garissa Chamber Digital Innovation Hub (DIH), Women in Digital Business (WIDB) Training of Trainers, and the ILO Digitalize Your Business (DYB) program. These programs have empowered **hundreds of entrepreneurs—particularly women, youth, and refugee communities—**through digital adoption, financial literacy, business mentorship, and market access.

Recognized for my strategic thinking, adaptability, and partnership-building skills, I excel at aligning program delivery with local contexts, integrating innovation into enterprise development, and ensuring sustainability through effective resource mobilization and governance structures.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

My extensive experience includes proficiency in budgeting, project management, financial management, reporting, grants management, Communication, variance reporting, and procurement management. I have honed these skills to ensure meticulous oversight and strategic financial planning in various organizational contexts.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS AND QUALITIES

- Excellent team player with a proven ability to meet goals and deadlines.
- Exceptional analytical and problem-solving skills, providing accurate financial information and quality management insights.
- High integrity, flexibility, proactive approach, and strong interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work under pressure with minimal supervision while maintaining personal and professional integrity.

PROFESSIONAL OBJECTIVE

As a Certified SIYB, WIDB and financial literacy trainer accredited by the ILO, my goal is to contribute to a forward-thinking organization that values innovation and professional growth. I aim to apply my comprehensive knowledge and experience to drive impactful projects, ensuring safety, efficiency, and successful outcomes in dynamic environments. My commitment to confidentiality, teamwork, and effective communication with both technical and non-technical stakeholders underscores my professional ethos.

PERSONAL QUALITIES

- **Interpersonal Skills:** Excellent ability to build rapport with individuals at all levels, both internally and externally, with a strong client service orientation.
 - **Confidentiality:** Demonstrated ability to handle confidential information with discretion and integrity.
 - **Proactivity and Resourcefulness:** Proactive, resourceful, and solution-oriented with a proven track record of delivering results.
 - **Communication:** Strong communication skills, capable of conveying technical concepts clearly to non-technical audiences.
 - **Relationship Building:** Effective at building relationships with key stakeholders and decision-makers.
 - **Adaptability:** Willingness to travel and work on installation, maintenance, and commissioning projects in challenging environments.
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NOTABLE PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- Successfully led the development of a winning concept proposal for the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) – Garissa Chapter under the Watha Nolasho – Dadaab Communities for Peace Project implemented by Search for Common Ground. The proposal secured a subaward agreement to implement market linkage, value chain strengthening, and private sector engagement activities supporting refugee and host community enterprises in Dadaab. Provided technical leadership in project design, budgeting, negotiation, and partnership structuring.
 - Innovation Challenge Winner: Pitched on behalf of KNCCI-Garissa Chapter and we were among the winners of the recently concluded innovation challenge by Eldohub and the International Labour Organization with decent employment solutions for Refugees and Host Communities in Turkana and Garissa Counties, April 2024.
 - KCIC Vijana na AgriBiz Competition: Second runner-up in the 2023 edition held on November 11, 2023, through Oshabe Enterprise, which came third addressing adversity in the County with their innovation.
 - Successfully mentored Durdur Livestock Traders at Garissa Livestock Market on Business Development Services (BDS) and Financial Literacy, leading to the accumulation of KES 1.5 million in group savings, of which KES 1.3 million was disbursed as loans to members by September 2024. This initiative enhanced financial management practices, improved access to capital for business growth, and strengthened group cohesion and sustainability within the livestock trade sector.
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ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Period	Institution	Qualification
09 December 2022	Mount Kenya University	Bachelor of Development Studies
May 2011: December 2012	Zearstech College	Diploma in Community Development & Social Work
19th Nov 2009 - 20th Jan 2010	Vision Computer Center	Computer Application
2006-2009	Sankuri Secondary School	Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE)
1998-2005	Tetu Primary School	Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE)

OTHER TRAINING/SKILLS ACQUIRED/ATTAINED

YEAR	PLACE	PARTICIPATION
29 th June - 3 rd July 2026	ILO - Naivasha	T.O.T on Formalization
10 th July - 4 th August 2025	ILO - SIYB Africa	T.O.T. on WIDB Training
10th – 25th Oct 2024	Hunan Agricultural Science Group Co.,Ltd. Changsha, Hunan, China	Seminar on Climate Change and Agricultural Sustainable Development Under the Global Development Initiative
24th – 26th April 2024	ILO-ITC Centre, Nairobi, Kenya.	ILO Kenya Innovation Challenge on Decent Digital Jobs for Refugees and Host Communities 2024
13th NOV – 8th DEC 2023	ILO - ITC center, Turin, Italy.	2023 Rural Development Academy: social justice for resilient, inclusive and productive rural economies
2nd OCT – 6th OCT 2023	ILO-ITC, Naivasha, Kenya	Capacity building for business support institution
4th OCT – 3rd NOV 2022	ILO-ITC, online	Designing and implementing conducive policies for MSME Development
1st NOV – 26th NOV 2021	ILO – ITC Online	Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience
15th September 2022	ILO-ITC online	Business and Decent Work: An Introduction Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (MNE Declaration)
27TH MAY 2021	CAPITAL STRATEGIES (K) LTD	Fundamentals of fund management
19th MAY 2021	USAID KUZA	ISLAMIC FINANCE
1st to 14th AUG 2021	ILO PROSPECT	T.O.T. on SIYB Training
22nd to 26th FEB 2021	ILO PROSPECT	T.O.T on Financial education
19th to 20th FEB 2020	KEBS	Kenya quality awards and innovation pipeline workshop program
14TH to 17th Sep 2019	WFP	
	T.O.T on Metro Retailers Train Retailers	
14th to 16th JULY 2019	Garissa County Government	Garissa County Revolving Fund Committee Management Training
19th - 23rd DEC 2016	USAID K-YES	Integrated T.O.T in financial education, VSLA \$ Business Skills

WORK EXPERIENCE

17/03/2025 - 30/12/2025

Project Coordinator – Lacomp Consult (EU-funded ABLI G II Project Implemented by DRC)

Responsibilities:

- Lead the implementation of Business Development Services (BDS) for 350 MSMEs across IFO 1 & 2, Hagadera, Dagahaley, and Dadaab Township.
 - Oversee financial literacy, business planning, and market linkage training programs, empowering refugee and host community entrepreneurs.
 - Coordinate One Stop Shop service delivery models, connecting MSMEs with KNCCI, ILO, WFP, DRC, KEBS, MSEA, KRA, and VNG International for business formalization, finance access, and compliance.
 - Provide mentorship, coaching, and monitoring to ensure sustained enterprise growth and resilience.
 - Drive strategic partnerships with financial institutions, including Sharia-compliant providers, to enhance inclusive access to capital.
 - Document program progress, impact stories, and learning to inform adaptive project strategies and reporting.
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01/12/2022 – 15/01/2025 Garissa, Kenya

Project Lead – ILO Innovation Challenge & Business Information and Innovation Centre Manager KNCCI-GARISSA CHAPTER

Responsibilities:

- Spearheading business growth services, supporting over 1,500 MSMEs and local entrepreneurs with access to finance, training, and market linkages.
 - Leading the design and implementation of an innovation-driven job creation program for refugees and host communities, benefiting 500+ entrepreneurs.
 - Developing and executing capacity-building programs for SMEs, focusing on financial literacy, business planning, and supply chain management.
 - Establishing strategic partnerships with ILO, UNHCR, USAID-KUZA, and VNG International to enhance entrepreneurship and employment opportunities.
 - Providing mentorship and business development services to startups and social enterprises in Garissa County.
 - Facilitating the Garissa County Investment Forum, connecting 400+ stakeholders to investment opportunities and policy discussions.
 - Securing funding and technical assistance for business incubation projects through collaboration with development partners.
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01/03/2019 – 30/10/2022 Garissa, Kenya

DEPUTY COUNTY TRADE OFFICER COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF GARISSA

Responsibilities:

- Collecting and compiling economic and trade-related data
 - Disseminating business information to the business community
 - Facilitating local trade promotion activities through trade fairs and exhibitions
 - Participating in the implementation of trade-related development projects
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TRAINING OF ENTREPRENEURS (T.O.E) ON BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SKILLS(BDS), SIYBI, FINANCIAL EDUCATION, VSLA AND LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE ILO, KNCCI, USA-AID, DRC, NRC, KRCS, RTI - INTERNATIONAL, EDC AND YYC, KUDHEIHA, WFP, KEFRI, SOLO.

Responsibilities:

- Financial Education: Training entrepreneurs on financial management principles, budgeting, and financial planning to enhance their financial literacy.
- Leadership and Life Skills: Providing training on leadership and governance, emphasizing the development of essential life skills to improve personal and professional growth.
- SIYB Modules: Conducting sessions on key business skills such as planning, marketing, record-keeping, buying, and stock control to ensure effective business management.
- SACCO Training: Training cooperatives (SACCOs) in collaboration with the Department of Cooperative-on-cooperative principles and effective management.
- Mentorship and Coaching: Offering ongoing mentorship and coaching to entrepreneurs to support their business development and personal growth.
- Immigrant Returnees Training: Providing specialized training for immigrant returnees on entrepreneurship and financial education to facilitate their reintegration and economic stability.
- Needs Assessment: Conducting thorough needs assessments to tailor training programs to the specific requirements of different groups and individuals.
- VSLA Methodology: Developing and delivering training on VSLA methodology, group dynamics, financial inclusion to promote sustainable group activities and financial resilience.
- Customized Training Materials: Creating interactive and participatory training materials to enhance the learning experience and ensure practical application of skills.
- Youth Development: Training youth in business planning, entrepreneurship skills, and income-generating activities, along with providing leadership and life skills training to foster their development and empowerment.

01/06/2017 – 15/06/2017 Garissa, Kenya

RESEARCH ASSISTANT SAVE THE CHILDREN

Responsibilities:

- Data collection
- Data analysis
- Data interpretation

01/07/2014 – 02/2019 Balambala, Garissa, Kenya

SPECIAL PROGRAM OFFICER COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF GARISSA

Responsibilities:

- Designed and implemented special programs and projects based on community needs.
- Monitored and evaluated program progress and impact, compiling data for assessments.
- Engaged with local communities to promote participation in government programs.
- Coordinated with government departments, NGOs, and stakeholders for cohesive program delivery.
- Prepared detailed reports on program activities, progress, and outcomes.
- Developed and implemented emergency response plans for crises such as droughts and floods.
- Acted as a liaison between the county government and the local community.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

<i>L</i>	Mother tongue(s):	SOMALI		
<i>e</i>	Other language(s):	UNDERSTANDING	SPEAKING	WRITING
<i>v</i>				
<i>e</i>		Listening	Reading	Spoken production
<i>l</i>				Spoken interaction
<i>s</i>				
:	ENGLISH	C2	C2	C2
<i>A</i>	SWAHILI	C1	C1	C1
<i>1</i>				

and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

- Networking
 - Community Development
 - Travelling
 - Reading
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REFEREES

Vincent Alila

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EU-funded ABLI G II Project Implemented by DRC
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