INTRODUCTION
The OCVP was founded in 2009 to build evidence-based data on crime, conflict and violence for shaping policy, developing responses and monitoring progress, at time when the country is emerging from the prolonged conflict.

The OCVP exists to research, publish and act as a reservoir of the knowledge gathered from the pressing issues affecting Somalia and to consequently make it available when needed for conflict prevention, policy-making, programming, security, peacebuilding, environment and sustainable development. The OCVP also builds the capacity of all actors of conflict and violence in Somalia to bring them back to normalcy, peace, and change of attitudes, outlooks and beliefs.

Scope of work
The OCVP’s approach to its programmes involves research, knowledge management, and training, drawing on the data collected at all levels and disseminating findings to various stakeholders at district, regional and national levels to inform policy-making and programming.

Since its establishment, the OCVP has enjoyed a unique vantage point as an institution situated at the intersection between academics, community practitioners and policy makers involved in peace building, conflict resolution, and sustainable development. It has cultivated direct links with local communities and a growing number of Somali academic institutions while at the same time developed networks and partnerships with international academic research institutions involved in conflict resolution, peace building, and sustainable development. These give the institution the ability to identify priority areas of concern, develop highly contextualised intervention approaches and roll out concisely targeted advocacy campaigns.

Our Vision
A peaceful, secure and prosperous Somali-speaking Community

Our Mission
To contribute to peace building and state building across all regions of Somalia through research, education and dissemination of information that promotes harmony, social cohesion, security, safety, and sustainable development within all regions of Somalia and Somaliland.
**Our Values**
The OCVP is committed to ensuring that all aspects of its work and relationships are conducted in accordance with the following guiding principles: *Integrity; Fairness; Transparency; Inclusion; Accountability; Safety; Quality.*

**Objectives**
The broad objectives of the OCVP are:
- To research, monitor, map and report on the issues and actors associated with crime and violence across all regions of Somalia for the benefit of partner organizations as well as local and international stakeholders;
- To provide seminars and training for the benefit of community safety practitioners as well as local community leaders;
- To gather lessons learned (practice notes) from different implementing agencies and offer policy recommendations based on these to local and international stakeholders as well as other interested parties, including governments;
- To support the development and implementation of an effective Early Warning and Response Network (EWARN) that will bring together local authorities, communities, non-government organizations, academics and other experts in order to prevent and respond to violent incidents as well as any other threats to peace and security in the country.

**OUR THREE PILLARS – The OCVP Brand**
The ‘three pillars’ or three key functions of OCVP are Research & Analysis, Knowledge Management, and Training & Education. These three pillars are OUR BRAND and they form the basis of on-going activities at OCVP as it works to support and build peace, security, and sustainable development in Somalia. These pillars currently support the following four programmes:
- Post Conflict Governance and Development
- Displacement and Migration
- Trauma Healing and Social Reconstruction
- Environment and Sustainable Livelihoods.

**Research and Analysis**
OCVP conducts research activities in order to provide data and analysis on issues of peace, conflict, security, and development for the benefit of both local and international stakeholders. The OCVP uses both qualitative and quantitative methods to assess programmes and activities organized and producing
reports which are widely distributed to public. The OCVP has carried out various research activities including conducting a series of ‘Conflict and Security Assessments’ in districts across Somalia. On behalf of the Danish Demining Group (DDG), the OCVP also conducted conflict mapping of selected districts in Somaliland.

**Knowledge Management**

The OCVP engages management of information and data collected by its team members as well as other stakeholders and stores it in central knowledge bank. This data as well as reports, training materials, reviews, lessons learned and other documents produced by OCVP are then widely distributed to donors, partners and when possible the general public. High priority is also placed on sharing findings with local communities and stakeholders in Somalia, particularly those that have participated in OCVP research activities.

**Training and Translation**

Based on the latest data and findings as well as lessons learned OCVP develops context-specific training models for government, non-government and community actors responsible for implementing responses to insecurity at both the district and national level in Somalia. Additional training tailored to context in Somalia is offered in issues of conflict resolution, mediation, humanitarian issues, as well as other issues concerning conflict transformation and sustainable development. In order to deliver these services more effectively a training centre has been established at the OCVP compound in Hargeisa.

**PROGRAMMES**

**Post Conflict Governance and Development**

Post conflict governance and development is one of the pressing issues that are often neglected after initiatives are made to deescalate conflicts. Addressing these issues is of prime importance to prevent future conflicts.
These issues include: development governance; economic and financial governance; and democratic governance. The inability to solve problems like land conflicts and inequalities between ethnic groups, and the implementation of land legislation and decentralisation can rejuvenate conflicts in fragile states and deter sustainable development. It is believed that many of the current and future conflicts, civil disorder and instability in Somalia have their roots in issues having to do with land ownership and land governance. Dealing and addressing these land issues will be a major challenge to any new government for Somalia. Hence, the OCVP investigates and documents issues that have to do with post-conflict governance in general and land governance in particular, and generate first-hand information that can be vital in debating and addressing critical issues.

Displacement and Migration

Peace initiatives most often fail because they do not anticipate post-conflict problems. The achievement of lasting peace does not end with the termination of violence and the signing of peace processes. The return and reintegration of those uprooted by the armed conflict is a crucial part of the peace accords that could end the confrontation.

OCVP believes that one some of the biggest challenges in post conflict reconstruction is the effective social and economic development of the areas where returnees have settled. In addition, the mitigation of tensions between returnees and locals, as well as between different types of returnees and even within organised groups. This is the premise with which OCVP works.

Trauma Healing and Social Reconstruction

Conflict often results in trauma and social destabilisation. Distressing events such as conflicts violate the autonomy of the person at all levels.

Such events have primary effects on the systems of attachment and meaning that link individual and community and damage
relational life which raises the question of how individuals and communities endure, break apart under, or work through and transcend the effects of traumatic violence.

Healing of the individual and social wounds caused by violent conflict appears to be linked to the coming to terms with the events of the past, the restoration of a sense of justice, and a context of basic security and socioeconomic development. These are the questions that OCVP is researching to answer so as to heal and reconstruct the shattered psyche and social integration to enhance peace and sustainable development.

Environment and Livelihood
Environmental protection and management is essential in ensuring sustainable development in the era of climate change. The life-supporting ecosystem services and goods for human needs and natural processes are under threat in many parts of the Horn of Africa. The scramble for these resources, overexploitation of resources brings about land degradation, biodiversity loss and resource scarcity. These resource-related problems exacerbate, conflict, food and water insecurity, poor waste management, etc in the Horn of Africa and seriously threatens human well-being. It is reality today in Somalia that overwhelming majority of citizen depend directly to their immediate environment for livelihood and survival, hence, the country will only able to achieve developmental goals and stability if it actively analyses its environmental problems, defines solutions and develops policies on how best to manage its natural resources and secure the livelihoods of its people. OCVP addresses these issues through an integrated approach to ensure the resources remain as a source of livelihood to the people.

PARTNERSHIPS
Since 2009 OCVP has signed a series of memorandums of understanding with a number of other institutions including the University of Mogadishu (Somalia), East African University (Puntland), Amoud University (Somaliland), as well as the Africa Programme of the United Nations ‘University for Peace’ in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. OCVP has also entered partnerships
with most of the local and international non-government organizations currently operating in Somalia including the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).¹

Internationally, the OCVP has also established partnerships with some of the world’s leading institutions in the fields of violence, conflict and peacebuilding including the Centre for Global Counterterrorism Cooperation, Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies (UK), and International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research at the Centre of the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. The University and the School of Global Studies of the University of Sussex have also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the OCVP to enable Somalis to better understand, reduce and prevent violence.

MOVING FORWARD
To build on its success, the OCVP must not only overcome the current difficulties and shortcomings but also look to the future. As part of this effort, the OCVP has developed a five-year strategic plan to attract more funding for its programmes. If supported, the plan will enable OCVP to expand its reach, re-equip its various departments, and increase its activities to contribute towards a peaceful and prosperous Somali-speaking Community.

¹ For the DAI-led Transition Initiatives for Stabilization (TIS) program in Somalia
Geographic Expansion
To better undertake its research activities and support peacebuilding, conflict resolution and sustainable development initiatives in the wider Somali region, the OCVP has established offices in Mogadishu in South Central Somalia and Garowe in Puntland. The offices act as the first point of contact to OCVP in the respective regions and also lead OCVP activities in those areas.

Reorganization of the OCVP Departments
In the next ten years, the OCVP envisions reorganization of each of its current departments – Finance and Administration; Knowledge Management and Outreach; Research and Analysis; Training and Translation. The reorganization, accompanied by additional funding, will ensure that OCVP becomes more efficient and more productive in its research activities, providing training and producing analysis.

Administration and Finance
In addition to the establishment of OCVP offices in Puntland and South–Central Somalia the current Administration and Finance Department would be divided into the following new departments:

- Department of Administration
- Department of Finance
- Department of Human Resources
- Department of Logistics
- Department of Infrastructure and Equipment

Knowledge Management
The Knowledge Management Department would be divided into the following sub-offices:

- Communications Office
- Resource Centre
- Fundraising Office
- Monitoring and Evaluation Office
- Information and Database Office

Research Department
In order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Research and Analysis department, additional resources would be allocated in order to achieve the following:

- Increase number of staff and experts employed within the department;
- Recruit and train a pool of enumerators in all regions of Somalia;
- Increase number of staff and experts employed within the department;
- Review, update and develop new manuals and materials for training activities;
- Extend the research activities of OCVP into new programmes in order to address current needs in Somalia;
- Train and equip researchers to adopt new techniques of data collection;
- Extend the training activities provided by OCVP into new programmes in order to address current needs in Somalia;