



International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Voices of the Diaspora – Ahmed (Somalia)



Having heard about QUESTS-MIDA through an IOM event with Somali students in London, I became more interested in the programme. **I was passionate about making a positive impact on my country and was keen to find out if this initiative would give me the possibility of using my knowledge and skills for the development of a public institution in Somalia.** MIDA offered me a platform to do this. I decided to apply for a position.

Once back in Somalia, I helped develop an action plan to support the Ministry of Finance & Planning in

Mogadishu.

I have conducted trainings on different areas such as data analysis, statistics for policy and economic forecasting, and fiscal budgeting. On some days I meet with the international community representatives or UN agencies to discuss different ongoing projects.

I enjoy waking up every day while on duty and thinking of training, workshops, and reports or policy documents that make a difference to Somalia and the Somali people through QUEST/MIDA. I am happy to say I have not experienced any security problems since arriving, which is not what I expected.

My advice to the Somali diaspora community in the UK would be to remember to give back to their home country through transferring skills and knowledge, which can really make a difference.

‘I wanted to genuinely contribute to the developmental issues in Somalia and had passion to transfer my skills to those who required them most. MIDA offered me a platform to do this.’

IOM in the United Kingdom

11 Belgrave Road, London SW1V 1RB | iomuk@iom.org | unitedkingdom.iom.int