



CCF is an international non-profit incorporated association dedicated to the long-term survival of the cheetah and its ecosystems.

**RESEARCH**

**CONSERVATION**

**EDUCATION**



# Facilities: Somaliland



## **CHEETAH RESCUE AND CONSERVATION CENTRE (CRCC)**

In partnership with the Somaliland Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MoECC), the Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF) established Cheetah Safe Houses in Hargeisa from 2018 to 2023 to address the increasing number of confiscated cheetah cubs from the illegal wildlife trade. These Safe Houses provided crucial care and shelter for the rescued animals. In 2023, the operations were consolidated into a single centralized location called the Cheetah Rescue and Conservation Centre (CRCC) in Geed-Deeble. The CRCC now serves as the main intake point for confiscated cheetah cubs, offering housing and a dedicated quarantine area. Construction of the CRCC, designed to emulate CCF's renowned Centre in Namibia, began on 16th December 2021, aiming to be a significant wildlife conservation and education destination in Somaliland.

## **FACILITY**

The CRCC, situated on 1,800 acres (800 ha) in Geed-Deeble, a forest reserve an hour's drive from Hargeisa, serves as a permanent home for cheetahs rescued from the illegal pet trade or human-wildlife conflict situations by the MoECC and placed under CCF's care.

## **NATURALISTIC ENVIRONMENT**

The CRCC features expansive, 5 - 12 acres (2-5ha), enclosures that provide a naturalistic environment for the animals. The spacious, fenced enclosures allow for freedom of movement and play, essential for the cheetahs' well-being and rehabilitation process.

## **VETERINARY CLINIC AND LAB**

The CRCC houses a fully-equipped veterinary clinic and laboratories to provide world-class care for confiscated animals. Here, confiscated cubs receive immediate medical attention, addressing any health issues resulting from the illegal trade and improving their chances of survival and rehabilitation. It is operated by professionally trained international veterinary staff who live on-site.

## **CUB NURSERY**

The CRCC nursery is specifically designed for the needs of the youngest cheetahs and provides a safe and nurturing environment for the rescued cubs.

## **EMERGENCY QUARANTINE**

The CRCC maintains an emergency quarantine area to isolate and treat animals that might pose a health risk to the other cheetahs in care.



## STAFF AND EXECUTIVE ACCOMMODATIONS

The CRCC provides on-site housing for both the professional staff and visiting executives, ensuring round-the-clock care for the cheetahs and continuous operation of the facility. In addition, the site features a dedicated dining area, fostering a communal space for sharing meals and ideas.

## FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Plans are underway to build additional educational and vocational training facilities to benefit various stakeholders, including students, teachers, pastoralists, wildlife caregivers, eco-rangers, and local CRCC staff. Once complete, the CRCC will also be open for public tours to educate both local and international visitors about the country's ecosystems and indigenous wildlife.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The CRCC is a testament to the progress made by CCF and the MoECC in addressing the illegal trade in cheetahs. It stands as the first facility of its kind in the Horn of Africa, a region where most cheetah confiscation events occur.



## TRAINING AND EDUCATION

CCF envisions the CRCC as a vital training hub for the next generation of Africans in leadership roles, offering programs in biology, ecology, pastoralism, rangeland management, and cheetah and wildlife conservation.



## PARTNERSHIPS

The CRCC stands as a testament to the fruitful partnership between CCF and the MoECC, marked by a 30-year collaboration agreement. This joint effort encompasses the establishment and management of the CRCC. Over this span, CCF's role will transition to that of fostering sustained operation under the Somaliland government's stewardship. Within the scope of CCF's wider initiatives, the CRCC holds a pivotal position. It fulfills a crucial function in the trajectory of confiscated cheetah cubs, guiding them from rescue through rehabilitation and potentially towards release. This pivotal role underscores the CRCC's significant contribution to CCF's overarching mission to safeguard and preserve cheetah populations.

## REPORTING

For immediate reporting of IWT concerns, contact:  
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## LEARN MORE



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