



FOREWORD

INTRODUCTORY NOTE



I am pleased to write the foreword for the fourth edition of the BORESHA Sheko and the first of 2019. I am grateful to the Project Management Unit for giving us this important space to highlight and share the great work we are doing together and the integration between the two programs. Funded by the European Union Trust Fund for Africa, the

Regional Approaches for Sustainable Conflict Management and Integration (RASMI) project adopts a conflict systems approach coupled with an activity sequencing method of

implementation that allows layering of activities. This approach provides an effective way of sustaining peace – since the cyclical nature of conflicts identified in the project areas have historical drivers that make these conflicts difficult to resolve. Layering interventions builds capacity to continually root out drivers of

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conflict, grievances, and issues to ensure social cohesion is built. Through this approach, the project identifies each conflict's root causes and drivers, and then implements via boundary partners (change agents) a series of intentionally overlaid activities to mitigate the conflict and ultimately resolve it over time and through processes. The project is part of the EU's program for Collaboration in the Cross-Border areas of the Horn of Africa, providing over 60 million euros of investment to prevent and mitigate the impact of local conflict and to promote economic development and greater resilience in four different cross-border regions.

Our RASMI program, which means "reliable" in Somali, target stakeholders in the Kenya – Ethiopia – Somalia border who are most vulnerable to engaging in conflict, irregular migration, and recruitment into militias and terror groups. These stakeholders include youth, internally displaced people, and pastoralist drop-outs and marginalized ethnic groups. At the same time, we engage local government agencies, youth leaders, women leaders, religious leaders, security actors and the private sector – those who have the greatest capacity for managing conflicts and promoting peace both locally and nationally.

RASMI and BORESHA programs are strategically designed to ensure seamless coordination and collaboration that allow for synergy of efforts. RASMI which is implemented by Pact Kenya and other local consortium partners is focusing on peacebuilding initiatives while BORESHA focuses on resilience and alternative livelihoods. Both teams hold monthly meetings in the field and Nairobi to strengthen coordination and collaboration of our respective interventions. In these meetings we share our implementation plans and explore areas of collaboration as well as joint implementation opportunities. One of the significant outcomes from this coordination is the increased levels of engagement between the implementation working group at the field level which helped improve coordination with government for both programs.

In as much as the RASMI and BORESHA consortia partners are pursuing different program impacts and outcomes, the two areas of intervention are closely related, and their success will depend on common factors, such as access, conflict management, and the collaboration between governments, communities, and other stakeholders.

Overall, the two programs will jointly participate in government-led sectoral and other coordination meetings and work together to establish innovative means of sharing program information with the community, civil society organizations and other stakeholders in Somalia, Ethiopia, and Kenya.

Yussuf Mohamed Abdullahi
Regional team lead –RASMI Project

INTERVIEW

WITH CARE ETHIOPIA PROGRAMME MANAGER



Ben Irwin
Programme Manager
CARE Ethiopia

About the Interviewee

Ben Irwin has been working in Africa since 1994, focusing on community based, sustainable management of natural resources; forests, rangelands and water bodies. Ben is a Participatory Learning and Action promoter, practitioner and pioneer. Ben has principally worked in Cameroon, Ethiopia and Tanzania in Africa and the UK and Portugal in Europe.

1. What is Participatory Rangeland Management in a few words?

Participatory rangeland management is a process whereby communities (as rangeland management institutions) and government



(pastoralist area extension services) establish a legally binding agreement for the sustainable management of a defined area of rangeland and its natural resources.

Participatory rangeland management establishes a rangeland management plan that guides the implementation of sustainable rangeland management actions.

Through the establishment of the plan and agreement, participatory rangeland management enables both community and government to then coordinate and collaborate in the sustainable development processes in the lowlands.

Participatory rangeland management represents a new working partnership and a new approach to rangeland management based on a partnership between community rangeland managers, and government professional services; agricultural, pastoral and rural development extension workers. This new partnership requires both parties to take on new roles and new skills. The primary new role is to work together towards mutually understood and agreed aims and objectives of new rangeland management plans and rangeland management agreements. This is followed by the joint implementation of the management plans.

2. What are PRM key principles?

The participatory rangeland management process is based on 3 stages: Investigating participatory rangeland management, negotiating participatory rangeland management and Implementing participatory rangeland management. It is important to note that each stage has its steps.

3. Why is PRM approach relevant in BORESHA, particularly in the context of cross border natural resource management?

A number of governments across the region are currently developing lowland land use policies that are supportive of local pastoralists and their resource management systems. In order to achieve this, emphasis is needed in two key areas: firstly; ensuring that the interests of representative groups of pastoralists are fully included in the management of rangeland resources; secondly; in developing a workable and legitimate process of communal land and resource tenure that suits the priorities of local pastoralist groups, as well as government administrative bodies.

Participatory Rangeland Management is growing in recognition as an overarching natural resource management systems approach that fits the bill. PRM is a systems based approach for the management of rangeland resources at a landscape level. PRM is now being used in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Tanzania.

The opportunity of using PRM in all three implementation countries of BORESHA (Kenya: Somalia: Ethiopia) is that it immediately gives us a cross border connection through the PRM approach.

The risks of resource based conflict is a key challenge in pastoralist areas. This is the case both internally, within one country, but even more so externally, in cross border areas where natural resources have historically been used by multiple users from different countries. Opportunity and acceptance of cross border resource use is increasingly being restricted, due to a number of reasons, not least border security concerns. Participatory rangeland management offers a solution to these challenges. It provides a clear and effective means of including the interests of pastoralists and other stakeholders in cross border rangeland management. PRM enables the negotiation of a formal rangeland management agreements between pastoralist groups and governments to secure access to rangelands and critical resources across international borders.



*All about partnership
- Partnership roles of
government services
and community resource
management groups
are central to successful
participatory rangeland
management'*



UPDATE

KEY PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

1. BORESHA website has been launched, it is currently live: www.boreshahoa.org
2. Induction and enrollment of 212 TVET trainees was conducted across the three clusters with the first lot expected to graduate in March 2019
3. Cross border trade consultations were held in Dolo Ado and Dolo Bay Woredas in Ethiopia as a preparatory activity in establishing the Tri-border trade and economic committee
4. The launch of the grant facility was done & public information sessions were completed.
5. Stakeholders sensitization workshop on IBLI was conducted in Mandera
6. Construction of water infrastructure under integrated water resource management have started in all the 3 project areas

UPCOMING MAJOR ACTIVITIES

1. Collaboration with government stakeholders to promote DRR integrated in to government department programs
2. Capacity building of local government in natural resources planning and management
3. VSLA and LCIG groups Trainings
4. Joint Cross Border Mission with BORESHA, RASMI and IGAD team
5. Grants final evaluation
6. ECHO Mission to Takaba to monitor the Emergency Response

STORY

LIVESTOCK SERVE AS LIFELINE - FATUMA'S STORY

Somalia is a fragile state characterized by three decades of protracted conflicts, lack of central government, recurrent natural disasters such as cyclic drought, floods and man-made catastrophes like environmental degradation and deforestation. These have negative impacts on the lives of the most vulnerable Somalis especially women, children, elderly and people living with disabilities.

Barabarai village (Doolow Somalia) is located on the eastern part, 35km near the main road passing Luuq to Mogadishu. The population's livelihoods depend on livestock rearing and farming along the Jubba River which is approximately 3-5Km on the northern part.



Fatuma Mohamed, a mother of 7 children, is among the female headed households. She was one of the beneficiaries. Dollow, Somalia. Photo|BORESHA

Just as the people rely on livestock for their wellbeing, the animals also depend on adequate rainfall to replenish water sources and to grow pasture and other types of animal fodder along the Jubba



Livestock is the lifeline of pastoralists, especially the vulnerable. Distributing goats will enhance livestock production. Doolow, Somalia. Photo|BORESHA

River. In recent years, due to recurrent droughts the rainfall has been inadequate, resulting in dried up water sources and decreased pasture and animal fodder, leaving the livestock with insufficient food and water.

As a result, most animals were lost during the last consecutive drought seasons leaving the livestock owners vulnerable and often not able to pay for the basic needs, insufficient animal herds can leave them with inadequate coping mechanisms to overcome the droughts with extended dry seasons. To help the vulnerable communities in Doolow, one of the project activities is the re-stocking of 2000 goats, to be distributed to the most vulnerable who lost their livestock as a result of cyclic drought. The prime objective is to improve the livelihoods and community resilience through increasing herd size by distributing 5 goats per HH, this will enhance livestock production of meat, milk and source

of income by selling in case of emergency. In coordination with Doolow district administration and the representative from Ministry of Livestock Jubaland based in Doolow, treatment and vaccination of livestock prior distribution was undertaken.

Fatuma Mohamed, a mother of 7 children, is among the female headed households. Before the project, Fatuma had 13 goats after losing 37 in the last successive droughts of 2016 and 2017. The distribution of goats where Fatuma was a beneficiary, was during the long rainy season of Gu' (April to May 2018) while the availability of water and pasture was abundant. Fatuma was very happy to receive the best asset that can restore and improve her livelihood. Due to the favourable environmental condition coupled with good husbandry, almost all animals conceived and 4 out of 5 goats she received gave birth to healthy kids.

When we visited Fatuma on the second week of September, 2018, she was very happy and playing with her children. "I am very happy and grateful now for the animals received from BORESHA through World Vision Somalia, I am better off now since I have enough livestock, enough milk for the children and my elderly mother and sometimes source of income by selling the milk to the nearby bigger village of Gedweyne to purchase sugar and other food items for my family. She was grateful to the EUTF funded project and welcomed the support since it was timely and necessary during a difficult period.



Fatuma Mohamed was happy to receive the best asset that can restore & improve her livelihood. Doolow, Somalia. Photo|BORESHA

NEWS

BORESHA EXHIBITION IN NAIROBI

For several decades the narrative about the peoples of the cross border regions of Kenya – Ethiopia and Somalia has been: Marginalization, conflict, poverty, disease and drought, this has been a persistent narrative that has lasted the test of time and has become synonymous with the cross border areas. There has been little room to counter that skewed narrative and paint a true picture of those areas more so the resilience of the people and their rich and diverse culture. However, with the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa programme that covers Kenya-Ethiopia-Somalia border this narrative is bound to change.

The European Union was scheduled to launch the EUTF Cross Border programme on the 12th of February 2019, the EU's High Representative and Vice President, Ms Federica Mogherini was to launch the cross border projects as part of her regional tour. All implementing partners were invited and given exhibition stands to showcase their projects and the products generated by the communities they work with.

The ultimate aim of the EUTF cross border programme is to transform borderlands into more prosperous and stable areas where communities have a sense of belonging and prospects for a better future.



DRC staff were invited to the exhibition in order to enhance internal project awareness. It was a fun filled day as colleagues sampled some of our products. February, 2019. Photo| BORESHA

Due to an unavoidable circumstance the launch was postponed at the last minute, the new date for the launch will be announced soon. As BORESHA we decided to hold the exhibition stand at our Nairobi office in order to enhance internal project awareness as well as to take advantage of the opportunity since we had made tremendous preparation including bringing some of our beneficiaries to Nairobi to take part in the event.

We had a fun filled day which included: Henna drawing by our beneficiary, camel milk tasting, honey, tie-dye products and fresh produce from the cross border areas. The samples were generated by our programme to highlight the amazing work being done by the communities we are working with. This was the first of many exhibitions to come which will be geared towards the overall improvement of the visibility and communication of our project to external stakeholders.



Colleagues taking part in the Henna drawing activity which attracted a number of staff. The artist is one of our beneficiaries. February 2019. Photo| BORESHA

It was also a great opportunity for our beneficiaries to meet the Project Management Unit and more so the Consortium Head in order to get firsthand information about the implementation of the project at

the field level as well as to discuss areas of improvement. The Consortium Head, Nicoletta Buono held a meeting with the beneficiaries upon their request, they discussed several issues regarding the project. "I am currently being trained on henna drawing and saloon, I am grateful for the opportunity and it is my hope that I will be supported to set up a business in order to put my skills to gainful use as well as employ others" said Anab Hussein, Henna

drawing and Salon trainee from Mandera North. In general, they were happy to report that the implementation is on course and were so far pleased with the project's impact. They also raised several concerns on how some activities can be improved in order to have the necessary and sustainable impact that the project is aiming for. "I have listened to all your concerns and I will look at them with the aim of addressing them" Nicoletta Buono assured the beneficiaries.



HIGH LEVEL DELEGATION VISIT TO MANDERA WEST & BANISSA

A high level delegation of the Country Directors from three consortium partners (DRC-Kenya, World Vision International and CARE International in Kenya) visited Mandera West/ Banissa emergency project areas between Monday 18th to Wednesday 20th February 2019. The delegation also included the head of the BORESHA Project Implementation Unit and area members of parliament from Mandera West and Banissa constituencies.



The delegation visited a number of locations including Urile Centre for Health Outreach. February 2019. Photo| Abdiaziz Mohamed| BORESHA

They were received and shown around by a team of DRC-led Consortium Staff members working in Mandera County. The visitors paid a courtesy call to the local security team. Here, they were informed that Mandera West and Banissa were the two safest sub counties in the country; that both Mandera west and Banissa constituencies were originally part of the greater Mandera West constituency before 2013 which was then referred to as the "wild west" due to its run away poverty, neglect and marginalization. The security team and administrators also acknowledged the presence of the DRC-led consortium in the area working with displaced persons and the host community. The hosts were then briefed by the delegation lead: DRC-Kenya Country Director, Mr. David Kang'ethe who introduced his delegation and gave a succinct update on the objective of the mission which was to visit Mandera west/Banissa Emergency project and to sensitize all the relevant stakeholders on the key activities, start dates, beneficiary areas covered and collaboration mechanisms. They were informed about the background of how the initial assessment was sponsored through the BORESHA project.

It is instructive to note that representatives of both levels of government acknowledged

the impact of the frequent conflict between communities across the border in region 5 of the neighboring Ethiopia which has caused human displacements time and again causing a heavy burden on the local institutions, resources and the host community. They were also grateful that the DRC-led consortium has stepped in to help.

The visiting team also held a meeting key sector heads in the sub county including the sub-county Water Officer, Public Health Officer, Education Officer, Children's Officer, Save the Children officer, the Constituency Development Fund Manager and the area leaders to get first-hand information and the levels of support thus far. The DRC-led consortium field teams also gave a brief on the project status so far and the overview of areas of implementation (host and displaced).

A field visit to see the emergency project activities was planned for Banissa. The visiting team visited Urile Centre for a health outreach programme and to see a proposed beneficiary school. A health campaign for children, women, elderly and other members of the community was going on here where several health personnel had pitched seats under different tree sheds and attending to several cases. The Urile primary school had only three semi-permanent structures for

classrooms accommodating 130 students with only one teacher who also doubled as the head teacher. The school had no toilet, no water, no playing ground and the head teacher's office was also a store for foodstuff. The emergency project is targeting the school to provide learning kits dubbed, "education in a box." The school will also be provided with one semi-permanent structure for classroom.

The team also visited Eymole water point where the emergency project has lined up the only borehole in the area for rehabilitation. The village is also a target for the distribution of the Non Food Items (NFIs). The borehole had two generators both of which were dysfunctional at the time of the visit. The local community requested for support in solar powering of the generators since it had become too expensive to purchase diesel to run the engines.

The water point will be rehabilitated by the emergency project while the larger BORESHA project will explore ways of installing solar power to run the bigger generator under its Result 3.

CULTURE

SOMALI MACAWIS (SARONG)

The Macawis (sarong) is widely worn in Somalia and Muslim inhabited areas of the Horn of Africa. It is one of the most popular garments for men in the region and the most preferred.

The macawis can be described as a fabric that can be in the form of a tube or normal drapery that is wrapped around the waist and tied in a specific manner in order to get the necessary grip, normally they are folded several times over to secure their position. In fact, there is a technique to how it is tied and if not well mastered it can easily loosen and cause and embarrassment. In today's market the macawis is typically sold sewn and ready-made as a value added service, it is also sold pre-sewn as one long circular stretch of cloth for customization.

It is the dress of choice for men throughout the cross border areas of Mandera, Doloow and Dolo Ado which are largely inhabited by Somalis. If one is new to the area and does not understand the rich culture and history of the people in those areas and specifically the tradition of wearing the macawis it would be very easy get confused and wonder why men are wearing skirts.



Typical photo of modern day sewn Somali Macawis. Photo| Sarunggoyor-fadhil.blogspot

In today's world unlike in the past, the macawis comes in different sizes and colors. The designs also vary greatly and range from checkered squares to stripes to watermarked diamonds.

Their attractiveness comes from the fact that they come in different fabrics, are colorful, comfortable and easy to wear.

Today, the garment has not only been embraced in the horn of Africa but the world over, different regions have different names for it, in the end it is a cloth that is slowly gaining popularity in the modern world as fashion wear for men.

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