



BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESILIENCE IN THE HORN OF AFRICA (BORESHA-NABAD)



MONTHLY SITREP

NOVEMBER 2024





About BORESHA-NABAD

Building Opportunities for Resilience in the Horn of Africa (BORESHANABAD) is a three-year project funded by the European Union (EU) with co-funding from Danida. The project implemented by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) in partnership with the Rural Agency for Community Development (RACIDA), Voice for Peace for All in the Horn of Africa (VOPA) and Mandera Women for Peace and Development (WFPD), is part of the broader EU Peaceful and Resilient Borderlands programme, which aims to foster peace and resilience in select border regions of the Horn of Africa.

BORESHA-NABAD focuses on the Mandera Triangle borderland areas of Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia and aims to enhance the effectiveness of conflict prevention and mitigation, disaster risk reduction, and resilience-building. The Mandera Triangle faces various shocks resulting from drought, floods, conflicts, violent extremism, and diseases. To maximise its impact, BORESHA-NABAD leverages the knowledge and insights gained from previous EU-funded projects, including the 'Collaboration in Cross Border Areas of the Horn of Africa' initiatives.

BORESHA-NABAD considers the Borderlands landscape as a single interlinked system influenced by social, economic, and political relationships and dynamics. Using a cross-border systems lens, the project works with a range of local, regional, and national stakeholders to deliver flexible and complementary activities in the following target locations:

- Cluster One-Lafey, Elwak-Ceelwaq
- Cluster Two-Mandera-Beled-Hawa, Dollow- Dollo Ado
- Cluster Three-Rhamu-Sadey
- Cluster Four-Banisa-El-Mole-Malkamari

CONTEXTUAL UPDATES

1. Kenya Border Areas

● Surge in Al-Shabaab Attacks on Civilians and Security Forces

Mandera County experienced a surge in Al-Shabaab attacks in November, targeting both civilians and security forces, particularly along the Elwak-Wargadud stretch. On 13 November, an IED struck a county ambulance near Ires Suki village in Elwak sub-county, injuring the driver and a paramedic. Five days later, on 17 November, militants assaulted a boda boda rider at the Elwak-Lafey junction after he resisted their attempt to seize his motorbike.

These incidents rapidly escalated in the following days, prompting security forces to repel multiple ambush attempts in the same areas. On 19 November, Kenyan security forces operating along the Elwak-Wargadud road swiftly countered an Al-Shabaab grenade attack near Corner (S), approximately 20 km from Elwak.

Two days later, on 21 November, Al-Shabaab intensified its efforts with a double assault in Lafey sub-county. In Alungu ward, a dawn attack left a mother and her child injured, further highlighting the group's deliberate strategy of targeting civilians to instil fear and disrupt mobility. On the same day, the group targeted a KDF convoy near Ires Suki along the Elwak-Wargadud road with an IED. This attack was followed by rapid gunfire, injuring three soldiers, though the military swiftly responded to the incident. In another deliberate attack on 23 November, the Quick Response Unit (QRU) successfully repelled Al-Shabaab's probing assault using Rocket-Propelled Grenades and PKM gunfire on their camp in Alungu ward.



These incidents reflect Al-Shabaab's evolving strategy of targeting both civilians and security forces to destabilise border areas, disrupt mobility, and exacerbate socio-economic vulnerabilities. While security forces demonstrated enhanced preparedness in countering these threats, the increasing frequency of attacks continues to pose risks to critical routes, potentially disrupting programmatic interventions, limiting mobility, and discouraging community participation in affected areas.

● **Gruesome Beheading Incident Fuels Tensions**

On 21 November, a violent altercation in El-Danaba village near the Mandera-Wajir border ended with a truck driver from the Burji community gruesomely beheaded by a tuk-tuk driver in Mandera West. The dispute stemmed from verbal exchanges while the driver was in transit to access a nearby flooded seasonal river. The tuk-tuk driver allegedly used a sharp axe to commit the act, leaving the community in shock and fueling fears of impending retaliation on vehicles plying Marsabit road from the area. This incident presents the precarious state of inter-community relations in the region, where altercations over minor issues can quickly escalate into violence and destabilise social cohesion and stability.

● **Fresh Insecurity Along Kenya-Somalia Borderlands**

A cross-border security incident on 7 November saw a gunman in Elwak, Somalia, steal a weapon from a Somali National Army (SNA) officer and flee into Kenyan territory. Somali soldiers pursuing the gunman clashed with him 10 km inside Kenya, resulting in the death of one soldier and injuries to another. The gunman remains at large, further aggravating concerns about cross-border insecurity. This incident reflects the deteriorating security situation along the Kenya-Somalia border, exacerbated by factional tensions within Somalia's security apparatus. The ripple effects of such incidents complicate cross-border coordination of Boresha-Nabad programme interventions and fuel fear among local communities. To counter this, the programme closely collaborated with security agencies and local communities to receive early warning information to mitigate the impact on participants and staff members.

Kenya Context Highlights



Several injured in IED incidents as Al-Shabaab attacks on civilians and security vehicles rise.



Kenyan security forces repelled ambushes on the Elwak-Wargadud road and in Alungu.



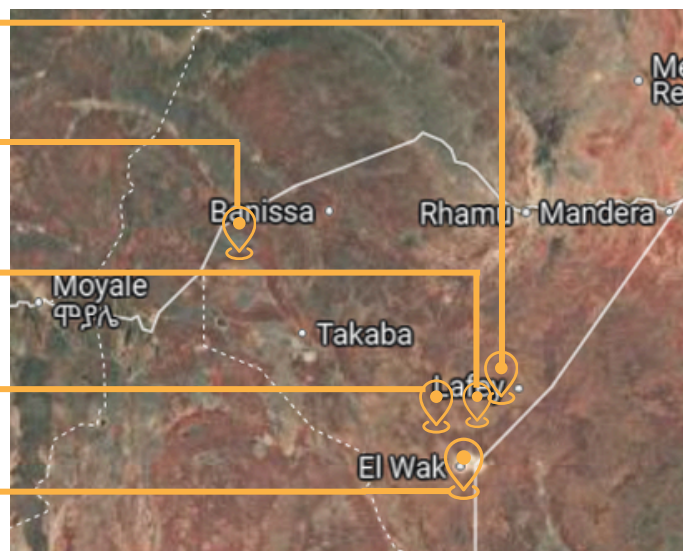
A truck driver beheaded in an altercation, raising ethnic violence fears.



A gunman steals an SNA soldier's weapon, flees into Kenya, fatal clash emerges.



- 21 November: Truck driver beheaded by a tuktuk driver after a dispute.
- 21 November: Militants injured a mother and child; probing attack on QRU camp repelled on 23 November.
- Multiple attacks from Alshabab on 19, 21st and 23rd November. Three soldiers were injured as security officers repelled attacks.
- 17 November: Boda boda rider assaulted by militants resisting motorbike theft.
- 13 November County ambulance struck by an IED; minor injuries reported.



Map of Incidents in Manderla County, November 2024

2. Somalia Border Areas

● **Clan Tensions Continue to Persist in Luuq**

The volatile situation in Luuq continued in November, marked by sporadic violence between the Reer Hassan and Gabaweyn militias and the Ma’alinweyne clan. On 11 November, Ma’alinweyne militiamen attacked a checkpoint in the Boyle and Bakhaarka areas, resulting in a brief armed confrontation before withdrawing. Later, on 23 November, Ma’alinweyne militias fired five mortar rounds at positions held by their rivals. While no casualties or property damage were reported, these attacks exacerbated tensions.

This resurgence of violence follows the inter-clan conflict that escalated in October, triggered by the assassination of a clan elder in September, which sparked armed confrontations on October 4, displacing an estimated 5,000 households and leaving multiple fatalities. The recurring clashes underscore the fragile state of peace in Luuq, with potential spill-over effects on neighbouring areas. The sustained insecurity disrupts local governance, humanitarian assistance, and economic recovery, further compounding challenges for communities already reeling from prior displacements.

● **Federal-Jubaland Tensions Escalate Over Regional Election**

In November, the political rift between the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and the Jubaland State Administration reached new heights, reshaping security and governance dynamics in the Gedo and Lower Jubba regions. On 10 November, clashes erupted in Elwak Somalia District between Jubaland forces and Somalia National Army (SNA) personnel, reportedly divided along clan lines (Darood vs Hawiye). The confrontation resulted in three fatalities and multiple injuries, highlighting the increasing polarisation within Somalia’s security forces. Similar violent confrontations have previously occurred in Mogadishu and Gedo’s Beled-Hawa, reflecting persistent clan-based divisions.

Tensions further escalated on 25 November with the re-election of Ahmed Mohamed Islam, popularly known as Ahmed Madobe, as Jubaland’s president. While Jubaland authorities largely supported the outcome, the FGS responded by deploying troops to Ras Kamboni, 270 km from Kismayo, in an apparent bid to assert control. This military intervention, perceived by locals as an extension of political disputes through force, underscores a growing trend in Somalia where political disagreements lead to the militarisation of borderlands. This risks destabilising cross-border trade, governance, and peace while threatening humanitarian operations already under strain.



Compounding these tensions, relations between the FGS and Ethiopia deteriorated further on 18 November when Ethiopian forces at Dolow Airport detained six SNA personnel reportedly dispatched by the FGS to Lower Jubba. In response, the FGS suspended commercial flights to Mogadishu on 20 November, disrupting critical logistical operations. Although the detainees were later released, the incident highlights the fragility of alliances in the region and its potential ripple effects on humanitarian access, trade routes, and cross-border cooperation.

This complex interplay of political rivalries and regional tensions signals a concerning shift in power dynamics, with critical challenges such as political resolutions remaining unaddressed. The escalation risks increased insecurity in borderlands already witnessing a surge in Al-Shabaab activities and threatens to undermine local governance while disrupting economic and humanitarian operations vital to the region's stability.

● **Increased Al-Shabaab Attacks in Gedo**

Al-Shabaab attacks persisted across Gedo and Lower Jubba areas in November, with both civilians and security personnel targeted. On 23 November, an IED attack near El Kala, 5 km from Elwak, Kenya, injured two Jubaland military officials and damaged their vehicles. On the same day, an SNA base in Luuq came under attack, resulting in an injury to one soldier. These incidents marked a continuation of roadside IED attacks, which have increased in frequency along key transit routes.

On 25 November, a grenade attack on a NISA member's residence in Baled Hawa injured two personnel, while a similar attack on 17 November targeted the residence of a humanitarian coordinator in Bardheere, injuring three people. The attacks reflect Al-Shabaab's ongoing attempts to destabilise the region, undermine state authority and threaten the safety of both civilians and government officials. The rise in Al-Shabaab activity poses prevalent risks to mobility, particularly in border areas that are critical to cross-border trade and humanitarian assistance.

● **Security Forces' Misconduct Fuels Tensions**

Concerns over the conduct of Somali National Army (SNA) personnel continued to emerge in November, with multiple incidents highlighting accountability gaps. On 12 November, a dispute between an SNA soldier and a police officer in Dolow escalated into gunfire, injuring both. On 14 November, an SNA soldier opened fire at a registration site for INGO beneficiaries in Luuq, causing panic and disrupting humanitarian activities. These incidents follow a series of violent acts by security personnel in the preceding months, including the fatal shooting of a woman in Beled Hawa in October and injuries to civilians during clashes between government factions in September. The recurring misconduct by security forces presents a unique challenge in the polarisation of government soldiers, undermining public trust and exacerbating tensions in an already fragile security environment.

Somalia Context Highlights



Sporadic inter-tribe violence continues, risking further displacement and insecurity in Gedo.



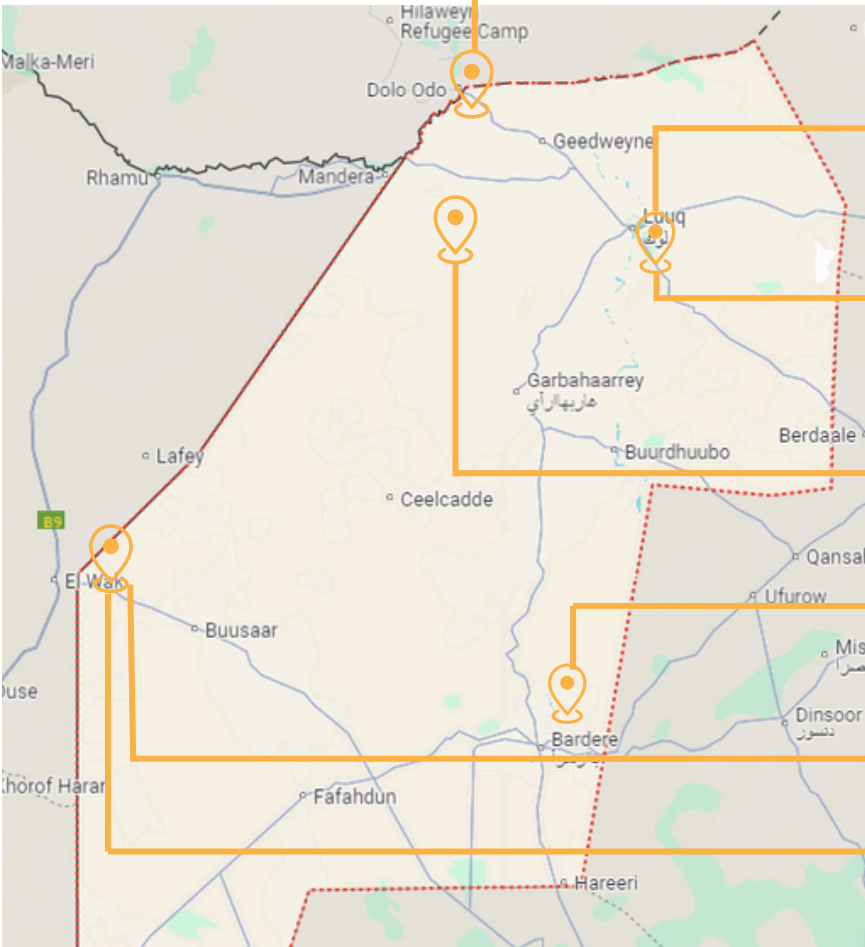
Political disputes and military deployments exacerbate instability in the borderlands.



Heightened IEDs and grenade incidents, presents insecurity in Gedo.



Violence by an SNA soldier disrupt aid delivery.



Map of Incidents in Gedo, November 2024

- 18 November: Ethiopian forces detained six SNA personnel, prompting airport closure and flight suspensions.
- 11 November: Ma'alinweyne militias attacked a checkpoint, leading to brief armed clashes with Reer Hassan-Gabaweyn forces in Boyle and Bakhaarka.
- 23 November: Mortar attacks by Ma'alinweyne militias landed near Reer Hassan-Gabaweyn positions; no casualties reported.
- 25 November: Grenade attack on a NISA member's residence injured two personnel in Beled-Hawa.
- 17 November: Grenade attack on a humanitarian coordinator's residence injured three individuals.
- 23 November: An IED attack injured Jubaland military officials and damaged their vehicle.
- 10 November: Jubaland forces clashed with SNA troops in Elwak Somalia, over election disputes, with fatalities reported.

3. Ethiopia Border Areas

● Relative Calm as Border Stand-Off is Resolved

A potentially disruptive border incident between Kenya and Ethiopia in Suftu was quickly de-escalated in November 22, when reports emerged of impeded civilian movement where elders from Manderu and Baled-Hawa in the company of security officials, were prevented from crossing into Suftu Woreda for a cross-border meeting. High-level inter-authority dialogues organised by BORESHA-NABAD successfully resolved the misunderstanding, helped restore civilian movement, and facilitated the continuation of cross-border engagements.

● Escalating Tensions in Jubaland Raise Concerns in Ethiopia's Somali Region

The intensifying conflict in the neighbouring Somalia region of Jubaland with the active presence of Ethiopian forces has sparked fears of spill-overs into Ethiopia's Somali region. On 27 November, the Ogaden National Liberation Front (ONLF) raised alarms over rising tensions near Ras-Kamboni, cautioning against further escalation between Jubaland and the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS). This comes amid Ethiopia's redeployment of Somali region militias from the Liban Zone to Barey and Godgod districts in the Afdheer Zone on 15 November. The Ethiopian government outlined the redeployment as a response to intelligence reports of Al-Shabaab's planned attack in Yet and Ato areas. These developments could heighten concerns about uprisings and mobilisation along clan lines, potentially threatening the region's fragile peace.



● Land Dispute in Moyale Fuels Ethnic Tensions

The ethnic tension in Moyale refreshed on November 18, when a fight broke out between Borana and Gabra communities in Moyale, Dawa zone, resulting in one injury. The conflict arose from a land dispute over a site designated for urban development by the Oromia administration, which was contested by the Gabra community. In October, a similar incident was witnessed in an area claimed by both the Somali and Oromia regions when Oromia Municipality undertook construction activities on a disputed land. These incidents, which are uniquely presenting, stem fears of ethnic violence in Moyale, an area that has witnessed longstanding conflict between various ethnic factions over the last decades. These situations threaten to destabilise newfound peace if no immediate solutions are achieved.

● Economic Pressures Intensify Over Birr Depreciation

The ongoing devaluation of the Ethiopian Birr against the US Dollar and Kenyan Shilling has exacerbated economic hardships for border communities in Dollo, Ethiopia, and neighbouring Mandera, Kenya, and Dollow, Somalia. Communities are facing steep increases in the prices of essential commodities, which disproportionately affect vulnerable groups. The economic pressures caused by fluctuating exchange rates are threatening local livelihoods amidst heightened poverty levels in a region where the poverty level is increasingly worrying. This situation is exacerbating field operation costs and limiting community and critical stakeholders' participation in programmatic intervention due to depreciating Birr values that are eroding household purchasing power.

Ethiopia Context Highlights



Cross-border administrators' agreement eased civilian and trade movement.



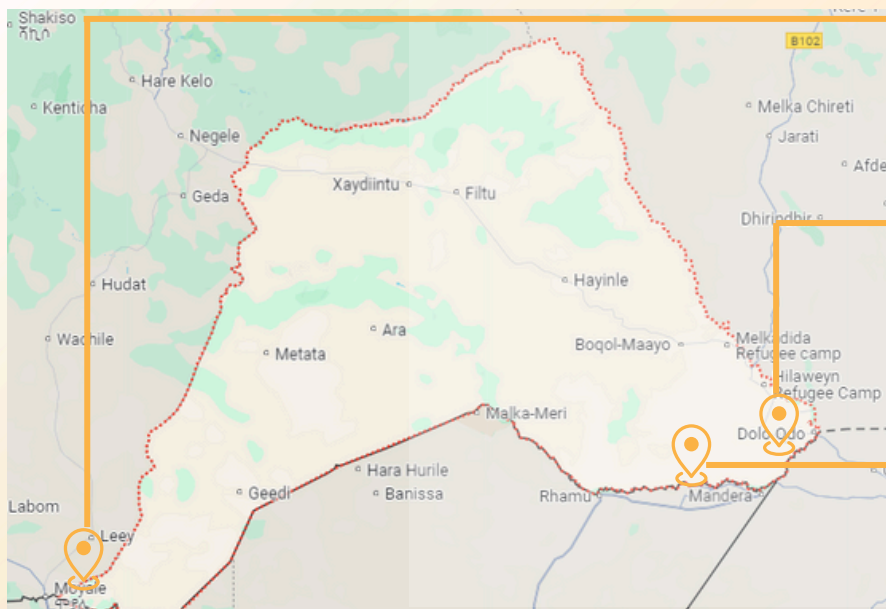
Ethiopia redeploys Somali militias to counter Al-Shabaab threats amidst rising tension in Gedo.



Borana and Gabra communities clash over territorial disputes, raising fears of renewed ethnic rivalry in Moyale.



Birr's devaluation spikes commodities prices, worsening economic hardships for the vulnerable.



Map of Incidents in Liben Zone, November 2024

- 18 November: Ethnic clashes over disputed urban development site injure one person.
- 27 November: Rising tensions in Jubaland prompt ONLF warnings; Ethiopian militias redeployed to enhance border security.
- 22 November: Temporary stand-off restricted civilian movement; resolved through cross-border dialogues.

INCIDENTS SUMMARY

Date	County/District	Location	Type	Detailed	Response
07-Nov	Elwak, Somalia	Elwak, Somalia	Cross-Border Incident	Gunman stole SNA officer's weapon and fled into Kenya. A Somali soldier was killed, and another injured.	Yes
11-Nov	Luuq, Somalia	Boyle and Bakhaarka	Clan Conflict	Ma'alinweyne militiamen attacked a Reer Hassan-Gabaweyn checkpoint, leading to brief clashes.	No
12-Nov	Dollow, Somalia	Town Centre	Security Violence	Dispute between an SNA soldier and police officer escalated to gunfire, injuring both parties.	Yes
13-Nov	Elwak, Kenya	Ires Suki	IED	Ambulance struck an IED near Ires Suki; driver and paramedic sustained minor injuries.	Yes
14-Nov	Luuq, Somalia	INGO Registration Site	Security Violence	An SNA soldier fired shots at an INGO beneficiary site, causing panic and halting activities.	Yes
15-Nov	Afdheer, Ethiopia	Barey and Godgod	Security Deployment	Somali region militias redeployed to reinforce security amid Al-Shabaab threats near Yet & Ato.	No
17-Nov	Elwak, Kenya	Elwak-Lafey Junction	Assault	Al-Shabaab militants assaulted a boda boda rider for resisting motorbike theft.	No
17-Nov	Bardere, Somalia	Coordinator's Residence	Alshabab Attack	Al-Shabaab grenade attack injured a humanitarian coordinator, one soldier, and a civilian.	No
18-Nov	Dollow, Somalia	Dollow Airport	Detention	Ethiopian forces detained six SNA personnel, escalating tensions with the FGS.	Yes
19-Nov	Elwak, Kenya	Corner (S)	Alshabab Attack	Al-Shabaab ambushed military convoy with a hand grenade; attackers repelled with no casualties.	Yes
21-Nov	Elwak, Kenya	Ires Suki	Alshabab Attack	IED struck KDF convoy on Elwak-Wargadud road, followed by gunfire; three soldiers injured.	Yes
21-Nov	Elwak, Kenya	Alungu Ward	Alshabab Attack	A tuktuk driver beheaded a Burji truck driver during a dispute over river access.	Yes
21-Nov	Mandera/Wajir	El-Danaba	Murder	Militants injured a mother and child during a targeted assault on a civilian settlement.	No
23-Nov	Luuq, Somalia	SNA Base	Alshabab Attack	Al-Shabaab attacked an SNA base; one soldier was injured during the brief clash.	Yes
23-Nov	Kenya/Somalia	El Kala, Near Elwak	Alshabab Attack	An IED targeted Jubaland military officials; two injured and vehicle damaged.	Yes
23-Nov	Moyale, Ethiopia	Moyale Town	Land Dispute	Borana and Gabra communities clashed over urban development land, leaving one person injured.	No
23-Nov	Luuq, Somalia	Luuq	Clan Tension	Ma'alinweyne militias fired mortars at Reer Hassan-Gabaweyn positions; no casualties reported.	No
25-Nov	Baled-Hawa Somalia	Immigration Office	Grenade Attack	Hand grenade thrown at NISA member's house; two officers injured, one airlifted for treatment.	Yes
25-Nov	Jubaland, Somalia	Ras Kamboni	Political Tension	FGS deployed troops after Ahmed Madobe's re-election, escalating Federal-Jubaland tensions.	Yes



01. EU Funded Cross-Border Projects Coordinate for Impact

To enhance increased collaboration and efficiency among the EU-funded Cross-Border projects, on November 24th, the BORESHA-NABAD, FAO's PLACE, and IOM's Deris-Wacan projects convened a meeting in Dollo Ado to establish a targeted coordination platform for shared interventions in key sectors. These sectors include water access, climate-smart agriculture, financial inclusion, and honey production. A pivotal outcome of this meeting was the creation of a "Village Model" coordination platform.

This collaborative approach is structured to prevent duplication and provide joint targeting opportunities that will lead to the concentration of activities by all three programmes in specific areas. This will foster synergy by organizing activities in a sequential and layered manner, ensuring seamless coordination from planning to implementation stages of the programmes. This initiative aligns with BORESHA-NABAD's overarching strategy to harmonise interventions internally, pool resources, foster cross-border synergies, and ensure programme complementarity to maximise the collective impact of the interventions.

For example, BORESHA-NABAD is restoring 200 hectares of Prosopis-infested riverine farmland in Dollo, Somalia and integrating five local farming cooperatives with 15 farmers each into the farming value chain. The cooperatives are being supported through cash-for-work models, provision of high-quality seeds, and installation of solar-powered irrigation systems, including floating pumps.

Simultaneously, BORESHA-NABAD will work with other EU-funded programmes to address critical gaps under the same activity that BORESHA-NABAD cannot fund. This includes assisting the cooperatives in building storage facilities and extending pipelines and canals to improve water access. By creating coordination opportunities like this one and strategically sequencing and layering activities for maximum impact, the EU-funded interventions can effectively operate on a scale and support sustainable and impactful initiatives.

Specifically, within this activity, the plan is to place these cooperatives at the core of a sustainable, farmer-led model. This model will involve reclaiming 200 hectares of land previously affected by Prosopis and establishing connections with seed suppliers, access to farm inputs and markets, and the Ministry of Agriculture's extension services to create a functional market system beyond the life of the projects.



02. Cross-Border Women's Forums Amplify Gender Advocacy

As part of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, BORESHA-NABAD organised a cross-border women's network forum in November. The event brought together 60 women leaders from Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia to discuss and propose solutions to violence against women and girls. The forum provided a platform for women leaders to address issues like exclusion from decision-making and barriers to peacebuilding participation amid recent political dynamics. It served as an advocacy platform to raise awareness about gender-based violence and equip participants with tools for change during the 16 Days of Activism. Additionally, it aimed to foster coordination among cross-border women's networks and offer networking opportunities to tackle mutual cross-border issues.

The forum discussions empowered women to actively engage in governance and conflict resolution. They highlighted the importance of gender-sensitive solutions and culturally inclusive approaches in patriarchal communities. This initiative aligns with BORESHA-NABAD's multifaceted efforts to enhance women's meaningful involvement in peacebuilding and conflict resolution, contributing to sustainable transformation in the border regions of Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia.





PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS UPDATE

Implementing Partner	Target Location	Activity Description
<p>RACIDA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenya: Mandera East, Mandera West, Mandera North, and Banisa • Ethiopia: Dollo Ado; Suftu, Sadey, Suftu, Qurarey • Somalia: Dollow, Beled-Hawa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enhance local ownership and position communities as key drivers of programmatic interventions, BORESHHA-NABAD, through RACIDA, facilitated the development and validation of 12 gender-responsive disaster risk reduction (DRR) and peacebuilding action plans across seven centres of Mandera County. This process provided community members with a platform to review the plans and ensure alignment with their needs and priorities. In Kenya and Somalia, local authorities were engaged through sub-county steering committees and meetings in Dollo Ado to integrate government development plans into these action plans, fostering institutional collaboration and accountability. • To Increase women's and youth participation in local government DRR processes and plans, the consortia, through RACIDA, conducted a radio talk show in the Dollo Addo District to help amplify the voices of critical actors such as women and youth. The show proved vital in engaging the community while encouraging listeners to participate through call-ins through radio, which remains a commonly used media channel by communities to voice their concerns. The show featured diverse guests, including representatives from sector offices and organisations, focused on women and youth, enriching discussions around community challenges. • RACIDA Ethiopia, in partnership with the Bokolmayo livestock office, trained fifteen veterinary officers and AgroVets on disease surveillance methods, diagnostic approaches, treatment protocols, and best practices in animal health management. This initiative aimed to empower veterinary officers by providing them with relevant skills and knowledge to effectively tackle new challenges in veterinary healthcare. Strengthening linkages between veterinary officers and AgroVets is crucial in advancing holistic animal healthcare services, critical for sustaining pastoralist livelihoods and knowledge-sharing to address emerging healthcare challenges.

- BORESHA-NABAD, through RACIDA SOM, co-created solutions with animal health stakeholders that led to an 18-day mass livestock vaccination campaign in Beled-Hawa and Dollow districts to control transboundary animal diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease, PPR, CBPP, CCPP, and Rift Valley fever. BORESHA-NABAD, through market system models, facilitated and trained veterinary officers, Community Disease Reporters, and AgroVets to deworm, vaccinate and treat 3000 livestock in strategic vaccination sites based on ecosystem dynamics and cross-border considerations. This initiative was crucial in safeguarding livelihoods, boosting productivity, mitigating disease risks, and contributing to peaceful coexistence and market stability.

- In promoting fodder production sustainability, BORESHA-NABAD, through RACIDA Kenya, facilitated extension officers to initiate weekly capacity sessions for 120 fodder farmers in five target locations using the Pastoral Field School (PFS) approach. Through this process, farmers and agro vets were linked through weekly experiential learning sessions on modern technological innovations in fodder production, including seed bulking, conservation, storage, and transportation techniques, which enhance their capacity to sustain production beyond project support. Additionally, LCIG groups underwent business skills training on entrepreneurship, planning, record-keeping, and marketing to enhance their ability to access markets and sustain income-generating activities.

- To enhance market-driven fodder production and income diversification approaches, 240 farmers and AgroVets from the target locations of Sadey, Suftu, Qurarey, Fikow, and Dolo Ado in Ethiopia, Warily and Barbaray in Doolow, and Gawido and Tulamin in Beled Hawa, Somalia, were trained on fodder production, seed bulking, and livestock productivity through a co-creation initiative with local agriculture ministries. Participants gained skills to create sustainable feed systems and reduce drought-related livestock losses. Fodder producers were linked with AgroVets to establish reliable input supply chains and promote market access.

- To enhance ecosystem restoration, improve biodiversity, and enhance resilience against climate shocks, BORESHA-NABAD, through RACIDA Somalia, established four women-led tree nursery groups in Beled-Hawa and Dollo, Somalia. The 60-member groups were supported with training on nursery management, seedling growth, and sustainable practices to address deforestation while creating income opportunities for participants.

RACIDA Planned December Activities

- Support planning processes of DRR/peacebuilding committees through tailor-made training and contingency planning.
- Support the generation of gender-responsive community-based DRR plans (covering conflict, drought, and flooding) in Jara Village, RACIDA Ethiopia.
- Support peace dividends through shared infrastructure required for local peace agreements – Earth Pan RACIDA KEN and Ethiopia
- Facilitate engagement between community representatives and local authority officials to support the negotiation, establishment, dissemination, and maintenance of local peace agreements in Kenya and Ethiopia.
- Logistical support for conflict mediation by local institutions (authorities and informal cross-border groups) to respond to conflict and manage tensions.
- Conduct Vet officers training in Mubarak – RACIDA Ethiopia.
- Animal Health Sector support: mass vaccination campaigns and animal treatment to control transboundary animal diseases – RACIDA Ethiopia.
- Facilitate committees to develop cross-border disaster contingency plans, including plans for conflict management and peacebuilding.
- Livestock Common Interest Groups: procurement farm input and Sudan grass seed Distribution in Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia.
- Establishment of women’s tree nursery Groups/Individuals s, procurement and distribution of tree seedlings, training on establishing and maintaining nurseries and seedling management in Somalia and Ethiopia.

Implementing Partner	Target Location	Activity Description
DRC KENYA	Wider Mander County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure sustainable fodder production and marketing, BORESHA-NABAD, through DRC Kenya, facilitated a two-day co-creation meeting involving 10 farmers, 10 Agriculture Extension Officers, and 10 Water Officers in collaboration with County Executive Committees for Agriculture and Water. The meeting established linkages among key stakeholders to strengthen coordination and enhance market connections in the fodder and water value chains, focusing on value addition and sustainable resource management. • To enhance organisation, networking, and coordination among tri-border business committees (TBCs), BORESHA-NABAD, through DRC Kenya, organised a forum for TBCs from Mander, Suftu, and Beled-Hawa. The committees were restructured to address fragmentation and improve inclusivity and productivity. Following the reorganisation, members were trained on networking and coordination concepts and guided to develop joint action plans aligned with market systems development principles. These plans aim to strengthen cross-border business management and improve market accessibility across the three countries, ensuring sustainable coordination and resilience.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BORESHA-NABAD, through DRC Kenya, organised community consultative forums in 15 locations across Mandera County, reaching 450 community members, including women, youth, PWDs, and minority groups across the target locations. These forums are integral to the consortium’s efforts to cultivate local ownership in programmatic interventions and enable communities to identify priority needs, strengthen resilience capacities and ensure interventions align with local priorities for sustainable impact. • BORESHA-NABAD, through DRC Kenya, partnered with the County Livestock Department and co-implemented a refresher training on Epic Collect for 28 sub-county veterinary officers and select AgroVets to enhance livestock disease surveillance and reporting. The training also introduced participants to the market systems development approach and emphasised collaboration between private AgroVets and Community Disease Reporters (CDRs) to strengthen the provision and delivery of sustainable animal healthcare services. • In collaboration with the County Department of Water Services, BORESHA-NABAD, through DRC Kenya, identified 20 boreholes in Mandera County requiring repairs. In November, 14 boreholes were assessed to determine necessary service works, and Bills of Quantities (BoQs) for 12 boreholes were developed. Rehabilitation works will be undertaken through private sector actors that will be later mandated to manage 6 boreholes through a market systems approach. • BORESHA-NABAD, through DRC Kenya, developed plans to expand three irrigation canals previously constructed during the third phase of BORESHA by an additional 2,000 metres. The canals will support farmers in irrigating fodder and other crops, contributing to increased agricultural productivity and strengthening resilience capacities as part of ongoing efforts to enhance livelihoods and food security. • BORESHA-NABAD, through DRC Kenya, conducted refresher training on fodder production, seed bulking, and marketing for three Livestock Common Interest Groups (LCIGs) and eight farmer groups/individuals. This initiative aims to strengthen the livestock value chain by supporting large-scale fodder production as livestock feed, equipping participants with essential skills to enhance productivity and market access, thereby fostering resilience and sustainable livelihoods.
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DRC Kenya Planned December Activities

- Refresher Training of 8 farmers Groups/Individuals in fodder production, seed bulking and marketing.
- Community sensitisation on the importance of disease control.
- Training of Agriculture officers on permaculture.
- Training of 1 LCIG in the Girissa location on the Production of fodder.
- Establish and support three fodder demo farms with LCIGs and other farmers along the riverine.
- Training of 8 farmers groups and 6 LCIGs on dryland farming.

Implementing Partner	Target Location	Activity Description
DRC ETHIOPIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dollow District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In close coordination with technical experts from the Dollo Addo District Cooperative Office, DRC Ethiopia provided business skills training to four female groups of Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs), each consisting of 25 members. These trained VSLAs will be linked to existing financial institutions, such as banks and microfinance organisations, to access financial services, including savings, credit, funds transfers, insurance etc • BORESHA-NABAD, through DRC Ethiopia, partnered with the Dollo Addo Youth and Sports Office to conduct a five-day training on peace advocacy and peacebuilding initiatives for 25 youth network members (9 females, 16 males). The sessions focused on advocacy strategies, the role of youth in fostering peace, and practical approaches to community cohesion. This initiative aimed to integrate youth and cultivate and empower them to drive positive change within their communities. • BORESHA-NABAD, through DRC Ethiopia, co-implemented a Rapid Water Needs Assessment (RNA) with the Dollo Addo Woreda Water and Energy Development Office. The assessment evaluated challenges in the water system across Dollo Addo town and surrounding villages, including the functionality of privately owned water suppliers. Following the RNA, a Water Value Chain Co-Creation Meeting was held, bringing together community members, private sector actors, government officials, and financial institutions to identify gaps and collaboratively plan interventions to improve water access and system efficiency.

DRC Ethiopia Planned December Activities

- Women & Youth-led advocacy & peacebuilding.
- Advocacy consultation and workshops.
- Support women and increase participation in local Government DRR processes and plans.
- Provide technical assistance and incentivise government sector offices, such as Dollo TVET College, to provide training to VSLA Groups/Individuals, TVET graduates, IGA & LCIC Groups/Individuals.
- Support the Rehabilitation of 10 water points using the market systems model.
- Identifying and addressing supporting systems constraints inhibiting women and youth access to sustainable and profitable livelihoods.
- Support and connection to FSPs. -VSLA.
- Provide business skills training to LCIG, IGA groups, and TVET graduates.

Implementing Partner	Target Location	Activity Description
DRC SOMALIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beled-Hawa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the consortium’s efforts to support marginalised communities affected by recurrent droughts and floods in accessing sustainable, clean, and safe water, BORESHA-NABAD, through DRC Somalia, partnered with the Jubaland Ministry of Water to identify critical water infrastructure and support the construction of a shallow well with two water kiosks in Ramagarroore and Kulanley villages, Dollow District. This water initiative includes an elevated water tank, pipeline extension, and solar-powered system to help reduce the community’s reliance on unsafe river sources located 4–5 km away. • To actualise sustainable, community-led management of the above initiative, DRC Somalia trained 14 Water Management Committee members from the villages of Ramagarroore and Kulanley. This training aimed to strengthen the capacity of local communities to sustainably manage water resources, improve sanitation practices, and ensure consistent access to clean and safe water. The committees, comprising eight men and six women, received specialised training in water facility management, financial record-keeping, and strategies for protecting water sources, fostering inclusive and effective resource management.

DRC Somalia Planned December Activities

- Train and support Livestock Common Interest Groups with farm inputs, climate-smart fodder production, seed bulking, and learning/advocacy.
- Animal Health Sector support: mass vaccination campaigns and animal treatment to control transboundary animal diseases.
- Refresher training of and material support to CDRs/CAHWs to support disease reporting.
- Restoration of degraded landscapes promoting soil health and water conservation/management to fight desertification—delivered through Cash for Work (CFW) in coordination with NRM committees in the target areas.
- Facilitate Triborder business committee meetings and development of action plans, Strengthening the Tri-Border business committee through capacity support and increased engagement among the committee members.

Implementing Partner	Target Location	Activity Description
VOPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elwak-Kenya, Banisa, Elwak Somalia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In November, 33 at-risk youth from Elwak, Kenya and Elwak, Somalia, were trained in entrepreneurship skills. This initiative aimed to address socio-economic challenges faced by vulnerable youth, foster resilience, and equip participants with skills for personal and community development. The training marked a crucial step in empowering youth to overcome adversity, with participants gaining practical financial literacy and entrepreneurship knowledge.

Implementing Partner	Target Location	Activity Description
VOPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elwak-Kenya, Banisa, Elwak Somalia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance the local communities' capacity to tackle climate change adaptation and improve NRM practices in Elwak and Banisa, BORESHA-NABAD, through VOPA, organised a three-day training session on natural resource management (NRM) for the 50 Ward Level Climate Change Committees. This capacity-building session enabled committees to gain practical knowledge in NRM and climate change mitigation, establish collaboration frameworks with law enforcement agencies to strengthen environmental laws and develop action plans focusing on community education, tree planting campaigns, and promoting sustainable alternatives to charcoal.

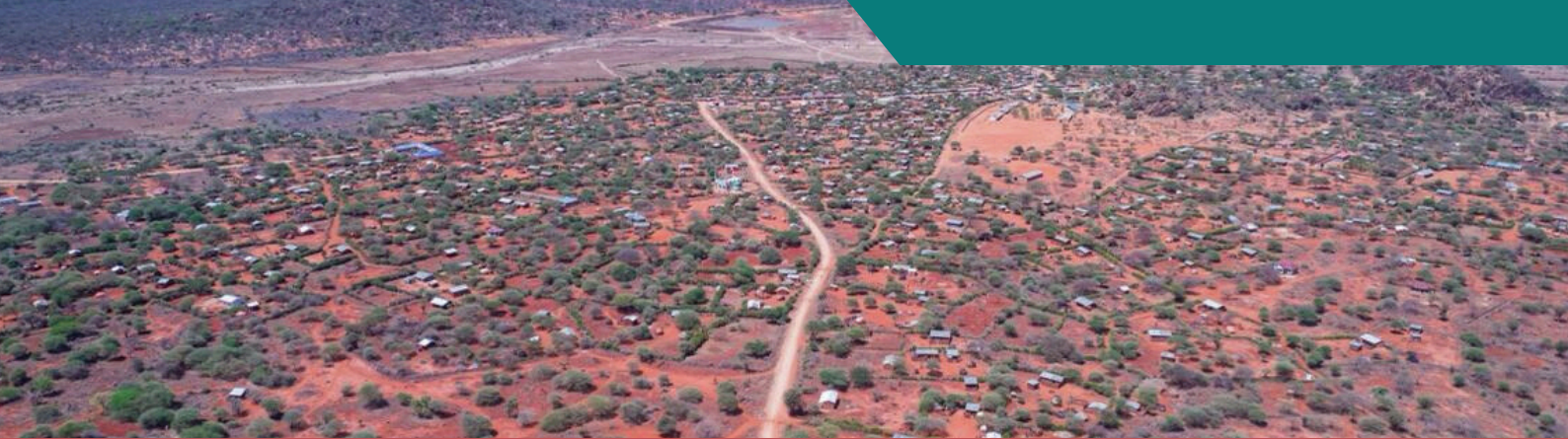
VOPA Planned December Activities

- Entrepreneurship Skills Training for the Cross Border Youth at risk.

Implementing Partner	Target Location	Activity Description
WFPD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kenya: Mandera Town; Ethiopia: Suftu; Somalia: Belet Hawa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BORESHA-NABAD, through WFPD, facilitated a high-level cross-border meeting in Suftu, bringing together 42 cross-border administrators, key community opinion leaders, and actors. The meeting focused on addressing tensions that disrupted trade and movement across the tri-border region, advocating for community-owned peace agreements to ensure sustainable resolutions. The initiative successfully mitigated cross-border tensions amidst ongoing authority stand-offs, fostering collaboration and stability. To amplify the voices of women networks in the Kenya-Somalia-Ethiopia borderlands, BORESHA-NABAD, through WFPD, organised an annual network forum convening 60 members. The forum provided a peer-to-peer platform for discussing challenges affecting cross-border women's participation in peace initiatives and income generation. Held during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, the initiative strengthened cooperation and coordination among cross-border stakeholders on GBV prevention and mitigation.

WFPD Planned December Activities

- Identify and train peace education network actors and Train 20 teachers as ToTs on CVE, peacebuilding and GBV/VAWG.



PROGRAMMATIC CHALLENGES AND ADAPTATIONS STRATEGIES

● **Heightened Security Threats Across Borderlands**

The month of November witnessed a surge in Al-Shabaab activity, including IED explosions and ambushes targeting security forces, vehicles, and civilians across the borderlands. These incidents, combined with inter-clan tensions and political tussles in regions such as Gedo, disrupted movement and instilled fear among the cross-border population. The consortium sustained collaboration with local security agencies and adopted virtual engagement platforms for meetings and training to ensure operational continuity while safeguarding staff and participants.

● **Drought and Erratic Weather Disrupting Livelihoods**

The erratic rainfall patterns following the delayed Deyr rain, coupled with the looming prolonged drought, have worsened water scarcity and food insecurity in borderland regions. If not effectively managed, this situation has the potential to undo the progress achieved by governments and development actors in these sectors.

As part of BORESHA-NABAD's Anticipatory Action Planning (AA) and Disaster Risk Reduction processes, we regularly collaborate with governments and local communities to identify key hotspot areas and prioritise interventions related to water, animal health, and fodder production. This is aimed at mitigating the impact of the anticipated drought and enhancing coordinated mitigation and response mechanisms.

In the implementation section above, we outline various activities focused on water management, smart agriculture, and animal health to support these efforts.

● **Cross-Border Coordination Challenges**

Discrepancies in policies and bureaucratic hurdles among Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia administrations hindered the smooth implementation of cross-border trade. The renewed tension between Ethiopia and Somalia over the Gedo region's elections presented new hurdles in facilitating cross-border movement. To prevent spillovers and advance smooth inter-authority relations, the consortium organized cross-border high-level dialogue meetings among government officials, community leaders, and other stakeholders to lay the groundwork for coordinated action plans on trade, peacebuilding, and resource sharing, enhancing collaboration across borders.

● **Overcoming Women and Youth Inclusion in Peacebuilding**

The consortium's key priority remained overcoming the entrenched challenges of women's and youth's marginalisation in decision-making processes within the patriarchal borderlands. This exclusion was particularly pronounced in critical areas such as disaster risk reduction (DRR) and peacebuilding. To address this, the consortium launched a series of inclusive initiatives designed to amplify the voices of women and youth and empower them as agents of change. These initiatives included radio talk shows, community forums, and cross-border women's network meetings that created spaces for their active participation in governance and conflict resolution.



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