



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



MONTHLY SITREP

OCTOBER 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 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 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 Mander Triangle faces various shocks resulting from drought, floods, conflicts, violent extremism, and diseases. 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, to maximise its impact.

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

I. Kenya Border Areas

● Escalation in Cross-Border Trade Disputes

Earlier this month, a diplomatic standoff arose between Kenya's Mander authorities and Ethiopian officials in Suftu, triggered by the seizure of sugar imported from Ethiopia. Kenyan customs officials alleged tax evasion, levying a customs charge of 1.2 million Kenyan shillings, prompting Ethiopian officials to demand its release. The situation escalated to a two-week suspension of cross-border trade, only resolved after bilateral dialogues facilitated temporary relief. However, the lack of a lasting solution leaves the border at risk of further trade disruptions. Additionally, cross-border detentions in October, including the arrest of an Ethiopian teacher by Kenyan security and subsequent retaliation by Ethiopian authorities who arrested two Kenyan police officers and an engineer in Suftu, underscore the heightened fragility in cross-border relations. To address this, BORESHA- NABAD is working with both local authorities to plan for a cross-border dialogue to normalise the situation.

● Renewed Inter-Communal Tensions in Mander North

In Mander North, tensions escalated between the Garre and Murulle communities following incidents of assault on October 12 and 13. The altercations arose from disputes over deforestation, with Garre youth being assaulted by Murulle youth on October 12 during tree-cutting activities in Sogle, Mander North. In retaliation, three Murulle men were assaulted by members of the Garre community the next day. Another incident on October 26, involving the discovery of 8 slaughtered animals dumped in Bulla-Shantoley, further exacerbated community tensions. The escalation of these incidents, coupled with the historical backdrop of violent disputes over natural resources and boundary claims, underscores the fragility of inter-communal relations. Even minor conflicts over resources can swiftly spiral into violence, jeopardising fragile peace.



● **Persistent Al-Shabaab Attacks in Remote Border Areas**

Al-Shabaab maintained its presence in Mandera and surrounding border areas through a series of attacks in October, presenting persistent security challenges. On October 6, Kenyan forces successfully repelled an Al-Shabaab assault in Damasa, Mandera County, as militants attempted to ambush a convoy near the Kenya-Somalia border. On October 12, simultaneous attacks were launched in Fino, Lafey, Sheikh Barrow, and Damasa by Al-Shabaab militants, reportedly using anti-tank weaponry. While these attacks were thwarted by Kenyan security forces, sightings of Al-Shabaab operatives in remote villages continue to fuel fears of further incursions.

Reports from Elwak suggest a troubling trend of youth radicalisation, with local leaders noting an increase in young men crossing into Somalia for alleged recruitment. In response, community leaders and political representatives convened engagement meetings, mobilising efforts to counter radicalisation and protect at-risk youth. BORESHA-NABAD has expanded its programming to both Elwak-Kenya and Somalia to implement localised integrated countering violent extremism (CVE) and income generation interventions specifically targeted at youth and women.

● **Local Leadership Mediate Peace Dialogue**

Efforts towards peace gained momentum in Mandera as the County's leadership, led by Governor Mohamed Adan Khalif, organized an inter-community dialogue in Banisa on October 21. Following a series of retaliatory attacks in September that had claimed lives, the meeting brought together leaders and community elders from the Garre and Degodia communities in Banisa. The peace dialogue concluded with both groups committing to cease hostilities, end retaliation, and enable displaced families to return to their homes. The Governor also pledged to engage Ethiopian leaders in addressing cross-border disputes through diplomatic channels.

In a similar move in the Mandera-Wajir corridor, a parallel peace initiative involving MPs from Mandera South, Tarbaj, Lafey, elders, security teams, and peace committees addressed underlying tensions between Garre and Degodia clans following contentions over two recently torched lorries in the area. These efforts by the leadership facilitated relative calm in the historically volatile corridor where tensions would quickly spur conflict in a long stretch from Wajir to Mandera.

● **Verbal Exchange Spurs Political Tensions Amid Development Tours**

Mandera's Governor faced political pushback during his October tour of county development projects, with some local leaders alleging that the tour served as a political platform ahead of the 2027 elections. This criticism, led by former Mandera Senator Billow Kerow, sparked intra-community tensions within the Garre and Murulle factions, raising concerns about election-related violence. These exchanges underline the risks of political campaigns in polarizing community relations, even as the leadership asserts a commitment to social cohesion and countering violent extremism. The incident reflects the delicate interplay between development initiatives and political dynamics in Mandera, where local governance must navigate both community needs and electoral sensitivities.

● Arrest of Activists Raises Concerns over Freedom of Expression

The October arrest of a young activist in Banisa, allegedly due to his critique of local governance, drew public attention, with his family’s protest circulating on social media. Political leaders reportedly ordered this arrest following his condemnation of some stalled projects. This incident reflects the broader challenge of balancing youth engagement with freedom of expression in Mandera amidst increasing youth participation in socio-political discourse through social media. Nationally, a similar case involving political activist Morara Kebaso has fuelled debates around government transparency and the treatment of young activists.

● Irregular Weather Patterns Yet Daau Breaks Bank

The October short rains in Mandera were sporadic and uneven, causing concern among border communities heavily reliant on agriculture. While some areas received moderate rainfall, much of the county remained dry. In contrast, heavy rains in Ethiopia’s Liban zone led to the overflow of the River Daau, resulting in flooding on both sides of the border and disrupting farming activities and cross-border movements. This situation underscores the severe environmental challenges faced by these borderland areas, where irregular rainfall patterns and cross-border flooding pose threats to livelihoods and programme implementation. These challenges hinder communities’ ability to adapt to unpredictable climate change patterns and highlight the vulnerability of the borderlands to environmental risks. Even minor weather shifts can impede the programme’s engagement with participants across the borderlands as they navigate unfolding situations.

Kenya Context Highlights



Cross-Border Diplomatic trade disputes over tax charges temporarily suspends trade routes.



Multiple Al-Shabaab attacks repelled by Kenyan forces in border areas.

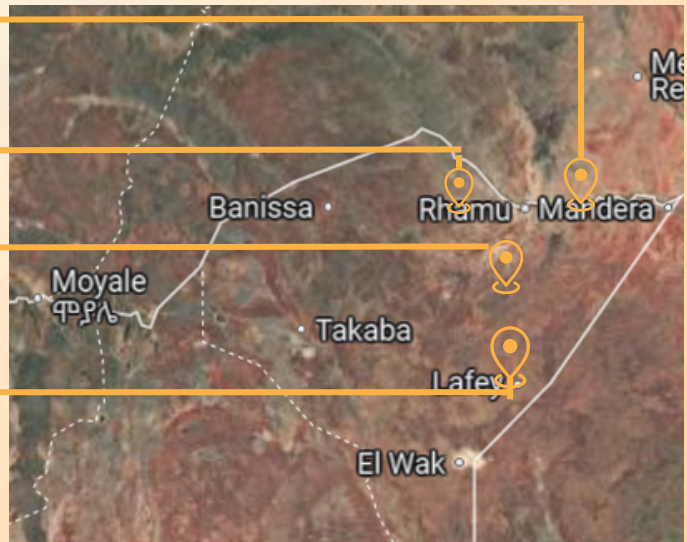


Mandera County leadership facilitated a ceasefire between Garre and Degodia in Banisa.



Young activist arrested in Banisa amidst concerns over freedom of expression.

- Dispute over sugar import taxes led to temporary trade suspension and detentions in Mandera and Suftu.
- Eight slaughtered animals found dumped in Shantoley stems inter-communal tensions.
- Inter-clan assaults between Garre and Murulle youth over deforestation in Sogle leads to 3 injuries.
- Al-Shabaab attack repelled by Kenyan security on 6 and 12 October in Damasa.



Map of Incidents in Mandera County, October 2024



2. Somalia Border Areas

● **Persistent Inter-Authority Standoff at Mandera-Beled-Hawa Border**

Border management disputes between Mandera (Kenya) and Beled-Hawa (Somalia) administrations remain unresolved, despite ongoing dialogues. The latest dispute stems from an incident in September when Beled-Hawa authorities initially refused to hand over suspects involved in a carjacking of a Kenyan Deputy County Commissioner's vehicle, which tragically ended with the driver's death. Although the criminal was eventually handed over following a meeting between Jubaland's Regional Security Team and local authorities, tensions persist. Somali officials allege Kenyan security personnel harass Somali citizens crossing into Mandera for essential services. This ongoing friction poses challenges but hasn't prevented the borderland community from accessing critical services such as health, education, and trade. There remains a need for sustained dialogue to enhance a mutual resolution to these issues to front coordinated approach to aid in complexities of cross-border governance in a fragile security context.

● **Escalating Inter-Clan Coalition Conflict in Luuq**

In October, Luuq District in the Gedo region experienced a resurgence of inter-clan violence involving coalitions of the Reer Hassan and Gabaawayn clans against the Macalin Wayne sub-clan of Rahanweyn. The renewed tensions were triggered by the assassination of a clan elder in September, which sparked armed confrontations on October 4, displacing an estimated 5,000 households. The violence initially centred around Idaale and Cakaaro settlements before spreading to Neefsoow and Bishaarow on October 21, with another escalation on October 30 that resulted in six fatalities and numerous injuries.

Efforts by the Jubaland administration to facilitate reconciliation have yet to contain the escalating violence, which has disrupted movement and restricted access to essential goods and services outside Luuq. The situation has further heightened fears of spill-over effects into neighbouring towns in Gedo, especially amidst growing humanitarian needs. These challenges are compounded by emerging tensions between the Federal Government and the Jubaland administration over election-related disputes, threatening to disturb the region's already fragile peace. Further updates on this will be provided in November.

● **Prevalent Terror Threats from Al-Shabaab**

Al-Shabaab continues to pose a serious security threat in the borderlands of Somalia and Kenya, with recent heightened incidents presenting the group's infiltration in the area. On 25 October, a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) targeting government soldiers in Bardere detonated prematurely, preventing casualties but raising the alarm. The following day, a National Intelligence and Security Agency (NISA) soldier was killed in Garbaharay in a targeted attack claimed by Al-Shabaab. These incidents, coupled with sightings of militants along the border, have spurred Kenyan and Somali security forces to increase surveillance efforts. The security vacuum left by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) withdrawal has left communities vulnerable, and ongoing threats in these regions present persistent challenges in stabilising Somalia's borderlands.



● Persistent Violence by Government Soldiers

Concerns regarding the conduct of SNA forces persist in Gedo. On 10 October, an SNA soldier in Beledh-Hawa reportedly shot and killed a woman, exacerbating community tensions in the already fragile context of the region. This follows a series of violent incidents in September where government soldiers injured civilians, including children, in clashes with NISA forces. The persistent confrontations between security factions highlight the need for improved accountability and restraint among security personnel since these incidents undermine public security trust in the context where government soldiers are taking arms against each other, aligning along their tribal lines and threatening the fragile peace in the region.

Somalia Context Highlights



Mandera and Beled-Hawa authorities remain at odds, affecting cross-border movement and services.



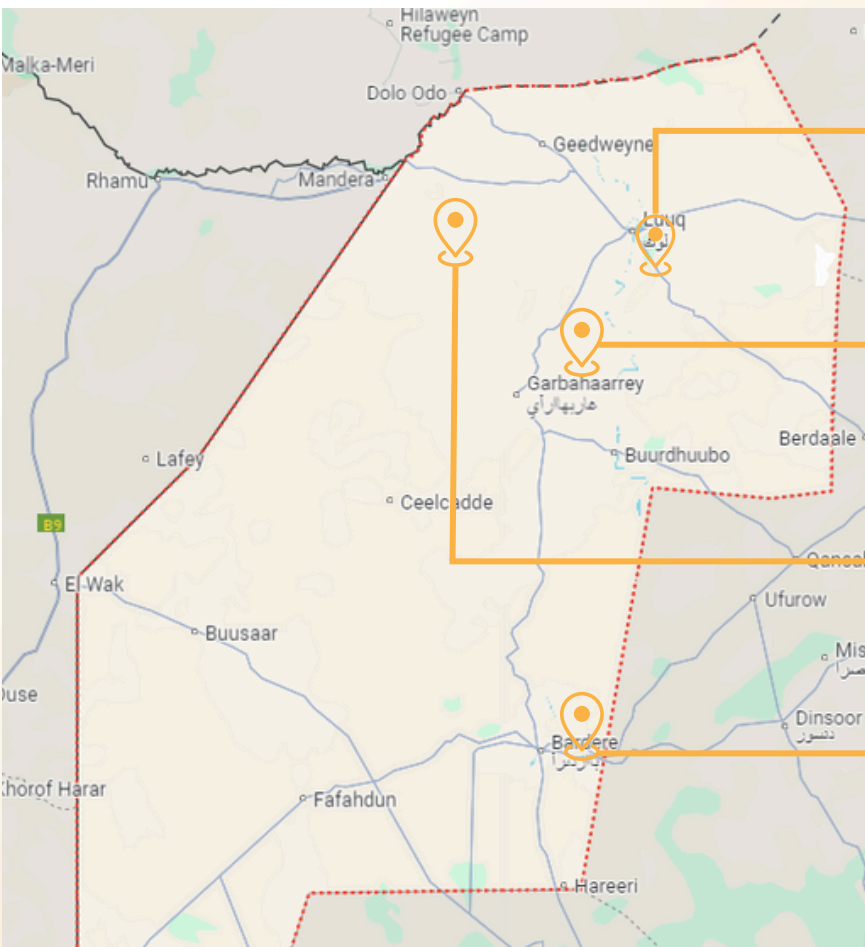
Alshabab conducts foiled VBIED attack in Bardere and kills NISA soldier in Garbahaarrey.



Intense clan clashes in Luuq displaces 5,000 households with new fatalities.



Alarm over SNA soldier's fatal shooting of a woman in Beled-Hawa.



- Escalating inter-clan violence in Luuq displaces 5,000 HHs; October clashes result in multiple fatalities and injuries.
- Oct. 26, Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for killing a NISA soldier amidst growing security concerns.
- Oct. 10, an SNA soldier reportedly kills a civilian woman, adding to local tensions over security forces' conduct.
- Oct. 25, Premature detonation of Al-Shabaab VBIED presents persistent terror threats in Gedo.

Map of Incidents in Gedo, October 2024



3. Ethiopia Border Areas

● **Sporadic Incidents Threaten Fragile Peace in the Mubarak**

Sporadic inter-communal violence continues to destabilise the Ethiopian borderlands of Mubarak. On 26 October, a 50-year-old Degodia elder was killed by unidentified assailants in Wella village, Mubarak district, approximately 200 kilometres from the Kenyan border. The victim, a herder, was attacked while tending to his camels in an incident believed to be linked to longstanding tensions between the Garre and Degodia communities over land, water, and political contestation in the area. This attack follows a deadly September counter-retaliatory incident in which 12 people were killed across the Ethiopia-Kenya border. The recurring violence and unresolved grievances exacerbate the fragile context of the Liban and Dawa zones, challenging peacebuilding efforts in these historically contested areas.

● **Missing Children Spark Fears of Renewed Clan Conflict**

On 23 October, two children, aged 6 and 7, went missing in Mubarak Woreda, Dawa Zone, sparking fears of their disappearance due to ongoing inter-clan tension in the Mubarak districts. As a result of the recent wave of counterretaliations in the area, the children's families worry that the children may have been harmed in an act of revenge. Efforts to locate them have been unsuccessful, and this has since deepened concerns over their safety and raised fears that their disappearance could incite further clan violence. The situation highlights the negative consequences faced by the vulnerable population, especially women and children, amidst the ongoing clan disputes. In September, several children were killed in a retaliatory attack on the Kenyan side, and the killing video circulated on social media, sparking anger and retaliation calls.

● **High Tensions Over Land Dispute in Moyale**

In Moyale, Dawa Zone, ethnic tensions surged on 24 October as construction began on disputed land claimed by both the Somali and Oromia regions. The Somali administration requested that the Oromia municipality halt construction activities until the land dispute is resolved. However, construction has continued, heightening concerns over potential ethnic clashes in regions that suffered vicious violence in the past. Moyale's longstanding history of land disputes has periodically led to violent confrontations, and this latest escalation threatens to destabilise the town if not addressed through diplomatic interventions.

● **Economic Hardship Worsens Due to Ethiopian Birr Depreciation**

In Dollo Ado, a recent spike in food and non-food prices is straining the livelihoods of the local communities due to the depreciating Ethiopian birr. As the birr weakens against the US dollar, the cost of imported goods from nearby Dolo, Somalia, which operates in dollars, has risen sharply. This currency fluctuation affects both imported and locally produced goods, as many producers rely on imported materials, raising the cost of living for cross-border communities. The economic strain is compounded by growing tensions between Kenyan, Somali, and Ethiopian border authorities, which further disrupts trade flows and threatens the livelihoods of borderland residents.



Ethiopia Context Highlights



A Degodia herder killed in Wella village, escalating longstanding ethnic tensions with Garre community.



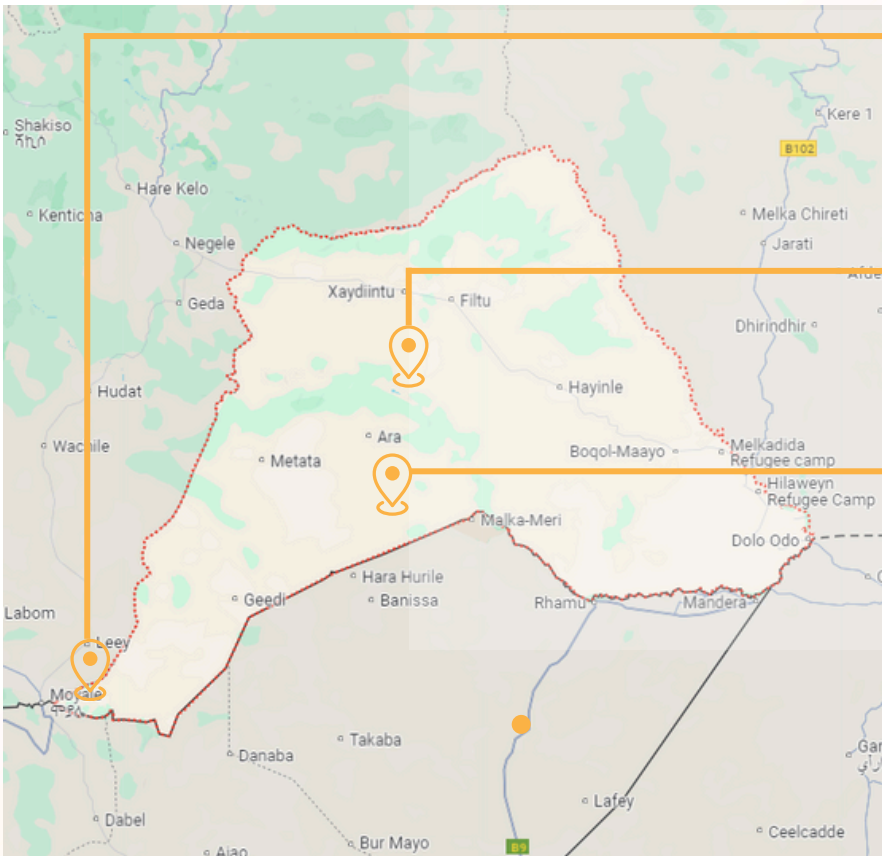
Two children age 6 & 7 reported missing in Mubarak, heightening fears of revenge attacks.



Dispute over land construction by Oromia and Somali regions raises ethnic tensions in Moyale.



Depreciating Ethiopian birr raises prices of essential goods in Dolo, exacerbating economic hardships.



Map of Incidents in Liben Zone, October 2024

- Oct. 24, Construction on contested land in Moyale intensifies ethnic tensions between Somali and Oromia regions.
- Oct. 26, 50-year old Degodia elder killed in Wella while herding, heightening inter-clan tensions with Garre.
- Oct. 23, Two children age 6 and 7, go missing in Mubarak Woreda, sparking fears of retaliation.



INCIDENTS SUMMARY

Date	County/District	Location	Type	Detailed	Response
01-Sept	Mandera, Kenya	Mandera-Suftu Border	Trade Dispute	Seizure of imported Ethiopian sugar by Kenyan customs due to alleged tax evasion. Ethiopian authorities demanded its release, leading to a two-week trade suspension until temporary resolution.	Yes
06-Oct	Mandera, Kenya	Damasa	Alshabab Attack	Kenyan forces repelled an Al-Shabaab assault aimed at ambushing a convoy near the Kenya-Somalia border.	Yes
12-Oct	Mandera North, Kenya	Sogle	Inter-communal Conflict	Assault on Garre youth by Murulle community members over tree-cutting dispute; retaliatory attack on Murulle men the next day.	No
12-Oct	Mandera, Kenya	Laffey Sub-County	Alshabab Attack	Al-Shabaab militant group launched simultaneous attacks in Fino, Lafey, Sheikh Barrow, and Damasa, repelled by Kenyan forces, increased concerns over youth radicalisation in Elwak.	Yes
21-Oct	Banisa, Mandera, Kenya	Banisa	Peace Dialogue	Governor-led peace dialogue between Garre and Degodia communities in Banisa following September retaliatory attacks.	Yes
23-Oct	Mubarak, Ethiopia	Mubarak Woreda	Missing Children	Two children reported missing amidst clan tensions, sparking fears of retaliatory attack.	No
24-Oct	Moyale, Ethiopia	Moyale	Land Dispute	Ethnic tensions surged as construction resumed on disputed land claimed by both Somali and Oromia regions, risking further clashes.	Yes
25-Oct	Bardere, Somalia	Bardere	Alshabab Attack	Al-Shabaab VBIED prematurely detonated near government soldiers, casualties averted but security alarm reigns.	Yes



INCIDENTS SUMMARY CON'D

Date	County/District	Location	Type	Detailed	Response
26-Oct	Garbaharay, Somalia	Garbaharay Town	Targeted Killing	Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the targeted killing of a NISA soldier.	No
26-Oct	Mandera North, Kenya	Bulla Shantoley	Unknown	Discovery of 8 slaughtered animals inflames tensions between communities in Mandera North.	No
26-Oct	Wella, Ethiopia	Wella	Inter-communal Conflict	Degodia elder killed by unidentified assailants, likely related to Garre-Degodia tensions over land and water disputes.	No
30-Oct	Luuq, Somalia	Luuq District	Inter-clan Violence	Armed confrontations between Reer Hassan-Gabaawayn and Macalin Wayne coalitions displaced 5,000 households; fatalities and injuries reported, with ongoing displacement.	No
30-Oct	Banisa, Mandera, Kenya	Banisa Town	Arrest	Arrest of a young activist in Banisa following social media critiques of governance; the arrest sparked public discourse on freedom of expression in Mandera.	Yes



HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH

01. Nafisa Mohamed: Breaking Barriers in Veterinary Care

In the patriarchal landscapes of Dolo Ado, where opportunities for women remain scarce and male dominance governs communities' lifestyles and most professions, Nafisa Mohamed, a veterinary officer in the Woreda, is breaking barriers and rewriting the narrative in a veterinary care profession that has for years seen limited women's participation. Motivated by the lack of skilled personnel in animal health services across genders, Nafisa has emerged as a trailblazer and is among the few women making significant strides in animal health.

The BORESHA-NABAD project provided Nafisa with tailored training in disease prevention, vaccination, and disease surveillance, empowering her to effectively combat animal diseases while following vaccination protocols and engaging in participatory disease surveillance. This training not only enhanced her technical skills but also positioned her as a champion in promoting gender equality by breaking barriers in male-dominated livelihood sectors. In a region where livestock is the backbone of livelihoods, Nafisa plays an integral role beyond the technical aspects of veterinary care and embarked on improving livestock health while becoming a beacon of hope for women aspiring to venture into male-dominated spaces.

Since integrating into animal health activities, Nafisa has led vaccination campaigns aimed at controlling transboundary diseases, which are frequent occurrences in borderland areas due to cross-border animal movements. She has also spearheaded outreach programmes to educate local farmers, many of whom had never received veterinary guidance. "When women step into roles like this, it's not just about treating animals, but transforming communities and giving families the tools to sustain their livelihoods and build resilience," she says.

Nafisa Mohamed is part of a larger network of 63 veterinary officers, community animal health workers (CAHWs), community disease reporters (CDRs), and Agrovets trained under the BORESHA NABAD programme as part of the programme's approach to transform the livestock sector and build market system resilience. The consortium is adopting a broader shift towards gender inclusivity in the borderlands to reshape perceptions in a setting where women have often been relegated to the periphery of decision-making in animal health. Her integration in the process is part of the holistic approaches deployed to encourage more women to join the animal health field and enhance women's livestock ownership to improve their economic status and decision-making power within households and communities.



02. Grounding Interventions Through Cross-Border Collaboration

The BORESHA-NABAD consortium team participated in the Borderlands Symposium on 29 and 30 October 2024 in Nairobi. Organised by the Danish Refugee Council, the symposium gathered cross-border stakeholders, partners, and donors to engage in critical discussions on “Thinking and Working in Borderlands.” The event, which lasted two days and involved cross-learning and sharing insights gained from interventions in the borderlands, allowed the participants to engage with each other and learn from the enriching interventions across the border areas.

The BORESHA-NABAD team took part in an engaging panel alongside other partners, such as the Cross Border Community Resilience Project, Hanaano, and Deris Wanaag programmes to strengthen synergies, upscale interventions, and reduce duplication of efforts in implementing sustainable interventions across border areas. The BORESHA-NABAD Chief of Party, Yussuf Mohamed Abdullahi, shared insights on the history and evolution of borderland initiatives and led high-level discussions with key donors, including the European Union, USAID, and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), focusing on the role of coordinated support in strengthening borderland projects.

The symposium provided a platform for sharing lessons learned and best practices among practitioners. This collaborative space highlighted the significance of partnerships, with discussions exploring strategies for integrated coordination in areas such as climate resilience, conflict prevention, disaster risk reduction, prevention of violent extremism and supporting income-generating activities for youth and women in the borderlands. The sessions reinforced the commitment of all stakeholders to support peaceful coexistence and climate-adaptive livelihoods that contribute to stabilisation efforts across local borderland communities.

BORESHA-NABAD’s participation at the Borderlands Symposium is part of its ongoing commitment to empowering cross-border communities and leveraging shared experiences and resources to enhance project impact. The consortium supports innovative approaches that build resilience, improve livelihoods, and promote sustainable peace in the Horn of Africa through solid partnerships and engagement with vital cross-border stakeholders.





PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS UPDATE

Implementing Partner	Target Location	Activity Description
<p>RACIDA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenya: Mandera East, Mandera North, Banisa • Ethiopia: Dollo Ado • Somalia: Dollow, Beled-Hawa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To strengthen veterinary services and establish market linkages, BORESHHA-NABAD through RACIDA conducted 6-day refresher training for 63 CAHWs, CDRs, and AgroVets (59 M & 4 F) in Dollow Ado Woreda to enhance endemic disease management, surveillance, and reporting capabilities in the pastoral community. This training supported market resilience by building local veterinary capacities and providing a market connection for improved access to veterinary services, allowing CAHWs to easily obtain necessary medicines and treatments for sick animals quickly. • As part of BORESHHA-NABAD’s animal health value chain addition through public-private collaboration, RACIDA trained 30 veterinary officers and agro vets in Beled-Hawa, Somalia, and Dolo Ado, Ethiopia, to strengthen disease surveillance and animal health management, build community resilience through public-private partnerships, and encourage affordable and accessible veterinary services. The activity targeted resilience building in livestock health and economic improvement in the Mandera Triangle by engaging local players and addressing critical challenges in veterinary service delivery and market dynamics. • To enhance market-driven fodder production and income diversification approaches, BORESHHA-NABAD through RACIDA Conducted Livestock Common Interest Group training for 120 participants (83 males, 43 females) on fodder production, seed bulking, and linking farmers with AgroVets for input supplies. This initiative promotes income generation through sustainable farming along riverine, reduces livestock mortality due to feed shortages and diseases and encourages the establishment of strategic fodder reserves to cushion livestock owners against climate vulnerabilities through the sale of hay bales and green feeds.

Implementing Partner	Target Location	Activity Description
RACIDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenya: Mandera East, Mandera North, Banisa • Ethiopia: Dollo Ado • Somalia: Dollow, Beled-Hawa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steered youth and women-led disaster risk reduction (DRR) Messaging and advocacy involvement in local governance through radio talk shows in Mandera County, Dolow, and Beled-Hawa, reaching 395,812 listeners in Kenya and 207,115 in Somalia. The show saw active participation from women and youth through phone-ins. It encouraged marginalised groups to participate in local governance through engagement with talk show participants, including government department representatives.

RACIDA Planned November Activities

- Support generation of gender-responsive community-based DRR plans (covering conflict, drought and flooding)
- Support peace-dividends through shared infrastructure required for local peace agreements
- Facilitate engagement between community representatives and local authority officials to support negotiation, establishment and dissemination of local peace agreements and their maintenance
- Logistical support for conflict mediation by local institutions (authorities and informal cross-border groups) to respond to conflict and manage tensions. Target:30 individuals supported (RACIDA)
- Increase women and youth participation in local government DRR processes and plans, ensuring minimum inclusion of youth and women's representatives including dissemination of early warning messages.
- Animal Health Sector support: mass vaccination campaigns and animal treatment to control transboundary animal diseases.
- Livestock Common Interest Group training and support with farm inputs, fodder production, seed bulking and learning / advocacy. (360 pax) 120 per country
- Establishment of women's tree nursery groups, procurement and distribution of tree seedlings, training on establishing and maintaining nurseries and seedling management.
- Conduct tree planting campaigns as part of awareness raising on env degradation and climate change targeting community members and young children.

Implementing Partner	Target Location	Activity Description
DRC KENYA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wider Mandera County 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the consortium's efforts to establish market linkages and enhance public-private partnerships, DRC Kenya through organised a quarterly meeting for 36 animal health actors, including sub-county veterinary staff, Community Disease Reporters (CDRs), and AgroVets from five Mandera sub-counties. This focused on the Market Systems Development (MSD) approach to facilitate public-private partnerships in animal healthcare and allowed the participants to discuss challenges in disease surveillance and forge resolution mechanisms. A partnership MoU to link CDRs with AgroVets was signed as part of the BORESHA-NABAD's model to create a sustainable model for animal health services.

DRC Kenya Planned November Activities

- Tri-border business community reorganization
- Tri-border business community action planning and capacity building
- Community sensitization on importance of disease control
- Training of Agriculture officer on permaculture
- Training farmers on fodder productions
- Rehabilitation of 20 boreholes
- Expansion of canal for BPI farmers
- Rehabilitation of 6 shallow wells

Implementing Partner	Target Location	Activity Description
DRC ETHIOPIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethiopia: Dolo Ado Woreda (Sigalow, Shamble, Kilmisinge, Bardaley, Holmoge Kebeles) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To strengthen youth involvement in peacebuilding and advocacy, BORESHA-NABAD through DRC Ethiopia conducted capacity-building training for 50 youth members from networks across Dollow-Bay, Suftu, and Dollo town in Dolo Ado woreda. This initiative is part of consortium's youth and women-led programmes, aimed to empower young voices to advocate for sustainable and collaborative solutions to local challenges and reinforce their role as key agents of change in their communities. • BORESHA-NABAD through DRC Ethiopia conducted a five-day training on livestock value chain interventions, covering animal health care and fodder production, for 200 participants (42 women and 158 men) in Sigalow, Shamble, Kilmisinge, Bardaley, and Holmoge kebeles of Dolo Ado woredas to enhance skills in livestock management and feed security and empower agropastoralists in the Woreda with knowledge to improve livestock productivity and market resilience. • Leveraging public-private partnerships to boost forage production and market development, DRC Ethiopia, in collaboration with the Livestock and Pastoralist Development Office, established agropastoral fodder producer groups across five target kebeles. This initiative not only emphasizes the importance of fodder in enhancing livestock productivity but also highlights the team's commitment to sustainable agricultural practices. Through this activity, 200 local farmers have been integrated into the fodder production programme. By collaborating closely with these farmers, the team is creating a synergetic relationship between fodder producers and seed suppliers, ensuring that everyone benefits from better crop yields and improved livestock nutrition. This partnership is fostering a sense of community, encouraging knowledge sharing, and promoting best practices in farming.

Through this activity, 200 local farmers have been integrated into the fodder production programme. By collaborating closely with these farmers, the team is creating a synergetic relationship between fodder producers and seed suppliers, ensuring that everyone benefits from better crop yields and improved livestock nutrition. This partnership is fostering a sense of community, encouraging knowledge sharing, and promoting best practices in farming.

A remarkable aspect of this activity is that a significant portion of the 100 hectares consists of virgin land that had never been ploughed before. This highlights the innovative approach taken by the team in expanding agricultural possibilities and utilising previously untapped resources. The team collaborated with local communities to assess the suitability of the land, ensuring minimal environmental impact while maximising productive output.

The successful ploughing of this land is not just about increasing fodder production; it represents a shift towards more sustainable development in the region. By focusing on the needs of local farmers and leveraging their traditional knowledge along with modern agricultural techniques, the team has laid the foundation for long-term agricultural resilience.

As the rainy season progresses, the future looks promising for these newly integrated farmers and the local economy. The fruits of their labor will not only enhance livestock feed but also contribute to food security and improved livelihoods for many families in the area. This effort serves as an inspiring example of how targeted agricultural initiatives can transform communities, create lasting relationships within the agricultural supply chain, and promote sustainable land usage.

To control transboundary animal diseases and strengthen animal health services, the Livestock and Pastoralist Development Office in Dollo Ado Woreda received veterinary drugs valued at 984,220 ETB (nine hundred eighty-four thousand, two hundred twenty Birr). This support is designed to enhance the capacity of Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs), improve access to animal health services, increase livestock productivity, and reduce disease prevalence among pastoralist communities.

DRC Ethiopia Planned November Activities

- Enhancing capacity for youth networks in advocacy and peacebuilding.
- Facilitate the ongoing fodder production activities
- Delivering business skills training and establishing Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs).
- Identifying and addressing systemic barriers limiting sustainable livelihood opportunities for women and youth.

Implementing Partner	Target Location	Activity Description
DRC SOMALIA	Beled-Hawa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 125 Community members from VSLA groups, including (46 males and 79 females) from 43 VSLA, LCIG, and TVET groups, structured into four groups were trained on financial management skills, digitisation of sharia-compliant saving approaches, and business skills to promote sustainable income-generating practices and financial resilience. This aligns with the project's goal of providing market linkages through connection with financial service providers (FSPs) and leveraging market opportunities.

DRC Somalia Planned November Activities

- Provide grants (material support) to best performing VSLA groups from BORESHA target areas to boost their income and recovery from drought, plus innovation grants to 5 groups/businesses.
- SOM Improve access to water/irrigation schemes through construction/rehabilitation of water storage and rainwater harvesting infrastructure – Dollow
- Facilitate engagement between community representatives and local authority officials to support negotiation, establishment, and dissemination of local peace agreements and their maintenance.
- Facilitate Tri-border business committee meetings (cross-border)

Implementing Partner	Target Location	Activity Description
WFPD	Kenya: Mandera Town; Ethiopia: Suftu; Somalia: Beled-Hawa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BORESHA-NABAD through WFPD Conducted a cross-border community meeting on GBV and Migration Risks, engaging 39 cross-border participants (21 from Kenya and 18 from Ethiopia/Somalia) including women, youth leaders, traditional and religious elders, and PLWDs to raise awareness on gender-based violence (GBV), human trafficking, and illegal migration risks, particularly in high-trafficking areas. This was coordinated with the Mandera county Gender Technical Working Group (GTWG) as well as their counterparts on the Ethiopia and Somalia sides, respectively, as part of the BORESHA-NABAD's cross-border partner coordination and collaboration strategy among the different stakeholders on GBV/VAWG mitigation in the Mandera Triangle.

MWFP Planned October Activities

- Organize 1 cross-border high-level meeting targeting cross-border administrations, key community opinion leaders, and actors to advocate for community-owned peace agreements initiatives and resolve the challenges encountered by the communities in having sustainable peace agreements.
- Convene annual cross border women network forum to discuss the challenges affecting cross-border women involvement in peace efforts and draw action plans on how to resolve them.

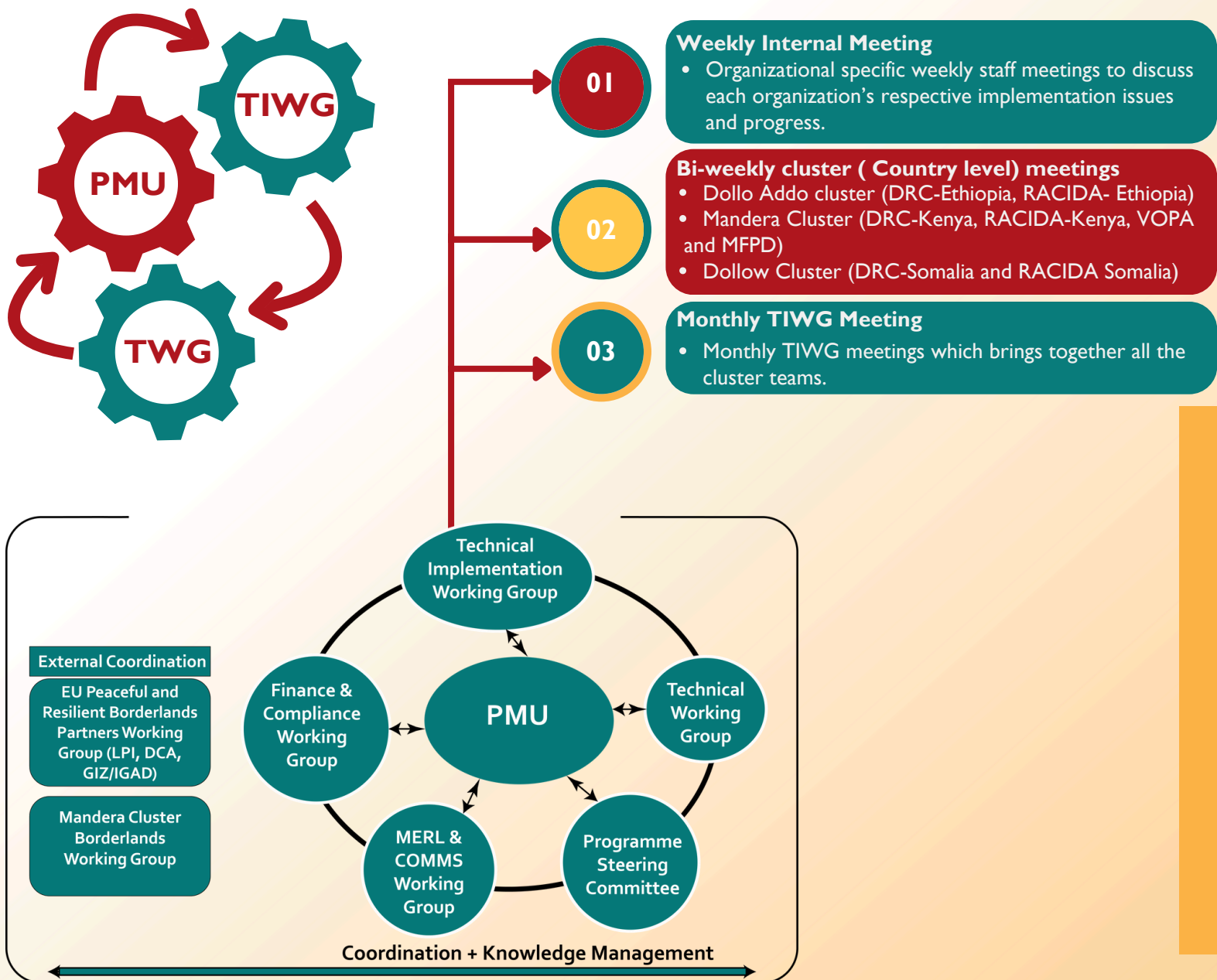
Implementing Partner	Target Location	Activity Description
<p>VOPA</p>	<p>Mandera, Elwak, Banisa, Lafey, Rhamu</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BORESHA-NABAD through VOPA advanced environmental stewardship in Mandera County by supporting tree planting initiatives in 10 primary and secondary schools across five sub-counties. This was designed to inspire student leadership in ecological conservation and contribute to Mandera’s greening effort. This also goes in line with expanding green spaces, promoting biodiversity, and enhancing residents’ quality of life. VOPA is also supporting monthly stipends to 10 individuals for three months to maintain consistent watering and care and ensure sustainable growth for the 500 trees planted. • In parallel with the above activity, BORESHA-NABAD through VOPA conducted comprehensive awareness creation and sensitisation on climate adaptation in 5 sub-counties, engaging 100 community members across Elwak, Banisa, Mandera East, Mandera North, and Lafey to help communities understand the impacts of climate change and the importance of adapting practices to mitigate these effects. Public education in addressing climate-related challenges, developing locally relevant strategies, and capacity building to withstand climate shocks, reduce vulnerability, and enhance resilience were provided across the reach areas.

VOPA Planned November Activities

- NRM committee training for 30 pax from 5 sub-counties
- Training of 30 youth at risk on conflict sensitivity



PROJECT GOVERNANCE AND COORDINATION STRUCTURE





PARTNERSHIP WITH EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS FOR ENHANCED SYNERGY AND COORDINATION

In addition to coordinating within the consortium, the BORESHA-NABAD team actively collaborates with other implementing agencies in the region. We go beyond just holding coordination meetings; we engage in problem-solving and partner with other agencies to leverage each other's resources.

● **Collaboration with FAO, IOM and Deris Wanag Programme**

The BORESHA-NABAD team is actively collaborating with FAO, IOM, and the Deris Wanag implemented Programmes to develop practical and effective implementation plans in the Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia Borderland regions that go beyond coordination meetings. On October 26th, the BORESHA-NABAD team, comprising programme managers from Kenya and Somalia, along with the PMU, convened a planning session with the FAO and IOM teams at the DRC offices. The goal of this planning session was to prepare for an upcoming coordination workshop scheduled for November 24th in Dollo Ado to design and map out joint implementation plans and target locations that will allow for leveraging and scaling of each other's interventions.

Additionally, the BORESHA-NABAD team recently conducted a joint assessment of the TVET center in Elwak in partnership with the Deris Wanag team. Both programmes will jointly fund various activities aimed at operationalizing the TVET center effectively.

● **Coordination with Local Government Ministries to Align Priorities**

The BORESHA-NABAD forged strong partnerships and collaborations with local government ministries, including the water, community cohesion, and livestock ministries. The team engaged in a series of strategic planning sessions to co-design interventions and identify investment opportunities that address critical community needs in the borderlands of Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia.

These collaborations extended beyond formal coordination meetings and focused on complementing the local government's plans for practical and impactful actions. One of the key outcomes of these engagements was the detailed site planning for the rehabilitation of priority water projects and alignment with the local government's development agenda vis-à-vis grassroots community needs and resource allocation plans. These sessions also explored opportunities for layered programming to leverage shared expertise and resources to maximise the reach and effectiveness of interventions.

BORESHA-NABAD's participatory approach strengthens the programme's relationship with government partners and fosters local ownership and accountability. This approach works hand in hand with government actors and community members to address systemic challenges in water management, livestock development, and community cohesion, in line with the project's goal of building resilience and promoting sustainable development across the borderlands.



PROGRAMMATIC CHALLENGES AND ADAPTATIONS STRATEGIES

● **Security Threats and Access Limitations**

In October, heightened security threats, including Al-Shabaab attacks and inter-clan conflicts, restricted movement across Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia borderlands. This surging insecurity along the Kenya-Somalia border of Lafey and Gedo clusters hampered partners, and PMU staff travels due to challenges in travel restrictions and the risk of targeted attacks. This necessitated adjustments to planned activities. BORESHA-NABAD coordinated closely with local authorities to reschedule activities and shift them to safer locations to ensure the safety of both staff and participants. Regular programme coordination meetings and engagement were conducted virtually to maintain programme momentum despite limited direct access.

● **Adverse Weather Conditions Affecting Participation**

The borderlands' erratic weather patterns brought sporadic rains amidst severe drought warnings in Somalia's Gedo region. Flooding from the River Daua hampered access for participants travelling from Ethiopia to Kenya and delayed cross-border engagements. The consortium partners coordinate with strategic cross-border entities such as government departments and other stakeholders to mobilise participants, adjust timelines, and schedule field activities. In addition, the programme provided the communities with training on climate-adaptive agriculture, water conservation, and forage storage to help communities cope with anticipated drought conditions and build resilience among pastoral and agricultural populations.

● **Capacity Gaps in Veterinary Services**

The shortage of government-employed veterinary officers in Somalia and Ethiopia created significant challenges for implementing animal health programmes, particularly affecting planned vaccination campaigns. While Kenya and, to some extent, Ethiopia have dedicated veterinary units supporting public-private partnerships through collaboration between agrovets, CAHWs, and government units, this shortage has hindered effective service delivery. In response, the programme strengthened its partnerships with Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) and agrovets across borders, providing additional transport reimbursements and logistical support. These efforts enabled CAHWs to extend their reach into remote communities, ensuring that essential animal health services were delivered despite the limited availability of veterinary professionals.

● **Cross-Border Stand-Offs Impacting Population**

Cross-border standoffs between authorities in Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia continued to create additional obstacles to the programme in October, particularly around the Mandera, Beled-Hawa, and Suftu corridors. The continued disputes over jurisdictional authority, security concerns and cross-border trade strained collaboration among border authorities, impeding the smooth implementation of cross-border activities and the movement of people and goods. BORESHA-NABAD strategically engaged authorities across the tri-border through intra and inter-authority dialogues to diffuse tensions and resume relations. This intervention minimised disruptions and allowed swift resumption of cross-border activities.



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