

FOREWORD

INTRODUCTORY MESSAGE



It's my pleasure to introduce the second edition of the BORESHA newsletter. The BORESHA project is funded under the European Union Trust Fund for Africa. The European Union Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) aims to foster stability and to contribute to better migration management, including by addressing the root causes of

destabilization, forced displacement and irregular migration. We implement activities across three regions of Africa – the Sahel and Lake Chad, the Horn of Africa and North Africa.

The Horn of Africa region faces challenges that go beyond country borders: climate change, forced displacement, demographic pressures, environmental stresses, various forms of conflict, trafficking of human beings and smuggling of migrants, as well as organized crime and violent extremism. These issues

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have been particularly acute in the borderland areas of the region. As a result, these areas are often the most vulnerable to instability.

Borderland areas also need to be seen as conduits and opportunities, recognizing the existence of dynamic communities that are united by socio-economic and cultural realities. Cross-border socio-economic dynamics in the Horn of Africa have a potential for greater integration and an increase in sustainable human development. The European Union has consistently emphasized the importance of this in the Horn of Africa and we are committed to supporting these initiatives both by neighboring countries and the region itself, particularly through IGAD.

BORESHA is part of the EUTF's efforts to respond to these challenges and opportunities, in the framework of the EU's wider regional programme supporting "Collaboration in Cross-Border Areas". The programme supports peacebuilding and conflict prevention as well as resilience and economic development along the entire length of the Kenya-Ethiopia border, which also incorporates south-west Somalia and also supports the cross-border area between Western Ethiopia and East Sudan.

The BORESHA project partnership directly aims to create greater economic and employment opportunities and strengthen resilience of vulnerable communities in the Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia border area. Enhancing trans-border trade and markets, and livelihood development, offers opportunities for building resilience and creating shared interests across these communities.

The project provides local governments, communities and the private sector on all sides of the borders with opportunities to cooperate more effectively through a combination of investment in cross-border trade and private sector development, improved and diversified livelihoods and better management of shared natural resources. Working hand-in-hand with our conflict prevention and peacebuilding project, RASMI, operating in the same border area, it is our hope that BORESHA will give the border communities better prospects, a greater sense of belonging, and ultimately promote support the socio-economic transformation of these areas.

To find out more about the EU Trust Fund for Africa's activities, please visit our website: https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/content/homepage_en

**Natalie Mitchell-Bennett, EU Trust Fund Programme Manager
EU Delegation to the Republic of Kenya**

INTERVIEW

WITH VILLAGE SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION (VSLA) BENEFICIARY



DRC Somalia staff interviews Sharifa Jehow
September 2018
Photo | DRC Somalia

Sharifa Jehow Huriye is a member of the Village Savings and Loan Associations at Belet Hawa, Gedo, Somalia. VSLA is one of the activities under the BORESHA project. She was among the beneficiaries trained by DRC Somalia on VSLA methodologies and given start up kits to save, lend and take loans to develop her small business.

1. Tell us something about yourself?

I am a small business owner in the form of a groceries shop, I sell vegetables and other food items in Belet Hawa. This is the business that helps me meet the basic needs of my family, I am also the bread winner of the family since my husband is old and at home. I am a mother of 10 children. My eldest son used to support me during the difficult periods but unfortunately he passed away and I am now left to take care of his four children in addition to mine, this has further increased the burden on me.

2. How was your business before the project and now as a beneficiary?

Prior to the BORESHA project and especially the VSLA activity the idea of growing my business was a pipe dream since I did not have the funds and the technical knowhow on how to do so. The life of my family depends heavily on my grocery business hence the need for me to sustain it. I joined the VSLA group recently in order to save small amounts and also take loans to enhance my business. It is my hope that through this project I will be able to grow the business now that I am a beneficiary.

3. What kind of support have you received from this project so far and was it impactful?

I was trained recently by DRC on how to save, take loans and return it within the stipulated timeframe. I have also received the necessary start up kits used to keep the money. I hope to take a loan with the intention of making a profit and returning it to the saving box. *Insha'Allah* this will naturally have an impact in terms of expanding and sustaining my small business.

4. What would you like to see done different and improved on?

In the VSLA activity we are currently saving our own money and taking small loans which is neither ideal nor practical for us. I would request BORESHA to give us a substantial start up amount as loan for our VSLA group. I would also like to request for a grant if there is an existing one that is given to vulnerable households.

5. As a beneficiary, is this project sustainable in the long run?

Yes, particularly the VSLA component. It is bringing about economic development in some ways since it is geared towards improvement of the livelihoods of the people especially in terms of supporting small business owners like me. If the saving box becomes successful I am sure it will lead to long term sustenance of our livelihoods and at the same time lead to the growth of my family.

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It is my hope that through this project I will be able to grow the business now that I am a beneficiary.

UPDATE

KEY PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Value Chain Assessment, Labor Market Assessment and Baseline finalized
2. Rapid Assessment in Banisa and Mandera West conducted
3. Participation at SECCI workshop for coordination in the EUTF funded cross border programme
4. Participation at ASAL conference in Malindi and at SENDAI framework workshop organized by IAWG
5. M&E Field Monitoring and Verification Exercise conducted in Somalia and Ethiopia
6. COVACA Training tool translated
7. 2000 small ruminants distributed to 400 vulnerable households

UPCOMING MAJOR ACTIVITIES

1. Mission to Kismayo to introduce the project to the new MOPIC
2. Conclusion of the M&E Field Monitoring and Verification Exercise
3. Preparation of Year 1 report
4. Sensitization on IBLI in Mandera (postponed)
5. Opening of Business Development Centers in Dollow, Dolo Ado and Mandera
6. First round of application and selection of TVET candidates
7. Support vaccination campaign in Mandera for PPR and CCPP

8. Health and Education facilities in the intervention area mapped
9. Value Chains were selected for year one of the Grant Facility
10. Consultations conducted for composition of Tri-Border Committee
11. Selection criteria for TVET applicants were agreed and mapping of TVET facilities was conducted
12. Formation, Training & Kits Equipment of Village Saving and Loan Association
13. Livestock vaccination and de-worming campaign in Ethiopia with the focus of CBPP, Black leg and Bovine pasteurellosis
14. Community consultation on underlying causes of destruction of key tree species
15. Assessment of schools' roof water harvesting, water points and for formation and strengthening of environmental clubs
16. Natural resource mapping report in the final phase

8. Training of CAHWs and CDRs (postponed)
9. Measurements, design and developing the BOQs for schools' roof water harvesting structures
10. Development of Boresha guidelines for pastoral rangeland management

NEWS

BORESHA PARTICIPATES IN FIRST ASAL CONFERENCE IN MALINDI, KENYA

The first Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) Conference held at Malindi, Kilifi County, Kenya from the 5th of September to the 7th came at the backdrop of increasing gains made through devolution since its inception. Kenya Vision 2030 which is the Country's development programme from 2008 to 2030 has identified the development of ASAL Counties as a key priority in contributing towards the achievement of the vision. The four-day conference was organized by the National government through the Ministry of Devolution and Planning and the Council of Governors.

The Conference themed "Unlocking the Potential of ASALs for Accelerated National Development" aims at creating a platform for prioritization and



Opening ceremony of the conference in session. Senior leadership from National and County Government of Kenya attended the ceremony. September 2018 Photo | BORESHA

realigning of ASALs development agenda with the national development priorities. Delegates included National government officials, NGOs, development partners, private sector and 29 ASAL County Governments. Over

1000 delegates turned up for the conference surpassing the 700 delegates that were expected. The Deputy President of Kenya, H.E William Ruto graced the opening ceremony.

David Kang'ethe, DRC Kenya Country Director and BORESHA Consortium Head Nicoletta Buono participated in the conference as delegates upon invitation from the European Union which is funding the BORESHA project among others. BORESHA's exhibition space provided a good opportunity for the Project to showcase its various components aimed at building opportunities for resilience in cross border areas of Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia, it

was also a good platform to meet some of the project stakeholders that we can potentially partner with and some of them are: State Department for Development of ASAL, Mandera County, BOMA Project, Feed the Future, Kenya Livestock Marketing Council and NDMA.

Some of the key areas that were discussed during the conference were: Alignment of ASAL's development plans and priorities

to the Kenya's Vision 2030, Big 4 Development Agenda and Development and adoption of a roadmap to address emerging ASALs developmental needs. "This inaugural conference has provided an opportunity to link up with several stakeholders that are influential to the BORESHA project implementation, we will build on the networks created here and forge new partnerships in order to contribute towards the wider goal of the conference and BORESHA which is building resilience" said David. "I also believe that the resolutions passed in the conference will go a long way in transforming the lives of the communities in the ASAL Counties if well implemented," he added. Nicoletta Buono said she is looking forward to next year's Conference which will be held in Kajiado County, she is optimistic that the gains made at the conference will go a long way in enhancing opportunities for ASAL communities.



DRC Kenya CD, David Kang'ethe together with BORESHA Consortium PMU Head Nicoletta Buono at the ASAL Conference in Malindi, Kenya. September 2018
Photo | Yussuf Abdullahi | PACT World

SENDAI FRAMEWORK FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2015-2030

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 was adopted at the Third UN World Conference in Sendai, Japan, on March 18, 2015. It is the outcome of stakeholder consultations initiated in March 2012 and inter-governmental negotiations from July 2014 to March 2015, supported by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction at the request of the UN General Assembly.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 outlines seven clear targets and four priorities for action to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risks.

Four specific priorities for action:

1. Understanding disaster risk;
2. Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk;
3. Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience;
4. Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to "Build Back Better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Seven global targets agreed on:

Substantially reduce global disaster mortality by 2030, aiming to lower average per 100,000 global mortality between 2020-2030 compared to 2005-2015;

1. Substantially reduce the number of affected people globally by 2030, aiming to lower the average global figure per 100,000 between 2020-2030 compared to 2005-2015;
2. Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product by 2030;
3. Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them health and educational facilities, including through developing their resilience by 2030;
4. Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020;
5. Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable

support to complement their national actions for implementation of the framework by 2030;

UNISDR has been tasked to support the implementation, follow-up and review of the Sendai Framework.

6. Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to the people by 2030.

Source: [United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction \(UNISDR\)](#)

STORY

DRIED LEMONS OF GEDO, SOMALIA

Western Gedo in Somalia is a region with great economic potential, this has however been limited for the most part to pastoralism and subsistence farming. Bushy, poorly maintained small farms are dotted along Rivers Dawa and Juba. Farmers continue traditional practices and think of farming as merely a means of feeding the family and livestock during the dry season. The Somali adage “beertuu galay” which translates to “he entered the farm” and its implication that he is a “loser” captures well the age old aversion to farming among the locals here. But one man saw the potential of farms and maximized on it. It is individuals such as Ibrahim that EUTF funded BORESHA project’s Grant Facility will be looking for – small farmers with big ambition.

Despite the prevailing view, an enterprising Gedo farmer named Ibrahim decided to venture into “serious farming”. Ibrahim used to grow maize on his small farm until he realized that lemons had a good market. In 2006, he decided to venture into commercial farming of lemons. After four years of trial and error, he became adept at growing quality lemons and started supplying fresh lemons to the local markets of Dolow and Belet-Hawa. He expanded his operations to markets in Dollo Ado and Mandera in neighboring Ethiopia and Kenya. Other farmers were impressed with his



Typical look of sun dried lemons
September 2018
Photo | Omar Osman | WYG

growing business and encouraged by Ibrahim’s success they began to set aside portions of their land to grow lemons. Ibrahim became the supplier of lemon seedlings that he nurtured in his own nursery and became a mentor to his fellow farmers.

2010, Ibrahim gained popularity in the community as the top lemon grower in the region. For the next four years, Ibrahim’s fresh lemon produce from his two farms and from those of his extended family dominated the local markets. Other farmers enticed by the readily available market and good profit margins followed suit. Though farmers were making good profits, the market was becoming saturated.

As the supply of fresh lemons exceeded demand, Ibrahim started to explore other options. In early 2014, he came up with the idea of extending the shelf-life of the surplus lemons by drying them up in the sun and transporting them to Mogadishu for export. He used a very simple method to do this: collect the surplus in the market and dry it up in the sun and then weigh and pack until there was a sufficient quantity to transport to Mogadishu. From there, these dried lemons were and continue to be exported to the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Whether they are further exported from the UAE or used in local diets is not known.

When Ibrahim’s first couple of containers from Mogadishu to the UAE made a good profit, he shared his experience with his friends and encouraged them to expand their lemon production too. As an incentive, he offered them advance payments on expected produce. This covered their fuel costs. He also agreed to share his tractor for a small fee and set a minimum price guarantee.

As a result of Ibrahim’s initiative, more than a hundred farmers in the local area have transformed their farms from subsistence farming to economically viable enterprises. Hundreds are now employed in the dried lemon industry value chain; many of these are women. It is women who dry the lemons



Ibrahim (Right) at the lemons drying field in Doloow, Gedo
 September 2018
 Photo | Omar Osman | WYG

– spreading them out and turning them over to get even sunshine - and then do the selection for local and export markets. Dried lemon is the biggest employer and the sole export earner in the region.

Ibrahim has been successful but he still has challenges. He says "I need to protect my produce from animals and fences are expensive. Storage is a challenge and I wish I knew how to include new technologies in my business. I hope a BORESHA grant can help me".

Ibrahim meanwhile is moving from being the trend setting farmer to becoming a buyer and exporter as more and more farmers take to lemon farming. He is aware that under EUTF funded BORESHA project's Grant Facility, WYG will be selecting businesses for multi-purpose grants. He is eagerly awaiting the application date in order to apply with the hope of expanding his business.

CULTURE

SOMALI CANJEERO



A typical photo of Somali Canjeero.
 Photo | Ayan Nura Cooking Channel

Somalis call it Canjeero (spelled as Anjeero) and Ethiopians call it Injera. No matter the spelling or pronunciation the bottom line is that it tastes good even though it's made differently. For the

purpose of this newsletter we will concentrate on The Somali Canjeero. If you have ever had Somali food or went to a Somali restaurant, then you probably know all about Canjeero due to its popularity.

The Somali Canjeero looks almost like the normal pancake, it can be described as a fermented, crepe-like pan bread. It is normally confused with the Ethiopia Injera. The main differences are that the Somali Canjeero is usually fermented overnight, its smaller in size and it is less sour. The Ethiopia Injera is bigger, fermented for a few days and it contains teff flour.

Preparing canjeero is not an easy task hence the reason it tastes

good once on the plate. Most Somalis usually prepare it at night using a starter from the previous morning canjeero batter. It is the staple food in Somalia and it's the most common breakfast food for Somalis anywhere in the world. The beauty of the Canjeero is that it can be served in many ways: It can be taken sprinkled with sugar and tea, can be taken with honey, fried eggs, meat and vegetable stew.

For anyone travelling or visiting the BORESHA Project intervention areas of Mandera, Doloow and Dolo Ado I recommend you try out the Canjeero which is highly popular in the three areas, I promise it will be worth it.

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