

BORESHA SHEKO

LIVESTOCK EDITION

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ICPALD

INTERVIEW

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DID YOU KNOW

The World Organization for
Animal Health

www.boreshahoa.org



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FOREWORD

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

It is my pleasure to introduce the 8th edition of the BORESHA Consortium newsletter. We are happy to make use of this important platform to share the great work we are doing together as partners.



The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) was established in 1996. The institution's mandate was expanded to encompass food security and environmental protection, economic cooperation and political and humanitarian affairs. IGAD countries host the largest grouping of pastoralists and Agro-pastoralists in the world concentrated in the arid and semi-arid ecosystems.

To complement efforts of IGAD member states in enhancing sustainable development in these ecosystems, the decision to establish the IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD) was established on July 12th 2012 by the 45th IGAD Council of Ministers. ICPALD has developed a close and strategic working relationship with

BORESHA which has enabled us to collaborate on several important cross border livestock related activities.

In June 2016, Kenya and Ethiopia governments developed and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between them to enhance cross border coordination and cooperation in animal health and sanitary issues. This was followed by the development of an implementation framework (IF) in August, 2018. The implementation framework put in place coordination arrangements that included establishment of joint steering committees (JSC) at national level and multidisciplinary technical committees (MTC) at sub-national levels. The official launch of the two committees (JSC & MTC) was done in March, 2019 and identified two activities for immediate action. These are: 1. Develop and validate protocol for disease information sharing and harmonize the vaccination calendar and 2. Conduct a training and create awareness on harmonized disease surveillance and disease reporting.

We have worked jointly with BORESHA on the two activities above. These activities were successfully implemented in November 2019 when the protocol for disease information sharing and harmonization of the vaccination calendar was validated by a group of veterinarians from Kenya and Ethiopia in Naivasha, Kenya. We also conducted a training and awareness on harmonized disease surveillance and disease reporting in Machakos, Kenya. These two activities would also not have been possible without the good working relationship ICPALD has established with BORESHA.

In as much as ICPALD and BORESHA are pursuing different programme impacts and outcomes, some of our areas of intervention are closely related and their success will depend on common factors. We shall continue to work together for the improvement of animal health delivery in our region.

Dr. SJ Muchina Munyua,
PhD Dip Bus Admin (ABE UK), NEMA Reg. Lead
Director, ICPALD

INTERVIEW

WITH DR. WAMALWA KINYANJUI



Dr. Wamalwa Kinyanjui - Animal Health Expert
January, 2020 | Photo | ICPALD

About The Interviewee

Dr. Wamalwa Kinyanjui (PHD) Animal Health Expert, ICPALD

1. What is ICPALD?

The IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD) is a Specialized Technical Institution of Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

2. What it is ICPALD's Mandate

Its mandate is to work with and for member states to promote and facilitate gender, conflict and environment responsive sustainable and equitable livestock and complementary livelihoods development in arid and semi-arid areas of the IGAD region.

3. What are the key achievements of ICPALD that you would like to highlight?

We have several achievements, key among them are: Developed regional strategies and guidelines which have been domesticated, Developed bilateral and multilateral MoUs between member states on cross border cooperation on animal health and sanitary measures. We have also documented and shared good practices on fodder and fodder seed for scale up

4. What are the main policies/agreement relevant for cross border work in the region and at what stage of implementation are they?

- MoU on Cross-Border Cooperation on Animal Health and Sanitary Measures;
- The following 4 bilateral MOUs: Ethiopia- Djibouti, Somalia-Ethiopia, Ethiopia- Sudan, South Sudan – Sudan need to be supported for operationalization. Kenya _Somalia MOU yet to be developed

5. What are the key challenges you face in the execution of your mandate and how can other agencies support?

- Inadequate financial resources from member states and development partners. This require support from other sources.
- Limited capacity by some member states to adopt, domesticate and implement some regional strategies and model policy and legal frameworks
- Inadequate data that can support advocacy, decision making and development of strategies/policies and the support in legal frameworks.
- Limited information sharing and coordination at national and regional level

6. How was the collaboration with BORESHA and what role do you see it playing in your future work?

As a result of collaboration with BORESHA now have the following:

- Ethiopia-Kenya now have a draft Protocol for Information Sharing on Cross-Border Animal Health and Sanitary Measures that will fast-track exchange of information on animal health and trade once signed by the CVOs of the two countries.

- The training of technical staff of the Ethiopia & Kenya on Harmonized Disease Surveillance, Vaccination and Disease Reporting; it is believed to increase the delivery of the trained staff in carrying out trans-boundary animal diseases (TADs) prevention and control in a coordinated manner.

I appeal to BORESHA to work closely with ICPALD to implement a number of activities identified in the Ethiopia-Kenya, Ethiopia-Somalia MoU implementation framework.

Key Strategic Areas ICPALD Is Working on Currently and In the Near Future

- Supporting and facilitating the development and rolling out innovative, affordable and accessible financial and risk transfer instruments including livestock insurance and micro-insurance, micro-finance for livestock and livestock social safety nets.
- Resilience investment building against drought and related emergencies by employing approaches that are pre-emptive, rather than reactive, holistic rather than independent, long-term instead of short-term and combining relief with development interventions.
- Strengthened cross border cooperation and coordination among member states because much of the countries in the IGAD region are under the same climatic zone, and when drought and disease occur, it affects most, if not all, of them concurrently.
- Livestock and meat trade enhancement within and outside the region

UPDATE

KEY PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

1. In collaboration with Danish Demining Group (DDG) we organized a Knowledge Management Write shop, five technical briefs and one policy brief were produced around cross border resilience building.
2. In Collaboration with ICPALD we held a training of technical staff from Ethiopia & Kenya on Harmonized Disease Surveillance, Vaccination and Disease Reporting
3. In collaboration with ICPALD Ethiopia-Kenya now have a draft Protocol for Information Sharing on Cross-Border Animal Health and Sanitary Measures
4. Compensation received for 226 herders that insured their livestock under IBLI
5. Completion of training and disbursement of grant fund facility to 51, Lot 1 grantees

UPCOMING MAJOR ACTIVITIES

1. Documentation of BORESHA Experience and production of visibility and communications products.
2. Continue to support youth education through TVET and Scholarships
3. Rolling out Business Development Training in BDC in Mandera, Dollow and Dolo Ado
4. Rehabilitation of targeted Health and Education facilities in Kenya through Cash for Work
5. NRM capacity building for government officials
6. BORESHA Partners and Consortium Learning and Reflection Workshop

STORY

ASSET PROTECTION THROUGH LIVESTOCK INSURANCE

Author | Mohamed Ali

BORESHA has undertaken several interventions in the targeted areas. One of the key interventions is the awareness creation among the community members on Livestock Insurance and creation of linkages with insurance service providers. Although at the start of the awareness creation exercises, Livestock Insurance, was an entirely new and a foreign concept in most of the targeted areas, a total of 289 (129M: 160F) livestock holders insured their livestock voluntarily for the first time in the first BORESHA IBLI sales window (Jan – Feb 2019).



Mama Naima Hassan feeding her goats. Mandera|Photo | Mohamed Ali

Interestingly, majority of those who insured livestock were women. In the second BORESHA IBLI sales window (August – September 2019), a total of 527 livestock holders insured their livestock. So far, the number of livestock holders who have insured their livestock in the two sales windows are 816 and the total asset (livestock) under protection is 7426.

Girisa is one of the BORESHA target areas where the community members were introduced to the livestock insurance. Girisa falls within Agro-pastoral livelihood zone and has previously experienced devastating shocks such droughts, floods and conflicts. In Girisa the

DRR committee was introduced to livestock insurance during the COVACA exercise and they identified livestock Insurance as a key DRR intervention during their DRR action planning which was facilitated by BORESHA through World Vision.

Takaful the insurance service provider has notified the livestock owners who insured their livestock during Jan - Feb sales window about indemnity pay-out in September. As a result, some of beneficiaries have borrowed money equivalent to the amount, they are anticipating being given by the insurance service provider. Money borrowed as soft loans from better off relatives has been used to purchase fodder and get veterinary services to sustain their livestock during this period of scarcity and hardship. One of such beneficiaries is Mama Nima Hassan Bilal of Girisa location.

As the monitoring team approaches her hut, the simmering afternoon heat burns the nature around Girissa the environment is relaxed with children playing across the thorny hedge. Women make mats under the acacia tree nearby and sheep bleat coming back from long day browsing. As women rekindles fire and smoke spirals from above the traditional hut signalling the start of cooking the evening 'casha' or meal. The mother is breadwinner (household head) for her family and is raising nine (9) children, who are all orphans. She signals us to get in.

After pleasantries, we asked her about the support she got through BORESHA, her face lit up with a big grin and could not hide her joy as she retorted, "BORESHHA was a Godsend. We feel empowered because we have been taught a very simple way of protecting ourselves and minimising the effects of droughts. We used to rely on relief aid and handouts from NGOs and the government, which was not only inadequate but distributed unfairly. Dry seasons used to be the seasons when the well-connected people would get richer as they could easily access relief aid and sell them in the markets and other parts of the country. The weaker community members like myself, would only get something after Sheikhs and religious leaders' intervention. Things are very different now! We have just been informed that we will get pay-out and it will be totally hassle-free. Yes, that is the confirmation we have been given because we have not yet received (pay-out), and it is based on that confirmation that we have been able to borrow money to sustain our livestock. I have 9 orphaned children and the goats are the only asset I have. I bought insurance policy at a cost of (premium) Ksh2150 (EUR 19) for the 15 shoats and will get a pay-out of about Ksh 10,000 (EUR 88)."



Mama Naima Hassan's goats. Photo | Maslah Mohamed| BORESHA

When asked about how she will use the money, Mama Nima answered, "I have used a fraction of the money to buy fodder for my goats. I have stored the fodder in the village fodder store, and I give it to my goats in portions. I don't spend money on water because with the fodder, the goats are able to walk to river Dauwa which I am told comes from Ethiopian highlands. I have also bought some food stuff for my children using the money. This was not possible in the last drought just about 2 years ago. I still have some money left and I will think of what to do with it, may be buy some drugs for the goats if they get sick."

members, played a vital role in the awareness creation on the insurance cover voluntarily as a DRR intervention. He noted, "This is the best thing that has ever happened to us. We are slowly becoming less dependent on external aid and we are beginning to appreciate that if well informed, the community can handle their challenges with the little resources they have. This is what the DRR committee has been trained by World Vision to inculcate in the community. You have seen, the poorest among us is at least, able to protect some of their livestock and livestock means everything to us."

have to continue with awareness creation. The lack of understanding of the concept is the biggest barrier to acceptance of the concept so awareness creation activities must continue as well as facilitation of interactions between the insurance service provider and the community members. Another important factor that can contribute to acceptance of the concept is timely release of the payout. The community is a "seeing-is-believing" kind of community. When it was said that there will be payout, many community members bought insurance policy during the current window. It is important to have payout made when it matters."

Mr. Issack Hassan Omar, the chairman of the DRR committee who, together with his committee

When asked what should be done to enhance uptake of the IBLI concept? The chairman notes, "We still

STORY

Author | Bashir Abdifatah

EMBRACING FODDER PRODUCTION TO BEAT DROUGHT



Halima Aden together with BORESHA Staff, Abdullahi at the fodder store. Dollow, Somalia PHOTO | Maslah Mumin.

People often struggle to survive in the drought-stricken area of Somalia's Gedo region. The majority of the people from Gedo region of Southwest of Somalia rely on livestock to meet their basic food and health needs. Livestock and agriculture are the mainstay of livelihoods and food production in Gedo, which means that the region is particularly susceptible to environmental shocks. These shocks are usually the result of delayed rainfall, drought or flooding. Approximately half of the population sells livestock and their products in order to sustain their families.

Just as the people rely on livestock for their wellbeing, the animals are dependent on adequate rainfall to replenish water sources, and to grow grasses and other types of animal fodder. However, in recent years, rainfall in Somalia particularly Gedo has been inadequate, resulting in dried up water sources and decreased pasture and animal fodder, leaving the livestock with insufficient food and water. Without enough to go around, animals in Dollow grew

thinner and began producing less milk. As a result, the value of the animals decreased, so the livestock owners received less income and often could not afford to pay for food and other necessities.

Insufficient food and water also caused the animals' immune systems to fail, leading to an increase in livestock diseases. Compounding the situation, people in Dollow started moving animals to Ethiopia in search of food and water. However, lactating cows, small herd of goats and vulnerable household members (women, elderly and children) were left behind in the village.

Support

BORESHA project established six Livestock common interest groups in six villages under Dollow District (180HH comprising 100m & 80f) providing regular trainings on resilience building and protection of livelihoods and to serve as the center for dialogue for emerging human, livestock and environmental crisis. The LCIG group usually work

together to enhance village potential resources and benefit for their communities.

As part of the BORESHA activities and response to Livelihoods concerns in Gedo Region, BORESHA engaged Agro-pastoralists in the area with a fodder production activity through Cash for work. The project also distributed seeds and provided fuel coupled with Cash for work to help women headed households and most vulnerable households to produce fodder for their livestock. The ripple effect here is that their cows can be able to produce sufficient milk for personal consumption as well as sale, this will put cash in their hands which will go a long way in helping them to cope with the effects of the drought.

Meet Halima

Halima Aden Ali a mother of nine children is one of the women who benefited from this activity. "Honestly the fodder BORESHA distributed was beneficial and helped my family cope with the biting drought that had threatened

our very own existence since our animals which are our main source of livelihood were suffering” said Halima. On probing her further she said “the drought was badly affecting us, there was no feed for the cows and goats mostly lactating and I couldn’t afford to undertake fodder production since the cost of fuel and seeds were very high among other myriad of challenges. When fodder was distributed the situation improved, the cow’s milk production increased, the fodder sustained us until the first rainfall thanks to Allah” she added.

There is high demand for fodder from the local community due to its importance, the fodder is marketable during the dry season. Those that are capable purchase them straight from the farms hence cutting the transport cost as well as easing the need for farmers to take the grass to

the market. BORESHA has eased the situation by providing the fodder as well as constructing a fodder store in the village which will benefit the local community during the dry season.

Challenges

Their main challenge prior to BORESHA intervention was the lack proper storage facilities. They needed proper housing structures with raised floors for storage of grass away from reach of termites and other pests. This was however overcome since the project has gone ahead to construct fodder storage facilities in the area which is managed and maintained by Livestock Common Interest Groups.

During drought and dry season men move away camels, cattle and strong goats to places where water

and pasture can be found, making women and vulnerable animals left behind with little or no food or feed. Thus, women are responsible for the care of children and almost half of the herd that men left in the villages so as to save the others from the drought. She has been faced with this challenge on a seasonal basis, however the availability of fodder and storage has eased the burden for her.

The fodder activity is part of BORESHA’s efforts continuous efforts aimed at building resilience to drought and adaptive capacity of vulnerable communities in the cross-border areas Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia.



Halima feeding the family cows. Dollow, Somalia .
September 2019. Photo | Maslah Mohamed | BORESHA

Quick Facts

- DRC BORESHA established 20 Livestock Common Interest Groups (LCIGs) with 465 members to build the capacity of the people on animal management and husbandry practices.
- DRC BORESHA engaged Barabaray and Warayle communities on Fodder production through Cash for Work
- Women headed households were the main target of the fodder production. A total of 60 Households benefited.

DID YOU KNOW

THE WORLD ORGANIZATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH



The OIE is an international organization with 181 Member Countries, whose mandate is to improve animal health and welfare throughout the world. For more than 90 years, the OIE has worked to achieve the transparency of the global animal health situation, including diseases transmissible to humans, to update and publish disease prevention and control methods, to ensure the sanitary safety of world trade in animals and their products and to strengthen national animal health systems.

These actions have been solidified through the adoption of international standards by the Delegates of the OIE Member Countries, which are recognized as reference by the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The OIE Pillars

1. Standards

Improving animal health and welfare as well as veterinary public health worldwide. Recognized as reference by the World Trade Organization (WTO), these standards are designed to prevent and control animal diseases, including zoonoses, ensure the sanitary safety of world trade in terrestrial and aquatic animals and animal products, and improve animal welfare.

2. Transparency

Sharing, in real time, accurate information on the global animal health situation. Since its creation, one of the OIE's historic missions has been to ensure transparency and improve knowledge of the global animal disease situation, including zoonoses.

3. Expertise

Collecting, analysing and disseminating veterinary scientific information. The OIE collects and analyses the latest scientific information on prevention and control of animal diseases. This information is then made available to Member Countries so that they can apply the most effective methods.

4. Solidarity

Developing international solidarity to control animal diseases more effectively. The OIE supports its Member Countries and helps them strengthen and improve the structure of their national animal health systems in line with the Organisation's international standards, notably by acting on the quality of the national Veterinary Services, diagnostic laboratories and veterinary education.

Source: www.oie.int

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