

SUMMARY REPORT FOR THE END-LINE EVALUATION OF **BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESILIENCE IN THE HORN OF AFRICA**

BORESHA PROJECT

FEBRUARY 2021

SUMMARY REPORT



Funded by
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**THE END-LINE EVALUATION OF
BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESILIENCE
IN THE HORN OF AFRICA
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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The BORESHA project was found to be largely successful in meeting its objectives of promoting economic development and greater resilience among vulnerable groups in the borderlands of Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia.

The project's Endline evaluation results showed that the project was relevant to the borderlands' needs at the time of intervention. Several other surveys done by BORESHA during its design and implementation, guided on the areas of intervention, by identifying the immediate needs of the community. The project was also flexible to adapt to changes during the project implementation, which was evident after the onset of Covid-19 which caused many disruptions to the project activities. The project was able to adapt and also re-design the project plans to have interventions aimed at mitigating the effects of Covid-19. Feedback from different stakeholders also helped shape the project design at the initial stages, to make the project more inclusive and consultative with the local stakeholders.

There was evidence of enhanced knowledge on early warning signs for common disasters, with the respondents reporting better management of shocks. In total, respondents reported to have managed 56% of the shocks that had occurred one year preceding the survey in a better way (Kenya - 54%, Ethiopia - 57%, Somalia - 58%). In summary, 1,532 beneficiaries were trained on early warning systems. 2,055 goats were also distributed to the beneficiaries, benefitting 411 households. The project also aided in the formation of 37 Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) plans, out of which 16 were prioritized and integrated into local government plans and/or funded.

Index Based Livestock Insurance (IBLI) which was aimed at reducing losses due to drought and other challenges. A total of 25 IBLI TOTs were trained to support sensitization and in turn trained 40 trainers as IBLI subagents. 120 village insurance promoters were also trained to promote sensitization at the local level. As a result, 350,000 pastoralists were sensitized on IBLI, with 1,326 households insuring their livestock - a total of 9,371 animals. At the end of the project, 226 households had received compensation for losses. However, IBLI was still seen to have a low uptake in the community, with 33% of the respondents indicating subscription. The reasons given for lack of uptake were mainly due to information gaps and perception issues.

Livestock health initiatives which included mass vaccination & treatment and also training of Community Disease Reporters (CDRs) and Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) were found to be a success, with 94% of the beneficiaries reporting increased animal health (Kenya - 100%, Ethiopia - 94%, Somalia - 87%). 114 CAHWs were trained/supported, with a total of 500,325 beneficiaries reached by the vaccination campaigns where 1,148,192 animals were vaccinated/dewormed/treated in 14 vaccination campaigns.

Livelihood and economic empowerment initiatives were also found to have had a significant effect on the targeted beneficiaries' lives and livelihoods. The Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) initiated/supported by the project were observed to have contributed to improved saving habits (91% reported increase in savings) and also provided a source of soft loans which beneficiaries reported was instrumental in addressing household needs. In total, 195 VSLAs were established and trained, benefitting 4,853 members. Another 184 VSLAs were trained, with 4,562 members receiving the training. The project's TVET training component was also observed to have had positive outcomes, with evidence of graduates who had started their own businesses and some providing employment to others. Overall, 78% of trainees who participated in the survey reported improved income as a result of the training (Kenya - 82%, Ethiopia - 97%, Somalia - 58%). Coupling this with business skills training offered by the 3 Business Development & Support Centers (BDSCs), equipped the trainees with the basic knowledge to help them utilize their skills, with 93% of them indicating they were still utilizing their skills at the time of the evaluation (Kenya-94%, Ethiopia-94%, Somalia-93%). A total of 568 TVET trainees enrolled for training, with 342 graduating.

Similarly, small grants provided to the targeted households by the project were reported to have supported business growth in the project areas, resulting into an indirect benefit to the rest of the community through employment creation (766 jobs created) and availability of new products at the local level e.g., agricultural

products, honey etc. 78 grantees (18-Kenya, 17-Somalia, 16 Ethiopia) received grants totaling to 608,800 Euro.

Livestock feed production in the target areas was also enhanced through Livestock Common Interest Groups (LCIG) training on fodder production and also through alternative use of Prosopis to produce animal feed. In total, 19 LCIGs were established, with 551 members trained. To enhance storage of fodder produced, 5 fodder storage facilities and 1 agricultural/livestock product market facility were established.

Rangeland reclamation through Cash for Work activities helped create more land for pasture and agricultural use and also helped rehabilitate access roads. In total, 133 sites were rehabilitated. Part of the rangeland reclamation activities included finding alternative utilization of invasive species, which provided livelihood sources for the beneficiaries. A total of 749 beneficiaries were making alternative use of Prosopis; for fodder and charcoal. Activities to address water shortages were also evident, with construction and rehabilitation of water points providing water access even during the dry season. 12 water points were rehabilitated, benefitting 17,285 households translating to 103,713 beneficiaries. 10 Community Water Committees (CWCs) were also trained on water management and conservation, benefitting 166 members. To enhance water harvesting and storage, water harvesting schemes were installed in 28 schools, benefitting 13,706 people. 33 schools also participated in championing environmental activities, thus promoting environmental conservation awareness. To prevent degradation of the environment, 1,398 community members participated in environmental degradation training and sensitization at community level.

To enhance proper management of natural resources, 831 officials were trained on natural resource management/planning, while 507 beneficiaries participated in NRM mapping and training.

The project was also found to have successfully integrated/fused different project components in the same areas, which increased the chances of a beneficiary benefitting from more than one intervention. An example is where a VSLA beneficiary would also benefit from Cash for Work, livestock vaccination & treatment etc. This increased the impact of the project among the beneficiaries.

Most of the project activities were also found to be sustainable, with measures integrated to ensure project ownership by the community. Linkage of the beneficiaries to the stakeholders especially in government departments e.g. livestock department was found to enhance sustainability. The involvement of government departments in project activities created good will and potential linkages of beneficiary groups to other projects in the areas to continue strengthening them.

The project also encountered several challenges, especially in dealing with cross-border issues, as a result of difference in policies across the 3 countries. There were also other set-up challenges at the initial stages of the project, which coupled with disruptions from Covid-19 led to a 3 month no-cost extension of the project. In general, the evaluation found the project to be successful in achieving its objectives.



BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESILIENCE IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

BORESHA- End of project Evaluation Results highlights



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PROJECT OVERVIEW

Building Opportunities for Resilience in the Horn of Africa -BORESHA- is a 3-year (2018-2021) cross border project implemented by a consortium of the Danish Refugee Council, World Vision, Tetrattech and CARE International with funding from European Union Trust Fund for Africa.

BORESHA works with local communities and public authorities to establish transformative processes to enhance the cross border socio-economic integration and support resilience in the fragile and underdeveloped borderland areas between Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia.

Specific objective of the project is to promote economic and private sector development, and greater resilience, particularly among vulnerable groups in the Mandera triangle. Project focus on 3 outcome areas:



OVERALL

The project's Endline evaluation findings showed that the project was multisectoral, coordinated, relevant, coherent, using participatory approaches, adaptive programming and inclusive and consultative with the local stakeholders.

LESSONS LEARNT

- Integration of different project components in the same areas: increased benefits to beneficiaries
- The consortium member organizations operating in different countries in coordination but independently of each other minimized risks and challenges of having their cross border plans blocked
- Baseline mapping and context analysis of the project areas was key in identifying actual needs and gaps.
- Government relations between the three countries are not easy, thus delays are likely to occur where inter-governmental cooperation is required.
- Working together with other humanitarian organizations in the project areas brought synergy to the program and harmonization of activities.
- Community Participation in the project enhanced ownership of the project and also helped reduce conflict amongst beneficiaries.
- Involvement of the relevant government departments and linking them to project beneficiaries enhanced sustainability of the project.
- Engaging the private sector empowered the private sector within the community thus enhancing sustainability.

HIGHLIGHTS OF PHASE 1 PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

OUTCOME 1: BUILDING RESILIENCE WITHIN THE COMMUNITIES.

OUTPUT LEVEL ACHIEVEMENTS

16 priorities in the 37 DRR plans were integrated into local government plans or funded. 1,532 people trained on early warning systems.

40 Trainers trained as IBLI Sub-agents. 120 village insurance promoters were also trained. 350,000 people far sensitized on IBLI. 1,326 farmers have insured their livestock through Index Based Livestock Insurance.

OUTCOMES REPORTED

Increase in # of community associations who know early warning signs and knows what to do in case of an emergency or disaster.

Percentages of community members aware about and what to do in case of

- Floods: 70% of respondents
- Drought: 87% of respondents
- Livestock diseases: 70% of respondents
- Conflict: 65% of respondents

56% of those interviewed felt that shocks in the last 1 year were well managed. 80% aware about IBLI and uptake by 24% of them. 33% of livestock-dependent households protected by insurance

OUTCOME 2; LIVELIHOODS & ECONOMIC IMPROVEMENT

OUTPUT LEVEL ACHIEVEMENTS

551 individuals involved in 19 Livestock Common Interest Groups and trained with PFS approach. All LCIGs producing fodder.

4,853 individuals are members of active 195 VSLAs saving and providing access to credit for the members.

488,052 people benefited from livestock vaccination campaigns with 1,148,192 animals vaccinated/treated. 114 Community Disease reporters /Community Animal Health Workers supported. 2,055 goats distributed.

78 entrepreneurs given grants to establishing and growing businesses creating employment.

568 youths enrolled in TVET courses (219 are already self-employed). 45 students with scholarships.

3,993 individuals involved in Cash for work activities for community structure

OUTCOMES REPORTED

87% interviewees taken up a new livelihood activity: 81% started fodder production for livestock use and 60% for sale; 44% increased livestock keeping; 17% enhanced dairy production and 16% took up bee keeping.

92% of respondents reported increased HH income since joining VSLA with their monthly savings having increase. 64% of respondents had taken loans from VSLA.

94% of interviewees reported better animal health and production after the intervention attributed to vaccination and treatment interventions.

LCIG and CDRs/CAWHs trainings improved management of livestock diseases 78% of interviewees said that TVET training had improved their income. The same trend by groups involved in alternative utilization of prosopis juliflora and grants recipients.

47% of TVET graduates already working (more local level employment other than cross border). Self-employment more than formal employment

85% of CFW respondents listed "Buying food for HH consumption" as highest benefit.

OUTCOME 3: CROSS BORDER NATURAL RESOURCES ARE MORE EQUITABLY AND SUSTAINABLY MANAGED

OUTPUT LEVEL ACHIEVEMENTS

12 water points constructed/rehabilitated with improved water access to 103,713 individuals.

10 water management committees trained. Construction of 28 water harvesting schemes in schools benefiting 13,706 beneficiaries .

33 Rangeland sites rehabilitated through CFW

33 schools supported to champion environmental conservation Resilience training conducted for 506 people.

749 people using Prosopis juliflora for fodder/charcoal production as management by alternative utilization

OUTCOMES REPORTED

12 Water points rehabilitated/constructed improving access to water for domestic use and for other livelihoods activities to over 17,825 HH or over 103,713 individuals.

73% reported increase in land area rehabilitated and managed for communal use

78% of the HH targeted generating income through alternative uses of invasive species

BORESHA Consortium

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