

## CASE STUDY PIA 6: Conflict Prevention, Resolution and Peace Building



### 15. Grazing agreements: the Gabra-Hamar example

<p><b>INTRODUCTION</b></p>	 <p>The reciprocal grazing agreements are part of the inter-ethnic treaties and they are the base to ensure mobility, access rights and access to the limited resources and thus, copying strategies and increasing resilience to impacts of drought risks and climate change.</p> <p><a href="http://www.pastoralists.org">Hands up for peace/ www.pastoralists.org</a></p> <p>Nowadays, some of the traditional coping mechanisms are weak, because of the deteriorating cultural structures, complexities and lack of cross border conflict resolution structures and mechanisms, lack of structured mediation processes, ineffective communication strategies, unclear security services and legislation for border movements.</p> <p>VSF Germany, which started its cross border implementation as part of a consortium with VSF Switzerland and VSF Belgium in 2008, integrated approaches and practices used among communities that support dialogue, negotiations, joint planning, mutual resource sharing agreements as pre-requisite for creating disaster resilient communities. The process with the Gabra - Kenya and Hamar – Ethiopia communities begun in 2009.</p>
<p><b>LOCATION /GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE</b></p>	<p>This case study is the one involving the Gabra and Hamar communities, around Kenya – North Horr District in Marsabit County /Ethiopia – Hammer Woreda in South Omon Zone borders respectively.</p>
<p><b>STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- VSF Belgium, Germany, Suisse</li> <li>- ECHO</li> <li>- REGLAP</li> <li>- Government Administrators (Hammer woreda, South Omo Zone, District commissioners and District officers)</li> <li>- Zonal/Woreda/District Security Teams members</li> <li>- Local Authorities</li> <li>- Peace and grazing committees</li> <li>- Water user committees</li> <li>- Community members</li> </ul>
<p><b>METHODOLOGIC AL APPROACH</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Context of conflict analysis</li> <li>- Baseline survey on the context of conflict</li> <li>- Conflict analysis using Do No Harm framework, conflict actors, causes and effects and resource using mapping tools.</li> </ol>

- 2) Mobilization and sensitization of communities – self reflection and own discovery for access and access rights to water and pasture resources
- o Participatory planning approach
  - o Sector based baseline information gathering
  - o Building the capacity of the staff to understand the Program theory and the overall theory of change.
  - o Use of appropriate tools such as Integrated Community Development (PICD), peace building, and Do No Harm tools
- 3) Establishment of a core working group: Effective and efficient working group that facilitates the process of resource use analysis and planning.
- o General community meeting used to develop a participatory criteria of selection of the core group made of 33 members
  - o Core group facilitates the development of resources using maps focusing on the available resources, boundaries, inter-community relationships along the conflict zones
  - o The information is then used to analyze the factors and impact on existing resource utility level and missed opportunities
- 4) Drawing of resource using maps:
- o Resource using maps remains an intra-community data when triangulated can be a source of conflict and confrontation due to boundaries disputes.
  - o The Maps are key to fast truck discussions and to identify coping strategies and resilience building strategic measures.
- 5) Community validation of resource using maps:
- o Sharing of the maps with the entire community during a general meeting; some inputs are added to integrate the whole community in the process.
  - o Discussion about isolation and sharing to reach a consensus on the need to proceed on agreements with their neighbours.
  - o The information forms the background for a Do No Harm assessment process that reinforces self reflection, community awareness, willingness and commitment to inter-community or cross border positive resource use engagements. It also facilitates a majority support of the move towards resilience building.
- 6) Intercommunity meetings:
- o Selections of ambassadors who understand the process and have desirable negotiation skills represent them in the inter-community meetings.
  - o Without the maps, focus is made on the under-used resources because of conflicts and potential zones of sharing to develop proposals for mutual resource sharing.
  - o The outcomes are shared with the entire communities for validation.
- 7) Inter-community resource use strategic planning:
- o This Process helps the communities to build on the opportunities and options for resilience building identified.
  - o The options are then translated to Cross border community Action plans, including joint resource use (migration, water and pasture) and validation.
- 8) Final signing of the reciprocal agreement:
- o Once the reciprocal agreements have been validated and endorsed by the communities, the peace committees from the two communities confirm the content of the agreements in an event witnessed by local opinion

	<p>leaders, political leaders, and the Government Administrators, security Teams and make verbal agreements commitments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The Verbal agreements are then tested for a period of between 1 to 2 years as agreed by the communities in agreement.</li> <li>o Agreement is reached to monitor the process of pilot testing the reciprocal agreements in order to assess and determine the members commitment, its success and limitation before the written document.</li> <li>o A written document, proof of the agreement, is developed to make it adaptable and sustainable to allow not only cross border movements of livestock, water and pasture sharing, but also disease surveillance, trade and other positive co-existence factors.</li> </ul> <p>9) Implementation of Reciprocal Grazing Agreements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The peace and grazing committees, peace monitors, leaders, local authorities, and general communities are monitoring the implementation.</li> <li>o Outreach meetings are conducted to increase publicity and awareness.</li> <li>o Peace committees, traditional leaders and local authorities work closely with other stakeholders and governments.</li> <li>o The agreements are endorsed by the Government administrators, police and District/woreda/zonal security teams.</li> </ul> <p>10) Monitoring of the Reciprocal Agreements –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The peace committees, grazing committees and peace monitors have the responsibility of monitoring.</li> <li>o Close monitoring of conflict early warning indicators (incidences of violation of the agreement or conflict triggering occurrences) are continuously carried out and information is shared with leaders and government representatives as soon as possible for reinforcement.</li> <li>o The government administration and the security teams (police, justice and security, district peace committees, District security teams) reinforce the implementation of the set action plans.</li> </ul>
<b>VALIDATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased resilience and decreased impact of drought in 2010 and 2011 by an increased access and access rights to water security, market access ...</li> <li>- regular dialogue meetings leading to social cohesion thanks to the community managed monitoring system</li> <li>- improvement of the sentiment of security in the communities</li> </ul> <p>A GIS process is launched to map the grazing areas and determine the increase in resource.</p>
<b>IMPACT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improved livestock livelihood asset protection through increased access to cross border dry season grazing reserves (pasture and water).</li> <li>- Coordinated migratory movements thus better cross border disease surveillance, animal health services and planned grazing.</li> <li>- Improving sustainable conflict resolution mechanisms through community owned process.</li> <li>- Increased household income and food security through better livestock health and products and inter-community trade.</li> <li>- Strengthening socio-economic cohesion among pastoral communities.</li> <li>- Recognition of the importance of conflict prevention and mutual resource management initiatives resulting in increased coordination of stakeholder's coordination at the community and government level.</li> </ul>

<p><b>INNOVATION AND SUCCESS FACTORS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inclusion of the whole community in decision making and active participation.</li> <li>- Community taking the driving force into their own resource management and coexistence.</li> <li>- Integration of customary institutions and peace building conventional structures</li> <li>- Creation of intra and inter-community based negotiations and resource sharing frameworks.</li> <li>- Inclusion of key governmental representatives is particularly important in the pastoral areas</li> <li>- Use of specific tools as Do No Harm, PRA and peace building tools at all levels.</li> <li>- The power of synergy: the more stakeholders /actors are on board the better the impact.</li> </ul>
<p><b>CONSTRAINTS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Because of different expectations, there is a need for a clear definition of the roles. The first constraint was the demand for previous conflict incidences resettlements e.g compensations of previous raids and killings by the communities. The task was given to the local government.</li> <li>- Language barrier</li> <li>- Fewer Competent facilitators - with harmonized personal attributes and skills</li> <li>- Different governmental policies and procedures (at times not harmonized policies). Also challenges of their officers availability when organizing cross border meetings.</li> <li>- Difficulties in finding a way of encouraging national government members to establish joint cross border task forces to resume communications after disruptions.</li> </ul>
<p><b>LESSONS LEARNED</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A really important point is the definition of objectives, roles and support: people who get direct benefit from their participation in conflicts see advantages of conflicts and prolong conflicts.</li> <li>- Proper selection of peace committees and core working groups are targeting all key actors is very crucial to improve the advantages of conflict!</li> <li>- Peace monitors are very important when properly selected and trained in ensuring accountability on peace committees.</li> <li>- Because of diplomatic problems, it is important not to share the community-made maps. It could generate discord and conflicts.</li> <li>- Testing and reviewing of reciprocal agreements and plans provided opportunity for their practical application to assess their appropriateness and identification of gaps, limitation and missed opportunities for redesigning before the final signing of written agreements.</li> <li>- Reciprocal agreements developed and owned by communities through a gradual process of inclusion and active involvement proves to be more effective and sustainable than declarations which, most of the time, are imposed on them in one or two day's meeting as a quick fix to manage peace.</li> </ul>
<p><b>SUSTAINABILITY</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proper conflict context analysis informed conflict sensitive programming and decision making by stakeholders ensured acceptance, recognition and ownership of process and outcomes by all beneficiaries.</li> <li>- Self reflection, Awareness creation, education and involvement of the community representatives as individuals (key people and community (more people) resulted in informed decision making including the whole community</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Empower the communities with tangible communication – equipments, symbols (white clothe) and mediators to address language barrier.</li> <li>- Training of peace committees and stakeholders in adequate conflict management and prevention skills, leadership and governance, planning and support fund for peace building initiatives and plans)</li> <li>- Creation of links between the two government institutions (exchange of numbers, meetings ...).</li> <li>- Creation of a team to link communities and local government</li> <li>- Provide support only for transportation and food for a reduced number of important meetings.</li> <li>- Linking peace building with cross-border development and humanitarian assistances</li> </ul>
<b>UP-SCALING</b>	<p>Similar cases have been developed between other Kenyan and Ethiopian communities but also between Uganda/Kenya, Kenya/South-Sudan. Some communities are also asking for the process as the driving Force. And for further replication the advice is :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Integrate the process within different approaches in a well-known socio-political, economic and environmental context.</li> <li>- Need of a cross border task force created by the national governments.</li> <li>- Quality facilitation, backstopping, replication along the region, as well as a conducive policy environment is of importance here.</li> <li>- Need of harmonization in the approach to create the agreements among the different organizations.</li> <li>- Support initiatives for cross border replication and scaling up of the process from the success areas across the Kenya – Ethiopia, Kenya – Uganda and Kenya – Somalia borders.</li> <li>- Need to address the gap in cross-border policies by formulating the rights and opportunities of pastoral representatives and authorities</li> <li>- Problem of formality on the regional scale: need to enhance the recognition and implementation of the AU Pastoral Policy Framework; UNOCHA and FAO could support the strengthening and streamlining of reciprocal grazing agreements from local, district, sub national, national and regional levels.</li> <li>- Improve the qualification of staff and institutions through appropriate trainings</li> <li>- Documenting the success stories</li> </ul>
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<b>URL OF THE PRACTICE</b>	<p><a href="http://www.disasterriskreduction.net/east-central-africa/reglap">http://www.disasterriskreduction.net/east-central-africa/reglap</a></p>
<b>RELATED RESOURCES THAT HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED</b>	<p><a href="http://www.disasterriskreduction.net/east-central-africa/reglap">http://www.disasterriskreduction.net/east-central-africa/reglap</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.odihpn.org/humanitarian-exchange-magazine/issue-53/how-reciprocalgrazing-agreements-can-increase-the-resilience-of-pastoralists">http://www.odihpn.org/humanitarian-exchange-magazine/issue-53/how-reciprocalgrazing-agreements-can-increase-the-resilience-of-pastoralists</a></p>
<p><b>Case Studies Adapted from : Flora Baudron, Good Practices Building Resilience Experience from Ethiopia and IGAD countries, FAO-SFE, 2013</b></p>	

