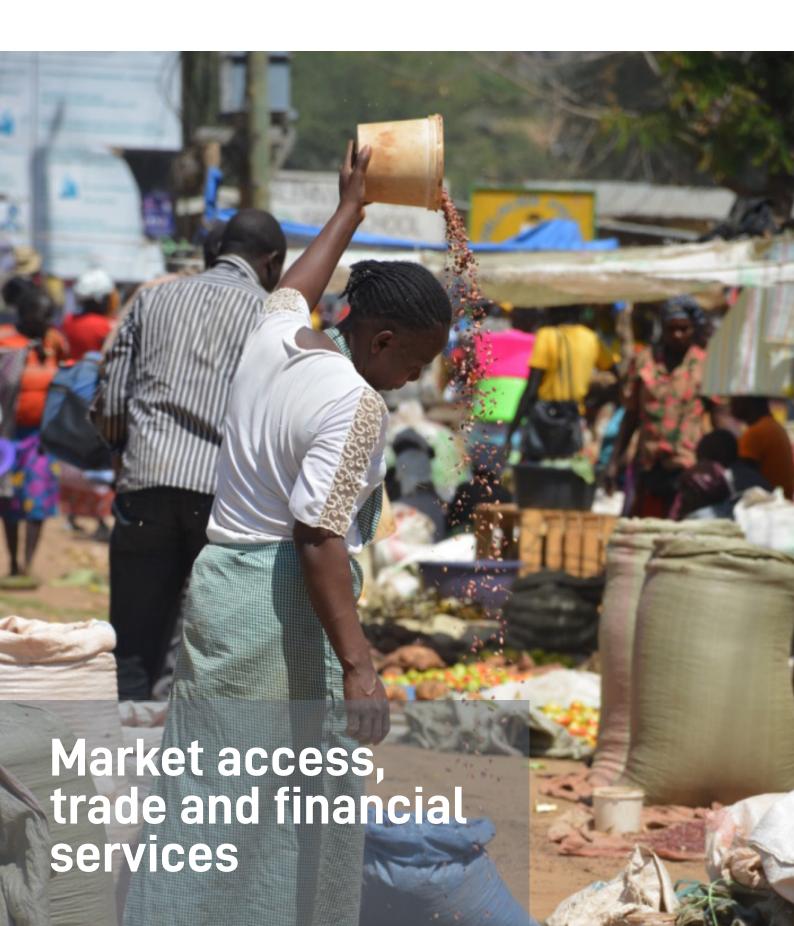
RESILIENCE FOCUS

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FOREWORD

The IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) is aimed at building resilience to drought and related shocks in the Horn of Africa region. It takes a holistic approach to identify capacities and interventions required by vulnerable individuals, households and communities in complex socioecological systems to cope, adapt, transform and thrive in the face of drought and related shocks.

IDDRSI is increasingly being appreciated as a functional, highly effective development paradigm. It highlights the need for strategies that address vulnerability, including poverty and food insecurity in the IGAD region, where recurrent drought and environmental stresses threaten survival.

While the concept and objectives of IDDRSI have become established as a fundamental approach to achieve development and sustainability, the role and significance of market access and trade systems, which form one of the priority intervention areas of the IDDRSI Strategy, have not been well recognised. The theme of this edition of the Resilience Focus Magazine provides perspectives that illustrate the interaction of market access and trade systems with resilience; and acknowledges that resilience can be strengthened through enhanced market access and trade engagements.

In line with this theme, we examine contribution of trade and market access to environmental sustainability, economic prosperity and resilience. Trade is advanced as an important tool for adaptation to climate change and for effective response to the objectives of IDDRSI. We highlight the role of trade in promoting the dissemination of goods and services and identify and connect the manner in which trade plays a role in both fostering innovation and bringing environmental provisions into regional trade agreements.

There is no doubt that environmental pressures combined with a lack of functioning markets can undermine the role of trade in delivering the benefits for attaining the objectives of IDDRSI. Therefore, there is need to ensure that the principles of trade and market access and their contribution to the attainment of sustainability and prosperity are fully incorporated in all IDDRSI endeavours. It is also important to understand the critical need for an enabling arrangement allowing for the introduction and application of coherent and appropriate trade policies in coordinated action. The pursuit of the objectives of IDDRSI requires the widespread dissemination of technological solutions around the Horn of Africa region. Trade is expected to serve as a means to help achieve this goal because it facilitates access to the pertinent goods and services available in the market.

Trade can accelerate the diffusion of goods and services to places where such goods and services are most needed and thus help stimulate productive local capacity. In particular, environmental goods and services consisting of goods and services needed to produce clean and renewable energy and reduce waste and pollution among others - perform a variety of functions essential to tackling environmental challenges, regenerating the natural environment and making production and consumption more sustainable, in harmony with the principles of IDDRSI. Trade can help countries adapt to negative impacts such as those arising from disruption in the production of staple food crops induced by climate change phenomena and related disturbances in economic activity. It can do this by providing a vital flow of supplies to areas that may suffer a sudden reduction in the domestic production of the affected food crops. In an integrated economic system, the most affected areas can import food from regions where climate change impacts are relatively less severe. An example is portrayed in the article about at-risk youth mentorship and engagement in trade. Additionally, trade can serve as a tool to support recovery efforts from natural disasters.

Without access to the global market systems, companies, governments and consumers in countries around the world would generally be faced with less choice and higher prices when acquiring goods and services. This would significantly slow down the dissemination of sound and affordable solutions to those places where they are most needed, while making environmental protection costlier overall. In 2012, the United Nations Conference Sustainable Development reaffirmed political commitment to sustainable development and emphasised the contribution of trade. With the endorsement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015, UN members consolidated their understanding of the important function of trade in helping to bring about a more prosperous, environmentally sustainable and resilient world economy.

This understanding partly revolves around the idea that trade and the environment are intertwined. Continued economic activity and trade depend on a healthy natural environment. At the same time, trade serves as a driver for economic growth and poverty reduction, and can help achieve better environmental outcomes. It follows from this that trade and environmental policies must

be designed and implemented in mutually reinforcing ways. Turning the relationship between trade and the environment into concrete benefits imposes new and urgent demands for effective cooperation among countries.

The scale and scope of global value chains, in today's highly interconnected world have created a new landscape for business and trade that influences how and where goods and services are produced and consumed. During the past few decades, trade has powered huge advances in economic development around the world. However, as the world economy grows, so do environmental challenges, which in turn risk undermining development, economic growth and sustainability.

Trade is an important component in the implementation of IDDRSI; and a healthy environment and sustainable development are critical ingredients in the results expected from IDDRSI interventions. Through trade, governments, companies, innovators and consumers can support the improvement of economies and at the same time protect the environment; green businesses can flourish; and environmental conservation, economic efficiency and access to clean energy technologies can be effectively promoted. There is therefore need to align trade with environment and sustainable development policies; and thus put trade and market access at the centre within the framework of IDDRSI and highlight their role in efforts to build resilience and achieve sustainability.

By John P. Kabayo, Coordinator, IDDRSI Platform, IGAD Secretariat, Djibouti.



Participants hold discussions during the meeting to harmonise IDDRSI programming frameworks in Entebbe. Photo: Christine Bukania/IGAD.

REGIONAL MEETING HELD TO HARMONISE IDDRSI PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORKS

The IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) builds on past efforts so as to maximise the benefits of experience and lessons learnt, improve effectiveness and ensure sustained relevance to the process of building drought resilience.

by JOHN P. KABAYO

A regional meeting was held on 3-5 July 2019 in Entebbe Uganda, to discuss and harmonise observations and recommendations on the refinement of the IDDRSI programming frameworks, comprising the IDDRSI Strategy, Country Programming Papers (CPP) and Regional Programming Paper (RPP).

The regional meeting was opened by Mr. Pius Wakabi Kasajja, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal, Industry and Fisheries of the Republic of Uganda. It was chaired by Mr. Mohamed

Moussa, the Director of Agriculture and Environment Division of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development chaired the meeting on behalf of the IGAD Executive Secretary, H.E. Amb. (Eng.) Mahboub Maalim.

It was attended by members of the National Task Teams comprising representatives of different sectors in IGAD Member States; and the IGAD Core Task Team, comprising technical professionals drawn from the IGAD Secretariat and Specialised Institutions that are involved in implementing the Initiative.



IDDRSI is a regional strategic plan to end drought emergencies, build drought resilience and achieve growth and sustainable development in the IGAD region.

$\label{lem:mechanism} Mechanism that guides the harmonised implementation of IDDRSI$

IDDRSI is a regional strategic plan to end drought emergencies, build drought resilience and achieve growth and sustainable development in the IGAD region. The IDDRSI Strategy, CPPs and RPP provide a mechanism that guides the harmonised implementation of IDDRSI. The Initiative plans to do this through focusing on identified priority intervention areas, with the cooperation of governments, development partners and other stakeholders acting at different levels coordinated under the auspices of IGAD.

Since the launch of IDDRSI in 2013, a number of interventions, including policies, programmes and projects, aimed at building resilience and enhancing the livelihoods of pastoral and agro-pastoral communities in drought-prone areas have been initiated in different IGAD Member States.

A design feature of the IDDRSI Strategy calls for a periodic review to critically assess the status and effectiveness of implementation of each phase over a period of five years, in order to inform prescriptions for subsequent phases. In this regard, IDDRSI builds on past efforts to maximise the benefits of experience and lessons learnt, improve effectiveness and ensure comprehensive and sustained relevance to the process of building drought resilience.

Coordinated and synchronised regional process

Given the regional nature of IDDRSI, the task of revising the IDDRSI programming frameworks was launched and conducted throughout the region in a coordinated manner and executed in all IGAD Member States simultaneously.

Members of a technical team from the IGAD Secretariat visited each country to provide technical support in rolling out the process. In each country, at least 22 appropriately qualified sector experts and national policy officials, representing all the IDDRSI Strategy/Country Programming Paper (CPP) priority intervention areas (PIAs) were identified. The team also included the IDDRSI Platform Steering Committee (PSC) member, the IDDRSI Focal Point and the National IDDRSI Coordinator.

Between six and eight experts with expertise covering all PIAs were selected to form a technical team known as the National Task Team (NTT). The team conducted consultations with different sectors and stakeholders and recorded the views expressed in relation to refining the IDDRSI programming frameworks.

The program of consultations in each country was coordinated by the National IDDRSI Coordinator and was executed by the members of the NTT in accordance with the methods of work agreed by the National Forum for CPP Refinement.

Members of the NTT met regularly under the chairmanship of each country's IDDRSI PSC member (or in his or her absence, such other senior technical official, approved by the ministry in charge of drought resilience in the country). Observations made and information collected during consultations with different stakeholders were discussed and compared. When reviewing past progress in the implementation of IDDRSI, the members of the NTT took note of any lessons learnt, challenges

encountered and opportunities identified; and they considered any new or emerging issues for focus, including new technologies and methods of work. At the end of two months of wide consultations and discussion, the NTT prepared a report which was presented to the National Forum for CPP Refinement for preliminary national validation; and subsequent presentation at a regional meeting, comparing their recommendations with information from other Member States.

Building on the review and assessment of progress in the implementation of IDDRSI in the past 5 years

The progress made in the implementation of the first phase of the IDDRSI Strategy (2013-2018) was reviewed and assessed in 2018. The aim was to understand what worked and what did not; identify the challenges and opportunities encountered, in order to formulate proposals for more effective ways of implementing IDDRSI in subsequent phases.

The IDDRSI Strategy (2013-2018) review was followed by an assessment of the progress achieved in 5 years of implementation of the CPP in each country. This process led to the production of three reports: a mid-term review of the progress in the implementation of the IDDRSI Strategy; a report produced in each of the seven countries on the results of the assessment of the progress made in each country in the implementation of each country's CPP; and a regional report on the results of the review of the implementation of IDDRSI throughout the IGAD region, in the context of the IDDRSI Strategy (2013-2018) and the RPP.

In addition to the reports from reviews and assessments, other opportunities provided guidance to the process of seeking improvements in the implementation of IDDRSI. These include meetings of the IDDRSI Platform during which various recommendations for improvements in the implementation of IDDRSI were made; as well as the observations made during monitoring and analysis of project implementation activities. Such observations occasionally called attention to various operational challenges and constraints that affect project execution or problems related to program design.

The regional meeting, which took place in Entebbe, accentuated the regional character of IDDRSI, comparing the recommendations and formulations emanating from different countries and giving effect to the principle of acting nationally and thinking regionally. Following the regional meeting, a smaller technical team comprising country resource persons and rapporteurs were assigned to review all recommendations and tasked to incorporate them in their respective CPPs, based on the same PIAs and strategic objectives as were collectively agreed and harmonised at the regional level. The revised documents would then be finalised, validated and presented in the forthcoming meetings of the IDDRSI Platform (Steering Committee and General Assembly) due to be held in Nairobi, 4 - 6 September 2019, when the next phase of the IDDRSI Strategy (2019 - 2023) will be launched.

Dr. John P. Kabayo is the Coordinator of the IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) Platform.



Members of a technical team from the IGAD Secretariat visited each country to provide technical support in rolling out the process.

LEARNING ROUTES ON GOOD PRACTICES IN FODDER PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT, AND LIVELIHOODS SUPPORT

From 8-12 April 2019, 42 participants from the Regional Pastoral Livelihoods Resilience Project (RPLRP) Ethiopia (Federal and SNNP region) organised a learning route to learn first-hand, about good practices in fodder production and management, and livelihoods support in the Dasenech Woreda in the South Omo zone of the SNNP Region.



Fodder seed production in Siremeret kebele by CIG. Credit: RPLRP Ethiopia.

by ZELALEM TERFA

Ethiopia has been implementing the drought resilience initiatives to end the effect of drought since 2012. The RPLRP is one such initiative. Financed by the World Bank. It covers four regional states namely; Afar, Ethiopian Somali, Oromia and SNNP regions to benefit 132,000 pastoral and agro-pastoral households.

RPLRP aims to enhance livelihood resilience of pastoral and agro-pastoral communities in cross-border drought

prone areas. It also aims to improve the capacity of selected countries' governments to respond promptly and effectively to an Eligible Crisis or Emergency.

The project is divided into five components: (1) Natural resources management; (2) market access and trade; (3) livelihood support; (4) pastoral risk management; and (4) project management and institutional support.



Members of the cooperative participate actively and directly in land preparation, irrigation canal preparation and planting. Credit: RPLRP Ethiopia.

In the four regions of Ethiopia where RPLRP is being implemented, there has been remarkable progress, and achievements which demonstrate good practices that should be shared among stakeholders for learning and potential replication and scaling. A particular example is the good practices in fodder production and management, and livelihoods support in SNNP region.

It is because of these achievements that RPLRP Ethiopia organised the learning visit for coordinators, M&E experts, and sector experts in the areas of livelihoods support, rangeland, livestock, fisheries, and administration from the federal, regional, Woreda and zonal levels.

Prior to the field visits, participants divided themselves into two groups, based on their particular learning expectations. The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) facilitated a workshop to prepare the two groups for the field visits. They defined their roles and responsibilities, identified specific questions that they wanted answered, and got a thorough briefing about the two sites.

Kerech cooperative excels in fodder production and management

The first group visited Kerech cooperative, in Kariwo kebele. This cooperative, whose name means 'a road or a way' has grown from a self-help pastoral group into a multi-purpose registered and certified primary cooperative with a membership of 198 people - 76 men and 122 women.

RPLRP (SNNP Region) conducted a feasibility study of fodder bank production and management. Based on this study, land was secured and certified through a legal process. Pastoralists and agro-pastoralists were trained on the cultivation and utilisation of improved forage/ fodder plants and a fodder bank management committee, composed of ten men and six women was established. The members organised themselves and registered as a cooperative, then they started saving money in a microfinance institution.

The cooperative cultivated a total of 25 ha that they own along "Demich" irrigation scheme with panicum grass, elephant grass and leucaena (15 ha in 2016/17 and 10 ha in 2017/18). All members of the cooperative participated

ABOUT DASENECH WOREDA

South Omo zone lies at the extreme south of the regional state, bordering to Kenya and South Sudan. Dasenech Woreda, which was the targeted site for field visits, has 40 Kebeles including the Woreda town, Omorate. The population of the Woreda is estimated at 66,230 (33,838 male and 32,392 female) and the livestock population of the Woreda is estimated at 617,467 cattle, 464,835 goat, 324,393 sheep, 24,640 donkeys and 41,961 poultry (Source: South Omo Zone Livestock and Fishery department, 2017).

The Dasenech are the prominent ethnic groups of the Woreda. They speak the Dasenech language which belongs to the Cushitic branch of the Afro-Asiatic family. The Dasenech are traditionally pastoralists, but in recent years, they have become primarily agro-pastoral. They grow sorghum, maize, pumpkins and haricot beans when the River Omo and its delta floods. Otherwise, they raise cattle, goats, sheep and donkeys, which give them milk, meat and transport power. Corn is usually roasted, and sorghum is either cooked with water into a porridge eaten with a stew or fermented into a traditional beverage called 'Boarde'. The Dasenech who herd cattle live in dome-shaped houses made from a frame of branches, covered with hides and woven boxes that are used to carry possessions on donkeys when they migrate.

actively and directly in land preparation, irrigation canal preparation, planting, harvesting, transporting, and baling the fodder. Their efforts yielded 32,000 bales of grasses, which they stored in a specially constructed hayshed as a reserve for the drought period.

The cooperative has saved ETB 286,325 in Omo microfinance institution (MFI). The savings are from the sale of 912 kg forage seed (valued at ETB 273,600), sales of 500 bales of grasses (valued at ETB 7,500) and selling cuttings of elephant grass (valued ETB 2,015).

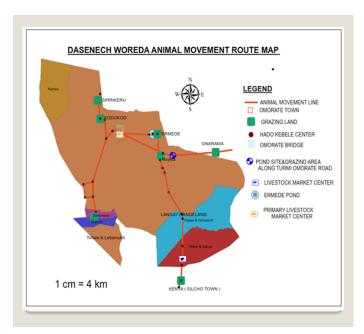
In addition to the forage and seed production and management, the cooperative started management of cattle fattening (with 14 cattle) using the surplus grasses stored for drought time as diversified income sources for their livelihoods.



A learning route is a planned journey with learning objectives designed to address the knowledge needs of development practitioners who are faced with specific development challenges, identify local stakeholders who have accumulated knowledge and experience that can make a positive contribution to tackle challenges and support organizations to systemize good practices and share them with other stakeholders. www.procasur.org

The second group visited a Common Interest Group (CIG) in Siremeret kebele that is using forage seed production as a coping strategy and alternative livelihoods intervention.

Previously, communities of Siremeret kebele practiced farming on the banks of River Omo during flood recession, while, those living far away from the river bank practiced mobile pastoral livestock production system and also started opportunistic cultivation in the dry river beds as a supplementary means of livelihood. Fishing is another means of livelihood, especially for communities who live near River Omo.



Dasenech Woreda animal movement route map. Credit: RPLRP Ethiopia.

When the CIG in Siremeret kebele was established at the end of 2009, it had only four men and three women who came together to generate income by producing improved forage seed on 0.64 ha of land. Now, the number of beneficiaries has increased to 65 (49 men and 16 women). Although the CIG does not have legal status yet, efforts continued to capacitate and strengthen it to grow into a cooperative.



Improved forage seed produced by the CIG. Credit: RPLRP Ethiopia.

The CIG members pooled their plots and started producing and marketing improved forage seeds (panicum grass seed). They produced 3,731.5 kg forage seed on 4 ha of land, and earned ETB 1,128,300. Out of this, they saved ETB 35,000 in microfinance institutions and bought 6 oxen for fattening. RPLRP stepped in to create awareness and train the CIG members on forage production. The project also provided agricultural inputs (forage seed, farm tools, etc.), facilitated technical support by respective government experts, market linkage and follow up, and backstopping.



Management of cattle fattening. Credit: RPLRP Ethiopia.

These investments have increased the asset base of group members. Nine members (seven men and two women) have bought 103 animals (48 cattle and 55 goats). Other individuals have seen their fortunes increase. For example, Lotela Bado was previously marginalised and disadvantaged socially and economically because she is unmarried and has no children. The CIG group created an opportunity for her to build a better life. She bought four cattle and ten goats. Korluk Gnekono, another member, bought 16 cattle and ten goats for his own asset building and saved more than ETB 100,000 in a microfinance institution.



CIG members pose for a group photograph with their farm implements. Credit: RPLRP Ethiopia.

Other benefits include increased access to seed around and outside the area, opportunities for others to learn through site visits for demonstration and experience sharing. As a result, local youth in the area have started forage seed multiplication. The activities of the CIG have reduced movements along the border areas between Ethiopia and Kenya, and as a consequence, potential for conflict is minimal.

The activities of the two groups were selected as good practices because they are new technologies that could be easily adapted and scaled up by communities. They have played a great role in income generation and improved livelihood. They have also brought attitudinal change among the government, communities and private sectors towards fodder production and trading as a copping strategy for the pastoralists during drought period. The most marginalised members of the community have engaged in these activities and built assets. The diversification of livelihoods has also minimised conflict among pastoralists.

Acknowledging the achievements made by RPLRP in the SNNP region, participants recommended that RPLRP continue to reinforce livelihoods support through the improvement of market linkages, and provision of training on fisheries and bee-keeping.

Transfer of lessons to other regions

At the end of the workshop session, participants agreed to undertake similar learning routes in the four RPLRP target regions (Afar, Oromia, SNNP and Somali), and to document and disseminate lessons and good practices through a national and regional knowledge share fair.

Zelalem Terfa is the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer of the RPLRP, Ethiopia

OPERATIONAL PHASE OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA IS LAUNCHED AT NIGER SUMMIT OF THE AFRICAN UNION

The operational phase of the African Continental Free Trade Area, AfCFTA was launched on 7 July 2019 after a day-long summit of Heads of State and Government of the African Union (AU) in the Niamey, Niger.

ADAPTED FROM THE AFRICAN UNION

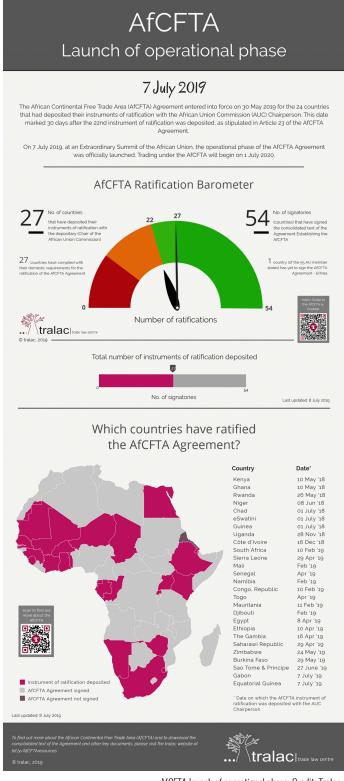
The AfCFTA will be governed by five operational instruments, i.e. the Rules of Origin; the online negotiating forum; the monitoring and elimination of non-tariff barriers; a digital payments system and the African Trade Observatory.

Each of the instruments was launched by different Heads of State and Government, among them President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa, President Abdel Fattah El Sisi of Egypt and the current Chair of the AU; Mr. Moussa Faki Makamat, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission; and President Mahamadou Issoufou of Niger - the current Champion of the AfCFTA.

A 'roll call of honour' was also conducted during the event. The 27 countries that have ratified the instruments of the AfCFTA were announced and those that have signed but not yet ratified were mentioned. A commemorative plaque of the signing was also unveiled.

The AfCFTA agreement was adopted and opened for signature on 21 March 2018 in Kigali. The AfCFTA entered into force on 30 May 2019, thirty days after having received the twenty-second instrument of ratification on 29 April, 2019 in conformity with legal provisions.

"The speedy entry into force of the AfCFTA is a source of pride for all of us", said AU Commission Chairperson Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat. He described the free trade agreement as one of the instruments for continental integration in line with the objectives of the Abuja Treaty and the aspirations of Agenda 2063.



AfCFTA launch of operational phase. Credit: Tralac

Mr. Mahamat also highlighted importance of peace building and security on the continent of Africa, adding that, "it would be a delusion to talk of trade and development without peace and security."



The IGAD countries that have ratified the AfCFTA include Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda.

He also stressed that, for the AfCFTA to be effective, there is need to open borders to other Africans. In the same vein, host President Mr. Mahamadou Issoufou, said the free trade area will tear down borders inherited from Africa's colonial past and ensure full continental integration.

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El Sisi stressed the need for the establishment of linkages with the private sector and the business and investment communities. He also emphasised on youth involvement saying youth would ensure continuity, growth and development.

The AfCFTA will be one of the largest free trade areas since the formation of the World Trade Organisation, given Africa's current population of 1.2 billion people, which is expected to grow to 2.5 billion by 2050.

Meanwhile Ghana has been confirmed by the Heads of State and Government as the host of the secretariat of the AfCFTA, having prevailed over six other countries that had also expressed interest in hosting

First published at https://au.int/en/ pressreleases/20190707/operationalphase-african-continental-free-trade-arealaunched-niger-summit

IGAD AND THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA (AFCFTA)

by JOSEPH RWANSHOTE

IGAD is mandated to carry out advocacy, coordination, and facilitation of regional integration of its Member States. It does this in line with its mission of promoting regional cooperation and integration to add value to Member States' efforts in achieving peace, security and prosperity, and its vision of making "IGAD to be the premier Regional Economic Community for achieving peace and sustainable development in the region."

The mission and vision statements are aligned to the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AfCFTA). It is in this context that IGAD has taken a holistic approach in defining and identifying the critical success factors which it is working on as pre-requisites for the success of the AfCFTA.

The first pre-requisite is the IGAD regional sustainable tourism master plan which is a flagship agenda under the trade in services sector. The tourism master plan is considered a low hanging fruit because it has a low threshold of entry for the Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (SMEs) who have hitherto been locked out of the money economy to transit from the informal sector. Enabling infrastructure is the second pre-requisite, which IGAD is operationalising through its infrastructure master plan that entails roads, railways, ports, transport corridors, electricity, Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) and air transport.

The third is trade facilitation through development of logistics instruments like the ware house receipt system, the axel load control system, streamlining of the truckers' association etc. Additionally, IGAD is promoting the involvement of the private sector through the IGAD Business Forum. Infrastructure is multi-sectoral -transport, energy, water and ICT, which needs multi-stakeholder engagement with a keen and resilient coordination mechanisms. There is therefore need for sustainable regional political commitment, financial commitment for design, construction and maintenance, as well as integrated regional infrastructure leadership and management systems.

To ensure successful implementation of the AfCFTA, priority collaboration areas will include updating and aligning policies according to the upcoming AfCFTA protocols; fast-tracking implementation of the tourism master plan, developing a regional trade policy and regional investment code, capacity building on trade negotiations and facilitation of private sector engagement in regional trade initiatives.

Joseph Rwanshote is the Programme Manager Trade, Industry and Tourism at the IGAD Secretariat, Djibouti.

COLLABORATIVE POLICY ENGAGEMENT ON INFORMAL CROSS-BORDER TRADE IN THE IGAD REGION

The policy framework on informal cross-border trade and cross-border security governance was adopted by all IGAD member states during the 20 and 21 June, 2018 meetings of IGAD Member States' experts and Ministers of Trade.

by SHIMLJASH BRAHA

The communities in the borderlands of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) region exhibit some of the lowest human security indicators in the Horn of Africa (HoA), including economic indicators. Their socio-economic marginalisation is further exacerbated by their political distance from the centre and governance issues, not to mention the impact induced by climate change. Therefore, it only makes sense that borderlands and the complex issues that affect them to increasingly drawn the attention of the region's governments and IGAD, especially on transboundary movement and trade.

For the last four years, the IGAD Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (CEWARN), InterAfrica Group (IAG), the Organization for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa (OSSREA) and the Life & Peace Institute's Horn of Africa Regional Programme (henceforth, the Quartet) have been working towards the creation of a regional Policy Framework on the Crossborder Security Governance-Informal Cross-border Trade (ICBT-CBSG) Nexus. The policy framework was finally adopted by all IGAD Member States during the 20 and 21 June 2018 meetings of IGAD member states' experts and Ministers of Trade.

The initiative was envisioned as a pilot for how to do collaborative policy analysis and engagement by LPI's regional programme. In the first phase of the process, diverse partners – prominent regional actors from government, civil society and academia – were recruited, thus the Quartet was created.

Soon thereafter, the group led the joint and collaborative effort to identify pressing regional policy dilemmas and develop policy options in response to these dilemmas. Excerpt from IGAD Policy Framework on the ICBT-CBSG Nexus: Enhancing Cross-Border Cooperation and Cross-Border Economic Exchanges in the IGAD Region

"The overarching aim of the policy framework is to leverage shifts in ICBT policy to enhance CBSG in the IGAD region. Due to its immense contributions to the livelihoods of borderland communities, ICBT is of critical importance and has the potential to fast track the development of borderlands and transform them into lynchpins of regional integration. Furthermore, leveraging shifts in ICBT policy will also enable a marked improvement in the peace and stability of borderlands. Over the long term, the policy shifts envisaged in the policy framework would also facilitate the gradual formalization of ICBT by immediate measures that provide important incentives to informal cross-border traders, transform the pattern of relations between governments and their borderland communities, and enhance the livelihoods and resilience of borderland communities.

More specifically, the policy framework seeks to engage with some of the key issues that continue to pose obstacles in terms of leveraging ICBT policy to enhance CBSG. First, a key issue centres on the lack of consensus at the policy and regulatory levels in terms of defining the scope and remit of what constitutes ICBT, as well as recognition of its contributions to food security and livelihoods. Second, the policy framework seeks to achieve policy convergence and harmonization between IGAD Member States regarding ICBT along their borders so as to ease cross-border trade, facilitate a range of cross-border economic exchanges and contribute to the overall economic development of borderlands. Third, the policy objectives in the policy framework seek to address border control and regulation practices/systems, with a view to enhancing their security function. Fourth, the policy framework seeks to address the issue of institutionalizing the participation and voice of borderland communities in crossborder governance. Finally, the policy framework seeks to address the lack of comprehensive and reliable data on ICBT, which poses obstacles not only to policy formulation on ICBT but also impacts macroeconomic issues in IGAD Member States."



Group Photo from IGAD Member States' Experts Meeting on Draft Policy Framework on the Nexus between informal crossborder trade and cross-border security governance 20-22 June 2018 at Serena Beach Resort & Spa, Mombasa, Kenya.

The policy represents a critical milestone in achieving the vision of the African Union Continental Free Trade Area (ACFTA). Implementing the recommendations in the policy framework will create synergies between IGAD and the ACFTA and facilitate the implementation of the provisions of the ACFTA in the IGAD region.

The emphasis on borderlands as outlined in the agenda is a crosscutting theme across the IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) strategy and the general focus of

The processes insisted on a salient, politically ripe issue that partners in the Quartet could all contribute to in meaningful ways and that would have an impact on the human security of communities in the HoA. The nexus between informal cross-border trade and cross-border security governance emerged as the appropriate target for this coalition.

The Quartet then engaged in a years-long process of gathering the existing evidence and conducting supplementary research on the issue, and to solicit voices of borderland communities across the region. This 'knowledge harvest' consolidated the evidence base for the policy formulation and advocacy initiatives that followed.

Once the policy framework was drafted, the Quartet solicited several rounds of feedback, comments and validation from IGAD actors, Member States and civil society to ensure that the framework met the needs of all relevant parties.

The adoption of the policy framework represents a critical achievement in the process of advancing regional integration and cooperation in the IGAD region. It will also positively impact trade flows.

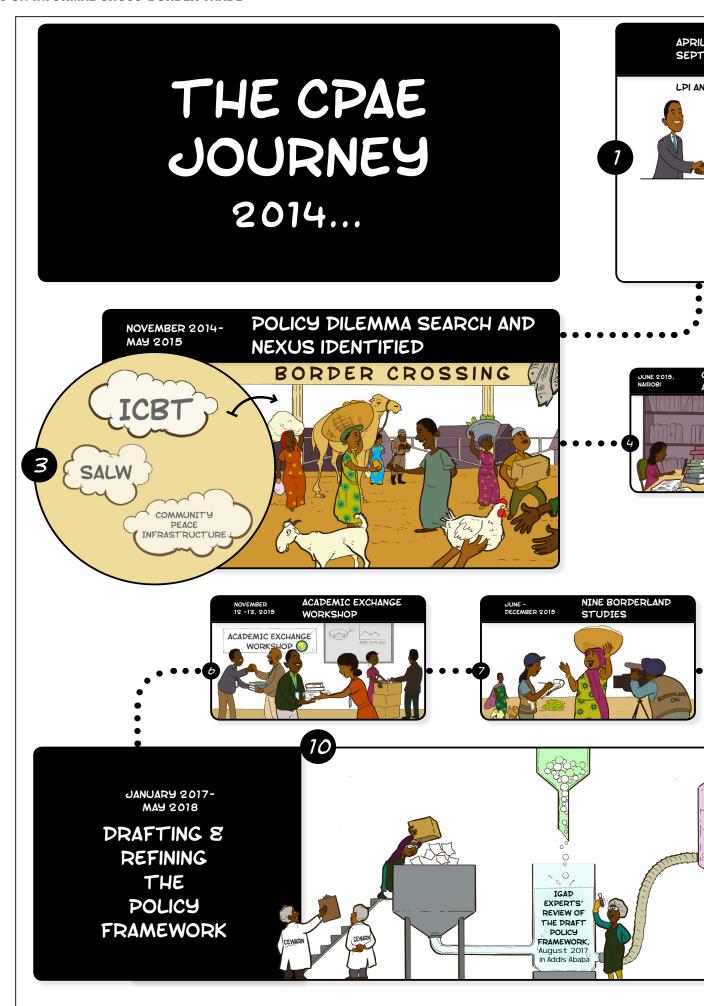
The policy framework will assist IGAD Member States' governments to tackle the multifaceted socio-economic and security challenges in the borderlands of the HoA.

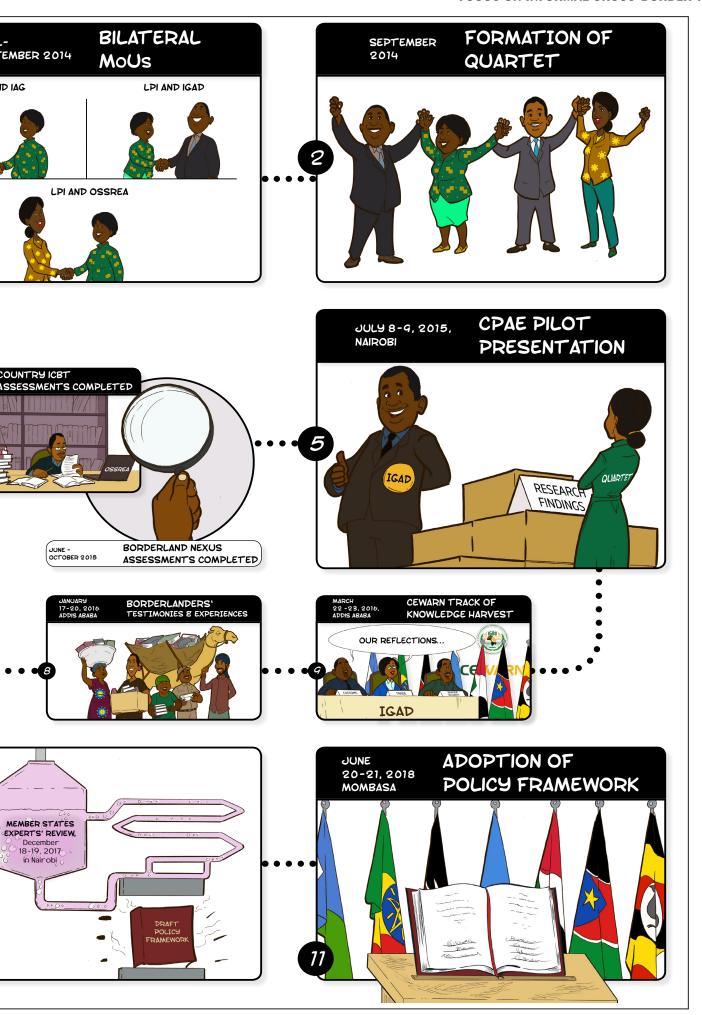
the policy framework. IDDRSI's focus on livelihoods, resilience and peace in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) aligns with the ICBT lens of the policy framework.

More specifically, the policy recommendations in the policy framework converge with IDDRSI's Priority Intervention Area (PIA) 2, which addresses market access, trade and financial services, as well as PIA 6, which deals with conflict prevention, resolution and peace building.

In the aftermath of the adoption of the policy framework on the ICBT-CBSG nexus, the Quartet is currently channelling much of its efforts to ensure that the policy is implemented by all IGAD Member States. The Quartet is designing and implementing a pilot project in a specific borderland to test and validate the policy recommendations in the policy framework and to inform future implementation.

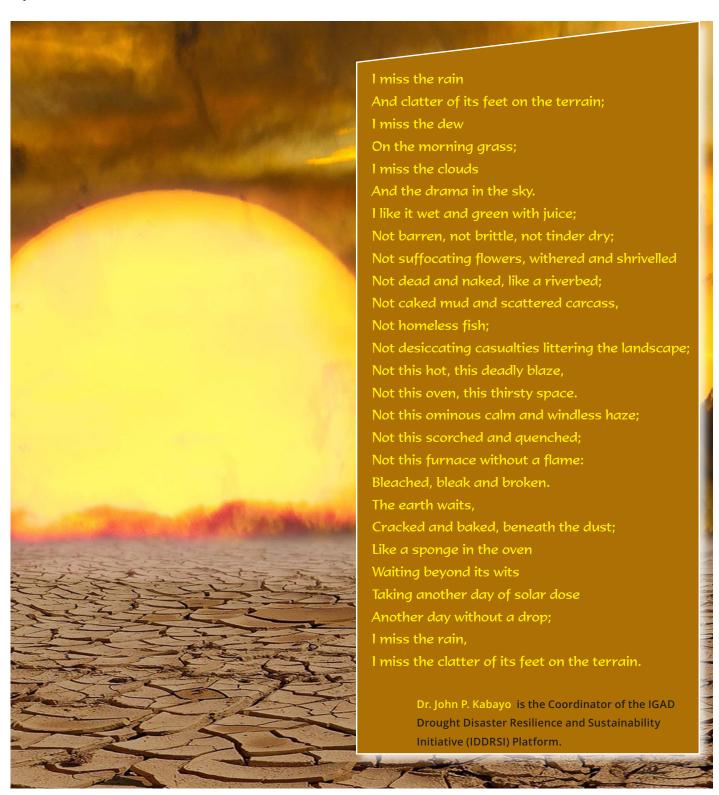
Shimljash Braha is the Monitoring & Evaluation Advisor in Life & Peace Institute's Horn of Africa Regional Programme, based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. In this role, she also supports LPI's Cross-border Cooperation project which aims to increase the participation and contribution of civil society on regional and continental cross-border policies.





DROUGHT

by JOHN P. KABAYO



Sunset over dry landscape. Credit: Gerhard Gellinger

CONSTRUCTION OF A LIVESTOCK MARKET **BRINGS PEACE TO WARRING** COMMUNITIES IN NORTH OF **SAMBURU COUNTY**

Livestock markets in Baragoi were chaotic open air affairs, and it was difficult to coordinate collection of cess and other important checks. This changed following the construction and commissioning of the Baragoi livestock market.

by GEOFFREY LELENGUYAH AND PAT RUPUNYE

Samburu County is located in the northern part of Kenya, in the former Rift Valley Province. Within this county, about 110 km to the north of Maralal town along the Maralal-Loyangalani road, lies Baragoi. Baragoi town is the headquarters of Samburu North Sub-County.

Livestock is a primary source of livelihood for pastoral communities there. The Baragoi livestock market serves the Turkana, and Samburu pastoral communities living in Baragoi and its environs. Traders from minority groups like Somali and other communities also benefit from using the market.

For a long time, the livestock markets in Baragoi were open air, which made it difficult to coordinate collection of cess and other important checks in the markets. Things changed for the better after the construction and commissioning of the Baragoi livestock market. The market has confinement stalls for camels, cattle, and small stock, in addition to a community area for purchase of food and other commodities. There is an office for livestock officers, and livestock market associations as well.

In addition to the county government, the Regional Pastoral Livelihoods Resilience Project (RPLRP), the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA),



Baragoi livestock market. Credit: RPLRP Kenya.

Caritas Maralal, and the county special programmes department, were involved in making the new market a reality. NDMA supported the livestock market peace scouting activity, while Caritas assisted in the launch activities by buying a total of 135 small stock to boost restocking by drought affected families. The county special programmes department coordinated peace meetings to strengthen market operations.

RPLRP facilitated community meetings for stakeholder groups, including relevant government departments, to discuss and plan for the construction of the livestock Community participation helped to ensure ownership of the process. The market is co-managed by Livestock Marketing Association and the county government, and it is linked with line departments, most notably the livestock department.

Rejuvenation of trade yields peace, higher income and resilience

The new market, which is in the corridor of Samburu North feeder markets, is an economic hub for livestock producers, traders, service providers, and about 6,000 households in the area.

The market has contributed to peaceful co-existence of the Samburu and Turkana communities. This has been attributed to increased business interaction, sharing of core management responsibilities and equal representation in market activities such as the sale vard committee

and the market peace scouts, which reduced animosity associated with mistrust. The sense of increased trust is also as a result of increased support to operations of peace committees in the Baragoi market. The benefits include increased enrolment due to reopening of several schools like Losurkoi, Kawap, and Marti that were closed due to conflicts.

According to Mr. Paul Leitoro, the Chairman of the Baragoi Livestock Marketing Association (LMA), this facility was meant to be a connector in conflict resolution and peace building for the warring communities. And the communities are already appreciating it.

"It is unbelievable to see our two communities sharing a table at the Livestock Market Committee and in weekly meetings to manage this facility. We hope for a peaceful existence and prosperous livelihood ventures of these two communities moving into the future," a Baragoi resident, Mrs. Lorot says.

Regular livestock marketing partner meetings have improved information on livestock marketing, formation of livestock marketing structures in Baragoi, and joint collection of cess from livestock sales with the county government. Communities now have an extra income from cess, which has added up to bursaries for school children and food at household level.

With the support of RPLRP, the special programmes department established a county-based monitoring system. This has increased community participation, improved quality of trainings and technical advice, quality assurance, sustainability and ensured linkages. The community structures are able to conduct themselves with reduced supervision. They only call for assistance on technical matters.

The community is more organised with integrated management employed by community structures; peace committees keep vigil for stolen livestock at the market, Water Users Associations are keen on water provision during market day, the LMA ensures sales are well coordinated, and the Animal Health Committee ensure healthy stock in the market. All this results in improved management of resources at community level, increased incomes from livestock sales and understanding of market structures.

Whereas there is no doubt that the livestock market has changed the face of Baragoi, some constraints have persisted. Due to limited funds, important issues such as the link road that is eroded, and the slaughter slab that is quite far from the facility cannot be addressed yet. Part of the problem lies in differing stakeholder strategies and specific bias to sometimes unrelated projects. Although there is already improved capacity among community members, the committees are still weak and high poverty levels mean that the community needs and expectations are more than the project can address.

There have been many lessons learnt during the process of constructing the Baragoi livestock market. Its success is largely attributed to community involvement and widening stakeholder and development partner mobilisation. While capacity building of the LMA and co-sharing are key to strengthening the sustainability component. Another lesson is that community resource mobilisation is easier if incentives that are deemed to bring incomes to the communities are introduced. For example, cess collection at the market is increasing community resources as a result of co-management with revenue department. Therefore, future project designs should be done in such a way that activities bring incomes to communities and create incentives to motivate active community participation. Lastly, partner involvement enriches the implementation process through technical inputs, lesson sharing, and cost sharing of resources.

The Baragoi livestock market affirms the importance of market access and trade for building resilience, which is captured by Dr. Boreya Lekenit, the County Director of Veterinary Services, Samburu County, when he says: "The current trend in livestock management calls for keeping livestock for business. The county welcomes this facility, as it will help in destocking well before the onset of drought. It will reduce pressure in the dry areas, allowing pastoralists to sell at the right time when they can fetch good prices on the market."

Mr. Geoffrey Lelenguyah is the Samburu County Project Team Leader and Dr. Pat Rupunye is the Samburu County Project Monitoring and Evaluation Officer both from the RPLRP.

PROMOTING INCOME-GENERATING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE BORDER AREA OF BENISHANGUL-GUMUZ REGION

Since 2019, a cross-border collaboration programme has been implementing activities aimed to develop and enhance income-generating opportunities in the border area of Benishangul-Gumuz Region (Ethiopia) and Blue Nile State (Sudan), as a means of strengthening the population's resilience to instability and displacement and to improve overall living conditions.

by JENS KNICKENBERG AND NURIA GRIGORIADIS



The Programme supports the establishment of Community Saving Groups in the Benishangul-Gumuz Region. GIZ/Maike van Ueuem.

Populations across the Horn of Africa, particularly those in borderland areas, face frequent challenges related to food insecurity and violent conflict. These remote populations often lack access to basic social services and infrastructure and must contend with limited employment and education opportunities and recurring food shortages.

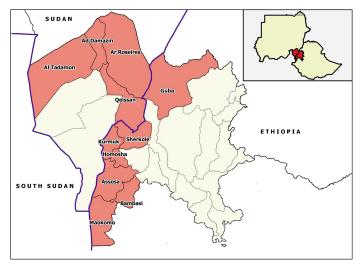
However, based on strong historical, cultural and family ties between the border populations, increased crossborder trade and market access are prospects that can offer viable opportunities for economic development.

The border area between Benishangul-Gumuz Region in Western Ethiopia and Blue Nile State in Eastern Sudan is home to over 1.6 million people, the majority of whom live in rural areas. Though relations between populations have generally been peaceful, a recent influx of migrants, refugees, and internally displaced people has increased pressure on the use of communal resources, such as grazing land and water. This has led to increased tensions between the communities. Proactive efforts to resolve these issues are urgently needed to strengthen the resilience of border communities, ensure overall stability and improve sustainable economic development of the region.

A cross-border approach

The GIZ Cross-Border Collaboration Programme in Eastern Sudan and Western Ethiopia aims to develop and enhance income-generating opportunities in the border area of Benishangul-Gumuz Region (Ethiopia) and Blue Nile State (Sudan) to strengthen the population's resilience to instability and displacement and to improve overall living conditions. As one of its focus, the Programme targets the economic needs youth and women.

The Programme, which is being implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, was commissioned by the European Commission and is funded through its Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF Africa) and the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and







Currently, the Programme operates in several constituencies/localities along the border region, predominantly agricultural areas.

Development (BMZ). The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the governments of Ethiopia and Sudan are the political partners and on the subnational level, the Governments of Benishangul-Gumuz Region and of Blue Nile State and their subordinated structures are the main stakeholders.

Activities of the Programme are aligned to the policies of the national Governments of Ethiopia and Sudan and to the regional strategies of IGAD.

the Programme Currently, operates several constituencies/localities along the border predominantly agricultural areas. The Programme areas on both sides of the border face similar challenges, such as slow economic development, low agricultural productivity, and adverse impacts of climate change, high population growth and insufficient education and employment opportunities. Access to basic social services, especially water supply and health services are limited.

The objectives

The Programme implements activities in pursuit of three interlinked specific objectives: (i) improving livelihood opportunities as well as promoting economic development and greater resilience among vulnerable youth, women and displaced persons; (ii) preventing conflicts or mitigating its impacts through the promotion of conflict transformation mechanisms at regional and local level; (iii) supporting effective transboundary cooperation and coordination of cross-border initiatives.

Together with its implementing partners, the Programme developed strategies and concepts for diversifying and increasing income-generating opportunities; assisting smallholder farmers, including cooperatives and unions; capacity development in the areas of livestock keeping and mobility (e.g. reopening and demarcation of livestock corridors); and improved production, processing and (cross-border) marketing of horticulture/crops, fisheries and timber and non-timber forest products.

To promote effective cross-border collaboration in the various sectors of agricultural development, temporary labour migration, improvement of basic social infrastructure, conflict transformation, vocational education and cross-border trade, the Programme will support the Joint Border Development Commission of both regional states and strengthen their capacities for joint planning, effective implementation and close monitoring of new cross-border initiatives at local and regional government level. In cooperation with IGAD, the Programme will also facilitate experience and knowledge exchange with actors in other cross-border regions in the Horn of Africa.

For instance, as part of their aim to enhance cross-border cooperation, Ethiopia and Sudan agreed on a bilateral trade directive for small-scale border trade in 2001. Border communities are therefore allowed to lawfully import and export a limited amount of basic consumption commodities. However, the highly bureaucratic nature and other regulatory pitfalls of this trade directive make formal trade very time-consuming, largely inefficient and hardly beneficial for the border communities.

Consequently, existing cross-border trade in the border area of Benishangul-Gumuz Region and Blue Nile State remains largely informal and illicit trading is prevalent.



The overall aim is to increase coordination, improve trade and labour opportunities and ease cross-border exchange.

To address such common regulatory challenges and trade restrictions in the border area, the cross-border cooperation initiatives of the Programme seek to bring together representatives of communities and decisionmakers on both sides of the border to adapt existing legal policies and protocols to the local context and to improve sustainable economic development of the border region. The overall aim is to increase coordination, improve trade and labour opportunities and ease cross-border exchange.

The Programme was initiated in April 2018. So far, recruitment of experts, setting up project structures, conducting assessments, facilitating procurement of equipment and machineries, and contracting implementation partners has been finalised. Implementation of activities has begun and first results will probably be available in the coming months.

Jens Knickenberg is an Advisor for Cross-Border Collaboration and Nuria Grigoriadis is an Advisor for Monitoring & Evaluation, Communication and Knowledge Management. They both work for the GIZ Cross-Border Collaboration Programme in Western Ethiopia and Eastern Sudan. For more information on the project, contact the Programme Manager Mr. Gerhard Mai (gerhard.mai@giz.de).



The Ethiopia-Sudan border Photo: GIZ/Maike van Ueuem.

REGIONAL FISH TRADE IN THE HORN OF AFRICA: ARE WE TAPPING THE POTENTIAL FOR FOOD AND **NUTRITION SECURITY?**

With a total production of more than 787,000 metric tonnes in 2010, the fisheries sector in IGAD Member States has been recognised as one of the important sectors contributing to food security, livelihoods and foreign exchange earnings.

by **ESHETE DEJEN**

The fisheries sector is dominated by inland fisheries, where the Nile Rivers and Great Lakes are located. Inland fisheries contributes more than 94 percent (capture and aquaculture) of the total fisheries production of the IGAD Member States. Contribution from marine fisheries is only 5.7 percent, produced by Somalia, Djibouti, Kenya and Sudan.

Freshwater fish like tilapia, Nile perch, carps (cyprinid) and catfish contribute more than 72 percent of total harvest. Tilapia contributes 26.7 percent followed by Nile perch (20.5 percent), carps or cyprinids (15.6 percent) and catfish (9.8 percent). Nile perch is mainly for export to developed markets, while the other three species are popular in the domestic and regional markets.

Regional trade is largely conducted informally by smallscale traders across the borders. The bulk of this trade is unrecorded, thus many consider it illegal. The products traded are mainly dried, salted and smoked fish, and a limited amount of fresh fish and second grade frozen fish. Uganda is the main fish supplier to the regional markets. The regional fish trade generates an average of US \$ 35 million per year for Uganda. Illegal trade is carried out to avoid payment of taxes and tariffs, bypass government regulations such as those that prohibit selling undersized fish, trans-shipment on the sea or lake, etc. The governments of the IGAD Member States acknowledge the importance of cross-border trade. Efforts have been made to legalise and assist the stakeholders of this trade.

Regional trade flows

The regional trade flow generally maintains the following pattern: In the case of freshwater fish, Uganda and Kenya are the main exporting countries to the region, while, Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, The Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi and Rwanda are the main importing countries. Somalia is the main exporter of marine products to Kenya, Djibouti and Yemen.



Regional trade within IGAD Member States for fishery products is dominated by traditional products like dried, salted and smoked products.

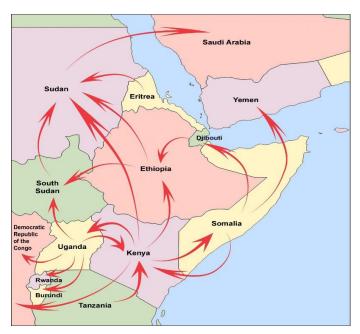
Dried, salted and smoked tilapia products are exported from Uganda and Ethiopia (Northern Lake Tana) to South Sudan, Kenya and Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo). Kenya also exports dried tilapia to Sudan and DR Congo. Dried, salted and smoked by-products of Nile perch such as frame, skin and head are exported from Uganda to DR Congo and the Western part of Kenya. Similar products from Kenya are exported to DR Congo and Sudan.

Fish maws from Kenya is also sent to Uganda, most probably for re-export to Far East markets. Dried, salted and deep fried Mukene from Uganda is exported to Kenya, DR Congo, Rwanda and Burundi and dried Omena is sent to Sudan from Kenya. There is one commercial processor in Uganda who exports salted sun-dried Mukene to the Southern African Development Community market. The Mukene Traders Exporters and Processors Association is promoting marketing and trade of Mukene products in both domestic and regional markets.

Fresh tilapia is exported from Uganda to South Sudan and Kenya, Rwanda and Burundi while fresh Nile perch is shipped from Ethiopia (Lake Rudolf) and Uganda (Lake Victoria) to Kenya.

In Kenya, the traders prefer to import fish as there is a readily available market. The districts receiving most of the imported fish are Busia, Amagoro, Kisumu and Kuria, although regional fish imports are also destined for the major urban centres of Nakuru and Nairobi. Kenya is also actively exporting fresh, chilled and frozen fishery products to neighbouring Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda.

Second grade frozen fish is sold from Uganda to regional markets, particularly Rwanda, Burundi and South Sudan. Imported frozen fish from Djibouti is re-exported to Ethiopia to cater to hotels, restaurants and modern retail outlets. Live lobster from Somalia's Bajuni Islands is sent by chartered flight to Kenya while fresh fish from Zeila is transported to Djibouti. Fresh, smoked and dried products from South Sudan are also reportedly 'exported' to Sudan and Ethiopia. Regional trade is carried out by both men and women and the main means of transportation are boats and trucks.



General Trade Flows of Fishery Products in the Horn of Africa. Credit: Eshete Dejen/IGAD.

Cross-border (illegal) trade

Regional trade mainly consists of cross-border trade, whether it is legal or illegal. According to various national reports, illegal trade usually refers to informal trade, which is traditionally done by small-scale traders from both sides of the border and illicit trade is done by traders who try to escape government regulations related to tax and tariff, illegal products (e.g. undersize fish), trans-shipment on the sea or lake, etc. The governments of the IGAD Member States acknowledge the importance of cross-border trade and efforts have been made to legalise and help the players of this trade. Illegal trade, particularly involving Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing and undersized fish, has significant impacts to the management of fish resources.



Illegal trade, particularly involving Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing and undersized fish, has significant impacts to the management of fish resources.

A survey within IGAD Member States reveals that the main reason for illegal trade practices or cross-border trade is a better demand and/or better price offered by neighbouring markets. Most of the respondents interviewed, whether producers, middlemen, traders or retailers, said that cross-border markets offer better opportunities in terms of demand and price. The other reason is to avoid government tax and red tapism such as quality certification, licence requirement etc. Only a small percentage of the respondents gave reasons like lack of demand in the local market for particular fish and products. It is interesting to note that generally, traders have limited tie-up arrangements with their cross-border buyers.

Illegal trade in fish and fish products in Somalia mainly happens on the high seas. For example, in the areas where the Yemeni boats operate, fishermen who catch sharks as by-catch during fishing for large pelagic fish, sell them whole, complete with fins to the Yemeni boats for the sake of convenience. However, it is not possible to estimate the total production of this fishery and the amount of revenue it generates.

It was reported that before and even right after the independence of South Sudan from the Sudan, the fish trade route from the south northwards was continuing until recently, when border disputes between the two states erupted and destabilised marketing of fish and other fisheries resources from South Sudan to Sudan.

In Sudan, illegal trading practices are insignificant in freshwater fish. This is due to the nature of the inland resources, which depend on the Nile system and its tributaries. Sudan is neighboured by Egypt in the North,



Piles of Nile tilapia-Oreochromis niloticus mainly from Alwero Reservoir, at a fish market at the outskirts of Abobo Town. Credit: Abebe Getahun.

and South Sudan in the south. There is a limited amount of wet salted fish traded across the border with Egypt. Some sporadic illegal trading was known to happen across the Red Sea to Saudi Arabia (shrimp, high value fin fish and shell fish), prompted by higher prices and good demand.

There are some reports of illegal cross-border trade between fish traders in lake areas, along the borders of Ethiopia and neighbouring countries. Nile perch and other fish caught from the Ethiopian part of Lake Turkana (formerly Rudolf) are 'exported' to Kenya and Uganda; while fish harvested from Gambela and Benshangul Gumuz cross over to South Sudan.

What can be done?

The regional trade in fishery products is not yet developed; it is dominated by traditional cross-border trade and in many cases it is illegal, involving mainly undersize fish, dried, salted and smoked products. In addition to this, transportation network and infrastructure facilities connecting IGAD Member states are generally poorly developed. Currently, the fisheries resource in the region is underexploited and not contributing much for food and nutrition security and resilience building. It will be advisable to develop integrated regional programme to improve the production and marketing of fish and fish products in the region.

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Eshete Dejen (PhD) is is an Ethiopian National currently working as Fisheries Expert at the Agriculture and Environment Division of IGAD, Djibouti.



Some of the youth leaders from Luuq procuring fruits for sale at Barey. Credit, Martin Namasaka/Pact.

AT-RISK YOUTH MENTORSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT IN **TRADE**

Through creating opportunities for accessing markets, youth from Luuq in Somalia and Barey in Ethiopia, who were previously at risk of being radicalised have become successful traders. Not only are they opening up the trade routes, they are also improving access to security information.



At risk boys in Luuq receiving shoeshine materials from youth leaders. Credit, Martin Namasaka/Pact.

by MARTIN NAMASAKA

The Regional Approaches for Sustainable Conflict Management and Integration (RASMI) program is working with youth leaders from Luuq in Somalia and Barey in Ethiopia to protect at-risk youth from radicalisation and to counter violent extremism through trainings, mentorship, and linking youth to alternative livelihoods.

In this conflict system, youth are at risk of engaging in crime and substance abuse and of being radicalised by extremist groups given the high levels of unemployment and limited education opportunities.

Ten youth leaders, six male and four female, also known as boundary partners, were inducted into the programme in November 2018. They network and share information on managing clan conflicts and on countering violent extremism. The youth are drawn from the two conflicting clans (Rahaweyn and Marehan) and a neutral clan (Ogaden).

Before the programme started they did not interact, nor were they even acquainted given the vast distance and difficult terrain between the two areas of Barey and Luuq. After their initial interaction during the baseline assessment, youth leaders sought opportunities to strengthen their networks, sharing early warning information on conflicts and practices to dissuade youth from joining extremist groups.

Among the platforms they embraced to continue this interaction were periodic cross-border meetings and the use of social media (WhatsApp). As their interactions increased and their relationship deepened, they decided to start a cross-border food commodities business. The trade provided livelihood opportunities to youth leaders, while motivating at-risk youth to engage in similar ventures.

For example, Luuq town is located in the estuary of the Jubba River, with fertile agricultural soils and huge potential for agribusiness.

The agro-pastoral Rahaweyn communities, whose youth are more at risk of joining militant groups as a result of marginalisation by other clans, grow vegetables and fruits (lemons, watermelon, tomatoes, pawpaw) along the Jubba riverbanks. However, most go to waste for lack of ready market. The ten boundary partners formed a business, where the five youth leaders from Luuq would buy these farm products and transport them to Barey, where the other five would receive and sell to their customers. During the return trip, the Barey youth would procure potatoes and spaghetti and load these for sale at Luuq.

Though business was slow at first, with only one donkey cart being transported per month either way (one trip), it has gradually picked up. During the 2019 Ramadhan period, trade averaged 21 trips every month. The volume of this trade is more than US \$3,900 with a profit margin of more than US \$750. The youth leaders see potential for expanding the business by engaging at-risk youth in cultivating the crops in Luuq, rather than only buying from the current farmers.



"We are thankful to our youth leaders who are addressing issues affecting us in our district, protecting our rights and linking us to livelihood opportunities." Abdishakur Mohamed, one of the youth who now operates a barber shop in Luuq

Through this trade, the boundary partners have demonstrated the value and profit of this type of venture and created livelihood opportunities not only for their families, but for 25 at-risk youth. They directly employ six youth, who drive the donkey carts across the two towns.

The youth leaders have also been advocating for additional opportunities for 19 youth with the Luuq local government. The local government mobilised a total of US \$730 from local businesses, youth leaders, and its own funds and used the proceeds to open businesses for atrisk youth.

During mentoring of at-risk youth, the youth leaders introduced and interested seven youths to engage in hair dressing. They lobbied for procurement of barber equipment and opening of two barber shops. The shops were opened in February 2019 at a cost of US \$520, inclusive of three months' rent. One shop is run by four youths and the other by three youths. The remaining balance of US \$210 was used to procure start-up tools and materials for 12 at-risk boys, all under 15 years of age, to start shoeshine businesses. These boys had been idle in Luuq town after they escaped fighting inside Somalia and were either orphaned or displaced from their homes.

RASMI also allowed the boundary partners to closely interact and work with the local administrations to obtain trading permits and to share security information across the border. This trade has generated high traffic on the Luuq-Barey route, which previously was hardly travelled. It has also given the youths the opportunity to collect security information along the route and share it with the local administrations across the two countries.

Martin Namasaka is a Manager, Strategic Communications & Knowledge Management at Pact.



Women selling the small herds (goats) at the Moyale livestock market. Moyale Livestock Marketing Association.

MOYALE LIVESTOCK MARKETING ASSOCIATION -FACILITATING MARKET ACCESS IN KENYA

The establishment of the Moyale Livestock Marketing Association in 2013 has enhanced management of markets by the local communities. By facilitating access to market information, the association has helped livestock market players make informed decisions. This has resulted to higher numbers of livestock in the market, which benefits all parties along the value chain.

by MOYALE LIVESTOCK MARKETING ASSOCIATION AND ACT CHANGE TRANSFORM

The Kenya Livestock Marketing Council (KLMC) spearheaded the formation of Livestock Marketing Associations (LMAs) in different interior primary and secondary livestock markets to promote local communities' ownership of the markets and enhance their effectiveness and sustainability.

The formation of LMAs was led by Hon. Wario Galicha Gufu, who was the CEO of KLMC between 2012 and 2017. Associations were established in Wajir, Garissa, Mandera, Isiolo, Marsabit and West Pokot Counties in 2013. In 2017, Hon. Galicha became the Member of Parliament for Moyale Constituency.



Camels brought in for sale at Moyale livestock market shed Photo: Moyale Livestock Marketing Association

In Moyale, local community members, together with the local administration, and elected leaders came together to formally establish the Moyale Livestock Marketing Association (M-LMA). The elected officials included the chairperson, vice-chairperson, treasurer, secretary and six other board members.

The main role of M-LMA is to oversee daily management of the Moyale livestock market, in collaboration with the sub-county administration and local community. The livestock market is critical for poverty reduction and food security in an area where livestock and livestock products are the major source of livelihoods. Trade in livestock involves goats, cows, camels and donkeys from both sides of the Kenya-Ethiopia border.

The elected M-LMA members are responsible for managing the livestock market, setting market days, and promoting market awareness, for instance, about destocking in the face of drought and using information about livestock prices. M-LMA members are also responsible for recording livestock sales data, cess collection, security through surveillance and conflict resolution, collection and dissemination of livestock market information, disease surveillance and maintenance of market infrastructure.



The main role of M-LMA is to oversee daily management of the Moyale livestock market, in collaboration with the subcounty administration and local community.

Information is widely shared through social media, websites and local radio stations such as Jangwani and Star FM. In addition, workshops are facilitated with support from partners like Resilience and Economic Growth in Arid Lands -Accelerated Growth (REGAL-AG) and International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). By facilitating access to market information, M-LMA helps livestock market players to make informed decisions. As a result, there are higher numbers of livestock in the market, which benefits all parties along the value chain.

In addition, improved security in the market and during transit has led to greater and safer monetary transactions (higher volume and more sustainable cash economy).

M-LMA works with other organisations and partners to enable it achieve its main goal of improving the livelihoods of pastoralists through live stock trade. M-LMA collaborateswith the Moyale County Government, particularly the Ministry of Livestock, in addressing livestock health and market issues. It also works with local, national and international Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) such as Act Change Transform (Act!), ILRI, and Pastoralist Community Initiative Development and Assistance (PACIDA).

Along with other civil society organisations in the borderlands of the Horn of Africa, M-LMA is implementing a project known as Improving policies for conflict prevention: Civil society engagement to transform borderlands in Africa, funded by the Pan African Programme of the European Union. The goal of this project is to transform borderlands through civil society policy engagement at the regional and continental levels. Through this project, M-LMA has improved its advocacy skills and is pushing for improved cross-border cooperation at the Kenya-Ethiopia Border.

In the coming years, through its partnerships, M-LMA intends to formalise members' savings and credit cooperatives established in April 2019, and expand business by opening a butchery to be run by the association.

Since its establishment, the role that M-LMA plays in contributing to the prosperity and resilience of pastoralists in the Moyale area has become evident. To continue its growth trajectory, the association plans to professionalise its members further, so that they can better understand and expand their roles and functions. It will establish a financial accounting system and other internal management systems needed for smooth management and accountability, and explore access to international markets.

Moyale Livestock Marketing Association (M-MLA) and Act Change Transform, which is a Kenyan not-for-profit, are involved in diverse development initiatives in Kenya. Both of these organisations are working to promote crossborder cooperation in the Horn of Africa region through the Improving policies for conflict prevention: Civil society engagement to transform borderlands in Africa project.



Trader negotiating goat prices. Photo: Moyale Livestock Marketing Association.

WITU DAIRY COOPERATIVE IN LAMU IMPLEMENTS THE **HUB MODEL OF MILK MARKETING TO CURB WASTAGE**

Since the Witu Cooperative was established in 2015, milk wastage has gone down from 60 percent to 10 percent. This has led to an increase in household incomes of members.

by PETER ARUCHO

Milk production in Lamu County is characterised by milk glut during wet seasons and milk shortages during dry seasons. For a long time, milk wastage decimated pastoralists' hopes of improving their income, and high level of exploitation by middle men was prevalent due to lack of organised market.

In 2015, key stakeholders, among them the agro-pastoral and pastoralist communities, the Regional Pastoral Livelihoods Resilience Project (RPLRP), privately owned Brookside Kenya and the County Government of Lamu, through the department Livestock and Cooperatives made a decision to strengthen Witu Cooperative.

This was aimed at enhancing the economic value of livestock through diversification of pastoral income.

The model cooperative operates in Lamu West in Lamu sub-county. The central hub is at Witu Township. There



Milk ATM in Lamu Island, Credit: RPLRP Lamu,



Monitoring is guided by a monitoring and evaluation plan and done at weekly and monthly intervals

are collection centres strategically placed at Pangani and Koreni villages and a milk ATM in Lamu Island.

The venture is currently being implemented by shareholders of the cooperatives and the County Government of Lamu while RPLRP offers facilitation whenever required. The State Department of Livestock ensures milk safety measures are adhered to through regular inspection and capacity building. Continuous cross-border diseases surveillance and mass vaccination is done with the assistance of RPLRP project and the County Government of Lamu.

Twelve community members assigned as committee members are charged with the responsibility to oversee implementation of the cooperative. The plant management structure is organised to ensure efficient implementation of major activities such as expansion of fodder pasture lands and establishing individual pasture land; account for members' contributions; draw plans for strategic vaccination, deworming and fodder conservation; and establish a revolving fund and saving and credit scheme.

Monitoring is guided by a monitoring and evaluation plan and done at weekly and monthly intervals. All stakeholders are hence able to follow the day to day progress and performance of the project.

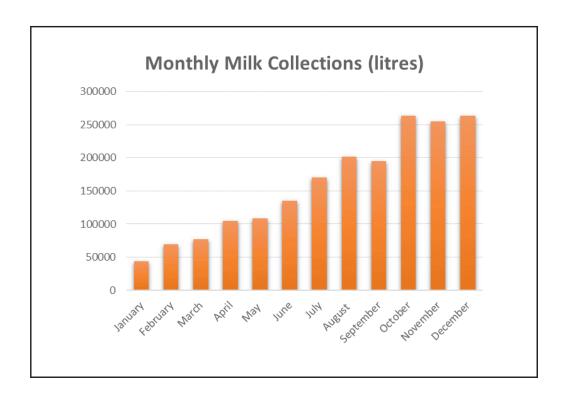
Assuring women an income from the milk value chain

The pastoralists of Somali, Orma and Sanye origins were the primary beneficiaries of the Witu Cooperative. However, the Bajun communities that are agro-pastoralist and fishers are also expected to benefit.





So far, direct beneficiaries stand at 285 community members (98 women, 172 men and 15 youth)



So far, direct beneficiaries stand at 285 community members (98 women, 172 men and 15 youth). The women are involved in activities such as milking, transportation and sales.



It is critical to adhere to the cooperative principle of democratic and inclusive governance to ensure that the needs and aspirations of the community are met.

Focus group discussions with the stakeholders revealed that the cooperative has reduced wastage from 60 percent to 10 percent. They also reported that households' income had improved through the sale of milk, enabling them to purchase other food products and diversify their diets.

While these result illustrate the feasibility of this model, some challenges still persist. These include inadequate handling equipment at collection centres, irregular cash flows, and the perception that women's access to income through sale of milk is violating men's traditional roles of being a key provider. However, these are not insurmountable challenges, and can be addressed by putting in place measures that will stabilise the business model to make it more reliable. It is critical to adhere to the cooperative principle of democratic and inclusive governance to ensure that the needs and aspirations of the community are met. This will ensure proper management of the model and bestow trust of the shareholders through open door-policy.

Peter Arucho is the County Monitoring and Evaluation Officer for RPLRP Lamu County.



IGAD is organizing its first regional Blue Economy (BE) Conference in the Republic of Djibouti with financial support of the European Union (EU) and in collaboration with the Republic of Djibouti and Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nation (FAO). The conference is organized under the theme: Blue Economy in IGAD Region: For Sustainable Prosperity, Resilience and Peace. IGAD is also developing a Regional Blue Economy Strategy to sustainably manage and use its blue economy resources in the region.

This regional conference and the development of the regional strategy are testimonies of IGAD's commitment to create awareness on the role and importance of the Blue Economy in supporting the socio-economic development of the region as well as the promotion of the sustainable management and use of the blue economy resources to support the livelihoods of current and future generations in the region.

The IBEC builds on the ongoing global and regional impetus for promoting the Blue Economy. The Blue Economy is an integral part of the AU Agenda 2063 and the African Development Bank's Hi 5 Priorities.

The African Union perceives the Blue Economy as the "New Frontier of Africa's Renaissance" and has formulated the Africa Blue Economy Strategy Framework 2016 and Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy 2050 to turn the dream into reality. The regional conference will also integrate the outcomes of the recent international and regional ocean forums, including the 2018 Sustainable Blue Economy Conference, held in Nairobi, Kenya.

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- IGAD Tourism Master Plan and selected success stories

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- IGAD Region Ports, Shipping and Global Trade
- Oil spill and dumping of toxic materials (maritime litter)

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