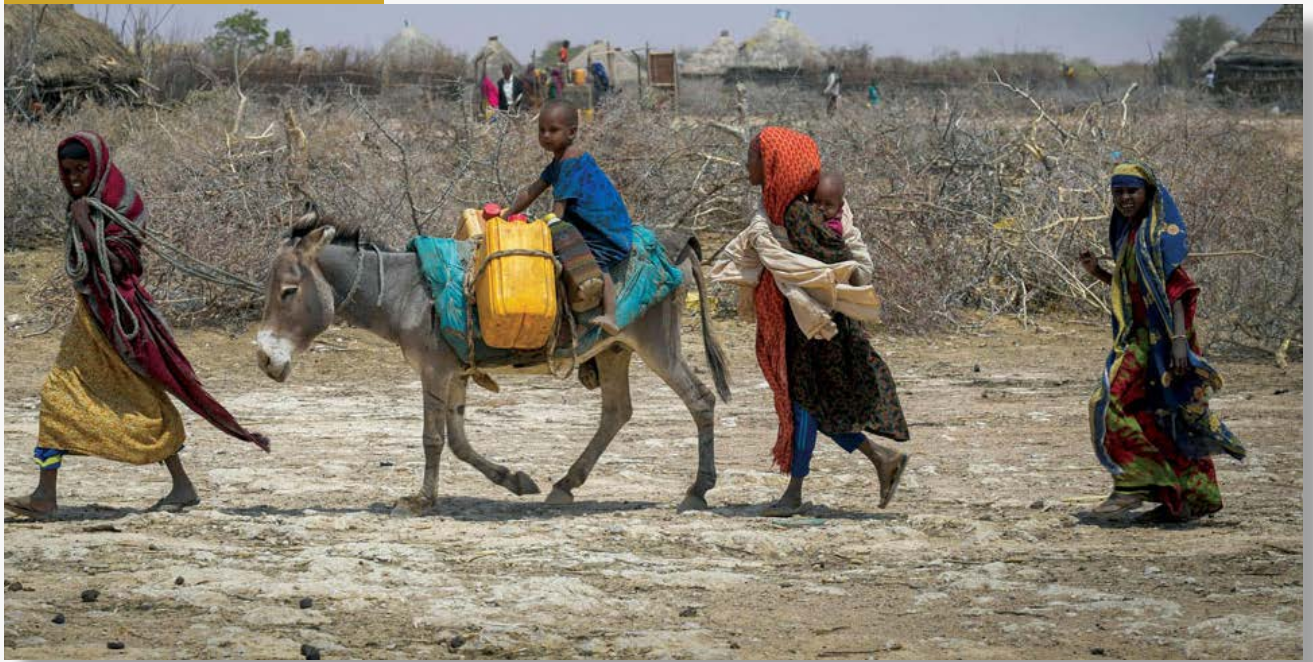# GOOD PRACTICES IN MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN CROSS-BORDER RESILIENCE INTERVENTIONS IN KARAMOJA AND MANDERA CLUSTERS

REPORT OF THE 2021 IGAD GENDER AND RESILIENCE SHARE FAIR

16-18 September 2021, Bishoftu, Ethiopia

Good Practices in Mainstreaming Gender in Cross-Border Resilience Interventions in Karamoja and Mandera Clusters

CITATION

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

BORESHA	Building Opportunities for Resilience in the Horn of Africa
CBDFU	Cross-border Development Facilitation Unit
DRC	Danish Refugee Council
IDDRSI	IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
PIA	Priority Intervention Area
RASMI	Regional Approaches for Sustainable Conflict Management and Integration
GRWG	Gender and Resilience Working Group
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
RPLRP	Regional Pastoral Livelihoods Resilience Project
SNNP	Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples
EUTF	European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
SECCCI	Support for Effective Cooperation and Coordination of Cross-border Initiatives in Southwest Ethiopia-Northwest Kenya, Marsabit-Borana and Dawa, and Kenya-Somalia-Ethiopia (SECCCI)

Bishoftu, Ethiopia
Venue for the 2021 IGAD Gender and Resilience Share Fair

Cross Border Clusters

1 IGAD Cluster 1 (AKA Karamoja Cluster)

2 IGAD Cluster 2 (AKA Borana Cluster)

3 IGAD Cluster 3 (AKA Somali Cluster)

4 IGAD Cluster 4 (AKA Dikhil Cluster) plus propsed new areas in Somaliland

5 Proposed cross boreder cluster; Ethiopia and South Sudan Border

6 Proposed cross boreder cluster; Ethiopia, Sudan and South Sudan Junction

7 Proposed cross boreder cluster; Ethiopia, Sudan and Eritrea

8 Proposed cross boreder cluster; Ethiopia, Somalia border

— Roads
— Rivers

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INTRODUCTION

This report documents the proceedings of the IGAD Gender and Resilience Knowledge Share Fair held on 16-18 September 2021 in Bishoftu, Ethiopia under the theme Good Practices in Mainstreaming Gender in Cross-Border Resilience Interventions in Karamoja and Mandera Clusters (IGAD Cluster I and IGAD Cluster III).

The share fair was held in response to a gender analysis of the IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI), which revealed that gender-based roles, identities and attributes deepened the vulnerability of women and girls to climate-related shocks. The analysis identified capacity gaps in the understanding and appreciation of gender inequalities in IDDRSI, and by extension the 'know-how' to address them. The fair therefore aimed to promote an exchange of knowledge and good practices to improve gender mainstreaming in resilience interventions.

This was the fourth annual share fair organised under the IDDRSI Priority Intervention Area (PIA) 5: Research, Knowledge Management and Technology Transfer. The strategic objective of this PIA is to improve the utilisation of knowledge for drought resilience in IGAD Member States.

During the event, speakers highlighted lessons and good practices in gender mainstreaming in the project cycle of regional resilience projects implemented through the support of partners like the Governments of Sweden and Germany, the European Union, the African Development Bank and the World Bank, among others. In keynote addresses, poster presentations, as well as group and panel discussions, participants learnt about the role of women in conflict management and peace building, progress made in closing the gender gap on land, propagating positive cultural norms and values in policy and practice and managing child trafficking through by-laws and ordinances.

The event was organised and coordinated by the following IGAD Secretariat staff among them members of the IGAD Knowledge Management Working Group: Abubaker Ntambi, Anthony Awira, Christine Bukania, Christine Jeptoo, Dereje Wakjira, Dominic Kathiya, Doreen Nanyonga, Fathia Issa, Jemal Mensur, Joselyn Bigirwa and Mubarak Mabuya.

The Gender and Resilience Knowledge Share Fair officially opens

H.E. Dr. Fikru Regassa (pictured above), the State Minister of Agriculture of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia officially opened the share fair, which was attended by representatives of regional resilience projects, cross-border civil society organisations, and technical staff from the IGAD Secretariat, focal ministries implementing IDDRSI, and other relevant ministries and local government.

"Share fairs provide an opportunity for different actors to come together and share knowledge, experiences and best practices on a given topic. This can create and strengthen a common knowledgebase and understanding and help to identify successful methods and approaches to the issue at hand," Dr. Regassa said.

He emphasised the role that women play in their communities, even in the face of their vulnerability to recurrent climatic shocks and stresses.

Dr. Regassa underscored his government's commitment to gender mainstreaming across all sectors to ensure men and women are equally treated and benefit from the existing and upcoming development endeavours.

> "Women are active and dominant participants in socio-economic activities and are able to contribute more to the household income. Furthermore, women also have an immense role in peace building and conflict resolution,"
>
> H.E. Dr. Fikru Regassa

In his remarks, Mr. Seleshi Tadesse, Director, for Women Mobilisation and Participation Enhancement at the Ministry of Women and Children reiterated the national, regional and international commitments to gender mainstreaming.

"The realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the targets set require strengthened coordination and effectively and efficiently implementing the designed policy, programme and strategies," he said.

The IDDRSI Platform Coordinator Dr. John P. Kabayo lauded the IDDRSI as the IGAD region's most compelling flagship programmes. He told the audience that the 2021 share fair was an opportunity for different yet closely connected communities from the cross-border areas to interact about issues of gender and in an atmosphere full of fun and learning, with great dividends of community engagement.

A conversation about IGAD's cross-border cooperation

During the opening session of the 2021 Gender and Resilience Share Fair, Dominic Lokeris Kathiya, Karamoja Cluster Development Facilitation Unit (CBDFU) Coordinator and Ms. Caroline Kirungu, IGAD-FAO Partnership Project Coordinator held a conversation to improve participants' understanding of the cluster approach, and the ongoing work in the Karamoja and Mandera Clusters.

Using the example of Mandera Cluster, Kirungu explained the nature of populations that make up a cluster: "The communities are Somali in all three countries. They share resources, have the same type of livelihoods and speak the same language and have the same challenges, but are separated by international borders.

Kathiya explained that there are many policies supporting cross-border cooperation at community, national and regional levels. "The Niamey Convention of 2014 encourages that we treat international/political boundaries as bridges, not barriers. The African Union policy framework on pastoralism of 2011 talks about the constraints of drought prone areas," he said.

Communities in Karamoja and Mandera Clusters are building bridges. For example, when Turkana County is affected by drought, pastoralists move to other parts of the Karamoja Cluster in search of pasture and water. Karamoja communities have entered into resource sharing agreements that are accepted at the local level. In Mandera Cluster, communities use large floaters to ply the River Dauwa, which marks the boundary between Kenya and Ethiopia and part of Ethiopia and Somalia. They trade in vegetables, construction materials and other goods and services.

It is important to develop the private sector and infrastructure so as to improve information flow and trade, which would in turn increase incomes, reduce conflict and ultimately benefit women directly.

"

Kathiya pointed out the positive developments in formalising cross-border cooperation, starting with the Cross-border Development Facilitation Unit (CBDFU). The unit is hosted by the Government of Uganda in Moroto, in office premises provided by the Office of the Prime Minister. The representation of IGAD at cluster level is appreciated by local government and civil society organisations.

Kathiya lauded the bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Kenya and Uganda to promote peace and development, but pointed out that gender aspects were not clearly articulated. He added that meetings like the share fair were important to continue dialogue about these gaps and identify ways of incorporating gender into the cross-border development programmes.

Also addressing the issue of gender, Kirungu emphasised the need to improve on existing community led mechanisms without causing conflict, and cautioned participants to recognise that communities have their own way of understanding gender, based on their own dynamics.

The two speakers called on governments to replicate the Karamoja CBDFU model to other IGAD clusters to improve coordination, and to adopt a synchronised approach to cross-border interventions. They highlighted the importance of developing the private sector and infrastructure so as to improve information flow and trade, which would in turn increase incomes, reduce conflict and ultimately benefit women directly.

SESSION 1: LESSONS FROM IMPLEMENTING EUTF-FUNDED CROSS-BORDER PROJECTS IN MANDERA CLUSTER

Photo courtesy of BORESHA project

In October 2015, the European Council adopted the EU Horn of Africa Regional Action Plan and agreed to give priority to five groups of actions in the period 2015-2020, namely: regional security and stability, migration and forced displacement, counter-radicalisation and violent extremism, youth and employment and human rights, the rule of law and democratic governance. Accordingly, the EU, through the Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF), launched a €68 million ground-breaking and innovative programme named "Collaboration in Cross-Border Areas of the Horn of Africa Region (2017-2021)."

The programme aimed to address the drivers of conflict and instability, irregular migration and displacement in the cross-border areas of the Horn of Africa through improved cross-border coordination and cooperation. The programme also consisted of seven different projects, which covered the entire length of the Kenya-Ethiopia border, incorporated south-west Somalia, and supported the cross-border area between Western Ethiopia and East Sudan.

In this session, three EUTF- funded projects representing local and regional action in the Karamoja and Mandera Clusters were presented.

Gender mainstreaming: Building Opportunities for Resilience in the Horn of Africa (BORESHA) project

Mr. Megerssa Tadesse, who works as the Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning Manager at Danish Refugee Council, presented the BORESHA project that is led by DRC and implemented together with World Vison, CARE and Tetratech.

The four-year project that started in November 2017 is being implemented in the cross-border areas of Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia (Mandera Cluster). The project aims to promote economic development and greater resilience, particularly among vulnerable groups.

Tadesse outlined a range of activities that had been undertaken to enhance skills and opportunities for self-reliance, manage natural resources equitably and sustainably and build resilience against shocks.

In all these activities, BORESHA has made careful gender considerations, which are articulated in the following ways:

- Gender aware, accommodating, sensitive and responsive design and approaches, such as lighter duties for women in Cash for Work.

- Inclusivity in selection committees, groups and beneficiaries for Drought Risk Reduction, Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA), Cash for Work, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) etc.

- Economic empowerment activities such as grants, VSLA, alternative utilization of *Prosopis juriflora*, TVET, and vaccination are challenging gender norms and values. For example, TVET students are taking courses considered for the other gender.

- By providing grants, supporting milking herds and skilling women to become self-employed, BORESHA project contributed to control and access to assets and project benefits by women.

- Women participated in DRR planning, VSLA, NRM groups, and Common Interest Groups among others. These groups were comfortable spaces for discussing issues, and therefore, they contributed to promoting equality and women voices.

- The BORESHA project considers gender disaggregated results areas only and adheres to gender disaggregated data in reporting. Out of these 16 result areas, there was near gender parity or gender parity in 11/16 results areas or 69% of the areas. In 4/16, or 25% of the results areas, there was significant women representation but below gender parity. In one result area, which is related to training of community health workers, there was very low women representation.

- Tadesse demonstrated that the project adapted to Covid-19 by training animal health workers and providing them with personal protective equipment, as well as establishing handwashing facilities around strategic areas like schools and market places. The project also raised awareness through radio and one-on-one conversations in order to maintain Covid-19 restrictions.

Support for Effective Cooperation and Coordination of Cross-border Initiatives in Southwest Ethiopia-Northwest Kenya, Marsabit-Borana & Dawa, and Kenya-Somalia-Ethiopia (SECCCI)

The project was implemented with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Regional Service Centre for Africa and UN Environment as well as national and local governments. Dr. Gezahegn Aboset, the SECCCI Project Coordinator outlined the lessons that had been learnt from the project

Lesson 1: Cross-border dialogues were effective in creating awareness about existing MoUs, policies, agreements, and protocols and bringing together cross- border authorities and communities to jointly identify policy gaps.

Lesson 2: In a multi-stakeholder, multi-geographic project arrangement, the existence of cooperation arrangements must be accompanied by formal and deliberate coordination mechanisms that are implemented by all involved stakeholders and are fully supported by management.

Lesson 3: The inclusion of a knowledge management component into the project enabled the SECCCI primary and secondary stakeholders to share and preserve their knowledge assets.

Lesson 4: When co-implementing cross-border development projects, the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders, modalities for funding, monitoring and reporting should be articulated explicitly. As much as possible, standard operating procedures, guidelines, templates and other tools should be agreed and adopted during the inception phase, and training undertaken to ensure compliance and smooth operations.

Lesson 5: Project weaknesses need to be addressed during the inception stage to ensure the level of efficiency and effectiveness is not negatively affected.

Lesson 6: Cross-border projects are implemented in areas that are highly vulnerable to shocks. Therefore, it is imperative that they build in the flexibility to adapt to changing circumstances.

Lesson 7: The SECCCI project developed an exit strategy with phased activities that can form the basis for starting new focused cross-border flagship projects.

In conclusion, Aboset showed participants the collection of products, such as manuals, toolkits and reports that had been produced during the project, and explained that they were all accessible on the Knowledge Management Portal.

Omo-Delta project: Expanding the Rangeland to achieve Growth and Transformation

The Omo-Delta Project is implemented in South Omo and West Omo zones in Ethiopia, and Turkana and Marsabit counties in Kenya. It aims to increase the income of 45,000 Households by Euro 600 by the end of the 46-month project. Ms. Eunice Obala, the EUTF Consortium Coordinator, presented the project.

"We built their capacity through training, brought in new technology and now women have 11 new products"

"We know governments are trying their best to integrate gender into project implementation, but there is still a gap," Obala said.

In response, the project was designed to address access to and control of productive assets and decision-making and eliminate barriers to women empowerment. "Our project focusses on the vulnerable households within the pastoral communities, but with special focus to women and youth," she explained.

Using images, Obala demonstrated to participants how women and youth are involved in business training, job creation, animal health and production, livestock, fisheries and agriculture and natural resources management.

Women were trained and deployed for disease surveillance, information dissemination and for provision of community animal health services. Village savings groups were connected to commercial banks which enabled them to save, and use their newly acquired financial literacy to invest.

In Hamer, there is a lot of pottery activities. All women were producing one product, which was not competitive.

"We built their capacity through training, brought in new technology and now women have 11 new products," Obala said.

Like elsewhere, the target project areas were not spared from the effect of desert locusts, Covid-19 and drought. In response, Obala and her team provided emergency relief through integration of e-food vouchers.

The BORESHA project is led by Vétérinaires sans Frontières Germany (VSF-G), and implemented together with Mercy Corps, Vita, Community Initiatives Facilitation and Assistance (CIFA) Turkana Pastoralist Development Organisation (TUPADO) and EPaRDA.

SESSION 2: MAINSTREAMING GENDER INTO LIVELIHOODS PROJECTS: THE CASE OF THE REGIONAL PASTORAL LIVELIHOODS RESILIENCE PROJECT (RPLRP)

The World Bank funded RPLRP, implemented by Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda was introduced by Dr. Dereje Wakjira, RPLRP Regional Coordinator. The project is a demonstration of the Member States' commitment to invest in enhancing livelihood resilience of pastoral and agro-pastoral communities in drought-prone areas.

The journey of the Regional Pastoral Livelihoods Resilience Project (RPLRP)

"The three countries went to the Bank and got a loan. The total budget is USD 197 million: USD 5 million for IGAD facilitation, USD 77 million loan for Kenya, USD 75 million loan for Ethiopia and USD 40 million for Uganda," Wakjira explained. He added that the loan amounts were supplemented by in-kind contributions by IGAD and the Member States.

With these resources, the project implemented four components: natural resources management, market and trade, livelihoods support and pastoral risk management.

Wakjira told participants that all the three countries targeted over 40% women as direct project beneficiaries, which resulted in positive gender outcomes. Generally, water and market infrastructure development provided women with opportunities to work in construction and management of these infrastructures. It also reduced the distances they had to walk, and hence the vulnerability to attacks.

Women acquired skills training, financing, and in-kind and asset support to generate income in a variety of value chains, such as fodder and feed, livestock, beekeeping, horticulture, among others. Women were supported to access animal health and vaccination services, while some were trained as community animal health workers, hence opening up a new form of income generation. Others identified opportunities to trade around the newly constructed livestock markets. Working within group formations, such as pastoral field schools or common interest groups, the women participating in the RPLRP project took up leadership and decision making roles. In order to reduce pastoral risk, men and women were trained on early warning.

In the subsequent session, the RPLRP project implementing team zoomed into the details of the livelihoods component.

RPLRP PDO INDICATORS

- Reduce death rate of livestock kept by agro-pastoral and pastoral households targeted by the project

- Increase number of livestock traded in selected project markets

- Increase real value of livestock traded on selected project market

- Reduce Time lapse between early warning information and response

- Number of direct project beneficiaries of which female (~40% women)

Resilience project activities in Uganda. Photo courtesy of RPLRP Uganda.

Panel discussion: Lessons learnt during the implementation of the livelihoods component

Dr. Edmealem Shitaye (National IDDRSI Coordinator of Ethiopia) moderated a panel discussion with the three Livelihoods Component Leads of RPLRP: Mr. Hebret Worku (Ethiopia), Ms. Judy Gachora, (Kenya) and Mr. James Kakungulu (Uganda). The discussion was guided by the following questions: How did RPLRP translate women and gender inclusiveness into the livelihoods component? What were the project achievements? What were the economic, environmental, social, and cultural outcomes? What could be done differently to ensure inclusivity?

KENYA

The constitution and the gender policy provide for participation of all groups, including women. Consequently, one-third gender rule has to be applied in all institutions and projects.

Under the livelihoods component, participatory methods, such as Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction were used. Using this method, communities identified and prioritised their needs, and then developed action plans to address these priorities.

A gender study that was conducted found that only a small proportion of female youth were involved in development projects in pastoral communities. Because they got married early, they were usually grouped with older women. Young men, like those that had just finished their education, were left out too.

Using the pastoral field school approach, 55 groups were trained for 1.5 years. Most of these groups have graduated and are implementing income activities in five areas: beekeeping, poultry, dairy goats, pasture and fish farming. Those involved in beekeeping are processing honey, and those in pasture production are also selling seed, with some of them saving up to KSh 450,000 in their accounts.

Apart from participating more in decision-making, women have built partnerships and become advocates for others within their communities. As a result of the project, there is increased social cohesion and reduced conflict at the household level. Other members of the family are involved in livelihood projects to increase revenue. Those who are keeping poultry have improved the nutritional value of their household, for example, by eating the eggs and selling only the birds. The unanticipated result of the project is an increase in aggregation for effective marketing of products.

Some things still require improvement. In the planning stage, it is necessary to decide the gender issues to be addressed. Women are not synonymous with gender. Therefore, it is important to begin with a gender study and a budget to ensure that all groups, such as the extremely poor and vulnerable are provided with targeted and appropriate support.

UGANDA

In Uganda, gender is cross-cutting in all interventions. Thirty percent of positions within government institutions and projects must have a third of one gender. The livelihood support component took actions to ensure that women participated. The project selected enterprises that were already established in the community, were scalable and had market access. Out of a list of 15, three enterprises were selected, that is poultry, apiculture and goat farming. Next, the project picked three sub-counties per district, and ten groups per sub-county. In total, 360 groups were supported. Seventy percent of the targeted beneficiaries were women. This was possible because many women are engaged in the enterprises that were selected for support by the project.

For goat breeding, each group got 30 goats, 25 female and one male. These have multiplied the asset base of women in terms of livestock. However, as much as the women are the ones that received the goats, the decision to sell these goats is made by men. Women have more freedom to decide on the sale of poultry.

Women got involved in the beekeeping value chain and groups requested a quality mark to be able to expand their market for honey. Aside from honey they produced other products, which increased the number of value chain actors.

Working in groups built on social capital and increased cohesion. Communities worked as a team. Due to their businesses, the groups became part of the local economy and this increased their say in decision-making. The money earned by women tends to flow directly into the household, for food and social services. This was the case for the RPLRP project as well.

Some lessons were learnt with regard to the approach used for goat breeding. One group member received five goats to rear with the support of the group until they reproduced. She was then expected to hand the kids to another group member, at which point the five goats became her individual assets. This model was challenging to implement: the recipients did not get support from the group and it also took too long before the other members received their assets. In future, livestock assets should be given directly to individuals.

ETHIOPIA

The constitution of Ethiopia addresses gender and women issues. Gender mainstreaming is supported by the women directorate. The directorate was consulted on how to integrate gender in the project. A manual of the Ministry of Agriculture was used to train key personnel and stakeholders, after which they undertook targeting. The project had already provided guidance on the targets, which was 40% female beneficiaries.

In the 180 breeding groups, affirmative action was taken to select five women and one man. In total 785 women and 253 men were targeted. Cooperatives that were established by the project ensured that 50% of the members were women. Women also accessed training on vaccination services and were provided with improved seed.

Targeting women was beneficial. Over 6,000 animals were provided as a grant to the beneficiaries, and these have been multiplied. Cooperatives received 25 million Birr as grants and seed money, and they have grown this amount to over 30 million Birr.

This was a good achievement in terms of affirmative action, especially considering that the project was implemented in pastoralist areas where women suffer double marginalisation. By ensuring they have resources, the project increased income at household level and created space for the women to make decisions. Women can now discuss with their male partners about investments and developments. The social value of women has increased, they are recognised for their contribution to the community.

In future, it will be important to continue stressing on gender equity and affirmative action. Gender analysis should be done at different times because gender dynamics constantly changing. Project implementation should rely on data, and should be informed by different frameworks and research findings. Overall, there should be increased opportunities for learning and knowledge exchange.

Poster presentation: Case studies of mainstreaming gender in livelihoods activities in pastoral communities in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda

Poster presenters from Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan and Uganda introduce their posters to the audience. Photo: IGAD/2021

To conclude the session, RPLRP project officers hosted a poster session on livelihood project interventions at sub-national level. These posters exhibited the specific challenges that were addressed, how gender considerations were made and the outcome for both men and women. The poster presenters interacted with the participants to explain the successes achieved and the lessons they had learnt during implementation. Two participants also showcased their work in the Karamoja Cluster.

1

THE CHALLENGE

Pastoralists and agro pastoralists of the region were affected by drought, conflicts, flood, diseases and hazards for several years and lost huge number of their livestock. Many of them withdraw from pastoral livelihood system and engaged in different livelihood activities. RPLRP developed a strategy to support and strengthen their livelihood activities.
RPLRP livelihood support component (food and feed production, livestock production and health, and livestock diversification sub-components) aim to lift the target community from the fragile socio economic situation.

PROJECT INTERVENTION AND RESULTS

The poorest, drop-outs & female groups were organized as breeding groups (having 6 members (5F +1M) per group), and provided 6 breeding goats through grant per member to support their livelihood & build their asset.
51 groups having 306 (255F & 51M) members were established in Nyangatom, Dasenech, Hamer and Surma Woredas. The project provided 1,824 breeding goats for members.
The goats multiplied and increased to 2,850. The estimated current value is 3,912,670 ETB.

Sela Gumad with her shoats, Arbore, Hamer

ela Gumad i
truggling t

Bokwo Artaba overcomes disability through goat rearing in Arbore, Hamer

Bokwo Artaba of Arbore kebele is a woman living with a disability. She was confronted by multiple oppressions because of her gender, disability, culture and poverty, and was not able to feed her family.

RPLRP selected Bokwo Artaba as beneficiary of its breeding program and started to teach her how to raise small animals and how to look after them. She learnt how to make houses for her goats, vaccinate and treat them when they are sick. The project also gave her 6 goats - 1 male and 5 females. She says: "I have used the knowledge to raise the goats and when I had problems, the community animal health workers, who were trained by RPLRP helped me."

She now has 13 goats, with an estimated value of 16,100 ETB. She can sell some of them to buy food for her family.

"It was not difficult to raise the goats, they are fast growing and give birth twice a year. Raising goats is a very good income for my family," she says.

Southern Nations, Nationalities and People (SNNP) Regional State: Women goat breeding initiative

[View](#)

2

dition to the forage and seed production and gement, the cooperative also started management of fattening (with 14 cattle) using the surplus grasses for times of drought, as diversified income sources for llihoods.

development and management

LING/REPLICATION STRATEGY

l feed standard guideline has been prepared in ration with Ethiopian Standard Agency and the ent circulated to all relevant concerned bodies.

aming route was conducted from 8th-12th April 2019 a Town with field visits to Kariwo kebele in Dasenech a in SNNP Region.

EFICIARIES

p pastoral group that has grown up to the level of a urpose   organized by 198 rs (7F

cooperative owned 25 ha of land alon tion scheme. All the members of the participated actively and directly in land p irrigation canal preparation, planting, transporting, baling and storing the fodder prod fodder banks. 25 ha (15 ha in 2016/17 and 10 ha land was cultivated mainly with panicum grass a grass and leucaena planted. So far, the coop produced 32,000 bales of grasses and stored period in the hayshed constructed for this purpose

Management of cattle fattening

CRITICAL GAPS AND NEXT STEPS

• The beneficiaries are using manual/traditiona production and baling of grasses which cons time and created wastage of grasses.
• Procurement of tractor and baler machines procurement process.

KEY PARTNERS FOR SCALING

Ministry of Agriculture, regional government bureaus, local government offices like Agric Natural resource Development Offices, Trade Industry Offices, and Cooperative Offices, a operation in their project areas.

Fodder production and management in Kariwo Kebele

[View](#)

3

Success story of Common Interest Group cooperatives in Borana Zone, Oromia Region

View

4

Forage seed production - a case of SNNP region

View

5

Advancing poultry keeping as an alternative livelihood for pastoral communities: A case study of Achey Self Help Group, West Pokot County, Kenya

View

6

RPLRP Uganda: Livelihood support component

View

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Breaking the barrier, building resilience: Transforming livelihood through gender mainstreaming in Wajir County, Kenya: A case study of Iftin, Gumur and Brimo Pastoral Field Schools

View

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Enhancing gender mainstreaming to transform livelihoods in Pastoral Field Schools in Turkana County, Kenya: A case study of Nawamor, Songot and Nanaam Pastoral Field Schools

View

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Somali Regional State case study: Goat breeding groups

View

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Contribution of pastoralist women in sustaining the fading cultural heritage: A case of Ateker Cultural Centre, Moroto, Uganda

View

11

Women livelihoods support interventions in Eastern Equatoria State: Economic empowerment of pastoralist women in

View

SESSION 3: WOMEN AS PEACE CHAMPIONS IN KARAMOJA AND MANDERA CLUSTERS

Key note address: The role of women in conflict management and peace building

Ms. Phibia E. Kamaan, Advisor Partnerships, Gender and Children Affairs, Turkana County Government outlined the experiences of working in the Turkana-South Omo corridor. Her talk, summarised below, demonstrates an important link between culture, peace and development.

Under-development and competition over water, pasture and fish were common in the corridor between Nyangatom, Dassenach and Turkana. The Turkana County Government and partners decided to invest in informal and formal institutions to foster communities' social interactions. For example, the Tobong'u Lore event is an annual celebration of the culture, language, heritage, identity and descent of the Ateker people (Turkana, Toposa, Nyangatom and Karamoja). It reminds them of their similarities and encourages them to amicably address differences.

The investments in community interactions resulted in a reduction in the frequency of raids, but challenges remain. Although pastoralism remains the most viable livelihood, Kamaan explained that development programmes were affected by changes in ecological conditions linked to climate change and lack of infrastructure such as water, markets, and roads. Volatile security situations undermine trade and inter-communal interactions. Intergovernmental and community resolutions exist, but they are difficult to implement. This is due to weak cross-border structures for peace building, and inadequate appreciation and incorporation of informal governance structures into the formal structures.

Kamaan pointed out that there was still poor involvement of women in peace building.

"Priority is rarely given to building capacity of women to build democratic institutions. Women are generally absent in policy dialogues on critical issues of peace and security that have fundamental gender dimensions and implications for sustainable peace and development," she said.

To address this, Kamaan called for the international community to invest more in the meaningful involvement of women at all stages - from participation to prevention, protection to resolution and recovery. She also called on all stakeholders to systematically include women in a broad range of peace and security issues to ensure successful negotiation and to address women's interests.

Kamaan concluded her keynote address by stating that the deliberations and resolutions of the meeting would not only shape bilateral relations, policy decisions and the development agenda of IGAD Member States, but also inspire heads of regional and sub-national governments and development partners to join hands to address cross-border challenges to achieve peace and socio-economic progress.

Kamaan's message

- The international community must invest more in the meaningful involvement of women at all stages - from participation to prevention, protection to resolution and recovery. Evidence shows that women's involvement in peace negotiations contributes to the durability of peace agreements, as well as a higher number of provisions aimed at political reforms and higher implementation rates.

- In order to translate commitments to actual results, stakeholders should ensure systematic and representative inclusion of women in a broad range of peace and security issues.

Conversations about women in peace and development

Following the presentation of two videos titled Women for Change Forum, Mandera Cluster and Women's Forum: The role of women in peace building in Karamoja, Dr. Dominic Kathiya held a conversation with Ms. Abdiya Abdirahman, Mandera Women for Peace and Development, Ms. Hellen Pulukol, Ateker Women's Forum and Mr. Gedion Juma, M&E Manager for Regional Approaches for Sustainable Conflict Management and Integration (RASMI), Pact Inc.

How the Women for Change Forum built trust between local and non-local women in Mandera

Mandera was a volatile place where non-Somalis were targeted. For example, in the video on Women for Change Forum, Mandera Cluster, one of the protagonists Dunia lost her husband in a terror attack on a passenger bus. He died trying to protect the non-Muslim passengers who were the target of the attack.

Ms. Abdiya Abdirahman explained that many people had moved to Mandera from other parts of Kenya to find work and earn a better income.

"Although they were getting more money compared to where they came from, these people were living in Mandera in a very fearful way. They were not living a good life," she said.

She explained that the non-local women had experienced hostility from the Somali community and were afraid of the Somali women.

Referring to the attacks in Mandera, Mr. Gedion Juma reiterated that hostility against people working in the area was exploited by terror organisations.

In 2017, the RASMI came in to strengthen peace structures at the local level. Using the outcome mapping approach, the project identified boundary partners, made up of people with shared interests across the cross-border area of Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, such as women and youth leaders, elders, members of the peace committees and local administration from the three countries.

RASMI collaborated with local change agents to convene a Women for Change Forum of 45 local and non-local women to plan how they would work together on activities as a way of promoting social cohesion.

Abdirahman explained that the group is representative of the local administration, youth, elders, community members and others.

"We share experiences gained from our countries, how women can get space in decision-making in local government and other forums that are important to them. Every quarter, we update ourselves on how we are performing," she explained.

The network decided to make a greater effort to reduce the divide between the local and non-local women. They started by inviting them to a meeting.

"When we told them we wanted to meet with them, they didn't believe it, they thought that we had planned something else." Abdirahman recalls that the non-local women were escorted by their husbands, who kept watch outside the meeting hall. It took some reassurance for the men to realise that the network had no ulterior motives. Later on, the non-local women developed enough confidence to attend quarterly meetings and to participate in village awareness meetings.

RASMI uses the outcome mapping approach. This approach focuses on behaviour change e.g. the relationships, behaviours, networks and associations that develop after a project has been implemented for some time. Good gender outcomes happen when everyone works together to achieve the joint agenda of peace in the region.

Juma told participants that even though RASMI did not solve the problems in Mandera Cluster, the project had made significant achievements that other projects could build upon. "We focused on networking and people became change agents," he said.

Juma illustrated this by explaining that in the beginning of the project, community members said that they trusted local administrators and elders as peace builders. Towards the end of the project, they said that they also trusted women, youth and peace committees. RASMI therefore expanded the network of peace builders and gave legitimacy to those who were not previously recognised.

The Women for Change network is expanding to other parts of the Cluster - beyond Mandera, Suftu and Somalia, to Dolo Bay, Dolo Adow, Banisa. The work of the Women for Change forums is supported by religious leaders. In addition to peace messages, the forums disseminate messages on gender-based violence and negative cultural practices.

The evidence of social cohesion, which has resulted from this approach, was shared by Abdirahman, who narrated to the audience the community response during Covid-19. After the outbreak of the pandemic, many non-local women were not able to leave Mandera due the government-imposed lockdown. Some were affected, through loss of income and jobs. The network intervened to ensure that they were given an opportunity to work, and that they did not get evicted from their homes for non-payment of rent. Abdirahman says that the women became part of the Somali families until the Covid-19 lockdown was lifted.

Bringing women together to advocate for peace in Karamoja Cluster

Ms. Hellen Pulukol recalled that before independence, the Karamojong used spears to defend themselves against the cattle keepers from neighbouring countries, who had guns. They also acquired guns, and this only made the conflict worse, to the point that the Karamojong turned against each other.

"Due to cattle rustling and insecurity, coupled with poor infrastructure, Karamoja region was closed off, and many women and children were killed during the raids. So we had to appeal to government to intervene," Ms. Hellen Pulukol said that women played an important role in the subsequent disarmament process that reduced the availability of small arms and light weapons in the cluster.

The women from Karamoja shared their experiences with other women forums during exchange visits organised by Peace III, an initiative implemented by Pact Inc. This is how Pulukol and Abdirahman met.

"Our relationship started in 2017 when we had an exchange visit in Wajir County. Women from Wajir, Garissa, and Karamoja came together, and later, another visit took place in

Lodwar, Turkana," said Abdirahman. Women from Mandera and Ethiopia too attended these exchange visits.

"We were taken for a meeting to learn and share experiences. When we spoke, we realised that we had similar issues. It was in these meetings that we were elected as chair persons of the cluster forums, and we had to go and duplicate the structures. In Karamoja, we formed a structure that flows right from the community up to the government level," narrated Pulukol.

Through this forum, women from Kenya, Ethiopia, South Sudan and Uganda identified similar issues that needed to be addressed to reduce marginalisation. Through training, networking and lobbying, women play an important role in conflict early warning and prevention, peace building and making agreements on resource sharing. The women are bringing issues affecting women in their communities into policy discussions. Through exchange visits, they network and compare notes on the work they are undertaking in their respective areas.

Good practices identified during RASMI evaluation

Photo courtesy of Omo Delta Project

- Outcome mapping approach: This approach focuses on behaviour change e.g. the relationships, behaviours, networks and associations that develop after a project has been implemented for some time.

- Integrated programming: Integrating peace dividends into peace building activities, for example, by developing infrastructures that bring people together to trade and interact.

- Political economy analysis to identify actors in the areas of conflict and determine their interests.
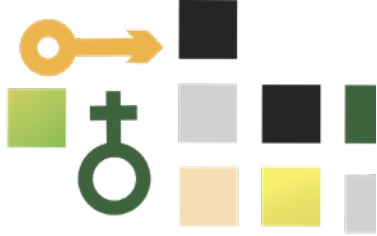
SESSION 4: GENDER CONSIDERATIONS IN MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Mr. Abubaker Ntambi, Knowledge Management and M&E Expert at the IGAD Health and Social Development Division, hosted a session with Mr. Zelalem Terfa, M&E Officer, RPLRP Ethiopia and Mr. James Kiwolu, M&E Officer, RPLRP Uganda on how gender was integrated in the project's M&E framework.

The M&E officers explained that a Project Implementation Manual describing components of the project was developed. Gender was considered in all aspects of project implementation. Subsequently, an M&E manual was developed. Both Ethiopia and Uganda RPLRP teams developed annual M&E plans which informed M&E operations and activities. In Ethiopia, the M&E Officer collaborated with the project team to develop a guide book to inform project implementation, data collection, analysis and reporting.

In Uganda, gender aspects were considered especially in livelihood support and natural resource management components, which targeted more women. For example, the beneficiaries of livelihood interventions constituted more than 54% women.

The M&E system integrated officers from the national to the sub-national level to use data for decision making at different levels.

There were also challenges. For example, it was difficult to conduct M&E on gender in the aspects of water and market access and trade due to the high chances of double counting. Furthermore, usage of M&E data was not emphasised at the community level, but more with respect to parliament and committees. The aspect of sustainability was also not very well pronounced.

Key learning points

Participants pose for a group photo after one of the sessions. Photo: IGAD/2021.

- **Data capture and use:** Just capturing figures is not enough in M&E. Programme teams need to disaggregate project data as much as possible, and ensure that this data is used at all levels.
- **Targeting:** While interventions are intended to benefit all, there is need to pay particular attention to unique groups. This should be clearly defined during scoping and project design.
- **M&E systems:** It is important to set-up M&E systems with standardised M&E plans and/or manuals to support M&E processes and activities. These should support the measurement of benefits and impact of regional projects. For sustainability, projects should integrate M&E with government systems and infrastructure. The Di-monitoring M&E tool initiated by IGAD should be improved.
- **Capacity building:** M&E is mostly functional at the national and less so at the sub-national level. Therefore, it is necessary to build capacity in M&E at all government levels.
- **Learning:** There is need for continuous dialogues and feedback processes to address M&E operational challenges during project implementation. To foster learning, regional projects should establish technical groups.
- **Sustainability and impact:** Projects need to give more time to participatory M&E processes if they are to have sustained impact. Government and other stakeholders should be continuously engaged to take up or own up projects for sustainability purposes.
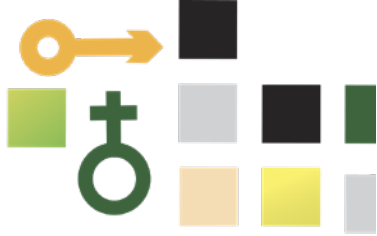
SESSION 5: LIGHTNING TALKS

The lightning session was made up of three short talks that served to introduce new topics that would elicit participants' interest and form a basis for further one-on-one engagement with the presenters during and after the share fair. The session was moderated by Ms. Christine Bukania, IDDRSI Knowledge Management Coordinator.

Closing the Gender Gap on Land in the IGAD region

"We found out that there are high levels of gender inequalities on land, and women tend to be more marginalised," said Ms. Joselyn Bigirwa, Gender and Land Expert, IGAD Land Governance Programme, as she started her talk, which covered gender gaps and the IGAD Regional Women's Land Rights Agenda.

Bigirwa was referring to a gender equality and land assessment undertaken by the Land Governance Programme. The findings showed that women's land rights and property rights remain a challenge across the IGAD region. On average women own less than 10% of the registered land yet land is a key resource in agricultural production with over 50% of the population in the region employed in agriculture being women.

The assessment identified gaps in formulation of policies and legislation as well as in their implementation; instances of multiple legal systems in which progressive constitutions and legislation were in conflict with discriminatory customary laws; and male dominated land administration and governance, which resulted in low representation of women in decision making.

Bigirwa informed participants that the journey to closing the gender gap on land had begun. The IGAD Land Governance programme was addressing barriers to women's land tenure security through the Regional Women's Land Rights Agenda. The Agenda was endorsed by IGAD ministers responsible for land and ministers responsible for gender affairs on the 28 July 2021.

Globally, research has revealed that stronger women's land rights and productive assets are linked to improved living conditions, better nutrition, food sovereignty, improved health and education outcomes, higher earning and individual savings, better access to credit, social services and better protection from gender violence.

Therefore, Bigirwa called on all stakeholders working on development and resilience to make use of the Land Rights Agenda in their programming and advocacy. She informed them that the collection of gender and land toolkits, manuals and handbooks that had been developed would be an important resource for improved gender mainstreaming. She also invited all interested participants to join the women and land community of practice.

Pillars of the Regional Women's Land Rights Agenda

Participants listen to the lightning talk. Photo: IGAD/2021.

- Improving the policy and legal framework for gender equality and land
- Addressing culture, religion and customary practices that hinder women's realisation of their full potential on land
- Reshaping urbanisation towards inclusive resilient and sustainable cities
- Strengthening inclusion in large scale land-based investments
- Enhancing capacities and coordination of land institutions and actors on gender mainstreaming
- Enhancing public awareness and information on land rights
- Building women's leadership and participation in land governance
- Supporting and engaging youth
- Strengthening women's rights in communal and community land
- Generating sex and gender disaggregated data on land

Propagating positive cultural norms and values to shape policy frameworks on gender

"When I was young, gender-based violence was the order of the day, and it appeared like a normalised practice. No one was bothered about it. As time went by, I realised that culture was harshly blamed because of these practice," said Ms. Betty Lomuria, Policy Analyst for Land and Natural Resources, Karamoja Development Forum.

Lomuria recounted an incident that occurred when she was eight years old. Their polygamous neighbour was at a village meeting to answer to why he regularly beat up his first wife. At the meeting, the first wife was asked only one question: "Do you come from a polygamous or monogamous family?" When she responded in the affirmative, she was instructed to cooperate with her co-wives. That marked the end of the meeting and the moment when Lomuria became a harsh critic of her culture.

Later, while working for an international non-governmental organisation, she publicly condemned the practice of early marriage in her community. One elder called her aside, and asked her why she was tarnishing the image of her community.

"Early marriage is not part of our culture. If it happens, it is a crime and someone is punished," he told her.

The elder cautioned her against speaking negatively about a culture she had not taken the trouble to understand well. He expressed concern that members of her generation, which was bound to take over from the elders as custodians of their culture, were such harsh judges of their own cultural practices. This conversation, marked another turning point in Lomuria's thinking.

"I became intentional on understanding my culture." Lomuria told the audience. She said that after this conversation, she started looking for cultural practices that protect and empower women in Karamoja. Together with a friend, she founded the Karamoja Cultural Association to celebrate the cultural identity of the Ateker people. She continued with this quest after she joined the Karamoja Development Forum.

"The common narrative is that women in Karamoja do not have land rights, and that women do not own land. But to be clear, no one owns land in Karamoja," Lomuria explained to the participants that the land tenure system is indeed customary. The elders help to manage the communal land in trust for future generations.

When a woman gets married, the husband is given a parcel of land to establish a homestead and a garden. The woman has exclusive rights to the garden. In case of divorce, she leaves the garden to her children.

Another practice that is misunderstood is the Akiriket, which is the highest decision making forum in Karamoja. Women are not allowed to sit in the Akiriket, but there is an Akiriket for women, led by the wife of the oldest member of the village or clan. Information from the Akiriket for women is shared in the higher decision-making forum.

Rather than focus on why women are not in the court of elders, Lomuria said that it would be more positive to exploit the space that has been created for them.

"How can we tap into this space to build the capacity of women so that they articulate their issues and strengthen the communication channels that have been established?" Lomuria asked to the audience.

She urged participants not to dwell too much on the negative cultural practices, saying that the more they nurtured these negative practices and acquainted young people with them, the more likely it was that these practices would become entrenched.

Lomuria's message

Ms Betty Lomuria during her presentation. Photo: IGAD/2021.

- Recognise that the traditional system is strong and has governed indigenous communities for a long time. Cross-border communities are grounded in these systems, it is difficult to break them. Rather than confronting these systems, we should identify existing opportunities to work with elders to propagate positive cultural norms.

- Gender inequalities exist everywhere and the intensities vary from community to community. We should contextualise and align interventions and polices to the positive traditional systems for effective implementation.

- Formal government systems should improve the quality social services that increase the resilience of communities in cross-border areas such as financial support to businesses, education, water and sanitation, access to information and market access.

- Positive cultural practices that empower and protect women are passed on orally by elders. Ministries of labour, gender and social development in all the Member States should document and preserve these practices.

- There should be a point of convergence of traditional mechanisms and the formal system.

Managing child trafficking using by-laws and ordinances at sub-national level in addition to continuous dialogue and sensitisation in Napak, Karamoja

"I am a strong advocate of the indigenous people of this planet, of which the Karamojong are one community." This is how Mr. Koryang Timothy, Principal Assistant Secretary and Chairperson Laws Committee Napak District Local Government started his talk on child trafficking, which is a growing problem in Napak District.

Koryang placed the genesis of child outmigration and other types of trafficking in the early times of insecurity in the Karamoja region, in 1979 and 1980.

He spent the first eight years of his life living with his uncles in the Kraal, where he helped them to herd their livestock. But when their livestock was raided by the Turkana, he got an opportunity to go to school.

He recounted that this was also the time when the Matheniko, a group that is indigenous to Moroto, in Uganda, raided the army barracks and acquired arms that would be used in subsequent raids in Napak, Nakapiripirit and Pokot. The Karamojong started moving away for safety, survival and livelihoods.

Government and non-governmental agencies responded to the crisis in many ways, key of which was disarmament. Nonetheless, 15 years after disarmament, children were still moving out of the region. According to Koryang, the driving factor was not insecurity.

"You will realise that the most affected people in trafficking are women and children," Koryang declared, and proceeded to explain the push and pull factors: influence by young people who, after years away from home, would come back looking prosperous; alcohol abuse by parents; high levels of illiteracy and predatory behaviour by people who exploited weaknesses in child protection structures.

Koryang decried the limited budget allocated to handling community development and child trafficking in Napak, but explained that they had been able to do some meaningful work with support from different partners. For example, community dialogues and sensitisations were done, using testimonies by children who had been rescued and brought back home. These activities reduced outmigration of children and young people.

He explained that laws such as the prevention of trafficking in persons, child protection and others are the foundation for government-led activities like youth income and entrepreneurship initiatives and trainings in schools. The laws were contextualised in form of ordinances and by-laws. There is a local law for child protection, education improvement ordinance that brings children to school and penalises parents who prevent children from benefitting from the universal primary education. The alcoholism control ordinance provides regulation to limit alcohol consumption.

Koryang's message

- Moving forward, there is need to contextualise the national laws into ordinances and by-laws that are executed and understood by people in local communities.

- Understanding local problems, localising interventions, and ensuring local ownership of interventions is needed to improve livelihoods so that women and children live comfortably in their own environment.

- The policy environment requires that interventions improve the livelihoods of the most vulnerable, who are women and children. Therefore, these vulnerable groups should be included in decision-making, and empowered with education and skills so as to achieve food security, love and wellbeing in their households.
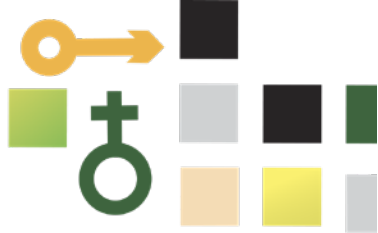
SESSION 6: DISCUSSING GENDER POLICY AND PRACTICE WITH THE GENDER AND RESILIENCE WORKING GROUP

Introduction to the Gender and Resilience Working Group

The session started with an introduction to the Gender and Resilience Working Group (GRWG) by Ms. Fathia Issa, the Programme Assistant at the IGAD Gender Affairs Unit. She outlined the initiation, achievements and challenges of the GRWG as follows:

The GRWG was established following a decision of the IDDRSI Steering Committee Meeting held in March 2015 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The purpose of the Group is to support the IDDRSI platform and its members to ensure that normative standards on gender equality and women's empowerment, as spelled out in various international, regional and national instruments, are sufficiently reflected Aand applied in the design and implementation, reporting, monitoring and evaluation of resilience programmes.

The specific objectives are to: raise awareness about gender mainstreaming among IDDRSI platform members; provide a platform for exchanging of good practices in mainstreaming gender in resilience programmes; contribute to the development of targeted interventions on gender; promote cross-sectoral linkages and collaboration for gender responsiveness; provide expert advice to IDDRSI stakeholders; provide support on gender-based policy gaps and ways to harmonise; and undertake action research.

The Group was inaugurated and its Terms of Reference was validated in July 2020. Since then, the Group has carried out activities to send out key messages about gender inequalities in the face of Covid-19, financial and economic constraints. Twenty-four radio programmes were produced and broadcast in Karamoja and Mandera Clusters. Videos and photographs were produced in Karamoja Cluster.

BREAK-OUT SESSION 1:

Gender and resilience in conflict, post-conflict and reconstruction contexts

Moderator: *Ms. Joselyn Bigirwa, the Gender and Land Expert at the IGAD Land Governance Programme*

GRWG Members
* *Ms. Naema Ali Abdullah (Somalia): Head of Section of Women Empowerment at the Ministry of Women and Human rights Development;*
* *Ms. Jane Erasto (South Sudan): Acting Director for Gender Mainstreaming, Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare;*
* *Ms. Manahil Mohmed (Sudan): Project Coordinator in Women Empowerment and Gender Mainstreaming Project: Ministry of Social Development - General Directorate for Women and Family Affairs*

GENDER POLICIES FOR GENDER MAINSTREAMING AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

SOMALIA:

Civil war in Somalia affected women negatively. They stayed behind to support their families when the men went to war. However, the war also made women more independent as they engaged in economic activities. Politically, women groups were entrusted with building and sustaining political parties. They contributed to the Somali National Conference in 2000 in Djibouti when the Somali government was created.

SOUTH SUDAN:

The Ministry of Gender of South Sudan had already developed a gender policy when the war started. The policy was supposed to help women to overcome the largest problem at the time, which was gender-based violence. The ministry raised awareness especially during the 16 Days of Activism. Fourteen special protection units were established, and procedures for reporting gender-based violence were instituted to encourage women to report to the police. Social workers were deployed to hospitals to provide counselling services and assist women to fill out the Form 8, which is a requirement for reporting. To prevent stigmatisation, special areas were set aside in police stations to ensure confidentiality when reporting cases of gender-based violence. Some non-governmental organisations provide support to affected women to prepare merchandise like beads for sale to earn an income. Resilience cannot happen without peace and personal safety, so the special protection units are very important.

SUDAN:

The Ministry of Social Development in Sudan adopted a national plan in 2017. The legislative council, council of ministers in sovereign ministries must have 25-30% women. Whereas the ministry has focused on the policy environment, communities are taking measures to strengthen their capacity. They are creating a conducive environment to help advance empowerment of women in six areas: health, education, economy, politics,

peace and conflict resolution and human rights. Eighty-nine volunteer organisations have been working to train women leaders on conflict resolution in Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile. Other activities include psychological rehabilitation, training demobilised women in coordination with the Commission of Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration. There is a policy for empowering women. Religions leaders and youth are also involved in activities.

ENGAGING MEN IN GENDER MAINSTREAMING AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT ACTIVITIES

SOMALIA:

The gender focal point is the Ministry of Gender which works with civil society organisations. They hold joint meetings for information exchange and coordination, and collaborate to implement international days. The ministry holds regular meetings with other line ministries. Men are usually involved in all gender mainstreaming activities.

Men and religious leaders are engaged by the Women Political Empowerment programme, so that they can support women's political aspirations.

Traditional leaders vote for the candidates. Therefore, religious leaders are recruited as goodwill ambassadors, as they can influence the traditional leaders. There were 24% women in the last election, but women are demanding achievement of one-third representation.

SOUTH SUDAN:

The gender focal persons are male, and they are active in advocating for actions to end gender-based violence. These focal persons are appointed from line ministries, commissions and partners. They meet with the Ministry once a month through the inter-ministerial gender technical working group. Men-led organisations also advocate for gender issues and participate in events such as 16 Days of Activism, where they agree on, and disseminate common messaging for public awareness. There is a gender unit in each line ministry and at state level. The Ministry of Social Development is part of the ministerial and steering committee of IDDRSI.

SUDAN:

Imams and religious leaders raise awareness on female genital mutilation and child rights. Other activities for awareness raising take place during the International Women's Day and advocacy training.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE DURING COVID-19

SOMALIA:

During Covid-19, Somalia recorded a lower incidence of gender-based violence.

SOUTH SUDAN:

At the higher level, there is affirmative action, but at the grassroots, there is a problem and sometimes, people in power are the perpetrators. Gender-based violence incidences were high after the Covid-19 outbreak. A safe house was constructed in Kapoeta as forced marriages became a concern.

SUDAN:

A rehabilitation and women development centres were established in six states. These centres reach grassroots women to address gender-based violence, income generation and capacity building. The plan is to establish similar centres in all 17 states.

Highlights of the discussion

Photo courtesy of RPLRP Uganda.

- In Somalia, the conflict opened up more opportunities for women to participate and thrive in economic and political spheres.

- In conflict-prone countries, gender-based violence is still a problem that needs to be addressed.

- It is important to engage elders, traditional and religious leaders for gender programmes to succeed.

- Ministries are coordinating and working with many different stakeholders to put in place functional structures for addressing gender issues.

- When working on women empowerment, participation by different members of society at all levels is necessary.

BREAK-OUT SESSION 2:

Experiences in gender policy and programme implementation and mainstreaming

Moderator: *Ms. Fathia Issa, Programme Assistant at the IGAD Gender Affairs Unit*

GRWG Members
- *Mr. Seleshi Tadesse (Ethiopia): Director, Women Mobilisation and Participation Enhancement Directorate, Ministry of Women and Children;*
- *Ms. Jackline Makokha (Kenya): Deputy Director Gender, State Department for Gender under the Ministry of Public Service and Gender*
- *Ms. Akumu Christine Okot (Uganda): Principal Gender Officer, Department of Gender and Women Affairs, Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development*

DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF GENDER MAINSTREAMING POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

ETHIOPIA:

Ethiopia issued a national women policy in 1993, before the constitution of Ethiopia. There is a strategy for women and child development. Each ministry is mandated to mainstream gender. At programme level, all ministries are guided by the policy and strategy.

KENYA:

Gender mainstreaming is anchored in the constitution, in articles that address gender equality and freedom from discrimination. A national blue print called Vision 2030 has a social pillar that articulates gender mainstreaming across all sectors. This blue print is implemented through medium term plans. The national gender and development policy was revised in 2019 to guide ministries on gender mainstreaming. There is a state department for gender and focal points in each ministry.

UGANDA:

The framework for gender and equality is clear in the Ugandan constitution. Article 33 addresses imbalances due to history, traditions and customs. The government is addressing the imbalances through appointment – with 43% women representation in the cabinet, 32% in parliament and 46% at council level. The prime minister and vice president are female. The Equal Opportunity Commission of 2010 ensures that discrimination and inequalities are reduced. The Finance Act of 2015 ensures that ministries mainstream gender and their budgets, financial plans and activities are assessed and a certificate is issued before annual plans are funded. The Ministry of Gender is responsible for gender mainstreaming.

MECHANISMS TO COORDINATE, IMPLEMENT, MONITOR AND EVALUATE GENDER MAINSTREAMING

ETHIOPIA:

There is a gender directorate in each ministry at the national and federal level. Quarterly meetings are held with gender focal points and there is a gender forum with its own executive committee. Monitoring and evaluation is done, and feedback provided on each sectoral report. A women standing committee oversees sectoral activities.

KENYA:

Each ministry has focal points, coordinated by the State Department for Gender, which also supports sectoral interventions to mainstream gender. The ministry coordinates the national sector working group that is co-chaired by the Cabinet Secretary responsible for gender, and the chair of the gender donors group. The working group is replicated in the 47 counties. It brings together stakeholders to discuss and chart the way forward on the national gender agenda. The national and county working groups relate through the Intergovernmental Framework for the Gender Sector, signed between the national government and the chair of the Council of Governors.

UGANDA:

The structure of Uganda is similar to Kenya with regard to focal persons, national and sub-national levels. There are tools for assessing gender responsive planning and budgeting at the district level.

INITIATIVES, PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS THAT HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED SO FAR

ETHIOPIA:

There are different programmes on gender mainstreaming. For example, the women empowerment programme implemented in rural areas helps women to organise into cooperatives. The Gender Climate Change and Agriculture Programme, supported by the New Partnership for Africa's Development, also helps women to establish cooperatives. The Women Leadership Pool was created for women aspiring to leadership roles. There is a costed roadmap at the national level and different programmes are implemented in economic, social and political sectors.

KENYA:

Gender mainstreaming is a continuous long-term process. A performance contracting process ensures gender is mainstreamed and measured. Every year, targets are jointly set with public sector organisations. Since 2020, the State Department for Gender has been supporting sectors to develop policies and action plans to effectively implement their gender agendas. Affirmative action funds were established for special interest groups such as women, youth, and people with disabilities, children and the elderly. The Access to Procurement Opportunities ensures that each public sector organisation awards at least 30% of their contracts to special interest groups. The Kenyan president declared that female genital mutilation must be eradicated by the year 2022, hence accelerating efforts by different stakeholders.

UGANDA:

The Government of Uganda is supporting the Youth Livelihood Programme and a special grant to support the livelihoods of persons with disabilities. The Women Entrepreneurship Programme includes value addition and activities to reduce gender-based violence. Councils were established to address issues of women, people living with disabilities, children and youth and the elderly. The elderly receive monthly pay-outs to cater for their needs in their own environment.

CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED

ETHIOPIA:

Coordination is challenging, especially in mainstreaming gender in all sectors. Commitment of leadership is not always sufficient, as capacity and resource limitations also hamper gender mainstreaming at sector level.

KENYA:

Lack of political will and low understanding of gender issues are key challenges. Additionally, the socio-cultural norms affect how people work on gender issues, as everyone is carrying the burden of their culture and tradition. Alongside that, lack

of prioritisation of gender leads to insufficient budget allocation in different. Dual justice systems sometimes result in conflict when there are issues to be addressed, for example on gender-based violence. There is a general lack of coherence between the M&E directorate and other monitoring processes, which sometimes results to different targets and indicators.

UGANDA:

There are structures to ensure gender mainstreaming in plans, budgets and implementation processes but coordination is not adequate. Consequently, documentation of good practices is difficult, and reporting to different international frameworks is not comprehensive. There is need to strengthen coordination and increase resources for gender. A dialogue is planned with parliament and Permanent Secretaries to make gender a priority for resource allocation.

Highlights of the discussion

Photo courtesy of RPLRP Uganda.

- There are constitutional provisions for gender equality, and these are translated into policies and programmes that are at different levels of implementation.

- Coordination structures have been set up, consisting of gender focal points, inter-sectoral working groups and structures at national and sub-national levels, but coordination is still not optimal.

- Gender mainstreaming requires increased political will, resource mobilisation, capacity development and stronger coordination.

- There is need for better documentation of good practices and comprehensive reporting to international frameworks.

SESSION 7: SYNTHESIS OF LESSONS ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN THE PROGRAMME CYCLE

This terminal session was guided by Ms. Joselyn Bigirwa, the Gender and Land Expert at the IGAD Land Governance Programme. To prepare the participants for their group discussions, she helped to build understanding of common concepts, and explained the criteria for undertaking gender analysis at each stage of the programme cycle.

Highlights of the concepts presented

Gender mainstreaming is a process and strategy which aims to bring about gender equality and advance women's rights by taking account of gender equality concerns and building gender capacity and accountability in all aspects of an organisation's policies and activities (including policy and programme development, implementation, advocacy, organisational culture and resource allocation).

Institutional gender mainstreaming, also known as the foundation for programme mainstreaming, is the first step in creating a gender-inclusive corporate culture, gender responsive policies and programmes framework, gender-focused partnerships and capacity building through which gender perspectives and tooling processes can work in tandem. It has four main interconnected strands (1) political will - policies, budget, gender-balanced team at all levels; (2) technical capacity for all; (3) accountability - gender markers, performance target; and (4) organisational culture - safe working environment, language etc.

Gender analysis examines the relationships between females and males and their access to and control of resources, their roles and the constraints they face relative to each other. It is research that aims to understand and bring to the fore, which quantitative and qualitative inequalities exist between women and men at different levels of society and why. This should be done at the first level of the programme cycle to inform programme design but light analysis can be done during implementation and monitoring phases.

Gender mainstreaming approaches

Gender sensitive: Properly aware of the different needs, roles, responsibilities of women and men; such as provision of adequate and separate toilets for girls and boys at school.

Gender responsive: Aware of gender concepts, disparities and their causes, and takes action to address and overcome gender-based inequalities. Possible interventions include integrated health services such as services for children, pregnant women and other ailments at same service points on the same day.

Gender transformative: Approaches that seek to transform gender roles and promote more gender-equitable relationships between men and women. It takes on the task of transforming unequal gender relations to promote shared power, control of resources, decision making, and support for women's empowerment. Potential interventions include building capacity of women through provision of relevant information; promoting women leadership opportunities and strengthen women decision-making power at household and community level; engaging men and elders as change agents/champions for gender equality; create opportunities for women to dialogue with decision makers; addressing discriminatory social cultural norms and creating opportunities for income generation.

Roles

Access

Needs

Gender

Capabilities

Control

Vulnerability

Decision Making
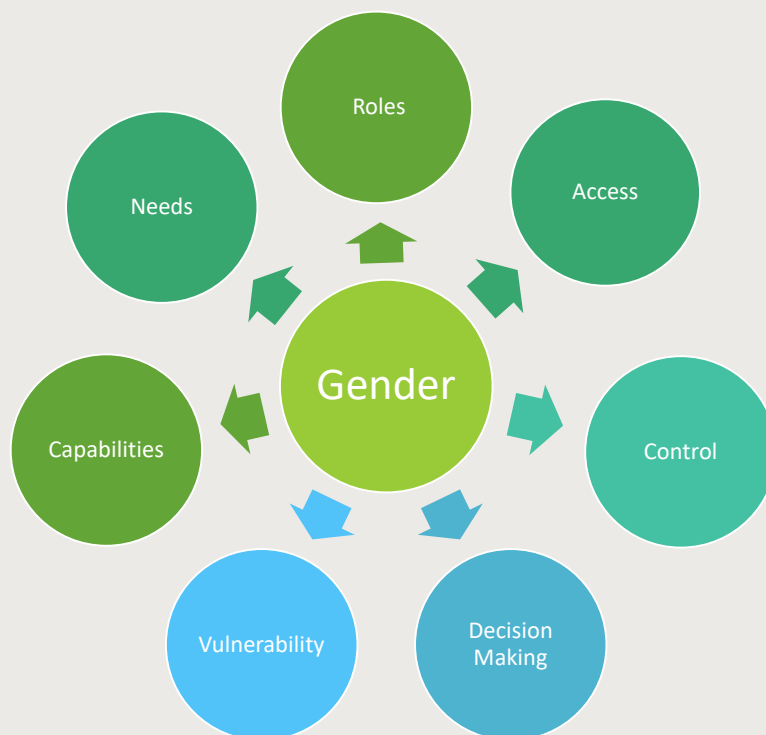
- Gender is prescriptive: It determines the roles, power and resources for females and males in any culture. It limits economic, social, and political opportunities.
- Cultures attribute a second-class status to women in every society.
- Gender matters in programming: Women, girls, boys and men are affected differently and have different coping strategies.
- Taking gender into account is about good programming and doing no harm.

Priority actions to improve gender mainstreaming in the project cycle

Guided by the criteria for undertaking gender analysis at each stage of the project cycle, participants worked in groups to reflect on the practices and experiences that had been shared over the course of the share fair, synthesise lessons and identify priority actions to improve gender mainstreaming. The main points summarised below, were presented by members of the IGAD Knowledge Management Working Group: (L-R): Abubaker Ntambi, Doreen Nanyonga, Christine Jeptoo, Jemal Mensur and Christine Bukania.

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

- Undertake stakeholder mapping and analysis and ensure representation of people living with disabilities, women, youth and the elderly.
- When identifying and analysing problems, be sensitive to how the problem affects women and men, boys and girls, and to what caused or is causing the problem, or worsening it.

Find out the following:
- What is the number of women and men being affected by the problem, including their age, disability, sex and gender?
- What are the roles and responsibilities, and lifestyles of women and men?
- Who owns resources such as land, water and livestock?
- What are the social norms and practices within these communities and how do they affect other social areas such as education, leadership roles etc.?
- Who makes the decisions in the community, for example when to move in search of water and pasture and where to?
- What coping mechanisms are employed by the different stakeholders like women, men, youth, girls, boys, and the elderly during drought?
- What is the role of government ministries, departments and agencies in supporting the communities? For example, Ministry of Education tailoring curriculums for pastoral communities.
- What are the existing livestock routes? Conduct a trend analysis to determine common movement routes.
- Who does what and for whom during movement? What are the existing structures and services along the key transhumance routes? How do women, men, girls and boys benefit from these structures and services?
- What interventions would improve community livelihoods? (For example, setting up mobile services like clinics and schools. Ask individual stakeholders).

PROJECT DESIGN

- Before design, create awareness and guide stakeholders on gender issues so that they make careful consideration of gaps and interventions when targeting beneficiary groups (elders, youth, and people living with disabilities, men and women).
- Conduct community/stakeholder consultations (Do-no-harm analysis)
- Refine objectives and outcomes to the extent possible using the "SMART" criteria, taking into

consideration the needs of the various beneficiary groups (elders, youth, and people living with disabilities, men and women).

- Deliberately identify specific interventions targeting strategic needs of some beneficiaries like women and youth.
- To the extent possible, include gender experts in project design to ensure availability of the technical capacity.
- Where possible, endeavour to have gender budgeting champions in project design teams to ensure provision of adequate resources.
- Use project analysis or appraisal to inform project financing, and continuously lobby different stakeholders to commit resources at all levels.
- At different levels of the results framework, define measurable indicators that are gender focused.
- Establish grievance redress mechanisms.
- Conduct safeguards assessments.
- IGAD should take the lead role in advocating for gender impact assessments to be included in project designs.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

- Disseminate the project objectives and target to stakeholders on time to promote ownership.
- Before doing any gender mainstreaming work, identify capacity gaps and design a targeted capacity development plan.
- Set expectations that focus on gender sensitive issues identified in the capacity development plan and monitor how these issues are addressed continuously from the start to the end of the project.
- Provide leadership opportunities for women and marginalised groups during the implementation stage.
- Be flexible enough to factor in emerging issues of gender mainstreaming during implementation.
- Plan and monitor jointly with other stakeholders.
- Establish appropriate feedback mechanisms that ensure accountability from those responsible for project implementation.
- Continuously ask the following questions during the implementation period: What is being implemented; how when, why and where is it being implemented and with whom.
- Assign permanent staff to oversee gender mainstreaming and gender training during the entire implementation period.
- Decentralise functions of gender focal persons needs in different project locations - national, sub-national and community level.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- Undertake gender analysis at the project design stage and incorporate how gender gaps will be addressed in the log frame, indicators and baseline. Ensure that M&E experts have programming experience, since what is monitored and evaluated is part of the programme.
- Ensure that situation analyses and feasibility studies capture as much information as possible, and that they are availed as references throughout the project life cycle.
- Design a gender responsive action plan to monitor and report on the changing gender dynamics that the project brings about.
- Identify appropriate gender markers during the project design and integrate them through the implementation of the project in order to avoid generalising project benefits.
- Design an M&E system that is part of programming, and that collects data that is useful and used immediately for decision-making at every stage. In particular, identify data that is required for decisions at national and regional level.
- Design an M&E framework that has common gender outcomes and indicators for resilience, and a selection of outputs and activities that is agreed upon by a regional community of practice. The framework should be supported by a regional database.
- Review feedback mechanisms and how they integrate with programming decisions.
- When designing ToRs for evaluations, include the identification of unintentional outcomes of projects
- During evaluations, focus more on lessons learnt with regard to the identified gender markers and how these lessons can be used to inform the next step of the projects.
- Plan to undertake evaluations for long after the project ends in order that outcome harvesting and sustainability is better documented.

Strategies for building male leadership and engagement in gender equality and women empowerment programmes

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL LEADERS

- Lobby with politicians, who play an important role in voting national and sub-national budgets.
- Involve top government leaders during planning and designing of gender related programmes and resource mobilisation for these programmes.
- Make deliberate proposals to government organs to mainstream gender.
- Create understanding of leaders and policy makers of gender disparity and existing frameworks so that they can budget for gender equality.
- Support public participation in order to strengthen political leaders at grassroots levels.
- Support intentional networking of women with different groups like youth, religious leaders among others.
- Use traditional societal hierarchies to disseminate messages related to gender.
- Advocate and lobby with religious leaders to create awareness and encourage buy-in to gender related activities.

RELIGIOUS AND TRADITIONAL LEADERS

- Bring religious leaders together to learn from, and influence one another.
- Lobby them as a group, for example through inter-religious forums and councils of elders.
- Use already existing opportunities to increase women representation, such as the religious leaders' inclusion of women in project committees.
- Exercise cultural and religious sensitivity.

MEN

- Include men in community projects so that they may understand gender equality.
- Promote participatory planning for both genders in order to create ownership, for example in cooperative societies.
- Include both genders in all stages of the project cycle.
- Educate men on the benefits of women empowerment projects to the household.
- Support initiatives that offer equal opportunity to both girls and boys to go to school.
- Create after-school employment opportunities in pastoral areas for both men and women.
- Use female champions in peace building programmes to enhance community acceptance that women can also succeed.
- Introduce adult education programmes that include both genders.
- Carry out exchange visits to enhance learning, for example men can learn how women are treated in other communities.
- Document the cultural and traditional roles played by different genders, and the importance of this contribution.
- Encourage organised women groups to voice their concerns.

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