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The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

CONFLICT AND CLIMATE ASSESSMENT REPORT

MOYALE CLUSTER

Marsabit County Governor dancing with the Dukana-Dillo communities at one of the peace meetings in Marsabit.

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FOREWORD

Conflict and climate risks are synonymous with cross-border communities in Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, South Sudan and Somalia, given their ecological and geographical positioning, and a history of marginalization by their respective governments. This assessment provides context specific highlights of the conflict and climate risks in the Moyale cluster that covers the borderlands of Kenya and Ethiopia.

Produced within the context of the Cross-Border Community Resilience (CBCR) Activity, this conflict and climate assessment lays the technical evidence base for identifying the main conflict and climate trends in the Moyale cluster, their dynamics and drivers, as well as opportunities for furthering social cohesion and climate risk adaptation initiatives. Such contextual information is important if the Cross-Border Community Resilience (CBCR) Activity is to have a meaningful impact among the communities.

Indeed, this assessment provides crucial evidence for designing evidence-based and context-sensitive social cohesion projects that also ensure conflict sensitivity in project implementation. In the same vein, the common and differentiated climate risks in the cluster, together with the evidence on the impacts of climate change on livelihoods, common coping and adaptation mechanisms (formal and informal), as well as the barriers and opportunities for climate risks mitigation that this assessment provides are useful foresights in the implementation of project activities. We therefore call upon implementing partners to utilize this assessment in their work plans in order to maximize positive impacts and minimize negative ones.

Jebiwot Sumbeiywo, Chief of Party (CoP),

Cross Border Community Resilience Activity (CBCR).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CONTENTS

ACRONYMS

AU	African Union
BMM	Better Migration Management (program)
CBCR	Cross-Border Community Resilience Activity
CEWARN	Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CMC	Corridor Management Committee
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
EAC	East African Community
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EU	European Union
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FtF	Feed the Future
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GUC	Grants Under Contract
HHH	Household Head
HoA	Horn of Africa
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority for Development
IDDRSI	IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience Sustainability Initiative
KII	Key Informant Interview
LAPSSET	Lamu Port, South Sudan, Ethiopia Transport Corridor
LDO	Local Development Organization
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NRM	Natural Resources Management
PWD	Persons with Disabilities
RASMI	Regional Approaches for Sustainable Conflict Management and Integration
REC	Regional Economic Commission
REF	Research and Evidence Facility
RPLRP	IGAD's Regional Pastoral Livelihoods Resilience Project
SECCCI	Support for Effective Cooperation & Coordination of Cross-border Initiatives
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
USAID/KEA	United States Agency for International Development / Kenya and East Africa
WB	World Bank

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an assessment of conflict and climate risks in the Moyale cross-border cluster that comprises the Kenya – Ethiopia borderlands. The assessment was commissioned by the Cross Border Community Resilience (CBCR) Activity. The CBCR Activity is a regional program funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the assessment was conducted with the objective to enhance better understanding of conflict and climate-risks in the Moyale cluster. The report seeks to contribute to the CBCR Activity's efforts to build opportunities for resilience in the cross-border regions through a quality and informative conflict and climate assessment.

The study was based on qualitative methods, including desk review of relevant literature on conflict dynamics and climate risk factors, and field research in 16 locations across the Kenya – Ethiopia borderlands. A total of 136 key informant interviews (KIIs) and 17 focus group discussions (FGDs) were conducted from August 25 – October 15, 2022. The respondents comprised community representatives, who included women, youth, and persons with disability (PWDs), and key stakeholders representing the civil society and private sector, and government officials at national and regional/local levels. The conflict analysis adopted the USAID Conflict Assessment Framework, and a robust stakeholder mapping exercise using gender equity and social inclusion (GESI) lenses. The initial findings of the assessment were subjected to a stakeholders' validation in a workshop in Moyale town, Kenya on October 4, 2022. The cumulative inputs from these sources constitute the findings, conclusions, and recommendations in this report.

The Moyale cross-border cluster is characterized by a diverse ethnic make-up comprising the populous Borana, Gabra, and Garre groups, and the minority Burji, El-Molo, and Dassanach. Successive years of marginalization and low investment in public infrastructure and basic social services (healthcare, education, infrastructure etc.) have contributed to high levels of poverty, malnutrition, illiteracy, unemployment, and insecurity in the cross-border cluster. Stiff competition for dwindling rangeland resources (pasture and water) continue to diminish local capacities for resilience. High population mobility, including across borders, herd splitting and planned wet/dry season grazing have been important resilience factors, but these are severely undermined by violent conflicts that have been exacerbated by weak communal and formal (political/security) institutions and climatic hazards such as droughts.

With regards to the types of conflicts, political and natural resource conflicts were identified as prevalent in the Moyale cross-border cluster. Some of the major causes of these conflicts are ethnic competition for political power and scarce rangeland resources (pasture and water). High youth unemployment was also identified as a contributor to some of the conflicts in the cross-border areas. The youth have limited access to economic opportunities, rendering them susceptible to banditry, cattle rustling, and recruitment into violent groups.

The most dominant conflict trends include the increasing use of violence as a means of group expression, whether in the competition for scarce rangeland resources or for power, or in the expression of group grievances and responses to provocation. Additionally, the various types of conflict are exacerbated by environmental degradation and resource scarcity, the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, porous borders that lead to limited enforcement of law and order, and weak/inadequate regulatory frameworks. These trends contribute to the escalation of conflicts in the region, resulting in loss of lives, displacement of communities, and general insecurity.

Generally, the conflicts occur among the dominant Borana, Gabra, and Garre communities that inhabit the Moyale cluster. These communities have a long-standing history of conflicts over access to water

and pastureland. There are also local militia/cattle rustlers, mostly youth, who are at times aligned with their respective ethnic groups in their attacks on others. Local politicians have also been accused of inciting communities or funding violent activities for political reasons. Moreover, in Marsabit County in Kenya, the security forces have also been accused of human rights violations, including extrajudicial killings, torture, and arbitrary detentions. In the Borana zone of Ethiopia, the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) is a major conflict actor that seeks self-determination for the Oromo people. The group has been accused of carrying out attacks on Ethiopian government targets, including security forces and infrastructure. In turn, the Ethiopian security forces have also been accused of human rights violations, including extrajudicial killings, torture, and arbitrary detentions. These actions have been perpetrated against individuals suspected of supporting opposition groups or participating in protests.

In seeking to understand the differential roles and impacts of conflicts on women, men, girls and boys, the study noted that the traditional perceptions of women and other socially excluded segments (youth and minorities) in conflict situations as just being victims is slowly changing. The passive and active roles of women in conflict range from being inciters of war, caregivers for the wounded, and consolers of the bereaved. At the same time, women, youth, and minorities are increasingly playing the crucial role of peacemakers, especially through their involvement in informal peace processes. Some women and youth have also formed local peace-building organizations through which they are contributing to conflict resolution and peace-building.

In exploring capacities for peace, the study established that various actors play crucial roles in conflict resolution and peace-building in the Moyale cross-border region. These actors operate under both formal and informal institutions at local and national levels. In Marsabit County, these include councils of elders, women and youth-led initiatives, local civil society organizations (CSOs), faith-based organizations (FBOs), and the local media. At the national level, the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, represented in Marsabit and Moyale by the County Commissioner and his field staff and chiefs, help to coordinate the maintenance of law and order and peace-building efforts. Similarly, the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC), various peace committees, including the District Peace Committee (DPC), District Steering Group (DSG), the Marsabit Peace Restoration Committee (also known as the Kaparo Council of Elders), and *wazee* 35 (35 elders) play crucial roles in conflict resolution and peace-building.

In the Borana zone, similar councils of elders, the *woreda* administrator under the regional government, and a number of both local and international NGOs also complement conflict resolution/peace-building efforts. Some of the more notable regional/international peace actors identified include the Cross-Border Joint Peace Committee, the PEACE III project implemented by Pact Kenya, the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) partnership with the governments of Ethiopia and Kenya, the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD), and the European Union (EU)-funded Cross-Border Integrated Programme for Sustainable Peace and Socio-economic Transformation.

The study also noted that local and national media, especially FM radio stations, and social media platforms such as Facebook and WhatsApp are increasingly emerging as important tools for political/conflict mobilization, but also social cohesion and integration. These forms of alternative media are also blamed for fanning ethnic hatred through misinformation, incitement, and mobilization to violence on both sides of the cross-border.

A number of key challenges with conflict resolution and peace-building at the Moyale cross-border region include the disjointed and short-term nature of interventions, resource gaps, political incitement and interference, mistrust among the locals and security agents, limited investment in security infrastructure and cooperation between the security agents across the border, and failure to sufficiently address underlying causes of conflict.

On climate risk assessment, the study assessed the key hazards affecting the Moyale cross-border region, the gendered and social dimensions of climate vulnerabilities, and the initiatives that have been taken to tackle climate change risks as well as barriers in addressing them across the cluster. The main impacts of climate change among the border communities are loss of pasture and water, loss of livestock, malnutrition, famine, high cost of living and limited purchasing power, and spread of diseases such as malaria and pneumonia. Drought is a persistent marker of the cluster, leaving many food-insecure and aid dependent.

The study also revealed that women are more vulnerable than men to the effects of climate change. This is primarily because they constitute the majority of the Moyale cluster's poor, and their livelihoods are more dependent on natural resources that are threatened by climate change. Furthermore, they face social, economic, and political barriers that limit their coping capacities in more ways than for their male counterparts.

Moreover, the study established that limited access to accurate and timely weather and climate information for early warning and disaster risk reduction, coupled with poor interpretation, packaging and dissemination hinders timely and effective response at the local levels. This seriously undermines communities' coping mechanisms and resilience to climate shocks.

The study concludes that the twin challenges of conflicts and climate shocks at the Moyale cluster are inter-linked. Building resilience against these two challenges, therefore, requires holistic, integrated approaches that include climate smart agricultural initiatives and peace building advocacy rooted within the communities that live across the two borders, and supported in a better, collaborative, coordinated, and systematic manner.

To enhance conflict prevention and peace-building, the study recommends that:

- **There is a need to ensure that existing policies are rooted in local realities and are gender-responsive**: The study acknowledges that there are a number of policies and strategies on conflict prevention that have been developed by the respective governments. However, there is a need to ensure that these policies are rooted in the local realities of the cross-border context, and that they are gender-responsive so as to factor in the differential impacts of conflicts on women, men, girls, and boys in the Moyale cross-border region.

- **Enhancing cross-border cooperation:** Institutional-level cooperation between Kenya and Ethiopia is essential for effectively managing and mitigating conflict and climate risks in the Moyale borderlands. This could include strengthening the joint committees for cross-border conflict resolution and natural resource management. Enhancing collaboration and coordination between organizations working in the Moyale cross-border region could also involve establishing effective communication channels, and developing formal structures for collaboration, such as joint planning and coordination mechanisms.

- **Ensure women's active participation:** Stakeholders should ensure that women are adequately represented in all decision-making processes, and that their voices, needs, and perspectives are integrated into policies and programs. This could be done by creating dedicated platforms for women's participation in conflict resolution and peace-building initiatives. Women peace-builders should be engaged more in roles such as decision-making, participating and speaking in peace forums, working with formal structures, and covering larger areas with their initiatives.

- **Strengthen local conflict resolution mechanisms:** Local conflict resolution mechanisms such as traditional and community-based systems need to be strengthened and integrated into formal mechanisms to ensure their effectiveness in addressing conflicts in the Moyale cross-border

region. This should be done by providing more structured resources to support community-led conflict resolution mechanisms such as community peace committees, community dialogues, and traditional mechanisms.

- **Support strengthening of early warning systems:** This could involve a range of activities, such as establishing community-based monitoring and reporting mechanisms, setting up formal communication channels between different levels of governance, providing training and resources to local actors, and leveraging technological tools such as mobile phones and social media platforms. The goal would be to enable timely detection and response to emerging conflicts and climate risks, and to enhance the overall preparedness of the Moyale cross-border region.

- **Capacity enhancement:** While efforts in capacity building of local communities and other actors exist, they are disjointed, and hence a need to be better targeted, coordinated, and harmonized to avoid duplication and repetition. Conflict sensitivity and gender-responsive training should also target government officials, security personnel, and other stakeholders.

- **Implement disarmament and demobilization programs with a human face:** A joint approach by the two governments to undertake disarmament and demobilization programs to reduce the proliferation of small arms and light weapons in the region should be done closely with local communities and leaders to identify and report illicit weapons, and include incentives for surrendering them.

- **Approach radicalization differently:** The military and security approach to radicalization and terrorism needs to be combined with addressing the push and pull factors such as socio-economic and psychological conditions that drive individuals into these vices.

- **Strengthen media engagement:** There is a need to strengthen media engagement by providing training on conflict-sensitive reporting and establishing a code of ethics for reporting on sensitive issues, and supporting journalists to report accurately and in a balanced manner on conflict and climate risks in the region. Similarly, supporting existing community radio stations and establishing others in areas where there are no radio stations to promote dialogue and disseminate accurate information on conflict and climate risks. These stations could also serve as platforms for community-led initiatives for conflict resolution and climate resilience.

- **Increase access to justice:** Increasing access to justice in the region, particularly for marginalized groups, will act as a deterrence to criminals and ensure that local communities have trust in the rule of law. This could be done by providing legal aid, setting up mobile courts, and increasing the capacity of formal justice systems to handle cases.

- **Address underlying causes of conflict:** Actors in the conflict resolution and peace-building space should consider supporting programs that address the underlying causes of conflict, including political and natural resource conflicts. It is, therefore, important to look beyond the immediate causes of violent conflict and address the root causes. These include poverty, high unemployment, marginalization, high income and social disparity, and perception of marginalization/exclusion. In this regard, it is essential to design socio-economic programs that will increase household incomes, create employment opportunities, promote equity, increase access to education and social services, and create sustainable livelihoods for the communities affected by conflicts. Similarly, promotion of mechanisms for equitable access to rangeland

resources, such as land and water, to prevent conflict over natural resources is essential for pastoralists.

On climate risk mitigation, the study recommends:

- **Develop and implement climate adaptive strategies:** Enhance climate resilience by helping communities and local organizations develop climate-adaptive strategies that consider the gendered and social dimensions of climate vulnerabilities. These could involve providing training and resources to communities to implement climate-smart agriculture, fodder production, hay harvesting and storage, among others. Implementing these recommendations requires collaboration among all stakeholders, including governments, NGOs, and the communities, to ensure sustainable and effective outcomes in the region. This can be achieved through strengthening the utilization of local early warning systems for climate hazards in the region.

- **Support development of community risk management plans:** Support communities to prioritize the development of comprehensive risk management plans that integrate conflict and climate risks. This will involve conducting regular assessments of risk exposure, as well as developing and implementing risk reduction strategies that are tailored to the specific needs of the local communities. In addition, support should be provided to communities to invest in early warning systems and contingency planning measures, which will enable them to respond quickly and effectively to emerging risks.

- **Adopt gender-sensitive and community-based approaches:** This will involve engaging local communities and ensuring that their interventions are aligned with local needs and priorities. In addition, organizations should aim to build the capacity of local communities to promote the participation of women and other marginalized groups in decision-making processes.

- **Supporting natural resource management:** Local programs that promote sustainable land management, conservation, and equitable sharing of resources can help reduce conflicts over natural resources. This includes supporting community-based resource management programs that involve local communities in decision-making processes.

- **Promoting alternative livelihoods:** Climate change and conflict have a significant impact on pastoralism, which is the main economic activity in the Moyale cross-border region. This is forcing many people out of pastoralism, exposing them to vulnerabilities and destitution. Programs that promote alternative livelihoods, such as small and micro enterprises, and vocational training, can help reduce vulnerability to climate and conflict risks.

- **Support development of robust monitoring, reporting, dissemination, and adaptation systems:** There is a need to support local organizations involved in peace-building and climate resilience to invest in the development of robust monitoring, evaluation, reporting, dissemination, and adaptation systems to track the impact of their interventions. This can be achieved by strengthening regular data collection, analysis, and sharing. It requires investing in the development of a comprehensive and reliable information system that captures key conflict and climate risk indicators in the Moyale cross-border region. This could include establishing a network of data collection points, standardizing data collection protocols, and ensuring that data is accessible and usable by a range of stakeholders. Similarly, establishing clear indicators and targets, and regularly collecting and analyzing data to assess progress towards these targets, and organizing lesson sharing and adaptation sessions with stakeholders.

1. INTRODUCTION

Kenya and Ethiopia share a large, porous border straddling a length of 861 kilometers that traverses Turkana, Marsabit, Mandera and Wajir Counties on the Kenyan side, and the Borana zone on the Ethiopian side[1]. Marsabit County and the Borana zone, which collectively form the Moyale cluster, share a longer border than other areas. Nomadic pastoralist communities, namely the Borana, Gabra, and Garre, among others, who derive their livelihoods mainly from livestock keeping, live on both sides of the cluster.

Several cross-border initiatives aimed at promoting cross-border policy development, peace-building, and economic development exist, including efforts by the United Nations (UN), the African Union (AU), and the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD). Some of these initiatives seek to achieve an integrated Africa through the adoption of the AU Convention on Cross-Border Cooperation (the Niamey Convention, 2014), dubbed 'From Barriers to Bridges', and enhancing cross-border exchanges and peaceful resolutions of border disputes[2].

Other initiatives include efforts by the governments in the Horn of Africa (HoA) borderland areas related to promoting economic development mainly through major infrastructure investments such as the Lamu Port Southern Sudan–Ethiopia Transport (LAPSSET) corridor project[3], solar and wind farms, dams and irrigation, road construction, and private sector investment in extractives and agriculture[4]. Bilaterally, Ethiopia and Kenya signed a Special Status Agreement in 2012 that provides a framework for enhancing economic and commercial relations between the two countries[5].

While these initiatives have the potential to benefit marginalized areas, their operationalization remains limited. Despite the various political commitments, little progress has been made in the development of borderlands, especially in the Moyale and Mandera triangles. Local actors and populations are still largely unaware of existing frameworks for collaboration that specifically address peace-building, trade, and development. Similarly, resources for capacity development to implement these frameworks are insufficient. Local communities and small-scale smallholders still face challenges in accessing small and larger markets, as well as access to basic services and real economic opportunities.

Hence, the Cross-Border Community Resilience (CBCR) Activity seeks to enhance resilience and thus reduce the need for humanitarian assistance among communities in the cross-border clusters of Karamoja, Moyale, and Mandera. Focusing on communities that live across the borders of Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, and Somalia, the Activity aims to empower local entities, including communities, civil society, private sector, and governments, to chart their own pathways for addressing conflict, improving livelihoods and/or reducing the risks of shocks and stresses[6]. The CBCR Activity works to foster local ownership of development investments by supporting local leadership in work

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[1] World Bank, 'From Isolation to Integration: The Borderlands of the Horn of Africa,' March 2020, http://hdl.handle.net/10986/33513 (accessed 15 March 2023).

[2] Sara Pavanello, 'Working across border: Harnessing the potential of cross-border activities to improve the livelihood security in the Horn of Africa drylands,' July 2010, Humanitarian policy group, https://odi.org/en/publications/working-across-borders-harnessing-the-potential-of-cross-border-activities-to-improve-livelihood-security-in-the-horn-of-africa-drylands/ (accessed 14 March 2023).

[3] European Union emergency Trust Fund for Africa, 'Case study on the EUTF Cross-Border Programme,' January 2021, https://ec.europa.eu/trustfund/cross-border_case_study_final_2021.pdf (accessed 10 December 2022).

[4] Pavanello, supra n 2.

[5] World Bank, 'Regional Initiative in Support of the Horn of Africa,' October 2014, http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/571071468194354658/Regional-initiative-in-support-of-the-Horn-of-Africa (accessed 14 December 2022).

[6] Chemonics, 'Cross-Border Community Resilience Activity,' November 2021, https://chemonics.com/projects/re-enforcing-resilience-in-communities-across-borders/ (accessed 4 April 2023).

planning, implementation, and monitoring[7]. It aims to strengthen cross- border "clusters" comprising regions of the Horn of Africa that have historically suffered from under-investment, and whose challenges and vulnerabilities cannot be tackled by national action alone[8].

Thus, this conflict and climate assessment for the Moyale cluster will support the CBCR Activity in understanding the main conflict and climate trends, dynamics and drivers, as well as opportunities for furthering social cohesion and climate risk adaptation initiatives. Towards this end, this assessment investigated the conflict types, causes, and trends in the Moyale cluster, together with the climate risks and related issues such as impacts of climate change on livelihoods, the coping and adaptation mechanisms used by communities and other stakeholders, and the barriers and opportunities for addressing climate risks.

This conflict and climate assessment was carried out in various locations in the Moyale cluster. These include: Moyale, Sololo, Somare, Sessi, Ileret, Heilu, Dukana, and Forolle in Marsabit County, Kenya, and Moyale, Arero, Hemer, Teltele, Dilo, Dire, Miyo, Magado, and Yabello in Ethiopia's Borana zone.

Figure 1: Map of the Moyale cluster

Source: Food and Agriculture Organization, 2018

Political and natural resource conflicts are the most prevalent in the Moyale cross-border cluster. These conflicts are caused by group competition for political power and scarce rangeland resources (pasture and water). High youth unemployment was also identified as a contributor to some of the conflicts, as the youth are susceptible to banditry, cattle rustling, and recruitment into violent groups.

The most dominant conflict trends include the increasing use of violence as a means of group expression, whether in the competition for scarce rangeland resources or for power, or in the expression of group grievances and responses to provocation. Additionally, the various types of conflict are exacerbated by environmental degradation and resource scarcity, the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, porous borders that lead to limited enforcement of law and order, and weak/inadequate regulatory frameworks. These trends contribute to the escalation of conflicts in the region, resulting in loss of lives, displacement of communities, and general insecurity.

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[7] Ibid.

[8] Ibid.

Generally, conflicts occur among the dominant Borana, Gabra, and Garre communities that inhabit the Moyale cluster, and have a long-standing history of conflicts over access to water and pastureland. There are also local militia/cattle rustlers, mostly youth, who are at times aligned with their respective ethnic groups in their attacks on others. Local politicians have also been accused of inciting communities or funding violent activities for political reasons.

The traditional perceptions of women and other socially excluded segments (youth and minorities) in conflict situations of just being victims is slowly changing. Passive and active roles of women in conflict range from being inciters of war, caregivers for the wounded, and consolers of the bereaved. At the same time, women, youth, and minorities are increasingly playing the crucial role of peacemakers, especially through their involvement in informal peace processes. Some women and youth have also formed local peace-building organizations through which they are contributing to conflict resolution and peace-building.

Other actors, including civil society organizations (CSOs), faith-based organizations (FBOs), and security agencies, are also involved in conflict resolution through both formal and informal institutional arrangements. Nonetheless, challenges with conflict resolution and peace-building at the Moyale cross-border region abound. These revolve around the disjointed and short-term nature of interventions, resource gaps, political incitement and interference, mistrust among the locals and security agents, limited investment in security infrastructure and cooperation between the security agents across the border, and failure to sufficiently address underlying causes of conflict.

With regards to the climate risk assessment, the main impacts of climate change in the Moyale cluster are loss of pasture and water, loss of livestock, malnutrition, famine, high cost of living and limited purchasing power, and spread of diseases such as malaria and pneumonia. Drought is a persistent marker of the cluster, leaving many food-insecure and aid dependent.

Women are more vulnerable than men to the effects of climate change. This is because they primarily constitute the majority of the Moyale cluster's poor, and their livelihoods are more dependent on natural resources that are threatened by climate change. Further, they face social, economic, and political barriers that limit their coping capacities in more ways than for their male counterparts.

Moreover, limited access to accurate and timely weather and climate information for early warning and disaster risk reduction, coupled with poor interpretation, packaging, and dissemination hinders timely and effective response at the local levels. This seriously undermines communities' coping mechanisms and resilience to climate shocks.

Based on these findings, the report provides a series of recommendations covering policy, institutional, and programmatic-level considerations to mitigate conflict and climate risks factors in the Moyale cluster. These recommendations cover several areas, including the need for improved cross-border collaboration, enhanced governance and conflict prevention, development of sustainable alternative livelihoods, strengthening the capacities of local institutions, and the engagement of the media in conflict prevention and management.

The report is organized into four main sections. This introduction is followed by a methodology section that presents the research design, and data collection and analysis approaches. Next is the findings section that is divided into two parts. Part 1 covers an overview of the conflict profile and causes in the Moyale cluster, including the different types of conflicts, gender dynamics and differential impacts of conflicts on women, men, girls, and boys. This part further highlights the capacities for peace in the cluster, with a focus on established mechanisms and their effectiveness in addressing conflict, as well as the roles of different stakeholders in conflict resolution and peace-building. The role of media in

social cohesion is also examined, with a focus on the impact of traditional and social media in promoting peace and conflict resolution.

Part II deals with the climatic hazards affecting the Moyale cross-border cluster, as well as the gendered and social dimensions of climate vulnerabilities. Management of climate risks by traditional and community-led initiatives, and those of governments and NGOs are examined, as well as traditional mechanisms and the barriers to addressing climate risks in the region. The conclusion and recommendations section provides key action points that should be undertaken in order to contribute to peace-building and climate risk mitigation.
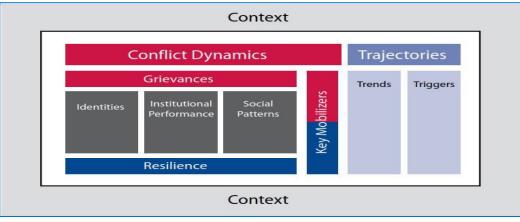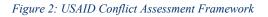
2. METHODOLOGY

2.1. RESEARCH DESIGN

The study utilized a participatory cross-sectional research design. Using a robust stakeholder mapping exercise, the study took a sample of borderland community representatives, including women, youth, and persons with disability (PWDs), and key institutional stakeholders such as the civil society, women/youth groups, private sector, government officials at both national and regional/local levels, and community leaders, among others. In designing the research approach and methodology, the research team also considered the fact that this conflict and climate-risk assessment will contribute to a number of the CBCR Activity's MEL indicators as follows:

- Indicator Number 18: Number of people trained in climate change adaptation supported by USG assistance (EG 11-1).
- Indicator Number 19: Number of people using climate information or implementing risk-reducing actions to improve resilience to climate change as supported by USG assistance (EG 11.6).
- Indicator 22: number of knowledge products developed with USG assistance.

The scope of this assessment was based on the Conflict Assessment Framework (CAF 2.0) - a conflict analytical tool developed by USAID[9]. The framework was helpful in conducting two major tasks: 1) diagnosis of current conflict dynamics and future trajectory (triggers and trends) and, 2) identification of gaps and opportunities of conflict dynamics and development of conflict prevention, mitigation, or management strategies[10] as shown in Figure 2 below.

Figure 2: USAID Conflict Assessment Framework

Source: USAID, 2012

The framework is useful in the analysis of how, when, and why conflicts occur. These include: a) how will conflict occur (key mobilizers, resilience, b) when will the conflict occur (triggers and trends), and c) why will the conflict occur (grievances – identities, institutional performance, and social patterns).

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[9] United States Agency for International Development, 'Conflict Assessment Framework: Application Guide,' June 2012, https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PNADY740.pdf (accessed 10 February 2023).
[10] Ibid.

According to the framework, conflict dynamics are driven by key actors in society (politicians, local leaders, security agents, etc.), who actively mobilize people and resources to engage in acts of violence based on grievance (competition over land use, political context, economic distress, insecurity, etc.) and their resilience (financial resource and capacity building) to sustain the conflict[11]. The framework further recognizes that when institutions' (governments, religions, cultures, etc.) performance is in ways that the key identity groups (citizens or communities) consider legitimate and effective, then conflict-mitigating social patterns may emerge[12]. However, illegitimate and ineffective institutions can drive dysfunctional patterns of instability and tension[13]. Therefore, dynamics of conflicts will depend on the institution's resilience (suppressing or resolving conflict through non-violent means)[14].

Within the context of the CBCR Activity, the conflict and climate assessments lay the technical evidence base for identifying the main conflict and climate trends, dynamics, and drivers, as well as opportunities for furthering social cohesion and climate risk adaptation initiatives. The assessment incorporated GESI considerations, identifying a plan for participatory methodology that prioritized the needs, experiences and perspectives of women, young people, and traditionally marginalized groups.

2.2. DATA COLLECTION APPROACH

The assessment was conducted through qualitative research that included desk review, focus group discussions (FGDs), and key informant interviews (KIIs). The findings were further subjected to stakeholder validation through a participatory workshop that was held in Moyale town in Kenya, on October 4, 2022.

First, the relevant official documents from both the Kenyan and Ethiopian governments, reports from development partners, NGOs, and regional bodies were reviewed in order to deeply understand the conflict and climate context of the Moyale cross-border cluster. Second, FGDs were conducted in order to capture the views of the target respondents more effectively. This was done in several locations in Marsabit County (Moyale, Marsabit, Sololo, Somare, Sessi, Ileret, Heilu, Dukana, Forolle, and Yabello) and in the Borana zone of Ethiopia (Moyale, Hemer, Tertele, Miyo, Magado, and Yaballo). FGD participants were purposively sampled from every village. Participants included women, the youth, businessmen and businesswomen, pastoralists, and village elders. A total of 17 FGDs were conducted across the locations mentioned from August 26 – September 5, 2022, with one FGD in every sampled village.

KII guides were used to engage several stakeholders, including community leaders, government officials, representatives of NGOs and regional bodies such as IGAD, IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Marsabit Chamber of Commerce, the Moyale Chamber of Commerce, and women and youth representatives in Marsabit County and in the Borana zone. A total of 136 KIIs were conducted from August 25 – September 29, 2022.

2.3. SAMPLING METHOD

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[11] Ibid.
[12] Ibid.
[13] Ibid.
[14] Ibid.

A purposive sampling method was utilized to identify the key informants from the different categories of respondents.

Table 1: Sampling frame for data collection

Method	Targets
Key informant interviews (KIIs)	136 interviews were conducted as follows: **Marsabit county, Kenya.** 1. Six KIIs with County Secretary, Moyale/ Sololo ward administrator/Director Cohesion/ Sector leads; Agriculture/Health/Livestock (County Government of Marsabit) 2. 14 KIIs with North-Horr sub-county administrator, ward administrator Illeret, ward administrator Dukana, ward administrator Maikona (in relation to Forolle), and the same officials as well as Chiefs in the border locations, 2 national government officials at the county level 3. 44 KIIs with Marsabit DC/Moyale DCC/ Sololo DCC/Chiefs/Cross-Border DPCs/35 elders/Moyale Chamber of Commerce/Border Management Unit/KRA/MP/Women's Rep/ Immigration/NDMA/MCAs/NPS/NCIC/MOE/KDF (national government) 4. 14 KIIs with ALCHA/SND/CIFA/SIFA/FM/NAWIRI/MWADO/NCCK/SUPKEM/ Interfaith Network/ NRT/KNCHR (local CSOs) 5. 20 KIIs with Borana/Burji/Garre, Dassanach, and Gabra elders/youth/women (community representatives) 6. Six KIIs with ICPAC/IGAD/LPI/Interpeace/GIZ/USAID (regional organizations and NGOs) 7. Two KIIs with IOM/UNDP Borderlands Center (UN bodies) **Borana zone, Ethiopia** 1. Six KIIs with Borana zone administrator/Gada/Yaa elders/youth/women/business community (Borana zone) 2. Three KIIs with representatives from federal government officials/immigration/federal security 3. Three KIIs with Head of Security /Trade/Agriculture/Education (Borana zonal government) 4. Two KIIs with Zonal administrator/Security head (Gambela regional government) 5. Eight KIIs with UNDP Borderland Center/IOM/CIFA/PDC/LPI/UNHCR/USAID/Inter Africa Group/IGAD/ICPAC/OMN (UN bodies) 6. Eight KIIs with Dassanach/Nyangatom elders/youth/women (Gambela community reps)
Focus group discussions (FGDs)	17 FGDs were held as follows: 11 in Marsabit County – one each in 9 villages on the Kenyan side (Moyale, Sololo, Somare, Sessi, Ileret, Heilu, Dukana, Forolle, and Yabello), and two in Marsabit.

| | Similarly, six in the Borana zone in six villages (Moyale, Hemer, Tertele, Miyo, Magado, and Yabello). |
| | FGD participants were purposively sampled to be as representative as possible and consisted of women, youth, businessmen/women, pastoralists, and village elders. |

2.4. DATA ANALYSIS

A three-step procedure was used to analyze the qualitative data. Step one involved documentation of all the issues as recorded during the FGDs and KIIs. Step two involved clustering issues under specific thematic areas, and step three involved development of meanings and conclusions from the thematic areas in relation to the key study objectives.

Issues emerging from the KIIs and FGDs were clustered into thematic areas, upon which meanings/conclusions were drawn.

2.5. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

This assessment adhered to all relevant ethical requirements for undertaking research among human subjects and requirements of USAID. Respondents were informed of the purpose of the evaluation and asked to sign consent forms before they participated in the interviews. They were assured of confidentiality and impartiality of the information they provided. Respondents were also informed of their right to withdraw from the study at any time when they were being interviewed without having to give a reason, and without attracting any consequences.

2.6. CHALLENGES DURING THE STUDY

Throughout the assessment, challenges like language barriers and the quality control of data collected from study participants were envisaged. To mitigate the challenges, field assistants in charge of data collection were recruited at the community level to ensure that they could speak the same language and dialect as the respondents, hence mitigating challenges arising from language barriers during data collection.

Quality control and assurance measures were put in place to ensure that the output/deliverables were of the highest quality possible. Standard data collection forms and tools were created, and all the field teams were trained on the use of tools. This ensured accurate capture of data from the respondents. A well-planned system of procedures, performance checks, quality audits, and corrective actions were put in place to examine the quality of sampling, instrument design, scripting, recruitment and training, fieldwork and site visits, and data analysis and processing.

3. FINDINGS

This chapter presents the findings of the conflict and climate risks assessment of the Moyale cluster. The findings are preceded by the political, economic, ecological, and socio-cultural context of the Moyale borderlands. Subsequently, the report explores the conflict profile of the cluster, including the conflict types, actors and causes, the differential impacts of conflicts on women, men, girls, and boys, the conflict trends, and the capacities for peace in the cluster.

Afterwards, the climate assessment attends to climatic hazards affecting the cluster (sudden and slow-onset events), gendered and social dimensions of climate vulnerabilities, the management of climate risks by traditional and community-led initiatives and those by governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), barriers in addressing climate risks, and opportunities for change. The findings of this study provide critical insights for policymakers, practitioners, and local communities working to promote peace-building and climate resilience in the Moyale borderlands cluster.

3.1. THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, ECOLOGICAL, AND SOCIO-CULTURAL CONTEXT OF THE MOYALE BORDERLANDS

The Moyale borderlands are areas of great cultural diversity, with an estimated population of over 300,000 people[15]. This population is made up of various ethnic groups, including the more populous Borana, Gabra, Rendille, and Somali communities, as well as smaller groups such as the Dassanach, the El-molo and the Burji. All the communities derive their livelihoods mainly from livestock keeping.

The region has a rich cultural heritage and a strong sense of community[16], which provides a foundation for future development and stability. At the same time, the region has high levels of underdevelopment. Marsabit County has poverty rates that stand at 83.2 percent[17], high pockets of food insecure populations due to three consecutive poor seasonal rainfall performances, below average crop and livestock production, localized resource-based conflicts[18], low levels of education with only 70.4 percent having primary education, high levels of human insecurity, and low levels of gender development[19]. Similarly in the Borana zone, the latest poverty analysis study shows the poverty headcount ratio as 23.9 percent, just above the national average of 23.5 percent[20]. The rural-urban divide

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[15] European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Stability, 'Cross-Border Analysis and Mapping - Cluster 1: Southwest Ethiopia-Northwest Kenya,' August 2016, https://blogs.soas.ac.uk/ref-hornresearch/files/2020/02/Cross-border-cluster-1.pdf (accessed 14 December 2022).

[16] Boresha, 'Baseline survey report,' August 2018, https://boreshahoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/baseline-survey-final-report.pdf (accessed 15 December 2022).

[17] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, African Union, African Development Bank and United Nations Development Program, 'Assessing Progress in Africa Towards the Millennium Development Goals: Analysis of the Common African Position on the Post-2015 Development Agenda,' October 2014, https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/MDG_Report_2014_11_2014.pdf (accessed 16 December 2022).

[18] IPC, 'Kenya Acute Food Insecurity Malnutrition 2022 February-June Report,' February 2013, https://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_Kenya_Acute_Food_Insecurity_Malnutrition_2023FebJun_Report.pdf (accessed 23 December 2022).

[19] County Government of Marsabit, 'Marsabit County Integrated Development Plan, 2018-2022,' https://cog.go.ke/media-multimedia/reportss/category/106-county-integrated-development-plans-2018-2022?download=313:marsabit-county-integrated-development-plan-2018-2022 (accessed 6 December 2022).

[20] Central Statistics Agency of Ethiopia, Ethiopia National Bank and World Bank, 'LMS Integrated Surveys on Agriculture: Ethiopia Socioeconomic Survey (ESS) 2015/16,' February 2017, ttps://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/2783/download/48263 (accessed 11 April 2023), 8.

is 25 percent versus 15 percent, respectively[21]. Moreover, the Borana zone saw the steepest decline of food poverty in the country, from 33 percent in 2010/11 to 21 percent in 2015/16[22]. There are also significant disparities in access to education, healthcare, and other basic services. For example, only 20 percent of the population has access to basic education facilities[23], and female literacy rates are estimated to be just 20 percent[24].

The Moyale cross-border cluster region has a history of conflict and marginalization, with frequent outbreaks of violence and ethnic clashes[25]. Despite the presence of government security forces, the region remains unstable. In recent years, there have been increases in violent conflicts, largely between the Borana and the Gabra, with the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) estimated to be over 10,000[26]. For example, in the larger Marsabit County, the escalation of politically motivated violence led to enforcement of a dawn to dusk curfew by the Kenyan government in May 2022[27].

While many ethnic minorities in Oromia live in peace, factors including historic migration and competition for land, rhetoric surrounding territory and ethnic ownership, an ongoing Oromo Liberation Front (OLF)-Shane insurgency, and the presence of ethnic Amhara paramilitary forces have made areas in the northwest of Borana zone prone to upticks of violent conflict[28]. Despite some efforts by the federal government to quell the situation, including the recent deployment of troops to both the west and south of the region, the situation remains volatile.

Economically, the Moyale cross-border region is one of the poorest regions in both Kenya and Ethiopia, with an estimated 80 percent of the population relying on pastoralism and agriculture for their livelihoods[29]. The region is highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, with frequent droughts and floods, which have a significant impact on the agricultural sector[30]. In addition, the area has limited access to basic services such as healthcare and education, with only 35 percent of the population having access to basic healthcare facilities[31].

Generally, the Moyale borderland is semi-arid, characterized by harsh environmental conditions. It is vulnerable to the effects of climate change, with frequent droughts and floods. Deforestation, soil degradation, and overgrazing have also had a significant impact on the environment and biodiversity in

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[21] United Nations Development Program, 'Ethiopia's Progress towards Eradicating Poverty,' April 2018, https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2018/04/Ethiopia's-Progress-Towards-Eradicating-Poverty.pdf (accessed 11 April 2023), 1.

[22] Ibid.

[23] United Nations Children Education Fund, 'Strategy Note for Oromia 2018-2020,' Dec. 2017, https://www.unicef.org/ethiopia/media/2341/file/Oromia-region.pdf (accessed 17 December 2022).

[24] World Bank, 'Ethiopia - Poverty Assessment 2014,' 2015, https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/131011468247457565/pdf/Ethiopia-Poverty-assessment.pdf (accessed 28 December 2022).

[25] Eunice Njambi and Geoffrey Misiani, 'Cross-Border Conflict and Gendered Implications for Local communities: The Case of the Kenya-Ethiopia Border,' 2016, https://www.ipstc.org/index.php/downloads-publications/publications/category/50-2016?download=163:occasional-paper-7-1-2016 (accessed 12 April 2023).

[26] John Burton, *Conflict: Resolution and Prevention* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 2014), 39.

[27] Njoki Kihiu, 'Government Imposes Dusk to Dawn Curfew in Marsabit,' Capital news, 2 May 2022, https://www.capitalfm.co.ke/news/2022/05/govt-imposes-30-day-dusk-to-dawn-curfew-in-marsabit-following-increased-banditry-attacks/ (accessed 10 December 2022)

[28] Ethiopia Peace Observatory, 'Monthly Update Report,' August 2022, https://epo.acleddata.com/2022/01/08/epo-August-2022-monthly-conflict-expands-in-oromia-region (accessed 10 January 2022).

[29] Julia Steets, Claudia Meier, Doe-e Berhanu, Solomon Tsehay, Amleset Haile Abreha, 'HRD Relief Food Beneficiary Analysis (2013-2018),' 2019, https://www.unocha.org/sites/unocha/files/IAHE-Ethiopia-final-report.pdf (accessed 18 November 2022)

[30] Ibid.

[31] International Organization for Migration, 'Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Round 15,' March 2019, https://dtm.iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbdl1461/files/reports/Ethopia-March-Dashboard-2019.pdf (accessed 13 January 2020).

the region, with an estimated 20 percent reduction in vegetation cover in recent years[32]. These climatic hazards have significantly impacted the livestock and agricultural sectors, and thus exacerbated tensions among various ethnic groups. Depletion of natural resources leads to heightened competition for limited water and pasture resources often resulting in conflicts and violence[33].

3.2. CONFLICT ASSESSMENT

3.2.1. TYPES OF CONFLICTS IN THE MOYALE CROSS-BORDER CLUSTER

The Moyale cross-border region experiences various types of conflicts. These include politically instigated conflicts, and those that occur within and between various groups over access to natural resources such as pasture, water, and land. This section will provide a brief overview of actors to these conflicts, their causes, and trends.

Table 2: Key conflict actors

	Key actors	Actions and conflict types
1.	Ethiopian government security forces	Have been accused of human rights violations, including extrajudicial killings, torture, and arbitrary detention. Some of these actions have been perpetrated against individuals suspected of being members of or supporting the Oromo Liberation Front, an Ethiopian opposition group.
2.	Kenyan security forces	Have also been accused of human rights violations, including extrajudicial killings, torture, and arbitrary detention. These actions have been perpetrated against individuals suspected of supporting opposition groups or participating in protests.
3.	The Oromo Liberation Front (OLF)	Is an Ethiopian opposition group that seeks self-determination for the Oromo. The group has been accused of carrying out attacks on Ethiopian government targets, including security forces and infrastructure.
4.	The Borana, Gabra, and Garre communities in the Moyale cross-border region	Have a long-standing history of conflict over access to water and pastureland. This conflict has at times escalated into violence, with both sides carrying out attacks on one another.
5.	Local militia/cattle rustlers (mostly youth)	Sometimes aligned with particular ethnic groups, have also been involved in violence in the region. These militia have been accused of carrying out attacks on other ethnic groups, and of engaging in criminal activities such as cattle rustling.
6.	Local politicians	Accused of inciting communities or funding violent activities for political reasons.

3.2.2. POLITICAL CONFLICTS

The region has a history of frequent outbreaks of violence and clashes among various groups in their quest for political power. These conflicts manifest themselves in a number of ways, including election-

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[32] Peter Little, Walkole Tiki and Dejene Debsu, 'Formal or Informal, Legal and Illegal: Ambiguous Nature of Cross-Border Livestock Trade in the Horn of Africa,' *Journal of Borderlands Studies*, 30(3) (2015): 405-421.
[33] Ibid.

related violence, intimidation of rival candidates and their supporters, and armed clashes between government security forces and opposition groups.

For example, in Marsabit, the fight for control over the county government's leadership between the two main ethnic groups –the Borana and the Gabra– has led to various fluid political alliances that heighten tensions and occasion sporadic violent skirmishes in major towns such as Marsabit town, Moyale, and along the main highway[34]. Study respondents cited politically instigated violence connected to elections as a dominant trigger for conflicts as politicians mobilize or incite supporters along ethnic lines[35].

Previous peace processes through community-led cross-border efforts, such as the Maikona and Dukana Peace Accords that initially brought peace between the Gabra and the Borana in 2006, have not proved durable[36]. In addition, a combination of neglect, suspicion, prejudice, and remoteness is associated with residents living in Marsabit County as well as other frontier counties in Kenya. Inadequate, ineffective, insensitive and, at times, brutal governance by past regimes has left Marsabit's population alienated from the state, and this has served to reinforce reliance on local communities for 'security' and the provision of other public services[37].

The March 2013 promulgation of a devolved system of governance and greater local control of resources and development offered much hope that historical alienation and marginalization can be addressed. However, such hopes were dashed with the occurrence of violent confrontation. For instance, in the 2013 general election, there were reports of inter-ethnic violence in Marsabit County, where the Gabra and Borana clashed over political representation and competition for county seats[38]. Similarly in 2021 and 2022, the region experienced a wave of conflicts among the two groups that resulted in the displacement of thousands of people and loss of lives[39]. During 2022 campaigns, youths in Moyale town in the Borana zone, and Marsabit County were mobilized in support of different candidates for various political posts (Member of County Assembly (MCA), Member of Parliament (MP), and Governorship). FGD discussants revealed that even though the election was a Kenyan affair, Kenyan politicians mobilized across borders. Because the youths are known to each other, on the eve of Election Day, this caused violence among different groups resulting in the deaths of some youths and women in polling stations in Sessi, Moyale town, and Yaballo[40].

In Kenya's Marsabit County, ethnic ties pervade state and county government structures, including the distribution and access to resources, services, and positions. Rather than providing equal access to all segments of the population, bureaucrats and politicians typically serve their own ethnic communities[41]. This is well illustrated by the private sector who observe that in doing business with the county government and in the recruitment of county government officers the Borana community is favored, and their leaders dominate key county government positions. These practices exacerbate inequality

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[34] FGD with elders, Marsabit, Kenya, 27 September 2022.

[35] FGD with youth, Sessi, Moyale, Kenya, 24 September 2022.

[36] Ubah Hassan, Emmie Auma, Thomas Nyagah, Bonita Ayuko and Kathryn Achilles, 'Saferworld briefing: Marsabit County Conflict Analysis,' June 2015, https://www.saferworld.org.uk/downloads/pubdocs/marsabit-conflict-analysis.pdf (accessed 20 March 2023)

[37] Ibid.

[38] 'KDF sent to Northern Kenya,' The Star, 7 December 2013.

[39] Ubah Hassan, Emmie Auma, Thomas Nyagah, Bonita Ayuko and Kathryn Achilles, 'Northern Kenya Conflict Assessment,' 2004, https://www.saferworld.org.uk/downloads/pubdocs/marsabit-conflict-analysis.pdf (accessed 14 January 2023)

[40] FGD with Women, Moyale, Kenya, 26 August 2022

[41] FGD with youth, Moyale, Kenya, 30 August 2022.

between ethnic groups in the county, further marginalizing minority ethnic communities. Such practices can also lead to increased frustration and aversion, not only between ethnic groups, but also among marginalized ethnic groups, towards the county government, which is seen to benefit some over others[42].

The primary actors in these conflicts are political elites and village elders who are the decision-making organs within the communities[43]. They are involved in the mobilization of armed militias, and their respective ethnic groups against others. Other actors include less powerful groups mobilized strategically to challenge the Borana dominance. For example, several movements were previously formed by the minority teachers during the local Kenya National Union of Teacher's elections (KNUT) to block Borana teachers from winning elective positions. This strategy succeeded in checking Borana supremacy among the teachers. In the 2013 general elections, politicians replicated this strategy and formed the Rendille, Gabra, Burji and other small tribes (REGABU)[44] alliance and won all the political seats in the county except for the Saku and Moyale parliamentary seats which were taken by Borana.

The general elections and voting alliances immediately lead to tensions and conflict in Marsabit County[45]. For example, in the 2013 general election, in Badassa and Songa, the situation was volatile, affecting the Gabra, Rendille, and Borana communities, in particular. The road between Badassa village and Marsabit town, and around Mount Marsabit was impassable[46]. While the tensions were ostensibly about access to grazing space and water, the situation was aggravated by local ethno-political alliances. Political incitement was behind the outbreak of violence, which lasted until February 2014[47]. At least 23 people were reported to have been killed, 100 homes destroyed, and 8,521 households displaced[48]. Particularly affected were Marsabit town, Butiye, Moyale central, Heilu, and Funanyata.

Similarly, the Borana zone has experienced political conflicts over the years. Among the most common manifestations of such conflicts are the activities of the OLF, which was established in 1973 to promote the self-determination of the Oromo. In so doing, the OLF attacks Ethiopian government targets, including security forces and infrastructure. In turn, the Ethiopian security forces counterattack, often resulting in human rights violations, including extrajudicial killings, torture, and arbitrary detentions[49].

Moreover, a section of the youth in Moyale town in Ethiopia occasionally get involved in the politics of Marsabit County in Kenya. During a FGD in in Moyale, Ethiopia, a cross-section of the youth revealed that they have been paid a number of times to help in voting on the Kenyan side during elections, including in the recent 2022 general election[50]. Competing politicians facilitate the youth's possession of Kenyan identification documents and voting cards and they are obligated to vote for them during election days. This causes tension and conflict among different groups since they are known to each other, and the fellow youth from Kenya especially from Sessi are able to identify them[51].

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[42] Ibid.

[43] FGD with leaders, Moyale, Kenya, 29 August 2022.

[44] The REGABU alliance was originally formed by teachers from minority communities during the local KNUT elections to block Borana teachers from winning elective positions.

[45] The Star, supra n 38.

[46] Ibid.

[47] Interview with Deputy County Commander, Moyale, Kenya, 17 August 2022.

[48]. Ubah et.al., supra n 39.

[49] Ibid.

[50] FGD with youth, Moyale, Ethiopia, 23 September 2022.

[51] FGD with Youth, Sessi, Kenya, 26 August 2022.

3.2.3. NATURAL RESOURCE CONFLICTS

Besides politics, conflicts in the Moyale cross-border cluster are often linked to competition for resources, including pasture, water, and land. The different ethnic groups inhabiting the Moyale borderlands have a history of conflicts that are often fueled by competition for resources, and that build on the historical tensions between different ethnic groups. This situation has been made worse by environmental degradation due to overgrazing and the effects of climate change.

As the main economic activity for Moyale borderland communities, pastoralism makes competition over control and access to natural resources persistent conflict triggers among them[52]. Owing to the climate-change induced depletion of rangeland resources, pastoralists have increasingly expanded the size of the territory where they graze their cattle, regardless of borders, accentuating pressure on pasture and water.

Accordingly, FGD participants reported conflict occurrences at watering points, especially during droughts, and around shallow wells located in border areas of different ethnic groups[53]. In Marsabit County, natural resource conflicts are common among the Borana, Gabra, Rendille, and Somali communities. The conflicts are also enabled by the government's inaction or errors of omission. For instance, the Kenya government gazettes locations and sub-locations without making thorough consultations with the local clans within Moyale sub-county and locations. This has always resulted in skirmishes between the Borana and the Gabra in Somare location, and Garre and Marsabit County Government at Sessi and Yaballo in Moyale sub-county.

Moreover, there has been an increasing trend of cattle rustling and banditry among the Borana and Gabra youth[54]. The dwindling livelihoods and lack of alternative opportunities drive youth into these practices. The easy access to illicit firearms also makes this practice more lethal than its traditional forms[55].

Between October 2021 and June 2022, over 163,000 people were displaced because of drought in the Borana zone of Ethiopia[56]. In such cases of localized drought, herders respond by moving with their animals to wetter areas, thus causing conflicts among Borana and Somali communities[57]. Existing tensions might be further inflamed due to increased competition over scarce grazing lands and water. Discussions with an elderly informant in Miyo mentioned that Borana youths in Hadhersa and Qorati were provoking the neighboring Degodia Somalis who had been allocated the best grazing range regions[58], and people belonging to the Hameri reportedly killed 26 Borana herders in Teltelle in retaliation for an earlier Borana incursion into Hameri territory[59]. The Borana went there in search of dry season pasture in order to cope with the stress in their usual grazing domain.

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[52] FGD with elders, Yaballo, Ethiopia, 21 September 2022.

[53] FGD with women, Yaballo, Kenya 27 August 2022.

[54] FGD with Youth, Marsabit, Kenya, 11 September 2022.

[55] Manasseh Wepundi, Eliud Nthiga, Eliud Kabuu, Ryan Murray and Ann del Frate, 'Availability of Small Arms and Percentions of Security in Kenya,' June 2022, https://www.smallarmssurvey.org/resource/availability-small-arms-and-perceptions-security-kenya-assessment-special-report-16 (accessed 17 April 2023).

[56] UN OCHA, 'Humanitarian Response Plan Ethiopia: Mid year Review Humanitarian Programme Cycle 2022 OCHA 08/09/2022,' November 2022, https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/ethiopia-humanitarian-response-plan-mid-year-review-november-2022 (accessed 23 February 2022).

[57] FGD with village elders, Miyo, Ethiopia, 8 September 2022.

[58] Interview with community elder, Miyo, Ethiopia, 12 September 2022.

[59] Interview with community elder, Hemer, Ethiopia, 12 September 2022.

Furthermore, land disputes, especially for business spaces in the border towns, also result in violent conflicts. Observations made during field work reveal that Moyale town is congested on both the Kenyan and Ethiopian sides of the cross-border cluster. With the business opportunities provided by the population living in the border, everyone is competing for space, and this causes conflict among the many businessmen who are flocking Moyale town in the pursuit of business opportunities.

3.2.4. VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Violent extremism has been on the increase in some parts of the Moyale cluster. Some of the groups engaged in violent extremism include a section of the OLF and Al-Shabaab[60]. For instance, in January 2022, a group of young armed men (militia) suspected to be members of the OLF attacked a police station in Sessi (Moyale), resulting in the death of several police officers[61]. Discussions with elders in FGDs reveal that there are threats of Al-shabaab attacks in the Moyale cross-border areas, with increased fear of radicalization of local youth. In Marsabit, a Muslim cleric was detained on January 16, 2018 for alleged links to Al-shabaab[62].

The high rate of unemployment among the youth contributes to their radicalization and extremism. According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), 'radicalization is a process by which an individual or a group comes to adopt increasingly extreme political, social, or religious ideals and aspirations that reject and/or undermine acceptable mainstream social norms and values'[63]. Most of the youths interviewed indicated that they are unemployed and they, therefore, have no choice but to craft their own ways of survival, which might involve stealing and joining militant groups who are ready to welcome them[64]. Similarly, FGDs with a section of the youth revealed that violent extremism has its roots in economic deprivation. One youth in Magado in the Borana zone in Ethiopia stated thus:

> *"The Federal Government of Ethiopia does not treat us well, we feel we are marginalized, and we have no other way to air our grievances, we have no option but to join Oromo Liberation Front to fight for our rights."*[65]

It is important to note that these conflict types are often interconnected, with one type of conflict leading to or exacerbating another type of conflict in the region. As such, they should not be viewed as stand-alone but rather be treated as jointed.

3.2.5. CONFLICT TRENDS

Conflict trends refer to the patterns and changes in the occurrence and dynamics of conflicts over time, including the actors involved, the types and causes, the intensity and frequency of violence, and the strategies used by conflicting parties[66]. Conflict trends can help to identify emerging issues, track the effectiveness of interventions, and inform policy and programming decisions. As has been discussed,

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[60] Njambi and Misiani, supra n 25 at 3.

[61] Interview with Deputy County Commander, Moyale, Kenya.17 August 2022.

[62] Alphone Mung'ahu, 'Marsabit Cleric to be Held 30 Days for Probe into al Shabaab Links,' *The Star*, 16 August 2022.

[63] Ozonnia Ojielo and Simon Ridley, 'Radicalization in Africa: Some Initiatives,' UNDP, 2015, https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/migration/africa/Radicalization-in-Africa---summary-consultation-report---Draft-Final-Oct.pdf (accessed 18 January 2023)

[64] FGD with youth, Moyale Kenya, Moyale Ethiopia 28 August 2022.

[65] FGD with youth, Magado, Ethiopia, 7 September 2022.

[66] Reliefweb, 'Moyale Conflict Joint Assessment Report – Assessment period: 14-12-2013 to 16-1--2013,' May 2014, http://reliefweb.int/report/kenya/moyale-conflict-joint-assessment-report. (accessed 7 January 2023)

the causes of various conflicts in the Moyale cluster are multiple, interconnected, and exert influence over one another during the conflict period.

While the resource and political conflicts in the cluster have often involved violent confrontations, the proliferation of small arms and light weapons has exacerbated them[67]. The human costs of inter-communal conflict have risen especially in Moyale, Sessi, Yaballo, Somare in Marsabit County, and Moyale, Hemer, Tertele, and Yabello in the Borana zone, owing to expanded access to and use of more advanced weapons such as the AK47 and other automatic weapons, as well as grenades and rocket propelled grenades (RPGs)[68]. This has reshaped the dynamics of conflict, and significantly increased the magnitude of fatalities.

A case in point is the July 2012 conflict between the Garre and the Borana in Somare[69], and the 2013 conflict between the Gabra and the Borana in Moyale[70], where protagonists used such sophisticated weapons. Consequently, the conflicts escalated beyond the capacity of local security forces. For instance, the 2013 fighting between the Borana and Gabra only stopped owing to the deployment of the Kenya Defense Forces (KDF) via the use of air power[71]. The recent Borana-Garri and Gabra-Borana conflicts have involved large-scale mobilization of armed men who were wearing military fatigues that gave them the appearance of a professional state army, which was not common in the past[72]. Since 2012, fighters in inter-communal conflicts in Moyale have donned military fatigues, including in both the July 2012 Borana-Garri conflict in Moyale-Ethiopia and the July-December 2013 conflict between Gabra and Borana in Moyale-Kenya[73]. Some claim that fighters were not Garri residing in Moyale, but trained mercenaries hired by the Garri[74].

Conflicts and insecurity cause negative impacts such as loss of lives, physical injuries and mental trauma, disruption of trade, forced displacement of populations, disruption of education, shutting down of local businesses and jeopardizing agro-pastoral farming, thus slowing down economic activities. For example, in December 2018, in Moyale-Ethiopia, approximately 20 lives were lost and over 60 people were injured due to ethnic clashes[75]. In the same month, a shooting was witnessed in Bekele Molla Hotel that claimed the lives of dozens of civilians[76].

Overall, the contraction of socio-economic linkages is both a cause and effect of prolonged and unabated conflict in the Moyale cross-border cluster. Also, in border management, questions arise with regards to the Kenyan and Ethiopian governments' abilities to control immigration, excise and customs, and regulate the influx of goods and people across the borders[77]. Such governance failures lead to fear and suspicion amongst local communities. For example, in Moyale town (Ethiopia), it has become problematic for the Garre or Borana to cross to the other side of the main road (the road having emerged as the *de facto* boundary between the two communities) for fear of attack by the other group, which was

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[67] Clemens Greiner, *Guns, Land, and Votes: Cattle Rustling and the Politics of Boundary (Re) Making in Northern Kenya*. (Oxcord: Oxford University Press, 2013).

[68] Interpeace and National Cohesion and Integration Commission, 'Marsabit County Rapid Conflict Assessment,' 2017, https://www.interpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Marsabit-Report.pdf (accessed 16 January 2023).

[69] Interview with Deputy County Commander, Moyale, Kenya, 17 August 2022.

[70] Ibid.

[71] The Star, supra n 38.

[72] Interview with Deputy County Commander, Moyale, Kenya, 17 August 2022.

[73] Ibid.

[74] FGD with community elders, Sessi, Kenya, 14 September 2022.

[75] Interview with inspector, Ethiopia Federal Police, Moyale, Ethiopia, 13 September 2022.

[76] Ibid.

[77] Ibid

not the case before 1991[78]. Though Moyale is a busy market for both informal and formal trade, such market operations can only occur in the absence of conflict. In the event of inter-communal conflicts, markets are either relocated, closed, or rendered inaccessible and interrupted[79].

More benign trade exchanges among communities have been declining in the past few years due to the prevalence of tension in the cross-border area[80]. The persistence of inter-communal conflict has reduced cooperative and social relationships that had existed for a long period of time.

Additionally, the Borana, Gabra, Garre, and other communities in the borderlands are separated by state boundaries yet they are the same ethnic groups. The populations are largely pastoralists, and their movement transcends national and international boundaries. These inter-regional and cross-border movements, at times, lead to conflicts over water and pasture, cattle rustling, and territorial disputes[81]. As a result, a large number of households are displaced from their original settlements, and their everyday livelihoods disrupted.

As such, Moyale experiences more permanent migrations driven by war, population growth, economic factors and the complex interplay of ecology, politics, and ethnicity. Due to relative security on the Ethiopian side of the border, different ethnic groups spend the day in Kenya and go to spend the night in Ethiopia where security is assured[82]. Nonetheless, migration and displacement are viewed as new causes of insecurity, hence the resistance from states to cross-border movements[83]. Another challenge with migration through the Moyale border is human trafficking into Kenya[84]. Although many migrants travel using legal means, irregular migration has become a worrying phenomenon and is contributing to regional insecurity[85].

3.2.6. DIFFERENTIAL IMPACTS OF CONFLICTS ON WOMEN, MEN, GIRLS, AND BOYS

The impacts of conflict in the Moyale cluster are varied and far reaching, with varied effects on men women, boys, girls, and other traditionally marginalized groups. Generally, women and girls are more likely to be affected by violence, particularly in inter-communal clashes.

For example, during instances of violence, women and girls form the majority of the displaced populations, with such displacements further exposing them to gender-based violence in areas where they seek refuge. At the same time, in the early stages of conflict, women and girls are exposed to insecurity, particularly in instances where their men leave home to either protect them or raid/retaliate in instances of attacks. During raids, women and girls are forced to flee their homes while in the later stages, they face the challenge of returning to their homes and rebuilding their livelihoods.

However, the breakdown of family structures in times of conflicts might present opportunities for women to increase their power position at the household level. Men often return to a damaged community where the economy has been destroyed and unemployment rates are high. Women have

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[78] Ibid.

[79] Interview with members of Chamber of Commerce, Moyale, Kenya, 17 September 2022.

[80] Interview with Inspector, Ethiopia Federal Police, Moyale, Ethiopia, 13 September 2022.

[81] Jonathan Goodhand, 'The Centrality of Margins: The Political Economy of Conflict and Development in Borderlands,' September 2018, http://www.borderlandsasia.org/uploads/1579261490_The%20Centrality%20of%20the%20Margins.pdf (accessed 18 April 2023).

[82] Interview with inspector, Ethiopia Federal Police, Moyale, Ethiopia, 13 September 2022.

[83] Benedict Korf and Timothy Rayemaekers. *Violence on the Margins: States, Conflict, and Borderlands* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013).

[84] Interview with Deputy County Commander, Moyale, Kenya, 17 August 2022.

[85] Ibid.

often, in the absence of their husbands, been the decision-makers in the household and have been responsible for providing for their families.

Nonetheless, some women are confronted with husbands who expect to return to the old division of roles, and they often have to give up the power they gained within the local context[86]. Conversely, it might be difficult for some men to become providers again as a result of the changed economic situation, where women have been independently trying to survive.

Despite the fact that women and the youth (both girls and boys) play key roles in society, the traditional, cultural, societal, and community perceptions of gender roles do not allow their effective participation in planning and decision-making in key development issues in their communities, including conflict and security matters. However, the traditional perception of women in conflict and post-conflict situations as just being victims is changing. Today, many women play an active role in conflict situations.

3.2.7. WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION

The formal role of women (both individually and collectively through groups and local community-based organizations) in conflict resolution and peace-building is slowly being accepted and recognized. Traditionally, women were reported to interact with and spread peace messages through songs and dance in the course of their daily chores (fetching firewood and water and in the market), through their social networks (including merry-go round groups), and by virtue of intermarriages that facilitate dialogue, mediation, and reconciliation among ethnic groups[87]. Thus, based on their social and cultural roles, women have many opportunities and strong platforms for building peace.

Political institutions in conflict and non-conflict societies tend to perpetuate an exclusionary attitude and culture toward women[88]. As a result, relatively few women become involved in formal peace processes during and after conflict[89]. Different genders are likely to make a different contribution to the peace processes, and their increased participation may generate wider public support for peace accords. Conflict can create opportunities for women to play an increased role in political decision-making. Violence against 'political' women is common during all phases of conflict, and is a key factor deterring women from participating in active public life[90]. Because of this, women's human rights defenders may be vulnerable to abuse and exploitation.

Women participants in the focus groups across the Moyale cluster identified several formal and informal mechanisms when referring to their role in preventing or resolving conflicts in their communities. As they stated, women are critical sensors of conflicts because of their different roles in society. They have different experiences, priorities, and perspectives on conflict, and establish or use existing structures to detect threats to peace. This can be seen in the way women and girls play a key role in early warning

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[86] FGD with Women, Yaballo, Ethiopia,16 September 2022.

[87] FGD with women, Somare, Kenya, 17 August 2022.

[88] Tsjeard Bouta, Georg Frerks and Ian Bannon, *Gender, conflict and development* (Washington DC: The World Bank, 2005), xxi.

[89] Ibid.

[90] Ibid.

system (EWS) in Moyale[91]. Here, the women noted that they have the ability to detect signs of looming conflicts in the society.

Several women-led organizations have emerged in the Moyale cluster to promote peace, including the Marsabit Women Advocacy Development Organization (MWADO) and the Horn of Africa Development Initiatives (HODI). The women's organizations partner with local CSOs such as Community Initiative Facilitation and Assistance (CIFA) and Strategies for Northern Development (SND) to support cross-border peace and cohesion activities.

3.2.8. PEACE-BUILDING IN THE MOYALE CLUSTER

Many actors are involved in conflict resolution and peace-building in the Moyale cross-border region. These include both formal and informal institutions that operate at local, national, regional, and international levels.

3.2.9. LOCAL CAPACITIES FOR PEACE

Local conflict resolution mechanisms in Marsabit County and the Borana zone play a significant role in maintaining peace in the region. They are rooted within the communities and understand the local situation better. They support the establishment and maintenance of peaceful coexistence among the communities and are normally the first line of intervention when disagreements occur. Some of the key local capacities for peace in the Moyale cross-border region include:

- **Councils of elders:** Each community in the Moyale cross-border cluster has tribal/clan elders who play a critical role in maintaining peace and resolving inter-communal conflicts in the region. They rely on customary laws and norms to provide solutions that are generally acceptable to both parties[92]. However, the role and impact of these traditional mechanisms continue to be undermined by formal institutions such as the chiefs, ward or *woreda* administrators, and local elected leaders.

- **Women-led initiatives:** Women in the Moyale cross-border region have demonstrated their capacity to act as agents of peace by participating in peace initiatives at the community level. They have played a critical role in bringing together warring factions and promoting reconciliation. For example, individual women such as Sabdio Karayu, Nuria Gollo, and Qabale Duba have rallied other women from the Borana and Gabra communities to get involved in peace-building efforts.

- **Youth-led initiatives:** These have also emerged as an important capacity for peace in the Moyale borderland. Discussions with the youth across the cross-border cluster reveal that many young people have taken up the mantle of peace-building by forming peace clubs and other initiatives. These groups provide a platform for youth to engage in peace-building activities and dialogue with their peers from different communities. For example, the Moyale Peace Club, which was formed in 2015, has been involved in peace-building activities such as conflict resolution, advocacy for peace, and sensitization of youth on the dangers of violence.

- **Local civil society organizations (CSOs) and NGOs:** These non-state actors provide a platform for dialogue and mediation. They also work towards addressing the root causes of conflict by advocating for policy changes that address inequalities and injustices. These actors include: the

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[91] FGDs with women, Sessi, Moyale- Kenya, 19 September 2022.
[92] FGD with elders in Somare, Kenya, 29 August 2022.

Pastoralist Community Initiative Development and Assistance (PACIDA), the Resilience and Economic Growth in Arid Lands (REGAL), the Pastoralist Girls Initiative (PGI) in Marsabit County, and the African Development Solutions (ADESO). In the Borana zone, the CSOs include the Oromia Pastoralist Association (OPA), Consortium of Ethiopian Human Rights Organizations (CEHRO), Center for Advancement of Rights and Democracy (CARD), East African Initiative for Change (I4C), Lawyers for Human Rights, Setaweet Movement, Editors Guild of Ethiopia, Association of Human Rights in Ethiopia, International Revival Movement Center for National and Regional Integration Studies (CeNRIS), Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA), Ethiopian Human Rights Defenders Center, TIMRAN, and the Network of Ethiopian Women Associations (NEWA). Key support provided by these CSOs and NGOs includes capacity building in conflict resolution/peace-building, facilitation of cross-border peace and reconciliation meetings, small arms and light weapons control, community policing, and natural resource management.

▪ **Faith-based organizations (FBOs):** A number of religious leaders and FBOs are active in the peace-building space in the larger Marsabit County. Some of the notable names are Bishop Qampicha Wario and Bishop Kihara. The Marsabit Inter-Faith Council, which brings together all religious organizations is also quite active, while the Catholic Diocese of Marsabit which is present in most locations is also visible in peace-building[93].

In the Borana zone, the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, the Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (EOC-DICAC), the Ethiopian Evangelical Church, Mekane Yesus Peace Office (EECMY-PO), the Inter-Religious Council of Ethiopia (IRCE), and Ethiopian Muslims Relief and Development Association (EMRDA) are working to promote peace and social cohesion.

▪ **Traditional and social media:** Conflict remains one of the main sources of news stories for the media. This is because the media is interested in the events and happenings that make news. Media plays a critical role in conflict resolution, peace-building, and social cohesion in the Moyale cross-border region. In the past, the media has been accused of sensational reporting and incitement, which escalates volatile conflict situations[94]. However, the media has also been utilized to promote a peaceful environment and build communities that have undergone violent conflicts.

The media, especially mass and social media, are powerful tools of communication that can set the agenda for the public. They can repress as well as liberate, unite as well as fragment society, promote as well as hold back change. The media is responsible for informing the public about happenings, but the way in which they discharge their duties can have a profound influence on the audience.

Peace-builders have utilized the power of local media to preach peace, mobilize local resources to respond to incidents of violent conflicts, and inform the public of escalation and violence while urging the public to remain calm during tribal conflicts[95]. Further, the media can promote social cohesion and integration by avoiding publication or broadcasting content that borders on hate messages and rumors. Media practitioners can engage in responsible and professional journalism that is objective, accurate, and fair to all stakeholders. They can also focus more on developmental reporting while highlighting positive trends. The media can also be used to promote the role of local opinion leaders in conflict resolutions to achieve community cohesion.

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[93] Interview with bishop, Catholic Diocese of Marsabit, Moyale, Kenya, 21 September 2022.
[94] Ibid.
[95] Ibid

Study participants revealed that local media has been utilized in the Moyale cross-border region to promote peace-building and social cohesion. For example, radio stations such as Radio Jigjiga and Moyale FM have aired peace-building programs that promote peace, unity, and reconciliation between different ethnic groups. These programs provide a platform for local communities to discuss their challenges, share their experiences, and come up with practical solutions for peace-building. Additionally, the European Union (EU)-funded "Building Resilience through Dialogue and Development"[96] project has utilized local media to promote peace-building initiatives, such as through the establishment of community dialogue platforms, which bring together different ethnic groups to discuss their challenges and come up with practical solutions for peace-building.

In addition, social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter have been used to promote peace-building and social cohesion in the Moyale cross-border region. For instance, the Moyale Peace Caravan Facebook page has been used to promote peace and unity between different ethnic groups in the region. The page provides a platform for local communities to share their experiences and come up with practical solutions for peace-building.

3.2.10. NATIONAL CAPACITIES FOR PEACE

In Kenya, the importance of traditional conflict resolution mechanisms has been given recognition by Article 159 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. The Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, through the County Commissioner's offices in Marsabit and the Deputy County Commissioner's office in Moyale sub-county, coordinate and support maintenance of law and order and peace-building efforts. They organize joint peace *barazas* (meetings) in partnership with the county government and non-state actors in key locations across the county. Additionally, the Kenya police undertakes regular patrols along the Marsabit–Moyale highway to ensure bandits do not disrupt transportation[97].

Moreover, the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) is mandated to promote and facilitate harmony, peaceful coexistence, equal opportunity, and good relations among individuals of various racial and ethnic upbringing in Kenya and provide advice to the government accordingly[98]. The NCIC has come up with a number of initiatives such as 'the road to cohesion' and the UWIANO platform to promote peace in the county[99]. In Marsabit County, the NCIC has rallied a number of stakeholders, including national government agencies, the county government, CSOs and NGOs such as Interpeace and the Kenya Red Cross, and political and religious leaders to promote peaceful coexistence.

Further, in Marsabit County, the District Peace Committees (DPCs) and the County Steering Group (CSG) exist. Their mandate is to enhance peace and strengthen community resilience by preventing conflict and promoting sustainable peace. The Marsabit County Government has also established the Department for Peace and Social Cohesion that helps to coordinate conflict resolution and peace-

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[96] European Union, 'Emergency EU Trust Fund for Africa Report,' 2018, https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/thematic/strengthening-resilience_en/pdf (accessed 13 January 2023)

[97] Interview with County Commander of Police, Moyale, Kenya, 18 September 2022.

[98] National Cohesion and Integration Commission, 'National Cohesion and Integration Commission Strategic Plan,' 2023, https://cohesion.or.ke/index.php/media-center/latest-news/369-national-cohesion-and-integration-commission-strategic-plan (accessed 14 December 2022)

[99] National Cohesion and Integration Commission, 'Peace Actors,' 2023, https://cohesion.or.ke/index.php/partners/15-partners/212-peace-actors (accessed 14 December 2022)

building efforts at the county, sub-county, ward, and village levels[100]. However, the study established that the institutions do not function optimally due to lack of funding from the county government owing to late disbursement of funds from the national government, and low prioritization, meaning they have little influence, particularly in the rural areas[101].

The Marsabit Peace Restoration Committee (also known as the Kaparo council of elders), and *wazee* 35 (35 elders) are also peace actors. These two committees were appointed by the former President of Kenya, Uhuru Kenyatta, in 2014 following the violence from late 2013 to early 2014 and 2017, respectively[102]. The committees are made up of elders from all conflicting communities in Moyale sub-county, and are mandated to identify effective mechanisms of bringing peace to the affected areas. The committees have played a significant role in negotiating and facilitating the return of stolen livestock from both the Gabra and Borana communities. As a result, 113 camels and six cattle were returned to the Gabra and Borana, respectively[103].

In the Borana zone, the *woreda* administration charter under the regional government gives the administrator powers and functions to provide social services and promote peace-building[104]. Through this charter, the *woreda* administrator has formed peace committees in key locations composed of representatives from all the major ethnic groups such as the Borana, Gabra, and Garre. These committees cascade to local levels and comprise of elders, women, youth, religious leaders, and government officials[105]. In spite of their existence, these peace-building structures are not adequately facilitated or supported to contribute to conflict resolution and peace-building proactively and effectively.

In the Borana zone, the Ministry of Peace (MoP), the Ministry of Women, Children and Youth (MoWCY), the Oromia Bureau of Women, Children and Youth Affairs (BoWCY), the Ethiopian Broadcasting Authority (EBA), the Ethiopian Reconciliation Commission, and CSOs, including the Inter-Religious Council of Ethiopia and Peace and Development Center, and community groups are engaged in peace-building and social cohesion[106]. At the regional level, regional presidents' offices, regional security and administration bureaus, women, children, and youth affairs bureaus, education bureaus, regional disaster prevention and preparedness bureau (DPPB), regional durable solutions working groups (DSWGs), and traditional and youth leaders, as well as religious leaders are well involved in peace building[107].

3.2.11. REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL PEACE ACTORS

At the regional level, the Cross-Border Joint Peace Committee is a Kenya-Ethiopia government initiative that is domiciled at Moyale town in Kenya. The committee was established on December 7,

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[100] County Government of Marsabit, supra n 19.

[101] Pact Kenya, 'USAID Kenya and East Africa: Peace III Progress Report, April 2017, https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00MWP4.pdf (accessed 18 February 2023)

[102] Ibid.

[103] Ibid.

[104] Kumssa Asfaw, 'Strategy to Prevent Violent Conflicts and Fragility in the Cross-Border Areas of Ethiopia and Kenya,' *Journal of Social and Political Sciences*, 2 (2) (2019): 413-428.

[105] Ibid.

[106] Edwine Ochieng Okul and Fekadu Bayene., Final Project Evaluation Report: The United Nations Peace-building Fund Project Inclusive Governance and Conflict Management Support to Ethiopia,' March 2022, https://www.un.org/peace-building/sites/www.un.org.peace-building/files/documents/pbf_irf-271_final_report-pbf_evaluation_-100521.pdf. (Accessed 21 February 2023.

[107] Ibid.

2015, following agreements between the communities living in the borderlands that the challenges they face know no borders and peace has to prevail to enable peaceful co-existence. The committee draws its membership from the Borana, Gabra, and Garri communities. It works closely with the government security organs across the two administrations' borders, and it is quite active[108].

On December 7, 2015, the governments of Ethiopia and Kenya signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to promote sustainable peace and socio-economic development in the border region[109]. The MOU focused on supporting the implementation of peace-building and prevention of violent conflict initiatives aimed at reducing vulnerability and increasing resilience of cross-border communities affected by conflict[110]. As a result of this MOU, a number of international actors began peace-building and social economic development programs in the cross-border region. These include:

- The PEACE III Project, funded by USAID and implemented by Pact Kenya, between 2015 and 2018[111]. The project supported coordination between cross-border local administration officials by promoting good relations between Kenya and Ethiopia government officials[112]. An example of this coordination support is the NEPAD/IAG facilitated meeting of key government officials including administrators, the Marsabit county administration police commandant, OCPDs from both sides, chiefs, and intelligence officers from both Kenya and Ethiopia. The project also facilitated training for religious leaders from both sides of the cross-border cluster[113].
- UNDP's partnership with the governments of Ethiopia and Kenya and IGAD to implement a cross-border cooperation project between 2018 to 2021 for conflict prevention and peace building in Moyale cluster[114].
- The EU-funded Cross-Border Integrated Programme for Sustainable Peace and Socio-Economic Transformation in Marsabit County in Kenya and the Borana and Dawa zones in Ethiopia[115]. This was part of the EU's regional cross- border program[116].

These projects supported capacity building of local institutions for conflict prevention, early warning systems, peace-building and small arms control, policy development framework, and planning for cross-border peace initiatives. They also supported tangible peace dividends projects on effective natural resource management, as well as climate change mitigation.

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[108] Asfaw, supra n 104.

[109] Reliefweb, 'Kenya and Ethiopia Cross-Border Initiative: A Move Towards Sustainable Peace,' April 2019, https://reliefweb.int/report/kenya/kenya-and-ethiopia-cross-border-initiative-move-towards-sustainable-peace.pdf (accessed 6 January 2023)

[110] Ibid.

[111] Pact Kenya, 'Peace III Program 2018 Annual Report,' 2018, https://www.pactworld.org/peace-annual-report (accessed 16 January 2023)

[112] Ibid.

[113] Republic of Kenya, European Union, Republic of Ethiopia, Intergovernmental Authority on Development and United Nations Development Program, 'Cross-border Cooperation Between Ethiopia and Kenya for Conflict Prevention and Peace-building in Marsabit-Moyale Cluster,' May 2020, https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/managementresponses/keyaction/documents/download/6789.

[114] United Nations Development Program, 'IGAD and UNDP to Collaborate on Cross-Border Development in the Horn of Africa,' August 2022, https://www.undp.org/africa/press-releases/igad-and-undp-collaborate-cross-border-development-horn-africa. (Accessed 15 January 2023).

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[116] United Nations, 'Regional Conference on Sustainable Peace for the Cross-Border Communities of Moyale Report (17 – 18 April 2019)', 2019, https://kenya.un.org/sites/default/files/2019-09/Addis-Conference.pdf. (Accessed 21 January 2023).

3.2.12. KEY CHALLENGES IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND PEACE-BUILDING AT THE MOYALE CROSS-BORDER CLUSTER

While there are significant numbers of initiatives in conflict resolution and peace-building at the Moyale cross-border region, there are still many gaps and challenges with these interventions. The challenges include:

- **Disjointed nature of interventions:** Though coordination structures at international, national, regional, and local levels exist, individual initiatives by different actors are not sufficiently coordinated. Respondents complained of numerous duplications in conflict resolution and peace-building initiatives by different actors.
- **Resource gaps:** The Moyale cross-border cluster covers a vast region that requires significant resources to undertake sufficient and timely surveillance, collection and analysis of early warning data, and early response to incidents of conflict or insecurity. Some of the activities of key local peace committees and security surveillance require predictable financing, which currently is not sufficient.
- **Short-term nature of interventions:** Most of the external support are short term (six months – 1 year), which does not allow for the sustainable adaptation of the benefits of these interventions. Often, local communities are not able to continue with critical processes (dialogue/reconciliation meetings, early warning data collection, analysis, and dissemination etc.,) that are initiated as part of these short-term interventions. Thus, the gains are mostly lost once the projects end.
- **Political incitement and interference:** Some politicians take advantage of the ethnic divisions that underscore the conflicts in the Moyale cross-border cluster to spread animosity for political expediency. As such, some of the agreements reached at local reconciliation meetings are disregarded due to political influence. The lack of accountability by local politicians creates impunity and emboldens criminals to act as they wish because they know that their ethnicities or local politicians will protect them.
- **Failure to sufficiently address underlying causes of conflict:** Most interventions in conflict resolutions do not address underlying causes. These underlying causes include the dwindling rangeland resources, high youth unemployment, local grievances (such as marginalization or discrimination in sharing national/local opportunities) and increasing poverty due to lack of sufficient investment in infrastructure and alternative livelihoods.
- **Mistrust between the locals and security agents:** The historical mistreatment of locals and communal punishment carried out by security agents, such as the military and the police, during security operations to flush out bandits have created mistrust and bad blood between the police and local communities. This makes cooperation between the communities and security agents in intelligence gathering, recovery of stolen livestock, and arrest of criminals difficult.
- **Limited investment in security infrastructure:** This is connected to historical marginalization of the entire northern Kenya where public investments in all socio-economic sectors is quite low. This creates enabling conditions for illegal cross-border trade in firearms, human trafficking, and contraband goods. It also gives opportunities for criminal gangs to operate at will because they know that there are no repercussions for their actions.
- **Limited cooperation between the security agents across the border:** Though Kenya and Ethiopia signed a comprehensive MOU to promote peace and socio-economic development at the border region, local circumstances on each side of the border dictate how security agents operate. For instance, depending on their own interpretation of the security risks, each country imposes curfews and carries out security operations (which sometimes spill over to the other side of the

border) without consultations or concurrence with their counterparts across the border. This affects the communities who live on each side of the border.

3.3. CLIMATE RISK ASSESSMENT

This section of the report presents the climate risk assessment for the Moyale cross-border cluster. These include discussions of the hazards in the cluster, gender and social dimensions of climate vulnerabilities, management of climate risks by traditional and community-led initiatives and those of government and NGOs, and the barriers to climate mitigation and opportunities for change.

3.3.1. HAZARDS AFFECTING THE MOYALE CLUSTER: SUDDEN AND SLOW-ONSET EVENTS

The Moyale cluster is one of the regions that are most vulnerable to climate change in the Horn of Africa. This vulnerability is complex, multidimensional, and a function of several factors, including frequent natural disasters (drought, floods, livestock disease, locust invasions).

Global climate is changing, and so is the Moyale cluster. The Moyale cluster mainly comprises arid and semi-arid lands that receive less than 600 mm of rainfall annually[117]. Given such climatic conditions, pastoralism is the backbone of the economy and employs over 80 per cent of the population[118]. In addition to high levels of poverty, low infrastructure development and poor education indicators (much lower than the national averages of the respective countries), resource scarcity has diminished local capacities for resilience to climate vulnerabilities. High population mobility, including across borders, has been an important resilience factor. Yet, as water and land availability decreases, this pastoral lifestyle contributes to insecurity. The pastoralist communities have increasingly expanded the size of the territory where they graze their cattle, regardless of borders, accentuating pressure on pasture and water[119]. As a result of these dynamics, clashes are rampant among ethnic groups, as well as cattle rustling.

Moreover, drought is a persistent marker of the cluster, leaving many food-insecure and aid dependent. The frequency and severity of drought appears to be on the rise across the cluster. Problems of drought and resource scarcity are further complicated by the ever-increasing human and livestock populations on both sides of the border.

Climate change also increases the risk and intensity of flood events. Intense rainfall and flooding may increase the likelihood of mudslides and landslides, particularly in mountainous areas such as Sessi. As the incidences of extreme rainfall rise, additional soil erosion and water logging of crops is likely to reduce yields, and increase food insecurity. Rising temperatures are also likely to increase the periods of aridity in the northwest regions.

As temperatures rise and droughts are prolonged, water storage capacities are likely be reduced[120]. This may result in significant economic losses, damage to agricultural lands and infrastructure, as well as

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[117] Intergovernmental Authority on Development, 'Downscaling of Climate Information and Sector Advisories at Cluster Levels,' September 2020, https://resilience.igad.int/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/SECCCI-ICPAC_IGAD-Climate-Services-Downscaling-Workshop-Report-FINAL.pdf (accessed 18 April 2023).
[118] Ibid.
[119] Asfaw, supra n 104.
[120] FGD with women in Yaballo, Ethiopia, 16 September 2022.

human casualties[121]. Additionally, land degradation and soil erosion, exacerbated by recurrent floods, negatively impact agricultural productivity, disproportionately affecting the livelihoods of the rural poor[122].

3.3.2. MAIN CAUSES AND DRIVERS OF SUDDEN AND SLOW-ONSET EVENTS

The Moyale cluster is known for unpredictable weather patterns. Flood and drought events are becoming more frequent, with drought cycles occurring every 2–3 years instead of every 5–10 years, as currently being witnessed on both sides of the Ethiopia and Kenya cross-border areas[123]. Additionally, deforestation, watershed degradation, land use changes, urbanization and poor management of settlements have exacerbated the likelihood of, and impact from, floods and droughts in the Moyale cluster. These conditions contribute to water scarcity and pollution, which limit available water for drinking, agriculture, and other uses. A resident of Yaballo in the Borana zone summarized the situation thus:

> *"We fight with our neighbors whenever we go graze to provide water for our animals. This is worse especially during dry seasons. We request the government and other agencies to help us to dig boreholes and to support communities to grow fodder crops for their animals."*[124]

Due to the nomadic nature of the communities living along the border, the main reason forcing people to move is resource scarcity. The seasonal migration of agro-pastoralists is necessitated by the very nature of the ecology that this form of livelihood is adapted to, and thrives in. Ecological uncertainties and the erratic nature of rainfall makes the arid lowlands suitable for an extensive mode of livelihood, such as agro-pastoralism. Thus, seasonal migration is an essential component and the key to the sustenance of this economic system to access grazing lands and water points. Basically, migration patterns of agro-pastoralists are underpinned by the constant need to adjust to local resource dynamics, and for the search for greener pastures.

Further, rapid population growth and changes in climatic conditions cause pressure on the Moyale cluster's ecosystem. This pressure causes increasing agricultural activities, decrease in forest cover, loss in biodiversity, and intensified degradation.

FGD discussants across the Moyale cluster observed that their main source of energy is firewood from trees, which are also used as building materials and timber for furniture-making. Although harvesting of forest products is controlled in Kenya, the forest edge in the country, including Marsabit County, has been receding due to harvesting of trees and clearing for cultivation and expansion for settlements[125]. The deforestation problem is further aggravated by frequent droughts that lower seedling survival rates, overuse of trees and shrubs, and the increasing demand for forest products, due to the increase in human population and sedentarization around the forests.

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[121] Ibid.

[122] Interview with community leader, Somare, Ethiopia 17 September 2022.

[123] Edwine Ochieng Okul. 'Final Evaluation of the Cross–Border Cooperation Between Ethiopia and Kenya for Conflict Prevention and Peace-building in Marsabit-Moyale Cluster,' July 2021, https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/documents/download/19414 (accessed 11 December 2022).

[124] FGD with women, Yaballo, Ethiopia, 16th September 2022.

[125] Simon Levine and Sara Pavanello, 'Rules of the Range: Natural Resources Management in Kenya-Ethiopia Border Areas,' April 2012, http://cdn-odi-production.s3.amazonaws.com/media/documents/7628.pdf (accessed 18 April 2023).

Biodiversity is greatly threatened by a growing human population, which exerts pressure on bio-resources. Moreover, unsustainable patterns of consumption have led to over-harvesting of plant and animal resources. Poor agricultural practices occasion land and resource degradation, while increased generation and production of wastes and pollutants alter or poison habitats[126].

The loss of biological diversity is not only limited to wildlife extinction but also to the loss of genetic diversity which refers to the variation of genes within species. This loss in genetic variability is reducing species' adaptability, reducing their adaptation to various environmental conditions such as climate change, diseases, and pollution, among many other adaptation capabilities.

The Moyale cluster faces other environmental challenges, such as decreased water levels. Human health and survival depend on a clean and reliable supply of fresh drinking water and also for crop production. A number of estimates suggest that 94 percent of global water is salty while only six percent is freshwater[127]. Of the six percent, about 27 percent is in glaciers, and 72 percent in underground storage[128]. Therefore, only one percent is in the atmosphere and in the streams or lakes[129]. Other estimates suggest that fresh water, water with low quantities of salts, makes up only 2.5 percent of water on the planet, of which only 0.5 percent is found in lakes, rivers and wetlands, and surface water[130].

FGDs with community elders from Marsabit County and the Borana zone revealed that most of the rangelands are not utilized because of lack of water for livestock. Across the cluster, water scarcity is a major limiting factor in the construction of livelihoods, and the distribution of wells and boreholes rarely coincides with the availability of grazing resources but with human settlements and security locations. Major problems associated with water in the cluster include lowering of the ground water level and siltation.

3.3.3. HEALTH, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, MOBILITY AND DISPLACEMENT IMPACTS OF THE HAZARDS

Study participants across the Moyale cluster highlighted the impacts of climate change on health, economy, social mobility, and displacement. First, the impact of climate change on rural and urban areas is intimately linked. As the sustainability of rural livelihoods declines and disaster risk increases, it is possible that increased rural to urban migration may occur.

Second, more frequent and extreme droughts, as well as changes in mean temperatures and precipitation levels, cause further stress to these already vulnerable livelihoods in the Moyale cluster. According to a FGD participant from Yabello, Ethiopia, *"The recurrent nature of climate shocks leaves little time for our people to recover, and the few remaining livelihoods and assets are put to test."*[131]

Droughts or delayed onset of rain continue to greatly impact farming communities, resulting in food insecurity in households due to death or stunted growth of crops, and loss of livestock, affecting household economies.

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[126] Ibid.

[127] United Nations Environmental Programme, 'Vital Water Graphics: An Overview of the State of the World's Fresh and Marine Waters,' 2002, http://www.unep.org/dewa/vitalwater/article69.html (Accessed 3 November 2022).

[128] Ibid.

[129] Ibid.

[130] Ibid.

[131] FGD with leaders, Yabello, Ethiopia, 13 September 2022.

Climatic stresses and shocks have also influenced migration across the borderlands. Severe and frequent droughts in the region, as well as conflicts, have caused displacement of the communities who are mainly pastoralist to move in search of pasture and water. Discussions with women in FGDs have revealed that extreme climate conditions such as prolonged droughts and epidemics such as diarrheal diseases and cholera are already affecting many rural communities, and have the potential to undermine coping capacities and spiral these populations into crisis.

3.3.4. GENDERED AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS OF CLIMATE VULNERABILITIES

Climate change is altering the face of risk management, not only through increased extreme weather-related risks and slow-onset events, but also through an increase in societal vulnerabilities including stresses on water availability, agriculture, and ecosystems. Existing gender inequalities and social norms are major factors which play into patterns of climate change vulnerability within rural communities in the Moyale cluster, and are likely to make patterns of inequality more conspicuous.

Women living in the environs of the Moyale cluster play a primary role in ensuring household and national food security through their work with agriculture as well as forests and fisheries[132]. In settings affected both by climate change and conflict, women may face compounded risks, including a heightened risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) due to increasingly lengthy journeys to collect water and firewood[133].

The study revealed that women are more vulnerable than men to the effects of climate change. This is primarily because they constitute the majority of the Moyale cluster's poor, and their livelihoods are more dependent on natural resources that are threatened by climate change. Furthermore, they face social, economic, and political barriers that limit their coping capacities. Women participants in the FGDs unanimously agree to the fact that they are vulnerable because they are highly dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods[134]. This is because they are charged with the responsibility to secure water, food, and fuel for cooking and heating. Second, when coupled with unequal access to resources and to decision-making processes, limited mobility places women in the Moyale cluster in a position where they are disproportionately affected by climate change.

This notwithstanding, women are also effective actors or agents of change in relation to both mitigation and adaptation. They often have a strong body of knowledge and expertise that can be used in climate change mitigation, disaster reduction, and adaptation strategies[135]. Furthermore, women's responsibilities in households and communities as stewards of natural and household resources, position them well to contribute to livelihood strategies adapted to changing environmental realities.

Gendered norms can also lead to risks for different groups of men in contexts affected by climate change. Effects of climate change impact the productivity of livelihoods that are dependent on natural resources, and lead to loss of livelihoods, land, and assets for men[136]. If changing environmental

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[132] FGD with women, Moyale, Kenya, 24 August 2022.

[133] Ibid.

[134] FGD with women, Yaballo, Ethiopia, 13 September 2022; FGD with women in Somare, Ethiopia, 16 September 2022.

[135] FGD with women, Yaballo, Ethiopia, 16 September 2022.

[136] Margaret Alston and Kelly Whittenbury. (eds). *Research, Action and Policy: Addressing the Gendered Impacts of Climate Change* (New York: Springer, 2013).

conditions affect economic conditions and, subsequently, men's ability to act as a provider in a household or community, this can contribute to psychological stress.

3.3.5. MANAGEMENT OF CLIMATE RISKS

Effective climate risk management involves managing the full range of variability and balancing hazard management with efforts to capitalize on opportunities for change and climate risk management. Climate risk management information is central in this process. The study sought to establish the initiatives taken by various actors (communities, governments, and NGOs) to tackle effects of climate change in the Moyale cross-border region.

3.3.6. TRADITIONAL AND COMMUNITY-LED INITIATIVES

Among the main climate risk adaptation measures among the Moyale cross-border communities are traditional coping mechanisms. However, these measures are severely threatened as climate change risks continue to worsen. The custom of pastoralists moving their herds and families in search of pasture makes them better able to respond to increasing climate variability when compared, for example, to sedentary communities. The risk of conflict arises when either the space to move is constricted (e.g., because of changing land use patterns) or when the changes in climate force pastoralists to move beyond their traditional routes or customary and negotiated corridors. This brings them into conflict with other pastoralists.

The impacts of climate-related environmental change occur in specific socio-political contexts. Not all resource competitions turn violent, and violence can be averted or exacerbated by politics, social investment, political economies, and the strength of formal or traditional conflict-resolution mechanisms[137].

Over the years, communities in the Moyale cluster have relied on traditional early warning systems to predict weather patterns and disaster risks, and to adapt to certain climatic conditions. Some of the identified traditional information sources include rain prediction through sacrifices, communal shrine rituals, and reliance on the elders, traditional healers, and medicine men[138].

In recent times, women have formed merry-go-rounds or *chamas* (informal women's table banking) to find solutions to sustain their livelihoods, and even further make them stay on top of climate change. Women also engage in small-scale businesses, such as reselling milk, vegetable sales, and household labor, for sources of income to sustain their families, especially in the busy Moyale border town. According to FGDs with women in Marsabit County and the Borana zone, some popular business activities among them are grocery shops in the border town, beauty parlors and boutiques, value addition of vegetables and pulses, and trade in fresh juices and peanut butter. Enterprises that have been initiated in Moyale border town generate income that is used in food purchases, school fees, purchasing of household items, and for medical expenses.

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[137] Climate and Development Knowledge Network, 'The IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report: What's In It for Africa?' September 2014, https://cdkn.org/wp content/uploads/2014/04/AR5_IPCC_Whats_in_it_for_Africa.pdf (accessed 6 November 2022)
[138] FGD with elders, Yaballo, Kenya, 26th August 2022.

From FGDs with women, elders, and youth, pockets of households in the Moyale borderlands have adopted climate smart agriculture initiatives that involve a landscape management approach to pastoral production system that focuses on increased productivity of livestock systems, integrated soil fertility and sustainable land management, supporting market access and infrastructure for value addition, among others. This approach is supported by local organizations like Pastoralist Community Initiative Development and Assistance (PACIDA) in Kenya and Oromia Pastoralist Organization Ethiopia[139]. These initiatives need to be strengthened to enable communities living in the Moyale borderlands to improve their food production capacity and achieve household food security.

Further, FGDs with a cross section of women, youth, and elders revealed that communities have pursued non-pastoral income-earning activities in both urban and rural environments. These include various forms of wholesale and retail trade (such as selling livestock, milk, hides and skins, honey, and artisan goods etc.), rental property ownership in Moyale town, sales, waged employment (local and non-local, including working as hired herders, farm workers, and migrant laborers), farming (subsistence and commercial), and the gathering and selling of wild products (such as gum Arabic, firewood, or medicinal plants) in the border towns of Moyale and Yaballo. Agro-forestry is also widely cited in the borderland communities because of the much-needed timber for the expanding construction in Moyale town. Discussions with women also reveal that the main source of energy for cooking is the use of LPG. Therefore, key adaptation strategies that were cited by the respondents include:

- Investment in climate-smart agriculture
- Livelihood diversification
- Use of clean green energy resources such as LPG for cooking
- Commercialization of livestock and livestock products
- Strengthening alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and practicing agroforestry

3.3.7. INITIATIVES BY GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Both governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) play a key role in managing climate risks in the Moyale cluster. This study reveals concerted efforts to build the resilience of the borderland communities to manage climate risks.

In 2011, the government of Ethiopia finalized its Climate-Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) strategy, the first of its kind in Africa[140]. The CRGE strategy builds on the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP), the government's ambitious development plan, which sets the aspiration for Ethiopia to reach middle income levels by 2025[141]. As the highest national policy framework, it governs developmental policies, budgets, and government organizations.

The CRGE strategy has been integrated into the second Growth and Transformation Plan for 2015-2020[142]. The strategy describes a new model of development that integrates measures of economic performance, such as GDP growth, infrastructure development, poverty reduction, job creation, and social inclusion, with those of environmental performance, such as improving resilience to climate

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[139] FGD with women, Moyale, Ethiopia, 21 September 2022.

[140] Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, 'Ethiopia's Climate-Resilient Green Economy: Green Economy Strategy,' November 2011, https://www.ldc-climate.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/crge-strategy.pdf (accessed 17 November 2022)

[141] Ibid.

[142] Ibid.

shocks, mitigation of GHG emissions and biodiversity loss, and ensuring access to clean water and energy[143]. Strong economic development and economic inclusion objectives are addressed simultaneously with environmental and social objectives. The green economy strategy that will lead Ethiopia to middle-income status before 2025 requires the promotion of climate resilience.

In addition to the CRGE and the GTP II, there are other climate relevant policies and strategies which include the National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA)[144], the Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs)[145], Climate Resilience Strategy, the Agriculture and Forestry (2015), Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC, 2015)[146], Environmental Policy (1997), the National Energy Policy (1994), the Ethiopian Programme of Adaptation to Climate Change (2010), REDD+ strategy, the National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management, 2013[147], among others. The National Adaptation Plan focuses on agriculture, forestry, health, transport, power, industry, water, and urban sectors, which are identified as most vulnerable. Moyale is one of the vulnerable urban centers, owing to the rising population resulting from the cross-border business opportunities. Within these sectors, 18 adaptation options have been identified for implementation at all levels and across different development sectors, recognizing the considerable diversity in context and vulnerability across Ethiopia's regions (including the Borana zone) and social groups working to combat effects of climate change among communities.

The Ethiopian government is focused on combating recurrent droughts and food insecurity through a proactive and comprehensive approach to disaster risk management (DRM). In 2007, the government created the Disaster Management and Food Security Sector under the Ministry of Agriculture[148], designed and approved a National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Management[149], and a DRM Strategic Program and Investment Framework for government and donor interventions[150]. To further advance the DRM agenda and to support wider development aims, priorities include:

i)   Improving capacity to carry out disaster risk analysis
ii)   Enhancing understanding of disaster risks and related impacts
iii) Developing and strengthening building codes, land-use and urban planning, contingency planning; and
iv)   Establishing risk financing mechanisms.

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[143] Ibid.

[144] NAP Global Network, 'Ethiopia Launches National Adaptation Plan Document,' 24 September 2017, http://napglobalnetwork.org/2017/09/ethiopia-launches-national-adaptation-plan-document. (Accessed 22 November 2022).

[145] Sherman Robinson, Kenneth Strzepek and Raffaello Cervigni, 'The Cost of Adapting to Climate Change in Ethiopia: Sector-wise and Macro-economic Estimates,' ESSP Working Papers 53, 2013, https://www.ifpri.org/publication/cost-adapting-climate-change-ethiopia-sector-wise-and-macro-economic-estimates (accessed 18 April 2023)

[146] World Bank, 'Intended Nationally Determined Contribution,' 2016, http://spappssecext.worldbank.org/sites/indc/PDF_Library/et.pdf (accessed 15 November 2022)

[147] Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, National Redd+ Strategy (2018 - 2030),' June 2018, https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/system/files/documents/Ethiopia%20REDD%20Strategy_June%2025%20%20201 8_0.pdf (accessed 13 December 2022).

[148] Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, 'Food Security Programme 2010-2014,' August 2009, https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/eth144896.pdf (accessed 13 December 2022)

[149] Proclamation 593/2008 (Transfer of Rights and Obligations of Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development Proclamation), https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/eth85160.pdf (accessed 25 January 2023)

[150] International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 'Ethiopia: Country Study Report. How Law and Regulation Supports Disaster Risk Reduction,' April 2013, https://disasterlaw.ifrc.org/sites/default/files/media/disaster_law/2020-09/Ethiopia_Case-Study.pdf (accessed 29 January 2023).

Capacity building support for disaster preparedness and management and post-disaster recovery is also being provided by bilateral partners, including NGOs and the *woreda* administrations at the local level. Integration of DRM criteria into building codes, regulations, and zoning laws is also underway to increase the resilience of education and health infrastructure[151].

For its part, Kenya has served as a leader in addressing climate change issues nationally, and across the region. The country was one of the first in Africa to enact a comprehensive law and policy to guide national and sub-national climate action. The Climate Change Act and the National Climate Change Policy Framework of 2016[152], provide guidance for low-carbon and climate-resilient development. These efforts are reinforced by the country's second national Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), submitted in 2015[153], its nationally determined contributions to the UNFCCC submitted in 2016[154], and its National Adaptation Plan, which was completed in 2016.

Kenya's climate change adaptation strategies focus on the preparation and strengthening of institutional frameworks for responsible environmental management, improved management of climate change effects, and economic development targets[155]. Furthermore, established institutions and mechanisms are in place to monitor the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, to address vulnerabilities which will be exacerbated by climate change, and to strengthen the country's social and economic structures against vulnerability[156].

Kenya is developing a policy and institutional framework to support the country reach its low carbon, climate resilient goals[157]. The government has implemented a number of actions in the National Climate Change Action Plan 2013–2017, including improved drought management and the promotion of renewable energy[158].

The defunct Ministry of Planning and Devolution has included indicators to track progress in mainstreaming climate change in its second *Handbook of National Reporting*[159]. The National Climate Change Council, established in 2016 and housed in the Ministry of Environment and Forestry[160], is responsible for the coordination of climate change actions, including mainstreaming climate change in national and county budgets, plans, and programs.

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[151] Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, 'Ethiopia's Second National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC),' 2015, https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/ethnc2.pdf (accessed 8 February 2023).

[152] Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 68 (Acts No 11), http://kenyalaw.org/kl/fileadmin/pdfdownloads/Acts/ClimateChangeActNo11of2016.pdf (accessed 23 December 2022)

[153] Republic of Kenya, 'Kenya's Nationally Determined Contribution,' July 2015, https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Kenya%20First/Kenya_NDC_20150723.pdf (accessed 27 December 2022)

[154] Republic of Kenya, Kenya National Adaptation Plan 2015-2030', https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents%20NAP/Kenya_NAP_Final.pdf (accessed 19 November 2022)

[155] Republic of Kenya, 'Kenya National Adaptation Plan 2015-2030,' July 2016, https://countytoolkit.devolution.go.ke/resource/kenya-national-adaptation-plan-2015-2030-enhanced-climate-resilience-towards-attainment (accessed 18 November 2022).

[156] Ibid.

[157] Republic of Kenya, 'National Climate Change Action Plan 2018-2022,' 2018, https://www.lse.ac.uk/GranthamInstitute/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/8737.pdf (accessed 29 November 2022).

[158] Republic of Kenya, National Climate Change Action Plan 2013 -2017', 2012, https://cdkn.org/sites/default/files/files/Kenya-Climate-Change-Action-Plan_Executive-Summary.pdf (accessed 29 November 2022).

[159] Republic of Kenya, Second Handbook of National Reporting (Indicators)', 2014, https://monitoring.planning.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/second-handbook-of-reporting-indicators.pdf (accessed 29 November 2022).

[160] Climate Change Act, 2016.

Moreover, the Kenya Meteorological Department, a semi-autonomous government department, is responsible for generating national and sub-national information regarding forecasts, seasonal variability, early warnings, and agro-meteorological bulletins[161]. This information is delivered to the general public and to the Climate Change Council and key government institutions such as the Disaster Risk Management Authority[162].

The drafted Climate Change Framework Policy[163] and a National Policy on Climate Finance[164] are expected to provide guidance on mainstreaming to national departments and county governments[165]. To support climate change adaptation, mitigation, and resilience pathways, the country can access climate financing through the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), which is a national implementing entity for the adaptation fund and accredited by the UNFCCC Green Climate Fund. NEMA has county offices in Marsabit County, working closely with the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) office in the county, and collaborating with the departments of agriculture, and natural resources and climate change at the county level to address issues of climate change.

At county level, through the departments of environment, water and sanitation, the county government has invested in systems that provide climate/weather information to inform decisions of communities and other stakeholders[166]. The county government departments collaborate with national government agencies such as the Kenya Meteorological Department, Water Resources Management Authority, and NDMA. This has helped in establishing, improving, modernizing, and maintaining climate/weather assessment infrastructure, integration of scientific and indigenous knowledge and skills in weather data analysis, packaging and dissemination of downscaled weather information to communities and other stakeholders through various channels, including local radio stations and community *barazas*. This information supports early decision-making on possible flooding or drought disasters resulting from changes in temperatures and precipitation. Even though the systems have been developed at the county headquarters, challenges of resource capacity gaps experienced every year due to lack of timely financing from the national government hinder cascading of information to the grassroots.

Through the departments of environment, water, sanitation, agriculture, livestock, and disaster risk reduction (DRR), the Marsabit County Government has also developed and implemented systems for early warning and response, and ensured preparedness for extreme weather events. This has involved setting up a well-resourced and technically equipped disaster response department, developing effective early warning systems, producing and disseminating of downscaled weather information on extreme weather events through local FM radio stations, public forums and other media, and the preparation of contingency plans to end flooding and drought emergencies, and use of early warning weather

[161] World Bank, 'Climate Information Services Providers in Kenya', February 2016, https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/706021467995075539/pdf/103186-REVISED-PUBLIC-AG-GP-TAP-CIS-Providers-in-Kenya-WEB-02292016.pdf (accessed 16 December 2022).

[162] Republic of Kenya, 'Sessional Paper No. 3 of 2016 on National Climate Change Framework Policy', 2016, https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/migration/ke/0540af2c4328bfbad3dd0f5da6f817f450428f6bb96dc4e2c5d9647085794f93.doc. (Accessed 15 December 2022).

[163] David B. Adegu, 'National Climate Change Framework Policy & Bill,' November 2014, https://thecvf.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Kenya.pdf (accessed 6 December 2022),8.

[164] Republic of Kenya, 'National Climate Change Action Plan 2018-2022', 2021, https://napglobalnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/napgn-en-2022-kenya-NCCAP-2018-2022-Implemantation-Status-Report.pdf. (Accessed 17 December 2022).

[165] Republic of Kenya, 'Sessional Paper No. 3 of 2016 on National Climate Change Framework Policy, https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/migration/ke/0540af2c4328bfbad3dd0f5da6f817f450428f6bb96dc4e2c5d9647085794f93.doc (accessed 6 December 2022).

[166] Interview with Head of Research, Marsabit County Government, Moyale, Kenya, 14 November 2022.

information for decision-making on relocation or evacuation of vulnerable communities, and distribution of emergency supplies including tents, clothing, food items, water and sanitation facilities, and public health services etc.

The county government has also promoted sustainable management and utilization of natural resources such as forests, water, etc. This has involved the development of policy/legal frameworks for responsible natural resource use, which includes integrated natural resource management for various natural resources to ensure equitable access for all in order to reduce or eliminate possible resource conflicts.

The study also acknowledges the existence of relevant policies and institutions on climate mitigation. These institutions, which are both national and county, are also staffed by requisite personnel. However, the study notes that financial and logistical constraints make it difficult for these staff and the institutions to function optimally, hence lack of information at the grassroots level.

3.3.8.   BARRIERS IN ADDRESSING CLIMATE RISKS IN THE MOYALE CLUSTER

The main barriers to addressing climate risks in the Moyale cluster are knowledge gaps and limited investment in climate change and climate change adaptation, respectively. Lack of localized data on future climate trends and extreme weather events is a key barrier. The implementation of effective climate change adaptation measures greatly depends on the ability to predict, detect, and understand long- term local climate behaviors. This, in turn, enables the identification of specific local vulnerabilities and adaptation needs.

Cascading climate change information to local levels remains challenging due to the lack of reliable meteorological data and difficulties in selecting appropriate statistical models. A key challenge in this regard is the limited information available concerning the impacts of past climate-related events (economic, human, and ecological), which can support better responses to future events. Respondents from across the Moyale cluster agree that beyond climate data, information on the socio-economic dimension of climate adaptation is also needed to support decision-making.

There is also lack of knowledge on concrete adaptation measures and solutions available. Vulnerable groups such as women and children in the cluster have limited understanding of climate risks, and their restricted access to resources accentuates their natural vulnerability. For example, most women do not have full access to or control over land, capital, or livestock ownership. Therefore, compared with men, they are less able to implement climate risk management measures, such as agriculture, which could reduce their vulnerability to climatic events. They also have less capacity to seek off-farm income-generation opportunities.

At the same time, there is insufficient information focusing specifically on climate change adaptation measures, as it is still often seen as being part of the same policy field as climate change mitigation.

3.3.9.   OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHANGE

The assessment identifies opportunities for change that can be adopted to enhance the preparedness and capacity of local communities to respond to the impacts of climate change at local levels. Adaptive measures that can help in effectively addressing climate vulnerabilities include:

- Promoting the development of, access to, and use of information and data on projected climate change.
- Promoting understanding of impacts of, and vulnerability to, climate change, current and future climate variability and extreme events, and the implications for sustainable development.
- Promoting the availability of information on the socio-economic aspects of climate change, and improving the integration of socio-economic information into impact and vulnerability assessments.
- Facilitating communication and cooperation among regional governments and relevant organizations, business, civil society, decision-makers, and other stakeholders.
- Promoting research on adaptation options and the development and diffusion of technologies, know-how and practices for adaptation, particularly addressing identified adaptation priorities, and building on lessons learned from current adaptation projects and strategies.
- Promoting understanding and the development and dissemination of measures, and methodologies and tools, including for economic diversification aimed at increasing economic resilience and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, and
- Working with communities to develop acceptable and sustainable disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies.

4. Conclusion and Recommendations

This conflict and climate risk assessment in the Moyale cross-border cluster has revealed a complex web of intertwined factors that contribute to the related challenges and fragility in the cluster. The assessment has also highlighted the significant impact of conflicts on the lives and livelihoods of the people in the borderland region, particularly vulnerable groups such as women and children. The gendered impacts of conflicts, including sexual violence and displacement, are of great concern and require urgent attention from local leaders, policymakers, and development partners.

Despite the challenges faced, this study has also highlighted the capacities for peace and conflict mitigation that exist in the Moyale cross-border cluster, including the efforts of local communities, civil society organizations (CSOs), development partners, and government agencies. In particular, the study emphasizes the critical role of women in peace-building, and highlights the potential of youth as agents of change as promising avenues for sustainable peace in the region.

Similarly in climate mitigation, the study recommends that women should be equally represented in decision-making structures to allow them to contribute their unique and valuable perspectives and expertise on climate change[167]. Women can make substantive contributions through their knowledge and experience on issues related to the management of natural resources. For example, women in leadership positions at national, local, and community levels have demonstrated their capacity to act as agents of peace by participating in peace initiatives and climate change mitigation at the community level. They have played a critical role in bringing together warring factions and promoting reconciliation. For example, individual women such as Sabdio Karayu, Nuria Gollo, and Qabale Duba have rallied other women from the Borana and Gabra communities to get involved in peace-building efforts and climate change mitigation.

Overall, this assessment provides important insights into the complex dynamics of conflict and climate risk in the Moyale cross-border region, and offers key recommendations for local communities, leaders, policymakers, development partners, and other stakeholders working to promote peace and climate resilience in the region. The assessment underscores a need for integrated approaches that address the underlying causes of conflicts and climate risks, and build the capacities for sustainable peace and resilience in the Moyale cross-border region. Such approaches should prioritize the effective involvement of local communities and stakeholders, and the incorporation of gender-sensitive and climate-resilient strategies.

Consequently, the report presents a set of recommendations that aim to guide stakeholders in the Moyale cross-border cluster in their efforts to address conflict and climate risks. The recommendations are designed to be practical and actionable, considering the socio-economic and political realities of the region.

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[167] 52nd session of the Commission on the Status of Women (2008) "Gender perspectives on climate change," Issues paper for interactive expert panel on Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men. http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw52/issuespapers/Gender%20and%20climate%20change%20paper%20final.pdf. (accessed 12 December 2022)

RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1. CONFLICT PREVENTION AND PEACE-BUILDING

a) **Ensure that existing policies are rooted in local realities and gender-responsive**: The study acknowledges that there are a number of policies and strategies on conflict prevention that have been developed. However, there is a need to ensure that these policies are rooted in the local realities of the cross-border context, and that they are gender-responsive. These policies should aim to address the root causes of conflict and promote social cohesion by ensuring the participation of women and marginalized groups in decision-making processes.

b) **Enhancing cross-border cooperation:** Institutional-level cooperation between Kenya and Ethiopia is essential for effectively managing and mitigating conflict and climate risks in the Moyale borderlands. This could include strengthening the joint committees for cross-border conflict resolution and natural resource management. Enhancing collaboration and coordination between organizations working in the Moyale cross-border region could also involve establishing effective communication channels and developing formal structures for collaboration, such as joint planning and coordination mechanisms. Organizations should also work to establish common objectives and indicators to guide their interventions, and to promote joint monitoring and evaluation of their activities.

c) **Ensure women's active participation:** Stakeholders should ensure that women are adequately represented in all decision-making processes and that their voices, needs, and perspectives are integrated into policies and programs. This could be done by creating dedicated platforms for women's participation in conflict resolution and peace-building initiatives. Women peace-builders should be engaged more in roles such as decision-making, participating and speaking in peace forums, working with formal structures, and covering larger areas with their initiatives.

d) **Strengthen local conflict resolution mechanisms:** Local conflict resolution mechanisms such as traditional and community-based systems need to be strengthened and integrated into formal mechanisms to ensure their effectiveness in addressing conflicts in the Moyale cross-border region. This should be done by providing more structured resources to support community-led conflict resolution mechanisms such as community peace committees, community dialogues, and traditional mechanisms.

e) **Support strengthening of early warning systems:** This could involve a range of activities, such as establishing community-based monitoring and reporting mechanisms, setting up formal communication channels between different levels of governance, providing training and resources to local actors, and leveraging technological tools like mobile phone networks and social media platforms. The goal would be to enable timely detection and response to emerging conflicts and climate risks, and to enhance the overall preparedness of the Moyale cross-border region.

f) **Capacity enhancement:** While efforts in capacity building of local communities and other actors exist, they are disjointed, and need to be better targeted, coordinated, and harmonized to avoid duplication and repetition. Conflict sensitivity and gender-responsive training should also target government officials, security personnel, and other stakeholders. This would ensure that they are aware of the impacts of their actions on conflict and that they can take steps to prevent it.

g) **Implement disarmament and demobilization programs with a human face:** A joint approach by the two governments to undertake disarmament and demobilization programs to reduce the proliferation of small arms and light weapons in the region should be done closely with local

communities and leaders to identify and report illicit weapons, and include incentives for surrendering them.

h) **Approach radicalization differently:** The military and security approach to radicalization and terrorism needs to be combined with addressing the push and pull factors such as socio-economic and psychological conditions that drive individuals into these vices. The war against extremism, radicalism and terrorism will not be won by use of brute force only. Inadequate security measures to deter cross-border incursions and the dynamics of ethnic composition in the border areas have also complicated the growing tendency of extremism and terrorism strategies and endeavors. This can be partly blamed on the colonial heritage of these countries, which divided communities into different countries.

i) **Strengthen media engagement:** The media can play a crucial role in promoting social cohesion and conflict resolution in the Moyale cross-border region. Therefore, there is a need to strengthen media engagement by providing training on conflict-sensitive reporting, establishing a code of ethics for reporting on sensitive issues, and supporting journalists to report accurately and in a balanced manner on conflict and climate risks in the region. Existing community radio stations should be supported and others established in areas where there are no radio stations to promote dialogue and disseminate accurate information on conflict and climate risks. These stations could also serve as platforms for community-led initiatives for conflict resolution and climate resilience.

j) **Increase access to justice:** Increasing access to justice in the region, particularly for marginalized groups, will act as a deterrence to criminals, and ensure that local communities have trust in the rule of law. This could be done by providing legal aid, setting up mobile courts, and increasing the capacity of formal justice systems to handle cases.

k) **Address underlying causes of conflict:** Actors in the conflict resolution and peace-building space should consider supporting programs that address the underlying causes of conflict, including political, ethnic, and environmental factors. It is, therefore, important to look beyond the immediate causes of violent conflict and address the root causes, which are poverty, high unemployment, marginalization, high income and social disparity, and perceptions of marginalization/exclusion. In this regard, it is essential to design socio-economic policies that will increase household incomes, create employment opportunities, promote equity, increase access to education and social services, and create sustainable livelihoods for the communities affected by conflicts. Similarly, promotion of mechanisms for equitable access to rangeland resources such as land and water to prevent conflict over natural resources are essential for pastoralists.

4.2. CLIMATE RISK MITIGATION

a) **Develop and implement climate adaptive strategies:** Given the impact of climate risks in the region, there is a need to enhance climate resilience by helping communities and local organizations develop climate-adaptive strategies that consider the gendered and social dimensions of climate vulnerabilities. For example, this could involve providing training and providing resources to communities to implement climate-smart agriculture, fodder production, and hay harvesting and storage, among others. Implementing these recommendations requires collaboration among all stakeholders, including governments, NGOs, and the community, to ensure sustainable and effective outcomes in the region. This can be achieved through strengthening the utilization of local early warning systems for climate hazards in the region. If

implemented properly, these systems would provide early alerts for communities, allowing them to take proactive measures to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

b) **Support development of community risk management plans:** Support communities to prioritize the development of comprehensive risk management plans that integrate conflict and climate risks. This will involve conducting regular assessments of risk exposure, as well as developing and implementing risk reduction strategies that are tailored to the specific needs of the local communities. In addition, support should be provided to communities to invest in early warning systems and contingency planning measures, which will enable them to respond quickly and effectively to emerging risks.

c) **Adopt gender-sensitive and community-based approaches:** This will involve engaging with local communities and ensuring that their interventions are aligned with local needs and priorities. In addition, organizations should aim to build the capacity of local communities to promote the participation of women and other marginalized groups in decision-making processes.

d) **Supporting natural resource management:** Local programs that promote sustainable land management, conservation, and equitable sharing of resources can help reduce conflicts over natural resources. This includes supporting community-based resource management programs that involve local communities in decision-making processes.

e) **Promoting alternative livelihoods:** Climate change and conflict have a significant impact on pastoralism, which is the main economic activity in the Moyale cross-border region. This is forcing many people out of pastoralism, exposing them to vulnerabilities and destitution. Programs that promote alternative livelihoods, such as small and micro enterprises (SMEs) and vocational training, can help reduce vulnerability to climate and conflict risks.

f) **Support development of robust monitoring, reporting, dissemination, and adaptation systems:** There is a need to support local organizations involved in peace-building and climate resilience to invest in the development of robust monitoring, evaluation, reporting, and dissemination and adaptation systems to track the impact of their interventions. This can be achieved by strengthening regular data collection, analysis, and sharing. It requires investing in the development of a comprehensive and reliable information system that captures key conflict and climate risks indicators in the Moyale cross-border region. This could include establishing a network of data collection points, standardizing data collection protocols, and ensuring that data is accessible and usable by a range of stakeholders. It will also include establishing clear indicators and targets, regularly collecting and analyzing data to assess progress towards these targets, and organizing lesson sharing and adaptation sessions with stakeholders. Organizations should also work to build the capacity of local communities to monitor and evaluate their own interventions, and to promote transparency and accountability in their operations.

4.4. KEY AREAS OF PROGRAMMING/POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES

The following areas of programming/potential activities for support are rooted in the locally-owned- and -driven initiatives, and address the differentiated needs and roles of women, youth, and disadvantaged groups in the Moyale cross-border cluster. These programming suggestions include:

a) **Governance and institutional strengthening for conflict resolution and climate resilience:** Specific activities include enhancing the capacity of national and local institutions in the cross-border area to prevent and manage conflicts; review of policies on conflict resolution and climate resilience to align them to local realities; formulation of climate resilience-building policies at the local level; and mainstreaming of climate change action into local development plans.

b) **Investments in locally-led climate action initiatives:** Specific activities include: involving local communities to identify adaptation measures towards the impacts of climate change; building the capacity of local communities to identify and implement climate change adaptation initiatives; and provision of funding for the identified initiatives.

c) **Cross-border initiatives on peace-building and conflict resolution:** Specific activities include: Support the establishment and proper functioning of early warning systems for conflict; community exchange programs to promote peaceful co-existence; promotion and development of alternative sources of livelihoods in the cross-border areas; support to efforts to strengthen cross-border trade associations; and support to organizations involved in cross-border peace initiatives.

d) **Enterprise development to promote peace and cohesion and build climate resilience:** Specific activities include: Provision of funding for the development of small and micro enterprises; promotion of climate-smart agriculture and technologies; and identification and development of value chains based on the predominant local economic activities.

e) **Integrated youth education on livelihood strategies and conflict management:** Specific activities include: development of curriculum for the education of youth on conflict management; sponsorship schemes for youth to join Technical and Vocational Training Institutions (TVETs) to acquire life and livelihood skills; and support to TVETs to improve their curricula and admit more youth in the cross-border areas.

f) **Inclusion of women and girls in conflict prevention and management:** Specific activities include: awareness creation on the role of women and girls in conflict prevention and management; establishment of rehabilitation centers for conflict- and war-affected women and girls; and integration of women and girls into the existing conflict resolution structures.