

SPREAD: Peace & Resilience

Strengthening integrated Peace, REsilience, And Disaster Risk Reduction for cross-border communities in the Karamoja Cluster (SPREAD)



Co-funded by
the European Union



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF DENMARK
Danida

THE PROJECT

'SPREAD: Peace & Resilience' is an EU-funded project designed to prevent and mitigate conflicts, reduce and manage the risks associated with natural disasters, and build resilience within cross-border communities in Ethiopia, Kenya and South Sudan.

The European Union has since 2016 supported peace-initiatives and resilience building projects in the Horn of Africa region. The aim is to address long-standing drivers of conflict, while improving the livelihoods of communities living in close proximities to borders. This project thus forms part of the wider programme 'Peaceful and Resilient Borderlands'.

Through EUR 40 million funding the European Union is targeting three border clusters: (i) Karamoja; (ii) Moyale and (iii) Mandera Triangle.

GOAL

The goal of the project is to enhance effectiveness of conflict prevention and mitigation, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and management and resilience-building in cross-border communities in the border region of the Karamoja Cluster.

OBJECTIVES

- Enhanced capacities of formal and informal cross-border stakeholders in conflict prevention and management and social cohesion building, with particular focus on women.
- Enhanced access to income generating opportunities and shared natural resources for borderlands community members.



CONTEXT

The project is implemented in the borderlands of the Karamoja cluster in Kenya (Turkana), South Sudan (Eastern Equatoria), and Ethiopia (South Omo).

The area is home to pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities dotted on either side of some 8,000 km of border. Most communities share same ethnic roots and language – and are strongly interconnected socio-culturally and economically.

The Karamoja cluster is vulnerable to climate change and prone to severe drought. Consequently, the communities often lack food and livelihood options are limited.

In addition, the area is often associated with conflict, violence, and marginalisation.

MAIN PROJECT INTERVENTIONS

- Capacity strengthening of communities and community groups to promote localised and inclusive initiatives that address cross-border conflict dynamics.
- Facilitating access to sustainable financial services and diversified income portfolio for marginalised cross-border communities.
- Strengthening inclusive and sustainable local and cross-border markets and value chains for agricultural commodities.
- Improving the capacity for cross-border communities on agro-ecology, integrated landscape management, sustainable shared natural resources management and disaster risk mitigation and response.

DATA

- **Timeframe:** 1 February 2024 – 31 January 2027
- **Budget:** €16 million
- **Donors:** European Union (€14M), DANIDA
- **People targeted:** 80,000
- **Location:** South Omo (Ethiopia), Turkana (Kenya), Eastern Equatoria (South Sudan)

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Photo: Mark Nyaroge



APPROACH

The project works through local and national partners and engages a range of people and institutions to ensure broad support – from the individuals at household level to regional government structures, from private sector partners to community-based organisations – and many more.

The project activities are designed to include vulnerable members of the communities to ensure that they are afforded the same opportunities as everyone else – and we make sure that no harm comes to anyone because of our intervention. The project pays special attention to areas of potential conflict – and ensure that activities are carried out in a way that minimizes the risk of conflict or hostilities.

Income generating activities are carried out based on thorough analysis of local markets with a view to creating a market space that can be accessed by all – including women and youth.

POTENTIAL

The area offers various opportunities – livestock trade, agro-ecology, fish trade and value addition – that can all be harnessed for wealth creation, improved relations, and peace. In addition, the region has a rich and varied cultural heritage and potential for tourism.

TARGET GROUPS

The project targets pastoralists/agro-pastoralists, civil-society organisations led by women and youth, traditional leaders (religious/clan leaders, elders), local and national authorities and relevant sector offices at zone/district levels, line Ministries, private sector actors, 50% women-led businesses and other stakeholders.

PARTNERS

SPREAD is implemented by DanChurchAid, together with SaferWorld and five national organisations:

- Sustainable Approaches for Community Development (SAPCONE), Kenya
- Root Of Generations (ROG), South Sudan
- Integrated Community Peace and Development Organisation (ICPDO), South Sudan
- Ethiopian Catholic Church Social and Development Commission (ECC-SDCO), Ethiopia
- Agency for Pastoralist Development (APAD), Kenya

