PEACE II: Peace in East and Central Africa – Phase II

Annual Programmatic Report
1 October 2007 – 30 September 2008

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Submitted by Pact Inc.

AP	Administration Police
CBO	Community Based Organization
CEWARN	Conflict Early Warning and Response Network
COPA	Coalition for Peace in Africa
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DC	District Commissioner
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GOK	Government of Kenya
ICU	Union of Islamic Courts
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
KPR	Kenya Police Reservist
MCAT	Management Control Assessment tool
NGO	Non Government Organization
PCs	Peace Committees
PEACE II	Peace in East and Central Africa Phase II
PLA	Participatory Learning and Action
RELPA	Regional Enhanced Livelihoods in Pastoral Areas
TFG	Transitional Federal Government
UPDF	Uganda People Defense Force
USAID/EA	United States Agency for International Development/East Africa
USG	United States Government

I. Executive Summary

The PEACE II program began on 30 September 2007. A revised technical and cost proposal was approved by USAID East Africa on 11 June 2008[1]. The program now places a greater emphasis on investments in the Somali Cluster (rather than in both the Somali and Karamoja Clusters) and gives a greater role to civil society partners building community capacities across the whole spectrum of PEACE II program implementation at the local level, supported by PEACE II staff and social mobilization grants.

During the first year of the program, Peace II has undertaken a thorough stakeholder analysis and consultation in the Somali Cluster which has led to prioritization of areas of intervention and selection of CSO partners.

- In March 2008 a security assessment was commissioned by PEACE II (through a local consultant, Lt Col (Rtd) Bakari Komora) to assess the security sector dynamics and interactions with communities and civil society in cross-border areas of Somali East sub cluster which describes an intricate and interdependent security phenomenon and highlights competition for control of commercial circuits replacing traditional natural resource competition as a source of tension and rivalry among social groups in the area.

- In March-June 2008 an extensive baseline survey was undertaken in 10 locations (involving 4 Focus Group Discussion (FDGs) in each location), with a range of stakeholders (i.e. peace committees, women, government officials, and community members) from all sides of the borders in both the Somali and Karamoja clusters.

- In September 2008 an expert panel comprised of five senior analysts from Somalia, Ethiopia Sudan, Kenya and Uganda reviewed the source data from the baseline survey.

- Following this baseline two (2), two-day consultative meetings were held in Mandera, Kenya (3-4 June 2008) and in Moyale, Ethiopia (1-2 September 2008) for the Somali East and the Western sub-clusters respectively.

- The first consultative meeting produced a Somali East Sub-cluster Implementation Plan[2] identifying 12 cross border "peace corridors" and highlighting approaches needed to enhance the legitimacy and effectiveness of peace programming.

- Following these steps a first PEACE II Request for Applications (RFA) was published which sought CSO partners to submit community mobilization and capacity development applications in the 12 "peace corridors"[3], and which encouraged cross border applications. Civil society partners will monitor, mentor, sensitize and mobilize communities to enhance their role in sustaining peace and designing and implementing PEACE II supported Peace Dialogue and Peace Dividend activities at the local level. The RFA was not published in Ethiopia, but rather a trusted PEACE I partner, and other USAID implementing partners, were asked to help identify other legitimate organizations working in the targeted border areas.

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[1] **A second program and budget modification was submitted to USAID EA on 24 July, 2008. On 15 August, 2008 the Agreement Officer sent Pact a e-mail stating that "The submission was reviewed by the mission Technical Office and, based on the feedback I received, it is accepted as submitted. However, please note page 5 (paragraph 6&7), page 20 - fotenote & references to PCs instead of PC, Page 21 - references to PCs require edits). The next step is for my office to review the revised budget in the context program de-scoping revisions. Based on my understanding, revisions requested do not alter the original specific purpose of the grant. Further, the revised budget reflects the program's necessary de-scoping thus, by definition, is not expected to introduce "new" costs as the purpose of the exercise was to align total performance costs to the approved budget. Based on the forgoing, the mission team determined that, at this particular juncture, we have agreement in principle with PACT to proceed implementing the activity per the July 23, 2008 revised program description. I provide PACT/PEACE II the green light to implement the Activity following the proposed revised Program Description and budget effective September 1, 2008. The formal modification will be issued in the second half of October and will have Sept. 1, 2008 effect (it will incorporate PACT's July 23, 2008 Revised Technical Proposal)."**

[2] **The second Implementation Plan for the Western Sub-cluster is currently under review.**

[3] **The RFA document used the term "hot spot" however partners felt that it would be better to talk of "peace corridors" instead, thus the terminology has changed.**

- Following a selection committee shortlisting of applications received, PEACE II staff undertook a further process of validating the shortlist of applicants with trusted analysts and community leaders to ensure the greatest levels of project effectiveness, legitimacy and community ownership at the local level.

- Peace II staff then worked with selected CSO partners to develop and standardize their proposals to ensure consistency, coherence and feasible budgets across the sub-cluster partnerships. The final PEACE II endorsed partner proposal is attached in section 2 below. The PEACE II team felt that it important to allow local partners to develop their own conflict analysis, even if it was a simplified version, so that the partners felt that they owned the end product.

- In response to a lack of women participation in the first consultative meeting in Mandera, PEACE II sponsored a regional women's networking meeting for over 60 women peace activists from Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya in August 2008.

- Developed a strong and vibrant working relationship with Intergovernmental Authority on Development's (IGAD) Conflict Early Warning and Response Network (CEWARN).

Key activities and results are described in Section III in more detail.

II. Background

The Peace in East and Central Africa Phase II (PEACE II)[4] program aims to enhance African leadership in the management of conflict within the Horn of Africa. In particular, it intends to improve the ability of communities and community-based organizations to respond to conflict by strengthening the linkages between those communities and the wider civil society and government at local and regional levels in the border areas of this region, where it is acknowledged there is weak local government capacity

The program builds upon previous United States Agency for International Development/East Africa (USAID/EA) conflict programs by focusing on communities composed largely of culturally and ethnically different nomadic and pastoralist populations that move across porous national borders in two priority focus areas: 1) the Somali Cluster (Kenya/Somalia/Ethiopia tri-border area; and 2) the Karamoja Cluster (Kenya/Uganda/Sudan/ Ethiopia borders)[5]. For effective program planning and efficacy the Somali cluster will be further sub-divided into two sub-clusters the west sub-cluster and the East sub-cluster.

The program focuses on two objectives, which aim to:

1. Strengthen cross-border security through local community security initiatives

2. Contribute to cross-border peace committees' ability to prevent, mitigate, and respond to conflict in focus border areas.

The PEACE II program intends to strengthen the capacity of local bodies (peace committees (PCs) CSOs, traditional and religious leaders, women and youth groups, etc) to engage, effectively and sustainably in conflict mitigation and peacebuilding by engaging the government on security issues, developing and supporting more democratic processes, and improving citizen participation and oversight in order to more positively influence cross-border stability.

The program will enable cross-border peace committees to better warn, mitigate, and improve response to conflict, as well as to reinforce peace and reconciliation processes through additional developmentally based activities. These Peace Dividend and Peace Dialogue projects will be identified through a consultative, participatory process involving cross-border communities, peace actors and other key stakeholders. Initial grants will be given to local partners to support the community and social mobilization

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[4] **PEACE II furthers the goal of PEACE I, implemented by Development Alternatives Inc. (DAI) with support from USAID East Africa from 2003-2007.**
[5] **Due to limited funds work in the Karamoja cluster will be limited to technical support to CEWARN and limited activities arising out of Pact Ethiopia's bi-lateral project, Selam-C.**

activities, followed by direct in-kind grants to cross-border communities supporting the identified cross-border peace dividends and/or community dialogues projects.

Building the capacity of local stakeholders and peace committees is critical. The program aims to provide a framework to enable the holistic, integrated approach necessary to address complex conflicts in such peripheral regions, by partnering with local civil society peace actors – who will provide hands-on mentoring to local cross-border peace committees, communities and traditional conflict mitigation systems on a regular and systematic basis.

III. Key Results Fiscal Year 2008

The following is a summary of PEACE II programming actions, activities, and accomplishments during the FY 2008 reporting period.

Program Objective: 1 Peace and Security
Program Area: 1.3 Stabilization Operations and Security Sector Reform
Program Element: 1.3.7 Law Enforcement Restructuring, Reform and Operations

Two activities fell under this Objective, Area and Element:
- Security sector assessment for the Somali East sub-cluster
- Implementation of a rapid response for the Murale-Garre-Marehaan conflict in Mandera (August 2008)

Please find below details the two activities.

Somali East sub-cluster Security Sector assessment:

A consultant, Lt Col (Rtd) Bakari Komora was commissioned by PEACE II to assess the security sector dynamics and interactions with communities and civil society in cross-border areas of Somali East sub-cluster in March 2008. During this assessment, it was found that in much of the cross-border areas, whatever happens in any part of the border has a profound security implication on the other side of the border creating an intricate and interdependent security phenomenon. For instance and in recent times, significant trade in consumer and other goods has developed between the Somali ports of Kisimayu, Merka and Mogadishu and the interior of Kenya, much of it in the form of unregulated contraband. This has led to growth of significant settlements in the border region on the Somalia side with warehouses and other facilities for moving merchandise onward into Kenya. Competition for control of these commercial circuits is a source of tension and rivalry among social groups in the area. An isolated attack on a merchant truck by a rival clan over a disputed transaction often escalates quickly into a large scale inter-community conflict with substantial humanitarian consequences.

On the other hand, the business community appears to be partisan; funding and supporting own clans at the onset of clashes and later turn to fund reconciliation efforts again. They both instigate and mitigate conflicts, like the 2005 -2006 clashes between Garre and Marehaan communities across the Kenya Somali border. However the intermittent skirmishes in Somalia between TFG and the Union of Islamic Courts (ICU) forces continue to bring Internally Displaced Peoples (IDPs) and refugees to the border area. This has been causing strain on the environment and basic social services in Mandera and other border semi-urban centre/town and also increasing proliferation of illegal small arms. Ex-combatants tend to use their fire arms on wild life or make a living out of the community. In Elwak area the militia sometimes do not honour the agreements they make with the local community.

Another key finding is that the border closure by the Kenyan government has really strained relationships between communities across the border and also with Kenyan security personnel. Taking

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advantage of the closure of the Somalia border, the Kenya Police tend or appear to harass Ethiopians and Somalia nationals when they cross to Kenya to sell livestock, agricultural produce, buy miraa (kat) or collect money sent to them from relatives abroad. This mistreatment frustrates them, especially when their money is confiscated. When this happens, some of them try to vent their anger and seek revenge using guns on Kenyans.

In the Somali east sub-cluster security issues are handled through an integrated approach; peace and development issues are considered together, with the Kenyan side driving the initiatives. Some of the Peace II interventions include establishing contacts of government and security officials counterparts across the borders in Ethiopia and Somalia, scheduling and conducting joint cross-border meetings and sometimes tripartite meetings as need arises, sharing of information on ad hoc basis as the situation dictates and embracing both formal and informal (traditional) systems of tackling conflicts and peace-building in the three countries. Also, although there are no written local protocols to guide cross-border interactions, the local District Commissioners (DCs) and police chiefs from the three countries have agreed to cooperate and collaborate locally to enhance cross border security.

Overview of the PEACE II Rapid response activity 2-5 August 2008-08-06

Early this year, a violent conflict erupted between the Garre and Murale in the border area of Kenya and Somalia. This conflict, which has been recurring every 2 to 3 years, is mainly based on politics and resources: grazing land, plots and both political constituencies and administrative boundaries. Given the continued upheaval in Somalia and the emergence of "Al-Shabab" as the new political leadership in El Wak Somalia on the Somali side of the border, the current unrest in Kenya could have wide consequences for the entire tri-state region in terms of cross-border peace and stability.

The most recent conflict started at Alango, where the Kenyan government (through the Ministry of Water) sunk a borehole. Since the Ministry of Water is locally directed by a Murale, the Garre viewed the development project as a bid by the Murale community to backside on an agreement that the two conflicting parties made in 2005 when they signed a Peace Agreement brokered by SUPKEM. Therefore, the Garre objected the placement of the well in Alango and denied Murale pastoralists watering their livestock from the well. However, the Kenyan Government intervened in the matter by posting the Kenya army in the place.

On 16 June 2008, Murale pastoralists moved across the border into Somalia and started grazing El-Wak, Somalia area. This intrusion was objected by the Garre in Somali side of the border and the Murale were denied to water their animals from the wells in El-Wak, Somalia. The Marehan in El-Wak, Somalia tried to help the Murale to graze and water their livestock in El-Wak, Somalia. However, the hosting of Murale by Marehan in El-Wak, Somalia started a conflict between the Marehan and the Garre. On 14/07/2008, after a long discussion, the Marehan and Garre agreed that the Murale should return to Kenya or move beyond the land of Garre and Marehan down into the land of the Ogaden in Middle Juba, or the Garre would attack them. The Garre accused the Murale of committing crimes in Kenya and then taking sanctuary in El-Wak, Somalia. Several highway robberies and ambushes in Kenya were attributed to the Murale – leading to a heightened insecurity on the roads.

On 22 July 2008, clashes started at Wargadud in which one Garre and one Murale lost their lives while several were wounded. The DCs of Mandera and El-Wak were sent there to deescalate the conflict. Several chiefs and councilors from both clans were arrested while several armed Garre militia members were also arrested. In early August, PEACE II sponsored a rapid response initiative to the area in which 10 security personnel, 9 clan elders (3 from Garre, 3 from Murale and 3 from Marehan) and 8 members of Mandera Peace Technical Committee were sent in tour of peace mission to five locations in the

conflict zone. It also airlifted 18 high ranking government officers and elders of the two clans from Nairobi to take part in important meetings and a ceasefire was declared which lasted for about 21 days.

Community – Security Initiative:

Through the rapid response the five (5) communities of Mandera, Kenya; Lafey, Kenya; Warankara, Kenya; Elwak, Kenya; and Wargadud, Kenya were mobilized to prevent or reduce violence or insecurity through joint community – government coordination through five public *barazas* (public meetings). The public meetings were followed by security meetings in Mandera for three days involving the former and current members of Parliament from the affected areas and the provincial security team chaired by the Provincial Commissioner, in conjunction with several local community leaders living in both Mandera and Nairobi. The process was then taken over by the National Steering Committee (NSC) which held over four meetings in Nairobi involving elders from Mandera, religious leaders from both Mandera and Nairobi and political leaders from Mandera region living in Nairobi. This process led to a Peace agreement that was signed on the 9 October 2008 between the conflicting communities with the GOK as the witness to the agreement. Unfortunately a week later on the 16 October, 2008 violence erupted in the volatile Mandera town which was triggered by need for space to escape flash floods that occurred resulting in displaced persons within the town.

Lessons learnt

- At times rapid response could be expensive but necessary in stopping the violence. This was experienced during the Mandera intervention. Violence was stopped for over 20 days and which allowed key stakeholders to hold meetings before eruptions reoccurred again.
- Rapid response needs to be followed up by long term analysis of the conflicts to map out proper strategic interventions. PEACE II is in dialogue with the Pact Kenya Civil Society Strengthening Program (KCSSP) to see how the two programs can coordinate on the Mandera issue.

Program Objective: 1 Peace and Security
Program Area: 1.6 Conflict Mitigation and Reconciliation
Program Element: 1.6.1 Conflict Mitigation

Three activities fell under this Objective, Area and Element. They are:
- Program Baseline Survey
- two sub-cluster consultative meetings, and
- the development of the Somali East sub-cluster plan.

Please find below details of the three activities.

Program Baseline Survey (May and June 2008)

As a part of the approved PMP a baseline survey undertook 163 focus groups/and or key informant interviews with Peace Committee members, security forces, state actors and community actors) in 40 locations in the all four sub-clusters during March, May and June 2008.

In the second quarter, the PEACE II Monitoring & Evaluation Officer led the team in rolling out the baseline assessment all the selected locations, in the four sub-clusters. Twenty-seven local organizations participated in the survey, as enumerators. Additionally 39 Peace Committees (PCs) were included in the survey. For and overview of the results of the baseline survey please see the Expert Panel below.

Sub-cluster stakeholders' consultative meetings in Mandera, Kenya and Moyale, Ethiopia

Following the baseline survey, two (2), two-day consultative meetings were held in Mandera, Kenya (3-4 June 2008) and in Moyale, Ethiopia (1-2 September 2008) for the Somali East and the Western sub-clusters respectively. The objectives of the consultative meetings were:

1. To create space for the participants to analyze the conflict contexts of the tri-state area.

2. To explore and understand the underlying systemic issues of the violence in the area.

3. To understand the interface of peace practice and policy and recommend program options for PEACE II.

4. To identify the cross cutting issues and explore the strategies for the way forward.

Participants shared their views and experiences in regional conflict mitigation. Participants also had the opportunity to network with others from the tri-state region. During the meeting, the participants exchanged their views candidly on past and current issues informing conflict and peace in the two sub-clusters. They had also the opportunity to explore ways and means to cooperate in order to find durable solutions to the recurrent conflicts in the area in cooperation with local officials, CEWARN and CEWERU representatives, International NGOs and donors. In general the meetings were characterized by the groups working together to reach a consensus in order to make use of the opportunities presented by PEACE II in addressing conflicts in the area.

• Somali East sub-cluster consultation meeting – 3-4 June, 2008: The meeting was attended by 49 participants from Ethiopia (9), Kenya (25) and Somali (12) from 3-4 June, 2008 in Mandera, Kenya. There were 46 men and three women. It was attended by government officials from the three countries, peace practitioners, business people, religious and traditional leaders, IGAD (CEWARN) and other stakeholders from the tri-state region (Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya).

• Western[6] Sub-cluster stakeholders' consultative meeting – 1-2 September, 2008: The Western Sub-cluster Stakeholders' Consultation Meeting was held at Koket Borena Moyale Hotel in Moyale Ethiopia town in Oromia State (Zone 4) from 1st to 2nd September 2008. The meeting was attended by 68 Participants: Ethiopia (13), Kenya (55). There were 46 men and 22 women. Participants in the meeting came from diverse backgrounds in terms of livelihood, occupation, level of education, religion and country. It was attended by local government administration and security officials from the two countries, sitting and former MPs of the two countries, peace practitioners, business people, religious and traditional leaders, CEWERU and NSC representatives, and other stakeholders from the area (Ethiopia and Kenya).

While the attendance of women was much better at this meeting than at the first consultative meeting, it was noted that the percentage of Ethiopians in attendance was inadequate. PEACE II realized that as a new project it will take time to build relationships with Ethiopian local government officials, and CSOs and hopes that at the next consultative meeting there will be more Ethiopians in attendance.
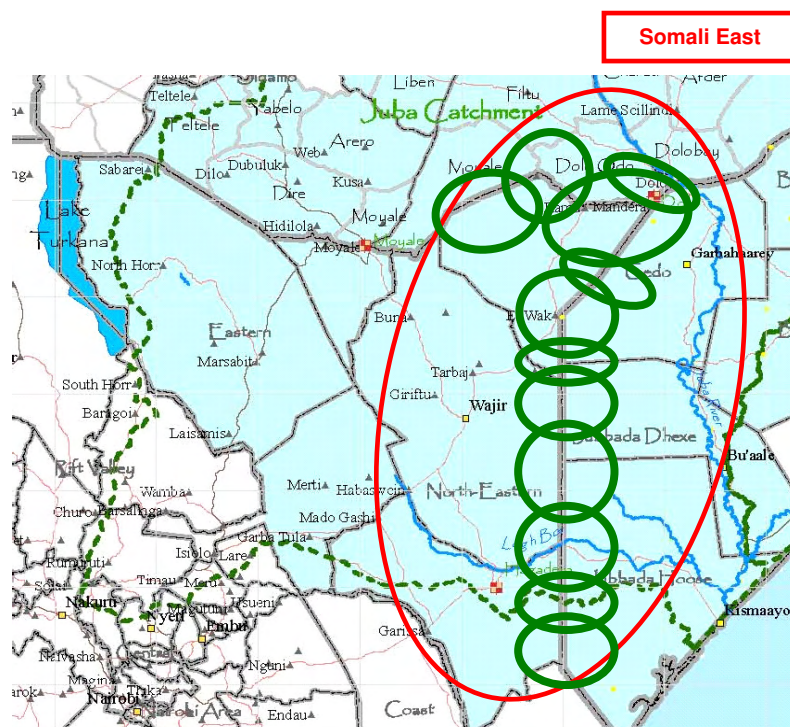
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[6] **Initially the PEACE II Western Sub-cluster was called Somali West sub-cluster – however due to sensitivities around the name Somali with the Borana community, the name has been adjusted.**

Development of the Somali East sub-cluster 12 month implementation plan

Based on analysis from preliminary results from the baseline survey and the first consultative meeting the Somali East Sub-cluster Implementation Plan[7] was produced identifying 12 cross border "peace corridors" and highlighting approaches needed to enhance the legitimacy and effectiveness of peace programming.

The 12 peace corridors were (see also Map to the right):

1. Dolo, Somalia; and Dolo Ado, Ethiopia

2. El Wak, Kenya and and El Wak, Somalia

3. Liboi, Kenya, Amuma Kenya, Dhoble Somalia and Waldena, Somalia

4. Rhamu, Kenya and Sade, Ethiopia

5. Lafey, Kenya and Damase, Somalia

6. Mandera, Kenya; Suftu, Ethiopia; and Belet-hawa, Somalia

7. Khorof Harar, Kenya; Elram, Kenya; Daarisalaam, Somalia; and Awsquran, Somalia

8. Wajir Bor, Kenya; Riba, Kenya and Gherille, Kenya and Gherille, Somalia

9. Dif, Somalia; Dadajabulla, Kenya; and Dif, Kenya

10. Aymole, Kenya and Jelaqo, Ethiopia

11. Hulugho, Kenya and Kolbio, Somalia

12. Kiunga – Kenya and Ras Kamboni Somalia

Program Objective: 1 Peace and Security
Program Area: 1.6 Conflict Mitigation and Reconciliation
Program Element: 1.6.2 Peace and Reconciliation Process

Four activities fell under this Objective, Area and Element. They were:
- Partner selection process for Somali East sub-cluster
- CEWARN – PEACE II Partnership
- The Expert panel to review the PEACE II baseline data
- Regional Women's Networking meeting

Please find below details of these four activities.

Partner Selection process for the Somali East sub-cluster

As part of its analysis, assessment and capacity building efforts, PEACE II has engaged stakeholders at several levels within the sub-cluster to analyze the security situation and build consensus on priority areas for action (i.e. extensive baseline survey including a security assessment, and a stakeholders'

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[7] **The second Implementation Plan for the Western Sub-cluster is currently under review.**

consultative meeting in June 2008). Using the information from the analysis, the PEACE II program feels that the following critical focus areas should be followed up with appropriate responses and activities to strengthen security and reduce conflict in the sub-cluster.

1. Strategic Dialogue: Towards a cross-border community policy framework
2. Peace Dividends
3. Regional exchange visits / Expanding capacity building opportunities
4. Supporting a localized rapid response network

Following these steps a first PEACE II Request for Applications (RFA) was published which sought CSO partners to sustain community mobilization[8] and capacity development in the 12 "peace corridors"[9], and which encouraged cross border applications. Civil society partners will monitor, mentor, sensitize and mobilize communities to enhance their role in sustaining peace and designing and implementing PEACE II supported Peace Dialogue and Peace Dividend activities at the local level. The RFA was not published in Ethiopia[10], but rather a trusted PEACE I partner, and other USAID implementing partners, were asked to help identify other legitimate organizations working in the targeted border areas.

During the baseline it was learned that local organizations felt that unfair advantage would be given to former PEACE I partners it was decided given the local dynamics of clanism and favoritism that PEACE II would use a competitive process to select at least eight local CSO partners. Guided by the above principle, the Peace II team developed a ''Request for Application'' (RFA) referenced above, details of which can be found in the RFA document itself.

On July 14th 2008, the PEACE II program announced the RFA to prospective civil society and community based organizations working or interested to work in cross-border areas of Somali east sub-cluster that straddles Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopian Borders. On the same date the RFA was sent to USAID East African and Ethiopia. This RFA sought for concept notes from organizations that would:

• Provide community mobilization support for Peace Dividend projects;
• Engage local communities in local strategic dialogues; and
• Provide capacity strengthening **Figure 1: 12 identified "Peace Corridors"** support to local peace committees operating in the target "peace corridor" locations along the borders.

The RFA encouraged joint cross-border applications. This RFA was advertised in local Kenyan and Somali FM radio stations that can be generally heard through out the entire region, e-mailed to former PEACE I partners, and to selected Ethiopian organizations and placed on notice boards of various organizations and government departments in Kenya. There was an extensive process to ensure equal access to the RFA by all partners, validation of the peace corridors selected and validation of short listed organizations, including

• Mandatory pre-award meetings for prospective partners in Mandera, Wajir, and Garrisa

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[8] **Thus seeking to address the first two activities listed above.**

[9] **The RFA document used the term "hot spot" however partners felt that it would be better to talk of "peace corridors" instead, thus the terminology has changed.**

[10] **Partners selection from the Ethiopian side of the border was based on a specific process that included consultations with trusted Kenyan and Ethiopian organizations and local stakeholders. PCAE is a PEACE I partner widely recognized as a legitimate and effective Ethiopian peace organization at the border. PCAE assisted Pact by vetting other potential partners initially nominated by trusted Kenyan partners based on their previous experiences of cross border peace work. When the PEACE II team visited Sade and Jellqo they were introduced to the proposed Ethiopia partners PWO and JEAR, and heard recommendations from local officials and with various community members. While PCAE knew of PWO and endorsed their selection as a partner, they had no experience of JEAR but explained that JEAR is the type of traditional organization that has community support in this region and would make an appropriate partner.**

- Modification of the RFA to include important 'peace corridors' that potential partners felt had been left out with the same advertising methods and a final submission deadline of 19th August 4 pm 2008

- Initial screening of the 57 applications received by the grants staff checking minimum requirements - Review of the remaining 34 applications by a selection committee comprised of six Pact staff members (5 from PEACE II and 1 from RELPA)[11] and USAID EA[12].

Following a selection committee shortlisting of applications received, PEACE II staff undertook a further process of validating the shortlist of applicants with trusted analysts and community leaders to ensure the greatest levels of project effectiveness, legitimacy and community ownership at the local level.

Peace II staff then worked with selected CSO partners to develop and standardize their proposals to ensure consistency, coherence and feasible budgets across the sub-cluster partnerships. The PEACE II team felt that it important to allow local partners to develop their own conflict analysis, even if it was a simplified version, so that the partners felt that they owned the end product.

During the week beginning 8 September 2008, Peace II staff held a workshop which discussed the development of the social mobilization proposals with the selected partners. In the meeting the Peace II team divided up into three sub-teams each focusing on a different geographic area, and developed social mobilization budgets and proposal guidelines so that the three sub-teams would be able to support the various selected partners develop similar proposals across the entire sub-cluster. It was noted that almost all the budgets submitted with the concept notes were unrealistic, as were the original concept papers.

The three teams spent three weeks in the field working with the various partners to develop their proposals. In order to support the capacity development of the proposed partners, all proposals were written by the proposed partners and not by PEACE II. Although the PEACE II staff spent a lot of time explaining the concept of social mobilization and what would be expected of the partner organizations, helping them identify the types of activities they would be involved in, and linking those activities to a realistic budget. Additionally it was important that the cross-border partners worked together to jointly develop their "peace corridor" proposals, so that the cross-border partners agreed about how the project would be implemented on both sides of the border. PEACE II felt that it was important to allow the local partners to develop their own conflict analysis, even if it was a simplified version – so that the partners felt that they owned the end product.

The PEACE II 'Somali East Sub-cluster Plan: Conflict Analysis and 12 month Implementation plan' contains a general conflict and stakeholder analysis which will guide interventions in each "peace corridor" The PEACE II program aims to enhance local/partner analysis over the course of capacity building work during 2008-9 in order to deepen partner conflict analysis at the micro-level for each "peace corridor" area. This deepening of analysis per "peace corridor" area will also be informed by the extensive participatory community dialogue and consultation planned under the social mobilization grants. There are also potentially important linkages between the conflict and peace dynamics in

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[11] There were no field based staff on the selection committee so that the field base staff could always tell failed partners that they were not a part of the selection committee and thus would not face local repercussions if certain groups were left out of the final list. However after the initial meeting the selection committee did hold a meeting with the field based staff to make sure that the selected organizations that could actually engage in local social mobilizations had been selected. In several cases it was decided that local consultations were required before a final decision could be reached. Thus at least one member of the selection committee and one field staff visited the local areas to investigate who was active on the ground and who the community felt was the right organization to work in that locality.

[12] USAID EA was requested to fully participate as a member of the selection committee however the USAID representative only participated half way through the initial meeting and excused himself as he had another business to attend to. He also informed the Committee that he had not read the proposals.

different peace corridors which will be explored with staff, partners and stakeholders through the course of 2008-2009

CEWARN – PEACE II Partnership

During the past year CEWARN and PEACE II have held two joint quarterly meetings in which a joint workplan was developed and coordination between the two programs was enhanced. The first meeting was held in Nairobi 21-23 April 2008 at the Lenana Conference Center. The second CEWARN-PEACE II Planning Meeting of 17-18 August at the CEWARN offices in Addis Ababa.

Participation at the joint workplan meetings included:

- CEWARN (4 persons: 1 females, 3 males), PEACE II (6 persons: 2 females, 4 males), and USAID (10 persons, 6 females, 4 males) met in Nairobi for two days to develop a joint three-month workplan.

- CEWARN (4 persons, 0 females and 4 males), PEACE II (4 persons: 3 females and 1 male) and USAID (1 person: 0 females and 1 male). It was a day and a half meeting to review the joint workplan and to agree on additional items for joint implementation and to share what each team was working on.

The relationship between PEACE II and CEWARN is one of the success stories that PEACE II is proud of. During the quarterly meetings there has been exchange of information concerning the planned activities and plans on how each institution could be involved in the other's activities. Highlights of the collaboration include:

- With the dropping of the larger portion of Karamoja cluster by PEACE II due to funding constraints the two programs have worked out ways on how CEWARN can fill that gap with technical support from PEACE II staff.

- The two institutions have also worked out ways on how to strengthen the CEWARN/CEWERU information gathering and reporting mechanisms through PEACE II partners especially in marginal areas along the Kenya-Somali border.

- Planned joint assessment of Peace Committees in the Karamoja and Somali clusters.

- There is also good flow of communication between the two programs and a political will for collaboration.

As the collaboration has continued the PEACE II program has structured its entire project around how to support the CEWARN structure.

Regional Response Network for Women Peace-builders workshop in Garissa

Women play an important role in the mainly pastoralist communities of the region as they tend to their animals and engage actively in business activities. Because of this role, women must be incorporated into the communities' peace building processes for them to be effective.

A three day workshop on Regional Response Network for Women Peace-builders took place on 13-15 August 2008 in Garissa. The workshop that sought to create a forum for women from the Somali East pastoralist areas of Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia to come together, consult regarding the peace situation, build partnerships and discuss the role they can play in conflict prevention and peace building.

The meeting was prompted by a realization that women had been left out in previous sub-cluster stakeholders meeting held in Mandera (June 2008), yet their role in peace building is crucial. During the Somali East sub-cluster consultative stakeholders meeting in Mandera on June 3 and 4, 2008, the organizers encountered a significant lack of women participants due to the small number of women involved in the activities of the invited organizations (only 2 women out of 60 participants came to the meeting). In response, Women for Peace and Development Mandera (WFPD) and PEACE II initiated a follow-up meeting specifically inviting women from the tri-state region to consult and strategize on cross-border conflict resolution activities and their participation in a regional response network for women peacebuilders. Based on this experience PEACE II has started to try to mainstream women's participation into all of its activities.

The meeting which also served as a forum to officially launch the PEACE II program was attended by a total of 68 participants (Kenya 39: 34 Females, 5 males; Somalia 17: 17 Females, 0 males and Ethiopia 11: 11 Females, 0 males). Guests included a larger USAID delegation from USAID East Africa, USAID Kenya and USAID Ethiopia, Senior Government officials including the Kenya Assistant Minister for Gender and a Somali Permanent Secretary were in attendance.

Among the key outcomes of the meeting was the realization that women need to be part and parcel of Peace programming as they have a great untapped potential and unique cultural methods to engage in peace and other development processes. The meeting felt that their was a need to remove retrogressive cultures that limit women participation in decision making processes while respecting the religious concerns for effective engagement with peace processes. More specifically, the women agreed on the formation of regional network of women peace builders in the three countries, formation of country specific networks of women peace builders and formation of a women lobby group to advocate for peace in the region.

This is another success story where through various national women's networks PEACE II was able to mobilize women right from the grassroots (local level), middle, and national level. The women came from Addis Ababa, Mogadish, Nairobi and border areas. Irrespective of their positions and status, women met and united in finding the solutions to the development and conflicts situation in their region. The women from Ethiopia moved the meeting to tears when they lamented and cried concerning the suffering of fellow women in Somalia. The women from Gedo, Suftu and Mandera (Mandera triangle) refused to be demarcated by the colonial boundaries. They resolved to come to the meeting as Somalis in their traditional attired that crowned the launching of the PEACE II program.

The lesson learnt from this special meeting is that women are a unifying factor across borders and are too important to be left out of Peace Building initiatives.

Expert panel review of the baseline data

PEACE II identified a Panel of Experts comprising of five persons who have experience working on Peace issues drawn from Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Somalia and Sudan. The expert panel included:
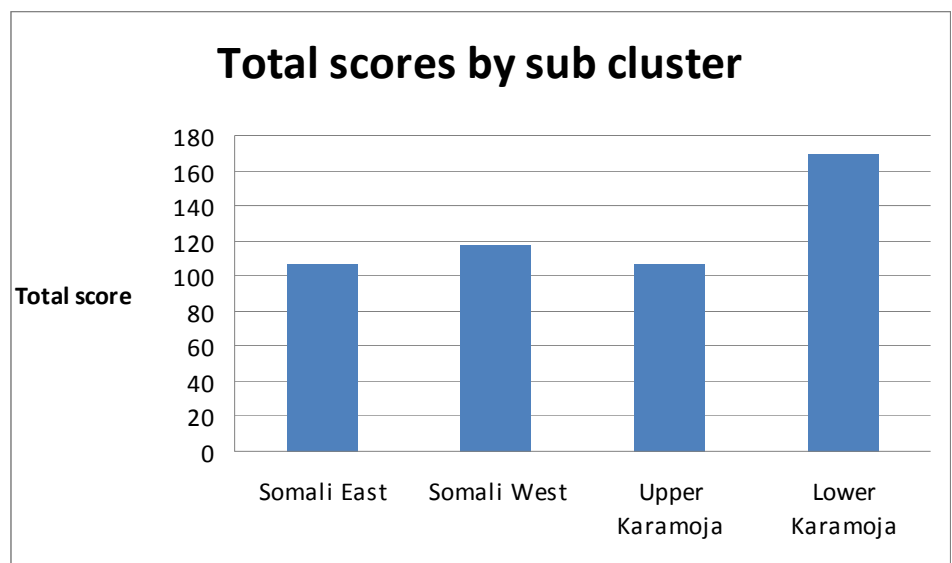
- Abdrashid Warsame, CEWARN – Somalia
- Achmed Ali Gedi, Institute of Management and Development Studies – Ethiopia (last minute replacement for Abdi Adan of Mercy Corps, Ethiopia)
- David Pulkol, African Leadership Institute – Uganda
- Beatrice Aber, Southern Sudan Peace Commission – Sudan
- Kisuke Ndiku, Lead Consultant and report writer, Precise Consultants -- Kenya

The Panelists had worked in the focal areas in which the PEACE II program is implemented and had a hands-on experience in dealing with issues of the communities including the community organizations among pastoralist communities in this region. In addition they brought together a variety of professional and program expertise in governance, peace building, civic education research and analysis skills, program design and gender dimensions as well as writing and documentation skills.

The Panel of Experts sat in Nairobi Kenya over a five day period to work on the analysis, interpretation and writing and documentation of the findings of the baseline data collected. In all the Panel of Experts had a total of 40 folders (representing the 40 targeted locations of the baseline survey) to representing 2,080 responses to review, analyze, and interpret findings. Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were scored on a 0-4 scale for each of the categories with a total of 20 per location, in a pre-determined index.

Total scores by sub cluster

From the expert panel scores, Lower Karamoja seems to have scored higher than the other three sub-clusters overall . In general the formal peace agreements in the sub-cluster have been in place longer (i.e. the "Burying of the Hatchet" – the Lokiriama Agreement of 1973) and seem to still be in effect – with annual peace commemorations. When one examines the specific scores it is very clear that hotspots such as Ikotos, Sudan and Torbi, Kenya are more vulnerable to violent conflicts due to the fact that they have limited coping mechanisms. In general, the entire Upper Karamoja and the Somali cluster have less effective mechanisms to deal with the reoccurring conflicts. The data justifies the PEACE II decision to concentrate in the Somali cluster and the South Omo region of the upper Karamoja.

III. Success Stories

PEACE II feels that the following key results (elaborated in Section III. Key Results Fiscal Year 2008 above) are program success for Fiscal year 2008.

- The Regional Women's networking meeting
- The CEWARN-PEACE II partnership
- And the baseline survey.

IV. Major Challenges faced by the program

- Insecurity in the areas of responsibility (i.e Murale -Garre conflict, continue conflict in Somalia with the expansion of "Al Shabaab"

- Lack of adequate communication protocols between the PEACE II program and USAID Ethiopia

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- Recruitment of qualified, experienced staff for remote locations

- A limited grant pool during year 1 implementation

- Practical Action's decision to leave the consortium in March 2008