Cross-Border Community Resilience (CBCR) Activity

Request for Applications (RFA) No. CBCR-RFA-001-2022 Questions and Answers
Name of Activity: CBCR Research, Training, and Capacity Building
Date: March 7, 2022

Q1. Please provide more information regarding the CBCR Activity. Is it possible to know the inputs, outputs, activities and expected impact for CBCR thematic area #2 - Social Network Analysis?

A1. For potential applicants' reference, we are sharing the CBCR draft Factsheet as Attachment 1 of the Questions and Answers. The Social Network Analysis aims to map out all key stakeholders in the three clusters and identify the strength of their connections.

Q2. Kindly share with us the MS word version template for the application form, MS Excel version template for the budget and all other word versions of templates to be filled i.e. ANNEX A to F. This will enable us to maintain consistency and adhere to the usage of the required templates. If the templates are not available, kindly advise if we can create our own template while following the format providing in the PDF document.

A2. We are sharing the MS Word version of the application and annexes (in one attachment) and the MS Excel budget template (in another attachment).

Q3. How many applications can one organization submit in one target area? Can one organization submit more than one application in different thematic areas but within the same target location? (e.g., along the Kenya-Ethiopia-Somalia triangle).

A3. Per IC of the RFA, Research institutions/organizations can only apply for a maximum of two assessments (two thematic areas) in only one cluster. Each organization will limit itself to two thematic areas in one cluster only. A cluster is considered to cover cross-borders.

Q4. Can a Kenyan registered organization with local contacts and access to other neighbouring areas such as Ethiopia and Somalia apply for the RFA? NB: The organization may not have registration documents for Ethiopia and Somalia but have local staff who can travel and access the areas without any challenges.

*Q4. Yes, per Section IIIA, it should state, "Applicants must be registered according to Kenyan, Ethiopian, Ugandan, South Sudanese, **OR** Somalian legal requirements and formally constituted, recognized by and in good standing with appropriate Kenyan, Ethiopian, Ugandan, South Sudanese, **OR** Somali authorities, and compliant with all applicable civil and fiscal regulations."*

Q5. As per RFA, it is noted that CBCR encourages applications from new organizations who meet the eligibility criteria. Kindly elaborate further if experience is a major requirement both in terms of years of operations and similar projects undertaken.

A5. Per the Merit Review Criteria, Past Performance comprises 20 points. However, if new organizations have the appropriate technical approach GESI considerations and personnel, they will be considered.

Q6. What is the development hypothesis which this activity is contributing to (outcome)? What is the theory of change for this action?

*A6. This development hypothesis posits that **if** the implementation of activities is locally-led, meaning designed, driven/managed and owned by local communities, and **if** interventions strengthen social cohesion as a foundation to expanding livelihood and employment opportunities, to promoting conflict-sensitive*

management and sharing of natural resources, and to enhancing platforms for collaborating and learning **then** *cross-border community resilience in the challenging context of the borderlands of Karamoja, Moyale and Mandera can be advanced.*

The theory of change is illustrated in Attachment 2 attached.

Q7. Are there actions have taken place before that the activity is building upon?

A7. CBCR is a stand-alone activity. The Activity however builds and collaborates with existing USAID resilience programs in the administrative locations.

Q8. Who is to be targeted and engaged in the activity and why? Age group?

A8. Per the Factsheet in Attachment 1, CBCR aims to engage community members in the clusters of Karamoja, Mandera and Moyale.

Q9. How will the participants be selected (process)?

A9. All applications will be evaluated against the APPLICATION MERIT REVIEW CRITERIA in Section V.

Q10. How will you monitor the implementation process at this time of insecurity among communities?

A10. CBCR will utilize remote monitoring including phone calls and WhatsApp to check in with implementors. In cases where communities are difficult to access, SMS and text message surveys may be utilized. CBCR will have staff on ground in the clusters.

Q11. What actions they would expect to follow on from this Activity?

A11. Each of the research grants will result in research and knowledge products that will be utilized by local organizations to chart their own pathways for addressing conflict, improving livelihoods and/or reducing the risks of shocks and stresses.

Q12. Are the COVID-19 mitigation policies favourable in this engagement in each country?

A12. Each applicant will be expected to follow all COVID-19 regulations and protocols established by the governments in the region as they engage participants during data collection. Additionally, the successful organizations will be expected/advised to include information on how they will ensure they follow the set regulations and protocols to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

Attachment 1. CBCR Factsheet

CROSS-BORDER COMMUNITY RESILIENCE (CBCR) ACTIVITY

Karamoja Cluster

Kenya
Turkana, West Pokot

Uganda
Amudat, Moroto, Kaabong, Kotido

South Sudan
Kapoeta East, Kapoeta South, Kapoeta North, Budi

Ethiopia
Gnangatom, Dasench

Moyale Cluster

Kenya
Marsabit

Ethiopia
Hamer, Teltele, Dilo, Dire, Miyo, Moyale (Borena)

Mandera Cluster

Kenya
Mandera

Ethiopia
Moyale (Liben), Filtu, Chereti, Dolo Ado, Dolobay

Somalia
Dolo, Belet Xawa, Ceel Waq

The Cross-Border Community Resilience (CBCR) Activity is a regional program funded by USAID and designed 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. CBCR will work to f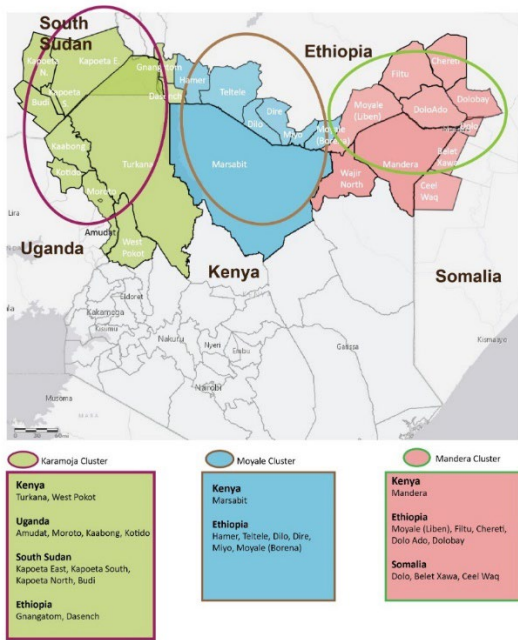oster local ownership of development investments by supporting local leadership in work planning, implementation, monitoring and learning.

CBCR aims to strengthen cross-border "clusters" comprising regions of the Horn of Africa that have historically suffered from underinvestment and whose challenges and vulnerabilities cannot be tackled by national action alone. CBCR will focus on three IGAD clusters: Karamoja, Moyale, and Mandera which covers the borderlands of the following countries:

- Cluster 1 includes Uganda, Ethiopia, South Sudan, and Kenya;
- Cluster 2 includes Kenya and Ethiopia; and
- Cluster 3 includes Somalia, Ethiopia, and Kenya.

OBJECTIVES

With the goal to reduce the need for humanitarian assistance among communities in the cross-border clusters, CBCR aims to contribute to the resilience of cross-border communities in the target Clusters. The objectives of CBCR include building capacity for locally led and managed programming, strengthen social cohesion as a foundation for resilience programming, expand conflict-sensitive and inclusive livelihood and employment opportunities in cross-border areas, improve the conflict-sensitive management and equitable sharing of natural resources in cross-border areas and enhance collaboration and learning across all activities and investments inclusive of cluster stakeholders.

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CBCR'S RESULTS FRAMEWORK

METHODOLOGY

While the Activity is implemented by prime contractor, Chemonics International, and subcontractor, ACDI/VOCA, CBCR is centered around locally led development. Working through Local Development Organizations (LDOs) based within the target clusters, CBCR team will map formal and informal organizations and then competitively select backbone organizations within each cluster who will then co-create implementation plans with communities to address root causes and identify solutions to improve livelihoods and increase resilience. CBCR is implemented under the East Africa Feed-the-Future and the USAID Resilience Challenge Fund. In addition to supporting LDO's to drive activities, CBCR's team will build capacity of LDO's to successfully apply and manage USAID funds under USAID's Regional Resilience Fund and other resources for Cross-border Communities. CBCR will also support LDOs in collaborating across borders with local governments to create and facilitate public-private partnerships, programming, and learning.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Increased capacity of LDOs in organization and resilience program development. Strengthened abilities of local organizations to engage media and stimulate community dialogue and social cohesion.
- Increased density and diversity of social and economic networks and expanded civic participation and leadership of youth and women.
- Expanded public-private partnerships that lead to investment opportunities for a broad-base of entrepreneurs, including women, youth, and other traditionally excluded groups and in water infrastructure, fodder production, rangeland management, and eco-tourism/wildlife conservation.
- Improved policies at the border that ease the movement of goods and people across borders, e.g., harmonizing seed trade regulations, animal health policies, taxation and trade incentives for livestock, trade and SPS standards.
- Strengthened capacity of local development organizations and governments to design, negotiate, and support resource-sharing and climate adaptation interventions across borders and formal agreements between communities and governments that facilitate the sharing of resources and climate adaptation across borders, and increased adoption of rangeland management and other NRM practices.

USAID ASSISTANCE	PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE
USD $19,494,717	November 1, 2021 to October 31, 2026
ACTIVITY CONTACT	**USAID CONTACT**
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Attachment 2. CBCR Theory of Change

GOAL
Reduce the need for humanitarian assistance

OUTCOMES
Program Sub-purposes: Locally led development | Social cohesion as foundation for resilience | Conflict-senstive and inclusive livelihood and employment opportunities | Cross-border; conflict-sensitive management and equitable sharing of natural resources | Collaboration and learning

CHANGE

Attitudinal and Behavior Change

- Mutual understanding of shared challenges and models for effective collaboration
- Trust between diverse community groups and business and government leaders
- Positive, productive cooperation across diverse groups to address common problems
- Community support for changing harmful social and cultural norms and practices
- Adoption of rangeland management and other NRM practices

Institutional Change

- Enhanced MEL, CLA, and research technical capacity of local organizations to become learning organizations
- Creation of multiple avenues for community dialogue
- Formal mechanisms to facilitate cross-border movement of people and goods, and for sharing of resources and climate adaptation
- Enhanced cross-border PPP capacity and investment for local private entrepreneurs and a broad base of entrepreneurs including traditionally excluded groups

SUB-PURPOSES

Sub-purpose 1
- Conflict analysis conducted using EBPD methods
- Steering committees/ platforms established for co-creation
- Participatory, community-led approach to identify solutions and design grants
- LDOs, local researchers/experts, relevant ongoing programs identified
- Capacity development in operational and technical programming

Sub-purpose 2
- Intercultural social networks and discussion forums
- Cross-border participation in civic organizations
- Cross-cultural social activities and programming
- Radio and social-media programming on social cohesion and community-resilience resources

Sub-purpose 3
- Capacity development in value-chain and market system governance assessments
- Public-private partnerships for cross-border livelihoods investment
- Private sector in inclusive, conflict-sensitive livelihoods and employment opportunities
- Locally led, conflict-sensitive identification of livelihoods and employment opportunities
- Cross-border policies in support of livelihoods and employment opportunities, especially for youth
- Financial inclusion and access to economic opportunities

Sub-purpose 4
- Climate-risk identification and adaptation training
- NRM conflict mapping training
- Capacity development in resource-scarcity assessments
- Capacity development in strategic budgeting for NRM
- Cross-border policies that support resource sharing and investments in cross-border NRM

Sub-purpose 5
- MEL and CLA training
- Community learning platforms for collaboration across civil society, private sector, and local government actors
- Cluster learning agendas developed and implemented
- Capacity development in adaptive management