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3rd Cluster Coordination Meeting Minutes – Moyale/Marsabit Cluster II, 12th June 2020

Date	Friday, 12 June 2020
Time	From 9:00am–13:00PM
Venue	Virtual Meeting
Chairperson	Jiddah Choke, SECCCI Moyale/Marsabit Cluster Coordinator Cluster II
Minutes taker	Gemechu Deed, SECCCI Moyale/Marsabit Cluster Deputy Coordinator Cluster II
Agenda of the day	1. Opening Remarks
	2. Meeting objectives and outcomes, updates on new approach, cluster offices operations
	3. Action plans from the 2nd. CCM meeting of 13 th . December, 2019
	4. Updates, achievements, challenges and lessons learned and Security/conflicts updates from Cluster II
	5. Updates on M&E issues
	6. Updates on the status of IGAD Knowledge Management Platform (KMP)
	7. Updates on UNRSA, UNDP Kenya, UNDP Ethiopia, ODP/VSFG, PACT Format: Brief introduction of the project Achievements in the last two years, milestones, remaining activities to be implemented, challenges, lessons learnt and recommendations on how to improve efficiency and effectiveness of the remaining activities.
	8. Recommendations/ Way forward

1. Opening Remarks

The meeting commenced at 9:15am and was chaired by Jiddah Choke, SECCCI Moyale/Marsabit Cluster Coordinator Cluster II. He welcomed participants and introduced the agenda items and requested participants to add any issues they thought necessary for inclusion. He then called upon Dr. Gezehegn Aboset, SECCCI Project Coordinator-IGAD, to deliver opening speech. Dr. Gezehegn appreciated the organizers of the virtual meeting and stressed on the relevance of such a meeting in enhancing cooperation and information sharing among members and should be seen as a platform to build on knowledge management that would accelerate implementation rate of the project if all concerned bodies come and act in unison.



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He also touched on current challenges of coping with COVID-19 movement restrictions, Desert Locust infestation and floods. He reiterated the need to work together and share timely information among clusters. In addition, Simone Beccaria, SECCCI Project Manager-UNDP-RSCA, welcomed all participants on board and encouraged them to actively participate. After self-introduction from the participants, the meeting began.

2.Meeting objectives and outcomes, updates on new approach, cluster offices operations

The main objective of the meeting is to link all the implementing partners for updates on project activities, achievements, challenges and how to overcome the challenges in order to attain efficient and effective delivery of SECCCI objectives.

On updates, Severi reported that staff recruitment for cluster offices has been underway. Office weekly meetings and workshops were put on hold due Covid 19 restrictions. Procurement of PPEs and awareness raising activities on Covid 19 is yet to be implemented. Purchase of bundles for local stakeholder participation is being anticipated. Simone Beccaria, SECCCI Project Manager-UNDP-RSCA added that cluster-II staffing has been completed and expressed his optimism that, with the staff on board, proper project planning and speedy implementation will be forthcoming. He called on members to be more interactive in organizing virtual meeting, keeping abreast of security situation, the need to assess communities' requirements in line with COVID-19 interventions. Local purchase of some PPEs is under consideration. Simone also mentioned about the possibility of project extension with approval from EU.

2.Action Plan/Way forward/Recommendation from the 2 nd. Cluster Coordination Meeting of 13 th. December, 2019

The Way forward from the 2 nd. Cluster Coordination meeting presented by Jiddah Choke was as follows:

	Activity	Time	Responsibility
1	Sharing of work plans/Joint planning & implementing	1 st. March 2020	Jiddah & All IPs
2	Securing of office	13 th. Dec. 2019 – 17 th. Jan. 2020	Gamechu/UNDP Ethiopia
3	SOP – Finalization	By January 2020	UNDP Ethiopia/Gamechu/Jiddah/Dida
4	Domestication of MoUs (translation to local languages and FM broadcast)	By March 2020	UNDP Kenya/UNDP Ethiopia - Dida



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5	SECCCI retreat	By March 2020	UNRSO - Yoas
6	Sharing of transhumance map with all IPS	By 31 st. Dec. 2019	Jiddah - IGAD
7	There is need for information sharing on regular basis	Starts from 13 th. Dec. 2019 – end of project	All IPS

Jiddah Choke informed the meeting that the following were achieved:

i.e. 1. Sharing of workplans have been achieved between IGAD and UNDP. The other IP are yet to share their workplans; 2. Securing of office has been achieved; 3. SOP for use of project motor vehicle has been finalised - a letter requesting authorization to cross the border to Kenya side has been prepared; 6. Sharing of transhumance maps with stakeholders has been achieved.

Pending activities include:

2. Domestication of MoUs (translation to local languages and broadcasting). However, this activity is planned to be implemented in July, 2020.
3. SECCCI retreat has not been organized yet - Yoas is expected to provide update on this activity.
7. Sharing of information between all IPs has not been effective.

4. Updates, achievements, challenges and lessons learned; Security/conflicts issues from Cluster II

A Power Point presentation by Jiddah is annexed to this minutes. The key achievements, challenges and lessons learnt as follows:

Achievements

- Awareness on existing MOUs, Protocols and Agreements between Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia (40 participants – Oct. 2018).
- Domestication of MoUs (13 participants – Kenya/Ethiopia) – 3 rd. Dec. 2019.
- Rapid Information Sharing – (8 & 7 Ethiopia/Kenya participants – for Government officials – implementation and enforcement – 11 th. Dec. 2019.
- Awareness on MoUs/Protocols/Agreements – 27 participants (Kenya/Ethiopia) – 5 th. February, 2020.
- Community Peace Dialogue – 25 & 20 participants (Kenya/Ethiopia) – May, 2019.



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- Mapping of transhumance routes along livestock migratory routes in Marsabit County, Borana and Dawa Zones - 40 participants (validation workshop – 25 & 26 th. July, 2019); Map has been produced and shared.
- IGAD Capacity Development training – 15 participants (Kenya/Ethiopia) – March 2020.
- Participated in high level meeting in Addis Ababa – 17 th. – 18 th. May, 2019. (IGAD/UNDP)
- Community conflict resolution meeting in Torbi Dillo – 8 th. – 20 th. June. (joint meeting to be conducted in August 2019) – CEWARN/SECCCI. – Dillo/Torbi meetings.
- Participated in high level peace meeting in Marsabit County – 29 th. June, 2019 (IGAD/UNDP)
- 1 st. Cluster Coordination Meeting – 24 th. July, 2019; 16 participants.
- 2 nd. Cluster Coordination Meeting – 13 th. December, 2019; 9 participants.
- 3 rd. Cluster Coordination Meeting – 12 th. June, 2020; 14 Participants
- MoUs/Protocols/Agreements/policies baseline survey – Dec. 2019.

Challenges

- Long distances from the centres of decision making – Djibouti City/Addis/Nairobi – 790 km away and more.
- Inadequate transport facilities to operate on both sides of the border
- Violent conflicts in border area – currently between Borana/Degodia; Boran/Gabra; and other communities.
- Funding delays for implementation of SECCCI activities – quarterly releases and untimely release of funds for activities and staff salaries.
- Covid 19 movement restrictions by IGAD member states.

Lessons Learnt

- Better negotiation of roles and understanding by each implementing partner.
- Each partner needs to be allocated independent transport (motor vehicle) or resources to implement their roles.
- There is need for mechanism for implementing partners to mitigate conflicts arising during the project implementation period.
- One yearly funding release system is more efficient that quarterly funds disbursements.
- Governments key in peace building and conflict prevention.
- Work closely with existing structures – OSBP (One-stop-border-project).
- Communities need to play active roles in peace and resilience building in cross border areas.
- There is need for all inclusive (governments, NGOs, communities) planning for peace building and conflict prevention.



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Gemechu Deed, SECCCI Moyale/Marsabit Deputy Cluster Coordinator added that all staff have moved to Moyale office. He has written official letter to Moyale Telecommunication Office to install internet connection to ease the burden of poor connectivity. An accelerated workplan related to cross-border project has been shared with Jiddah and UNDP Ethiopia Country Office. Gemechu informed the meeting that he has been attending both woreda and zonal level coordination taskforce in fora in Moyale and Yabello. He also mentioned that the mid-term evaluation is being carried by a consultant virtually. The Local Security Assistant (LSA) has been at the forefront of sharing weekly security sitrep with UNDP. Currently, Gemechu is writing TORs related to local conflict assessment to be done by consultant and a training for border peace management committee members and government liaison officers.

On security updates, Jiddah informed the meeting that there are conflicts going on between Borana and Degodia in Moyale close to the Kenya/Ethiopia border. Several livestock including camels, sheep, goats and donkeys were looted. Some deaths were reported, though the figures could not be verified. Close to Marsabit Town, four deaths were reported during an armed confrontation between Borana and Gabra. In the same week, four Rendille pupils aged 17 – 25 (2 girls and 2 boys) were gunned down by unknown assailants near Marsabit Town. In response to the killings, the Rendille community demonstrated, blocking the main internal highway. However, they were dispersed without further incident. conflict ensued over pasture land. There is a need to hold community dialogue for peaceful settlement of the issues before it escalates to full-blown conflict and the cross-border project should play active role in making these dialogues take place in close consultation with key government stakeholders.

5.Updates on M and E issues

George Obhai from IGAD briefly explained that baseline survey has been carried out at Cluster II and Cluster I. The report on the baseline has been shared with the stakeholders.

6.Updates on IGAD Knowledge Management Platform of IGAD

Christine Bukania-KM Coordinator of IGAD mentioned the importance of knowledge management in cross-border project and briefly touched on pre-pandemic plans such as training of content managers from SECCCI stakeholders, uploading of documents, uploading of contents, agreement



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signing, quarterly training for technical persons on portal and content management. Challenges of managing the IGAD platform is described in the Power Point presentation by Christine which was already shared.

7.Updates by Implementing Partners

UNRSA - Simone Beccaria

Simone Beccaria, SECCCI Project Manager-UNDP-RSCA mentioned that it is necessity to have community development plans that show community needs for immediate responses. Having plans will jumpstart cross-border SECCCI activities. He also emphasised that timely communications are of paramount importance.

Simone mentioned that staff recruitment and office set up has been completed in Cluster II. Needs assessment has to be carried out in order to engage in capacity building activities. The Mid-Term Evaluation is going on and the Cluster Coordinators were requested to support the consultant so that he may complete his assignment in a satisfactory manner.

UNDP Ethiopia – Gemechu Deed

Gemechu noted that the mid-term review is going on and they are part of the process. He noted that the activities are lagging behind and emphasized the need to expedite the implementation process at the cluster. Gemechu has been attending Woreda meetings regularly. Covid 19 PPEs for Moyale are still being procured and the office internet connectivity is being enhanced through support from the telecoms in Moyale. He requested UNDP Ethiopia to be invited to such meetings in the future.

UNDP Kenya

Participant from UNDP Kenya was absent as he was involved in a ghastly motor vehicle accident and is still recovering from serious injuries sustained.

Dr. Kumsa attended the meeting initially but was not available to provide the brief.

VSF-Germany/SND/PACT

The representative to the meeting Mr. Richard attended the meeting initially but was not available to give the brief.



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9. Recommendations/Way Forward

	Activity	Time	Responsibility
1	Procurement of PPE and distribution to be speeded up	12 th. June – 30 th. June	UNDP Ethiopia/UNRSA (Yoas, Simone, Gemechu)
2	SECCCI to make curtesy call to Zone Administrations (Both in Borena and Somali) and Marsabit County after travel restrictions are lifted	By July 2020	Jiddah, Gemechu Deed, Galm Dida
3	Translation of MOU into local languages and broadcasting	sometimes in July 2020	Jiddah Choke and Gemechu
4	Solicitation of vehicle authorization letter and vehicle passbook	July 2020	Jiddah and Gemechu
5	Sharing of detailed workplans	June 2020	All IPS
6	Sharing of all presentations	Immediate	All presenters
7	Sharing of the meeting minutes	By 20 th. June, 2020	Gemechu/Jiddah
8	Prepare Concept Note for immediate conflict mitigation in Moyale	June 2020	Gemechu and Jiddah

Closing Remarks by Dr. Aboset

He thanked all participants for active participation and encouraged all the participants to implement what was discussed and agreed upon.



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List of Participants

No	Name of Participants	Institution	Gender	Email address
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