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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Garre and Degodia youth embrace after a youth peace tournament in Mandera County, Kenya. These clans are suffering from long-term conflict in the area. Photo: PEACE III / Pact

EAST AFRICA

PEACE III

Authoritarian regimes, civil war, wide ungoverned spaces, recurring drought and limited access to natural resources have contributed to a long history of conflict along the borders of East African countries, particularly Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda. Factors such as increasing access to automatic weapons and a rise in recruitment and activity of extremist groups have exacerbated instability in the region. Inter-clan conflicts, rooted in ethnic or sectarian marginalization, have led to unresolved cycles of revenge in remote communities.

Peace III is strengthening the management of conflict along the Kenya/Somalia, Kenya/Ethiopia, Kenya/South Sudan and Kenya/Uganda borders. The activity promotes stability in the region by strengthening the relationship between communities and local governments in cross-border areas and improving the ability of regional and national institutions to respond rapidly and effectively to conflict.

OUR WORK

Peace III addresses the diverse drivers of conflict in the Horn of Africa in two primary geographic areas: the Karamoja cluster along the borders of Kenya, Ethiopia, South Sudan and Uganda, where violence is often related to the impacts of climate change and access to natural resources such as water or land for grazing animals; and the Somali cluster along the borders of Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia, where violence is often linked to the rise of extremist groups.

PEACE III enhances and expands community-based approaches to cross-border security and peacebuilding through sub-grants to local organizations. Peace dividend activities that connect communities previously in conflict through the construction of a shared resource, such as water pans and markets, help to promote health and wellbeing, as well as build communities' resilience to drought.

By improving the knowledge and skills of individuals and local government authorities, PEACE III is contributing to efforts to build trust between communities and break cycles of cross-border violence. Working through "peace actors" (women, youth, tribal chiefs, elders, security officials and local political leaders) helps communities to prevent or recover from violent acts and support individuals who have been affected by violence. Conflict prevention, reconciliation and peace-building activities are delivered through women's and chiefs' networks, athletic and cultural events, trauma healing sessions and the development of formal peace treaties.

Budget: \$20.3 million

Duration: May 2014 – April 2019

Activity Locations: The borders of Kenya-Somalia-Ethiopia (Somali cluster), and Kenya-Ethiopia-South Sudan-Uganda (Karamoja cluster)

Implementing Partners:
Pact and Mercy Corps

Key Partners:

21 local peace networks; government officials and security actors; community-based organizations; non-governmental organizations; Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (CEWARN) and national Conflict Early Warning and Early Response Units (CEWERUs)

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ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2016, Peace III achieved the following results:

- 16,871 individuals reached to support peace and reconciliation
- 91 local women involved in a substantial peace building role
- 37 new groups or initiatives formed to resolve local conflicts and conflict drivers
- 167 events held with key actors to support peace and reconciliation
- 374 people reached through countering violent extremism activities
- Six peace dividend projects completed