



**THE RESILIENT LANDSCAPES FOR  
DEVELOPMENT AND SECURITY PROGRAM**

*In Support of the Horn of Africa Initiative*

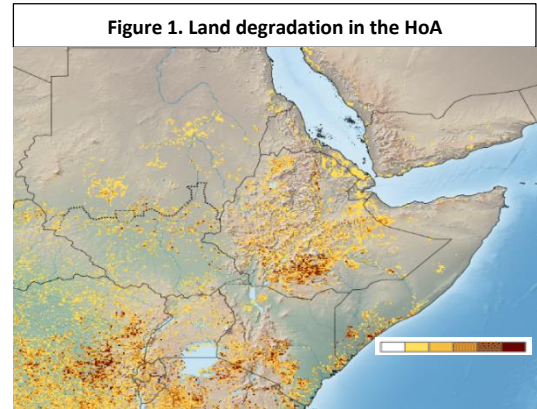


## The Resilient Landscapes for Development and Security Program in the Horn of Africa

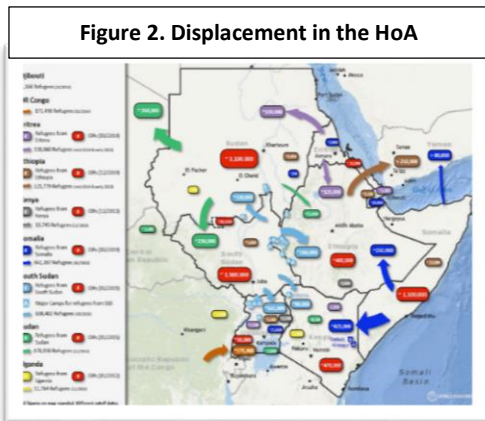
### Program Background

As the Horn of Africa (HoA) is developing, it is facing growing challenges with managing its environmental and renewable natural resources—land, water, forests, fish and ecosystems on which they depend—in a sustainable way to benefit current generations, while enabling future development opportunities.

The HOA is part of Africa’s drylands that make up 43% of the total land area (Figure 1), account for 75% of the area used for agriculture; and are home to 50% of the population including pastoral communities (e.g. northern Kenya, northern Uganda, and southern Ethiopia, pastoral populations include Samburu, Pokot, Turkana, Rendille, Boran, and Karimojong). Drylands, including marginal areas and borderlands, are hotspots of natural disasters.



The region is affected by ongoing conflicts that have triggered major displacements of people – migration both within countries and across borders - leading to increasing fragility and instability (Figure 2). Border zones in the HoA are host to high populations of displaced people including, over 2.1 million refugees and over 6.5 million internally displaced people (IDPs).



Climate change, which affects the highly vulnerable Africa, including the HoA, poses considerable threat of undermining development gains and future opportunities.

Building resilience and strengthening the long-term security and sustainability of natural resources and vulnerable groups is therefore critical for the sustainability of development in the HOA

and, as a contribution to the World Bank Group’s (WBG) corporate goals and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### Program Rationale

Within the context of the HoA Initiative, NEPAD’s African Resilient Landscape Initiative<sup>1</sup>, and using the Terrafrica<sup>1</sup> platform, the WBG is proposing to develop a multi-country programmatic approach for a **Resilient Landscapes for Development and Security Program**. The program envisions the integrated management of a mosaic of production systems, pastoral and rangelands, protected area habitats, dry forestlands and natural assets, that together form the rural landscape for the HoA countries and allow connectivity across borders through migration and transhumance. Overall, the Program interventions aim to enhance ecosystems’ & peoples’ resilience, community wellbeing, and sustainable livelihoods that will help maximize efforts towards resilience

<sup>1</sup> Terrafrica is an Africa based and Africa-led partnership of 26 Sub-Saharan countries and 20 partners including Regional Economic Communities (RECs), UN bodies, international organizations, EU, bilaterals, and civil society organizations. It has been at the forefront of assisting African countries to reverse land degradation and build resilience by adopting policies and programs that promote sustainable land and water management (SLWM) practices under a landscape approach ([www.terrafrica.org](http://www.terrafrica.org))

to climate change, with a particular emphasis on productive use of natural resources in marginal areas and borderlands.

**Horn of Africa Initiative:** In October 2014, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, the WBG President, Jim Yong Kim, the Intergovernmental Agency for Development (IGAD) and several development partners and institutions launched the Horn of Africa (HoA) Initiative – which pledged political support and major new financial assistance (totalling \$8 billion) to tackle vulnerability and regional stability in the sub-region. As part of this overall pledge, the WBG committed a financial pledge of \$1.8 billion for cross-border activities in the HoA.

**African Resilient Landscape Initiative (ARLI):** To be launched in December 2015, the ARLI commits, through the implementation of the African Landscape Action Plan (ALAP), to advance landscape governance, policy, finance, capacities, business development, and research for integrated landscape management and, through the African Forest and Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100), to bring 100 million hectares of degraded and deforested land under restoration in Africa by 2030.

Notably mixed migration flows, which include refugees, asylum-seekers, displaced persons, and migrants are leading to greater conflicts over equitable access to natural resources. In the underdeveloped and sparsely populated borderlands, communities within face greater challenges owing to resource scarcity and devastating droughts. Refugees and refugee-hosting communities are poorer and more vulnerable with the settlement areas suffering from lower agricultural productivity and greater environmental degradation due to poor climatic and soil conditions and/or overuse.

This Program will support a fundamental shift in considering forced displacement as a developmental challenge in addition to a humanitarian and security challenge.

### Program Approach

The multi-dimensional challenge of land degradation, unsustainable land use and climate variability and change requires an integrated solution. There is increasing understanding that these challenges transcend institutional and geographic boundaries and, can gain from a shared response.

The Program will consist of **a suite of national projects** tailored to countries' needs that will adopt an approach that accounts for social, economic, institutional and policy needs for sustainable integrated landscapes management at scale. Investments will improve self-reliance of refugees and host communities. In addition, the Program also envisages **a regional project** which will allow interconnectivity, coordination and knowledge exchange between the participating countries. Synergies will be drawn with the regional integration and cooperation efforts of the HoA initiative through IGAD and IUCN which could potentially undertake this regional role.



### Program Design

The objective of this proposed Program is to increase the ecosystem resilience productivity within landscapes in targeted countries of the Horn of Africa. The Program will be structured around two broad components outcomes:

❖ **Strengthening institutions, information and policy reforms for restoration and resilience:** Activities will support improving enabling environments to scale up sustainable land and water management (SLWM) under a landscape approach in target countries and build national and local level capacities to implement, harmonize and coordinate investments, policies and information. Lessons and results from TerrAfrica will be central to the design of interventions in the countries with a focus on generation and exchange of knowledge. As relevant support will be provided for improving climate and water monitoring network improvements, ICT innovations and institutional cooperation within and across countries.

❖ **Building resilience in vulnerable landscapes:** Activities will support scaling up best-fit SLWM practices<sup>2</sup> and restoration activities in targeted landscapes through integrated landscapes management (Figure 3). The

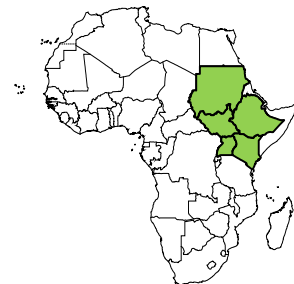


emphasis will be on increasing adaptive capacity and reducing vulnerability of rural communities by adjusting production practices such as improving small-scale climate resilient irrigation techniques, improvement of food and seed storage capacities and developing livestock feed, among others. Given that droughts remain one of the major triggers for crises in pastoral regions, interventions will focus on strengthening the inclusion of herdsmen and actions that combine preventive interventions (e.g. early-warning system, vulnerability maps) and humanitarian measures (e.g. social safety nets). Additionally, the program envisages support forest management planning and payment for environmental services activities to increase ecological connectivity (corridor development) at a landscape level. Gender

sensitive community based livelihood development activities that generate alternative sources of income including development of eco-tourism that also generate environmental benefits will be central to the design of the interventions.

### Program Scope

Potential countries identified under this Program include **Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia**. These countries have been identified as being among the countries at highest climate related risk, particularly from the impacts of droughts and floods, where the livelihoods of large numbers of people are affected by extreme poverty and food insecurity and which are home to a large concentration of refugees and displaced peoples in border areas (e.g. Sudan-South Sudan- Ethiopia; Sudan- South Sudan, Uganda- South Sudan-Kenya).



### Program Financing

The Program is envisaged to be funded by a combination of sources potentially including Regional and National IDA and IBRD funds, GEF/LDCF funds, Green Climate Funds (GCF), TerrAfrica and other Trust Funds for both a greater impact and, as a significant contribution to the overall financing needs of the HoA Initiative.



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<sup>2</sup> SLM in Practice, Guidelines and Best Practices for Sub-Saharan Africa handbook (TerrAfrica Publication)