

PASSAGE PROJECT NEWSLETTER QUARTER 3 2025 July – Sept



Q3 2025 Highlights

- Gender Equality and Inclusion Workshop for Project Partners
- Data Collection Exercise in Moyale, Karamoja & Mandera IGAD Clusters
- Forecasts to Local Action (FOLA) Session at GHACOF 71
- Strengthening Climate Resilience through Geospatial Innovation
- RCMRD Conducts Field Data Collection in Marsabit & Turkana
- IFRC Co-Convenes CEWS/ PAPE ToT Training

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Item 1: Gender Equality and Inclusion Workshop for Project Partners

ICPALD convened a gender, equality and inclusion workshop for PASSAGE project partners with participants from World Food Programme, Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD), Makerere University, University of Nairobi, Sussex University, Jigjiga University, IFRC, Red Cross-Ethiopia, South Sudan & Uganda. The event was held in Nairobi from 8-10 July 2025.



Amongst others, the three-day training covered tools to integrate GEI into the project work, safeguarding research & programming, data collection that reflects GEI, the relationship



between GEI & research, SWOT analysis when integrating FEI, and a plan for GEI implementation.

The interactive forum featured group activities, discussions and practical application sessions which culminated in an action plan for the various project work packages. Participants also received training completion certificates.

Item 2: Data Collection Exercise Moyale, Karamoja & Mandera IGAD Clusters under PASSAGE Project



During July to August 2025, ICPALD engaged in a lengthy data collection exercise on climate-related risks, vulnerability dynamics, traditional coping mechanisms and early warning practices, to inform anticipatory action planning in the pastoral areas. The exercise covered the cross-border areas of Moyale, Karamoja and Mandera IGAD clusters.

A comprehensive household survey in selected pastoral and agro-pastoral communities across these three clusters was conducted to generate localized data that informs the risk analysis for anticipatory action under the PASSAGE project.

Item 3: Forecasts to Local Action at GHACOF71

The 71st Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum, co-convened by ICPAC, was held in Nairobi from 25th – 27th August 2025.

This forum brought together climate scientists, policymakers, researchers, development partners, the private sector and sectoral users to hold deliberations guided by the theme *“Climate Services for Closing the Early Warning Gap Together”*.

During the event, a session on the Forecast to Local Action (FOLA) framework was led by Ahmed Mohamoud, ICPALD’s PASSGE Project Coordinator. Delegates were taken through the FOLA

framework which enables communities in the cross-border pastoral areas to co-produce early warnings for local action during learning hub sessions.

In co-producing, communities combine their own knowledge with national meteorological services, identify populations at risk and relevant thresholds, and produce a risk informed Anticipatory Action plan. This enhances inclusivity, adaptability, trust and ownership.



Item 4: Strengthening Climate Resilience through Geospatial Innovation: RCMRD Participates in Kenya Cash Consortium Workshop

On 15th October, Connel represented the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD) at the *Kenya Cash Consortium Review Workshop* held at Swiss-Belinn Hotel, Nairobi.

RCMRD was invited as a technical institution to share insights on how geospatial technologies are being applied to address climate-related impacts on livelihoods. Through its work, RCMRD supports governments and partners to use satellite data, mapping, and spatial analysis to better understand vulnerabilities, design targeted interventions, and strengthen community resilience against the effects of climate change.

Engagements like this highlight the importance of data-driven approaches and multi-sector collaboration in building sustainable solutions for people and the planet.

Item 5: RCMRD Conducts Field Data Collection in Marsabit & Turkana under the PASSAGE Project

Under the PASSAGE Project (Strengthening Pastoral Livelihoods in the African Greater Horn through Effective Anticipatory Action), the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD), in collaboration with the Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) and the County Governments of Marsabit and Turkana, carried out extensive field data collection between 11th and 23rd August 2025.



The mission focused on mapping invasive species (*Prosopis juliflora*, *Acacia reficiens*), surface water points, and land cover dynamics to inform drought early warning and anticipatory action models. Over 400 geo-referenced points were collected using the KoBoToolbox platform, capturing information on vegetation condition, invasive species distribution, and water resource availability. In Turkana County, drone-based aerial surveys complemented field data collection, providing high-resolution imagery of *Prosopis* infestations, surface water bodies, and shifting land cover patterns.



Field observations revealed that *Prosopis juliflora* was widespread across Laisamis, Moyale, and North Horr sub-counties, often colonizing riverbeds, floodplains, and grazing areas. Respondents identified key spread vectors including livestock movement, water runoff, and roadside transport. Control efforts reported by communities involved manual uprooting, cutting and backburning, and controlled grazing, though many sites still lacked coordinated management.

The team also gathered data on the alternative utilization of *Prosopis juliflora*, such as charcoal production and use as fodder, to mitigate its spread while supporting local livelihoods. Despite challenges of rough terrain, vast distances, and limited accessibility, the mission achieved its objectives—generating multi-source datasets that will be integrated into the PASSAGE open-source database to strengthen evidence-based decision-making, ecosystem restoration, and resilience planning across the Greater Horn of Africa.



Item 6: IFRC Co-Convenes in CEWS/ PAPE ToT Training



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), in collaboration with the Water at the Heart of Climate Action (WAHCA) consortium partners—UNDRR, RCCC, NLRC, WMO, RCRC Climate Center, SOFF—and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), convened a five-day regional Training of Trainers (ToT) programme focused on Community Early Warning Systems (CEWS).

The event took place on 15-19 September 2025 in Kigali-Rwanda and brought together representatives from the WHCA partners, RCRC partners and Ministries of Environment from Kenya, Uganda, Sudan, Ethiopia, South Sudan, and Rwanda, as well as the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

This initiative is integral to the Passage Project, particularly as it is implemented in Kapoeta East on the South Sudan border and Moroto District in Uganda—locations that serve as vital cross-border points for the PASSAGE project. The Community Early Warning Systems (CEWS) and Public Awareness Public Education (PAPE) key messages developed during this training will benefit pastoral communities residing in these areas.