

SUCCESS STORIES

Ethiopian Side of the Karamoja cluster

A swift cross-border exchange of early warning information led to release of motor boats

On October 30 and November 11, 2011 the Ethiopia and Kenya Country Coordinators (CCs) exchanged a conflict early warning information about the rising tension around Lake Turkana between Turkana and Dassenech. The cause of the tension was the increasing theft of fishing nets between the fishermen of the two communities. In a series of attacks between October 24 and 29th, the Turkana fishermen stole around 39 fishing nets belonging to the Dassenech from the area called Abalaqua. The Ethiopian authorities, on the other hand, seized 4 motor boats belonging to the Turkana fishermen. The early warning report called for the Local Peace Committees (LPCs) and authorities of the two countries to facilitate recovery and handing over the fishnets and the release of the motor boats.

The Ethiopian CCs passed the information on the same day to the Dassenech Woreda Administrators, South Nations, Nationalities and People's Region (SNNPR) Security and Administration Bureau as well as the Ministry of Federal Affairs calling for the facilitation of the release of the 4 motor boats which were in the custody of Dassenech Woreda. Within a week time the Dassenech Woreda Administration handed over the 4 motor boats to the Kenyan Authorities. However, the Kenyan local authorities have not been able so far to return fishing nets stolen from the Dassenech except to 4 fishing nets that are seized and are taken to Lodwar as exhibit.