

# SUCCESS STORIES

*Ethiopian Side of the Somali cluster*

## ***A swift exchange of early warning information and rapid intervention by authorities diffused tension in Ethiopian sides of Somali cluster***

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of November 2011, the CCs received information from the Field Monitors and the CEWARN Unit team ( which was on the ground at the time ) about an escalating conflict between the Borana and Gabra/Garre tribes in Arero-Hudet-Dhas-Moyale corridor which requires urgent attention and intervention. The conflict started on 15<sup>th</sup> of November in the Arero-Hudet corridor and quickly escalated and spread to Dhas (Borbor area) and Moyale Woredas/Districts.

According to information received from the ground the following was how the conflict chronicled:

- Borena people killed one Gabra man in Arero Woreda;
- Gabras also killed one Borena as revenge in Arero Woreda;
- Immediately the conflict escalated and spread to Dhas Woreda;
- Borena members killed 2 people who hailed from the Garre tribe;
- As an act of revenge, 2 Borena traders were killed (some say slaughtered) by some Garre community members;
- Members of Garre community attacked a Borena village and killed the Aba Olla (Head of Village) and wounded one women;

Following these incidents the three communities Borena on one side and Gabra and Garre on the other were preparing and mobilizing themselves for further violent attacks and confrontation, and the resident communities/people were running away from their areas for fear.

The CCs passed the information on the same day to Ministry of Federal Affairs and Regional governments of Somali and Oromiya calling for immediate deployment of additional security forces ( including patrolling) followed by urgent peacemaking efforts ( peace meeting among the elders and leaders of the customary institutions). The Ministry of Federal Affairs began coordinating a response with Oromiya and Somali Regional Governments and immediately deployed more security forces to the areas. The situation changed for the better since the 21<sup>st</sup> with the increased deployment/presence of Army personnel (Military Police) and Federal Police, before which there was highly noticeable/volatile tension even on the streets of Moyale .

A high level team from Ministry of Federal Affairs and Regional governments of Oromiya and Somali was dispatched to the area on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and held discussions with elders and officials of the three communities in Moyale on the 28<sup>th</sup>- 29<sup>th</sup> of November 2011. The meeting agreed to solve the conflict on the basis of the Negelle Peace Agreement signed between Gerri, Gabra and Borena in March 2011 and called for immediate return of IDPs. On the following week, the IDPs have started returning to their kebeles and all the communities have begun paying compensation for the killed as per the provisions of Negelle Agreement.