

# UNDP Africa Borderlands Centre:



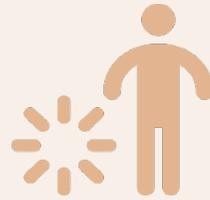
Investing in borderland communities to promote socio-economic development and peacebuilding



# The Africa Borderlands Centre



Borderlands are regions within 30km from international borders where border contact is a central feature of economic and political life. Borderlands are unique development poles and areas of untapped opportunities to advance sustainable development in Africa.



Empirical evidence shows borderlands have higher numbers of violent incidents than other regions, limited public service delivery and are often host to large refugee populations. But in many of these regions, insecurity and poverty disguise the true socio-economic potential of borderlands and their communities.



There are three key gaps when it comes to Africa's borderlands: **An attention gap:** a lack of focus on borderland issues. **A research and data gap:** A lack of dedicated research and disaggregated data on borderland issues and **A structural gap:** Borderlands face key structural challenges including limited public services, limited private investment, and transboundary insecurity.



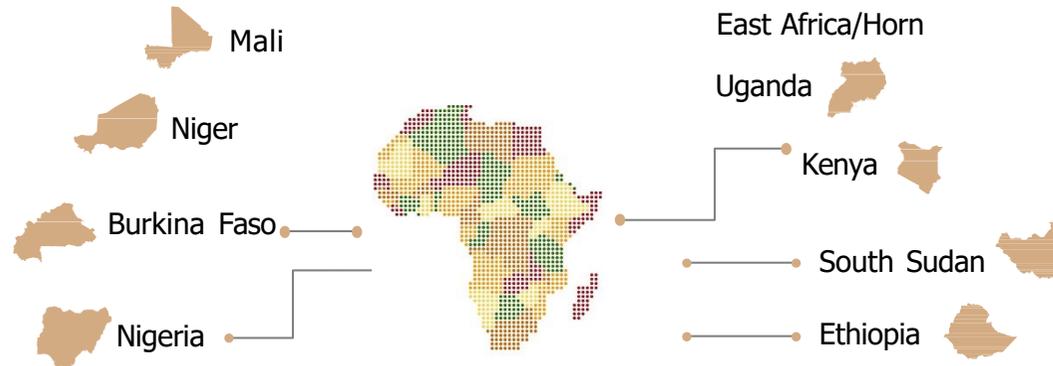
The UNDP Africa Borderlands Centre was established in 2021 to address these three gaps with the overall aim of elevating the ideas and voices of African borderland communities while supporting socio-economic development and peacebuilding across its borderlands. ABC has worked in 20+ countries since it was established.

# Research and Data

## Action-Research:

“Prosperity & Peril: Voices of Farmers and Pastoralists from Africa’s Borderlands”.

1000+ surveys and interviews. Key themes: Mobility, Livelihoods, Services, Conflict, Environment. The Case-studies are in



People want to stay – provided there are sufficient economic opportunities, security and services. Research to be launched September 2022.

# Research and Data

Africa  
Borderlands  
Center



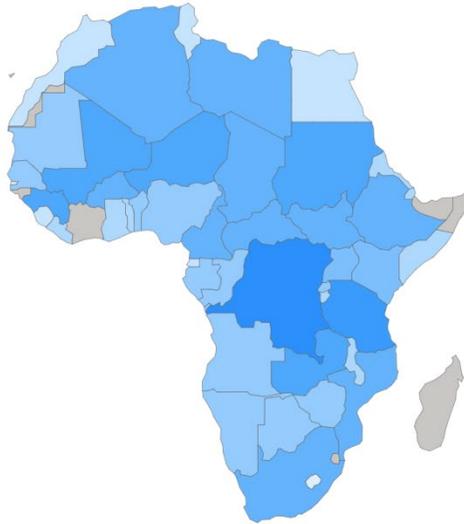
Africa Borderlands Center

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SUMMARY

OVERVIEW

DRILL DOWN



## ALL COUNTRY BORDERS OVERVIEW

Total Population



592M

Hospitals to Population  
*for every 100,000 people*

1.77

Refugee Camps



292

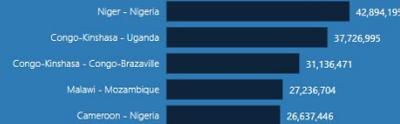
Police Station to Population  
*for every 100,000 people*

0.37

Bottom 3 Border Pairs by HOSPITALS



Top 5 Border Pairs by POPULATION



## Data portal:

The Centre will launch Q2, 2022 an Encyclopedia of African Borderlands, with detailed data and stories on borderlands across Africa, including 106 border pairs fact sheets. Launching July 2022. We are looking for data partnerships!

# Innovation challenges 2021 and 2022

4 projects funded by Borderlands Centre on piloting innovation related to improving livelihoods for informal cross-border traders and trading communities.

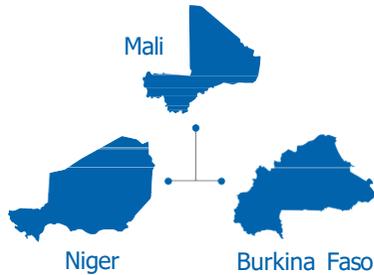
## Digital Financial Inclusion for Borderlands Community-Based Credit Unions

### Warawar

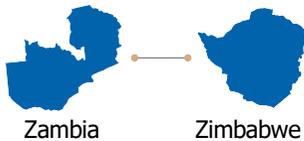
Sudan-South Sudan



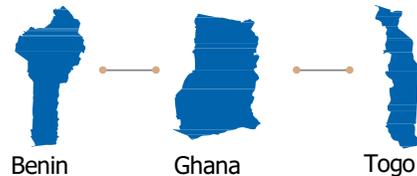
### Menaka



### Vic Fall and Livingstone



### Aflao



### Overall Objective:

To ensure that the most vulnerable persons and their businesses have access to useful and affordable financial products and services that meet their needs in areas such as (a) transactions, (b) payments, (c) savings & credits and (d) insurance.



To pull the poorest and the most vulnerable women and youth into the wealth creation structures in the borderlands.



To capacitate CCUs to enhance efficiency and additional value offers through digitization.



To utilize catalytic funds to support beneficiaries' inclusive socio-economic growth while generating cyclical financial returns.



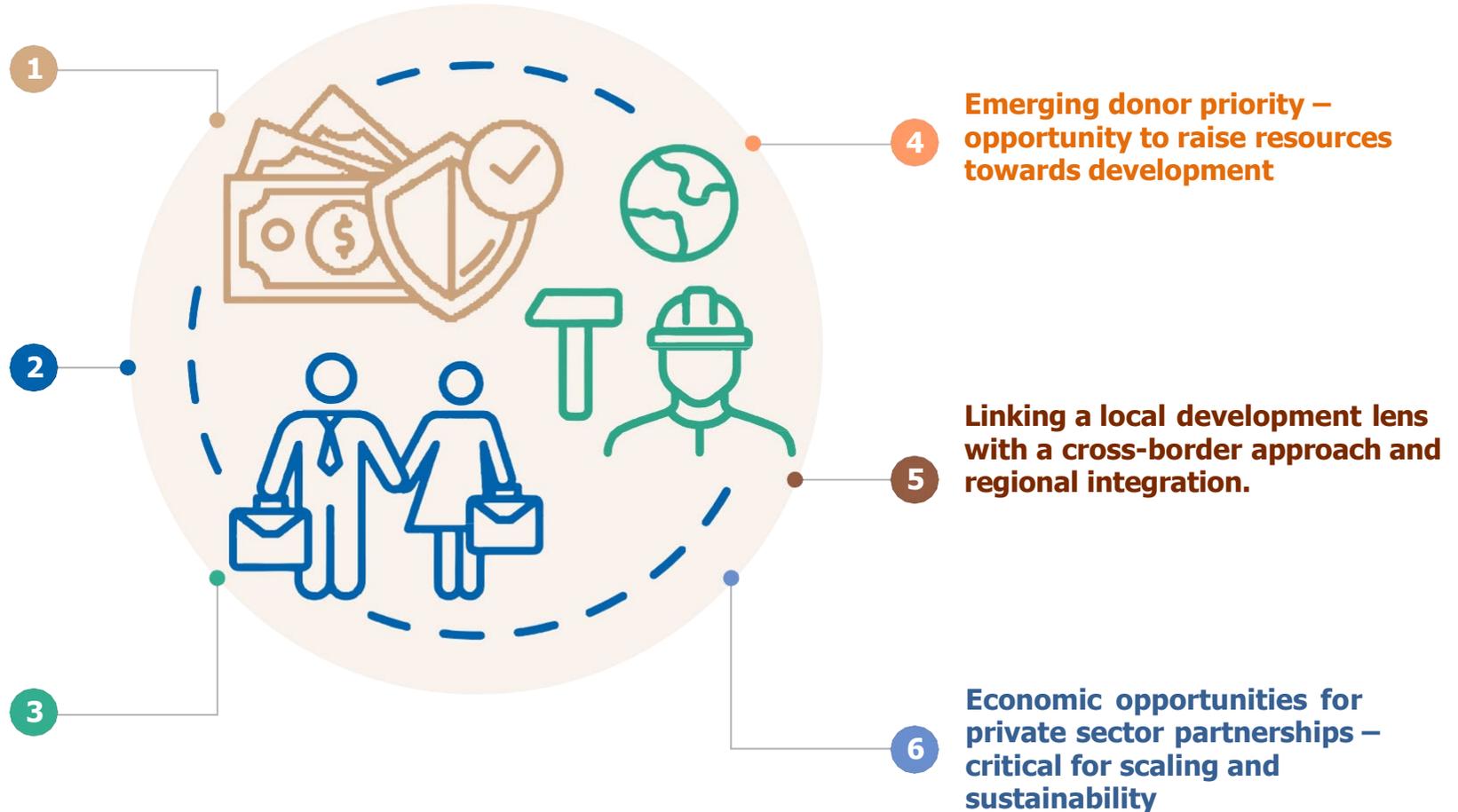
To expand the opportunity for borderlands cooperative groups to improve their market shares, increase their pool of members and increase their business capital.

# Africa's borderlands area areas of socio-economic opportunity

**Borderlands hold the key to accelerating inclusive growth towards achieving the Agenda 2030 and reaching those most at risk of being left behind**

- **Cross-border trade is the socio-economic lifeblood of borderlands**
- **Harnessing cross-border mobility and trade can unlock the socio-economic potential of border regions.**
- **Emerging opportunities EAC/AcFTA**

**Investing in borderland communities is an important opportunity for peacebuilding and prevention of violent extremism through shared prosperity.**



**Emerging donor priority – opportunity to raise resources towards development**

**Linking a local development lens with a cross-border approach and regional integration.**

**Economic opportunities for private sector partnerships – critical for scaling and sustainability**

**Trade for Peace in the Liptako Gourma** in Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso.

**Mali:** Construction of 2 cattle markets and dairy house, community social cohesion dialogues with 360 participants, procurement of 40 tons of cattle feed and support to training of 40 representatives of agricultural chambers.

**Niger:** Support to market infrastructure, including water access points as well as training and seed funding for youth entrepreneurs.

**Burkina Faso:** Extension of market infrastructure, soap making facilities for IDPs and construction of food storage facilities.

**Quick impact programming Covid recovery:**

**Kenya:** Support to social cohesion building initiatives, women and youth engagement fora, inter-communal peace dialogues. Support to community infrastructure, including a primary school, boreholes for livestock and farming, provision of goats and cows, support to market structures and road development, provision of tents and furniture for women and youth border groups.

**Sierra Leone:** Capacity building and financial support to women and youth entrepreneurs, including financial literacy training and start-up kits. Cash grants to women in agriculture, farming tools for women-led businesses, installation of solar lamps and cold storage facilities, including post-harvest and during transportation. Support to police and border authorities with equipment and training and SGBV.

**Niger:** Upgrading of livestock market, including installation of pastoral water access points and livestock food storage facilities.

**Namibia:** Provision of basic needs, including clothing, food, tents, water tanks and sanitary installations for borderland communities in remote areas, including IDPs and refugees. Support to farmers on the use of micro-drip irrigation systems for horticultural development.

- **Launch Data Portal**
- **Launch Flagship Research**
- **Launch COP**
- **Trade for Peace Phase II (expand to Mauretania/Gambia)**
- **Burundi-Tanzania**
- **Gambia-Senegal**
- **Chad-Cameroon**
- **Kenya-Uganda**
- **Sierra Leone-Guinea**
- **IGAD Karamoja initiative**
- **Assessment of Mandera triangle (LPI, DRC, Special Envoy)**
- **CSO capacity building East Africa (LPI, AUBP)**

# Area-based borderlands development portfolio approach:

Building on lessons from launch year, we advocate for the development of an **area-based borderlands development portfolio approach**.



Strengthen **agriculture** and **livestock production**, and enhance associated value and supply chains



Invest in **climate-resilient small infrastructure** to enhance production and trade, including water



Provide access to **finance, support entrepreneurship** and strengthen the capacity of **Micro and Small Enterprises, ICBT**



Strengthen vertical and horizontal **social cohesion**

- 1. Support to local authorities**
- 2. Social protection**
- 3. Technology**
- 4. Private sector partnership**