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Africa and the Challenges of the Twenty First Century
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إفريقيا وتحديات القرن الواحد والعشرين

An analysis of cross-border policy programs of Eastern Africa

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Abstract

The borders between Kenya and her neighbours are faced with a myriad of multi-dimensional security and developmental challenges of the marginalized areas. The problems range from extreme poverty, cross-border conflicts, insecurity, cattle rustling, ethnic clashes and other social economic and political problems that communities in these regions encounter in the course of their activities as Cross-border pastoralists or cross-border traders. This paper aims to discuss the nature and dynamics of these problems which often result to cross-border conflicts in the Eastern and the Horn of Africa.

The paper argues that these issues impact negatively on the inter-state relationships in the regions and have a negative bearing on the implementation of regional integration initiatives such as the East African cooperation. The key challenge is to find ways to attain safe and secure borders that will also contribute to sustaining and enhancing regional integration efforts.

Further, the paper discusses these issues, vis-à-vis opportunities and challenges associated with the regions' governments' approaches and initiatives to these perennial problems and examine the options for developing more far reaching and sustainable solutions to the problem.

Keywords: *Cross-border – Policy program – East Africa*