

# BOMA PROJECT

2021 Q1 Impact Report | January to March

## The Path to 1 Million

COVID-19 has been tough on us all. The effects of the pandemic have been especially debilitating on people living in extreme poverty. The World Bank estimates that COVID-19 will push an additional 115 million people into extreme poverty by the end of 2021.

We can't let this happen. In the face of increasingly greater challenges, we have to become even more ambitious. That's why, at the BOMA Project, we're not only thinking big. We're doing big.

**Our goal? Empower 1 million women and children to graduate from extreme poverty by 2024.**

How are we going to do this? By increasing the government adoption of BOMA's poverty graduation approach through programs like the Kenya Social Economic Inclusion Project (KSEIP). By taking this transformative approach to more countries like Chad and Uganda through strategic partnerships. And by increasing the efficiency of our poverty graduation program, which will allow more women, youth, and refugees to "graduate" from the program in a shorter amount of time.

With the tireless commitment and unmatched expertise of our mentors and staff, we will transform the lives of 1 million women and children. Lives like that of Pamela Lonolingenje. The impacts of climate change have prevented Pamela from pursuing a traditional living as a pastoralist. Pamela was forced to burn charcoal and cut firewood for income. Often, she was arrested by forest officials.

Pamela enrolled in a BOMA Project initiative funded by the Climate Justice Resilience Fund. She received training in the management of natural resources. She joined a committee that made decisions on how local resources should be managed. She was allocated land for an aloe vera plantation. Today, that plantation serves as a source of sustainable income for Pamela and her family.

Pamela's story exemplifies what we mean by the word "transform." By working together, we enable women to transform their lives and forge a path out of extreme poverty. We also give them business skills and confidence, so that they can transform their lives, and the lives of their children — today, and well into the future.

In solidarity,



John Stephens, CEO



**OUR IMPACT  
SINCE 2009**

**37,683**

TOTAL  
WOMEN  
ENROLLED

**188,415**

TOTAL  
CHILDREN  
IMPACTED

**226,098**

TOTAL WOMEN  
AND CHILDREN  
TO DATE

**12,561**

BUSINESSES  
LAUNCHED

**2,000+**

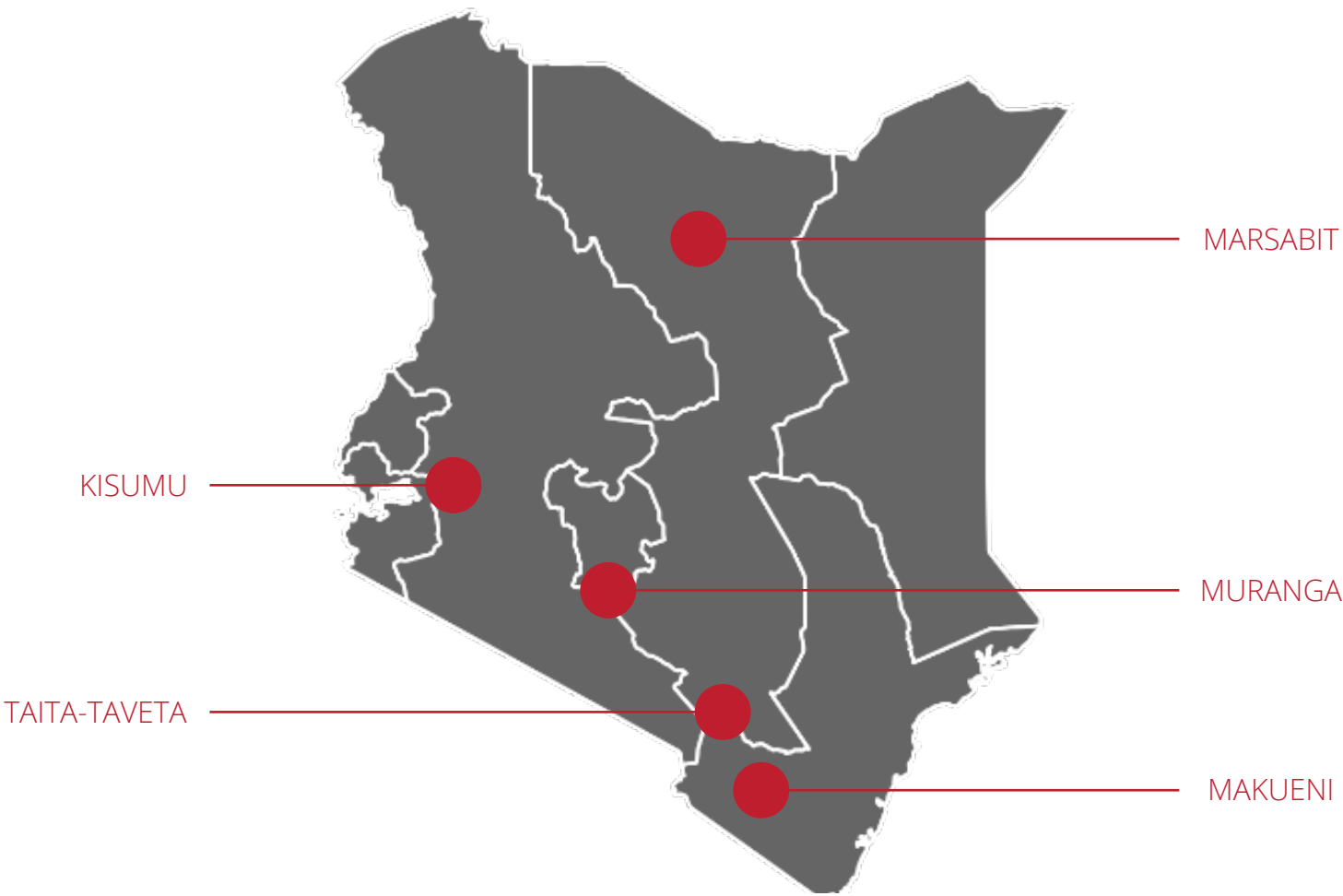
SAVINGS  
GROUPS  
ESTABLISHED

# EXPANDING BOMA’S IMPACT: KSEIP

**Government adoption of poverty graduation is critical to BOMA’s goal of lifting 1 million women and children out of poverty by 2024.**

The Kenya Social Economic Inclusion Project (KSEIP) is a Government of Kenya and World Bank funded endeavor to expand the country’s safety-net programming for people living in extreme poverty. As part of KSEIP, BOMA, in partnership with the Global Development Incubator and Village Enterprise, has signed an agreement with the Kenyan Ministry of Labor and Social Protection to embed BOMA’s model and graduation approach in the Government of Kenya’s social protection program. The first phase of the project will benefit over 40,000 people from over 7,500 households and build the national and county government’s capacity in five counties across Kenya to scale our poverty graduation approach.

Working with our partner organizations, we have made significant advances on three key fronts:



BOMA worked alongside Global Development Initiative and Village Enterprise to make the poverty graduation approach ready for government adoption in Kenya, notably around participant targeting, grant distribution, mentorship, and monitoring & evaluation.



BOMA representatives participated in government engagement activities in Taita-Taveta, Kisumu, Marsabit, Muranga and Makueni counties. These engagements provided the opportunity for the consortium to connect with the county level leaders who will champion the program. These deep-dive sessions also offered an opportunity for the core program team to benefit from the technical input, knowledge, experience and lessons learned from county officers at all levels.



BOMA conducted program design workshops with representatives from the Kenyan Government and other partners. The design workshop provided a platform for in-depth discussions and agreements on how the program capacity and implementation components for KSEIP will be structured to align with already existing mechanisms at the State Department.

# BUILDING RESILIENCE

Through a project funded by the **Open Society Foundation**, BOMA is helping build the resilience of women in Marsabit County. This project is also strengthening government linkages to accelerate the government adoption of poverty graduation and scale BOMA's model.

As part of this program, BOMA has enrolled 1,780 women and organized them into 580 business groups. Women entrepreneurs in the business groups have kickstarted their businesses successfully — over 99.4% of women had met all success criteria and were displaying resilience to the economic shocks of COVID-19.

Building a culture centered around savings is crucial to the long-term success of a community. BOMA also formed 106 savings groups where women entrepreneurs come together to pool their money, which can then be loaned to members in times of need. BOMA's market linkages officers also connected savings groups to government-funded grants.

**Through the project, over a fifth of the BOMA savings groups have been connected to projects valued at a total of \$78,272. Some examples of projects include the installation of water tanks, goat rearing, well construction, and beekeeping.**

BOMA is also organizing workshops with county officials to review the roadmap for policy adoption and implementation. This will accelerate government adoption of BOMA's poverty graduation approach, and will increase the effectiveness of our program at scale and into the future.



# DELIVERING CLIMATE JUSTICE

Residents of Northern Kenya have been unduly impacted by climate change — women especially. The rigid nature of the patriarchal society that they live in has historically limited women's ability to participate in the management and protection of natural resources. With a project funded by the **Climate Justice Resilience Fund** and the **Whole Planet Foundation**, that's changing.

BOMA is working closely with county governments to train women in climate resilient management of land, water, and pasture. BOMA's mentors are empowering women with the leadership skills they need to work with government policymakers and shape climate resilience related policies.

**During Q1 2021, BOMA trained 48 officers on the fundamentals of climate change and adaptation and principles of natural resource management (NRM). BOMA's officers developed and leveraged a curriculum to educate women entrepreneurs on climate related issues that have had an outsize impact on their lives.**

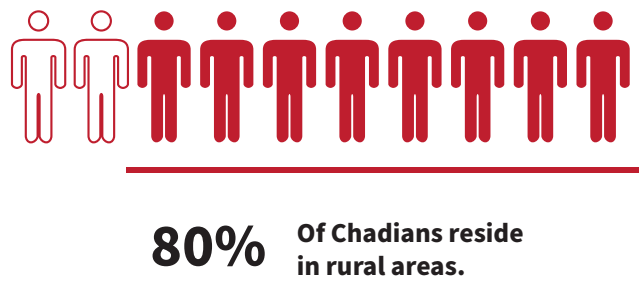
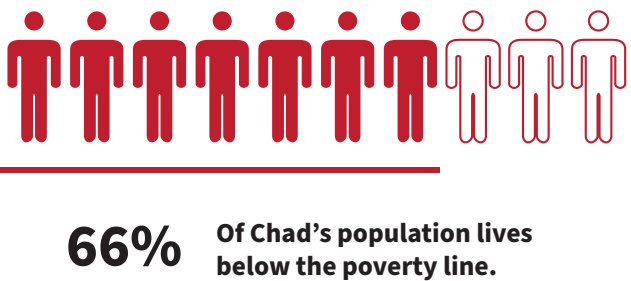
As part of the project, women entrepreneurs are also being enrolled in NRM committees, so that they can have a direct say in shaping local climate policy and make decisions on the allocation of natural resources. 397 women enrolled in 13 NRM committees already have exclusive rights to various natural resources such as wood and medicinal plants that can now be managed in an eco-friendly manner. BOMA will enroll all of the 2,100 women enrolled in the program into NRM committees by the end of the year.

# PARTNERSHIPS



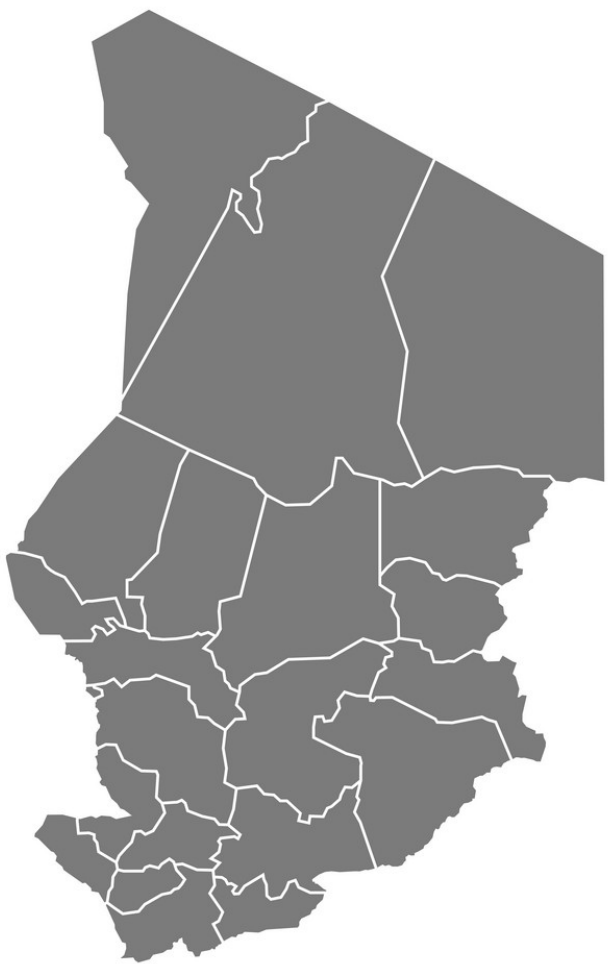
# REDUCING POVERTY, SUPPORTING REFUGEES BOMA AND SWISS CARITAS IN CHAD

BOMA will provide technical assistance to Caritas Switzerland (CACH) to support the adaptation and implementation of a poverty graduation pilot as part of the Inclusive Development of the Home Zones (DIZA) project in southern Chad.



With nearly half of its population of 13 million living below the poverty line, Chad is one of the poorest countries in the world. Nearly 80 percent of Chad's population lives in rural areas. Chad's high rate of poverty is accompanied by very low human development indicators: more than 2.4 million rural Chadians are food insecure, while 27% of children below the age of five suffer from chronic malnutrition. Women and girls are disproportionately affected. For example, even with the overall adult literacy rate at a mere 22%, the country's female literacy rate is 50% lower than men's.

The DIZA program, funded by the European Union (EU) Trust Fund for Africa and the French Development Agency (AFD) aims to improve the living conditions of local and displaced populations in eastern and southern Chad — including refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees — through support for sustainable economic development.



BOMA has partnered with Caritas Switzerland to do the following:

- ➔ Conduct a feasibility study for the integration of the GA into the DIZA project.
- ➔ Design a pilot of the poverty graduation program.
- ➔ Provide ongoing technical assistance and strengthening to CACH and its partners for the implementation of the Graduation pilot.

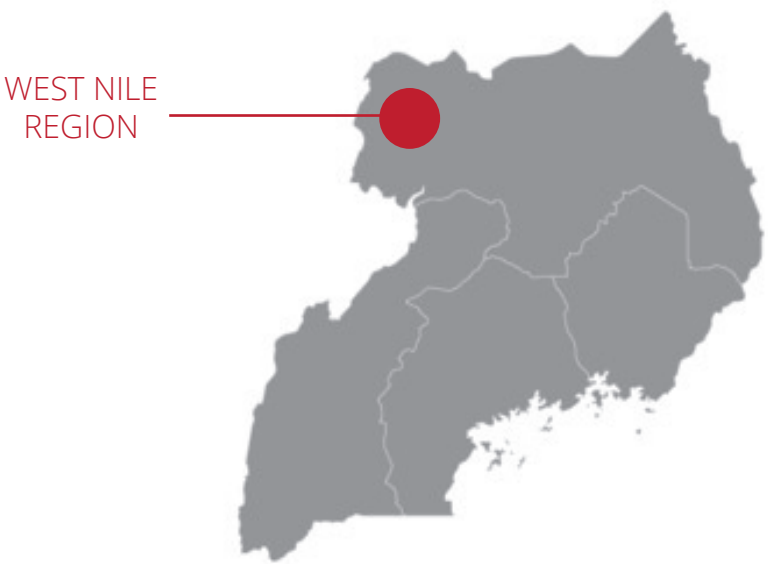
BOMA is excited to launch this new partnership with CACH and its local partners to test and scale the poverty graduation approach to build the financial resilience and self reliance of youth, refugees, IDPs and host communities.



# EMPOWERING REFUGEES IN UGANDA

Over the last decade, violence in South Sudan, Ethiopia and Eritrea has caused more than one million people to seek refuge in Uganda. Children have been especially impacted by the turmoil. There has been a 70% increase in children living on the streets since 1993. Almost a third of all Ugandan families have had to foster orphaned children.

BOMA has signed an agreement to provide technical assistance to Caritas Switzerland and its local partners, including The Agency for Accelerated Regional Development (AFARD), and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), to design and implement a three-year program to improve the economic and social security of refugees displaced from their homes. The new and promising program is currently being implemented in Uganda’s West Nile region and the Bidi Bidi Refugee Settlement.



A total of 450 households are being targeted in the first phase of this initiative. The program is currently finalizing baseline survey tools which will gauge key indicators such as income, food security, and savings of the target population. We will measure these same indicators again at the end of the program to assess the progress of participants.

In addition to these standard metrics, we will also track indicators developed specifically for natural resource management and the protection of children — because it’s only when we protect children and the environment that we can truly build sustainable futures.





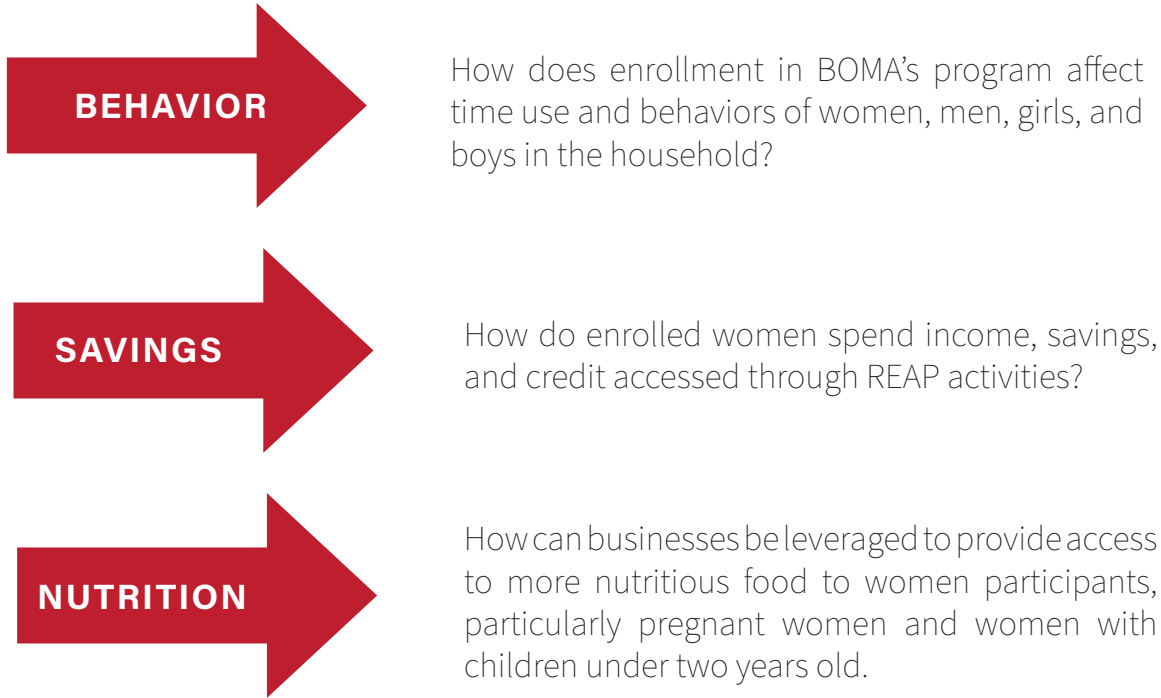
# TARGETING HUNGER & MALNUTRITION

As part of a Mercy Corps led and USAID Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) funded consortium called **Nawiri**, BOMA is working alongside partner organizations to adapt our REAP model to sustainably reduce persistent acute malnutrition in Samburu and Turkana counties.

The Nawiri program — named after the Kiswahili word for “thrive” — is a five-year USAID BHA initiative with an overarching goal to sustainably reduce levels of persistent acute malnutrition in Kenya’s arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs). In the first phase of Nawiri, BOMA is reaching more than 1,000 households and participants — particularly pregnant women and women with children under two years old — in Turkana and Samburu to assess the effectiveness of REAP and the Graduation Approach in reducing acute malnutrition.

In the second phase, the consortium partners will work closely with county and national governments alongside the private sector and civil society stakeholders to scale programming that will not only build the financial resilience and food security for extreme poor households, but also achieve sustained reduction in rates of acute malnutrition in Northern Kenya.

Some of the key questions that this research will shed light on include:



The findings from Nawiri will be useful not only in improving the effectiveness of BOMA’s programs in Kenya, Uganda and other countries as we scale our model, but will also add to the knowledge base and learning objectives of interested donors and partners alike — including USAID and Mercy Corps — on how to design cost-effective programming to reduce the rates of child malnutrition.





# MOTHER, ENTREPRENEUR & POLICY MAKER

Pamela Lonolngenje wanted to be a teacher when she was young. She was drawn to the prospect of teaching students. She was also enticed by the idea of pursuing a career where she could spend a large portion of her time reading books.

“I like to learn,” she says. “I really, really wanted to become a teacher.”

Pamela had to abandon those dreams, however, when her parents died.

“I already had children,” Pamela says. “I was now responsible for my siblings as well.”

To make a living, Pamela was forced to burn charcoal and sell firewood from the Kirisia forest to make a living.

“I was always getting arrested by forest officials,” she says. “They were chasing me out of the forest. I was really struggling to make ends meet.”

Life changed for Pamela when she was selected to be enrolled in BOMA’s poverty graduation program. Along with two other women in her community, Pamela formed the “Nabiki” business group.

“We decided to open a convenience store with the money received from the business grant,” Pamela says. “With the training provided by BOMA’s mentors, we were able to get our business up and running. We were soon able to make \$530 in profit within a few months. With that money, we opened another business buying and selling cattle.”

Pamela and her community members are now able to increase their influence over the environment that has an outsized impact on their lives thanks to a BOMA-led initiative, funded by the Climate Justice Resilience Fund.

Through this partnership, Pamela was able to join the local Naramat Community Forest Association (CFA). As a CFA member, Pamela gained access to a carefully selected sample of wood and other assorted forest products.

Pamela and her group also received training in mass tree planting, wetland management, and other forest and conservation methods. Ultimately, Pamela can now do more than just access resources. She can participate in a committee that makes decisions on how those local resources should be managed.

**“Because of BOMA, I now know that we have to take care of our environment. And protecting the forest doesn’t mean we have to give up on our livelihoods. We can actually make more income by taking care of the land that is our home.”**

I managed to buy seedlings with the grant from BOMA,” Pamela says. “I started farming and I have planted beans, maize and vegetables for both consumption and selling. I was once burning charcoal and selling firewood from Kirisia, but no longer.”



# SUCCESS STORY



# BOMA IS GROWING . . . AND YOU CAN JOIN US!



## GODFREY AKOLONG — GRADUATION ADVISOR

Godfrey Akolong joins BOMA from AMPATHPlus where he was the coordinator of a Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision program in Turkana County. Godfrey also worked with Family Health International supporting HIV/AIDS prevention services. He has worked with Kenya Power and Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF). Godfrey is currently a postgraduate student at Kenyatta University pursuing a Master of Science in Environmental Health, and holds a bachelor’s degree in Public Health from Kenyatta University.



## JACKLINE EREGAE ALIMILIM —FIELD OFFICER

Jackline Eregae Alimilim is an experienced team leader responsible for carrying out research, training, and field coordination. Jackline has 10 years’ experience in office administration, human resource management, and research. She has also deployed trainings in household food security, gender-based violence, resource mapping, needs and problem assessments, participatory community training, emergency response, environmental assessments, and more. In the past, Jackline has worked with National Drought Management, LOKADO, WindleTrust, Helpage International and Vawati Consultants Limited.



## YATTANI TURA DUBA — FIELD OFFICER

Yattani Tura Duba is a solution seeker and an experienced development professional. He has expertise in creating community development projects, planning and management, resource mobilization, community sensitization and awareness creation, policy advocacy, and networking. He has worked for Islamic Relief Kenya, Green Africa Foundation and Kivulini Trust in the Northern regions of Kenya. Yattani holds a Bachelor of Science in Community Resource Management and Extensions in Environmental Health and Gender Development from Kenyatta University.

## Introducing The BOMA Project’s New Youth Ambassador Program

Are you a high school student? Do you want to help women impacted by climate change to start new businesses and forge a path out of extreme poverty?

**Become a BOMA Youth Ambassador.** Get your friends, families, and community involved in empowering women to transform their families, their communities and our shared world.

Youth ambassadors can expect to spend approximately one hour a week for eight weeks partnering with BOMA. Students who have successfully completed the program will receive a letter of recommendation from the BOMA Project.

### What Do BOMA Youth Ambassadors Do?

As a BOMA Youth Ambassador you can:

- Share posts on social media about climate change, women’s empowerment and BOMA’s work — we will provide an extensive library of digital assets that you can use
- Learn about how climate change is affecting the lives of women and families in the drylands of Africa and actions you can take
- Engage with the BOMA team and other ambassadors through our Facebook group once a week
- Start a fundraiser for BOMA

Interested? Send us an email at [info@bomaproject.org](mailto:info@bomaproject.org)



**BOMA WELCOMED 1 GRADUATION ADVISOR, 2 FIELD OFFICERS, 7 MENTORS AND 1 INTERN THIS QUARTER**



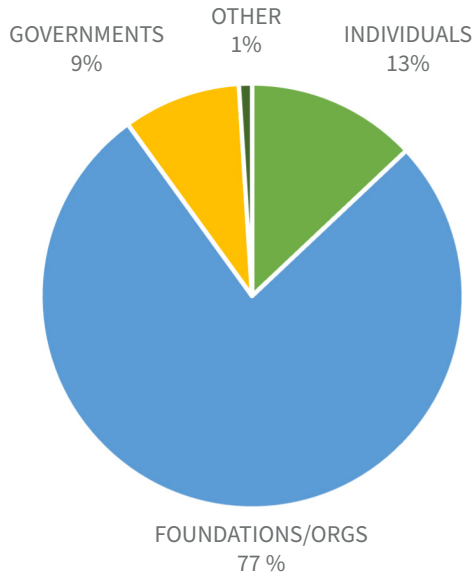
# FUNDRAISING AND FINANCIALS

## REVENUES AND EXPENSES FOR Q2, FY21

For the six months ended March 31, 2021, cash received was \$3.03 million and total expenses were \$2.49 million.

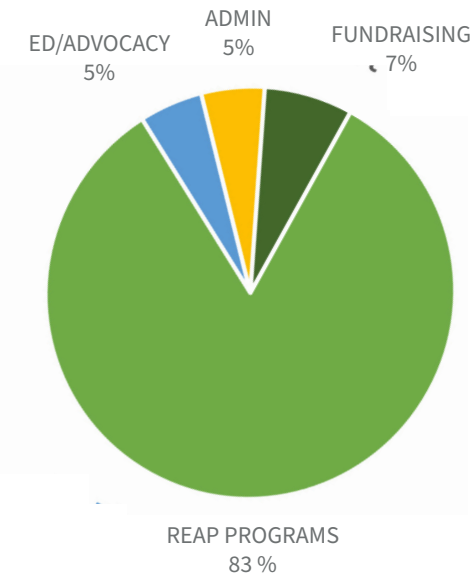
### Revenues for the six months ended March 31, 2021

INDIVIDUAL DONORS	\$375,873	13%
FOUNDATIONS/ORGS	\$2,319,952	77%
GOVERNMENTS	\$287,213	9%
OTHER	\$ 42,836	1%
Total Revenue	\$3,025,874	100%



### Expenses for the six months ended March 31, 2021

REAP PROGRAMS	\$2,073,728	83%
EDUCATION/ADVOCACY	\$114,647	5%
PROGRAM EXPENSES	\$2,188,375	88%
ADMINISTRATION	\$129,205	5%
FUNDRAISING	\$ 171,234	7%
Total Expenses	\$2,488,814	100%



## NEW FUNDING

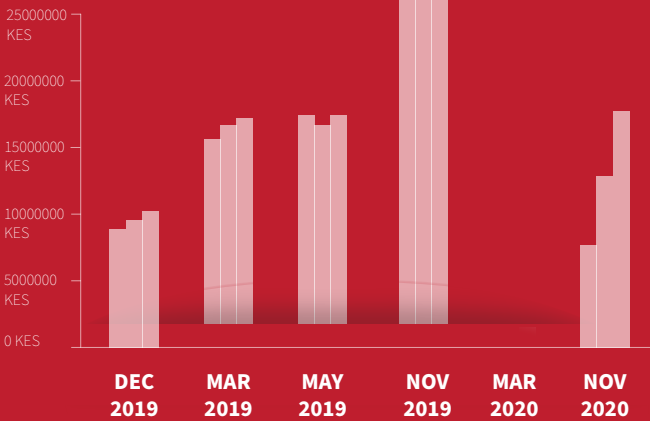
BOMA received funding from the following foundations and government donors during this quarter:



## COHORT PERFORMANCE

For the second fiscal quarter of 2021, business groups recorded a 10% increase in Total sales. This was driven by the strong performance of cohorts for which monitoring was resumed in Turkana.

TOTAL COHORT SALES BY QUARTER —CASH AND CREDIT

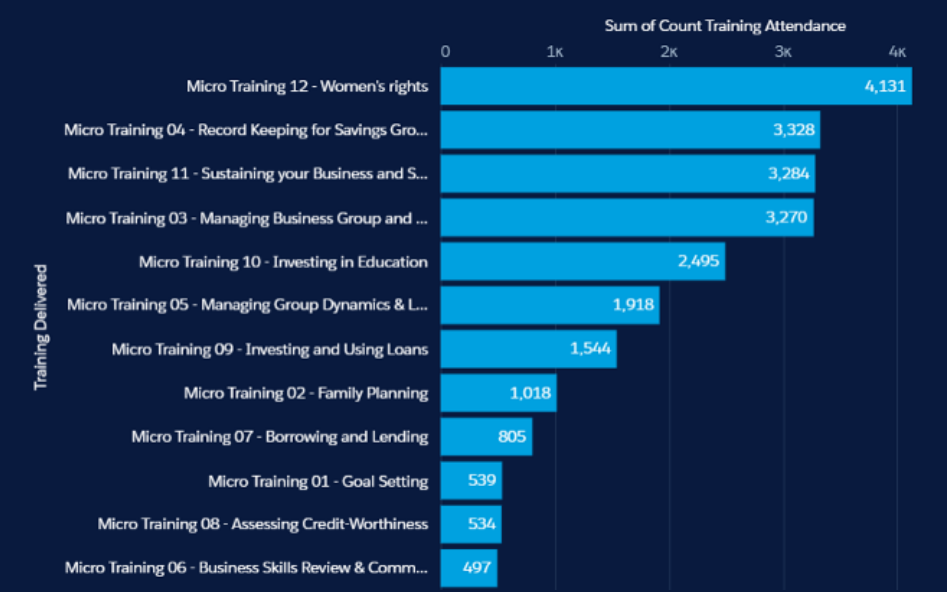


Total stock purchases increased by 9% between March and February, corresponding with an increase in business as the government eased pandemic-related restrictions. Savings continued to increase over the quarter. The number of loans taken also increased, illustrating the reliance of participants on savings groups to supplement income from business groups, and cater to household and business needs.

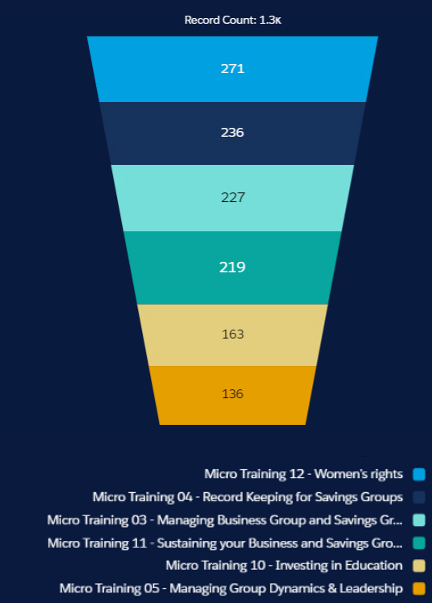


# THE QUARTER IN NUMBERS

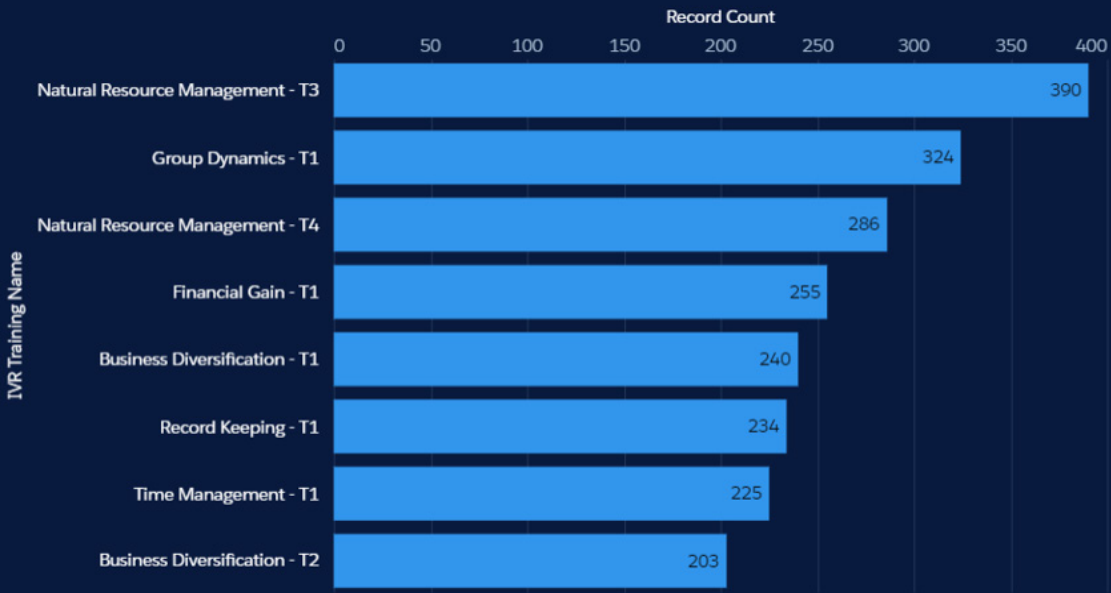
PARTICIPANTS RECEIVING MICRO TRAININGS



MICRO TRAININGS Q1



PARTICIPANTS LISTENING TO IVR TRAININGS



NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS RECEIVING HEALTH AND SOCIAL MESSAGING

13,171

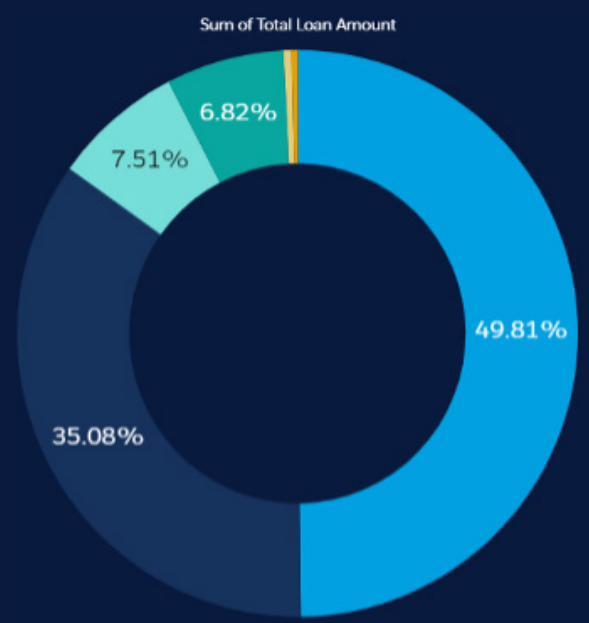
BUSINESS GROUP MEETINGS

14,000,000

JUMP GRANT FUNDING DISPERSED IN Q1 2021

1,761

SAVINGS GROUP MEETINGS



PARTCIPANT'S LOAN PURPOSE