Dear Friends of BOMA,

It is easy to feel powerless in the face of pressing crises from inflation to climate change and everything in between. On top of this, the World Bank recently reported that extreme levels of poverty are on the rise for the first time in decades. Spurred on by the pandemic and, more recently, the war in Ukraine, extreme poverty is now afflicting an estimated 719 million people worldwide. The poverty crisis is worst in the places that are hardest to reach — namely Sub-Saharan Africa, which is home to 60% of the world’s population living on less than $2.15 per day.

The World Bank has cautioned that we will not achieve Sustainable Development Goal #1: to eradicate starvation-level poverty by 2030. But I do not believe this is a lost cause. In fact, I believe that we can see the end of extreme poverty in our lifetimes — and BOMA is leading the way.

BOMA empowers the most marginalized populations — women, youth, refugees — with the opportunity to build lasting, independent income. These burgeoning entrepreneurs can ensure that their families are fed each day, send their children to school (particularly their daughters), and save their money for an emergency like drought or illness. They are empowered to lift themselves and their families out of poverty, and they keep the tools to do so indefinitely.

Few of us can relate to the reality of extreme poverty but — after the last few years — I think we all understand the devastating toll that long-lasting uncertainty can have. As global inequality rises and millions more face the crushing uncertainty of poverty, we are working harder than ever to ensure that no one is left behind. Thank you for being part of this important work.

In solidarity,

John Stephens, CEO

WWW. BOMAPROJECT.ORG

Photo by Ami Vitale
This quarter, BOMA’s staff on the ground prepared for the launch of new cohorts in Wajir, Garissa, Turkana, Samburu, Moyale, and Marsabit in Kenya. Between July and September, new BOMA participants were identified among these communities and staff began to group these participants into business groups of three people each.

Despite worsening drought conditions and crippling inflation, BOMA business groups have largely remained on track for earnings — and the percentage of business groups projected to reach their growth goals actually grew this quarter. BOMA also began operating in a new region of Kenya, expanding to Laikipia county in Samburu.

BOMA’s SEED Program, designed to bolster youth employment and implemented alongside Smarter Regional Consultants, saw the distribution of progress grants to 1,182 participants in Isiolo and Marsabit. Progress grants are a vital aspect of BOMA’s REAP model, rewarding participants for good business practice after six months and providing them with an opportunity to grow or diversify their enterprise. The BOMA team also began to identify participants and staff for a

BOMA has partnered with [Caritas Switzerland](https://www.caritas.ch), [APIL](https://www.apil.ethiopia.org), and [Fondation Hirondelle](https://www.hirondelle.org) to provide technical assistance for design, implementation and evaluation of a refugee-adapted REAP cohort in the Sanmatenga Province of Burkina Faso. This program will enroll a total of 3,000 participants to strengthen the resilience of internally displaced persons and host families. This quarter, BOMA worked to plan targeting for new participants and manage data accordingly.

BOMA is also providing technical assistance to the [Danish Refugee Council (DRC)](https://www.drc.org) to design and implement a refugee-adapted graduation program in Cameroon. The project aims to reach 2,000 participants including refugees from Central Africa republic and host communities. This quarter, BOMA and DRC created, tested, and trained staff on a new participant targeting tool.

BOMA has partnered with [Caritas Switzerland](https://www.caritas.ch) in Ethiopia to enroll 5,100 new participants in REAP and Green REAP in Southern Ethiopia, in the Oromia Region. The project focuses on addressing the challenges of extreme poverty, climate change and financial exclusion of women and youth in pastoralist communities. This quarter, data was collected on potential participants and continues to be reviewed.

BOMA continued to provide technical support to [Caritas Switzerland](https://www.caritas.ch) and its local implementing partner, [Alard](https://www.alard.org), to implement REAP among 450 refugee and host community participants in Yumbe, West Nile. This quarter, BOMA assisted our program partners with the development of tools to track participant progress, adjust business group composition when necessary, and distribute progress grants more seamlessly.

BOMA has partnered with [Caritas Switzerland](https://www.caritas.ch) in Uganda to provide technical assistance and tools to their local implementing partner, [AFRRA](https://www.afrua.org), to implement REAP among 800 refugee and host community participants in the East Region of Uganda. This quarter, BOMA assisted our program partners with the development of tools to track participant progress, adjust business group composition when necessary, and distribute progress grants more seamlessly.

Photo by Ami Vitale
second round of SEED programming, with a cohort of approximately 1,200 new participants formed by the end of the quarter.

KSEIP, a collaborative endeavor with the Government of Kenya, Global Development Incubator (GDI) and Village Enterprise to embed the poverty graduation approach into Kenya’s social protection program, saw the enrollment of 3,571 participants across five sub-counties.

Through project Nawiri — a consortium led by Mercy Corps and composed of Save the Children, Research Triangle Institute (RTI), BOMA, and the African Population & Health Research Center (APHRC) with funding from USAID’s Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) — 8,700 participants were supported to increase efficiency and savings by purchasing goods in bulk from one supplier rather than many. Nawiri aims to go beyond humanitarian assistance to sustainably reduce levels of Persistent Acute Malnutrition (PAM) in Samburu and Turkana counties.

This progress was achieved despite the fact that inflation and drought continued to present distinct challenges as well as national elections in Kenya, which took place in August. Though most program activity slowed down during the election, we are thankful for a relatively smooth political transition. Still, inflation has driven up fuel prices which in turn increases transportation costs. Prolonged drought is occurring in Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu, Turkana, Wajir, and Garissa which has impacted BOMA businesses through loss of livestock, low market prices, and low sales. Livestock businesses have been the most impacted, and BOMA staff are supporting these participants to diversify their income to provide further stability in the future. Unfortunately, some participants — especially in the Northern and Eastern regions of Samburu county, Kenya — have had to migrate due to the drought.

In Quarter Four, BOMA plans to commence the formation of savings groups for recently enrolled participants in Isiolo, Marsabit, and Samburu. Savings groups are an important support system for BOMA participants and promote good financial management. We will also be preparing to enroll new participants in Wajir, Garissa, Turkana, Marsabit, Samburu, and Isiolo. KSEIP participants in Marsabit, Taita-Taveta, Murang’a and Makuene will be supported in forming their business groups before receiving their initial grants in Q4.

To see more of the latest news from BOMA, visit bomaproject.org/boma-news

BOMA is preparing to scale up our climate-adapted approach known as Green REAP with new funding from IKEA Foundation. This collaboration will enable the launch of a new BOMA initiative known as Livelihoods and Inclusion for Transformation in Northern Kenya (LIFT Northern Kenya). Through LIFT Northern Kenya, BOMA will support 15,600 women, youth, and refugees living in extreme poverty as they initiate and grow 3,650 environmentally friendly enterprises in Samburu and Turkana counties. The program — which will be implemented in partnership with Smart Regional Consultants (SRC), Danish Church Aid, and respective county governments and local community organizations — is ultimately expected to directly and indirectly benefit more than 93,000 people in Northern Kenya.

Throughout the three-year initiative, BOMA and the IKEA Foundation will partner with researchers from the Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) who are conducting an independent randomized controlled trial (RCT) to evaluate the effectiveness of BOMA’s climate-focused approach for future expansion.

LIFT Northern Kenya will build upon an initial pilot of BOMA’s climate-adapted approach, known as Green REAP, conducted with support from Whole Planet Foundation and the Climate Justice Resilience Fund in Samburu County, Kenya from 2019 to 2021. The Green REAP pilot demonstrated that, after two years of implementation, 60 percent of participants had shifted away from destructive livelihoods such as charcoal harvesting and into sustainable enterprises like tree nurseries. Furthermore, 60 percent of participants joined local community conservation groups and more than 30,000 tree seedlings have been planted.
A BRIGHTER FUTURE

A BOMA PARTICIPANT LIFTS HER FAMILY FROM EXTREME POVERTY AND LEADS BY EXAMPLE FOR OTHER WOMEN IN HER COMMUNITY

Livestock is a way of life in Northern Kenya — but pastoralist traditions have too often prevented women like Selina Lenolenjenje from earning income for themselves or their families. In a region afflicted by extreme levels of poverty, the women left behind can’t always guarantee their children’s next meal.

Thanks to BOMA’s Green REAP Program in Samburu County, Selina has now escaped the bonds of extreme poverty and is on the path to a brighter future for her family. Selina earns a living through a local kiosk, and also contributes to the tree nursery run by her local community forest association in Maralal.

Selina is able to invest her income and savings in her children, who are now flourishing. When women in her community need advice on business, finance, or savings, they come to Selina’s door. Selina is a leader among her support system of BOMA peers known as Nabiki Savings Group and runs regular meetings from her home for the group of 15 business women.

“We now have food to eat, and I can pay school fees for my children,” Selina said. “I know how to save my income and invest it for our future.”

Today, Selina’s daily routine consists of preparing morning tea for her family and walking her children to school before meeting with other women from her village. Together, they walk through shaded pathways to the nearby tree nursery at the entrance to Kirisia Forest, where they also earn income from planting and tending to seedlings that will one day restore the forest. Selina has become a leader for her environment and among her peers to build a brighter future for her family, her forest, and her community.

Selina participated in BOMA’s initial Green REAP pilot in Samburu County, Kenya. To learn more about BOMA’s work to empower the people and places most impacted by climate change, visit bomaproject.org/what-is-green-reap

Photos by Ami Vitale
The BOMA team is growing rapidly to reach our goal of lifting three million people out of extreme poverty by 2027. BOMA is working in more countries and regions than ever before and serving new populations including youth, refugees, and internally displaced persons (IDPs). This quarter, BOMA made two key additions to our Executive Leadership Team. Chief Technology Officer, Thomas Kong’ong’o, will lead BOMA’s technological products and innovations. Chief of Staff, Karen Scriven, will lead BOMA’s leadership and staff as our team grows. We are also thrilled to welcome 75 new staff members at all levels in Kenya, two in Ethiopia, and two in Burkina Faso. Two staff members received internal promotions, and all members of Team BOMA enjoyed mentorship and culture workshops to develop their skills this quarter.

This quarter, BOMA hired 79 new team members for a total of 397 staff.

Visit bomaproject.org/team-boma for more.
FISCAL YEAR Q4 REVENUES & EXPENSES

For the 12 months ended September 30, 2022, revenues recognized were $10.5 million and total expenses were $9.7 million.

Revenues for the twelve months ended September 30, 2022

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INDIVIDUAL DONORS</td>
<td>$723,202</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOUNDATIONS/ORGs</td>
<td>$8,174,466</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOVERNMENTS</td>
<td>$1,687,240</td>
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<tr>
<td>OTHER</td>
<td>$(36,471)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,548,436</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Expenses for the twelve months ended September 30, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REAP PROGRAMS</td>
<td>$8,061,908</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUCATION/ADVOCACY</td>
<td>$213,914</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROGRAM EXPENSES</td>
<td>$8,275,822</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>$941,732</td>
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<tr>
<td>FUNDRAISING</td>
<td>$515,662</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,733,216</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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</table>