



International Peace Support Training Centre Nairobi, Kenya

Women, Natural Resources Management and Peace building in Turkana County



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Changing Trends of Conflicts and Response Strategies in Eastern Africa

Women, Natural Resources Management and Peace building in Turkana County

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Joseph Kioi Mbugua
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Foreword

The International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) is a research and training institution focusing on capacity building at the strategic, operational and tactical levels within the framework of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and has developed into the regional center of excellence for the African Standby Force (ASF) in Eastern Africa. It addresses the complexities of contemporary UN/AU integrated Peace Support Operations (PSOs) by describing the actors and multi-dimensional nature of these operations. The research conducted covers a broad spectrum ranging from conflict prevention through management to postconflict reconstruction.

The Center has made considerable contributions in training and research on peace support issues in East Africa through design of training curriculum, field research and publication of Occasional Papers and Issue Briefs; the Occasional Papers are produced annually, while the Issues Briefs are produced quarterly. These publications are an important contribution to the vision and mission of IPSTC.

The Peace and Security Research Department (PSRD) of the IPSTC presents one of the occasional papers produced in collaboration with UN Women titled: *Women, Natural Resources Management and Peacebuilding in Turkana County*. The paper brings out critical insights into how women relate to natural resources governance and participate in peacebuilding in Turkana county. This study generated information that will be crucial in informing programming of UN Women and IPSTC proposed projects for building capacity of women in Northern Kenya. It will also be useful to policy makers at the international, regional, national and county levels. The research and publication of this Occasional Paper has been made possible by the support of the UN Women-Kenya.

Brigadier R.G. Kabage

Director, IPSTC

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Acronyms

ACT	Act Change and Transform
APAD	Agency for Pastoralist Development
ASAL	Arid and Semi-Arid Lands
CIDP	County Integrated Development Plan
CLWN	Community Land Watch Network
CPF	Community Participatory Forum
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
DPC	District Peace Committee
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EWER	Early Warning and Early Response
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GK	Government of Kenya
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent
IOM	International Organization of Migration
IRC	International Rescue Committee
LMA	Livestock Marketing Associations
LOKADO	Lokichoggio, Oropoi & Kakuma Development Organization
LRA	Long Rains Assessment
LUPC	Land Use and Planning Committee
MENR	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (County
MYWO	Maendeleo ya Wanawake Organization
NCCRS	National Climate Change Response Strategy
NDMA	National Drought Management Authority
NPBCM	National Policy on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NTFP	Non Timber Forest Products
PB	Peacebuilding
PBSO	Peacebuilding Support Office
PSRP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
RIPAT	Rural Initiative for Participatory Agricultural Transformation
RoK	Republic of Kenya
SALW	Small Arms and Light Weapons
SAPCONE	Saint Peters Community Organizations Network
SCPC	Sub County Peace Committee
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
TCPF	Turkana County Peace Forum
TUPADO	Turkana Pastoralists Development Organization
TWADO	Turkana Women Advocacy and Development Organization
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNSG	United Nations Secretary General
WRMC	Water Resources Management Committee

Definitions of Key Terms and Concepts

Peacebuilding

Peace building entails: participation, inclusion, emancipation, collaboration and empowerment of actors to gain capacity for sustainable conflict resolution.

Natural Resources are actual or potential sources of wealth that occurs in a natural state, such as timber, water, fertile land, wildlife, minerals, metals, stones and hydrocarbons.

Renewable resources are natural resources that are replaced or replenished by natural processes or human action e.g. agricultural crops, livestock, non-timber forest products, water, UNEP, UN Women, UNPBSO and UNDP (2013).

Extractive resources comprise natural resources that are often of high economic value and are extracted through industrial or artisanal means, such as oil, natural gas, metals and minerals and renewable resources like timber, UNEP, UN Women, UNPBSO and UNDP, (UN, 2013)

Natural Resources Management (NRM) can be defined as: *'the norms, rules and institutions that regulate the decisions, actions and interactions of governments, civil society and the private sector in relation to the use of natural resources'*, (UN, 2013).

Sustainable Natural Resources Management refers to responsible utilization of resources that confer benefits to the current generation without jeopardizing the ability of future generations to meet their needs, (UN, 2013). It also refers to regulation, access, use and replenishment of resources.

Land Tenure is the relationship, whether defined legally or customarily, among people with respect to land, (FAO, 2007).

Gender refers to socially constructed roles ascribed to women and men.

Gender equality refers to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of men and women.

Abstract

The subject of natural resources management (NRM) and its relationship with peacebuilding (PB) and the role of women has received heightened attention in the last decade. Following the UN survey of current global situation in 2013, organizations were encouraged to undertake specific studies in their regions. UN Women-Kenya and IPSTC focused on Turkana County.

The study has explored women participation in NRM and PB as they seek to meet livelihoods for their families and communities. The position of women among the pastoralists has been well explored exposing their marginalization in land, livestock, pasture, resources governance and ownership. This situation also prevails in planning and implementation of PB activities.

The study has identified opportunities for women empowerment through recognition of current formal and informal structural/institutional set up conducive to inclusion of women especially at the decision making levels. The study paints an optimistic future of the status of women in Turkana engaged in NRM and PB, given their current tenacity and willingness to scale new heights in spite of the prevailing obstacles.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background of Study

Natural resources form the basis of livelihoods for most populations and national economies for many countries. It therefore means that participation of different groups and communities in natural resources management (NRM) is critical to their wellbeing and peacebuilding (PB). The purpose of NRM system is to regulate the interplay between human activities and the natural environment. This includes productive sectors such as farming, livestock production, management of grazing lands and water resources, forests and timber production, (UN, 2013).

Some of the dryland resources available in Turkana county include: *land, water, pasture, livestock, crop farming, bio-fuels (Prosopis juliflora popularly referred to as “Mathenge”), medicinal plants, essential oils, wildlife, culinary products, honey, herbs, spices and fruit, silk, mercury, natural stones, sand, oil and gas, gold, geothermal power, wind and solar energy, green garnet, limestone, gypsum and soda ash*. Prosopis has made the dry lands look green, provides food for goats and produces charcoal thereby controlling its expansion.¹ Resources such as land, water, pasture, minerals and extractive resources can have significant effect on peace and security.

Turkana is part of the Karamoja complex conflict zone that runs across northwestern Kenya, northeastern Uganda and Southeastern South Sudan. This region is characterized by environmental degradation, proliferation of illicit weapons, livelihood insecurity and under development, (Akabwai, 2009). Turkana has for many years suffered from recurrent droughts that make the county food insecure and periodically lead to loss of lives and livestock.

Globally women are under-represented in NRM and PB and they are also disproportionately affected by poor NRM because of gendered power relations that deny women access to resources such as land, (UN, 2013). Women especially in the rural areas are primary providers of water, food and energy at the household level and therefore bear heaviest impact of poor resources management. Furthermore, women are usually forced to take up non- traditional roles during conflict. Indeed, women carrying AK-47 rifles and children on their backs as they look after livestock are a common sight in Northern Kenya. This mostly occurs where men as heads of family have been killed or maimed. Women therefore need to participate in PB since they are directly affected by violence. Many international projects to support women view them more as victims in natural resources utilization and conflict than active agents of change, (UN, 2013).

Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) of Kenya have high, internal and across international borders, mobility of both people and livestock. In many of the ASALS areas, the frequency and magnitude of droughts, floods and famine have increased significantly in the recent past, (Odhiambo, 2014). This has impacted negatively on the pastoralist communities and especially the women whose vulnerability is increased further by incessant cattle raids that are prevalent in these areas, (Omollo, 2010), (GK, 2011). Indeed, poverty, unemployment, marginalization of women, youth and people with disabilities, rising levels of population and unskilled labour are still major challenges in ASALs, (GK, 2011).

1.2 Northern Kenya and Turkana County

Northern Kenya in general has experienced climate change related inter-communal conflicts especially as a result of declining water and pasture resources. Furthermore, due to insecurity along the borders with neighbouring countries of Uganda, South Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia, there has also been cross border conflicts and extensive proliferation of illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in the region.

Turkana County is located in Northern Kenya. It is classified as an Arid and Semi-Arid Land (ASAL). ASALs make up about 80% of Kenya's land surface and are occupied by 36% of Kenya's population, (GK, 2011). Of the 47 counties in Kenya, 23 are in northern Kenya and other arid lands. The dominant mode of production is pastoralism. There is also an over reliance on wood based fuel; for example, in Turkana county, 87% of the people use firewood with less than 1% using LPG and 1% using paraffin, (SID, 2013).

Table 1: Background Information – Turkana County

Features	Figures	National
Area	77 000 Sq. Km	582, 650 Sq. Km
Population	855, 399 (2009 Pop. Census)	41, 613, 341 Million
Rainfall	120mm-450mm	150-550mm in arid and 550-850mm semi-arid areas
Temperature	24° C - 41° C	28%
Livelihood zones		
Pastoralism	62%	12% of GDP
Livestock	Worth Ksh. 5.9 Billion	60% of Kenya's live-stock found in ASAL
Agro pastoralism	14%	employing 90% of the people
Fishing	8%	
Poverty Profile	94% Highest in the country	47.2%
Unemployment (15-64)	14%	8.6%
Education		
Primary school completion rate	71.0 %	67%
Secondary school Completion rate	10%	13%
Gender Parity Index	8% (Female), 29% Male	80%
Access to water and sanitation	39%	47%
Settlement	16% (Urban and Peri-urban)	32%

Source: (KIPPRA, 2013), (GK/UNDP, 2013); (CRA, 2011)

Overall education performance and transition rate to secondary schools and tertiary institutions in the county are low, the situation of girls is even worse, given the subordinate status of girls and women in most pastoral societies, GK, (2011). For example, transition rate in Kakuma Sub County for boys (54%) and girls (55%) for class four and (67%) boys and (40%) girls, for class seven. Overall primary to secondary transition rate is (40%) compared to the national average of (80%), Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, (2014).

In recognition of the challenges facing it, Turkana County received the second highest amount of the 2014 national revenue allocation (Ksh. 7.894 Billion) after Nairobi County, (CRA, 2014). Despite these high allocations, it has been stated that it is the systems of accountability and community participation that will determine the success of resources management, (GK, 2011).

This study has explored NRM frameworks and how they impact on women and peacebuilding. The study established that women are not effectively included at the decision making level in County government, community NRM sector and PB systems. The study is organized into four parts: part one forms the introduction and statement of the problem, part two presents the literature review, theoretical, conceptual frameworks, part three presents research findings and part four presents the conclusion and recommendations.

1.3. Statement of the problem

Low participation of women in NRM and PB deny countries and regions opportunities for economic recovery and building resilient groups in conflict situations. Poor management of natural resources can lead to over use and degradation, desertification, deforestation, soil erosion, declining water tables and other effects that can threaten livelihoods and peace, (Bob and Bronkhorst, 2011). During conflict, resources such as pasture, water, livestock and crops face severe pressure that negatively impacts on women and peacebuilding initiatives.

The people and the resources in Turkana are highly vulnerable to climate change. Environmental degradation in Turkana County is a challenge to the livestock based economy, leading to poverty among the large population that depends on it. The overall productive potential of the county has not been fully addressed due to a number of challenges including limited participation of women. For example, marketing of natural resources such as crops, livestock and livestock products is hindered by poor infrastructure, low productive subsistence based economy, few extension agents, lack of credit facilities and weak marketing systems. Gender disparities are prevalent given that men have greater access to resources, credit, extension services and education, (GK, 2014). Besides women and the youth, gender disparities also affect minority clans.

The conflicts in Turkana county and neighbouring regions have had severe impact on women, NRM and PB. Land tenure and water management also have an impact on women and PB. Women in Turkana have lacked capacity to participate effectively in PB due to lack of access to knowledge, skills and supportive economic, socio-cultural and political framework, (Juma, 2000; Njambi, 2014). The lack of sustainable NRM systems limits the opportunities for wealth creation and prevention of environmental degradation. This is exacerbated by the existence of certain cultural practices that hinder the participation of women.

1.4 Focus and Scope

Current women participation in NRM and PB in Turkana County.

1.5 Research questions

- To what extent do women participate in NRM in Turkana County?
- What is the relationship between women, NRM and PB?
- What are the factors hindering effective women participation in NRM and PB?
- What opportunities exist for enhancing effectiveness of women participation in NRM and PB?

1.6 Objectives

1.6.1 General objective

To assess the nexus between women, natural resource management and peace building in Turkana County.

1.6.2 Specific objectives

- To assess the extent to which women participate in NRM and PB in Turkana
- To establish any relationship between women, NRM and PB
- To identify barriers of women participation in NRM and PB
- To examine opportunities for effective women participation in NRM and PB

1.6.3 Hypothesis

The level of women participation in NRM and PB in Turkana County depends on women's adaptive capacity, economic, political and socio-cultural context

2. Literature Review

This section reviews literature on global, regional, national and county experiences of women participation in NRM and PB. The purpose of the review is to identify gaps to be filled or findings that can be corroborated by this study. It also informs the conceptual framework upon which inquiry is based.

Though women are responsible for fetching water, food and meeting energy needs, they remain largely excluded from owning land and participating in decision-making about NRM and PB, (UN, 2013). Over the last 40 years, at least 40% of intrastate conflicts have been caused by contestations over natural resources, (UNDG-ECHA, 2013). While researchers have made advances in assessing the role of environmental resources in causing conflict, analysis of the potential contribution of NRM in PB is less developed, (Blake, et al. 2013). The additional dimension of the role of women in NRM and PB is even less developed, (UN, 2014). Quantitative analysis in many countries confirms the importance of NRM/governance in reducing the likelihood of conflict and intensity and as an investment in peacebuilding, (Franke et al. 2007).

Rational management of natural resources and the environment in general hold tremendous peacebuilding potential and underpin many peacebuilding priorities, (Jensen, D, 2012). Due to competition for scarce resources such as land, water, pasture, disputes arise when there is poor governance or negative influences arising from cross border dynamics, (Africa Development Bank, 2014).

In the works of (UN, 2013), (Mubareka and Ehrlich, 2010), (Raleigh and Urdal, 2007) it is argued that the role of technology in managing environmental risks and associated conflicts is critical. The authors advocate for the use of solar, rain, wind harvesting technologies, remote sensing and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Writers such as (Borrini Feyerabend, et al., 2007) emphasis interdependence in NRM, promoting the concept of co-management, which refers to a process of human understanding, and action where different social actors bring unique contributions based on their vantage points, strengths and capacities.

Contemporary literature surveys have pointed to low levels of women representation and participation at high political levels and in decision-making mechanisms for conflict resolution, (Juma, 2000); and participation at the County levels, Njambi (2014). Culture related issues are factors that also limit participation of women in formal structures of peace building, (Juma, 2000). For example, inter community peacebuilding is usually done by elders, where women are largely absent. Elders also regulate and negotiate with

other communities to access water and pasture from one place to the other through the Council of Elders, Ekitoingikilok (Tree of Men), (Grahm, 2005). Despite these setbacks, the potential of women in conflict resolution is indispensable. For example, the late Wangari Maathai and the Green Belt Movement (GBM) demonstrated the contribution of women and environment to peacebuilding through environmental conservation (tree planting and prevention of forests destruction), (Maathai, 2008). The major threat to fishing in Lake Turkana and to the wider economy and environment is the potential impact of the ongoing hydroelectric power development along river OMO in Ethiopia. There is also lack of capital, infrastructure and equipment for the effective development of the fish industry, (GK, 2011a). There is increasing sedentarization in pastoralists' areas that also reduce adaptive capacity. Even though most of the land in Turkana is communally owned which allows for free movements of people and herds during dry conditions, (Grahm, 2005), the heavy national investment in drought management is still faced with limitations not least the increasing environmental degradation.

The link between conflict and natural resources has been established by researchers, (Homer-Dixon, 1994), (Lujala and Siri, 2012), (Carius and Lietzman, 1999), (Homer-Dixon, 1999), (Le Billon and Springer, 2007), (Rustad and Lujala, 2012). Most of these researchers investigated high value lootable resources such as Gold, Diamond, Timber, Coltan and industrial resources such as oil and gas. However, other researchers have looked at other resources such as water, pasture, forests and or fishing; (UNEP, 2009), (Mbugua, 2012), (Young and Goldman, 2013). The majority of these studies have indicated the participation of men and women in NRM and PB is highly influenced by their social-economic status, gender roles and level of vulnerability to environmental degradation, (UN, 2001, 2013).

Studies have also pointed out increasing evidence indicating that land plays a crucial role in conflict situations and reintegration, (Pantualiano, 2009). Secure land rights are seen by most African governments and the African Union (AU) as critical for peace, stability and economic growth, (IIED et al., 2005). The land problem is manifested in competing systems of land tenure, administration and disparities in ownership. These factors have caused environmental degradation, economic and political problems, reduced agricultural production and productivity and increased conflicts.

Land is a critical resource for livelihoods in northern Kenya and has a significant cultural and aesthetic value. In the past, amongst the pastoralist communities, access to water and pasture was a key determinant factor of conflict as opposed to actual ownership of land. However, there is a gradual shift to the latter as the communities' awareness on the value of land increases. Opportunists have in the past taken advantage of the communal land tenure system and especially the lack of individual title deeds. These unscrupulous people

have grabbed community lands for personal use. The situation is made worse by the fact that it is the men who control the natural resources irrespective of the fact that women and the youth play key roles in their management. The UN has posited that effective NRM by women can be measured through: the level of participation and voice of women, accountability and transparency, equity, responsibility, and responsiveness, (UN, 2013).

Climate change leading to the spread of arid lands and desertification, pollution of marine and fresh waters and destruction of forests all contribute to changes in natural resources that people depend on for survival, (IFRC, 2014). In addition, range management systems are facing pressure from other competing land use systems and there are still no mechanisms for ensuring fair distribution of natural resource wealth, (GK, 2011). The position of women in these complex relationships is more precarious due to their prevailing reproductive and socio-economic gender roles, (UN, 2001). Fortunately, there is increasing emphasis on global policy regime changes to promote equal sharing of resources and improve access to the poor and marginalized groups.

Writers such as (Yasmi et al., 2006) maintains that local governance structures, community based approaches and traditional leaders are important in managing natural resource based conflicts. This is indeed true amongst pastoralist communities who have also developed coping mechanisms to respond to natural resource scarcities. Even though the pastoralists have accumulated a wealth of traditional coping mechanisms the same are usually overwhelmed by the severity of drought and the ensuing conflicts. Kenya has responded to the threats of climate change, resource scarcity and competition and their resultant conflicts especially in Northern Kenya with major policy papers and action plans, (Thugge, et al., 2009). The goal of these national vision documents is for all the users to access resources equitably, peacefully and sustainably.

The Kenya Vision 2030 and the Vision 2030 Development Strategy for Northern Kenya and other Arid Lands, informs development planning in Turkana, (GK, 2011). 'Vision 2030' seeks to ensure that the country achieves and sustains economic growth averaging 10% over the next 25 years, build a just and cohesive society with equitable social development, clean and secure environment, democratic political system that nurtures issue-based politics, rule of law and protects all the rights and freedoms of every individual and society, (GK, 2012). The realization of Vision 2030 requires peaceful inter-communal relations, participation and inclusion of all actors and marginalized groups.

Vision 2030 has laid more focus on disaster risk reduction as opposed to previous governments' focus on disaster response. The current policy regime recognizes the potential of pastoralism as the most resilient and viable economic land use system. The National

Climate Change Response Strategy (NCCRS), has specific provisions for responding to climate change in pastoral areas; conservation of wetlands for use as dry season grazing areas, application of indigenous knowledge and integrating such strategies in formal framework for climate change adaptation, (GK, 2010).

The 2010 constitution offers opportunities for women empowerment through the Bill of Rights and devolved government, (GK, 2011). The Land Act (2012) has specific strategies on addressing women rights and participation. The National Policy on Peace building and Conflict Management (2011), provides a framework for national peacebuilding. The National Steering Committee (NSC) links government, civil society and international development partners working towards peace and security, (Amat, 2010). The NSC coordinates the District Peace Committees (DPC) - currently known as Sub County Peace committees (SCPC). These blue prints provide a new political climate where people living in ASALs are seen as; deserving human rights and appreciation as unique people contributing to the diversity of the country, (Odhiambo, 2014).

2.1 Theoretical and Conceptual Framework

2.1.1 Institutional Analysis and Development Model

The Institutional Analysis and development (IAD) model refers to how institutions are formed, operate, change and influence behavior in a society. The framework examines the arena within which interactions occur, the rules used by participants to order interactions, ecological attributes that informs interactions and the attributes of a community in which the arena is played out, (Ostrom, 2005), (Poteete, et al., 2010).

The IAD framework has a number of elements: initial context that influences an action and arena, in which patterns of interaction are established, leading to certain outcomes. The context includes characteristics of the resource (renewable/non-renewable, seasonal, scarcity/abundance, concentrated or dispersed, predictability, transparency, climate change) as well as characteristics of resource users (education, health and identity), (Blake et al., 2013). It also considers lifestyle; nomadic, sedentary, monoculture, diversity, innovative, customs and traditions, property rights, religion, bonding social capital, tangible and intangible assets, (Ellis, 2000). Other factors are: transparency and monitoring, physical capital (roads), weapons and rules of engagement. Each factor can be examined as to how it promotes participation or competition in NRM and PB.

This tool also examines patterns of decision making on NRM and PB. It examines mechanisms for groups' representation in decision-making, power distribution and mechanisms of accountability, state capacity and legitimacy, formal and informal structures, rule of law and

protection of human rights, (Agrawal and Ribot, 1999). Collective governance institutions such as water user groups, land use committees, forest management committees, farmer cooperatives and other organizations help to operationalize rules for resource use.

The model is applicable in multiple scale of analysis from the village (Adakar) to County level (Micro) and to the national and international level (Macro). Formal and informal structures, power and influence diffusion, stakeholder perceptions and interests, are factors identified to enhance institutional capacity building of NRM, PB and inclusion of marginalized groups such as women, youth and people with disabilities.

Conceptual Framework on Women, Natural Resource Management and Peacebuilding



Conceptual framework adapted from (Blake et al. 2013)

2.1.2 Sustainable Livelihoods Approach and Resilience Theory

Sustainable livelihoods (SL) approach holds that development initiatives should start from the bottom-up, giving voice to the poor people who bear the highest brunt of the problem. Resilience theory on the other hand emphasizes the capacity of a system to absorb disturbance and to reorganize in order to retain the same functions, identity and structures, (Walker, et al., 2004), (Blake et al., 2013). Combining the two approaches, (Chambers and Conway, 1992), maintains that ‘*Sustainable livelihoods are those that can avoid or resist stresses and shocks and/or that are resilient or able to bounce back.*’

The application of the theory has evolved to include transformability and systems of

adaptive governance that enable management of essential ecosystems, (Blake, et al., 2013). Where there is stakeholder capacity in NRM and firm linkage with other local and national governance institutions, adaptive capacity for climate change, drought and natural resource depletion, will be enhanced towards socio-ecological resilience. This theory therefore operates in tandem with the IAD model to inform this study. The approach demonstrates that processes of collective action are facilitated and constrained by institutional economic, political and socio-cultural factors. A collective action process can strengthen institutions thereby increasing responsiveness, equity and effectiveness of response strategies. In addition, examining the range of actors involved, the resources at their disposal, and the rules at play, provides a structured way to explore solutions, (Blake et al., 2013).

2.1.3 Theory of Gender and Power

This is a social structural theory describing sexual inequality, gender and power imbalance. The theory maintains that there are three major social structures that define gendered relations between men and women: division of labour, power and structure of cathexis (affective attachments and social norms). These levels are interdependent and occur at the societal and institutional level, (Connell, 1987). These social mechanisms constrain women's daily lifestyle practices by producing gender-based inequities in women's economic participation, control of resources and expectations of women's role in society. Institutional changes occur more rapidly than societal ones, (Connell, 1987). This theory is relevant to the Turkana women participation in NRM and PB and will therefore inform this study.

3. Methodology

This section presents the structure of field and desktop research such as design, population, sample size and sampling procedure, data collection methods, processing, analysis and presentation.

3.1.1 Research design

The study focused on respondents identified through Turkana County Peace Forum (TCPF). The research was carried out in Turkana Central, Turkana South, Turkana West and Loima sub Counties. Lodwar (Turkana Central) is the County headquarters and Kakuma (Turkana West) has a large refugee population; Lokichar (Turkana South) is where discoveries of oil were made and consequently, it is attracting more population, political and economic interests. Loima is known for its irrigation and conservation of natural forest initiatives.

3.1.2 Study population

The study targeted women and men above the age of 18 participating in NRM and PB in four sub Counties of Turkana - Turkana Central, Turkana South, Turkana West and Loima. The main respondents were women and men made up of leaders in national and county governments, Sub-county Peace Committees (SCPCs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and International Organizations and.

3.1.3 Sample size and Sampling Procedure

The study largely used the qualitative method of research; it also used the quantitative method in data analysis. Purposive sampling where specific areas and respondents were targeted based on their potential to offer critical information on the subject was used. The researcher and field research assistants identified respondents.

The targeted total number of interviewees was 75. Women were to make 75% of the respondents. From a list provided by National Steering Committee on PB, the researcher selected the Chairman of the TCPF as the main research assistant who sourced for the respondents. Out of the targeted 75, Key Informant Interviews (KII) and Focus Group Discussions (FGD) were conducted on 30 and 45 respondents respectively.

3.2 Data Collection Methods

3.2.1 Key Informant Interviews

Key Informant Interviews (KII) was used to elicit analytical information about critical issues that define women, NRM and PB. The researcher used semi-structured questionnaires. Questions were specifically tailored for men, women. Follow-up questions were asked depending on answers provided by respondents. This enabled the researcher to tease out relevant information specific to each target group.

Interview guidelines were sent to the target group seven days before the actual field visits. This enabled them to prepare and respond efficiently during the interviews. The target group comprised of key leaders who have experience and knowledge on issues under the study by virtue of their positions of authority. They included: Sub County Commissioners, County government, DPCs, Local Authorities, Women leaders, Traditional elders, NGOs, Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and Faith Based Organizations (FBOs).

3.2.2 Focus Group Discussions

The study conducted four FGDs in the four Sub Counties to clarify issues raised by KII. FGD comprised of 10-12 persons (Majority women). The main and common threads in people's perception about women, NRM and PB were identified in this process. This approach proved to be effective since some members were not competent in English. Research assistants guided some respondents through the discussion. FGD is also in line with the Turkana culture of discussing social affairs under the tree, albeit with inclusion of women.

3.2.3 Observation

Observations were made of women and men going through their daily chores. In the remote areas, women were seen making and selling charcoal. Women were also engaged in retail trade, farming and small businesses in the urban centers.

3.2.4 Secondary Data Sources

Triangulation was used to enhance reliability and validity of the data collected. Secondary data from government documents such as Vision 2030, reports from the academia, civil society and other practitioners with experiences in northern Kenya were analyzed to shed more light on the field findings. Desktop and library research on NRM, women and PB

from the global and the local levels was done to enable the researcher gain a clear insight into the subject matters under interrogation.

3.2.5 Data Processing and Analysis

Data was entered and coded into specific thematic areas. The data was put in specific categories/units/segments where its relevance and meaning could be adduced. The data from different categories was compared from one sub-county to the other. An MS-Excel programme was used to analyze the data and findings by looking at responses to every objective under inquiry. The ensuing patterns, relationships and trends were captured on frequency tables, percentages, bar graphs and pie charts.

3.2.6 Moral and Ethical Standards of Social Science Research

High ethical standards were maintained by being sensitive to the Turkana culture. Consent of respondents to participate in the study was sought. The purpose of the research, sponsors, IPSTC and how findings would be used and the expected benefits to the community were explained. Respondents were assured of their confidentiality where necessary. The county peace and security institutions were informed and involved in the study.

3.2.7 Limitations and Mitigation of the Study

The research covered 4 out of 7 Sub Counties of Turkana County due to time limitations and accessibility. However there were two chairmen of SCPC from Turkana North and East who happened to be in Lodwar during the interviews. The results of the study may apply to other ASALs but the findings may not inform situations in different socio-economic, political and geographic contexts. Throughout the study, the researchers remained flexible to adjust interview dates and time to accommodate the interests of the respondents.

4. Findings

This section presents the views from respondents interviewed on NRM and PB in Turkana County. The researcher accessed 95% of the targeted respondents. The findings are presented in figures, percentages, pie charts, bar graphs and narratives.

4.1 Demographic information

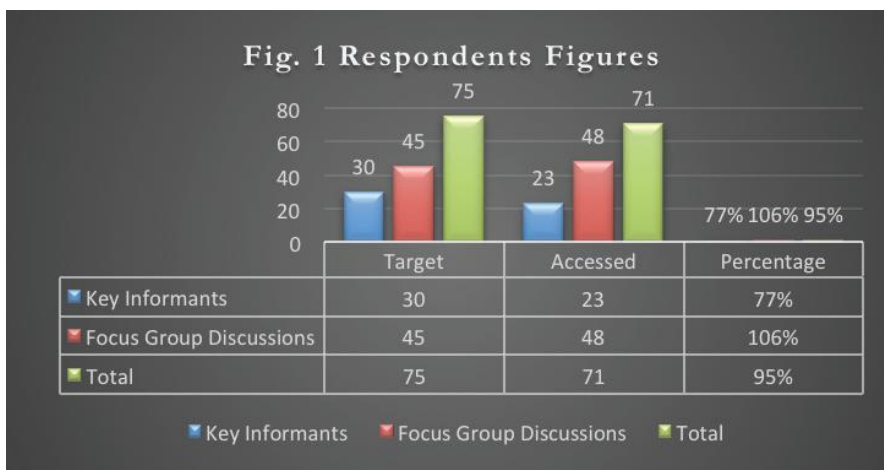
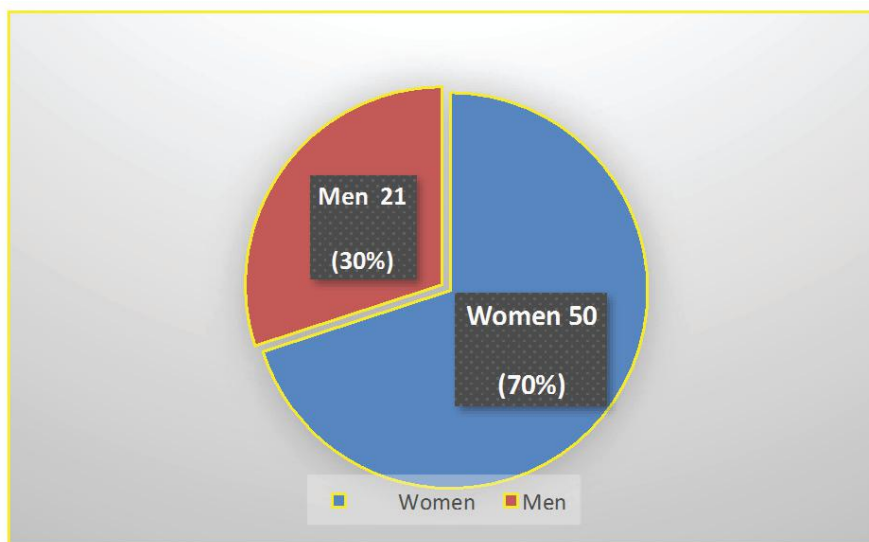
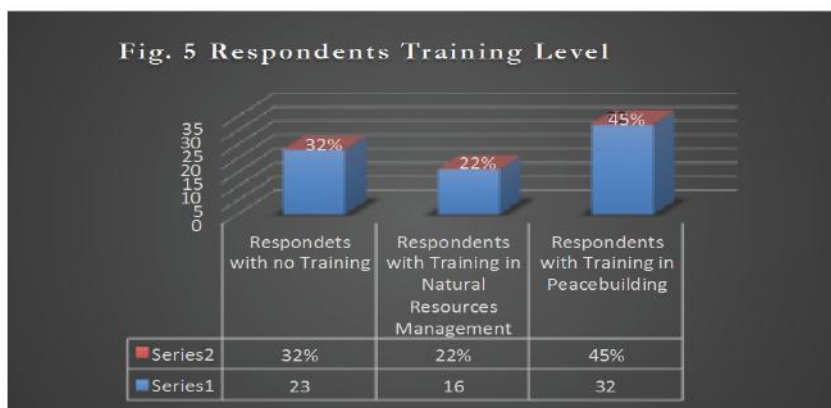
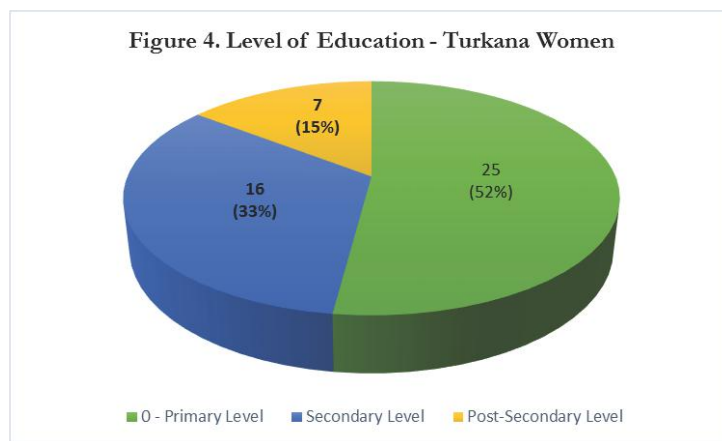
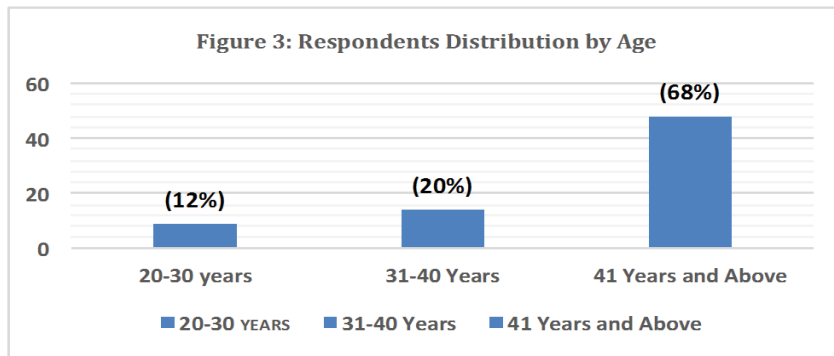


Figure 2. Men and Women Respondents Distribution





The above statistics indicate that 95% of the target population was reached; 75% of them were women. Most respondents were above 41 years (68%). This indicates that the youth may be lacking leadership opportunities. The data also shows the need for more training in NRM (22%) and PB (45%). It was also evident that lack of education among women (52%) also prevented effective participation.

Objective (i)

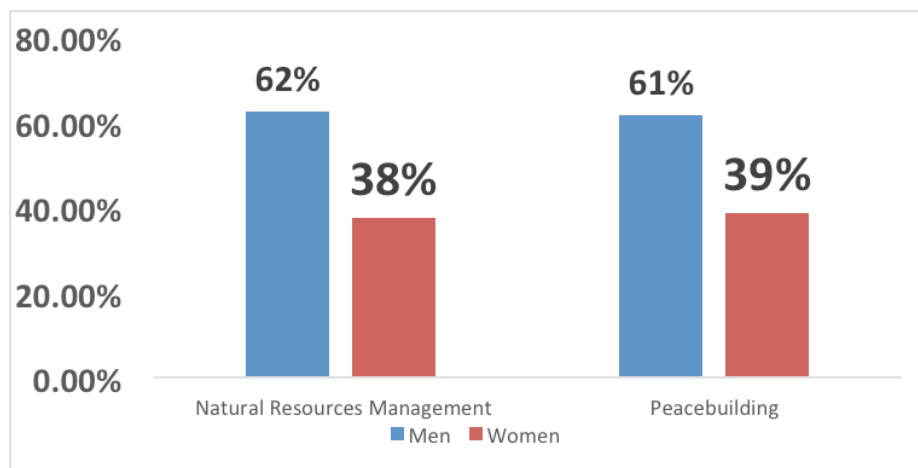
To assess the extent to which women participate in NRM and PB in Turkana

4.2 Participation of Women in Natural Resource Management

Rainfall in Turkana County is low and cannot support farming except with irrigation projects in some areas. Livestock production remains the major mode of production and land is a critical factor in the economy. However the current communal land tenure hinders investment and long-term development, (GK, 2014).

Land is currently controlled by the County government. In urban areas people own plots. Land is a factor of conflict especially in areas bordering West Pokot County. There are conflicts associated with refugees need for settlement areas (Turkana West). Land grabbing is high in areas where oil has been discovered or it is being explored. The national government provides licenses to oil prospectus without consulting local communities. In areas where there are irrigation schemes such as Loima, and Kalokol, some women own the little parcels of land that they cultivate. Women also engage in beekeeping, farming, fishing, producing hides and skins, beadwork, baskets weaving, making brooms and mats.

Figure 6. Participation of Women in NRM and Peacebuilding



Most of the organizations met expressed their commitment to have a third of their employees as women. However, the participation of the women in decision-making is limited by their low levels of education/exposure.

Table 2. Women Contribution in NRM

Organizations Including Women	Area of Operation	Nature of Contribution
National Government	County and National level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of security and supportive administration • Implementation of Vision 2030, national policies and programs • Women chiefs are members of NRM committees
County Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources	County level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for gazettelement of Loima forest to protect traditional trees and environment • Lobby for the gazettelement of Lotikipi Game Reserve for preservation of wildlife and tourism • Work on a broad framework to protect and regulate exploitation of water, wildlife, oil and gas • Develop the fishing industry

Civil Society Organizations	National, County and Sub county level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate and sensitize the community on NRM and Community Land Bill, Laws and Policies on PB, Livestock health and environmental conservation • Create awareness on the Lamu Port South Sudan and Ethiopia Transport Corridor (LAPS-SET) and inherent opportunities for the local economy • Support Small and Medium Enterprises (SME), Savings and Credit Cooperative Organizations (SACCO) and village community banking (VICOBA) and training on range management, energy, oil, climate change • Encourage the formation of women Income Generating Activities (IGA) such as Table banking, training women to register and run their own businesses and form groups to access training and funding. • Water Resource Management Committees (WRMC) and Water Users Associations (WUA), have been established from the Adakar (Village) level as provided in the National Water Act (2002) • Train on financial management, operations and maintenance, utilization and management of natural resources • Provide leadership in NRM, community rights and responsibilities and assist communities and groups (reformed warriors, women, youth) to form Livestock Marketing Associations (LMA), table banking and other IGAs • Promote tree planting, farming - millet and sorghum/green vegetables, advocacy against indiscriminate charcoal burning • Promote cross border barter trade such as sale of beads, food stuff, blankets and tobacco • Participate in Rural Initiative for Participatory Agricultural Transformation (RIPAT)
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Social Auditors	Adakar/Village level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess projects implemented by the national/county governments/international organizations and CSO at the village level
Community Liaison Officers		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two men and two women appointed by TULLOW to represent communities in oil prospecting areas
Land Use Planning and Management Committees (LUPC)	Adakar level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulate access to grazing areas in specific seasons to prevent conflicts based on resources such as water, pasture, fisheries and political incitement and interference with traditional Kraal leadership
Water Resources Management Committees (WRMC)	Adakar level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulate and manage water resources including catchment areas, aquifers, wells and boreholes.
Community Land Watch Networks (CLWN)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate on land issues

National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)	National and County level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build capacity of LUPC • Train on NRM dealing with oil and gas, land and water/aquifer management • Provide financial assistance to 49 women groups and helped to resolve land disputes and other emerging conflicts such as oil and gas • Collaborate with national government and CSO in resource mobilization and management • Participate in County Steering Committee meetings co-chaired by the Governor and County Commissioner that meets once a month. The forum involves men, women and youth • Monitor food security (price fluctuation and food availability, livestock diseases, peace and conflict incidents) at 21 sites • Publish a 'Drought Early Warning' Bulletin where incidents are rated from normal, alert to emergencies. • Recommend short and long term response strategies and make medium range forecasts (2-year forecasts) • Produce Long Rains Assessment (LRA) report. This information is also passed on to Kenya Food Security Steering Committee at the national level • Train on selling excess livestock and repair of water systems • Train on disaster risk reduction, environmental conservation and climate change adaptation
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“NDMA assists communities to prepare against drought (Disaster Risk Reduction) and implement part of the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) that aims to turn pastoral economy into commercialized livestock production.” Joseph Taigong, Coordinator, NDMA, Turkana County, Interview, Lodwar, 3 February 2014

The above organizations collaborate with each other to implement projects and share knowledge and experience through various networks. The County government is also developing capacity to support NRM.

“The County MENR provide advice on policy and strategy on energy, environment and natural resources. It also has responsibility for management of artisanal and industrial mining, conservation of wildlife, harvesting of solar and wind energy, beautification of urban areas.” Joseph Elim, Principal Officer, County MENR, Interview, 2 February 2014

In an effort to develop tourism and wildlife, the County MENR:

“Has drafted a bill and policy on wildlife management. This will define systems of controlling poaching and terms for compensation for crops, livestock and people killed or injured by wild animals. It has implemented programs to support the youth and women groups in tree planting (Making Turkana Green) and provided funds and training in Prosopis (Mathenge) management.” Joseph Elim, 2 February 2015

Resilience building blocks

Social Auditors

In 2012, the communities established social auditors to liaise with mineral prospecting companies and inform the community on the impact of their work. They also audit projects implemented by the Government and NGOs at the community level.

“It has been noted that the services offered at Kakuma Sub County hospital were improved after intervention of social auditors.” Interviewee, LOKADO, Kakuma, 5 February 2014

Land Use Planning and Management Committees (LUPC)

Traditional mechanisms of pasture management called EPAKA are used by LUPC. The formal Drought Management Initiative (DMI) work with LUPC, to manage water and pasture. New plants have been introduced in Turkana West to provide fodder for livestock. Women charcoal burners are sensitized and trained on proper selection of logs/wood for making charcoal.

“Though women participate in LUPC, there has not been any compensation for land set aside for mining and other investments.” FGD, Lokichar, Interview, 6 February 2015

Oil and gas prospecting companies have appointed community liaison officers (2 men and 2 women) who are spearheading community consultations. However, there is a general feeling that the companies are not wholly transparent to the community. Three women out of ten Village Community Units have also been identified by TULLOW as community representatives.

“Although women have been invited in national and county government NRM forums such as on oil and gas, they are not consulted in advance to make meaningful participation.” MYWO, Lodwar, Interview, 3 February 2015

Civil societies collaborate with International Organization for Migration (IOM), Act, Change and Transform (ACT), International Rescue Committee (IRC), and US Africa Development Foundation. Women participate in oil and gas exploration consultations, water aquifer management, land use planning and management through partnerships with Kenya Land Alliance (KLA) and other NGOs.

“Many women are running slaughter houses and butcheries as a result of the training and capacity building offered. The community is being prepared to take advantage of proposed vision 2030 desert city in Eliye Springs in Turkana Central.” Davis Wafula, APAD, Interview, 2 February 2015

Table 3. Level of Women Participation in NRM

Sector	Men	Women	Total
Land Use Planning and Management	33	67	100
Water Resource Management	30	70	100
Food Security	36	64	100
Environmental conservation	33	67	100
Advocacy	35	65	100
Training	30	70	100

The table includes officials, active members and employees of NRM organisations.

4.3 Participation of Women in Peacebuilding

Table 4. Women Contribution in Peacebuilding

Organizations Including Women	Area of Operation	Nature of Contribution
TCPF and SCPC	Turkana County 7 Sub Counties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Builds capacity of SCPC and collaborate with the County and Sub County Security committees in maintaining peace • Builds capacity of women chiefs in PB • Facilitates Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) • Participates in pasture and water management, seasonal migration planning • Reports security incidents to the County security committee and NSC for national coordination • Collaborates with CSO and County governments/Members of County Assembly (MCA)

Civil Society Organizations	County and Sub-County level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Builds capacity of SCPC in PB advocacy and monitoring • Assists communities to establish Community Action Plans (CAP) where investments projects are discussed • Supports close collaboration between the community and security agents especially through community policing and the Nyumba Kumi initiative • Conduct peace week festival where pastoralist communities showcase development (festival was in August, 2014) • Conduct cross border PB between Nyangatom, Merille (Ethiopia) and Turkana, Toposa (South Sudan), Jie and Dodoth (Uganda) • Conduct conflict assessment, dialogue, negotiation and mediation • Builds capacity of local PB structures such as Adakar and mitigate conflicts • Enhance intercommunal peace among the Karamoja communities (Ateker) through songs, poems, reciting coral verses, lullabies, mobile/travelling theatre • Facilitates inter-communal (Turkana-Pokot) peacebuilding • Trains women to resolve family disputes • Assists communities in establishing and managing Community Policing (CP) and train National Police Reservists (NPR) and police officers • Manages youth treks between Turkana West and South Sudan (Exchange visits) • Participates in peace commemoration on 21 December of every year • Supports Traditional Elders Mediation Council, sports for peace (intra-county and cross border)
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NDMA	County level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support ‘reformed warriors’ (men and women) to integrate into the community and earn a living through establishment of IGAs such as table banking • Spearheads marking of weapons in collaboration with the Regional Center for Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (RECSA)
County Participatory Forums (CPF) (These are CBOs of 15-members per Adakar. There are 900 CPFs in the county)	Adakar (Village level)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliberates on various peace building and development issues with Community based organizations • Liaises with development partners, national and county government

Women have participated in efforts to bring peace between the Pokot and Turkana e.g. in a negotiation meeting at Lorengippi in 2014. Unfortunately, there were attacks three days after the meeting. This was attributed to the fact that the raiders had not been part of the meeting.

“During the meeting a Pokot woman suggested that women should pour down their breast milk to curse the youth who would defy the agreement. Even though there was no peace accord was signed, the governments of Kenya, Uganda and CSOs are planning for further engagement.” FGD, Lokichar, 6 February 2015.

During conflict, there are meetings held at the Kraal level (Ekwokwo) to provide information on impending raids, availability of pasture or sighting of enemy tracks/foot prints. Women gather information while undertaking their normal chores of collecting firewood and fetching water. Due to their proximity, women living in urban areas such as Lodwar participate more in peacebuilding initiatives. A number of women have received training in leadership, entrepreneurship, resource management, proposal writing and peacebuilding. It is evident that women in leadership positions provide role models to the youth.

“There are efforts to promote peace through inter-communal trade in order to reach people directly affected by conflicts. The Lokiriamia Peace Accord (1973) cements the good relationships between Turkana and Matheniko (Uganda). Stiff penalties are imposed on warriors who break the accord, this acts as a deterrent against violations of the agreement.” FGD, Loima, 5 February 2015

The study indicated that there is more participation of women in PB than NRM partly because PB structures began earlier than NRM ones and thus there is some capacity in PB. The Turkana County Peace Forum (TCPF) was preceded by Riam Riam as the network for peacebuilding. Riam Riam was the second PB network in the country after Wajir Peace and Development Committee (WPDC) that was founded in 1995, Juma (2000).

Table 5. Level of Women Contribution in Peace building

Sector	Men (%)	Women	Total
Capacity building	62	38	100
Training	37	63	100
Advocacy	40	60	100

Objective (ii)

To Establish Relationship between Women, NRM and PB

The study indicated that most of the respondents received training from the TCPF and other SCPC. TCPF works closely with the national government and coordinates peace-building work in the county. CSOs such as APAD, TUPADO, Catholic Church, SAPCONE and LOKADO contribute a total of 53% in PB training for women.

“SAPCONE has facilitated meetings between Kenyan and Ethiopian leaders (Office of Governor, Senator, MPs and Peace Ambassadors in Jinka-Ethiopia) conducted training and facilitated cross border meetings between Dassanech and Turkana.” Amon Humphrey, Coordinator, SAPCONE, Interview, 3 February 2015

It was also established that APAD has contributed significantly in building capacity on peacebuilding.

“APAD has implemented a number of projects in collaboration with PACT Kenya (Peace II Project); involving capacity building of Loima peace committees on cross border peace building, EWER and provision of VHF radios. The next phase of the project (Peace III) is scheduled to begin in 2015. APAD and Saferworld facilitated meetings to discuss women inclusion in peace building in Mbale-Uganda and Eldoret-Kenya.” Wafula, APAD, Interview, 3 February 2015

The County administration is also starting peace building training projects that emphasis on gender aspects. Women groups such as Habari Njema send the messages of peace through songs. They also engage in teaching and preaching peace from door to door.

“The County government through the MENR is forming a peace building committee to work on human/wildlife conflict. Resource use committees are also being established to resolve conflicts between national and county governments and residents of Turkana County.” Joseph Elim, Interview, 2 February 2015

This is complemented by projects where whereby communities benefit from peace dividends such as sharing of markets stores after the end of conflict. CSOs in the county are sensitizing the communities on the need to include women in PB. In addition, it is clear that the increased access to education is also improving the status of women.

“There has been a successful peace building process in Lorengippi in Turkana South to bring peace along the Turkana/Pokot corridor. Peace in this corridor was brought about by involvement of grass root community and cross border community and security agents cooperation. FGD, Lokichar, Turkana South, 6 February 2015

The study established that out of four drought monitors in the field, two are women.

“LOKADO has a pro-active approach to empowerment of women through creation of women spaces in peace dialogues. New songs of peace are created to replace songs for war. Every year there is commemoration of a famous woman founder of the ‘Ateker’ group – Moruanayieche. FGD, LOKADO, 4 February 2015

Women also initiate peace crusades along the border with other communities where they engage in dialogue and creating space for further resolution of disputes and participate in community meetings with elders, youth, political leaders and NGOs and CBOs to resolve conflicts. CSOs participate as observers in County Assembly debates where they can influence outcomes. The women are also collaborating with other organizations such as TWADO, IOM, IRC, Catholic Church, County and National governments especially the NSC.

Objective (iii)

To identify barriers of women participation in NRM and PB

4.4 Barriers of Women Participation in NRM

Table 6: Barriers of Women Participation in NRM

Barriers	Frequency	Percentage
High level of insecurity	26	37
Poor infrastructure	24	34
Drought	20	28
Limited cooperation between national and county governments	20	28
Lack of respect for private property and impunity	16	23
Inadequate funding of NRM activities	14	20
Commercialization of cattle raids	13	18
Cultural practices and beliefs	13	18
Inequality between men and women/low women voice	12	17
Inadequate capacity especially training in NRM	12	17
Lack of exposure to best practices in NRM	12	17
Proliferation of illicit SALW proliferation and ineffective disarmament	12	17
Low literacy level	10	14
Inadequate capacity in disputes resolution	8	11
Inadequate funding from national government	8	11
Inadequate support for SMEs and IGA	8	11
Women not in decision making positions	8	11

The study established that the nomadic movements pose high risks to livestock and people such as diseases, death and conflicts with other communities. It also renders people unavailable when required for training.

"Migration towards the international border areas during drought pose great problems. In 2004 Turkana people were massacred in Kaabong District of Moroto County, Uganda. Availability and misuse of SALW makes resolution of the conflict difficult." FGD, Loima, 5 February 2015

Dilapidated infrastructure especially roads from Lodwar to Kapenguria also hinder effective participation of women in NRM and PB. Lack of transport facilities such as vehicles and motorbikes is also a hindrance. Women based in the rural areas are the most marginalized in NRM due to lack of education, information and poor accessibility to capacity building organizations. These setbacks work against the women.

"There are many cases where women's land (plots allocated in urban and farming areas) are grabbed by powerful people. Sometimes men sell their plots without informing other members of the family." FGD, Lokichar, 6 February 2015

The study further established that women are not well represented in LUPC and WRMC. Women participation in pasture management is limited. This is mainly because they don't own livestock. Also, even though a number of organizations are providing training on NRM, it is still inadequate.

"Non-indigenous people have no security of tenure when they own land in Turkana South and their land can be forcefully taken away. People coming from outside Turkana South are not allowed to access employment in oil companies operating in that region." FGD, Lokichar, 6 February 2015

Resource management committees commissioned by the county government do not have proper structures for facilitating leaders and community participation and consultation.

Sometimes conflicts and drought alerts are made but the national government is not make quick in its response. Remote areas have no access to government services. Most government officers except chiefs, stay in Lodwar where social amenities are available. FGD, Turkana Central, 2 February 2015

The two levels of government are yet to be streamlined according to the 2010 constitutional dispensation.

"County officials engage with foreign officials from Uganda and South Sudan without involving the County Commissioner or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. County administrators and security agents should collaborate for smooth coordination of peace and security initiatives." Charles Igiha, Loima Sub County Commissioner, Interview, 2 February 2015

During conflict people cannot access resources within and across county borders.

“There is politicization of oil and inter-communal conflicts. Politicians use the conflict to advance their own interests with the national political parties divide having ramifications on the ground. Besides, the Pokot want to extend their county borders thereby increasing insecurity.” FGD, Turkana South, 6 February 2015

Women are considered to be weak compared to men and those participating in peacebuilding are seen as inciters whose main work should be domestic chores.

“In Turkana culture ‘women are not supposed to stand in front of men as leaders’. Women are not allowed to speak at the ‘Tree of men’ forum.” FGD, Turkana Central, 2 February 2015

Poor marketing of non-industrial (artisanal) gold mining, aloe vera, crops, charcoal and falling oil prices are also major setbacks. Women have no access to credit schemes and SMEs for job creation and women empowerment. Boundaries between Counties and Sub Counties have not been demarcated. People cannot engage in daily business activities such as buying foodstuff from Kapenguria and Kitale for sale in Turkana because of rampant highway bandit attacks.

“Use of SALW results in heavy casualties. Worse, today’s empowered warriors are no longer subject to traditional moral and ethical norms and revenge is the order of the day.” FGD, Loima, 5 February 2015

The land where pasture and water are found in plenty during the dry season is located at the border between Turkana and Pokot. The location of these resources makes it easier for cattle raids to be conducted.

“Security provided by the national government is inadequate to protect the livestock. Livestock are highly valued within the Turkana culture.” Ernest Lokoel, Loima SCPC, Interview, 5 February 2014

“The government has provided security services to oil companies. Local people view the action as preference for foreign investors against communities’ interests. The security is offered by KPR who are usually not paid but the oil companies provide some allowances.” FGD, Lokichar, 6 February 2015.

Farming lands in Turkana south cannot be accessed due to insecurity caused by Pokot claim over the land.

“Plans by the government to irrigate downstream Turkwell riverine areas in Turkana are being resisted by Pokot who claim ownership of Turkwell hydroelectric power station.” FGD, Lokichar, 6 February 2015.

4.5 Barriers of Women Participation in Peacebuilding

Table 7. Barriers of Women Participation in Peacebuilding

Barriers	Frequency	Percentage
High level of insecurity	26	37
Poor infrastructure	24	34
Limited cooperation between national and county governments	20	28
Lack of respect for private property and impunity	16	23
Weak community EWER mechanism	16	23
Inadequate funding of TCPF and SCPC	14	20
Commercialization of cattle raids	13	18
Cultural practices and beliefs	13	18
Inequality between men and women/low women voice	12	17
SALW proliferation and ineffective disarmament	12	17
Low literacy level	10	14
Inadequate capacity in peacebuilding	8	11
Drought and migration	8	11
Few women are in decision making positions	8	11

Most peace building efforts are still top down rather than bottom up. Women are not represented in County security committees however in the Nyumba Kumi and Usalama initiatives they participate but not in leadership positions. There is rampant unemployment especially among the youth.

“Community Policing has not worked very well because communities were not involved in their formation (it was a Chiefs’ and Wazee’s Affair).” FGD, LOKADO, 4 February 2015

Lack of compensation for stolen livestock breeds impunity and the cyclic revenges makes conflicts intractable. This has led to low inter-communal interactions. Moreover, there are no peace agreements binding the Pokot and Turkana communities. Though the county government has appointed a Peace Ambassador, his role and relationship with existing peacebuilding infrastructure is not clearly defined. When there is disarmament in the area, there are no structures of community, CSO and police/military cooperation. Additionally, the national government has not succeeded in disarming warring groups along the border with Uganda.

“Though efforts have been made to track weapons movement in the Karamoja region, disarmament is still not successful in Kenya while some measures of success have been registered on the Ugandan side.” FGD, Lokichar, 6 February 2015

Cattle rustling has mutated from the traditional kind carried out to access livestock for bride wealth and other cultural factors to deadly commercialized raids.

“The government security agencies have only managed to recover stolen livestock only twice along the West Pokot/Turkana county borders. Security agents have placed surveillance against highway bandits but they are thinly spread to act as an effective deterrence.” FGD, Loima, 5 February 2015

Those who commit atrocities are not punished. The armed militias are well organized and enjoy political support and/or are pursuing their own political goals. Unfortunately, the national policy on PB is not being well implemented due to lack of coordination of SCPC and County government.

Objective (iv)

To examine opportunities for effective women participation in NRM and PB

4.6 Opportunities for Effective Women Participation in NRM

To date, there are many misconceptions about the impact of oil extraction on land use and on the environment. For this reason, investments can be made in sensitizing the community on realities of the industry. Communities can get information on expected benefits, compensation for alienated land and the role of the two levels of government. Doors for consultation have been opened between the communities, oil companies and the government.

“Oil companies have provided money for bursaries to school children, money for building hospitals and provision of water.” Sub County Commissioner, Turkana South, 6 February 2015

Turkana residents can be facilitated to access markets to supply goods and services to the drilling companies and also to get employment. This will diversify their sources of income and also contribute towards enhancing resilience. In addition, there should be enforcement of stiff penalties on those who graze in deferred areas in order to promote better NRM. These efforts should be complemented by the diversification of herds in the drier areas. For example, the keeping camels should be encouraged given that they have been proven to cope better with drought than other livestock. Additionally, the county government can

already start to put measures to tackle the anticipated effects arising from the reduction of water levels in Lake Turkana as a result of the construction of Gibe III HEP in Ethiopia. A number of organizations led by NDMA are doing a good job in disaster risk reduction. Additional efforts and coordination of national and international assistance should be put in this initiative to avert the current livelihoods security threat. Various political and legislative measures such as the full implementation of devolved governance and enactment of critical legislations such as the land bill are critical but, even more importantly, is that the process should closely involve women. Indeed, effective collaboration between the two levels of governments, better cooperation between the practitioners, increasing women adaptive capacity and their contribution to institutional governance will enhance socio-ecological resilience in NRM and PB. This will also contribute towards better disaster risk reduction.

The County government and communities' collaboration and training can add value to local content in NRM policy and sustainable utilization of resources.

The community has embraced inclusion of women in NRM and PB in the last ten years. Women were nominated as Members of County Assembly (MCAs) when none of them was elected and the men did not complain, Rev. Lekuruka, Chairman TCPF, 2, February, 2015. Lodwar

There are afforestation initiatives and controlled charcoal burning in Turkana Central and Loima, which can be replicated in other areas. Improved mechanisms for regulating intra and inter-communal resource sharing (water, pasture) are also needed.

"Women need training in NRM and PB, education on ownership of matrimonial property, entrepreneurship and how to access affordable credit. Exchange visits to learn from successful integration of women in NRM and PB." FGD, Turkana Central, 2 February 2015

4.7 Opportunities for Effective Women Participation in Peace building

The current joint UN Human Security project in the county has endeavored to integrate significant factors that determine conflict generation. These efforts should build on national and county government NRM and PB initiatives such as funding peace committees and proper coordination.

Women are the majority in the new irrigation technology based agriculture in Loima and Turkwell. Such non-conventional farming approaches can open new doors for women.

"Women can threaten peace spoilers through cultural rituals as it happened in Loima; Turkana/north Pokot peace making dialogue forum." FGD, Lokichar, 6 February 2015

Loima Women Peace Empowerment (LWPE) initiative of Lokirama has campaigned for rights of women and against Sex and Gender Based Violence (SGBV). Equally, the women peace crusaders along inter-county border and Kenya/Uganda border have made significant contributions that should be further supported.

“The Lokirama peace declaration agreed upon between Turkana and Matheniko of Uganda in 1973 has contributed to peace in Loima. This agreement is commemorated every year in 2 September (the international peace day).” FGD, Turkana West, 4 February 2015

The Maria Gorretti Women Group use of creative arts to send a message of peace in peace forums (barazas) can be enhanced and replicated in other areas. The effective use of mobile phones and VHF radios for timely dissemination of information has been demonstrated by LOKADO in Turkana West. This should be replicated elsewhere in the county.

4.8 Analysis of Findings and their Implications

The study clearly shows that NRM and PB are closely intertwined. In addition, the impacts of climate change especially on water and pasture resources poses serious challenges. Given the pre-eminence contribution of resources to conflict, poor NRM will contribute to increased conflicts and, conversely, better NRM will create a suitable environment for PB. Raising the level of women participation in NRM and PB should address the root causes such as under development, cultural/ideological basis of women perceptions, education, exposure and capacity building in NRM and PB skills.

Over the last ten years change in the male perception towards women is evident even though women still feel they are sidelined in leadership and decision making positions, Sub County Commissioner, Loima, (2015). There is a growing cadre of educated and well-informed women who are taking assertive roles in NRM and PB. Women enjoy more trust and goodwill among the community as can be evidenced by their positions in organizations where they work in finance and treasurer positions.

The study has established that key assets for example, land, livestock and water among the pastoralist community are controlled by men. This is despite the fact that women play a major role in livestock production and agriculture. The border conflict between Turkana – North and West Pokot poses challenges to peacebuilding and NRM in Turkana. The effectiveness and efficiency of NRM and PB will continue to be hindered by the lack of effective cooperation between the county and the national government. Furthermore, the inter-county border conflict cannot be resolved by one or two counties alone, it requires national political engagement and technical support from relevant national PB and NRM institutions.

Investment in education and development in both counties (Turkana and Pokot) may in the long run change some cultural attitudes that hinder effective women participation in PB and NRM. Many organizations adhere to the constitutional provision to include a third of women in leadership positions, however the low technical capacity of women hinders their effectiveness in influencing decision-making.

To lift women from this position require significant capacity building and institutional transformation. The current UN Human security approach in the implementation of development projects in Turkana County is supportive of women empowerment.³

The Human Security concept covers issues such as land use management, internal dialogue, cross border peace building and community security. Luckily, the national political and legal environment is suitable for effective women participation. The new constitution (2010), Vision 2030 and Development Plan for Northern Kenya, provide the macro-political and legal environment suitable for enhanced NRM and PB that also emphasis the participation of women.

The emerging oil and gas discoveries, among other resources in Turkana, can be a springboard for more peace initiatives. Effective management of conflict and resources in the area is dependent on a number of factors; national politics, inter-county disarmament, national and county governance of oil and gas, wind, solar and geothermal energy management.

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

This section presents the summary of findings and recommendations drawn from the study.

5.1 Conclusion

Integration of women, PB and NRM in Turkana county hold potential for raising the level of women participation. The study has established that the low capacity of women in NRM (38%) and PB (39%) in Turkana County is associated with their low capacities in education, knowledge and skills, economic, socio-cultural and political issues. The study corroborates previous research on participation of women in PB in Turkana, (Njambi, 2014) but also adds the NRM dimension that corresponds the low global trend, (UN, 2013). Poor management of resources and low participation of women leads to lost opportunities while better management of resources create employment, raise level of income, enhances trade and ultimately boosts peace among communities.

Key among the barriers of women participation in NRM and PB are insecurity (37%), poor infrastructure (34%) and limited cooperation between the county and national government (28%). These factors are exacerbated by underdevelopment, cultural/ideological predisposition towards women and high levels of illiteracy. All these constitute the root causes of low participation of women in NRM and PB.

There are a number of interventions that can change the level of women participation such as; increased county socio-economic growth rate, building community adaptive resilience in NRM and PB through women capacity building. There are promising sectors such as irrigation based agriculture where women are making inroads. If managed well, natural resources can be a bedrock of opportunities for women participation and peacebuilding in the county.

5.2 Recommendations

National Government

- Integrate and harmonize the provisions of the 2010 constitution within the County government to create synergy between the national and county government
- Involve county government in agreements with investors especially in oil and gas in order to create local ownership, build confidence and integrate environmental assessment
- Ensure resource prospecting companies consult communities in advance to prevent conflicts based on misconceptions and to address issues of concern

- Assess implementation of legal requirements for women inclusion in public offices in order to make sure that women occupy at least one third of positions
- Provide drought resistant farming and livestock inputs, access to credit, energy, education, health, markets, water, infrastructure and telecommunication to improve NRM
- Demarcate the county boundaries to prevent inter-communal conflicts and illegal extension of boundaries
- Enhance security management framework that involves county government and communities and provide adequate personnel and equipment
- Promote national cohesion and integration through demanding accountability among political leaders
- Conduct effective and impartial disarmament for both Turkana and Pokot communities and draw lessons from the KIDP
- Train more security personnel in peace building so that they can handle inter-communal conflict better
- Enhance capacity of early warning and response for effective and efficient management of conflicts
- Spearhead inter-county peace initiatives since the conflicts go beyond counties and national borders

County Government

- Draft and implement policy/laws to direct activities geared towards integrated NRM and PB, especially oil and gas
- Strengthen community participation and cooperation in NRM and PB through inclusion of men, women in management committees
- Sensitize communities on NRM (land, oil and gas), climate change, DRR and PB through radio and public Barazas
- Provide drought resistant farming and livestock inputs, access to credit, energy, education, health, markets, water, infrastructure and telecommunication
- Empower women through funding PB and capacity building
- Enhance cooperation with national government, CSOs and development partners to raise effectiveness of projects implementation

UN Women/IPSTC and other Development Partners

- Enhance collaboration with other UN agencies, CSOs, national government to implement the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP).
- Support holistic and inclusive participation of men, women, youth and people with disabilities
- Use conflict sensitive terminologies such as gender rather women in order to gain

acceptance within the cultural environment

- Build capacity of civil society and peace committees through training and funding
- Make use of the traditional NRM and PB infrastructure to create local ownership
- Develop courses and train on integrated NRM, PB, SME and role of women
- Train on Girl child rights and protection, SGBV and rights of women
- Provide exposure visits for women to learn successful cases of NRM and PB
- Support measures to enhance inter-communal trade as an avenue of inter-communal peacebuilding
- Further research on the management of natural resources especially oil and gas in Turkana, traditional PB mechanisms and their effects on women participation in NRM and PB

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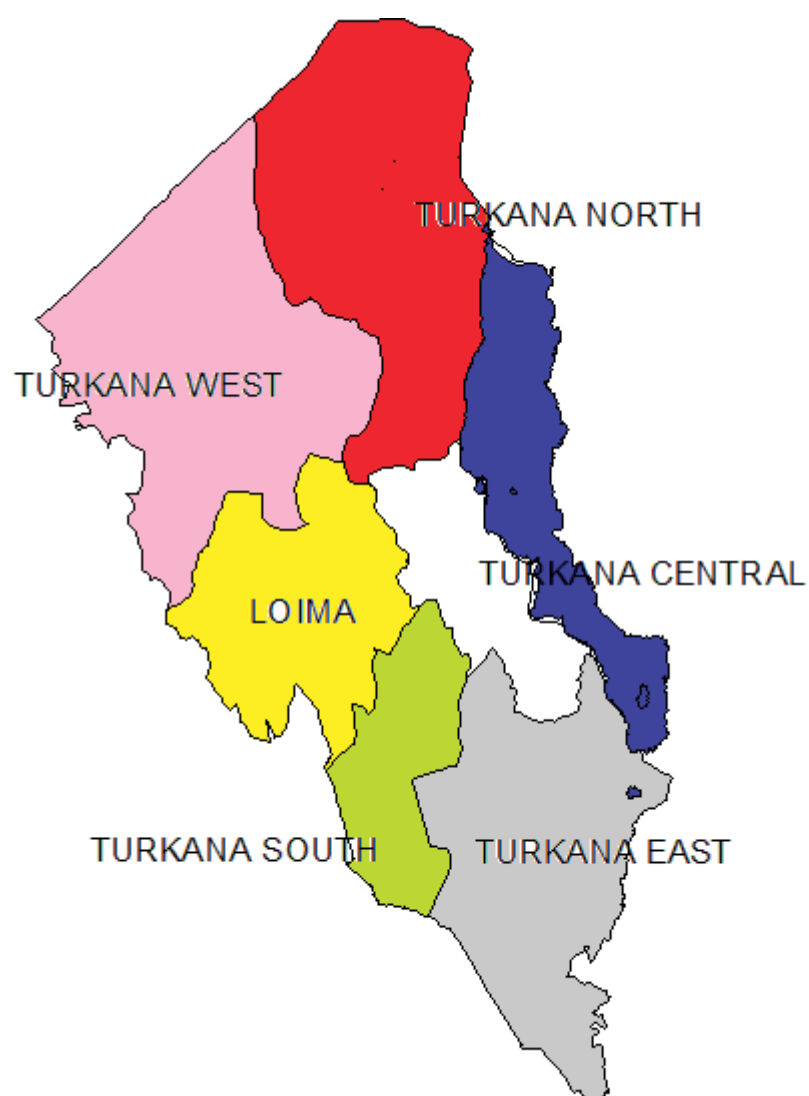
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Annexure

Annex 1 Map of Kenya Showing Turkana County



Annex 11 - Map of Turkana County Showing Sub Counties



About the Author



Mr. Mbugua is a researcher at International Peace Support Training Center (IPSTC) where he has published a number of Occasional Papers and Issue Briefs. Mr. Mbugua has extensive experience in peace research and training. He has previously worked as a writer, editor and consultant with many reputable organizations including UNDP and UN Women. He has also trained in colleges and Universities.

Mbugua was a long serving resident writer and editor with Jacaranda Designs LTD, publishing firm. Mbugua is the author of *Inkishu: Myths and Legends of the Maasai*, a book that appears in the 1996 New York Public Library's list of best books from Africa for teenagers. Mbugua has actively participated in the productions of notable local films such as *Enkishon: The Maasai Child in Kenya* and *The Price of a Daughter*. Mbugua's books and films are used in the multicultural programs of New York and Boston Public Schools.

Mr. Mbugua also facilitated Konrad Adenauer Foundation entry into Kajiado District to establish a culturally sensitive approach to campaign against Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) among the Maasai people of Kenya. Mbugua was active in the peacebuilding activities in Western Kenya aimed at preventing ethnic clashes prior to the 2002 general elections.

Mr. Mbugua holds a Masters degree in peace and justice from the University of San Diego in California and he is also a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright and Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships from the United States.



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