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**Women, Natural Resources
Management and Peace
building in Turkana County**

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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 (PSO) 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. The issue briefs 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 level. 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

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
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GK	Government of Kenya
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IOM	International Organization of Migration
IRC	International Rescue Committee
LMA	Livestock Marketing Associations
LRA	Long Rains Assessment
LOKADO	Lokichoggio, Oropoi & Kakuma Development Organization
LUPC	Land Use and Planning Committee
MENR	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (County level)
NCCRS	National Climate Change Response Strategy
NDMA	National Drought Management Authority
NPBCM	National Policy on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management
NRM	Natural Resources Management
PB	Peacebuilding
PSRP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper



RIPAT	Rural Initiative for Participatory Agricultural Transformation
RoK	Republic of Kenya
SALW	Small Arms and Light Weapons
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SCPCC	Sub County Peace Committee
TCPF	Turkana County Peace Forum
TUPADO	Turkana Pastoralists Development Organization
TWADO	Turkana Women Advocacy and Development Organization
WRMC	Water Resources Management Committee
UN	United Nations

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.

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'*, UNEP, (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, UNEP, (2013). It also refers to regulation, access, use and replenishment of resources.

Renewable Resources refer to (crops, livestock, and extractive resources, non-timber forest products (NTFP) and water), extractive resources (commercial forests, industrial and artisanal mining, oil and gas, climate change, UN, (2014).

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 and its relationship with peacebuilding and the role of women has received heightened attention in the last decade. Following the UN organizations 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 natural resources management (NRM) and peacebuilding (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 NRM is critical to their well-being and 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, UNEP, (2013).

Some of the dryland resources available in Turkana are: land, water, pasture, livestock, crop farming, bio-fuels (Prosopis-Mathenge), medicinals, 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 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 has for many years suffered from recurrent droughts that make the county food insecure and periodically led 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, UNEP, (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. Women may be required to take up non-traditional roles during conflict. Pictures of women bearing an AK-47 and a child on the back as they take care of livestock in Northern Kenya have appeared in newspapers. 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 (SGBV) than active agents of change, UNEP, (2013).

Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) of Kenya have high mobility of both people and livestock internally and across international borders. The frequency and magnitude of droughts, floods and famine have increased significantly in the recent past, Odhiambo, (2014). Women in pastoral communities are made vulnerable through cattle raids which are mostly caused by droughts, Omollo, (2010), GK, (2011). 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 with reduction of pasture and water. Due to insecurity along the borders with neighbouring countries of Uganda, South

Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia, there has also been cross border conflicts and proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in Turkana County.

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, Republic of Kenya (GK), (2011). Of the 47 counties in Kenya, 23 are in northern Kenya and other arid lands. The dominant mode of production is pastoralism.

Table 1: Background Information – Turkana County

Features	Figures	National
Area	77 000 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	
Livelihood zones Pastoralism Livestock Agro pastoralism Fishing	62% Worth Ksh. 5.9 Billion 14% 8%	12% of GDP 60% of Kenya's livestock found in ASAL employing 90% of the people
Poverty Profile	93% (KIPPRA, 2006)	Highest in the country followed by Mandera at 87%
Unemployment (15-64)	14%	8.6% (KIPPRA, 2009)
Education Net Enrolment Rate Gender Parity Index Primary completion rate Adult literacy rate	Primary: 25% Secondary 8% (Female), 29% Male	95.0 (Male), 95.7 (Female), GK (2012) 1.01 80.3% 80%
Health care		
Access to water and sanitation	39.1%	48.5%
Settlement	16% (urban and peri-urban)	
Climate change vulnerability index	0.5 out of a high of 0.6, GK/UNDP, (2013)	

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).

Turkana received the second highest amount national revenue allocation (Ksh. 7.894 Billion) after Nairobi County, CRA, (2014). Systems of accountability and community participation will determine 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. This study is organized into four parts, part one forms the introduction and statement of the problem, part two presents literature review, theoretical, conceptual framework, statement of the problem, part three presents research findings and part four presents conclusion and recommendations. A number of recommendations to alleviate this situation have been proposed including the need for cooperation at both levels of government and other actors for efficient NRM and PB.

1.3 Statement of the problem

Environmental degradation in Turkana County is a challenge to the livestock based economy, leading to poverty among a large population that depends on natural resources. The productive potential of the county has not been fully addressed due to a number of challenges including limited participation of women. 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. There are gender disparities since men have greater access to resources, credit, extension services and education, GK, (2014).

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 with impact on women and peacebuilding.

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 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).

The people and the resources in Turkana are highly vulnerable to climate change. There are significant disparities in well-being even within the region such as women and minority clans. There is over reliance on wood based fuel with 87% of the people using firewood, less than 1% use LPG and 1% use paraffin, SID, (2013).

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). Lack of sustainable NRM prevent opportunities for wealth creation and prevention of environmental degradation and some cultural practices also limits 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 identify barriers of women participation in NRM and PB
- To establish any relationship between women, 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

1.7 Justification

Turkana County for many years registered lowest development indicators in the country. Drought and famine have led to loss of lives and livestock. The contributions and challenges of women in NRM and PB in Turkana need to be understood by policy makers in order to draft appropriate strategies and projects to promote women participation in NRM and PB.

NRM contribute to economic recovery and job creation, serve as a basis for local livelihoods, generate revenue for governments, provide basic services, and offer opportunities among groups in conflict.ⁱⁱ

NRM and PB studies are required in order to realize the goals of UNSCR 1325 on Women Peace and Security, the UN Secretary General Seven-Point Action Plan on Women Participation in Peacebuilding and inform key programming processes in Post 2015 global development agenda, UNEP, (2013). In UNSG

report, (2010) report calls for member countries to, *'make questions of natural resources allocation, ownership and access an integral part of peacebuilding strategies'*.

2. Literature Review

This section surveys the literature on global, regional, national and county experiences of women participation in NRM and PB. The purpose of this 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.

2.1 Global Women, Natural Resource Management and Peacebuilding Scene

Natural resources and environment 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 and cross border dynamics, Africa Development Bank, ADB, (2014).

In the works of UNEP, (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. They advocate for the use of solar, rain, wind harvesting technologies, remote sensing and Geographic Information System (GIS).

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 contribution based on their vantage points, strengths and capacities.

2.2 Women Participation in Natural Resources Management and Peacebuilding in Kenya

Contemporary literature surveys women representation and participation at high political levels and in decision making mechanisms for conflict resolution, Juma (2000) and participation at the County level, Njambi, (2014). There are cultural issues that limit participation of women in formal structures of peace building, Juma (2000). The late Prof. Wangari Maathai and the Green Belt Movement (GBM) demonstrated contribution of environment to peacebuilding through environmental conservation (tree planting and prevention of forests destruction), Maathai, (2008).

2.3 Women Participation in NRM and PB in Turkana County

A major threat to fishing in Lake Turkana and to the wider economy and environment is the impact of Hydroelectric Power development along river OMO in Ethiopia and lack of capital, infrastructure and equipment for effective marketing, GK, (2011a). There is increasing sedentarization in pastoralists' areas that also reduce adaptive capacity. The heavy national investment in drought management is faced with limitations such as environmental degradation.

Most of the land in Turkana is communally owned to allow free movements of people and herds during dry conditions, Grahn, (2005). 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), Grahn, (2005). The Turkana also have seers (*Ngimurok*) who predict the future, especially about impending calamities. The literature surveyed indicate current trends and dynamics of studies on NRM and PB.

2.4 Relationship between Women, NRM and PB

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). However most of these researchers investigated high value lootable resources such as Gold, Diamond, Timber, Coltan and industrial resources such as oil and gas. Other researchers have looked at environmental resources such as water, pasture, forests and or fishing; UNEP, (2009), Mbugua, (2012), Young and Goldman, (2013).

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). There has been increasing evidence indicating that land plays a crucial real 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. Access to water and pasture is the determinant factor of conflict not necessarily access to land. Growing urban population sit on land that has no security offered by title deeds, meaning that the land can be grabbed and they cannot access credit. Men control access to these resources though women and youth play key roles in resource management. Effective NRM for women may be measured through; level of participation and voice of women, accountability and transparency, equity, responsibility, and responsiveness, UNDP, (2013).

2.5 Barriers of Women Participation in NRM and PB

Climate change, spread of arid lands and desertification, pollution of marine and fresh waters and destruction of forests all contribute to change in natural resources that people depend on for survival, IFRC, (2014). The positions of women in this complex relationships is more precarious due to their reproductive and socio-economic gender roles, UN, (2001). There is more emphasis on global policy regime to promote equal sharing of resources and improve access to the poor and marginalized groups.

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). Women are not effectively included in institutional resource governance and PB due to economic and socio-cultural reasons.

2.6 Opportunities of Women Participation in NRM and PB

Yasmi et al (2006) maintains that local governance structures, community based approaches and traditional leaders are important in managing natural resource based conflicts. Pastoralists have accumulated traditional coping mechanisms that usually are overwhelmed by the severity of drought.

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). This vision 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).

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). The new constitution is offering 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, (PBCM), (2011), provides a framework for national peacebuilding. The policy notes that stiff competition for resources leads to migration in search of water and pasture which further exacerbate inter-communal conflicts, NSC, (2011). The National Steering Committee (NSC) links government, civil society and international development partners working towards peace and security, Amat, (2010). The District Peace Committees (DPC) - currently known as SCPC) are coordinated by NSC.

2.7 Theoretical and Conceptual Framework

2.7.1 Institutional Analysis and Development (IAD) Model

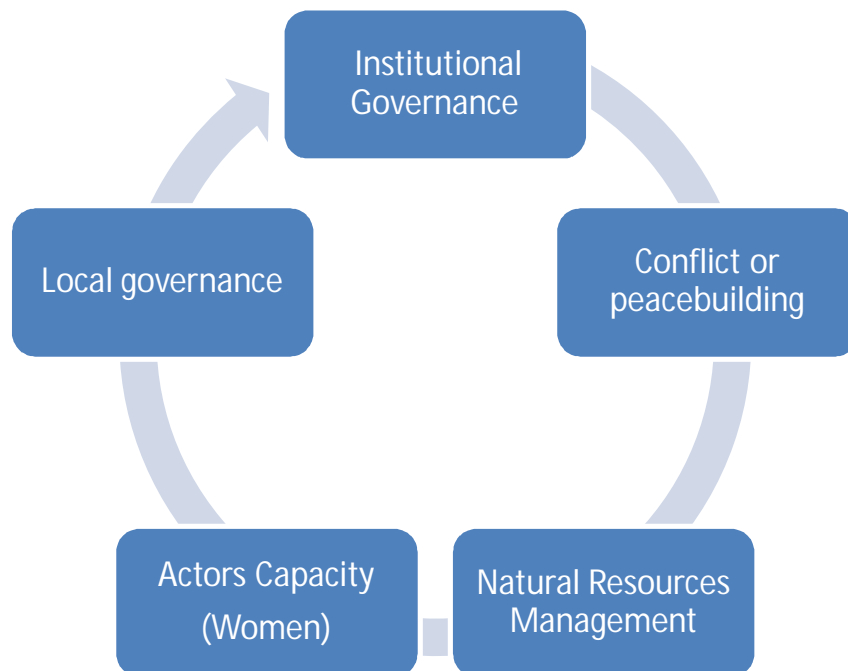
The IAD refers to how institutions are formed, operate, change and influence behavior in a society. The framework examines the arena within which interactions occur, the rules used by participants to order interactions, ecological attributes that informs interactions and the attributes of a community 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), characteristics of resource users (education, health, 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 or conflict.

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.

This 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 included for institutional capacity building of NRM, PB and inclusion of marginalized groups such as women, youth and people with disabilities.

Conceptual Framework: *Women, Natural Resource Management and Peacebuilding*, adapted from Blake et al. (2013)



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2.7.2 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 research. This approach demonstrates that processes of collective action are facilitated and constrained by institutional economic, political and socio-cultural factors. This process can strengthen institutions thereby increasing responsiveness, equity and effectiveness of response strategies. 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).

3. Methodology

This section presents the structure of field and desk top 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 therefore it is attracting more population, political and economic interests. Loima is known for irrigation and conservation of natural forest.

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. The main respondents were women and men made up of leaders in national and county

governments, County Peace Committees (SCPC), Civil Society Organizations (CSO), Community Based Organizations (CBO) and International Organizations and.

3.1.3 Sample size and Sampling Procedure

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

The targeted total number of interviewees was 75. The researcher aimed to reach about 18 women and men in each sub county. 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 provided the respondents. Out of 75 targeted respondents, KII took 30 positions and the Focus Group Discussions (FGD) took 45 positions.

3.2 Data Collection Methods

3.2.1 Key Informant Interviews (KII)

KII was utilized to elicit analytical information about critical issues that define women, NRM and PB. The researcher used semi-structured questionnaires that acted as interview guidelines. Questions were specifically tailored for men, women and FGD questions adjusted according to the answers provided by respondents. This enabled the researcher to access relevant information specific to the target group.

Key leaders who have experience and knowledge on issues under the study by virtue of their positions of authority were also targeted. Interview guidelines were sent to the target group 7 days before field research. This enabled them to prepare and respond efficiently during the interviews. Sub County Commissioners, County government, DPCs, Local Authorities, Women leaders, Traditional elders, NGOs, Community Based Organizations (CBO) and Faith Based Organizations (FBO) were interviewed.

3.2.2 Focus Group Discussions

This study conducted four FGD in Sub Counties of Turkana 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 also guided some respondents through the discussion. FGD is also in line with the Turkana culture of discussing social affairs under the tree, though with inclusion of women. Quotations from the respondents have been included.

3.2.3 Observation

The researcher watched women and men going through their daily chores. In the remote areas, women could be seen burning firewood and selling charcoal. Women were also engaged in retail trade, farming and small businesses in the urban centers. One could observe changing trends and dynamics of women participation in NRM and PB.

3.2.4 Secondary Data Sources

Triangulation was used to enhance reliability and validity of the data collected. Secondary data from government policies such as Vision 2030 and its focused version on northern Kenya, reports, academic and civil society reports were analyzed to shed more light on the field findings. Desk top study and library research to review the literature on NRM, women and PB from the global to the local level was done. This enabled the researcher to have a clear focus on the subject.

3.2.5 Data Processing and Analysis

Data was entered and coded into specific thematic areas. In this approach data was put in specific categories/units/segments where the relevance and meaning can be adduced. The data from different categories was compared from one sub-county to the other. This process yielded patterns, relationships and trends that provided insight into the subject under inquiry.

The researcher analyzed the findings by looking at responses to every objective under inquiry. The content was analyzed using, MS, Word, MS-Excel to produce 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 will be

used and expected benefits to the community were made. Respondents were assured of their confidentiality where necessary. County peace and security institutions were informed about the study.

3.2.7 Limitations of the Study and Solutions

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 researchers were flexible to adjust interview dates and time to accommodate interests of respondents. 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.

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

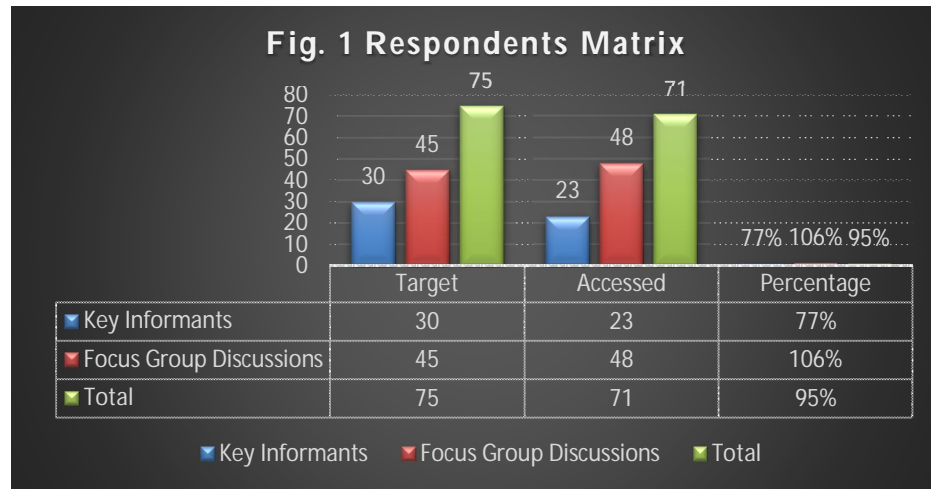
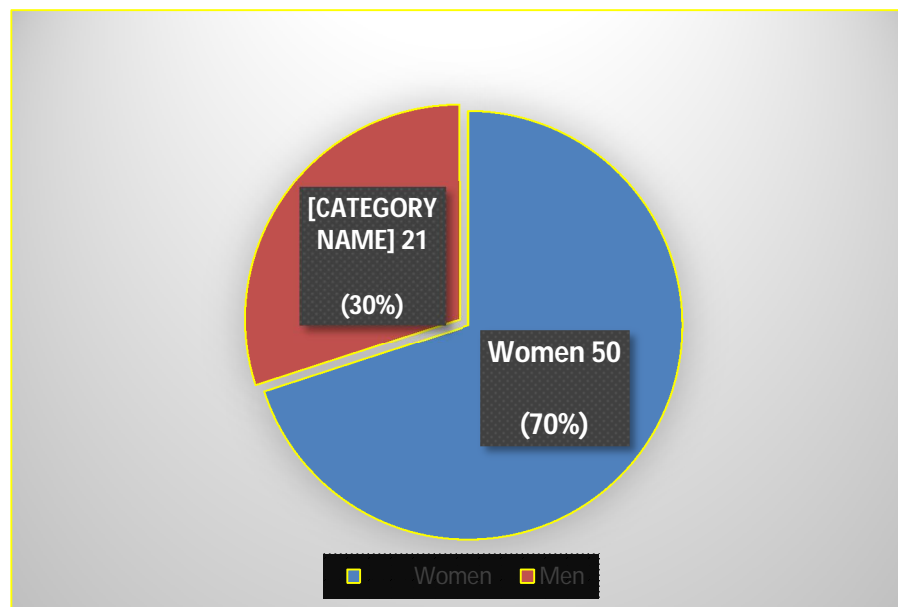
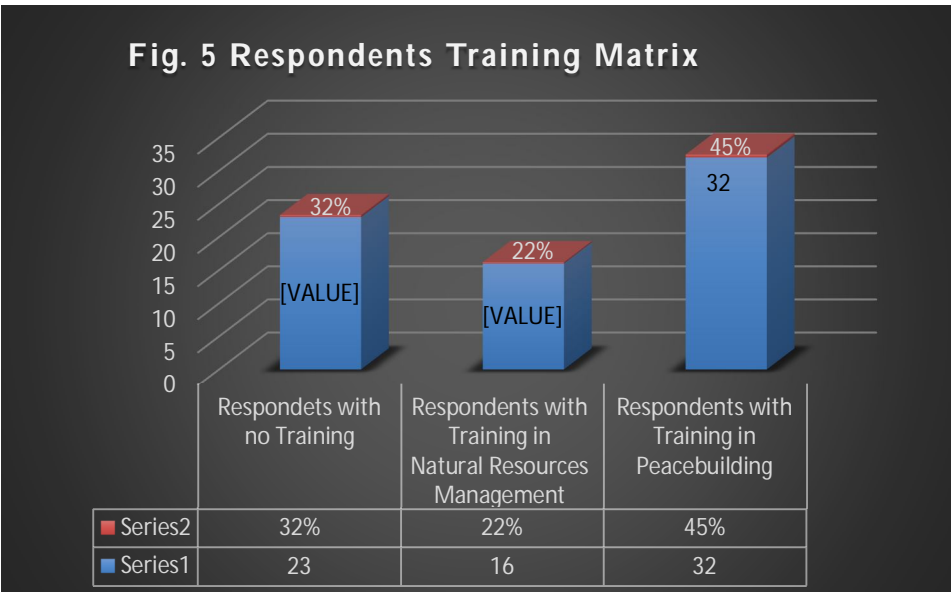
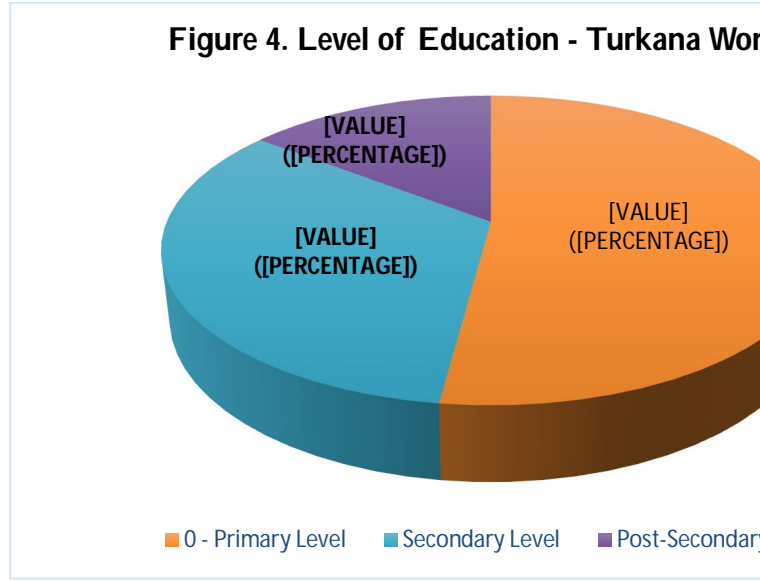
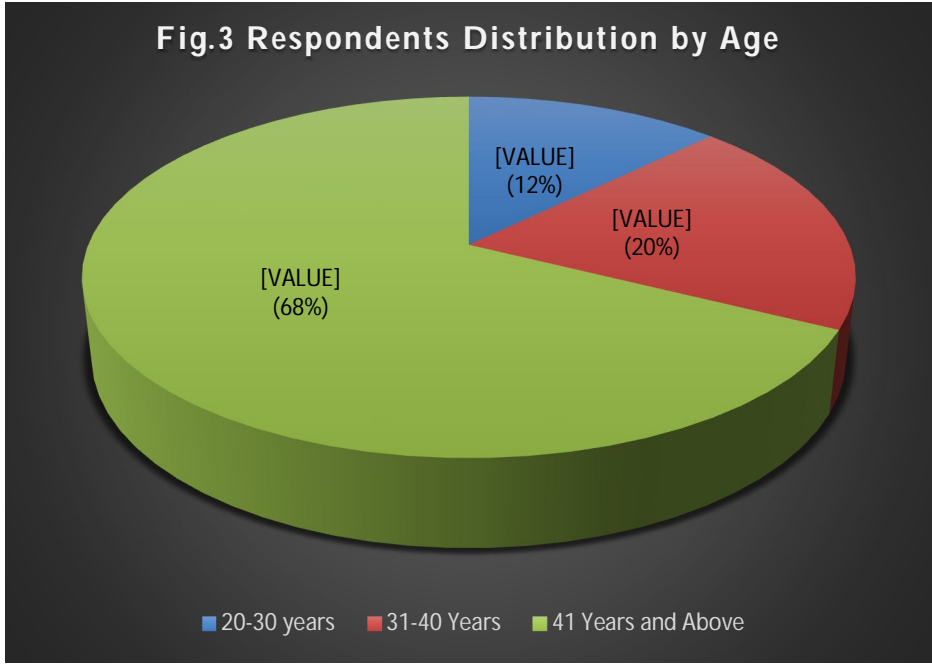


Figure 2. Men and Women Respondents Distribution





The above statistics indicate that target was reached (95%), a good number of women respondents were reached (75%), most respondents were above 41 years (68%), indicating that the youth may be lacking leadership opportunities and that there is need for more training in NRM (22%) and PB (45%). Lack of education among women also prevent effective participation (52%).

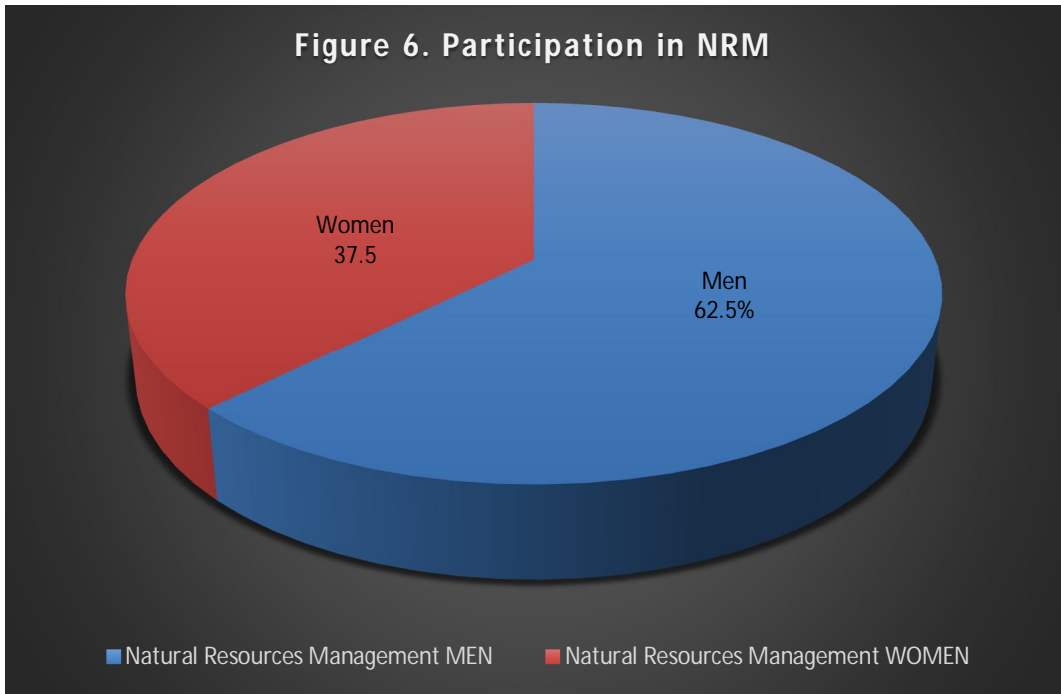
Objective One

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

4.2 Participation of Women in Natural Resource Management

Livestock production forms the largest economy. Land is the most important factor in this economy. However the current communal land tenure hinders investment and long term development, GK, (2014). Rainfall is low and cannot support farming except with irrigation projects in some areas.

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 license 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, bead work, baskets weaving, making brooms and mats.



Most organizations expressed commitment to have a third of their employees as women. However their participation in decision making may be limited due to low capacity.

Table 2. Women Contribution in NRM

Organization	Area of Operation	Nature of Contribution
National Government	County and National level	Provision of security and supportive administration Implementation of Vision 2030, national policies and programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women chiefs are members of NRM committees
County Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources	County level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for gazettement of Loima forest to protect traditional trees and environment and gazettement of Lotikipi Game Reserve for preservation of wildlife and tourism • Working on a broad framework to protect and regulate exploitation of water, wildlife, oil and gas • Developing the fishing industry
Civil Society Organizations	National, County and Sub county level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create awareness on immunization of livestock • Education and sensitization of community on NRM and Community Land Bill, Laws and Policies on PB and environmental conservation • Creating awareness on the Lamu Port South Sudan and Ethiopia Transport Corridor (LAPSSET) and inherent opportunities for 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 • Formation of women Income Generating Activities (IGA) such as Table banking, trained women to register and run their own businesses and form groups to access training and funding. • <i>Water Resource Management Committees (WRMC) and Water Users Associations (WUA)</i>, have been established from the <i>Adakar</i> (Village) level as provided in the National Water Act (2002). • Training 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 • Participates in Rural Initiative for Participatory Agricultural Transformation (RIPAT) and promote better farming technology and practices through training, demonstration, provision of seeds and farming skills

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported Lodwar Polytechnic to provide vocational training such as motor vehicle repair, electronic and masonry • Collaborates with the Ministry of Agriculture to ensure food security and promotion of fruits farming such as mangoes • Provided drought resistant seeds (Lentils, Sorghum and Sweet potatoes) grown in irrigation schemes in Loima and Turkwell areas • Provides assistance in water management for both human beings and livestock • Provide training on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) with NDMA • Provide training on peace building • Promotes livestock breeding, animal health, vegetable farming and water harvesting • Collaborates with national government in resource mobilization and management • Sensitization on impact and benefits of oil and gas exploration, land and water/aquifer management
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"> • 2 men and 2 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"> • CLWN advocates on land issues
National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)	National and County level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building capacity of LUPC • Training on NRM dealing with oil and gas, land and water/aquifer management • Provided financial assistance to 49 women groups and helped to resolve land disputes and other emerging conflicts such as oil and gas • Collaborates with national government and CSO in resource mobilization and management • Participates in County Steering Committee meetings co-chaired by the Governor and County Commissioner which

		<p>meets once a month. The forum involves men, women and youth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has 21 sites where it monitors food security such as price fluctuation and food availability, livestock diseases, peace and conflict incidents • Publishes a 'Drought Early Warning' Bulletin where incidents are rated from normal, alert to emergencies. It recommends short and long term response strategies and make medium range forecasts such as 2 years • Produces Long Rains Assessment (LRA) report. This information is also passed on to <i>Kenya Food Security Steering Committee</i> at the national level • Training on selling excess livestock, repairing water systems • Training 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). Aims to turn pastoral economy into commercialized livestock production.” Joseph Taigong, Coordinator, NDMA, Turkana County, Interview, Lodwar, February, 3, 2014

These organizations collaborates 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, February, 2, 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 of crops, livestock and people killed or injured by wild game and 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, February, 2, 2015.

Resilience building blocks

There are a number of NRM community management systems in place:

Social Auditors

Social auditors were established by communities in 2012 to liaise with mineral prospecting companies and

Organization	Members or Employees	Men	Women (%)
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inform community about their impact. 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’ intervention.” Interviewee, LOKADO, Kakuma, February, 5, 2014

Land Use Planning and Management Committees (LUPC)

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

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

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

“Though 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, February, 3, 2015

Civil societies collaborate with *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, Interview, February, 2, Lodwar, APAD.

TUPADO	17	11	6	35%
Turkana County Peace Forum(TCPF)	15	12	3	20%
SAPCONE Secretariat	5	3	2	40%
Board of Directors	9	5	4	44%
Water Resources Management Committees (WRMC)	10	7	3	30%
Community Oil and Gas Advisory Committees (COGAC)	15	10	5	33%
Land Use Planning Committees (LUPC)	15	10	5	33%
Community Land Watch Networks (CLWN)	15	10	5	33%
Social Auditors	15 Per Village (Adakar)	10	5	33%
County Participatory Forums (CPF)	15 Per Village 30 Kakuma	18	12	40%
LOKADO	23	13	10	43%
			(Treasurer, HRM, Procurement and Finance Officer, are women)	
Maria Goretti Women Group (Turkana West)	54	18	36	66%
Total	223	127	96	Average 37.5%

**Table 3:
Level of
Women
Representa
tion in
NRM
Activities**

4.3 Participatio n of Women in Peacebu ilding

Women have participated in efforts to bring peace

between Pokot and Turkana. In a negotiation meeting at Lorengippi in 2014, though there were attacks after 3 days, the raiders were not part of the meeting.

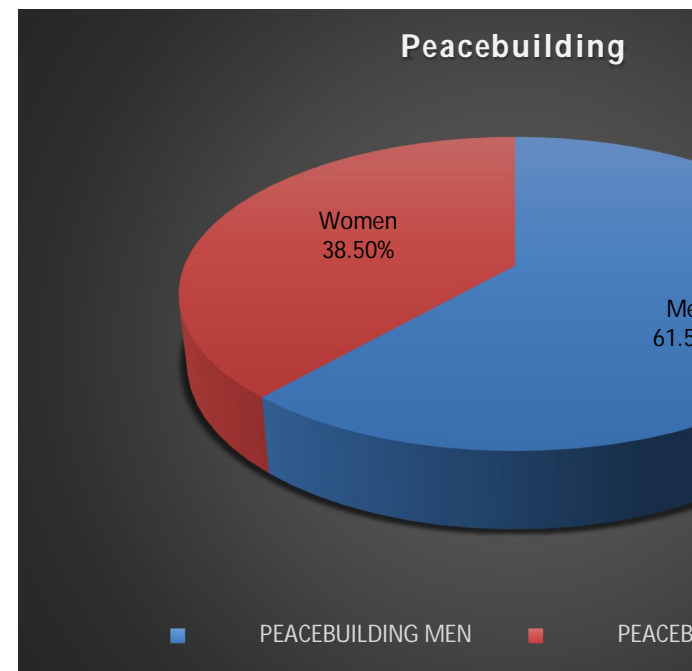
“During the meeting a Pokot woman suggested that women should pour down their breast milk to curse the youth who would defy the agreement. Though no peace accord was signed, the governments of Kenya, Uganda and CSOs are planning for further engagement.” FGD, Lokichar, February, 6, 2015.

During conflict, there are meetings held at 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. Some women living in urban areas such as Lodwar participate more in peacebuilding initiatives. Some women have received training in leadership, entrepreneurship, resource management, proposal writing and peacebuilding. 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 Lokirama Peace Accord (1973) cements the good relationships between Turkana and Matheniko

(Uganda). Stiff penalties are imposed on warriors who brake the accord which acts as a deterrent against violations of the agreement." FGD, Loima, February, 5, 2015

Organization	Members or Employees	Men	Women (%)
TUPADO	17	11	6 35%
TCPF	15	12	3 20%
Turkana East SCPC	15	9	6 40%
Turkana North SCPC	15	10	5 50%
Turkana Central SCPC	15	12	3 20%
Turkana South SCPC	15	9	6 40%
SAPCONE Secretariat	5	3	2 40%
Board of Directors	9	5	4 44%
Loima SCPC	16	12	4 25%
County Participatory Forums (CPF)	15 Per village 30 Kakuma	18	12 40%
LOKADO	23	13	10 43%



Maria Goretti Women Group	54	18	36	66%
Total	229	132	97	Average 38.5%

Table 4. Level of Women Representation in Peacebuilding

Activities

There is more participation of women in PB than NRM partly because PB structures began earlier than NRM so there is some capacity in PB. Recent oil and gas discoveries raised profile of resources in the region.

Objective Two

To Establish Relationship between Women, NRM and PB

Table 5. Women Contribution in PB

Organization	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) • Pasture and water management, seasonal migration planning • Report security incidents to 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 • Support close collaboration between the community and security agents especially through community policing and <i>Nyumba Kumi</i> • Conducted peace week festival in August, 2014, where pastoralist communities showcase development • Conduct cross border PB between Nyangatom, Merille (Ethiopia) and Turkana, Toposa (South Sudan), Jie and Dodoth (Uganda) • Conflict assessment, dialogue, negotiation and mediation, • Building 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 • Trained women resolve family disputes • Assist communities in establishing and managing Community Policing (CP) and trains National Police Reservists (NPR) and police officers, • Manages youth trek between Turkana West and South

		<p>Sudan (Exchange visits)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participates in peace commemoration on Dec, 21st, of every year • Supports Traditional Elders Mediation Council, sports for peace (intra-county and cross border) and performances and sensitization of children across borders • Facilitates intergovernmental meetings (Kenya/Uganda, Kenya/South Sudan and re-unification of families through cross border collaboration • Trains communities that host refugees in villages surrounding Kakuma camp • Trains and facilitates PB and restocking • Monitors and reports on conflict incidents to government security agents, TCPF and NSC • Facilitates women crusade meetings and training from the Kraal level, women peace forums, cross border meetings with women between Turkana West and Uganda
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 • Spearheading marking of weapons in collaboration with Regional Center for Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (RECSA)
County Participatory Forums (CPF)	Adakar (Village level)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community based organizations that deliberate on various peace building and development issues • Each has 15 members per Adakar, there are 900 CPF in the county • Liaise with development partners, national and county government

Most 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 contributes a total of 53% in PB training for women.

"SAPCONE has facilitated meetings between Kenyan and Ethiopian leaders such as 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, February, 3, 2015

APAD has contributed significantly in building capacity of 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 PIII is scheduled to begin in 2015. APAD and Safer world facilitated meetings to discuss women inclusion in peace building; Mbale and Eldoret." Wafula, APAD, Interview, February, 3, 2015

The County administration is also starting peace building training projects, including gender aspects. Women groups such as *Habari Njema* send the message of peace through singing, teaching and preaching 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, February, 2, 2015.

There are projects whereby communities benefit from end of conflict such as sharing market stores (peace dividends). CSO sensitize society on the need to include women in PB. Growing 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, February, 6, 2015

Out of 4 drought monitors in the field, 2 are women. Women collaborate with other organizations such as TWADO, IOM, IRC, Catholic Church, County and National governments especially the NSC.

“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, February, 4, 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 CBO to resolve conflicts. CSO participates as observers in County Assembly debates where they can influence outcomes.

Objective Three

To identify barriers of women participation in NRM and PB

4.4 Challenges of Women Participation in NRM

Table 6: Challenges of Women Participation in NRM

Challenges	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
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 are not in decision making positions	8	11

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. SALW makes resolution of the conflict difficult.”
FGD, Loima, February, 5, 2015

Dilapidated infrastructure especially road from Lodwar to Kapenguria also hinder women participation.

“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, February, 6, 2015.

Lack of transport facilities such as vehicles and motor bikes 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.

“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, February, 6, 2015

Women are not well represented in LUPC and WRMC. Women have no role in pasture management since they don’t own livestock. 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 – 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, February, 6, 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 government does not make quick 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, February, 2, 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, February 2, 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. The national political parties divide also has ramifications on the ground. Pokot want to extend their county borders thereby increasing insecurity.” FGD, Turkana South, February, 6, 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, February, 2, 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 makes casualties heavy. Today empowered warriors are no longer subject to traditional moral and ethical norms, Revenge is the order of the day.” FGD, Loima, February, 5, 2015

The land where pasture and water are found in plenty during the dry season happens to be located at the border with Pokot land and this 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, February, 5, 2014

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

“Plans for the government to irrigate downstream Turkwell riverine areas in Turkana are being resisted by Pokot who claim ownership of Turkwell HEP station.” FGD, Lokichar

Objective Three

To identify barriers of women participation in NRM and PB

4.1 Challenges of Women Participation in Peacebuilding

Table 7. Challenges of Women Participation in Peacebuilding

Challenges	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 *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, February, 4, 2015

Lack of compensation for stolen livestock breeds impunity and revenge and makes the conflict intractable. There is low inter-communal trade and there are no peace agreements binding Pokot and Turkana to peace. 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. 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, February, 6, 2015

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

“The government security agencies have only managed to recover stolen livestock only 2 times 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, February, 5, 2015

In spite of a number of peace talks held in Kitale and Eldoret, cattle raids and highway attacks have continued unabated due to impunity. Those who breach peace accords are not punished. The armed militias are well organized and may enjoy political support and pursue political goals. The national policy on PB is not being well implemented due to lack of resources and proper incorporation of the County government. The County government is yet to create strong linkages with SCPC and CSO and to factor the policy in its operations for peace and security.

4.2 Analysis of Findings and their Implications


NRM and PB are closely intertwined in determining fate of women in the county. Given the pre-eminence contribution of resources to conflict, poor NRM will contribute to increase conflicts and better NRM will create a suitable environment for PB. PB measures without commensurate improvement in NRM will be unsuccessful.

There is change in men's perception towards women though women feel they are sidelined in leadership and decision making positions. There is a growing cadre of educated and well informed women who are taking assertive roles in NRM and PB. Women are enjoying community goodwill as trustworthy people and are mostly given finance and treasurer positions in organizations.

The study has established that key assets such as land, livestock and water among the pastoralists are controlled by men though 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.

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. The continued threat of climate change and its negative effects on water and pasture is a long term challenge.

Investment in education and development in both counties 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 hinder 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.^{iv} The Human Security concept covers issues such as land use management, internal dialogue, cross border peace building and community security. 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 including participation of women.

The emerging oil and gas discoveries in Turkana can be a resource for peace if a number of measures are put in place. 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.

A number of organizations led by NDMA are doing a good job of disaster risk reduction. More efforts and coordination of national and international assistance should go in this direction to avert the current livelihoods security threat. Various political and legislative measures such as full implementation of devolved governance and enactment of critical legislations such as the land bill will determine the effectiveness of governance at the county level and by extension participation of women. Collaboration between the two levels of governments, increasing women adaptive capacity and contribution to institutional governance will enhance socio-ecological resilience in NRM and PB.

Objective Four

To examine opportunities for effective women participation in NRM and PB

4.3 Opportunities for Effective Women Participation in NRM

Due to current misconceptions about the impact of oil mining on land use and environment, further 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 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, February, 6, 2015

Turkana residents can be facilitated to access market to supply goods and services to the drilling companies and access employment. Diversification of sources of income can enhance resilience and enforcement of stiff penalties to those who graze in deferred areas can enhance NRM. Camel rearing can be enhanced since it is becoming popular in the drier areas as a drought coping mechanism.

The county need to plan for expected reduction of water in Lake Turkana with the construction of Gibe III HEP in Ethiopia. Enhanced cooperation of organizations implementing NRM and PB projects is appropriate for effective disaster risk reduction.

4.4 Opportunities for Effective Women Participation in Peace building


The current joint UN Human Security project in the county tends 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 dominates in the new irrigation technology based agriculture in Loima and Turkwell. Such non-conventional farming approach can open new doors for women. Capacity of women peace crusaders along inter-county border and Kenya/Uganda border can also be enhanced.

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

Loima Women Peace Empowerment (LWPE) initiative of Lokiriama has campaigned for rights of women and against Sex and Gender Based Violence (SGBV).

“The Lokiriama 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 September 2 (the international peace day). FGD, Turkana West, February, 4, 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. Use of mobile phones and VHF radios for information to reach target on time has been effectively used by LOKADO in Turkana West.

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, February, 2, 2015

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

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

This section presents the summary of findings and recommendations per the set objectives.

5.1 Conclusion

5.2 Women participation in NRM and PB in Turkana

The study has established that low capacity of women in NRM (37.5) and PB (38.5) in Turkana County is associated with low capacity in education, knowledge and skills, economic, socio-cultural and political context. The study corroborates previous research on participation of women in PB (Njambi, 2014) but also adds the new NRM dimension.

5.3 Correlation between women, NRM and PB

Poor management of resources and low participation of women leads to lost opportunities and better management of resources creates employment, raise level of income, enhance trade and ultimately boost peace between communities.

5.4 Barriers of women participation in NRM and PB

Key among the barriers of women participation in NRM and PB are insecurity (37%), poor infrastructure (24%) and limited cooperation between county and national government (28%).

5.5 Opportunities for women participation in NRM and PB

Building community adaptive resilience in NRM and PB through women capacity building is a promising strategy in Turkana. There are promising sectors where women are making inroads. If managed soundly natural resources can be a bedrock of opportunities for peacebuilding the county.

5.6 Recommendations

Objective 1: *To assess the extent to which women participate in NRM and PB in Turkana*

National Government

- Involvement of county government in agreements with investors especially in oil and gas
- Provision of drought resistant farming and livestock inputs, access to credit, energy, education, health, markets, water, infrastructure and telecommunication (*Applies to county government*)
- Mark County boundaries to prevent inter-communal conflicts

County Government

- Strengthen community participation and cooperation in NRM and PB

UN Women/IPSTC and other Development Partners

- Recognize and seek to work within UN, national and county governments development plans
- Support holistic and inclusive participation of men, women, youth and people with disabilities

Objective two: *To establish any relationship between Women, NRM and PB*

National Government

- Integrate and harmonize new constitutional dispensation with the County government
- Assess implementation of legal requirements for women inclusion in public offices
- Promote national cohesion and integration through demanding accountability among political leaders

County Government

- Sensitization of communities on NRM (land, oil and gas) and PB through radio and Barazas
- Draft policy/laws to direct activities geared towards integrated NRM especially oil and gas
- Sensitize communities on climate change and DRR

UN Women/IPSTC and other Development Partners

Objective three: *To identify barriers of women participation in NRM and PB*

National Government

- Enhance security management framework that involves county government and communities, adequate personnel and equipment

- Conduct effective and impartial disarmament for both Turkana and Pokot
- Ensure leaders of both Turkana and Pokot support and participate in the women initiatives
- Train more security personnel in peace building
- Ensure resource prospecting companies consult communities in advance

County Government

- Enhance cooperation with national government
- Ensure inclusivity through community participation

UN Women/IPSTC and other Development Partners

- Use conflict sensitive approaches such as gender rather women
- Collaborate with and build capacity of civil society and peace committees
- Make use of the traditional NRM and PB infrastructure
- Develop courses and train on integrated NRM, PB and role of women
- Train and offer technical support for gender sensitive SME/IGA Train on Girl child rights and protection, SGBV and rights of women

Objective Four: *To examine opportunities for effective women participation in NRM and PB*

National Government

- TCPF/NSC and county government should enhance capacity of early warning and response
- Spearhead inter-county peace initiatives

County Government

- Empower women in and beyond urban areas
- Fund peace building activities
- Avail NEMA's environmental impact assessment reports to communities to remove mistrust
- Invest in women, youth and people with disabilities to promote new community value system

UN Women/IPSTC and other Development Partners

- Provide exposure visits for women to learn successful cases of NRM and PB
- Support measures to enhance inter-communal trade
- 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

5.7 References

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ⁱ Unlike in Baringo where Mathenge is viewed negatively, in Turkana it is seen as an advantageous tree that has turned the land green, provided food for livestock and fuelwood.

ⁱⁱ Environmental Law Institute (ELI) and UNEP, Natural Resources Programming in Post Conflict Situations, Policy Brief, No.8, 2014

ⁱⁱⁱ Oil prospecting company

^{iv} 'Strengthening Human Security in the Borderlands of Turkana', is a three UN Interagency coordinated project that aims to improve livelihoods and peacebuilding. The project also aims to rebuild community resilience climatic and environmental disasters and promote peace. It was initiated in 2013.

Annexure

Annex 1 - Map of Turkana County Showing Sub Counties

