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US\$6.1 MILLION PROJECT SUPPORTING RESILIENCE BUILDING INTURKANA CONCLUDES

A US\$6.1 million funded project implemented by IOM and other five UN agencies in partnership with the County Government of Turkana, local NGOs and community leaders has concluded, after successfully implementing three and a half years project that sought to improve human security for thousands of vulnerable residents in Turkana County and its bordering communities in north-western Kenya.

In a bid to take stock of the project that commenced in 2012, the six implementing agencies together with representatives from National and County Government, National Drought Management Authority, local NGOs converged in Naivasha for a one and half-day interactive workshop to evaluate the performance of the project funded by the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) under the auspices of the project entitled "Strengthening Human Security in the Border Communities of Turkana, Kenya."

The agencies included the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization, the International Labour Organization and the International Organization for Migration, which was the designated coordination agency.

Speaking while opening the workshop on 23 February 2016, IOM Project Manager,

Teranishi Etsuko noted that the project was based on the assessment and consultation in the context of security in mobility initiative started in 2009 which promotes integrated and comprehensive interventions in pastoralists' communities.

"The project focuses on strengthening the resilience of the dominant livelihoods in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands of Northern Kenya in the face of natural disasters and other shocks, while providing alternative coping mechanisms through coordinated, sustainable interventions in the livelihoods, food security, education, child protection and health sectors. Considering the mobile nature of pastoral communities, the project is also providing opportunities to peaceful interactions," she pointed out.

The inter-agency contributions are summarized as:

UNDP	Peace-building and livelihood support	USD 926,620	15.1%
FAO	Promoting food security	USD 997,775	16.3%
UNICEF	Promoting access to education for nomadic children	USD 1,000,236	15.1%
WHO	Promoting access to primary healthcare	USD 996,170	16.3%
ILO	Mainstreaming child labour concerns	USD 741,615	12.1%
IOM	Peace building and Livelihood support and the Co-coordinating agency for the project	USD 1,455,538	23.8%

The project's aim, implemented within a span of three and a half years, focused on contributing to improved human security

in Turkana Central and Loima sub counties through improved food security, livelihoods, health, education, peacebuilding and protection.

The project was able to increase the access to water, education and basic health care for vulnerable populations and to raise awareness on child labour, safe migration and health educations.

Anecdotal evidence shows that there is a significant reduction of gun injuries due to peacebuilding activities, and increase in households' income due to diversification of livelihoods.

The political advisor to the Governor of Turkana/ Peace Ambassador, Immanuel Imana lauded the work implemented by the six agencies saying that beneficiaries he has interacted with were satisfied with the interventions of the agencies.

"They jointly responded swiftly to meet the needs of the targeted beneficiaries," he said. He called for the extension of the project to target more beneficiaries.

Some of the key objectives of the evaluation workshop included assessing the intended results, relevance, appropriateness, achievements and lessons learned from the project implementation. The final evaluation is ongoing and a report will be presented at the end of March 2016.







The project aim was to contribute to improved human security in Turkana County through improved food security, livelihoods, health, education, peace building and protection.

