



**United Nations Trust Fund  
for Human Security**

World Health  
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International  
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for Migration



United Nations  
Development  
Program



**International  
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United Nations  
Childrens Fund



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **DONOR MISSION ENDS WITH CALLS FOR EFFORTS TO ENHANCE HUMAN SECURITY IN TURKANA COUNTY.**

**Nairobi, 15 August, 2013 - There is need for greater commitment in the efforts by the Government of Kenya, County Governments and United Nation agencies, to enhance human security in Turkana Central and Loima Sub-counties.** This was the resounding message from a joint delegation from the United Nations inter-agency coordination group and government representatives, following a three day field visit by the Chief of Unit, United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) Unit Ms. Mehrnaz Mostafavi.

Ms. Mostafavi, was in Turkana to assess the progress undertaken to improve human security among pastoralist communities in Turkana County through sustainable interventions in livelihoods, food security, education, child labour and health.

The field visit provided Ms Mostafavi an opportunity to better understand the progress made and determine the effectiveness of translating the human security concept into practical actions and sustainable results as recommended by the United Nations General Assembly. She also had an advantage of interacting with the project beneficiaries.

Turkana region suffers from a 'climate change-migration-conflict-nexus' where recurring, severe drought cycles lead to increasingly frequent outward migrations of pastoralists within Kenya or across the border, in search of water and pasture for livestock.

Considering the mobile nature of pastoral border communities, the project targets the most vulnerable of the Turkana Central population as well as selected neighbouring cross-border communities by providing opportunities to interact in a peaceful manner through joint training and the establishment of joint markets and trade opportunities.

This project builds on recommendations by communities themselves to strengthen local capacities to prevent disaster and mitigate shocks of a climatic, economic and conflict nature.

The pastoralist populations of Turkana Central are faced with acute economic-, food- and health- insecurity, as well as environmental, personal-and community insecurity. These threats are interlinked and feed on each other, with most characterized by their chronic and pervasive nature. Increasing weather extremities and unpredictability is evident in Turkana, with escalating severity and frequency of droughts.

The project "Strengthening Human Security in the Border Communities of Turkana, Kenya" officially launched in 1999 is a 6.1 Million USD 3-year project funded by the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security.

The proposed activities aim to improve human security in a context of UN inter-agency

coordination including United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Health Organization (WHO), International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), International Labour Organization (ILO) and UNTFHS and building on the capacities of local CBOs, local peace committees, local governments and the governmental Arid Lands Resource Management Project (ALRMP).

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