

STRENGTHENING HUMAN SECURITY in The Border Communities Of Turkana, Kenya (2012|2016)



United Nations Trust Fund
for Human Security



STRENGTHENING HUMAN SECURITY in The Border Communities Of Turkana,

Kenya (2012 | 2016)

With generous financial support from the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, the International Organization for Migration (**IOM**), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (**FAO**), the International Labour Organization (**ILO**), the United Nations Development Programme (**UNDP**), the United Nations Children's Fund (**UNICEF**), and the World Health Organization (**WHO**), under the UN inter-agency coordination group have for the past three and a half years worked to boost human security in Turkana Central and Loima sub-counties.

This pictorial illustrates the milestones achieved by the participating agencies in the three and a half years of implementation.

Published by the International Organization for Migration, the coordinating agency, on behalf of the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security team in Kenya.

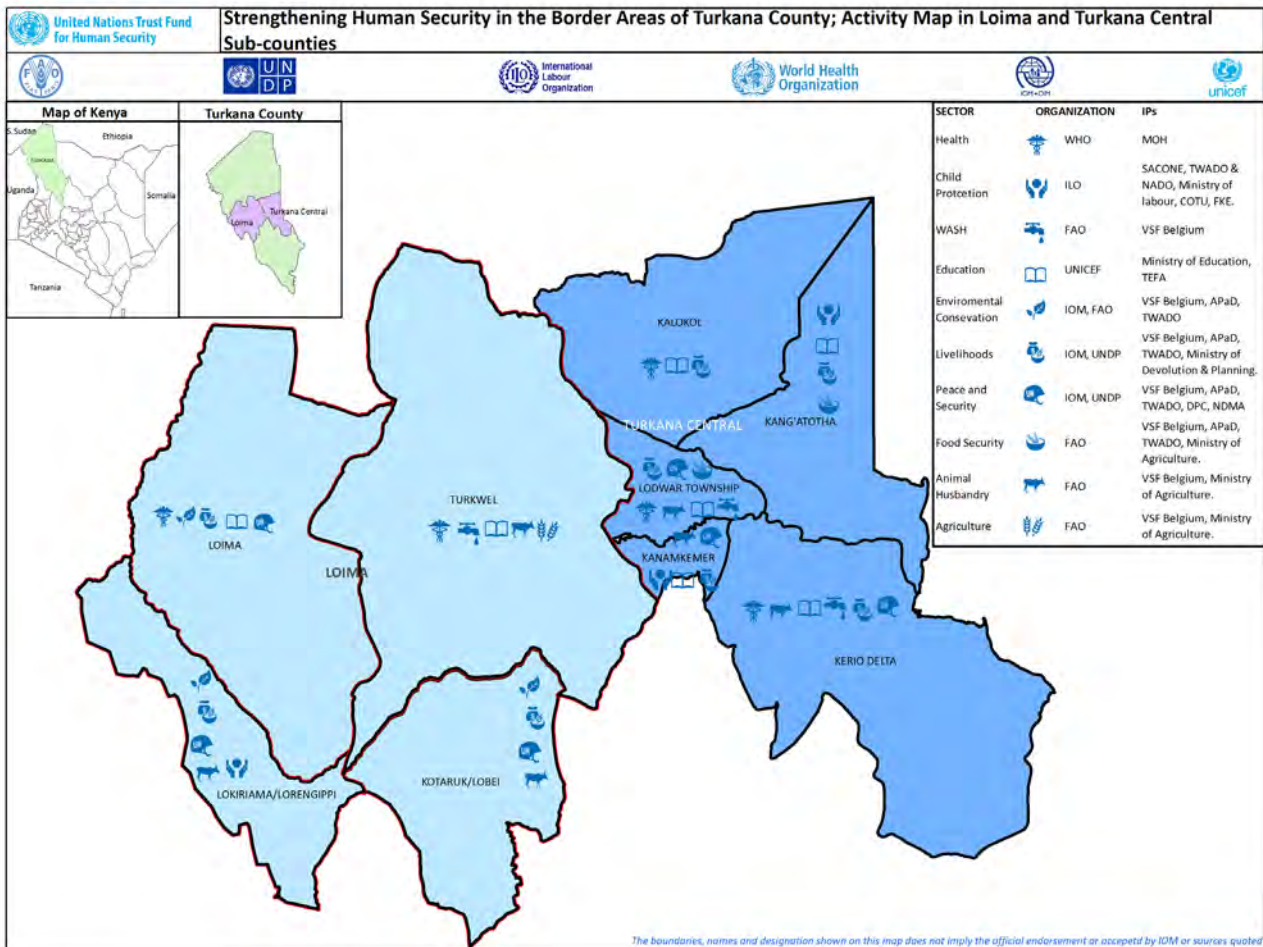
P.O. Box 55040 - 00200

Nairobi

Email: piunairobi@iom.int

Tel: +254 020 4221000

The photos used herein have been provided by the participating agencies, including IOM, FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNICEF, and WHO.



CONTENTS

3 Access to Education



6 Stopping Child Labour



11 Peace by all Means



15 Improving Access to Health



17 Pastoral Livelihoods



20 Food Security





PREFACE

Northern Kenya has for decades been considered the most marginalized and under-developed region of Kenya, lacking in basic service provision and for a long time, receiving a smaller proportion of national resources than other regions of the country. The vast majority of the area is comprised of arid lands, where rainfall is low, temperatures are high throughout the year, and where people's access to and control over critical livelihood resources such as land is minimal. Many challenges constrain the way of life of pastoralists in Turkana and suppress their ability to adapt to changes in their external environment. These challenges include economic marginalization, inappropriate development policies, increasing resource competition and climate change. Taken together, these challenges intensify the dire situation in the region.

Traditionally, pastoralist communities in Turkana have migrated as an adaptation strategy to climate change. Every year, the pastoralists move further and further away from their homes and traditional areas of herding in search of water and pasture for their livestock. This wider migration leads to increased contact with other migrating pastoralist communities, with whom historical conflicts may already exist and that often ignite inter-community disputes. These disputes tend to be over pasture and water access between pastoralists and farmers which have led to violent clashes. Similar to this, cattle rustling between pastoralist groups have deeply affected communities which are now trapped in cycles of violence.

Over the past three and a half years, a United Nations inter-agency coordination group consisting of IOM, FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNICEF and WHO, through the generous funding from the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, has been working to boost the human security of communities in Turkana Central and Loima sub-counties. This has been done through health support, promotion of peace and consolidated in livelihoods, encouraging and spearheading access to education, preventing and eliminating child labour.

In partnership with National and County Government, local Community-Based Organizations, Faith- Based Organizations, community leaders and peace committees, the United Nations inter-agency coordination group has been able to have a mark on the overall living situation of the target communities.

This book provides an illustration of some of the achievements attained under the programme “Strengthening Human Security in the border communities of Turkana, Kenya”, in the areas of education, child labour, health, peace building and conflict prevention, livelihood and food security.



ACCESS to Education

This component of the programme sought to address accessibility of quality basic education for nomadic children in Turkana Central and Loima sub-counties.

UNICEF developed key partnerships with the Ministry of Education Science and Technology (MoEST) and Turkana Education For All (TEFA) a local county based NGO in increasing access for out of school children (OOSC) and retention for most vulnerable boys and girls in Nomadic communities of Turkana Central and Loima sub-counties. The enrolment campaign kicked off in December, 2013.

The County Education team spearheaded rigorous enrolment campaigns to sensitize participants on the need to improve enrolment in the target sub-counties, analyze and appreciate the current enrolment situation in the respective sub-counties, enlighten participants on policy issues in education, identify and assign roles to key stakeholders, and identify strategies that can improve enrolment of children in schools.

The enrolment campaigns further created awareness amongst communities and government

staff on the importance of education in reference to current policy frameworks and laws that stipulate education as a right for the pastoralist communities and children in Turkana County.

Enrolment Drive and Girls Mentorship Education Program

The main goal under this component was to increase access to education in Turkana County especially Loima Sub County and Turkana Central. The component is already recording positive results with increased enrolment of children to formal schools and improved literacy levels in the areas of operation.

Communities have greatly benefitted from the mobile schools education program which provides learning opportunities for early childhood development targeting herders who leave in the morning and bring back the animals in the evening and also opportunity for adults to gain some basic literacy and numeracy.

ACCESS TO EDUCATION



ACHIEVEMENTS

Over 7,000
boys and girls joined
early childhood
development education
and primary schools

1,200
reached through
community outreach
initiatives

20
schools established to
accommodate
first-time pupils

17
low cost boarding
schools equipped with
boarding supplies

14 mobile schools
supplied with mobile
school kits

3,103
children enrolled in
mobile schools

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTRES

Mobile schools have led to the establishment of **early childhood education centers** in areas where there were no formal schools in the past.

GIRLS' MENTORSHIP CLUBS

The girls' mentorship education program has been ongoing for the last three years, focusing on training and mentoring young girls through education and providing psychosocial support, helping them to tackle issues that girls face in a marginalized community whether academically and socially. The initiative has championed for the formation of girls' mentorship clubs, which seek to address challenges facing them at the school level. This has led to improved performance particularly for girls in the respective schools according to the results availed to the project staff.



STOPPING Child Labour

ILO, in partnership with SAPCONE, a community-based organization, engaged in a drive to ensure children were not engaging in activities that could constitute child labour. The efforts began by an assessment of child labour in Turkana County. The assessment established that children were involved in various activities either for own benefit or to support their family members, including their parents. Children can be found fishing, mining, herding, burning charcoal or in the streets begging.

Some of the tasks performed by these children are considered hazardous. Issues that propel child labour were classified as poverty and hunger, insecurity, parental negligence, weak social protection and safety nets and inaccessibility of schools.

Estimates by UNICEF point to about 60 per cent of children of school going age who are not in school. However, most community members do not know the difference between child work and child labour.

ILO and SAPCONE, in coordination with the county government to Turkana set out to create awareness on child labour, rescue children involved in child labour and placing them in schools.

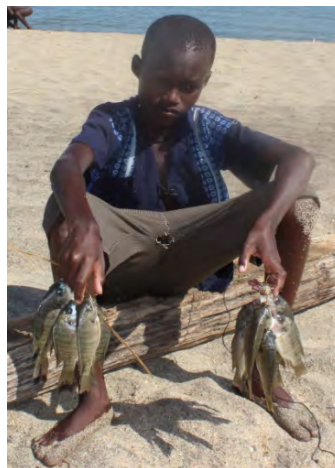
CHILD LABOUR and Human Security

CASE STUDIES:

14 year old Joshua began fishing to get money for books and a school uniform; Needs that his aging parents could not provide. He eventually dropped out of school and became a full time fisherman. He was soon venturing into deep lake fishing to be able to earn enough to take care of his needs and that of his parents and siblings. Joshua's father says his advanced age does not allow him to go fishing in the lake, a vocation that has fed him for the last 30 years.

"I am no longer able to paddle the boat against the strong winds and I cannot stand the cold waters during night fishing. I am left to depend on Joshua, our second born child".

In total, they have seven children, the first born is a girl who was lucky to get a sponsorship and now attends a missionary's boarding school.



10 year old Elimlim is the first born son in his mother's household. When his mother got married, no one was available to tend the grandmother's goats, or attend to some domestic chores. Elimlim was sent to stay with the grandmother and herd the goats, a task he enjoys. An interview with Elimlim quickly reveals he has no interest in education. He wants to grow and inherit his grandmother's flock.



The question to ponder based on Elimlim's response is how relevant the education content and delivery system is to socio-economic needs of pastoralists communities because as long as the pastoralists do not perceive the education programs as adding value to their livestock, they may not easily adopt it.

WATER RESOURCE AND GENDER INEQUALITY

That a simple task as fetching water would be a major factor in gender inequity may sound unreasonable. Yet this is the truth for most girls in Turkana. Water being a commodity that households cannot do without, yet so scarce in Turkana County, someone must get it. This is traditionally the role of girls. Young girls are known to walk for approximately 22 kilometres away from home to dig out water from dry and sandy river bed. It takes half a day journey to go fetch water from such dry river beds and get back home. This means that such girls would not be able to do anything else including going to school.

SAPCONE in collaboration with Turkana Ministries of Labour and Education conducted communities' awareness and sensitization campaign on child labour, targeting 900 households in Lokirama, Naoros and Naotin townships in Lodwar. The awareness, culminated in the formation of the community-based child labour monitoring systems. They include the Village Child labour and Monitoring Committees and Nyumba Kumi in Naotin.

ACHIEVEMENTS



8

Identified and trained eight child rights clubs in eight primary and secondary schools in Turkana central and Loima sub – counties

150

Children withdrawn from child labour returned to school

1,215

Number of children prevented and withdrawn from child labour

6

Number of trainings held for children's officers, on prevention of child labour

30

Community facilitators trained on advocacy and interventions against child labour

CHILD LABOUR AND AWARENESS CREATION



WATER RESOURCE AND GENDER INEQUALITY



PEACE BY all Means

With insecurity as a major concern in the region, IOM and UNDP have been undertaking peacebuilding and conflict prevention activities in Loima and Turkana Central sub-counties. These have been carried out with an aim to promote peaceful interaction among conflicting communities. As peacebuilding and conflict prevention activities have been perceived as the reserve of community elders- who were elderly men, a new approach to involve women and youth in peace building activities was adopted and has started bearing fruits.

Since 2012, women and youth have been engaged in various peace building and conflict prevention activities in the region, such as sports for peace, women peace crusades, peace dialogues, peace trainings and peace dividends for former warriors; with a focus to promote peace. In collaboration with IOM, the national and county governments, UNDP facilitated cross border meetings, aimed at granting access to pasture, water resources and strengthening coexistence between communities living along and across the Kenya/Uganda border. Dialogue meetings are conducted in collaboration with the District Peace Committees.

To help consolidate peace in Turkana Central and Loima sub-counties, UNDP and the National Drought Management Authority played key roles in the provision of peace dividend grants to reformed warriors, to help them start income generating ventures.

PEACE GAINS

12

Sports for peace activities organized

A

Peace and Cultural Center constructed in Loima

35

Cross-border community dialogues organized

94

community groups from Loima, Turkana Central and South received peace grants

4

Road shows and safe migration campaigns conducted across Turkana

USD 100,000

given as grants to facilitate inception of income generating activities

30

Peace ambassadors elected to spearhead peace activities

49

groups trained on business management skills



PEACE DIVIDENDS



WOMEN CARAVAN



Pokot and Turkana Women share a meal as a sign of community peace



PEACE AND CULTURAL CENTRE



The Community Peace and Cultural Center in Lokirama, Turkana County.

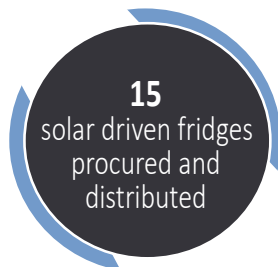
IMPROVING ACCESS to Health

WHO, in its efforts to improve access to primary health care conducted various activities which include; dissemination of health education materials, conducted public durbars, mobilized communities through durbars for health promotion activities, carried out weekly outreaches in coordination with the District Health Management Teams (DHMT), provided logistical support for community health workers and trained stakeholders on multi-sector disaster preparedness and response.

Also included in the activities was the reorientation of health workers on community entry approaches, procurement and distribution of emergency contingency stocks of essential drugs, diagnostic kits and reagents, and logistical support to DHMTs for outreach and disease outbreak investigation.

Quarterly coordination and monitoring forums were held for stakeholders, partners and communities. Support was provided to DHMTs, NGOs and partners, to enable them to conduct rapid health and nutrition assessments during disasters and disease outbreaks. Communication and reporting mechanisms were established at provincial and district levels.

HEALTH GAINS





FACILITATING ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE



PASTORAL ■ Livelihoods

Literacy levels among pastoralist communities in northern Kenya are low, hence very minimal skilled manpower is available. This is largely due to the traditional nomadic nature of the communities that live there. To increase the number of skilled labourers and open up livelihood opportunities for the youth, IOM sought to empower the youth with job-based skills and provision of business start-up kits in order to enable them enhance their livelihoods through self-employment. Among other initiatives, IOM's livelihood support under this project has focused on vocational skills training. Youth recipients have received vocational skills training in courses such as tailoring, motor vehicle mechanics, electrical wiring, driving, welding and masonry.

PHILOMENA ARKUDI LOIMA SUB-COUNTY

I dropped out of school at the primary level because my mum could not afford secondary school fees. My days were spent at home with nothing tangible to do other than house chores. Sometimes I could sell sugarcane in the village and get some little money with which to support my mum in providing for the family.

I heard about IOM from the area chief who explained that the organization was planning to



invest in young people by paying for vocational trainings at the Lodwar Vocational Centre.

I was lucky to be one of the young people selected to join the vocational center in 2014, and chose to pursue a course in tailoring. My tutors speak positively of me and believe that my motivation and hard work will come in handy when I complete training and start my own business.

This new opportunity has helped change my perspective of life. I am currently undertaking an internship at Kambewa tailoring shop where I have been able to put my knowledge into practice. I am now able to do accurate measurements, cut material pieces and make a dress or pants.

I am grateful for this opportunity. The team that has given me this support is God sent. This is not only a new beginning for me but for my family too, for I will be in a position to assist in providing for my family and especially my siblings who are in school.

JOSEPH EKECHUKULE

LOIMA SUB-COUNTY



I used to be a herder, looking after goats. In 2004 I joined the adult education classes for two years until 2006 and proceeded on well until I got to class seven in 2012 but did not fare well in the elimination exams to join class eight. I failed in the last elimination test and could not repeat due to financial challenges, so I moved back to the village.

I heard about the livelihood support initiative from our location chief who informed us that IOM was supporting young people for vocational training at the Lodwar Vocational Training Centre. Fortunately, I was among the selected from the many that had sent in their applications, my love for cars and machines led me to my course of preference which is motor vehicle mechanics.

I love cars and machines, I have always been interested in knowing how they work. Luckily IOM has given me the opportunity to achieve one of my goals.

After my course in December 2015, I will proceed for internship, hoping to learn and gain as much practical experience as I can before I venture into my personal business. My plan for the future is to start my own garage. The school has fully equipped me with knowledge to operate and repair all makes of cars and bikes. With the envisaged development coming to Turkana County after the discovery of oil, there will be need for professionals to operate and repair machines and cars, an opportunity that I plan to make the best of. It is my prayer that many more benefit from an opportunity like the one I have received. I can tell you from experience that a young man's idle mind in this region gradually descends to practices such as cattle rustling. The result of which is conflict and at worst death.

PHILEMON EKIRU

TURKWELL VILLAGE, LOIMA SUB-COUNTY



After completing secondary school education, I could not proceed for college education due to lack of financial means to pay for tuition. I moved back home to the village where I would do any job that

came along just to earn a shilling with no indication of what the future had for me, my siblings and my young family. My parents passed away, leaving me and my siblings at the care of our aging grandmother.

With support from IOM, I successfully enrolled at the Lodwar Vocational Centre for a course in electrical wiring. It looked far-fetched for me to even dream of an opportunity like this back then. Money was a foreign thing to me but I have the opportunity to make my own money now and provide for my siblings and family back in my village. Yesterday I got an opportunity to do wiring at a small construction site and for that I was paid Kes. 7,000 (or USD 70). Turkana is growing and these opportunities are increasingly going to be there. I am not the man I was before IOM came along.

I hope to start my own electrical wiring shop, and provide training opportunities for others who may not have been lucky like me.



Joseph Wafula,
Deputy, Head of Department - Automotive Engineering
Lodwar Polytechnic

LIVELIHOOD GAINS



MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, LODWAR POLYTECHNIC

"You have done a good job in sponsoring these children for vocational skills training. You have changed their lives, for the better. The Lodwar Polytechnic enrolled 27 youth (18 men, 9 women) for various technical courses and they are doing well and I can assure you that the ripple effect is felt by the community positively.

These individuals will participate in the development of County objectives and shun away from harmful practices which put them at great risks. The skills we equip our students with are not only to help them earn an income but will bring development to the community and county at large through service provision. Also important, is that they are now role models to other youths in the community.

Most of the students under this initiative are school dropouts who could not proceed on after primary school education, but there are a few cases of individuals who have not gone to school at all. For the latter, it's quite a challenge because they cannot read or write which means that they have to be taught these basics before embarking on their specific courses. We are up for the challenge though, and if you can sponsor more students, the community will be grateful for that."

FOOD Security

FAO, in partnership with Veterinaries Without Borders-Belgium, has placed a lot of effort towards improving pastoral livelihoods and boosting food security among the most vulnerable populations in Turkana Central and Loima sub-counties.

Communities in the areas of implementation received a boost in their livelihoods through cash for work initiatives, such as building gullies and clearing bushland.

Through the cash for work program, the community also cultivated available farmland, weeded and harvested. In so doing, their capacity in dry land farming was enhanced, in turn reducing food insecurity and malnutrition.

The project reached 30,000 most vulnerable community members.

The community identified poultry keeping as a good enterprise that would have the combined effect of an alternative source of income and food while empowering the members, mostly women' that keep poultry and who are also most vulnerable in the pastoralist communities.

After receiving the requisite training, the identified groups - mostly comprising of women - tenaciously brooded day-old-chicks to maturity.

The chicks delivered to the community groups were an improved traditional breed, easily able to adapt to the demanding Turkana environment whilst having an adequate level of immunity against common poultry diseases.

To ensure they received the requisite support in the future, FAO worked closely with the County Departments of Livestock and Veterinary.

The project has borrowed heavily from similar poultry keeping activities implemented by FAO in the past, where the women beneficiaries realized an additional income from selling eggs, better nutrition options by feeding the eggs to their children, while others sold the adult cocks to purchase goats and so took the first tentative steps towards rebuilding their livestock herds.

The women also had a free hand in selling and managing the proceeds from their poultry unlike the case with livestock.

CASH FOR WORK





NEW FARMING PRACTICES



Poultry keeping was identified as an enterprise that would provide food as well as income.



FARMING GAINS



New agronomic practices introduced

Benchmark study visits organized for farmers



Cash-for-work projects introduced



Drought tolerant crops introduced

Introduction to commercial agriculture



Training done on record keeping (for farmers)

New methods of farming introduced to farmers and 7,189 chicken distributed to households



FARMING ACHIEVEMENTS

8

Water harvesting structures completed

40

Community disease reporters trained on animal health delivery and given delivery kits

800

Livestock from 800 households identified and treated for various diseases

10

Livestock marketing pens constructed

8

Women and youth groups trained and supported in poultry and fish production

160

Agro pastoralist farmers trained on gradual land use and environmental conservation

120

Agro pastoralists trained on crop management

1,000

Identified and registered to promote small scale vegetable production. 100kgs of assorted vegetable seeds were distributed

300

Household beneficiaries identified and registered for the cash for work activity in 7 target sites

300

Beneficiaries assisted to open bank accounts

200

Beneficiaries registered and benefited from 10 Nursery sites. 20 trainers were trained to promote tree planting

20

Trainers and 200 households trained on environmental conservation

1,239

Community members reached through activities implemented with allocated grants

20

Trainers and 200 households trained on environmental conservation.

222

Women and youth received skills in micro enterprises





United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security



STRENGTHENING HUMAN SECURITY in the Border Communities of Turkana,

Kenya (2012 | 2016)

