

# NEWSLETTER

## JANUARY-MARCH, 2021

Date; April 15,2021

### PEACE BUILDING AND CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION

IMPACT under the partnership with WFD has developed a three years peace strategy for the organization targeting new areas of Baragoi and Laisamis in the north. This necessitated the need for inception meetings with stakeholders and government agencies in those areas.

### ISIOLO GENDER WATCH

The development of a mobile application has helped in curbing insecurities, the peace ambassadors relay information to the Isiolo gender watch administrator to be verified before being released to the police for action.

They have a toll-free number that's cheap to share information and has an advantage because the identity of the person sharing information is hidden and only the admin can access the identity of the informer making it safe. The peace ambassadors are trusted people recommended by chiefs, they work and share information with police and conduct network meetings with duty bearers.

They also bring together business communities, agriculturalist and pastoralist for negotiation in natural resource use i.e., water and pasture

### LAISAMIS

The security team, elders and community members in the sub county have worked together to promote peace and end conflict. Some of the conflicts in the area are related to;

1. Livestock theft.
2. Highway robbery.
3. Ethnicity in market centers targeting business communities.
4. Female genital mutilation.
5. Food insecurity.
6. Drugs.

The conflicts are mostly between the Rendile, Gabra and Borana communities. They embrace the use of peace ambassadors at the ward level, peace committees and warriors for peace. There are other stakeholders in peace in the sub county which include Northern rangeland trust and Isiolo gender watch.

### BARAGOI

Conflicts in Baragoi has escalated in the last three months where the DCC was injured and a vehicle transporting exams was attacked. The major tribes in conflict are the Samburu and Turkana mostly over cattle theft. Illegal arms and political blame game are key drivers of conflict in the area. While these communities fight, they continue to sell guns to each other.

From the inception meeting the other stakeholders in peace in the area include caritas Maralal, children peace initiative, mercy corps, national commission and integration committee and peace committees.



### KEY DATES

Date: 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Date: 18 <sup>th</sup> march 2021	Date: 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2021
Isiolo Gender Watch	Laisamis	Baragoi

# LAND RIGHTS, NATURAL RESOURCES GOVERNANCE

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS

### 1. CLA meetings in Laikipia and Samburu

By the end of 2020 the community land protection program team had done an intensive awareness of the Act in all the communities being supported by IMPACT in Laikipia, Samburu and Isiolo.

Therefore, in 2021 the communities acquired a notice calling for elections of CLMC from the office of the community land registrar, which they then published in a newspaper for national circulation 14 days before the election's day, all communities in Laikipia [11] and in Samburu (6) advertised for their elections which were all conducted by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.



### 2. By-laws drafting

IMPACT facilitated and supported the drafting process by bringing together the existing group ranch officials and 2 representatives from the various constituent villages in the community to formulate the by-laws on behalf of the community, subject to reviews at the village level and adoption at the community assembly.

### 3. Filling of CLA forms

Nkaroni, Lpus and Tinga B communities were able to sign CLA form 1[Claim on community land] and 3[Application for registration] and adopted the bylaws. The communities are now reworking on their register of members to include the details highlighted by the community land registrar.

The bylaws for Nkaroni and Lpus were adopted at the community assembly.

6 communities in Samburu and 5 in Laikipia counties have conducted their elections successfully, according to the Land adjudication officer the processing of their community land titles should not take long once the community land registrar certifies all the documents.

## Capacity building and supporting social movements

### 1. Samburu Indigenous Land Owners Forum

A meeting was held to bring together SILOF members and government officials (CO land, County Commissioner, MCA Wamba North and Samburu county land committee chairman) to deliberate on the election process of the community land management committee, representatives from 6 group ranches in Samburu county (Sesia, Opiroi, Marti, Nkaroni, Tinga B and Lpus) that have met most of the requirements for registration, to engage the community land registrar about the next step which is the election of the CLMC. Planning was done with the new Land adjudication officer on the CLMC elections.

3 group ranches (Lpus, Nkaroni and Tinga B) moved ahead with the registration process, this will serve as pilot for the rest of the communities.

3 youths from each community were trained as Land Champions.

2 MCAs suggested there is a need to organize a training of the Community Land Act ensuring that all the MCAs understand the provisions of the Act.



## 2. INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

This function brought together women from Laikipia North to have a discussion on Women Land Rights in the context of International women's day.

Indigenous women's access to land and property is central to their livelihoods, as land can serve as a base for food production and income generation, as collateral for credit and as a means of holding savings for the future. Land is also a social asset that is crucial for cultural identity, political power and participation in decision making. Women's equal access to land is a human rights issue. It also has other benefits.

Evidence shows that women's land rights reduce domestic violence, women who own land are more capable of exiting violent relationships. Agricultural production and food security also increase when women are granted tenure security.

Community land act awareness with indigenous Women at Nonkeek community, Samburu county. Women play a fundamental role in land and natural resource governance. For their effective participation, inclusion, leadership and decision making they need information and their capacity need to enhanced.



### KEY DATES

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2021

SILOF meeting

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2021

International Women's Day

# **THE WOMEN LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCE RIGHTS STRATEGY PAPER**



The social, economic, ecological, and political environment in which IMPACT operates has constantly been evolving. As such, this presents challenges and opportunities for addressing gender equality in equal measures. Opportunities may be linked to the enactment of new legislative and development frameworks at the national, regional, and global levels that seek to strengthen gender equality.

The United Nations Permanent Forum on indigenous issues acknowledges that indigenous women face multiple forms of discrimination including limited access to land and natural resources. In 2004, the session devoted a special session to women and they continue to ensure that the recommendations submitted on women is upheld thereof and amplified in other platforms.

The adoption of United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) has underscored prominence of indigenous women's issues, the general recommendation 34 of CEDAW called upon the unique situation of rural women and highlighted specific obligations to promote and protect indigenous women's rights.

International Labor Organization (ILO) 169 convention aims at overcoming discriminatory practices affecting indigenous communities and women in particular, due to their vulnerability to access to land and natural resources

which is often mediated on their behalf as their customary laws, enabling them to participate in key decision-making processes, activities that impact their own societies and territories, such as natural resource extraction, while maintaining the integrity of their societies, territories and cultures.

These issues are further underscored and provided for in the Agenda 2030 through SDGs 1, 3,4,5, 10, 13, 15, and 16; presenting key opportunities to address gender equality for sustainable development. Other international obligations include the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests on the context of food The African Union's Agenda 2063, The African Union's Agenda 2063 agreed in 2013, outlines a 50-year development trajectory for Africa. Its monitoring plan undertakes to ensure equal economic rights for women by 2025, including the rights to own and inherit property. It sets a target of at least 20 percent of rural women having access to and control over productive assets, including land, financial services, and information.

Kenya has made great strides towards realization of land and natural resources rights with recent legal framework and policy reviews. More specifically, there are various legislations and policies which anchor an enabling environment for the advancement of Women's Right to Land. Key among these include the National land policy (2009), Land registration Act (2012); Land Act (2012); National land commission Act (2012); Matrimonial property Act (2013); Marriage Act (2014); Community land Act (2016); and the Constitution of Kenya (2010). Other legislations include Law of Succession chapter 16 of the laws of Kenya and the National Policy on Gender and Development sessional paper NO.2 of 2019.

Community Land Act was enacted on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016. The Act gives effect to Article 63 (5) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 by providing for the recognition, protection and registration of community land rights; management and administration of community land; and the role of County Governments in the management of unregistered community land.

Noting the transition of the communities to comply with the act, IMPACT has played a key role towards the realization of the Act, by supporting Il Ngwesi and Musul communities to transition to the new law. The two communities are since the first to get a community land title.

The success is attributed to the following approaches that IMPACT adopted and continues to do so as the roll out of the Act is at the centre of the Government of Kenya strategic direction.

Capacity building of key stakeholders, including community land registrars, religious leaders, elders and County land officials to deconstruct existing gender stereotypes that discriminate indigenous women in the community land process.

Strengthen women's involvement in community land registration and governance structures under the Act through awareness forums, campaigns through local media channels and strategic trainings for women elected to the community land management committee.

Organizing women in the communal lands to claim their spaces for livelihoods initiatives and economic empowerment.

# RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION

## RESEARCHERS TRAINING



Trained 10 community action researchers who will conduct survey on the impact of covid on conflicts, peace and environment.

Impact together with the Institute of Development Studies planned a training of young community researchers on research processes and tools to enable them to be effective in managing natural resources-based conflict. Organizations need to learn how to collect and incorporate data into decision making and project development.

## RESEARCH

A long history of research shows the relationship between **environmental change & violent conflicts**. This research says that environmental and climate change causes an increase in violent conflicts. However, there is also a new stream of research that suggests that shared environmental challenges can facilitate peacebuilding between historically conflicting groups

Northern Kenya is prone to violent conflicts. Historically, these conflicts have often taken the form of intercommunal conflicts over pasture and water. However, conflicts in the region are now caused by other factors, such as new investments in conservation or major developments, such as LAPSSET, along with the presence of terrorist groups and proliferation of small arms in the region.

## COVID-19

Some reports suggest a rise in inter-communal violence during the COVID-19 pandemic. Restrictive measures introduced by the governments to curb the spread of COVID-19 – such as the **closure of livestock markets & evening curfews** – have exacerbated food and livelihood insecurities

Incidences of burglary, cattle raids, and highway banditry have escalated as people have tried to make ends meet during this difficult economic period.

Also, the militarization of health responses to the virus and associated human rights violations, as public security officials abuse their power to enforce COVID-19-related restrictions.



## KEY DATES

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2021

Researcher's training

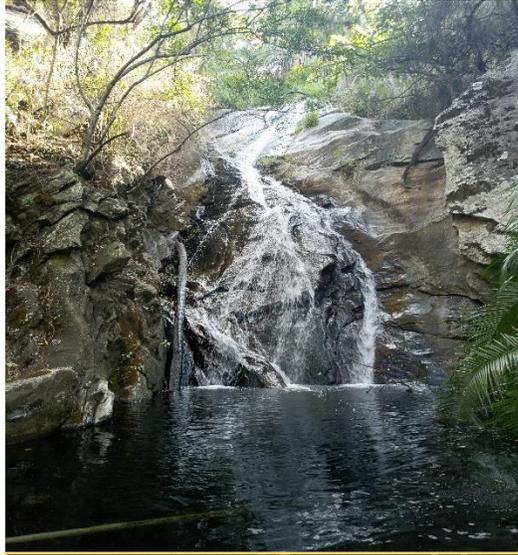
# CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

## LASITU WRUA SCMP DEVELOPMENT

Mount Ng'iro is found in the north of Kenya overlooking the Suguta valley, part of the Great Rift valley to the west. The mountain is surrounded by a desert but it's forested on its upper slopes. It lies in the territory of the Samburu people and thus held sacred by the Samburu community. To mention a few; gum Arabic tree products and permanent water springs are some of the resources found on the mountain. The habitats of the surrounding areas are agro-pastoralists who entirely depend on the water from the mountain for survival.

The mountain produces 4 rivers namely Naisudwokwe and Loowuara which flows to Tuum village, River Simale which flows to Simale village and Nkoilalei which flows to Parkati.

Lasitu WRUA is situated in the boundary line of Ewaso Ng'iro North Basin Area (ENNBA) and Rift Valley Basin Area (RVBA) at the foot of Mt. Ng'iro. Most of its waters flows down to Suguta valley and then to Lake Lorkipi which falls under Kabarnet sub region and Lodwar sub region of Water Resources Authority.



Sub-Catchment Management Plan (SCMP) is a tool developed to support protection, conservation and management of water resources and related natural resources within the sub-catchment, to ensure sustainable and balanced water resources utilization for both socio-economic benefits and ecosystem management. SCMP is developed through a consultative process with key stakeholders to gather consensus on strategy and framework for water resources and catchment conservation and management at the sub-catchment level to ensure sustainable use of the available water resources.



Lasitu WRUA SCMP development was reached upon requesting IMPACT for facilitation support through Water Resources Authority and County government of Samburu Ministry of Environment, Water, Natural Resources and Energy. The main purpose of the SCMP development was to help Lasitu WRUA to access funds from the Water Sector Trust Fund and other interested organizations and well-wishers for financing development activities geared towards addressing water resources problems in their sub catchment. The developed SCMP document will also guide the WRUA in addressing water resources problems within their area.

Lasitu WRUA were able to identify their water related problems in the catchment and ranked them through pairwise ranking to identify which of the problem is much severe that needs to be addressed as soon as possible to ensure equitability and sustainability of the water resources in the catchment;

1. Water management
2. Poor water works
3. Catchment Destruction
4. Water pollution
5. Lack of awareness by community members
6. Water Resource conflicts

## STRENGTHENING PASTORALISTS ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS



The application of the other PRA tools (Wellbeing analysis and social mobility, Livestock management strategy, Household economy and Resilience spectrum analysis, and Theory of Change) will be used on the second phase of the activity that will start on mid-May to September 2021.



This is community-based mapping of pastoralists resources and livelihoods assessment to generate and aggregate valuable evidence on challenges, risks and issues within the pastoral systems and identify grassroot solutions to inform future investments in targeted nine wards: Counties of Laikipia North Sub-County (Mukogodo East and West Wards), Samburu East Sub-County (Wamba East, West and Waso wards), Marsabit County (Laisamis ward) and Isiolo County (Burat, Chari and Oldonyiro wards).

It entails mapping of the resources (by developing perception maps, digitizing the features and adding attributes to all resources identified) that underpin pastoral livelihoods, shape their seasonal strategies through analyzing situations of pastoralism and their vulnerability context, with uncertainties of the rangeland resources and assess the changes over time of the pastoralists economic systems and contextualizing impacts of climate change and other external pressures.

The results of the process will be used to concretize the engagement on the evidence-based realities with the target areas of operations, to create impact that can be scaled up in the long-term with a diversity of livelihood options that are compatible to climate change shocks, reduction in natural resource-based conflicts, stakeholder and government engagement.

The project so far has covered four wards of Burat, Oldonyiro, Mukogodo East and Mukogodo West in carrying out community resource mapping using local knowledge with the aim of making digital maps describing natural resources that are important to people's livelihoods, their distribution, attributes that are helpful in making resource management decisions and accurate data (coordinates) that describes locations making the maps a useful legal tool. Other participatory rural appraisal tools were also applied to participants to generate more information about the wards and the diverse communities living in. The activity is on its first round of the all wards with the application of four PRA tools;

1. Community resources mapping and Digitization with JOSM
2. Constructing pastoralists livelihood system
3. Community historical timeline
4. Community seasonal calendar

### KEY DATES

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Burat ward

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Oldonyiro ward

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> March

Mukogodo East and West

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Lasitu WRUA