

MONTHLY FOCUS

PEACE III IN KARAMOJA CLUSTER Issue 4, August 2018

Connecting Communities: Advancing Sustainable Peace



PEACE III team, from Pact Inc, Mercy Corps and MADEFO during a meeting with members of the Kobebe natural resource management committee and Kobebe peace dividend project Community Working Group (CWG) in Rupa on July 11, 2018. During the meeting, the team laid down a plan towards implementation of the project. The CWG also elected an executive team that will oversee implementation of the project. The team further agreed to conduct four community meetings targeting community settlements to sensitize the masses and mobilize their participation in project implementation. PEACE III team and representatives from Moroto local government, Uganda Wildlife authority and CWG later made a site visit to Kobebe dam to identify exact locations where livestock crushes would be constructed and where trees will be planted.



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MERCY CORPS

CEWER Training

On July 30 - August 1, 2018, PEACE III, in partnership with Turkana County Government (TCG) and the National Steering Committee on Peace Building and Conflict management (NSC) trained 16 County Government Officials and eight (8) peace monitors from Loima and Turkana West sub counties on Conflict Early Warning Early Response (CEWER). The aim of the training was to improve early warning information collection and communication in Turkana County through training of frontline county staff and community peace monitors selected from conflict hotspots. The training was held at St Teresa Pastoral Center in Lodwar.

Facilitators from NSC trained the participants on effective process of early warning information gathering, verification, analysis and dissemination. The participants were also acquainted with existing peace forums from the national level to the sub location level.

PEACE III is currently working with TCG towards legislation of a community safety policy that has been validated and is currently a Cabinet paper. The community safety policy will operationalize a Turkana County EWER hub.



Participants during different sessions of the conflict early warning early response training for Turkana County Government Officials and community peace monitors drawn from conflict hotspots in Loima and Turkana West sub counties. Photos: Denis Koech/Mercy Corps.

Cross Border Peace Meeting in Lorengipi



PEACE III supported a cross border peace meeting in Lorengipi on July 13-14, 2018. West Pokot and Turkana county governments organized the meeting which was meant to address recent withdrawal of Turkana herders from Loya rangelands posing concerns from Pokot of Kenya, and Tepeth and Pokots from Uganda that the withdrawal could lead to attacks which might undermine peaceful coexistence that is currently being witnessed in the corridor. National government officials from Kenya led by Deputy County Commissioners for Loima (Turkana County) and Pokot North (west Pokot County) attended the meeting whereas those from Uganda were led by the Local Council I for Tapac. County government officials present were West Pokot County director of peace and reconciliation as well as peacebuilding officer for Loima sub-county of Turkana. Others present were women forum members and PEACE III partners who included MADEFO, SIKOM and APaD.

Turkana Elders Meeting in Lokichoggio



PEACE III Supported a Turkana elders meeting Lokichoggio on July 4, 2018. The elders dialogued on escalating insecurity incidences along Lokichoggio-Kapoeta corridor and developed resolutions needed to agree upon in a meeting to be held between Turkana and Toposa Elders. The elders further discussed solutions to increased cases of insecurity attributed to proliferation of small arms through illegal barter trade where the small arms are exchanged for food.

Cross border traders forum in Lokichoggio



On July 5, 2018, PEACE III, through Mercy Corps and APaD, supported a traders' meeting in Lokichoggio. The traders, involved in Loki (Kenya) - Nadapal (South Sudan) trade route, were drawn from Lokichoggio, Nanam and Songot. The traders said lack of livestock trade information, illegal or double taxation by security officers, and sale of sick animals by South Sudanese counterparts as issues hampering smooth trade. They also expressed their concerns over increasing insecurity along the borders which has often resulted in livestock purchased in Nadal South Sudan being stolen while being transported to Lokichoggio and Kakuma livestock markets in Kenya.

Emmanuel Lorengei: Chiefs' forum is an engine to crossborder stability

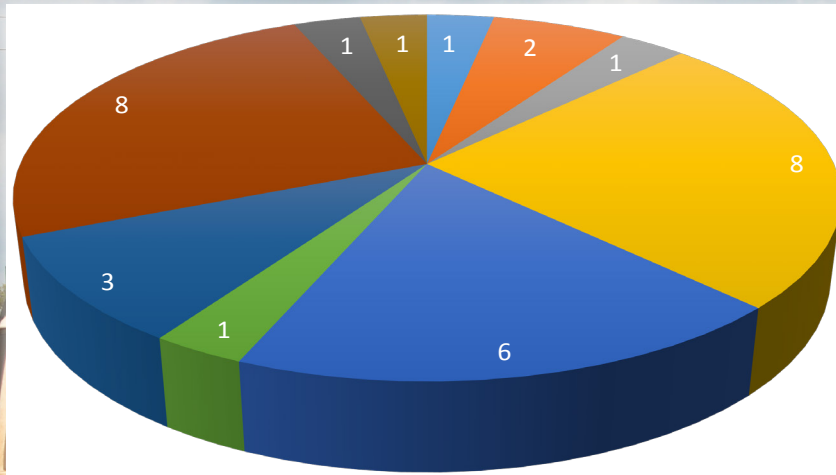


Amudat District of Uganda and Turkana County of Kenya. He is a member of the Karamoja cross border chiefs' forum which is a PEACE III initiative established in December 2015. The network brings together chiefs from Kenya-Uganda border locations (West Pokot and Turkana counties of Kenya, and Karamoja region of Uganda).

According to Mr Lorengei, the chiefs' forum has improved relationships between chiefs along the West Pokot-Amudat-Loima-Moroto corridor, hence further improving relationships between communities in the corridor. He lists some of the chiefs' forums' successes as follows; conducting cross border community dialogue meetings along the Kenya-Uganda border, sharing early warning information and resolving disputes emanating from competition over natural resources, "The forum has been working with other agencies on tracking, recovery and handover of stolen livestock such as goats, sheep, donkeys, camels and cattle. Unlike previously, we are now able to verify information and do away with exaggeration of the number of stolen livestock," Mr Lorengei says.

According to Mr Lorengei, trade, among Turkana, Karamojong and Turkana, is thriving because attacks in trade routes have been averted. The trade involves exchange of resistant cattle with non-resistant ones, exchange of goats with cattle, and cereals for khat among other products. The chief adds that the stability has led to reopening of schools that had been closed due to conflict. He avers that Pokot children are studying in Turkana County which was not the case before.

KARAMOJA CLUSTER INCIDENTS, JULY 2018



■ Assault ■ Attempted Raid ■ Displacement ■ Theft of livestock
■ Livestock recovery ■ Theft of fishing gear ■ Revenge attack ■ Deaths
■ Raid ■ Malaria outbreak

PEACE III

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