

# MONTHLY FOCUS

PEACE III IN KARAMOJA CLUSTER Issue 3, July 2018

*Connecting Communities: Advancing Sustainable Peace*



Uganda Government Minister for Karamoja Affairs Hon John Byabagambi (second right) receives a Dodoth boy, that Turkana warriors had abducted at Kawalakol Sub-County in late May 2018, from Turkana community delegation led by Turkana County Deputy Governor HE Hon Peter Lotethiro (left) during a cross border peace meeting at Kalosarich, Kotido District, Uganda. The meeting, which brought together leaders and elders, led to development of workable resolutions on how to settle peace and security issues along the corridor. Below: sessions during the meeting. Photos courtesy of DADO.



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# Women leaders' Advocacy training

On June 7-9, 2018, PEACE III trained 17 high level women forum members on how to lobby and communicate women agendas effectively to address issues of low representation of women on key decision making processes and increase women participation in cross border peace and security initiatives.

Key topics covered during the training held in Lodwar included, among others, overview of advocacy, spheres of a society, good practices of advocacy, legitimacy in advocacy, roles of an advocate, advocacy cycles, advocacy problem and solution trees, research skills, advocacy strategy plan and elements of an advocacy plan.

The training, facilitated by Pact Inc advocacy trainers, culminated in the women developing specific corridor advocacy strategies that will be adopted in the July-September 2018 quarter. The women identified various opportunities such as public fora, government led dialogue meetings, intra and inter-community dialogue meetings, public participation and budgeting processes among others as some available opportunities for women to continue participating in as they champion for peace and security across the borders.

The women who participated in the training were from Lokichoggio, Loima, Moroto, West Pokot and Todonyang/ Lowarengak areas. Targeted women from Kaabong and South Omo areas could not attend due to heavy rains and flooding that made roads impassable.



Sessions during the advocacy training. Photos: Josephat Toto/Mercy Corps.



## Cross Border Peace Meeting in Loyoro



PEACE III supported a crossborder peace meeting that brought together Dodoth, Turkana, Ik and Jie communities, opinion leaders, CSOs and government representatives from Uganda and Turkana County that was held in Loyoro, Kaabong District, Uganda on June 6, 2018. The meeting provided a platform for the communities to break the silence and initiate a process of diffusing tensions arising from a more than seven-month feud sparked by rampant livestock theft which began shortly after Turkana pastoralists migrated from the area to Kenya in late 2017. Photos: Denis Koech/Mercy Corps.

## MC Senior Director for Strategy and Learning Meets PEACE III Partner in Turkana County



Mercy Corps Senior Director for Strategy and Learning, Ms Anna Young (second right) Security Advisor to Turkana County governor, Rtd Captain Augustine Lokwang (left) and PEACE III Program Officer Mr Josephat Toto (right) when Ms Young had a meeting with Turkana County Government peace Directorate and security teams at their Lodwar offices on June 26, 2018. The meeting focused on county government strategies towards peacebuilding, county government partnership with INGOs as well as deliberations on lessons learnt. The county government peace and security team recognized PEACE III work in developing the capacity of local partners and strengthening the relationship between cross border communities through low-level peace committees that play a key role in preventing and managing conflict.



## Adupa Dinah: Our efforts are yielding fruits



Adupa Dinah Lorika is a humble social education advocate. Driven by the motto: education is the key to social positive change and peace in the society, Ms Lorika joined the Moroto women forum in 2016.

Ms Lorika is a trained teacher who has held various education portfolios such as assistant education officer of Moroto District, coordinator for Alternative Basic Education for Karamoja (ABEK) and principal education officer of Moroto Municipality before her retirement in 2014.

Her engagement with PEACE III has been in promotion of peace through community outreaches on peaceful resource sharing in Nakonyen and Kobebe, women empowerment in rural setting and kraals, coordinating and lobbying government to establish facilities such as health centers, schools, markets and security post in water and pasture points especially in the new resettlements of pastoralists. She says her involvement in PEACE III activities enabled her to be more enlightened on issues on women and girls in grazing areas.

“Together with other women, we educate rural women on co-existence especially between Turkana, Matheniko and Pokot as a way to promote unity and peaceful sharing of available resources. My familiarity with various resolutions and natural resource sharing agreements has enabled me to interpret them to other people in the community,” Ms Lorika, who once spearheaded girl child education movement clubs in Moroto District under UNICEF, says.

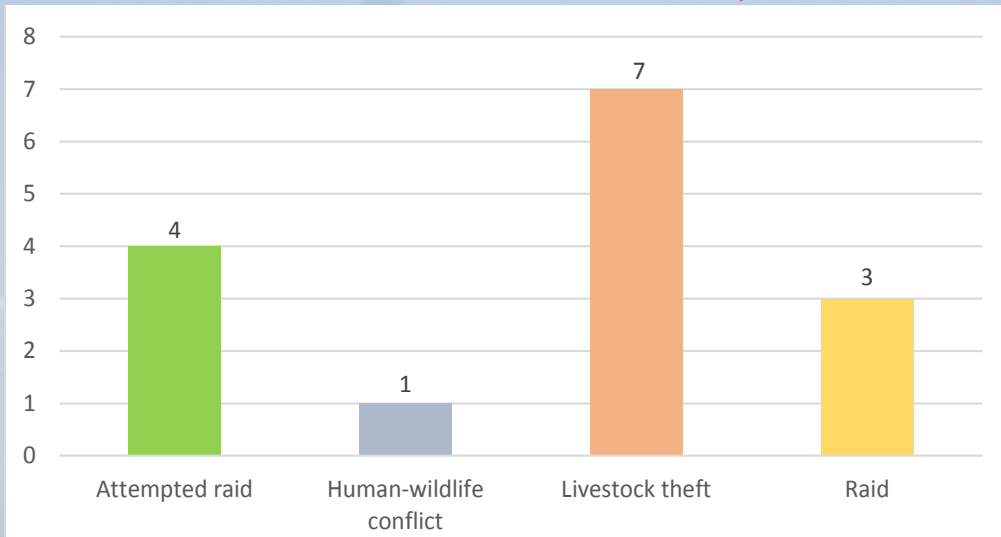
According to her, the women forum has been at the center in encouraging women involvement in peacebuilding and decision making processes in the society.

“I have seen change where women are able to voice out their issues and influence decision making. I am proud to see women standing up and saying no to issues they do not agree to, and are able to stand, defend their issues and report them to relevant authorities,” she adds.

Ms Lorika, a competent Ng’akarmojong to English translator, was recently appointed a project coordinator for MIFUMI in Moroto District. MIFUMI is a women and children’s charity which offers comprehensive services in sectors such as healthcare, education, micro-enterprises and domestic violence advocacy. Ms Lorika’s role is to help the community understand gender based violence programming, support women and girls that are affected by forms of violence like rape through provision of psychosocial support, among others.



## KARAMOJA CLUSTER INCIDENTS, JUNE 2018



# PEACE III

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