# Climate Adaptation and Resilience in Kenya - a Pastoralist Perspective

We share the experience of pastoralist communities in Samburu County, Kenya as they struggle with climate change and its impact on their livelihood.

Nairobi, November 16, 2021



# Who We Are - Children Peace Initiative Kenya

Hilary Bukuno (right) is director and founder of CPIK. Hilary is from the Gabra tribe and has worked with pastoralists for 18 years. Monica Kinyua (below center) is CPIK Associate Director.



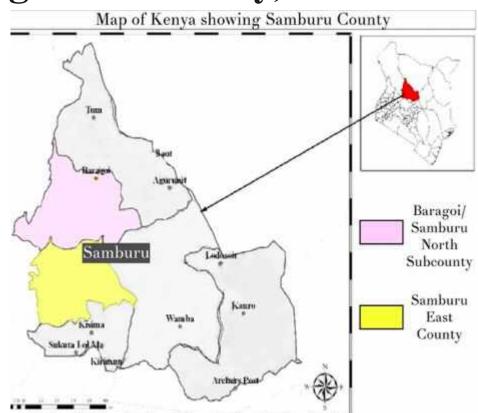


# **Part 1 Crisis**



# Where we work - Baragoi sub-county, Samburu

- 8,175.80 sq.km
- Population: 83,759
- Conflict between Turkana and Samburu tribes over land and cattle



# **Hearing from the Herders**

We hear directly from pastoralists - and they are terrified...



# Cows - a Way of Life

- Prestige
- Wealth
- Culture
- Food
- Competition



- Drying up
- Water tables falling
- Bore-holes add to the problem

#### Water



# **Drought and Cattle**

- Dying younger
- 9 days without water
- Cost more
- Worth less

George Ngamia has lost half his herd to drought



#### **Food**

Traditional pastoralist food - blood, milk and meat - is disappearing

Maasai herders bleed a cow



#### **Pasture**

- Disappearing
- Grasses lose nutrients
- Can't sustain herds
- Overgrazing
- Competition



#### Women

- Kitchen gardens abandoned
- Crushing stones to earn money



#### Charcoal

- Trees cut
- Charcoal
- Greenhouse gases
- Global warming



#### **Conflict**

- Herders seek new pasture
- Encroach on land of other tribes
- Guns
- 31 deaths in 6 months in Baragoi (2019)
- 14 dead 2 weeks ago
- CONTRIBUTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE!



#### **Scared and Uninformed**



# Discussion

# Part 2 Response

#### Our model...

- Personal relationships
- Unite communities
- Share resources
- Create interdependency
- End conflict



#### Children

- Frontline Villages
- Warring Tribes
- Peace Camps
- Friendships and stay overs
- Families
- 21,243 direct Beneficiaries



#### Women

- Mothers!
- Yearn for peace
- Support their kids
- Meet other mothers
- Develop friendships
- Influence husbands!



Mama Caleb, Samburu inspiration

#### Warriors

- Warriors are parents!
- Friendships across the lines
- Give up raiding
- Retrieve and return stolen animals
- Alternative livelihood



#### Have the authority to decide on war and peace

- Panicked by climate change
- Understand common challenges and opportunities
- Work with other frontline villages

#### **Elders**



# **Security Forces**

- Under-resourced
- Need help
- Responsive to civil society



#### **Sharing Resources/Services**

- Understanding complementarity
- Pasture
- Water
- Schools
- Clinics
- Animals



Above: maternal clinic in Longewan; right: Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher at Baragoi Mixed Primary School



# **Economic Cooperation**

- Social Entrepreneurs
- Common Markets
- Business Cooperation
- Mobile transfers make it easy!

Josephine Lengapiani buys maize from Pokot and sells to Samburu



# **Raising Animals Together**

- Heifers for Peace 50 cows shared by 100 families (2021)
- Creates inter-dependency
- Reduces urge to raid
- Managed by women.



#### **International Partnerships**

- German Foreign Office
- Zivik/IFA Berlin
- Advocacy Project Fellows Ben, Talley, Colleen
- Caritas technical expertise
- Universities
- Alliance for Peacebuilding!



Talley Diggs (University of George Washington) 2017 Peace Fellow

# **Transforming Conflict**

Ending conflict = climate change mitigation!



# Discussion