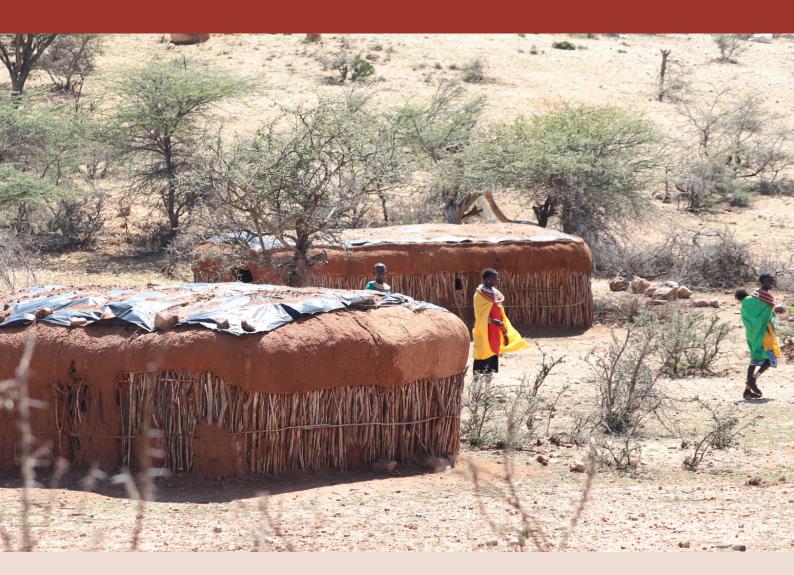


Rapid Gender and Protection Risk Mapping Assessment Report



The Drought Situation in Samburu County and at the Borders of Samburu-Marsabit Counties





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Preamble

Samburu Women Trust was founded in 2006 by a young group of women from Samburu together with local women leaders and representatives. Samburu Women Trust facilitates processes that empower and promote women's human rights, capacity building, human rights advocacy and securing a prosperous future through, women development programmes in Isiolo, Laikipia, Samburu and Marsabit Counties.

Despite SWT long involvement in building the capacity of women to address gender based issues that limit their full potential in this region closing the gender gap has been a great challenge this far. However, SWT has been mobilizing concerted efforts involving indigenous women and other partners to contribute to reduction in gender gap both at the national and global targets. In doing this SWT has been seeking others to join hands with, SWT with funding from DANIDA is implementing a project that aims at contributing towards achieving **gender protection and community peace cohesion in Samburu County**.

To inform its strategies in the DANIDA funded project implementation, SWT commissioned a rapid gender and protection risk mapping assessment of the drought Situation in Samburu County and at the borders of Samburu and Marsabit Counties.

Due to years of work in Northern Kenya SWT got an opportunity to interrogate gaps in gender protection and provide interventions to the looming drought that is highly affecting indigenous women and girls in Samburu County



Executive Summary



This study focuses on rapid gender and protection risk assessment of the drought situation in Samburu and at the borders of Samburu-Marsabit Counties.

It is always under the obligation of every Government in line with dictates of gender and protection to undertake the primary commitment to protect all people within their power in accordance with international and national legal provisions. In relation to the current drought situation in Samburu and its borders with Marsabit County, the government of Kenya has had its own efforts in addressing drought-related challenges in this region. From the finding several challenges exist such community mal-practices i.e the existence of mass circumcision of boys has created an organized superior class of men who do not match with their women counterparts hence a male-dominant culture evolving over time. In count to so many other factors including the occurrence of chronic drought, women and the other vulnerable in society such as adolescent girls, the elderly, and the under-fives not forgetting people living with disabilities have had their fair share of challenges throughout generations.

Table 6: Key findings among issues dealth with by community in gender protection

S/N	GENDER PER GAP	% MENTION	RANK IN MENTION
1	Lack of safety & security including gender-based violence	63	7
2	High vulnerability of women, youth and elderly to food and livelihoods insecurity	95	2
3	Imbalanced gender roles and responsibility	73	5
4	Biased power and control in decision making,	76	4
5	Discrimination of women youth and elderly in access to public services	65	6
6	Poor participation of women, youth and elderly in community development issues	93	3
7	Restrictive community, and customary structures	96	1
8	Lack of voice for women youth and the elderly	96	1
	Average mention on drought impact	82	

The average challenge mention in association with gender protection is 82%. Which indicates a lot needs to be done in order to close this gap.

The drought situation has also worseneded the current state community affairs. About 95% have mentioned that it is worse.

The ranking based on frequency of mention indicased that restricitve community and customary structures as well as lack of voices for women youth and elderly came first.

The other gap that almost scored the same is the high vulnerability of women youth and the elderly to food and livelihood security.

Figure 1: High vulnerability of women, youth and elderly to food and livelihoods insecurity

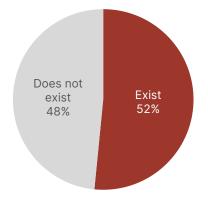
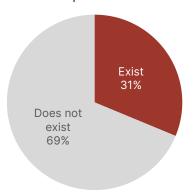


Figure 2: Poor participation of women, youth and elderly in community development issues



SWT RELENTLESS DEMAND FOR ACTION ON CC

In the projects, SWT focuses on strengthening gender protection and community peace cohesion amid the striking drought situation in Samburu County and the borders of Marsabit County that has highly subjected communities to vulnerability with serious impacts among indigenous women and girls.



1. Introduction

SWT with funding from DANIDA is implementing a project that aims at contributing towards achieving gender protection and community peace cohesion in Samburu County. The projects have given SWT an opportunity to interrogate gaps in gender protection and provide interventions to the looming drought that is negatively impacting indigenous women, adolescent girls, boys, elderly, lactating mothers, and girls in Samburu County and its borders with Marsabit County.

In the situation of current projects, SWT focuses on strengthening gender protection and community peace cohesion amid the looming drought in Samburu County and the borders of Marsabit County which has highly subjected communities to vulnerability with serious impacts among indigenous women and girls. In order to inform its strategies in addressing these challenges, SWT commissioned a rapid gender and protection risk Mapping Assessment of the drought situation in Samburu County and at the borders of Samburu and Marsabit Counties. This is projected to highlight areas of focus in the efforts of reducing the gender gap whilst balancing the general mitigation measures against the negative impact of the current prolonged drought.

The overall objective of this study is to carry out rapid gender and protection risk Mapping Assessment of the drought Situation in Samburu County and at the borders of Samburu and Marsabit Counties; in addition, having the following specific objectives;

- To identify and study major gaps and successes towards realizing gender protection in Samburu County and the immediate neighbouring areas in Marsabit County.
- To carry out an assessment of the drought situation in Samburu County and at the borders of Samburu and Marsabit Counties.
- To identify and describe traditions, customary law, religious or cultural beliefs, and practices, the existence/ capacity/resources of local institutions that affect gender protection among the indigenous women/girls, and provide possible interventions on how these challenges can be mitigated.
- To identify and describe traditional practices, governance structures, natural resource management plans, and laws that can be adopted by the local communities to mitigate the devastating impacts of drought in Samburu County and at the borders of Samburu and Marsabit Counties.

- To generate lessons learned and suggest recommendations for adoption in gender protection while addressing the severe impacts of the looming drought situation in Samburu County and at the borders of Samburu and Marsabit Counties.
- To identify any best practices and initiatives realized through promoting gender protection and the key findings on the drought situation in Samburu County and at the borders of Samburu and Marsabit Counties that can inform the government highlighting areas of improvements.

2. Study methodology and design processes



The consultant used a mixed-methods approach that ensured that findings are valid and informative in addressing comprehensively the study objectives. These include literature review, Key Informant Interviews (KII), Focus Group Discussions, Household Surveys, and Observations.

Literature review

Field data collection was preceded by a review of recent SWT work as relates to the matter and other available literature on the same as relates to Samburu and Marsabit Counties and the Country in general. The results from the literature helped to identify the status quo of gender gap efforts toward realizing the set goals nationally and globally. This in addition added flesh to the field findings.

Field Data collection

Data collection methodology was directed towards conducting interviews with key individual informants and stakeholder groups in target Sub-Counties, Counties, and National level departments such as NDMA and Chiefs at village levels who represent the National Administration. This was geared towards generating and analyzing qualitative and quantitative data. Quantitative data were collected by the consultant through Key Informant Interviews (KII) and Focus Group Discussion (FGD) using a semi-structured questionnaire and question lists respectively. Quantitative data was collected through a household survey administered by trained enumerators using a structured questionnaire. This was conducted with a sample of households from the target areas (both female and men headed). The enumerators were trained in the application of the HH Survey Questionnaire. It is initially expected that based on the sample size calculated in table 1 below, and considering each enumerator can administer at least 6 questionnaires per day, 5 enumerators engaged. Key informant interviews were conducted with local leaders, businesswomen, religious leaders, men and women group leaders, local administrators, and representatives of relevant government line ministries at all levels. FGD was conducted with groups of local women, men, youth, and elders.

The sampling of informants for KII and FGD was purposeful based on the specific information required while the sampling of households was based on the population of the target counties/sub-counties and calculated using the formula (from the MaCorr sample size methodology (http://www.macorr.com/sample-size-methodology.htm).

ss = z2 *p*(1-p)

 C^2

Where;

- ss = sample size
- z = z value (e.g. 1.96 for 95% confidence level).
- p = Percentage picking a choice expressed as a decimal (0.5 used for the sample size needed)
- c = confidence interval expressed as a decimal. Our sample is based on a 4.0 confidence interval.

Based on this formula and the populations of targeted Counties, Sub-counties, and villages, the total sample size will be 211 (at a confidence interval of 5) HHs given that the total number of HH (N) from the 6 SWT target Villages is 466. This is stratified according to the relative percentage representation as shown in the sample frame in the table attached as Appendix 1 below.

The ideal situation normally is, each sample per village would be further stratified according to the gender of the head of the household (i.e. female or m,ale-headed) but in this case due to the extreme effects of the drought families have been scattered to take care of their livestock creating an environment at the time of this study where almost all men were away from their homes. However, to a large extent, this study took a purposive turn to interview more women compared to men as you can see in the figure below that it turned out due to the drought scenario.

With discussions between the consultant and the client, it was deemed fit as real scenario data will suit as more women will be engaged to provide current situation information as it is, and nonetheless, the gaps thereof will be taken care of by the KII and FGD interviews.

Figure 3: Gender of respondents

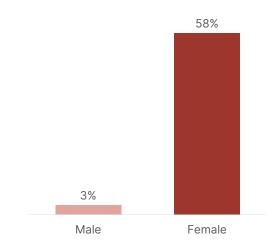


Figure 3 above indicates that females were higher in the number interviewed due to their presence in the villages as a result of men moving with livestock for pastures.

Figure 4: Head of Household (HH)

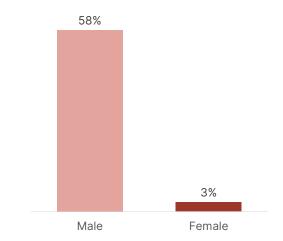


Figure 4 supports the presence of these men in the homes as head of the house, therefore in itself paints a grim situation of the drought which indicates that women are left to take care of everyone else around the home, the elderly, the under-fives, PLWDs, and weak livestock that were not able to travel far from the homes.

This in addition already starts to speak volumes of the impending stress that is already biting; homes have an acute shortage of water, and livestock feeds. Men are not able to come back home and those who force some time lack even the food to bring home; A dire situation of the imminent drought. The interviews, therefore, took a turn to interview those heads of households present, several homes were headed by widows, widowers, and adolescent girls.

This scenario provided a more focused output that will address women's issues that are often more obvious as brought about by the inherent male-dominance culture and other limiting traditions of the Samburu community in the study area. The consultant, therefore, put a keen interest in key informant interviews as well as focus group discussion to bring out the aspects as would be in an all-inclusive community view.

For the FGD at least 3 groups of an average of 7 people were interviewed representing Women, Men & Youth for each Village. Table 2 attached as appendix 2 gives a list of key institutions/organizations/ agencies that were interviewed so as to get comprehensive findings.

3. Findings and discussion



3.1. Background information and literature review

This report focuses on rapid gender and protection risk assessment of the drought situation in Samburu and at the borders of Samburu-Marsabit Counties. To start off a comment on the mandate of custodian authorities in each global national entity need to be mentioned. In this view, therefore, it is prudent to point out that it is the responsibility of every Government as it were in line with the doctrines or dictates of gender and protection to undertake the primary commitment to protect all people within their influence in accordance with international and national legal provisions.

In relation to the current drought situation in Samburu and its borders with Marsabit County, the government of Kenya has had its own efforts in addressing drought-related challenges in this region. However, constraints exist ranging from resource limitations to the dynamics of traditional culture and practice. This is often complicated by the fact that the Samburu culture and their traditional practices do not favor a balanced gender protection principle due to an overtime development of cultural malpractices and limiting traditions. An example of malpractice is female genital mutilation as well as parents giving a nod to an unwelcome old tradition of engaging underage girls to mature men.

In addition, the existence of mass circumcision of boys has created an organized superior class of men who do not match with their women counterparts hence a male-dominant culture evolving over time. In count to so many other factors including the occurrence of chronic drought, women and the other vulnerable in society such as adolescent girls, the elderly, and the under-fives not forgetting people living with disabilities have had their fair share of challenges throughout generations. In this view, this study will look at the drought impact on these groups.

Viewing the literature side, Kenya was closer to ending its gender gap in 2022 paralleled to previous years. The country's gender gap index score stood at 0.73, meaning that women were around 27 percent less likely to have the same prospects as men. Strong gender disparities were generally measured in the kind of political empowerment. In Sub-Saharan Africa, Kenya is placed 9th out of 36 nations. The Global Gender Gap Index measures gender-based gaps among four dimensions, Economic Participation and Opportunity, Educational Attainment, Health and Survival, and Political Empowerment. The highest possible overall score is one, meaning total equality between women and men. The gender gap is the difference between women and men as reflected in social, political, intellectual, cultural, or economic attainments or attitudes. The Global Gender Gap Index aims to measure this gap in four key areas: health, education, economics, and politics. (Gender gap index in Kenya 2017-2022 Published by Lars Kamer, Aug 1, 2022).

3.2. Major gaps and successes toward realizing gender protection

The study asked the respondents to identify gender gaps that exist in gender protection in Samburu and Marsabit Counties. The following gender gaps were identified in differing frequencies of mention;

Lack of safety and security including gender-based violence, High vulnerability of women, youth and elderly to food and livelihoods insecurity, Imbalanced gender roles and responsibility, Biased power and control in decision making, Discrimination of women, youth and elderly in access to public services, Poor participation of women, youth and elderly in community development issues, Restrictive community, and customary structures, and Lack of voice for women, youth and elderly.

Figure 5: Lack of safety and security including gender-based violence

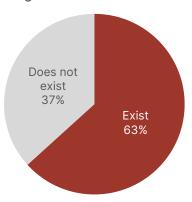


Figure 6: High vulnerability of women, youth and elderly to food and livelihoods insecurity

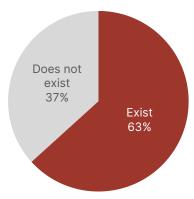


Figure 7: Imbalanced gender roles and responsibility

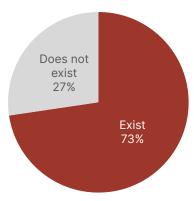


Figure 8: Discrimination of women, youth and elderly in access to public services

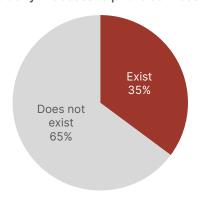


Figure 9: Biased power and control in decision making

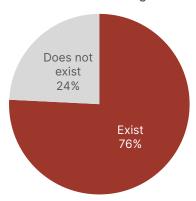


Figure 10: Restrictive community and customary structures

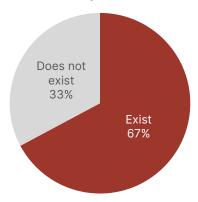


Figure 11: Poor participation of women, youth and elderly in community development issues

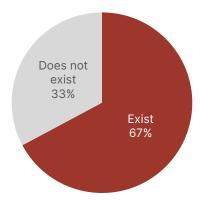
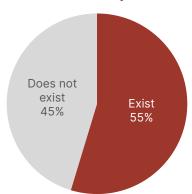


Figure 12: Lack of voice for women, youth and elderly



The frequency of mention is analysed in the matrix below;

Table 7: Gender gaps that exist in gender protection in Samburu and Marsabit Counties

S/N	GENDER PER GAP	% MENTION	RANK IN MENTION
1	Lack of safety and security including gender-based violence	63	7
2	High vulnerability of women, youth and elderly to food and livelihoods insecurity	95	2
3	Imbalanced gender roles and responsibility	73	5
4	Biased power and control in decision making,	76	4
5	Discrimination of women youth and elderly in access to public services	65	6
6	Poor participation of women, youth and elderly in community development issues	93	3
7	Restrictive community, and customary structures	96	1
8	Lack of voice for women youth and the elderly	96	1
	Average mention on drought impact	82	

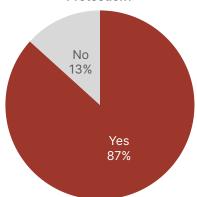
The ranking based on frequency of mention indicased that restricitve community and customary structures as well as lack of voices for women youth and elderly came first. The other gap that almost scored the same is the high vulnerability of women youth and the elderly to food and livelihood security. Ranking third is the poor participation of the women youth and the elderly in community development issues. This implies that this group which is performing the most poorly in all rankings should be addressed to and given priority in future projects or alignment support in on going project work. A factor that is so imminent is biased power and control in decision making as relates to gender gap narrowing. More civic education needs to be done to improve women, adolescent girls, and girls.

Following the interviews conducted with key informants and the focus group discussions, some more specific terms came out refering to gender gaps such as equal opportunity in leadership, parity in marriage, fairnes in employment, matching access to education, prohibition of discriminatory customary practices, curtailing of cultural malpractices matrimonial property is secure, Women rights to inheritance and to own land is guaranteed, and equivalent parental responsibility shown from both gender.

Success realized on gender protection in Samburu County and at the mediate neighboring areas in Marsabit County.

During the survey, 85% of the respondents indicated that there exist successes in gender protection, and the following were mentioned as main achievements; enrolment of women in catch transfer programs, involvement of women in relief committees, increased enrolment of women and girls in formal eduaction, in the inclusion of women in water user committees, environmental committees, and some degree of decision making at the household level.

Figure 13: Any success in Gender Protection?



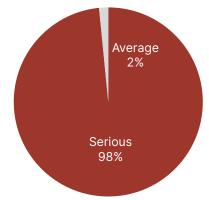
However, further interrogation unearthed that even though these successes exist the percentage of impact is quite low apart from formal education where school-going girls and boys are almost equal in numbers. In spite of all this, it came out from three interviews (HH, KII, FGD) that male dominance is still quite high hence slowing down the pace of achieving positive results in gender protection and risk reduction especially in this time of drought. This calls for more action in addressing the gaps that exist in gender protection and risk reduction work.

3.3. Assessment of the drought situation

3.3.1. Drought situation in the area in terms of pasture and water availability, household milk production, and livestock marketing

80% of the respondents said that the current drought is seriously affecting them and their families. The interviewees explained that the current situation reflects a time of acute household food shortage, acute water shortage for both domestic and livestock use, acute malnutrition, stunted growth of children, increased stress to lactating mothers, increased labor (associated with lack of food, vending for families, trekking long distances in such of water for livestock), very poor health of livestock with extreme emaciation hence lack of milk and meat for food, increased social stress due absentee spouses who are away tending after livestock, human health problems especially waterborne diseases due to scarce clean water for drinking among other negative mentions.

Figure 14: Extent to which the drought has affected your lives



The drought situation last year was worse. When asked to explain they mentioned that a small scale cash transfer programs from local non governmental organisations has helped reduce the situation by 5% as indicated that last year the situation stood at 85%. In addition to cash transfer a few occassions of relief food has also helped to reduce the scaourge. However, the entire population is currently at risk of losses of life for both human and livestock as most housholds have lost more than 80% of their livestock which is the mainstay of the economy in this area.

In the last 10 years, however, the drought situation was moderately bad as compared to now.

Figure 15: Extent to which drought has affected your life last year

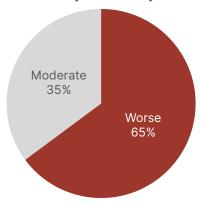
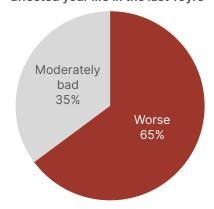


Figure 16: Extent to which drought has affected your life in the last 10yrs

It was explained the current drought is worse in the sense that 10 years ago the drought was not prolonged implying that pastures were averagely better, water availability was better, livestock body conditions were better and could fetch average prices at least having a meal was not a great challenge. Milk was also available unlike now when the under-fives and the elderly are in acute malnuitrition.



3.3.2. Effect of the situation on lives of women, adolescent girls, men, youth and physically challenged members of the household?

The respondents indicated that men are less affected to women as shown in the charts below. As explained by respondents men have an alternative, as they are superior in decision making often making own favouring decisions during times like this when drought is biting survival for the fittest takes it home. The other reason as explained is women at this time have more responsibility on their shoulders tending homes and everyone including livestock left behind hece more stress on them as very little time or none is spared for seeking alternatives. In line with this one of the women leaders interviewed explained men move with livestock and since the decision making rests with them they can normally sale in the nearest markets thus making money which in many cases do not reach back home to sort out the challenges. Domestic violence has been reported as men and women wrangle over family responsibility and characteristic spouse abstentia from homes caused by either drought related responsibilities or evasion of duty or both.

Figure 17: Extent to which women have been affected

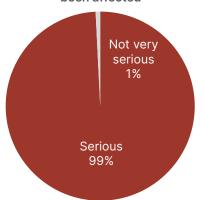
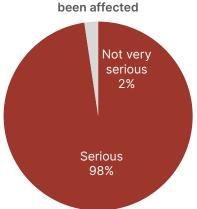


Figure 18: Extent to which men have



When it comes to youth school dropouts are increasing day by day as there is acute shortage of food for the learners. Water is also extremely lacking. Many youth have also dropped out of school to drive their livestock searching pastures. Increased labour among the youth where they cut trees, walk far picking leaves, and dry grass for the weak stock at home. According to an worrior-alone FGD held with the consultant in a secluded place worriors mentioned the risk of lossing all livestock as some of them have experienced. They explained a risky scenario of sexual transmitted diseases increasing in some villages, this worsens their vulnerability risking diseases like HIV/Aids among others. Some even mentioned that it is not uncommon to start hearing occurences of indulgence in cattle rustling and probable road banditry just for some to look for food as they are disadvantaged since they cannot feed at home like the rest of the family. For girls cases of early pregnancy are being reported associated with predisposure to seek for support from able men who would normally take advantage over them. Early marriages are also being reported as a result of school drop outs and hunger.

Figure 19: Extent to which the youth have been affected

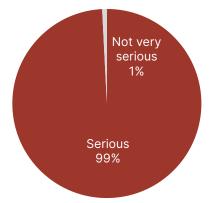
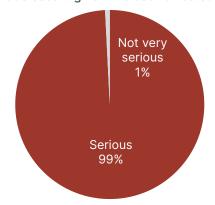


Figure 20: Extent to which the adolescent girls have been affected

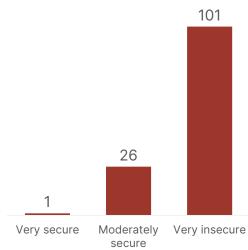


As shown in table adjuscent above the adolescent girls are equally affected as the youth indicating that their authority when it comes to decision making is limited in the society. This category is even more worse as they are often carrying the burden of heading the housholds either when they are not married or they are orphaned and left with the challenge of facing life alone with time and again very limited alternatives of survival their situation in such a drought is grim and wanting. From the findings the response is the same with those people living with disabilities (PLWDS). They have score 99.2% in impact.

Security status of a common HH in this drought

The level of gender insecuirty at HH level is very high as indicated in the table below. Food security is at stake. Livestock keeping is the main source of income and due to the their mass deaths as well as illnesses a lot of income is lost. Lack of rains has also affected the growth of food in a few of these areas hence no alternative livehood source. Government is not providing adequate relief during drought due to overstretched coverage.

Figure 21: Degree of security at HouseHold and County level



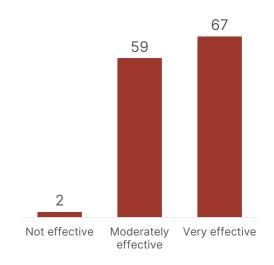
The community is calling for an immediate intervention to safe lives. Again as mentioned earlier one statement given by the Chief of Lependera is 'all livestock are unproductive, literally there is no food at household level, no water, people are staring at destruction in the near future'. The social fabric is breaking at the home because men are scattered in search of livelihood options for their families. It is hard to put food on the table at the moment. According to women-focused group discussion promiscuity is not avoidable at the moment as women are desperate to meet needs of the family. Families are in the verge of chartering.

3.3.3. Mitigating the situation/remedial measures

The respondents explained that given no other means we would say that the current measures though achieving less than 10% impact are quite effective in their own microlevel and what is needed is increasing more households benefiting in order to reduce the impact. Such measures as mentioned included cash for work, relief food distribution, livestock offtake, water provision (tankering), drilling of more strategic boreholes like the one provided by Kenya Dryland Education Program (KDEF) which is helping communities at Ngurunit but is also overstretched.

Some of the organizations include Samburu Women Trust(SWT), KDEF, Safe Samburu among others. Government agencies include NDMA, and the County Government Special Programs. The later two support intervaled relief food but the community point outed that before this normally takes time between one distribution and the next.

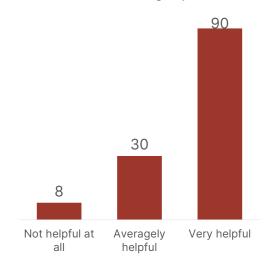
Figure 22: Effectiveness of the current mitigation measures



Extent to which the Community based Risk Reduction Groups help in risk reduction

Some of the community based risk reduction groups include the council of elders, women groups, range scouts/grazing committees, relief committees, Water Users Association, and Land Committees. The existence of these committees according to respondents have plaid a great role in addressing challenges. The water committee for example controls the access to water points though few by enacting bi-laws such as contributions per households to ensure maintenance of the water point. Water is also rationed as explained by Jane of Lmoti Village. The range scouts advice on extended grazing of the little available resources during this time. Offenders are punished when they remove acacia tortilis pods that are immature, some areas are reserved for stressful times.

Figure 23: Helpfulness of community based risk reduction groups

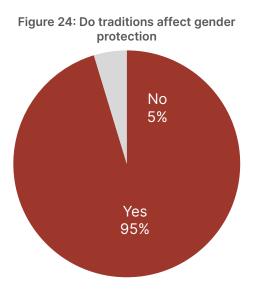


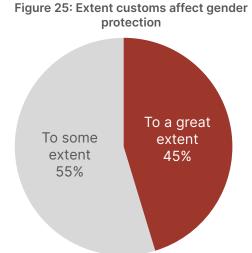
The relief committees have given women some opportunity for leadership and hence ensuring the occasional relief food supplied by support agencies reach their homes. The council of elders acts as an umbrella body in the community, however, with a disadvantage of dominance by men.

3.4. Traditions, customary law, religious or cultural beliefs, and practices

This looked at the existence, capacities, and resources of local institutions that affect in gender protection among the indigenous women/girls and provision of possible interventions on how these challenges can be mitigated. This section looks at the possible negative cultural, traditional, and other community inherent factors that affect negatively gender protection as well as mitigation measures put in place to address these challenges.

3.4.1. Traditions, cultural practices and customary laws that negatively affect gender protection among indigenous women, girls, boys and men in Samburu and Marsabit counties





Some of the traditions and customs mentioned as negative include circumcision of young girls which results to bleeding and death, later complications in delivery which may be fatal; low enrolment in education centers; teenage pregnancies, and stigmatization. Other negative tradition is mass circumcision of boys which leads to mass school dropouts. Wife inheritance is a negative custom which leads to female dominance and predisposes to spread of diseases. Beading of girls and girls and restricting them from accessing education and predisposing to early marriages. Negatively affect in early marriages, poor resource sharing, teenage pregnancies are also common among other issues.

3.4.2. Mitigating the negative effect of these traditions, multicultural practices, and negative customary practices

The community explained that empowering and educating women and involving them in leadership position will go a long way to improve their lives. In adiition they reiterated the urgency to continue with sensitization against harmful practices such FGM and Mass circumcissions. Farther building of enough institutions of learning and strengthen school feeding programs to retain students in school. Water tracking in schools is paramount to retaining students in school. End FGM in Girls, and gender based violence in women, educate more girls and involve women in leadership positions to ratify their views and decisions in seeking equity in redress and auctioning of different community plans. Engage the council of elders especially in the Naapo to address issues of boys dropping out of schools when circumcised at 'lororuani' (enmass). Institutionalize equality education in these young boys to inculcate good culture as they grow. Laws should be strictly implemented, engage opinion shapers and council of elders and engage the government.

Many respondents strongly said that people affected should be heard and given avenues of expression and platforms created to address their plights. People to be educated on the negative consequences of tradition and retrogressive cultures. Punishing law offenders and empowering people with knowledge of their rights.

No 1% I don't know 2%

Yes 97%

Figure 26: Are there ways to mitigate

3.4.3. What are the local institutions that affect the gender protection of indigenous women, girls, and boys in Samburu and Marsabit Counties? What are their capacities and level of resources? How can their lack of capacities and limited resources be improved?

The respondents pointed out that some customs are good such as mutual sharing of availbale resources, to some extent many families are dependent on each other this far but the resources are getting depleted leaving everyone at stake.

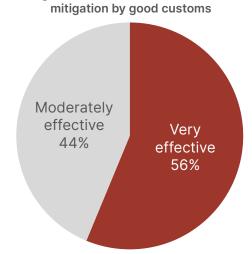


Figure 27: Effectiveness of current

For culture negative malpractices such as mass circumcision of boys has led to increased drop outs from school during initiation time. A lot of teenage pregnancies are also reported in association meaning more girls are out of school and could be married quickly. According to a community leader immediately after this initiations it is not unlikely that incidences of cattle rustling loom due to idling and need to prove warrior hood. However, this may not be necessarily the case as explained by one mother. She added that the most disadvantage is the risk of these children going away from their homes due to livestock fora and age set groupings.

From the above immediate table the scenarios are changing and the respondents feel that there is a great improvement in terms of local institutions in addressing equal opportunities. At the community level the-father institution is the Council of Elders where although no women sit community issues are discussed to the benefit of everyone. However, A Ward representative during one of the key informant interviews let know that at the Naapo (Samburu Parliament) which is normally at the village level no woman has a chance of appearing apart from a single may-be representative (one which appears in a distance to deliver a message then disappear). According to him, although current scenario is changing to allow creeping in of inclusiveness but this lack of physical appearance in crucial decision making gatherings is an impediment to gender protection. He said that there is need to sensitize the community on gender balance in all sectors of development including if need be aligning traditions to sound culture which gives everyone a chance.

The response was very high on the use of traditions to mitigate drought. Enormous indigenous knowledge exists as where the community has evolved in survival mechanisms within their natural environments where they have existed for generations. In this respondents cited the existence of customary resource management mechanisms, drought reserves preparedness such as mincing of meat (nyirnyir), cow fat, dried meat, etc in addition there is expertise in indigenous observation and interpretations of weather occurrences centering on their local livelihoods, safety, and good as well as adaptations mechanism such as astrology, observing animal behaviors and organs. Other mentioned are traditional system of governance and individual community social networking inherently improving on their capacity to communally be able to share the limited wealth.

Figure 28: Extent negative culture affect gender protection

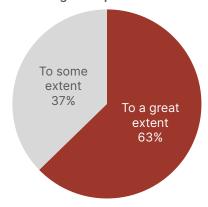


Figure 29: Extent do local institutions negatively affect gender Protection

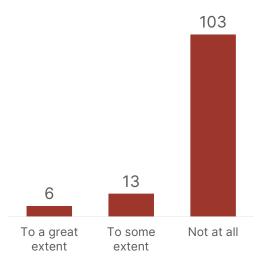
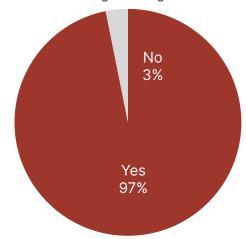
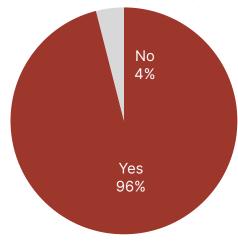


Figure 30: Are there traditions to mitigate drought



The response was very high on the use of traditions to mitigate drought. Enormous indigenous knowledge exists as where the community has evolved in survival mechanisms within their natural environments where they have existed for generations. In this respondents cited the existence of customary resource management mechanisms, drought reserves preparedness such as mincing of meat (nyirnyir), cow fat, dried meat, etc in addition there is expertise in indigenous observation and interpretations of weather occurrences centering on their local livelihoods, safety, and good as well as adaptations mechanism such as astrology, observing animal behaviors and organs. Other mentioned are traditional system of governance and individual community social networking inherently improving on their capacity to communally be able to share the limited wealth.

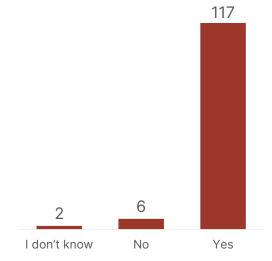
Figure 31: Are there governance structures to mitigate drought?



There are a number of resource management plans that the community mentioned to exist within their reach. Range or Environmental management committee plans. This works to assist minimize damage to pasture resources during droughts such as the management of acacia pods and other grazing areas. In addition grazing management also ensures reserved areas for bad seasons. The other resource management plan is the Relief Committee plans which works closely with National Drought Management Authority and County Government as stated by the key informant from NDMA. He narrated that community structures of this type help during times of destocking. The relief committee also has in its mandate management of alternative supplementary Feeds supplied by the government and other actors. Other resource user plans mentioned is the Water Users Association which manages the rationing of the borehole water. They normally work towards prolonged availability of water during a drought. NDMA also mentioned the existence of drought monitors who give updates of food security scenarios in the villages. Ge mana is the Livestock Marketing Association (LMA) In spite of all these resource plans. Current drought has dismantled copying mechanisms.

Figure 32: Are there resource management plans to mitigate drought

Natural resource management plans and laws that can be adopted by local communities to mitigate the devastating impact of drought



3.5. Lessons learned and suggested recommendations for adoption in gender protection while addressing the severe impacts of the looming drought situation in Samburu County and at the borders of Samburu and Marsabit Counties

3.5.1. Lessons learned - Gender protection against the severe impact of the looming drought situation

The following were lessons learnt during this drought;

- Through addressing FGM practices the community has learnt that school enrollment is increasing and stigma of male chauvinism is also declining. In addition it is helping to stop early marriages in girls hence need for more campaigns.
- On cash transfers program the community and implementors have also learnt that low registration of National Identity Card derails the process and due to lack of officiation many are looked out of the program.
- Through the relief interventions implementors and communities have learnt that working alone has confined impact but when two or more partners come together the achievement is enormous.
- Due to the persistent drought learning is affected where there is a lot of drop outs. Learning goes hand in hand with enough food reserves and water reserves in schools.
- Another lesson is a lot of investment in one field such as livestock implies that in droughts like this more lives are in danger as livestock is being lost in large numbers.
- Those families with someone employed as teachers, nurses, or at County Government are more stable in this drought.
- Those with alternative livelihood sources like shops, and vendors of small hotels appear to be more cushioned against the scourge of current drought.
- The cash transfer programs are having a lot of impact in areas that it exists.

3.5.2. Recommendations that can be made for adoption in gender protection while addressing the looming drought situation

The respondents highlighted the following as main areas either long term or short in addressing this and future droughts;

- Ensuring legal protection and reforming discriminatory laws that are limiting to gender protection and risk reduction during drought. More civic education to be given to community on this.
- The community realized that they lost a lot of livestock and are blaming lack of preparedness including lack of markets for disposure of excess stock. Hence more livestock markets should be built to facilitate early offtake

- Learning from one or two boreholes existing community is asking for more sinking and equipping in order to reduce distances travelled in search of water especially during times of drought when energies are even lacking.
- School retention is enhanced by provision of dignity supplies to girls, food for learning, and water for learning.
- · Business culture should be introduced
- · Women voices should be prioritized
- Gender sensitive policies should be customized to the lowest governance unit.
- · Building assets through village investments and banking,
- Tackling adverse norms such as FGM
- · Addressing cultural malpractices
- Providing support to business initiatives such as cooperatives and funding
- Help many in the area
- Giving civic education to the locals
- Introduce school clubs to educate girls and boys on gender protection to inculcate this culture at tender age.
- Improve registration of national ids to increase balance of both genders in cash transfer programs.
- Integrated approach to drought mitigation.
- Introduce business culture to women to strength women participation in active ventures hence build their resilience.
- Introduce counselling programs immediately to talk to people who are already stressed due to current drought.
 This will go a long way in improving family coping energy during this stressful times.
- Concerted efforts to stop early marriages and child labor
- Provide guidance and counselling in schools and faith based institutions.
- Provide business skills training of community based groups.
- Increase alternative water sources at the village level to reduce distance to water points
- Strengthening collective ways of representation for all to have equal opportunities.
- Tackling of advanced mal-cultural practices and limiting traditions
- Educating people on negative results of customary practices, involving women in development programs as well as adequate provision of relief food
- Empowering women, involved women in leadership and saying no to violence
- Support back to school initiatives- it is recommended that all the dropouts should be assisted to go back to schools

3.6. Identify any best practices and initiatives realized through promoting gender protection and the key findings on the drought situation in Samburu County and at the borders of Samburu and Marsabit Counties that can inform the government highlighting areas of improvement

3.6.1. Best practices and initiatives that have been realized in promoting gender protection against the drought that can inform the government in the highlighted areas of improvement?

From the study the following recommendations were listed by respondents as impotant in addressing gender gap reduction;

- addressing formal education through scholarships such KDEF
- scale up on Cash transfer programs
- increase water reserves and or explore and drill strategic boreholes to reduce walking distances for women and livestock.
- Sensitizing the community on need to come up with CBOs with strong inclination to capacity building of local women, adolescent girls, boys, and those living with disabilities. These institutions should be strengthened through funding.
- Community to demand for government extension services to secure professional advice before and during drought. The County Government may need to facilitate staff to interact with the community in higher frequency.
- · Coordinated capacity building of both gender.
- Creation of gender protection groups and organizations, and capacity building these groups to deliver.

- educating people to achieve their dreams and support peace programs for people to live in peace and harmony
- Continuous sensitization against F.G.M practices. This should go hand in hand with sensitization measures on gender equity.
- Increased enrollment of girls in formal education b)
 Village community banking introduced by BOMA c)
 Curtailing of FGM though resolution by former president.
- Registration of beneficiaries especially women and cash transfer through mobile phones ensuring women benefit directly. Develop systems to monitor.
- Coordinated relief provision to increase coverage.
- Duplication of best practice such as BOMA activities support women financially and NAWIRI gives women groups funds for business and SWT educates and empowers women on gender based violence and mitigation in both counties.

3.6.2. The key findings on the drought situation in Samburu County and at the borders of Samburu and Marsabit in the highlighted areas of improvement

The key findings can be summarized into three main areas;

3.6.2.1. Severe Drought Impact

- That the current drought has led to acute food shortage in the almost every household in Samburu North and bordering areas of Marsabit Counties.
- That there is an acute shortage drinking water as well as water for livestock.
- Livestock have been lost in large numbers some household stating more than 80% although some have totally lost all.
- There is an acute malnutrition case scenario almost across most of the households.
- During one of the FGD a lady shade tears describing stunted growth on children due to current drought.

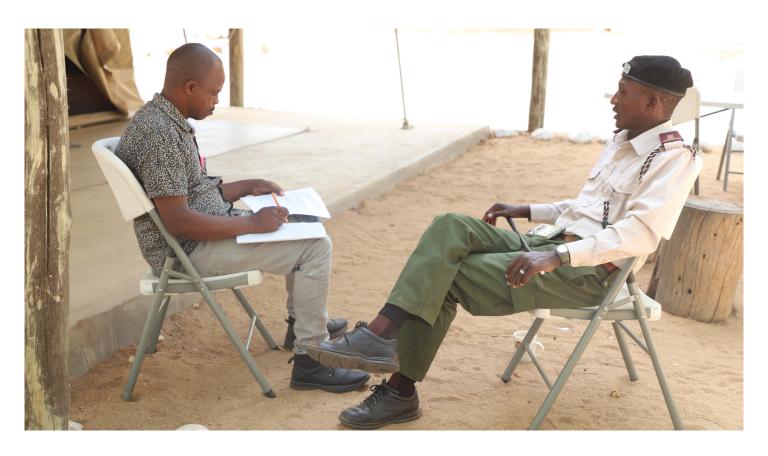
- Lactating mothers are finding it very hard raising children with extreme inadequate breast fed milk. They are also malnourished and are facing great emaciation.
- The elderly and the under-fives are also extremely malnourished.
- School going children are highly affected with so many drop outs reported.
- Schools are lacking food for learners as well water.
- Cases of insecurity are being reported possibly associated with road banditry looking for food.
- Looming rumors of cattle rustling probably to restock drought lost-stock.

3.6.2.2. Increased Gender Based Violence

- From the study it became clear that current drought situation has reactivated glaring gender-based violence. Almost all of the known types are present within the community current scenario of drought. Sexual and gender-based violence is still being reported even amidst the scourging effects of drought. Specifically female genital mutilation (FGM) could not even be stopped by current drought situation, in addition early forced marriage are happening, others are booking of underage girls (a practice commonly known as 'beading' is happening, an unfortunate form of sexual exploitation), and physical domestic violence associated with food inadequacy and what have you. specifically, by increasing awareness about the issue, enhancing the prevention and protection capacities of law enforcement, and increasing survivors' access to comprehensive services
- Findings indicated that all the six types of gender-based violence have manifested during this drought.
- In summary it became apparent that contributors to gender-based-violence have been renewed due to scourging effects of current drought; what is clear is the harmful gender norms where gender stereotyping justifying silent and evident violence against women. It is obvious that current hunger is predisposing to worse scenarios. There is an increase in domestic violence and unexplained spouse absenteeism due to current stress. Some early marriages are being reported where some girls are giving themselves away seeking for support which is not there. Women and young girls are extremely affected with increased forced labour due household responsibility.

3.6.2.3. Climate Change Impacts

- Climate variability has posed a threat to traditional copying mechanisms (which for generations have shielded them from the scourge of climate variabilities and change), SWT experience has established that there is a need for better adaptive strategies that would blend national/international governments and groups' action plans for emerging trends and local knowledge.
- Local livelihoods are threatened by climate-related hazards and recovery from these risks takes time. So the question that became apparent is 'how can we strengthen coping mechanisms'? and It is historic in pastoral setups that common resources attract conflicts whose worse impact is on indigenous women and children. How can this be handled?
- In spite of all the above local communities especially indigenous women have perceived, interacted with, and made use of their local environments with their scarce natural resources and changing climatic conditions though with a lot of challenges on the way. How can this be documented and its application ensured through a balance with other existing documented coping mechanisms?



4. Conclusion

The challenges facing women in these villages are more less the same all over. The key to addressing this is through establishment of Legal and policy frameworks where they don't exist as well as strengthening in places where they exist. In this scenario national level laws and regulations should be customized at the County level.

From the study scenario, several action areas can be deduced to develop strategies with results. The strategies that may work out may include but not limited to:

- Affirmative actions like identification and rolling out of legal and policy frameworks accompanied with gender plans with budgets for implementing. This should be made at all levels of governance. Funding should be lobbied for by people representatives at all levels.
- A teaching and aptitude building program for both men and women to be gender responsive in management should be established and actioned by all actors.
- Women should be fronted to learn. In all development work women must sit at the decision making tables, must be mentors and must work together toward equality among other tactics.
- Community capacity to demand for accountability is paramount to success in reducing the gender protection gap. The commitments made on gender equality by governments and development partners should be achieved.
- It should form the score card of task entities such as Gender and Equality Commissions, National Human Rights Institutions and the like to include reduction efforts in their mandates. These entities should be given space by governments in order to increase their accountable on commitments they make.
- At the community level going all up male participation is the focus for realization. Men must work in flank with women since they are still in major control in this communities and probably globally. Deliberate efforts by sound men should be supported in order to realize quick change in contribution to the change in the gender agenda.
- Institutionalization of gender protection culture at tender years will inculcate societal change in gender gap reduction. This can be done by having gender and gender responsive policies and strategies in school curriculum from pre-units all the way to the universities and colleges.

Identification of opportunities for redress to CC

- Strengthening of traditional copying mechanisms and environment-management bi-laws
- Identification and utilization of stakeholders.
- Partners in policy and advocacy for indigenous women's programs

SWT experience summary of Proposed Solutions

From SWT's experience working with local indigenous communities, the following came out as possible solutions to address the challenges;

- Diversification to alternative livelihoods such as beekeeping, beadwork, poultry, and increased Camel keeping for some groups among others?
- Capacity building of indigenous women for business in sustainable indigenous resource access and utilization.
- Indigenous women should be engaged as front runners in the promotion of environmental conservation programs.
- Capacity building- cooperative model, training in organizational skills, and business skills training.
- Psychological support- trauma healing for vulnerable groups including PLWDs.
- Lobby with the County Government to increase the allocation of funds for indigenous women groups.
- Review of policies affecting indigenous women to align to changing scenarios of PESTEL. Combine SWOT analysis with practical scenarios to address emerging trends.
- Strengthen increased enrolment of women in formal education to reduce illiteracy and provide capacities for indigenous women's survival CC adversities.
- Strength gender gap reduction strategy to ensure indigenous women are provided with alternatives to reduce the negative impacts of climate change.

Advocacy strategy-road map on indigenous women engagement in climate change

SWT strategies for action in climate change solutions among the indigenous women groups in Northern Kenya;

- Policy and influence
- Mainstream of/ incorporate climate change into women-targeted interventions.
- Mainstream indigenous women's agenda across organization's work.



5. Recommendations – specific to various counties

The indigenous response to social economic adjustment strategies such as, engaging in multiple livelihood activities and maintaining a diversity of plant varieties and animal races provide a low-risk buffer in uncertain whether environment.

From the findings of this study the following areas of action can be indulged in with urgency;

Table 8: Findings and recommendations

FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATIONS		
	SHORT TERM INTERVENTION	LONG TERM INTERVENTION	
1.0 Drought			
That the current drought has led to acute food shortage in the almost every household in Samburu North and bordering areas of Marsabit Counties.	Urgent food relief programs should be initiated to save lives.		
That there is an acute shortage drinking water as well as water for livestock.	To salvage the situation water tinkering should be of priority now	Drilling of strategic borehole, and water pans	
Livestock have been lost in large numbers some household stating more than 80% although some have totally lost all.	Relief emergency support	 Restocking can be done after rains, Furute off take programs to avoid total loss in future droughts 	
There is an acute malnutrition case scenario almost across most of the households.	Supplementary feeding should be intimated immediately	Building of dispensaries and stocking of strategic reserve supplementary feeds	
During one of the FGD a lady shade tears describing stunted growth on children due to current drought.	Supplementary feeding program should start immediately	Establish programs to regularly monitor the situation	
Lactating mothers are finding it very hard raising children with extreme inadequate breast fed milk. They are also malnourished and are facing great emaciation.	Supplementary feeding, relief food, water for domestic use	Public health programs that train on family planning, monitoring support,	
The elderly and the under-fives are also extremely malnourished.	Relief feeding and supplementations.		
School going children are highly affected with so many drop outs reported.	Food should be supplied to school to keep learners.		
Schools are lacking food for learners as well water.	Water tinkering in schools		

FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATIONS		
	SHORT TERM INTERVENTION	LONG TERM INTERVENTION	
There is an increase in domestic violence and unexplained spouse absenteeism due to current stress.	Social counselling should be done urgently		
Some early marriages are being reported where some girls are giving themselves away seeking for support which is not really there.	Provide support to girls through education and material support where possible to secure them from predators	Girl child free education programs	
Cases of insecurity are being reported possibly associated with road banditry looking for food.	Sensitization of community on peace and conflict resolution, provide food to reduce incidences of theft		
Looming rumors of cattle rustling probably to restock drought lost-stock.	 Counselling to the youth warriors County and National Government patrols 	Strategic establishment of Rangers Camps for security monitoring and provision.	
2.0 Gender Based Violence			
Drought emergency, crises and domestic conflict has deepened violence against women and girls and exacerbated the drivers and risk factors.		 Increase women targeted drought interventions Call out against harassment of women and girls Increase funding for women organizations Strengthen women groups especially relief interventions 	
Current drought is clear evidence of impact of Climate change which causing worsening trends of gender-based violence against women and girls.		 Increase funding for voicing women rights Advocacy programs to increase women in leadership positions 	
Use of digitization and mobile technology in interventions has excluded women in cash transfer programs		Women should be included in cash transfer programs with strong terms of owning phones and other services	
Conclusive proposal in addressing gender based violence	 Investing in women's movements matters. Evidence shows that a strong and autonomous feminist movement is the most crucial factor in driving policy change on gender-based violence. But women's rights organizations, key drivers of feminist mobilization, are increasingly being defunded, sidelined, and silenced in decision-making spaces. Increasing long-term funding to women's rights organizations is key to finding effective solutions to prevent and respond to violence against women. Donate to local organizations that empower women, support survivors, and promote actions and policies designed to reduce and prevent violence. Support enactment of strong laws that target on enhancing women capacities. Establish a fund kitty to cushion against vulnerability associated with drought. 		

FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATIONS	
	SHORT TERM INTERVENTION	LONG TERM INTERVENTION
3.0 Climate Change		
Policy and influence		Policy and influence
		Mainstream of/ incorporate climate change into women-targeted interventions.
		Mainstream indigenous women's agenda across organization's work.
		Climate Change Bills at the County can be scrutinized to ensure gender inclusion and social inclusion (PLWD). issues.
Mainstream of/ incorporate climate change into women-targeted interventions.		SWT path in addressing CC scenarios in its work clearly indicated that climate change for rural indigenous women should be made a household subject for all projects affecting communities.
		SWT and other partners should work towards demonstrating practical solutions to climate change.
		In order to ensure resilience, documentation of indigenous knowledge and promotion of practical ownership should form part of climate change intervention activities.
		Indigenous women and their communities should be sensitized in FPIC;
		Lobby for establishment of traditional centres of vital indigenous knowledge.
		Promote conservation and environmental regeneration activities such as tree nurseries establishments and tree planting. Encourage food trees as a means of food security resilience building for drought-prone groups.
Mainstream indigenous women's agenda across organization's work.		In order to ensure focus on indigenous women's voices in climate change SWT must ensure that Climate Change Action Plans are mainstreamed into Programs.
		Another area of action is strengthening documentation and dissemination of climate change information in project work.

6. Appendices

Table 9: Sampling frame

COUNTY	SUB- COUNTY	VILLAGE	нн	SAMPLE DISTRIBUTION	SAMPLE SIZE & PICK PER SITE	NO. OF ENUMERATORS (5)
Marsabit	Laisamis	SouthHorr Lolderkes	80	17%	36	6
	Laisamis	Lmoti	49	11%	23	4
	Laisamis	Ngurunit/Lependera	113	24%	51	10
Samburu	Samburu North	Ngurunit/Siangan	48	10%	21	8
	Samburu North	S/Horr-Ndikir	126	27%	57	10
	Samburu North	Ntepes	50	11%	23	4
Total			466	100	211	63



Table 10: Targeted institutions/ organizations/ agencies

NAME OF INSTITUTION	MANDATE	KEY INFORMATION
National Drought Monitoring Authority (NDMA)	To exercise overall coordination over all matters relating to drought risk management and to establish mechanisms, either on its own or with stakeholders, that will end drought emergencies in Kenya.	 Drought Situation and its impact on local communities. Drought Mitigation programmes and their impacts.
County Department of Culture, Social Services, Gender, Sports & Youth Affairs (Samburu and Marsabit)	To provide efficient, effective and responsive services to the people of Samburu County in areas pertaining to Gender, Culture and social services.	 Gender protection initiatives and their gaps and success Policies and laws related to gender protection
State/County Ministry of Agriculture & Livestock Development	To enhance livestock and agricultural productivity, market access, value addition and enabling environment for livestock and agricultural development	Status of livestock production, livelihoods and food/nutritional security in the face of current and previous droughts
State Ministry of Public Service, Gender Affirmative Action	To coordinate gender mainstreaming in national development planning and promote equitable political and socioeconomic development for women, men, girls and boys.	 The Status of Gender protection programmes and initiatives in the study area. The extent to which the ministry has promoted gender protection.
State/County Ministry of Labour & Social Protection	Formulation, review and implementation of Social Security, employment, programmes for persons with disabilities, elderly, National Human Resource Planning and Development, National labour productivity, Child Labour and regulation management, Facilitating and Tracking Employment creation.	The status of social security protection and the extend to which its contributing to gender protection in the study area.
State Ministry of Youth Affairs, Sports and Arts	To create an enabling environment for the promotion and development of youth empowerment, sporting excellence and arts	 Status of empowerment and protection initiatives for youth, gaps and successes in face of current and previous drought
State/county Ministry of Water, Sanitation & Irrigation	 Development of legislation, policy and strategy formulation, sector coordination and guidance. Sector investments planning and resource Mobilisation 	 Impact of Water scarcity on gender protection. How ministries programmes and initiatives impact (positively/ negatively) gender protection in the study area.
International, National and Local NGOs and CBOs	Humanitarian and Development Support including, food security, access to rights and empowerment	Status of community-based programmes and initiatives that impact (positively/negatively) gender protection in the study area
State Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government	The Office of the President, Ministry of Interior, and Coordination of National Government is charged with the responsibility of public administration, internal security, and coordination of state functions and services to all Government ministries.	 Contribution of the ministry to gender protection in the study area. Extend to which drought-related insecurity affects gender protection and how the ministry has addressed this including gaps and successes.

6.1. List of Supportive Legal Frameworks & Policy

Supportive Legal Framework, the Kenya Constitution has been hailed as one of the most progressive constitutions in the world. It has very progressive articles that indicate the commitment to the international and regional obligations arising from treaties and conventions and other commitments signed and or ratified.

The Convention on Elimination of All forms of discrimination against women and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights of the Right of Women are key treaties promoting women's rights. Kenya has ratified both. The African Call is to have 50:50 gender representation.

In the recent past, the Kenyan parliament has passed enabling legislative frameworks that give implementation impetus to the Constitution. These include:

a) Marriage Act	(No. 4 of 2014)
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b) Protection Against Domestic Violence Act (No. 21 of 2015)

c) Basic Education Act

d) Matrimonial Property Act (No. 49 of 2013)

e) Micro and Small Enterprises Act (No 55of 2012)

f) Employment and Labour Relations Court Act

g) Treaty making Ratification Act 2012

h) The prohibition of female Genital Mutilation Act 2011

i) Counter Trafficking in Persons Act 2010

j) Sexual offences Act 2006

k) Citizenship and Immigration Act, 2011

I) Law of Succession Act 2012

m) National Gender and Equality Act 2011

The policy framework has also been developed and include among others:

- a) National Gender and Development Policy 2000 now under review to align it to the new constitution
- b) The Kenya Vision 2030 the government's blue print on the development agenda and its medium Term Plans (2008-2012, 2013-2017 and 2017-2020)
- c) Sessional paper No 2 on gender equality and Development 2006
- d) Kenya Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth Creation (2003-2007)
- e) National Land policy
- f) National Policy for Response to Gender Based Violence
- g) National Policy for the Abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation



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