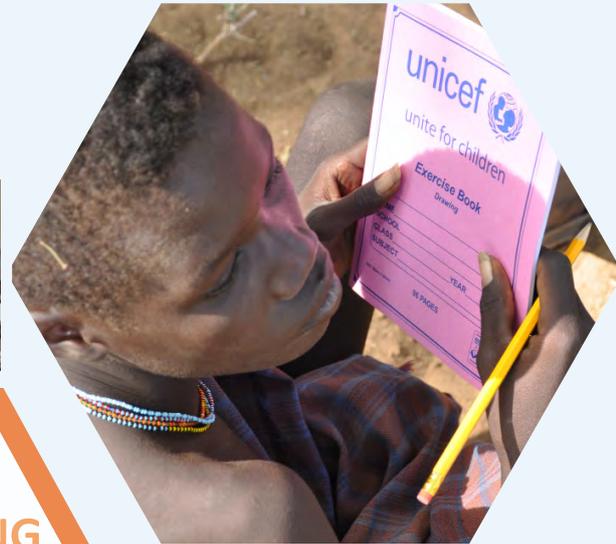


# THE UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND FOR HUMAN SECURITY

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## STRENGTHENING HUMAN SECURITY IN THE BORDER COMMUNITIES OF TURKANA, KENYA



# Who Does What



**United Nations Children’s Fund** and the **International Labour Organization** are working to increase access to education for pre-school and school-age nomadic children through the implementation of mobile schools and community mobilization, provision of supply to the government low-cost boarding schools, and improve life condition of children through mainstreaming child labour concerns into the project strategies.



**World Health Organization** is working to ensure access to basic healthcare for the communities with special emphasis on the most vulnerable.



**International Organization for Migration** and the **United Nations Development Programmes** are working together to expand people’s livelihood choices and support livelihood diversification and promote peace and prevent recurring conflict among targeted communities through the provision of early warning information and peace building activities.



**The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations** aims to improve pastoral livelihoods and food security among the most vulnerable.

# THE HUMAN SECURITY TRUST FUND

## OVERVIEW

Strengthening Human security in the Border Communities of Turkana is a three-year project aimed at addressing the human security concerns of pastoralists living in extreme hardship and vulnerability to numerous threats in Turkana county of northern Kenya.

The project is undertaken in the context of UN inter-agency coordination and is implemented by UNDP, FAO, WHO, IOM, UNICEF and ILO, in partnership with local community-based organizations, peace committees, local governments and the Governmental National Drought Management Authority.

This project is based on a two and half year (July 2009 - March 2011) assessment and consultation in the context of Security in Mobility initiative which promotes integrated and comprehensive interventions that link relief to development in pastoralists' communities.

The project focuses on strengthening the resilience of the dominant livelihoods in the ASALs of Northern Kenya in the face of natural disasters and other shocks, while providing alternative coping mechanisms through coordinated, sustainable interventions in the livelihoods, food security, education and health sectors.

Considering the mobile nature of pastoral communities, the project is providing opportunities to peaceful interactions.

### **Why Turkana?**

This is one of the conflict hotspots of the larger Karamoja region which suffers from a climate-migration-conflict-nexus.

Recurring severe drought cycles leads to increasingly frequent out-migrations of pastoralists within Kenya and across the border, in search of water and pasture for livestock. This in turn leads to rising levels of violent inter-ethnic conflict through the region.

The project aims at improving the socio-economic situation of the target population, stabilizing fragile livelihoods and preventing disaster by building community resilience to frequent climatic, environmental and insecurity shocks, and promoting inter-communal peace in the region.



## DONOR MISSION ENDS WITH CALLS FOR EFFORTS TO ENHANCE HUMAN SECURITY IN TURKANA COUNTY.

There is need for greater commitment in the efforts by the Government of Kenya, County Governments and United Nation agencies, to enhance human security in Turkana Central and Loima Sub-counties. This was the resounding message from a joint delegation from the United Nations inter-agency coordination group and government representatives, following a three day field visit by the Chief of Unit, United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) Unit Ms. Mehrnaz Mostafavi.

Ms. Mostafavi, was in Turkana to assess the progress undertaken to improve human security among pastoralist communities in Turkana County through sustainable interventions in livelihoods, food security, education, child labour and health.



The field visit provided Ms Mostafavi an opportunity to better understand the progress made and determine the effectiveness of translating the human security concept into practical actions and sustainable results as recommended by the United Nations General Assembly. She also had an advantage of interacting with the project beneficiaries.

Turkana region suffers from a ‘climate change-migration-conflict-nexus’ where recurring, severe drought cycles lead to increasingly frequent outward migrations of pastoralists within Kenya or across the border, in search of water and pasture for livestock.

Considering the mobile nature of pastoral border communities, the project targets the most vulnerable of the Turkana Central population as well as selected neighbouring cross-border communities by providing opportunities to interact in a peaceful manner through joint training and the establishment of joint markets and trade opportunities.



This project builds on recommendations by communities themselves to strengthen local capacities to prevent disaster and mitigate shocks of a climatic, economic and conflict nature.

The pastoralist populations of Turkana Central are faced with acute economic, food and health insecurity, as well as environmental, personal-and community insecurity. These threats are interlinked and feed on each other, with most characterized by their chronic and pervasive nature. Increasing weather extremities and unpredictability is evident in Turkana, with escalating severity and frequency of droughts.

The project “Strengthening Human Security in the Border Communities of Turkana, Kenya” officially launched in 2012 is a 6.1 Million USD 3-year project funded by the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security.



*“The Multi-grade training I attended has improved my teaching skills and as a result learning of ECDE children, youth, and adults attending this mobile school, has really improved. That was a very good training for me and my mobile school.”* said Christine Loporonito, the teacher at Ere- a moruareng’an mobile school.

## UNICEF Strives to Address Accessibility of Quality Basic Education for Nomadic Children in Turkana

The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) has this year rolled out a series of capacity building exercises among education stakeholders and communities in Turkana Central and Loima Counties.

The education component of the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security project seeks to improve access to quality basic education for nomadic children, with the aim of strengthening community resilience to complex hardships associated with pastoralist lifestyles. Effort is being made to strengthen the efficiency of local education systems in providing education services that are responsive to nomadic lifestyle and threats affiliated to education.

Key among UNICEF’s achievements this year has been the Enrolment Campaign which sort to create awareness on the importance of education among the communities in Turkana, build capacity of stakeholders on educational matters and in so doing, improve enrolment and performance of the nomadic children, improve literacy levels and sensitize the communities on the government’s policy on education for all.

Through UNICEF’s local implementing partner, TEFA, a Mentorship Programme for girls was initiated to enforce gender and leadership skills that will propel the beneficiaries to gain life skills that include assertiveness, negotiation, decision making, creative and critical thinking skills. A total of 18 mentors (12 females and 6 males) were identified and trained. Teachers were inducted on how to enable girls in the primary and secondary schools understand the cross cutting issues and concerns that affect them academically and socially. This resulted in the identification of 210 girls as beneficiaries from both primary and secondary schools, and created publicity of the programme in schools and adjacent Communities.

The mentorship programme will last for an initial one year and possibly extended to three years, to ensure sustainability and to allow more time to engage the government and partners to adopt the project. Through the programme, UNICEF aims at conducting two conferences for children, targeting 72 girls, to allow them an opportunity to express their views and exchange support experiences with other girls.

A Teachers Training for Mobile Schools was conducted to develop a multi-grade teaching capacity of mobile school teachers in line with the national nomadic education policy. A total of 34 mobile school teachers (20 male; 10 female) were trained on multi-grade teaching and a total of 2,308 learners (1,251 boys, 1,057 girls) were reached in mobile schools in Loima and in Turkana central sub-counties respectively.

The multi grade teaching led to the improvement of teaching and learning in the three levels of learners (ECD, young people and adults) of mobile schools. The training was also key in the mobilization of youth and parents (especially in the pastoralist communities) to enrol more learners in schools. The retention of learners in the mobile schools has improved as the teachers engage the community leadership and parents to take their children to mobile schools.



To reduce the negative impacts of climate change, the project will promote environmental control through soil and water conservation and tree planting activities.



## FAO Supports Partners to Strengthen Human Security in the border Communities of Turkana

The Food and Agricultural Office (FAO) has identified six project sites in Turkana Central, to benefit from the efforts to boost pastoral livelihoods and food security. The project sites were informed through a baseline survey conducted in 2012, to assess the vulnerabilities faced by communities in Turkana Central.

Lokiriama/Urum, in Loima sub-county, was selected due to conflicts arising from competition for pasture and water, social and food insecurity, cross-border incidences of livestock diseases, inadequate human health services as well as child labour challenges. Turkwel was selected for up-scaling technologies by building on successful rehabilitation of small scale irrigation schemes previously supported by FAO. Naoros, Naotin, Napuu and Loporot in Turkana Central sub-county are selected due to social insecurity among the fisher folk, conflicts arising from inadequate pasture, human health and also lack of child labour protection.

In collaboration with the

International Organization for Migration, the FAO has established a greenhouse in Lokiriama, as part of the IOM/FAO livelihood support. For a dry land such as Turkana, the greenhouse was established to demonstrate, encourage the community to adopt greenhouse farming and to promote small scale vegetable production.

Looking forward, the FAO has identified 150 farmers for training on environment conservation and establishment of rain water harvesting structures. To facilitate the training, FAO has established linkages with the National and County government departments.

FAO and partners are encouraging the communities to form group, for a wider outreach. The group will receive capacity building on the construction and management of Soil and Water Conservation Structures as well as water harvesting structures for domestic, livestock and crop uses.. 40 men, women and youth identified by the community will be trained on

community-based animal health care and production, as well as free animal health delivery kits.

With leadership from the FAO, beneficiaries will also promote livestock marketing through the construction of ten livestock marketing pens in each of the divisions in the sub-county and promote environmental control through soil and water conservation and tree planting activities. At the County level, FAO is working in close collaboration with the Ministries of Water services, Irrigation and Agriculture; Pastoral Economy and Fisheries and Energy and Environment and Natural Resources. Nationally, FAO partners with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries.

Project activities implemented by each agency are designed to mesh in a seamless manner to enhance synergy and create more value in delivery as well as to exploit opportunities to improve social and economic wellbeing.



## World Health Organization Conducts Disease Surveillance and Response Training for Health Management Teams in Turkana and West Pokot Counties

The World Health Organization in October 2013 conducted training on Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) for 36 health workers from the Health Management Team from the five sub counties in Turkana County, as well as Disease Surveillance Coordinators from West Pokot County.

The training aimed at stepping up knowledge, understanding and skills of health workers involved in disease control and surveillance in the implementation of IDSR functions, and in understanding the Standard Operating Procedures for Guinea Worm Disease eradication.

The Guinea Worm Disease is a painful condition that is associated with drinking contaminated water. Although it is rarely fatal, the patients can be sick for several months. The knowledge is thus important for Turkana and Pokot Counties, which are formerly Guinea Worm endemic counties, where access to water has been a perennial challenge. Guinea worm and Polio are currently the only diseases globally targeted for eradication. Kenya is still at the precertification phase and health facility as well as community data is thus required for

certification as a country free from Guinea worm.

Turkana County is predominantly an arid and semiarid region bordering South Sudan which is still endemic. In addition, the county is host to Kakuma refugee camp which has about 128,000 refugees with South Sudanese comprising over 30%. The high human cross border traffic between Kenya and South Sudan coupled with perennial water challenges makes the county to be at risk of Guinea worm disease spread.

It is expected that the beneficiary health personnel in Turkana and West Pokot will now be able to identify and report cases of priority diseases, conditions and events, provide vaccinations for preventable diseases, analyze and interpret data they receive from the field as well have the capacity to investigate, confirm and respond to suspected cases, outbreaks and other events of public health importance. The health workers will also be responsible for supervising and providing feedback on events of public health importance to their respective county health authorities and the Ministry of Health.

The Disease Surveillance and Outbreak Response Unit in the Ministry of Health is charged with the responsibility of implementing the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) strategy in the country.

The IDSR strategy was developed by the World Health Organization African region member states in 1998 and revised in 2010 to include International health regulations, Non Communicable Disease's events of public health importance and nutritional conditions in response to an increasing duo burden of communicable and Non communicable diseases. It was recognized then that despite a high burden of communicable diseases and outbreaks, the health systems were not collecting quality data that could accurately estimate the disease burden and inform implementation of appropriate public health action.

In addition WHO has donated drugs, solar powered refrigerators to support cold-chain system for vaccination program, 8 motor cycles and 2 Double Cabin Pickups to support community outreach activities which are geared towards improving community health.

## ILO Embarks on Capacity Building and Advocacy Against Child Labour

A startling finding of the Human Security Trust Fund project baseline study carried out in September 2012 was that the Turkana Community did not readily accept the existence of child labour. Cultural and economic practices such as herding and migratory lifestyles blurred the existence of child labour, a problem that has become increasingly alarming due to the livelihood constraints the Turkana people face. With the baseline findings at hand, the first response to the community perspective on child labour was clear to the ILO. To make inroads in project implementation, we needed to influence community perceptions, create awareness and rationalize the inclusion of child labour concerns in human security interventions.

ILO has so far invested in a number of activities targeting change of attitude, understanding and appreciation that for sustainable development to occur, the rights of children to education, protection and decent lives is integral to achieving human security in Turkana. This is the reason that in the implementation agreement signed between Turkana Women Advocacy and Development Organisation (TWADO), ILO is funding capacity building for 240 women and community leaders from six women groups affiliated to TWADO and spread across six villages in the project target areas. The group members will serve as advocates against child labour as well as undertake community based child labour monitoring. The women groups are linking with FAO for livelihood support to parents/guardians of children withdrawn and/or prevented from child labour and UNICEF with a view to enhancing education opportunities for the target children.

ILO is also working with the St. Peters Community Network (SAPCONE) to promote children participation in creating awareness and advocating for an integrated approach to child labour elimination in Turkana County. Once sensitized on participatory advocacy and awareness creation using ILO's "Supporting Children Rights through Education, Arts and the Media" (SCREAM) methodology, 250 children from five primary schools will engage in production of Information, Education and Communication items such as

plays and skits, artwork and media



A young child working in the streets of Lodwar shields from the sun under a truck. HSTF targets to facilitate withdraw and education of child laborers.

messages that will be presented to the community through school based open days. The children are being sensitized on the linkages between various human security elements; for instance the link between livelihood interventions and child labour elimination, education and child labour prevention, health, peace and the effect these have on ensuring children are not pushed into child labour. These will be the core messages that the children will build their advocacy and awareness creation messages on.

Additionally, ILO facilitated capacity building for two education officials, one from the Central Government and another from the Turkana County Government on tackling child labour through education and skills training. The training organized and facilitated by the ILO International Training Center in Turin, Italy was designed to enhance participants understanding of strategies and good practices in tackling barriers to universal education and which force children out of school and into child labour. Subsequently, the two officials are facilitating the mainstreaming of child labour elimination in the Turkana County education

strategies. They are also working as resource persons for the County Government on matters relating to child labour, hence complementing ILO technical presence in the field.

During one of the stakeholders' workshop held in September this year on child labour, ILO used a

media clipping (available at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gVvAc0gYTug>) to stimulate discussion to decipher child labour problem in Turkana County. The media clip independently taken by a media house in the county, (therefore not seen as an ILO perspective to child labour in the region during the workshop) helped stimulate an objective discussion on the reality of child labour in the region to the extent that the participants agreed to reinforce actions against child labour in the region. As a result of this, the County Government has committed to constitute a County Child Labour Committees to coordinate the prevention of children going to work instead of enrolling and remaining in school. The County Government has also donated a piece of land to a voluntary agency to set up a center for serve as a rescue center for children rescued from working and living in the streets.

From these initial activities, it is evident that the human security initiative is relevant to the campaign against child labour in Turkana. Without meaningfully addressing insecurity, poverty, education and health challenges the community faces, it will remain irrational to the target beneficiaries to consider sending their children to school instead of working to supplement family daily needs. ILO therefore looks forward to jointly moving forward with other UN partners in the human security project to enhance the Turkana people's capacity to make Turkana County a child labour free county.



This monument is reminder of the pact between the Turkana and the Matheniko of Uganda, on the importance of peace. The Peace Accord has been celebrated every year, for the past forty years.

## Turkana Governor Joseph Nanok Calls for Leaders to Embrace Peace at the 40th Anniversary of Lokiriana Peace Accord

Key Leading regional leaders drawn from Kenya, Uganda and Southern Sudan on 19 September 2013 vowed to build greater regional peace and stability among the Karamojong cluster communities living along the country's border lines.

Turkana Senator, John Munyes, Governor, Josephat Nanok and Uganda's Minister for State and Internal Affairs James Lokeris pleaded with the largely pastoral communities in the region to embrace peaceful coexistence and concentrate on development matters.

They made the clarion call in Lokiriana, 50 Kilometers from Uganda's border while marking this year's 40th anniversary of the Lokiriana peace accord signed on 19 December 1973.

"We should learn and borrow good practices from the peace accord and sustain peace among the communities living the region," said Munyes while addressing hundreds of local residents who turned up to grace the colorful event.

The Lokiriana Peace Accord is a peace treaty between the Turkana people of Kenya and the Matheniko of Uganda signed 40 year ago as a commitment by both parties to peacefully co-exist. The accord derives its name from Lokiriana, a remote town in Turkana District, North Western Kenya that is inhabited by the Turkana.

He was optimistic that recent discoveries of both oil and water would put to an end the resource based conflict that has plagued the area for years.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and other humanitarian actors have been in the frontline in initiating sustainable interventions in livelihoods, food security, education, child labour and health.

Over the years Pokot and Turkana communities have been involved in cattle rustling and theft resulting to displacement and losses of lives and livelihoods Loima and Pokot North Sub counties of Turkana and West Pokot counties have 3 corridors that are often used by rustlers as gateway to seize their neighbor's livestock Loya, Kataruk in Loima bordering Lopuke in Pokot North, Lobei in loima bordering Marakala in Pokot North.

IOM and UNDP joined the National government led by Deputy County Commissioners for Pokot North and Loima sub counties, members of county assemblies from Turkana and Pokot, District Peace Committees, Chiefs and opinion leaders from Turkana and Pokot communities in Lorugum on 14 October 2013.

This was part of efforts towards a 'top-down' approach in peace building by strengthening networks for coordination of administrative and security matters among the two communities, embracing traditional dispute resolution mechanism and creating linkages for each administrative and political units for the purpose of information flow on each side for early warning and early response mechanisms.

The leaders agreed on several strategies among them enhancing peace dialogues, initiating binding peace accords between Pokot and Turkana communities as part of traditional conflict resolution mechanisms, engaging the warriors in peace building activities like sports for peace.

The need to upgrade infrastructure such as roads, shared facilities as peace dividends along the border like dispensaries, market and schools was seen as paramount.

Among the challenges the leaders acknowledged as an impediment to peace building and conflict prevention along this corridor which has resulted into continued circles of violence's included deep suspicion and mistrust from the two communities. Other factors included proliferation of small arms, presence of war mongers, lack of clear regional policies to guide pastoralism/pastoralists and depending only on pastoralism as only source of livelihood.



## Diversification livelihood - Vocational Training

The Livelihood component of the Human Security project has enhanced livelihood opportunities for young boys and girls in Turkana County. The project is registering positive impact and has so far enabled 85 (35 girls and 50 boys) youth to acquire life skills in driving and entrepreneurship, in addition to linking them with banking institutions. All graduates have also been imparted with First Aid training and basic mechanics.

From this initiative, four students have already been recruited by the Kenya defence Forces, while some have been employed by the County government and community based organizations.

The communities in Turkana are appreciating the livelihood activities and are encouraging their children to be involved. This is critical in ensuring sustainability. Vulnerable beneficiaries also have an opportunity to access psychosocial counselling which is vital in rebuilding self-esteem and career for most youth.



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the People of Japan



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