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The U.S. Governments Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

FEED THE FUTURE KENYA
LIVESTOCK MARKET SYSTEMS ACTIVITY

Strengthening Community Capacities for Resilience and Growth.

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

October 2019 – September 2020

USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

MERCY CORPS

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Expanding Opportunities Worldwide

Contents

Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACSM	Advocacy, communication and social mobilization
ADP	Annual Development Plan
ADA	Adaptation Consortium
AVCD	Accelerated value Chain Development
CIDP	County Integrated Development Plan
CRT	County Resource Team
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DALF	Department of Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries
ECDE	Early Childhood Development Education
GIRL	Girls Improving Resilience through Livelihoods
GOK	Government of Kenya
LMS	Livestock Markets Systems
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
KRAPID	Kenya Resilient Arid Lands Partnership for Integrated Development
KWEF	Kenya Women Enterprise Fund
MID-P	Merti Integrated Development Program
NDMA	National Drought Management Authority
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NRT	Northern Rangelands Trust
RCMRD	Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development
REAP	Rural Entrepreneur Access Project
SCCRG	Strengthening Community Capacities for Resilience and Growth
WDP	Ward Development Plan
WPC	Ward Planning Committee

Introduction

Livestock Marketing System - Strengthening Community Capacities for Resilience and Growth (LMS-SCCRG) program is implemented Mercy Corps in the five target counties of Wajir, Garissa, Marsabit, Turkana and Isiolo. This annual report covers the activities carried out in Year 3 of the program, over the period of October 2019 to September 2020.

Objectives

The LMS-SCCRG program has 3 main objectives under which intermediary results (IR) have been attached.

Objective 1. Strengthened Institutions, Systems, & Governance.	IR1.1 Strengthened and sustained rangeland and water management IR1.2 Strengthened drought cycle management IR1.3 Strengthened conflict management
Objective 2. Improved Human Capital.	IR2.1 Improved and sustained health, nutrition, and hygiene practices IR2.2 Improved literacy, numeracy, and life skills
Objective 3 . Collaborative action & learning for community empowerment.	IR3.1 Strengthened USAID and implementing partners' systems for Sequencing, Layering, and Integration IR3.2 Shared indicators and learning to support strengthening community capacities for resilience and growth

Executive Summary

In the period under review, the LMS-SCCRRG activities experienced some disruption to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the program swiftly adapted strategies to ensure continued implementation of activities while complying with the government's COVID-19 regulations. Under Objective One, community and governments institutions were strengthened in their ability to address risk informed community development through the use of the ward based development planning approach, which combines community development, market systems and community managed disaster risk reduction. Through the formation of Ward Planning Committees (WPCs) and linking them with the County Resource Teams, the program also addressed key intermediate results related to rangelands and water resources management, disaster risk management and conflict management. Objective Two was achieved primarily through the use of the program's Girl Improving Resilience through Livelihoods (GIRL) model, which targets adolescent girls for improved livelihoods and decision making.

The program, in partnership with County Governments and National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), facilitated the development of Ward Development Plans through a community participatory process. This year, the program focused on influencing the adoption and integration of ward development priorities from the fifteen wards supported by the program into the Annual Development Plans. WPCs were trained on advocacy and influence skills and supported to develop an advocacy action plan which provided a structured means of engagement with County Governments and development partners. Together with WPCs, the program organized dissemination meetings with county governments and Members of the County Assemblies to lobby for the integration of communities into the ADP as well as allocation of resources toward these priorities. As a result, projects worth 581.3 million shillings ($5.8 million) were identified for inclusion into the ADPs for financial Year 2020/2021. Since the start of the Ward Development Plan (WDP) model in 2018, the WPCs have influenced the inclusion and implementation of projects worth 758.1 million shillings ($7.58 million) into the ADPs, included interventions in diverse sectors such as water, health, and education, road infrastructure.

In addition, the program builds the capacity of WPCs to develop and submit proposals for funding for their projects to other development partners. WPCs have presented their priorities to organizations working in their respective wards with the aim of coordinating program activities and ensuring alignment of projects activities to the Ward Development Plans. As a result of the linkages with other development partners, WPCs have successfully influenced several organizations and/or programs to fund community prioritized projects. In Isiolo, the World Bank funded Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Program (KCSAP) has invested 10 million shillings ($100,000) to support WPCs to implement income generating activities for youth and women. In Turkana, the Omo Delta Program, implemented by Mercy Corps and funded by European Union Trust Fund, has invested 7.4 million shillings ($74,000) to construct two storage facilities for fishermen along Lake Turkana following a project concept submitted to the program by Lake Zone WPC. In Wajir, WFP and World Vision are jointly investing 11.6 million shillings ($116,000) in the work of Habaswein WPC to support expansion of irrigation systems. In addition, the WPCs have submitted concepts to the LMS program for potential funding. Currently, community projects worth $581,635 are under negotiation with USAID, several of which have completed the Environmental Impact Assessments and design stages. The majority of these projects address water shortages for human, livestock, and productive uses (irrigation).

The program worked closely with Accelerated Value Chain Development (AVCD) and SERVIR programs

to strengthen rangeland management. The partnership led to the formation of the County Resource Team on rangelands management in all five counties. Members of the CRT were trained on Participatory Rangeland Management (PRM). The CRT in turn rolled out the implementation of the PRM model and trained WPCs, leading to the formation of Community Rangelands Management Committees (CRMC) to oversee the development of grazing plans and the demarcation of rangelands at the ward level. The CRTs were also trained on use of GIS tools for mapping rangelands and natural resources. In Turkana, Songot WPC has been working with the County Government on the gazettment of Songot Hills range as a protected rangeland for dry seasons grazing.

LMS-SCCRG continued to strengthen government and community capacities on Disaster Risk Management (DRM). This led to a more coordinated approach and timely response across the five counties while ensuring the active participation of communities (through WPCs) in the hazard assessments, dissemination of early warning and climate information and response to disasters. The program also facilitated the training of WPCs on Early Warning Early Response (EWER) and linked WPCs to NDMA's systems. As a result, WPCs were integral in the dissemination of early warning and climate information advisories to at-risk communities during recent floods. WhatsApp groups were formed for WPCs where information was translated and shared with the members who in turn shared information with their communities. Local radios were also used to disseminate translated climate advisories. The program also partnered with NDMA to facilitate Participatory Scenario planning as well conduct multi-hazard assessments. In addition, the program supported the review of County contingency plans based on the finding of the multi-hazard assessments. The County Contingency Plans were updated to include emerging disasters such as COVID-19 and Desert Locusts.

LMS-SCCRG worked closely with the National Government (County and Deputy County Commissioners, and Chiefs) and County Governments. The program, through the ward based development approach, has mapped out hotspots resulting from conflict over resources such as water and pasture. The program facilitated the formation of peace committees and built their capacity to lead peace dialogues. In addition, the program facilitated several peace dialogues in an attempt to address potential conflict. The rollout of the PRM models is also expected to strengthen rangelands management which is one of the primary causes of conflict amongst pastoralists.

Finally, in the third year, LMS-SCCRG directly engaged approximately 16,686 individuals, composed of 11,604 adolescent girls and young women, 189 WPC members, 33 Rural Entrepreneur Access Project (REAP) village mentors and 4,860 ultra-poor women, as advocacy champions to protect nutrition gains in the face of drought, address drivers of chronic undernutrition, spearhead WASH and nutrition social behavior change communication, support county initiatives for improved education and promote basic literacy and life skills. Through the Girls Improving Resilience through Livelihoods (GIRL) model, adolescent girls saved a total of $49,983. In addition, 226 girls transitioned to primary school, 73 to adult education, and 248 to Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET). The agri-nutrition training and mentorship provided under the GIRL model also enabled 1,739 girls to transition to farming vegetables for improved nutrition and income generation while 3,113 began group and individual businesses in their communities. Finally, the program linked girls with both government and development partners to support their transitions. So far, girls have received approximately $26,480 from external sources, and another $62,500 has been leveraged and is awaiting formal approvals and disbursements.

581.3m

Value of projects for the ADPs for FY2020/2021

The County Contingency Plans updated to include emerging disasters such as COVID-19 and Desert Locusts.

Ward Development Plans developed through community participatory process.

16,686

Individuals directly engaged as advocacy champions to protect nutrition gains.

Key Achievements (Qualitative Impact)

Objective 1. Strengthened Institutions, Systems, & Governance

The program's ward based development planning is the key foundation for the implementation of activities under this objective. The Ward Planning Committees (WPCs), which were formed as a result of this community led participatory process are key to the implementation of activities in partnership with County Governments and development partners.

Implementing the Ward Based Development Planning Approach

In the past year, LMS-SCCRG continued to strengthen and finalize the WPCs. All WPCs are now registered with the government as Community Based Organization and recognized by communities and County Government as legitimate representatives on matters pertaining to development. Ward Administrators have provided offices to the WPCs, and in some cases the county governments provided furniture to the committees. In Maikona, Kinna, Garbatulla,

Habaswein, Kalen/Kaikor, and Benane wards, the program conducted participatory community development and hazard mapping, resulting in the creation of ward level contingency and development plans. The community participatory planning process was implemented in each cluster of the wards, with technical support from NDMA and County government departments, and allowed communities to use various PRA tools to determine their own problems and development priorities. Conducting the process in each cluster ensured an inclusive discussion and served as an opportunity for both validation of the approach and to generate buy-in. The process also provided an opportunity for the community to offer feedback, correct oversights and make adjustments to the development priorities.

During this year, the program also conducted validation of community development priorities in each ward through a community engagement and review process as well as with County Governments' departments of planning and economic development. The process identified the development plans' priorities that were submitted to the County Government for consideration under the Annual Development Plan (ADP). In addition, the program supported other partners to adopt and reach out to more wards through the ward based development planning model. This was done through the provision of technical support as well as through the sharing of lessons learned.

Figure 1: Community meeting in Duse Village, Kinna Ward during the validation of Ward Development Plan by the WPCs and County government staff

Integration of Ward Development Plans into ADPs and Allocation of Resources to WPCs

The program conducted several meetings with different County Governments and Members of County Assemblies (MCAs) to present the Ward Development Plans (WDPs), influence the integration of key community priorities into the ADP, and support the allocation of resources to these priorities. As a result, projects worth 581.3 million shillings ($5.8 million) were identified for inclusion into the ADPs for financial Year 2020/2021. Since the start of the WDP in 2018, the WPCs have influenced the inclusion and implementation of projects worth 758.1 m shillings ($7.58 million) in ADPs, including interventions in diverse sectors such as water, health, and education, road infrastructure.

County	Wards	Completed and Ongoing (KES)	Proposed/Adopted (KES) FY 2020-2021
Wajir	Bute	61M	84M
	Habaswein	64M	106M
	Hadado	101M	67M
	Total	226M	257M
Isiolo	Kinna	43.5M	36M
	Ngaremara	62.4M	50.1M
	Garbatulla	45.1M	28M
	Totals	151M	114.1M
Garissa	Bura	3.8M	22M
	Benane	3.5M	12M
	Masalani	1.5M	10M
	Total	8.8M	44M
Marsabit	Golbo	84M	16.2M
	Kargi	25.6M	25.5M
	Maikona	113.9M	14.5M
	Total	223.5M	56.2M
Turkana	Lake zone	89.7M	60M
	Songot	59.1M	50M
	Total	148.8M	110M
Grand Total		**758.1M**	**581.3M**

Table 1: Distribution of Community Projects funded by County Governments

> " The community participatory planning process was implemented in each cluster of the wards, with technical support from NDMA and County government departments.

To achieve this level of partnership with County Governments, the program conducted influencing meetings with MCA, County Executives (including meetings with Governors, Deputy Governors, County Secretaries, County Executive Committee Members and Chief Officers), and county technical teams, and facilitated WPCs to present their development priorities to the departments of planning during the public participation processes. Where WPCs exist, they mobilized their communities to share their views during the public participation process, which served to validate the priorities presented by the WPCs.

In addition, the program has also began engaging Wajir and Garissa County Governments in readiness for the planning cycle for FY 2021/2022. To this end, WPCs in Garissa County presented their priorities for the next financial year in a multi-sector meeting organized jointly with the department of planning and under the leadership of the department of donor coordination. This allowed the WPCs to present their priorities to the different sectors for consideration. In Wajir, the program partnered with the County Government to organize public participation for FY 2021/2022 which allowed WPCs to present their development priorities.

▲ *Songot MCA and member of Songot WPC presenting their development priorities during public participation workshop by the County Government.*

The County Climate Change Fund Act, which has been approved in Wajir, Garissa and Isiolo, allocates 2% of the development funds to climate smart interventions at the ward level. However, adequate resource allocation to the department of environment and natural resources has remained a challenge. As a result, the program has been lobbying for the allocation of resources, engaging both executive and MCAs. Following a series of lobbying meetings, the Wajir County Government has started receiving concepts from WPCs. In Isiolo County, the program, as a member of the Climate Change Stakeholders forum, lobbied and influenced the County Government of Isiolo to allocate 30 million shillings ($300,000) to the County Climate Change Fund in the Financial Year 2020/2021. The program also supported the county's department of environment to conduct its first County Planning Committee on County Climate Change Fund, where 21 million shillings ($210,000) was made available to WPCs.

Linking Community Identified Projects to Other Development Partners

In addition to integrating community development priorities into the ADP, the WPCs also engaged other programs to influence resource allocation. As a result, WPCs were supported to develop concepts for community projects and present these to development partners and programs, such as LMS, World Vision, World Food Program, Mercy Corps, Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS), Pastoral Girls Initiative, and Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Program (KCSAP), among others. These concepts provided an opportunity for the WPCs and the development partners to identify areas of collaboration and potential projects that could be funded by the different partners.

As a result of this linkage effort, in Turkana, Mercy Corps' Omo Delta Program (ODP) is currently constructing storage facilities for fishermen at Lake Turkana following concepts submitted by Lake Zone WPC. Mercy Corps (through ODP), VFG-Germany and the

Constituency Funds have also identified projects from the ward development plans which they will implement through the WPC in Kaleng/Kaikor in Year 4. In Wajir, WFP, world Vision and SolarGen, a private company, are investing in community projects to improve food security through irrigation. KCSAP and KRC are also working with WPCs in Isiolo to invest on community identified projects.

As part of LMS grants, the WPCs have also submitted concepts for community projects to the program directly. As a result, projects worth $670,993 (see table 2 below) are under negotiation. In Wajir, which is the county the farthest along in the timeline, the program has developed a community procurement plan which has been validated through discussions with WPCs.

> "The County Agriculture and Livestock department will continue supporting and working closely with all Ward Planning Committees in this wonderful community identified projects. This is the kind of long term project that we want partners to join and bring big impact. My department will and has been continuously providing leadership, guidance and coordination of the food security related programs and projects identified by the WPCs. This is a very good opportunity for our County and communities and we promise to own the process."
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> *~ Hon. Ahmed Sharif, Wajir County CECM for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation during a field visit to proposed community projects aimed at increasing production through irrigation.*

Description	Sub-Grants Budget	Grants Approved/ Awarded	Grants submitted to USAID for approval	Grants in Negotiation	Total Approved + Pipeline
Community Preparedness and Resilience					
Small grants	110,000	-	-	62,838	87, 625
Medium Grants	890,000	-	-	581, 635	581, 635
	1,000,000	24,788	-	644, 473	669,260
Innovation					
Innovation Grants	100,000	-	-	-	26,520
	100,000	-	-	26,520	0
Grand Total	1,100,000	24,788	-	670,993	695,780.00

Strengthening Capacity of WPCs and County Governments

To strengthen WPCs' ability to effectively engage with communities, County Governments and development partners, the program has conducted several capacity building initiatives. In particular, the program trained WPCs on advocacy and influence which led to the development of action plans by each committee. The plans provided the WPCs with a structured method of engagement with government and partners for lobbying and advocacy. In addition, as mentioned above, the program trained WPCs on proposal development through mentoring and supported the committees to develop concepts for community projects which were presented to partners and government for finding.

The program also continued to build the capacity of County Resource Teams (CRTs) in rangelands management and Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction. These CRTs then trained WPCs on these key sectors and supported them in forming Community Rangelands Management Committees. The program also trained WPCs on peace building and conflict management, which enabled them to undertake conflict assessment, mobilize communities and participate in peace dialogues. Finally, the WPCs were also supported to establish WhatsApp groups and trained on early warning and early response which allowed them to disseminate information on early warning to at-risk communities.

Supporting Scale and Adoption of Ward Development Planning process

The program has taken deliberate measures to ensure the scale, adoption and sustainability of the ward based development planning process beyond LMS. As a result, the program continued to provide technical assistance to partners in Isiolo, Garissa, Turkana and Wajir to implement the models, ensuring that additional wards are reached through the approach. In addition, the program's Ward Development Planning process toolkit has been shared and used by other partners and County Governments to scale the approach. In particular, the program has supported the KCSAP and Merti-Integrated Development Program (MID-P) to reach an additional four wards in Isiolo County, while the implementation of the County Climate Change Fund Act in Garissa and Isiolo is based on adopting the LMS models to establish WPCs. Following the advocacy meeting with Wajir County, the program is working closely with the government to train all Ward Administrators and ward and sub-county level technical teams on the ward planning process with the aim of establishing WPCs in all wards of the county. Finally, the program has developed a robust sustainability and scale strategy which is aimed at implementing deliberate actions to influence county governments and partners to adopt and scale the approach.

Promoting Private Sector Engagement

LMS-SCCRG is cognizant of the need to promote private sector engagement to enhance sustainability of community projects and develop a structured public-private partnership with County Governments. As a result, the program has identified private sector actors to work closely with WPCs and County Governments. For example, the program has introduced SolaGen, a private company which specializes in solar powered water and irrigation systems to the County Governments for potential partnership. This has led to discussions around co-investment with the government to ensure sustainability of activities. The company is also working with WPCs to support farmers in improving food production through a "lease to own" approach whereby the company will establish an irrigation system for which the farmers will pay over an agreed period of time.

Enhancing Government and Community Accountability through Integrated Development Information System and Joint Planning, Implementation, and Monitoring

Despite the allocation of resources to implement WDP priorities, the program recognized the need to strengthen the capacity of County Governments and WPCs to effectively plan, implement and monitor activities. In particular, it was evident that the counties have low capacity to monitor activities across the counties. As a result, the program discussed with the County Governments of Wajir, Garissa and Isiolo the possibility of supporting the establishment of a County Development Information System (CIDS) which will allow for timely planning, and monitoring of activities. The CIDS will have different interfaces that will also provide an opportunity for communities, including WPCs, to monitor the status of projects and provide feedback. In Wajir, the program will build on its previous investment during the establishment of the GIS lab and will support the County Government to operationalize the lab. This will ensure that each government department will have its own portal where they can plot planned activities and update the status of implementation and allocation of resources. The system will also provide a platform where the County Government will monitor partner activities, enhancing accountability. The program has also started discussion with Garissa and Isiolo government to establish a similar system.

Strengthening capacity of County Resource Team (CRT) on Rangeland Management

Following the formation of CRT in the last quarter of Year 2, LMS-SCCRG continued to partner with the AVCD and SERVIR programs to further strengthen the capacity of the team. In partnership with AVCD, the program linked the CRT to WPCs across the five counties to strengthen their capacity to form ward and sub-county level rangelands sub-committees. This provided an opportunity to guide the CRT on the formation of the sub-committees as well as support WPCs to develop grazing plans and resource sharing agreements with neighboring communities.

In addition, the program partnered with the SERVIR program to train members of the CRT on the use of GIS for mapping rangelands and other natural resources. The online training was aimed at building the capacity of the CRT members and equip them with skills to use digital GIS mapping tools for proper planning and management of natural resources such as rangelands and

water. The CRTs are now able to support WPCs to map and digitize resources, an activity that was previously supported directly by SERVIR program. This approach of building the capacity of the CRTs ensures that county governments have internal resources to conduct mapping of resources for improved decision making.

In addition, the ward level Community Rangelands Management Committees in collaboration with Sub-County and Ward Administrators and Chiefs conducted community sensitizations on sustainable management of rangelands and the reduction of charcoal burning which has led to desertification. The community sensitization meeting helped identify areas with high potential for rangelands and therefore the need to either initiate a gazettement process or develop community level rangelands management committees.

IR1.1. Strengthened and Sustained Rangeland and Water Management

Influencing County Governments on the PRM Model and Need for Protection of Rangelands

The program engaged County Executive Committee Members to sensitize them to the need to roll-out the PRM model in their respective Counties, particularly at the sub-county and ward level. The PRM model is a holistic rangeland management approach that is geared towards addressing systemic challenges affecting rangeland management and aims to strengthen formal and informal institutions critical to management of natural resources. The model provides the committees with analytical skills that helps identify key challenges affecting rangeland and propose appropriate sustainable solutions for rangelands management. The program also used meetings with County Executive and Assembly members to lobby for the demarcation and gazettement of rangelands through appropriate Bills and policies.

Mapping of Community Rangelands and Water Resources

As part of the ward based development planning approach, the program has supported the WPCs to map natural resources in their respective wards. In particular, the mapping focused on the identification of grazing lands for wet and dry seasons, migratory routes for livestock in relation to resource based conflicts, and identification of current water points. The maps which were generated through a participatory community mapping process were later digitized by the SERVIR program whose staff worked closely with WPCs and members of the communities. The resource maps are critical for decision making in relation to development priorities by the communities as well as in the development of grazing plans and identification of potential community rangelands for protection and gazettement.

Formation of Community Rangeland Management Committees to support community rangelands management

Following the establishment of the CRT on rangelands management, the programs facilitated the formation and training of sub-county and ward level sub-committees across the wards supported by the program through the ward based development approach. WPCs were trained on PRM and involved in mapping rangelands in their respective wards. This led to the formation of community rangelands management sub-committees who work closely with the CRT and local administration to develop grazing plans, which are critical for ensuring better utilization of rangelands and for development of appropriate resource sharing agreements between neighboring communities.

> "Our forefathers had their own systems of conservation and had established boundaries to this effect. The county government would like to continue in this tradition and assist the community reinforce these important natural resources. The gazettement of Songot Hillss would ensure that there is grazing pasture during droughts and it will enhance livelihoods through nature-based activities like bee-keeping and eco-tourism"
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> *~ Hon. Charles Lokiyoto, Turkana County CECM for Tourism, Culture, Environment and Natural Resources during a community public participation and sensitization meeting on the gazettement of Songot Hills.*

Support the restoration, demarcation of and access to rangelands and water for pastoralists

Following the formation of ward level community rangelands management committees, the program supported WPCs to engage County Governments and local administrations to identify high potential rangelands areas with the aim of demarcating and developing grazing blocks and, in some cases, gazzetting and protecting rangelands.

Support to the development of rangeland and climate related policies

LMS-SRRG continued to work closely with the County Government to provide technical support in relation to rangelands management. In particular, the program supported the roll-out of the County Climate Change Fund Act in Wajir, Garissa and Isiolo. The program also provided technical support for the review of Isiolo County Rangeland Management Bill, and the LMS-SCCRG Rangelands Specialist continues to work with the livestock department on the review of the Bill while WPCs will mobilize communities to provide feedback through the public participation process. In Garissa, the program is a member of both the County Climate Change Fund Board and Steering Committee. This allowed the program to actively participate in the County Government's climate change initiatives and provide key recommendations. In Marsabit, the program's Natural Resource and Conflict Management Officer is a member of the technical committee team which spearheaded development of a climate change policy. The program is continuing to join hand with like-minded partners in advocating for enactment of the climate change act.

Community WASH Campaigns

The program, in collaboration with the WPCs, Public Health staff and Community Health

Volunteers, conducted WASH campaigns in all counties. This involved conducting various village level meetings, demonstrations, and road shows to sensitize communities on the need for positive hygiene practices, supporting the county governments' initiatives to address negative cultural and social barriers to hygiene and sanitation. Given the emergence of COVID-19, the WASH campaigns were also used to inform communities on the preventive measures that will reduce the risk of disease transmission. After the outbreak of COVID-19, the campaigns were conducted in small groups to comply with the government's restrictions on public gatherings.

Training of WPCs to Support Surveillance and Control of Desert Locusts

The Desert Locust invasion impacted all five counties, affecting large tracts of rangelands and threatening livelihoods. As a result, WPCs were linked to the county teams to support the surveillance and control of locusts. WPCs were trained and formed part of a structure that was useful in locating swarms and alerting the multi-agency locust control response team for aerial and land spraying. To ensure timely reporting and response, the WPCs used their WhatsApp platform to convey the location of the swarms in their respective wards. In addition, WPCs also mobilized communities to use local strategies for removing the insects and protecting their rangelands.

Support resource mobilization for Community Water Projects

Across the five counties, the program continued to work with WPCs to influence County Governments to include community development projects related to water and other key sectors into the Annual Development Plans. In particular, the program has supported WPCs to develop proposals and seek funding for water related projects. These were submitted

to LMS as well as other partners. As a result, the program influenced allocation of resources and implementation of water projects by County Governments and development partners (as described above). These partnerships with other organizations have resulted in the allocation

of resources by other programs to support community water projects. In Turkana, Isiolo, Garissa and Marsabit, WPCs have submitted their community priority projects to development partners working in their respective wards as part of their initiative to mobilize resources.

County specific achievements are described in further detail below

Garissa County

Training for county technical Officers Similar to other counties, LMS-SCCRG in partnership with AVCD, facilitated a two-day intensive PRM training in Garissa for county technical officers from the department of livestock, environment, land and physical planning and representatives from the WPCs. The purpose of the training was to introduce the essential elements of PRM to policymaker's and change agents in the county who are supporting communities in their rangeland management efforts.

Rangelands management - Following the formation of the CRT on rangelands management, the program, in partnership with the CRT, conducted a participatory rangelands management process through consultative meetings with local stakeholders and leaders in the wards of Benane, Bura and Masalani. This led to the formation of rangelands management sub-committees in the three wards. These sub-committees are responsible for planning and managing grazing lands in their respective regions.

'The government will secure rangelands to minimize conflicts on land use between livestock owners and farmers. Secured grazing lands for pastoralists will not only ensure sustainable use of rangelands but it will also reduce conflicts between pastoralists and farmers."

~ Hon. Mohamed Shalle, Garissa County CECM for Livestock and Agriculture

Capacity building for County Resource Team (CRT) - As part of the program's efforts to build the capacity of the CRTs on rangelands, the program also facilitated a GIS training for the team to equip them with skills to conduct mapping of rangelands and water resources. The meeting was attended by members of the CRT drawn from various departments such as land, physical planning, environment and natural resources management. The one-week online training was facilitated with partnership from the SERVIR program. Following the training, the CRT will work closely with the ward level sub-committees to effectively manage rangelands and other resources.

Funds mobilization - The program team in Garissa also supported WPCs from Bura, Masalani and Benane to develop concepts which were presented to development partners and County governments for funding. A majority of community projects included in the County ADP focused on improving access to water for both human and livestock use.

Adopting new technology - Bura WPC is working closely with a youth-led company that aims to address charcoal burning by adopting a new technology that will use invasive species to produce briquettes as an alternative affordable source of energy.

Locust invasion management - the program, in partnership with NDMA, mobilized WPCs who were sensitized on the potential impact of the locusts on rangelands and possible exacerbation of the drought conditions. As a result, WPCs were linked to NDMA and the County Response Team to report sightings of locusts in their respective wards. This led to the successful spraying of locusts and the mobilization of communities by the WPCs to engage in traditional locust control measures such as beating drums and using whistles to scare away the insects. In addition, the program supported and participated in the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought. The event was held in Kotile village, Masalani ward, with a focus on changing public attitudes on the leading driver of desertification and land degradation, humanity's relentless production and consumption.

Bura WPC mobilizes resources to help village access water

During the ward development planning process, the Bura Ward Planning Committee identified Garasweino village as one of the villages which faced a water shortage. The WPC identified the installation of water points in Garsweino as one of its priority projects. The village had previously used water piped from River Tana, but when the storage overhead tank and rusted and collapsed, the village was left with no water storage facility and depended on drawing water directly from the river. As a result, the WPC engaged the County Government, LMS-AA2, and the community to mobilize resources to help the village access safe drinking water. The WPC mobilized community contributions and the county Government donated water tanks of a capacity of 10,000 liters.

With the community contributing labor and materials, the WPC has installed and connected the water tank and constructed standpipes (water points) for the community to draw water. The committee also fenced the water tank using chain

Members of Bura WPCs during the official opening of water tank installed at Garasweino Village (at the background) and the water standpipe for drawing water by community members.

link wires (razor wire) and established a water user association to manage the facility. A member of the WPC has been incorporated into the WUA which is charging 100 shillings ($1) per month per household. This will generate revenue to support the maintenance of the water point including basic repair of solar systems and possible expansion through construction of additional standpipes.

IR1.2 Strengthened Drought Cycle Management

LMS-SCCRG continued to partner with NDMA and County Governments across the five counties to strengthen government and community capacities on Disaster Risk Management (DRM). This led to a more coordinated approach and timely response across the five counties while ensuring the active participation of communities (through WPCs) in the hazard assessments, dissemination of early warning and climate information and response to disasters.

Key activities carried out in the five counties include:

Training WPCs on Early Warning Early Response (EWER): In partnership with NDMA, the program trained WPCs and local administrations of EWER. This was critical to empowering WPCs to identify early warning signs for the different common hazards in their respective wards. The training provided an opportunity to develop triggers for each hazard and was used to lay the foundation for the integration of WPCs into the early warning structures in NDMA. As a result, the WPCs have formed WhatsApp groups where they will work closely with NDMA's drought monitors and receive critical early warning information on emerging hazards which they will relay to their respective communities while also providing feedback and status on the hazards.

Facilitated multi-hazard assessments and review of county contingency plans: The program supported NDMA to conduct multi-hazard assessments as a result of emerging shocks such as the COVID-19 pandemic as well as desert the locust invasion which has disrupted livelihoods and destroyed rangelands. The multi-hazard assessment informed the review of county contingency plans, which were updated to include COVID-19 and desert locusts.

Organized and facilitated Participatory Scenario Planning (PSP) and simulation exercises: The program supported NDMA in facilitating drought simulation and scenario planning to evaluate the County's capacity to respond to emergencies and mobilize resources for response. The scenario planning exercises led to the development of sector response plans that were used by County Governments to mobilize resources to respond to hazards such as floods and the desert locust invasion. The PSP was used to develop likely scenarios for the March-April-May (MAM) and October-November-December (OND) rain seasons and develop appropriate advisories for likely scenarios along with action plans for the implementation of the advisories.

Support the dissemination of climate and early warning information to at-risk communities: Following the PSP which led to the development of climate advisories, the program also worked with NDMA to develop a climate information dissemination plan and linked WPCs to NDMA to disseminate early warning information to at risk communities. WPCs formed WhatsApp groups which also included NDMA drought monitors and technical staff. This provided a platform for sharing early warning information to the WPCs for onward communication to communities in their respective wards.

Support community led ward level contingency planning: Through partnership with NDMA, the program trained WPCs and County Government departments on community managed disaster risk reduction leading to the development of ward level multi-hazard disaster contingency plans. The process involved hazard and vulnerability assessments as well capacity assessment to determine resources for disaster mitigation and response. The ward level contingency plans were used to inform the review of the county contingency plans and

integrated into the Ward Development Plans to make proposed development projects shock responsive.

Support coordination of disaster response through facilitation of County Steering Groups: In all the five counties, the program continued to support and facilitate coordination of disaster response through the County Steering Groups. The program facilitated workshops to discuss and review contingency and response plans.

Support to drought-related policies and Bills: The program has been engaging County Governments, in partnership with NDMA, to advocate for the enactment of appropriate policies for DRM. In Isiolo, the program has lobbied for the finalization of the County Disaster Risk Management Policy with the program team actively participating in the review and write up of the policy.

County specific achievements are described in further detail below

Isiolo County

Disaster mapping - Kina and Garbatulla WPCs were supported to conduct community participatory disaster mapping leading to the development of ward level contingency plans. NDMA supported the community process and ensured the integration of the ward level response plans into the county contingency and response plans. This ensured timely response to shocks and stresses increasing the potential for reduced impact.

Early warning systems - LMS-SCCRG continued to support NDMA in DRM through the integration of WPCs in the early warning systems. As a result, WPCs were trained on EWER and provided early warning information to NDMA. WPCs also disseminated critical information to their respective communities to ensure that communities take appropriate measures to mitigate against the identified shocks, such as floods and desert locusts. This approach of using community based WPCs has significantly contributed to the timely dissemination of early warning information to vulnerable communities at risk of major shocks and stresses. As in other counties, the program, in collaboration with NDMA, established WhatsApp platforms for the three WPCs to disseminate key information to the committees. This interactive approach not only allowed WPCs to receive early warning information and disseminate to their respective communities but also to provide feedback to NDMA and the program on the status of the shocks, including response.

The use of WPCs as a platform to disseminate early warning and climate information is critical to building community preparedness and response mechanisms leading to timely action and reduced impact. In addition, the WhatsApp groups were also used as a platform to engage WPCs to provide information of the sighting of desert locusts, leading to timely response such as spraying.

Improved water access - Following the identification of drought as the major disaster with high impact in each of the three wards of Ngare Mara, Garbatula and Kinna, the WPCs focused on improving access to water to areas that are severely drought-prone and have a history of resource-based conflicts amongst pastoralist communities. As a result, the program has supported WPCs to develop proposals to seek funding for community projects related to water that were submitted to LMS, County Governments, and other development partners.

Development of a Disaster Risk Management Policy - LMS-SCCRG has been in the forefront in advocating for the development of the Isiolo County Disaster Risk Management Policy. Following a series of advocacy and lobbying meetings with the County Government alongside other partners such as the Merti Integrated Development - Program (MID-P), the County Government organized a workshop to review the draft bill to which the program contributed significantly. The policy is now with the county executive committee awaiting review and approval. The drafting of the county Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Bill is also underway, with LMS-SCCRG participating in the technical team responsible for drafting the Bill. The team also includes the County Government, NDMA, other non-state actors, and the Kenya Law Reform Commission (KLRC). The policy and Bill will establish and strengthen institutions that will oversee disaster risk reduction activities, including providing a basis for resource allocation.

IR1.3. Strengthened Conflict Management

LMS-SCCRG recognizes the impact of conflict on development and has therefore closely worked with the National Government (County and Deputy County Commissioners, and Chiefs) and County Governments (Departments of Cohesion and Peace Directorate), WPCs and community elders to promote peaceful coexistence between communities. The program's approach is based on addressing resource-based conflict by building and/or strengthening government and community peacebuilding initiatives to proactively engage communities in conflict hotspots to avert potential conflict or initiate timely response to avert further conflict. As a result, following the mapping of hotspots by WPCs, the program has supported the formation of peace building sub-committees and built the capacity of the WPCs and peace actors to mitigate against potential conflict. The program also facilitated community peace building forums to address potential and/or ongoing resource based conflicts. This was mainly achieved through partnership with governments, WPCs and NDMA. Where rangelands or access to pasture was identified as the primary cause of conflict, the program has trained WPCs on PRM, leading to the formation of community rangelands management committees and the demarcation of rangelands and grazing blocks (as described previously).

County specific achievements are described in further detail below

Ward development chairperson and OCS leading peace dialogue in Todonyang

Turkana County

Development of peace building structures in communities - Conflict in Turkana County is often as a result of disputes over resources, such as water and pasture, amongst pastoralist communities across the Kenya-Ethiopia, Kenya-Sudan and Kenya-Uganda borders. Over the last several years, conflict in this county has been exacerbated by rangeland fragmentation, environmental degradation, and increased climate related shocks such as drought.

The program's approach to addressing conflict in the county is based on enhancing rangelands and water resource management and supporting and facilitating community based peace building structures and WPCs to proactively engage communities in hotspots in an effort to quickly address conflicts before they escalate. As a result, the program's ongoing effort to demarcate and gazette Songot Hills as protected rangelands for dry seasons grazing will significantly contribute to reducing the migration of pastoralists from the county to neighboring Uganda in search of pasture and water during drought. Songot Hills has natural water catchments and is rich in pasture, but overgrazing and environmental degradation has turned it into a fragile ecosystem. The efforts to protect Songot Hills is aimed at restoring the pasture, including by enforcing by-laws to govern access. This will enhance management of the rangelands, leading to peaceful coexistence.

Inclusive Rangelands Management Committees - In recognition of the connection between rangelands and peace, the LakeZone WPCs formed an inclusive Community Rangeland Management Committee for Todonyang which includes members from the Dassenach community of neighboring Ethiopia, who also uses the area for pasture. As a result of this coordinated approach and the involvement of youth, the WPC is now able to engage their counterparts on matters related to rangelands management and share information on potential conflicts.

Capacity building for WPCs - The program continues to build the capacity of the WPCs to address conflict in their respective wards. The WPCs have been linked to peace actors and local administration and are working closely with women peace forums and security agents. As a result of these linkages, the WPCs and the peace actors have been supported by the program to conduct peace dialogues to resolve impending conflicts, which resulted in reduced tension between neighboring communities along the Kenya-Ethiopia border.

Peace interventions through partnerships - LMS-SCCRG, through its local partner St Peter's Community Network (SAPCONE), also carried out a number of peace interventions in the conflict corridors. SAPCONE, in partnership with Lake Zone WPC, facilitated a training for fisher folks (mainly youth) along Lake Turkana following concern over potential conflict. The youths were trained on early warning early response mechanisms and linked to peace actors and the WPC. The Lake Zone WPCs also facilitated the return of fishing gear stolen by youth from the Ethiopian side of the border. The peace dialogue and the eventual return of the stolen items was mainly facilitated by WPCs in close coordination with the local administration.

Conflict management in the Lake Zone - The Lake Zone WPC also recognized the increasing conflict between fishing communities along Lake Turkana as pastoralists engaged in the fishing sector to diversify livelihoods. The WPC engaged the Beach Management Unit and identified the lack of storage facilities for fishermen as one of the causes of conflict. The WPC captured this as a priority project in the ward development plan. As a result, the program linked the WPC to Mercy Corps' Omo Delta Program (ODP) which supports the fish sector. Following the linkage, LMS-SCCRG supported the WPC to develop and submit a proposal to ODP and request funding to construct storage facilities for fishermen. ODP has begun construction of the storage facilities which will address theft of fish and reduce conflict.

Local peace keeping agreements - In addition, Merille and Illeret communities from Marsabit developed a resource sharing agreement with their Turkana counterparts. This is traditionally known as known as Koobi Fora agreement, and it will be finalized in 2021.

Objective 2. Improved Human Capital

To ensure that LMS-SCCRG strengthens human capital and builds individuals' resilience to shocks and stresses, the WDP and Girls Improving Resilience through Livelihoods (GIRL) models are used to sequence, layer and integrate activities to improve and sustain positive health, nutrition, and hygiene practices and improve literacy, numeracy and life skills. In the third year, LMS-SCCRG directly engaged approximately 16,686 individuals, composed of 11,604 adolescent girls and young women, 189 WPC members, 33 Rural Entrepreneur Access Project (REAP) village mentors and 4,860 ultra-poor women, as advocacy champions to protect nutrition gains in the face of drought, address drivers of chronic undernutrition, spearhead WASH and nutrition social behavior change communication, support county initiatives for improved education and promote basic literacy and life skills.

IR2.1. Improved and sustained health, nutrition, and hygiene practices

Support communities to protect nutrition gains in face of drought

Ward Planning Committees advocates for WASH and Nutrition: Through WPC influence and advocacy, the five county governments committed approximately $797,072 to support water, sanitation and irrigation infrastructure to improve WASH and nutrition. SCCRG supported the WPCs to develop influence and advocacy plans to ensure that the county governments include their priorities in the ADPs. The WPCs followed up this effort by arranging appointments with their MCAs, chief officers, CECs and county governors. The WPCs participated in the ADP public participation processes, where they ensured their ward priorities were captured in the county ADPs for 2019/2020 and 2020/2021. In 2021, the WPCs advocacy ensured the initiation of 80% of the priorities of the 2019/2020 activities.

County specific achievements are described in further detail below

Wajir County

Strengthened nutrition advocacy - In addition to the WPC advocacy for water infrastructure, there was a need to strengthen nutrition advocacy at scale in the communities. LMS-SCCRG supported the county government in convening a nutrition advocacy forum among stakeholders at the county level. The nutrition forum members collaborated to draft an annual nutrition advocacy plan with

[1]GIRL targets adolescent girls and boys aged 10-19 years of age and leads them through a nine-month safe space training model with the aim of improving their literacy, numeracy and life skills while linking them with possible transitions to achieve their aspirations.

a budget of $172,975. The county government plans to use the plan to coordinate all nutrition advocacy initiatives within the county. The nutrition advocacy forum recommended the following:

- The county nutrition department should work in partnership with nutrition stakeholders to conduct high level meetings with members of the county assembly and the county executive on the importance of prioritizing nutrition services in the county work plans and annual budgets.
- Nutrition stakeholders should develop the Wajir County advocacy, communication and social mobilization (ACSM) strategy.
- Nutrition stakeholders should advocate for the preparation, preservation and consumption of non-traditional nutrient-dense food (fish).
- Nutrition stakeholders should promote community participation in nutrition interventions and accountability and feedback mechanisms in all the community health units in Wajir.

Development of ACSM strategy - LMS-SCCRG will work with the county government in the next year to support the coordination for the development of the ACSM strategy.

Review of concept notes focused on improving water infrastructure - Three WPCs for Bute, Hadado and Habaswein have developed and submitted to LMS for consideration concept notes aimed at improving water infrastructure for human and livestock consumption, and small scale micro irrigation for kitchen gardens to improve the production of vegetables. All three concepts, which have passed the program technical review and will soon complete technical feasibility assessments.

Support innovative community and private sector nutrition efforts to address drivers of malnutrition

Marsabit County

Economic empowerment for GIRL groups - LMS-SCCRG supported 10 GIRL groups (120 girls) in Golbo and Maikona wards to begin kitchen gardening. The girls planted vegetables including kale, cow peas, onions, and spinach. An additional 45 girls from various groups in Hurri Hills and Kinisa have also been undertaking individual vegetable farming. The girls have been linked to the Department of Agriculture, which has supported the program through the provision of mentorship and seedlings. Another three GIRL groups from Maikona and Kalacha were linked to Concern Worldwide, which is planning to roll out an ggri-nutrition project in the area, including supporting farming activities.

Talaso Bonaya from Bori Village, Maikona, Marsabit harvesting her Kale▶

[1]REAP is a two-year women poverty graduation model developed by the BOMA project in the Northeastern arid counties of Kenya, targeting ultra-poor women to improve their income and address systemic causes of poverty. AA2 has worked with a total of a total of 1,620 women business groups made up of three women per group, for a total of 4,860 direct participants in Turkana, Wajir, Garissa and Isiolo counties in Kenya.

Build robust and sustainable behavior change systems

Using the integrated community health system structure to roll out WASH and nutrition social behavior change activities: LMS-SCCRG organized WPCs, GIRL and REAP groups to serve as the channels of social behavior change communication, using Ministry of Health approved community dialogue cards. The organized groups were linked to community health units (CHUs) that provide health and nutrition outreach services to communities and households. These units include Community Health Extension Workers (CHEWs) and Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) or Community Health Assistants (CHAs). With the CHUs the groups then provide a two-hour training sessions per month, for a total of 9 sessions, using agri-nutrition dialogue cards to promote positive behavior change and address negative cultural and social practices. The behavior change communication events were jointly planned with K-RAPID, AVCD, UNICEF, NAWIRI and the Nutrition Technical Working Group and county governments across the five counties.

In addition, the program, in collaboration with the WPCs, Public Health staff and CHVs, led a WASH and nutrition campaign across all counties, using

- Nutrition for breastfeeding mothers
- Feeding infants 0-6 months
- Appropriate complimentary feeding for children aged 6-23 months
- Adolescent nutrition
- Food production and access
- Food preparation
- Food processing, Preservation and Storage
- Appropriate technologies in food production and Domestic Purposes
- Appropriate sanitation and Hygiene practices
- Gender role and Nutrition

Agri-nutrition community dialogue topics for WASH and nutrition social behavior change

various village level meetings, demonstrations, and road shows to sensitize communities on the need for positive hygiene practices. Given the emergence of COVID-19, the WASH campaigns were also used to inform communities on the preventive measures that will reduce the risk disease transmission. After the outbreak of COVID-19, the campaigns were conducted in small groups to comply with the government's restrictions on public gatherings. In addition, the program's advocacy and WASH campaigns were aimed at supporting county governments' initiatives to address negative cultural and social barriers to hygiene and sanitation.

County specific achievements are described in further detail below

Garissa County

WASH and Nutrition awareness campaigns - LMS- SCCRG facilitated a mass awareness campaign on WASH and nutrition for the communities in Bura, Benane, Balambala, Waberi, Masalani, Labasigale, Dadaab and Abakaile wards. The mass campaign incorporated messaging and demonstrations on the prevention and control of COVID-19. The campaign was led by the MoH technical team from the county and the CHVs. The campaign, which reached over 10,000 households, also received the support of the area's political leaders, including members of the county assembly and the members of parliament for Masalani. The messaging provided useful information on hygiene promotion, included a demonstration on how to treat water, and built awareness on government and WHO guidance on controlling and preventing COVID-19.

Sensitization on hygiene and sanitation for girls - In addition to the public awareness campaigns, approximately 2,250 adolescent girls in Labasigale, Abakaile, Dadaab and Masalani were sensitized on good hygiene and sanitation practices. The sensitization was made possible by translating the agri-nutrition manual into the local Somali dialect. Recorded audio of the sensitization by radio lifeline player was distributed to the adolescent girl groups for listening in small groups and at their homes. This method ensured continued learning by girls at home and reduced gathering to prevent any potential transmission of COVID-19.

Facilitation of Agri-nutrition training - LMS-SCCRG also facilitated agri-nutrition training for 1,500 adolescent girls in Masalani, Labasigale and Dadaab wards in Garissa county. The agri-nutrition training aimed to advocate for better WASH and nutrition social behaviors and practices. The same agri-nutrition training was delivered in the form of community dialogues to the 54 REAP saving groups with 720 women participants in Garissa through a linkage with the MoH's community health volunteers.

IR2.2. Improved literacy, numeracy, and life skills

GIRL Impact Numbers	
Total Number of girls, boys and mentors enrolled in the GIRL Model	11,604
Girls transition pathways	
Number of Girls back to formal school	226
Number of girls enrolled in adult education	73
Number of girls doing farming	1739
Number of girls involved in individual or group business	3113
Number of girls who received goats (as asset transfer)	1090
Savings by GIRL Groups	
Total savings recorded so far	$ 49,983
Linkage to MFIs and other programs	
External financial resources received by Girls as a result of linkage	$ 23,480
External financial resources pending approval and review	$ 62,500
LMS Investment in GIRL Groups	
Small business approved and disbursed	$ 1200
Value of scholarships approved and disbursed (for 6 girls)	$ 4,487
Value of small business grants applicants under review	$ 267,006

Adolescent girls use their savings to pursue their aspirations: LMS-SCCRG continued to support approximately 11,604 adolescent girls and boys, and their mentors through a structured nine-month training on life skills, literacy and numeracy, health and nutrition, financial literacy, business development, environmental awareness and agri-nutrition via the GIRL model. Through the GIRL model, adolescent girls saved a total of $49,983. In addition 226 girls transitioned to primary school, 73 to adult education, and 248 to Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET). The agri-nutrition training and mentorship also enabled 1,739 girls to transition to farming vegetables for improved nutrition and income generation while 3,113 began group and individual businesses in their communities.

Other institutions begin to invest in adolescent girls' transition pathways: SCCRG also linked girls with both government and development partners to support their transitions. So far, girls have received approximately $26,480 from external sources, and another $62,500 have been leveraged and is awaiting formal approvals and disbursements. The main external funding sources have been government women and youth enterprise funds, the Kenya Youth Employment Opportunities Project (KYEOP), Concern Worldwide and a number of World Bank-funded projects in northern Kenya

Grants to adolescent girls to support their aspirations: Thus far, a total of $5,687 has been disbursed to a total of 12 girls, six of whom are expanding their businesses and six of whom joined TVETs. A further $267,006 worth of applications are being reviewed to support more girls to pursue their transition pathways.

WASH Education Interventions Advocated by Ward Planning Committees in 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 financial years of Government of Kenya					
County	Ward	Activity	Status	Source of Funds	Value ($)
Wajir	Bute	Fencing of Bute secondary school	Completed	County Government	10,000.00
	Hadado	Construction of 6 classrooms at Hadado and Waberi Primary	Ongoing	County Government	10,000.00
Isiolo	Kinna	Construction of ECDE classrooms	Ongoing	County Government	24,000.00
		Equipping ECDE Centres	Planned	County Government	4,000
	Ngare Mara	Construction of ECDE classrooms	Ongoing	County Government	24,000.00
	Garbatulla	Construction of ECDE classrooms	Planned	County Government	24,000.00
		Equipping ECDE Classrooms	Planned	County Government	4,000.00
Turkana	Songot	ECD construction in Nakururum	Ongoing	County Government	10,968.00
	Lake Zone	Renovation works at Namortot ECDE	Ongoing	County Government	28,000.00
		Renovation works at Lokitoe-angeberu ECDE	Ongoing	County Government	18,000.00
		Construction of Nasechabuin ECDE	Planned	County Government	59, 550.00
		Additional works at Kataboi Vocational Training Centre	Ongoing	County Government	58, 574.00
Marsabit	Maikona	Purchase of furniture for Alfatu ECDE	Planned	County Government	2,000.00
		Construction and equipping of ECDE at Boge Village	Planned	County Government	30,000.00
		Construction of social hall in Forole	Planned	County Government	20,000.00
		Construction of ECD class at Hurri Hills Primary School	Planned	County Government	20,000.00
		Construction of ECD class in Ririma, Bagasi, Tungu, Kambinye, Sirichoi	Planned	County Government	85,000.00
	Golbo	Construction of social hall in Watiti	Planned	County Government	20,000.00
TOTALS					**452, 092.00**

Table: WASH Education interventions advocated by Ward Planning Committees in 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 financial years of government of Kenya

Support county initiatives for improved education

Ward Planning Committees advocates for education infrastructure: WPCs prioritized education infrastructure development after noting that inadequate infrastructure negatively affected the likelihood of pastoralist children accessing educational opportunities. During the 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 financial years, the Kenyan government focused advocacy efforts on influencing county support of physical infrastructure for Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) and adult education. Their advocacy has ensured allocation of approximately $452,092 as shown in the table below to support the construction of ECDE centers to enable accessibility to basic literacy, numeracy, and life skills. Advocacy efforts aligned their influence and advocacy plans to ensure that the county governments included their priorities in their ADPs. The WPCs had follow up appointments with their MCAs, Chief Officers and CECs in the ministries of education, economic planning and finance to ensure allocation and disbursement of funds. The WPCs were also present during ADP public participation processes where they ensured their ward priorities were captured in the county ADPs for 2019/2020 and 2020/2021.

In each of the five counties, SCCRG staff engaged the education departments including primary, secondary, and Technical Vocational Education Training and Adult Education to work with the program team. Local administrators and parents were also mobilized so that adolescent girls receive support to transition to schools upon reopening. The meetings with various stakeholders and community events also contributed to raising awareness and providing girls with relevant skills to ensure they decided to go back to school, stayed in school, and supported their transition to both formal and informal education. The girls were also sensitized on the available mechanisms to address negative cultural behaviors. They are expected to empower their school and village friends, parents, and communities through peer-to-peer groups, personal interactions and community events.

Across the five counties of Wajir, Turkana, Garissa, Isiolo and Marsabit; SCCRG took a central role together with the county government in planning and executing the "16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence" event, which took place from November 25th to December 10th, 2019. Widely known as the '16 Days Campaign', it was used by SCCRG to call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls. SCCGR joined other stakeholders across the five counties to raise awareness on the call to end violence against women and participated in the marking of the event to discuss challenges, solutions and opportunities for girls and women. Some of the issues raised during the 16 days of activism against gender based violence (GBV) include:

- Rape cases on the rise in Wajir rural villages. This was attributed to girls herding livestock and undertaking other household chores in unsafe spaces. All chiefs and local leaders committed to addressing this problem with parents in rural villages.
- Child marriage was also highlighted as one of the key challenges contributing to girls dropping out of school. The stakeholders committed to fighting child marriage while providing support for girl children to remain in school.
- There was a missing link in accountability for prevention and response to GBV cases. Alternate dispute resolution mechanisms were fronted as an integral part for prevention and response to GBV.

WPCs had follow up appointments with county government leaders to ensure allocation and disbursement of funds.

Marsabit County

Thought leadership in adolescent girl programming - SCCRG engaged the county government, leading the government to support 10 girls with scholarships to join Kalacha Polytechnic. 16 more girls have also been supported on their scholarship applications from the county government and are currently waiting to resume school after COVID-19 to join Kalacha Polytechnic. SCCRG mobilized the County Department of Gender, Catholic Mission, Equity Bank, Meta Meta Foundation, and volunteers for a joint mentorship meeting with 90 adolescent girls. The mentorship was aimed at helping adolescent girls understand the importance of education, the position of women in leadership, scholarship opportunities, and how to navigate through negative sociocultural practices including Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and early marriage. Adolescent girls were also urged to be champions for women's well-being and peace ambassadors in their villages. The girls were also supported with sanitary kits which can last up to two months, courtesy of Meta Meta Foundation. The following day, on March 8th, 2020 when the county was holding an official celebration for IWD, SCCRG was officially recognized as an important partner with thought leadership in adolescent girl programming in Marsabit county. SCCRG also presented the SCCRG GIRL strategy in a meeting on tackling FGM in Marsabit, which was organized by AMREF and the anti-FGM board. SCCRG's aim was to advocate for girls' education and make a concerted effort to eradicate FGM. After the meeting, the county government's gender department invited SCCRG to join the county's technical working group for developing the county's gender policy. So far, the first meeting has been done to discuss the scope of gender policy. The technical working group has scheduled a number of meetings. In these meetings, SCCRG has engaged the LMS gender advisor to provide guidance by ensuring a structured framework of addressing the sociocultural practices which limit girls' opportunities. The SCCRG also plans to ensure girls' education is given a priority in the policy.

Active participation in UNICEF Girls Empowerment Project - SCCRG is now an important stakeholder involved in the UNICEF Girls Empowerment Project implemented by the County Department of Gender and Social Service. The project is aimed at improving girls' education in Marsabit through intense advocacy to support an increase in enrollment, retention, and transition through school. It also supported the county government in setting up a Girls Rescue Centre at Loglogo in Marsabit county to support vulnerable girls in the county. So far, the first two phases of stakeholders meeting, training and benchmarking for girls' education and setting up of the County Girls Rescue Centre has been done. Several talk shows, radio messages and community advocacy meetings in Illeret-North, Horr Sub-County have been planned.

Mentorship during the Covid-19 pandemic - SCCRG has also been taking the lead in adolescent girls' mentorship during the COVID-19 outbreak. In collaboration with the County Gender department, linkages with GIRL and local partners, the project has managed to reach 500 in-school girls for motivational talks, leadership training and sensitization on being champions for social change and girls' education in their communities. The girls have also been supplied with dignity kits and revision books to be studied in groups of 5 on a rotational basis.

> " *The girls were also supported with sanitary kits which can last up to two months, courtesy of Meta Meta Foundation.*

Successful GIRL Model program implementation

Isiolo County

SCCRG monitored and supported a total of **1,397** adolescent's girls, boys and women and men mentors. **750** of the adolescent girls and **30** young women mentors have gone through the 9 months' safe space course and are now being linked with opportunities they have identified as being interested in pursuing in the course the activity. **591** adolescent boys and girls and **26** mentors are still participating in the safe space course, which is expected to be completed within the next quarter.

Garissa County

SCCRG monitored a total of **2,370** adolescents and mentors. A total of **1,500** adolescent girls and **60** mentors recruited in 2018 (cohort 1) have completed the 9 months' safe space training while the remaining **779** adolescents and **31** mentors have undergone agri-nutrition training and Girl Arise and Power Dynamics training and environmental awareness training.

Turkana County

A total of **3,206** adolescents and mentors were monitored this year. One thousand five hundred of the adolescents and **60** mentors were recruited in 2018 and have completed the 9 months' safe space modules. The remaining **1,583** GIRL participants and **63** mentors who were recruited in 2019 underwent agri-nutrition, Girl Arise and Power Dynamics, livestock management and environmental awareness training in this year, completing the 9 months' safe space training.

Marsabit County

A total of **63** GIRL groups with **1,641** adolescent girls and boys and mentors were monitored in Marsabit county. **750** adolescent girls and **30** mentors were recruited in 2018 (cohort 1) and have gone through the 9 months' safe space training and are now being supported in achieving their desire for self-reliance. The other **828** adolescent girls and boys and **33** mentors who were recruited in 2019 (cohort 2) completed their safe space training in year 3.

Wajir County

A total of **2,990** adolescent girls, boys and young women and men mentors were supported in year 3. **1,500** adolescent girls and **60** mentors who were recruited in 2018 (cohort 1) have completed the 9 months' safe space training, and they are continuing with basic literacy and numeracy training. The remaining **1,320** participants were recruited in 2019 (cohort 2) and were taken through Girl Arise and Power Dynamics, agri-nutrition and environmental awareness training. The agri-nutrition training was later followed by a long term mentorship with the support of community health volunteers (CHVs) for WASH and nutrition social behavior communication.

1,397
Girls, boys and women and men mentors monitored and supported by SCCRG - Isiolo

1,500
Adolescent girls that have completed the 9 month safe space training - Garissa

1,583
Girl participants that underwent agri-nutrition, Girl Arise, and Power Dynamics training - Turkana

1,641
Adolescent girls, boys and mentors from 63 groups monitored - Marsabit

> *The county level PREG partnership provided more opportunities for progress review and ensured further identification of opportunities.*

Wajir County

Economic empowerment for GIRL groups - SCCRG made a deliberate effort to support girls at a group and personal level to achieve their aspirations and use the data to link with the county government for scaling. The support given to adolescent girls in Wajir has resulted in girls starting their own businesses. A total of 16 GIRL groups started group businesses using their savings. Most businesses are selling groceries, clothes, and livestock. The group businesses have motivated the girls and prompted an additional 40 individual girl businesses. The high rate of transition to businesses using group savings have prompted SCCRG to fast track small business grant opportunities within LMS. SCCRG mobilized adolescent girls to apply for the small grant opportunity. Out of 335 applications received from adolescent girls, 46 applications have been shortlisted for business assessment, having gone through a rigorous series of technical and compliance reviews. Most of the applications that did not pass the compliance test were due to the fact that most girls are less than 18 years of age and thus are blocked from accessing the small grants pool. In order to reach younger girls with the grant opportunity, a call for scholarship opportunities for girls whose aspirations were related to education in a secondary school or TVET was released in February 2020. A total of 46 adolescent girls have already shown interest by submitting their application for scholarship in three technical training institutes in Wajir county - Bute, Griftu and Wajir Polytechnic. The majority of the applicants (80%) proposed tailoring courses while the rest proposed salon and bakery. It is important to note that the three technical training institutes have limited course options for the girls.

Financial access for GIRL groups - Close working with WPCs ensured three GIRL groups began kitchen gardens and farming around the water pan. The groups have started growing vegetables and are being linked to relevant stakeholders for input support and extension services. The linkage with the department of social services facilitated the registration of four GIRL groups. Formal registration with the government will allow GIRL groups to access capital for their businesses and further enable them to open bank accounts to deposit their savings. SCCRG also supported 50 GIRL groups in applying for the Women Enterprise and National government affirmative action fund opportunities. The support and mentorship have resulted in businesses for eight self-organized GIRL groups and 22 individual girls who are also poised to receive small grants to boost their businesses. In addition, eight GIRL groups are actively saving with a total saving of 374,500 shillings ($3,441 USD) and are engaged in various assorted businesses, especially related to selling groceries, dry cereals and clothes. SCCRG has linked three GIRL and two REAP groups with the department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries to take up beekeeping in Adadijole and Bute. Beekeeping, which is already a livelihood opportunity in these areas, is being promoted by the government for expansion and commercialization. Both the GIRL and REAP groups have been trained on bee farming and will be supported by the government to establish the first bee hives with colonies.

In support of financial access for girls, SCCRG supported 109 girls in applying for the Kenya Youth Employment and Opportunity Project (KYEOP) call for applications. The applications are currently undergoing review by the government with responses to girls expected next year.

Objective 3. Collaborative action & learning for community empowerment

IR 3.1. Strengthened USAID and implementing partners' systems for Sequencing, Layering, and Integration

LMS-SCCRG continued to work with other partners to identify opportunities for layering and integrating with the aim of leveraging resources and impact. During Year 3, annual work plan development, the development program engaged key USAID funded programs and partners and was able to identify these opportunities and made deliberate efforts for layering and integration. The county level PREG partnership, where partners meet on a monthly basis, provided more opportunities for progress review and ensured further identification of opportunities. During the development of Year 4, annual work plan, the program also engaged with partners to identify opportunities for next year and supported the partners' efforts for joint work plan development and co-creation with County Governments.

In addition, as part of the recommendation from USAID following the stock staking assessment, the program developed a Collaborative Learning and Adaptation (CLA) strategy, which will ensure an informed and deliberate partnership with the USAID funded program to achieve sequencing, layering, and integration. Through this strategy, the program will make deliberate and intentional efforts to collaborate with specific organizations or programs such as Northern Rangelands Trust, Accelerated Value Chain Development program and SERVIR, and NAWIRI given the similarities in program scope. At the same time, LMS-SCCRG will also be opportunistic in pursuing collaboration with partners by proactively engaging other partners with similar projects.

The following are some of the key activities undertaken during the year:

- The LMS-SCCRG and SERVIR program implemented by the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development

Ms. Maura Barry, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator in USAID's Bureau for Resilience and Food Security, poses with GIRL groups during her visit to Attir, one of the PREG laying sites in Isiolo County

(RCMRD) continued working together to build the capacity of WPCs and County Resource Team on rangelands management across all the five counties. The SERVIR program has participated and provided technical support during the mapping of resources by WPCs and developed digital resource maps, which were used by WPCs as a decision making tool. The partnership has also seen SERVIR train CRT on rangelands management of use of GIS tools for mapping of resources such as rangelands. The training was meant to equip technical officers from key

government departments with skills to facilitate multi-temporal assessment and monitor status of rangeland resources and aggregate key indicators to rangeland productivity. LMS-SCCRG staff also participated in the training, receiving additional skills that will be of use when supporting CRT and WPCs during mapping of resources.

- The program adopted AVCD's participatory Rangelands Management (PMR) model to implement its rangelands activities. As a result, the program partnered with ACVD to establish and train County Resource Teams on rangeland management to ensure a holistic approach is adopted by County governments. The partnership with AVCD also ensured the training of WPCs on rangelands management leading to the formation of Community Rangelands Management Committees. To implement WASH and nutrition related activities and community training, the program also worked closely with AVCD adopting its community dialogue cards and manuals which were used to train Community Health Volunteers, and GIRL groups.

- SCCRG has worked closely with K-RAPID to roll out community WASH and Nutrition campaigns. During the community dialogue events in Isiolo, Turkana, Marsabit and Garissa, K-RAPID provided demonstration gear for handwashing, water purification and some of the cooking demonstrations.

- In Wajir, the program partnered with the WFP and County Government to conduct a feasibility and Environmental Impact Assessment for community projects proposed for funding under LMS. The County team presented their findings to other partners and one of the sites (Habaswein) was identified as a layering site for LMS, World Vision and WFP. The project is aimed at increasing access to water for irrigation and is expected to improve nutritional outcomes. WFP and World Vision are planning to co-invest approximately $116,000 with LMS and the county government of Wajir to expand irrigation systems in Habaswein to improve food security.

- Across all the five counties, the program has partnered with NDMA on Disaster Risk Management. This included training and facilitation of WPCs to conduct community hazards and vulnerability assessment leading to ward level contingency plans. Other joint activities carried out include conducting multi-hazard assessments and review of contingency plans in Marsabit and Turkana. WPCs were also linked to NDMA's EWER systems and have been key in disseminating climate information in Garissa, Wajir and Isiolo.

- In Garissa, the program partnered with NRT and other local organizations to organize and facilitate the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought. The event was used to sensitize communities on the impact of climate change and promote tree planting.

In addition, the program also actively participated and at times facilitated County Steering Groups meeting across all counties. The program is also an active member of PREG forum at both county and national level.

The SERVIR provided technical support during the resource mapping by WPCs

LMS-SCCRG staff received additional skills that will be useful during resource mapping.

WFP and World Vision are planning to co-invest $116,000 to expand irrigation systems

IR 3.2. Shared indicators and learning to support expanded economic opportunities

LMS-SCCRG has continued to adopt its activities based on lessons learned during implementation. In addition, the program has hosted a number of learning visits with PREG partners and made presentations at both national and county level PREG meetings on the program's models and lessons learned. LMS-SCCGR activities, particularly in Isiolo were important sites for the PREG and USAID learning visits and field missions. In particular, the program has undertaken the following key activities to promote learning within the program and with other stakeholders.

- Reflection and Learning Workshops: Under the theme Pause, Reflect, Learn, and Adapt (PRLA), the program conducted its annual learning workshop which brought together field staff including representatives from implementing local partners. The workshop provided an opportunity for the program to reflect and document lessons learned in the implementation of activities across the five counties. The annual reflection focused on the following;
  - What has worked well?
  - What did not work well and why?
  - What can we do differently and how?
  - How are other stakeholders doing things differently?
  - What can we learn from other stakeholders we collaborate with?

- Following the one-week deliberation, the program documented its lessons, which were used to inform better implementation of activities for greater impact. In addition, the program shared lessons learned and program approaches with other stakeholders at the county level ensuring that partners have a better understanding of the approaches based on documented lessons.

- Joint field monitoring and learning visits with partners and County Governments: The program has either organized or conducted joint field learning visits to share experiences

between partners. In Isiolo County, the program has hosted learning visits through PREG. In Wajir, Garissa and Turkana, the program organized field visits which included County Government staff engaging program participants and documenting challenges, impacts and lessons learned. In Garissa, the Deputy County Secretary led a team composed of Directors from Planning, partnership and donor coordination on a one-week joint monitoring field visit where they meet with WPCs and GIRL groups. The team also visited businesses started by GIRL group members by means of their savings and skills acquired through vocational training. Following the joint monitoring, the Director of Partnership and Donor Coordination made a presentation on the findings to other PREG partners and urged them to organize similar joint monitoring visits.

- In addition, the CoP and DCoP made several field visits and held meetings with the county leadership presenting the program's activities and lessons learned as part of the efforts to influence the adoption of best practices and program models such as the ward based development planning and the GIRL models.

- Joint implementation of activities: Across the five counties, the program has worked closely with County Governments and partners to jointly implement activities. In particular, the program has implemented activities such the ward based development planning process, rangelands management, peace building initiatives, WASH and nutrition training, and community forums, amongst others. This has been done in partnership with County Governments staff.

LMS-SCCRG Progress on Gender Strategy

LMS-SCCRG continued to engage with partners and County Governments to create an enabling environments for women, girls and youth. In Garissa and Marsabit, the program's GIRL Project Officers are part of the County Gender Coordination forum. In Marsabit, the program has provided technical support in the development of gender policy and action plans. Across the five counties, the program has provided a platform to advocate for the rights of women and girls particularly through the GIRL groups. Also in Marsabit the program took part in public participation meetings organized by the National Gender and Equality Commission about complaint handling procedures on issues affecting women and adolescent girls.

Events such as International Women's Day, 16 Days of Gender Activism Against Gender Based Violence and International Youth Day, FGM day, African Child Day, International Girl Child Day, Menstrual Hygiene Day, provided an opportunity for the program to lobby for girls' rights. Members of GIRL groups participated through poems and role plays. The event also served as an opportunity to highlight challenges facing young girls and women in general such as FGM, illiteracy, lack of access to financial services and gender based violence. Working closely with the Gender and Youth departments, the program facilitated and took part in key events related to gender activism and progress for adolescent girls and women. In addition, during school holidays, and before closure of schools as a result of COVID-19, the program conducted back to school campaigns in partnership with the State Department of Education and County Government through the ministry of education. The campaigns provided an opportunity to the leadership and local administration to engage community members on the importance of education and encouraged them to take children, particularly girls, to school.

In addition, the program continues to implement activities with a gender and social inclusion lens, ensuring the achievement of youth and women's economic empowerment, including expanded access to basic services, financial services and non-financial assets, and jobs and livelihoods within an inclusive market system framework. In particular, the program continued to support adolescent girls to pursue their transition pathways such as business, vocational training and back to school. In addition to facilitating safe space training and building skills on life skills, financial literacy and business development, the program has linked GIRL groups to external Micro Finance Institutions and development partners. Through these linkages, the groups have thus far received business grants valued at $23,480 with an additional business grants worth $62,500 pending review and approval. In addition, the program has facilitated or linked 248 girls to enroll in various vocational training courses. As COVID-19 disrupted livelihoods across the county, GIRL groups were also affected as their meagre income reduced. As a result, 1,739 girls are now involved in farming to complement family income while an additional 3,113 are running various businesses.

Members of Akelipan GIRL group during the International Women's Day celebration in Turkana County

LMS-SCCRG Progress on Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring

LMS-SCCRG team worked closely with the Environmental Compliance Specialist under the Leader Award to conduct Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and related compliance procedures for activities under the award. However, the assessments were affected as a result of restriction in movements imposed by the government to control the spread of COVID-19. During this period, the program managed to conduct EIA and feasibility assessments in four community projects in Wajir County with support from the County Government's departments of irrigation. The program's Environmental Compliance Specialist later conducted validation assessments in the four projects together with program engineers.

Below is a summary of key assessments conducted thus far (please refer to Annex 1 for details):

I.   Small grants (in-cash) for GIRL beneficiaries: A consolidated Environmental Review Form (ERF)/Environmental Review Report (ERR), and Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plans (EMMP) for Small Grants for Medium and Small-Scale Enterprises (MSEs) of GIRL group participants in Marsabit and Wajir counties were drafted and submitted for approval.

II.   Community grants: A consolidated ERF/ERR/ EMMP for the following community grants for Wajir has been drafted and submitted for review. More so, environmental impact assessments (EIA) of the projects have been conducted and reports submitted to NEMA

for review and issuance of EIA license. The proposed projects include:

*   Adadijole irrigation farm in Bute sub-county
*   Hadado irrigation farm Hadado in Wajir west sub-county
*   Tractaley irrigation farm in Habaswein sub-county

III. Innovation grants: The grants involve construction and improvement of water supply and sanitation (WSS) related projects. So far, environmental assessment of six (6) water point/Kiosks on installation of automated water metered vender systems in Wajir and Marsabit counties (see maps below) have been undertaken and a consolidated ERF/ERR & EMMP drafted for submission and review. Assessment for sanitation projects in Bura-Garissa has been conducted in five schools. The project involves construction/rehabilitation of toilets with hand washing facilities. Environmental documentation is ongoing. The schools already assessed include:

*   Construction of one additional VIP latrine for girls at Garasweino primary school
*   Renovation of one existing latrine and construction of one double VIP latrine for girls at Aliemij primary school
*   Construction of two separate single VIP latrines for boys and for girls at Habajot primary school.
*   Construction of two separate VIP single latrines at Mansa-bubu primary school.
*   Construction of double VIP latrines for Fafi Girls' primary school.

LMS-SCCRG Progress On Links With Gok Agencies

LMS-SCCRG implements its activities mainly through partnership with County Governments' departments, as described below.

Health

*   WASH and Nutrition Campaign targeting the communities
*   WASH and Agri-Nutrition training for GIRL groups and WPCs
*   Capacity building of Community Health Volunteers (through refresher trainings)
*   Participated in community participatory planning process for the ward development plans providing technical guidance on the health sector.
*   Supported life skills trainings for girls through facilitation of family planning, reproductive health and agri-nutrition modules.

Agriculture and livestock/ Pastoral economy

*   Formation of County Resource Teams (comprised of county technical staff) on rangelands management and capacity building of team members through PMR and use of GIS tool for rangelands mapping and decision making
*   CRT supported capacity of building of WPCs on rangelands management and livestock related activity
*   Supported the formation of Community Rangelands Management Committees through WPCs.
*   Department provided technical support and guidance during community participatory planning and development of ward plans.
*   Incorporated ward development plan priorities into sector plans for funding
*   Conducted joint EIA and feasibility assessments in Wajir for community grants
*   Department provided extension services and seedling to GIRL groups doing farming
*   Supported linkage of GIRL groups to market actors to sale farm produce
*   WPCs were liked to department as part of locust surveillance and control teams
*   The department through Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Program supported rangelands rehabilitation (in Marsabit) and funding of community priorities (in Isiolo) through WPCs.

Education and youth development

*   Support program community initiatives such as back to school campaigns
*   Linkages of adolescent girls to transition pathways such as school and TVEY course
*   Distribution of sanitary pads to adolescent girls
*   Admission of girls of adult education classes

NDMA

Partnership with program on the following key areas.

- Organizing and facilitating participatory Scenario Planning for disaster
- Conduct multi hazard assessment
- Review of contingency plans.
- Facilitating coordination of the county steering group.
- Community DRR process leading to development of ward contingency plans
- Training WPCs on early warning and early response and linking them to drought monitors
- Supported development of ward contingency plans.
- Development of climate Advisories and dissemination of advisories through WPCs to at risk communities.
- Provide technical support on policies and Bill related to Disaster Risk Management
- Conducted joint floods assessment in Garissa County

Planning and economic development

- Department supports review and validation of Ward Development Plans
- Involves and uses WPCs to mobilize communities for public participation
- Integrates community priorities presented by WPCs into ADPs
- Provides technical training on proposal development, advocacy and influence to WPCs (the later in Isiolo County)
- Supports the dissemination of Ward Development Plans to other development partners

Office of County Secretary and department of partnership and donor coordination

- Coordinates and oversee partnership with county government departments.
- Spearhead co-creation of work plans
- Facilitates meetings with County Executives Committee Members
- Coordinated validation of work plans

Environment and Natural Resource

- Supports WPCs during community participatory process
- Support resource mapping and
- Department is a member of the County Resource Team on rangelands management
- Support linkage of WPCs to Climate Change Act Fund including access to resources
- Provides technical support on environment and climate smart intervention to WPCs during the WDP process
- Program supports in the development policies and Bills and

Water department

- Provides technical advice to PWCs during community participatory planning process
- Provides technical support to WPCs during development of water related proposal.
- Integrates Ward Development priorities into departments key priorities for funding
- Supports validation of ward development priority activities ensuring alignment with department's plans

Social Service

- Supports in registration of groups (WPCs and GIRL groups)

Trade

- Supports in training of GIRL groups in business development
- Supports linkage of GIRL groups to MFIs.

Department Gender and culture/ National Gender authority

- Supports in community awareness and advocacy campaigns on gender issues
- Jointly coordinate and oversee events such International women's day and 16 days of Activism against Gender Based Violence.

Cohesion and peace directorate

- Coordination of peace building dialogues
- Training of peace actor
- Mapping of conflict systems

Local County and National Administration

- Coordinate activities at ward level with WPCs
- Support community mobilization and awards creation forums for advocacy on issues such as WASH and nutrition, education, Girl rights etc.
- Actively participate in ward development planning process including prioritization of development projects and mapping of resources
- Jointly coordinate peace dialogues with WPCs
- Work with WPCs to disseminate early warning information to at risk groups.
- Facilitates community meeting with WPCs
- Support the targeting process leading t registration of GIRL groups
- Champions of the program.
- Host WPCs in their office by providing office space (at Ward Administrator's Office).

LMS-SCCRG Progress on USAID Forward

LMS-SCCRG's implementation strategy is in line with USAID's Journey to Self-Reliance (J2SR) and is based on three key principles of Local Partnerships, County Government Engagement and Community Driven intervention. As a result, the program is taking deliberate efforts to build local partnership and strengthen the capacity of county departments to implement activities. In particular, the program's approach of forming a County Resource Team in different sectors such as rangeland management and disaster preparedness and response ensure the availability of technical county staff teams to support program implementation. Building the capacity of the CRTs ensures that county technical staff have adequate skills to support development partners. Capacity building in areas identified through gaps analysis is critical. As such the program prioritized skills such as participatory community planning, GIS mapping of rangelands, conducting assessments on conflict and market systems.

To enhance local partnership, the program relies on local partners to implement program activities. These organizations provide a strong understanding of the local context and provide unique skills to engage local communities in development. In addition, the program has identified locally-based private sector actors to support program activities, laying a foundation for sustainability as well as promoting public private partnership with County Governments.

The program recognizes the role of communities to drive sustainable and impactful development. As a result, the ward based development approach provides empowers communities to take the lead in determining their development needs and hold their respective governments accountable.

In recognition of its strategy and the need to build local capacities and partnership, the program has recommended four additional new local partners to support implementation of activities as indicated in the request for application for cost extension. These are, Rural Agency for Community Development and Assistance (RACIDA), Rights Organization for Advocacy and Development (ROAD, Merti Integrated Development Program (MID-P) and Frontier Counties Development Council (FCDC) bringing the total number of local partners in the program to seven.

Lessons Learned

Lesson learned	Recommended action
The depth required to support the Ward Planning Committees is different from the initial design of the program. With the need to have a robust and sustainable WPCs in line with J2SR, there is need to focus more on strengthening the capacity for the current WPCs as opposed to establishing new committees.	As highlighted during the stocktaking exercise with USAID, there is need to reconsider the formation of all 24 Ward Planning Committees as envisaged in the proposal but instead support with and strengthen the current 15 already established. It is therefore unlikely that we will take the WPCs to the height expected by the donor with the current funding unless the reduction in the total number of WPCs is considered.
There is need to build the county capacity to lead the ward based development process and facilitate the development of risk informed ward plans. It is apparent that different technical sectors do not appreciate the need to integrate shocks into their development plans and look upon NDMA to do the same, hence the lack of preparedness and early response.	The program will coordinate with county governments to form a County Resource Team trained with the support from NDMA. The team will be drawn from various technical departments and will form the training and capacity building unit for the county government and partners. SCCRG will use the CRT to engage communities in the development of risk informed development plan in the new wards. This will also be part of institutional capacity building for county government departments and will complement the toolkit already developed by SCCRG.
There is need to influence the full ownership of the ward development plans by the county governments and the recognition of the WPCs as the foundation for development and humanitarian interventions at the ward level.	SCCRG will do more influencing, particularly at the executive level, and ensure the adoption of the Ward Development Plans by the county governments and full integration of development priorities into the County Annual Development Plans. WPCs to be linked to the economic and planning unit with links to the relevant sector departments for follow up on resource allocation and implementation of the projects. The program will build the capacity of the WPCs to engage all development partners and government departments in their respective wards to advocate for and enforce the adoption of the ward plans and resource allocation.

Lesson learned	Recommended action
Despite the inclusion of key community priorities in the County Annual Development Plans in the five counties, there is need to advocate for and influence resource allocation and implementation of the projects. Inclusion of the priorities into the ADP may not translate into action.	SCCRG plans to establish umbrella WPCs at the county level to collectively engage county governments in both executive and legislative arms to influence resource allocation. The County level WPCs will use their respective political leaders to ensure implementation of the priorities. In addition, the development plans will be shared widely including with the executive and county assembly. An Advocacy and Influencing Strategy will be developed to help WPCs engage the government and partners.
To achieve sustainable development and as part of the journey to self-reliance, there is need to further build the capacity of the WPCs with appropriate technical and administrative skills to take lead in the development of their respective wards. There is also a need to equally build the capacity of the local partners and link them to WPCs.	SCCRG has identified appropriate technical and administrative skills that will facilitate the WPCs to deliver effectively. The program will develop a structured capacity building plan for each WPC which will be implemented together with respective county governments. In addition, to build the technical capacity of the WPCs and link them to the government technical departments, the program and county governments will establish sub-committees that will be comprised of WPCs, local administration of the sub-county and ward level technical teams to oversee and plan for relevant sectors. These sub-committees will include disaster preparedness and response, rangeland and natural resource management, resource mobilization and advocacy. The sub-committees will be linked to the county level technical teams and county steering committees. In addition, the program will link WPCs to local partners and involve the later during the capacity building sessions to strengthen their institutions' capacity. WPCs will also be involved in the implementation of program interventions such as GIRL and REAP models beginning with community mobilizations, targeting and monitoring of impact.
Although there is significant buy-in from county governments on the impact of the program models, there is still need to ensure that appropriate policies and legal frameworks exist to allow the adoption and scaling up of the models.	SCCRG will work with county governments to ensure that they have appropriate legislative frameworks to adopt and support the different program models. The program will engage both executive and legislative arms to influence change and facilitate the adoption of key program models by county governments. The program will conduct participatory monitoring involving county governments and particularly the executive and legislative arms to see the impact of the program as part of the influencing strategy. Key lessons and impacts will be shared with the two arms of the governments (Executive and Legislative) more periodically.

Lesson learned	Recommended action
LMS grants are completive in nature and application may not always reflect good ideas particularly for semi-illiterate girls in the GIRL groups	The program recognizes that there are certain groups who have already started businesses through their own savings and have clear business development plans (not always written due to literacy level). The program recommends that such groups are purposively targeted to leverage their investments and not evaluated with applicants from the general community or other groups who haven't shown interest in doing business or are not direct program beneficiaries.
The two LMS Associate Awards have individually implemented successful interventions. However, there is a need to ensure a stronger and more strategic linkages and layering between the associate wards to leverage impact and facilitate push-pull	The awards will make deliberate attempts to have an integrated layering of activities as highlighted in the work plans. The awards will jointly identify areas of layering and synergy particularly given the need to re-align toward the journey to self-reliance. The use of the WDP process and committees beyond AA2 and to facilitate the work of AA1 has been identified as key. In addition, the GIRL model's transition pathways provide an opportunity to link with AA1's scholarship and workforce development objective. The two awards can jointly advocate for and influence policy change and adoption of best practices through collective action.

Activities in Year 3 were also impacted by COVID-19 as governments imposed restrictions in movements and gatherings. As a result, program had to swiftly adjust its implementation approaches. The table below provides a summary of affected activities and strategies adopted to ensure continuity of those activities in the midst of COVID-19.

Activity Impacted by COVID-19	Adaptive Measures taken by program
Program Management	Bi-Weekly virtual call with partners and project staff
	Submission of weekly progress updates highlighting operational and implementation adaptation and challenges
	Conduct virtual Quarterly reflection with management of all implementing partners to monitor progress
	Conducted ad-hoc field visits by management
Community mobilization and awareness campaigns on WASH/Nutrition and COPVID, and WPCs and GIRL groups formation	Conduct small groups meeting ensuring compliance to government regulation
	Use of radio to disseminate key messages (COVID-19/WASH/Nutrition)
	Develop IEC materials and disseminate through WPCs and GIRL groups
GIRL groups mentoring and training	Conduct mall group training and mentoring of not more than 15 girls
	Sensitize girls on COVID-19 prevention
	Promote handwashing through demonstrations
	Formation of WhatsApp group for Mentors to pass key messages and get feedback
Project Monitoring	Engage County Governments and Community groups such as WPCs to conduct monitoring and validate progress
	Ad hoc spot checks by COP and heads of local partners
	Organize participatory County Government led monitoring visits
Capacity Building of WPCs and CRT	Conduct virtual meetings and technical, training to County Resource Teams (CRTs)
	Formation of WhatsApp groups for CRT and WPCs to share information and to get feedback
	Small group training for capacity building training sessions
Advocacy and Influence Activities/county Government engagement	Conducted virtual presentations and meetings with key influencers and decision makers
	Organized physical meetings in small group ensuring compliance it government regulations
Community Participatory Planning process	Conducted small group meeting and FGD with key community representative and elders
Dissemination of Early Warning and Climate Information	Included WPCs into NDMA WhatsApp groups to receive and disseminate disaster related information to at risk communities
	Translated climate information advisories to local languages and shared with WPCs and disseminated through local radios.

Ward Based Development Planning Approach

Our Approach

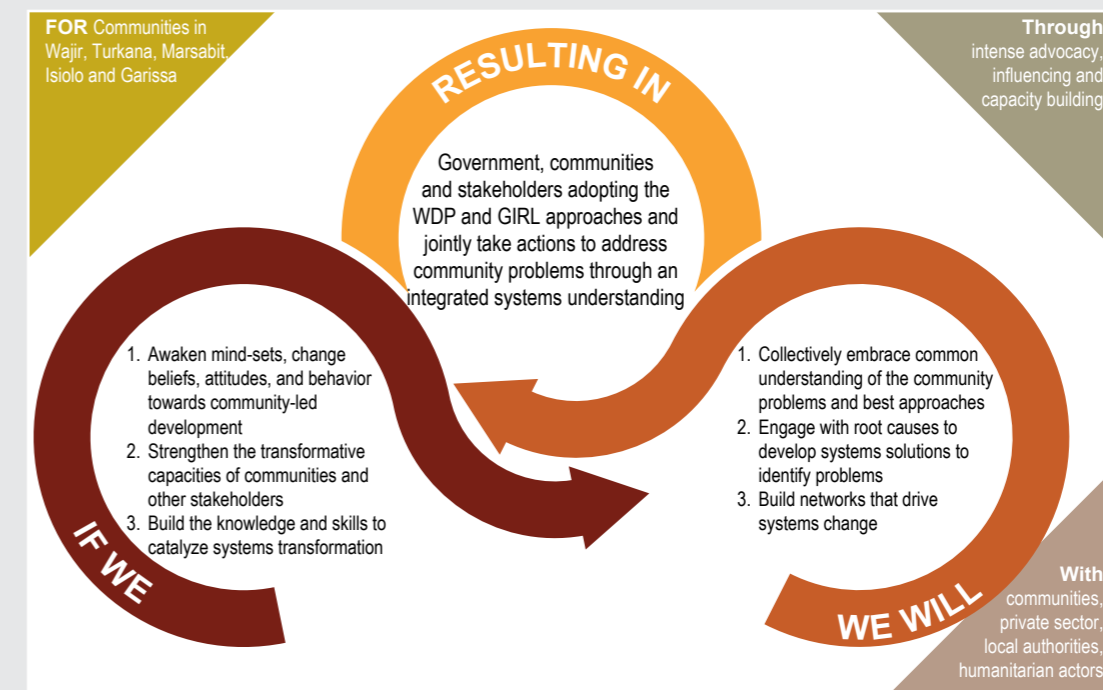An inclusive community based approach that integrates three components;

- Community development
- Market Systems
- Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction

▶ Government and Community Driven process
▶ Strengthen Institutions, Systems, and Governance around
- Sustained rangeland and water management
- Drought cycle management
- Conflict management
▶ Approach highlights the nexus between climate change and development and seeks a systems level change with a focus on governance and traditional systems
▶ Empowers communities to identify shocks and stresses and develop contingency plans
▶ Builds on traditional knowledge and links to formal systems
▶ Considers broader systemic constraints
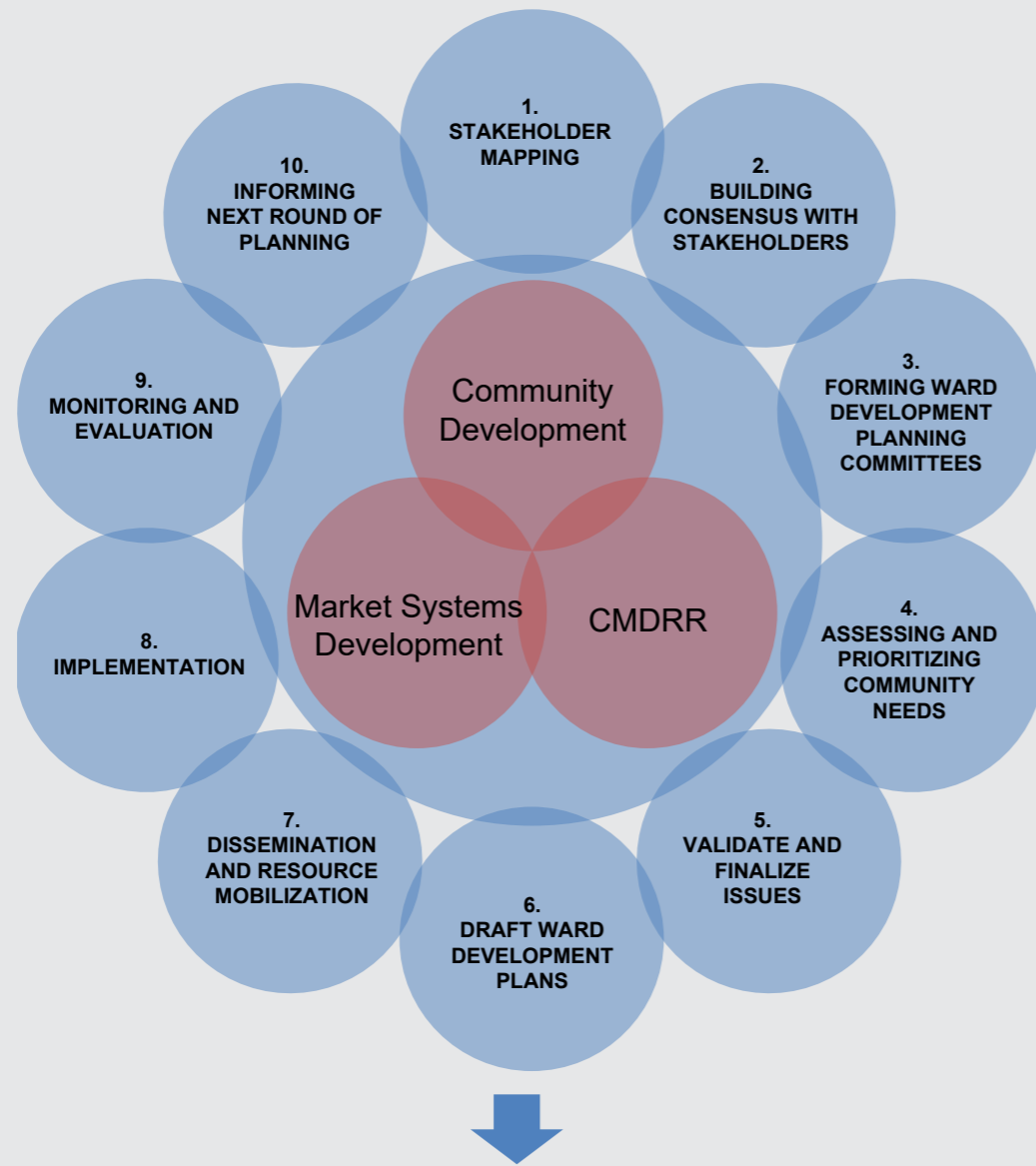- Comprehensive Ward Development Plan that feeds into County Annual Development Plans

Guiding Principles

- Community owned and driven
- Government led
- Local partnerships
- Resilience programming
- Empowering Communities and Government
- Adaptive learning and management

Multi-Sectoral

- •Livestock
- •Environment & NR
- •Agriculture
- •Water
- •Health and Nutrition
- •Energy
- •Education

The circular diagram contains:

- 1. STAKEHOLDER MAPPING
- 2. BUILDING CONSENSUS WITH STAKEHOLDERS
- 3. FORMING WARD DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COMMITTEES
- 4. ASSESSING AND PRIORITIZING COMMUNITY NEEDS
- 5. VALIDATE AND FINALIZE ISSUES
- 6. DRAFT WARD DEVELOPMENT PLANS
- 7. DISSEMINATION AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION
- 8. IMPLEMENTATION
- 9. MONITORING AND EVALUATION
- 10. INFORMING NEXT ROUND OF PLANNING

Central circles: Community Development, Market Systems Development, CMDRR

Expected Outcome

- Risk informed and shock responsive development plans
- Ward level community driven development agenda adopted by County Governments
- Improved livelihoods and reduced chronic under nutrition
- Strengthened water and rangelands management
- Strengthened traditional and formal conflict management systems
- Strengthened drought cycle management through integration of early warning and early response, disaster preparedness and recovery into development plans.
- Enhance institutional and individual capacities related to governance of resources
- Improved and sustained health, nutrition, and hygiene practices

Girls Improving Resilience Through Livelihoods (GIRL)

The Problem

- Early and forced marriage (50% of women (20 to 49) were married before 19 in Turkana)
- Pregnancy (20% of adolescent girls, 15 to 19, have begun child-bearing in Turkana)
- Heavy work burden
- Gender-based violence (45% of Kenyan girls have experienced interpersonal violence)
- Female genital mutilation
- Low literacy and numeracy
- Poor learning outcomes•School drop-out
- Financial exclusion

The Approach

- A girl centered 9 months SAFE SPACE training
- Targets 10-19 years vulnerable girls
- Builds the resilience of adolescent girls to improve and/or maintain their well-being in the face shocks and stresses
- Trains on life skills, builds social capital and equips adolescent girls with transferable skills for Work readiness
- Promotes gender equity, financial inclusion and Improved Linkages to Market-Driven Products, Services and Support

Life Skills Training

- Reproductive health
- Nutrition and WASH
- Understanding of natural resource management
- Financial literacy
- Functional literacy and numeracy
- Leadership skills
- Goal-setting skills
- Improved decision-making
- Business development

Expected Outcome

- Advocate for the importance of girls' education with gatekeepers in the community
- Address the issues of poverty that keep girls out of school (through business training and capital)
- Equip girls with literacy, numeracy and life skills needed for safer and healthier futures.
- Create accessible pathways for girls to access formal education.
- Create accessible pathways for older adolescent girls to access entrepreneurship and business opportunities.
- Generate market supply (girls who have vocational skills and financial literacy) and demand (market research and partnerships with social enterprise businesses)
- Invest in girls' social and financial capital through girls' savings groups

FEED the FUTURE
The U.S. Governments Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

FEED THE FUTURE KENYA LIVESTOCK MARKET SYSTEMS ACTIVITY: STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY CAPACITIES FOR RESLIENCE AND GROWTH

PERIOD OF ACTIVITY:	OCTOBER 1, 2017–SEPTEMBER 30, 2022
AGREEMENT NUMBER:	AID-615-LA-17-00002
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