

The Resilient Approaches in Natural Rangeland Ecosystems (RANGE) Programme

Stakeholders Vulnerability Analysis Report











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Abbreviations

CDR Community-Based Organization CDR Community Disease Reporter CIDP County Integrated Development Plan CSO Civil Society Organization EKN Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands FCDC Frontier Counties Development Council FGD Focus Group Discussion HH Household HSNP Hunger Safety Net Programme IDI In-depth Interview IGAD Intergovernmental Authority on Development IRUA Isiolo Rangeland Users Association ITC ITC, Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation of the University of Twente KALRO Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization KII Key Informant Interview KM Kilometre KNBS Kenya National Bureau of Statistics KRCS Kenya Red Cross Society KWS Kenya Wildlife Service M&E Monitoring and Evaluation NDMA National Drought Management Authority NGOs Non-Governmental Organizations NRT Northern Rangelands Trust PA Pastoralist and Agro-pastoralist Association RANGE Resilient Approaches in Natural Rangeland Ecosystems TWENDE Towards Ending Drought Emergencies Project UNDP United Nations Development Programme VSLA Village Savings and Loans Association WDC Ward Development Committee WRUA Water Resource User Association	ASALs	Arid and Semi-Arid Lands
CIDP County Integrated Development Plan CSO Civil Society Organization EKN Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands FCDC Frontier Counties Development Council FGD Focus Group Discussion HH Household HSNP Hunger Safety Net Programme IDI In-depth Interview IGAD Intergovernmental Authority on Development IRUA Isiolo Rangeland Users Association ITC ITC, Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation of the University of Twente KALRO Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization KII Key Informant Interview KM Kilometre KNBS Kenya National Bureau of Statistics KRCS Kenya Red Cross Society KWS Kenya Wildlife Service M&E Monitoring and Evaluation NDMA National Drought Management Authority NGOs Non-Governmental Organizations NRT Northern Rangelands Trust PA Pastoralist and Agro-pastoralist Association RANGE Resilient Approaches in Natural Rangeland Ecosystems TWENDE Towards Ending Drought Emergencies Project UNDP United Nations Development Programme VSLA Village Savings and Loans Association WDC Ward Development Committee	СВО	Community-Based Organization
CSO Civil Society Organization EKN Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands FCDC Frontier Counties Development Council FGD Focus Group Discussion HH Household HSNP Hunger Safety Net Programme IDI In-depth Interview IGAD Intergovernmental Authority on Development IRUA Isiolo Rangeland Users Association ITC ITC, Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation of the University of Twente KALRO Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization KII Key Informant Interview KM Kilometre KNBS Kenya National Bureau of Statistics KRCS Kenya Red Cross Society KWS Kenya Wildlife Service M&E Monitoring and Evaluation NDMA National Drought Management Authority NGOs Non-Governmental Organizations NRT Northern Rangelands Trust PA Pastoralist and Agro-pastoralist Association RANGE Resilient Approaches in Natural Rangeland Ecosystems TWENDE Towards Ending Drought Emergencies Project UNDP United Nations Development Programme VSLA Village Savings and Loans Association WDC Ward Development Committee	CDR	Community Disease Reporter
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FCDC Frontier Counties Development Council FGD Focus Group Discussion HH Household HSNP Hunger Safety Net Programme IDI In-depth Interview IGAD Intergovernmental Authority on Development IRUA Isiolo Rangeland Users Association ITC ITC, Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation of the University of Twente KALRO Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization KII Key Informant Interview KM Kilometre KNBS Kenya National Bureau of Statistics KRCS Kenya Red Cross Society KWS Kenya Wildlife Service M&E Monitoring and Evaluation NDMA National Drought Management Authority NGOs Non-Governmental Organizations NRT Northern Rangelands Trust PA Pastoralist and Agro-pastoralist Association RANGE Resilient Approaches in Natural Rangeland Ecosystems TWENDE Towards Ending Drought Emergencies Project UNDP United Nations Development Programme VSLA Village Savings and Loans Association WDC Ward Development Committee	CSO	Civil Society Organization
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KII Key Informant Interview KM Kilometre KNBS Kenya National Bureau of Statistics KRCS Kenya Red Cross Society KWS Kenya Wildlife Service M&E Monitoring and Evaluation NDMA National Drought Management Authority NGOS Non-Governmental Organizations NRT Northern Rangelands Trust PA Pastoralist and Agro-pastoralist Association RANGE Resilient Approaches in Natural Rangeland Ecosystems TWENDE Towards Ending Drought Emergencies Project UNDP United Nations Development Programme VSLA Village Savings and Loans Association WDC Ward Development Committee	ІТС	
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M&E Monitoring and Evaluation NDMA National Drought Management Authority NGOs Non-Governmental Organizations NRT Northern Rangelands Trust PA Pastoralist and Agro-pastoralist Association RANGE Resilient Approaches in Natural Rangeland Ecosystems TWENDE Towards Ending Drought Emergencies Project UNDP United Nations Development Programme VSLA Village Savings and Loans Association WDC Ward Development Committee	KRCS	Kenya Red Cross Society
NDMA National Drought Management Authority NGOs Non-Governmental Organizations NRT Northern Rangelands Trust PA Pastoralist and Agro-pastoralist Association RANGE Resilient Approaches in Natural Rangeland Ecosystems TWENDE Towards Ending Drought Emergencies Project UNDP United Nations Development Programme VSLA Village Savings and Loans Association WDC Ward Development Committee	KWS	Kenya Wildlife Service
NGOs Non-Governmental Organizations NRT Northern Rangelands Trust PA Pastoralist and Agro-pastoralist Association RANGE Resilient Approaches in Natural Rangeland Ecosystems TWENDE Towards Ending Drought Emergencies Project UNDP United Nations Development Programme VSLA Village Savings and Loans Association WDC Ward Development Committee	M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
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PA Pastoralist and Agro-pastoralist Association RANGE Resilient Approaches in Natural Rangeland Ecosystems TWENDE Towards Ending Drought Emergencies Project UNDP United Nations Development Programme VSLA Village Savings and Loans Association WDC Ward Development Committee	NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
RANGE Resilient Approaches in Natural Rangeland Ecosystems TWENDE Towards Ending Drought Emergencies Project UNDP United Nations Development Programme VSLA Village Savings and Loans Association WDC Ward Development Committee	NRT	Northern Rangelands Trust
TWENDE Towards Ending Drought Emergencies Project UNDP United Nations Development Programme VSLA Village Savings and Loans Association WDC Ward Development Committee	PA	Pastoralist and Agro-pastoralist Association
UNDP United Nations Development Programme VSLA Village Savings and Loans Association WDC Ward Development Committee	RANGE	Resilient Approaches in Natural Rangeland Ecosystems
VSLA Village Savings and Loans Association WDC Ward Development Committee	TWENDE	Towards Ending Drought Emergencies Project
WDC Ward Development Committee	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
·	VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Association
WRUA Water Resource User Association	WDC	Ward Development Committee
	WRUA	Water Resource User Association

Executive summary

This report presents findings from the Stakeholders Vulnerability Assessment, which was conducted to identify and analyse vulnerabilities of various stakeholders associated with the Resilient Approaches in Natural Rangeland Ecosystems (RANGE) program, and thus allow the program team to make more informed decisions about how to adapt interventions to stimulate positive impact.

The RANGE is a five (5) years program funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (EKN) and is being implemented in Isiolo, Samburu and Marsabit counties by Mercy Corps and its consortium partners, Frontier Counties Development Council (FCDC) and the Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC) of the University of Twente.

The assessment followed a non-experimental design and adopted a qualitative approach involving collection, analysis and reporting on qualitative data and information. Purposive, non-probability sampling approach was employed to ensure selection of information-rich respondents in all the target areas at county and community levels. Data collection methods used included literature and desk reviews, six (6) key informant interviews – two (2 in each county), 24 in-depth household interviews (IDIs) – eight (8) in each county, and 24 focus group discussions (FGDs) – eight (8) in each county. Data and information were then synthesised and analysed and presented in this report.

Findings reveal that the key stakeholders in the three counties that are directly or indirectly affected by or can have an impact on the RANGE program can be categorized into: (a) County Governments; (b) National Drought Management Authority (NDMA); (c) Communities and Community Groups/Structures; (d) Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) which includes Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Water Resource Users Associations (WRUAs), and women and youth groups; (e) Private Sector; and (f) Research Institutions.

The assessment further noted that the influence of these stakeholders is dynamic and can change over time. It can also vary depending on various factors such as implementation stage of the program and specific issues being addressed within the contexts of implementation. Findings indicate that the County governments, target communities and groups, and traditional leaders have high influence on the program; NDMA, market actors, and other private sector stakeholders, and to some extent, NGOs and CBOs have moderate influence, while the research institutions have low influence.

The assessment further noted that the key economic factors that would significantly impact the livelihoods and well-being of stakeholders involved in the RANGE program include: (a) market trends and commodity prices; (b) employment opportunities; (c) access to financial services; (d) infrastructure development; (e) land tenure and property rights; and (f) livestock health and productivity.

The main social factors identified that shape stakeholders' dynamics include: (a) pastoralism as a main livelihood strategy; (b) gender roles within the target communities; (c) age and generational differences; and (d) social networks. Additionally, the main cultural factors identified that shape stakeholders' dynamics include: (a) cultural diversity and identity; (b) traditional knowledge; (c) belief systems; (d) rituals and ceremonies; and (e) conflict and reconciliation.



Purposive, non-probability sampling approach was employed to ensure selection of information-rich respondents in all the target areas at county and community levels.

Introduction and Background

Program Background Information

The Resilient Approaches in Natural Rangeland Ecosystems (RANGE) is a five (5) year program (1 January 2024 – 31 December 2028) with the aim of improving sustainable economic and social development in a well-managed landscape in Marsabit, Isiolo and Samburu counties.

The RANGE program is funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (EKN) and is being implemented by Mercy Corps and its consortium partners, Frontier Counties Development Council (FCDC) and the Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC) of the University of Twente. The core consortium team will be complemented by the Government agencies and departments at national and county level, local

non-governmental organizations (NGOs), private sector and community structures within the target areas of implementation.

The program is designed to reach approximately 569,019 small-scale pastoralists and agropastoralists, male and female, through producer associations, community structures, and women and youth groups, as well as government stakeholders, private sector actors and development partners. It is thus being implemented in four (4) wards in each of the target counties as follows: Marsabit county: Golbo, Sagante/ Jaldesa, Maikona and Laisamis wards; Samburu County: Waso, Wamba West, Lodokejek and Baawa wards; and Isiolo county: Chari, Burat, Ngaremara and Kinna wards.

Overview of Marsabit, Samburu and Isiolo Counties

The RANGE program targets Marsabit, Samburu and Isiolo counties which are Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) with fragile pastoral and agro-pastoral livelihoods. This is mainly because livestock remains the most important and most immediate lever for improved food security, nutrition and resilience for small-scale pastoral and agro-pastoral inhabitants of ASALs.

Overview of Marsabit County

Marsabit county is located in the central north region of Kenya and covers approximately 70,961.2 square kilometres, making it the second largest county in Kenya. Administratively, the county is divided into four (4) sub counties: Saku, North Horr, Laisamis, and Moyale.

The county experiences semi-arid climatic conditions with an average temperature ranging between 15 °C and 26 °C. The rainfall ranges between 200 and 1,000 mm (7.9 and 39.4 in) per annum. The long rains season starts in April through May while the short rains occur from November to December.

Marsabit county has a rich and diverse demography. The main ethnic groups in the county include the Borana, Gabra, Rendille, and Burji. Additionally, there are smaller communities such as the Samburu, Turkana, El molo and Dassanech

(Afribary, 2011). According to the Kenya Population and Housing Census, as of 2019, the county has an estimated population of 459,785 people (243,548 males, 216,219 females), 77,495 households, with an average household size of 5.8 persons per household and a population density of 6 people per square kilometre.

The primary livelihood in Marsabit county is pastoralism, with the majority (81%) of the population engaged in livestock rearing, including cattle, goats, sheep, and camels. There are also some areas where agro pastoralism (16%) is practiced where crops such as maize, beans, and vegetables are grown either through irrigation or rainfed systems. The pastoral economy is further supplemented by other livelihoods (3%) including small-scale trade, and some tourism activities, particularly around Mount Marsabit and Lake Turkana.

The county generally faces several challenges, including recurrent droughts, floods, food insecurity, inadequate infrastructure, and limited access to basic services such as healthcare and education. However, there are also opportunities for development, particularly in the areas of renewable energy, tourism, and cross-border trade given its proximity to Ethiopia.

Overview of Samburu County

Samburu county is located in the central north region of Kenya and covers approximately 21,000 square kilometers, making it the tenth largest county in Kenya. Administratively, the county is divided into three (3) sub counties: Samburu East, Samburu North, and Samburu West.

The county is characterized by an arid to semiarid climate, receiving an average annual rainfall of between 300 and 600 mm, which is significantly lower than the national average. Rainfall is highly erratic, with dry spells often punctuated by short, heavy downpours. The county experiences high temperatures throughout the year, with hot days and cool nights; average temperature ranging between 15 °C and 35 °C.

The county has a rich and diverse demography with the majority ethnic group being Samburu people. Other main ethnic groups in the county include the Turkana, Rendille, Borana and Pokot. The urban centres hold a mixture of people from all over Kenya. According to the Kenya Population and Housing Census, as of 2019, the county has an estimated population of 310,327 people (156,774 males, 153,546 females) households, with an average household size of 4.7 persons per household and a population density of 11 people per square kilometre.

The primary livelihood in Samburu County is pastoralism, with the majority of the population engaged in livestock rearing, including cattle, goats, sheep, and camels. There are also some areas where agro pastoralism is practiced where crops such as sorghum, maize, beans, and vegetables are grown either through irrigation or rainfed systems. The pastoral economy is further supplemented by small-scale trade, artisanal mining and some tourism activities particularly around the Samburu National Reserve, which attracts visitors to the region.

The county faces significant socio-economic challenges, including poverty, limited access to basic services, and high levels of food insecurity. Infrastructure development is ongoing, but many areas remain underserved, impacting the overall quality of life for residents.

Overview of Isiolo County

Isiolo county is located in the central north region of Kenya and covers approximately 25,336 square kilometers. Administratively, the county is divided into three (3) sub counties: Isiolo, Merti, and Garbatulla.

Isiolo County is classified as an arid to semi-arid region mainly because it experiences hot and dry conditions for most of the year. The county receives low amounts of rainfall annually, typically ranging between 150 mm and 250 mm. Rainfall patterns are highly inconsistent, with dry spells often interrupted by short, heavy downpours. Isiolo experiences high temperatures throughout the year. Daytime temperatures can reach up to 35°C or even higher during peak periods.

The county has a rich and diverse demography with the majority ethnic groups being the Borana, Samburu, and Turkana, with smaller populations of Meru, Maasai, and Somali. The urban centres hold a mixture of people from all over Kenya. As per the 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census, the county has a population of approximately 268,002 people (128,483 female, 139,510 male and 9 intersex). There is an average size of 4.6 persons per household and a population density of 11 persons per square Km.

The primary livelihood in Isiolo county is pastoralism, which means that the majority of the population relies on livestock (cattle, sheep, goats, and camels) for their sustenance and income. There are also some areas where agro pastoralism is practiced where crops such as maize, beans, and vegetables are grown either through irrigation or rainfed systems. The pastoral economy is further supplemented by small-scale trade, especially in livestock and livestock products, and remittances from family members working in urban areas contribute to household incomes and support livelihoods.

Isiolo county presents a complex socioeconomic landscape characterized by a blend of traditional pastoral livelihoods and emerging economic opportunities. Addressing the county's developmental challenges requires concerted efforts in improving education, infrastructure, and social cohesion. Sustainable development initiatives must be tailored to the unique needs of the region's diverse population to foster long-term growth and stability.

About the Stakeholder Vulnerability Analysis _

As part of the inception phase of the RANGE program, an inception assessment was designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the current conditions in the target counties, identify key vulnerabilities, capacities, and opportunities, and ensure that program activities are well-informed and effectively tailored to the local context. The inception assessment comprises six thematic areas including: Gender, Biodiversity, Climate risk, Energy landscape, Conflict, and Stakeholder vulnerability analysis.

Purpose and Objectives of the Assessment

The Stakeholder Vulnerability Analysis is a critical tool for risk management and strategic planning. Through the identification and assessment of vulnerabilities of various stakeholders associated with RANGE, it will allow the program team (and others) to make more informed decisions about how to adapt program interventions to stimulate positive impact.

Nine (9) specific objectives have been identified for this assessment. They include:



Identify and categorize stakeholders: Clearly define relevant stakeholders and classify into categories based on their involvement, influence or interest.



Analyze power and influence each stakeholder holds.



Identify dependency: Identify the level of dependency each stakeholder has on the program and vice versa; high dependency may increase vulnerability.



Risk perception & mitigation: Assess how each stakeholder perceives risks associated with the program and understands mitigation strategies.



Economic factors: Analyze economic factors that may affect stakeholders and how changes in markets/industry dynamics can create vulnerabilities.



Social and cultural factors: Consider social and cultural aspects that may impact stakeholders.



Technological changes: Assess how technological advancements may affect stakeholders; Rapid technological changes can create vulnerabilities.



Environmental factors: Evaluate environmental factors that may impact stakeholders, such as climate change, natural disasters, etc.



Conflict factors: Understand how various stakeholders are affected by / respond to various aspects of conflict (or potential for conflict) in the targeted counties.

Assessment/Research Questions

The assessment is to respond to the following six research questions:

- 1. Who are the key individuals, groups, organizations, and institutions that are directly or indirectly affected by or can have an impact on the program in the implementation area?
- 2. What are the primary interests, concerns, and objectives of stakeholders in relation to the program?
- 3. How do economic factors such as market trends, commodity prices, and employment opportunities influence the livelihoods and well-being of stakeholders?
- 4. How do social norms, traditions, and cultural practices shape the identities, roles, and relationships of stakeholders within the community?
- 5. What are the root causes, triggers, and drivers of conflict within the targeted counties, and how do they affect stakeholders' safety, livelihoods, and well-being?
- 6. What are some of the assets, resources or entitlements that if available will reduce stakeholders' vulnerability?

Outline of the Report

This report is structured around five (5) main sections. Section One presents the introduction and background information to the RANGE program and the assessment; section two presents

the technical approach and methodology used to undertake the assessment; section three presents the findings and brief discussions; section four presents conclusions and recommendations; and the last section presents the annexes.

Technical Approach and Methodology

This section presents the technical approach and methodologies used to undertake this assessment.

Technical Design and Approach

The assessment adopted a qualitative approach involving collection, analysis and reporting on qualitative data and information. The assessment followed a non-experimental design where the stakeholders and their status in all the three

counties were assessed and reported on as they naturally occur. The assessment was thus delivered in three main phases as summarised in the following figure.

Figure 1: Phases of the stakeholders' vulnerability assessment



Sampling Design and Strategy

The sampling strategy for this qualitative assessment employed a purposive, non-probability approach to ensure selection of information-rich respondents in all the target areas at county and community levels. This approach enabled capturing of diverse perspectives and experiences that respond to the assessment questions.

Criteria used in the selection of participants of the assessment included:

- Willingness and ability to participate
- Representation of vulnerable and marginalized groups
- Diversity of perspectives and experiences
- Relevance to thematic areas particularly for the KIIs
- Geographical distribution within target counties.

Data Collection Methodologies

The assessment used various methods of data collection, as discussed herewith.

Literature and Desk Review

The consultants conducted detailed documents analysis through desk and literature review. This entailed comprehensive examination of existing research, reports, program and policy documents,

and other relevant materials related to the assessment objectives.

The document analysis process employed a systematic approach to identifying, analyzing, and synthesizing information from diverse sources. The following matrix presents the list of documents reviewed during this assessment:

Table 1: List of reviewed literature and documents

#	Categories	Title of document reviewed	Author/Agency
1	Government Reports and Publications	Kenya Population and Housing Census Volume I: Population by County and Sub- County	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2019)
		Kenya Population and Housing Census Volume IV: Distribution of Population by Socio-Economic Characteristics.	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2019)
		Isiolo County Integrated Development Plan 2023- 2027	Isiolo County Government (2023)
		Marsabit County Integrated Development Plan 2023-2027	Marsabit County Government (2023)
		Samburu County Integrated Development Plan 2023-2027	Samburu County Government (2023)
2	Academic and Research Publications	Inter-Ethnic Conflicts Between The Gabra And Dassenetch Communities Of Marsabit County	Afribary (2011)
3	Program Documents	RANGE program proposal	Mercy Corps (2023)
		RANGE Research Assessment Matrix	Mercy Corps (2024)

Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)

During this assignment, six (6) key informants (2 female and 4 male), two (2) in every County were engaged through in-depth one-on-one interviews. All intended key informants under stakeholders' vulnerability were thus interviewed, bringing an overall response rate of 100.0%.

All the discussions were conducted through face-to-face interviews with each interview taking an average of 45 minutes. A key informant interview guide was used to facilitate the discussions. All interviews were recorded and transcribed. The following table presents the breakdown of the number of the key informants interviewed.

Table 2: List of key informants interviewed

County	Title of Key informants	Organization
		Isiolo County Government
		NDMA
		Marsabit County Government
	County Director	NDMA
Samburu	County Drought Coordinator	NDMA
	County Environmental Officer	Samburu County Government

In-depth Household Interviews

During this assignment, 24 in-depth interviews (IDIs) focusing on stakeholders' vulnerability assessment were conducted. 14 of these interviews were with female headed households and the remaining 10 interviews with the male headed households. All intended IDIs under stakeholders' vulnerability were thus interviewed, bringing an overall response rate of 100.0%.

All the discussions were conducted through face-to-face interviews with each interview taking an average of 57 minutes. An IDI guide was used to facilitate the discussions. All interviews were recorded and transcribed. The following table presents the breakdown of the number of IDIs conducted.

Table 3: Number of IDIs conducted by ward

County	Wards	# of IDI conducted
Isiolo	Chari	2
	Burat	2
	Ngaremara	2
	Kinna	2
Marsabit	Golbo	2
	Sagante/ Jaldesa	2
	Maikona	2
	Laisamis	2
Samburu	Waso	2
	Wamba West	2
	Lodokejek	2
	Baawa	2
Total Number of IDIs Conducted		24

Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)

During this assignment, 24 focus group discussions (FGDs) – 12 female and 12 male FGDs – focusing on stakeholders' vulnerability assessment were conducted. All intended FGDs under stakeholders' vulnerability were thus interviewed, bringing an overall response rate of 100.0%.

Participants of the focus groups were drawn from livestock owners, traders, women groups officials, youth groups representatives, Community Disease Reporters (CDRs) and members of Ward Development Committees (WDCs), Water Resource User Associations (WRUAs), and Pastoralist and Agro-pastoralist Association (PAs).

All the discussions were conducted through face-to-face interviews with each FGD taking an average of 48 minutes. An FGD guide was used to facilitate the discussions. All discussions were recorded and transcribed. The following table presents the breakdown of the number of FGDs conducted.

Table 4: Number of FGDs conducted by ward

County	Wards	# of FGDs conducted
Isiolo	Chari	2
	Burat	2
	Ngaremara	2
	Kinna	2
Marsabit	Golbo	2
	Sagante/ Jaldesa	2
	Maikona	2
	Laisamis	2
Samburu	Waso	2
	Wamba West	2
	Lodokejek	2
	Baawa	2
Total Number of FGDs Conducted	24	24

Data Quality Control, Analysis and Reporting

This sub-section presents the various data quality control measures, analysis and reporting processes followed during this assessment.

Data Quality Control Measures

A series of data quality control measures were put in place by the consultants to ensure validity and reliability of findings. The following measures were implemented:

- Research questions: Conceptualized according to the Scope of Work (SOW).
- Inclusion and exclusion criteria: Only published documents and literature from official partner organizations were reviewed as part of the literature review.
- Data acquisition: Multiple methods, including desk reviews, KIIs, IDIs and FGDs were used to increase the validity of results.
- Respondent selection: Only individuals knowledgeable in livestock and rangelands issues were interviewed.
- FGDs: Participants selected were those who are knowledgeable in community livestock and rangeland management practices. FGDs were conducted by a team of two (a note taker and a moderator).
- Transcription: Every KII, IDI and FGD script were transcribed by two persons.
- Quality control: 20% of the IDI, FGDs and

- KIIs field notes were randomly sampled and reviewed by the consultants.
- Data analysis: Triangulation of findings from different sources was conducted. Validity was ensured through categorization, classification, sorting, and labelling to build themes around each research question.
- Ethical considerations: Adhered to ethical guidelines for conducting research, including informed consent, confidentiality, and data protection.
- Data storage: Securely store data to protect participant privacy and confidentiality.
- Documentation: Maintaining detailed documentation of the entire research process for transparency and replicability.

Data Analysis and Reporting Processes

All data, information and discussion points from the documents analysis, in-depth interviews and observations were synthesized in the form of transcripts which captured all the main data and discussion points and further highlighted key themes and findings and recommendations that were emanating from each process.

Key steps followed in analysing these qualitative data are summarised in the following figure. All the findings were then synthesised into this technical report.

Figure 2: Steps followed in analysing qualitative data



Process and record data while the interaction is still fresh in the

Data collection and analysis begins as soon as collecting the first piece of enumerators minds information begins. Includes reviewing data and mentally grouping emerging themes and patterns

Data reduction and transformation to identify and focus on what is meaningful

Content and thematic analysis to identify patterns and themes (including data coding and grouping)

Conclusion drawing and verifications

Ethical Considerations and Safeguarding

The following ethical considerations and safeguards were put in place during this assessment:

- The assessment team adhered to the safeguarding protocols of Mercy Corps along with Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL) policies and procedures. This included completion of the consent forms by all respondents and
- signing the Mercy Corps code of conduct by all the research teams prior to engaging in the data collection activities.
- Adherence to universal ethical research measures such as independence and impartiality, culturally meaningful approaches, informed consent, voluntary participation, and confidentiality.
- Cultural, religious, and traditional norms of the study populations were respected.
- All participants were informed about the interview procedures, the voluntary nature of their participation, and assured of the confidentiality of their responses.
- Written consent was obtained for respondents and individuals whose photographs were taken.



Findings and Discussions

The following section presents the findings and discussions from the assessment.

Profiles of Stakeholders Groups.

The following assessment question is analyzed and responded to under this subsection. The analysis has been conducted by identified stakeholders within the target counties.

Research/assessment questions

Who are the key individuals, groups, organizations, and institutions that are directly or indirectly affected by or can have an impact on the program in the implementation area?

Successful implementation of the RANGE program in Isiolo, Samburu and Marsabit Counties requires deliberate and strategic involvement of a diverse range of stakeholders. This therefore necessitates their identification, understanding their roles within the context and various challenges that they work with and around, in order to build strong partnerships and achieve the project's objectives.

Findings from this assessment reveal that the key stakeholders in the three counties that are directly or indirectly affected by or can have an impact on the RANGE program can be categorized into the following:

- a) The County Government
- b) The National Drought Management Authority (NDMA)
- c) Communities and Community Groups/ Structures
- d) Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)
- e) The Private Sector
- f) Research Institutions

The following matrix presents the roles and challenges for each of the stakeholders:

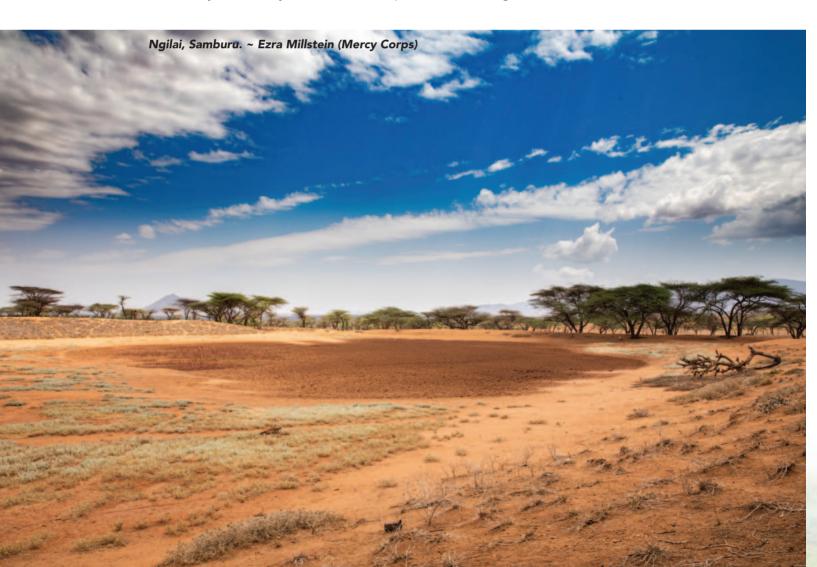


Table 5: Stakeholders' groups, roles and challenges

#	Stakeholder	Roles played	Challenges encountered
1	County Government	Policy and regulatory framework: Develops and enforces policies related to land use, natural resource management, and community development. Policymakers: County-level policymakers who influence the enabling environment for	Limited capacity, financial constraints, and competing priorities.
		the project Resource allocation: Provides financial and technical support for project implementation. Coordination: Oversees project implementation and ensures alignment with county development plans.	
2	National Drought Management Authority (NDMA)	Coordinating all matters related to drought risk management and establishing mechanisms to prevent drought emergencies in Kenya.	Competing priorities in terms of work stream and demands on the few available officers.
3	Communities and Community Groups/ Structures	Primary users of rangeland resources and participate in the implementation of project interventions at grassroot level. Provide local knowledge on rangeland conditions, livestock management practices, and coping mechanisms. Participate in project activities, such as training, data collection, and decision-making. Community leaders: Engage with community members and influence their participation, conflict resolution and decision-making. Knowledge sharing: Transmit traditional ecological knowledge to younger generations.	Often marginalized, with limited access to resources and decision-making power. Women and youth: These groups often face specific challenges and require targeted interventions within the project. Limited formal education and exposure to modern development approaches.
4	CSOs/NGOs	Technical expertise: Provide technical support in areas such as rangeland management, climate change adaptation, and livelihoods. Advocacy: Advocate for the rights and interests of pastoralist communities. Can support project objectives by entrenching human rights-based approach to programming. Linkage building: Connect communities with government agencies and other stakeholders.	Navigating complex operational environments. The vastness of Isiolo county presents operational Challenges making programming costs very high. Securing sustainable funding and building trust with communities.

#	Stakeholder	Roles played	Challenges encountered
5	Private Sector	Market actors: Traders, processors, and consumers of livestock products. Businesses involved in livestock marketing, value addition, or renewable energy can contribute to project sustainability by creating market opportunities for livestock products and value-added services. Investment: Provide financial resources for rangeland improvement and sustainable livelihoods. Banks and microfinance institutions can	Profit-oriented focus might conflict with community needs and environmental sustainability.
		support project activities through credit and financial services. Technology transfer: Introduce innovative technologies for rangeland management and production. Media: Local and national media (radio) can raise awareness about the project and its impact.	
6	Research Institutions	Knowledge generation: Conduct research on rangeland ecosystems, climate change impacts, and pastoral livelihoods. Capacity building: Support the development of M&E systems and data analysis skills. Policy advice: Provide evidence-based recommendations for policy makers.	Challenges: Limited resources for field research and knowledge dissemination.
7	State Department of ASALs and Regional Development	Policy development: Formulating policies and strategies for the development of ASALs, including land use planning, natural resource management, and poverty reduction. Advocacy: Raising awareness of the challenges and opportunities facing ASALs and advocating for increased investment in these regions. Coordination: Coordinating the activities of various government departments and agencies involved in ASAL development.	Limited Resources: The department often faces budgetary constraints, which can hinder its ability to implement effective development programs. Limited Institutional Capacity: The department may have limited institutional capacity, including insufficient staff and expertise, to address the complex challenges facing ASALs.
		Capacity Building: Strengthening the capacity of local communities and government institutions at national and county levels to manage ASAL resources sustainably.	, ones.

#	Stakeholder	Roles played	Challenges encountered
8	Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS)	Conserves wildlife, manages protected areas, and promotes sustainable tourism.	Poaching, human-wildlife conflict, and limited resources.
9	Ministry of Energy	Policy Formulation: Developing and implementing energy policies, strategies, and regulations that guide the energy sector at national and county levels.	Limited Resources: Inadequate budgetary allocations and funding can hinder the implementation of energy projects and programs.
		Energy Access: Ensuring equitable access to energy services, particularly in rural and marginalized areas.	Renewable Energy Integration: Integrating renewable energy sources into the grid poses technical and regulatory challenges.
		Renewable Energy Promotion: Encouraging and supporting the adoption of renewable energy technologies.	Energy Affordability: Ensuring affordable energy access for all, particularly low-income households, can be difficult.
10	Frontier Counties Development Council (FCDC)	Policy Development: Formulating policies and strategies for the development of frontier counties, addressing specific needs and challenges.	
		Coordination: Coordinating the activities of various government departments and agencies involved in frontier county development.	
		Capacity Building: Strengthening the capacity of local communities and government institutions in frontier counties to manage resources sustainably.	
11	Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)	IGAD supports sustainable development initiatives, focusing on areas such as agriculture, health, education, and climate change. IGAD could facilitate cross-border cooperation on rangeland management initiatives.	IGAD may have competing priorities, and rangeland development may not always be a top priority.

The County Governments

These will include working with the County Assembly, Ministries and Departments on policy and regulatory framework.

The Isiolo County Climate Change Unit is also a critical stakeholder to work with. The unit is responsible for coordinating climate adaptation strategies and disaster risk reduction efforts in the county.

In Samburu and Marsabit, the county government also engages with local government bodies in the coordination and implementation of several projects and programs in the county. For instance, the Kenya Off-Grid Solar Access Project (KOSAP) aims to provide electricity and clean cooking solutions in underserved areas of Samburu County.

Other departments within the Counties that the program should work with include Department of Livestock Production; Department of Peace, Cohesion, and Conflict Resolution; Department of Lands and Physical Planning; Department of Finance and Economic Planning; and Department of Tourism and Wildlife.

The program will further need to work with Livestock

Extension Officers who provide extension services, training, and technical support to pastoralists; and the Agriculture Extension Officers who support agro-pastoral initiatives and sustainable farming practices.

National Drought Management Authority (NDMA)

The NDMA is a public body established by the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) Act, 2016 with a primary mandate of coordinating all matters related to drought risk management and establishing mechanisms to prevent drought emergencies in Kenya.

In the three counties, NDMA currently has four main interventions:

- Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP) is an unconditional cash transfer program that supports vulnerable populations in eight ASAL counties, including Isiolo, Samburu and Marsabit.
- Dryland Climate Action for Community Drought Resilience is a program funded by the European Union and aims at enhancing community resilience to drought and climate change effects.
- TWENDE project which is focused on ecosystem-based adaptation in Kenya's rangelands, aiming to increase livestock and land-use sector resilience through restored rangeland ecosystems.
- UNDP projects: UNDP collaborates with NDMA to strengthen community resilience against climate change risks and disasters.

Communities and Community Groups/ Structures

Community members represent the primary users of rangeland resources and participate in the implementation of program interventions at grassroot level. They further provide local knowledge on rangeland conditions, livestock management practices, and coping mechanisms.

The program will also work with traditional leaders and elders such as chiefs and spiritual leaders who have influence over community decisions related to land and resource management. Their endorsement of the program can also enhance acceptance and participation.

Women's groups and youth associations are critical stakeholders for the RANGE program. For

instance, the Isiolo Women's Network which works to empower women in rangeland communities through income-generating activities. Youth for Rangelands also engages young people in rangeland restoration and climate resilience efforts in the target wards.

In Marsabit County, the program could work with the Golbo Community Development Group, Maikona Youth Empowerment Association, Laisamis Women's Association and Sagante Women's Cooperative. These local groups play a crucial role in community development.

The assessment further established the following community structures that will be pivotal for implementation of RANGE program. They include:

- Community Development Committees (CDCs): often established at village level and can be involved in program planning, implementation, and monitoring.
- Community Disease Reporters (CDRs): are individuals who are trained to identify, report, and track diseases within their communities. They are located at village level and often work with the County government health departments and veterinary services to enhance disease surveillance.
- Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) are a popular financial self-help groups at village level typically formed by a small group of individuals, often women, who contribute regularly to a common pool of funds. These funds are then loaned out to members at a predetermined interest rate.

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

The assessment identified different categories of CSOs in the three Counties that RANGE program could partner with. They include Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), Community Wildlife Conservancies, Water Resources Users Associations (WRUAs), Pastoral/Farmer Associations, Ward Development Committees (WDCs), and local and international Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

In Isiolo County, there is the Isiolo Rangeland Users Association (IRUA) which is a local CBO that focuses on sustainable rangeland management, community engagement, and livelihood improvement. The program will further need to work with the Nkutuk Community Conservancy

which is a CBO that combines wildlife conservation with livestock grazing, promoting coexistence and sustainable land use.

There are also Community Wildlife Conservancies that the program should work with. For instance, there is the Biliqo-Bulesa Conservancy which balances wildlife conservation with livestock grazing, benefiting both ecosystems and communities. There is also the Namunyak Wildlife Conservancy which serves as a model for coexistence between wildlife and pastoralists.

There are also environmental conservation organizations that the program might consider partnering with. For instance, the Green Isiolo which is an NGO focused on sustainable land use, reforestation, and water resource management. There are also the Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) and the Wildlife Warriors which promote wildlife conservation and community engagement through education and awareness campaigns. There is also IMPACT which is an NGO working on the conservation of Ewaso river ecosystem and also very strong on land rights in Samburu and Isiolo boarders.

The program may further engage with the Women Agro-Pastoralists Association who mainly advocate for women's rights and empowerment in livestock-related activities. Additionally, the Kenya Red Cross Society is well established with grassroot networks and responds to emergencies and promotes community resilience.

In Samburu County, the program could work with the Samburu Women Trust which is a local organization working to empower women and improve their livelihoods. They focus on indigenous communities and resilience-building. Additionally, the Nkishon project is a community-driven initiative addressing vulnerability factors and leveraging traditional coping strategies during humanitarian crises in the target wards.

In Marsabit County, the program could work with the Golbo Community Development Group, Maikona Youth Empowerment Association, Laisamis Women's Association and Sagante Women's Cooperative. These local groups play a crucial role in community development.

The following matrix summarises the existing CSOs by County:

Table 6: Existing CSOs by County

Isiolo	Samburu	Marsabit
Isiolo Rangeland Users Association (IRUA)	Samburu Women Trust	Golbo Community Development Group
Nkutuk Community Conservancy	Nkishon project	Maikona Youth Empowerment Association
Biliqo-Bulesa Conservancy	Women Agro-Pastoralists Association	Laisamis Women's Association
Namunyak Wildlife Conservancy	Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT)	Sagante Women's Cooperative
Green Isiolo NGO	Kenya Red Cross Society	Women Agro-Pastoralists Association
Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT)	Water Resources Users Associations (WRUAs)	Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT)
Wildlife Warriors	Pastoral/Farmer Associations	Kenya Red Cross Society
IMPACT	Ward Development Committees (WDCs)	Water Resources Users Associations (WRUAs)
Women Agro-Pastoralists Association		Pastoral/Farmer Associations
Kenya Red Cross Society		Ward Development Committees (WDCs)
Water Resources Users Associations (WRUAs)		
Pastoral/Farmer Associations		
Ward Development Committees (WDCs)		

The Private Sector

The private sector in the three counties play critical roles within the different value chains and market dynamics in all the target wards. In this regard, the program will need to work with businesses involved in livestock marketing, value addition, or renewable energy. They can contribute to program sustainability by creating market opportunities for livestock products and value-added services.

The Isiolo Livestock Marketing Cooperative plays a critical role in aggregation and market access for pastoralists by facilitating collective marketing, herd health services, and knowledge sharing among pastoralists. Isiolo Livestock Traders Limited is also a critical actor in the target areas.

It is a private company involved in livestock trade and value chain development.

In Samburu, the program could consider working with the Samburu Agribusiness Ventures which invests in agro-pastoral enterprises, including dairy and horticulture. Banks and microfinance institutions can support program activities through credit and financial services. The local and national media (radio) can raise awareness about the project and its impact.

Other market actors that the program could work with in the three counties include input, seeds and fodder suppliers, middlemen, and traders.

The following matrix summarises the existing private sector stakeholders by County that the program could work with:

Table 7: Existing private sector stakeholders by County

Isiolo	Samburu	Marsabit
Isiolo Livestock Marketing Cooperative	Samburu Agribusiness Ventures	Marsabit Livestock Traders
Input, seeds and fodder suppliers and wholesalers Middlemen and traders Banks and microfinance institutions	Input, seeds and fodder suppliers and wholesalers Middlemen and traders Banks and microfinance institutions	Input, seeds and fodder suppliers and wholesalers Middlemen and traders Banks and microfinance institutions
Isiolo Livestock Traders Limited	Local and national media (radio)	Local and national media (radio)
Local and national media (radio)		

Research Institutions

The program will further need to work with research institutions working in the three counties particularly on knowledge generation through research, capacity building and policy advice. Isiolo University will be a critical partner, particularly collaborating with their environmental

science department can provide valuable research insights and capacity-building opportunities.

Additionally, the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) works in Isiolo and their expertise in rangeland ecology and livestock management can inform program strategies.



The program will need to work with businesses involved in livestock marketing, value addition, or renewable energy, as they can contribute to program sustainability by creating market opportunities for livestock products and value-added services.

Stakeholder Interests and Influence Analysis _

The following assessment question is analysed and responded to under this subsection. Analysis on the degree of influence of the stakeholders was rated using the scale: High, Moderate and Low.

Research/assessment questions

What are the primary interests, concerns, and objectives of stakeholders in relation to the program?

Discussions with the key informants underpinned the fact that comprehensive understanding of stakeholder interests, concerns, and objectives is crucial for the successful implementation of the RANGE program in the three counties.

The assessment further noted that the influence of stakeholders is dynamic and can change over time. It can also vary depending on various factors such as the implementation stage of the program and the specific issues being addressed within the contexts of implementation.

As at the time of this assessment, the findings point at the following stakeholders having either a high, moderate or low influence on the RANGE program.



High Influence:

County government, target communities and groups, traditional leaders.



Moderate Influence:

DMA, market actors, and other private sector stakeholders, and to some extent, NGOs and CBOs



Low Influence:

Research institutions.

High Importance & Low Influence

- NDMA High Importance & High Influence
- County government
- Target communities and groups

High Importance & HIGH Influence

- County government
- Target communities and groups
- Traditional leaders

Low Importance & Low Influence

Research institutions

Low Importance & High Influence

None identified

The following matrix presents the evidence collected from the respondents that delved

into the specific needs and expectations of key stakeholder groups.

Table 8: Stakeholders' interests, concerns, and objectives

#	Stakeholder	objectives	Interests & Concerns	Influence	
			Interests & Concerns Interests: Sustainable		
1	Government	Objectives: Effective governance, resource mobilization, and service delivery.	development, poverty reduction, and improved service delivery.	High influence on policy making, resource allocation, and the program due to its	
			Concerns: Resource constraints, capacity limitations, political interference, and community engagement challenges.	regulatory role.	
2	National Drought Management Authority (NDMA)	Supporting communities and Governments in managing the impacts of drought.	Interests: Effective drought management, resource mobilization, coordination and collaboration, knowledge management and policy influence.	Moderate influence particularly with regards to sectoral coordination at County and Subcounty level.	
			Concerns: Limited resources (personnel, funding, and equipment), coordination challenges, and data gaps for early warning systems.		
3	Communities and Community Groups/ Structures	Sustainable rangeland management, increased income, improved access to markets, and better living conditions.	Interests: Access to and control of rangeland resources, improved livelihoods, food security, and social well-being.	High influence on programs at grassroots level due to their direct dependence on rangeland resources.	
			Concerns: Climate change, land degradation, market fluctuations, insecurity, and limited access to services.		
4	CSOs/NGOs	Projects implementation, capacity building, advocacy, and knowledge generation.	Interests: Promoting sustainable development, environmental conservation, and social justice. Concerns: Funding	Moderate influence at local level, depending on their reputation, resources, and partnerships.	
			limitations, political instability, and achieving measurable impact.		
5	Private Sector	Expanding market opportunities, improving value	Interests: Profit maximization, market access, and product quality.	Moderate influence through market dynamics and	
		chains, and supporting sustainable livelihoods.	Concerns: Price fluctuations, competition, and infrastructure challenges.	investments.	
6	Research Institutions	Generating evidence- based knowledge, informing policy, and	Interests: Knowledge generation, policy influence, and capacity building.	Low influence through research findings and policy	
		supporting project implementation.	Concerns: Limited funding, access to data, and practical application of research findings.	recommendations	

Economic Factors Shaping Stakeholder Dynamics _

The following assessment question is analysed and responded to under this subsection. Analysis on the degree of influence of the stakeholders was rated using the scale: High, Moderate and Low.

Research/assessment questions

1 How do economic factors such as market trends, commodity prices, and employment opportunities influence the livelihoods and well-being of stakeholders?

Collected evidence from the field identified the following key economic factors that would significantly impact the livelihoods and well-being of stakeholders involved in the RANGE program in the three counties. These factors can either enhance or hinder the program's success.

- a) Market Trends and Commodity Prices
- b) Employment Opportunities
- c) Access to Financial Services
- d) Infrastructure Development
- e) Land Tenure and Property Rights
- f) Livestock Health and Productivity

Discussions with the key informants further identified some strategies that can be considered by RANGE program to address economic challenges in the three counties:

 Market Information Systems: Providing pastoralists with timely market information can help them make informed decisions.

- Value Addition: Supporting initiatives to add value to livestock products can increase incomes.
- Diversification: Promoting alternative livelihood options to reduce reliance on livestock.
- Infrastructure Development: Investing in roads, markets, and communication infrastructure to improve market access.
- Financial Inclusion: Expanding access to financial services for pastoralists and CBOs.
- Risk Management Strategies: Implementing risk management strategies, such as insurance and savings mechanisms, to protect livelihoods.

The following matrix summarises how these factors impact the identified stakeholders. Analysis on each of the economic factors is presented after the matrix.

Table 9: Economic factors shaping stakeholder dynamics

Market Trends and	Commodity Prices
County Governments	Revenue generation from taxes on livestock andagricultural products is influenced by market conditions.
NDMA	No direct impacts although NDMA are key in collecting and dissemi nating these trends,
Communities	Fluctuating livestock prices directly impact incomes and household food security. For instance, price of cattle fluctuates within the seasons from KES 25,000 to KES 45,000.
	Men, who often own and manage livestock, are directly affected by price fluctuations. A decline in prices can lead to financial hardship and reduced resilience.
	While women may not have direct ownership of livestock, they often play crucial roles in animal husbandry and benefit from livestock income. Fluctuations can impact their livelihoods and access to resources.
	Youth involved in livestock rearing or related businesses are also vulnerable to price fluctuations. A decline can limit their income-earning opportunities and hinder their development.
CSOs & NGOs	CBOs & NGOs involved in value addition or marketing activities are affected by market prices.
	Project sustainability and impact can be influenced by market conditions for project outputs.

Market Trends and	Commodity Prices
CSOs & NGOs	CBOs & NGOs involved in value addition or marketing activities are affected
	by market prices.
	Project sustainability and impact can be influenced by market conditions for
	project outputs.
Private Sector	Fluctuations in livestock prices, feed costs, and other inputs directly impact
	the profitability of private sector actors. Favourable market trends can
	stimulate investment and growth, while adverse conditions can lead to
	business closures.
Research Institutions	Economic downturns can reduce funding availability for research projects,
	limiting research capacity and output.
	Demand for research findings is influenced by market trends and policy
	priorities.
Employment Oppo	ortunities
County Governments	Government revenue is impacted by employment levels and tax collection.
NDMA	No direct impacts
Communities	Limited off-farm employment options constrain incomes and livelihood
	diversification.
	Men: Traditional gender roles often assign men the responsibility of
	providing for their families. Limited employment opportunities can lead to
	increased stress, frustration, and potentially violent behavior.
	Women in these regions face additional barriers to employment, such as
	limited access to education, discrimination, and cultural norms. Economic
	hardships can exacerbate gender- based violence and poverty.
	Young people in these counties often have limited access to educationand
	skills training, making it difficult for them to find formal employment. This
	can lead to frustration, social unrest, and migration.
CSOs & NGOs	CBOs & NGOs can create employment opportunities through projects
	implementation.
Private Sector	No direct impacts
Research Institutions	No direct impacts
Access to Financia	
County Governments	Access to World bank loans.
NDMA	No direct impacts
Communities	Access to credit, savings, and insurance services affects resilience. Adequate
	financial resources enable stakeholders to invest in livestock, cope with
CSOs & NGOs	shocks, and diversify livelihoods.
	Access to credit can support CBO operations and expansion.
Private Sector	Access to credit, insurance, and other financial products can support business growth and risk management.
Research Institutions	No direct impacts
Infrastructure Dev	·
County Governments	Investmentsin infrastructure can improve market access and stimulate
Jounty Governments	economic growth.
NDMA	No direct impacts
Communities	Infrastructure (roads, markets, water points) influences economic
	opportunities. Improved infrastructure enhances access to markets, reduces
11 727	transportation costs, and boosts trade.

Infrastructure Deve	elopment
CSOs & NGOs	Availability of roads enables access to project locations and thus reduces
	the costs of project implementation.
Private Sector	Availability and quality of infrastructure, such as roads, transportation, and communication networks, influence the efficiency and competitiveness of private sector businesses.
	Improved infrastructure can facilitate market access, reduce transportation costs, and enhance value chain integration.
Research Institutions	No direct impacts
Land Tenure and P	roperty Rights
County Governments	No direct impacts
NDMA	No direct impacts
Communities	Secure land tenure ensures stability and encourages investment.
	Insecure tenure can hinder economic activities and well-being.
	Men often have greater access to land and property rights, particularly in traditional societies. However, land grabbing and insecurity can affect them as well.
	Women are often disadvantaged in terms of land ownership and inheritance rights, limiting their economic opportunities and resilience. This can exacerbate gender- based violence and poverty.
	Youth may face challenges in obtaining land rights, especially if they are not part of established families or communities. This can hinder their ability to start businesses or engage in agricultural activities.
CSOs & NGOs	No direct impacts
Private Sector	Government policies and regulations, such as taxation, trade policies, and environmental regulations, can impact the operating environment for private sector businesses.
Research Institutions	No direct impacts
Livestock Health a	nd Productivity
County Governments	Healthy livestock contribute to economic security. Disease outbreaks reduce productivity and income and market closure affecting cess income.
NDMA	No direct impacts
Communities	outbreaks reduce productivity and income.
CSOs & NGOs	No direct impacts
Private Sector	positive driving up vet drug and animal feed sales; and can be negative if owners cannot afford to buy inputs due to high losses or low values.

Market Trends and Commodity Prices

Reviewed literature and discussions with the key informants revealed that livelihoods of the target communities in Isiolo, Marsabit, and Samburu Counties are intrinsically linked to the performance of the livestock markets. These counties are predominantly pastoralist, with livestock being the primary source of income and food security.

In this regard, fluctuations in market trends and commodity prices, therefore, have a direct impact on the well-being of these communities and other stakeholders. Discussions with the key informants largely noted that the primary commodities driving the economies of these target wards and counties at large are livestock (cattle, sheep, goats, and camels), their products (meat, milk, hides), and increasingly,

alternative livelihoods such as honey, charcoal, and handicrafts. For instance, price of grade one Borana cattle fluctuates within the seasons in a year from KES 25,000 to KES 45,000.

Informants noted that historically, livestock prices have fluctuated significantly, influenced by factors such as drought, disease outbreaks, and demand from urban areas. A key informant in Samburu noted that '.... high prices can improve pastoralists' incomes, but they can also lead to overstocking and accelerated rangeland degradation. Conversely, low prices can erode livelihoods and force distress sales.'

This position was also supported by the discussions at the FGDs that largely agreed that when livestock prices rise, pastoralists' income improves, leading to better livelihoods. Conversely, falling prices can strain their economic resilience. It was further noted that market trends also have implications on employment opportunities.

It was further noted from the interviews that the cost of supplementary feeds, such as hay and concentrates, can significantly impact pastoralists' expenses, especially during drought periods. High feed prices can reduce profit margins and limit the capacity to invest in other livelihood activities. A key informant from Marsabit also noted that '.... the prices of inputs such as veterinary drugs, fuel, and transportation affect the overall cost of livestock production and marketing. These are critical factors that the program should be aware of.'

The key informants further noted that value chain development is an important implementation strategy to be considered in the three counties. They strongly emphasised that strengthening value chains (e.g., meat processing, wool production) can increase income for stakeholders. A key informant in Isiolo noted that '...Mercy Corps-RANGE program should consider supporting value addition (e.g., meat processing cooperatives), it can enhance livelihoods by capturing more value from livestock products.'

The main impacts of market trends and commodity prices on the livelihoods and well-being of stakeholders involved in the RANGE program in the three counties include:



Income and food security: Collected evidence suggest that fluctuations in livestock prices directly impact household incomes and food security. High prices can improve living standards, while low prices can lead to food shortages and vulnerability.



Investment and risk management: Collected evidence suggest that favorable market conditions can enable pastoralists to invest in livestock improvement, diversification, and risk management strategies. Conversely, low prices can constrain investment and increase vulnerability to shocks.



Livelihood diversification: Collected evidence suggest that fluctuating livestock prices can encourage or discourage diversification into alternative livelihoods, such as crop production or small-scale businesses.



Social impacts: Collected evidence suggest that market trends can influence social relations and power dynamics within communities. For example, wealth disparities caused by fluctuating prices can lead to conflicts.



Migration: Extreme market conditions can trigger migration as pastoralists seek better opportunities elsewhere.

The key informants were further able to provide possible implications of these impacts on the RANGE program, and they include the following:



Market information systems: All informants agreed that providing accurate and timely market information to pastoralists can help them make informed decisions.



Risk management strategies: The informants suggested that RANGE should consider supporting development of risk management strategies, such as livestock insurance and savings groups, which can help pastoralists cope with market fluctuations.



Livelihood diversification: All informants noted the need of promoting alternative livelihood options to reduce reliance on livestock.



Value addition: All informants noted the need of supporting initiatives to add value to livestock products which can increase incomes and create employment opportunities.



Policy advocacy: An informant noted the need for advocating for policies that support development of fair and competitive livestock markets.

Employment Opportunities

Collected evidence from this assessment revealed that the ASAL nature of the target wards and Counties at large present significant challenges to livelihoods, primarily reliant on pastoralism. Key informants noted that employment opportunities beyond the traditional pastoral economy are limited, influencing the overall well-being of communities and stakeholders.

Four (4) main points that emerged from the discussions on understanding the employment landscape in these counties are as follows:



Limited formal employment: It was noted that the formal economy in these counties is generally underdeveloped, resulting in limited wage employment opportunities, which mainly stem from Government employment.



Seasonal employment: Some employment opportunities exist in agriculture, construction, and trade, but these are often seasonal and low paying.



Youth unemployment: A significant portion of the youth population in these counties is unemployed or underemployed, contributing to social unrest and economic stagnation. Additionally, female youth face even greater challenges in accessing employment opportunities, who are often limited to domestic chores and informal trade.

The main impacts of employment opportunities on the livelihoods and well-being of stakeholders involved in the RANGE program in the three counties include:



Dependency on pastoralism: Collected evidence suggest that limited alternative livelihoods force communities to remain heavily reliant on pastoralism, increasing their vulnerability to climate shocks.



Human capital development: Collected evidence suggest that limited employment opportunities hinder development of skills and knowledge necessary for diversifying livelihoods. Additionally, disparity between those with formal employment and those engaged in pastoralism contributes to income inequality and social tensions.



Migration: Collected evidence suggest that lack of employment opportunities can drive ruralurban migration, leading to social and economic challenges in both sending and receiving areas.



Social Impacts: Collected evidence suggest that unemployment and underemployment can contribute to social problems such as crime, substance abuse, and domestic violence.

Findings from this assessment generally indicate that limited off-farm employment options constrains livelihood diversification and income generation in the target wards. Discussions with the key informants and in-depth household interviews largely noted that when non- agricultural jobs are scarce, pastoralists rely more on livestock-related activities. One example given by a key informant in Samburu County noted

that '...if the RANGE program promotes alternative income sources (e.g., eco-tourism, handicrafts), it can enhance livelihoods by creating employment options beyond traditional herding.'

The key informants were further able to provide possible implications of these impacts on the RANGE program, and they include the following:



Diversification of livelihoods: All key informants noted the need of promoting non-pastoral income-generating activities, such as agribusiness, handicrafts, and tourism.



Youth employment and skills development: All key informants recommended development of youth-focused programs that build skills and provide employment opportunities. These should also be aimed at addressing gender disparities in employment and economic empowerment through vocational training and entrepreneurship development to enhance employability.



Market development: Supporting the growth of local markets and value chains to create employment opportunities.

Access to Financial Services

Access to financial services is a critical determinant of livelihoods and well-being in Isiolo, Marsabit, and Samburu Counties. The predominantly pastoralist nature of these regions, coupled with limited infrastructure and financial literacy, presents unique challenges and opportunities.

Some of the main challenges highlighted that hinder access to financial services in these target areas include:



Limited financial infrastructure: It was largely noted that absence of formal financial institutions in remote areas hinders access to financial services.



Low financial literacy: Many pastoralists lack financial knowledge and skills to effectively utilize financial products.



Collateral requirements: Traditional forms of collateral, such as land titles, are often unavailable to pastoralists.



High transaction costs: The cost of accessing and using financial services can be prohibitive for low-income households.

Discussions with the key informants pointed to the fact that access to credit, savings, and insurance services can support livelihood diversification and mitigate risks associated with climate shocks, disease outbreaks, and market fluctuations, and thus affects the resilience of the target communities in the three counties. A key informant noted that '...savings and credit can act as social safety nets during times of crisis, preventing asset depletion.'

Another key informant noted that '.... these financial services can facilitate trade and commerce, enabling pastoralists to participate more effectively in market opportunities.'

It was further noted that adequate financial resources

enable stakeholders to invest in livestock, cope with shocks, and diversify livelihoods. An example provided by a key informant in Marsabit county is that '... a community-based savings group such as VSLAs could provide emergency loans during droughts, helping pastoralists maintain their well-being.'

Another key informant noted that '...it is important to noted that access to credit can enable pastoralists to invest in livestock, rangeland improvement, and alternative livelihoods, leading to increased income and resilience.'

The key informants were further able to provide possible implications of these impacts on the RANGE program, and they include the following:



Financial inclusion: Key informants noted the need to promote financial inclusion by collaborating with financial institutions to develop products tailored to the needs of pastoralists.



Financial literacy: Key informants noted the need to invest in financial literacy programs to enhance the capacity of community members to use financial services effectively.



Digital financial services: Key informants noted the need to explore the potential of mobile banking and other digital financial services to increase access. These could also include supporting formation and strengthening of savings and credit groups to foster financial resilience.



Market linkage: Connect pastoralists to market opportunities through financial services that support trade and value addition. These could also include development of livestock insurance and other relevant insurance products.

Infrastructure Development

Infrastructure development is a critical component of enhancing livelihoods and well-being in rural areas such as Isiolo, Marsabit, and Samburu counties. It serves as a catalyst for economic growth, social development, and improved access to essential services. Discussions with the key informants revealed the following types of Infrastructure in the three counties that have significantly impact livelihoods and stakeholders:



Transportation infrastructure: Roads, railways, and airstrips facilitate the movement of people, goods, and services, connecting rural communities to markets and urban centers.



Energy infrastructure: Access to electricity and renewable energy sources can power productive activities, improve living standards, and support value addition.



Communication infrastructure: Improved telecommunications, including mobile networks (mainly Safaricom and Airtel) and internet connectivity, enhance access to information, financial services, and markets.



Water infrastructure: Reliable water supply improve public health, reduce time spent on water collection, and support livelihoods.



Market infrastructure: Development of markets, storage facilities, and processing plants can facilitate agricultural and livestock trade.

Discussions with the key informants reported on the general poor quality of infrastructure in the target wards. It was noted that the quality of infrastructure, including roads, markets, and communication networks, impacts access to markets and economic opportunities.

At community level, the household interviews and FGDs noted that the key infrastructures that influence their economic opportunities include roads, markets, water points and health centres. They further reported that improved infrastructure enhances access to markets, reduces transportation costs, and boosts trade.

One household respondent in Isiolo county noted that (translated) '...If the project invests in water infrastructure, we can engage in small-scale

irrigation or establish vegetable gardens, improving our livelihoods.'

Land Tenure and Property Rights

Land tenure and property rights are fundamental to the livelihoods and well-being of communities in Isiolo, Marsabit, and Samburu counties. These factors significantly influence how people interact with and manage rangeland resources.

Discussions with the key informants noted that Isiolo, Samburu and Marsabit counties are predominantly characterized by customary land tenure systems, where land rights are derived from lineage and social relationships. This system often lacks formal recognition and is subject to various challenges. Key points noted by the informants are as follows:



Communal land tenure: Land is held collectively by the community, and access is based on membership and social standing. While this system fosters social cohesion, it can also lead to overgrazing and resource degradation.



Individual land ownership: Although less common, individual land ownership is emerging in some areas, particularly in urbanizing regions. This can create both opportunities and challenges for land management.



State ownership: The government owns some land, such as national parks and forests, which can limit community access to resources.

Collected evidence notes that secure land tenure ensures stability and encourages investment. Insecure tenure can hinder economic activities and well-being. For instance, advocacy for clear land rights allows pastoralists to invest in sustainable land management

practices, leading to improved rangeland health and livelihoods.

The key informants were further able to provide possible implications of these impacts on the RANGE program, and they include the following:



Land tenure strengthening: Key informants emphasised on supporting initiatives to secure land rights for pastoralist communities in all the three counties. This should also include promoting women's land rights and access to resources.



Conflict prevention: Key informants emphasised on addressing land-related conflicts through mediation and capacity building.

Livestock Health and Productivity

Livestock health and productivity are fundamental to the livelihoods of pastoralist communities in Isiolo, Marsabit, and Samburu counties. These factors significantly influence the economic well-being, food security, and overall resilience of these communities.

Collected evidence notes that the well-being of the livestock has serious implications on pastoralists. This

implies that healthy livestock contribute to economic well-being while disease outbreaks reduce productivity and income.

Discussions with the key informants revealed the following factors that influence livestock health and productivity in the three counties:



Disease outbreaks: Diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, and East Coast fever pose significant threats to livestock health in these counties.



Nutrition: Inadequate nutrition due to poor rangeland conditions and limited access to supplementary feeds can weaken livestock and reduce productivity.



Water availability: Insufficient access to clean water for livestock can lead to dehydration, disease, and reduced milk production. Increasingly unpredictable weather patterns, including droughts and floods, impact livestock health and productivity.



Market dynamics: Fluctuating livestock prices can influence herd management practices and investment in animal health.

The key informants were further able to provide possible implications of these impacts on the RANGE program, and they include the following:



Disease prevention and control: Supporting livestock vaccination programs, early warning systems for disease outbreaks, and community-based disease surveillance. Key informants emphasised the importance of focusing on provision of veterinary services, training, and disease control measures to improve livestock health and resilience in the target areas.



Nutrition and feed Management: Promoting the cultivation of fodder crops, improving grazing management, and providing access to supplementary feeds.



Water management: Investing in water infrastructure, such as boreholes and water troughs, and promoting water conservation practices.



Capacity building: Strengthening the capacity of pastoralists in livestock health management, including disease prevention, treatment, and reproductive management.



Market development: Supporting the development of livestock value chains to improve returns for pastoralists.

Social and Cultural Factors Shaping Stakeholder Dynamics _

The following assessment question is analysed and responded to under this subsection. Analysis on the degree of influence of the stakeholders was rated using the scale: High, Moderate and Low.

Research/assessment questions

How do social norms, traditions, and cultural practices shape the identities, roles, and relationships of stakeholders within the community?

Social and Cultural Factors Shaping Stakeholder Dynamics

Collected evidence suggests that social and cultural context in the target counties significantly influences the dynamics among stakeholders identified above.

The main social factors identified by this assessment that shape stakeholders' dynamics include:

- Pastoralism as a main livelihood strategy:
 The predominant pastoralist livelihood shapes social structures, relationships, and decision-making processes.
- Traditional gender roles and divisions of labour influence participation and leadership within communities. For instance, men are primarily responsible for livestock herding, decision-making, and leadership, while women are primarily engaged in household chores, childcare, and food preparation.

Women are also engaged in other livestock related activities such as milking, collecting fodder, herding and preparing and selling the livestock products such as milk and skins. It is important to note that gender norms can limit women's participation in decision-making processes related to rangeland management.

- Age and Generational Differences: Variations in values, attitudes, and aspirations between different age groups can impact project implementation.
- Social Networks: Kinship, clan, and ethnic affiliations influence cooperation, trust, and conflict dynamics.

The main cultural factors identified by this assessment that shape stakeholders' dynamics include:

Cultural Diversity and Identity: The three
Counties are home to various ethnic groups
with distinct cultural practices, languages, and
customs.

- Traditional Knowledge: Indigenous knowledge about rangeland management and climate adaptation is essential but can conflict with modern practices.
- **Belief Systems:** Cultural beliefs and values can influence attitudes towards conservation, resource management, and change.

Impact on Stakeholder Dynamics

Discussions with the key informants identified several impacts of the social and cultural factors on stakeholders' dynamics:

- Power Dynamics: Social and cultural factors can reinforce or challenge existing power structures. For example, traditional leaders may have significant influence over decisionmaking, while women may face challenges in participating equally.
- Trust and Cooperation: Cultural norms and values shape levels of trust and cooperation among stakeholders, impacting project implementation.
- **Communication:** Cultural differences can influence communication styles and understanding, affecting information sharing and decision-making.
- Conflict Resolution: Traditional conflict resolution mechanisms can complement or conflict with formal dispute resolution processes. In addition, grazing management and conservancy approaches can lead to increased human/wildlife conflict.
- Risk Perception: Cultural beliefs and experiences shape perceptions of risk, influencing attitudes towards project activities and innovations.

Addressing Socio-Cultural Challenges

By understanding the complex interplay of social and cultural factors, project teams in the Counties can develop effective strategies to engage stakeholders, build trust, and achieve project goals. The following are some of the identified

- Rituals and Ceremonies: Traditional ceremonies, rituals, and storytelling are vital for preserving cultural heritage. These practices reinforce group identity and foster a sense of belonging. These cultural practices can impact program timelines and activities.
- Conflict and Reconciliation: Historical and ongoing conflicts can influence relationships and trust among stakeholders.

strategies to address these socio- cultural challenges in the three Counties:

- a) Cultural Sensitivity: Program design and implementation should be culturally appropriate and respectful of local customs.
- b) Gender Equality: Promote gender equality and women's empowerment through targeted interventions such as promoting women's access to credit, savings, and insurance to enhance their economic independence, facilitating women's participation in value chains and access to markets for their products, etc.
- c) Youth Engagement: Involve young people in project design and implementation to ensure intergenerational transfer of knowledge.
- d) Capacity Building: Build the capacity of community members to participate effectively in project activities. Capacity building areas suggested by the respondents include:

 (a) trainings on indigenous knowledge integration to strengthen the use of traditional ecological knowledge alongside modern scientific practices;
 (b) trainings on sustainable grazing practices such as rotational grazing, fodder production, and range rehabilitation techniques;
 and
 (c) equip communities with knowledge on climate change impacts and adaptation strategies.
- e) Conflict Management: Incorporate conflict resolution mechanisms into program design and implementation.
- f) Balancing Tradition and Modernity: The RANGE program must respect cultural practices while promoting sustainable rangeland management.

Stakeholders Vulnerability Analysis

The following assessment question is analysed and responded to under this subsection.

Research/assessment questions

What are some of the assets, resources or entitlements that if available will reduce stakeholders' vulnerability?

Assets, Resources, and Entitlements for Vulnerability Reduction

The following are summary of the key assets and resources available in the three counties to reduce stakeholders' vulnerability:

1) Natural Resources as Assets

Rangeland: The core asset for pastoralists, providing forage, water, and medicinal plants. Improved rangeland management practices can enhance its productivity and resilience.

Water Resources: Access to water for livestock and human consumption is critical. Investments in water harvesting, storage, and distribution systems can significantly reduce vulnerability. Biodiversity: The diversity of plant and animal species contributes to ecosystem resilience and provides various ecosystem services including

2) Human Capital as a Resource

tourism potential.

Knowledge and Skills: Local knowledge of rangeland management, livestock husbandry, and climate adaptation are valuable assets.

Social Capital: Strong social networks and

Social Capital: Strong social networks and community cohesion facilitate collective action and risk sharing.

Leadership: Effective leadership at community and institutional levels is crucial for project success.

3) Institutions and Entitlements as Resources

Land Tenure: Secure land tenure rights can provide a foundation for investment in rangeland improvement.

Governance Structures: Effective governance at the community and county levels is essential for resource management and conflict resolution. Access to Markets: Well-functioning markets for livestock and livestock products can enhance income generation.

Financial Inclusion: Access to credit, savings, and insurance can help households manage risks and invest in livelihood diversification.

Strategies for Enhancing Stakeholder Resilience

According to the key informants, the overarching strategy for enhancing stakeholders' resilience is through assets enhancement. The following were thus suggested for consideration:

- Rangeland Rehabilitation: Improving rangeland condition through re-vegetation, erosion control, and sustainable grazing practices.
- Water Resource Management: Expanding access to water through rainwater harvesting, borehole drilling, and efficient water use technologies.
- Capacity Building: Strengthening the skills and knowledge of pastoralists in rangeland management, climate adaptation, and entrepreneurship.
- Diversification: Promoting alternative livelihoods to reduce dependency on livestock.
- Market Development: Improving market access and linkages for livestock products.
- Governance Strengthening: Enhancing the capacity of local institutions to manage rangeland resources effectively.
- Building Social capital so that communities work together to enhance market efficiencies and resource management effectiveness.
- Social Safety Nets: Implementing social protection programs to support vulnerable households during shocks.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions _

The following conclusions have been drawn by this assessment:

- Complex Interdependence: The various stakeholder groups are interconnected and interdependent, with their actions and decisions influencing each other. Furthermore, they have varying interests, concerns, and objectives, which can lead to both collaboration and conflict.
- Power Dynamics: There is an uneven distribution of power among stakeholders, with some groups having greater influence than others.
- **Vulnerability Disparities:** Different stakeholder groups exhibit varying degrees of vulnerability to climate change, market fluctuations, and other shocks.

Recommendations and Way Forward

The recommendations and proposed way forward have been presented in terms of programmatic and policy priority areas and strategies that the RANGE program could consider moving forward.

Programmatic Recommendations

There are also salient implications of these findings to RANGE program implementation strategies and delivery. They include:

- Develop a comprehensive stakeholder engagement plan. The RANGE program should develop and implement a comprehensive stakeholder engagement plan that defines how each stakeholder will be engaged in the program and at what stage.
- Tailored Interventions: Interventions should be designed to address the specific needs and vulnerabilities of different stakeholder groups as follows:
- (a) Pastoral communities: implement mobile veterinary clinics to improve access to livestock healthcare services; promote early warning systems for disease outbreaks; support the adoption of improved livestock breeds and feeding practices; provide training on livestock value addition and market linkages; provide early warning systems for weather- related hazards; and support youth-led initiatives and enterprises.
- (b) Market actors: work with the private sector to develop and implement an effective market information system that provides market information to pastoralists to enable informed decision-making; support development of value-added products from livestock and other

- natural resources; and invest in infrastructure to improve market access and reduce transaction costs.
- (c) County Governments: enhance capacity of county governments in rangeland management, climate change adaptation, and disaster response; support development of policies that promote sustainable rangeland management and community development; advocate for adequate resources allocations for rangeland conservation and community-based projects.
- 3. Inclusive Participation: Ensuring the meaningful participation of all stakeholders in project decision-making is crucial for success. These can be achieved by providing opportunities for feedback and input at all stages of the project cycle through open and transparent communication channels with stakeholders; employing a variety of participation methods, including community meetings, and focus groups; ensuring representation of marginalized groups, such as women, youth, and elderly in all interventions; and supporting formation of community-based structures to enhance local governance of the project.
- 4. Capacity Building: Strengthening the capacity of local communities and CBOs to manage and benefit from project interventions. Targeted capacity building areas include strengthening capacity of the CBOs on leadership and governance, gender equality, books and records keeping, financial management and income generation, project cycle management, and sustainable rangeland

- management practices, including grazing management, fodder production, and soil conservation.
- 5. Power Balancing: Addressing power imbalances among stakeholders to ensure equitable distribution of benefits. This can be achieved through empowering marginalized groups, such as women and youth through capacity building initiatives; providing trainings in leadership, negotiation, and advocacy skills; establishing participatory platforms that give a voice to all stakeholders; and facilitating knowledge sharing among different stakeholder groups to build trust and understanding.
- 6. Women Empowerment: Support women empowerment interventions such as establishing women's savings and credit groups, providing training in business management and entrepreneurship, supporting women-led enterprises in areas such as livestock processing and handicrafts, creating platforms for women's participation in decision-making processes, training women in leadership and negotiation skills, and support women's representation in community-based organizations.
- 7. Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Evaluation: Generating and sharing knowledge about rangeland ecosystems, climate change, and best practices. This includes implementing a robust monitoring and evaluation system to track changes in stakeholder livelihoods and vulnerabilities.

4.2.2 Policy Recommendations

The following recommendations have been made at policy level.

1 Inclusive Policy Development: Involve diverse stakeholders, including pastoralists, women, youth, and marginalized groups, in the

- policy-making process. Ensure that policies are culturally sensitive and aligned with the needs and aspirations of local communities. These can be achieved by organizing regular community forums and meetings to gather input and feedback, conducting targeted focus groups with specific stakeholder groups, such as women, youth, and elders, providing training on policy development processes and the role of stakeholders, and utilizing social media platforms to engage with a broader range of stakeholders.
- 2 Strengthened Decentralization: Enhance the capacity of county governments to implement and enforce environmental policies. These can be achieved through review and optimize the structure of environmental departments at County level to ensure efficiency and effectiveness, invest in training and capacity building for county staff in environmental management, law enforcement, and policy development, and improve financial management systems to allocate resources effectively for environmental programs.
- 3 Knowledge Management and Capacity Building: Invest in research and knowledge generation on rangeland ecosystems.

 Strengthen the capacity of government agencies, CBOs, and communities in knowledge management for rangelands.
- 4 Public-Private Partnerships: Promote collaboration between government, private sector, and civil society organizations for sustainable rangeland management. This can be done by establishing platforms for regular dialogue and knowledge sharing among stakeholders to create a shared vision for sustainable rangeland management that aligns the goals of all stakeholders and forming working groups to address specific issues and develop joint action plans.

Annexes

Annex 1: Stakeholders Vulnerability Assessment Tool -

Key Informants Interview Guide – Stakeholders Vulnerability

Section A: Administrative Details

Date of interview			
Location of interview			
Language of interview			
Title/position of respondent			
Organization of respondent			
Gender of respondent	1) Male	2) Female	
Contact details of respondent			
Start time of interview			
End time of interview			

Section B: Stakeholders Vulnerability

- BI What are the most important climate risks affecting the community in this area?
- How may this change in the future?

Response:

- B2 In your experience, which groups within your community are most vulnerable to environmental, economic, and social challenges?
- Identify each group with a rating of degree of vulnerability in a scale of 1 (very low) to 5 (very high) to environmental, economic, and social challenges.

Scale: 1= Very Low; 2= Low; 3=Mild; 4=High; 5=Very High

Response:

- B3 Please describe the specific factors that contribute to their vulnerability to and capacities for climate change.
- Factors to be identified under the environmental, economic, and social spheres

Response:

- B4 How has your personal or household vulnerability changed over the past decade?
- What events or trends have had the most significant impact on your ability to cope with challenges?

Response:

- B5 Please describe a recent situation where you or members of your community felt particularly vulnerable?
- What are the barriers different people face in responding to climate risks?
- How does gender inequality create barriers to people's responses to climate risks?

Response:

- B6 How did you respond to this situation mentioned above?
- What resources or support systems did you rely on?
- What factors enable different people to respond to climate risks?
- What specific capacities do women, youth and men have that enable them to respond to climate risks?

Response:

- B7 In what ways does your community's reliance on pastoralism and livestock affect your vulnerability to various risks?
- What resources do different people need to better respond to climate risks, now and into the future?

Response:

- B8 Are there aspects of this pastoralism lifestyle that increase resilience, and others that increase vulnerability?
- What actions can be taken by community members to build their climate resilience?

Response:

- B9 How do existing power structures and decision-making processes in your community influence vulnerability of different stakeholder groups?
- Are there people whose voices or needs are often overlooked?
- Discuss for each group within the community.

Response:

- B10 What role do traditional knowledge and practices play in reducing vulnerability in your community?
- How effective are these in addressing modern challenges?
- How have they evolved over time?

Response:

B11 What information, knowledge and capacities do different people need to better respond to climate risks, now and into the future?

Response:

- B12 Looking to the future, what do you see as the most critical steps/emerging opportunities to reduce vulnerability and build resilience in your community?
- Who should be involved in these efforts?
- What role do you see for pastoralists in shaping these strategies?

	kesponse.
B13	What options are available in these communities to support adaptation while also advancing gender equality?
	Response:

Section C: Partner Organizations

- C1 Has the government or any organization come to help make life easier for people in your community?
- What did they do?
- Did you find it helpful? If yes how, and if no, why?

Response:

- C2 Which organizations (governmental, non-governmental and community-based) are involved in addressing key issues and problems related to climate change in the target area?
- What do they do?
- What are their longer-term plans for working in the area?
- What is the institution's level of influence over planning and implementation of adaptation?

(Complete the table below)

Organizations (Govt, NGO or CBOs)	Climate change projects	Location of the projects/interventions	Institution's level of influence

- C3 Please describe what structure/mechanisms exists within the mentioned organizations and communities that would adequately support implementation of the RANGE Program?
- Clarify on roles played to address the needs of pastoral communities in the target location?
- How have they aligned to priority areas of the government or other developmental partners?

Response:

Annex 2: References

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics. (2019). Kenya Population and Housing Census Volume I: Population by County and Sub-County*. Nairobi: KNBS.

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Annex 3: Categories of Participants Interviewed _

County	Wards	# of FGDs	# of IDIs	# of KIIs
Isiolo	Chari	2	2	2
	Burat	2	2	
	Ngaremara	2	2	
	Kinna	2	2	
Marsabit	Golbo	2	2	2
	Sagante/ Jaldesa	2	2	
	Maikona	2	2	
	Laisamis	2	2	
Samburu	Waso	2	2	2
	Wamba West	2	2	
	Lodokejek	2	2	
	Baawa	2	2	
Total Number of FGDs Conducted		24	24	6



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