

CONTEXT ANALYSIS REPORT KENYA

Programme: Climate-Proof Disaster Risk reduction

Involvement of Southern partners

In Kenya, the Southern partners of the Partners for Resilience have been together responsible for the context analysis and the programme design. During a week long programme development workshop, they have been collecting data. The participants selected project areas and completed the problem analysis of the target group. Thereafter a SWOT analysis of the roles and positions of civil society and other stakeholders was carried out by the participants. The result of the workshop was presented to external stakeholders, invited on the basis of their expertise and involvement in similar programmes and geographical areas. From this workshop additional information was gathered for the further development of the programme and the analysis of its context. For the consolidating of the above data into the introduction, the contextual analysis, the multi-actor analysis and the Kenya programme, all partners were involved.

I. INTRODUCTION

Kenya, an ethnically very diverse country of 40 million people, is a parliamentary democracy and East Africa's economic and commercial hub. Agriculture produces 21% of the country's wealth while employing 75% of its labour force. As the region's most industrially developed economy, industry contributes 15% to GDP. The service sector is dominated by tourism. Corruption is widespread and despite continuing pressure from international financial institutions and donors, successive governments have failed to deal with it adequately.

Natural hazards have been increasing in frequency and severity partly due to global climate change. Kenya is prone to flooding and particularly drought. Since 2000, two periods of intense drought have caused severe crop losses, famine and population displacement. A temperature increase of 3.2°C is projected for East Africa, with a range of 1.8-4.3°C possible by the end of the 21st century. An average increase in total rainfall of 7% is projected, with possible changes in the range of a 3% decrease to a 25% increase by the end of the 21st century.ⁱ While global climate models suggest that the region from Lake Victoria to the central highlands east of the Rift Valley is likely to experience increases in annual rainfall, regions in the arid east and north of the country are likely to experience decreases. Increased temperatures are likely to exacerbate the drought conditions already experienced and in the future may have a significant impact on water availability. Climate Change leads to a reduction of the glaciers of Mount Kenya affecting water flows in tributaries feeding into the Ewaso Nyiro. More unpredictability in seasonal rainfall will mean an increase in short heavy rainfall periods leading to flooding, landslides and water pollution. These may be worse during El Niño years. The increased risk of drought and persistent vulnerability of the poor is likely to have a serious impact on livelihoods. The pastoral community may be worst affected. Although mobility and migration are high, this can translate into pressure during drought on both the environment and services. Increased risk of drought will negatively affect Kenya's wildlife and hence the tourist industry, as well as reduce water supply and hydroelectric power generation.ⁱⁱ

The increased variability of precipitation expected in Kenya due to climate change is likely to impact health negatively. After flood events, diarrhoeal diseases and vector-borne diseases are more common due to mixing of human waste and drinking water.ⁱⁱⁱ Stagnant pools of water provide extra breeding grounds for disease carrying mosquitoes. In times of drought, water quality can decrease, causing diarrhoea. Inadequate access to adequate amounts of water for personal hygiene can cause diarrhoeal disease, intestinal worms and trachoma.^{iv} The burden of diarrhoeal disease in Kenya is already high at 26 600 deaths annually (76 deaths per 100 000 people).^v Inadequate water and sanitation infrastructure coverage and poor knowledge of hygiene are risk factors for diarrhoeal disease. These factors make populations vulnerable to extreme events. Only 59% of the population in Kenya use improved drinking water sources (up from 43% in 1990), and 31% use improved sanitation, (only up from 29% in 1990).^{vi} Only 33% of under-fives with diarrhoea receive oral rehydration therapy.^{vii} Thirty-nine per cent of under-fives sleep under insecticide treated bed nets which protect against malaria.^{viii}

II. TARGET GROUP ANALYSIS

The programme will target pastoralist and agro-pastoralist, living on the downstream part of the Ewaso Nyiro North River basin (ENRB) in Northern Kenya, living from livestock and rain-fed and irrigated subsistence farming. The pastoralists move from place to place in search of water and pastures. Due to dwindling household herd sizes and loss of livestock through drought, more pastoralist households are settling. Young men and youth are moving with the animals and older people and children remain behind in small towns where social amenities like schools and health services are available. The river and swamp area are used for all-season grazing and irrigation. People's livelihoods depend fully on the availability of water from this river basin. The river's water level is decreasing, thus threatening livelihoods. The poverty level is high, estimated at 60%.^{ix} Some households receive remittances from relatives who work in the major towns and cities. Charcoal burning is increasingly becoming common practice to meet the demand for affordable energy in urban centres and to provide for some additional income, but with a further negative impact on the environment.

Civil society organisations, local and regional government are also target groups; they are described below under "Contextual analysis" and "Multi-actor analysis".

III. PROBLEM ANALYSIS

Micro

The livelihood of the pastoralists and agro-pastoralists in the project area is threatened, which leads to food insecurity, loss of lives and livelihoods during extreme drought periods. This is caused by the decreasing water availability in the lower river basin. While in the 80's the river was nearly permanent and ended in the Lorean marshes it has now become a seasonal river. Due to these lower water levels combined with the more frequent drought periods, the availability of good grazing land and sufficient water for their livestock is limited, and more frequently than before, there is not enough. The population uses traditional coping mechanisms to deal with natural hazards. However, the growing frequency and severity of the recurring hazards have made such coping mechanisms less effective.

Meso

The livestock management system of the pastoralists depends on mobility for which they need a large area. In the arid and semi-arid areas where they are living, they have adapted to the erratic conditions. However, new groups are invading the traditional rangelands of the pastoralists, including farmers from the highlands. And land is taken for game parks, military use, and oil/mineral exploitation. This limits their mobility, access to seasonal grazing areas and to water resources.



The decrease in the water level can be attributed to different causes. Land is being cleared for agricultural activities in the middle stream, which results in decreased soil water retention. Commercial farmers and users of the water catchments in the Mt. Kenya region need significant water resources to produce high value commercial crops. For that purpose, they divert large quantities of water from the upper stream level of the river. Population growth and growing settlements in major towns like Isiolo result in increased demand for domestic water use. The decreasing water levels are not only of importance for the direct target group and their environment. The river is also contributing to the recharge of the aquifer of the hinterland, and so influences the availability of water in groundwater sources like boreholes, shallow wells and for the wetlands and woodlands ecosystems.

Macro

The socio-economic value of pastoralism is not sufficiently recognised by the government, therefore there is limited investment in the Arid and Semi Arid Land (ASAL) areas.^x Policies and programmes to address ecosystem protection and restoration, disaster risk reduction and climate change are in their infancy since only recently these risks and needs were identified by national and global policy makers (Hyogo Framework for Action for DRR 2005, UNFCCC Bali Action Plan 2007, Copenhagen Accord 2009, Programme of Action for the implementation of the African regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (2006-2015)). The Kenya government has just started to make a shift from relief to prevention and this is taking time.

IV. CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

The central Government has long neglected the economic value of pastoralism and pastoralist land was routinely given to domestic and foreign investors. With the installation of a Minister of Northern Kenya and other Arid Lands there is now a real opportunity to mainstream pastoralists as consistent suppliers into the national livestock economy. The Government realises that the dependency of large numbers of pastoralist communities on relief food over the last 15 years undermines local production systems. Experience has been built up in drought cycle management/DRR as an alternative for relief, and the government is now preparing a DRR policy accordingly. In addition, the government has taken steps to put in place programmes for rehabilitation of degraded land, but these programmes can not yet keep up with the pace of land degradation. Legislation is usually poorly implemented in rural areas, partly due to a lack of resource and capacity and partly due to conflicts of interest.

The Government vision 2030^{xi} outlines plans for the economic, political and social development in Kenya, aiming at sustainable and fast growth of the economy. For the river basin, plans have been developed for the construction of an airport in Isiolo and improved roads to open up the region for investment, turning Isiolo into a resort city for tourists visiting the conservation parks in the area. How this will affect the target group is not clear. Economic development in the region could have positive spin-offs. On the other hand, it could increase pressure on the already scarce natural resources such as land and water.

Civil society operates in a conducive environment. CSOs are normally member of the District Steering Groups and are involved in poverty reduction, policy dialogue and advocacy. In the river basin a number of international

and local NGOs/CBOs undertake multi-sectoral projects which usually are scattered in space and time. Local authorities often do not have the power or means to translate government policies into delivery of appropriate services to the communities. NGOs and CBOs are often forced to take on this role of service provider.

Only a few organisations in the region take a holistic view of the problems of the river basin and they will be the Southern partners of the Partners for Resilience:

Kenya Red Cross Society has been working with the target groups for about ten years. It has local partners who are already implementing disaster risk reduction programmes.

Wetlands International Kenya is specialised in ecosystem management and restoration.

Merti Integrated Development Programme has extensive experience with the local pastoralist community and uses an integrated approach.

Other Southern partners are the International Institute for Rural Reconstruction, responsible for capacity building of community-based Southern partners and documentation of lessons learnt. The Cordaid programme management unit in Kenya is responsible for capacity building of community-based Southern partners and for advocacy related to DRR and CCA.

A third NGO remains to be identified.

On the basis of the SWOT analysis of Kenyan civil society, the following strategies for strengthening civil society were formulated for inclusion in the country programme:

	Strengths	Weaknesses
Opportunities	<p><i>The position of the NGOs in society gives them a good opportunity to transfer information about pastoralism to the newly created Ministry, which can enhance the position of pastoralists</i></p> <p><i>NGOs can make a connection between the communities and local government funds</i></p>	<p><i>NGOs could facilitate the role of local government bodies by incorporating them in the programmes on DRR and CCA since this get Government attention</i></p>
Threats	<p><i>The NGO community, being present in the Coordination bodies at regional level has a role to play in the support towards an implementation of government policy and policy dialogue for the interests of local communities on land availability</i></p>	<p><i>NGOs can play a role in supporting government to enforce policies</i></p>

V. MULTI-ACTOR ANALYSIS

The Partners for Resilience have discussed the programme with the Royal Netherlands Embassy, who supports the integrated approach. The Embassy has specific expertise in environmental development. Opportunities for cooperation at the community level and for advocacy will be explored. The programme will work with the following government agencies to ensure the interests of the targeted communities of the Ewaso Nyiro North River Basin:

- The *Ewaso Nyiro North Development Authority* is a para-statal with the mandate to work on integrated regional development plans and to coordinate with other development programs^{xii};
- The *Ministry of Water and Irrigation* is in charge of water resource management and service provision^{xiii};
- *Local Authorities* are in charge of land use and land allocation;
- The *Ministry of Northern Kenya* and the *Arid Lands Resource Management* project are responsible for early warning systems and for ensuring that other sectoral Ministries align their programmes with the interests of the communities in ENRB.

In addition, close collaboration with the Kenya Wildlife Society is being planned. The World Bank, DfID, USAID, EU and ECHO have programmes in the same area in various sectors. Coordination with these programmes will be sought to promote complementarity. Furthermore, experiences will be shared with other programmes to benefit from the lessons learnt. At the national level cooperation will be further developed with meteorological services, and the government, UN institutes and related knowledge centres engaged in the climate change adaptation and risk management programmes, with the aim to strengthen synergy in capacity development for ecosystem based DRR/CCA in the target area and other national and generic initiatives, and enhance the policy dialogue at national level.

The added value of the Partners for Resilience is the integrated manner in which interventions in the field of disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and ecosystem management and restoration are combined. Connecting these three fields in one overall approach offers substantial benefits in terms of effectiveness, sustainability and relevance of the interventions.

VI. TAILOR-MADE PROGRAMME

The context analysis has shown that: 1) communities in the Ewaso Nyiro North River basin are increasingly vulnerable to natural hazards as their livelihoods have weakened and environmental damage continues to be inflicted on the ecosystem; 2) an integrated approach combining DRR/CCA/EMR is largely unknown to the major actors including local authorities and most CSOs; 3) basic policy instruments are in place, but are not being properly implemented.

The programme will give attention to the following areas: 1) improvement of the livelihoods of the communities along the downstream Ewaso Nyiro North River basin; support will be given to environmentally sustainable methods of pastoralism and holistic approaches to restoring the ecosystem; community-based disaster risk reduction plans and measures will take the ecosystem into account; 2) support to civil society and local authorities should lead to a more consistent and coordinated action in support of pastoralist livelihoods; an integrated approach to DRR/CCA/EMR will be promoted; 3) advocacy and policy dialogue with local and national authorities should lead to more consistent implementation of current policy as well as enhanced policy where required;

The three areas relate to three different levels of interventions, but are all related to the sustainability of the livelihood of the target group. While the first objective and the activities related to this objective deal more directly with the livelihood opportunities of the pastoralist communities, the second objective is related to factors in the direct environment of these communities, being CSOs, district and river basin stakeholders. Their actions related to the development of the region have direct consequences for the target group. The third objective concerns the policy environment at regional and national level. The programme strives to achieve a sustainable development of the broader river basin, working with an ecosystem approach. This is in line with the idea of the Central government to improve the natural resource management, and restore degraded land.

The strongest point in this programme is the ownership of the local communities concerning the interventions at community level. The CMDRR/VCA (vulnerability/capacity assessment) approach makes communities responsible for the analysis of the hazards that threaten their livelihood and the interventions that will increase their resilience. The involvement of the local authorities will ensure that they are better aware of the situation of the (agro) pastoralist communities, resulting in their willingness and ability to include their situation into the development of plans for the district and region. The programme furthermore facilitates cooperation with knowledge centres to assist in the understanding of future risks, in particular climate change related, that – when taken into account – increases the robustness of the programme. Being implemented in the context of the Partners for Resilience alliance and in close cooperation with the programmes in the eight other countries the programme can benefit to the maximum of approaches and tools developed elsewhere and contribute itself to strengthened approaches and capacities in the field of DRR/CCA/EMR.

These activities will be enhanced by the global support component which provides good practices on DRR/CCA/EMR from other countries in Africa (like Advancing Capacity to Support Climate Change Adaptation project) links to global networks of civil society organisations and knowledge centres that will provide tools and partnerships to the partner organisations; and global policy inputs that will support their engagement with national policy makers, planners and implementing agencies. This specifically includes the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change process and the related Special Climate Change Fund supported adaptation programmes, the World Bank including GFDRR (The GFDRR regional programme on climate modelling and risk management and other relevant GFDRR programmes) the follow-up to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded regional adaptation programme and others.

The Partners for Resilience see a number of opportunities that can contribute to the success of the programme. With the installation of the Minister of Northern Kenya and other Arid Lands there is now recognition for the importance of the arid lands. The role of this ministry is to coordinate the activities of the different line ministries and to take into consideration the consequences of the different measures for the arid lands and its inhabitants. With this role in mind the Ministry could play an important role in linking the interests of the different water users of the river basin.

A DRR policy is under development in Kenya. In anticipation of this policy many donor agencies, often in cooperation with local authorities are already implementing DRR-like programmes in the different districts of Kenya. Local development funds are utilised to finance or co-finance such programmes.

The Kenyan government and the donor community are increasingly aware of the impact of climate change and environmental degradation on the development of the rural areas. A policy strategy paper on Kenya's response to climate change is in place and the Climate Change bill is in preparation, while environmental conservation and regulation is being promoted, guided by the Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA 1999)^{xvi}. Cooperation with the DRR and CCA programmes implemented through the Global Facility on DRR and the UNDP respectively are envisioned.

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