



PROTECTION ASSESSMENT REPORT

KENYA EMERGENCY DROUGHT RESPONSE 2017



OXFAM

Cover Photo: Lucy Ikai, 22 with her son and husband, Lokichoggio, Turkana Kenya.

Cover photo Credit/Joy Obuya

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Kenya's current drought emergency has left 2.7 million people in need of immediate humanitarian assistance. Several protection risks have emerged as a direct consequence of the drought, though they have received little attention and remain largely unseen.

Main findings & Protection Risks

Migration

The majority of the Turkana and Wajir populations rely on pastoralism or agro-pastoral activities. Due to lack of pasture, diminished or dried water sources, widespread crop failure, and significant loss of livestock, pastoral populations have had to migrate long distances in search for food and water, at times over 500km, either within Kenya or towards Uganda, Ethiopia and Somalia.

Family Separation

Women, children and senior adults are often left behind in villages while men migrate long distances with their livestock in search for pasture and water sources. In many cases, children are left behind with neighbours or relatives, or are otherwise left to fend for themselves in urban centres.

Child Labour

With families, unable to sustain or feed all their members, child labour has become a main and standard coping mechanism, with children dropping out of school to economically help support their families. Boys are often engaged in petty jobs in urban centres, while girls herd small animals, carry out domestic work, or fetch and sell water. Both boys and girls travel long distances to collect and sell firewood and charcoal.

School dropout

It is estimated that around 180,000 children in Kenya have had to drop out of school as a direct consequence of the drought. In addition to child labour, migration is also one of the main causes behind high levels of school drop-out rates, at times reaching 20-30%. This is particularly true for children of pastoral families in grades 1-2, where they are not old enough to be left behind with neighbours or relatives, and must therefore migrate with their families in search for water and pasture for their livestock. There are almost no funds available to support the pastoral children staying behind in boarding school programs. Other causes of school dropouts are:

Lack of food - During the drought, school feeding programs have become a main source of food security for children in both Turkana and Wajir. Due to problems with the procurement pipeline between the WFP and the Kenyan Government, the Supplementary Feeding Program (SFP) was suspended temporarily during the January-June 2017 period, contributing to a high increase in drop-out rates, as children had to leave school to work and find sources of food.

School fees - Schools in both Turkana and Wajir are significantly understaffed. As a result, despite primary education being free of charge in Kenya, many communities have internally agreed to pay a supplementary 100KES fee per child per month to hire additional teachers. Due to the drought, however, many families can no longer afford this amount, leading to an increase of school drop outs. With schools usually serving as a source of food security for children, inability to send them to school has worsened the economic burden on households. In addition, many families report that their children are sent back from school for lack of proper uniform, shoes and books, and cannot afford the cost of covering these supplies to ensure their children can assist to class.

Early marriage

In both Turkana and Wajir, it is common for girls to be married by age 12-13. Dowry is paid to the girl's family in either livestock or cash, representing a significant source of income. As families have lost their livestock due to the drought and cannot afford to pay dowry, many marriages have been temporarily halted. In other cases, girls are married as a coping mechanism in exchange of a few heads of livestock (which are often weak or sick), or are otherwise married in "credit" as a future income insurance, with the promise of livestock payment once the drought is over.

Sexual violence

An increase in cases of sexual violence has been reported in both Turkana and Wajir, primarily cases of assault and rape in instances where women and girls have to walk much longer distances (at times 10-20km) in search of water or firewood as a direct result of the drought. There have also been reports of sex being demanded as a condition of access to available water sources.

Domestic violence

Domestic violence is generally seen as a culturally accepted practice in Turkana and Wajir and is thus often not considered as a grave issue. Cases are normally only reported when emergency medical care is required to assist the survivor. Economic stress caused by the impact of the drought has led to an increase in violent domestic disputes over control and use of resources within the household, with reportedly common 'wife-beatings' after wives demand their husbands that scarce resources be prioritized for food.

Gender Based Violence (GBV) reporting obstacles

In both Turkana and Wajir pastoralist cultures, disputes arising within the community are handled internally through customary courts involving the Chief and village elders. As such, most cases of rape, defilement and domestic violence are also resolved internally, with the perpetrator's family having to pay a fine in either livestock or cash to the survivor's family. Given that substantial wealth gains are involved, both family members and village leaders (who sometimes also gain a commission in the negotiations) will often actively discourage or directly prevent survivors from seeking legal redress and justice through official state mechanisms. At times, this involves witness intimidation and/or kidnapping to thwart legal or court procedures and ensure economic gain through customary law. As the number of GBV cases have increased with the drought, so has the need and interests of families to receive compensation payment, making obstacles to reporting a serious issue. Local authorities estimate that the number of known GBV cases has increased in a 1:8 ratio since the beginning of the drought.

Small Arms trade

Along both the Turkana/South Sudan and Wajir/Somalia borders, there is a significant trade of small arms and light weapons. Despite arms possession being illegal in Kenya, 70-100% of pastoral men in these border areas are reported to be armed due to the prevalence of cattle rustling and resource-based conflict.

Resource based conflict

In Turkana and Northern Wajir, pastoral families who migrate to slightly less affected regions in search of pasture and water sources often have violent clashes with host communities over access to and control of scarce resources. Conflict normally worsens whenever there is rainfall in a particular region, as significant number of pastoralists migrate into this area.

Exhausted credit

Widespread crop failures in some areas and loss of livestock have resulted in high inflation of basic market prices. As men have migrated with the few remaining livestock that have survived, there are almost no animals available for sale as a source of income. With practically no availability of cash, women left behind in the villages have had

to rely heavily on credit for the last 5-6 months, exhausting their limit from local shops, and soon being unable to buy any more food and water. Consequently, small businesses and traders have reached their breaking point and are at risk of facing bankruptcy.

Turkana trends

Urban influx

Large numbers of nomadic pastoralist families have been forced to migrate into urban centres after losing their means of livelihood (with FGD reporting a 80-100% livestock loss), and seek refuge with relatives living in towns. With this important migration influx, the number of members in some urban households has doubled or tripled, increasing from an average of 8-10 members to 20-25 members.

Burden on host women

With many men migrating with surviving livestock, women are often left behind with the full burden of the household. As newly-arrived pastoralist family members are unfamiliar with urban types of work, women from host families have been forced to find additional sources of income to sustain their families as well as their relatives, and report having to undertake overwhelming levels of workload. This includes domestic work, fetching water, collecting and selling firewood, preparing charcoal, as well as engaging in survival sex.

Survival sex

Survival sex has become a widespread coping mechanism among women and girls in urban centres – from 11 years old to middle age – who have no means of livelihood to support their families and incoming pastoralist relatives. In Kakuma, specifically, women and girls from the host community engage in survival sex with men from the refugee camp and NGO workers on a regular basis in exchange for food or 20-150 KES, while in Lodwar it is usually done with business and working-class men. Increase in the prevalence of HIV among this population has become a pressing concern.

Street children

There has been an alarming increase of street children in urban centres throughout Turkana, migrating from all parts of the county. This has resulted from several factors, including family separation due to pastoral migration, as well as the inability of families to feed their members and/or keep them home, and children's subsequent need to find a source of livelihood to survive. The increase of street children has consequently led to:

Petty thefts and crimes - Street boys are frequently engaged in petty thefts of informal business, as well as street mugging and pickpocketing as a means of livelihood.

Drug abuse - The use of glue as a drug has become a common practice among street boys in Lodwar, Kakuma and Lokichoggio, at times being utilized to mitigate the effects of hunger.

Child survival sex - Significant numbers of street girls as young as 11-12 years old are engaged in survival sex in exchange for food or cash for as little as 20-150 KES. As street children live in groups, it is normally girls who economically support the rest of the group with the money earned through survival sex.

Child sexual exploitation - In urban centres, particularly in Lodwar and Kakuma, cases of child sexual exploitation rings have recently emerged, with girls being forced into commercial sex by their families as a coping strategy and main source of household income or by other people they have encountered in town, at times engaging with 10+ clients per day.

Child pregnancies - With the prevalence of survival sex and sexual exploitation among street girls, there has been a sharp rise in child pregnancies. Local authorities estimate an increase of cases in a 1:7 ratio since the beginning of the drought. In Lodwar and Kakuma, there is a risk of soon having "street families," with babies being born and raised within these groups of street children.

Runaway children - There has been a prevalence of groups of boys aged 5-10 years old running away into urban centres in search for livelihood sources, travelling distances as far as 200km from Lokichoggio to Lodwar. Some of them report travelling these distances while holding on to the rears of buses or trucks. In some cases where authorities trace the boys back to their homes, families will refuse to welcome them back as they cannot afford to feed them. With a lack of children's homes to give them refuge, these boys remain indefinitely in the streets.

Alcohol abuse

Alcoholism has become a serious issue among both men and women in urban centres, as a direct response to drought-related stress and loss of livelihoods. An increase in street fights and domestic violence has been reported because of alcohol abuse.

Youth gangs

In Kakuma and Lokichoggio, gangs of young men and teenage boys who have ended up in the streets or remain idle after losing their sources of livelihood are engaging in thefts from small businesses or street mugging armed with knives.

Armed raids

In the Northern Turkana border near Lokichoggio, pastoralists from Turkana and the Toposa tribe from South Sudan are engaged in mutual attacks and cattle raids on a regular basis, commonly in groups of 15-20 armed men. Attacks are typically directed against pastoralist women as they travel in search for water and firewood, where they are beaten, raped and killed while being pressed to give up information on the location of their group's men and livestock. Revenge killings and child abductions have recently started to take place as drought-related stress has escalated the conflict.

Wajir trends

Inter-Clan Conflicts

Inter-clan violent conflict between Wajir's three major clans, the Degodia, Ogaden and Ajuran, has historically dominated country relations. While the 2010 devolution process has had an overall positive impact, one of its negative side-effects has been the ripening of political tensions among these clans, as sub-county borders were largely drawn based on clan affiliations. With the Degodia clan representing 62% of the population and controlling 4 out of the 6 sub-counties, the minority Ogaden and Ajuran clans contest for political power, while Degodia sub-clans also often fight internally among each other. The impacts of the drought and resulting disputes over control of scarce resources have aggravated the already fragile and volatile clan and sub-clan relations, with tensions currently erupting into clan-based violence in Northern Wajir between the Degodia and Ajuran clans.

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Though FGM was made illegal in Kenya in 2011, an estimated 98% of girls in rural areas of Wajir undergo FGM, predominantly Type III known as "pharaonic" circumcision, involving the complete cutting of the clitoris, inner labia, and the full stitching of the outer labia, except for a small opening for menstrual and urine discharge. The procedure normally takes place when girls are 6-7 years old. In urban areas of Wajir, however, around 10-20% of the population, particularly the educated elite, have gradually started to opt for less aggressive types of FGM, involving solely the cutting or sometimes 'nicking' of the clitoris. Since the start of the drought, an increase in urinary tract infections has been reported, purportedly related to water shortages combined with vaginal hygiene difficulties associated with pharaonic circumcision.

Drug Abuse

Abuse of khat, a native plant used as a stimulant when chewed, is reported to have become a serious issue among men in rural areas as a direct response to drought-related stress and loss of livelihoods. An increase in domestic violence and disputes has been signalled consequently, with men choosing to utilize scarce household resources to buy khat instead of food.

Loss of teachers

In recent years, terrorist attacks by Al-Shabaab in the region have caused some teachers in rural areas to abandon their posts. As a result, schools are significantly understaffed or have had to close down in some areas.

Cattle Rustling

Cattle raiding is prevalent throughout the county, with pastoral men often being armed. As raids are carried out along clan and sub-clan lines, they can often easily escalate into political and clan-based conflict. Currently, pastoralists from the Degodia and Ogaden clans have migrated in large numbers to Wajir North in search of pasture from the brief rainfall in the region, facing violent resistance from the local Ajuran clan over access to and control of scarce resources.

Animal Attacks

Following the loss and migration of livestock, hyena attacks have become a serious problem for some communities, as they have started to wander into the villages in the absence of animals to eat and serve as a buffer. Small children are at highest risk, unable to fend the hyenas off while adults are away, with several child deaths reported to date.

Enlistment to Armed Groups

In parts of Northern Wajir as well as along the Mandera/Wajir border with Somalia, there have been reports of young men and boys opting to join Al-Shabaab militants based on the prospect of better economic and livelihood opportunities after losing their livestock and means of living due to the drought.

Human trafficking

Local authorities report cases of human trafficking taking place along the Mandera and Wajir borders towards Somalia and Ethiopia, particularly of young women and girls from Western Kenya who have been promised better job or living opportunities

Safe programming gaps

Cash transfers

Turkana – Some beneficiaries report obstacles to access their accounts. Cash transfer amounts are reported to be no longer enough to meet families' basic needs, mainly due to high inflation of market prices and increase of family sizes because of the migration influx of pastoral families into urban centers. Cash has been cited as a source of conflict or violent incidents in some communities. An 18% of respondents cited cash as a source of conflict in the latest PDM survey.

Wajir – HSNP agents are reported to charge undue commission fees of 100-400KES on a regular basis. The existing complaint mechanism modality has been inefficient so far, with community members being discouraged or unwilling to report to the designated person within the community in charge of the complaint system.

Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Turkana – Some beneficiaries have had trouble accessing the conditional cash destined for water in their E-Wallets, either as a result of living in the outskirts or due to lack of knowledge of how to access or utilize it. Due to high levels of migration, long distances make it impractical for some people to transport jerrycans from designated water points.

Wajir – Problems with water ATM technology have made them temporarily unavailable in certain locations. In some cases where water points or ATMs are both available and functional, people report being unable to access them due to lack of cash. Families thus depend heavily on credit, but their limit has been already or is about to be exhausted.

Monitoring Evaluation and Learning (MEAL)

Uwajibikaji Pamoja Platform – Lack of commitment to this system by NGO partners and County Governments has weakened the initiative. Low response rates have discouraged communities from reporting. High turnover with the ‘convener’ position has at times rendered the system temporarily unavailable. Efforts should be concerted to support appropriation of the system by the County Governments.

Main obstacles in addressing protection risks

Low Visibility	In spite of the severe impacts of the drought throughout Kenya, the 2017 presidential elections have dominated internal media and political attention, with very little visibility of the on going effects of the crisis.
Protection seen as “Non-Issue”	Despite the numerous and wide range of protection risks that have emerged as a direct consequence of the drought, overall low visibility of the drought crisis in Kenya has kept most of these issues largely undercover. Even when the impacts of drought are addressed, protection concerns are generally seen as a “non-issue” or are otherwise handled in a tangential manner, lacking the proper depth of analysis and targeted action required to face the scope of on going risks.
Funding Gap	The high number of emergencies in the region has led to competition for limited media visibility and donor attention. In this context, Kenya’s crisis is not considered a priority, partially due to the national government’s perceived ability to respond to the drought (despite an official declaration of emergency in February 2017). However, as protection risks remain mostly unseen, there is a severe gap in funding to support local protection structures and mechanisms. Numerous existing protection programs that have been sustained so far with external funding have recently concluded or are about to come to an end.
Depleted Protection Structures	While there are existing state protection structures at local level, the current crisis has greatly surpassed and collapsed their capacities, with lack of resources preventing local protection authorities and actors from properly responding to the magnitude and range of cases that require their attention.

Key recommendations

Oxfam in Kenya (Oik) has adopted a new country strategic model focused on advocacy and institutional strengthening. As such, Oxfam's field offices in Turkana and Wajir have initiated their exit strategy and will soon give way to implementation of programs through local partners. The following recommendations are therefore based on actions that can be carried out within Oik's new operating model.

1 Raising the profile on protection risks

Ongoing protection risks remain largely unseen. The magnitude of current issues should be given 'centre stage' visibility to ensure attention, interest, and potential coverage of existing large-scale gaps.

2 Mobilizing government & protection actors

Key national government agencies as well as partner NGOs and protection actors should be engaged and mobilized to take targeted action towards addressing current protection risks.

3 Supporting local protection structures

Existing local protection structures should be urgently supported, as their capacities have been greatly surpassed by the current crisis. Targeted support is required to allow local protection authorities to adequately respond to the magnitude of cases that require their attention. Newly established protection mechanisms resulting from the devolution process should also be strengthened and supported, promoting their process of institutional strengthening.

4 Integrating protection initiatives & allocating budget in Phase II response

Specific protection initiatives should be integrated at programmatic level into Phase II of Oxfam in Kenya's drought response, with allocated budget and resources to be implemented by partner organizations in the field. Oik can assess the most strategic set of actions that could be integrated into its on going programs from the identified list of protection needs.

5 Revamping & concentrating efforts to make Uwajibikaji viable

Concerted efforts should be made to re launch the Uwajibikaji initiative and garner support and institutional commitment from participating organizations and County Governments to make it into a viable system, ensuring its institutionalization and sustainability.

INTRODUCTION

Context Analysis

Following two consecutive rain seasons with significantly reduced levels of rainfall in 2016 (March-May and October-December), Kenya has been faced with a severe drought in its northern and coastal regions. Widespread crop failures and livestock loss, diminished or dried water sources, as well as record high inflation of basic staple foods have affected 27 out of 47 counties, leaving a significant part of the population in critical conditions. As a result, the Kenyan government declared a state of emergency in February 2017. Since then, a third consecutive rainy season with below average rainfall (March-May 2017) has severely aggravated the situation, increasing the levels of stress on a population whose coping mechanisms have already been depleted, and who are hence unable to withstand an additional shock.

Snapshot of Current Situation



Due to sustained rainfall shortage in 2017, the number of people in need of immediate humanitarian assistance in Kenya is expected to increase from 2.7m to 3.5m by August 2017¹



An estimated 2.6m people are in need of WASH assistance¹



An estimated 2.7m are currently in severe food insecurity in IPC level 3 or above²



An estimated 500K people are currently facing malnutrition.³ As of April 2017, Turkana and Wajir Counties report critical GAM levels (15-30%),⁴ while three of Turkana's sub-counties report acute malnutrition levels over 30% – double the emergency threshold.⁵ From March to May 2017, there has been a 32% increase in the total number of acutely malnourished children⁶



An estimated 175,655 people are currently at risk of violence, abuse and exploitation, including 139,000 children and 122,655 women and girls specifically at risk of gender based-violence⁷

Objective

Oxfam in Kenya has been responding to the drought emergency in both Turkana and Wajir counties since October 2016. In preparation for the second phase of the emergency response, Oxfam in Kenya has sought to carry out a protection assessment for a better understanding of the current protection risks and safe-programming gaps in its areas of intervention. The findings of this assessment should be seen as complementary to Oxfam's gender assessment carried out between May and June 2017.

¹ OCHA, Kenya Drought Situation Report No. 3, June 29, 2017 ([link](#))

² Horn of Africa Call for Action, February 2017 ([link](#))

³ Ibid

³ Ibid

⁴ OCHA, Kenya Humanitarian Dashboard, 26 May, 2017 ([link](#))

⁵ UNICEF, Kenya Humanitarian Situation Report, 5 July, 2017 ([link](#))

⁶ OCHA, Kenya Drought Situation Report No. 3

⁷ OCHA, Kenya Drought Situation Report No. 3

Methodology

This protection assessment was carried out from June 27th to July 20th 2017, including a period of desk review and two weeks of direct field assessments in Turkana and Wajir. A total of 12 focus group discussions (FGD), six with women and six with men, were held across three locations in each county, with a total participation of 54 women and 53 men. In addition, a total of 47 key informant interviews (KII) were carried out with 15 women and 32 men. The assessment locations in each county were purposefully selected to ensure an overview of Oxfam's different types of intervention (Cash/WASH) as well as a range of contexts and geographical reach.

Focus Group Discussions					
County	Town	Date	Women	Men	TOTAL
Turkana	Kakuma	04-Jul-17	10	11	21
	Lokichoggio	05-Jul-17	12	9	21
	Lodwar	07-Jul-17	3	3	6
	Turkana TOTAL		25	23	48
Wajir	Hadado	11-Jul-17	6	10	16
	Dasheg	11-Jul-17	11	12	23
	Sabuli	12-Jul-17	12	8	20
	Wajir TOTAL		29	30	59
TOTAL			54	53	107

Key Informant Interviews			
County	Women	Men	TOTAL
Turkana	8	20	28
Wajir	7	12	19
TOTAL	15	32	47

The findings of this assessment are based on qualitative information gathered during FGD and KIIs in Turkana and Wajir Counties, shedding light on the current experiences and perceptions of risk held by communities, local authorities and local NGO actors.

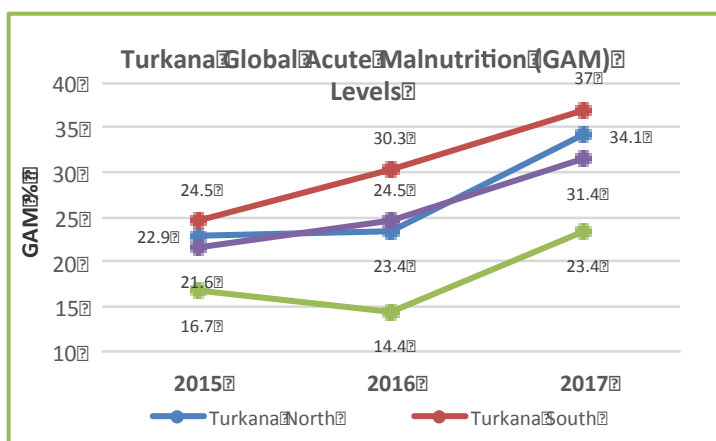
Protection incidents and existing risks reported during these interviews are valued as testimonies throughout this report, and require further in-depth investigations that fall outside the limitations of both scope and time-frame of this assessment. It is hoped that the findings of this report can serve as an initial reference point for further investigations and targeted action by Oxfam and relevant government and NGO actors.

To the greatest extent possible, the findings of the assessment have been corroborated with existing secondary data where such information has been available. Specific quantitative data gathered from household interviews carried out during Oxfam's gender assessment in June 2017 has also been included where relevant.

PROTECTION RISKS

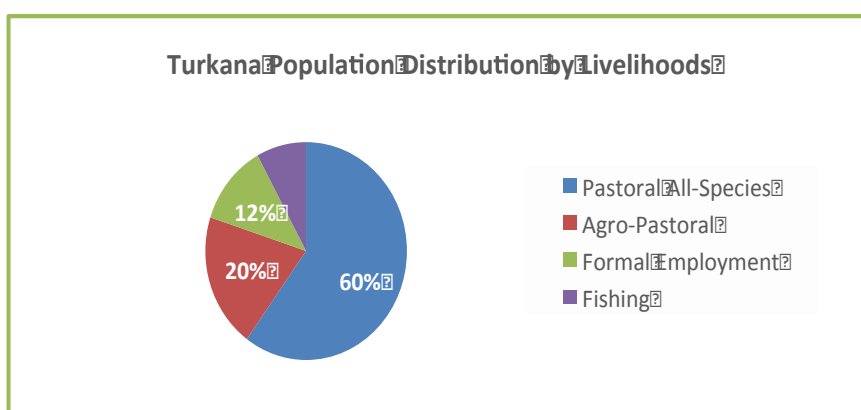
Turkana

Turkana has the highest poverty rate of all 47 counties in Kenya, with 94.3% versus a 45.9% national average.¹ With a County Development Index of 0.26, it also has the lowest index of all counties in the country.² During the first half of 2017, Turkana's nutritional situation has significantly deteriorated. As of June 2017, 3 out of its 4 sub-counties report acute malnutrition levels greater than 30%, with Turkana South reporting an alarming 37% GAM rate, and overall severe acute malnutrition levels reported at 6-12% throughout the county.³



[UNICEF, Kenya Humanitarian Situation Report, 5 July, 2017 ([link](#))]

Around 80% of Turkana's estimated 1 million inhabitants base their livelihoods on nomadic pastoralism or agro-pastoral activities.⁴ As a result, the current drought crisis has had a severe impact on the way of life of the vast majority of the population. Focus group discussions report experiencing 80-100% loss of livestock due to lack of pasture and depleted water sources, most of them camels, goats and cows, as well as widespread crop failure.



[Kenya Food Security Steering Group, Turkana County Short Rains Food Security Assessment, 2017 ([link](#))]

Within Turkana context, a number of significant **protection risks** have been identified in Turkana as a direct result of the drought emergency:

¹ Kenya Inter-Agency Rapid Assessment (KIRA), *Turkana Secondary Data Review*, March 2014 ([link](#))

² Commission on Revenue Allocation, *County Development Index – Working Paper No. 2012/01*, ([link](#))

³ UNICEF, *Kenya Humanitarian Situation Report*, 5 July, 2017 ([link](#))

⁴ Kenya Food Security Steering Group, *Turkana County Short Rains Food Security Assessment*, 2017 ([link](#))

Family Separation

Pastoral families have had to migrate significant distances in search of pasture and water sources, many of them migrating all the way to Uganda.¹ In most cases, women, children and senior adults are left behind in villages to try to find a source of livelihood while men migrate with surviving livestock. In other cases, children are the only members of the family left behind, either with relatives, neighbours, or with older children to fend for themselves. With their families gone and no real supervision, many of these children end up living in the streets.

Urban Influx and Burden on Host Women

Large numbers of nomadic pastoralist families have been forced to migrate into urban centers after losing their means of livelihood, taking up refuge with relatives living in towns. With this significant migration influx, the number of members of some urban households has doubled or tripled, increasing from an average of 8-10 members to 20-25 members. With mostly men migrating with surviving livestock, women are left behind in villages with the full burden of the household.

As newly-arrived pastoralist family members are unfamiliar with urban types of work, women from host families have been forced to find additional sources of income to sustain their families as well as their relatives, reporting having to undertake overwhelming levels of workload. This includes domestic work, fetching water, collecting and selling firewood, preparing charcoal, as well as engaging in survival sex.

Survival Sex

Survival sex has become a widespread coping mechanism among women and girls in urban centers who have no means of livelihoods to support their families and relatives who have migrated into towns. Ages of women and girls engaging in survival sex range from as young as 11 years old to middle-age. In Lodwar and Lokichoggio, mostly young girls and teenagers engage in survival sex with business and working-class men. There are several pick-up points where girls line up to wait for clients, especially outside of bars and hotels. Many of these girls and young women are from rural villages, having migrated into Lodwar to be able to send money back to their families or survive on their own. In some cases, the example of these girls and women earning money through survival sex has served as a factor encouraging other girls and women from their villages to do the same.

Due to strong associated stigma, FGD participants report that these girls and women can no longer go back to live in their villages, as they will be rejected by their own families and cast out from their communities, never being able to get married. This has resulted in a complete loss of their social and support networks, making it likely for these girls and young women to continue engaging in survival sex after the effects of the drought are over.

In Kakuma, concretely, dire conditions and lack of alternative means of livelihood have forced women and girls from the host community to utilize survival sex as one of their main sources of income, primarily with men in Kakuma Refugee Camp. As the refugee community is considered to be economically better off than the host community as a result of targeted refugee assistance available in the camp, many host women and girls walk 3-4 hours on a regular basis to get to the camp, where they engage in sex with refugee men and NGO workers in exchange for food or cash as little as 20-150KES. Increase in the prevalence of HIV among this population has become a pressing concern.

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The girls that have come into town to engage in survival sex send money back to their villages, and show other girls that they can buy things. They help them out at first, but then say that they can't support them forever and they must come into town and earn their money themselves.”

– FGD with women in Lokichoggio

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¹ OCHA, Horn of Africa: Humanitarian Impacts of Drought – Issue 1, 31 March 2017 ([link](#))

Sexual Violence

As a direct result of the drought, women and girls, who are traditionally in charge of fetching water for domestic use, have to walk much longer distances (at times 10-20km) to search for water after nearby water sources have dried up or been depleted.¹ Following the loss of their families' livestock and crops, they also have to walk long distances to collect firewood to sell in villages. In this context, there has been an increase of cases of assault, rape and defilement being reported specifically while women and girls leave their communities to travel these distances. There have also been reports of cases where sex is being demanded as a condition to access water sources. FGD participants estimate the ratio of increase in sexual violence cases to be 1:6 since the beginning of the drought.

In the case of Kakuma, concretely, the vast majority of women and girls from the host community have had to resort to the refugee camp in search of livelihoods, either by selling firewood and charcoal, fetching water, or carrying out domestic work for refugee households. FGD with host community women report that working in the camp puts them at very high risk, particularly young girls, as they are coerced and sexually abused on a regular basis by refugee men who forcibly demand them for sex or refuse to pay them for their work unless they accede to sex or sexual acts. On going abuse cases also involve gang rapes, defilements, as well as physical violence when women demand to be paid for their work. Participants of the FGD estimated that an alarming 40% of host women and girls working in the refugee camp are subjected to a form of sexual violence, abuse and/or coercion. Despite this high level of incidence, however, almost the totality of these cases go unreported as confidence in the police is minimal.

The Kakuma police station confirms that no cases of this nature have been reported in the past year.

Sexual Exploitation

In both Kakuma and Lodwar, cases of commercial sexual exploitation have been reported. This includes family members forcing girls and young women into commercial sex as a main source of household income, as well as people taking advantage of and exploiting street girls that have migrated unaccompanied into the town centers.

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is generally seen as a culturally accepted practice and is therefore not considered as a grave issue. Cases are normally only reported when emergency medical care is required to assist the survivor. FGD participants report that the economic stress caused by the impact of the drought has led to an increase in violent domestic disputes over control and use of resources within the household.

GBV Reporting Obstacles

In Turkana pastoralist culture, disputes arising within the community are handled internally through customary courts involving the Chief and village elders. As such, most cases of rape, defilement and domestic violence are also resolved internally, with the perpetrator's family having to pay a fine in either livestock or cash to the survivor's family. Given that substantial wealth gains are involved, both family members and village leaders (who sometimes also gain a commission in the negotiations) will often actively

If you manage to work for a refugee woman, you'll be safe. But if you have to work for a man, he'll almost always take advantage of you and you can't complain. There's no point in going to the police about it. Refugee men have more money, so the police are all in their pockets. Either way, I have to come back with something to my family. If I report him, I lose any money that he might give me.

– FGD with host community

“

Because of the drought, husbands and wives are fighting much more. There is very little money, but some men will use it to buy alcohol or spend it on the streets, and will beat up the wife when she demands where is the food for the house.

The resistance to reporting is very big, and it can even be quite dangerous. We had a recent case of a girl who had been beaten and raped, and when we tried to take the girl into protective custody, we were ambushed by several cars with armed men from the community. We had no choice but to surrender her back to the community.

– FGD with host community men in Kakuma

¹ OCHA, Horn of Africa: Impact of Conflict and Drought Crises on Women and Girls, March 2017 ([link](#))

discourage or directly prevent survivors from seeking legal redress and justice through official state mechanisms. At times, this involves witness intimidation and/or kidnapping to thwart legal or court procedures and ensure economic gain through customary law.

Local authorities in Lodwar, Kakuma and Lokichoggio have all reported an increase of GBV cases since the start of the drought, estimating a rise of known GBV cases in a 1:8 ratio since the beginning of the drought. This information goes hand in hand with the results of household interviews carried out during Oxfam’s gender assessment in June 2017, where communities’ perception of this increase has also been confirmed:

% of Households Perceiving an Increase in GBV Cases Since the Drought				
Increase in security concerns for women & girls	Increase in attacks against women & girls when travelling outside the community	Increase in attacks against women & girls while moving inside the community	Increase in sexual violence against women & girls	Increase in physical violence against women & girls
58%	68%	43%	53%	62%

[Perception rates from household interviews carried out during Oxfam’s Gender Assessment in June 2017]

It is worth noting that as the number of GBV cases have increased with the drought, so has the need and interests of families to receive compensation payment out of the situation, making obstacles to reporting and obtaining redress through official state mechanisms a pressing issue.

Moreover, another key factor contributing to the majority of GBV cases going unreported is the high social cost it represents for the survivor’s entire family, as the girl or woman can no longer get married. As such, family members are often the main deterrents to reporting, choosing to keep the situation out of public knowledge.



Families will refuse to report the cases, even when it comes to defilement. They will only come forward to the police if payment negotiations with the perpetrator’s family have stagnated or failed, as a way to pressure them into settling an amount. And in cases where they report, it is generally too late. Normally it’s been months since the incident occurred, or the girl is already pregnant. If the case makes it to court, and payment is later agreed between the families, we then have to deal with survivors being pressured to act as a hostile witness to sabotage and throw away the case.” – Gender Desk Officer, Kakuma Police Station

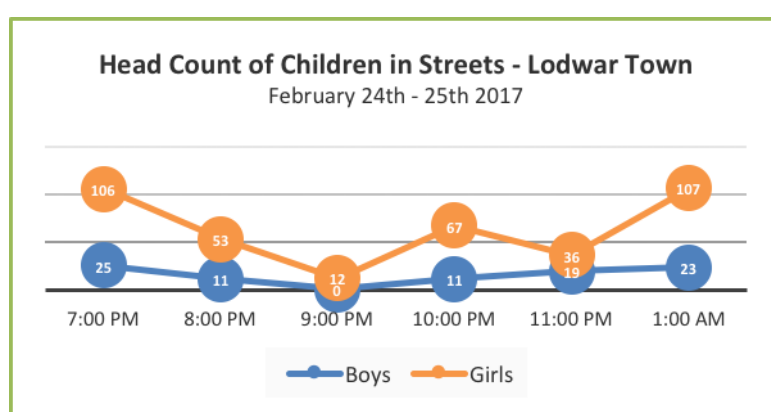


Street Children

A combination of factors – including children being left behind by family separation resulting from migration, as well as the inability of households to feed their members – has resulted in an alarming increase of street children in urban centers. Many of these children have migrated from all over the county in search of a means of livelihood. A number of inter-related child protection concerns have emerged from this situation as a direct result of the current drought crisis:

- **Petty Thefts and Crimes** – Street boys are frequently engaged in petty thefts from small or informal businesses, as well as street mugging and pickpocketing as a means of livelihood.
- **Drug Abuse** – The use of glue as a drug has become a common practice among street boys, at times utilized as a way to mitigate the effects of hunger.
- **Child survival sex** – Large numbers of street girls as young as 11-12 years old are engaged in survival sex in exchange for food or cash for as little as 20-150 KES. As street children live in groups, it is girls who normally economically support the rest of the group with the money earned through survival sex.
- **Child sexual exploitation** – In urban centers, particularly in Lodwar and Kakuma, cases of child sexual exploitation rings have recently emerged, with girls being forced into commercial sex by their families as a main source of household income or by other people they have encountered in town, at times engaging with 10+ clients per day.
- **Child pregnancies** – With the prevalence of survival sex and sexual exploitation among street girls, there has been a sharp rise in child pregnancies. The Department of Children Services (DCS) estimates an increase of child pregnancy cases in a 1:7 ratio since the beginning of the drought. As a result, in Lodwar and Kakuma there is a risk of soon having “street families,” with babies being born and raised within these groups of street children.
- **Runaway children** – There has been a prevalence of groups of boys aged 5-10 years old running away into urban centers in search for livelihood sources, travelling distances as far as 200km from Lokichoggio to Lodwar. The DCS reports that some children have managed to travel these distances while holding on to the rears of buses or trucks. In some cases where authorities trace the boys back to their homes, families will refuse to welcome them back as they cannot afford to feed them. With lack of children’s homes to give them refuge, these boys remain indefinitely in the streets.

In Lodwar town alone, the Department of Children Services (DCS) estimates around 200+ new children currently living in the streets since the beginning of the drought crisis. In February 2017, IRC conducted a headcount of children observed in the streets of Lodwar over the course of one night



[Observational data gathered by IRC in Lodwar Town on the night of 24th to 25th of February, 2017]

The number of street girls (9-14 years old) found active during the evening in Lodwar was particularly alarming, the majority of them presumably engaging in survival sex or being forced to commercial sexual exploitation, while gathering in known pick-up points outside bars and hotels. The number of girls observed in the streets peaks ini-

tially around 7pm, lowering throughout the night as girls likely engage with clients, while rising once again after midnight.

Child Labour

With families unable to sustain or feed all their members, child labour has become a main and standard coping mechanism, with children dropping out of school to economically help support their families. Boys are often engaged in petty jobs in urban centers, while girls herd small animals, carry out domestic work, or fetch and sell water. Both boys and girls travel long distances to collect and sell firewood and charcoal.

School Drop-Out

It is estimated that around 180,000 children throughout Kenya have had to drop out of school as a direct consequence of the drought.¹ In addition to child labour, migration is also one of the main causes behind high levels of school drop-out rates, at times reaching 20-30%. This is particularly true for children of pastoral families in grades 1-2, where they are not old enough to be left behind with neighbours or relatives, and must therefore migrate with their families in search for water and pasture for their livestock. While some pastoral boys remain behind in boarding school programs, there are almost no funds available to support these programs and institutions.

During the drought, school feeding programs have become a main source of food security for children. Due to problems with the procurement pipeline between the WFP and the Kenyan Government, the Supplementary Feeding Program (SFP) was suspended during the January-June 2017 period, contributing to a high increase in drop-out rates, as children had to leave school in order to work and find sources of food. The SFP is expected to resume in September 2017.²

Schools are notably understaffed throughout the county. As a result, despite primary education being free of charge in Kenya, many communities have internally decided to pay a supplementary 100KES fee per child per month to hire additional teachers. Due to the drought, however, many families can no longer afford this amount, contributing to an increase of school drop outs. With schools usually serving as a source of food security for children, inability to send them to school has represented a worsening of the economic burden on households. Additionally, families report that in some cases their children are sent back from school due to lack of proper uniforms, shoes and books, and that they are unable to cover the cost of buying these supplies to ensure their children are allowed to assist class.

Early Marriage

In Turkana pastoralist culture, it is common for girls to be married by age 12-13. Dowry is paid to the girl's family in either livestock or cash, representing an important source of income. As families have lost their livestock due to the drought and cannot afford to pay dowry, many marriages have been temporarily halted. In other cases, however, girls are married as a coping mechanism in exchange for a few head of livestock (which are often weak or sick), or are otherwise married in "credit" as a future income insurance, with the promise of livestock payment once the drought is over.

Prevalence of HIV/AIDS

Turkana has seen big advancements with regards to HIV prevention and response in recent years. Up until 2013, Turkana had a HIV rate of 7.6% versus a 5.9% national average, with a higher rate among women at 10.8%.³ Since then, concerted efforts led by the County Government have successfully reduced the number of cases by almost 50%, lowering their rate to 4% by 2016 (from 44,736 cases in 2013 to 22,523 in 2015).⁴ Moreover, the number of overall AIDS-related deaths has also been reduced by 70% in the last three years, with a total of 768 deaths (110

¹ OCHA, *Horn of Africa: Impact of Conflict and Drought Crises on Women and Girls*, March 2017 ([link](#))

² Horn of Africa Call to Action, February 2017 ([link](#))

³ UNAIDS, *Kenya Country Profile*, 2015 ([link](#))

⁴ National AIDS and STI Control Program, *Kenya HIV County Profiles*, 2016 ([link](#))

children and 658 adults) reported in 2015 in comparison to 2,538 in 2013.¹

However, despite these important advancements, the prevalence of HIV has been reported as a pressing concern for populations in urban centres, particularly in Kakuma and Lokichoggio. FGD participants report that while HIV was normally only a concern within urban populations, it has now also become a pressing issue within nomadic pastoral communities after the effects of the drought have forced women and girls to start engaging in survival sex.

In the specific case of Kakuma, the HIV rates among the host community are considered to be much higher than that of the refugee population inside the camp, in part due to the high levels of survival sex work carried out by women and girls as well as the general lack of HIV awareness and prevention programs within the host community. In this light, over 50% of all HIV cases received at the IRC HIV Clinic in Kakuma Refugee Camp come from members of the host community.

Alcohol abuse

Alcoholism has become a serious issue among both men and women in urban centers, as a direct response to drought-related stress and loss of livelihoods. An increase in street fights and domestic violence have been reported as a consequence of alcohol abuse.

Youth gangs

In Kakuma and Lokichoggio, gangs of young men and teenage boys who have ended in the streets or remain idle after losing their sources of livelihood are engaging in thefts from small businesses or street mugging armed with knives. These gangs are not necessarily organized, but rather act in opportunistic ways whenever possible.

Market failure and exhausted credit

Widespread crop failures in certain areas and loss of livestock have resulted in high inflation of basic market prices. Shortages caused by the drought have resulted in maize prices reaching a record high, remaining 80% higher than prices in June 2016, while bean prices are soaring by 60%.² As men have migrated with the surviving livestock, there are almost no animals left for sale as a source of income, while remaining animals are either too weak or are sold at extremely low prices due to their deteriorated condition.

Moreover, with practically no availability of cash, women left behind in the villages have had to rely heavily on credit for the last 5-6 months, but have already started to exhaust the limit allowed by the local businesses, and will soon have no way of accessing food or water. Small businesses and traders have reached their breaking point as a consequence and currently risk facing bankruptcy.

Small Arms and Light Weapons Trade (SALW)

There is a significant trade of small arms and light weapons along the Turkana border with South Sudan, contributing to a high volatility level in the region.³ Despite arms possession being illegal in Kenya, FGD participants in Lokichoggio reported the relative ease with which weapons can be obtained over the border. Around 70-100% of pastoral men in this area are reported to be armed, with a high prevalence of cattle rustling and resource-based conflict.

Resource-based conflict & armed raids

Pastoral families who migrate to slightly less affected regions in search of pasture and water sources often have violent clashes with host communities over access to and control of scarce resources. Conflict normally worsens whenever there is rainfall in a particular region, as large number of pastoralists migrate to this area. In the Northern Turkana border near Lokichoggio, Turkana and Toposa pastoralists from South Sudan are engaged in mutual

¹ Ibid.

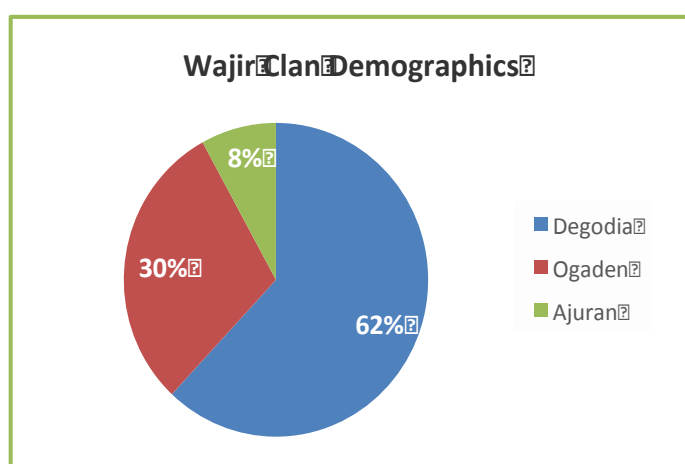
² OCHA, Horn of Africa: Humanitarian Impacts of Drought – Issue 8, 18 July 2017 ([link](#))

³ Small Arms Survey & Kenya National Focus Point on Small Arms, Availability of Small Arms and Perceptions of Security in Kenya: An Assessment, pg 39, 2012 ([link](#))

attacks and cattle raids on a regular basis, commonly in groups of 15-20 armed men. Attacks are typically directed against pastoralist women as they travel in search for water and firewood, where they are beaten, raped and killed while being pressed to give up information on the location of their group's men and livestock. Revenge killings and child abductions have recently started to take place as drought-related stress has escalated the conflict.

Wajir

Wajir has a poverty rate of 84%, ranked at 45 out of 47 counties in Kenya.¹ With a County Development Index of 0.33, it also has the third lowest index of all counties in the country.² It has a population of around 850,000 people composed of Kenyan Somalis, who are divided into three main clans: Degodia (62%), Ogaden (30%) and Ajuran (8%).³ In terms of demographic distribution, the Degodia clan controls the Wajir East, Wajir West, Tarbaj and Edan sub-counties, while the Ogaden clan predominates in Wajir South and the Ajuran clan in Wajir North.



[Kenyatta University, Clannism and Conflict Management in Wajir County, 2014 ([link](#))]

The vast majority of Wajir's population relies on pastoralism. While Degodia clan households are traditionally characterized by herding camels, Ogaden and Ajuran households mostly herd large numbers of cattle and goats. As camels are migratory animals, compared to sedentary cattle and goats, Degodia pastoralists have historically been in disputes with the Ajuran and the Ogaden clans as they encroach into their territory in search of pasture or water sources, leading to frequent inter-clan conflict.⁴

Unlike nomadic community dynamics in Turkana, Somali culture is characterized by its particularly strong social networks and cohesion along clan and family lines. This factor, in addition to the overall influence of conservative Islamic culture, has served as a buffer against certain negative coping mechanisms that are otherwise prevalent throughout Turkana County. Namely, the following issues were not mentioned as a pressing concern in Wajir: *survival sex, sexual commercial exploitation, prevalence of HIV, street children, and alcoholism*.

On the other hand, mirroring the case of Turkana, the following protection concerns are also all present in the Wajir context:

- Family Separation
- Child Labour

¹ Kenya Inter-Agency Rapid Assessment (KIRA), Wajir Secondary Data Review, July 2014 ([link](#))

² Commission on Revenue Allocation Working Paper No. 2012/01, County Development Index, ([link](#))

³ Kenyatta University, Clannism and Conflict Management in Wajir County, 2014 ([link](#))

⁴ Ibid.

- School Drop-Outs – including obstacles around lack of food and school fees
- Sexual Violence – while women and girls walk long distances to collect water and firewood
- Domestic Violence – also associated to disputes between wives in polygamous households
- Early Marriage – with girls being married as a coping strategy to rich Somali men in the diaspora
- Small Arms and Light Weapons Trade – along the Wajir/Somalia border
- Resource-Based Conflict – between the Degodia, Ogaden and Ajuran clans
- Exhausted Credit

As the explanations surrounding these issues remain the same for both Turkana and Wajir, their details will not be repeated in this section. In addition to the issues listed above, the following protection concerns have also been identified in Wajir:

Inter-clan violence

Inter-clan conflict between the Degodia, Ogaden and Ajuran has historically dominated county relations in Wajir. While the 2010 devolution process has had an overall positive impact, one of its negative side-effects has been the ripening of political tensions among these clans, as sub-county borders were largely drawn based on clan affiliations. With the Degodia representing 62% of the population and controlling 4 out of the 6 sub-counties, the minority Ogaden and Ajuran clans contest for political power, while Degodia sub-clans also often fight among each other. The impacts of the drought and resulting disputes over control of scarce resources have aggravated the already fragile and volatile clan and sub-clan relations, with tensions currently erupting into clan-based violence in Northern Wajir between the Degodia and Ajuran following short-lived rains in the region.

Cattle rustling

Cattle raiding is prevalent throughout the county, with most pastoralist men being armed. As raids are carried out along clan and sub-clan lines, they can often easily escalate into political and clan-based conflict. Currently, pastoralists from the Degodia and Ogaden clans have migrated in large numbers to Wajir North in search of pasture from brief rainfall in the region, facing violent resistance from the local Ajuran clan over access to and control of scarce resources.



FGM

Though Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) or Cutting was made illegal in Kenya in 2011, an estimated 98% of girls in rural areas of Wajir undergo FGM as part of established Somali tradition, predominantly Type III FGM also known as “pharaonic” circumcision.¹ This variant of the procedure involves the complete cutting of the clitoris, inner labia, and the full stitching of the outer labia, except for a small opening for menstrual and urine discharge.² The practice is considered to keep women’s libido under control, and ensure that sex is only practiced for reproductive purposes and not for pleasure, as well as to ensure women’s virginity and subsequent fidelity to their husbands.

The procedure normally takes place when a girl 6–7 years old, and she must spend the following weeks with her legs tied together to allow for healing. For this reason, FGM is usually undergone during school vacation periods, also preventing teachers from reporting the practice as they are mandated reporters under the new 2011 ‘anti-FGM’ law in Kenya.

A woman’s vulva is normally cut open with a knife during her wedding night to allow for

An uncut girl is not considered a girl at all. She would be bullied by everyone at school and become an outcast. Being uncut is a source of great shame, both for the girl and her entire family, as she is not seen as worthy. She could never get married, no man would take her like that.

– Female Nurse Practitioner, Sabuli District Hospital



¹ UNICEF, Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: A Statistical Overview and Exploration of the Dynamics of Change, 2013 ([link](#))

² Population Reference Bureau, Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: Data and Trends, 2010 ([link](#))

penetration if her remaining opening is too small. It is also cut open when women are about to give birth, though it is later re-stitched after labour is finalized. Each village has 1 to 3 designated older women in charge of performing all cutting procedures. In Somali culture, the practice is directly associated with a woman's honour, value and dignity, and an 'uncut' woman or girl is therefore considered to be filthy and unworthy.

In Wajir Town, however, the county's only urban area, an estimated 10-20% of the population, particularly the educated elite, have gradually started to opt for less aggressive types of FGM, involving solely the cutting or at times 'nicking' of the clitoris. Considered as a form of child abuse and made illegal under the 2011 'anti-FGM' Kenyan law, the practice of FGM as well as knowledge of it is punishable with a minimum of three years of imprisonment.

However, with very few ways of enforcing it, this law has in practice created the contrary effect in Wajir County than what it originally sought to achieve: FGM practices in rural Wajir have not necessarily been reduced, but have rather just become more undercover, with the majority of people denying it or unwilling to talk about it.

An increase in urinary tract infections has been reported by medical staff since the start of the drought, purportedly related to water shortages combined with vaginal hygiene difficulties associated with pharaonic circumcision.

GBV reporting obstacles

As in the case of Turkana, Kenyan-Somali pastoralists also resolve issues arising within in their community through internal customary courts conformed by the Chief and the village elders. In cases of GBV, the perpetrator's family has to sacrifice a goat to 'allow for the woman's healing,' in addition to paying the fine agreed by the court in terms of livestock. As in Turkana, communities actively discourage survivors from reporting to official state mechanisms due to the economic gains involved in customary procedures. In Wajir, however, the social consequences of reporting through official means are very punitive, making the possibility of reporting even more difficult.

Moreover, families prefer to hide incidents of GBV at all costs, as the girl could never get married if the community finds out, bringing great shame to her entire family. A thorough and in-depth assessment of GBV in Wajir County is available from Population Council.¹

Loss of teachers

In recent years, terrorist attacks by Al-Shabaab in the region have caused many teachers in rural areas to abandon their posts, resulting in schools being significantly understaffed or in some cases forcing schools to close.

Animal attacks

Following the loss and migration of livestock, hyena attacks have become a serious problem for communities, as hyenas have started to wander into the villages in the absence of animals to eat and serve as a buffer. Small children are at highest risk, unable to fend the hyenas off while adults are away, with several child deaths reported to date.



Communities follow clan structures, so denouncing 'one of your own' is considered an act of great treason, and the survivor's entire family would risk being kicked out of their community as a consequence. Families will only report when it becomes inevitable, like cases where emergency medical care is required.

– Wajir County Gender Department, Wajir Town



¹ Population Council, Assessment of SGBV in Wajir County, 2009 ([link](#))

Drug abuse

Abuse of khat, a native plant utilized as a stimulant when chewed, has become a serious issue among men in rural areas as a direct response to drought-related stress and loss of livelihoods. An increase in domestic violence and disputes has been reported as a consequence, with men choosing to utilize scarce household resources to buy khat instead of food.

Enlistment to armed groups

The Department of Children Services reports that in parts of Northern Wajir as well as along the Mandera/Wajir border with Somalia, there have been cases of boys and young men opting to join Al-Shabaab militants based on the prospect of better economic and livelihood opportunities after losing their livestock and means of living as a result of the drought.

Human trafficking

Local authorities, including the Police and the DCS, report cases of human trafficking towards Ethiopia and Somalia taking place along the Mandera and Wajir borders, particularly of young women and girls from Western Kenya being promised better job or living opportunities.

MAPPING OF ACTORS AND REFERRAL SERVICES

At **national level**, there are currently five available **protection hotlines** in Kenya

NATIONAL PROTECTION HOTLINES

- **National Police Hotline – 112 8 911**
24h toll-free hotline, operated by the Kenyan National Police Service. Offers liaison with County and Sub-County Police Offices.
- **National Sexual & Gender-Based Violence Hotline – 1195**
24h toll-free hotline operated by Healthcare Assistance Kenya (HAK) in liaison with the State Department of Gender Affairs and supported by the national network of GBV actors.
- **National Child Abuse Hotline – 116**
24h toll-free hotline, operated by the Department of Children Services. Liaison with the DCS County and Sub-County Offices. Services based in Nairobi, available in Kiswahili and English.
- **Human Trafficking Hotline – 999**
24h toll-free hotline, operated by the Kenyan National Police Service with the support of IOM.

Obstacles

With the exception of the National Police Hotline which can be redirected to local county offices, these hotline services are based in Nairobi and are available in Kiswahili and English. Despite being accessible from anywhere in the country, the GBV, Child Abuse and Human Trafficking hotlines are little known and rarely utilized in Turkana and Wajir Counties.

In addition to lack of dissemination, the fact that these services are not localized represents a significant barrier to their accessibility and practicality. On the one hand, language barriers are cited as one of the main obstacles preventing populations in Turkana and Wajir from utilizing these hotlines. As the services are unavailable in Turkana and Somali languages, they are mostly inaccessible for populations living outside of urban centres who often only speak their local language.

On the other hand, the lack of localization also results in referral processes to local structures being often complicated and/or inefficient, with frequent loss of information and inability to effectively connect callers to local protection authorities or services.

Turkana

Lodwar

Lodwar is Turkana's capital and largest town, and as such, is home to a number of NGOs in the county. Being the county's main urban center, Lodwar has received the highest influx of street children as a result of the drought, who have migrated from all parts of Turkana in search of a source of livelihood. The following protection actors are present in the town:

- **Department of Children Services (DCS)** – The central DCS office in the county is located in Lodwar, consisting of 4 staff members. The DCS has a program to support vulnerable children with monthly cash transfers, partnering with HelpAge for its implementation. Until recently, The Cradle Children's Foundation supported DCS with legal services to represent children in court procedures. As of May 2017, Cradle's funding has come to an end, and legal support services for children in Turkana are no longer available.
- **Wellness Center (District Hospital)** – Founded in 2015 with the support of IRC, the District Hospital's Wellness Center is the sub-county's only GBV response facility. It provides clinical care and psychosocial support to survivors of violence, PEP and STI treatments, reproductive health services, as well as a comprehensive HIV prevention & response program. It also works with the increasing population of women and girl sex workers in town. In association with the Ministry of Health, it trains Community Health Volunteers on the clinical treatment of rape for outreach purposes into remote areas. It has an emergency hotline currently run by IRC, but it is not yet toll free, representing an obstacle for potential callers who cannot afford to call. As of May 2017, IRC's main source of funding to support the Wellness Center has come to an end with no new sources of funding available in sight. This has put the center's services at risk of terminating at a time when they are crucially needed to cope with the increased number of cases resulting from the drought crisis and beyond.
- **Police Department** – Lodwar's police department has a functional Gender Desk and 3 Gender Officers, two female and one male, who handle GBV and child protection cases in conjunction with the DCS. Police staff have been trained on child protection by the DCS, particularly on how to address issues relating to the recent high influx of street children.
- **Child Protection Working Group (CPWG)** – The group is led by the DCS and brings together all child protection actors in the area. It meets once a month and is comprised of: Police Department, Judiciary, IRC, UNICEF, World Vision, Cradle Foundation, Save the Children, Child Fund, Diocese of Lodwar (DoL), and CWS Kenya. The CPWG has been trying to lobby the County Government for allocation of funds to support existing child protection and GBV response services, but have so far been unsuccessful.
- **Children's Homes** – There are only three available children's homes in all of Turkana County, two of them state-certified, that are helping receive the high increase of street children: St. Luke School of the Deaf, Nadirkonyen Children's Home and Eral Akuj Amina Children's Home.
- **Department of Education, Gender and Social Service** – Responsible for leading social policy reforms in the county, the department has recently introduced and approved three bills: Youth and Women Empowerment Fund Bill (2015), Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Bill (2016), and the Persons with Disability Bill (2017) in conjunction with the Turkana Disability Network.
- **Additional NGO Actors** – DoL has an ongoing program to support girl sex workers in town. Other NGOs who carry out some form of protection activities include World Vision and Save the Children.
- **Community Radio Stations** – There are several community radio stations with widespread range that have been utilized in the past to broadcast key protection messages

GENDER BASED VIOLENCE HOTLINE

0704854141

*NOT free number. Wellness Center Hotline in Lodwar, handled by IRC

LODWAR						
Institution	Issues	Services	Cost	Contact		
				Name	Position	Number
Department of Children Services	Child Labour, Early and/or Forced Marriage, Child Abuse, Sexual Violence	Legal, Medical & Psychosocial Accompaniment	FREE	Alexander Munyes	Lodwar Sub-County Coordinator	0724051750
Wellness Center District Hospital	Gender Based Violence, HIV & Reproductive Health	Medical Services & Psychosocial Support	FREE	Phoebe Kaaman	Women's Protection Manager	0704854141
				Ken Opere	HIV & Reproductive Health Manager	0722567571
Police Department	All Cases	Legal & Protection	FREE	Patrick Gogo	OCS	0722456884
Diocese of Lodwar	Child Sexual Exploitation	Livelihood Support & Medical Accompaniment	N/A	Jessica Lomonguin	Child Protection Officer	0717234988

Kakuma

Kakuma is renowned for being home to one of the largest refugee camps in the world. Established in 1992, Kakuma Refugee Camp hosts around 165,000 refugees as of early 2017, most of them from South Sudan and Somalia.¹ Kakuma Town, however, located just a few kilometres away from the camp, is less well known and mostly sidelined from development and humanitarian interventions.

While a wide range of actors are present in the refugee camp, very few are present in the town, which is characterized by overall harsh living conditions and precarious or failed services. As a result, refugees are considered to be 'better off' than the host community, having access to education, healthcare, and livelihood programs within the camp. This discrepancy has led to regular tensions and conflict between refugees and the host population.

Unlike most actors present in the area, Oxfam in Kenya does not work with the refugee population in Kakuma, but rather works exclusively with the host community, comprised of mostly Turkana nomadic pastoralists, as it tries to fill the existing vacuum of actors. The following assessment of actors and services is therefore solely focused on those available for the host community in Kakuma Town:

- **Department of Children Services (DCS)** – There is a sub-county DCS in Kakuma Town, consisting of 1 Children's Officer, who is also in charge of covering cases in Lokichoggio and its surroundings.
- **Police Department** – Kakuma's police department has a functional Gender Desk, with three female Gender Desk Officers who oversee cases of GBV and child protection.
- **Kakuma Mission Hospital** – Kakuma Town's main functional hospital, it is a private hospital supported by the Catholic Church. A 100KES consultation fee is charged, which families can often not afford.
- **Sub-County General Hospital** – Though it is a state hospital, a 100KES consultation fee is charged, which

¹ UNHCR, Kakuma Refugee Camp, 2017 ([link](#))

families can often not afford. The hospital has very little resources, and is in overall deficient conditions.

- **GBV Support Center (IRC General Hospital)** – Located inside the refugee camp in Kakuma 4, the center provides free medical, psychosocial and follow up care to survivors of violence, including rape, defilement, sexual abuse and exploitation, and domestic violence.
- **HIV Support Center (IRC General Hospital)** – Located in the refugee camp in Kakuma ¹, it provides free reproductive health services, HIV and STI treatment programs. Over 50% of the HIV cases received at the center are from the host community. It also has program specifically targeting support for sex workers, a large percentage also coming from the host community.
- **Child Protection Working Group (CPWG)** – The platform brings together all child protection actors in the area, but only works within the refugee camp and with refugee children. Led by the DCS with support of UNICEF, it meets once a month and is comprised of the Ministry of Interior and Police, the Department of Probation, LWF, IRC, UNHCR, NRC, DRC, JRS, RAS, World Vision and Windle Trust Kenya.
- **Lutheran World Federation (LWF)** – LWF is the only official actor working with the host community, with allocated budget from UNHCR and UNICEF for this purpose. They have a child protection back-to-school program for street children, and support family reunification cases.

KAKUMA						
Institution	Issues	Services	Cost	Contact		
				Name	Position	Number
Department of Children Services	Child Labour, Early and/or Forced Marriage, Child Abuse, Sexual Violence	Legal, Medical & Psychosocial Accompaniment	FREE	Augustin Nyamai	Kakuma Sub-County Coordinator	0717151129
Police Department	All Cases	Legal & Protection	FREE	Callen Ondari	Gender Desk Officer	0702902655
GBV Support Center IRC General Hospital – Kakuma 4	All types of Gender-Based Violence and Abuse	Clinical care for survivors of violence, PEP and STI treatments, psychosocial support	FREE	Rebecca Oswago	SGBV Response Officer	0722784999
Kakuma Mission Hospital	Medical Care	Private medical services, HIV and STI treatment, PEP kits	100 KES	Dennis Nyongisa	Infirmary Manager	0719637589
Sub-County General Hospital	Medical Care	Medical Services, HIV and STI treatment, PEP kits	100 KES	Anderson Ngosike	Nursing Officer	0729004945
				Kevin Lomuria	Medical Doctor	0728646125
HIV Support Center IRC General Hospital – Kakuma 1	HIV & Reproductive Health Services	HIV treatment, family planning, support program for sexual workers & follow up services	FREE	Jesse Muriithi	Reproductive Health Officer	0728646125
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	Child Protection	Livelihoods Support & Return to School Programs	N/A	George Thoto	Senior Child Protection Officer	0722434356

Lokichoggio

For almost two decades during the second Sudanese civil war, Lokichoggio was the base of 'Operation Lifeline Sudan,' the main gateway into South Sudan and the humanitarian headquarters and logistics hub for all UN agencies and NGO actors responding to the crisis. Following the signing of the peace agreement in 2005, the 70+ actors present in the area finalized their exit from the town in 2007, transferring all their operations to Juba and Uganda.

Since then, Lokichoggio has gone from being a vibrant town receiving hundreds of flights, significant service infrastructure and buzzing business and economic activity between locals, refugees and NGO staff, to being a rather empty town filled with abandoned buildings. This economic vacuum has greatly impacted the way of life of the local population, who used to rely on this commerce as a means of living. Cattle raiding and armed attacks between local Turkana pastoralists and the Toposa tribe from South Sudan have become a regular occurrence. Very few services remain currently available in Lokichoggio:

- **Police Department** – The department has a functional Gender Desk and a Gender Officer. Having a very reduced police staff, the department mostly relies on the support of the Kenya Police Reserve (KPR) to carry out their patrolling duties.
- **Kenya Police Reserve (KPR)** – The KPR is voluntary auxiliary body of civilians who support the police in their duties. A total of 250 local men conform Lokichoggio's KPR, assisting the police in carrying out regular patrols in the border with Uganda and South Sudan to deter attacks and cattle raids. FGD participants in Lokichoggio reported not trusting the KPR and not feeling safe around their presence.
- **LWF** – LWF runs a small back-to-school program with street children in Lokichoggio
- **Additional support services** – The sub-county hospital and local churches are the only other support services currently available in the town

LOKICHOGGIO						
Institution	Issues	Services	Cost	Contact		
				Name	Position	Number
Police Department	All Cases	Legal & Protection	FREE	Moses Sirma	OCS	0790981167
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	Child Protection	Return to School Program	N/A	Roseline Nthenge	Project Coordinator	0710334884

Wajir

Wajir Town

Wajir Town is the county's capital and main urban center. As Wajir's roads are not paved and areas outside of town are difficult to reach, almost all available services are located in Wajir Town:

- **Department of Children Services (DCS)** – The department consists of a County Coordinator and 4 sub-county Children's Officers. Lack of resources and poor road communication prevents them from properly responding to cases outside of Wajir Town. An ongoing program of Volunteer Children Officers (VCOs) helps the DCS carry out its duties in remote areas, serving as community protection focal points. The VCOs,

however, face a lack of support, resources and training to properly respond to child protection cases.

- **Child Protection Working Group (CPWG)** – Led by the DCS with the support of UNICEF, the CPWG meets once a month and is comprised of: Police Department, Judiciary, Save the Children, Child Welfare, Wasda, World Vision, KACR, KNCHR and Islamic Relief.
- **County Gender Department (CGD)** – The CGD was recently created as part of Wajir’s devolution process. As of 2016, the CGD has a functional Gender Desk and toll free GBV Response Hotline that was established with the support of Mercy Corps, providing legal, medical and psychosocial accompaniment to survivors of rape, defilement, domestic violence, and sexual abuse and exploitation. The CGD also has Gender Officers in each sub-county, though there is no current funding to back up their services.
- **Gender Technical Working Group (GTWG)** – Established in 2016 with the support of Mercy Corps, the GTWG is led by the CGD and meets once a month. It is comprised of the Police Department, County Hospital, Judiciary, County Commissioner, Save the Children, Islamic Relief and KNCHR. An internal WhatsApp group helps facilitate rapid response to cases. The CGD, with support of the GTWG, has drafted a Gender Bill that aims to properly fund the CGD structures and response services and make them available at sub-county level. Any change in leadership following the 2017 elections will make it necessary to reinstate advocacy and lobbying efforts with newly elected officials to pass the bill through the house assembly.
- **Police Department** – The department has a Gender Desk and 2 Gender Officers, both female, who work in conjunction with DCS, CGD, and the County Hospital.
- **County Hospital** – A designated staff works in conjunction with the CGD and the Police to attend cases of survivors of violence, whether of physical or sexual nature
- **Additional NGO Actors** – Save the Children and Islamic Relief carry out protection activities to a limited extent within their ongoing programs. The Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) is active in Wajir, and serves as a powerful ally for advocacy purposes as an official government affiliated institution.
- **Wajir Community Radio** – As of June 2017, Wajir Community Radio has expanded its reach towards all areas of the county. This makes it now possible to broadcast key protection messages and information on available referral services throughout all of Wajir County.

WAJIR GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND CHILD PROTECTION HOTLINE

0800720618

Toll free number. Handled by County Gender Department with support from Mercy Corps

WAJIR TOWN						
Institution	Cases	Services	Cost	Contact		
				Name	Position	Number
Department of Children Services	Child Labour Early and/or Forced Marriage Child Abuse Sexual Violence	Legal, Medical & Psychosocial Accompaniment	FREE	Abdinoor Sheikh	Wajir County Coordinator	0720938187
				Feisal Dahir	Wajir East Children's Officer	0722152848
				Gilbert Mwenge	Wajir West Children's Officer	0722156880
County Gender Department	All types of Gender-Based Violence and Abuse	Legal, Medical & Psychosocial Accompaniment	FREE	Ubah Adan	Director	0721943851
Police Department	All Cases	Legal, Protection	FREE	Fardosa Yousef	Gender Desk Officer	0725374786
County Hospital	Medical Care	Attention to survivors of violence, PEP kits, STI and HIV treatment	FREE	Sabdoo Abdi	Emergency Manager	0710877575
Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR)	All Cases	Legal Accompaniment	FREE	Balkheisa Ibrahim	Human Rights Officer	0727916540
				Kinyanjui Thuo	Senior Human Rights Officer	0723500161

SAFE PROGRAMMING

Cash / HSNP

The Kenyan Government's Hunger Safety Network Program (HSNP) is currently covering around 100,000 drought-affected households with a monthly unconditional cash transfer of 2700KES. Since 2011, Oxfam in Kenya has supported the HSNP initiative with top-ups in times of crisis. As such, Oxfam has been providing funds to cover an additional 3000 families affected by the current drought emergency in Turkana and Wajir counties since April 2017 with the support of local partners.

Positive impact and achievements

- Oxfam has targeted families belonging to Group II of the HSNP program, who would otherwise not receive any assistance, expanding the reach of the intervention.
- Communities' report that the cash received through the HSNP program has been indispensable to remain afloat and cope with the ongoing shocks of the drought crisis.
- In many cases, cash received through the HSNP program has been the main or at times the only source of income for families who have lost all their livestock and/or crops.
- The unconditional cash transfer modality has given families the freedom and flexibility to choose and prioritize what to invest it on.

Safe programming gaps / Areas of improvement

As HSNP is an on going state program running since 2011, most safe-programming issues encountered around the intervention are related to structural problems of the HSNP system itself. Other issues, however, cut across Oxfam's intervention and can be addressed accordingly by Oxfam's team and its partners. The following points highlight current issues that should be addressed in the next phase of the response

TURKANA	
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some beneficiaries, mostly pastoral women, have been locked out of their accounts and are unable to access their money as their fingerprints are worn out due to heavy manual labour, and are therefore not recognized by the digital system. • There have reports of some cases where beneficiaries are denied access to their accounts by the system, despite travelling long distances to urban centers to directly activate their accounts in the bank. • There have also been cases of accounts with empty balances, despite beneficiaries never having had access to the cash. • Some beneficiaries report having to travel long distances to be able to access their money, as HSNP agents are located too far away. • Loss of cards have also posed an impediment to access cash for some beneficiaries, as reissuing them involves bank procedures from which they feel discouraged to go through, finding them complicated or overwhelming.

Adequacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The amount of money distributed to each family is no longer enough to cover basic needs during the drought crisis, primarily for two main reasons: Significantly high inflation of basic staple foods prices due to a nationwide shortage, in particular maize and beans, which have seen a rise in prices of 80% and 60% respectively in comparison to prices in June 2016. Family sizes have doubled or tripled with high levels of migration of pastoral families into urban centres, with household numbers rising from 8-10 members in average to 20-25 members.
Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In some communities, a rise in tensions has been reported between HSNP beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries as a result of drought-related stress. There have been reports of incidents of assault and conflict over HSNP cash transfers, particularly in Lokichoggio, including the death of one woman beneficiary in June 2017. Cash has been reported as a source of domestic violence within some households, particularly in instances where women are beaten by their husbands when demanding that cash be used for food or basic needs.
Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the rise of alcoholism as a serious issue throughout Turkana County, there are reports of cash being utilized for alcohol consumption, particularly by men in Kakuma and Lokichoggio. Many women report choosing to utilize the cash to pay for school costs (supplementary teacher fees, uniforms, shoes and books) to be able to send their children to school, as schools represent a source of food security for children and help alleviate the economic burden on the household. As families rely heavily on credit in the absence of livestock or other sources of income, cash received through the HSNP program is at times directly taken by the lenders, sometimes involving violent disputes. Some beneficiaries report preferring in-kind assistance instead of cash, as was done in previous Oxfam interventions, pointing out that money is not enough due to inflation of prices and increase of family sizes, or is otherwise taken directly by lenders.

WAJIR	
Corruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission fees of around 100-400KES are regularly charged by HSNP agents. This practice has been standard and widespread over the past years, with agents arguing that it is too costly to go to villages located in far away areas, despite travel costs being covered separately by the programme. Community members report being afraid that agents will no longer come to their villages if they refuse to pay, as they are located in far away areas. Families consider it cheaper to pay a commission to the agent than to cover transportation costs into Wajir Town to withdraw the cash themselves, though agents still charge commission fees to beneficiaries who travel to Wajir.
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been reports of beneficiaries who are bed-ridden or have reduced mobility being unable to access the cash, as agents are unwilling to do home visits and family members cannot withdraw the money on their behalf due to the digital fingerprint system.
Accountability	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The identity of the bank HSNP agents is still unknown to Oxfam and its partners, despite repeated requests to Equity Bank to obtain this information. • Requests for a meeting with the agents has been denied by Equity Bank, arguing that it is too expensive to organize, despite Oxfam offering to cover all costs. • Verification is required on whether Equity Bank is properly paying its agents and covering their transportation costs, as required by the program. • Equity Bank requires proof of complaints before taking any action regarding reports of agents charging commission fees from beneficiaries. Community members have so far been reluctant to report this issue through official means.
Complaint Mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As agents are normally leaders from the community itself or from nearby villages, strong power dynamics discourage people from reporting. • Community members express unwillingness to report issues through the available HSNP complaint mechanism, as it involves reporting them through a designated person in the community, often one of its leaders, and they fear being exposed or facing retaliation. • Oxfam and partner staff are currently not on the ground during cash distribution times, but their presence could potentially encourage community members to report ongoing issues.

WASH

Oxfam in Kenya has been directly working with the County Governments of Turkana and Wajir to support their Water Departments through strengthening of their technical capacities, maintenance and improvement of water points and boreholes, installation of solar pumping systems and water ATM systems, provision of pipelines, as well as public health promotion initiatives at community level.

Positive impact & achievements

- Communities report that the installation of pipelines and water points has been life-changing for its members, particularly for women and girls, as many had to previously walk 3-4 hours in search for water.
- Installation of water ATMs has greatly improved conditions for the community, particularly for women and girls who used to face long queues, waiting times, restrictive operational hours, as well as disputes while accessing water points in the past.
- The E-Wallet system, destining specific funds for water use, was chosen as a modality in Oxfam's intervention to promote its use among other government and humanitarian actors that could potentially take advantage of the E-Wallet for distribution of other types of NFIs.
- In Turkana, LOWASCO has successfully achieved a sustainable economic model, being able to cover most or all of their maintenance costs through money collection, and receiving support from the County Government to cover any unforeseen gaps when needed.
- Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) interventions have been highly successful, with communities reporting positive behavioural changes and high levels of appropriation of the overall initiative.
- Oxfam has been training 40+ water user associations on maintenance and technical skills throughout Turkana and Wajir counties, in conjunction with Water Officers from the County Governments, promoting and reinforcing institutional strengthening and capacity building at local level.

Safe programming gaps / Areas of improvement

TURKANA	
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been some difficulties for beneficiaries in accessing the 900KES conditional cash destined for water use in their HSNP E-Wallet, with most beneficiaries choosing to simply withdraw the available unconditional cash. • Many beneficiaries have had to move far or migrate, and therefore do not make use of the conditional cash for water as it is impractical for them to carry jerrycans for long distances from the designated water points. • Though Oxfam has stopped the conditional cash modality in E-Wallets since May 2017, arrangements should be made with Equity Bank to either recover or redirect the unused allocated money remaining in these accounts.
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water User Associations tend to still turn to Oxfam for technical assistance and repairs. In order to promote their independence and sustainability, Oxfam is encouraging the associations to register with the Catholic Service insurance.
Adequacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of literacy has at times been an obstacle during the technical trainings of community-based water user associations, with some community members having difficulties understanding the imparted tools. • At a price of 5 KES per each 20L jerrycan, the amount of jerrycans that can be bought with the 900 KES conditional cash often exceeds the number of jerrycans that families can realistically transport and make use of.

WAJIR	
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been some technical issues with the Water ATM technology, making them temporarily unavailable in certain locations. • In places where water points or water ATMs are both available and functional, some community members report still being unable to utilize them as they currently don't have cash and cannot pay for water or top-up their tokens. • Widespread lack of cash, resulting from men having migrated with the surviving cattle and families being unable to sell livestock for months, has caused the women left behind in villages to rely heavily on credit to access water. However, their credit limits have been exhausted after 5-6 months of unpaid debt.
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WAJWASCO is still in the process of finding a viable managerial and economic model that would allow them to become sustainable. • As a direct result of the drought, some community water user associations are unable to cover their maintenance costs, as all livestock have migrated and water for animal consumption used to represent their main source of revenue.
Changes in Power Dynamics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been resistance from some communities to transition into county public/private management models, as they don't consider them trustworthy. • The elimination of some water user committees after transitioning to public/private management under WAJWASCO has caused important changes in internal power

dynamics and sources of livelihood within these communities.

- Communities that have accepted to transfer control of their water management systems to WAJWASCO have normally done so after seeing the benefits of greater infrastructure investment by the County Government, overruling internal resistance by their water user committee members to transfer control.
- The possibility of implementing a joint community/ WAJWASCO management model is currently being explored.

Monitoring Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL)

In conjunction with other participating NGOs, Oxfam in Kenya and Transparency International have recently led an initiative to establish an inter-agency complaints mechanism, an SMS-based reporting system where community-members can channel complaints on all programs or services offered by any agency or local county authority. Complaints are channelled to a system that is accessed by a convener, who then directs them to each intended agency or county department and follows up on response rates. The system, called Uwajibikaji, means “accountability” in Kiswahili.

Positive impact and achievements

- The Uwajibikaji initiative has garnered support from numerous NGOs and governmental institutions in Kenya, who have agreed to take part of the inter-agency system.
- Oxfam is currently supporting the piloting of the Uwajibikaji system in Marsabit, Turkana and Wajir counties.
- In Marsabit County, there has been a positive experience with the County Government having appropriated the Uwajibikaji system, seeing it as a useful tool to render positive responses to its constituents.

Safe-programming gaps / Areas of improvement

The following points relate to the assessment of the initiative in Turkana and Wajir counties

UWAJIBIKAJI	
Diffusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of proper diffusion of the system by participating NGOs and county government has resulted in the system being little known and underused, with the majority of communities unaware of the existence of this mechanism. Interviewed communities in Oxfam’s area of intervention in both Turkana and Wajir reported not knowing of the system.
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been a high turnover with the convener position, leading to lack of stability and at times temporary halt of the system. • Though conveners are assigned an operating budget, the use of these funds has thus far not been efficient. A revision on how to better utilize these funds could have a positive impact, particularly if channelled towards direct community engagement.
Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response rates from agencies and county government have been very low (5%-10%), leading communities to be discouraged from reporting. • The majority of the complaints received through the system were directed towards the County Government. Local authorities have consequently seen the initiative as a direct attack that might undermine their authority.

Appropriation

- Lack of commitment to the Uwajibikaji system by both agencies and county governments has made the initiative slowly loose force and become inactive.
- There is a need to 'repackage' the initiative vis-à-vis county governments as a tool to gain popular support by responding positively to constituents' needs, following the experience of the Marsabit County Government.
- Budget assigned to conveners should be channelled towards active community diffusion and engagement to encourage people to report and appropriate the system.

NEEDS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Protection needs

The following section offers an overview of the main protection gaps and concrete needs in both Turkana and Wajir counties. These gaps should be addressed by the protection sector as a whole, including key government institutions, UN agencies, and relevant NGO actors. Oxfam in Kenya can contribute to addressing these protection gaps by:

- ▶ Mobilizing interest and bringing attention to current protection risks from audiences both inside and outside of Kenya
- ▶ Channelling these gaps to specific protection actors with the aim of procuring concrete action
- ▶ Identifying, to the extent possible, the set of actions that can be incorporated or addressed directly through Oxfam's on going intervention programs

TURKANA

- **Schools** – School feeding programs are in urgent need of being secured, as they currently represent one of the main sources of food security for children in affected areas. Support is also needed to cover the funding gaps of Early Child Development programs where County Government coverage is not enough.
 - Boarding Schools – Boarding programs hosting children of pastoral families who have been left behind in villages are currently overcapacity and severely underfunded. Targeted support is needed for these institutions to help keep children off the streets and prevent coping mechanisms such as drug abuse, survival sex and child labour.
 - School Fees – Affected families are in need of assistance to cover supplementary teacher fees, as well as the costs of uniforms, shoes and books to be able to send their children to school, where they can have one meal a day.
- **Department of Children Services** – The department is in need of equipment, transport, technical assistance as well as support in covering funding gaps to address the magnitude of cases that require their attention, as they are currently understaffed, under-resourced and cannot fulfil the existing level of needs.
 - Legal Services – Funding is needed to resume legal services for children, previously provided by the Cradle Foundation, as current court cases have no representation.
 - Children's Homes – Support is needed for the county's three existing children's homes, which are underfunded, understaffed, and have had their capacities collapsed due to the overwhelming influx of street children. Institutions that could serve as additional children's homes should be supported to help cope with the magnitude of cases currently needing assistance.
 - Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) – New system available in Nairobi, but Turkana is not considered a priority county. Advocacy efforts are needed to help fast-track the CPIMS to county level as soon as possible.
 - Staff Trainings – The DCS is in need of support to train police staff across the county on child protection issues in order to handle the increasing number of street children.
- **Child Protection Working Group (CPWG)** – The CPWG in Lodwar should be supported in their efforts to lobby County Government for greater allocation of resources destined to protection services, including the Wellness Center. Support is also needed to train government and NGO staff on protection concerns.
- **Wellness Center** – Urgent funding is required to keep the center's critical GBV response and HIV treatment services from shutting down at a time when they are being needed the most.
 - Community Health Volunteers (CHV) – Ongoing program is in need of support, including training and capacity building of volunteers to assist in outreach initiatives to remote areas. This would allow CHV to serve as protection focal points at community level and be able to attend to and refer urgent GBV and

child protection cases that would otherwise not receive any assistance.

- Toll Free Hotline – Establishment of a toll-free hotline is needed as soon as possible, as current one is not free and poses an obstacle for people requiring assistance who cannot afford to call. A toll-free line can be set up with minimal investment, with Safaricom offering the service for 200\$. Ideally, this line should be linked to the National 1195 GBV Hotline to promote the institutional strengthening of existing protection mechanisms.
- **Survival Sex Workers** – Comprehensive livelihoods and support programs for women and girls engaging in survival sex are urgently needed throughout the county. Livelihood programs for families of girls working in the street should also be established, with the aim of halting child sexual exploitation as an income generating coping-strategy within affected households. Prevention programs and initiatives aimed at vulnerable women and girls at risk of having to engage in survival sex should also be put in place.
- **Host Community** – In Kakuma Town, large-scale assistance is required to cover the basic needs and service gaps within the host community. A particular focus should be given to alternative livelihood opportunities specifically targeting the vast number of women and girls having to engage in survival sex in Kakuma refugee camp.
- **Patrolling Coordination** – In Lokichoggio, coordination is needed between communities, the Police and the KPR regarding their patrolling schedules, in order to reduce exposure to attacks, killings, kidnaps and cattle raids by Toposa armed groups while women walk long distances in search of water and firewood.
- **Referral Mechanisms** – Widespread diffusion of visual and pictographic material outlining key protection messages and available referral mechanisms and services in Turkana is needed at community level throughout all areas of intervention.
- **Community Radios** – Community radios should be utilized to diffuse key protection messages and available referral mechanisms and services, having a broadcasting reach to remote areas.

WAJIR

- **Schools** – School's feeding programs are in urgent need of being secured, as they represent a main source of food security for children in affected areas. Support is needed to cover gaps in Early Child Development program costs that are not covered by the County Government. Support is also needed for existing boarding schools and programs, currently overwhelmed and under-resourced, to be able to remain open and give refuge to children of pastoral families that have had to migrate.
- **School fees** – Affected families are in need of assistance to cover supplementary teacher fees and keep their children in school, where they can access at least one meal a day.
- **Department of Children Services** – Department is in need of equipment, transport, technical assistance and funding to cover the magnitude of cases that require their attention, as they are severely understaffed, under-resourced and cannot fulfil the existing level of needs.
- **Volunteer Children's Officers (VCO) – Program** is currently unfunded and in need of support in order for VCOs to serve as protection focal points at community level, given the large distances and difficulties of transportation and mobility within Wajir County. Support is also needed for training and recruitment of VCOs, as well as working materials required to do their jobs.
- **VCO manual** – Translation of the VCO manual into Somali is needed (currently only available in English and not useful for community-level engagement) as well as printing of hard copies to distribute to all VCOs.
- **Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMG)** – New system available in Nairobi, but Wajir is not considered a priority county. Advocacy efforts are needed to help fast-track the CPIMS to county level as soon as possible.
- **Staff trainings** – The DCS is in need of support to train police staff, CBOs and other local NGO actors across the county in protection issues resulting from the impact of the drought, in coordination with the CPWG.
- **Child Protection Working Group (CPWG)** – The CPWG in Wajir should be supported in their efforts to lobby County Government for greater allocation of resources destined to state protection services.
- **County Gender Department (CGD)** – Support is needed to strengthen the CGD's current capacities to respond to the increasing number of GBV cases, including support with equipment, transportation needs, and allocation of funds.
 - Sub-County Offices – The CGD's efforts to devolve their structure into sub-county levels should be supported, including advocacy with the County Government.
 - Gender Officers – Training and strengthening of capacities of current sub-county gender officers is

needed. Community-engagement and outreach initiatives are also in need of support, including the Gender Champions program composed of community leaders who can serve as protection focal points in remote areas.

- GBV Bill – The CGD would welcome support in their efforts to lobby newly elected officials to pass the Wajir GBV Bill through the house assembly, aiming to back-up currently underfunded protection services and strengthen GBV response mechanisms.
- **Referral Mechanisms** – Widespread diffusion of visual and pictographic material outlining key protection messages and available referral mechanisms and services in Wajir is needed at community level throughout all areas of intervention.
- **Community Radios** – Wajir Community Radio, which recently achieved full broadcasting range throughout the county, can be utilized to diffuse key protection messages and available referral mechanisms and services. The KNCHR is a key ally through which these messages can be developed for broadcast.

Program needs

The following section summarizes the main safe-programming needs that should be taken into account within Oxfam's programs during the next phase of the drought emergency response

CASH / HSNP

Turkana

- Providing follow-up on cases where beneficiaries' access to their accounts has posed a problem (erased fingerprints, denied access, empty accounts, & loss of cards) and procuring adequate solutions to address them. (Ongoing)
- Close monitoring of reports of violent incidents or conflicts caused by reception of cash and assessment of potential ways to mitigate these risks.
- Assessment on whether complementary programs can be set up with other key partners to assist families in covering school fees, so cash can be prioritized on food and other basic needs.

Wajir

- Addressing issue of agent commission fees with communities by encouraging official reporting to be able to provide proof of complaints and procuring an adequate solution with Equity Bank. (Ongoing)
- Promoting the presence of Oxfam and partner staff during distribution times to encourage community members to report ongoing issues in an anonymous manner, without fear of retaliation.
- Ensuring beneficiaries with bed-ridden or reduced mobility conditions can access their accounts, by arranging agents to carry out house visits. (Ongoing)

WASH

Turkana

- Ensuring through Equity Bank a way in which unused funds from the conditional cash within E-Wallets destined for water use can be redirected.
- Continuing to support water-user associations into becoming fully sustainable and no longer dependent on Oxfam assistance (Ongoing)
- Considering alternative user-friendly tools to utilize during trainings with water user associations that are more community-focused and where literacy does not pose a challenge for beneficiaries.

Wajir

- Assessing the possibility of complementary cash interventions in communities where current lack of cash poses an obstacle to access water services. A focalized cash intervention would also allow families from these communities to pay off months of accumulated debt and support the recovery of local businesses and markets, preventing them from going bankrupt.
- Continuing assessment of alternative managerial models for Wajawasco to become economically sustainable and supporting community engagement to facilitate transitioning process into new managerial systems. (Ongoing)

MEAL UWAJIBIKAJI

- **Coordination** – Lobbying efforts should be carried out with partnering NGOs and County Governments to resume initiative in full force. This includes procuring institutional commitment as well as coordinating efforts to re-launch and revamp system to make it viable at operational level (as it is currently ideal on paper, but not yet fully functional in practice)
- **Convener Budget & Stability** – Efforts should be made to ensure the convener position can become a stable figure, with an allocated budget destined to directly and actively engage with communities to encourage use and reporting.
- **Institutionalization** – Following the Marsabit experience, the initiative should be ‘repackaged’ vis-à-vis the county governments of Turkana and Wajir as a tool to gain popular support by responding positively to constituents’ needs, ensuring the institutionalization of the system.
- **Diffusion Campaign** – Through concerted effort among all participating partners, a widespread diffusion campaign of the system throughout all intervention communities should be carried out. This can be assisted by the use of available community-based radios.

Key recommendations

Oxfam in Kenya (Oik) has adopted a **new country strategic model** focused on advocacy and institutional strengthening. As such, Oxfam’s field offices in Turkana and Wajir have initiated their exit strategy and will soon give way to implementation of programs through local partners. In this light, direct protection programming has been considered not suitable within this new strategic framework. The following recommendations are therefore based on actions that can be carried out within Oik’s new operating model:

1. Raising the profile on protection risks

On going protection risks remain largely unseen. The magnitude of current issues should be given ‘center stage’ visibility to ensure attention, interest, and potential coverage of existing large-scale gaps. Oxfam in Kenya can support this by:

- Bringing attention to on going protection risks from audiences both inside and outside of Kenya, including government actors, UN Agencies, INGOs and civil society organizations, through media coverage, advocacy and existing campaigns
- Ensuring visibility of the scale of current protection risks vis-à-vis donors to procure strategic interest and potential funding to cover existing gaps

2. Mobilizing government & protection actors

Key national government agencies as well as partner NGOs and protection actors should be engaged and mobilized to take targeted action towards addressing current protection risks. Oxfam in Kenya can support this by:

- Directly advocating with key governmental actors and partner organizations to procure concrete action
- Rallying attention to on going protection concerns as a priority within inter-agency platforms and other decision-making spaces

3. Supporting local protection structures

Existing local protection structures should be urgently supported, as their capacities have been greatly surpassed by the current crisis. Targeted support is required to allow local protection authorities to adequately respond to the magnitude of cases that require their attention. Newly established protection mechanisms resulting from the devolution process should also be strengthened and supported, promoting their process of institutional strengthening. Oxfam in Kenya can achieve this by:

- Integrating institutional strengthening activities of local protection structures within Oxfam's ongoing programs, to be implemented by partner organizations in the field
- Supporting civil society and other NGO actors at local level in their efforts to strengthen local protection structures and mechanisms

4. Integrating protection initiatives & allocating budget in Phase II response

Specific protection initiatives should be integrated at programmatic level into Phase II of Oxfam in Kenya's drought response, with allocated budget and resources to be implemented by partner organizations in the field. OIK can assess the most strategic set of actions that could be integrated into its on going programs from the identified list of protection needs.

5. Revamping & concentrating efforts to make Uwajibikaji viable

Concerted efforts should be made to re launch the Uwajibikaji initiative and garner support and institutional commitment from participating organizations and County Governments to make it into a viable system, ensuring its institutionalization and sustainability.

ANNEXES

Household Interviews – Quantitative Data

Oxfam Gender Assessment (June 2017)

In preparation for phase II of Kenya's drought response, Oxfam carried out a Gender Assessment in Turkana and Wajir from May to June 2017. A total of 178 household interviews were conducted as part of the assessment, 97 in Turkana and 81 in Wajir. A series of questions regarding specific protection risks faced by women and girls were included in these interviews. The summary of these results are presented in the following tables:

TURKANA

	Security concerns for women & girls	Attacks against women & girls when travelling outside of the community	Attacks against women & girls while moving inside the community	Sexual violence against women & girls	Physical violence against women & girls	Early marriage of women & girls
Increase	58%	68%	43%	53%	62%	40%
Decrease	N/A	5%	13%	16%	15%	19%
Same	42%	6%	14%	11%	8%	7%
Not an issue	N/A	21%	30%	19%	14%	34%

WAJIR

	Security concerns for women & girls	Attacks against women & girls when travelling outside of the community	Attacks against women & girls while moving inside the community	Sexual violence against women & girls	Physical violence against women & girls	Early marriage of women & girls
Increase	27%	22%	17%	19%	17%	23%
Decrease	N/A	54%	54%	49%	49%	43%
Same	73%	6%	5%	4%	4%	21%
Not an issue	N/A	17%	23%	28%	30%	12%

Oxfam in Kenya

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