Analysis of Capacities on Conflict Sensitivity, Inclusion, and Disaster Risk Management in Moyale Constituency, Marsabit County

Analysis Report

2024

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Key Abbreviations for Analysis Report

ADA	Australian Development Agency
CS	Conflict Sensitivity
CSG	County Steering Group
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
CBC	Cross Border Committees
CBO	Community-Based Organization
NDMA	NDMA National Drought Management Authority
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoE	Ministry of Education
NDMA	National Disaster Management Authority
CDMC	County Disaster Management Committee
HODI	Horn of Africa Development Initiative
NCPWD	National Council for Persons with Disability
MCG	Marsabit County Government
CRRP	Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation Program
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EWS	Early Warning System
KII	Key Informant Interview
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
HR	Human Resources
PSEA	Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
CCCM	Camp Coordination and Camp Management
VSO	Voluntary Service Oversees

Key Definitions for Analysis Report

1. Conflict Sensitivity - The ability of individuals, organizations including government and interventions to understand and respond to the dynamics of conflicts in a manner that minimizes harm and maximizes positive impacts on peace, stability, and social cohesion.

2. Inclusion - The process of ensuring that all individuals, regardless of their background, identity, or status, have equal opportunities to participate in decision-making processes, access resources and services, and enjoy their rights and freedoms within society.

3. Disaster Risk Management: The systematic process of identifying, assessing, and reducing the risks associated with natural and human-induced disasters, as well as preparing for and responding to emergencies to minimize loss of life, damage to property, and disruption to communities.

4. Capacity: The ability of individuals, organizations, and systems to effectively perform tasks, achieve objectives, and respond to challenges within a specific context. Capacity can encompass knowledge, skills, resources, infrastructure, and institutional arrangements.

5. Conflict Dynamics: The complex and evolving patterns of interactions, relationships, and tensions between individuals, groups, or communities that give rise to conflicts, including their causes, triggers, escalation, resolution, and aftermath.

6. Marginalized Groups: Socially, economically, or politically disadvantaged populations that face systemic barriers to full participation and inclusion in society, such as women, youth, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable or marginalized communities.

7. Social Cohesion: The degree of harmony, trust, and solidarity within a society, characterized by positive relationships, shared values, and a sense of belonging among individuals and groups, which contribute to stability, resilience, and peaceful coexistence.

8. Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR): the systematic approach to minimizing the risk of disasters and mitigating their potential impacts on communities, societies, and economies. It encompasses policies, strategies, and measures aimed at preventing new disaster risks, reducing existing risks, and managing residual risks through

understanding the root causes of disasters, assessing vulnerabilities, and implementing measures to enhance resilience and preparedness.

9. Vulnerability: The susceptibility of individuals, communities, or systems to harm, damage, or disruption caused by external stresses or hazards, influenced by factors such as poverty, inequality, social exclusion, environmental degradation, and lack of access to resources and services.

10. Resilience: The ability of individuals, communities, or systems to withstand, adapt to, and recover from shocks, stresses, or adversities, while maintaining their essential functions, structures, and identities, and even transforming in positive ways as a result.

Acknowledgement

We extend our sincere gratitude to all those who contributed to the successful completion of this research report on the analysis of capacities on conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in Marsabit County, with a particular focus on Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties. We wish to express our appreciation to the following individuals and organizations:

✓ The community members of Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties who generously shared their time, insights, and experiences during interviews, focus group discussions, and surveys. Your valuable input was instrumental in shaping the findings and recommendations of this report.

✓ National and county government officials, representatives of civil society organizations, and other stakeholders who participated in key informant interviews and provided valuable information and perspectives on the current state of conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in the region.

✓ Our Consultant Mr. Ahmed Maalim Adow and field workers who worked tirelessly to collect, analyze, and synthesize data, ensuring the accuracy and reliability of the findings presented in this analysis report. Our Moyale office team and VSO's team for having supported the consultant through the process.

✓ Special appreciation goes to the Australian Development Agency (ADA) who have supported and collaborated with us through the IPDHE project, providing financial resources, as well as being a caring partner and our implementing partner Voluntary Service Oversees (VSO) for the collaborative effort throughout the analysis research.

✓ The Marsabit County government and National Government authorities in Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties for their cooperation and facilitation of the analysis activities, enabling us to conduct fieldwork and engage with community members effectively.

✓ Lastly, we acknowledge the residents of Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties for their resilience, hospitality, and commitment to building a peaceful and inclusive community. Your determination to overcome challenges and work towards a brighter future is an inspiration to us all.

This analysis report would not have been possible without the contributions and support of all those mentioned above. We are grateful for your collaboration and dedication to advancing the cause of conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in Marsabit County.

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Executive Summary

This report presents the findings of an analysis conducted on the capacities of conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in Marsabit County, with a particular focus on Moyale Constituency. The analysis aimed to assess the existing frameworks, practices, and challenges related to these critical areas and provide recommendations for improvement. The analysis exercise benefited from the support of the Integrating Peacebuilding Development, Humanitarian Effort Across Kenya and Ethiopia (IPDHE) project. This project was designed with the objective of reducing conflict and enhancing resilience and peaceful co-existence among cross-border communities along the Ethiopia and Kenya border.

The analysis exercise was carried out in Moyale and Sololo Sub-counties, which are IPDHE project implementation areas and spanned from June 2022 to October 2024. The analysis is a contributing aspect to one of its key outcomes was enhancing the responsiveness of regional, national, and local governments to local priorities related to social cohesion, disaster risk reduction (DRR), and resilience. Through capacity-building, community engagement, and collaboration with government authorities, the IPDHE project aimed to strengthen governance structures and promote inclusive decision-making processes that address the needs and priorities of cross-border communities.

Key Findings

1. **Conflict Sensitivity**
   - The analysis revealed that conflict sensitivity remains a significant concern in Marsabit County particularly Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties, with ethnic tensions, resource competition, and historical grievances contributing to recurrent conflicts that have its root cause in politics. The County Government has developed key policy including **Marsabit County Peace and Reconciliation policy** and is the process of enacting of the Marsabit County Peace and Conflict Resolution Bill, 2024 which is at the County Assembly level, that would guide the implementation of the policy interventions and provide administrative and resources for implementation.

   - Inadequate implementation of key aspects of National laws at County Level particularly, Constituting the County Policing Authority as provided in section 41 of National Police Service Act.

   - Limited awareness and understanding of conflict dynamics among stakeholders, including government officials, CSOs and community

members, hamper effective conflict resolution and peacebuilding efforts. This is evident how projects are designed and implemented particularly, community locational dynamics

- There is a need for strengthening community-led initiatives or structures that promote inter-ethnic dialogue, support cross border structures, reconciliation, and conflict resolution mechanisms to address underlying tensions and build social cohesion, through hybrid structures that have linkages to the community structures particularly the Moyale Peace Forum, Cross Border forums and sub-county steering group through capacity building and out-reach with communities.

2. **Inclusion**
   - Inclusion gaps persist in representation, data as well as economic involvement in Marsabit County, particularly concerning marginalized groups such as persons with disabilities, youth, and women.
   - At County level different supporting policies and laws meant to enhance social and economic inclusion such as youth, women and persons with disability are still at draft or bill level including **County Trade and Investment Promotion Bills,** to provide a legal framework for promoting trade, investment, and economic development at the local level which will attract investment, support local industries, and facilitate trade promotion activities, thereby enhancing economic opportunities for the marginalized groups.

   - Lack of Constituting key legislative forum such as the County Budget Economic Forum under as required by **Public Finance Management Act 2012 (S. 137)** chaired by the Governor the forum is meant to drive inclusive economic development and budgeting.

   - Limited representation of marginalized groups in decision-making processes, including in county assemblies and development planning, hinders equitable development and undermines social cohesion.
   - There is a lack of awareness and accessibility to existing policies and services for marginalized groups, exacerbating their vulnerability and exclusion from opportunities.

3. **Disaster Risk Management**
   - Marsabit County faces significant challenges in disaster risk management, including recurrent droughts, floods, and conflicts that threaten livelihoods and infrastructure.

- NDMA through CSG has working structure for coordination but its needs strengthening and support from CSOs, and communities to effectively coordinate disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.
- The County Government has enacted the DRM act recently has not been allocated funds for implementation and establishment of key administrative units and development of the regulations.
- Limited resources during response and recovery period, capacity gaps, and inadequate infrastructure exacerbate vulnerabilities and hinder resilience-building initiatives in the county.

Recommendations

- **Multi-Stakeholder Forum**: Organize a multi-stakeholder workshop forum comprising county and national government leaders, County Assembly members, county executives, key departments, the county attorney, and community leaders. This forum will serve as a platform for robust dialogue, capacity building, and problem-solving to address identified challenges.
- **Hybrid Structure Establishment**: Propose the establishment of a hybrid structure at the sub-county level that prioritizes inclusivity and establishes linkages with pertinent committees and the sub-county steering group. This structure aims to enhance coordination and collaboration among various entities involved in conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management efforts.

1. **Conflict Sensitivity**
   - Strengthen Implementation of Policies through fast tracking the enactment and implementation of the Marsabit County Peace and Conflict Resolution Bill, 2024 and allocation of sufficient resources for the Marsabit County Peace and Reconciliation Policy to ensure effective implementation.
   - Enhance Legal and Policy Frameworks, by implementing the National Police Service Act, specifically constituting the County Policing Authority.
   - Strengthen community-led peacebuilding initiatives and inter-ethnic dialogue forums to promote reconciliation and conflict resolution at the grassroots level.
   - Enhance conflict sensitivity training for government officials, security personnel, and community leaders to improve understanding and response to conflict dynamics.

- Foster collaboration among stakeholders to address underlying causes of conflicts, including resource competition, land disputes, and historical grievances.

2. **Inclusion**
   - Accelerate Policy and Legislative Actions, through finalizing and implementing supporting policies and laws aimed at enhancing social and economic inclusion, such as the County Trade and Investment Promotion Bills and advocate for constitution of the County Budget Economic Forum to drive inclusive economic development and budgeting.
   - Ensure meaningful representation of marginalized groups as required by the constitution in decision-making processes through affirmative action measures and targeted capacity-building initiatives.
   - Increase awareness and accessibility to policies and services for marginalized groups through community outreach, sensitization campaigns, and capacity-building programs.
   - Strengthen monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track progress on inclusion targets and ensure accountability of government institutions and development partners.

3. **Disaster Risk Management**
   - Improve coordination and collaboration among government agencies, NGOs, and communities to enhance disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.
   - Invest in resilient infrastructure, early warning systems, and community-based disaster management initiatives to mitigate the impact of recurrent disasters.
   - Advocate for allocation of Funds for DRM Act, Ensure the allocation of necessary funds for the implementation of the DRM Act, establishment of key administrative units and develop regulations for effective disaster management.
   - Prioritize resource allocation for disaster risk management and resilience-building activities, including capacity-building, infrastructure development, and community empowerment programs.

In conclusion, addressing the challenges identified in conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management is crucial for promoting peace, resilience, and sustainable development in Marsabit County. By implementing the recommended strategies and fostering multi-stakeholder collaboration, the county can work towards building inclusive, peaceful, and resilient communities.

Introduction

The analysis of capacities on conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties, Marsabit County, presents a comprehensive examination of the region's preparedness and response mechanisms to mitigate the impact of conflicts and disasters while examining inclusion on the basis of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. Situated in the northern part of Kenya, Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties grapples with various challenges, including inter-communal conflicts, environmental hazards, and socio-economic disparities. Against this backdrop, understanding the existing capacities for conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management is crucial for enhancing resilience and fostering sustainable development in the region.

The Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties is within Marsabit County, the largest county in Kenya by landmass, encompasses Moyale and Sololo Sub-counties, with Moyale town emerging as a dynamic urban center along the border with Ethiopia. This region is characterized by its vibrant cultural tapestry, with a diverse array of communities coexisting, albeit with frequent tribal conflicts. Among these communities are the Borana, Garre, Gabra, Burji, Sakuye, and Kona tribes, who share commonalities across the border, reinforced by linguistic ties, particularly the predominant Oromo language, enriched by unique dialects within certain groups but largely divided along tribal lines.

Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties is the most populated constituency of the four constituency of Marsabit County, with 153,771 people according to the 2019 census by KNBS, with a population growth projection rate of 3.4%. Rural-urban migration, largely contributed to by climatic change, has made Moyale constituency's population relatively young, with over 82% of its population being persons below 34 years old, and those aged between 18 and 34 years accounting for over 30% of the total population.

Economically, locals are struggling despite its strategic border positioning, which is meant to be a hub of commerce. This struggle is sustained by bustling trade, vibrant livestock husbandry, and pockets of subsistence agriculture. According to data from the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), Marsabit County ranks as one of the poorest counties, positioned at 44 out of 47 counties, with a poverty rate of 63% compared to the country's average of 36%. Factors contributing to this high poverty level include limited access to essential services such as education, healthcare, and clean water, as well as limited economic opportunities and infrastructure development. Additionally, recurring issues such as drought, food insecurity, and conflict have further exacerbated poverty levels in the region.

The cross-border trade routes have the potential to pulsate with activity, fostering economic exchanges facilitated by well-established trade networks and bustling markets. However, amidst this probable economic vibrancy, the region grapples with persistent inter-community conflicts, fueled by disputes over resources, natural disasters such as drought, poverty, and political tensions. Moreover, marginalized groups, including youth, women, and minorities, confront exclusion from various spheres, exacerbating social tensions and impeding sustainable development efforts.

Furthermore, the absence of robust disaster risk management exacerbates the region's vulnerability, leaving its livelihoods precarious and susceptible to natural disasters such as drought. This confluence of ongoing conflicts and environmental vulnerabilities casts a shadow of poverty and fragility over Moyale and Sololo communities, impeding their resilience and thwarting prospects for meaningful development further tribal and political affiliation overshadows effective community participation in governance process. The overshadowing by tribal and political affiliation is mainly due to inability of any community members seeking accountability or transparency of political leaders from other communities, impending effective citizen participation in governance process.

With this understanding the analysis aims to assess the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats pertaining to conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management within Moyale Constituency. By examining the institutional frameworks, policies, and practices in place, as well as the roles of various stakeholders, this study seeks to identify areas for improvement and recommend strategies for enhancing the community's resilience to conflicts and disasters.

Key focus areas of the analysis include:

1. Conflict Sensitivity: analyzing the legal parameters and Understanding the dynamics of conflicts within Moyale Constituency, including their root causes, triggers, and patterns, is essential for developing conflict-sensitive approaches to peacebuilding and reconciliation. This involves assessing the understanding and capacity of local institutions, community leaders, and conflict resolution mechanisms to address conflicts in a sensitive and inclusive manner based of laws and policies.

2. Inclusion: Promoting the inclusion of marginalized groups in social economic and political spaces, such as women, youth, ethnic minorities, and persons with disabilities, is crucial for building cohesive and resilient communities. This analysis will examine the extent to which existing policies, laws, programs, and

initiatives are understood by the communities and institutions in Marsabit county particularly in Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties prioritize the participation and representation of marginalized groups in decision-making processes and development activities.

3. Disaster Risk Management: Given Moyale Constituency's susceptibility to natural disasters, including droughts, floods, and disease outbreaks, effective disaster risk management is imperative for minimizing the impact of such events on the local population. This analysis will evaluate the legal and policy framework implementation in preparedness, response, and recovery mechanisms in place, as well as the coordination among relevant stakeholders, including government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and community-based organizations.

Through a comprehensive analysis of these key areas, this study seeks to provide insights and recommendations that can inform policy formulation, program development, and capacity-building initiatives aimed at strengthening conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in Moyale Constituency, Marsabit County. By leveraging local knowledge, community participation, and evidence-based approaches, stakeholders can work together to build a more resilient and peaceful future.

Objective

The primary objectives of the analysis are to assess existing capacities of conflicts sensitivity inclusion and disaster risk management, identifying gaps, and formulating recommendations of each focus area.

Review of International Instruments, Treaties and Global Strategies

The Constitution of Kenya recognizes international treaties and instruments as part of the law of Kenya. According to Article 2(5) of the Constitution, any treaty or convention ratified by Kenya forms part of the laws of Kenya. This means that once Kenya ratifies an international treaty or instrument, it becomes binding and enforceable within the Kenyan legal system.

Some of the key international treaties, instruments, Global plans and Strategies that Kenya has ratified or is party include:

a. **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC):** The UNFCCC is an international treaty aimed at combating climate change and its impacts. It emphasizes the importance of disaster risk management and resilience-building strategies to address climate-related disasters.

b. **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030:** This international treaty outlines global strategies for disaster risk reduction. It emphasizes the importance of incorporating a gender perspective and promoting the inclusion of marginalized groups in disaster risk management efforts.

c. **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD):** The CRPD is an international human rights treaty that promotes the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities. It emphasizes the importance of ensuring accessibility, non-discrimination, and full participation in disaster risk management and response efforts.

d. **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** SDGs are a set of global goals adopted by United Nations member states to address various development challenges, including conflict, disaster risk, and inclusion. SDG 16 focuses specifically on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies, while other goals such as SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 5 gender mainstreaming which is a cross cutting goal.

e. **African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption:** Corruption can exacerbate vulnerabilities to disasters and conflicts by diverting resources away from risk reduction and mitigation efforts. This convention aims to prevent and combat corruption in Africa, thereby contributing to more effective disaster risk management and conflict prevention.

f. **African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights**: Kenya is a party to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, which guarantees civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights to individuals and groups within Africa.

g. **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR):** Kenya has ratified the ICCPR, which protects civil and political rights such as freedom of speech, assembly, and religion, as well as the right to a fair trial.

h. **International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR):** Kenya has also ratified the ICESCR, which protects economic, social, and cultural rights such as the right to education, health, and adequate standard of living.

i. **Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC):** Kenya is a party to the CRC, which sets out the rights of children to protection, education, health, and participation in decisions affecting them.

j. **Paris Agreement:** Kenya has ratified the Paris Agreement, which aims to combat climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting sustainable development.

k. **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW):** Kenya has ratified CEDAW, which seeks to eliminate discrimination against women and ensure gender equality in all areas of life.

Review of legal, policy and plans at National and County level

The analysis exercise aimed to comprehensively examine the legal, policy, and planning landscape, focusing on understanding the existing frameworks governing conflicts sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management. This involved a thorough scan of prevailing laws, including the constitution and legislations at both national and county levels. Additionally, policies pertinent to these areas were meticulously reviewed to gain insights into their scope and applicability. By delving into these foundational frameworks, the analysis sought to ascertain the regulatory framework shaping practices and interventions in conflict resolution, inclusionary approaches, and disaster preparedness and response.

Legal and policy frameworks on Conflicts sensitivity

Constitution of Kenya

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 is aware and appreciates the diversity and challenges brought by the diversity of the communities in Kenya thus emphasizes conflict sensitivity as a crucial aspect of governance and community relations by recognizing, understanding, and address the root causes of conflict through key provisions. Here is an analysis of conflict sensitivity as outlined in the Constitution of Kenya 2010:

1. **Devolution of Power and Resources:** The provision of Chapter Eleven of the Constitution decentralizes power and resources to county governments, guided by responsibilities and objectives outlined within. Article 174 enumerates several objectives, including the addressing of historical marginalization, promotion of equitable development, and mitigation of conflicts arising from resource allocation and distribution. To further address historical injustices in the distribution of devolved resources, Article 203 stipulates factors to be considered, such as economic disparities and affirmative actions for disadvantaged or marginalized areas. Moreover, by placing citizens at the center of governance through public participation in decision-making processes and the management of their affairs, the Constitution aims to prevent conflicts stemming from centralization and exclusion.

2. Bill of Rights, The Constitution has extensive chapter on bill of rights that guarantees fundamental rights and freedoms to all Kenyan citizens, including the rights to equality, non-discrimination, and access to justice and rights for specific groups that have been marginalized including youth, women, children and persons with disability through its clear provision under article 52-57. These provisions serve as a framework for addressing grievances and resolving conflicts

peacefully through legal channels. By upholding human rights and promoting social justice, the Constitution contributes to conflict prevention and resolution by addressing underlying grievances.

3. National Values and Principles of Governance, The Constitution enshrines national values and principles of governance under article 10 and 232, including inclusivity, integrity, transparency, and accountability and as well as every chapter having a guiding principles to ensure fairness and inclusivity. These values guide public service delivery and promote responsible leadership, which are essential for conflict-sensitive governance. By upholding these principles, public institutions can build trust, foster social cohesion, and prevent conflicts arising from corruption, nepotism, or favoritism.

4. Ethnic and Regional Balance, The Constitution promotes ethnic and regional balance in public appointments, including the composition of government institutions and agencies by dedicating a whole chapter on leadership and integrity (chapter six). This provision aims to prevent conflicts arising from ethnic marginalization or domination by ensuring equitable representation and participation in governance. By fostering diversity and inclusivity, the Constitution mitigates tensions and promotes national unity.

5. Land and Natural Resources, The Constitution addresses conflicts related to land ownership, use, and management by establishing legal frameworks for land administration and natural resource management that community centric including community lands act of 2016 and specific court dedicated to issues of land and environment. It recognizes the rights of communities to land and resources, promotes sustainable land practices, and provides mechanisms for resolving disputes through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. By addressing land-related conflicts, the Constitution contributes to peacebuilding and stability.

6. Conflict Resolution Mechanisms, The Constitution provides for various mechanisms for conflict resolution, including the judiciary, alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, and independent commissions and tribunals, most important the constitution recognizes traditional dispute resolution mechanism under article 159(3). These institutions play a crucial role in adjudicating disputes, upholding the rule of law, and ensuring access to justice for all citizens and recognizing community mechanism and structures in driving peace and development, strengthens the social fabric and promotes stability.

7. Establishment of Key Institutions to Protect the Rights of Individuals and Communities as Enshrined in the Constitution, as stipulated under article 59, the establishment of key institutions is vital to safeguard the rights of individuals and communities. Among these institutions is the Kenya National Human Rights and Equality Commission, which plays a pivotal role in protecting individuals' rights against violations by both the government and private individuals. The Kenya National Human Rights and Equality Commission serves as a watchdog, ensuring adherence to human rights principles and promoting equality across all sectors of society. By monitoring and investigating cases of human rights abuses, this institution acts as a bulwark against injustices perpetrated by state actors or any other entities. Additionally, it provides avenues for redress and seeks to hold perpetrators accountable for their actions. Through its mandate, the commission advocates for the promotion of human rights, non-discrimination, and equal treatment under the law. It works to create awareness among the populace about their rights and responsibilities, empowering them to demand accountability and justice. Moreover, the commission engages in policy formulation and advocacy to address systemic issues that perpetuate human rights violations and inequality.

Overall, conflict sensitivity is embedded in the Constitution of Kenya 2010 as a guiding principle for governance, human rights protection, and peacebuilding. By promoting inclusivity, equity, and justice, the Constitution seeks to prevent conflicts, address grievances, and build resilient and cohesive communities.

National Policy on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management 2011

The National Policy on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management is a critical document that provides a framework for addressing conflicts and promoting peace within Kenya aligned to international instruments on peace and conflicts management. This policy outlines the roles and responsibilities of both the national and county governments, as well as other stakeholders, in mitigating conflicts and fostering peaceful coexistence. Below is an extensive analysis of the policy, highlighting its key components and the roles of different entities:

Key components

The National Policy on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management integrates conflict sensitivity across its various components to ensure that peacebuilding efforts are contextually relevant and responsive to the dynamics of conflicts. The policy emphasizes the importance of understanding local contexts, power dynamics, and root causes of conflicts to inform the design and implementation of peacebuilding interventions. It

incorporates conflict sensitivity at all stages of the peacebuilding process, including conflict analysis, program planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. Additionally, the policy promotes inclusive and participatory approaches that engage affected communities in decision-making processes and empower them to contribute to peacebuilding efforts.

Roles of County Government Vs National Governments

Key County Roles	National Government roles
Implement, national policies and strategies on peacebuilding and conflict management within their jurisdictions with room to contextualize these policies to address local needs and priorities, ensuring effective implementation at the grassroots level.	Formulate and implement policies and strategies aimed at promoting peace and managing conflicts at the national level. This includes the development of overarching frameworks and guidelines for peacebuilding efforts across the country.
Implement peacebuilding initiatives tailored to the specific needs and contexts of their respective counties. This includes engaging with local communities, traditional leaders, and civil society organizations to address root causes of conflict and promote reconciliation.	To ensures coherence and alignment of efforts to achieve common peacebuilding objectives coordinate peacebuilding activities and initiatives undertaken by various ministries, departments, and agencies
Support community empowerment initiatives aimed at promoting social cohesion, inclusion, and resilience to conflict. This includes investing in education, livelihoods, and social services to address underlying drivers of conflict and build community resilience.	Support capacity-building initiatives aimed at enhancing the skills and capabilities of stakeholders involved in peacebuilding and conflict management. This may include training programs, workshops, research and seminars for government officials, civil society organizations, and community leaders.
Mobilize resources, both financial and human, to support peacebuilding efforts. This involves allocating budgetary resources, securing donor funding, and	Prevent conflicts and resolve disputes at the local level. This may involve establishing conflict resolution mechanisms, facilitating dialogue

leveraging partnerships with international organizations and development agencies.	between conflicting parties, and promoting peaceful coexistence among diverse communities.

National Cohesion and Integration Commission

The National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) was established in response to the post-election violence in 2007-2008 and was retained post 2010 through a legislation. It is a key partner on issues of conflict and has played a vital role in fostering peace, unity, and harmony among Kenya's diverse communities. NCIC addresses inter-ethnic tensions and promotes inclusive dialogue through various means:

✓ NCIC monitors potential conflict areas across the country using early warning systems and risk assessments, intervening proactively to prevent escalation and mitigate conflicts.

✓ It facilitates community-level engagement and dialogue sessions to promote understanding, reconciliation, and mutual respect among different ethnic groups, encouraging peaceful resolution of grievances.

✓ Advocating for inclusive policies and practices, NCIC works with government institutions, civil society, and stakeholders to address structural factors contributing to tensions and promote social cohesion.

✓ NCIC provides mediation and conflict resolution services to communities affected by inter-ethnic conflicts, helping parties reach mutually acceptable solutions that promote peace and reconciliation.

✓ Through education and sensitization campaigns, raise awareness about the importance of tolerance, respect for diversity, and peaceful coexistence, combating ethnic-based discrimination and violence.

✓ Collaborating with law enforcement agencies, investigates and prosecutes individuals or groups involved in hate speech, incitement, or ethnic-based violence, enforcing legal measures and holding perpetrators accountable.

✓ NCIC partners with national and international organizations, government agencies, and civil society groups to leverage resources and expertise in promoting conflict sensitivity and social cohesion, strengthening its capacity to address tensions effectively.

Marsabit County Peace Building and Conflict Management Policy,2024

In an effort to contextualize and domesticate the Marsabit County Government has adopted Peacebuilding and Conflict Management Policy. The policy being a step towards achieving sustainable peace, cohesion, and prosperity in the county aligns with national policy while also building upon strategic studies within its context. It has developed key plans and measures including development of a bill of the County Assembly County to provide for effective County Approaches, Strategies, Organs for Peace Building and Conflict Management in line with Article 189(2) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. The policy goal is to address the multi-layered and complex conflicts that plague Marsabit County and its neighboring regions. Here is some key analysis:

i. **Understanding Conflict Dynamics:** The policy underscores a wide array of conflicts in Marsabit, including local, cross-border, intra-inter-communal, and inter-county conflicts. These conflicts are influenced by various factors such as politics, border contestations, land and natural resources, climate change, drugs, small arms, historical injustices, terrorism, and negative use of social media.

ii. **Existing Conflict Intervention Initiatives:** Numerous conflict intervention efforts have been undertaken by various stakeholders, including government, civil society, private sector, and community actors while also noting that the interventions have been characterized by a mix of coordinated and ad hoc approaches, with varying levels of sustainability and effectiveness.

iii. **Critical Pillars for Peacebuilding:** The policy identifies key pillars essential for achieving sustainable peace and stability, including robust institutional frameworks, capacity building, conflict prevention and response, effective law enforcement, traditional conflict prevention and mitigation, post-conflict recovery and reconstruction, and trauma-informed peacebuilding.

iv. **Harmonization of Policies and Institutions:** While there are existing regional, national, and county policies, processes, strategies, and institutions aimed at managing conflicts, there is a need for better coordination and harmonization. This policy aims to bridge existing gaps and provide a tiered institutional structure for conflict prevention and management in the county.

v. **Strategies for Effective Peacebuilding:** The policy outlines strategies for effective peacebuilding and conflict management, including support for the national police

reservists program and interventions to address identified policy, legal, and institutional gaps.

vi. **Monitoring and Evaluation Framework:** A robust monitoring and evaluation framework is essential for tracking the effectiveness of the policy, legal, and institutional frameworks. Regular reviews will be conducted to assess progress and make necessary adjustments.

vii. **Financial Mechanisms:** Financing for peacebuilding and conflict management programs will be sourced from Marsabit County, development partners, private sector, and civil society organizations. The establishment of a Special Purpose Account for Peace will serve as a central depository for funds.

viii. **Review Mechanism:** The policy is sensitive to policy and legal environment of the county and is expected to undergo regular reviews every five years to align with the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) review process and adapt to changing conflict dynamics and government policies.

Legal and Policy Framework on Disaster Risk Management

Constitution of Kenya, 2010

The Constitution of Kenya, 2010, comprehensively addresses disaster risk management within the country, outlining the entities mandated to oversee disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts. Under Schedule 4 of the Constitution of Kenya, which outlines the functions and responsibilities of both the national and county governments, disaster risk management falls under the purview of both levels of government. According to Part 1 item 24 and 2, Item 11 of Schedule 4, disaster management is listed as a function concurrent to both the national and county governments.

This means that both the national and county governments share responsibility for disaster risk management. While the national government may provide overall coordination, policy formulation, research and resource mobilization for disaster management efforts through National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), the county governments are responsible for implementing disaster risk management strategies within their respective jurisdictions. Below is an extensive analysis of the constitution concerning disaster risk management, focusing on the relevant articles and their provisions:

Entities Mandated with key issues DRM

1. National Government: The constitution empowers the national government to take the lead role in disaster risk management. Schedule 4 part 1 outlines the functions of the national government, which include establishing mechanisms for disaster management and response. This mandate encompasses the establishment of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), as provided for in the National Disaster Management Act of 2010 and whose key mandates includes formulating national disaster management policies and coordinating disaster risk reduction and response efforts across various sectors and agencies.

2. County Governments**:** Article 176 of the constitution establishes county governments and assigns them various functions under schedule 4, including disaster risk management at the county level. County governments are responsible for implementing national disaster management policies and plans within their jurisdictions, coordinating preparedness, response, and recovery efforts, and establishing County Disaster Management Committees (CDMCs) as outlined in the National Disaster Management Act.

3. **Further through article 6 read with article 183,** the constitution continues to emphasizes the importance of cooperation and consultation between the national and county governments on shared responsibilities such as disaster risk management. Article 6 establishes the two levels of government and requires the national government to consult with county governments when making decisions on disaster management matters, ensuring collaboration and alignment of efforts between the two levels of government.

Therefore, both levels of government must collaborate closely to ensure effective disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts, taking into account the unique circumstances and needs of each county while aligning with national policies and guidelines. This shared responsibility underscores the importance of coordination and cooperation between the national and county governments in addressing disaster risks and safeguarding the well-being of citizens

Disaster Risk Management Act, 2015

The Disaster Risk Management Act, 2015 of Kenya is a crucial piece of legislation that provides a comprehensive framework for disaster risk management within the country. The Act establishes clear roles and responsibilities for both the county and national

governments, as well as various bodies to oversee disaster risk management efforts. Below is an extensive analysis of the Act, focusing on the roles of the county and national governments, bodies created, and their specific roles, with mention of each specific section:

Roles of County and National Governments: The Disaster Risk Management Act, 2015 establishes the roles of both county and national governments in disaster risk management.

1. **County Government:** Section 6 of the Act outlines the responsibilities of county governments in disaster risk management. County governments are tasked with the development and implementation of disaster risk management plans, including risk assessment, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts within their respective jurisdictions. They are also responsible for coordinating with national and other relevant authorities in disaster risk management activities.

2. **National Government:** Section 5 of the Act outlines the responsibilities of the national government in disaster risk management. The national government is responsible for developing and implementing national disaster risk management policies, strategies, and plans. It also provides support and assistance to county governments in disaster risk management activities, including capacity-building, resource mobilization, and coordination of national-level response efforts.

Bodies Created and Their Roles: The Disaster Risk Management Act, 2015 establishes several bodies to oversee disaster risk management efforts at both the county and national levels.

1. **National Disaster Risk Management Authority (NDRMA):** Section 8 of the Act establishes the NDRMA as the national coordinating body for disaster risk management. The NDRMA is responsible for formulating national disaster risk management policies, coordinating disaster risk reduction efforts, and providing technical support and guidance to county governments in disaster risk management activities.

2. **County Disaster Risk Management Committees (CDRMCs):** Section 9 of the Act provides for the establishment of CDRMCs in each county. These committees are responsible for coordinating disaster risk management activities at the county level, including risk assessment, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts. They work closely with the NDRMA and other relevant stakeholders to ensure effective coordination of disaster risk management efforts. The creation of County

Disaster Management Committees (CDMCs) in each county to facilitate localized disaster management activities. Comprising representatives from county government departments, national government agencies, NGOs, and community stakeholders, these committees play a pivotal role in coordinating preparedness, response, and recovery efforts within their respective counties. The membership of both the NDMA and CDMCs is carefully curated to include experts in disaster management alongside representatives from relevant government bodies and community organizations

3. **National Disaster Response Committee (NDRC):** Section 10 of the Act establishes the NDRC as the national coordinating body for disaster response. The NDRC is responsible for coordinating national-level response efforts during disasters, including mobilization of resources, deployment of response teams, and coordination of humanitarian assistance.

A notable feature of the Disaster Risk Management Act, 2015 of Kenya establishes a clear legal framework for disaster risk management, delineating the roles and responsibilities of both the county and national governments, as well as various bodies to oversee disaster risk management efforts. By providing for coordinated and collaborative efforts between different levels of government and stakeholders, the Act aims to enhance the country's capacity to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters effectively.

National Drought Management Authority Act

The National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) Act, plays a crucial role in disaster risk management, particularly in addressing the recurring challenge of droughts in arid and semi-arid regions of the country. Key to note is that more than 80% of Kenya's landmass is classified as arid and semi-arid and home to 38% of Kenya's population. This analysis examines the key provisions of the NDMA Act and evaluates its effectiveness in enhancing the capacities of disaster risk management in Kenya, with a focus on Marsabit County.

1. Mandate and Functions: The NDMA Act provides a legal framework for the establishment and operations of the National Drought Management Authority. The authority is mandated to coordinate drought management efforts, develop early warning systems, and mobilize resources for drought mitigation and response. Additionally, it is tasked with promoting resilience-building initiatives

and facilitating community participation in drought preparedness and response activities.

2. Institutional Arrangements: The Act outlines the structure of the NDMA, including the composition of its board, appointment of the Director-General, and establishment of regional drought management offices. These institutional arrangements are designed to ensure effective coordination and implementation of drought management strategies at both national and local levels. However, the effectiveness of these structures may vary depending on factors such as resource allocation and capacity building.

3. Early Warning Systems: One of the critical aspects of disaster risk management addressed by the NDMA Act is the development of early warning systems for droughts through reports. The Act mandates the NDMA to establish and maintain systems for monitoring meteorological and hydrological conditions, issuing early warnings, and disseminating relevant information to vulnerable communities. The availability and accessibility of accurate early warnings are essential for enabling timely and effective response actions.

4. Resource Mobilization and Allocation: The NDMA Act empowers the authority to mobilize financial, human, and material resources for drought preparedness, response, and recovery efforts. It outlines mechanisms for resource allocation, including the establishment of a National Drought Emergency Fund and provisions for public and private sector contributions. Effective resource mobilization and allocation are critical for ensuring adequate support for disaster-affected communities and implementing resilience-building initiatives.

5. Community Participation and Resilience Building: A key feature of the NDMA Act is its emphasis on community participation and resilience building. The Act recognizes the importance of engaging local communities in drought management activities and empowering them to develop adaptive strategies. It encourages the involvement of community-based organizations, traditional institutions, and other stakeholders in decision-making processes related to disaster risk management.

Marsabit County Disaster Risk Management Act 2023

The County Assembly of Marsabit has enacted a legislative framework aimed at enhancing the county's capacity to effectively mitigate, respond to, and manage disasters while contextualizing to address the unique circumstances in the county. The Act outlines key provisions and measures to address the diverse range of risks faced by the county, including natural disasters such as droughts, floods, and conflicts.

The Act establishes institutional mechanisms for coordinating disaster risk management efforts within the county from the highest level to the lowest point of a village. It defines the roles and responsibilities of various government agencies, departments, and stakeholders involved in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. By clearly delineating these roles, the Act aims to improve coordination and collaboration among stakeholders, ensuring a more efficient and effective response to emergencies. Further, it establishes levels of disaster at different areas within the county to address and respond to disasters at the lowest point while also enhancing anticipatory mechanisms.

The Act establishes a fund that would attract funding from the county budget and can be supported by different partners to support anticipatory mitigation plans and response during disasters. The fund is managed by a fund manager within the description of the PFM County Regulation 2015, which gives distinct characteristics that can easily support response.

The Act also emphasizes the importance of disaster risk reduction and resilience-building measures. It mandates the development and implementation of disaster risk reduction strategies, plans, and programs aimed at minimizing the impact of disasters on communities and enhancing their capacity to cope with and recover from adverse events. Additionally, the Act promotes the integration of disaster risk considerations into development planning processes to ensure that development activities are sustainable and resilient to hazards.

Furthermore, the Act prioritizes community engagement and participation in disaster risk management initiatives. It recognizes the crucial role of local communities in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts and emphasizes the need to involve them in decision-making processes. By empowering communities and building their capacity to identify, assess, and address risks, the Act seeks to enhance local resilience and promote sustainable development.

Legal and policy frameworks on Inclusion

Constitution of Kenya 2010

The Constitution of Kenya, 2010 is a comprehensive legal document that lays down the fundamental principles, values, and rights of the Kenyan people. In terms of inclusion, the Constitution contains several provisions that promote inclusivity and equality, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of their background or circumstances, have equal access to rights and opportunities. Below is an extensive analysis of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 on inclusion, along with an examination of other legal frameworks that support inclusion:

1. **Bill of Rights:** The Bill of Rights, enshrined in Chapter Four of the Constitution, guarantees fundamental rights and freedoms to all individuals in Kenya. These rights include the right to equality and freedom from discrimination (Article 27), which prohibits discrimination on various grounds, including race, ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, and social status. This provision ensures that all individuals are treated equally and have equal opportunities, regardless of their personal characteristics.

2. **Affirmative Action:** The Constitution provides for affirmative action measures to address historical injustices and promote inclusivity. Article 27(6) mandates the state to take legislative and other measures to ensure that marginalized groups, including women, persons with disabilities, minorities, and marginalized communities, participate and are represented in all spheres of life. This provision recognizes the need to empower and uplift marginalized groups to achieve full inclusion and participation in society.

3. **Devolution:** Devolution, as provided for in Chapter Eleven of the Constitution, is another aspect that promotes inclusion. Devolution decentralizes power and resources to county governments, allowing for greater representation and participation of marginalized communities at the local level. Through devolution, marginalized communities have a voice in decision-making processes and can address their unique needs and priorities through local governance structures.

4. **National Values and Principles of Governance:** Article 10 of the Constitution sets out the national values and principles of governance, which include inclusivity, equality, and participation of the people. These values guide all organs of state, including the legislature, executive, and judiciary, in promoting inclusive and participatory governance processes that involve all segments of society.

Legislation and policies Supporting Inclusion

In addition to the Constitution, Kenya has enacted various laws and policies that support inclusion and protect the rights of marginalized groups. These include the Persons with Disabilities Act, which promotes the rights and welfare of persons with disabilities, and the National Gender and Equality Commission Act, which addresses gender disparities and promotes gender equality.

- The Persons with Disabilities Act, 2003**:** This Act provides for the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities in various aspects of society, including education, employment, accessibility, and social services. It mandates the government to take measures to ensure the full participation and integration of persons with disabilities in all sectors.

- The National Gender and Equality Commission Act, 2011**:** This Act establishes the National Gender and Equality Commission, which is tasked with promoting gender equality and addressing discrimination based on gender. It monitors and evaluates policies and programs to ensure their compliance with principles of equality and inclusion.

- The National Cohesion and Integration Act, 2008**:** This Act promotes national cohesion and integration by prohibiting hate speech, discrimination, and incitement to violence. It establishes mechanisms for addressing ethnic and racial tensions and promoting dialogue and reconciliation among different communities.

- The Basic Education Act, 2013: This Act guarantees the right to free and compulsory basic education for all children, including those from marginalized and disadvantaged backgrounds. It aims to eliminate disparities in access to education and ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for all.

- Political parties act, elections Act and many other laws clear stipulates affirmative actions to include the marginalized groups and minorities in accordance with the provision of article 100 of the Constitution

Policies and Programs

The Kenyan government has also developed policies and programs aimed at promoting the inclusion of marginalized groups. For instance:

1. The National Policy on Gender and Development provides a framework for addressing gender disparities and promoting the participation of women in socio-economic and political spheres.

2. The National Policy on Disability Mainstreaming promotes the inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of society.

3. The National Youth Policy seeks to empower young people and enhance their participation in decision-making processes.

Judicial Decisions

The judicial decisions have played a significant role in shaping the landscape of inclusion, particularly in promoting the rights and representation of marginalized groups such as women, persons with disabilities, and minorities. Over the years, landmark rulings by the Kenyan judiciary have set important precedents and catalyzed legal and policy changes aimed at fostering greater inclusion and equality.

For instance, the 2010 Kenyan Constitution, which is the result of a judicially-led reform process, enshrined principles of inclusivity, non-discrimination, and equality. Subsequent judicial interpretations and decisions have further reinforced these principles, leading to advancements in various areas such as political representation, access to justice, and socio-economic rights.

Judicial activism has played a crucial role in advancing gender equality and women's rights in Kenya. Landmark cases, such as the "Mature vs. Attorney General" case in 2012, led to rulings that recognized and protected women's land rights, challenging discriminatory customary practices and laws. These decisions have helped empower women economically and socially, contributing to greater gender equality and inclusion.

Moreover, judicial decisions have been instrumental in addressing discrimination and marginalization faced by persons with disabilities. The Kenyan judiciary has issued rulings that uphold the rights of persons with disabilities to access education, employment, and public services on an equal basis with others. These decisions have led to legal reforms and initiatives aimed at removing barriers and promoting the full participation of persons with disabilities in society.

In Moyale and Sololo, there are key gaps in the judicial process that hinder the community's trust and engagement with the legal system:

1. Perceived Rigged Systems: Many community members perceive the judicial system as rigged or biased, particularly in favor of those in positions of power.

This perception stems from past instances of corruption, political interference, and lack of accountability within the judiciary. As a result, there is a widespread belief that the legal system is not conducive to the interests of the community, leading to skepticism and disengagement.

2. Lack of Awareness: There is a significant lack of awareness and understanding of the judicial system among community members in Moyale. Many residents are unaware of their rights, the legal processes available to them, and how to navigate the justice system effectively. This lack of awareness creates barriers to access to justice and undermines trust in the judiciary, as community members feel disconnected from a system they perceive as foreign or inaccessible.

3. Perception of Foreignness: Some community members view the judicial system as foreign and disconnected from their cultural norms and values. This perception contributes to a sense of alienation and distrust, as community members fear that engaging with the legal system may disadvantage them or undermine their traditional practices. As a result, there is reluctance to seek legal redress or participate in judicial proceedings, further exacerbating the gap between the community and the judiciary.

4. Corruption: Corruption within the judicial system is a pervasive concern in Moyale. Community members often perceive the judiciary as susceptible to bribery and influence from powerful individuals or entities. This perception undermines confidence in the integrity and impartiality of judicial decisions, leading to skepticism about whether justice will be served based on merit rather than financial influence.

Key Coordination platforms and policy frameworks

County Steering Group

The County Steering Group (CSG) serves as a pivotal coordination body within the administrative framework of Kenyan counties. Co-chaired by the County Governor and the County Commissioner, its primary mandate is to synchronize the efforts of both county and national government bodies as stipulated in schedule four, alongside other stakeholders such as Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). Comprising representatives from various County and National government ministries, departments, agencies, and key community members, the CSG facilitates effective coordination, collaboration, and monitoring of development initiatives and interventions within the county. CSG is a key implementation of article 6 (2) of the constitution that requires the two levels of

government though distinct they are interdependent and is required to conduct their mutual relations on the basis of consultation and cooperation. Moreover, it acts as an entry point for developmental partners, including CSOs led by NGOs, disseminating government decisions on pertinent issues as well as mechanism of fundraise basis. National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) provides secretariat services as the secretary to the committee.

Meeting on monthly or need basis or on availability of resources, the CSG undertakes a comprehensive review of county and sub-county affairs, encompassing developmental issues, disaster risk management, conflicts, and emerging issues impacting the county. Additionally, the committee's structure extends to the sub-county level, where the Deputy County Commissioners and Sub-County Administrators co-chair similar steering committees. In Moyale Constituency, for instance, two sub-county steering committees operate in Solola and Moyale.

At the sub-county level, these committees are tasked with reporting to the CSG at the county headquarters, which, in turn, conveys comprehensive county reports to national-level entities, focusing on key thematic areas. The flow of information within the committee operates in both ascending and descending directions, originating from the grassroots level or descending from higher administrative echelons, such as the Office of the President. This bidirectional flow ensures a holistic and informed approach to county governance and development planning, fostering effective decision-making and implementation processes. Its therefore apparent to note that CSG is the main coordination spaces that coordinates all efforts as entry and at Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties has Moyale and Sololo Sub-County Steering Group.

Marsabit County Integrated Development Plan (third CIDP 2023-2027)

The County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) serves as a critical blueprint for development initiatives undertaken by county governments in Kenya. As a five-year mid-term plan, the CIDP functions as a comprehensive roadmap that coordinates the efforts of county governments, national government entities, and other development partners. It is designed to integrate various aspects of development, including economic, social, environmental, legal, and spatial considerations, in alignment with the priorities and needs of local communities.

Enshrined in the County Government Act of 2012, the CIDP is mandated to provide a unified framework for planning, budgeting, financing programs, implementation, and

performance review. Section 102 (h) of the Act underscores the importance of county planning, emphasizing the CIDP's role in ensuring effective utilization of public funds. According to Section 104 (1), no public funds can be appropriated without a planning framework developed by the county executive committee and approved by the county assembly. In essence, this requirement ensures that public funds are allocated and utilized in accordance with the objectives outlined in the CIDP, thereby promoting accountable and transparent governance practices.

The Marsabit County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) for the period 2023-2027 serves as a comprehensive roadmap for the county's development priorities and plans, encompassing various dimensions of socio-economic growth, environmental sustainability, and governance. Within this overarching framework, the CIDP dedicates significant attention to addressing key challenges related to conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management, which are critical for promoting stability, equity, and resilience within the county. Within the spectrum of conflicts, peace and cohesion, disaster risk management and inclusion the CIDP outlines the solution as below

1. **Identification of Challenges:** The CIDP identifies insecurity and recurrent drought as primary challenges that have hindered the county's developmental aspirations and economic progress. Recognizing the detrimental impact of these challenges on livelihoods and overall well-being.

2. **Mitigation Strategies for Disaster Risk Management:** To address the vulnerabilities associated with recurrent drought and floods the CIDP plans to mitigate through development of a contingency plan and implementation of Marsabit County Disaster risk management Act 2023. The act intends to operationalize director of DRM that would have presence from the lowest point, for easy early warning and response, which will also supplement the effort by National Government entities such as NDMA. This plan is envisioned to provide a proactive framework for responding to unforeseen emergencies, encompassing both health and economic hazards. Additionally, the CIDP emphasizes the importance of resource mobilization to bridge budget deficits and enhance coordination in drought response interventions.

3. **Mitigation strategies for Conflicts reduction and Insecurities:** The CIDP identifies conflicts and their dynamics in Marsabit, pinpointing key hotspot areas. It advocates for the implementation of the Marsabit County Peace Policy, which delineates crucial interventions for peacebuilding, reconciliation, and equitable resource-sharing—an essential element in fostering peace, given communities'

perspectives on political positions and resource control. Additionally, the CIDP underscores the urgency of fast-tracking the enactment of the Marsabit County Peace and Conflict Management Bill 2024. This legislation will operationalize through the allocation of funds and the implementation of key strategies aimed at enhancing peacebuilding and cohesion among communities.

4. **Mitigation through Enhanced Coordination Mechanisms:** Acknowledging the pivotal role of effective coordination in disaster risk management and conflict resolution, the CIDP advocates for enhancing sub-county Coordination Steering Groups (CSGs) and sectoral technical working groups. This enhancement involves capacity strengthening, training initiatives, and the establishment of channels for information sharing from communities to relevant departments. Such measures aim to foster more efficient and integrated responses to emerging challenges.

5. **Inclusion of Marginalized Groups:** The CIDP demonstrates a strong commitment to promoting the inclusion of marginalized groups, including youth, women, and persons with disabilities. Through strategic programming, policy formulation, and awareness campaigns, the CIDP seeks to empower these groups socially and economically, ensuring their meaningful participation in decision-making processes and access to opportunities. However, it fails to indicate key actions to achieve inclusion of persons with disabilities, women and youth.

6. **Public Engagement and Participation:** Furthermore, the CIDP underscores the importance of public engagement and participation in governance processes. By developing a robust public participation framework and allocating resources for community engagement initiatives, the CIDP aims to foster greater transparency, accountability, and responsiveness in decision-making.

Overall, the Marsabit County CIDP for 2023-2027 reflects a comprehensive and forward-thinking approach to addressing the complex challenges of conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management. Through its strategic interventions and proactive measures, the CIDP sets the stage for promoting sustainable development and enhancing the well-being of all residents within the county.

The CIDP also clearly recognizes the challenge posed by competing priorities and resource constraints, which could potentially hinder the achievement of the county's desired outcomes. This issue was prevalent in the previous CIDP cycle that concluded in 2022. It underscores the importance of civil society organizations (CSOs) and citizen groups in complementing the county's efforts. They can play a vital role in fundraising

initiatives and advocating for the prioritization of key issues. By engaging in advocacy efforts, these groups can urge the county to implement its plans effectively, ensuring that critical objectives are addressed despite resource limitations and competing demands.

Methodology used in the analysis

The analysis exercise targeting Moyale and Sololo Sub-counties employed a mixed methodology to gather data and information from community members, decision-makers such as community leaders, county and national government heads in the two sub-counties, the County Assembly of Marsabit, youth, women, and persons with disabilities. This comprehensive approach aimed to explore the capacities of conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in Moyale and Sololo Sub-counties, Marsabit County.

1. Desk Review: A thorough examination of the constitution, legislative pieces, policies, and reports related to conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management at both the national and county levels was conducted. This involved analyzing documents from various sources such as government agencies, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, and international organizations to gain insights into existing capacities, challenges, and best practices.

2. Key Informant Interviews: Semi-structured interviews were conducted with 12 key stakeholders in Moyale and Sololo, including national and county government officials, community leaders, representatives of civil society organizations, Community-Based Organizations, marginalized groups (such as youth, women, and minorities), and other relevant actors. These interviews provided firsthand perspectives on the current state of conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management, as well as insights into gaps and opportunities for improvement.

3. Focus Group Discussions: Focus group discussions were facilitated with diverse groups within the community, including CBOs and Community leaders. These discussions enabled deeper exploration of community perceptions, experiences, and priorities related to conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management. Additionally, they provided a platform for community members to voice their concerns, aspirations, and suggestions for enhancing resilience and peacebuilding efforts.

4. Surveys through Online Questionnaires: Questionnaires were administered to a representative sample of community members to gather quantitative data on key

indicators related to conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management. Seventy-eight community members responded to the questionnaire, complementing the qualitative insights obtained through interviews and focus group discussions. This provided a more comprehensive understanding of the issues at hand and allowed for statistical analysis where applicable.

5. Data Analysis and Synthesis: The collected data were analyzed using qualitative and quantitative methods, including content analysis. The findings were then synthesized to identify common themes, trends, and patterns emerging from the research. Connections between different aspects of conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management were drawn to provide a holistic understanding of the situation.

6. Reporting and Dissemination: The research findings, analysis, and recommendations were compiled into a comprehensive report outlining the capacities on conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in Moyale Constituency, Marsabit County. The report was disseminated to relevant stakeholders, including government agencies, policymakers, civil society organizations, community members, and donors, to inform decision-making and support evidence-based interventions for building resilience and fostering peace in the region.

Key Findings

Demographics

The analysis exercise engaged diverse groups using a mixed methodology, successfully capturing the views of 104 individuals from varied backgrounds in both Sololo and Moyale Sub-counties. Specifically, 12 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) were conducted, involving heads of key offices at both the National and County levels, representatives from Moyale Hospital, Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industries and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). Additionally, the team facilitated three focused group discussions (FGDs), two in Moyale and one in Sololo involving 4 community champions discussing topics such as peacebuilding and gender, and engaging 10 leaders from community-based organizations (CBOs). Notably, members of Moyale United Community Alliance (MUCA), a consortium of CBOs in Moyale, actively participated in these discussions. Furthermore, an online survey questionnaire was distributed to all

community members, yielding responses from 78 individuals representing diverse backgrounds, age groups, persons with disabilities, and genders.

This comprehensive approach ensured a broad representation of perspectives and insights on knowledge, attitudes, practices, and understanding of key legal frameworks related to conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in Marsabit County. The table below displays primary details of the demographic splits, including gender, and age, of all the individuals reached through the analysis questionnaires.
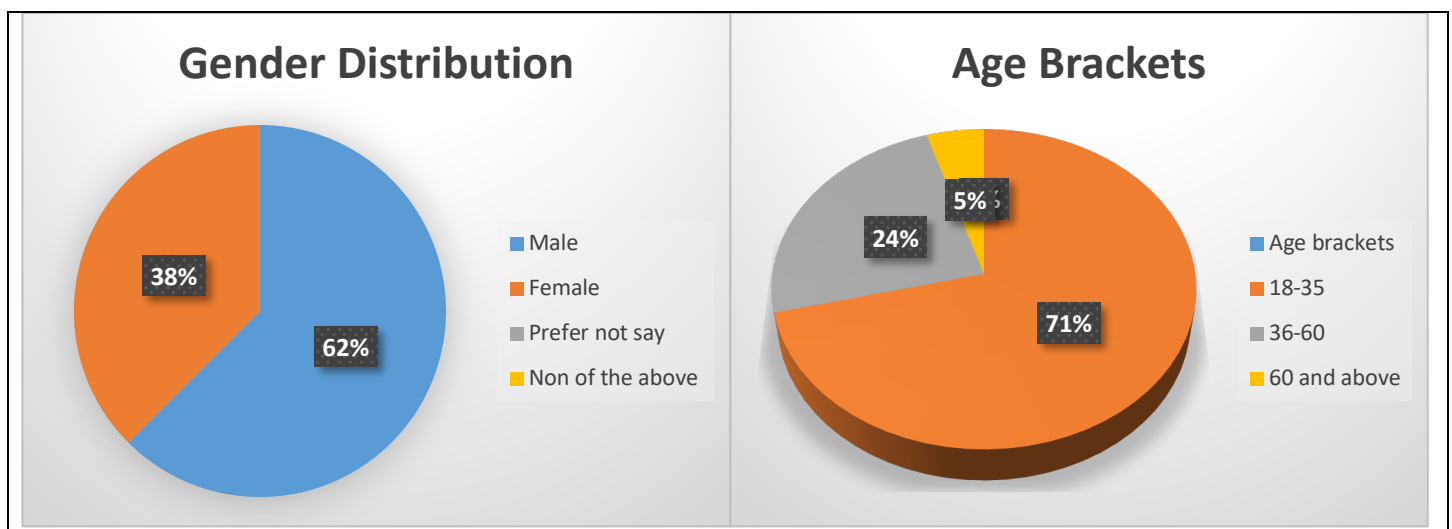

Figure 1 gender distribution and age brackets of the analysis respondents

Gender Disparities and capacities of conflicts sensitivity, Inclusion and Disaster Risk Management

Gender mainstreaming is a critical issue that intersects with conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management. In many contexts, women, persons with disability and other gender minorities face unique challenges and vulnerabilities that exacerbate the impacts of conflicts and disasters.

Gender Disparities in Conflict Sensitivity: In conflict-affected areas, women often bear a disproportionate burden of the conflict's impacts including increased risks of violence, displacement, and loss of livelihoods. Additionally, though they are affected women's voices and perspectives are often marginalized in conflict resolution processes, leading to less effective and sustainable peace agreements. Attention should be towards ensuring

that women's and other minorities needs, experiences, and perspectives are integrated into conflict analysis, prevention, and resolution efforts.

Gender Inclusion in Disaster Risk Management: Similarly, women and other gender minorities are disproportionately affected by disasters due to existing gender inequalities and social norms. Women have limited access to resources, decision-making power, and information, making them more vulnerable to the impacts of disasters. Disaster risk management ensure that disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts are inclusive and address the specific needs and priorities of women and other marginalized groups.

Challenges and Barriers to Gender Mainstreaming: Despite growing recognition of the importance of gender mainstreaming, there are several challenges and barriers that hinder its effective implementation in Moyale Constituency. These include:

- ✓ Limited gender-sensitive data and analysis: Lack of disaggregated data and gender-sensitive analysis to understand and address gender disparities in conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management.
- ✓ Gender stereotypes and social norms: Deep-rooted gender stereotypes and social norms perpetuate inequalities in all the societies of Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties has limited women's participation in decision-making processes related to conflict and disasters.
- ✓ Institutional capacity and resources: Many institutions lack the capacity and resources to mainstream gender effectively into their policies, programs, and practices, leading to gaps in addressing gender disparities.
- ✓ Power dynamics and resistance to change: Power dynamics within institutions and resistance to gender equality impede efforts to mainstream gender and promote more inclusive approaches.

Key Contribution of IPDHE in the Conflicts, inclusion and disaster risk management in Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties

The questionnaires on the analysis of capacities of conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in 2022 highlight the transformative impact of collaborative initiatives aimed at fostering peace, resilience, and social cohesion among cross-border communities, as initiated by IPDHE. Through a concerted effort spanning various locations in Marsabit County, particularly Moyale sub-county, and neighboring regions in Ethiopia, the IPDHE Project has achieved significant milestones in enhancing community well-being and mitigating conflict-related vulnerabilities. Here are some insights gleaned from random information provided by community members: Do they

know about projects that have transcended tribal barriers and brought together the faces of Moyale Communities? Seventy percent (70%) of the total participants mentioned the project by VSO/HODI since 2022 or IPDHE as their main answers. When asked why they provided these answers, they gave the following responses:

1. Enhanced Social Cohesion: The IPDHE project has played a pivotal role in nurturing social cohesion among cross-border communities in Marsabit County, particularly in Moyale sub-county, and neighboring regions in Ethiopia. By supporting community-led initiatives such as Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and peace committees, as well as facilitating peacebuilding activities, the project has effectively bridged ethnic divides, facilitated inter-tribal dialogue, and fostered trust among diverse communities. Notably, the project's implementation area encompassed various Moyale locations, including Lami, Nana, Butiye, and Godoma. This approach ensured inclusivity and diversity in project activities, enabling communities from different areas to come together and engage in meaningful conversations.

2. **Enhanced Conflict Resolution Mechanisms**: The project has bolstered local capabilities for conflict resolution and peacebuilding through the empowerment of indigenous institutions, peace committees, and civil society organizations (CSOs). Particularly noteworthy are the efforts of peace committees like the Moyale Peace Forum and the Cross-Border Peace Committee in mediating disputes, resolving conflicts, and preventing violence at the community level. Additionally, the establishment of Community Volunteers has served as an entry point for reporting conflict issues and initiating conversations with the larger IPDHE project team comprising HODI and VSO.

3. **Cross-Border Collaboration:** The project has fostered collaboration and cooperation between communities on both sides of the Kenya-Ethiopia border, promoting peaceful coexistence and cross-border dialogue and peer learning visits on issues of development and cohesion. Through joint initiatives and exchange programs, IPDHE has facilitated learning and knowledge-sharing among neighboring communities, strengthening regional ties and resilience against common challenges.

Analysis Capacities on Conflicts Sensitivity

In this section, outlines the findings derived from the analysis exercise, focusing specifically on conflict sensitivity. Guided by questions to gauge capacities and perceptions of both communities and duty bearers, CSOs, and community leaders regarding conflict sensitivity and how it influences their daily activities, projects, and interventions.

Dynamics of conflicts in Marsabit County particularly Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties

Conflicts in Moyale Constituency, Marsabit, are multifaceted, driven by various dynamics deeply rooted in the region's social, economic, and political fabric. Understanding these dynamics, including the root causes and triggers, is crucial for implementing effective conflict resolution strategies. All the dynamics identified from the surveys and KII shows that tribe is intertwined into all as it's the main driver, and triggers. The following table outlines the dynamics, root causes, and triggers of conflicts in Moyale and Marsabit

Dynamics of Conflicts	Root Causes	Triggers
Tribal Differences	- Tribalism, ethnic rivalries, and clashes over resources, land, and political representation. - Tribalism deeply rooted, leading to negative tribalism and violence. Significant link between tribal differences and resource scarcity due to arid conditions, climatic change effects, leading to competition over water and pasture due to scarcity.	Any conflict between tribes or individuals of the perceived historical enemies, competition over resources, land disputes.
Tribal-Based Conflicts	- Known allies or perceived allies or coalition and enemies based on tribal affiliations or historical perception. Speculation and stereotypes regarding based on tribal identity. Conflict potential remains despite current peace.	Pre-existing tensions based on tribal alliances and stereotypes. Any event or action perceived as favoring one tribe over another is a key trigger.

Dynamics of Conflicts	Root Causes	Triggers
Border Nature of Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties	- Spillover of conflicts from across the border is due to the cosmopolitan nature and the interconnectivity of communities on both sides. Conflicts on the Ethiopian side not only have economic or political effects on Kenya's side but can also trigger conflicts on either side, as the same tribes or communities reside on both sides. This underscores the interconnectedness and mutual vulnerability of both regions to conflict dynamics.	Conflict spillage from cross border
County, Ward and location boundaries	Lack of proper demarcation of boundaries between Wajir and Marsabit counties, particularly in wards or locations such as Odha and Bori, exacerbates tensions and disputes. Without clear delineation, communities in these areas may face challenges in asserting their territorial rights and accessing essential services.	Administrative appointments and jurisdiction and pasture
Poverty and Economic Disparities	- Poverty and unemployment contribute to discontent and rivalry among communities, exacerbated by the nature of political leadership. Unequal resource distribution, for example, when a particular tribe holds political power, leads to tensions. Employment and business opportunities are mainly channeled to the benefiting tribe, creating perceived poverty that is caused by political leadership.	Economic hardship, unequal resource distribution, perception of political favoritism.
Political Factors	- Politics, including illiteracy, interference, bad governance, and marginalization, exacerbates conflicts. Disputes over administrative boundaries or political seats, as well as the distribution of resources, often favor tribes based on political	Disputes over political representation, allocation of resources, administrative boundaries, or electoral outcomes.

Dynamics of Conflicts	Root Causes	Triggers
	support, leading to unequal development that, to some extent, does not deliver value for money.	
Resource Scarcity and Land Issues	- Resource scarcity due to climate change, unsustainable economic livelihoods. Disputes over land and cattle raids intensified by tribal politics. Militarization of communities due to former rebels and small arms availability.	Competition over scarce resources, land disputes, cattle raids, personal conflicts.

Types of Conflicts in Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties

The types of conflicts in Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties are diverse and multifaceted, each with its unique drivers and implications. Here's an analysis of the various types of conflicts:

a. **Inter-ethnic and intra-ethnic conflicts:** These conflicts arise from competition for natural resources, political events like elections, and territorial control. They often escalate during election periods and revolve around control over resources like water and pasturelands.

b. **Land and resource-based conflicts:** Marsabit County experiences conflicts over land ownership, compounded by the politicization of land, contested notions of belonging, and border disputes. Access and control over natural resources such as pasturelands, forests, and water sources are key triggers for these conflicts.

c. **Boundary disputes:** Unclear boundary demarcation along political and administrative boundaries leads to conflicts within Marsabit County and with neighboring counties like wajir. Creation of new political units without community participation and political incitement exacerbate these disputes.

d. **Negative ethnicity, Clannism, and Politics:** Conflicts linked to negative ethnicity and politics arise during election periods, often pitting clans against each other. Political rivalries and supremacy battles among ethnic elites contribute to post-election violence and tension.

e. **Cross-Border Conflict:** The border from Sololo to Moyale exposes it to cross-border incursions and radicalization. Spillover conflicts due to the similarities among the communities are the most common conflicts while Porous borders and human displacements contribute to insecurity and conflict.

f. **Gender-based violence, Child and PWDs Rights:** Women, children, and persons with disabilities face marginalization and discrimination, with limited access to education, employment, and participation in decision-making processes. They bear the brunt of violence and disruptions during conflicts.

g. **Climate change related conflict:** Climate change-induced vulnerabilities exacerbate existing challenges, leading to conflicts over dwindling natural resources and migration patterns.

h. **Conflicts relating to historical injustices:** Unresolved historical grievances complicate peacebuilding efforts in Moyale Constituency, contributing to mistrust between communities and the state itself concept such as "haramia and men in boots" are still the common conversation.

i. **Cattle rustling and livestock theft:** Cultural, economic, and social dimensions contribute to cattle rustling and livestock theft, impacting livelihoods and traditional conflict management mechanisms particularly on community's boundaries.

j. **The threat of Violent Extremism and Terrorism:** Although not openly manifesting, violent extremism and terrorism pose future challenges due to existing vulnerabilities like poverty, youth unemployment, and porous borders.

k. **Transnational Crime:** Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties experiences transnational security challenges like drug trafficking and human trafficking due to its location along the international border.

l. **Radicalization, Violent Extremism, and Terrorism:** Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties faces risks of radicalization and recruitment into terrorist groups due to factors like poverty, youth unemployment, and institutional weaknesses.

m. **Drugs and substance abuse:** Drug trafficking and substance abuse promote social crimes and family breakdowns, increasing vulnerabilities to radicalization

and recruitment into criminal groups.

n. **Inter-state dispute:** Low-key spill-over of violence from neighboring countries affects livelihoods, cross-border trade, and security

o. **Devolution induced conflict:** Devolution has intensified competition over political and economic resources, leading to conflicts relating to resource distribution and political rivalry.

p. **Extractives associated conflict:** Investments in extractive industries trigger conflicts over land, local employment, revenue sharing, and environmental impacts.

q. **Mega Investments/Development induced conflict:** Mega infrastructure projects bring socio-economic benefits but require measures to manage community perceptions regarding land, social impacts, and benefits sharing.

r. **Environmental conflict:** Degradation of the environment due to mining and quarry operations affects pastoralists' livelihoods, leading to disputes among locals and with non-local laborers.

s. **Media and conflict:** Social media, if used irresponsibly, can escalate conflicts by spreading propaganda and misinformation. Biased reporting by mainstream media exacerbates existing tensions and triggers new conflicts.

Peace and Conflict Resolution Initiatives in Moyale and Marsabit

Various inter-community conflict resolution mechanisms and peacebuilding initiatives have been implemented in Moyale and Marsabit at large. These initiatives often involve a combination of traditional conflict resolution practices, community dialogues, mediation efforts facilitated by local leaders, and interventions by government agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). While challenges persist, there have been concerted efforts to promote peace and reconciliation in Moyale and Marsabit, with a focus on using community mechanisms to fostering dialogue, building trust, and addressing the root causes of conflict. These initiatives involve the formation of committees, engagement with traditional and religious leaders, mediation efforts, and interventions aimed at economic development and empowerment to address underlying causes of conflict, such as poverty and resource scarcity. Continued efforts are crucial to ensure sustainable peace and development in the region**.**

Initiatives and Committees

1. The Sub-County Peace Forum, Sololo and Moyale established under the National Peace Secretariat and coordinated by the Ministry of Interior and Coordination, plays a crucial role in promoting peace and harmony within the Moyale community. With a total of 19 members, including significant representation of women, elders and marginalized groups, and 6 ex-officio members from government departments, the forum ensures that diverse voices are heard and considered in peace-building efforts. The primary functions of the Moyale Peace Forum include**:**

   ✓ Early Warning Mechanisms: The forum serves as a platform for monitoring and early detection of potential conflicts or tensions within the community. By analyzing local dynamics and gathering information from various sources, the forum can identify emerging issues and take proactive measures to prevent escalation.

   ✓ Capacity Building: Through workshops, training sessions, and awareness programs, the forum enhances the capacity of community members, especially leaders and stakeholders, in conflict resolution, mediation, and peacebuilding techniques. By empowering individuals with the necessary skills and knowledge, the forum strengthens the community's ability to address conflicts peacefully.

   ✓ Peace Management: As a focal point for peace-related initiatives, the forum facilitates dialogue, reconciliation, and mediation processes among conflicting parties. By promoting constructive communication and negotiation, the forum aims to resolve disputes amicably and foster mutual understanding and cooperation among community members.

2. Cross Border Peace Committee, Moyale – Moyale and Sololo-Mio corridors. The Cross-Border Peace Committee plays a pivotal role in fostering peace and stability along the Kenya-Ethiopia border. Comprised of 15 members from each side of the border, representing various tribes and community segments such as council of elders, women leaders, youth, and persons with disabilities, this committee serves as a platform for dialogue and collaboration. Its primary objective is to deliberate on emerging issues affecting the border region and to devise strategies aimed at preventing conflicts or mitigating their impact, especially when conflicts on one side have the potential to spill over and affect the other. By facilitating

communication, cooperation, and conflict resolution initiatives, the Cross-Border Peace Committee contributes significantly to promoting harmonious relations and enhancing security along the border area.

3. Inter-Religious Peace Committee, this committee aims to resolve conflicts and promote peace through the engagement of religious leaders.

4. Moyale Inter-Ethnic Peace Committee, comprised of representatives from all communities in the region, this committee works to foster peace and harmony among different ethnic groups.

5. Sololo Peace Committee: comprised of representative of each location, representative of persons with disability, youth and women works mainly on need basis on peace and cohesion in Sololo sub-county and Sololo-mio corridor

IPDHE role in supporting peacebuilding at community level

The respondents highlighted the Integrating Peacebuilding, Development Humanitarian Effort (IPDHE) project, implemented by HODI & VSO along the Ethiopia-Kenya border, as a significant contributor to capacity building and knowledge dissemination on peace and conflict resolution at the community level. This initiative has played a crucial role in fostering peace and stability in the region through various activities:

✓ Capacity Building: IPDHE focuses on enhancing the capacity of local communities to effectively address conflicts and promote peace. Through training programs, workshops, and skill-building sessions, community members are equipped with the necessary tools and strategies for conflict resolution, mediation, and peacebuilding.

✓ Awareness Creation: The initiative creates awareness among community members about the importance of peace, tolerance, and cooperation. By organizing community forums, dialogue sessions, and educational campaigns, IPDHE promotes a culture of peace and non-violence, encouraging constructive engagement and mutual understanding among different groups.

✓ Information Flow Support: IPDHE facilitates the flow of information and knowledge related to peace and conflict resolution within and across communities. Through networking, information sharing platforms, and communication channels, the initiative ensures that relevant stakeholders have access to timely and accurate information, enabling them to make informed decisions and take proactive measures to prevent conflicts

Key Conflict Trends from a Community Perspectives

1. *Individual Trivial Differences Leading to Conflict*, Minor disagreements between individuals can escalate into significant conflicts. For instance, a dispute over a mining hole in Hillo between two miners resulted in bloodshed. This seemingly trivial issue was blown out of proportion, portrayed as a tribal conflict rather than a dispute between two individuals. Instead of being reported as such, the news spread as "X community kills Y community," when, in reality, it was merely a disagreement over a mining hole that led to the death of one person. Such minor incidents can quickly escalate into larger conflicts if not addressed promptly. This highlights either a lack of community dispute resolution mechanisms or ineffective means to universally resolve issues accepted by all communities.

2. *Perception of Peace*, the absence of gunshots does not necessarily signify peace; it may indicate that conflicts have not yet erupted and its clearly shown in our social interactions among community members or residential patterns in Moyale. Numerous underlying tensions may exist even in the absence of visible violence. Community members, particularly elders, often liken the current situation to a healing wound. They describe it as scar tissue forming over a wound, indicating a process of healing. However, they caution that this scar tissue can be easily disturbed, akin to being removed by a minor touch or mistakenly rubbing against a hard surface. This analogy highlights the fragility of the peace process and the potential for conflicts to reignite if underlying tensions are not adequately addressed.

3. *Lack of Strong Neutral Spaces*, Currently, there are no neutral spaces available for resolving disputes. Government agencies are not perceived as neutral due to political infiltration. Those in power can potentially manipulate security agencies to favor one community over another.

Effects of conflicts on the lives of the communities

1. **Loss of Life and Injury:** Deaths and injuries resulting from conflicts cause immense suffering and loss to families and the community. The loss of lives not only affects the immediate family but also creates a void in the community, leading to long-term psychological and emotional impacts.

2. **Population Displacement:** Conflict leads to the displacement

of people from their homes, creating internally displaced persons (IDPs). Families are uprooted and forced to live in temporary camps, leading to loss of homes and property. This internal displacement disrupts social structures and contributes to the breakdown of community cohesion.

3. **Destruction of Assets:** Conflict results in the destruction of infrastructure, homes, and community assets. The loss of property and livelihoods exacerbates poverty and leads to increased dependency on humanitarian aid as well as tribal settlement that are not favoring peace building efforts.

4. **Disruption of Social and Economic Activities:** Conflict severely disrupts daily life and economic activities within the community. This disruption leads to a loss of income and opportunities, especially in cases of prolonged conflict. Economic activities such as agriculture and livestock production suffer, local markets may not function normally, and job opportunities become scarce.

5. **Increased Stress and Anxiety:** Insecurity resulting from frequent

conflicts creates a constant sense of fear and danger. This affects mental and emotional well-being as families live in fear of attacks or raids. Many are forced to flee their homes due to violence, leading to internal displacement where families are uprooted and must live in temporary camps without basic amenities.

6. **Damage to Relationships and Social Cohesion:** Conflict deepens societal divisions and erodes trust among different groups including in Moyale they say love is not blind as it knows tribe. The breakdown of social cohesion within communities hinders progress and development. Affecting cultural traditions and practices, weakening the cultural identity that binds people together.

7. **Economic Consequences:** Economic activities are severely disrupted. Agriculture suffers, livestock production is reduced due to loss of animals in raids, and potential investments are deterred. Local markets may not function normally, and job opportunities become scarce, increasing poverty and dependency on humanitarian aid.

8. **Emotional Toll:** Conflicts in Moyale has had an emotional toll on the communities, including feelings of anger, frustration, or sadness, which affects mental health. There's a profound psychological impact with increased instances of stress, trauma, anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder among individuals, affecting their daily functioning and overall contribution to community life.

9. **Underdevelopment and Division:** Conflict has precluded the continuity of lives and retarded the development of Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties

of Marsabit County, and it has suppressed key citizen participation as politician can use their own support for participation. It cuts across social, economic, and physical impacts, leaving communities divided and underdeveloped.

10. **Hatred and Naivety:** Conflicts has created hatred among different tribes and communities, leading to naivety when passing through a community dominated by one tribe or marrying and even doing business. This increases insecurity among the communities, instilling fear and mistrust

Analysis of Government Projects or Programs on Conflict Sensitivity in Marsabit County

The responses provided by communities indicate a mix of awareness and consideration of conflict dynamics among government officials at the national and county levels in Marsabit County. Out of the 104 responses, 50 individuals stated that National government officials or practices are aware of and considerate of conflict dynamics in Marsabit County, while 57 individuals feel that County Government projects and interventions are sensitive to conflict dynamics in the county. This reflects a positive perception among the majority of respondents regarding the government's attentiveness to conflict dynamics.

Government Projects are conflicts sensitive and considerate of the dynamics within the Constuency
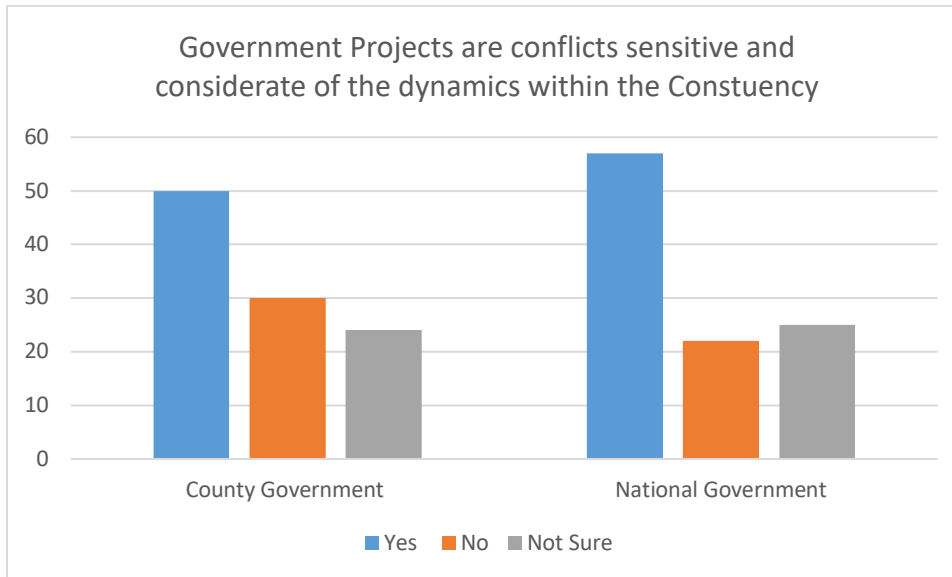
Figure 2 shows community perspective on level of conflicts sensitivity or dynamics by County and National Government

Effects of Governments interventions on conflicts and community cohesions

The effects of government or political interventions on community cohesion, social relations, and livelihoods can vary widely depending on the specific context, the nature of the interventions, and how they are implemented. Some interventions have positively contributed to community cohesion by promoting inclusivity, providing resources for development, or fostering dialogue between different groups. Particularly, the disarming of Kenya Police Reservists in Moyale has significantly increased security and improved community relations. This mechanism was infiltrated by interests other than security, and increased local community engagement through dialogue has improved non-confrontational mechanisms during conflicts, resulting in increased crime reporting and the refusal to harbor law fugitives.

However, other interventions may have negative effects if they exacerbate existing tensions, marginalize certain communities, or fail to address underlying issues effectively. For example, the government's cessation of interventions when the sound of gunshots from worrying tribes' ceases though the work needs to continue during peaceful periods to develop mechanisms that enhance peace and cohesion among the communities. Communities feel that the inclusion of politicians exacerbates issues as they are considered planners. It's important for policymakers to carefully consider the potential impacts of their interventions and actively engage with local communities to

ensure that they are beneficial and sustainable. Continued efforts during peaceful periods to develop mechanisms for enhancing peace and cohesion among the communities are essential. This entails including community members in the planning and implementation process to ensure inclusivity and sustainability.

Awareness on Inter-community conflicts resolution or dialogue platform

Various known inter-community conflict resolution mechanisms and peacebuilding initiatives have been implemented in Moyale and Marsabit at large. These initiatives often involve a combination of traditional conflict resolution practices, community dialogues, mediation efforts facilitated by local leaders, and interventions by government agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). While challenges persist, there have been concerted efforts to promote peace and reconciliation in Moyale and Marsabit, with a focus on fostering dialogue, building trust, and addressing the root causes of conflict. These initiatives involve the formation of committees, engagement with traditional and religious leaders, mediation efforts, and interventions aimed at economic development and empowerment to address underlying causes of conflict, such as poverty and resource scarcity. Continued efforts are crucial to ensure sustainable peace and development in the region.

Within Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties there exist several peace committees including established through government entities or by community interventions itself. Key committees including Moyale Peace Forum which is an establishment National Peace Secretariat (NPS) under ministry of interior and coordination whose main purpose is to conduct awareness on cohesion and peaceful existence among the communities, early warnings and reporting. The forum draws its membership from community members from the communities including youth, women and persons with disability and Moyale Cross Border Peace Forum which deals with cross border issues through dialogue and has 15 members drawn from communities leaving on either side of the border.
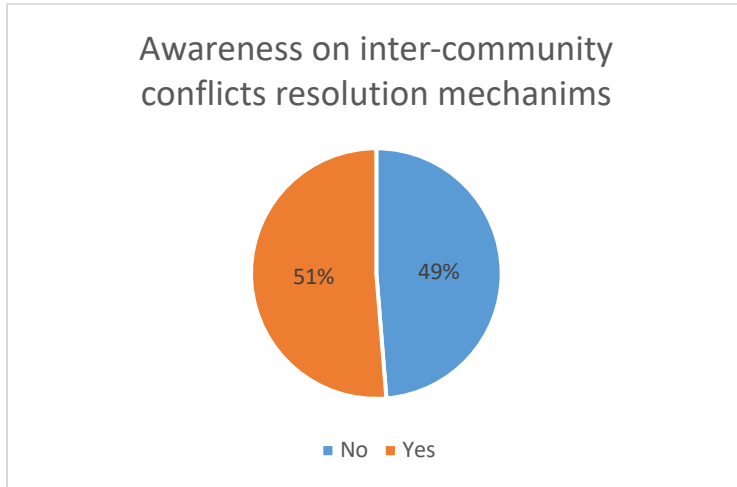
Figure 3 Awareness on inter-community conflicts resolution mechanism

Conflicts Sensitivity Steps

Steps	Conflicts Sensitivity Step Description for projects intervention by government and stakeholders
↓	Conduct Conflict Analysis to Understand Context
↓	Integrate Conflict Considerations into Programming
↓	Promote Do No Harm Principles in Interventions
↓	Ensure Inclusive Decision-Making Processes
↓	Strengthen Conflict-Sensitive Monitoring and Evaluation
↓	Build Local Capacities for Conflict Resolution
↓	Engage in Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding

Analysis on Capacities of Disaster Risk Management

This section devolves into the findings on disaster risk management, key concepts around it, community's understandings, mechanism of response and

Marsabit Common Disaster risks

Marsabit County, located in Kenya's arid and semi-arid regions, faces various natural disaster risks and conflict challenges that impact the well-being and development of its residents. This report aims to analyze the responses provided regarding the most common natural disasters and conflicts affecting the county, as well as propose strategies for addressing these challenges effectively.

1. *Natural Disasters*:
   a. Drought: Identified as the most common natural disaster, drought leads to severe water scarcity, crop failure, livestock deaths, and food shortages due to the arid climate of the region.
   b. Floods: Heavy rainfall triggers floods, causing displacement, infrastructure damage, and property loss in certain areas of Marsabit County.

2. *Conflict Challenges:*
   a. Tribal and Economic Conflicts: Marsabit County experiences conflicts that disrupt communities, undermine stability, and exacerbate vulnerabilities, particularly during environmental stressors like drought or floods.

Marsabit County Disaster Risk Management Plans

The policy and legal review revealed that Marsabit County has extensive plans in place, although they have yet to be fully implemented. However, 38% of respondents expressed uncertainty about the county's preparedness, indicating a lack of awareness or information regarding existing disaster management plans. Additionally, 35% of respondents expressed pessimism, stating that the county lacks plan to respond effectively to disasters. This sentiment was echoed by multiple respondents who highlighted the county's perceived lack of preparedness. Despite this skepticism, a glimmer of hope emerged from respondents who were aware of the county's budgeted plans for disaster response. These individuals expressed confidence in the county's

allocation of resources and formulation of plans to address disasters effectively.
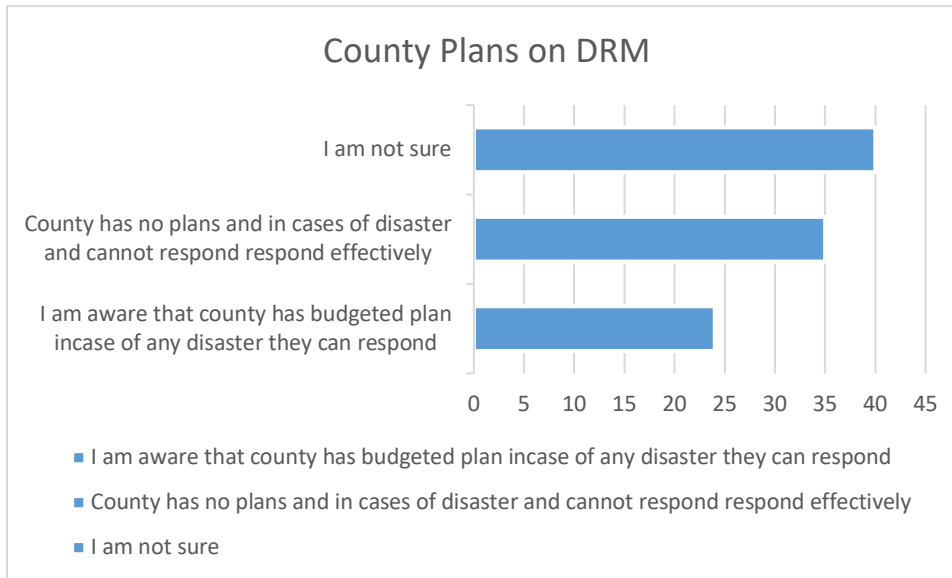

Figure 4 Awareness on County plans of DRM

Moyale town Disaster Risk Management needs

Moyale Town, a border town primarily reliant on cross-border businesses and the movement of goods and people from Ethiopia, across to Somalia, and into Kenya, serves significant parts of Marsabit County, Wajir North, and portions of Mandera County. However, despite its strategic economic position, the town faces several challenges, particularly in its disaster management structures.

1. **Waste Management**: The absence of proper waste disposal systems in Moyale Town has led to littering and environmental pollution, especially within the town center. Consequently, waste often gets washed away to other areas, worsening environmental pollution. This lack of effective waste management poses significant health risks to residents and increases the spread of diseases within the community. Moreover, the ineffective management of waste contributes to environmental degradation, impacting local ecosystems and water sources. Addressing these challenges is crucial to mitigate health hazards, preserve the environment, and ensure the well-being of the population in Moyale Town.

2. **Sewer Systems**: Moyale Town lacks sufficient sewer systems and sanitation facilities, resulting in poor hygiene conditions. The absence of proper sanitation infrastructure encourages open defecation, posing health risks and contaminating the environment. Improper disposal of sewage can contaminate water sources, leading to waterborne diseases and public health crises. Addressing these issues

is crucial to safeguarding the health and well-being of the community in Moyale Town.

3. **Fire Emergency Response**: Moyale Town lacks sufficient firefighting equipment, including fire engines, to respond effectively to fire emergencies. The absence of adequate fire protection puts residential and commercial buildings at risk of damage or destruction during fire incidents. Without proper firefighting equipment and infrastructure, emergency response times are prolonged, exacerbating the severity of fire incidents.

Disaster Risk Reduction Committee,

The Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Committee in Moyale, comprised of community members including women, persons with disability youth and other stakeholders, plays a vital role in enhancing preparedness, response, and resilience to disasters in the region in coordination with sub-county Steering Group.

Role of community members in promoting peace, inclusion, and disaster risk management in Marsabit County

The analysis aimed at assessing community readiness for action in promoting peace, inclusion, and disaster risk management, participants were asked about their perceived role in these endeavors. The findings reveal a strong consensus among respondents regarding the pivotal role of community members in fostering peace and harmony, having community mechanism of DRM as well as inclusion within their localities. This underscores that they understand the significant role that community members play in promoting peace, inclusion, and disaster risk management. Their active involvement, collaboration, and advocacy are essential in building resilient and harmonious communities that can effectively address challenges and work towards collective well-being and sustainable development.

- ✓ **Promoting Peace and Harmony:** all the respondents emphasized the importance of community members in engaging in conflict resolution and peacebuilding efforts. Suggestions included fostering dialogue, understanding, and reconciliation among conflicting parties, as well as advocating for the inclusion and empowerment of marginalized groups.
- ✓ **Disaster Preparedness and Response:** There was a clear call for active participation in disaster preparedness activities, such as training programs and early warning systems. Respondents recognized the need for community members to be proactive in addressing environmental conservation efforts to

mitigate the impact of disasters and as well as using the traditions methods that help particularly, in early warning.

- ✓ **Post-Disaster Engagement:** Several respondents highlighted the significance of community engagement in post-disaster reviews and planning to avoid recurrence. They emphasized the importance of providing feedback to local governments, humanitarian organizations, and development partners to inform future disaster response efforts.
- ✓ **Unity and Cooperation:** Promoting unity and cooperation among communities has been highlighted key aspects of reconciliation among the communities. This included avoiding tribal stereotypes, promoting inter-tribal activities such as sports and training, and fostering mutual respect and understanding of different cultural practices and beliefs.

The Impacts of Conflicts and Disasters in Marsabit County

Conflicts and disasters have had significant negative impacts on the development and well-being of Marsabit County. These impacts span across various sectors and aspects of life, affecting both individuals and communities. Here are the key impacts of conflicts and natural disaster such as drought

1. **Humanitarian Crisis**: Both conflicts and disasters contribute to humanitarian crises characterized by displacement, disrupted livelihoods, food insecurity, malnutrition, and disease outbreaks. These crises undermine the well-being of the population and exacerbate existing vulnerabilities, particularly among the most marginalized groups including children led, elderly led, persons with disability households.

2. **Economic Disruption**: Conflicts and disasters disrupt economic activities, leading to loss of income, employment, and investment opportunities. This economic disruption perpetuates poverty and hinders overall economic development in the county, affecting the livelihoods of residents and the growth of businesses and industries. Particularly this has affected business growth and sustainability in Moyale town.

3. **Infrastructure Damage**: Infrastructure damage is a common consequence of conflicts and disasters, including destruction of roads, bridges, schools, hospitals, and water supply systems. This damage impedes access to essential services and hampers development efforts, requiring significant resources for repair and

reconstruction. Recent rains have cut off some areas particularly in the Golbo wards areas devastating movement of people and goods.

4. **Social Disruption:** Conflicts and disasters strain social cohesion, exacerbate ethnic tensions, and undermine trust between communities. This social disruption hinders progress in social development, cohesion, and resilience-building efforts, creating barriers to peaceful coexistence and collaboration. For instance, the lasting effects of conflicts on Moyale communities include the restriction of movement and settlement. Due to the destruction of properties, communities often confine themselves to areas where their tribes reside. Additionally, in business, individuals opt to erect temporary or semi-temporary structures out of fear of potential destruction. These actions further perpetuate division and hinder efforts towards reconciliation and sustainable development within the county.

5. **Environmental Degradation:** Both conflicts and disasters contribute to environmental degradation, including deforestation, soil erosion, and pollution. These environmental impacts further increase vulnerability to future disasters and undermine efforts towards sustainable development and environmental conservation in the county.

Key Resources Needed to Address Challenges in Marsabit County

The community members feel that addressing the challenges of conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in Marsabit County requires a multifaceted approach and a range of support and resources. Here are the key areas where support and resources are needed:

✓ **Capacity Building**: Provide comprehensive training and capacity-building programs for government officials, community leaders, and civil society organizations. This includes technical skills training, leadership development, and awareness-raising activities to enhance their understanding and skills in conflict sensitivity, inclusive governance, and disaster risk management.

✓ **Community Engagement:** Support initiatives that promote community participation and ownership in conflict resolution, peacebuilding, and disaster preparedness efforts. This can include funding for community-led projects, support for community-based organizations, and platforms for dialogue and collaboration to ensure that interventions are contextually relevant and sustainable.

✓ **Infrastructure Development**: Invest in resilient infrastructure and essential services that can withstand and respond to disasters. This includes early warning

systems, emergency shelters, water supply systems, and proper drainage systems. Infrastructure projects should be inclusive and meet the needs of all community members, particularly marginalized groups.

✓ **Data and Information Management:** Improve data collection, analysis, and sharing mechanisms to better understand the root causes of conflicts, assess vulnerabilities to disasters, and monitor progress in inclusive development and risk reduction efforts. This includes support for data collection tools, GIS mapping, and information management systems to inform evidence-based decision-making.

✓ **Policy and Institutional Support:** Provide support for the development and implementation of policies and institutional frameworks that promote conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management. This includes sensitization on conflict-sensitive interventions, peacebuilding assessment, social impact analysis, and post-disaster needs assessment. Additionally, ensure transparency, accountability, and appropriate findings to prevent misuse of resources.

✓ **Youth Empowerment and Job Creation:** Create opportunities for youth empowerment, skills development, and job creation to address underlying drivers of conflicts and enhance community resilience. This includes financial support for youth-led initiatives, vocational training programs, and entrepreneurship opportunities to promote economic stability and social cohesion.

✓ **Leadership Engagement:** Facilitate regular engagements between government leaders and community representatives to discuss issues affecting the community and collaborate on solutions. Encourage transparency, trust, and accountability to ensure that interventions are responsive to community needs and priorities.

Disaster Risk Management system description

Step	Description
1. Risk Assessment	Identify, analyze, and evaluate potential hazards, vulnerabilities, and exposures that could lead to disasters.
2. Early Warning Systems	Establish mechanisms to monitor and detect early signs of impending disasters to provide timely warnings to communities.
3. Preparedness Planning	Develop and implement preparedness plans and protocols for effective response and mitigation of disaster impacts.

Step	Description
4. Response and Emergency Planning	Outline procedures and protocols for immediate response actions during disasters, including evacuation and rescue.
5. Recovery and Rehabilitation	Coordinate efforts to restore infrastructure, services, and livelihoods in the aftermath of a disaster.
6. Capacity Building	Enhance the knowledge, skills, and resources of stakeholders, including communities, responders, and authorities.
7. Coordination and Collaboration	Foster collaboration among government agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders for a unified and effective response.
8. Monitoring and Evaluation	Implement systems to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of disaster risk management efforts and adjust as needed.

Analysis of Capacities on Inclusion

This section presents the findings on inclusion, with a particular focus on marginalized groups, including women, youth, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and other underrepresented communities. The analysis sought to understand the challenges, needs, and perspectives of these groups within the context of conflict sensitivity and disaster risk management. Below are the key findings:

Data on marginalized groups in Marsabit

According to KNBS census data, out of a population of 459,785, approximately 216,219 are women, with at least 5,977 identified as persons with disabilities. Additionally, there are around 18 intersex individuals. Notably, 82% of the population, totaling 378,527 individuals, are aged between 0 and 34 years, with a median age of 17.8 years. In the context of Moyale Constituency, out of its total population of 108,949, 52,508 are women. Among them, approximately 30% fall within the age range of 18 to 34 years. Moreover, there are about 1,417 persons with disabilities and one intersex individual. In Sololo, out of a population of 44,822, around 21,354 are women, and there are approximately 583

persons with disabilities. Additionally, it's important to note the presence of other marginalized groups such as ethnic minorities particularly in Moyale sub-county.

Barriers to economic Inclusion in Marsabit

In Kenya particularly in Marsabit, several barriers hinder the full inclusion of women, persons with disabilities, and youth in various aspects of society. These barriers stem from cultural, economic, and systemic factors, creating significant challenges for these marginalized groups. Here are some of the key inclusion barriers they face:

1. Limited Access to Education: Women, persons with disabilities, and youth often face barriers to accessing quality education. Cultural norms, poverty, and lack of infrastructure contribute to disparities in educational attainment, limiting opportunities for these groups to acquire skills and knowledge.

2. Discriminatory Cultural Practices: Deep-rooted cultural beliefs and practices perpetuate gender-based discrimination such as forced/ child marriages, FGM and other retrogressive cultural practices like wife inheritance. Stigma against persons with disabilities, and age-related biases against youth such as skills or experienced in leadership and work. These cultural norms restrict their participation in decision-making processes, economic activities, and social interactions.

3. Economic Exclusion: Women, persons with disabilities, and youth are disproportionately affected by economic exclusion. Limited access to employment opportunities, financial resources, and entrepreneurship support hinders their economic empowerment and independence.

4. Lack of Representation in Leadership and political good will: Marginalized groups often lack representation in leadership positions in government, business, and community organizations. This lack of representation undermines their ability to advocate for their interests and influence policies that affect their lives.

5. Limited Access to Healthcare services: Persons with disabilities and women face barriers to accessing healthcare services, including reproductive health services and disability-specific

healthcare. Discrimination, inaccessible facilities, and inadequate healthcare infrastructure contribute to their exclusion from essential healthcare services.

6. Social Stigma and Discrimination: Women, persons with disabilities, and youth often face social stigma and discrimination based on their gender, disability status, or age. This discrimination affects their self-esteem, mental health, and social integration, leading to further exclusion from community life.

7. Legal and Policy Barriers: Inadequate legal protections, empowerment and policies often fail to address the specific needs and rights of marginalized groups. Weak enforcement mechanisms and limited awareness of existing laws contribute to their vulnerability to discrimination and injustice.

8. Limited Access to Information and Technology: Women, persons with disabilities, and youth face barriers to accessing information and technology, including digital literacy gaps and lack of internet connectivity in rural areas. This limits their ability to access educational resources, economic opportunities, and social networks.
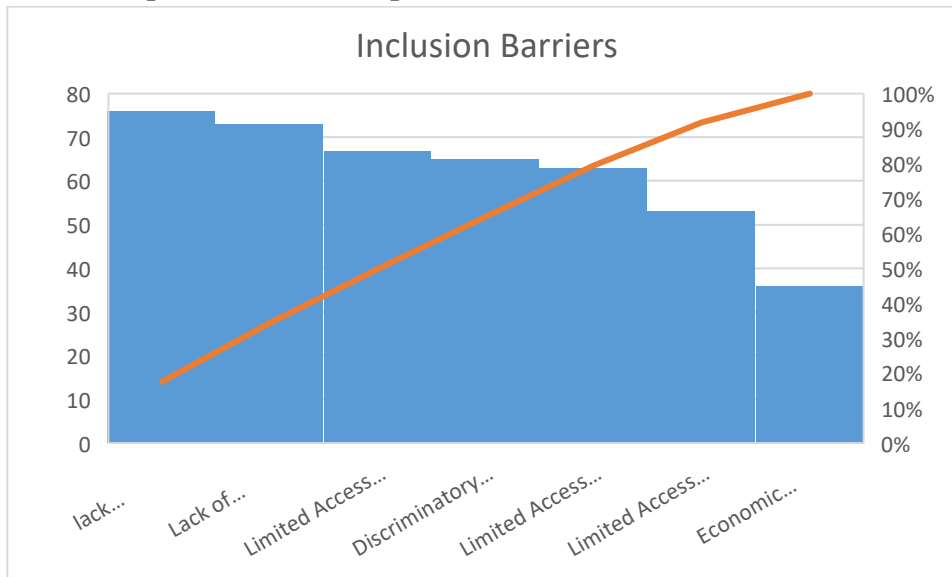

Figure 5 shows key inclusion Barriers

Threats to the existing avenues of inclusion

1. Conflict and Insecurity: Inter-communal conflicts and insecurity pose significant threats to inclusion and social cohesion particularly for group minorities such as tribes. Addressing underlying grievances and promoting dialogue and reconciliation are essential for mitigating these threats.

2. Environmental Degradation: Climate change and environmental degradation exacerbate vulnerabilities and inequalities, particularly among marginalized community's dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods. Adaptation and mitigation measures are needed to address these threats.

3. Political Instability: Political instability and governance challenges at the county level undermine efforts to promote inclusion and equitable development. Strengthening democratic governance and accountability mechanisms is crucial for addressing these threats.

4. External Shocks: External shocks such as pandemics, economic downturns, or natural disasters can exacerbate vulnerabilities and deepen inequalities, posing risks to inclusive development efforts in Marsabit County.

5. Resource Constraints: Limited financial resources and competing priorities constrain efforts to implement inclusive policies and programs in Marsabit County.

Inclusion at county and Community level

The analysis questionnaires delved into the inclusivity of decision-making processes within Marsabit County, focusing on whether all members of the community are treated equally and included in these processes. And to understand the perceptions of community members regarding their participation and representation in decision-making forums. Additionally, the analysis aimed to identify marginalized or excluded groups within the community, as highlighted by respondents. Most of the respondents have indicated that both county and community-level processes lack inclusivity, with certain groups being systematically excluded. This raises important questions about the effectiveness of current decision-making structures and the need for greater efforts to ensure equitable representation and participation for all community members. The table below shows communities response to the two broad questions
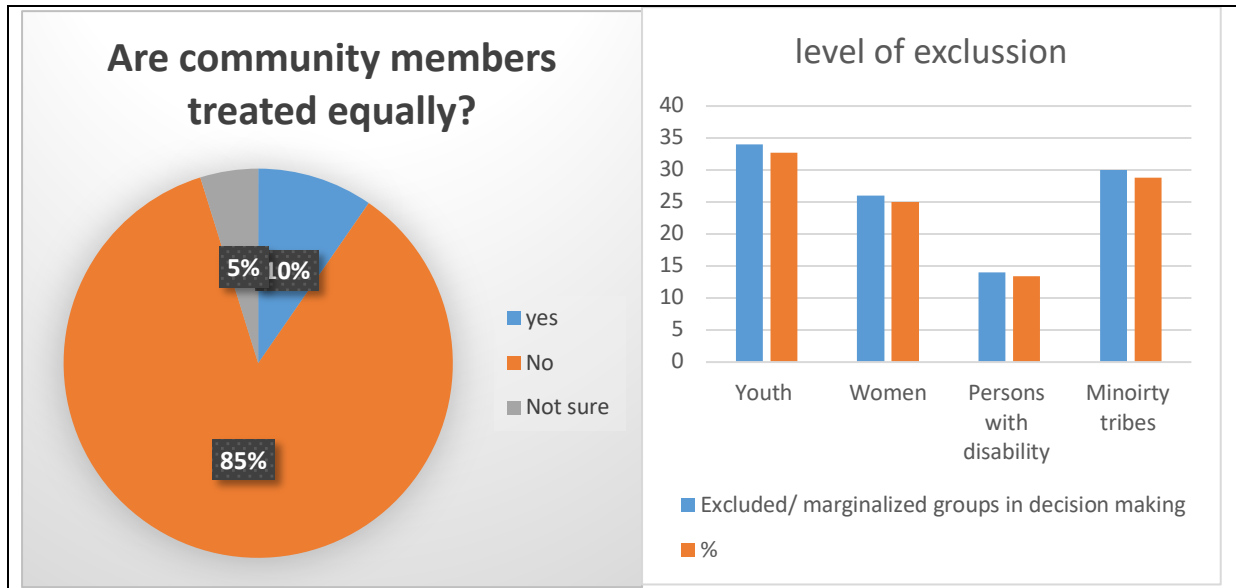
Figure 6 shows community treatment and inclusion in community or county government affairs

Awareness on economic affirmative action opportunities for marginalized groups

Awareness regarding economic affirmative action opportunities for marginalized groups is evident among the respondents, primarily comprising youth and women in Moyale Constituency. They demonstrated knowledge of various government initiatives and programs aimed at promoting economic inclusion and empowerment for marginalized communities. However, it is concerning that despite this awareness, many have not attempted to benefit from or participate in training that could help them access these opportunities. One of the main reasons cited for this lack of engagement is the perceived loan perspective, particularly concerning interest rates, which deters them from pursuing these opportunities. Additionally, a significant barrier is the lack of knowledge about the location of relevant offices or whom to consult for guidance. Some respondents also identified geographical distances as a hindrance to accessing these resources.

Furthermore, respondents expressed skepticism about the linkage between economic empowerment programs and political offices. They mentioned programs like the Uwezo Fund and NGAAF, noting that political affiliation often determines approval for these initiatives. This perception of political influence acts as a deterrent for many individuals, especially those who are not politically connected. While there is awareness of economic empowerment initiatives among marginalized groups, various barriers prevent them

from fully benefiting from these opportunities. Addressing issues such as high interests for Muslim communities, improving accessibility to information and resources, and ensuring equitable distribution without political influence are crucial steps toward enhancing economic empowerment for all marginalized communities in Kenya.
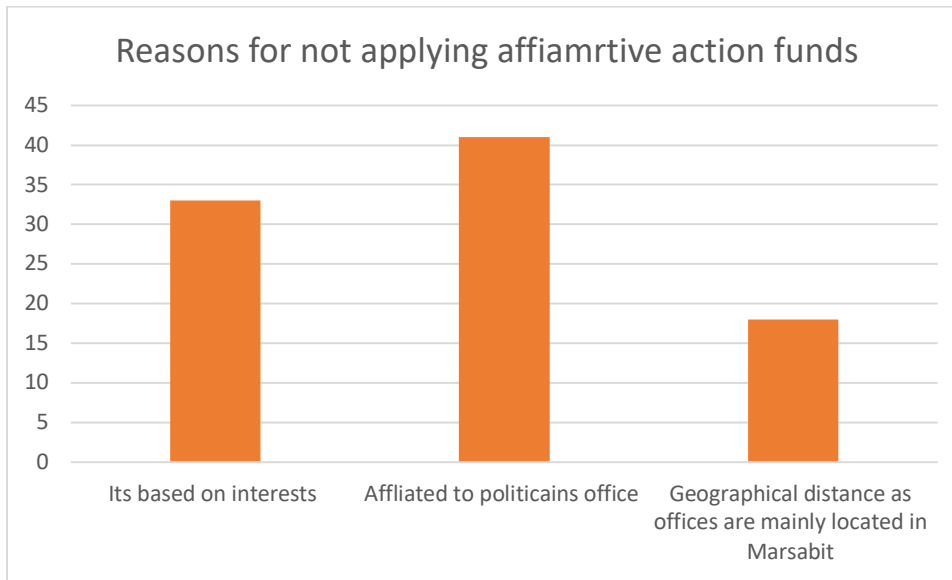

Figure 7 shows reasons cited for not applying affirmative action funds economic opportunities

Awareness on political inclusion for youth, women and persons with disability

Awareness of political inclusion opportunities for marginalized groups such as youth, women, and persons with disabilities appears to be lacking among respondents, according to the analysis. The respondents' reactions indicate a lack of clarity regarding these opportunities and how to access them.

The analysis suggests that political opportunities, particularly nominations through party lists, are perceived more as rewards for loyal supporters rather than as constitutional rights. Additionally, respondents expressed growing disillusionment with the political class, with some feeling that voting does not translate into receiving adequate services. Interestingly, none of the respondents reported being members of political parties. When asked about party membership, many saw little value in it, viewing political parties as corrupt entities that primarily benefit a privileged few. Moreover, political parties were described as transient entities used solely to secure seats, with little focus on long-term sustainability or ideological values.

Overall, the analysis highlights a need for greater awareness and transparency regarding political inclusion opportunities, as well as a reevaluation of the role and integrity of political parties in Kenya's democratic process.
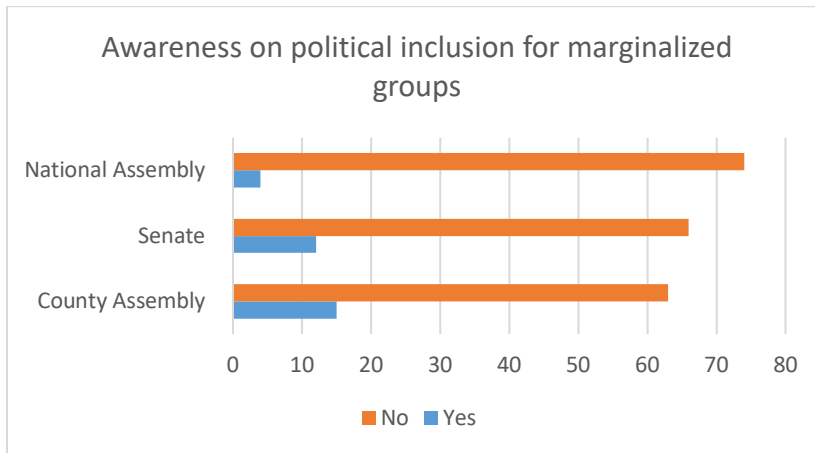

Figure 8 Awareness on political inclusion

Participation in governance process

Participation in decision-making processes, such as policy development and the county budget process, often appears to be a mere formality rather than a genuine opportunity for citizens to have a voice. Instead of empowering communities, these processes seem to serve as tools to maintain the status quo and deny them meaningful development. Many communities share anecdotes of county government officials collecting their input on priorities, only to see little or no action taken on their concerns. It's as if their voices are merely token gestures in a predetermined agenda.

Moreover, public participation, which should be a cornerstone of democracy, has been marred by manipulation and exclusion. Some community's express frustration at how public participation spaces are monopolized by a select few with ties to the county government. They describe instances where dissenting voices are marginalized or labeled as enemies of progress, creating rifts within communities. The duty bearers often twist narratives to portray those advocating for change as disruptive elements, sowing seeds of division based on tribal affiliations. Overall, the participation process seems to lack transparency, accountability, and genuine intent to incorporate community input. Instead, it serves as a facade to maintain control and perpetuate existing power dynamics, leaving communities disillusioned and disempowered.
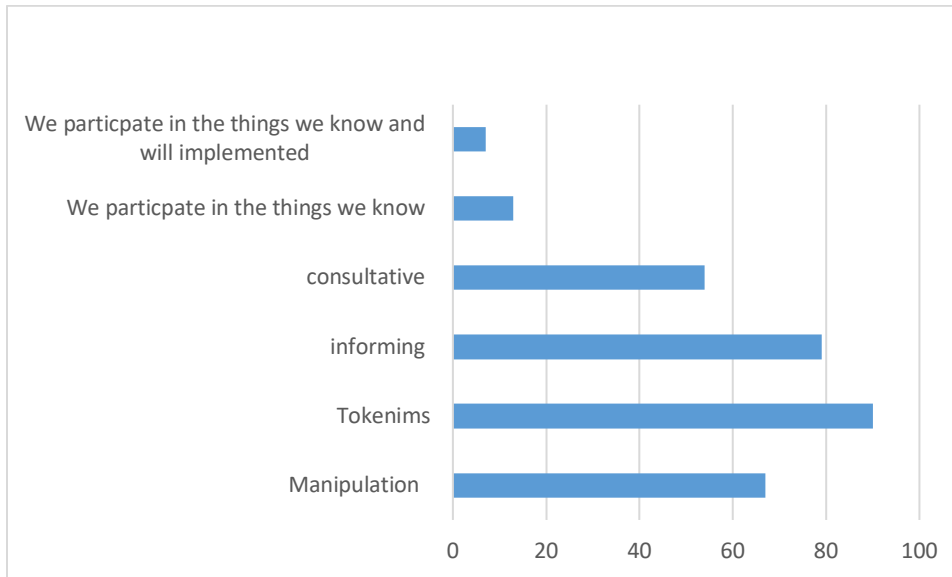
Figure 9 shows how the communities feel about participation in governance process at county level

Gaps facing inclusion

Despite the existing legal framework, gaps persist in the inclusion of marginalized groups in Kenya and Marsabit have been left out due

1. **Inadequate implementation of laws and policies:** Despite the existence of progressive laws and policies, implementation remains a challenge due to resource constraints, capacity gaps, and lack of political will. This is evident in political spaces where, although Article 55 guarantees persons with disabilities rights to employment and Articles 97(c), 98(d), and 177(c) ensure their membership in the national assembly, senate, and county assembly respectively, persons with disabilities are not aware of these provisions. This lack of awareness contributes significantly to the fact that the current county assembly does not include any members with disabilities. Furthermore, persons with disabilities often lack National Council for Persons with Disabilities cards, which are fundamental for accessing services and opportunities.

2. At County level different supporting policies and laws meant to enhance social and economic inclusion such as youth, women and persons with disability are still at draft or bill level including **County Trade and Investment Promotion Bills**, to provide a legal framework for promoting trade, investment, and economic development at the local level which will attract investment, support local

industries, and facilitate trade promotion activities, thereby enhancing economic opportunities for the marginalized groups.

3. Lack of **Constituting key legislative forum** such as the County Budget Economic Forum under as required by Public Finance Management Act 2012 (S. 137) chaired by the Governor the forum is meant to drive inclusive economic development and budgeting.

4. **Cultural and social barriers:** Deep-rooted cultural norms and societal attitudes often hinder the full inclusion of marginalized groups, particularly women, persons with disabilities, and ethnic minorities. The social stigma and majority syndrome has just silenced reasonable voices of the marginalized groups.

5. **Limited access to justice:** Marginalized communities face barriers in accessing justice, including limited legal representation, language barriers, and lack of awareness of their rights.

Conclusion of the Analysis on Capacities of conflict sensitivity, disaster risk management and inclusion

After conducting a comprehensive analysis of conflict sensitivity, disaster risk management, and inclusion in Marsabit County, it is clear that while there has been some progress, particularly at the national legislative level, significant challenges remain in the implementation phase. Moreover, it is crucial for the County Government of Marsabit to tailor national policies and laws to suit the unique circumstances of the county. This customization is necessary for effective resource allocation and the implementation of specific measures outlined in these policies and laws. A key observation regarding the **Marsabit County Assembly** is the backlog of laws and policies that are currently in draft form awaiting approval. To address this issue effectively, there is a need for coordinated efforts to fast-track the approval process, particularly for policies related to economic empowerment, agriculture and livestock, rangelands management, climate change adaptation, and disaster risk management. Streamlining the approval process for these critical policies will enable the county to better address pressing challenges and capitalize on opportunities for sustainable development and resilience-building.

In terms of **conflict sensitivity**, there is a need for increased awareness and understanding of the root causes of conflicts, as well as improved mechanisms for conflict resolution and peacebuilding. Strengthening community engagement and promoting dialogue among diverse stakeholders will be essential for fostering social cohesion and preventing the escalation of tensions. **Establishing a community-led and driven**

unifying and linked to existing structures such as CSG safe space to lead in conflict resolution and peacebuilding processes is a key takeaway to integrate diverse cultural practices from all communities into conflict resolution efforts, guided by Kenya's legal and institutional frameworks.

The County's policy on Peace and Conflict Management is a crucial step towards addressing conflicts sensitively; however, the disconnect between policy intentions and budgetary allocations has led to a significant implementation deficit. Despite having well-defined policy interventions, the lack of corresponding budget allocations has rendered many of these policies ineffective, relegating them to mere documents without practical application. This gap between policy formulation and budgetary support results in a situation where policies exist only on paper, failing to translate into meaningful actions on the ground. Moreover, there is a concerning trend of fragmented coordination among different policies and implementing entities. Each policy framework operates within its own silo, with little to no coordination or synergy between them. This lack of coordination leads to inefficiencies, duplication of efforts, and confusion among stakeholders, ultimately hindering the effective implementation of conflict management policies.

Additionally, the protective nature of entities overseeing various policy frameworks exacerbates the issue of fragmented coordination. Rather than working collaboratively towards common goals, entities often prioritize their own policy frameworks, leading to finger-pointing and a lack of accountability when policies fail to deliver the intended outcomes. Though Marsabit is consider one of those conflicts hot spots key entities on cohesion do not have offices on the ground its therefore prudent to ask such entities to have offices in counties where their services are need most.

To address these challenges, there is a critical need for alignment between policy priorities and budgetary allocations to ensure that resources are allocated according to the identified policy interventions. Furthermore, efforts should be made to enhance coordination mechanisms among different policy frameworks and implementing entities, fostering a collaborative approach towards conflict management. By bridging the gap between policy and budget, and promoting cohesive coordination, the County can better implement its peace and conflict management policies, leading to more effective outcomes in promoting peace and stability within the region

Regarding disaster risk management, Marsabit County has made strides in development of a legislation and policy that is in the process of establishing systems to supplement the effort of National Government institution such as NDMA in early warning systems and community engagement, and giving power of allocating funds but there are gaps in preparedness planning, infrastructure development, and coordination among stakeholders. Continued investment in capacity building, infrastructure, and coordination among different levels of government and departments.

The challenge of fiscal discipline presents a significant obstacle to the effective implementation of budget allocations for conflict management and disaster risk reduction initiatives in the County. Despite budgetary allocations being made, issues such as fiscal indiscipline and fund diversion challenges the execution of these allocations. Line departments may be instructed to request funds from the exchequer, but upon receiving them, these funds are often diverted to other purposes, diverting resources away from critical conflict management and disaster risk reduction activities. Furthermore, irregular release of funds compounds the problem by disrupting planning processes and hindering anticipatory responses to potential disasters. Without timely access to allocated funds, departments are unable to implement proactive measures that could mitigate the risks of disasters or effectively manage conflicts.

To address these challenges, it is imperative to enhance fiscal discipline within the County administration. This can be achieved through stricter oversight mechanisms, transparency in budget management processes, and accountability for fund utilization. Through Senate advocating for regular and timely release of funds by the exchequer is essential to ensure that allocated resources are available when needed for conflict management and disaster risk reduction efforts.

Inclusion remains a critical area requiring attention, especially in addressing barriers to participation and representation among marginalized groups like persons with disabilities, women, and youth in Marsabit County. To foster a more inclusive and equitable society, it's imperative to raise awareness about rights and opportunities, advocate for inclusive policies and practices, and bolster mechanisms for meaningful participation. Empowering community members with knowledge about their rights and the county budget process is crucial. This enables them to advocate for budget allocations in priority areas and engage in social accountability efforts effectively. However, there persists a misconception that questioning the government is inappropriate, even in instances where leaders have erred. Thus, disseminating information becomes pivotal in dispelling this notion and fostering informed citizenship.

Moreover, information accessibility at sub-county levels is limited, necessitating the establishment of information centers or designated spaces for sharing key information. Additionally, public participation mechanisms by the county government often fall short of facilitating free and effective participation. Preemptive sharing of information before events restricts genuine engagement, while constraints such as limited transport reimbursements and participant quotas hinder broader community involvement. This scenario tends to attract gatekeepers and business-oriented individuals rather than fostering representative participation from diverse community segments. These challenges require proactive measures such as enhancing information dissemination channels, improving public participation frameworks, and ensuring equitable access to decision-making processes. By promoting transparency, inclusivity, and active community engagement, Marsabit County can take significant strides towards building a more inclusive and participatory governance system.

Overall, addressing these challenges will require concerted efforts from government agencies, civil society organizations, community leaders, and other stakeholders. By working together to strengthen conflict sensitivity, disaster risk management, and inclusion, Marsabit County can enhance resilience, promote peace and stability, and improve the well-being of all its residents.

Key recommendations on Capacities of Conflicts sensitivity, Inclusion and Disaster Risk Management in Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties

The analysis offers several recommendations within specific areas, with two overarching recommendations that intersect with all three areas:

1. **Organize Multi-Stakeholder Workshop Forum**: This forum should serve as a convergence point for a diverse range of participants, including county and national government leaders, County Assembly members, county executives, key departments, the county attorney, and community leaders. The workshop should aim to disseminate the findings of the analysis, facilitate robust dialogue and capacity building to address the identified challenges related to conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in Marsabit County. By bringing together key stakeholders, this forum provides an opportunity to collectively strategize and implement solutions to the issues highlighted in the analysis.

2. **Establishment of a Hybrid Structure at the Sub-County Level**: It is recommended to propose the creation of a hybrid structure at the sub-county level, prioritizing inclusivity and establishing strong linkages with all pertinent committees and the sub-county steering group. The analysis has revealed the existence of numerous uncoordinated structures, each safeguarding its own interests rather than collaborating effectively. Therefore, the establishment of a hybrid structure that is intricately linked to the sub-county steering group becomes crucial. This hybrid structure should foster collaboration and cooperation among various entities, leading to enhanced coordination and the achievement of collective goals in conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management efforts.

Capacities of conflicts sensitivity in Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties

Conflict sensitivity capacity in Marsabit County is moderate giving the responses analyzed. While there are efforts being made to integrate conflict sensitivity into development and humanitarian interventions, there are still significant gaps and challenges that need to be addressed by government and its partners. These include limited awareness and understanding of conflict dynamics, insufficient resources and capacity for conflict analysis and response, and the need for greater collaboration and coordination among stakeholders. Moving forward, it is essential to prioritize conflict sensitivity in all interventions and invest in building local capacities for conflict resolution and peacebuilding. By doing so, Marsabit County can enhance its resilience to conflicts and contribute to sustainable peace and development in Marsabit. Here are some key recommendations

1. **Integration of Conflict Sensitivity into Policies and Programs:** Marsabit County and the National Government must prioritize the integration of conflict sensitivity into all development policies and programs. This involves conducting comprehensive conflict assessments to identify potential social, economic, and environmental impacts on communities. By understanding the root causes of conflicts, development initiatives can be designed to mitigate potential tensions through promoting equity, equality and non-discrimination. It is imperative to ensure that developmental programs are designed and implemented in a manner that promotes peace and stability, considering the unique dynamics of the region.

2. **Community Engagement and Participation:** Meaningful engagement and participation of local communities are essential for effective conflict resolution and peacebuilding. Article 159(3) of the Constitution emphasizes use of Traditional

Dispute Resolution mechanism which highlights the importance of involving communities in decision-making processes including adjudicating. To achieve this, it is necessary to map community structures, strengthen their capacity, and support their efforts. Where need be support amalgamation of spaces or linkages for inclusive spaces where all community divides, groups, and sectors can voice their concerns, grievances, and aspirations is crucial including inter-community. Additionally, strengthening local conflict resolution mechanisms and traditional dispute resolution systems through the establishment of community-based mediation centers or peacebuilding initiatives can promote dialogue, reconciliation, and mutual understanding among conflicting parties.

3. **Conflict-Sensitive Programming:** Conflict-sensitive programming, particularly at the entry level with the County Steering Group (CSG), is paramount aspects to be checked and monitored for every stakeholder. Stakeholders must be made aware of the dynamics and sensitivities of conflicts in the region. Projects and humanitarian interventions should be designed and implemented with a clear understanding of the region's dynamics to ensure they do not exacerbate tensions. Transparent, inclusive, and equitable distribution mechanisms for humanitarian aid are essential to prevent conflicts over resource access. Establishing multi-stakeholder platforms or working groups can facilitate information-sharing, joint planning, coordinated responses to conflicts, and the monitoring of response effectiveness.

Capacities of disaster risk management systems in Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties

Based on the analysis of disaster risk management capacities in Marsabit County, it is evident that there are both strengths and areas for improvement. The county has made strides in certain aspects, such as enactment of law and policy for early warning systems and community engagement, in collaboration with National Government through CSG but there are still gaps in preparedness planning, infrastructure development, and effective coordination among stakeholders. While progress has been made, there is still work to be done to enhance resilience and ensure effective response and recovery from disasters. Continued investment in capacity building, infrastructure, and coordination will be crucial for improving disaster risk management in the county and safeguarding the well-being of its residents. Particularly, legal instruments and allocation of resources, below are some of the recommendations

1. **Advocate for implementation of Disaster Risk Management Act 2023**: given its the latest piece of law, implementation of the Disaster Risk Management Act 2023 is a critical step towards enhancing the county's capacity to effectively respond to disasters. To ensure successful operationalization of the Act, it is imperative to allocate adequate funds for disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts. Additionally, establishing offices at various levels, including the lowest point, will facilitate efficient coordination and implementation of disaster management activities. Furthermore, developing clear regulations and guidelines will provide a framework for accountability and ensure that all stakeholders adhere to their roles and responsibilities outlined in the Act. Additionally, integrate the directorate working systems with the existing national government systems such NDMA, use of technologies, and community-based surveillance networks to provide timely warnings to at-risk populations

2. **Policy Integration**: Integrate disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation measures into county development plans, land use regulations, and infrastructure projects. Ensure that policies and regulations support resilient and sustainable development practices.

3. **Community-Based Disaster Management Plans:** Encourage the development of community-based disaster management plans that empower local residents to identify risks, prioritize actions, and mobilize resources to mitigate and respond to disasters. These plans should be integrated into broader county-level disaster risk management strategies through disaster risk management act and supported by training and capacity-building programs.

4. **Environmental Conservation and Land-Use Policies**: Implement policies and regulations that promote environmental conservation and sustainable land use practices to reduce the risk of natural disasters such as soil erosion, deforestation, and land degradation. This includes measures to protect natural ecosystems, regulate land development in hazard-prone areas, and promote reforestation and watershed management initiatives.

5. **Community Resilience Building Programs**: Invest in community resilience building programs that focus on alternative livelihoods and empowering vulnerable populations, including women, youth, and persons with disabilities, to cope with and adapt to the impacts of disasters or develop livelihood adaption measures livelihood diversification strategies, and supporting community-led initiatives for disaster risk reduction

Capacities on Inclusion in Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties

Inclusion lies at the heart of sustainable development, ensuring that all members of society have equal opportunities, access to services, and participation in decision-making processes. In Marsabit County, like many other regions, the journey towards true inclusion is ongoing, marked by progress in some areas and persistent challenges in others. Recognizing the importance of fostering a society where diversity is celebrated and every individual is valued, this set of recommendations aims to outline actionable steps to enhance inclusion efforts in Marsabit County.

These recommendations are informed by an in-depth analysis of the current state of inclusion, drawing insights from community engagement, stakeholder consultations, policy reviews, and data analysis. They address key gaps and barriers that hinder the full participation and empowerment of marginalized groups, including persons with disabilities, youth, women, and minorities, in various aspects of social, economic, and political life. Here some of the recommendations

1. **Community Engagement and Awareness**: It is crucial to prioritize community engagement and awareness initiatives to address the limited representation and opportunities for marginalized groups within the community. To achieve this, conducting regular community outreach programs is essential to raise awareness about the rights, legal frameworks, and institutional opportunities available to marginalized groups such as persons with disabilities, youth, women, and minorities. Furthermore, decentralizing key institutions like the National Persons with Disability Council and the youth enterprise fund to each sub-county level would enhance accessibility and ensure that resources reach those in need more effectively, engaging with local communities to understand their perspectives, priorities, and challenges related to inclusion is paramount while advocating against stigmas and misconceptions that hinder the full participation and empowerment of marginalized groups within society.

2. **Data Collection and Monitoring**: It is imperative to prioritize data collection and monitoring efforts, particularly focusing on marginalized groups such as persons with disabilities. Addressing the current gap in disaggregated data collection will enable the county to better understand the specific needs of each group and tailor interventions accordingly. By collecting relevant data on persons with disabilities and their requirements, the county can develop targeted budgeting and planning strategies. Moreover, having comprehensive data will strengthen the county's

ability to advocate for support from partners and stakeholders, facilitating more effective inclusion of marginalized groups in development initiatives as well as monitoring to track the progress and impact and areas for improvement

3. **Accessible Services and Infrastructure**: Ensure that services and infrastructure are accessible and inclusive for all members of society, including persons with disabilities. Invest in ramps, accessible transportation, braille signage, and other accommodations to remove physical barriers and promote equal access to public facilities.

4. **Empowerment and Participation**: Empower marginalized groups to participate actively in decision-making processes, governance structures, and community development initiatives. Provide platforms for their voices to be heard, their concerns addressed, and their contributions recognized and valued.

5. **Sensitization and Advocacy**: Conduct sensitization campaigns and advocacy efforts to challenge stereotypes, stigma, and discrimination against marginalized groups. Promote a culture of inclusion, respect, and acceptance within communities, institutions, and society at large.

Annexes

Questionnaire: Community Perspectives on Conflict Sensitivity, Inclusion, and Disaster Risk Management in Moyale Constituency, Marsabit County

We are conducting a comprehensive analysis of capacities on conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in Marsabit County, and we need your valuable input. Your participation in this online survey is crucial in helping us better understand the challenges and opportunities related to conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in our community, with a particular focus on Moyale Constituency.

We are all part of this community, and your insights and experiences are essential in shaping the findings and recommendations of this study.

By participating in this survey, you will have the opportunity to voice your opinions, share your experiences, and contribute to the development of effective strategies for conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in our county.

Your input will help inform policy-making, program development, and resource allocation to address the challenges facing our community.

Section 1 of 7: Demographic Information

1. What's your age bracket?
2. Please indicate your gender?
3. What is your level of education?
4. Do you consider yourself a person with disability?

Section 2 of 7: Conflicts Sensitivity

5. Have you personally experienced or witnessed any conflicts in Marsabit County in the past five years?
6. What do you believe are the primary causes of conflict in our community?
7. How do you think conflicts impact the daily lives of community members?
8. In your opinion, what steps can be taken to promote peace and reduce conflicts in Marsabit County or Moyale by County and National Governments
9. Are you aware of any inter-community conflict resolution mechanisms or peacebuilding initiatives in Moyale or Marsabit at large?
10. If your answer of the question above is "yes" please name and give description of your answer?
11. Do you feel that government officials at the national and county levels are aware of and considerate of conflict dynamics in your community/Marsabit County?
12. Have you noticed any positive or negative effects of government or political interventions on community cohesion, social relations, or livelihoods?
13. Are you aware of any projects in Moyale that has contributed peace, cohesion and inclusion?
14. If yes, how has this project or projects contributed to peace, cohesion and inclusion?

Section 3 of 7: Capacities on Inclusion

15. Do you feel that all members of the community are treated equally and included in decision-making processes in Marsabit County?
16. What groups of people do you believe are marginalized or excluded in our community?
17. How can we ensure better inclusion of marginalized groups such as youth, women and persons with disability in decision-making processes of the county and National Government?
18. Are there any specific initiatives or programs you would like to see implemented to enhance inclusion and participation in Marsabit County?
19. Are you aware of any economic opportunities meant to empower marginalized groups such as youth, women and persons with disability by Government, please name them?
20. If you any of the economic opportunities have you ever benefited from them and if not, why?
21. Are aware of any political opportunities meant to empower marginalized groups such as youth women and persons with disabilities such as representative position?

Section 5 of: Capacities on Disaster Risk Management

22. In your opinion, what are the most common natural disasters that affect Marsabit County?
23. What are common disaster management structures that are missing within Moyale Constituency?
24. How well-prepared do you think Marsabit County is in handling disasters such as droughts, floods, or conflicts?
25. How can we improve disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts in Marsabit County?
26. Are you aware of any disaster management committee in Moyale?
27. In case of any disaster do you know which department or office you call or address the issues to?

Section 6 of 7: General Questions

This section gives general question concerning conflicts sensitivity, inclusion and disaster risk management

28. How do you think conflicts and disasters affect the development and well-being of Marsabit County?
29. What role do you believe community members should play in promoting peace, inclusion, and disaster risk management?
30. What support or resources do you think are needed to address the challenges of conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in Marsabit County?
31. Do you have any additional comments or suggestions related to conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management in our community?

Questionnaires Targeting Community leaders, Government Offices

My name is ……………………………, and I am conducting a research project focused on assessing the capacities of conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and disaster risk management within our jurisdiction. Your expertise and insights are invaluable to this endeavor, and I would like to invite you to participate in an interview to discuss these important topics. Before we proceed, I want to emphasize that your participation in this interview is entirely voluntary, and you have the right to decline or withdraw at any time. Your responses will be anonymized and used solely for research purposes, ensuring confidentiality and privacy. Your input will greatly contribute to our understanding of the challenges and opportunities in these critical areas and help inform recommendations for policy and practice.

Below are the key questions we would like to explore during the interview:

Conflict Sensitivity:
1. **Government Understanding and Approach:**
   - How would you rate the government's understanding of conflict dynamics within your jurisdiction?
   - To what extent is conflict sensitivity integrated into government policies, plans, and programs?
   - What mechanisms does the government have in place to analyze and address conflict risks in development and governance initiatives?
2. **Coordination and Collaboration:**
   - How effectively does the government coordinate with other stakeholders, including NGOs, civil society organizations, and international agencies, on conflict-sensitive programming?
   - Are there any formal structures or platforms for intergovernmental collaboration on conflict prevention and peacebuilding?

- What challenges do you encounter in promoting coordination and collaboration across different government departments and agencies in conflict-affected areas?

Inclusion:
1. **Policy and Legal Frameworks:**
   - What policies or legal frameworks does the government have in place to promote inclusion and participation of marginalized or vulnerable groups in decision-making processes?
   - How are these policies implemented and enforced at the county and national levels?
   - What gaps or limitations exist in the current legal and policy framework regarding inclusion and participation?

2. **Capacity Building and Training:**
   - Has the government conducted any capacity-building initiatives or training programs for government officials on promoting inclusion and diversity?
   - What specific skills or knowledge gaps related to inclusion and participation do government officials identify as needing improvement?
   - How can capacity-building efforts be strengthened to enhance the government's ability to promote inclusivity and diversity in governance processes?

Disaster Risk Management:
1. **Policy and Planning:**
   - What policies or strategies does the government have in place for disaster risk management and emergency response?
   - How regularly are these policies reviewed and updated to reflect changing risk profiles and emerging threats?
   - What challenges does the government face in implementing effective disaster risk management measures at the county and national levels?

2. **Resource Allocation and Coordination:**
   - How does the government allocate resources for disaster risk management and preparedness activities?
   - Are there any mechanisms in place for intergovernmental coordination and collaboration on disaster risk reduction efforts?
   - What opportunities exist for enhancing partnerships with other stakeholders, including communities, NGOs, and international organizations, to strengthen disaster resilience and response?

Questionnaire for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

1. **Organizational Information:**

   - Name of the CSO:
   - Location/Area of Operation:
   - Years of Operation:
   - Main Areas of Focus (e.g., peacebuilding, social inclusion, disaster response):

2. **Understanding of Conflict Sensitivity:**

   - How would you define conflict sensitivity within the context of your organization's work particularly Moyale and Sololo Sub-counties?
   - To what extent does your organization integrate conflict sensitivity into its projects and programs?
   - Can you provide examples of specific activities or initiatives where your organization has demonstrated conflict-sensitive approaches?

3. **Promotion of Inclusion:**

   - How does your organization promote the inclusion and participation of marginalized or vulnerable groups in its decision-making processes and activities?
   - Are there any specific policies or strategies that your organization has in place to ensure inclusivity within its operations?
   - What challenges, if any, does your organization face in promoting inclusion and diversity?

4. **Disaster Risk Management (DRM):**

   - What role does your organization play in disaster risk management and emergency response efforts within your community or region?
   - How does your organization coordinate with other stakeholders, including government agencies and other CSOs, in DRM initiatives?
   - Can you highlight any successful DRM projects or initiatives that your organization has been involved in?

5. **Capacity Building and Training:**

   - Has your organization conducted any capacity-building initiatives or training programs related to conflict sensitivity, inclusion, or DRM?
   - What specific areas of capacity building do you believe are most needed for CSOs working in conflict-affected or disaster-prone areas?

- How can external support or collaboration with other organizations enhance your organization's capacity in these areas?

6. **Challenges and Recommendations:**

- What are the main challenges faced by CSOs in effectively addressing conflicts, promoting inclusion, and managing disaster risks?
- Based on your organization's experience, what recommendations would you provide to improve capacities in conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and DRM?
- Are there any areas where your organization seeks further support or collaboration to strengthen its work in these areas?