FACTORS INFLUENCING CROSS BORDER CONFLICT RESOLUTION
BETWEEN TURKANA AND POKOT COMMUNITIES
OF NORTHERN KENYA

By
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A Project Research Report Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of requirements for the
award of the Master of Arts Degree in Project Planning and Management of the
University of Nairobi

2011
DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this research report is my original work and has not been submitted for examination in any other university.

Signed

Date 08/08/2011

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L50/77560/2009

This research project report has been submitted for examination with my approval as the university supervisor.

Signed

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DEDICATION

This research report is dedicated to my late parents Margaret Moru Ekaran and Joseph Narengo Lorukia whose inspiration laid down the foundation and aspirations for advanced learning. It is a lifetime testimony through their humble growth and teachings that hard work, perseverance and patience is key to achieving excellence in life.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This research report would not have been possible without close professional and technical guidance of my supervisor Mr. Augustine Mwangi. Dr. Jagongo Ambrose of Kenyatta University and Prof. Macharia of the University of Nairobi who also provided input at the initial stages of the research. I would also wish to acknowledge the support received from UNDP Kenya, the Peace Caravan Initiative and the Government of Kenya for providing access to the necessary information material and guidance on key topical issues related to the subject of the study. Finally I would wish to acknowledge the role of my family for their patience and understanding during the long hours I took away from them throughout the study period.
ABSTRACT

For many decades peacemaking between Turkana and Pokot communities in Northern Kenya has been very elusive. This study therefore examined major factors influencing cross border conflict resolution between the two communities with the aim of determining the extent to which local politics, local culture, social and the prevailing economic conditions influence interventions for durable conflict resolution.

Cross border conflict has been evolving taking many forms currently manifested through regular cattle raids, highway banditry, conflict over resources such as land, pasture and water. The study was carried out in two divisions, Kainuk in Turkana County and Sigor in West Pokot County. Questionnaires and focused group discussions were used to collect data.

Data analysis was done with the aid of the SPSS tool. Rank correlation and regression techniques were used in data analysis and based on the results of the data analysis, the study findings clearly indicated that economic factors had the highest influence in cross border conflict resolution with key elements such as deepening poverty, high unemployment, over-reliance on single livelihood and natural resource competition ranked high as the main economic drivers. Political factors came second and most of the respondents pointed out to lack of local leaders peace building capacities, incitements, disregard of the traditional governance systems, long held marginalization and lack of local communities in development activities and implementation which played a key role in influencing cross border conflict building and resolution.

Breakdown of social networks and decline of intercommoned interactions through sports and intermarriages reduced extent of harmonious co-existence which previously existed. Finally cultural factors which played a greater influence were ingrained in deep held value system, rituals, rites and beliefs. The contemporary setting within the two communities indicated that these cultural elements had been abdicated and thus played a lesser role in cross border conflict resolution.

The study concludes that the four factors discussed had high level of influence on cross border conflict resolution and therefore recommended strengthening of cross border policing, enforcing laws that prohibit politicians from interfering in peace building efforts, creating investments on the local economy and diversifying livelihoods of the communities while at the same time reviving social networks with a high premium on peace, and also taking into account positive cultural elements that paid dividends on cross border peace. These actions to be taken by the by government, civil society, United Nations agencies, donors and the Non Governmental Organizations.
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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the study

Conflicts over resources has been observed across many countries in the world and as a result Governments, rebels, and warlords have made billions of dollars by selling conflict commodities and have used the money to arm themselves and line their own pockets. But the cost of these conflicts has been extraordinary—more than 5 million people killed during the 1990’s, as many as 20 million driven from their homes, and considerable environmental destruction (Renner, 2002). The Kashmir conflict is a classic example of cross border tussle that has spanned over five decades. It is a case of territorial dispute over the Kashmir region, the north western most region of South Asia. The parties in dispute are India, Pakistan, China, and the Kashmiri people. (Wikipedia, 2010).

The Israeli Palestinian conflict is also a territorial cross border conflict dating back to the 19th and 20th centuries. Israelis and Palestinians both claim ownership of what is referred to as “the Holy Land” currently occupied by Israel (Leonard, 2003). In Africa, many conflicts have been waged over resources as witnessed in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola, Sudan and in many states in West Africa. Cattle rustling is a cross border conflict carried out by nomadic communities across Africa. In East Africa, the menace is rampant and as result a protocol was established and signed by eleven regional states to prevent, combat and eradicate cattle rustling (EAPCCO, 2008).

Violent conflicts involving pastoralists have become widespread and increasingly severe in the North Rift and North Eastern regions of Kenya.
The pastoralists in the two regions under study are largely nomadic. They live primarily in arid or semi-arid areas and depend on livestock (cattle, sheep, goats and camels) for their livelihood. They rely on access to pasture and water, for the survival of their livestock. Such resources are scarce and under increasing pressure. They must be shared amongst the pastoralists’ communities (Pkalya, 2003).

A total of 164,457 people have been displaced by conflicts in pastoralists North Frontier districts of Kenya. 70% or 105,500 of the displaced are women and children aged below 14 years. In addition to displacements, many women have also been widowed by the conflicts further increasing their vulnerabilities to poverty and human right abuses. In West Pokot district, 30,361 people have been displaced. Most of the displaced come from areas bordering Turkana, Marakwt and Uganda (Karamojong districts). Alale division that borders Turkana district and Uganda has 11,871 displaced people. Turkana district has always had the highest number of displaced persons. The figure by 2003 stood at 41,097 people. Most of the displaced are from Kainuk, Lomelo and Katilu divisions but Kakuma and Lokichoggio too recording high numbers. (Pkalya, 2003)

Conflicts involving pastoralists associated with resource competition, cattle rustling and wide availability of small arms are widespread and have become quite protracted with no end in sight hence of great concern. The patterns of conflict in the North Rift and North Eastern regions are Complex (Karimi, 2003). There are many factors contributing to the risk of violent conflict involving pastoralists, and these have tended to become mutually reinforcing.
Violent conflict among communities is a function of interlocking historical, economic and structural factors. Apart from competition over resources (water, pasture, farmland, fisheries), livestock raiding and banditry, violent conflict among these groups is also caused by unresolved historical differences, negative attributes of some cultural practices and devastation of livelihoods (USAID, 2006).

Some conflicts within and between pastoralist communities, such as raiding and cattle rustling have a long history and have to some extent become an aspect of traditional pastoralist culture (Daily Nation, Jan 2010). However, such traditional conflicts have become increasingly destructive and less manageable. The major causes of conflict among the pastoralist include but not limited to intensified cattle rustling, proliferation of illicit arms, inadequate policing and state security arrangements, diminishing role of traditional governance systems, competition over control and access to natural resources such as pasture and water, land issues, political incitement, ethnocentrism, increasing levels of poverty and idleness amongst the youth.

Cattle rustling conflict has led to loss of human life, property, displacements of large segments of the communities, disruption of socio-economic activities and livelihoods, increased hatred between communities, environmental degradation and threat to water catchments areas, increased economic hardships as a result of loss of livelihoods, high levels of starvation and malnutrition among the displaced groups and unprecedented dependency syndrome on relief food. The cross border zone between the two communities is underdeveloped and marginal with poor infrastructure and extremely limited availability of basic social services. Pastoralist is the principal livelihood supplemented by small scale farming along river Turkwel. The cross border
conflicts manifest through incidents of livestock raids and thefts, revenge and counter revenge missions, rape and banditry (USAID, 2006).

The tables below provide quick overview of some of the social economic losses.

Livestock raids reported from 2006 to April 2009 between Turkana and Pokot Counties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Loss of human lives (deaths)</th>
<th>Injuries</th>
<th>Livestock Stolen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cattle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>17740</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the above table, within a span of four years, 59781 livestock were stolen. This has cascading effects on the social economic conditions of the local people. This is witnessed through rising levels of poverty, hunger, school dropout rates, cross border tensions on counter raids, displacements and distortions in the functioning of the local markets and trade patterns.
The livestock loss in monetary terms is quite high. The loss affects livelihood support incomes driving more already vulnerable pastoral people into abject poverty (Lind 2004).

The graph below further paints a debilitating picture of cross border raids on human lives. Every year 300 deaths are reported along the Turkana and Pokot County boundaries (Riam Riam 2009).

**Figure 1.1 Impact of raids**

![Graph showing reported killings in pastoral areas for the years 2003 and 2009.](image)

Reported killings in pastoral areas for the years 2008 - 2009

Human killings as a result of cattle raids in pastoral areas (source, OCHA report 2009)

Cross border conflict resolution has therefore been a complex affair with no clear end on sight. This is attributed to a combination of factors that influence conflict resolution across the borders. Some of these factors include environmental, social-economic, cultural and political factors.
This study therefore seeks to examine closely the influence of these factors in cross border conflict resolution between Turkana and Pokot of northern Kenya.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Many decades of peacemaking have passed while cross border conflict between Turkana and Pokot communities of Northern Kenya has gone on unabated (Lind, 2003; Bollig, 1990). An attempt to create durable peace has been relatively influenced by continuous political interference and the growing socio economic vulnerabilities (Leff, 2009). Projects established to enhance durable and sustainable peace whereas right in approach, conflicts across the border continue due to a combination of factors beyond the scope of the project control (Pkalya, 2003). Many international aid organizations have had substantive interest in the region and they have invested in cross border conflict resolution; however there is a growing fatigue for the problem persists and has taken many forms such as highway banditry, cattle raids and resource based conflicts (Nene, 1999).

The current problem thus persists through more frequent cross border cattle raids leading to loss of lives and livelihoods, injuries, interruptions of local trade and education. Across the border, life is characterized by fear and uncertainty. Many pastoralists are forced to be on alert all the time to fend off any incursions (Lind, 2003). Cross border raids have impacted negatively on the already fragile ecosystems, economic growth, and on the key social and livelihood sectors such as education often observed through high drop-out rates due to displacements, interference in local trade and markets, effect on agro-pastoral farming along the river Turkwel besides direct fatalities-human and property losses- associated with raids(Dietz,1993).
The analysis of the influencing factors will provide opportunities to address grey areas with an ultimate goal of finding cost effective and sustainable solutions. It seeks to look at the influence of local politics, culture, social and economic factors on cross border conflict resolution. In the end it will shed light on why there has never been sustainable peace and provide sound recommendations on what needs to be done.

1.3 Purpose of the study

The main purpose of the study was to examine the factors influencing cross border conflict resolution between Pokot and Turkana communities of Northern Kenya.

1.4 Specific Objectives

The objectives of the study were:

1. To explore the influence of local politics on cross border conflict resolution between Turkana and Pokot communities of northern Kenya.

2. To investigate the influence of economic factors on cross border conflict resolution between Turkana and Pokot of northern Kenya.

3. To determine the influence of social factors on cross border conflict resolution between Turkana and Pokot of northern Kenya.

4. To establish the influence of cultural factors on cross border conflict resolution between Turkana and Pokot of northern Kenya.
1.5 Research Questions

1. How is local politics influencing cross border conflict resolution between Turkana and Pokot?
2. What is the influence of economic factors in cross border conflict resolution between Turkana and Pokot?
3. What is the influence of the social factors on cross border conflict resolution between Turkana and Pokot?
4. In what ways does culture influence cross border conflict resolution between Turkana and Pokot?

1.6 Significance of the study

The study has helped to determine the factors influencing cross border conflict resolution between Turkana and Pokot of Northern Kenya. Cross border conflict resolution has been protracted between the two communities and the study had shed light on what is actually influencing the outcome and what can be done to help create sustainable peace. It has provided useful insights on what has always made or hindered conflict resolution interventions from achieving durable peace and sustainable development. Conflict resolution projects across the border have failed to achieve their goals within the project time periods, and this has necessitated continued interventions with no clear end in sight. This study therefore established the key factors that tend to influence conflict resolution by first addressing the root causes of conflict or the so called conflict drivers and the players. It has also provided an outline of feasible intervention mechanisms and approaches on durable peace can be achieved.
The results of the study will ultimately benefit the local and international organizations, donors interested in funding peace building projects, the civil society, and the government sectors dealing with cross border conflict resolution. It will also benefit researchers in aspects of peace building and conflict resolution especially those interested with cattle raids, resource conflicts, highway banditry among the indigenous communities of northern Kenya.

1.7 Scope of the study

The study was conducted in two divisions of Turkana and Pokot counties across their borders where conflict is rampant. The study mainly focused on the residents living in Kainuk and Sigor in Pokot counties.

The research concentrated on the extent to which cross border conflict had been resolved and the strategies employed. It sought to determine nature of involvement and building of local population capacities in peace building.

1.8 Limitations of the study

The area under study was vast and the terrain was often impassable and very worse during periods of rain. Insecurity was a challenge and cooperation of the parties in conflict was not guaranteed. In order to overcome access, four wheel drive vehicles were used to facilitate the process of data collection, and proper sampling was conducted to minimize extensive movement and coverage. The local administration was requested to provide security and mobilize community support during the data collection exercise.
1.9 Assumptions of the study

During the period of the study, relative peace was assumed to prevail to allow administration of the data collection tools and instruments. It was also assumed that no heavy rains will be experienced during the period of data collection.
1.10 Definition of operational terms

Political Interference factors

This is where local leaders engage in incitements for their communities to take revenge or sabotage any peace building exercise. Local leaders use third party actors to promote their interest, claims of historical nature are revived creating tensions along the borders at time inflaming conflict.

Cultural factors

This is where rituals and rites, traditions, acts of prophecy, superstitions tend to influence peace building. The cultural elements ingrained in indigenous dispute resolution structures are considered part of the cultural factors.

Social factors

These are defined to include status of indigenous dispute resolution mechanisms, intermarriages, status of social networks, Kinship ties, clan dominance (superiority and inferiority

Economic factors

These constitute aspects of economic exclusions, poverty, livelihoods and assets ownership and control. Inequality, Unemployment and gender disparity are also part of the economic factors under study.
Cattle rustling

It means the stealing or planning, organizing, attempting, aiding or abetting the stealing of livestock by any person from one country or community to another where the theft is accompanied by dangerous weapons and violence.

Peace

This is the absence of violence. It could also be defined as the absence of disturbance or agitation

Conflict

This is defined as any situation where one or two parties aspire towards incompatible or competing means or ends. It emerges when parties compete over perceived or actual goals, values or interests.

Violence

It is considered to be the cause of the difference between what good we actually have as contrasted with the good that we have, and the potential of having. It is therefore the difference between actual and potential realization of one’s needs.

Conflict management

It is an interventionist effort towards preventing escalation and negative effects, especially violent ones, of ongoing conflicts.
Conflict resolution

This is defined as finding a solution to the basic incompatibility between the relevant parties in such way that they voluntarily express their satisfaction with the outcome. It involves changing reality by for example reducing scarcity or changing the causal links or changing the demands of the actors through persuasion, compromise or manipulation.

Conflict transformation

This refers to the outcome, process and structure oriented long term peace building efforts that aim at truly overcoming all forms of revealed direct, cultural and structural violence. It calls for change in the general context in which conflict occurs, the contending parties, the issues at stake, structures processes or procedures governing the predicament.

1.11 Summary

Major factors influencing cross border conflict resolution, background information, purpose, objectives, statement of the problem, research questions, conceptual framework and has been highlighted to reflect the structure and content of the study.
CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

The content covered in this literature review chapter include background information and demographic statistics of the two counties, conflict theories, border conflicts, causes of cross border conflict, intervention strategies and challenges faced in cross border conflict resolution. This is followed by analysis of key factors that influence cross border conflict resolution in order to shed light into why sustainable peace and development has been elusive along the border of the two counties. Finally the chapter delves on the conceptual framework with analysis of the interrelations between existing knowledge gaps and what the study aimed to address.

2.2 Background of the cross border conflicts

The border lands connecting Kenya, Sudan, and Uganda form a large portion of the East Africa dry lands. The pastoral ethnic groups living in this part of the continent— northern Uganda, northwestern Kenya, southeastern Sudan, and southwestern Ethiopia—share a common language, culture, and geographical location. The majority of those living in this arid and semi-arid area are pastoralists, whose social and economic life is structured around the maintenance and well-being of their livestock. For pastoralists, livestock serves as the primary asset and source of sustenance (Jacobs 1965; Silberman 1959). Their way of life has been dictated by severe weather patterns characterized by a climate where temperatures often exceed 40 degrees centigrade with little annual rainfall (Mburo, 1999). During the dry season or times of drought, pastoralists are forced to relocate their cattle in search of water and pasturelands for grazing.
Temporary cattle camps, or "kraals," are assembled to keep livestock from wandering off and to protect them from potential raids by neighboring tribes.

With limited access to water and competing rights to land, inter-tribal conflict arises when pastoralists from one tribe enter the territory of another. This phenomenon occurs among tribes within borders as well as with those across the border in neighboring countries (Leff, 2009). The Turkana-Pokot conflict arises out of scarcity and competition over pasture and watering points and territorial/border disputes. Disputes and differences are compounded by minimal routine interaction and communication between the two communities. The Turkana-Pokot conflict occurs in a context of weak or non-existent structures and institutions for conflict prevention, mitigation, and response, particularly on the Pokot side and at the cross-border level (USAID, 2005).

2.3 Factors Influencing Conflict Resolution

Mkutu (2003) in his study on the causes and the factors that exacerbate cross border conflict in northern Kenya, notes broadly that issues related to governance policies, social economic and political marginalization, proliferation of small arms, inadequate land tenure systems, inadequate security and protection, inadequate engagement with traditional governance systems, inappropriate government development policies, are the main causal factors of conflict.

Livestock raiding has a long history in northern Kenya. Raids were an important strategy of wealth accumulation that also served to cultivate relations with neighbors. For example, this enabled Turkana to expand by assimilating new groups (Lamphear, 1992). Pre-colonial raiding could also
have been redistributive, transferring animals across social boundaries in situations of need, such as during drought or when young men sought animals to pay out as bride price (Hendrickson, 1998; Waller, 1993). 'Traditional' means of raiding used 'traditional' weapons such as spears and bows and arrows, and was often directed by elders. There was loss of life, but on a smaller scale than now. In the last two decades the nature of raiding and levels of violence associated with it have changed dramatically. As the availability and possession of small arms has increased, guns are now almost always used during raiding. As a result, the numbers of livestock stolen and the loss of human life associated with raiding have risen enormously (Waller, 1993). These factors can therefore be broadly classified into political, cultural, social and economic factors.

2.3.1 Political factors

Governance in the Horn of Africa is dominated by manipulation of ethnicity, patronage and a political culture of exclusion. This has continued, in large part, from the period prior to independence. Although the governments of the Horn of Africa have made some efforts to include pastoralists in the civil service, cabinet ministries, and the army, they are still not adequately represented in political life. Pastoralists are not represented according to their numbers in parliament or in high-level civil service posts, nor do they have education rates in line with the majority of the population (Mburo, 1999). In many of the semi-arid and arid areas of the Horn of Africa, pastoralists have very little formal education (Mkutu, 2003). Politicians exploit the situation to advance their interests at the expense of peace building.

Although laws enabling secure tenure and ownership of land are in many ways beneficial, they have been implemented in parts of Turkanas and Pokot counties with little regard for the needs of nomadic pastoralist communities (Lamphear, 1992). Politicians fail more often to advance
interests of the local people as rights entrenched in legislations. In terms of security as a function advocated by higher political office, the national and district police and security services have lacked the capacity to provide security to pastoralist and other communities. This has increased insecurity and the tendency towards self-defense and retaliation. Inappropriate arming by state authorities of local militias in response to security problems also appears to have exacerbated the problem (Mkutu, 2003).

Policies pursued by successive colonial and post-colonial governments in Kenya have tended not only to neglect the needs of pastoralists but also often to run directly counter to pastoralist interests with a bias instead towards ranchers, horticulturalists, and other resource users. This has exacerbated problems and insecurities of pastoralist communities, particularly in relation to access to scarce water and pasture (Mkutu, 2003)

2.3.2 Cultural factors
Raiding has been traced to cultural factors. There are certain rituals and rites that call for animal slaughter and due to the breakdown of traditions which deterred raids; individuals take advantage of raids to bring in animals for conducting rites and rituals (Bollig, 1990). During circumcision raids have been reported to have increased across the border (Pkalya, 2003). Prophecy is rampant in pastoralist communities, influencing prediction of raids hence offensive and revenge attacks (Lampear 1992).

2.3.3 Social factors
Traditional leaders and governance systems in pastoralist communities, while still substantial, have generally weakened, reducing the capacity of communities themselves to manage and
prevent conflict and criminality. National and district state authorities have exacerbated this problem, through policies that either neglect or undermine traditional governance systems (Mkutu, 2003). In the case of Turkana and Pokot counties, education levels are very low. Large part of the population is illiterate and semi illiterate (Mburu, 1999). Indigenous conflict resolution mechanisms have weakened and there is little regard for enforcement of its decisions in cases where it is active (Pakalya, 2004).

Social support networks which used to be a pillar of rescue and rehabilitation for the kith and kin affected in raids have also weakened. Historically, Pokot and Turkana communities have had remarkable social habits of assistance often seen through donation of livestock to those affected by calamities to revitalize their livelihoods (Lamphear, 1992).

### 2.3.4 Economic factors
Small arms, including automatic and semi-automatic weapons have become widely available and are increasingly used in Turkana and Pokot counties. These weapons come from a variety of sources, including conflict areas in Sudan, Northern Uganda and elsewhere in the Horn, as well as from insecure official weapons stockpiles (Mkutu, 2003, Lamphear, 1992). Such arms availability has made traditional raiding more deadly, which in turn has made conflict management and resolution more difficult. Insecurity from criminal activity has increased as a result of wider access and use of semi-automatic weapons, particularly in relation to livestock rustling by criminal gangs. The availability of weapons has made what used to be traditionally less lethal raiding into sophisticated missions with an economic and criminal activity at the core (Hendrickson, 1998).
Cross border cattle raids have in the recent past increasingly assumed a commercial perspective. Animals stolen are found in local and far flung markets ready for sale (Daily Nation, July 1999).

2.4 The Conflict Theory

Conflict theory is based on three key principles. Analysis of what constitutes conflict often referred to as “the story”, analysis of the parties and the root causes of the conflict (Lenski, 1966). The story part of analysis examines conflict dynamics and evolution stages. Provides a factual account of what has happened. Often it requires talking to those involved (and other peripheral parties); doing background research; visits of observation etc. It also involves study of the background and the context and timeline of the events preceding the conflict. Conflict theory is based on the fact that each conflict has its own dynamics, characterized by different stages and phases of change and transformation (Annan, 2008). The main stages and phases in a conflict as described by Gayle (2001) are as follows:

Pre-conflict: This is a period when goals between the parties are incompatible and which could lead to open conflict. At this stage the conflict is not well known since the parties try to hide it from public view, but communication is undermined between them

Confrontation: This is where the conflict becomes open or manifest. Characterized by occasional fighting, low level of violence, and search for allies by warring parties, mobilization of resources, strained relations and polarization

Crisis: This is the peak of conflict. In violent situations, this is the stage of intensive fighting, leading to killings, injuries, large scale population displacement, and the use of small arms, etc
Outcome: There is an assumption that all conflict will pass through this stage somehow: one side will win/another loses; cease fire may be declared; one may surrender; or a stronger third party may impose a solution and thus stop the fighting. Reduction/Cessation of conflict is the main issue here to allow discussion and search for other means of restoration of peace.

Post conflict: This is where violence has ceased or reduced considerably and the parties have gone beyond the crisis stage. Now is the time to address the root causes of the conflict - such as the needs and fears of the parties. If not tackled now, conflict cycle may be re-enacted and a return to pre-conflict stage, with the consequent re-eruption of conflict, being a possibility. Now it is also the time mend – rehabilitation of destroyed infrastructure, etc.

The parties involved in a conflict are categorized into primary directly involved in a conflict, secondary, directly affected by the conflict and peripheral whose interests are touched by the conflict though external. These parties have their own interests, positions, needs and fear. Structural factors which involve unacceptable status quo; structural social injustices; unequal power, authority and access to resources, relationships which manifest in the form of misrepresentations, rivalry and poor communication. Information needs seen when there is lack of information and existence of differing interpretations, vested interests where each party or individual expresses different needs, wants and often has hidden agenda. Finally on values where there are different ways of seeing the world and more importantly existence of apparent contradictory values.

2.5 Cattle rustling as a major cross border conflict

The redistributive effects of raiding now appear insignificant to most households in Turkana district, who instead struggle to adjust their livelihoods to the high probability of loss of life and
livestock. Predatory raiding has become prevalent, driven by interests outside the district (Hendrickson et al, 1998). Politicians and wealthy entrepreneurs, whose intention is 'to procure cattle in vast quantities either to feed warring armies or to sell on the market for profit', organize and equip the large gangs of young men who do the raiding. Evidence of this appears in the Kenya popular media, which has reported with alarm several deadly raids in Turkana District and neighboring areas. Kenya's leading daily paper, the Nation, reported in July 1999 that a criminal cartel, including well-connected traders, politicians and officials from the Rift Valley provincial administration (that covers Turkana District), was coordinating raids in Turkana and surrounding districts ostensibly to obtain livestock to sell to abattoirs in Nairobi and other urban centres, thus the commercialization of cattle raiding has introduced a significant new criminal element with negative consequences for the pastoralist economy (Daily Nation, July 1999).

According to local opinion armed violence associated with livestock raiding in south Turkana has increased since the early 1980s, and this pattern is borne out elsewhere. 'Peaceful' years in south Turkana, as recalled by respondents to a household survey carried out by Lind (2004), are concentrated between the 1950s and 1970s. After 1981, no years are recalled as being 'peaceful'. Several large raids occurred in the 1990s, a period in which the level of insecurity is ranked as high by local elders. In these large, usually inter-tribal raids, for example across the Turkana-West Pokot District boundary, up to several hundred armed men from one side execute a coordinated attack on neighboring villages lying across the border. Although the number of large raids varies from one year to another, typically there may be up to five large raids in southern Turkana in a given year. These raids require sophisticated planning to time the surprise of the attacks and the capture and escape of many thousand animals.
They also require well planned ways of guarding the secrecy of the operation and the building of a wider network of support among villagers for the safe passage of raiders and contraband livestock (Bollig, 1990). In turn, this requires clear leadership and command structures to coordinate multiple groups of attackers. While elders are sometimes complicit by sanctioning some livestock theft, renowned warriors, sharpshooters or seers undertake the actual organization of raids.

In the north-west of the district, large-scale raiding is usually perpetrated by pastoralists from across the border – the Karimojong from Uganda, the Toposa and Nyangatom from Sudan and the Merille from Ethiopia. Thus, the regional dimension to violence and livestock raiding in Turkana is critical. Turkana district shares borders with Uganda, Sudan and Ethiopia, all of which have had, or are currently experiencing violent civil wars (Pkalya, 2003). Not only does this fuel the flow of arms, it also contributes to an environment of lawlessness and impunity in which opportunistic and criminal livestock raiding can flourish. Understanding the balance of power between different ethnic groups, particularly cross-border, is critical to understanding the pattern of violent livestock raiding within Turkana district. The balance of power is directly related to the holdings of arms.

The other type of raiding identified by Turkana is smaller-scale theft of animals and household goods by organized bands of up to ten ngoroko or bandits. The availability of small arms means that raids are now feasible when carried out by small numbers of men. This was not the case when traditional weapons were used. Ngoroko typically steal for their own personal enrichment often exchanging contraband animals for other livestock with another herd owner (Lind, 2003). Ngoroko are often of the same ethnic origin as those they attack, although they are usually of a
different sectional affiliation. Some *ngoroko* are well known even by officials within the political-administrative apparatus. However, few are ever apprehended; most disregard traditional institutions and act with impunity. The strategy of these home-based robbers is opportunistically to attack vulnerable homesteads or small clusters of travelling along isolated stretches of road (Mkutu, 2003). *Ngoroko* typically take a small number of milking livestock kept at homesteads as well as grain reserves, fuel wood, kitchen utensils and other household goods. Although attacks by *ngoroko* are less severe in terms of loss of life and livestock and destruction of property, they are more frequent (occurring weekly in south Turkana) and their longer-term impacts are felt to be equally or more pernicious than the occasional raids on a larger scale. Indeed, an impact assessment conducted by the African Union’s Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU/IBAR) in December 2003 revealed that big organized raids had reduced in Turkana but that small-scale and sporadic cattle theft had increased.

The role of the state in Turkana has been minimal, which is typical of most of the northern arid districts of Kenya. Pastoralist people have usually had limited contact with government which, in turn, has failed to provide security. A culture of impunity has prevailed and a distrust of government has built up over many years. Even when the security forces have attempted to control raiding, in very large raids the number of raiders easily outstrips the security forces (Mkutu, 2003).

2.6 Intervention Strategies

These are the conflict resolution strategies aimed at addressing the root causes of conflict and providing a solution to the cross border problem (Lamphear, 1993).
2.6.1 Disarmaments
This has been applied on regular occasions whenever there is high frequency of raids. The military and the Police are used to confiscate illegal weapons from the herders. Since the flow of weapons is a cross border business, this strategy has not succeeded (Swift, J. & K. Saverio 1999). Lack of provision of alternative livelihoods to the warring communities also compounds the problem.

2.6.2 Peace Building
The local administration, NGOs, Civic Society and religious organizations have been in the forefront in creating peace initiatives along the borders of the two communities. Dietz (1993) observes that these initiatives are yet to produce sustainable peace.

2.6.3 Economic Development
Poverty among the two communities under study is very high, above the normal national average (CBS, 2009). As a result, commercialization of conflict has made it difficult for a durable solution. Commercialization of cattle enables people who are not herders to profit from livestock raiding. It also enables the herders themselves to raid independently from the actual availability of land or labour for livestock management and excludes reciprocity as marketed cattle cannot be raided back. As in livestock both relations of property/exchange and social boundaries overlap, changes in the patterns of ownership affect inter and intra-ethnic relations as well as values associated with sociality (Baxter and Hogg, 1990). The ongoing development initiatives do not focus holistically on the mid and long term economic needs of the population.

2.6.4 Policy formulation and law enforcement
Countries in Eastern Africa in 2008 formulated a protocol to combat cattle rustling across the borders, and it has partially failed due to lack of effective coordination and synchronization.
Goldsmith (1997) reports that the response rate of the local law enforcement officers is so low that there is no guarantee of protection and rescue during attacks.

2.6.5 Capacity building
Training of local leaders and building capacities for peace has been ongoing activity promoted by the peace and development partners. There are village peace committees led by the local chiefs and elders among other conflict resolution structures. (Bollig, 1990)

2.6.6 Use of indigenous conflict resolution mechanisms
The peace structures at the local levels are aimed at utilizing indigenous peace building activities. However, they are not adequately utilized (Bollig, 1990). Top down approaches have rendered indigenous mechanisms worthless, and lack of active participation by the local people has made durable peace a mirage (USAID, 2009).

2.6.7 Gaps in the intervention strategies
As Mkutu (2003) observes, there are many principles that should guide operational interventions for effective conflict prevention and small-arms control. Cattle rustling interventions tend to address the symptoms and not the root causes of the conflict and therefore failed to be effective in producing tangible and long term results. The following are the inherent weaknesses cited by Mkutu (2003) of the conflict resolution strategies.

Programming of development assistance has tended to focus on the effects and not the real cause of the cattle rustling conflict; most of the conflict resolution players do not understand the conflict dynamics on the ground; short term engagement in conflict management; lack of active community involvement in conflict resolution strategies; lack of provision of alternative livelihoods and finally uncoordinated interventions among the various actors.
Mkutu (2003) goes further to summarize what needs to be done as follows “Success in reducing the level of armed violence amongst pastoralists in Turkana and Pokot borders will ultimately depend on the development of positive partnerships between governments, their agencies, civil society organizations and communities at the local and national levels and between governments and their agencies at the regional level. Fundamentally, these partnerships will need to address the complex range of factors that drive pastoralists to acquire and use small arms – from the scarcity of resources and lack of development and economic opportunities, to the need to protect themselves and their livelihoods and the emergence of a culture of weaponisation and violence.”
2.7 Conceptual Framework

**Independent Variable (IV)**

- **Local Politics**
  - Political interference
  - Incitements, arbiters
  - Third party actors and their interests
  - Border disputes and historical injustices

- **Culture**
  - Rituals and rites
  - Traditions and Prophecy
  - Superstitions and taboos
  - Indigenous dispute resolution structures

- **Economic Factors**
  - Economic exclusions
  - Poverty and Livelihoods
  - Access to land and pasture
  - Inequality and unemployment
  - Gender disparity

- **Social factors**
  - Status of indigenous dispute resolution mechanisms
  - Status of social networks
  - Intermarriages
  - Kinship ties
  - Clan dominance (superiority and inferiority)

**Moderating Variable**

- Levels of education
- Natural Disasters (drought and famines)
- Insecurity, disarmaments and access to arms
- Competition over natural resources
- Trade and markets

**Intervening Variables**

- Fear
- Fatigue in peace building initiatives

**Dependent Variable (DV)**

- Cross Border Conflict resolution
- Sharing of resources
- Peace building initiatives
- Intermarriages
- Inter-communal development Partnerships
- Social networks
- Protection and access to justice
- Gender Equity

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The study as shown in the conceptual framework investigated the influence of politics with an interest in the level of interference in local peace building processes, how neutral were the arbiters, how the politicians behaved during elections and effect of their vested interests and how historical linkages were used in cross border conflict justifications. On the local culture, the issue of rituals and rites with a focus on cleansing, curses and circumcision tended to influence peacemaking. Equally significant was use of prophecy to predict raids hence proactive offensives on the perceived enemy, the influence of taboos and more emphasis was placed at the value of indigenous dispute resolution systems.

Economic factors were reviewed in light of how they influence conflict resolution. Focus was geared towards influence of poverty, commercialization of cattle rustling, influence of unemployment, economic marginalization and gender disparity in the form of exclusions. Finally an outline of the causal factors of conflict across the border was highlighted. On the other hand conflict resolution was measured by number and level of peace initiatives, intermarriages, social networks, gender equity, sharing of resources, communal development partnerships, protection and access to justice. An analysis of the literature review has shown that no one exactly knows how local politics, social, culture and economics influence conflict resolution for durable peace. The variables in this conceptual framework highlight a coherent pathway for providing useful information. Conflict theory supports what the study was aimed at, looking at the causal factors, the players, and the history of the conflict.
CHAPTER THREE
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction
This chapter discusses research design, target population, sampling design, data collection methods and procedure, validity and reliability of the research instruments and methods of data analysis.

3.2 Research design
The research design enables one to identify which sampling techniques to use, methods of data collection and data analysis approaches (Nachmias, 1996). To gain a deeper understanding of the cross border conflict and the analysis of the strategies used in conflict resolution, descriptive survey design was used in this study. Descriptive survey of conflict trends and the interventions was undertaken on the study samples of the population.

3.3 Target Population
The study covered two divisions, Sigor in Pokot and Kainuk in Turkana counties respectively. These divisions lay along the border where cross border conflict was rampant. The target population comprised women leaders, prophets, middle aged men, elders, chiefs, divisional officers, representatives of NGOs and the youths. Women leaders, middle aged men, elders and youths were found in local villages at the sub location level. Chiefs were targeted at location level, and the divisional officers at the Division Offices. NGO representatives were targeted at the county levels. Of the total population 4.7% were over 60 years in age hence this category constituted the elders, while 60% comprised the youth and approximately 51% of the population constituted women while male comprised 49% of the total population (Olum, 2008).
3.4 Sample Size and sampling procedures

Stratified sampling was used to identify women, youth, the middle aged men and elders for interviews and for administration of the questionnaires. Purposive sampling was used to target the prophets and chiefs for key informant interviews. A representative sample population was drawn for each of the study divisions. The total population of Kainuk Division was 11799 and that of Sigor was 43622 persons (CBS, 2003). At 95% confidence level, and e (0.05) being the level of precision, N being the study population size; then the sample size n was computed as follows: 

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + Ne^2}$$


Kainuk division study sample: 

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + Ne^2} = 80$$

Sigor division study sample: 

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + Ne^2} = 120$$

Total study sample: 200 Households

The sample population was further stratified into three categories of youth, middle aged and the elders. They constituted 60%, 35% and 5% of the population respectively (CBS, 2003). Strata target samples targeted were 120 youth, 70 middle aged persons and 10 elderly persons of over 60 years of age. These statistics is shown on the table below.
Table 3.1: Study Population and Sample size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Division</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Study Populations Strata</th>
<th>Sample size studied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Youth (15-25 yrs)</td>
<td>Middle Aged (25-45)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kainuk</td>
<td>11799</td>
<td>7079</td>
<td>4130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>=3469</td>
<td>=2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>=3610</td>
<td>=2106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M=5781</td>
<td>F=6018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sigor</td>
<td>43622</td>
<td>26173</td>
<td>15268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>=12825</td>
<td>=7481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>=13348</td>
<td>=7787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M=21,479</td>
<td>F=22143</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>120</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.5 Data collection Instruments

The study combined a variety of methodologies for data collection with a focus on structured and unstructured interviews, key informant interviews and focused group discussions.

Interviews

Both structured and unstructured interviews administered to women, youth and middle aged men. Random sampling was used to identify people to be interviewed, and use of interview
guide was given emphasis. Interviews allowed opportunities for clarification and also assisted in further probes hence more detailed feedbacks.

**Questionnaires**

Open ended questionnaires were administered to the women, youths and middle aged men. Open ended questionnaires assisted to get more information beyond what was designed. Conflict resolution required extensive search of information and the more detailed questionnaires proved useful.

**Focused Group Discussions**

This was mainly used in obtaining information from the elders. The elders were interviewed in groups of 10, and gender sensitive representation was taken into account.

**3.5.1 Validity**

Validity is the degree to which a research instrument measures what is supposed to capture (Best and Kahn, 1992). Content validity was ensured through review and approval of the instruments before administration into data collection. Pilot testing of the instruments in a small sample population was carried out. Improvements based on findings were initiated before final administration to obtain some degree of precision. Questionnaires were also tested and examined by experts. Content validity was established through discussion of the research instrument with peers and research supervisors to ensure that all the variables in the research objectives were adequately captured in the questionnaire and interview schedule and training of the research assistants to ensure high precision and minimal errors in the data entry was carried out.
3.5.2 Reliability

Reliability is the degree of consistency that the instrument demonstrates in the results obtained (Best and Kahn, 1992). Reliability is the consistency of the measurement, or the degree to which an instrument measures the same way each time it is used under the same condition with the same subjects.

The data collection instruments were pre-tested in a short pilot study to ascertain their reliability. The reliability of the research instruments (the questionnaire) was estimated through test/retest method where sample households were selected before the actual administration of questionnaires. The questionnaires were administered to these households at two separate times for each subject under the same conditions.

The table below indicates the results of the reliability analysis conducted. Reliability of the scale for the constructs describing the variables of the study was found to be sufficient because all the items and composite reliability coefficients were above 0.6 set as the acceptable minimum (Nunnaly, 1978). Scores obtained indicated high consistency and similarity hence test of reliability established.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cronbach's Alpha</th>
<th>N of Items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.90</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.6 Data analysis

Data analysis is the categorization, ordering, manipulation and summary of data collected for a research study to obtain answers to research questions.
In the process the data is reduced to intelligible and interpretable form using statistics (Cooper et al., 2003). Both quantitative and qualitative will be collected. The qualitative data consisted of words and therefore were analyzed through focus descriptive analysis. The information was categorized by identifying themes or patterns to bring the meaning to the text. The quantitative data consisted of numbers and what they stood for (Mugenda and Abel, 1999). This data coded and summarized then analyzed through descriptive statistics using measures of central tendency, measures of variability and percentages. The condensed and manageable data was further analyzed using appropriate the Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS). Regression and correlation techniques were employed in data analysis.
CHAPTER FOUR
DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the research findings of the study. The questionnaires received from the respondents and analyzed were 180. The data was analyzed and the information was presented in form of charts and tables. The analysis was done based on the objectives of the study.

4.2 Questionnaire Return Rate

A total of 200 questionnaires were administered and 180 were returned indicating a success return rate of 90%. Out of the returned questionnaires two of them were spoiled. Most of the questionnaires not returned were from Loyapat Location in Kainuk Division of Turkana county. There was a temporary curfew by the security personnel in the area at the time of data collection which prevented data assistants from accessing the area.

4.3 Demographic Characteristics

The study targeted Kainuk and Sigor divisions of Turkana and Pokot counties with a population of 11,799 and 43,622 respectively.

4.3.1 Respondents Division

Table 4.1 Respondents Division

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kainuk</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>47.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sigor</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>52.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 4.1 shows that majority of the respondents (52.2%) were from Kainuk division while 47.8% were from Sigor division. Residents of these two divisions formed the population of the study.

4.3.2 Level of literacy

Table 4.2 Respondents Level of Literacy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Illiterate</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>49.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>literate</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>50.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On the literacy level of the respondents the study found out that majority (50.6%) of the respondents were literate while 49.4% were illiterate. The fact that majority of the respondents were literate improved the reliability of the information given.

4.3.3 Conflict Prevalence

At the outset of the study, under demographic characteristics of the population, a subset of conflict prevalence was created to give a highlight of its prevalence among the population. The researcher sought to find out what was the trend in conflict prevalence from 1980 to date as compared to 1950-1980 period which was often referred as “calm period”. The findings of the results are as shown in table 4.3
Majority of the respondents (72.2%) revealed that the trend in conflict prevalence had increased while 27.8% indicated that conflict had dramatically increased. None of the respondents was of the opinion that the trend in conflict prevalence had reduced.

### 4.3.2 Conflict Prevalence Factors

#### Table 4.4 Conflict Prevalence Factor Rankings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deepening poverty</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>97.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politicization &amp; commercialization of cattle raids</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proliferation &amp; reduced costs of light arms</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decline of the role of indigenous conflict resolution mechanisms</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate provision of security &amp; access to justice</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An overwhelming 97.2% of the respondents ranked deepening poverty as the main reason for the increased trend in conflict prevalence a fact supported by Lamphear (1992) and Pkalya (2003) while 82.8% ranked inadequate provision of security & access to justice as the second in order of priority. Further, 50.6% of the respondents ranked decline of the role of indigenous conflict resolution mechanisms as the fourth most reason; 46.1% also ranked proliferation & reduced
costs of light arms as the fourth priority. However, 97.2% ranked politicization & commercialization of cattle raids as the last priority or reason causing the increased trend in conflict prevalence.

4.4. Politics as Factor in Cross Border Conflict Resolution

The study examined political factors influence on peace building and the findings are as shown below.

4.4.1. Politics in Cross Border Conflict Resolution

Majority of the respondents (98.3%) revealed that politics was a major factor in cross border conflict resolution regarding it as having a high influence. This was attributed to the incessant political meddling and incitements over border disputes and perceived historical injustices.

The table shown provides findings of the study that weighed more on how local politics had diminished the role of the traditional governance systems for peace building. More importantly fueling conflict over issues of perceived marginalization. These findings are supported by studies carried out by Mburu and Nene (1999) and Lind (2004) who observed that conflict in the northern part of Kenya is fueled by politicians through incitements, and even to an extent commercialization of cattle rustling.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 4.5 Political Issues</th>
<th>Very major</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Minor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>f</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Border disputes &amp; perceived injustices</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>96.6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incitement &amp; meddling</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disregard of traditional governance systems</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate &amp; ineffective leadership capacities for peace building &amp; government support</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marginalization &amp; lack of involvement in development</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The results shown reveal that majority of the respondents agreed to a very major extent that border disputes and perceived injustices and inadequate & ineffective leadership capacities for peace building and government support as the key political issues that affect peace building represented by 96% and 80% respectively. A further 64% agreed to a major extent that disregard of traditional governance systems as the key element in political nature that affect peace building. This finding is strongly supported by Lind (2004) who observed that the continuous decline of the traditional governance systems is a sure cause of conflict proliferation.

4.5 Influence of Economic Factors

The results of the study on the influence of the economic factors were rated high. Majority of the respondents agreed that economy was a major factor in cross border conflict resolution comprising 98 percent while 2 percent disagreed. Those who disagreed cited influence of politics in comparison, thus rated economic issues in a lesser extent.

Economic issues cited were lack of alternative livelihoods hence over reliance on pastoralism. Many respondents observed that with the current climate change risks as seen by drought, keeping of livestock was no longer a viable option. The impact of the vagaries of nature
especially drought and famine created destitution driving many herders to cross border raids. The other upshot was seen in concentration of many more pastoralist drop out in urban areas. These groups of vulnerable people are often involved in highway banditry and cross border cattle rustling. This fact is profoundly support by literature on cross border conflict (Nene and Mburu, (1999), Pkalya (2003), Leff, (2009), Karimi et al (2003) among others.
Findings from the study on key economic factors revealed that majority of the respondents cited to a very major extent that increased poverty, economic exclusions and lack of alternative livelihoods were key economic issues affecting peace building across border shown by 98%, 92% and 59% respectively. A further 62 percent cited that unemployment was a key economic issue affecting peace building across border.

4.6 Influence of social factors

Majority of the respondents agreed that social factors are a major issue in cross border conflict resolution shown by 98 percent while 2 percent disagreed. Those who disagreed ranked political and economic influence as key and completely disregarded social aspects.

Table 4.6 Key Economic factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very major</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lack of alternative livelihoods</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>58.9</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>41.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased poverty</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>98.3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>62.8</td>
<td>28.9</td>
<td>29.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercialization of cattle rustling</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>97.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intensified competition for natural resources (land, water, pasture)</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic exclusions</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>92.1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effect of natural disasters</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>15.6</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>83.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.7 Key Social Factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very major</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakdown of social networks</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>68.9</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>29.6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disregard of the traditional local governance systems</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>97.2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced cross border interactions &amp; internmarriages</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>21.7</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>75.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High levels of illiteracy</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>88.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Study findings revealed that most respondents agreed to a very major extent that breakdown of social networks is a key social factor affecting peace building as was shown by 68.9% . 97.2 % of the respondents agreed to a major extent that disregard of the traditional local governance systems networks is a key social factor affecting peace building.

It is only Lamphear (1992) and Lind (2004) that deeply describe how breakdown of the social networks and disregard of the traditional governance systems exacerbated conflict in pastoral; areas. The findings of this study therefore to a larger extent have a similarity and point to the same effect of conflict proliferation.

4.7 Influence of Cultural Factors

Most respondents agreed that cultural factor influences cross border conflict resolution to a moderate extent (89%) while 9% cited cultural factors influences cross border conflict resolution to a lesser extent. Most respondents observed that rites, rituals, values, beliefs and taboos affected the process of conflict resolution across the border. Strict cultural adherence of values and beliefs enabled a council of elders to discharge justice hence keep peace among communities. There were rituals such as cleansing for the offenders, and the cost of doing it was prohibitive and hence acted as deterrent. However failure to observe the positive aspects of these cultures has made peace building elusive. Many herders aware of the lesser retributive effects of raiding continue raiding with increased propensity. Results of the study as summarized in the table 4.8
Table 4.8 Key Cultural Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very major</th>
<th></th>
<th>Major</th>
<th></th>
<th>Minor</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ritual &amp; rites (e.g. circumcision)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>67.8</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>29.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effects of prophecy</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>86.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values systems &amp; beliefs</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>71.5</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>28.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taboos &amp; superstitions</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>52.8</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>46.1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The study revealed that majority of the respondents agreed to a very major extent that value systems and taboos and superstitions were the key cultural issues affecting peace building across border shown by 71.5% and 52.8%. A further 86.7% agreed to a major extent that effect of prophesy is a key cultural issue affecting peace building across border. These findings are supported also by Mtuku (2003) in a study conducted in northern Kenya.

4.8 Variable factor influence and Conflict actors

4.8.1 Extent of factor influence on cross border conflict resolution

To understand the role of the conflict actors in conflict resolution, especially on their level of influence, collected data was subjected into further statistical analysis and the results are shown below.

Table 4.9 Extent of factor influence on cross border conflict resolution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Most influential</th>
<th>Influential</th>
<th>Moderately influential</th>
<th>Less influential</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political factors</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>88.9</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic factors</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>97.2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social factors</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>75.6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural factors</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>68.9</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>49.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results from the study revealed that majority of the respondents agreed that economic factors were the most influential shown by 97.2% followed by political factors 88.9%, social factors (75.6%) while cultural factors were the least influential with 68.9%.

Conflict resolution would not be complete if actors or the so called players were not analyzed to complete the discussion. On a scale of 1-3 where 1 would mean that the actor is most influential while 3 would mean less influential was carried out an the results are shown on the table below.

These were crucial aspects for studying the extent of influence whether cultural as shown by prophets, political as shown by local leaders, social as shown by religious and village leadership and economic as shown by the local administration.

### 4.8.2 Conflict Actors

In a nutshell while the study focused on the level of influence of the various factors in conflict resolution, it also sought to find out the most probable actors/players in cross border resolution.

A correlation analysis was done to find out the relationship between various actors/players in cross border conflict resolution between Pokot and Turkana communities of Northern Kenya.

#### Table 4.10 Correlations between Elders and Prophets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Elders Pearson Correlation</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>-0.086</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elders</td>
<td>Sig. (2-tailed)</td>
<td></td>
<td>.252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prophets</td>
<td>Pearson Correlation</td>
<td>-0.086</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sig. (2-tailed)</td>
<td>0.252</td>
<td>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The study shows that, there is a low, negative correlation between elders and prophets as shown by coefficient of -0.086. The relationship between the two is however insignificant (p=0.252).
This is explained by the fact that elders do not consult the prophets and vice versa. They tend to work independently due to their separate functions. Elders can't be allowed to make predictions while prophets have no business in dispute resolution. This finding is quite significant for conflict players.

Table 4.11 Correlations Local Politicians and Chiefs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>local politicians</th>
<th>Chiefs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local politicians</td>
<td>Pearson Correlation</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sig. (2-tailed)</td>
<td>0.192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chiefs</td>
<td>Pearson Correlation</td>
<td>0.098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sig. (2-tailed)</td>
<td>0.192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.11 shows that, there is a low but positive correlation between local politicians and chiefs as shown by a coefficient of 0.098. The relationship is also insignificant as shown by the p value (p=0.192). The positive aspects related to their administrative relations in peace building consultations. However, the relation is so low due to the fact that politicians tend to ignore chiefs in local peace building processes.
Table 4.12 Correlations between women leaders and Youth leaders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>women leaders</th>
<th>youth leaders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women leaders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pearson Correlation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.395(**)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sig. (2-tailed)</td>
<td></td>
<td>.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth leaders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pearson Correlation</td>
<td>.395(**)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sig. (2-tailed)</td>
<td>.000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

On women leaders and youth leaders, a correlation coefficient of 0.395 was established which signifies a low but positive relationship between the two. The relationship between the two is however significant as shown by the p value (p<0.001). Youth tend to be more close to women leaders in sharing their issues and concerns. This is therefore significant factor in peace building where the two players are under consideration.

Table 4.13 Correlations Church Leaders and Civil Society & NGO Representatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Church leaders</th>
<th>Civil society &amp; NGO representatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>church leaders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pearson Correlation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sig. (2-tailed)</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Society &amp; NGO Representatives</td>
<td>0.052</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pearson Correlation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sig. (2-tailed)</td>
<td>0.492</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On church leaders and civil society & NGO representatives, a correlation coefficient of 0.052 was established which signifies a low but positive relationship between the two. The relationship between the two is insignificant as shown by the p value (p=0.492). There is weak collaboration within the three actors in peace building, and therefore this fact is crucial for peace makers in design of ways to strengthen and resuscitate inter party relations and cooperation.

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4.8.3 Cross Border Conflict Resolution Strategies

To enhance cross border conflict resolution drive for durable peace, respondents made suggestions on what could be done and the results were summarized as shown on the table below.

Table 4.14 Cross Border Conflict Resolution Strategies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Standard deviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building of peace capacities among local leaders</td>
<td>1.01</td>
<td>.075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening the local security systems, rule of law &amp; enhancing access to justice</td>
<td>1.13</td>
<td>.357.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness creation &amp; sensitization on the need for peaceful co-existence</td>
<td>1.24</td>
<td>.428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting participatory &amp; all inclusive peace building initiatives</td>
<td>1.24</td>
<td>.440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening of local governance systems</td>
<td>1.44</td>
<td>.498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing alternative means of livelihoods &amp; integrating disaster management initiatives</td>
<td>1.86</td>
<td>.378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reviving &amp; strengthening traditional dispute resolution mechanisms</td>
<td>1.87</td>
<td>.335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disarmaments &amp; control of arms flow</td>
<td>1.91</td>
<td>.304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach community education on rituals, traditions, prophecies, taboos, superstition</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>.584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure development(construction of abattoirs, markets etc) &amp; land demarcation initiatives</td>
<td>2.51</td>
<td>.534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotion of intercommunity activities e.g. sports</td>
<td>2.93</td>
<td>.328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building of social networks &amp; partnerships that enhance peace thru intern marriages, economic &amp; social support</td>
<td>2.94</td>
<td>.312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>financial investments into local economic development sectors (health, education, water sanitation, food security)</td>
<td>2.95</td>
<td>.243</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Strategies that resonated with the local communities were, building of peace capacities among local leaders, strengthening the local security systems, rule of law and enhancing access to justice, promoting participatory and all inclusive peace building initiatives, awareness creation and sensitization on the need for peaceful co-existence, strengthening of local governance systems, providing alternative means of livelihoods and integrating disaster management
initiatives reviving and strengthening traditional dispute resolution mechanisms, disarmaments and control of arms flow as was shown by low means of 1.01, 1.13, 1.24, 1.24, 1.44, 1.86, 1.87 and 1.91 respectively.

4.9 Correlation and Regression of Data

In order to fully understand study variable factors on cross border conflict resolution, collected data were subjected to correlation and regression analysis:

4.9.1 Correlation

The aim of the correlation was to determine whether there was a relation in each of the factor and cross border conflict resolution. Correlation of all the study variables and cross border conflict resolution was carried out and the results are shown in Table 4.15.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 4.15 Correlations of study variables and cross border conflict resolution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic factors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pearson Correlation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sig. (2-tailed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political factors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sig. (2-tailed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social factors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sig. (2-tailed)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).
* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).
The above table shows the correlation between Cross Border Resolution and political factors, economic factors, social factors and cultural factors. On economic factors and cross border resolution, a correlation coefficient of 0.231 was established depicting a low but significant relationship (p<0.001) between the two. The study also found a significant relationship between political factors and cross border resolution (p=0.002). However, the study found insignificant association between cross border resolution and Social factors, (p=0.170) and Cultural factors (p=0.276).

4.9.2 Regression Analysis

Finally, a multivariate regression model was applied to determine the relative importance of each of the four variables with respect to cross border conflict resolution.

The regression model was as follows:

\[ y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \beta_4 X_4 + \epsilon \]

Where:

- \( y \) = Cross border conflict resolution
- \( \beta_0 \) = Constant Term
- \( \beta_1 \) = Beta coefficients
- \( X_1 \) = Political factors
- \( X_2 \) = Economic factors
- \( X_3 \) = Social factors
- \( X_4 \) = Cultural factors.
Table 4.16 Model Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>$R$</th>
<th>$R$ Square</th>
<th>Adjusted $R$ Square</th>
<th>Std. Error of the Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>.838(a)</td>
<td>.702</td>
<td>.573</td>
<td>.190</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a Predictors: (Constant), political factors, economic factors, social factors and cultural factors

Table 4.16 above presents the regression model summary. Adjusted $R^2$ is called the coefficient of determination and tells us how cross border conflict varied with political factors, economic factors, social factors and cultural factors. The study shows that the value of adjusted $R^2$ is 0.702. This implies that, there was a variation of 70.2% of cross border conflict varied with political factors, economic factors, social factors and cultural factors at a confidence level of 95%.

Table 4.17 Coefficients Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unstandardized Coefficients</th>
<th>Standardized Coefficients</th>
<th>t</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Std. Error</td>
<td>Beta</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Constant)</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.172</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>political factor</td>
<td>0.217</td>
<td>0.053</td>
<td>0.327</td>
<td>4.101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>economic factors</td>
<td>-0.122</td>
<td>0.031</td>
<td>-0.304</td>
<td>-3.939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>social factors</td>
<td>0.035</td>
<td>0.131</td>
<td>0.022</td>
<td>0.268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cultural factor</td>
<td>0.189</td>
<td>0.048</td>
<td>0.311</td>
<td>3.947</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Predictors: (Constant), political factors, economic factors, social factors and cultural factors
Dependent Variable: Cross border conflict resolution

Table 4.17 shows that there is a positive relationship between Causes of Cross Border Conflict and the Predictor factors which are political factors, social factors and cultural factors and a negative relationship with economic factors.
The established regression equation was

\[ Y = 0.685 + 0.217 X_1 - 0.122 X_2 + 0.035 X_3 + 0.189 X_4 \]

From the above regression model, political factors, economic factors, social factors and cultural factors, influence on cross border conflict would be 0.685. It established that a unit increase in political factors would cause an increase cross border conflict by a factor of 0.217, a unit increase in economic factors would cause a decrease cross border conflict by a factor of 0.122, also a unit increase in social factors would cause an increase cross border conflict by a factor of 0.035, further unit increase in cultural factors would cause an increase cross border conflict by a factor of 0.189. There is also a significant relationship between cross border conflict resolution and political factors, economic factors and cultural factors \( p = 0.000 \). However, the study found an insignificant relationship between cross border conflict resolution and social factors \( p = 0.789 \).

4.10 Discussion of the findings

The results so far indicate that economic factors are more influential in cross border peace building than political, social and cultural factors when compared. Political factors cited that influenced cross border conflict resolution were: border disputes and perceived injustices which made local leaders to agitate for what they termed as “rightful boundaries” in the process interfering with cross border peace. Also highlighted as a significant political factor was the inability to build local peace capacities which embolden local population and their leaders in preservation and creation of peace where conflict emerges. This blended well with the fact that traditional governance systems had been neglected and hence an urgent need for their resuscitation.
These facts were presented by 96%, 80 and 64% of the respondents. These findings are fully supported by Lind (2004) who noted that it is not possible to build effective peace if local capacities are not given due consideration.

Economic factors which hindered effective cross border conflict resolution which resonated with most of the respondents were: Over dependence on a single livelihood creating vulnerability to disaster risks. 58.9% of the respondents noted that drought had became a threat to livestock and often time when herdsmen lose their herds, they raid to restock. This was an interesting fact that is also corroborated by Lamphear (1992) when writing about the cause of Turkana emigrations in his work titled, "Turkana scattering time". Increased poverty and economic exclusions were rated highly at 98% level. Respondents noted that it is very difficult to make peace with "an hungry stomach" which meant herdsmen upon losing their livestock do conduct raids for survival. Unemployment, competition for natural resources were also factors identified as tilting the peace equilibrium. Mkutu (2003) wholly supports these economic facts noting that they are the main drivers of cross border conflict.

The fact that breakdown of social networks affected cross border relations came out strongly with over 70% of the respondents retelling how kinship ties support used to promote peaceful co-existence. Disregard of traditional governance systems and reduced cross border interactions further affected cross border conflict resolution. Intermarriages and interactions facilitated exchange of information and ending of broen reklations. Kalya(1999), Lamphear (1992) and Lind (2004) deeply describe how breakdown of the social networks and disregard of the traditional governance systems exacerbated conflict in pastoral areas. The findings of this study therefore to a larger extent have a similarity and point to the same effect of conflict proliferation.
Cultural factors seen through circumcision, a case in point where in each occasion there was increased cross border raids. The study found out that whenever the season of circumcision dawned, raids across the border increased. The reason given is that young persons undergoing the rituals are often mobilized to conduct raids and interestingly this is also used to "test" their bravery. Other cultural aspects such as prophecy, rites such as cleansing and other initiation and marital ceremonies too affected cross border conflict resolution. The findings of the study point to the profound effect of these cultural factors on both sides of the county and this is also supported by studies carried out by Mburu (1999) and Masinde (2004).
CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter provides a summary of the findings of the research; the conclusion and the recommendations of the study which sought to examine the factors influencing cross border conflict resolution between Pokot and Turkana communities of Northern Kenya.

5.2 Summary of findings

Majority of the respondents (98.3%) revealed that politics was a major factor in cross border conflict resolution regarding it as having a high influence. This was attributed to the incessant political meddling and incitements over border disputes and perceived historical injustices.

The study provides findings of the study that weighed more on how local politics had diminished the role of the traditional governance systems for peace building, more importantly fueling conflict over issues of perceived marginalization. These findings are supported by studies carried out by Mburu and Nene (1999) and Lind (2004) who observed that conflict in the northern part of Kenya is fueled by politicians through incitements, and even to an extent commercialization of cattle rustling.

Findings from the study revealed that majority of the respondents agreed to a very major extent that border disputes and perceived injustices and inadequate & ineffective leadership capacities for peace building and government support as the key political issues that affect peace building represented by 96% and 80% respectively.
A further 64% agreed to a major extent that disregard of traditional governance systems as the key element in political nature that affect peace building. This finding is strongly supported by Lind (2004) who observed that the continuous decline of the traditional governance systems is a sure cause of conflict proliferation.

On the economic aspects of the study the results on the influence of the economic factors on cross border conflict resolution were rated high. Majority of the respondents agreed that economy was a major factor in cross border conflict resolution comprising 98 percent while 2 percent disagreed. Those who disagreed cited influence of politics in comparison, thus rated economic issues in a lesser extent.

Economic issues cited were lack of alternative livelihoods hence over reliance on pastoralism. Many respondents observed that with the current climate change risks as seen by drought, keeping of livestock was no longer a viable option. The impact of the vagaries of nature especially drought and famine created destitution driving many herders to cross border raids. The other upshot was seen in concentration of many more pastoralist drop out in urban areas. These groups of vulnerable people are often involved in highway banditry and cross border cattle rustling. This fact is profoundly support by literature on cross border conflict (Nene and Mburu, 1999), Pkalya (2003), Leff, (2009), Karimi et al (2003) among others.

Findings from the study on key economic factors revealed that majority of the respondents cited to a very major extent that increased poverty, economic exclusions and lack of alternative livelihoods were key economic issues affecting peace building across border shown by 98%,
92% and 59% respectively. A further 62 percent cited that unemployment was a key economic issue affecting peace building across border.

On the cultural aspect of the study, majority of the respondents agreed that social factors are a major issue in cross border conflict resolution shown by 98 percent while 2 percent disagreed. Those who disagreed ranked political and economic influence as key and completely disregarded social aspects.

Study findings revealed that most respondents agreed to a very major extent that breakdown of social networks is a key social factor affecting peace building as was shown by 68.9%. 97.2% of the respondents agreed to a major extent that disregard of the traditional local governance systems networks is a key social factor affecting peace building.

It is only Lamphear (1992) and Lind (2004) that deeply describe how breakdown of the social networks and disregard of the traditional governance systems exacerbated conflict in pastoral areas. The findings of this study therefore to a larger extent have a similarity and point to the same effect of conflict proliferation.

Most respondents agreed that cultural factor influences cross border conflict resolution to a moderate extent (89%) while 9% cited cultural factors influences cross border conflict resolution to a lesser extent. Most respondents observed that rites, rituals, values, beliefs and taboos affected the process of conflict resolution across the border. Strict cultural adherence of values and beliefs enabled a council of elders to discharge justice hence keep peace among communities. There were rituals such as cleansing for the offenders, and the cost of doing it was prohibitive and hence acted as deterrent.
However failure to observe the positive aspects of these cultures has made peace building elusive. Many herders aware of the lesser retributive effects of raiding continue raiding with increased propensity

5.3 Conclusion

The researcher concludes that economic factors are major factors influencing cross border conflict resolution between Turkana and Pokot of northern Kenya. From the findings, the respondents ranked economic factors as the most influential in cross border conflict resolution. Economic cited factors included; deepening poverty, economic exclusions, lack of alternative livelihoods and unemployment.

Political factors according to the study are a major factor influencing cross border conflict resolution between Turkana and Pokot of northern Kenya but ranking second after economic factor influence. Political factors have been instigated by border disputes and perceived injustices; inadequate and ineffective leadership capacities for peace building. There is also lack of government support which is a key element in political nature that would influence peace building in the region.

The study further established that social factors influenced cross border conflict resolution. The social factors highlighted were breakdown of social networks as key social factors affecting peace building, disregard of the traditional local governance systems networks, high levels of illiteracy and reduced cross border interactions and intermarriages.
Lastly, cultural factors influenced cross border conflict resolution, though to a lower extent when compared to the other study factors. Cultural factors included value systems and beliefs, circumcision, prophecies, taboos and superstitions.

5.4 Recommendations

In order to create sustainable cross border conflict resolution, the following measures should be taken into consideration:

Poverty has been found out to be very high among the Turkana and Pokot communities and the researcher recommends for establishment of economic development strategies which would curb the deepening poverty. These should be spearheaded by the government and the Non governmental Organizations.

There is also need to provide economic empowerment through creation of employment opportunities through the government and private public sector collaborations. Diversification of livelihoods to avoid over reliance on pastoralism with high vulnerability is key to emancipation from the effects of disaster risks such as drought. This can be done effectively with the support of the private sector and the government. United Nations agencies, non governmental organizations and local community based organizations can be well positioned to undertake this.

Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in emergency recovery and development planning at community level is the only resolute way to deal with the vagaries of nature that help deepen poverty. Investments in roads, public utilities telecommunications and other infrastructure was also identified as a solution to the issue of cross border conflict.
There is need too to promote environmental conservation initiatives and the government can lead the process bringing in other development partners such as the World Bank.

There is need therefore to establish and enforce laws that bare or restrict politicians from engaging in incitements. The fact that monitoring of political activities and putting in place deterrence measures cannot be gainsaid. Promote awareness and sensitize politicians on the need to promote harmonious living.

Increased fiscal and administrative investments in conflict resolution across the border with focus in capacity building of local leadership should be prioritized. Demarcate and delicate boundaries and establish police posts in cross border raid routes. More peace initiatives should be established across the border and local politicians should be fully engaged in the process.

Create initiatives that revitalize and restore important elements of community culture and the place of elder in traditional governance systems. In addition establish social initiatives that boost cross border interactions e.g. joints sports, markets revive need for kinship ties and networks. This could also be done through building up the broken social networks, improving cross border interactions and intermarriages as well as recognition of traditional local governance systems.

Finally there is need to prioritize conflict actors while conducting conflict resolution based on their degree of influence. Cultural issues need be taken into consideration while addressing cross border conflict hence need to establish local council peace committees at every village where conflict is active. These committees should be recognized within the governance structures and fully funded to operate. The government should be in a better position to do this with its network of administration.
5.5 Recommendations for further research

1. The study was limited to factors influencing cross border conflict resolution in Pokot and Turkana counties and many observations were made that require further investigation. Of utmost importance was the emerging trend that cross border conflict was getting a “merchandize” form with politicians and local herders colluding to undertake raid for commercial reasons. This is an interesting finding that requires further inquiry.

2. In addition there is need to establish the relationship between provision of relief aid and peace building, for in the areas that NGOs provided aid, there was less cross border conflict, though this study partially explained the problem under economic factor influence.
REFERENCES


Daily Nation, 13 January 2010. “Where guns now sell for five cows down from 14”,


Mark Ekiru,
University of Nairobi,
P.o Box 30197,
Nairobi, Kenya

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Letter of Transmittal of data collection instruments

I am a post graduate student pursuing a Master of Arts in Project Planning and Management in the University of Nairobi. As part of the course, research is undertaken in a field of interest to fulfill the requirements for the award of the MA degree.

I therefore request for your permission to undertake this research study in your area of jurisdiction, and your cooperation and support in data collection during the course of my research. The research is aimed at examining the influence of political, economic, social and cultural factors on cross border conflict resolution between Pokot and Turkana communities of Northern Kenya with a focus in Sigor and Kainuk divisions.

The research work is purely academic and all gathered information will be handled with utmost confidentiality. When the study is completed, the findings will enable conflict resolution and development practitioners operating within the two counties to develop viable, sustainable and durable solutions for the benefit of the local populations.

Attached please find a questionnaire that requires you to provide information by answering questions honestly and objectively.

I look forward to your cooperation

Yours faithfully

Mark Ekiru, L50/77560/2009
Appendix 2: Questionnaire

Instructions

1. Questionnaires will be administered to sample population using simple random sampling.
2. Interviews will be translated to help those with language barriers.

SECTION A: Personal Information

1. Name of the respondent

2. Name of the division...Location

3. Sex
   - Female
   - Male

4. What is your level of literacy
   - Literate
   - Illiterate

SECTION B: Cross Border Conflict Information

5. What are the causes of cross border conflict in your own opinion; tick the right choices
   and classify into (1. Major 2. Minor)

   - Deepening Poverty
   - Availability of weapons
   - Weak government security systems
   - Political incitements
   - Breakdown of social values
6. In comparison from the period from 1950-1980 often referred to "as calm period" and 1980 to date, what is the trend in conflict prevalence

 Reduced  Dramatic Increase  Increased

And what is the main reason(s) for this change, rank them in order of priority (from 1,2,3,4,5)

 Deepening poverty  
 Politicization and commercialization of cattle raids  
 Proliferation and reduced cost of light arms  
 Decline of the role of indigenous conflict resolution mechanisms  
 Inadequate provision of security and access to justice  
Influence of Political Factors

7. a) Is politics a major factor in cross border conflict resolution
   - Yes
   - No

b) To what extent does political factors influence cross border conflict resolution
   - High
   - Moderate
   - Low

c) What are the key elements of political nature that affect peace building tick the most appropriate and rank them (1. Very major 2. Major 3. Minor)
   - Border disputes and perceived historical injustices
   - Incitements and meddling
   - Disregard of traditional governance systems
   - Inadequate and ineffective leadership capacities for peace building and government support
   - Marginalization and lack of involvement in development
Influence of Economic factors

8. a) Is politics a major factor in cross border conflict resolution

Yes [ ]

No [ ]

b) To what extent does economic factors influence cross border conflict resolution

High [ ] Low [ ]

Moderate [ ]

c) What are the key economic issues that affect peace building across the border. Tick the most appropriate and rank them (1. Very major 2. Major 3. Minor)

Lack of alternative livelihoods (overdependence on pastoralism) [ ]

Increased poverty [ ]

Unemployment [ ]

Commercialization of cattle rustling [ ]

Intensified competition for natural resources (land, water, pasture) [ ]

Economic exclusions [ ]

Effect of natural disasters [ ]
Influence of Social factors

9. a) Are social factors a major issue in cross border conflict resolution?

Yes

No

b) To what extent does social factors influence cross border conflict resolution

High

Moderate

Low

c) What are the key social issues that affect peace building across the border? Tick the most appropriate and rank them (1. Very major 2. Major 3. Minor)

Breakdown of the social networks

Disregard of the traditional local governance systems

Reduced cross border interactions and intermarriages

High levels of illiteracy
Influence of Cultural factors

10. a) Are cultural factors a major issue in cross border conflict resolution?

Yes

No

b) To what extent does cultural factors influence cross border conflict resolution

High

Moderate

Low

c) What are the key cultural issues that affect peace building across the border? Tick the most appropriate and rank them (1.Very major 2.Major 3. Minor)

Rituals and rites (e.g. circumcision)

Effect of prophecy

Value systems and beliefs

Taboos and superstitions
11. Of the four factors, which one according to you influential cross border conflict resolution the most. (Rank them in order of influence-1,2,3,4)

- Political factors
- Economic factors
- Social factors
- Cultural factors

12. Tick and rank the following conflict actors/players as per their level of influence in peace building processes if applicable to the situation in Pokot and Turkana

(1. Most influential 2. Influential 3. Less influential)

- Elders
- Prophets
- Local politicians
- Chiefs
- Women leaders
- Youth leaders
- Traders
- Herdsmen
- Church leaders
- Civil Society and NGO representatives
13. What are the possible solutions for building durable peace (tick the most appropriate choice and rank in order of significance/priority)

1 *Very significant*

2 *Significant*

3 *Less significant*

(a) Disarmaments and control of arms flow

(b) Building of peace capacities among the local leaders

(c) Strengthening of local governance systems

(d) Reviving and strengthening traditional dispute resolution mechanisms

(e) Awareness creation and sensitization on the need for peaceful co-existence

(f) Promotion of inter-community activities e.g sports

(g) Providing alternative means of livelihoods to supplement pastoralism and integrating disaster risk management initiatives into local development planning
(h) Strengthening the local security systems, rule of law and enhancing access to justice

(i) Promoting participatory and all inclusive peace building initiatives

(j) Outreach community education on rituals, traditions, prophecies, taboos, superstitions

(k) Infrastructure development (construction of abattoirs, markets etc) and land demarcation initiatives

(l) Building of social networks and partnerships that enhance peace through intermarriages, economic and social support

(m) Financial investments into local economic development sectors (health, education, water sanitation, food security)

Thank you for your cooperation
Appendix 3: Focused Group Discussion Guide

1. In your community, cite some indigenous conflict resolution mechanisms

2. In terms of reliability, which method of indigenous conflict resolution was commonly used?

3. What is the composition of indigenous conflict resolution team? Are women involved?

4. How effective were they?
5. What is the current status of using this methods in resolving cross border conflict in light of the modern methods?

6. How does political, economic, cultural and social factors influence cross border conflict?

**Political factors**

**Economic factors**

**Social factors**

**Cultural factors**
7. What are the gaps in cross border conflict resolution

8. What can be done to provide durable and sustainable solutions

9. Do you have hope that one day there will be peace among the two communities
Appendix 4: Interview Guide

1. What are the key drivers of cross border conflict?

2. What is the trend of conflict is it increasing or reducing?

3. What are the main factors that influence conflict resolution across the border? How do they influence cross border conflict resolution

4. Name some of the ongoing conflict resolution projects and what makes them less effective.

5. Are there challenges associated with ongoing cross border reconciliation and peacemaking projects? Name them and give possible solutions

6. What is the role of women and youth in peace building?

7. Do you have trust in local administrations ability to provide security and access to justice, who do you trust most to shepherd peace efforts

8. Why is it that despite of many peace building projects, there has never been sustainable peace? What are the main issues

9. In a nutshell what can be done to create durable peace among the two communities?
Appendix 5: Map of Turkana and Pokot County Conflict Border Zones

Map of Turkana and Pokot County Conflict Border Zones (source, USAID report, 2005)
Map Cross Border Arms Flow (Source: Mkutu, 2003)