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RESEARCH ARTICLE

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS ROLE ON CONFLICT RESOLUTIONS AND PEACEKEEPING MISSION ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE WEST POKOT AND TURKANA IN KENYA

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Abstract

There are conflicts in many pastoral communities around the globe, while the Sahel region and East Africa demonstrate sustained levels of inter-pastoral violent conflicts with associated potential impacts on their livelihoods. Turkana-Pokot Violence across borders, conflict is now the norm. A number of efforts have been made by various bodies to bring peace to the region. Despite the Kenya Police Reservists' disarmament and arming of communities, peace initiative meetings, prosecuting perpetrators, declaring of illicit firearms surrender, amnesties, and setting up of peace committees continue to prevail in the region, insecurity and violent conflicts. It is in this regard that the researcher examines the role of civil society organizations in peacebuilding and reconstruction, which has gained significant attention over the last fifty years. Today, the main question is whether civil society organizations have an impact on peacebuilding efforts in the world, especially in third world countries or not. This study has primarily utilized the Protracted Social Conflicts (PSC) theory of Edward Azar. The study adopted descriptive research design. The study was conducted in Turkana and West Pokot Counties of Kenya. A total of 434 respondents were targeted in Pokot North and Turkana South. The sample size of 130 respondents was selected from each of the two Sub Counties. Data was collected using questionnaires, interview schedules, and document analysis and focus group discussions. Pilot study was conducted in Wajir County to establish reliability and validity of research instruments using content analysis and Cronbach alpha respectively. Quantitative data was analyzed using the SPSS to obtain descriptive statistics and chi-square. Qualitative data was analyzed by use of themes and presented in narrative form. Quantitative data was presented in form of tables, charts and graphs. Qualitative data was presented in form of narratives and verbatim quotations. The findings of the study revealed that, the proximity of Turkana County to three international borders, namely; Uganda, South Sudan and Ethiopia had contributed to the proliferation of small arms through the porous borders that are not governed by the respective governments. This contributed to the availability and cheapness of small arms in Turkana County as a whole, hence the sustenance of the conflict between the two communities. Therefore, this theoretical

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framework was useful in anchoring the study. The study findings therefore suggested that Politics, governance, peace-building strategies, commercialization of raided animals and proliferation of small arms are the sustainers of conflict among the pastoral communities of Turkana and West Pokot Counties of Kenya. The study established that CSO's play a crucial role in conflict resolution in West Pokot. The study found out that CSO's provides; food, clothing, water and tents in case of calamity. This was attributed to the fact that basic needs and health services are basic for the survival of every community. It was also established that NGO's settling conflict affected person's leads to conflict resolution. When natural resources are,well-managed conflicts are minimized. The CSO's provided for meetings during which residents were given awareness concerning peace and conflict resolution. The study revealed that CSOs organized social functions once per year.

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Introduction:-

This chapter also highlights the objectives of the study as well as the hypothesis Conflict between the Pokot and the Turkana Communities, which was first reported at the beginning of the 20th Century. This has since continued for long without long lasting solution to the frequent conflicts between these two communities (Gitau, 2014). The Turkana and Pokot are both Nilotes native to the Turkana County (Bordering Uganda from western side, Sudan and Ethiopia from North) and West Pokot county Kenya. These two communities are also found in Uganda. Livestock is an important aspect of both Turkana and Pokot Culture. Goats, camels, donkeys and zebu or indicine type of cattle as are popularly known are the primary herd stock utilized by the Turkana people. The Pokot are mostly cattle herders/farmers, but about a quarter are cultivators, mostly growing corn. In this society, livestock functions not only as a milk, meat, blood producer, but also as form of currency used for bride-price negotiations and dowries. Due to their nomadic life, adopted by these two communities they interact with each other throughout their history. Social customs of neighbors is thus incorporated into their way of life thus influencing each other's lifestyle.

These societies are governed by a series of age grades, whose membership is determined by individuals who were either initiated together or at the same time, month and or year. This uniformity or commonality qualifies them to belong to one social-group or society and are given a special name by which one group is identified from the other group. Young people are allowed for matrimonial binds once the initiation has been completed as well as begin taking part in the local economic functions. There are close bonds formed within the initiation groups that are functional in future political ties as they move through structured youth tribal ranks. However, the number of cows one owns determines a measure of wealth between these communities. Cows are used for barter, and exchange, which further goes into "bride wealth". A man is permitted to take more than one wife, as long as he has enough cows to offer her family in exchange for her hand in marriage. Hence, livestock are highly valued by these communities. These two communities are armed with sophisticated arms and ammunition including firearms to guard their livestock and themselves from any threats. Besides, they also share common border and resources, which place them in constant conflicts with each other. Frequent fight and cattle wrestling is a common thing between these two communities.

Many factors instigate disagreement and conflicts between these two communities among them being culture influence, lifestyle, resource scarcity, boundary issues, and possession of illegal arms among others. However, there is need to understand which is the core factor of conflict.

2. Statement of the Problem

Since independence, West Pokot and Turkana counties has perpetually experienced ethnic conflicts and insecurity at a high scale, which have negatively affected the development of the region (Pkalya, 2003). Various factors ranging from the government, societal, organizations, religious organizations, and the international community have made several efforts in bringing peace in the region (Terry, et al 2007). In their research, they established that there have

been efforts for accommodative politics, such as preaching peace, prosecuting perpetrators, declaring illicit firearm and surrendering of the same or forceful disarmament and peacekeeping missions of 2023. Amnesties and establishing peace committees have seen the region come close to the prospect of peace and perhaps just that. The cattle raiding conflict has been a long-standing one between Pokots and Turkana. Annual reports for these areas indicate cattle rustling incidents as early as 1924. Many people have lost lives and livestock and the effect has been tremendous.

In the past, these conflicts were due to cultural factors and unlike its present, they were less bloody. It involved the use of less lethal weaponry and it was engrained in culture as a rite of passage to adulthood and stealing livestock for paying of dowry. With the passage of time political, economic, social and technological dimensions, these conflicts have changed and with them more parties are now involved. This study seeks to investigate the main causes of the conflicts between the two communities and to recommend possible ways of resolving the conflicts.

In spite of all these efforts and best practices from other continents, countries, counties insecurity and conflict in the region prevail hence prompting more research and the role of civil society organizations in conflict resolutions and peacekeeping in pastoral communities in West Pokot.

Objectives of the study:-

1. To investigate civil society organizations role in conflict resolution in West Pokot and Turkana county, Kenya
2. To identify the underlying causes of the persistent problem of insecurity in the borders of Turkana and West Pokot County.
3. To assess the challenges facing civil society organizations in resolving conflicts in West Pokot-Turkana County.

A. Research questions

1. What is the civil society organizations role in conflict resolution in West Pokot County, Kenya?
2. How do assess the challenges facing civil society organizations in resolving conflicts in West Pokot County.
3. What is the role of other actors in conflict resolutions in West Pokot County, Kenya?
4. What role do CSOs play in peacebuilding to achieve harmonious stay?
5. To what extent have the CSOs facilitated the involvement of the affected people in the formulation and implementation of the peace building (conflict resolution) efforts?
6. What can CSO's do to ensure politics of affiliation and acceptance prevail in West Pokot.?

B. Theoretical Framework

This thesis takes seriously the conflict transformation theory, ascribed to Lederach (1997), which is drawn from earlier theories of conflict escalation, conflict management and conflict resolution (Galtung, 1995; Väyrynen 1991) and has now become an integral part of the lexicon used within the broader field of peace and conflict management. As posed by Christopher Mitchell: What does conflict transformation actually transform? (Mitchell, 2002:1-23). Lederach (1997) proposes central and guiding conceptual elements of this process as marked by changes in personal, structural, relational, and cultural aspects of conflict. Personal transformation involves strengthening peoples' capacity to resolve conflict. Transformation is expected to restore individual sense of their ability to handle conflicts and a willingness to search for durable peace (Mitchelle, 2002). In our context, how are community saving activities position members to search for durable peace? At the relational level, conflictual relationships between rival groups are expected to be transformed into peaceful relationships, characterized by co-operation and mutual efforts to resolve conflict. In this case, how has enhanced interactions through community savings helped reduce prejudice between the warring parties? The structural dimension links conflict to the political, economic, and social structures in the community. Transformation of these structures is aimed at fostering the meeting of basic human needs and participation in decision making by community members (Lederach, 1997: Rupesinghe, 1995). This dimension is important in understanding women's incremental participation in decision making at household level, and at communal level, where peacebuilding issues are discussed. Culturally, transformation involves understanding how culture affects conflict. It involves identification of cultural patterns that contribute to conflict formation and those that can be harnessed to facilitate the cessation of conflict (Lederach. 1997). In this respect, the dimension helps provide answers on how cultural aspects such as intermarriage, tying of the traditional rope (Leketyo) and pastoralism are being harnessed by saving group members to foster conflict transformation. For peaceful coexistence in West Pokot and normalcy of board market, humanitarian roles, natural resource management forums of peace coexistence and public awareness on conflict resolution should be provided. If the population is accessible to basic need and equitably share the natural resource, the issue of conflict would not arise. Due to the adverse

climatic condition, the people are marginalized and this has led to struggle for the very humble resources leading to conflict. Public awareness and peace forum are very vital tool to fight the vice of cattle rustling and bring normalcy on the border markets. The politician has influenced a lot on peaceful existence among the communities some of them have been fueling conflict while others have been championing for peace. The research design adopted in this study was survey type in which the researcher went to the field to collect data directly. Survey studies are conducted to describe the nature of existing conditions, identify standards against which existed conditions are compared or determine relationships that exist between specific events Cohen. (1998:83). the main purpose of using this design in this study was to provide quantitative and numeric descriptions of the sample to necessitate description and explanation. The survey design was justified for this study because it was economical, provided rapid data collection and provided ability to understand the population from the selected sample and base for further extensive research. The study was conducted in the larger West Pokot District comprising of Central Pokot, North Pokot, and West

Pokot districts with 396,000 residents and 30 CSO's managers and their assistants served as the target population. The researcher targeted to sample a hundred respondents; twenty key informants and eighty respondents from the local community. The hundred respondents were arrived at using the Nassiuma's formulae (2000). The researcher targeted to sample 100 respondents as follows; 2 sub locations in each of three divisions would be sampled. In each of the six locations, six households would be sampled. Two respondents would be sampled in each household. The remaining 8 respondents would be sampled in Pokot North Sub County and Pokot South Sub County because insecurity is rampant in these divisions as they are in the borders. This would make a total of 80 community respondents and 20 key informants. The researcher managed to sample the following; 10 key informants: three members of County Assembly (MCA) from Sekerr ward in Sigor constituency, Suam ward in Kacheliba Constituency and Chepareria ward in Chepareria constituency, three Assistant County Commissioners from the three divisions, 2 religious leaders; one from CJPC working in the area, one official from World Vision International which is a major NGO working in the region and one security agent; the (OCPD). The MCAs provided useful information on insecurity in their respective wards. Two considerations determined sampling: first, was that the population was geographically dispersed, secondly, there was a need or requirement to achieve randomization and representativeness of sample elements as a whole since this was a sample survey. The terrain that constituted the research site has been described above. Since the population was dispersed across widely scattered villages (manyattas), cluster sampling was used. Cluster sampling is probability sampling of natural groupings (clusters) of individuals in the population. The villages (clusters) were the natural groupings, namely: Amakuriat, Seker, Naipokure, Kositei, Natorot and Napukut on the Pokot side interfaced with the Naipa, Kataruk, Kainuk, Katilu, Lopur and Lokori on the Turkana side. Cluster sampling is very useful when the population is widely dispersed and it is impractical to list and sample all its elements (Vaus, 2002; Creswell, 2009). It involves surveying whole clusters of the population selected through a defined random sampling strategy. The manyattas were sampled so that individuals in their upper teens or above could be surveyed. The thinking was that since Pokots and Turkanas are pastoralists, the best way to locate them was through the manyattas. On the Pokot side of the Pokot-Turkana boundary, there were about forty clusters of villages (manyattas) and on the Turkana side there about thirty of them. However, in terms of numbers of people who lived in each manyatta, there was, by and largeno difference between Pokots and Turkanas. On either side of the boundary, the number of residents per manyatta ranged from three hundred to five hundred. Six manyattas (clusters) were randomly selected on the Turkana side of the boundary and six on the Pokot side, in the same way, which gave a total of twelve clusters. A sample of 381 cases, comprising of 190 Pokots and 191 Turkana consisting of men and women was selected from the twelve clusters. The selection was stratified by gender and age. The strata were women in which age is a fixed variable (40 percent% of the sample), men who are 31 years old and above in which age is a fixed variable (30% of the sample), and young men aged 17 through 30 years – the —Moran or warrior age group (30% of the sample). Besides cluster sampling, focus group discussion – supplemental to cluster sampling – was employed. The researcher requested assistance from the representatives of the local government administration, and the local Churches in the selection of appropriate individuals for the focus group discussion. Focus group discussions were conducted on the Pokots and Turkanas separately. The criteria of knowledge of the local milieu, high regard, and significant level of respect among the local population guided the researcher in the selection of participants for the focus group discussion. The individuals were recruited from the local administration (chiefs and assistant chiefs), local Church (pastors and catechists) local Non-government Organizations (peace and development workers) and other respected opinion-shaping groups in the society, such as teachers. Focus group discussions provide deep, comprehensive qualitative information about the topic under research. Four criteria informed the decision to have a sample size of 381 respondents: first, the type of data that was to be collected, secondly, the interest in detecting significant

relationships among variables and this depends on how large a sample size is. Thirdly, the fact that cluster sampling requires a large sample size to achieve precision because cases within clusters tend to be similar. Fourth, the need to use factor analysis that requires a large sample size, in order to identify or uncover underlying dimensions (causes) of the research object, which is the Pokot-Turkana violent conflict. 197 members of the community were randomly selected from the three districts of west pokot treated as strata. Purposive sampling was used to arrive at the CSO's officials where 13 officials were randomly selected giving a total of 210 members who participated in the study. The sample was stratified into males and females, the districts of the region treated as strata's from which the sample was proportionally obtained since the population distribution is the same. However, this does not imply that sex was a variable in the study but is meant to indicate men and woman involved in the study. In this study, the researcher employed simple random sampling technique to select 210 respondents from the population of 39,600 residents and 30 CSO's as per the sited formula on sample estimation. The sample selected was considered representative as simple random sampling technique guards against bias from the accessible population such that each of the Population members have equal chance of being selected among the sample size of 210. The researcher developed a questionnaire to be used in eliciting information from the respondents. The purpose of the questionnaire was to collect a lot of information within a short period. This instrument was suitable for this study because the respondents, especially NGO managers and their assistants were assumed literate, time was limited and the information needed was described in writing. The questionnaire comprised of closed ended and open-ended type of questions. It had five sections. Section A, solicited information on demographic characteristics of the respondent. Section B, sought information on the role of CSO's in conflict resolution and their influence among the communities of West Pokot. Section C, sought information on the methods CSO's use to manage scarce resources to address conflict, section D, solicited information on how CSO's provided a forum to conflicting communities in West Pokot to sort out their differences and section E, sought information on the possible ways through which the CSO's facilitated public awareness about conflict resolution in West Pokot. Interview involved face-to-face verbal communication in which one person or (a group of persons) asked the other questions intended to elicit information or opinion. This instrument were used by the researcher to collect information that cannot be directly observed or difficult to be put down in writing. This allowed the researcher to gain control over the line of questioning. In-depth interview involved CSO's officials. The in-depth interview solicited detailed and insights, about the concept in relation to the role of CSO's in conflict resolution in west Pokot. Quantitative data was collected from a sample of 210 respondents using questionnaire and interview. The researcher collected data by distribution and collection of questionnaires, taking the CSO's officials through the interviews in person because firsthand information was crucial in this study. The analysis of data in this study was descriptive in nature. Data was presented in tables with emphasis on frequencies and percentages. Conclusions were drawn from the collected data based on the descriptive statistics mainly percentages.

Findings; the study established that CSO's play a crucial role in conflict resolution in West Pokot. They provide basic needs by giving humanitarian assistance, which is among underlying causes of conflict. Humanitarian assistance provided included: food, clothing, water and tents in case of calamity. This was attributed to the fact that basic needs and health services are basic for the survival of every community. CSO's in West Pokot directly or indirectly provided basic education by sponsoring public schools through provision of learning materials and lunch programs. NGO's resettlement of conflict-affected persons has greatly contributed to conflict resolution. CSO's in West Pokot settle conflict among affected persons. CSO's participated in bringing peace between warring communities. They provided humanitarian services as well as forum for negotiation among conflict immunities. In so doing, the CSO's developed a sense of responsibility in fostering peace among West Pokot community members. CSO's had helped the community to manage natural resources through scarce natural resources management method. This reduced competition and scramble for water points. To minimize conflicts arising from water as resources, the CSO's had intensified drilling of boreholes and wells in West Pokot. Most of the CSO's have taken the initiative of drilling of boreholes to provide enough water points for livestock and people, establishment of health centers and restocking of livestock after cattle rustling. NGO's restock livestock after calamities hence contribute towards conflict resolution. This was attributed to the fact that most of the population in West Pokot region depends on livestock for livelihood.

CSO's are the brain-child of grazing enclosure. This enhances the findings that CSO's are actively involved in managing the community's resources as a strategy to minimize conflict. When natural resources are well-managed conflicts are minimized. The study also established that CSO's provided forum through meetings during which residents were made aware concerning the pros of peace and conflict resolution. The study revealed that CSO's organized social functions once per year. Several ways were used by CSO's to facilitate public awareness in conflict

resolution in West Pokot. Among them were fortnight meetings that were held by CSO's. The main agenda of the meetings held by CSO's was on peace building. CSO's facilitated public awareness in conflict resolution in West Pokot. This is done through fortnight meetings held by CSO's. The main agenda of the meetings held were on peace building. This is attributed to the situation that is prevalent in West Pokot; the region is conflict prone and therefore peace building is the main agenda in most meetings. Furthermore, CSO's have been holding public awareness seminars on peace building. CSO's provide means of unifying communities especially at the border. This is attributed to the likelihood of conflicts arising from such areas.

C. Humanitarian Roles offered by CSO's and their Influence on Conflict Resolution

There are a number of CSO's offering humanitarian assistance to residents in west Pokot. The respondents involved in this study acknowledged to have interacted with NGO's variously. The number of NGO's the respondents had interacted with is captured in Table 4

Table 4.6:- Number of CSO's respondents has interacted with.

Source of livelihood	Frequency	Percent%
One	50	23.8
Two-three	60	28.6
Four-five	50	23.8
Above 5	50	23.8
TOTAL	210	100

Table 4.6 indicates that the majority of the respondents 60(28.6%) had interacted with 2-3 CSO's. However, 50(23.8%) of the respondents had interacted with only one CSO's. Similarly, 50(23.8%) had interacted with 4-5 CSO's as the same number, 50(23.8%) acknowledged to had interacted with above 5 CSO's. Thus, all the respondents had interacted with CSO's and had clear picture about how these CSO's involve themselves in conflict resolution.

Provision of humanitarian assistance in times of calamity

CSO's involve themselves in quite a number of activities that are geared towards conflict resolution and peace building. Respondents were investigated on CSO's humanitarian roles.

Their responses are captured in Table 4.7

Table 4.7:- Provision of food, water, clothing and tents by CSO's in case of calamity.

Response	Frequency	Percentage %
Yes	135	64.3
No	75	35.7
1) Total	210	100

Table 4.7 indicate that the majority of the respondents 135 (64.3%) acknowledged that CSO's in their locality provided food, water, clothing and tents in case of calamity. The provision of these humanitarian basic needs is vital in conflict prone areas such as West Pokot. At times of conflict, crisis victims are left without personal effects, food and water. Tribal clashes and political violence render many people homeless and as such need assistance from CSO's. As a result, 135(64.3%) of the respondents observed that CSO's in their localities provided food, water and clothing. Table 4.7 further indicates that 75(35.7%) of the respondents asserted that CSO's in their locality do not provide tents, water, food and clothing in case of calamity. This was attributed to the objectives and financial ability of the concerned CSO's. From example, CSO's whose objective is provision of education or medical services cannot provide tents, clothing, water and food in case of calamities.

D. Provision of medical facilities

With respect to provision of medical facilities, the respondents' responses on CSO's in their locality are presented in Table 4.8

Table 4.8:- provision of medical facilities by CSO's.

Response	Frequency	Percentage%
Yes	160	76.6

	No	50	23.8
2)	Total	210	100

Table 4.8 revealed that the majority of the respondents 160 (76.2%) acknowledged that CSO's in their localities provided medical facilities. Medical facilities are important both in times of conflict and peace. CSO's which provide medical facilities are called upon to double their efforts especially during conflict spell since people are concentrated in camps; a situation that poses health hazard that cultivate into disease outbreak. However, 50(23.8%) of the respondents acknowledged that CSO's in their localities do not provide medical facilities. This was attributed to the mission, vision and objectives of the concerned NGO, which do not include medical services.

E. Provision of basic education

The study also sought to establish whether CSO's provided basic education as sponsors. The respondents' responses on this aspect are captured in Table 4.9

Table 4.9:- Provision of basic education by CSO's.

3)	Response	Frequency	Percentage%
	Yes	160	76.6
	No	50	23.8
	Total	210	100

Table 4.9 shows that the majority of the respondents 160 (76.2%) acknowledged that NGO's in their locality provided or sponsored basic education. In these localities, CSO's directly or indirectly provided basic and sponsoring public ones through provision of learning materials and lunch programs. However, 50(23.8%) of the respondents refuted the assertion that CSO's provided basic education in their localities. The CSO's in the concerned areas were never involved in the provision of basic education.

F. Resettlement of conflict afflicted persons

Some CSO's are involved in resettlement of conflict-afflicted persons.

Table 4.10:- Settlement of conflict affected persons by CSO's.

Response	Frequency	Percentage%
Yes	120	57.1
No	90	42.9
Total	210	100

Table 4.10 reveals that the majority of the respondents 120(57.1%) acknowledged that CSO's in their locality settle conflict among affected persons. The CSO's play a cruel role of bringing peace between warring communities. They provide humanitarian services as well negotiating conflict resolution among those affected. In so doing, the CSO's develop a sense of responsibility in fostering peace among the community members. However, table 4.10 further includes 90(42.9%) of the respondents who reported that CSO's in their areas never settled conflict among the affected persons. This was attributed to the objectives and mission of such CSO's being void of conflict resolution initiatives.

Re-stocking of livestock Respondents involved in the study were further investigated on whether the CSO's in their localities were involved in re-stocking livestock after a calamity (cattle rustling drought). Table 4.11 captures respondents' responses on this aspect

Table 4.11:- CSO's involvement in restocking livestock after a calamity (cattle rustling or drought).

CSO's involvement in restocking livestock	Frequency	Percent
Yes	5	5

No	205	95
Total	210	100.0

Table 4.11 majority of the respondents 200(95%) refuted the assertion that CSO's restock livestock after a calamity (cattle rustling or drought). This indicates that most CSO's in the investigated region (West Pokot) do not restock livestock after cattle rustling or drought. This was attributed to the fact that incase of cattle rustling, replacement or restocking of livestock encourages the vice. Alternative ways of survival should be encouraged rather than solely depending on livestock keeping. However, the table 4.11 further indicates that 10(5%) of the respondents acknowledged that CSO's restock their cattle

G. Provision of humanitarian support

The study also sought to establish whether CSO's humanitarian activities such as provision of food, water, clothing and tents; medical facilities; basic education; resettlement of conflict afflicted persons and restocking livestock after a calamity (cattle rustling or drought) contribute to conflict resolution. With regard to provision of food, water, clothing and tents in case of calamity contributes to conflict resolution in various degrees.

Table 4.12 captures the respondents' responses on this issue.

S.A (Strongly agree) was given 5-points; A (Agree) was given 4-points; U (undecided) was given 3-points; D (Disagree) was given 2-points; S.D (Strongly disagree) was given 1-point.

Table 4.12:- Provision of humanitarian support.

ACTIVITY	S.A	A	U	D	S.D	M	Std dev
Provide food, water, clothing and tents in case of calamity	75	120	10	4	1	4.26	0.25
Provide medical facilities	80	110	10	1	9	4.20	0.23
Resettlement of conflict afflicted persons	60	130	15	2	3	4.15	0.25
Re-stocking livestock after a calamity (cattle rustling/drought)	100	105	3	1	1	4.44	0.26

From the table a mean of 4.5 to 5 indicate strongly agreed. 3.5 - 4.4 agreed 2.5 - 3.4 undecided. 1.5 -2.4 disagreed and 1.5 and below strongly disagree Table 4.12 shows the finding which reveals that the majority of the respondents 195 acknowledged that CSO's provision of food, clothing, water and tents in case of calamity leads to conflict resolution; with 75 strongly agreeing and 120 agreeing. The mean of 4.26 and the standard deviation of 0.26 are indicative that the population agrees. This was attributed to the fact that food, water, clothing and housing (tents) are basic needs and their provision will definitely scale down cases of conflict. However, 10(4.8%), 4(1.9%) and 1(0.5%) of the respondents were undecided, disagreed and strongly disagreed with the statement in question respectively.

H. Reduction in cattle rustling

The respondents were further investigated on whether the existence and incoming of NGO's had reduced instances of cattle rustling.

Table 4.14:- Reduction of instances of cattle rustling.

4)	Response	Frequency	percentage%
	Yes	120	57.1
	No	90	42.9
	Total	210	100

Table 4.14 shows that the majority of the respondents (57.1%) asserted that existence and incoming of NGO's had reduced instances of cattle rustling in their areas. This was attributed to the fact that the NGO's in these area are

mainly engaged in resettling conflict affected people, provision of basic education and health facilities with all these services, the instances of cattle rustling are bound to steadily decline. The CSO's also engaged in humanitarian services such as provision of food, clothes and water; therefore, the residents have no reasons for cattle rustling: however, 42.9% of the respondents observed that existence and incoming of CSO's had, not reduced instances of cattle rustling in their areas.

I. Provision of social amenities by CSO's

The CSO's in West Pokot region are involved in provision of a number of amenities. The study sought to establish the amenities that are provided and the length of time such facilities have been in operation in the concerned areas. Thus, the respondents were investigated on CSO's provision of boreholes, dams, schools and health centers. The respondents' responses were carried as discussed hereunder. Respondents reported as indicated in table 4.17 about CSO's drilling boreholes and wells in West Pokot.

Table 4.15:- Number of boreholes and wells drilled by CSO's.

Number of boreholes and wells	Frequency	percentages %
Below 5	100	47.6
5 to 10	60	28.6
10 to 15	15	7.1
Above 15	35	16.7
Total	210	100

Table 4.15 shows that the majority of the respondents 100 (47.6%) acknowledged that CSO's had drilled boreholes and wells in their locality for the period below 5 years. This means that in the recent times (below 5 years) the CSO's had intensified their activities in drilling boreholes (wells) in West Pokot. This is attributed to the fact that conflicts in West Pokot had been partly linked to competition and scramble for water points. To minimize conflicts arising from water sources, the CSO's had intensified drilling of boreholes and wells in West Pokot. Table 4.15 further indicates that CSO's had drilled boreholes and wells in West Pokot for a period of 5-10 years. Furthermore, Table 4.15 shows that 15(7.1%) of the respondents observed that CSO's had drilled boreholes and wells in their area for the period of 10-15 years. In addition, 35(16.7%) of the respondents acknowledged that CSO's had drilled boreholes and wells in their area for more than 15 years.

J. Construction of dams by CSO's

Regarding construction of dams in West Pokot, the responses are captured in Table 4.19.

Table 4.16:- Dams constructed by CSO's in West Pokot.

Number of Dams	Frequency	percentage%
below 5	70	33.5
5 to 10	70	33.5
10 to 15	20	9.5
above 15	50	23.5
Total	>210	100

Table 4.16 shows that 70(33.3%) of the respondents asserted that CSO's had constructed dams in West Pokot for the period below 5 years. Similarly, the same percentage (33.3%) observed that the CSO's had constructed dams in their areas for the period of 5-10 years. In the two cases it can be deduced that: the CSO's as acknowledged by cumulative percentage of 66.7% of the respondents had realized the need to provide sufficient and sustainable water supply for the region's residents as a way of providing a lasting solution to conflicts emanating from scramble for water.

Furthermore, Table 4.16 shows that 20(9.5%) of the respondents acknowledged that the CSO's in their areas had constructed dams for a period of 10-15 years as 50(23.8%) asserted that the CSO's had done that for over 15 years in their locality. The study, therefore, established that CSO's had been involved in construction of dams in West Pokot for quite some varied times. Thus, the CSO's had realized the role of stable sources of water in conflict resolution among pastoralist communities.

K. Health centers constructed by CSO's

In relation to CSO's building health centers in West Pokot the respondents' responses are captured in Table 4.20

Table 4.17:- Health centers built by CSO's in West Pokot. **Number of**

B.health centers	Frequency	percentage%
Below 5	64	30.5
5 to 10	52	24.8
10 to 15	45	21.4
Above 15	49	23.3
I)Total	210	100

Table 4.17 indicates that the majority of the respondents 64(30.5%) reported that CSO's had built health centers in West Pokot for a period below 5 years. These included areas in which the project of building health centers by CSO's was on-going or had been initiated and completed in a period less than 5 years preceding the study. The table 4.17 further indicates that 52(24.8%) of the respondents acknowledged that CSO's had built health facilities in their area for a period of 5-10 years. Similarly, 45(21.4%) and 49(23.3%) of the respondents reported that CSO's had built health centers for 10-15 years and above 15 years respectively.

Generally, therefore, the study found out that CSO's were actually involved in provision of health services in West Pokot region. These CSO's health initiatives are important in complementing the government initiative in achieving a health nation. The CSO's role in provision of health facilities in West Pokot is not supplementary to that by the government but complement since the Ministry of health cannot cater for every resident due to the region terrain, vastness and climate. Humanitarian activities are important in ensuring that the communities live in harmony.

Conflicts will always arise in the absence of essential needs at all levels of life; social, economic, cultural, political etc. thus the study investigated respondents on whether CSO's participate in humanitarian activities such as famine relief, poverty alleviation, opening of ASAL markets, cultural conformity and national building.

L. Famine relief offered by CSO's

In relation to CSO's involvement in famine relief, respondents' responses are captured in Table 4.18 S.A (Strongly agree) was given 4-points; A (Agree) was given 3-points D (Disagree) was given 2-points; S.D (Strongly disagree) was given 1-point

Table 4.18:- Famine relief offered by CSO's.

Activities	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Mean	Std dev
Farming relief	140	60	4	6	3.59	0.3
Poverty alleviation	20	124	43	23	2.67	0.23
Opening of ASAL markets	45	80	60	25	2.69	0.11
Cultural conformity	60	100	40	10	3.00	0.18
National building	75	70	53	12	2.99	0.14

From Table 4.18 a mean of 3.5 to 4 indicate strongly agreed. 2.5 - 3.4 agreed 1.5 - 2.4 disagreed and 1.5 and below strongly disagree. The majority of the respondents strongly agreed that CSO's in West Pokot were involved in famine relief. Famine relief initiatives by CSO's in West Pokot include provision of fertilizer and drought resistant seed varieties; relief food supply; and provision of water. By involving themselves in famine relief, the CSO's have helped in reduction of conflict prevalence in West Pokot region that had spilled over to other neighboring countries.

The table further indicates that 60 of the respondents agreed with the statement on CSO's involvement in famine relief. Cumulatively, therefore, 200 of the respondents agreed that CSO's were involved in famine relief in their areas. Consequently, CSO's play a vital role in conflict resolution through famine relief in their areas. However, 4 and 6 of the respondents' disagreed and strongly disagreed respectively with the assertion that CSO's were involved in famine relief. Having a mean of 3.59 and a standard deviation of 0.3 predicts that the population strongly agree that CSO's in West Pokot were involved in famine relief

Poverty alleviation.

Table 4.18:- Indicates that the majority of the respondents 124 agreed with the assertion that CSO's are involved in poverty alleviation.

CSO's are involved in poverty alleviation	Frequency	Percentage
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Yes	194	87.4
No	16	12.6
Total	210	100.0

Similarly, 20 of the respondents strongly agreed with the statement. Thus, cumulatively 144 of the respondents supported the claim that CSO's are involved in poverty alleviation. The CSO's do this by initiating income generating activities (IGAS) among the community members. People are taught on starting small businesses and savings through micro-finance. The CSO's provide entrepreneur knowledge to members of the community through seminars and workshops, which target women, men and the youth. The economically active population will cut down on cattle rustling and poverty reduction will be realized. In contrary, Table 4.18 indicates that 43 and 23 of the respondents refuted the claim that CSO's are involved in poverty alleviation by disagreeing and strongly disagreeing respectively. Therefore, cumulatively 66 of the respondents did not support the assertion in question. The result scored a mean of 2.67 and a standard deviation of 0.23 an indication that the respondents agrees that CSO's are involved in poverty alleviation programs

M. How CSO's Use Scarce Natural Resources Management Method in Conflict Resolution

Scarcity of natural resources has been one of the perennial causes of conflicts among communities in West Pokot. It is therefore worth looking at how CSO's use the scarce natural resources management as a method of addressing conflict. Thus, respondents were required to respond to the statement on whether CSO's had helped the community to manage the natural resources. Table 4.19 presents the reported responses. S.A (Strongly agree) was given 5points; A (Agree) was given 4-points; U (undecided) was given 3-points; D (Disagree) was given 2-points; S.D (Strongly disagree) was given 1-point

Table 4.20:- Involvement of CSO's in management of natural resource.

2)Involvement of CSO's in management of natural resource	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std.Deviation
NTBS were fully eliminated when the common market came into force	1.00	3.00	2.0000	.81650
There are mechanisms by the common market to deal with members who impose NTBS on other members	2.00	5.00	3.4615	.87706
Member states are committed to boosting regional trade by removal all NTBS	3.00	5.00	3.7692	.83205
Full benefits of common market have been achieved as there are no NTBS by member states	1.00	3.00	1.6154	.65044

From the table a mean of 4.5 to 5 indicated strongly agreed. 3.5 - 4.4 agreed 2.5 - 3.4 undecided. 1.5 -2.4 disagreed and 1.5 and below strongly disagree Table 4.19 shows that the majority of the respondents 137 acknowledged that CSO's had helped the community to manage natural resources; with 68 strongly agreeing and 69 agreeing. This indicates that indeed CSO's in West Pokot had assisted the residents in the management of the scarce natural resources. When natural resources are,well-managed conflicts are minimized. However, Table 4.26 further shows that 13 of the respondents were undecided about the assertion that CSO's had helped the community to manage natural resources. 50 and 10 of the respondents disagreed and strongly disagreed with the statement respectively. With a mean of 3.64 and a standard deviation of 0.13, the result predicted the population agreed that CSO's helped the community to manage natural resources.

1 Grazing enclosure

CSO's also participate in creation of grazing enclosure. The respondents responded to the question on whether CSO's were the brain- child of grazing enclosure. Their responses are captured in Table 4.20

Table 4.21:- Introduction of grazing enclosure by CSO's.

Response	Frequency	percent %
Yes	114	54.3
No	96	45.7
Total	210	100

Table 4.20 indicates that the majority of the respondents 114(54.3%) acknowledged that CSO's are the brain-child of grazing enclosure. This further enhances the finding that CSO's are actively involved in managing the community's resources as a strategy to minimize conflict. However, 96(45.7%) of the respondents were of the contrary view that grazing enclosures were not the brain-child of CSO's. These were respondents who came from places without grazing enclosures or the enclosures had been initiated and funded by other stakeholders other than CSO's.

Possible ways through which CSO's can Facilitate Public Awareness about Conflict

N. Resolution in West Pokot

The study sought to establish possible ways through which CSO's can facilitate public awareness about conflict resolution in West Pokot.

O. Fortnight meeting

The respondents were investigated on the existence of CSO's that hold fortnight meetings.

Table 4.24 captures reported responses.

Table 4.24:- Fortnight meetings held by CSO's.

	Response	Frequency	percent%
Yes	110	52.4	47.6
No	100	47.6	47.6
Total	210	100	47.6

Table 4.25 indicates that the majority of the respondents 110(52.4%) acknowledged the claim that there were CSO's which held fortnight meetings. However, 100(47.6%) of the respondents disputed the claim. Furthermore, the study sought to know the agenda of fortnight meetings that were held by CSO's. The responses are shown in Table 4.26

Table 4.25:- The main Agenda of fortnight meeting held by CSO's.

<i>P. Response</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>percent%</i>
Livestock disease reduction	35	31.8
Livestock market	5	4.6
Peace building	56	50.9
All the above	14	12.7
Total	N=110	100

It is worth noting that those who responded with "Yes" in Table 4.26 were 110 and thus this forms the N in table 4.26 since it focuses on the agenda of the meetings held by CSO's as reported by the 110 respondents. Therefore, N=110. Table 4.26 revealed that the majority 56(50.9%) of the respondents acknowledged that the main agenda of the meetings held by CSO's was on peace building, this is attributed to the situation that is prevalent in West Pokot; the region is conflict prone and therefore peace building makes a main agenda in most meetings. Table 4.26 further indicates that 35(31.8%) of the respondents reported that the main agenda in the CSO's fortnight meetings was livestock disease reduction. Livestock diseases kill livestock in West Pokot a situation that leads to conflict as owners try to seek for alternative means of survival since they wholly depend on these animals for livelihood. Once diseases wipe out livestock, the owners are likely to look for restocking through rustling and as such lead to conflict. Therefore, livestock disease reduction is a measure to conflict prevention. Table 4.26 also indicates that 5(4.6%) of the respondents observed that in CSO's fortnight meetings livestock market formed the main agenda; as 14(12.7%) reported that all the above mentioned formed the main agenda of the CSO's' fortnight meetings.

Q. Unity in the community

The study investigated respondents on whether the CSO's were providing means of unifying the communities especially at the border. The majority 150(71.4%) of the respondents involved in the study acknowledged the claim that CSO's provided means of unifying communities especially at the border, this is attributed to the likelihood of conflicts arising from such areas. Cross border, conflicts are common among many communities in Kenya and as such, these are the areas to be looked at keenly by CSO's that promote peace building and conflict resolution.

The study further subjected respondents to the claim that some of the West Pokot community have outdated cultural practices which nurture conflict and whether discouraging of such outdated cultural practices of the Pokot wart conflict. Responses to this perspective are presented in Table 4.27.

Table 4.26:- Discouraging of outdated cultural practices of Pokot that wart conflict?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	140	48.4
No	60	37.9
Undecided	49	13.7
Total	210	100.0

Table 4.27 shows that the majority of the respondents 140 acknowledged the claim that discouraging outdated cultural practices of Pokot can wart conflict with 60 strongly agreeing and 80 agreeing. However, 49 disagreed with the statement as 20 strongly disagreed with the assertion that discouraging of outdated cultural practices of the Pokot can wart conflict. The mean of 3.53 and a standard deviation of 0.15 indicate that the respondent agreed that discouraging outdated cultural practices of Pokot can wart conflict

Conclusion of the Finding:-

Civil societies can be very important partners in peace-building because they offer alternative and innovative solutions to conflict. Even though they are not a force for peace, the debates, programs, community projects and initiatives created by civil society organizations are fundamental for peace and peace-building. Their contributions to peace-building extend from initiatives of development and promotion of positive values in the community, to addressing policies, socio-political and economic systems that promote exclusion of certain groups in the society that ultimately lead to emergence of conflict. The presence of active, effective and widespread civil society organizations can nurture the emergence and development of institutions that can resolve conflicts and generate self-sustaining systems that can sustain peace through better and responsive governance. This study has argued that whereas there are several reputable international civil society organizations operating in Somalia, the emergence of local civil societies offers mixed results concerning the operational nature and capacity of these organizations. There is indeed, an important need to conceptualize civil societies within the context of Somalia while at the same time establishing these organizations within an operational structure that enhances and encourages accountability. To this end, new models can be developed to establish to what extent an organization can be considered as civil society organization. Amongst the fundamental criteria, an ideal civil society organization should be established as a separate entity from not only the state and the market, but also, either operating as a business private enterprise or offering services that would otherwise be offered by the state or local government. Secondly, unlike the commonality of Somali local civil society organizations to be established based on blood relations, the new model needs to categorize Somali civil society organizations based on the meeting or having defined and specific set of interests that are detached from sectarian identities such as clans or religion. This is important because to have an effectively operating and accountable civil society organization in Somalia, they need to be autonomous from external influences that may distort their organizational objectives or at worst, even alienate the same population it aims to serve. Instead, the Somali local civil society organizations should have strong internal formal structures that maximizes the existing potential of its membership to achieve the organizational goals effectively.

CSO's play a crucial role in conflict resolution and its transformation in West Pokot County. This is through provision of basic needs as humanitarian assistance example of food relief, clothing water and tents, which are the underlying causes of the conflicts. CSO's have taken a lead in the provision of basic services like medical and education that is important in wellbeing of the society. Education is very important such that educated individual refrain from partaking histo-cultural practice like cattle rustling. CSO's are important especially those that champion for scarce resource management. In areas with CSO's with this initiative have well-established pasture enclosure, dams and water supply in general and the population leaves in peace as compared with areas without. Most of the CSO's have taken the initiative of drilling of boreholes to provide enough water points for livestock and people, establishment of health centers and restocking of livestock after rustling. The CSO's provided a forum where warring communities to meet and residents given awareness concerning peace and conflict resolution. Tecla Lorupe peace race have been one of the event that brought community in North Rift together.

Recommendations of the study:-

The study makes the following recommendations based on the findings:

1. Having found out that, CSO's play key role in the provision of humanitarian assistance and that the existing ones are not restocking livestock in case of calamity. There is need for more donors to support the CSO's in West Pokot in provision of humanitarian services.

2. The CSO's should step up their involvement in creating and sustaining grazing enclosures. This is with respect to the case that in areas where there is sustainable natural resource management enacted by CSO's, there is less incidents of conflict.
3. The government of Kenya should consider adding more police stations and even army bases in northwestern Kenya. These police or army stations could then defend these communities from cross border bandits, as well as prevent the two neighboring tribes from raiding each other. As Michael Bollig work shows, when the British colonial administration had an army base in Kapedo, (an area between the Pokot and Turkana) raiding stopped.
4. The CSO's should sponsor more social functions in West Pokot. On public awareness in conflict resolution, more forums should be sought to make west pokot inhabitant have knowledge in peace building.
5. Regular public meetings should be frequently held to sensitize the residents of West Pokot on the importance of peace and peace-building initiative.
6. The Kenyan government should disarm both the Pokot and Turkana communities at once. In addition, the government and the local authorities should work together to improve upon youth literacy level in the two counties to create opportunities rather than depend on cattle rustling as means of livelihood
7. The Kenya government should provide mobile Veterinary services to reduce frequent cattle deaths, and improve road infrastructure to enable instant response by security personnel in case of attack and easy provision of humanitarian food supplies.
8. There is urgent need for long lasting peace and tranquility from Pokots and Turkanas communities to live together harmoniously. Peaceful agreement between these two communities that involve all members including women and children with the help of external mediators spelling terms and conditions on how they can come together and live next to each other in peace and prosperity.
9. The influence of external mediators and non-governmental organizations (NGO), such as the Red Cross International, Oxford Committee for Famine Relief (Oxfam), World Health Organizations (WHO) among others, can be used to set up a dialogue center for the leadership of these two communities. This will encourage discussion of their difference and where necessary encourage the dropping of firearms, in return for some rewards. This will improve relationship between the Pokot and Turkana and reduce animosity that has lasted for long.

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