



**CHILDREN PEACE INITIATIVE KENYA**

**HALF YEAR NARRATIVE REPORT**

**1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2011-30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2012**

**PROJECT NUMBER: 106661**

**PROJECT FUNDED BY: CORDAID**

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## CHILDREN PEACE INITIATIVE KENYA

*Working With Children For A Peaceful Tomorrow*

### 1. BASIC DATA

1.1 PROJECT TITLE AND NUMBER	<b>PEACE THROUGH CHILDREN INITIATIVE FACILITATION PROJECT (PECIFAP)</b> <b>PROJECT NO. 106661</b>
1.2 NAME OF ORGANIZATION	<b>CHILDREN PEACE INITIATIVE KENYA (CPI K)</b>
1.3. CONTRACT HOLDER	<b>HALKANO BUKUNO DOFATA</b>
1.4. PROJECT STARTING DATE	<b>NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> 2011</b>
1.5. REPORTING PERIOD	<b>NOVEMBER 2011 - APRIL 2012</b>

***“If effort is not made to inculcate the culture of peace in Pastoralist Children, they will grow up with the same prejudice that members of their community hold towards other ethnic groups making ethnic animosity and conflict never-ending cycle among these communities”.***

Mr. Halkano Bukuno Dofata – Coordinator CPI Kenya

## 2. SUMMARY OF PROJECT STATUS

### *2.1 Basic Data*

Children Peace Initiative Kenya (CPI Kenya) is a peace organization working with children living among pastoralist communities that traditionally engage in inter ethnic feud. CPI K aim is to make Children agents of reconciliation and Peace among these communities. A departure from tradition in Northern Kenya; where participation in peace efforts is largely a reserve for men who are the legitimate authority when dealing with war and peace.

Though some N.G.O's and church institutions have made efforts to involve women and youth in peace building little or no attempt has been made so far to incorporate Children in Peace work. Thus CPI - Kenya developed a model Peace building program in order to engage Children in inter community peace process. CPI Kenya has been implementing peace project with Children since November 2011 supported by CORDAID.

### *2.2 Objectives and Target Groups*

The main objective of PECIFAP project is to reduce vulnerability to conflict among pastoral communities in Marsabit and Samburu Counties by utilizing Children as potential agents of reconciliation and peace.

The program is expected to achieve three key purposes; to increase inter community interactions for peace in selected areas in Samburu and Marsabit Counties, to reduce ethnic motivated incidents of violent conflict by fostering network of children, families and social institutions along trans-district borders in target Counties and increase Children's participation in inter community reconciliation and peace enterprise.

During the reporting period CPI K targeted Pokot community in Amaiya<sup>1</sup> and Plesian village in Pokot East District and Samburu communities living in Longewan and Logorate villages in Samburu County. In Marsabit County the project targeted the Turkana, Gabra, Rendille, Samburu and El molo communities residing in North Horr and Loiyangalani District.

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<sup>1</sup> Amaiya village though entirely inhabited by Pokot community it lies within the administrative jurisdiction of Samburu County.

### ***2.3 Activities Implemented during the Period Covered by the Report***

Key activities that were planned for and successfully executed during the project reporting period are as tabulated below: -

Activity	Target Location/Beneficiaries	Number of interventions
1. inter community Children peace camps	Samburu and Marsabit County	2
2. Friendship for Peace twinning of Children	Pokot, Samburu, Gabra, Turkana, Rendille and El Molo.	2
3. Inter-community Children and Parents twinning	Samburu and Pokot	1
4. Schools peace exchange holiday programs	Samburu and Marsabit Counties	2
5. Formation of Peace Clubs.	Target schools in Marsabit and Samburu	9
6. Documentary Production	Samburu and Marsabit Counties	2
7. Supply of Peace Education Materials	Target schools in Marsabit and Samburu Counties.	9

### ***2.4 Project Output***

The accomplishment of the above peace activities with Children yielded several tangible results: -

1. Pastoral Children in **9** primary Schools were fruitfully engaged in inter-community interactions for peace that target **6** ethnic groups namely; the Pokot, Samburu, Turkana, Gabra, Rendille and El Molo.
2. At the end of the two peace camps **430** school children were twinned in a friendship for peace movement. The twinning process involved matching Pokot and Samburu Children from Amaiya and Plesian primary schools on one hand with Children from Longewan and Logorate schools. In Marsabit peace camps the Turkana, Samburu and El molo Children from Loiyangalani and El molo Primary Schools were matched with Gabra Children from Gas, Russo and North Horr primary schools.
3. During inter-community children and Parents meeting, **54** Pokot and Samburu families were linked through their Children who partake in the friendship for peace movement.
4. Peace Clubs and peace education program was set in progress in **9** target Schools.
5. **2** Video documentaries on the peace activities with Children were produced and shared with the Donor, schools, communities and other partners.

## **2.5. Challenges**

The implementation of activities was carried out smoothly. There was overwhelming support from the school administration and very good cooperation from ministry of education, Catholic Diocese of Maralal, Parents and the Children. The participation in all planned activities was excellent and incredible immediate outcomes were noted after some key activities.

However one notable challenge was that the cost of hiring a good conditioned vehicle to implement activities is so high that we were forced to hire an old vehicle at a cheap price. The vehicle broke down number of times causing CPI K team a lot of trouble and even inconvenienced some activity schedules. The car broke down more than five times during the project period with problem ranging from the engine heating up, malfunctioning turbo and the universal joint of the propeller shaft break three times.

## **2.6 Human Interest Stories**

A Pokot woman from Amaiya shared the ordeal she underwent when her daughter was admitted to Moi Girls Secondary School in Maralal at the height of Samburu - Pokot clashes in 2010. Her effort to dissuade her daughter from going to school in Samburu fell on deaf ears but when she finally set out on the journey to Maralal she had to fake her identity in order to bail her life by speaking Kikuyu language. (The is a language spoken in Central part of Kenya by one of the largest tribe in the Country. She was speaking this language to hide her identity) She remembers this painful experience as if it happened yesterday. During the peace activity attended by the parents and Children she pledged to do all in her capacity to ensure peace prevails between communities so that Children can grow in freedom. *(Main story on page 18)*

One of the CPI K community volunteer from the samburu community who works as a helper teacher in one of the schools targeted by the project told the documentary team that he dropped out of school in order to defend his community during the ethnic clashes between his community and the Pokot. To date he has not gone back to school, he added that similar fate befell many young people like him and some of them died in the process.

## **2.7 Forecast**

CPI Kenya implemented 70% of all the planned activities for the total project period. A total 7 core peace initiatives were successfully implemented through 11 interventions. This was apart from administrative interventions and a major community mobilization process which was combined with baseline survey.

According to the proposal the main activities projected for the next period are 3 in number. They require 5 explicit sessions to accomplish. However, due to some unforeseen circumstances CPI K suggests that adjustment need to be made to the planned activities and the budget in the coming period and wish to propose the same to Cordaid.

### 3. THE CONTEXT

3.0.1 Inter ethnic animosity and subsequent violent conflicts have characterized the life of these Pastoralist communities for close to a century and still continues unabated. The year 2008 thirty two incidences of ethnic related cattle rustling and other forms of violence were recorded in Marsabit County alone. A total of 57 people were killed in the entire county that year. Out of this 31 people were killed as result of Gabra and Turkana conflict. Conflict in Marsabit County involves number of pastoralist groups that include Borana, Rendille, Dasanach, Samburu, Gabra and Turkana. Though situation improved since 2010 tension prevailed between Gabra and Turkana on the eastern shore of Lake Turkana. Series of meetings and declaration were enacted in 2011 to improve the situation.

However, the latest incident of violence occurred again in March 2012. It is reported that a Gabra man killed a Turkana herder in revenge of killing of his relative by Turkana during previous clashes between the two communities. The cooperation between the Gabra elders, peace committee members and the police led to the arrest of the culprit. Gabra elders and peace committee also agreed to compensate the family of the deceased as stipulated in Sarimo peace declaration<sup>2</sup>. This action prevented retaliation from the Turkana people and the two communities continued sharing pasture and water along the shores of the lake.

3.0.2 Key players in inter community conflict in Samburu County are Pokot, Samburu and Turkana. The Conflict dynamics are that each community has its major antagonist. Pokot and Samburu fight, Samburu and Turkana fight and Turkana and Pokot fight in what one can describe as the triangle of death. A very severe ethnic violence occurred between Samburu and Pokot in 2006 until the end 2010. The effects of this conflict were devastating to both communities. Many lives were lost on both sides, Villages were deserted, and farms were abandoned, properties were looted and destroyed and grazing fields were left idle. Schools and social amenities were also closed down.

Though situation improved towards the end of 2010 largely due to interventions by peace actors, incidents of killings and stealing continue to happen and could jeopardize what has been consolidated so far. Towards the end of last year two young Samburu men were killed by Pokot warriors as they were coming back home from peace market in Plesian a Pokot village after selling goats. One of the killers was arrested by the Pokot community themselves and handed over to the police. The suspect has since been charged in court and imprisoned. This was a positive step towards genuine peace. The latest incident was a failed attempt by Pokot warriors to steal Cows from the Samburu. The incident occurred in February 2012 on the day we were concluding our first inter community Children Peace Camp for Samburu and Pokot Children. Their effort was thwarted by peace loving members of the two communities both Pokot and Samburu.

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<sup>2</sup> Sarimo Peace Declaration was made by the Turkana and Gabra Communities to end the longstanding conflict that affected their peaceful coexistence for decades. They agreed on payment of compensations for killing of a person and stealing of livestock.

3.1. Presence of Anti stock theft police unit in Galas and Moite improved responses to reported cases of crime and follow up; this was evident in the arrest of the suspect who killed the Turkana herder. The presence of the above police unit in Loiyangani and North Horr also increased the number of police surveillance in areas where herders graze the animals.

3.1.1 During the reporting period we worked very closely with the Catholic Diocese of Maralal - Justice and Peace, Catholic parishes in Maralal and Marsabit Diocese, the ministry of Education, Parents, School administration, and community volunteers.

3.2. Sarimo<sup>3</sup> water point in North Horr district evolved into a small trading centre, inhabited by Gabra. Turkana herders buy essential commodities from Gabra increasing interaction between herders from the two communities.

Pokot and Samburu villagers from Amaiya, Plesian, Longewan and Logorate are working on joint development activities like de-silting of water pans. This improved the presence of the two communities in each others' villages. In addition the two communities jointly manage wildlife conservancy. Rangers from Pokot live in Longewan village to work with fellow Samburu.

## **4. ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES**

4.1 CPI Kenya through its Children and Peace building program (PECIFAP) is set to achieve three core objectives by implementing peace activities in target communities. These objectives are:-

- To increase inter- community interactions for peace in selected areas in Samburu and Marsabit Counties.
- To reduce ethnic motivated incidents of conflict by fostering network of children, families and social institutions along trans-district borders in target Counties.
- To increase Children's participation in inter community reconciliation and peace enterprise.

During the period covered by this report CPI Kenya engaged Children and other members of target beneficiaries in series of peace interaction activities. The interventions included two inter community children peace camps targeting Samburu and Pokot communities in Samburu County and the Gabra, Turkana, Rendille, Samburu and El Molo communities in Marsabit County. Key highlights of the two peace camps was twinning of the Children from the target communities in order to enhance sustained interactions between them and their families. The Peace camps led to numerous informal interactions of children and members of target communities. Exchange of letters, gifts, family visits and joint inter community school activities continued taking place according to feedback from Children and community volunteers.

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<sup>3</sup> Sarimo is key water point and dry season grazing area for Gabra that border Moite a Turkana village and pasture area on the shore of Lake Turkana.



Further, Children and Parents twinning for peace forum was organized for Pokot and Samburu target groups in Samburu County. In this event the children who were twinned during Children Peace camp invited the parents to meet, know each other and journey with them in their endeavor to build friendship for peace. The process opened a new avenue of interactions for parents whose children are friends. Monitoring reports indicate that some parents who participated in this meeting started visiting each others' homes and shared foodstuff and other hand-outs.

CPI Kenya accomplished two; schools peace exchange holiday program in both Marsabit and Samburu. The two events involved bringing together selected number of Children from target communities in a classroom atmosphere to learn together and get examined together. Children from visiting community get the opportunity to visit the families of host friends in order to interact with host community.

All together CPI Kenya accomplished 5 major peace events to enhance inter community interactions for peace in the target areas in a period of six months. Numerous efforts by individual children, their families and schools continued after interventions by CPI Kenya to improve interactions between the affected communities as highlighted in the outcome section of this report.

Frequency of ethnic motivated raids and killing reduced to one in five months from up to three cases in a month in critical times. In Samburu county shootout occurred between two suspected Pokot raiders and Samburu herders on 12<sup>th</sup> February. The attempt by the two raiders to steal Samburu cows was discouraged by the cooperation between the two target communities. The incident did not affect the prevailing peaceful stint experienced in the area. This was the only incident of the kind reported in five months. In our operation area in Marsabit County a Gabra man killed a Turkana herder to avenge the killing of a relative by the Turkana raiders two years ago. The suspect was arrested with the support of Gabra leaders and Peace committee members averting retaliatory attack by Turkana. The two communities continue upholding peace.

Increase in farming activities in the villages of Longewan, Logorate and Amaiya and in the number of children going out with the animals to the field, point to stability in security situation between Pokot and Samburu communities in Amaiya and Longewan areas.

The project enhanced Children's participation in inter community reconciliation and peace by twinning Children from neighboring tribes that engaged in conflict to partake in friendship for peace movement. Besides CPI-Kenya promoted formation of peace clubs in schools and formulation of peace education programs to impart knowledge and skills to children to enable them participate in building peace among their communities. Children taking part in friendship for peace have improved communication and interaction between themselves, their families and schools by writing letters to each other, exchanging gifts and visiting each others' homes. This is a unique method of participating in reconciliation and peace.

## 5. KEY ACTIVITIES

5.1 The implementation of planned activities was carried out smoothly. There was overwhelming support from the school administration and very good cooperation from Ministry of Education, Catholic Diocese of Maralal, Parents and the Children. The participation in all planned activities was excellent and incredible outcomes were noted after some key activities.

Below are detailed accounts of planned and implemented activities during the reporting period as compared to the activities planned for the total project period.

### *5.1.1 Inter Community Children Peace Camps:*

- Planned intervention for total project period - 2
- Accomplished during reporting period - 2

Inter community Children peace camps were successfully carried out from 7<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> February 2012. The beneficiaries of the interventions were Pokot and Samburu Children from Amaiya, Plesian, Logorate and Longewan. The event targeted class five and six pupils from four primary schools. The above Children's peace camp was hosted by Longewan primary school situated in the tiny Samburu village of Longewan.

The second peace camp took place at Loiyangalani Primary School. The activity involved the children from 5 ethnic groups namely Turkana, Gabra, Rendille, Samburu and El Molo. Children were drawn from 5 primary schools that include North Horr, Russo and Gas dominated by Gabra and Loiyangalani and El Molo primary schools that host Turkana, Rendille, samburu and El Molo Children.

Children Peace camp is an activity that seeks to bring together children from two or more warring communities and engage them in friendly interactions thereafter helping them form and nurture friendship. Every activity is tailored in such a way that, two children from different communities work together to accomplish a given task. This helps to slowly clear away the impression created in the mind of the children that the other tribes are enemies. It is an ice breaking event for children who grow up experiencing the animosity between their people and learning from them that they are each other's enemy. The aim of Children peace camp is to work on this perception, help Children to have confidence in each other regardless of their ethnic affiliation and become good friends.

The two inter community peace camps were very successful in terms of Children's participations, parents' cooperation in letting their children go to the villages of neighboring community that they occasionally fight and the support from Ministry of Education and the schools. Key achievement during Children Peace camp was twinning Children to become friends for peace sake.

### ***5.1.2 Twinning Children for Peace.***

Friendship for peace twinning is a program that is launched at the end of every Children peace camp. Two or more Children from neighboring ethnic groups are matched to become friends for the sake of peace between their people. The children are encouraged to engage their immediate family members in their friendship to enhance linkage between two communities.

During the project reporting period 430 children were successfully twinned at the end of two Children peace camps that took place at Longewan and Loiyangalani.

### ***5.1.3 Child and Families Twinning.***

- Planned intervention for total project period - 2
- Accomplished during reporting period - 1

Child and families twinning is a follow up intervention to Children Peace camp and subsequent twinning of Children in friendship for peace process. Children who are friends deliberately involve the parents in their friendship by introducing to them their new friends and persuading them to help support their friendship. In the above peace event Children invite their parents to meet and know each other and improve relations between the two communities which had in the past been severed by frequent cattle raids, fighting and serious loses on both sides. The process is also aimed at solidifying friendship between the two families for the sake of the Children.

CPI Kenya organized Child and Families twinning forum at Maralal parish on April 13 - 15 targeting selected Pokot and Samburu parents and their Children. The overriding aim of the seminar was to provide a platform and forum for the parents to meet and know each other under the auspices of their children and affirm and support the already vibrant friendship between their school going children while also confirming the need for peace between the two communities.

The activity was successful with a record 100% attendance by the parents from both sides. Each child was accompanied by a parent (Mother or Father), a total of 54 parents attended the forum; 27 Samburu and 27 Pokot to represent 58 Children. There was a high level of enthusiasm and dedication among the parents to support their Children's friendship and to become friends for the sake of peace.

### ***5.1.4 Peace Exchange Holiday Program***

- Planned intervention for total project period - 2
- Accomplished during reporting period - 2

Peace exchange program is a school based holiday activity. The activity targets children who are part of friendship for peace process that are in Class 5 and 6. Through the peace activity children from warring communities get the opportunity to sit in the same class and exchange academic notes. In addition the children sit for common trial examination papers to compete individually and as schools. Peace exchange holiday

program is also peace event in which host Children invite their friends from other tribes to visit their families and interact with parents. Every day after the lessons; home visits and familiarization tour of host village and nature walk were organized to enable friends to interact with the host community.

Two peace exchange holiday program was undertaken in Amaiya and North Horr Primary schools in Samburu and Marsabit County from April 15 - 30, 2012. The program beneficiaries in Amaiya were Pokot and Samburu Children from 4 primary schools while in North Horr the event brought together Turkana, Rendille, Samburu, El Molo and Gabra school children from 5 primary schools. The length of the two activities was 8 days for Amaiya program and 8 days for North Horr program.

The two peace event recorded a remarkable success; the attendance was excellent and the teachers worked with a lot of dedication; they owned the process. Interaction with parents was the best part of the activity. The parents were very hospitable to the visiting friends of their sons and daughters.

The peace exchange holiday program gave the Children of Pokot, Samburu, Turkana, Gabra, Rendille and El Molo communities' opportunity to learn together under the same roof; a privilege ethnic rivalry between their communities continue to deny them.

#### ***5.1.5 Establishment of Peace Clubs in target Schools***

- Planned intervention for total project period - 10
- Accomplished during reporting period - 9

CPI Kenya team visited 9 schools to assess the possibilities and the need to establish peace clubs in all the schools that benefit from Children and peace programs. The objectives of the visit were to seek to know of the existence of peace clubs in schools, understand the activities carried out within the peace clubs, know the available peace resource materials for reference, understand dynamics within the ground that limit or facilitate effective running of peace club, lay the foundation of establishing peace clubs where there is none and strengthen the existing peace clubs.

The finding was that only one out of nine schools had peace club; Longewan primary school in Samburu County. The team organized meetings with School heads and teachers in all the schools that were visited and discussed the need to start Peace Clubs in school to facilitate Peace education. The schools agreed to establish peace Clubs in May 2012 starting with classes that is currently taking part in CPI Kenya Peace activities.

#### ***5.1.6 Procurement and Supply of resource materials for peace education.***

In seeking to improve the quality of peace club input, CPI-Kenya bought peace resource materials for both teachers and pupils within the CPI- Kenya schools of operation. Materials for teachers included text books and manuals for running peace program in form of teacher's activity book as shared by the Ministry of Higher Education. On the

other side, children materials included story books with values related to peace and pamphlets with peace related discussions. CPI-Kenya is still working on receiving more resource materials from the ministry on finalization of partnership agreement. Better Living: Life Skills Education Course - training with foundations important in enhancing peace values

### ***5.1.7 Production of 3 Video documentaries on peace activities with Children.***

- Planned intervention for total project period - 2
- Accomplished during reporting period - 2

The production of Audio - visual materials was linked to two Children peace camps activities in Samburu and Marsabit counties. The documentary will enable wider audience to hear the testimonies of children and see their potential contribution to inter - community peace. The documentary is also part of peace resource material to share with the donor and other partners.

5.2 The project benefited 4354 school children in 9 primary schools that were directly targeted through the peace activities with Children. The schools hosted the peace activities by providing space, mobilized the parents through the school management committee by informing them about the peace activities that Children were to attend with their consent, provided teachers to accompany the Children and allowed the Children to participate in all the planned activities.

The total number of beneficiaries that directly took part in all the peace activities including Children, Teachers, parents and community volunteers were **1408** people. The number comprises **1180** Children, **254** Parents and family members and **82** teachers and community volunteers from 7 pastoralist communities that reside in County of Samburu and Marsabit and East Pokot district. Other direct beneficiaries included **2150** parents and immediate members of the family to the Children who engage in friendship for peace movement. In addition to allowing Children to attend planned peace activities they accepted the friends of their children, welcomed them in their homes and gave them gifts.

The project covered villages, Market centers and indirectly the surrounding rangelands. A total of eight settlements/locations were targeted; 5 in Samburu and 3 in Marsabit County. The population in the area of coverage settles in villages and Market centers around the schools combining small scale farming, petty trade and livestock production as means of livelihood. The herders who are mainly young men, warriors and even Children, move with animals from one place to another in search of water and Pasture staying in the fora<sup>4</sup> around water points and grazing fields. Approximately **19,125** people profited indirectly from the project during the implementation period. The prevailing improvement in security condition to which peace activities by CPI Kenya contributed enabled the population to engage in livelihood activities like farming, herding and small businesses without interruption.

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<sup>4</sup> Fora are satellite cattle camps where herders dwell with the livestock away from homesteads at the villages and market centre.

Mortality rate and loss of property remained at a low record owing to reduction in occurrence of cattle rustling.

The direct beneficiaries of the project include the total population of targeted schools, including the teachers and children that participated in all the peace activities, the parents who participated in twining for peace program and the parents and immediate family members of the all the children who participate friendship for peace. The men beneficiaries in this category were 3419 and the women 3085. Direct beneficiaries were 6504 people. The number of women is lower compared to men because in the schools among the pastoralist communities the enrolment of girls is lower than boys.

Indirect beneficiaries are the people who reside in the areas targeted by CPI Kenya and benefit from the prevailing peace that the project contributed to. They include the herders in the fora and women and men in market centers. 19125 people benefited indirectly from the project; approximately 9515 men and 9509 women. These are the people whose livestock are raided, whose sons and daughters are killed, and who abandon homes and farms when cattle rustling and other forms of violence erupt.

## **6. PROJECT OUTPUT**

6.1 The inter community peace activities with Children that CPI Kenya implemented for the duration of the report yielded the following subsequent results; 9 primary schools out of the projected 36 for the total project period were fruitfully engaged in inter-community interactions for peace. The schools participated in 5 key inter community peace interaction events organized by the partner. In addition the institutions organized their own joint programs that enabled the Children to continue interacting way after the project interventions. The Children who participated in the project activities maintained link by exchanging letters and gifts in order to strengthen their friendship for peace sake.

At the end of Children peace camps **430** school children were twinned in a friendship for peace movement. The expected number for the duration of the entire project is 500 participants including teachers and community volunteers. The dynamics of twinning process involved matching Children from two neighboring communities that are traditionally engrossed in ethnic clashes to make them friends and through them make their families and communities live in harmony.

The program planned to twin 50 families by organizing a forum in which children taking part in friendship for peace invite their parents and introduce them to each other. The objective is to make parents know each other, know the friends of their Children and directly participate in solidifying the friendship of their Children. Overall 54 Pokot and Samburu parents got introduced to each other in a forum attended by 120 participants that include 58 Children and 8 teachers and community volunteers.

Besides, production of two video documentaries on key peace activity was accomplished. The documentary on inter community Children peace camps was shared with funding partner, other peace partners, schools and community members for them to see and hear the feelings of the Children about conflict and peace and recognize

and appreciate the fact that Children can contribute to inter community peace in their own ways.

Another output of the project was the establishment Peace Clubs and introduction of peace education program in the 9 primary Schools that directly benefited from the project. The estimated number of schools for the total period of the project was 10 schools. Additionally the schools were supplied with instructional materials for peace education.

CPI Kenya developed a consistent working relationship with 18 teachers and 2 community based volunteers during the concluded project timeline. The team assisted in all the key peace activities carried out by the partner, established and offered peace education to peace clubs, monitored and reported to CPI Kenya notable changes related to the peace interventions with children. According to the project design the number of teachers and volunteers expected to be prepared to spearhead peace education and accompany the Children and their families in friendship for peace process for the total period of the project are 40.

6.2 The partner made a slight but necessary adjustment to one of the planned activities (Child and families twinning) to achieve better result. In the initial schedule 2 similar interventions were premeditated one in each of the project site in Samburu and Marsabit. The activity was to target 50 families (25 parents and 25 children each site) to make 100 participants. The implication is that 25 parents are drawn from two target communities such that 12 come from one tribe and 13 from another. The same would happen to children. We figured out that the number was too small for achievement of quality outcome. The budget was therefore merged to carry out one Child and families twinning forum for Pokot and Samburu beneficiaries while other factors like number of participants remained constant. At the completion of the event 54 Samburu and Pokot families were linked.

6.3 The direct beneficiaries were the population of targeted schools, including the teachers and children that participated in all the peace activities, the parents who participated in twinning for peace program and the parents and immediate family members of the all the children who participate friendship for peace. The men beneficiaries in this category were 3419 and the women 3085. The total number direct beneficiaries were 6504 people.

Indirect beneficiaries are the residents of the areas targeted by CPI Kenya who benefit from the prevailing improvement in peace situation. They include the herders in the fora and women and men that settle in trading centre. Approximately 19125 people benefited indirectly from the project. This include 9515 men and 9509 women whose livestock are raided, whose sons and daughters are killed, and who abandon homes and farms when cattle rustling and other forms of violence erupts

## 7. PROJECT OUTCOME

7.1 The overall rate of cattle rustling and related inter- ethnic violence remained at a lower figure record. The frequency of occurrence reduced to one isolated case in five months compared to three to four incidents in a month in times of crisis. Up to early 2010 conflict between the communities targeted by CPI Kenya was at Crisis stage. During the life of the project only two cases were reported one in both project sites.

7.1.1 Plenty of evidences accruing from changes that were noted after peace intervention with Children point to the reality that friendship for peace process added an impetus to the level, frequency and quality of interactions between the beneficiary communities. If sustained this can be a major boost to reconciliation and peace for these communities. The following are the achieved outcomes based on the indicators identified in the proposal: -

### i. Level of parents support to peace effort by Children:

- CPI team conducted monitoring of progress one month after Children peace camps by visiting selected homes of Children who took part in the camps. Key highlight was; 98% of the parents acknowledged that the Children told them about the friends they got from neighboring community. Some of them even knew the names of their Children's friends.
- Parents also supported the Children in friendship for peace process by welcoming their sons and daughters friends in their homes and directly giving them food and other gifts. This happened mainly during school peace exchange programs. *A Pokot woman bought Kikoi (a fabric that women wrap on the waist) for Samburu girl who was a friend to her child during a market day at Plesian village. The incident happened during school peace exchange program at Amaiya when the children visited the market. Surprisingly the woman's action was very spontaneous.* On that day 12 Samburu children got present from Pokot parents including soft drinks, sweets, biscuits, milk and even cash.
- The Samburu children from Longewan primary school visited Amaiya primary school (in Pokot village) twice after peace camp for joint activities with Amaiya and Plesian Schools. These are the children taking part in friendship for peace. The Samburu children reported that 34 of them were taken home by their Pokot friends to visit the parents. They hailed the hospitality of the host Pokot parents. During the visit, they were offered tea, milk and lunch by the families of their friends. For these Samburu Children it is the first time in their lifetime that they step inside the kraal of a Pokot homestead. This was confirmed by one woman a Pokot parent who hosted one of the Children. She said and I quote;

*"I have never hosted a Samburu in our home; neither an adult nor a child; a man nor woman. I was very happy to welcome that boy and to serve him with Joy; I encouraged my son to visit his friends' home too".*



The Children shared with their parents the great experience and hospitality they were accorded by Pokot parents when they returned to Longewan. The Samburu parents' confirmed the story during assessment of the progress by CPI team.

**ii. Rate and nature of inter-community interactions.**

- Interaction between parents in target communities increased after the peace interventions. The parents are reported to be communicating frequently through phones and visiting each other. A total of 22 Pokot and Samburu neighbors from Longewan and Amaiya reportedly visited each others village in one month in an intensified interaction. The number includes 8 parents who participated in the twinning for peace program. The parents were visiting the families of their children's friends. The others were going to the market or to seek treatment at the health facility. The Pokots from Amaiya visited Longewan more times and in more number because the village was the nearest shopping centre to Amaiya and it had health facility.
- Exchange of gifts: Three Pokot women visited families of their children's friends and were given foodstuff to take home. Another Pokot parent from Amaiya accompanied his son to visit the home his Samburu friend, the son given a pet (dog) as a gift by the family.
- Pokot and Samburu villagers in Longewan and Amaiya revived a practice of working together on the farms. It is reported that Pokot neighbors are working with Samburu on the farms in Longewan for the first time after six years of conflict. Though NGOs have been engaging the two communities to work together in cash for work development projects the fact that they are assisting each other on their own farms is new and a good way of interaction for peace sake.

**iii. Number and type of Children's participation in Peace process.**

- The interactions between target schools increased in number and frequency; Pokot and Samburu Children visited each others' villages in turn for joint school programs 5 times in two months. The visit goes beyond the school premises for members of friendship for peace who invited their friends for home visits. This made the presence of the Children from the two communities more visible within the target communities.
- Improved Communication: Children are exchanging letters more frequently across the target schools as a way of enhancing friendship and improving inter-community interaction.
- Exchange of gifts: Friendship for peace members are exchanging gifts like cash, books and even clothes. This is an indication that the parents are supporting their Children to buy gifts for their friends.

- *A class six child in Loiyangalani primary school confirmed to CPI team that he received kshs.500 which is approximately 5 Euros from a Gabra friend in Gas primary School.*
- *Two Samburu children from Longewan primary school received a goat each from their Pokot friends and families in Plesian and Amaiya; this is a great honor of friendship among pastoralist communities.*
- *Other children received different amount of Cash, books, paper files, pens and perfumes from their friends. These are new ways by which children are linking their communities.*

**iv. Number of peace structures for Children**

- New peace structures to enhance children's participation in inter community peace were established in form of friendship for peace movement in two project sites and 9 Peace clubs in the target Schools.

**v. Number of twinned Children and families:**

- Through the peace intervention, 430 children representing 6 pastoralist communities were paired in Samburu and Marsabit County. In addition 54 Pokot and Samburu families of friends for peace children were introduced to each other.

**vi. Mobility of human and livestock.**

- Samburu and Pokot communities in Longewan and Amaiya continue grazing their livestock freely. Livestock access pasture and water anywhere and graze along the common border without fear of retaliation. Members of the two communities move freely from one village to another to work together and to access social service like health. In addition, women are fetching firewood in the bush without any trouble.

**vii. Sharing of resources and household income.**

- Gabra and Turkana herders continue to share water and pasture along the Eastern shores of Lake Turkana. Herders from the two communities graze together and interact on daily basis for more than seven months until now; visiting each other and buying livestock and basic food items from each other.
- Beneficiaries in Longewan and Amaiya reported that they are working long hours due to the prevailing calm due to improved security doing business and other economic activities.

### **viii. Role of communities in resolving and deterring inter community dispute.**

- Beneficiaries of peace process by CPI Kenya prevented an imminent attack on the Samburu neighbors by Pokot warriors. Target parents and CPI community volunteer from Plesian heard about the planned raid and went to confront the raiders who were regrouping in the bush. They persuaded the warriors not to attack the Samburu informing them about the ongoing peace initiative and the growing friendship between Pokot and Samburu school children and their families. The raiders suspended the planned attack after listening to the group of women and one man. It is an act of courage and commitment to see women go to the bush to address warriors and pursue them not raid another community. Two days later it was reported that Pokot raided Tugen community in Baringo East. The raid was probably carried out by the same group. Though the season is most suitable for raids because of the ongoing rains, no incident has been reported so far in the areas targeted by CPI Kenya.

7.2 The key highlight of the project is the twinning of children and their families to become friends for peace. The initiative underscores the fact that interaction is fundamental to peaceful coexistence among communities.

Friendship for peace endeavor started on a high note opening new avenues for fostering relationships in order to minimize animosity involving two or more groups. The program made children and their families know each other, communicate more frequently, exchange gifts and visit each others' homestead. This is a new approach to peace building among the target communities.

Children play dual role in peace when directly engaged in the process; they are not only target but also effective agents of peace. One lesson we learnt in the process of implementing peace activities with Children was that you can mobilize large number of people for peace enterprise through the Children.

Making Children the primary target of inter community peace process was strength to the project. Children demonstrated a very strong influence over their parents in the way they convinced them to accept their friends from other tribes; give presents to them and welcome them at home.

In addition, Children enabled the program to reach out to all cadres of parents; parents who are administrators, re-known elders, politicians, opinion leaders, ordinary members of the community and parents who are women, giving all of them the opportunity to participate in Peace process

Local peace partners in Samburu and Pokot started a peace market to promote peace between the two communities. A weekly market day was started in Plesian village to enable the two communities to buy and sell livestock to each other and external traders. However, today this market is not serving the purpose it was intended for. We noted that Samburu neighbors from Longewan and the surrounding do not come to the market despite prevailing harmony. The Samburu's allege they stopped going to

the market after two morans were killed by Pokot warriors as they left the market in November 2011.

CPI Kenya is working on a strategy that will revive the return of the Samburu neighbors to the market. CPI intends to engage families taking part in friendship for peace, peace committee, leaders and Catholic Diocese of Maralal Justice and Peace on the best way to accomplish the plan.

7.3 The direct beneficiaries of the outcome are those who participated in all the peace activities; the Children, parents and immediate family members who take part in friendship for peace process. The total beneficiaries in this category were 3412, desegregated into 1831 men and 1581 women.

Indirect beneficiaries are 19125 people that include 9515 men and 9509 women. These are the people whose livestock are raided, whose sons and daughters are killed, and who abandon homes and farms when cattle rustling and other forms of violence erupts.

## **8. ORGANISATION**

8.1 Children Peace Initiative (CPI) Kenya is national nongovernmental and nonprofit making organization based in Nairobi, Kenya. CPI Kenya acquired its legal status under societies act in September 2011. The organization became operational officially on the first day of November 2011.

CPI Kenya is physically located on Ngong road in Nairobi, Kenya. CPI K acquired an office space and furnished it. All the operations of the organization are carried out from the office.

The organization has board of directors that oversee the management of the organization and give advice and recommend necessary control measures. Besides, CPI Kenya has got a management team that is responsible for the day to day functions of the organization. The management team includes program managers and the director/coordinator that is the head of the team and the organization. Program managers work with program officers/assistance as immediate supervisors.

CPI Kenya work with community liaison officers/volunteers in every target community. They operate as community mobilization agents and monitors. They link CPI Kenya with beneficiary communities for effective implementation of the project.

Currently, the organization has four full time staff that includes the Coordinator, two program officers and a finance officer. At the community level CPI Kenya works with 6 community volunteers who are based within the target communities.

Building synergy for efficient and effective accomplishment of the project is fundamental for achievement of intended purpose. CPI Kenya worked closely with Ministry of Education official at district level, local primary schools, Catholic Diocese of Maralal, and the Catholic parishes of Maralal, Loiyangalani and North Horr. At the

national level CPI K worked with Seed for peace international a peace organization for children) and Shique Entertainment Ltd a film production.

More over CPI Kenya is in the process of signing a partnership agreement with Ministry of Education at national level to jointly implement National Peace Education campaign in Schools in the Counties targeted by CPI Kenya.

8.2 Since the implementation of the project coincided with the formative stage of the organization, a lot of effort was directed towards establishing the organization and developing working relationship with target groups. Consequently, CPI Kenya did not engage in any capacity building activity for the duration of the report. However, training for core staffs and volunteers will be organized during next phase of the project.

## 9. HUMAN INTEREST STORIES

9.1 The peace project that was carried out by CPI Kenya contributed to genuine dialogue between the beneficiary communities; dialogue that took many unprecedented forms. For the children it is visiting the homes of the people who killed their relatives, neighbors and took all their cows and shoats. People that nobody talks anything positive about. For the parents, it is giving gifts to a child of another hostile tribe; hosting a child of a community I view with vengeance and treat that child with compassion.

The new turn of events became a moment of reckoning for individual beneficiaries who recollected how ethnic clashes brought misery to their lives. They recounted the episode to emphasize why the peace between communities is paramount.

### i. “A School in Maralal? Impossible!”

A parent by the name Mary, who is a Pokot, narrated the ordeal she went when her daughter was admitted to Moi Girls Secondary school at the height of ethnic clashes between Samburu and Pokot in 2010. The school is at the heart of Maralal town which is the headquarters of Samburu County.

*Her daughter after excelling in her primary examination early in 2010 at height of tensions between the two communities was called up to study Moi girls school in Samburu for her high school education. Ironically, the girl after receiving her calling letter insisted that she just have to study in that school outside the will of the parents. She even went ahead to say that she is willing to die if that is what awaits her in Samburu because of the enmity of the two communities and she will help broker peace as well between the communities.*

*Mary was lost for words, how she would convince her daughter to change her mind? As a requirement by the school, she was supposed to accompany the daughter to school and was wondering how she will manage to do this with all the tension between the communities. She was stressed! She knew this was the end of her and her daughter as*

*she set foot on a long but dreadful journey to Maralal. Along the way she had to ignore talking to her daughter in the vehicle for fear that people will know her local dialect and instead opted to talk in Kikuyu language with another person of Kikuyu (Kikuyu is tribe living in central part of Kenya) origin that she met in the vehicle. She had learnt some little Kikuyu during her earlier stay in Alfega, a small town in Rift Valley.*

*Even though the daughter is now in her 3<sup>rd</sup> year of high school in Samburu, Mary has undergone a lot of stressful life since early 2010 and she vows to do anything to ensure that peace prevails between the two communities to enable children to go to school and learn in freedom anywhere in Kenya.*

**ii. “Forced to discontinue education to defend community”.**

Simeon, a young Samburu man recounts how he was compelled together with other young men to terminate his education in order to defend his tribe during Pokot and Samburu clashes.

*His real name is Simeon Lelekoiten, a young Samburu living in Lorora Manyatta in Logorate. According to Simeon the clashes between Samburu and Pokot was very severe and it resulted into devastating effects for both community. He confirmed that there was enormous loss life on both sides. He recalls with pain an incident in which four of his closest friends were killed as he watched in one of the raids on his village by Pokot. The incident was just one of his many encounters with Pokot raiders as one of the Samburu warriors defending the community. Simeon admits that he is lucky to be alive.*

*The main casualties of the violence were young warriors and herders who were victims as well as perpetrators because of the role they played in the community. Many died in the process with a single family loosing up to three young men. In a desperate effort to replace the fallen warriors, individual families and the community resolved to withdraw young boys from Secondary School. It is this unfortunate scenario that obliged Simeon and other young men to drop out of school at form three to defend his people.*

*He adds that those who survived never returned to School again including himself because of the traumatic experience they went through and the loss of herds and or warriors that took care of the family herd. Simeon confessed that this experience has taught him to value peace. He has forgiven his Pokot brothers and is ready to champion peace between the two communities.*

*Simeon is currently working as helper teacher in Logorate primary School. He is also a community volunteer for CPI Kenya and the patron of Peace club in Logorate Primary School.*

## 9.2 Quotes

*“We may not be able to single handedly bring peace in our communities but we are all endowed with enormous capacity for friendship. We invited you (Pokot and Samburu) here today to persuade you to become friends for the sake of peace between your communities”. Mr. Hilary Halkano Bukuno addressing parents at the Children and families twinning forum in Maralal.*

*“It is only with deep reflection that one realizes the depth of the importance of involving children in peace building”.* Teacher Huka Chepe – Gas primary School.

*“CPI-Kenya has with support from Cordaid taken a noble cause in choosing to work with the children to propagate peace. It is a unique idea not tried before in Northern Kenya”.*  
- Paul Kalla – Headteacher North Horr Primary school.

CPI Kenya acknowledges with gratitude the support from Cordaid that made the facilitation of peace process with Children a great success. It is evident that Cordaid contribution added value to the life of the beneficiaries. I wish to thank Cordaid on behalf of the beneficiaries whose lives were touched by the peace activities undertaken through the generous support.

### **9.3 Photos of the project and Beneficiaries (See attachment)**

**9.4** Children peace initiative Kenya operates an updated website. The site address is [www.cpi-kenya.org](http://www.cpi-kenya.org). In addition the organization manages an active and interactive facebook page under the name: Children Peace Initiative Kenya. The administration team who are CPI Kenya staff do post activity pictures, quotations and summary descriptions of what CPI Kenya does with Children. The page has attracted many social network friends in different parts of the world.

## **10. FORECAST**

During the duration of this reporting period a total 7 core peace initiatives were successfully accomplished through 11 interventions. This is apart from administrative interventions and a major community mobilization process which was combined with a baseline survey. This confirms that 70% of all the planned peace activities for the total project period were successful undertaken. In other words out of the projected 10 key peace activities that required 16 interventions to complete 7 have been fully completed.

According to the project design the main peace activities projected for the next period are 3 and they require 5 explicit sessions to get them done. They are namely; inter community/schools peace concert – 2; Inter schools exposure tour/peace caravan – 2; Training for peace education teachers – 1.

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