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THE PRESIDENCY

MINISTRY OF DEVOLUTION AND PLANNING

PARTICIPATORY POVERTY ASSESSMENT PPAV

TANA RIVER COUNTY

WOLESOREA CLUSTER



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FOREWORD

Participatory Poverty Assessment (PPA) is a mechanism through which identified communities give their own definition and understanding of poverty. This PPA covered 47 counties unlike previous one which covered selected sub counties.

The main objective of this exercise was to establish the impact of various Government policies, strategies, programmes and projects aimed at reducing poverty. It further sought for capture of voices of the poor in the communities with special focus on social protection initiatives. In particular the study covered the following broad issues: poverty dynamics and indicators provisions of government services on; health, education, agriculture, housing, water and sanitation, pro-poor initiatives and devolved funds.

This study found out that level of poverty from community perspective has been rising despite various pro-poor initiatives undertaken by the government over the years. It is worthy to note many at the clusters visited did not understand how the pro-poor initiatives operate. On Cross-cutting issues such as HIV/AIDS, drug and substance abuse, gender disparity on property ownership degradation and poor governance on devolved funds and pro-poor initiatives were reported to be on the rise.

These findings from the study will be used as lessons learnt. They will be a reference point in designing current and future interventions on reducing poverty and regional disparities. I call upon our internal and external stakeholders to utilize the respective PPA V county reports to inform policy and decision-making.

Ann Waiguru, OGW
Cabinet Secretary
Ministry of Devolution and Planning

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Tana River Participatory Poverty Assessment Report is the first of its kind that has the County as the key reference point on poverty profiling since the promulgation of COK, 2010 and ultimately the formation of County Governments after the general elections of 2013. It is derived from the 5th National Participatory Poverty Assessment (PPAV) Report whose findings have been published simultaneously with the 47 County Reports.

Foremost, I take this opportunity to sincerely thank and acknowledge all individuals and institutions who collectively contributed their time and resources towards the production of this Report. In particular, valuable leadership and policy guidance was provided by Stephen Wainaina, the Economic Planning Secretary and Moses Ogolla, the Director Social & Governance Directorate.

In particular the Directorate of S&G provided the secretariat that was charged with the responsibility of undertaking the exercise and finally the production of both the National Report and the County specific Reports covering the 47 Counties,

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Finally, the Ministry is grateful to the respective County Governments and their staff, National Government staff in the Counties, communities and their leaders, as well key informants especially in their role in community mobilization and laying of logistics for a successful poverty assessment exercise within their areas of operation. Specifically, we thank targeted communities for turning up in large numbers and participating with enthusiasm during Focused Group Discussions (FGD) sometimes often late into the evenings thus making the work of our facilitators a success.

Engineer Mangiti
Principal Secretary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The population of Tana River County was recorded at 240,075 persons according to 2009 Population and Household Census and was projected to increase to 262,684 in 2012 with 131,544 being female and 131,140 male. The population is projected to increase to 287,422 in 2015 and 305,194 in 2017. The county has recorded a total fertility rate of 3.0 per cent which is slightly higher than the national rate of 2.9 Per cent.

In 2012, the Ministry of Devolution and Planning conducted the 5th Participatory Poverty Assessment (PPA V). The study aimed at gaining a deeper understanding of the impact of the pro-poor initiatives based on the perceptions of the people themselves, especially the poor and vulnerable groups. This was meant to broaden the process through which policies are developed by engaging ordinary citizens in real debates to come up with the best ways of reducing poverty. It also aimed at identifying and prioritizing policies, strategies, programmes and projects which would support poor communities improve their wellbeing, focusing on pro-poor initiatives.

This study used PPA tools and instruments including semi-structured oral interview questionnaires, Focused Group Discussions (FGDs), key informant interviews and observations. The study was conducted in Tana River district, Bura Division, Hiriman location and Walesorhea community was used as the respondents.

The findings indicate that poverty has been of a major challenge in the county. However, attempts have been made by the government and other development partners to address this problem through the introduction of various interventions in the various sub-sectors. Programmes/projects which are pro-poor have had a great impact on poverty levels. It is worth noting that poverty affects the living standards of the locals.

The findings further indicated that, the bulk of the poor is found in rural areas. The most affected categories of persons are mainly the disabled, women headed households, slum dwellers, the landless, the aged, the OVCs and unemployed youth. It has also been observed that prevalence of poverty is closely linked to access to health services, water and sanitation, education and agricultural inputs.

To mitigate this situation, there is need to construct/rehabilitate infrastructure facilities in the county, most to roads to all weather status. There is also the need to sensitize community members on the availability of devolved funds and other services. This further calls or the need to capacity build youths on entrepreneurial skills, on co-ordination and participatory monitoring and evaluation of government programmes/ projects. Together with these, efforts should be made to construct/rehabilitate and equip health centres, provide treated nets/ or and water treatment tabs to communities. On education, there is need to employ more qualified teachers to mitigate on shortage,

introduce school feeding programmes to increase retention rates and rein on scrupulous teachers who impose illegal levies in schools thus hindering access to education. Under agriculture, there is need to provide extension services to the community, in addition to provision of adequate and subsidized farm inputs to spur agricultural growth. The government should further create awareness on water harvesting and conservation. Due to the ever increasing cost of living, there is need to increase the amount given under the cash transfer programme and the coverage to meet the basic needs. To enhance public participation as enshrined in the constitution, there is need to involve the community in making decisions affecting them when it comes to selection of projects/programmes as well as identification of beneficiaries of direct government subsidies..

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AMREF	Africa Medical Research Foundation
CBOs	Community Based organizations
CDF	Constituencies Development Fund
CHW	Community Health Worker
CT	Cash Transfers
ECDE	Early Childhood Development Education
ESP	Economic Stimulus Programme
FBOs	Faith Based organizations
FGD	Focused Group Discussion
FPE	Free Primary Education
KCPE	Kenya Certificate of Primary Education
KCSE	Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education
KESP	Kenya Education Support Programme
KIHBS	Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey
KKV	Kazi Kwa Vijana
LATF	Local Authorities Trust Fund
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
NACC	National Aids Control Council
NASSEP	National Sample Survey and Evaluation Programme
NCPB	National Cereals and Produce Board
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
NHIF	National Hospital Insurance Fund
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
PEC	Poverty Eradication Commission
PPA	Participatory Poverty Assessment
PWDs	Persons with Disabilities
RAs	Research Assistants
STI	Sexually Committed Infections
TOWA	Total War against AIDs programme
VCT	Voluntary Counseling and Testing
WEF	Women Enterprise Fund
YEDF	Youth Enterprise Development Fund

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Participatory Poverty Assessment (PPA) is a mechanism through which identified communities give their own definition and understanding of poverty based on their own discourse. Hence PPAs are aimed at understanding poverty from the perspectives of poor people including gaining a clearer notion of what their priorities are for improving their livelihoods. There is need to conduct regular PPAs in order to inform policy makers on decision making process regarding various interventions that help to get the poor out of poverty. Participatory approaches add value in policy formulation and planning by enriching understanding of the realities of poverty and formulation of policies which address the plight of the poor. They increase the confidence and 'voice' of the poor while also acting as a learning process for the non poor and often resulting in the creation of new networks. In addition, participatory approaches influence the images of poverty and public debate.

The PPA V study was necessitated by the fact that inequality and poverty remain among key development challenges that the Government of Kenya continues to confront and address.

Further, whereas substantial attention has been placed on poverty alleviation, there exists a huge gap between the poor and non-poor in the entitlement to delivery of services. There also exists large disparities in incomes and access to education, health and to basic needs, including; clean water, adequate housing and sanitation.

In addition, there exist other remarkable intra and inter-regional and gender disparities in quality, accessibility, affordability and availability of services. These disparities become more pronounced among vulnerable groups such as people with disability, youth, people living with HIV and AIDS, orphans and the elderly.

The first Participatory Poverty Study was carried out in 1994, and covered 8 districts (seven of the poorest districts and two low income areas in Nairobi). Its objectives were to understand poverty from the perspective of the poor and those providing service to the poor and start a process of dialogue between policy makers, district level service providers and the poor.

The second PPA was carried out in 1996 and covered 7 districts with the purpose of providing a deeper understanding of poverty from the perspective of the poor and fills the gaps quantitative studies could not readily explain.

The third PPA was carried out in 2001 and covered 10 districts with the objective of enriching the information collected country-wide for the preparation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP).

The fourth PPA was conducted in 2005/06 alongside Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey (KIHBS). The two were meant to complement each other and focused on three main policy areas; poverty diagnosis and dynamics; pro-poor policies regarding service delivery and wellbeing; and voices of the poor among the communities which included analysis of the impact of the various policies on the poor.

The Fifth Participatory Poverty Assessment will mainly focus on the impact of the various pro-poor policies, strategies, programs and projects aimed at reducing poverty and improving welfare.

1.2 Objectives

The overall objective of the study was to contribute to Kenya's poverty reduction strategy, by providing a richer and more informative data base on the living standards, aspirations and needs of the poorer sections of the population. In this context, the fifth Participatory Poverty Study (PPA V) will focus on two main areas:

- The impact of the various policies, strategies, programmes and projects aimed at reducing poverty and improving welfare; and
- Capture the voices of the poor among the communities with a special focus on social protection initiatives to inform policy planning and targeting.

More specifically, the participatory study will seek:

- i. To gain a deeper understanding of the impact of the pro-poor initiatives based on the perceptions of the people themselves, especially the poor and vulnerable groups.
- ii. To broaden the process through which policies will be developed by engaging ordinary citizens in real debates to come up with the best ways of reducing poverty.
- iii. To identify and prioritize policies, strategies, programmes and projects which would support poor communities improve their wellbeing, focusing on pro-poor initiatives.
- iv. To integrate the respective contributions of participatory and qualitative approaches in the M&E strategy for Kenya.
- v. Monitoring impact to identify what outcomes are important to those affected by policy interventions themselves to help untangle complex processes of individual and community change.
- vi. Enriching understanding of the lived realities of poverty and arriving at policies which make sense to those affected to ensure equity and improvement of wellbeing in a clean and secure environment.

1.3 County/Cluster profile

Tana River County is located in the coastal region of Kenya. The county borders Kitui County to the West, Garissa County to the North East, Isiolo County to the North, Lamu County to the South East and Kilifi County and Indian Ocean to the South. The county has a total area of 38,862.20 Km².

The region has a hot and dry climate within ecological zones ranging from III (in the very high grounds) to VII (in the plains or lowlands). Average annual temperatures are about 30°C. The highest

being 41⁰C around January-March and the lowest being 20.6⁰C around June-July. Rainfall is low, bimodal and erratic. The total annual rainfall ranges between 280 mm and 900 mm. Long rains occur in April and May while short rains occur in October and November. November is the wettest month. The dry climate in the hinterland can only support nomadic pastoralism.

The county's population was 240,075 according to 2009 population and household census, the total county population was projected at 262,684 in 2012. The population is projected to increase to 287,422 in 2015 and 305,194 in 2017. The county has a total fertility rate of 3 per cent which is slightly higher than the national rate of 2.9 Per cent.

The total road network in the county is 3,076 km with about 55 per cent in motorable condition. Out of this, 300 km is bitumen road, 276 km is gravel road and 2,500 km is earth road. The major roads in the county include the Madogo – Hola – Malindi road which is dilapidated. The county boasts of five airstrips with major ones located at Hola, Bura and Garsen.

The county has 315 ECDE centres, 152 primary schools and 13 secondary schools. Some of the structures in the institutions are dilapidated. Although resources from the combined Constituency Development Fund from the three constituencies in the county have been employed in putting up school infrastructure , there is still a glaring shortage. The county has three youth polytechnics.

The land in the county is largely non-arable. The main crops produced in the county are mangoes, cowpeas, bananas and green grams. Farmers in the county mainly rely on rain-fed and flood-recession farming systems with only a few practicing irrigated farming. Maize production also takes place in the irrigation scheme.

Livestock is practiced mainly through pastoralism by the Orma, Boran, Wardei and Somali communities. The main livestock types are cattle, donkeys, camels and goats.

The county is dominated by complex ecosystem of high canopy coastal, riverine forests, wooded bush land and thickets as well as grasslands and mangrove forests.

Tana North District covers an estimated 131,915Km² and has a population of 82,545 people. It has six ethnic groups which include Orma, Warthe, Borana Munyoyaya, Wailwama and Pokomo. The resources available in the study area are River Tana, land and Gibson in Bilbil area. The main economic activity of the people in Tana North District are livestock keeping, subsistence farming and others engage in small business e.g. miraa business.

1.4 Methodology

This pilot study used PPA tools and instruments including semi-structured oral interview questionnaires, focus group discussions, key informant interviews and observations. Specific tools which were used included resource mapping, wealth ranking, Venn/chapatti diagrams and pair wise ranking. The Village Resource Map was introduced before the introduction of other PPA tools, and Wealth Ranking was used to establish how the community categorizes itself economically. There was

an attempt to identify households which were benefiting from the cash transfers so that they could participate during the administration of the specific data collection check lists so that accurate information was received to inform the discussions.

The checklist was mainly used to elicit specific information on selected policy areas from the community. It was divided into two sections namely Poverty Diagnostics and Assessment of the Impact of pro-poor initiatives. The trained RAs administered the tools/instruments under the guidance of the supervisors to ensure quality of the data collected. The data collection process was similar for all selected sample sites as well as the format for data recording and analysis. This standardization was critical for overall data analysis and report writing.

The Key informant provided technical information about their particular areas of operation. Those interviewed included officers responsible for Public Health/Medical Services, Water, Agriculture/Livestock, Gender and Social Development, Basic Education, opinion leaders, DDOs and the District Commissioner.

1.4.1 Selection of the cluster

For the purpose of collecting information, forty seven counties were selected to represent the country. One cluster was selected from each of the counties. This was done using two stage purposive sampling that super-imposed on agro-ecological zones to cover common characteristics across similar zones. The aim was to capture as much variation as possible among the poor communities in a given County. The Fourth National Sample Survey and Evaluation Programme (NASSEP IV) maps (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics) were used to demarcate the boundaries of each of the selected cluster.

A sample of forty seven clusters, one per county, was selected for the detailed study in which all specially designed participatory assessment tools were implemented.

In all the clusters, a household survey was undertaken and a household questionnaire administered to about 15 households, especially those benefiting from cash transfer.

1.4.2 Process, study instrument and field work

This pilot study used PPA tools and instruments including semi-structured oral interview questionnaires, focus group discussions, key informant interviews and observations. Specific tools which were used included resource mapping, wealth ranking, Venn/chapatti diagrams and pair wise ranking. The Village Resource Map was introduced before the introduction of other PPA tools, and Wealth Ranking was used to establish how the community categorizes itself economically. There was an attempt to identify households which were benefiting from the cash transfers so that they could participate during the administration of the specific data collection check lists so that accurate information was received to inform the discussions.

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Impact of pro-poor initiatives. The trained RAs administered the tools/instruments under the guidance of the supervisors to ensure quality of the data collected. The data collection process was similar for all selected sample sites as well as the format for data recording and analysis. This standardization was critical for overall data analysis and report writing.

The Key informant provided technical information about their particular areas of operation. Those interviewed included officers responsible for Public Health/Medical Services, Water, Agriculture/Livestock, Gender and Social Development, Basic Education, opinion leaders, DDOs and the District Commissioner.

14.3 Field logistics

The PPA-V study was conducted between November and December 2012. Information from the clusters was provided by the community members through Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) and household questionnaire and was complemented by the information from key informants who are the technical experts in the subject areas of the survey. The main policy areas of focus were Health Care, Basic Education, Agricultural Services and Inputs, Water and Sanitation, Housing, Cash Transfer (CT), Roads 2000, Devolved Funds such as Constituencies Development Fund (CDF) and Kazi Kwa Vijana (KKV).

In preparation for the Survey, the supervisors were introduced to the use of survey tools by the consultant. Advertisement for Research Assistants (RAs) was done one week prior to recruitment through the District Development Officer's (DDO) and District Statistics Officer's (DSO) office. The recruitment interviews were conducted for two days. Out of the applicants who were interviewed, six (6) research assistants per county were selected to assist in data collection in that specific county.

The training for researchers ran for five (4) days and data collection and report writing was done in four (4) days. During the training, RAs were taken through the introduction to Participatory Poverty Assessment and methodologies, guiding principles for participatory data collection and the data collection instruments.

To ensure the data collection instruments/tools were thoroughly understood, the research assistants conducted role plays. They were taken through the roles they were expected to play while in the field which included note taking, facilitating, observing and administration of the household questionnaires.

Other key areas covered during the training included data collection logistics, data storage, compilation of the site reports and the format of the cluster report.

1.5 Report organization

This report therefore presents the PPA V survey findings. The report is divided into five (6) chapters including chapter one (1) which covers introduction. Chapter two (2) highlights the survey findings on poverty diagnostics while chapter three (3) presents findings on provision of services in the selected

policy areas (health care, basic education, agricultural services and inputs, water and sanitation and housing). Chapter four (4) covers the findings other pro-poor initiatives (policies and programmes) such as Cash Transfers (CT), Kazi Kwa Vijana, Roads 2000, and devolved funds such as CDF, Women Enterprise Fund (WEF), Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF), and any other pro-poor interventions. Chapter five (5) covers cross-cutting and emerging issues while chapter (6) outlines the recommendations and conclusions.

1.6 Study limitations

A major limitation in PPAs design is the fact that they are not designed to collect quantitative information and therefore the quantitative data collected during the study is not representative of the county or even the district level, although the qualitative data could be representative of the sampled clusters.

CHAPTER TWO: POVERTY DYNAMICS AND INDICATORS

2.0 Introduction

Kenya recorded an impressive economic growth rates in the past ten years. However this growth was adversely affected by the post election violence of 2007/08, high commodity prices and increased oil prices globally. Despite the impressive growth rate, poverty still remains a challenge, inequality has continued to increase. There are insufficient job opportunities for the youth. To make development more inclusive and equitable, the government has rolled out interventions and programmes to improve service delivery to the poor and vulnerable groups to eradicate poverty. Some of these interventions include; setting up of poverty eradication fund, Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) fund, Cash Transfer (CT) for the elderly and Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC), among others. The main objective of the survey was to assess the impact of various government pro-poor initiatives and getting the voices of the people themselves, get their understanding of programs and their suggestions on ways for improvement.

This chapter highlights the definition of poverty, characteristics of the poor, classification of poverty, causes of poverty, coping mechanisms, poverty trends overtime and the recommendations as given by the focused group discussions and the key informant in Wolessorea cluster.

2.1 Definition of poverty

According to the community, poverty can be defined as lack of basic needs like food, shelter and clothing. They also defined it as living below the poverty line i.e. earning less than a dollar a day. Others defined it as lack of livestock which forms the backbone of income generating activities in the area. They noted that harsh climatic conditions, inter-tribal clashes, cattle rustling, nomadism, and illiteracy are some of the factors that have contributed to poverty in the area.

2.2 Classification of the poor

The community classified poverty into three categories;

- The rich;
- The poor; and
- The very poor.

2.3 characteristics of poverty

The Rich-

According to the community, a household was characterized as rich if it had 300 heads of cattle, 500 Goats and Sheep; 50 camels, can afford three meals a day, can afford to pay for medical care, and has many livestock which can be sold to offset any bills and remain with surplus.

The Poor-

According to the community, the poor can afford at least one meal per day; have 20 heads of cattle, 40 goats and sheep and at least one camel. The poor do not have regular incomes. Most of them are semi-illiterate and cannot access formal employment.

The Very Poor

The majority of people in this category are the OVCs, PWDs, Widows and single mothers. They are characterized by poor living conditions and rely on help from extended family members. They also have no guaranteed meals; they have no regular jobs, dresses in tatters, live in semi-permanent structures, are illiterate and cannot afford basic needs. This category they own 2 heads of cattle, 10 Goats and Sheep and has no camels.

However, the community noted that due to changing times and severe climatic conditions, cattle rustling, and inter-tribal clashes, the number of livestock is reducing at an alarming rate.

2.4 Categorization Poverty

These were categorized according to the type of housing, education, source of finances, types of farming, and living standards. It was estimated that the rich represents an average of 2%, the poor 70% and the very poor 28 percent.

2.5 Causes of Poverty

According to the community, the major causes of poverty include:

- i) Illiteracy which is caused by negligence by the parents; some parents do not take education of their children seriously;
- ii) The community noted that due to harsh climatic conditions it loses its livestock often in large numbers;
- iii) Retrogressive cultural practices; where the girl-child is especially denied the opportunity to go to school;
- iv) Traditional beliefs that manifest themselves poor attitude towards developmental issues such as building schools, hospitals and recreational facilities;
- v) Early marriages among girls as parents prefer to have dowry rather than educating the girl child; and
- vi) I Inter-clan conflicts between the various clans living in the area resulting in many people including women and children losing their lives.

2.6 Impact of Poverty

According to the community, the most affected groups are women, children with disabilities and OVCs because they cannot feed themselves but rather depend on others to provide for them. Some of the impacts of poverty include:

- Over-reliance on aid from the Government and NGOs;
- Vulnerability to natural disasters;
- Inability to access essential services like medical services;
- Increased drug (Miraa) abuse particularly by men leading to family neglect;
- Increased crime like cattle rustlings;
- Increased inter-clan conflicts; and
- Increased prostitution and teen-age pregnancies.

2.7 Coping mechanism

The community noted that the survival mechanisms available to them included:

- Support from the government, NGOs and Religious organizations. The government and the Kenya Red Cross provide relief food while some NGOs and the Ministry of Arid Lands helped them in restocking of livestock. But at times only a few people benefited from the programmes;
- Support from family members particularly after the inter-clan conflict which leaves many families destitute; and
- GoK pro-poor programmes such as Cash Transfer, CDF, Kazi Kwa Vijana and the Youth Funds.

Each of these programmes assist in reducing the impact of poverty on the people.

2.8 Asset ownership, access and decision making in the household

Main Assets in the Household

According to the community, men own about all the assets in the household. They even has access to the assets during emergencies. Women are forced to bear with the situation even in extreme cases of sickness since men regard women as their personal property. On decision making, men dominate all decisions as regards the assets in the households. In exceptional cases where women own some cattle or goats, their disposal cannot be done without the consent of men. In most cases assets owned by women are peripheral like household based items like sufurias, plates, basins, jerry cans and milking bowls.

2.9 Poverty and gender

Men tend to control most valuable assets in the community and have more rights to their usage than women. Therefore women are more affected by poverty than men since they cannot dispose any asset to meet the needs of the family.

2.10 Poverty trends over time

According to the community poverty has been on the rise. This is because of unpredictable climatic conditions, cattle rustling and inter-clan conflicts. Inter-clan clashes have led to the presence of internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have put a lot of strain on local resources like water and pasture for the livestock.

2.11 Interventions targeting the poor in the community

The government and other private partners have a number of interventions targeting the poor in the community. The poor especially the PWDs and OVCs are given incentives in terms of maize and beans every month. However, the community felt that there has been bias and lack of transparency in determining the beneficiaries particularly from the office the local administration.

2.12 Recommendations

The following are some of the recommendations given by the community:-

- The government should stop giving out relief food and instead focus on promoting the community to be self reliant;
- Need for continuous sensitization against retrogressive cultural practices;
- The community should be encouraged to embrace other economic activities alongside pastoralism;
- The government should intensify security surveillance in the area to avoid inter-clan conflicts;
- Encourage the community to construct and utilize toilets as opposed to relieving themselves in the bush;
- Increase the amount of cash transfers available to the community and
- Government should o improve the road infrastructure in the area.

CHAPTER THREE: FINDINGS ON PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES

3.1 HEALTH CARE

3.1.1 Introduction

Tana River County has a total of 71 health facilities with 2 level 4-hospitals located in Hola and Ngao. There is one sub-county hospital in Bura, 5 public health centres, 40 dispensaries and 20 private clinics, 2 mission dispensaries and one private health centre.

The Wolesorea cluster, the focus of this study, is about 40 kilometers from Bura town. The residents of this area are the Orma tribe who belong to Cushitic extraction.

The PPA V study aimed at generating information on availability of health facilities and where they are located in the communities, management of the facilities, awareness of the kind of services offered, affordability and other health interventions which have led to improvement in the health standards of the community. It also sought to establish the trend of health services for the past ten (10) years and recommendations for improvement.

3.1.2 Major Health concerns in the community

According to the community the major health concerns in the area include Malaria, TB, Diarrhea, HIV/AIDS, and Typhoid prevalence.

3.1.3 Provision of Health services (access, affordability and availability)

The Government through the Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation provides healthcare services. The community in Wolesorea sub-location receives the services through mobile-clinics where health workers administer immunization, child health care, treatment, maternal services and health education to the people. In providing for these services, the government works with other stakeholders like international co-operation corps (IMC), WHO, private institutions, and others to help the people in accessing the service

3.1.4 Interventions towards health services in the community

The Government trains and employs community health workers (CHW) who assist in educating and sensitizing the public as well as treating disease which are not severe. The ministry also works closely with traditional birth attendants in providing maternal services to pregnant mothers.

The Government in collaboration with other stakeholders e.g. NGOs, CBOs and religions institutions provides anti-malaria drugs, spraying and issuing of free mosquito nets. Though the mobile clinics, health services have been brought closer to the people although the community felt that the government needs to do more by building a health center in the area since the mobile clinics are not reliable in cases of emergencies. The community was of the opinion that it lacked adequate healthcare services and requested the government to address the problem.

3.1.5 Decision making on health issues in the family/community

Women have the responsibility in taking charge on issues of health; however in some cases men have the control.

3.1.6 Ideal family size among the household in the community

The ideal family size of the community in Wolesorea sub-location was eight (8) children for every woman of bearing age. However, the community noted that a woman can bear as many children depending on her ability or body strength.

3.1.7 Relation between household size and poverty

This topic elicited mixed feelings. According to the focused group discussion, the community does not practice family planning. They believe that God's (Allah) will provide for every child. They therefore believe that God will take care of their family and the larger the family the richer it will be. However, some respondents were of the opinion that, the larger the family, the poorer it becomes since one cannot provide for the needs of every child.

3.1.8 Access to and decision making on family planning

The community noted that they do not do family planning due to religious beliefs since majority of them are Muslims. Many of them claimed that it is not allowed. However, the women were of the opinion that their men do not cooperate when it comes to family planning. Some women reported that they secretly seek for the services without informing their husbands. However, they risked being in a polygamous family.

3.1.9 Opinion on status of health services over time

According to the community, there is no much change on provision of health services. They reported that they get health services through the use of mobile clinics which are not reliable. The mobile clinics are normally used to provide treatment on child health.

3.11 Conclusion and recommendation for improvement

- The community requested the government to consider building a health center in the community to avoid traveling long distances;
- The government should provide for medical supplies particularly for treatment of TB; and
- The government should consider setting up VCT center to help them know their HIV status.

3.2 BASIC EDUCATION

3.2.1 Introduction

The PPA V study aimed at generating information on availability of education facilities and where they are located in the communities, management of the facilities, awareness of the education programmes, affordability and other education interventions which have led to improvement in the education standards of the community. It also sought to establish the trend of education services for the past ten (10) years and recommendations for improvement.

The county has 315 ECDE centers with gross enrolment rate of 56.3 per cent. It has 152 primary schools with gross enrolment rate of 60.4%. However, the available schools are not evenly distributed. The net enrolment is 4,903 with 1,603 girls and 3,300 boys. The girl population is low due the high drop-out rate arising from early marriages and pregnancies.

Bura District has 25 primary schools which are sparsely distributed. The schools are on average 20km apart. The enrolment is relatively low compared to other schools in other parts of the country. The schools are understaffed contributing to poor performance in national examinations.

In Wolessora sub-location, there is only one primary school with 239 pupils. The school is accessible to the community. There is no secondary school in the area. The only day secondary school is Hirimani Mixed Secondary School which is 40km away from the community.

There is on average, two pupils from each household attending the nearby primary school. The number of children going to school is very low compared to the total number of household members of about 10 children. There are more boys going to school compared to girls in Wolessora sub-location.

3.2.2 Status of education facilities in the cluster/county

According to the DEO, there are 25 primary schools in the Division and one secondary school, the Hirimani Mixed Secondary School. Most educational facilities are permanent. In some cases, the community constructs extra temporary buildings to cater for increased enrollment.

The educational facilities are owned by the school management committee (SMC) and the government in general. The committees have a big role in the management of these facilities because they have employed watchmen, cooks and carpenters to carry out repair and maintenance of such educational facilities. The community also has the role of reporting incase a parent fails to take her/his child to school. The school has well maintained latrines, toilets for both pupils and teachers.

3.2.3 Provision of educational services

The community and the education officer reported that educational services are provided by the government through the national budget, CDF, LATF and other government transfers to schools. However, some NGOs like German Agro Action (GAA) have helped in providing pupils with uniforms and building latrines. .

Management of the Institution

The Wolesorea Primary School is managed by a Committee that represents the community. The mandate of the community is to build the school structures, collaboration with the administration to ensure children attend school, contribution of money to pay for examinations, PTA and nursery school teachers. The community also ensures that school facilities are utilized as per the requirement e.g. by telling their children not to waste school resources such as textbooks and exercise books. .

Role of Provincial Administration in the Implementation of Free Primary Education (FPE)

The community said that it works closely with the administrators (Chiefs, Assistant Chiefs and Village elders) to improve education in the area. This is achieved by ensuring that those children who are not attending school are forced to go to school. They also allow chiefs to use appropriate mechanisms in dealing with early marriages and drop-outs in the area.

They also give information on their poor backgrounds, for the government to assist them concerning education of their siblings.

The community said that it was aware of the free primary education by the government since 2003, although it is still paying to some extent e.g. Kshs. 1,200 to transport to standard eight (8) candidates from Wolesorea Primary School to Huruma Primary where there is examination centre 40km away.

Additional payments include Kshs.55 for examination/ per pupil, Kshs. 45 for a cook and Kshs.3,000 for a nursery school teacher.

They also incur other charges especially for buying items for use by standard eight (8) candidates during the National Examination (KCPE) each year. Each pupil is supposed to pay Kshs. 450 for such expenses which the community stated were unaffordable.

Mostly those payments are made by women and many of them are poor. They also said that there is special consideration to those people (parents) who are unable to pay these expenses. The issue is taken to the school committee whereby they come up with the decision. If the parent cannot afford, he/she is allowed not to pay. Generally the poor are given extra consideration.

3.2.4 Status of education services

According to the key informant, education services for the last ten years in the area have generally improved. He noted that with the coming of NARC government in 2003, and introduction of free-primary education enrolment has increased in schools greatly. The community also noted that before

the introduction of the free primary education (FPE) parents were incurring a lot of expenses in buying text books and other writing materials. Although parents also still incur expenses in paying for watchmen, cooks and PTA teachers mitigate understaffing.

However, according to the FGD, some parents are unable to afford for example paying 40/= for PTA teachers per child. However, the school committee has special consideration for poor.

3.2.5 Interventions towards improvement of education status in the community

Some of the interventions that have been used to promote education include.

- Construction of water tanks for schools and building of toilets by German Agro Action;
- Provision of school uniform, text books, pens and exercise books to OVCs;
- Free primary education; and
- Bursaries from CDF and Local Authority Transfer Fund LATIF.

3.2.6 Relationship between education and poverty

The community noted that poverty is related to education such that poor families cannot afford to buy books and other materials as well as pay for PTA expenses.

They also noted that children from poor families do not go to school due to lack of basic necessities and that poor families cannot afford to send their children to secondary schools.

3.2.8 Recommendations from the Community

The community gave the following recommendations:

- i. The government should increase the number of teachers,
- ii. The community should be sensitized on the importance of taking their children to school rather than being pastoralist;
- iii. The community requested for examination centre in Wolessora Primary School instead of taking their standard 8 candidates to Huruma Primary School;
- iv. The government should take actions in peace-building to avoid staff from running away because of insecurity;and
- v. The government should start the school feeding program.

3.3 AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

3.3.1 Introduction (CIDP)

Tana River County is not agriculturally productive particularly on crop production due to harsh climatic conditions. However, Bura district has one of the most successful irrigation schemes which are mainly used for crop production.

In Wolessora cluster, crop production is not popular in the area, though some members have been trying with disappointing results. However, the community practices some agricultural activities along River Tana, livestock keeping and poultry farming. Among the livestock kept are cattle, goats, sheep, camels, donkeys and poultry.

Ownership of livestock in the community is divided according to gender where women own chickens and men own livestock, land, and other valuable assets.

Duties are also divided according to age or gender. Females are involved in activities such as milking, selling of milk, planting and harvesting activities. It is the duty of men to take care of the livestock, clear bushes and prepare lands ready for planting.

3.3.2 Status of Provision of Agricultural Services and inputs

The agricultural activities that are carried out in the county require support in terms of inputs. The inputs needed are livestock extension services, livestock drugs and drought resistant seeds and fertilizers. NGOs are mainly the ones who provide inputs such veterinary services to farmers.

3.3.3 Intervention towards improvement of Agricultural standards in the community.

There are agricultural Interventions that aim towards improving standard of living of the community. Such programmes include:

'Njaa Marufuku' programme

The aim of Njaa Marufuku is to eradicate hunger and poverty .The programme provides startup capital to the community to ensure food security. It helps in restocking livestock due to prolonged drought. However, the community is not involved in identifying the projects.

Re-stocking program

The program aimed at restocking of livestock after the drought period. programme, nevertheless benefits a small portion of the community. Some farmers sell their livestock before they are decimated.

The community reported that it had been receiving minimum assistance from the government. Assistance comes during emergence time like when there is disease outbreak.

3.3.4 Target group for Agricultural services

Agricultural services targets the any one whole is involved in crop and livestock production. For example, the restocking programme targets farmers whose livestock died due to a drought.

3.3.5 Relation between agriculture and Poverty

Agriculture and poverty are mutually related. When rains are good, the community produces substantial amount of livestock products. There is enough milk due to availability of pasture. Crops also do well. These products reduce the impact of poverty on the community. But during dry periods, most of the livestock die bringing a lot of losses. They noted that during times of famine, it is left with very little, thus raising their poverty levels.

3.3.6 Status of Agricultural Services over Time

The performance of the sector has been going down over time. This is because of:

- i. Frequent and long periods of drought;
- ii. Inter-clan disputes and conflicts; and
- iii. Insecurity.

Unless the above drawbacks are properly handled, poverty will remain a symbiotic component of this county for a long time.

3.3.9 Recommendation

In order to reduce the poverty levels, the community recommended that:

- The government should supply them with agricultural inputs;
- Katumani maize seed: The members of Wolesorea sub-location pointed out that this type of seed was quite adaptable to the area. In case it was provided by the agricultural officers, they believed that it could do well.
- Digging of dams: The governments should assist the community in building dams for water storage and irrigation purposes to assure food security; and
- The government should improve on security.

It was also recommended by the key informant that the community should contribute towards the interventions to create ownership

3.4 WATER AND SANITATION

3.4.1 Introduction (CIDP)

The county's water resource comprises of both ground and surface water. Surface water consists of permanent rivers such as River Tana and ground water sources that include: boreholes, shallow wells, and earth pans. River Tana supports industrial and other socio-economic functions (such as power generation, agriculture, livestock, tourism and micro-enterprises). There are 13 permanent rivers, 23 water dams, 30 boreholes and other various sources including roof catchment. The quality of the water is good as its fresh and suitable for domestic, livestock and irrigation purposes.

The main water supply schemes in Tana River are Hola Water supply scheme in Galole, Bura water works in Bura, Garsen water supply, Ngao water supply and Hola water supply which is currently under expansion and rehabilitation by the Government of Kenya and World Bank funding.

The average distance to nearest water point (either surface or underground) is four kilometres. The Wolesorea community gets water from boreholes

3.4.2 Status of provision of Water and Sanitation

According to the community, over time, they have been having a problem of water. They noted that during dry periods, water sources dry up. On sanitation, the community noted that the majority do not have toilets and latrines. The only latrines which were nearby are for schools which were built by an NGO. They noted that most of them go to the bush for calls. The types of water found in the area are river water, dam water and shallow wells.

3.4.3 Roles of the community in payment of water and sanitation

The following are the roles of the community on water and sanitation:

- The community stated that it pays for water and sanitation facilities. For every 0-6 m³ it pays Kshs. 200 a month, Kshs. 50 a month for metre rent, and Kshs. 33 for every additional 1m³ of water consumed. Though these rates have been subsidized, many people felt that they could not afford them. The community conserves water by managing it and taking part in the project implementation such as construction of boreholes.
- However, in terms of WASH, there are no toilets and so some members of the community help themselves in the bush.

3.4.4 Types of water and sanitation facilities

The types of water found in the area are river, dam and shallow wells. The community reported that they did not have toilets at all other than the ones from the nearby school and they were using bushes as their toilets.

In Bura town, the Water and Sewerage Company provides sanitation services in collaboration with the local authorities. People have toilets in the towns.

3.4.4 Relationship between Environmental Degradation and water availability.

The community was aware that when trees are cut, the water table is affected. In this regard, the community spends most of its time searching for water. Climate change has led to long dry spells that affect livestock and life in general.

3.4.6 Relationship/impact between water and sanitation and poverty

Poverty is related to water shortage in that if one is in a place where water is not easily accessible and available, one spends a lot of time and money looking for it. This money and time could be used to carry out other economic activities which could generate some income. If one does not have water, it will be hard to keep livestock thereby depriving him of income.

3.4.7 Opinion/trends on status of water and sanitation over time

The community was of the opinion that over the last 10 years, there has been improvement in water availability in the community e.g. construction of boreholes, shallow wells and dams/pans.

The construction was done by government and NGOs such as:

- i. The Kenya Red Cross;
- ii. Samaritan Purse; and
- iii. Caritas Diocese of Garissa.

3.4.9 Recommendations

- i. The community were encouraged to build toilets/latrines;
- ii. The government should construct more boreholes; and
- iii. Conduct civic education on water and sanitation.

3.5 HOUSING

3.5.1 Introduction

Wolesorea community is a pastoralist community who mainly keep livestock. The community lives in round grass thatched manyattas.

It is the duty of women to build houses in this community. The culture does not permit men to build houses. Women come together and help each other to gather building materials and construction of the houses. Men may only come to help by cutting grass.

3.5.2 Types of building materials

The main building materials are twigs from (Mathenge), thorny bushes and grass. In the rainy season, the use of polythene sheets for protection from rain is common. In most cases, the building materials are locally sourced.

The community noted that in the past, it used marara (leaves from palm trees) to thatch their houses. This has changed as it now uses grass, strings, fito (flexible sticks) and polythene sheets for construction.

3.5.3 Status of provision of housing

The community noted that, though most of the building materials are easily accessible, those used to construct permanent structures are very expensive. However, for semi-permanent structures, the materials are affordable and locally found in the community.

3.5.4 Opinion/ trends

The community noted that over time, housing has not improved. This is because the community is nomadic. It keeps on moving from one place to another. They have also been affected by long dry periods of drought making most of the building materials unavailable.

3.5.5 Types of housing and Household headship

According to the community, most of the houses are temporary. They have no windows, just a small sized door and a plain sheet that acts as the door. Women are responsible of building and erecting houses. In most households, men are the heads. Others are headed by females, the elderly and caretakers head orphan households.

3.5.7 Recommendations

- Women requested the men to help them in building the houses;
- The government should improve the road network to make transportation of materials for construction easy.

CHAPTER FOUR: FINDINGS ON PRO POOR INITIATIVES AND DEVOLVED FUNDS

4.1 Introductions

Cash transfer (CT) is money that comes from the National Government aimed to the orphans, the elderly and People with Disabilities. The aim of the transfers is to ameliorate the living standards of the vulnerable people.

4.2 CASH TRANSFER

4.2.1 Cash Transfer to the Elderly

The community was aware of cash transfer programmes in the district, but were not benefiting from them. They said that there are many elderly people, people living with disabilities, orphans and OVCs but they do not get help from either government or non-governmental organizations. They reported that the nearby community in Hirimani location particularly Cheweke, Nanigh, Mororo and Bura had beneficiaries. They noted that the programme started in 2010 and at first the beneficiaries received Kshs. 2,000 per months. The payments are done through post office where the OVCs get their funds through their care givers who sign on their behalf.

According to the District Children Officer, the funds are inadequate but are just a supplement of their income. The selection criteria are:

- i. One must be in the category of vulnerable group like OVCs;
- ii. The household must be extremely poor; and
- iii. The members must not be in any other cash transfer programme.

The Officer said that care givers have other sources of livelihood e.g. farming, milk vendor, burning of charcoal, keeping of livestock and green grocers. He further pointed out that the cash transfer programme has a positive impact of livelihood to the beneficiaries. For example they have invested in farming, livestock, selling of milk, buying clothes and schooling.

Recommendations

- Government should include the community in the transfer programmes; and
- Consider increasing the coverage so as to reach other areas.

4.4 ROADS 2000

The community pointed out that there was no project under Road 2000 in their area. They indicated that the road connecting them to Bura town which is forty kilometers is impassable particularly during the rainy season. They requested the government to consider improving it.

Recommendations

They recommended that the roads be improved and marrumed to ease the transportation of people and livestock products in the area.

4.6 DEVOLVED FUNDS

Devolved funds in the area include KKV, CDF, Youth enterprise fund and women enterprise fund and

4.6.1 CDF

The key informant (educational officer) and the community reported that the community had been benefiting particularly in the provision of educational services like construction of schools and bursaries for the needy students which have helped improve education in the community. However they of the opinion that other devolved funds like women enterprise funds, youth funds, LATF, and HIV/AIDS have not been introduced in the area although other parts of the county have been benefiting from them.

4.6.2 Kazi Kwa Vijana

According to the key informant, KKV had been launched in Bura Location but was not launched in Hirimani location. The programme targeted youths mainly from within the area. The beneficiaries were paid Kshs. 250 per day receivable in cash at the end of every month. .

The District Youth Officer responsible of collecting and signing for the funds. The initial projects were bush cleaning and tree planting. The projects were not effective because they lasted for a short period.

The selection criteria were done by the Youth Officials who identified the youth aged between 18 and 35. The Constituency officer in charge of the youth said that the youths had no other sources of income and thus they had to cope with situations.

The community noted that the programme had never been rolled in their area. They only hear of it from other people from neighboring locations. Youths looked hurt and termed themselves isolated by the government and claimed there are no any youth programmes that have ever been in the area

In Wolesorea sub-location, the community was not aware of any devolved funds in the area apart from constituency development funds, which they use to construct school and equip them but funds like, LATF, and HIV/AIDS have not been introduced in the area.

Recommendations

- i. The community requested the government to introduce other devolved funds in the community.
- ii. Kazi kwa Vijana should be a long-term project;
- iii. KKV should be directed to the needs of the community. The community to be given an opportunity to select the programs they want done; and
- iv. Officers to be empowered so as to reach more youth in the district and development funds should not be handled by one officer to avoid misappropriating of government funds.

CHAPTER FIVE: CROSS CUTTING ISSUES AND EMERGING ISSUES

5.1 HIV&AIDS

The key informant reported that there are cases of HIV and AIDS in the towns with Bura town leading. However, at the community level, there were cases reported.

5.2 Persons with Disability (PWDs)

Despite the community having persons with disability, they have not been benefiting from any intervention from the government.

5.3 Gender

In the sample cluster, men participated more in discussing issues affecting their community than women. Men also owned all the assets in the cluster like land, livestock while women owned only utensils and children. Women are the one who take care of children, orphans, the aged and even their husbands.

CHAPTER SIX: RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION

6.1 Recommendations

Based on the community perceptions, the following are the key recommendations;

- The government should stop giving out relief food and instead focus on promoting the community to be self reliant;
- Need for continuous sensitization on retrogressive cultural practices;
- The community to be encouraged to embrace other economic activities alongside pastoralism;
- The government to increase security in the area to avoid inter-clan conflict;
- Encourage the community to construct toilets;
- Increase the amount of cash transfer so as to reach other parts of the county which are not covered;
- Government to improve on the road infrastructure;
- The government to re-introduce school feeding program;
- The government to employ more teachers;
- The community requested for examination centre in Wolesorea Primary School instead of taking their standard 8 candidates to Huruma Primary School (40 km away) for K.C.P.E. exam.

If the above recommendations are addressed particularly now that devolved funds are sent to the county, most of these problems would be solved.

6.2 Conclusions

Poverty has been a major challenge in the county. Attempts have been made by the government and other development partners to address this problem through the introduction of various interventions in the various sub-sectors. Poverty affects the living standards of the locals. Development projects and programs which are pro-poor have greatly reduced the poverty levels, nationally.

The bulk of the poor is found in rural areas. The most affected categories of persons are mainly the disabled, women headed households, slum dwellers, the landless, the aged, the OVCs and unemployed youth. It has also been observed that prevalence of poverty is closely linked to access to health services, water and sanitation, education and agricultural inputs.

In Tana River County, the poor population is spread all over the county. It is important that strategies in all the sectors be geared towards poverty eradication. To lower the poverty levels, higher economic growth rate must be achieved and sustained. Entrepreneurial skills should be imparted to the unemployed youth while community should be encouraged to diversify their economic activities. At the same time, policies and programmes should be initiated and executed to benefit the community.