



KEY FINDINGS

DIFFERENTIATED RESILIENCE...

Droughts and floods affect different groups (gender, age, livelihood types and wealth categories) to different degrees and for different reasons. Understanding these dynamics is key to effective targeting of the 'most vulnerable'.

...BUT INTERCONNECTED

Despite the diversity of climate impacts experienced by different groups, climate hazards affect the vast majority of households through either *primary* or *secondary effects*. This is due to the interconnectedness of almost all economic activity in the ward.

CLIMATE CONSENSUS

There was almost complete consensus concerning the key 'public good type' activity to be supported by the Climate Adaptation Fund. Participants believed that if NRM institutions are supported and empowered in partnership with the County Government, the resilience of the community will be enhanced.

COORDINATED NRM

Natural resources should not be managed exclusively at the ward-level. During extreme drought events, management and planning at larger scales is required. This necessitates coordination between NRM institutions across County borders (enhanced by timely provision of climate information).

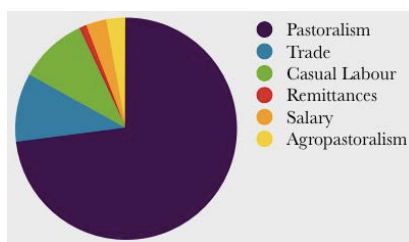
Conducted 11th-17th Feb 2012

Resilience Assessment Summary

The first Resilience Assessment (RA) was conducted in Sericho and was attended by over 50 people from all over the Ward. Women (30%) and youth (16%) were represented at the community meeting as well as being consulted separately in household and small group interviews.

As part of the RA, a one day workshop was hosted by the Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD). This provided a downscaled seasonal forecast and sought feedback on the types of climate information required by participants ahead of the launch of the community radio station (March 2013). Community prioritised radio content included: climate information in local languages, real-time information on market prices, the status of water and grazing resources during drought, publicity for local meetings, and information on insecurity and livestock disease outbreaks.

Livelihood Types in Sericho Ward



Concerning the effects of climate change, one participant epitomized views expressed on the changing nature of poverty dynamics:

"In recent years we are seeing a difference in poverty- before drought was followed by a gap when you can build up your herd again- but now drought comes one after the other before a new generation is established".

The key 'resilience bottleneck' identified by all sections of the community (gender, age, wealth, livelihood type) was natural

resource management (NRM). The dominance of the livestock economy is such that even households dependent on non-livestock based livelihoods rely on the buoyancy of the livestock economy. A stockless pastoralist reliant on casual labour emphasised this point:

"As much as we don't have any livestock of our own- any interventions that benefit livestock keepers will also benefit us"

The local NRM institutions (*dedha*) currently lack the capacity to enforce regulations, particularly regarding the unsanctioned use of grazing resources by neighbouring communities which has resulted in long-running conflict and insecurity.

Reflections on Resilience The Way Forward

Participants suggested that strengthening *dedha* and reducing the influence of the provincial administration on its decision-making was the best way to enhance climate resilience among the wider Sericho community. Enhancing the capacity of *dedha* to consult and mobilise the community as well as engage positively with cross-border communities were seen as key next steps in improving NRM. Another key activity will be seeking recognition of local NRM regulations by the County Government's formal structures through integration into local byelaws. Not until NRM institutions have adequate capacity and legitimacy, can provision of climate information make a significant contribution to climate adaptation.

These findings from the RA lend support to an approach utilising 'public good type' investments to support climate resilience in a drylands context.