

## PASTORAL COMMUNITIES CENTER FOR PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

CONCEPT PROPOSAL

**NAME OF ORGANIZATION; PASTORAL COMMUNITIES CENTER FOR PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES**

**TITLE OF THE PROJECT;**  **PEACE BUILDING INITIATIVE PROJECT, MARSABIT COUNTY**

**DONOR;**

**PROJECT CONTEXT;**

The proposed Peace Building Initiative Project is a project of Pastoral Communities’ Center for Peace and Conflict Studies- a local NGO registered in Kenya. This project is a follow up to much ethnic violence experienced in the County; ranging from kokai massacre of 1996 in North-horr, Turbi massacre of 2005 to the most recent tribal war in moyale and marsabit district in Marsabit County. More often than not these conflicts were about sharing limited natural resources-[grazing land and water], marginalization and economic supremacy. The net effects of these conflicts range from economic destitute, internal displacement to highway banditry and cattle rustling.

This project aims at strengthening communal institution on peace building, conflict resolution and management, based on the fact that all communities in Marsabit County have a traditional means of conflict resolution and management. Creation of institutionalized community peace building process will facilitate better decision-making regarding conflict prevention, resource conservation and management. The primary goal of this project is to identify early warning indicators of conflict, prevent and manage violent and non violent conflict, enhance dialogue, strengthen inter-tribal trust in sharing and management of natural resources in the county.

**RATIONALE OF THE PROJECT;**

The rationale behind this project is that in order for the local communities in the county to address development programmes at the grass root level, they need to improve their expertise and competence in conflict prevention, resolution and management to attain stable social integration and cohesion. Home grown solution not only solve perpetual conflicts amongst the local communities but also provide a lasting solution in resource sharing and development, promote social integration and cohesion, better livelihood stability and minimize the dysfunctions of conflict.

**GOAL OF THE PROJECT,**

To strengthen communal institutional process of conflict resolution and management in recognizant of cultural diversity and practice by designing macro-level strategies to minimize the dysfunctions of conflict and create a meta-model for conflict styles based on concern for self and concern for others.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT,**

* To create an institutionalized community development process which will facilitate better decision making regarding conflict’s early warning indicators, resolution and management.
* To empower community leaders with skills and techniques of resolving conflict and enhance social cohesion and integration through capacity building training.
* To offer through project activities a functional model of peace building in secondary schools through clubs and societies.
* To enhance cultural exchange activities among locals in the County to appreciate cultural diversity.
* Establish a cultural museum in association with the Government where rich cultural artifacts and history of all local communities will be preserved.

**PROJECT STRATEGY;**

**A] EARLY WARNING INDICATORS OF CONFLICT.**

It was established that resource based conflicts mostly occur during dry season periods of the year when the pasture and water become scarce and pastoral communities retreat to mountain areas exacting pressure on water catchment areas. Tribal conflict also occurs during electioneering period due to political marginalization of minority by the major tribes. The following strategies were identified,

* Establishment of common grazing land managed by the community leaders representing all local communities. Construction of dams in the grazing areas which will be managed by water users’ association will be done jointly with government.
* Restrict the retreatment of pastoral communities to the mountains during dry period, instead grass harvesting and storage will be enhanced during wet season and in collaboration with Government de-stocking of the livestock will be done at early stage of drought.
* Create an oversight implementing committee representing all communities sharing common resources, to manage equitable sharing of resources.
* Strengthen the culture of conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.
* Empower the youth with knowledge of life skills in order for them to be self reliant and responsible citizen.

**2] PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF CONFLICT,**

Resource-based conflict intervention strategies include,

* Designing conflict management that will enhance critical and innovative thinking to learn the process of diagnosis and intervention.
* Involving all local community representatives in a problem solving process that will lead to collective learning and maintaining harmony.
* Leaders must behave ethically and should be opened to new information and willing to change their mind when necessary.

**3] POST-CONFLICT STABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT,**

Majority of pastoral communities in Marsabit County share similar cultural practices. There will be need to uphold and promote these cultural practices not only for tourism but also for social cohesion. The strategies to be employed include,

* Cultural weeks to be organized for all the pastoral communities to showcase their cultures. Common cultural practices are identified and promoted as the common identity that identifies the pastoral communities as one group.
* Cultural museum to be established where history and artifacts of all the pastoral communities in Marsabit County will be preserved for future generation.
* Cultural exchange progammes will be enhanced on rotational basis. The hosting community will be expected to organize the events and plan for accommodation for their hosts. At the end of the events, a closing ceremonies will be conducted which will be attended by all the local leaders, community elders and government officials.
* Character competence will be introduced in selected secondary schools through clubs and societies. Theme will be selected and activities designed for students on term basis. Through dramas and sporting activities, students will be encouraged to be peace ambassadors. Schools will be rewarded based on performance.
* Tree planting will be conducted on water catchment areas that will be undertaken by all pastoral communities jointly.

**4] PEACE BUILDING CAPACITIES, TOOLS AND INTELLICTUAL CAPITAL,**

Series of training will be organized for community leaders, government officials, women and youth leaders to strengthen their abilities and skills on conflict prevention, resolution and management. Secretariat will be established and strengthened to oversee the implementation of project. Information centers will be created to disseminate information to local communities should need arises.

**ANTICIPATED RESULTS,**

By the end of the project,

* The joint cultural festivals would have improved interaction and integration of communities.
* The successful implementation of cultural exchange programs would have minimized social mistrust and hatred and promoted dialogue and integration.
* The training workshops would have enhanced communities’ ability to prevent, resolve and manage conflict.
* Character competence programmes introduced in secondary schools would have added values of virtue and integrity to students upon completion of school.
* Creation of secretariat desk would have improved flow of information from the project to the local communities and vice versa.
* Cultural museum would have promoted tourism in the county and enhanced in-come to local communities and further promoted community interaction.
* Dams constructed would have improved water quantity available for livestock.
* Number of tree seedlings planted would have helped to restore the destroyed forest land, improved vegetation cover and revived dry streams that feed dams and wells.
* The amount of grasses harvested and stored during wet seasons would have sustained livestock during dry season and restricted migratory tendencies of pastoralists and minimized conflict.

**INNOVATION,**

This project aims at strengthening the cultural mechanism of conflict resolution and management and complementing with conventional mechanism to minimize the dysfunction of conflict and enhance dialogue, cohesion and integration. By promoting cultural heritage of individual community and strengthening intercultural exchange among communities, communities will have better understanding of one another and friendship and trust will be born.

**ORGANIZATION BACKGROUND,**

The Pastoral Communities Center for Peace and Conflict Studies [PCCPCS] is a local NGO formed by a group of local professionals and mandated by NGO coordinating board to operate in the Counties of Marsabit, Isiolo, Samburu, Turkana and Pokot in Kenya. The members of PCCPCS consist of experts with experience in the fields of Education, Health, Agriculture, Peace and Conflict Management, Natural Resources management, Advocacy and Governance and Community Development.

The PCCPCS has a human capacity of twelve [12] professionals who have the competence, ability and experience to implement this project. This project will be implemented by program officer who has skill, knowledge and experience in conflict resolution and management.

PROJECT ESTIMATES,

KSH 42,582,750.

CONTACT PERSON

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