



IGAD GENDER AND RESILIENCE SHARE FAIR 16-18 SEPTEMBER 2021

Contribution of Pastoralist Women in Sustaining the fading Cultural Heritage. A case of Ateker Cultural Center (ACC), Moroto, Uganda

The challenge;

Karamoja is known for its cultural heritage, but little has been shared about it. The women have been at the center of production, preservation and promotion of cultural values at the homestead level as the elders have been at the forefront at the community. The women initiatives have been in the areas of production of artifacts, ornamentals, construction of traditional homestead, spearheading preservation of indigenous foods, herbs and promote sharing of indigenous knowledge. However with limited support, the culture is fading.

Gender mainstreaming

ACC aims at promoting the original heritage of Ateker communities across borders. 90% contribution has been by the pastoralist women who have contributed; land, labour, est. capital of 17,000USD. Artifacts and ornamentals valued at 10,000USD.



Above: Visit of GIZ Country Director and Germany Embassy Rep- Uganda September 2021 artifacts section at Ateker Cultural Center

Results;

- Pilot Artifacts center & heritage homesteads established
- Partnership building
- Exhibitions across the border

Lessons learnt;

The initiative has been beneficial to the pastoralist women at the center by improving the way of living. This initiative if explored and supported could promote and sustain the culture for socio-economic gains in the Ateker Cluster.

- Existing indigenous knowledge
- Co-existence of pastoralist groups
- Artifacts are used as sustainable income

Plans to adapt, scale of replicate the actions

Establish a community museum with the artifacts at ACC with an innovation/ skilling/ art center for learning.



Pic above: Miss Tourism Contestants 2019 at Ateker Cultural Center

BENEFICIARIES

Ateker Pastoralists;
Turkana, Jie, Matheniko. Pian, Pokot, Dodoth, Tepeth and Ik.

KEY PARTNERS FOR SCALING

Governments, Pastoralists, UN Agencies, CSOs, Private sector; **funding, Resource mobilization, lobbying & advocacy**