







Breaking the Barrier, Building Resilience: Transforming livelihood through Gender Mainstreaming in Wajir Country, Kenya: A Case Study of Iftin, Gumur and Brimo Pastoral Field Schools

The Challenge

- The project aimed to improve livelihood diversification through pastoral field schools that benefitted both men and women;
- Gender roles: Adult males generally engaged in productive roles; female adults mainly engaged in reproductive roles;
- Women in female led HHs performed both productive and reproductive tasks, assisted by male youth in the productive works and female youth in the reproductive work;
- Decisions on income and spending controlled by the males with little consultation of females.

Gender Mainstreaming Action

Social and Environmental safeguards is imbedded in all project interventions. RPLRP in its 5th development objectives targets more female beneficiaries (at least 40%).

During project implementation, a number of gaps and concerns were noted by members which the following gender-focussed interventions:

- Capacity building on gender mainstreaming through PFS curriculum;
- Inclusion of gender in action planning;
- Use of religious leaders to create awareness about gender stereotypes and inclusivity;
- Use of agents of change to champion for gender inclusion.



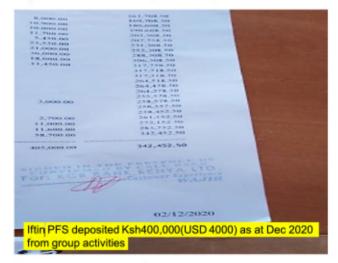
Beneficiaries

3 sub counties benefitted from this, Wajir North (Gumur PFS-Bee Keeping), Wajir East(Makaror PFS-Pasture production) and Wajir South(Poultry production)



Results

- Reduction in gender stereotypes;
- Enhanced group harmony;
- Improved gender inclusivity in all PFS activities and leadership e.g. in the last group election all 3 groups elected women as their treasurer; and there was increased women participation in planting pasture and harvesting of honey;
- Improved profits from income generating ventures;
- Increased productivity among groups that embraced gender mainstreaming in their operations.



Lessons Learnt

- Engagement of change ambassadors redresses gender stereotypes;
- Periodic gender-focussed trainings enhance reduction in gender stereotypes;
- Incorporation of gender inclusivity in group laws enhances compliance;
- Gender inclusivity in projects bridges delivery gaps.

Sustainability

- Incorporated gender mainstreaming into the group by-laws
- Frequent refresher courses on gender(twice annually)
- Active change ambassadors in the group to demystify gender stereotypes
- Grievance redress committee within the group to handle gender based issues

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