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Effects of Insecurity on Social Activities of Pastoralist Communities, A Case Study of Mandera County

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The presence of an imminent threat to people's lives and property is referred to as insecurity. It might represent a threat, posing difficulties, and risks, and raising anxieties, which would have an impact on a nation's socioeconomic progress. The purpose of this study was to examine forms of insecurity among pastoralist communities and evaluate how insecurity affected the social activities of pastoralist communities in Mandera County, Kenya. A descriptive survey study design was used to collect both qualitative and quantitative data using questionnaires, interviews and content analysis. A total of 399 household heads, 4 chiefs, 6 sub-chiefs, 10 religious' leaders, and 6 members of civil society. A stratified method was used to ensure all the sub-counties were included in the study. Household heads, chiefs, sub-chiefs, religious figures, and members of civil society were sampled using purposive sampling. Data analysis was done using the Statistical Packages for Social Science (SPSS Version 25) computer software program to yield descriptive statistics such as frequencies, percentages, means, and standard deviations. Verbatim quotes were used to analyse qualitative data. The findings of the study were presented using tables, figures, pie charts and bar graphs. The findings of this study indicated that Mandera experiences a variety of kinds of insecurity, such as livestock rustling, banditry, border conflicts, terrorism attacks, and inter-clan disputes. The study concluded that there was heightened insecurity in Mandera County caused by terrorism and cattle rustling. Based on the findings above, the study recommended that the county government of Mandera to provide adequate amenities and intensify security in the county in order to ensure the pastoral communities have access to social services.

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INTRODUCTION

Pastoralism is a significant economic activity in the majority of the countries in the Horn of Africa. One of the largest pastoralist populations in the world lives in parts of Kenya, Somalia, Ethiopia, and Uganda where other forms of support are scarce (Catley et al., 2016). Because seasonal weather patterns mean that these resources are not always available, pastoralists in this region rely significantly on strategic mobility to ensure access to pastureland and water sites, and as a result, their livelihoods have a regional component. They cross international borders to emigrate, have access to regional and global markets, and are impacted by global phenomena like violence or drought. Pastoralism provides livelihood for an estimated 20 million people in Ethiopia and accounts for around 80% of the country's yearly milk production. It also provides 90% of the meat consumed in East Africa and contributes 19%, 13%, and 8% of the GDP (Nyariki, 2017).

Support to pastoralists in these areas is scarce and the intervention measures fail due to various reasons. One of them is misplaced narratives that pastoralism is outdated and there is a need for alternatives to pastoralism (Wachira et al., 2020). As a result of these narratives, there have been biases against the pastoralists particular in the provision of education, water, and investment in diversification programs such as irrigation farming and other projects outside the pastoral economy. Another reason is the poor design of the development projects in the areas occupied by pastoralists. As a result, the projects do not fit the local contexts. For instance, the boreholes and water points provided do not function for long and when repairs are needed, the cost involved is very high. Additionally, the intervention programs in the areas inhabited by the pastoralists do not incorporate the social aspects, do not involve local networks or mobilize local expertise and experience. These projects fail when the funding ceases.

Pastoralism is the primary source of income for those who live in Kenya's arid and semi-arid regions (ASAL), which make up around 80% of the country's total geographical area (Amwata et al., 2015). Most individuals agree that pastoralism considerably boosts the nation's GDP and that the livestock value chain benefits a lot of people (Karaimu, 2018). Pastoralists rule a substantial portion of northern Kenya and its borderlands. The area is often regarded as being underdeveloped and underprivileged, and it is devoid of infrastructure and essential services. It suffers from a lack of governance and the rule of law, as well as from social, political, and economic marginalization. The area is also susceptible to ongoing wars and is severely affected by ongoing droughts (Opiyo et al., 2015). Communities of pastoralists in Kenya are not all the same. They comprise the communities of the Rendille, Turkana, Samburu, Boran, Gabra, Somali, Burji, Pokot, Masai, and Garre.

One of the areas where pastoralism is a dormant economic activity is Mandera County. This is due to the area's extreme aridity, which makes crop production difficult. However, the communities are looking for additional economic diversification strategies as their reliance on pastoralism declines. In this county, residents are specifically expanding their sources of income by engaging in crop cultivation through irrigation, trade, the sale of charcoal and firewood, leasing, and the purchase and sale of land, among other activities (Abdullahi, 2018).

Communities of pastoralists are under a lot of hardship, including drought and other natural disasters like climate change. Additionally, there are more instances of cross-border violence, cattle rustling, cross-border intrusions, and competition for scarce natural resources like pastures and water sources in the areas inhabited by these communities. Additionally, these regions endure increasing instability, which has a detrimental impact on socioeconomic growth and makes

people there more vulnerable to poverty (Brzoska & Frohlich, 2016).

The areas inhabited by pastoralists experience insecurity which is mainly manifested in various forms. One of them is cattle rustling which is mainly caused by weakened traditional governance, culture, political incitements, and the proliferation of small arms, among other causes (Kimokoti, 2022). In effect, the increased cases of cattle rustling lead to deaths, destruction of property, injuries and loss of lives among other effects. Another form of insecurity is border conflicts. This mainly results from the scramble for pastures and water, and political incitements among other factors (Nori, 2021). This has an impact on the communities in various ways including community evictions, injuries, deaths, and destruction of property. This has resulted in huge displacement of people, deaths, destruction, loss of property and injuries. The areas occupied are also prone to terrorism. This is mainly due to weak governance structure and poor presence of security officials in these areas. Such attacks polarize economic activities such as tourism, and investment among others (Ejiofor, 2022).

The increased insecurity in areas inhabited by pastoralists had caused increased poverty levels. This is because, insecurity disrupts socio-economic activities (Ng'asike, 2022). For instance, during times of insecurity, people cannot attend religious activities, weddings, and markets and children are not able to go to school. Also, increased insecurity leads to the collapse of traditional livelihoods. For instance, attacks are associated with large-scale out-migration and displacement of communities, which leads to destitution.

Increased insecurity also hinders the provision of social services such as education and health services (Mutu, 2017). Heightened insecurity leads to the closure of schools as the affected communities are forced to flee to safer places thus hindering education attainment. The raids also scare away teachers and other individuals involved in the provision of education who are not willing to work in such volatile areas. Healthcare

workers are scared of working in areas with insecurity and the provision of healthcare supplies becomes a challenge.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Forms of Insecurity in Pastoral Community

In pastoralist-populated areas, terrorist attacks are one type of insecurity. Terror attacks by Al-Shabab terrorist fighters have occurred repeatedly in various places, especially those near to the Kenya-Sudan border. Most of these attacks have targeted important social facilities, infrastructure, security organizations, and government figures (Ajah, Dinne & Salami, 2020). There is tension in these communities as a result of these frequent attacks. For instance, pastoral poverty, inequality, and high unemployment in northern Kenya contribute to socioeconomic issues that make it easier for young men to join Al-Shabaab and other violent organizations. It has been simple for the group to establish itself and gather members because of the weak and unstable infrastructure. As a result, the organization now finds it simple to organize and carry out attacks.

Clan wars are another sort of insecurity that might exist in the locations where pastoral populations live. Conflicts in these regions typically occur more frequently and last longer when there are heterogeneous clans than they do in places with homogeneous clans. Contrary to contiguous zones, where two or more clans border one another, resource conflicts are reduced where one dominating clan predominates. Chelang'a and Chesire (2020) say that it is possible for both different and similar groups to fight over who gets to use and control water and pasture.

Insecurity can also occur in the form of border conflicts. This mostly occurs in northern Kenya. In most cases, the communities engage in conflict when one crosses into the other community's territory. This has been mostly the case among the Turkana and the Pokot. Also, in some cases, the movement for water and pastures is not confined to the country but transcends international boundaries into Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, and Uganda. These interregional and cross-border

movements frequently result in conflicts, which in most cases result in property destruction and loss of life (Houessou et al., 2020).

Security-related topics have dominated the conversation about development for many years. Krahman (2017), for instance, noted in a study conducted in Haiti that numerous attempts have been made since the end of the Cold War to redefine the concept of security from a state-centric perspective to a broader view that prioritizes individuals. In this new definition, human security—which incorporates elements of national security, human rights, and national development—remains a key barometer for explaining the concept. Krahman (2017) says that people have tried to expand the idea of security from the level of the state to the level of society and the individual, as well as from military concerns to non-military ones.

According to Chamarbagwala and Morán (2015), one is a neo-realist theoretical strand that conceptualizes security as the state's fundamental duty. The second school of thought, known as the postmodernist or plural perspective, conceptualizes non-state actors as being in charge of security and displaces the state as the main supplier of security. Every government should give the economic security of its population a higher priority than state security because economic problems are frequently the cause of security problems.

When considering security in many Sub-Saharan African countries, Nwanegbo and Odigbo (2013) draw attention to the absence of threats to peace, stability, national cohesion, and political and economic goals of a country. However, there is widespread agreement that maintaining peace, sustaining national unity, and fostering long-term socioeconomic prosperity all depend on security. According to Oladeji and Folorunso (2015), the presence of a strong system that can quickly, expertly, and in real-time solve the challenges that these threats offer defines security in Nigeria rather than the absence of threats or security issues.

In Kenya, specifically in Mandera County, the concept of insecurity connotes different meanings, such as the absence of safety; danger; hazard; uncertainty; lack of protection and lack of safety. In Mandera County, for example, UNDP (2015) asserts that the concept of insecurity emphasizes a key point: those affected by insecurity are not only uncertain or unaware of what will happen, but they are also vulnerable to danger when it occurs. This shows up as fights between clans, fights between different ethnic groups, theft of livestock, fights over boundaries, terrorism, and fights between clans.

Effects of Insecurity on Social Amenities among Pastoralists Communities

Insecurity in the pastoral regions has various social effects and is inextricably associated with poverty. This has been identified in numerous studies that have been conducted. A study conducted by Justino (2016) identified that increased instability affects education. Armed conflicts, which are frequent in pastoral areas, worsen insecurity, which makes it difficult to provide high-quality education. According to the findings, both the supply and demand sides of education are significantly impacted by insecurity. On the supply side, the research showed that schools are typically targeted and destroyed during conflicts, leaving the populace without educational resources. Teachers fear working in unstable areas because of the harassment and murder of teachers. This results in a teacher shortage, which has an impact on education.

On the demand side, the study found that rising insecurity leads to a shift to camps, which results in children dropping out of school. Additionally, despite possible efforts to provide education in these camps, the standard is typically quite low due to a lack of facilities and teachers. On the demand side, many individuals believe that education is not necessary and that schools are hazardous when there are disputes. As a result, many parents do not believe that their children need to receive an education.

Increased Insecurity among the Pastoralist Communities also Hinders the Provision of Social Services.

Dunn (2018) conducted a study to determine the impact of the Boko Haram insurgency in Northeast Nigeria and found that rising conflict levels and greater insecurity are linked to children's ill health. According to the report, the Boko Haram insurgency had impacted the majority of the nation's regions, creating fear and insecurity that led people to congregate in camps. Children living in camps had inadequate nutrition, which was one effect that was visible. Children in camps had poor nutrition and bad health compared to kids in cities and other safe places. Since it was difficult to obtain sufficient food and healthcare services in the camps, this was brought on by a bad diet and a lack of medical attention. The study also found that the camps were overcrowded, with little access to clean, potable water, and poor sanitation, which further jeopardized the health of the camp's inhabitants.

In another study conducted in Nigeria, Agheyisi (2019) identified that increased insecurity impacts inter-communal relations. Heightened animosity between communities leads to strong negative feelings and distrust towards each other. This decrease in trust reduced the capability and motivation of the communities to coexist and cooperate. Intercommunal relations deteriorate, particularly when crimes like rape or the kidnapping of women occur. This approach may make parents more likely to arrange an early marriage for their daughters with someone they deem to be "safe hands" in an effort to foster relationships. This is however not common in the current era.

Oladayo (2019) conducted a study to determine the impact of conflict on health outcomes in the sub-Saharan region and established that insecurity is a major challenge that affects the provision of healthcare services. Evidence from Sudan showed that insecurity hurts healthcare in a big way, especially because it causes a lack of health workers. The findings indicated that during conflicts, health workers get killed while a

number of them fear working in areas with conflicts. This leads to a shortage of healthcare workers.

In Bentiu, Bor, Akobo, Jonglei State, and Juba, health workers were killed and harassed by combatants, which increased fear for other health workers working in these places. The provision of healthcare services by non-governmental organizations is also affected as most of these organizations fear working in insecure areas, particularly in Juba. As a result, the people in these areas are deprived of these services.

In a study to assess the effects of insecurity in Somalia, Kinyoki et al. (2017) found that significant levels of undernutrition among children existed in the impacted areas as a result of ongoing wars and rising undernutrition. The lack of food and inadequate kid medication were blamed for this issue. Children found it difficult to acquire healthy foods during wars, and medical care was inadequate in the impacted areas because it was difficult to provide it and because healthcare staff were feared there. Based on the findings, malnutrition among children, especially those under the age of 5, was shown to be the main issue, which exposed the kids to illnesses. A lack of nourishment was said to be the issue.

Namasivayam et al. (2017) conducted a study to determine the consequences of insecurity in Uganda and found that insecurity had a detrimental impact on the maternal health of women in the affected area. Conflict-related increases in insecurity had a detrimental impact on women's utilization of maternal healthcare in Northern Uganda since institutional deliveries and the use of contraception were less common among women in the main conflict zones.

Another negative health consequence of elevated insecurity is poor mental health. According to a study by Amnesty International (2016), many refugees from Juba, Malakal, and Bentiu who were residing in Uganda had PTSD as a result of the civil violence they had undergone at home. The battle caused a great deal of sorrow,

especially in Juba, where many of the refugees wished they had never existed.

Locally, Balfour et al (2020) conducted a study to determine the dimensions of water insecurity in pastoralist households in Kenya and concluded that insecurity affects the social welfare of the affected communities, particularly the women and children, and completely disrupts their social lives. In times of war, violations of the fundamental rights of women and girls are pervasive, including brutal crimes such as rape, torture, murder, maltreatment, and neglect. The study further noted that increased insecurity and crimes against women often leave them in situations where they can hardly make ends meet.

Mbugua (2016) conducted a study on the effects of insecurity in West Pokot and found that it reduces educational possibilities in areas affected by armed conflicts by prompting children and their families to leave their homes and seek refuge in safer locations. Children avoid going to school out of fear and instability, especially those with impairments who need regular parental care and attention. The majority of the time, groups that are fleeing settle in underdeveloped areas devoid of educational institutions, educators, and other educational stakeholders. As a result, their schooling is impacted.

In another study conducted in Mandera County, Aburo (2017) identified that violence makes teachers scarce in the afflicted areas. Because they are seen as elites and leaders in their communities as well as opponents of child tyranny and recruitment to war, teachers are typically the target of assailants during war and conflict terror acts. Most instructors avoid working in conflict-prone areas because of their susceptibility to attacks, which causes a scarcity of educators in the affected areas. As a result, education in the afflicted areas is of lesser quality. Schools and other educational institutions are destroyed as a result of armed warfare. Conflict hinders access to schools, delays their opening, threatens the safety of children within and outside of them, and raises teacher and student absenteeism rates

Ibrahim (2015) did a study on the effects of insecurity in Mandera County and found that many people's social activities, including as education, healthcare, religious events, and social gatherings, have been disrupted as a result of insecurity. According to Ibrahim (2015), insecurity in many areas of Mandera County has caused a breakdown in the delivery of public services, the destruction of sanitary and medical facilities, and the loss of workers due to deaths or emigration.

METHODOLOGY

The Target Population

The target population in this study were pastoralists communities in Mandera County. The respondents were the heads of households. There are 125,763 households in Mandera County, with an average of 6 people living there (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics Statistical Abstract, 2019). The respondents were therefore sampled from 125,763 household heads. Data was also gathered from key informants which included Chiefs, religious figures, and members of civil society

Sampling Techniques

In choosing different types of respondents for the study, multiple sampling techniques were used. Stratified sampling was used to ensure that all the sub-counties in Mandera County were included in the study. The respondents were therefore sampled from Mandera North, Mandera East, Mandera South, Mandera West, Laffey, and Banisa. This ensured that the respondents in Mandera County had an equal chance of being selected for the study. The household heads were selected using purposive sampling. This is because, being the heads of households, they were well informed on the effects of insecurity and the associated effects and therefore well placed to give reliable data. Purposive sampling was also used to sample administrative leader-chiefs, assistant chiefs, religious leaders, and civil society representatives. The choice of this method was premised on the assumption that these respondents are well conversant with the area of

the study and the occurrences due to the leadership positions they hold. This method was used together with the snowball sampling technique. A total of 399 household heads, 4 chiefs, 6 sub-chiefs, 10 religious leaders, and 6 members of civil society were selected.

Sample Size

To obtain a sample size that has an adequate representation, Yamane's Formula (1973) was used as follows;

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where n = desired sample size at 95% confidence interval; N= Target Population; e = Margin of error corresponding to 95% confidence level.

Thus, the sample was:

$$n = \frac{125,763}{1 + 125,763(0.05)^2}$$

n = 399 respondents

Methods of Data Collection, Analysis and Presentation.

Data was collected through questionnaires and interview schedules. A questionnaire was handed to the household heads to collect quantitative data. The questionnaire was deemed appropriate and economical because data was obtained from a substantial number of household heads. Both closed and open-ended questionnaires were used. The questionnaires were administered by the researcher with the help of research assistants to collect data on forms of insecurity and the effects of insecurity on the social activities of pastoralist communities. To collect qualitative information, interviews were conducted with the chiefs, sub-chiefs, religious figures, and members of civil society. It was determined that the interview guide was suitable for getting information from significant sources. This was because the method allowed for in-depth analysis of the issue under study and clarification from the respondents. For

this study, a set of interview questions was designed based on the objectives of the investigation.

In order to analyse the data, both quantitative and qualitative methods were employed. The quantitative information that was received from the household heads was evaluated using the Statistical Packages for Social Science (SPSS Version 25). This was accomplished through the use of descriptive analysis, namely the use of frequencies, percentages, means, and standard deviations. This method was used to look at the respondents' demographic data and pinpoint the many kinds of insecurity that exist in Mandera County. The social effects of insecurity were examined using the Likert means and standard deviations. Data from the key informants, which had been acquired through interview guides, was analysed using thematic analysis. This involved recognizing, classifying, and categorizing the common themes from the respondents' responses. Their responses were assessed in light of the objectives of the study. The results were presented using statistical tables, charts, graphs and verbatim quotes.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

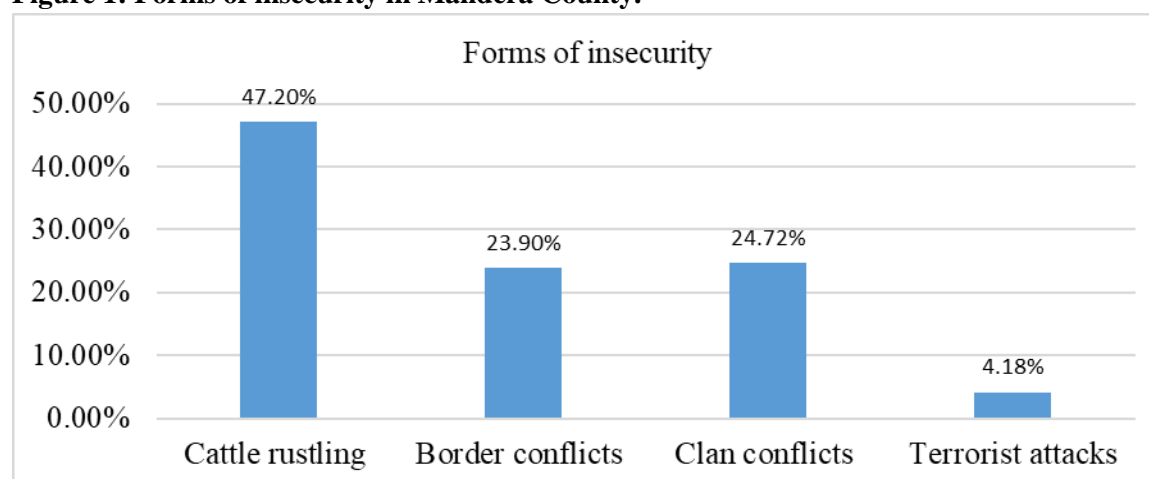
Only 216 of the study's 399 target household heads provided data. This translated to a response rate of 54.1 per cent.

Forms of Insecurity in Mandera County.

Analysis was sought to address the first objective, that is, to identify the forms of insecurity in Mandera County.

Findings revealed that cattle rustling was the most prevalent form of conflict in Mandera County, as represented by 47.20%. Cattle rustling is common in Mandera East. This is mainly caused by weakened traditional governance, culture, political incitements, and the proliferation of small arms, among other causes. This practice has caused an increased loss of lives, injuries, destruction, and loss of property.

Figure 1: Forms of insecurity in Mandera County.



Another type of insecurity mentioned by households was border conflicts. A total of 23.90% of the respondents mentioned it. Conflicts between the Degodia and Garre populations have recently broken out in the county's border regions with Mandera and Wajir. This has caused widespread community evictions, injuries, fatalities, and property damage. The study revealed that inter-clan conflicts are a form of insecurity in Mandera County. This was reported by 24.72%. This was common between the Garre and Degodia clans. The conflicts have been mainly caused and fuelled by battles over scarce resources, land ownership, and political incitements. This has resulted in huge displacement of people, deaths, destruction, loss of property and injuries.

Terrorism emerged as another form of insecurity in Mandera County. This was reported by a small percentage of the household heads at 4.18%. Terrorist attacks on buses in transit, quarries, and households have resulted in massive loss of life and injury. The attacks have also polarized economic activities such as tourism and have discouraged external investors from investing in the country.

The key informants' conclusions concurred with those of the household heads that a major issue facing the pastoralist communities in Mandera County is insecurity. All the chiefs, religious leaders, and people from civil society who took part in the study agreed that cattle rustling, clan

conflicts, border wars, and terrorist attacks were common in pastoralist communities.

Voice of respondent

'Incidences of insecurity have been on the rise with cases of livestock theft, fight over scarce resources, sporadic terrorist attacks and political incitements have become a menace among pastoralist communities' (Religious leader, RL1)

On their part, representatives of civil society also narrated that insecurity has been a major problem in Mandera. They too noted that there have been numerous cases of insecurity among pastoralist communities.

Voice of respondent

'On many occasions, we spend most of our time creating awareness among members of communities on how to reduce a high number of cases of insecurity. One time, there are conflicts related to livestock theft, fight over borders or boundaries, clan rivalries and another time, it is a case of terrorist attacks or political incitements. In fact, cases of insecurity have become rampant' (Representative of civil society, RCS1).

This suggests that instances of insecurity among pastoralist groups have turned into a serious issue that calls for considerable attention from interested parties. The findings concur with those of a study carried out in Mandera County, where

Ibrahim (2015) and UNDP (2015) determined that there are many instances of insecurity among members of pastoralist groups. These forms of instability, according to UNDP (2015), vary from clan disputes to interethnic wars, livestock theft, border disputes, and terrorism.

Generally, these findings point to the fact that pastoralist communities have borne the brunt of instances of insecurity caused by constant border contestations, scarcity of water points, cattle rustling, and inter-clan rivalries, which occasion net negative effects on their daily socio-economic activities. In other words, this situation has become rampant and could be the cause of increased poverty levels and the constant displacement of pastoralist households in search of safe places.

Effects of Insecurity on Social Activities in Mandera County.

Social activities are activities that involve interaction and communication with others. These are built into social systems such as schools, work, and culture. Social services include facilities and benefits such as healthcare, education, job training, among others. The study found that increased insecurity in the county has affected social activities and social services.

Effects of Insecurity on Health Care Services

Insecurity in Mandera County has greatly impacted health services. Generally, the study found that access to health services in the county is a great challenge among the residents, and this is mostly attributed to the high level of insecurity. There is a shortage of medical facilities; a lack of enough healthcare providers; and a shortage of medical supplies for the healthcare centres. Healthcare workers are afraid to work in insecure areas, so many of them have fled to safer areas, particularly on the outskirts of Mandera, such as Arabia, Fino, and Umar Jilaow, where hospitals and healthcare centres have been destroyed.

The findings from the key respondents were in agreement with the views of the household heads as they also noted that the provision of healthcare to the pastoralist communities is a key problem as

a result of heightened insecurity in most parts of the county.

Voice of respondent

'Most of the residents in this area lack quality healthcare. Also, the ones available are either destroyed or lack doctors as many fear working here. It is really a big challenge to the people here' (Religious leader, RL2).

Voice of respondent

'In my locality, many people have been killed as a result of conflicts involving livestock theft, inter-clan rivalry and terrorist insurgency. Due to insecurity, pastoralist communities have not been able to live in peace and continue with the uninterrupted' (Sub chief, AL1).

Voice of respondent

'Most of the residents in this area lack quality healthcare or other social amenity services. This is because very few health workers are willing to work here. Also there has been a problem of inadequate medicines' (Religious leader, RL2)

These results support Mutu's (2017) claims that growing insecurity among pastoralist communities also makes it more difficult to deliver social services. According to Mutu (2017), increased instability limits access to medical care, which increases the likelihood that people would become malnourished and susceptible to infectious diseases. There is a lack of health professionals as a result of the fear that health workers have about living and working in unstable areas. Furthermore, there aren't adequate and poor-quality medical facilities. Because of inaccessible roads, providing health services in some areas is difficult due to inadequate infrastructure. These results support the claims made by Schilling et al. (2012) that there is also limited access to clean water and inadequate food and housing, which exacerbates health issues. These results demonstrate that the provision of and access to quality healthcare services, clean drinking water, and other social amenities is

severely hampered by insecurity, regardless of its form.

Effects of Insecurity on Education

Insecurity in Mandera County greatly affected the education sector. Insecurity caused shortages of teachers, displacement of students, shortage of resources, and destruction of schools, as shown in the *Table 1*.

Findings revealed that 29.40% of the respondents felt that education in Mandera County has been affected by the perception that the schools are not safe for learners. Another 26.4% reported that education in Mandera County has been affected by the displacement of students as a result of insecurity. Learners fled to safer places with their

parents. 14% of the household heads reported that education has been affected by the displacement of teachers due to insecurity. There was an exodus of teachers from the affected areas, especially on the outskirts of Mandera town. Arabia, Fino, Umar Jilaow, Hareri Hosle, and parts of Lafey were mostly affected. 14.60% cited that education in Mandera County has been affected by an insufficient supply of educational resources. This was as a result of diverting the resources to other safer places. A further 13.7% of the household heads who participated in the study reported that education in Mandera County has been affected by the destruction of schools by the armed bandits. Schools such as Alhidaya Primary School and Hareri Hosle were affected.

Table 1: Effects of insecurity on education

Factor	Frequency	Percentage
Displacement of teachers	34	15.90%
Displacement of students	57	26.40%
Insufficient supply of educational resources	32	14.60%
Perception that the schools are not safe for the learners	63	29.40%
Destruction of schools.	30	13.70%
Total	216	100%

The results concur with those of Adam and Pkalya (2015), who came to the conclusion that heightened security causes high school dropout rates and low student retention. During conflicts also, education is affected when teachers are displaced and others fear working in the affected areas; when there is an insufficient supply of educational resources; and the perception that the schools are not safe for the learners; destruction of schools. This affects the level of education.

The findings from the key respondents were in agreement with the views of the household heads as they also noted that the provision of education services to the pastoralist communities is a key problem as a result of heightened insecurity in most parts of the county.

Voice of respondent

‘Education in the county has greatly worsened. This has been a problem over a long time as a result of a series of conflict and terror activities in the county which increase

insecurity. This has caused displacement as people look for safer places. A large number of them do not get back to school (Administrative Leader, AL2).’

Voice of respondent

‘Taking our children to school sometimes becomes a big problem. Personally, my children too do not attend school and even shy away from participating in wedding ceremonies, especially after a series of attacks in our community (Administrative Leader, AL1).’

These results support those of a study done in Uganda by Kakande and Nalwadda (2013), who found that the high rates of poverty and insecurity, particularly in Northern Uganda, contributed to the poor quality of education by making it difficult for parents to provide their children with scholastic materials. These results support research by Adan and Pkalya (2005), which found that wars and armed violence enhanced insecurity,

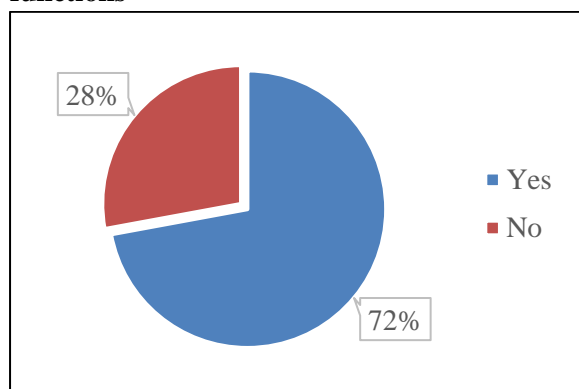
which in turn caused high school dropout rates and low school retention. These results are in line with Mbugua's (2016) claims that insecurity reduces educational possibilities in conflict-affected areas by prompting children and their families to leave their homes and seek refuge in safer locations. Fear and insecurity are associated with conflicts that keep children out of school especially those with disabilities who require constant attention and care from the parents. According to Mbugua (2016), in most cases, the fleeing communities settle in marginalized areas where there are no educational facilities, teachers and other educational stakeholders.

The education of such people is thus affected. Intensified insecurity also leads to the permanent or temporary closure of schools, which in turn impacts on the provision of education. Therefore, these findings imply that the inability of pastoralist communities to actively participate in social activities and events such as worshipping, schools, and wedding ceremonies is largely attributed to constant incidences of insecurity.

Effects of Insecurity on Social Functions

Social interactions have been severely disturbed by insecurity in Mandera County. The majority of respondents (72.1 per cent) concurred that social events like weddings and worship services had been significantly impacted and are no longer held in some locations because of assaults. This is a result of individuals being hesitant to host and attend activities out of concern for an attack.

Figure 2: Effects of insecurity on social functions



The findings from the key informant interviews supported what the heads of families reported about how insecurity has grown to be a major issue in Mandera County.

Voice of respondent

'Due to the constant manifestation of insecurity in my locality, religious activities have been highly affected as it has been very difficult to go to places of worship. Besides it has been equally difficult to attend social gatherings such as wedding and burial functions for fear of being attacked' (Religious leader, RL4).

Voice of respondent

'In my place of worship, membership has gone down due to insecurity as most people stay away from such gatherings for fear of being attacked during prayer sessions. Sometimes, I find it very hard to assemble people to attend prayers. In some instances, many places of worship have been attacked and thus, the rest have been shut down' (Religious leader, RL3).

Voice of respondent

'Increased cases of insecurity have had a net effect on people's social lives. Such insecurity incidences have disrupted the provision of quality social services to the people. During times of insecurity and conflicts, people rarely access social amenities within their localities. In some cases, such social amenity facilities such as social halls get destroyed by the assailants. This always leaves our community poorer and worse' (Civil Society Representative, CSR 2).

These results run counter to Ibrahim's (2015) claims that, in Mandera County, pastoralist groups' social activities are tied to cattle as a source of cultural status. Ibrahim (2015) claims that people engage in social activities including going to weddings, marketplaces, and religious events while also sending their kids to school. These results indicate that social activities are uncommon in pastoralist communities despite

these contradictions. In other words, they avoid going to places of worship, letting their kids participate in school activities, and attending social gatherings like weddings. This raises the question of how much social interaction in pastoralist societies is influenced by safety.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings, the study concluded that there is heightened insecurity in Mandera County, which is caused by cattle rustling, banditry, inter-clan conflicts, border conflicts, and instances of terrorist attacks. The national government, through the Ministry of Interior and Administration of National Government should increase security measures in the country in order to quell the causes of conflicts and insecurity.

The study established that there is limited access to social services in Mandera, such as health services, education, and other social amenities, which is partly attributed to insecurity. The study also established that the participation of people in various social activities, such as religious activities, is curtailed by increased insecurity. The county government of Mandera should provide adequate amenities and intensify security in the county in order to ensure the pastoral communities have access to social services.

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Conflict of Interest

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