WEST POKOT COUNTY BASELINE ANALYSIS

Introduction
This document is a baseline for humanitarian needs assessment in West Pokot with an aim to provide information that would aid in decision making. The information presented has been gathered through a review of pre-crisis secondary data and lessons learnt reports. Available indicator information is by Sub County, county and national (where there is no available district/county information). This desk review is to help in the process of inter-agency assessment planning for the ongoing event.

Purpose of the Desk review
This desk review is not a comprehensive survey on food security, livelihoods, WASH, protection e.t.c nor is it an inter-agency needs assessment. It is a process in which a secondary literature and data has been used to uncover any relevant information of use and guidance for the preparation of the in-crisis primary data collection

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Demography of Population

- The **population** of West Pokot County is 1.37% of the Kenyan populations with 50% male and 50% female Table 1. The county has an annual population growth rate of 3.1% (1)
- The **age distribution** in the county is as follows 0-14 years (52.2%), 15-64 years (45.1%), 64+ years (2.7%) (1)
- Kapenguria town has the largest **urban population** of 7% of the county’s population (1)
- It has a **population density** of 364.4 lower than the national population density of 401.1 per square kilometer see Table 1 with a population of 56 people per square KM (1)
- The average **household size** is 5.5, which is 1.1 larger than the national average household size of 4.4. Table 1.
- The **poverty level** (head count) stands at 69% (2)
- In 2011, the **national birth rate** per 1,000 was 37.6 and the annual population growth rate was 2.67% (3)
- Kenya has a **Gender Index** of 0.25% for 2012, and a Human Development Index score of 0.509 for 2011, placing it at 143 out of 187 countries (4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th># Households</th>
<th>Area in Sq.Km</th>
<th>Population Density</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Pokot County</td>
<td>93,777</td>
<td>1407</td>
<td>364.4</td>
<td>254,827</td>
<td>257,863</td>
<td>512,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>8,767,104</td>
<td>96,252</td>
<td>401.1</td>
<td>19,192,458</td>
<td>19,417,638</td>
<td>38,610,097</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Population statistics West Pokot (Source: KNBS 2012 * Source 2009 Census*)

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1. [http://knbs.or.ke/countydata.php](http://knbs.or.ke/countydata.php)
2. 2009 Census Volume 1 Population HHs by sub location

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1 (Version As at July 2015)
Area Profile

Geography, climate and economy
- West Pokot borders Turkana to the North, Baring to East, elgeyo Marakwet and Trans Nzoia to the South and Uganda to the West (5)
- The primary economic activity nomadic pastoralism, agriculture, mining and general business. It is believed that the county has potential mineral wealth of Gold, Copper, Kyanite e.t.c (1)
- Rainfall varies from 400mm (lowlands) to 1,500mm (highlands) per annum. Temperatures range from minimum 10°C to maximum 30°C (1)

Socio-cultural characteristics
- Pokot are the predominant ethnic community formally know as “suk” derived from noun “msuk” which means in Pokot stump (5)
- Majority of residents are from the Christians religion 90% while the other 10% are muslims (6)

Governance and coordination
- The county has 3 local authorities namely County council of pokot, Chepararia county council and Kepenguria town council (7)

Telecommunication
- Mobile network coverage is still despite presence of major mobile operators, the low coverage limits access to mobile phone services (8)

Hazards and Historic Sources of Conflict

Shocks and Hazards
- Frequent experience of drought leading to recurrent food insecurity (8)
- Cross border cattle rustling (8)
- Conflict over access to natural resources like water and pasture. Cattle rustling and proliferation of illicit arms (8)

Livelihoods and Food Security

Livelihood
- The county has 3 main livelihood zones: Majority (37%) are Agro-Pastoralists, 33% are pastoralist and 30% practice mixed farming (9) see Error! Reference source not found.
- Majority of households rely on sale of livestock and casual labour as main source of income. There are also a few doing petty trading and formal employment. The least of the households are selling crops and charcoal (10)
- The long term mean (2009-2014) coping strategy index (CSI) is at 2.2 while in 2004 it was at 2.1 (10)

Food Insecurity
- Most parts of the county is classified as stressed (IPC Phase 2) for the medium term July – September 2015 (11)
- Pastoralists communities rely on milk, the long term (2009-2014) milk production is at 50 litres and as of 2014 the milk production was at 47 litres (10)
- The maize price was high in 2014 (36 KES per Kg) as compared to the long term mean of 31.1 KES per Kg (2)
- Beans price on the other hand was also up in 2014 (95 KES per Kg) as compared to long term mean of 77 KES per Kg (10)
- The counties Terms of Trade stands (TOT) at 85 (January to June 2015) in 2014 TOT is at 70 while the long term mean is high at 73 (10)

Health and Nutrition
Health

- The county's **doctor to patient ratio** is 1:63,747 with 2 county hospitals, 2 sub-county hospitals, 7 health centers and 72 dispensaries (8)
- The health services are inaccessible as the average **distance to the nearest health** center is 25KM (8)
- 54% **fully immunized (less than 1 year)** population is above the national immunized population of 64.0% Table 2
- The county's population of those that have had **all vaccination** is 56.2% ranked 43/47 and lower than national rate of 75% see Table 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health coverage</th>
<th>West Pokot</th>
<th>Kenya</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fully-immunized pop &lt;1yr (%, 2010/11)</td>
<td>54 (32)</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaria (as % of all 1st outpatient visits)</td>
<td>49.9(39)</td>
<td>27.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TB in every 10,000 people (2009/10)</td>
<td>57 (40)</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV+ ante-natal care clients (%), 2010)</td>
<td>0.2 (2)</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivered in a health centre</td>
<td>72 (9)</td>
<td>37.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualified medical assistant during birth</td>
<td>16.9 (42)</td>
<td>37.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had all vaccinations</td>
<td>56.2 (43)</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 Health coverage indicators by county, () ranked with other 46 counties (CRA, 2011). Figures shown are percentage of population, figure in brackets indicates the rank compared across all 47 counties. * indicates Kenya county average.

Morbidity and mortality

- Common **prevalent diseases** in the county include Malaria, Respiratory Tract Infection, diarrhea and skin infection (1)
- Malaria prevalence is high at 60.4% (8)
- The county has **MUAC** long term mean of 9.3 (MUAC expressed as a % of sampled children) for the period between 2009-2014 (10)
- 6.6% of children are at **risk of malnutrition** attributed to high poverty rate of 69.7% (8)

WASH

Water

- Only 25% of populations have access to **improved water** as compared national population rate of 67%. (12) Table 2
- 25% of the population have **access** to borehole/spring/well water. Majority of the population (59%) use water from rivers and streams (8). Only 23% have own connection to piped water on their residents (6)
- The county **water source** include streams, wells, boreholes, dams, roof catchment and piped water (8)
- Average distance to **nearest water point** is estimated at 5km, water sources are unevenly distributed in the county (8)
- Only 40% **treat drinking** water using the following **water treatment methods** 26% boil, 14% use chlorination while 0.25% use water treatment kits (6)

Sanitation

- 33% of the population have access to **latrine**, 67% of the population areas still practicing **open defecation** (8)
- 27% of the population use **improved sanitation** which is equal by both male and female headed households (27%) (12)

Protection

- Prevalent form of **gender based violence** in the area include wife battering, wife inheritance, rape and female genital mutilation (FGM) (13)
• Of all the cases, a significant 22% reported GBV incident cases to village elders and parents

### Education

- The county has a total 503 primary schools, 58 secondary schools and 479 ECD centers (8)
- The school enrolment rates are low which is associated to the following factors high poverty, insecurity and cultural practices (cattle rustling, early marriages) (8)
- Primary schools have higher enrollment rate of 88%, ECD 49%. Primary schools 88% while secondary school enrollment rate stands at 27% (8)
- 55% of county residents have no formal education with the highest in Kacheliba (84%) (12)
- The ratio of teacher to pupil is 1:50 in primary public schools and 1:36 in secondary public schools (1)
- There is a high population with primary education (72%) than secondary education (6.2%) and only 46.9% can read and write

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population with primary education (%)</th>
<th>West Pokot</th>
<th>Kenya</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>72.0 (9)</td>
<td>66.6</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population with secondary education (%)</th>
<th>West Pokot</th>
<th>Kenya</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.2 (46)</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Can read &amp; write</th>
<th>West Pokot</th>
<th>Kenya</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>46.9 (40)</td>
<td>66.4</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attending School, 15-18 years</th>
<th>West Pokot</th>
<th>Kenya</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>67.6 (33)</td>
<td>70.9</td>
<td></td>
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Table 3: County Education coverage (CRA, 2011)
Figures shown are percentage of population, figure in brackets indicates the rank compared across all 47 counties. * indicates Kenya county average

### Existing Partners

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Table 4: GoK, INGO, NGO and Partners working in West Pokot, Source: West Pokot County integrated development plan
Useful Links and Maps


Figure 1: West Pokot liveihood zones SRA 2013
11. FEWSNET. [Online] [Cited: July 15, 2015.]


14. UNICEF. [Online] [Cited: May 28, 2015.]
http://www.childinfo.org/.

15. GEOHIVE. [Online] [Cited: May 28, 2015.]