

INDIGENOUS INFORMATION NETWORK

Project Title: Increase the capacity of Indigenous women in 4 counties to adapt to climate change impacts through alternative livelihoods and management of natural resource "in Narok and West Pokot county 2016-2017

Narrative Progress Report



The training in Kilgoris Transmara Narok County



Training in Chebareria – West Pokot County

Date of submission: June 2016

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Indigenous Information Network (IIN) through financial support from MADRE-USA has implemented a one year project “*Increase the capacity of Indigenous women in two counties to adapt to climate change impacts through alternative livelihoods and management of natural resource*” in Narok and West Pokot county Kenya - 2016-2017

The following report is a summary of the progress made towards implementing activities. It informs on the program approach, giving an update of the operating environment and the results realized including challenges encountered. During this period, so far the project has performed three (4) main activities namely ;

1. Installation of cook stoves in 50 households in Transmara and 50 in West Pokot, and making the women understand why clean energy is important and need to invest in it.
2. Training on water sanitation, hygiene, & women's empowerment in Transmara & West Pokot,
3. Reforestation (creating tree nurseries and replanting) Initiative in Transmara & West Pokot,
4. Water Protection Initiative (providing water tanks and how to manage and protect waste of water in Narok and Westpokot counties.

IIN was able to mobilize local and the indigenous women who constituted 90 % of the participants in the two Counties with from the different communities and key stakeholders. All these has been achieved through a number of consultative engagements prior to the project, networks who includes the NGOs, CBOs, women groups, self-help groups, both national and county government officers in the two Counties and relevant departments like the forestry and in Environment were also invited.

IIN worked tirelessly to ensure the objectives and activities meant to be undertaken were accomplished..





Action and joy Indigenous women from both Narok and West Pokot County learn from each other to fix the energy saving jiko/stoves and most of all receiving the water tanks and a stove was a dream to many

INTRODUCTION:

Project Goal: To assist the communities within the Transmara and West Pokot counties, to respond to the impacts of climate change and build their capacity and empowerment community members

Expected project Results

Key elements integrated in climate change policies and strategies within Narok county

Women implementing best practices in their household

- ✓ Reduced environmental degradation resulting from an informed and sensitized community
- ✓ Community uptake and adaptation of best practices and technologies

Project Approach/Strategy

The target groups for this project are the local residents within west Pokot and Narok County. During project the commencement and implementation of planned activities, a number of approaches were put in place to enable the project to achieve its intended objectives and help IIN to ensure project visibility and smooth running of the project. These were as follows:

- **Building Partnerships**

Subsequent partnerships have been ongoing from previous work of climate change and water protection done to enable achievement of the project objectives and the project goal. From these IIN has been able to build partnership especially with the county governments of the two counties and other civil society organizations.

Media engagement;

IIN has been engaging with the media throughout its work especially the local media who are able to pass information down to the locals in their own mother tongue. During this climate change energy and water, IIN was able to engage with more media houses both local and national, star news paper, QV and Nation TV, Daily Nation and the Maa Radio.

CONTEXTS

Narok and West Pokot counties are the two different areas where the project was being implemented. Climate change in these two counties has greatly been felt and its impact is greatly affecting the women and the children. From the discussions on how this climate change has affected the two counties, women brought out critical issues where climate change has impacted on their resources from the county level to the family level.



Women in their different activities during the training. Admiring the water tanks and the energy saving jikos and sharing their experiences.

It was important to start up with Women identifying their own resources in their different counties. This was a way to alert all of them the important of every resource in their own Environment and why it was important to conserve, and protect those resources. . The women were able to identify as many as they would starting form Land, forest to the smallest items at the household level the chicken and vegetables in the farm. This process was interesting, as they could identify what was never valued before as a resource and understanding how those little things bring in some income at the household levels. This was done in both counties.



Effect of climate change on resources- the participants discussed extensively and just to list a few concerns were that

- Lack of rain causes inadequacy makes grass in the land scarce
- Livestock death which causes desperation and poverty
- Food scarcity
- Communities loose herbal medicinal plants which they need for their traditional medicine use
- Acid rains leads to depletion of trees
- Soil erosion caused by cutting of trees leads to poor performance of crops
- Deforestation/lack of rain lead to migration of wild animals
- Lack of rains leads to lack of stones for constructions, grass for cattle

Effect of climate change on women

- **More stress more women as they have to** walking for long distance for search of water which in turn has severe effect like; miscarriages, backaches, waste of time.

1. Deforestation will lead to lack of firewood that also waste time for women, expensive when buying,
2. Increase of diseases that increases unhealthy situation for woman.
3. Less economic income.
4. Shortage of food.
5. Shortage of herbs.
6. Wasting of the resources e.g. buying of firewood.
7. Fatigue
8. Lack of interactions
9. Lack of firewood
10. Lack of water
11. Lack of food ,milk thus increase in diseases and causing more diseases for the Family and community



Working as a team and sharing gives strength and empowers the women to feel productive and appreciated.

Adaption on women to climate change

- Use energy saving jikos.
- Boil/use power tab on drinking water.
- Store hey and use it during dry season.
- Plant more trees.

- Harvest and store water.
- Building terraces in order to hold water
- Planting of trees
- Harvesting of Water
- Kitchen gardens

How has climate change affect our resources?

1. Land/soil-cutting of trees leads to soil erosion,It leads to landslides/ mass wasting
2. Use of artificial manure affects soil fertility
3. Animals-lack of rain leads to lack of pasture ,dying of water ,dying of animals ,lack of milk (affects economy)
4. Forests –cutting of trees in the forests leads to lack of water catchment areas , no homes for wild life.
5. Minerals –without water for processing the minerals they will not be seen hence lack of money
6. Trees –cutting of trees around our homes leads to lack of firewood ,fresh air ,lack of fruits ,herbs ,beauty ,wind-breakers.
7. Water –lack of water harvesting will lead to long distance search for water ,wasting of time and energy.
8. It has cause erosion
9. Cutting of trees led to no trees
10. Water from small rivers will stop flowing
11. Animal will die because of lack of food and water
12. Animal will produce low production because of lack of food and water.
13. Wilting of crops, due to lack of rain.
14. Drought leading to drying of trees, grass.
15. Death on our animals.
16. Wind, i.e. strong wind destroys our crops, structures.
17. Pests attack crops.
18. Diseases attack our animals



Women together learn how to prepare a tree nursery

How to adapt to climate change

- Boiling water
- Building gabions to prevent erosion.
- Making terraces.
- Planting of trees.
- Improved jikos to save firewood.
- Apply technology.
- Fodder management
- Planting flowers – for bees to make honey

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The planned activities were successfully carried out though a bit late, but $\frac{3}{4}$ were achieved as planned and are still ongoing;

Water Protection Initiative :

This was a very crucial activity and was well organized following the meeting with communities and request in the previous project of protecting water catchment area. Climate change impacts on the environment have continued to affect the pastoralist communities in many areas and sectors in Kenya. The women and the children are the one who are impacted more from the climate change impacts through its manifestations like disease outbreaks for animals and human, scarcity of water, poor infrastructure, loss of life, limited natural resources, floods and droughts.



Dialogue and discussion among communities with IIN on the community role in protecting the water sources after installation

Water water is a concern for everyone men and women. But our cultures sometimes have one gender disadvantaged and does not access the commodity easily. The women are the victims but here to eliminate that IIN and MADRE have ensured all can access clean water equally by protecting the water sources. Discussions and dialogues are key to the success. It is for this reason that Indigenous information network with support from MADRE is implementing a climate change project with the indigenous pastoralists' community in Narok County. The aim of the project is to address a component of water. This is one of the areas affected and impacted by climate change. This activity included among other activities of installing of community water tank for storage and protection of springs in Transmara sub-county, Narok County.

ENOORETET AREA-ENTOKAI SPRING

Enoorettet, area has an approximate of 10,000 community members who purely depend on the entonkai spring and share with their livestock. Direct and indirect climate change effects have been felt in this area for some time now. Indigenous Information Network had initially protected other springs in the areas, but due to the dryness, fluctuation and limited waters supply, the community needed more water storage for future use and the school use.

Most water problems was much felt by the women during the dry seasons and the children who could sometimes go further to the next village to get clean water because of the competition from both the domestic animals and the community. The community appreciated the initiative and now has taken responsibility to take care of the springs.

Today, Indigenous Information Network installed a 10,000 litre water tank for the more than 10 thousand community members in ***ENOORETET AREA***. This was gestured by excitement and appreciation from both the men and women in the area who also helped in putting up the tank. The storage tanks are also targeting to help the nearby school children



Community witnessing the arrival of the storage tank

Lucy from indigenous Information Network, argued the community to be responsible of the resources they have by protecting them and using them sustainably. She further told them that, as a way of mitigation to the impacts of climate change, they need to plant more trees even in their homes to attract a conducive environment and rainfall so that they may never experience challenges of water in their village.



OLEPOLOS AREA -NKAIPEYIANI SPRING

Olepolos area is also found in Transmara sub county, Narok County. This is a very interesting area where most of the women are widows’ .For a long time, the community has been requesting

Indigenous information Network to help them protect the nkaipeyiani spring so that their women, the whole community and their livestock do not continue face challenges of water especially the competition and conflict. The community has 5000 members with the widows accounting for over 1500 in number.

The community has been experiencing difficulties in water issues as a result of climate change impacts and effects, and boundary clashes. Their spring is unprotected, and this has caused the many challenges of competition between animals and community itself resulting to conflicts, time wastage especially when the water has been dirtied by the animals, making the women to wait until it cools down, frequent breakage of the temporary protected area at the spring which has been always been mad mud.

The community has showed a lot of interest in the protection of the environment and the spring and did Indigenous Information Network base indirectly addressing issues of climate change on the previous project. One-woman groups called **Lepishoi** women group was also trying a lot in environmental conservation and enterprises activities. The group has a total of 30 members' and so far 400 trees have been planted. They also have tree nurseries in which they anticipate to share with the members and sell some. Most of the members are widows and have been participating in various group activities actively like visiting **of each other and helping one another who is in need, table banking and selling of milk.**

The amount a member gets after table banking, helps in buying and selling of maize, doing small scale farming and businesses and paying school fees. This group sincerely appreciated the initiative of water protection and envisions the easiness in fetching water for household and the use in the livestock production. It was also agreed and confirmed by the contracted person that the project for protecting the spring, which include separating water for livestock and the people, will be done by mid-March 2016.

Cynthia from Indigenous Information Network who emphasized on self-responsibility, in all environmental engagements, also addressed climate change issues in detail. She alluded that the human beings also contributed greatly to climate change impacts unknowingly through their activities yet they complain of the recent negative changes within their environment. This was confirmed by the Olepolos community who admitted that years back an example of the Nkaipeyiani spring had a lot of water unlike today, the environment was cool due to tree coverage not like today. Cynthia argued the community both men and women to try plant trees and do reforestation in their environments.

Indigenous Information network finally, promised the community of more capacity on water management and climate change and ways to appreciate the community by providing some indigenous trees a request from the community and individuals especially in groups.

ACTIVITY 1.ACHIEVEMENT:

Today women and the entire community are accessing clean water and the community went further to identify another area where they can further protect it themselves, and it is done having two protected areas at one time.

The widow, have also contuse to increase their tree cover as per the training and harvesting more water using the community tank and gutters installed in their houses.

Installation of cook stoves in 50 households in Transmara & 50 in West Pokot

The 100 energy saving Jikos were successfully distributed to the 100 women within the two counties. Demonstration was done for training purpose where women were trained on how to install the energy saving jikos and how to conserve environment and address adaptation issues of climate change.



50 Energy saving jikos for transmara stored at the ololrukoti resource center in kilgoris to be given to the women



50 energy-cooking stoves for west pokot ready to be picked by the women.





Group discussions on Energy savings

1. Briquette making- Narok -county

Materials to be used:

- Waste papers
- Dry leaves
- Dry cow dung
- Charcoal dust
- Water

Procedure

- Soak the materials for one day.
- Mix by using Kiruo and allow to completely getting compact.
- Bring the mixture to the mixture to the pressing machine to remove water.
- Remove all waters by pressing and remove the briquette.
- Arrange and dry the briquette.

Advantages

- Cannot be made with a valuable material.
- Cannot be purchased only time to collect.
- Saves time and forest conservation.

Disadvantages

- Takes time to prepare.
- Materials are collected and might not be found.

2. Kuni Mbili Advantages and Disadvantages.-Narok County

Advantages	Disadvantages
Forest care	Time wastage
Time frame	A lot of risks
No fire risks	Deforestation
Quick Service	
Save time	

Being further guided on how to use them before taking them home- Kilgoris

ACTIVITY2. ACHIEVEMENTS

More than 100 women and some official are trained on climate change impacts and energy issues. Each woman participant was given the jikos and one was successfully installed in the house for the sake of learning.

From the training, more innovation came up on kuni mbili-kuni moja and women promised to work towards having amore improved one, which includes having traditional hot pot for keeping food warm for a longer period.



Training on water sanitation, hygiene, and women's empowerment in Transmara and West Pokot Counties.

Water issues and climate change came out as a key issue with women in the two counties. The importance of water, which ranges from drinking for both domestic and livestock and, for agriculture. Women invited from west and north Pokot, brought out strong sentiment on what climate change has impacted on their lives and at family level. In Transmara Narok County it was not different, even with the springs available, water was not as clean for consumption. The impact of climate change for both counties led women to move for long distances to look as far as, 10 kilometers to search for water, causing children to drop out of school, increase in rapes cases while going to look for water, wild animal attack were the common impact felt by women in the two counties and worst at times families are separated for long when the men also go far to take livestock for pasture for example in Pokot they move to Uganda for months. The issues of health was also discussed in detailed with IIN and the participants in the two counties, this was linked with the sanitation issues, and the fact that women are lacking proper knowledge of the sanitation information, others, actually most of them didn't have storage facilities like tanks, and also how to harvest the running and rainy water.

What are the issues in water challenges women face (water, climate change and rights, cultural issues)-Narok county

Best practices the women can do to address issues water issues

- Protect the water sources
- Rain water, water tanks and underground tanks.

- Water sheds, rivers and riparian.
- Water hygiene standards
- Use clean water containers to avoid diseases.

2. Treating dirty water before use;

Change water from one container to another two times then start using



GROUP DISCUSSIONS ON WATER

Water and climate change -westpokot

How can we solve water problems in our areas so that we can solve water issues?

- Harvesting rain water during the rainy season
- Planting more trees
- Digging /construction of boreholes
- Set policy for those who bath on the rivers
- Taking care of catchment areas
- Utilizing the available water well

- Dig terraces to preserve running water along the road

i. How does climate change contribute to water issues?

- Scarcity of water(dry rivers)
- There is acid rain (water pollution)
- Prolonged droughts and famine (death of people and animals)
- Many diseases (outbreak of diseases in both animals and people)
- Water borne diseases like cholera ,typhoid,
- Elnino may come about and may lead to loss of property ,lives ,poverty levels rise.

ii. How does climate change affect water?

(positively)

- Rainy season enhances growth of trees which lead to greener environment and beauty.
- Good hygiene during rainy season (healthy people)
- No long distance for fetching water when raining.
- Planting a variety of fruits ,vegetables and trees for income generation
- Rainy season enhances power generation e.g Turkwel

Negatively

- Unreliable piped water because of leakages
- Soil erosion occur during rainy season (land slides cause deaths)
- Outbreak of diseases like cholera
- Dry season leads to extension of water sources causing death of plants

iii. How to solve water problem

iv. How climate change affects water

Positive effects

- During rainy season more trees should be planted that will bring rain
- Health is improved
- High production of food
- Reduce long distance movements and rape

Negative effects

- Death of both animals and human beings
- Many trees will die and other wilt
- People walk for long distances looking for pasture and water
- Low product of food
- Diseases like cholera
- Increased health problems like miscarriages

ACHIEVEMENT

Thirty (30) water storage tanks with capacity of one thousand five hundred liter (1500) were given to the most needy women in the village who were also participants in the trainings in Westpokot and Narok County. The participants were also training on how to store water in the era of climate change as a way of adapting to the impacts of climate change in the areas. Traditional ways of waters harvesting was also talked and the women went home capacited physically if not with the tank, with the information or both.



Reforestation Initiative in Transmara & West and Water Protection Initiative

Forest cover has been notably being recognized as one of the best and easiest way to adapt to climate change impact and mitigations. This can be do0ne in homes, schools or as a country. West Pokot County and Narok County, the women have taken this iniatives positively and within the groups they have planted nurseries for fruits and the commercial trees, which have benefited their families at large.

During the training, IIN invited officers from the forest department who thoroughly took through the participants on the importance of forest and especially the indigenous trees and fruits trees like the pawpaw, mangoes, oranges and medicinal plants that can be easily accessible.

After the training, IIN distributed over 10,000 planting bags to both counties .Per household every participant was given a packet having 100planting bags and each group also.



Learning together gives power and strength Narok County Indigenous women being taught how to start a tree nursery and how to transplant the seedlings

Managing the tree nurseries and preparations of seedlings in both Counties- Participants were taken through the process and how to go through the seedling management

- Choose the location.

- Prepare Land
- Pour seeds
- Cover the seeds for a period of 14 days to 30 days.
- When seeds are 2,3,4 transfer to the polythene tubes which you have filled with soil
- Pour water on the spot and incase there is no rain you pour water twice a day for two weeks
- Seedlings are watered only in the morning and evening

Achievement

The Very same day, the host group which had trees seedling for fruits were able to sell to their colleagues; this means an income generated for the group in Westpokot County. In narok county, its also unique, more than 10,000 seedling where planted in one of the community land.

Management Review

This project started well with clear coordination from both MADRE and IIN .IIN specifically allocated of roles and responsibilities, which has been coordinated by both at the office level and in the community and the county government. A good coordination and support between the field communities and the contact persons from the community and strong staff coordination from IIN

Way forward form both westpokot and Narok counties

The following recommendation came out clearly from westpokot and Narok County on how to address issues of climate change, energy, water, forest issues and sanitization after the training:

Narok county Recommendations

Make use of the kuni Mbili Jikos

- Plant more nurseries from the lessons learnt and make the traings regular so that more and more women can be involved.
- Bring all group members and share information taught.
- Start practicing through cleaning and good hygiene and ensure that group members encourage other women to go for health check ups like cancer screening and other health problems.

- Improve the Kuni Mbili jiko to kuni moja jiko for environmental conservation and ensure that all women learn to build it and make it so that it is accessible to many
- Teach neighbors on making kuni Mbili jiko
- Improve neighbors to have toilets to improved (sanitation) hygiene.
- Need more water tanks so that more members can benefit
- Similar trainings should continue to reach out to more at the grassroots level.

Recommendations West Pokot County4-2016

- There is need for more awareness creation
- Need for Planting trees and tree nurseries
- The county need to invest more on harvesting water
- Women groups need more water tanks and plan for rotating fund that can help more women to buy tanks on their own
- More women to be trained on energy saving jokos so that all women can use them
- Women should be trainings on resource mobilizations and how to save for their own groups
- Women should be encouraged to go for health check u[p more often than every before they have to keep strong. They have to be encouraged to go for Cancer screening
- Share the acquired education to other members of the community
- Digging bore holes for extra water
- Plant drought resistant crops
- Build toilets and educate community on how to keep hygiene
- Educate community on how to secure trees and keep environment and plant more trees
- Know our rights to environment and use them to help others
- To be boiling drinking water at home to avoid communicatable diseases
- To dig/construct canals/terraces to avoid impacts of climate change
- Plant grasses/fodder crops for future of the livestock
- Create awareness on how to preserve and conserve forest
- Make and implement policies that affect the environment and climate change issues