

**IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' LIVELIHOODS: A
CASE OF LOODOKILANI MAASAI, KAJIADO COUNTY.**



BY

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Declaration

This research Project is my original work and has not been presented for the award of any degree at this or any other University or Institute.

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This research project has been submitted with our approval as University supervisors.

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Dedication

This research work is dedicated with lots of love, respect and appreciation to my wife, Grace Salau and children Linah Silantoi, Faith Rayon, Isaac Sabaya and the newly borne baby Joan Saidimua!

Acknowledgement

This project would not have been possible without the grace of God that has sufficiently enabled me to successfully complete it. I would also want to acknowledge the cooperation and invaluable assistance of many people who contributed to this final work. I owe them my gratitude.

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Abstract

The study on the impacts of climate change on the livelihoods of the Maasai comes at a time when the community has been facing acute food insecurity and threatened livelihoods. It would be timely and necessary to establish whether this trend of diminishing livelihoods and escalating poverty could be linked to climate change and its related effect. This research was guided by use of cross-sectional survey. Both simple random and purposive sampling technique was used to select 110 respondents out of which 105 participated in the cross-sectional survey. A validated structured questionnaire with variables on livelihoods related information was used to collect the primary data. Data summary and classification were done using descriptive statistics from Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software.

The study concluded that majority of respondents in Magadi and Elang'ata Wuas were men while the predominant age was between 18 and 24 years. The level of education showed that majority of the respondents are illiterate followed by those with secondary education while the next largest group is the primary school level. Majority of the respondents are livestock farmers while another sizeable group are students. A number of respondents are employed as teachers and a similar number is unemployed. The respondents were distributed across the two divisions of Magadi and Elang'ata Wuas. There is huge concentration in Magadi and Kilonito because of the big livestock markets in the two towns.

The Maasai pastoralists of Magadi and Elang'ata Wuas confirms that their lifeline is cattle farming and pastoralism in that matter. They also confirm that they are aware of climatic changes that are taking place and have experienced social-economic stress due to frequent droughts that have killed their livestock. Majority of the responded have also acknowledged that besides their livestock, a lot more other natural resources are stressed including wildlife, forests, and water sources among others. The responded admits that they have been forced by circumstances to explore other ways of complementing their diminishing traditional livelihoods by venturing into new areas such crop farming, fishing, small businesses among others.

The responded unanimously allege that they have been victims of poor policies or lack of it especially in regard to land and natural resource administration. This they say, has exacerbated an

already challenging situation and make it hard for the community to adequately adjust and cope with the changes. This is confirmed by an extensive literature review that was carried out.

The community's understanding of climate change and access to information, capacity building and partnership with other stakeholders including the government, would help to lessen the impact of climate change and enhance their resilience to its impacts.

List of Acronyms:

ASAL	Arid and Semi-Arid Lands
CO2	Carbon Dioxide
CIWOCH	Center for Indigenous Women and Child
FAO	Food Agricultural Organization
GHG	Green House Gases
HFC	Hexa Flora Carbon
KMD	Kenya Meteorological Department
MoE	Ministry of Environment
NDMA	National Drought Management Authority
O2	Oxygen
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIA	Neighbors Initiative Alliance
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
PFC	Per FluoroCarbons
IIN	Indigenous Information Network
IPCC	Inter- governmental parties on climate change
IWGA	International Working Group for Indigenous Affairs
SF6	Sulphur Hexafluoride
SPSS	Statistics Package for social sciences
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN	United Nations