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# IMPACT OF FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS' INITIATIVES ON DROUGHT RESPONSE IN GARISSA COUNTY, KENYA

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## ABSTRACT

*This study examined the impact of faith-based organizations' initiatives on drought response in Garissa County, Kenya. The study was conducted through a descriptive research design where three FBOs: The Lutheran world organization, World Vision, and Islamic relief Kenya, were identified as case studies. The data was conducted in June 2021 using questionnaires, interview schedules, and focused group discussions. All the employees across the three FBOs totaling 67 formed the target population for the study. However, in the end, 47 questionnaires corresponding to 70.15% of the respondents were received for the analysis. The data were analyzed through descriptive techniques and presented as texts, tables, figures, and graphs. The study established that faith-based organizations' relief response initiatives had little impact on the beneficiaries. The study concluded that faith-based organizations' initiatives determine the well-being of drought victims in Garissa County. The study recommended that faith-based organizations should increase and enhance relief impact assessment activities to improve drought response. Finally, the researcher recommended that a study be conducted on other faith-based organizations to examine their effectiveness in relief assistance. The study also considered the ethical consideration in the entire research process.*

***Key Words:*** *Faith-Based Organizations, Garissa County, Drought Response*

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## INTRODUCTION

Faith-based organizations have played a big role in humanitarian assistance since the early 1990s (Cooper, 2014) both at the global (Javed, 2017; Goldberg, 2015) and local levels due to their empowering and altruistic nature (Pepela, Ombachi, and Simiyu, 2015). Their prominence is due to their efforts in reducing poverty, closeness to the victims of disasters in terms of faith and cultural aspects, and their long-term presence in affected societies, among others (Belshaw, 2005). For the past two decades, FBNGOs have been trying to carve their niche in the international system, and they got acknowledged through their campaigns to reduce third world debt in the wake of jubilee 2000, the empowerment of women and family planning issues in the 1994 United Nations Conference on Population and Development and its role in the establishment of the Rome statute (Berger, 2003). As a consequence, the UN acknowledged the role of FBNGOs by conducting the first 2001 UN World Conference on Religion and Peace (Berger, 2003).

The role of Christian Faith-based NGOs in aid and development initiatives can be traced back to the colonial times when missionary activities were present in many colonies in Africa (Deacon and Tomalin, 2015). Similarly, as Lynch, (2011) quotes Peterson, (2010) and Barnett & Weiss, (2008) Islamic faith-based organizations emerged in the 1970s and 1980s following devastating conflicts and famine in the Middle East and the horn of Africa countries respectively. These IFBOs had their roots in the West such as the Islamic Relief founded in 1984 in the United Kingdom, and in the East like the International Islamic Relief Organization in Saudi Arabia (Lynch, 2011).

Kenya is naturally an attractive destination for international NGOs, particularly the international Islamic and Christian FBOs, due to its relatively large constituents of both Muslim and Christian faithful, the hosting of many UN offices, and the recurrent drought in the horn of Africa, especially in Ethiopia's 1980s drought that triggered the establishment of middle-eastern religious NGOs (Lynch,2011). World Vision opened offices in Nairobi and started its operations in Kenya in 1974, working on children's projects, particularly in drought-stricken northern Kenya and other ASAL areas (Ng'ang'a, 2014). Similarly, Lutheran Relief Kenya started its relief operations in Kenya around the early 1980s (Lutheran World Relief, 2008).

Raney & Raveloharimisy, (2016) proposed that success of FBOs operations is determined by several factors such as identity, resources and available opportunities to act. Identity is concerned with values and belief systems that influence relief and development actions. Resources on the other hand, refer to both financial and human resource as reflected in the organizational agenda, goals and organizational mechanisms. Opportunities refer to development or relief situations and crises that create the need and urgency to respond. In consequence, this study examines the nature of the FBOs responding to drought in Garissa County, assess the impact of the FBOs' drought response initiatives in Garissa County, and examine challenges faced by FBOs responding to drought in Garissa County.

### Statement of the Problem

The activities of faith-based NGOs are based on the philosophy of "love thy neighbor" and "justice" that underlie all religious texts (Clarke and Jennings, 2008). This should create trust between FBOs and aid recipients (Benthal, 2007). Effective aid delivery should also be guided by humanitarian principles, relief impact assessment findings and projected challenges or risks in the relief space and time.

At the local level, the studies so far conducted in Kilifi by Pepela, Ombachi and Simiyu (2015); in Mbeere by Nthuka and Gathogo (2015) and Corman, Marshall and Stoddard (2017) among a few others do not cover much on FBOs' nature and the impact of their relief initiatives on drought response. Few have touched on the unique challenges they face but it lacks comprehensiveness and objectivity especially in the context of post-September 11 and GWOT era. The FBOs under study operate in the ASALs areas that periodically experience recurrent drought annually compared to previous episodes that used to occur after three to five years (Huho & Musyimi, 2016).

In view of this discrepancy, the study assessed the effects of the FBOs' drought response initiatives in Garissa County.

**Research Objective**

The overall objective was to examine the impact of faith-based organizations' initiatives on drought response in Garissa County, Kenya using case study research design with a view to improve FBOs' relief aid. The following research question guided the study;

- What is the impact of the FBOs' response initiatives to drought in Garissa County, Kenya?

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### Impact of Faith-based Organizations' Initiatives on Drought Situation in Garissa County, Kenya

Assessment of relief aid is generally poor compared to development aid (Hoffman *et al.,* 2004); and this is partly due its altruistic nature that is generally believed not to fail (Bernett, M. 2005; Crisp, J. 2004); and the expectation that no one can question the activities of FBOs as it is characterized by compassion (Harrel-Bond, B. 1986 cited by Crisp, J. 2004). However, scarcity of resources in the face of a complex humanitarian context, humanitarian performance is being prioritized with a focus on evaluations and accountability (Clerk, P. and B. Ramalingam, 2008) as donors emphasize agency commitment (Crisp, J. 2004). Albeit inadequate, the beneficiary role is also increasingly considered (Kaisar, T. 2004).

Watson, (2008) indicated the measures developed to address the gap between the ideal and real in impact assessment.

- The Sphere Project: Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response.
- Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP): Standard of Accountability and Quality Management (Humanitarian Accountability Partnership-International 2007).
- Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALANAP): Carries out annual reviews of humanitarian evaluations based on a quality proforma, and periodic "Reviews of Humanitarian Action"
- Emergency Capacity Building Project: 'Impact Measurement and Accountability in Emergencies: The Good Enough Guide "New Partnership for African Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (NEPARC): Self-audit and accreditation according to transparency, accountability, and governance criteria developed with the support of the Fritz institute.

However, challenges in the definition of some key terms in humanitarianism due to differing contexts (Watson, 2008) and lack of consensus on the purposes of impact assessment (Fritz institute, 2006; Harlam, 1998; Hoffmann *et al.,* 2004) still hinder effective disaster response. Impact assessments are conducted mainly for two reasons, as depicted in figure 1. Accountability *and* Learning. The former refers to the upward reporting to either headquarters or donors (upwards accountability) or downward reporting to beneficiaries (downwards accountability). The latter is the internal process of using assessment findings to improve subsequent aid activities. Accountability and learning are referred to as 'proving impact' and 'Improving practice' respectively (Kirkpatrick and Hulme, 2001).

**The Purpose of Impact Assessment**

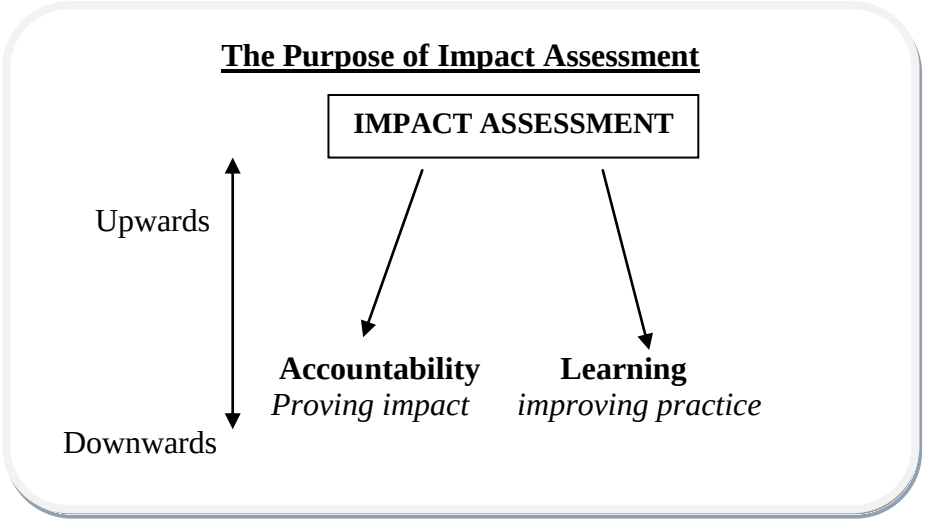



**Figure 1**: The Purpose of Impact Assessment
**Source:** Kirpatrick and Hulme, 2001

**Concept and Evolution of Drought**

There is no universal definition of drought due to its multi-sectoral impacts (Spinoni, 2019) and variations in space and time (Vincent-Serrano *et al*., 2016). Recently, scientists are increasingly using time-scale variables (Serrano, 2016). It considers the different periods from the arrival of water inputs to the availability of usable resources (Serrano, 2016). Serrano 2016, while quoting the illustration by Changnon and Easterling (1989), explains that precipitation anomaly propagates to soil moisture level, runoff, stream flow, groundwater, lakes, etc. Drought refers to the prolonged absence or marked deficiency of precipitation, a precipitation deficiency that results in a water shortage for some activity or for some group, or a period of abnormally dry weather, sufficiently prolonged for the lack of precipitation to cause a serious hydrological imbalance (IPCC, 2004).

Drought is basically due to lack of or inadequate precipitation, but evapotranspiration due to global warming (Feng and Fu, 2013; Scheff and Frierson, 2014) is causing exacerbating it (Dai, 2013; Cook *et al.*, 2014). There is a link between social, hydrological, environmental, and ecological systems (Van Loo *et al.*, 2016). So, a change in the inflow and outflow of natural water in the context of space and time, coupled with human exploitation and related activities, shapes the hydro-social cycle (Linton and Budds, 2014). When the water in lakes and other water systems reduces below average, drought occurs through meteorological anomalies or anthropogenic causes such as groundwater abstraction (Van Loon *et al.*, 2016).

The scientific monitoring of changes in wind speed, atmospheric conditions, and surface radiations helps to understand the evolution of drought (Naumann, 2018). Experts point out that a total of 1,420 droughts events have occurred globally (Herrera-Estrada *et al.*, 2017). It affects water use in various sectors like agriculture, hydropower production, and human consumption for drinking and washing, and it has adverse impacts on ecosystems (Stahl *et al.*, 2015; 2016).

Regional drought trends primarily provided data for analysis over the years (Naumann & Alfieri, 2018). There is still no consensus on global drought literature as its debate continues (Trenberth *et al.*, 2014) with still no sufficient global data (Spinoni, 2019). The regions affected by drought include the Mediterranean (Spinoni, Naumann, *et al.*, 2015; Vicente-Serrano *et al.*, 2014), west Africa (Dai, 2013; Masih *et al.*, 2014; Sheffield, Wood & Roderick, 2012), North America (Peterson *et al.*, 2013), China (Wang *et al.*, 2017) and Australia

(Liu *et al.*, 2018), north Africa and near East (Bazza et al., 2018) and USA (Cheng *et al.*, 2016; Aghakouchak *et al.*, 2015).

According to Yang & Huntingford (2018), the drought that hit east Africa in 2016/2017 affected about 16 million people across Somalia, Kenya, and Ethiopia through illnesses, malnutrition, and death (Yang & Huntingford, 2018). They needed food, water, and medical assistance (Yang & Huntingford, 2018). They also point out that 2016 was the driest year in the past four decades (Yang & Huntingford, 2018), as rainfall was below average for both the short and long 2016/2017 rainfall seasons (FEWSNET, 2017). The years 1983-1986, 1990, and 1991 were the other driest years (Yang & Huntingford, 2018). Funk (2015) maintains a contrary view to many researchers' views on the link between climate change and temperature rise, especially in the east African region. He argues that climate change is playing a role. He and like-minded scientists, through attribution analysis, blame climate change for the rising temperature hence, exacerbating the impacts of drought on the region (Philip *et al.*, 2016). The rising temperatures are increasing the rate of evaporation which dries up the soil moisture that could have otherwise supported plant and forest growth (Philip *et al.*, 2016).

Kenya is highly vulnerable to several complicated disaster hazards that affect its development agenda (Owuor, 2015). Recently, it has repeatedly experienced hydro-meteorological disasters, with 70% of all disasters being hydro-meteorological (Huho & Musyimi, 2016). As a hydro-meteorological phenomenon, drought in Kenya occurred after two to three years in the short term and five to ten years in the long-term period (Huho & Musyimi, 2016). Kenya has grappled with drought impact for the past three decades (Dometita, 2017). These droughts affected 16 000 people in 1975; 20 000 people in 1977, 40 000 in 1980; over 200 000 people in 1983/1984; 1.5 million people in ASAL areas of the rift valley, eastern and northeastern, and about 4.4 million people in 1995/1996; 3 million people in 2004; 1.4 million people in 2008 and 10 million people in 2009/2010 (GoK, 2011). With a huge impact, drought now occurs annually compared to earlier times when it used to occur ten to five years or three to two years (Pionetti, 2013). The 2016/2017 drought hit 23 out of the 47 counties in Kenya and affected about t 2.7 million people, including children, expectant, and nursing who had to grapple with acute malnutrition and communicable diseases (AfDB, 2017). WHO (2017) reported that Kenya's agricultural output reduced by 70% in the drought period of 2016/2017.

The population in Garissa County engages in nomadic pastoralism as a source of livelihood (GoK, 2015). However, drought threatens this dependency because the county falls under the type V&VI ecological zone characterized by a dry and hot climate with36 degrees Celsius and low rainfall of 275 mm per year, which occurs between March to May, and October to December (Gok, 2015). Following the 2016 drought, increased cases of human-wildlife conflicts occurred, while over 6o% of the population needed relief aid. These prompted President Kenyatta to declare it a national disaster on 10th February 2017 and appealed for international relief assistance (Obulutsa, 2017). Disaster response is a crucial stage in the reactive phase of disaster management. It is the well-studied stage of the disaster management cycle (US National Research Council, 2006). However, any challenges its effectiveness. Unfortunately, the disaster management policy of Kenya is only paper, and it lacks implementation (Huho & Musyimi, 2016).

**Types of droughts and their impact**

Generally, drought is divided into meteorological drought, agricultural drought, hydrological drought, and socio-economic drought (Liu *et al.*, 2016). The following is a discussion of these different types.

***Meteorological Drought:*** Meteorological drought refers to inadequate or lack of precipitation over a particular period of time and region compared to average climatological values (Spinoni et al., 2016). Precipitation deficits are the primary cause of droughts; however, evapotranspiration due to global warming (Feng and Fu, 2013; Scheff and Frierson, 2014) mainly causes widespread drying (Dai, 2013; Cook et al., 2014). As of March 2019, Garissa County was under severe meteorological drought as Dadaab, Lagdera,

Township, Balambala, and Fafi sub-counties experienced a vegetation deficit (GoK, 2019). The expected onset of long rains failed, and no rainfall reported during the same month (GoK, 2019).

***Agricultural Drought:*** Agricultural drought, also known as agro-meteorological drought, refers to the impact on agriculture due to inadequacy or lack of water for agricultural use (Dalezios et al., 2017). Agricultural drought originates from a meteorological drought which involves the inadequacy of rainfall that is not enough to support plant growth due to reduced moisture levels in the soil (Liu et al., 2016). Agriculture in Garissa County is both rain and irrigation fed with farming activities practiced mainly along the Tana River bed, floodplains, and laghas-depressions created by seasonal rivers after rains (GoK, 2016). Nearly 700, 000 ha of land is arable in the county with nearly 12, 000 ha under crop farming involving maize and sorghum, pulses such as cowpeas, and green gram. According to GoK (2016), Maize is the main crop, accounting for the largest share of crop income in the county generating about KES 50 million in 2013. The total land area with irrigation potential is 32,000 ha, of which only 3,446 ha is currently under irrigation. The major crops grown are high-value horticultural crops, including fruits such as mangoes, pawpaws, bananas, melons, and citrus.

***Hydrological Drought:*** Drought is defined as deficiencies in surface and sub-surface water supplies relative to average conditions at various points I n time through the seasons (Sahal, 2012). Van Loon 2015 while quoting Tallaksen et al., 2004 defines hydrological drought as conditions characterized by lack of or inadequate water in hydrological systems such as reservoirs, lakes, rivers and streams. It occurs when precipitation fails over a long period of time to the extent that hydrological systems remain non-replenished (Liu et al., 2014). It is as a result of meteorological drought that occurs due to natural cause.

***Socioeconomic Drought:*** Socioeconomic drought can be explained as situations in which water availability or supply level fail to match the demand threshold thereby resulting adverse societal, economic and environmental effects (Zseleczky and Yosef 2014). This drought is the least studied type (Mehran et al., 2015) compared to the others (Moran Tejeda et al., 2013; Lin et al., 2017). It is increasingly becoming a major concern in most parts of the world (Madani 2014). It must be viewed in the context of human activities that cannot be delinked from because hydrological systems such as reservoirs, which are man-made storage facilities, regulate water supply and use both in space and time (Fang et al, 2017). Reservoirs contribute to 20% of the total global annual river discharge and provide about 70% of global freshwater withdrawal (Fang et al., 2019). The spiral effect of the meteorological drought on livelihood conditions is being felt in Garissa County. As of March, according to GoK 2019, the socioeconomic indicators of drought were revealing a worsening situation with 80% of the sampled communities reporting poor livestock, deteriorating terms of trade and under five years' severely malnourished condition of 3.9%.

## Conceptual Framework

In this section, the researcher explored the relevant theories that explained the gist of the study at hand. The following theories were considered.

### Theory of Obligation

This study was guided by both obligation theory and cultural theory of risk perception. Obligation theory was first discussed in the context of humanitarianism by Caroline Bob Edwards (1985) and Ronald Cohen (1989). The theory is a relevant framework that guides humanitarians (Arsdale & Nockert, 2008). Humanitarianism is a noble activity that involves assisting people in need (Vaux, 2001). According to Arsdale and Nockert (2008), the theory emphasizes the existence of a moral importance to assist the vulnerable. They point out that the theory has two components: moral/ethical and material components. At the intersection of the two components, emerge the obligated humanitarian actions. The moral component has got four sub-components that include burden sharing; personal responsibility and institutional capacity; sympathy and compassion; and non-neutrality. The burden sharing component emphasizes the equitable sharing of responsibilities among the

various stakeholders involved in the aid activities. Personal responsibility on the other hand builds to institutional capacity that facilitates the response. Finally, sympathy and compassion; and non-neutrality are the principles that guide the response activity.

The material component on the other hand, constitutes pragmatism, felt needs and the networks of service providers and the related infrastructure. Pragmatism element differentiates the real relief situations from the ideal efforts (Smillie and Minear, 2004). The principle of felt needs which refer to the needs that represent the worldviews of the beneficiaries helps aid providers in identifying and prioritizing the needs of victims of disasters in a collaborative network. The theory borrows from many applied and academic disciplines particularly including anthropology, political science, sociology, and human rights. The link between human rights and humanitarian is highly emphasized.

**The Intersection of the Moral and Material in the Context of Obligation**

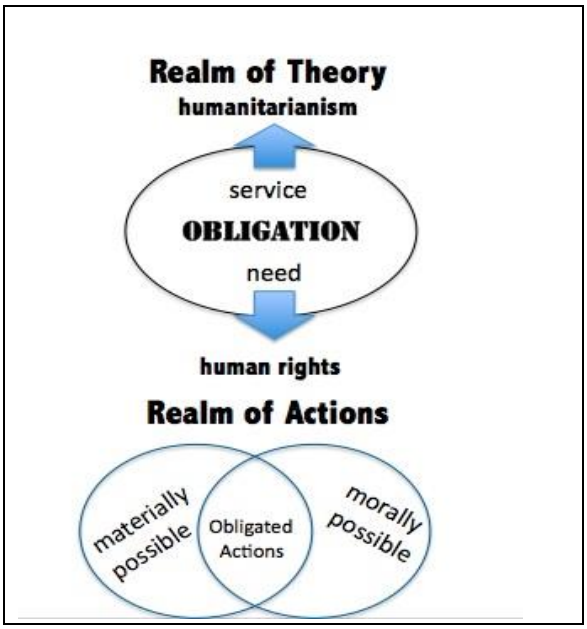
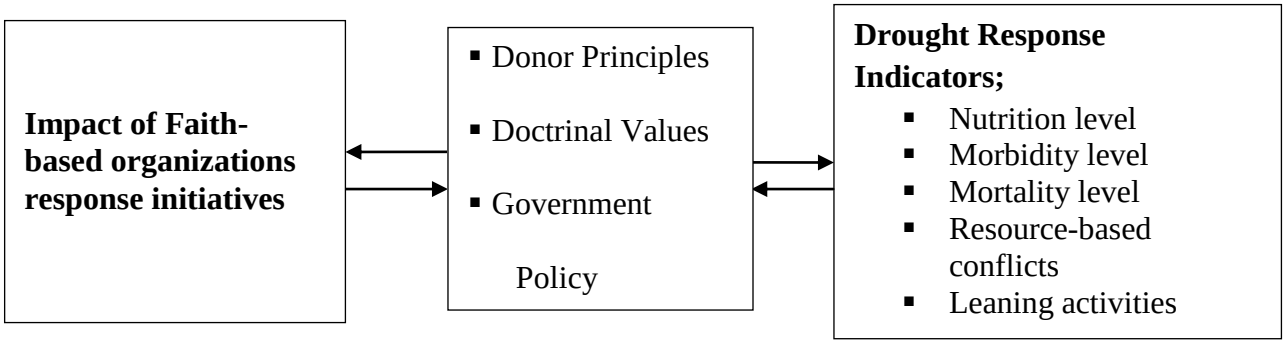



**Figure 2:** The Intersection of the Moral and Material in the Context of Obligation
**Source:** Arsdale & Nockert, 2008

**Conceptual Framework Model Showing Interaction of Variables**




**Independent variable** **Intervening variables** **Dependent variable**

**Figure 3: Conceptual framework model showing interaction of Variables**
**Source:** Researcher, 2021

## METHODS

The study assumed the descriptive research approach and used the three FBOs: LWF, WV and IRK as case studies. The descriptive approach was chosen because it was suitable for the study as the researcher could not manipulate the independent variable. The study was conducted in Garissa County which is one of the ASAL counties that experiences recurrent drought. The three sub-counties of Garissa township, Dadaab and Fafi that hosts Islamic relief Kenya, World Vision Kenya and Lutheran World federation of Kenya respectively were considered in the research. All employees of the three FBOs (Islamic relief Kenya, World Vision Kenya and Lutheran World federation of Kenya) totalling to 67 respondents were considered for the study. Local traditional leaders and key government officials who had close working relationship with the FBOs were also considered for the study. The study employed simple non-probability sampling technique where all employees of world vision Kenya, Lutheran world federation of Kenya chapter and Islamic relief Kenya totalling to 67 persons were targeted. The researcher examined various existing literature on FBOs by other researchers and use it again but with an innovative perspective. The researcher also employed an in-depth interviewing by use of questionnaires, interview schedules and focussed group discussions. This was meant to gather as much information as possible about the research objectives. The data was then cleaned, organized, coded and subjected to descriptive analysis methods while being guided by the research objectives.

## RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

### Impact of the Drought Response Initiatives by Faith-Based Organizations in Garissa County, Kenya

### Drought Response Variable

The researcher asked if, as an organization, they responded to drought disasters in the locality. Of the 21 LWF employees (table 1), 18 respondents corresponding to 86% confirmed that they respond to drought disasters in the locality, while 3 (14%) respondents answered by saying they do not respond to drought disasters in the locality. Tables 1 and 3 showed that all the 15 and 11 respondents interviewed respectively from WV confirmed they responded to droughts in their respective localities.

The researcher asked the elders in *Hagardera* in *Fafi* sub-county if LWF responded to drought disaster in the locality. They confirmed that the organization helped by providing psycho-social support services to victims and giving out cash stipends to elderly men and women. Their headman remarked,

> *"Yes, LWF responds to drought times here. It carries out cash programming activities meant for elderly men and women, and counseling services for refugees and victims of violence. It also provides non-food items like shelter and building materials to new refugees".*

The researcher asked if the elders get involved and in which stages (s) they get involved in the relief process. They affirmed they get involved in planning and identifying victims or the elderly who need cash assistance. One of them noted,

*"Yes, we are always involved in the relief process. We have a committee that identifies the most vulnerable refugees and poor elderlies".*

The chief in township sub-county of Garissa confirmed that IRK involves all stakeholders in the drought response process. He noted,

> *"We have a forum where all stakeholders meet and discuss the relief aid operations. In the forum, youth, women, religious leaders, elders and others are represented".*

In terms of the impact of the relief assistance to the lives of beneficiaries, the chief in township pointed out that the relief assistance helps a lot, but sometimes priority need areas differ among the beneficiaries and it is important that such needs be noted. He remarked,

> *"The relief aid given to beneficiaries helps a lot, but sometimes you will see those who received the aid selling the same relief items they received to cater for other needs. For example, I have*

*personally seen some selling the relief food they received form IRK to repair the proceeds with a school roof that collapsed due to winds. IRK officials tried to enquire the issues; and after a long deliberation with the key elders, they had to convince not to sell the relief food and instead gave key elders an appointment to come to the office and discuss on how to assist with the repair of school roof. Ultimately, IRK had helped them to repair the school roof".*

**Table 1: Drought Response by LWF**

| Drought response | Values | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| No | 2 | 3 | 14 |
| Yes | 1 | 18 | 86 |
| **Total** | | **21** | **100** |

**Table 2: Drought Response by WV**

| Drought response | Values | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| Yes | 1 | 15 | 100 |
| **Total** | | **15** | **100** |

**Table 3: Drought Response by IRK**

| Drought response | Values | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| Yes | 1 | 11 | 100 |
| **Total** | | **11** | **100** |

**Emphasis on Relief Aid Service Delivery**

The researcher also sought from the respondents if their respective FBOs emphasized on relief aid service delivery. LWF results in table 4 indicated 20 (95%) respondents of the 21 LWF staff confirmed that their organization emphasizes on relief aid service delivery while the remaining 1person equivalent to 5% said they do not, as an organization, emphasize on relief aid service delivery. As shown in tables 5 and 6 respectively, all of the 15 (100%) WV respondents and 11(100%) IRK respondents confirmed that both organizations emphasize relief aid service delivery.

**Table 4: Emphasis on Aid Service Delivery by LWF**

| Emphasis on Aid service delivery | Values | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| No | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| Yes | 1 | 20 | 95 |
| **Total** | | **21** | **100** |

**Table: 5: Emphasis on Aid Service Delivery by WV**

| Emphasis on service delivery | Values | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| Yes | 1 | 15 | 100 |
| **Total** | | **15** | **100** |

**Table 6: Emphasis on Aid Service Delivery by IRK**

| Emphasis on service delivery | Values | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| Yes | 1 | 11 | 100 |
| **Total** | | **11** | **100** |

**Measures to Ensure Humanitarian Service Delivery**

The study also sought to understand the measures the same FBOs have in place for ensuring better humanitarian service delivery. As illustrated in table 7, 10 respondents corresponding to 29% of LWF respondents identified accountability/transparency; monitoring/evaluation, stakeholder involvement and recruiting of competent staff were each identified by 7 respondents with each corresponding to 21% while the remaining 3 (9%) respondents considered signing of a performance contract with employees as also another good measure. Table 8 tabulates WV responses on the measures undertaken to ensure better humanitarian service delivery that include signing performance contract with 9 (34.62%) respondents, followed by accountability/transparency with 8 (30.77%), hiring of competent staff as identified by 6 (23.08%), stakeholder involvement mentioned by 2 (7.69%) and finally 1 respondent equivalent to 3.85% identifying monitoring and evaluation of relief programmes. IRK table 9 depicts stakeholder involvement as the leading measure employed to ensure better relief delivery with 8 respondents corresponding to 38% identifying it, followed by the hiring of competent staff as identified by 7 (33%). Accountability/transparency and performance contract was indicated by 5 (24%) and 1 (5%) respondent in that order with none identifying monitoring/evaluation.

**Table 7: Measures to Ensure Better Humanitarian Service Delivery (LWF)**

| Measures to ensure better humanitarian assistance | Number of responses | % No of response |
|---|---|---|
| Accountability/transparency | 10 | 29 |
| Monitoring/ evaluation | 7 | 21 |
| Stakeholder involvement | 7 | 21 |
| Performance contract | 3 | 9 |
| Competent staff | 7 | 21 |
| **Total** | **34** | **100.00** |

**Table 8: Measures to Ensure Humanitarian Service Delivery (WV)**

| Measures to ensure better humanitarian assistance | No of Responses | % No of Responses |
|---|---|---|
| Accountability/transparency | 8 | 30.77 |
| Monitoring/evaluation | 1 | 3.85 |
| Stakeholder involvement | 2 | 7.69 |
| Performance contract | 9 | 34.62 |
| Competent staff | 6 | 23.08 |
| **Total** | **26** | **100.00** |

**Table 9: Measures to Ensure Humanitarian Service Delivery (IRK)**

| Measures to ensure humanitarian service delivery | No of Responses | % No of Responses |
|---|---|---|
| Accountability/Transparency | 5 | 24 |
| Monitoring/evaluation | 0 | 0 |
| Performance contract | 1 | 5 |
| Stakeholder involvement | 8 | 38 |
| Competent staff | 7 | 33 |
| **Total** | **21** | **100** |

**Relief Impact Assessment**

The researcher also enquired from the respective respondents if their organizations conduct relief impact assessment. Their responses were illustrated 10 below. 17 respondents of LWF employees translating to 81% answered yes while the remaining 4 (19%) respondents said their organizations do not conduct relief impact assessment. WV responses were shown in table 11 with all the 15 (100%) respondents answering yes to the question of whether their organization conduct relief impact assessment. Also, table 12 indicated that 9 (91%)

of the 11 IRK respondents answering yes to the same question of whether their organization conduct relief impact assessment, with the remaining 1 (9%) person saying their organization do not conduct relief impact assessment.

**Table 10: Relief Impact Assessment (LWF)**

| Relief impact assessment | Values | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| No | 2 | 4 | 19 |
| Yes | 1 | 17 | 81 |
| **Total** | | **21** | **100** |

**Table 11: Relief Impact Assessment (WV)**

| Relief impact assessment | Values | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| Yes | 1 | 15 | 100 |
| **Total** | | **15** | **100** |

**Table 12: Relief Impact Assessment (IRK)**

| Relief impact assessment | Values | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| No | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| Yes | 1 | 10 | 91 |
| **Total** | | **11** | **100** |

**Duration of Relief Impact Assessment**

The duration the individual respondents worked in the organization was also enquired. As shown in table 13 below, by the time of the interview, 3 (14%) respondents have worked with LWF for 10 years, another 3 (14%) have worked for 8years, 1 (5%) person has worked for 7 years, 8 (38%) respondents have worked 5 years, 1 (5%) person has worked for 4 years while the remaining 5 (24%) failed or chose not to answer the question. The stay duration of WV respondents with their organization, as tabulated in table 14 also varied with 8 respondents indicated they stayed with 5 years, 2 persons staying 4 years by the time of the study, another 3 respondents stayed for 3 years, and finally 11 and 10 years being pointed by 1 respondent each. The study on IRK as shown in table 15 indicates the highest number of respondents as 7 working for 5 years, followed by 2 persons for 4 years, 1 respondent working for 3 years, with 1 respondent skipping to answer the question.

**Table 13: Duration of Relief Impact Assessment (LWF)**

| **Count of ID** | |
|---|---|
| **Duration of Relief Assessment** | **Total** |
| 0 | 5 |
| 4 | 1 |
| 5 | 8 |
| 7 | 1 |
| 8 | 3 |
| 10 | 3 |
| **Grand Total** | **21** |

**Table 14: Duration of Relief Impact Assessment (WV)**

**Count of ID**

| How long of relief assessment (Years) | Total |
|---|---|
| 3 | 3 |
| 4 | 2 |
| 5 | 8 |
| 10 | 1 |
| 11 | 1 |
| **Grand Total** | **15** |

**Table 15: Duration of Relief Impact Assessment (IRK)**

**Count of ID**

| How long of relief assessment? | Total |
|---|---|
| 0 | 1 |
| 3 | 1 |
| 4 | 2 |
| 5 | 7 |
| **Grand Total** | **11** |

**Impact assessment findings help**

The study also examined if the relief impact assessment findings helped the organization in the subsequent relief activities. In that the regard, the results below were obtained. Of the 21 LWF respondents, 6 respondents translating to 28.57% indicated that the finding did not help, another 3 (14.29%) did not answer the question while the remaining 12 (57.14%) agreed that the findings helped in the subsequent relief activities (see table 16). Table 17 shows the WV results with14 (93.33%) respondents affirming the impact assessment findings helped while 1 respondent corresponding to 6.67% saying the impact assessment findings did not help in the subsequent relief activities. On the other hand, as depicted in table 18, 9 (81.82%) of the 11 IRK respondents confirmed the impact assessment findings did help. 1 (9.09%) said the assessment findings did not help with the last 1 person of the same percentage rating skipping to answer the question.

**Table 16: Lessons of impact assessment findings (LWF)**

| Did the Findings help? | Values | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| No | 2 | 6 | 28.57 |
| NR | 0 | 3 | 14.29 |
| Yes | 1 | 12 | 57.14 |
| **Total** | | **21** | **100.00** |

**Table 17: Lesson of impact assessment findings (WV)**

| Did the Findings help? | Values | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| No | 2 | 1 | 6.67 |
| Yes | 1 | 14 | 93.33 |
| **Total** | | **15** | **100.00** |

**Table 18: Lesson of impact assessment findings (IRK)**

| Did the Findings help? | Values | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| No | 2 | 1 | 9.09 |
| NR | 0 | 1 | 9.09 |
| Yes | 1 | 9 | 81.82 |
| **Total** | | **11** | **100.00** |

**Areas to Improve According to Relief Aid Impact Assessment**

Based on the relief aid impact assessment carried out by the organizations, the respondents were asked to identified all areas they felt their respective organizations need to improve. The results were indicated below in table 19. Of the 21 LWF respondents, 5 (16.67%) identified stakeholder involvement as one of the areas to be improved, 16 (53.33%) suggested training/capacity building as another area the organization needs to improve. Program development and policy formulation were respectively identified by 7 (23.33%) and 2 (6.67%) respondents. WV results, as tabulated below in table 20, indicated training/capacity building leading area need to be improved with 8 (34.78%) respondents, followed by program development having been identified by 7 (30.43%), stakeholder involvement with 5 (21.74%), and finally policy area as the last area worthy of attention. Lastly, table 21 also shows training/capacity building as an area to be prioritized as indicated by 7 (31.82%) of the 11 respondents, followed in order by program development 6 (27.27%), stakeholder involvement 5 (22.73%) and policy formulation 4 (18.18%).

**Table 19: Areas to Improve (LWF)**

| Areas to improve | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|
| Stakeholder involvement | 5 | 22.73 |
| Training/capacity building | 7 | 31.82 |
| Program Development | 6 | 27.27 |
| policy formulation | 4 | 18.18 |
| **Total** | **22** | **100.00** |

**Table 20: Areas to Improve (WV)**

| Areas to improve | No of Responses | % No of Responses |
|---|---|---|
| Stakeholder involvement | 5 | 21.74 |
| Training/capacity building | 8 | 34.78 |
| Program development | 7 | 30.43 |
| Policy formulation | 3 | 13.04 |
| **Total** | **23** | **100.00** |

**Table 21: Areas to Improve (IRK)**

| Areas to improve | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|
| Stakeholder involvement | 5 | 23 |
| Training/capacity building | 7 | 32 |
| Program Development | 6 | 27 |
| policy formulation | 4 | 18 |
| **Total** | **22** | **100** |

**Community Involvement in Relief Aid Process**

Whether the community is involved or not in the relief process was also examined. The following results were obtained in that regard. In able 22, 19 (90,48%) of the 21 LWF respondents confirmed that community is involved in the process, 1 (4.76%%) respondent did not answer the questions while 1(4,76%) disagreed that the community is involved in the relief aid process. In tables 23 and 24, all the 15 WV and 11 IRK respondents confirmed that they involve the community in the relief process.

**Table 22: Community Involvement in Relief Aid Process (LWF)**

| Community involvement | Values | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| No | 2 | 1 | 4.76 |
| NR | 0 | 1 | 4.76 |
| Yes | 1 | 19 | 90.48 |
| **Total** | | **21** | **100.00** |

**Table 23: Community Involvement in Relief Aid Process (WV)**

| Community involvement | Values | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| Yes | 1 | 15 | 100 |
| **Total** | | **15** | **100** |

**Table 24: Community Involvement in Relief Aid Process (IRK)**

| Community involvement | Values | Frequency | % Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| Yes | 1 | 11 | 100 |
| **Total** | | **11** | **100** |

**Stages in relief aid where community is involved**

Stages in the whole relief process where the community is involved were also enquired by the researcher. In table 25, stages where the community is involved in the whole relief process as identified by LWF respondents are shown are indicated as resource acquisition by 4 (6.90%) respondents, planning/preparation 11(18.97%), program development by 9 (15.52%) respondents, policy formulation by 6 (10.34%%) respondents, program implementation by 10 (17.24%) respondents, program monitoring/evaluation/impact assessment 9 by (15.52%) respondents and vulnerable people/need identification by 9 (15.52%) respondents. The study on WV organization returned the results as follows in 26: Resource acquisition 4 (7.69%), planning/preparation 11 (21.15%), program development 9 (17.31%), policy formulation 6 (11.54%), program implementation 9 (17.31%) program monitoring/evaluation/impact assessment 7 (13.46%) and vulnerable people/need identification 6 (11.54%). The IRK responses on the same question are shown in table 27: Resource acquisition 2 (5%), planning/preparation 7 (17%), program development 3 (7%), policy formulation 7 (17%), program implementation 7 (17%), program monitoring/ evaluation/impact assessment 8 (20%) and vulnerable people/need identification 7 (17%).

**Table 25: Stages in relief aid where community is involved (LWF)**

| Stages of community involvement | No of responses | % No of Response |
|---|---|---|
| Resource acquisition | 4 | 6.90 |
| Planning/preparation | 11 | 18.97 |
| Program development | 9 | 15.52 |
| Policy formulation | 6 | 10.34 |
| Program implementation | 10 | 17.24 |
| Program monitoring/ evaluation/impact assessment | 9 | 15.52 |
| Vulnerable people/need identification | 9 | 15.52 |
| **Total** | **58** | **100** |

**Table 26: Stages in relief aid where community is involved (WV)**

| Stages of community involvement | No of Responses | % No of Responses |
|---|---|---|
| Resource acquisition | 4 | 7.69 |
| Planning/preparation | 11 | 21.15 |
| Program development | 9 | 17.31 |
| Policy formulation | 6 | 11.54 |
| Program implementation | 9 | 17.31 |
| Program monitoring/ evaluation/impact assessment | 7 | 13.46 |
| Vulnerable people/need identification | 6 | 11.54 |
| **Total** | **52** | **100.00** |

**Table 27: Stages in relief aid where community is involved (IRK)**

| Stages of community involvement | No of Responses | % No of Responses |
|---|---|---|
| Resource acquisition | 2 | 5 |
| Planning/preparation | 7 | 17 |
| Program development | 3 | 7 |
| Policy formulation | 7 | 17 |
| Program implementation | 7 | 17 |
| Program monitoring/ evaluation/ impact assessment | 8 | 20 |
| Vulnerable people/need identification | 7 | 17 |
| **Total** | **41** | **100** |

**Categories of Community Involved in the Relief Aid Process**

The respondents were asked to identify the categories across the community that get involved in the relief aid process. Their responses from LWF employees are captured table 28 below. Nine respondents translating to 23% identified the youth; women and traditional leaders were respectively identified by 7 (18%) respondents each, 4 (10%) mentioned local government leaders, and religious leaders were identified by 13 (3%) respondents which makes it the most mentioned category. Likewise, in table 29 WV responses are shown where youth category is identified by 10 (16.39%) respondents, women mentioned by 11 respondents translating to 18.03%, local government workers and religious being mentioned by 13 respondents each at a rate of 21.31% respectively, and lastly, traditional leaders being the most involved category as indicated by 14 respondents at a rate of 22.95%. Table 30 shows the IRK responses where religious leaders stood out to be the most involved category as mentioned by 8 (24.24%), followed by youth and women with each being identified by 7 respondents at rate of 21.21% respectively, trailed by local government leaders 6 (18.18%) and traditional leaders 5 (15.15%) respectively.

**Table 28: Categories of Community Involved in the Relief Aid Process (LWF)**

| Categories involved | No of responses | % No of responses |
|---|---|---|
| Youth | 9 | 23 |
| Women | 7 | 18 |
| Local government leaders | 4 | 10 |
| Religious leaders | 13 | 33 |
| Traditional leaders | 7 | 18 |
| **Total** | **40** | **100** |

**Table 29: Categories of Community Involved in the Relief Aid Process (WV)**

| Category involved | No of Responses | % No of Responses |
|---|---|---|
| Youth | 10 | 16.39 |
| Women | 11 | 18.03 |
| Local government leaders | 13 | 21.31 |
| Religious leaders | 13 | 21.31 |
| Traditional leaders | 14 | 22.95 |
| **Total** | **61** | **100.00** |

**Table 30: Categories of Community Involved in the Relief Aid Process (IRK)**

| Category involved | No of Responses | % No of Responses |
|---|---|---|
| Youth | 7 | 21.21 |
| Women | 7 | 21.21 |
| Local government leaders | 6 | 18.18 |
| Religious leaders | 8 | 24.24 |
| Traditional leaders | 5 | 15.15 |
| **Total** | **33** | **100.00** |

**Objectives of Conducting Relief Impact Assessment**

The organizational objectives of conducting relief aid impact assessment were also examined and the results depicted as follows. Most respondents 19 (40%) from LWF (see table 31) identified improving service delivery, 9 (19%) respondents mentioned the objective of managing resources properly, 11 (23%) indicated it as a managerial requirement while another 9 (19%) respondents indicated it is meant to solicit more relief funds. WV (see table 32) respondents identified the objectives of conducting relief aid impact assessment as to improve relief service delivery as indicated by15 (88.24%), to manage resources with 1 person at a rate of 5.88%, and the assessment being a managerial requirement was pointed out by 1 person at a rate of 5.88% as well. Table 33 indicates the IRK responses on the same question of objectives of conducting relief impact assessment. To improve relief service delivery was identified by 11 (64.71%) respondents, to manage resources was mentioned by 5 persons corresponding to 29.41%, the assessment being as managerial requirement was pointed out by 1 respondent at a rate of 5.88%; while none chose soliciting funds as an objective of assessment.

**Table 31: Objectives of Conducting Relief Impact Assessment (LWF)**

| Assessment objectives | Number of responses | % No of responses |
|---|---|---|
| Improve service delivery | 19 | 39.58 |
| Manage resources properly | 9 | 18.75 |
| Managerial requirement | 11 | 22.92 |
| Solicit more funds | 9 | 18.75 |
| **Total** | **48** | **100** |

**Table 32: Objectives of Conducting Relief Impact Assessment (WV)**

| Assessment objectives | No of Responses | % No of Responses |
|---|---|---|
| Improve service delivery | 15 | 88.24 |
| Manage resources properly | 1 | 5.88 |
| Managerial requirement | 1 | 5.88 |
| Solicit more funds | 0 | 0.00 |
| **Total** | **17** | **100.00** |

**Table 33: Objectives of Conducting Relief Impact Assessment (IRK)**

| Assessment Objectives | No of responses | % No of Responses |
|---|---|---|
| Improve service delivery | 11 | 64.71 |
| Manage resources properly | 5 | 29.41 |
| Managerial requirement | 1 | 5.88 |
| Solicit more funds | 0 | 0.00 |
| **Total** | **17** | **100.00** |

**Recipients of Impact Assessment Report**

The following results on who receives the relief impact assessment reports were obtained. The LWF organizational headquarters was identified by 14 (56%) of the 21 respondents. 7 (28%) respondents mentioned donors as recipients of the report. Finally, 4 (16%) persons identified aid beneficiaries as recipients of the report (see table 34). table 35 indicates the responses of WV respondents with 13 of the 15 at a rate of 41.94% respondents pointing out the headquarters as the main recipient of assessment reports, followed by donors with 11 respondents (35.48%) and lastly 7 (22.58%) respondents identifying aid beneficiaries as recipients of reports. IRK results (table 36) indicate donors as the leading recipients of the reports with 8 (47.06%) respondents, followed by headquarters with 7 (41.18%) and aid beneficiary being the last in the order as captured by 2 (11.76%) persons.

**Table 34: Recipients of Impact Assessment Report (LWF)**

| Recipients of report | No of responses | % No of responses |
|---|---|---|
| Headquarters | 14 | 56 |
| Donors | 7 | 28 |
| Aid beneficiaries | 4 | 16 |
| **Total** | **25** | **100** |

**Table 35: Recipients of Impact Assessment Report (WV)**

| Recipients of report | No of Responses | % No of Responses |
|---|---|---|
| Headquarters | 13 | 41.94 |
| Donors | 11 | 35.48 |
| Aid beneficiaries | 7 | 22.58 |
| **Total** | **31** | **100.00** |

**Table 36: Recipients of Impact Assessment Report (IRK)**

| Recipients of report | No of Responses | % No of Responses |
|---|---|---|
| Headquarters | 7 | 41.18 |
| Donors | 8 | 47.06 |
| Aid beneficiaries | 2 | 11.76 |
| **Total** | **17** | **100.00** |

**Challenges faced in relief impact assessment**

The challenges faced in relief impact assessment was also examined by the researcher. LWF results illustrated in table 37 showed that inadequate cooperation and resources were the main challenges as mentioned by 6 (17%) respondents respectively; security challenges and inadequate training were also respectively identified by 8 (23%) respondents; while 7 (20%) persons mentioned political interference as another challenge that

faces the assessment process. WV results (table 38) show inadequate resources as the biggest challenge as mentioned by 10 respondents at a rate of 40%, followed by security as the next significant challenge with 8 (32%) respondents identifying it, followed by political influence as pointed out by 3 (12%) persons, and finally, lack of cooperation and inadequate training as the next challenges with 2 respondents each at a rate of 8% respectively. IRK, likewise as illustrated in table 39, shows 7 (29.17%) respondents mentioning inadequate resources, followed by security challenges with 6 (25%) respondents, lack of cooperation from the aid beneficiaries as the next challenge with 5 (20.83%), and lastly, political influences and inadequate training with 3 (12.50%) each in threat order.

**Table 37: Challenges faced in relief impact assessment (LWF)**

| Challenges faced in relief assessment process | No of responses | % No of Responses |
|---|---|---|
| Lack of cooperation | 6 | 17.14 |
| Security challenges | 8 | 22.86 |
| Political influences | 7 | 20.00 |
| Inadequate training | 8 | 22.86 |
| Inadequate resources | 6 | 17.14 |
| **Total** | **35** | **100** |

**Table 38: Challenges faced in relief impact assessment (WV)**

| Challenges faced in relief assessment process | No of Responses | % No of Responses |
|---|---|---|
| Lack of cooperation | 2 | 8 |
| Security challenges | 8 | 32 |
| Political influences | 3 | 12 |
| Inadequate training | 2 | 8 |
| Inadequate resources | 10 | 40 |
| **Total** | **25** | **100** |

**Table 39: Challenges faced in relief impact assessment (IRK)**

| Challenges faced in relief assessment process | No of Responses | % No of Responses |
|---|---|---|
| Lack of cooperation | 5 | 20.83 |
| Security challenges | 6 | 25.00 |
| Political influences | 3 | 12.50 |
| Inadequate training | 3 | 12.50 |
| Inadequate resources | 7 | 29.17 |
| **Total** | **24** | **100.00** |

## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The objective of assessing the impact of the Drought Response Initiatives by FBOs in Garissa County yielded the findings as summarized below.

Forty-four (44) respondents corresponding to 94% confirmed that the organizations respond to drought disasters in their respective localities. Moreover, 46 (98%) of the respondents acknowledged that the organizations emphasize on better humanitarian aid delivery. According to the respondents, the measures that were put in place to ensure better relief aid delivery mainly included accountability/transparency as was identified by 23 (28.4%) of the respondents, having competent staff as mentioned by 20 (24.7%) and stakeholder involvement as identified by 17 (21%) of the respondents. Forty-two (42) of the respondents translating to 89.4% also affirmed that relief impact assessment is conducted by the organizations. Duration of relief impact assessment since when it was embraced by humanitarian sector varied across the three

organization. On average, 5 years were the most mentioned period. Whether the results of the relief impact assessment helped in the subsequent relief activities or not was also enquired. Thirty-five (35) respondents equivalent to 74.46% affirmed that the results helped, 8 (17.02%) negated that the findings helped, while 4 (8.51%) skipped to answer the question. Consequently, the areas to be improved in the light of the impact findings were also enquired. Staff training topped with 22 respondents (32.83%), followed by programme development with 19 (28.36%) respondents and stakeholder involvement with 15 (22.39%) respondents. Again, if the community is involved or not in the relief process was asked, and 45 (95.75%) of the respondents confirmed that the community is involved, with 1 (2.13%) respondent negating their involvement and another 1 (2.13%) person skipping to answer. The main stages in the relief process where community is involved were identified by the respondents in order of priority as planning and preparation with 29 (19.21%) respondents, programme implementation with 26 (17.21%) respondents, monitoring and evaluation with 24 (15.89%) respondents, vulnerable persons identification with 22 (14.57%) respondents and programme development with 21 (13.91%) respondents. The categories of the community members involved in the relief process were as well identified in order of priority as follows, religious leaders 34 (23.61%) respondents, local government 33 (22.91%) respondents, youth and traditional leaders each being identified by 26 (18.6%) and women 25 (17.36%) respondents. The objectives of conducting relief impact assessment returned the following results. Improving service relief service delivery was mentioned by 45 (54.88%) respondents, managing resource properly followed with 15 (18.29%) respondents, managerial requirement was identified by 13 (15.85) respondents and solicit more funds was identified by 9 (10.96) respondents. The recipients of the relief assessment reports were identified as the organizational headquarters by 34 (46.58%), donors (35.62%) and finally aid beneficiaries 13 (17.81%).

The challenges that affect relief impact assessment process were identified in order of priority as inadequate resources by 23 (26.74%) respondents, security challenges by 22 (25.58%) respondents, lack of or inadequate cooperation by 15 (17.44%) respondents, and finally political interference and inadequate training was each mentioned by 13 (15.12%) respondents.

**Lutheran World Federation**

LWF responds to drought in the local area as indicated by majority of the respondents with an emphasis on relief aid delivery. Accountability is the most effective measure the FBO employs to achieve effective relief service delivery. Most of the respondents also confirmed that relief aid assessment is conducted in their organization for the last 5 years on average. More than average of the respondents also affirmed that the relief assessment findings helped in improving subsequent relief aspects particularly on the areas of training and program development. Majority also confirmed that the local community is involved in the relief process with planning and preparation stage as a major focus. According to most of the respondents, the various categories of community members are involved with the religious leaders as the major group. Majority of the respondents also indicated that the objective of relief assessment is to improve relief aid service delivery. According to majority of the respondents, the FBO headquarters is the main recipient of the relief aid assessment report. The major challenge that affects the relief impact assessment process is the security concern.

**World Vision**

All of the WV respondents affirmed that their organization responds to drought in the area and emphasizes on relief aid delivery. According to the majority of the respondents, performance contract and accountability are mainly employed as a measure to ensure relief service delivery. All of the respondents also confirmed that relief aid assessment is conducted in their organization for the last 5 years on average. Majority of the respondents also affirmed that the relief assessment findings helped in improving subsequent relief aspects with majority noting the areas of training and program development needs to be improved. All of them also confirmed that community is involved in the relief process with planning and preparation stage as a major

focus. According to most of the respondents, the various categories of community members are involved with the local government leaders and religious leaders as the major groups. Majority of the respondents also indicated that the objective of relief assessment is to improve relief aid service delivery. According to majority of the respondents, the FBO headquarters is the main recipient of the relief aid assessment report. The major challenge that affects the relief impact assessment process is the inadequacy of resources.

**Islamic Relief Kenya**

All of the IRK respondents affirmed that their organization responds to drought and emphasizes on relief aid service delivery. Stakeholder involvement, employing competent staff and accountability are some of the main measures used to achieve effective relief service delivery. Most of the respondents also confirmed that relief aid assessment is conducted in their organization for the last 5 years on average. More than average of the respondents also affirmed that the relief assessment findings helped in improving subsequent relief aspects with majority pointing to the areas of training and program development as the ones to be improved. All of the respondents also confirmed that community is involved in the relief process with monitoring/evaluation being the main area of community involvement. According to most of the respondents, the various categories of community members are involved with the religious leaders as the major group. Majority of the respondents also indicated that the objective of relief assessment is to improve relief aid service delivery. According to majority of the respondents, the FBO headquarters is the main recipient of the relief aid assessment report. The major challenge that affects the relief impact assessment process is the inadequacy of resources.

According to most of the respondents, the relief aid response process is hampered by many challenges with security challenge being the most mentioned by the majority of the respondents. It is followed by corruption and proselyting/missionary concerns in that order. Threat of injuries were the most identified security concern by the majority of the respondents. Majority of the respondents have witnessed actual security threats against themselves in terms of personal injuries. Majority have attributed the security threats to religious ideological differences. Majority of the respondents have rated their FBOs' security address measures as a least level.

This study revealed that the selected faith-based organizations' initiatives had an impact on drought response. Thus, the study recommended that relief impact assessment conducted by the FBOs operating in Garissa County is relatively recent, thus there is need for FBOs' management and donors to emphasize on effective relief impact assessment to enhance drought response measures.

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