

INTER-ETHNIC CONFLICTS AND SOCIO - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN TURKANA  
EAST SUB-COUNTY - KENYA

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## DECLARATION AND APPROVAL

### Declaration

This project is my original work and has never been presented for any academic award in any institution.

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### Approval

This project is being submitted for examination with my approval as University supervisors

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## **DEDICATION**

To Sinei Jumba, Saina Luvayo and Ivelia Chekuku; this is a feat you have to achieve.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to acknowledge my supervisor, Dr. Gatobu Caroline, for her invaluable guidance and support in the course of actualizing this project. I also wish to thank Dr. Ronald Kickechi, Director Kakamega Campus, for the conducive environment provided in the campus for me to carry out and complete this research project.



## ABSTRACT

The study sought to investigate the effects of inter –ethnic conflicts on social – economic development of Turkana East Sub - County. It endeavored to explain the problem of socio – economic decline which manifested in form of acute poverty, low literacy levels, high unemployment rates and insecurity. The study was guided by four objectives focusing on forced displacement, destruction of physical infrastructure, disruption of trade and investment and weakening of institutions. Cross – sectional survey research design was used in the study. The target population was 501 individuals who comprised of youth leaders, women leaders, members of council of elders, the business community, national government administrators and non - governmental organization officials in Turkana East sub - county. Yamane’ formula, was used in determining a sample size of 223 units of analysis from a target population of 501 individuals. To achieve proportionate representation of all units of analysis, stratified and simple random sampling methods were used. Data collection was done using questionnaires. An analysis of collected data has been done using descriptive statistics. Figures, histogram and frequency distribution tables have been used to present the analyzed data. The finding to the study was that inter - ethnic conflicts affected socio - economic development in Turkana East sub - county negatively through forced displacement, destruction of physical infrastructure, disruption of trade and investment and weakening of socio - economic governance institutions in Turkana East Sub - county. The study recommends that security policies to be formulated and implemented to manage inter - ethnic conflicts, authorities to increase surveillance to protect physical infrastructure, strengthen and reform government and community institutions to respond effectively to conflict situations. Creation of awareness on effects of inter - ethnic conflicts on socio - economic development of Turkana East Sub - county and the country at large to be prioritized.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

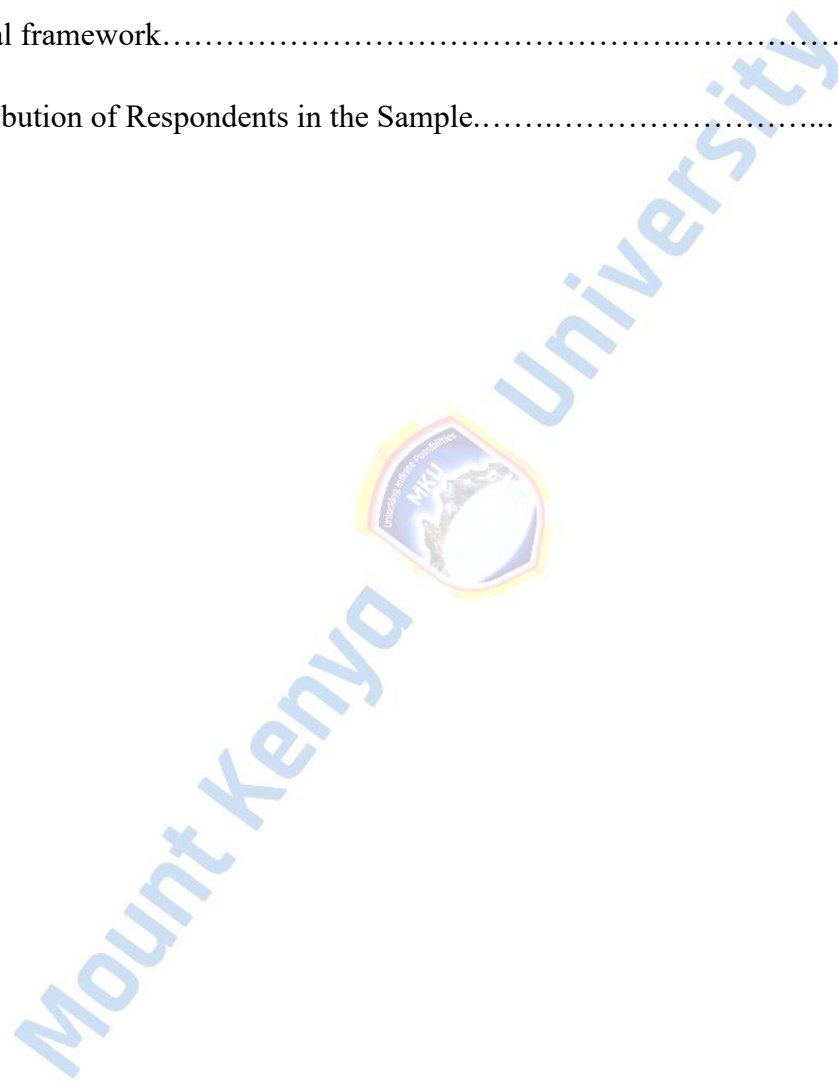
DECLARATION AND APPROVAL.....	i
DEDICATION .....	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	iii
ABSTRACT .....	iv
LIST OF TABLES .....	vi
LIST OF FIGURES .....	vii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS.....	viii
CHAPTER ONE.....	1
INTRODUCTION.....	1
CHAPTER TWO.....	11
LITERATURE REVIEW.....	11
CHAPTER THREE.....	25
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY .....	25
CHAPTER FOUR .....	32
RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS.....	32
CHAPTER FIVE.....	46
SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS .....	46
APPENDICES.....	58

## LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
3.5.1 Target Population .....	30
3.7.1 Sample population.....	31
4.2.1 Gender Representation in the Study Sample.....	35
4.2.2 Social Position of Respondents.....	37
4.2.3 Time Spent by the Respondents in Turkana East Sub - county.....	38
4.2.4 Education Qualifications of Respondents.....	39
4.3.1 Forced Displacement and Socio - economic Development.....	40
4.3.2 Destruction of Physical Infrastructure and Socio - economic Development.....	41
4.3.3 Trade & Investment and Socio - economic Development .....	42
4.3.4 Weakened Institutions and Socio - economic Development.....	43

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
2.3.1 Conceptual framework.....	25
4.2.2 Age Distribution of Respondents in the Sample.....	36



## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

**ACLED** - Armed Conflict Location and Event Data

**CEIP** – Carnegio Endowment for International peace

**CSIS** - Center for Strategic and International Studies

**DRC** - Democratic Republic of Congo

**GoK** - Government of Kenya

**ICPALD** - IGAD Center for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development

**iDMC** – Internal Displacement Monitoring Center

**ILO** - International Labor Organization

**ISIL** - Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant

**SID** - Society for International Development

**UN** - United Nations

**UNDP** - United Nations Development Programme

**UNCHR** - United Nations Commission for Human Rights

**W.H.O** - World Health Organization



## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background to the study

For a long time, communities have waged wars against each other for various reasons. These wars have always been in form of inter - ethnic conflicts where two or more ethnic groups, clans or races compete over domination, survival, resources, religious ideology or territory, (Reuter, 2023). As a result of such inter - ethnic wars, many affected areas and communities have suffered socio - economic decline with dire repercussions of increased poverty and extreme human suffering.

All over the world, inter - ethnic conflicts have been recorded with major ones being experienced in 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries in Chechnya, Iraq, Somalia, India, Balkans, Darfur and Israel. These conflicts have caused socio - economic decline in affected areas leading to refugee crisis, environmental degradation and strain on social amenities in the areas people move to as refugees leaving the areas they flee from desolate and under – utilized, ( Aljazeera, 2023). Congestion, resulting from displacement of people, has strained social amenities making them unable to meet the educational, health, security and related needs of the people hurdled in refugee camps

According to Zilber, (2021) and Krauss (2021) territorial dispute was the key factor in Arab - Israel conflict. They further reported that the Arab - Jewish conflict had displaced more than 700,000 people, killed more than 30,000 people and led to destruction of civil infrastructure. The continued conflict between Arabs and Jews in Israel therefore has led to destruction of socio - economic bases and it will take many years to fix education, health services and other critical infrastructure in affected areas, (AL Jazeera, 2023). This situation is typical of what is found in the north - western Kenya, where inter-ethnic conflicts has led to destruction of schools and medical facilities making it difficult for people to access education and medical care. This position has been affirmed in a report by the World Vision stating that conflicts have disrupted people's social – economic life with many children failing to access or continue with their education, destruction of health facilities, disruption of business and destruction of social fabric, (World Vision, 2021). on the global stage, inter - ethnic conflicts have caused a lot of destruction and human suffering and resulted into social - economic decline of many communities.

Africa has had its fair share of inter - ethnic conflicts. It is on record that in 1990, 15 countries had conflicts. Between 1990 and 1999, 35% of countries in sub – Saharan Africa were embroiled in inter - ethnic conflicts. In 2016, 17 countries in Africa had conflicts and 75% of global deaths arising from inter - ethnic conflicts were recorded in Africa. In 2017 alone, Africa had 50 non – state (ethnic) conflicts resulting into 4300 deaths. During the same period, 11 countries registered inter - ethnic conflicts (Bakken et al, 2018). These conflicts disrupt social order, community safety and administration of public affairs hence leading to socio - economic decline of communities.

The conflict in Sudan is the most recent to break out in Africa. On 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023, fighting broke out in Khartoum, pushing very many people out of their homes into refugee status in Chad, South Sudan and Kenya. International Rescue Committee, (2023), recorded inter-communal conflicts in Darfur, Kordofan and Kassala to have increased displacement of people. These conflicts have their roots in the limited state authority and unresolved local disputes over land and natural resources. The fighting between the national army and the paramilitary group in Khartoum therefore, denies the government the legitimacy and capacity to exert its authority across the country. This is a typical example of conflicts weakening socio - economic governance institutions.

In Kenya, serious instances of inter - ethnic conflicts were recorded in 1992, 1997 and 2007. Politicization and militarization of ethnic groups, long standing land grievances and a feeling of marginalization have been identified as key causal factors of ethnic violence in Kenya. In 2005, a large-scale ethnic conflict ensued in Mount Elgon sub - County of Bungoma County where people fought each other over land. In that conflict 66000 people were displaced and 600 were killed in a period of 18 months in addition to other violations. So much property was destroyed and people's lives were disrupted, (CSIS, 2012).

According to Wikipedia, (2023), in 1992 Molo was an epicenter of ethnic violence between the Kalenjin and Kikuyu communities where 5000 people were killed and 75,000 others displaced. In 2012, ethnic violence in Samburu County saw 40 people killed and in 2017, 13 people were killed, 4 wounded and a number displaced in Baringo county from cattle rustling. The statistics are not different at the Kenyan coastal strip where ethnic violence in Likoni in 1997 and in Taita

Taveta between the Orma and Pokomo groups over grazing land, farmland and water points caused a lot of destruction leading to socio - economic decline.

In a study carried out in the north - rift region of Kenya by Armed Conflicts Location and Event Data, (Aclcd), it was established that out of the 250 violent conflicts experienced in Kenya in the first quarter of 2023, pastoralists in the north - rift region participated in 30% of them and they resulted in 73 fatalities. The pastoral communities which include the Tugen, Turkana, Ilchamus, Pokot and Samburu, are armed and actively involved in inter - ethnic conflicts in the north - rift region of Kenya, (Aclcd, 2023). The cost of cattle rustling as part of inter - ethnic conflicts in such places is quite humongous. It was established that between 2014 and 2016, cost of livestock loss and displacement amounted to 51.78 billion. Such a cost affected directly socio - economic development in the region with health, education and business suffering the more,(ICPALD, 2019).

In Turkana East, Suguta valley is known as the 'valley of death'. Violence, grieving and great losses caused by cattle rustling, plunder and massacres are common phenomena in Suguta valley. In this area, police records 6 deaths and 3 cattle raids as daily average following ethnic conflicts between the Pokot and Turkana ethnic groups. Some of the bloodiest conflicts and loss have been experienced in this area, (Interpeace, 2022). The key causes of conflicts in the area were political instigation, idleness, unemployment and poverty among the youth, cultural motivation and unfavorable environmental conditions, (ICPALD, 2019). These conflicts have resulted in human suffering, displacement, torture, stoppage of children from accessing schools and conventional medicine and disruption of trading activities leading to increased unemployment and community insecurity, (Center for Preventive Action, 2023).

This study will be guided by primordial by Shils and Geerts (1957) as cited in Bayar (2017) and instrumentalist theories of ethnicity by Brass (1979) as cited in Kataria (2018). Primordial theory has to do with the rise and sustainability of ethnicity which defines how people are connected and identified and gives a justification on why they tend to act together and pursue common goals. In inter - ethnic conflicts therefore, this model explains why and how people will act in solidarity in defense of what they consider their origin. Instrumentalist model explains the functional nature of ethnicity. That people will associate with a certain ethnic grouping as long as that group is an

instrument for gaining resources. The two models give an understanding that ethnicity is a device used to unify, organize and mobilize populations to achieve larger goals.

Inter - ethnic conflicts, defined as conflict resulting from pursuance of incompatible goals, (Reuter, 2023) is characterized by displacement of people and loss of life, destruction of physical infrastructure, disruption of trade and investment and weakened socio - economic governing institutions hence suppressed socio - economic development.

Socio - economic development is the process of social and economic transformation in the society. This variable is usually measured using gross domestic product, life expectancy, levels of literacy, poverty and employment levels. Socio - economic development can be further understood by considering levels of crime and safety in the society, level of participation in civil society and lesser issues like personal dignity, freedom of association, personal safety and freedom from fear of physical harm, (Wikipedia,2013). According to Jatin Verma Academy, (2020), socio - economic development means improvement of people's lifestyles through improved education, incomes, skills development and employment. In this study, socio - economic development meant improvement in a people's life as far as literacy levels, employment rates, community safety, scores of life expectancy and health situation in the community. Socio - economic development was given the meaning of social and economic transformation of communities.

Inter-ethnic conflicts have an effect on socio - economic development. Socio - economic development in areas riddled with conflicts continues to decline. It was therefore necessary for an empirical study to be carried out so as to measure the effects of displacement of people, destruction of physical environment, disruption of trade and investment and weakened institutions on socio - economic development of Turkana East Sub - county. This specific study had not been done and as such there existed information gap in explaining how the independent variable, inter - ethnic conflicts affected the dependent variable (socio - economic development) in this particular location. Conducting this research study therefore was justified to the extent that it sought to address the problem of socio - economic decline in Turkana East Sub - county by contributing to the body of available information for policy formulation, administrative purposes and community action for enhanced socio - economic development in Turkana East sub - county and the nation at large.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The problem under study is socio - economic decline in Turkana East sub - county in relation to inter - ethnic conflicts. It has been established that inter - ethnic conflicts have a major negative influence on socio - economic development of communities. According to Hammock, (2023), in a conflict free situation, communities tend to grow and develop positively as opposed to a conflict situation where property is destroyed, businesses are disrupted, lives are lost, social and economic institutions of governance collapse and physical infrastructure is seriously damaged hence causing socio - economic decline (World Vision, 2021, ICPALD, 2019, Interpeace, 2022 & Wangechi et al, 2023).

When different locations in the country are compared, there was a discrepancy in socio - economic development in a conflict free situation and that riddled with conflicts. In a conflict free situation, there was significant economic growth and development while in a conflict situation there was socio - economic decline. This study therefore sought to investigate the connection between inter - ethnic conflicts and socio - economic decline in Turkana East sub - county. It sought to affirm that if ethnic groups were to live peacefully with each other, growth of business, functional education, competent health systems and working political institutions would be realized as opposed to the situations under war and instability.

## **1.3 Purpose of the Study**

The purpose of this study was to investigate the effects of inter –ethnic conflicts on socio - economic development in Turkana East Sub - county using cross – sectional survey with a view of getting information to be used in explaining the social and economic conditions of the people living in Turkana East sub - county and the country as a whole.

## **1.4 Objectives of the Study**

1. To investigate the effects of forced displacement on socio – economic development in Turkana East sub - county
2. To establish the effects of destruction of physical infrastructure on socio - economic development in Turkana East sub - county

3. To assess the effects of disruption of trade and investment on socio - economic development in Turkana East Sub – County
4. To find out the effects of weakened of institutions on socio – economic development of Turkana East sub – county.

### **1.5 Research Questions**

1. What are the effects of forced displacement on socio – economic development in Turkana East Sub – county?
2. How does destruction of physical infrastructure affect socio - economic development in Turkana East sub – county?
3. How does disruption of trade and investment affect socio – economic development in Turkana East Sub – county?
4. What are the effects of weakened of institutions on socio – economic development in Turkana East sub – county?

### **1.6 Significance of the Study**

The community in Turkana East sub - county was faced with socio - economic decline due to incessant conflicts in the area. This problem was very current and timely for study for it influences the general well-being of the community in question and the country at large. It affected all members of the society but the youths, who fought in the conflicts, women and children were the most affected. Poor socio - economic performance due to conflicts has led to high levels of unemployment, high illiteracy levels, low economic productivity of community members and general insecurity in the community. If this problem was to be left unattended the development agenda for the community in Turkana East sub - county and the nation at large could be derailed. Establishing how inter - ethnic conflicts affected socio - economic development in Turkana East Sub - county therefore is important for creating stable societies which can meet their social and economic needs adequately.

The results to this research project is important to players and stakeholders in governance, economic planning, peace and conflict resolution in Kenya and across the globe aimed at creating stable societies for enhanced social and economical development. They also shift attention from the common reports on cattle rustling to specific areas affected by conflicts like trade and investment, physical infrastructure, forced displacements and socio - economic institutions.

The study should contribute valuable knowledge to the field of peace and conflict resolution in general. The information gotten should contribute to the efforts being made in the north - rift region of Kenya to create a safe environment for social - economic development through addressing the trust issues, historical grievances, cattle rustling and the social - economic costs associated with it. The recommendations should inform the peace building process on the need to reestablish broken ties, create awareness among the various actors on the value of preserving established social - economic infrastructure and to consider pastoralism and animal rearing purely as an economic activity and not a source of conflict.

The research study has provided unavailable information to be used for reference by other researchers and readers in general in matters relating to conflict and socio – economic development. Even though there are some studies which have been carried out in this region, most of them have mainly focused on cattle rustling leaving out the social and economic challenges posed by the incessant conflicts. This study therefore aimed at contributing to the available body of knowledge, with the focus shifted from small area of cattle rustling to a wide space of inter - ethnic conflicts and socio - economic development, for the purpose of availing reference material for researchers and scholars who would like to explore this topic further.

The findings to the study can be used to formulate policies which are sound, inclusive and helpful in relation to inter – ethnic conflict and social – economic development in the country. The national peace and security policies can be formulated from an informed position. The policy positions suggested are to inform state and non - state actors interventions and actions with a view of realizing meaningful results, in matters related to conflict, peace and social - economic development.

This study should revolutionize the practice of conflict resolution, transformation and peace building initiatives in the country. Notably the problem of insecurity in the North – Rift region has continued for a very long time and claimed so many lives and destruction to property hence the need to change tact in the approaches and strategies used to address them. The resultant information is meant to enhance peace building initiatives hence establishing an environment conducive for social – economic development.

The study has provided a basis for civic education so as to enhance awareness among the conflicting communities on the need to live in peace and tranquility, the social and economic costs being created by inter - ethnic conflicts and how the undesirable consequences of inter - ethnic conflicts can be averted or mitigated if they so appear. Generally, it has suggested a framework under which inter - ethnic conflicts and socio - economic issues can be adequately addressed.

### **1.7 Scope of the Study**

This study on inter – ethnic conflicts and social – economic development was carried out in Turkana East Sub – County found in Turkana County of North – Western region of Kenya using cross – sectional survey design. The units for analysis for the study were key players in the community affairs including national government administrators, council of elders, members of the business community, the youth leaders, women leaders and members from non - governmental organizations operating in Turkana East Sub – county.

The content scope was a collection of data on the effects of inter – ethnic conflicts on socio – economic development of Turkana East Sub – county. The researcher was guided by the objectives of the study which addressed forced displacement, destruction of physical infrastructure, disruption of trade and investment and weakening of institutions caused by inter – ethnic conflicts in relation to socio – economic development in Turkana East sub - county.

This study focused on the effects of inter – ethnic conflicts on socio – economic development of Turkana East sub – county for the period between 2015 and 2024. So the time scope for this study was 10 years.

### **1.8 Study Limitations**

The researcher was faced by resource challenges. The researcher mitigated against financial and non - financial resource constraint by maximizing and prudently using available resources. For instance, the number of visits to the study location were put at the minimum to cut down on travelling costs and computer services were done by the researcher. Only two research assistants, who were also interpreters, were engaged to cut down on personnel hiring and upkeep costs.

The language barrier, where the researcher had a language different from the ones from the study area was another barrier. It was however mitigated by bringing on board local residents as research assistants who also acted as interpreters in Turkana and Pokot languages throughout the research process.

Questionnaires were used so as to curb respondents' bias and due diligence taken to have interpreters communicating right things to respondents in the process of helping them fill the questionnaires. The respondents were further encouraged to respond to the questionnaires in an honest manner owing to the importance of the results to the study.

### **1.9 Delimitations**

For the purpose of this study, the geographical location of the study was the entire Turkana East Sub – County which is made up of three administrative wards. The study focused on how inter – ethnic conflicts affect social – economic development in Turkana East Sub – County by investigating the effects of conflicts on socio - economic development . The study was carried out among the key players in community affairs who included national government administrators, council of elders, members of the business community, the youth leaders, women leaders and members of non - governmental organizations in Turkana East sub - county.

### **1.10 Assumption of the Study**

The assumptions of the study were that the researcher would be in good health during the survey, the respondents would respond to questionnaires with 100% accuracy in an honest and truthful manner, there would be adequate financial resources and other necessary facilitation to traverse the expanse of Turkana East Sub - county and reach all the respondents identified for the study in good time.

### **1.11 Operational Definition of Key Terms**

**Business community** - to mean all individuals engaged in business and trading activities for gain in Turkana East sub - county.

**Community safety** - a situation in which people, individually or collectively are sufficiently free from a range of real and perceived risks centering on crime and related misbehavior

**Conflict** – to take the meaning of violence, disputes and wars and any other condition where there is absence of peace and tranquility

**Education** – to mean accessibility to instruction, school infrastructure and human resource

**Health services** – accessibility to health services, health infrastructure and facilities and personnel, availability of drugs and its distribution.

**Ethnic group** – a group defined on the basis of ethnicity or tribe as is the context of tribes in Kenya

**Inter –ethnic conflict** – disputes based on social – cultural grounds involving values, norms, resources, territory on basis of ethnic group the parties subscribe to. In this context, it should also take the meaning and include cattle rustling.

**Peace** – absence of conflicts or war

**Stakeholders in education** - to include teachers, parents, students and education managers in Turkana East sub - county

**Stakeholders in health sector** - to mean all players and beneficiaries of health services including medical practitioners, support staff, community members and administrators in respect to health services in Turkana East sub - county

**Socio - economic development** - improvement in a people’s lifestyles through improvement in acquisition of education, access to health services, free trade, increased levels of employment and living in a safe community.

**Trade** - all business allied activities including but not limited to buying and selling, the jobs created in the sector, the distribution of goods and services, movement of goods and people, management of chains of production and consumption equation in the community.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.0 Introduction**

This chapter presented literature related to inter - ethnic conflicts and socio - economic development. The review was based on the objectives of the study and focused mainly on forced displacement of people, destruction of physical infrastructure, disruption of trade and investment and weakened institutions and their effects on socio - economic development. The chapter has also presented a theoretical and conceptual framework under which the research was conducted.

#### **2.10 Empirical Literature**

##### **2.1.1 Forced Displacement and Socio – economic Development**

Forced displacement has been defined as the involuntary or coerced movement of a person or people away from their home or home region. That forced displacement occurs when people are forced or obliged to flee or leave their homes or places of residence as a result of the effects of armed conflicts, generalized violence, human rights violations natural or man - made disaster. It involves people fleeing from conflict, violence or other risks in search of security and livelihoods, (Wikipedia, 2024; World Bank 2016).

According to Mercier et al, (2020) as cited in Tuki, (2022), violent conflicts necessitate forced displacements and destruction of family assets. A report by the United Nations Commission for Human Rights (UNCHR) reported that during the post-election violence of 2007 - 2008 in Kenya, 300,000 people were displaced, (UN, 2008). In Mount Elgon clan clashes in 2005, 66000 people were displaced and 600 were killed in a period of 18 months and people's lives were disrupted, (CSIS, 2012). According to International Monetary Fund (IMF) (2020), in Sub – Saharan inter – ethnic conflicts caused 825, 000 deaths constituting two thirds of global deaths from violent conflicts. Religious and ethnic conflicts pushed 2.5 million people to refugee status in Iraq. More than 258,000 people fled Syria to Kurdistan region of Iraq due to inter – ethnic conflicts. Following ethnic conflicts, 1.2 million people are still displaced in Iraq and in need of support so as to lead a normal life, (Aljazeera, 2023). The forced displacement and loss of life has led to refugee crisis, environmental degradation and strain on social amenities in Kurdistan and

left the places they were fleeing from desolate and underutilized. It is clear therefore during the fleeing children miss out on education, their economic livelihoods are disrupted and even their health needs are not attended to adequately.

The statistics from the national police service shows that 6 deaths are recorded every day courtesy of ethnic clashes and cattle rustling between the Turkana and Pokot ethnic groups in Turkana East sub - county, (Interpeace, 2022). This is an approximation and does not give us an understanding of how much inter - ethnic conflicts in Turkana East are causing death and displacement for very few cases are usually reported. Even when these deaths and displacement are so reported, their effects are not discussed but just enumerated and are not linked to social and economic situation of Turkana East sub – county.

What is the social – economic cost of displacement and loss of life caused by inter – ethnic conflicts? According to the World Vision, (2021) displacements of people and loss of life have disrupted people’s social – economic life by causing inaccessibility to education, disruption of business and destruction of social fabric of involved people. There is however limited data on the cost of displacement in real terms in areas of housing, education, health and security services offered to the displaced people. His study therefore seeks to establish such cost by establishing the real outcomes of displacement and deaths as necessitated by inter - ethnic conflicts.

Research carried out by Internal Displacement Monitoring Center (iDMC) (2024), indicated that forced displacement disrupt a people’s lives, safety and well-being. That it interferes with the individual and community stability which is prerequisite for socio - economic development. The studies above however did not indicate that even though displacement may lead to disorder, it can also be a unifying factor to fight for the people’s rights and freedoms hence creation of strong and informed communities. Additionally, the study did not mention that displacement of people and loss of life lead to impoverishment and unfair exploitation of human and capital resources.

Forced displacement leads to deterioration of health, security, social life, housing conditions livelihoods, environment and education. It generally lowers the ability to contribute to local economies, earn an income, buy goods and invest in socio - economic development, (iDMC, 2021). The findings of this study concurred with another study done in 2024 by the same organization which indicated that when internally displaced persons move in area, living together

with the host community, they put immense pressure on housing, health, security, livelihoods and education, (iDMC, 2024). These studies are able to enumerate the effects of forced displacement socially and economically but they do not go ahead to account for the social and economic costs linked to displacement and loss of life. There is limited data on the financial cost and losses in connection to forced displacement and as such, a gap exist which requires to be filled through an empirical study. The study only bring out the negative side of forced displacement but does not recognize that by having many people settling in one place, whether it is from forced displacement or not, attracts social services, trade and investment hence contributing to socio - economic development of such areas the displaced people settle. Humanitarian aid given to the refugees can be a source of capital for improving their livelihoods and even economic status as it has been in areas like Kakuma where refugees have started businesses, gotten an education and even helped in the growth and development of Kakuma town. Given displaced people settle, in most cases, in areas with little or no social amenities, in short term there is a likelihood of them suffering but in the long run they become a blessing even to the host community because their large numbers attract investment in social and economic sectors.

The studies done by Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (CEIP) (2016), seem to agree with what has been presented above for they assert that forced displacement has a depressing effect on wages, strain infrastructure and public service. While these assertions are plausible, they should be considered in the short – term. In the long term, displaced people who settle in an area attracts critical public infrastructure and investment hence bettering the social economic situation in the area they settled in. Low prices of labour and availability of markets motivates starting of businesses which in turn creates employment opportunities and increases income for households enabling them to take their children to school and access health services leading to enhanced social – economic development.

In a survey carried out by the World Bank, (2017) in Ukraine using a sample of 2004 internally displaced people and 2021 members of the host community and conducting 20 focus group discussions, it was established that forced displacement disrupted industry, transport and small and micro - enterprises hence leading to job losses. That it leads to erosion of investor confidence hence undermining business development in an area. All these results in uncertainty in securing quality and reliable employment, housing and accessing the needed services. Ndirangu, (2020)

conducted a similar research using a sample of 60 Congolese refugee women selected by simple random sampling method from refugee community, 10 key informants comprising agency staff and refugee leaders engaged in two focus group discussions selected through purposive sampling method. This study found that forced displacement is a barrier to sustainable development, enhances human trafficking and put economic and social strain on the host communities. The studies done by World Bank and Ndirangu converge at the same results concerning the effects of forced displacement but have questions as to the sample chosen in relation to the populations of the communities they were conducted in. Selecting only 60 women for a study in a community suffering displacement in thousands is not representative enough. Furthermore, taking only one gender of the society and not appreciating diversity issues is a weakness which impacts on the reliability of the findings of the study. The survey by the World Bank is also much of determining perceptions than collecting data for serious use given the sample size and the pool from which the sample was chosen. In a war situation as it is in Ukraine, there are more unregistered internally displaced people than it is with the registered one and getting a sample on basis of those registered may be misleading and unrepresentative of the true situation on the ground.

The geographical location of the study by the World Bank (2017) was Ukraine which is in Europe and the situations under which a survey was carried out were situations of external invasion. The information gap is created on the basis of applicability of such conclusions on an African situation in a place like Turkana East. There is need to use a different approach of survey, cross - sectional survey and have a replica of the study in Turkana East sub - county so as to confirm the findings the survey carried out by the World Bank as asserted above so as to confirm their universalism and applicability to the African situation.

### **2.1.2 Destruction of Physical Infrastructure and Socio – economic Development**

Physical infrastructure has been defined by Science Direct, (2024) as technical structures necessary for a society to function and include electricity grids, natural gas, communication technology, roads and water among other structures. This definition is expanded on to by adding that physical infrastructure include building infrastructure stocks needed to provide essential services to the society like healthcare and education, produce or distribute goods and services like manufacturing and transport facilities and promote re-circulation of natural resources like the

renewable energy infrastructure. For the purpose of this study, we will adopt the meaning of physical infrastructure proposed by Science Direct (2024).

Physical infrastructure is very important in socio - economic development of any place. According to Hammock, (2023), physical infrastructure serves as a foundation of a nation's economic growth and development. That the structures, facilities and systems support and enable economic activities hence leading to growth and development. Highlighting social infrastructure, for instance schools, hospitals, housing and community centers, he argues that they enhance human capital development and social well - being. Incidentally, in a conflict situation physical infrastructure is always a target for destruction. There are instances where schools have been razed down or vandalized. In such circumstances, the physical infrastructure supporting education is destroyed and as a result delivery of education programs is compromised, (Nyangau, 2019). The burning of schools has a very negative impact on education. Such a case was experienced in Nakuru county in Kenya in 2007 where schools were burnt, education resources hindered from reaching schools because of barricaded roads, and classrooms turned into camps for the armed forces and the internally displaced people (Wangechi et al, 2023). Such destruction of physical infrastructure of school and reassignment of schools to other purposes than education, affects accessibility to education. The studies done by Nyangau (2019) and Wangechi et al (2019) both enumerated how conflicts affects physical infrastructure but fell short of mentioning how such a destruction affect human capital development, literacy levels and quality of life in the community.

In Mozambique, 196 health posts were destroyed and 288 were either looted or forced to close. Burning and looting health infrastructure during a conflict situation has a big dimension to accessibility of health services and consequent health of the people in the affected areas, (Rohin, et al 2021). However, he did not indicate that destruction of health infrastructure immobilized health system which in turn leads to uncontrolled health situation where terminal illnesses, nutritional challenges and communicable disease pose threat to life leading to high cost of seeking medical attention in other areas hence death and impoverishment of communities them having to use most of the resources at their disposal paying for health services away from their community.

The most current example of destruction of physical infrastructure is what is being experienced in Israel – Palestinian conflict. All universities in Gaza have been destroyed, power supply and internet disrupted, key health facilities like Nasser and Shifa hospitals have been decimated, (Aljazeera, 2024). It should be noted that destruction of learning institutions plunges a community in a state of uncertainty where its key resource, human resource, fails to be developed.

Destruction of road infrastructure derails economic development of an area. In a paper done by Okechukwu, Mandonsela and Adelinla (2021), it was noted transportation infrastructure serves as a backbone of extensive economic activities. That viable and ever expanding network of roads in quality, quantity and in functionality are required to enable the smooth running of logistic operations within a given geopolitical entity. For proper socio - economic development therefore good transportation infrastructure is a prerequisite. Destroyed transport infrastructure make markets inaccessible, hinders free and quick movement of goods, services and people and has the potential of destroying economic stability in an area, (Ali, 2015). Under the circumstances where the transportation infrastructure has been destroyed, the likelihood of economic collapse is very real.

Destruction of physical infrastructure creates socio – economic uncertainty. The question here is how is such uncertainty affecting development of the concerned community? The gap here lies in what we know as to what destruction of physical infrastructure does to socio - economic development and what is really on the ground. The ideal situation is that it depresses development. That cannot be however said of Turkana East sub - county unless a study is carried out to either confirm or bring out the discrepancy between the two ideas. This study therefore seek to underscore the effects of destruction of physical infrastructure by inter – ethnic conflicts on social – economic situation in Turkana East sub – county.

### **2.1.3 Disruption of Trade & Investment and Socio – economic Development**

The World Bank describes trade as an engine that creates jobs, reduces poverty and increases economic activity, (World Bank, 2023). From the definition and the expanded explanation by the World Bank, trade constitute a relationship between two or more parties exchanging goods and services for gain, sufficiency and sustenance purposes. OECD, (2024) saw trade and investment

as the mainstays of economic development, job creation and social progress. According to the positions therefore, it is evident trade and investment play a major role in ensuring social and economic development of the society. Sustainable development therefore is necessitated by an environment which is conducive for trade and investment. That to built robust pathways for development, a peaceful environment, which is enhancing for trading and investment activities, is very necessary, (OECD, 2024).

When the environment is one riddled with conflicts, trade and investment suffers a great deal and by extension socio - economic development takes a hit. Conflicts cause capital flight and increases cost of doing business by increasing transport costs, labour costs and economic uncertainty, (IGC, 2016). Capital flight injures investment and wealth creation. Increased costs of doing business, as indicated above, kill trade and forces business out of operation. This position is shared by Blair et al (2022), who had it that conflicts deter investment by disrupting production or raising uncertainty. Conflicts therefore interferes with trade and commerce and as such works negatively on how goods and services reaches people, lead to job cuts and lowers the community's capacity to deal with socio – economic challenges facing it.

Bagwitz et al, (2018) enumerated the effects of violent conflict on investment and trade as creation of atmosphere of mistrust, brain drain, diversion of funds from public investments into military operations, destruction of markets, lack of flow of information and erosion of confidence among stakeholders. This study underscores some key issues in relation to conflicts and socio – economic development. An atmosphere of mistrust, lack of flow of information and erosion of confidence creates hostile environment for investment and trade. Destruction of civil infrastructure, for example markets, kills business and military investment prevent a community from investing in productive socio – economic activities. He however did not suggest how to deal with the undesirable effects of conflict like use of socio – economic reforms to improve confidence levels from investors, stem the issue of brain drain and open up the community for proper information flow.

Collier, (1999) as cited in Thai – Ha et al (2022), had it that violent conflict affect economic productivity by destroying infrastructure, interrupting economic activities, discouraging investment and hindering government spending. This position is further reinforced by Mueller & Tobias, (2016) who argued that conflicts create insecurity which disrupt socio – economic

development of a place. However, they did not indicate that destruction of infrastructure increases the cost of doing business forcing investors out of the affected area leading to unemployment and disrupted chain of distribution which denies a community the opportunity of meeting their needs. Such a disruption has a ripple effect for unemployment increases instances of insecurity and inability to respond to health challenges.

According to Assem, (2019), inter - ethnic conflicts destroy infrastructure and lead to closing of borders between communities. The closing of borders and destruction of critical infrastructure disrupt trading activities. Apart from increased cost of production, continued conflicts shifts and alters people's preference, trust and market participation leading to low trade volumes for particular commodities. Low trade volumes decreases firms' profits and may cause winding up of businesses leading to job losses and disruption of the chain of distribution.

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa noted that inter - ethnic conflicts in DRC have prevented DRC from taking advantage of cross border trade opportunities. The conflicts in DRC have compromised infrastructure in the region and destruction of such critical infrastructure as power and roads effectively undermines trade and economic development in a country. The fighting in eastern DRC has jeopardized legal trade and encouraged smuggling of valuable resources from DRC leading to poverty in a country which should otherwise be very rich, (UN, 2015). The UN report does not however mention that the prolongation of conflicts in DRC due to institutional failures, including UN institutions and structures, continues to be the biggest impediment to social and economic development given it cause wide spread destruction to means of production.

Disruption of trade and investment lead to a decline in economic growth. Thai – Ha et al (2022) found that high conflict intensity hindered economic growth. Obstructed economic growth means high levels of unemployment, low levels of productivity and increased levels of poverty in the community. Collier, (1999) as cited in Thai – Ha et al (2022), established that violent conflict affect economic productivity of a community.

The discrepancy between the ideal situation where there is peace and tranquility amidst flourishing business and that of conflict and declining trade and investment gives the justification

to research and establish the real position of effects of conflicts on social - economic development in Turkana East sub - county.

#### **2.1.4 Weakened Institutions and Socio – economic Development**

Institutional framework is very important in socio - economic development. Institutional variables like political stability, accountability, government effectiveness, regulatory quality, rule of law and control of corruption must be checked and enhanced so as to achieve a good environment for socio - economic development. According to Dobler, (2011) as cited in Mkhize (2021), stated that institutional quality significantly influence economic growth. He went on to say that weak institutions deteriorate social security, increases political risks, weaken implementation of property rights and negatively impact on cost of doing business. Easterly Levine (1994) as cited in Mkhize (2021) had a similar view as the one above. They stated that weak institutions are the key source of devastating growth of African countries. They pointed out that low quality education, political instability, poor and insufficient infrastructure, distorted markets, poor financial system and collapsed health system are closely related to slow socio - economic growth.

In a conflict situation, social and economic institutions become weakened. According to IMF, (2017) conflicts lead to deterioration of social and economic governance institutions. If for instance the banking sector is weakened then it will mean there will be no money to borrow for investment and even if there could be some, the cost of capital would be very high. Regulatory bodies like the central bank may fail to deal with inflation and that means a community will be required to use more to buy less due to depreciation of their currency due to uncertainty caused by conflicts and weak institutions. Weak political institutions may lead to a revolution and change of governments with interest groups pursuing their own interests hence exacerbating insecurity, uncertainty and socio – economic decline in the community.

Kumar et al, (2022) posit that conflicts affect rule of law, press freedom and judicial independence. Inter – ethnic conflicts makes it hard for law enforcement agencies to enforce the law hence state of lawlessness. However, he did not mention weak institutions promote corruption and misapplication of resources which in turn promotes insecurity and state of anarchy which is detrimental to socio – economic development.

When conflicts occur, education programs, practice and delivery gets negatively affected, Omoeva et al (2018). Education institutions weakened when teachers and students are displaced, education material are destroyed and education infrastructure is either destroyed or occupied as temporal shelter for displaced persons. All these things hinder delivery on education programs and as a fact causes inaccessibility to learning to many children and job disruptions among the teaching staff.

The discrepancy in this part comes with the comparison of working institutions and weakened institutions and their ability to influence socio - economic development. This study therefore seeks to investigate the institutional framework and its effect on socio - economic development in the face of inter - ethnic violence in Turkana East sub - county.

## **2.2 Theoretical Framework**

This study was informed by the primordial and instrumentalist theories of ethnicity. These theories explain the existence of differences between communities which work as reasons to stick together as a group in pursuit of common end or use ethnicity as a tool for achieving the common or desired end.

Primordial theory of ethnicity is attributed to a sociologist Edward Shils and anthropologist Clifford Geertz, (1957). The theory proposes that ethnicity is ascribed identity, inherited from the ancestors and deep rooted in ancestral bloodline. That people feel a sense of belonging to a group because they share biological and cultural origins. Steven (1994) as cited in Nyiri (2014), had it that there exist an ethnic grouping because there are traditions making people believe that those living in the same location have similar biological features. According to Bayar,(2017), this theory has three key propositions that ethnicity construction is structurally limited - mainly to ancestry- which sets the baseline for assumed kinship, the ethnic group has a single identity with multiple dimensions and that ethnicity can be assumed fixed after a group experiences violent out - group conflict and /or achieves mass literacy. In a nutshell, primordial bonds, lineage and cultural ties, give rise and sustain ethnicity. The prepositions of this theory are very potent to the communities living in Turkana East sub - county where those ascribed an ethnic identity of Turkana or Pokot identify with each other adorning and upholding their unique identity. They

tend to live in defined locations with each ethnic group living as to what defines them, culturally and socially, as Pokot or Turkana.

Instrumentalist theory was proposed by Paul Brass in 1979. Instrumentalist theorists view ethnicity as an instrument of gaining resources. Reuter (2024), had it that instrumentalists understand ethnicity as a device used by individuals and groups to unify, organize and mobilize populations to achieve larger goals. It is worth noting that people will be seriously ethnic when ethnicity is yielding significant returns to them as it may be with having an ethnic voting bloc. Ethnicity is simply used to gain comparative advantage in situations involving moral and material gains. As the situation is in Turkana East sub - county, ethnicity has been instrumentally used in raiding rival communities for gain and security reasons. Cattle raiding is done at a communal level and members of these communities tend to live together as a security measure against attacks from rival groups. They approach security concerns in the area from an ethnic point of view.

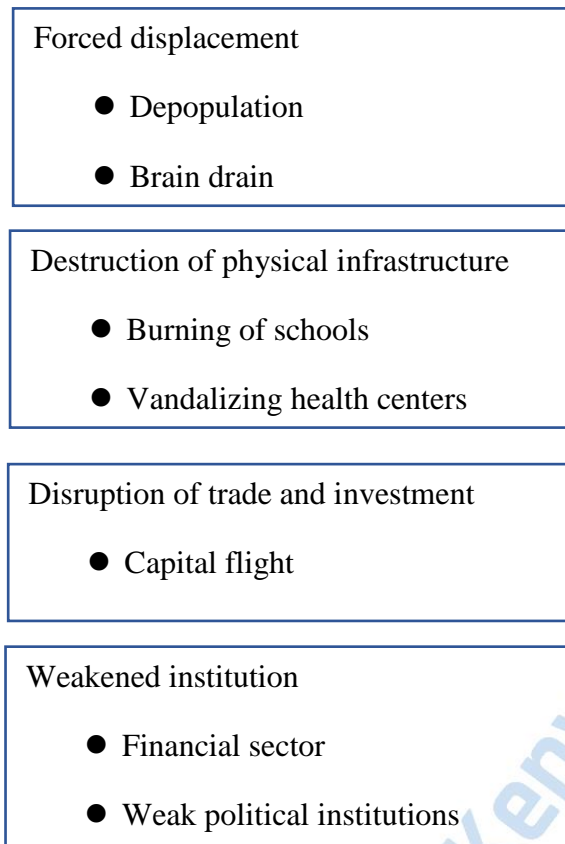
The two theories of ethnicity therefore are informing this study from the understanding that ethnicity is a basis for identity, mobilization and pursuance of common interest and attainment of needed resources or power. The very struggle for recognition and resources influences socio - economic processes in the community leading to either growth and development or decline.

### **2.3 Conceptual Framework**

The researcher adopted the following conceptual framework for the study. In the conceptual framework, inter - ethnic conflicts are hypothesized to influence socio - economic development. Inter - ethnic conflicts have been defined as displacement of people, disruption of trade and investments (involving capital flight, inaccessible markets, disinvestment), destruction of physical infrastructure (burning of schools, destruction of markets, health facilities), and weakening of institutions and was related to the socio - economic development (dependent variable) where such indicators of socio - economic development; literacy levels, life expectancy, poverty levels, mortality rates and employment levels in Turkana East sub - county were considered. The intervening variable for this framework was community involvement in management and resolution of conflicts.

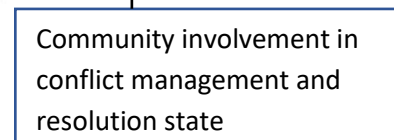
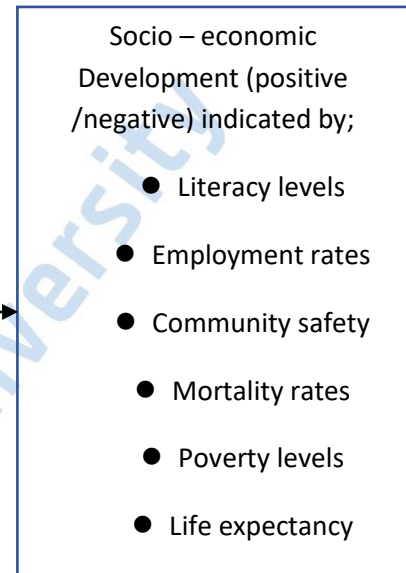
## Independent Variables

(Inter - ethnic conflicts)



## Dependent Variable (s)

(Socio - economic Development)



## Intervening Variable

Source: Researcher 2024

Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework

## 2.4 Recap of Literature Review

As presented above, inter - ethnic conflict is a situation which arises when two or more parties pursue incompatible goals from the same environment leading to a clash, (Reuter etal 2023). They are disputes between contending groups who identify on basis of some ethnic criteria and make group claim to resources on basis of collective rights. These type of conflicts are marked with deficiency of communication and absence of proper interaction, (Leley, 2015). Socio -

economic development on the other hand, has to do with improvement in peoples' lifestyles through bettering of education, healthcare, incomes, skills development and employment among other welfare matters, (Jatin Verma Academy, 2020). So, an upscale in people's social and economic life and making their living standards better constitute socio - economic development.

Research has shown that inter - ethnic conflicts are rampant in Sub - Saharan Africa and they negatively affect socio - economic development of many countries, (IMF, 2020). According to Mariana, (2013), these conflicts do not have a singular cause but are multivariate in nature. Historical, cultural, political and economic factors have been identified through research as some of the causes of inter - ethnic conflicts, (Reuter, 2023). Chronic marginalization, monopolization of state resources, unequal distribution of resources and lack of basic institutions to deal with conflicts have also been flagged out as key causes of inter - ethnic conflicts, (Tsega, 2019).

Inter – ethnic conflicts affects social and economic development through various channels. One of the major effect of inter - ethnic conflict is forced displacement. Forced displacement has to do with people running away from violence, conflicts and other life threatening risks, (Wikipedia 2024, World Bank, 2016). It leads to loss of life and human suffering, (Mercier et al 2020 as cited in Tuki, 2022). Other effects of forced displacement include inaccessibility to health, education and security services, (World Vision, 2021). Forced displacement impact negatively on education, (Omoeva, Mousa and Hatch, 2018). it also disrupt health services by interfering with medical supply, displacement of staff and interference with access to health services, (UN, 2020). in a nutshell, forced displacement has a depressing effect on virtually all spheres of human life and wellness, (CEIP, 2016). It is tenable therefore to state forced displacement contributes greatly on socio - economic decline in areas affected by inter - ethnic conflicts.

According to Science Direct, (2024), physical infrastructure has to do with the technical structures necessary for a society to function well. Inter - ethnic conflicts lead to destruction of physical infrastructure like schools and health infrastructure, ( Rohini et al 2021) and destruction of road transport infrastructure, (Ali, 2015). Given physical infrastructure is key and serves as a foundation for the nation's economic growth, its destruction works negatively on socio - economic development,( Hammock, 2023). this position has been highlighted by Nyangau, (2019) and Wangechi et al ,(2023) indicating that targeting of physical infrastructure in a conflict situation depresses development. Ali, (2015) had it that destruction of physical infrastructure

threatens economic collapse. On the basis of the cited literature in this section and other sections in this paper, destruction of physical infrastructure therefore has negative effects and can lead to socio - economic decline in an area.

When trade and investment is disrupted an area suffers from capital flight, (IGC, 2016). The inter - ethnic conflicts will disrupt production and raise market uncertainty (Blair et al 2022). Inter – ethnic conflicts also spread poverty, (IMF, 2017). Inter - ethnic conflicts further destroys infrastructure for doing business effectively disrupting trade, (Assem, 2019). Destruction of markets affect trade and investment negatively and has depressing effect on socio - economic development of the affected area ( Bagwitz et al, 2018).

Conflicts weaken institutions leading to deterioration of social and economic institution, (IMF, 2017) and interference with the rule of law, press freedoms and judicial independence, (Kumar et al 2022). Inter – ethnic conflicts weaken socio - economic governing institutions and disrupt community safety, (Law Insider, 2023). They undermine right to life, free movement of goods and people and curtail freedom of expression, (UNDP, 2022). It also cause mental health problems, homelessness and state of lawlessness all of which undermine socio – economic development of an area, (Harris, 2023). They lead to human and food insecurity in an area, (Abaho et al 2019 and Bruk & d’Errico 2019).

In a nutshell, inter - ethnic conflicts have big influence on how communities lead their social and economic lives. That being the case and from the literature presented in this proposal, it is important for a research to be undertaken so as to establish specifically how inter - ethnic conflicts affect socio - economic development of Turkana East sub - county in Kenya. Though much has been done on this subject, it is worth noting that such researches have been done out of Turkana East sub - county and none specifically focused on conflict and socio - economic development in the location of study. The results of these studies may not adequately address the question of socio - economic development in Turkana East because the geographical and demographic differences.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

This chapter presented information on research methods, research design, location of the study, target population, sampling procedures and techniques, sample population, construction of research instruments, piloting of research instruments, testing for validity and reliability, data collection methods and procedures, proposed data analysis techniques and procedures and ethical considerations.

#### **3.2 Research Methodology**

The University of Newcastle, (Undated) defines research methods as strategies, processes or techniques utilized in the collection of data or evidence for analyzing in order to uncover new information or create a better understanding of a topic. Going by the nature of the data sought for by this study, cross sectional survey was used. This method enabled the researcher to determine the frequency of an attribute under focus in a defined population at a particular point in time. This method was more preferable for it helped the researcher assess practices, attitudes, knowledge and beliefs of a population in relation to the phenomena under study.

#### **3.3 Research Design**

Research design is a framework under which a phenomenon is studied. In this case, the researcher used cross sectional research design. According to Rivers (2016), cross sectional study sought to capture information based on data gathered for a specific point in time. It enabled the researcher to determine the frequency of the attribute under focus in a defined population at a particular point in time. This design therefore was used because it goes beyond provision of information on the frequency of the attribute of study population by necessitating collection of information on both the attribute of interest and potential risk factors. It was useful in assessing practices, attitudes, knowledge and beliefs of a population in relation to a particular issue under study. In the study of the effects of inter - ethnic conflicts on socio - economic development in Turkana East Sub - county, this design was the most appropriate since it necessitated the description of prevalent features of the population under study, helps sort out existence and

magnitude of effects of independent variable upon dependent variable at a given point and time. It was therefore the ideal design to use in dealing with data from a pool of participants with varied characteristics and demographics.

### **3.4 Location of the Study**

This research study was carried out in Turkana East Sub - County. Turkana East Sub - County is one of the 11 Sub - counties in Turkana County found in northwestern Kenya. It borders West – Pokot and Baringo Counties which are equally inhabited by communities practicing pastoralism. It has an approximate population of 90,466 people occupying land area of about 15,739.4 square kilometers (GoK, 2019). It is divided into three administrative wards namely Kapedo, Lokori and Katilia. A majority of people living in Turkana East sub – county are Turkana by tribe followed by the Pokot. Other Kenyan tribes live in Turkana East, for example the Somali community, but in small numbers. The social and economic life of a majority of people living in Turkana East centers on livestock herding and they mostly practice pastoralism but there is some small scale farming going on along the river Turkwel.

### **3.5 Target Population**

The target population for the study were members of the community from Turkana East sub - county who were deemed to be in constant contact with the problem in question. Turkana East has a total population of about 90,466. Target population in this case was made up of youth leaders (200), women leaders (50), members of council of elders (150), members of the business community (34), national government administrators (32) and non - government organization officials (35) were obtained as per the frequency distribution table below;

<b>Category of respondents</b>	<b>Target population</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
National Government Administrators	32	6
Council of elders	150	30
Business community	34	7
Youth leaders	200	40
Women leaders	50	10
NGOs'	35	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>100</b>

*Table 3.5.1 the target population*

### **3.6 Sampling Procedures and Techniques**

This study employed stratified and simple random sampling techniques to select the sample. Stratified sampling was used to form the sub - groups given the sampling frame was a list of mixed individuals comprising of youth leaders, women leaders, members of council of elders, members of the business community, national government administrators and non - governmental organization officials. Stratified sampling identified sub - groups in a population and their proportions and select from each sub - group to form a sample. The researcher having been convinced that the target population was not homogeneous, stratified sampling ensured that the target population was divided into different homogeneous strata and that each strata was represented in the sample in a proportion equivalent to its to its size in the population. By doing so, it ensured that each sub - group's characteristics were represented in the sample hence increasing external validity of the study.

Simple random sampling was used to pick a sample from the sub - groups. Simple random sampling ensured each member of the target population had equal and independent chance of

being included in the sample and that the resultant sample is random in nature and fully representative.

### 3.7 Sample Population

In determining the sample size for this study, a formula developed by Yamane, (1967) was adopted as follows;

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

Where n = sample size, N = population and e = margin error at 95% confidence level

$$n = 501 / 1 + (501 \times 0.05 \times 0.05)$$

$$\text{Therefore } n = 222.66$$

$$= 223$$

The sample size for each strata was calculated as a proportion of the overall sample size by taking each sub – set’s target population over the total target population multiplied by the established sample size of 223 units of analysis to arrive at the numbers shown in the table below then from each strata simple random was used to ensure a fairly selected sample.

SUB - SETS	POPULATION	SAMPLE SIZE	SAMPLING
Government officials	32	14	Simple random
Council of elders	150	67	Simple random
Business community	34	15	Simple random
Youth leaders	200	89	Simple random
Women leaders	50	22	Simple
NGO'S	35	16	Simple random

<b>Total</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>223</b>	
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*Table 3.8.1 Sample population*

### **3.8 Construction of Research Instruments**

The questionnaires were used in the study and were constructed on the basis of the research objectives. Each research objective made a section in the questionnaire with relevant questions assigned to it so as to meet the intended purpose. The questionnaire was constructed in such a way that the first part, “A” sought the bio data of the respondents, part “B” explored effects of forced displacement on socio – economic development in Turkana East Sub - County, part “C” established the effects of destruction of physical infrastructure on socio - economic development in Turkana East sub – county, part “D” investigated the effects of disruption of trade and investment on socio - economic development in Turkana East sub – county and part “E” established the effects of weakening of institutions on socio – economic development of Turkana East sub – county. The questionnaires were done in English but where assistance was required, they were translated in Swahili, Aturkan and Pokot languages so as to enhance and attain comprehensive data collection.

### **3.9 Piloting of Research Instruments**

The research instruments were piloted to establish their suitability for use in this research by being administered to a section of community members in Turkana East sub - county. This was done to inform the researcher of the strengths and weaknesses of the research instruments and their applicability in collecting relevant data as far as the study was concerned and if necessary, make corrections so as to meet the objectives of the study. Piloting was done to develop and test adequacy of the research instruments. Piloting was also to inform the researcher of the logistical challenges which would have occurred using the proposed methods of study and help address such eventualities before administration of the actual research study. The community members who participated in the piloting were excluded from the actual research so as to ensure the validity and reliability of collected data is maintained.

### **3.10 Testing for Validity and Reliability**

The research instruments were prepared and tested to ensure their validity and reliability. The data collection instruments were prepared on the basis of the objectives of the research project guided by the standard provisions of preparing instruments of data collection to ensure that the content of the research study was fully covered. Each part of the research instruments was consciously designed to collect specific data and how the objectives appear in the study to ensure consistency. The data collection instruments were evaluated and corrected by the supervisor so as to ensure they are sound and dependable for use. The validity and reliability of data collection instruments for this study therefore is in the way they were developed, tested for use in a pilot project and their consistency in terms of being in line with the purpose and objectives of the study. To ensure reliability the participants were chosen randomly and not informed of their involvement in the study beforehand.

### **3.11 Data Collection Methods and Procedures**

Data collection was done by use of questionnaires with closed ended questions. The questions on the data collection tools were in English but where required, they were translated into Swahili, Aturkana and Pokot languages. The questionnaires were hand delivered to respondents who were requested to fill and return them to the researcher through the same means. The researcher made follow ups by phone calls and text messages to monitor the progress of the process and track the questionnaires for collection. In some instances, the researcher sought the help of research assistants who were chosen from the location of the study to mitigate the limitation of language barrier.

### **3.12 Proposed Data Analysis Techniques and Procedures**

After collection of data, it was checked for its completeness. Descriptive statistics have been used for analysis of collected data. That included the use of frequencies and percentages in data analysis. The analyzed data has been presented using frequency distribution tables, bar graphs and pie – charts. For the purpose of comparison, data has been presented as a fraction of the total on histograms and frequency distribution tables.

### **3.13 Ethical Considerations**

According to Mugenda & Mugenda (2003), ethical issues give standards under which a research study is carried out conveniently. They cited the following ethical issues to be taken into account in the process of conducting the research study.

Confidentiality and privacy of the respondents has been protected. The information received from the respondents has been kept confidential and has not been divulged for use by any unauthorized party. The data collected has been purely used for research purposes and not otherwise.

The researcher has ensured anonymity of respondents through well designed research instruments. The instruments were constructed in a way that no provision was made to expose the identity of the respondents as to protect them from undue inconveniences arising from having participated in a study of this nature.

The respondents were protected from physical and psychological harm by having them respond to issues in the questionnaire in the most relaxed, convenient and less threatening way. No person was coerced to be a respondent in the research study since their consent to participate in the study was sought before involvement.

The questions on the questionnaire were presented in an easily understandable way and explained to respondents in a simple language. The researcher ensured there was no manipulation of respondents by ensuring free, informed and rational engagement with them.

To contact the research authorization was sought from the necessary authorities including Mount Kenya University (Certificate of ethical clearance and an introduction letter) and National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation for a permit to conduct research in Turkana East Sub - county, Turkana County. The certificates and permits were shared with the local authorities for preparation of data collection process.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

#### 4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents an analysis of demographic characteristics of the respondents and the research findings based on research objectives which included an investigation of the effects of forced displacement, destruction of physical infrastructure, disruption of trade and investment and weakening of institutions by inter - ethnic conflicts on socio – economic development in Turkana East sub – county.

#### 4.1 Rate of Response

Out of the 223 targeted responses, 150 responses were received. That made up 67.3% of the targeted response rate of 223 respondents. According to Mugenda Mugenda, (2003), any response above 50% is good for analysis and so, at 67.3% response rate, the study attained adequate data for analysis and reporting.

#### 4.2 Demographic Data of Respondents

##### 4.2.1 Gender of Respondents

Gender representation of respondents stood as shown in table 4.2.1 below. In a sample of 150 respondents, 78 were males while 72 were females representing 52% and 48% respectively.

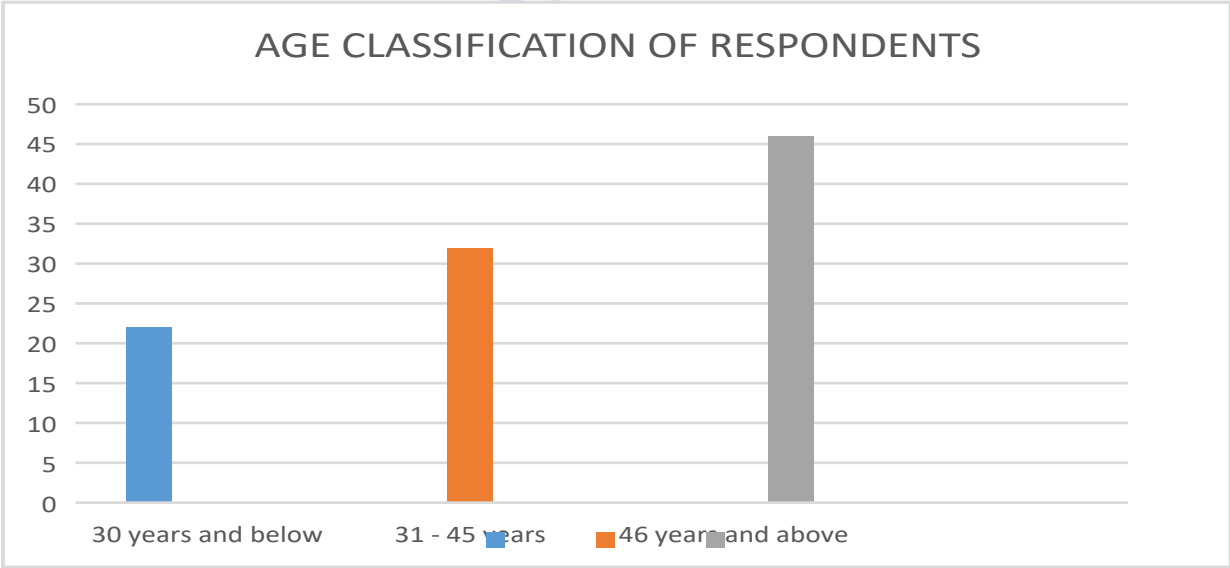
Gender	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Male	78	52
Female	72	48
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.2.1 Gender Representation in the Sample

Gender representation in the sample is therefore adequate for it falls within the acceptable national standards of one third rule where the same gender should not exceed two - thirds representation any undertaking. Notably, conflicts affect people differently on the basis of gender. Even though the actual combatants in a conflict are mostly men, women get displaced and greatly violated in a conflict situation. Having men and women well represented in the study therefore achieved the goal of having a balanced reflection of what was actually happening on the ground concerning inter - ethnic conflicts and socio - economic development in Turkana East from the gender perspective.

**4.2.2 Age Distribution of Respondents in the Sample**

The results for the age of the respondents are as indicated in the graph below. The respondents aged below 30 years were 33 (22%), 31 to 45 years were 48 (32%) and those above 46 years were 69 (46%). The study therefore cut across various age groups to ensure the views of every member of the society are considered. Going by the age factor, most of the respondents, 46%, were people who had lived in Turkana East sub - county for a long time and had experienced the effects of inter - ethnic conflicts by being displaced multiple times. A majority of respondents in the study therefore were people with adequate knowledge and experience in matters under investigation hence making the findings of the study more credible.



*Figure 4.2.2 Age Classification of Respondents*

### 4.2.3 Social Position of the Respondents

Out of 150 respondents, government officials were 10 (6.7%), Council of elders were 45 (30%), business community were 10 (6.7%), youth leaders were 60 (40%), women leaders were 15 (10%) and Non - Governmental Organization officials were 10 making up 6.7% of the total. From the data presented above, the majority of the respondents originated from the local community, that is the youth, women and council of elders who made up more than 80% of the total sample. The rest were either government employees, business people who had moved to the area and non - governmental organization workers who were in the area to provide relief services. Having a majority of the respondents being local residents of Turkana East sub - county was important for the reason of providing the right interventions on the basis of the community's needs and not outsiders point of view.

POSITION	FREQUENCY (f)	PERCENTAGE (%)
Government officials	10	6.7
Council of elders	45	30
Business community	10	6.7
Youth leaders	60	40
Women leaders	15	10
NGO'S	10	6.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.2.2 Social Position of the Respondents

The largest portion of the respondents were youth at 40% of the total sample. Involvement of youths at such levels was important given they are the weakest link when it comes to societal cohesion and involvement in inter - ethnic conflicts. They are often used to carry out attacks and raids during ethnic animosity. The elders stood at 30% in the sample. The elders and youths represent two groups of people who are very central in communal activities. The two groups are central to upsurge of hostilities or peaceful existence of communities.

#### 4.2.4 Time spent in Turkana East Sub - county

From the study, it was established that 10% of the respondents had spent less than 5 years in Turkana East sub - county, 20% had lived there between 5 and 10 years and, a majority, 70% of the total respondents had spent more than 10 years in Turkana East. The majority of respondents therefore have spent considerable time in Turkana East sub - county and have had an experience with inter - ethnic violence and socio - economic development of the area. Most of the respondents had first hand information on how inter - ethnic conflicts affected their social and economic lives hence making the collected data valid and reliable. This information is presented in the table below;

<b>TIME SPENT IN TURKANA</b>	<b>FREQUENCY (f)</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE (%)</b>
Less than 5 years	15	10
5 - 10 years	30	20
Above 10 years	105	70
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.2.3 Time Spent by the Respondents in Turkana East Sub - county

#### 4.2.5 Qualifications of Respondents

It was established that most of the respondents, about 65%, had no formal education. 22% had primary education, 8 had attained secondary school education while only 5% had attained tertiary education. Levels of literacy therefore were very high and more pronounced among the local communities that is, Turkana and Pokot ethnic groups. These figures are not very far from statistics given by Society for International Development, (SID), (2013) which indicated that Turkana East had a 9% higher literacy than the county average which stood at 20%. SID, (2013), therefore implied that Turkana East sub - county had illiteracy levels of 71% which is only 6% more than what this study established. It should be noted that the literacy figures in Turkana East sub - county, 29%, are way below the national figures which stands at 85%. The variation in literacy levels between this study and the national figures may be as a result of sampling, though

random, where the most informed, outgoing and vocal people from the community found themselves in the study unlike the case in a national census where all the people in the population are accounted for through a compulsory survey.

Low literacy levels in the study location have an implication on how conflicts are generated, perpetuated and sustained. It also gives a glimpse in what happens in the community where a majority of its young men are out of school idling or roaming around with livestock in search of water and pasture. This information is presented in the table below;

<b>Level of Education</b>	<b>FREQUENCY (f)</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE (%)</b>
No formal education	97	65
Primary level	33	22
Secondary	12	8
Tertiary	8	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100</b>

*Table 4.2.4: Educational Background of Respondents*

### **4.3 Research Presentation, Interpretation and Discussion**

#### **4.3.1 Forced Displacement and Social - economic Development of Turkana East Sub - County.**

The first objective of this study investigated the effects of forced displacement on socio - economic development of Turkana East sub - county. To achieve this objective, the respondents were asked to react to ten statements aimed at describing the effects of forced displacement in Turkana East sub - county. The questions sought to determine whether forced displacement caused loss of life and human suffering, housing problems in the destination area for the displaced persons, disrupted economic activities causing unemployment in Turkana East, if it destroyed social fabric, disrupted education, whether it disrupted health services, whether it led to violation of children's rights, caused labor shortage, destroyed family assets and left many places desolate and undeveloped. The reactions to the various statements are summarized below.

ATTITUDE	ENTRIES	MEAN	PERCENTAGE (%)
Strongly Agree	557	55.7	37.1
Agree	446	44.6	30
Neutral	89	8.9	5.9
Disagree	272	27.2	18.1
Strongly Disagree	127	12.7	8.1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>149.1</b>	<b>100</b>

*Table 4.3.1 Forced Displacement and Socio - economic Development*

The results indicated that forced displacement affected socio - economic development in Turkana East sub - county negatively. Rating approval of 67.1% confirmed the above position while 26.2% had a contrary opinion. A mean of 67.1% approval rating for most of elements on this objective was interpreted to mean forced displacement causes loss of life, interfere with housing arrangements in the community, disrupt economic activities, derail education and health services, distorts labor and destroy family assets. Forced displacement caused by inter - ethnic conflicts has therefore caused socio - economic decline in Turkana East sub - county basing on such indicators as accessibility to education, health services, markets, housing infrastructure and the poverty levels in the area studied.

#### **4.3.2 Destruction of Physical Infrastructure and Socio – economic Development in Turkana East Sub - county**

The second objective was to establish the effects of destruction of physical infrastructure on socio - economic development of Turkana East sub - county. A number of statements were given to respondents to react to in relation to destruction of roads, health, education, housing, water, communication, markets, energy and agricultural infrastructure. The reactions to the question whether destruction of physical infrastructure are summarized in the table below;

ATTITUDE	ENTRIES	MEAN	PERCENTAGE (%)
STRONGLY AGREE	803	73	48.7
AGREE	418	38	25.3
NEUTRAL	99	9	6
DISAGREE	176	16	10.7
STRONGLY DISAGREE	154	14	9.3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>150</b>	<b>100</b>

*Table 4.3.2 Destruction of Physical Infrastructure and Socio - economic Development*

From the table above, destruction of physical infrastructure was established to negatively affect socio - economic development in Turkana East. This position has been indicated by 74% approval rating against 20% disapproval rating effectively indicating existence of a direct relationship between physical infrastructure and socio - economic development. Destruction of physical infrastructure therefore points to disruption of movement of people and goods, access to education, health services, clean water for household use, clean energy, food and moderate housing facilities. The study revealed that residents of Turkana East lack access to clean drinking water, clean energy and proper housing which translates into poor standards of living. These are clear indicators of socio - economic decline as widely experienced in Turkana East sub - county.

#### **4.3.3 Trade and Investment and Socio – economic Development in Turkana East**

The third objective to the study was to determine whether disruption of trade and investment caused by inter - ethnic conflicts affected socio - economic development of Turkana East sub - county. The reactions gotten on this objective are summarized in table 4.3.3 below.

ATTITUDE	ENTRIES	MEAN	PERCENTAGE (%)
STRONG AGREE	306	34	22.7
AGREE	423	47	31.3
NEUTRAL	162	18	12

DISAGREE	288	32	21
STRONGLY DISAGREE	171	19	13
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>150</b>	<b>100</b>

*Table 4.3.3 Trade and Investment and Socio - economic Development*

From the results presented above, the approval rating to the question under consideration was 54%. This approval rating is more than half and as such supports the assertion that disruption of trade and investment by inter - ethnic conflicts has caused socio - economic decline in Turkana East sub - county. The dissenting opinion was also significant and was rated at 34%. The significant contrary opinion can be attributed to a number of issues including a feeling that disruption of trade and investment is not the only cause of socio - economic decline in Turkana East sub - county. These results however, indicated there was a relationship between disruption of trade and investment and socio - economic decline with its indicators being high unemployment rates, reduced family incomes, strained relationship among various communities in an area, low levels of community participation in socio - economic development activities and widespread poverty among other undesirable outcomes.

#### **4.3.4 Weakened Institutions and Socio – economic Development in Turkana East Sub - county**

The fourth objective sought to find out whether weakened institutions affected socio - economic development in Turkana East sub - county. To achieve this objective, the respondents were asked to react to statements related to weakened institutions and socio - economic development which included level of competency of national government structures to deal with insecurity in the area, presence and functionality of regulatory authorities, status of community safety and public order, status of health and education institutions in the area and ability of security agencies to deal with cattle rustling. The responses on this objective are summarized in the table below;

<b>ATTITUDE</b>	<b>ENTRIES</b>	<b>MEAN</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE (%)</b>
STRONG AGREE	488	48.8	32.5
AGREE	488	48.8	32.5
NEUTRAL	79	7.9	5.3

DISAGREE	250	25	16.7
STRONGLY DISAGREE	201	20.1	13
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100</b>

*Table 4.3.4 Weakened Institutions and Socio - economic Development*

The responses received, most of respondents agreed that weakened institutions affected socio - economic development of Turkana East sub - county by an approval rating of 65% as opposed to those of contrary opinion which stood at 29.7%. The means of those who approved that weakened institutions have negatively affected socio - economic development in Turkana East sub - county are higher than those who had a contrary opinion. That can be interpreted to mean weakened institutions have a direct relationship with socio - economic decline in Turkana East sub - county..

#### **4.4 Discussion of Results**

This section discusses the results to the study in accordance with the study objectives and research questions as follows;

##### **4.4.1 Effects of Forced Displacement on Socio - Economic Development in Turkana East Sub - county**

Forced displacement as a result of inter -ethnic conflicts affects socio - economic development of Turkana East sub - county directly. This position was affirmed by an approval rating of 67.1% of all the responses received as indicated in table 4.3.1. Forced displacement has resulted in death and other immeasurable deprivations during and after the process of escaping the perils of inter - ethnic conflicts in Turkana East sub - county. The displaced people have seen their lifeline disrupted with a majority hampered from attending to their daily economic activities, accessibility to health and education services, destruction of social fabric and family assets leading to widespread poverty within the community. This finding is consistent with studies by World Vision (2021), iDMC(2021), Tuki, (2022), Sommers (2009) and UN, (2020) who found out that forced displacement negatively impacts on a people's social and economic life. The findings are further validated by studies carried out by Mercier et al, (2020) as cited in Tuki, (2022) who found that violent conflicts necessitate forced displacements which cause destruction of family assets.

The implication of forced displacement is that people are pushed out of their daily engagements into refugee status. The vulnerable position of being displaced puts the affected in a weaker position socially and economically for they have to start living their lives all over again in a new unpredictable environment. The adults have to get new means of livelihood, the children have to adjust to attending school in makeshift structures without enough teachers and learning resources and in some instances are forced to stay away from such services completely. In a nutshell, as put forward by Ndirangu (2020), forced displacement is a barrier to sustainable development and strain communities socially and economically.

#### **4.4.2 Destruction of Physical Infrastructure and Socio - economic Development**

This was the second objective of the study which sought to determine the effects of destruction of physical infrastructure on socio -economic development in Turkana East sub - county. The position that destruction of physical infrastructure negatively affects socio - economic development was affirmed by 74% against disapproval rating of 20% of the respondents as presented in table 4.3.2 above. The key physical infrastructure studied included roads, health, education, housing, water, communication, markets, energy and agricultural infrastructure.

Destruction of education infrastructure has led to high rates of illiteracy in Turkana East Sub - county. In this context, destruction of education infrastructure included vandalism of school property and equipment, occupation of schools by displaced persons and security personnel, abandonment of schools by scared teachers and other workers and preventing children and young adults from accessing learning institutions by armed groups. By any standards, destruction of education infrastructure interferes with accessibility to acquisition of quality education. Many children and young people being out of school due to insecurity caused by inter - ethnic conflicts and destruction of education infrastructure compromises social - economic development of Turkana East sub - county. Compromised access to education compromises the literacy levels in a community which in turn compromises the productivity of the community members on social and economic fronts. These findings are consistent with studies done by Nyang'au, (2019) who found that destruction of schools, vandalism and theft of school property and equipment and general compromise of infrastructure supporting education was common in a conflict situation and negatively affects education outcomes (Wangechi et al 2023) and with the low education outcomes socio - economic development of a community is compromised.

Destruction of transport infrastructure comes with disruption of the chain of distribution. The disruption of chain of distribution has far reaching implications on movement of people and goods. Such a disruption lead to scarcity of goods and interfere with the interaction of people. In Turkana East sub - county, disruption of chain of distribution due to destruction of roads has led to food insecurity, interfered with business and investment in an area and hampered free interaction of people. The net effects of destruction of physical infrastructure in Turkana East, which has continued to make the area inaccessible, are unemployment, food insecurity and general lack of goods and services in the community. These findings are consistent to what Assem, (2019) established that destruction of physical infrastructure disrupt trading activities, lead to low production arising from increased costs of raw materials and disruption of labour market hence socio - economic decline. Destruction and insecure roads in Turkana East as led socio - economic decline in the area.

Many health facilities in Turkana East have either been destroyed, vandalized or too insecure to operate. The security threats in the area have made medical staff, most of whom come from out of Turkana, to flee to safer places leaving the few health facilities unattended to. Destruction of health infrastructure has led to compromised wellness and wholeness of the community in Turkana East sub - county that children with nutritional challenges could easily be identified. Many children miss out on immunization and as such become susceptible to childhood diseases which threaten their lives and prospects of being socially and economically productive in future. Ill health influence productivity of a community negatively. These results are consistent to studies done in Mozambique by Rohin etal (2021), which established that burning and looting of health infrastructure during a conflict situation has a big effect on accessibility of health services and consequent productivity of the people in the affected areas.

Destruction of houses has worsened housing situation in Turkana East sub - county. During conflicts houses were torched while others were flattened. In some instances, when the huts, 'manyattas' are left unattended to by the fleeing people they simply collapse. Worsened housing conditions have caused congestion and exposure to harsh climatic conditions leading to compromised health conditions of the people displaced by conflicts in Turkana East sub - county. It has compromised social relationships where people of different social status have to live

together in makeshift houses with probability of upsetting societal norms. The poor housing status therefore is an indicator of social - economic decline in Turkana East sub - county.

Destruction of such critical infrastructure like water supply, telecommunication and energy infrastructure out of inter - ethnic conflicts has a very depressing effect on socio - economic development of Turkana East sub - county. It was established that communication and energy infrastructure are in constant attack and vandalization in Turkana East sub - county. Water points, boreholes, have become key source of conflicts in the area that some have been abandoned and remain in a state of disrepair. The run down water points have led to scarcity of enough and safe water to be used by households exposing the residents to various health challenges. People have to travel long distances to get water hence wasting time which could otherwise be used in socio - economic development activities.

In a nutshell, destruction of physical infrastructure affect people's interaction, diminish their health, kill some economic sectors, like Jua Kali sector, which creates employment to many people and copromises social - economic development in Turkana East sub - county.

#### **4.4.3 Disruption of Trade and Investment and Socio - economic Development**

This objective sought to find out whether disruption of trade and investment influence socio - economic development in Turkana East Sub - county. From table 4.3.3 above, by 54% approval rating, disruption of trade and investment was identified as a factor leading to socio - economic decline in Turkana East sub - county. Such a disruption occasioned by physical destruction of business entities, disruption of purchasing power of the people who get displaced and have their income generating activities destroyed, slow business volume destroys an economy of an area. These findings were in concurrence with the findings by IGC, (2016) which indicated that conflicts cause capital flight, increases cost of doing business and cause economic uncertainty. It should however be noted that 32.2% had a contrary opinion. The 32.2% contrary opinion is significant and need to be qualified. In a conflict situation, demand for given commodities increases and specific line of production like manufacture of arms and war related equipment may have a booming business. During inter - ethnic conflicts in Turkana East sub - county, the sale of weapons, sometimes through barter trade, increases. In addition to arms, food products

and water also see increased demand in the region. However, in the context of Turkana East Sub - county, inter - conflicts are an impediment and not an enhancer to trade and investment.

Disruption of trade and investment has led to high levels of unemployment and reduced incomes to families. This is in line with the findings by Thai - Ha et al, (2022) that high intensity of conflicts hindered economic performance hence high levels of unemployment. According to World Bank,(2023) trade is an engine of job creation, poverty reduction and increases economic activity and its disruption therefore has very negative effects on socio - economic development of an area.

The implication of disruption of trade and investment therefore is high levels of unemployment, collapse of markets, poverty, disrupted chain of distribution and depressed economic lifeline of a community as established by Collier, (1999) as cited in Thai - Ha et al, (2022) on the effects of violent conflict on economic productivity of a community.

#### **4.4.4 Weakened Institutions and Socio - economic Development**

This was the fourth objective which sought to investigate the effects of weakened institutions on socio - economic development of Turkana East Sub - county. From the outcomes recorded in table 4.3.4, it was evident that inter - ethnic conflicts weaken institutions of social and economic governance by a 65% approval rating. Weak government presence in Turkana East Sub - county has led to poor community safety and public disorder. This finding is consistent with what Kumar et al, (2018) found out that conflicts affected rule of law and public order.

Some of serious implication of weakened institutions on human society include, but not limited to, compromised educational access and standards which according to Omoeva et al, (2018), happens when teachers and students are displaced, education materials are destroyed and education infrastructure is either destroyed or occupied by internally displaced persons as temporal shelter. That lead to disrupted delivery on educational programs hence depressing literacy levels and skill acquisition among the community members. Depressed literacy level is an indicator of socio - economic decline within a community.

Increased infant mortality and ill-health among the community members in Turkana East sub - county can be attributed to weakened and nonfunctional health institutions and facilities. Poor

health implies people will have no physical capacity to gainfully participate in social and economic development activities and that much resources at the household, county and national level will have to be channeled in treating diseases than developing the local economy.

The study sought to establish whether issuance of trade permits, ensuring of public health standards, compliance with set standards on the sale and use of petroleum products and drugs were being done according to the law. That was done to establish the functionality of regulatory institutions. When the regulatory institutions are not working properly, standards get compromised putting the residents' lives at risk by exposing them to non - standard products

In a nutshell, as the results of the study have shown by 65% approval rating, weakened institutions lead to social and economic decline. These results are consistent to studies done by IMF, (2017) that conflicts lead to deterioration of social and economic governance institutions making them unable to deal with the current demands in the community. Weakened institutions make the cost of capital to go high, impairs ability of regulatory bodies to do their work well and make political institutions fail to do their work accordingly. With weakened institutions comes insecurity, political instability and ultimately social - economic decline.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.0 Introduction**

This chapter presents the summary to the findings, conclusion, recommendations for practise, beneficiaries and other stakeholders. It also presents recommendations for further study in this subject area.

#### **5.1 Summary of Findings**

This study investigated the effects of inter - ethnic conflicts on socio - economic development of Turkana East sub - county of Turkana County in North - western Kenya. In its study, four objectives were utilized to achieve the purpose of the study.

The first objective was to investigate the effects of forced displacement on socio - economic development on Turkana East sub - county. As indicated in table 4.3.1, the respondents gave approval rating of 67.1% to various statements positively linking forced displacement to socio - economic decline in Turkana East sub - county. The contrary opinion stood at 32.9%. on the basis of what was being researched, it was established forced displacement caused loss of life and human suffering, housing problems, disrupted economic activities, destroyed social fabric, disrupted health and education services and greatly violated children's rights in Turkana East sub - county. It was therefore established by a majority, 67.1%, that forced displacement as occasioned by inter - ethnic conflicts, negatively affected socio - economic development in Turkana East sub - county.

On the issue of whether destruction of physical infrastructure like roads, learning institutions, health facilities, housing infrastructure , water, communication, markets, energy and agricultural

infrastructure it was asserted 74% against an opposing opinion of 20%, that it leads to declined socio - economic development in Turkana East sub - county. Given physical infrastructure supports development, its derailment negatively impacts development of a region.

At approval rating of 54%, it was established that disruption of trade and investments negatively affected socio - economic development in Turkana East sub - county. That it caused high rates of unemployment, reduced family incomes, led to low community participation in trading activities which also doubles as enhancers of social interaction and as a result lead to widespread poverty in the sub - county.

The study also sought to establish whether weakened institutions affected socio - economic development in Turkana East sub - county. It was ascertained by a 65% approval rating against 29.7% of a contrary opinion that indeed weakened institutions negatively affected socio - economic development of Turkana East sub - county. Weak national administration structures, poorly resourced security agencies, unstable community safety and public order in the area among other issues were found to be the weak link in having strong functional socio - economic governance institutions in Turkana East sub - county.

In a nutshell, forced displacement, destruction of physical infrastructure, disruption of trade and investment and weakened institutions caused by inter - ethnic conflicts led to socio - economic decline in Turkana East sub - county and their effects were manifest through high levels of deaths and human suffering in the area, low literacy levels, low levels of investment in the area, poor and inadequate provision of health services and disrupted chains of distribution among other inconveniences caused to the residents in the study area.

## **5.2 Conclusion**

This study investigated the effects of inter - ethnic conflicts on socio - economic development using cross - sectional survey with a view of getting information to be used in explaining social and economic conditions of the residents of Turkana East Sub - county in Turkana County. The study sought to investigate the effects of forced displacement, destruction of physical infrastructure, disruption of trade and investment and weakened institutions on socio - economic development of Turkana East Sub - county. The study established that forced displacement, destruction of physical infrastructure, disruption of trade and investment and weakened

institutions all affected socio - economic development in Turkana East sub - county negatively by 67.1%, 74%, 54% and 65% approval rating respectively. Inter - ethnic conflicts therefore have a depressing effect on literacy levels, employment rates, community safety, mortality rates and poverty levels in Turkana East Sub - county. On the basis of above findings, it can be concluded that inter - ethnic conflicts have led to socio - economic decline in Turkana East sub - county.

### **5.3 Recommendations**

To address the depressing effects of inter - ethnic conflicts on socio - economic development in Turkana East sub - county, the following recommendations should be considered by appropriate duty - bearers.

#### **5.3.1 Recommendation for Practise**

The national government should come in to deal with the forced displacement. Proper and enough security arrangements should be made so as to prevent forced displacement from occurring. This can be done by running peace building initiatives in affected areas through established government structures. The national administration officers, that is, the county commissioner's and all officers in that rank and file, be equipped with conflict resolution and peace building skills so as to prevent occurrence of inter - ethnic conflicts which bring about forced displacement. If by any case forced displacement do occur, measures should be put in place to mitigate its negative effects. For instance, the national government through the ministry of education should consider running mobile schools to minimize the disruption of the displaced children's education. The county government of Turkana should consider having mobile clinics to offer medical services to displaced populations and ensure those children who are displaced are fully vaccinated. The national government in collaboration with the county government of Turkana should consider establishing temporal safe places for the displaced persons from where they can receive psychosocial support, reunification of families and treatment for those who get injured in the process of fleeing from the inter - ethnic conflicts.

The Ministry of Interior and National Administration should consider deploying Critical Infrastructure Protection Unit to secure critical infrastructure in Turkana East so as to protect it from vandalism and wanton destruction during inter - ethnic conflicts. There should be increased surveillance along Chemoligot - Lokori corridor to detect and respond to any threats caused to

physical infrastructure in the area. The government, both at the County and national level, should further consider improving the infrastructure in the area to increase accessibility and open more opportunities for the local community. Such a move will diversify economic activities in the area and shift attention from things which stir inter - ethnic conflicts and threaten infrastructural development in Turkana East sub - county. Improvement on existing and construction of new infrastructure, mainly schools, health facilities and roads, should be made a matter of priority. If more children and young people are going to be kept in school and literacy levels increased, the prevalence of inter - ethnic conflicts is likely to decline and, that will be beneficial for socio - economic development. The government, both at county and national level should carry out a campaign to have the local community members participating in securing the critical infrastructure in the region.

To enhance trade and investment in Turkana East sub - county, the security situation must be improved so as to gain investors confidence to invest in the area. The national police service should enhance their presence in the area and enforce the rule of law. The security situation can be further enhanced by having the community members participate in ensuring law and order through such initiatives as Nyumba Kumi and Community policing. The county government of Turkana should consider reconstructing damaged business infrastructure like markets and access roads with an aim of increasing trade and investment volumes in Turkana East sub - county.

Institutional strengthening and reform of existing government and community institutions should be prioritized. Improving the capacity of socio - economic governing institutions is a prerequisite to wholesome development of communities. The security forces in Turkana East sub - county should be properly resourced with appropriate and adequate equipment to do their work. The health, education and other socio - economic governing institutions should be properly resourced to ensure they are functioning at their full capacity.

The government, national and county, through the relevant governance organs should consider formulating and implementing wholesome security policies that adequately address security concerns in Turkana East Sub - county and the entire north - rift region. The policy formulated should address issues to do with response and interventions to inter - ethnic conflicts. The policy framework should consider deployment of adequate security agents in the area to serve as a deterrence to crime, interventions to ensure continuity of key social services like education and

health whenever there is forced displacement, surveillance and monitoring of security situation and even provision of safe spaces where displaced persons can temporary be accommodated as the conflict situation is being managed.

Improving the security situation and opening up Turkana East Sub - county by constructing critical infrastructure is a prerequisite for attraction of trade and investment in the area. Enhanced trade and investment activities will lead to diversification of economic activities leading to a significant shift from animal rearing as the most important economic activity in the area to more sustainable sources of livelihoods. Noting that trade and investment creates employment, enhances access to goods and services and opens up an area to the outside world, hence enhancing socio - economic development, creating a good business and investment environment may just be the answer to the incessant inter - ethnic conflicts and their negative effects on socio - economic development of Turkana East Sub - county.

Revitalization of local forms of conflict resolution structures such as the council of elders and enhanced social accountability forums help to deal with issues immediately as they come out. Strengthening community security structures like the Nyumba Kumi initiative and community policing should be considered a priority for they have the capacity to promote community safety and order hence promotion of socio - economic development.

### **5.3.2 Recommendation to Beneficiaries**

The affected communities on the either side of the divide to consider reviving and revitalization of such social structures as family and kinship ties so as to easily and effectively accommodate victims of forced displacement caused by inter - ethnic conflicts. Such community structures should receive the recognition they deserve so as to help in dealing with effects of inter - ethnic conflicts on socio - economic development sustainably.

Destruction of physical infrastructure and its effects can be managed by the use of common infrastructure such as markets, schools, health facilities and sporting facilities. Sharing of facilities cushion physical infrastructure from destruction by either side because the feeling of mutual benefit or loss. Sharing of infrastructure and facilities should be encouraged for it works as a deterrent to destruction of such facilities and provide an opportunity for children of warring

communities to interact and appreciate each other hence enhanced community safety and public order.

The community members and leaders to consider revitalizing community initiatives and institutions necessary for managing inter - ethnic conflicts and its effects on socio - economic development in Turkana East Sub - county. Such institutions as the council of elders, youth and women groups should be used to realize peace and tranquility in the society.

The community members should consider reestablishing and strengthening traditional social and economic institutions like the council of elders for enhanced stability in the society. The problematic age structure of morans among the Pokot community should be used to train the youths to uphold law and order and given they are at the center of conflicts they should be encouraged to venture into other areas of socio - economic empowerment including but not limited to formal education, pursuing formal employment and inter - ethnic relationships so as to avert the commission of crimes like cattle rustling which cause socio - economic decline in Turkana East Sub - county. Alternative security arrangements like the nyumba kumi and community policing initiatives should be embraced to enhance community safety and public order in Turkana East Sub - county as a move towards securing a conducive environment for socio - economic development.

### **5.3.3 Recommendation to other Stakeholders**

The stakeholders here include non - governmental organizations, religious organizations and civil societies. Non - state actors can also build temporal safe shelters for the displaced people in Turkana East Sub - county. This can go hand in hand with peace zones with peace keepers taking charge so as to accommodate victims of forced displacement. Such a move will provide an opportunity for psycho-social and material support to victims of forced displacement and cushion them from further physical and mental harm. That will help them recover quickly and go back to active participation in socio - economic development activities.

The non - governmental organizations should supplement the government's efforts in protection and preservation of physical infrastructure by carrying out awareness campaigns articulating the importance of physical infrastructure in socio - economic development. Incentives can also be given to community members to encourage them to protect critical infrastructure in their areas.

Non - state actors to participate in strengthening governance institutions for socio - economic development. Capacity building of such structures and institutions on ways of response and intervention will go along way in mitigating the effects of inter - ethnic conflicts on socio - economic development in Turkana East sub - county. They can also resource such weakened institutions so as to make them competent enough in executing their mandates.

#### **5.4 Recommendation for Further Research**

To enhance the understanding of the effects of inter - ethnic conflicts on socio - economic development, it will be important for a study to be carried out involving a larger geographical region like the North - Rift region or the entire country. The bigger the study location the higher the levels of confidence and liability of the the research study.

Future studies may also consider looking at the effects of inter - ethnic conflicts on specific elements of social and economic well being of the society. For instance a more deep research can be conducted to determine the effects of inter - ethnic conflicts on education, health services and other socio - economic aspects in Kenya.

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## APPENDICES

### QUESTIONNAIRE FOR RESPONDENTS

#### Note to the Respondent

I am a student at Mount Kenya University undertaking a research study on “**Inter - ethnic Conflicts and Socio - economic Development in Turkana East Sub - County, Kenya**”. The data collected for this study will be used strictly for academic purposes. Kindly rate your level of agreement with the following statements on: Effects of Inter - ethnic Conflicts on Socio - economic Development in Turkana East Sub - county, Kenya

#### PART A: Respondent’s Background Information

- |    |   |                           |     |
|----|---|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. | <b>Gender</b>                           | Male                      | [ ] |
|    |   | Female                    | [ ] |
| 2. | <b>Age</b>                              | Below 30 years            | [ ] |
|    |   | 31 -45 years              | [ ] |
|    |   | Above 46 years            | [ ] |
| 3. | <b>Position</b>                         | Youth leader              | [ ] |
|    |   | Council of elder          | [ ] |
|    |   | Women leader              | [ ] |
|    |   | Government Administrator  | [ ] |
|    |   | NGO Official              | [ ] |
|    |   | Business Community member | [ ] |
| 4. | <b>Time spent in Turkana East sub -</b> | Less than 5 years         | [ ] |

**County**

5 -10 years [ ]

Above 10 years [ ]

5. **Highest Educational Qualifications** ..... [ ]

**Part B: Effects of Forced Displacement on Social - economic development of Turkana East Sub - County.**

Rank the following statements. Kindly use a scale of 1 – 5 where 1= strongly disagree and 5= strongly agree

	<b>Items</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
		<b>S</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>S</b>
		<b>A</b>				<b>D</b>
1	Forced displacement causes loss of life and human suffering in Turkana East sub - county					
2	Poor housing conditions are prevalent in the destination area as a result of forced displacement					
3	Disruption of economic activities and constant movement of people has caused unemployment in Turkana East sub - county					
4	Forced displacement has destroyed social fabric in Turkana East sub - county					
5	Access to education in Turkana East sub – county has been disrupted by forced displacement					
6	Displacement has interfered with health services in Turkana East Sub - county					
7	Displacement has led to violation of children’s rights in Turkana East sub – county					
8	Forced displacement has led to depopulation hence shortage of labor in Turkana East sub - county					
9	Destruction of family assets and widespread poverty is a hallmark of forced displacement in Turkana East sub - county					
10	Forced displacement has left many areas in Turkana East desolate and					

undeveloped					
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**PART C: Effects of Destruction Physical Infrastructure on Socio – economic Development**

Please tick one choice for each of the following statements on the: effects of destruction of physical infrastructure on socio - economic Development in Turkana East Sub - county. Kindly use a scale of 1 – 5 where 1= strongly disagree, and 5= strongly agree

	Items	5 SA	4 A	3 N	2 D	1 S D
1	Destruction of basic education infrastructure across Turkana East sub – county has led to high levels of illiteracy in the area					
2	Destruction of roads has led to low disruption of channels of distribution of goods and services causing scarcity in everything					
3	Destruction of health infrastructure has exacerbated the problem of malnutrition and infant mortality rates in Turkana East sub - county					
4	Burning of houses has worsened housing conditions in Turkana East sub – county					
5	Destruction of road infrastructure has led to problems in movement of people and goods in Turkana East sub - county					
6	Destruction of water infrastructure has led to water scarcity in Turkana East sub - county					
7	Destruction of telecommunication masts cause communication problems within Turkana East sub - county					
8	Energy infrastructure vandalism causes power outages and closing of businesses in Turkana East sub - county					
9	Destruction of police posts has reduced the efficiency of police officers to respond to security issues in Turkana East sub - county					
10	Destruction of markets has slowed trade and caused unemployment					

	in Turkana East sub - county					
11	Destruction of agricultural infrastructure causes food insecurity and poverty in Turkana East sub - county					

**PART C: Effects of Disruption of Trade and Investment on Socio – economic Development**

Please tick one choice for each of the following statements on the: effects of disruption of trade and investment by inter -ethnic conflicts on socio - economic Development in Turkana East Sub - county. Kindly use a scale of 1 – 5 where 1= strongly disagree, and 5= strongly agree

	<b>Items</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
		<b>S</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>S</b>
		<b>A</b>				<b>D</b>
1	Trade and investment are disrupted by inter – ethnic conflicts in Turkana East sub - county					
2	The residents of Turkana East are able to trade their livestock with their neighbors and earn a living from trading activities					
3	Disruption of trade and investment activities has led to acute unemployment in Turkana East sub - county					
4	There is inadequate access to goods and services following disruption of trade and investment					
5	Disruption of trade and investment has led to collapse of many market centers in Turkana East					
6	The security of Turkana East has improved following flourishing trade and investment activities in the area					
7	Disruption of trade and investment activities in Turkana East sub – county has led to high poverty levels					
8	Disruption of trade and investment has led to low levels of community participation in socio – economic development activities					
9	I am satisfied with the level and contribution of trade and investment activities to social economic development of Turkana East					

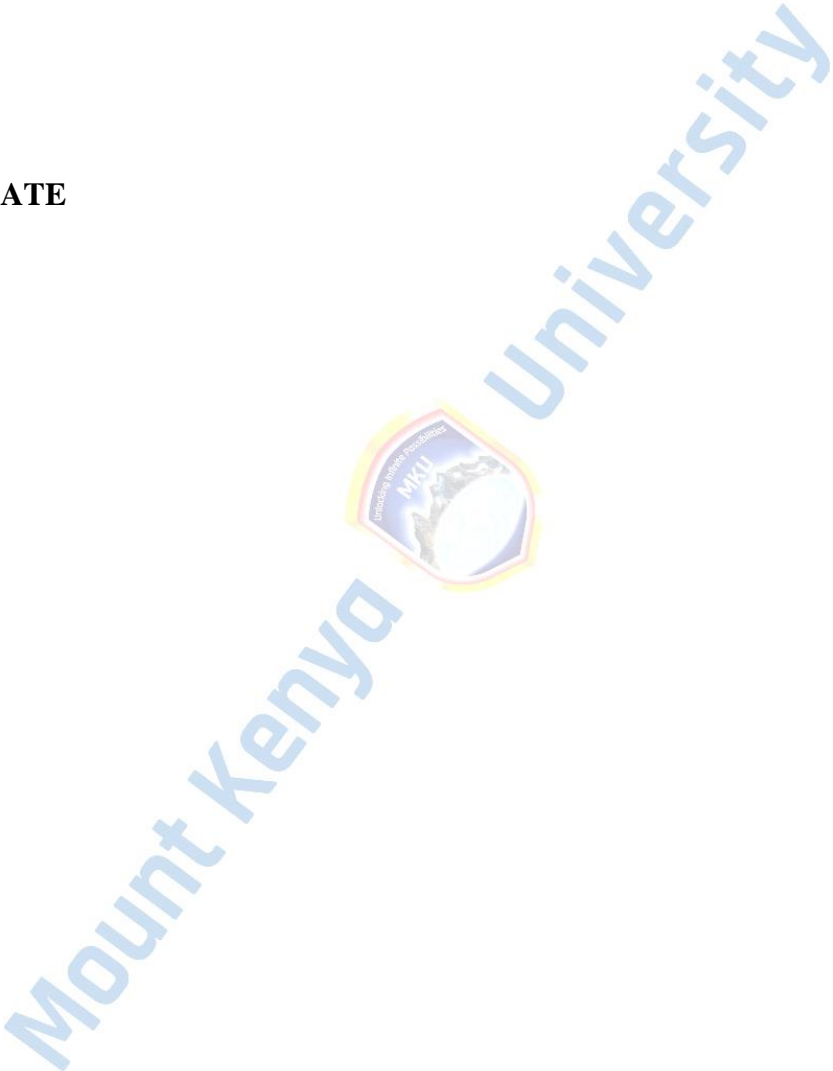
**PART E: Weakened Institutions and Socio – economic Development**

Please tick one choice for each of the following statements on the: Weakened Institutions and socio - economic Development in Turkana East Sub - county. Kindly use a scale of 1 – 5 where 1= strongly disagree, and 5= strongly agree

	<b>Item</b>	<b>S A</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>S D</b>
1	Inter – ethnic violence has weakened public institutions in Turkana East sub - county					
2	The national government administration structures are able to contain insecurity situation in Turkana sub - county					
3	The regulatory institutions are intact and support trade and investment in Turkana East sub - county					
4	The low police presence contribute to poor community safety and public order in Turkana East sub - county					
5	Weakened institutions have caused economic decline in Turkana East sub - county					
6	Weak security agencies fails to deal with cattle rustling which lead to death and loss of property in Turkana East sub - county					
7	Community safety and public order are frequently disrupted by inter – ethnic conflicts in Turkana East.					
8	There are high infant mortality rates in Turkana East sub – county due to weakened health institutions					
9	Weak education institutions have led to disruption in education causing high illiteracy levels in Turkana East sub - county					
10	Inaccessibility to judicial services has led to slow resolution of					

	commercial disputes in Turkana East sub – county leading collapse of trade and investment hence high levels of unemployment.					
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

**ERC CERTIFICATE**



# Mount Kenya University



REF: MKU/ISERC/4524  
TO: JUMBA DERICK MALUHA

Date: 28 October 2024

REG: MDS/2021/79106

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: INTER-ETHNIC CONFLICTS AND SOCIO - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN TURKANA EAST SUB-COUNTY - KENYA**

This is to inform you that **Mount Kenya University** has reviewed and approved your above research proposal. Your application approval number is **3246**. The approval period is **28/10/2024 - 27/10/2025**.

This approval is subject to compliance with the following requirements:

- i. Only approved documents including informed consents, study instruments, MTA will be used
- ii. All changes including amendments, deviations and violations are submitted for review and approval by **Mount Kenya University**
- iii. Death and life-threatening problems and serious adverse events or unexpected adverse events whether related or unrelated to the study must be reported to **Mount Kenya University** within 72 hours of notification
- iv. Any changes, anticipated or otherwise that may increase the risks or affect the safety or welfare of study participants and others or affect the integrity of the research must be reported to **Mount Kenya University** within 72 hours
- v. Clearance for export of biological specimens must be obtained from relevant institutions
- vi. Submission of a request for renewal of approval at least 60 days prior to expiry of the approval period. Attach a comprehensive progress report to support the renewal
- vii. Submission of an executive summary report within 90 days upon completion of the study to **Mount Kenya University**

Prior to commencing your study, you will be expected to obtain a research license from National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) <https://research-portal.nacosti.go.ke> and also obtain other clearances needed.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Alfred Owino, PhD  
Chairman, Mount Kenya University ISERC

MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY  
ETHICS REVIEW COMMITTEE  
P. O. Box 342 - 01000,  
THIKA

Main Campus, General Kago Road, P.O. Box 342-01000 Thika.  
Cell: +254 709 153 000 / +254 709 153 200  
Email: [info@mku.ac.ke](mailto:info@mku.ac.ke), Web: [www.mku.ac.ke](http://www.mku.ac.ke)

**INTRODUCTION LETTER FROM THE UNIVERSITY**

**DIRECTORATE OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

MDS/2021/79106

28<sup>th</sup> October, 2024

National Commission for Science Technology & Innovation (NACOSTI)  
Off Waiyaki Way, Upper Kabete,  
P.O Box 30623- 00100  
NAIROBI, KENYA

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: JUMBA DERICK MALUHA - REGISTRATION NO. MDS/2021/79106**


The purpose of this letter is to introduce the above named student who is pursuing Master of Arts in Development Studies in the department of Social and Development Studies in the school of Social Sciences.

The title of the research is "Inter-Ethnic Conflicts and Socio - Economic Development in Turkana East Sub-County, Kenya." It has been cleared by the University's Ethics Review Committee (Certificate attached) and now has to proceed to the field to collect data between November, 2024 and January, 2025.

Any assistance accorded to the student will be highly appreciated.

Thank you.

For

  
Dr. Samuel M. Karenga, Ph.D  
Director, Graduate Studies  
Enc.

Mount Kenya University  
P.O. Box 342 - 01000, THIKA  
Office of the Director  
Graduate Studies



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR  
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

Ref No: 590458

Date of Issue: 13/November/2024

### RESEARCH LICENSE



This is to Certify that Mr.. DERICK JUMBA MALUHA of Mount Kenya University, has been licensed to conduct research as per the provision of the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, 2013 (Rev.2014) in Turkana on the topic: INTER - ETHNIC CONFLICT AND SOCIO - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN TURKANA EAST SUB - COUNTY - KENYA for the period ending : 13/November/2025.

License No: NACOSTI/P/24/42177

590458

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See overleaf for conditions

**TURN - IT - IN REPORT**

# INTER-ETHNIC CONFLICTS AND SOCIO - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN TURKANA EAST SUB-COUNTY - KENYA

ORIGINALITY REPORT

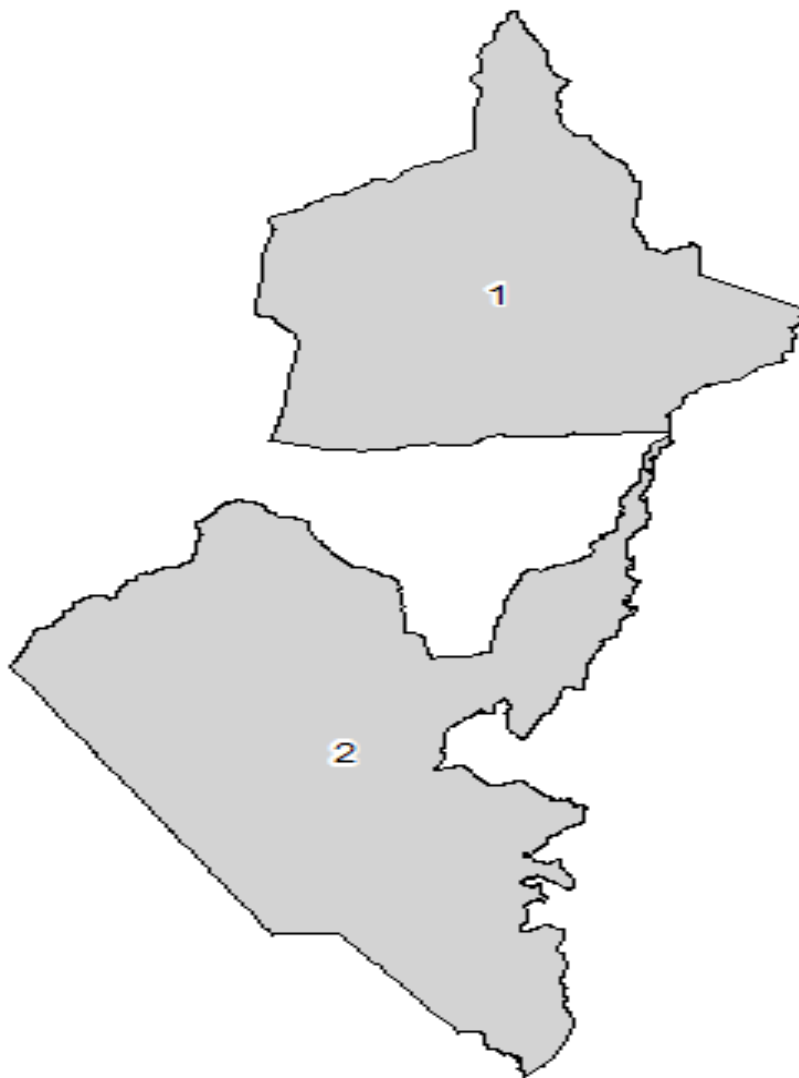
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15	<a href="http://etd.aau.edu.et">etd.aau.edu.et</a> Internet Source	<1%

## RESEARCH SITE MAP - TURKANA EAST SUB - COUNTY



0 10 km

gadm.org

**KEY:**

**1 - Katilia**

**2- Kapedo/Napeitom region.**