

**IMPACT OF PASTORALIST MOVEMENT ON THE SUSTAINABILITY OF  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS – A CASE STUDY OF THE DAASANACH  
COMMUNITY IN ILLERET, MARSABIT COUNTY**

**BY**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The study on the impact of pastoralist movement on the sustainability of development projects was conducted between December 2014 and May 2015. The prominence of mobility as an adaptive tool to the diverse Daasanach pastoralist ecosystem is the principle focus of the research. The study adapted the simple random sampling method through use of household based questionnaires, supplemented by focused group discussions and key informants dialoguing. In addition, purposive sampling techniques were used to select key informants for interviews.

Qualitative and quantitative data was collected using semi-structured questionnaire and focused group discussions respectively. Descriptive statistics that entails use of frequency tables, graphs and pie charts was employed in data analysis. The study established that the Daasanach movement could have strong potential to affect development projects negatively from the study area. It established that as pastoralists migrate from one site to another, the implemented projects would have nobody to attend or even at times utilize once the target populations moves away. This means, target populations cheaply abandon projects leaving them vulnerable to turmoil and waste.

When target community moves away from projects locations, the projects remain exposed to vandalism and devastation. The causes of the movement are largely internal, rebellious forces emanating from and or within the target community owing to their strong tradition's practices. The study revealed that high illiteracy level contributes to community ignorance on the importance of the modern technologies including community alternative development Aids and formal education for present and future generations. The Daasanach due to illiteracy of the adult population does not recognize education, which is the backbone of sustainable development for the 21st century going forward. This aspect is strongly propelled by strong traditions and cultural practices amongst the Daasanach community.

Recommendations made include use of Bottom-up (participatory) approach in development programs, need to minimize (control) pastoralist mobility and capacity building of the Daasanach community to realize their full potential.