

Community Natural Resource Planning in Karamoja

ECHO East Africa Symposium on:

“ Best Practices in Pastoralist Areas ”

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MAP Int'l - Uganda



Karamoja, Statistics

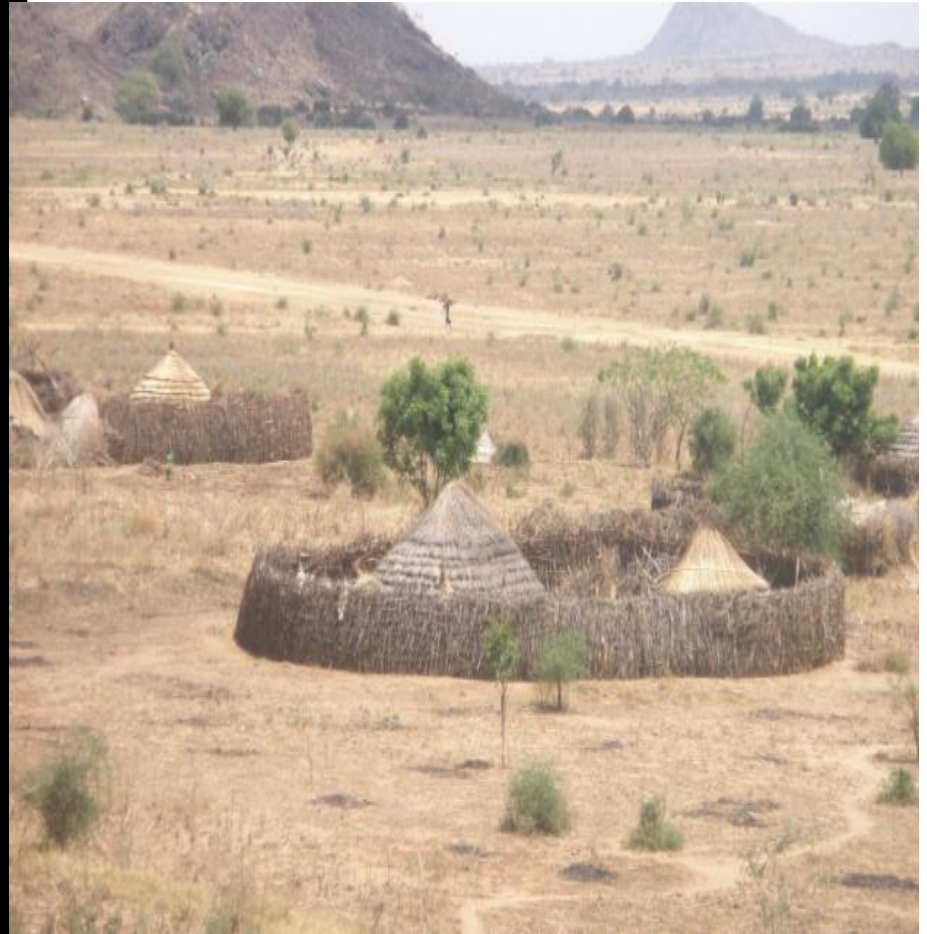
- The Karamoja sub-region is one of the rural areas with a high level of poverty.
- The region, lies on the western edge of the great Eastern rift valley in the north east corner of Uganda and is flanked by Kenya to the East and South Sudan to the north.
- The region comprised seven districts including; *Moroto, Kotido, Kaabong, Abim, Amudat and Napak and Nakapiripirit.*
- The sub-region covers an area of 27,511 sq.km equivalent to almost one third of Uganda's land surface with a population of 1,107,308 which is less than 20% of Uganda's population.
- The sub-region is distinct both culturally and geographically from the rest of Uganda
- The landscape is semi arid savannah, grassland and acacia wooded hills punctuated by volcanic mountains including Mt. Kadam, Mt.Moroto and Mt.Napak.
- The harsh climate that is dry, hot with seasonal rainfall dictates the nomadic agro-pastoralist lifestyle of the inhabitants who are the Nilotic Karamojong.
- The Nilotic Karimojong includes ethnic groups of the; *Dodoth, Jie, Pokot, Bokora, Matheniko, Pian, Tepeth, Nyakwe, Iik, Ngiporein and Ethur.*
- The region has the highest level of poverty above the national average with 82% of the total population living in poverty.
- The districts found in the Karamoja sub-region have a higher Human Poverty Index (HPI) than other districts in the country and in 2005, Kaabong, Abim and Kotido had HPI of 65.3. Moroto and Nakapiripirit had HPI of 60.7 and 56 respectively (UNDP Report, 2007). The closer the Human Poverty Index is to 0, the better progress of the district and absence of human poverty, while the closer the HPI to 100, the more deprived the population (ibid.59).

Introduction...

- Two agricultural zones; the green belt which can support some limited agriculture and an agro-pastoral zone known for animal keeping and practicing limited agriculture.
- Rainfall is generally limited, unpredictable and unevenly distributed with an average annual rainfall of 400 mm in the east and 1,000 mm in the west of the region
- Given the climatic conditions of the district, it heavily depends on food produced by neighboring districts of Teso and Acholi, Bugishu in addition to international food aid
- There are seasonal rains between April-August characterized by heavy downpours, storms and occasional floods and heavy surface run-off

Introduction

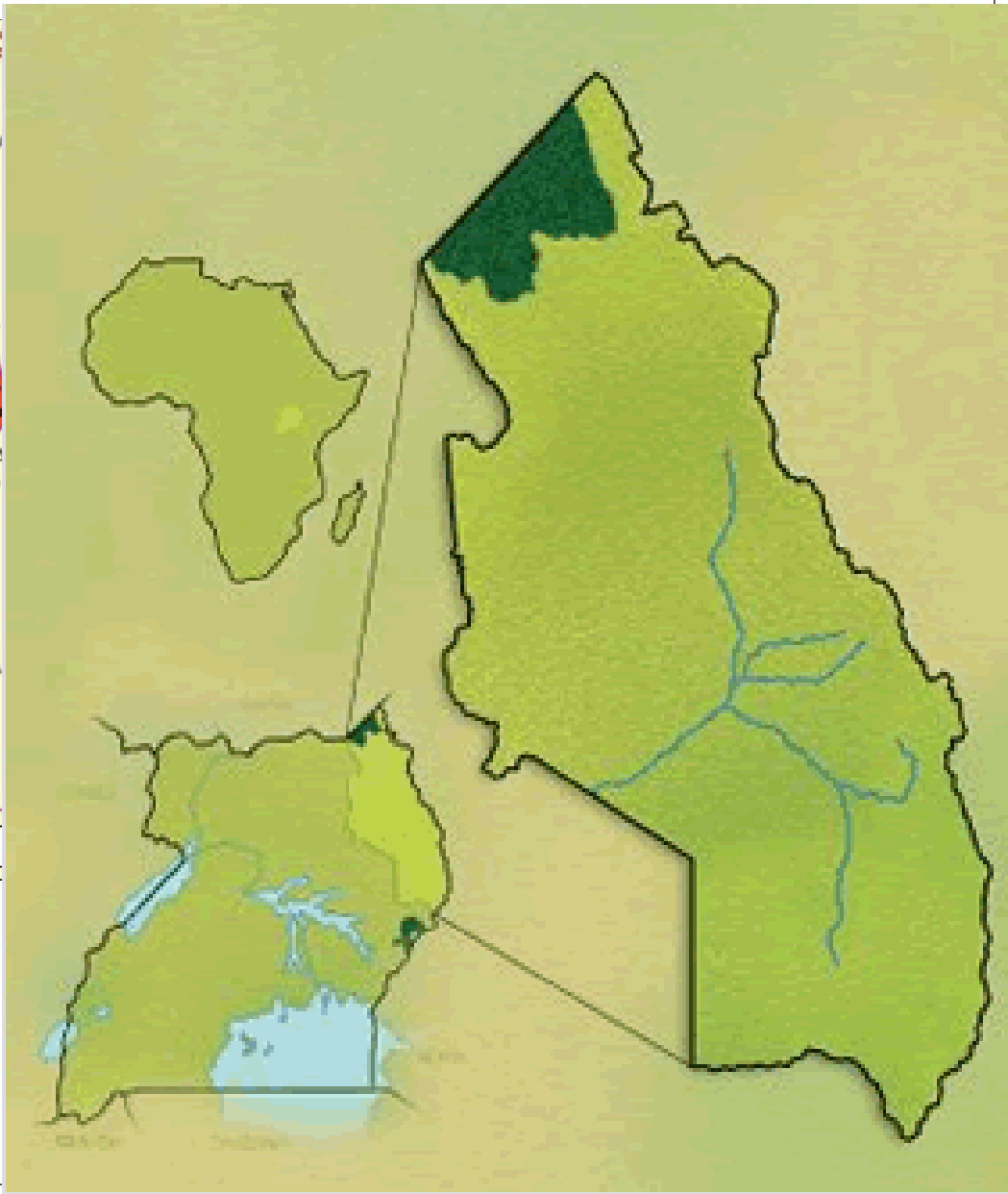
- The traditionally predominant pastoral population is currently in a difficult transition phase towards an agro-pastoral way of life.
- The inhabitants of the villages already have some experience with agriculture-crop farming, and are increasingly settling in new areas due to the improved security situation
- Drought has become more frequent and severe



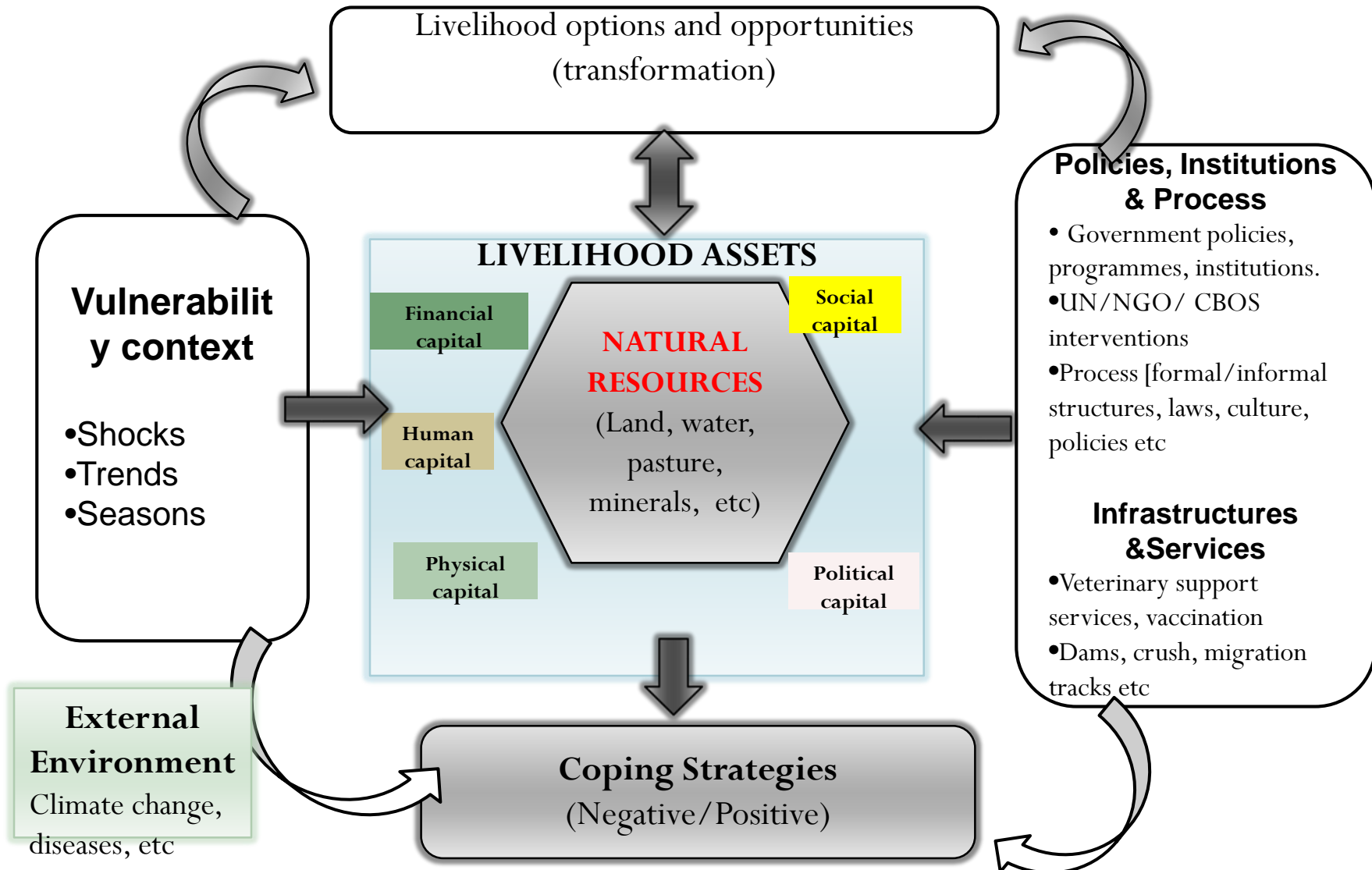
Introduction...

- The Agro-pastoral and pastoral systems is highly heterogeneous, but they have one outstanding commonality: mobility of livestock as an adaptive tool to the varying ecological conditions in the region.
- Among the Karimojong, any factor that threatens livestock also threatens their lives, because livestock defines their way of life.
- Pastoralism among the Karimojong cannot be understood independently from natural resources, access to land and environmental factors

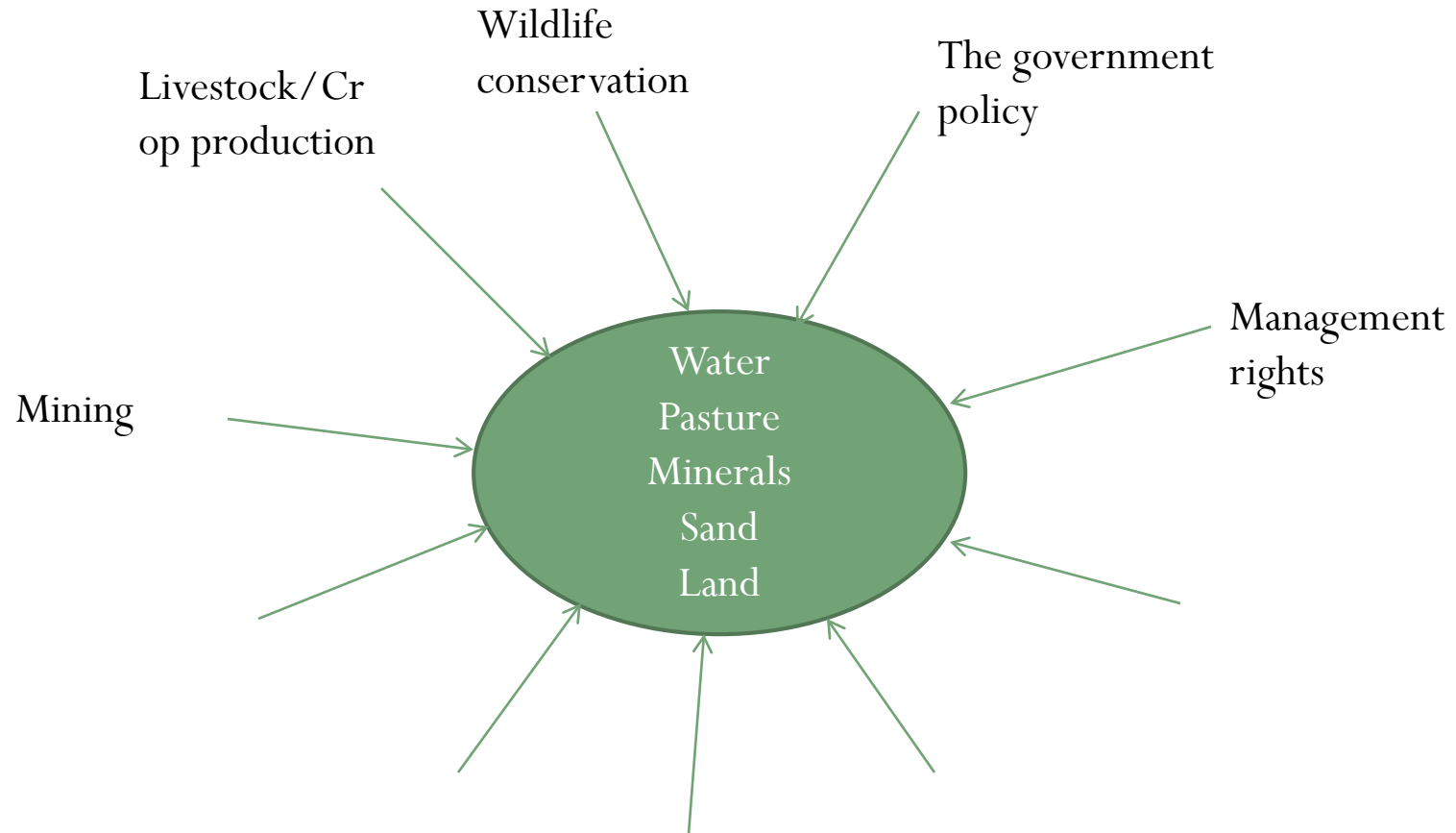
Karamoja



Sustainable livelihoods analysis of natural resource conflict



The Natural resource Conflict Web



Water and Pasture Resource-Mapping

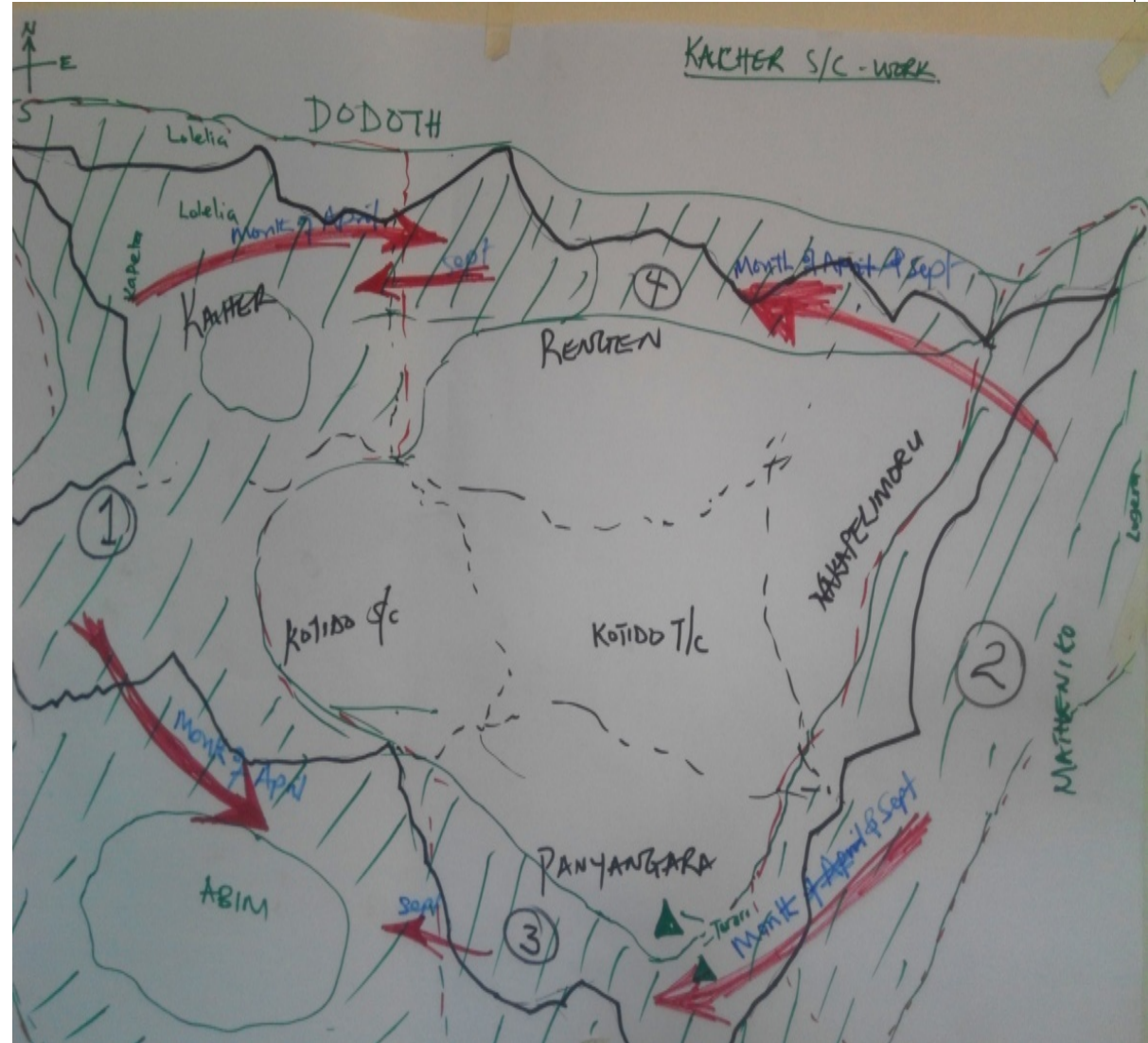


Mapping out of Grazing routes

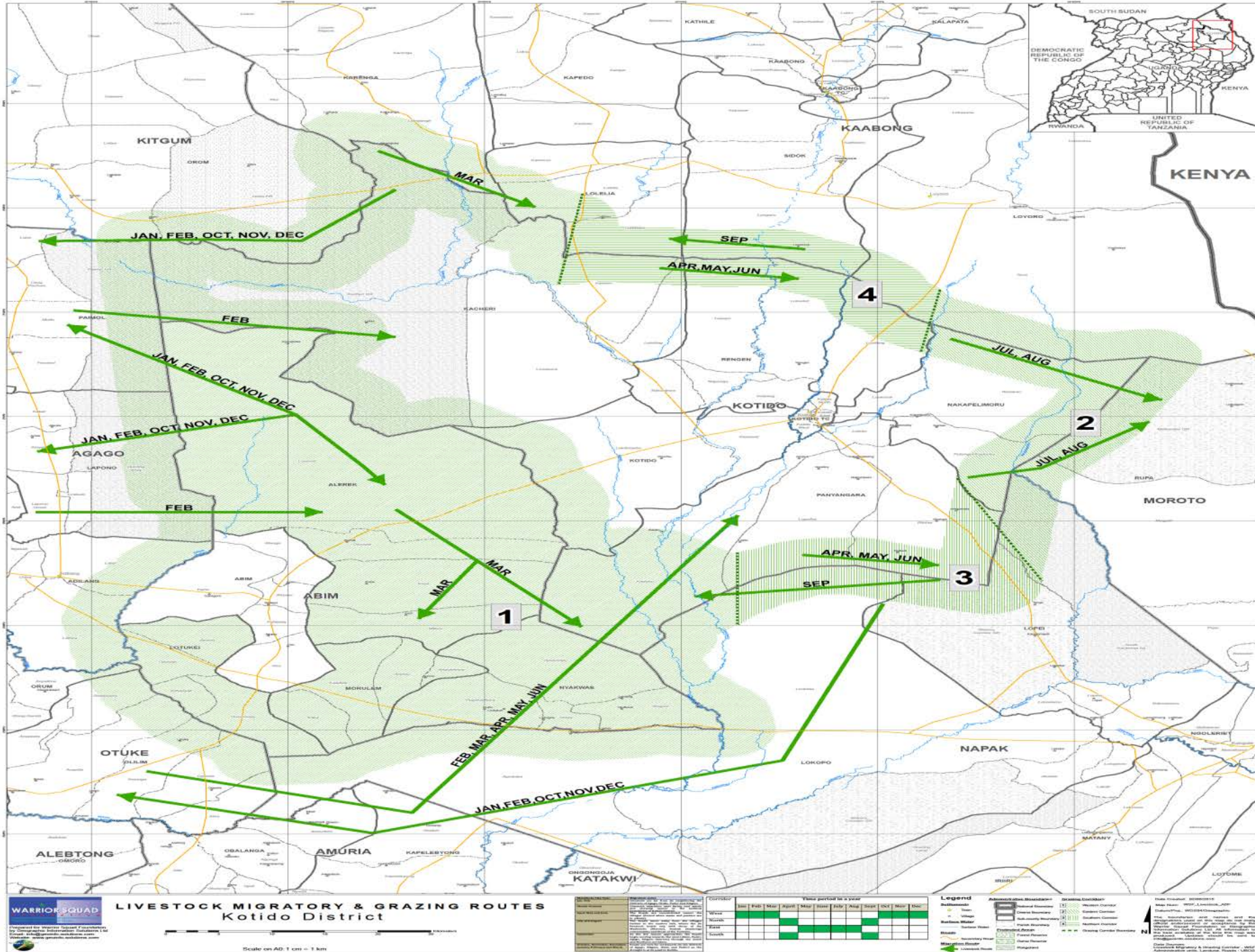
Identification,

demarcation,

Documentation
of the livestock
migratory routes
for effective
service delivery in
the migration
corridors

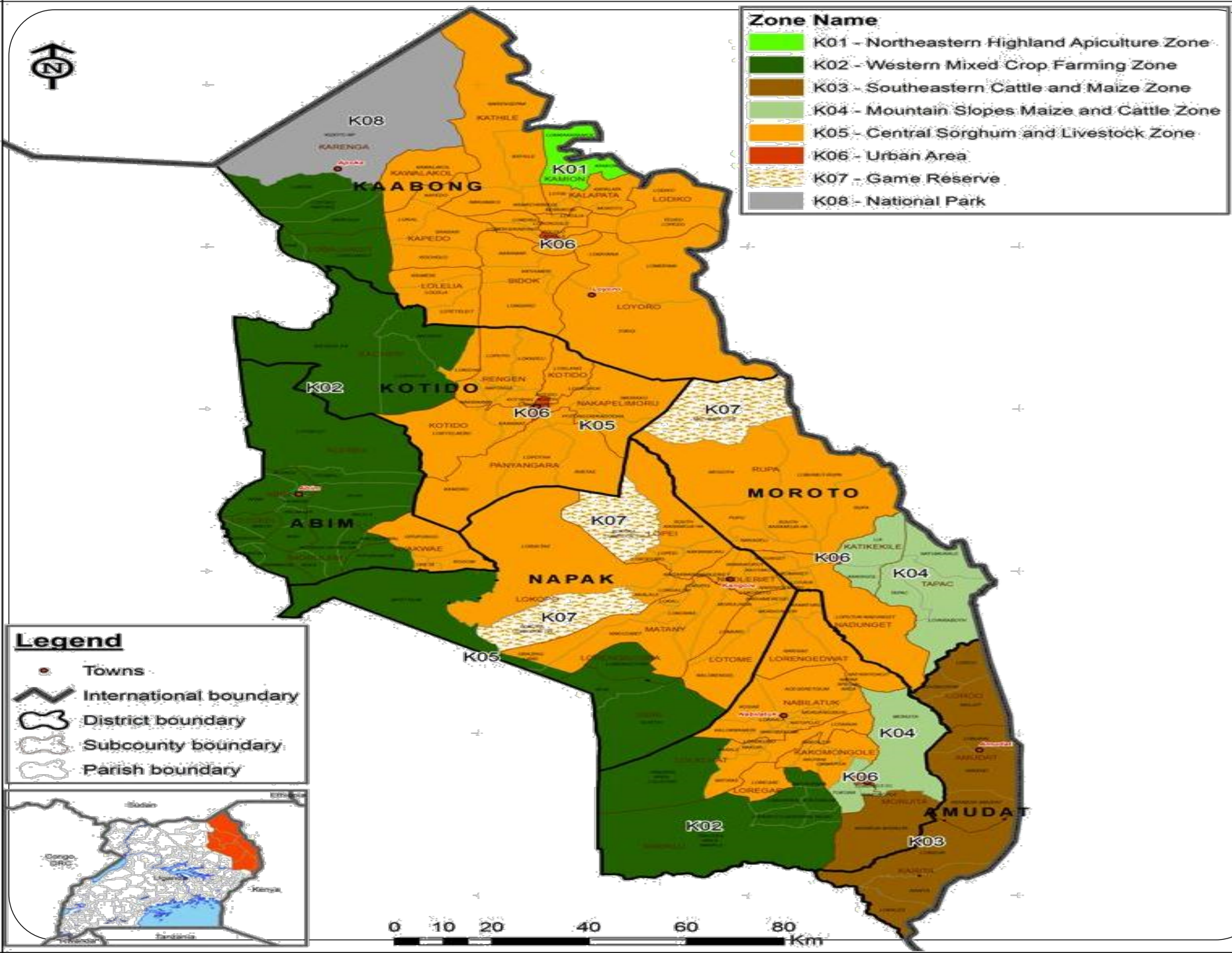


Courtesy of Warrior Squad Foundation-Kotido (CBO)



Migratory routes...

Months In The Year	Migration notes
Jan- Feb	Livestock are far from jie neighboring the Districts of Agago, Otuke, Pader and Kitgum.
March	Livestock migration start facing east wards and drawing nearer to the political boundaries of Kotido district
April ,May and June	The kraals are concentrated nearer the villages (Period when water and pasture are in plenty),
July and August	The kraals move away from the villages further to the eastern belt, where the Jie livestock kraals mix with those of the Matheniko (Moroto), Dodoth (Kaabong) communities and those of the Turkana.
September	As the dry season approaches, the kraals begin moving towards the west (Abim, Pader, Agago, Kitgum districts) through the South and Northern corridors.
October, November, December, January, February and March	Kraals are very far westwards (in the districts of Agago. Kitgum. Abim and Pader) as the drought is at its peak in Kotido.



Bokora and Jie making Peace Agreements on Resource Use



Ajale-a tamarind tree used by elders



Elders gather together under a tamarind tree



Dodoth - Jie Community, a symbol of resource Sharing



Crop production promotion
Vs
Livestock



Inclusive Planning Involvement of Youth & women



Land rights and tribal issues, policies

- Tribal/clan area boundary disputes among tribes/clans
- Administrative boundaries cutting across tribal boundaries
- Leadership disputes among clans/factions within the tribes
- Certification, sale and donation of tribal land to outsiders without consent from the tribes
- Construction of public buildings on tribal lands without the consent of the tribes
- Policy designed to help public officials understand the origins of the conflicts, the implications of the policies, inconsistencies between policies and implementation, and also the need for a coordinated response to the emerging conflicts.

Wildlife Nature Reserve

- Boundary markers deviating from official government Map
- Reserve boundaries include agricultural land and residential/settlement areas
- Construction of public infrastructure Projects within the nature reserve
- Illegal logging and hunting
- Local residents given free access to sacred sites; allowed to build shrines, but should maintain the environment

Economics, agriculture, & livestock

- Loose cattle destroying gardens
- Imposition and failure of some government Projects
- inadequate agricultural extension services
- Unfair distribution of agricultural inputs esp-inorganic which also threaten the subsistence of Livestock fertilizers
- Charcoal Burning
- Inadequate veterinary assistance from the Livestock Service during disease outbreaks
- Competition among different players in the opening of new land clearings esp on the green belts
- Burning of grasslands by the pastoralists

Is there hope for Survival?



A photograph of a man in a dry, arid landscape. He is wearing a blue beaded necklace and a striped cloth around his waist. He is holding a rifle across his chest. The background shows a dry, dusty ground with sparse vegetation and a clear sky.

What Happens when we fail to Agree on the Use of these Resources?

*When community's land use decisions
and policies might be affecting
natural resources and ultimately the
quality of life for the residents!*

Bare lands increasing in the sight of Food insecurity ?

What is Resulting?

- ❖ Land has become less productive
- ❖ Conflicts over access to water and grazing
- ❖ Poverty and destitution
- ❖ Loss of pasturelands
- ❖ Overpopulation around water points
- ❖ Overstocking of livestock
- ❖ Loss of poverty coping mechanisms

- Careful selection of sites and technologies
- Enforcement of conservation practices





WATER ROCK CATCHMENTS



Inside the catchment



Under ground tank





Introducing the Under ground tank



Water Retention ditches



Checks

(Joint partner monitoring visit-WV-Uganda)



Rehabilitation of degraded Lands (retention ditches and semi-circular basins)



Mini checks



Excavation of the Under-ground Water tank





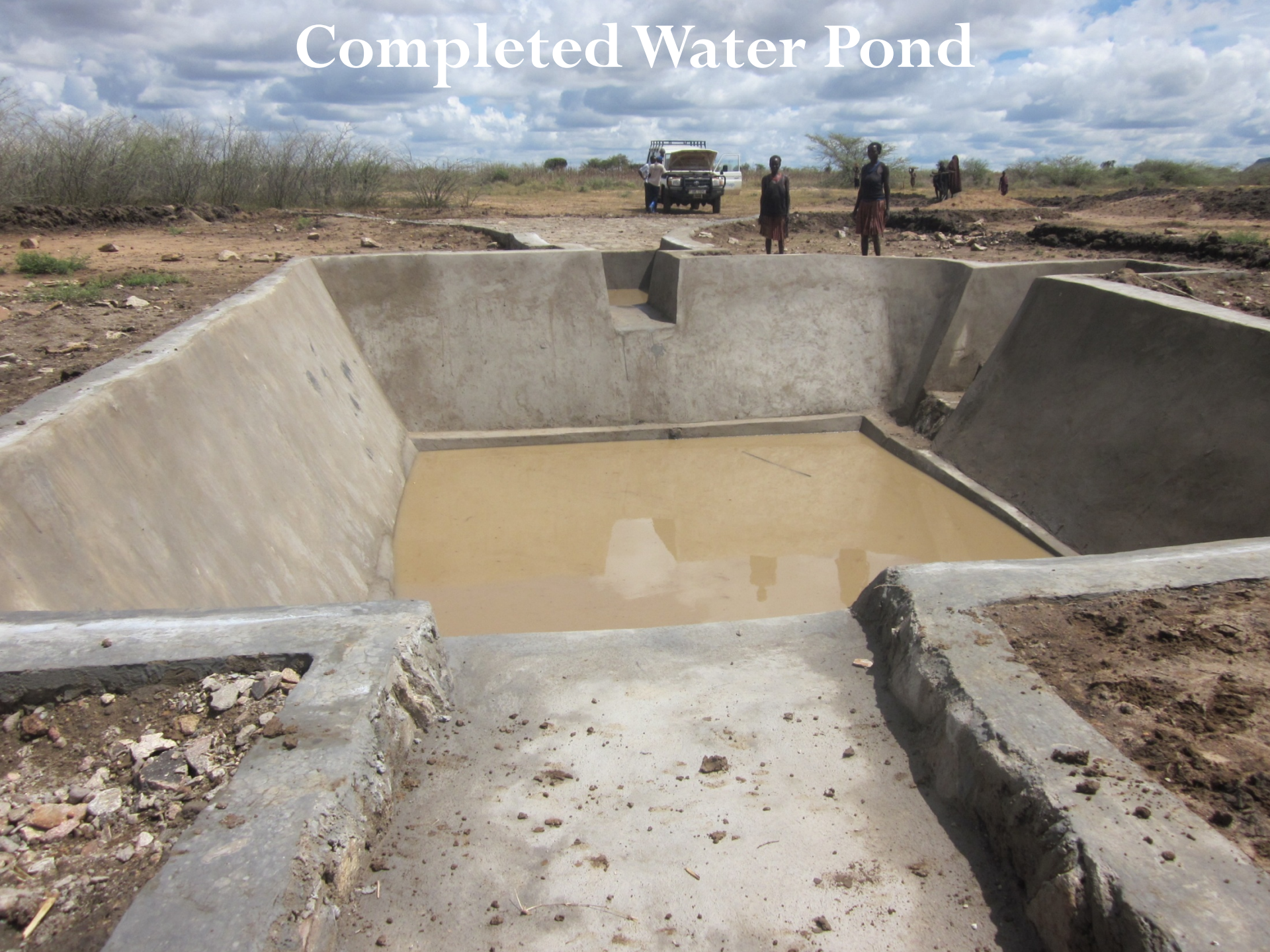
Community Water ponds





The Return of Hope in the eyes of a Pastoralists' survival during the Dry Season

Completed Water Pond



Sand Dam Community construction





Water filled Sand dam



Livestock Watering



Sand dams.

Herdsmen with his animals at the sand dam site



Shallow Well besides the sand Dam



Conclusion

Natural Resource Planning for a sustainable management needs every all development actor without any bias. It's the major base on which all other livelihood interventions are built on.

Humanitarian and Emergency responses must incorporate Natural resource management and planning so that making equal resource use is possible while not waging war.

Alakara Nooi...
THANK YOU

