



# MPIDO - At a glance!

Maasai women play a critical role in providing food security to their households and community!



**MPIDO: Upholding Human Rights and the Fundamental Freedom of IPs**





## MAINYOITO PASTORALIST INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION - MPIDO

Mainyoito Pastoralists Integrated Organization was established in 1996 and registered as a non-governmental organization in 2000, as a result of marginalization and dehumanization of Maasai pastoralists in Kenya and particularly in Kajiado, Narok, Nakuru and Naivasha. MPIDO envisions a just and equitable society that recognize and upholds human rights and the fundamental freedom of indigenous peoples'. As indigenous people in Kenya undergo political, economic and social challenges, MPIDO curves her niche into pursuing Livelihoods, climate change mitigation & Adaptation; governance and conflict resolution, natural resource management,; Gender and HIV & AIDS responses targeting Maasai pastoralists.

### Vision:

A just and equitable society that recognize and upholds human rights and the fundamental freedom of indigenous people

### Mission

To promote, facilitate and create an enabling environment to realize human rights, secure natural resources and livelihoods for sustainable development of indigenous peoples'; mainly the Maasai speakers.

### Core Values

- Commitment to serve the needy and marginalized people
- Justice and equity, human rights for all
- Community involvement and participation at all levels
- Gender equity and equality
- Transparency, accountability and professionalism
- Commitment to serve and protect the environment
- Networking and partnership

### Funding Partners

MPIDO has over the years established a strong working relationship with various partners. The current main programmes run by MPIDO are supported by Oxfam Ireland, IWGIA, Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund, CORDAID, IFAD, URAIA, SNV, IPCCCA and TEBTEBBA/NORAD.

### Management

MPIDO has a governing body of 7 (3 women and 4 men) that provide policy direction, maintain independent oversight of the management, and ensures effective strategic planning. MPIDO also has a staffing of 19 (10 women and 9 men) implementing the various organizational functions.

### Strategic Priorities

MPIDO has the following key strategic priorities:

- Food Security And Climate Change
- Maasai child education and female genital mutilation
- Gender and HIV and AIDS
- Natural resource management and conflict resolution
- Governance and policy advocacy
- Institutional Strengthening



*MPIDO's staff & local partners after an PCM training*



*MPIDO's board and staff during Strategic Planning*

### Network and Membership

MPIDO is currently hosts 2 networks, PHGEMN and IPNCCC, which are key in advocating for the rights of indigenous peoples in Kenya. It is also a member of other networks such as IIPFCC, Kenya Land Alliance, Kenya Climate Change Working Group among others. MPIDO has an observer status with the African commission on human and peoples rights and is an active participant of UNPF on indigenous issues.

# LIVELIHOODS PROGRAMME

The Livelihoods programme has 2 main projects:

## 1. Food Security Project

The project objective is to improve food security of the Pastoralist Maasai living in Kajiado. This will be achieved through increasing access to and management of water resources, improving the quality of livestock through animal production, management, markets and infrastructure development services as well as strengthening community institutions capacities to participate effectively in the management of its affairs and resources. The major components are:

### a) Water Development

The ongoing interventions, which seek to address access to water for domestic and livestock use include:

- Dams constructions and de-silting
  - Boreholes drilling and rehabilitation
- e.g. Marriani borehole which serves the community for livestock and domestic use



- Construction and rehabilitation of rock catchments
- Piping and fencing of water sources
- Capacity building of water management committees through training, exposure visits and linkages
- Networking and collaboration for advocacy of favorable policies

### b) Livestock Production

Nearly in wider Kajiado district (nearly 70%) are semi-nomadic and depend on the livestock sector for their incomes, social and economic need. MPIDO's intervention seeks to better the livestock produce and market for livestock and their products through:

- Training and equipping Community Animal Health Workers
- Capacity building of traders through marketing forums, trainings & exchange visits
- Livestock vaccination in collaboration with the Veterinary Department
- Improving infrastructure e.g. cattle dips and crushes
- Cross-border programme on disease control and marketing
- Improved livestock breeds through introduction of Sahiwal



*Pastoralist exchange livestock and their products to meet their needs*



## 2. Climate Change Project

The goal is to strengthen indigenous peoples' participation in the design and implementation of environmental and climate change interventions.

- Awareness raising among governments on IPs issues
- Networking and collaboration on IPs issues at all levels

### Specific objectives:

- Facilitate Maa-people and partners capacity in programme design and implementation in mitigation and adaptation to climate change.
- Explore and build the capacity of MPIDO and her partners in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of environmental and climate change interventions.
- Advocate for indigenous peoples recognition, participation and involvement in environment and climate change processes at all levels.

### Activities include:

- Awareness creation on CC and REDD
- Development of resource kits and IEC materials for awareness raising
- Support IPs National Steering Committee on Climate Change
- Support IPs participation in national, regional and international processes
- Lobbying and advocacy with policy makers in favor of IPs
- Strengthen indigenous peoples' community-based forest conservation strategies
- Support sustainable livelihoods within community for CC adaptation
- Research, documentation and Publication
- Indigenous knowledge capture on CC impacts and adaptation strategies



*Research attributes Loita forest conservation to Mokompo (above with throne heir)*



*Above: Regional partners visit to the destroyed Mau Forest  
Left: Ilchamus indigenous women pray through dance for the rains*



## THE GOVERNANCE PROGRAM

After the post election violence Kenya has not been the same again. The tranquility and serene coexistence between communities was shattered. Even more the fragile relationship between the Maasai and neighboring communities in most areas including Kajiado, Narok, Nakuru and Naivasha was made even more complicated. There is a majority view that the election was just a trigger but there were other underlying issues including historical injustices on land allocation and inadequate laws and policies in place. In this regard MPIDO begun the governance program not only to restore the broken relationship but through community engagement in national processes including policy review and formulation, advocacy and negotiations and discussions, address the root courses of occasional conflicts.

### Strategic Objective

To lobby and advocate for legal and policy frameworks that protect and promote the interests of maa speakers; and facilitate peaceful coexistence of different communities

### Project Objectives

- To promote dialogue and reconciliation between the Maa speakers and other communities

- To advocate for comprehensive policies and programs that address the socio-cultural, economic and political concerns of the Maa speakers
- To enhance community capacity to effectively participate and engage in policy formulation, review and other civic matters.



*Civic Education: MPIDO used different communication medium like songs and road shows to reach its audience*



*Peace building initiatives by leaders and community through barazas and song and dance*

Since the inception of this program, MPIDO has been involved in various national processes including the constitution, National commission on boundary review and land policy review with concrete achievement recorded in the space secured by the Maa speakers in the process as well as representation of critical issues of land provided for in the current land policy.

This program has the largest geographical coverage that transcends the districts covered by other programs implemented by MPIDO. In the next 5 years, MPIDO intends to facilitate the Maasai speakers' in the following constituencies: Kajiado county, Narok County, Baringo County, Laikipia County, Nakuru County and Samburu County.

MPIDO's local CBOs and NGOs partners include Ndugu Zangu, Tolidip, Sweedo, Olorikoti Development Program, Enkatampoi, Ilamayio, Olpadep in Kajiado North among others.



## NATURAL RESOURCE PROGRAM

The program aims to enhance the capacity building of Maa people on land rights and management, pursue public interest litigation and policy reviews, lobbying and advocacy, and networking components that endeavors to advocate for and protect Maasai land rights. The strategies used in the implementation include the following:

- Capacity building and sustainability strategy targeting to create community awareness on the rights over land and natural resources issues.
- Pursue public interest litigation, policy review and change. The program aims to support community in litigation processes and engage in policy reforms and participate in implementation of adopted policies.
- Networking and collaboration with grassroots organizations, national and international partners will be pursued for resource mobilization and building synergies.
- Lobbying and advocacy will be undertaken to influence decision makers to entrench pastoralist issues in the national policies such as national land policies.

The goal of the programme is to increase accesses to, control of, and benefit from natural resources for sustainable use and management. The above is being achieved through:

- Community mobilization and sensitization
- Facilitation and Partnerships
- Networking and collaboration with relevant government departments and other CSOs
- Capacity building of community members and organised groups
- Lobbying and Advocacy at local, national and regional level

- Public interest litigation
- Infrastructure development through strengthening existing community resource centres & establishing new ones.
- Research, documentation and reporting
- Monitoring, evaluation and learning
- Community participation and involvement – through committees, groups and forums and other structures



*The registrar of group ranches answering questions from members of the group ranches committee*



*The programme officer issues a statement during the Africa commission sessions*



*Landrights: Community meeting on land*

- Mainstreaming of gender, HIV, environment and climate change issues

# GENDER AND HIV & AIDS RESPONSE PROGRAM



Under the Gender and HIV/AIDS Response Program are three projects namely: Maasai Child Education; HIV/AIDS Response; and the Women and Youth Empowerment Projects. Currently, HIV & AIDS response is done through mainstreaming while the other two are stand alone projects. The goal of this programme is to enhance gender equity, promote access to primary education and increase uptake of health care services by community members.

## 1. Maasai Child Education Project: The three objectives of the project include

1. To advocate for the improvement of Maasai child Enrolment and retention in schools through:
2. To advocate against harmful cultural practices e.g. FGM, early circumcision of boys, early marriages and child labor.
3. Strengthen and improve performance among schools in the area.

### Some of the Activities are:

- Community awareness on importance of girls education
- Advocacy on staffing and education infrastructure
- Exposure visits for pupils and schools
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- Advocacy on staffing and education infrastructure
- Exposure visits for pupils and schools committees

- Documentation, Monitoring, evaluation and learning
- Community participation and involvement – through committees, groups and forums
- Capacity building of pupils and communities on effects elimination of harmful traditional practices



*Stakeholders meeting during FGM Deliberation*



*Girls perform during a prize-giving ceremony which seeks to boost retention in schools*

- Peer education and guidance and counseling clubs
- Networking and collaboration with government and other development agencies on service provision
- Mainstreaming and Integration of gender and HIV in programme activities.



## 2. Women and youth empowerment project

Lack of access and control of productive resources by women has limited their full participation in the fight to eliminate poverty and hunger in the district. Furthermore, early marriages for girls deny them the opportunity to seek education and knowledge for better lives in future.

MPIDO acknowledge the role of youth and women in social economic development. The project aims at empowering women and youth through capacity building on social and economic issues including capacity building through training and granting of both women and youth organized groups. The project also aims at mobilizing and involving the youth and women in decision making processes and ensures their space in development is secured and acknowledged as change agents in the community, hence the two specific objectives below:

- To improve the livelihood of women and youth in the area of focus
- To build the capacity of women and youth to effectively participate and engage in development

**Interventions under this project mainly meant to improve the economic empowerment of women include:**

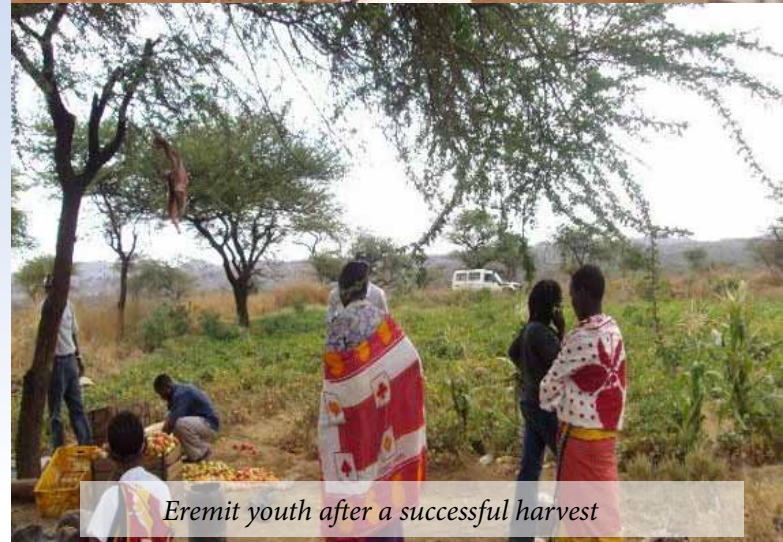
- Trainings on micro-entrepreneurship & business skills
- Granting to the groups for alternative livelihoods projects
- Exchange visit for sharing and learning
- Out of school youth trainings on life skills
- Building capacity through training and linkages on leadership
- Lobby for consideration of women and youth in the funds kits at local and national level
- Link youth and women to national, regional and international processes



*Youth during a participatory video training*



*Mosiro Women in an open cafeteria!*



*Eremit youth after a successful harvest*



**MAINYOITO PASTORALIST INTEGRATED  
DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (MPIDO)**

Marist Road, off Langata Road,  
P. O. Box 226 - 00206, Kiserian, Kenya.  
Tel: +254 20 3882950, Fax: +254 20 3882944  
Email: mpido@mpido.org, www.mpido.org