



Disability Inclusion in Humanitarian Work

Why We Need to Intervene





Kenya
Red Cross

Always There

ABOUT US

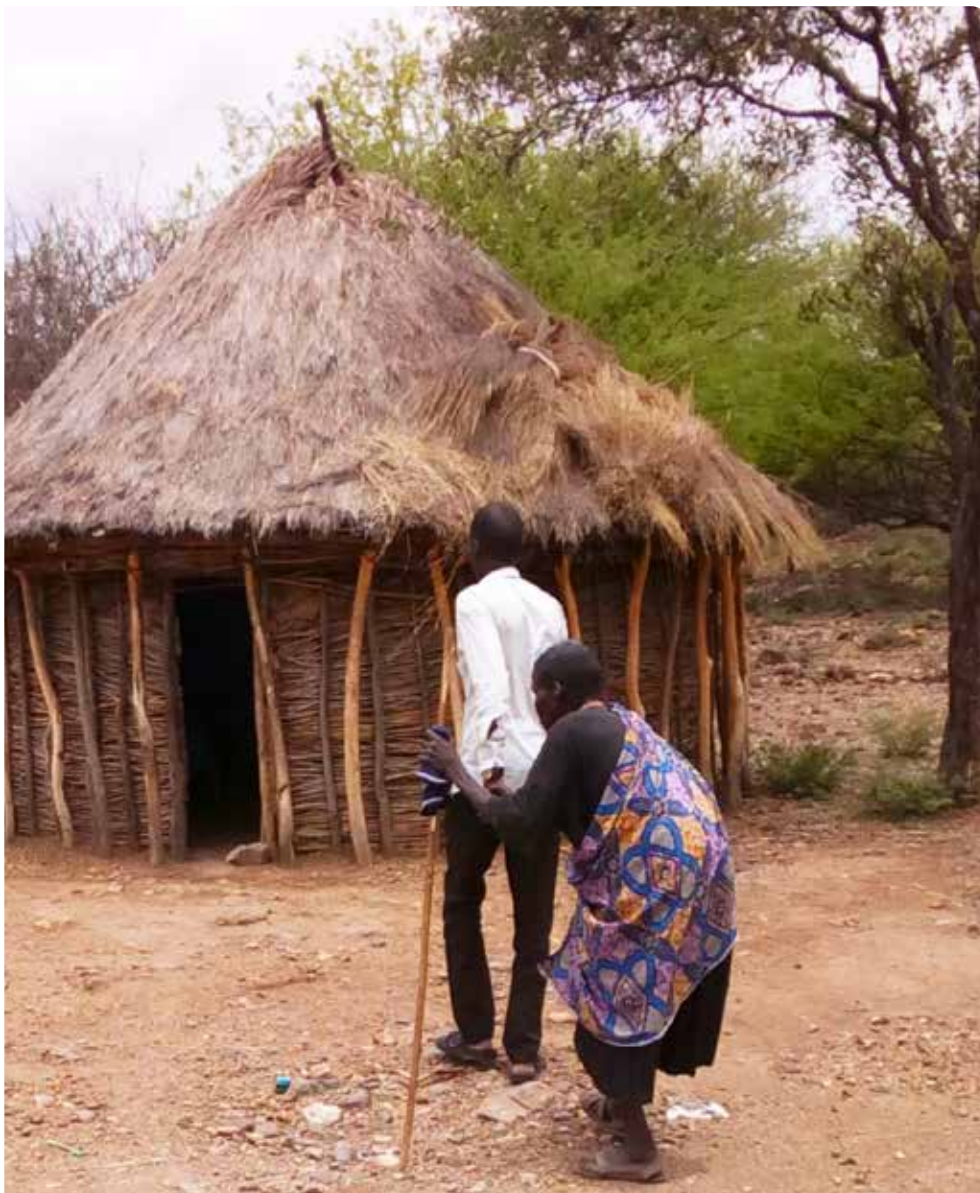
The Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) was established on 21 December 1965 through the Kenya Red Cross Society Act (Chapter 256 Laws of Kenya). Its Constitution is based on the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their Additional Protocols of 1977 to which Kenya is a signatory.

The Kenya Red Cross Society Act recognizes the National Society as a voluntary aid Society auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field and as the only National Red Cross Society that carries out its activities in the Kenyan territory. In relation to public authorities, the Society maintains an autonomy, which allows it to act at all times in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

As auxiliary to the national and county governments, we work with communities, volunteers and partners to ensure we prepare for and respond to our humanitarian and development needs. We focus our collective capabilities and resources to alleviate human suffering and save lives.

Over the years, KRCS has remained the leading humanitarian agency and the strongest humanitarian brand in Kenya, the East Africa region and Africa. This is evident with the level of expectation and confidence that the communities in Kenya have bestowed on the Society. At national level, operations are spearheaded by a management team led by the Secretary General while at county level, KRCS is governed by boards and administratively managed by a Regional Manager.





OUR VISION

A sustainable, effective and trusted humanitarian organization serving present and future generations.

OUR CORE VALUES

SERVICE TO HUMANITY

Embodying responsibility, accountability and commitment – we will faithfully execute the duties and responsibilities entrusted to us and maintain the highest ethical and professional humanitarian standards.

INTEGRITY

We will be consistent, honest, accountable and transparent in what we say and do. We will safeguard the integrity and dignity of those we serve.

RESPECT

We will serve with respect, honouring the people we serve, our communities, partners and one another. We will highly value the relationships we build with our communities, partners, stakeholders and each other.

INNOVATION

this means creating opportunities and creative solutions: we will continue to identify and explore uncharted opportunities for growth and sustainability, mitigate risks, and provide the best humanitarian services that we can.

OUR VALUE PROPOSITION

“Always There”



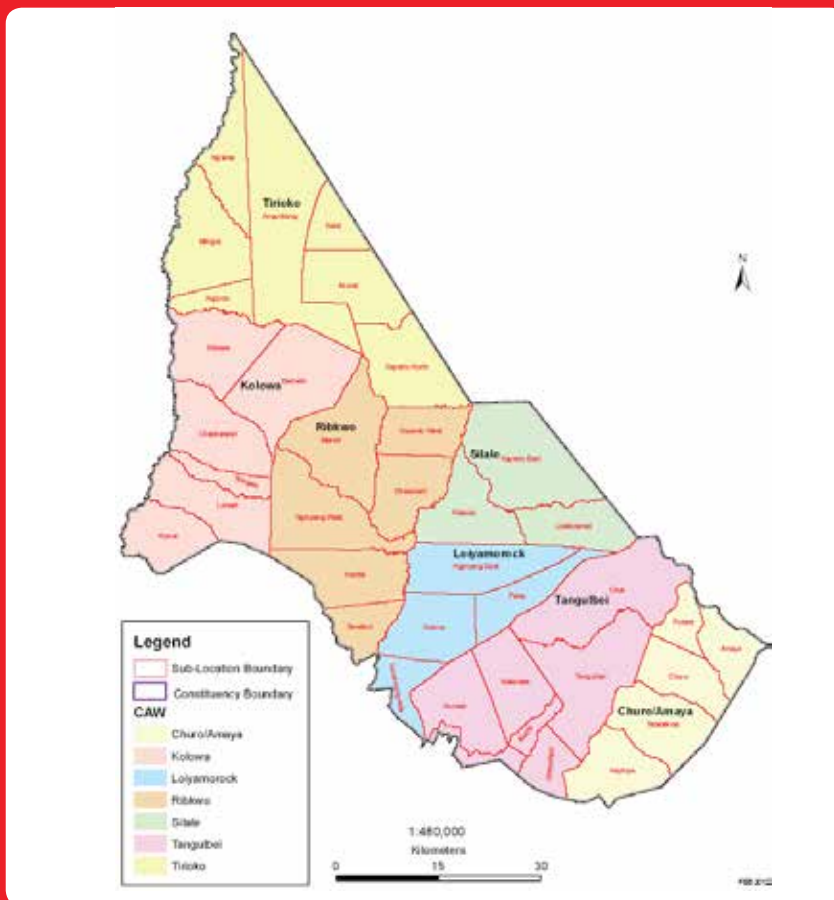
Executive Summary

The Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) commissioned a baseline survey in Tiaty sub-county, Baringo County in March 2018 to establish the potential pathways of sustainably mainstreaming disability and elderly inclusion in humanitarian response in a sustainable manner. The study was anchored upon three main objectives: Contribute to improved quality of life of PWDs in prevention and response to humanitarian situations through building their resilience in targeted counties; Improved access to health care and psychosocial support for the elderly and persons with disabilities and; Increased knowledge and skills among community members in integration and inclusion of PWDs and the elderly in the community.

The survey was carried out in the seven wards in Tiaty sub-county (Tirioko, Kolowa, Ribikwo, Silale, Loiyamorok, Tangulbei/Korossi, and Churo/Amaya).

The sample size comprised 403 households (2004 family members; 43.6% females and 31.3% males). A total of 14 key informant interviews were conducted, as well as eight focus group discussions targeting households with PWDs and elderly persons, county government staff, humanitarian actors and community members.

Overall, the humanitarian landscape in Tiaty Sub County was found to be dominated by drought, conflicts, floods, famine and epidemics, leading to disruption of livelihoods in the area.



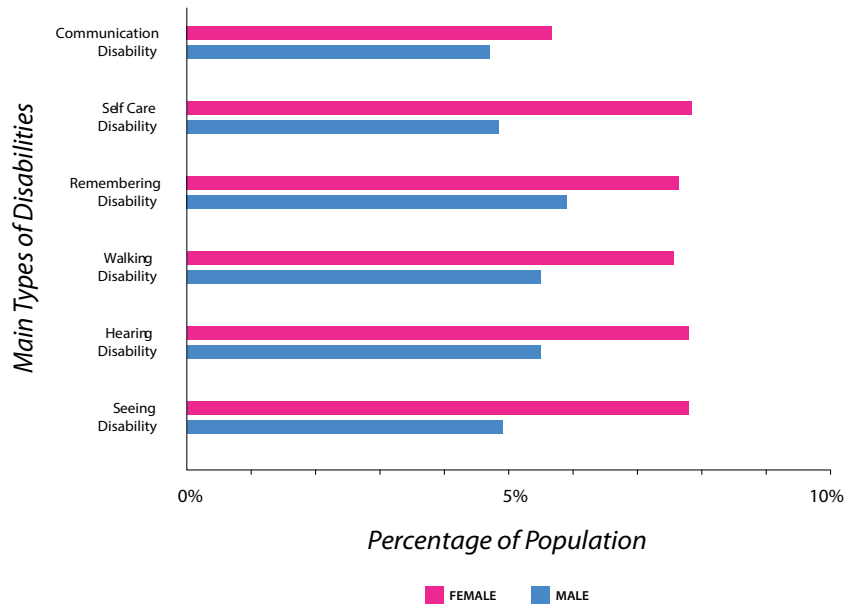




The Findings

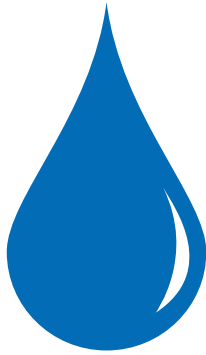
Approximately 63.5% and 30.3% of households in Tiaty sub-county have PWDs and elderly respectively. The study further established a number of common types of disabilities as illustrated on the graph.

The vulnerable groups are really constrained, especially when accessing basic services and needs without external assistance (0.7% for PWDs, and 0.5% for elderly). Additionally, access to the necessary services is low among PWDs and elderly. For instance, the drought and civil conflicts in Tiaty sub-county have worsened the situation faced by the majority of households, especially with access to water, food, education and essential healthcare services particularly to PWDs and elderly persons.





Access to Safe Drinking Water



10.4%
of PWDs have access

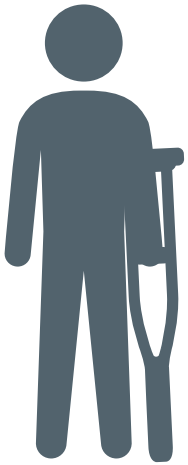
3.7%
of elderly have access

53.1%
of PWDs have no access

26.6%
of elderly have no access

Displacement Status

Additionally, most of the households are poor and vulnerable to the common humanitarian crises, causing serious challenges that include but not limited to displacement and loss of assets (livestock).



39.2%
of PWDs have been displaced

24.3%
of PWDs have not been displaced



17.6%
of elderly have been displaced

12.7%
of elderly have not been displaced

In some wards such as Churo/Amaya, Koloa, and Loruk there were cases of households resorting to eating wild fruits, and thus, worsening their household food insecurity and malnutrition rates in the area.

In the past 12 months, 44.6% of households with PWDs and 18.5% of households with elderly had fallen ill due to complications from humanitarian situations. Further 24.1% of households with disabled children who are under two (2) years are effectively utilizing the Anti Natal Care healthcare services and 10% accessing Post Natal Care. All of the households (100%) are accessing treatment when their children get fever, diarrhea, abnormal breathing or a cough.

Some households had met their household dietary diversity as shown on the right.

Cases of Gender Based Violence were pronounced (46.2% of PWD, and 19.9% for elderly). Overall, 13.9% of households with PWDs demonstrated good perceptions with 6.5% for elderly respectively.

Glaring gaps included the total lack of disability friendly hospitals with facilities to support PWDs/ elderly persons or other vulnerable populations in the Sub County. Essential healthcare services and assistive devices such as wheelchairs were either lacking and or limited, leading to mobility challenges and serious health risks.



7.7%
of PWDs had dietary diversity



55.8%
of PWDs didn't dietary diversity



2.0%
of elderly had dietary diversity



28.3%
of elderly didn't dietary diversity



The provision of specialized food supply was further non-existent and a majority of the PWDs/ elderly persons (98%) were in dire need for food and faced nutritional related ailments thereby worsening the GAM in Tiaty Sub County, which at the time of the study stood at less than 40%.

In all the schools, existing facilities did not cater for PWDs presenting a challenge for disabled children and instructors/teachers. This is coupled with discrimination and trauma on both school going children and other community members who are abled differently due to negative perceptions and reactions from the general community.

92.1%

prefers cash transfer as a mode of assistance

80%

viewed disability as a curse

In view of this, it is of critical importance for all the relevant stakeholders (government and humanitarian organizations among others) to effectively and efficiently collaborate, while establishing and promoting the adoption of key practical and policy

implications that are well founded and enhances the success of disability mainstreaming strategies in Baringo County.



■ Bridging the Gap



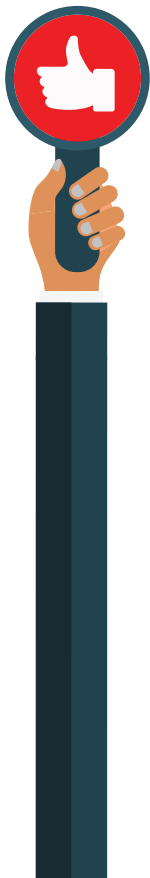
At the Kenya Red Cross Society, disability mainstreaming remains a critical component of its programming. This is in line with the Constitution of Kenya and additional development blueprints like the Vision 2030, which champion for disability inclusion in the nation's development agenda. In Baringo county, KRCS in partnership with the county government implemented a disability mainstreaming project, which focused on the potential pathways that can be adopted towards the improvement of the wellbeing and livelihoods of PWDs and elderly during humanitarian responses. The goal was to ensure that the PWDs and the elderly get access to basic healthcare and other necessary social services.

Humanitarian responses have often overlooked such special groups; rarely including them in nutrition needs assessments and programmes, therefore, subjecting them to malnutrition. Markets or food

distribution points also rarely cater for their nutritional requirements. Other negative effects on PWDs and elderly include limited access to education, clean water, food and health services.

It is of great importance for government and humanitarian organizations to familiarize with the critical needs for PWDs/elderly persons and subsequently tailor support toward these special groups.





Recommendations

The successful mainstreaming of disability in humanitarian response is a shared role bringing on board various partners among them the National and County Government; Development Partners; Community and Advocacy groups. The recommendations of this study clearly outline the critical and strategic roles of the key partners as outlined below;

1. *National and County Government*

- Development of an integrated PWDs and elderly persons friendly policies that ensure the provision of the necessary basic utilities like water and sanitation facilities to all PWDs and elderly for a better quality of life.
- Provision of disability friendly facilities and assistive devices to all PWD school going children
- Development of effective disaster risk reduction strategies in all the county wards in collaboration with all the community leaders.
- Preparation and execution of efficient and effective community sensitization activities towards the elimination of discrimination of PWDs and Elderly.
- Development of a locally tailored training institute/facilities for agricultural and livestock related programmes towards the improvement of food and nutrition security, and ultimately, improve the adoption of sustainable livelihoods strategies.

2. *Development Partners*

- Development of an effective and integrated humanitarian response towards addressing key needs for PWDs and elderly persons: - water, sanitation facilities, and other necessary facilities/devices.
- Supporting school-feeding programmes and extending the coverage to all the schools in the region.
- Promotion and facilitation of access to basic and essential health care services: - provision of training skills to health care service providers, community volunteers, and caregivers.
- Provide support to all vulnerable populations by ensuring that all the existing barriers preventing them from accessing basic services are sustainably eliminated.
- Provide the necessary support to the government towards the development of effective disaster risk reduction strategies/early warning measures in all the wards in collaboration with all the community leaders.

3. *Community and Advocacy groups*

- Supporting school-feeding programmes.
- Enlighten the community at large that PWDs and elderly persons are part of them and they deserve a better quality of life, and hence reduce negative cultural practices.
- Promotion of peace-building process through conflict-resolution mechanisms across the entire community in order to effectively facilitate the implementation of development services, as well as government projects.
- Provide community sensitization towards inclusive support to PWDs, and elderly persons while accessing the necessary basic services.
- Promotion and facilitation of the involvement of PWDs and elderly in all community decision-making processes.
- Provide relevant and accurate information on PWDs and elderly to the government and other partners towards their inclusion in relevant social protection programmes.

A stronger partnership between the Kenya Red Cross Society and the County government of Baringo will further ensure the achievement of key objectives among them timely and effective emergency response. This will be achieved through strengthening the County's emergency response team/department so that they can be able to handle further emergencies in the area.





Always There

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