

Project Evaluation Report

Gender Responsive Alternatives to Climate Change

Baringo County, Kenya August 2019



*"Women now have economic muscle."
Implementing Partner*

Acknowledgements

We wish to acknowledge the generous collaboration, participation and warm support given by ActionAid Kenya (AAK) for the valuable and important work they are doing under immense challenges and increasing urgency caused by climate change. Gratitude is also offered to all the organisational partners who made time in their schedules to meet with us and share their stories of change and impact. As with any good systemic approach, these partnerships were many:

Implementing Partners: Baringo Women Small Holders Farmers Movement; Disaster Management Committee (DMC); Eastfield and Tangulbei Women's Network.

Strategic Partners: Baringo County Departments of: Education, Sports, Culture, Gender, Social Services and Youth; Environment (including Wetlands); Disaster Risk Management; Devolution & Administration (Civic Education & Public Participation); National Disaster Management Authority; Baringo County Civil Society Forum; African Wildlife Protection Fund and Anglican Development Services Kenya.

To the Pokot women and men of Mukutani Village, Baringo County. Your visions for the future and the changes you are choosing to make are impacting lives in your community. I thank you for your warm welcome.

Lastly, this project would not have been possible with the unfailing support of Lucy Ntongai, Becky Kalume and Clement Chesire from AAK. Your continued guidance, cultural and country advice, logistical support, translation, laughter and time throughout the evaluation was greatly appreciated.

Finally, we would like to thank ActionAid Australia for ongoing positive endorsement, direction and support during the project. Thank you all.

Executive Summary

ActionAid Australia (AAA) commissioned an end-of-project evaluation for Gender Responsive Alternatives to Climate Change (GRACC) funded by DFAT, under the Gender Action Platform (GAP), and AAA. The two-year project (July 2017 – July 2019) was collaboratively designed and implemented with country partners in Cambodia, Kenya and Vanuatu. The overall project was managed by ActionAid Australia in partnership with global partners, Huairou Commission¹ and Monash University Gender, Peace and Security Centre², ActionAid Cambodia, ActionAid Kenya (AAK), ActionAid Vanuatu and ActionAid International (AAI). Additional partners were numerous, identified as implementing partners which were beneficiaries of GRACC trainings as well as disseminating climate change/disaster risk response (CC/DRR) information. Strategic partners represented civil societies, county and national governments. Collectively, they used a gender responsive and human and women's rights-based approach to CC/DRR.

The GRACC project in Baringo County, Kenya located in the Rift Valley occurred between June 2017-May 2019. AAK and some of its partners have been working collaboratively in the region since 2012, building partnerships and empowering women primarily in Pokot communities whose livelihood is primarily pastoral (raising livestock). The GRACC project provided an opportunity to focus on climate change adaptation and protection issues and link women from local, national to global.

There were three primary strategies for GRACC in Baringo County, Kenya, focused primarily on grassroots women, were: i) increase CC/DRR knowledge and generate action in pastoral communities to increase their resilience ii) capacity development and mobilization of community members, implementing and strategic partners to conduct vulnerability audits, analyse data which could inform CC/DRR related charters and county plans; iii) support women and civil societies to advocate for increased CC/DRR resource allocations in communities. Key CC/DRR activities included: meetings with community members, county and national government, community based organisations (most women-led), international non-governmental agencies and civil society groups to mobilize, create awareness and build their

capacity; women-led vulnerabilities analysis; women-led lobbying activities to increase county resource allocation and for implementation of climate resilient sustainable agriculture.

The evaluation framework used was the UN Women's Inclusive Systemic Evaluation for Gender Equality, Environments and Marginalised voices (ISE4GEMs). The ISE4GEMs approach is grounded in both systems thinking and complexity challenges traditional linear approaches to complex social situations and multifaceted interventions.

GRACC had three project outcomes and key findings for each are summarised below:

Outcome 1: Women have increased capacity and knowledge to prepare and respond to gender related risks of climate change and related crises.

The evaluation found:

- In Baringo County where GRACC was implemented women, implementing and strategic partners gained extensive new capacity and knowledge about CC/DRR and could describe, explain, disseminate and implement CC/DRR strategies. They and their communities are more prepared and resilient;
- Women confirmed that their voices are being heard more and feel empowered to advocate as community leaders at local and county meetings with an increased comfort in speaking in public to represent other women's needs and priorities;
- Attitudes about women's expanding roles are changing. New understanding about the capacity for women to manage the household, conduct CC/DRR work and contribute to household incomes is shifting positively and seen as beneficial to their communities;
- Women who are members of implementing partner organisations are being trusted leaders that have helped organise, train and support other women to come together and voice their concerns and advocate for resources;
- Women continue to face cultural barriers to their expanding leadership and advocacy roles due to the patriarchal culture that values men's ideas and voices over women's;
- Women and their families have increased food security because of the diversified crops and poultry farming.

¹ <https://huairou.org/>

² <https://arts.monash.edu/gender-peace-security>

Outcome 2: Women take collective action to influence and engage in national and international policy, planning and decision making on climate change and related crises.

- Women have increased awareness and knowledge about mechanisms to participate in influencing in their political systems at the local and provincial level;
- Women have increased empowerment, confidence and agency levels in their leadership and to participate in representation of their needs and advocacy;
- Women took collective action to influence and engage in national and international policy, planning and decision-making;
- Women and implementing partners created, validated and submitted a Climate Change Charter of Demands and contributed to the Baringo Country's Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2018-2022; and read a grassroots Women's Group statement at a global CC/DRR conference;
- Women have increased engagement and influence with county government and other strategic partners;
- Women attended two global activities in Indonesia and Switzerland and disseminated learnings once back home.

Outcome 3: Women's voice and leadership in climate change and related crises is enhanced

through the establishment of a gender responsive framework on gender, climate and security.

- Created an effective foundation of activities and networks that encouraged a critical and holistic understanding of the opportunities, constraints and relationships within a CC/DRR system;
- Created a women-centric solidarity movement at the local, county, regional with links to global movements; spurred local government and institutional transformation; and shifted cultural norms about who should and could provide input and leadership to decision-making platforms;
- Women have increased their individual and collective empowerment as leaders and as Kenyan citizens;
- Women feel solidarity with a global network of empowered women working on CC/DRR.

The evaluation has identified that GRACC project has advanced women's knowledge, leadership and collective voices in and enhanced their ability to influence policy and decision making on climate change and related crisis at both a national and global level. The evaluation concluded that the GRACC project outcomes were achieved against the three outcomes. The evaluation makes several recommendations which have emerged from the findings and feedback from stakeholders to guide future work.

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Acronyms

AAA	ActionAid Australia	FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
AAC	ActionAid Cambodia	GRACC	Gender-Responsive Alternatives on Climate Change
AAK	ActionAid Kenya	GBV	Gender based violence
AAV	ActionAid Vanuatu	GEMs	Gender equality, Environments and Marginalised voices
BACSO	Baringo Civil Society Forum	HRBA	Human Rights Based Approach (Action Aid)
BAWOSFAM	Baringo Women Small Holders Farmers Movement	ISE4GEMs	Inclusive Systemic Evaluation for Gender Equality, Environments and Marginalized Voices (UN Women)
CSO	Civil Society Organization	ISE	Inclusive Systemic Evaluation
CCAAP	<i>Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan: 2018-2022, Republic of Kenya, Baringo County Government, Department of Water, Environment and Mineral Resources</i>	INGO	International Non-Governmental Organisation
CC/DRR	Climate change/ Disaster risk reduction	LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender
CCA	Climate change adaptation	MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
CCCoD	Climate Change Charter of Demands	NDMA	National Disaster Management Authority
CBO	Community Based Organization	NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Australia)	PPB	Public Participation Bill (Kenya)
DMC	Disaster Management Committee (Tangulbei, Baringo County)	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals (United Nations)
FGD	Focus group discussion	TAWN	Tangulbei Women Network

1. Introduction/Project Description

ActionAid Australia (AAA) commissioned an end-of-project evaluation for Gender Responsive Alternatives to Climate Change (GRACC) funded by DFAT, under the Gender Action Platform (GAP), and AAA. The two-year project (July 2017 – July 2019) was collaboratively designed and implemented with country partners in Cambodia, Kenya and Vanuatu. The overall project was managed by ActionAid Australia in partnership with global partners, Huairou Commission³ and Monash University Gender, Peace and Security Centre⁴, ActionAid Cambodia, ActionAid Kenya, ActionAid Vanuatu and ActionAid International. Additional partners included women's groups called implementing partners which were beneficiaries of GRACC trainings and activities as well as playing a central role in disseminating information and advocating for climate change/disaster risk response (CC/DRR). Strategic partners represented Baringo County civil societies, county and national government. Collectively, they used a gender responsive and human and women's rights-based approach to CC/DRR.

The GRACC project had three outcomes:

- *Outcome 1:* Women have increased capacity and knowledge to prepare for and respond to gender related risks of climate change and related crises;
- *Outcome 2:* Women take collective action to influence and engage in national and international policy, planning and decision making on climate change and related crises; and
- *Outcome 3:* Women's voice and leadership in climate change and related crises is enhanced through the establishment of a gender responsive framework on gender, climate and security.

The GRACC project in Kenya occurred in Baringo County located in the Rift Valley between June 2017-May 2019. AAK and some of its partners have been working collaboratively since 2012, building partnerships and empowering women primarily in pastoralists communities with Pokot communities. The GRACC project provided an opportunity to focus on climate change adaptation and protection issues and link women from local, national to global.

Key CC/DRR activities included: meetings with community members, county and national government, community based organisations (most women-led), international non-governmental agencies (NGOs) and civil society organisations (CSOs) to mobilize, create awareness and build their capacity; women-led vulnerabilities analysis; women-led lobbying activities to increase county resource allocation and for implementation of climate resilient sustainable agriculture.

Evidence demonstrates several influential CC/DRR documents informed by GRACC activities were created and validated by county officials: i) community protection plans; ii) Climate Change Charter of Demands (CCCoD) validated with county leadership and iii) the Baringo County Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2018-2022 (CCAAP).

2. Evaluation Objectives and Criteria

The primary purpose of the end-of-project evaluation was to “assess the extent to which the project advanced women's leadership and collective voices in Cambodia, Kenya and Vanuatu and enhanced their ability to influence policy and decision making on climate change and related crisis at both a national and global level. The evaluation should assess the extent to which women's power has been enhanced in ways valued and described by community women.” The evaluation objectives and criteria were:

Evaluation Objectives

- To review the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, sustainability and impact of the project by reviewing the project outcomes achieved as a result of project outputs and project approach.
- To assess the project achievements, strengths, weaknesses and implementation constraints with a view to identifying any lessons and good practice that can be incorporated into future ActionAid programming and shared in the sector.

³ <https://huairou.org/>

⁴ <https://arts.monash.edu/gender-peace-security>

Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation criteria and questions for each country level report were done in a consultative manner with AAA, Evaluation Working Group and country GRACC teams. The criteria had common questions across countries while still reflecting the unique context of each location. The evaluation criteria links to the key research questions are outlined in Annex 1. The key questions asked have enabled the evaluation to arrive at conclusions based on the evaluation criteria.

3. Methodology Overview

The evaluation was conducted from the 1 -15 July 2019 with one evaluator, Dr. Ellen Lewis. It included a desk-based document review, key informant interviews, focus group discussions (FGD) and observation in Kabarnet, Marigat, Mukutani, Nairobi and Tangelbei. A participatory approach was used and data was collected using ethical human research conduct.

3.1 Our Approach

The evaluation framework adopted in this project is UN Women's *Inclusive Systemic Evaluation for Gender Equality, Environments and Marginalised voices (ISE4GEMs)*⁵. The ISE4GEMs approach is grounded in both systems thinking and complexity. Systems thinking—which is a form of analysis—challenges traditional plan-predict-act-evaluate logic and is required when dealing with complex social situations and multifaceted interventions. Using a systems approach differs from other types of analysis in that it does not adhere to the traditional focus of separating individual parts of what is being studied to gain understanding. The GEMs framework considers the interrelationships between gender equality, environments and marginalised voices (human and non-human) using systemic thinking. As ISE4GEMs evaluators there is a strong commitment to gender equality, diversity and human rights, combined with a desire to create a more equitable society that recognizes, validates, and values socially constructed and structural differences.

3.2 Preparation and Design

Evaluation criteria, indicators and key questions were created with input from relevant key informants. In Nairobi an inception meeting was held to introduce the ISE4GEMs, answer questions, review timeline, processes and interview instruments. ISE4GEMs tools were adapted and applied including first and second order boundary analysis, stakeholder analysis, vulnerability assessment, planning tool and facilitators' field guide meeting planner.

3.3 Desk Review

The desk review was done remotely which included, AAK and AAA websites, AAK project funding proposal, annual project reports, meeting reports, M&E GRACC Framework, ActionAid International (AAI) Kenya Strategy and policy briefs. Also reviewed were two 2018 studies undertaken as part of the GRACC project: a baseline study conducted by the Institute of Environment and Water Management which conducted a household survey in 100 households, focus group discussions (FGD) and key informant interviews. The second study was conducted by Monash University's Gender, Peace and Security Centre which included FGDs and key-informant interviews.

3.4 Key Informants and Focus Group Discussions

In total, 101 key informants (54F/46M) were interviewed, in Baringo County. There were 10 individual interviews and 7 FGD conducted. (See Annex 1 – Key Informants and FGD). Data collection instruments were developed including questions for women, men, key informants and FGD. Adjustments were made following testing in the field. (See Annex 2 – Evaluation Instruments). The evaluation and consent forms were reviewed, interpreted and signed.

The data analysis process used inductive and deductive approaches to enable linkages with the project principles, aims and the outcomes. Inductive methods enable the evaluators to move from specific situational analysis to more generalised learning, while the deductive methods enable the use of generalised knowledge to gain more specific insights. Data analysis processes included data reduction, data coding, initial data interpretation, consultation, and reinterpretation. A data analysis software, NVivo was used to theme the data.

⁵ <http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2018/9/ise4gems-a-new-approach-for-the-sdg-era>

3.5 Capacity Building

Central to an ISE4GEMs approach is to build capacity as part of transformative change. The evaluators presented ISE4GEMs workshops and on gender responsive evaluation. An ISE4GEMs workshop was given to two AAK staff while in the field. A presentation was given to AAK staff with initial findings and draft recommendations. Finally, a findings workshop was presented, and discussions were facilitated with key AAA, AAC, AAK, AAV and AA International.

3.6 Limitations

Several logistical and practical factors presented some limitations. All efforts were made to meet with and talk to as many relevant informants as possible during the evaluation. All of interviewees did not speak English and AAK country staff served as the interpreters. Central to using staff interpreters was the familiarity with the key informants, especially the women as well as knowledge of project concepts. The evaluation team raised a concern about potential bias into the evaluation by using staff interpreters, but the decision was made collectively to proceed and mitigate biases through clarification during the interpretation. Most of the interviews were audio taped.

Time frames were also a limitation with the launch of the evaluation on 29 May 2019 and final data collection on 17 July 2019. This was a window of seven weeks to conduct the evaluation across three countries in dispersed geographical locations. While the evaluators worked within the constraints of the time limits of the funding body, this limited opportunity for greater engagement, intersectional data analysis and report writing.

4 Findings

This section has the main findings of the evaluation presented under each project outcome and responding to the evaluation criteria. The evaluation team reported only the findings that share a high level of confidence.

Findings Outcome 1: Women have increased capacity and knowledge to prepare for and respond to gender related risks of climate change and related crises.

1.1 How have women participants become more resilient to climate change risks?

All women interviewed expressed a significant increase in their resilience based on CC/DRR knowledge on how to respond to periods of drought and floods. The impacts of the resilience noted by the women were: increased food security, income generating alternative livelihoods and the implementation of CC adaptations. The

“As a Pokot women, you cannot have ownership of anything. You can’t feel like an individual, you are someone’s property. Because of GRACC, I am proudly owning chickens and my own field. My husband even acknowledges that I can own something. I want more knowledge so I can continue to pay for my children’s school.”

~TAWN

raising of ‘improved indigenous’ chickens had the widest impact on women’s lives and are a drought resistant breed. Poultry farming provided a reliable food/income source through selling or consuming chicks, eggs, and the meat, 21 women out of 23 owned chickens.

Other increases of food security noted were planting of ‘kitchen gardens’ with drought resistant plants that were consumed, sold, or dehydrated and stored. In Mukutani village, 10 out of 23 women stated they have gardens with others listing reasons why not included: impending migration during dry season, distance from water source, soil not suitable for growing crops, and husbands not providing permission. All 23 women had begun to dehydrate and store vegetables and meat.

A CC/DRR strategy was mentioned by many women as impactful in the reduction of resource-based conflict. The dry seasons are lasting longer increasing the migration of men and boys in search of pasture for their livestock. Their migration results in trespassing on other tribe’s lands giving rise to conflicts. Those remaining behind in the villages, women and other vulnerable groups, are attacked and property destroyed. Many GRACC women had grown sheltered pastures (grown in wet season and used in dry season). The result has been a decrease in men migrating, a decrease in violence and acknowledgement by some men that their travels have devastating impacts on their families.

The women also noted the CC/DRR adaptation strategies they had implemented; new planting methods (zia pits), drought tolerant seeds, water harvesting technologies (water pans, storage tanks), reduction in tree chopping and not moving their homes near the river during droughts for fear of floods and increased awareness

about erosion to the river banks. “I learned it is important to be prepared when disaster strikes. I have my own small water pan and dried harvested vegetables. I harvest rainwater and store it for when it is dry. I water the vegetables instead of having to travel for water.” ~ Mukutani Woman

Climate change resilience was increased and was attributed to the GRACC project. Women interviewed felt more equipped to absorb stresses and maintain daily functions in the face of the external stresses imposed by climate change as well as being able to better adapt, reorganise, and evolve into more desirable living practices.

1.2 How have women become empowered to take action in relation to CC/DRR and their concerns being heard?

Although AAK has been working on women’s empowerment since 2012 in Baringo County, women and GRACC partners stated there was an increase in women empowerment demonstrated by the organisation into advocacy groups and attending county meetings. Women are stepping into leadership roles at the village, organisation and county level and are responding to CC/DRR problems with a gender responsive lens while also be able to articulate human rights and justice-based logic as leverage points for action. This knowledge has also increased women’s economic empowerment resulting in an increase social status as a decision-maker who contributes to the economic wellbeing of the family and village, roles traditionally held by men.

“I am now respected more as a woman. People are acknowledging what I have done in the community. In my house, I can be a decision-maker in my family. They give me space to decide.”

~ BAWOSFAM Woman

Women have created solidarity activities, peer support meetings and spaces to rehearse their public speaking skills building their courage to advocate for women’s rights and CC/DRR resources. Social norms are shifting away from the belief that women’s and family food sources and incomes are solely under men’s control

to a more equitable stand of women earning their own income, managing small businesses, and making family decisions (e.g. sending girls to school). Women are serving as change agents and have been invited to speak at various public events as sources of CC/DRR knowledge. As an example, DMC (Disaster Management Committee) was invited to ‘barazas’⁶ by local administration to represent different community issues and TAWN was asked by county officials to organise and manage a gender-based violence (GBV) awareness campaign.

All interviewed stakeholder groups are mindful and have a shared concern for women that live deep in the interior of the county. Their remoteness isolates them from some of the CC/DRR preparedness and adaptation activities resulting in a reduced level of resiliency. Also, of concern, were people with disabilities who are marginalized in Kenyan society. Currently, there is not an accurate count of people with disabilities resulting in support services being underfunded. The 2009 census did not capture their numbers (e.g. people hidden by families) and the specific inclusion strategies in the 2019 census could not be verified. Baringo County has recently ‘cleaned up’ existing disability lists and a registration campaign was mentioned by two county government officials. However, a disabled DMC member said she did not know about the campaign and had not filled out a form.

Empowerment is the process that creates power in individuals over their own lives, society, and in their communities. An analysis of the interviews shows that a high proportion of the women increased their participation in decision-making, leadership and political advocacy. The women brought a perspectives, priorities and strengths representing their ideas and experiences as well as their peers in the Tangulbei region. These unique experiences mean they are likely to make different suggestions, put forth different solutions and influence different decisions than men. The women, as well as the organisational partners they worked with, expressed a strong commitment to advocating for women’s policy priorities. An emerging impact is this increased empowerment’s on peace keeping. Through their increased CC/DRR adaptation actions, many have increased their family’s income through alternative farming practices facilitating a reduction in men’s migration patterns decreasing resource-based conflict. Women felt overall more resilient and equipped to raise CC/DRR awareness and make life-determining decisions for themselves and with their communities.

⁶ Where public meetings are held.

1.3 How has the levels of awareness about CC increased?

Evidence found that awareness about CC has increased significantly overall. Variations about the depth and level of understanding depended on the women's own self-perceptions and how remotely they live. The commitment and interest in addressing issues relating to CC/DRR were uniformly expressed by the women and organisational partners. Evidence gathered indicates that women are viewed by the communities and government officials as an important human resource in community disaster preparedness and response at the grassroots level.

"I learned that climate change is causing conflict that is leading to poverty. Property is destroyed. If there is peace, we can carry on with our farming activities."

~Eastfield

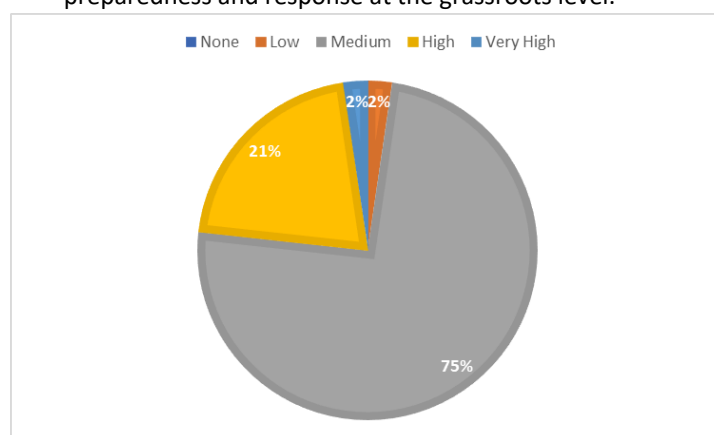


Figure 2 Level of awareness/knowledge about CC/DRR before GRACC, (n=45)

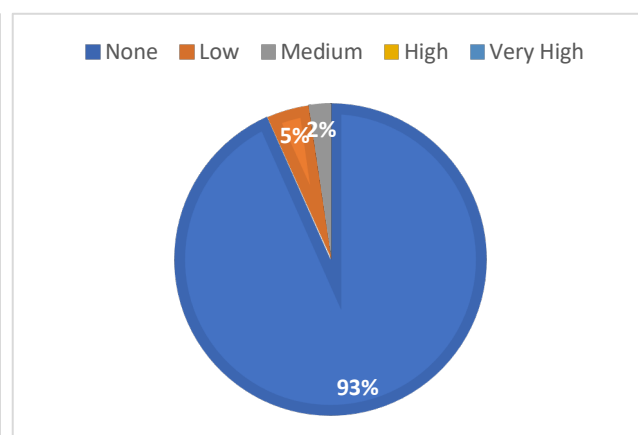


Figure 1 Level of awareness/knowledge about CC/DRR after GRACC, (n=45)

According to the 2018 baseline study⁷, "87% of the household's respondents were not aware of climate change policies originating either from county or national government." From a sample size of 45 GRACC evaluation stakeholder interviews, 95% stated they knew nothing or had low-level knowledge on CC/DR before GRACC and now 96% of the stakeholders rated themselves as having medium to high levels of knowledge. (See Figures 1 & 2 above)

Also noted by women and organisational partners, a noticeable change in men's behaviour and awareness of alternative livelihoods besides livestock; fewer men migrated during droughts, there is enough pasture (that has been grown and sheltered); expressed interest in learning exchanges with other villages (Makueni) undertaking water conservation strategies and acknowledgement that their migration practices cause of resource-based conflicts.

1.4 Have women's voices, concerns and representation increased in relation to CC/DRR processes?

Increased political participation of women at county meetings has embolden other women to take similar chances to speak up and advocate for resources and their priorities. The county recognises GRACCs contribution to capacity development on CC/DRR and women's rights – 'We can tell which communities have worked in GRACC by the number of women present. We have seen enhanced leadership within the community. Even now, women are organising and taking leadership that project management, through the network. They are on school committees, water committees. They are there. Women's voices are being heard in meetings when decisions are being made.' (Baringo County Government Official). Government officials described that the "approach that GRACC used to get to the locals was perfect. You worked with targeted groups. It also informed us at the county level on how to engage with local women effectively. When we are ready to upscale, we already have 'class' of women which can help do this from Tangelbei." Several examples were given of women's increased influence. Tangelbei Women's Network (TAWN) requested and received a visit from a county veterinary extension officer to help farmers with new livestock illnesses attributed to CC. Baringo Women Small Holders Farmers Movement BAWOSFAM reported some requests had been met through the county subsidization of fertilizer, seeds,

⁷ Baseline Report on Gender Responsive Alternatives to Climate Change in Tiaty, Baringo County, Institute of Environment and Water Management (July 2018).

chickens and other farm inputs. However, the Mukutani women said they attended a meeting with a request to address a critical women's need but felt the county response was gender biased. The women had requested a more accessible water source to irrigate their gardens and reduce the risks of traveling long distances to isolated water sources. Ultimately, the water source installed was for the men's livestock. In all the success advocacy examples, women took pride in their efforts to represent their needs. Government officials noted that women presenting at the meetings was an effective strategy, creating opportunity for dialogue and increased understanding between the women and decision-makers.

1.5 *How has the capacity of women for participation in CC/DRR planning and mitigation changed?*

Women felt overall their capacity for participation was significantly increased (See Figures 1 & 2 above) based on the capacity development on: CC/DRR and HRBA; how to assess, reduce, prepare, and disseminate CC/DRR information; contributing to community protection plans; engagement with county leadership, being seen as positive role models by government officials and their own peers; presenting their CCCoD and providing input to the national climate change adaptation and development plans (See more in Outcome 2).

Even though the findings indicate there have been positive changes in the capacity of women to participate in CC/DRR activities, the capacity is nuanced by how remotely the women live. Distinctions in capacity emerged

Community members deep into the bush, they may not have practices as much as the town folks have down. Even though they have heard the new information, on cc/drr strategies they haven't seen the results for themselves and aren't adopting the new practices.

~ Eastfield

between women with more access to implementing partner organisations in Tangulbei and Marigat versus those women who live in Mukutani (22 kilometres further inland from Tangulbei). Those women engaged in implementing partner activities had more access to attend meetings, more frequently participated in action planning and trainings and felt a solidarity tied to the mission and vision of their organisations.

Even though some of the Mukutani women attended GRACC trainings, they are overall more isolated and have less mobility to attend meetings and build connection. Implementing partners did have a dissemination strategy used by TAWN, Eastfield and DMC to include and inform women lively more remotely.

1.6 *How has the capacity for women-led preparedness and resilience planning improved?*

All stakeholders interviewed recognized and built upon the proven strengths and capacities of women in preparedness and resilience planning. There is new understanding in influential county and some national circles of CC/DRR that although gender roles and relations often change during a disaster, the relevance of using a gender responsive lens strengthens and increases preparedness by understanding more deeply the roles people perform and how to best strengthen women's roles whose voices are culturally marginalized. Women's increased roles as CC/DRR experts who held local resilience knowledge, and are now bolstered by global scientific knowledge, have increased the resiliency of the GRACC communities. The evaluation found that the impact of the women's new individual and collective community planning skills was systemic in nature for they had explicit dissemination plans to distribute preparedness information to the inner villages: "We reach out to one group on our list, who have sub-groups they are responsible for share the information...we pick a topic from the workshop modules, prepare it on a paper and then disseminate. Those that don't show up we visit them and take some supplies to share with them. We make sure everyone learns." (TAWN). Although effective as an initial dissemination strategy, findings indicated the information was not as impactful for women who did not attend the trainings themselves. The knowledge transfer was less effective for those people that did not experience the information firsthand.

"The preparedness we have – we can preserve, we can adapt, we can have disaster responsive crops. We have adopted the changes. We feel more secure."

~ BAWOSFAM

The impact of women's increased capacity can be directly attributed to the AAK staff. Their efforts to support and link the implementing partners to CC/DRR information and to county forums have been very effective and relevant while also following up and coordinating strategic partners agreements and requests for community input. Having an AAK staff person in Tangulbei was strategic and effective for it gave an immediacy to the support for the women and a conduit and reliable liaison for county officials to use to help mobilize activities. Implementing and strategic partners equally acknowledged and appreciated the increased impact of the GRACC project due to the accessibility and reliability of the AAK staff person based in Tangulbei.

1.7 What attitudinal change has occurred about gender impacts of CC at local/regional decision makers?

All the 12 strategic partners interviewed (10 Male/2 Female), save one, affirmed their belief that women are most affected by CC: 'they are the managers of the family and the community'; 'socio-economic level is very low and they have little decision-making power'; 'women must travel long distances to fetch water'. One county official was more circumspect: 'it affects the entire population – when the lakes flood, it displaces people forcing them to go to raised places. They lose their property, food security, schools are closed which affects education and food security. It impacts the entire population.'

A relevant and impactful finding was the request of the county department of devolution and research for more guidance on how to capture and better disaggregate gender responsive data to increase their understanding of the challenges that their citizens face: 'We did data segregation to capture the disabled, children, the elderly. GRACC supported this. There are issues of being able as a county to capture the disaggregation of vulnerabilities with a gender lens (including LGBT) and enhance our capacities of data gathering and storage of it. We want to have a gender lens in whatever we are doing in the county.' A second county official: 'What I learned from GRACC, is that talking about gender is not just about women and men, it is capturing people in their own lives. We want to be able to get to that level of detail. We really want to capture the vulnerable impacted by CC. Poor, elderly, sick, levels of poverty.'

The evaluation was able to identify increased agreement that CC/DRR have gendered impacts. Grassroots men and women interviewed in separate FGD agreed that the challenges impacted women more. This understanding was confirmed by implementing and strategic partners including most of the county government officials interviewed.

Summary Outcome 1

The evaluation reports that Outcome 1 was achieved based on the above findings. Women have an increased trust in their abilities to step beyond the existing cultural norms where men are the primary decision makers and income generators. They are now community leaders who can organise, create and manage participatory input spaces where they articulate specific demands for marginalized communities backed by their own experiences, Kenyan law, universal human rights and CC/DRR scientific knowledge.

This growing empowerment is very relevant for Kenya which in 2010, approved a new constitution significantly reconfiguring the balance of power by devolving, or transferring power and budgets, from the national government to 47 elected county governments. Baringo County is role modelling this devolvment in their response to climate change as well as how they have committed to increased participation of its citizens, particularly the most marginalized, into budget allocations and prioritization of funding. GRACC's relevance can also be noted in the systemic approach of working across organisational/societal boundaries engaging with broad stakeholder groups of women, pastoral villages, local community-based organisations, international NGOs, civil society organisations and county officials. These entities have banded together because of GRACC, on a common vision to make their citizens more engaged, informed, prepared and resilient while also reducing resource-based conflict which impacts women more severely.

The GRACC project also has significantly increased the CC/DRR technical capacity development for women and partner organisations ensuring they are equally informed and skilled and can communicate using a shared understanding of priorities. Jointly, they are increasing access to material, human and social resources that enhance women's ability to lead, exercise choice, shift attitudes, increase participation, practice negotiation skills resulting in meaningful improvements in their gender equality, well-being and livelihoods.

There is evidence that GRACC was conducive to longer-term sustainability due to the high-levels of buy-in and engagement of the various stakeholder groups. This is particularly evident in terms of its capacity to mobilise

"It affects women the most, they have a lot of responsibility with babies on her back, wood on her head and carrying toddlers, it impacts them most."

~Pokot Grassroots Man

civil society and other key stakeholders in the collection and analysis of data on the implementation of CC/DRR. To sustain this momentum, it will be necessary to continue encouraging buy-in and focus on developing capacity, skills and understanding of different stakeholders, particularly other

Baringo County departments currently not CC/DRR trained and women who live in extremely remote villages.

Findings Outcome 2: Women take collective action to influence and engage in national and international policy, planning and decision making on climate change and related crises.

2.1 What actions/activities have been undertaken to influence national or international policy?

The evaluation found that women are engaging in a range of influencing activities on policy and budgets at the local, national and international level. It should be noted that AAK and many of its implementing partners have been building partnerships and empowering women, independently and collectively that GRACC was able to build upon. Examples of local policy work included: BAOWSFARM's work on pro-women CC policies; Eastfield conducted social audits and sensitizing communities and women on public participation; TAWN worked on issues of good governance; Baringo Civil Society Forum (BACSO) undertook policy work and helped with the CCCoD and DMC sensitizing communities CC/DRR response and lead the creation of the CCCoD. An outcome from the many GRACC trainings, meetings and collaborative action plans was the formation of a new committee, the County Environment Committee in 2019 with a TAWN woman asked to join as an active member.

A GRACC activity with great relevance was created in December 2018. DMC, with input from multiple implementing partners organisations, collected community views, prioritized and consolidated ideas to create the CCCoD. The CCCoD highlighted CC issues affecting women, girls, and people living with disability, was validated by the Baringo County Civil Society Organizations (BACSO) and well received by country leadership. The charter's five priority areas were: understanding disaster risk, strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk, investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience and enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to "Build Back Better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

The relevance and impact of the CCCoD is notable. A demand listed in the CCCoD was that the: "Department of Environment and Natural resources, Baringo County should take deliberate efforts to domesticate the climate change policy in line with the CCAAP 2018-2022." The Baringo County CCAAP has been created as a policy document which links and aligns county CC/DRR efforts to the National CC Adaptation Plan. Implementing partners are now vigilant of the county and national budget cycles and are active in the monitoring and mobilization of women to attend decision making meetings. BAWOSFAM noted 'before decisions about agriculture priorities were decided from the top down with no input from the farmers, now that has changed'.

The evaluation was not able to identify international policy changed attributable to the work of the GRACC project in Kenya. However, as well as the findings noted above, a key effective and relevant activity was the intentional focus of linking grassroots women, many who are active in the implementing partners organisations, to a broader array of government departments and organisations that are working regionally, nationally and some internationally. These organisations are working on different, interlinked CC/DRR priorities (e.g. food distribution, reduction in cattle rustling). Most key informants interviewed, knew about the network of activities and saw these organisations sources of support and more specialised CC/DRR information.

2.2 How have national or international policy changed?

There have been activities targeting the county and national policy levels with the CCCoD and the CCCAP document created, validated and recognized by the government. Work on international policy is still too early to gauge. This finding is not surprising as the GRACC project timeframes for the global project were short and influencing international policy is a long-term outcome, which was a collective responsibility of the GRACC project. Women from GRACC Kenya, Cambodia and Vanuatu participated in Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. However, all women and organisational partners demonstrated awareness of the importance of influencing policy change and believed that they have commenced the journey.

The evaluation has identified that the key foundations for influencing policy change has been laid by the activities of the project. The findings confirm key achievements which are pre-requisites to influencing policy change. These include: women, implementing and strategic partners have been identified and their capacity and knowledge for CC/DRR, human rights and awareness of gendered impacts have been expanded; women and organisational partners have emerging awareness of institutional and policy landscape; increased confidence to engage with government evidenced by the frequency of engagement with authorities, particularly at the county level; women can articulate and voice their needs, concerns and aspirations; and importantly the development of the charter of demands; and two women have taken part in the Grass Roots Academy and were part of a collective effort to influence international agendas at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva, Switzerland in 2019.

These activities demonstrate significant steps taken in the project towards enabling skills and knowledge to influence policy influencing. Several major challenges remain to influence change in policy at the national and international level:

- More women, particularly from the interior of Baringo County, need further capacity development and knowledge about policy landscapes, level of knowledge to navigate complex institutional processes.
- More county department leadership, beyond those currently engaged, need capacity development on gender equality, human rights and their relationship to CC/DRR.
- Access by women to policy makers at the national and international level are limited.
- Barriers for women to travel and the time away from livelihood activities is a constraint.

The conclusion that the evaluation draws from the evidence is that significant progress has been made towards laying the foundational work to influence policy change. At the local level, the signs of early influence are emerging as noted above. Women have a platform for safe engagement in leadership and influencing for CC/DRR and elevated their status. Women identified that their status was reinforced with the global activities and being asked to participate in international platforms.

2.3 What have women learnt during the Peer Learning Exchange (PLE) and Grassroots Academy (GRA)?

As part of the GRACC global initiative, two grassroots women participated in two global learning events. The first event in April 2018, was a peer learning exchange in Indonesia, enabling grassroots women participants to visit villages that are drought and landslide prone where they learned about practices that enhanced incomes, secured food and protected their living environments. Women also learned about waste management (e.g. plastic bags, recycling); increased knowledge of organic composting and fertilizer; benefits of a savings club; alternative ways to provide livestock feed; and knowledge of risk mapping in agriculture. In May 2019, two Baringo Country women attended the sixth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva, Switzerland. The GRACC women from Cambodia, Kenya and Vanuatu participated jointly and their participation was facilitated by the Huairou Commission.

A few challenges were noted by the women who attending these global platforms. At the PLE event, there were many languages represented and as to be expected, translation of information was difficult, meaning some learning was lost. At GRA, the Sendai Framework proved challenging to understand: ‘the international community needs to simplify the Sendai framework so that grassroots women can understand, interpret and disseminate. It is for the elites.’ Additional insight from a participant was to conduct smaller meetings in the county with grassroots women and government officials for them to contribute to the creating of a country presentation that can be shared at the global events: ‘I want to do a better job than I did.’

The evaluation findings confirm that the two global events had overall positive influence on the learnings by women. The feedback from the women participants, the Huairou Commission and AA staff confirmed that the PLE and GRA provided women to gain global insights into common challenges; supported a broader understanding of DRR/CC and gender impacts; improved knowledge about global frameworks such as the Sendai Framework; developed insights into the value of collective organising; presented strong role modelling of women’s leadership; enhanced the understanding of women’s network building; enabled peer learning and sharing knowledge in a safe manner; and increased sense of solidarity with women from around the world.

“Even though climate change impacts us, it doesn’t have to impact the community. There are things we can do to prepare and respond and enjoy our lives. I got a clear understanding of the Sendai framework and the four priorities.” ~ BAWOSFAM Woman

2.4 What was the impact of engaging with women from other parts of the country/world?

Both women who participated identified positive impact of engaging with women from other parts of the country/world. Numerous benefits were identified:

- Women identified that the engaging with other women provided a strong platform to identify and work on similar issues; peer learning in safe environments; felt respected by being asked to attend global meetings.
- Preparedness: learned about alternative livelihoods agricultural and commercial; growing resilient crops and the value of the growing fruit; organic compost manure; preserving food for their animals; DRR.
- Empowerment: women gaining strength from each other; understanding of collective ability to influence change; realization of the importance of solidarity among women; overcoming sense of isolation; understanding of the commonality of issues and challenges; gaining creative ideas from each other and pooling of resources to achieve the outcomes.

- Building partnerships: Women learned that it is beneficial to work closely with their government. They saw the benefits of holding regular meetings and making action plans, especially around influencing budgets. The engagement with women within the region or globally enabled women to have a sense of agency and role-model speaking in public about topics of significance.
- Women's Leadership: the engagement particularly with global forums enabled women to see strong female role models in different roles e.g. government, global organisations and NGOs. This inspired women to develop themselves or others as strong women leaders.

'Activities have trickled down to the village level. You look at the level of attendance, and the kind of people that are participating, you don't find the common figures. You find new people coming. It tells me how thorough this process has been. I want to appreciate the level that the community came into understanding and contributing towards CC.'

~Baringo County Government Official

The evaluation confirms the beneficial impacts of engagement with women from other parts of county and from around the world. Women found relevance in identifying different livelihoods and skills they adapted for their context: bookkeeping with table banking groups; kitchen gardens; poultry farming and planting resilient crops. The women felt honoured to be chosen to represent other women in their communities.

2.5 What were the constraints on taking collective action to influence policy, planning and decision making on climate change and related crises?

The 2018 country profile report⁸ stated: 'all respondents expressed minimal to no form of participation in actively shaping county level decisions on climate change adaptation and DRR.' One year later, respondents in this evaluation, reported increased impact they attribute to GRACC activities. Collective action and networking in Baringo County are strong. The Mukutani and Tangelbei women are organised, committed and keep each other informed, motivated and networked. The strategic partners, including community-based organisations (CBOs), NGOs, INGOs learned organising strategies from GRACC and are now a network of agencies working on CC/DRR with different focal points. The commitment to work together was clearly articulated, noting that by being networked it makes everything easier by approaching policy makers from multiple agencies indicating the same evidence of need and requesting similar budget response to address them.

Even with the noted progress in a one year, constraints to women taking collective action are several. There are many grassroots women who live remotely who have not had the same exposure to GRACC activities. Related to this isolation is that the dominance of men's decision making, and influence are also stronger in the interior who continue to engage in environmental depletion (e.g. chopping trees, migrating with livestock). Current GRACC participants agree that a focused effort to include these remote families in future CC/DRR activities and advocacy trainings will increase their resilience. Women's skills, knowledge, education, and literacy levels varied and impacted on their ability and agency to navigate and influence government and policy frameworks. Other exclusionary factors were reported: multiple care burdens and unequal gender norms; continuum of violence against women and girls (e.g. Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and child marriages although illegal in Kenya has seen an increase in Baringo County documented by government officials); and social exclusion and marginalization by the Kenyan culture of people with disabilities.

Great progress has been made in creating momentum for collective action to influence CC/DRR policies. Women are organising to: provide clarity and a focused Charter of Demands; hold women's caucus meetings to strategize and prioritize demands/challenges; attend key meetings in numbers; build relationships with strategic partners – 'they know us now' and disseminate information and discuss shared concerns of CC/DRR and women's rights. The actions are taking place routinely in Baringo County informally and formally making the collaboration a potent force to change on a larger scale previously considered a limited because of geography and cultural norms.

⁸ Tanyag M. (2019) Gender-Responsive Alternatives on Climate Change: A Country Report on Kenya, Research Report, Monash University and ActionAid Australia.

2.6 What degree of success do they feel they have had in influencing policy change and having women's concerns heard in decision making processes?

An effective impact according to the findings is women's access to and collegial relationships with government officials and their meetings. This increased participation of grassroots women at county decision-making events aligns strategically with the county's increased commitment and interest in holding participatory forums and their legal responsibility to do so.

The GRACC 2018 baseline study reports: 'the development of bills related to development at the county level has minimal women and vulnerable groups input...the public was not taken into account during the drafting stages...the present county law on public participation...did not go through requisite public participation requirements as described in the

'It is very hard to someone here in Marigat that understands CC. But if you go to the village, women, youth, elderly people know that by cutting trees and other activities it has extensively contributed to CC. They have come to appreciate the fact that there needs to be adaptive measures to lower the effects. The GRACC programme has done a lot, there is a lot of knowledge.

~ Baringo County Government Official

Public Participation Bill.' In one year, the level of public participation, supported by GRACC, has change this previous baseline reality. All local and regional decision-makers interviewed expressed the benefits of having grassroots voices, especially GRACC women who represented other marginalized voices, at the county meetings. 'We have also seen women participating in top leadership and being elected in assemblies. They attend functions and speak. They have the empowerment and the knowledge, and they are noticed.' -Baringo County Government Official

Signs of this successful impact are:

- TAWN woman was selected to read to all the delegates at the GRA in Switzerland the Women's Group Statement representing the diversity of voices of the grassroots women.
- Implementing partners/women know which county committees/activities are being held and the organise groups of women to attend and present.
- "I learnt it is important for community members to participate in the county budget process, especially for women. It is not the ministry who decides the budget, it is the community that must give their views. We have to pay attention to make sure our requests are incorporated into the budget." Eastfield
- Implementing partners perceive increased governance, accountability, transparency and engagement of targeted county governors/ staff and national drought management authority.
- Some implementing partners are closely monitoring the budget expenditures and keeping their own records. They gave an example of their concerns: 800M KHS (11M AUD) budgeted for Baringo County Water Department, yet there are no funds budgeted for assisting communities in water conservation.
- Capacity building of county government staff on CC/DRR influenced another strategic partners' work. "When you interact with government staff, they understand CC – GRACC did this."

Summary Outcome 2

The evaluation has found based on the above findings that the project has made significant progress towards Outcome 2, women taking collective action to influence and engage in national and international policy, planning and decision-making. The women in Baringo County have collectively organised, engaged and influenced local policy decision-making. These strategic alliances with increased numbers of women and organizations aligned on issues related to women's concerns and were better able to influence CC/DRR behaviours and policymaking processes.

Women and implementing partners created a CCCoD which included national demands to: enhance Early Warning Systems at national and regional level; include climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning; and contribute to the priority identification that were included in Baringo Country's CCAAP 2018-2022. The influence at the international policy level is less evident because of the multi-dimensional

complexity it represents and the short two-year timeframe of the GRACC project. However, a GRACC statement on CC/DRR was made at the GRA in Switzerland to a global audience.

The evaluation confirms that the project has relevance in that the needs and priorities of women, as the main beneficiaries, were identified and treated as central and collaborative partners. Relevant capacity building and support was provided to empower women to act in shaping policy, government, budgeting, human rights and advocacy decision-making. All women and stakeholders confirmed the relevance of the project and the activities. The evaluation also confirms the impact and the effectiveness of Outcome 2 based on the evidence of the empowerment of women with an increase in their own agency; peer learning; taking collective action; development of a CCCoD a significant & contribution to CCAAP (a significant contribution to sustainability); and increased engagement and relationships with county government and other strategic partners. The global activities of PLE and GRA broadened women's knowledge and thinking. The evaluation concludes that the projects benefits will continue, all stakeholders are committed to continued engagement and expansion of the project.

Findings Outcome 3 ⁹: Women's voice and leadership in climate change and related crises is enhanced through the establishment of a gender responsive framework on gender, climate and security.

3.1 What has been the impact of learning and sharing activities on knowledge transfer, preparedness, resilience, leadership and advocacy e.g. peer learning exchange (PLE), grassroots academy (GRA)?

A key finding is the effective conceptualisation of women as active and positive agents in CC/DRR resilience building and political advocacy in their communities and county. The GRACC project-increased community resilience by supporting women to enhance what they were already doing to cope and recover in the face of quick-onset disasters with international knowledge HRBA, HVCA, Sendai Framework and scientific CC/DRR content. A gender paradigm is slowly shifting from the stereotypical constraint of women to primarily domestic responsibilities to a new understanding about the vast potential in women's capacities and roles.

Both grassroots women, who participated in PLE explained a key learning for them was the contrast between using organic and chemical fertilizer, adapting the process for their context upon returning. The use of water ponds to conserve water was also a new adaptation 'we didn't know how to do this; we shared the ideas with the county government and NDMA showed us how to construct water ponds.' The women also learned that they now belonged to a global network of women with shared CC hardships and they welcomed the global peer exchanges on DRR.

For the WC themselves, they have new understanding, empowerment and increasing acceptance that they are fulfilling their human right to advocate, contribute and perform leadership roles. For the communities, they are witnessing an expansion in women's roles who are actively sharing CC/DRR information in formal and informal settings. Attending PLE and GRA shifted the women's own CC/DRR experiences to a global perspective gaining insights to common challenges and connections to a network of women leaders. For government entities, their increased CC/DRR knowledge as well as the presence of CC/DRR informed women at meetings and working with vulnerable communities, is highly valued, effective and impactful. The women are extensions of the county's efforts to increase public participation in county budget decisions as well as serving as county dissemination conduits for CC/DRR and other priority areas (e.g. GBV).

⁹ Evaluator note: Outcome 3 was intended to address the global GRACC framework which had just being finalized as this evaluation project began and therefore not been introduced to many women and key stakeholder so specific data was not available on its impact. However, the country activities contributed directly to the global framework's formation. A framework provides a blueprint of what is, and a compass for sustainable development. Hence, the findings and analysis to Outcome 3 address the systemic nature of GRACC, situating the project within larger processes of change, which informed the global framework and included activities of global forums, scaled impacts, knowledge transfer and country contexts.

3.2 How has women's leadership capabilities been strengthened to work at different scales?

Women involved with GRACC have become key leaders in Baringo County's efforts to mitigate CC impacts. From the Pokot village of Mukutani to the county seat in Kabarnet, the women have demonstrated their interest, abilities and commitments to learn about their political system and how to best prepare themselves to work at

'We have tried to influence country and national level policies before the budget cycle. We tell women you must come in large numbers and influence during the process...we organise women caucus meetings so they can discuss their challenges and issues. We are trying to increase women's leadership. We have more since GRACC came. We are trying to bring the unity – more women leadership development...GRACC has reinforced the work that we were already doing. We are an advocacy group.' ~ Grassroots woman

different levels of environmental policymaking. They are more informed and engaged with the political processes on climate change, from local to international levels, and their activities will help illuminate areas where their leadership is strongest, as well as where further capacity and support for women may be needed. The grassroots women carry a body of local resilience knowledge that is now reinforced with the information they have learned through

GRACC. They are organized to attend county meetings that demonstrates both a systematic approach (using lists where each person has five other people they are responsible for keeping informed) and a systemic one (networked partners working on different strategies: e.g. governance, social audits) all while building competencies and delivering learning along the way. Women in these activities demonstrate the collaboration and influence which defines strong leadership, with women describing new understandings of the leadership roles they could play in monitoring and advocating for CC/DDR preparedness. Overall, women expressed increased confidence, agency and commitment, ready to take on more personal challenges as leaders. As women continue to step further into these leadership roles, pushing against cultural norms, there will be a need for continued training and support.

3.3 What has been the impact of the Global Learning Exchange (Indonesia) and Grassroots Academy (Switzerland)?

As part of the GRACC global initiative, two women from Baringo County participated in two global learning events. The international visits contributed greatly to the excitement and impact of the project. For the two women that participated, it exposed them to other social realities about women's lives, ways of organising and how other cultures live. It gave them hope and a vision. They were able to share values, ideas and understanding how women can mobilise and form networks. The attendance at the international forums earned women status and respect in the local community, both among women and men, implementing strategic partners. Following the visit to Indonesia – a woman stated, "We implemented the bookkeeping with table banking groups, the kitchen garden, keeping poultry, planting vegetables and the crops that are suitable for our context." County officials recognised the leadership development of women from attending global events. (See also 2.3, 2.4, 3.1)

3.4 How has good practice knowledge been transferred?

Based on the interviews and FGD, there have been several ways that knowledge was transferred, formally and informally: the preparation of community protection plans and mechanisms; conducting community outreaches on climate change to inform the CCAAP 2018 – 2022; completion and validation of CCCoD; audits of the county investment in disaster preparedness in relation to the county integrated development plan and annual development plan and through the attendance and later dissemination of information gained at local and county meetings. From the evaluation prospective, it was clear that the process of writing the CCCoD and its contribution to the CCAAP was as important to knowledge transfer as was the actual document.

3.5 What frameworks have been established to ensure women's voices are heard?

At the county and national level, there were no frameworks established. The work in Kenya, however, did contribute to a global GRACC framework which includes three domains: capacity development/knowledge brokering, overcoming barriers/recognizing added value and bottom up/integrated approach.

3.6 What is the nature of women's leadership in their country contexts?

Cultural context is central to leadership development and in the case of Kenya, there are increasing number of women role models in the national political sphere as well as several county positions. From a very narrow perspective during our recent evaluation visit, several women in leadership positions were interviewed in

director and deputy director positions at the county level in non-traditional gendered positions (e.g. Ministry the Environment). (See leadership also in 1.2, 3.1, and 3.2)

- “Before 2012 (when we joined AAK) we realised when writing our constitution that we had no women leadership. We now have three women elected governors, senators, MPs as well as local leadership. Women are leaders on schools, health centres.” (BAWOSFAM)
- ‘Women’s presence, especially when they aren’t at meetings, is noticed. (County Government Official)
- Proud to be asked to lead and organise events for county. (TAWN)

Leadership as a form of empowerment is evident and discussed across stakeholder groups as an important and noticeable change.

- “GRACC is the best that has ever happened to us here in Baringo for especially for women. We have women represented in leadership at the highest levels. We can see the impacts in Baringo North, South and Central, North. Women can do a lot of programmes that were run by men are now run by women. Women are going outside the country, has supported the communities to work on food security. It has changed the way we look at CC in Baringo, soon everyone will be boarding the CC ship and moving in that direction.” (BACSO)
- “See women get involved throughout the county. The county is taking ownership of the decision. They are taking leadership positions in the community. In one year, I have seen women take small leadership roles.” (Mukutani Grassroots Men)
- “We are trying to increase women’s leadership. We have more women leaders since GRACC came. We are trying to bring unity – more women leadership development.” (BAWOSFAM)

In Baringo County, grassroots women's leadership has been an important step in deepening gender equality and democracy. The women have driven a citizen participation campaign in CC/DRR efforts locally and regionally building bipartisan collaboration and cooperation while also bringing an urgency to the needs and priorities of the Pokot people. The impact and effectiveness of this leadership can be seen in the extent to which engaged and informed women attend the county forums as well as the new reliance by county leadership on the women to mobilize others and to get the word about on a range of topics.

Summary Outcome 3

The evaluation based on the above findings has found that Outcome 3 was achieved based on the limitations already described in the footnote on page 12. GRACC was effective in building an inclusive systemic foundation of CC/DRR activities which built women’s and institutional empowerment and knowledge; created a women-centric solidarity movement at the local, county, regional with links to global movements; spurred local government and institutional transformation; and shifted cultural norms about who should and could provide input and leadership to decision-making platforms¹⁰. The evaluators found an effective foundation of activities, networks and activities that encourages a critical and holistic understanding of the opportunities, constraints and relationships within a CC/DRR system yet considering the system as a whole.

Women have articulated their individual and collective empowerment as women, leaders and as Kenyan citizens. Evidence showed this empowerment impacted their lives and created more resilient communities, but also introduced them to broader cultural, social and political systems where they were able to establish leadership roles. The knowledge they gained about a global network of women working on CC/DRR transferred knowledge about adaptation and responsive practices, while reflecting on the similarities and differences to their own living experiences to those of others. This newly found solidarity indicated to them that they are not alone but embedded in a global movement of empowered women.

The relevance of GRACC is strong in a Kenyan context. The now common periods of drought and resource-based conflicts have emotional, financial and health-related effects. By directly linking CC/DRR and gender equality, GRACC directly supports the government’s broader commitment to these strategies providing a good model for the country to document as progress on their sustainable development agenda. Having local implementing partners doing the bulk CC/DRR capacity building and networking with local government was an effective and sustainable way to build capacity of the women by transferring power and knowledge, sometimes centralized in the capitol, to local actors who can act more nimbly and adapt project deliverables based on the local context.

¹⁰ GRACC Global Framework

Although the biggest impact from GRACC has been on women and their communities through their increased resilience and preparedness, another considerable impact was on the county and other strategic partners by increasing their awareness about the role that women can play in CC/DRR. All government officials expressed their appreciation of the GRACC women's activities building resilience in their region and were knowledgeable that the women had participated in global activities which linked their region to a national and global agenda. Several officials mentioned they now view the women as an extension of their DM plan team and hoped that the project would be continuing.

Sustainability of the current impact are certain. Women, their communities, implementing and strategic partners all have new information about CC/DRR and well-established public participation practices and expectations that contribute to a democratic society. Current stakeholders welcomed opportunities to continue to partner with AAK to deepen current knowledge and activities and expand further into the interior where less engage and change is evident.

5.0 Conclusion

Through Gender Responsive Alternatives to Climate Change funding, AAA and AAK have worked in partnership with five implementing partners who include many Pokot women and men as members and leaders; four Baringo County Departments (Education, Sports, Culture, Gender, Social Services and Youth; Environment; Disaster Risk Management; Devolution & Administration); the National Disaster Management Authority as well as multiple Baringo County Civil Societies (a network of 30 civil society organisations), and the women of Tangelbei and Mukutani to increase capacity and knowledge, to take collective action to influence and engage in national and international policy and to increase their voices and leadership on CC/DRR.

GRACC has been implemented by adopting a human rights-based approach which affirms the right of women to participate in decisions affecting their lives, including disaster risk reduction and climate change adaption policies. The project approach has resulted in a localised gender responsive action with a specific goal of strengthening women's leadership in climate change, developing gender responsive CC/DRR and raising their capacity to advocate for theirs and other marginalised voices' rights within their political system while contributing to a global agenda.

In Baringo County, the GRACC project has been an entry point for hundreds of women to step outside their gendered roles currently constrained by a set of social and behavioural norms within their society (and many other societies in the Global North and South) limits women's voices, roles, ideas and aspirations. Aligned with Kenya's larger political efforts on gender equality and CC/DRR, the GRACC project and its stakeholders has made impressive strides in a short two-year span of time. Implementing and strategic partners are encouraged by the positive changes they have seen and are eager to do more collaborative work.

Most of the key stakeholders have identified that they feel their efforts are transforming lives, reducing burdens on women's lives and empowering them to be active, contributing and engaged members of society. They also are concerned about grassroots people that live very remotely who have not be able to participate in the trainings and therefore are still vulnerable to the impact of climate change. Women are clear they would like more information and opportunities to represent villages further in the interior and advocate for their needs. Their engagement is not only for the betterment of their lives and families, but for their community's well-being.

Women, implementing and strategic partners, AAK staff and government officials all expressed strong interest in continuing to develop and support GRACC. Ideas shared included expanding the number of villages involved, particularly in the interior of Baringo County; embedding the HRBA/CC/DRR curriculum in schools; and including more local county government staff in capacity development helping them to mainstream CC/DRR into their own work.

6.0 Key Recommendations

- Build capacity of women from implementing and strategic partners as skilled trainers on CC/DDR to more effectively transfer knowledge into the interior villages. Include grassroots men in future CC/DDR trainings, they are interested and will increase local support for GRACC activities. A strategic partner made the point, 'How are we empowering men to respond to the empowered women?'
- Women and implementing partners are interested in making Tangulbei a CC/DDR exhibition centre for other villages to visit and learn strategies. Create a demonstration site at Tangulbei – on kitchen gardens, drought resistant livelihoods, pasture preservation, chicken raising, water pans and zai pits. This could be an income-generating activity as well and maybe tied to market day.
- In partnership with current GRACC engaged Baringo county government departments (e.g. ministries of Environment; Devolution & Administration), strategize which other county ministries would benefit and are interested in receiving CC/DDR/HRBA training – a request from GRACC involved County officials saying it would create systemic change if all officials had the same baseline knowledge. "We need to bring more people on board. The scope this project had was limited. We need to be able to expand."
- Girls and people with disabilities (along with women) are currently some of the most marginalized groups in Baringo County. Local women advocate for creating a disability awareness building campaign like the CC/DDR, gender equality and HRBA in the community. "If you are born with a disability you are marginalized for life, regardless of the disability. You are fed less, not sent to school, not included as a community member and shunned." (TAWN Advocate for the Disabled) TAWN has a member who is very committed to supporting disabled people's rights and access to resources.
- County Research & Development is interested in being able to better disaggregate data to capture the complexity in their populations. They currently do have some skills in-house and would benefit from a capacity development consultant to come in and help them establish systems for reporting.
- Specific interest from some women and the county government to focus activities on the 'girl child'. Girls are often not sent to school, are under the constant threat of FGM and of been made to marry young. This effort could be bolstered by the CCCoD which has girls' rights in two of their demands: establishment of safe centres for girls escaping from FGM and places for protection of women and girls during/post emergencies and conflicts.
- Co-develop a shared work plan amongst partners and capture progress at standing meetings. This will help with future grant writing, keep each other motivated as well as reporting progress to the County.
- Although the CCCoD is a significant accomplishment, the women in Mukutani are not sure if it has made much impact. Creation of a scorecard document that could be reviewed at quarterly meetings to check on progress and areas that might need more advocating.

Annexes

ANNEX 1: EVALUATION CRITERIA AND KEY EVALUATION QUESTIONS

Evaluation Objectives and Criteria

The main objectives of the evaluation were:

- To review the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, sustainability and impact of the project by reviewing the project outcomes achieved as a result of project outputs and project approach.
- To assess the project achievements, strengths, weaknesses and implementation constraints with a view to identifying any lessons and good practice that can be incorporated into future ActionAid programming and shared in the sector.

The evaluation criteria and questions for each country level report will be decided in a consultative manner with the teams at the country level and with input from the Evaluation Working Group and as part of the participatory approach of the evaluation. It is envisaged that there will be some common questions across countries while still trying to reflect the unique context of each location.

The evaluation criteria are:

- a. Women's Empowerment
- b. Relevance
- c. Effectiveness
- d. Efficiency
- e. Impact
- f. Sustainability

Country Key Evaluation Questions

Outcome 1

- 1.1 How have women participants become more resilient to climate change risks?
- 1.2 How have women become empowered to take action in relation to CC/DRR and their concerns being heard?
- 1.3 How has the levels of awareness about CC increased?
- 1.4 Have women's voices, concerns and representation increased in relation to CC/DRR processes?
- 1.5 How has the capacity of women for participation in CC/DRR planning and mitigation changed?
- 1.6 How has the capacity for women-led preparedness and resilience planning improved?
- 1.7 What attitudinal change has occurred about gender impacts of CC at local/regional decision makers?

Outcome 2

- 2.1 What actions/activities have been undertaken to influence national or international policy?
- 2.2 How have national or international policy changed?
- 2.3 What have women learnt during the Peer Learning Exchange (PLE) and Grassroots Academy (GRA)?
- 2.4 What was the impact of engaging with women from other parts of the country/world?
- 2.5 What were the constraints on taking collective action to influence policy, planning and decision making on climate change and related crises?
- 2.6 What degree of success do they feel they have had in influencing policy change and having women's concerns heard in decision making processes?

Outcome 3

- 3.1 What has been the impact of learning and sharing activities on knowledge transfer, preparedness, resilience, leadership and advocacy e.g. peer learning exchange (PLE), grassroots academy (GRA)?
- 3.2 How has women's leadership capabilities been strengthened to work at different scales?
- 3.3 What has been the impact of the Global Learning Exchange (Indonesia) and Grassroots Academy (Switzerland)?
- 3.4 How has good practice knowledge been transferred?
- 3.5 What frameworks have been established to ensure women's voices are heard?
- 3.6 What is the nature of women's leadership in their country contexts?

Linking Evaluation Criteria to Key Evaluation Questions

Evaluation Criteria	Key Evaluation Questions
Women's Empowerment	1.2,1.4,1.5,2.3,2.4,2.5,2.6,2.7,2.8,2.9,2.10,2.11,2.12,2.13,2.14,2.15,2.16,2.17,2.18,2.19,2.20,2.21,2.22,2.23,2.24,2.25,2.26,2.27,2.28,2.29,2.30,2.31,2.32,2.33,2.34,2.35,2.36,2.37,2.38,2.39,2.40,2.41,2.42,2.43,2.44,2.45,2.46,2.47,2.48,2.49,2.50,2.51,2.52,2.53,2.54,2.55,2.56,2.57,2.58,2.59,2.60,2.61,2.62,2.63,2.64,2.65,2.66,2.67,2.68,2.69,2.70,2.71,2.72,2.73,2.74,2.75,2.76,2.77,2.78,2.79,2.80,2.81,2.82,2.83,2.84,2.85,2.86,2.87,2.88,2.89,2.90,2.91,2.92,2.93,2.94,2.95,2.96,2.97,2.98,2.99,3.00
Relevance	1.1, 1.2,1.5, 2.3, 3.1 3.6
Effectiveness	1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 2.1, 2.4, 2.5, 3.2 , 3.4
Impact	1.1, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 2.2, 2.6 , 3.3,
Efficiency	See limitations section in the body of the report
Sustainability	1.2, 1.6, 1.7, 2.3, 3.1, 3.5

ANNEX 2: KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEWS

	Implementing Partners (village level)	Strategic Partners (National & County Government/ CBOs/CSOs)	Village/ Community Members	Action Aid Kenya Staff	Sub- TOTALS	Totals (M+F)
Interviewed & Focus Groups	23 F 9 M	2 F 10 M	27 F 27 M	2 F 1 M	54 F 46 M	101
Courtesy Visits		1 M		1 F 1 M	1 F 2 M	3

Table 1 Number of people attending workshops

Workshops	Activity	No of Participants
AAK staff	Inception Meeting	1 M
Capacity Building	ISE4GEMs Methodology	9 (7 F/2 M)
Preliminary Findings	Presentation to AAK staff	4

ANNEX 3: EVALUATION INSTRUMENTS and GUIDING QUESTIONS

Women's Individual and Focus Group Interview Questions

- How were you recruited for this project? When did you join this project?
 - Are there other women in your community who would like to have the same access to the programme/training? Why/Why not?
- How aware are you of CC/DRR or programmes in your community?
Not Aware Slightly Aware Moderately Aware Very Much Aware Highly Aware
- How would you describe the GRACC project to a friend?
- Has changed for you personally about your ability to influence change in your community?
- Has decision making in your household changed since you became a WC? (Probes e.g. money, assets, DRR, household management)
- What was your level of awareness and knowledge about climate change before the project started?
1 Nothing 2 Low 3 Medium 4 High 5 Very High
- What is your level of awareness and knowledge now? Why?
1 Nothing 2 Low 3 Medium 4 High 5 Very High
- How do men in your community feel about women's increased decision-making because of CC/DRR?
- Do individuals in your community seek your opinion/help, advice of CC/DRR or other matters? Did this happen before becoming a WC (who seeks advice, why, why not others such as Village Chief, is she able to respond?)
- How do women feel about women's increased decision-making because of CC/DRR?
- What is the extent of your involvement in CC/DRR activities?
 - What were the activities?
 - Were you involved before the project?
 - What is your involvement/role now?
 - Have you been in informal or formal roles?

12. What changes have you help implement in your community because of your involvement with GRACC?
13. What impacts does climate change on income generation?
 - a. Are the impacts different for men and women?
 - b. Has the GRACC programme helped to mitigate those?
14. Has being a WC impacted on your capacity to generate income? (unintended consequences)
15. The highlight of being of being a WC
16. What would help build your resilience for income generation in the long term?
17. How did these activities change your perception on your leadership abilities?
18. To what extent are you more confident more to leadership roles in CC/DRR
19. How has your awareness of policy and processes increased because of this project?
20. Have you had opportunity to influence and advocate for women's concerns beyond CC/DRR?
21. Has your confidence increased to advocate to leaders about CC/DRR?
22. What specific skills and capacities have you developed because of this programme?
23. What topics would you like to learn more about to feel confident in responding to CC/DRR?
24. What challenges remain in your community for women to continue to be leaders in CC/DRR?

Staff Focus Group Questions

1. Can you describe the programme and its effects for the women you work with/in this community?
2. In your view, what did the programme achieve?
3. In your view, what were barriers that prevented the programme from being effective/more effective? How did you respond?
4. What are the benefits to your community/agency of women's participation in CC/DRR leadership and action?
5. What are the benefits to women of their increased participation?
6. In your view, is there resistance to women's participation?
7. Where there any unintended impacts/outcomes (positive or negative) during the programme?
8. Impact of local policy?
9. Women's charter? Did all the WC get a chance to have their voices heard?
10. Describe the capacity development that occurred
11. What other type of capacity building do you think would be helpful to support GRACC?
12. Can you describe the learning of staff involved in the delivery of the programme?

Global Team Interview Questions

1. Please describe the GRACC programme and your organisation's role.
2. What were the anticipated outcomes from your organisation's participation? An example of an impact beyond participation?
3. Why was it important to share good practices and innovations across countries among community women?
4. Was the peer learning exchanges (Indonesia) achieve the anticipated outcomes?
 - a. What were the indicators that showed this?
 - b. Where there any unintended impacts/outcomes (positive or negative) during the programme?
 - c. What would you have done differently?
5. Did the Grassroots Women's Academy (Switzerland) academy achieve the anticipated outcomes?
 - a. What were the indicators that showed this?
 - b. Where there any unintended impacts/outcomes (positive or negative) during the programme?
 - c. What would you have done differently?
6. How were participants needs assessments assessed prior to each activity?
7. What differences did they observe between the learning exchange learning and the grassroots?
8. What did the post training evaluation of workshop indicate? ·
9. Has the GR framework been completed? Where can it be accessed?
 - a. Who contributed to its development?
 - b. How or when will it be launched?
 - c. If already launched, how was it received?
 - d. How will it be used?
10. From your experience on this project, what have you learned about the intersections on gender equality, the environment and marginalized voices that are engaged in the programme?

11. What are the benefits to women of their increased participation in their communities, regionally and globally?
12. In your view, what were barriers that prevented the programme from being effective/more effective? How did you respond?
13. What resources were made available to women to take back to their countries to share with others?

WC Husband/Men Focus Group Questions

- 1) When did you first hear about climate change and its impact on the weather patterns in your commune?
- 2) How has CC impacted your life?
- 3) Do you think that CC affects men and women differently? (Why/why not and how?)
- 4) Can you describe the impact of the GRACC programme the women in your family (i.e. wife, daughter, sister) who participated?
- 5) Did you have any concerns about the participation of your wife/daughter/sister in GRACC programme, why/why not?
- 6) In your view, what were the negative and positive outcomes from the project?
- 7) What knowledge and skills did the women gain? Was their learning about CC/DRR shared with you and your family members?
- 8) In your view, what are the benefits to broader community of women's participation and leadership?
- 9) In your view, is there resistance in the broader community to women's participation and leadership?
- 10) What would you suggest for the future phases of this project?

Front cover: Communities in Baringo lead flood response. Photo: ActionAid.

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