



**CBMS**

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### **A Local Poverty Monitoring System (LPMS) for Tana River District, Kenya**

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Ministerio de Economía y Finanzas

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**AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT**

*“Working with communities for better lives”*

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**A LOCAL POVERTY MONITORING SYSTEM (LPMS) FOR  
TANA RIVER DISTRICT, KENYA**

**A research proposal**

**Revised and resubmitted to:**

**Poverty and Economic Policy Network**

**By**

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**Abstract**

Although the government of Kenya conducts regular welfare monitoring surveys, the macro-level analysis camouflages wide regional variations. Even at the provincial level, there are differences in poverty that are based on district, location and sub-location level specific conditions. These differences can be explained in terms of the general multidimensional nature of poverty. In Tana River district factors such as drought, changes in climatic conditions, changing livelihoods and ethnic conflicts have contributed to high poverty levels. Ethnic conflict in the district can be traced back to pre-independence days, and continues to contribute to low socio-economic development. It is against this background that the current study seeks to develop a local poverty monitoring system (LPMS) with the residents of Tana River district.

The study will be conducted in three sub-locations representing the three divisions of Bura, Galole and Garsen in Tana River District, Kenya. This will be a collaborative study between the African Institute for Health & Development (AIHD), the government of Kenya and the communities. The study will be conducted in three phases: (i) the first phase will be a qualitative study that will utilize seasonal calendars, focus group discussions and key informant interviews to identify local specific variables to facilitate the formulation/adaptation of a CBMS questionnaire; and (ii) a household census; (iii) implementation of the revised LPMS design in one of the divisions of Tana River district. The questionnaire to be used in the household census will be simplified to allow the communities to implement it. It is anticipated that local officials and residents will be able to process and calculate several village level indicators, including those related to education, health, water, sanitation and wealth. The study is expected to contribute to the government and its development partners' poverty monitoring and mitigation efforts not only in Tana River district but also in other areas with similar characteristics.

## 1.0 Research objectives and questions

### 1.1 Objectives

The general objective is to establish a local poverty monitoring system (LPMS) for Tana River district.

The specific objectives are to:

1. Determine local specific causes of poverty in Tana River district;
2. Establish the relationship between ethnic conflict and drought on poverty in the district;
3. Determine the effects of poverty on the ability of households to access social services such as health, education, safe drinking water and wealth creation opportunities;
4. Establish a process through which communities characterise and identify the poorest among them for support; and
5. Assess the poverty reduction initiatives already in place and their long-term viability.
6. Assess the capacity of the communities to implement a LPMS.

### 1.2 Research questions

The study will be guided by six key research questions:

1. What are the local specific causes of poverty in Tana River district?
2. What is the relationship between ethnic conflict and drought on poverty in the district?
3. What are the effects of poverty on the ability of households to access services such as health, education, safe drinking water and wealth creation opportunities?
4. Is there a process through which communities characterise, identify and support the poorest among them?
5. Are there poverty reduction initiatives in place and what is their long-term viability?
6. Are the communities able to use a local specific process of monitoring poverty on a sustained basis?
7. What is the capacity of the communities in the implementation of a LPMS with support from the local government?

## 2.0 Knowledge gaps and scientific contribution of the research

Poverty is a localised phenomenon to such an extent that centrally planned national poverty alleviation programs may not adequately address the specific needs of local areas. Thus, there is need to understand the regional dimensions of poverty that would allow alleviation efforts to work most effectively. Since local conditions and the problems faced by the communities are best understood by their members, it calls for a monitoring system that is conducted and owned by the communities, hence the term local poverty monitoring system (LPMS) adopted for this study. For instance, there are yearly reports in Tana River district of acute drought that is often accompanied by destitution and ethnic conflict around sharing of natural resources (WLEA, 2002). Both drought and ethnic conflict retard development and thus entrench poverty (Omosa, 2005; USAID & CARE, 2001). This is because as drought compels local people to deplete their savings in the purchase of food and for meeting other basic needs, ethnic conflict does not only lead to destruction of human life, but also property including crops and livestock (Ndarubagiye, 1996; Kimenyi, 2002; Heinrich, 1997; Horowitz, 1985). Indeed, ethnic conflict compromises the ability of individuals to engage in economic activities such as trade and farming, consequently impacting negatively on savings and entrenching poverty and destitution, especially in resource-poor environments such as Tana River.

In Tana River district, conflict is mainly in the form of inter-tribal wars often centring on communal water and pasture resources (WLEA, 2002; GoK, 2002). This is despite the fact that the warring communities pursue diverse socio-economic and to some extent have different religious orientations. Whereas the Wardei and Orma are mainly nomadic Muslim communities, the Pokomo are largely Christian peasant farmers. Although there has been intermarriage between the communities, this has

not helped cease the hostilities (WLEA, 2002). In addition, the district falls in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) ecological zone that is known for few economic opportunities as a result of frequent droughts, difficult terrain and less fertile soils (Wasamba, 1999; GoK, 2002).

Although there have been efforts by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and faith-based organizations (FBOs), particularly the Catholic Diocese of Garissa, and the government to address poverty in the district, through measures such as conflict resolution, the district continues to experience loss of human and animal life and property (GoK, 2002; WLEA, 2002). There has, however, not been an intervention by way of developing a LPMS that would highlight community specific vulnerabilities and incorporate an early warning system against drought and ethnic conflict in the district and the country in general (IPAR, 2002; NCKK, 2001). It therefore remains unclear whether certain community members most vulnerable to poverty are identified and targeted with support especially in times of drought, acute food shortages and ethnic strife. It is probable that certain coping strategies, including foraging and sale of property, deepen the impoverishment of poor families/households. The proposed study is aimed at developing a LPMS that would inform the district and serve as a model to be replicated in other parts of the country with similar characteristics.

### **3.0. Policy relevance**

#### ***3.1. Importance of the study***

The Government of Kenya has developed an economic and development strategy - the Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation (GoK, 2003). One of the aims of this strategy is the development of the ASAL through the improvement of security and diversification of livelihoods. In Kenya and many other developing countries, it is more the practice than the exception for the government to initiate development initiatives without an appropriate understanding of the local needs (Chitere, 1994; Kona, 1999; Chitambar, 2001; Mulwa & Nguluu, 2003). An example in this regard is the Bura Irrigation Scheme in Tana River district that interfered with the livelihoods of the pastoralists and thus failed. Indeed, it is important that before initiating any development project in the district local people should be involved in defining the problem and the viable solutions. It is thus important to understand local specific poverty indicators including food security, livestock production, conflict and access to services to generate a deeper understanding of community level conditions. A LPMS would facilitate the generation of information for better planning and implementation of poverty alleviation programmes.

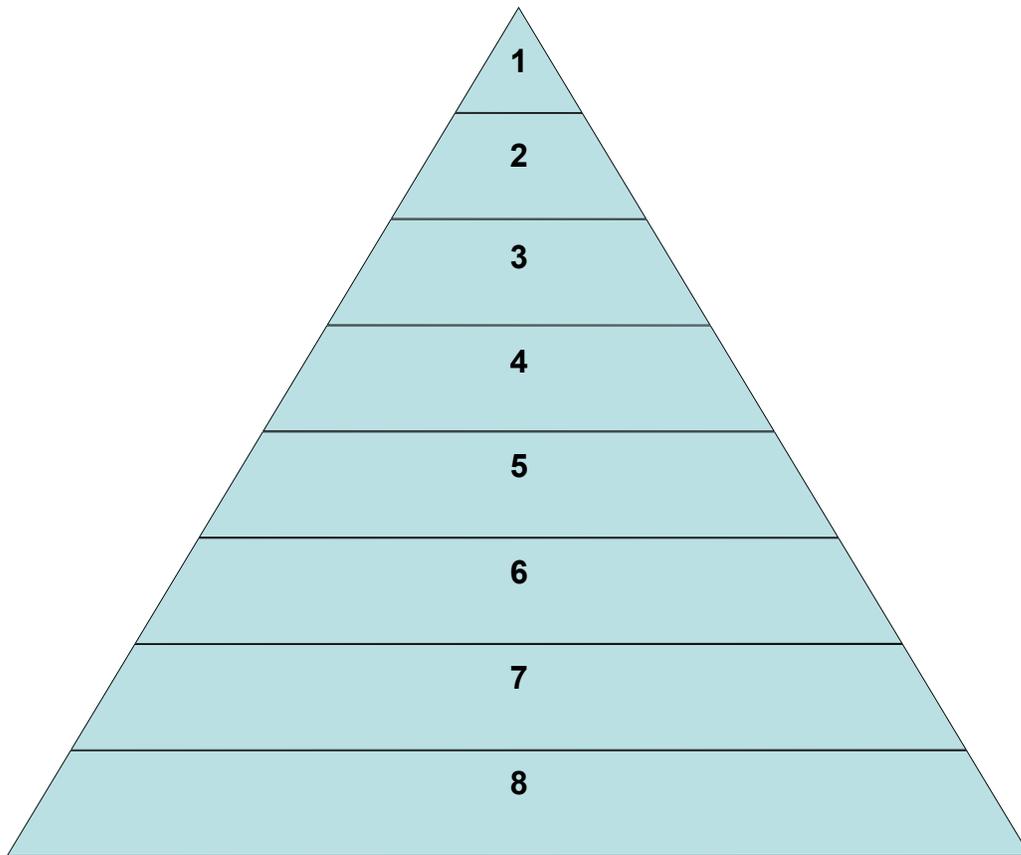
#### ***3.2. Decentralization policy and local governance structure***

The Government of Kenya established a decentralization policy in the early 1980s known as the District Focus for Rural Development Strategy (DFRDS). This gave the district development planning team the power to plan local development, with technical and financial supervision provided by the central government. Thus, every district in Kenya, including Tana River, has a District Development Committee (DDC) composed of district level government officials (District Commissioner, District Development Officer, Officer Commanding Police Division and other departmental heads) and local leaders (including members of parliament, civic leaders/councillors, women and youth leaders). In addition, most districts have a presence of NGOs and FBOs engaged in various sectors including water, health, governance and conflict resolution. There are several ministries in the government, each headed by a Minister and assisted by technical bureaucrats. In particular, there is in Kenya under the Office of the President, a Minister in charge of special programmes that include emergencies, disaster operations, response to drought and floods. Each of the ministries is represented at the district level.

### 3.3. Structure of the Government of the Republic of Kenya and its relevance to LPMS

The Government of Kenya has an elaborate bureaucratic structure from the national to the village level, which is hereunder presented.

Figure 1: Structure of the Government of the Republic of Kenya.



**Key:**

1. National/Central Government headed by an elected President and the Cabinet of Ministers
2. Provinces that are each headed by a Provincial Commissioner, a central government appointee.
3. Districts that are each headed by a District Commissioner, a central government appointee.
4. Divisions that are each headed by a District Officer, a central government appointee
5. Locations each headed by a Chief, a central government appointee.
6. Sub-locations each headed by an Assistant Chief, a central government appointee.
7. Villages each headed by a Village Headman/woman who is not an official government appointee, but appointed by the Chief or Assistant Chief to assist him/her.
8. Households (this is however not a government, but a social structure).

In each of the layers of government bureaucracy, the subordinate level is directly answerable to the next (upper) level structure up to the national or central government. When it comes to implementation of development activities, the district level is the most important and all the structures at this level (from the village to the district) work as a team. Thus, in each of the levels, there are potential government and non-governmental stakeholders for LPMS. However, the district is the

most appropriate given that it is the local development coordinating arm of the central government, which every stakeholder by law should work with. A parallel development arm is the constituency.

In 2003, the National Rainbow Coalition (NARC) government introduced the Constituency Development Fund (CDF)<sup>1</sup>. Through the CDF, MPs and communities are supposed to jointly identify and implement priority development projects in their areas covering all sectors including education, health and agriculture. Under the CDF Act, each of the 210 constituencies is entitled to a fixed amount of money pegged on the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In the 2004/5 financial year, the Minister of Finance allocated Kshs. 1.2 billion to the fund. He increased the allocation to Kshs. 5.6 billion during 2005-06. This was further increased to 50 billion in 2006/7 (around 10 million per constituency). In addition to the CDF, MPs are in charge of Kshs. 5 million per year for the Bursary Fund (for secondary school scholarships), and Constituency Roads Development Fund (CRDF), which provide the constituencies a further Kshs. 5-7 million per year for improving the road networks. The LPMS would facilitate a refined process of defining community level problems/needs and generating priority areas.

### ***3.4. Relationship with government policy***

The Government of Kenya has developed a Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) aimed at improving the living standards of its people. However, to effectively implement any development initiative it is prudent to investigate why the livelihoods are at the level at which they are in the first place (Bergdall, 1993). A recent government study on poverty placed Tana River among the poorest districts in Kenya, positioned at 65 out of 72 (CBS *et al.*, 2005). One of the shortcomings of this study, however, is that it did not look at the causes and impacts of poverty rather it only measured specific indicators at a very general level. In addition, the study did not seek to determine what specific factors lead to poverty especially among the pastoral-nomadic ethnic groups (Wasamba, 1999). This creates a gap with regard to addressing the most appropriate and culturally sensitive interventions in any one area, thus necessitating a study and system such as the one we propose. Furthermore, the CDF process relies (or is supposed to rely) on local people's priorities yet no systems have been institutionalised to facilitate the generation of such information.

## **4.0. Methodology**

### ***4.1 Selection of study site***

The Tana River district has been selected purposively because it is one of the poorest in the country and prone to both drought and ethnic conflict. The selection of Bura, Garsen and Galole divisions is also deliberate due to the multi-ethnic nature of the inhabitants. The inhabitants who are peasant farmers (Pokomo) and nomadic pastoralists (Wardei and Orma) pursue diverse livelihoods with different determinants of poverty. The possibility of individuals descending in and out of poverty is high especially during water shortages, drought, famine and conflicts. Again, there could be differences among the divisions and households that would ultimately contribute to the design of an encompassing monitoring system that caters for both pastoralists and farmers. The location of the district and the three divisions is shown in the maps below.

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<sup>1</sup> Constituency boundaries are defined differently from the administrative boundaries. Due to the vastness of the district and the sparse population distribution, a constituency in Tana River district combines several sub-locations.



Water	-source of water (domestic and livestock use) -distances to water points -reliability of water source -fitness for domestic use
Access to healthcare	-sources of health care (self medication, modern and traditional) -distances to health facilities -affordability -availability of drugs -quality of services
Diseases	-health status at the time of interview -vulnerability to preventable conditions (e.g. malaria, diarrhoea and malnutrition)
Experience of conflict	-experience of violence in the last 12 months -type of violence -losses incurred -action taken (individual and community level)

The foregoing indicators have been selected for this study because they have a direct bearing on poverty in the district and in Kenya generally. For example, large family size is associated with limited access to services as most members are likely to be young people, while educational attainment has been related to improved earnings, consequently lowering poverty levels (Manda *et al.*, 2001). In addition, the poor are likely to be sick more often, take longer to heal and register higher ill-health induced fatalities than the non-poor (Watkins, 1995). Hence, disease incidences are more pronounced among the poor than the non-poor with the poor being unable to cope due to inadequate access to health facilities. An examination of these factors, among others that are specific to the study sites, will be carried out to determine local poverty levels and more specifically the fate of the most vulnerable community members.

#### **4.2.2. Phase one – qualitative data collection**

This will be a participatory process that will seek to engage the community members in in-depth discussions regarding the community life, their cultural ways of relating to their neighbours, access to services, wealth characterization, conflict resolution strategies and the changes that have occurred over time. The study will be inclusive, targeting participants from the three communities while at the same time focusing on the elderly, adult men and women, and the youth (the latter regarded as future leaders and communities). In addition, the discussions will be utilized to refine the questionnaire for use in the household census. The tools to be used in this phase will be seasonal calendars, focus group discussions and key informant interviews, as briefly described below.

1. **Seasonal calendars:** This technique will be used to map out periods of food shortages, crime and insecurity in the communities. It is from the mapping of such occurrences that the periodicity of implementing the LPMS will be determined, especially in situations where interventions are to be initiated. For example, once the most vulnerable households are identified, it would make provision of emergency or sustained support more efficient.
2. **Focus group discussions (FGDs):** This tool will be used to explore community perceptions and experiences of poverty including the characterisation of wealth. The discussions will explore factors that expose people to and deepen poverty levels. Community coping strategies will be discussed with a view to identifying viable home-grown solutions. There will be 18 FGDs – 6 per sub-location that will comprise groups of 8-10 male/female youth, adult

men/women and elderly men/women. All groups will be segregated by gender for cultural sensitivity and to allow free discussions among the participants.

3. **Key informant interviews (KIIs):** Local opinion leaders (including village elders and clan leaders), government officials and other service providers such as directors of local NGOs, CBOs and FBOs will be interviewed on the central issues identified for this project. This tool will mainly target categories of people who are knowledgeable about the local socio-political dynamics. The most vulnerable community members, such as conflict victims and the poorer members will be sought and interviewed to gain insights on the causes of poverty at a more personal level. In-depth interview guides will be developed in line with each study objective. In total 45 key informant interviews will be conducted – 15 in each of the three divisions. Case studies will also be constructed through this technique.

#### 4.2.3. Phase two: household census

To complement the qualitative data collection tools, a household census will be conducted on a pilot basis in three sub-locations presented in the table below<sup>2</sup>.

Area	Total population	No. households
Tana River district	180,901	36,177
Bura Division	28,848	6,173
<i>Meti sub-location</i>	6,891	1,653
Galole Division	34,948	7,214
<i>Hola Mission sub-location</i>	2,452	502
Garsen Division	51,592	10,000
<i>Tarasaa sub-location</i>	3,397	696

Source: GOK 2002 based on the 1999 population census

The CBMS questionnaire used in Indonesia will be adapted to the local conditions through the qualitative process described above.<sup>3</sup> The census will be conducted in all households in the three sub-locations sequentially. The mobile nature of some of the households is likely to complicate the data collection process. For example, owing to the vastness of the study areas and insecurity (in form of banditry), to get into the very interior of the study areas to follow up on migratory pastoralists may be both risky and difficult. The latter is particularly due to poorly developed road network amidst difficult terrain. Livestock migratory routes will be identified through the local Livestock and Fisheries Department for tracking the migratory populations. Once routes are identified, members of the migratory households will be followed up and interviewed. Once one group of migratory households is identified, others will be identified through the snowball sampling method. This is based on the reasoning that nomadic pastoralists have networks and well-defined migration agreements such that they migrate in different directions to avoid congestion of livestock in a single grazing or cattle watering point. Indeed, information on the number of non-sedentary households will be sought from the Tana River District Information and Documentation Centre (DIDC) and the District Statistics Office (DSO).

#### *Pre-testing study instrument*

For the purpose of a pilot-test of the questionnaire, 10 households will be interviewed each from three sub-locations within the three divisions but not involved in the main study, giving a total of 30 households. After this pre-test, the instrument will be refined, standardised and administered.

<sup>2</sup> These figures are based on the 1999 census, therefore, the numbers of households and people are presumably higher as of now.

<sup>3</sup> We would appreciate receiving any other questionnaires developed/utilized by PEP members for adaptation and use.

**Data analysis:** Data collected from the participatory process will be analysed manually according to the study themes. The community members will be facilitated to undertake the analysis (e.g. developing analysis charts for FGD data and mapping the information on the charts). In addition, the enumerators will be trained and involved in the analysis of the quantitative data in simplified formats. The research team will enter and analyse the household data using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). The data will be availed to the government as required.

#### ***4.2.4 Phase three: Implementation of the revised LPMS design in Bura division of Tana River district.***

This phase will be aimed at assessing the implementation of the LPMS in the entire Bura division. The community will lead the data collection process and preliminary analysis, with support from the local government. AIHD will only provide supervisory support.

### **4.3 The LPMS team**

The initial activity of this study will be to hold discussions with the District Commissioner of Tana River to brief him and to seek his support and engagement. Thereafter, a **Project Team** (comprised of about 10-12 members) will be put in place made up of government district representatives (these shall include representatives from each of the participating divisions), NGOs involved in poverty/conflict alleviation, CDF chairpersons local community leaders and members. This is an important strategy for implementation of the revised LPMS design in the remaining households of Bura division and future rollout of the LPMS in other parts of the district and the country in general. This team will plan the study and direct the implementation and dissemination activities. The involvement of chiefs, their assistants, women and youth leaders is important because they are key opinion leaders. While it is a legal requirement that local leaders and especially government officials be involved in any development project, they are critical entry points into the communities. Indeed, local leaders are key in community mobilization as development advocates/agents. It is only through the incorporation and involvement of these stakeholders that the LPMS would acquire local ownership and legitimacy, thus ensuring its sustainability and replication. Specifically, it is proposed that the inclusion-exclusion criteria for representatives from each sub-location will be left to the respective residents. The aim of doing this is to allow residents to chose/nominate people of their own choice, whom they consider well-placed to adequately represent them. This will essentially go along way to instil community ownership of the LPMS and by so doing ensure its sustainability. In addition, this would ensure that the LPMS becomes a tool for both local and national planning and budgeting.

The Government of Kenya works with non-governmental stakeholders especially in matters directly benefiting the communities such as the LPMS. For this reason, since the LPMS fits directly into the government decentralization and constituency development policies, it is expected that bringing the government and other stakeholders on board is inevitable and would be welcomed on the part of the decision makers. This will be done through the national offices that would be requested to clear local (district) level government officials to be actively involved in the proposed work.

## **5.0. Data requirements and sources**

This study requires both quantitative and qualitative data, which will be obtained from the community members, government officials, NGO, FBO and CBO officials and community opinion leaders. Efforts will be made for the process to be inclusive; that is engaging the elderly, women, and youth. This information will be obtained using various data collection techniques as outlined in the methodology section (see 4.0.). A review of published and unpublished literature from organizations working in the district and elsewhere will also be conducted to provide a broader understanding of issues in the geographical area of study and on the topic.

### **Recruitment and training of research assistants**

Apart from Dr. Amuyunzu-Nyamongo and Ms. Nchogu who will oversee the implementation of the study, 12 enumerators (6 males and 6 females) will be recruited to assist with data collection. All the enumerators will be local people resident in the respective sub-locations. The enumerators will be centrally trained at the district headquarters for 5 days. This will be a process of building the capacity of local people to undertake and institutionalise the LPMS.

## **6.0. Validation and information dissemination strategies**

The findings will be disseminated at various levels. There will be feedback meetings organized for the participating communities. Through these meetings, the information will be validated before wider dissemination and any concerns raised by the community members during the feedback (validation) will be taken into consideration. The purpose of this validation will be to ensure that the information collected is accurate while at the same time helping the communities to take account of their own problems and thereby ensure ownership of the LPMS findings. Meetings will be organized and facilitated by the *Project Team* at the district and divisional levels.

The validation at the divisional level will involve various stakeholders including community, local leaders and government and local NGO/FBO representatives. The district level validation will gather stakeholders from each division, NGOs, FBOs, CBOs, provincial and national representatives to discuss the study findings. We consider this a key group to consume the information generated through the LPMS process because it will also be involved in the implementation and dissemination of the LPMS. This forum will provide the community and all other stakeholders, including the government, an opportunity to discuss poverty and issues around ethnic conflict. Specifically, provincial and national/central government representation will be important for the purpose of initiating the LPMS in other parts of the district and the country.

For the purpose of dissemination at the sub-location level, this will be assigned to respective sub-locational development committees under the guidance of an officer from AIHD, in collaboration with divisional level leaders (including DOs, Chiefs and their assistants, civic leaders/councillors, women and youth group leaders among other interest groups). For broader dissemination, the study findings will be posted on both Poverty and Economic Policy (PEP) Network and the AIHD websites. In addition, copies of the data will be availed to the government (through the relevant departments) and other interested parties including NGOs for further analysis and use. The researchers, with the permission of PEP, will endeavour to publish the results in peer reviewed international journals for wider dissemination at the global level. Linkages will be established with local and international groups working on poverty indicators and early warning systems, including the United Nations.

## **7.0. Expected capacity building**

The tools being utilized for this study provide a process that enhances the community's capacity to analyse its issues. The construction of seasonal calendars is an inclusive process that allows the members to critically look at their communities, and in so doing develop a means of self-evaluation. In addition, LPMS will enhance the capacity of the government and other organizations working in the district to address poverty issues in a targeted and comprehensive manner. In addition, the local people, who will serve as enumerators, will be trained in the various data collection tools, thereby creating an important resource within the communities. Moreover, the enumerators will be involved in the entire process of the LPMS from planning, implementation and dissemination. This is intended to give the process credibility in the eyes of the community, therefore making it community-owned and managed. This approach has been adopted due to an understanding of the fact that local problems are

better solved locally with the intended beneficiaries playing a central role, thereby ensuring sustainability.

From an organizational perspective, the process of carrying out this study will improve AIHD's ability to work among a diverse group of people in what is largely considered a hardship area.

## **8.0. List of expected outputs**

1. Initial and final design (after the pilot, changes may be recommended) of the Local Poverty Monitoring System.
2. Data base containing the data collected from the Local Poverty Monitoring System both at the pilot and implementation phase.
3. Poverty profiles.
4. Assessment of poverty reduction initiatives already in place.
5. A tested process of identifying the poorest for support.
6. Paper on the causes of drought, ethnic conflict, and the relationship between the two, and the impact on poverty.
7. Paper on the effects of poverty on the ability of households to access basic services and wealth creation opportunities.

## **9.0. Ethical, social, gender or environmental issues in related areas involving team members**

### ***9.1. Ethical issues***

The research protocol will pass through ethical clearance at the Ministry of Education, the government ministry in charge of research clearance. In addition, participation of the community members in this study will be voluntary. Consent forms will be designed and each potential participant will be asked whether he/she will be willing to participate. They will be informed about the importance of their participation but at the same time be given the option to decline before or at any time in the course of the interview/discussion.

### ***9.2. Social and gender issues***

The implementation of the research will be initiated through discussions with the government district leaders and the local leaders (chiefs, clan and village elders). The communities will be informed of the import of the study and encouraged to participate. However, deliberate efforts will be made to involve women and the youth, the latter who are the future communities and users of the LPMS.

Gender issues have been considered in this project, mainly from the composition of the study team and the operationalization of the project in the study communities. The lead researchers are women while half of the twelve research assistants will be women. In addition, due to cultural issues, men and women will be engaged separately in some aspects of the study (e.g. FGDs) to allow for in-depth discussions. As much as possible female enumerators will interview female respondents and vice versa.

## **10.0. List of past, current or pending projects in related areas involving team members**

The Institute has just completed a national study for the World Bank – Country Social Vulnerability Assessment. The study involved Isiolo district, which is mainly inhabited by Borana

– a pastoralist ethnic group that has similar experiences (high poverty levels, drought and ethnic conflict) to those of Tana River residents. In addition, the Institute concluded in April 2006 an evaluation of a four-district study for the African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF), which included Turkana district, one of the poorest, most drought and ethnic conflict-prone districts of Kenya. Dr. Amuyunzu-Nyamongo coordinated the four-district studies. In addition, while Dr. Amuyunzu-Nyamongo spearheaded national participatory poverty assessment studies that contributed substantially to the PRSP of 2001, Ms. Nchogu is a population demographer who will be responsible for the implementation of the study. The capacities of the two researchers will be backed by the rest of the AIHD team.

### **ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY STATEMENT**

The AIHD was established in April 2004 and registered in Nairobi, Kenya by a group of accomplished African researchers and academicians. The Institute's main focus is on conducting research, training and advocacy on health and development issues that are contextually relevant to Kenya and to the African continent. The Institute is also involved in policy formulation on key development issues such as HIV and AIDS, poverty alleviation and malaria, while looking at these from a human rights perspective. The Institute works closely with local and international development partners, such as the International Union of Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE), MAP International, and the World Bank. The founder members have been involved in development work in various capacities in Kenya and in the region.

A Board of seven directors drawn from accomplished scientists, financial and legal experts, manages the Institute. In addition, the Institute has an external audit report (2004-2005) and is in the process of auditing its 2005-2006 accounts. The reports provide an up to-date statement of accounts and procedures. The reports will be available for perusal by partners and other interested parties if required.

To accomplish its various activities the Institute has the vision of "Working with communities for better lives" which it seeks to adapt in all its activities. The main focus is on building the capacity of community groups; facilitate resourcing from within; and in-building sustainability mechanisms. AIHD is also committed to building the capacity of young people to work with communities ensuring a generation of trained and capable professionals in community development.

The bios for the founder members and programme staff are outlined below.

### **Founder members**

***Dr. Mary Amuyunzu-Nyamongo*** holds a PhD in Social Anthropology, (University of Cambridge, UK, 1994) and she is currently the Executive Director. She has previously worked with African Population and Health Research Centre, The Population Council, African Medical and Research Foundation and Kenya Medical Research Institute. She has been involved in a range of programme management, research activities and project evaluations in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Malawi, Ghana and Burkina Faso. She was the team-leader of the national participatory poverty assessment conducted in 2000/01 in ten districts of Kenya.

***Dr. Kaendi Munguti*** holds a PhD in Medical Anthropology (UCLA, Los Angeles, USA, 1994). Dr. Munguti has worked as a Regional Advisor in the field of malaria for the World Health Organization, Africa Regional Office. She has offered technical support on malaria to Ministries of Health in countries such as Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria, and Zambia among others. She has been a consultant for many organizations on poverty alleviation initiatives.

**Prof. Isaac K. Nyamongo** holds a PhD in Medical Anthropology (University of Florida, Gainesville USA, 1998). He is currently the Director of the Institute of African Studies, University of Nairobi-Kenya. His main research focus has been on health seeking behaviour, HIV and AIDS and malaria. He has participated in capacity development programmes in Malawi, Tanzania, Ethiopia and Eritrea. He has conducted research activities in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Eritrea.

**Dr. Lynette Okeng'o** holds a PhD in Education, Education Psychology (Kenyatta University, Kenya, 2007). She has a wealth of experience in early childhood development. She has expertise in statistical methods, which brings a vital linkage to the qualitative skills on the team.

### **Programme staff to be involved in the project**

**Sussy Nchogu (Programme Officer)** holds an M.A in Population Studies (University of Nairobi, 2005). Her main strength is in population-based surveys and analysis of quantitative data. She is currently involved in health promotion initiatives as part of the Institute's activities on the regional health promotion program.

**Mercy K. Tero (Programme Officer)** holds a MEd in Educational Research and Evaluation (The Catholic University of Eastern Africa, 2005). Her main research and programme focus is on monitoring and evaluation, with a bias to human development matters including gender, health, education and general public service provision.

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### **11.0. Work plan**

The study is planned to take (11 months) as shown in the table below.

Milestone	Timeframe in months											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Consultation meetings, coordination with partners												
Designing of LPMS & instruments, training of enumerators												
Qualitative data collection & analysis												
Pre-testing instrument and census data collection												
Processing census data												
Data validation, analysis and documentation of methodology and instruments												
Training in data analysis												
Implementation of revised LPMS design in Bura division												
Research paper on causes of poverty in Tana River												
Dissemination of findings and report on proceedings from workshops												
Final project technical report & financial report												

## 12.0 Short list of key references

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