

PELUM KENYA

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTRY WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD ON



22ND AND 23RD SEPTEMBER, 2011 AT

LELESHWA INN, KITENGELA

KAJIADO, KENYA

PREAMBLE

PELUM- Kenya is a network of 38 Civil Society Organizations ranging from NGOs, Faith Based Organizations and Community Based Organizations. These organizations operate within 28 Counties in the republic of Kenya. All the organization they up hold one mandate of promoting the Ecological Land Use Management (ELUM) practices. This particular Country Working Group (CWG) meeting was hosted by a member organization in Kajiado County called Neighbor Initiatives Alliance (NIA). The aim of this CWG was to enhance networking amongst member organizations (MOs).

WELCOME MESSAGE

The participants were officially welcomed to the meeting by a PELUM- Kenya board member brother Oscar from the ACK-WRCCS which is a member organization from Kakamega County in Western province. The board member emphasized on sharing of experiences as we build vibrant individual organizations at the same time strengthening PELUM- Kenya network. He summed up the remarks by asking the participants to embrace PIEE (Practice- Ideas- Exchanges- Experiences).

Then Madam Ann Kukuni from the hosting organization NIA through on behalf of the Director and the entire staff team of NIA welcomed the entire participants to Kajiado County. She briefly stated that the livelihoods of community are entirely dependent on the pastoralism. They keep cattle, sheep and goats for subsistence and income. NIA steers Maasai to unexplored avenues to avert food insecurity through the following activities for the organization as Dry land farming through its livelihoods program, climate change mitigation through its Natural Resource Management (NRM). And have introduced some better breeds of animals and through networking provide water to the pastoral community.

“REAL ESTATE ENTERPRISES A CHALLENGE TO COMMUNITY’S FOOD SECURITY AND WILDLIFE IN KAJIADO COUNTY”



The major challenge is the real estate enterprises which has so far pushed the community to the far end and has also affected the world life for Kitengela used to be a world life corridor. The fast up coming real estate business has forced the animal and the Maasai people to shift to harsher condition and this has affected the livestock productions and yet ¾ of the meat consumed in Nairobi is from Kajiado County. These are some of the challenges NIA is grappling with in this county which is near the city in the sun.

BACKGROUND

This particular CWG was aimed at strengthening the spirit of network amongst member organizations and thus was packed with very influential and educative presentations. The assorted presentations covered areas of Network enhancement, entrepreneurship, personal branding, fundraising, donor and public service interactions, policy enhancement on standardization and appreciating natural herbs. The other important aspect was a field

visit to the host PELUM Kenya member organizations and share experiences on their good practices.

PRESENTAION NO 1 BY BETTY MUASYA FROM PELUM KENYA DESK

This was aimed at challenging the member organizations to understanding and strengthens the spirit of networking as we accomplish specific organizational goals. The presentation highlighted on the definition of a network, goals which range from information sharing to coordination of services, then from community education to advocacy for major environmental or policy (regulatory) changes. Then the advantages expected from networks were many they start with providing a forum for sharing information goes on to building trust and consensus between people and organizations that have similar responsibilities and concerns within a community.

There are people whom do join networks without clear understanding of the Prerequisite for a successful network. A network like any relationship is a two way traffic that needs to be nurtured by both parties concerned. And this start with objectives that need to accomplish jointly by both parties up to evaluation of the accomplishments to make improvement.

There were some proposals for improvements and some good practices by member organizations were cited where members tapped the strength of networks. These included Cultural diversity for ICE-Invited MOS from the Meru region. BERMA had a seed exhibition where they invited all MOs in the western region like BIOGI, ACK-WRCCS. The other was the collaboration between Kiambu and Thika MOs spearheaded by REAL Impact these were SACDEP, COSDEP, RODI, GBIACK, YARD and REAL-Impact. All these are few examples which can be emulated which are enhancing the networking spirit amongst MOs. Then emphasized the importance of being active in CWG meetings by showing the powers invested in and the crucial role in decision making the PELUM Kenya.

In conclusion members reiterated some of the challenges faced like remoteness that hinder communication by both phone and internet. The desk informed MOs that is developing a database and blog for members to be sharing freely and a way of making the network much better and all are welcome to contribute ideas for the success of the same.

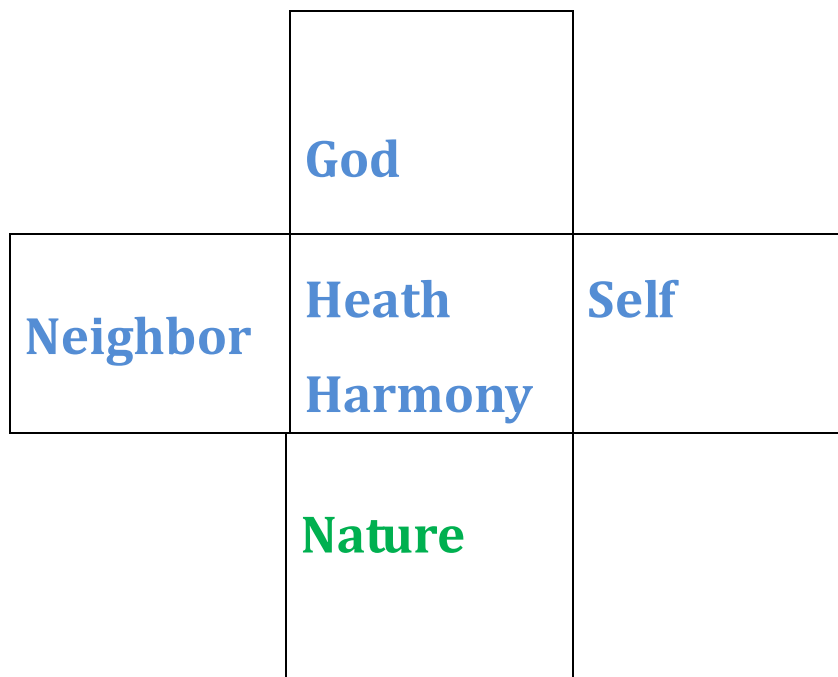
PRESENTAION NO 2 HERBAL MEDICINE BY FEDINARD WAFULA- BIOGI

The presentation was titled the Healthy and sustainable choice

These highlighted the beginning of the use of herbs as medicine and were discarded during colonial period for they were referred to as bad and not good. The ANAMED an organization promoting herbal medicine refers the use of the same from Bible and gives a briefing on the Hosea 4:6 states that my people perish due to lack of knowledge, then Genesis1:29 as food, Daniell1:1-21 vegetable and food, then 2king 20:7. After that went ahead gave the different effects of the herbs in our bodies like the stimulants, relaxers, tonics, laxatives etc. the AYURVEDIC have researched so well and documented the use of plants and their curative nature. There are 12,000 species isolated to cure diseases and this is just 10%. 122 compounds in plants have been tested to be similar and used for treatment. The precaution is the same as that of the modern medicine on dosage. The

ANAMED has researched and given Names of the plants in many languages and their scientific names, Botanical description, Cultivation, Parts used, Use around the world Constituents, Recommendations for use, with details of how to prepare and dose the medicine and Side effects. For further reading and learning more on the activities and different herbal description Google ANAMED International

The discussion was concluded by this explanatory cross. Simply meaning that God is concerned with everything and created Man to live heath and in harmony with nature and the neighbors. This brings the element of ELUM and taking care or using natural resources sustainably.



PRESENTAION NO 3: GOVERNMENT & CSO COLLABORATION: ITS IMPORTANCE AND SIGNIFICANCE BY FAITH KISINGA- PACT- KENYA

The presentation was on strategic partnership and how to strengthen PELUM Kenya member organization and concentrated on Effective Partnership. There were several key challenges faced as lack of commitment by may be one party, bureaucracy, insufficient resources, high expectations, financial wrangles, political interests, conflict of interest, relief and handouts, policy, lack of trust and poor communication. In addressing all these numerous of challenges the presenter used an effective collaboration chart which elaborated on how to address the challenges by use of the 9 important. As shown in the chart below.

***“COLLABORATION
MEANS VOLUNTARILY
COMING TOGETHER
TO ACHIEVE A
COMMON GOAL”
(VITAL KEYS
TRUST, HONEST,
TRANSPARENCY &
COMMUNICATION)***



The nine eyes are as follows:-

1. Individual Excellence - the historical experience and benefit to be enjoyed in partnership.
2. Importance – understand the common objectives and shared understanding
3. Independence – have the political will, complementary, resources and mutual respect you bring on board is very important.
4. Investment – write your letter of commitment or what your committing to and it should be significant, your reliability, shared responsibility and liability.
5. Information / communication strategy –how will you circulate the information to partners, the flow and the chain of command to be clear?
6. Integrity/ Trust- you must be open, honest and transparency.
7. Integration – think of those will be involved, meetings, tactical (planned) and cultural integration is very important.
8. Institutionalization – is built by information, agreements, decision making to move from individual to institution
9. Identifying Risks – better prepared to deal with in eventualities when they arise.
Avoid misperceptions

In conclusion both NGO staff and civil servant decided to work together by being open and transparent to each other to avoid blames and mistrust. When a project is funded when implementing it with partners let them understand how they fit in that partnership and what they are to contribute and what to achieve at the end. This will reduce conflict and clamor and strengthen resilience and cohesion amongst collaborators.

PRESENTAION NO 4: MUSHROOM PRODUCTION BY SUSAN WAWIRE-COSDEP

Mushrooms are fruiting bodies of fungi and act as source food and of income. This particular agricultural enterprise does not need a “shamba” or land for production. The mushrooms are of two types the Poisonous and Edible species. The edible and medicinal varieties are: - Oyster, Button, Shiitake and Reish.



***MUSHROOMS ACT AS
SOURCE FOOD AND OF
INCOME...***

***AN AGRICULTURAL
ENTERPRISE THAT DOES
NOT NEED A “SHAMBA***

Requirement for growth of Oyster

- **Straw:** Wheat/rice/sorghum
- **Agricultural lime**
- **Bran:** wheat/ rice/....
- **Cotton wool**
- $\frac{1}{2}$ inch x 1’’ pieces of **plastic pipe**
- **Rubber bands**
- **Polythene bags** (10x15x150)
- **Polythene sheet and Spawn**

The purpose of Spawning is to observe hygiene. (1 liter- bags)

The Mushroom takes in dark room 21- 45 days to fruit and colonization is fast if temperatures are 45°C.

INCUBATION STAGE



As

FRUITING OF MUSHROOM



mushrooms start fruiting you should be ready to start harvesting. Note that 10 kg of fresh mushroom make 1 kg of dry mushroom.

MEDICINAL EFFECTS OF OYSTER

Contains lovastatin -Reduces blood cholesterol, Improves liver and kidney function and Lowers blood pressure (BP)

NUTRITIVE VALUE OF OYSTER

- 1. **Crude protein** -10-30% - Plant based protein preferred over animal protein.
- 2. **Vitamin C** - 30- 144mg/100g – Increase body's resistance to diseases and scurvy
- 3. **Niacin (vitamin B3)** - 109mg/100g – Prevents pellagra, helps in release of energy from nutrients and reduce cholesterol.
- 4. **Folic acid** - 65mg/100g –
- Useful in protein and hemoglobin formation and prevents brain disorders.
- 5. **Potassium** 306mg/100g-
- For Acid-base balance and fluid balance maintenance, nerve transmission.

The mushrooms are sold fresh or dry in the market and major market outlet are the hotels for the preparation of meal starters.

PRESENTATION NO 5: ORGANIC CERTIFICATION AND STANDARDS, LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL MARKET OPPORTUNITIES FOR SMALL SCALE FARMERS BY CHARLES AKOTH- **PARETO Group Kenya**

The PARETO Group Kenya deals with CDS SACCO and farmers group. And then consumer International (CI) and there are 220 members from 115 countries, the office is in London. The mission is to build a powerful international movement to help protect and empower consumers every where in the world. PARETO has a target of 300,000 members in Kenya for a period of 3 years. The basis is in food, trade, health and institutions.

The role of the group in the consumer protection includes research, lobby /Advocacy, education/ awareness creation. What are consumer rights; a right to safety, basic needs consumer education, injunction, choice and redress. Then right for a healthy and sustainable environment. They do also time to time organize meetings and invite KEBS to share with consumers and the recent forum was that KEBS presented a paper at the Kenya Organic Agriculture Network forum regarding the standardization.

The purpose of this was to share the information with MOs participants on different certification marks for various members are adding value to their organic product as good practice. Then the need to understand what is needed to the market and international qualities required for the products.

CERTIFICATION MARKS

STANDARDIZATION MARK known as S MARK or SM- is a mandatory mark of quality on all locally manufactured goods complying with the relevant standards. This is issued by Kenya Bureau of standards (KEBS) according to the stipulated in Act CAP 496 of the Republic of Kenya. This is a requirement all manufacturers operating in the Republic of Kenya.

IMPORT STANDARDIZATION MARK (ISM)

This is applied on all products that have an impact on healthy safety (such as food, accessories and appliances, infant ware and toys). This is issued upon submission of certificate of conformity for clearance of goods at the entry point. This mark is issued as a soft copy and for each of the product in the consignment.

DIAMOND MARK OF QUALITY

This is a mark of excellence awarded by KEBS to companies whose products have consistently met the specifications. This is a voluntary mark of quality that is a grantee that the products have met the requirement of relevant Kenyan standards and are fit for use.



Standardization Mark (SM) - is a mandatory mark of quality on all locally manufactured ...

The criteria for acquisition were spelled out and the benefit for the marks and also the cost implication for each were outlined. The participants understood the steps involved in acquiring the marks and the benefit of the marks on the products. When organic

products acquire the marks required then will have a niche in market. It was said that standardization mark is a national requirement and diamond mark is mark of quality. The import standardization mark and other like ISO, HACCP are international based standards.

PRESENTAION NO 6: FUNDRAISING, RESOURCE MOBILIZATIONS FOR PROGRAMME WORK, ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY BY MR. ZACHARY MAKANYA - COUNTRY COORDINATOR

This was one of the presentations that moved the participants for fundraising is a challenge to all CSOs in the world at large. In his presentation fundraising made easy use the word “demystifying” has several meanings: Expose, remove doubts, throw light on and lay bare. In summarized the topic there were 9 menu items to be guide and were in story form: The case of the Lion Hunt, The Case of the Ambitious fundraiser, The Case of the Lion and the fox, The Double Job Theory, The Green Pastures Theory – exposed and Finding yourself in hole.



Just like the lion, every NGO must successfully hunt for donors or else, they will fold up....Training, examine or study, determination, experience and patience.

LESSONS:

The story of a lion: - There are many donors – out there waiting to give funds to promote development. Just like the lion, every NGO must successfully hunt for donors or else, they will fold up. Then understand the problem that is being addressed very well (facts and figures). Analysis of the problem – show that the problem must be addressed, and the competitors well.

The nine menu were aimed at motivating participants and be effective in resource mobilization in their organizations. A story like of the lion and the fox gives a clear lesson that for NGOs to continue working it calls support for a team not one staff member will be tired and lay of the rest.

The double job theory gives a picture of working much hard and as we work creates another project. There other one if you find yourself in a hole find means of coming out by changing your thinking and way of doing things.

“Build relationships, relationships, relationships with people!!!”

The other step for the NGOs to remain vibrant is through branding themselves and by branding it means; Identifying mark or Making a distinct mark for recognition. And the purpose is to sell and market a product. This has to move from organization to individuals and the essence of Personal Branding is about setting your personal standards of working and by essence guaranteeing your long term labor market value if you were to consider yourself as a commodity that the labor market needs. Those doing personal branding should be willing to stand out in the crowd in areas of performance, excellence, high impact and result oriented, accountability and transparent. In this are some of the rules to observe like; Keep time and Deadlines, Be Passionate at What you do!, Extraordinary Delivery, Add value by re-engineering your job, Stop Thinking Employment / Employee, Pass the “Painter’s” Test, Exercise Power, Exercise High Level of Moral Authority, Develop Infallible Credibility, Learn to Upgrade your Skills and Stop Procrastination. When these are followed then you’ll remain very important to the organization and you’ll have branded yourself. Then the last part highlighted several tips to help succeed in resource mobilization. This was crowned by a saying that *“you can never learn how to swim when you are used to knee-deep waters: You must go into the deep waters”* meaning that determination, working smart and maintaining the donors is very critical.

PRESENTAION NO 7: SERICULTURE AND THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SMALL SCALE FARMERS BY MR JAMES AWEGA, KARI, THIKA

This was aimed at giving MOs participants of understand sericulture and opportunities still available for small scale farmer in the production of worms for silk. Most participants were caught off guard for they did not know what sericulture is.



Mulberry farming; Silkworm rearing, silk cocoon reeling to make fiber (yarn) and Silk spinning and....

Sericulture is silk production and Sericulture involves 4 interdependent agro-industrial activities: Mulberry farming for leaf production, Silkworm rearing, Silk cocoon reeling to make fiber (yarn) and Silk spinning and fabric weaving.

The silk worm production was first grown in 1904 was introduced in Kenya in 1973. The First silkworms reared at the National Sericulture Station in KARI, THIKA. The farming is spread in 7 provinces in Kenya except North Eastern province. The production levels are as follows: Mulberry acreage: 260 country wide, Cocoon production: 1.2 m. tons/year and Fibre production: 172 Kgs. Per year.

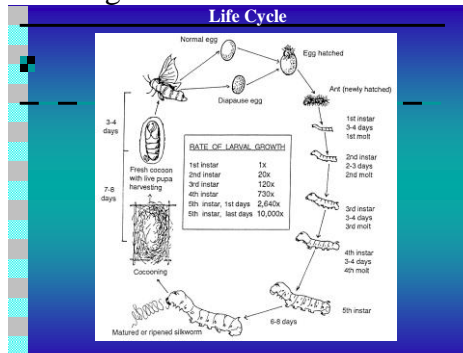
The Sericulture production has a lot of opportunities as listed below: -

- Mulberry is a drought tolerant crop
- Climatic conditions in Kenya favourable for sericulture
- Sericulture has a long value chain
- Job creation
- Establishment of cottage industries
- Improvement of our rural economy
- There is export market for silk



The mulberry saplings stay 9 months after transplanting and can be harvested and feed to silk worms. Mulberry is the only food for the silk worms they do not feed on any other plant.

The silk worms go through a life cycle with and have 4 sleeping stages and during that time do not feed them. The silk worms are very clean but we do make them dirty by touching them. So make sure the house is clean. Why use mulberry this is because is rich



in protein and silk worm convert the protein by the silk glands to silk. Then the glands sins out the silk through the mouth or spin lets. The feeding should be done twice a day. The process is well elaborated on the attached document.

The silk production comes with other advantages like-

- Vegetable
- Green Tea
- Jam
- Fresh fruits
- Dyes
- Mulberry Leaf Oil
- Cosmetics
- Medicinal use
- Timber and firewood
- Fodder
- Soil conservation



This is a lucrative business in an acre you plant 3556 plants and silk is very marketable.

THE NIA FIELD VISIT BY THE MEMBER ORGANIZATION

This is a routine by the PELUM Kenya members to visit the host organization to have a gist of their activities as a way of sharing the best practices. And in the vast Kajiado County we were to visit two groups working with NIA. The first group was dealing with bore hole-water in the community and a beekeeping group for women.

The participants were also divided into three groups and were given question to guide the visit and make use of the opportunity well. The questions were as follows:

1. What did your group observe as (i) Best practice, explain (ii) gap and challenges
2. What can be done better in the future/ Advice? To the project, community and stakeholder
3. Any other comment

The visit started with courtesy call to the office of the organization and participants familiarized with organization and staffs.

The vision of NIA: - A just, liberated and progressive society.

The mission of NIA: - To lobby and advocate for poor and vulnerable groups through livelihoods enhancement.

Overall goal:

Societal Justice as a basis for Secure Livelihoods for Maasai Community.

Core values:-

Equitable for all, Active participation by all in societal decision making, Accountability and Transparency, societal justice and Sustainable Development Partnerships.

The team toured the building to have the feeling of activities and the PELUM Kenya Country Coordinator had the opportunity to share few insights with the NIA Program Coordinator.



NIA's Overall goal:

**Societal Justice as a basis
for secure Livelihoods for
Maasai Community**

Then thereafter the participants headed to the groups in the field and this was quite a long and enjoyable journey for participants interacted with different scenarios and ecology. Then finally the participants arrived to the borehole site and shared with the borehole management and then the beekeeping group.

NDUVA COMMUNITY

The community has 400 members and acquired 25 acres of land.

The borehole was sunk in 2007 and the borehole work was implemented between the partnership of NIA in partnership with Concern World Wide, community, Ministry of water and ACCORD. The ACCORD dug the borehole, NIA through Concern World

wide built the borehole and bought the pump constructed the pump house and the cattle water trough. The Arid land bought the pump and community provided sand, stones and labor for the work.

The committee was elected by the community and ownership of the pump too. The water is available throughout the year and cattle have enough and for people to use. All decisions are by the committee like setting the amount of money to pay for water.

NKHOPE WOMEN GROUP

The group started in the year 2006 with 14 members and has 25 Lang Stroths beehives of which all of them are colonized. The group operates a bank account with Equity bank and have managed to deposit Ksh 6000/=. They have bought 4 bullocks and are feeding them and thereafter sell them and have 2 goats. They managed to acquire a plot in a nearby trading centre and are in the process of buying iron sheets to develop the plot. They are buying kitchen ware through merry go round.

Challenges: -

- No market for honey
- Pest the honey Barger
- Paying for harvesting for they cannot do it.
- They lack bee suit for harvesting

FINDING BY THE PARTICIPANTS

BEST PRACTICES

1. Strong collaboration and partnership in project implementation
2. Gender sensitivity- involvement of women in leadership
3. Community participation in the project
4. Phase planning
5. Recognition of local leadership by members

OPPORTUNITIES

- Diversification of Agricultural based enterprises
- Separating water tap stand for women away from the cattle trough
- Up -scaling the beekeeping by processing and adding value to the bee products
- Small scale irrigation
- Eco- tourism
- Tree nursery stocks
- Intergenerational learning
- Medicinal plants
- Sand and stone for sell
- Water kiosk
- Livestock development- skins, milk etc.

GAPS AND CHALLENGES

1. Cultural attachment to livestock
2. Dependency syndrome
3. Lack of marketing strategies
4. Over pricing of the products like honey
5. Poor infrastructures and Lack of skills
6. Inadequate extension services and dictatorship by the leaders

WHAT CAN BE DONE

More exchange and learning visits to share experiences.

Coordination by NIA

AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT



- Honey processing and packaging
- Proper costing of the products
- Professional marketing
- Invest in meat processing facilities
- Diversification of Agro activities
- OTHERS
- Sustainability after donor phasing out
- Capacity building- more training
- Detrimental cultural practices – early marriage (Law be enforced)
- Invest more in education

NIA AS ORGANISATION



Jeff feeling the test of the borehole water in Kajiado County

1. Giving groups opportunities and maintain a back was evident
2. Early marriage is an issue to the community so NIA to put more efforts in awareness.
3. Property grabbing was evidence like stealing of previous near by pump and no action was taken.
4. High erosion in the area needs immediate attention.

This brought to the closing of the CWG and participants described it as a very educative, challenging, adventurous, resourcefully, interactive, excellent and wonderful meeting.

CLOSING REMARKS

NIA representative appreciated the participants for very valuable feedback for the field visit and more so thanked PELUM Kenya for selecting the organization to host such a big meeting in Kajiado County.

Mr. Zachary thanked participants and said this was the first CWG meeting held for two day with a full day packed with assorted presentations. He then requested MOs to take keen interest in value addition and sustainability of NGOs. He also requested members to write any up coming issue which they wish to be addressed in forth coming CWG and leave the paper back.

He applauded the PELUM Kenya staff for such a colorful organization of the presentations and the venue. And wished all MOS participants endeavor and safe journey back to their organizations.