

Research on Climate and Conflicts in Different Regions of Kenya

ToRs for Consultant

Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops - Catholic Justice and Peace Commission (KCCB - CJPC) – was established as the executive arm of the Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops on 1st January 1988 with the mandate of sensitising individuals, communities and the nation on issues of Justice and Peace. It fulfils the Conference’s objectives to promote justice and enhance good governance in Kenya.

AGIAMONDO is the personnel agency of the German Catholics mandated to recruit and deploy qualified experts for development cooperations. Its commitment is rooted in Christian values which hold that peace, justice and the preservation of creation are inextricably bound together. Through the Civil Peace Service, a program initiated by the German government and implemented by several German NGOs, AGIAMONDO works beyond the symptoms of conflict and addresses structural causes of injustice and violence by strengthening and supporting local peace organisations and initiatives. The programme aims to promote conflict transformation through dialogue and joint action for peace to contribute to long-term, sustainable, positive peace as well as democratic reform processes. AGIAMONDO partners with the Church structures, particularly the KCCB - Catholic Justice and Peace Commission (both at the National and at the Dioceses level) and other local faith-based institutions and NGOs that advocate for the survivors of violence and injustice and the marginalized in general. This is for purposes of building structures for dialogue, strengthen information and communication for peace, and provide training in non-violent conflict transformation, as well as foster the prevention of violence and violent conflict.

1. Scope of Research

Effects of climate change have been described manifold, alerting to a manifest climate crisis going hand in hand with an unprecedented environmental degradation and mass extinction. The impacts of climate crisis are especially felt in, and increasingly negatively impacting in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. In a World Bank Report from 2010, it is stated, that the populations of Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia are going to bear 75% of the costs of the climate crisis, whereas only 10% of all Co2 emissions are generated by the poorest half of the world’s population. Furthermore, the report states, that by 2050 the numbers of people displaced by climate crisis related effects may range from 25 million to 300 million.

In 2009, Burke et. al write: “We find strong historical linkages between civil war and temperature in Africa, with warmer years leading to significant increases in the likelihood of war. When combined with climate model projections of future temperature trends, this historical response to temperature suggests a roughly 54% increase in armed conflicts incidence by 2030, [...]”.

The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, in a report of 2019 exemplifies the following data: during the year 2018 in Kenya, 336,000 people were internally displaced by disaster, while 10,000 people were internally displaced by conflict.

These data show, that the climate crisis has reached the East African Region, portraying climate crisis as a “risk multiplier and risk catalyser” by creating vicious circles of risk and fragility as a result of multiple interrelated causalities. As every context is different, these multiple causalities will play out differently from region to region [...] (Reimann/Burns, 2019) and hence, conflict dynamics and (projected) climate change impacts need to be considered at the local and regional levels to be of use for context-relevant peace building.

Kenya is highly vulnerable to the climate crisis for several reasons.

- 1) Kenya is highly exposed to increasing temperatures; according to a 2007 study by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Kenya is warming at a rate roughly 1.5 times the global average
- 2) High rainfall variability
- 3) Strong dependence on climate-sensitive agriculture
- 4) Moderate adaptive capacity, also based on high levels of corruption

Pastoralists are especially exposed to climate change due to their dependency on pasture and water, both highly effected by higher temperatures and the increasing variability of rainfall. (Climate Change and Violent Conflict in Kenya: A Two-way relationship, 2012)

This in turn, indicates the relationship between climate crisis and (violent) conflict in the North Rift Region as well as other parts of Kenya: More frequent and prolonged droughts increase the pressure to raid, while raids are mostly executed during rainy seasons, a correlation that has been increasing insecurity and fragility in the ASAL all through 2019 and beyond.

In that sense, the climate crisis is contributing to conflict, as it is worsening social conflicts, negative political dynamics and insecurity and fragility, while, at the same time, conflict is increasing the vulnerability of a community and society to climate change, hampering its adaptability and mitigating capacities.

On the other hand, climate change has the potential to be turned into a virtuous circle of opportunities for collective resilience, cooperation and social cohesion among affected communities and regions (Smith and Vivekananda 2007: 8). Adaptation can serve as a peace builder, acting as a catalyst for dialogue and peaceful conflict resolution. (Reimann/Burns, 2019).

Violent conflict in Kenya has been widely described as competition over access and control of natural resources, increasingly also around marginalisation and political representation. This is also reflected in the AGIAMONDO Country Strategy (2019 – 2024), as well as the CPS-Cross Agency Strategy (2019 – 2023). This context needs to be understood vis a vis the added risk, insecurity and challenges of the impacts of the climate crisis. Moreover, it is indispensable for climate sensitive peace building, to further its understanding on the peace opportunities, the climate crisis might provide for. As the AGIAMONDO Country Strategy states: “Ethnic rivalry and negative ethnicity among the pastoralist and/or sedentary farmer communities needs to be addressed adequately. Without a promotion of unity and trust building, the conflicts in the pastoralist regions will continue. Thereby it is important to also promote community resilience towards common threats of the communities, as e.g. climate change and its impact on the region or the militarized situation due to the proliferation of small arms.”

Therefore, in a bid to inform and strengthen the work of Catholic peace building actors in several regions of Kenya (e.g. North Rift [two identified local conflict-zones], Trans Mara, Mau/Narok, Tana River) the National Catholic Justice and Peace Commission, together with its partner organisation, AGIAMONDO, is looking to undertake a study with the aim to:

- a) Increase the understanding of the specific regional and local vulnerabilities to climate change
- b) Understand the knowledge base and adaptability of local communities towards climate change
- c) Understand the interconnection of the impacts of the climate crisis on the ongoing conflicts in the region
- d) Understand the opportunities for collective resilience among affected communities
- e) Inform current and future peace building programs and projects

2. Methodology

The methodology of the research is two-folded. It entails a desk research with regards to policies and official documents guiding climate crisis response as well as peace building in Kenya. Secondly, a field research is to be conducted in different locations in Kenya to gain a first-hand experience of the interlinkages of climate crisis and peacebuilding on the ground. Both should lead to recommendations that will enable AGIAMONDO and its partners to include climate crisis as “risk multiplier” as well as a peace connector in their programming.

A) Desk Research

Summarize and analyse the following policies with regards to their possible impact on another: The Kenya National Adaptation Plan 2015 – 2030, the National Climate Action Plan 2018 – 2022, as well as the Kenyan National Policy for Peace Building and Conflict Management.

Research Questions to be answered:

- What are the possible trade-offs/contradictions between the different policies?
- What are possible peace building entry points within the National Climate Action Plan 2018 – 2022?
- How can climate-change related questions become an integral part of peace building programs and projects considering the National Policy for Peace Building and Conflict Management?

B) Field Research

The field research should adopt a participatory action research approach in order to institute local responsibility and ownership. Moreover, the field research will be implemented in close collaboration with the respective Catholic peace building actors.

3. Deliverables

A) Desk Research: Summary of relevant key information, including answers to the research questions, of the National Climate Action Plan 2018 – 2022, as well as the Kenyan National Policy for Peace Building and Conflict Management

B) Field Research: Documentation (Research Diary) of implemented research activities in the indicated localities of Kenya; Inventory of Projects and Activities implemented under the National Climate Action Plan 2018 – 2022

C) Conclusive research report: around 60 pages, in addition to Annex, Inventory and References; bringing together outcomes of field research and desk research providing relevant recommendations for climate sensitive peace building programs as well as context and conflict sensitive climate adaptation and mitigation

4. Timeline

Date	Content	Deliverable	Duration
July 2020	Decision on Research Offer (including detailed research design) by CJPC Executive Secretary and AGIAMONDO CPS Coordinator	Shortlist of research offers and written decision	
July 2020	MoU signed based on Research Offer and Research Plan	MoU/Contract	
July/August 2020	Desk Study	Summary of results (2-3 pages)	2 days
August 2020	Briefing between Catholic Peace Building Actors, AGIAMONDO CPS Coordinator and consultant on field research; taking into account the summary of results above Discussion on appropriate detailed structure for the research report	Minutes and approved structure and contents of the research report	1 day
TBD	Field Research in 5 different locations (possibly: 2 conflict zones NRPI; 1 location in Trans Mara, 1 location Mau/Narok, 1 location Tana River); 5 days per location	Research diary; research reports	25 days
TBD	Conclusive Research Report	Research Report and recommendations; draft 1	4 days

TBD	Feedback by Catholic Peace Building Actors and AGIAMONDO CPS Coordinator on research report	Feedback within 1 week after receiving draft	
TBD	Inclusion of feedback in report	Research Report and recommendations – final draft	1 day
Working days total:			33 days

The successful candidate should have the following qualifications and expertise:

- Master in Peace and Conflict Studies, or a comparable degree from the field of social science, anthropology
- Additional Qualification and/or experience in environmental peacebuilding are an added value
- Proven track record of (field) research and analysis experience in peacebuilding, special focus on climate induced conflicts are an added value
- Proven track record of advisory services for peace building actors

The successful candidate should send a comprehensive offer by 30th of June 2020, entailing:

1. Motivation to do the research
2. Research design - detailing the research methodology for the field research
3. Financial expectations
4. CV of researcher/ research team

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:-

GENERAL SECRETARY

KENYA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS - GENERAL SECRETARIAT

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