Baseline Assessment of Women’s Wealth, Wellbeing and Habitat, including Potential Losses

Incidents of Infrastructure Development that Displace People from Their Habitats – Mazingira Institute and Pamoja Trust in cooperation with HIC-HLRN
Habitat-related Human Rights violations cause impacts, impacts warrant redress and redress may inhibit future violations.

Taken from UN General Assembly Resolution 60/147 (2006); Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law and Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law.
Women, Land and Homes Project (Kenya)
HRLRN in collaboration with Alzheimers Institute and Pumoyo Trust
Evictions, Impacts and Redress Assessment (EvIRA) Tool
(October Lambda, Nanking Institute, Rev. Nov. 2019)
Introduction

• Infrastructural development is almost synonymous with displacement as along as it is carried out within the precincts of human habitation

• The most obvious form of displacement involves dislocation from one’s habitats.

• Infrastructure activities may sometimes involve physical or economic displacement of individuals or communities.

• It is evident that displacement arising from such infrastructural development result into loss of social networks, intangible capital, livelihoods

• Displacement activities may also impact a wide range of rights namely; right to adequate housing, food, water, health, education, work, security of the person, security of the home, freedom from cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, freedom of movement, and access to sites of spiritual and cultural concern, among others
Methodology

• The assessment adopted a descriptive survey design

• The pre-tests were carried out in two stages, the first phase was conducted at on site (Kangemi), with 5 respondents, namely; 2 married women, 1 single, 1 separated, 1 widow.

• The second phase was conducted off study site, with four respondents across the four categories (married, single, separated, divorced).

• The study involved purposively drawing of an equal number of respondents across the four categories of interest

• 120 women were recruited for the study with 30 respondents from each of the 4 categories

• The sample size was stratified across three locations, namely; Kangemi, Uthiru and Kinoo.
Study Findings

- Characteristics of Survey Respondents

- The baseline survey targeted 120 women

- Response rate of 100% was realized

- Single women constituted (25%), married women (25%), separated women (25%) and widow women (25%).
Household Size

- more than half of the respondents (58.0%) had 4-7 household members, 39.5% had 0-3 household members and only 2.5% had 8-11 household members
- 62.1% of the single women have 0-3 household members
- 90.0% of married women have 4-7 household members
- 53.3% of separated women have 4-7 members
- 53.3% of widowed women have 4-7 household members
Reason for Leaving Original Home

- On the average, approximately 57.5% of the women indicated that they left their native homes to secure employment opportunity.

- 13.3% the respondents indicated that they left their homes because of marriage and to join joining family.

- 6.67% indicated they left original home because of divorce/separation/death of spouse
Owned Household Assets, Potential Damages and Losses

- The baseline considered a number of assets and their centrality to the lives of the affected households, and potential impacts in the event of loss or damage due to forced relocation from current residence.

- The assets that may be damaged or lost include household goods, vehicles, documents and memorabilia

- Employment and income loss. Job losses might occur due to loss of work spaces or sometimes being pushed far away from work station.
Employment, Income & Expenditures

Widow, Employed in Private Company, 1.70%
Separated, Employed in Private Company, 0.00%
Married, Employed in Private Company, 0.00%
Single, Employed in Private Company, 2.50%
Widow, Self Employed, 14.40%
Separated, Self Employed, 16.10%
Married, Self Employed, 17.80%
Single, Self Employed, 16.90%
Widow, Unemployed, 0.80%
Separated, Unemployed, 0.00%
Married, Unemployed, 3.40%
Single, Unemployed, 0.80%
Widow, Other, 7.60%
Separated, Other, 8.50%
Single, Other, 5.10%
Married, Other, 4.20%
Incomes had wide ranges from as low as 2500 to figures above 47600 shillings. The highest percentage of widows earned between 2500-7500 while married women had the highest numbers in the 47600 plus category.
Wellbeing Assessment: Loss and Damages

They include:

• Health loss and distress
• Food security loss
• Safety loss
• Quality of family life lost
• Social bond loss
Health Loss and Distress
81.5% agreed to suffer distress as a result of leaving either their original or any previous home with only 18.5% saying they don’t. Distribution across the four groups indicated a similar trend except for married women who have a bit fairer distress account.
Anticipating Distress

- Yes, Single: 24.20%
- Yes, Married: 21.70%
- Yes, Separated: 25.00%
- Yes, Widow: 25.00%
- No, Single: 0.80%
- No, Married: 3.30%
- No, Separated: 0.00%
- No, Widow: 0.00%
Food Security

Did you lose access to food as a result of leaving either your original or any previous home

- **Yes**, Single: 14.20%
- **Yes**, Married: 10.00%
- **Yes**, Separated: 17.50%
- **Yes**, Widow: 15.80%
- **No**, Single: 10.80%
- **No**, Married: 15.00%
- **No**, Separated: 7.50%
- **No**, Widow: 9.20%
Have you recovered your food security now?
59.8% recovered their food security
40.2% not yet recovered.
Land Ownership and Tenancy Status

Land remains an emotive subject and the desire to own land is assumed as pivotal security for many households.

41.5% had owned land
58.5% never owned any land.

Across the four groups the numbers were as follows:
A further question on current residency revealed that 81.5 % of the women were tenants in the current places where they are living.
Overall Data Trends

• The results across the entire variables accessed across the four groups of women have a clear trend
• where the single, separated and widowed women are disproportionately vulnerable compared to their married counterparts.
• This sense of vulnerability is therefore likely to be heightened when displacement or involuntary relocation is meted on them.
Recommendations

• From this study it’s evident that a lot of work still needs to be done to sanitize the entire process of development induced displacement because of the challenges it can expose those affected.

• Advocate for human rights based approach to infrastructure development.

• Enhance the capacity of women on their awareness of equality in land and property rights as well as their ability to speak out against violation of these rights.