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### Shalom Core Values

- **Non-violent societal transformation**
- **Integral human development and security**
- **Integrity**
- **Respect for local culture and tradition**

## Shalom Center for Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation (SCRR)

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### *HELLO FROM THE SHALOM CENTER*

#### **Greetings to everyone!**

This month we continued to receive news of the escalating conflict in Turkana South, Pokot West and East, Samburu East and Isiolo District over cattle rustling despite government intervention.

This region is close to our hearts and continues to prompt us on how to work best for the cause of transforming conflict. A major step in realizing this goal was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between SCCRR and IGAD.

IGAD endorsed the strategy of SCCRR towards conflict management, research, development of inter-ethnic schools, peace education and influence policy in the volatile pastoral environment.

The reflection shares the history and challenge of pastoralism.

#### **Future of pastoralism**

Cattle pastoralist in East Africa began 4,000 to 5000 years ago preceding the development of agriculture (Science Magazine 2002). This was attributed to the earliest emergence of cattle in Africa. (Marshall 1990). Pastoralists then enabled communities to have a year round production of milk, meat, and blood while fostering economic and social relationships between hunters and gatherers.



## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

### Phase I Workshop

August 2-4th  
Ortum– N.Kenya

### Phase II Workshop

July 27th-30th  
Lowarengak

August 22-26th  
Lodwar & Kakuma

## Feedback

- We appreciate the opinions and reactions we have so far received from you.
- Samson Limaruk from LISAP Initiative for Minorities in Amakuriat highlighted the need for SCCRR reaching out to the warriors in conflict if peace is to prevail.
- Kitale contact persons await for a refresher on phase 1 on 4th July, 2011.

Contemporary pastoralists in the world total to 120 million. In Kenya the sector supports 6million people, 60% of the national herd belongs to the pastoral community and this sector generates 10% to the gross domestic product. Despite its growth over millennia, this sector lacks policy, infrastructure, government and the struggle to survive climatic change.

In the preceding annual Kenyan budget this sector received 1% of the national budget which is unlikely to cushion the pastoralist sector and enable the persons living in arid and semi arid lands to decrease the number of people living below poverty line (Omolo 2011). However, the recent budget 2011-2012 Kenyan budget allocated 11% to the entire agriculture sector.

Some critics have proposed that the future of pastoralism in East Africa and in the 21st Century is bleak. A rushed thought would make you think that this would reduce the problem of conflict among the pastoralists.

However, this is not the case and government involvement, NGO's, religious bodies and other parties, will be strongly needed in order to make a significant difference in the lives of pastoralists and to reduce conflict in North Kenya.



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