

# PINGOs FORUM



**REPORT ON THE FACT-FINDING MISSION**

**IN TANGA REGION**

**June 2013**

1. This is a report of a fact-finding mission which took place in Tanga Region in June 2013.
2. The report aim to map the situation of pastoralists and the challenges they face in three districts of Tanga Region namely Handeni, Korogwe and Pangani.
3. There are similar challenges in Bagamoyo, Kilindi and Mchinga Districts which were not covered.

## Korogwe District, June 10, 2013

4. Maasai and Pare pastoralists reside in several villages in Korogwe District.
5. There are, for example, pastoralists in Chang'andu sub-Village, Kwalukonge Village, in Magamba Kwalukonge Ward of Mombo Division who are under siege from farmers and the Government.



**Maasai pastoralists of Chang'andu sub-Village in Korogwe Village addressing the press**

6. There are about 436 Maasai pastoralists in this village. Most of these people were born in the village. Pastoralists have been in this village since time immemorial as witnessed by elders.
7. The village borders a massive sisal estate to the East. Former sisal workers of the sisal estate relocated themselves on the fringes of the estate and established cultivation villages.
8. Most of these are Wabena from Iringa Region in Southern Tanzania. The Wabena worked on the soil cultivating food crops for years. With passage of time the soil became infertile.
9. These farmers, who are by far the majority in the village, invaded and started crops cultivation on the rangeland belonging to the minority Maasai pastoralists in Chang'andu sub-Village.
10. The pastoralists have been resisting in vain this invasion of their land. Badly outnumbered by farmers however the pastoralists are almost defenseless. They are subject to criminal attack by known farmers but the Government literally takes no action. One such attack which was nearly fatal took place in the night of March 28, 2013 at 21:30 for many hours in a row. The Government did not, according to an editorial in *Majira* of April 16, 2013, do much.
11. On the fateful night, a mob of villagers decided to set on the pastoralists in Chang'andu sub-village. A Good Samaritan, Matanda Msinden, who was in Magamba township overhead the

attack arrangements and alerted the pastoralists by calling one of them. This help to save lives as the pastoralists fled to the nearby forest leaving behind everything.

12. The fire reduced to ashes 16 houses with many valuables inside including reportedly 160 goat kids, 46 calves, a motorbike, a bicycle, beddings, clothes as well as home utensils.
13. The fire directly affected 92 pastoralists in the sub-village. In total the Government came in with a mere 250kg maize flour, 170kg of rice and 100kg of sugar to homeless that many.
14. Attacks such as this are not isolated cases. Peasants in Gereza and Mkwakwani Villages in Korogwe District burned to ashes six homesteads belonging to Barabaig pastoralists. Riot police, notoriously known as FFU, arrived in two Land Rovers but did not do much to stop the peasants who burned houses including everything inside (*Majira* [Dar es Salaam] February 8, 2013).

## Handeni District

15. Predominantly Maasai pastoralists inhabit Msomera Village. This pastoral village is in Handeni District with land induced conflicts (*HabariLeo* [Dar es Salaam] March 8, 2013).
16. Pastoralists were scattered in Misima, Mbagwi, Mseri and Malezi Villages. Badly outnumbered by farmers pastoralists allegedly became a target of attack. They mobilized themselves and came together to form a pastoralists village which was finally registered in 1992.
17. In 2001 World Vision built a dam. Apparently the dam silted over the year and in the late rains of 2012 it filled to the brims and water sadly breached it leaving over 4,900 people and 57,300 livestock thirsting. Respondents mentioned this as the second key problem in the village.



**Water breached the silted dam causing water shortage in Msomera Village in Handeni District**

18. The main problem is invasion of their land by Zigua famers. This problem surfaced following a trend in recent years of Arushans selling off their own land in villages around Arusha town and

in turn migrating en-mass into Misima Ward to buy land at throw away prices from Zigua (*HabariLeo* [Dar es Salaam] March 8, 2013 &). Handeni and Kilindi Districts are experiencing immigrants looking for land. Land in these districts is being sold cheaply; between TSh200,000 and TSh300,000 per acre (See *Majira* [Dar es Salaam] October 23, 2012). Pastoral villages like Msomera Village in Misima Ward of Handeni are some of the main targets. Zigua farmers, unable to resist the money, sell their land and enter by force into Msomera Village under the excuse of the whole land in Handeni District being ancestral land of the Zigua. Out of the 50,000 hectares of the village land already 8,000 hectares have been invaded in this manner.

## Pangani District

1. Maasai, Barabaig and Pare pastoralists reside in several villages in Pangani District.

### A. Mshalaza and Mkinguni Villages

2. There are 13 Maasai pastoralists' homesteads and 5 Pare pastoralists' homesteads in Mkusi Katani sub-Village of Mshalaza Village in Bushiri Ward Madenge Division.
3. Mkusi Katani was once part of Mivumoni Ranch (Mamahiya Kipikashi pers.comm June 7, 2013).
4. In 1988 the Government forcefully evicted pastoralists from Mkomazi Game Reserve, today Mkomazi National Park. The Government allegedly relocated the pastoralists in the ECF riddled Mtango Village in Pangani District bordering Saadani National Park.



**Tree plantations, like this one in Pangani District is the cause of landlessness of pastoralists**

5. Fleeing away from killer ECF in Mtango Village the pastoralists most pastoralists moved on to Coastal and Morogoro regions. Others re-settled on a land belonging to Amboni Sisal Estates (Amboni Plantation) bordering Mkinguni Village in Kambona Ward of Mwera Division.
6. Amboni Estates resisted the re-settlement on its land. A conflict brew between these pastoralists on one side and the estates and the Government on the other.
7. To relief the estates Pangani District Council moved in 2004 some of the said pastoralists to Mkusi Katani sub-Village leaving some families still in Amboni Estates.
8. Upon hearing that the Mkusi Katani is set aside for pastoralists, Pare pastoralists also moved in.
9. There is a simmering tension between pastoralists and farmers and Maasai and Pare pastoralists in these two villages. In March 2013 for example farmers burned to ashes houses and everything inside belonging to pastoralists in Masaika Village of Bushira Ward.
10. The fate of these pastoralists remains to be seen given these growing tensions.

#### **B. Mkwaja and Mkalamo Villages**

11. There are predominantly Barabaig pastoralists in both Mkwaja and Mkalamo. In Pangani generally there are pastoralists facing different type of challenges including violent confrontations with peasants. A fight between Barabaig pastoralists and peasants for instance broke out in Msaraza, Mivumo and Kigurusimba Villages in Bushiri Ward. Speaking in a meeting called by Tanga Regional Commissioner, Chiku Gallawa, peasants heaped blames on pastoralists who did not attend the meeting (*Nipashe* [Dar es Salaam] March 3, 2013). Prior to this fight, Gallawa had asked the military, specifically Tanzania People Defense Force, to forcefully remove pastoralists from Tanga Region (*Nipashe* [Dar es Salaam] December 11, 2012).
12. A similar fight took place in Mkwaja and Mkalamo (see for example *Mwananchi* [Dar es Salaam] March 5, 2013).
13. In the 1970s the establishment of the 100,000-acre Tanzania-Canada Wheat Complex on the ancestral land of the Barabaig in Hanang District set them wandering around the country.
14. Barabaig first moved in Dodoma and Singida and then spread literarily all over the country.
15. Most of elderly Barabaig pastoralists interviewed during this study said they were from Hanang.
16. There is a simmering tension between pastoralists and farmers.
17. Farmers have cultivated along the banks Mafleta River literarily blocking livestock from accessing the river. There is also tension between Barabaig and Maasai pastoralists in villages.
18. Expansion of Bagamoyo National Park however is reportedly the key threat to these pastoralists.



**Tanzania has many thriving national parks for wildlife while livestock have no rangeland**

19. Wardens reportedly harass pastoralists and illegally fine them when livestock enter the park.
20. Wildlife preservation agencies like WWF are also to be found in the area designing and financing wildlife/forest preservation projects at the expense of other natural resources users like pastoralists. In Kwakibuyu Village in Pangani District, for example, such a project has taken massive rangeland while pastoralists and their livestock are barred to enter the area.



**The Tanzanian Government works with WWF, UNDP in projects that hurt pastoralism**

The land is insufficient, there are farms everywhere and there is no pasture any more.

## **Way forward**

- While PINGO's Forum is not a service delivery organization it may secure TSh 60 million need for re-building the dam in Msomera Village possibly by lobby organizations like World Vision and others to rescue the residents and livestock in the village.
- There is a need to lodge competent advocates to assist pastoralists of Chang'andu sub-Village in their legal battle with farmers who burned their houses on March 28, 2013.
- Strategic planning is needed to support pastoralists in Tanzania perhaps by zoning the country and address issues rotationally and in matter of urgency and lack of support.
- There is also a need to re-think a way to trickle down the intervention initiatives in the form of para-legal trainings, constitutional works, gender mainstreaming and even climate change studies in the area as a way of exposing more the plight of pastoralists.
- PINGO's Forum can also help pastoralists in the study area, and in similar areas, to form alliances and actively participate in the activities of the organization.





**Deserted plantations like like this one in Pangani could be allocated to landless pastoralists**

- Most pastoralists in the study area are minorities and the little rangeland they have is in a constant threat of invasions by different forces and thus calls for constant monitoring.
- There are many lands falling under different legal categories and ownerships. There ranches, estates, forests and villages. Helping pastoralists secure their land is necessary.
- The Government should consider allotting pastoralists lands which are underperforming for livestock grazing. Mseri Ranch, Sakura Ranch and several estates can be put to good use by giving them to pastoralists as they are proven to be good investors.



**Ranches like this could be put to good use if handed over to neighbouring pastoralists**

- The rule of law and good governance need not belabored. Authorities are very much aware of attacks on pastoralists in the study are but play them down. This will obviously encourage the perpetrators to keep on taking law onto their own hands.

- The notorious wildlife preservation agencies like WWF are, as they always do, getting out of their ways in tricking away any land with natural vegetation for wildlife conservation or perhaps for potential attraction of REDD+ credit.

Key contacts in the study area

<b>Name</b>	<b>Village</b>	<b>Phone number</b>	<b>District</b>
Landikoi Kasau	Mshalaza (Mkusi Katani)	0786616605	Pangani
Moses Lazaro Mbatiany	Mshalaza (Mkusi Katani)	-	Pangani
Isa Mghanya	Mkwaja	0784613324	Pangani
Bakari Mghanya	Gendagenda	0689284001	Handeni
Maasai Amboni	Mkinguni	0783041798	Pangani
Julius Kaeka	Misima	0788077777	Handeni
Ikayo Ndiwas (call wapi?)	Kwalukonge	0658420547	Korogwe
Saning'o Maeka	Chairman Chang'andu	0686384846	Korogwe
Thomas Zakayo	Chang'andu	0789288130 0768414395	Korogwe
Prof. Majimarefu (Ngonyani)	MP for Korogwe	0784459090	Korogwe
William Kanyinge	Msomera (Chairman)	0685258699	Handeni
Mrisho Gambo	DC for Korogwe	0715337639 0683757575	Korogwe
Luka Logan Kerika	Councilor Magamba-K	0784423608 0767423609	Korogwe
Tipaa Maning'oi	Changarikwa	0684714137	Korogwe
Leiyu Laitetei	Chang'andu	0787003583 0688909865	Korogwe