
Feedback from the Yabello Community on the floods in Marsabit County (October 2019): **A Participatory Video Rapid Review**



Elderly representatives editing their stories on Indaba. IFRC/M. Tsukamoto

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Acronyms and abbreviations

IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
KRCS	Kenya Red Cross
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
PMER	Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting
PV	Participatory Video
PVRR	Participatory Video Rapid Review
5 W's	(Who, Where, When, What and Why)

1. Introduction

This Rapid Review aimed to capture the feedback from the community of Yabello on the activities carried out by the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) following the floods which took place in Marsabit County in October 2019. Participatory video (PV) was used by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to further engage the community groups and allow them to create, film, and edit their own feedback to the floods response. In an effort to develop more efficient, inclusive and sustainable approaches to monitoring and evaluation, IFRC's PMER Unit in Geneva in collaboration with the Africa region, and Kenya Red Cross Society piloted this Participatory Video Rapid Review (PVRR) using a mobile video application called [Indaba](#) .

This PVRR aimed to:

- Capture feedback from representative groups from the Yabello community (women, men, youth and elderly) to the activities carried out by KRCS for the floods response.
- Dive deeper to understand better community group needs in the various areas of intervention (Cash Transfer and Food Assistance) carried out by KRCS.
- Generate community feedback and recommendations to the two areas of intervention which can be used as a real time feedback to the ongoing operation.

out for the operation from December 2019 to February 2020. It is intended that this PVRR provide real time feedback to the operation which is expected to continue until December 2020.

2. Background

The disaster and the Red Cross Red Crescent response to date

2nd September 2019¹: The Kenya Meteorological Department issues a seasonal weather forecasts for October – November – December (OND) season indicating normal to above normal rainfall with early onset in most parts of the country beginning from October 2019.

October 2019: Heavy rainfall experienced in most parts of the country affecting over 14,000 households with 21 deaths, over 21,000 livestock deaths and 531 acres of farmland being swept away.

28 October 2019: IFRC releases a CHF306,560 DREF allocation to enable the Kenya Red Cross Society to reach 84,367 flood affected people

28th November 2019: Heavy rainfall continues to be experienced in most parts of the country affecting about **31,564HHs** (approx. **189,384 people**), with **5,249 households** displaced, **90 persons reported dead** and over **26,277 livestock deaths** and **2,540 acres of farmland destroyed**.

5th December 2019: IFRC launches an Emergency Appeal for **2.5M Swiss francs** to assist **150,000 people** for a period of **12 months**



Photo: Affected community members being evacuated by KRCS volunteers (KRCS)

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By November 2019, more than 29 counties in Kenya had received three times more rainfall than what is normally received during the rainy season resulting in floods, including in Moyale Sub County, Marsabit county, where the Yabello community is located. This led to loss of livestock and humans in an already dire situation, where famine and shortage of water and pastures was already being reported by the pastoralist communities.

Through KRCS assessments, Yabello community was then identified as one of the more vulnerable communities in need of food and cash assistance.

¹ adore.ifrc.org/Download.aspx?FileId=272394

The objectives of these humanitarian interventions were to:

Objective 1: Support the most vulnerable community members in difficult-to-reach areas through the distribution of food to improve their food security.

Objective 2: Support the most vulnerable community members in difficult-to-reach areas through cash transfer to increase their purchasing power for food.

In Yabello community, 191 households were targeted with the intention of providing:

Food assistance: (40.5 kgs of rice, 7.14 kgs of beans, 2.24lt of vegetable oil and 0.5kg of salt).

Cash transfer: 3,000 Kenyan Shilling was distributed per individual.

This PVRR will focus on the feedback from the community of Yabello to the objectives mentioned above.

3. Methods

Desk review: A document review was carried out looking at the overall operation and related documents (DREF, Emergency Appeal, Operations Update).

Indaba Training for Volunteers: A pilot training was held with National Society branch staff and volunteers on the Indaba process in Moyale on 23 February 2020. The aim of this training was to prepare the 2 volunteers and staff who would accompany the team to the field on the Indaba process, as well as to capacitate others interested in using a mobile video application for gathering community feedback on project/programme and or to operations.

Data collection in the field: The PVRR team then spent five days with the community of Yabello (24 to 28 February) to capture their stories using a participatory timeline, photo walk and story cards focusing on questions related to what the community learned from the project complemented by the Indaba app.

Onsite capacity building: The participatory video making process itself also aimed to build the capacity at all levels (IFRC Geneva, East Africa Country Cluster, and National Society) and incorporated elements of sustainability and peer to peer exchange, to ensure that this method could be used post departure of PVRR for monitoring and evaluation in the Africa region. In support of this, it was agreed that a PMER officer come from the East Africa Country Cluster, along with a PMER officer and an IT specialist from KRCS.

Community Feedback

Each group who participated in this initiative had an opportunity to present back their video story to the community. The PVRR team also provided the community and the National Society with their localized video stories before leaving the community.

Data Analysis

In both locations, the data analysis focused on extracting the main themes which surged from the stories created by the women, men, youth and elderly.

Selection of the community

The following criteria was used for the selection of the district area of the targeted community for filming, in consultation with the IFRC East Africa Country Cluster and KRCS.

- The National Society has ongoing longer-term development and emergency programmes in the communities.
- Supports current initiatives that are currently taking place on better meeting the needs of their target population and increasing their resilience to becoming more socially and economically autonomous.
- The National Society has the potential to provide peer to peer support and coaching to other National Societies in the Africa region.

Selection of the community representatives

To limit bias, community representatives to participate in the Participatory Video Rapid Review were selected onsite and on a voluntary basis, from the community facilitation which took place on the first day.

4. Findings

There were **60** assisted participants (15 women, 15 men, 15 youth and 15 elderly) who provided their feedback on the floods through their stories. Overall, there were **23** stories created by the participating groups (women (6), men (4), youth (5) and elderly (7)). The findings have been categorized according to how the feedback related to the assistance provided by the operation and operational objectives.

4.1 Context

In October 2019, with the money provided by IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund, KRCS carried out aerial assessments with drones to determine the damage created by the floods in Moyale sub-county. KRCS mapped the locations of displaced families and found alternative routes and used the criteria below to deliver life-saving assistance to affected families.

	Targeting Criteria
1.	Affected areas not targeted by other partners
2.	Most vulnerable areas due to disruption of livelihoods
3.	Affected areas with no market centers
4.	The aged who had no support from their children or any other primary support
5.	Those displaced families due to floods
6.	The affected families who have returned to their homes but still vulnerable due to the situation.
7.	Pregnant mothers

8.	Communities who have difficulties accessing markets due to poor road networks
9.	HH that have lost their livelihoods from the impeding floods.
10.	Mothers with malnourished children 0-5 years

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Yabello was one of the vulnerable communities assisted by the KRCS. It is a pastoralist community that has livestock production as its main source of livelihood. In October 2019, many families were displaced in this community, with their livestock and property being swept away by the flash floods.

KRCS activities focused on immediate needs for this community, providing food and cash assistance as of January 2020.



"We are the people who recently experienced huge water destruction that went away with the clothes of children, all household items and everything..."



"...We had experienced drought that resulted to the death of livestock. After a while it rained for four months and we had many problems like damaged roads and some people died..."



"Houses destroyed, livestock lost and everything lost. Because there was no food and utensils, children and women escaped to the bush..."



"The livestock affected by flood were 2,150 goats, 700 cows and 191 houses-we faced a lot of difficulties because of the floods..."

² KRCS Floods Response Activity Report, 20 to 25th January 2020.

4.2 Objective 1: Support the most vulnerable community members in difficult-to-reach areas through the distribution of food to improve their food security.

Further to the floods, reports of famine and shortage of water and pastures was reported in Moyale, where the Yabello community was located. In order to meet the needs of these vulnerable families, KRCS distributed the following food items to 191 households.

According to a KRCS report from 20 to 25 January 2020, the following items were distributed:

Item	Amount (Kg)
Beans	1363.74
Rice	7735.5
Veg Oil	427.84
Salt	95.5



"They distributed fairly. Everybody received well. Everything is here even the salad and the rice..."



"The small assistance we got is only the food and funds from the Red Cross, but still we are yet to get any other assistance."



"The beans were not good, we are requesting for better beans. They also gave us salt..."



"We received rice 40 kgs, beans 7 kg. We also got cooking oil 2 litres and we also got salt..."

4.3 Objective 2: Support the most vulnerable community members in difficult-to-reach areas through cash transfer to increase their purchasing power for food.

Yabello community was one of the most hard-to-reach areas during the floods. In view of the impassable roads, partners were unable to target these areas. In order to facilitate the purchase of food and other needed household items by vulnerable families in these flood-affected areas, KRCS responded with a cash transfer intervention. One hundred and ninety-one households benefited from this.



"It was sent through M Pesa to our phones the sum of 3050 KES. For example, I used it to buy a cooking pot and entire households items, including sleeping mats for the children, food for the children and the child's shoes which were taken away by the floods..."



"These funds relieved us, but the funds are little. I bought cooking pots, children's shoes and firewood because I am unable to relocate."



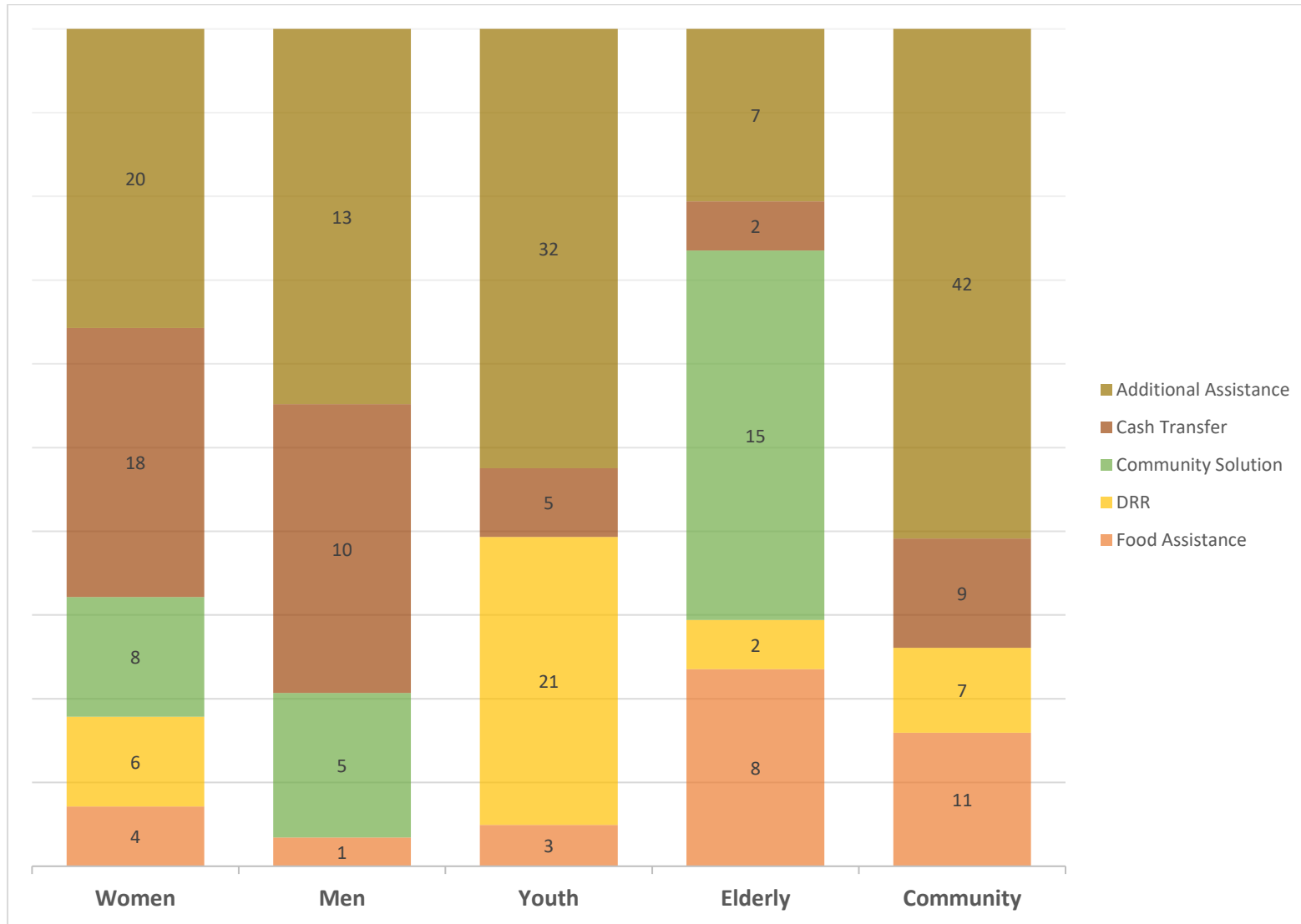
"We budgeted the money to take our sick to the hospital, for our children we bought books and pens."



"We cut trees to build houses, we contributed money as a community which was not enough, so when Red Cross added us money, we rebuilt the houses."

4.4 Findings Matrix by Theme

As can be seen by the table below, the following **THREE** themes had the most frequent mentions in the community stories: **Additional assistance** (for the digging of boreholes; reconstruction of water pan/dam; building of shelters; adding additional beneficiaries to cash transfer programme; providing tools such as digging hoe, spade, wheelbarrow and tractors; and increasing food assistance); the importance of **Cash Transfer** (for the purchasing of food, household items, school items and the rebuilding of houses); as well as **Disaster Risk Reduction-DRR** (for shelter reconstruction, blocking waterways, providing access to clean water, and for purchasing a wheelbarrow and a digging fork for the building of sandbag barriers).

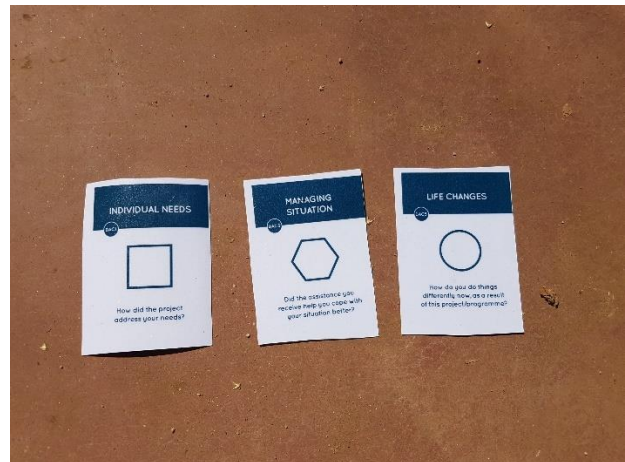


4.5 Findings Matrix by Objective

Objectives	Women	Community	Men	Youth	Elderly	Grand Total
O1: Support the most vulnerable community members in difficult-to-reach areas through the distribution of food to improve their food security.	6	11	3	9	8	37
O2: Support the most vulnerable community members in difficult-to-reach areas through cash transfer to increase their purchasing power for food.	24	9	16	7	5	61
Grand Total	30	20	19	16	13	98

There were 2 main objectives for KRCS's humanitarian intervention. Activities mentioned in stories were arranged according to objective and by order of greatest mention. **Activities for Objective 2 received the greatest mention, especially by the women's group.**

4.6 Bringing out the Lessons Learned



In order to allow the groups of women, men, youth, elderly and community dive deeper into their stories, a three-phased approach was taken using story cards and facilitated group discussions.

First phase: The PVRR team piloted story cards with localized questions related to Cash, Food Assistance and DRR coupled with localized DAC criteria questions related to Relevance, Effectiveness and Sustainability.

Second phase: Story cards were also facilitated with the different community representatives on the 5 W's (Who, Where, When, What and Why) and **Recommendation** to help them further build their story narrative.

Third phase: Tags for the story cards used in the first phase were also created in the Indaba app which allowed the men, women, youth, elderly and the community to tag their own stories with these criteria. The different colors in the tags allowed the groups to recognize the different areas of inquiry used for the rapid review which was useful for those groups who could not read or write.

The following table shows of how each group tagged their stories using the PVRR areas of inquiry in their final video story:

Story Cards	Women	Men	Youth	Elderly	Community	Grand Total
Cash: Does the cash assistance cover your priority needs? How did you use your cash assistance? What were the changes in your life after receiving the cash assistance?	1	2	1	2	1	7
Food Assistance: What kind of food assistance did you receive? Was there sufficient food to meet yours and your family needs? How did the food you receive make you feel?	0	1	1	2	1	5
Disaster Risk Reduction: Are you taking any steps to prepare for these disaster(s)? Are you receiving any support to prepare for future disaster(s)?	2	1	1	0	1	5

Relevance (Individual Needs): How did the project address your needs?	1	0	0	0	1	2
Effectiveness (Managing Situation): Did the assistance you receive help you cope with your situation better?	1	0	0	0	0	1
Sustainability (Life Changes): How do you do things differently now, as a result of the project/programme?	0	1	0	0	0	1
Recommendation: Share with us ONE recommendation for this project/programme?	1	1	1	0	4	7

4.6.1 Stories tagged by PVRR Areas of Inquiry

Cash, Recommendations, Food Assistance, DRR and were the tags most frequently used to describe feedback, followed by **Relevance, Effectiveness** and **Sustainability**.

Cash: In their stories, the women highlighted that they received a sum of 3050 KES through M Pesa and they used it to buy food, household items, sleeping mats, plates and second-hand clothes. As houses have large families though, there was a request to further provide and raise the amount from the previous assistance. The men said that with the money, they purchased cooking pots, children's shoes and firewood, but that the funds were still little. The youth used the money to take their sick to the hospital and to buy school supplies. The elderly used the money to rebuild houses.

Recommendations : In terms of recommendations, the women asked for the Red Cross to provide tools such as a digging hoe, a spade, a wheelbarrow and tractors to block the water from entering the villages. The men requested for the Red Cross to dig boreholes, build them shelters, assist with the purchasing of further household items and to add additional beneficiaries from their community to the Red Cross distribution list. The youth also echoed the men on the boreholes, asked for assistance in the reconstruction of their dams, increased food distribution to meet the needs of their community of 700 to 800 households, shelter reconstruction and the replacement of lost livestock due to the floods.

Food Assistance: The youth described how all the stocks in the market were depleted and the Red Cross provided them with salt, 40 kgs of rice and 7kgs of bean, of which they were requesting for better beans. "The beans were not good, we are requesting for better beans..."Further to the previous, the elderly also shared that they also received 2 litres of cooking oil.

DRR: Despite the preventions taken by the community, the floods changed the flow of the created waterways, and the water reversed into the village causing

destruction. To prevent further disasters, the women stated "Now, we collect bags and put the sand in, and put these bags in front of the waterways..." The men described the devastating impact climate change has had on their community, where they were first affected by drought, and then affected by continuous rains. "As the rain continued we have tried for almost 5 days to control the floods..." The youth asked the Government to help in diverting the water from the hills to a different direction, as building a sandbag barrier to divert flood water did not suffice.

Relevance: For the women, they did a role play of the floods scenario, trying to highlight the devastation the floods had upon many of them and their individual needs.

Effectiveness: The women highlighted that although they did receive assistance, they still had difficulties coping with their current situation in view of the lack of shelters. "Now that we don't have shelter, even when rain comes, we don't have anywhere to go..."

Sustainability: The men said that they had learned from this disaster, to prepare themselves for the next floods. "We have tried our best to put sandbags to prevent the floods to avoid destruction of houses. We did this so that next time when it rains we will not be affected by the floods..."

5. Community Recommendations

The following highlight the recommendations shared by community members:

1. Increase the number of beneficiaries on the Red Cross distribution list, as "...almost 600 households were not reached."
2. Build a borehole, in view of the three community water pans being taken by the recent floods, the lack of a source for clean water, and to mitigate the impacts of climate change. For example, "...Right now we are approaching a drought phase, and we don't have a source of water..."
3. To rebuild houses, as the floods destroyed them, and in view of the lack of financial resources by community members to rebuild them again, "...we are requesting you to build the houses for us..."
4. To rebuild the dam and provide a source for clean water, as "We are almost dying due to the lack of water. We have nowhere to go, both human and livestock...."

6. Community Feedback

At the end of this Participatory Video Rapid Review on day 5, the community representatives were able to share their video stories with their peers through a community screening.



Community feedback screening in Yabello, Kenya. IFRC/M. Tsukamoto

7. Key Observations by the PVRR team

- Q The community appeared to be interested in the Indaba process. There were 15 participants for each of the representative groups (Women, Men, Youth and Elderly). A total representation of 60 people from the community.
- Q There was high illiteracy amongst this pastoralist community. It did not pose a problem in the facilitation/editing process though for them, as the colour on the story cards coupled with interpretation/facilitation by the volunteers helped the groups identify and tag their stories.
- Q The importance of flexibility for these deployments. The pastoralist community was majority Muslim, and as there were longer prayers that needed to be carried out on Friday - timings had to be adjusted in the Indaba process to respect this.
- Q It was the first time a community feedback and/or a video screening had been carried out in this pastoralist community. Although it was a community which had been greatly affected by the floods, it was great to hear them laugh out loud at some of the scenes from the various community video stories shared.

- Q 120 people showed up on Friday morning for the community screening, consisting of the community representatives with their families, the various community committees, neighbours and people passing by the venue.

- Q The half day training carried out for volunteers prior to the time spent with the community was useful in familiarizing those volunteers supporting the Indaba process and/other interested volunteers with the method.

8. Community Survey: How did you enjoy the video activity?



Community Survey-continued

What did you enjoy the most?

It is a new way of presenting our problems

Shooting with the tablets and cooperating with the community in sharing problems.

I was very happy that the video of men, women and elderly appeared on our smartphone.

All process is good.

What did you enjoy the least?

It took my time although it was the best experience.

Some members did not participate actively.

I don't enjoy the involvement of songs during the video shooting.

Walking distance to shoot the video.

Community Survey-Are there any recommendations to share for the video activity?

Another day I would like to teach others how to use the tablet to shoot the video.

The training of Indaba to be continued because it helped us a lot.

Next time we would like the video to have a singing component because we enjoy singing.

The issues presented in the video should be looked into and followed up and an intervention be done.

The video is good and I want the video to bear the fruit (to be heard).

It was presented well and all was given rights and good time to say their problems.

9. Conclusion

From the video stories developed by the Yabello community representatives (women, men, youth and elderly), the stories indicated that the assistance provided by the KRCS was appreciated. The community though could have benefited from more in view of the greater number of households and needs in the community, not only from the effects of the floods, but also in preparation for the next disaster to come (drought). In view of its location and climate change, Yabello suffers from the impact of seasonal droughts and floods.

In looking at the stories and the mentions of different elements related to the two objectives of the project, it is possible to see that KRCS had distributed the intended cash and food for its floods intervention assistance activities to the targeted households in Yabello. For example, the women shared that "It was sent through M Pesa to our phones the sum of 3050 KES..." The elderly said that individual households had received "...rice 40 kgs, beans 7 kg. We also got cooking oil 2 litres and we also got salt..." In addition, although not included as part of KRCS floods assistance activities, requests were also made for help in disaster risk reduction (diversion of flood water, building a dam); along with shelters, boreholes, clean water, further food assistance and additional cash to purchase household and family goods. As there are limited number of partners providing assistance in this area for emergency response, it will be important for KRCS to continue to monitor this area and the evolving context.

Floods are only one of the natural disasters which affect the Yabello community. The emergency assistance provided by IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund and Emergency Appeal has been important in saving lives in Yabello affected by the floods, but in the longer term, it will be important for Kenya Red Cross to continue to work with the Yabello community and other partners to find a local solution to rebuild the livelihoods of these pastoralists and to help them cope with the impact of climate change on their community. It will be important to build upon the current momentum and willingness expressed by the community members in their video stories to learn from past disasters and to continue to work together with the Red Cross, "...let's stand together to divert the water ways by collecting stones, logs and sandbags..."

9. Community Stories



Indaba: Participatory Video Rapid Review (Women) post floods in Marsabit county in October 2019



Indaba: Participatory Video Rapid Review (Men) post floods in Marsabit county in October 2019



Indaba: Participatory Video Rapid Review (Youth) post floods in Marsabit county in October 2019



Indaba: Participatory Video Rapid Review (Elderly) post floods in Marsabit county in October 2019



Indaba: Participatory Video Rapid Review (Community) post floods in Marsabit county in October 2019

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