



CENTRE FOR INDIGENOUS CHILD RIGHTS

CICR Kenya

Inaugural Annual & Impact Report 2019-2026



PROTECTING CHILDREN
EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

Protecting and promoting the rights of indigenous women, children and communities in Kenya.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	THE CICR STORY	4
01.	A Message from the Chief Executive Officer	4
02.	CICR at a Glance	6
03.	Our Journey: 2019-2026	6
II.	WHO WE ARE	7
04.	Our Organisational Context.....	7
04.1.	How We Work.....	7
04.2.	The People at the Centre of Our Work.....	7
04.3.	Working With Communities, Not Around Them.....	8
04.4.	Our Governance	8
04.5.	The People Behind the Work.....	9
05.	Our Purpose and Values.....	10
05.1.	Our Mission	10
05.2.	Our Vision.....	10
05.3.	Our Goal	10
05.4.	Six Pathways Towards One Purpose.....	10
05.5.	Why These Programmes Belong Together	12
05.6.	Our Core Values.....	12
06.	Our Strategic Framework: 2022-2026.....	13
06.1.	Four Strategic Areas.....	13
06.2.	From Strategy to Implementation	13
III.	WHAT WE HAVE DONE	15
07.	Protecting Girls and Women	15
07.1.	From FGM/C Prevention to Broader Protection	15
07.2.	Journey Towards GBV Free Communities	17
07.3.	Rising Together: Women & Girls' Empowerment to End GBV	18
07.4.	The Journey So Far.....	21
08.	Water, WASH and Girls' Education.....	22
08.1.	Power of Water.....	22
08.2.	Water Changes More Than “Just Water”	24
08.3.	WASH in Schools	24
08.4.	Implementation and Functionality	26

08.5.	From Water Access to Wider Opportunity.....	26
09.	Women, Livelihoods and Economic Participation.....	26
09.1.	From Water Access to Economic Opportunity	26
09.2.	Economic Empowerment as Part of Protection.....	27
09.3.	How CICR Supports Economic Participation	28
09.4.	Participation, Not Income Alone	29
10.	Trees for Resilience	29
10.1.	Connecting Environment and Livelihoods.....	30
10.2.	Women at the Centre.....	30
10.3.	From Trees to Resilience	30
10.4.	What The Evidence Allows Us to Say	30
11.	Together We End FGM.....	31
11.1.	Creating Space for Difficult Conversations	31
11.2.	From Awareness to Action.....	32
11.3.	What the Programme is Building.....	33
11.4.	Building A Stronger Evidence Base	33
11.5.	Continuing the Journey	33
IV.	THE BIGGER PICTURE.....	35
12.	What Connects Our Programmes?	35
13.	Our Approach: Community Ownership in Practice	35
V.	FUNDING AND PARTNERSHIPS.....	37
14.	Partners Who Make the Work Possible	37
14.1.	Funding & Programme Partners.....	37
14.2.	Public & Community Partners	37
15.	Funding Overview.....	38
VI.	CHALLENGES AND LESSONS.....	40
16.	Accountability, Learning and Improvement.....	40
	What We Are strengthening.....	40
17.	Working Where the Challenges Are Greatest	40
	What Affects Delivery?.....	41
18.	What We Have Learned.....	41
18.1.	Community Ownership Starts at the Beginning.....	41
18.2.	Infrastructure Needs Systems Around It.....	42
18.3.	One Approach Cannot Reach Every Audience.....	42

18.4.	Women's Participation Needs to be Meaningful.....	42
18.5.	Remote Programming Requires Realistic Planning.....	42
18.6.	Stronger Evidence Strengthens Learning.....	42
18.7.	Flexibility Must Remain Purposeful.....	43
VII.	SUSTAINABILITY	44
19.	Building Beyond the Project	44
	Local Structures.....	44
	Local Leadership.....	44
	Skills and Knowledge	44
	Local Resources and Initiatives	44
	Follow-up and Accountability.....	44
20.	Sustainability in Practice	44
21.	Sustainability is a Process.....	45
VIII.	LOOKING FORWARD	46
22.	The Next Chapter.....	46
	Five Practical Directions.....	46
23.	A More Evidence-Driven CICR.....	47
	Baseline Indicators:.....	47
	Consistent Participant Records:.....	47
	Outcome Monitoring:	47
	Facility and Maintenance Registers:	47
	Programme Documentation:	47
	Learning and Review:	48
IX.	CLOSING	49
24.	Looking Ahead Together.....	49
	A Note of Thanks.....	49
	The People Behind CICR.....	49
	To Our Staff Members: Thank You	49
X.	THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE JOURNEY	51
XI.	ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS.....	53

I. THE CICR STORY

01. A Message from the Chief Executive Officer

Dear Partners, Communities, Colleagues and Friends of CICR,

It is with gratitude and a deep sense of responsibility that I share the inaugural Annual & Impact Report of the Centre for Indigenous Child Rights (CICR).

CICR was established in 2019 with a simple but important conviction: that children, women and families in indigenous and underserved communities should be able to live with dignity, safety and opportunity, and that lasting change is strongest when communities themselves are part of creating it. From our base in Kapenguria, West Pokot County, we have continued to learn from communities, work alongside local leaders and institutions, and build partnerships that respond to the realities people face in their daily lives.

Our journey has grown over the years. What began with a strong focus on child rights, FGM and harmful cultural practices has expanded into a more integrated approach that connects protection with gender equality, girls' education, menstrual health, water and sanitation, women's economic empowerment and climate resilience. Our experience has shown us that these issues cannot always be addressed separately. A girl cannot fully benefit from education if she lacks dignity and safe sanitation. A woman cannot easily pursue economic opportunities when much of her day is spent searching for water. And efforts to prevent gender-based violence must be accompanied by community awareness, supportive local structures and pathways through which survivors can seek help.

Our work in Kuyough and Tunoyo, for example, has shown us what water access can mean beyond the provision of a borehole. The *Power of Water* project reported that 700 community members, including 440 women and 260 men, gained access to safe water, alongside changes in women's economic participation, community leadership, climate-resilient agriculture and household resilience. Our work on GBV has similarly reinforced the importance of bringing communities, leaders, schools, health workers, men and boys into conversations about prevention, protection and responsibility.

At the same time, we have learned that meaningful change takes time. Cultural norms, poverty, difficult terrain, limited resources and gaps in services continue to shape the choices and opportunities available to many communities. Our projects have not always achieved everything originally planned. These experiences have taught us to listen more closely, strengthen our systems, document our work more consistently and remain willing to adapt when community needs require it.

This is why we have chosen to make this inaugural report broader than a single reporting year. It looks across CICR's journey since 2019, bringing together our organisational development, programme experience, partnerships, learning and the evidence currently available to us. It is both a record of where we have come from and a foundation for more systematic periodic reporting in the years ahead.

We are deeply grateful to the communities who have trusted us, participated in our programmes and shared their experiences and ideas. We also thank our partners and funders, including Samburu

Women Trust, Signpost International, Beyond FGM UK, Zinduka e.V. and The Rainworkers, as well as the local leaders, schools, public institutions, community groups and other partners who have contributed to this journey.

Above all, this report is a reflection of what can happen when communities are not simply seen as beneficiaries, but as partners, leaders and owners of change.

As CICR looks to the future, we remain committed to strengthening our programmes, deepening community ownership, improving our evidence and accountability systems, building sustainable partnerships and ensuring that the voices and priorities of children, women and communities continue to guide our work.

Thank you for walking this journey with us.



Everlyne Prech
Secretary & Chief Executive Officer
Centre for Indigenous Child Rights

02. CICR at a Glance

Since its establishment in 2019, the CICR has grown as a women-led, community-based organisation headquartered in Kapenguria, West Pokot County, working alongside indigenous and underserved communities. Across its journey, CICR has documented 12 project entries and KES 19.19 million in documented project funding¹.

Over the years, CICR's work has grown from a strong focus on child rights, FGM/C and GBV into a broader, interconnected programme approach. Today, this includes girls' education, WASH, menstrual health, women's livelihoods and economic empowerment, climate action, peacebuilding and advocacy.

At the heart of this journey are the communities themselves. CICR works through dialogue, participation, local leadership, community groups, schools, public institutions and partnerships, with the aim of strengthening local ownership and practical solutions.

The journey is still unfolding. Some programmes have been completed, while others are ongoing. What connects them is a commitment to protect rights, strengthen dignity, support women and girls, and enable communities to participate meaningfully in shaping their own future.

03. Our Journey: 2019-2026

From its establishment in 2019 to a growing portfolio of programmes, CICR's development has been shaped by community priorities, partnerships and learning.



¹ The 12 projects represent project entries documented by CICR between 2020 and 2026. Some annual entries relate to the continuation of the same programme area and are therefore not necessarily 12 distinct programme designs. The KES 19.19 million figure represents the combined value of nine documented project-funding amounts. It is not presented as annual expenditure, unrestricted income or total organisational income.

II. WHO WE ARE

04. Our Organisational Context

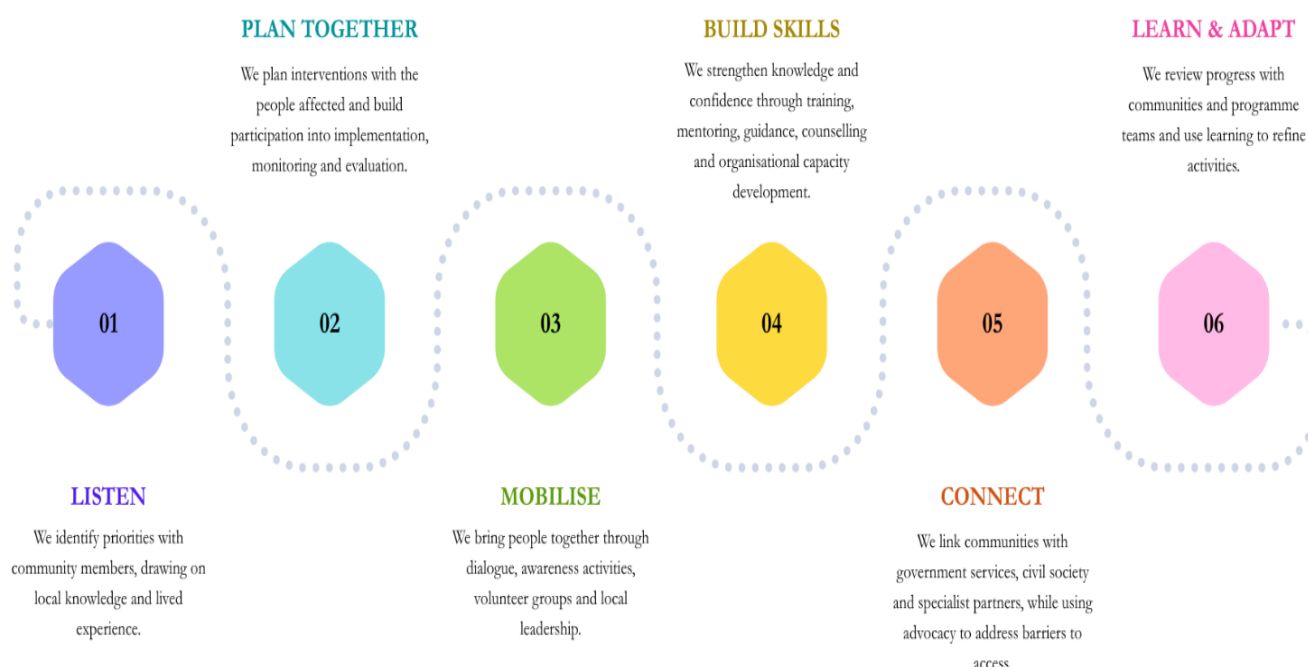
CICR is an independent, women-led, community-based organisation working to protect children, advance gender equality and strengthen community development. Its work is rooted in indigenous communities and in the everyday realities of people who face barriers to safety, education, health, livelihoods and participation.

From its base in Kapenguria, CICR works primarily with rural and underserved communities across West Pokot County, drawing on established community relationships in Pokot South and West Pokot sub-counties. Beyond individual project locations, CICR also engages with wider civil society networks to strengthen learning, advocacy and collaboration.

For CICR, being community-rooted is not simply about where programmes are delivered. It shapes how the organisation listens, builds relationships, makes decisions and works towards change.

04.1. How We Work

These steps guide how CICR identifies priorities, delivers programmes and reviews progress with the people involved



04.2. The People at the Centre of Our Work

Girls and young women are central to CICR's mandate. Alongside them, CICR works with children, women and young people, recognising that vulnerability can take different forms and that meaningful change requires broader community participation.

The organisation's inclusive approach also considers the experiences of persons with disabilities, people living with HIV, older people, widows and families affected by social or economic exclusion. Men and boys, elders and religious leaders are engaged as important participants in changing harmful practices and strengthening safer, more equitable communities.

CICR works through existing relationships and structures, including women's and youth groups, schools, community and faith-based organisations, self-help groups, local leaders, public institutions and development partners. These relationships help connect rights awareness and community priorities with practical support and public services.

04.3. Working With Communities, Not Around Them

CICR works with existing community institutions and encourages equitable representation in decisions. The organisation's approach also recognises the importance of peacebuilding and conflict transformation, creating space for dialogue across different groups.

Respect for indigenous knowledge is an important part of this work. At the same time, CICR advocates for practices that protect rights, improve wellbeing and enable girls and women to participate fully in society.

This balance, **respecting community knowledge while supporting positive change**, is central to CICR's approach. It allows difficult issues such as FGM/C, CEFM and SGBV to be addressed through dialogue, participation and local leadership rather than through one-way messaging alone.

CICR's current work illustrates this approach in practice. Community dialogues, school engagement, leadership development, health-worker and teacher engagement, radio outreach and links to referral pathways are brought together according to the needs of different groups and programme contexts.

04.4. Our Governance

CICR is governed by a Board that provides strategic oversight and supports responsible management of the organisation. The Executive Director leads the Secretariat and reports to the Board. The governance structure includes Programme, Fundraising and Finance Committees, providing focused support for programme direction, resource mobilisation and financial oversight.

Board of Directors



Everlyne Prech
Secretary and Chief Executive Officer



Consolata Chepchumba
Chair



Peter Alukulem
Vice Chair



Catherine Chebor
Treasurer



Teresa Nyeris
Member



Abel Lokeris
Member



Eunice Lepariyo
Member

04.5. The People Behind the Work

CICR is supported by a 17-member team, 8 women and 9 men, working across programme delivery, community engagement, finance and administration, M&E and IT.



CICR Annual Staff Retreat, Turkana. 2026

The team brings together the different skills needed to turn CICR's programmes into practical work on the ground: engaging communities, coordinating activities, managing resources, documenting progress and learning from implementation.

This combination of field experience and organisational support enables CICR to work across its interconnected programme areas while remaining rooted in the communities it serves.

05. Our Purpose and Values

CICR's work spans child protection, gender equality, girls' education, WASH, livelihoods, climate resilience and community strengthening. These areas are guided by the organisation's mission, vision, goal and strategic objectives.

05.1. Our Mission

To create an enabling environment for the realisation, respect, and protection of fundamental human rights among girls and women through participatory, transformative, and innovative approaches.

05.2. Our Vision

To be a leading organisation in promoting community-led development initiatives that foster dignity, empowerment, resilience, and equity for indigenous populations.

05.3. Our Goal

To improve the living standards of vulnerable communities through community mobilisation, capacity building, rights advocacy and stronger local institutions. We aim to strengthen people's ability to address their own social, economic, health and environmental priorities.

05.4. Six Pathways Towards One Purpose

CICR's strategic objectives provide the bridge between its different programmes. Each objective responds to a distinct area of community life, while together they contribute to dignity, empowerment, resilience and equity.

01

Protect rights and end harmful practices

CICR works to protect children and promote the abandonment of FGM/C, child marriage and SGBV. This includes rights awareness, community dialogue and strengthening local responsibility for protection

**Strengthen gender equality and women's leadership**

CICR seeks to advance gender equality and support women's leadership and meaningful participation in community and public decision-making

02

03

Support girls' education, MHH and SRHR

Education is approached not only as access to school, but as an environment in which girls can participate safely and with dignity. CICR therefore connects girls' education, MHH and access to SRHR information

**Expand livelihoods and economic opportunity**

CICR supports women and young people through livelihoods, enterprise development, group savings and economic opportunities, helping strengthen their capacity to pursue sustainable economic activities

04

05

Improve health, water, sanitation and the environment

Community wellbeing connects primary health, safe water, sanitation and environmental protection, linking WASH, Power of Water and climate-focused programming

**Strengthen community institutions and partnerships**

CICR seeks to strengthen community institutions, partnerships and access to information, so that local people can lead and sustain development beyond individual project activities

06

05.5. Why These Programmes Belong Together

A water project can be about more than water. A WASH intervention can support health, dignity and learning. Girls' education can be affected by violence, poverty and menstrual health. Women's economic empowerment can strengthen participation and leadership. Environmental action can create both resilience and livelihood opportunities.

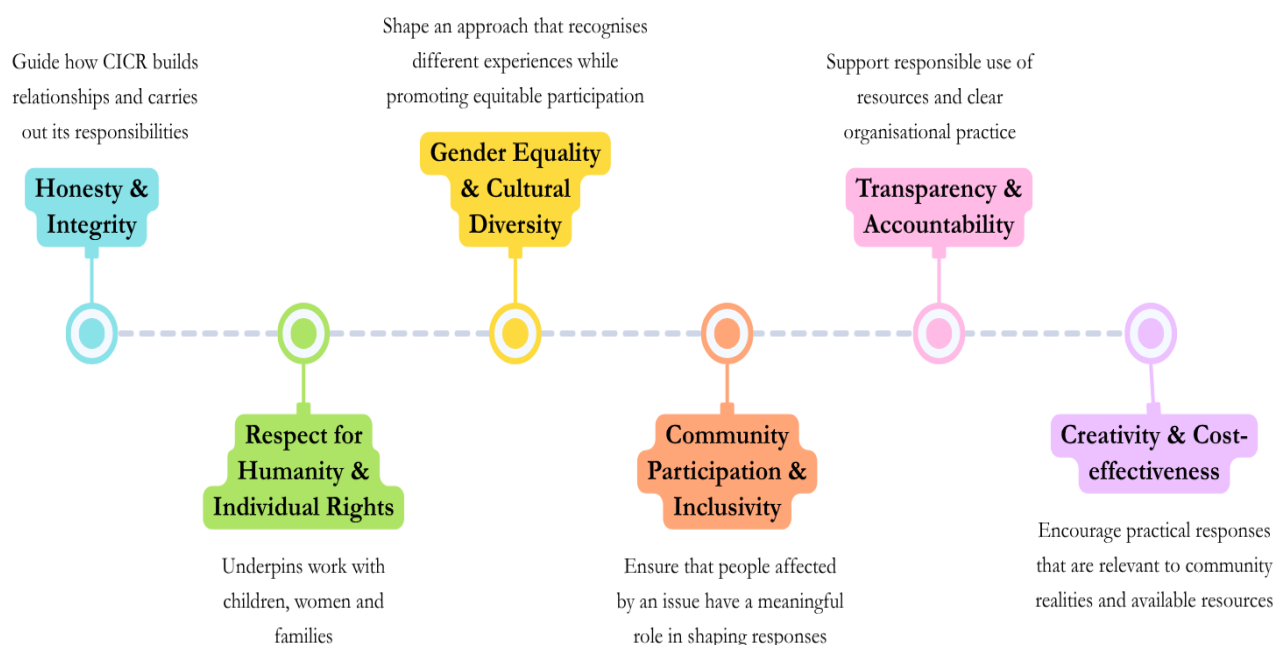
This interconnectedness is reflected in CICR's programme experience. The *Power of Water* work, for example, linked improved water access with women's economic participation, community leadership and climate-resilient practices. CICR's WASH work connects school sanitation and hygiene with girls' dignity and learning. Its work on harmful practices brings together girls, women, men, elders, leaders, schools and public institutions.

The result is not a collection of unrelated projects, but a developing approach to community wellbeing and rights in which different interventions can reinforce one another.

Together, these experiences show how CICR connects practical needs with rights, opportunity and community wellbeing.

05.6. Our Core Values

The values that guide CICR are reflected in how we work: with communities, partners and each other. They shape our approach to participation, accountability and locally owned solutions, and provide a foundation for the way CICR delivers its work.

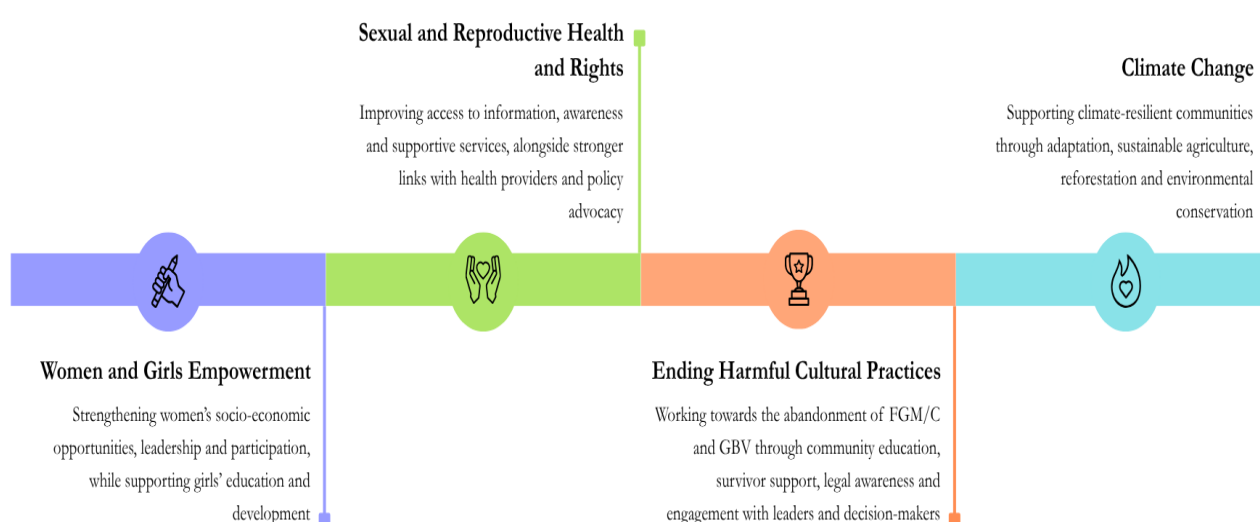


06. Our Strategic Framework: 2022-2026

CICR's 2022-2026 Strategic Plan provided a five-year framework for turning the organisation's purpose into focused areas of action. Developed through consultation with communities, partners and donors, the plan brought together the issues most closely connected to the rights, wellbeing and resilience of women, girls and their communities.

The strategy brought these priorities into one organisational framework. The work documented across this report reflects that direction, from strengthening women and girls' agency and advancing SRHR, to addressing FGM/C and GBV, and supporting communities to respond to climate change.

06.1. Four Strategic Areas



06.2. From Strategy to Implementation

The Strategic Plan provided a broad direction, while individual projects created practical entry points for action. Across the period, CICR's portfolio shows how these priorities have been translated into community-level initiatives.

The *Power of Water* and WASH projects, for example, connect access to basic services with women's time, girls' education, health and dignity. Work on FGM/C and GBV has combined community dialogue, awareness, leadership engagement and support for local response mechanisms. Livelihood and environmental initiatives have created further opportunities to strengthen women's participation, resilience and economic agency.

This reflects an important feature of CICR's approach: the strategic areas are distinct, but the challenges they address are closely connected.

The strategy also recognised that programme impact depends on organisational strength. Its financial approach emphasised grants, donations, partnerships, fundraising capacity and stronger donor relationships, alongside transparency and accountability in financial management.

The plan also identified risks that could affect CICR's growth and delivery, including limited organisational capacity, dependence on external funding, political instability, cultural resistance and environmental challenges. These risks continue to shape CICR's organisational development.

The 2022-2026 strategy provides a useful lens through which to view CICR's development. It set out the organisation's intended direction; the projects that followed show how that direction was put into practice; and the learning from implementation is helping shape the next chapter.

The strategy gave CICR a clear framework. Programme experience and learning have since shaped how that framework is applied.

III. WHAT WE HAVE DONE

07. Protecting Girls and Women

Protecting girls and women has been at the centre of CICR's work since its early years. What began with sustained community engagement on FGM/C and alternative rites of passage has grown into a broader approach to GBV prevention, girls' rights, survivor support and community responsibility.

Between 2020 and 2023, CICR implemented End FGM Campaigns and Alternative Rite of Passage activities, alongside a project focused on accelerating the abandonment of FGM/C and CEFM. Over time, this work expanded to include GBV prevention, community response, girls' participation, survivor support and stronger engagement with local leaders, schools and health workers.

The portfolio shows a gradual shift from **awareness and prevention towards a more connected protection approach**, one that recognises that ending harmful practices also requires stronger community structures, access to support, girls' education, economic opportunity and the meaningful participation of women and girls.

07.1. From FGM/C Prevention to Broader Protection

CICR's early protection work focused strongly on FGM/C, CEFM and Alternative Rites of Passage. The project portfolio records End FGM Campaigns and Alternative Rite of Passage activities across 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, alongside the 2020 Accelerating Abandonment of FGM/C and CEFM project.



End FGM & Alternative Rite of Passage (funded by Beyond FGM UK) Community Awareness Session at Seker, West Pokot. 2022



End FGM & Alternative Rite of Passage (funded by Beyond FGM UK) Community Engagement Session at Timorwo, West Pokot. 2023

These interventions created opportunities for community dialogue, awareness and engagement around practices affecting girls and women. They also provided a foundation for CICR's later work on GBV and broader community protection.

The progression can be seen in how the focus of the work developed:

- FGM/C prevention
- community awareness and dialogue
- GBV prevention and response
- leadership and referral pathways
- schools, health workers and survivor support
- evidence-led programming

This has not been a replacement of one issue by another. FGM/C, CEFM and GBV remain interconnected concerns within CICR's protection work.

From Awareness to Wider Community Action

The Journey Towards GBV Free Communities project marked a more explicit focus on GBV prevention and community response. By this stage, CICR was working not only to increase awareness, but also to strengthen coordination, encourage community responsibility and improve understanding of how survivors can access support.

This wider approach continues in the current *Rising Together* programme

07.2. Journey Towards GBV Free Communities

Implemented in 2023 with support from Samburu Women Trust through the NAAPU Indigenous Women Fund, *The Journey Towards GBV Free Communities* project combined stakeholder coordination, community engagement and public dialogue.



Rising Together to End GBV Violence (funded by Samburu Trust) School Awareness Session, Ortum Girls Junior School, West Pokot. 2026

The project began with a stakeholder meeting at Hotel Kalya, bringing together **20 participants** to identify challenges and develop a collaborative action plan.

A community engagement session in Nakwijit Location, Tunoyo Village, reached **22 community members**, with discussions covering recognition of GBV, access to support services and community reporting mechanisms.

Three further community sessions held in Rukey Wonyoi and Merur engaged **66 community members**. These sessions used interactive presentations and role play to help participants recognise and respond to GBV situations, while community pledges provided a practical expression of commitment to prevention.

Taking the Conversation Beyond Community Meetings

CICR also used radio to reach a wider audience. The project delivered **four radio talk shows**, with the report recording **more than 5,000 listeners per session**.

The broadcasts addressed:

- myths surrounding GBV;
- harmful practices and culture of FGM/C;
- survivors' legal rights;
- reporting and support;

- community responses to GBV cases.



Radio Talk Session with North Rift Radio in Makutano, West Pokot. 2026

Together, the face-to-face and radio activities created multiple entry points for discussion and awareness.

What Changed?

The project recorded increased community participation and awareness, greater solidarity and the establishment of response mechanisms intended to continue beyond the project period.

The work also highlighted the realities that can limit progress. **Limited resources, resistance to change, stigma, cultural sensitivities, difficult terrain and gender-related power dynamics** affected implementation.

These experiences reinforced an important lesson for CICR: awareness alone is not enough. Sustainable protection requires community structures, local leadership, coordination and practical pathways for people seeking support.

07.3. Rising Together: Women & Girls' Empowerment to End GBV

The baseline was conducted from 30 June to 3 July 2026 across Kapenguria, Mnagei and Batei wards.

It included:

- 5 key informant interviews;

- 2 focus group discussions;
- 20 FGD participants;
- health, government and other stakeholders among the key informants.



Rising Together focus group discussion at Laikong Girls High School at Kipkomo, West Pokot. 2026

The study examined the forms and drivers of GBV and FGM, barriers to reporting, available support and referral pathways, and indicators that can be followed during the programme.

What the Baseline Tells Us²

The findings point to significant protection challenges within the study areas.

100% of key informants rated GBV as either “very high” or “high”. This comprised 80% mentioning “very high” and 20% “high”.

100% of respondents identified women and girls among the groups most affected by GBV.

The baseline also identified widows, persons with disabilities and older people among groups considered particularly affected.

FGM was reported as still actively practised by 100% of both key informants and FGD respondents, while 80% of key informants described it as “very common”.

² These figures describe the views and experiences of the baseline respondents. The study was qualitative and involved a small sample; it is not a statistically representative prevalence survey of West Pokot County. Its purpose is to establish a programme starting point and inform future monitoring and evaluation.

The study identified culture, marriage expectations, family expectations, peer pressure and poverty among frequently cited drivers of GBV and FGM.

For survivors, fear, stigma, cultural beliefs, limited knowledge of reporting channels and lack of services were identified as important barriers to reporting and accessing support.

At the same time, the baseline captured signs of progress reported by respondents, including increased community awareness, improved school attendance and retention among girls, and growing involvement of men, religious leaders and local organisations in prevention.

From Evidence to Action

The baseline findings are now being translated into action through a multi-level approach.

Community Action

CICR has conducted community barazas and forums addressing GBV prevention, harmful practices, reporting and community responsibility. Radio programming has provided another channel for reaching community members with information on rights and available response mechanisms.

Strengthening Local Leadership

Chiefs, elders and community leaders have been engaged on GBV laws, prevention responsibilities and referral pathways, recognising their role within local protection and reporting systems.

Schools as Protection Spaces

Teachers have been engaged on identifying abuse, appropriate response, reporting and referral. At Nasokol Senior School, students have also participated in gender equality activities promoting respectful relationships and awareness.

Health and Survivor Support

Health workers have received training on survivor-centred care and appropriate support for GBV survivors. CICR has also provided support towards temporary shelter and safe-house needs, including hygiene and dignity support.

Engaging Men and Boys

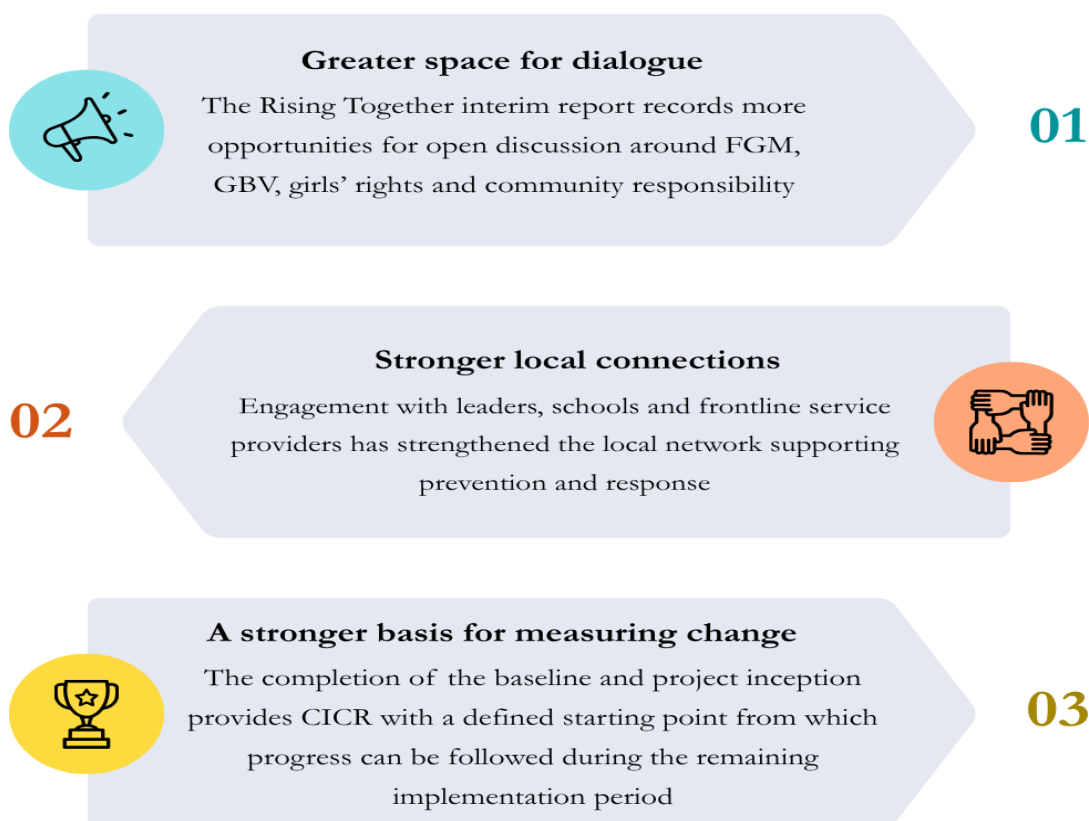
Men and boys have been included in discussions on harmful norms, GBV prevention and shared community responsibility. This broadens protection work beyond women and girls to address the wider social environment in which harmful practices occur.

Building the Evidence Base

The project has combined baseline work with ongoing documentation and monitoring. CICR is maintaining attendance sheets, activity reports, financial records and baseline information to strengthen programme monitoring and reporting.

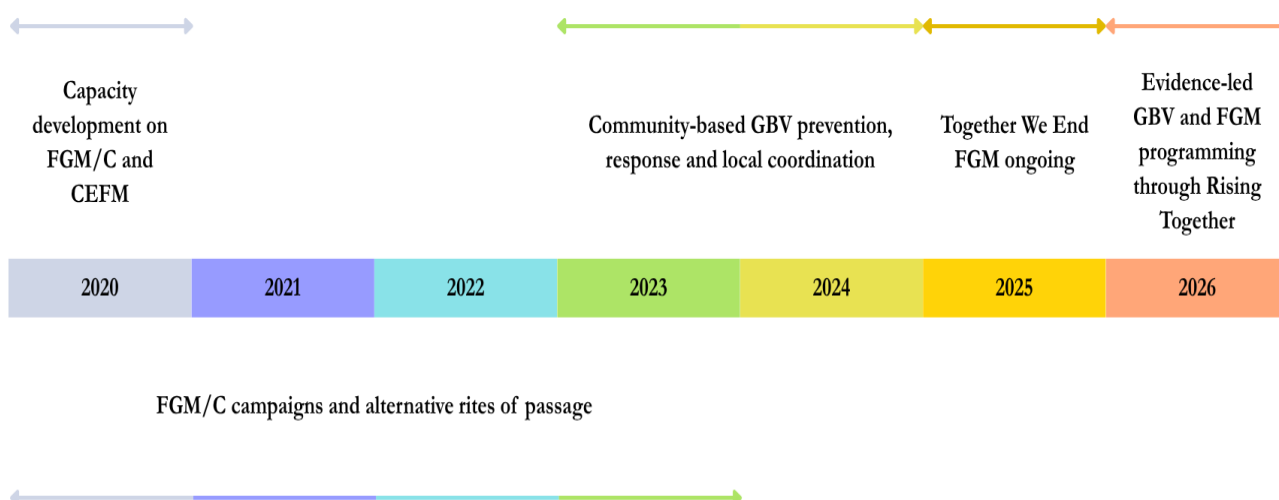
From Activities to Early Change

The evidence available at this stage points to three levels of progress:



07.4. The Journey So Far

Across the portfolio, CICR's protection work has moved from repeated campaigns and community awareness towards a more connected model of prevention and response.



The direction is clear: protecting girls and women requires more than awareness. It requires stronger community ownership, accessible support, informed leadership, safer schools, responsive services and meaningful participation by women and girls.

08. Water, WASH and Girls' Education

Water is one of the clearest examples of how CICR's programmes connect practical needs with wider changes in health, dignity, education, livelihoods and community participation.

Through the *Power of Water* project, CICR worked with communities to improve access to safe water while strengthening women's participation and local structures around water management. The later WASH in Schools programme extended this approach into learning environments, linking water, sanitation and hygiene with girls' education, menstrual health and safer schools.

Together, these programmes show that water infrastructure is not an end in itself. When access to water improves, the time, health, dignity and opportunities of women, girls and families can also change.

08.1. Power of Water

The *Power of Water* project was implemented from June 2023 to June 2024 at Tunoyo and from November 2023 to October 2024 in Kuyough to improve access to safe water for rural women, girls and households.

700 people gained access to safe water

440 women | 260 men

The project established a borehole and supported the community with water-storage and management arrangements. A WUC provided a local structure for managing the water point, while a community savings group created a platform for women to organise, save and participate in local economic activities.



Solar powered borehole re-constructed under *Power of Water* (funded by Signpost International) at Lokiriama (Kuyough), West Pokot. 2026

Improved access to water reduced the time people spent collecting water. **70% of the women who interacted with the project have now participated in businesses and other economic activities.** Women expanded businesses in Kuyough, Sobukwo, Ortum and Tunoyo trading centre, and a small trading centre developed near the borehole.

The project also connected water access with wider household resilience. Climate-related training encouraged households to grow sorghum, millet, mango and pawpaw, supporting food security and potential income generation. The borehole also provided water for livestock, helping reduce livestock losses during dry periods.

More Than Infrastructure

The Kuyough and Tunoyo experience extended beyond the provision of a water point. Community feedback and project monitoring indicated changes in several areas of daily life:

- reduced time spent collecting water
- increased participation by women in economic activities
- stronger confidence and leadership among women
- reported reductions in waterborne illness and related treatment-seeking
- reported improvements in children's school enrolment, attendance and retention
- increased use of climate-resilient crops such as sorghum and millet
- improved household food security and income opportunities
- water access for livestock during dry periods
- stronger women's leadership through the WUC, savings group and tree nursery

These outcomes should be understood as reported changes associated with the project, rather than independently measured population-level impacts.

Building Local Ownership

Sustainability was built around community structures rather than the borehole alone. The WUC supported local oversight, while savings activities and water-storage practices strengthened community capacity to manage resources.

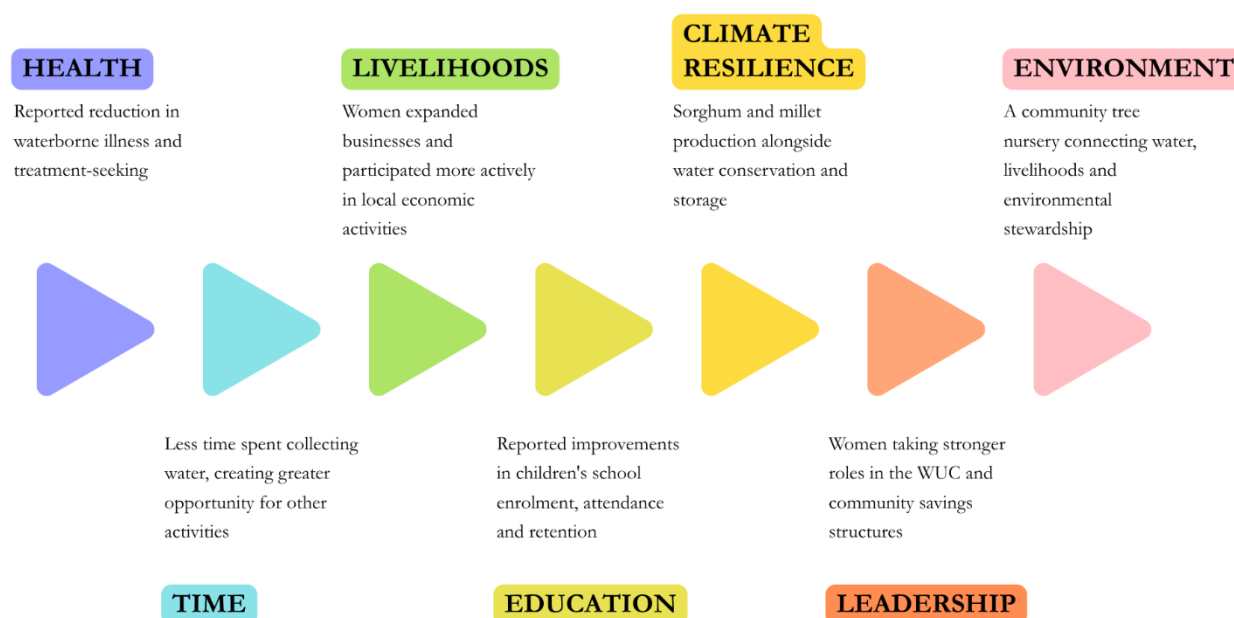
The project also linked water access with livelihoods and environmental action through rainwater harvesting, water conservation and a community tree nursery.

Implementation also required adaptation. Funds initially intended for a revolving-loan component were redirected towards water-storage tanks for vulnerable households. As a result, the revolving-loan objective was not fully achieved, while additional support was provided to households facing water-storage needs.

This experience reinforced an important lesson for CICR: **community priorities can change during implementation, and responsible adaptation requires balancing immediate needs with agreed programme objectives.**

08.2. Water Changes More Than “Just Water”

The *Power of Water* experience illustrates how one practical investment can connect with several dimensions of community wellbeing.



This demonstrates the increasingly integrated way CICR approaches community development: addressing a practical need while creating opportunities for wider social, economic and environmental change.

The value of water is not only measured in litres. It is also reflected in time, health, opportunity, participation and resilience.

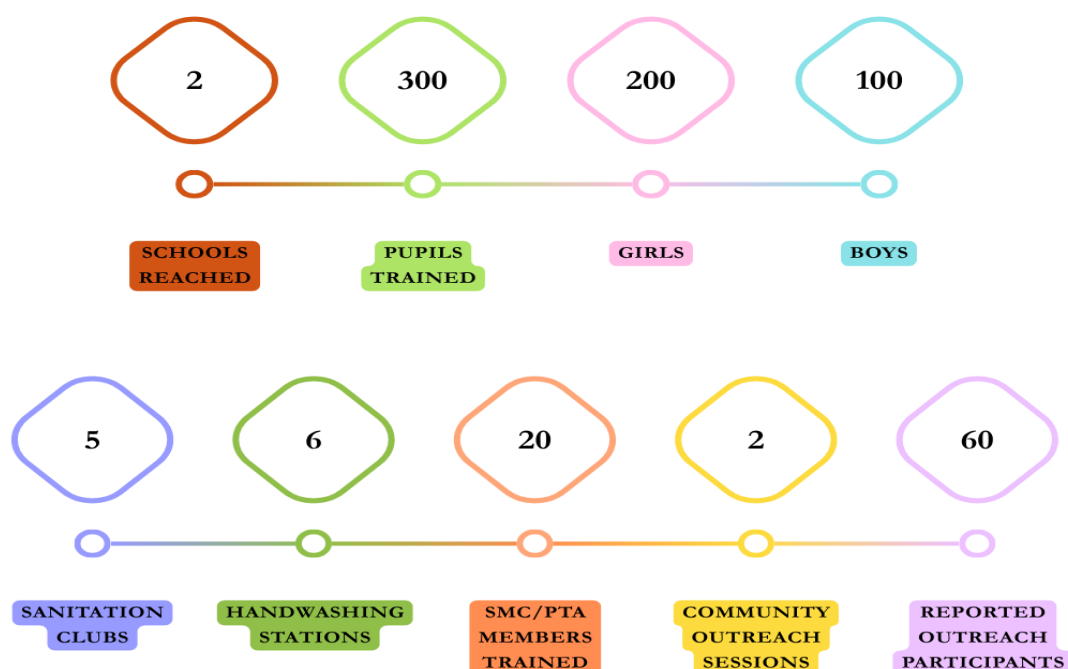
08.3. WASH in Schools

The Empowering Girls' Education through Improved WASH Facilities in Rural Primary Schools project extended CICR's water and hygiene work into schools, focusing on Wonyoi and Victoria Primary Schools.



Toilets (4 per school * 2 schools = total 8) constructed under *WASH* (funded by Signpost International) at Primary Schools in Nakwijit, West Pokot. 2025

The project combined physical WASH improvements with hygiene education, menstrual health awareness, school-based participation and community engagement.



The project supported gender-sensitive sanitation facilities, menstrual hygiene education, repaired rainwater systems and hygiene promotion. School monitoring and maintenance were also part of the approach, helping schools take greater responsibility for keeping facilities functional.

For girls, access to appropriate sanitation and menstrual hygiene support is part of creating an environment where they can participate in school with dignity and confidence.

The project therefore went beyond infrastructure. It combined facilities with information, student participation and school-level structures, including sanitation clubs.

The five sanitation clubs provided a platform for pupils to participate in hygiene promotion, while training for 20 SMC/PTA members strengthened adult oversight and responsibility for school WASH facilities.

Two community outreach sessions also extended WASH engagement beyond the school environment, reaching 60 reported participants.

08.4. Implementation and Functionality

CICR assessed the *Power of Water* project at 3/3 for delivery and continued functionality of core interventions. This was an organisational self-assessment, rather than an independent evaluation.

The assessment reflects CICR's focus not only on delivering water/WASH infrastructure, but also on supporting continued use, maintenance and local responsibility.

The programme therefore contributes to a broader CICR approach in which water, sanitation, menstrual health and education are treated as connected parts of creating safer and more supportive learning environments for girls and children.

08.5. From Water Access to Wider Opportunity

From boreholes in Kuyough and Tunoyo to WASH facilities in schools, CICR's water work shows how practical infrastructure can become a starting point for wider changes in health, dignity, education, livelihoods, leadership and resilience.

09. Women, Livelihoods and Economic Participation

CICR's livelihood work focuses on practical ways for women and young people to increase economic opportunity, organise collectively and take part in community decision-making.

For women and girls facing economic and social barriers, economic participation can create greater room to make choices, contribute to household wellbeing and take part in community life. CICR's approach therefore includes practical skills alongside collective organisation, savings, leadership and access to opportunities.

09.1. From Water Access to Economic Opportunity

The *Power of Water* project provides one of the clearest examples of this connection.



Borehole constructed under *Power of Water* (funded by Signpost International) at Tunoyo, West Pokot. 2024

Improved access to water reduced the time women spent collecting water and created greater opportunity to engage in economic activities. **70% of the women who interacted with the project expanded businesses in Kuyough, Sobukwo, Ortum and Tunoyo Trading Centre, while the community savings group provided a structure for women to save, organise and support one another.**

Women also took on stronger leadership roles through the WUC and savings group, with some assuming leadership positions within these structures.

The project linked these activities with climate-resilient livelihoods. Training encouraged the production of sorghum, millet, mango and pawpaw, while the wider programme included a tree nursery and water-conservation practices. Together, these activities supported a broader approach to household resilience and economic participation.

09.2. Economic Empowerment as Part of Protection

CICR's protection work has also highlighted the relationship between economic vulnerability and women's ability to exercise their rights.

Community discussions during CICR's GBV work identified women's economic empowerment as an important part of addressing vulnerability. This reflects a wider understanding within CICR's programming: prevention cannot rely on awareness alone when women and girls may also face poverty, dependency and limited access to opportunities.

Economic participation is therefore increasingly considered alongside GBV prevention, girls' education, community leadership and household resilience.

09.3. How CICR Supports Economic Participation

CICR's current programme approach includes a range of livelihood and enterprise activities, adapted to local opportunities and community priorities:

Entrepreneurship

Building practical skills to support small businesses and income generation.

Financial Literacy

Strengthening knowledge and confidence around managing money and making financial decisions.

Group Savings

Supporting collective saving and mutual support through organised community groups.

Value Addition and Market Links

Helping communities identify ways to improve products and connect with potential markets.

Agriculture and Household Production

Including kitchen gardening, poultry and other activities that can contribute to food security and income.

Honey and Small Businesses

Supporting locally appropriate enterprise opportunities that can diversify household livelihoods.

Tree Nurseries

Connecting environmental stewardship with skills, livelihoods and community resilience.



Women's income generation exchange programme at Twala Tenebo Cultural Centre, Laikipia. 2024

09.4. Participation, Not Income Alone

For CICR, livelihood support is not only about income. It is also about agency, organisation, confidence and participation.

The experience from *Power of Water* illustrates this broader approach: improved water access created more time; savings created a platform for collective action; economic activity created opportunity; and women's participation in local structures strengthened leadership.

Economic empowerment is therefore part of a wider pathway towards dignity, resilience and meaningful participation, rather than a standalone programme outcome.

10. Trees for Resilience

Trees for Resilience was implemented with Signpost International and completed in 2024-2025. The programme brought together environmental action, women's participation, clean cooking and climate-resilient livelihoods.



Mango tree planting under *Trees for Resilience* (funded by Signpost International) for sustainable livelihood and income generation at Nakwijit. 2024

Rather than treating environmental protection as a separate activity, the programme connected it with practical household and community needs.

10.1. Connecting Environment and Livelihoods

The programme included:

Tree Nursery Activities

Supporting women to participate in tree nursery development and environmental stewardship.

Tree Planting

Encouraging community participation in restoring and protecting the local environment.

Clean Cooking

Promoting approaches that can reduce pressure on household resources while supporting cleaner household practices.

Climate-Resilient Livelihoods

Linking environmental action with livelihood opportunities and skills that can help households respond to changing conditions.

Skills and Economic Opportunity

Creating opportunities for women to develop practical skills while participating in activities with potential household economic value.

10.2. Women at the Centre

Women's participation is an important feature of CICR's environmental programming. Tree nurseries provide more than an environmental activity: they can also create a space for women to organise, develop skills and participate in community-level action.

This reflects CICR's wider approach of connecting environmental resilience with women's economic participation and community leadership.

10.3. From Trees to Resilience

Trees for Resilience sits within a broader environmental approach that includes tree planting, nursery development, sustainable land management and climate-smart livelihoods.

The programme also complements CICR's work in water and livelihoods. In Kuyough and Tunoyo, for example, environmental activities such as a tree nursery were connected with water conservation, agricultural practices and women's participation.

10.4. What The Evidence Allows Us to Say

Trees for Resilience is a completed programme, but its impact is currently being assessed through both qualitative and quantitative analysis. What can be established is the programme's focus: supporting women and communities to participate in environmental stewardship while developing skills, clean-cooking practices and climate-resilient livelihood opportunities.

Trees for Resilience demonstrates CICR's growing recognition that community resilience is environmental, social and economic at the same time.

11. Together We End FGM

Together We End FGM is an ongoing programme implemented by CICR in partnership with Zinduka e.V. and The Rainworkers in West Pokot County. The programme builds on CICR's longer-term work to prevent FGM and related violence through sustained dialogue, trusted local leadership, informed families, safer pathways for reporting and support, and practical alternatives that allow communities to protect girls without losing their sense of identity and belonging.



Together We End FGM (funded by Zinduka e.V. and The Rainworkers) Community Awareness Session at Lokiriama, West Pokot. 2026

Together We End FGM brings these elements together through community-led action. CICR works with girls, families, community leaders and service providers to strengthen understanding of rights, challenge harmful practices and build local responsibility for protecting girls and women.

The programme forms part of CICR's continuing protection work on FGM, GBV and CEFM, building on years of community engagement and earlier FGM campaigns and alternative rites of passage.

11.1. Creating Space for Difficult Conversations

A key part of the programme is creating spaces where community members can discuss harmful practices openly and consider what change can look like in their own communities.

Community dialogue has brought together women, young people and community leaders to discuss how FGM, GBV and child marriage affect girls' health, safety, education and future opportunities.



Together We End FGM (funded by Zinduka e.V. and The Rainworkers) Community Awareness Session at Nakwijit, West Pokot. 2026

These conversations have also explored the responsibilities of families, elders, educators, health workers and local leaders in protecting children.

Rather than presenting change as something imposed from outside, CICR's approach places local voices and lived experience at the centre. Participants are encouraged to identify practical ways of challenging harmful norms while respecting dignity, strengthening positive community values and creating safer futures for girls.

11.2. From Awareness to Action

The programme connects dialogue with practical protection measures, including:

Rights Awareness: Helping males, females, families and communities understand rights and the risks associated with FGM and related violence.

Community Leadership: Engaging local leaders and other influential actors in prevention and community responsibility.

Safe Reporting and Referral: Strengthening understanding of where survivors and girls at risk can seek support.

Girls' Participation: Creating space for girls and young people to speak, participate and influence conversations about their safety and future.

Positive Alternatives: Promoting alternatives to harmful practices that allow families and communities to maintain positive cultural values without practices that harm girls.

Partnership And Local Action: Working with service providers and community structures so that protection does not depend on awareness alone.

11.3. What the Programme is Building

The significance of *Together We End FGM* is not only in individual awareness activities. It is helping to strengthen a **community network of people who can recognise risk, discuss harmful practices, support girls and contribute to prevention.**



Together We End FGM (funded by Zinduka e.V. and The Rainworkers) Community Awareness Session at Sobukwo, West Pokot. 2026

This includes families, women, young people, community leaders and service providers. Bringing these groups into the same conversation helps move FGM prevention from an individual concern towards a shared community responsibility.

The programme also reinforces CICR's wider protection approach: girls' safety is connected to education, GBV prevention, access to support services, family attitudes and the willingness of communities to challenge harmful practices.

11.4. Building A Stronger Evidence Base

The programme is continuing to build momentum through community dialogue and engagement. As implementation progresses, CICR is strengthening its learning from activities, participation and community responses, helping the organisation understand what is working and where further support is needed.

11.5. Continuing the Journey

Together We End FGM builds on CICR's long-term commitment to preventing FGM and related violence. Earlier campaigns created space for awareness and dialogue; the current programme

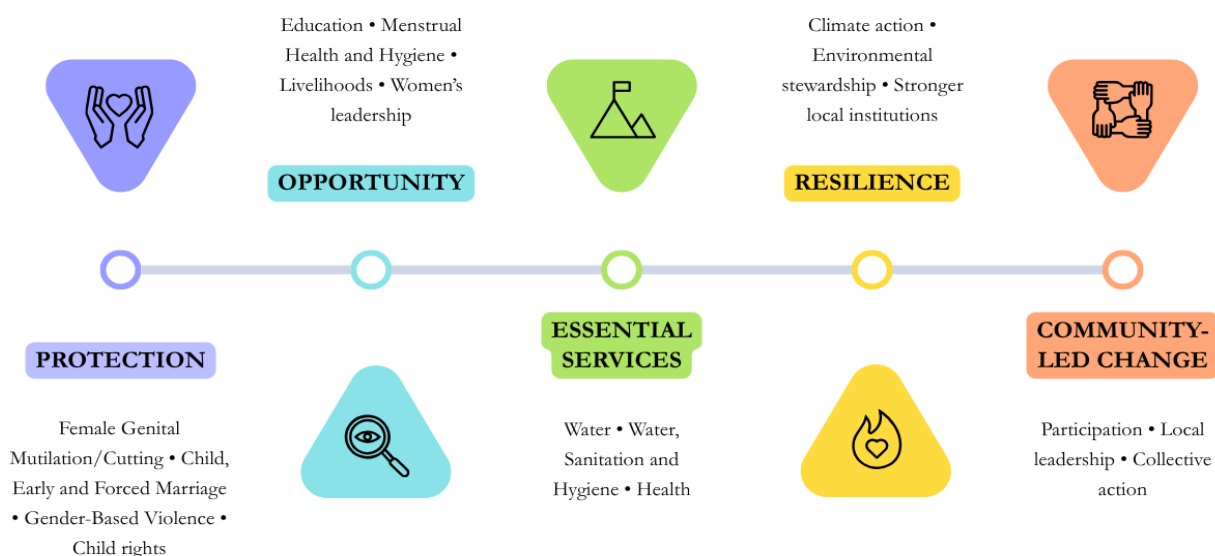
extends this work by connecting rights awareness, community leadership, girls' participation, referral pathways and positive alternatives.

At its heart, the programme is about strengthening the people and relationships that can help protect girls and sustain change within communities.

IV. THE BIGGER PICTURE

12. What Connects Our Programmes?

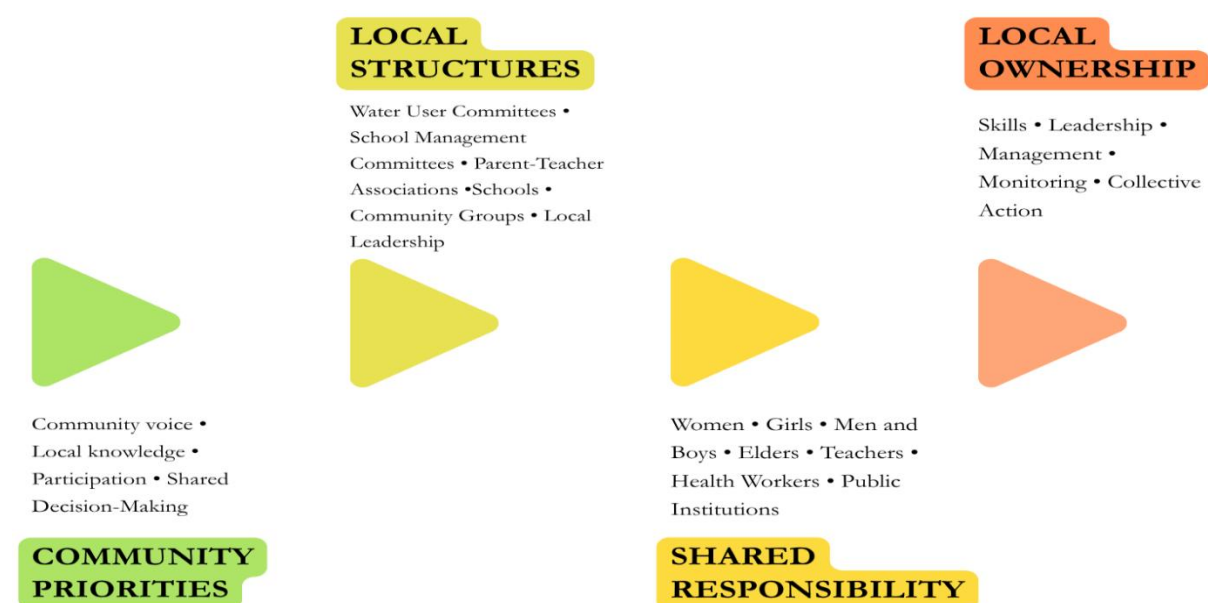
CICR's programmes are different in focus, but connected in purpose. Together, they address the conditions that shape the safety, dignity, opportunity and resilience of women, girls and their communities.



The strength of this approach lies in the connections: protecting girls, expanding opportunity, improving essential services and strengthening resilience are not separate pathways, but parts of a wider journey towards community-led change.

13. Our Approach: Community Ownership in Practice

CICR works through local structures rather than treating communities as passive beneficiaries.



Across its programmes, CICR works to strengthen the people, groups and institutions that can carry change forward. Community members are engaged in identifying priorities, shaping activities, participating in implementation and contributing to monitoring and learning.

V. FUNDING AND PARTNERSHIPS

14. Partners Who Make the Work Possible

CICR's work is built through relationships. Partners contribute in different ways, from funding programmes and strengthening technical capacity to connecting CICR with public institutions, schools and community structures.

14.1. Funding & Programme Partners

Samburu Women Trust

Supporting work on GBV, women and girls' empowerment and the prevention of harmful practices.



Signpost International

Supporting water, WASH, girls' education, environmental resilience and livelihoods.



Beyond FGM UK

Supporting sustained FGM prevention campaigns and alternative rites of passage.



Zinduka e.V

Partner in *Together We End FGM*, supporting community dialogue and rights awareness.



The Rainworkers

Partner in *Together We End FGM*, supporting community dialogue and rights awareness.



14.2. Public & Community Partners

CICR also works alongside the County Government of West Pokot, schools, local leaders, community groups and service providers to connect programme activities with local systems and community priorities.

In Kuyough, for example, the *Power of Water* programme strengthened CICR's relationship with the County Government of West Pokot and connected the organisation with Pokot Outreach Mission, expanding its local network and collaboration around community development.

Across its programmes, CICR works with structures such as WUCs, SMCs/PTAs, schools, community groups, chiefs, elders, teachers and health workers. These relationships help translate programme activities into locally understood and locally managed action.

15. Funding Overview

CICR's documented project funding reflects the organisation's growing portfolio across protection, women and girls' empowerment, WASH, water, climate action and community resilience.

The current funding schedule records KES 19.19 million in documented project funding.³

Thematic Area	Programme / Project	Funding Partner	Listed Funding
Protection & Ending Harmful Practices	Together We End FGM	Zinduka e.V. & The Rainworkers	KES 3,124,500
	Journey Towards GBV-Free Communities	Samburu Women Trust	KES 750,000
	Accelerating Abandonment of FGM/C & CEFM	Samburu Women Trust	KES 300,000
	End FGM Campaigns & Alternative Rite of Passage, 2020-2023	Beyond FGM UK	KES 2,000,000
Women & Girls' Empowerment	Rising Together	Samburu Women Trust	KES 3,000,000
Water, WASH & Girls' Education	Empowering Girls' Education through Improved WASH Facilities	Signpost International	KES 3,124,500
	Power of Water - Tunoyo	Signpost International	KES 2,909,250
	Power of Water - Kuyough	Signpost International	KES 2,909,250
Climate & Community Resilience	Trees for Resilience	Signpost International	KES 1,072,500
Total Listed Funding			KES 19,190,000

The funding portfolio reflects a broadening of CICR's programme approach. Earlier funding was strongly concentrated around FGM/C, CEFM and GBV prevention, while subsequent

³ The KES 19.19 million figure represents the sum of the project amounts listed in CICR's project-funding schedule. It should not be interpreted as total organisational income, annual expenditure, unrestricted funding or cumulative expenditure.

programmes have expanded into water access, WASH, girls' education, climate resilience and women's economic empowerment.

VI. CHALLENGES AND LESSONS

16. Accountability, Learning and Improvement

CICR's approach to accountability goes beyond reporting activities. The organisation reviews implementation, documents progress, listens to communities and stakeholders, and uses experience from programme delivery to inform future decisions.

The experience of implementing programmes across different settings has also highlighted areas where CICR can strengthen its systems. These experiences have also identified areas where CICR can strengthen its systems as the organisation grows.

What We Are strengthening

Stronger Evidence: Improving baseline information and outcome measurement so that changes can be tracked more consistently over time.

Better Programme Records: Strengthening attendance records, activity documentation and other routine monitoring information.

Stronger Maintenance Systems: Using clearer facility registers, defined maintenance responsibilities and regular follow-up to support the sustainability of infrastructure.

Stronger Financial Documentation: Continuing to improve the paper trail, financial management and reconciliation processes required as programme scale grows.

Clearer Internal Communication: Building on improvements already made to internal communication processes and ensuring that information moves effectively across the organisation.

The WASH programme highlighted the value of more consistent records for attendance, illness-related absence, sanitation and facility use, while the *Power of Water* experience identified opportunities to strengthen documentation, financial management and internal communication. In response, CICR has already amended its communication policy and is carrying these lessons into future programme design and implementation.

For CICR, accountability means being willing to show what is working, recognise where evidence can be stronger, and improve as we learn.

17. Working Where the Challenges Are Greatest

CICR works primarily with rural and underserved communities, where geography, infrastructure, social norms and resource constraints can directly affect how programmes are delivered.

These realities do not define the communities CICR works with, but they do shape the way programmes need to be designed and implemented.

What Affects Delivery?



CICR has responded by adapting how it works, using local leaders and volunteers, combining community dialogue with school and radio engagement, planning activities around local schedules, using local procurement where possible, and strengthening community structures to support continuity.

In Kuyough and Tunoyo, difficult terrain and poor roads affected the movement of materials and communication, while in school WASH programming, weather, school calendars, community availability and local labour influenced implementation. These experiences have strengthened CICR's emphasis on realistic logistical planning, early coordination and locally appropriate delivery.

The work therefore requires flexibility. The ability to adapt without losing sight of the purpose of a programme is an important part of CICR's operating approach.

18. What We Have Learned

Across CICR's programmes, several lessons are becoming increasingly clear.

18.1. Community Ownership Starts at the Beginning

Community participation is strongest when it is built into planning, implementation and management, not added at the end.

Power of Water demonstrated the value of involving community members from the hydrological survey and borehole development through to monitoring and ongoing management.

18.2. Infrastructure Needs Systems Around It

A facility is only one part of sustainability.

Water and WASH infrastructure needs clear responsibilities, maintenance arrangements, supplies, monitoring and local capacity to remain functional. The WASH experience reinforced the importance of facility registers, maintenance responsibilities and routine follow-up.

18.3. One Approach Cannot Reach Every Audience

Different groups respond to different forms of engagement.

CICR has combined community dialogue, radio, school-based activities, leadership engagement and professional training to reach different audiences in GBV and protection programming.

18.4. Women's Participation Needs to be Meaningful

Participation becomes more powerful when women have real roles in decision-making and local management.

In Kuyough and Tunoyo, women moved from initially being hesitant to participate to taking active roles in the WUC, savings group and tree nursery, including leadership positions.

18.5. Remote Programming Requires Realistic Planning

Logistics are part of programme design, not an afterthought.

Terrain, road conditions, connectivity, weather, school calendars and availability of local labour can all affect implementation. Planning for these realities early can reduce disruption and strengthen local ownership.

18.6. Stronger Evidence Strengthens Learning

Good implementation needs equally strong documentation.

CICR's experience has reinforced the importance of consistent baseline indicators, attendance records, facility records and comparable outcome measures. This will help the organisation move from documenting activities and reported changes towards stronger measurement of outcomes over time.

18.7. Flexibility Must Remain Purposeful

Responding to changing needs sometimes requires difficult choices.

In Kuyough, funds initially intended for a revolving-loan component were redirected to water-storage tanks for vulnerable households. The tanks addressed an important community need, but the change meant that the original revolving-loan objective was not fully achieved. The experience reinforced the importance of clear planning, communication with partners and careful management of programme changes.

VII. SUSTAINABILITY

19. Building Beyond the Project

For CICR, sustainability begins with what communities, local structures and partners are able to carry forward beyond a project period. Rather than viewing sustainability as something that happens at the end of implementation, CICR increasingly builds it into how programmes are designed and delivered.

Across its work, several mechanisms support continuity:

Local Structures

WUCs • SMCs/PTAs • Community Response Committees • Community Groups

Local structures provide a foundation for managing resources, maintaining facilities, supporting protection responses and keeping community priorities active beyond direct project activities.

Local Leadership

Women • Chiefs • Elders • Teachers • Community Leaders

CICR works to strengthen the people already positioned within communities to influence decisions, mobilise others and support continued action.

Skills and Knowledge

Maintenance • Leadership • Hygiene • Climate adaptation • Rights Awareness

Training is used to build practical knowledge that can remain within communities after project activities conclude.

Local Resources and Initiatives

Savings groups • Tree Nurseries • Water Storage • Livelihood Activities

Where appropriate, CICR connects programme activities with community-managed resources and initiatives that can support continued participation and resilience.

Follow-up and Accountability

Monitoring • Registers • Community Review • Maintenance

Continued monitoring and community review help identify emerging needs, track the use of facilities and resources, and support timely action.

20. Sustainability in Practice

The *Power of Water* programmes in Kuyough and Tunoyo demonstrate CICR's community-led approach to sustainability. In both communities, residents participated in borehole development, from site identification and implementation to monitoring. In Tunoyo, a WUC was established to oversee borehole operation and maintenance, while rainwater harvesting, community water storage and women's savings activities supported the sustainability of project benefits. In Kuyough,

community consultations informed decisions on water-storage infrastructure, rainwater harvesting and the establishment of a tree nursery, alongside maintenance linkages to support the continued use of the facilities.

In GBV programming, CICR supported the establishment of community-led GBV response committees and trained community leaders and volunteers, creating local structures for continued awareness, reporting and survivor support.

The WASH programme similarly combined infrastructure with SMC/PTA training, teacher involvement, sanitation clubs, community outreach and routine monitoring. This approach recognised that sustainable facilities require ongoing management, community ownership and behavioural change alongside construction.

21. Sustainability is a Process

CICR's experience shows that sustainability is not a single activity or an outcome that can be assumed when a project closes. It requires local ownership, practical skills, functioning community structures, partnerships, resources and continued attention. Building these elements throughout implementation helps communities maintain project benefits, address emerging challenges and sustain progress beyond the project period.

The goal is not simply to leave a project behind. It is to strengthen the people, systems and relationships that can carry its benefits forward.

VIII. LOOKING FORWARD

22. The Next Chapter

As CICR moves beyond the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan period, the organisation's next chapter builds on priorities that have remained consistent while reflecting the broader programme experience documented in this report.

The 2022-2026 Strategic Plan centred on four strategic areas: women and girls' empowerment, SRHR, ending harmful cultural practices including FGM and GBV, and climate change. The current organisational profile reflects how these priorities have developed through implementation, with a broader focus on child protection, gender equality, girls' education, MHH, livelihoods, safe water and sanitation, environmental protection, and stronger community institutions and partnerships.

Five Practical Directions

i. Deepen Protection

CICR will continue to strengthen work addressing GBV, FGM/C and CEFM, alongside girls' rights, prevention, community responsibility and survivor-centred support.

Current implementation already brings together community dialogue, local leadership, schools, health workers, referral pathways and survivor support.

ii. Strengthen Girls' Education

CICR's experience increasingly connects education with the conditions that enable girls to remain safe, healthy and engaged in learning.

This includes WASH, MHH, protection, life skills and community engagement, recognising that barriers to girls' education are often interconnected rather than isolated. The organisation's current profile explicitly links education with menstrual health and school water and sanitation activities.

iii. Expand Resilient Livelihoods

CICR will build on its work supporting women and young people through savings, enterprise, practical skills and climate-resilient livelihood opportunities.

The organisation's livelihood approach includes entrepreneurship, financial literacy, group savings, value addition, market links and activities such as kitchen gardening, poultry, honey processing, tree nurseries and small business development.

iv. Strengthen Climate and Water Resilience

The experience of *Power of Water* and *Trees for Resilience* provides a foundation for connecting water access, environmental stewardship, climate adaptation and household resilience.

This experience demonstrated how improved water access could connect with women's economic participation, climate-resilient agriculture and community organisation.

v. Strengthen CICR Itself

The next chapter is also about strengthening the organisation behind the programmes.

Key areas include:

M&E: Stronger measurement of outcomes and change.

Financial Systems: Continued strengthening of financial management and accountability.

Documentation: More consistent programme records, evidence and learning.

Fundraising: Building a more diversified funding base.

Partnerships: Deepening relationships with government, civil society, technical partners and communities.

Staff Capacity: Continuing to strengthen the people and systems needed to deliver increasingly interconnected programmes.

23. A More Evidence-Driven CICR

One of the clearest lessons from CICR's programme experience is that good implementation needs strong evidence alongside it.

CICR has documented activities, participation, infrastructure, training and community engagement across its programmes. The next stage is to strengthen the systems that allow the organisation to demonstrate not only what was delivered, but what changed, for whom and over time.

This means placing greater emphasis on:

Baseline Indicators: Establishing clear starting points against which progress can be measured and changes assessed throughout project implementation.

Consistent Participant Records: Maintaining accurate attendance and participation records to track programme reach, inclusion and engagement across activities.

Outcome Monitoring: Tracking changes in knowledge, behaviour, access and participation to understand how interventions contribute to improvements in people's lives.

Endline Surveys and Assessments: Conducting endline assessments to measure achievements against project objectives, identify successful approaches for scaling and inform the design of future interventions.

Emerging Community Needs and Opportunities: Using assessment findings and community feedback to identify new challenges, service gaps and opportunities for future programming and resource mobilisation.

Facility and Maintenance Registers: Recording the condition, functionality, use and management of infrastructure to monitor performance and support long-term sustainability.

Programme Documentation: Maintaining complete and consistent activity, financial and implementation records to strengthen accountability, reporting and organisational learning.

Learning and Review: Regularly reviewing monitoring findings with communities, programme teams and partners to identify lessons, adapt implementation and improve future programme decisions.

The experience of the WASH programme highlighted the value of more consistent records for areas such as attendance, illness-related absence, sanitation and facility use. The *Power of Water* identified opportunities to strengthen documentation, financial management and internal communication.

These lessons reinforce the importance of assessing results at project completion, identifying approaches that can be sustained or scaled, and recognising emerging community needs. Such evidence can guide future programme design, strengthen funding proposals and help CICR mobilise resources to sustain and expand its impact.

This is not simply about producing stronger reports. Better evidence enables CICR to understand what works, address gaps, strengthen accountability and make informed decisions that improve programme effectiveness and community impact.

IX. CLOSING

24. Looking Ahead Together

A Note of Thanks

Every programme in this report began with people.

With women and girls who spoke about the realities they face. With children and young people whose voices and futures matter. With community leaders, teachers, health workers, volunteers and local groups who helped turn conversations into action. With government partners, implementing partners and donors who supported the work. And with the communities who opened their doors, shared their knowledge and gave CICR the trust to work alongside them.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who has been part of this journey.

To the **women and girls** who continue to speak up, participate and lead.

To the **children and young people** whose hopes and experiences remind us why this work matters.

To **community leaders, families, teachers, health workers and volunteers** who help carry change within their communities.

To our **government partners, implementing partners and donors** for the resources, collaboration and relationships that make this work possible.

And to the **communities themselves**, thank you for trusting us, challenging us, teaching us and walking with us.

The People Behind CICR

And then there is the CICR team.

These are the people who turn plans into conversations, conversations into action, and action into learning. They travel to communities, listen, organise, coordinate, document, solve problems, support one another and keep going when the work is difficult.

Their contribution is not always visible in a report.

But it is present in every community meeting, every school visit, every training session, every follow-up call, every water project, every protection activity and every moment when someone feels heard or supported.

To Our Staff Members: Thank You

Behind every community meeting, every school visit, every conversation, every training session and every follow-up is a person who showed up and cared.

Thank you for the early mornings, the long journeys, the difficult conversations, the problem-solving, the patience and the moments when you simply had to find a way forward.

Thank you for listening to communities, for learning from them and for staying committed when the work was not easy.

You bring more than skills to CICR. You bring care, courage, curiosity, determination and humanity. And it is through the everyday work you do, much of it quietly and away from the spotlight, that CICR is able to walk alongside communities and turn ideas into action.

We see you. We value you. And we are grateful for the part each of you has played in this journey.

This report tells the story of CICR's work. You are the story makers behind it. Thank you!

X. THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE JOURNEY



Raphael Kedi
Programme Officer



Hillary Kipsang
Assistant Finance Officer



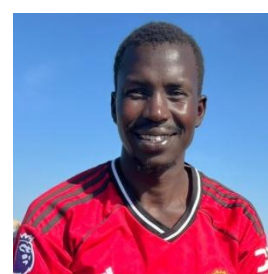
Celestine Cheptoo
Admin Officer cum Facilitator



Krop Boaz
Communications Officer



Salome Kaliakamur
Field Officer cum Facilitator



Pkiach Joseph Kodosia
Field Officer cum Facilitator



Edna Chemworsho
Field Officer cum Facilitator



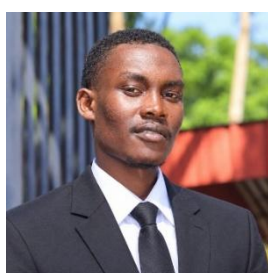
John Pyego
Field Officer cum Facilitator



Enock Kedinyang
Field Officer cum Facilitator



Enock Rutto
Field Officer cum Facilitator



Brian Kibet
Field Officer cum Facilitator



Sharon Limanyang
Field Officer cum Facilitator



Celestine Chepkemai
Field Officer cum Facilitator



Irine Loyama
Field Officer cum Facilitator



Arnold Kiptoo
Field Officer cum Facilitator



Eglah Chelimo Ruto
Field Officer cum Facilitator

XI. ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

CEFM	Child, Early and Forced Marriage
CICR	Centre for Indigenous Child Rights
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FGM/C	Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IT	Information Technology
KES	Kenyan Shillings
PTA	Parent-Teacher Association
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MHH	Menstrual Health and Hygiene
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
SMC	School Management Committee
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WUC	Water User Committee



CICR Kenya

CENTRE FOR INDIGENOUS CHILD RIGHTS

CICR Kenya

ROOTED IN WEST POKOT
LED BY COMMUNITY



+254 701 660 339



cicr@cichildrights.org / cichildrights@gmail.com



Paves Towers, 2nd floor. PO Box 155-30600, Makutano, West Pokot, Kenya



<https://cichildrights.org/>

