



Organisational profile and capability statement 2023-2024

CIPAD – Culture Information and Pastoralist Development

Background

Sololo is a small town in Kenya's former Eastern Province, now part of Marsabit County. It is the 4th largest urban centre in Marsabit County and is located on the Moyale-Sololo escarpment which has semi-arid climatic conditions. The town is connected with electricity from Ethiopia, which is only about 5 km away. The area of Sololo is administratively divided into 14 sublocation distributed within a vast territory of 6,064 square km and a population of 44,822 citizens, expected to grow to 55,088 by 2027.

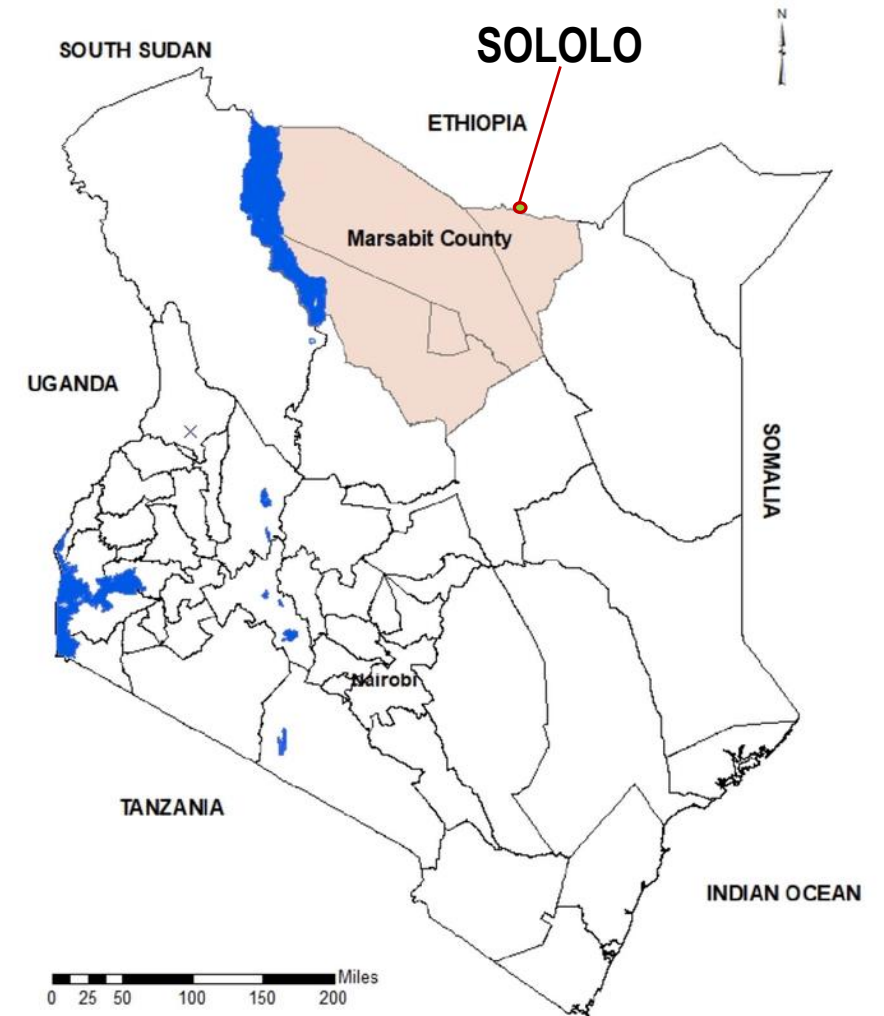
The population in the area of Sololo was largely marginalised during the colonial era, and up to until the new national Constitution was introduced in 2010. The population is now appreciating the positive outcomes of the devolution of power and duties to the local government, however key development indexes are still critical.



The predominant economic model for the population in Sololo is the semi-nomadic pastoralism. However, since 2001 recurrent severe droughts decimated the herds. The rainfall patterns in Sololo are bimodal, and precipitation data indicate an average reception of 275mm rainfall per annum in the area. Multidimensional poverty in Sololo stands at 85.8%; for youths aged 18-34, the core drivers of multidimensional poverty are housing, nutrition, education, sanitation and economic activity.

Key facts

- 41% Household population with access to at least basic drinking water service
- 23% Household population with at least basic sanitation service
- 69% Women age 15-49 with no formal education
- 29% Teenage pregnancy (% age 15-19 who have ever been pregnant)
- 26% Children under 5 who are underweight (%) (too thin for their age)
- 15% Proportion of the population below age 15



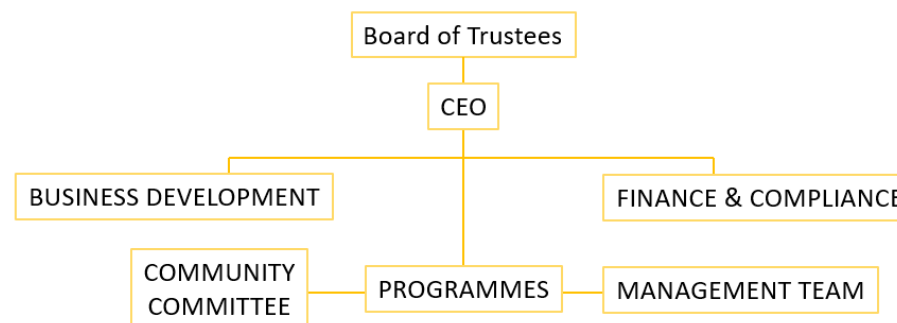
CIPAD – Culture Information and Pastoralist Development



CIPAD was officially founded in 2003 with a vision of “a healthy enlightened community living in harmony with their environment in Sololo”. The main objective of the organisation is to improve the living standard of marginalized communities through improved health, water, education, good leadership and natural resource management and utilization.

The organisation is registered as an NGO with the Government of Kenya, has its office in Sololo and employs 17 people (3 managers, 14 supportive staff).

The governance of CIPAD includes the Board of Directors, and an executive Management Team. At project level, CIPAD has committees attended by community leaders that are representative of most of the segments of the society. These includes administrative Chiefs, Women's Representatives, Religious Leaders from different denominations, Youth Representatives and other representatives from the stakeholders.



Portfolio and capability



Home Based Care (HBC) child protection safety net

Since 2007, this programme targets app. 300 vulnerable children and their siblings across 110 families in the area of Sololo. Through the Community Committee, CIPAD identifies or traces adult family members of vulnerable children and supports these families with food, paediatric services, access to National Health Insurance Fund and to education. The Community Committee revises on ongoing basis the needs of the families, graduates families demonstrating enhanced resilience and welcomes new families in the programme based on needs.



Access to primary and secondary education

CIPAD facilitates access to primary education for each child involved in the HBC and OVC projects. Based on performance results, commitment and attendance, students are encouraged and supported to access secondary education.



Support elderly people to meet their basic needs

Through its Community Committee and ongoing dialogue with stakeholders, CIPAD identifies destitute elderly people and facilitates access to basic services and goods, such as for instance access to therapy for chronic diseases and dignified shelters.



Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) foster care programme

CIPAD is a partner to the Children Office of the Government of Kenya. Against a Court order, vulnerable children are assigned for short or long term periods to foster houses managed by CIPAD. These foster houses are integrated within the village of Sololo and offer to the children a unique opportunity to grow with parental care in a safe and culturally appropriate environment.



Dignified Shelter

Through its Community Committee, CIPAD identifies among the HBC families those without a house. CIPAD takes the lead in dedicated community dialogues so that land is allocated to the identified family. Based on availability of resources, CIPAD provide the means for the communities to build semi-permanent homes, including ventilated latrines on the newly allocated land.



Vegetable, fruits and honey production

In 2012 CIPAD built two water rock-catchment systems and installed drip irrigation schemes to implement small-scale agriculture activities. The innovative use of greenhouses set a best-practice for the communities in the area. Since then, CIPAD produces fruits, vegetables and honey which are entirely marketed locally.



Emergency preparedness and response, and early recovery

This wing of CIPAD's interventions gets activated based on available resources, and surge of demands from community members. It comprises of one-off intervention benefiting either individuals or the entire community to face emergency situations, or to trigger early recovery. For instance, CIPAD activates targeted or blanket water and food distributions and scales-up nutritional assessments and related referrals for children during the early and peak stages of droughts. Early recovery actualized through tailored support targeting the needs of destitute individuals in the area of health and sanitation, inclusion and launch of income generating activities anticipating communal returns. The heterogenous Community Committee stands as the vetting body to confirm the integrity of identified needs, and monitors progresses.

What is next

For the period 2023–2024, CIPAD aims at consolidating its ongoing portfolio as well as to expand it, in close coordination with local government and other development actors. Leveraging on past experience in emergency preparedness and response actions, CIPAD would like to establish an ongoing needs assessment approach to the WASH needs of the HBC and the population in general in the area of Sololo. In line with KDHS 2022 findings, WASH related illnesses are in fact anticipated to continue being leading causes of morbidity at health facility level. CIPAD is committed to conduct a technical assessment of the WASH needs of the 17 MoH facilities serving the population of Sololo and its surroundings. Anticipated actions includes improving water harvesting and storage systems, clean water management, improving pit-latrines and management of medical waste.

