AN ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTS OF CONFLICT ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC LIVELIHOOD OF THE RESIDENTS OF OTUBOI SUBCOUNTY, KABERAMAIDO DISTRICT.

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ABSTRACT

The overall objective of this assessment is premised on analysing the effects of war on the socio-economic livelihood of the residents of Otuboi subcounty. It analyses the contributing factors to the socio-economic status of people in this sub county and establishes the strengths, resilience and resettlement strategies of families affected by conflict. The assessment serves to highlight the impact of conflict on the traditional coping mechanisms that existed prior to the rebel incursion. (Supportive cultures, beliefs, and practices coupled with social support systems that were the fabric of this society) because the conflict led to massive displacement of local residents forcing them to crowd in internally displacement camps. The return and re-settlement of communities to their original land makes it imperative to know the impacts of the camp life (displacement) on the capacity of the family to function as the immediate unit of support to all family members. In an effort to find answers to the set objectives a descriptive study was undertaken in order to capture people’s opinions, perceptions and attitudes, a number of data collection methods were used which included; Questionnaires, observation, focus groups discussions, interview and document review (secondary data). The key findings of this assessment generally reveal that conflict has remarkable effects on the social-economic wellbeing of residents in a community and solutions to the challenges of life difficulties were identified. It’s therefore recommended that the communities be helped by government and development partners to initiate income generating projects to help them acquire skills to engage in business ventures including profitable agricultural practices. Government financial allocations should target priority areas like education to cater for the future generation and there is need for the sub county authorities to enhance coordination especially among development partners so as to bring together development efforts in the different sectors.