

SUCCESS STORIES

Ugandan Side of the Karamoja Cluster

May 2008

Nakapiripirit district is an area of coverage of the CEWARN Mechanism

1. On the 21st May, 2008 the pokot elders of achorichor parish, achorichor Sub County, pokot county Nakapiripirit district got information that some pokot young boys went to Moroto district and raided the Matheniko warriors. The raided Matheniko animals were 7 head of cattle and 3 donkeys. The elders after learning of this incident they invited the CEWARN Field Monitor Pokot AOR to talk to the young warriors commonly referred to as Karachuna about the dangers involved in cattle rustling.

The CEWARN FM for Pokot AOR talked to the young raiders about the dangers involved in cattle rustling and how the Matheniko warriors were going to organize for a counter raid to re-stock their herd. The FM educated them on how this might lead to deaths and loss of property and above all how this creates a vicious cycle of violence. The young pokot warriors having listened attentively surrendered over the raided animals voluntarily and promised not to engage again in cattle rustling. The recovered animals were handed back to the rightful Matheniko owners with the assistance of the army. Two guns that were used by the young Pokot warriors in the raid were also handed over to the army.

This was a successful story that was achieved through cooperation of the elders, young warriors, the army and CEWARN FM. This can work as a learning lesson that slowly through education, sensitization success can be achieved. The challenge however, is how to keep the momentum going and how to keep the young warriors- Karachuna keep their word.

2. On the 28th May, 2008 the Matheniko warriors from Moroto district raided sokongor grazing area of the pokot warriors 3kms west of moruita Nakapiripirit junction and drove away 102 head of cattle. In the process of raiding one pokot warrior was killed and the animals taken. The CEWARN Field Monitor Pokot AOR learnt of the incident and quickly made a phone call to the Country Coordinator CEWARN in Kampala. The Country Coordinator informed the CEWERU head who quickly raised the chairperson District peace committee who also happens to be the Resident District Commissioner Nakapiripirit district (RDC). The RDC quickly mobilized the army with the assistance of the local people all the raided animals were recovered and handed back to the rightful owners. The local people were very happy with this recovery.