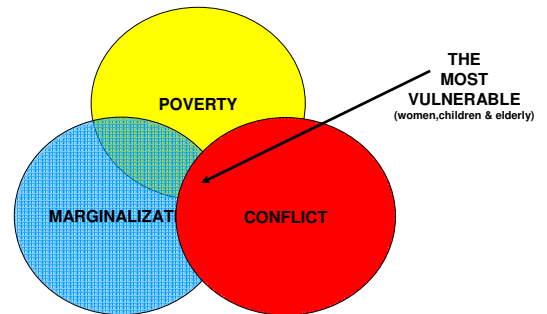


*“What are we doing to support the transformation of raiding routes into corridors for peace and production in Karamoja?”*



## Nexus of Underdevelopment in Karamoja



Children and people in Karamoja are affected by poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization and conflict. Uganda has for many years lacked a “protective environment” to mitigate the impact of these threats.

- Limited Constructive Engagement of Customary institutions in peace and security Matters of Karamoja
- The lack of harmonisation of formal and customary governance systems
- International and historical dimensions of the Karamoja Problem

### **Attempts To Address The Links Between Insecurity And Poverty In Karamoja**

- UPDF has been deployed in Karamoja region to undertake a comprehensive disarmament exercise
- Police and other law enforcement agencies are being rolled back to sub-county levels.
- NGOs/UN Agencies moving in and Social service delivery expanding.

### **Constitution of Uganda (1995) Article 209. Functions of the defence forces.**

The functions of the Uganda Peoples’ Defence Forces are:

- (a) to preserve and defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Uganda
- (b) to cooperate with the civilian authority in emergency situations and in cases of natural disasters;
- (c) to foster harmony and understanding between the defence forces and civilians

### **Background**

- The underdevelopment Nexus
- The Karimojong occupy the peripheral semi-arid region of Uganda.
- It is the most underdeveloped region and has historically been a marginalized region in Uganda.
- Another distinctive feature of this region is that it is one of the most conflict-prone zones in Uganda.
- It has experienced two types of conflicts: ethnic identity and resource based conflict which has in the whole led to criminality that progressively paralyzed the region.

### **The Problem Analysis:**

- Cyclic violent conflict:
- Militarisation and use of force to make peace in the Karamoja region
- Poor access to **basic services**
- Limitations in Existing National & Local Policy Frameworks.
- Persistent Limitations In Government Policies And Programmes







the President of Uganda, HE Y.K Museveni, the manner in which attempts at forceful disarmament have been implemented by the UPDF has brought mixed reactions from the civilian population of Karamoja.

- State – citizen relations in Karamoja have been problematic since the colonial era, and armed Karimojong have long regarded themselves as beyond the enforcement of law and order in the region.
- Improved civil-military relations, and the promotion of citizen accountability, would both contribute significantly to the establishment of sustainable security and peace in Karamoja.

### Save the Children in Uganda (SCiUG) PB & HRP Project Components

- Component 1:** Managing Pastoralist Mobility - Increasing access to opportunities for children and youth in mobile communities in Karamoja
- Component 2:** Provision and Promotion of alternative livelihood options for the youth
- Component 3:** Enhancing peace building initiatives in Karamoja
- Component 4:** Promoting Civil Military liaison for Peace and Development
- Component 5:** Strengthening Child Protection structures and mechanisms

Under its Young Professionals Program (YPP), AFLI is collaborating with Save the Children in Uganda by providing 10 Karimojong speaking graduates (Volunteers / Project Assistants), undertaking periodic joint field supervision visits and on spot strategic advice to accelerate the successful implementation of this program.

This project is *funded by European Commission Instrument for Stability (EC-IFS).*

(d) to engage in productive activities for the development of Uganda.

### Primary objectives of the Disarmament process in Karamoja:

Disarm all illegal guns from the hands of armed Karimojong civilians.

### Secondary objective

1. Establish security in all highways in Karamoja.
2. Provide security for humanitarian access within Karamoja.
3. Support the establishment of rule of law by the civilian Uganda Police Force and Justice Institutions.
4. Contain international cross border illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.
5. Secure all the twelve neighbouring districts against armed Karimojong raids and cattle thefts.

### Disarmament, a Patch work of Success: Civilian Mixed Reactions

- While UPDF military disarmament process has been widely supported since its launch in 2001 by



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**Save the Children**  
in Uganda

