INFLUENCE OF PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY ON MANAGEMENT OF LAND-BASED CONFLICTS AMONG PASTORALIST COMMUNITIES IN SAMBURU COUNTY

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DECLARATION

Declaration by the Candidate

I declare that this project is my original work and has not been presented in any university.

Signature   Date: 6th June, 2023…………………….............

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Approval by Supervisors

This project has been submitted for examination with our approval as university supervisors.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

DEDICATION

This study is dedicated to my siblings Ian and Victoria. May this study inspire you to strive for excellence.

ABSTRACT

Preventive diplomacy can be traced back to various civilizations where treaties were concluded and alliances formed. However, this strategy at community level remains a challenge due to lack of preventive structure frameworks. The study investigated the influence of preventive diplomacy on management of land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Specific objectives included investigating the influence of early warning system, fact-finding missions, confidence-building measures, and mediation and negotiation on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Peace theory, broken window theory, and relative deprivation theory anchored the study while longitudinal descriptive research design was adopted. Target population comprised 424 individuals from institutions involved in peace and security discourses where stratified random sampling technique was applied to select 206 respondents through Yamane formula. Primary data was collected using a questionnaire. Quantitative data was analyzed descriptively and inferentially using SPSS version 25 computer software and presented using tables and figures. Qualitative data was analyzed using thematic content analysis technique and presented using narratives. The response rate was 74%, with 153 of 206 respondents managing to participate in the study. Findings indicated that preventive diplomacy significantly influenced management of land-based conflicts. Some of the specific early warning system elements included early warning monthly bulleting, smart phone app for monitoring and dissemination, as well as traditional knowledge. Fact finding was used to verify facts in order to arrive at the truth, however, its efficacy is marred by lack of flexible structures at community level. Various forms of CBMs exercised included, trade, education, religion, sports, interethnic marriages, disarmaments, security operations, and the annual 5 days' camel caravans. Mediation and negotiation are the main preventive practice in negotiating for reciprocal grazing rights and adopting peace resolutions, however, lack of consistent rules and procedure, poor negotiation structures, limited negotiation capacity, and uncoordinated negotiations are major drawbacks. The study recommended increased consultation and collaboration between pastoralists, state and non-state actors to enhance effectiveness and efficiency of preventive diplomacy. Further research should be undertaken on the challenges of preventive diplomacy as a strategy for managing land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Kenya.

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ASALS: Arid and Semi-Arid Lands

CBM: Confidence-Building Measures

CPA: Comprehensive Peace Agreement

ECOWAS: Economic Community for West African States

IGAD: Intergovernmental Authority on Development

IGO: Inter governmental organizations

INGO: International nongovernmental organizations

KNBS: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics

SADC: Southern African Development Community

UN: United Nations

UNITAR: United Nations Institute for Training and Research

UNU-CPR: United Nations University Centre for Policy Research

ZANU-PF: Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

According to Gavin (2014) conflict entails disagreements between two or more antagonistic parties driven by incompatible interests. Batmanglich (2017) further postulates that conflicts arise due to opposing interests among different individuals or groups. Conflict prevention has been used in different rubrics throughout human history, however, the discourse gained more currency the 1960s where it evolved to a recognized autonomous field of policy. Faleg and Gaub (2019) encapsulate that Dag Hammarskjöld was the pioneer to formally coin preventive diplomacy. Dag articulated it to mean actions that prevent disputes from arising between parties, and prevent existing disputes from escalating into armed conflict. UN Secretary General Boutros Ghali stretched conflict prevention to not only mean prevention of regional conflict escalating to global spaces, but preventing them from mushrooming at all. Following in the footsteps of Dag and Ghali, in 2001, Kofi Annan, also advanced conflict prevention as the key pillar of collective security.

The discourse of preventive diplomacy works under the assumption that intractable conflicts are easier to avert before they occur, rather than addressing them after they have occurred. Preventive diplomacy gained traction during Cold War (1947-1991), which was an ideological competition between the United States and its allies supporting capitalism and the Soviet Union supporting communism. Gibler (2016) noted that during cold war preventive diplomacy was used to avert the Cuban missile,

following a series of hotline communication between the US President J.F Kennedy and Soviet Union President Mikhail Gorbachev to put the situation under control.

Post-Cold War has seen the evolution of preventive diplomacy in preventing intra-state conflicts: According to (United Nations University Center for Policy Research [UNU-CPR], (2018), preventive diplomacy has been employed by the UN in preventing violent conflicts at state level. Some of such conflicts have been documented inter alia, Yemen in 2011, Nigeria in 2015, Malawi in 2011, Sudan in between 2010 & 2011, Lebanon in 2012 to 2017, Guinea of 2008 to 2010, and Burundi (1964-1994). The outcomes in these countries saw the UNU-CPR develop a policy document to effectively guide preventive diplomacy in different conflict situations at both policy and practice levels.

Muggah and Whitlock (2022) credit the decreased number of interstate disputes can be attributed to the efficacy of various tools of preventive diplomacy, inter alia, early warning system, fact finding missions, confidence building measures and negotiation and mediation. The evolution of preventive diplomacy over the years has led to a paradigm shift, where early warning system is integrated by different actors in conflict prevention agendas, forecast trends, avert threats to peace and other humanitarian crisis such as drought, hurricanes, food insecurity, climate change and genocide among other crisis

Ginat and Mahajneh (2022) postulate that confidence building measures that help initiate and deepen negotiation were instrumental in forging political solution between Israel and Egypt. This was cemented by Anwar Sadat's visit to Jerusalem in 1977 which broke a long-standing taboo of not dealing with the Israel state. Similarly,

Lanigan (2021) also notes that trade CBMs are used by different belligerent clans in a fragmented nation like Somalia by cooperating along trade across hotspot areas. Further, Mason and Siegfried (2013) underscore that Kenya post-election violence in 2007/2008 is chief example of political confidence building measure at play, where intentional efforts were undertaken to build trust and confidence among political actors to enhance the capacity of dialogue and constructive engagement.

Fact finding missions advance feasible solutions and are indispensable in management of land-based conflicts. They vary significantly across various political and social-economic landscapes. 2007/2008 post-election violence in Kenya is a prime example of fact-finding mission at play, where it was used to collect facts that verified the truth on human rights violations by the belligerents. Nevertheless, Hara and Shinohara (2018) critic that despite preventive diplomacy gaining currency post-cold war era, it cannot be posited that the discourse is without drawbacks in averting or containing violent conflicts such as the 1994 Rwandan genocide.

Faleg and Gaub (2019) underscore the utility of negotiation in forging peaceful balance of power during the Congress of Vienna in 1815. Similarly, in Malawi between 2010-2011, during the civil unrest that was precipitated by economic deterioration and increased authoritarianism by the regime, negotiation and mediation were the main currency that brokered peace and stability. This was achieved through the auspices of the UN Special Envoy who brokered an agreement between the government and civil society and also facilitated a national dialogue. The two poignant examples illuminate utility of preventive diplomacy in preventing conflicts within structured frameworks. Notwithstanding the historical account of preventive diplomacy as documented in

various literatures, there was the need to contextualize the concept of preventive diplomacy within local pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Hence a critical analysis within the context of local pastoralist communities could justify local application of preventive diplomacy to different social environments.

Recurrent droughts and famine continue to perpetuate conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Kenya and elsewhere as they compete for shrinking land-based resources. According to Reid et al. (2014) and Lung'ung'u (2021), the ravages of climate change continue to drastically reduce grazing land and water points, thus leaving the pastoralist communities vulnerable to social-economic shocks. These precipitates inter and intra-community violent conflicts as different groups compete to access, control and use grazing points and aquifers. Further, illegal possession of small arms and light weapons due to porous borders in the horn of Africa further increases severity of raids because pastoral groups use small arms and light weapons to forcefully access newly discovered aquifers and grazing. Migdal and Schlichte (2016) also posit that land-based conflicts are elevated and intertwined in a spill-over effect with proliferation of small arms and light weapons, chronic drought, raids, ethnic violence, poverty and lack of government control that presents human security threats which transcend state boundaries and transcend the traditional scope of security that securitize external military aggressions, as the existential threat.

Since time immemorial, pastoralist communities have applied various forms of preventive actions: Mosley and Watson (2016) observe that compensation for losses has traditionally been used to prevent the vicious cycle of raids. Returning raided livestock is a common phenomenon to avoid negative reciprocity of future raids and

revenge killings. Inter-ethnic marriages have also been embraced by pastoralist communities to help reduce interethnic violent conflicts. For example, ethnic communities such as the Turkana and Dassanech intermarry to help neutralize the bad blood and restrain interethnic attacks between the two communities (Djaja, 2020). To realize sustainable peace and address insecurity in Samburu County precipitated by land-based conflicts that intertwine with other proximate and structural causes, there is need to localize preventive diplomacy and create preventive structure frameworks.

Previous studies tended to look at preventive diplomacy from the lens of political disputes and governance, while this study examined preventive diplomacy within the context of land-based conflicts in Samburu County which has high affinity of protracted conflicts that dim prospects for sustainable peace, and security. This necessitated a critical interrogation of the influence of various tools of preventive diplomacy inter alia, early warning system, fact finding mission, confidence building measures and negotiation and mediation, in order to establish a baseline for formulation of context-based preventive frameworks. Based on this standpoint, the study provided an opportunity to justify a broader application of preventive diplomacy in prevention of conflicts in different social environments as dictated by various dynamics. Proactive application of the tools of Preventive diplomacy within formal preventive frameworks and structures can facilitate proper management of land-based disputes.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Sporadic land-based conflicts in Samburu County and other regions of the northern Kenya continue to hinder development in many different sectors, inter alia, education,

agriculture, and infrastructural development. Lund (2009) affirms that overt conflicts are preventable and that the success of prevention of the conflicts depends on the available mechanisms for preventive responses at the latent phase of conflict. However, without formal preventive structures, it may be hard to realize sustainable peace and security in Samburu. Notwithstanding the use of mediation and negotiation in addressing conflicts, this strategy is ideally commonly applied for conflict resolution rather than prevention of conflicts. Norpoor (2016) noted that preventive action is necessary in addressing intergroup conflicts among pastoral communities in order to save scarce resources and loss of lives. Like a number of other previous studies, the study did not however elucidate the utility of preventive diplomacy to avert land-based conflicts.

Odote (2016) assessed the implications of early warning system on conflict prevention in Africa, and underscored how early warning as a tool of preventive diplomacy has been successfully applied in South Sudan and Kenya to avert election conflicts. Yet, in this respect preventive diplomacy was applied in a more structured preventive framework; unlike in the current context where local pastoralist communities in Samburu County may not have structured preventive frameworks for employing preventive diplomacy. Additionally, apart from mediation which has relatively widely featured in previous studies, other tools of preventive diplomacy such as fact-finding mission and confidence-building measures have not fully been illuminated. This study focused on local pastoralist communities' approach of preventive diplomacy by using early warning system, facts-finding mission, confidence-building measures, mediation and negotiation to avert land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Samburu.

1.3 General Objective of the Study

The general objective of this study was to investigate the influence of preventive diplomacy on management land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

1.3.1 Specific Objectives of the Study

The study addressed the following specific objectives:

i. To investigate the influence of early warning system on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu.

ii. To establish the influence of fact-finding missions on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

iii. To assess the influence of confidence-building measures on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

iv. To evaluate the influence of mediation and negotiation on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

1.4 Research Questions

i. What is the influence of early warning system on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County?

ii. To what extent do fact-finding missions influence management of land-based conflict among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County?

iii. How do confidence-building measures influence management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County?

iv. What is the influence of mediation and negotiation on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County?

1.5 Justification of the Study

1.5.1 Policy Justification of the Study

This study provides an opportunity to justify a broader application of preventive diplomacy in prevention of conflicts in different social environments as dictated by various dynamics, outside the scope of political environment by establishing a baseline towards the use of the tools of preventive diplomacy by the actors involved with peace and security discourse in Samburu County.

Pastoral issues are highlighted only in other policies that are biased towards converting the rangelands to crop cultivation juxtaposition nomadic pastoralism; this further alienates and marginalizes pastoralist communities socially and economically; as a people who are intrinsically connected to their land-based resources for sustenance. To this end, the study will provide new knowledge and a roadmap to policy makers at national and international level, on proactive application of the tools of Preventive diplomacy within formal preventive frameworks and structures that can facilitate proper management of land-based conflicts and other resource-based conflicts.

The research was important in the context of Samburu County where frequent inter-communities and intra-communities land-based conflicts that hamper sustainable peace and security: Despite state and non-state intervention in management of land-based conflicts.

1.5.2 Academic Justification of the Study

The study will add to the knowledge of literature on the influence of preventive diplomacy in management of resource-based conflicts at local, regional and global level.

1.6 Scope of the Study

The study was conducted within Samburu County between January 2021 to December 2022. The study was limited to four independent or predictor variables, namely early warning system, mediation and negotiation, confidence-building measures, and fact-finding missions which were tools of preventive diplomacy. In terms of research participants, the study was confined to deputy county commissioner, area chiefs/assistant chiefs, community elders, religious leaders, and civil society organizations who are involved with the dynamics of managing land-based conflicts and the use of preventive diplomacy discourse.

1.7 Limitations of the Study

Accessing the sparsely distributed respondents in the vast study area was challenging, especially due to inadequate finances to traverse the whole study area. To address this limitation, two research assistants were recruited from the local communities and properly trained to assist in data collection. Also, prior arrangements were made so that as much as possible booking for face-to-face administration of questionnaires were made beforehand. This reduced time wasted during fieldwork. The researcher also employed flexible approach during data collection process so that both drop-and-pick, and face-to-face administering of the questionnaire were adopted depending on

the cost-effectiveness of either approach based on case by case. Hired motorbikes (bodaboda) were also used to traverse the study area so as to save time.

Another limitation had to do with language barrier, especially where members of the local communities were involved as respondents, such as community elders. This limitation was addressed through the use of research assistants who provided translating services.

1.8 Operational Definition of Terms

Confidence-Building Measures: In this study confidence-building measures entail initiatives aimed at altering negative perception of motives towards each other and thus avoiding misjudgment which that might otherwise provoke violent conflict (Greiner, 2017). For purposes of this study, confidence building measures is any activity taken to initiate dialogue and deepen negotiation by defusing animosity, and establishing trust among pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

Early Warning System: is about forestalling escalation of any tension between individuals or groups through structured systems where information is systematically shared to avert conflicts or other disasters (Lund, 2002). Related to this study, early warning system entailed use of scientific and traditional knowledge to predict threats to peace among the Samburu pastoralist communities.

Fact-Finding Missions: these refer to using of different structures, systems, or institutions in gathering information to help in averting conflicts (Hara & Shinohara, 2018). Grounded on this study, this involves a process for obtaining facts to verify the truth of various dynamics that have a nexus and exacerbate land-based conflict.

Land-based Conflicts: these are recurrent conflicts related to land due to its economic, social, cultural or religious uses (Verjee, 2017). In reference to this study, these implied conflicts triggered by competition over access, use and control of scarce forests, grazing areas and water points. These conflicts re further exacerbated by commercialized raids, drought, cross border movement, and small arms and light weapons.

Negotiation and Mediation: Negotiation is a process by which two or more parties arrive at better outcome. Mediation is the continuation of negotiation through a neutral third party who facilitates dialogue (Faleg & Gaub, 2019). According to this study, this is a process which brings conflicting parties to hold talks formally and informally and create an amicable agreement amongst them.

Preventive Diplomacy: Dag Hammarskjold coined the term to mean, preventing disputes from arising among warrying parties; to prevent disputes from escalating to conflicts and to limit the spread of the latter when they occur (Faleg & Gaub, 2019). For the purpose of this study, preventive diplomacy was viewed as any preventive action that is intentionally taken and aimed at conflict prevention.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

The section provides an overview of theoretical and literature reviews, as well as conceptual framework. Empirical literature review was presented according to the study's specific objectives where various existing works globally, regional and local level on the influence of preventive diplomacy on land-based conflicts were critically analyzed.

2.2 Theoretical Review

This study was guided by the work of Johan Galtung on peace theory, broken window theory, and relative deprivation theory. None of the single theories mentioned could adequately explain various dynamics of this study, hence the three had to be adopted to adequately address all the variables of the study. For instance, as described in subsequent subsections, peace theory explained conflict from the perspective of violence, peace and peace research. On the other hand, broken window theory and its tenets underscore the relationship between internal informal crime control measures and maintaining peace and security at community level. Finally, relative deprivation theory was used to explain the inevitable nature of conflict in human society precipitated by scarcity. The theory underscores those feelings of scarcity by the have-nots can evoke frustration which may precipitate violence and belligerence as different deprived factions may attempt to change the status quo.

2.2.1 Peace Theory

Peace theory has its philosophical roots from the work of Johan Galtung (1969). The theory is a contemporary theoretical framework that offers deep analytical insights and understanding of various dynamics and changing context in which conflict emerge and affect communities at different stages.

Galtung explains peace and violence discourse from three dimensions, namely direct, structural and cultural violence. Using the concept of triangle to describe conflict, Galtung opined that conflict can be observed as a contradiction, attitude and behavior. This implied that a full conflict must be defined by all the three aspects. Contradiction in a conflict usually manifests through a clash of the conflicting parties' intentions and their interests. Attitude entails the parties' views and misunderstandings among themselves. Behavior can evoke coercion or cooperation, leading to either conciliation or hostility (Galtung, 1990). Galtung posit that coercion, threats, and destructive assaults shape the trajectory and dynamics of violent conflict.

Galtung (1969) articulates peace and violence from a structure-oriented perspective, where he postulates that structures and actors are the drivers of violence. He further encapsulates violence to exist where people lack objectivity in their judgement hence living below their endowed capability. He defines peace as not merely absence of direct violence (negative peace) but also absence of structural violence (positive peace). To this end preventive diplomacy is a positive peace approach that aims at long term remedies to land-based conflicts.

Extrapolating this theory, hostile attitudes between pastoralist groups result in behavior that creates an incompatibility of goals in sharing grazing areas and water points. Scarcity of pasture and water that interlink with structural and proximate causes of conflict fuels direct violence. An analysis of their attitudes and behavior reveals that land-based conflict lays in their increasingly aggressive attitude towards each other. Each pastoral group perceives the other as an existential threat to their survival and this drives their hostile behavior in acquiring more small arms and light weapons for self-preservation in anarchic region.

Negative peace is evident through the use of early warning system prediction of trends that could precipitate direct violence. This is achieved through employing traditional and scientific knowledge within the rangelands. Early warning system drives behavior, attitude and contradiction of pastoralist communities, government and CSOs to be proactive in predicting trends in political, social-economic spaces to advance feasible and actionable solution to threats to peace and security in Samburu County. Moreover, strengthening structures of risk knowledge, monitoring and warning services, dissemination and communication as well response capability, at community level would bolster social justice. Consequently, this would amply abate tension that could escalate to direct violence within the rangelands. This is in consonance with Galtung's insight of positive peace, that enshrines social justice (Galtung, 1969).

Mediation and negotiation bolster positive peace by providing an opportunity to cooperate and integrate. It is voluntary and a fundamentally preventive practice among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Galtung (1969) articulates that consensus among warrying parties is possible. This is arrived at by overcoming

incompatible interests through bargaining, compromise and collaboration of actors. Different actors within Samburu County are involved in mediation and negotiation. County government and CSOs hold peace meetings and facilitate peaceful coexistence. Peace committee meetings are convened to provide a platform for long lasting and widely adopted peace resolutions among the pastoralist communities. The council of elders fairly presided over matters of war and peace at community level. In the event war broke out, elders from different clans promptly met to broker peace and perform traditional rituals to cementer clans' relations. Punishment is issued to wayward individuals who threaten peace in accordance with the rules set by the elders.

An exodus from Galtung's insight on peace and violence are critiques articulating the following: First, peace theory is criticized for being advancing utopian narrative of what ought to happen and what might work. Ironically, Galtung later revises his insights and divorces the positive epistemology in favor of integrating both western and eastern doctrines in his conceptual and theoretical frameworks.

Second, Galtung is criticized for trivializing international peace and coining it as negative peace. The articulation is believed to misrepresent and relegate peace scholars and researchers to merely theoretical areas. Third, Galtung's models use of negative and, positive peace, direct, structural and cultural violence does not distinguish victims and perpetrators. The identification is necessary in conduction fact finding missions, where testimonies from both the victims and the perpetrators are collected. As such, the theory was not adequate to explain fact finding as one of the independent variables. This warranted adoption broken window theory and relative deprivation theory to comprehensively explain linearity between land-based conflict management and the

influence of fact-finding mission and confidence building measures on management of the former.

Lastly, the theory fell short in explaining that early warning system depends on open source information hence, does not capture information about the plans of conflicting parties that determine when and where violence is to escalate. Moreover, some early warning responses are not always feasible or lead to the expected outcome.

Galtung's work was more fundamental in shaping peace research and it's for this reason that further scrutiny into other theories was necessary to explain other variables; fact finding missions, CBMs and land-based conflict management. Hence, there was need for the peace theory to be complemented with broken window theory and relative deprivation theory. Notwithstanding the foregoing, tenability of Galtung's work is apodictic. His work establishes the base line for peace theory.

2.2.2 Broken Window Theory

Broken window theory was initiated by Zimbardo (1969) and its tenets underscore the relationship between internal informal crime control measures and maintaining peace and security at community level. The theory further argues that prevention and control of conflicts at local levels is less costly and more effective than waiting to address the problem after it has increased in severity. These principles speak directly to the philosophy behind prevention as opposed to control which is usually attempted after a conflict has occurred. The Broken window theory is very relevant in the context of this study, because the cost effectiveness of preventive diplomacy vis-à-vis the cost of

peace keeping and post conflict peace building, has made the former more attractive to both state and non-state actors.

Broken window theory further postulates that community members stand a better chance in safeguarding their own security. This view is premised on the assumption that since the local community members better understand their collective security needs, they are in the best position to innovate solutions to conflict that the communities can identify with and hence deemed legitimate and acceptable. The theory therefore provides intellectual underpinning that helps understand the utility of security, economic, humanitarian and social confidence building measures (CBMs) that help initiate and deepen negotiation at pastoral communities' level, voluntarily. Since CBMs are consensual and reciprocal, pastoral communities, government and CSOs use them to establish trust and deescalate tension and suspicion by increasing transparency of intensions and capabilities among the pastoral communities.

In an attempt to achieve collective security, the district task force in collaboration with the Samburu peace committee employ various security CBMs: For example, they conduct disarmament within the county as well as profile and apprehend violence profiteers and inciters. Further, they monitor livestock migratory movement and conduct night watch on the herders to deter use of small arms and light weapons to forcefully access water points and grazing areas. In this sense, broken window theory becomes very relevant in anchoring this study, since the theory is founded on collaborative and consultative approaches to realizing security.

The theory further helps explains the relevance of confidence building measures in addressing administrative boundary disputes, which are best addressed through

cooperation with the local communities' leadership, who have insight of local political and social-economic dynamics within their communities. Moreover, land-based conflicts are often tied to boundary disputes. The local leaders are able to use various social CBMs such as observing the necessary rituals and traditional bindings, hence, strengthening the legitimacy of the tool in land-based conflict management. Notably Samburu County is predominantly inhabited by nomadic pastoralist communities who move around searching for water points and grazing areas for their livestock, but competition over shrinking grazing areas and water points precipitate violent conflicts. In some cases, communities use CBMs to initiate negotiation on mutual assistance during drought as well as reciprocal grazing rights in dry seasons. To this end, such dynamics within the rangelands are best understood by the community leaders and the locals who understand better their collective needs and are therefore likely to be more innovative in manufacturing local solutions that carry on relationships of the pastoralist communities.

Drawing from the aforementioned context, it is important that the pastoral communities are the ones determining the proximate and structural causes of conflicts which they are exposed to and are vulnerable to so that there is synergy between communities, different state and non-state actors to avoid incoherence. However, the theory fails to take into account that land-based conflicts are too complex especially because sometimes they don't occur in isolation but intertwine with other factors inter alia, possession of small arms and light weapons, cross border movement, drought, and commercialized raids. Hence confidence building measures alone may not suffice in managing land-based conflicts. Owing to the fact that they can be misused parties who eschew negotiations to maintain a negative status quo.

The theory further posits that preventive diplomacy require synergy among all stakeholders for the mutual benefit of the pastoral communities. This standpoint further aligns with the current study because it advocates for public participation in averting of land-based conflicts; this is done through Samburu peace committee, and other peace meeting facilitated by the national and local government as well as the civil society organizations. Notwithstanding the relevance of broken window theory in preventive diplomacy, it is not common to find actors at community level collaborating for conflict prevention or resolution due to suspicion, mistrust embedded on negative reciprocity.

2.2.3 Relative Deprivation Theory

Relative deprivation theory was initiated by Gurr (1974) to explain that conflict is inevitable in human society and how it should be addressed. The theory underscores those feelings of scarcity by the have-nots can evoke frustration which may precipitate violence and belligerence as the deprived faction attempts to change the status quo. The theory explains fact finding mission as a tool of preventive diplomacy within the context of managing land-based conflicts. It explains that, the short-fall between the pastoralist communities' expectations of access, control and use of pasture and water points, vis-a vis what is available consequently leads to frustration that culminates to violence as each pastoral group seeks to assert dominance by increasing their capacity in an anarchic region, where self-preservation takes precedence. In this sense, the relative deprivation theory explains dynamics that are likely to lead to land-based conflicts. The theory further explains that prevention of conflict can best be managed when the causes of conflict are mapped is clearly understood, which in this case is

scarcity of grazing land and water points, which is further exacerbated by inter alia, drought, cross border migration, commercialized raids and possession of small arms and light weapons.

Protected areas restrict livestock's access of pasture. Prompting herders to pay fees for access of the aforementioned areas. Such a system potentially precipitates resentment and frustration among pastoral groups and consequently leads to violent conflicts as each group pursues self-preservation. Gurr (1974) further argues that the needs over which individuals or groups can conflict over may be aligned to the Maslow's needs which generally have to do with the basic needs of survival. While the theory mainly emphasizes societal imbalance in terms of resource ownership or utilization as the likely cause of land-based conflict among communities, fact finding mission illuminate those disputes are perceived to be exacerbated by a government approach to development policies of Kenya, where pastoral development has been addressed under the agricultural sector. Moreover, these policies are formulated by non-pastoralists who often times show partiality and incline towards crop cultivation by bringing the rangelands under large scale irrigation schemes. This is contrary to the culture and self-determination right of the pastoralist communities to whom, land is not merely a factor of production but their identity and spirituality. This also implies that consistent, coherent and feasible plan for intervention is absent. Consequently, pastoralists remain excluded and relegated at the periphery in terms of development due to lack of comprehensive synthesis and analysis of the development agenda in arid and semi-arid lands.

To this end, Gurr (1993) model of relative deprivation provides intellectual underpinnings to comprehend how lack of social justice and unequal access and use of land-based resources can easily degenerate into conflicts. This is also explained by fact finding mission that ascertain that colonial-imposed boundaries in the 19th century cut off Samburu pastoralist communities from some of their heritage, repeated staking of territorial claim leaves the communities feeling deprived of their heritage, identity and spirituality consequently descending to violence. Although Gurr (1993) considers the push for equity in resource distribution as subjective, there is no empirical evidence that groups or individuals feeling relatively deprived have the likelihood to cause conflict.

In sum, relative deprivation theory articulates the aspect of the haves and the have-nots, who legitimately feel entitled to land resources which consequently instigate conflict as they seek access. This necessitates the application of fact-finding measures as a tool of preventive diplomacy in verifying facts and ascertaining various truths and interpretation of reality from legal, political, ethical or moral lens; in the quest to manage land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Samburu County. However, the theory does not propose how structural and proximate causes of conflict that increase the severity of land-based conflicts among inter-communities and intra-pastoralist communities can be addressed in order to manage conflicts among different pastoral groups who misjudge each other's actions as existential threat to each other security.

2.3 Empirical Review

2.3.1 Early Warning System and Land-Based Conflicts

Muggah and Whitlock (2022) describe early warning system as a process through which decision-makers are alerted about an impending conflict so that the tension can be prevented through early action. D'Orazio (2020) explains that timely forecasting in early warning is key in decision making that will lead to feasible and actionable responses. The system is modelled to integrates both qualitative and quantitative data. Hence, have the capacity to map out various triggers with the intention of providing relevant data needed for early response.

Bellamy (2015) opines that as a tool of preventive diplomacy early warning system entails predicting trends in political, social-economic and environmental spaces. To this end, early warning system can therefore be viewed at governmental level, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations, with actors such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Southern African Development Community (SADC), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), African Union (AU), and United Nations (UN) subscribing to it, with the intention of predicting threats such as conflicts, drought, hurricanes, political instability, state failure among others (Wane et al., 2016). Agwanda et al. (2021) study underscores how IGAD employs early warning system to predict threats in the great lake region such as drought, food insecurity, state fragility and conflicts among others. However, Murithi and Mwaura (2016) notes that the system by IGAD is viewed as state-owned top-down model that has little room for customization to the local pastoralist communities' dynamics. The foregoing literatures focused on different

political environments that had resources and structured preventive frameworks unlike the current research that focus on the dynamics of a different social environment that has no structured preventive framework.

According to Bellamy (2015) early warning system discourse can be viewed from two schools of thoughts: First, there are proponents who argue that early warning system emerged at a time when military intelligence was broadly considered as the most efficient tool for pre-empting threats. Second school argues that, early warning system is a means of forecasting natural disasters and calamities in the humanitarian sector for purposes of saving lives and preventing social-economic disruptions. This is augmented by Willmont (2017) who highlights that the rationale is that drivers of conflict can be monitored and information disseminated to decision makers for actionable responses. Noteworthy however, is the fact that the success of early warning system to predict disasters and conflicts for early response is pegged on formalized structures (Douglas & Wolff, 2018). In sum, the main aim of early warning system is to predict trends through gathering open-source information and map out risks. To this end, Halkia et al. (2020) sums up that early warning system is therefore perceived as the process of gathering data from open-source information, monitoring and documenting various situations with the aim of making accurate predictions that can be actioned.

According to Douglas and Wolff (2018) a preventive action could include military and non-military intervention where state and non-state actors are involved at state level. Similarly, at systemic level of analysis, the increasing death toll and blatant disrespect of people's or groups' basic human rights in various regions have increased the need

for early warning system to predict threats. Furthermore, the high cost of peacekeeping and other post-conflict peace building efforts has continued to inform the state and non-state actors' decision to employ early warning system as a tool of preventive diplomacy. This has led to a shift in the discourse of early warning system towards knowledge-based approaches that bolster timely data collection that is significant to decision makers in matters of policy formulation and implementation. Wolf (2018) focused on a structured early warning system at national and international level. This study responds to the knowledge gap by examining early warning system within the local context of pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

Drawing from above literature, early warning system has successfully been employed in various jurisdictions, thus cementing the argument that if applied in a structured manner, then this approach can be clearly instrumental in predicting conflicts and other disasters. For instance, corporates such as Virtual Research Associates (VRA), in the early warning landscape produced bespoke software for modelling conflict for several state and non-state actors in Sub Saharan Africa (Bond, 2020). Zenko (2015) espouses that consulting firms have also taken keen interest in the early warning landscape with the aim of risk assessments and scenario-based forecasting in political and social-economic environments by developing interactive visualization platforms.

Abdenur (2016) espouses the 2015 Blue Line conflict another poignant example of early warning system at play where Lebanon and Israel conflict was deescalated because of the overt presence of United Nations Interim forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL) who predicted conflicts trends that could escalate to intense violent conflicts between the two states. On the same vein, Agutu (2022) illustrates that in 2011, early warning

system was applied in South Sudan where the UN acted as a neutral actor to dispel the rumor that Khartoum was pursuing a different agenda, which helped defuse tension. In the aforementioned examples, early warning system used improved predictive capabilities made possible by advances in computationally intensive methods to collect and analyze data, which may not be available within the context of pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

Further, at regional level, communities use early warning system in various forms of traditional knowledge. Mozambique is poignant example where, local risk committees around the Zambezi basin use color-coded flags, whistles and loudspeakers to inform the population of impending cyclones and floods. A study by Douglas and Wolff (2018) examined early warning system and conflicts among pastoralist communities in Sudan identified several broader preventive diplomacy mechanisms; which included measures to limit and monitor trade of small arms, establishment of demilitarized zones, and preventive deployment of peacekeeping forces, mechanisms to promote human rights and democracy, and conflict impact assessment systems. Douglas and Wolff (2018) focused on pastoralist communities in Sudan and may not necessarily apply to the dynamics and the context of the pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Hence, the current study responds to the gap.

The cost-effective nature of Early warning system has made it attractive with actors in the civil society subscribing to the discourse for purposes of predicting humanitarian crisis. This is because of its potent in predicting and documenting trends of various situations and providing data that can be actioned through structures of risk knowledge, monitoring and warning service, dissemination and communication, and

response capability. The aforementioned aligns with Amao et al. (2014), who state that NGOs working in conflict hotspots have tended to disseminate information about threats to peace with the intention of increasing preparedness and strengthen peace process.

Despite of the utility of early warning systems as a preventive diplomacy tool, its reliability in prevention of conflicts is limited because it relies on open-source information, as such, it cannot flag data about the plans and intentions of the warring parties to determine when and where the conflict will transcend, hence creating a warning response gap. In addition, presence of multiple actors in the discourse creates incoherence and fragmentation in response capability due to lack of synergy among state and non-state actors (Muggah & Whitlock, 2022).

Despite the enthusiasm of using early warning system within Samburu County, it is not devoid of obstacles that make the system not to live up to its expectation. This is attributed to factors such as pastoralist communities' sceptics of scientific methods of predicting trends as well as mistrust from politicians sharing threat alerts. Moreover, warnings shared are in technical language that the locals cannot understand (Government of Kenya [GoK], 2021).

Ponte et al. (2019) sums up that early warning system in prevention of conflicts has proven challenging at the pastoralists communities' level where formal structures may be unavailable Hence, the current research sought to understand the extent to which early warning system as a tool of preventive diplomacy influences management of land-based conflicts for early response among pastoralist communities in Samburu (Cowan et al., 2014).

2.3.2 Fact-finding and Land-Based Conflicts

Krebs (2017) describes fact finding mission as the process for obtaining facts to verify the truth. This process may be achieved through investigating and conducting researches to assess and understand potential causes of the conflicts and feasible approaches for addressing them. In addition, Sheffer and Loewen (2019) expatiate that fact-finding mission also involves publishing news creating monitoring and evaluation structures that encourage open public dialogue on underlying issues. Krebs (2017) further elucidate that, the goal of any fact-finding mission in conflict prevention is ensuring that the truth prevails especially in the current age of information technology, verification of any information is apt. Caution should be exercised as to whether to employ legal, ethical, moral or political interpretation of the reality of the day, otherwise fact-finding mission report could run the risk of rejection by stakeholders, especially at local community levels. Krebs (2017) work focus on fact-finding within formal structure. Such structures may be absent at the local pastoralist community level. As such the current study responds to the gap of fact-finding within a social environment that has no formal structures.

Hara and Shinohara (2018) underscore that since fact-finding missions are considered as non-judicial mechanism for peaceful settlement of disputes among nation-states, the tool can be used alongside mediation and negotiation. Further, Simon (2020) explains that fact-finding as a tool of preventive diplomacy has been employed to ascertain violation of human rights and humanitarian law at domestic and systemic levels of analysis: verifiable facts are gathered, evidences collected and testimonies are listened to from warring parties. A poignant example is the establishment of the international

fact-finding mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela through resolution 42/25 or a period of one year, to investigate purported human rights violations committed since 2014 (United Nations Human Rights Council [UNHRC], 2020). Hara and Shinohara (2018) unit of analysis are states that have resources and structures needed for successful fact-finding mission. Availability of such resources and structures are a challenge within the context of pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

On the same vein, within Libya's jurisdiction, the UNHRC (2020) constituted a fact-finding mission to Libya to investigate abuse of human rights and violation of the law of war. The goal was well clarified to strengthen the process of the rule of law and avert further violations. UNHCR facilitated fact-finding mission within Libya and the findings may not necessarily apply to pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

At domestic level, Day and Pichler (2017) espouse that fact finding mission was largely employed during 2007/2008 post-election violence in Kenya, by the late Kofi Annan in tandem with other tools of preventive diplomacy such as confidence building measures and mediation to arrive at a political settlement In addition, at community level fact finding missions are indispensable to verify facts and truth on a number of issues: For instance, in Isiolo county, a fact finding mission was conducted to verify truths over allegation of human rights abuse on the communities by the conservancies. Day and Pichler (2017) work focus on fact-finding mission at macro level within the political environment unlike the current study that analyzes fact-finding mission from a micro level by focusing on the social economic dynamics of pastoralist communities that aid management of land-based conflicts in Samburu County.

More fact-finding reports illuminate that: Increased tension among different pastoral communities or social groups continues to be associated with struggles by different groups to benefits from different aspects related to life opportunities (Rao et al., 2019). Linke et al. (2018) attribute this to changing ecological dynamics, causing a number of regions in arid areas experience diminishing land productivity as a result of overstocking and consequently overgrazing. Gaitho (2018) also notes that the already bad situation is further escalated by seasonal shocks or variation such as droughts, leading to deaths of livestock and dwindling in number of livestock from which communities and households derive their livelihoods. Such calamities compel other clans to raid so that they can replenish their depleted livestock as well as acquire arms to access, control and use new grazing areas and water points. The foregoing studies by Rao et al. (2019) and Gaitho (2018) were conducted in different geographical locations that may not necessarily apply to fact-finding missions among pastoralist communities within Samburu County.

Linke et al. also underscore that ecological and rainfall dynamics are instrumental in determining the pattern of conflict among pastoralist communities. For instance, favorable environmental conditions provide abundant pasture and water for livestock while the opposite usually leads to scarcity of these land-based resources, hence causing conflict among the affected pastoralist communities as they compete for the scarce resources. On the same vein, Ingty (2021) posit that increased private land ownership at the expense of community land has greatly reduced the pastoral communities grazing areas that were important during drier seasons. Moreover, according to Mkutu and Lokwang (2017) pastoral communities are likely to come into conflict with their neighbors due to cross boarder movement in search of water points

and grazing areas, owing to their nomadic lifestyle. The current study would help point out the drawbacks and/or opportunities related to fact-finding mission as a preventive diplomacy tool in pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

In addition, previous studies further show that clan settlement and inter-ethnic disputes determine the nature of violence in various parts of Kenya. Conflicts tend to be protracted and frequent in heterogeneous clans and low intensive in homogenous clans (Seltzer, 2019). It is worth noting that land-based conflicts interact with factors such as destabilized rainfall that intensifies the severity of drought consequently catalyzing desertification that inform groups decision to move. Further, the close proximity and the porous borders of the northern Kenya to Somalia, Ethiopia, and Sudan have increased illegal possession of small arms and light weapons which are used to forcefully access and control grazing areas and water points (Lung'ung'u, 2021). The current study focused on pastoralist communities in Samburu County, who may not necessarily be homogenous due to the different ethnic dynamics (Hoglund & Fjelde, 2016).

Gomes (2016) elucidates that there are also intermittent alliances and conflict association of convenience that may last temporarily. Denny and Walter (2014) further espouse that in some cases, some groups owe commitment to kin outside their counties and even to political power outside the borders. In order to prevent potential, inter community and intra community land-based conflicts in Samburu County, fact finding missions with clear goals and subsequent adopting flexible structures tailored to suit each mission are imperative. The study established whether fact finding influences management of land-based conflicts prevention and whether there are flexible

institutional structures that support fact finding missions verify facts on the nexus between land-based conflicts, and other proximate and structural causes of conflict among pastoralist communities in Samburu County (Staunton & Ralph, 2020). The current study acted as an update to the earlier findings.

2.3.3 Confidence-Building Measures and Land-Based Conflicts

According to Kavanagh and Crespo (2019) confidence-Building Measures (CBMs) are conflict preventive that initiate and deepen negotiations. They are consensual and work on reciprocity; they comprise actions geared towards establishing trust, reducing suspicion among warrying parties and pacifying them to enter negotiation thus avoiding far-reaching risks that are likely to precipitate from violent conflicts. In addition, Rajesh (2017) posit that CBMs helps shape warrying parties' perception of each other's capabilities and intent; notably, they manufacture trust to avoid and defuse probable acts of aggression among other groups who perceive each other as increasingly hostile and an existential threat to the other group's security.

Borghard and Lonergan (2018) underscore that formation of meaningful partnerships and endorsement of cultural interactions among all stakeholders through confidence-building measures process remain imperative as a preventive diplomacy tool. This is attributed to the fact that CBMs are versatile and dynamic, they are not a one size fits all; they are tailored for each situation and crisis. Mason (2019) augments there are various forms of CBMs, inter alia; political, security, environmental, humanitarian, communication, trade, education, sports, religion, bilateral agreements, multilateral agreements, sharing intelligence, joint military activities and trainings, and joint economic projects.

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From a security discourse, CBMs have been employed in a diverse range of security concerns: At state level, these may include, inter alia, dealing with challenges on the location, size of military activities, overt security patrols, and disarmament. A poignant example is the conflict between India and Pakistan between 1947 and 1997 (Haider & Azad, 2021). In this case, CBMs created focused on establishment of a hotline for communication between leaders of the two states thus helping establish a working relationship, and potentially avoiding any impending conflicts. Nonetheless, Singh (2021) notes that this collaboration did not last long since by the late 1997 the relationship had started collapsing. Further, confidence-building measures are apt in helping deal with interethnic conflicts based on historical grounds. This is because CBMs initiate dialogue between warring parties hence halting hostilities (Liu, 2019). In the preceding studies by Haider and Azad (2021) as well as Singh (2021) the state is the unit of analysis in security confidence building measures. As such, the current study has narrowed down its analysis by focusing on security CBM from a pastoralist communities' standpoint in Samburu County.

Ganguly (2016) posit that in regions considered to have tensions such as South Asia and Middle East, the federal governments and leaders have taken social, political and economic CBMs to reach amicable agreements thus avoiding far reaching risks. It is noteworthy that CBMs can be misused by parties to buy time and avoid negotiations: For instance, the Indo-Pak crisis still remains stuck at the same position as far as peace negotiations are concerned, while officials of federal governments and other leaders still express no political goodwill to have a lasting reconciliation. On the same vein, Rajesh (2017) illuminate that confidence-building measures have not been successful in deepening negotiations that can resolve territorial and political disputes in Kashmir

in a fairly long time. In the aforementioned study by Ganguly (2016) and Rajesh (2017), confidence building measures at state level have verification structures since verification structures for monitoring and measuring the success of the CBMs. However, these studies do not point out CBMs within local pastoralist communities' landscape that may not necessarily have similar verification structures to measure the efficacy and success of various CBMs. Hence, the current study sought to respond to the gap.

Arthur (2017) acknowledges that at sub regional level, there are various forms of CBMs, such as, IGAD that was created to jointly address natural disasters, promote peace and stability in the region, promote development among other objectives. Similarly, African Continental Free Trade Area (AFCFTA) are forms of economic CBMs aimed at fostering economic prosperity. Within the Kenyan context, CBMs initiated and deepened negotiations by complimenting mediation efforts by Koffi Annan in 2008. Nevertheless, caution need to be exercised when employing CBMs because parties can use them to stall or deflect negotiations on substantive issues. Notably, clarity of CBMs determine their efficacy and success: Against this back drop the study delved deeper CBMs influence on management of land-based conflicts. The study also assessed whether CBMs on land-based conflicts at pastoral community level in Samburu County are implemented and measured; and whether verification structures are integrated to aid parties to measure and report on implementation.

2.3.4 Mediation and Negotiation and Land-Based Conflicts

According to Marandici (2023) mediation is a structured and interactive process which involves a neutral third person facilitating the process while allowing the warring

parties reach a mutually acceptable settlement. From a generic lens, mediation is continuation of negotiation by other means. Fach (2023) underscores that United Nations recognizes mediation and strengthens equal access to justice by virtue of the latter being a human right and it is against this backdrop that the UN charter recognizes mediation. However, Donada (2020) expresses concern over General Assembly Resolution 65/283 of 28th July 2011 on preventive diplomacy, where the UN resolved to expend far more human, material and financial resources on peacekeeping than on mediation as a preventive diplomacy tool.

Vukovic (2016) posits that the effectiveness of mediation is dependent on geopolitical circumstances and political dynamics within the Security Council, as dictated by priorities of the member state. Moreover, Beardsley et al. (2019) expatiate that despite the UN's role in helping to mediate interstate and intrastate disputes, mediation is only initiated at the request of parties to the dispute. Oyombe (2020) and Kelly (2022) also postulate that lack of consensus on what activities precisely constitute preventive diplomacy in as far as mediation is concerned makes it complicated for the UN to effectively politically engage in violent conflict prevention. The foregoing studies focus on structured mediation facilitated by the UN with endowment of capacity and resources. The current study is a significant exodus from the UN's facilitated mediation and negotiation that focuses on pastoralist communities within Samburu County, who have limited resources and capacity and lack of coordination that could hamper the success of the tool.

Muggah and Whitlock (2022) elucidate that mediation has a preventive aim and remains to be the main preventive practice at domestic and systemic levels of analysis.

Hence, this tool requires adequate support system in terms of competent staff, effective logistical structures and adequate financial resources at domestic and systemic levels (Bercovitch, 2019). Notably, mediation and negotiation were key in South Africa during the apartheid era, and in Kenya's 2007/2008 post-election conflict. In both cases, a coalition government was formed as a political settlement (Mlambo & Adetiba, 2020). Muggah and Whitlock (2022) study encapsulates mediation and negotiation by analyzing state as the unit of analysis, in terms of resources, capacity and competent mediators. In the current study, the state is not the unit of analysis. The focus was pastoralist communities in Samburu County, who have unstructured, uncoordinated mediation and negotiation as well as inadequate resources, capacity and competent mediators in the management of land-based resources.

Mabel (2019) notes that despite the important role mediation is viewed to play in dispute resolution, this process has not been devoid of challenges: For instance, the crisis of April 2012 in Guinea-Bissau necessitated the International Peace Initiative (IPI) in collaboration with the Permanent Missions of South Africa and Azerbaijan to the United Nations to call a roundtable meeting. Similarly, Moyaert and Geldhof (2016) underscore that at community level, this tool is not without drawbacks: Cultural shift among the pastoralists communities across Kenya continue to invalidate the role of elders in peace building; this is because such meetings are planned and held in conference halls, thereby devoid of traditional ceremonies that legitimize such processes. Moreover, the partakers are driven by selfish and monetary gains dispensed as sitting allowances. This further invalidates the and delegitimize the authority of the elders in those sittings. Moyaert and Geldhof (2016) study focusses on the pastoralist communities from the lens of domestic level of analysis. Their analysis may not

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necessarily apply to pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Hence, the current study fills the gap by cascading to the pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

Djaja (2020) espouse that in a number of cases, getting verifiable documented information remains a challenge. The only viable course of action is to collect data, which may be skewed from the community elders, administrative leaders and community members. Consequently, collection of the factual information to facilitate mediation and negotiation processes at the community level remains a challenge. Moreover, Nader (2020) posits that mediation and negotiation succeeds only when power asymmetry is significant and the cases appear dominated by a certain group who do not support the standards in the community. This hampers the integrity of the process and compromises realization of sustainable peace. Furthermore, Jones (2017) also expatiates that it may prove challenging to engage disputing parties that have diametrically opposite idiosyncratic behavior. The elderly generation are more conciliatory, while the younger is aggressive and hostile in their approach.

Despite the findings by previous studies, it is imperative to examine the role of negotiation and mediation in managing land-based conflicts within the context of pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Various studies argue that at community level, mediation and negotiations are commonly conducted by the elders as provided for in the constitution of Kenya. However, Hoglund and Fjelde (2016) elucidates that mediation as a tool of preventive diplomacy is likely to suffer from underutilization of dialogue at local level conflicts than at national or international platforms. According to Gelot (2021) this challenge is often associated with the fact that usually there are no formal structures at local levels to identify neutral mediators and institute a consistent

rule and procedure that are not repugnant to human rights and the laws of the Land. In addition, land-related conflicts at the community level may be too complex to deal with through unstructured mediation process (Freitas, 2015; Otiso, 2017).

Notwithstanding the posited challenges on the discourse, Mugo (2021) underscore that mediation and negotiation remain cost effective, expeditious, informal and participatory and therefore stands out as the preferred tool of conflict prevention. Furthermore, the tool strengthens public participation, through its consultative and inclusive approach. Public participation allows different people and social groups to ideate different views such that it is only the best that is eventually considered amicably. Foregoing literature is scanty in elucidating the influence of mediation and negotiation on management of land-based conflicts at pastoralist communities' level. Furthermore, considering the tool is pegged on the goodwill of the parties, party's autonomy, participatory and collaborative approach in reaching of acceptable sustainable outcome, a critical analysis of the tool was worthwhile. In addition, the fact that different dynamics of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities presented unique challenges and opportunities necessitated a deeper scrutiny on the influence of mediation and negotiation.

In sum, early warning systems, fact-finding missions, confidence-building measures, mediation and negotiation had a positive influence in managing land-based conflicts caused by scarcity and competition over grazing areas and water points as well as a nexus of other causes such as commercialized raids, illegal possession of small arms and light weapons due to porous borders, cross boarder movement, and drought. The current study was therefore timely in informing that land-based conflicts are

manageable and that tools of preventive diplomacy have a positive influence on the former. To this end, this study adds to literature knowledge and informs policy formulation.

2.4 Conceptual Framework

The following abstract model guided the study. It illustrates how independent variables relate with the dependent variable. Figure 2.1 illustrates a diagrammatical link between the study's four independent variables and the dependent variable, or the outcome of the study.

Figure 2.1

Conceptual Framework

Independent Variables

| Early warning system |

| Fact-Finding Mission |

| Confidence-Building Measure |

| Mediation & Negotiation |

Dependent Variable

| Land-based conflicts |
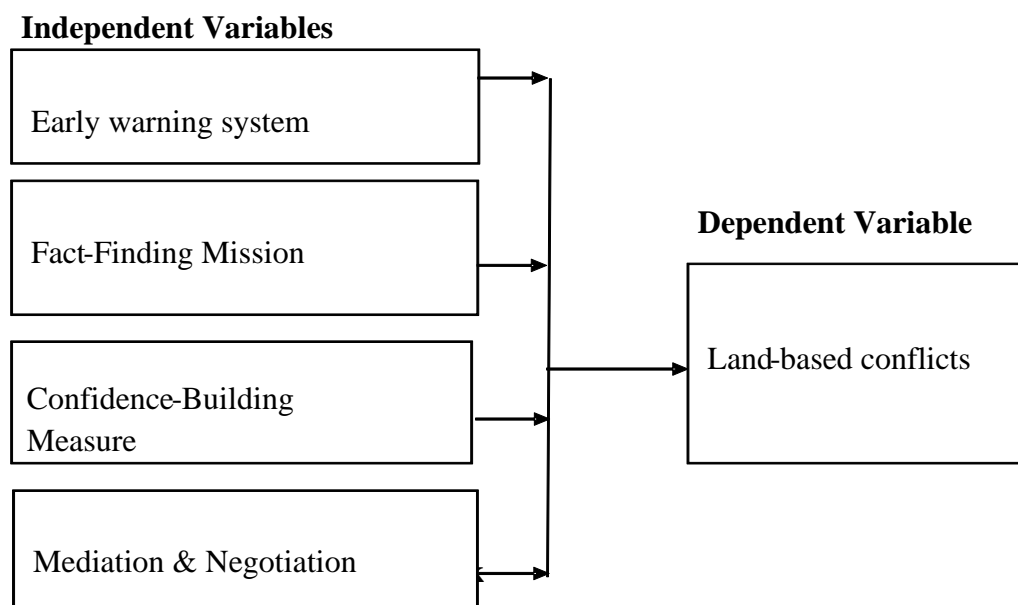
Source: Author (2022)

2.5 Operational Framework

The following operational structure guided the study. Both the independent and dependent variables ware analyzed based on various measurements. Figure 2.2 below illustrates operational framework of the study. Each of the variables was analyzed using different specific measurements.

Figure 2.2

Operational Framework

Independent Variables

Early warning system
☐Mechanisms for alert
☐Escalation prevention structures
☐Key stakeholders' relationship
☐Criminal screening systems

Fact-Finding Mission
☐System operational efficiency
☐Cost-Effectiveness
☐Information flow
☐Level of understanding

Confidence building Measure
☐Reconciliation mechanisms
☐Stakeholder engagement
☐Transparency
☐Feedback strategies

Mediation & Negotiation
☐Existing structures
☐Competence level
☐ Proactivity
☐Inclusivity

Dependent Variable

Land-based conflicts
☐Frequency
☐Scope
☐Consequences
☐Available solutions

Source: Author (2022)

2.6 Research Hypotheses

The study tested the following hypotheses:

i.   Early warning system positively influences management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

ii.   Fact finding missions positively influences management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

iii. Confidence Building Measures positively influences management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

iv.   Mediation and negotiation positively influence management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter features the scientific methods and techniques used to achieve the objectives of the study. The chapter includes the research design, target population, sampling procedures and sample size, data collection tools and methods, data analysis techniques and ethical considerations.

3.2 Research Design

Longitudinal descriptive research design was used in the study. According to Aggarwal and Ranganathan (2019), longitudinal design helps researchers to establish relationships between variables and follow their study subjects over time. This observational research technique involves following the same group of research participants over an extended period of time. The design further allows the researchers to establish the real sequence of events, allowing them insights into cause-and-effect relationships. The design was relevant and applicable to this study because the pastoralist communities were visited over time to understand various trends in their preventive diplomacy strategies in managing land-based conflicts.

3.3 Background of Samburu County

The study was conducted in Samburu County which lies in the northern region of Kenya. Samburu County has a population of 310,327 according to 2019 population census (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics [KNBS], 2019). Samburu County lies

between latitudes 0°30'and 2° 45'north of the equator between longitudes 36°15'and 38° 10 east of the Prime Meridian. The county is inhabited by a number of ethnic communities, with the majority consisting of Samburu, Turkana, Pokot, Rendille, Somalis, Borana and Meru communities. Maralal serves as the county's main town, including other smaller ones such as Baragoi, Archers Post, South Horr, Wamba, Lodosit, and Kisima (KNBS, 2019).

Samburu County is home to a number of pastoralist communities that mainly rely on livestock for their livelihood, although tourism is also an important activity. Land tenure is in form of trust land, public land and private land (Hassan et al., 2022). Besides the Samburu community which dominates the area, there are significant numbers of other pastoralist communities, namely, Rendille, Turkana, Pokot, and Borana (Ltipalei et al., 2020). Additionally, there are other different communities living in the urban centers of the county that do not necessarily practice pastoralism. In Samburu, the pastoralist communities' lifestyle puts land and water resources at the center of their survival and any ensuing conflicts has a nexus with land-based resources (Vehrs et al., 2017).

Among the Samburu pastoralist communities, different social and/or cultural dynamics may form the basis for land-related conflicts in the county. For instance, studies have pointed out that difference in worldviews between the youth and the older generation (elders) often plays a central role in causing conflicts among the local pastoralist communities in Samburu (Tarusarira, 2022). There is also the question of protracted intercommunity conflicts, such as between the Samburu and the Turkana, which studies have linked to the drive for dominance over land resources by either

party (Greiner, 2017). At the same time, overproduction of livestock and overstocking have often led to overgrazing which consequently force some communities to ignore land boundaries and other protected areas in search of more water and pasture (Gaitho, 2018). Though not structured, preventive diplomacy has been locally applied in various ways, inter alia, compensation for raided livestock among pastoralist communities in Samburu, sharing traditional meals during rituals, trade, education, religion and interethnic marriages (Djaja, 2020).

Figure 3.1

Map of Samburu County and its administrative boundaries
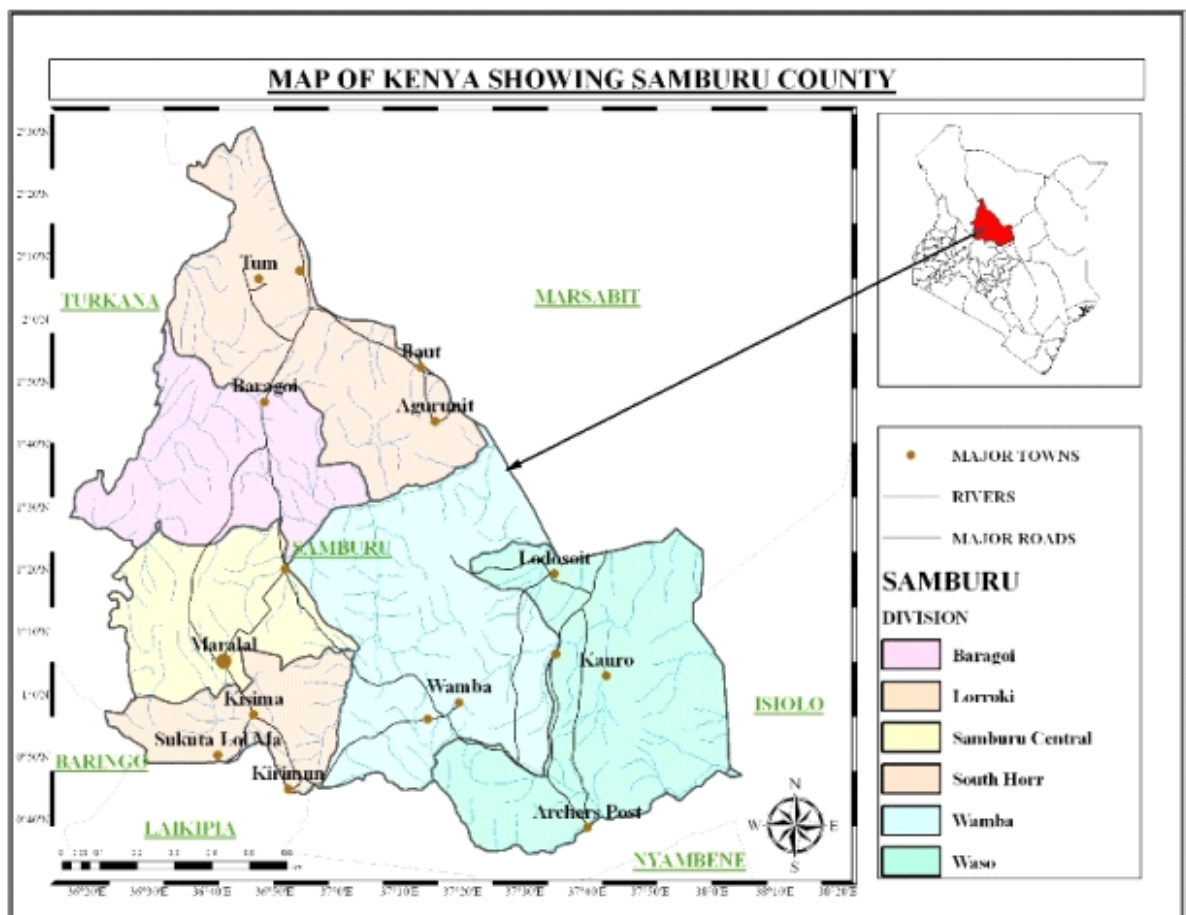
Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2019)

3.4 Target Population

Based on the topic of the research which focused on the influence of preventive diplomacy on land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Kenya, Samburu County provided an ideal target population because of the protracted conflicts in the region caused by land resources scarcity with a nexus of other structural and proximate causes that exacerbate land-based conflicts. Specifically, each institution in the target population represented a stratum involved in the peace and security discourse at the community level within the county. These included the following as indicated in table 3.1.

Table 3.1

Target Population

Category	Target Population (N)	Percentage (%)
Deputy county commissioner	2	0.5
Area chiefs/assistant chiefs	94	22.2
Community elders	134	31.6
Religious leaders	165	38.9
Civil society organizations	29	6.8
Total	**424**	**100.0**

Source: Author (2022)

3.5 Sampling Procedure

In comparison with the counties bordering Samburu County, Hassan et al, (2022) posits that Land tenure is in form of trust land, public land and private land. Privatization of land has continued to reduce land previously used by pastoralist communities during drier seasons. Consequently, this pits pastoral groups against each other as they seek to dominate available grazing land and water points. Sampling was

carried out using stratified sampling technique where respondents were proportionately selected from various categories or strata. Stratified sampling method was the most suitable in sampling since different groups (strata) of the respondents were involved in the study, thus allowing the researcher to get broader perspectives regarding the subject of study. In addition, it allowed good representation and unbiased results. The Yamane (1967) formula was applied to proportionately calculate a sample of 206 respondents from all the strata, as follows:

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$$

was applied to sample 206 respondents, where n was the sample size, N is the target population (population size), and e was the level of precision or margin of error. In this case, N=424, hence, the sample size was:

$$n = \frac{424}{1+424(.05)^2} = 206$$

Table 3.2

Sample Size

Category	Target Population (N)	Sample Size (n)
Deputy county commissioner	2	1
Area chiefs/assistant chiefs	94	46
Community elders	134	65
Religious leaders	165	80
Civil society organizations	29	14
Total	**424**	**206**

Source: Author (2022)

3.6 Research Instrument

A questionnaire was used to collect both quantitative and qualitative data. Both close-ended and open-ended questions were used in the questionnaire to allow for quantitative (statistical) and qualitative (narrative) data for complementarity purposes. According to Kuada (2012), a questionnaire is suitably used for collecting descriptive data and also provides an opportunity to easily organize, code, and carry out analysis after completion of fieldwork. Using a questionnaire for data collection also saves time as it is easier to administer.

A copy of the questionnaire for this study is attached at the appendices. The questionnaire was designed into sections to capture the respondents' background information and substantive data based on the specific research objectives. The section on background information captured the respondents' bio data while the subsequent sections were used to collect detailed data according to each specific objective.

3.6.1 Validity Test

The research instrument was tested for its validity in order to scientifically verify if the tool was to effectively test what it was intended to test (Kothari, 2013). Both the tool's content and construct validity were tested. Content validity involves seeking expert opinion on how to improve the document so that it can capture the right information during data collection. Construct validity entails constructing clear questions in the research tool so that there is uniformity when it comes to respondents' interpretation and understanding of the tool (Zikmund et al., 2013). The university supervisors were consulted for their input on how to improve the research tool.

3.6.2 Reliability Test

Pilot testing was carried out in Baragoi area in Samburu east Sub County, which was excluded from the main study in order to avoid possible biases. This process involved 20 respondents, which was 10% of the sample for the study, who were spread across the 5 categories of the respondents. Baragoi was chosen for pilot study given its proximity to the research site, hence experiencing similar land-based conflict dynamics. Split-half method was employed to test reliability of the tool where pilot data was keyed into SPSS computer software and thereafter Cronbach's alpha generated. This process was important for testing internal consistency of the questionnaire, with a range of figures 0.7-1.0 considered to be the standard. The entire process of pilot testing was to ensure reliability of the research tool such that the data collected was reliable for addressing the research questions.

Table 3.3

Reliability statistics, objective 1

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.709	18

Source: Author (2022)

The Cronbach's alpha value 0.709 for early warning systems is illustrated in table 3.3, indicating reliability.

Table 3.4

Reliability statistics, objective 2

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.811	18

Source: Author (2022)

The Cronbach's alpha value 0.811 for fact-finding is illustrated in table 3.4, indicating reliability.

Table 3.5

Reliability statistics, objective 3

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.798	18

Source: Author (2022)

The Cronbach's alpha value 0.798 for confidence building is illustrated in table 3.5, indicating reliability.

Table 3.6

Reliability statistics, objective 4

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.824	18

Source: Author (2022)

The Cronbach's alpha value 0.824 for mediation and negotiation is illustrated in table 3.6, indicating reliability.

3.7 Methods of Data Collection

The study applied mixed method approach where triangulation of quantitative and qualitative data was used. Mixed method approach allows collection of rich data where narrative data complements statistical data (Kothari, 2013). Drop-and-pick (self-administered questionnaires) method was mainly used, but with a number of cases of face-to-face administering of the questionnaires, depending on some respondents' preference. This involved dropping blank questionnaires to the respondents before

collecting them after being filled. The researcher engaged two research assistants who were properly trained on data collection processes before assisting with fieldwork. The researcher closely supervised the whole data process in order to guarantee collection of credible data.

3.8 Operational Definition of Variables

The study investigated the influence of preventive diplomacy on land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Independent variables included early warning system, fact-finding missions, confidence-building, mediation and negotiation, with possible influence on land-based conflicts. As illustrated in table 3.7, each of the variables was measured using various indicators based on a 5-point Likert scale. Table 3.7 below provides a summary of operational definition of variables for this study.

Table 3.7

Operationalization and Measurement of Variables

CATEGORY	Indicators	Data analysis techniques	Measurement & tools
Independent Variables			
Early warning system	● Mechanisms for alert ● Escalation prevention structures ● Key stakeholders' relationship ● Criminal screening systems	● Descriptive statistics ● Inferential ● Thematic content analysis	5-point Likert scale (SPSS & Excel)
Fact-finding missions	● System operational efficiency ● Cost-effectiveness ● Information flow ● Level of understanding	● Descriptive statistics ● Inferential ● Thematic content analysis	5-point Likert scale (SPSS & Excel)
Confidence-building measures	● Reconciliation mechanisms ● Stakeholder engagement ● Transparency ● Feedback strategies	● Descriptive statistics ● Inferential ● Thematic content analysis	5-point Likert scale (SPSS & Excel)
Mediation and negotiation	● Existing structures ● Competence level ● Proactivity ● Inclusivity	● Descriptive statistics ● Inferential ● Thematic content analysis	5-point Likert scale (SPSS & Excel)
Dependent Variable			
Land-based conflicts	● Frequency ● Scope ● Consequences ● Available solutions	● Descriptive statistics ● Inferential ● Thematic content analysis	5-point Likert scale (SPSS & Excel)

Source: Author (2022)

3.9 Methods of Data Analysis

All completed questionnaires were thoroughly checked for completeness, edited, serialized, and coded for data entry. Quantitative data was analyzed descriptively and inferentially using SPSS version 25 computer software. Qualitative data was analyzed using thematic content analysis technique and presented using narratives. Regression analysis was used to establish the relationship between preventive diplomacy and land-based conflicts. Analyzed data was presented using tables, figures, and narratives.

The following regression model was estimated.

$Y = \beta_o + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \beta_4 X_4 + \varepsilon$, where:

Y = Land-based conflicts

X_1 = Early warning system

X_2 = Fact-finding mission

X_3 = Confidence building

X_4 = Mediation

β_i; i=1,2,3,4} = The coefficients for the various independent variables

ε = Error term

CHAPTER FOUR

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

The chapter presents processed data and discusses the findings of the study in line with the research objectives. The purpose of the study was to investigate the influence of preventive diplomacy on management of land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Specifically, the study investigated the influence of early warning system on management of land-based conflicts, the influence of fact-finding missions on management of land-based conflicts, the influence of confidence-building measures on management of land-based conflicts, and the influence of mediation and negotiation on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County. The findings were presented on the basis of the four specific objectives.

4.2 Background Information of the Respondents

The respondents were categorized as deputy county commissioner, area chiefs/assistant chiefs, community elders, religious leaders, and civil society organizations.

Table 4.1

Response Rate

Category	Sample Size		Response Rate	
	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Deputy county commissioner	1	0	1	100
Area chiefs/assistant chiefs	46	22	33	72
Community elders	65	32	53	82
Religious leaders	80	39	57	71
Civil society organizations	14	7	9	64
Total	**206**	**100**	**153**	**74**

Source: Author (2022)

As summarized on table 4.1, 153 of the 206 respondents were able to successfully participate in the study. This amounted to 74% response rate. The questionnaire return rate in each category of the respondents was at least 64%. Based on the overall response rate of 74%, Kothari (2013) observes that a 70% response rate is sufficient for objective analysis of the findings and answering of the research question.

4.2.1 Gender of the Respondents

The respondents were asked about their respective gender and the responses are presented in figure 4.1 below.

Figure 4.1

Respondents' Gender
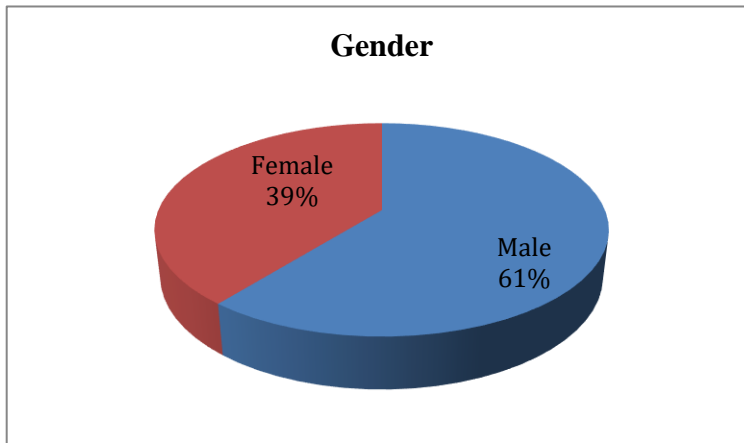
As highlighted in figure 4.1, out of the 153 respondents that participated in the study, 61% (93) of them were male while 39% (60) of them were female.

4.2.2 Level of Education of the Respondents

On level of education which was an important variable in determining the kind of decisions made on important issues of public interest, the responses are captured below.

Table 4.2

Respondents' Level of Education

Level	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Primary	21	14
Secondary	51	33
College	43	28
University	33	22
Other (specify)	5	3
Total	**153**	**100**

Based on the findings on table 4.2, 33% (51) of the respondents had attained secondary education, 28% (43) had college education, 22% (33) had reached university, 14% (21) only reached primary school level, while only 3% (5) of the respondents indicated they had other education qualifications, which included the Islamic Madrassa and those that did not complete any form of formal level of education. Overall, slightly more than half of the respondents had obtained at least between college and university education qualification while the rest had primary, secondary, or 'other' education. Based on the distribution of education qualification of the respondents, the respondents are highly likely to have given sufficiently reliable data.

4.2.3 Respondents' Period of Stay in Samburu

On the length of stay in Samburu which was to determine the extent to which they were conversant with the activities in Samburu regarding the influence of preventive diplomacy in land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in the county, the responses are captured as below.

Table 4.3

Respondents' Period of Stay in Samburu

Level	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
1 - 5 Years	17	11
6 - 10 Years	39	25
11 - 15 Years	44	29
Since birth	53	35
Total	**153**	**100**

Source: Author (2022)

As indicated on table 4.3, more than a quarter of the respondents had stayed in Samburu since birth, accounting for 53 of those involved in the study. At the same

time, 28% (44) of them had lived in Samburu for 11-15 years, 25% (39) for 6-10 years, while 11% (17) had stayed in the county for 1-5 years. Overall, about 89% of the research participants had lived in Samburu for at least 6 years. This implied that high level of understanding of dynamics surrounding the influence of preventive diplomacy on land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in the county.

As earlier noted, individuals were engaged in the research from different sectors so as for the researcher to have a clearer and objective view of the subject of study. These sectors included deputy county commissioner, area chiefs or assistant chiefs, community elders, religious leaders, and civil society organizations. An objective representation was picked from each of the sectors in order to get the views of different representatives.

4.3 Descriptive Analysis of Preventive Diplomacy and Land-Based Conflicts

The study examined preventive diplomacy on management of land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Asked whether there were any land-based conflicts in Samburu County, the reply was a unanimous affirmative. The findings further indicated that preventive diplomacy had been applied differently to address land-based conflicts among the Samburu pastoralist community, and between the Samburu and the Pokot or Turkana, Rendille and Borana communities living in the county. Early warning system is employed by the pastoralists communities in form of traditional knowledge such as use of medicine men to predict misfortune. Uptake of mobile technology has also been paramount in sending alerts about the trend of various situations within the rangelands. Confidence building measures in form of trade, religion, sports, camel peace caravan, interethnic marriages among others have helped

initiate inter community and intra community negotiations for peaceful access of grazing areas and water points as well as embrace diversity among the pastoral communities.

The communities through local leaders also used fact finding missions to verify facts on a range of issues such as, armed and forceful access of grazing areas and aquifers as well as raids conducted without the sanctioning of the elders; human and wildlife conflicts. Mediation and negotiation are employed to resolve a wide range of issues inter alia; to negotiate for return of raided livestock; creation of protected areas, through free, prior and informed consent; boundary disputes between communities that resort to expansionism through annexation of other communities' lands.

State and non-state actors were constantly engaging the pastoral communities to come up with collaborative peace agreements for ending or preventing land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities. Preventive diplomacy was also applied through council of elders from different age-sets, with a number of them registered under social services to cement intergroup relationships for the sake of peaceful coexistence. Mediation, dialogue forums, arbitration, and roundtable talks are often applied to advance peace among the pastoralist communities within and outside Samburu County. Through public meetings that enable public participation, a number of local conflicts have been successfully resolved by actively engaging and reconciling different groups to peacefully share land-based resources for mutual benefit of all communities.

Using a 5-point Likert scale, the findings noted different sentiments regarding management of land-based conflict and preventive diplomacy among pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Table 4.4 presents a summary of these responses.

Table 4.4

Influence of Preventive Diplomacy on management of Land-Based Conflicts

Statement	1 = strongly disagree	2 = disagree	3 = neutral	4 = agree	5 = strongly agree	Total
	n(%)	*f(%)*	*f(%)*	*f(%)*	*f(%)*	*f(%)*
Pastoralist communities of Samburu County often use early warning system to prevent land-based conflicts in the area.	26 (17)	34 (22)	21 (14)	38 (25)	34 (22)	153 (100)
Fact-finding approach is commonly used in Samburu County to prevent land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities.	18 (12)	31 (20)	25 (16)	42 (27)	37 (24)	153 (100)
Confidence-building measures are usually applied in land-based conflict prevention among pastoralist communities in Samburu County.	32 (21)	41 (27)	17 (11)	32 (21)	31 (20)	153 (100)
Pastoralist communities in Samburu County regularly adopt mediation in mitigating land-based conflicts in the county.	12 (8)	15 (10)	14 (9)	58 (38)	54 (35)	153 (100)

Source: Author (2022)

Based on the findings in table 4.4, 17% (26) of the respondents strongly disagreed that pastoralist communities of Samburu County often use early warning system to prevent

land-based conflicts in the area while 22% (33) of them disagreed with this assertion. These views are in line with Ponte et al., (2019) who argued that early warning systems in prevention of conflicts have proven challenging at the pastoralists communities' levels because there are no formal structures, as such making the tool reactive rather than proactive. On the same assertion, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) taps on the indigenous knowledge, combines it with scientific knowledge with the intent of saving lives and livelihoods of the pastoral communities in Samburu (Pas, 2019; Crick et al., 2020). Against this back drop, early warning system for early response appears to be widely applied in predicting trends of land-based conflicts.

At the same time, 25% (38) of the respondents agreed and 22% (34) of them strongly agreed that pastoralist communities of Samburu County often use early warning system to prevent land-based conflicts in the area. Conversely, 14% (21) had impartial views regarding the assertion. Regarding whether fact-finding missions are commonly used in Samburu County to prevent land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities, 27% (42) of the respondents agreed, 24% (37) strongly agreed, 20% (31) disagreed, 12% (18) strongly disagreed, whereas 16% (25) had neutral views.

There were also mixed reactions regarding whether confidence-building measures are usually applied in land-based conflict prevention among pastoralist communities in Samburu County where 27% (41) of the respondents disagreed, 21% (32) strongly disagreed, 21% (32) agreed, 20% (31) strongly agreed, while 11% (17) neither agreed nor disagreed with this proposition. Similarly, the respondents had varying views on the proposition that pastoralist communities in Samburu County regularly adopt mediation and negotiation in mitigating land-based conflicts in the county. Thirty-

eight percent (58) of those interviewed agreed, 35% (54) strongly agreed, 10% (15) disagreed, 8% (12) strongly disagreed, while 9% (14) had neutral views about this assertion. Overall, mediation and negotiation had influence on land-based conflict prevention.

Based on the foregoing statistical analysis, the findings are to a larger extent in agreement with those of a number of other previous studies. For instance, Douglas and Wolff (2018), argues that early warning system is very practical in preventive diplomacy because it helps predict conflict trends and disseminates alerts that enable early response to be executed at a latent stage of any conflict rather than reactive and curative. Such preventive actions may include military and non-military intervention where state and non-state actors are involved: Non state actors like noted that despite the proactive nature of early warning, key shortcomings remain, such as untimely communication due to poor mobile network coverage persist. Use of messengers to sensitize to issue warnings through word-of-mouth has been counter-productive due to the vastness of the county.

Similarly, Wane et al., (2016). noted that the UN whose mandate is to preserve world peace and security employs early warning system to forecast, avert threats to peace and other humanitarian crisis such as drought, hurricanes, food insecurity, climate change and genocide among other crisis. However, unlike most previous studies examined here which have tended to look at preventive diplomacy from the lens of political disputes and governance, this study examined preventive diplomacy within the context of land-based conflicts in local pastoralists communities, and critically interrogated the influence of preventive diplomacy tools inter alia, early warning

system, fact finding mission, confidence building measures and negotiation and mediation. Based on this standpoint, the study provided an opportunity to justify a broader application of preventive diplomacy in averting conflicts within different social environments as dictated by various dynamics.

4.3.1 Early Warning System and Land-Based Conflicts

The study objective examined influence of early warning system on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County. There were different views regarding the influence of early warning system on land based-conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Table 4.5 provides summary of the responses.

Table 4.5

Influence of Early Warning System on management of Land-based Conflicts

Statement	1 = strongly disagree	2 = disagree	3 = neutral	4 = agree	5 = strongly agree	Total
	n(%)	f(%)	f(%)	f(%)	f(%)	f(%)
There are clear mechanisms for alerting different key players about potential outbreaks.	35 (23)	42 (27)	21 (14)	29 (19)	26 (17)	153 (100)
The communities have effective structures for preventing escalation of violent conflicts.	32 (21)	41 (27)	19 (12)	31 (20)	30 (20)	153 (100)
There is interdependent relationship among all key players on preventive measures.	16 (10)	28 (18)	29 (19)	42 (27)	38 (25)	153 (100)
There are means of screening and identifying potential troublemakers with the aim of scuttling their criminal activities.	13 (8)	23 (15)	54 (35)	32 (21)	31 (20)	153 (1000

Source: Author (2022)

The findings on table 4.5 indicates that there were different views regarding the assertion that there are clear mechanisms for alerting different key players about potential outbreaks of conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Twenty-seven percent (42) of the respondents disagreed, 23% (35) strongly disagreed, 19% (29) agreed, 17% (26) strongly agreed, while 14% (21) of them had neutral views regarding this proposition. Also, 27% (41) of the respondents disagreed, 21% (32) strongly disagreed, 20% (31) agreed, 20% (30) strongly agreed, whereas 12% (19) of them had neutral views regarding the assertion that the communities in

Samburu County have effective structures for preventing escalation of violent conflicts.

There were also different views regarding the proposition that there is interdependent relationship among all key players on conflict preventive measures, with 27% (42) and 25% (38) of the respondents agreeing and strongly agreeing with this assertion in that order while 16% (10) strongly disagreed, 28% (18) disagreed whereas 29% (19) remained neutral. Similarly, the respondents reacted differently to the view that there are means of screening and identifying potential troublemakers with the aim of scuttling their criminal activities, where 35% (54) of the respondents neither agreed nor disagreed with this proposition. On the other hand, 21% (32) agreed, 20% (31) strongly agreed while 15% (23) disagreed and 8% (13) strongly disagreed with this view.

The current study noted that early warning system significantly helps predict trends on land-based conflicts and other threats among the pastoralist communities, however, the connection between warning and response remains weak. Similarly, a study by Muggah and Whitlock, (2022) revealed that early warning system served to alert communities and decision makers about impending threats so as to proactively avert them and or prevent disruption of people's social-economic lives. This view is also supported by Willmont (2017) that conflict can be tracked, analyzed, communicated to, and synthesized by, decision-makers and ultimately used to formulate action-oriented proposals. Moreover, Douglas and Wolff (2018) elucidate that formalized and structured early warning system is often required for early response. Drawing on the aforementioned studies, state and non-state actors are subscribing to preventive

diplomacy due to and in comparison, to enormous resources disbursed towards peacekeeping and other post-conflict peace building efforts.

In alignment with Linke et al. (2018), the current research noted that early warning system is often instrumental in helping communities to make important decisions related to impending violent conflicts precipitated by the brunt of droughts in Samburu where competition over shrinking pastures and water points for livestock becomes inevitable. Fragility of this ecosystem is as a result of unpredictable weather patterns in the northern parts of Kenya which have been exacerbated by climate change with the communities experiencing the brunt effects. This collaborates with respondent's sentiments that communities observe birds' migration, studying the stars and slaughtering a cattle or goat to study its intestines to predict threats. Further, they reiterated that precipitation patterns are apt in informing the intensity of conflict; abundance of rainfall provides abundant pasture and water for livestock while the opposite leads to violent competition.

From the findings of this study, there were mixed reactions regarding whether there are clear mechanisms for alerting different key players about potential conflicts. Majority cited communication barrier such as poor mobile network and high illiteracy level as a hindrance to the uptake of threat alerts. The outcome of this research study agrees with Muggah and Whitlock (2022) indicating that the most important aspect of early warning system is existence of effective structures for early response for a proactive outcome as well as synergy among all actors. In addition, the author also noted that success and efficacy of early warning system is dependent on synergy between the decision makers and the stake holders to avoid confused response due to

incoherence and fragmentation. On the same vein, formal structures are apt for ensuring that information is channeled and understood by the intended people in time and for action.

This study further noted that there is interdependent relationship among all key actors in early warning system at community level through NDMA early warning bulletins, uptake of mobile technology to disseminate threat alerts, weather station and also use of traditional knowledge to forecast the future. This aligns with the respondents' view that there is complementarity between the use of scientific methods and traditional knowledge in the early warning landscape.

Further findings elucidated that there are means of screening and identifying potential troublemakers at community level with the aim of scuttling their criminal intentions. This is attributed to the District Task Forces (DTF) that works closely with Samburu district peace committees to unpack existential threats to peace and security: These included conducting disarmament activities, monitoring livestock migratory routes, night watches on the herders, reliable and effective relay of information for quick response. This concurs with the study by Muggah and Whitlock (2022) that robust structures that bolster timely prediction aid decision makers in risk mapping, leading to success in implementing feasible protective actions. Halkia et al. (2020) study also hypothesize that early warning system is often instrumental in helping decision makers predict trends by deducing data from open source to avert impending violent conflicts or other humanitarian crisis through early response that are feasible.

Despite wide concurrence with the previous findings regarding early warning system as a preventive diplomacy tool, there was also some incongruence between the

previous studies and the current research. For instance, Douglas and Wolff (2018) found out that often times information is shared in technical language that majority of the population cannot easily comprehend for effective preparedness and response. Other studies have also posited that lack of feedback structures to measure whether the disseminated early warning information led to the desired outcome remains a challenge (GoK, 2021).

Nevertheless, a number of scholars contend that an early warning system with the structures of risk knowledge, monitoring and warning service, dissemination and communication, and response capability is key for successful outcomes. To this end, despite the need for formalized structures for effective early warning system, in managing land-based conflicts among pastoralists communities in Samburu, land must not only be viewed as a factor of production but also from the indigenous peoples' perspective, in order to diminish laxity and hesitance in up taking warnings; land is their identity, heritage and spirituality.

4.3.2 Fact-Finding Mission and Land-Based Conflicts

On the influence of fact-finding missions on land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County, there were different views on this variable based on a 5-point Likert scale, as demonstrated in table 4.6

Table 4.6

Influence of Fact-Finding on management of Land-based Conflicts

Statement	1 = strongly disagree	2 = disagree	3 = neutral	4 = agree	5 = strongly agree	Total
	n(%)	*f(%)*	*f(%)*	*f(%)*	*f(%)*	*f(%)*
Samburu pastoralist communities lack effective fact-finding systems for preventing land-based conflicts.	13 (8)	15 (10)	34 (22)	48 (31)	43 (28)	153 (100)
Fact-finding strategy is too expensive for Samburu County pastoralist communities to afford for prevention of land-based conflicts.	18 (12)	23 (15)	31 (20)	46 (30)	35 (23)	153 (100)
There are no proactive systems for fact-finding to help in deterring land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities.	9 (6)	12 (8)	23 (15)	58 (38)	51 (33)	153 (100)
Most of the pastoralist communities in Samburu County do not understand the fact-finding strategy for addressing land-based conflict in the area.	11 (7)	16 (10)	26 (17)	57 (37)	43 (28)	153 (100)

Source: Author (2022)

Based on the statistics in table 4.6, 31% (48) of the respondents agreed while 28% (43) of them strongly agreed that Samburu pastoralist communities lack effective fact-finding systems for preventing land-based conflicts. Conversely, 10% (15) disagreed, 8% (13) strongly disagreed while 22% (34) of them had neutral views regarding this proposition. The study also revealed that 30% (46) agreed while 23% (35) strongly agreed that fact-finding strategy is too expensive for Samburu County pastoralist

communities to afford for management of land-based conflicts. In contrast, 20% (31) of the respondents had neutral views whereas 15% (23) and 12% (18) disagreed and strongly disagreed with this assertion in that order.

At the same time, 38% (58) and 33% (51) of the respondents agreed and strongly agreed with the suggestion that there are no proactive systems for fact-finding missions to help in deterring land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities. Conversely, 15% (23) of the respondents had neutral views, while 8% (12) and 6% (9) respectively disagreed and strongly disagreed with this view. A similar trend was noted regarding the proposition that most of the pastoralist communities in Samburu County do not understand the fact-finding mission tool for addressing land-based conflict in the area, with 37% (57) of the respondents agreeing and 28% (43) strongly agreeing with the view. However, 17% (26) of the respondents stood a neutral ground whereas 10% (16) and 7% (11) of the respondents disagreed and strongly disagreed with the view, in that order.

The findings further noted that fact-finding missions are conducted by the council of elders who comprise of different age sets representation and inter-ethnic communities in Samburu County. These missions are aimed at verifying facts and truths over a broad range of issues, inter alia, missions verify that diminishing land-based resources not only lead to violent conflict but feeds pre-existing tensions, that are further perpetuated by privatizing control of the land-based resources without consideration of the self-determination right of the pastoralist communities. In addition, the missions verified that there is a nexus between land-based conflicts and other structural and proximate issues that inform pastoral groups settlement. The newcomers are perceived as an

existential threat to the other groups dominance and survival because competing for shrinking grazing and water points, further perpetuates social pressures consequently feeding the conflict risks precipitated by those pressures.

Views on fact finding mission by the government of Kenya also in Samburu County established that porous border in Northern Kenya has led to regional conflicts with groups from Ethiopia, Uganda and Sudan. This has exacerbated possession of small and light weapons among the pastoral groups, consequently making land-based conflicts more deadly within the county. This view concurs with Migdal and Schlichte (2016) who posit that land-based conflicts are elevated and intertwined in a spill-over effect with proliferation of small arms and light weapons, chronic drought, raids, ethnic violence, poverty and lack of government control that presents human security threats which transcend state boundaries and is beyond encapsulating security from the traditional parochial perspective of emphasizing only on external military threats.

In addition, findings illuminated that ineffective government control of the region precipitated an arms race as each pastoralist community pursues self-preservation by solely believing that it is responsible for its own security in anarchic region and such resorts to increasing its capabilities juxtaposition other communities. Moreover, disarming one community over the other leaves the former vulnerable and increases tension between it and other armed pastoral groups. Lung'ung'u, (2021) also share similar view and posit that land-based conflicts are elevated and interlinked in a domino effect with the increase in possession of small arms and light weapons, severe drought, raids, ethnic violence, poverty and lack of government control.

The civil society organizations working on peace and security in the Samburu County expatiated that the colonialists-imposed land boundaries drawn in the 19th century cut the Samburu pastoralist communities from some of their heritage; repeated staking of territorial claims often caused intercommunity land-based conflicts. In addition, CSOs reiterated that land-based conflicts are fueled by the government's approach to development policies of ASALs which addresses, pastoral development under the agricultural sector. Further, fact finding missions by CSOs established that land-based conflict is deeply embedded in negative reciprocity as a norm.

Further, the findings assessed that conservancies in Samburu County have fundamentally eroded the traditional institutions of governance as the conservancy boards take over governance, thus, precipitating violent conflicts pertaining land rights. Alienating pastoral communities who are intrinsically connected to their land-based resources for sustenance may detach their unique relationship with the land: This further marginalizes them socially and economically. Land is more than a factor of production, it is a form of people identify, heritage and spirituality. Converting their rangelands to other uses is an existential threat, to their existence, who for many years used traditional knowledge to manage land-based resources in a sustainable manner to benefit all peoples and future generations.

The study established that fact-finding missions are imperative in the application of preventive diplomacy on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu. This finding concurs with Krebs (2017) who underscores that fact-finding mission is a conflict-preventive tool that has often been used to help institutions verify violations of human rights and humanitarian law at domestic and

systemic level of analysis. Similarly, Hara and Shinohara (2018) noted fact-finding missions is considered as a non-judicial mechanism for peaceful settlement of disputes among nation-states, where it can be employed alongside mediation, negotiation, and conciliation.

A study by, Krebs (2017) established fact finding mission as an important process for verifying facts to establish legal, moral or ethical truth. On the same vein, Sheffer and Loewen (2019) argued that fact-finding mission is important in creating monitoring and evaluation structures that encourage open public dialogue about impending conflicts with the aim of averting them. In line with the aforementioned studies, this tool is conflict-preventive and has often been used to help communities and institutions address social justice in a holistic manner. These sentiments were strongly captured in the current study.

Also, Linke et al. (2018) found out that based on changing ecological dynamics, a number of regions in arid areas are experiencing diminishing land productivity as a result of overstocking and consequently overgrazing. Insecurity in Samburu County has led to abandonment of some grazing reserves and water points in the insecure areas consequently leading to pressure on the environment precipitated by high number of settlements in the zones considered safe. This further justifies the importance of fact-finding as a preventive diplomacy tool in verification of facts objectively; collect evidence and hearing testimonies from both the victims and the perpetrators. The outcome of the current study agrees with, Mkutu and Lokwang (2017) who expatiates that due to their nomadic lifestyle, pastoral communities are likely to come into conflict with their neighbors due to cross boarder movement in search of water and

pasture. Seltzer (2019) further revealed that clan settlement and inter-ethnic disputes determine the nature of violence in various parts of Kenya, with conflicts tending to be protracted and frequent in heterogeneous clans and low intensive in homogenous clans.

In sum, the study ascertained that fact finding missions are significant in verifying facts and truths regarding interconnected causes and triggers that exacerbate land-based conflicts. In agreement with the findings of this research, Hoglund and Fjelde (2016) also found out that conflicts are intensive in zones where different pastoralist groups compete for dominance of various resources. In addition, intermittent alliances and conflict association of convenience that may last for some times are manufactured. In some cases, some groups owe commitment to kin outside their counties and even to political power outside the borders. Notably, zones of nomadic pastoralists have recurrent conflict even though they may be intermittent.

Droughts are the major causes of land-based conflict in pastoral regions as established by various previous studies, and which were in agreement with the current study findings. Further, the study concurs with the work of Krebs (2017) that success and effectiveness of fact-finding mission on management of land-based conflict is pegged on goals that are well clarified, prioritized, and flexible. This is further supported by Staunton and Ralph (2020) who underscores that goal ambiguity is problematic because it obscures the design process that would facilitate tailoring a more apt design to meet the specific goal of the mission instead of a one size fits all trajectory, which further undermines the effectiveness of fact-finding mission success.

4.3.3 Confidence Building and Land-Based Conflicts

Assessing the influence of confidence-building measures on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County was the third objective. Various propositions were applied to analyze this variable, and the responses captured in table 4.7 as illustrated below.

Table 4.7

Influence of Confidence Building on management Land-based Conflicts

Statement	1 = strongly disagree	2 = disagree	3 = neutral	4 = agree	5 = strongly agree	Total
	n(%)	*f(%)*	*f(%)*	*f(%)*	*f(%)*	*f(%)*
The pastoralist communities in Samburu County have strong reconciliation mechanisms to deescalate existing land-related tensions to reestablish trust.	28 (18)	37 (24)	31 (20)	34 (22)	23 (15)	153 (100)
Government officials and political leaders usually engage the public to help in creating trust in institutions and open communication and information flow for quicker actions.	13 (8)	15 (10)	28 (18)	51 (33)	46 (30)	153 (100)
There is usually transparency in stakeholder engagements and dialogue which helps in determining the best response actions for easing tension whenever there are land-related tensions.	18 (12)	26 (17)	33 (22)	45 (29)	31 (20)	153 (100)
There are no clear feedback strategies for pastoralist communities to understand the level and impact of confidence-building in prevention of land-based conflicts.	21 (14)	43 (28)	27 (18)	29 (19)	33 (22)	153 (100)

Source: Author (2022)

The findings as summarized in table 4.7 indicate that 24% (37) and 18% (28) of the respondents respectively disagreed and strongly disagreed that the pastoralist communities in Samburu County have strong reconciliation mechanisms to deescalate existing land-related tensions to reestablish trust, On the contrary, 22% (34) of them agreed with, 15% (23) strongly agreed with, whereas 20% (31) of them held neutral views about the proposition. Similarly, 33% (51) of the respondents agreed, 30% (46) strongly agreed, 18% (28) were ambivalent, 10% (15) disagreed, while 8% (13) strongly disagreed with the proposition that government officials and political leaders usually engage the public to help in creating trust in institutions and open communication and information flow for quicker actions.

It also emerged that 29% (45) of the respondents agreed and 20% (31) strongly agreed that there is usually transparency in stakeholder engagements and dialogue which helps in determining the best response actions for easing tension whenever there are land-related tensions. On the contrary, 17% (26) of them disagreed, 12% (18) strongly disagreed whereas 22% (33) did not agree or disagree with this statement. The study further revealed that 28% (43) of the respondents disagreed, 14% (21) strongly disagreed, 22% (33) strongly agreed, 19% (29) agreed, while 18% (27) had neutral views regarding the assertion that there are no clear feedback strategies for pastoralist communities to understand the level and impact of confidence-building in prevention of land-based conflicts.

Further findings indicated that confidence building measures as a tool of preventive diplomacy in managing land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County are exercised in various forms inter alia, sports, interethnic

marriages, intermittent alliances, trade, education, religion, humanitarian CBMs, communication CBMs, and security CBMs. They deescalate looming tensions, establish trust and defuse probable acts of aggression among pastoral groups who perceive each other as increasingly hostile and an existential threat to the other group's security. This finding aligns with the study by Borghard and Lonergan (2018) that formation of meaningful partnerships and endorsement of cultural interactions among all stakeholders through confidence-building measures remain imperative as a preventive diplomacy tool. In world politics, states have used confidence-building measures to initiate bilateral agreements.

Findings further illuminated that CBMs helped initiate and deepen negotiations on pasture access and safety of the herders during the period they had requested for water and pasture in other territories. In addition, the study established that, security CBMs enable the District Task Force in collaboration with Samburu peace district committees oversee peace process, disarmament, monitor livestock migratory routes, conduct night watch on the herders, document peace processes and interact with diverse pastoral groups across the county. Other security CBMs include profiling and apprehending violence inciters and profiteers, overt presence of security personnel and patrols.

Further findings noted that humanitarian CBMs are in forms of grass-root peace building strategies like the camel caravan, which is a campaign for climate change adaptation and peaceful use of Ewaso Ng'iro River; it is envisaged as a 5-day annual journey with camels along the Ewaso Ng'iro River with communities, private sector stakeholders, county and national government, and NGOs participating. The five days'

work include sensitization of the communities on the importance peaceful co-existence and the need to protect land-based resources including the rivers and other ecosystems.

Findings also illuminated that: Sports CBMs are in form of marathon and football tournaments among the youths of different pastoral communities. This is key in promoting coexistence and humanizing each other ethnic differences: Education CBMs refines and shapes the pastoral communities' way of thinking in a manner that transcends the conflict norm; it bridges the gap between the previous and the present generation in a manner that is mutually beneficial to all communities: Similarly, religion CBMs foster tolerance and reconciliation among the pastoral communities.

To deescalate land-based conflicts, findings posited that social CBMs were exercised by coalescing groups around clan or ethnic identity in order to sensitize and advocate for peace; this made it easier to rally individuals and groups around a common course and at the same time reduced tension, suspicion and anxiety by inculcating transparency of capabilities and intentions. They helped alter negative perception of motives towards each other consequently avoiding misjudgment that might otherwise provoke violent conflicts.

The study also established that, while certain emotions fear, anger, blames and counter-blames could easily interfere with preventive diplomacy, economic CBMs in forms trading with other communities on market days have been significant in promoting tolerance; it is an incentive for peaceful coexistence. Besides, any market disruption caused by land-based conflicts or any other form of conflict is mutually assured destruction for the free trade. In addition, the pastoral communities are diversifying to other sources of livelihood besides livestock; for example, the youths

are now venturing in transport services(bodaboda), the locals are employed in the conservancies while women are venture in apiculture and beadwork. This has decelerated overreliance on livestock as the only source of livelihood and consequently, deescalated conflicts over controlling certain grazing areas This finding is in alignment with Mason (2019) study that expatiates that even in fragmented nation like Somali, clans unite around a common course of trading livestock with each other across conflict hotspot areas.

Communication CBMs that are exercised courtesy of high uptake of mobile technology in the county strengthened by advancement in mobile network coverage has led to innovation of smart-phone applications to monitor rangelands condition and exchange or share information that lessens the aforementioned emotions and any residual resentment. This finding is in agreement with the study by Mason (2019) where media CBMs were disseminated via cell phone to shun hatred and tribalism in Kenya during the 2007/8 post-election violence. These sentiments were strongly expressed in the current study, with at least 42% of the respondents agreeing that there are clear feedback strategies for pastoralist communities to understand the level and impact of confidence-building in prevention of land-based conflicts.

There is also empirical evidence which align with the current findings that CBMs are exercised on reciprocity, therefore making them consensual in exercising them. This is concurred by Kavanagh and Crespo (2019) who opine that, whenever there is consent among different parties in a conflict, they can easily initiate dialogue and reach an agreement that avoids far-reaching risks that are likely to emanate from volatile situations. Further, Mason (2019) study underscored that in security sector, military

CBMs inter alia, interaction between defense ministries, communication hotlines, establishment of a demilitarized zone, disarmament, overt patrols, joint efforts towards natural disaster, promotion of inter community and intra community interaction; and intercepting illegal activities help prevent escalation of conflicts. This is in consensus with the 63% of the respondents in the current study that revealed that government officials and political leaders usually engage the public to help in creating trust in institutions and open communication and information flow for quicker actions to avert escalation of conflicts at any given time.

 Liu (2019) expatiate that CBMs are not a panacea and that sometimes confidence-building measures initiate negotiation but do not end the dispute due to a number of reasons such as, using CBMs can be used as a delay tactic to avoid negotiating on the generic issues. Further, where lack of trust is not the real hindrance to negotiations, then CBMs should not be exercised for the sake of signaling to the communities that something is being done, while in reality, there is no intention to change the status quo. In agreement with this view, the current study established that at least 42% of the respondents did not think that the pastoralist communities in Samburu County have strong reconciliation mechanisms to deescalate existing land-related tensions in a bid to reestablish trust among them.

The study further revealed that there is usually transparency in stakeholder engagements and dialogue which helps in determining the best response actions for easing tension whenever there are land-related tensions, where at least 49% of the respondents expressed such views. Similarly, in agreement with Rajesh (2017), the current research acknowledged that confidence-building measures are exercised to

build bridges and improve relations between warrying communities and minimize the damage of conflicts; they show a high degree of goodwill to change the status quo; and a concerted effort to enter into negotiations.

The author notes that CBMs require clarity, they must be tailor made to fit the conflict; they must be expedited with ease, they must be feasible financially to exercise and monitor for the pastoralist communities. Conversely, confidence-building measures' efficacy and success in Samburu County among the pastoralists communities is marred by lack of verification structures embedded to aid pastoralists communities measure and report on the implementation success of the CBMs. Based on this empirical underpinning, at least 60% of the respondents in the current study expressed their reservations regarding the feedback strategies for pastoralist communities to understand the level and impact of confidence-building in prevention of land-based conflicts.

4.3.4 Mediation and Negotiation and Land-Based Conflicts

Evaluating the influence of mediation and negotiation on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County was the fourth objective of the study. Different propositions were used to test this variable, as summarized in table 4.8.

Table 4.8

Influence of Mediation and Negotiation on management of Land-based Conflicts

Statement	1 = strongly disagree	2 = disagree	3 = neutral	4 = agree	5 = strongly agree	Total
	n(%)	*f(%)*	*f(%)*	*f(%)*	*f(%)*	*f(%)*
Pastoralist communities in Samburu County have effective mediation structures to prevent land-related conflicts.	30 (20)	48 (31)	31 (20)	23 (15)	21 (14)	153 (100)
Pastoralist communities in Samburu County usually have competent mediators when it comes to addressing land-based conflicts.	36 (24)	44 (29)	36 (24)	20 (13)	17 (11)	153 (100)
The mediation process has always been proactive in addressing tensions associated with land-based conflict among pastoralist communities in Samburu County.	16 (10)	21 (14)	16 (10)	58 (38)	42 (27)	153 (100)
There is always high level of inclusivity when it comes to mediation processes among pastoralist communities in Samburu.	19 (12)	23 (15)	15 (10)	49 (32)	47 (31)	153 (100)

Source: Author (2022)

The findings in table 4.8 illustrate that 31% (48) disagreed, 20% (30) strongly disagreed, 20% (30) had neutral views, 15% (23) agreed, while 14% (21) strongly agreed with the suggestion that pastoralist communities in Samburu County have effective mediation structures to prevent land-related conflicts. A similar trend was noted regarding the proposition that pastoralist communities in Samburu County usually have competent mediators when it comes to addressing land-based conflicts,

where 29% (44) of the respondents disagreed, 24% (36) strongly disagreed, 24% held neutral views, 13% (20) agreed, and 11% (17) of them strongly agreed.

The findings further revealed that mediation and negotiation was favored by majority of the respondents as preventive diplomacy tool related to land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Regarding whether mediation process has always been proactive in addressing tensions associated with land-based conflict among pastoralist communities in Samburu County, 38% (58) of the respondents agreed, 27% (42) strongly agreed, 14% (21) disagreed, 10% (16) strongly disagreed, while 10% (16) neither agreeing nor disagreeing with this view. Equally, there was a popular feeling among the respondents that there is always high level of inclusivity when it comes to mediation processes among pastoralist communities in Samburu, where 32% (49) of the respondents agreed while 31% (47) of them strongly agreed. Conversely, 15% (23) of the respondents disagreed, 12% (19) strongly disagreed whereas 10% (15) of them did not agree nor disagree with the proposition.

Based on the findings, mediation and negotiation were commonly applied in solving land-based conflict in Samburu County among the pastoralist communities: Dialogue and negotiations were largely used to manufacture solutions on matters related to land-based conflicts in the county. In addition to employing a number of widely accepted collaborations with local peace organizations in Samburu; Peace committee meetings are convened to provide a platform for long lasting and widely adopted peace resolutions among the pastoralist communities.

The council of elders from the Samburu pastoralist communities are also actively engaged in traditional dispute resolution mechanism where cases of raids and conflicts

over grazing fields for example, are reported to council for redress: Fines and other sanctions imposed are aimed at ensuring social order and stability. The council of elders also create rules regulating communal grazing areas in order to avoid conflicts related to access, control and use of scarce pasture and aquifers.

Notably, the council of elders fairly presided over matters of war and peace at community level. In the event war broke out, elders from different clans promptly met to broker peace through agreements aimed at maintaining peace. Traditional rituals and ceremonies were carried out to cementer relations. At the same time, punishment is issued to wayward individuals who threaten peace in accordance with the set rules by the elders. For instance, notorious criminals may be excommunicated or heavily fined as a warning to other potential transgressors of the community peace. Further findings also illuminated that Samburu district peace committees drawn from members of different communities within the Samburu County are fundamental in employing dialogue and negotiations to solve land-based conflicts as well as promoting inter-communities' interaction.

The current study also illuminated that despite the wide application of mediation and negotiation, unstructured mediation at community level hampers the effectiveness of the former. This view was reflected by at least 51% of the respondents who disagreed that pastoralist communities in Samburu County have effective mediation structures to manage land-related conflicts. This is largely attributed to lack of finances and capacity to facilitate the process. An earlier study by Muggah and Whitlock (2022) elucidate that mediation has a preventive aim and remains to be the main preventive practice at domestic and systemic levels of analysis, as such requires adequate support

system in terms of competent staff, effective logistical structures and adequate financial resources.

Further, the findings established that peace committees associated with particular political faces have been discredited by the community because they are perceived to be rallying support for politicians, thus making them devoid of legitimacy and consequently undermining mediation process. In addition, the culture of CSOs paying sitting allowance to the peace committees, has seen self-centered individuals infiltrate peace committees, which end up discredited and unable to partake its role in negotiation and mediation; and in some extreme cases, some peace committee members are alleged to provoke land-based conflict in order to receive remuneration for resolving it. Lack of ethical mediators at community level who are consistent in applying the rules and procedures may reverse the gains and the efficacy of mediation and negotiation as tools of traditional dispute resolution mechanism as well as a preventive diplomacy. This finding is in sync with the study by Hoglund and Fjelde (2016) who argues that mediation as a tool of preventive diplomacy mechanism is likely to suffer from underutilization of dialogue at local level conflicts as opposed to national or international platforms. This challenge is often associated with the fact that usually there are no clear structures at local levels to identify neutral mediators and institute an effective mediation process where some aggrieved parties do not feel short-changed during the process. Indeed, 53% of the respondents in the current study expressed their doubts, by negating the argument that pastoralist communities in Samburu County usually have competent mediators when it comes to addressing land-based conflicts. This challenge is often associated with the fact that there are no structures at local levels to identify neutral mediators and institute an effective

mediation system that regard gender mainstreaming, basic human rights, consistent rules and procedure.

The current study also revealed that mediation and negotiation as tools of preventive diplomacy on management of land-based conflicts are proactively applied by pastoralists communities in Samburu County. In cognizance of the long distances between courts and the rangelands, legal cost and the time of seeking redress in courts over land-resources conflicts; mediation and negotiations remain the preferred alternative justice system (AJS). As noted by Muigua (2018), mediation seeks to preserve harmony between warrying communities; making it apt in building bridges between conflicting parties or communities. This is because the process is flexible in terms of cost, accessible to communities and most importantly, the parties are in control of the process; moreover, mediation is recognized by the 2010 Kenyan Constitution and the community land act 2016. This view was reflected by 65% of the respondents of the current study agreed that mediation process has always been proactive in addressing tensions associated with land-based conflict among pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

In concurrence with the study by Mugo (2021), which underscores that the participatory approach to addressing land conflicts through dialogue, has potential to resolve or avert conflicts since parties are emboldened to ideate and amicably arrive at a consensus. The current research also acknowledged that participatory approach is always imperative and yields success in mediation and negotiations, with 63% of the respondents concurring that there is always high level of inclusivity when it comes to

mediation processes among pastoralist communities in Samburu where different key institutions, individuals and groups must be on board to deliberate important issues.

Despite the inherent importance and merits of mediation and negotiation as tools of preventive diplomacy on land-based conflicts; it is marred by a few weaknesses as highlighted by 51% of the respondents who disagreed that pastoralist communities in Samburu County have effective mediation structures to prevent land-related conflicts. Mediation and negotiation are negatively impacted by inadequate funding, poor negotiation structures, limited negotiation capacity and uncoordinated negotiation processes. These sentiments generally reflect findings by Moyaert and Geldhof (2016) which indicated that peace building for community-based conflicts commonly involve council of elders and are usually planned in conference halls, where pertakers are driven by selfish and monetary gains from such sittings. In such venues, traditional rituals are ignored, hence invalidating and delegitimizing the authority and integrity of the elders who are supposed to be the custodian of traditions. thereby rendering elders' contribution towards conflict resolution not as effective. The author notes that land-related conflicts at the community level may also be too complex to be addressed through unstructured mediation processes, which is often common at community level and the remedy might be a hybrid of mediation and arbitration for autonomy and finality purposes.

4.4 Inferential Analysis of Independent Variables

The study focused on the influence of preventive diplomacy on management of land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Specific objectives included investigating the influence of early warning system on

management of land-based conflicts, to establish the influence of fact-finding missions on management of land-based conflicts, assessing the influence of confidence-building measures on management of land-based conflicts, and evaluating the influence of mediation and negotiation on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Inferential analysis of the variables was important in establishing the correlation between the independent or predictor variables and the dependent variable, which is also the outcome of the study. Parametric tests were first carried out to establish suitability of different parameters for inferential analysis. These included normality and multicollinearity tests.

4.4.1 Test for Normality

To successfully carry out a regression analysis, it is assumed that the residual or error term must be normally distributed. The residual plot for normality test is illustrated in figure 4.2.

Figure 4.2

Residual Plot Test for Normality
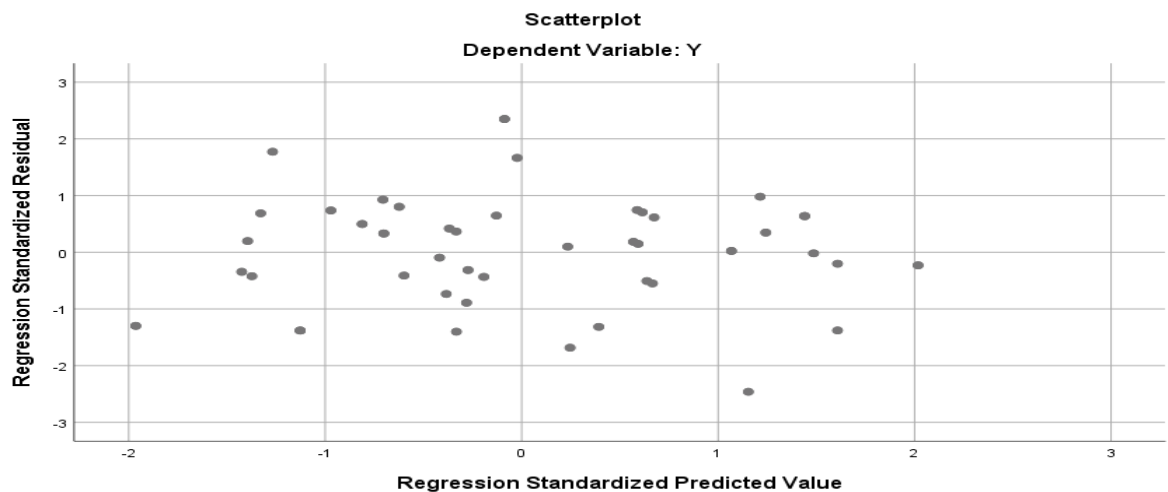
Source: Author (2022)

Normality of distribution of the residual or error terms in figure 4.2 is demonstrated by the points lying on the straight diagonal line, where distribution of the standard residuals' peaks in the middle of the scatter plot. Additionally, Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was undertaken to establish if there was any violation of assumptions of normal distribution of data (Knief & Forstmeier, 2021). Table 4.9 summarizes the findings.

Table 4.9

Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test

	Kolmogorov-Smirnov[a]			Shapiro-Wilk		
	Statistic	df	Sig.	Statistic	df	Sig.
Unstandardized Residual	.066	153	.201	.975	153	.53*
Standardized Residual	.066	153	.201	.975	153	.53*

Source: Author (2022)

Table 4.9 illustrates distribution of the standardized and unstandardized residuals of the study. Based on the Kolmogorov-Smirnov and Shapiro-Wilk tests, if the p-value is less than 0.05, this implies that the data is not normally distributed. As shown in table 4.9, the p-values for both standardized and unstandardized residuals for Kolmogorov-Smirnov test (p=0.201) and Shapiro-Wilk test (p=0.53) were greater than 0.05. This therefore implied that distribution of the residuals was normally distributed, which concurred with scatterplot distribution.

4.4.2 Test for Multicollinearity

In parametric tests it is presumed that independent variables should not be highly correlated, suggesting that there should not exist multicollinearity. Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) was used to test for multicollinearity, and the findings are presented below.

Table 4.10

Multicollinearity Test

Model	Collinearity Statistics	
	Tolerance	**VIF**
Early warning system	0.452	4.213
Fact-finding	0.521	2.124
Confidence-building measures	0.642	1.621
Mediation and negotiation	0.577	1.562

Source: Author (2022)

Shrestha (2020) observed that existing of multicollinearity between the variables would be confirmed when the model had a VIF of more than 10 or a tolerance level of less than 0.2. But, as shown on the summary in table 4.10, all the independent variables had VIF values of less than 10 and tolerance levels of more than 0.2. The statistics in table 4.10 imply that there was no multicollinearity in the dataset and therefore the independent variables did not have any effect on each other. Thus, the data was suitable for regression modeling.

4.4.3 Pearson Correlation Analysis

The study employed Pearson correlation analysis to determine the strength of the relationship between preventive diplomacy and management of land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Specifically, the Pearson correlation analysis sought to establish the strength between early warning systems, fact-finding, confidence-building measures, and mediation and negotiation as independent or predictor variables, and on land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County, as a dependent variable or outcome of the study. Table 4.11 presents Pearson correlation analysis.

Table 4.11

Correlation Analysis

		Land-based conflict	Early warning systems	Fact-finding	Confidence building measures	Mediation & negotiation
Land-based conflict	Pearson Correlation	1				
	N	153				
Early warning systems	Pearson Correlation	.631**	1			
			153			
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000				
	N	153				
Fact-finding	Pearson Correlation	.525**	.633**	1		
				153		
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000			
	N	153	153			
Confidence building measures	Pearson Correlation	.591**	.132	.428**	1	
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	153	
	N	153	153	153		
Mediation & negotiation	Pearson Correlation	.645**	.121	.423*	.433**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.000	153
	N	153	153	153	153	

Source: Author (2022)

The correlation analysis illustrated above shows that there was a significant and positive relationship between the dependent variable land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Samburu County and the independent or predictor variables, early warning systems (r=0.631, p=0.000), fact-finding (r=0.525, p=0.000), confidence building measures (r=0.591, p=0.000), and mediation and negotiation (r=0.645, p=0.000).

4.4.4 Model Summary

Model summary was performed to establish the strength of the correlation between the model and the dependent variable. Summary of the coefficient of correlation R and the coefficient of determination R square (R^2) is presented in Table 4.12.

Table 4.12

Model Summary for preventive diplomacy and management of land-based conflicts

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std Error of the Estimate
1	.709[a]	.686	.682	.7346

a. Predictors: early warning systems, fact-finding, confidence-building, mediation & negotiation

Source: Author (2022)

Based on the model summary above the coefficient of correlation R is .709, implying that there is a strong relationship between the independent (predictor) variables and the dependent variable (land-based conflict), or the outcome of the study. The coefficient of determination R square (R^2) was 0.682%, meaning that 68.2% changes in land-based conflict was explained by preventive diplomacy, the independent variables. This may further imply that 31.8% of any changes experienced on land-based conflicts in Samburu was explained or influenced by other factors apart from the four independent variables, namely early warning systems, fact-finding, confidence building measures, and mediation and negotiation. Other future studies may therefore on these factors, which were outside the scope of this study.

4.4.5 Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)

Analysis of variance (ANOVA) of the regression model was performed to test the good of fit of the model of the study, or to establish the significance of the correlation

between the independent and dependent variables. Table 4.13 presents the ANOVA findings.

Table 4.13

Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	14.697	1	14.70	27.72	.000[b]
	Residual	79.515	150	0.53		
	Total	94.212	151			

a. Dependent Variable: land-based conflict
b. Predictors: early warning systems, fact-finding, confidence-building, mediation & negotiation

Source: Author (2022)

Based on the ANOVA findings in table 4.13, the P-value was 0.000. The statistics further showed that the *F* statistic (1, 150) at 95% level of significance (0.53) was less than *F* calculated (27.72). This therefore meant that the regression model was significant in predicting the influence of independent variables (preventive diplomacy) on land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

4.4.6 Bivariate Analysis

Bivariate analysis was carried out on each of the independent or predictor variables (early warning systems, fact finding mission, confidence building measure, and mediation and negotiation) to determine the strength of their influence on the dependent variable, land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

Linear regression of the influence of early warning system on management of land-based conflicts

Linear regression was carried out to understand the level of influence of early warning system on land-based conflicts, with statistics for the regression coefficients summarized below.

Table 4.14

Regression Coefficients for Early Warning System

Predictor	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
Constant	3.121	0.041		1.531	0.000
X_1 Early warning system	0. 332	0. 109	0. 4121	3.312	0.001

a. Land-based conflict

Source: Author (2022)

Based on the regression analysis on table 4.14, when all factors were held at zero, the constant was 3.121. This meant that at ceteris paribus (all other factors remaining the same), the level of prevention of land-based conflict among pastoralist communities in Samburu would be 3.121. But a unit increase in early warning systems when all other factors were maintained at zero, there would be an increase in prevention of land-based conflict by 0.332. Furthermore, at 5% level of significance where P=001<0.05, this meant that early warning system positively influenced management of land-based conflict among pastoralist communities.

Linear regression of the influence of fact-finding mission on management of land-based conflicts

In order to determine the level of effect of fact-finding on land-based conflicts, linear regression was undertaken, and a summary of the regression coefficients presented below.

Table 4.15

Regression Coefficients for Fact-Finding mission

Predictor	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
Constant	3.121	0.041		1.531	0.000
X_2 Fact finding	0.221	0.037	0.301	1.510	0.000

a. Land based conflict

Source: Author (2022)

As illustrated in table 4.15, with all other factors held at zero, the constant was 3.121, implying performance of land-based conflict prevention among the pastoralist communities. However, a unit increase in fact finding when all other factors were still maintained at zero, would lead to a 0.221 improvement in land-based conflict prevention. Additionally, at 5% level of significance where P=000<0.05, this implied that fact-finding had a positive influence on management of land-based conflict among pastoralist communities in Samburu.

Linear regression of the influence of confidence-building measures on management of land-based conflicts

So as to establish the extent to which confidence-building measures impacted land-based conflicts, linear regression was performed, with summary of the analysis regression coefficients presented below.

Table 4.16

Regression Coefficients for Confidence-Building measure

Predictor	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
Constant	3.121	0.041		1.531	0.000
X_3 Confidence-building	0.258	0.043	0.206	2.122	0.041

a. Land-based conflict

Source: Author (2022)

Based on the analysis of regression coefficients of confidence-building in table 4.16, when all other factors remained constant, performance in land-based conflict prevention was at 3.121. But, a unit increase in confidence building when all other factors remained zero, would lead to a 0.258 improvement in land-based conflict prevention. The findings further meant that at 5% level of significance where P=041<0.05, this meant that confidence building positively influenced management of land-based conflict among pastoralist communities in Samburu.

Linear regression of the influence of mediation and negotiation on management of land-based conflicts

In order to determine the level of influence of mediation and negotiation on land-based conflicts, linear regression was undertaken, where summary of analysis of the regression coefficients was presented below.

Table 4.17

Regression Coefficients for Mediation and Negotiation

Predictor	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
Constant	3.121	0.041		1.531	0.000
X_4 Mediation and negotiation	0.293	0.064	0.411	2.233	0.003

a. Land-based conflict

Source: Author (2022)

As shown in table 4.17 presenting analysis of regression coefficients of mediation and negotiation, when all other factors remained constant, performance in land-based conflict prevention was at 3.121. However, a unit increase in mediation and negotiation when all other factors remained at zero, would lead to a 0.293 improvement in land-based conflict prevention. Further, at 5% level of significance where P=003<0.05, this implied that mediation and negotiation positively influenced management of land-based conflict among pastoralist communities in Samburu.

Based on the beta coefficient findings in table 4.14 to 4.17, the study established the model: **Y = 3.121 + 0. 332 X_1 + 0.221 X_2 + 0.259 X_3 + 0.293 X_4 + ε,** where Y stands

for land-based conflicts prevention whereas $X_1, X_2, X_3,$ and X_4 represent early warning systems, fact finding, confidence building, and mediation and negotiation respectively.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter outlines the summary, conclusions and recommendations of the research in line with the specific objectives of the study. The chapter also presents conclusions and recommendations of the study as well as suggestions for further studies in future.

5.2 Summary

The study investigated the influence of preventive diplomacy on management of land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Samburu County. The objectives of the study were ; to investigate the influence of early warning system on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County; to establish the influence of fact-finding missions on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County; to assess the influence of confidence-building measures on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County; and to evaluate the influence of mediation and negotiation on management of land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

5.2.1 Influence of Early Warning Systems on Land-Based Conflicts

The findings revealed that early warning system was a very significant tool in predicting trends influencing land-based conflicts in Samburu County. Different approaches such as use of traditional knowledge to predict the future, NDMA early

warning bulletins, uptake of mobile technology to disseminate threat alerts and weather station were used to share threats alerts to the communities and other actors for early response.

District Task Forces (DTF) work closely with Samburu district peace committees to survey livestock migratory routes so that pastoralists do not migrate into other areas with small arms and light weapons. They also keep a night watch on the pastoralists groups likely to rearm and forcefully access grazing areas and aquifers. Other key actors included council of elders, government institutions, and the civil society organizations operating in the county.

Early warning system is therefore indispensable predicting violent conflicts that pits pastoral herders as the dry season progresses, consequently shrinking land-resources that are needed for sustenance. The study posits that, there is need for formalized structures; of risk knowledge, monitoring and warning service, dissemination and communication, and response capability for successful outcomes. Correlation analysis showed a significant and positive relationship between early warning systems (r=0.631, p=0.000) and management of land-based conflict among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

5.2.2 Influence of Fact Findings Missions on Land-Based Conflicts

The study established that fact-finding missions are aimed at verifying facts and truths over a broad range of issues, inter alia, missions verify that diminishing land-based resources not only lead to violent conflicts but feed pre-existing tensions, that are further exacerbated by converting rangelands for private use, and consequently

reducing available land for use during drier seasons, this directly violates communities right to self-determination: In addition, the missions verify that land-based conflicts has a nexus with other structural and proximate cause that compels pastoral groups to migrate. Presence of new pastoral group is seen as an existential threat to the dominance of other groups, moreover, their arrival precipitates social pressure as each group seeks self-preservation by increasing their capabilities in order to protect their own security in an anarchic region.

Findings also illuminate that fact-finding is a very expensive conflict preventive tool, especially given that each mission requires a tailored design process that will meet the specific goals for that mission, this makes the fact-finding mission costly because there is no a size fits all trajectory. Moreover, the success of any fact-finding mission is pegged on clarity and prioritizing the goal: Hence, goal ambiguity stemming from lack of understanding on the part of the pastoral communities and other stakeholders undermines the efficacy and success of the mission as well as credibility of the report

In addition, the study also noted that there are no proactive systems for fact-finding missions to help in deterring land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities. This is largely due to lack of preventive structure frameworks as well as lack of resources to conduct the missions. Notwithstanding the aforementioned, fact-finding missions emerged as fundamentally indispensable in Samburu County for inter community and intra community land resources conflicts. Correlation analysis indicated a significant and positive relationship between fact finding ($r=0.525$, $p=0.000$) and management of land-based conflict among the pastoralist communities in Samburu.

5.2.3 Influence of Confidence Building Measures on Land-Based Conflicts

The study found that confidence building measures are exercised in various forms inter alia, sports, interethnic marriages, alliances, trade, education, religion, reciprocal grazing areas, mutual assistance during drought, humanitarian CBMs, communication CBMs, and security CBMs. Security CBMs enable District Task force work closely with Samburu peace district committees oversee peace process, and document processes of reciprocal grazing rights, facilitate interaction with other pastoral groups across the county, joint effort during disasters, monitoring livestock migratory routes and maintaining night watch on the herders. To establish trust among the pastoral communities, other form of CBMs have been key, inter alia, education CBMs refine and shapes the pastoral communities' way of thinking; it bridges the gap between different generations: Religion CBMs foster tolerance and reconciliation among the pastoral communities: Sports CBMs are key in promoting coexistence and humanizing each other ethnic differences.

Further findings illuminate that revealed that government officials and political leaders usually engage the public to help in creating trust in institutions and open communication. This is bolstered by political and security CBMs such as inter and intra community interactions, overt presence of security personnel and patrols, disarmament, apprehending inciters and profiteers of violence.

This study further revealed the efficacy and success of CBMs is marred by lack of verification structures embedded to aid pastoralists communities measure and report on the implementation success of the CBMs. Therefore, CBMs require clarity, they must be tailor made to fit the context of a conflict; they must be expedited with ease

and be financially feasible to exercise and monitor for the pastoral communities. Correlation analysis indicated a significant and positive relationship between confidence building measures (r=0.591, p=0.000), and management of land-based conflict among the pastoralist communities in Samburu.

5.2.4 Influence of Mediation and Negotiation on Land-Based Conflicts

The study revealed that mediation and negotiation are the most favored and widely applied tool of preventive diplomacy to manufacture solutions on issues related to management of land-based conflicts in Samburu County among pastoralists communities. Findings further illuminated that; Peace committee meetings are convened to provide a platform sustainable for peace resolutions among the pastoralist communities. There were also a number of widely accepted collaborations with the county government, religious leaders and CSOs on peace dialogue.

In addition, the council of elders from Samburu pastoralist communities are also actively engaged in a traditional dispute resolution mechanism where cases of raids and conflicts on grazing areas for example, are reported to council members of who impose fines and other sanctions so as to ensure order and carrying on relations in the community. The council of elders also create rules regulating communal grazing areas as well as enforcing grazing rights, while ensuring that there is no undue pressure to interfere with the protected areas within Samburu County.

Mediation and negotiation at community level however, suffers from lack of clear structures to identify competent mediators and institute consistent rules and procedure. In addition, aforementioned tool is negatively impacted by inadequate funding, poor

negotiation structures, limited negotiation capacity and uncoordinated negotiation processes. Correlation analysis indicated a significant and positive relationship between mediation and negotiation ($r=0.645$, $p=0.000$), and management of land-based conflict among the pastoralist communities in Samburu.

5.3 Conclusions

Based on the findings, the study concluded that land-based conflicts are preventable and that tools of preventive diplomacy have a positive influence on the former. As such, the study evinces that synergy among all actors is apt in contextualizing solutions that are responsive to grazing areas and water scarcity. In addition, the study is instrumental in establishing a baseline for formulation of context-based preventive frameworks. Based on this standpoint, the study provided an opportunity to justify a broader application of preventive diplomacy in prevention of conflicts in different social environments as dictated by various dynamics. In consonance with other scholars, it is befitting to sum up that proactive application of the tools of Preventive diplomacy within formal preventive frameworks and structures can facilitate proper management of land-based disputes. To this end, this study contributes to knowledge in literature on resource-based conflicts at domestic and systemic levels of analysis as well as informing policy formulation and implementation on the commons. Further, based on the findings, the study made the following specific conclusions.

5.3.1 Early warning Systems

Based on the findings the study concluded that early warning system remains indispensable and a cost-effective tool of preventive diplomacy in predicting trends of

various situations within any environment. Overt presence of government in Samburu can reverse anarchy and instill communities' confidence in good governance and human security. In return local communities also dis-incentivizing conflicts instigated by competition over grazing areas and water points.

In addition, early warning system remains very significant in predicting trends within the rangelands, however, early warning gap was present due to a number of drawbacks, inter alia, language that is too technical, poor communication network coverage, low level of literacy, and hostile terrain.

At 5% level of significance where P=001<0.05, bivariate analysis implied that early warning system had significant and positive influence on management of land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Samburu. Therefore, the study met this objective.

5.3.2 Fact Finding Missions

The study concluded that fact finding missions remain key in managing various forms of conflicts that could degenerate to human rights violation. Within Samburu County, the tool was commonly exercised through the council of elders, government institutions and other non-state actors, such as NGOs, CBOs, and religious institutions to verify facts over various truths that interlink with land-based conflicts. By providing agency to local organizations, ethnic tensions between pastoral communities over competition of land-based resources be tremendously reduced. CSOs' role in providing agency and sensitizing on peaceful yet sustainable sharing of land-based

resources, facilitated by infrastructure in Samburu is seeing communities trade with each other in the local markets.

Nevertheless, the tool's efficacy and success are challenged by goals ambiguity that is not well illuminated, flexible and tailored to various dynamics or each specific situation. Furthermore, at 5% level of significance where P=000<0.05, bivariate analysis indicated that fact-finding mission had a significant and positive effect on managing land-based conflict among pastoralist communities in Samburu. Overall, the study met this objective.

5.3.3 Confidence Building Measures

By exploring synergies and bolstering tangible projects that would promote and consolidate peace and manage land-based conflicts occurrence; the study concluded that CBMs provide opportunity for pastoralist communities, government and CSOs to build partnerships and leverage others capacities in areas they lack and also work on areas that it has a niche.

Albeit the utility of CBMs in managing land-based conflicts, it is marred by various drawbacks, inter alia, lack of verification structures embedded to aid pastoralists communities measure and report on the implementation success of the CBMs. Generally, this objective was met by the study. The findings from bivariate analysis further meant that at 5% level of significance where P=041<0.05, confidence building significantly and positively influenced management of land-based conflict among pastoralist communities in Samburu

5.3.4 Mediation and Negotiation

The study concluded that mediation and negotiation processes are relatively cheaper, flexible, accessible and allow parties autonomy. Hence, they remain imperative in managing land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County. Mediation is both an ADR and a preventive action: The council of elders facilitates dialogue and mediates on issues of communal grazing areas and water points. In addition to various collaborations with non-state actors that are reinforced by the government of Kenya; Peace committee meetings are convened to provide a platform for sustainable peace resolutions among the pastoralist communities.

Mediation and negotiation are challenged by lack of formal structures at community level, as well as lack of consistent rules and procedures that uphold gender mainstreaming, and other basic human rights. Overall, the study met this objective. Further, at 5% level of significance where P=003<0.05, the bivariate analysis implied that mediation and negotiation significantly and positively influenced management of land-based conflict prevention among pastoralist communities in Samburu.

5.4 Recommendations on Research Findings

5.4.1 Policy Recommendations

The study recommended a consultative and collaborative working relationship between the Samburu pastoralist communities, and other actors to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of preventive diplomacy in managing land-based conflicts. On the same vein, the national and county governments should also create synergy between multiple non-state actors in preventive diplomacy in order to prevent

incoherence and fragmentation. In addition, there is need by the government of Kenya and other non-state actors at domestic and systemic level to strengthen the tools of preventive diplomacy through more resource allocation. Lastly, policymakers need to support preventive diplomacy through legislation, regulations and policy framework for pastoralism.

5.4.2 Research Recommendations

Further research should be undertaken on the challenges of preventive diplomacy as a strategy for managing land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Kenya. Lastly, further research should be carried out on the influence of gender mainstreaming in preventive diplomacy among pastoralists communities in Northern Kenya.

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Appendix I: Questionnaire

Dear Respondent,

I am Carolyne Gathoni Kamau, a postgraduate student in Kenya Methodist University (KEMU). I am currently undertaking fieldwork on **the influence of preventive diplomacy in land based conflicts among pastoralist communities in Samburu County** as part of the requirements for completion of my studies. You have been identified as a resourceful person in this process and would therefore like you to complete this questionnaire for me. I would highly appreciate if you could agree to participate by providing me with information based on the questions outlined in this questionnaire. Kindly, feel free to ask for any clarifications you may need from me.

Thanking you in advance

Sincerely, Carolyne Gathoni Kamau

SECTION I: Respondents' Background Information

1. What is your gender?

   Male   [   ]

   Female   [   ]

2. What is your level of education?

   Primary   [   ]

   Secondary   [   ]

   College   [   ]

   University   [   ]

   Other (specify)……….   [   ]

3. How long have you lived in Samburu County?

   1 - 5 Years   [   ]

   6 - 10 Years   [   ]

   11 - 15 Years   [   ]

   Since birth   [   ]

4. What is your current occupation/position in this community?

………………………………………………………………………………………

……..

SECTION II: LAND-BASED CONFLICT PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY IN SAMBURU COUNTY

5. Are there any serious land-based conflicts in Samburu County?

    a) Yes [ ]   b) No [ ]

If yes in the above, please briefly explain about the conflicts and how preventive diplomacy is applied at the community level to mitigate such conflicts.

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6. Using a 5-point Likert scale where **5=strongly agree; 4=Agree; 3=Unsure; 2=Disagree; 1=strongly disagree;** please indicate by ticking (√) in appropriate response with regard to the following statements on land-based conflict and preventive diplomacy among pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

Statements		1	2	3	4	5
i.	Pastoralist communities of Turkana County often use early warning system to prevent land-based conflicts in the area.					
ii.	Fact-finding approach is commonly used in Samburu County to prevent land-based conflicts among the pastoralist communities.					
iii.	Confidence-building measures are usually applied in land-based conflict prevention among pastoralist communities in Samburu County.					

		1	2	3	4	5
iv.	Pastoralist communities in Samburu County regularly adopt mediation in mitigating land-based conflicts in the county.					

PART A: EARLY WARNING SYSTEM AND LAND-BASED CONFLICT PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY

7. Using a Likert scale of 1-5 where **5=strongly agree; 4=Agree; 3=Unsure; 2=Disagree; 1=strongly disagree;** please indicate by putting a tick (√) in appropriate response with regard to the following statements on the influence of early warning system on land based-conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu county.

Statements		1	2	3	4	5
i.	There are clear mechanisms for alerting different key players about potential outbreaks.					
ii.	The communities have effective structures for preventing escalation of violent conflicts.					
iii.	There is interdependent relationship among all key players on preventive measures.					
iv.	There are means of screening and identifying potential troublemakers with the aim of scuttling their criminal activities.					
v.	Please give any further information regarding the influence of early warning system on land based-conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu county. ……………………………………………………………………………………………….. …………………………………………....………………………………………………………… ………………………………………………………………....……………………………………					

PART B: FACT-FINDING AND LAND-BASED CONFLICT PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY

8. Using a Likert scale of 1-5 where **5=strongly agree; 4=Agree; 3=Unsure; 2=Disagree; 1=strongly disagree;** please indicate by putting a tick (√) in appropriate response with regard to the following statements on the influence of fact-finding on land based-conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu County.

Statements		1	2	3	4	5
i.	Samburu pastoralist communities lack effective fact-finding systems for preventing land-based conflicts.					
ii.	Fact-finding strategy is too expensive for Samburu County pastoralist communities to afford for prevention of land-based conflicts.					
iii.	There are no proactive systems for fact-finding to help in deterring land-based conflicts among pastoralist communities.					
iv.	Most of the pastoralist communities in Samburu County do not understand the fact-finding strategy for addressing land-based conflict in the area.					
v.	Please give any further information regarding the influence of fact-finding on land based-conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu county.					

PART C: CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES AND LAND-BASED CONFLICT PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY

9. Using a Likert scale of 1-5 where **5=strongly agree; 4=Agree; 3=Unsure; 2=Disagree; 1=strongly disagree;** please indicate by putting a tick (√) in

appropriate response with regard to the following statements on the influence of confidence-building measures on land based-conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu county.

	Statements	1	2	3	4	5
i.	The pastoralist communities in Samburu county have strong reconciliation mechanisms to deescalate existing land-related tensions to reestablish trust.					
ii.	Government officials and political leaders usually engage the public to help in creating trust in institutions and open communication and information flow for quicker actions.					
iii.	There is usually transparency in stakeholder engagements and dialogue which helps in determining the best response actions for easing tension whenever there are land-related tensions.					
iv.	There are no clear feedback strategies for pastoralist communities to understand the level and impact of confidence-building in prevention of land-based conflicts.					
iv.	Please give any further information regarding the influence of confidence-building on land based-conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu county.					

PART D: MEDIATIONAND LAND-BASED CONFLICT PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY

10. Using a Likert scale of 1-5 where **5=strongly agree; 4=Agree; 3=Unsure; 2=Disagree; 1=strongly disagree;** please indicate by putting a tick (√) in appropriate response with regard to the following statements on the influence of mediation on land based-conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu county.

	Statements	1	2	3	4	5
i.	Pastoralist communities in Samburu County have effective mediation structures to prevent land-related conflicts.					

ii.	Pastoralist communities in Samburu County usually have competent mediators when it comes to addressing land-based conflicts.					
iii.	The mediation process has always been proactive in addressing tensions associated with land-based conflict among pastoralist communities in Samburu County.					
iv.	There is always high level of inclusivity when it comes to mediation processes among pastoralist communities in Samburu.					
v.	Please give any further information regarding the influence of mediation on land based-conflicts among the pastoralist communities in Samburu county. …… ……					

11. What is your general view regarding the influence of preventive diplomacy in land based conflicts among pastoralists communities in Samburu County?

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-----END----

Thank you for your participation.

Appendix II: Introductory Letter to NACOSTI

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KENYA METHODIST UNIVERSITY

Tel: 254-064-30301/31229/30367/31171   **Email:** info@kemu.ac.ke

Our ref: NAC/ MBA/1/2021/19   29th NOVEMBER 2021

Commission Secretary,
National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovations,
P.O. Box 30623-00100,
NAIROBI.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

  CAROLYNE GATHONI KAMAU   MIR-3-0693-1/2020

This is to confirm that the above named is a bona fide student of Kenya Methodist University, undertaking masters in Business Administration . She is conducting a research titled: **THE INFLUENCE OF PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY ON LAND BASED CONFLICTS AMONG PASTORALISTS COMMUNITIES IN KENYA: A CASE OF SAMBURU COUNTY.**

In this regard, we are requesting your office to issue a permit to enable her collect data for her masters dissertation.

Any assistance accorded to her will be appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

PROF. Evangeline Gichunge, PhD.
ASS DIRECTOR POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

Encl.

Appendix III: NACOSTI Research Permit

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

Ref No: **903273**

Date of Issue: **02/December/2021**

RESEARCH LICENSE

This is to Certify that Miss.. Carolyne Gathoni Kamau of Kenya Methodist University, has been licensed to conduct research in Samburu on the topic: **THE INFLUENCE OF PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY ON LAND BASED CONFLICTS AMONG PASTORALISTS COMMUNITIES IN KENYA: A CASE OF SAMBURU COUNTY** for the period ending : **02/December/2022.**

License No: **NACOSTI/P/21/14756**

903273

Applicant Identification Number

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NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR
SCIENCE,TECHNOLOGY &
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