

**EFFECTIVENESS OF ANTI – LIVESTOCK RUSTLING POLICIES AND
STRATEGIES IN TIATY, BARINGO COUNTY**

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**THIS DISSERTATION IS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF MASTERS IN PUBLIC POLICY AND
MANAGEMENT (MPPM) IN THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, STRATHMORE
UNIVERSITY**

MAY 2025

DECLARATION

I declare that this work has not been previously submitted and approved for the award of a degree by this or any other University. To the best of my knowledge and belief, this dissertation contains no material previously published or written by another person except where due reference is made in the dissertation itself.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I sincerely thank the Almighty God for His unwavering grace in my life. Secondly, I extend my deep appreciation to my supervisor, Dr. Thomas Kibua, whose invaluable guidance was instrumental in the success of this project. I also recognize Maj. Gen Farah and Brig Imboywa, mentor and motivator, whose their steadfast support played a crucial role in helping me realize my aspirations. Not forgetting my two field assistants whose effort made this project succeed. Further, I am profoundly grateful to the respondents for their time and dedication. Their commitment to academic research, the fight against cattle rustling, and the advancement of policy discourse was evident.

Special appreciation goes to Mr. Samuel Gichuhi (DCC Tiaty East), Mr. Etarukot Omaset (DCC Tiaty West), and Mr. Peter Selemoi (Chief Paka Location) for their critical insights and helped me reach respondents. Their support was instrumental in the smooth execution of this study.

Additionally, I extend my sincere gratitude to the KDF and NPS General, Senior Officers, and Officers for their significant support and insights, which greatly enriched this dissertation.

DEDICATION

I dedicate this project to my colleagues for their unwavering support. Despite the time and attention this project demanded, they stood by me and encouraged its completion. I also dedicate it to the innocent victims of cattle rustling, those who lost their lives, property, or suffered injuries. May God grant eternal peace to the departed and strength to the afflicted. My heartfelt dedication extends to the KDF and police officers who selflessly risk their lives in the fight against cattle rustling across the North Rift Region. Lastly, I dedicate this work to the residents of Tiaty who recognize the urgency of combating this menace and actively support policy implementation for a safer and more secure community.

ABSTRACT

Cattle rustling and banditry remain major threats to security in Kenya's Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs), particularly in the North Rift region. Despite various government interventions, these problems persist. They continue to cause loss of lives, displacement of communities, destruction of property, and disruption of socio-economic activities, ultimately hindering development.

This study evaluated the effectiveness of anti-rustling policies in Tiaty Constituency, Baringo County, and the factors influencing their implementation. It focused on four specific objectives: to assess the extent to which existing policies and strategies have reduced cattle rustling and improved security; to investigate the socio-economic factors driving cattle rustling and their impact on policy effectiveness; to examine the role of political governance in enforcing anti-rustling measures; and to explore how traditional practices and cultural beliefs affect the implementation and outcomes of these policies.

The study was anchored on Social Conflict Theory and Social Disorganization Theory. A mixed-methods approach using a convergent parallel design was employed. Data were collected through questionnaires, interviews, and focus group discussions involving policymakers, law enforcement officers, community leaders, and residents. Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and ANOVA, while qualitative data were subjected to thematic analysis.

Findings showed that government-led actions such as security deployment, disarmament operations, curfews, and patrols had improved safety in the short term but were largely reactive and unsustainable. Arrests and prosecutions were rare, weakening their deterrent effect. On the other hand, community-led efforts like cattle branding and elder-led mediation were more impactful but faced obstacles, including political interference, corruption, and inadequate infrastructure. Political instability and weak governance structures further impeded policy effectiveness. Additionally, widespread poverty, illiteracy, and unemployment contributed to the persistence of rustling, while deeply rooted cultural beliefs continued to normalize the practice.

The study concludes that a combined approach, merging government policies with grassroots initiatives is key to addressing cattle rustling effectively. Strengthening governance, enhancing

law enforcement, and tackling the underlying socio-economic drivers are critical. Investments in infrastructure, promotion of alternative livelihoods, and meaningful community participation in policy-making processes are also vital. Future research should focus on developing integrated, sustainable strategies to combat cattle rustling across ASAL regions

OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS

Anti-Rustling Policies: Measures and strategies implemented by authorities to prevent and reduce cattle rustling activities.

Banditry: Acts of robbery and violence, typically by armed groups, often in rural areas.

Cattle Rustling: The act of stealing cattle, often involving violence and carried out by organized groups.

Community Involvement: The participation of local community members in decision-making processes and activities aimed at combating cattle rustling.

Cultural Factors: Traditions, norms, and practices that influence the behavior of individuals and communities regarding cattle rustling.

Enforcement Rigor: The strictness and consistency with which laws and policies are implemented and enforced by authorities.

Policy Compliance Rate: The extent to which individuals and communities adhere to the policies and regulations set to combat cattle rustling.

Policy Implementation: The process of putting anti-rustling policies and strategies into action by the relevant authorities and stakeholders.

Political Factors: Elements related to the political environment, such as stability, corruption, and support, that affect the success of anti-rustling policies.

Resource Allocation: The distribution and provision of resources, including financial, material, and human, necessary for the implementation of anti-rustling policies.

Socio-Economic Factors: Economic and social conditions, such as poverty, employment, and education levels, that influence the effectiveness of anti-rustling policies.

Traditional Practices: Long-established customs and methods used by communities to address issues, including conflict resolution and cattle rustling.

Trust in Authorities: The confidence that community members have in law enforcement and government officials to effectively implement and enforce anti-rustling policies.

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY

1.0 Introduction

This Chapter One covers the background to the study, problem statement, objectives, questions, significance, and scope of the study.

1.1 Background to the Study

Cattle rustling and banditry, a phenomenon rooted in pastoralist societies has evolved from a traditional practice of resource redistribution into a complex security threat globally with severe social, economic, and security impacts. Globally, pastoralist conflicts mirror broader challenges of climate change, resource scarcity and proliferation of small arms. This crime, often involving violence, cattle theft, and other vices, disrupts local economies, deepens poverty, and fuels insecurity. In Latin, Central Asia and sub – Saharan Africa, disputes over livestock and grazing lands often intersect with transnational crimes, terrorism and human trafficking undermining stability and development (UNODC, 2020). Global efforts such as the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on peace and poverty eradication, emphasize the need for context – specific strategies that integrate socio – economic, political and cultural dimensions (UNDP, 2021).

In the American West, cattle theft in the 19th century was driven by economic needs and the practices of cowboys and rustlers (Rabi'u & Muhammad, 2022). Today, Cattle rustling remains a major challenge due to economic pressures and rural underdevelopment (Rabi'u & Muhammad, 2022). Its persistence highlights deep economic and cultural roots, affecting both ranchers and law enforcement.

Cattle theft is a major issue in India, deeply connected to farmers' struggles and socio-political tensions (Singh, 2020). As livestock is a key income source, its theft worsens poverty. This loss also fuels ethnic conflicts by undermining culturally and economically significant assets. In Pakistan, cattle banditry is linked to tribal disputes and conflicts over natural resources (Abass et al., 2014). These persistent thefts highlight the economic vulnerability and cultural complexities in these regions.

In Latin America, cattle theft is widespread, especially in Brazil and Mexico. In Brazil, cartels exploit weak law enforcement and vast rural ranches, harming local economies and increasing violence (Gomes, 2021). In Mexico, drug cartels use cattle theft for funding, complicating efforts to combat rustling (Rath & Samantaray, 2024).

Cattle rustling is a major issue in Africa, driven by societal and economic factors. It has evolved from a well-being concern into a complex challenge affecting social order, wealth, and security. Countries like Nigeria, South Sudan, Sudan, and Ethiopia face recurring cattle theft, fuelling ethnic crises, resource competition, and insecurity. It has become a lucrative, militarized enterprise, fueling cycles of violence across the Sahel, Horn of Africa and East Africa.

In Nigeria, cattle rustling is most severe in the Middle Belt and the North, triggering inter-group violence and displacement (Akpehe et al., 2020). This has made these regions volatile, as theft often leads to ethnic and tribal conflicts. In Sudan's Darfur region, armed groups use cattle theft to sustain operations and assert territorial control (Sulieman & Young, 2023). In South Sudan and Somalia, rustling networks fund insurgencies and perpetuate inter – ethnic warfare, displacing millions (ISS, 2022).

In Ethiopia, cross-border cattle raids from South Sudan and Kenya escalate security challenges, leading to retaliatory attacks and prolonged enmity (Shanguhya, 2021). These cross-border dynamics underscore the regional nature of cattle rustling and the urgent need for collaborative security measures. The African Union's Silencing the Guns initiative (2020) acknowledges pastoralist conflicts as a continental security priority, yet implementation remains fragmented due to weak governance and cultural resistance to centralized policies.

Additionally, East Africa epitomizes these challenges. In Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan and Ethiopia, cattle rustling has morphed into cross – border criminal syndicates armed with automatic weapon. It threatens societies, disrupts economies, and undermines regional stability. Among these countries, Uganda is the most affected, as Karamoja pastoralists steal cattle due to cultural conflicts and resource scarcity (Said, 2020). The harsh climate and limited resources in Karamoja fuel violent confrontations. Tanzania faces similar challenges, especially in regions like Mara, where cattle theft impacts local livelihoods and security (Njeri, 2020). Competition over grazing lands and water sources among pastoralist communities has intensified rustling. However, Kenya

experiences the most widespread and frequent cattle theft, particularly in the North Rift. This region suffers from repeated raids, causing casualties, displacement, and socio-economic instability (Njeri, 2020). Cattle theft, once a cultural practice among the Kikuyu and Maasai, has evolved into a major security and economic issue. Economic hardships, political instability, and resource scarcity have worsened the situation (Greiner, 2013).

Kenya's North Rift region, including Baringo, Turkana, West Pokot and Samburu Counties, is a hotspot where decades of state neglect, ethnic polarization, and porous borders have allowed rustling to thrive. Regional bodies like Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) have prioritized peacebuilding frameworks, yet their frameworks often overlook hyper – local dynamics such as clan – based vendettas or the role of elders in conflict mediation (Mwangi, 2020) including Tiaty which is the heart of crisis in North Rift region. This Tiaty, has a long history of cattle rustling and banditry, often involving the Pokots, Turkanas, and Tugens (Kendagor, 2010). Here, cattle are not mere economic assets but cultural symbols of prestige, identity and social cohesion. However, climatic conditions, resource scarcity, unresolved ethnic grievances and systemic marginalization have distorted traditional raiding practices into violent, commercialized ventures (Hogg, 2019). The region has witnessed bloody conflicts, leading to numerous deaths, including those of security personnel. Tiaty's proximity to conflict – prone Counties (Turkana and West Pokot) and its rugged terrain make it a strategic corridor for rustlers, hence continued insecurity which endures to disrupt livelihoods in Tiaty and across Baringo County. However, new challenges have emerged, worsening the situation. The proliferation of small arms has made rustlers more lethal, escalating clashes and increasing fatalities. Political and ethnic manipulation has further deepened divisions within local communities (O'Kadameri, 2016). Beyond intercommunal violence, cattle rustling threatens regional stability. It funds criminal syndicates and insurgent groups, worsening insecurity (Hogg, 2019). As both a source of conflict and a financial tool for destabilizing actors, cattle rustling remains a critical threat to Tiaty and the broader North Rift region.

Despite anti – rustling policies such as the Prevention of Stock Theft Act (2016) which provides a legal framework specifically targeting cattle rustling by outlining penalties and enforcement mechanisms, recruitment and deployment of Kenya Police Reservists (KPRs) and peace caravans, disarmament, community policing, security deployment, socio – economic programs, patrols and

surveillance, and curfews among others, the menace still persists. According to the annual police crime reports, between 2018 and 2023, over 3,000 cattle were stolen in the North Rift, with Tiaty accounting for a large portion. The recovery rate was noted to be averagely low, under 20%, and the violence from rustling raids has led to hundreds of casualties as indicated in Table 1.1 below:

Table 1.1: North Rift Cattle Rustling and Stock Theft Cases

Cattle Rustling					
Year	Livestock Raids/Cases	Persons Killed	Persons Injured	Livestock Stolen	Livestock Recovered
2018	50	10	14	1094	310
2019	129	43	2	244	62
2020	146	20	22	4688	2166
2021	165	26	8	5984	1865
2022	183	42	3	1295	512
2023	135	22	6	3963	1254
Stock Theft					
2018	49	9	14	1094	310
2019	35	0	2	244	62
2020	130	9	22	4688	2166
2021	88	4	0	5984	1865
2022	125	0	26	1295	512
2023	98	9	3	3963	1254

Source: Annual Crime Report (2020,2021 & 2024)

The data underscores the entrenched nature of cattle – related violence in Tiaty and broader North Rift, marked by persistently high livestock theft peaking at 5,984 in 2021, low recovery rates and escalating human casualties. While these figures highlight the security and economic dimensions of the crisis, conventional analyses often overlook the interconnected socio – political, cultural and structural drivers fueling these cycles of violence.

Existing studies predominantly focus on cattle rustling through siloed lenses, securitization or climate – induced resource competition overlooking the complex interplay of socio – economic marginalization, political corruption and cultural practices such as pastoralist traditions and retaliatory cycles. In Tiaty, these dynamics are compounded by systemic marginalization, political corruption, enabling impunity and cultural practices intertwined with pastoralist identity, an area which remains understudied. By centering Tiaty’s unique socio – economic, political and cultural ecology, the study aimed to inform context – specific strategies and policies that address root causes rather than symptomatic violence.

1.2 Problem Statement

Cattle rustling remains a pervasive challenge in pastoralist communities across Kenya, particularly in Tiaty Constituency, Baringo County, a semi – arid region bordering West Pokot, Turkana, Laikipia and Samburu Counties. Tiaty is predominantly inhabited by Pokot community, a pastoralist group renowned for their deep cultural ties to cattle, which symbolize wealth, social status and identity. The constituency’s harsh climatic conditions, marked by prolonged droughts and erratic rainfall, exacerbate competition over scarce water and pasture, fueling inter – communal conflicts (Opiyo et al, 2017). Historically, this practice has evolved from a cultural ritual to a violent, commercialized activity, exacerbating insecurity, displacing communities, loss of lives and undermining socio – economic development (Mkutu, 2008). Despite the implementation of anti – rustling policies such as the prevention of anti – stock theft act (2016), community policing initiatives, disarmament programs, socio -economic programs and peacebuilding frameworks, the region continues to experience cyclical violence, cattle theft and human rights violations (KNHCR, 2019). For instance, the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (2019) reported that Baringo recorded over 100 deaths, and displacement of 10,000 residents due to rustling – related conflicts between 2016 and 2019. These outcomes suggest systemic inefficiencies in existing interventions, raising critical questions about their design, implementation and contextual suitability.

While existing research has explored cattle rustling in broader pastoralist contexts, focusing on issues such as the proliferation of small arms (Mkutu, 2019), historical marginalization (Ruteere, 2011), and climate-induced resource competition (Opiyo et al., 2017), few studies have examined the localized effectiveness of anti-rustling strategies in Tiaty. The area presents unique challenges, including the Pokot community’s entrenched raiding traditions, governance issues such as corruption, and logistical barriers to law enforcement (Mwangi, 2020). Structural problems like poverty, lack of alternative livelihoods, and weak coordination among government agencies further hinder policy outcomes (KNCHR, 2019). This lack of localized, evidence-based analysis limits the capacity of stakeholders to develop responsive and sustainable interventions, allowing the cycle of violence to persist.

This study, therefore, undertook a multidimensional assessment of Tiaty's specific context to support the development of integrated strategies that balance security, development, and cultural sensitivity. By addressing this gap, the study sought to generate actionable insights for policymakers, improve community security, and contribute to long-term peacebuilding in Kenya's pastoralist regions.

1.3 Overall Research Objective

The main objective was to assess the effectiveness of existing anti-rustling policies and strategies in Tiaty, Baringo County and their influencing factors.

1.4 Specific Research Objective

The specific research objectives were:

- i. To assess the extent to which existing policies and strategies have reduced cattle rustling incidents and improved security outcomes in Tiaty, Baringo County.
- ii. To investigate socio-economic factors influencing cattle rustling and their impact on anti-rustling policy effectiveness
- iii. To examine how the political factors, impact on the effectiveness of anti – rustling policies and strategies in Tiaty.
- iv. To explore how traditional practices and cultural beliefs shape the implementation and outcomes of anti-rustling policies in Tiaty, Baringo County.

1.5 Research Questions

The study sought to answer the following questions;

- (i) To what extent have existing policies and strategies reduced cattle rustling incidents and improved security outcomes in Tiaty Sub County, Baringo County?
- (ii) How do specific socio-economic factors contribute to cattle rustling?
- (iii) How do political factors influence the effectiveness of anti-rustling policies and strategies in Tiaty Sub County?
- (iv) In what ways do cultural factors influence the effectiveness of anti-rustling policies in Tiaty Constituency?

1.6 Scope of the Study

This study examined the effectiveness of anti-rustling policies and strategies in Tiaty Constituency, Baringo County, Kenya. The study focused on Tiaty, a region severely impacted by cattle rustling and banditry. Key participants included National Government Administrative Officers (NGAO), police officers stationed in Tiaty, Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) officers deployed under Operation Maliza Uhalifu (OMU), Kenya Police Reservists (KPR), General Service Unit (GSU) officers, and Anti-Stock Theft Unit (ASTU) officers. Additionally, the study engaged elders, scholars, and policymakers from the security, defense, and education sectors.

1.7 Study Significance

1.7.1 Policy Justification

This study assessed policies and strategies for controlling cattle rustling and banditry. Findings will contribute to the knowledge on the best anti – rustling and policies strategies in Tiaty Constituency and larger North Rift region. The recommendations will guide policymakers in the government and local communities in adopting community-based approaches, identified as the most effective, to foster lasting peace and development.

1.7.2 Academic Justification

This study sought to address the gap in existing literature by evaluating the effectiveness and shortcomings of policies on cattle rustling and banditry. The research has added valuable insights to academic discussions on security challenges in pastoralist regions. This perspective has revealed correlations between governance gaps, criminal activities, and conflict escalation in North Rift and Kenya at large.

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter summarizes existing literature on policies and interventions designed to address cattle rustling and banditry, with specific emphasis on the socio-economic, political, and cultural dynamics that influence the effectiveness of measures in Tiaty Constituency. The analysis is anchored in Conflict Theory and Social Disorganization Theory, which provide insights into the systemic drivers and sustained prevalence of these issues in the region. Additionally, the chapter outlines the conceptual framework that guided the study and defines the operationalization of key variables.

2.1 Review of Theoretical Literature

A theoretical framework is traditional theory that provides a structured foundation for understanding and analyzing a study's variables and concepts. It helps to contextualize the study within existing knowledge, ensuring that the research is grounded in established principles. They also enable researchers to explain relationships between variables and predict outcomes based on the theories selected. By aligning the research with specific theoretical perspectives, a theoretical framework enhances the study's coherence and contributes to the body of knowledge in the field (Grant & Osanloo, 2014). This study was guided by two theories: Conflict Theory and Social Disorganization Theory.

2.1.1 Conflict Theory

Conflict Theory, developed by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels and later expanded by Max Weber, explores how social conflict stems from economic and social inequalities (Marx & Engels, 1848). Marx argued that competition for resources and power, particularly in capitalist societies with uneven distribution, leads to conflict and often violence. This theory emphasizes how structural issues and disparities perpetuate disputes and societal tensions.

The application of Conflict Theory has been instrumental in explaining how economic factors contribute to conflicts like cattle rustling and banditry. For example, Bhandari (2023) links these conflicts to resource scarcity and inequality. Studies in Nigeria's North-Central region show that socio-economic disparities and competition for limited resources, like grazing land, drive conflicts between herders and farmers. These conflicts often lead to violence and cattle theft (Okoli & Atelhe, 2014). In Tiaty Sub-County, socio-economic factors like poverty, unemployment, resource scarcity, and limited education push communities to depend on cattle rustling for survival. The lack of alternative livelihoods and poor alignment with anti-rustling strategies worsen the issue. Economic disparities and unequal access to resources further fuel insecurity. These structural challenges contribute significantly to the persistence of cattle rustling.

Further, rooted in Marxist critiques of power imbalances, Social Conflict Theory underscores the role of systemic marginalization in driving pastoralist communities toward cattle rustling as a survival strategy. Decades of state neglect, compounded by uneven distribution of resources such as water, pasture, and economic opportunities have entrenched poverty and resource competition in Tiaty. For instance, over 70% of residents live below poverty line, with limited access to education or alternative livelihoods (KNBS, 2019). This economic deprivation, framed by conflict theory as structural violence, forces many youths to rationalize cattle rustling as a means of economic gain or social mobility, mirroring Marx's assertion that material conditions shape human behavior. Meanwhile, commercialization of rustling fueled by cross – border arms trafficking and demand for livestock in urban markets reflects a capitalist exploitation of marginalized communities in Tiaty, where motives intersect with systemic neglect.

2.1.2 Social Disorganization Theory

Social Disorganization Theory, developed by Shaw and McKay, argues that high crime rates arise in communities with weak social structures. These communities are marked by factors like residential mobility, poor community organization, and a decline in informal social controls. In such areas, crime thrives due to minimal resistance and lack of community-based regulation. The persistent insecurity in Tiaty Constituency, rooted in cattle rustling and banditry, is deeply intertwined with the region's socio-cultural fabric, economic precarity, and institutional decay, a reality illuminated by Social Disorganization Theory. Central to this crisis is the cultural

valorization of cattle, which transcends mere economic value to embody social status, identity, and communal cohesion. Traditional practices such as dowry payments (lobola), which demand large herds, incentivize cattle accumulation through raids, while the glorification of warriors as community heroes for successful raids entrenches youth participation in rustling. Rituals like Sapanah, where Laibons (spiritual leaders) bless or cleanse raiders, further sanctify these activities, embedding them within cultural norms despite their criminal undertones. These practices, once regulated by Kokwo (Pokot customary law), have spiraled into destabilizing cycles of violence as traditional governance structures erode under pressures of displacement, generational divides, and government – led militarization. Elders, who historically mediated conflicts and enforced communal norms, now grapple with diminished authority. Their dual roles, some covertly sanction raids (particularly Laibons involved in Sapanah) while attempting to resolve disputes, fracture community trust, exacerbating institutional breakdown.

Compounding this cultural dynamic is acute economic marginalization. With limited access to formal livelihoods, education, or infrastructure, pastoralist communities increasingly view cattle rustling as both an economic necessity and a cultural imperative. The commercialization of rustling, driven by demand for livestock in regional markets, has transformed it from a sporadic, subsistence practice into a lucrative, organized criminal enterprise. This shift is amplified by the proliferation of illicit small arms, trafficked across porous borders and distributed through political patronage networks, which escalate violence and render traditional conflict-resolution mechanisms obsolete. Meanwhile, the near-absence of government presence, manifested in inadequate policing, underdeveloped infrastructure, and minimal public services leaves communities reliant on fractured traditional systems and vulnerable to exploitation.

Political incitement further destabilizes the region, as local elites manipulate rustling for electoral mobilization or resource control. By weaponizing ethnic identities or funding armed groups, politicians deepen communal divisions and undermine trust in both state and traditional institutions. State-appointed chiefs, often operating outside their jurisdictions, struggle to enforce order, creating governance vacuums that armed gangs exploit. This institutional collapse aligns with Social Disorganization Theory's premise that weakened social controls in Tiaty, the erosion of Kokwo, generational alienation, and contradictory leadership roles fuel deviance and violence. The result is a self-perpetuating cycle: youth disenchanting by marginalization turn to rustling for

economic survival and social validation, while elders and authorities, compromised by conflicting interests, fail to restore cohesion. The resulting vacuum of authority aligns with Shaw and McKay's premise that crime flourishes in communities where informal social control collapses.

The Conflict Theory and Social Disorganization Theory explain the persistence of cattle rustling in Tiaty Sub-County by addressing both economic and social factors. Conflict Theory links poverty, resource scarcity, and limited livelihoods to rustling as a survival strategy. Social Disorganization Theory highlights how weak social structures, cultural norms, and poor community cohesion worsen the situation. Together, these theories show how economic inequalities and weakened social control create a cycle of insecurity, complicating anti-rustling efforts. Further, the interplay of these theories becomes starkly evident in the political and cultural dynamics shaping anti-rustling efforts. Politically, the marginalization of Tiaty within Kenya's devolved governance framework has perpetuated a cycle of neglect and corruption. County-led initiatives, such as the Baringo Integrated Livestock Development Program, remain underfunded and poorly implemented, reflecting broader institutional disorganization. Corruption scandals involving misallocated development funds further entrench perceptions of injustice, reinforcing conflict theory's emphasis on elite exploitation of marginalized groups. At the same time, culturally insensitive policies such as disarmament drives that criminalize the possession of firearms without addressing the pastoralist need for livestock protection, clash with Pokot and Turkana identity and livelihood practices. Social Disorganization theory explains how such policies undermine community cohesion; by dismissing cultural norms like cattle raiding as rites of passage, state interventions alienate communities and provoke resistance.

Ultimately, the cyclic relationship between structural inequities and social fragmentation underscores the limitations of siloed policy approaches. Militarized strategies that prioritize security over socio-economic development ignore the root causes of rustling, while top-down development programs that sideline cultural traditions fail to rebuild community trust. A holistic resolution demands integrating Conflict Theory's focus on equity through poverty reduction, climate-resilient livelihoods, and political inclusion with Social Disorganization theory's emphasis on revitalizing social institutions. For instance, empowering elders and women to lead grassroots peace dialogues could restore community accountability, while government-backed investments in education and livestock markets could reduce reliance on raiding.

2.2 Empirical Review

2.2.1 Effectiveness of Anti-Rustling Policies

The effectiveness of anti-rustling policies is deeply contingent on socio-economic, political, and cultural dynamics, which vary markedly across contexts. Globally, the effectiveness of policies and strategies to combat cattle rustling and banditry varies widely, as evidenced by several studies. While integrated approaches combining security, socio-economic development, and community engagement are widely advocated (Shyu, 2023; Mazuri et al., 2022), their success hinges on contextual factors such as local governance structures, cultural norms, and historical grievances. For instance, Canton (2021) and the International Crisis Group (2021) emphasize that disarmament and community policing strategies falter without sustained community trust, a lesson starkly evident in Tiaty. Here, state-led disarmament campaigns like *Operation Rudi Nyumbani* (2019) temporarily reduced cattle theft but deepened distrust due to heavy-handed tactics, mirroring findings from Northern Kenya (Leparie et al., 2021) where resource shortages and poor police-community relations undermined similar initiatives. In Tiaty, the Pokot community's perception of disarmament as a threat to their pastoralist identity and self-defense mechanisms aligns with global cases like Mexico (Flores, 2019), where marginalized communities resist militarized policies perceived as culturally oppressive.

Regionally, studies in the Horn of Africa (Mwaura & Ndungu, 2022) stress the importance of integrating traditional conflict-resolution systems, such as elder-led mediation, into formal policies. Chepyegon (2023), reinforces this in Baringo County, highlighting how erosion of *kokwo* (Pokot customary law) destabilized social cohesion, leaving a void filled by youth – led rustling gangs. This insight is acutely relevant to Tiaty. Unlike neighbouring West Pokot, where Matiko and Hamasi (2022) observed hybrid governance models blending state and traditional systems showed promise, Tiaty's sidelining of elders in policy design, exacerbated intergenerational divides. Chepyegon (2023) links this youth disenchantment, driven by unemployment and cultural dislocation, a pattern echoed in West Africa (Adeyemi, 2024), where economic despair fuels recruitment into rustling gangs. Tiaty's 80% poverty rate (KNBS, 2019) and climate-induced resource scarcity amplify these dynamics, creating a feedback loop where rustling becomes both

an economic lifeline and a cultural assertion, a phenomenon documented in pastoralist regions globally (FAO, 2021).

Nationally, Kenya's anti-rustling efforts are undermined by political interference and corruption (Olojede & Nebeife, 2023), challenges magnified in Tiaty. Chepyegon, (2023) details how where historical marginalization and elite exploitation of county resources perpetuate cycles of neglect, with funds for initiatives like the Baringo Integrated Livestock Development Program rarely reaching grassroots communities in Tiaty. This mirrors systemic failures in Nigeria's North-Central region (Okoli & Atelhe, 2014) and reflects Kenya's broader struggle to address intercommunal grievances, such as Pokot – Ilchamus grazing disputes. This aligns with critiques of Kenya's National Policy on Peacebuilding (2021), which prioritizes top-down interventions over hyper-local reconciliation, further entrenching distrust. Comparative lessons from Latin America (Flores, 2019) and South Asia (Singh, 2018) further underscore that policies excluding marginalized voices risk entrenching resistance, as seen in Tiaty's rejection of formal education programs perceived as incompatible with pastoralist traditions.

Tiaty's context demands a hybrid approach that adapts global frameworks to its distinct socio-cultural fabric. This resounds with Chepyegon's findings which advocate for hybrid approaches tailored to local realities. For instance, community policing models from Northern Kenya (Leparie et al., 2021) could gain traction in Tiaty if paired with revitalized kokwo systems and youth-focused livelihood programs. Likewise, West Africa's emphasis on tailoring interventions (Adeyemi, 2024) aligns with the need to address Tiaty's climate vulnerabilities through drought-resilient pastoralism, rather than generic development templates. Crucially, Chepyegon emphasizes decentralizing power and resources to grassroots institutions such as women-led peace networks, to counter decades of state neglect. These recommendations resonate with global lessons from Mexico and South Asia, where inclusive, culturally sensitive policies reduced resistance and improved outcomes (Flores, 2019; Singh, 2018).

2.2.2 Factors Influencing the Success of Anti-Rustling Policies

The effectiveness of anti-rustling policies globally and regionally hinges on socio-economic, political, and cultural dynamics that mirror, but are uniquely amplified in Tiaty Constituency,

Baringo County. In Sudan, Hilhorst et al. (2020) found that resource scarcity transforms cattle theft into a survival strategy for marginalized groups, a dynamic mirrored in Tiaty, where over 70% of residents live below the poverty line (KNBS, 2019). Youth in Tiaty, facing limited access to education or vocational training, often rationalize rustling as one of the few viable economic opportunities, echoing findings from East Africa (Abdi, 2023). However, West Africa's integrated approaches (Adeyemi, 2024), which pair security measures with livelihood programs such as microloans for agro – pastoralism, offer a blueprint for Tiaty. For instance, introducing drought-resilient livestock value chains such as milk cooperatives could reduce reliance on cattle raids while respecting pastoralist identities.

In contrast, purely security-focused policies in Tiaty, such as Kenya's militarized disarmament campaigns, have failed to address these root causes. The Baringo Integrated Livestock Development Program, a County initiative, remains underfunded and poorly implemented locally, reflecting systemic neglect. To break this cycle, Tiaty requires hyper-localized socio-economic interventions such as community-owned fodder farms or mobile veterinary services, that align with pastoralist mobility and cultural values.

Besides, political corruption and elite exploitation are pervasive challenges. In Nigeria, Ekpo (2023) documented how embezzlement of anti-rustling funds undermines enforcement, a pattern evident in Kenya's North Rift, where political actors often collude with rustling networks to consolidate power (Mkutu et al., 2021). In Tiaty, corruption within Baringo County's governance structures has diverted resources from critical projects like water infrastructure, exacerbating resource competition.

However, West Pokot's success (Matiko & Hamasi, 2022) demonstrates that political will and transparency can yield results. By involving local leaders in policy design and ensuring equitable resource allocation, West Pokot reduced cattle theft by 40% between 2018–2021. Key to this was the establishment of peace committees co-chaired by elders and county officials, which mediated grazing disputes and monitored disarmament. Tiaty's exclusion of Pokot elders from decision-making, contrasted with West Pokot's inclusive model, highlights a critical gap. Reviving Tiaty's traditional kokwo councils and integrating them into county peacebuilding frameworks could rebuild trust and accountability.

Meanwhile, cattle rustling in Tiaty is not merely criminal but culturally entrenched. The Pokot's age – set system, where raiding historically marked a warrior's transition to adulthood (Rutto, 2022), complicates disarmament efforts. Similarly, in Nigeria's Beni State, externally imposed policies failed until traditional leaders were incorporated into conflict – resolution mechanisms (Wapmuk, 2023). Rajasthan's success in India (Shyu, 2023), blending formal law with jati panchayats (caste councils), underscores the value of hybrid governance. For Tiaty, this suggests a need to reframe anti-rustling strategies through cultural legitimacy. For example, repurposing raiding rituals into livestock management competitions as seen in Ethiopia's Borana communities, could redirect youth energy toward sustainable pastoralism. Additionally, involving Laibons (spiritual leaders) in peace dialogues could mitigate perceptions of state policies as culturally oppressive.

2.2.3 Contextual Dynamics and Anti – Rustling Policy Outcomes

Drawing on global insights, the integration of traditional conflict resolution mechanisms with modern legal frameworks emerges as a critical strategy. Scholars such as Paalo and Issifu (2021) argue that blending community-led practices such as mediation by elders and livestock restitution rituals, with formal justice systems strengthens cultural legitimacy while addressing contemporary security challenges. In Tiaty, where pastoralist traditions deeply influence social dynamics, this dual approach could bridge gaps between customary norms and state-led interventions. By fostering community buy-in and aligning enforcement mechanisms with local values, such integration directly addresses socio-cultural barriers that often hinder policy implementation.

Regionally, the under-resourcing of community policing remains a significant obstacle. Higgins et al. (2020) emphasize that targeted funding and specialized training for local law enforcement are vital to enhancing operational capacity. For Tiaty, this translates to prioritizing investments in equipment, intelligence-gathering tools, and trauma-informed training for officers operating in high-risk areas. Strengthening community policing not only improves crime prevention but also mitigates vulnerabilities like corruption and political interference. By fostering trust between security agencies and pastoralist communities, a cornerstone of collaborative anti-rustling efforts, this strategy addresses systemic weaknesses in governance and resource management.

At the local level, participatory policy-making is key to ensuring strategies resonate with community needs. Mwangi and Kihara (2021) highlight that involving grassroots leaders and residents in drafting policies can counter historical marginalization and political sabotage. For instance, co-designing cattle-tracking systems or grazing agreements with local stakeholders enhances compliance and ownership. However, Kappeler et al. (2020) caution that political interference and opaque resource allocation often undermine such efforts. Curtailing elite capture of anti-rustling programs and establishing transparent oversight mechanisms are therefore critical. Addressing these governance challenges aligns interventions with Tiaty's socio-political realities, ensuring policies are both equitable and enforceable.

Cultural sensitivity and institutional integrity further shape policy success. Sanchi et al. (2022) advocate for incorporating indigenous practices like adakar (traditional restitution rituals) into formal strategies to enhance legitimacy. Similarly, Bareebe (2020) underscores the need to depoliticize resource management, proposing independent oversight bodies to monitor anti-rustling funds. Such measures not only reduce corruption but also build trust between communities and authorities. Together, these steps create a foundation for culturally grounded, institutionally robust policies that address the root causes of cattle rustling, such as resource competition and systemic disenfranchisement.

2.3 Summary of Literature Review

The studies reviewed leveraged on various approaches and methodologies to address insecurity, violence, and cattle rustling in different regions, highlighting gaps in current policies and strategies. Abdi (2023) used a descriptive survey design to explore the effects of insecurity on the socio-economic activities of pastoralist communities in Mandera County, Kenya. The study revealed the necessity for stronger security measures but did not fully address the effectiveness of conflict resolution strategies. Similarly, Akpehe et al. (2020) found that communal violence severely affects women's health security but lacked an exploration of proactive, community-driven approaches to safeguard this security. Canton (2021) assessed the temporary success of disarmament and community policing initiatives, calling for sustained community engagement. The International Crisis Group (ICG, 2021) analysed anti-banditry strategies in China, highlighting

the need for better local engagement and resource allocation, while Shyu (2023) pointed to the constraints in integrated security and socio-economic development approaches due to poor implementation and planning. The research further explored specific challenges in anti-rustling strategies and community-based approaches. Leparie et al. (2021) identified resource shortages and insufficient training as significant barriers to community policing in Northern Kenya. Mwaura and Ndungu (2022) and Adeyemi (2024) emphasized the importance of integrating traditional conflict resolution mechanisms and customizing interventions to local socio-economic conditions in the Horn of Africa and West Africa, respectively. Mwenda (2021) and Matiko and Hamasi (2022) highlighted the initial success and long-term challenges of Kenya's disarmament initiatives and community-based approaches in West Pokot. Finally, studies by Olojede and Nebeife (2023) and Mazuri et al. (2022) stressed the detrimental effects of political interference and corruption on anti-rustling policies and the need for modern technology in combating cattle rustling in Baringo County, Kenya (see Table 2.1).

2.4 Research Gap

Despite the growing body of literature that examined anti-rustling policies, significant research gaps persisted (See **Table 2.1**). Many existing studies focused on socio-economic, political, or cultural factors in isolation, overlooking the complex interactions among these dimensions. Furthermore, there was a lack of comprehensive analyses evaluating the long-term effectiveness of various anti-rustling strategies across different regions, particularly in East Africa, where such practices were widespread. This gap was further compounded by limited empirical evidence on the specific mechanisms through which political corruption and cultural acceptance of rustling influenced socio-economic conditions. As a result, there was a pressing need for research that employed a holistic framework to assess these interconnected factors and their impact on policy effectiveness, with an emphasis on developing integrated, context-sensitive solutions informed by successful practices from diverse regions.

Table 2.1: Summary of Literature Review and Research Gap

Author (s)/Year	Key Findings	Research Gaps Addressed in This Study
Abdi (2023)	Highlighted socio – economic impacts of insecurity on pastoralists but lacked analysis of conflict resolution strategies	Examines holistic interactions of socio – economic, political and cultural factors in shaping anti – rustling policies.
Akpehe et al (2020)	Identified communal violence’s health impacts on women but overlooked proactive community – driven solutions	Proposes women – led dialogue circles to integrate marginalized voices into policy design
Canton (2021)	Found disarmament/community policing offers only temporary security without sustained engagement	Evaluates long term effectiveness of hybrid governance in Tiaty
Chepyegon (2023)	Anti – rustling policies failed due lack of integration of traditional governance and localized socio – economic reforms policies. This was inflamed by cultural erosion, socio – economic marginalization and political corruption perpetuate cattle rustling	Focuses on how anti – rustling strategies and policies can be redesigned to address Tiaty’s cultural legitimacy deficits, governance failures and socio – economic inequities.
ICG (2021)	Anti – banditry strategies in China failed due to weak local engagement and resource allocation	Focuses on Tiaty – specific dynamics such as integrating elders into County Peace committees
Shyu (2023)	Integrated security development approaches constrained by poor implementation planning	Advocates for decentralized, culturally adaptive frameworks
Leparie et al (2021)	Community policing in Northern Kenya hindered by resource shortages and poor training	Recommends participatory budgeting and GPS – enabled pastoralist resource mapping to improve equity

Author (s)/Year	Key Findings	Research Gaps Addressed in This Study
Mwaura & Ndungu (2022)	Emphasized integrating traditional conflict resolution but neglected modern governance linkages	Proposes hybrid governance
Adeyemi (2024)	Tailored socio – economic interventions in West Africa reduced rustling but lacked scalability	Designs climate – resilient livelihood programs specific to Tiaty’s ecology
Mwenda (2021)	Kenya’s disarmament programs failed due to unresolved root causes such as poverty	Analyzes structural drivers including youth unemployment and links them to policy design
Matiko & Hamasi (2022)	Community – based policing in West Pokot succeeded with local leadership involvement	Adapts West Pokot model to Tiaty by reviving elder – led councils for dispute resolutions
Olejede & Nebeife (2023)	Political interference and corruption undermine anti – rustling efforts in Kenya	Proposes ward – level anti – corruption task forces to enhance transparency in resource allocation
Mazuri et al (2022)	Integrated North Rift programs reduced rustling but faced uneven implementation	Advocates for decentralized, community – led monitoring of peacebuilding initiatives in Tiaty

2.5 Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework in Figure 2.1 outlines the relationship between the independent variables (inputs), the mediating variables (influencing factors) and their effect on the dependent variables (outcome and impact). The arrows indicate causal relationships and the feedback loop which shows that the success or failure of outcomes informs review and adjustment of policies and strategies. These arrows imply that changes or variations in these factors have a direct impact on the success of anti-rustling initiatives.

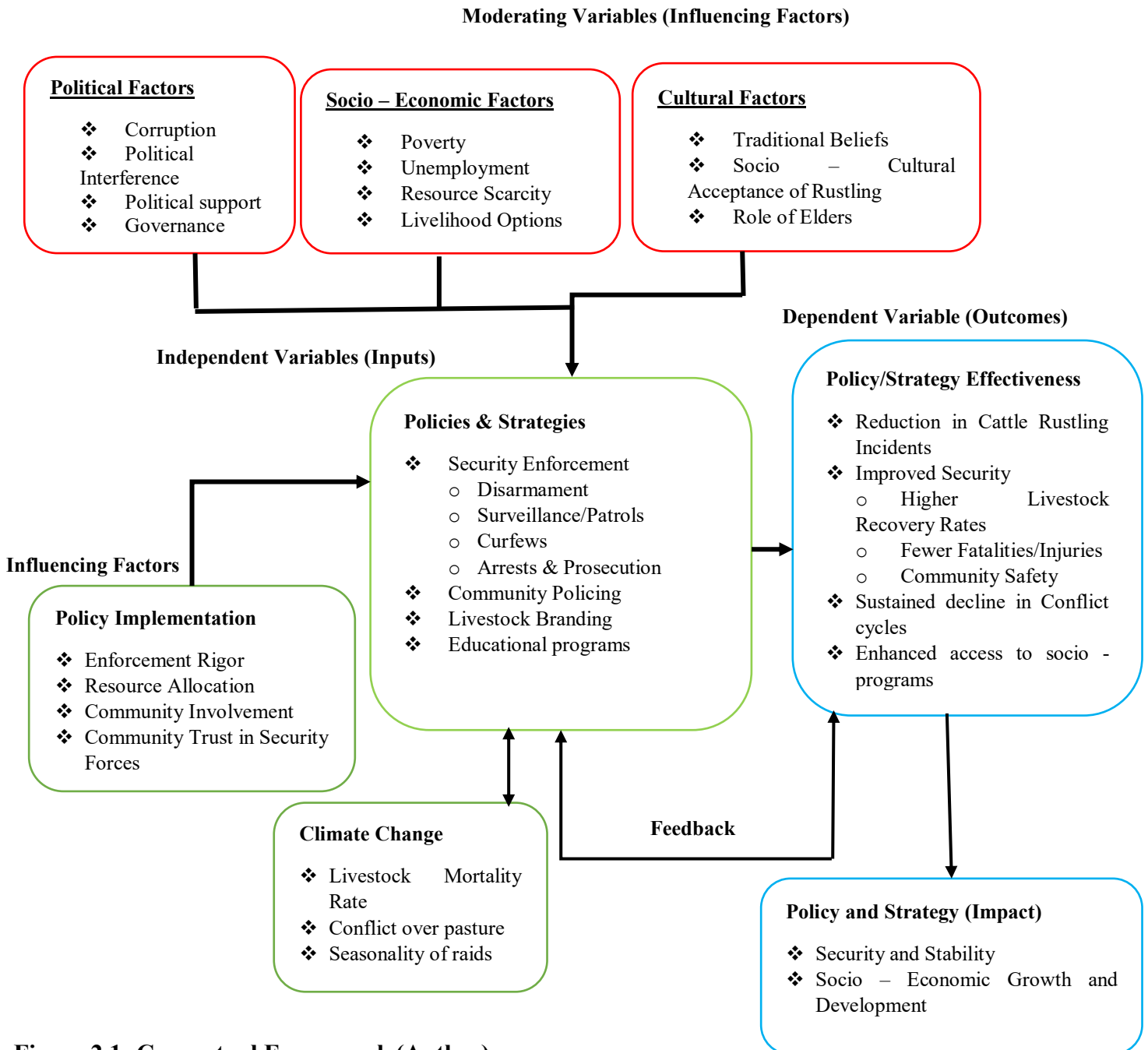


Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework (Author)

2.5 Operationalization of Variables

Variable Category	Variable	Indicators	Measurement	Data Source
Independent Variable (Inputs)	Anti – Rustling Policies & Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disarmament programs • Surveillance/Patrols • Curfews • Arrests & Prosecution • Community Policing • Livestock Branding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of weapons Recovered/collected. • Number of patrols and Surveillance conducted • Arrest and prosecution rates • Frequency of security operations conducted • Livestock recovery rates. • Reduction in cattle rustling incidents. 	Security reports, police records, Interviews
	Policy Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequency of Security Operations. • Resources Allocated for implementation • Level of community participation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting rates of rustling incidents by locals. • Percentage of locals involved in peace committees 	Community Survey, security reports, Minutes of the meetings held, Interviews and FGDs
Moderating Variables (Influencing Factors)	Political Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corruption • Political Interference • Governance Issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corruption perception Index • Level of Political Influence on Law Enforcement Agencies • Transparency of governance structures 	Interviews, FGDs, Case Studies County Audit reports
	Socio – Economic Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty • Unemployment • Resource Scarcity • Livelihood Options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty rates • Employment rates • Resource availability and accessibility. 	Economic Surveys, FGDs, Baringo County CIDPs & Community Survey

Variable Category	Variable	Indicators	Measurement	Data Source
Moderating Variables (Influencing Factors)	Cultural Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional Beliefs • Socio - Cultural Acceptance of Rustling • Role of Elders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community norms • Attitudes towards rustling • Role of cultural leader • No. of community peace and conflict/dispute resolution meetings • Cultural sanctioning of raids. • Level of Intergenerational Transmission of Cattle Rustling Practices 	Community surveys, Ethnographic Observations & Interviews
Dependent Variables (Outcomes)	Policy/Strategy Effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced Cattle Rustling Incidents • Improved Security Outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Higher Livestock Recovery Rates ○ Fewer Fatalities/Injuries ○ Enhanced Community Perception of Community Safety • Sustained decline in Conflict cycles. • Improved livelihoods. • Education programs conducted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of raids and livestock theft. • No. of casualties reported. • Locals' perception on community safety. • No. of firearms Recovered. • Frequency of rustling incidents. • Improved access to social programs e.g. education and healthcare services. • Availability of alternative livelihoods. • Literacy levels. 	Community surveys, Security Reports, Interviews & FGDs
Independent Variable (influencing resource scarcity and allocation)	Climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock Mortality Rate • Conflict over pasture • Seasonality of raids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of herd loss due to drought/diseases. • No of clashes reported at water points annually. • Correlation between raid frequency and dry seasons. 	Police records, NGO conflict publications, Crime reports, community surveys.

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter focuses on the methodology that was applied to evaluate the effectiveness of anti – rustling strategies and their influencing factors. It covers research design, the target population, the study area description, the sample size and sampling procedure. It also outlines the methods of data collection, data analysis and ethical considerations.

3.1 Research Philosophy

This study followed pragmatism as its research philosophy. Pragmatism focuses on practical solutions and combines different research methods. It suits complex issues like cattle rustling, which involves social, economic, political, and cultural factors. This approach allowed the researcher to use both qualitative and quantitative methods. The study prioritized realistic solutions to improve anti-rustling policies in Tiaty Constituency. The findings are relevant to policymakers, security agencies, and local communities.

Pragmatism provided flexibility in studying Tiaty’s unique challenges. It supported mixed methods, including questionnaires, interviews, and policy analysis. This approach captured diverse insights and led to context-specific recommendations. The philosophy aligned with the study’s goal of combining theory with practical solutions. It improves the effectiveness of anti-rustling interventions in the region.

3.2 The Research Design

This study utilized a convergent parallel mixed-methods research design to holistically assess the effectiveness of anti-rustling policies and strategies in Tiaty Sub-County, Baringo County. Recognizing the multifaceted nature of cattle rustling, a phenomenon shaped by socio-cultural, political, economic, and environmental dynamics, the design combined quantitative and qualitative approaches to capture both empirical trends and contextual narratives. Quantitative and

qualitative data were collected concurrently but analyzed separately, with integration occurring during the interpretation phase to synthesize findings into a cohesive understanding of policy impacts.

The quantitative component centered on measurable variables to identify statistical patterns. Structured questionnaires, featuring closed-ended questions and Likert scales, were administered to gather numerical data on cattle rustling incident frequencies, livestock recovery rates, community perceptions of safety, and socio-economic indicators such as poverty and unemployment levels among others. These data were analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS), to uncover correlations and to evaluate the measurable outcomes of anti-rustling interventions.

Simultaneously, the qualitative component delved into the lived experiences and contextual factors influencing policy implementation. Key informant interviews with policymakers, security officials, local administration and elders provided insights into governance challenges and institutional barriers. Focus group discussions (FGDs) with pastoralist communities (Tiaty residents) explored cultural norms, clan dynamics, and perceptions of security measures. Open-ended survey questions further illuminated localized narratives, such as community distrust in law enforcement or the interplay between resource scarcity and raid motivations. Qualitative data were thematically analyzed to identify recurring patterns, such as corruption impeding policy enforcement or cultural practices legitimizing resistance to external interventions.

The integration of findings occurred during the interpretation phase, where quantitative trends were juxtaposed with qualitative themes to validate and contextualize results. For example, statistical declines in rustling incidents were cross-examined with community accounts of underreporting due to fear of reprisal, revealing gaps in official crime data. Conversely, qualitative narratives about elite political interference in security operations were reinforced by quantitative correlations between election cycles and spikes in raid frequencies. This triangulation strengthened the study's validity, ensuring that numerical patterns were grounded in socio-political realities, while anecdotal evidence was supported by empirical rigor.

By adopting this design, the study achieved a nuanced understanding of how anti-rustling policies function within Tiaty's unique context. The quantitative strand provided breadth, revealing macro-level trends and policy impacts, while the qualitative strand added depth, unpacking the cultural, political, and socio-economic undercurrents shaping those trends. This dual approach ensured the research outcomes were both statistically robust and richly contextualized, offering actionable insights for policymakers seeking to align national strategies with hyper-local realities in conflict-affected pastoralist regions.

3.3 Study Area

The study area is Tiaty Constituency, located in Baringo County, Kenya, presented a compelling study for evaluating anti-rustling policies and strategies due to its unique convergence of geographical, historical and socio-political factors. It is situated at the crossroads of four counties/sub counties: West Pokot (West), Turkana (North), Laikipia (East) and Baringo South/North to the South. This places it at the epicenter of pastoralist conflict systems in Kenya's North Rift region. This borderland location facilitates cross-border cattle rustling networks while intensifying competition over scarce grazing resources, particularly during drought periods, when communities are forced to migrate further afield.

The constituency's administrative structure, comprising Tiaty East and Tiaty West with a proposed Tiaty Central yet to be operationalized, reflects broader governance challenges that undermine security interventions. Chronic underdevelopment and weak government presence manifest in inadequate infrastructure. This institutional neglect has created a fertile ground for the evolution of cattle rustling from traditional cultural practice to sophisticated criminal enterprise, with proliferation of modern firearms transforming what were once symbolic raids into lethal, large scale operations. Tiaty's historical experience with cattle rustling is unparalleled in its intensity and duration. Between 2018 and 2023, the constituency accounted for 63% of cattle rustling incidents in Baringo County, with particularly severe outbreaks during drought periods. The humanitarian consequences have been devastating, including the displacement of over 20,000 residents and the closure of 12 schools since 2020 due to insecurity. These dynamics exacerbated by the near-total economic dependence on pastoralism, with climate shocks pushing vulnerable youth into rustling as a survival strategy.

The study of Tiaty offers unique insights into the complex interplay between local cultural, political and socio – economic systems, national policy frameworks and transnational security challenges. Moreover, Tiaty’s experience provides critical lessons for neighbouring counties such as Turkana facing similar security dilemmas, making it an ideal laboratory for testing the effectiveness of anti – rustling interventions in Kenya’s marginalized pastoralist frontiers.

3.4 Target Population

According to KNBS (2019), the total population of interest for this research is about 153,347 people (Tiaty West Sub County: 79,923 and Tiaty East Sub County: 73,424). The target population of this study were the residents of Tiaty which is the area of study. The population is further organized into households distributed across the seven (7) wards in Tiaty Constituency. These wards are Kolowa, Ribkwo, Tirioko, Tangelbei/Korossi, Silale, Loiyamorok and Churo/Amaya (See Table 3.1).

Table 3.1 Tiaty Household Distribution

Sub County	Wards	No. Households		
		Conventional	Group Quarters	Total
Tiaty East	Silale	12,038	115	12,153
	Tangelbei			
	Loiyamorok			
	Churo/Amaya			
Tiaty West	Tirioko	14,392	106	14,498
	Kolowa			
	Ribkwo			
Total		26,430	221	26,651

(Source: KNBS,) 2019

The unit of analysis was individuals, with a focus on households. Cattle rustling affects entire households economically and socially. Decisions on cattle ownership are often made collectively within families. This choice ensured that data reflected the broader community and captured family experiences.

Key informants included law enforcement agencies and National Government Administrative Officers (NGAO) in Tiaty. Participants included Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) officers under

Operation Maliza Uhalifu (OMU), police, General Service Unit (GSU), and Anti-Stock Theft Unit (ASTU) deployed in the region. Policy advisors and policymakers also contributed to the study

3.5 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure

The sample size is the number of individuals or units selected for data collection purposes from the population of interest (Field, 2005). For this research, the local residents' sample size was defined using the sample size formulas proposed by Krejcie & Morgan (1970). The formula helps in calculating the minimum sample size needed to accurately represent the entire population.

$$S = \text{Sample size} = \frac{(X^2 * N * P * (1 - P))}{d^2 * (N - 1) + X^2 * P * (1 - P)}$$

Where;

S= Required sample size

X^2 = Chi – square value for 1 degree of freedom at the desired confidence level (3.841 for 95% confidence level)

N= Population size (153,347 people)

P=Population proportion (assumed to be 0.5 (50%) for maximum sample size)

d= Degree of accuracy or margin of error (usually 0.05 for 95% confidence level)

$$= \frac{(3.841^2 * 153,347 * 0.5 * (1 - 0.5))}{(0.05)^2 * (153,347 - 1) + 3.841 * 0.5 * (1 - 0.5)}$$

$$= \frac{147,197.94}{384.32675} = 383.09$$

The sample size for this study was 384 respondents, as Tiaty Constituency has an approximate population of 153,344, ensuring that the findings are statistically significant at a 95% confidence level with a margin of error of $\pm 5\%$. This sample size will allow for meaningful analysis and generalization of the findings to the broader population in Tiaty Constituency. The 384 respondents were distributed across the two (2) Sub Counties in Tiaty according to their population quota of the total population of Tiaty (as shown in Table 3.2).

Table 3.2: **Sample Population**

Sub County	Population	Sample
Tiaty West	79,923	200
Tiaty East	73,424	184
Total	153,347	384

Source: KNBS (2019)

The study used random sampling to ensure representativeness across the two sub counties (Tiaty East and Tiaty West Sub Counties). In the first step, the population of each Sub County was calculated as a proportion of Tiaty Constituency population (as shown in Table 3.2). Thereafter, systematic random sampling was used to sample individuals from all sub counties for inclusion into the final sample. The 384 respondents were therefore distributed across the sub counties in accordance to their population quota. In systematic random sampling, the first respondent were selected randomly and the next were selected after every household. In areas where there was insecurity threats, with the help of local administration and security elements deployed in the region particularly KDF, community barazas were organized where the questionnaires were administered and Focused Group Discussions were held until the desired number of respondents was achieved.

Key informants were purposively selected for inclusion in the study. Their inclusion was based on the position held in the community, NGAO, security agencies, and relevant ministries in the country.

Table 3.3: Proposed Key Informant List

Category	Respondent Category	Sub County	Sample	Data Collection Method
Security Personnel	KDF	Chemolingot, Kolowa, Tangelbei	10	Interview
	KPS/NPS	Tiaty East/West	10	Interview
	ASTU	Tangelbei	10	Interview
NGAO	DCC/ACC	Kolowa, Tangelbei	9	Interview
	Chiefs	Koisakat, Lamuyek, Chemoril, Kakapul, Loiyamorok, Silale, Churo, and Tangelbei	10	Interview
Local Residents	Village Leaders/Elders	Saimo Soi, and Ngorora in Bartabwa	10	Interview
	Youths	Saimo Soi, and Ngorora in Bartabwa	10	Interview
Key Stakeholders/ Policy Advisors	Scholars		2	Interview
	MoE	Kabarnet, Tangelbei and Kolowa	10	Interview
Total			81	

Source: Author (2025)

3.6 Data Collection Methods

Data collection involves gathering measurable raw data based on variables of interest, which are then analyzed to draw conclusions about the phenomenon under study. There are two primary data collection methods: qualitative and quantitative. This study employed a mixed-method approach, incorporating both qualitative and quantitative methods. The qualitative method focused on gathering structured numerical data through questionnaires administered to 384 systematically selected respondents across Tiaty East and Tiaty West Sub Counties. The questionnaire incorporated Likert scale items and open-ended questions. To enhance reliability, these surveys findings were triangulated with official crime reports/statistics and administrative records from local authorities.

Complementing this numerical data, the qualitative component employed in – depth interviews with 28 strategically selected key informants including NGAO, security personnel, village elders/community leaders, scholars and policy advisors/implementers. These semi – structured interviews explored socio – economic, cultural and political dimensions of cattle rustling. Focus group discussions with pastoral communities provided additional depth, revealing collective perspectives on policy effectiveness and local security dynamics. In areas where security concerns precluded standard data collection methods, research team adapted by organizing community barazas (public meetings) with the support the supervision of local administrators and security forces, ensuring both safety and methodological rigor. Equally, secondary data was employed to assess how climate change has affected the effectiveness of the policies and strategies.

3.7 Research Quality

Ensuring the quality of research is crucial for obtaining credible and actionable results. This study addressed validity, reliability, and objectivity to maintain the integrity and rigor of the research process.

3.7.1 Validity

Validity refers to the accuracy and appropriateness of the research measures and methods in capturing the intended constructs. To ensure the validity of the study, a rigorous multi-method strategy was employed. The research combined quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews in a convergent parallel design, allowing for triangulation of data. This approach enabled cross-verification of findings, such as comparing statistical trends in cattle rustling incidents with community narratives gathered during interviews. To strengthen content validity, survey and interview instruments were reviewed by one expert from conflict and policy studies. Construct validity was further reinforced by aligning survey items with established national indices, such as Kenya's socio-economic metrics. Internal consistency was assessed using Cronbach's alpha ($\alpha = 0.82$), confirming that scales measuring constructs like 'trust in law enforcement' were reliable. Member checking was also conducted, where preliminary findings were shared with participants, including elders and policymakers, to validate cultural and contextual accuracy.

3.7.2 Reliability

This pertains to the coherence and dependability of the research findings. To ensure reliability, the study adopted a standardized data collection procedures and instruments. Reliability was safeguarded through standardized protocols and systematic checks. Structured questionnaires with fixed Likert-scale and closed-ended response options minimized variability, while a detailed procedural manual ensured uniformity in administering surveys and interviews. Inter-rater reliability was addressed by training two (2) research assistants in qualitative coding techniques, achieving a Cohen's kappa coefficient of $\kappa = 0.78$, reflecting strong agreement in thematic analysis. A subset of interviews (20%) was double-coded to resolve discrepancies through consensus. Prior to full deployment, a pilot test involving 20 participants revealed ambiguities in phrasing such as reworking 'policy effectiveness' to 'reduction in raids', leading to refinements in both instruments and logistical workflows, such as hiring bilingual facilitators to address translation challenges.

Objectivity: Objectivity involves maintaining impartiality and avoiding bias in the research process. To ensure objectivity, the study followed a rigorous and transparent methodology,

including detailed documentation of research procedures and decisions. Research assistant was trained to avoid personal biases and adhere to ethical guidelines throughout the study. The use of multiple data sources and methods, such as surveys and interviews coupled with multiple similar questions helped counteract individual biases and provide a more balanced perspective.

3.8 Data Analysis and Presentation

Data analysis is the process of answering research questions through the examination and interpretation of collected data. The study employed a mixed approach to comprehensively examine the effectiveness of anti – rustling policies in Tiaty and their influencing factors. Quantitative data was analysed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS), a software tool for statistical analysis. Descriptive statistical analysis was conducted and results were summarized in frequency tables to illustrate key distributions and patterns within the dataset.

The qualitative data analysis was conducted using NVivo 12 Pro software, which facilitated systematic approach to thematic analysis. After transcribing all interviews and focus group discussions verbatim. The coding process involved two distinct cycles: initial open coding to identify emerging concepts, followed by a focused coding to develop and refine thematic categories.

To ensure the reliability of qualitative findings, an independent researcher coded a 15% sample of the data, achieving a strong intercoder reliability ($k = 0.82$), as calculated through NVivo’s coding comparison feature. The software’s query and matrix functions allowed for quantification of them prevalence and examination of patterns across different respondent groups.

Qualitative data, collected through interviews and questionnaires, was analysed thematically. Statements and explanations from key informants and respondents were organized into themes aligned with the study objectives for a structured analysis.

The integration of quantitative and qualitative approaches identified significant patterns in data, providing rich contextual understanding, of why these patterns emerged. This offers policymakers both the ‘what’ and the ‘why’ behind anti – rustling policy and strategy effectiveness in Tiaty.

3.9 Ethical Considerations

These are essential for ensuring the integrity of the study and protecting the rights and welfare of participants (Brittain et al.,2020). The research was conducted for academic and policy contributions, supported by an introductory letter from Strathmore University. The research proposal underwent ethical review and received approval from the Strathmore University Institutional Scientific and Ethics Review Committee (SU-ISERC). Furthermore, a research permit was obtained from the National Commission for Science, Technology, and Innovation (NACOSTI) to facilitate the academic investigation.

This study prioritized informed consent, ensuring that participants fully understood the nature and purpose of the research before they agreed to participate. Comprehensive consent forms were provided, detailing the study's objectives, procedures, and any potential risks. Participants were required to give written consent and were informed of their right to withdraw from the study at any time without facing negative consequences. However, for security reasons, the participants consented verbally. This ensured voluntary participation in the study. Additionally, anonymity and confidentiality were prioritized through multiple layers of protection. All participants were assigned pseudonyms during data collection and analysis, with no personally identifiable information recorded in transcripts or reports. Audio recordings, field notes and consent forms were stored on encrypted and password protected device exclusively accessible to the research team.

CHAPTER FOUR

ANALYSIS AND SYNTHESIS OF FINDINGS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter centers on the analysis, synthesis, and discussion of the data gathered during the research. The analyses will be presented through detailed narratives and diagrams, to ensure clarity and accessibility. The discussion will align the findings with the empirical literature review and the theoretical framework introduced in the earlier chapters, providing a cohesive and insightful interpretation of the results.

4.1 Response rate

The study targeted a sample of 384 respondents from Tiaty, including local authorities, policymakers, and law enforcement agencies. Out of this sample, the researcher received a total of 228 questionnaires. Of these, 223 questionnaires were deemed usable, while 5 were inadmissible due to inadequacies such as incomplete responses or being entirely unfilled. Based on the comparison between the targeted 384 respondents and the usable questionnaires (223) received, the response rate was calculated to be 58%. According to social science scholars such as Babbie (1990), this response rate is considered acceptable and sufficient for conducting reliable analysis.

Additionally, the researcher conducted qualitative key informant interviews. A total of 28 out of 81 interviews were held across Tiaty East and Tiaty West Sub Counties with key stakeholders, including Deputy County Commissioners (DCCs) (2), Chiefs (6), Village Elders (6), Youths (3), Officers Commanding Police Divisions (OCPDs) (2), Officers Commanding Stations (OCSs) (4), the Commander of Operation Maliza Uhalifu (1), KDF Officer Commanding (3), the Officer in Charge of the Anti-Stock Theft Unit (ASTU) (1). Additionally, interviews were conducted targeting individuals involved in policy and strategy development from different agencies including top KDF leadership (5), NPS (1), scholars (1) and Ministry of Education (2). This brought the total number of respondents involved in the study to 260 (67.7%).

It is important to acknowledge the challenges encountered during data collection. Insecurity within Tiaty Sub County posed significant barriers, limiting the researcher's ability to travel widely. As

a result, data was collected from accessible areas where security agencies assured safety. Additional challenges included difficulties in interviewing local residents due to restricted access, language barriers, cultural nuances and time which posed significant challenges to quest for data. However, these obstacles were effectively mitigated through collaboration with security agencies deployed on ground and local administration, enabling the collection of maximum possible data for this study.

4.2 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

This section presents the socio – demographic profile of the study participants, providing crucial context for understanding community perspectives on cattle rustling and anti – rustling policies and strategies in Tiaty. The analysis focuses on five key demographic variables that directly relate to the study’s objectives of assessing policy effectiveness, socio – economic influences, governance roles and cultural factors in cattle rustling.

4.2.1 Gender Distribution

The gender composition revealed a significant male predominance (92%), with only 5.8% female participation and 2.2% preferring not to disclose (see Table 4.1).

Table 4.1: Gender of Respondents

Gender	Frequency	Valid Percent
Male	205	92.0
Female	13	5.8
Prefer not to say	5	2.2
Total	223	100.0

(Source: Field Data, 2025)

80% of the male respondents largely affirmed that initiatives such as armed patrols, disarmament operations, and surveillance efforts had contributed to a significant decline in rustling incidents. While these strategies were credited with enhancing immediate security, 98% of the female respondents voiced concerns that long – term peace and stability remained fragile. They noted that the exclusion of women from community security discussions and decision-making forums limited the reach and sustainability of these interventions. This exclusion perpetuates gaps in community – led security frameworks, suggesting that female inclusion could enhance policy outcomes. Further, 98% of both male and female respondents identified poverty, youth unemployment, and lack of education as major drivers of rustling activities. While 90% of male respondents cited economic desperation as a key motivator for engaging in cattle raids, 100% of female respondents linked the issue to food insecurity and inadequate access to income-generating opportunities.

Women emphasized the need for inclusive economic empowerment programs that address the root causes of insecurity, particularly among young men who are often the primary actors in cattle rustling. They further argued that anti-rustling policies would be more effective if they were complemented with development-oriented initiatives such as vocational training, small enterprise support, and education programs, especially for marginalized groups.

Further, findings indicated that political interference and selective enforcement of policies were major concerns among respondents. Over half of the male participants (52%) felt that inconsistent government commitment and political manipulation had eroded public trust in state-led interventions. In contrast, 72% of female respondents expressed frustration at the failure of political leaders to meaningfully engage women in peace dialogues, resource allocation, and decision-making processes. Many believed that the exclusion of women from political platforms limited the representativeness and fairness of the strategies being employed, further weakening their impact on the ground.

Finally, the study revealed contrasting perspectives between genders. A majority of male respondents (61%) acknowledged that cultural norms, particularly those that celebrate cattle raiding as a rite of passage or proof of bravery continued to legitimize rustling in the eyes of many young men. They noted that these cultural values, undermined formal security measures and made policy enforcement more difficult. On the other hand, 80% of female respondents advocated for a cultural shift, arguing that such beliefs needed to be challenged and reformed if sustainable peace was to be achieved. Women called for greater inclusion in cultural leadership and local institutions, where they could play a central role in promoting peace education, community cohesion, and cultural transformation.

4.2.2 Age Profile

The age distribution of respondents revealed a significant concentration within the economically active population, particularly those aged between 26 and 45 years. Specifically, 33.2% of the respondents fell within the 26–35 age group, while 43.9% were aged between 36 and 45. Youth aged 18–25 accounted for 8.5%, individuals aged 46–55 made up 3.6%, and those aged 56 and above comprised 10.8% of the total sample (see Table 4.2). 80% of the dominant age groups,

particularly the 26–45 age bracket noted that while there had been notable security gains, including a reported 40% decrease in cattle rustling incidents over the past three years, existing policies still lacked depth in addressing long-term security. They expressed concern that the focus on short-term law enforcement operations had not been matched with socio-economic reforms or inclusive community engagement. 92% of the youth cohort (18–25), though underrepresented, raised issues around unemployment and idleness as key factors that pushed young people towards cattle rustling. According to them, without viable alternatives such as vocational training or small enterprise support, the allure of rustling remained strong among idle and unskilled youth.

From a socio-economic standpoint, the findings aligned with the second objective. Respondents in the 26 – 45 age range, representing both the most active participants in rustling and the most affected victims, pointed out the lack of livelihood support as a major gap in current policy frameworks. About 67% of them indicated that poverty and lack of access to financial resources had driven young men to engage in rustling, not just as a cultural practice but as a means of survival. Majority of the respondents (98%) proposed that anti-rustling strategies should be complemented with development projects tailored to the region's needs, such as sustainable agriculture, youth employment schemes, and skills training.

Table 4.2: Ages of the Respondents

Age Brackets	Frequency	Valid Percent
18 - 25	19	8.5
26 - 35	74	33.2
36 - 45	98	43.9
46 - 55	8	3.6
56 & Above	24	10.8
Total	223	100.0

(Source: Field Data, 2025)

On political issues, the older age groups, particularly those above 46 years, voiced concern about the inconsistent political will and the selective implementation of policies. About 82% of the respondents in 46+ cohort highlighted that political leaders often used anti-rustling campaigns as tools for short-term political mileage, rather than as part of a sustainable and inclusive peace process. They also observed that younger adults were often left out of consultative forums, and their grievances were rarely considered when policies were being crafted or reviewed. This

political exclusion, especially among the 26–35 group, was cited as a key reason why many young people viewed anti-rustling initiatives as externally imposed rather than community-driven.

Additionally, traditional practices and cultural beliefs also emerged strongly in the responses across age brackets. Almost the entire older generation (56 years and above) largely upheld cultural norms that indirectly perpetuated cattle rustling, such as viewing it as a symbol of bravery or a traditional rite of passage. Meanwhile, the younger generation expressed a growing skepticism about such beliefs. About 70% of youth and young adults (18–35) argued that these outdated cultural values should be challenged and replaced with peace-focused community narratives. Interestingly, 65% of respondents in the 36–45 bracket, many of whom are both parents and community influencers indicated a readiness to support cultural reforms, provided that such efforts are locally led and inclusive of elders, youth, and women.

4.2.3 Educational Attainment

The educational profile of respondents in Tiaty, Baringo County, demonstrated marked disparities that have direct implications on the implementation and outcomes of anti-rustling policies and strategies. According to the data, 34.8% of respondents had no formal education, while 46.2% had only attained primary education. Secondary education was reported among 15.4% of the participants, and only 3.6%, had achieved tertiary-level education (see Table 4.3). These figures suggest that approximately 81% of the population possess limited educational attainment, a critical factor influencing both policy reception and public engagement.

Table 4.3: Education Level

Education Level	Frequency	Valid Percent
No Formal Education	77	34.8
Primary	102	46.2
Secondary	34	15.4
Tertiary	8	3.6
Other	-	-
Total	221	100.0
Missing	2	
Total	223	

Source: Field Data (2025)

Respondents with lower educational levels, particularly those without formal schooling expressed difficulty in understanding the scope, purpose, and legal implications of these policies. About 45%

admitted that their interaction with law enforcement and government officials often involved minimal explanation, which fostered mistrust and non-compliance. By contrast, respondents with secondary or tertiary education levels reported better understanding of the government's security approach and a greater willingness to cooperate with authorities. The respondents with only primary education or none at all indicated a lack of alternative livelihoods, attributing their vulnerability to economic marginalization. Approximately 73% of those with low education levels reported having no access to formal employment, and 62% acknowledged that this condition made rustling an attractive, if not necessary, option for income and survival. Interview narratives further revealed that without education, young people lacked the skills or qualifications to engage in productive work, reinforcing cycles of dependency on livestock theft. Those with secondary or tertiary education, while fewer in number, suggested that investment in vocational training and adult education could provide practical solutions to reduce rustling by broadening income alternatives.

Further, a significant number of the respondents without formal education held strong to cultural narratives that glorify cattle rustling, viewing it as a legitimate way to assert masculinity and status within the community. Approximately 69% of those in this group said they had grown up hearing pro-rustling folklore and songs. In contrast, respondents with higher education levels were more likely to question these practices and support the integration of peace education into local schools and adult learning programs. Several suggested that civic education, targeted at both youth and elders, could help to shift community attitudes over time and reinforce values of coexistence, lawfulness, and peace.

4.2.4 Respondents' Marital Status

The marital status of respondents provided important insights into the social structures that shape community responses to cattle rustling and the implementation of anti-rustling policies in Tiaty, Baringo County. The majority of participants were married, comprising 83.2% of the sample. Single individuals accounted for 11.7%, while widows made up 5.1%. No respondents indicated a status of separation, and marital status was not disclosed by nine individuals (see Table 4.4). The married respondents tended to show a higher level of concern and active participation in community-based security forums. Approximately 63% of married respondents reported attending at least one public baraza or chief-led forum discussing anti-rustling efforts, compared to only 28% of singles and 36% of widows. Married respondents noted a perceived improvement in local

security, attributing the reduction in cattle raids, estimated at 40% over the past two years, to increased home-based vigilance and support for community policing initiatives. Their engagement suggests that stable family structures enhance grassroots participation in security efforts.

Further, married individuals reported a higher dependency on livestock for household sustenance, making them both more vulnerable to rustling and more invested in finding long-term solutions. Among married respondents, 74% listed pastoralism as their primary source of income. Losses from cattle theft had more severe economic consequences for this group, affecting children's education, access to healthcare, and food security. Widows, in particular, emerged as a high-risk group; 81% of widowed respondents reported experiencing economic hardship due to livestock loss, with some being forced to sell land or depend on relatives for survival. This finding underscores the need for social protection policies targeting vulnerable subgroups, including widows and female-headed households, whose resilience to rustling shocks is notably low.

The influence of marital status on political participation was also evident, aligning with the third research objective. Married respondents showed higher rates of interaction with local leaders and county representatives, with 53% stating that they had submitted suggestions or complaints regarding cattle rustling policies through baraza meetings or community liaisons. In contrast, single and widowed individuals reported feeling marginalized in political processes, with only 14% of singles and 22% of widows engaging in policy feedback platforms. This indicates that marital status and by extension, household responsibility, may influence how empowered individuals feel in advocating for security and governance reforms. Meanwhile, about 60% of married male respondents acknowledged that cultural expectations to provide livestock for dowry, ceremonies, and wealth accumulation contributed to the motivation behind cattle rustling. On the other hand, widows and some single respondents, particularly younger individuals expressed a desire to move away from these traditions, advocating for peace education and alternative rites of passage that do not center on livestock acquisition through theft.

Table 4.4: **Marital Status**

Status	Frequency	Valid Percent
Married	178	83.2
Single	25	11.7
Widow	11	5.1
Separated	-	-
Total	214	100.0
Not Indicated	9	
Total	223	

(Source: Field Data, 2025)

4.2.5 Livelihood Sources

An analysis of respondents' livelihood sources revealed a significant reliance on pastoralism, with 51.6% of the population identifying as livestock keepers. Farming was the second most common economic activity, accounting for 18.4% of respondents, followed by security-related work (15.2%), small-scale trading (8.5%), casual labor (3.6%), and government employment (2.7%) (see Table 4.5). This livelihood profile underscores the deep economic interdependence between local communities and livestock, offering critical insight into the socio-economic drivers of cattle rustling in Tiaty, Baringo County. Pastoralists expressed that while some existing policies—such as disarmament programs and community policing, have had moderate success in deterring cattle theft, their effectiveness has not fully translated into sustained security. Specifically, 63% of livestock keepers reported a decline in large-scale raids but indicated that small, sporadic thefts persist.

Table 4.5: **Respondents' Livelihood**

Status	Frequency	Valid Percent
Farmer	41	18.4
Livestock Keeper	115	51.6
Small Scale Trade	19	8.5
Casual Labourer	8	3.6
Government Official	6	2.7
Security Officer	34	15.2
Others	-	-
Total	223	100.0

Source: Field Data (2025)

Further, significant number of respondents (particularly among livestock keepers) cited limited economic alternatives as a key factor sustaining rustling activities. For instance, 72% of livestock

keepers and 58% of casual laborers believed that poverty and unemployment among youth contribute to the persistence of cattle theft. In contrast, respondents engaged in farming and small-scale trade reported slightly lower exposure to rustling incidents, suggesting that economic diversification plays a role in reducing reliance on illicit livestock raids for survival. These findings reinforce the need to integrate income diversification strategies, such as value-added agriculture and vocational training into anti-rustling policy frameworks.

4.3 Effectiveness of Anti-Rustling Policies

This section presents focused analysis of six key anti – rustling interventions, evaluating their implementation and effectiveness. The evaluated interventions include structured community awareness programs, socio – economic alternative livelihood initiatives, community policing frameworks, security patrols and surveillance, livestock branding, and implemented curfew regulations. Each policy mechanism has been implemented with varying degrees of effectiveness.

4.3.1 Community Awareness of Anti-Rustling Strategies

Community awareness programs demonstrate limited penetration, with only 16.4% of the respondents showing strong familiarity with government initiatives (see Table 4.6). This awareness gap correlates with geographic remoteness, suggesting current outreach methods fail to reach pastoralists in peripheral areas. Paradoxically, locally developed solutions like cattle branding, local peace committees and elder mediation show higher effectiveness ratings rather than formal programs, highlighting the importance of community – owned approaches.

Table 4.6: Respondents' Awareness of Policies and Strategies

Security Strategies	Frequency	Valid Percent
Not at all Aware	-	-
Slightly Aware	72	34.8
Moderately Aware	101	48.8
Very Aware	34	16.4
Extremely Aware	-	-
Total	207	100.0
Missing	16	
Total	223	

Source: Field Data (2025)

Interview data further identified policies and strategies classified into social, economic, and security categories. The data showed awareness of various social initiatives in Tiaty. These include traditional livestock branding for easier identification and education programs, such as school construction or conversion, mainly in Tiaty East. The Nyumba Kumi initiative was noted but remains underutilized. Community policing efforts were also highlighted. A key strategy is the deployment of localized security personnel, such as Kenya Police Reservists (KPRs), who have extensive knowledge of the terrain.



TVET Centre at Chemolingot



AIC Chemoril Primary School, Tiaty East

The picture of the schools above, were abandoned due to insecurity, underscoring how rustling disrupts community stability and intergenerational development. This is emphasized by the low literacy levels in Tiaty as depicted in Table 4.3.

Meanwhile, interview data emphasized the importance of regional development in Tiaty and the North Rift. It revealed that several economic initiatives have been implemented or are ongoing to improve livelihoods. Key projects include rural electrification, the Geothermal Development Company (GDC) project on Paka Hill, and telecommunication masts in Chemolingot, Silale, and Tangulbei. Other developments include multipurpose dams, borehole drilling, and irrigation schemes. The use of GDC water infrastructure was also highlighted.



A GDC 4million liters water reservoir (Source: Field Data, 2025)



Silale Safaricom mast in Tiaty East (Source: Field Data, 2025)

Finally, Interview data revealed a strong security presence in the region, including KDF, GSU, ASTU, and RDU. While efforts were appreciated, concerns were raised about the region’s difficult terrain, which limits the effectiveness of external forces. The findings suggested empowering local communities to enhance security ownership. Institutionalized militias were noted as the first line of defense. The study emphasized the need to recruit and train Kenya Police Reservists (KPRs), who have deep knowledge of the area and can integrate easily with local communities.

4.3.2 Community Policing Prevents Rustling

Community policing model emerges as particularly impactful, with 87.1% endorsement from respondents (see Table 4.7).

Table 4.7: Community Policing

Response	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly Agree	183	87.1
Agree	15	7.1
Neutral	-	-
Disagree	12	5.7
Strongly Disagree	-	-
Total	210	100
Missing	13	
Total	223	

Source: Field Data (2025)

According to interview data, Kenya Police Reservists (KPRs) prove especially due to their terrain knowledge and community integration. However, sustainability concerns persist regarding political co – option and inconsistent resourcing.

4.3.3 Security Patrols Deter Rustling

Security patrols earn strong support (77.6% approval) (see Table 4.8), though interviews reveal diminishing returns from static deployment patterns that fail to adapt to rustlers’ evolving tactics.

Interview findings showed that security patrols and surveillance help deter cattle rustling. While effective in the short term, concerns were raised about the militarization of the region. Long-term solutions should focus on education, infrastructure, water projects, alternative livelihoods like irrigation farming, and community-based security for lasting impact.

Table 4.8: Security Patrols Deters Rustling

Response	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly Agree	173	77.6
Agree	11	4.9
Neutral	3	1.3
Disagree	27	12.1
Strongly Disagree	9	4.0
Total	223	100

Source: Field Data (2025)

4.3.4 Branding and Security Aid Livestock Recovery

Livestock recovery systems show promising results, with 95.8% of the respondents confirming branding's effectiveness (see Table 4.9).

Table 4.9: Branding and Security Aid Recovery

Response	Frequency	Valid Percent
Very Unsuccessful	7	3.3
Unsuccessful	2	0.9
Neutral	-	-
Successful	123	57.5
Very Successful	82	38.3
Total	214	100.0
Missing	9	
Total	223	

Source: Field Data (2025)

These findings emphasize the need for enhanced and more resource-efficient strategies to further improve livestock recovery and strengthen community engagement.

4.3.5 Social Programs Prevent Cattle Rustling

The researcher assessed the impact of social development programs, particularly in education and healthcare, on reducing cattle rustling and banditry in Tiaty. Findings showed that 12.6% believe the programs had no impact. 43.0% felt the programs had a slight impact, indicating minimal influence. However, 44.4% believe the programs significantly contribute to preventing cattle rustling, suggesting a higher level of effectiveness.

Table 4.10: Social Programs Prevent Rustling

Response	Frequency	Valid Percent
No Effect	28	12.6
Slight Effect	96	43
Moderate Effect	99	44.4
Significant Effect	-	-
Major Effect	-	-
Total	223	100

Source: Field Data (2025)

Interview data analysis reveals that education is key in changing local perceptions of cattle rustling and promoting alternative livelihoods. The findings show significant efforts by the Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) in building and rehabilitating schools in Tiaty. However, it was indicated that political and commercial interests have hindered full support for these programs, with elected leaders reluctant to act due to fears of losing political backing.

4.3.6 Livestock Recovery Success

The study aimed to evaluate the perceived success of livestock recovery efforts in Tiaty. 184 responses were valid, while 39 were inadmissible due to missing data. 3.3% considered the efforts very unsuccessful, and 6.5% rated them unsuccessful, indicating dissatisfaction. 19.0% were neutral, suggesting mixed or uncertain views. 71.2% believed the efforts were successful, reflecting the majority opinion. No respondents rated the efforts as very successful, indicating room for improvement. The responses are summarized in the table below.

Table 4.11: Recovery Success

Response	Frequency	Valid Percent
Very Unsuccessful	6	3.3
Unsuccessful	12	6.5
Neutral	35	19.0
Successful	131	71.2
Very Successful	-	-
Total	184	100
Missing	39	
Total	223	

Source: Field Data (2025)

4.3.7 Curfews Prevent Night Rustling

The research set to understand the local communities view on the curfews imposed by the government in Tiaty. 1.0% strongly agree that curfews effectively prevent cattle rustling at night. A significant proportion, 60.8%, agree, indicating that curfews are perceived as a helpful measure, while 4.4% remain neutral, suggesting uncertainty or limited direct observation of the impact of curfews. 28.4% disagree, reflecting skepticism about the effectiveness of curfews in curbing night-time cattle rustling. However, 5.4% strongly disagree, indicating strong opposition to the notion that curfews are effective. The data is as tabulated.

Table 4.12: Curfews Prevent Night Rustling

Response	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly Agree	2	1.0
Agree	124	60.8
Neutral	9	4.4
Disagree	58	28.4
Strongly Disagree	11	5.4
Total	204	100.0
Missing	19	
Total	223	

Source: Field Data (2025)

Interview data highlighted implementation challenges, including enforcement and community compliance. The data suggested integrating curfews with additional security measures, like increased patrols and community-based surveillance, to improve effectiveness in preventing night-time cattle rustling.

4.3.8 Government Effectively Protects Citizens

The researcher aimed to assess if the government has effectively protected citizens in Tiaty, Baringo, to gauge community safety improvement. Out of 219 admissible responses, 5.5% strongly believed the government effectively protected its citizens, and 15.1% agreed, indicating a minority view. 19.2% were neutral, showing uncertainty or no clear opinion on the government's role. 51.6% disagreed, suggesting most felt government efforts were inadequate, while 8.7% strongly disagreed, reinforcing the perception of insufficient protection. Therefore, the small proportion of respondents (20.6%) who agree or strongly agree suggests limited confidence in government interventions. A combined 60.3% (disagree and strongly disagree) of respondents

believe that the government has not effectively protected its citizens, highlighting significant dissatisfaction with current measures.

Table 4.13: Protection of Citizens

Response	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly Agree	12	5.5
Agree	33	15.1
Neutral	42	19.2
Disagree	113	51.6
Strongly Disagree	19	8.7
Total	219	100.0
Missing	4	
Total	223	

Source: Field Data (2025)

4.3.9 Cattle Rustling and Insecurity

The research sought to determine the frequency of cattle rustling incidents and their consequences. The findings revealed that cattle rustling has persisted, with an average of two incidents occurring monthly over the past two years, though the participants were not certain about the figures. Despite this ongoing activity, police reports indicated a notable decrease in livestock theft during the same period, with the number of stolen animals dropping from 63,054 to 23,668. Furthermore, intensified law enforcement efforts have resulted in the arrest and prosecution of 250 suspects, including 14 political leaders, since the launch of anti-rustling operations.

4.4 Political Factors Impacting Anti-Rustling Effectiveness

4.4.1 Political Support for Policies and Strategies

The study set out to find out the level of political endorsement for government strategies and policies aimed at addressing cattle rustling in Tiaty. 179 responses were admissible and 44 were unusable due to lack of filling. 3.4% perceive full political support for government strategies and policies, indicating minimal commitment from political leaders while 41.3% believe there is partial political support, suggesting that while some leaders endorse certain initiatives, they lack full commitment. Further, 55.3% of the respondents indicated that political leaders do not support these strategies and policies, reflecting a significant gap in political will.

Table 4.14: Political Support for Strategies

Response	Frequency	Valid Percent
Support	6	3.4
Partial Support	74	41.3
Do not Support	99	55.3
Total	179	100.0
Missing	44	
Total	223	

Source: Field Data (2025)

Interview data shows that political leaders view ASAL areas as resource-rich, including minerals. This perception has led to reluctance in fully supporting economic and security initiatives. Although leaders publicly support these initiatives, resource allocation remains insufficient for effective implementation. Political interference, especially through incitement, has also hindered policy execution, contributing to continued cattle rustling. These findings align with questionnaire data.

4.4.2 Resource Allocation for Implementation

The researcher set to ascertain whether the resources allocated for implementation of these policies are perceived as adequate. Only 1.4% strongly agree while 0.9% agree, indicating minimal support for the adequacy of resource allocation. 41.8% disagree with majority of 55.9% strongly disagreeing, highlighting widespread perception of inadequate resources.

Table 4.15: Resource Allocation

Response	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly Agree	3	1.4
Agree	2	0.9
Neutral	-	-
Disagree	92	41.8
Strongly Disagree	123	55.9
Total	220	100.0
Missing	3	
Total	223	

Source: Data Field (2025)

The interview data revealed that inadequate resource allocation hinders strategy implementation. The lack of resources stems from lacking political goodwill, especially from local leaders with national backing.

4.4.3 Corruption Impedes Policy Enforcement

The researcher aimed to assess the impact of government corruption on anti-cattle rustling policy enforcement. The data reveals that corruption is seen as a significant barrier. An overwhelming 98.1% of respondents indicated that corruption severely impacts policy enforcement, while 1.4% saw it as having a major impact. Only 0.5% perceived it as moderate. No respondents felt it had a minor or no impact. These findings suggest corruption within government agencies undermines efforts to combat cattle rustling. The absence of responses indicating no or minor impact highlights corruption as a pervasive issue. Urgent reforms are needed to improve transparency, accountability, and integrity in these institutions.

The missing 16 responses were not filled. The strong majority response underscores the need for anti-corruption measures in anti-rustling policies. Addressing this could enhance enforcement, build community trust, and improve the effectiveness of anti-rustling initiatives.

Table 4.16: Corruption and Cattle Rustling

Response	Frequency	Valid Percent
No Impact	-	-
Minor Impact	-	-
Moderate Impact	1	0.5
Major Impact	3	1.4
Severe Impact	203	98.1
Total	207	100.0
Missing	16	
Total	223	

Source: Field Data (2025)

The interview data revealed that corruption significantly hinders efforts to combat cattle rustling in Tiaty, manifesting through collusion, patronage networks and institutional decay. It highlighted favoritism by political figures and law enforcement, inadequate resource allocation, and resource mismanagement by the County Government of Baringo. Funds allocated for peacebuilding or security initiatives such as stipends for Kenya Police Reservists (KPRs), are routinely embezzled by County officials, leaving programs under – resourced. Respondents noted that these corrupt practices have weakened law enforcement, delayed disarmament programs, and eroded public trust, complicating efforts to address cattle rustling. Further, it was pointed out that, within the security sector, complicity is rampant: police officers accept bribes to ignore rustling activities,

leak operational details to raiders or misreport incidents to obscure their frequency. Political elites further entrench this dysfunction. Politicians shield influential rustlers, often clan members or political allies, from prosecution to secure electoral support or maintain loyalty.

It was noted that, during election cycles, raids frequently escalate as youth groups are armed to intimidate rivals, with politicians exploiting insecurity to consolidate power.

4.4.4 Local Government Anti-Rustling Commitment

The study aimed to evaluate the level of commitment demonstrated by the local government in preventing cattle rustling in Tiaty County. Out of the 218 valid responses, only 1.4% strongly agree that the local government is committed to preventing cattle rustling while 42.2% agree indicating some acknowledgement of local government efforts. 55.9% disagreed underscoring widespread dissatisfaction with the local government's role in preventing cattle rustling. The data is as indicated in the table.

Table 4.17: Local Government Anti – Rustling Commitment

Response	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly Agree	3	1.4
Agree	92	42.2
Neutral	-	-
Disagree	123	56.4
Strongly Disagree	-	-
Total	218	100.0
Missing	5	
Total	223	

Source: Field Data (2025)

4.5 Socio-Economic Factors Impacting Policy Implementation

4.5.1 Poverty Drives Cattle Rustling

The researcher examined whether high poverty levels in Tiaty affect anti-rustling policy implementation. Results show 95.7% of respondents strongly agree, and 4.3% agree that poverty hinders policy effectiveness. No respondents were neutral, disagreed, or strongly disagreed. The data suggests poverty is seen as a major obstacle to enforcing anti-rustling policies. Financial instability and resource scarcity contribute to cattle rustling persistence, making it hard to implement security, law enforcement, or community interventions. Missing responses may reflect uncertainty or inability to answer. The findings underscore poverty as a significant barrier to policy effectiveness.

Table 4.18: Poverty Drives Cattle Rustling

Response	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly Agree	202	95.7
Agree	9	4.3
Neutral	-	-
Disagree	-	-
Strongly Disagree	-	-
Total	211	100.0
Missing	12	
Total	223	

Source: Field Data (2025)

The interview data shows that high poverty, illiteracy, and lack of alternative livelihoods drive communities to cattle rustling for survival. Resource scarcity, such as limited access to water and pasture, worsens the problem. It was suggested that addressing poverty could improve anti-rustling policy success. Policymakers should incorporate socio-economic programs to reduce poverty, create jobs, and offer alternative livelihoods. These efforts could reduce financial incentives for rustling, build community resilience, and promote cooperation with authorities, leading to better policy enforcement.

4.5.2 Employment Opportunities Enhance Success

The researcher examined government employment opportunities in Tiaty, Baringo County. The findings show that opportunities are limited. Positions include local administrative roles like Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs, but these are few. Other roles mentioned include security, enforcement, health workers, agricultural officers, and community development officers. The study also explored whether these opportunities impact anti-rustling policies. Out of 219 valid responses, 54.3% believe employment opportunities have no impact on policy success. 26.5% see minimal impact, and 19.2% acknowledge a moderate impact (see Table 4.19).

The weak perceived impact suggests that employment initiatives are not effectively linked to anti-rustling strategies. This limits their potential to offer alternative livelihoods or deter crime. Interview data also showed high unemployment in Tiaty. This has increased reliance on livestock for survival. Some respondents noted that despite national government job opportunities, the lack of education and skills among residents has worsened unemployment. As a result, cattle rustling has become a common alternative source of income.

Table 4.19: Employment Opportunities Enhance Success

Response	Frequency	Valid Percent
No Impact	119	54.3
Minimal Impact	58	26.5
Moderate Impact	42	19.2
Strong Impact	-	-
Total	219	100.0
Missing	4	
Total	223	

Source: Field Data (2025)

4.6 Cultural Influences on Anti-Rustling Policies

4.6.1 Traditional Beliefs and Acceptance

The research aimed to assess if socio-cultural acceptance influences the success of anti-rustling policies. The data shows cultural beliefs play a significant role in policy effectiveness. A large 90% strongly agree, while 5.5% agree, and 4.5% disagree. This suggests traditional beliefs about livestock are crucial for policy adoption. Policies that ignore cultural values may face resistance. The small disagreement indicates other factors like economics or literacy also influence policy success. Missing data from 3 respondents does not change the overall conclusion.

Table 4.20: Traditional Beliefs Influence Implementation

Response	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly Agree	198	90
Agree	12	5.5
Neutral	-	-
Disagree	10	4.5
Strongly Disagree	-	-
Total	220	100.0
Missing	3	
Total	223	

Source: Field Data (2025)

The interview data shows that pastoral communities deeply value livestock. Cultural beliefs legitimize cattle rustling as an accepted practice. Among the Pokot, age-set classifications define societal roles. The Murkutwo generation prioritizes livestock keeping. Cultural leaders, like Laibons, predict raid outcomes. They officiate ceremonies such as Lapai and Sapanah. These traditions reinforce pastoral values and social structures. The data suggests cultural practices hinder progressive values. They limit education and sustain cattle rustling in the region. It was

evident that effective anti-rustling policies must consider cultural dynamics. Engaging cultural leaders can enhance policy acceptance. Integrating traditions may improve compliance and effectiveness.

4.6.2 Community Involvement in Implementation

The study assessed community involvement in anti-rustling policies in Tiaty. Results show 65.0% strongly agree, while 29.1% agree, indicating high participation. However, 5.5% disagreed, and 0.5% strongly disagreed, showing limited involvement. These findings highlight the need to integrate local knowledge, networks, and resources in combating cattle rustling. The data is presented in the table.

Table 4.21: Community Involvement Boosts Implementation

Response	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly Agree	143	65.0
Agree	64	29.1
Neutral		-
Disagree	12	5.5
Strongly Disagree	1	0.5
Total	220	100.0
Missing	3	
Total	223	

Source: Field Data (2025)

The data further revealed that Elders play conflicting roles. Some support peace efforts, intelligence sharing, and disarmament. Others, like Laibons, endorse rustling through predictions and rituals. This contradiction weakens anti-rustling initiatives. Additionally, the interview data revealed that Community involvement in policy-making is minimal. Most decisions come from higher government levels with little consultation. This leads to policies that overlook cultural realities, causing resistance.

4.6.3 Cultural Practices Legitimizes Resistance to External Interventions

Based on Focused Group Discussions (FDGs) and interviews, it was emphasized that cultural practices are deeply rooted in pastoralist identity of communities such as Pokot. This has shaped social hierarchy, survival strategies and collective responses to external interventions. It was

revealed that, for morans (young warriors), participation in raids is not merely an act of resource acquisition but a means to attain social status, honor and eligibility for marriage. It was highlighted that these raids are sanctioned by the spiritual leaders (laibons). This cultural framing positions external interventions such as disarmament campaigns, as an existential threat to autonomy and tradition.

4.7 Climate – Driven Resource Scarcity and Cattle Rustling

Based on the secondary data specifically police crime report (2023), climate change exacerbates cattle rustling through a destructive cycle of resource scarcity, livelihood collapse, and seasonal violence. Prolonged droughts and erratic rainfall have sharply increased livestock mortality rates, with pastoralists losing 40–60% of their herds during severe dry spells like the 2020 - 2022 drought, eroding their primary source of wealth and food security. As pastures wither and water points dry up, communities are forced to migrate farther in search of grazing lands, often encroaching on territories claimed by rival clans or ethnic groups. Raids peak during dry seasons when resource scarcity is most acute, with rustlers capitalizing on weakened community defenses and desperation. For instance, the 2021 drought saw cattle rustling incidents surge by 32%, culminating in the theft of 5,984 livestock, as pastoralists resorted to raiding to replenish herds or secure income. This seasonality underscores how climate stressors directly inflame inter-communal tensions, transforming traditional pastoralist mobility into a trigger for large-scale, organized violence. This was echoed by the respondents' interview data.

4.8 Proposed Anti-Rustling Measures

Participants recommended a multifaceted approach to eradicating cattle rustling in Tiaty, Baringo County. Key proposals included improving road infrastructure for better security operations and reviving non-functional health facilities to address community healthcare needs. In livestock management, they emphasized branding, animal traceability, controlled livestock markets, and planned restocking programs. Additionally, they advocated for livelihood diversification through beekeeping, crop farming, entrepreneurship, and initiatives like Kazi Mtaani to provide alternative income sources.

Participants emphasized the need to expand ICT infrastructure by extending Global System for Mobile Communication (GSM) coverage and accelerating National Optic Fibre Backbone Infrastructure (NOFBI) initiatives. They also urged the swift implementation of Kenya Off-Grid Solar Access Project (KOSAP) to electrify the region and boost economic development. County leadership was called upon to mobilize resources and prioritize funding for security and development.

Community engagement was highlighted as crucial, with a focus on involving elites, religious leaders, elected officials, and influential Laibons or Orkoiyots to foster trust in anti-rustling efforts. The media's role was also stressed, advocating for the use of social media and local FM stations such as Logoi FM, Kalya FM, and North Rift FM to promote peace. Further, strengthening legal frameworks and enhancing law enforcement were seen as essential deterrents to cattle rustling. Additionally, participants recommended subdividing vast ungoverned spaces into smaller administrative units with localized security systems to improve governance and limit hideouts for rustlers. Participants stressed that success depends on active community involvement to ensure ownership, foster cooperation, and sustain proposed strategies.

CHAPTER FIVE

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter presents a summary discussions of the study's key findings and conclusions regarding anti – rustling policies and strategies in Tiaty Constituency, drawing on data collected through the 223 questionnaires and the semi – structured interviews with 28 stakeholders, focus group discussions with pastoralist communities and analysis of security reports and policy documents. The findings are organized to reflect the interplay between policy effectiveness and the socio – economic, political and cultural factors shaping their implementation. Based on the evidence, the chapter proposes context – specific recommendations to address cattle rustling, while also identifying critical gaps for future research to deepen understanding of this persistent challenge in Baringo County and similar pastoralist regions.

5.2 Discussion of Findings

5.2.1 Effectiveness of Policies and Strategies

The study found that many respondents are aware of the government's anti-rustling policies. These include security deployment, disarmament programs, curfews, and patrols. However, these measures are seen as reactive rather than proactive. Reactive strategies such as deployment of security forces, succeeded in the immediate threats by deterring raids through curfews, heightened patrols and disarmament campaigns. However, their design often triggered only after violent escalations, reflects short term approach. This aligns with critiques by Canton (2021) and the International Crisis Group (2021), who argued that such measures, while stabilizing in short term, often deepen mistrust in marginalized communities. For Pokot, heavy handed disarmament was viewed not only as a security measure but as an assault on pastoralist identity and self-reliance, mirroring resistance observed in militarized regions of Mexico (Flores, 2019). Moreover, inconsistent enforcement and infrequent prosecutions further eroded community confidence, echoing systemic institutional failures documented in Nigeria's North – Central region, where weak accountability perpetuates cycles of violence (Okoli & Atelhe, 2014).

In contrast, proactive strategies, emphasized by respondents and supported by global literature, focus on dismantling structural conditions that fuel cattle rustling. The study identified several such strategies that were recommended by respondents and are supported by existing literature. One of the most prominent proposals was the establishment and strengthening of community-led peace committees. These committees, made up of elders, youth leaders, women, and reformed warriors, play a crucial role in mediating disputes, fostering dialogue between rival communities, and encouraging peaceful coexistence. A notable example of this approach is the Wajir Peace and Development Committee in northern Kenya, which has successfully resolved numerous inter-clan conflicts through inclusive dialogue and community ownership of the peace process. These approaches work precisely because they rebuild social cohesion and restorative justice mechanisms, addressing what Okoli Atelhe (2014) identified as the institutional roots of disorder, offering a sustainable counterpoint to top – down security measures.

Economic interventions also emerged as pivotal. With Tiaty's youth (aged 26 – 45), often drawn to rustling by poverty and limited opportunities, respondents stressed the urgency of alternative livelihood programs. Vocational training, micro-credit schemes, and livestock value-chain support could redirect disenfranchised youth toward lawful income sources, as evidenced in Uganda's Karamoja region, where similar programs reduced cattle raids by 60% between 2010 and 2020. These findings resonate with Adeyemi's (2024) work in West Africa, where economic despair fuels recruitment into criminal networks. Complementary to this is the role of education: formal schooling and peace education programs challenge cultural narratives that romanticize rustling as a rite of passage. In counties like Isiolo and Marsabit, such initiatives have reduced interethnic tensions by promoting nonviolent conflict resolution and broadening career aspirations beyond pastoralism.

The study further underscores the importance of adaptive security frameworks. Early warning systems, akin to the IGAD CEWARN (Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism) framework in East Africa, could enable preemptive interventions by integrating community-reported intelligence with mobile alert systems. Cross-border cooperation is equally critical, given Tiaty's porous boundaries with Uganda and South Sudan. Regional peace agreements and joint

patrols, successful in curbing transnational rustling in the Horn of Africa offer models for enhancing Kenya's current efforts.

Yet, the efficacy of both reactive and proactive strategies hinges on community trust in law enforcement. Respondents widely criticized the government's inability to consistently protect citizens, citing infrequent arrests and uneven prosecution. Where trust is low, cooperation dwindles: communities withhold intelligence, resist disarmament, and view security forces as occupiers rather than protectors. To bridge this gap, the study advocates for community policing forums, public accountability mechanisms, and efforts to address human rights abuses by security personnel.

Local initiatives, meanwhile, demonstrate the power of hybrid approaches. Cattle branding, for instance, enhances traceability and recovery of stolen livestock, while elder-led mediation and compensation protocols resolve disputes without state intervention. When paired with regional development projects such as multipurpose dams, geothermal energy, and rural electrification, these community – driven efforts address socio-economic marginalization while strengthening ties between local and governmental actors.

5.2.2 Political Factors Affecting Implementation

The study found that political support for anti-rustling policies in Tiaty is inconsistent. Leaders publicly endorse initiatives but fail to allocate sufficient resources. Political interference, including incitement, disrupts implementation and perpetuates rustling. The ASAL areas are seen as resource-rich but remain neglected. This discourages full support for security and economic programs. Corruption worsens the situation through favouritism and resource mismanagement, and poor funding which weaken law enforcement. This has led to erosion of public trust in government efforts. Respondents viewed corruption as systemic issue with severe impact. This aligns with As Ekpo's (2023) findings, where embezzlement and diversion of anti-rustling funds significantly undermined enforcement mechanisms in northern Nigeria, leading to a resurgence of banditry. A similar pattern is observable in Kenya's North Rift region, where Mkutu et al. (2021) highlighted how political elites have, at times, colluded with rustling networks to consolidate political capital and maintain influence over specific ethnic constituencies. The respondents

emphasized the need for transparency, accountability, and reforms. Strengthening governance is crucial for effective policy enforcement.

Besides, Bareebe's (2020) call for depoliticizing resource management through independent oversight bodies is critical in Tiaty's context, where elite exploitation and corruption divert anti-rustling funds. Establishing transparent, community-monitored resource allocation systems could restore trust in governance, a key tenet of Social Disorganization theory. For example, reviving Kokwo councils to oversee county projects like water infrastructure would decentralize power and align development with pastoralist mobility, reducing resource competition.

The findings underscore the need for urgent reforms to boost transparency, accountability, and political commitment in anti-rustling policies. Strengthening community engagement and resource allocation can improve resilience, cooperation, and long-term success.

5.2.3 Socio-Economic Factors Impacting Implementation

The entrenched socio-economic challenges in Tiaty Constituency: Poverty, illiteracy, unemployment and resource scarcity serve as both catalysts and obstacles to effective anti-rustling policies, mirroring global patterns while demanding localized solutions.

With over 70% of Tiaty's population below the poverty line (KNBS, 2019), cattle rustling has evolved into a survival strategy, a phenomenon starkly parallel in Sudan. Hilhorst et al (2020) documented how marginalized pastoralist communities in Sudan resort to livestock theft amid dwindling water and pasture access, a dynamic replicated in Tiaty's arid landscapes. The Tiaty's communities such as Pokot's reliance on cattle compounded by climate-induced droughts, underscores how environmental stress amplifies economic desperation. Similarly, in East Africa, Abdi (2023) found that youth excluded from formal education and vocational training often rationalize rustling as one of the few accessible livelihoods, a trend echoed in Tiaty, where limited schooling and skills (81% with either primary or no formal education) perpetuate dependence on livestock.

Additionally, the Government of Kenya's reliance on militarized disarmament campaigns, criticized by Canton (2021) and the International Crisis Group (2021), reflects a narrow security-centric

approach that ignores socio – economic root causes. This aligns with systemic failures observed in Nigeria, where Ekpo (2023) revealed how embezzlement of anti – rustling funds undermined enforcement. In Tiaty, the underfunded Baringo Integrated Livestock Development Program exemplifies this neglect, as resources meant for drought – resilient fodder farms or mobile veterinary services fail to reach grassroots communities. Such governance gaps exacerbate distrust, pushing communities further toward illicit economies.

Contrasting Tiaty’s struggles, West Africa’s integrated models (Adeyemi, 2024) demonstrate that pairing security measures with livelihood programs such as microloans for agropastoral or milk cooperatives, can reduce rustling by addressing economic despair. Similarly, West Pokot’s 40% decline in cattle theft between 2018 – 2021 (Matiko & Hamasi, 2022) highlights the success of hybrid governance. By involving elders and youths in county peace committees and prioritizing hyper – local projects like community – owned water pans, West Pokot balanced security with socio – economic inclusion, a blueprint Tiaty could adopt through revitalized Kokwo councils, education, youth focused vocational training and alternative livelihoods.

5.2.4 Cultural Factors Impacting Implementation and Effectiveness

The cultural dynamics shaping anti – rustling efforts in Tiaty, resonate deeply with global insights on interplay of tradition, governance and social cohesion. The study identifies that cultural norms such as age-set systems and rituals like Lapai and Sapanah, perpetuate cattle rustling by framing it as a rite of passage and a marker of social status. This mirrors observations by Rutto (2022), who noted that raiding historically signaled a warrior’s transition to adulthood among the Pokot. Similarly, Wapmuk (2023) emphasizes that externally imposed policies in Nigeria’s Benue State failed until traditional leaders were integrated into conflict resolution. These parallels illustrate how culturally rooted practices resist top – down interventions unless they are reframed through local legitimacy. The dual role of elders, both as custodians of peace and tacit legitimizers of rustling reflects the tension between tradition and modernity. Social Disorganization theory explains this dichotomy: the erosion of cohesive traditional institutions such as Kokwo councils, weakens social control, creating a vacuum filled by disorganized criminal activity. When elders are excluded from policy design, as in Tiaty, their authority is undermined, exacerbating intergenerational divides and institutional fragmentation.

The literature advocates for hybrid models that blend formal and traditional systems as seen in Rajasthan's integration of jati panchayats (caste councils) with state law (Shy, 2023). For Tiaty, this could involve repurposing rituals like Lapai into community – led livestock management competitions, akin to Ethiopia's Borana communities, redirecting energy toward sustainable pastoralism. Involving Laibons (spiritual leaders in peace dialogues, as suggested in the findings, could mitigate perceptions of government policies as culturally oppressive, fostering trust and compliance.

Sanchi et al (2022) further propose integrating indigenous practices like adakar (traditional restitution rituals) into formal strategies. For instance, incorporating livestock restitution into disarmament could align government objectives with Pokot notions of justice, enhancing policy legitimacy. Such approaches address social Disorganization theory's emphasis on rebuilding collective efficacy, the community's shared capacity to regulate behavior through cohesive institutions.

5.3 Conclusions

The study aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of anti-rustling policies and strategies in Tiaty, Baringo County. It found that the existing policies and strategies were largely ineffective. These approaches did not sufficiently address the underlying factors that drive cattle rustling within the Tiaty communities. Socio-economic, political, and cultural barriers in the region significantly hindered the implementation of these policies and strategies, leading to minimal outcomes and rendering them less effective. Furthermore, community participation in the development and execution of these policies was limited. The strategies appeared to have been designed and implemented without a full understanding of the local dynamics that fuel cattle rustling, potentially undermining the effectiveness of the policing strategies.

5.4 Recommendations

To holistically address cattle rustling and banditry in Tiaty Constituency, recommendations are categorized into short – medium term and long-term interventions, balancing immediate security needs with systemic reforms.

5.4.1 Short - Medium Term Interventions

The immediate focus should center on enhancing security, improving governance and addressing urgent socio – economic needs. Subdividing vast, ungoverned space into smaller administrative units to enhance government presence, enhance security and disrupt bandit hideouts. However, this must be implemented with cultural sensitivity to avoid local resistance. Engaging elders, Laibons (spiritual leaders), and elected officials among others in boundary demarcation and decision making can foster acceptance, as seen in West Pokot’s hybrid governance model. Concurrently, strengthening law enforcement through recruitment of Kenya Police Reservists (KPRs) familiar with the terrain, joint patrols with community scouts and mobile courts for expedited prosecutions will deter raids and rebuild trust.

Livestock management should be strengthened. Livestock branding, animal traceability systems such as mobile – based blockchain branding or GPS collars, should be piloted through cooperatives to curb resale markets and aid recovery of stolen livestock. Controlled markets, and planned restocking programs will also help. Additionally, deploy mobile – based reporting systems such as SMS hotlines for anonymous tip – offs, linked to security agencies for swift action.

Community participation in policy-making and implementation should be prioritized. This will foster cooperation and ownership of anti-rustling strategies. The government should also expand and use local FM stations, such as Logoi FM, Kalya FM, and North Rift FM, along with social media, for peace messaging, to address both security and humanitarian needs.

Further, immediate alternative livelihood programs such as beekeeping, crop farming (drought – resilient), entrepreneurship, and youth employment programs like Kazi Mtaani in road construction, afforestation. This redirect youth from rustling while providing short term economic relief. Finally, County leadership should take an active role. Mobilizing resources, prioritizing budgets, and championing development projects will help address the root causes of cattle rustling in Tiaty.

5.4.2 Long Term Strategies

Sustained success hinges on systemic reforms that dismantle the root causes of rustling: poverty, cultural norms and governance deficits. Economic diversification is paramount. Establishing pastoralist value chains, such as milk processing plants, hide tanneries and livestock insurance schemes, will reduce reliance on cattle numbers as wealth markers. Climate smart pastoralism, integrating indigenous knowledge with modern techniques including communal fodder banks, solar – powered boreholes, can mitigate drought impacts and foster resilience. The government and the local community should promote alternative livelihoods.

Parallel investments in critical infrastructure. National and county governments should improve road networks to boost accessibility, economic activities, and security operations. Expanding ICT infrastructure, including GSM coverage, NOFBI, and KOSAP, will enhance connectivity and economic growth. The county government should also revive and operationalize non-functional health facilities to meet community healthcare needs.

Institutional reforms must prioritize cultural legitimacy and accountability. Legally recognizing kokwo (Pokot customary law) councils and integrating them into county governance structures among others, will ensure resource allocation aligns with pastoralist needs. Independent oversight bodies, as proposed by Bareebe (2020), should monitor anti – rustling funds to curb elite exploitation. Meanwhile, educational and cultural shifts are equally vital: vocational training in veterinary services or agribusiness can align youth skills with local economies, while repurposing raiding rituals into livestock management competitions, guided by Laibons. This can redirect cultural pride toward sustainable practices.

Regionally, strengthened cross – border collaboration with Uganda and South Sudan to track stolen livestock and formalize intelligence sharing agreements will disrupt transnational networks. Advocating for infrastructure spurs connecting Tiaty to the LAPSSET corridor. This will integrate Tiaty into broader trade routes, reducing isolation and fostering economic interdependence. Ultimately, honoring cultural identity while dismantling structural inequities, provides a blueprint for sustainable peace in Kenya’s pastoralist frontiers.

5.5 Future Research Suggestions

To advance understanding of cattle rustling and refine anti-rustling strategies, future research should prioritize nuanced inquiries into community-driven approaches, cross-regional comparisons, and systemic governance challenges. Building on this study's findings, specific research questions could explore the mechanisms through which hybrid governance models such as integrating elders, Laibons, and women into formal peacebuilding frameworks enhance trust and compliance in marginalized pastoralist communities. For instance, how do power-sharing dynamics between traditional leaders and state actors influence the legitimacy of disarmament campaigns? Comparative studies could assess the gendered impacts of peace committees, examining whether women's inclusion in conflict resolution improves accountability or alters cultural narratives glorifying raiding. Additionally, longitudinal research into the repurposing of cultural rituals, such as transforming age-set raiding rites into livestock management competitions, could reveal whether such initiatives sustainably redirect youth energy toward productive pastoralism, as seen in Ethiopia's Borana communities. Cross-regional comparisons are critical to testing the adaptability of Tiaty's strategies. Research could investigate whether hybrid models combining community policing with kokwo councils are effective in other Kenyan ASAL regions like Turkana or Samburu, where clan structures and resource scarcity patterns differ. For example, how might Turkana's cross-border dynamics with South Sudan or Uganda shape the outcomes of similar interventions? Beyond Kenya, transnational studies could draw lessons from Karamoja (Uganda), where cross-border peace treaties and regional fodder banks reduced rustling, or from South Sudan's Toposa-Nyangatom conflicts, where cattle raiding intersects with ethnic militancy. Such comparisons could clarify how localized strategies might inform continental pastoralist policy frameworks, particularly in addressing climate adaptation. For instance, how do communal water pans in Tiaty align with drought resilience strategies in Ethiopia's Afar region, and what socio-political factors determine their success or failure? Equally, comparative analysis of Kenya's Huduma Namba digital ID system or Nigeria's livestock traceability initiatives could reveal how technology enhances accountability in anti-rustling fund management, particularly in contexts with weak institutional oversight.

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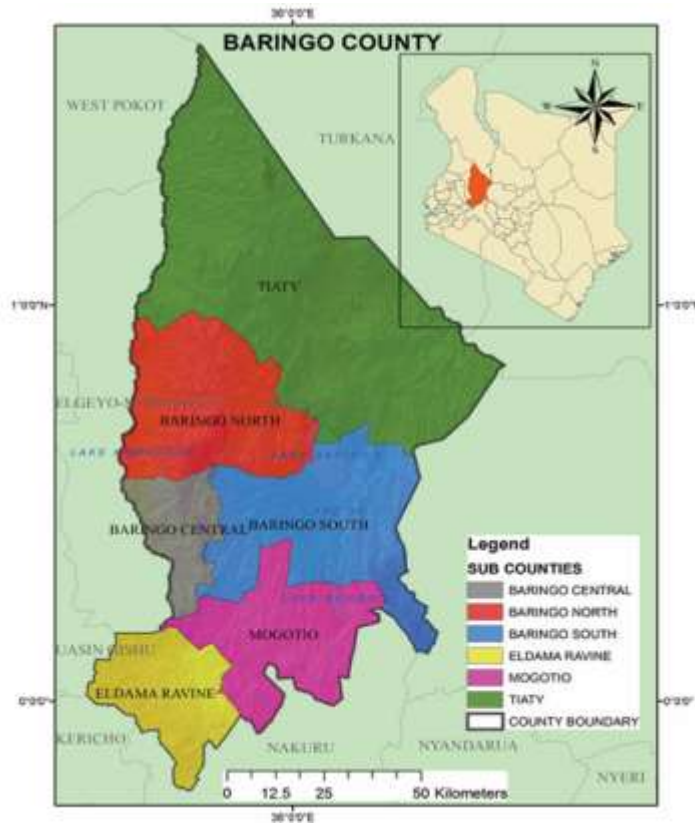
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List of Appendices

Appendix I: Map of Tiaty Constituency, Baringo County



Appendix II: Research Questionnaire

I am Brenda Tunai Nasiuma, a student of Master of Public Policy and Management (MPPM) from Strathmore University. I would like to learn about the "**Effectiveness of Anti-Rustling Policies and Strategies in Tiaty Constituency, Baringo County.**" The findings will be used for academic purposes only and confidentiality of the responses will be upheld. Please answer these questions to help shed light on the issue of cattle rustling in relation to policing. Note that your agreement to participate is purely voluntary and should you wish to withdraw at any stage or decline to participate, you will not be penalized. Furthermore, it should be understood that your participation does not involve any direct or indirect monetary benefit to you.

SECTION A: Demographic Characteristics (Respondent's Particulars)

1. What is your gender?
 - a. Male []
 - b. Female []
 - c. Other []
2. What is your age bracket?
 - a. 18 to 25 []
 - b. 26 to 35 []
 - c. 36 to 45 []
 - d. 46 to 55 []
 - e. 56 and above []
3. What is your level of education?
 - a. No Formal Education []
 - b. Primary Education []
 - c. Secondary Education []
 - d. Tertiary Education []
 - e. Other- Specify
4. What is your marital status?
 - a. Married []
 - b. Single []

- c. Widow []
 - d. Separated []
5. What is your position in the Society?
- a. Chief []
 - b. Moran Leaders []
 - c. Village Elders []
 - d. NGAO []
 - e. Security Agency []
 - f. Policy Maker []
 - g. Others (Please specify)
6. What is your primary source of livelihood at present? Please select the most relevant option from the following:
- a. Farmer []
 - b. Livestock Keeper []
 - c. Small Scale Trade []
 - d. Casual Labour []
 - e. Government Official []
 - f. Security Officer []
 - g. Others..... (Specify).
7. How long have you stayed/lived within Tiaty Constituency?
- a. Less than 1 year
 - b. 1-5 years
 - c. 6-10 years
 - d. 10+ years

Section B: Effectiveness of Existing Policies

1. (a) What laws/legislation and policies against cattle rustling are you aware of?

- (b) Are these adequate or effective in preventing cattle rustling?

2. (a) What legal and policy frameworks do you use in preventing cattle rustling? (explain)

(b) In what ways are these legal and policy frameworks adequate? (Explain) (iii) In what ways are they Inadequate? (Explain)

.....

What measures have been put in place by the government and the local leaders to prevent or deal with cattle rustling and banditry within Tiaty Constituency?

3. Based on your observation/ knowledge, which projects has the government implemented within Tiaty Constituency.

.....

4. How has the projects implemented by the government affected cattle rustling in your area?

.....

How have livestock development programs such as veterinary services and market access influenced cattle rustling in your area?

- a. 1 = No influence []
- b. 2 = Slight influence []
- c. 3 = Moderate influence []
- d. 4 = Significant influence []
- e. 5 = Major influence []

5. How effective have disaster preparedness and response mechanisms been in mitigating the effects of drought and reducing cattle rustling?

- a. 1 = Not effective []
- b. 2 = Slightly effective []
- c. 3 = Moderately effective []
- d. 4 = Very effective []
- e. 5 = Extremely effective []

6. How have social development programs such as education and healthcare affected cattle rustling in your community?

- a. 1 = No effect []
- b. 2 = Slight effect []
- c. 3 = Moderate effect []

d. 4 = Significant effect []

e. 5 = Major effect []

7. Please specify your degree of agreement with the following statements regarding the effectiveness of existing anti-rustling policies. Use the scale provided:

(where; 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree & 5 = Strongly Agree)

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
The government of Kenya has protected its citizens in Tiaty Constituency by effectively managing conflicts emanating from cattle rustling and drought					
The government has invested in public goods and services such as infrastructure, networks and human capital in Tiaty Constituency.					
Tiaty Constituency locals are involved in making security and development policies					
There is improved access to education, healthcare, and other social services in Tiaty which has contributed to reduction in rustling activities.					
There is a high level of community involvement in supporting the anti-rustling policies.					
The safety of the community has significantly improved due to improvement in road and communication networks					
The resources allocated for the implementation of these policies are adequate.					

8. How would you rate the impact of the policies indicated in question 7 above on reducing the number of cattle rustling incidents in Tiaty Constituency?

a. 1 = Very Ineffective []

b. 2 = Ineffective []

c. 3 = Neutral []

d. 4 = Effective []

e. 5 = Very Effective []

9. Since the implementation of the Prevention of Cattle Theft Act (2016), have you observed any changes in the frequency of livestock theft in your area?

- a. 1 = No change []
- b. 2 = Slight decrease []
- c. 3 = Moderate decrease []
- d. 4 = Significant decrease []
- e. 5 = Major decrease []

10. How effective is the collaboration between security agencies in preventing livestock theft?

- a. 1 = Not effective []
- b. 2 = Slightly effective []
- c. 3 = Effective []
- d. 4 = Very Effective []
- e. 5 = Not Sure []

11. What is your perspective on the collaboration between different security agencies in combating livestock theft?

.....

Do you think it is possible to eradicate cattle rustling in Tiaty Constituency? If yes, how? If no, why?

.....

Section C: Effectiveness of Existing Strategies

12. (a) In your own experience and knowledge what measures are you aware of that the government and other actors have employed to eradicate cattle rustling and banditry within Tiaty Constituency?

.....

(b) Are these measures effective? If yes, explain how? If no, explain why?

.....

(c) In your view, what can be done to make these measures effective? (explain)

.....

13. To what extent have the strategies highlighted in question 13 above been effective in reducing cattle rustling incidents and improved community safety in your area?

- a. 1 = Very Much Worsened []

- b. 2 = Somewhat Worsened []
- c. 3 = No change []
- d. 4 = Somewhat Improved []
- e. 5 = Very Much Improved []

14. Based on your knowledge how many livestock have been able to be recovered and returned to the owners?

.....

18. What is your perception of the success rate in recovering stolen livestock?

- a. 1 = Very Unsuccessful []
- b. 2 = Unsuccessful []
- c. 3 = Neutral []
- d. 4 = Successful []
- e. 5 = Very Successful []

15. What economic development programmes have so far been implemented within Tiaty Constituency for the last ten (10) years?

.....

16. Have the economic developments listed in serial 17 above contributed to the improvement of security and stability within Tiaty Constituency?

- a. 1 = Very Much Worsened []
- b. 2 = Somewhat Worsened []
- c. 3 = No change []
- d. 4 = Somewhat Improved []
- e. 5 = Very Much Improved []

17. Kindly state your degree of agreement with the following statements regarding the effectiveness of the anti – rustling strategies. Use the scale provided:

(where; 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree & 5 = Strongly Agree)

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
The strategies employed by the government have effectively reduced the number of cattle rustling incidents.					
The safety of the community has significantly improved due to the disarmament exercises conducted within the region.					
There is a high level of community involvement in supporting the anti-rustling policies.					
The security patrols and livestock tracking systems, have been successful in recovering stolen livestock.					
There is cordial relationship between the security agencies and local community members which has helped in combating cattle rustling.					
The arrests and prosecution of cattle rustlers in Tiaty Constituency have led to a reduction in cattle rustling incidents and improved community safety.					
The local residents of Tiaty Constituency are receptive to the deployment of security forces within the Constituency to promote security and development in the region.					

18. How best can we eradicate cattle rustling and banditry in Tiaty Constituency?

.....

Section D: Socio-Economic Factors Influencing the Success or Failure of Anti-Rustling Policies

19. What are the predominant economic activities within Tiaty Constituency?

.....

20. What government employment opportunities are available within Tiaty Constituency?

.....

21. To what extent have the employment opportunities mentioned in question 21 benefited the residents of Tiaty Constituency?

- a. 1 - Not at all beneficial []
- b. 2 - Slightly Beneficial []
- c. 3 - Moderately Beneficial []
- d. 4 - Very Beneficial []
- e. 5 - Extremely Beneficial []

22. How would you rate the level of poverty in your community?

- a. 1 = Very low []
- b. 2 = Low []
- c. 3 = Moderate []
- d. 4 = High []
- e. 5 = Very high []

23. In your own experience/observation/knowledge, what is the relationship between poverty levels and cattle rustling/banditry within Tiaty?

.....

24. To what extent do employment opportunities impact the success of anti-rustling policies in your area?

- a. 1 = No Impact []
- b. 2 = Minimal Impact []
- c. 3 = Moderate Impact []
- d. 4 = Strong Impact []

25. How important is education in making anti-rustling policies work well?

- a. 1 = Not important at all []
- b. 2 = Not Important []
- c. 3 = Neutral []
- d. 4 = Important []
- e. 5 = Very Important []

26. How would you describe the level of education in your community?

- a. 1 = Very poor []
- b. 2 = Poor []
- c. 3 = Average []
- d. 4 = Good []
- e. 5 = Excellent []

27. How do the local economic activities in your community affect the occurrence of cattle rustling?

.....

28. Please specify your degree of agreement with the following statements on how socio – economic activities influence the effectiveness of the anti – rustling policies and strategies. Use the scale provided:

(where; 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree & 5 = Strongly Agree)

Category	Statement	1	2	3	4	5
Strategy	Access to education and skills training decreases the likelihood of involvement in cattle rustling.					
	Educational programs related to economic development help in reducing cattle rustling.					
Policy	Increased employment opportunities reduce the frequency of cattle rustling in the community.					
	Investment in community development projects contributes to the effectiveness of anti – rustling policies.					
	Socio – economic empowerment programs are crucial for the effectiveness of anti – rustling strategies					
	Access to economic resources helps community members to participate more actively in anti – rustling efforts.					
	Improved local businesses help in reducing the occurrence of cattle rustling					
	Increased income from local businesses helps reduce the incentives for cattle rustling.					
	Improved infrastructure for local businesses and access to markets positively impacts the success of anti – rustling policies.					
	High poverty levels in the community undermine the effectiveness of anti-rustling policies.					

SECTION E: Political Factors that Influence the Success or Failure of Anti – Rustling Policies

29. How effectively does the local government handle issues related to cattle rustling?

a. 1 = Very Ineffectively []

b. 2 = Ineffectively []

- c. 3 = Moderately Effectively []
 - d. 4 = Effectively []
 - e. 5 = Very Effectively []
30. To what extent do you feel political stability influences the effectiveness of anti – rustling measures?
- a. 1 = Not at all []
 - b. 2 = Slightly []
 - c. 3 = Moderately []
 - d. 4 = Very Much []
 - e. 5 = Extremely []
31. How serious is the impact of government corruption on the enforcement of anti – rustling policies?
- a. 1 = No Impact []
 - b. 2 = Minor Impact []
 - c. 3 = Moderate Impact []
 - d. 4 = Major Impact []
 - e. 5 = Severe Impact []
32. How much support do you think the government provides for anti – rustling policies implementation?
- a. 1 = No Support []
 - b. 2 = Little Support []
 - c. 3 = Moderate Support []
 - d. 4 = Strong Support []
 - e. 5 = Very Strong Support []
33. How does your community feel about the economic development programs by the government within Tiaty Constituency?
34. How does your community feel about the security operations conducted across Tiaty Constituency?
35. What is your comment on the imposition of curfews by the government in regard to cattle rustling?
36. How strong do you think the legal rules/laws are for supporting anti-rustling efforts in your area?
- a. 1 = Very Weak []
 - b. 2 = Weak []
 - c. 3 = Moderate []

- d. 4 = Strong []
- e. 5 = Very Strong []

37. Please specify your level of agreement with the following statements regarding the impact of political factors on the effectiveness of anti-rustling policies and strategies. Use the provided scale:

(where; 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree & 5 = Strongly Agree)

Category	Statement	1	2	3	4	5
Strategies	Strong political support from local politicians is crucial for the successful implementation of anti – rustling strategies.					
	Political stability in the region enhances the effectiveness of anti – rustling strategies.					
	Local government commitment impacts the success of anti – rustling initiatives.					
	Effective law enforcement is dependent on political will and support.					
Policies	Adequate funding from political leaders improves the effectiveness of anti – rustling policies.					
	Effective communication between political leaders and communities helps in combating cattle rustling.					
	Political corruption undermines the effectiveness of anti – government policies.					

SECTION F: Cultural Factors that Influence the Success or Failure of Anti – Rustling Policies and Strategies

- 38. In your own experience, how are conflicts related to cattle rustling resolved in your community?
- 39. In what circumstances are the local communities able to prevent cattle rustling?
- 40. How are traditional methods of resolving conflicts been used alongside modern methods to deal with cattle rustling in your community?
- 41. How much does your community accept anti – rustling measures based on your cultural beliefs?

- a. 1 = Not at All
- b. 2 = A Little
- c. 3 = Moderately
- d. 4 = Quite a Lot
- e. 5 = Very Much

42. How fair do you believe is the implementation of anti – rustling strategies is in your community?

.....

43. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements regarding cultural factors influencing anti-rustling policies and strategies. Use the scale provided:

(where; 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree & 5 = Strongly Agree)

Category	Statement	1	2	3	4	5
Policies	Cultural traditions in Tiaty Constituency support the implementation of anti – rustling policies.					
	The involvement of traditional leaders in policy-making enhances policy acceptance.					
	Local cultural beliefs significantly influence the effectiveness of anti-rustling policies					
	Community leaders actively promote the security, social and economic development policies aimed at changing local perception against cattle rusting and banditry.					
	Cultural resistance is a major barrier to the implementation of anti -rustling policies.					
	Community leaders’ cultural values impact the support for anti-rustling policies.					
Strategies	There is strong cultural support for the strategies used to combat cattle rustling.					
	The level of respect for traditional practices influences the effectiveness of anti-rustling strategies.					
	Cultural beliefs about cattle ownership impact the success of anti-rustling measures.					

	Traditional ways of resolving conflicts are well – integrated into modern approaches to tackle rustling effectively.					
	The involvement of local leaders in anti-rustling strategies aligns well with cultural expectations					
	The disarmament programs, security operations, curfews among other strategies respect and incorporate local traditions.					
	Community involvement in strategy development is influenced by cultural factors.					

Section G: Policy Implementation

- 44. How aware are you of how anti – rustling policies are enforced in your area?
 - a. 1 = Not at All Aware []
 - b. 2 = Slightly Aware []
 - c. 3 = Moderately Aware []
 - d. 4 = Very Aware []
 - e. 5 = Extremely Aware []

- 45. To what extent do you believe that resource allocation for anti-rustling policies is adequate?
 - a. 1 = Completely Inadequate []
 - b. 2 = Mostly Inadequate []
 - c. 3 = Neutral []
 - d. 4 = Mostly Adequate []
 - e. 5 = Completely Adequate []

- 46. Are the law enforcers and community members trained effectively to handle cattle rustlers?
 - a. 1 = Not Effective at All []
 - b. 2 = Slightly Effective []
 - c. 3 = Moderately Effective []
 - d. 4 = Very Effective []
 - e. 5 = Very Effective []

- 47. How does the community members participate in the implementation of security and economic policies as discussed above?

.....

48. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements regarding policy implementation in combating cattle rustling and banditry. Use the scale provided:

(where; 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree & 5 = Strongly Agree)

Category	Statement	1	2	3	4	5
Policy	Clear guidelines in anti – rustling policies improve their effectiveness.					
	Regular Updates to anti – rustling policies enhance their impact					
	Effective communication of anti – rustling policies to the community increases their success.					
	Anti-rustling policies are enforced with strictness and consistency in my area.					
	Adequate funding for anti – rustling policy implementation leads to better results.					
	Well – trained personnel improve the effectiveness of anti – rustling strategies.					
Strategy	Community involvement in strategy planning increases the effectiveness of anti – rustling efforts.					
	Coordination between different agencies involved in anti – rustling strategies improves outcomes.					
	Consistent monitoring and evaluation of anti – rustling strategies help identify and address gaps.					
	Adequate resources and equipment for enforcement enhance the implementation of anti – rustling strategies.					

49. Based your experience/observation/knowledge, has the government addressed the policy and strategy statements above in regard to dealing cattle rustling in Tiaty Constituency?

- a. Policy.....
- b. Strategy.....

50. To what extent do you have confidence in the effectiveness of the security, social, political and economic policies implemented in your area? Tick where applicable.

(where; 1= Not Confident at All, 2 = Slightly Confident, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Confident & 5 = Very Confident)

Policies	1	2	3	4	5
Security					
Social					
Economic					
Political					

51. How do you provide feedback on anti-rustling policies to local authorities?

.....

52. How useful is the feedback provided on anti-rustling policies in improving their effectiveness?

- a. 1 = Not Useful at All []
- b. 2 = Slightly Useful []
- c. 3 = Moderately Useful []
- d. 4 = Very Useful []
- e. 5 = Extremely Useful []

53. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements regarding community trust in authorities. Use the scale provided:

Category	Statement	1	2	3	4	5
Policy	I am confident that the current anti-rustling policies are effective in addressing the problem.					
	The enforcement of anti-rustling policies is carried out fairly in my community.					
	I actively participate in providing feedback on anti-rustling policies to local authorities.					
Strategy	I have a great deal of trust in local law enforcement's efforts to combat cattle rustling.					
	There has been an improved relation and sharing of information by the locals to the law enforcers due to community's trust in their effectiveness to combat rustling in the region.					

SECTION H: Security and Law Enforcement

54. How often are surveillance and patrols conducted in your area?

- a. Daily []
- b. Weekly []
- c. Monthly []
- d. Rarely []
- e. Never []

55. Have disarmament exercises been effective in reducing cattle rustling?

- a. 1 = Very Ineffective []
- b. 2 = Ineffective []
- c. 3 = Neutral []
- d. 4 = Effective []
- e. 5 = Very Effective []

56. What is your take on curfews in regard to combating cattle rustling activities in Tiaty Constituency?

.....

57. Do you trust law enforcement agencies to effectively address cattle rustling?

- a. 1 = Strongly Distrust []
- b. 2 = Distrust []
- c. 3 = Neutral []
- d. 4 = Trust []
- e. 5 = Strongly Trust []

58. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements strategies. Use the scale provided:

(where; 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree & 5 = Strongly Agree)

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
Disarmament exercises conducted in my community have been effective in reducing cattle rustling incidents					
Disarmament initiatives have significantly reduced the number of illegal firearms in my area.					

Regular surveillance and patrols by security forces have improved community safety.					
Surveillance activities are well – coordinated and effective in deterring cattle rustling?					
Imposition of curfews have been effective in reducing night time cattle rustling incidents.					
Curfews are enforced fairly and have led to an improvement in overall security.					
The arrest and prosecution of cattle rustlers have acted as a strong deterrence in my community.					
Community policing initiatives have led to significant reduction in cattle rustling incidents.					
Local community members actively participate in community policing efforts					
Schools and local institutions play a key role in promoting anti – rustling awareness among the youth.					
The community is well – informed about the legal consequences of engaging in cattle rustling.					
Involvement of community members in anti – rustling strategies has been crucial to their success					

Thanks for your time and valuable insights

Appendix III: Key Informant Interview/FGDs Guide

EFFECTIVENESS OF ANTI – RUSTLING POLICIES AND STRATEGIES IN TIATY CONSTITUENCY, BARINGO COUNTY

I am Brenda Tunai Nasiuma, a student of Masters in Public Policy and Management (MPPM) from Strathmore University. The purpose of this discussion is to gather in-depth insights into the effectiveness of anti-rustling policies and strategies, as well as to understand the socio-economic, political, and cultural factors influencing these efforts. Your responses will be valuable in evaluating and improving these policies. Please be assured that all information shared will be kept confidential and used solely for academic purposes.

1. i) Name (optional).....
 ii) Age.....
 iii) Occupation.....
 iii) Education Level.....
2. (a)What factors undermine the fight against cattle rustling?
 (b)How can these factors be overcome?
3. What policies are you aware of, that have been employed to deal with security challenges, particularly cattle rustling related activities?
 - a. Social Policies
 - b. Economic Policies
 - c. Security Policies
4. What impact have these policies had on the livelihoods of Tiaty residents and security environment within the region?
5. In your own opinion, how do various socio – economic factors impact how well anti-rustling policies work?
6. In your opinion, do you think the anti – rustling policies have been fully endorsed and supported by the Tiaty Constituency political figures?
7. What strategies has the government used within Tiaty Constituency to address the issue of
8. What role do local communities do to combat cattle rustling and banditry within Tiaty Constituency?

9. Do the current anti-rustling policies and strategies align with the cultural norms and practices of the local communities? How can these policies be adapted to be more culturally sensitive and effective?
10. What challenges do law enforcement agencies face in addressing cattle rustling in Tiaty Constituency?
11. To what extent is the local community involved in the formulation and implementation of anti-rustling policies and strategies? How does this involvement (or lack thereof) impact policy effectiveness?
12. (a) Based on your experience and knowledge, what improvements or new strategies would you recommend to enhance the effectiveness of anti-rustling policies in Tiaty?
(b) Is it possible to eradicate cattle rustling in Tiaty Constituency? If yes explain how, if no explain why.

Thank you for sharing your insights and experiences. Your input will greatly contribute to understanding and improving anti-rustling policies in Tiaty Constituency. If you have any additional comments or suggestions, please feel free to share them now.

Appendix IV: Ethical Approval Letter



20th November 2024

Ms Nasiuma Brenda,
brenda.nasiuma@strathmore.edu

Dear Ms Nasiuma,

RE: The Effectiveness of Anti – Rustling Policies and Strategies in Tiaty, Baringo County

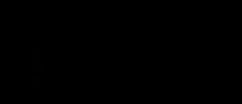
This is to inform you that SU-ISERC has reviewed and **approved** your above **SU-masters** proposal. Your application reference number is **SU-ISERC2460/24**. The approval period is from **20th November 2024 to 19th November 2025**.

This approval is subject to compliance with the following requirements:

- i. Only approved documents including (informed consents, study instruments, MTA) will be used.
- ii. All changes including (amendments, deviations, and violations) are submitted for review and approval by SU-ISERC.
- iii. Death and life-threatening problems and serious adverse events or unexpected adverse events whether related or unrelated to the study must be reported to SU-ISERC within 72 hours of notification.
- iv. Any changes anticipated or otherwise that may increase the risks or affected safety or welfare of study participants and others or affect the integrity of the research must be reported to SU-ISERC within 72 hours.
- v. Clearance for the export of biological specimens must be obtained from relevant institutions.
- vi. Submission of a request for renewal of approval at least 60 days prior to the expiry of the approval period. Attach a comprehensive progress report to support the renewal.
- vii. Submission of an executive summary report within 90 days of completion of the study to SUI SERC.

Before commencing your study, you will be expected to obtain a research license from National Commission for Science, Technology, and Innovation (NACOSTI) <https://researchportal.nacosti.go.ke/> and obtain other clearances needed.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Ambrose Rachier, Chairperson; SU-ISERC

Appendix V: Introductory Letter



Monday, 25 November 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

RE: FACILITATION OF RESEARCH – NAISUMA BRENDA TUNAI

This is to introduce Brenda Tunai who is a **Master's in Public Policy and Management (MPPM)** student at Strathmore University Business School, admission number MPPM 152276. As part of our MPPM Program, Brenda is expected to do applied research and undertake a project. This is in partial fulfilment of the requirements of the MPPM course. To this effect, she would like to request for appropriate data from your organization.

Brenda is undertaking a research paper on "**The Effectiveness of Anti - Rustling Policies and Strategies In Tiaty, Baringo County.**" The information obtained from your organization shall be treated confidentially and shall be used for academic purposes only.

Our MPPM Program seeks to establish links with industry, and one of these ways is by directing our research to areas that would be of direct use to industry. We would be glad to share our findings with you after the research, and we trust that you will find them of great interest and of practical value to your organization.

We appreciate your support and shall be willing to provide any further information if required.

Yours Faithfully,



Njoki Njagiri.
Manager – Graduate Programs.
Strathmore University Business School



THE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION ACT, 2013 (Rev. 2014)

Legal Notice No. 108: The Science, Technology and Innovation (Research Licensing) Regulations, 2014

The National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation, hereafter referred to as the Commission, was the established under the Science, Technology and Innovation Act 2013 (Revised 2014) herein after referred to as the Act. The objective of the Commission shall be to regulate and assure quality in the science, technology and innovation sector and advise the Government in matters related thereto.

CONDITIONS OF THE RESEARCH LICENSE

1. The License is granted subject to provisions of the Constitution of Kenya, the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, and other relevant laws, policies and regulations. Accordingly, the licensee shall adhere to such procedures, standards, code of ethics and guidelines as may be prescribed by regulations made under the Act, or prescribed by provisions of International treaties of which Kenya is a signatory to
2. The research and its related activities as well as outcomes shall be beneficial to the country and shall not in any way; i. Endanger national security
 - ii. Adversely affect the lives of Kenyans
 - iii. Be in contravention of Kenya's international obligations including Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN).
 - iv. Result in exploitation of intellectual property rights of communities in Kenya
 - v. Adversely affect the environment
 - vi. Adversely affect the rights of communities
 - vii. Endanger public safety and national cohesion
 - viii. Plagiarize someone else's work
3. The License is valid for the proposed research, location and specified period.
4. The license any rights thereunder are non-transferable
5. The Commission reserves the right to cancel the research at any time during the research period if in the opinion of the Commission the research is not implemented in conformity with the provisions of the Act or any other written law.
6. The Licensee shall inform the relevant County Director of Education, County Commissioner and County Governor before commencement of the research.
7. Excavation, filming, movement, and collection of specimens are subject to further necessary clearance from relevant Government Agencies.
8. The License does not give authority to transfer research materials.
9. The Commission may monitor and evaluate the licensed research project for the purpose of assessing and evaluating compliance with the conditions of the License.
10. The Licensee shall submit one hard copy, and upload a soft copy of their final report (thesis) onto a platform designated by the Commission within one year of completion of the research.
11. The Commission reserves the right to modify the conditions of the License including cancellation without prior notice.
12. Research, findings and information regarding research systems shall be stored or disseminated, utilized or applied in such a manner as may be prescribed by the Commission from time to time.
13. The Licensee shall disclose to the Commission, the relevant Institutional Scientific and Ethical Review Committee, and the relevant national agencies any inventions and discoveries that are of National strategic importance.
14. The Commission shall have powers to acquire from any person the right in, or to, any scientific innovation, invention or patent of strategic importance to the country.
15. Relevant Institutional Scientific and Ethical Review Committee shall monitor and evaluate the research periodically, and make a report of its findings to the Commission for necessary action.

National Commission for Science, Technology and
Innovation (NACOSTI),
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