

NEWS
RELEASE

CONFLICT-MANAGEMENT SKILLS LEAD TO RESILIENCE DURING CLIMATE AND ECONOMIC CRISES, SAYS MERCY CORPS

NEW MERCY CORPS REPORT SHOWS GREATER RESILIENCE
AMONG LOCAL LEADERS WHO WORK TOGETHER

mercycorps.org

ABOUT MERCY CORPS

- Global organization dedicated to helping people survive and communities thrive
- Working on the toughest challenges in over 40 countries around the world
- 42 million people benefiting from Mercy Corps' humanitarian assistance and economic development programs
- About 4,000 team members; in the field, 92 percent are from the countries where they work
- Over five years, average 88 percent of revenue channeled directly into programs; \$382.6 million in operating revenue in FY2014
- Founded in 1979

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Horn of Africa – By building trust and learning how to manage conflict, community members can build networks that offer critical support in times of severe stress and food insecurity, says a new report by the global organization [Mercy Corps](http://mercycorps.org).

The report illuminates some of the most [effective strategies](#) for cultivating resilience in places that frequently experience economic and climate crisis.

“Though building resilience has become a primary development goal in areas facing recurrent humanitarian crises, much of this work to date has focused on predicting and preparing for climate shocks,” says Sean Granville-Ross, Mercy Corps Country Director for Uganda. “This study shows that the ability to manage conflict is a significant factor when considering a community’s overall vulnerability.”

The report builds on previous [Mercy Corps research](#) demonstrating that peacebuilding interventions can have positive effects on a pastoral community’s ability to cope with and adapt to severe drought. Building on these insights, Mercy Corps measured the effect of specific conflict-management strategies on a community’s overall resilience.

The report shows that when leaders of informal and formal governance structures were given opportunities to collaborate and strengthen skills around conflict prevention and dispute resolution, household food security was improved.

Specifically, the report calls on development and humanitarian organizations to:

- Gear greater investments towards conflict-management interventions;
- Improve institutional-level conflict-management capacities;
- Support interventions that strengthen social networks that people rely on in times of stress.

Mercy Corps conducted this research in several locations in the Greater Horn of Africa, including Northern Karamoja and Uganda, with support from USAID’s Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation.

Read or download Mercy Corps’ report, [Pathways from Peace to Resilience](#).