

OPERATIONS UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

KENYA: FLOODS

21 May 2002

Appeal No. 14/02

Launched on 13 May 2002 for CHF 1,737,000 (USD 1.1m/ EUR 1.2m) for 3 months.

Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) Allocated: CHF 50,000

Beneficiaries: 125,000

Operations Update No. 1 Period covered: 13-20 May 2002;

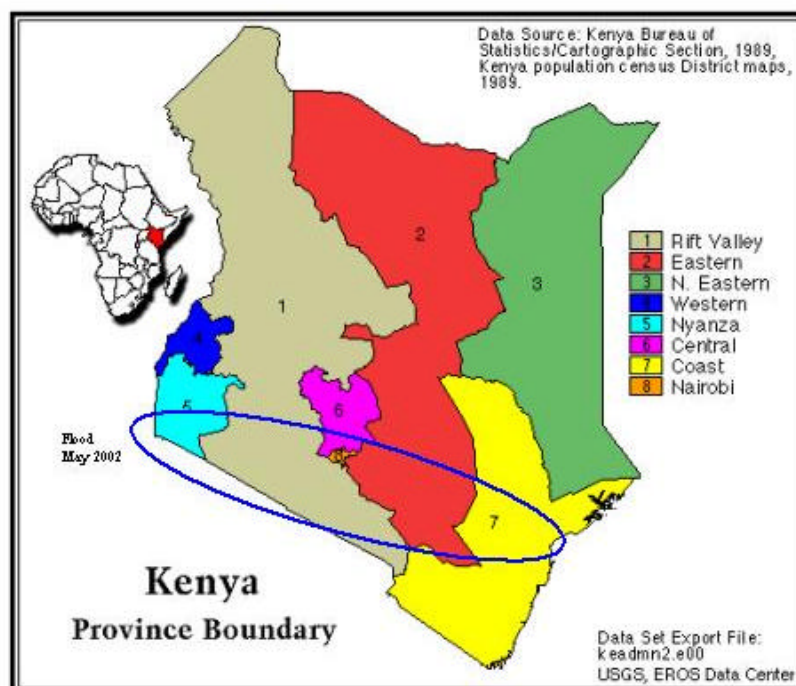
“At a Glance”

Appeal coverage: 0%

Related Appeals: East Africa regional programmes (01.07/2002)

Outstanding needs: CHF 1,737,000

The Disaster/Situation: The Kenya Red Cross Society, with Federation assistance, continues to provide support to Kenyans affected by the flooding disaster. There has, however, to date been no donor pledges received by the Federation. The need for relief goods is still acute and there is growing concern over the long-term impact of the disaster.



Operational Developments:

According to official reports 46 people were killed, eight injured and more than 150,000 displaced by floods and landslides since heavy rains begun three weeks ago (*see affected areas circled on the map on the previous page: map courtesy of ReliefWeb*). Thousands of acres of crops have been destroyed by water and homes marooned or destroyed. The loss of household property and livestock is still to be evaluated. In large parts of the affected area wells and drinking water sources as well as latrines are flooded and there are serious fears of an outbreak of water borne diseases such as cholera and typhoid. Seventeen primary schools in Nyanza province remain closed.

The table underneath shows numbers of deaths and injuries

Province	Deaths	Injuries
North Eastern	0	0
Central	6	0
Eastern	19	0
Rift Valley	5	4
Nyanza	6	3
Western	3	1
Nairobi	7	0
TOTAL	46	8

(Source: Ministry of Health, Kenya Government)

The West of Kenya (Nyanza and Western Provinces) has been most affected by these floods with Nyando, Kisumu, Rachuonyo and Busia districts suffering the most important damages. There is an urgent need of food (cooking oil, powdered milk, cooking utensils), medication (anti-malaria, typhoid and cholera), shelter items such as tents and tarpaulins, blankets, clean drinking water or water purification tablets and water Jerry-cans. In addition seeds and building materials are needed to help people rebuild their lives.

In the western **Migori** district, several families from the Kabuto village who were displaced after rivers Kuja, Ongoche and Migori burst their banks, are camped at the nearby Aneko, Sori, Lwanda, Nyora and Kabuto centres. Flooding caused by heavy rains destroyed about 1,000 houses, four primary schools and a dispensary. Crops have been destroyed and animals and personal belongings have been swept downstream. Duruma, Kolanya, Sere and Kabuto primary schools were not opened for the new term.

In **Kisumu** scores of residents of Nyamasaria, Kasule, Siany, Manyatta Chiga and Koyango estates of Kolwa East Location were rendered homeless following heavy rains that led rivers Nyando and Mirui to burst their banks and submerge homes. The people are camped at Nyamasaria Church, Nyamasaria school, Manyatta, Kosao, Nyalenda and Pandpieri shopping centres.

In **Rachuonyo** thousands of residents of seven sub-locations at West Karachuonyo, East and West Kobuya locations, Kobala, Rakwaro, Kamwala, Rajjieu and Karabondi sub-locations have moved with their valuables to higher ground and camped in churches, schools and market centres.

In **Nyando** district nine of the 14 location in the area are the most affected by floods. These are Kimiye, Wasua, Achego, Rang’ul, Nyalunya, Nyasare, Gem Rae and Gem Nam locations in Nyando district. Residents have camped at Ahero Multi-Purpose Centre. Heavy rains caused extensive damage to six classrooms at Sao Set primary school.

With roads being cut by floods, it is feared that some 2,800 families in Kadiang are totally isolated and cannot be reached by relief agencies. Relief food donated by the government is stored only 4km away until the floods subside.

In **Busia**, Budalangi division more than 2,000 people are trapped by the floods and are unable to move due to lack of transport. Two deaths have been reported in the most affected areas of Mudendi, Budalangi, Igogo, Mulua and Sibuka.

Floods have also affected the eastern region of **Garissa** where several homes were partially destroyed and 428 families displaced. People have found shelter at Ziwani and Bukuyu.

In **Nairobi** at Embakasi Village's government quarters a sewage spill has flooded 30 houses in the area, but has since subsided. Nine people are feared dead and hundreds living along the banks of Nairobi River in Mathare and Korogocho displaced following a heavy down pour accompanied by violent thunderstorm that hit Nairobi.

Reports from the provincial administration indicate that 800 people in Gamba and Darissa area in **Tana River** district have been displaced. Media reports indicate that homes and livestock belonging to hundreds of Orma pastoralists were destroyed after heavy rains filled the seven power generation dams on Tana River causing the banks to burst and submerge the low-lying pastures of the nomadic Orma. In **Baringo** a family of seven died after flash floods swept through village.

Also, a series of landslides affected the central districts of Meru, Muranga and Thika. Some 17 people including nine children died in the villages of Giumpu (Meru) and Gathunguri (Muranga). In Thika district two landslides were reported on 12 May as torrential rains continued to hit most parts of the country. Thirty people were evacuated by the provincial administration. In Gathugu village near Ndunyu Chege trading centre, residents continue to live in fear after a massive landslide swallowed more than five acres of coffee and tea bushes last week. More than 134 people were evacuated from eight homesteads in the area to Ndunyu Chege Village Polytechnic. People camped here are complaining of lack of food, water and blankets.

The Kenyan Meteorological Service says the rains, which are likely to reduce by mid May, are linked to unusual warm weather over the warming of the Indian Ocean. Areas downstream of large rivers continue to be at risk of flooding while the risk of landslides still exist in sloping areas.

Red Cross Red Crescent action w

The Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) Secretary General has been appointed Chairman of the Sudden Onset Disaster Committee, a task force consisting of Kenyan government officials, non-governmental organisations and the main international agencies and organisations present in Kenya, including the International Federation.

KRCS along with national authorities undertook two assessments in the Nyanza province on 8 and 14 May. The second visit indicated that water levels are slowly subsiding. This means the needs are also changing. Food aid, seeds and tools and adequate shelter are now the long term needs while jerricans, mosquito nets and medical kits are still needed as immediate relief to the affected families.

The Federation Regional Delegation in Nairobi has been working closely with the KRCS providing technical and logistical support.

The table underneath shows RC/RC response to date:

District	Targeted People	Targeted Families	RC/RC Assistance					Date
			Blankets	Tarpaulins	Second Hand Clothes	Soap	Body Bags	
Migori	6'000	1'000	1'000	1'000	8 cartons	300	0	04/05/02
Meru	900	150	150	90	0	100	6	04/05/02
Garissa	1'500	250	200	75	0	100	0	07/05/02
Muranga	360	60	180	60	2 cartons	60	0	07/05/02
Rachuonyo	3'000	500	510	356	0	0	0	12/05/02
Kisumu	23'000	3'834	2'050	800	0	0	0	13/05/02
Nyando	10'000	1'700	1'700	1'700	0	0	0	12/05/02
Busia	800	134	134	134	0	0	0	13/05/02
Garissa	2'568	428	200	75	0	80	0	08/05/02
Athi River	720	120	100	50	0	0	0	11/05/02
TOTAL	48'848	8'176	6'224	4'340	0	640	6	0

Migori. The KRCS Migori branch volunteers were among the first to visit the area and assess the situation. They found 6,000 people affected by the floods. A total of 1,000 displaced families received 1,000 blankets, 1,000 tarpaulins, 300 pieces of soap and eight cartons of assorted second hand clothes. The government released 2000 bags of maize and 1000 bags of beans as relief food. A medical team led by the Nyanza provincial health officer supplied drugs, mosquito nets and other assorted medical equipment.

Kisumu. According to a KRCS Kisumu branch assessment there are 23,000 affected families in the region, out of which 3,834 are displaced. The KRCS distributed 2,050 blankets, 800 tarpaulins as well as 800 bags of maize and 700 bags of beans to affected families in eight camps in Koruba Division.

In **Rachuonyo** the KRCS completed the distribution of 510 blankets and 356 tarpaulins to benefit 500 displaced families out of the 3,000 affected families. The government distributed 600 bags of maize, 400 bags of beans and 50 cartons of cooking oil.

According to the KRCS in **Nyando**, 50,183 people are affected by the floods of which 15,000 are displaced in Nyakach and 20,000 in Nyando. Some 300 houses have collapsed and more than 2,500 domestic animals have perished. There is an acute lack of sanitation, because of the flooded toilets, and, in Nyando more than elsewhere, there is fear of an outbreak of waterborne diseases such as cholera and typhoid.

In **Busia**, the KRCS branch has continued to work closely with the government to assist about 800 affected families and was able to distribute blankets and tarpaulins to 134 displaced families.

In **Garissa**, (East) a KRCS disaster team visited the two sites at Ziwani and Bukuyu and distributed 75 tarpaulins, 200 blankets and 80 pieces of soap slabs

In the landslides affected area in Meru the KRCS assisted 150 out of 900 displaced families with blankets and tarpaulins. Authorities donated 400 bags of maize and 200 bags of beans. In Muranga KRCS volunteers distributed 180 blankets, 60 tarpaulins, two cartons of assorted second hand clothes and 60 pieces of soap to 60 displaced families out of the 360 affected.

Outstanding needs

KRCS stocks are running dry, and the Federation DREF allocation (CHF 50,000) has been spent. Only in kind contribution have been received from UNICEF and some local Kenyan companies:

- 400 cartons of high energy biscuits
- 65,000 water purification tablets;
- 80 cartons of bathing soap;
- 32 bales of blankets (25 pieces each);
- 80 bales of mosquito nets (about 4000 pieces);
- 10 mobile phones from Safaricom.

Based on the two interagency assessment (the KRCS took part in both of them), interagency meetings and information coming from the KRCS branches, the needs articulated in the preliminary appeal on 13 May are still valid (tarpaulins, blankets, water purification tablets, jerrycans etc.). In addition there is a big concern about the long term impact of the floods, especially on the food security and health of the population whose crops and livestock have been destroyed and are now exposed to malaria and waterborne diseases..

Detailed district level assessment reports will be released by the Office of the President (OP) later this month. The KRCS will also conduct additional district level assessments to verify governmental results, and improve the targeting and focus of its interventions. This will be reflected in a review of the preliminary appeal.

For further details please contact: Josse Gillijns, Phone : 41 22 730 42 24; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; email: gillijns@ifrc.org

All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

This operation seeks to administer to the immediate requirements of the victims of this disaster. Subsequent operations to promote sustainable development or longer-term capacity building will require additional support, and these programmes are outlined on the Federation's website.

For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

John Horekens
Head
Relationship Management Department

Bekele Geleta
Head
Africa Department

