

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: DROUGHT

11 February 2006

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 183 countries.

In Brief

Appeal No. MDRKE001; Operations Update no. 1; Period covered: 4 January to 31 January 2006; Appeal coverage: 3% (The stated appeal coverage does not include in-country cash and in-kind donations);
[Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List](#) or [here for the one on the website](#).

Appeal history:

- Launched on 4 January 2006 for CHF 16,369,585 (USD 10.5 million or EUR 12.7 million) for 12 months to assist 329,000 beneficiaries- http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?06/MDRKE001.pdf
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 427,808.

Outstanding needs: CHF 15,876,449 (USD 12,350,408 or EUR 10,213,548).

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: East Africa Sub-Regional Programmes; Appeal 2006-2007; Appeal no. MAA64003. Please refer to http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual06/MAA64003.pdf

Operational Summary: The de-stocking programme of the Kenya Red Cross Society¹ has been successfully concluded in Mandera, Wajir, Marsabit and Kajiado at a cost of CHF 364,407 facilitated through an allocation from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF). The intervention is still ongoing in Garissa and at the time of reporting, a total of 16,589 animals had been purchased, slaughtered and the meat donated back to the communities. So far, relief food has been distributed to a number of districts including Mandera, Marsabit, Isiolo, Turkana, Makueni, Kitui, Ijara, Kajiado, Nyeri, Wajir, Nairobi, Mbeere and Garissa. The national society has also distributed a total of 344 metric tonnes of UNIMIX in Mandera, Marsabit, Isiolo, Turkana, Makueni, Kitui, Mwingi, Ijara, Wajir, Mbeere and Garissa districts. The districts of Turkana, Kitui, Ijara, Nyeri, Nairobi and Mbeere- which were previously not in the Appeal- have been targeted for various interventions including de-stocking and food distribution. This decision will be clarified in the next operations update.

In response to the Kenya Red Cross Society's local appeal, cash and in-kind donations of CHF 1,325,119 and CHF 228,814 respectively (amounting to CHF 1,553,933) have been received to date from the general public and business community. On its part, the government has turned to its own Exchequer as well as making budgetary reallocations from other line ministries in order to raise as much money as possible internally. Foreign governments have pledged and made contributions directly to the Government of Kenya and the World Food Programme (WFP).

The following pledges have been made to this operation to date:

- Norwegian Red Cross: 50 water trucks, 3 delegates, training and three-year support. The first consignment of 27 vehicles, including support vehicles, is expected to arrive in the country by 10 March 2006 and the second consignment is expected to arrive two to three weeks later.
- ECHO, through the Danish Red Cross: EUR 1.5 million for water and sanitation (WatSan) intervention in Turkana, Kitui, Kwale, Isiolo, Makueni and Marsabit districts (bilateral support);

¹ Kenya Red Cross Society- refer to: <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/cn6.asp?countryid=93>

- Danish Red Cross: UNIMIX (monetary value to be confirmed);
- German Red Cross: EUR 150,000 for World Health Organization (WHO) health kits (bilateral support);
- American Red Cross: USD 150,000 for food and water;
- Swedish Red Cross: SEK 2,000,000 (to be confirmed);
- Netherlands Red Cross: EUR 1.2 million;
- Spanish Red Cross, with private support: WatSan intervention and community service- monetary value to be confirmed (bilateral support);
- French Red Cross: EUR 250,000 WatSan interventions (possibly bilateral support);
- Coca Cola: USD 250,000 initially and an additional amount later.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In Kenya:** Abbas Gullet, Secretary General, Kenya Red Cross Society, Email: gullet.abbas@kenyaredcross.org; Phone +254.20.60.35.93; Fax +254.20.60.35.89
- **In Kenya:** Esther Okwanga, Federation Head of East Africa Sub-Regional Office; Email: esther.okwanga@ifrc.org; Phone +254.20.283.50.00; Fax +254.20.271.27.77
- **In Kenya:** Anitta Underlin, Federation Head of Regional Delegation, Nairobi; Email: anitta.underlin@ifrc.org; Phone +254.20.283.51.24; Fax +254.20.271.27.77 and Steve Penny, Disaster Management Coordinator, East Africa Regional Delegation, Nairobi; Email: steve.penny@ifrc.org; Phone +254.20.283.51.17; Fax +254.20.271.27.77
- **In Geneva:** Amna Al Ahmar, Federation Regional Officer for Eastern Africa, Africa Dept; Email: amna.alahmar@ifrc.org; Phone +41.22.730.44.27; Fax +41.22.733.03.95

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Background

The Government of Kenya declared the current drought a national disaster at the beginning of 2006. The drought continues to deteriorate from bad to worse, as the number of people affected increased dramatically from 2.5 million in 22 districts in mid-December 2005, to 3.5 million in 37 districts by mid-January 2006. Indeed, according to local media reports, up to 40 people- mostly children, have died due to complications arising from malnutrition.

A recent Kenya Food Security Meeting (KFSM) report indicates that the most critical delay in rainfall was experienced in the eastern and northern parts of the country. The short rains crop prospects were favourable in the highland areas of Nyanza and Western provinces but poor in Central, Eastern and Coast provinces. The regenerative capacity of the perennial grasses has been lost, and the little pasture and vegetation that has been left will deplete rapidly, as the drought conditions accentuate. Most of the ground is therefore bare and thousands of cattle are dying daily.



Photo right: Overwhelmed by thirst and hunger, this cow died while giving birth.

With livestock mortality being evidenced, particularly in Isiolo, Wajir Marsabit, Kajiado, Mandera, Garissa and Tana River districts, reports show that the trend in Samburu, Narok, Kitui, Makueni, Laikipia, Tharaka, Moyale districts as well as the marginal agricultural districts of the Coast province also is worsening. The situation in northern Kenya pastoral districts remains precarious. No respite is in sight until the long rain period of March/April. In addition, the water and sanitation issue is critical in Mandera, Wajir, Marsabit and Kajiado districts, among other districts.

A Kenya Red Cross Society assessment undertaken in Kajiado from 1 to 2 January 2006 confirmed that migration distances had increased from 10 kilometres at the onset of the drought to over 200 kilometres, as several seasonal rivers had dried up and 60% of crops had failed. According to the Kajiado district medical officer, the district has recorded five deaths due to drought-related causes. The worst hit categories are pregnant and lactating mothers and children below the age of 5 years. The district nutritionist has predicted a rise in the number of deaths, since the incidence of malnutrition is rising amongst these categories as a result of inadequate food intakes.

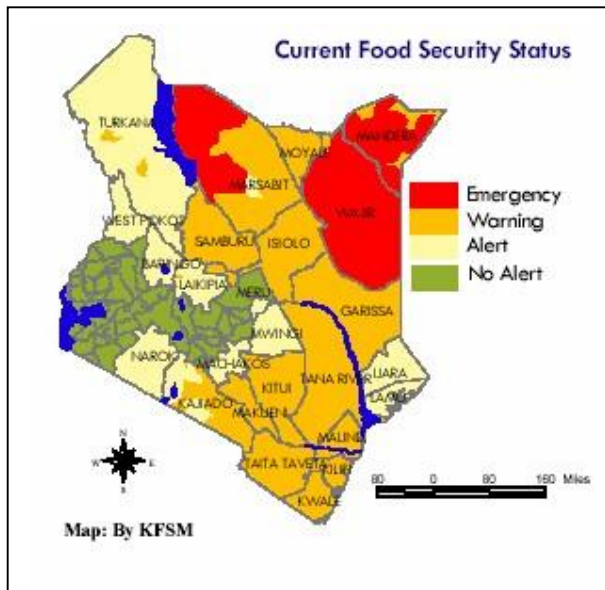
In Mandera district, around 60% of the total animal population has been lost to the drought and many more may die if the drought persists. Lack of water in the district is also aggravating the problem as health centres and dispensaries have been forced to operate without this precious commodity. Many schools have not opened despite several assurances by the government to waive school fees due to the extent of the loss of animals which are the communities’ main source of income. Boarding schools are worst hit because of the lack of water.

Operational developments

In response to the Kenya Red Cross Society’s local appeal, cash and in-kind donations of CHF 1,325,119 and CHF 228,814 respectively (amounting to CHF 1,553,933) have been received to date from the general public and business community. On its part, the government has turned to its own Exchequer as well as making budgetary reallocations from other line ministries in order to raise as much money as possible internally. Foreign governments have pledged and made contributions directly to the Government of Kenya and the World Food Programme (WFP).

The national society has also been working in close collaboration with the Ministry of Special Programmes, KFSM, the Arid Lands Resource Management Project (ALRMP), the National Operation Centre (NOC) and the District Disaster Committees in the branches.

The national society organised medical camps in collaboration with the Kenya Medical Association (KMA) and the National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF). A total of 3,598 patients were attended to in Mandera, Wajir, Kajiado and Marsabit districts over a period of four days from 27 to 31 January 2006. In addition, 16 operations were carried out during the medical camps. The KMA deployed a contingent of 49 physicians, surgeons and paediatricians, and donated medical drugs and supplies which will be distributed to health centres identified by the Ministry of Health. On its part, NHIF gave a cash donation of CHF 12,712 towards logistical costs.



In January 2006, inter-agency rapid assessment teams (under the KFSM) set out to determine emergency food needs for rapid and medium-term response for the first six months. Areas covered by the assessment included Mandera, Wajir, Garissa, Tana River, Isiolo, Marsabit, Moyale, Taita Taveta, Mbeere, Tharaka, Machakos, Muranga, Narok, Laikipia, Baringo, Siaya, Bondo, West Pokot, Kwale, Kilifi, Malindi, Kajiado, Makueni, Kitui, Mwingi, Samburu and Turkana districts. The final report is expected to be published by 10 February 2006, and the assessment’s results will be the basis for a countrywide drought relief intervention. It is likely that the number of those affected by the drought will increase, as the rains are not expected until March/April. The situation has prompted WFP to extend the duration of its Emergency Operation (EMOP) which has been running since 2004 in 17 districts; Turkana, Mandera, Marsabit, Wajir, Garissa, Tana River, Isiolo, Makueni, Kitui, Mwingi, Machakos, Kwale, Kilifi, Samburu, Kajiado, Taita Taveta and Malindi.

According to KFSM, supplementary and therapeutic feeding centres have been set up in the most affected districts, namely Mandera, Wajir and Garissa. One therapeutic feeding centre and two supplementary feeding centres, with assistance from Action Against Hunger, are operational in Mandera. Furthermore, over 100 families are registered and receiving supplementary feeding at a centre established by the Mandera district hospital.

Due to poor livestock conditions, there is a downward trend in livestock prices. Market prices for animals have drastically reduced due to lack of demand, and whereas goats and sheep cost an average of CHF 17 in major markets, they were going for as little as CHF 8.5.

The following pledges have been made to this operation to date:

- Norwegian Red Cross: 50 water trucks, 3 delegates, training and three-year support. The first consignment of 27 vehicles, including support vehicles, is expected to arrive in the country by 10 March and the second consignment is expected to arrive two to three weeks later.
- ECHO, through the Danish Red Cross: EUR 1.5 million for water and sanitation (WatSan) intervention in Turkana, Kitui, Kwale, Isiolo, Makueni and Marsabit districts (bilateral support);
- Danish Red Cross: UNIMIX (monetary value to be confirmed);
- German Red Cross: EUR 150,000 for World Health Organization (WHO) health kits (bilateral support);
- American Red Cross: USD 150,000 for food and water;
- Swedish Red Cross: SEK 2,000,000 (to be confirmed);
- Netherlands Red Cross: EUR 1.2 million;
- Spanish Red Cross, with private support: WatSan intervention and community service- monetary value to be confirmed (bilateral support);
- French Red Cross: EUR 250,000 WatSan interventions (possibly bilateral support);
- Coca Cola: USD 250,000 initially and an additional amount later.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Goal: To provisionally assist some 329,000 targeted beneficiaries in Kenya to cope with the present drought, reduce its impact, and initiate recovery activities.

Objective 1: To mitigate the effects of drought and increase resilience of affected communities in Mandera, Wajir, Garissa (North Eastern Province), Marsabit, Mwingi, Isiolo, Makueni (Eastern), Kajiado (Rift Valley), Tana River, Kwale (Coast) through the protection and management of livestock assets.

Progress

The national society's de-stocking programme in Mandera, Wajir, Marsabit and Kajiado has been successfully concluded at a cost of CHF 364,407 facilitated through an allocation from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF). The intervention is still ongoing in Garissa and at the time of reporting, a total of 16,589 animals had been purchased, slaughtered and the meat donated back to the communities.

Table 1: Livestock destocking figures per district

District	Cattle	Goats/Sheep	Camels	Allocated (CHF)
Mandera	1,200	6,400	300	101,695
Wajir	748	2,519	188	101,695
Marsabit	353	2,767	-	76,271
Kajiado	6	1,270	-	42,373
Garissa	18	820	-	42,373
Total	2,325	13,776	488	364,407

The national society is in the process of earmarking an additional CHF 508,475 for Mandera, Marsabit and Wajir districts for further de-stocking activities. The overall plan is to buy 5,000 animals (1,000 cows and 4,000 goats and sheep) per district in the ten hardest hit districts where animals have little chance of surviving the drought and their market prices have drastically depreciated.

Discussions to operate mobile veterinary clinics to conduct vaccination and other medical checks for the animals in the hardest hit districts are at an advanced stage with the Veterinary Association of Kenya (VAK). Five more districts are targeted namely, Tana River, Turkana, Kitui, Mwingi and Mbeere. Red Cross Action Team (RCAT) members in these districts are currently in the process of identifying potential sellers and planning logistics for the intervention.

Objective 2: To provide food to 59,000 drought affected beneficiaries, and UNIMIX (fortified supplementary food) to 10,000 children in the districts of Mandera, Wajir, Garissa (North Eastern Province), Marsabit, Mwingi, Isiolo, Makueni (Eastern), Kajiado (Rift Valley), Tana River, Kwale (Coast).

Progress

On 12 January 2006, the Kenyan government officially appointed the Kenya Red Cross Society as the lead agency in the distribution of government relief food in Mandera, Garissa, Wajir, Marsabit, Kajiado, Mwingi, Machakos, Kitui and Makueni districts. So far, the relief food has been distributed to a number of districts including Mandera, Marsabit, Isiolo, Turkana, Makueni, Kitui, Ijara, Kajiado, Nyeri, Wajir, Nairobi, Mbeere and Garissa.

The national society has also distributed a total of 344 metric tonnes of UNIMIX in Mandera, Marsabit, Isiolo, Turkana, Makueni, Kitui, Mwingi, Ijara, Wajir, Mbeere and Garissa districts. Kajiado district has received 49 metric tonnes of UNIMIX, which has been distributed to school children in boarding and pre-schools, pregnant women, lactating mothers, children under five years as well as public health facilities.

In Mwingi district, 15 primary schools and 15 secondary schools were targeted for relief food assistance. The average population in each primary school is 450 children and 250 students in each secondary school. The UNIMIX previously dispatched to the district will also be distributed.

In Makueni district, a total of 46 schools will receive UNIMIX as part of a supplementary feeding programme, including a school for disabled children.

Table 2: Total quantity of relief food donations received and distributed as of 31 January 2006

Relief food received and distributed (in metric tonnes)					
District	Maize flour/ grains	Beans	Cooking oil/Fat	UNIMIX	Others
Mandera	-	-	-	60	-
Marsabit	-	-	-	30	-
Isiolo	-	-	-	30	-
Turkana	19	-	-	30	-
Makueni	29	2	-	20	-
Kitui	-	-	-	20	-
Mwingi	29	2	-	20	-
Ijara	-	-	-	15	-
Kajiado	-	-	-	49	-
Nyeri	19	-	-	-	1.4
Wajir	-	-	-	30	-
Nairobi	3	0.4	-	-	-
Mbeere	-	-	-	20	-
Garissa	-	-	-	20	-
Total received	158	26	3	344	9
Total distributed	99	4.4	-	344	1.4
Balance	59	21.6	3.0	-	7.6

Objective 3: To improve access to safe drinking water, livestock water, hygiene promotion and sanitation facilities in the ten targeted districts, both in the immediate and medium-term.

Progress

The following activities are planned to begin immediately:

- Kwale: Extension of 2 pipelines, rehabilitation of 1 borehole and desilting of 1 earth dam.
- Kitui: Rehabilitation of 3 boreholes, extension of 1 pipeline and de-silting of 1 earth dam.
- Isiolo: Rehabilitation of 2 boreholes and 2 trucks for water trucking.
- Makueni: Rehabilitation of 3 boreholes, de-silting of 1 earth dam and extension of 1 pipeline.
- Marsabit: Rehabilitation of 3 boreholes and 2 trucks for water trucking.
- Turkana: Rehabilitation of 3 boreholes and 12 shallow wells.
- Mandera, Wajir, Garissa and Kajiado: Water trucking.

The need for water distribution in other affected areas has yet to be evaluated and mapped out and a distribution plan developed in order to determine requirements for additional trucking using locally contracted trucking firms.

The national society will receive 50 bladder water tankers from Norwegian Red Cross, complete with service and spares. 25 tankers have already been shipped and are expected to dock at the coastal town of Mombasa at the beginning of March 2006. Preparations, including recruitment of drivers and other logistics staff, are well under way and a team of three Norwegian expatriates is due to arrive ahead of the trucks. The Federation regional delegation in Nairobi is in regular contact with both the national society and the Norwegian Red Cross for coordination and support. The first consignment of trucks is expected to be on the road by 1 April 2006.

The national society will hire private firms to conduct water trucking services in the short term before the tankers are delivered. Once they arrive, these tankers are expected to be used for conducting water trucking for communities and animals living in far flung districts of Mandera, Garissa, Marsabit and Kajiado.

Objective 4: To strengthen frontline health services in the target districts.

Progress

World Health Organization (WHO) emergency health kits have been delivered and will be distributed to district hospitals in the affected areas. There are plans to deliver and distribute insecticide-treated nets (ITN) and other malaria prevention supplies to districts in which the disease is endemic. Medical drugs and supplies which the national society has received will be distributed to health centres identified by the Ministry of Health.

Federation coordination

When the drought alert was first raised, the Federation regional delegation in Nairobi, in consultation with the Kenya Red Cross Society, submitted a request and secured an allocation from the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) amounting to CHF 427,000 to enable the national society to carry out a rapid assessment of the situation and start a response operation. An appeal was subsequently launched on behalf of the national society. To date there have been soft pledges by a number of partners as elaborated earlier in the text.

In view of the fact that the logistics of this operation- with respect to water trucking- would be of a complex nature the Federation mobilized technical support by inviting the head of the Vehicle Fleet Centre in Dubai to come to Kenya to discuss the establishment and modalities of running a Transport Support Unit (TSU). The mission was a success and at the time of writing, the first draft of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) had been shared with all parties concerned and views have been exchanged. Shipping plans of the first consignment of a fleet of 50 water trucking vehicles pledged by the Norwegian Red Cross are at an advanced stage.

As there is likely to be a regional drought relief programme covering a number of other East African countries- notably Uganda, Tanzania, Somalia and Eritrea (including Kenya), a decision was made to recruit a short term logistics delegate, at the regional delegation level, to start working on this aspect of the planned operation. The delegate has been assisting in Kenya where the operation is already ongoing and is likely to intensify once the pledged funds are available. Meanwhile, both the Geneva and field levels continue to lobby for support for the operation. To date, a DREF bulletin on [Eastern Africa regional drought response](#) and one [DREF update](#) have been released.

Communications – Advocacy and public information

The Kenya Red Cross Society continues to receive very high and positive publicity on the drought operation in the local print and electronic media since mid-December 2005. Statistics reveal that the national society has been featured over 250 times in the local media since then. On many occasions, there has also been mention of the national society in the international media and websites worldwide. The national society's Secretary General and other senior officers have also conducted interviews in the local and international media.

Tuesdays and Thursdays have been designated for receiving donations from the public and the occasions are followed by press releases in which the local donors are acknowledged. Press releases are also issued on specific events of note as they unfold during the operation. The Kenya Red Cross Society has also established partnerships with a number of local media houses, the corporate sector, show business fraternity and supermarkets to help it to mobilize resources from the general public. The response has been extremely good and has further increased visibility for the national society. It has also facilitated local and international media visits to the affected areas.

Capacity of the National Society

In collaboration with major supermarket outlets that have branches countrywide, collection points have been set up at strategic locations in the supermarkets in close coordination with the respective branches of the Kenya Red Cross Society.

At the national society's headquarters, a 12 staff team- supported by a contingent of 300 volunteers from the respective branches- has been deployed in the de-stocking intervention and relief food distribution at various points in time since the beginning of the drought response operation. During the same period, over 30 trucks have been deployed to ferry relief food commodities.

Plans to establish a unit specifically for the operation are at an advanced stage and the rationale is that there should be no disruption to ongoing programmes and activities. The unit will consist of a project coordinator leading a team of relief, health, logistics and information officers as well as a project accountant. These officers will in turn have a number and variety of field officers who will be responsible for leading the actual implementation in an arrangement in which the branches will be fully engaged. Most of the branches have trained and experienced volunteers, whose experience has been gained in previous drought relief operations.

[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

Kenya: drought

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. MDRKE001

PLEDGES RECEIVED

07/02/2006

CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->					TOTAL COVERAGE	
					16,369,585	3.0%
FINNISH - RC	100,000	EUR	155,650	01.01.06		
JAPANESE - RC	30,000,000	JPY	335,250	17.01.06		
PRIVATE DONORS ON LINE			2,236	26.01.06		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH					493,136	3.0%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES						
				0	CHF	0.0%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED						
				0	CHF	