

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

KENYA: FLOODS

DREF operation n° MDRKE007

GLIDE n° FL-2008-000217-KEN

10 November 2008

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

CHF 211,787 (USD 201,702 or EUR 129,533) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 120,000 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: The drought stricken region of Mandera District in North-Eastern Kenya was hit by flash floods and extended rains for nearly a week. In addition, ongoing ethnic tensions have flared up further adding to the humanitarian crisis. The Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) is providing humanitarian assistance to hundreds of people in Mandera District who were affected by flash floods and fighting. The interventions include provision of non-food items, medical services, water and sanitation facilities.

The KRCS is working with the Government of Kenya and various relief agencies in the region to address myriad problems facing the already vulnerable population. The district has also experienced sporadic fighting revolving around border disputes, access to water and other resources. The KRCS is attending to persons affected by the fighting, who require shelter, medical services and household items.

This operation is expected to be implemented over 1 month, and will therefore be completed by 6 December 2008.

[<click here for contact details or here to view the map of the affected area>](#)

The situation

A seasonal river that cuts through Mandera town in North Eastern Province burst its banks on 13 October 2008, for the first time since 2000. This was followed by heavy rains that lasted over a week causing River Daua to burst its banks. Floods in the entire town and adjacent residential areas have left at least 920 households displaced in Mandera town alone.

During this period, there was also sporadic clan fighting between the Gare and Murulle communities. The number of deaths reported during this period was 10, while 23 casualties were registered.

The fighting took a different dimension when the security forces were called in to restore calm. During this period, there were large numbers of casualties treated at the Elwak District Hospital and thus overstretched the hospital capacity and resources. The hospital has extremely limited medical staff, while the medical supplies in the hospital are inadequate to meet the current demand of the ongoing crisis.

Initial assessment by the KRCS indicates that at least 120,000 people have been affected by the flash floods, fighting and drought. A total of seven wells were submerged and 428 latrines washed away during

the floods, while extensive damage on remaining latrines and water systems have posed a major sanitation problem.

Coordination and partnerships

KRCS is working with the Government of Kenya and various organizations to mitigate the impact of flash floods and support the persons affected by the fighting in Mandera District. Some organizations involved in the operations include the Arid Lands Resource Management Programme (ALRMP), District Water office, Provincial Medical Office, Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation and Ministry of Medical Services, Islamic Relief Organization, Rural Agency for Community Development and Assistance (RACIDA), United Nations Childrens' Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO), the Kenyan Army and a host of local non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Assessment

KRCS's Mandera Branch took the lead in rescue efforts, assessment of the situation and mobilization of communities to temporary safety until the emergency situation subsides.

Food and non-food distribution

There is ongoing non-food items distribution including blankets, kitchen sets, mosquito nets, tarpaulins, soap and jerry cans, targeting 20,000 families affected by the floods and conflict. Volunteers from the KRCS will also assist the Government of Kenya in the distribution of food.

Health

The KRCS health team is working jointly with the Government's Ministries of Medical Services and Public Health and Sanitation to address health concerns following the flash floods in Mandera Town. The current situation of the ethnic tension has led to the team's relocation to Elwak to support the Ministry staff in carrying out mobile outreaches.

The team has set up medical mobile clinics at Elwak with medical personnel from Garissa, and distributed medical supplies to replenish the depleted stocks at the Elwak District Hospital. They have also provided First Aid services to the affected families and mobilized volunteers and community members to take the injured family members to the District Hospital. Over 300 people were treated at the hospital with multiple fractures, head injuries, cuts and bruises.

Water and Sanitation

Temporary latrines have been constructed with the community leaders' involvement and participation. A site for construction of additional 20 public latrines has been identified. KRCS has provided over 20,000 aqua tabs and buckets for the treatment of drinking water. Health education and hygiene promotion targeting community members affected by the floods was also conducted.

The needs

Overall, the immediate identified needs are as follows: 8,550 MT of food for 120,000 people for three months. This is equivalent to 4,968 MT of cereals, 1,512 MT of pulses, 1800 MT of corn soy blend (CSB) and 270 MT of cooking oil. In addition, provisions of non-food relief items such as blankets, jerry cars, soap, tarpaulins, mosquito nets and kitchen sets are needed for 20,000 families.

The proposed operation

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: To provide relief assistance to flood, drought and conflict affected communities.

Activities planned

- Collaborate with the Government of Kenya and other stakeholders on providing distribution of emergency food supplies to the affected population.
- Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Objective: To provide access to safe water, sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion in adherence to Sphere standards to 20,000 households (120,000 people) and water for livestock (200,000 heads).

Activities planned

- Procure and distribute bulk water storage (10m³ PVC tanks).
- Truck 100m³ of water to 5 strategic and/or hardest hit areas per week.
- Procure and distribute Aqua tabs.
- Conduct continuous hygiene promotion and awareness campaigns to reach 50 percent of the affected population.
- Procure bar soap and distribute to community for hygiene.

Emergency health

Objective: To contribute to the reduction of mortality and morbidity related to the communicable diseases among the drought, flood and conflict affected population of Mandera District.

Activities planned

- Conduct mobilization and recruitment sessions of blood donors.
- Provide First Aid services to the population affected by conflict.
- Conduct continuous health promotion and awareness campaigns among the populations including prevention of HIV infection to over 20,000 people.
- Support implementation of regular medical outreaches through setting up a medical camp and a mobile clinic in areas with poor access to health facilities reaching more than 50,000 people.
- Provide supplementary nutritional support to 10,000 children under five years, 2,000 pregnant mothers and lactating mothers through supplementary feeding centres in the medical camps.
- Design, develop, disseminate and distribute generic health educational materials.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

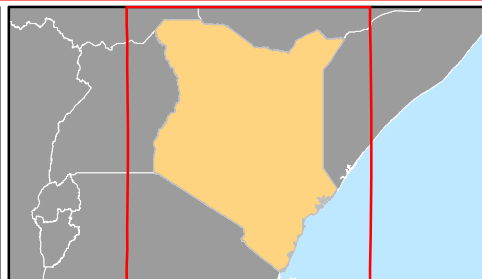
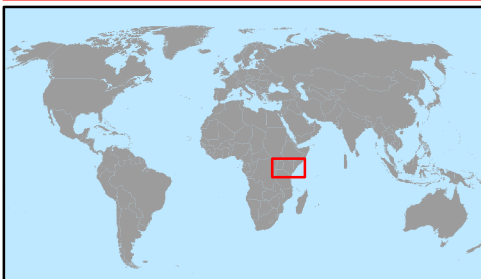
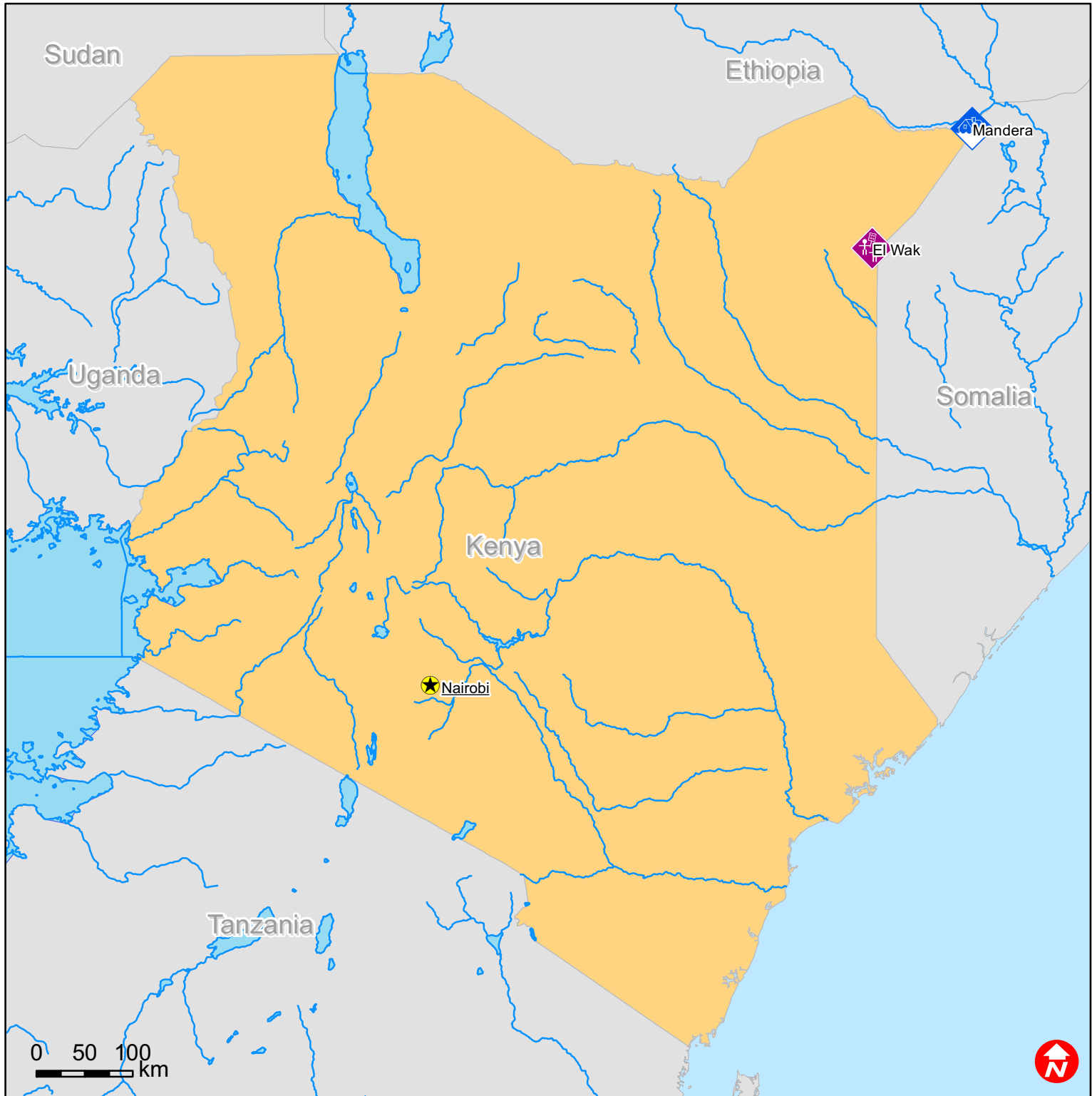
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Kenya: Floods



-  Fighting
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