

Kenya Fighting Famine

Fighting famine in Central and East Africa

Millions of children, women and men face starvation and disease. Without urgent action, the crisis will continue to spiral out of control. Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers, who live in the communities under threat, are working to break this preventable cycle of drought, food shortage, disease and death. National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, supported by the International Federation of Red Cross

and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) are racing to help stop the crisis. Our three key priorities are to:

- **Reach** remote and underserved areas.
- **Respond** through our volunteer network to help communities prevent and treat malnutrition and disease.
- **Build community resilience** through programmes that restore dignity and strengthen food security and reduce need in the future.

Snapshot

Drought has swept across Kenya's coastal and semi-arid regions in the north and north-east following two consecutive failed seasonal rains in 2016, doubling the number of food-insecure people to 2.7 million, especially in pastoral areas. Farmers have been unable to plant crops, and the value of livestock has dropped. Malnutrition rates in some areas have reached crisis levels, especially among children under five and expectant mothers, putting them at further risk of disease. An IFRC emergency appeal was revised in March 2017 to assist more than one million people with health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, food security, and livelihood interventions.



IFRC appeal

IFRC is supporting the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) to work within affected communities and deliver life-saving support to populations that are not reached by other agencies and partners. Leveraging the permanent community presence of its more than 98,000 active volunteers, the KRCS is providing community-based health care, water, sanitation and hygiene, nutrition and food security support, mainly through cash transfers.

This second revised emergency appeal:

25,062,572 Swiss francs
for urgent humanitarian support

1,033,300 people over
the next 12 months.

98,000 active KRCS volunteers
providing life-saving support

IFRC impact to date

Since the launch of the emergency appeal in November 2016, the KRCS and IFRC have provided the following:

- Livelihoods and food security support to nearly 300,000 people, including cash transfers to more than 13,000 households.
- Reproductive health support services, epidemic prevention work, psychosocial programmes for over 42,500 people.
- Water, sanitation and hygiene activities for nearly 100,000 people.
- Seven boreholes have been rehabilitated.
- 2,000 nutrition outreach sessions have been conducted.
- Community engagement and accountability mechanisms are in place to ensure effective programming.

IFRC urgent actions



Food security and nutrition

Cash transfers, livestock restocking, and meat distribution.



Health

Community-level disease surveillance, integrated health and nutrition outreach, reproductive health, psychosocial support and safe spaces for children and families, essential supplies of epidemic preparedness materials.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

Water treatment chemicals, storage containers and tanks, rehabilitation of water supplies, drilling of new boreholes, water trucking and desilting of water sources.



National capacity

Training for community-based psychosocial support, water management, hygiene promotion.



Community engagement

Health, gender based violence, nutrition, hygiene, sanitation and awareness raising and promotion activities in schools and households.



Volunteering

98,000 active volunteers.



Arie Kleivit / The Netherlands Red Cross



Key figures



2.7 million people

are food insecure – double the estimate of August 2016.



343,559 children

are acutely malnourished.



80 per cent

of seasonal water sources have dried up.

For more information, please contact:

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
P.O. Box 303
CH-1211 Geneva 19
Switzerland
Telephone: +41 22 730 42 22

Follow us:

