

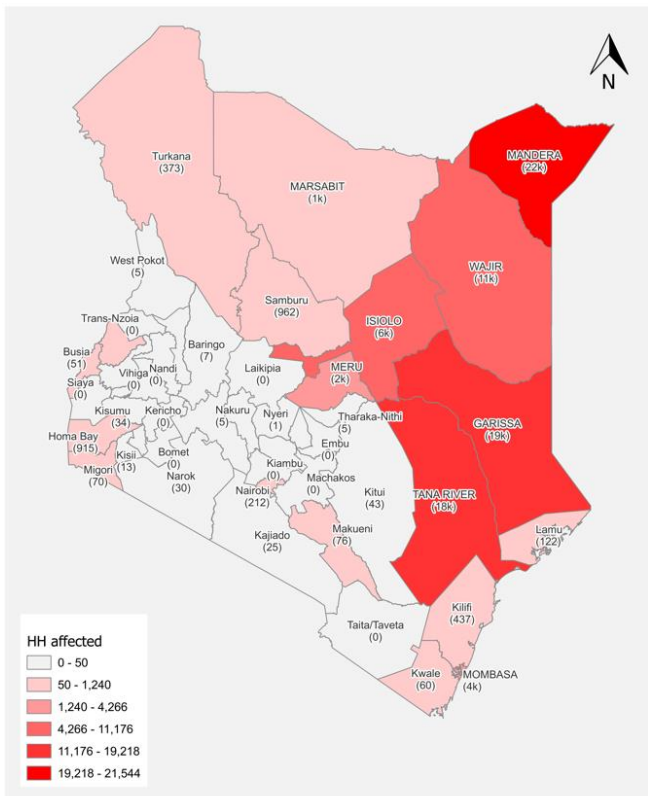


Kenya Red Cross volunteers wade through flood waters to reach communities marooned by the El Niño floods in the Tana River Delta in Kenya. Photo: KRCS

Appeal No: MDRKE058	IFRC Secretariat funding requirements: CHF 10 million Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 18 million¹	
Glide No:	People affected: 478,860 (95,772 households)²	People to be assisted: 250,000 (50,000 households)
DREF allocation: CHF 750,000	Appeal launched: 23/11/2023	Appeal ends: 31/12/2024

¹ The Federation-wide funding requirement encompasses all financial support to be directed to the Kenya Red Cross Society in response to the emergency. It includes the Kenya Red Cross Society's domestic fundraising requests and the fundraising appeals of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies (CHF 8 million), as well as the funding requirements of the IFRC Secretariat (CHF 10 million). This comprehensive approach ensures that all available resources are mobilized to address the urgent humanitarian needs of the affected communities.

² Reported 23/11/23 and are expected to increase.



Disclaimer: The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the Kenya Red Cross Society concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.
 Creation date: 22 November 2023 Feedback: datasteam@redcross.or.ke Website: https://www.redcross.or.ke

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Recent severe flooding in Kenya has killed at least 71 people and displaced thousands, caused by unusually active El Niño rains. Thousands of homes have been washed away or are marooned, while farmland has been submerged and livestock drowned.

Some of the hardest hit areas have been the semi-arid lands where pastoralism is the economic driver for livelihoods. These areas are still recovering from the worst drought in 40 years as well, which drove high rates of malnutrition. The drought, coupled with El Niño rains and extreme temperatures, throws into stark relief the climate change that Kenya and other countries in the Horn of Africa region are grappling with. The situation is worsening as the rains continue, with the country's Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD) predicting continued heavy rainfall until January 2024.

Thirty-six counties out of the 47 in the country have been affected and a dangerous combination of

riverine floods, flash floods and landslides has impacted Garissa, Isiolo, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River and Wajir counties, as well as Kilifi and Mombasa on the coast. At the time of reporting at least 95,772 households have been affected, 45,083 of which are displaced. Over 13,108 households are now in 96 displacement camps, in temporary shelter and evacuation centres, mostly schools and social halls, where available.

Over 17,600 acres of farmland have been destroyed and over 13,400 livestock deaths have been reported. There has been damage to water and sanitation infrastructure as well as disruption of normal service and access to water sources. Supply chain for medical, nutrition and non-medical commodities, including routine programme commodities, has been disrupted. Roads have been damaged, emergency referral for medical emergencies is being hampered and there have been prolonged power failures in health facilities. People with chronic ailments are experiencing gaps in care as well.

This flooding may also increase likelihood of cholera outbreak, mental health issues, loss of livelihoods, post-harvest losses and food security issues. There is high likelihood of trauma (1) among those who lose family members to drowning, (2) those who are injured, (3) those with respiratory infections and (4) those at risk of communicable diseases and vector-borne diseases such as malaria and Rift Valley Fever (RVF).

Compounding issues with service delivery is the limited road access to Wajir and Mandera counties, and to large parts of Garissa, Marsabit, Isiolo and Tana River. Many schools, hospitals, businesses, government offices, police stations and places of worship are submerged, halting normal activities. In Wajir most of the county is flooded, with the rains severing the road network. Also in central Kenya, Meru and Rift Valley-Elgeyo Marakwet Counties have experienced floods and landslides.

Both Mandera and Wajir have had limited road access for the past three weeks and some locations can only be reached by aircraft. Here KRCS are using air transportation to send essential items and food to communities cut off by the floods. In Mandera and Wajir, many shops have run out of supplies, and some have closed, depriving residents of food stuffs, fuel and medical supplies. Referral of sick patients to

County Hospitals in the affected counties is also proofing to be a significant challenge.

The Kenya Meteorological Department now predicts that the heavy rains will continue into January 2024 and flooding is expected to increase downstream of river basins Nzoia, Nyando, Athi and lower Tana River. Thus, the number of households affected and displaced is expected to increase.

Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) has had an early action protocol (EAP) in place since 2022 with ongoing activities on preparedness/readiness in six high-risk counties. This was enacted on 7 November, and CHF 192,698 was allocated to support actions to reduce the impact of floods in Tana River basin. On 15 November, the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated CHF 750,000 to provide immediate support for at least 6,000 of the most vulnerable households (approximately 300,000 people) affected by floods in Mandera, Wajir, Garissa, Tana River, Samburu, Marsabit and Isiolo.

This Emergency Appeal is launched with a Federation-wide funding requirement of CHF 18 million to allow KRCS to scale up their lifesaving activities and emergency response, to reach 50,000 of the most vulnerable and most affected households across Kenya.

Based on the scenario planning developed from KMD forecasts, since mid-September 2023, KRCS has been carrying out readiness activities. These include training and mobilising Red Cross Action Teams (RCATS) at county level, preparing and mobilising aqua search and rescue teams, prepositioning stocks, and emergency response assets.

To date KRCS have reached over 8,449 households with emergency shelter and essential household items, 1,948 households with WASH items and 22 emergency latrines for camps, 3,000 households with health interventions and 12,492 households with food. Some food items have had to be delivered by airlift.

KRCS have also activated their county-level Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and coordination centres in high-risk counties and providing information to KRCS. They continue to issue early warning to high-risk counties as well, along with risk communication, through mainstream media, public address systems and community health volunteers. They are providing first aid as well as search and rescue through “aqua-rescue” surge teams, reaching over 1,700 people, particularly marooned communities in Tana Delta, parts of Garissa and Lamu.



Supplies delivery by helicopter in areas cut off by floods. Photo KRCS.

TARGETING

This Emergency Appeal plans to reach up to 250,000 people (50,000 households) across 36 counties with lifesaving activities, emergency response and early recovery activities. Based on assessment, priority counties at the time of reporting are Tana River, Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, Marsabit, Isiolo, Meru, Makueni, Samburu, Homa Bay, Kwale, Mombasa and Lamu.

Target groups are vulnerable households who have lost their homes and access to livelihoods, those who have been displaced and households that are struggling to meet their basic needs. KRCS will integrate Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) and Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) into all operations, to further refine targeting at the household level, and with increased attention to particularly vulnerable and most at-risk groups. These include extended households with pregnant and lactating mothers and/or children under five; households caring for older people or people terminally ill with HIV/AIDS or other chronic conditions; children or adolescent-headed households; households with specific social protection needs; people with disabilities; and internally displaced households.

KRCS has community acceptance during emergencies with capacity to operate in hard-to-reach areas and will continue to work with county governments and the national government to provide air support to affected communities, including use of drones.



KRCS has reached over 8.000 households with emergency shelter and essential household items. Photo

PLANNED OPERATIONS




Through this Emergency Appeal, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) aims to support Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) in the response to the flooding. The Appeal will support KRCS to scale up lifesaving emergency response and early recovery, focusing on search and rescue; shelter; livelihoods and basic needs; health, water, and sanitation, as follows:

Integrated assistance




Shelter


- Provide emergency shelter and essential household items to the most vulnerable, the displaced and those in camps through the provision of tarpaulins and tents, plus an integrated package of essential household, water-sanitation-hygiene (WASH) and health items, with instruction on their safe use.
- Additional support for families to return to their place of origin as soon as possible with shelter kits and essential household items, and/or through conditional cash support.
- Logistics support will be provided to reach those cut off, with air support for this.


	<p>Livelihoods and basic needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic needs assistance in the form of food is provided to the most affected/vulnerable communities. • Households will be provided with unconditional, multi-purpose cash grants through financial service providers to support their basic needs. • The cash grants programme will be carried out in coordination with the Kenya Cash Working Group, through which market assessments and regular joint market monitoring will be carried out.
<p>Health and Care; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)</p>	
	<p>Health and Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide search and rescue through KRCS aqua-rescue surge teams, with first aid, and evacuate the critically ill and injured. • Provide rapid and detailed health and nutrition assessments. These will identify: functionality of, and access to, health facilities; health indicators among the affected communities; and existing interventions, with gaps. • Sensitize and equip KRCS and Ministry of Health (MOH) volunteers and staff on key actions for emergency health and nutrition, conducting health promotion, with community-based disease and nutrition surveillance. KRCS will support MOH to conduct integrated outreach in camps and other affected villages cut off from health facilities. • KRCS will conduct community Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) sessions and will engage local community platforms, to provide Psychological First Aid (PFA) based on need, aligning with the Government's Mental Health Policy 2015-2030.
	<p>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KRCS will roll out an extensive hygiene promotion campaign to strengthen WASH knowledge and best practices, along with the targeted provision of sanitary materials for women and girls, and provision of hygiene packs. • Sanitation support will be through promotion of hygiene and promotion of sanitation, and through supporting communities with knowledge on latrine construction, providing them with materials. For this, volunteers will be mobilized and rapidly sensitized/trained on emergency sanitation. Temporary community and institutional latrines and handwashing stations will be erected where needed to ensure that persons with no access to sanitation have facilities to use. All facilities will be designed based on consultation with targeted communities, with considerations for cultural preference, safety and access for children and persons with disabilities. Damaged or destroyed latrines will be repaired or rebuilt both in institutions and in communities. All these activities will be conducted concurrently with environmental and hygiene interventions, and hygiene will be promoted to ensure proper disposal of solid waste, drainage of stagnant water, handwashing, vector control and other key behaviours to support the prevention of disease outbreak. • KRCS will distribute water treatment chemicals to affected households to minimize risk of waterborne diseases. In addition, where KRCS anticipates prolonged displacement, water treatment plants will be deployed until the communities are restored. During distribution of water treatment chemicals, KRCS will sensitize communities on their proper use.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For populations affected but not displaced, household water treatment chemicals will be distributed for up to six months as floods subside and normal services resume. KRCS will undertake disinfection of shallow wells and boreholes, protection and improvement of shallow wells and rehabilitation of other damaged water infrastructure. Water quality tests will also be conducted before, during and after interventions to ensure availability of safe drinking water.
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Protection and Prevention




	<p><i>Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection of communities, especially the most risk-exposed groups, and ensuring their safety and access to opportunities, is essential to meet the needs and rights of the most vulnerable both in emergencies and throughout the recovery. • KRCS will continue to ensure targeting based on PGI minimum standards in emergencies through all sectors. Safe and equitable provision of services will be provided with consideration of needs based on gender and other diversity factors, and on data disaggregated by sex, age and disability. • Further development of community-based information and education initiatives and materials on violence, including discrimination, violence, exclusion, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), and child protection; and develop individuals' abilities to address them.
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	<p><i>Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KRCS is committed to ensuring that CEA is mainstreamed throughout the response, to ensure active and meaningful participation of the affected communities and closure of the feedback loop. This will be done by committing to upholding the highest principles of transparency and accountability, ensuring that all stakeholders, particularly affected communities, are actively engaged and involved throughout the process. • KRCS will utilize the mobile cinema initiative in flood-affected areas to promote healthy and safe behaviours. Through film screenings, the response aims to educate and empower communities to adopt protective measures and enhance their resilience to future disasters. The mobile cinema will ensure that a wide range of individuals have access to these vital messages. This will foster a culture of preparedness and risk reduction, contributing to the well-being and safety of communities. • Establish and utilize feedback desks during outreach, staffed by CEA focal persons. Conduct monthly community-level meetings to understand progress and views of the community on the response. Continuous operation of the KRCS toll-free line (0800720577) to gather and respond to community feedback.
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	<p><i>Risk Reduction</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operations will contribute to disaster preparedness through the mobilization of communities to conduct risk assessments for prevalent risks and provide mitigation strategies. Support communities' resilience in the identification of risks and plans of action for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) by conducting community-led vulnerability and risk assessments. These will also be used to support sustainability and linkages to longer-term development programming. Support will be provided to organizational contingency planning response and coordination planning with national and regional authorities and stakeholders.
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Enabling approaches

The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:


	<p>Coordination and partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facilitate engagement and coordination with partner National Societies and ICRC in the design of the response, leveraging the expertise and resources available through a Red Pillar approach, and ensuring alignment with relevant external actors, including the Government's policies and programmes, development actors, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).• Connect the response with existing government-led mechanisms for climate and drought, social safety nets and food security, emphasizing the auxiliary role of KRCS. Implement a robust humanitarian diplomacy and communication plan, with appropriate linkages to national, pan-African and international climate and humanitarian policies.
	<p>IFRC Secretariat services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• IFRC will facilitate an effective Federation-wide response, with support from the Nairobi Country Cluster Delegation and Africa Regional Office.• Human Resources; Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, & Reporting (PMER); Information Technology (IT); Information Management (IM); Logistics; Finance and Administration; Communications and Advocacy; Security; and Resource Mobilization.
	<p>National Society Strengthening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengthening of KRCS's response systems at national headquarters, regional and county levels, including capacity development for EOC, fleet and warehouse.• KRCS will also strengthen the capacity of staff and volunteers for risk reduction and climate adaptation.• Volunteer duty of care will be emphasized through appropriate management services, provision of personal protective equipment (PPE), training and accident insurance.• Capacity building for youth and volunteers to ensure that they play their role in providing humanitarian assistance under good governance and youth leadership.

The planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the time of this Emergency Appeal. Details will be updated through the Operational Strategy, to be released in the coming days. The Operational Strategy will also provide further details on the Federation-wide Approach, which includes response activities of all contributing Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and the Federation-wide funding requirement.

After 31 December 2024, response activities to this disaster will continue under the [IFRC Network Kenya Country Plan](#) for 2024. The IFRC Network Country Plans show an integrated view of ongoing emergency responses and longer-term programming tailored to the needs in the country, as well as a Federation-wide view of the country's action. This aims to streamline activities under one plan, while still ensuring that the needs of those affected by the disaster are met in an accountable and transparent way. Information will be shared in due time, should there be a need for an extension of the crisis-specific response beyond the above-mentioned timeframe.

RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT IN COUNTRY

KENYA RED CROSS

Core areas of operation	
	
Branches	47
Staff	600
Volunteers	261,000



Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) has 261,000 volunteers supported by about 600 staff in 8 regional offices and 47 county branches. The National Society is the first line of response in all sudden-onset disasters with a mandate to support the first 150,000 people affected.

KRCS is headquartered in Nairobi, with capacity in both emergency and developmental programming at both national and field levels. The organization has skilled staff experienced in managing drought response operations, working with different skilled sector leads in WASH, Health and Nutrition, and Livelihoods. KRCS has staff and volunteers trained in cash transfer programmes (CTPs), who can roll out cash transfers effectively within a brief period. Staff and volunteers have also been trained on CEA to support the mainstreaming of this by promoting meaningful engagement and participation of communities and establishing feedback mechanisms to ensure greater accountability to the communities in all KRCS responses. KRCS has strong logistics, finance, procurement, information communication technology (ICT), and other support functions required to meet the demands of this Emergency Appeal.

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC has a Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) for Kenya and Somalia, and a regional office for Africa, based in Nairobi. Through the Delegation and Regional Office, IFRC provides resource mobilization and technical support to KRCS in emergency response as well as long-term programming.

This Emergency Appeal promotes a Federation-wide approach to the response, inclusive of all Partner National Societies present in Kenya: American Red Cross; British Red Cross; Danish Red Cross; Finnish Red Cross; Italian Red Cross; and Norwegian Red Cross. It builds on their expertise, capacities and resources as active members in the targeted areas and supports KRCS.

The National Society will develop one response plan, and a Federation-wide approach to resourcing and implementation will be adopted. IFRC will emphasize building a holistic approach to programming, reporting, risk management, information management, external communications, resource mobilization and peer-to-peer exchange between National Societies. A more comprehensive Federation-wide picture will be provided in the upcoming Operational Strategy document.

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination

ICRC has a regional delegation hosted in Nairobi, which serves as a hub for operations in eastern and central African countries. In partnership with KRCS, it supports Restoring Family Links (RFL), economic

security, and water and habitation projects in Lamu and parts of Garissa, as well as enhancing operational safety and security through the Safer Access Framework. KRCS and IFRC organize Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination meetings for information exchange, updates, and harmonization of efforts on the Emergency Appeal response, and other KRCS and Partner National Society activities in Kenya.

External coordination

KRCS works with the National Disaster Operations Centre (NDOC) in coordinating response to humanitarian emergencies, and co-chairs the Kenya Cash Working Group. There are eight emergency coordination hubs across the country, and these serve as centres for coordination, logistics, storage and distribution. KRCS are coordinating with the Government of Kenya lead Ministries on the national El Nino Contingency Plan 2023-2027 and El Nino Preparedness and Response Plan 2023. There have been a series of meetings from September onwards with the Government and partners identifying responsible entities and activities by cluster.

KRCS are also part of the Kenya Humanitarian Partnership Team (KPHT). This includes coordination through the humanitarian clusters and working groups.

Contact information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

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Reference



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