



KENYA Situation Report #3– FLOODS & LANDSLIDES – November 12th, 2008

This situation report is based on information received from the Government, UN Agencies, other humanitarian partners in the field and local media.

Highlights

- **Kenya Red Cross Society estimates that 300,000 people have been affected by floods.**
- **Severe flooding started in Budalangi district on 10 November after water burst through the dykes on the Nzoia River; at least 5,000 people were displaced.**
- **At least five people were killed, including two children, due to flooding in the Ukambani Region between 6-10 November.**
- **Landslides killed 12 people, ten of whom were children, in Pokot Central district on 8 November; 27 houses are at risk of future landslides.**
- **Flash floods from Mount Kilimanjaro displaced at least 100 people and destroyed farms in Taveta, Coast Province.**
- **The KRCS reported that floods have affected 29,570 people in Trans Nzoia district and submerged 1,800 acres of farmland.**
- **Flood waters are spreading in Mandera Central district and had already submerged 600 hectares of farmland, affecting 1,200 families.**
- **At least 22 families were displaced by floods in Meru Central district on 22 October.**

SITUATION OVERVIEW

1. **In Budalangi district, Western Province:** severe flooding is occurring after water burst the dyke on the Nzoia River on 10 November. According to an inter-agency mission on 12 November, approximately 5,000 people were affected in Mukobola Centre, Lugare, Budalangi, Mudembi-Sibuka, Siginganga and Mundereh locations though some areas remain inaccessible so numbers could not be verified. The Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) noted that up to 40,679 people may have been affected by the floods.
2. Schools have been submerged, including Kibuka and Igingo schools, and most latrines in the affected areas were either submerged or were full. Cases of diarrhoea, respiratory tract infections and malaria were reported in the affected areas.
3. Media reported that some affected households have moved to Mudembi's Chief's Camp and Free Pentecostal Church Bunyala East location.
4. Heavy rainfall continues to affect the area and it is predicted that the remaining dykes could give way due to the increased water pressure. Recent efforts to repair dykes on the Nzoia River had been delayed due to heavy rains. Some officials have called for the replacement of the 30-year old dykes.
5. The Nzoia River in Budalangi district is prone to annual flooding. More than 28,000 families were affected by floods in Budalangi in 2007: 6,000-8,000 were displaced by the floods and 2,000 were marooned.
6. **In Buyanji, Sabwani and Maliki, Trans Nzoia district:** the KRCS reported that floods have affected 29,570 people. Many people in Namanjalala centre have been evacuated to high

ground. More than 1,800 acres of farmland have also been flooded.

7. **In the Ukambani Region (south-eastern Kenya):** at least five people were killed due to floods between 6 - 10 November, according to local media. Two children were swept away by a flooded stream in Kitui District and three people were swept away in Kangundo district while attempting to cross the flooded Kalala River. At least twenty houses were reportedly flooded, recently planted crops were submerged and roads in Ukambani have reportedly suffered extensive damage.

8. **In Chesegon Division and Ptirap sub-location Pokot Central district:** the Kenyan Red Cross Society (KRCS) reported that landslides killed eight children in Chesegon division and three others (two of whom were children) in Ptirap sub-location, Pokot Central district on 8 November. Fifteen other children were injured and hospitalised. According to local media the DC noted that the Government was making temporary shelter arrangements for some 200 people displaced in Chesegon division. Roads in the district were also damaged and the Wei Wei Bridge collapsed due to floodwaters.

9. Local authorities advised approximately 27 families located in landslide-prone areas of Pokot Central district to relocate to safer areas. There have been five other landslides in the district since 3 November, according to the KRCS.

10. **In Murang'a district** KRCS reported that landslides caused one death and buried several homes in Giko village.

11. **In Garissa district, North Eastern Province:** UNICEF reported that two children had been swept away by floods which affected Modogashe and Balambala on 7 November. A high number of livestock have been killed during the floods in Balambala and Saka, Garissa district. There is a likelihood that the standing floodwater could increase the spread of Rift Valley Fever and malaria. The latrines at two schools were also destroyed, Goodwish early childhood development centre and Jribu primary school. Furthermore, all roads except the road to Nairobi have been cut off.

12. **In Wajir district:** The district Disaster Management Committee reported that 300 people were displaced by floods. Flooding has also submerged latrines and wells, causing sanitation hazards and increasing the risk of water borne disease outbreaks. Standing water also increases the risk of the spread of malaria in the region. KRCS noted that over 178,968 people were marooned in Wajir, Mandera and Garissa districts.

13. **In Lagdera district, North Eastern Province:** 50 households are reportedly marooned by water and have been separated from their livestock. The nearest dry land is approximately 10kms from the group.

14. **In Taveta, Taita-Taveta District, Coast Province:** local media reported that at least 100 people have been displaced due to flash floods caused in part by run-off from Mount Kilimanjaro and overflow from River Lumi. Hundreds of acres of crops were reportedly destroyed and three primary schools were reportedly closed as of 10 November.

15. **In Tana River district:** the KRCS reported that 36,233 people were displaced after the Tana River burst its bank. Affected areas include Garsen, Kipini, Witu, Wenje, Ozi, Hola and Madogo. The road between Ijara and Garsen has become impassable and media reported that on 11 November candidates for the primary education exams had been moved to boarding facilities to ensure they could sit for the exams. UNICEF reported that Ksh80,000 worth of schoolbooks were washed away between 8-9 November at Maramtu Primary school.

16. **In Rhamu, Rhamu Dimtu and Kalicha division Mandera Central district:** the KRCS noted that the flood situation has worsened since 7 November. Flooding has left 600 hectares of farmland submerged and has affected over 1,200 families. At least 153 people affected by diarrhoeal disease have been referred to medical facilities since flooding began in Mandera two weeks ago.

17. **In Namanjalala village, Kwanza district:** local media reported that over 3,000 people had been displaced after River Sabwani burst its banks on 7 November.

Contact details		
In case of emergency only:	Tel. +41 22 917 20 10	
Desk officer (New York):	Mr. Alfred Nabeta	Tel. +1 917 367 2649
Press contact (Geneva):	Ms. Elisabeth Byrs	Tel. +41 22 917 2653
Press contact (New York):	Ms. Stephanie Bunker	Tel. +1 917 367 5126

18. **In Usonga, Siaya district, Nyanza Province:** the KRCS reported that 404 people have been displaced by floods and at least 167 farms have been affected by floods.

19. **In Laikipia North district, Turkana district and Isiolo district:** roads and transport have been affected by flooding. Local media reported that roads leading to Laikipia North District have been cut off since 8 November, due to heavy rainfall. Roads have also become inaccessible in Turkana district, according to media while a truck carrying relief food was swept away by a flooded river in Isiolo district.

20. **In Samburu North district:** media reported that hundreds of residents were forced to move to higher grounds to escape floods on 11 November.

21. **In Thimanjiri Village, 3kms from Meru town, Meru Central district:** the KRCS reported that at least 22 families were displaced by floods on 22 October.

150,000 PUR sachets; 2,000 insecticide treated nets, 1,000-2,000 family kits (depending on transport capacity). UNICEF will also re-stock 2,000 family kits at the Kisumu office.

- An inter-agency team led by OCHA is on the ground to support inter-agency coordination and participated in a GoK-led rapid needs assessment with an interagency group on 12 November.

24. **In response to the Pokot Central landslides:** the KRCS distributed NFIs to 20 families, including blankets, mosquito nets, tarpaulins, soap, kitchen sets and PUR sachets.

25. **In response to the Wajir flooding:**

- The Wajir council has scaled up solid waste collection to avoid sanitation hazards and clear drainage systems.
- Roads are being backfilled to facilitate drainage from the town.
- Mass spraying of insecticide will be undertaken.
- Oxfam, Merlin, KRCS, APHIA II and the District Public Health Office provided water testing kits to sample and analyze floodwaters for disease hazards.

26. **In response to the Garissa district flooding:**

- Community sensitisation on communicable diseases and livestock diseases is ongoing through FM stations and an adequate stock of drugs is available.
- The KRCS began distributing food assistance on 31 October, including 314 MTs; however, distribution of over 180 MTs has been delayed due to poor road conditions.
- An action plan is begin prepared by the relevant ministries based on the worst-case scenario.

27. **In response to the Meru Central flooding:** KRCS distributed blankets.

28. **In response to the Taveta flooding:** media reports that the Government is distributing rice and beans in the affected areas.

29. **In response to the Kwanza floods:** media reported that the KRCS and Government are providing tents to the displaced families.

RESPONSE

22. The Government has made significant efforts to ensure that pupils who were scheduled to sit for their primary school exams were able to access schools and that tests were delivered.

23. **In response to the Budalangi floods:**

- The Government has provided the following: 3,000 bags of maize; 300 bags of beans (including transport from Kisumu warehouses for all food items); 600 bags of rice; 300 cartons of vegetable oil; and 2,000 blankets.
- Adequate drugs and health personnel are on the ground to respond to disease outbreaks.
- The Kenya Red Cross Society is providing: 500 tarpaulins; 1,000 blankets; 500 bars of soap; 100 packets of sanitary towels; 500 mosquito nets; and 400 jerry cans.
- UNICEF is dispatching the following from Kisumu to Budalangi: 2,813 jerrycans, 50 cartons of soap, 48,000 Aquatabs, and 228 boxes of PUR
- UNICEF is dispatching the following from Nairobi to Budalangi: 52,000 Aquatabs;

Contact details

In case of emergency only:
Desk officer (New York):
Press contact (Geneva):
Press contact (New York):

Tel. +41 22 917 20 10
 Mr. Alfred Nabeta
 Ms. Elisabeth Byrs
 Ms. Stephanie Bunker

Tel. +1 917 367 2649
 Tel. +41 22 917 2653
 Tel. +1 917 367 5126

OUTSTANDING NEEDS

30. The needs identified for the Budalangi area include:

- WASH support for submerged or filled latrines.
- Continued verification of affected populations.
- Tents for those schools affected by flooding.
- Pre-positioning of relief stocks in case further populations are affected.

31. In Pokot Central, KRCS noted that the following was needed in the immediate and longer term:

- NFI stocks to meet the needs of displaced households and those who may be displaced by future landslides.
- Rehabilitation of the roads and reconstruction of the Wei Wei Bridge.
- Establishment of early warning mechanisms to inform communities of impending hazards.
- Environmental conservation efforts to reduce landslides in the area

32. In the Ukambani region the following is urgently needed:

- An assessment of needs, specifically for the 20 households reportedly affected by the floods and the damaged roads.
- Identification of NFI stocks to respond to identified needs.
- Inputs for those who lost their crops due to the floods may also be needed.

33. In Trans Nzoia, the KRCS highlighted the following needs:

- Clean water; latrines and aqua tabs.
- NFIs: tents, blankets, soap and kitchen sets.
- Medical support
- Food assistance

34. In Garissa district, UNICEF noted that:

- In the worst case scenario, it was forecasted that 15,000 people would require food assistance. The District Officer is appealing to the MoSSP to pre-position food.
- Increased insecticide treated nets to mitigate the spread of malaria and rift valley fever.

35. In Lagdera district UNICEF noted that:

- NFIs and access to marooned communities is needed.

36. In Wajir district the following is needed:

- Health education (staff, vehicle, fuel) to mitigate the effects of any disease outbreaks.
- Inputs to mitigate the effects of outbreaks, including mosquito nets, 60 tins of chlorine to treat 10,000 shallow wells and 465 earth pans.
- Support for indoor residual spraying of insecticides. NFIs for displaced families.
- Reconstruction of Hadabo borehole.
- Vaccination of livestock

37. Further information and/or needs assessments are required for the following areas:

- **Mandera district, North Eastern Province**
- **Siaya district, Nyanza Province**
- **Namanjalala village, Kwanza district**
- **Taveta, Taita-Taveta district, Coast Province**
- **Lakipia North District, Turkana district and Isiolo district – roads assessment**

COORDINATION

38. An inter-agency assessment of affected areas in Budalangi district was conducted with the Government on 12 November. OCHA is working with partners at the Eldoret and Kisumu hubs to assess available stock and will support the national and district authorities to establish a single aid pipeline to ensure a coordinated response to emerging needs. A temporary OCHA presence has been established in Budalangi to support the response to the rapidly evolving situation.

39. The District Steering Group (DSG) in Mandera met on 12 November to plan an assessment of areas affected by floods and clashes. The DSG in Garissa is also planning an assessment of affected areas. The District Disaster Management Committee met on 10 November in Wajir District.

40. KRCS is assessing stocks of relief items pre-positioned in flood-prone areas to identify outstanding needs.

Contact details

In case of emergency only:
Desk officer (New York):
Press contact (Geneva):
Press contact (New York):

Tel. +41 22 917 20 10
 Mr. Alfred Nabeta
 Ms. Elisabeth Byrs
 Ms. Stephanie Bunker

Tel. +1 917 367 2649
 Tel. +41 22 917 2653
 Tel. +1 917 367 5126

41. A meeting is being organized with key stakeholders in Nairobi to improve flood early warning systems.

42. An outline is being produced of all ongoing river water monitoring, the early warning systems in place for residents, and a summary of the channels through which early warnings are disseminated to aid agencies.

CONTACT

For more details and updates, please contact:

Jeanine Cooper, Head of Office OCHA Kenya

Telephone: +254207625155.

Email: jeanine.cooper@undp.org,
cooper1@un.org

Contact details		
In case of emergency only:	Tel. +41 22 917 20 10	
Desk officer (New York):	Mr. Alfred Nabeta	Tel. +1 917 367 2649
Press contact (Geneva):	Ms. Elisabeth Byrs	Tel. +41 22 917 2653
Press contact (New York):	Ms. Stephanie Bunker	Tel. +1 917 367 5126

This situation report, together with additional information on the current crisis is also available on <http://www.reliefweb.int>. As your tool for timely information sharing, please encourage submission of documents to submit@reliefweb.int, and maps to maps@reliefweb.int.

FLOODS AND LANDSLIDES - 12 November 2008

Current Emergencies in Kenya

