



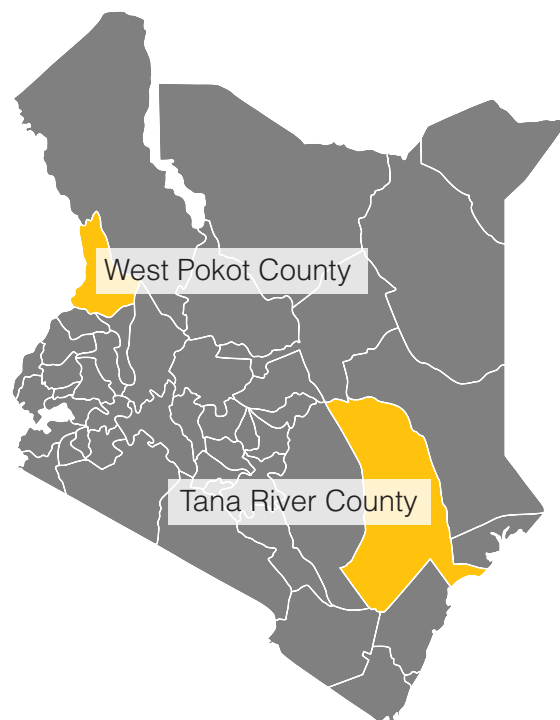
## Kenya Flooding Emergency Response December 20 Update

**Response Location:** West Pokot County (Pokot South Sub County) and Tana River County (Tana Delta Sub County)

**Lifespan of Appeal:** 3 months

**Appeal Goal:** \$500,000

**Target Reach:** 2,000 households / 16,000 people





## Situation Report

Many families in West Pokot are still living in deplorable conditions following the floods and landslide emergency. Despite the response from the County Government, National Government (through the Kenya Red Cross Society) as well as relief agencies, many families report neglect and poor targeting of beneficiaries. Political patronage as well as nepotism has been reported as a major impediment to effective humanitarian action. A multi-agency team tasked to undertake a rapid needs assessment highlighted the needs, gaps as well as the extent of support for the affected population. The report indicated a huge need with respect to food and non-food items, nutrition, health as well as shelter, among the population. It was evident also that there was poor or lack of coordination from the County Government which led to duplication of efforts, resulting in very poor targeting of the affected populations. The secured resources enabled CWS to reach a total of 750HH in Pakach and Tamkal Wards, Pokot South and Pokot Central Sub Counties (West Pokot County) with food rations as well as blankets. The cost per beneficiary was \$56 that included food rations (17Kg maize meal, 17kg rice, 10kg beans, and two liters of cooking oil and 0.5kg table salt) and four blankets. The rations are sufficient to provide enough calories for each household for one month in addition to some provided by other agencies. Blankets were provided due to the low temperatures experienced in the temporary camps which are located at 3800m above sea level. The contribution of CWS in responding to the emergency has brought a new dimension to the design of response and has been acknowledged as one of a kind. Below is the outline of the activities.

## 1. Identification and Profiling of Beneficiaries

CWS together with the local partner (Girl Child Potential Sensitization Group – Yangat) undertook the identification of the beneficiaries as well as profiling in order to ensure that the most vulnerable groups are reached with the support. This exercise would also ensure that all the categories of the population and households are taken care of based on the age category, sex as well as disability. The data obtained would also aid the actual distribution exercise. It is worth noting that CWS alone has been able to undertake such an exercise that has been described by other agencies including the affected population, National and County Government as well as relief agencies as unique.

## 2. Stakeholder Meetings and Workshop

Prior to the distribution of items, CWS through the local partner convened a stakeholders meeting which was aimed at sharing our planned response as well as strategy. CWS Africa leadership team had meetings with the County Directorate of Disaster Management, County Secretary, County Executive Committee member where they shared the intended response activities. The local government team acknowledged the contribution of CWS to West Pokot as well as the intended support to the affected population. CWS leadership also had an opportunity to present the activities to the County Governor of West Pokot in the presence of the County Commissioner, various relief agencies and government departments. The team gave a go ahead to CWS to undertake the exercise after a long discussion on the items and the approach. The County Government approach is that all relief agencies deliver all the items to the stores managed by the County Government who will in turn decide who and how the items would be distributed. This approach would negate the CWS standard of timeliness, relevance of support, effectiveness as well as targeting of the most vulnerable members of the community. CWS Regional Representative, who led the CWS delegation, argued these points at this planning and coordination meeting with the Governor, persuading the Governor to allow us to move forward without constraints. In doing so, CWS gained renewed respect from the leadership of both the government and civil society.

## 3. Purchase and Distribution of Food and Blankets

A total of 750 households with a total population of 4,500 was reached with food rations and blankets. Each family received a package of 17Kg maize meal, 17kg rice, 10kg beans, and 2 liters of cooking oil and 0.5kg table salt. In addition, each family received four blankets. The exercise, which had been described by the county government officials as difficult was successfully handled in two days. The response targeted the most inaccessible affected area due to the determination of the team to reach out to the most vulnerable in the hard to reach areas. The team was led by the CWS – RDP leadership team and the Regional Representative.

## 4. Impact

Each household that was profiled was able to receive the desired items to the amazement of both the beneficiaries as well as the government and relief agencies due to the nature of targeting, profiling and organization of the package and exercise. Those who were interviewed acknowledged the support from CWS and desired that CWS would remain to see them through the recovery process, owing to the kind of respectful engagement, transparent organization and obvious determination to succeed in the face of serious logistical and infrastructural obstacles that the CWS operation displayed to the satisfaction of all.

## Situation Report

An estimated 11,000 people who have been affected by landslides in West Pokot County are currently living in camps for internally displaced people. An additional 17,560 people are estimated to have been affected in the Tana Delta (Tana River County). The total number of people affected across Kenya is much higher and will continue to rise as the flooding situation worsens; most bodies of water, including reservoirs and tributary rivers have surpassed their capacities. The CWS team in Kenya is coordinating with partner Yang'at in West Pokot County and Angelical Church and ADS Coastal Region in Tana River County.

We plan to reach 2,000 flood-affected households in the two counties in a bid to restore normalcy to their lives. Based on our recent rapid needs assessment in West Pokot, we have identified the following needs:

- Clothing: warm clothes and sanitary towels
- Bedding: blankets and mattresses
- Health: mosquito nets and aqua tabs
- Food and Nutrition: whole meals for children, food aid
- Provision of utensils and water containers for internally displaced people
- Psychosocial support: counseling services

As the response shifts to recovery, we have identified the following priority needs:

- Shelter: iron sheets and roofing materials
- Farming Restoration: irrigation systems, water pipes, farm tools and seeds
- Livelihood Restoration: cash transfers

## Response Update

Using the resources already secured, CWS has prioritized the following activities for 750 families in West Pokot County:

1. We started by identifying and profiling the participating families. This activity has been completed, with 750 households identified and profiled. This was carried out by Yang'at staff, and the CWS Monitoring & Evaluation Coordinator provided technical support.
2. We are procuring supplies and distributing them based on identified needs. This includes blankets (three per household) and food items (maize meal, rice, beans, cooking oil, salt and sugar). The food means 21 Kcal per person per day; a month's ration per household.
3. We have sought professional services, including quality assurance of food commodities. Quality assurance is ongoing for the upcoming distributions.
4. We have scheduled a County Steering Group meeting (a stakeholder meeting) for Tuesday, December 17. We will share our intended response in order to maximize coordination. So far, Yang'at has represented CWS at weekly stakeholder meetings.
5. Distribution of the items is scheduled for the better part of next week.

Pending activities:

- Profiling, procurement and distribution of items to 750 households in West Pokot
- A detailed rapid needs assessment for Tana Delta is expected any time as soon as the danger of flooding has subsided and access for the Assessment Team is secured. We are currently using the reports from the County Government.
- Documentation
- Response for Tana River when the resources are available
- Early recovery/restoration for both West Pokot and Tana River Counties

## Lessons Learned

- i) CWS has been asked to share the kind of organization, rapid assessment and profiling tools and coordination with the County Government. This is a demonstration of the impact of CWS in the emergency response that has been perfected over time.
- ii) Affected communities need – and got - organizational support and recognition of their contribution towards the entire exercise that was not evident in responses from other relief agencies.

## Pending Activities

- Resource mobilization to undertake the provision of shelter and recovery efforts to the affected population.
- Support to an additional 250 households that did not receive any support in West Pokot.
- Support to Tana River community whose families are inexorably being forced from their homes due to the continually swelling of River Tana as it drains the Mount Kenya watershed. This disaster is far from over for some of the most vulnerable people of Kenya, living in the Tana River Delta.
- Post distribution monitoring and evaluation



## Julia's Story

Julia Domokira, 30 is a mother of four. The devastating landslide in West Pokot, Kenya, last month changed her family forever. She lost two of her children on that disasterous night when the hillside collapsed and slid out from under her home. One child was killed, and another was carried away by the mud and debris and remains missing. Julia is traumatized and says she thinks the last few weeks have been a nightmare. Like her neighbors who also lost loved ones, Julia needs psychological support. Since her entire house was destroyed, along with her livelihood, Julia is currently living in a tent in the Paroo camp in West Pokot County. Conditions in the camp are deplorable, and Julia is longing to go home and back to the way things were just a few weeks ago. Julia is really grateful for the supplies she received from CWS and hopes that we will walk with her through the journey to full recovery.

