

**KENYA DROUGHT RESPONSE 2021/2022**

**EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO DEPRIVED EXCLUDED AND VULNERABLE (DEV) CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES AFFECTED BY SEVERE DROUGHT IN FIVE KENYA ARID AND SEMI ARID LANDS (ASAL) COUNTIES**

**TO BE PRESENTED TO CHILDFUND ALLIANCE MEMBERS AND OTHER POTENTIAL DONORS**

**PREPARED BY**

**CHILDFUND KENYA**

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| **Project Name**: | Integrated Emergency Response to communities affected by Drought in five counties in Northern Kenya |
| **Country** | Kenya |
| **Location and geographic coverage of the Project:** | Regions: North-eastern  Counties: Marsabit, Samburu, Isiolo, Turkana and Baringo |
| **Implementing Agency:** | ChildFund Kenya |
| **Overall Goal** | To respond to the immediate humanitarian needs and improve the resilience of 14,700 drought-affected Households in Marsabit, Isiolo, Turkana, Samburu, and Kitui Counties |
| **Outcome** | To address critical food security, WASH, education, and child protection needs of drought-affected children, families, and communities while building their longer-term resilience to mitigate future crises |
| **Project outputs** | **Output 1:** Improved food security for 9,000 droughts affected HHs  **Output 2:** Improved access to appropriate, lifesaving water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services for 5,700 vulnerable families  **Output 3:** Sustained access to basic education for 3,000 drought-affected children through provision of services and feeding program in schools  **Output 4:** Reduced conflicts andimproved co-existence in 10 villages affected by conflicts over natural resources, through empowerment of 1000 youths to act as peacebuilding agents.  **Output 5:** To ensure children are protected from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence during drought emergency through child protection messaging aimed at 2,000 children and 500 adult community members |
| **Direct Beneficiaries** | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Households | Children | Youth | Adults | Communities | | Food Security & Livelihoods | 9,000 |  |  |  |  | | WASH | 5,700 |  |  |  |  | | Education |  | 3,000 |  |  |  | | Conflict Transformation |  |  | 1,000 |  | 10 | | Child Protection |  | 2,000 |  | 500 |  | | Total | 14,700 | 7,000 | 1,000 | 500 | 10 | |
| **Project Budget:** | **USD 1,200,454** |
| **Project Start Date:** | 15th September 2021 to May 15th May 2022 |
| **Project Duration:** | 8 months |

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# Background

Kenya has a history of repeated and severe humanitarian crises. Over the past two years the country has experienced five humanitarian emergencies, including COVID-19, drought, flooding, desert locust invasion and communal conflicts, affectingvarious parts of the country at different times. Currently the country is grappling with two major emergences, COVID-19 and drought. According to the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), during June 2021 most Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) received less than 50 percent of average rainfall levels while some received less than 25 percent. Several ASAL counties were already experiencing moderate vegetation deficit by the end of June, and the drought situation worsened in July and Augustbringing negative consequences for household food security, crop and livestock production, potable water access, child nutrition, and local coping strategies. The food security situation has been on a worsening trend in the ASAL counties since the below average rainfall received during the October-December 2020 rainy season, followed by below-average rainfall during the March-May long rain season characterized by a late-onset, poor distribution, and abrupt cessation. According to FEWSNET, low cumulative rainfall across most of the country resulted in low crop production and forage regeneration, leading to mostly Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes across most of the country and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in the Northeast.

The NDMA also reports that household water availability is mostly below average, and the distance required to reach potable water sources in pastoral and marginal agricultural areas increased to averages between 2.4-8.4 km. Most water points are dry across various counties including Meru, Isiolo, Wajir, Mandera, and Marsabit. The longer trekking distances to water sources limit households’ engagement in livelihood activities such as casual labor, crop sales, and charcoal burning, reducing opportunities to obtain food and income.

As rangeland resources and livestock productivity decline, resource-based conflict has increased particularly in the dry-season grazing areas of Kom in Isiolo North sub-county, Marsabit, Baragoi area in Samburu County, and in the Tana Delta areas of Tana River County. In early June, bandits raided livestock from 50 Turkana households causing more than 6,000 people to flee their homes. The nutrition situation has remained Critical (IPC Acute Malnutrition Phase 4) in Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, Isiolo, Samburu, Turkana, North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties in Marsabit County along with Tiaty in Baringo County. High levels of acute malnutrition are attributed mainly to reduced milk production limiting the amounts available for children’s consumption, since milk is the main diet for children in arid areas.

***Situation on Marsabit County:*** In Marsabit County moved from the alert phase to the alarm phase of the drought meaning being in crisis regarding food security and rise in malnutrition cases, this is critical requiring urgent need for response action to save lives and livelihoods of the vulnerable groups. Milk production has declined below the short-term average as livestock migrates to the dry season grazing areas. The area under crop production is below the long-term average, with near-total crop failure in Saku Subcounty. Distance to obtain water for household use and livestock increased considerably across the County, with waiting times ranging between 60-90 minutes in the agro-pastoral livelihood zone and 90-120 minutes in the pastoral livelihood zone whereas the recommended waiting time is 30minutes according to the sphere standards. Water consumption per household per day was 8 litres in the agro-pastoral and 10 litres in pastoral livelihood zone with the average household size of six members, this is far lower than the regional norm of 15-20 litres per person per day (for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene) which also meets minimum international standards for humanitarian crisis situations. The Country-wide food consumption score (FCS) is 38.9, with 4.36% of households having poor food consumption, 43.85% borderline and 51.79% acceptable consumption, the FCS and the [Household Dietary Diversity Score](https://inddex.nutrition.tufts.edu/data4diets/indicator/household-dietary-diversity-score-hdds) (HDDS) are both associated with caloric intake.. A July 2021 survey found Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) rates in North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties of 5.3 and 4.3 percent respectively, compared to 3.1 and 6.4 percent found during in a similar period in 2019.

***Situation in Turkana County:*** The county is in alert phase, with a worsening trend because of depressed rainfall with a temporal distribution of 1-2 days experienced in some sections of Turkana West, Loima and South. Body condition of all livestock species has deteriorated causing low milk production. A drop in the water table and drying up of some water pans has caused deterioration in water source conditions, increasing numbers of non-functional hand-pump boreholes, and elongated depth of traditional water wells.

***Situation in Isiolo County:*** All the livelihood zones are at the alert phase with the trend worsening. A great proportion of accessible forage was poor, leading people to migrate to dry season grazing reserves which are insecure with poor recharge, while distances to water sources increased considerably. The proportion of malnourished children increased marginally, with 2.7% and 8.9% of children respectively showing severe and moderate acute malnourished.

***Situation in Samburu County:*** According to the NDMA drought report, rangeland cover remains in poor condition across all livelihood zones. Surface water sources have dried up in pastoral areas and boreholes yields are dwindling. Cattle are showing poor body condition, with thin fore-ribs visible and distances to water points remaining above long-term averages. Household-level milk production and consumption are also below average, and the proportion of 0-5 years old children under five years at risk of malnutrition based on Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) scores was 23.4 percent moderate and 0.5 percent severe.

***Situation in Kitui County:*** According to the July NDMA drought bulletin, expected seasonal crop and milk production are below normal with livestock body condition being fair to poor. Water levels in open water sources are below 30 percent of their capacity in most parts of the County, and most water pans in Marginal Mixed Farming livelihood zones have dried up. The proportion of children at risk of malnutrition had reached 3.5% by July, up from 2.7 percent in June.

# Project Description

* 1. **Problem Statement**

Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta officially declared the drought affecting parts of the country to be a national disaster on 8 September 2021, and instructed the National Treasury and the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government to spearhead government efforts to assist affected households. This assistance will include water and relief food distribution as well as livestock uptake. This decision follows an earlier drought alert issued by the government for the arid and semi-arid areas in July. The depressed short rains (Oct-Dec) of 2020 and failed long rains (March-May) of 2021 have caused a prolonged dry season, whose impact is being felt by a significant proportion of the population in ASAL areas. The top twelve drought-affected counties are Turkana, Marsabit, Isiolo, Kajiado, Kitui, Mandera, Garissa, Wajir, Baringo, Kilifi, Tana River, and Kwale. NDMA projects that the number of drought counties could increase to up to twenty, giving current low rainfall patterns making recovery more difficult.

Government authoritiesreport that more than two million people face severe food insecurity. Dwindling pasture, browse and water is causing increased inter-communal conflicts over resources. P Livestock disease prevalence is also higher than average. The affected communities are slowly turning towards negative coping mechanisms including sale of household assets, reduction of number of meals per day, children missiong school in search of water among others that affect their livelihoods, health, and food security. Thousands of shoats (goat-sheep hybrid) have died from the drought while the remaining ones have poor or wasted body conditions. Men have migrated from the drought affected communities with their livestock in search of water, increasing the potential for conflicts while leavingvulnerable women, children, older and disabled persons behind to survive on their own.

There is potential for increased drought impacts on the food insecurity situation, decreased pasture for livestock and potential escalation of resource-based conflicts. As water availability for domestic, agricultural, and industrial uses depletes, the general population faces increased adverse effects. A report from ACT Alliance estimates that the number of people requiring immediate food assistance in the most-affected counties that are most affected are 231,755 in Turkana, 216,290 in Mandera, 169,290 in Garissa, 156,374 in Wajir, 113,750 in Baringo, 218,068 in Kilifi, 100,809 in Tana River, 130,023 in Kwale, 114,938 in Marsabit, and 113,750 in Kitui. Potable water access remains below SPHERE standards, with most households relying on unprotected and unsafe water sources. In Isiolo, Mandera, Marsabit and Tana River Counties more than 85% of the water points are under strain, and in Garissa, Isiolo and Tana River Counties 25% or more of water points are not functioning.

In addition to water scarcity the hygiene situation is very poor. Most households do not treat their water, even when collecting it from unprotected sources, and the water is stored in unhygienic conditions. In Isiolo, Mandera, Marsabit, Tana River and Wajir Counties less than 30% of the population have suitable water containers. The drought situation has also adversely affected children’s education, with low attendance and high dropout rates observedin the affected counties. As families move with their animals to look for pasture and water, girls spend more time fetching water, and some communitiesare displaced due to resources based conflicts, children lose access to schooling.

* 1. **Project Goal and Objectives**

The overall goal of this proposed drought emergency respond project is to respond to the immediate humanitarian needs and improve the resilience of 14,700 drought-affected Households in Marsabit, Isiolo, Turkana, Samburu, and Kitui Counties.

The project aims to save lives and improve resilience of drought-affected communities through provision of lifesaving food, WASH, and educational materials. The project will also mitigate the resource-induced conflicts and ensure the protection of deprived, excluded, and vulnerable children and their families

**The Outputs are as follows:**

1. Improved food security for 9,000 droughts affected HHs
2. Improved access to appropriate, lifesaving water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services for 5,700 vulnerable families
3. Sustained access to basic education for 3,000 drought-affected children through provision of services and feeding program in schools
4. Reduced conflicts and improved co-existence in 10 villages affected by conflicts over natural resources, through empowerment of 1000 youths to act as peacebuilding agents.

To ensure children are protected from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence during drought emergency through child protection messaging aimed at 2,000 children and 500 adult community members

* 1. **Proposed Interventions**

In coordination with other actors, ChildFund Kenya has been responding to various emergencies including drought, floods, conflicts, COVID-19 and Desert locust infestation in various ChildFund will leverage this experience and existing relationships to implement this drought response in Marsabit, Isiolo, Turkana, Samburu and Kitui Counties. The key interventions to be undertaken are as follows:

1. **Food Security and Livelihoods**

Food security and livelihoods interventions will reach at least 9,000 vulnerable households, with priority given to deprived, excluded and vulnerable children and their families. These interventions will address the rapidly deteriorating malnutrition among the most vulnerable children especially those aged 0-5 years (life stage 1). The following interventions will address immediate food security and livelihoods needs of people severely affected by the drought:

* Cash transfers targeting 5,000 vulnerable households affected by drought and drought-instigated conflict across the five counties.
* Direct, in-kind food distribution to 2,000 food insecure households who cannot access markets to buy food.
* Distribution of supplementary livestock feeds to 1,000 pastoralist households to sustain their core milking herds.
* Enhanced livestock disease surveillance along with targeted vaccinations and treatment of opportunistic diseases, assisting 2,000 pastoralist households in 4 counties
* Provision of certified, drought-tolerant seeds, farm tools and equipment to 1,000 farming households in the ASAL agro-pastoral zones
* Capacity building of 1,000 agro-pastoralists on improved cropping techniques, conducted by government extension workers with support from ChildFund

1. **Water and Sanitation**

The drying of water tables and the increased pressure on remaining water points have led to constant breakdown and malfunctioning of water supply systems and poor hygiene at household level and at water points is wanting. Both humans and domestic animals share use of the same water points, with no treatment of water used for human consumption. ChildFund Kenya and its local partners will address these gaps, improving access to clean, safe water for domestic use and livestock through the following interventions below:

* Rehabilitation and maintenance of strategic water facilities like boreholes and shallow wells serving 2,500HHs
* Enhanced water trucking to 3,000HHs to address the immediate water needs for both human and livestock consumption in the water-scarce areas.
* Provision of water purifiers to 3,000 families affected by water scarcity
* Appropriate hygiene and sanitation promotion through Water Management Committees (WMCs) and community-based hygiene promoters to reach 3,000HHs
* Provision of fuel to operate motorized boreholes
* Procurement and distribution of water storage tanks and jerry-cans serving 200HHs.

1. **Education**

The decreasing availability of food in schools has affected children’s attendance, educational continuity, and enrolment of new students who had been expected to begin school in August. The Ministry of Education has reported high rates of absenteeism attributed to households’ lack of food. School feeding is urgently needed to keep children in school and improve their class attendance, especially in Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) centres. WASH items and services are also needed in basic education institutions in the affected counties, to make the learning environment more conducive. ChildFund and its partners will support the following interventions to improve educational outcomes in this emergency situation:

* Enhanced hygiene promotion in 10 learning institutions serving 3,000 children.
* Water trucking for 10 primary schools and ECD centres serving 3,000 children in drought- affected communities
* Provision of school fees for 300 children to attend secondary school and vocational training institutions.
* Provision of school feeding in 10 ECD centres serving 3,000 children.
* Provision of hand sanitizers and water storage facilities to ten learning institutions serving 3,000 chldren.
* Provision of dignity kits to 1,000 drought-affected adolescent girls, enabling them to continue attending schools

1. **Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement**

Limited access to water and pasture resources has caused increased inter-communal conflict and insecurity. These conflicts are happening in Marsabit, Isiolo, and Baringo Counties, due mainly to pastoral households migrating to areas outside their normal communal grazing lands in search of pasture and water, provoking banditry attacks and raids. ChildFund will implement the following interventions aimed at curbing these violent conflicts:

* Facilitating 10 inter-communal peace dialogues leading to agreements on resource usage.
* Coordination of 10 peace and security dialogue events, targeting 1,000 youths in conflict-prone counties.
* Facilitating inter-county and cross-border counties (including Marsabit & Isiolo, Isiolo and Garissa and Samburu & Baringo including the Turkana bordering the Karamoja) peace meetings aimed at mutual understanding and reconciliation

1. **Child Protection**

ChildFund Kenya and its partners will undertake the following child protection interventions aimed at preventing and responding to abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence against children during this emergency situation:

* Community-level child protection training and awareness building sessions reaching 500 people
* Support for community health volunteers and child protection champions to monitor, trace, track, report, and refer possible child abuse cases to appropriate authorities
* Install and operate five child friendly spaces in housed in local health facilities
  1. **Beneficiary Targeting, identification, and Participation**

ChildFund will implement this project while upholding to the following principles.

* ***Community Participation***; ChildFund will implement the project with full involvement and participation of various groups within the targeted communities. All stakeholders will be involved in consultations and decision making throughout the project cycle. ChildFund will use transparent beneficiary selection criteria based on need, and its established Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) for beneficiary identification and registration.
* ***Rights-Based Programming:*** ChildFund Kenya bases is program design and implementation decisions on the protection of all people’s rights, especially those belonging to vulnerable and marginalised groups such as children and women. ChildFund also applies child safeguarding policies which spell out the responsibilities of duty bearers, including ChildFund staff and partners, when working with children.
* ***Child Participation***: ChildFund recognises the children’s rights to participate in decisions and activities which affect their lives. ChildFund also applies
* ***Community Complaints and Feedback:*** The active participation of program beneficiaries and people affected by disasters in designing, implementing, and evaluating emergency response programs enables them to understand their entitlements and contribute to effective management decision making based on evolving conditions and needs. Community members have opportunities to make complaints about problems and issues of concern, provide feedback, and receive timely responses after an appropriate investigation. ChildFund Kenya will inform beneficiaries about the different mechanisms for giving complaints and feedback, including a mobile phone hot line and box for written submissions, and promote these using visibility materials within the communities. This community-level accountability framework strengthens the quality of our relationship with beneficiaries and improves stewardship of resources provided by donors.

# Project Implementation and Management

* 1. **Management of the Project**

ChildFund Kenya and its local partners have been implementing integrated humanitarian response programs in the ASAL counties of Marsabit, Isiolo, Turkana, Samburu and Kajiado, with interventions in food security, nutrition, WASH, education, and child protection. This proposed Drought Response program will be coordinated by the Country Office DRR and Emergency programme unit and delivered through the local partners in Marsabit, Isiolo, Turkana, Kitui and Samburu Counties. The project will also leverage well-establish local networks and community presence. Evidence-based mechanisms for beneficiary targeting, project implementation, quality control and monitoring, evaluation and learning as well as reliable local partners having close links with authorities will enable smooth implementation of the project. The project will link up with other ongoing response programs implemented by government agencies and other actors, to avoid duplication of activities and maximizing overall impact.

* 1. **Monitoring and evaluation**

ChildFund Kenya will maintain overall direction and responsibility for the management and monitoring of the emergency operation. Monitoring visits will be conducted on a regular basis to ensure that project implementation is timely, appropriate, and meets quality standards based on effectiveness and efficiency. ChildFund Kenya’s Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning Manager will monitor field-level activities and support the local partners’ M&E focal persons to carry out regular monitoring of the response activities. Operational oversight and key management decisions shall be carried out during regular CO team meetings under the leadership of Program and Sponsorship Director and the and Country Director. The Country Office Emergency Response Team (COERT)will regularly review operations and key strategic/tactical decisions affecting the overall programme.

Before all distributions of in-kind or cash-based assistance, the beneficiaries will be informed of their entitlements through community meetings, short messages, banners, and other communication materials to avoid any misunderstandings. The Project team and M&E team will also undertake post-distribution monitoring through spot checks, to verify the quality and quantity supplied to beneficiaries. Beneficiaries will be informed about the complaints and feedback channels including phone numbers and other contact details. Beneficiary muster rolls will be retained with original signatures of beneficiaries receiving items. ChildFund Kenya will conduct a real-time or post-emergency evaluation to assess the outcomes, deliverables, appropriateness, timeliness, and quality of the assistance delivered. The CO will hold a post-completion lesson learned workshop, and communicate key findings to ChildFund International’s leadership and donors who support the response.

# Co-ordination with other Stakeholders

# The NDMA is responsible for overall coordination of the drought response in ASAL counties, to ensure complementary actions of different stakeholders and avoid any duplication of efforts. Information on response actions is shares through different stakeholders’ meetings and forums, such as the County Steering Groups and Kenya Food Security Steering Groups. UN-OCHA coordinates the Kenya Humanitarian Partnership Team comprising international humanitarian actors, collecting, collating, and sharing relevant information to all members while advocating for early action by government agencies and donors. The Kenya Government through its Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Devolution and ASALs has already released $5.58 million under Hunger Safety Net program to Turkana, Marsabit, Mandera and Wajir Counties to support vulnerable groups affected by the drought.

ChildFund will continue to participate in coordination forums by sharing information with various partners and Working Groups at the Regional, National, County, and Sub- County level. These include the Kenya Humanitarian Partners Forum, WASH Cluster meeting, Regional Desert Locust Alliance (RDLA), Cash Working Group, Food and Nutrition Security clusters, Education cluster, Child Protection working groups among others. At the County level ChildFund is represented by its Local Partners within the County Steering Group (CSG) meetings coordinated by the Drought Management Authority (NDMA).

1. **Project Estimated Budget**

The total estimated budget for this emergency response project is USD 1,200,454, as summarised below and detailed in Annex 2.

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| **Budget Item** | **Amount (USD)** |
| Livelihood and Food Security Interventions | 541,830 |
| Water and Sanitation (WASH) Interventions | 120,916 |
| Education in Emergency Interventions | 114,503 |
| Conflict and Security Mitigation | 35,267 |
| Child Protection in Emergency interventions | 39,847 |
| Personnel, Administration and other operational costs | 348.091 |
| **Total** | **1,200,454** |

1. **Annexes**

