



CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA (CCDA)

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DISASTER IN KENYA-EMERGENCY SHORT TERM MISSIONS NEEDED

Kenya has been hit with a devastating drought like never before and in some places, 2011 has been the driest period in 60 years. It is predicted by Meteorologists that the situation is not going to improve until early next year if the long rains do come. Three quarters of Kenya is very dry-all water sources and crops have dried up leading to death of animals and people. Drought has caused a rise in food prices, power bills and water. In January 2011, the cost of 2kg of maize flour and 20 liters of water was 75 shillings (US\$0.94) and 3-5 shillings(US\$0.04-0.06) respectively but now they are costing 150 shillings (US\$1.9) and 20- 50 shillings(US\$0.25-0.63) respectively. More than 10 millions are in need of medical aid. The sick are left to die especially the children and elderly as the rest trek long distances in search of water and food, which takes days before they return to their homes. I have witnessed a weak emaciated woman lying on the ground breast feeding her two kids who are malnutrition to survive but she die few hours later.



Page 4 / NATIONAL

**DROUGHT
HUNGER STRIKES**

Tuesday, April 2, 2011 / The Standard

Malnutrition cases overwhelm Turkana hospital

Mothers, severely malnourished children seek medical attention to stay alive after days of going without proper food diet

By **LUCAS WESIGHE**
and **EDWIN CHEBEREK**

Scores of waiting children rest the air at Lothagam District Hospital in Turkana County as scores are brought in suffering from severe malnutrition.

Such is the case for Ms Nancy Lokoris, 35, and her one-year-old son, John Epuk, who is among several children admitted with severe malnutrition.

Like Lokoris's son, the children appear on food slips immediately they are admitted and one by one they

"He started growing thin and I suspected he could be suffering from a disease, I did not know it was malnutrition," said the mother.

She took him to Nanyuki Health Centre in Kakuihi Division in Turkana Central, but was referred to Lothagam District hospital.

"When we arrived here, my son was diagnosed with malnutrition, which we were told is a disease that results from lack of proper food diet," Lokoris said.

There is a growing number of children who are admitted in the hospital suffering from malnutrition.

At the extreme end of the infected children's ward, two Brian Haroon, an 8-month-old baby, who is also a victim of malnutrition.

FOOD DEFICIENCY

The mother, Ms Akanyo Akahidi, could not take the pain she has endured for several days going without food and seeing her son suffer.

"This situation forced me to seek for support from Lothagam District hos-



One-year-old John Epuk is admitted to Lothagam District Hospital, in Turkana Central, after he was diagnosed with malnutrition. PHOTO: PETER COHEN/STANDARD

pital can be managed nutritionally," she told The Standard at the hospital.

In the month of July alone, she said, the hospital admitted more than 30 children under the age of five, most of them in critical condition.

"There are even deaths that were recorded but for now I cannot give you the number of deaths each I across the record file for accurate information," she said.

malnutrition among children in the area was alarming and called for urgent intervention.

Mr Okua said a malnutrition survey which was conducted in April in the area recorded a higher level of 34.7 per cent.

The DC cited Lajani and Kibibi divisions in Turkana North District as the hardest hit areas.

Okua said they were opening up

EFFECTS OF HUNGER

• Ms Nancy Lokoris, a nutritionist in charge of Lothagam District Hospital admitted more than 50 children under the age of five, most of them in critical condition.

• Many other diseases such as tuberculosis and malaria that affect malnourished children.

• Area DC Jack Okua says a malnutrition survey which was conducted in April in the area recorded a higher level of 34.7 per cent.

• Mr Okua says they would open up 40 feeding centres to check cases of malnutrition.

DROUGHT
HUNGER STRIKES

Women trek long distances in search of food as drought bites

With their camels, the only mode of transport whipped out, the women are suffering as they search for food and water

By **ADOW JUBAT**
AND **EMMA MALIN**

Habena Ahmed Aloo, 23, will never forget the current drought as long as her two-month-old baby boy is alive. His name *Bomaya* (Shisima for a baby boy born during severe drought) will be a living reminder.

She was trekking from Githor to Takala, 52km on foot, with hundreds of other villagers fleeing drought that depopulated them of their livestock and their means of transport, the camels, when the pain of childbirth struck, halfway through the journey.



Aalish Dagevo holds Miling Geel Farah, her seven-month-old baby weighing 5.4 kilograms at a maternity hospital.



...through to Kenya...
...what is very common in...
...of drought, this...
...child...
...International...
...Organisation's...
...came to assist, who...
...readily to be the...
...standard bearer of the...
...country's...
...NIGALA VAN DER...



...to stay she...
...was dying...
...but...
...action, which...
...did not reach...
...has today she...
...died five days...
...ago.



BY PETER OCHIAI

The 60-year-old disabled Dinkans woman whose swollen cheeks, shriveled skin, sagging breasts, and pouty eyesight, came to symbolize the scourge of drought is no more.

Despite the fact that her pictures, which spoke volumes about the cruelty of life in the far-flung...

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



General Medical Needs: Emergency levels of global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates are particularly high and widespread among the children. Other causes of morbidity include measles, typhoid, malaria, tuberculosis, diarrhea and Upper Respiratory Tract Infections (URTI), skin diseases, dehydration among other diseases.

Cost: The cost, which is 100% tax deductible, will be approximately **\$5000** inclusive of all international and domestic airfares, ground transportation, hotels and meals.

Locations and Dates of the projects:

Location	Dates
Turkana District	1 st -10 th Sept. 2011
Kitui District	12 th -21 rd Sept. 2011
Baringo	24 th - 3 th Oct. 2011
Kajiado	6 th -15 th -Oct.2011
Machakos	18 th -27 th Oct.2011
Mwingi	30 th Oct – 8 th Nov.2011
Narok	13 th – 22 nd Nov.2011
Nairobi Slums(Urban poor)	27 th -6 th Dec.2011
Makueni	11 th -20 th Dec.2011

All Categories of Health Professionals are Needed:

Pediatricians, Nurses, General Practitioners, Gynecologists, Dentists, Paramedics – any medical professionals who have a heart for Jesus Christ and for the drought stricken/suffering .This short term medical team will work hand in hand with the indigenous medical staffs that are on the nine different sites.

We will be working in remote areas where medical facilities are inexistent or poorly stocked. We will use tents. I suggest therefore you come with supplies and portable equipment.

The people's hearts are very open to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and we have in place indigenous pastors who can follow up our medical and evangelistic efforts with continued discipleship in these different locations where our church partners have presence.

For More Information:

If you are interested, please write to Jared Onserio, the program Coordinator in Kenya, at email: jaredonserio@gmail.com