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CHEPs DROUGHT & FAMINE RELIEF 2017

Food distribution



Sponsor:



THE **WORLD FEDERATION**
OF KHOJA SHIA ITHNA-ASHERI MUSLIM COMMUNITIES

Background

Over 2.6 million Kenyans suffered from extreme thirst and hunger due to the recent protracted drought, which was declared a national disaster. Having lost their source of food and water with the drying of their crops, and water sources, masses of people risked losing their lives if no intervention was put in place.

Surveys conducted by our team in various parts of the country revealed a desperate situation. Scattered animal carcasses and malnourished people were a common scene. Children and women were seen on the roadside begging for food and water handouts from commuters. Victims were forced to share the little available contaminated water with animals, leading to water-borne diseases.

In order to avert potential loss of lives, CHEPs through support from The World Federation of KSMIC, set out to distribute a total of 21 tons of food to some of the most affected areas in the country. We identified desperate villages in Kilifi, Baringo & Kwale as suitable and deserving beneficiaries.



Map borrowed and modified from www.vidiani.com

Food distribution in Kilifi County villages – 20th March 2017

Kilifi is one of the 47 counties in Kenya, and the poorest in the Coastal region. Having a total population of close to 1million, the county was badly hit by the recent drought, leaving its residents in desperate need of food aid. CHEPs identified some of the worst hit villages in the county and distributed food to residents in an effort to alleviate some of their suffering.

On the 20th March 2017, CHEPs set out on a food distribution mission to Bofu village, 80km from Malindi, and close to 600km from Nairobi, after receiving reports of severe starvation. On the way, we met a section of the road that was flooded, having rained for the first time in months, and vehicles were stuck on either side. This was to be the end of the journey as the food truck would definitely get stuck in mud with reports emerging that a villager was even washed away by the flood.

While contemplating on turning back, the team managed to gather information that the villagers were walking over 20km towards them, and crossing waist high floods on foot. With no mobile network to ascertain, the team decided to wait for the villagers and close to an hour later, crowds of hungry villagers began to emerge from the horizon.

The distribution was conducted on the roadside, and over **400 households** benefitted from **5 tonnes** of food. Armed with food sponsored by The World Federation of KSIMC, they headed back home having renewed hope of surviving the next few weeks.



Flooded section of the road



Crowds emerging from the horizon seen through a zoomed lense.



The crowd continues to arrive



Food distribution ongoing



Food distribution ongoing



Food distribution ongoing



Food distribution ongoing



As the sun set that evening, the villagers were sure that they would not go to sleep hungry

Food distribution in Baringo County - 1st April 2017

Baringo County, located within the Rift Valley, 300km north-west of Nairobi has a population estimated at over 500,000. Living in an arid area, the population was among the worst hit by the recent drought. To add insult to injury, the limited resources also triggered tribal clashes, with rival communities fighting over scarce water, food and livestock. This led to deaths and displacements, worsening the effect of the drought on the communities.

As usual, CHEPs does not turn a blind eye. Despite the security risks involved, our team distributed **5 tonnes** of food to **149 households** living in one of the worst hit villages, Kong village. At the risk of being caught up in the conflicts, and armed with white flags to indicate peace, our team quickly rushed in to the conflict zone to distribute much needed food aid to the drought stricken communities. Our team had to be very strategic, so as not to be seen to be favoring any of the conflicting communities, an effort that was highly appreciated.

Baringo food distribution in pictures



Our team arriving at the village



Quickly offloading the food



Food distribution



Food distribution



Food distribution in Kwale County- 12th April 2017

Kwale County, is one of the poorest counties in Kenya, located in the country’s coast region. It is estimated to have a population of over 600,000 people, most of whom live in arid and semi arid areas. Kwale is one of the counties that was worst affected by the recent drought in Kenya and as is the practice of CHEPs, assistance had to be delivered.

On 12th April 2017, our team identified some of the worst hit villages and set out to distribute food to the villagers. Through support from WF, we distributed **5.1 tones** of food to **600 households** of different villages of Kwales’ Samburu division as below. The villagers expressed their heartfelt gratitude for the assistance extended to them.

Village Name	Beneficiaries
Chengoni	420 households
Mwaruesa	89 households
Mlunguni	91 households
TOTAL	600 households

Kwale food distribution in pictures:



Arrival and offloading of food



Food distribution ongoing



Food distribution ongoing



Food distribution ongoing

Food distribution in Kilifi County villages – 1st May 2017

As stated above, Kilifi is one of the 47 Counties in Kenya, and the poorest in the Coast region. Being badly hit by the recent drought, there was need to regularly send relief food so as relieve some of the suffering among its residents. On 1st May 2017, CHEPs identified some of the worst hit villages in the county and distributed **5 tones** of food as follows:

Village Name	Beneficiaries
Bofu	235 households

Bakaye	168 households
Raukani	71 households
Katama	116 households
TOTAL	590 households

Kilifi food distribution in pictures:



Food distribution in Bofu village



Food distribution in Bofu village



Food distribution in Bakaye village



Distribution to men in Bakaye village



Food distribution in Raukani village



Food distribution in Katama village

Summary of food distribution through WF sponsorship:

County	Food quantity	Beneficiaries
Kilifi	11 tons of food	990 households
Baringo	5 tons of food	149 households
Kwale	5.1 tons of food	600 households
TOTAL	21.2 tons of food	1739 households

Acknowledgment:

The CHEPs team wishes to thank The World Federation of KSIMC for the support during the 2017 drought response. The support has been timely in alleviating suffering among the communities, and was highly deserved. A lot however still needs to be done, especially in mitigating future droughts. We look forward to more collaboration in the near future.