

DROUGHT KENYA



FAST FACTS

Kenya is a country located in East Africa. It is officially known as the Republic of Kenya. Whilst Kenya has the largest GDP (Gross Domestic Product) in East Africa, there are currently three million people who do not have access to food.



Capital: Nairobi



Population: 48.5 million



Total Land Area: 224,081 square miles



Borders: Kenya has a coastline on the Indian Ocean. It is bordered by Tanzania, Uganda, South Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia



Official Language: Swahili and English. There are also more than 60 additional languages spoken in Kenya



Religion(s): Christianity, Islam and indigenous religions



Currency: Kenyan Shilling



Climate: The climate along the coast is tropical with a mix of cool and hot conditions in other parts of the country depending on the area



Terrain: The landscape is composed of low plains that rise into central highlands that are bisected by the Great Rift Valley. There is also a fertile plateau in the west of the country



Natural Resource(s): Limestone, gemstones, oil, gas



National Day: 12th December (Jamhuri or Independence Day)



National Symbol: Lion



National Anthem: Ee Mungu Nguvu Yetu



Key Landmarks: Amboseli National Park, Lake Nakuru, Lamu Island and Mount Kenya National park



Wildlife: Elephant, buffalo, cheetah, leopard, lion, rhinoceros, giraffe, hyena, jackal, antelope, warthog, wildebeest, baboon, monkey, zebra, hippopotamus

KENYA



1963

Kenya gains independence from British rule with Jomo Kenyatta as Prime Minister



1969

The assassination of government minister Tom Mboyo causes ethnic unrest



1982

Kenya declared a one-party state by government National Assembly



1991

Kenyan African National Union (KANU) agrees to the introduction of a multi-party political system



2005

A draft constitution is approved by parliament after days of violent protests in Nairobi due to aspects of the draft which demonstrators say grant too much power to the President



2007

Disputed presidential elections lead to violence in which more than 1,500 people die



2011

East Africa is hit by its worst drought in 6 years



2016

The long rains were poor leaving close to 1.3 million Kenyans in need of food aid



January 2017

Severe drought conditions persist



February 2017

Drought situation declared as a natural disaster. 400,000 children and pregnant and lactating mothers are acutely malnourished



March - May 2017

Kenya's long rain season is critical for the wellbeing of its farmers and livestock herders. The country faces a drought similar to that of 2011 during the Horn of Africa Crisis



August 2017

World Food Programme estimates that the number of people who are acutely food insecure is expected to rise to well over 2 million between March and August following two consecutive poor rainy seasons



August 2017

Nearly three million people do not have reliable access to food. This figure includes 700,000 children under five years old facing starvation



August 2017

20 million people are at risk of starvation



February 2020

Locust infestation causes massive food shortages due to the devastation of crops



March 2020

COVID 19 Outbreak



Why are we in Kenya? The latest poverty data from [The World Bank](#) indicates that 36% of people in Kenya are still living below the poverty line, while youth unemployment stands at 39%.



36%
LIVING BELOW
THE POVERTY LINE

Concern's work is concentrated where most of Kenya's poor live: in rural, arid and semi-arid lands in the north, as well as in the informal settlements of Nairobi.



39%
YOUTH
UNEMPLOYMENT

**We are currently responding to the threat of COVID-19 in Kenya. [Find out more about our response here.](#)*

A significant proportion of Kenya's population lacks access to basic services such as education, health, electricity and safe drinking water

Climate change continues to seriously impact the poor in rural areas, with Kenya regularly experiencing devastating droughts. Politically, devolution of power has been extended to county level, however implementation still faces key challenges. We are committed to addressing the root causes of poverty in urban and rural programme areas by strengthening the capacity of public service providers to meet basic needs and by enhancing the income and wellbeing of the extremely poor.

The world must work together to help achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2 and 13 in Kenya



Goal 2 **ZERO HUNGER**



What can be done to ensure that every child has sufficient and nutritious food in order to grow up healthy?

End hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.



Goal 13 **CLIMATE ACTION**

What can be done to accelerate the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions?

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

CONCERN'S LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS IN KENYA

Citizen engagement

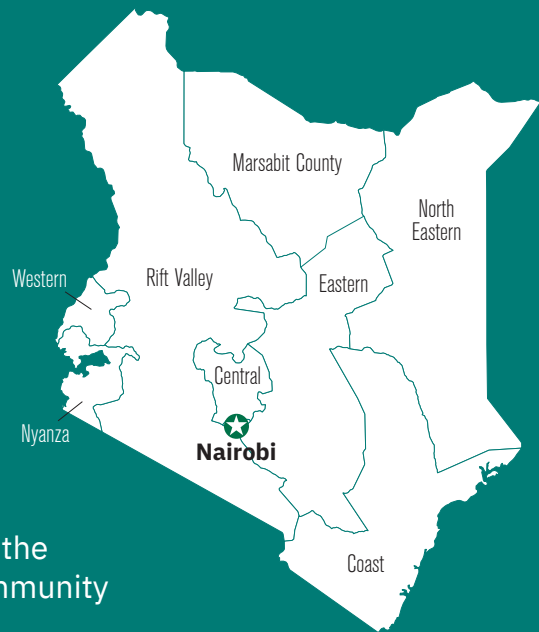
In the arid lands of northern Kenya, strengthening citizen engagement in pasture and water management is playing a critical role. This is facilitating greater contact between remote and poor communities along with veterinary and agricultural workers.

Health and nutrition

In 2018, as a result of advocacy and engagement by Concern and local citizens, Marsabit County allocated a significantly larger budget for health and nutrition. This led to the employment of over 50 nutritionists and 100 community health assistants.

Emergency detection

Concern's 'Urban Early Warning Early Action' programme in Nairobi has resulted in regular food and nutrition surveillance being undertaken by the county government. This means that slow onset emergencies, such as widespread malnutrition, can be detected early and the appropriate action is taken.



READ

Find out more about Concern's work in Kenya
www.concern.net/where-we-work/kenya



WATCH

Videos of the programmes we deliver and projects we are working on



ACT

Raise awareness about Kenya in your school and local community

Want to Learn MORE?

Concern Worldwide's Active Citizenship Team run workshops for students during the academic year.

If you are interested in exploring and critically examining global issues in the classroom please contact us on schools@concern.net



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