

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: 46-47 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: A COUNTRY RECOVERING FROM THE PLIGHT OF DROUGHT



- 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**
 - JAN 2017**  SEVERE **DROUGHT CONDITIONS** PERSIST
 - FEB 2017**  DROUGHT SITUATION DECLARED AS A **NATURAL DISASTER**. 400,000 CHILDREN AND PREGNANT AND LACTATING MOTHERS ARE **ACUTELY MALNOURISHED**
 - MAR-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**
 - AUG 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
-  NEARLY **THREE MILLION PEOPLE** DO NOT HAVE RELIABLE ACCESS TO FOOD. THIS FIGURE INCLUDES **700,000 CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OLD FACING STARVATION**



20 MILLION PEOPLE ARE AT RISK OF STARVATION

Source: <https://concernworldwide.exposure.co/east-africas-hunger-crisis-explained>



KEY WORDS

- **Drought:** a prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall, leading to a shortage of water
- **Food Insecurity:** being without reliable access to a sufficient amount of affordable, nutritious food
- **Malnutrition:** lack of proper nutrition caused by not having enough to eat. Also not eating enough of the right things, or being unable to use the food that one does eat
- **Informal Settlement:** residential areas where a group of housing units has been constructed on land to which the occupants have no legal claim
- **El Nino:** an abnormal weather pattern that is caused by the warming of the Pacific Ocean near the equator



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?

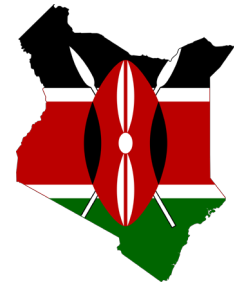
Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

FOOD SHORTAGE IN KENYA

A hunger crisis in East Africa has affected a number of countries in the region including Kenya. In Kenya drought has been a primary driver of the crisis driven largely by **El Niño**.

The drought was declared as a national disaster in February and currently over 350,000 children and pregnant and lactating mothers are acutely malnourished.

Malnutrition levels continue to rise due to lack of access to food and clean water supplies.



Climate change threatens the livelihoods, health & survival of millions of people



Nsanje-Fiasia Odala carrying the essential items she received from Concern Worldwide back to her sisters house. She and her children have been staying there since her home was destroyed in the floods. Credit: Alexia Webster/Concern Worldwide



What are Concern doing?



Concern Worldwide has been working on the ground in Kenya since 2002 and is currently managing programmes in the slums/informal settlements based in the capital **Nairobi** and also, in the area of **Marsabit County** which is located in northern Kenya.

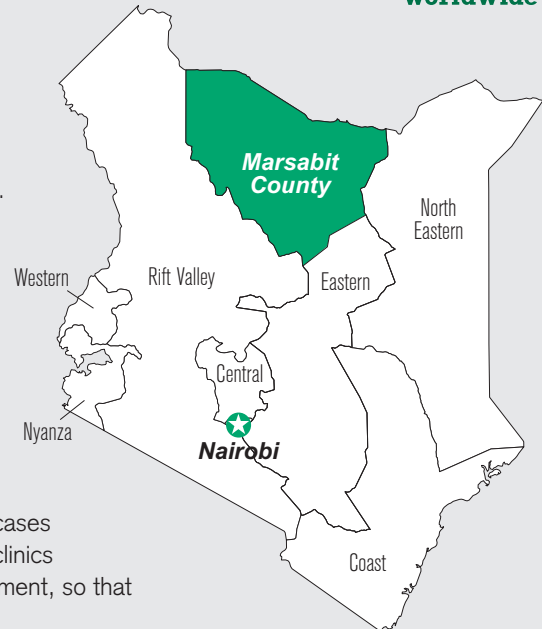
The situation in Marsabit is serious. Concern has launched an emergency response there focusing on cash transfers, provision of water and health and nutrition services. Our emergency response is delivered in addition to long-term development work focusing on HIV and AIDS, water and sanitation, health and education.

Concern has developed an early action response model as part of the community-based management of acute malnutrition to support health services in preparing for an emergency and treating cases of malnutrition. The programme delivers phased supports to health clinics depending on the number of malnourished children coming for treatment, so that the clinics do not become overwhelmed during peak times.

Many African nations were colonised by European powers until the mid-twentieth century, the legacy of which can still be seen today.

Despite countries gaining their freedom, the exploitation of Africa continues. Africa is rich in natural resource such as diamonds, precious metals and oil. A staggering \$192 billion is taken out of the continent each year by foreign companies and tax avoidance, compared to the \$134 billion it receives in aid.

Financial profits from such exploitation benefit companies who have control over these resources with little going back into the nations the resources are extracted from. Additionally, resource extraction has environmental impacts which contribute to climate change.



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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READ



'Satellite images trigger payouts for Kenyan farmers in grip of drought'

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2017/apr/25/satellite-images-trigger-payouts-for-kenya-farmers-in-grip-of-drought>

WATCH



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

ACT



Raise awareness about Kenya in your school and local community

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