

Situation report 004 – Nairobi Floods and Huruma Building Collapse

Sitrep no. 004/May/2016

Date of issue – 02/05/2016

Time period of Sitrep: As at 1500hrs

Current Situation

Heavy rainfall has been observed in various parts of the country over the last few days. The latest forecast from the Kenya Meteorological department (KMD) indicates a likelihood of continued heavy rains in most parts of the country including parts of Western, Nyanza, Central and Northern Kenya. The latest update on dam water levels indicates that the seven folk dams along River Tana basin were operating at full capacity as at 0700hrs on 2st May 2016. Masinga and Kiambere Dams have already began spilling and as a result, close collaboration is ongoing between KenGen and KRCS to ensure communities living downstream receive early warnings and evacuate in case of continued spillages.

Impacts of the ongoing rains in the highlands have started being felt in the upper parts of Tana River whereby several farms are flooded in Mbalambala and Pamba areas from water which continues flowing down to Madogo, Garissa and eventually to the Tana Delta in Tana River County. Alerts to these communities have been issued informing them to move to higher grounds. Floods were also reported at Bute of Wajir North Sub-County with above normal rainfall being experienced in the entire county. In West Kenya, high water levels in major rivers continue as the water volumes rise to alarming levels. So far, 3 drowning cases have been reported and about 67 households affected in Budalangi where a joint response with the county commissioner and county government officials was conducted.

A total of about 43,683 people have been affected countrywide with Nairobi County being the worst affected by the rains due to flooding in the various estates that led to collapse of one residential building in Huruma on 30th April 2016. As at the time of reporting, from the collapsed building operation in Huruma, a total of 21 bodies had been retrieved from the rubble with a total of 117 cases reported missing at the KRCS Tracing desk. Out of these cases, 21 were closed and 96 others remain open as search and rescue operations continue with chances of getting survivors that may still be trapped under the rubble being slim.

KRCS Actions

Since the beginning of the Huruma operation, KRCS, whose main role in this operation is offering medical and logistical support, has been on ground with response teams who have been offering various humanitarian services to support the affected. These services include search and rescue, first aid, evacuation, tracing and Psychosocial support (PSS).

Following the tragedy, KRCS set up a tracing desk whose main role was to try find information about people who are worried about the health and well-being of a close family member with whom they have suddenly lost contact and help restore and maintain contact with them.

The Huruma building collapse had a total of 150 survivors who had witnessed the building collapse resulting in serious injuries and deaths to their families and neighbours. The survivors included minors below the age of twelve (12) years and other special groups with chronic health conditions.

Psychosocial support (PSS) activities were activated immediately following the incident at Huruma. PSS activities aim at helping the survivors cope with what they had witnessed as well as avert their fears. 10 counsellors from KRCS and Amani counsellors were deployed to Huruma and they set-up a counselling tent at the CDF Hall in

Huruma where the survivors were being hosted. The PSS team was tasked with counselling the bereaved families and at the same time help families that had reported cases of missing persons cope with the uncertainty of their loved ones. The counselling strategies included group counselling sessions for families and children as well as individual counselling sessions where individual survivors had one on one session with the counsellors. Beneficiaries of PSS activities were asked to leave their contacts to facilitate follow ups by the counsellors to ensure they are progressing on well. By the time of compiling this report a total of 264 people including survivors, witnesses and responders had been reached with PSS activities. Special groups including mothers with infants, PLHIV and other chronic health conditions that had reached out to the PSS desk for assistance were referred to county health department officials and other protection agencies on site for ensure their immediate needs were addressed. KRCS has already distributed dignity kits, blankets, mosquito nets, assorted clothing and soap to the displaced families in Huruma. Other agencies and well-wishers have donated assorted food items, mattresses and bottled water for drinking.

Elsewhere, KRCS conducted a flood assessment in Maasai, Kanaro, Shimo la Tewa, Kayaba, Fuata Nyayo, Mariguini Villages of the Mukuru Informal Settlement. Assessments were finalized and it was established the need for urgent support of the affected communities with shelter, food, warm clothing and PSS. A Cash Transfer assessment was also conducted and KRCS is exploring on the possibility of carrying out cash transfer to the affected communities through mobile transfer as identified in the assessment. A distribution of NFIs is planned for the displaced families in various slum areas in Nairobi

KRCS has also maintained consistent flow of information to ensure the public is informed at each stage of the operation. This has been done through a variety of channels including the official KRCS website and social media platforms and through mass media interviews. The messages focussed not only on the operations update but also on sensitization of the public with general flood safety.

KRCS also continues with coordination of donations from well-wishers as informed by actual needs of the affected community. A press release was issued with major items need requested include but not limited to assorted food, warm clothing, children's clothing, water and assistive devices. KRCS has so far received in cash and kind donations to assist families that have been affected.

Other Actors

KRCS continues to work with the Military, National Youth Service (NYS), National Disaster Management Unit (NDMU), National Disaster Management Operation Centre (NDOC), Kenya Police, Kenya Defence Forces (KDF), Amani Counsellors, Nairobi City County (NCC), Nairobi Construction Authority (NCA), St. John's ambulance among others.

Immediate need

- Search and Rescue, tracing and Restoration of family links
- Shelter needs and food for the affected families
- Cash to enable the displaced families get immediate rent.
- Psychosocial support and Assistive devices (crutches, wheel chairs etc)

Outlook for the next 24 hours

The latest forecast (KMD) indicates that heavy rains are expected to continue being experienced over Western, Nyanza, the Rift Valley, and the Central Highlands including the parts of Nairobi and Northern Kenya. The Huruma operation is continuing and will probably continue to tomorrow.



KRCS Emergency Numbers

- KRCS hotline : **1199 / +254 700 395 395/ +254 738 395 395**
- Tracing hotline : **+254 715 820 219**

Completed by: Diana Moraa and Leila Chepkemboi

Approved by: Kioko Kiilu, Preparedness Manager

Date: 02/05/16