

### **Floods: Residents Count Losses**

Turkana East District, in North Rift region of Kenya has experienced torrential rains and floods that have claimed lives, displaced populations and shuttered infrastructure worth millions of shillings.



*At least three schools have been destroyed by floods in Turkana East District*

Over the last two weeks, heavy rains and floods have been reported in more than 15 districts in Kenya, mostly in the North Rift, South Rift, West Kenya, Lower Eastern and Nairobi. Three more human lives lost due to floods were confirmed in Turkana Central on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2010. So far, the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) search and rescue teams have confirmed 24 human deaths and more than 6,000 livestock killed by raging floods.

Daniel Ekal, 30, a resident of Loiyo village in Turkana East District lost three houses and all household goods, which were swept away by the floods when a nearby canal burst its banks and flooded their camp.

?I lost my iron-roofed house and two huts. The floods swept away my goats, killing one goat and breaking the legs of another,? said Ekal, who is disabled in both legs, when he went to seek help at the KRCS Turkana Branch Office.

The Branch Coordinator, Edung Ethuro, is coordinating distribution of relief aid to residents in Lokori and other parts of the district. However, the enormity of the problem means more aid will be required to address the needs of more than 4,000 households in the larger Turkana district.

Also at the KRCS Branch Office, was a student from a nearby school, which was extensively damaged by floods, seeking assistance as he had lost all books and his primary school certificate.



*Residents move to safer grounds in Turkana East*

Hundreds of people are now camping on higher grounds and in dire need of relief aid.

At least 70,000 people have been affected by the current floods, with 30,000 of them requiring urgent relief assistance, said the KRCSS Secretary General, Abbas Gullet, during a press briefing at the Society's offices in Nairobi.

### **Damages**

In Turkana East District, floods in Lokori division destroyed two canals, draining water into the irrigation schemes and villages of Morulem, Lokubae, Katilia, and Elelea.



*Submerged and destroyed houses in Turkana East*

Most areas of the division are inaccessible by road, leaving air intervention as the only means to reach hundreds of those marooned in Lomoyenakwan, Kidewa, Nalikotolem and Kakolenyatuny. Some of the affected communities have been evacuated to Kangitit, which is a higher ground, while some are camping at Lokori RCEA Church.

More than 800 acres of sorghum and maize crops in Katilu and Nakwamoru irrigation schemes were washed away by floods, that also swept away five bridges, destroyed 6,664 houses, two schools and two health centres.

The latest assessment by the KRCS teams indicate the following impact of floods in Turkana East District

#### Demographic Data

Area affected	Population _	Population affected	Households
Morulem	12,000	8,000	1,330
Lokwii	7,500	5,000	833
Lotubae	7,000	2,000	334
Katilia	4,000	2,528	421
Elelea	6,500	3,300	580
Lopeduru	9,491	3,660	656
Lokorkor	800	300	50
Nakukulas	5,000	212	45
<b>Totals</b>	<b>50,291</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>4,249</b>

#### Loss of Livestock

Area	Shoats	Cattle	Donkeys	Camels
Morulem	548	50	15	25
Lokwii	933	5	6	28
Lotubae	250	150	7	65
Katilia	500	230	19	10
Elelea	1,500	35	25	40
Lopeduru	1,250	50	12	98
Lokorkor	-	43	-	-
Nakukulas	75	4	2	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5,056</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>268</b>

#### Fatalities and loss of infrastructure

Area	Death	Health facility	Roads	Bridges	HH	Schools
Morulem	-	1	Entire	5	4,000	1
Lokwii	3	1	Entire	-	1,500	-
Lotubae	-	-	Entire	-	200	1
Katilia	-	-	Entire	-	800	-
Elelea	-	1	Entire	-	1,200	1
Lopeduru	2	-	Fair	-	680	-
Lokorkor	-	-	Fair	-	300	-
Nakukulas	-	-	Fair	-	13	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>8,693</b>	<b>3</b>

Three more deaths were confirmed in Turkana Central, bring the number of those who have lost their lives to eight (8).

Kenya Red Cross Society personnel are working closely with the World vision which offered

to transport NFIs from Ministry of Special programme from Kisumu to Lokori. At least 1,500 bags of maize have been donated by the Government to be distributed to the affected people.

The KRCS has set up a relief team that has moved to Lokori, comprising of volunteers from Bungoma, Trans Nzoia, West Pokot, Uasin Gishu and Turkana branches. The initial consignment of NFIs has reached Lokori and was to be distributed after verification of the beneficiaries by the relief teams and the provincial administration. The items can cater for the needs of 450 families.

The Society will also transport relief food from Lodwar National Cereals and Produce Board stores to Lokori displaced victims since many are starving after moving from their areas.

A medical team comprising of 1 doctor, 3 nurses, 1 PHO, 1 CO, 1 Nutritionist, 1 pharmacist drugs and equipment for a mobile clinic, 1 volunteer cholera kit, 1000 bottles of paracetamol syrup, 1IEHK kit with ant malarial drugs and other assorted drugs, 2 universal FA kits, 2 mobile clinics set up equipment and materials have been dispatched to Lokori.

### **Floods in South Rift**

In South Rift Region, some 961 households have been affected by floods, with a population of 4,838 people. The worst affected areas are Mogotio and Rongai districts (136h/h with 1,005 people), Marigat (555h/h with 2724 people), Naivasha (150 h/h with 509 people), Narok township (43h/h with 215 people) and Narok Suswa area (77 h/h with 385 people).

The KRCS has distributed non-food items to the most affected areas in the region and more relief has been dispatched. Those affected in Naivasha and Suswa in Narok are yet to receive assistance. KRCS has been assisting and responding in the worst hit areas in Mogotio and Rongai Districts in South Rift.

Relief food distributed in the region includes maize flour (5,736kg), vegetable oil (342 litres) and salt (220kg).

In Marigat District floods **555 households** have been directly affected by floods with a total population **2,724 people**. Some people had moved to nearby Ng'ambo Primary School and churches to seek temporary, unfortunately the school has also been marooned in flood waters.

*(Updates from other regions to be posted soon).*