

HIGHLIGHTS

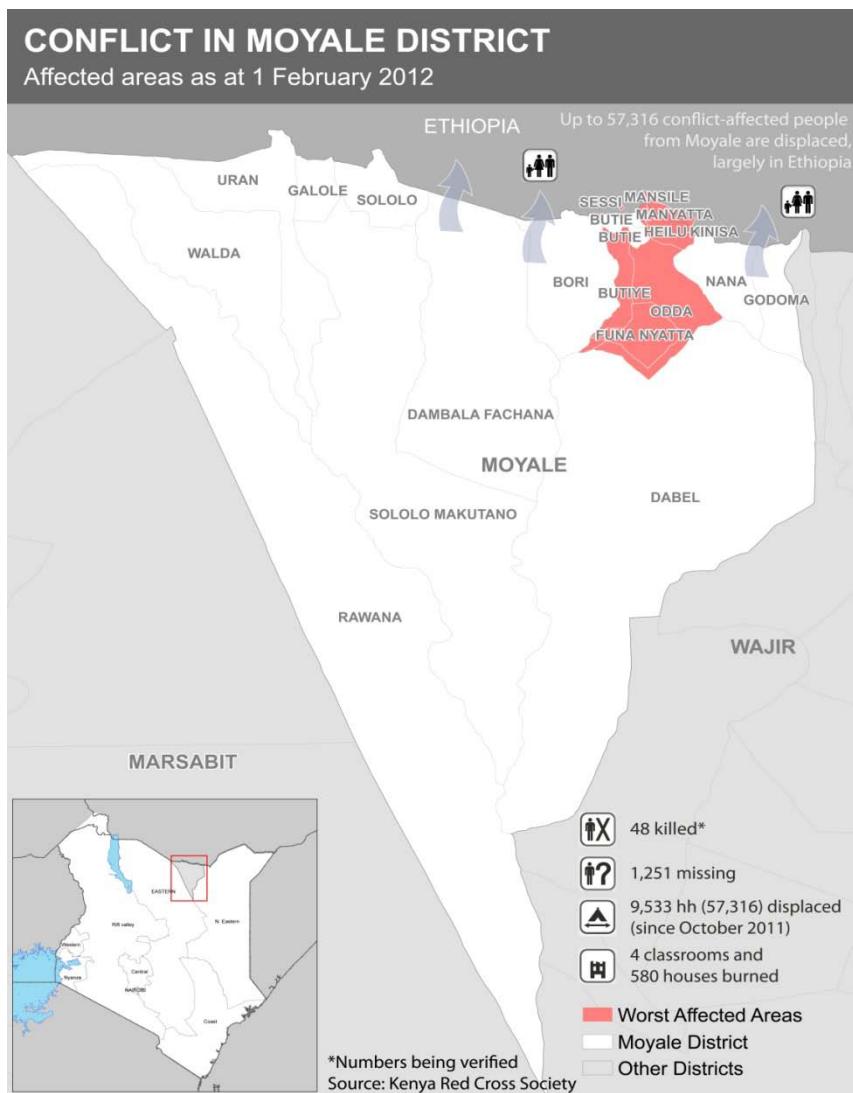
- Food security improves in Turkana, but malnutrition remains high in north-eastern Kenya.
- Conflict in Moyale escalates with more than 21 killed in January; up to 57,000 people displaced, some to Ethiopia.
- Political leaders urge Kenyans to remain calm as the ICC confirms criminal charges against four Kenyans for the 2007/08 post-election violence.
- IEBC concludes public hearings amidst protests from Central Province and Moyale.

I. Situation Overview

Conflict in Moyale district escalated in January with at least 21 people killed, thousands displaced and up to 57,316 displaced, many of whom have fled to Ethiopia for safety, according to reports from the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS), UN agencies and media. The KRCS says 48 people have been killed in Moyale since October but caution that figures are still being verified. The scale of displacement into Ethiopia is also still being verified. The current spate of violent revenge attacks largely involves the Borana and Gabra communities. Traditionally inter-clan hostilities over natural resources and livestock thefts have sparked killings, but the current violence is tied to future elections and devolved political power under Kenya's new constitution and new constituency boundaries. The National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) says the conflicts should be treated as election-related violence and called for quick and robust response. The NCIC stated that visits to Isiolo and Moyale established that the ongoing conflicts are politically motivated in anticipation of the 2012 election and called for urgency in addressing the tensions.

The KRCS reports that the worst-affected areas include Illadu, Kinisa, Mansile, Odha, Heilu, Arosa, Funan Nyata Butiye and Sessi. The insecurity has impacted on humanitarian access and has limited the ability of operational agencies to provide relief and assess humanitarian needs.

The Independent Electoral Boundaries Commission (IEBC) closed a 21-day period of public hearings on new electoral boundaries and constituencies. The public hearings proceeded successfully but were marred by physical confrontations in Muranga and Lagdera constituencies where supporters from neighbouring communities demanded that new boundaries be redefined. The IEBC is reviewing public feedback and



will present a report to Parliament to pass the bill on new constituencies in readiness for the next general elections.

The International Criminal Court (ICC) on 23 January confirmed charges to try four of the six Kenyans accused of bearing the largest responsibility in orchestrating violence after the 2007 Presidential elections. The Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Uhuru Kenyatta, Member of Parliament William Ruto, radio journalist Joshua Arap Sang and Head of Public Service Francis Muthaura may face trial at the Hague, pending appeal. The ICC dismissed charges against the former Police Commissioner Mohammed Hussein Ali and the former Minister for Industrialisation Henry Kosgey because of insufficient evidence. The confirmation of charges sparked public debate in Kenya on whether the accused still holding public offices should resign. On 26 January, Kenyatta and Muthaura resigned from their public functions, although Kenyatta retains the position of Deputy Prime Minister. The NCIC joined political leaders to urge Kenyans to remain calm and stressed at public rallies and media briefings that the accused are still presumed innocent until proven guilty. Two of the accused, Kenyatta and Ruto, are potentially key political candidates in the next elections.

Prime Minister Raila Odinga has called for an end to demolitions of houses in Nairobi's slums after violent clashes between residents of Mukuru kwa Njenga in Nairobi and police left three people dead. On 28 January, violent clashes erupted after houses were demolished in Mukuru kwa Njenga. Residents claim they were not notified of the demolitions, which left hundreds homeless. Authorities have conducted a spate of demolitions in locations that have sprung up or encroached on government land near installations such as the airport or military bases. Most often, the poor who have settled in Nairobi's slums are left in the open with no alternative land or housing provided after demolitions take place. There are some 168 informal settlements in Nairobi that are home to over two million people. According to UN-Habitat, residents of Nairobi's informal settlements constitute 55 per cent of the city's total population but are crowded on 5 per cent of the total habitable land area in the city.

II. Food Security Update and other humanitarian concerns

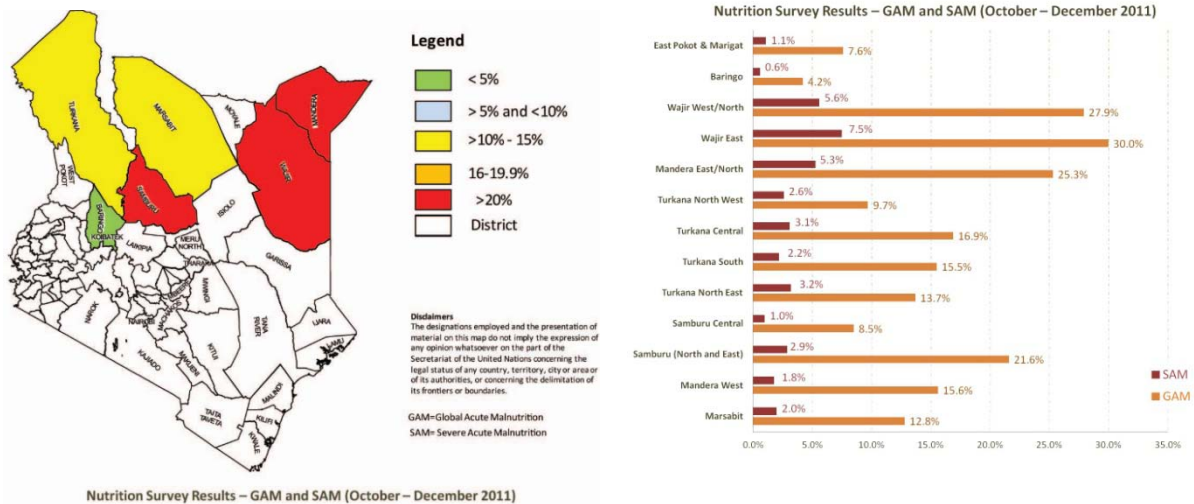
Agriculture and Livestock: The Kenya Food Security Steering Group is undertaking training of humanitarian agencies set to conduct the Short Rains food security assessment (SRA) for the October-December Short Rains. The SRA will take place from 6 to 24 February. Food security conditions have generally improved across Kenya after near-normal rains that led to pasture regeneration and improved water access in pastoral areas. There are currently an estimated 3.75 million people in need of assistance related to food insecurity; the number is likely to be modified after the SRA, whose results will be released in mid March.

In 2011, FAO, in partnership with NGOs and the Government of Kenya, reached some 250,000 households (1.5 million people) in the following drought-related activities: support to animal health; drought-resistant crop production and storage; irrigation; and natural resource management. Furthermore, some 200 government and NGO staff were trained in animal health and crop production. Through weekly radio training, 6,000 individuals were certified in dairy production, with weekly listenership to the radio shows pegged at 1.2 million people. Priority areas in 2012 largely remain the same, with greater emphasis on empowering communities in natural resource management and through livelihood diversification.

The Youth Enterprise Fund in the Ministry of Youth Affairs is set to construct 420 greenhouses across the country in a food security strategy that is aimed at luring youth to engage in profitable farming. The Fund is expected to target 5,000 youth to create jobs and contribute to improving food security in the country. The greenhouses will have a drip irrigation system, seeds, crop protection, a sprayer and a nursery set. The programme, dubbed *agrivijana*, is also expected to provide loan services in to youth groups to allow them to buy their own greenhouses and receive appropriate training and equipment to engage in farming.

Nutrition: According to nutrition survey results released by UNICEF, there is a significant reduction in malnutrition in Turkana and Marsabit, linked primarily to the broad network of outreach sites and measures such as blanket supplementary feeding programmes and general food distributions by UN agencies, Government, Kenyans4Kenyans initiative and several NGO partners. In contrast, a lack of improvement in nutrition conditions was found in Wajir, which UNICEF attributed to a variety of factors, including: rains, which resulted in flooding, loss of livelihood assets and disruption of transport; a break in the supplementary feeding programme pipeline in October and November 2011, affecting the treatment of 5,089 moderately malnourished children; and insecurity, resulting in the disruption of nutrition services at various locations. Other factors noted were morbidity and poor

hygiene and sanitation. UNICEF anticipates improvements in food security in pastoral north and north-east regions as livestock return, leading to milk availability and better terms of trade.



Food: In December, WFP reached more than 2.2 million drought-affected people in the arid lands regions of Kenya. Food distributions reached a greater number of people in December compared to October and November as road conditions improved. Close to 1.3 million drought-affected people were assisted with general food rations and more than 457,000 people received food in return for asset creation. Significant amounts of cash were transferred to more than 367,000 beneficiaries who participated in cash assistance programmes. Also in December, the first unconditional cash transfers were made to about 79,000 people in Machakos, Narok and Nyeri North.

WASH: The roll-out of sub-national coordination trainings to counties/districts has begun. Turkana, Pokot and Baringo were covered in the first session (17-19 January) and Mandera, Wajir, Garissa and Tana River counties in the second (22-26 January). Participants included District Water Officers, District Public Health officers and NGO members of district Water and Environmental Sanitation Coordination teams (WESCOORDs). Training in a further 14 districts is planned for February/March. The sector noted that its strategy of pre-positioning WASH non-food items (NFIs) in district public health offices to support displaced populations proved successful in western Kenya during recent floods, and in districts such as Isiolo following violence-related displacement. With early recovery and resilience building a priority for 2012, WESCOORD held a "Sand Rivers" symposium on 2 February in Nairobi to discuss appropriate drylands technologies.

Health: The Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation (MoPHS) and the World Health Organization (WHO) are conducting drought-related disaster response and risk reduction activities in northern and north-eastern Kenya; the northern districts of Eastern and Rift Valley Provinces; as well districts in lower Eastern Province. AMREF, Christian Health Association in Kenya, German Agro Action, and Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUPKEM) supported by the German International Cooperation (GIZ) have supported the implementation of the following activities: vaccination of children under age 5 for measles and poliomyelitis with 260,000 children reached; replacement of gas-driven fridges with solar-powered fridges; provision of both therapeutic and supplementary feeding in the health facilities in eight districts in northern Kenya. Other interventions include procurement of basic laboratory equipment and reagents, and training of health personnel in diagnosis and management of infectious diseases in Turkana, Samburu and Marsabit counties. Training on the use of hygiene kits has also been provided. To facilitate prompt communication in the counties in the arid and semi-arid areas, WHO and GIZ are equipping health facilities with e-data reporting equipment.

Seven new cases of measles in Narok North and South have been reported in 2012. These were all confirmed by the reference laboratory in Nairobi. The MoPHS, supported by WHO, the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC) and KEMRI are conducting active disease surveillance for infectious diseases in drought-impacted areas. Currently there are no major disease outbreaks. Meanwhile, since the beginning of the year, WHO has supplied cholera surveillance kits to Isiolo, Masabit, Moyale, Turkana, Wajir, Mandera and Garissa districts.

Protection: At the Protection Working Group (PWG) in Eldoret, the IDP network leadership in North Rift Valley informed the meeting that the Ministry of State for Special Programmes had advised them to validate

the names of beneficiaries in districts where they received the Government stipend during Operation *Rudi Nyumbani* ("Return Home") so that those whose names appear on the register and have not received any money can follow up on payments. The network asked the chair to have the names posted on district notice boards for transparency. The Eldoret PWG urged the PWG advocacy group at national level to continue advocating for the resettlement of remaining IDPs and to ensure durable solutions before the next elections. There are some 6,200 households still displaced from the 2007/08 post-election violence (PEV) who continue to live in poor camp conditions and receive little humanitarian assistance. President Mwai Kibaki reiterated the urgency with which the Government is treating the resettlement of PEV IDPs after the ICC confirmed charges against four Kenyans.

Cross-Cutting issues

i). Urban Vulnerability : The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Task Force on Meeting Humanitarian Challenges in Urban Areas in Geneva is reviewing the Kenya Multi-Hazard Response Plan developed through the Consultative Forum on Urban Vulnerability. OCHA presented to the IASC Task Force current developments in urban vulnerability and response principally in Nairobi's informal settlements. The work in Kenya is complementary to the UN-HABITAT Urban Vulnerability discussion and demonstrates the field application and impacts of many of the concepts and recommendations for improved urban vulnerability assessment. Donor interest in supporting elements of the Kenya Multi-Hazard Response Plan has increased in anticipation of upcoming elections in Kenya. Mapping of urban vulnerability actors and their specific responses remains a priority. FAO and UN-HABITAT-Geneva offices have agreed to work together to communicate this work on urban vulnerability in Kenya to the IASC Working Group on Preparedness to inform the country selection for planned field assessments and capacity building efforts by both groups in enhanced emergency preparedness for urban areas.

ii). Protection Against Sexual Exploitation : The Network on Protection Against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), is writing its Phase 1 report from a Joint Organization Self-Assessment on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Prevention and Response. Phase 1 of the exercise covered Turkana Central (Lodwar) and West (Kakuma). Phase 2 will target urban settings, drought and conflict-affected regions of Kenya. Preliminary findings from the review show many prior PSEA initiatives and efforts have been centered around Kenya's refugee camps, with significant work since 2003. However, this has not filtered across agencies or informed the work of other humanitarian and development programmes, even with the current high delivery of aid in response to the drought, conflict and refugee crisis. As such, a priority for the Network is to develop outreach publications and advocacy strategies targeting these locations. The Network is led by the KRCS and the United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator through OCHA.

III. Conflict Update

Clashes between communities in Moyale, Turkana and Isiolo have left 76 people dead in January, up to 57,000 people displaced, houses burnt down and hundreds of livestock stolen. In addition to the Moyale



clashes reported above, conflict ensued between Pokots and Turkanas in West Pokot in three separate incidents in January alone, leaving several people injured, one person abducted and hundreds of livestock stolen. In Marsabit, tension is reported to be high after a series of inter-communal attacks amongst the Borana, Rendille, Gabra, and Burji groups. UN security sources say that at least five people have been killed since the attacks started on 7 January. In Isiolo, inter-communal clashes erupted again between the Turkana and Borana/Somali groups; on 20 January, two people were killed by suspected assailants and on 24 January fighting erupted in the area over the movement of livestock. In northeastern Mandera, increased tension is reported between Degodia and Garreh clans.

VI. Multi-Sector Assistance to Refugees

There are 463,200 refugees registered in Dadaab, according to UNHCR statistics of 27 January. Registration of new arrivals remains on hold as per Government directives. UNHCR field teams, together with camp management agencies and refugee leaders, are currently in the process of establishing the number of new arrivals in all sites. The 1,324 unregistered new arrivals identified during the headcount conducted by the Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) in December and those that are identified as new arrivals since the headcount have continued to receive food from WFP. In addition, a rapid verification exercise in all Dadaab camps is planned to be conducted in the first half of 2012. UNHCR is currently forming a cross-sectoral working group to plan and prepare for that activity.

The Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Assembly of Heads of State and Government held its 20th Extra-Ordinary Summit Meeting in Addis Ababa on 27 January and “urge(d) humanitarian agencies to encourage voluntary repatriation of refugees to the liberated areas of Somalia”, according to an IGAD communiqué. Some spontaneous returns to Somalia from Dadaab have been reported and attributed to good rains in the October-December rain season and increased insecurity in Dadaab.

For further information, please contact:
Mr. Aeneas Chuma, Humanitarian Coordinator

OCHA Eastern Africa
Ben Parker, parkerb@un.org, Interim Head of Office, Tel. +254 733 860082
Thandie Mwape, mwapet@un.org, Humanitarian Affairs Officer/Reporting and Analysis, Tel: +254728601291

More information available at www.unocha.org and www.reliefweb.int