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## CHEPs DROUGHT & FAMINE RELIEF

### Food distribution



**Sponsor: Comfort Aid International & Beta Charitable Trust**

**2017**

## Background

Over 2.6 million Kenyans are suffering from extreme thirst and hunger due to the protracted drought, which has been declared a national disaster. Having lost their source of food and water with the drying of their crops, and water sources, masses of people risk losing their lives if no intervention is put in place.

Surveys conducted by our team in various parts of the country have revealed a desperate situation. Scattered animal carcasses and malnourished people are a common scene. Children and women are seen on the roadside begging for food and water handouts from commuters. Schools are recording poor attendance, as children travel far with their families in search of these precious commodities. Victims are forced to share the little available contaminated water with animals, leading to water-borne diseases. The elderly and weak are left behind at the mercy of well wishers and occasional government relief food.

In order to avert potential loss of lives CHEPs, through support from Comfort Aid International and Beta Charitable Trust, set out to distribute a total of 20 tons of food to some of the most affected areas in the country. We identified desperate villages in Garissa and Tanariver Counties as suitable and deserving beneficiaries for the sponsored food. A small amount of surplus food left from the Tanariver allocation was thereafter distributed in Chakama location of Kilifi County, specifically to elderly beneficiaries.



Map borrowed and modified from [www.vidiani.com](http://www.vidiani.com)

## Garissa County food distribution

Garissa County is one of the three counties that make up the arid North Eastern Region of Kenya. The County is internationally famous for hosting Dadaab refugee camps, which house over 250,000 Somali refugees, making it the largest refugee camp complex in the world. Garissa has a total population of over 620,000 people, most of whom live nomadic lives.

CHEPs managed to distribute food in 5 of the worst affected villages in Garissa, close to Kenya's border with Somalia. Our team distributed **7 tons of food** including rice, beans, oil, dates and flour, to a total of **392 households** living in the villages and **2 learning institutions** as follows:

1. Deiso 1 village – 100 households
2. Dadere village – 130 households
3. Deiso 2 village – 64 households
4. Abdiluge village – 24 households
5. Raya village – 74 households
6. Mama Hani orphanage – 74 disabled orphans
7. Ibnul Mubarak junior academy- Over 100 orphans

As we moved around the remote villages, dryness and desperation was the common scene. We drove past a number of water pans that were dry, malnourished herds of cattle, and wilted crops.



Loading food onto the lorry



Departing from Garissa town



Lorry breaks down enroute to villages



Distribution at Dadere village





Visiting Farah Qurio, a disabled elderly man



Visiting Jubat Yartow, a blind elderly man



Deiso 1 village



Deiso 2 village



Deiso 1 village



Raya village



Abdiluge village



Food donated to Mama Hani orphanage



A disabled child assists in ofloading food



Ibnul Mubarak Junior academy which has an orphans' wing

### Food distribution in Tana River County

Tana River is one of the 47 counties in Kenya, and one of the worst hit by the current drought. Having a population estimated at over 240,000 people, the community is mostly pastoralists and subsistent farmers. CHEPs managed to distribute food to 4 of the most affected villages in Tana River County. We distributed **3 tons of High Energy biscuits & 7.5 tons of food supplies** including rice, beans, oil and flour, to a total of **572 households** living in the villages as follows:

1. Gerasa village – 80 families
2. Cherafa & Odoganda villages – 292 families
3. Iddi Kone village - 200 families



Loading food onto the lorry



Malnourished cattle huddle together under a shrub to seek shade from the scorching sun



The widespread search for water



Gerasa village



CHEPs volunteers having a word with the villagers



Attending to a starving cow that was too weak to stand



Sharing sweets with the children



Malnourished women wait patiently in queue



Distribution in Gerasa village





As the sun set that evening, the villagers were not going to sleep hungry.

### **Food distribution in Kilifi County**

Chakama is a remote village within Kenya's Kilifi County. The community there is a needy one, living under very harsh conditions, and lacking essential needs including food, healthcare, water, electricity, and sanitation.

CHEPs distributed food that remained from the Tanariver distribution to elderly and needy people in the village. It included beans, flour and high-energy biscuits that were distributed to over **200 elderly and needy people**. In addition 3 learning institutions namely Chakama primary school, Chakama secondary schools, and Quba madrassa also received 30 boxes of 5 kg high-energy biscuits each, to support their students who commonly report to school on empty stomachs. This will provide them energy and enhance their learning.





**Summary:**

County	Food quantity	Beneficiaries
Garissa	7 tons of food	392 households & 2 institutions
Tanariver	3 tons high energy biscuits & 7.5 tons of food	572 households and
Kilifi	2 tons of high energy biscuits & 0.63 tons of food	200 elderly & needy people & 3 institutions

**Acknowledgment:**

We wish to thank Comfort Aid International & Beta Charitable Trust for sponsoring this food distribution. We look forward to more collaboration in the near future.