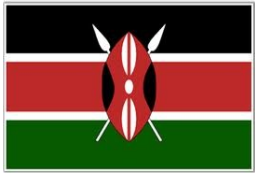




## OVERVIEW OF

# Kenya

## Overview of Kenya



YEAR OF  
**1963**  
INDEPENDENCE

POPULATION  
**38,610,097**  
MILLION

**50%**  
Population  
**BELOW**  
poverty line

**Languages** English, Kiswahili and 42 ethnic languages

**Under-five Mortality Rate:** 85 per 1,000 live births. Kenya ranks 35 in the world.

**Human Development Index (HDI)** for 2011: 0.509 (ranked 143 out of 187, indicating low human development).

## Brief History of ChildFund in Kenya

ChildFund, formerly Christian Children's Fund, first came to Kenya in the early 1960s through the Salvation Army, a religious organization. During the first 13 years, ChildFund implemented programs through partner organizations. The first office in Africa was opened in Nairobi, Kenya in 1973. This was the first of a number of programs throughout Africa. The mission then was to promote growth and well being of children by empowering families and communities to utilize available resources and opportunities for sustained benefits. This was in response to the appalling conditions of children in the country brought about by the political, economic and social realities of the time. ChildFund Kenya is currently implementing a host of projects in 51 areas of coverage that target children, across 24 counties in Kenya. The projects focus on education, health, water and sanitation, economic livelihoods and response to emergencies. ChildFund supported **54,054** enrolled children in fiscal year 2012 (FY12). In total, our programs support **1,204,725** beneficiaries who include, children (below 14 years), youth (up to 24 years old), their siblings and adults.



## Brief Program Overview

During FY12 ChildFund Kenya finalized development of its new CSP, which defines the strategic priorities and objectives the National Office wants to achieve over a period of five years. It also aligns country-specific issues and opportunities with the ChildFund International global strategy. By the end of five years of the CSP cycle, ChildFund Kenya endeavors to design and implement holistic interventions that will have great impact on the wellbeing of children and youth. To achieve this goal, ChildFund Kenya will focus on the following strategic objectives:

- **Strategic Objective 1:** To strengthen each community's capacity in prevention and management of childhood illnesses by year 2016.
- **Strategic Objective 2:** To increase access to quality care and a learning environment for children aged 0-5 by 2016.
- **Strategic Objective 3:** To increase access to HIV/AIDS prevention interventions and promote care and support for people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.
- **Strategic Objective 4:** To increase access to integrated life skills services for the youth by year 2016.
- **Strategic Objective 5:** To build strong local organizations and networks that will drive sustainable and responsive child and youth development programs by 2016.
- **Strategic Objective 6:** To streamline sponsorship processes, to enhance quality relationships between sponsored children, their families and sponsors by the end of 2016.

## 2012 Program Achievements

### 1. **Healthy and Secure Infants**

#### **Improved early childhood development and protection among ECD children**

The wellness of children largely depends on their nutritional status at any point of their life stage. It is against this backdrop ChildFund Kenya undertook growth monitoring for children aged 0-5 years so as to establish their nutrition status, thus informing appropriate decisions. Further, to respond to the nutrition needs of children, ChildFund Kenya reached children through supplementary feeding. As a result, the children's nutrition status improved as well as school retention. This will ultimately result in improved school performance of the children.

#### **Integrated management of child illnesses among school going children**

To boost children's immune system, they were provided Vitamin A supplements. This coupled with deworming enhanced the wellness of the impact population.

#### **Improved water access, hygiene & sanitation**

In efforts to reverse this situation, a number of interventions were implemented including, pipeline extensions, ECCD centers supported with water harvesting tanks, boreholes drilled and developed and earth/subsurface dams excavated.

# 2012 Program Achievements

## **Improved quality of learning and stimulation in the ECCD centers**

In a bid to improve the learning environment for children in the ECCD centers, classrooms were renovated and new ones constructed.

## **2. Educated and Confident Children**

### **Increased child participation in development and enhanced protection**

To help children become responsible in readiness for a competitive future that requires high level of resilience, teachers were trained on Aflatoun. Aflatoun is a participatory approach that encourages children to be creative through entrepreneurial activities such as networking and collaboration, advocacy, fundraising and monitoring and evaluation.

### **Increased school retention**

To attain this, ChildFund Kenya supported children with bursaries, uniforms and scholastic materials. This was aimed at improving school retention and performance. Further, to enhance girl child confidence as well her retention in school throughout school days, girls were supported with sanitary towels.

### **Improved learning environment**

To improve the learning environment for the children in primary schools, a myriad of infrastructure development projects were undertaken. Among them were construction of classrooms, dormitories and toilet facilities which increased learning space for children.



## **3. Skilled and Involved Youth**

### **Improved socioeconomic status for the beneficiary communities**

Improving the economic status of the youth as well as the entire community is a great stride towards achieving sustainable self-reliance and resilience for the most vulnerable people, especially during difficult situations, such as the recurring drought.

The methodology has been proven to be an effective tool for poverty reduction if adopted, thus securing livelihoods and making income flows into the households more predictable. This is because the methodology provides a structure, through which the very poor can collectively save, manage and invest their resources in a manner that enables them to meet their financial needs.





# 2012 Program Achievements

## Increased access to reproductive health

In an endeavor to address this challenge, ChildFund Kenya trained youth, focusing on safer sexual behavior and practices, sexuality, HIV/AIDS awareness and strengthening positive peer groups. As part of a wider plan to reach many youths with reproductive health related messages and information, youth outreaches were undertaken through the Participatory Education Theatres (PET).



## Overview: Drought Emergency Response

By the end of the first half of the year 2011, the food situation in Kenya reached alarming levels, owing to the prolonged drought spell that caused mass crop failure. Many parts of the country were affected with the drought, translating into acute shortage and exorbitant prices of food commodities. In response to the situation, ChildFund Kenya, through a drought emergency response project, joined the Government and other humanitarian agencies to conduct emergency response actions.

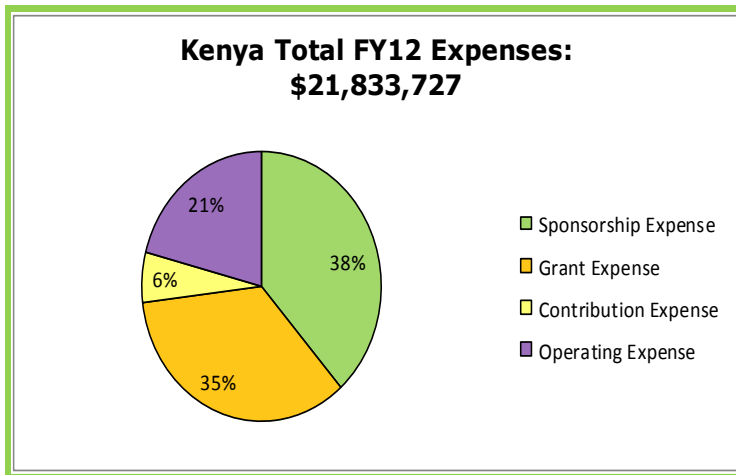


The response focused on nine program areas including Turkana, North Rift, Marsabit, Emali, Migwani in Eastern Community Development Program (ECDP), Lake Region, Mutonga in Mt Kenya, Mukuru and Nairobi Integrated Program. To address nutrition related problems, ChildFund Kenya undertook various activities including growth monitoring, deworming, vitamin A administration and supplementary feeding. In total, 47,705 children and 7,564 pregnant and lactating mothers, i.e., 95.4% children and 151.3% mothers, of the target, were reached in the nine affected areas through 522 ECCD centers.



Target Group	Target	Actual	%
Children	50,000	47,705	95.4%
Pregnant/Lactating Mothers	5,000	7,564	151.3%

# Financial Report



## Kenya FY12

Sponsorship Expense	8,399,728	38%
Grant Expense	7,555,107	35%
Contribution Expense	1,311,793	6%
Operating Expense	4,567,099	21%
Total Expense	21,833,727	100%

## Challenges

The issues that affect the children within ChildFund Kenya's areas of coverage are many, as they cut across health, nutrition, education, rights, cultural practices, causing the demand to outstrip the available resources.

The National Office has a very large geographical coverage that includes areas with poor infrastructure and at times insecurity is of great concern. This increases the cost of doing business. However, these areas have an extremely high poverty index, making it impossible for ChildFund to exit these areas.

There is weak coordination among the various agencies and the government departments dealing with child protection due to lack of policy. However, a policy has been drafted and is waiting for parliament approval.

There are great opportunities, as Kenya has a new constitution that has entrenched the Bill of Rights. This ensures that the rights of the children are well grounded in the constitution. The commitment and government's ability to implement it will be of great interest to development agencies like ChildFund.

# Why Sponsorship is Important

The overall role of sponsorship is Mentorship. This is demonstrated by helping children to accept and work for themselves, to build their self esteem and to improve their lives holistically.

"I am very proud of the support I have received; because someone very far believed in me...She (Susan) made sure there were not obstacles regarding my education, " says Kaltuma Dabaso, a 22 year-old, second year Clinical Medicine student, currently sponsored to pursue her degree.

Kaltuma comes from a small pastoral community in the East of Kenya where the education for the girl child is dire. She's the first born of a family of five children supported by her mother, who is a single parent. Kaltuma is among few girls in her Clinical Medicine class and the only one from her community. She is proud of her accomplishments and is very confident of a better future ahead. She aspires to get a good job, have a family of her own and above all, she would like to help others just like herself.



**Kaltuma Dabaso**

Richard Orenyo, who is in his late 30's, a former sponsored child from the Rera project in Western Kenya and now works in the financial management field says, "I'm humbled by the support I received many years ago. I am who I am because someone somewhere gave towards improving the life of a vulnerable child...this child is very proud and happy." He is currently a consultant in the NGO field.



**Richard Orenyo (left) and Sponsor Relations Director**