

## OVERVIEW OF

# Kenya

## Overview of Kenya



YEAR OF  
**1963**  
INDEPENDENCE

POPULATION  
**44,037,656**  
MILLION

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

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

**Under-five Mortality Rate:** 73 per 1,000 live births. Kenya ranks 38 in the world.

**Human Development Index (HDI)** for 2012: 0.519 (ranked 145 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 **52,241** enrolled children in fiscal year 2013 (FY13). In total, our programs reached **1,111,788** participants, including, children (below 14 years), youth (up to 24 years old), their siblings and adults.



## Brief Program Overview



**Healthy and secure infants:** This year's focus was on supplementary school feeding, increased access to health services for children under 5 years and implementing an improved learning environment at ECD Centers.

**Educated and confident children:** Through partnership with the Government of Kenya in providing free primary education, an improved learning environment was implemented in primary schools, increasing student retention. Awareness of child rights was also emphasized in FY13.

**Skilled and involved youth:** This year's focus included leadership and livelihood skills, youth empowerment and reproductive health.

## Where We Work



# 2013 Program Achievements

## Healthy and Secure Infants

### Supplementary/school feeding

In most of the ChildFund Kenya program areas, food security has remained a challenge. This has necessitated continuous implementation of feeding programs, targeting 0-5 year old children, mainly through Early Childhood Development (ECD) centers. During FY13, ChildFund Kenya reached 51,403 children aged below 5 years and 29,294 other vulnerable people through feeding programs.



### Increased access to health services for children

A total of 114,088 children benefited during medical camps. The services provided included immunizations, growth monitoring, deworming, nutritional counseling for mothers and treatment of childhood illnesses, including malaria and acute respiratory infections (ARIs).

### Improved learning environment at ECD Centers

Achievement of education outcomes, especially for children at a young age, is influenced by the environment within which learning and stimulation occur. In an endeavor to provide a stimulating environment for children, ChildFund Kenya constructed 10 ECD classrooms and one model ECD Center that benefited a total of 589 children. The children will have an environment that will also shield them from the vagaries of harsh climatic conditions which contribute to poor health conditions.

## Educated and Confident Children

### Improved learning environment at primary schools

Though the government of Kenya is offering free primary education, infrastructure in some schools is usually in deplorable condition, thus affecting children's academic performance. In an endeavor to improve this situation, ChildFund Kenya constructed a total of 12 classrooms. It is envisioned that with the improved classroom space, the children will be committed to learning and be motivated to perform better in their studies.



### Increased school retention for children

In the majority of ChildFund program areas, most families are resource poor and as a result children are deprived of an education, since their parents cannot afford school fees. In the case of girls, this situation is compounded by a lack of sanitary towels, causing them to miss school, which ultimately affects their academic performance. In an endeavor to address some of these challenges, ChildFund Kenya supported 3,100 children with bursaries; 1,235 girls were provided sanitary towels; and 2,785 enrolled children were provided school uniforms.

### Increased awareness of Child Rights

ChildFund Kenya trained 1,162 children and 123 teachers on child rights. Further, 7,528 children and adults were trained on Psychosocial Support. Armed with this knowledge, it is envisioned that the children and their parents will act based on their knowledge of child rights.

# 2013 Program Achievements (continued)

## Skilled and Involved Youth

### Youth Empowerment

ChildFund Kenya targeted youth with various economic empowerment interventions. A total of 800 youth were trained and supported on livelihood initiatives, such as improved crop production, to initiate small sustainable farming, improved food security and the creation of self-employment. Other youth were trained on poultry keeping and dairy goats rearing. With the acquired skills, the trained youth initiated sustainable projects which in return will increase their income levels and potential, hence sustainability.



### Reproductive Health



The majority of youth in Kenya have continue to face challenges. Recent surveys indicate that young people are becoming sexually active at a very early age, when they know little about the subject and hardly know how to protect themselves. The dangers of unprotected sex are numerous among youth, including unwanted pregnancies and contracting of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs). In an endeavor to address these challenges, a total of 76 outreaches were undertaken reaching a total of 12,197 youth. This is in addition to reaching 1,584 through reproductive health training. With this knowledge, it is envisioned that there will be increased uptake of protective measures among the youth, hence reduction on sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevalence.

## Families and Communities Networked

### Farmer groups supported with livelihood initiative capital

ChildFund Kenya has continuously worked towards strengthening the families and communities where the enrolled children come from. During FY13, a total of 880 farmers were trained on livelihoods. This included improved dairy goat production, improved crop production

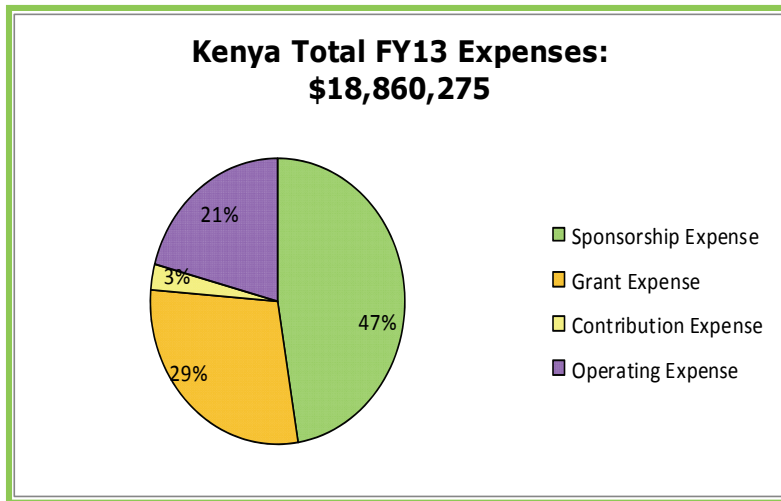


methods and poultry



keeping. The trained farmers are expected to utilize the skills gained to attain food security and family income to meet other basic needs. This training has been a key component in improving the livelihood of farmers who put into practice the acquired techniques.

# Financial Report



## Kenya FY13

Sponsorship Expense	8,945,692	47%
Grant Expense	5,440,474	29%
Contribution Expense	548,541	3%
Operating Expense	3,925,568	21%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>18,860,276</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Challenges

The wide geographical area and poor infrastructure in most of ChildFund Kenya's areas of operation still remain a challenge in terms of coverage and cost.

The recurrent drought situation poses a challenge in some of the areas, as the cost of basic commodities and food reduces participant's purchasing power.

However, there are prospects around current government actions. The Government of Kenya is currently focusing on the devolved government, as part of the implementation of the new constitution, to ensure that the structures and systems are fully operational. This will provide a significant opportunity for Local Partners, as there will be funds they can tap into for scaling up the area programs.

# Why Sponsorship is Important

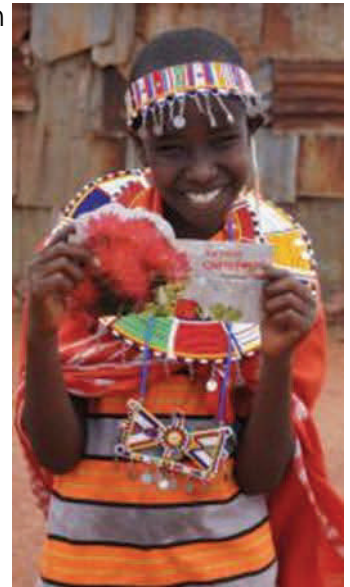
Jackline lives with her parents and siblings in Emali, east of the city of Nairobi. The area is often dry and dusty with little rainfall throughout the year. She comes from the Maasai pastoral community that keep cows and goats as their livelihood. When the rains fail, their livelihood is at risk and their family will seek all means to ensure the animals get water and pasture, even if this means moving far away.



ChildFund through sponsorship, has supported Jackline's family with farming equipment and a goat. Also, they have access to a water borehole. This reduces the stress that may be experienced with drought or failed rains.

**Jackline, 8 years old & her mother** *"The drought really devastates us and more so the community at large; our animals, which are our livelihood, died. Now with the borehole and the support from ChildFund we have a sense of hope,"* says Jackline's mother.

As she holds a Christmas card from her sponsor, Jackline has every reason to smile and is happy for the support she is receiving.



**Jackline, with Christmas card from her Sponsor**