



Islamic Relief Kenya

2019 Annual Report

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Published by:
Islamic Relief Kenya
Kirichwa Road, Off Ngong Road,
P.O Box 417 - 00202 KNH, Nairobi
+254 727 531 220/ +254 734 740 074
Email: info@islamic-relief.or.ke
www.islamic-relief.or.ke

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About Islamic Relief Kenya

Islamic Relief Kenya (IRK) began its work in Kenya through a one-to-one Orphan Sponsorship Programme in 1993. IRK is locally registered with the Kenya NGO Board (Reg. No. 218/051/204/0374/3386) and is governed by a Board of Directors comprising Kenyan and international members. IRK is an affiliate of Islamic Relief Worldwide, an international NGO established in Birmingham, UK in 1984. IRK projects span emergency and longer term development support for marginalized communities across Kenya including Mandera, Wajir, Garissa, Kilifi and Marsabit Counties. IRK works with vulnerable communities living in poverty and exclusion to end poverty and injustice by building the capacity of the women and youth to adapt to the effects of climate change and sustainable livelihoods.

While Islamic Relief's (IR) work is faith inspired, IR is an independent, non-profit, non-political, non-partisan development organisation that does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, ethnicity or gender. This commitment is also enshrined in global accords and partnerships – IR is a signatory to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement; adheres to the Core Humanitarian Standards, the Sphere Standards for Humanitarian Action. IRW is also a member of the START Network and the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC).

Vision

We envisage a caring world where communities are empowered, social obligations fulfilled and people respond as one to the suffering of others.

Mission

Exemplifying our Islamic values we will mobilize resources, build partnerships and develop local capacity as we work to:

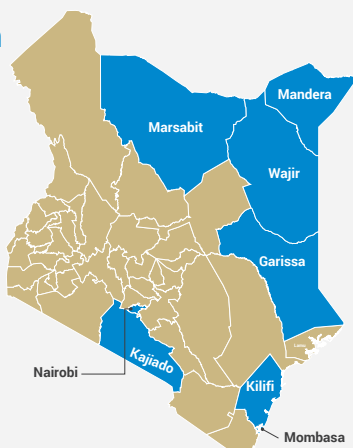
- Enable communities to mitigate the effect of disasters, prepare for their occurrence and respond by providing relief, protection and recovery.
- Promote integrated development and environmental custodianship with a focus on sustainable livelihoods.
- Support the marginalized and vulnerable to voice their needs and address root causes of poverty.

We allocate these resources regardless of race, political affiliation, gender or belief, and without expecting anything in return.

Values








Areas of Operation



Timeline

1993:	Mandera
2006:	Nairobi, Mandera
2010:	Wajir
2011:	Garissa/Dadaab
2017:	Kilifi
2018:	Marsabit/Kajiado

Humanitarian Situation in 2019

	<h2>2030</h2>  <p>Year Kenya plans to cross over to the upper middle-income country from a low middle-income country.</p>	<h2>Disasters</h2>  <p>Recurrent natural and stochastic events such as floods, long droughts and animal and crop diseases.</p>
<h2>Insecurity</h2>  <p>is extreme especially along the borders with Somalia - Mandera and Garissa.</p>	<h2>Conflict</h2>  <p>between clans in Mandera and other countries such as Tana River led to huge displacement especially in Mandera.</p>	

Good Practices

Cash as a modality of humanitarian assistance

In 2019, IRK provided drought-affected families in Mandera, Wajir and Garissa Counties with cash transfers. By increasing their purchasing power, families had a greater degree of choice in meeting their immediate basic needs according to their preferences. Provision of cash also improved the status of women and marginalized groups while in turn boosting local markets and trade. Families purchased food, water, healthcare services, livestock and agricultural products. Humanitarian assistance was timely, cost-effective, efficient and effective.

Climate-smart initiatives

IRK continued to integrate climate-smart initiatives in our programming. Agro-solar irrigation technology, a combination of solar power to pump water and precision irrigation enabled small-holder farmers to overcome the harsh weather conditions and chronic lack of rainfall. Solar energy is used to pump water from a shallow well, and the water is then dripped sparingly and precisely onto each individual plant through drip irrigation. The farmers are using 80% less water, incurring 75% lower running costs than traditional diesel-run irrigation systems while achieving higher yields of up to 70%.

Integrated Community Resilience Programming

IRK's integrated approach simultaneously addresses multi-sectorial development gaps, transitioning communities to resilience. IRK supported the communities in Garissa County by addressing the healthcare, education and water accessibility challenges. Solar powered water facilities developed and water pipelines extended to schools, health facilities and community water points improved access to clean water and minimised pollution. Monthly outreaches, health camps and equipped rural health facilities have enabled women and children to access ante-natal care services, immunisation and nutrition screening. To improve school enrolment and retention, IRK supported 10 schools with learning desks, reading materials, construction of 6 classrooms and renovation of 14 classrooms. 4 special needs schools were equipped with assistive devices, teaching and learning materials.

2019 Milestones at a Glance

36,820

Humanitarian and
Emergency Response;

17,880  |  18,940

87,606

Qurbani and Ramadan;

37,976  |  48,630

4,459

Peace Building and
Conflict Resolution;

2,947  |  1,512

2,837

Food Security and
Livelihood;

1,362  |  1,475

3,000

Youth Empowerment;

1,724  |  1,276

23,292

WASH;

10,761  |  12,531

322

Micro-Finance;

151  |  171

3,035

Orphan Sponsorship;

1,630  |  1,405

5,860

Education;

3,828  |  2,032

45,172

Health and Nutrition;

14,266  |  26,086

Rights Holders Reached in 2019:

212,403

Programme Achievements

Goal 1:

Reducing the humanitarian impact of conflicts and natural disasters.

In 2019, IRK continued to respond to the on-going drought in Kenya and supported people affected by new conflicts in Mandera County, Kenya. We built the resilience of communities at risk of disaster and strengthened the local capacity to respond to emergencies.

We responded to the humanitarian emergency needs in North-Eastern region of Kenya by providing immediate, relevant and timely lifesaving support through unconditional cash transfer. Our efforts supported over 36,000 individuals to cushion themselves from the adverse effects of the drought. We also repaired boreholes and used trucks to bring water to communities. Families in Mandera, Garissa and Wajir were able to fulfill their basic needs of food and clean water for domestic and livestock use.

Twice a year during the Islamic festivals of Eid, Islamic Relief Kenya distributes food to people who regularly suffer from food shortages. In 2019, we delivered food parcels to benefit over 80,000 right holders in Mandera, Wajir and Garissa Counties during Ramadan and Qurbani.

Meanwhile, IRK continued working with communities in Mandera, Kenya, through our peace building partnership with SIDA. A key focus in 2019 was recognising the role of women in peace building during conflict. We engaged women to form peace councils, as leaders to champion for peace in regular radio broadcasts and so in advocacy walks, ensuring women have a powerful voice in peace forums.



2019 in brief:

36,000

people received unconditional cash transfers. The right holders increased their purchasing power to meet their immediate needs.

4

community peace dialogues facilitated over scarce natural resources at the Kenyan border of Mandera County after 22 people lost their lives in the incidences

692

right holders formed women and youth peace councils and took part in 2 conflict resolution processes in 2 sub-counties of Mandera County. They received training to build their capacity on conflict resolution and peaceful co-existence.

293

youth and women took part in 4 advocacy campaigns to challenge negative stereotypes, raise awareness on human rights and promote peace.

3

sporting events and 1 peace rally facilitated to promote peace and co-existence between conflicting communities. This has resulted in improved interactions and behavioral attitude between youth and security personnel.

90

group savings associations formed to nurture a savings culture by the members.

Goal 2:

Empowering communities to get out of poverty and chronic vulnerability.

In 2019, IRK was unwavering in delivering lasting change to communities living in the marginalised north eastern and coastal regions of Kenya. We improved access to basic services like food, education, healthcare, water and sanitation. IRK also supported families to achieve reliable livelihoods and access available opportunities through education.



Fighting Hunger through Sustainable Farming

Rain-fed agriculture and pastoralism is proving to be difficult under current climatic conditions. Erratic weather conditions and recurrent drought, has led to more people seeking alternative livelihood options. In Kenya, we have geared our efforts towards irrigated farming and innovations in Arid and semi-Arid areas. In 2019, food security improved when families received seeds, farming tools, training and reduced distance to water sources. A combination of solar power to pump and precision irrigation supports small-holder farmers to overcome the harsh conditions and chronic lack of rainfall. Women and youth mobilised into savings and loans associations increased their self-sufficiency, thereby reducing the community's vulnerability, building their resilience to disasters and improving their livelihoods.

100 farmers in the production of high-value fruits and vegetables joined to form the Sharif Mendera Irrigation Farmers Cooperative Society. Islamic Relief Kenya has invested in their education and training for enhanced technical and operational skills. The members have improved their farming practices, adopting new farming innovations and cultivation techniques for improved crop production and higher yields. As a cooperative, the farmers have tapped into the economies of scale, improved market access and marketing efficiency for increased sales.

"We have only just began to realise and unlock our potential as farmers in Mendera County. We harvested 13,350 Kilograms of onions from our farm in one season of 3-4 months, earning 9,345 that increased our income by 50% while making a profit of 35%. We can now meet our various household obligations, expand our farming business. We are thankful to Allah for blessing us," said Mr Ahmed, a committee member of the cooperative society.



2019 in brief:

40

farmers trained on fish farming to diversify livelihoods and nutrition in Garashi, Kilifi County.

409

farmers trained on best agronomical farming practices in the Arid and Semi-Arid regions of Mendera and Kilifi Counties.

Farmers received training on community disease reporting in Moyale sub-County.

250

school-going girls in Area village, Mendera County received hygiene kits to improve their confidence, reduce absenteeism and improve attendance during their menstrual cycle.

14
(5,000
Litres)

plastic tanks installed, 2 boreholes drilled and 3 shallow wells rehabilitated to boost water accessibility for increased farming during drought

"Our women and girls walked 17 kilometres to Dirtu village and up to 42 kilometres to Dadaab Town in search of water. We were thirsty and Islamic Relief gave us water. We are so grateful because we now have a borehole that gives us enough water to sustain our families even during the dry seasons. We previously used a diesel powered engine to pump water. The cost of operation was quite high because diesel is quite expensive to buy. We adopted a hybrid solar pumping system. Over 500 households in Kamuthe are utilising water from the borehole. We are charging one shilling per water container at the water kiosk for maintenance and repair. Alhamdulillah! Our girls can attend school instead of trekking in search of water," said Ahmed Farah, a resident of Kamuthe Village in Garissa County.



Clean Water Supply Using Green Energy

In 2019, as part of IRK's commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals, we continued providing vulnerable communities with access to potable water for domestic and livestock use. In 2019, we supported communities in Kilifi, Garissa and Mandera Counties with construction and rehabilitation of community water points. To improve on access to water in the target communities, water pipelines were extended to schools, health facilities and water collection points. To minimize the pollution, heavy labour and costs of the facilities, the water points use solar power.

2019 in brief:

200,000

cubic metre earth dam excavation completed in Dabel, Moyale County. The dam has since filled with water from the rains that can last the community for at least 6 months during periods of drought.

2

highly productive boreholes upgraded to hybrid water pumping systems to sufficiently support the high number of people utilizing the boreholes. Each borehole now has a production of 15,000 litres per hour.

10

litres water tanks installed and water pipeline extended to 10 schools for improved water supply.

4

boreholes and 4 shallow wells drilled and equipped in Garissa and Marsabit Counties.

6

boreholes rehabilitated to improve water access during drought period in Garissa County.

20,000

right holders accessed clean potable water.



Life Changing Healthcare

Islamic Relief Kenya in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, took essential preventive and curative health care services to the remote areas 5-20 kilometers away from a health facility in Balambala sub-County. The first landmark surgery in Balambala Sub-County Hospital theatre was conducted during an Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) surgical camp supported by Islamic Relief Kenya. The theatre had remained closed for three years since its construction due to lack of water, essential drugs and equipment. Islamic Relief Kenya supported the hospital with equipment and vital drugs to facilitate its operations. An eye surgical and general medical camps have also been conducted at the hospital. During the eye surgical camp, eight eye surgeries were successfully completed.

Two rural health facilities have also been supported with solar fridges to improve their immunisation services. The health facilities rely on solar power that is cost-effective and reliable in such remote areas. The facilities previously relied on gas-run vaccine fridges with little storage capacity.

2019 in brief:

16

sites that are averagely 20km away from the nearest health facility received 7 cycles of monthly outreaches sites. Outreaches improved immunization coverage and utilization of treatment services.

3

years since its closure, Balambala sub-County Hospital was supported with essential equipment. The first landmark surgery was conducted during an Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) surgical camp supported IRK.

45,000

people have benefited from the provision of primary health care in Balambala sub-County.

“

“The gas cylinders required re-filling every fortnight, otherwise we would not be able to store vaccines. The solar fridges provided offer greater storage capacity for the vaccines, reliable and cost-effective in such a remote area. We are also able to offer health services at night because Islamic Relief Kenya installed solar infrastructure to provide lighting,” said Felix Ngasa, Dujis Dispensary Nurse In-Charge.

Financial Inclusion

The lack of sufficient collateral often excludes vulnerable communities from obtaining financing. Majority of the financial institutions in Kenya do not offer sharia compliant products. During the period under review, IRK continued with the provision of sharia compliant micro-finance services for the promotion of income-generating activities. Access to loans led to improved food security and reduced economic vulnerability of families. The micro-credit clients have been trained on various enterprise management and development skills as well as leadership and credit management.

2019 in brief:

1,417

right holders have benefited.

\$
10,000

borrowed and repaid by Elatia Sidai Women Group based in Kajiado County.



Child Development and Access to Education

With the support of our donors, Islamic Relief Kenya has been supporting orphans and vulnerable children since 1993. In 2019, 3,150 orphan families in Mandera, Wajir and Garissa Counties continued to receive quarterly financial support. IRK ensured that every sponsored child has enough food and clothing, attends school, has access to healthcare and is living in suitable conditions.

2019 in brief:

251

orphans living in harsh conditions secured sponsorship.

98%

of the sponsored children are attending school.

700

sponsored orphan families received a 21 kg Ramadan food pack and Qurbani meat pack.

6

students linked to national bursaries for their secondary school education.



"Previously we were combining two different streams into one class. Our Early Childhood Development (ECD) class was attended under a makeshift tent. One by one, the children would run away from school when the heat became unbearable. We have been able to move the ECD class to the new classrooms constructed by Islamic Relief Kenya. Each classroom has been equipped with 32 desks and our children have also received reading materials. The children are now secure and comfortable," said Abdirizack Aden, the Deputy Head Teacher, Yathrib Primary School.

Attention to Early Childhood Development

The right to education is a fundamental human right that has not been realised by many of the children living in Garissa County, Kenya. Harsh drought conditions, nomadic way of life and a poor school environment have contributed to poor or no attendance in schools. IRK supported Garissa County in the provision of basic quality education. Quality education is supported by the establishment of a safe and supportive quality learning environment. To improve the learning environment of the learners, each school was supplied with age-appropriate teaching and reading materials and the creation of child-friendly spaces within the Early Childhood Development (ECD) section.



2019 in brief:

10

schools supported with construction of 6 classrooms and renovation of 14 classrooms equipped with learning desks.

10

special needs students from 4 schools provided with assorted Special Needs Education (SNE) materials and devices.

10,000

litres water tanks installed and water pipeline extended to 10 schools for improved water supply.

Strategic Partners

Thank you to all our strategic partners including:



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



World Food Programme



Norad



OCHA



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



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Kirichwa Rd, off Ngong Road
P.O. Box 417 - 00202 (KNH), Nairobi
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