

27th October, 2017

Jalaram - Famine Relief Report 2017

During famine relief activity earlier this year we were very fortunate to receive a donation of USD50,000 or Kshs5 million to distribute foodstuff to those suffering from famine including animals.

The funds were used for a a famine relief project integrating food, health and water security for some of the worst affected communities in Kenya.

The most recent mission was to Don Bosco Mission-Korr, Marsabit and the Rendille and Samburu people where over 4,524 households/families were served. Thank you to all our donors whose compassion and generosity has saved so many lives. So far, the groups have already distributed 26 trucks of famine relief foods to various hard-hit counties and further 4 trucks containing animal feeds have also been distributed. There was a dire need to support our ailing livestock which in many areas were suffering due to non-availability of grazing land. More than 6 additional trucks of famine relief and animal feed were distributed to needy areas.

The Lions and Rotary Club of Kenya were partnered with The Jain Social Group to assist in The National Famine Relief Efforts to assist the Famine Affected Victims of The 13 Counties in Kenya.

In the Spirit of Service in Action, we harnessed the efforts and collective spirit of volunteers around the world to serve individuals, families and communities in five key areas: Community Empowerment, Educational Services, Environmental Protection & Preservation, Health & Wellness, and Humanitarian Relief. Taken together, these initiatives empowered individuals to volunteer their time and resources to create a better community, nation and world.



It is important that ordinary Kenyans take initiative to support their own and we were overwhelmed with joy that so many Kenyans did contribute. It is phenomenal and has never happened to this extent in this country and even on the continent.

This is an on-going joint initiative under the patronage of the Famine Relief Ambassador Dr. Rasik Kantaria and the group coordinator Dr. Manoj Shah.

The following local Asian communities contributed including:

- Jalaram Satsang Mandal
- Lohana Mahajan Mandal
- The Asian Foundation
- Arya Samaj
- Kenya Brahma Sabha
- BAPS Temple
- South Indian Culture Centre
- Pattni Brotherhood

This joint initiative has benefited more than 100,000 Kenyans where a total of more than 30 trucks were distributed. Some of the main beneficiaries of the relief food included the following counties:

- Maralal
- Marsabit
- Turkana
- Garissa
- Isiolo
- Machakos
- Kajiado

The Famine Relief activity was jointly conducted by Lions Clubs International District 411A, Rotary International District 9212, The Sunrise Walkers Group and The Jain Social Group.

Food for human consumption was distributed to the families who were affected by famine in the form of tokens and subsequently, trucks reached the destination. Only those holding tokens were given foodstuff thus ensuring the rightful distribution in this famine stricken areas.

Likewise the animal feed was usually taken to centralized places where these famine stricken animals were gathered together with proper arrangements. Animal feed including hay were given to these animals thus saving both human and animal life. The total amount of foodstuff both for human and animals amounted to approximately 500 tonnes out of which food stuff which included maize meal, beans, cooking oil, salt, sugar, uji mix, long life milk and other necessary food stuff was 430 tonnes and 70 tonnes of animal feed.

We managed to distribute nearly 48 trucks in total which included 8 trucks of animal feed. Foodstuff was allocated and distributed to the different areas as follows:

NAME OF REGION	NO. OF TRUCKS (FOODSTUFF)	NO. OF TRUCKS (ANIMAL FEED)
Turkana	6	
Garissa	2	
Kajiado	6	2
Engineer	1	1
Makueni	4	2
Tana River	3	
Lamu	1	
Isiolo	3	
Magadi	2	
Lokichogio	4	
Kangundo	2	2
Nzeeni	2	
Marsabit	1	
Moyale	1	
Kikumini	1	1
Kaayi	1	
Total No. of Trucks	40	8





Thank you Eagle Foundation for your very generous donation and your support which has touched so many lives across Kenya. Even one donation can make a difference in someone's life. You are truly helping to make the world a better place.

Please find the bank statements attached showing how the funds were disbursed.

LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS TO TACKLE DROUGHT

Kenya is struggling to counter the catastrophic effect of prolonged drought. Seasonal rivers have dried up and a rivalry is spewing between cultivators and pastoralists who graze animals on farms to save them from death.

Water and food supply has become a challenge in many places. The scope of risk to contracting human-animal diseases widens due to sharing of water points. Already, the extended drought in the country has led to livestock deaths, narrowing means to livelihood in many households and counties where the dry weather has pressed the most.

Spread of vector and water borne diseases such as malaria, typhoid and cholera has increased in the recent past owing to the fluctuating weather. A drastic change in environment makes vectors causing diseases to mutate, making it difficult to control their multiplicity.

The drought severity in Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu and Turkana alone has affected over 2.5million people and what they do to earn a living. These are those who experience the direct effects of the intensified weather.

Drought like floods has both direct and indirect effects. Although drought has extended effects and the effects of floods only localized, both they affect economies nearly by equal measure. Combined, the catastrophes have a potential to retard Kenya's growth by a tune of five per cent on annual basis. This is because the adverse weather events interfere with the productive sectors of the economy.

The potential of arable land to produce is impeded and the size of land that can be cultivated in the absence of irrigation is reduced. The vigour of cultivator to till the field with vitality is degenerated. Some of the indirect effects of weather are real in the counties of Baringo and Marsabit where there is

an upsurge of malaria. The increased pricing of farm produce in the market is another effect just to name a few.

Ecological responses to climate and weather variability suggest as weakening marine and terrestrial ecosystem that is on the verge of losing a score of its species. Threats to biodiversity are on the increase.

Habitats are being destroyed and demands quick response by governments of the world and community of experts restore them. Disaster risk attenuation due to an upsurge of micro and macro animal and plant species invasion should be monitored, understood and contained to prevent added harm to livestock and crops.

Latest research techniques that are not limited to data science and mapping by use of the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) should be utilized to achieve this goal.

Drought and flood risk response bodies should come up with innovative ways to not only cushion from danger those that are susceptible, but to monitor and quantify loss incurred through (water and wind) soils erosion, effect on tourism and in marine and estuarine fishes and fisheries and other processes that slow economic activities.

The county governments should also work together with the national government in preparing and implementing laws and policies that may provide a solution to these recurrent challenges. The government should also make the adoption of alternative energy sources to households affordable.

Since climate is irreversible and meteorological data suggests that the two events of floods and drought follow each other, it is important for policy makers to rethink the Kenyan future by investing heavily in the future and by drawing cross-sectoral synergies in developing an economic growth model that will encapsulate the reality of climate change.

Incorporating climate change in the school curriculum is also important in order to widen the understanding of climate change knowledge and avenues of adapting to mitigate.

Above all, while the drought can be used to generate solar power, flood water can be harvested and used for irrigation when the rains ceded meaning both events can be turned around into our inclusive gain. Without these deliberate efforts understand weather and climate-induced disasters and turning those disasters into opportunities, the country will always waste resources in its post-disaster management projects.

We look forward to partnering with the Eagle Foundation again to create more sustainable solutions in these drought stricken areas so we do not face another famine disaster in years to come.