

KENYA



Country Snapshot



Population:	35.6 million
Independence:	1963
Government system:	Multi-party democracy
Next national elections:	2012
Life expectancy at birth:	52 years
Adult literacy rate:	73.6%
Public spending on education (% of GDP):	7%
Access to improved water source:	62%
Annual per capita income:	\$547
Infant mortality rate:	79 per 1,000 births
Maternal mortality rate:	560 per 100,000 live births
HIV prevalence:	7.8%

Source: Human Development Index Report 2007/8

Program Overview

CARE International has been operating in Kenya since 1968 with 3 main areas of focus: HIV/AIDS and Civil Society Strengthening; Economic Empowerment (Commercializing Activities for Small Holders) and Emergency and Refugee Operations. CARE operates in four out of the eight provinces of the country.

1) HIV/AIDS & Civil Society Strengthening

Early Childhood Development (ECD)

This program addresses the rights and needs of orphans and vulnerable children in the pre-school category in Kibera, Nairobi. Its overall goal is to improve the developmental status of orphans and vulnerable children between the ages 0-8 years in communities heavily affected by HIV/AIDS. The ECD program has proven to be an effective vehicle for the delivery of other essential services such as economic empowerment through Group Savings and Loan and ECD feeding program to the underprivileged in the informal settlement.

Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT)

This project aims to reduce mother to child transmission of HIV and increase access to treatment for HIV positive mothers in Siaya District of Kenya's Nyanza province. CARE is using the PMTCT project as an anchor for the introduction of family planning interventions. CARE offices in Kenya consider family planning a priority area, especially in addressing chronic poverty and food insecurity. The Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV/AIDS and provision of antiretroviral drugs programs are implemented in Siaya District of Nyanza Province.

Local Links

The Local Links project aims to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS on Orphans and Vulnerable Children and their families by strengthening the community's capacity to provide care. The project is implemented in Kibera, the largest informal settlement in Kenya, and the third largest in Africa. Local Links intends to benefit up to 20,000 people affected by HIV/AIDS including orphans, vulnerable children, their families and caregivers.

Institutional Capacity Building

The goal of the Institutional Capacity Building project is to improve the institutional capacity of indigenous Community Based Organizations to provide HIV/AIDS services. This project is implemented in Garissa District, North Eastern Province and combines CARE Kenya's HIV/AIDS experience and program reach, with that of the Centers for Disease Control, to support Community Based Organizations in providing HIV/AIDS services to one of the most marginalized and disadvantaged communities in Kenya.

The Lok Pachi Project

The Lok Pachi project, which in the Dholuo language means Change Your Attitude, seeks to improve livelihood security of the population in Bondo and Siaya districts of Nyanza Province. The project uses the economic empowerment model to mitigate the social and economic impacts of HIV/AIDS. It focuses on stigma reduction and building local capacities to enhance the social position of the most vulnerable, particularly the women. The main strategy is to use the Group Savings and Loans methodology to harness and manage savings and loan schemes while focusing on the selection, planning and management of income generating activities.

The Women's Voices Project

The Women's Voices is implemented in Siaya District and augments the PMTCT project. The project seeks to contribute to the enhancement of community capacity to control and manage the impact of HIV/AIDS on women and children. It also seeks to improve access to Anti Retroviral Therapy (ART) services for women and children living and/or affected with HIV/AIDS, protect the rights of women and children and improve community understanding of the negative effects of Gender Based Violence (GBV), including HIV/AIDS stigma and discrimination and build capacity of households to meet basic needs, including health care and nutrition.





Community Savings and Loans

CARE Kenya has successfully implemented the Village/Group Savings and Loans methodology since 2004 when it was firstly piloted in four districts in the country. By 2010 this project aims to have a system in place from which a program of national scale is viable and could potentially reach millions of people. The project targets about 100,000 people living in the rural areas of Kenya's Western and Nyanza provinces.

Empowering Civil Society for Participatory Forest Management (EMPAFORM)

EMPAFORM, a term coined from Empowering Forest Management, is a program that aims to strengthen civil society to demand and participate effectively in Forest Management in East Africa. Specifically, the program aims to promote a pro-poor approach to the management and conservation of natural forests in East Africa. EMPAFORM is a joint venture of national and international NGOs in Kenya and Tanzania. By strengthening and empowering local organizations, the program will make the implementation of new forest policies more demand driven and equitable in addressing the interest and rights of poor men, women and children.

3) Refugee & Emergency Operations Centre

a) Refugee Assistance Program

The Dadaab camps are home to over 220,000 refugees, mostly from Somalia. As UNHCR and WFP's main implementing partner, CARE provides food, water, education and community services to the residents. The overall goal is to equip refugees with the necessary skills to rebuild their lives when they return to Somalia. This is done by implementing a series of income-generation projects and apprentice workshops. CARE also works closely with community leaders, mullahs, youth and women's groups to open avenues for discussion on topics such as sexual gender based violence female genital mutilation and HIV/AIDS. Psychosocial support services are also provided for survivors of sexual violence and female circumcision.

North Eastern Program

CARE Kenya also provides assistance to the local population around the three refugee camps. The focus of the host community development is on Water and Sanitation, education and livelihoods. This has contributed immensely towards reducing the inherent tension between the refugees and the host community. However, there is increasing demand from the host community particularly employment opportunities by the many unemployed youth most of whom have no basic professional skills.

b) Emergency Operations

CARE's emergency work focuses on the North Eastern Province, which is largely inhabited by pastoralist communities whose welfare index remains amongst the lowest in the country. CARE Kenya implements emergency programs aimed at improving access to clean water for pastoralists and their animals. Other essential components of this program include sanitation and hygiene activities (such as carcass burning, latrine construction, etc...) as well as conflict mitigation activities in areas that are prone to clashes between clans over scarce resources.

Post Election Violence

CARE responded by providing the critically needed support during and after the post-election violence through rehabilitation and provision of essential food and non-food items. CARE targeted and continues to target both the vulnerable people who lost their livelihoods or were displaced by the post-election violence and the equally vulnerable host communities. Most of the work focused on the urban informal settlement/urban slums in Nairobi and Kisumu. There are ongoing recovery support to ensure basic needs and restoration of livelihoods.

Major Donors

The Canadian International Aid Agency (CIDA), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Australian Aid, the Millennium Water Alliance, the European Union, the Rockefeller Foundation, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (BPRM), World Food Program (WFP), Open Society Institute (OSI), Financial Sector Deepening (FSD), Plan International, The UK Aid Agency (DFID), the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Danish Refugee Council, the UN Agency for Refugee Assistance (UNHCR), the European Commission (EC), and various private and corporate donors.

Sweetening Justice for Vulnerable Women and Children

This project's goal is to strengthen community based mechanisms in the protection and promotion of the rights of vulnerable women, children and People Living With HIV. The project focuses on building the capacity of Civil Society Organizations to provide legal support to beneficiaries. Civil Society Organizations are also supported in building and developing appropriate structures for reporting, reviewing and referring human rights violation. The project is currently being implemented in Kibera, Nairobi.

2) Economic Empowerment

Dak Achana Program

Dak Achana, which means "living well" in the Dholuo language, is an integrated program in the Nyanza Province. One of its aims is to increase food availability by investing in farmers' knowledge, practicing agro-forestry and creating market linkages. The program also seeks to improve the quality of drinking water at the household level through access to and utilization of potable water. Environmentally friendly hygiene practices are encouraged.

Livestock Purchase Fund

This program links pastoralist communities to livestock markets in Kenya. The goal is to develop a socially responsible and commercially sustainable livestock marketing model that mainstreams HIV/AIDS and gender. It includes a bank managed livestock purchase fund, private sector market led livestock trading activities, and capacity development and integration of pastoralists to livestock marketing chain. This model aims at linking pastoralists directly to the private sector for better access to markets and social services.

Safe Water System Programs

CARE Kenya's safe water systems interventions are aimed at improving the quality of drinking water at household and clinic levels in order to reduce the incidences of diarrhea and other water-borne diseases in Nyanza Province. This program offers an affordable water quality intervention at the point-of-use. It encompasses three components: water treatment, safe storage of treated water and behavior change interventions.

Kibigori Water, Sanitation and Education for Health Project

This project—implemented on the boundary between Rift Valley and Nyanza Province—aims at improving the hygiene practices, sanitation, livelihoods and access to clean water for marginalized rural communities. The project is also building the capacity of the target community to manage and sustain the rehabilitated and expanded water system. This entails training community members in basic hygiene and health practices while improving water and sanitation facilities.

Sustaining and Scaling School Water, Sanitation and Education plus Health

This program ensures access to safe drinking water, effective hygiene promotion and improved sanitation for primary school children in Nyanza Province and other parts of the country. The project also focuses on the development and implementation of a model to finance the project's promotion in schools and communities based on lessons learned and innovative approaches.

Enhanced Livelihoods in the Manderia Triangle

Livelihoods in the Manderia Triangle (the cross-border region of Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia) are under threat from repeated cycles of drought, as well as other drivers of change, including increased population pressure, marginalization from political and economic processes, and globalization. This program is part of USAID's broader Regional Enhanced Livelihoods in Pastoral Areas program that intends to provide a bridge between emergency relief assistance and activities that promote economic development in pastoral areas. CARE is the lead agency for this program's operations in Kenya and is spearheading the implementation of the project aimed at enhancing livelihoods by strengthening alternative and complimentary sources of income.

Hunger Safety Net Program

This program aims at supporting a national social protection policy and program in arid and semi-arid land regions in Kenya through a cash transfer model. The program aims to reduce hunger and vulnerability in Northern Kenya through targeted cash transfer mechanisms that meet the needs of the poor and vulnerable. Through this program CARE will contribute to development of the government's national social protection policy and strategy

Contact Information

Bud Crandall, Country Director, bud@care.or.ke
Ngugi Chege, Assistant Country Director, chege@care.or.ke

Tel: +254 20-2710069

