

CONTEXT

- Kenya continues to face the adverse effects of recurrent climate shocks and disease outbreaks, which generate widespread displacement and humanitarian needs. Notably, above-average March-to-May 2024 rains and associated floods across Kenya resulted in at least 294 deaths and the displacement of approximately 55,100 households during the rainy season, according to the Government of Kenya Long Rains Food and Nutrition Security Assessment (LRA). In addition, five consecutive seasons of below-average rainfall between 2020 and 2022 across the Horn of Africa region led to a severe drought in Kenya that deteriorated households' access to food and water and reduced agricultural production during 2023. These deficits reduced income-generating opportunities and hindered the populations' ability to cope with subsequent shocks.
- Flooding across parts of Kenya from March to May 2024 contaminated water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure and damaged roads, limiting affected populations' access to health facilities and increasing the risk of vector-borne and waterborne disease outbreaks, including exacerbating the ongoing cholera outbreak that began in October 2022. Health actors recorded an estimated 392 cholera cases and three related deaths in Kenya between January and late July, the UN World Health Organization (WHO) reports. Furthermore, the flooding has hindered relief actors' ability to reach flood-affected populations and transport relief supplies to health centers, according to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).
- Following the prolonged drought, elevated rainfall in early 2024 increased agricultural labor opportunities and production activities across some parts of Kenya, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) and IFRC report. However, staple food production during the first half of the year remained below- average levels, with national yields of maize—a staple of the Kenyan diet—nearly 5 to 10 percent below-average, according to the results of the 2024 LRA. As a result, the LRA projects that malnutrition levels will remain elevated, and that Kenya's food-insecure population will increase from 1 million people to approximately 1.8 million people through January 2025.



ASSISTANCE

- USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) supports nine international and local nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and two UN agencies to respond to the urgent needs of those affected by drought and floods in Kenya, providing more than \$340 million in emergency assistance between Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 and FY 2024 as of August. USAID/BHA also supports two partners in building resilience and reducing disaster-related

risks among affected populations in Kenya, providing nearly \$61 million during the same period for early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience (ER4) and resilience food security activities.

- USAID/BHA NGO partners conduct drought response activities in 15 arid and semi-arid land (ASAL) counties, supporting the most vulnerable populations with agriculture, cash, food, livelihood, nutrition, and WASH interventions. With USAID/BHA funding, NGO partner the Kenya Red Cross Society also distributes sanitation and shelter kits—consisting of sleeping mats, soaps, tarps, and thermal blankets—to flood-displaced persons in Garissa, Lamu, and Tana River counties. BHA is also providing support to approximately 64,000 flood displaced people through provision of emergency multipurpose cash and WASH assistance in the urban informal settlements of Nairobi.
- With USAID/BHA support, the UN World Food Program (WFP) supports approximately 650,000 refugees who reside in camps—out of the 760,000 refugees in Kenya—with food rations. WFP provides emergency cash transfers and in-kind food assistance to drought-affected and food-insecure communities in Kenya. Moreover, WFP supports communities in ASAL counties, including populations in refugee camps, with food assistance, such as cereals, pulses, and vegetable oil, and nutrition assistance, such as ready-to-use therapeutic and supplemental food, for treatment of malnutrition. WFP assistance also contributes to the long-term resilience of communities through climate-adaptive programming that focuses on reducing food and livelihood loss following climatic shocks.
- USAID/BHA also supports the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to address the critical nutrition needs of drought- and flood-affected populations in 11 ASAL counties. The UN agency facilitates mass nutrition screenings for children ages five years and younger and pregnant and lactating women; provides therapeutic foods for the prevention and treatment of malnutrition; and supports emergency mobile nutrition outreach activities and referrals for malnourished children.
- Through USAID/BHA programming, NGO partners Catholic Relief Services and Mercy Corps continue to implement Nawiri, an eight-year food security and resilience program targeting populations in four counties experiencing chronic malnutrition and the adverse effects of drought. The Nawiri program enhances livestock disease surveillance systems and systems that monitor safe drinking water and agricultural schemes to increase crop and livestock productivity; facilitates the monitoring and treatment of wasting, the deadliest form of malnutrition; invests in livestock feed for pastoralist households; provides cash-based transfers to food-insecure populations; and supports health care services for people and livestock. Nawiri also supports village savings and loans associations, which can help diversify livelihoods and strengthen communities’ capacity to withstand climatic shocks. In FY 2023, Nawiri benefitted more than 433,000 people through multi-sector activities that aimed to reduce wasting and address the underlying causes of persistent household food insecurity and malnutrition.

USAID/BHA Funding in Kenya ¹			
	Emergency ²	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2023	\$212,522,252	\$38,999,446	\$251,521,698
FY 2024	\$127,850,669	\$21,608,770	\$149,459,439

¹Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of August 1, 2024. Totals include estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

²Includes funding for programs that integrate ER4 activities with emergency response.