

International Rescue Committee Kenya: Strategy Action Plan



L Ongoro / IRC



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IRC2020 GLOBAL STRATEGY OVERVIEW

The International Rescue Committee's (IRC) mission is to help the world's most vulnerable people survive, recover, and gain control of their future. The aim of the IRC's global strategy, IRC2020 (see right), is to make measurable improvements in health, safety, education, economic wellbeing, and decision-making power. Therefore, the IRC has made investments to design more effective programs, use resources more efficiently, reach more people more quickly and better respond to beneficiaries' needs.



KENYA OVERVIEW

Kenya is a country of extremes; on the one hand it is the diplomatic, technology, business and transportation hub of East Africa and on the other it is home to one of the world's largest refugee populations and many impoverished and vulnerable Kenyan communities.

Seasonal environmental shocks, including drought and floods, threaten food security in the

country's rural, remote and arid lands. This impacts agriculture and pasture for animals, as well as access to safe drinking water, sanitation, healthcare, and regular and varied food items. Competition for scarce resources, land disputes, and cattle rustling augments instability in the community.

Cyclical drought and chronic insecurity in neighboring Somalia

and South Sudan have historically led to waves of people seeking asylum in Kenya, which is likely to continue.

In school and in the home, rates of violence against women and children are high.

The IRC's new strategy for Kenya illustrates its commitment to improving the safety and health of crisis-affected people in Kenya.

IRC'S STRATEGIC PROGRAMMING

The IRC has been working in Kenya since 1992, providing health care, women's protection, governance and rights, and nutrition services to hundreds of thousands of refugees and the Kenyan communities which host them.

Until the end of 2020, the IRC's new strategy in Kenya will prioritize improving safety and health (see Figure 1), specifically targeting women, children, refugees, host communities and other vulnerable groups.

As part of its commitment to improving the health of crisis-affected people in Kenya, the IRC will address gaps in maternal and child health services. To protect women and girls from the complications of pregnancy and childbirth, the IRC will protect from and treat for sexually transmitted infections. Clinical care for sexual assault survivors and psychosocial support will be integrated into maternal health and nutrition programs, where the IRC is a recognized leader. Nutrition partnerships will be leveraged to expand

successful interventions into locations with limited local capacity to prevent malnutrition.

The IRC will focus on improving people's safety in all aspects of their lives. Programs will address gender-based violence, intimate partner violence, and violence against and exploitation of women and children. Furthermore, the IRC will work to transform gender norms which harm women and girls in refugee camps and host communities.

Recent policy decisions by the Kenyan government will necessitate new approaches to refugee management that will include an increased focus on training and jobs, in addition to maintaining quality services and protection in camps.

The IRC's commitment to gender equality strives for equal outcomes for women and girls, and men and boys. To narrow the gender gap, the IRC will ensure tailored approaches that meet the unique needs of women and girls, men and boys across all programming areas.

Figure 1: Priority Outcomes and Future Programs

	Priority Outcomes in Kenya	Priority Programs
HEALTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Women and adolescent girls are protected from and treated for complications of pregnancy and childbirth > Women and girls are protected from and treated for the consequences of gender-based violence (GBV) > Children are protected from and treated for malnutrition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Support clinics that provide targeted care for women and girls to reduce and treat complications of pregnancy and improve pre-natal nutrition > Strengthen referral networks and improved access to services to support survivors of gender-based violence > Build the capacity of local networks to prevent and treat malnutrition
SAFETY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > People are safe in their homes and receive support when they experience harm > Women and girls are equally safe from harm as men and boys where they live, learn, and work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Provide referral management, advocacy, case management, legal and psychosocial services to survivors of violence > Build the capacity of government to respond to the unique safety needs of refugee populations

COMMITMENTS FOR IMPACT

In order to maximize impact and achieve the priority outcomes, the IRC in Kenya is making new investments to improve program effectiveness, use resources more efficiently, be more responsive to beneficiaries and partners, and react more quickly when crisis strikes. The IRC made the following commitments to strengthen programming and improve the lives of the people it serves in Kenya.

Figure 2: Commitments to Ensure Impact



Effectiveness

- > Implement and adopt a comprehensive data platform for collecting, organizing and sharing information to inform decision making



Best Use of Resources

- > Maximize the potential of refugee incentive workers in service locations
- > Streamline operational systems by integrating supply chain, finance and human resources teams and improving procurement processes and Budget versus Actual updates



Responsiveness

- > Strengthen feedback mechanisms for beneficiaries and partners and incorporate results into program design



Speed and Timeliness

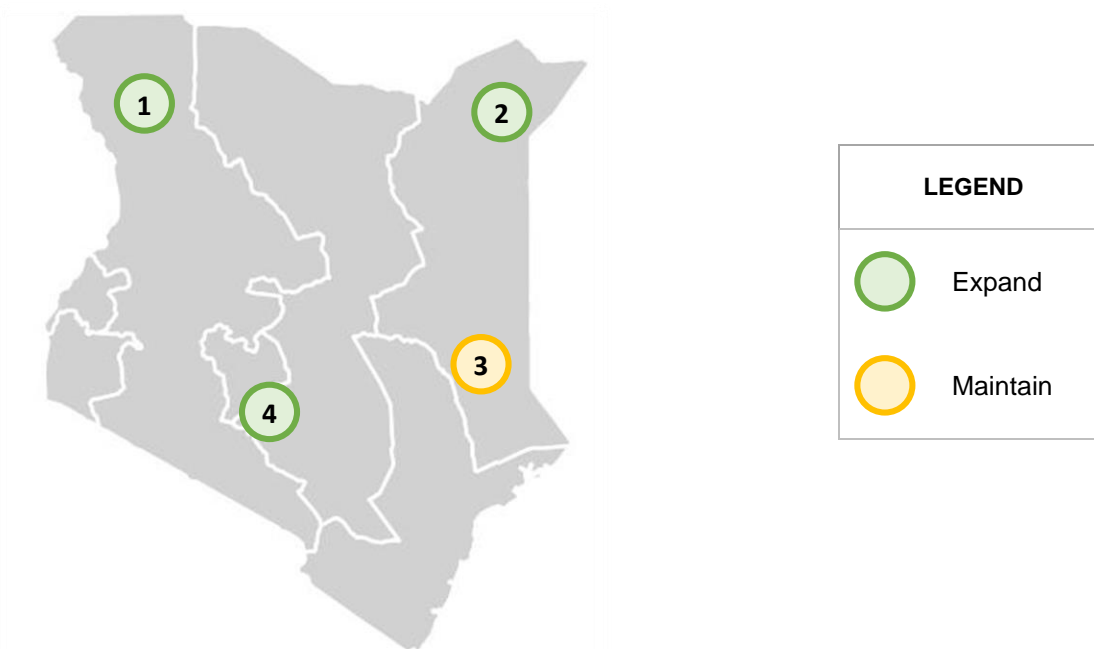
- > Develop emergency preparedness plans and contingency mechanisms to be able to react more quickly when crisis strikes



IRC'S STRATEGIC PRESENCE

From 2015 – 2020, the IRC will maintain, expand, and reduce its presence in sites across Kenya based on an analysis of where the greatest need is and where the IRC can create the greatest impact.

Figure 3: The IRC's Geographic Transitions in Kenya



Location		Geographic Transition
1	Turkana County	Continue support to Kakuma camp and Kalobeyei settlement, expand support for the county government and other partners to meet new needs and fill service gaps, and diversify the IRC's suite of interventions
2	Mandera & Wajir Counties	Launch maternal and reproductive health programs and nutrition by supporting country government structures
3	Garissa County & Dadaab Refugee Complex	Continue to provide basic services in Dadaab as long as camp population is maintained, while increasing focus on resilience programming and training for refugees and the local community
4	Nairobi	Continue forced migrant monitoring and policy work, while expanding programs to improve economic wellbeing and serve host communities



The IRC in Kenya



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