



# DESERT LOCUST INVASION EMERGENCY RESPONSE

September 2020

# *Final Report*

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## *2020 DESERT LOCUST INVASION EMERGENCY RESPONSE*

Date: 31/10/2020

[ChildFund Kenya]

# Final Report

2020/July – 2020/September

Submission Date: 31/10/2020

## Project Summary

<b>Primary Sector</b>	LIVELIHOOD AND FOOD SECURITY			
<b>Project Title</b>	2020 DESERT LOCUST INVASION EMERGENCY RESPONCE			
<b>Project Location</b>	SAMBURU, TURKANA, MARSABIT, ISIOLO AND BARINGO			
<b>Project Duration</b>	1 <sup>ST</sup> JULY 2020 TO 30 <sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020 (3 MONTHS)			
<b>Target Population</b>		<b>Group</b>	<b>Direct</b>	<b>Indirect</b>
		Children	Secondary and primary school students from households affected with locust invasion.	Parents/ caregivers/guidance of pupils reached.
		Farmers (crop & Livestock farmers)	Crop farmers and livestock farmers (pastoralists)	Children of the farmers reached.
		Households with below 5-year olds or pregnant or lactating women	Parents, guidance or caregivers of 5-year olds	Children from the households targeted
	<p><i>** Direct participants are people who directly participated in the activities and Indirect beneficiaries are those who benefitted as a result of improvements made to the direct participants, such as family members of the participants or community members of the project/program area, etc.</i></p>			
<b>Project Goal</b>	Well-being of children, Pregnant and Lactating Women and Farmers affected by the locust invasion in Samburu, Marsabit, Turkana, Isiolo and Baringo Counties is Protected and Improved.			

<b>Project Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To support 1,420 households with children below 5 years of age and/or pregnant and Lactating Women affected by desert locust invasion to be able to purchase nutritious food for a period of 3 months.</li> <li>2. To support 1,000 (800 crop and 200 livestock) farmers affected by Desert Locust Invasion to safeguard and rebuild their livelihoods.</li> <li>3. To increase access to education services to 265 vulnerable girls and boys through provision of solar powered radios with at least two reading lights to support access to remote learning during covid-19 pandemic.</li> </ol>				
<b>Total Budget (KRW/Local Currency)</b>	Total: Ksh 11,400,513				
<b>Implementing Organization</b>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="459 663 667 730"><b>Country Office</b></td> <td data-bbox="667 663 1407 730">ChildFund Kenya</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="459 730 667 792"><b>Co-implementer</b></td> <td data-bbox="667 730 1407 792"></td> </tr> </table>	<b>Country Office</b>	ChildFund Kenya	<b>Co-implementer</b>	
	<b>Country Office</b>	ChildFund Kenya			
<b>Co-implementer</b>					
<b>Submitted by</b>	<i>Jennifer Kavuti / Grant Manager /ChildFund Kenya / Jkavuti@childfund.org</i>				

## Executive Summary

<b>Key Achievements</b>	<p>The project was successfully implemented by ChildFund Kenya in partnership with its local partners in Marsabit, Isiolo, Samburu, Baringo and Turkana between July 2020 to September 2020. The major activities of the project that were implemented included; supporting vulnerable affected households (HHs) through cash transfers, supporting farmers with seeds of Maize, beans and Sorghum and hay and supporting affected families with solar powered radios with reading lights. As a result, the following achievements were realised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1420 households with below 5-year-old children residing in the five targeted counties received financial support for three months from July 2020. Each household received a total of US 45.34 to meet the basic needs of their children. According to some of the households reached, the support enabled them to buy nutritious foods such as maize, beans, kales that were available in their locality. They stated that their children were very happy and full of energy during the period. Another beneficiary stated that he used the money received from the project to purchase prescribed medicines for his child. Phones were distributed to 25 households from the targeted counties to enable them access the money through the Mpesa platform.</li> <li>• One thousand and fifty farmers (crop and pastoralists) in the five targeted counties were supported with seeds and bales of hay to build their resilience. 800 crop farmers were reached with 400kg, 800 kg and 800 kg seeds of beans, maize, and sorghum, respectively. Each farmer received 2kg of either maize or sorghum and 0.5 kg of beans. 250 (106m,144f) pastoralists were reached with 1250 bales of hay with each pastoralist received 5 bales of hay for feeding their livestock. A month later, crops that were planted from the seeds distributed to the farmers could be seen growing at the farms of some of the</li> </ul>
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	<p>beneficiaries reached. Other famers had only ploughed their farm and could not plant the seeds due to poor weather conditions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 220 households affected by locust invasion in the targeted counties were reached by solar powered radios with reading lights. This was to enable the members of the households to receive up to date weather and early warning information about their location of residence. The activity enabled students from the reached households to access education services through the media.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Challenges</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to poor weather conditions and scarcity of water, most crop farmers who received the support of seeds could not plant their seeds. They decided to wait for rainfall season which is normally occur between October-December.</li> <li>• Insecurity experienced at Baragoi and Archer’s post delayed distribution of bales of hay to farmers in the mentioned locations.</li> <li>• Prices of commodities was high thus the money beneficiaries received through monthly cash transfer, could only support them for less than a week instead of the whole month.</li> <li>• The price of the available phones in the targeted counties was at least USD12 thus the project purchased 25 instead of 30 phones as planned.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lesson Learned</b></p>	<p><i>Concisely summarize main lessons learned through the project</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial support enabled the families that were supported to meet their food needs. However, better results could have been realized if the amount of money allocated for each targeted household could have been above the poverty index (\$2per day) for at least 6 months.</li> <li>• The excretion wastes of the desert locusts caused diarrhoeal problems for goats especially young ones which resulted to death in some cases. Therefore, it could have been prudent for victims of desert locust invasion to be supported also with veterinary drugs that could control such infections in addition to animal feeds.</li> <li>• The Project was implemented during Covid-19 pandemic which also became an emergency, it would have been good if the project also supported the community to mitigate against the impacts of Covid-19 through trainings, provision of masks and handwashing stations.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Future Plan</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local partners organizations to continue supporting most of the reached households through their program interventions and ensure that children from these families are enrolled for further support.</li> <li>• According to county governments’ staff, many government staff and community members were trained to control desert locust thus are able to handle desert locust invasions that may occur in future.</li> <li>• Integrate the Emergencies especially cash transfers with other stakeholders interventions including the County Governments’ for maximum benefit to the beneficiaries.</li> </ul>

<b>Expenses to Date (Local currency)</b>	10,826,866	<b>Execution Rate (%)</b>	95%
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## I. Project Result

Goal		Goal Indicator <i>(Goal level indicator is NOT required. If any indicator is included in PDM, use this cell)</i>						
Outcome	Indicator	Baseline	Achievement	Target	Achievement rate(%)	Source of Data	Method of Gathering Data	Data Gatherer
1. Improved livelihoods of 1,420 households affected by locust invasion in the 5 counties of Samburu, Marsabit, Turkana, Isiolo and Baringo.	Number of Households benefitting from Cash Transfers		1420	1420	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Field reports and remittance report</li> </ul>		Project Officer
2. 1,000 Farmers supported with farm inputs and hay to engage in agricultural and livestock production for increased food security, improved livelihoods and resilience building.	Number of farmers supported with farm inputs (seeds and hay) and using them to improve their farming and livestock activities.		1050	1000	105%	Field reports		Project officer
3. 220 vulnerable boys and girls from households supported with solar powered radios have access to education services through remote learning during COVID-19 Pandemic.	Number of households supported with solar powered radios with reading lights		220	220	100	Field reports		Project officer

**1. Achievements**

*Describe accomplishments (3 to 4 achievements), in details, of the project (including outputs and outcomes), participants’ satisfaction of the project, change of attitude or awareness of the participants through the project, etc. This part can be composed based on the achievement demonstrated in the quarterly reports.*

Planned achievement	Objective 1	<p>● <b>Achievement 1:</b></p> <p>1420 households with 0- 5 years old were supported with USD 44.78 (USD 15 for two months and USD 14.78 in the third months). The reached households were identified with support from Local partners together with parents’ representatives. The support enabled the caregivers to provide nutritious food for their children. Such children were active thus could play with their peers. “Thank you very much, my children and grandchildren displayed their happiness and were actively engaged in plays. The price of foods is high in this location thus the money could support us for four days” said Lorogoi who is a beneficiary from Turkana. A caregiver in Baringo also reported that he used the money in buying clothes and medicine for his sick children.</p> <p>● <b>Achievement 2:</b></p> <p>25 phones were distributed to 25 caregivers in Marsabit, Isiolo, Turkana, Samburu and Baringo counties. The reached beneficiaries were those identified to be supported through cash transfer but did not have phones. Five phones were distributed to five beneficiaries in each targeted county. This enabled them to access money through Mpesa transactions.</p>
	Objective 2	<p>● <b>Achievement 3:</b></p> <p>The Local partners supported in identification of 1050 farmers in the five targeted counties affected with desert locusts. Agricultural officers from the county governments of Baringo, Marsabit, Isiolo, Samburu and Turkana were involved in the distribution process and sensitization of the beneficiaries on good agricultural practises. The project distributed seeds of Maize (800kg), Sorghum (800kg) and beans (400 kg) to 800 (304m, 496f) crop farmers while the 250 (106m,144f) from the five targeted counties received 1250 bales of hay to feed their livestock. The project had a plan of</p>

		<p>supporting 200 pastoralists, however, 50 more pastoralists were reached to safeguard and build the livelihood of more farmers. The reached farmers were appreciative of the support and some of them from the areas that received rainfall planted the seeds at their farms. Due to poor weather conditions in most of the targeted localities, some of the reached farmers decided to plant their seeds during the rainy season which usually start from October to December.</p>
	<p>Objective 3</p>	<p>● Achievement 4:</p> <p>The project supported the affected households in remote areas with solar powered radios with reading lights. This enabled the families to get updated early warning messages and training on desert locust invasion coping strategies. In addition, at least 220 (106b,114g) students from these households were able to have access to education services through the media as their schools were closed due to COVID-19. Solar radios were distributed to 220 households in Turkana 72, Marsabit 63, Samburu 41, Isiolo 29 and Baringo 15 counties, respectively.</p>

## 2. Challenges

*Describe detailed challenges (3 to 4 challenges), in details, confronted during the project including project implementation process, management, administration, risks, and so on. This part can be composed based on the challenges demonstrated in the quarterly reports.*

- Insecurity: Distribution of hay and solar powered radios was delayed for a while in Baragoi due to intercommunity conflict that resulted from cattle rustling. The implementation of the activities was stopped until calm restored in the area.
- High prices of commodity: The prices of basic commodities especially food in Turkana was high thus the monthly cash transfer they received could only support them for 1 week, the duration was also short and there was a request to extend it to 6 months
- Challenge 3: Poor weather conditions: Majority of crop farmers rely on rainfall which is always experienced between April-May and October-December thus some of the reached households in areas that was lacking rainfall could not plant their seeds immediately.

However, farmers in some parts of Baringo county experienced rainfall and those in Turkana who have farms along river Turkwell managed to plant their seeds.

## II. Financial Result

Total Budget (Ksh)	Expenses to date (Ksh)	Execution rate of budget (%)
11,400,513	10,826,866	95%
<b>Financial status explanation</b> <i>If execution rate is <u>NOT</u> 100%, give reasons and the plans to deal with the issue.(N/A)</i>		

## III. Lessons Learned

*Describe Lessons (2 to 3), learned from the project in details. (especially associated with the achievements and challenges)*

- Lesson 1: In addition to farm inputs, victims of desert locust invasion should be supported with veterinary drugs to control diarrhoeal problems and other diseases experienced by their goats because of feeding on excretion wastes of the locusts.
- Lesson 2: The amount of money sent to affected households through cash transfer program should be based on the poverty index and be provided for a longer duration at least 6 months. This is to enable the reached families access sufficient, safe and nutritious foods and improve nutritional status of their children.
- Lesson 3: supporting pastoralists affected by locust invasion with bales of hay, promotes survival of their livestock when their feeds are destroyed by the locusts. In addition, supporting such families with pasture seeds such as Rhodes grass to plant for the animals has more outcomes which will be experienced for a longer period.

## IV. Future Plan

<b>Plan for sustainability</b>	Local partner particularly Samburu children is implementing a resilience building in diversification of livelihood program (Morujoi community demonstration farm).
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<p><b>Follow-up project or actions</b></p>	<p><i>Describe follow-up project/actions planned (if any) in details.(N/A)</i></p>
<p><b>Other consideration</b></p>	<p><i>Describe considerations necessary for follow-up project or follow-up actions in details. (N/A)</i></p>

### Case Study



Figure 1a pastoralist is feeding his goats with hay

Michael Bartonjo is an enrolled parent in Marigat Family Helper Project, in Central Rift Community Development Programme. He is 55 years old and heads a family of seven members. He practices mixed farming. To earn a living, he keeps two improved cows and five Toggenburg goats supplemented by small scale farming.

In March 2020, when desert locusts invaded Baringo South, he was among the enrolled parents affected by the infestation. He lost fodder for his livestock during the infestation and incurred costs buying fodder for his livestock. The infestation also affected milk production

from his livestock and led to a reduction in the household income.

He was among beneficiaries reached by ChildFund when the organization intervened by provisioning of cash transfer, farm inputs and animal feeds. He was supported with 5 bales of hay. The feeds, according to Michael, was Godsend as he was able to sustain his stock, bolstered by the onset of the rains that assisted in making his farm green again. With availability of the hay, he was able to save the funds he would have used to purchase fodder for his livestock.



Figure 2: Maleno is studying at home

Maleno Lewaikoi is a 15-year-old girl from *Ilchamus* community who are pastoralists in Baringo County. She is a Grade 8 pupil and hopes to sit for her Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) in March 2021.

Maleno's family was among those affected by the infestation of desert locust in Baringo. Feeds of their few animals were destroyed. The situation was later worsened by floods, which made her family relocate. The family live in two grass thatched mud walled houses that are ventilated.

Learning at home, especially at night has been a big challenge for Maleno and her siblings. Studying at night was impossible because she used to share one torch with the rest of the family members who were doing other activities like cooking and lighting within the homestead. There was no good means of lighting in the house. Doing her assignments was not possible, thus forcing her most of the nights to sleep without completing them.

Maleno's family was among the households identified to benefit from the solar radio. With this support, it is now easy for her to undertake learning and complete her assignments. During the day, she could listen to lessons offered by the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development through Kenya Broadcasting Corporation channel. The radio was also important to her family at large as they got updates on the weather forecasts, local and international news and locusts' updates. Maleno thanked ChildFund for the support and promised to work very hard in school "Thank you very much ChildFund for the support for I am able now to study at our home at night. It is my desire to be the first female doctor from our community" said Maleno.

## V. Project Photos



*Beneficiary of Cash transfer from Baringo interacting with his children*



*Beneficiary of Cash transfer from Turkana is narrating how she benefited from the money she received from the project*



*Agriculture officer from Samburu county is training farmers on how to plant their crops*



*Agriculture officer from Baringo County is training farmers during distribution of farm inputs*



*Agriculture officer from Isiolo sensitizing farmers on agricultural practises during distribution of farm inputs*



*A farmer in Baringo has visited his farm*



*A board member is supporting in field visit in Baringo*



*Beans seeds planted in Baringo are growing well*



*Maize seeds planted in Turkana have germinated*



*Pastoralists in Isiolo are receiving bales of hay*

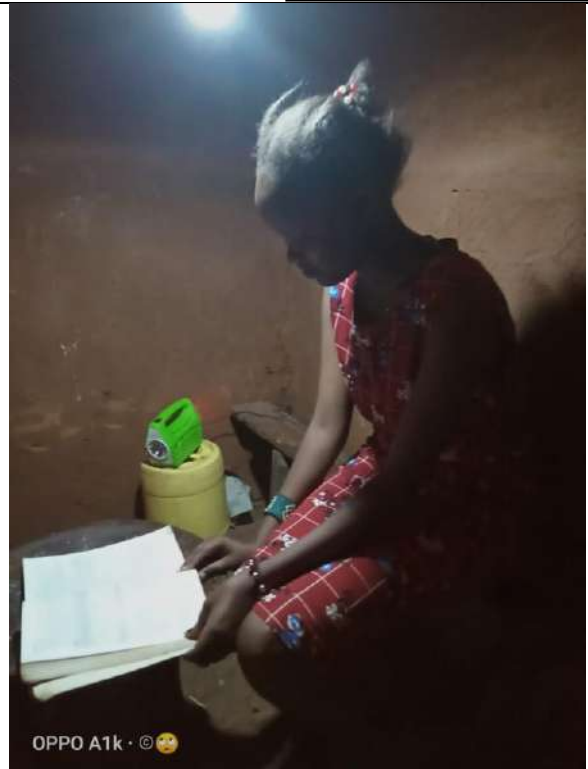


*Project staff is distributing solar powered radios to the affected families in Baringo*

*Beneficiaries reached in Marsabit are displaying solar powered radios they received.*



*A parent and his son are receiving solar powered radio with reading lights*



*A girl from a household reached with solar powered radios with reading lights in Samburu is reading her book*

*\*Original files need to be attached separately as well.*

*\*More photos can be added if needed.*

## Attachment

### 1. Final Financial Report (excel)

### 2. Photos

Farm inputs <https://photos.app.goo.gl/7jiGb99ZWBuGGu5PA>

Solar powered radios <https://photos.app.goo.gl/ossCxpwtRJmQ9HDk9>

Sensitization of farmers <https://photos.app.goo.gl/ATvcSpunefgxdLJx6>

Desert Locust Invasion <https://photos.app.goo.gl/bVrqsxGuiXompS137>

/End/