



GARISSA REGIONAL OFFICE

Report on Distribution of Food and Non-Food Items to Drought Displaced Persons from Wajir County on International Women's Day 2023



March 8, 2023 (International Women's Day)

Introduction:

This report outlines the distribution of food and non-food items (NFI) to drought-displaced persons, specifically focusing on activities carried out on International Women's Day 2023 in Garissa. The distribution aimed to provide essential assistance to vulnerable individuals and families affected by the ongoing drought, with a particular emphasis on recognizing and supporting women's needs and contributions. The event was organized through the EITWG led by the county government of Garissa in collaboration with NGECC Garissa regional office.

Objective:

1. Provide immediate relief to drought-displaced persons by distributing food and non-food items.
2. Highlight the specific challenges faced by women in the displacement situation and address their unique needs.
3. Empower women and promote gender equality through targeted interventions on International Women's Day.

Distribution Process:

Needs Assessment: Prior to the distribution, a comprehensive needs assessment was conducted to identify the most pressing requirements of the drought-displaced persons, with a focus on women and their families.

Stakeholder Coordination: Multiple stakeholders were involved in the distribution process, including government agencies, humanitarian organizations, community leaders, and volunteers among the key organizations that donated food and nonfood items include county government of Garissa, UNICEF, save the children, Terres De Hommes, National Drought Management Authority and Kenya Red cross

Procurement and Preparation: Food items, such as grains, pulses, cooking oil, and nutritional supplements, were procured and packaged. Non-food items, including hygiene kits, blankets, and cooking utensils, were also prepared.

Distribution Sites: Distribution sites were set up in accessible locations within the affected communities to facilitate the smooth distribution process.

Registration and Verification: Beneficiary registration and verification processes were implemented to ensure fair and targeted assistance.

Gender-Sensitive Approach: Gender considerations were incorporated throughout the distribution process, recognizing and addressing the specific needs and vulnerabilities of women and girls.

Community Engagement: Community members, including women's groups and local leaders, were actively involved in the distribution process to promote community ownership and ensure inclusivity.

Activities on International Women's Day:

Awareness and Advocacy: Various awareness activities were conducted to highlight the importance of gender equality, women's rights, and the empowerment of women in displacement situations. Speeches, panel discussions, and community dialogues were organized to foster dialogue and increase awareness.

Women-Centered Services: Specialized services were provided to women, including reproductive health information, maternal healthcare services, and psychosocial support. Women's groups and organizations delivered workshops on income generation, skill-building, and entrepreneurship to empower women economically.

Celebrating Women's Contributions: The event recognized the invaluable contributions of women in the community. Cultural performances, art exhibitions, and storytelling sessions were organized to showcase women's talents and achievements.

Outcomes:

Immediate Relief: Drought-displaced persons received essential food and non-food items, addressing their immediate needs and improving their living conditions.

Gender-Focused Assistance: Women and girls benefited from targeted interventions that recognized their specific vulnerabilities and provided support tailored to their needs.

Empowerment and Awareness: Women were empowered through the provision of services, skills development opportunities, and awareness campaigns, promoting gender equality and women's rights.

Community Engagement: The involvement of community members and local leaders fostered community ownership and ensured inclusivity in the distribution process.

Collaboration and Coordination: The distribution efforts brought together multiple stakeholders, fostering collaboration and coordination in providing assistance to the affected population.

Challenges and Recommendations:

Limited Resources: The distribution efforts faced resource constraints, necessitating continued advocacy and resource mobilization to reach more affected individuals.

Sustained Support: Long-term support, beyond immediate relief, is essential to address the ongoing drought situation and build resilience in the affected communities.

Addressing Cultural Barriers: Efforts should be made to challenge and overcome cultural barriers that impede gender equality and women's empowerment, ensuring sustained progress in the long run.

Conclusion:

The distribution of food and non-food items to drought-displaced persons from Wajir County on International Women's Day 2023 provided immediate relief, prioritized the needs of women, and promoted gender equality. By addressing the specific challenges faced by women and empowering them, the distribution contributed to the overall well-being and resilience of the affected communities. Continued efforts and sustained support are crucial to addressing the ongoing drought situation and advancing gender equality in the region.



NGEC Garissa officer listening to the issues raised by the IDPS during the commemoration of international women's day 2023





NGEC officer during the distribution of milk to children and women from the affected IDPs