

Alert Type: Rapid Onset Crisis

Alert Title: Flooding Crisis in Kenya

Alerting Organisation(s): Danish People's Aid

Date Received: 19.03.26

Decision Date: 20.03.26

By: DERF Fund Management

Crisis country and location(s): Kenya, Nairobi and Eastern Region

Decision: Not to activate the DERF to respond to the Flooding Crisis in Kenya

This alert is rejected on the same grounds as two similar alerts concerning the same crisis, received on 16 March 2026. The alert "*Flash Floods in Nairobi and other parts of Kenya – March 2026*", submitted by 100% for the Children, as well as the alert "Nyando-Nyakash Flood" submitted by International Aid Services refer to the same crisis in Kenya and has already been assessed and rejected. On this basis, and even if the floods have increased the humanitarian impact slightly, this alert is likewise rejected for the same reasons as outlined below.

Reason:

With the very limited humanitarian sources of information available at the moment, it is assessed that there is no significant funding gap in the ongoing response to the flooding in Kenya. Compared to the relatively small number of people affected, large organisations, including the very capable Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS), the Government of Kenya, county governments, the national disaster management authorities including the National Disaster Operations Centre (NDOC), Kenya National Police Force (NPS) as well as Kenya Defence Forces are all responding to the floods. The floods have not yet triggered the large-scale international humanitarian mobilisation.

Assessment:

According to the latest ECHO Flash Updates (ECHO & GDACS, 19-3-2026 & 16-3-2026) heavy rainfall has continued to affect several parts of Kenya since 6 March, with the capital, Nairobi, being the hardest hit. The resulting widespread flooding has caused casualties and damage. ECHO also quotes the Ministry of Interior and National Administration, asserting that 71 people have died: 36 in the Nairobi area, 19 in the Eastern region, 8 in the Rift Valley, 4 in Nyanza, 3 on the Coast, and 1 in Central Kenya. More than 60.000 people have been displaced, of whom about 7 000 are currently sheltering in camps.

Applying the criteria for the DERF to open a call, it is assessed that the floods are an eligible crisis. It is also assessed that it is likely that there are vulnerable people among the affected people. However, when analysing reports available on international platforms, it is described how capable national actors and the local governments are already responding to the crisis. In addition, citing the UN/EC 'Global Disaster Awareness and Coordination System' (GDACS) *the floods are expected to have a low humanitarian impact based on the magnitude and the affected population and their vulnerability.*

In summary, it is assessed that the flooding does not have a comparable and severe humanitarian impact or scale and neither that there is a significant funding gap. Assistance is reaching the people affected by this crisis, also taking into consideration that the population affected are relatively few.

It is possible that the humanitarian situation changes in scope or severity as rainfall continues. If the situation changes and the existing response is no longer sufficient to assist the people affected by the crisis, it will be possible to submit a new alert to the DERF in order to re-assess the situation. It should be noted that the basis for solid alerts must be backed by credible humanitarian sources/references detailing the impact of the crisis and that relying on mainstream media such as AP, Al Jazeera, BBC, Guardian etc. is insufficient as a basis for informed DERF application assessment practice.