

Internally Displaced Persons



Habitat for Humanity® Kenya (HFH Kenya) recently launched a housing project to house 120 people displaced by the post-election violence that occurred in Kenya after the disputed election of 2007.

Kenya's last general election (2007) was closely contested between two very strong candidates, the current president Mwai Kibaki and the current Prime Minister, Raila Odinga. The results, declaring Mr. Kibaki as the winner, were contested bitterly and as a result, violence that took ethnic dimensions broke out.

Ethnic communities that were considered "strangers" or settlers in certain areas were forcefully evicted and their houses burnt down. As a result, 1,133 people were killed and 630,000 people displaced from their homes and moved to regions where they felt safer.

Since then, some families have moved back to their homes while others have continued to live in camps for fear of fresh attacks in their original homes.



In order to help the displaced families restart their lives, the Government gave funds to enable displaced people purchase materials to reconstruct their homes. One such group based in Maai Mahiu used this money to collectively buy a piece of land which they subdivided equally amongst themselves with the intention of permanently settling in this new location.

They then began contacting organizations to help them construct houses.

As part of its core mandate of helping communities in need build homes and build hope, HFH Kenya has partnered with the Maai Mahiu Displaced Peoples Community to construct 120 houses that will shelter 120 families and enable them to move from their tents that are now tattered, leak heavily when it rains and are not suitable for human habitation.

These families will only be required to provide their sweat equity (labor) as they currently do not have livelihood means to enable them pay back for their houses.



HFH Kenya is looking for individual and corporate donors to help build for the internally displaced people at Maai Mahiu.

One can sponsor construction of a full house at US \$2,667 (KES 200,000) or give other donations that would lead to the completion of a house.

Contact us on the addresses below on how you can help in changing the life of an internally displaced family.

Beneficiary's story

"My name is Hannah Njoki and I am married with seven children. I am unemployed and I live in Maai Mahiu.

My family was displaced by post election violence (2007) from Ololulunga, Narok North, Rift Valley Province of Kenya where I had bought land and was engaged in farming.

I fled the area and settled in a camp at Maai Mahiu. In March, 2009, the Government gave each family KES 25,000 (approximately US \$333). Though this money was not much, jointly with others, we bought a piece of land and subdivided equally. However, I was left with no money to construct a house, so I continued living in a tent with my husband and children. The tents were cold and torn, and my family used to be rained on. The children were always getting sick and would not attend school.

Habitat for Humanity Kenya came to our rescue. They have built for me a free, permanent, three roomed house and a toilet"



"I can now do my class work at home". Says Purity, one of Njoki's seven children.

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