

A.9 Kenya - 2008 - Conflict displaced

Case study:

Transitional shelter kits

See Shelter Projects
2008 for more

Project type:

Pilot provision of transitional shelter kits
Technical support in building
Full-construction for vulnerable households

Emergency:

Kenyan election crisis, 2007-2008

Number of people displaced:

125,000 - 250,000 people found shelter in camps and similar settlements.
300,000 estimated to have moved in with host families.
12,000 fled to Uganda.

Project target population:

481 transitional shelter kits were provided as a pilot project.

Occupancy rate on handover:

86% (those not occupying wanted to wait until the shelter had been upgraded with stronger walls or until other family members returned.)

Shelter size

18 m²



Project timeline




Summary

Provision of transitional shelter kits as a pilot project in the Rift Valley of Kenya, before upscaling to a national response. Shelters were designed to be adapted by beneficiaries into permanent homes and, except in the case of vulnerable households, were erected by the beneficiaries themselves.

Update

At the end of 2008 the government claimed that only 10,000 displaced people remained in camps, though civil society and the media say 80,000-100,000 is more accurate. It has been alleged that more than Sh200 million (approximately 2.5million USD) has been diverted away from the displaced people.

“Operation Return Home”, launched in May 2008, was criticised for violating the  Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. In some cases water supplies were cut off in camps on land such as sports grounds before some displaced people felt safe to return, in order to meet the operations target for monthly return.

The Ministry of State for Special Programmes states that 78,254 households were destroyed in the violence. By mid-2009 a third of beneficiaries had received the Sh25,000 (around 300 USD) shelter assistance grant. The total number of shelter units planned by all partner agencies is 50,750. 16,345 were completed as of 28 May 2009.



Transitional shelter built on the family's own land
Photo: Mark Lawler