Kenya

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT:

Kenya hosts close to 500,000 refugees and asylum seekers of which nearly 200,000 live in Kakuma Refugee Camp and Kalobeyei Refugee Settlement in Turkana County.

77% of individuals in the refugee camps targeted by DCA are women and children.

The ASAL region is a high-risk area for natural disasters including droughts and floods, and the most food insecure area in Kenya.

Turkana and West Pokot Counties have some of Kenya’s lowest Human Development Indexes of 0.37 and 0.45 against the national average of 0.59.

Youth unemployment rates in Kenya are the highest in East Africa; a staggering 39% of Kenyan youth are unemployed. There are insufficient employment opportunities for the 500,000 to 800,000 young Kenyans entering the job market each year.

FACTS:

- DCA has operated in Kenya since 1997 and registered as an INGO in 2016.
- Projects: In 2021, DCA had 13 active projects in Kenya
- In 2020, DCA reached 339,084 people in need
- Turnover in 2021: EUR 3,58 million
- Employees: 38 DCA staff (including 1 international) and about 37 community facilitators.

WHAT WE DO:

DCA has been supporting refugees and local communities in Kakuma and Turkana with humanitarian assistance and long-term development aid since the early 1990s. The country programme is aligned to the SDGs and founded on a rights-based approach in the humanitarian-development-nexus covering immediate needs assistance, resilience, self-reliance and socio-economic integration between refugees and host communities. The programme supports a variety of sectors including:

- Value chain & market development
- Entrepreneurship & life skills development
- Livelihoods
- Climate resilience
- Gender equality
- Youth empowerment
- Peace building & protection

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES

- Roving humanitarian experts at national, regional and global levels who engage on localised durable solutions, and work on humanitarian policy issues pushing global commitments to the SDGs, Charter4Change, Grand Bargain, Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, and the Global Compacts on Refugees and Migration.
- Member of ICVA, CaLP and the ACT Alliance, and signatory to the Charter4Change.
- Core Humanitarian Standards certified, solid global and localised Complaints Handling Mechanisms, and strong Anti-Corruption and Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse policies and practices.

CONTACT:

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WHERE WE WORK:

● **Country Office (Nairobi):** organisational capacity building support to partners; Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning; programme strategy & business development; operational support.

● **Kakuma Field Office / Kakuma and Kalobeyei camps:** DCA and partners work on livelihoods and resilience, financial inclusion and youth empowerment and entrepreneurship.

● **Greater Turkana and host/resident communities:** DCA and partners work on livelihoods and resilience, financial inclusion, youth empowerment and conflict mitigation, with a strong focus on women and youth as well as enhancing the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

● **Nakuru Field Office / Nyandarua, Busia and Siaya Counties:** DCA and partners work on agricultural production, value chain & market development and access to financing for smallholder farmers and green growth and job creation for youth.

● **In West Pokot, Elgeyo Marakwet and Baringo Counties:** DCA and partners work on livelihoods, resilience, financial inclusion and natural resource management.

HOW WE WORK:

**Livelihoods for Resilience and Self-reliance:** climate-resilient agricultural production and value chain development, financial inclusion, cash-based programming, non-agricultural production, business and market development, fishing and livestock health and value chains, water provision and management.

**Youth Empowerment and Gender:** entrepreneurship and skills development, youth voices (Kakuma Parliament), recreational and talent building (including Kakuma Premier and Diva’s League, and Kakuma’s Got Talent), inclusion and equality as well as work with national faith actors on gender justice.

**Peace Building & Conflict Resolution:** between refugees and host community, and between host community and cross-border communities in Uganda/South Sudan/Ethiopia.

**Local Leadership and localisation:** strengthening civil society and local grassroots actors that support and stand up for vulnerable communities and refugees including women and youth and address root causes (land rights & gender/climate injustice).

INNOVATION:

We aim at mainstreaming innovation into everything we do through researching and testing innovative sustainable solutions. Among these are:

- **Multi Storey Gardens** – a kitchen garden bag designed to produce more crops with less water and taking up less space.

- **Cricket Farming** – an innovative solution to secure higher nutritional diet with less impact on the climate; Desert Locust Harvesting & Processing – trialling a community-driven approach to transform a pest into a source of income.

- **Digital Learning and Accountability** – digitalization of entrepreneurship and business training for refugee youth; use of the **Listen Learn Act (LLA)** tool which, through digital data collection and feedback meetings with affected populations, helps us to better capture perceptions and feedback and systematically consider it in our activities; testing a **gaming app to train Village Savings & Loan Association (VSLA) facilitators**

- **Private Sector Engagement** – DCA is working with Ingemann to adapt and roll out digital platforms Climatica farm and Agroclimatica, which efficiently correlate climate predictions, soil conditions and crop / animal behaviour in time to support smallholder farmers. We are also exploring creative partnerships with various private sector actors on youth employment, green growth and value chain development.