# MATERNAL, NEWBORN AND CHILD HEALTH IN KENYA



### COUNTRY BACKGROUND:

Total population (2012): 43 178 000

Probability of dying under five years, per 1 000 live births (2012): 73

Maternal Mortality Ratio, per 100 000 live births (2011): 360

## **OVERVIEW:**

The Kenya Red Cross and the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), supported by the Canadian Red Cross and the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development, are implementing a project for improving Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) in Central Pokot district, West Pokot county, Kenya.

For further information on our other programs in Kenya, please <u>click here</u>.

### **ACTIVITIES**

The Kenya Red Cross and ACTED are working with communities and relevant ministries to:

- Scale-up delivery of basic health services to poor people living in hard-to-access rural communities.
- Train Community Health Workers to assess, treat and refer children, ensuring key village-level health services.
- Provide Community Health Workers with pharmaceutical kits to increase village-level access to life-saving medications.
- Deliver proven, high-impact, cost-effective interventions for critical childhood illnesses: malaria, diarrhea, pneumonia with focus on improving health-seeking behaviors.
- Augment preventative and care-seeking behaviours among the targeted population.
- Train Community Health Workers to conduct behaviour-change communication and health education, promoting key MNCH messages on malaria, diarrhoea, pneumonia, neonatal and maternal care.
- Train Community Health Workers in Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA).
- Establish/reinforce community structures to ensure accountability and sustainability.
- Train Ministry of Health (MoH) staff to supervise Community Health Workers and ensure proper stock management.
- Increase ability of communities, men and women, to mitigate risk.
- Increase livelihood diversification for men and women.

## **EXPECTED RESULTS**

Through the implementation of the project, it is expected that:

- Maternal, newborn and child morbidity and mortality is reduced.
- MoH-community linkages are strengthened.
- Community Health Committees and Community Health Workers are reinforced to ensure and support accountability and sustainability.
- The Kenya Red Cross role in supporting the MoH to deliver community-level MNCH services is improved.
- Communities' capacities to mitigate risks and diversify livelihoods are increased, with a focus on ensuring gender equity throughout the project.
- · Community resilience to hazards and shocks is improved.

The financial support of Canadians for MNCH programming is critical in achieving these significant results. Help us save lives today.