

## **Sustainable Agricultural Livelihood Restoration, Rehabilitation and Resilience in Kenya Training Manual**

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### **BACKGROUND**

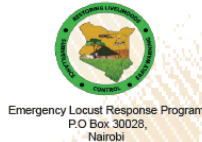
Kenya has experienced several climate change induced disasters including emergence of pests and diseases, drought and floods among others. These disasters have posed challenges on food and nutrition security in the country with adverse effects on livelihoods. The Desert Locust upsurge experienced in Kenya between 2019 and 2021 was the worst in 70 years and affected the country's northern region posing a severe food security threat to about 3 million people. The situation was further exacerbated by drought that affected most of the pastoral counties in Kenya causing more damage to livelihoods among the affected communities.

Kenya has witnessed strong economic growth and declining poverty incidence, but absolute poverty remains high. Since 2011, the Kenyan economy has experienced robust GDP growth averaging 5.8%, catapulting Kenya to a middle-income country and significantly bringing down poverty levels. Kenya's poverty rate with respect to the international poverty line is among the lowest in East African countries, falling from 43.7% in 2005/06 to 36.8% in 2015/16 and 33.4% in 2019.

The COVID-19 pandemic reversed some of the gains in poverty reduction, precipitating Kenya's first recession in 20 years and pushing an estimated two million Kenyans into poverty in 2020. Kenya's real GDP, which was growing at an annual pace of above 5%, contracted by 0.3% in the face of the triple shock of the pandemic comprising of the health impact, the economic impact of the containment measures, and behaviour changes, coupled with reverberations from a synchronised global recession. Kenya's economic outlook remains uncertain, and the projected return to above 5% growth rate faces several potential adverse scenarios, including slower than anticipated vaccination rollout, fiscal slippages, adverse weather conditions, and a weaker global economic backdrop. Policymakers face the challenge of supporting the recovery and laying the foundation for green, resilient, and inclusive development while reducing macro-financial vulnerabilities.

The greatest impact of Desert Locust invasion and drought was felt by households that depend on livestock and cropping activities and who are already facing acute food insecurity due to their existing high vulnerability and the effects of expected fodder and crop losses. For these households, locust impacts and drought led to a deterioration in food security and a rise in food prices.

The Emergency Locust Response Project (ELRP) was thereafter conceptualised to supplement government resources against continued locust invasions. The Government accessed a World Bank credit of USD 43 million (IDA 66480) to support a holistic response to the upsurge, including: swarm surveillance and control, livelihood restoration, and improving national preparedness against future outbreaks of locusts and other transboundary pests. The project has four components; component 1: Surveillance and Control Measures;



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Component 2: Livelihoods Protection and Rehabilitation and Component 3: Coordination and Early Warning Preparedness and Component 4: Project Management.

This Manual is developed to support livelihood restoration and rehabilitation. The objective of these interventions is to safeguard and protect the poor and vulnerable households from human, social and asset capital losses resulting from the effects of locust invasion. There will be support initiatives to enhance access to food and to rehabilitate food production systems and livelihoods that have been damaged by desert locust (DL) swarms. The affected farmers and livestock-holding households will be supported to restore their productive assets for enhanced adoption of existing and alternative Technologies, Innovations and Management Practices.