

# Kenya



**International Medical Corps began its work in Kenya in 1998 following the deadly terrorist attacks on the US Embassy in Nairobi.**

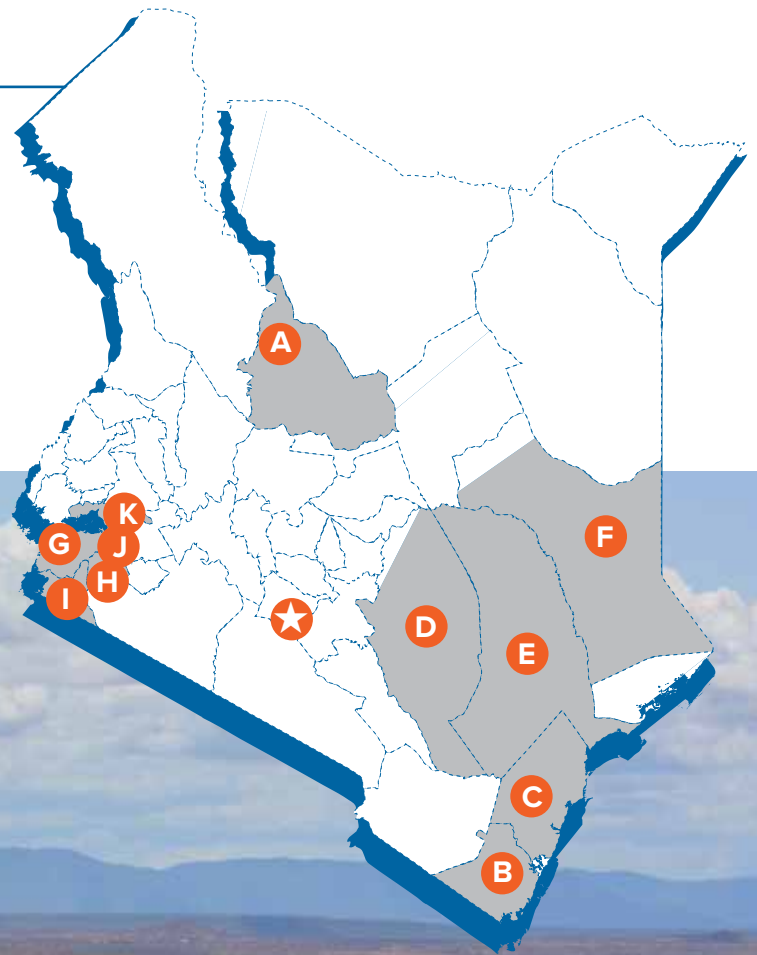
Since then, International Medical Corps has responded to manmade and natural disasters in Kenya with critical lifesaving services as well as the long-term development challenges facing the country. Today, International Medical Corps' focus in Kenya is primarily on preventing and treating the effects of HIV/AIDS amongst the most at-risk populations in the Western part of the country where contraction rates are still above the national average, as well as on improving the nutritional status of mothers and children.



## OUR AREAS OF OPERATION: INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS OFFICES AND FIELD PRESENCE

### COUNTIES:

- |                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| <b>A</b> Samburu    | <b>G</b> Homabay |
| <b>B</b> Kwale      | <b>H</b> Kisii   |
| <b>C</b> Kilifi     | <b>I</b> Migori  |
| <b>D</b> Kitui      | <b>J</b> Nyamira |
| <b>E</b> Tana River | <b>K</b> Kisumu  |
| <b>F</b> Garissa    | ★ Nairobi        |



## HIV/AIDS

In Western Kenya, where HIV prevalence is two times higher than the national figures, International Medical Corps is working with the most at-risk populations for contracting and transmitting HIV/AIDS. This includes female sex workers, men having sex with men, intravenous drug users as well as priority groups such as fishermen, truckers, and youth in and out schools. International Medical Corps established eight drop-in centers that provide free HIV/AIDS prevention and care services. The centers offer HIV/AIDS education, family planning; condom promotion, demonstration, and distribution; counseling and psychosocial support; and referral services. The centers also organize support groups for those living with HIV/AIDS and train community leaders in HIV/AIDS prevention.

International Medical Corps also empowers adolescent girls and young women with the knowledge to keep themselves safe from

HIV. This is done through a combination of HIV prevention activities that have successfully addressed risky sexual behaviors, HIV transmission and acquisition, and gender-based violence. By the end of the program, International Medical Corps hopes to establish a village of Gembe and Kaksingiri West wards of Homabay County in southwestern Kenya where adolescent girls and young women remain HIV negative and have healthy futures.

In Migori, Kisii, and Homabay, three counties in the Migori region of southwestern Kenya, International Medical Corps is studying the impact HIV self-testing and peer education can have on lowering transmission of HIV among female sex workers. At the same time, International Medical Corps is working to build the capacity of the county and national health management team in implementing science-based research and HIV programming.

## NUTRITION

International Medical Corps is currently working in seven counties (Kwale, Kilifi, Tana-River, Kitui, Garissa, and Samburu) to improve maternal and child health through nutrition interventions. This involves supporting the Ministry of Health to implement High Impact Nutrition Interventions (HINI) as well working with local organizations and other sectors, such as agriculture and the National Drought Management Authority, to build capacity and advocate for greater investments in nutrition. The HINI efforts target child under five years old and pregnant and breastfeeding women and to aim to reduce child mortality by 30 percent.

In Homabay County, International Medical Corps, as part of a consortium with the Kenya Red Cross and the local organization Community Action for Rural Development, is reducing child stunting through better access to nutrition services. The program also advocates for stronger political commitment to reducing malnutrition and child stunting at the county level and strengthens existing information systems to better understand how nutrition service delivery is working in health facilities.

## CURE CERVICAL CANCER

In 2014, International Medical Corps has partnered with Cure Cervical Cancer to establish and scale up cervical cancer screening and treatment in 10 clinics in Kenya including the 7 Drop in Centers (DiCEs) and at 2 women's prison clinics. The twelve-month project intends to screen and provide treatment to 3,500 women for cervical cancer.

*The focus of International Medical Corps Nutrition programs is to improve maternal and child health through nutrition and family planning interventions.*





Since its inception 30 years ago, International Medical Corps' mission has been consistent: relieve the suffering of those impacted by war, natural disaster and disease, by delivering vital health care services that focus on training. This approach of helping people help themselves is critical to returning devastated populations to self-reliance.

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