



**“WE ARE
LIKE RUBBISH
IN THIS
COUNTRY”**

FORCED EVICTIONS
IN NAIROBI, KENYA

The remains of City Carton settlement in Nairobi. On 10 May 2013 at around 4am, unidentified men arrived unannounced and began destroying people's homes with sledgehammers and crowbars. Residents reported that the police used live ammunition and tear gas to disperse people. On 17 May a bulldozer arrived and completely flattened the area.



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A resident of City Carton settlement
sits outside her demolished home
on 10 May 2013.



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In the absence of any assistance from state authorities or access to effective remedies, residents have been left to their own devices. More than a month after the forced evictions, some residents were still constructing shelters.



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Some residents who were made homeless from the forced evictions at City Carton now live in makeshift shelters along a dirt track beside the original settlement. These makeshift structures are not strong enough to withstand heavy winds and rain. Residents fear they will be evicted and made homeless once again from this site.



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Margaret N'Thenya, a resident of City Carton had to sleep in the open for a month after the forced evictions. She used materials such as cardboard boxes to build her temporary shelter nearby with the help of other community members.



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At least 400 families were forcibly evicted and many are now homeless and in urgent need of food, water and adequate accommodation. There is no local water connection, forcing many people to collect water from the nearby swamp.

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View of Deep Sea settlement from the roof of one of the houses.

Deep Sea is home to over 12,000 residents, some of whom have lived in the settlement since 1963. Like other communities it has many businesses, churches and also a nursery school. Kenyan authorities are planning a major road construction project through the settlement. Residents and Amnesty International are concerned that if proper legal procedures are not followed Deep Sea residents could be at risk of a forced eviction.

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Deep Sea has only one access road, which is extremely narrow and uneven. The road is lined with businesses and shops, many of which are owned by residents, and is the centre of the settlement's activities.

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Janeviver Nafuna, 49, a mother of five who has also adopted several more children in the slum, with her uncle Timothy Muthama, 85. She manages a paid public toilet as source of income.

“If I am removed from here, I don’t have anywhere else to go. That means I’ll go to the streets. Living with six children and being jobless is not an easy thing”.

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Jeremiah Makori in front of his shop on the main road in Deep Sea.

“My food kiosk is my only source of my income. If I am evicted from this place and it is demolished then it means I will lose all my source of income. I will lose my children as they will not go to school because that’s how I support them... if the eviction takes place, definitely I am going to lose everything”.

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Gladys Namwaya, 52 in front of her home in Deep Sea slum, Nairobi. Most residents here do not have access to proper sanitation, to clinics, schools, roads or proper street lighting.

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Joseph Mulatiya Andana at his
open air metal workshop in
Deep Sea.

“If eviction happens today,
my job would be paralysed.
The space I have to work in is
one of the affected areas of the
Missing Links project. So if I
lose my space, and my house...
I'll lose my job. I'll also lose my
family, because nobody will be
catering for them”.

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