



KENYA - ASAL

ABOUT 2.1 MILLION PEOPLE IN KENYA'S ASAL REGION ARE HIGHLY FOOD INSECURE DUE TO FAILED RAINS, LOW AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND HIGH FOOD PRICES

IPC ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY AND ACUTE MALNUTRITION ANALYSIS

JULY 2021 – JANUARY 2022

Issued in September 2021

CURRENT ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY JULY - OCTOBER 2021



2.1M

14% of the population

People facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above)

IN NEED OF URGENT ACTION

Phase 5	0 People in Catastrophe
Phase 4	355,000 People in Emergency
Phase 3	1,793,000 People in Crisis
Phase 2	5,214,000 People Stressed
Phase 1	7,790,000 People in food security

ACUTE MALNUTRITION JULY - NOVEMBER 2021



652,960

the number of 6-59 months children acutely malnourished

IN NEED OF TREATMENT

Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) **142,810**

Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) **510,150**



96,480

Pregnant or lactating women acutely malnourished

IN NEED OF TREATMENT

Overview

An estimated 2.1 million people (14% of the population in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL)) are experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) between July and October 2021. Compared to the same period in 2020, there is a 34 percent increase (by over 700,000 people) of people classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4). The deterioration and severity of food insecurity are mainly attributed to two consecutive poor performances of seasonal rainfall. The majority of these populations are in eight counties: Baringo, Garissa, Isiolo, Mandera, Marsabit, Tana River, Turkana and Wajir, which are regions with predominantly pastoral livelihoods.

In the projection period (November 2021 to January 2022), the population in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is also expected to increase from 1.8 million people to about 2 million people (13% of the population in ASAL) while the population in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) is likely to slightly increase from 355,000 to 368,000. Nine counties are expected to host a significant proportion of the population in IPC Phase 3 or above. Baringo County is expected to shift from Crisis to Stressed (IPC Phase 2), while Lamu and Kwale counties will like see a deterioration from Stressed to Crisis. This assumption is based on the likely continued poor performance of the 2021 'short rains' season (OND), forecast to be below average. Overall, the food security situation will most likely worsen with an increase in the number of people experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity in counties in the ASAL region.

An estimated 652,960 children aged 6-59 months and 96,480 pregnant and lactating women require treatment of acute malnutrition. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic that is affecting all counties in the country, the caseload for children aged 6 to 59 months requires urgent attention. The nutrition situation has remained similar across arid counties compared to the August 2020 analysis. The malnutrition situation was Critical (IPC AMN Phase 4) in seven counties: Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, Samburu, Turkana, the North Horr & Laisamis sub-counties in Marsabit County and Tiaty in Baringo County.

Key Drivers



Erratic rainfall

The 2021 March to May Long rains performance was mixed across Kenya. The rains were poorly distributed in space and time, notably where below-average rainfall was registered, significantly affecting crop and livestock production.



Below Average crop production:

Below-average March to May long rains were characterized by late onsets, dry spells, poor spatial and temporal distribution, limited access to farm inputs, fall armyworm invasions and reduced area planted.

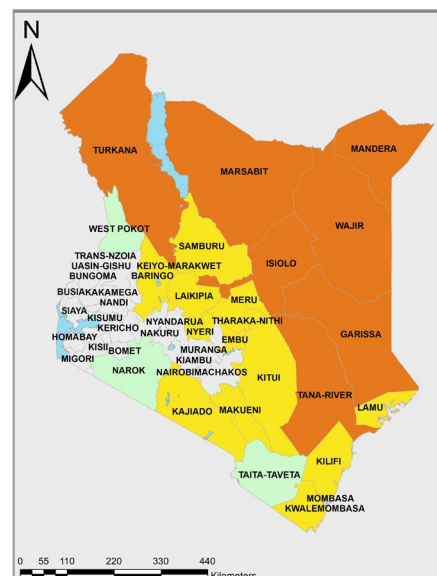


Food/Livestock Price Trends

In the pastoral areas, staple food prices were mostly above average because of a high demand for maize for both human and livestock food due to the intensifying drought. Livestock prices were also mixed due to limited supply brought about by ongoing migration and the deterioration in body condition.



Current Acute Food Insecurity July - October 2021



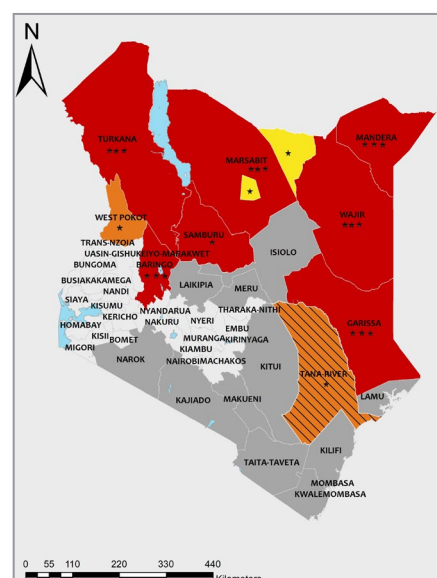
Key for the Map IPC Acute Food Insecurity Phase Classification

- 1 - Minimal
- 2 - Stressed
- 3 - Crisis
- 4 - Emergency
- 5 - Famine
- Areas not analysed

Evidence Level
** Medium



Projected Acute Malnutrition Aug - Nov 2021



Key for the Map IPC Acute Malnutrition Phase Classification

- 1 - Acceptable
- 2 - Alert
- 3 - Serious
- 4 - Critical
- 5 - Extremely critical
- Phase classification based on MUAC
- Areas not analysed

Evidence Level
* Acceptable
** Medium
*** High

Scarcely evidence due to limited or no humanitarian access

CURRENT ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY SITUATION OVERVIEW AND KEY DRIVERS (FEBRUARY 2021)

According to the observed current condition in ASAL counties, it is estimated that 2.1 million people face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) and need humanitarian assistance during the current period. Of the affected population, about 1.8 million are classified in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and 355,000 in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency). The counties with the highest pockets of the population classified in IPC Phase 3 or above are in eight out of 23 counties; Baringo, Garissa, Isiolo, Mandera, Marsabit, Tana River, Turkana and Wajir, which are regions with predominantly pastoral livelihoods. At an estimated 2.1 million, the population in high acute food insecurity has significantly increased compared to the Long rains assessment (LRA) in 2020, which identified around 0.7 million people estimated to be in these conditions. The key drivers differ from those identified in the LRA 2020: the reported consecutive below-average rainfall, below-average crop production, increasing food prices, and conflict and insecurity in most ASAL livelihood zones

The deterioration is attributed to the March-May 2021 Long rains season's dismal performance, compounded by COVID-19 and poor performance of the previous Short rains season. The pastoral counties are now experiencing their second consecutive failed season, with Isiolo, Marsabit, Wajir, Garissa and Tana River the worst hit. The pasture and browse regeneration was insufficient. Their condition ranged from fair to fair/poor and is expected to last for 1 – 2 months from August. Livestock body condition is below average, with grazing being fair to poor and expected to deteriorate rapidly as distances to water and pasture increase.

Availability

The Long rains season contribute to 40 percent of annual crop production, with the Short rains season accounting for 60 percent. The main rain-fed crops grown were maize, cowpeas and green grams. Other crops on a small scale were beans and millet. The below-average harvests are expected to reduce household food availability. Household food availability is set to decrease through September as household food stocks diminish, signalling a return to market dependence for households.

The stocks are likely to last for one month in the Marginal Mixed Farming zone and up to three months in the Mixed Farming and Rain-fed Farming zone. This represents a decline of 50 percent, which is attributed to low acreage and depressed rains that resulted in the wilting of most crops. Some counties in the ASALs had total crop failure. In some areas, farmers did not even plant, and where they did, the crop dried below knee-high. The resumption of some rains made some farmers replant, but the crop's prospects growing to maturity are minimal.

The increase in areas with maize, sorghum, cowpeas and bananas was attributed to the provision of assorted seeds, fertilizer and subsidized tractor services by some development partners under the livelihoods recovery programme. The response to the negative impact of desert locust infestation was supported by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and World Vision, collaborating with the national and county governments.

Livestock production contributes about 80 and 45 percent to cash income in the Pastoral and Agro-Pastoral Livelihood Zones, respectively. The pasture condition was fair to poor in the pastoral and good to fair in the agro-pastoral zones compared to good to fair in an average year. The browse condition was fair to poor across the livelihoods clusters compared with good to fair in an average year. The decline in the forage situation was attributed to the uneven distribution of the Long rains and accelerated by adverse effects of climate change coupled with Desert Locust infestation.

The available pasture is projected to last for one month in the Pastoral and Fishing livelihood zones and two months in the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone compared to 3-4 months on average, while browse is projected to last for 2-3 months compared with 3 – 5 months in an average year. The main limiting factor to forage access was the emergence of non-palatable vegetation species, especially *Calotropis Procera* in Marsabit, *cissus rotundifolia* (Raraiti) and *Acacia reficiens*, *ipomoea* species and *Prosopis juliflora*.

In all the livelihood zones, the livestock body condition for cattle was generally fair to poor compared to good to fair normally. Sheep had a generally fair body condition compared to good body conditions in all the livelihood zones except in some pastoral areas. Camel body condition was fair to good compared to good generally across all the livelihood zones. The deteriorating trend in body condition across the livelihood zones was due to the depletion of both forage and water resources, resulting in long trekking distance to watering sources and decreased watering frequencies. The fair to poor body condition has negatively affected livestock prices, milk availability, and consumption at the household level across the livelihood zones. However, with the faster rate of depletion of the available forage and water, livestock body condition is likely to decline further, which will contribute negatively to the food security situation at households due to reduced milk production and declining livestock prices.

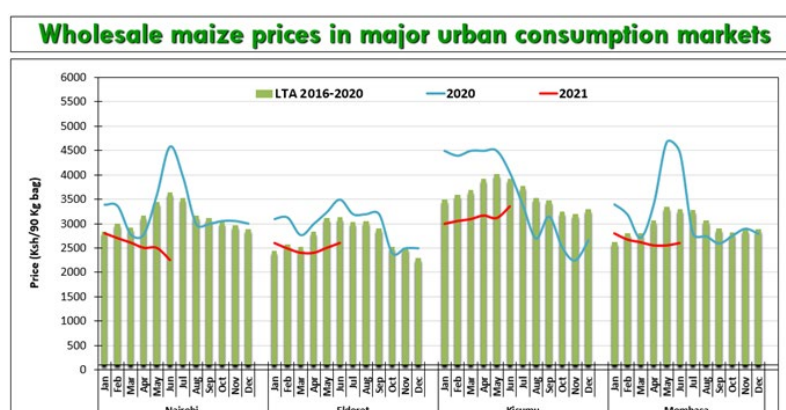
Livestock birth rates were below normal, especially in the Pastoral livelihood zone, due to the poor performance of two consecutive rainy seasons, leading to a prolonged breeding period. More kidding/lambing is expected within the next three months; however, with the progression of the dry spell currently being experienced, livestock birth rates are expected to decline, especially in the Pastoral livelihood zone.

Household milk production in the agro-pastoral and pastoral livelihood zones was below the long-term average due to the deteriorating livestock body condition and livestock migrations in search of pastures. In the pastoral and agro-pastoral livelihood zones, milk production declined by 25 and 43 percent, respectively, when compared to the long-term average, due to fair to poor forage resources. Reduced milk production was highest in Isiolo County due to dry milking herds, except for camels. Compared to the long-term average, milk prices increased in pastoral and agro-pastoral livelihood zones by 38 and 31 percent, respectively. In all the livelihood zones, milk consumption is reduced due to reduced production, increased cost of milk and reduced purchasing power among most households.

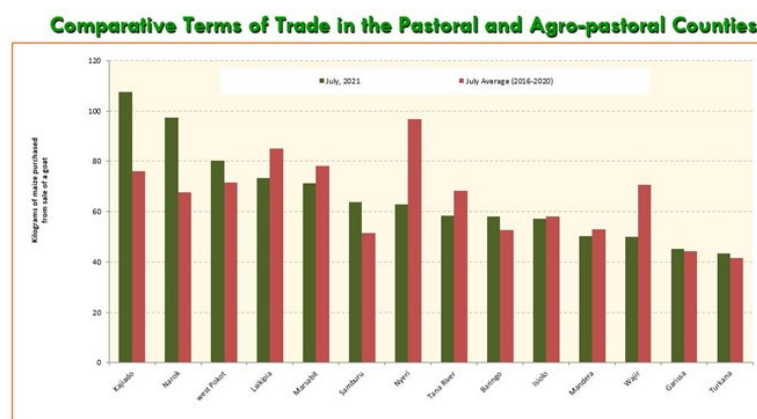
Access

Staple food prices were mixed across the country and maize prices were generally below average in the urban reference markets and in the marginal agricultural areas due to cross-border imports and available Long rains harvests. In the pastoral areas, however, staple food prices were mostly above average because of a high demand for maize as both human and livestock food due to the intensifying drought. Livestock prices were also mixed due to limited supply brought about by ongoing migration and the deterioration in body condition.

In the month of July across the major urban reference markets of Nairobi, Mombasa, Kisumu and Eldoret, wholesale maize prices were within the five-year averages in Kisumu and 7-16 percent below average across the rest of the markets, driven by available local stocks and cross-border regional imports.



High staple food prices coupled with declining livestock prices have impacted negatively on household's purchasing power with current terms of trade at 10 – 30 percent below the five-year average in Marsabit, Wajir, Isiolo and Tana River. Earlier than normal out-migration of about 40 – 60 percent of livestock have been witnessed, mainly in search of pasture and water, and has intensified insecurity and conflict as well as created high risk of livestock diseases.



In the marginal agricultural areas, poor performance of the Long rains coupled with effects of COVID-19 impacted negatively on household food security, coupled with this being the second successive failed season. Maize production reduced by 70 percent and households have limited stocks of 60 percent less than normal, with the rest relying on market purchases. Similarly, the south eastern marginal cluster experienced below-average rainfall, thus cutting maize production by more than 40 percent. High food prices are expected to continue until the end of the year, further impacting household food security.

Utilization

The major sources of water in the counties are boreholes, shallow wells and traditional river wells. Other sources include rivers, lakes, pans and dams. The recharge level for boreholes, shallow wells and water pans across the Livelihood Zones was estimated at 80 percent, 70 percent and 72 percent respectively. The boreholes are reliable sources and can last throughout the year, but shallow wells are estimated to last six months and water pans 4 months. Water treatment is low. The proportions of children that are fully immunized is below the national threshold and the proportion of households practicing open defecation is relatively high. All these are prohibitive factors that affect the utilization pillar of food security in this county. Despite the fact that water consumption was good across the livelihoods, poor hygiene and sanitation practices continue to be a limiting factor.

Based on the survey data, latrine utilization was 52.5 percent in 2021 while open defecation was being practiced by 47.3 percent of the population. The high levels of open defecation are a precipitate to increased water- borne illnesses among the households.

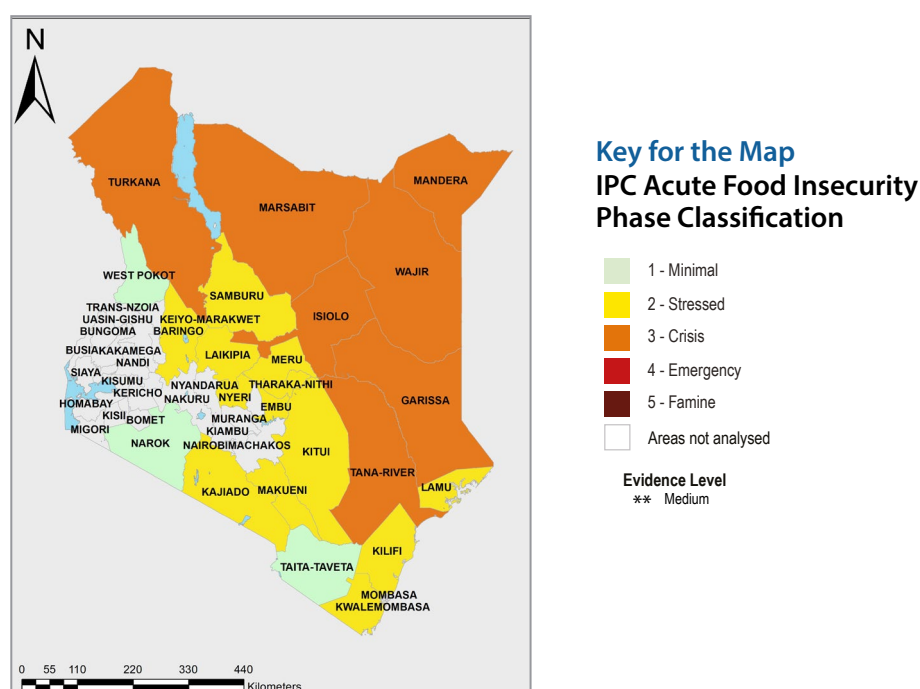
The SRA analysis was informed by two sources of outcome data: the National Drought Management Authority's (NDMA) drought early warning and monitoring system covering 23 ASAL counties, and SMART Surveys covering six key priority counties. Across the 23 counties, consumption-based coping was high in two counties indicating more than 20% having a poor Food Consumption Score (FCS), with an additional 14 counties having a borderline FCS and six counties having an acceptable FCS. Based on the reduced coping strategies, six counties reported using crisis or above strategies, while 14 counties reported using stressed coping strategies.

Livelihood-based coping results showed a Stressed situation across the 23 ASAL counties, with Isiolo having high responses on Emergency coping.

SMART survey results for six counties - Garissa, Marsabit, Wajir, Baringo, Turkana and Mandera - showed acceptable levels for food consumption, with two counties - Marsabit and Turkana - having a borderline FCS. Similarly, for reduced coping strategies, a slight difference was recorded, where in the six aforementioned counties an on-average level of reduced coping strategies is stressed, whereas the same two counties with a borderline FCS show a high proportion of people in crisis or above.

A comparison of the outcome results from the NDMA and SMART survey for FCS and rCSI show differences. The SMART survey depicts better food security with acceptable and stressed situations, while the NDMA data are showing a deteriorating food insecurity indicating both borderline and crisis or above situations.

CURRENT ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY MAP AND POPULATION TABLE (JULY - OCTOBER 2021)



Population table for the current period: July - October 2021

County	Total population analysed	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Area Phase	Phase 3+	
		#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%		#people	%
Baringo	666,783	333,392	50	200,035	30	100,017	15	33,339	5	0	0	3	133,356	20
Embu	272,357	190,650	70	54,471	20	27,236	10	0	0	0	0	2	27,236	10
Garissa	841,353	294,474	35	378,609	45	126,203	15	42,068	5	0	0	3	168,271	20
Isiolo	268,002	67,001	25	93,801	35	80,401	30	26,800	10	0	0	3	107,201	40
Kajiado	1,117,840	614,812	55	447,136	40	55,892	5	0	0	0	0	2	55,892	5
Kilifi	1,453,787	726,894	50	581,515	40	145,379	10	0	0	0	0	2	145,379	10
Kitui	1,136,187	568,094	50	454,475	40	113,619	10	0	0	0	0	2	113,619	10
Kwale	866,820	433,410	50	346,728	40	86,682	10	0	0	0	0	2	86,682	10
Laikipia	518,560	259,280	50	233,352	45	25,928	5	0	0	0	0	2	25,928	5
Lamu county	143,920	50,372	35	79,156	55	14,392	10	0	0	0	0	2	14,392	10
Makueni	987,653	444,444	45	444,444	45	98,765	10	0	0	0	0	2	98,765	10
Mandera	867,457	346,983	40	346,983	40	130,119	15	43,373	5	0	0	3	173,492	20
Marsabit	459,785	137,936	30	160,925	35	114,946	25	45,979	10	0	0	3	160,925	35
Meru	764,885	497,175	65	229,466	30	38,244	5	0	0	0	0	2	38,244	5
Narok	1,157,873	984,192	85	115,787	10	57,894	5	0	0	0	0	1	57,894	5
Nyeri	198,901	159,121	80	29,835	15	9,945	5	0	0	0	0	2	9,945	5
Samburu	310,327	139,647	45	124,131	40	31,033	10	15,516	5	0	0	2	46,549	15
Taita	340,671	289,570	85	34,067	10	17,034	5	0	0	0	0	1	17,034	5
Tana river	315,943	126,377	40	126,377	40	47,391	15	15,797	5	0	0	3	63,188	20
Tharaka	133,595	106,876	80	20,039	15	6,680	5	0	0	0	0	2	6,680	5
Turkana	926,976	231,744	25	324,442	35	278,093	30	92,698	10	0	0	3	370,791	40
Wajir	781,263	156,253	20	429,695	55	156,253	20	39,063	5	0	0	3	195,316	25
West pokot	621,241	528,055	85	62,124	10	31,062	5	0	0	0	0	1	31,062	5
Total	15,152,179	7,686,749	51	5,317,592	35	1,793,206	12	354,633	2	0	0		2,147,839	14

Note: A population in Phase 3+ does not necessarily reflect the full population in need of urgent action. This is because some households may be in Phase 2 or even 1 but only because of receipt of assistance, and thus, they may be in need of continued action.

PROJECTED ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY OVERVIEW AND KEY DRIVERS (NOVEMBER 2021 - JANUARY 2022)

In the projection period (November 2021 to January 2022), the population in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is expected to increase from 1.8 million people to about 2 million people (13% of the population in ASAL) while the population in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) is likely to slightly deteriorate to about 368,000 people. The counties expected to have significant numbers in IPC Phase 3 or above are Turkana, Mandera, Lamu, Garissa, Wajir, Kwale, Kitui, Tana River and Isiolo. Notably, Baringo County shifted from Phase 3 to Phase 2 due to the off-season rains received in July, which are expected to continue up to August and will have a limited positive impact on livestock and water sectors. Food and water availability and utilization is expected to improve up to October 2021 in Baringo County and this will mostly be observed in the Pastoral and Agro-pastoral livelihood zones where livestock production is a key livelihood activity. Although the forecast Short rains are below average, they are expected to slightly improve forage availability and water recharge, pushing some population numbers from Phase 3 to Phase 2. Additionally, Lamu and Kwale counties shifted from Phase 2 to Phase 3, mainly attributed to the performance of the 2021 Short rains season (OND) forecast to be below average. This situation will most likely worsen, hence the increase of highly food insecure population, with rainfall being the main driver of the food security situation across the ASAL areas in Kenya.

Household food availability is set to decrease through September as household food stocks diminish, signaling a return to market dependence for households. The below average October to December Short rains season will reduce cropping activities and associated income from casual labor from September onwards and from crop sales from December onwards. The below-average harvests are expected to reduce household food availability. The effect of the Short rains are expected to improve forage and water availability for a short-lived period, improving livestock productivity, however, milk production and consumption at household level is expected to remain below average, driving increasing malnutrition for children under five years of age.

The deterioration of the already below-average rangeland resources is expected to start off the lean season early, intensifying livestock migration even further to the dry-season grazing areas and expanding their range further to atypical routes in neighboring counties and across the border to neighboring countries, driving resource-based conflicts between fellow herders and farmers. With the decline of rangeland resources, return trekking distances are expected to increase, driving a deterioration in livestock body conditions and productivity and further reducing milk production and sale value.

From late October, the forecast below-average Short rains are expected to begin late and only partially recharge forage and water resources. Livestock will likely recover slightly and not be able to achieve complete recovery, keeping sale values and milk production low. In pastoral livelihoods, livestock that had previously migrated will likely remain in the dry season grazing areas, keeping milk access low at the household level. The remaining livestock that had not migrated will begin migrating early from late December. Reduced assets because of the poor body condition of livestock and reduced sale value will reduce household income. Households will attempt to intensify non-livestock income sources such as casual labor, charcoal and firewood sales and petty trade, which will likely be limited due to high competition.

Livestock herders are expected to congregate in the areas where the scarce rangeland resources are available. This will likely result in resource-based and tribal conflicts as well as livestock disease outbreaks that may result in significant livestock deaths due to the weakened body state of the livestock.

Household food availability is set to decrease over the next two months as household food stocks diminish and become depleted by the end of September, signaling a return to market dependence for households in these areas. The October to December Short rains season is the main production season in the marginal areas and the forecast below-average Short rains will reduce cropping activities and associated income from casual labor from September onwards and from crop sales from December onwards.

The expected Short rains are expected to improve forage and water availability for a short-lived period, improving livestock productivity momentarily, however, milk production and consumption at household level is expected to be below average.

Despite low income, households will get relief from projected below-average staple food prices due to carryover stocks, cross-border imports and as harvests from the high and medium rainfall areas become available from September, which will keep food relatively accessible by households. To obtain income, households will intensify use of consumption coping strategies and livelihood coping strategies such as purchasing food on credit, selling of productive assets, sending household members to eat elsewhere, spending savings and borrowing money.

Key Assumptions for the projected period

According to a statement from the Ministry of Health, an expected 4.7 million doses of different available vaccines are to be received in Kenya by mid-September. However, this amounts to approximately ten percent of the country's total population, which remains a low vaccination rate. It is expected that some of the COVID-19 related restrictions will be lifted progressively as vaccination rates increase slightly, improving household income-earning opportunities and food security. However, most of the COVID-19 related restrictions are likely to remain in place through the scenario period, significantly impacting household income and food access negatively.

According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network's (FEWS NET) price projections, maize prices in Nairobi urban market, a proxy for national prices, are expected to remain 17-28 percent below average through January, driven by above-average maize production in Uganda and near-average Long rains harvests from Kenya's high and medium rainfall areas from October onwards. Bean prices, however, are expected to remain 20-25 percent above the five-year average through the scenario period, driven by low carryover stocks and current below-average production.

According to the North American Multimodel Ensemble (NMME) climate models, there is likely to be a weak La Nina effect, and as a result, there is a 40 – 60 percent probability that the 2021 October to December Short rains will be below average in the eastern parts of the Country. However, the rains in western Kenya are forecasted to be normal. The temperature is forecast to be average in western Kenya, but in eastern Kenya there is a 40 – 60 percent probability that the temperatures will be above average from October to December 2021.

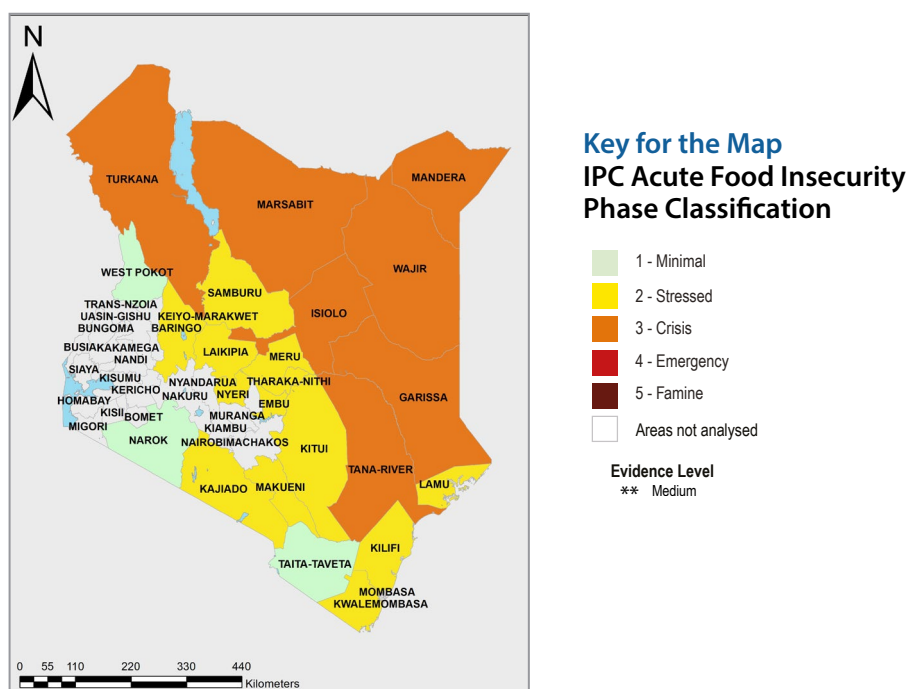
Atypical livestock migration is expected to intensify from September through October and from December until the beginning of the 2022 March to May Long rains. The intensified migration is expected to increase incidences of resource-based conflicts that will disrupt market functions, schooling activities, access to health facilities and services as well as disrupt livelihood activities.

The forecast below-average October to December Short rains are likely to drive below-average crop production activities in the cropping areas, including land preparation, planting and weeding, which will in turn reduce on-farm casual labor income-earning opportunities. Household income is likely to be below average, forcing households to seek additional income from off-farm sources to bridge income gaps.

Following below-average crop production from the 2021 Long rains season, the below-average harvests in the marginal agricultural areas are expected to last 1 – 2 months to October across most areas. From October, most poor households are expected to depend on markets as a source of food as their household food stocks get depleted.

The forecast below-average October to December Short rains are expected to result in partial regeneration of forage and water resources, while forecast high temperatures are expected to drive a rapid deterioration of these resources. The expected result is low livestock conception and birth rates from mid-November, driving below-average household milk availability and related income throughout the scenario period.

PROJECTED ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY MAP AND POPULATION TABLE (NOVEMBER 2021 - JANUARY 2022)



Population table for the projection period: November 2021 - January 2022

County	Total population analysed	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Area Phase	Phase 3+	
		#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%		#people	%
Baringo	666,783	366,731	55	233,374	35	66,678	10	0	0	0	0	2	66,678	10
Embu	272,357	136,179	50	122,561	45	13,618	5	0	0	0	0	2	13,618	5
Garissa	841,353	252,406	30	294,474	35	210,338	25	84,135	10	0	0	3	294,473	35
Isiolo	268,002	80,401	30	107,201	40	53,600	20	26,800	10	0	0	3	80,400	30
Kajiado	1,117,840	558,920	50	503,028	45	55,892	5	0	0	0	0	2	55,892	5
Kilifi	1,453,787	726,894	50	581,515	40	145,379	10	0	0	0	0	2	145,379	10
Kitui	1,136,187	511,284	45	454,475	40	170,428	15	0	0	0	0	2	170,428	15
Kwale	866,820	433,410	50	260,046	30	130,023	15	43,341	5	0	0	3	173,364	20
Laikipia	518,560	233,352	45	233,352	45	51,856	10	0	0	0	0	2	51,856	10
Lamu county	143,920	57,568	40	57,568	40	21,588	15	7,196	5	0	0	3	28,784	20
Makueni	987,653	493,827	50	395,061	40	98,765	10	0	0	0	0	2	98,765	10
Mandera	867,457	303,610	35	346,983	40	173,491	20	43,373	5	0	0	3	216,864	25
Marsabit	459,785	114,946	25	183,914	40	114,946	25	45,979	10	0	0	3	160,925	35
Meru	764,885	458,931	60	267,710	35	38,244	5	0	0	0	0	2	38,244	5
Narok	1,157,873	984,192	85	115,787	10	57,894	5	0	0	0	0	1	57,894	5
Nyeri	198,901	149,176	75	29,835	15	19,890	10	0	0	0	0	2	19,890	10
Samburu	310,327	124,131	40	139,647	45	31,033	10	15,516	5	0	0	2	46,549	15
Taita	340,671	306,604	90	17,034	5	17,034	5	0	0	0	0	1	17,034	5
Tana river	315,943	110,580	35	126,377	40	63,189	20	15,797	5	0	0	3	78,986	25
Tharaka	133,595	93,517	70	33,399	25	6,680	5	0	0	0	0	2	6,680	5
Turkana	926,976	324,442	35	324,442	35	231,744	25	46,349	5	0	0	3	278,093	30
Wajir	781,263	195,316	25	351,568	45	195,316	25	39,063	5	0	0	3	234,379	30
West pokot	621,241	528,055	85	62,124	10	31,062	5	0	0	0	0	1	31,062	5
Total	15,152,179	7,544,468	50	5,241,474	35	1,998,688	13	367,549	2	0	0		2,366,237	16

Note: A population in Phase 3+ does not necessarily reflect the full population in need of urgent action. This is because some households may be in Phase 2 or even 1 but only because of receipt of assistance, and thus, they may be in need of continued action.

COVID-19 IMPACT ON FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION SITUATION

In the ASALs, the COVID-19 pandemic related restrictions continue to disrupt markets in the county, therefore adversely impacting food security. In Mandera and Marsabit, to control cross-border spread of the disease, cross-border movement of goods and people with Somalia and Ethiopia was restricted, which has constrained volumes of commodities and resulted in higher prices. The enforcement of social distancing measures has restricted the communal performance of agricultural activities and availability of casual labor opportunities, reducing the amount of land cultivated and projected crop production.

Disrupted market functioning has affected the supply of agricultural inputs, thereby constraining production activities, while the disruption of supply of staple food commodities and livestock has led to increased volatility of prices impacting household food access and income. The pandemic has also affected the school calendar and relevant school-feeding programmes. In addition, it has impacted the health sector, leading to a reduction in health-seeking, under-utilization of static health facilities, and reduced health services like outreaches due to re-allocation of resources towards efforts to curb the virus.

In the urban areas, poor households - especially those in the informal settlements - continue to face constrained food and income at the household level, due to a prolonged period of constrained economic activities linked to the pandemic and its related restrictions. The nationwide vaccination drive continues and statistics show that the percentage of vaccinated people in Nairobi County stood at 10 percent compared to 2 percent for the rest of the country. However, the vaccination drive continues to get boosted by the arrival of vaccines from various sources.

ACUTE MALNUTRITION OVERVIEW

According to the Acute Malnutrition (IPC AMN) analysis conducted in July-August 2021, the nutrition situation has remained the same across the counties compared to the February 2021 analysis. The nutrition situation was Critical (IPC AMN Phase 4) in Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, Samburu, Turkana, North Horr & Laisamis sub-counties in Marsabit County and Tiati in Baringo County. Tana River and West Pokot Counties were classified in the Serious phase (IPC AMN Phase 3) while Saku and Moyale sub-counties in Marsabit County were in the Alert phase (IPC AMN Phase 2). Several areas could not be classified due to insufficient evidence and require investment in data by county governments. These included Kwale, Kilifi, Lamu, Taita Taveta, Meru North, Tharaka, Mbeere, Kieni, Laikipia, Makueni, Kajiado, Isiolo, Kitui and Narok.

The nutrition situation is projected to worsen in Turkana, Samburu, Mandera, Garissa, Wajir, Isiolo and North Horr and Laisamis, given the projected worsening food security situation, and will further worsen across counties if the 2021 Short rains perform poorly. The malnutrition levels, though within the same phase, are still unacceptably high, mainly attributed to poor child feeding practices and reduced milk availability for children's diets. Other contributing factors include stock-out of essential supplies for management of acute malnutrition, sub-optimal coverage of health and nutrition programs and high morbidities. Multiple and recurrent shocks coupled with pre-existing factors such as poverty and limited livelihood sources aggravate the problem.

Overall, an estimated 652,960 children aged 6-59 months and 96,480 pregnant and lactating women require treatment of acute malnutrition (Table 1). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, that is affecting all counties in the country, the caseload for children aged 6-59 months requiring treatment were calculated for all counties in the country, to inform planning in the context of the pandemic.

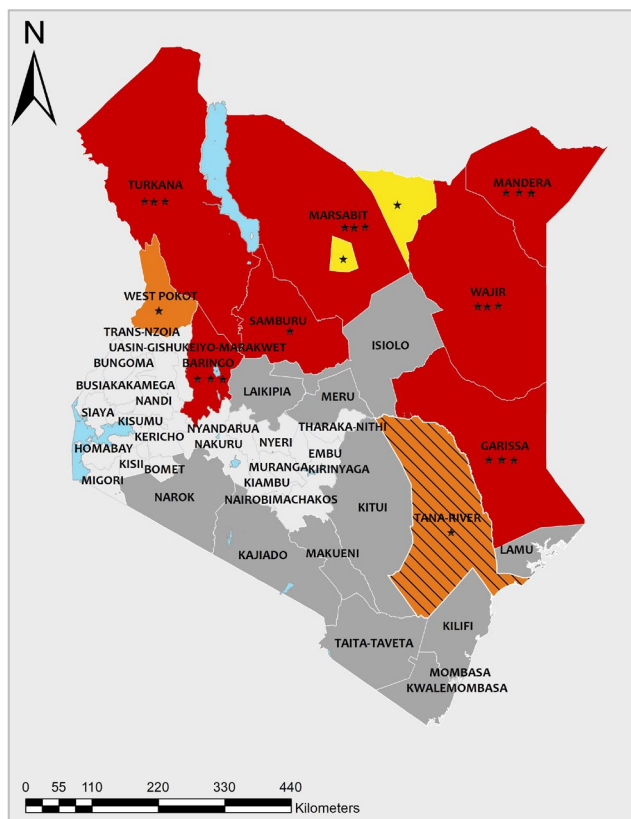
Comparing the acute food insecurity analysis with the acute malnutrition one in ASAL counties shows quite a contrast, where food insecurity is low while malnutrition is very high. The counties showing high levels of acute malnutrition are also related to non-food security factors like social and care environment, access to health services and overall health care environment in ASAL counties. The drivers such as poor child care practices, poor WASH practices, high morbidities, inadequate dietary intake (quality), and sub-optimal coverage of interventions, together with nutrition commodity stock-outs, have been persistently affecting ASAL counties over the seasons. Basic causes that are structural in nature take time to be addressed and are long term, continuing to have negative effects on nutrition generally. Additionally, there is the lag effect of nutrition status manifestation, which takes time to materialize in relation to food utilization in the body-related building of muscles and tissues. There could be seasonal improvements of the nutrition situation in terms of Global Acute Malnutrition but stagnation in the same phase due to a wide band scale.

Area	Global acute malnutrition children 6-59 months		Severe acute malnutrition children 6-59 months		Moderate acute malnutrition Children 6-59 months		Pregnant and Lactating women	
	Total caseloads	Target	Total Caseloads	Target	Total Caseloads	Target	Total caseloads	Target
ASAL	465,226	256,674	96,242	72,181	368,985	184,492	93,348	465,226
Urban	58,138	32,794	14,899	11,174	43,238	21,619	3,132	58,138
Non-ASAL	129,596	72,714	31,668	23,750	97,928	48,962	-	-
Grand Total	652,960	362,182	142,809	107,105	510,151	255,073	96,480	-

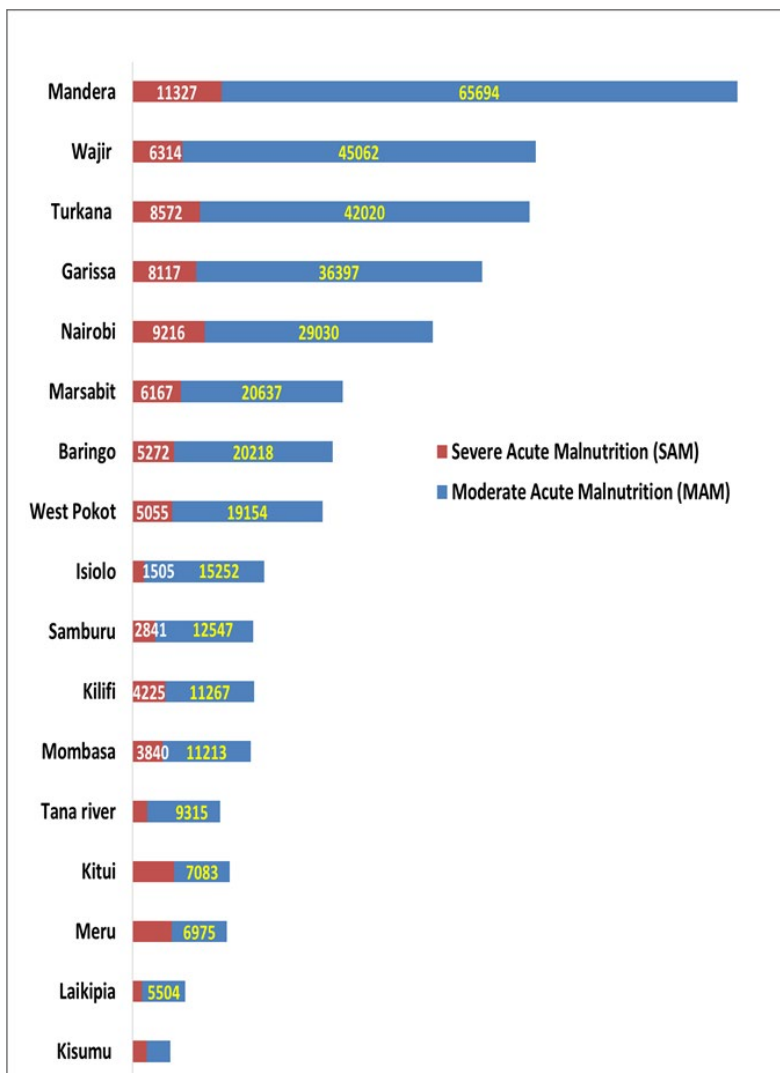
¹ Caseload/burden is calculated by computing prevalence of acute malnutrition plus an incidence rate of 2.6.

ACUTE MALNUTRITION MAPS AND ESTIMATED CASELOAD CHART

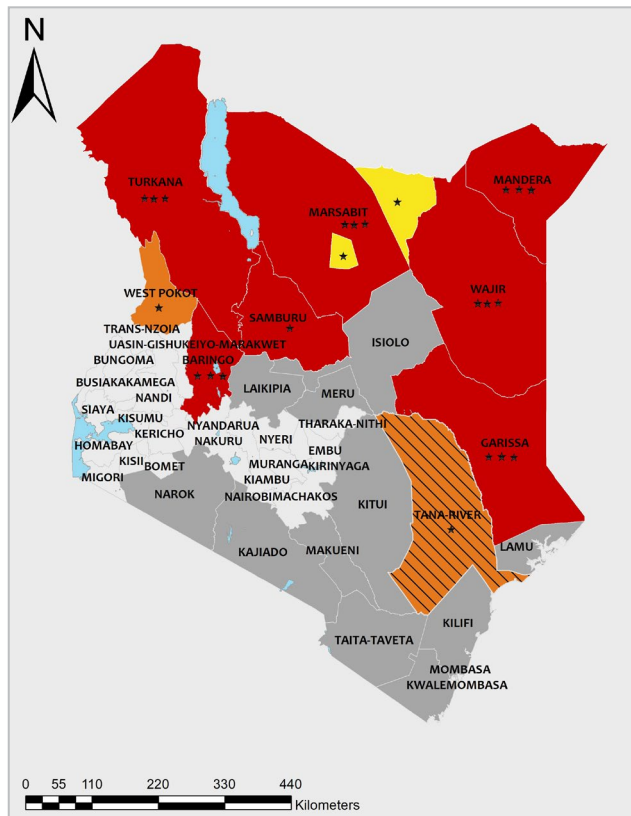
Current Acute Malnutrition July 2021



Estimated Caseloads of Children 6-59 Months Requiring Treatment for Acute Malnutrition



Projected Acute Malnutrition Aug-Nov2021



Key for the Map IPC Acute Malnutrition Phase Classification

- 1 - Acceptable
 - 2 - Alert
 - 3 - Serious
 - 4 - Critical
 - 5 - Extremely critical
 - Phase classification based on MUAC
 - Areas not analysed
- Evidence Level**
- * Acceptable
 - ** Medium
 - *** High
 - Scarce evidence due to limited or no humanitarian access



ESTIMATED CASELOADS OF CHILDREN 6-59 MONTHS AND PREGNANT & LACTATING WOMEN REQUIRING TREATMENT FOR ACUTE MALNUTRITION

Area	Global acute malnutrition in children 6-59 months		Severe Acute Malnutrition in children 6- 59 months		Moderate Acute Malnutrition in children 6-59 months		Pregnant and lactating women	
	Total caseloads	Target	Total Caseloads	Target	Total Caseloads	Target	Total caseloads	Target
Baringo	25,490	14,063	5,272	3,954	20,218	10,109	2,040	2,040
Embu	2,017	1,042	134	101	1,882	941	228	228
Garissa	44,514	24,286	8,117	6,088	36,397	18,198	7,848	7,848
Isiolo	16,757	8,755	1,505	1,129	15,252	7,626	2,400	2,400
Kajiado	14,648	8,056	2,930	2,197	11,719	5,859	4,896	4,896
Kilifi	15,492	8,802	4,225	3,169	11,267	5,633	360	360
Kitui	12,395	7,525	5,312	3,984	7,083	3,541	276	276
Kwale	11,257	6,618	3,955	2,966	7,302	3,651	156	156
Laikipia	6,727	3,669	1,223	917	5,504	2,752	324	324
Lamu	2,185	1,301	833	624	1,353	676	276	276
Machakos	19,491	11,258	6,049	4,537	13,442	6,721	372	372
Makueni	7,701	4,417	2,265	1,699	5,436	2,718	240	240
Mandera	77,021	41,342	11,327	8,495	65,694	32,847	12,696	12,696
Marsabit	26,804	14,944	6,167	4,625	20,637	10,318	7,644	7,644
Meru	11,997	7,254	5,022	3,766	6,975	3,487	72	72
Narok	10,534	6,474	4,828	3,621	5,706	2,853	516	516
Nyeri	1,234	641	95	71	1,139	570	72	72
Samburu	15,387	8,404	2,841	2,131	12,547	6,273	4,836	4,836
Taita Taveta	5,089	3,067	2,090	1,568	2,999	1,499	132	132
Tana River	11,178	6,055	1,863	1,397	9,315	4,658	2,196	2,196
Tharaka Nithi	1,130	627	247	185	883	442	108	108
Turkana	50,592	27,439	8,572	6,429	42,020	21,010	27,300	27,300
Wajir	51,377	27,267	6,314	4,736	45,062	22,531	14,940	14,940
West Pokot	24,209	13,368	5,055	3,791	19,154	9,577	3,420	3,420
Total ASAL	465,226	256,674	96,242	72,181	368,985	84,492	93,348	93,348
Kisumu	4,838	2,880	1,843	1,382	2,995	1,498	336	336
Mombasa	15,053	8,486	3,840	2,880	11,213	5,606	828	828
Nairobi	38,246	21,427	9,216	6,912	29,030	14,515	1,968	1,968
Total Urban	58,138	32,794	14,899	11,174	43,238	21,619	3,132	3,132
Total Non-ASAL	129,596	72,714	31,668	23,750	97,928	48,962	-	-
Grand Total	652,960	362,182	142,809	107,105	510,151	255,073	96,480	96,480

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

Response Priorities

Acute Food Insecurity

- Provide food assistance and cash including associated costs for about 2.1 million highly food insecure (IPC Phase 3 or above) people in need of assistance for the next six months (September 2021 – February 2022);
- Expand the school meals program: expansion of infrastructure in existing schools, recruitment of additional ECDE teachers and implementation of COVID-19 guidelines;
- Improve disease surveillance, vaccination and treatment along migratory routes, markets and border points including distribution of emergency livestock feeds and concentrates;
- Provide water trucking, repair, rehabilitation, extension and maintenance of water structures and systems, promote rain water harvesting and technology ;
- Procure commodities for management of acute malnutrition, update contingency plans, scale up community-level health and nutrition services in the face of COVID-19 cases. Monitor closely the effects of COVID-19 and strengthen multisector linkages;
- Build resilience to future shocks through asset creation, safety net and market access programmes;
- Provide farm inputs, pests and disease control, postharvest management and preservation and value addition;
- Provide fodder species development and hay conservation/machinery and improve existing pasture establishment, conservation and capacity building;
- Monitor potential conflict locations and improve peace-building initiatives such as dialogue meetings and cross-border initiatives to resolve conflict over resources.

Acute Malnutrition

- Continue to advocate for national and county government budgetary allocation to procure commodities for management of acute malnutrition;
- Advocate for national and county government investment on evidence generation and nutrition surveillance activities to allow for comprehensive nutrition situation analysis;
- Closely monitor the health and nutrition situation in the face of rising COVID-19 cases to inform system capacity adjustment and expansion for sustained service delivery;
- Continue to strengthen multi-sectoral linkages and coordination at the national and county level to address the underlying and basic causes of the persistently high levels of acute malnutrition;
- Update contingency and response plans.

Risk Factors to Monitor

The key factors to monitor over the next six months include:

- The effects of COVID-19 on continuity of essential services and impacts on livelihoods
- Nutrition situation across the country given the high levels of malnutrition across the counties and worsening projection
- National food stocks
- Livestock disease outbreaks and deaths
- Resource-based conflicts and insecurity

PROCESS AND METHODOLOGY

The Long Rains IPC AFI and AMN was conducted concurrently from 26th July to 6th August 2021. A hybrid modality of analysis was adopted with both physical and virtual meetings applied considering the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure adherence to Ministry of Health (MoH) prevention and control measures. A small team of analysts drawn mainly from the national and key officers from 12 critical counties, government line ministries and technical partners (WFP, FAO, UNICEF and NGOs) joined the physical Long rains assessment (LRA) workshop. Complementarity participants from MoH and partners participated physically to ensure nutrition and health was well integrated in the process. The assessment covered the 23 counties that comprise the arid and semi-arid region of Kenya, and which are usually the most food insecure given their levels of aridity and vulnerability.

Before the IPC AMN analysis took place, a three-day virtual training was conducted with continued technical support throughout the analysis and report-writing process. Cluster groups made up of mixed analysts based on experience and current workstation were formed and facilitated with regular cluster meetings. Established analysts who are highly experienced in IPC protocols and nutrition situation analysis were assigned to each team to coach/mentor the groups during the analysis. In addition, a quality control team was formed to track progress and quality throughout the process. To enhance the sustainability and ownership, the capacity-building efforts ensured an intentional focus on national and county government staff and representatives from other health nutrition institutions.

Sources

1. Food consumption indicators are from NDMA's drought early warning and monitoring system and SMART Surveys (6 counties). 2. Data collected from the relevant sectors at county and sub-county level. 3. Community interviews and market interviews using focus group discussions and trader interviews. 4. Trends of nutrition outcome from SMART surveys conducted in the last 5 years. 5. Mid-upper-arm circumference (MUAC) data from NDMA sentinel sites. 6. Primary and secondary data from nutrition surveys (9 SMART surveys). 7. Field observations during transect drives. 8. Agro-climatic data from FEWS NET. 9. Kenya Bureau of National Statistics Census Data of 2019, DHIS. 10. Seasonal Food Security Outlooks, Kenya Meteorological Department, Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum.

Limitations of the analysis

- Limited availability of household's nutrition information from SMART Surveys due to COVID-19 restrictions on movements and global guidance on household's data collection in order to reduce the spread of the virus.
- Data collection tool does not contextualize some indicators like livelihood change, while MUAC data mostly has quality issues. In some of the ASAL counties, the sample size from sentinel site data is not meeting the minimum requirements to be used for IPC analysis.
- Based on the analysis, the following counties are predominantly pastoralist and thus the methodology allows these counties to have a sample of 100 households: Narok, Samburu, Tharaka Nithi and West Pokot. As for the other counties with a sample size of less than 200, similar neighboring livelihoods data were used which have similar indicative phases.
- Data analysis for the NDMA data delayed the analysis process for a week due to cleaning and analysis of the data. Data preparation and sharing of the outcome data prior to the analysis is encouraged.

What are the IPC, IPC Acute Food Insecurity and IPC Acute Malnutrition?

The IPC is a set of tools and procedures to classify the severity and characteristics of acute food and nutrition crises as well as chronic food insecurity based on international standards. The IPC consists of four mutually reinforcing functions, each with a set of specific protocols (tools and procedures). The core IPC parameters include consensus building, convergence of evidence, accountability, transparency and comparability. The IPC analysis aims at informing emergency response as well as medium and long-term food security policy and programming.

For the IPC, Acute Food Insecurity and Acute Malnutrition are defined as any manifestation of food insecurity or malnutrition found in a specified area at a specific point in time of a severity that threatens lives or livelihoods, or both, regardless of the causes, context or duration. The IPC Acute Food Insecurity Classification is highly susceptible to change and can occur and manifest in a population within a short amount of time, as a result of sudden changes or shocks that negatively impact the determinants of food insecurity. The IPC Acute Malnutrition Classification's focus is on identifying areas with a large proportion of children acutely malnourished preferably by measurement of Weight for Height Z-Score (WHZ) but also by Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC).

Contact for further Information

Odour, James

IPC TWG Chair
james.oduor@ndma.go.ke

Nelson Mutanda

IPC Focal Person
nelson.mutanda@ndma.go.ke

IPC Global Support Unit
www.ipcinfo.org

This analysis has been conducted under the patronage of the the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA). It has benefited from the technical and financial support of the European Union.

Classification of food insecurity and malnutrition was conducted using the IPC protocols, which are developed and implemented worldwide by the IPC Global Partnership - Action Against Hunger, CARE, CILSS, EC-JRC, FAO, FEWSNET, Global Food Security Cluster, Global Nutrition Cluster, IGAD, Oxfam, PROGRESAN-SICA, SADC, Save the Children, UNICEF and WFP.

IPC Analysis Partners:

