KENYA Food Security Outlook June 2022 to January 2023

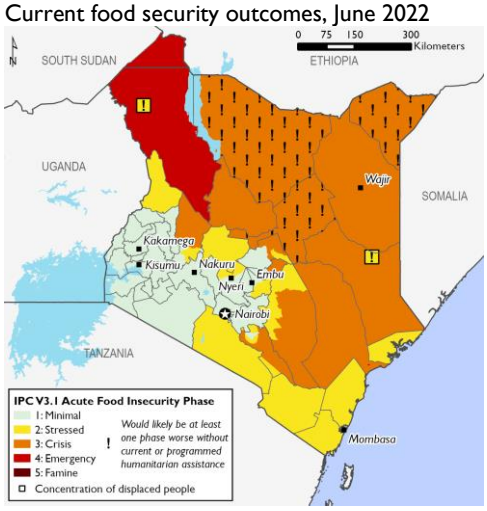
Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes will likely persist in the absence of a scale-up of food assistance

KEY MESSAGES

- The March to May long rains marked the fourth below-average season across most of eastern Kenya. The continuous decline in livestock productivity and crop production is resulting in below-average food availability. Livestock deaths due to the drought and crop failure continue to constrain household food availability and income, driving Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes in the pastoral areas and Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in the marginal agricultural areas.

- In May, the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG) conducted an IPC acute food insecurity and acute malnutrition projection update for May and June 2022, determining that 4.1 million Kenyans in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) are acutely food insecure. This estimate is around 32 percent higher than the initial projection from the Short Rains IPC assessment in February 2022. The acute malnutrition analysis reported that about 942,500 children under five years old and 134,270 pregnant and lactating mothers are acutely malnourished and likely require treatment. The rise in acute malnutrition is likely driven by increasing food insecurity, along with reduced milk consumption, increased morbidity, and poor child-care practices.

Current food security outcomes, June 2022



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- Provisional data results for the Long Rains IPC suggest that severe deterioration in food consumption and acute malnutrition is occurring, following the below-average March to May long rains. Outcomes are likely to worsen to increasingly severe levels by July, despite plans for some food aid distributions. This trend, coupled with the forecast of a historic, fifth consecutive poor rainfall season in late 2022, raises concerns for a Risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) across northern pastoral Kenya. As analyses of the new data are still ongoing, FEWS NET is still assessing whether there is a credible alternative scenario in which a Famine (IPC Phase 5) could occur in Kenya. Analysis addressing this question will be provided in the August FSOU.

- High staple food prices are constraining household purchasing power and food access in both urban and rural areas. Staple food prices currently range from 22 to 63 percent above average for maize and 12 to 44 percent above average for beans. High prices are driven by below-average production in 2021/2022, expected below-average production for 2022/2023, high market demand due to low household stocks, high inflation, and bottlenecks at the Kenya-Tanzania border following the enforcement of Tanzania's export permits. On July 18, the Ministry of Agriculture provided a 60 percent subsidy to a two-kilogram maize flour packet, lowering the price from 250 KES to 100 KES through August 15.

- Across the marginal agricultural areas, the below-average and poorly distributed long rains resulted in below-average planted acreage and moisture stress, with crop failure observed in Taita Taveta, Makueni, Kitui, Tharaka, and Embu (Mbeere). The reduced cropping activities are resulting in below-average food availability and income from crop sales and casual wage labor opportunities, driving Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes across the marginal areas, with area-level Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in Kitui, Makueni, Tharaka Nithi, and Meru North.

- Below-average forage and water resources in the pastoral areas continue to drive fair to poor livestock body conditions and high levels of migration, resulting in below-average milk production and sale values. With livestock remaining in distant grazing areas away from homesteads, milk access is particularly low for women, children, and the elderly. Milk consumption is 50-90 percent below the three-year average across pastoral areas. Additionally, below-normal livestock

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body conditions and high maize prices have driven the goat-to-maize terms-of-trade down by 28-42 percent below the five-year average. Although humanitarian assistance likely supported Crisis! (IPC Phase 3!) outcomes in northern and northeastern pastoral livelihood zones in June, the continued loss of livestock, below-average herd sizes, and falling household purchasing power are likely to lead to increasingly widespread Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes. A scale-up of food and nutrition assistance is required through at least January 2023 to prevent further deterioration in levels of acute malnutrition and avert an increase in hunger-related mortality.

NATIONAL OVERVIEW

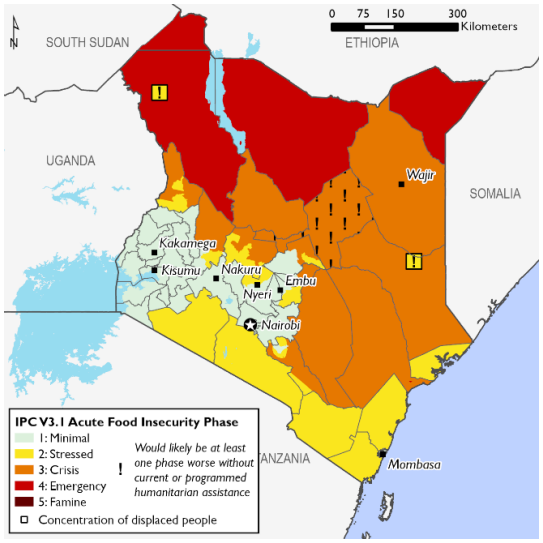
Current Situation

The March to May long rains performance was largely below average across Kenya, marking the fourth consecutive below average season, with little to no improvement in acute food insecurity outcomes in the pastoral and marginal agricultural areas. An update to the 2021/2022 Short Rains IPC analysis carried out by the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG) determined that the number of food insecure people in pastoral and marginal agricultural areas has risen from 3.1 million in February 2022 to over 4.1 million in May 2022, driven by the impacts of the below average March to May long rains, resource-based conflict, and above-average staple food prices. Ongoing humanitarian assistance, particularly in the northern and eastern pastoral areas is currently mitigating a more severe deterioration.

Crop and livestock production: The below-average seasonal rainfall was marked by a delayed onset and dry spells in early March and April. The withering of maize resulted in reduced area planted as it forced farmers to replant or, in some cases, terminate the season. However, the resumption of the rains in late March and late April in the high and medium rainfall regions of the North and South Rift, and Western and Central Kenya improved crop conditions, and is expected to drive near average production, particularly for maize. Additionally, the sharp rise in fertilizer prices following the start of the conflict in Ukraine and high fuel prices also contributed to a drop in the area planted by farmers due to the high cost of cultivation. Fertilizer prices in May were 60 to 200 percent above 2021 prices despite the government providing subsidized fertilizer prices similar to 2021. However, registered farmers are given a quota of forty 50 kg bags of fertilizer for the entire season, sufficient for about 16 to 20 acres, at the normal usage rate of 2 to 2.5 bags per acre. Reports from the Ministry of Agriculture indicate that the acreage planted for the long rains maize crop is within the five-year average in the western region, and 6 to 12 percent above average in the coastal and central marginal agricultural regions. However, in the Rift Valley and Nyanza regions, farmers planted 6 to 10 percent less than the average, with farmers in the Upper and Lower Eastern regions planting 15 to 31 percent less than average.

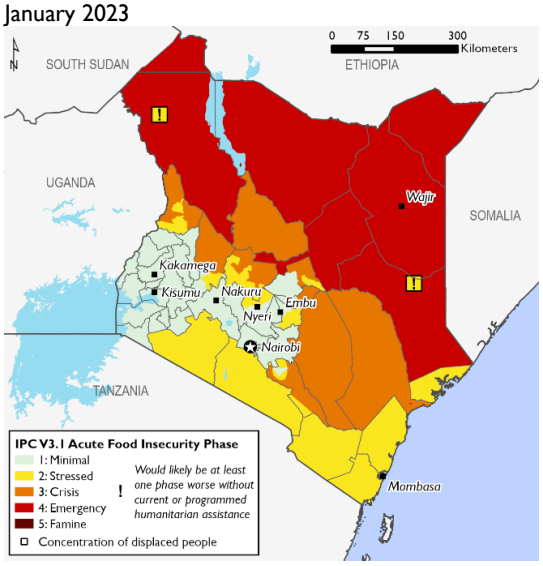
In the Rift valley region, an African armyworm attack impacted an estimated 400,110 acres (around 60 percent of total acreage) but was successfully controlled. In the central region, African and Fall armyworms affected around 56 percent of the crop. Generally, the Fall and African armyworm infestations are raising concern among farmers about its impact on yields, but all of the infested counties have received pesticides from the Ministry of Agriculture.

Projected food security outcomes, June to September 2022



Source: *FEWS NET*

Projected food security outcomes, September 2022 to January 2023



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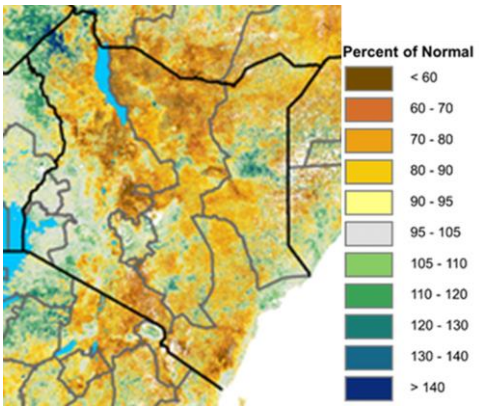
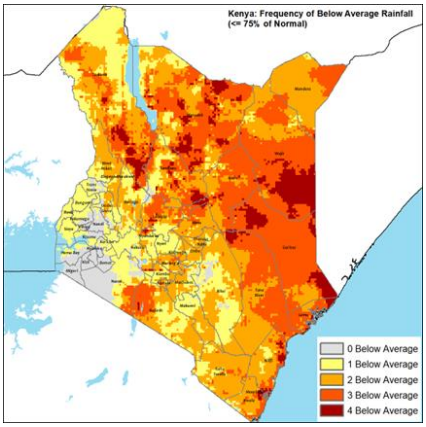
In the marginal agricultural areas, the main crops planted were maize, beans, green grams, and cowpeas. Generally, the area planted was below average due to the late onset and poor rainfall distribution, with farmers having to replant their crop. Most of the long rains crop in marginal agricultural areas experienced moisture stress. Infestations of African armyworms and caterpillars were reported in Makueni and Tharaka Nithi. Maize production was below average with crop failure reported in Tharaka, Kitui, Makueni, Embu (Mbeere). In Nyeri (Kieni) and Meru (Meru North), maize production was 40-49 percent below, while in Taita Taveta maize production was less than 17 percent of the average, and near average in Kilifi. Bean, cowpea, and green gram was similarly below-average across most marginal agricultural area, with production ranging from negligible to 11 percent below average. However, green gram production was average in Kilifi and was 20 percent above average in Lamu. Forage regeneration is currently below average and proxy-satellite data from the eVIIRS Normalized Differentiated Vegetation Index (NDVI) indicate that vegetation greenness remains widely below average across the marginal agricultural areas (Figure 1). However, vegetation greenness is slightly above the 2012-2021 mean in western Kenya, the Rift Valley, and in parts of the coastal strip, while it is 60 to 90 percent below across the rest of Kenya, with particularly poor conditions in Marsabit, southern Turkana, and Laikipia.

Figure 1. EVIIRS Normalized Difference Vegetation Index, percent of the 2012-2021 mean, June 21-30, 2022



Source: *FEWS NET/USGS*

Figure 2. Frequency of below average rainfall (≤75% of normal) over the past five seasons, October 2020-May 2022



Source: *USGS/FEWS NET*

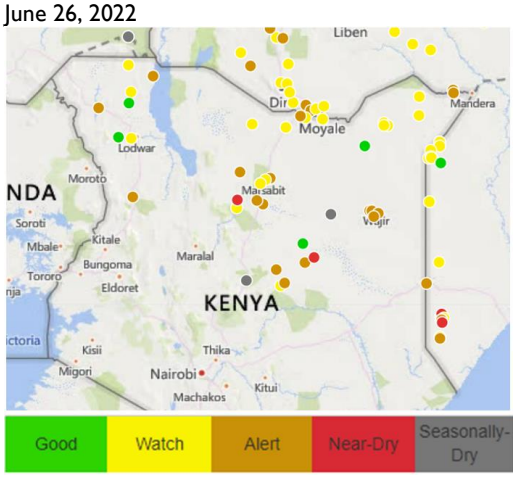
Field data from the 2022 KFSSG Long Rains Assessment indicate that across the pastoral areas, livestock body conditions for grazers (cattle and sheep) are very poor to poor compared to normal (fair to good). In Turkana and Marsabit, livestock body conditions are currently fair compared to normal (good to very good). In Mandera, Isiolo, and Wajir, body conditions for goats are poor to fair compared to normal (good to very good), whereas across the rest of the pastoral areas body conditions are fair compared to normal (good). Camel body conditions were relatively better across the pastoral areas and were fair to good compared to normally good. Overall, below average livestock body conditions for this time of the year are driven by below average forage and water resources, and above-average trekking distances following the below-average March to May long rains. Return trekking distances for livestock from grazing areas to water sources range from 5 to 22 km across most pastoral areas and are between two to three times the three-year average, with trekking distances 25 percent above average in Turkana. Trekking distances to water distances are trending upwards as sources continue to dry up and boreholes break down from overuse.

The limited regeneration of rangeland resources is driving the continuation of higher-than-average migration. In Turkana, livestock that migrated to Uganda are returning to their normal grazing zones within the county. However, Meru, Kitui, Nyeri (Kieni), and Taita Taveta counties are reporting an influx of livestock from Isiolo, Samburu, Marsabit, Tana River, Laikipia, and Kajiado counties, putting additional pressure on already limited rangeland resources. In Garissa, livestock migrated outwards to Lamu County and across the border to Somalia, while livestock in Mandera migrated outwards to Ethiopia and Somalia. Livestock migrated into Isiolo from Marsabit, Samburu, Garissa, and Wajir, while livestock also moved out to Laikipia, Samburu, Baringo, Nakuru, and Meru counties. In Wajir, migration into the traditional grazing areas in Isiolo and Marsabit counties continued despite constraints brought about by conflicts among the border communities, which has limited access to rangeland resources for households in Wajir West and Eldas sub-counties. There are also reports of resource-based conflicts in Garissa along the Garissa-Isiolo border and in Isiolo along the Isiolo – Tigania East border. Human-wildlife conflicts are also reported in Taita Taveta and Makueni where elephants invaded the farms of households living near wildlife protected areas, while in Kilifi, elephants and hippos invaded farms located along River Tana in search of forage and water for consumption.

Milk production in the pastoral areas in July was negligible in Marsabit and Turkana but ranged from 50 to 88 percent below average across the rest of the pastoral areas, with production ranging between 0.25 to 1.1 liters per household per day, with households prioritizing milk for kids and lambs. Despite some improvement in livestock body conditions following the long

rains, milk production remains low, with household milk availability also limited due to the high proportion of livestock that have migrated to dry season grazing areas and further afield. Correspondingly, livestock conception and birth rates remain low due to the consecutive poor seasons preceding the current season and the inability of livestock to sustain pregnancies to term given poor body conditions. In July, incidences of livestock diseases were mostly endemic diseases, like Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP), Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP), and Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), in addition to Trypanosomiasis and camel, sheep and goat pox. Livestock herd sizes have reduced since the KFSSG 2021 Short Rains Assessment as a result of sale, slaughter and deaths from disease, starvation, and predation. According to the KFSSG 2022 Long Rains Assessment, households own two to five Tropical Livestock Units (TLUs)[1] compared to the average five to eight, reflecting a 38 to 67 percent decrease compared to the long-term average. By the end of May 2022, the NDMA reported that around 2.43 million livestock have likely died since the start of the drought, with around 17 percent of livestock in Samburu dying, followed by Mandera (11.3%), Isiolo (8%), Lamu (7.6 %), Marsabit (7.4%), and Garissa (6.8 %).

Figure 3. Status of monitored water points, June 26, 2022



Source: *FEWS NET/USGS*

Domestic water access: Across the pastoral areas, households are accessing water from water pans and boreholes, rivers, shallow wells, traditional river wells, and sand dams. In Wajir and Garissa, water trucking is being carried out for areas that have no permanent source of water. In Isiolo, water volumes are low in rivers due to poor recharge following the long rains, while yields in traditional river wells, sand dams, and shallow wells have deteriorated further. Acute water shortages are currently being reported in Isiolo county, particularly in parts of Isiolo South (Modogashe), Cherab (Malkagalla, Bisan Biliqo, Dadacha Bassa, Oldonyiro, Lakole), and Isiolo North sub-counties. In Marsabit, parts of Kargi/South, Maikona, North Horr and Korr/Ngurnit wards are currently experiencing acute water shortages because of very low water recharge levels and non-functioning boreholes (due to break downs and lack of spare parts and funds for repairs and maintenance). Overall, households are trekking further, waiting longer, and using less water.

According to the USGS Water Point Viewer, water availability is mostly on a downward trend across most monitored water points across the pastoral areas of Kenya (Figure 3). Return trekking distances for water for domestic use are 25-50 percent above the three-year average across most of the pastoral areas. Trekking distances in Mandera are 140 percent above average due to poor recharge of both surface and underground water sources and breakdown of boreholes as a result of over-use. In Isiolo, households are trekking around 3.5 kilometers as households have access to several boreholes and piped water. Across the rest of the pastoral areas, household trekking distances range from 7 to 15 kilometers. In the marginal areas such as Makueni and Nyeri, trekking distances were triple the three-year average as most surface water sources have dried up, while across the rest of the marginal areas households are trekking 9 to 67 percent above average. Above average trekking distances are continuing to strain households' ability and time to engage in other important livelihood activities.

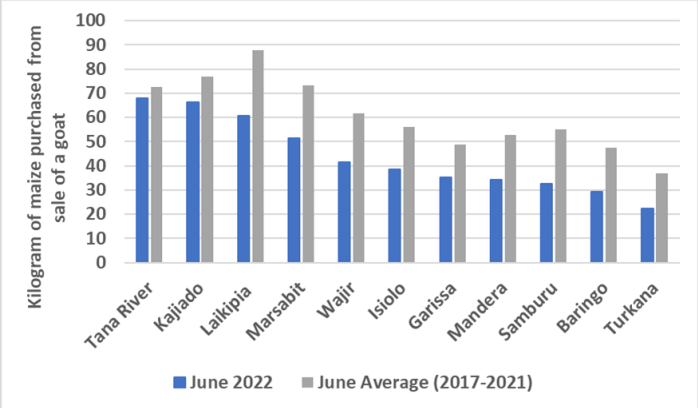
Markets and trade: Staple food prices, particularly maize, have increased significantly because of the impact of the conflict in Ukraine on global food prices and trade, the below average 2021/2022 harvest, and the anticipation of below average harvests from the 2022/2023 short rains given the poor rainfall forecast, high fuel and fertilizer prices, and crop pest infestations. At the same time, there is increased demand on goods following the lifting of some COVID-19 containment measures, along with high global inflation on key commodities (oil and gas) and services (shipping) in the wake of the post pandemic economic recovery. Despite a duty waiver between May and August 2022 issued by the government, high global maize prices are discouraging traders from importing maize from overseas. Lastly, a recent enforcement of export documents by the Tanzanian government is resulting in a temporary backlog of trucks at the Kenya-Tanzania border, which is disrupting market supply in Kenya.

In June, wholesale maize prices in the urban reference markets are 47-63 percent above the five-year average due to the ongoing national shortage following successive seasons of below average production. Maize prices range from 5,200 – 5,990 KES per 90-kg bag (double the average in Eldoret) and are continuing to rise given the atypically high and sustained demand, with the exception of Mombasa due to incoming cross-border supplies from Tanzania and imports from southern Africa. In

[1] Tropical Livestock Units are livestock numbers converted to a common unit. Camels = 1.1; cattle=0.5; sheep and goats=0.1; pigs=0.2; chickens=0.01.

the marginal agricultural areas, retail maize prices in January ranged from 60 to 80 KES per kg and are 41 – 58 percent above the five-year average. However in Makueni and Tharaka, prices were twice the average due to depleted household stocks and high demand in the markets. Retail maize prices in the pastoral areas range from 66 to 96 KES per kg and are 22 to 42 percent above the five-year average due to high local demand for human and livestock consumption and relatively higher-priced commodities from source markets.

Figure 4. Goat-to-maize terms-of-trade comparison of June 2022 with the 2017-2021 average



Source: *FEWS NET using data from NDMA*

Wholesale bean prices in urban markets range from 9,100 to 11,600 KES per 90-kg bag. Prices are average in Eldoret, due to available local harvests, but are 23 to 44 percent above the five-year average across the rest of the urban markets. Across the marginal agricultural areas, retail bean prices range from 108 to 136 KES and are rising, ranging between 12 to 39 percent above the five-year average as demand increases and household stocks are depleted.

In June, improvements in vegetation greenness and therefore livestock body conditions after the long rains allowed the price of a two-year old medium-sized mature goat to be within five percent of the five-year average in Marsabit and Isiolo. In northern and eastern pastoral livelihood zones, goat prices were 7 to 28 percent below the five-year average, driven primarily by below-average and declining livestock body conditions, and oversupply to the markets. Combined with high maize prices, the goat-to-maize terms-of-trade remain 28 to 42 percent lower than the five-year average. (Figure 4).

COVID-19: To avert straining local public health systems, the Ministry of Health reinstated indoor mask wearing on June 20, after the weekly COVID-19 positivity rate increased from 0.6 percent in early May to 10.4 percent in June. Approximately 18,736,200 vaccines have been administered across Kenya, with around 32 percent of adults fully vaccinated. However, according to the Ministry of Health, Kenya plans to fully vaccinate 19 million adults (70 percent of the adult population) by end of June 2022 and the entire adult population (27 million people) by the end of the year. As of July 26, Kenya has a seven-day rolling average of 77 confirmed COVID-19 cases per day.

Interannual and emergency food assistance: Approximately 100,000 households across Mandera, Wajir, Marsabit, and Turkana counties continue to receive bi-monthly cash transfers of 5,400 KES, sufficient to meet up to 12 days of monthly kilocalorie needs through NDMA's Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP). Additionally, the HSNP Emergency Scale Up, triggered by a severe vegetation index, is being disbursed to an additional 95,000 households in need in the same counties. However, the Kenya Drought Flash Appeal is only 16 percent funded. Due to funding shortfalls, WFP continues to provide around 440,000 refugees with food rations equivalent to 52 percent of a daily 2100 kilocalorie diet to refugees, equivalent to sufficiently meet up to 16 days of monthly kilocalorie needs.

Current food security outcomes

Urban areas outcomes: Post COVID-19 recovery has been constrained by the current high cost of living from the impacts of COVID-19, high fuel prices, and the ongoing persistent drought. The key economic sectors such as hospitality, tourism, manufacturing, and transportation that experienced a significant scale down due to COVID-19 have taken longer than anticipated to recover, with the high cost of fuel and high production costs keeping opportunities low for casual skilled and unskilled labor. Limited labor opportunities have significantly reduced household income, and also reduced household food access and consumption. Urban food insecurity assessment surveys from December 2021 in Nairobi, Mombasa, and Kisumu indicated that at least 20 percent of poor households are facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes, driven by reduced or lost income earning opportunities. The consistently increasing staple food prices and living costs, including non-food items are likely forcing households to employ both consumption- and livelihood-based coping strategies indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse.

Marginal agricultural area outcomes: The poor March to May long rains have resulted in significantly below average crop production, as well as reduced income from agricultural labor and crop sales, causing below average food availability and income. According to NDMA sentinel site data, household food consumption deteriorating with 24 - 82 percent of households recording borderline food consumption scores (FCS) indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3), while up to 37 percent of households

reported a poor FCS indicative of Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Households are increasingly engaging in consumption-based coping strategies like reducing meal frequency and food portions, eating less preferred or less expensive foods, and sending household members to eat elsewhere. Thirty-three percent of households are applying consumption coping strategies that are indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3). Similarly, up to 44 percent of households are applying livelihood coping strategies indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3), such as withdrawing children from school, reducing expenditures on health, harvesting immature crops, and consuming seed stocks. Up to 11 percent of households in Kitui, Kwale, Lamu, Makueni, and Meru counties are using coping strategies indicative of Emergency (IPC Phase 4), including the sale of houses and land, sale of last female animals, and begging. Household food stocks are depleted while households are mostly dependent on markets for staple food commodities; however, high staple food prices continue to limit household food availability, access, and consumption. In June and July, Kitui, Makueni, Tharaka Nithi, and Meru North are likely facing area-level Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes, while relatively better-off marginal agricultural areas are likely facing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) area-level outcomes.

Pastoral area outcomes: The below average long rains and partial recovery of rangeland resources continue to drive below average livestock productivity and sale values, reducing household food and milk availability and access. Livestock migration remains high across the pastoral areas, keeping milk availability and consumption significantly below average, leading to increasing acute malnutrition rates. Milk consumption remains below average, mirroring the below average milk production, with consumption 67 to 90 percent below average, ranging from 0.25 – 1 liter per household per day compared to the typical 1 – 2.5 liters per household per day. NDMA sentinel site data for June indicates that across the pastoral areas, at least 15 to 52 percent of households recorded a borderline food consumption score indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3), while up to 49 percent of households had a poor FCS indicative of Emergency (IPC Phase 4), except in the southern pastoral areas of Kajiado and Narok. The borderline and poor FCS is driven by the significantly low availability of and consumption of milk. Households across pastoral areas are applying consumption-based coping strategies such as reducing meal frequency and food portions, eating less preferred or less expensive foods, and sending household members to eat elsewhere. Around 6 to 44 percent of households are applying consumption-coping strategies indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse, with 2 to 23 percent of households across the pastoral areas applying livelihood coping strategies indicative of Emergency (IPC Phase 4), like selling of last female animals and begging. Up 58 percent of pastoral households are applying strategies indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3), such as reducing expenses on health and withdrawing children from school.

An IPC acute malnutrition update (IPC AMN) in May reported that there is Critical (GAM WHZ 15-29.9 percent) acute malnutrition prevalence in Garissa, Baringo, Samburu, Turkana, Wajir, and Isiolo counties. While in Tana River County, the acute malnutrition situation deteriorated from Serious (GAM WHZ 10-14.9 percent) to Critical (GAM WHZ 15-29.9). The deterioration was linked to increasing acute food insecurity because of low household purchasing power and declining household food consumption, particularly milk, following the increased livestock migration. According to the IPC AMN update, across the Arid and Semi-Arid counties and the urban areas of Kisumu, Mombasa, and Nairobi, around 942,500 children aged 6-59 months were affected by acute malnutrition and in need of treatment. In Mandera, around 126,140 children were in need of treatment, a 30 percent increase since February 2022.

Provisional SMART survey data collected in June 2022 indicates that there is widespread Critical (WHZ GAM 15-29.9 percent) acute malnutrition prevalence across the northern and eastern pastoral areas, and Extremely Critical (GAM WHZ ≥ 30 percent) levels in Turkana, at the start of the typical dry season. However, ongoing cash transfers and humanitarian assistance are mitigating widespread deterioration in June, resulting in Crisis! (IPC Phase 3!) outcomes in Mandera, Marsabit, and Isiolo. However, in Turkana, poor purchasing power, low livestock productivity, low household income, and high malnutrition rates are driving area-level Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes despite ongoing cash transfers.

Assumptions

The June 2022 to January 2023 most likely scenario is based on the following national-level assumptions:

- Based on the enhanced sea surface temperature gradients (the Western Pacific Gradient), the likelihood of a strong La Niña, and potential for negative IOD conditions in late 2022, there is high likelihood that the October to December (OND) 2022 short rains season in northern and eastern Kenya will be below average. The NMME and WMO weather forecast models both predict strong probabilities (50-80 percent) of below-average rainfall in the OND 2022 season in the eastern Horn. In western unimodal Kenya, the February to August 2022 long rains season is likely to be average.
- The March to May long rains harvests in the marginal agricultural areas are likely to be at least 30 – 50 percent below average or more, driven by the below-average rainfall. The harvest will likely be available from mid-to-late July, later than the usual mid-to-late June due to delayed cropping activities driven by the late onset of rainfall. In the western

unimodal areas, the long rains crop harvest in October is expected to be slightly below average due to damage from Fall and African Armyworm infestations and high fertilizer prices, which will likely limit the area planted by farmers.

- From June through late October, forage and water resources are expected to deteriorate atypically rapidly and remain significantly below average. Low water levels will keep return trekking distances for domestic and livestock use above average levels and above 4 and 10 kilometers respectively. From October through December the forecast below average rains will drive only slight improvements and the forage and water conditions will remain below average through January.
- Atypical migration is expected to remain high throughout the scenario period driven by low forage and water resources, reducing household milk availability and income. Along the migration routes and in the dry-season grazing areas, livestock diseases and resource-based and intertribal conflicts are expected to increase significantly as the livestock and livestock herders interact closely resulting in livestock deaths, disruption of livelihoods, loss of property, and human fatalities.
- In the marginal agricultural areas below average crop production and limited crop sales are expected to result in at least a 50 percent reduction in crop related income, such as crop sales and casual wage labor opportunities, through the scenario period.
- Following the granting of a waiver of import duty on 540,000 metric tonnes of white non-GMO maize for human consumption until August 6, 2022, it is likely that Kenyan traders will import maize from Uganda, Tanzania, and southern Africa, improving market supply and reducing maize prices to average and near average levels, which will improve household access.
- According to FEWS NET price projections, maize prices in the Nairobi urban market are likely to remain high driven by a number of factors: current high food insecurity coupled with high countrywide demand, consecutive below average production seasons, and increased costs of fuel and transportation from supply disruptions since the Russia/Ukraine conflict. Prices are expected to remain above average throughout the scenario period. Wholesale maize prices are expected to range from 4,700 to 5,400 KES per 90-kg bag and will be 47 to 66 percent above the five-year average.
- Wholesale bean prices in the Nairobi reference market are expected to follow the seasonal trend through the scenario period and range from 6,900 to 8,900 KES per 90-kg bag. Bean prices will likely be around 7 percent below average in June from expected average harvests given the high and medium rainfall areas. Thereafter, bean prices will likely increase to 7-8 percent above average in July and August and drop to average levels through the rest of the scenario period driven by average-to-above average supplies from Uganda.
- Reduced food intake and low milk consumption will remain the main contributory factors to acute malnutrition in the pastoral and marginal agricultural livelihoods. Acute malnutrition rates are likely to increase through the scenario period but the scaling-up of humanitarian assistance will likely mitigate severe deterioration of nutrition outcomes. The prevalence of acute malnutrition is likely to be Critical (GAM 15-29.9 percent) through January 2023 in Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, Samburu, Turkana, Tana River counties, North Horr & Laisamis sub-counties in Marsabit, and Tiaty sub-county in Baringo County. In the other counties, elevated Alert (GAM 5-9.9 percent) and Serious (GAM 10-14.9 percent) acute malnutrition is likely to persist. Additionally, high morbidity and chronically poor infant and young child feeding practices and health seeking behavior will likely contribute to poor nutrition outcomes, accompanied by structural issues like low literacy levels, poor infrastructure, and poverty.
- Political activity related to the August 2022 General Elections will likely disrupt or restrict normal income-earning opportunities, especially in urban areas, in August and September. Political rallies, demonstrations, unrest, and voting on election day are likely to disrupt livelihood activities including petty trade and businesses, reducing household income and food access. According to a report by the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC), Nairobi, Nakuru, Kericho, Kisumu, Uasin Gishu, and Mombasa counties are classified as high-risk on the Kenya Electoral Violence Index based on pre-existing conflict factors, potential triggers of election violence, and weak institutional capacity.
- Ongoing humanitarian assistance, including safety nets such as cash transfers to Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC), Older Persons Cash Transfer (OPCT), and Persons With Severe Disability - Cash Transfer (PWSD – CT) are expected to continue throughout the scenario period, providing approximately one million targeted households with 2,000 KES each month. In the pastoral and marginal agricultural areas, the Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP) by the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) is likely to disburse a monthly amount of 2,700 KES to at least 195,000 households under the World Food Programme (WFP) under the Sustainable Food Systems Programme (SFSP). Other initiatives will continue to provide assistance in the form of food commodities and cash-based transfers equivalent to at least 30 -50 percent of

a full monthly ration to approximately 175,000 households. Additionally, WFP is planning to provide cash and food commodities to at least 535,000 beneficiaries who are facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse outcomes from late -July or early-August lasting six months. WFP will target the most food insecure households in Turkana, Garissa, Isiolo, Samburu, Wajir, Mandera, and Marsabit (Priority 1), and Tana River, Baringo, Kitui, Kwale, and Kilifi (Priority 2). Beneficiaries in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) will receive an equivalent of 50 percent of a full monthly ration and households in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) will receive an equivalent of 75 percent of a full monthly ration.

Most Likely Food Security Outcomes

In the urban areas, economic recovery will likely be slowed by the ongoing drought, high fuel prices, and general high cost of living. As a result, income-earning opportunities remain below pre-COVID-19 levels and household income remains low due to a scarcity of income-earning opportunities. High staple food, petroleum, and electricity prices are likely to keep food and non-food commodity costs at above average prices, reducing household access. The relatively higher-priced cross border staple food imports and below average long rains harvests in July will see staple food prices remaining high throughout the scenario period. Activities related to the August general elections, such as meetings and rallies, are likely to disrupt economic activities, reducing household income especially for daily wage laborers. Urban poor households will be forced to resort to consumption- and livelihood-based coping strategies indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4), such as asset stripping, dependence on credit facilities, and engaging in illicit trades to earn income and fill food consumption gaps.

In marginal agricultural areas, the below average March to May long rains harvests are expected to be significantly below average in most areas. Households' reliance on market purchases are expected to remain unseasonably high between June and September. However, the anticipated above average staple food prices, and limited income from agricultural labor opportunities and crop sales will limit household food access. Although households are likely to seek alternative income sources, such as charcoal and firewood sales and non-agricultural income-earning opportunities, the limited expandability of these income sources will continue to maintain large income deficits. The below average October to December short rains are expected to result in below average crop acreage due to constrained access to seeds, high agricultural input prices, and below average agricultural waged labor opportunities. As a result, households are expected to continue employing consumption-based coping strategies indicative of Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3), such as reducing meal frequency and food portions, eating less preferred foods, and relying on help from friends and relatives. Additionally, households will employ livelihood-coping strategies indicative of Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) such as borrowing money, purchasing food on credit and reduction of expenses on health and veterinary services. At the same time, the extended periods of constrained food availability and access is likely to result in an increase in the prevalence of malnutrition among children under five. Consequently, at least 20 percent of poor households will be able to meet their food needs but be unable to meet their non-food needs and be in Stressed (IPC Phase 2). However, it is likely that one in five households in Makueni, Tharaka Nithi (Tharaka), Meru (Meru North), Laikipia, and Kitui will be unable to meet their food needs without employing crisis-coping strategies and will remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3).

In pastoral areas, the decline in the already below average forage and water resources in June is expected to intensify livestock migration, with remaining livestock herds moving to dry season grazing areas. The increased migration and below average rangeland resources will likely result in resource-based conflict as livestock herders encroach private ranches and farms. An increase in livestock disease incidences is likely due to the high numbers of livestock congregating in the dry season grazing areas. Reduced livestock productivity and sale values will reduce income from the sale of livestock and livestock products. Additionally, household milk availability and consumption will remain low as the herds stay away from the homesteads. Households are likely to depend increasingly on non-livestock income sources like non-agricultural wage labor, safety nets, remittances, and charcoal and firewood sales. However these income sources are likely to be constrained by limited opportunities, increased competition, and a slow-to-recover economy driven by drought and high global fuel prices. To cope with reduced food and income, households will intensify the application of coping strategies during the lean season, including consumption-based coping strategies such as reducing the number of meals and portion sizes, and sending children to eat elsewhere. Livelihood-based coping strategies will include withdrawing children from school, reducing expenditures on healthcare, the sale of last female animals, and dropping out of pastoralism to destitution (begging), all indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Due to the impact of consecutive poor rainfall seasons, conflict and insecurity, low livestock productivity, low terms-of-trade, and high livestock death rates that have eroded household assets, area-level Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are expected across northern and eastern pastoral counties through January 2023. However, a scaling-up of humanitarian assistance could mitigate worsening food insecurity outcomes from emerging.

EVENTS THAT MIGHT CHANGE THE OUTLOOK

Table 1. Possible events over the next eight months that could change the most-likely scenario.

Area	Event	Impact on food security conditions
National	Significantly below average long rains crop harvest from the high and medium rainfall areas	A significant national staple food deficit, likely raising staple food prices and reducing household food access. A significant number of urban, marginal agricultural, and pastoral households will likely deteriorate from Stressed (IPC Phase 2) to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse.
	Insufficient humanitarian assistance	If the humanitarian flash appeal is unable to raise sufficient funds to carry out the necessary interventions, it is likely that there will be a severe deterioration in food insecurity outcomes, particularly across pastoral areas, with deterioration to Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) likely to occur due to insufficient access to food and income.
Northeastern Pastoral Livelihood Zone	Average October – December short rains	Significant improvements in water and forage resources and improved livestock health and production, increasing sale values, household income, and food availability. This would likely improve acute food insecurity and support area-level Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes.
	Improvement of the security situation in the highly insecure areas	Improved household access to livelihood activities, humanitarian assistance, and markets. With increased access to food and income, household acute food insecurity is likely to reduce, resulting in area-level Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes.
Northern and Northwestern Pastoral Livelihood Zones	Failed 2022 October to December short rains	Constrain availability of rangeland resources, accelerating the deterioration of livestock body conditions, and increasing livestock mortality rates. Significantly low sale values will significantly erode household purchasing power and access to food. Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) would be likely in the absence of a large scaling-up of humanitarian assistance.
	Insufficient scaling-up of humanitarian assistance	If the Emergency HSNP Scale up and other humanitarian assistance are discontinued due to lack of funding, poor household incomes and food access will be significantly limited. Households would likely be unable to access sufficient food or income and may face Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5).

AREAS OF CONCERN

Northern Pastoral (Marsabit and Samburu counties) and Northwestern Pastoral (Turkana County) Livelihood Zones

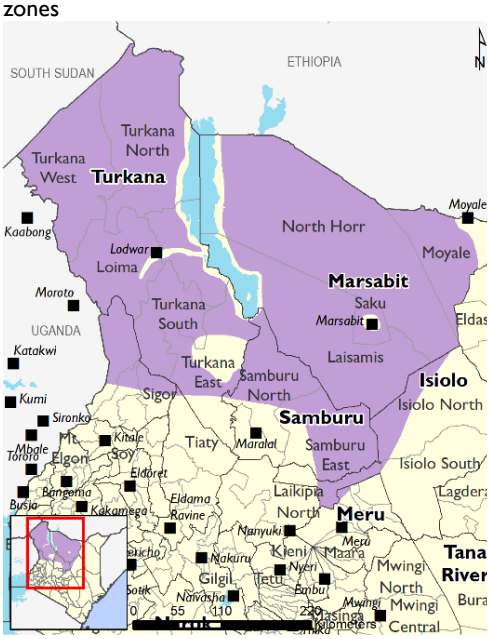
Current Situation

The 2022 March to May long rains was the fourth consecutive below average season, characterized by two to four dekads of delayed rainfall onset and poor spatial and temporal distribution. However, above-average rainfall in late April improved cumulative season totals in northern Turkana and northwestern Marsabit. In unimodal areas of Turkana and Samburu, rainfall in June and July is largely less than 60 percent of the 1981-2020 average, with localized areas in Turkana recording less than 45 percent of the long-term average rainfall (Figure 6). Additionally, above average land surface temperatures are accelerating the deterioration and depletion of newly regenerated rangeland resources following the March to May long rains. Vegetation greenness as measured by the eVIIRS Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) indicates that vegetation is less than 60 to 90 percent of the 2012-2021 mean across the livelihood zone, except along the border of Turkana and South Sudan where vegetation is above the ten-year mean. According to National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) Turkana field reports, the Turkwel river flowing through Lodwar town into lake Turkana is at 40 percent of normal water capacity in June, while the River Kerio is at less than 10 percent of normal water capacity. Consequently, the reliance of strategic boreholes, shallow wells, and traditional river wells remains atypically high, accelerating the decline of water levels across the northern and northwestern pastoral livelihood zone. According to the USGS waterpoint viewer, monitored waterpoints across Turkana and Marsabit are at less than 3 percent of the long-term median water level (Near-Dry) to between 50 to 100 percent of the long-term median water level (Watch).

The unseasonably low availability of rangeland resources continues to maintain above average livestock return trekking distances from grazing areas to watering points. According to NDMA monitoring data for June, livestock trekking distances are 10-34 km across the area of concern, with trekking distances around 85 percent above the three-year average in the Northern Pastoral Livelihood Zone areas of Marsabit. Additionally, livestock watering frequencies have significantly reduced. In the Northern Pastoral livelihood zone areas of Marsabit, livestock watering frequency are twice as long as typical, with cattle getting watered every two days, small stock (goats and sheep) every three to four days, and camels every seven to 12 days. Similarly, household trekking distances to water is also above the three-year average, with households travelling around 7 to 12 kilometers for water, around 11 to 53 percent above the three-year average. Waiting times for water are also longer than normal, with people waiting between to two to three hours in Marsabit, compared to 45 minutes normally. The above-normal travel distances and waiting times are limiting the time for other livelihood activities, including engaging in income-earning opportunities.

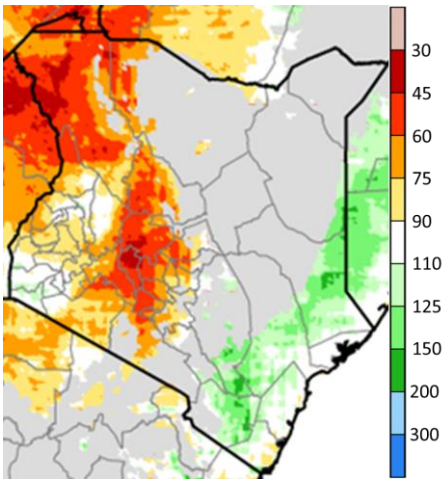
In the Northern Pastoral Livelihood Zone, the limited availability of rangeland resources in the typical wet season grazing areas, in addition to resource-based conflicts, continue to keep livestock in unseasonal grazing areas, while increasing internal livestock movements. Resource-based conflicts and tensions along the Samburu-Baringo border and Samburu-Isiolo border continue to restrict access to grazing areas and watering points in these areas. According to the NDMA sentinel site data, approximately 95 percent of livestock in the Northern Pastoral areas of Samburu remain in dry season grazing areas, particularly the higher altitudes of Kirisia, Matthews, Ndoto and Nyiro, and remote areas of northern Laikipia, and Nyandarua, Nyeri, Nakuru, Isiolo, and Meru counties. In the Northern Pastoral areas of Marsabit, conflicts and the ongoing disarmament exercise under operation 'Rejesha Amani Marsabit' by the government, including a dusk to dawn curfew, is limiting access to grazing areas and watering points. According to the Marsabit county government, the ongoing conflicts in Marsabit are no longer fully resource-based, but are based on perceived historical injustices and the settling of perceived political scores, especially as the general elections draw near. According to the NDMA June bulletins, approximately 80-90 percent of livestock in the Northern Pastoral areas of Marsabit remain in the dry season grazing areas, such as parts of Dukana ward. Around Mt. Kulalwhile in the Northwestern Pastoral Livelihood Zone, most livestock remain in eastern Uganda and along the Kenya-Ethiopia-South Sudan border in Kibish.

Figure 5. Area of concern reference map, Northern and Northwestern Pastoral livelihood zones



Source: *FEWS NET*

Figure 6. CHIRPS precipitation, percent of the 1981-2020 average, June 1-July 25, 2022



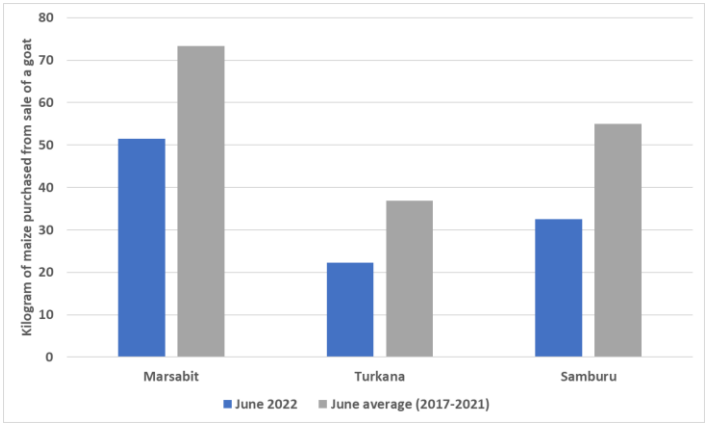
Source: *UC Santa Barbara Climate Hazards Center*

The combination of unseasonably low rangeland resource availability, above-average trekking distances, and reduced watering frequencies continues to drive unseasonal deterioration of livestock body conditions and productivity. According to NDMA sentinel site data, livestock body conditions range from poor to very poor, resulting in negligible milk production among the milking herds left behind in the Northern Pastoral areas of Samburu and in the Northwestern Pastoral Livelihood zone, compared to the three-year average of 1.5-1.8 liters. In the Northern Pastoral areas of Marsabit, milk production is 0.25 liters compared to the short-term average of 1.42 liters. As a result, household milk consumption remains significantly below average with households in Turkana and Samburu not consuming milk, and households in Marsabit consuming around 0.25 liters per household per day compared to the short-term average of 1.2-1.7 liters per household per day. The significantly low milk production continues to constrain household food availability, while reduced incomes from milk sales is significantly limiting household access to food. Livestock ownership also remains significantly below average across the livelihood zones due to successive below average livestock conception and births, and high mortality rates from disease, lack of pastures and water, and hypothermia. In Samburu, the NDMA's National Monthly Drought Update reported that around 20 percent of livestock have died between October 2021 and May 2022,.

Lower mortality rates were reported for Marsabit and Turkana, at around 7.4 percent, as most livestock migrated to Uganda and South Sudan where rangeland resources are more available. However, an additional 1,000 livestock deaths were reported following rainstorms in the Northern Pastoral areas of Marsabit by NDMA in May due to hypothermia.

Across the northern and northwestern pastoral livelihood zones, livestock herds are significantly smaller than historical baselines due to livestock dying or being sold in the ongoing and past drought events. In the Northern Pastoral areas of Marsabit, poor households had one to two Tropical Livestock Units (TLUs)[2] in February compared to six to 10 normally, while in the Northwestern Pastoral areas of Turkana, poor households held two TLUs compared to five TLUs normally, suggesting that herd sizes are diminishing. The poor livestock body conditions, coupled with ongoing deaths through the long rains, continues to reduce the already well below average herd sizes, and limit household income from livestock and milk sales, significantly lowering household purchasing power.

Figure 7. Goat-to-maize terms-of-trade June 2022 compared to the June 2017-2021 average



Source: FEWS NET using data from NDMA

Livestock sale values are atypically low due to the unseasonably low livestock body conditions. In June, the price of a medium-sized mature goat in Marsabit and Samburu are 95 to 98 percent of the five-year average, but goat prices in Turkana are 72 percent of the five-year average. However, due to high demand for both livestock and human consumption, reduced local supplies and cross-border imports from Ethiopia, and high global import prices impacted by the conflict in Ukraine, maize prices have increased rapidly, particularly in Turkana and Samburu. As a result, maize prices are 21 to 55 percent higher than the five-year average. In the Northwestern Pastoral Livelihood Zone, maize prices are increasing following a reduction in cross-border imports from Uganda, as Ugandan traders have increased exports to South Sudan where returns are better, increasing the demand for the relatively high-priced local maize from Trans Nzoia, West Pokot, and Uasin Gishu counties. As a result, household purchasing power, expressed by the goat-to-maize terms-of-trade, are 22kg of maize per goat sold in Turkana and 33kg of maize per goat in Samburu, which is around 60 percent of the five-year average, and the lowest terms-of-trade in Turkana and Samburu since May and June 2017 (Figure 7). For a household of six, 22 kg of maize can provide an equivalent of six days of kilocalorie requirements. In Samburu and Marsabit, households can purchase 33 and 51kg, respectively, of maize per goat sold, equivalent to 11 to 14 days of kilocalories if a household only eats maize. The low goat-to-maize terms-of-trade are driving households to increasingly engage in coping strategies indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) such as reducing meal sizes and meal frequency, reliance on less preferred foods, higher than usual livestock sales, and selling of the last female animal.

With little to no milk consumption and limited household access to food and incomes, approximately 45-50 percent of poor households reported a food consumption score (FCS) indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4). In the Northwestern Pastoral Livelihood Zone, around 33 percent of pastoral households reported an FCS indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3), while 49 percent reported an FCS indicative of Emergency (IPC Phase 4). In the Northern Pastoral Livelihood Zone, 30-45 percent of poor households reported an FCS indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3), while 10-20 percent reported FCS indicative of Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Approximately 37-44 percent of poor households in the Northern Pastoral Livelihood Zone and 26 percent in the Northwestern Pastoral Livelihood Zone were also engaging in consumption-based coping strategies indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse, such as borrowing food from a relative and restricting consumption by adults so that small children can eat. Around 32 percent of poor households in the Northern Pastoral areas of Marsabit and 24 percent in the Northwestern Pastoral Livelihood Zone are employing livelihood coping strategies indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) such as withdrawing children from school and reducing expenditures on human health and veterinary care. Only 10-11 percent of poor households in the Northern Pastoral Livelihood Zone are employing livelihood coping strategies indicative of Emergency (IPC Phase 4), but the Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) is significantly low in the AOC. According to the June 2022 SMART surveys, 23.7 percent of poor households in Northern Pastoral areas of Marsabit and 48.1 percent in the Northwestern Pastoral Livelihood Zone were consuming less than three food groups, indicative of Emergency (IPC

[2] Tropical Livestock Units are livestock numbers converted to a common unit. Camels = 1.1; cattle=0.5; sheep and goats=0.1; pigs=0.2; chickens=0.01

Phase 4). Around 54 percent in the Northern Pastoral areas of Marsabit and 35 percent in the Northwestern Pastoral Livelihood Zone were consuming 3-5 food groups, indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3). The June 2022 SMART surveys indicate that the prevalence of malnutrition among children under the age of five years based on Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) is Extremely Critical (GAM WHZ >30 percent) in the Northwestern Pastoral Livelihood Zone with areas of Turkana North and Turkana South having GAM prevalence rates of around 40 percent. In the Northern Pastoral areas of Samburu, the GAM prevalence is Critical (GAM WHZ 15-59.9 percent). The SMART surveys also indicate that the Crude Mortality Rates (CMR) in the Northwestern Pastoral areas of Turkana South and Turkana West and the Northern Pastoral areas of Samburu is 0.5-0.99/10,000/per day, indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3). The under-five mortality rates (U5MR) is 1.98/10,000 per day in the Northwestern Pastoral areas of Turkana West, indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3).

Approximately 39,920 households in the Northwestern Pastoral areas of Turkana are receiving a bi-monthly cash transfer of 5,400 KES per household (~45.7 USD) under the government's inter-annual Hunger Safety Net Program (HSNP), implemented by NDMA, equivalent to up to eight days of kilocalorie needs each month if households just consume maize. Similarly, around 20,450 households in the Northern Pastoral areas of Marsabit are benefiting from a similar program, but lower maize prices are improving household purchasing power, allowing households to purchase up to 11 days of kilocalories needs for a family of six if they only consume maize. An additional 6,200 households in Turkana and 6,810 households in Marsabit are also receiving a bi-monthly Emergency HSNP Scale-up cash transfer of 5,400 KES, triggered by severe vegetation conditions, as indicated by the Vegetation Condition Index (VCI). In addition, direct food assistance and cash transfers equivalent to 25-50 percent of monthly calorie needs have been distributed by the county and national governments and other humanitarian partners such as Oxfam USA, VSF Germany, Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS), U.N. World Food Program (WFP), Concern Worldwide, World Vision International (WVI), Save the Children, and CARITAS. In Samburu, USAID Nawiri provided around 1,000 beneficiaries with 5,057 KES (~42.66 USD), around 21 days of kilocalories for a household of six if they just eat maize. As a result, the ongoing humanitarian assistance is resulting in Crisis! (IPC Phase 3!) outcomes in Marsabit and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in Samburu. However, despite the presence of humanitarian assistance, more than 20 percent of poor households in Turkana are facing Emergency (IPC Phase 4).

Assumptions

- Rangeland resources are expected to remain atypically low through the scenario period, given the below-average October to December short rains forecast. An accelerated depletion of rangeland resources is expected during the typical dry months of July to October, except in the Northwestern Pastoral Livelihood Zone where the June to September off-season rains are likely to drive modest improvements.
- Livestock body conditions are expected to remain poor through October coupled with above average mortality rates as pastures, browse, and water resources rapidly deplete. At the onset of the October to December short rains, a high livestock mortality is expected from weakened conditions resulting from pneumonic diseases, such as Contagious Caprine Pleuro-Pneumonia (CCPP) and Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia (CBPP). In addition, livestock birth rates are expected to be below average following the low conception rates during the 2022 March to May long rains due to sustained poor body conditions.
- Internal livestock movement and migration is expected to increase throughout the scenario period, due to the anticipated rapid decline in rangeland resource availability. Concurrently, livestock that already migrated into atypical areas, such as northern Isiolo, and marginal agricultural areas of Meru, Laikipia, and into Uganda and Southern Sudan, during the previous below average long rains season, are expected to stay in these areas throughout the scenario period. Resource-based conflicts are likely through November in the typical hotspot areas of northern Laikipia-southern Samburu border, southern Turkana-northern Samburu border at Baragoi, and Turkana North and South Sudan border, especially in Kibish. A smaller herd is likely to migrate back into normal wet season grazing areas in November.
- According to FEWS NET technical price projections, goat retail prices in Marsabit are likely to follow seasonal trends but remain below average throughout the scenario period due to poor body conditions and atypical migrations following four below average seasons. Prices will slightly increase in November at the onset of the forecasted below average October to December short rains, as herders minimize sales to improve livestock body conditions. Goat retail prices are projected to be 24-40 percent below the five-year average. Maize retail prices are projected to follow seasonal trends but be well above the five-year average, driven by an abnormally high demand for both human and livestock consumption against a low local availability and reduced cross-border imports.
- The prevalence of acute malnutrition among children under five years is expected to continue increasing throughout the

scenario period but will remain Critical (GAM 15-29.9 percent) due to reduced household food access given limited purchasing power. Increasing malnutrition rates will also be driven by lower-than-normal access to water, which will likely increase incidences of diarrheal diseases due to compromised hygiene and sanitation, and other chronic factors such as poor health seeking behaviors and poor infant and childcare practices.

- Humanitarian food assistance by both the national and county governments and NGOs is likely to continue through January including the government's inter-annual Hunger Safety Net Program (HSNP) and the Emergency HSNP scale ups implemented by NDMA. However, the targeted households are likely to continue receiving 5,400 KES every two months from June to September. The inter-annual HSNP is expected to continue through January 2023. WFP is likely to provide 5 to 16 percent of the area of concern's total population with a 50 to 75 percent monthly ration, assuming perfect targeting.

Most Likely Food Security Outcomes

Between June and September, a rapid depletion of rangeland resources is expected to intensify livestock migrations and internal livestock movements while maintaining unseasonably poor livestock body conditions and productivity. Although the June to August off-season rains are likely to modestly replenish rangeland resources in Northwestern Pastoral areas of Turkana, stalling a rapid deterioration of livestock body conditions and productivity, the improvements are unlikely to trigger livestock migration into the seasonal grazing areas. A slight increase in the livestock mortality rate is however expected in the Northern Pastoral areas of Marsabit and Samburu driven by the rapid reduction in the availability of rangeland resources. Livestock that already migrated into atypical areas during the previous below average long rains season, such as the neighboring pastoral areas of northern Isiolo, and marginal agricultural areas of Meru, Laikipia, and into Uganda and Southern Sudan, are expected to remain in these areas. As a result of low livestock productivity and migration, milk availability is expected to remain significantly below average. Resource-based conflicts in hot spot areas, such as along the northern Laikipia-southern Samburu border, southern Turkana-northern Samburu border at Baragoi, and Turkana North and the South Sudan border, are likely. Livestock disease outbreaks are expected in grazing areas and watering points where large numbers of livestock congregate. Household incomes will be significantly limited by atypically low livestock sale values and below average milk sales, although they are likely to increasingly rely on non-livestock related waged labor opportunities, charcoal and firewood sales, and remittances to narrow income deficits. Households will continue to rely heavily on market purchases, but above average staple food prices will continue to significantly limit household purchasing capacities and access to food. To minimize food consumption gaps, households will increase their consumption of wild foods such as Duom Palm fruit (Mukoma) and Salvadora Persica leaves, but following four successive below average seasons, wild food availability is likely to be low. Consequently, most poor households are expected to face large food consumption gaps, which are likely to be mitigated by livelihood coping strategies and asset liquidation, indicative of Emergency (IPC Phase 4). As a result, the prevalence of acute malnutrition is likely to increase. In the Northwestern Pastoral areas of Turkana, the government's inter-annual Hunger Safety Net Program and the Emergency HSNP Scale ups is expected to provide up to eight days of monthly kilocalorie needs. However, area-level Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are likely to emerge due to the compounding impact of reduced supply of food and income from milk since December 2021, declining herd sizes, and poor household purchasing power. In the Northern Pastoral areas of Marsabit, Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are expected to persist due to the accelerated depletion of livelihood assets following successive below average seasons.

Between October 2022 and January 2023, the below average forecast for October to December short rains will only drive short-lived improvements in rangeland resource availability in November and December, which are unlikely to trigger significant livestock migration back into the wet season grazing areas. As a result, livestock body conditions will remain poor, and productivity will remain at significantly below average levels. Livestock birth rates are also expected to be well below average following poor conception rates over the course of the drought. At the onset of the short rains, livestock mortality rates are expected to increase given their weakened conditions from pneumonic diseases, such as Contagious Caprine Pleuro-Pneumonia (CCPP) and Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia (CBPP). Further reduction of herd sizes coupled with poor body conditions are likely to maintain below average livestock sale values and household incomes. In addition, the limited expandability of other income sources such as sale of bush products, charcoal, and firewood, will continue to limit household incomes. Although households will continue to rely heavily on market purchases, the projected above average staple food prices will continue to significantly constrain household purchasing power and food access. With limited incomes and access to food, and significantly low household milk availability, a significant proportion of poor households will continue to face large food consumption gaps that are likely to be mitigated by livelihood coping strategies indicative of Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and asset liquidation. However, in the Northern Pastoral areas of Samburu, a significant proportion of poor households will continue to marginally meet their food needs by engaging in coping strategies indicative of Crisis (IPC

Phase 3). The prevalence of acute malnutrition is likely to remain atypically high, with children under five likely facing Critical (GAM 15-29.9 percent) and Emergency Critical (>30 percent) acute malnutrition. In the Northwestern Pastoral areas of Turkana and the Northern Pastoral areas of Marsabit, a fifth consecutive below average rainy season is likely to maintain Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes as households increase their reliance on humanitarian assistance to minimize food consumption gaps.

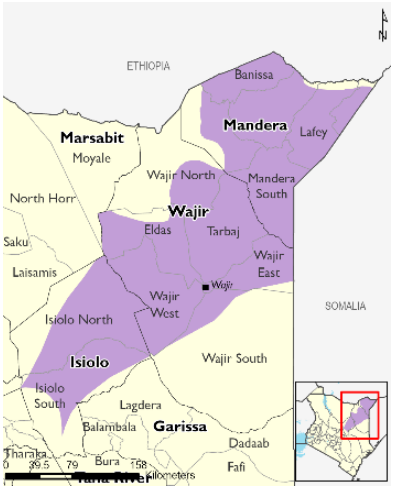
AREAS OF CONCERN

Northeastern Pastoral Livelihood Zone (Figure 8)

Current Situation

According to CHIRPS satellite data, the March to May long rains was less than 55 to 95 percent of average; however, cumulative rainfall was largely 55 to 70 percent of the 1981-2010 average across the livelihood zone (Figure 9).

Figure 8. Area of concern reference map: Northeastern Pastoral Livelihood Zone.



Source: *FEWS NET*

In June, humans and livestock are accessing water through boreholes, water pans, earth dams and shallow wells. In Mandera, NDMA sentinel sites report that around 50 percent of earth pans across the county are dry and that community level water trucking is ongoing as water sources dry out, despite a brief recharge from heavy rainfall in late April/early May. In Wajir (central part of the zone) water trucking is ongoing in some areas, with water pan water levels reportedly decreasing daily, despite having recharged up to 60 percent of maximum depth during the long rains. However, NDMA county officials do not expect water pans to last through the June to September dry season. In Isiolo (the southern part of the zone), households are using rivers less for water due to below-average recharge and low flow. Most households are using groundwater, however the rate of borehole breakdowns is increasing due to overuse, with around 29 percent of boreholes operating normally. Acute water shortages are being reported in Isiolo South (Modogashe), Cherab (Malkagalla, Bisan Biliqo, Dadacha Bassa, Oldonyiro, and Lakole) and Isiolo North sub-counties. The average cost of water rangesfrom 2 – 5 KES per 20 litre jerrican across the zone, which is normal at this time of the year. However, the cost of water in the southern parts of the zone (Isiolo South) is as high as 20 KES per 20 litre jerrican. Increased water costs are constraining water access and reducing household income for other food and non-food needs.

Return trekking distances for water for domestic use are above the three-year average across the zone and range from 7 – 15 kilometers in the northern and central parts of the zone, around 40 - 140 percent above average, but in the southern part of the livelihood zone, households are travelling around 3.5 kilometers to fetch water, around 40 percent above the average. Waiting times at water sources are 15 – 30 minutes in the central and southern parts of the zone and is within the average in the central parts, but 33 percent above average in the southern parts of the zone. In the northern parts of the zone, waiting times are 30 – 90 minutes, which is double the normal time. The above average distances, increased costs in some areas, and waiting times indicates more time and effort is being put into obtaining water for domestic use. This is likely reducing how much water households can access and the time available to carry out other livelihood activities to earn income or access food.

According to the eVIIRS NDVI for June 21-31, 2022, vegetation greenness across the AOC is largely 70-90 percent of the 2012-2021 mean, with localized areas recording 95-110 percent of the mean. However, the Vegetation Condition Index (VCI), a proxy for vegetation moisture condition, indicates that vegetation is largely stressed, and vegetation conditions are poor across much of the zone (Figure 10). Due to the poor vegetation conditions and below-average water levels, return trekking distances for livestock are 10 - 36 km according to field reports from the 2022 KFSSG Long Rains Assessment carried out in July 2022, and are double to over three times the average across the livelihood zone. The above average livestock trekking distances and poor rangeland resources are driving deterioration in livestock body conditions, reducing livestock health, milk production, and sale values.

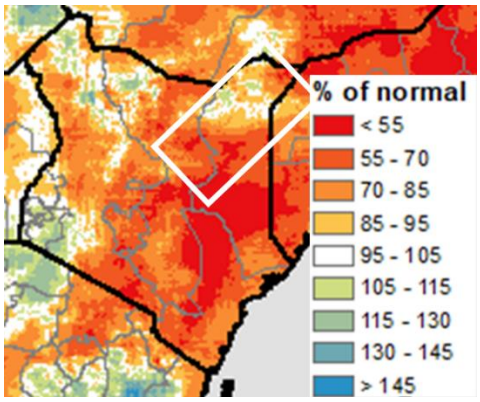
The extended periods of below average rangeland resources and increased trekking distances are resulting in very poor to poor body conditions compared to the normal fair to good conditions for grazers (cattle and sheep), while body conditions for browsers (goats and camel)are relatively better and primarily fair to poor compared to the typical good to very good at this time of year. Livestock body conditions are in particularly poor condition for cattle and sheep in the northern part of the

livelihood zone and are on a declining trend. The below average livestock body conditions also leave livestock susceptible to diseases, further impacting livestock productivity and health. Incidences of livestock diseases were reported across the zone, with an upsurge in endemic livestock diseases such as Sheep and Goat Pox (SGP), Camel pox, contagious caprine pleuropneumonia (CCPP) and Peste des petit ruminants (PPR) that contributed to the death of around 109,100 cattle, 531,900 sheep and goats and 50,670 camels and 32,030 donkeys in the northern parts of the zone. There are also cases of bloating due to abomasal impaction and lush pasture. Since the start of the drought, NDMA reports that by the end of May 2022 around 5 to 11 percent of livestock have died due to the drought, with livestock mortality rates highest in Mandera. According to preliminary results of the KFSSG 2022 Long Rains Assessment held in July 2022, poor households had around two to four tropical livestock units (TLUs), compared to the baseline of four to eight due to sales, slaughter, and deaths over the past four poor performing rainfall seasons.

Milk production remains low across the livelihood zone, driven by below average forage and water availability. Most available fresh milk is from camels, with goats producing very little, and no milk production from cattle. Milk production in June ranged from 0.8 – 1.1 liters per household per day which is 56 to 69 percent below the three-year average. Milk consumption ranges from 0.3 – 0.9 liters and is 58 – 77 percent below the three-year average (Figure 11). Milk availability at household level remains low as 70 – 80 percent of livestock herds remain away from the homestead. Milk remains a significant source of food and income in this AOC and the decreasing levels of milk are resulting in the prevalence of very high Critical (GAM 15-29.9 percent) acute malnutrition.

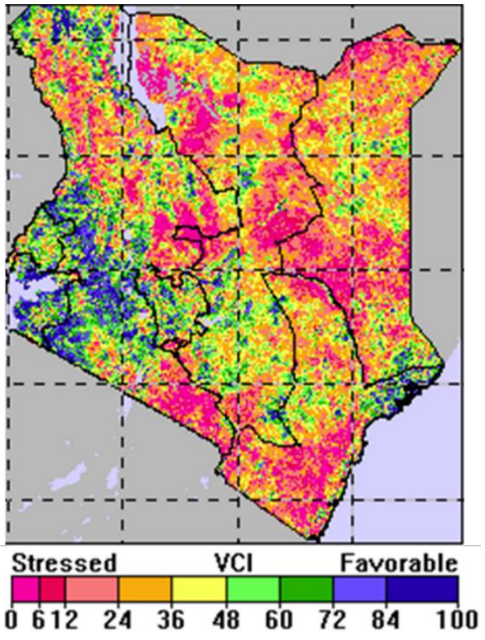
Due to the increased migration during the January-February dry period and below average March – May long rains, about 70 – 90 percent of cattle and camel, 30 – 65 percent of goats, and up to 85 percent of sheep remain in the dry-season grazing areas due to below average regeneration of forage and water resources. Within the zone, intra-migration continues within the different counties and sub-counties and both in and out-migration from Marsabit, Garissa, Samburu, Laikipia, Baringo, Nakuru, and Meru counties. Incidences of conflict and insecurity are occurring across the zone. However, migration remains restricted by resource-based conflict on the border of Wajir with Isiolo and Marsabit counties affecting households in Wajir West and Eldas sub counties. In the western parts of the zone, resource-based conflicts are also occuring along the Isiolo – Meru border pitting herders from Isiolo against Tigania East farmers, resulting in human fatalities. In Merti and Garbatulla sub-counties, there are constant fears of attacks by Samburu morans who have entered the area to access rangeland resources. The increase in conflict is disrupting local livelihood and market activities, negatively impacting household access to income and food.

Figure 9. Seasonal rainfall accumulation, percent of the 1981-2010 average, March 1-May 30, 2022



Source: FEWS NET/USGS

Figure 10. Vegetation Condition Index, July 1, 2022



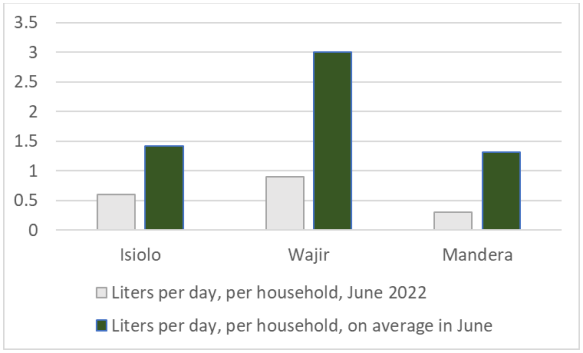
Source: NOAA

In June, maize prices in the zone are 72 – 93 KES per kg, around 29 to 41 percent above the five-year average due to high demand for human and livestock consumption along with a below-average long rains harvest. The price of a mature two-year old medium size goat was around 3,000 KES across the zone which was within average in the southern part of the zone but 12 – 15 percent below average in the central and northern parts of the livelihood zone due to below average livestock body conditions. The goat-to-maize terms of trade were 35-42 kilograms, equivalent to around 11 days of kilocalories for a family of six if they only ate maize, and around 31-35 percent below the five-year average. Across the zone, the average milk price was 120-160 KES per 750 ml bottle in June compared to 60 – 80 KES, which is more than twice the normal price and attributed to the low production and availability of the commodity. Income across the zone particularly from livestock-based sources remains below average due to low livestock sale value and productivity. In June, households remain reliant on income from casual labour and the sale of livestock and livestock products, trade, and to a lesser extent formal employment. However,

household access to income-earning opportunities are below-average due to increased competition and below-average livestock prices.

In June, humanitarian assistance by the national and county governments, humanitarian agencies and non-governmental actors distributed cash transfers and in-kind food distribution to around 23,836 households in Wajir (~15 percent of the county's population), 31,564 households in Mandera (~18 percent of the county's population), and 29,000 households in Isiolo, around 54 percent of the county's population.

Figure 11. Daily household milk consumption, June 2022



Source: *FEWS NET using data from NDMA*

According to June 2022 NDMA sentinel site data, 33-41 percent of households across the zone reported a borderline food consumption score, indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3), with 4-15 percent of households across the zone reporting a poor food consumption score indicative of Emergency (IPC Phase 4). July SMART surveys reported around 7 and 33 percent of households with borderline food consumption in Wajir and Mandera, respectively, while 3.7 – 8.9 percent of households reported a poor food consumption score indicative of Emergency (IPC Phase 4). To minimize food consumption gaps, households are engaging in consumption-based strategies such as borrowing food from friends or relatives, reducing frequency of meals, reducing meal portion sizes, and reducing portion size and quantity for adults with six percent of

households in Wajir applying coping strategies indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse in Wajir while 23 and 36 of households were applying the same in Isiolo and Mandera. From the SMART surveys, 26 and 43.1 percent of households in Mandera and Isiolo respectively had a Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) of up to four food groups indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3). In March, SMART surveys in Mandera county recorded Extremely Critical (GAM WHZ >30 percent) acute malnutrition with MUAC/WHZ screenings in April recording around 35 percent of children assessed as acutely malnourished. A review of historical nutrition survey data, surveillance data, high feeding program admission rates, and an increasing proportion of children at risk of acute malnutrition at sentinel sites, indicates acute malnutrition rates are worsening in Wajir and Isiolo counties. However, according to SMART surveys carried out in July, acute malnutrition rates are Critical (GAM WHZ 15 – 29.9 percent), with Mandera recording a GAM prevalence of 28.8 percent, a decline from the Extremely Critical GAM rates recorded in March, driven by slight improvements in household milk consumption and a scale up of humanitarian assistance including high impact nutrition interventions. In Wajir, the GAM prevalence remained Critical (GAM WHZ 15-29.9 percent), despite a slight reduction in the prevalence rate compared to July 2021. Despite the improvements, these high malnutrition outcomes are attributed to low food access, including significantly below average milk consumption, poorly diversified diets, and infrequent meal intake. High morbidity and reported outbreak of Kalazar, Chikungunya, measles, and cholera, especially in Wajir and Mandera counties, is also contributing to high acute malnutrition rates. Across the AOC, at least 20 percent of households have food consumption gaps reflected by high acute malnutrition and are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3); however, in Isiolo, at least 20 percent of the county populations are beneficiaries of humanitarian assistance, Crisis! (IPC Phase 3!) outcomes are most likely.

Assumptions

- Following the below average 2022 March to May long rains, livestock holdings are expected to remain below 50 percent of the baseline at least through January 2023. Below average birth rates are expected during the October to December short rains, which will be insufficient to raise livestock holdings amidst sales and losses to drought and disease. As a result, milk production and consumption are likely to be below average throughout the scenario period.
- According to FEWS NET price projections, goat prices in Garissa are likely to be 14 - 22 percent below the five-year average throughout the scenario period, reflecting below average livestock body conditions. Retail maize prices are projected to remain 11-15 percent above five-year averages due to expected below-average harvests and supplies from local and external source markets. Household demand is expected to be high, but available substitutes like rice and pasta, and below-average regional cross border imports are expected to moderate maize prices throughout the scenario period.
- Following the below average March to May long rains, incomplete regeneration of forage and water resources is expected to further increase return trekking distances and drive atypical migration through the dry season grazing areas, reducing household milk availability throughout the scenario period. An increase in resource-based conflict and livestock disease incidences will result in displacements, disruption of livelihood activities, destruction of assets, and livestock

mortalities.

- Household income is expected to remain below average through the scenario period as livestock productivity deteriorates, reducing livestock sale values and income from meat and milk sales. Poor households will rely on limited non-livestock-related income sources such as remittances, casual labor, and firewood and charcoal sales that will likely be insufficient to support the purchase of household food and non-food needs.
- Slightly improved food access from the short rains, and the planned scale up of humanitarian assistance by WFP from August to January in these areas is likely to mitigate severe deterioration of acute malnutrition in Mandera, Wajir, and Garissa counties. In Mandera, increased humanitarian assistance is likely to improve the prevalence of acute malnutrition to high levels of Critical (GAM 15-29.9 percent). Limited and unstable access to food will remain a major driving factor to acute malnutrition. Chronic factors such low access to health nutrition services, poor hygiene and sanitation that is worsened by limited access to water and poor child and maternal care practices will also sustain high acute malnutrition rates.
- Localized incidents of insecurity within the zone from inter-tribal clashes in hotspot areas and terrorism along the Kenya-Somalia border will continue to significantly restrict market operations, livelihood activities and humanitarian assistance programs and operations. Given the ongoing drought, insecurity will likely restrict household's physical access and intensify food insecurity through the scenario period.

Most Likely Food Security Outcomes

From June to September, Emergency (IPC Phase 4) area level outcomes are expected as declining forage and water availability will intensify livestock migration, driving the remaining livestock (including the milking herd), to dry-season grazing areas, the neighboring counties of Marsabit, Garissa, and across the borders into Ethiopia and Somalia. This atypical migration can result in resource-based conflicts among pastoralists and with farmers, resulting in the loss of crops, livestock, property, and human lives. In the dry season grazing areas, livestock disease outbreaks are likely to occur due to the congregation of large animal populations. Deteriorating livestock productivity and body conditions will drive a decline in both household food and income as milk production and sale value reduce. Milk availability and consumption at household level will remain significantly low as livestock remain away from homesteads, driving increasing acute malnutrition rates, especially in children under five years of age. The planned scale up of humanitarian assistance is likely to continue mitigating any severe deterioration of acute malnutrition across the livelihood zone, with the prevalence of Critical (GAM WHZ 15-29.9 percent) acute malnutrition in Mandera likely to be maintained. Despite income from herding labor being above average due to the intensive migration, income from livestock sales and milk will be below average, forcing households to depend more on income from charcoal and firewood sales, remittances, safety nets, and non-agricultural wage labor. However, household income is likely to remain below average as livestock-related income typically makes up about 70 percent of pastoral household incomes. Food access will be significantly below average due to low goat-to-maize terms-of-trade and poor milk production, increasing dependence on safety nets for food access. Food consumption is expected to deteriorate with at least 20 percent of households having borderline and poor food consumption indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Households will engage in consumption coping strategies including reducing food portions, skipping meals, eating less preferred foods, sending children to eat elsewhere, and limiting adult intake so that children can eat indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse outcomes. Additionally, households are likely to withdraw children from school, reduce health expenditures, and sell more animals than usual, including the sale of last female animals to save or earn income indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4). In early to mid-August, humanitarian assistance in the form of cash transfers and in-kind food assistance is likely to be disbursed to the most-affected households. However, the continued deterioration of livestock body conditions and high food prices, will likely result in deteriorating acute food insecurity, maintaining Emergency (IPC Phase 4) through September. Additionally, food insecure households in the insecure areas along the Kenya- Somalia border are likely to migrate to urban settlements to better access humanitarian assistance.

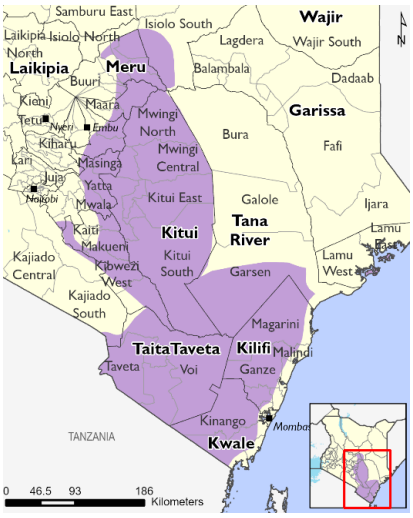
From October to January, The October to December short rains are forecast to be the fifth consecutive below-average season, with a high likelihood of being one of the worst rainy seasons on record. Additionally, when the rains do start, it will likely result in the death of livestock due to hypothermia from their weakened state, further reducing household livestock holdings. However, short-term improvements to forage and water resources from the below-average rainfall will lead to a small proportion of livestock returning from the dry-season grazing areas, with slight improvements in body condition and sale values, primarily in goats and sheep. However, livestock birth rates and herd sizes are likely to remain well below average following the prolonged length of the drought, and losses to starvation and disease. Income from livestock sales will also remain below average due to oversupply to the market and poor livestock body conditions. Meat and milk production from

livestock are likely to remain significantly below average as livestock body conditions only partially recover, with cattle and camels (the major milk producers) remaining in the dry season grazing areas. With limited access to income from livestock, households will continue depending on income from charcoal and firewood sales, remittances, and casual wage labor, but market oversupply, restricted opportunities, increased competition, and a constrained economy driven by the drought and high global fuel and food prices are likely to limit household earnings. Households will continue applying consumption and livelihood coping strategies to mitigate food consumption gaps, with some households exhausting coping strategies like sale of last female animals and destitution, indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Most households will likely continue to depend on humanitarian assistance for food and to save their lives and livelihoods. The impacts of consecutive below average rainfall seasons, including below average livestock production and sale value, livestock deaths, high staple food prices, conflict and insecurity is likely to drive a continuation in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes as current planned humanitarian assistance is unlikely to mitigate the further deterioration of acute food security outcomes among households.

Area of concern: Marginal Agricultural Areas

Crop production during the March to May long rains season accounts for 30 percent of the annual production in the marginal agricultural areas. Typically, households plant maize, green grams, beans, cowpeas, sorghum, and millet. The below average 2022 March to May long rains marks the fourth consecutive below average production season. The long rains were three to over four dekads late, with most areas reporting an onset of rainfall in late April, but it was characterized by poor spatial and temporal distribution. Across the livelihood zone, the seasonal cumulative totals ranged between 50-75 percent of normal. Due to the poor rainfall and significant moisture deficits, widespread crop failure was reported in most areas of Meru (Meru North), Nyeri, Kitui, Makueni, Tharaka Nithi, Kajiado and Taita Taveta, while below average production was reported in the rest of the areas. According to preliminary 2022 Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG) long rains food security assessment reports, maize production in these areas is projected to be 83-95 percent below the five-year average, while that of green grams and cowpeas is expected to be 31-81 percent below average and 82 percent below average respectively. In Kitui, negligible harvests of both cereals and legumes are expected, while in Kajiado and Embu, negligible bean production is expected. Maize production in the rest of the marginal agricultural areas is projected to be 14-42 percent below the five-year average, while bean production is projected to be 11-60 percent below average. Consequently, household food availability remains significantly low due to the lack of green harvests and short cycle legumes, coupled with an earlier-than-normal exhaustion of household stocks from the below average 2021 October to December short rains production.

Figure 12. Area of concern reference map: southeastern and coastal marginal agricultural areas.



Source: *FEWS NET*

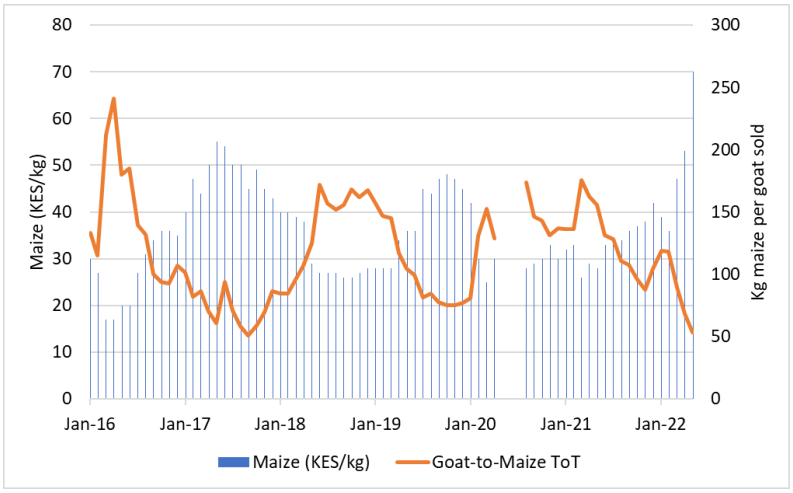
The below average recharge of typical open water sources such as water pans and dams during the long rains season, and the accelerated decline of water levels in these sources has increased the reliance on boreholes and shallow wells to unseasonably high levels. As a result, household trekking distances in June to watering points remain unseasonably long, ranging between 3-13 km compared to the five-year average of 2-9 km. Additionally, the influx of livestock from Isiolo, Marsabit, Tana River, Samburu and Kajiado into Meru (Meru North), Kitui, Nyeri (Kieni), and Taita Taveta counties continues to increase pressure on the already low water resources and forage.

With household food stocks at unseasonably low levels, households' dependency on markets remains atypically high, although purchasing power and food access continues to be limited by below average agricultural waged labor opportunities given the poor crop conditions in the fields and the lack of income from crop sales. To narrow income deficits, households are increasingly relying on incomes from charcoal and firewood sales, remittances, and non-farm casual labor opportunities such as construction. According to NDMA sentinel site data for June 2022, maize prices are 41-96 percent above the five-year average due to reduced local availability and reduced cross border imports from Tanzania following the enforcement of export permits. However, prices are 10 percent above average in Lamu due to crop production from irrigation schemes within Tana River. Relatedly, dry bean prices are 12-43 percent above average following five successive below average production seasons, while in Meru (Meru North), bean prices are 85 percent above the five-year average.

Due to depleted household food stocks, absence of green and early legume harvests, limited incomes and decreased

purchasing capacities, most households are minimally meeting their food needs, but household food consumption is deteriorating. In June, NDMA sentinel site data indicates that 24-60 percent of households reported a borderline FCS indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3), while 0.7-4.4 percent of households reported a poor FCS indicative of Emergency (IPC Phase 4). However, in Meru (Meru North) and Kwale, 10-25 percent of households reported a poor FCS. As a result, more households are employing consumption-based coping strategies such as reducing meal frequency and food portions, eating less preferred foods, and relying on help from friends and relatives. The adoption of consumption-based coping strategies, as measured by the Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) was indicative of Stressed (IPC Phase 2). In most of the marginal agricultural areas, households are employing livelihood-coping strategies indicative of Stressed (IPC Phase 2), such as purchasing food on credit, borrowing money, and spending savings. However, in Meru (Meru North) and most of Kitui, at least one in every five households are employing livelihood-coping strategies indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) such as reducing expenses on health and the consumption of immature crops. Consequently, more than 20 percent of poor households are likely facing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes, but at least one in five households in Meru (Meru North) and most of Kitui are likely facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) acute food insecurity outcomes.

Figure 13: Goat-to-maize terms-of-trade, Meru market, January 2016-June 2022.



Source: *FEWS NET using data from NDMA*

Assumptions

- Given the current poor crop conditions in the fields following the below average March to May long rains, a significantly below-average long rains harvest is expected in the marginal agricultural areas.
- Household food stocks will remain significantly below average throughout the scenario period following the fourth consecutive below average production season, maintaining an atypically high dependence on market purchases.
- Household incomes from crop sales and agricultural waged labor opportunities are expected to remain at below average levels throughout the scenario period. Agricultural waged labor opportunities are likely to improve between October and December through land preparation, planting, and weeding for the short rains crop, but are likely to remain at below average levels due to anticipated lower than normal crop acreage due to limited access to seeds, fertilizer, and other agricultural inputs.
- It is likely that atypical livestock migration into the northern marginal agricultural areas of Kitui (Mwingi North), northern Tharaka Nithi, and northern Meru (Meru North) from the Northeastern Pastoral Livelihood zone will continue between July and September. The atypical migration is likely to result in resource-based conflicts, limiting access to grazing areas and watering points and may lead to displacement and loss of life and livestock.

Most Likely Food Security Outcomes

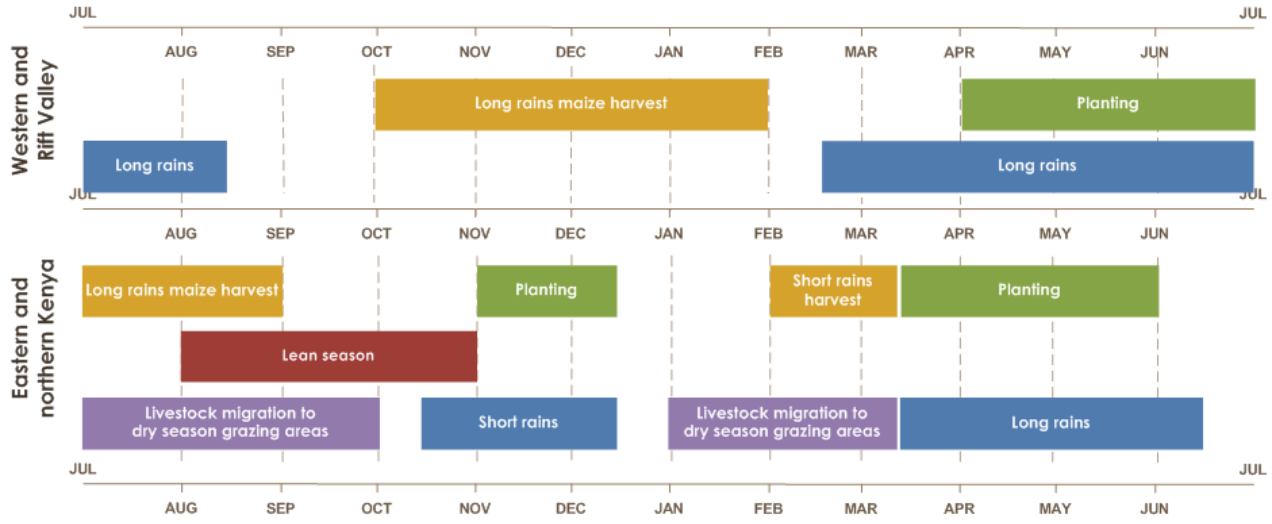
The March to May long rains harvests are expected to be significantly below average in July in most marginal agricultural areas, with household reliance on market purchases likely to remain unseasonably high between June and September.

However, household food access will be limited by the anticipated above average staple food prices and limited incomes from agricultural-waged labor opportunities and significantly below average incomes from crop sales. Although households are likely to engage in alternative income-earning opportunities such as charcoal and firewood sales, and non-agricultural waged labor opportunities, the limited expandability of these sources, and increased competition will continue to maintain large income deficits. Faced with increasing household food unavailability, limited incomes and constrained purchasing capacities, more poor households will rely on consumption-coping strategies indicative of Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) such as reducing meal frequency and food portions, eating less preferred foods, and relying on help from friends. At the same time, more households will engage in livelihood coping strategies indicative of Stressed (IPC Phase 2) such as borrowing

money and purchasing food on credit, and livelihood coping strategies indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) such as reduction of human health and livestock veterinary expenses and consumption of seed stock to minimize food consumption gaps. As a result, at least 20 percent of poor households will be able to meet their food needs but be unable to meet their non-food needs and be in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) except in Meru (Meru North), Laikipia, and Kitui where at least 20 percent of the poor households will be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3).

The below average October to December short rains are expected to result in below average crop acreage due to constrained seed access following consecutive below-average harvest, and high agricultural input prices. As a result, poor households are likely to have lower-than-normal agricultural waged labor opportunities. To minimize food consumption gaps, households are expected to continue employing consumption-based coping strategies indicative of Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) such as reducing meal frequency and food portions, eating less preferred foods, and relying on help from friends and relatives. Very poor and poor rural households are also likely to engage in livelihood-coping strategies indicative of Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) such as borrowing money, purchasing food on credit and reduction of expenses on health and veterinary services. At the same time, the extended periods of constrained food availability and access is likely to result in an increase in the prevalence of malnutrition among children under five years. Consequently, at least 20 percent of poor households will be able to meet their food needs but be unable to meet their non-food needs and be in Stressed (IPC Phase 2). However, it is likely that one in five households in Meru (Meru North), Laikipia, Tana River, and Kitui will be unable to meet their food needs without employing crisis-coping strategies and be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3).

SEASONAL CALENDAR FOR A TYPICAL YEAR

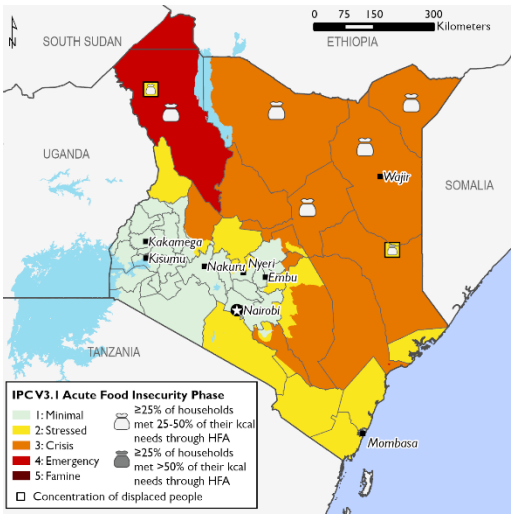


Source: *FEWS NET*

MOST LIKELY FOOD SECURITY OUTCOMES AND AREAS RECEIVING SIGNIFICANT LEVELS OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE*

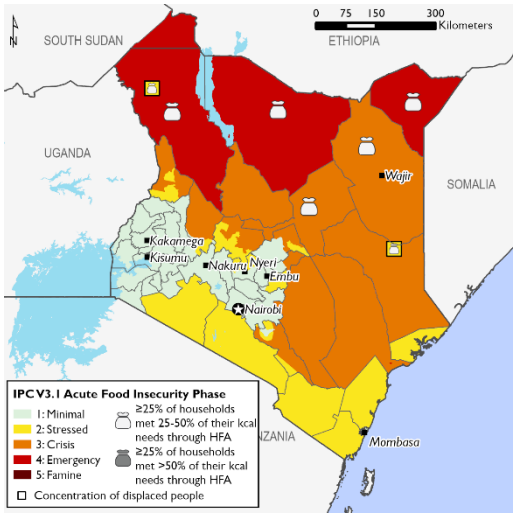
Each of these maps adheres to IPC v3.0 humanitarian assistance mapping protocols and flags where significant levels of humanitarian assistance are being/are expected to be provided. 👜 indicates that at least 25 percent of households receive on average 25–50 percent of caloric needs from humanitarian food assistance (HFA). 👜 indicates that at least 25 percent of households receive on average over 50 percent of caloric needs through HFA. This mapping protocol differs from the (!) protocol used in the maps at the top of the report. The use of (!) indicates areas that would likely be at least one phase worse in the absence of current or programmed humanitarian assistance.

Current, June 2022



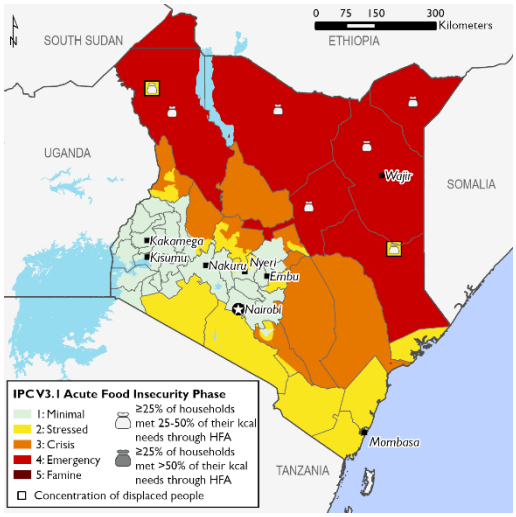
Source: *FEWS NET*

Projected food security outcomes, June to September 2022



Source: *FEWS NET*

Projected food security outcomes, October 2022 to January 2023



Source: *FEWS NET*

FEWS NET classification is IPC-compatible. IPC-compatible analysis follows key IPC protocols but does not necessarily reflect the consensus of national food security partners.

FEWS NET: Kenya Food Security Outlook June 2022 to January 2023: Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes likely to persist in the absence of humanitarian assistance scale-up, 2022

ABOUT SCENARIO DEVELOPMENT

To project food security outcomes, FEWS NET develops a set of assumptions about likely events, their effects, and the probable responses of various actors. FEWS NET analyzes these assumptions in the context of current conditions and local livelihoods to arrive at a most likely scenario for the coming eight months. Learn more here.