



Drought status and Response





1.0 Drought indicators

1.1 Rainfall

- Generally sunny and dry weather conditions prevailed over most of the ASAL counties in March 2019.
- The dry conditions and high temperatures, experienced from January to March has resulted in shortage of both water and pasture leading to rapid deterioration in livestock body condition, reduction in milk production and has also triggered earlier than normal migration of livestock.





1.2Vegetation condition

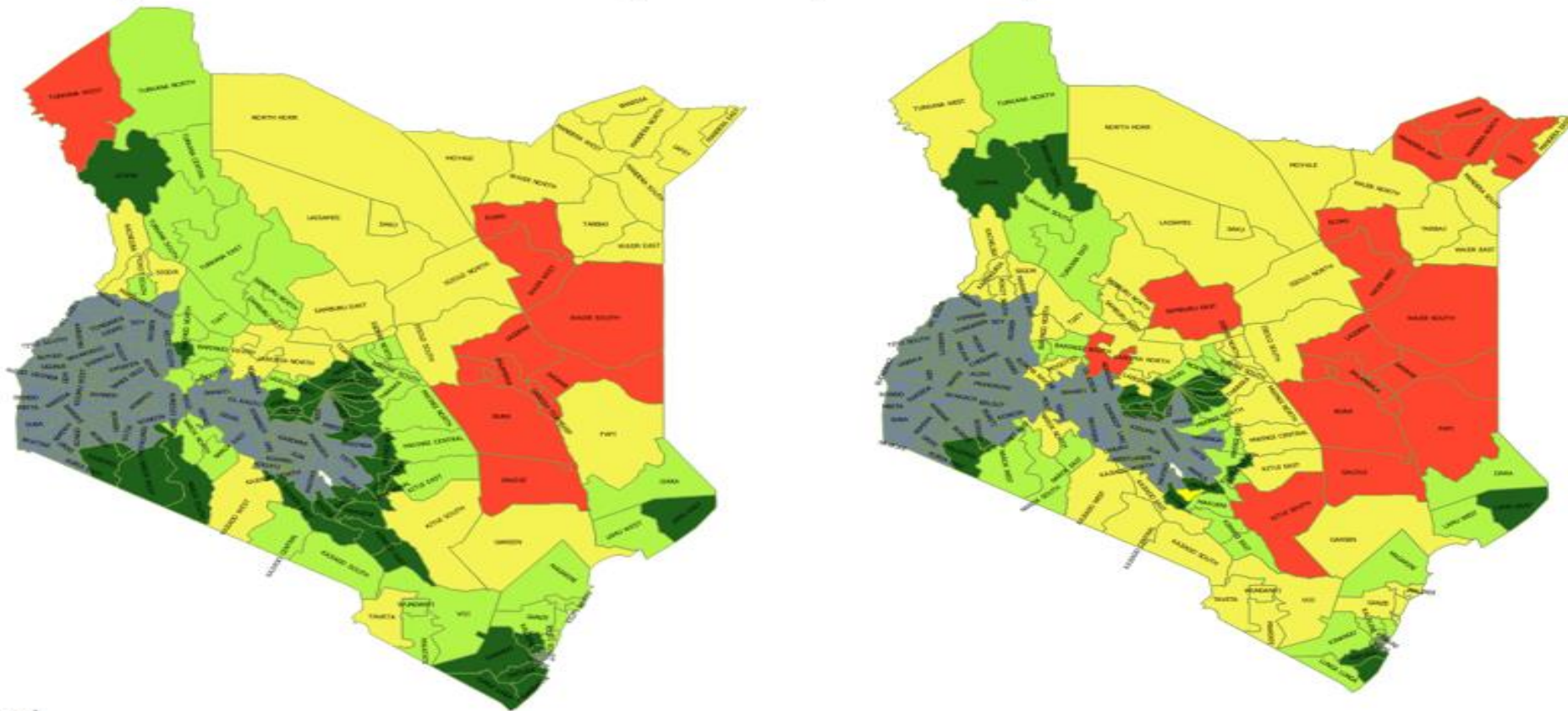
Fast deterioration of the vegetation greenness occurred in March and as a result a number of counties are in severe vegetation deficit category eg.

- Garissa: Balambala, Fafi, Daadab, Lagdera and Dujis
- Wajir: Eldas, Wajir South and Wajir West
- Tana River: Bura and Galole











Vegetation Condition Index (3 Month) : February 2019 & March 2019

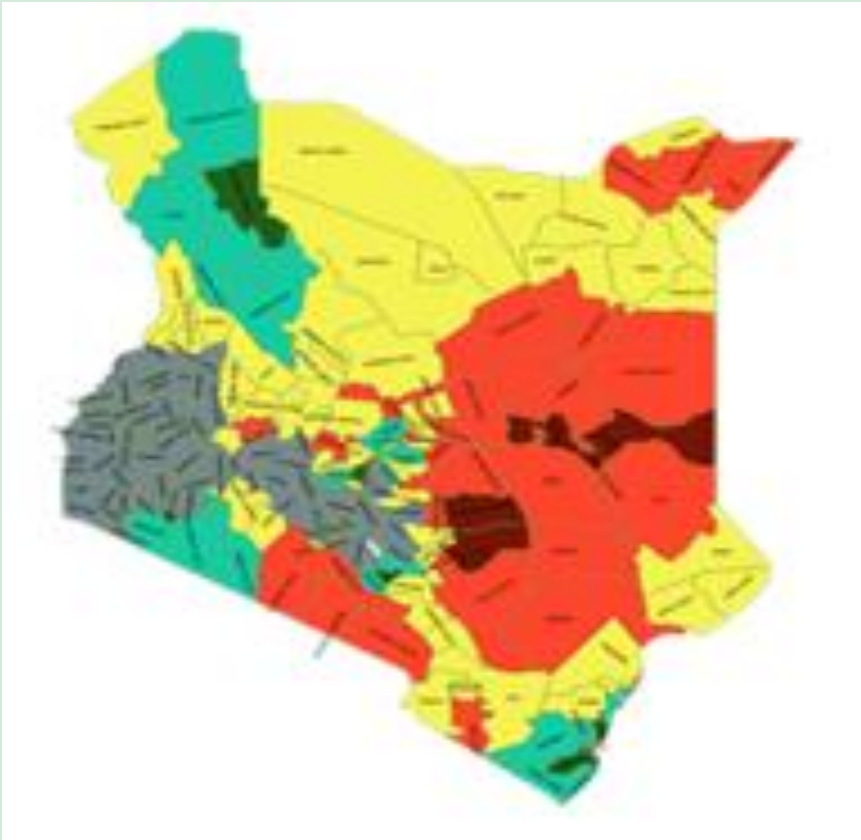


Legend

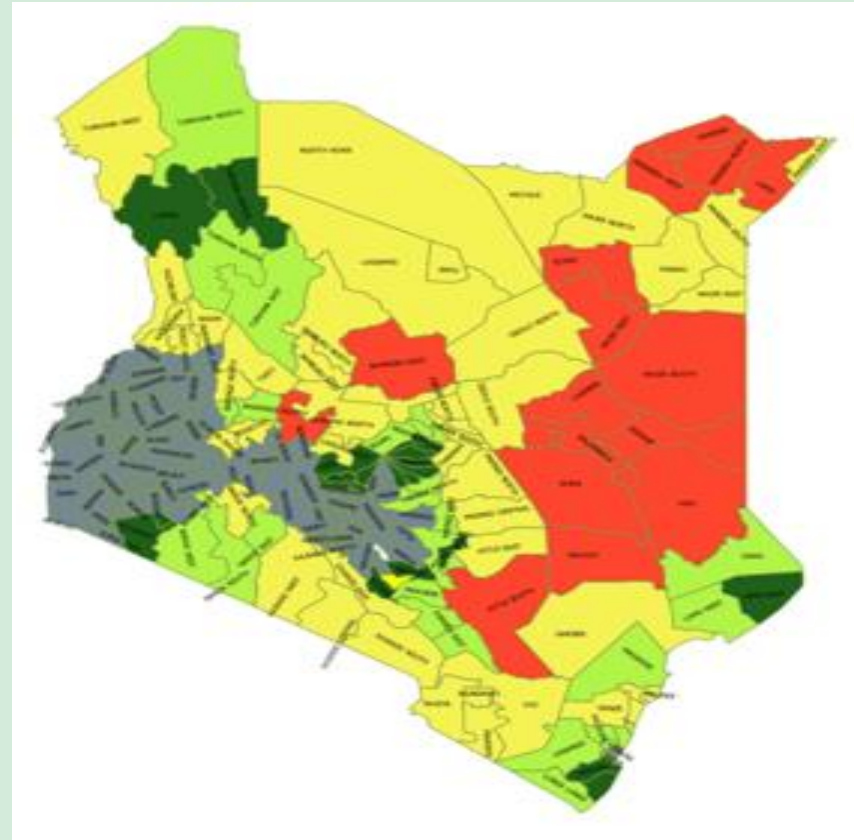
-  ≥ 50 : Above normal vegetation greenness
-  35 - 50 : Normal vegetation greenness
-  20 - 35 : Moderate vegetation deficit
-  10 - 20 : Severe vegetation deficit
-  < 10 : Extreme vegetation deficit
-  No Data



Vegetation Condition Index, March 2018



Vegetation Condition Index, March 2019





1.3 Livestock production

- Pasture and browse condition was fair to poor across the ASAL counties compared to good to fair normally.
- Livestock body condition for cattle and sheep was poor to fair while that of goats and camel was fair across counties.
- Counties where livestock body condition shows signs of worsening include: Wajir, Kajiado, Marsabit, Baringo, Garissa, Laikipia, Mandera, Samburu, Turkana and West Pokot.
- Current milk production in eleven counties is above LTA while in twelve counties which includes: Garissa, Turkana, Kajiado, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River, Mandera, Laikipia, Narok, Makueni, Lamu and Nyeri (Kieni) the current amount is below LTA.



Table: Milk production, March 2019

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Current status</i>			<i>Trend</i>		
	<i>Above LTA</i>	<i>At/close to LTA</i>	<i>Below LTA</i>	<i>Improving</i>	<i>Stable</i>	<i>Worsening</i>
Milk production	Wajir West Pokot Isiolo Kilifi Kitui Tharaka Nithi Kwale Taita Taveta Embu Baringo Meru		Garissa Samburu Tana River Turkana Kajiado Laikipia Mandera Marsabit Makueni Narok Nyeri Lamu	Kilifi Samburu Taita Taveta Kitui	Wajir West Pokot Turkana Tharaka Tana River Nyeri Narok Kwale Kajiado Embu	Marsabit Garissa Mandera Laikipia Meru Isiolo Baringo Lamu Makueni



1.4 Crop production

- The late onset of the March to May (MAM) long rains season is likely to impact negatively on agricultural activities in most semi-arid counties.



1.5 Access to water

- Average distances to water for both households and livestock increased in March
- **Distance to water sources for households, March 2019**

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Current status</i>			<i>Trend</i>		
	<i>Above LTA</i>	<i>At/close to LTA</i>	<i>Below LTA</i>	<i>Improving</i>	<i>Stable</i>	<i>Worsening</i>
Distance from households to main water sources	Mandera Marsabit Tana River West Pokot Kajiado Baringo Makueni Kwale Nyeri (Kieni) Taita Taveta Narok Meru Lamu	Kilifi Laikipia Embu	Turkana Garissa Isiolo Wajir Kitui Samburu Tharaka Nithi	Garissa Samburu Kajiado Kwale West Pokot	Kitui Laikipia Turkana Tana River Wajir Embu	Marsabit Isiolo Narok Tharaka Nithi Baringo Meru Kilifi Nyeri (Kieni) Makueni Mandera Taita Taveta Lamu



1.6 Distance to water sources for livestock, March 2019

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Current status</i>			<i>Trend</i>		
	<i>Above LTA</i>	<i>Close to LTA</i>	<i>Below LTA</i>	<i>Improving</i>	<i>Stable</i>	<i>Worsening</i>
Distance from livestock grazing areas to main water sources	Marsabit Samburu Isiolo Kajiado West Pokot Baringo Lamu Embu Makueni Laikipia Meru Mandera Taita Taveta Narok Tana River Kilifi	Turkana Wajir Nyeri	Garissa Kitui Kwale Tharaka Nithi	Garissa Makueni	Turkana West Pokot Kitui Kajiado Kwale Embu	Narok Samburu Tana River Nyeri Laikipia Baringo Tharaka Wajir Mandera Marsabit Isiolo Kilifi Taita Taveta Lamu Meru



1.7 Terms of trade

- In all but four counties the current value is above the long term average (LTA).
- The worsening trend in ToT was largely due to decrease in the goat prices as a result of a downward swing in the body condition of goats and a general increase in maize prices.



Table: Trends in Terms of trade

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Current status</i>			<i>Trend</i>			
	<i>Above LTA</i>	<i>At/close to LTA</i>	<i>Below LTA</i>	<i>Improving</i>	<i>Stable</i>	<i>Worsening</i>	
<i>Terms of trade (ToT)</i>	Isiolo Taita Taveta Embu Laikipia Kajiado West Pokot Mandera Marsabit Meru Turkana Tharaka Nithi Makueni Baringo Samburu	Narok Nyeri Kilifi Kitui Wajir Kwale	Nyeri Garissa	Tana River Lamu	Tharaka Narok Kwale Kitui Isiolo Embu	Taita Taveta Samburu Laikipia Kilifi Makueni	Wajir West Pokot Turkana Tana River Nyeri Meru Marsabit Garissa Kajiado Baringo Mandera Lamu



1.8 Health and nutrition

- Malnutrition status of children in most ASAL counties worsened in March compared to February.

Children at risk of malnutrition (MUAC), March 2019

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Current status</i>			<i>Trend</i>			
	<i>Above LTA</i>	<i>At/close to LTA</i>	<i>Below LTA</i>	<i>Improving</i>	<i>Stable</i>	<i>Worsening</i>	
MUAC	Tana River Samburu Makueni Kwale Lamu	Mandera Nyeri (Kieni)	Isiolo Turkana Garissa Marsabit Narok West Pokot Kilifi Taita Taveta Laikipia Kajiado Baringo Tharaka Embu	Wajir Meru Kitui	Garissa Laikipia Embu Kwale Tharaka	Marsabit Isiolo Turkana Nyeri (Kieni) Tana River Kilifi Taita Taveta	Kajiado Lamu Baringo Makueni Samburu West Pokot Narok Wajir Mandera Kitui Meru



2.0 Drought phase classification

- More counties have moved into the alarm drought stage, from one (1) in February to five (5) in March, with 20 counties reporting a worsening trend and 3 counties currently recording a stable trend.

Drought status	Trend		
	Improving	Stable	Worsening
Normal		Meru (Meru North)	Kwale Narok
Alert		Tharaka Nithi (Tharaka)	Kitui Baringo Tana River Samburu Embu (Mbeere) Nyeri(Kieni) Taita Taveta West Pokot Isiolo Laikipia Kilifi Lamu Makueni Kajiado
Alarm		Marsabit	Wajir Turkana Garissa Mandera
Emergency			
Recovery			

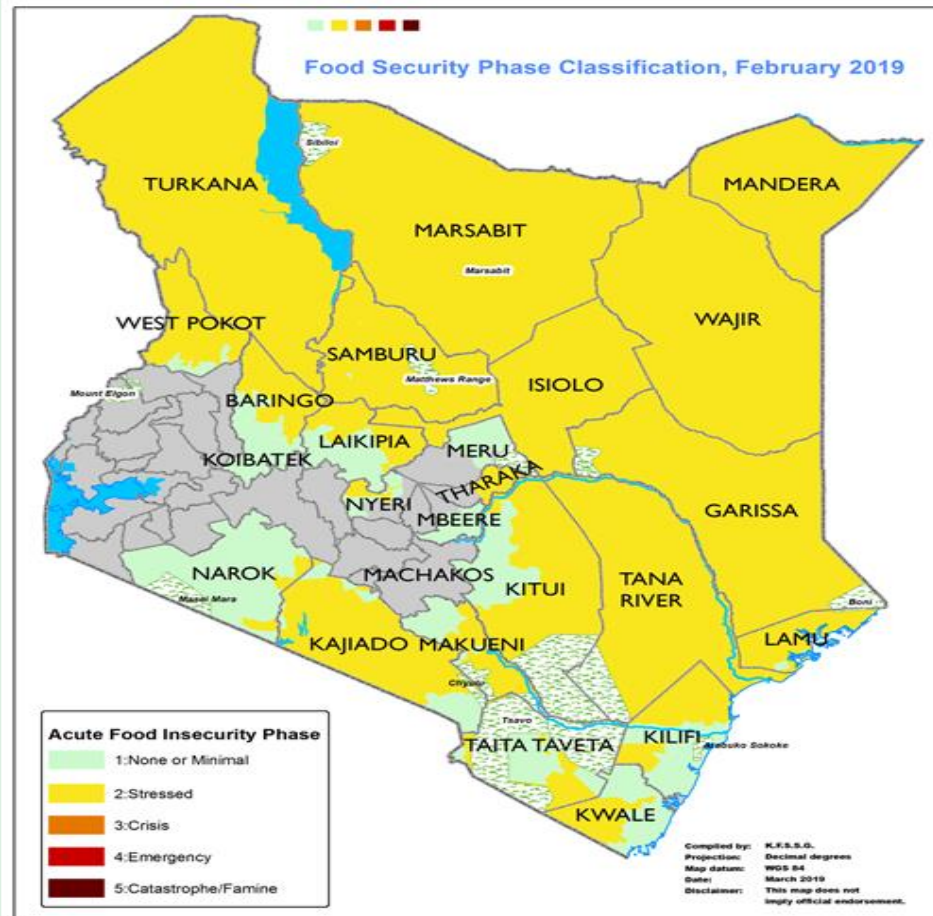


3.0 Impact of drought on household food security

- The Food and Nutrition Security Assessment carried out by the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG) in mid-February listed 13 counties as the most affected, with a total of **937,800** people requiring relief assistance.
- However, the total number of people that require relief assistance in the 23 ASAL counties currently is **1,111,500**.



February 2019



Projected, March to May 2019

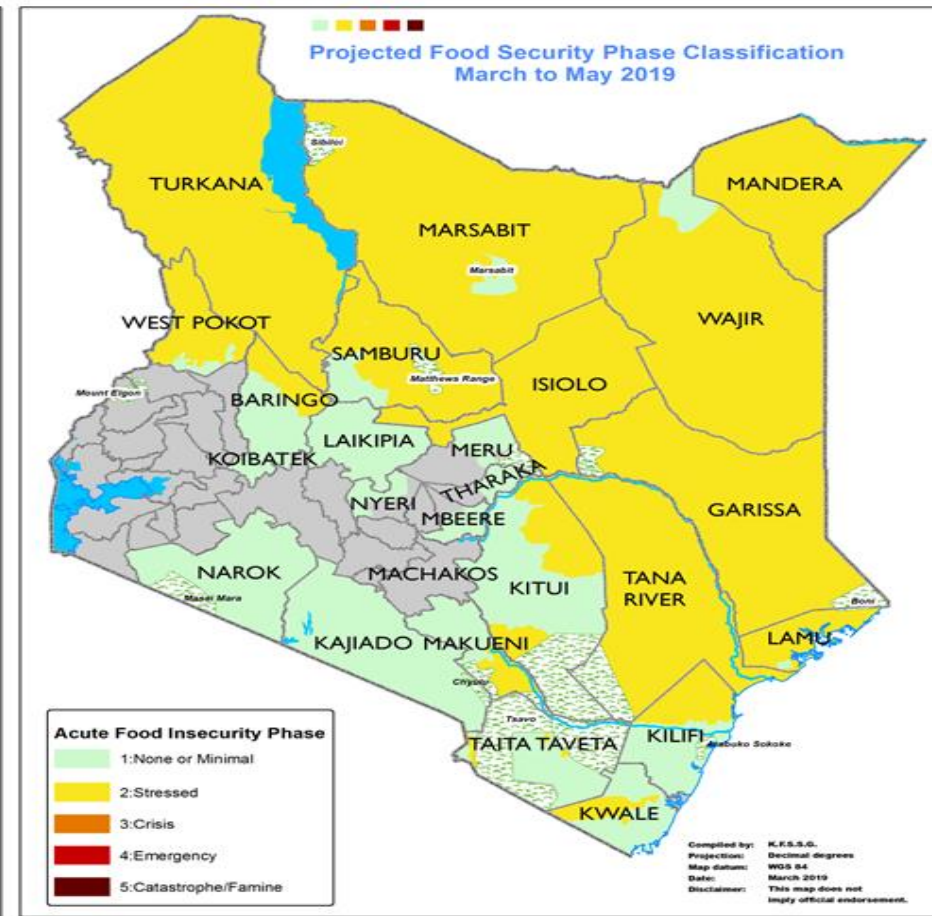


Figure 1.6: Current vs projected national food security phase classification



4.0 PHASE I - Ongoing interventions (January – April 2019) by National Government

The National Government has so far provided Ksh 1.85Bn towards drought mitigation intervention measures to several ministries



(a.) Relief Food

- The State Department of Special Programmes started distributing relief food to food insecure households on March 12, 2019. There was an initial delay occasioned by lack of funding. The department received **Ksh602 million** to purchase relief food – food costing **Ksh 421 m**, non-food items – **Ksh97m** and logistics – **Ksh84m**.
- 26,200 bags maize ,15,420bags of rice,17,060 bags of beans have so far been distributed



(b) Ministry of Health

- The Ministry of Health does not have funding for emergency response currently.
- However, **Ksh143 million** was allocated to the Ministry from the Treasury civil contingency fund focusing on 13 high risk counties. The response activities are aimed at responding to disease outbreaks, ensuring water safety, proper sanitation and hygiene is maintained as well as nutrition and disease surveillance.



(C). NDMA

(i) Hunger Safety Net Programme:

- Between January and March 2019, through the Hunger Safety Net Programme NDMA paid **Ksh 1.07 billion** to **96,689** households in Wajir, Turkana, Mandera and Marsabit under the regular cash transfers.
- In January, **Ksh. 115 million** was paid to **26,529** additional households under the drought shock responsive (severe Vegetation Condition Index) category in Wajir and Turkana counties.
- In March **22,797** Group II households in Wajir and Mandera received **Ksh61.5 million** from EU grant



NDMA continued

(ii) Through support of the European Union

- NDMA has disbursed **Kshs 62.5 million** to 11 counties (Baringo, Garissa, Isiolo, Laikipia, Marsabit Mandera, Samburu, Tana River, Turkana, Wajir and West Pokot) mainly for maintenance of operational water facilities, fuel subsidies, water trucking, health and sanitation and peace initiatives.



(D) Water sector

- **Kshs600 million** allocated to household irrigation water storage programme; **Kshs563 million** to rehabilitation of strategic water facilities, maintenance and water trucking to institutions.
- **Kshs513 million** from the **KShs563 million** have been allocated to seven water services boards and **Ksh50m** to the Ministry of water for trucking and rehabilitation of boreholes.



(E) Other complementary interventions

- Kshs12.4 Billion released under social protection – Inua Jamii
- Ministry of Education – Kshs1.6billion budgeted for ongoing school feeding programme



5.0 Projected drought scenarios

- Latest KMD forecast concludes that based on the current conditions and the projected weather conditions, dry conditions are expected to dominate most parts of the country leading to further deterioration of food security and water resources. Areas affected by the drought conditions will require interventions to support livelihoods.
- Conditions are expected to improve if the expected October to December short rains season perform well.
- Project a worst case drought scenario



5.1 Worst-case scenario

- In the worst-case scenario, all ASAL counties and 2.5 million people will be affected. Main factors to consider:
- Rainfall will be below normal in all your LZs.
- Crop production in all crop producing areas in your county will be below normal due to failed season.
- The drought may reach **ALARM** phase by September 2019 in more than half of crop producing LZ.
- Relief food requirements will be for 8 months (May-December 2019) while other activities will be for 6.
- Water and pasture situation will not improve and livestock production will be negatively affected.



Recommendations for Phase 2 (May – December 2019)

- There is need for increased drought response coordination meetings at all levels and to bring on board all stakeholders for effective response
- Counties to **update contingency/response plans** based on the worst-case scenario (likely failure of 2019 long rains in most counties)
 - ❖ In consultation with the sectors define the activities per sector, target numbers, costing, time frame among other parameters.
 - ❖ Now the time frame is May-December 2019.
 - ❖ Triangulate the current drought status with the recent SRA report for respective counties to project the numbers in need of relief food against the current numbers
- Counties to **activate County Steering Groups (CSGs)** with fortnightly progress reporting and planning meetings. Reports to be submitted to the National team. The CSG will be required to carry out rapid assessments to confirm the situation.
- Counties to **review and allocate 2%** of total annual budgets to emergency funds.