NATIONAL DROUGHT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

National Drought Early Warning Bulletin

May 2024

1. Drought Situation Overview

All the counties were categorized under the 'Normal' phase based on the range of environmental, production, access and utilization indicators monitored that fell within their usual ranges as result of good performance of MAM 2024 rainfall season. The risks associated with wet condition are equally subsiding across the ASAL counties. The situation is expected to continue in normal phase following the cessation of MAM long rains. However, situation is projected to deteriorate during JJA season, in some Arid counties of ASAL with exception of the western parts of the ASAL counties including; Samburu, Turkana, West Pokot and Baringo which usually receives JJA rains. Monitoring of the population flagged out in February food security assessment, Short Rains Assessment (SRA) 2023, number of people in need of assistance stands at 1.9 million. Acute malnutrition has also been noted across the counties with 847,932 children aged 6 to 59 months and 124,359 pregnant and breastfeeding mothers are currently malnourished acutely and in need of treatment. Figure 1.0 shows drought phase classification for the month of May 2024**.**

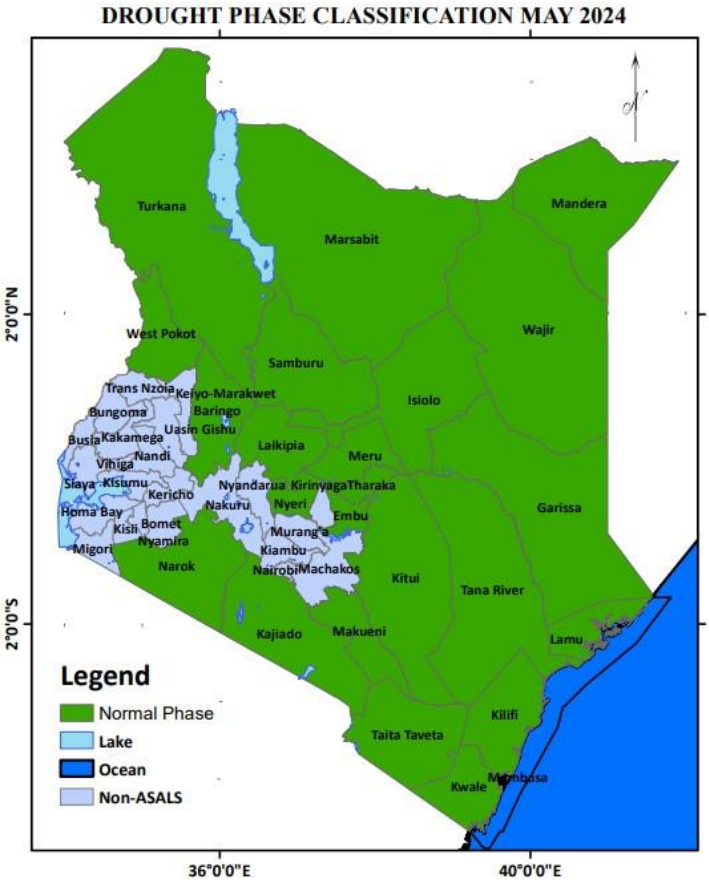

Fig 1: Drought Phase Classification, May 2024

1.1 Observed drought indicators

1.1.1 May 2024 Rainfall Performance

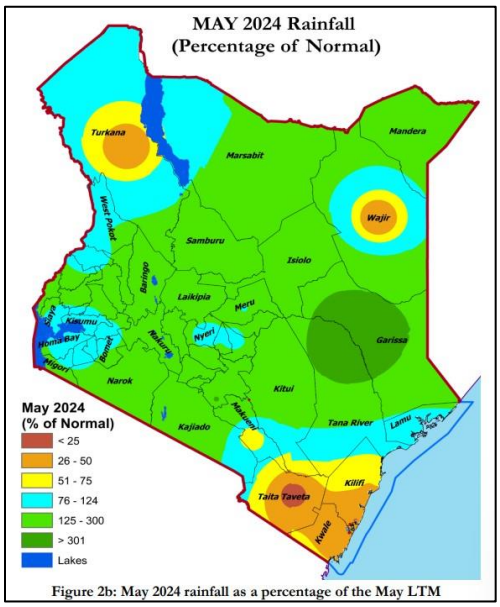

Figure 2. May 2024 Rainfall Performance

The May 2024 monthly rainfall analysis indicates that several parts of ASAL counties received above average rainfall. Pastoral North East counties including; Mandera, Wajir, Isiolo, Tana River, Garissa received high amounts of rainfall ranging between 125mm to 300mm. Wajir county received very low amount of rainfall ranging between 25mm – 125mm. Pastoral North west counties including Turkana, Marsabit and Samburu recorded rainfall amounts ranging between 75mm – 300mm. Turkana County received low amounts of rainfall up to 25mm – 50mm. The South East Marginal Agriculture counties including; Tharaka Nithi, Embu, Kajiado, Meru, Makueni, Kitui counties reported early rainfall onset, received rainfall amounts ranging between 125mm to 300mm. Similar situation was noted with Agro Pastoral cluster including Kajiado, Laikipia, Narok, Baringo, Nyeri and West Pokot received considerable good rainfall amounts. The Coast Marginal Agriculture counties including Kwale, Kilifi, Taita Taveta and Lamu received amounts of rainfall ranging between <25mm to 76mm. Taita Taveta county received the least amount of rainfall within the coastal cluster as shown figure 2.0.

1.1.2 June 2024 rainfall outlook

Rainfall outlook for the month of June 2024 is illustrated in figure 3. Generally, Pastoral North East livelihood zone region (Isiolo, Mandera, Wajir, Tana River and Garissa; South East Marginal Agriculture including; Kitui, Makueni, Embu and Tharaka Nithi. Agro Pastoral livelihood zones including; Kajiado, Narok, Nyeri, Laikipia; The coastal marginal agriculture counties includes; Taita Taveta, Kilifi, Lamu and Kwale counties; Pastoral North West (Turkana, Samburu and Marsabit) counties are forecasted to remain mainly dry with sunny conditions. Turkana, West Pokot, Baringo, Narok parts

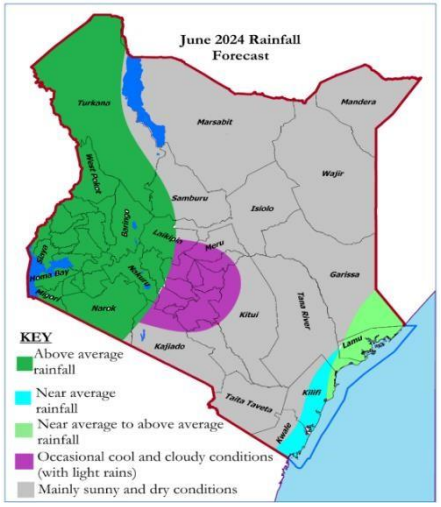

Figure 3. June 2024 Rainfall forecast

of Samburu and Laikipia are forecasted to receive above normal JJA rainfall.

1.2 Vegetation Condition

Figure 3 compares the vegetation condition index (VCI) in May 2024 with that of the previous month of April 2024. Generally, the vegetation condition in the month of May remained the same when compared to that of the month of April.

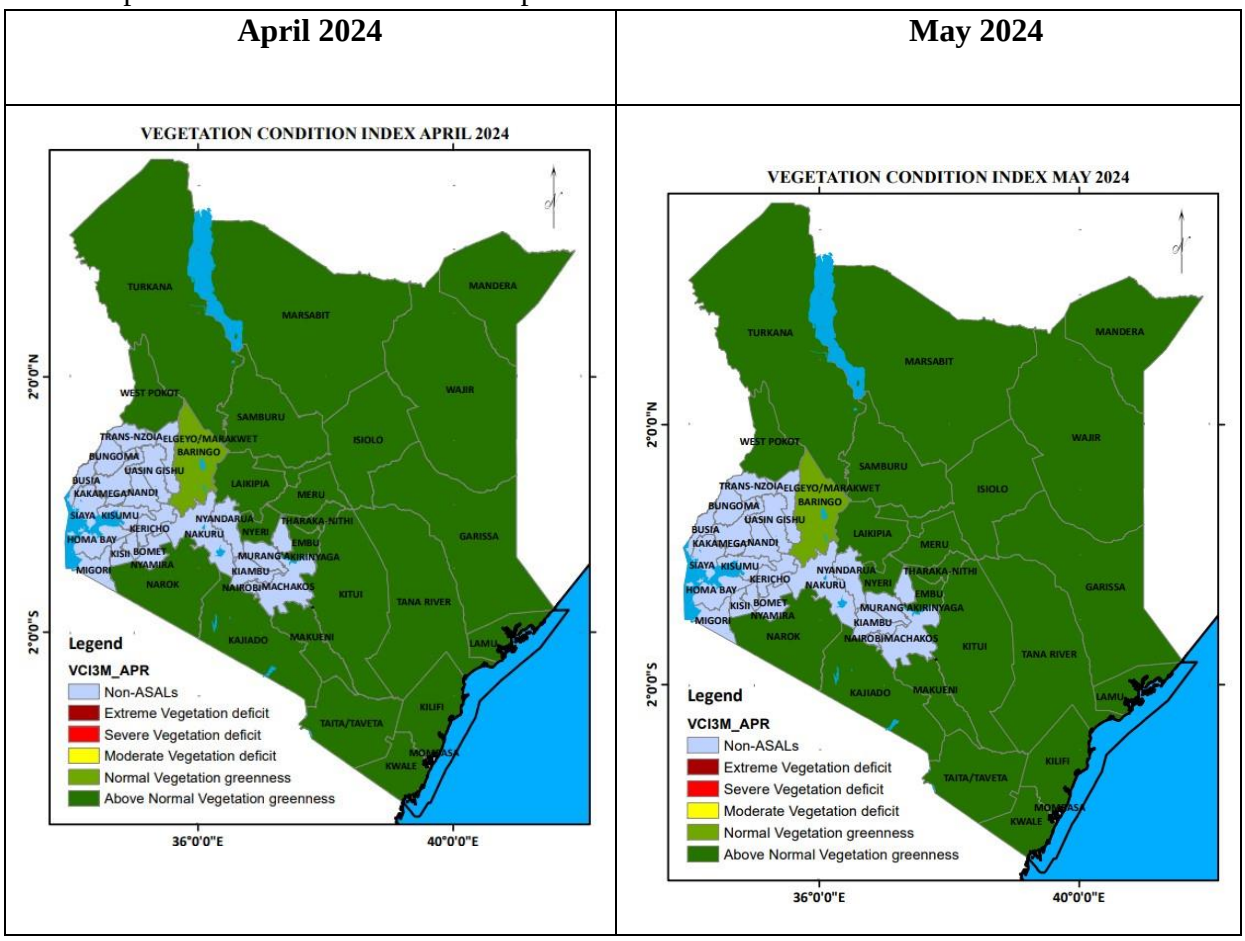

Figure 4: Maps comparing Vegetation Conditions (VCIs) of April and May 2024

The month of May 2024 indicated sustained improvement in vegetation condition across the Arid and Semi-Arid Counties (ASAL) when compared to the previous March, April and May months 2024. Stability in vegetation is due to the ongoing MAM 2024 long rains season, which was normal in most parts of ASAL counties. None of the counties recorded either extreme, severe or moderate vegetation deficit. The following one (1) county; Baringo recorded Normal vegetation greenness. The following twenty-one (22) counties including; Samburu, Laikipia, Kajiado, Kitui, Turkana, Tana River, Garissa and Kilifi, Baringo, Narok, Nyeri, Makueni, Embu, Tharaka Nithi, Meru, Isiolo, Marsabit, Wajir, Mandera, Taita Taveta, Lamu, West Pokot and Kwale recorded Above normal vegetation greenness. The current vegetation condition in May 2024 indicates further improvement from the previous month, April 2024 as shown in (Figure 3). A summary of the

vegetation condition across ASAL counties as at end of May 2024 is provided in Figure 3. The situation for each county disaggregated by sub-county is provided in Table1.

Table 1: Vegetation Condition Index (VCI), May 2024

Category	County	Sub Counties (No)
Extreme	**(0)**	**(0)**
Severe vegetation deficit	**(0)**	**(0)**
Moderate vegetation deficit	**(0)**	**(0)**
Normal vegetation greenness	**(1)** Baringo	**(6)** Baringo (South, Mogotio, Tiaty), Laikipia (West), Turkana (East) West Pokot (Kacheliba)
Above normal Vegetation greenness	**(22)** Embu, Garissa, Isiolo, Kajiado, Kilifi, Kitui, Kwale, Laikipia, Lamu, Makueni, Mandera, Marsabit, Meru, Nyeri, Samburu, Taita Taveta, Tana River, Tharaka Nithi, Wajir, Narok, Turkana and West Pokot	**(107)** Embu (Manyatta, Mbeere North, Mbeere South, Runyenjes), Kajiado (Central, East, North, South, West), Kilifi (Ganze, Kaloleni, North, South, Magarini, Malindi, Rabai), Kitui (Central, East, Rural, South, West, Mwingi Central, Mwingi North, Mwingi West), Kwale (Kinango, Lunga Lunga, Matuga, Msambweni), Laikipia (East, North), Lamu (East, West), Makueni, (Kaiti, Kibwezi East, Kibwezi West, Kilome, Makueni, Mbooni), Meru (Buuri, Central Imenti, Igembe Central, Igembe North, Igembe South, North Imenti, South Imenti, Tigania East, Tigania West), Nyeri (Kieni, Mathira, Mukurweini, Nyeri Town, Othaya, Tetu), Taita Taveta (Mwatate, Taveta, Voi, Wundanyi),Tharaka Natha (Chuka/Igamba ng'ombe, Maara, Tharaka), West Pokot(Pokot South, Sigor, Kapenguria), Narok (Emurua Dikirr, Kilgoris, East, North, South, West), Mandera (Lafey, North, Banissa, West, South, East), Marsabit (Laisamis, Moyale, North Horr, Saku), Samburu:(East, North, West),Tana River (Bura, Galole, Garsen), Turkana:(South, Central, North, Loima, West), Wajir (Tarbaj, North, South, West, Eldas, East), Baringo (Central, North, Ravine), Isiolo (North, South), Garissa (Balambala, Fafi, Lagdera, Ijara, Daadab, Township)

1.3 Livestock production

1.3.1 Pasture and browse condition

During the period under review, forage condition was generally good in all the counties (Table 2). However, some parts of Garissa county reported fair forage, which is attributable to Tree locust infestation. Overall, the observed good forage situation in terms of quantity and quality was as a consequence of the enhanced rainfall recorded throughout the March to May Long Rains period in all the ASAL counties. Stability in pasture and browse is forecasted across June due to the timely to late cessation of the rainfall witnessed in these regions.

Table 2.0: Pasture and Browse Condition, May 2024

Pasture			Browse		
Poor	**Fair**	**Good**	**Poor**	**Fair**	**Good**
		Makueni, Narok, Kilifi, Isiolo, Kwale, Kitui, Meru, Nyeri Taita Taveta, Kajiado, Lamu, Samburu, Marsabit, Wajir, Tana River, Baringo, Embu, Mandera, Laikipia, Turkana, Garissa, West Pokot, Tharaka Nithi			Makueni, Narok, Kilifi, Isiolo, Kwale, Kitui, Meru, Garissa Taita Taveta, West Pokot Tharaka Nithi, Kajiado, Lamu, Samburu, Marsabit, Wajir, Tana River, Nyeri Baringo, Embu, Turkana, Mandera, Laikipia

1.3.2 Livestock body condition

The body condition for both cattle and goats, was generally good to very good based on the pictorial evaluation tool evidence. Majority of the counties, reported remarkable improvement in the body condition for all livestock species across the Long Rains period. Consequently, about 82 and 91 percent of the counties recorded the condition as being good for cattle and goats accordingly (Table 2). Forage and water resources availability within shorter trekking distances, were cited as the drivers of the observed situation. However, roughly 18 and 9 percent of the areas reported fair for the cattle and small stock and that could be attributed to constraints in accessing quality forage

whose quantity was dwindling due to locust infestation in the affected areas. Noteworthy, the observed livestock body condition in May exceeded the one usually witnessed over the month.

Table 3.0: Livestock Body Condition, May 2024

Cattle			Goats/Sheep		
Poor	**Fair**	**Good**	**Poor**	**Fair**	**Good**
	Turkana Lamu Tana River Garissa	Makueni, Narok Kilifi, Marsabit, Meru Isiolo, Kwale, Embu Kitui, Samburu West Pokot, Wajir Baringo, Taita Taveta Tharaka Nithi, Nyeri Mandera, Laikipia Kajiado		Lamu Tana River	Makueni, Narok, Kilifi Isiolo, Kwale, Kitui, Meru, West Pokot Taita Taveta, Kajiado, Samburu, Turkana Tharaka Nithi, Baringo Marsabit, Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, Embu Laikipia, Nyeri

1.3.3 Milk production

Significant improvement in the production level was recorded in 70 percent of the ASAL counties with the remaining 30 percent reporting a stable trend (Table 4). Availability of adequate forage and water within shorter trekking distances, ongoing calving and kidding coupled with improved livestock body condition was attributed to the recorded trend. The prevailing yield level reported in May was above the normal level for the period in about 61 percent of the counties, at par with the seasonal range in 17 percent of the areas and below the LTA in 22 percent of the ASAL regions. Samburu recorded the lowest average milk production of 0.7 litres among the Arid counties while Embu reported the lowest average of 0.9 litres among the Semi-Arid Counties.

Table 4.0: Milk production, May 2024

Current status			Trend		
Above LTA	**At LTA**	**Below LTA**	**Improving**	**Stable**	**Worsening**
Baringo, Isiolo Turkana, Wajir Kilifi, Garissa Kwale, Laikipia Meru, Mandera Narok, Nyeri Tharaka Nithi	Embu Kitui Samburu Kajiado	Marsabit Tana River Lamu Makueni Taita Taveta West Pokot	Baringo, Kwale Marsabit, Lamu Samburu, Meru Narok, Laikipia Tana River Tharaka Nithi Garissa, Nyeri Mandera, Embu Wajir, West Pokot	Isiolo, Kilifi Turkana Kajiado Makueni, Taita-Taveta Kitui	

1.3.4. Livestock diseases

During the month under review, suspected cases of foot and mouth disease (FMD) in cattle was reported in Siana, Naroosura and Nkareta Wards in Narok, Agro-pastoral Livelihood Zone of Lamu, Igembe North and Tigania West in Meru. Confirmed cases of lumpy skin disease (LSD) was recorded in Matanya, Solio and Nyahururu in Laikipia while an outbreak of the same affecting cattle was reported around Kibish in Turkana County. Alarming occurrences of camel abortions was witnessed in Maalimin and Dujis in Garissa with an upsurge of the same being noted in Marsabit and Mandera where epidemiological investigations were ongoing. Reports of cattle deaths attributed to suspected vector-borne illnesses emerged from Nanighi in Garissa with trypanosomiasis, anaplasmosis, and babesiosis suspected to be contributing to the mortalities witnessed. Additionally, cases of foot rot disease were reported in areas of Kathangachini and Gatunga Wards in Tharaka Nithi.

1.3.5 Cattle prices

Stable trend in the market price of cattle was reported in approximately 78 percent of the counties over the period under review (Table 5). The positive trend reported in majority of the areas, was as a result of the improved cattle body condition hence a better market return value. Notably, decline in price was recorded in five counties constituting 22 percent of the ASALs including Kitui, Kajiado, Garissa, Embu and Kilifi attributed to high traded volumes following the reopening of schools. The reported price in May was above the LTA in all counties except Taita Taveta where it was at par with the normal price for the period. Notable factors driving the observed situation included enhanced availability of pasture across the Long Rains season that sustained the body

condition within desirable levels, market deficits in some regions and high demand for meat within external markets.

Table 5.0: Cattle prices, May 2024

Current status			Trend		
Above LTA	**At LTA**	**Below LTA**	**Improving**	**Stable**	**Worsening**
Baringo, Isiolo, Makueni Marsabit, Samburu Turkana, Wajir, Narok Kajiado, Kilifi, Kitui Kwale, Lamu, Meru Tharaka Nithi, Nyeri West Pokot, Laikipia Mandera, Embu, Garissa, Tana River	Taita Taveta		Turkana, Meru Baringo, Isiolo, Wajir, Kwale, Narok, Taita Taveta Tharaka Nithi, Laikipia, Nyeri Mandera Tana River	Samburu Makueni West Pokot, Lamu	Marsabit, Embu Kilifi, Kajiado Kitui, Garissa

1.3.6 Goat Prices

Over the subject reference period, about 61 percent of the counties reported an improving trend while the price in Marsabit, Samburu and Makueni remained relatively unchanged from the previous month. Among the factors driving the positive trend included improved goat body condition occasioned by the availability of palatable browse within sites in close proximity to households and water sources hence reduced trekking distance. On the other hand, about 26 percent of the ASAL counties recorded a negative trend purely driven my market surplus as parents sought to facilitate their children back to school through sale of the most liquid asset (Table 6). Notably, the reported price across all counties in May was above the corresponding long-term average as depicted in table 6. The scenario was basically influenced by the sustained improvement in the body condition throughout the March to May rainfall season with the situation projected to remain similar across June.

Table 6.0: Goat prices, May 2024

Current status			Trend		
Above LTA	**At LTA**	**Below LTA**	**Improving**	**Stable**	**Worsening**
Baringo, Isiolo, Mandera Marsabit, Samburu, Meru Tana River, Wajir, Laikipia Turkana, Kajiado, Kilifi, Kitui, Kwale, West Pokot Lamu, Makueni, Garissa Taita Taveta, Nyeri, Embu Tharaka Nithi, Narok			Baringo, Nyeri, Tana River, Lamu, Laikipia Turkana, Kilifi Kajiado, Kwale Taita Taveta, Meru, Narok West Pokot Garissa	Marsabit Samburu Makueni	Isiolo, Embu Wajir, Kitui Tharaka Nithi Mandera

1.4 Crop Production

Agricultural activities entailing food and horticultural crops production usually take place in the Agro-pastoral, Coastal Marginal Agriculture, South East Marginal Agriculture clusters. However, within the other clusters, a notable proportion of households practice crop production along the riverine areas of River Tana, Daua, Turkwel among others. The summary table below illustrates the situation across the ASAL counties.

Table 7.0: Current status of crop production

Cluster	Counties	Current state of crop production
SEMA	**Kitui**	Main crops planted were mostly at past knee-high stage with their condition being generally good.
	Makueni	Crops were at knee high/flowering stage and in fair to good condition while in the Mixed Farming livelihood zone, the crops were at podding/tussling stage. Farmers along the flooded rivers and upper zones of the county were incurring losses due to water logging.
	Embu	maize was at tussling stage while legumes were at the flowering stage in Mixed Farming Zone while in the Marginal mixed farming zone, maize was at grain filling stage with legumes being at podding stage.
Agropastoral	**Kajiado**	Crops were at maturity and in fair condition with beans mainly in Loitoktok at podding stage while maize had started tussling. Heavy rains resulted to water logging, soil erosion and nutrient leaching on most farms. Fall Army Worm was reported in about 40 percent of the farms with Tuta absoluta reported in about 35% of the farms.
	Laikipia	Weeding and spraying against pests and diseases was ongoing. Crops had been affected by water logging and excessive moisture leading to the leaching of nutrients and reduction in expected yields mostly for beans and potatoes. Maize was at knee high to reproductive stage, beans at weeding to reproductive stage and potatoes at spraying to earthing up stage.
	Narok	Majority of crops in the Mixed Farming Livelihood zones are at grain filling/tasselling stages with the condition of maize and beans being fair to good.
Coast Marginal Agriculture	**Kilifi**	Main farming activity ongoing was maize and cassava crops weeding with few farmers planting while the condition of the crop was poor.

1.4.1 Maize prices

The price of maize declined in majority (57 percent) of the counties with stable trend being recorded in roughly 30 percent of the counties while Embu, Garissa and Kwale recorded a slight increase in the trading price (Table 8). Increased supplies to the market from external markets and via imports and reduced transportation costs were cited as the major drivers of the price decline while increasing reliance on markets within the marginal agriculture areas where household stocks were dwindling compounded by poor road infrastructure that disrupted distribution in some areas were noted as the factors driving the upward shift in maize price. Comparatively, the prevailing price was below the usual range in about 70 percent of the counties and above in roughly 26 percent

of the counties with Turkana returning a price that was at par with the LTA. The noted positive scenario was as a consequence of continuous supply of the commodity to markets, availability of substitute cereals and increased cross-border imports leading to a relatively stable market performance.

Table 8.0: Maize prices, May 2024

Current status			Trend		
Above LTA	**At/close to LTA**	**Below LTA**	**Improving**	**Stable**	**Worsening**
Baringo Isiolo, Kwale Wajir, Meru Kilifi, Nyeri Tharaka- Nithi, Narok Garissa Laikipia Mandera	Turkana	Marsabit Tana River Lamu Makueni, Taita- Taveta West Pokot	Baringo, Nyeri Marsabit, Garissa Samburu, Laikipia Tana River, Kwale Lamu, Mandera Meru, Narok Tharaka Nithi	Isiolo Turkana Kajiado Kilifi, Makueni, Taita- Taveta	Wajir, Kitui, West Pokot

1.5 WATER ACCESS

1.5.1 Access to water for households

The distance to household water sources slightly increased but within the normal ranges, with Mandera reporting the longest trekking distance (7.7km) and Isiolo the shortest (1.8Km) among the Arid counties. Lamu recorded the longest distance (5.6km), while Meru reported the shortest (1.4km) among Semi-arid counties. The generally lower-than-normal trekking distances were attributed to water recharge during the March April May rainfall season of 2024.

Table 9.0: Distance from Households to Main Water Sources, May 2024

Current status			Trend		
Above LTA	**At LTA**	**Below LTA**	**Improving**	**Stable**	**Worsening**
Lamu, Wajir Kwale, Garissa	Tana River West Pokot Mandera Laikipia	Baringo, Isiolo Marsabit, Meru Samburu, Nyeri Turkana, Narok Kajiado, Nyeri Kilifi, Kitui Makueni Taita Taveta Tharaka Nithi	Baringo, Turkana, Makueni, Meru, West Pokot, Nyeri Mandera	Lamu, Marsabit Samburu, Narok Tana River, Embu Taita Taveta Garissa, Isiolo	Kilifi Wajir
				Marsabit, Kajiado, Tharaka Nithi Kwale, Laikipia	

1.5.2 Access to water for livestock

Livestock trekking distances from grazing areas to water sources remained stable across ASAL counties, showing a positive trend due to enhanced short rains. In arid counties, Mandera reported the longest trekking distance at 11 kilometers whereas Isiolo County having the shortest at 2.8 kilometers. In semi-arid counties, Kwale reported the longest and Embu the shortest distances at 4.4km and 2.1. The improved livestock access to water sources is attributed to the successful performance of the current long rains in 2024. The stability and slight increase in distances indicate positive conditions for livestock welfare in ASAL counties.

Table 10.0: Distance from Livestock Grazing area to Main Water Sources, May 2024

Current status			Trend		
Above LTA	**At LTA**	**Below LTA**	**Improving**	**Stable**	**Worsening**
Narok West Pokot Kwale	Kitui Laikipia	Baringo, Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu Tana River, Turkana, Garissa Wajir, Kajiado, Kilifi, Nyeri Lamu, Makueni, Meru, Taita Taveta Tharaka Nithi, Mandera, Embu	Baringo, Isiolo Samburu, Turkana, Wajir, Lamu, Makueni Meru, West Pokot, Mandera Nyeri	Marsabit Tana-River, Kilifi Kitui Kwale Laikipia Embu, Taita-Taveta	Kajiado Narok Tharaka-Nithi. Garissa

1.6 Terms of trade

Terms of trade were stable and favorable across ASAL counties. In arid counties, Turkana reported the lowest terms of trade among Arid while in semi-arid regions, Nyeri recorded the lowest terms of trade. Comparatively, the terms of trade were above normal when measured against the longterm average. The positive shift in terms of trade is attributed to the concluded harvesting activities, which are contributing to price stabilization in the ASAL counties.

Table 11.0: Terms of Trade, May 2024

Current Status			Trend		
Above LTA	**At LTA**	**Below LTA**	**Improving**	**Stable**	**Worsening**
Baringo, Embu, Wajir Isiolo, Kitui, Kilifi, Lamu Mandera, Marsabit Samburu, West Pokot Tana River, Turkana Kajiado, Kwale, Meru Makueni, Narok, Nyeri Taita Taveta, Laikipia Tharaka Nithi, Garissa			Baringo, Laikipia Samburu Turkana, Nyeri Kajiado, Narok Kilifi, Lamu Makueni, West Pokot Taita Taveta Tana River	Isiolo Garissa Marsabit Garissa Wajir Mandera Kwale	Kitui Meru Tharaka Nithi Embu

1.7. Health and nutrition

Child malnutrition conditions improved in Baringo, Isiolo, Samburu, Kilifi, Turkana, Wajir, Kitui, Kwale, Embu, Taita Taveta, Nyeri, Tharaka Nithi and Laikipia compared to the previous month. This positive trend is a result of ongoing nutrition interventions through health outreaches and improved food consumption, particularly from enhanced access to nutritious items such as fresh milk, pulses, and seasonal vegetables.

Table 12.0: Children at risk of malnutrition (MUAC), May 2024

Current status			Trend		
Above LTA	**At LTA**	**Below LTA**	**Improving**	**Stable**	**Worsening**
Baringo, Kitui Tana River Turkana, Lamu Makueni West Pokot Garissa Mandera		Isiolo, Wajir, Kilifi Marsabit, Meru, Nyeri Samburu, Embu, Narok Kajiado, Kwale Taita Taveta, Laikipia Tharaka Nithi	Baringo, Isiolo Samburu, Kilifi Turkana, Wajir Kitui, Kwale, Embu, Garissa Taita Taveta, Nyeri, Mandera Tharaka Nithi Laikipia	Marsabit Kajiado Makueni Narok West Pokot	Tana River Lamu Meru

2.0 DROUGHT PHASE CLASSIFICATION

Based on the environmental and socio-economic range of early warning indicators monitored through the drought early warning system, all the 23 ASAL counties were classified to be at the 'Normal' phase with a stable trend in Majority of these areas. However, an improving trend was noted in Isiolo, Samburu and Turkana while a worsening trend was reported in Kilifi and Garissa as illustrated in table 13.

Table 13.0: Drought phase classification, May 2024

Drought status	Trend		
	Improving	**Stable**	**Worsening/ Deteriorating**
Normal	Isiolo, Samburu, Turkana,	Baringo, Embu, Kajiado, Kitui, Kwale, Laikipia, Lamu, Makueni, Mandera, Marsabit, Meru, Narok, Nyeri, Taita Taveta, Tana River, Tharaka Nithi, Wajir, West Pokot	Garissa, Kilifi
Alert			
Alarm			

Emergency			
Recovery			

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Table 14: Priority Recommended Interventions

No.	Sector	Intervention
1.	**Coordination**	• Enhance coordination at both national and county levels to monitor any effects of the low precipitation situation, given the likely dry conditions in June- September 2024, before onset of OND2024 season. • Stakeholders to sensitized on livelihood support actions to prepare communities for improved conditions during MAM 2024.
2.	**Food and safety nets**	• Provision of regular food assistance and unconditional cash transfers targeting vulnerable groups. • Implementation of deliberate actions to create and sustain IGAs for vulnerable households to set them on a path to resilience.
3.	**Water sector**	• Rehabilitation and maintenance of water facilities damaged by *El Nino* rains; • Support for point-of-use water treatment for households faced with water insecurity. • Support for enhanced water harvesting and storage.
4.	**Livestock sector**	• Strengthening disease surveillance and control to facilitate migrations and access to markets. • Promote routine supportive livestock health initiatives including vaccinations and control of (endo and ecto) parasites • Support restocking programmes aimed at herd redistribution. • Promote pasture seed collection in readiness for reseeding during OND 2024.
5.	**Health and nutrition sector**	• Support health and nutrition surveillance and interventions. • Promote health seeking behaviour through community health strategy. • Promote `baby-friendly initiatives through mother support groups and community health strategy.
6.	**Peace and security sector**	• Support intra/inter-community peace dialogues and resource-use agreements; Coordination of peace and security activities in conflict prone counties. • Strengthening community readiness systems for peaceful access of resources.

7.	**Education sector**	• Support initiatives to enhance education enrolment, transition and attendance. • Enhance hygiene promotion in learning institutions; and • Promote home grown solutions to school feeding programmes .

Table 15: Vegetation Condition Index (VCI-3 month) as at 26th May 2024

ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT		VEGETATION GREENNESS		DROUGHT CATEGORIES/REMARKS		
COUNTY	**Sub County**	**VCI-3 month as at 28th Apr 2024**	**VCI-3 month as at 26th May 2024**	**Colour**	**VCI values (3-month)**	**Drought Category**
					≥50	Vegetation greenness above normal
					>=35 - <50	Normal vegetation greenness
					>=20 - <35	Moderate vegetation deficit
					>=10 - <20	Severe vegetation deficit
					<10	Extreme vegetation deficit
BARINGO	**County**	49.63	49.63	The county recorded normal vegetation greenness in May.		
	Central	69.63	69.63			
	North	52.76	52.76			
	South	44.27	44.27			
	Ravine	78.53	78.53			
	Mogotio	40.2	40.2			
	Tiaty	43.93	43.93			
MANDERA	**County**	77.01	77.01	The county remained stable as compared to previous month of April at above normal vegetation greenness.		
	Lafey	71.93	71.93			
	North	73.8	73.8			
	Banissa	56.75	56.75			
	West	79.53	79.53			
	South	98.06	98.06			
	East	60.53	60.53			

TURKANA	**County**	64.04	64.04	The county recorded above normal vegetation greenness during the month under review.
	East	39.19	39.19	
	South	54.89	54.89	
	Loima	74.56	74.56	
	Central	61.75	61.75	
	West	81.27	81.27	
	North	64.31	64.31	
MARSABIT	**County**	68.75	68.75	The county recorded above normal vegetation greenness in May which was stable when compared to previous month of April.
	Laisamis	79.12	79.12	
	Moyale	69.35	69.35	
	North Horr	61.74	61.74	
	Saku	87.21	87.21	
WAJIR	**County**	80.7	80.7	The county maintained at above normal vegetation greenness in May, as compared to the previous month of April.
	Tarbaj	86.82	86.82	
	North	89.17	89.17	
	South	75.01	75.01	
	West	77.92	77.92	
	Eldas	80.05	80.05	
	East	84.99	84.99	
SAMBURU	**County**	74.94	74.94	The county remained stable at above normal vegetation greenness during the month under review.
	East	74.88	74.88	
	North	81.46	81.46	
	West	52.33	52.33	
GARISSA	**County**	76.47	76.47	The county remained the same in vegetation greenness at above normal vegetation greenness during the month of May.
	Balambala	69.64	69.64	
	Township	71.56	71.56	
	Ijara	90.82	90.82	

	Fafi	75.3	75.3	
	Lagdera	81.43	81.43	
	Dadaab	63.43	63.43	
ISIOLO	**County**	83	83	The county recorded stability in above vegetation greenness in April, which was stable when compared to last month.
	North	87.27	87.27	
	South	76.48	76.48	
TANA	**County**	68.78	68.78	The county recorded above normal vegetation greenness in the
RIVER	Bura	68.01	68.01	month of May.
	Galole	62.43	62.43	
	Garsen	73.4	73.4	
KAJIADO	**County**	82.39	82.39	Kajiado county recorded stability in vegetation greenness at above normal vegetation greenness in the month of May.
	Central	85.88	85.88	
	East	82.74	82.74	
	North	91.86	91.86	
	South	73.95	73.95	
	West	86.89	86.89	
LAIKIPIA	**County**	55.68	55.68	The county recorded stability in vegetation greenness at above normal vegetation greenness during the month under review.
	East	68.22	68.22	
	North	58.96	58.96	
	West	43.52	43.52	
THARAKA NITHI	**County**	64.28	64.28	Th county recorded above normal vegetation greenness in the month under review.
	Chuka	82.85	82.85	
	Maara	86.65	86.65	
	Tharaka	50.13	50.13	
WEST POKOT	**County**	84.99	84.99	The county recorded improvement in vegetation greenness in normal vegetation greenness during the month of May.
	Kacheliba	52.87	52.87	
	Kapenguria	44.09	44.09	

	Pokot south	54.06	54.06	
	Sigor	77.04	77.04	
EMBU	**County**	76.9	76.9	The county recorded above normal vegetation greenness during the month under review.
	Manyatta	89.64	89.64	
	Mbeere north	74.81	74.81	
	Mbeere south	70.08	70.08	
	Runyenjes	92.78	92.78	
KITUI	**County**	62.67	62.67	
	Kitui central	82.99	82.99	
	Kitui east	60.93	60.93	The county recorded a stability in vegetation greenness at above normal vegetation greenness during the month of May.
	Kitui rural	76.75	76.75	
	Kitui south	66.18	66.18	
	Kitui west	67.29	67.29	
	Mwingi central	55.11	55.11	
	Mwingi north	53.92	53.92	
	Mwingi west	73.7	73.7	
MAKUENI	**County**	80.7	80.7	The county recorded above normal vegetation greenness in May, which was stable when compared to previous month of April.
	Kaiti	99.92	99.92	
	Kibwezi east	76.6	76.6	
	Kibwezi west	75.34	75.34	
	Kilome	89.68	89.68	
	Makueni	79.78	79.78	
	Mbooni	87.69	87.69	
MERU	**County**	81.7	81.7	The county recorded above normal vegetation greenness across the sub-counties during the month of May.
	Buuri	86.26	86.26	
	Central Imenti	81.26	81.26	
	Igembe central	76.93	76.93	

	Igembe north	86.43	86.43	
	Igembe south	71.26	71.26	
	North Imenti	80.63	80.63	
	South Imenti	91.41	91.41	
	Tigania east	74.47	74.47	
	Tigania west	82.2	82.2	
NYERI	**County**	87.91	87.91	The county recorded above normal vegetation greenness in May.
	Kieni	85.63	85.63	
	Mathira	89	89	
	Mukurweini	90.91	90.91	
	Nyeri town	87.36	87.36	

	Othaya	93.54	93.54	
	Tetu	91.63	91.63	
KILIFI	**County**	70.36	70.36	The county remained at above normal vegetation greenness in the month of May.
	Ganze	69.89	69.89	
	Kaloleni	67.23	67.23	
	Kilifi north	69.18	69.18	
	Kilifi south	51.35	51.35	
	Magarini	71.36	71.36	
	Malindi	77.55	77.55	
	Rabai	75.62	75.62	
KWALE	**County**	83.51	83.51	The vegetation condition index recorded was above normal vegetation greenness in May which was stable when compared to last month.
	Kinango	83.41	83.41	
	Lunga Lunga	85.7	85.7	
	Matuga	84.11	84.11	
	Msambweni	72.37	72.37	
LAMU	**County**	102.41	102.41	

	Lamu east	108.88	108.88	The county and all its sub counties recorded stability in vegetation condition at above normal vegetation greenness condition during the month of May.
	Lamu west	98.67	98.67	
TAITA TAVETA	**County**	84.46	84.46	The county remained stable at above normal vegetation greenness during the month of May.
	Mwatate	87.17	87.17	
	Taveta	92.87	92.87	
	Voi	78.91	78.91	
	Wundanyi	98.74	98.74	
NAROK	**County**	87.5	87.5	The County recorded above normal vegetation greenness in the month of April which was stable when compared to the last month of April.
	Emurua Dikirr	86.11	86.11	
	Kilgoris	80.64	80.64	
	Narok east	84.97	84.97	
	Narok north	80.27	80.27	
	Narok south	93.87	93.87	
	Narok west	89.64	89.64	

Table 14.0: Indicators monitored by the drought early warning system

Type of indicator	Examples of indicators monitored	Types of impact
Biophysical	Rainfall data Vegetation condition State of water sources	Environmental
Production	Livestock body condition Milk production Livestock migration Livestock mortality Crop production	Livestock production Crop production
Access	Terms of trade (meat/maize) Milk consumption Distances to water	Markets Access to food and water

Utilization	MUAC (Mid-Upper Arm Circumference) Coping strategies Food consumption score	Nutrition Coping Strategies

SUMMARY OF THE DROUGHT EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

Each month, field monitors collect data in a number of sentinel sites across 23 arid and semi-arid counties. This is then complemented by information from other sources, particularly satellite data. For all indicators, the current value is compared with the long-term average for the time of year in order to establish whether it falls within seasonal norms.

Four types of indicators are monitored, capturing different kinds of impact (Table 12). The combined analysis from all four indicator groups then determines the particular drought phase: normal, alert, alarm, emergency or recovery (Figure 4). Identifying the correct drought phase helps to guide the most appropriate response for that stage in the drought cycle.

Figure 4.0: Drought Phase Classification