

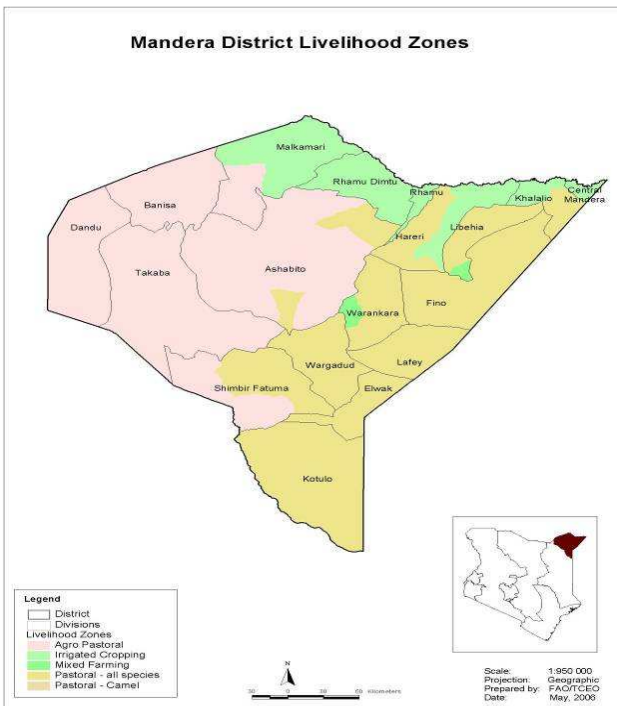


**OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER  
MINISTRY OF STATE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NORTHERN KENYA AND OTHER ARID LANDS  
ARID LANDS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECT II**

**DROUGHT MONTHLY BULLETIN, DECEMBER 2008**

**Mandera District**

**Warning Stages**



Livelihood Zone	Warning stage	Trend
Pastoral- all species	Alert	Normal
Agro pastoral	Alert	Normal
Irrigated Cropping	Alert	Normal

**TIMELINE ACTIVITIES**

Short Dry Spell (Jilaal)		Long Rainy Reason (Gu')			Long Dry Spell (Hagai)				Short Rainy Season (Deyr)		
January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December

### **Situation overview**

- The district did not receive any rainfall during the month under review.
- Pasture quantity was good in most of the divisions but quality continued to decline compared to the preceding month.
- Livestock body condition was good and this was attributed to good pasture and browse in most parts of the district.
- The main sources of water were River Daua, earth pans, underground water tanks, boreholes and shallow wells.
- The average prices of livestock increased compared to the preceding month due to good body conditions and Idul Adhaha festivities.
- The main sources of income during the month were sales of livestock and casual labour.
- Cases of tick-borne and tripe diseases were reported in the entire district.
- Crops in the agro-pastoral cropping zone wilted due to water stress, while some farmers in the irrigated cropping zone started replanting after floods reported earlier receded.
- Cereal and legume prices increased compared to the previous month.
- The average daily wage for the month was Ksh191 compared to Ksh 182 last month.
- A cholera outbreak was reported in Mandera town, with 5 cases confirmed and 49 patients hospitalised at the district hospital.
- The nutrition status of children below five years stabilized during the month under review, with the percentage of those rated as being at risk of malnutrition (based on the MUAC measurement) remaining at 15.5%. The rate was lower than the long term mean by 10.5 per cent.

### **Recommendations to DSG and KFSSG**

- Water trucking to centres with water stress -Action-DWOs-Mandera West, Central, ALRMP and other actors.
- Intensive health education in institutions and markets and promotion of hygiene in public places and treatment of water sources - Action Ministry of Health, Ministry of Water, AAH and other actors.
- Mass treatment and vaccination of livestock against tick-borne and tripe diseases in the entire district-Action-DVOs Mandera East, West and Central ,COOPI and other actors.
- Supplementary feeding to continue to reduce the malnutrition rates in the districts- Action Ministry of Health, AAH, Islamic Relief and Save the Children UK.
- There is need to solicit funds for continuous health education, including sanitation and hygiene and promote long-term measures to curb the frequent and recurrent outbreaks of cholera in Mandera town–Action; All actors.

### **Current interventions**

#### **Non-food aid**

The following interventions were carried out in the district during the month;

- Women for Peace and Development conducted conflict management training in Mandera town, including trauma processing and awareness.

- WFPD trained 35 youths on peer education and counseling in Mandera town. The organisation also trained 35 peace club patrons from conflict prone areas to develop a culture of peace in schools.
- Action Against Hunger fenced off Banissa Dam with poles and wires to protect the water in the dam from animals and contamination.
- Practical Action in collaboration with Ministry of Livestock organised Mandera Donkeys day, where best donkey keepers were given awards and sick donkeys treated.

### **Food aid**

- Supplementary feedings by Action Against Hunger and Islamic Relief.
- Therapeutic feeding centre (TFC) in Mandera district hospital by AAH
- Distribution of relief food by WFP and COCOP, with 103,207 total beneficiaries.

### **DSG Meeting and Recommendations**

#### **Agenda**

- November EWS Bulletin
- Community micro-projects.
- Drought contingency planning.

### **1.0 Environmental indicators (Stability)**

#### **1.1 Rainfall**

- The districts did not receive any rainfall during the month under review.

#### **1.2 Condition of natural vegetation and pasture**

- Pasture quantities were good in Eastern and Western divisions, although quality continued to decline compared to the previous month.
- Pasture and browse condition was fair in Central Divisions, Elwak, Kutulo, S/Fatuma and Wargadud and good in the rest of the divisions.
- The average distance to grazing areas was 7.3km. The distance increased by 2km compared to last month.

#### **1.3 Water sources and availability**

- The main water sources for the district were boreholes, River Daua, shallow wells, underground water tanks and earth pans.
- Five areas in Eastern flanks namely; Hareri Hosle, Qumbiso, Omarjillow, Sarohindi and Gari town were under water stress in need of water trucking.
- Western part: 8 centres were under water stress namely; Dandu Town, Gotgot, Gagaba, Garsa hama, Arda halo, Bolowle, Didkuro and Guba and need water trucking,
- The central part was the worst affected with 16 areas including Kob adhadi, Buqe, Dololo, Sukela Tinfa, Ola, Chir chir, Gofa, Jabibar, Barwaqo, Garse, Kubi, Elele Jajabole, Dawader, Boji and Garsa Damo in need of water trucking.

### **1.4 Emerging issues**

#### **1.4.1 Security issues**

- No incidences of insecurity were reported during the month under review.

#### **1.4 .2 migration**

- Livestock migration from Banissa, Malka Mari, and Dandu divisions to Gulani in Takaba bordering Wajir was reported during the month under review.
- Livestock in Kutulo also migrated to Wajir in search of pasture while livestock in the Eastern flank migrated to Libehia and Fino divisions in search of pasture.

#### **1.5 Implications on food security**

- Increased livestock prices, coupled with improved body conditions, impacted positively on food security as household returns improved.

### **2. Availability**

#### **2.1 Livestock production**

- The main livestock reared by pastoralists is camels, cattle, goats and sheep. Camels and cattle are long term assets, while shoats are short term assets/current assets.

##### **2.1.1 Livestock body condition**

- The livestock body condition was good during the month under review and expected to improve in the coming period.

##### **2.1.2 Livestock diseases**

- Cases of tick-borne and tripe diseases were reported in the district during the month under review.
- Pneumonia in goats was also reported in the district.

##### **2.1.3 Milk production**

- Milk was available in most divisions in the district.

### **2.2 Crop production**

#### **2.2.1 Timelines and status of crop production**

- Crops in the agro pastoral zone wilted due to moisture stress.
- Farmers in the irrigated zones started planting crops such as maize, sorghum and cowpeas, while others did not replant as seasonal rivers are expected to dry up at the end of or before February next year.
- Farmers in Finno division planted maize, sorghum and simsim.

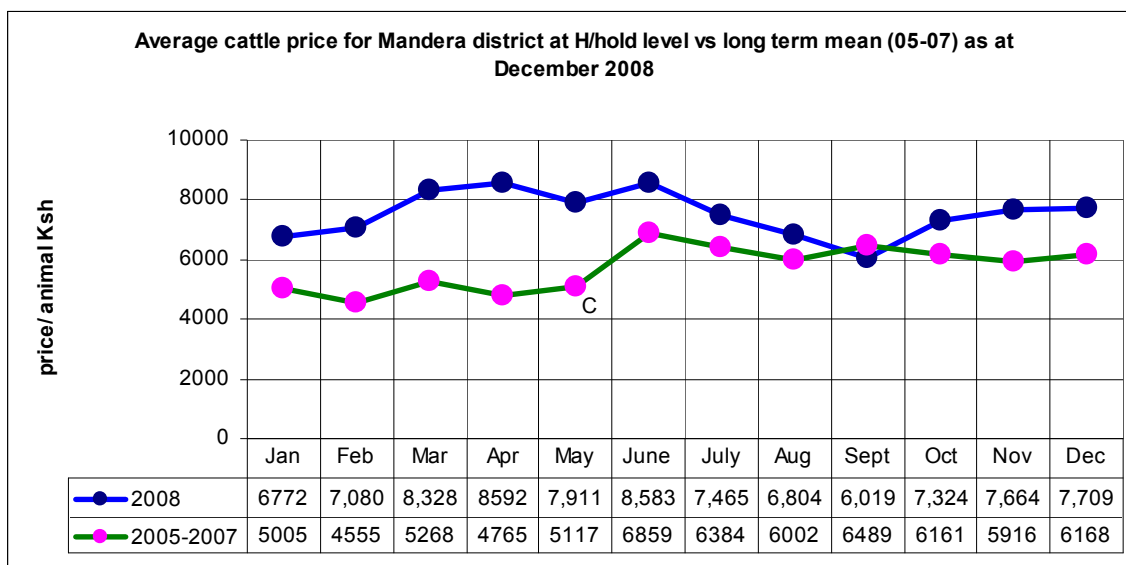
#### **2.3 Implications on food security**

- Most of the crops in the irrigated cropping zone were destroyed by floods last month. River Daua is seasonal and normally dries up every end of January or February and this will negatively affect food security in the irrigated zone.
- Crops wilted in the Agro-pastoral zone due to moisture stress, thus this impact negatively on household food security.

### **3.0 Access to food**

#### **3.1 Livestock marketing**

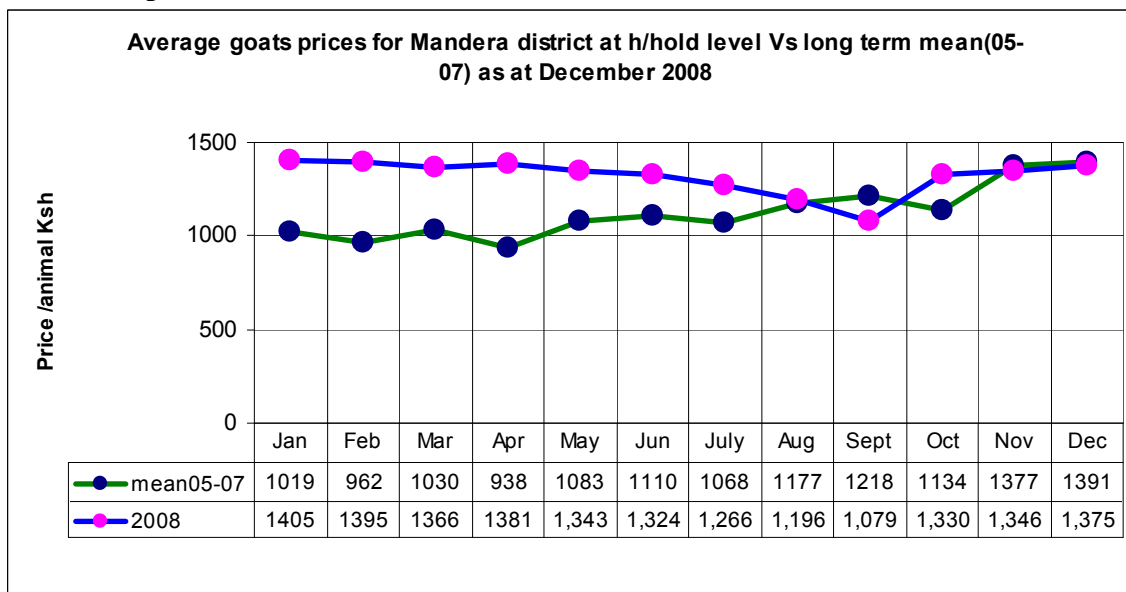
##### **3.1.1 Cattle prices**



**NB: No of Households: 445**

- Average cattle prices increased from Ksh7,664 in November to Ksh 7,709.
- The increase was attributed to good body condition and increased demand.
- Compared to long term mean, the average price was higher by Ksh1,541.
- The highest price was recorded in the Agro pastoral zone at Ksh7,939, followed by pastoral all species at Ksh7,920 and irrigated cropping at Ksh7,267.

### 3.1.2 Goat prices

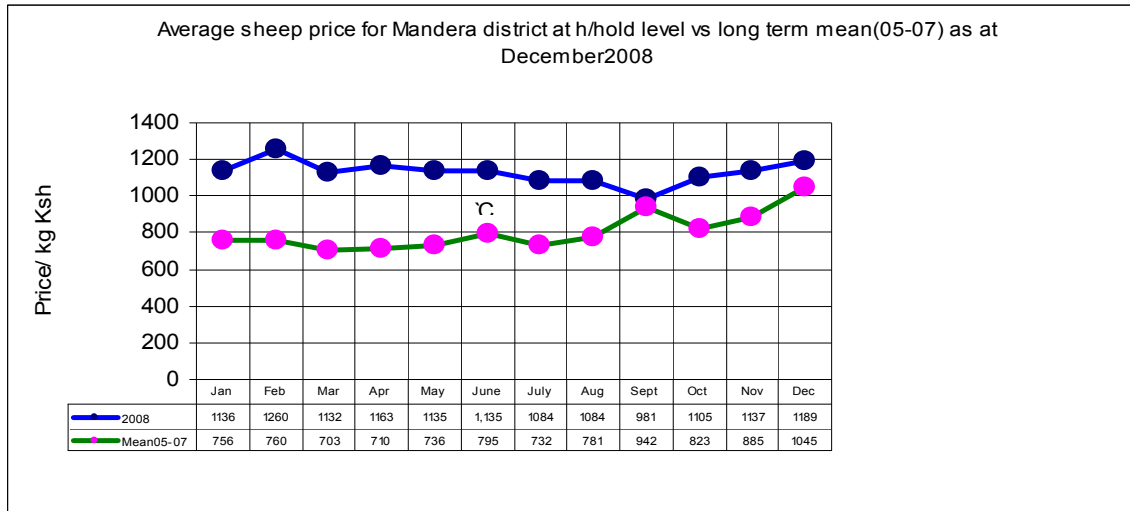


**NB: No of Households: 445**

- The average goat prices increased slightly from Ksh1,346 in November to Ksh1,375.
- The increase in prices was attributed to good body condition and Edul Adhaha celebrations.

- The prices increased the purchasing power and food security of the households as goats were the main livestock traded to meet daily food needs for households.
- Compared to long term mean, the average price was lower by Ksh16.
- The Agro-pastoral zone recorded the highest average prices at Ksh1,505 followed by pastoral all species at Ksh1,416 and irrigated cropping at Ksh1,204.

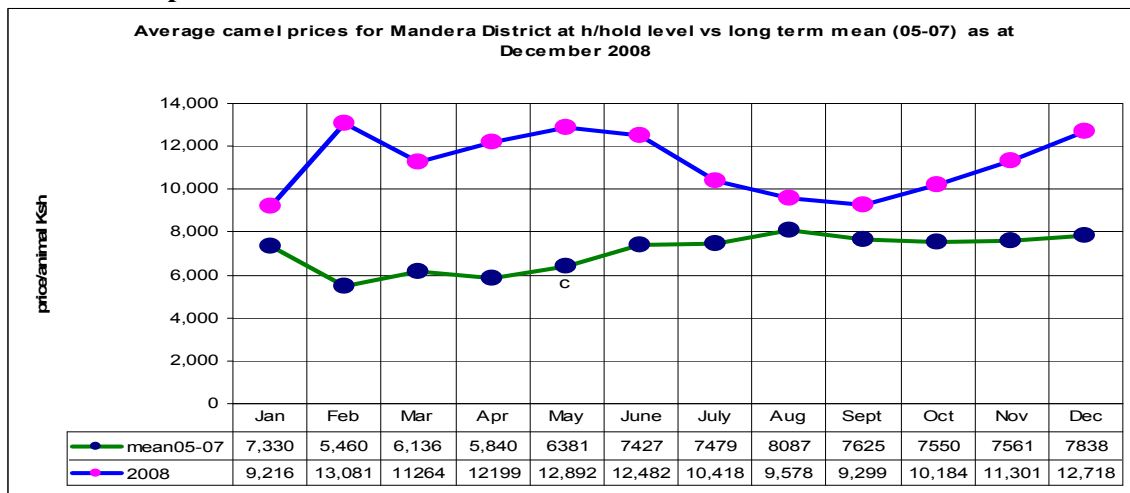
### 3.1.3 Sheep prices



: No of households: 445

- Average sheep prices increased from Ksh1,137 in November to Ksh1,189.
- This was attributed to good body condition and demand following Edul Adhaha celebrations.
- Compared to long term mean, the average price was higher by Ksh144.
- The trend was normal for the time of the year.
- The highest average price was recorded in the Agro-pastoral zone at Ksh1,549, followed by Pastoral all species at Ksh1,112 and irrigated cropping at Ksh 908.

### 3.1.4 Camel prices



: No of households: 445

- Average camel prices increased from Ksh11, 301 in November to Ksh 12,718.
- The increased price was due to high market demand and good body condition.
- The highest prices were recorded in the pastoral all species zone followed by the Agro- pastoral zone.
- The price was higher than the long term by Ksh 4,880.

### 3.2 Livestock sales

- The average sales of goats, cattle, camel and sheep were 402, 43, 35 and 170 respectively, with total sales of 650 during the month of December.
- Total livestock sales in November stood at 488 animals for all species.
- The trend rose during the month under review compared to the previous month.
- The highest cattle sales were recorded in the Agro-pastoral zone, followed by pastoral, while sheep sales were highest in the pastoral all species followed by Agro-Pastoral and goats in Pastoral all species followed by Agro-pastoral. Camel sales were highest in the Agro-pastoral followed by pastoral all species.
- Most households depended on livestock to meet their basic needs.

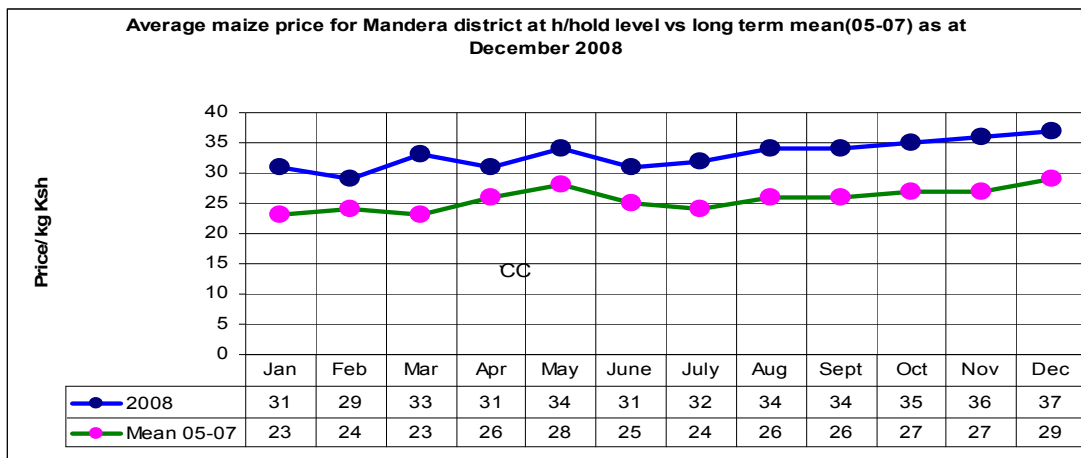
### 3.3 Milk consumption

- Consumption of milk increased compared to the previous month.

### 3.4 Crop prices

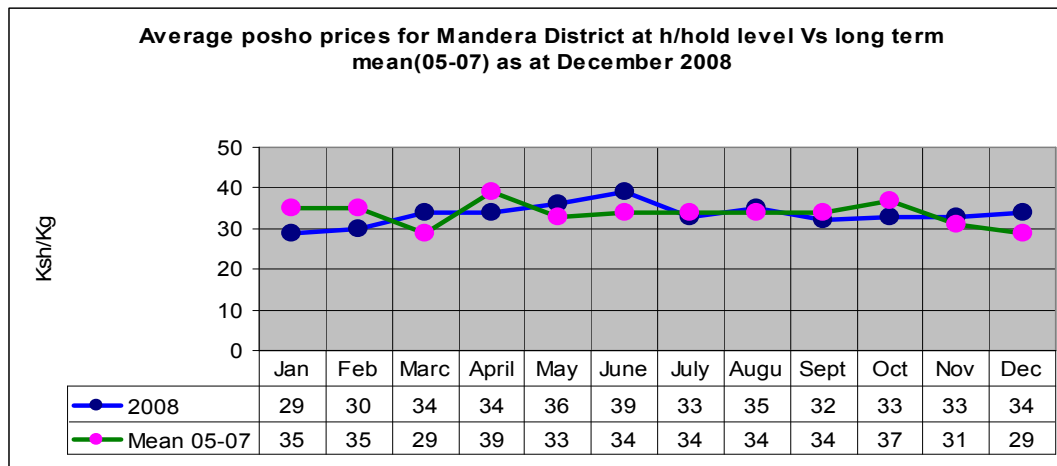
#### 3.4.1 Maize prices

- The average maize price during the month was Ksh37 per kilo.
- Compared to the previous month, the price rose by one shilling.
- The price was higher by Ksh8 compared to long term mean.



: No of households: 445

#### 3.4.2 Posho prices



: No of households: 445

- The average posho price during the month was Ksh34 per kilo compared to Ksh 33 last month.
- The price was higher than the long term mean of Ksh 29 per kilo.

### 3.4.3 Other major food purchased

- The other main food purchases by the communities were oil, rice and sugar.
- The average sugar price during the month was Ksh 74 per kilo compared to Ksh77in November, Rice was Ksh 74 from Ksh75 in November, Oil price was Ksh139 per kilo, down from Ksh147 the previous month.

## 3.5 Income

### 3.5.1 Livestock income

- The main source of income for all livelihoods during the month under review was sales of livestock and casual labour.
- The sales rate of camels, cattle, sheep and goats was average.

### 3.5.2 Crop income

- Vegetables such as tomatoes, kales, and onions were harvested and supplied to markets.
- Some farmers in the Irrigated zone started planting crops such as maize, sorghum and cowpeas while others replanted. The seasonal river is expected to dry up at the end of or before February next year.

### 3.5.3 Casual Labour

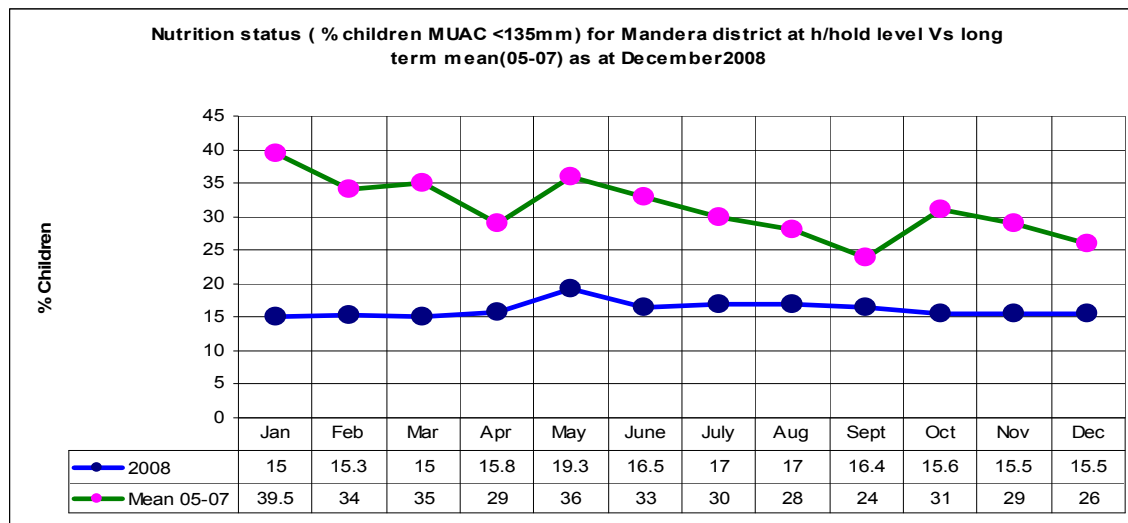
- The average daily wage from sampled divisions was Ksh 191 and ranged between Ksh100 and Ksh 270.
- Compared to the preceding month, the average daily wage increased by Ksh9.
- The highest average income was noted in the irrigated cropping zone followed by pastoral all species and agro-pastoral zones.

## 3.6 Implications on food security

- Crops in the agro-pastoral zone wilted due to moisture stress, impacting negatively on household food security.

## 4.0 Human welfare indicators (Utilisation of food)

### 4.1 Nutrition status



**: Total No of Children: 1,501**

- The nutrition status of children below five years stabilised during the month under review.
- The percentage of children rated as being at the rate of malnutrition (based on the MUAC) measurement was the same as November at 15.5.
- Compared to long term mean, the rate dropped by 10.5 per cent.
- Kutulo division reported the highest rate at 18.8 per cent, while the lowest was recorded in Banissa division at 13 per cent.

### 4.2 Health

- There was a cholera outbreak in Mandera town, where 5 cases were confirmed and 49 patients admitted at the District hospital.

## 5.0 Current interventions

### 5.1 Non-food aid

The following interventions were carried out in the district during the month;

- Women for Peace and Development conducted conflict management training in Mandera town, including trauma processing and awareness.
- WFPD trained 35 youths on peer education and counseling in Mandera town. The organisation also trained 35 peace club patrons from conflict prone areas to develop a culture of peace in schools.
- Action Against Hunger fenced off Banissa Dam with poles and wires to protect the water in the dam from animals and contamination.
- Practical Action in collaboration with Ministry of Livestock organised Mandera Donkeys day, where best donkey keepers were given awards and sick donkeys treated.

### 5.2 Food aid

- Supplementary feedings by Action Against Hunger and Islamic Relief.

- Therapeutic feeding centre (TFC) in Mandera district hospital by AAH
- Distribution of relief food by WFP and COCOP, with 103,207 total beneficiaries.

### **5.3 Other coping strategies**

- Causal works acted as a secondary coping strategy in the Agro-pastoral and pastoral zones.
- Sharing of relief food with pastoral relatives.

### **6.0 Recommendations**

- Water trucking to centres with water stress -Action-DWOs-Mandera West, Central, ALRMP and other actors.
- Intensive health education in institutions and markets and promotion of hygiene in public places and treatment of water sources - Action Ministry of Health, Ministry of Water, AAH and other actors.
- Mass treatment and vaccination of livestock against tick-borne and tripe diseases in the entire district-Action-DVOs Mandera East, West and Central ,COOPI and other actors.
- Supplementary feeding to continue to reduce the malnutrition rates in the districts- Action Ministry of Health, AAH, Islamic Relief and Save the Children UK.
- Need to solicit funds for continuous health education, including sanitation and hygiene and promote long-term measures to curb the frequent and recurrent outbreaks of cholera in Mandera town–Action; All actors.
- Promote peaceful co-existence and sharing of the local available resources between communities in Lafey, Wargadud, Gari and Elwak triangle- Action-Provincial Administration Mandera Central and East Districts.