

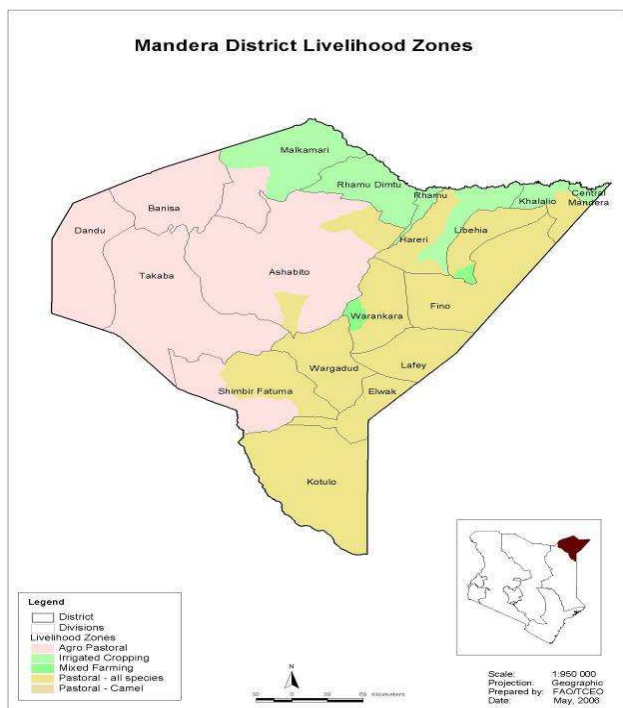


**OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER  
MINISTRY OF STATE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NORTHERN KENYA AND OTHER ARID LANDS  
ARID LANDS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECT II**

**DROUGHT MONTHLY BULLETIN, JULY 2008**

**Mandera District**

**Warning stage**



Livelihood Zone	Warning stage	Trend
Pastoral- all species	ALARM	WORSENING
Agro pastoral	ALARM	WORSENING
Irrigated Cropping	ALERT	NORMAL

**Time line activities**

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

## **Situation Overview**

- No rainfall recorded during the month under review.
- The main sources of water were River Daua, earth pans, underground water tanks, water tracking, boreholes and shallow wells.
- Water was available in most parts of the district but 22 centres were under water tracking.
- Quality and quantities of pasture poor and still declining as the dry spell sets in.
- Livestock body conditions were fair to poor in western and central districts and poor in eastern district.
- The average household prices of livestock dropped due to poor body conditions.
- Most livestock have migrated towards Wajir District in search of pasture.
- Cases of *Peste Des Petit Ruminante* (PPR) have been reported in Dandu division and the disease is spreading to other parts of the district.
- The main source of income was sale of livestock and casual labour.
- Two people were killed and three seriously injured in border disputes between communities in Lafey, Wargadud and Elwak triangle.
- Cereal and legume prices increased compared to the previous month.
- The average daily wage for the month was Kshs 164, a drop by Ksh 23 compared to last month.
- Percentage at risk and malnourished (ARM) children above 1 year and below 5 years was 17.0 per cent, compared to 16.5 last month.
- The current drought situation is at alarm stage and there is need for close monitoring as situation worsens.

## **Recommendations to DSG**

- Water tracking to 22 centres to be continued –Action: DWOs-Mandera West, Central, East, ALRMP and other actors.
- There is need to solicit emergency funds for livestock off take for pastoral communities as the situation is worsening. Action: DSG, ALRMP and other actors.
- Need to fast track drilling and equipping of Wangaidahan and Kob Adhadi borehole sites to alleviate suffering of Takaba residents. Action: DWO-Mandera West
- Vaccination of animals against PPR in Mandera west district. Action: DVOs Mandera west and other Actors.
- Supplementary feeding to continue to reduce the malnutrition rates in the district. Action: MOH, AAH, Islamic Relief and Save the Children (UK ).
- Provincial administration to ensure peaceful co-existence and sharing of resources between communities in Lafey, Wargadud, Warankara and Elwak triangle.

## **Current Interventions**

### **Non-food aid**

The following interventions were carried out during the month in review.

- ALRMP and MW&I are conducting water tracking in water stress areas of Mandera West, Central, and East districts.

### **Food Aid**

- Supplementary feeding programmes by Action against Hunger.
- Therapeutic feeding centers (TFC) at Mandera district hospital by AAH.

- SFP and OTP centres in Elwak by Save the Children UK.
- Distribution of relief food by (EMOP) & COCOP- 113,996 beneficiaries in July.

## **1. Stability**

### **1.1 Rainfall**

- No rains were recorded in the district during the month.

### **1.2 Natural vegetation and pasture condition**

- Pasture quality and quantities were very poor in eastern divisions, fair to poor in central and west divisions, and still declining.
- The average distance to grazing areas was 8.9 km compared to 7.4 km the month before, while average distance for households was 6.6 km.

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

- The main water sources are boreholes, River Daua, shallow wells, underground water tanks, water tracking and earth pans.
- Water is available in most parts of the district although 22 centres with acute water stress are under water tracking.
- The centres under water tracking are Takaba town, Malka Mari town, Choroqo, Hulo, Didkuro, Duduble, Wangaidahan, Gagaba, Arda halo, Malka rugha and Burduras. Others are Kabo, Karo, Kamor Liban, Sarohindi, Farey, Oda, Omar Jillow, Ashabito town, Qarsa damo, Dawader, Boji, and Dololo.

## **1.4 Emerging Issues**

### **1.4.1 Security**

- Two people were killed and three others seriously injured in a border dispute between communities in lafey, Wargadud and Elwak triangle and the situation is still tense.

### **1.4.2 Migration**

- Most livestock has migrated to Wajir district in search of pasture.

### **1.5 Implication on food security**

- Livestock body conditions are deteriorating due to poor and scarce pasture, impacting negatively on pastoral economy.

## **2. Availability**

### **2.1 Livestock production**

- Main livestock includes camels, cattle, goats and sheep. Camels and cattle are long term assets, while shoats are short term assets.

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

- Livestock body conditions are fair in western and central districts since the dry spell is just beginning.
- The body conditions are deteriorating due to poor and scarce pasture.

### **2.1.2 Livestock diseases**

- Cases of *Peste Des Petit Ruminante* (PPR) were reported in Dandu division and disease is still spreading to other parts of the district.
- Suspected cases were reported in central and east districts and blood samples have been taken for investigation.
- Laboratory investigations are being conducted to ascertain cause of reported deaths in Khalalio division.

### **2.1.3 Milk production**

- Milk supply was moderate during the month under review.

## **2.2 Crop production**

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

- Crops such as maize and cow peas along the riverine are at knee height.
- Horticultural crops are doing well and in good supply in Mandera town.

### **2.2.2 Pest and diseases**

- Stalk borer infestation has been reported in maize, and aphids in tomatoes along the riverine.

### **2.2.3 Harvest**

- No harvests were realized in any livelihood zone during the month under review.

## **2.3 Implications on food security**

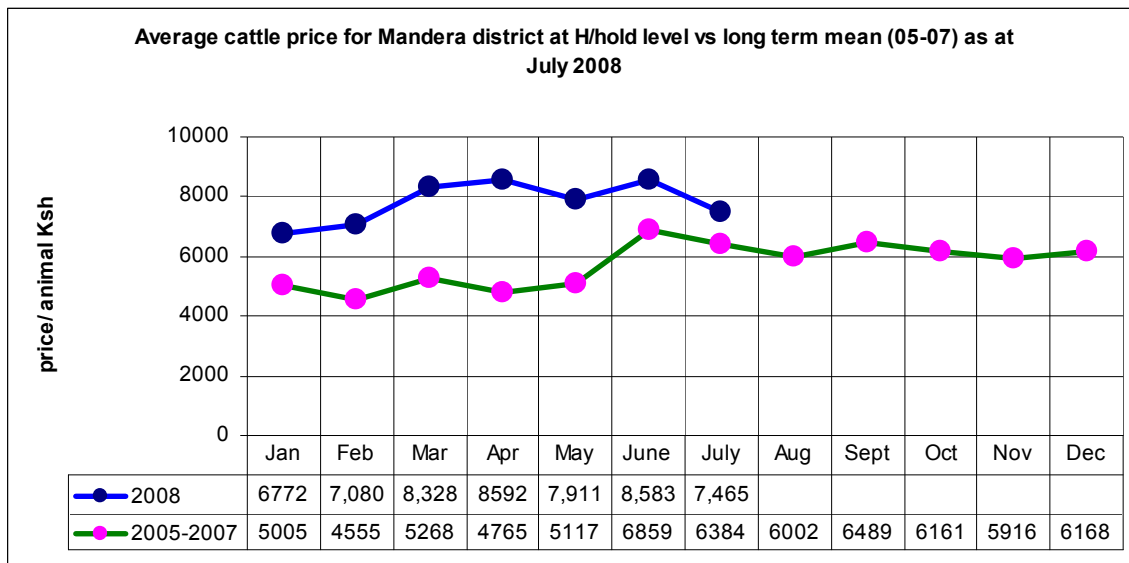
- Decreased livestock prices and high cereal prices impact negatively on household food security in agro-pastoral and pastoral communities, thus need for mitigation.

## **3. Access**

### **3.1 Livestock marketing**

#### **3.1.1 Cattle prices**

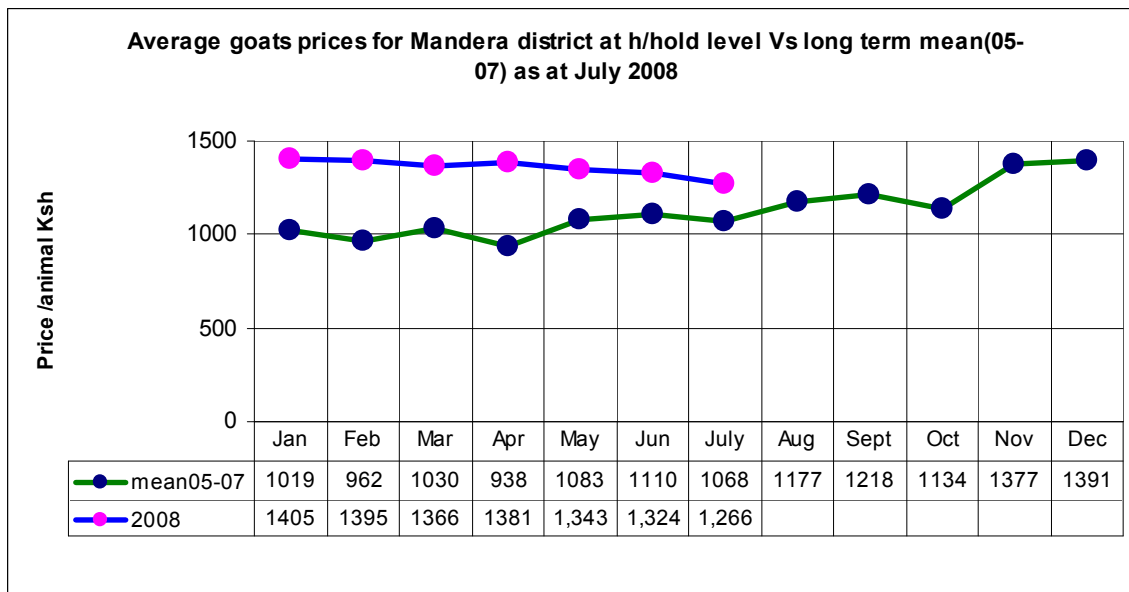
- Average cattle price for the month was Ksh 7,465 compared to Ksh 8,583 last month.
- The drop in cattle price was due to poor body condition.
- The average price is higher than the long term mean by Ksh 1,081.
- The highest price was noted in agro-pastoral (Ksh7,920), followed by pastoral (Ksh 7,500) and irrigated cropping (Ksh6,975).



*No of Households: 447*

### 3.1.2 Goat prices

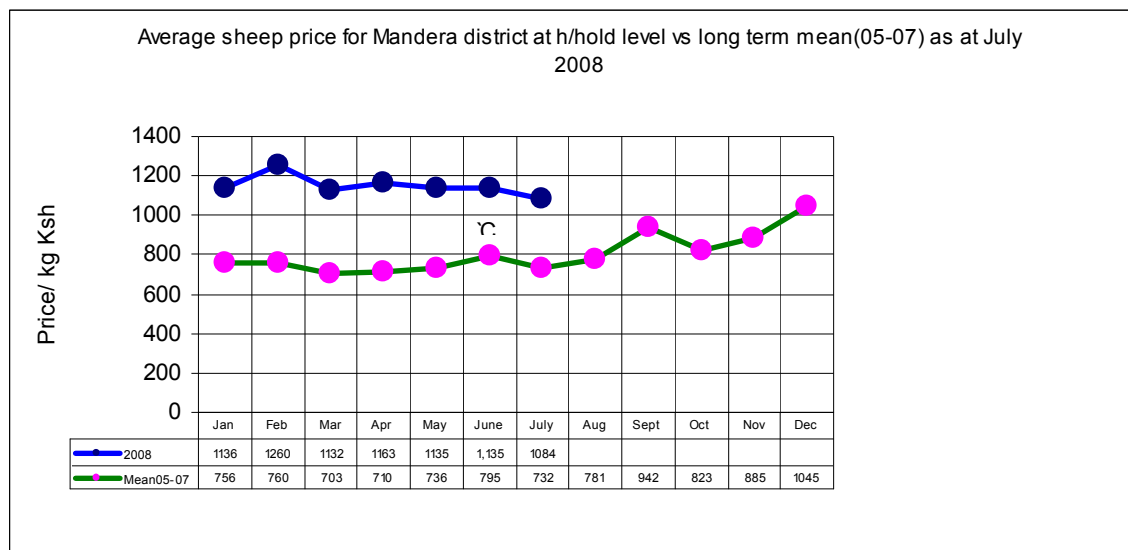
- The average goat price was Ksh1,266 compared to Ksh 1,324 last month.
- The price decreased price is due to poor body condition, increased goat sales and low market demand.
- The poor sales decreased purchasing power of households since goats are sold mainly to meet daily needs for rural households. This also impacted negatively on food security.
- Goat prices were best in agro-pastoral (Ksh 1,323), followed by pastoral (Ksh 1,305) and irrigated cropping (Kshs 1,171).



*No of Households: 447*

### 3.1.3 Sheep prices

- The average sheep price was Ksh1, 084 compared to Kshs 1,135 the previous month.
- The price drop was due to poor body condition but the trend is normal for this time of the year.
- The highest average price was noted in agro-pastoral (Ksh1,445), followed by irrigated cropping (Ksh 982) and pastoral (Ksh825).



**No of households: 447**

### 3.1.4 Camel prices

- Average camel price for the month was Ksh 10,418 compared to Ksh 12, 482 last month. The price drop was due to high supply and low market demand.
- Prices were highest in agro-pastoral, followed by pastoral livelihood zones.

### 3.2 Livestock sales

- Sales volume of goats, cattle, camel and sheep were 281, 69, 49 and 61 respectively, totaling to 460 during the month. 427 animals were sold the month before.
- The highest sale of cattle was in agro-pastoral, followed by irrigated, most sheep were sold in agro-pastoral zones followed by pastoral while more goats were sold in pastoral followed by agro-pastoral. Most camel sales were in agro-pastoral, followed by pastoral.
- Most households depend on livestock for their basic needs.

### 3.3 Milk consumption

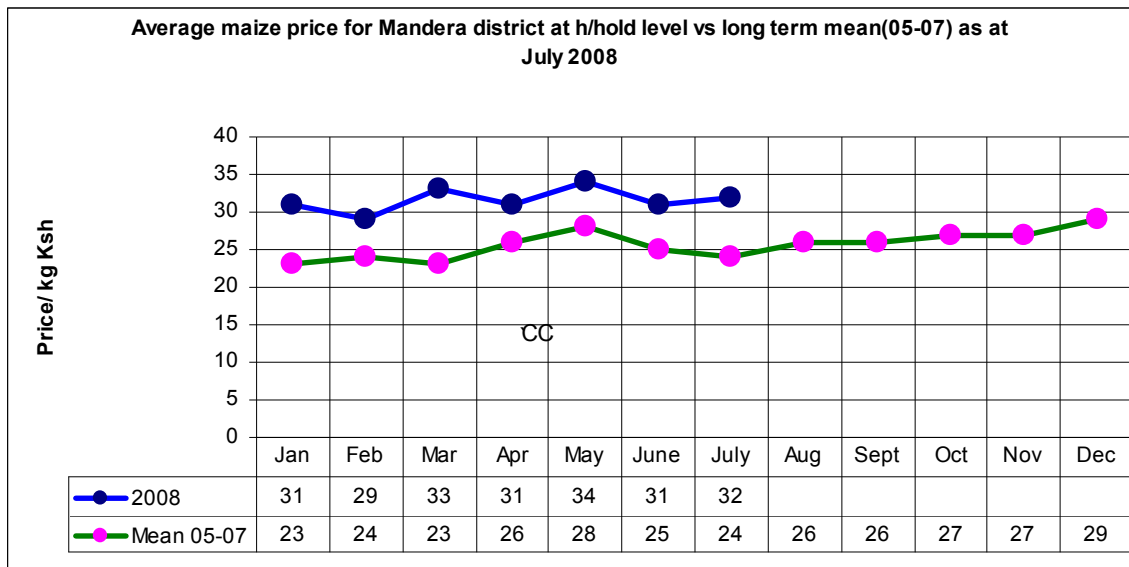
- Milk was consumed by everybody in the sampled divisions.

### 3.4 Crop prices

#### 3.4.1 Maize

- The average maize price was Ksh 32 compared to Ksh 31 last month.

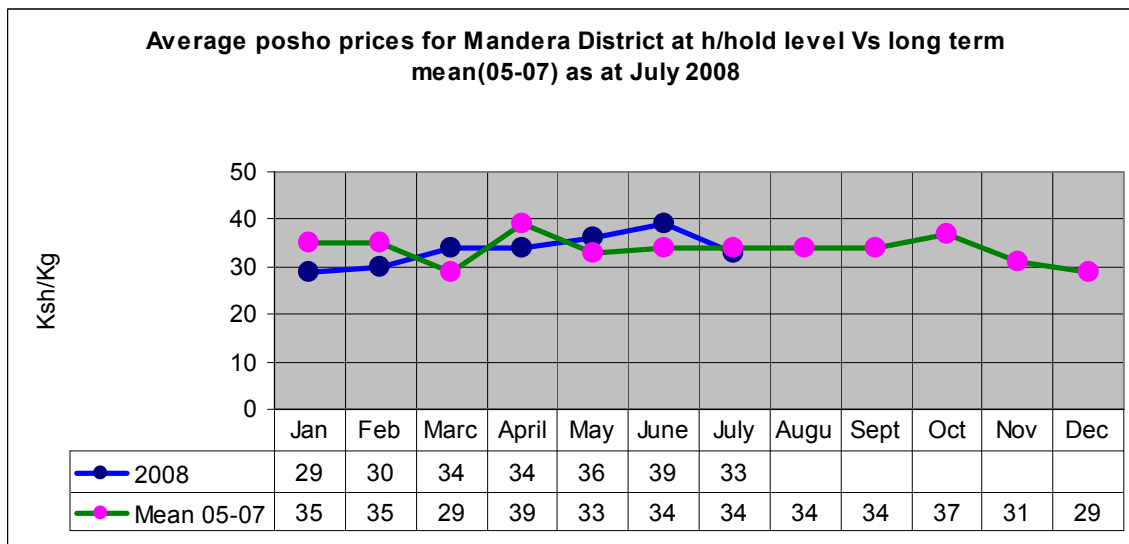
The table below illustrates further.



*No of households: 447*

### 3.4.2 Posho

- The average price of posho was Ksh 33 per kg, down from Ksh 38 the previous month.



*No of households: 447*

### 3.5 Income

#### 3.5.1 Livestock

- The main source of income for all households was sale of livestock and casual labour.
- The sales rates of camel, cattle, sheep and goats were average.

#### 3.5.2 Crops

- Maize and cow peas are at different stages of maturity in irrigated cropping zones.

### 3.5.3 Casual Labour

- The average daily wage was Ksh 164, down from Ksh 187 the month before.
- The highest average income was noted in irrigated cropping, followed by pastoral and agro-pastoral zones.

### 3.6 Cereal: Meat price ratio

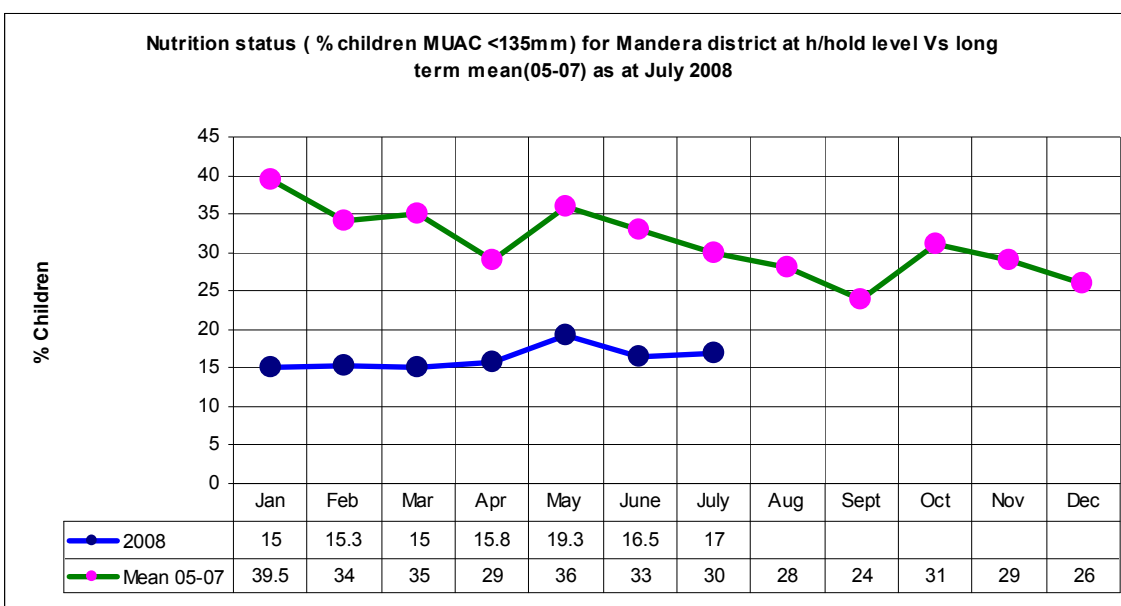
### 3.7 Implications on food security

- Lower prices of camels and goats coupled with higher cereal prices impacted negatively on pastoral food security.

## 4. Utilisation

### 4.1 Nutrition status

- The average ARM was 17 per cent, up from 16.5 per cent the previous month.
- However, the rate of malnutrition is down by 13 per cent compared to the long term mean.
- Ashabito division reported the highest ARM average at 19.9 per cent, while Rhamu division was lowest at 5.9.



**: Total No of Children: 1,480.**

### 4.2 Health

- There was no disease outbreak reported during the month under review.

### 4.3 Flagged Areas

- Provincial administration to ensure peaceful co-existence and sharing of resources between communities in Lafey, Wargadud, Warankara and Elwak.

## 5.0 Current Interventions

### 5.1 Non-food aid

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

- ALRMP and MW&I conducting water tracking in Mandera East, Central and West districts.

### **5.2 Food aid**

- Supplementary feedings by Action against Hunger.
- Therapeutic feeding centers (TFC) in Mandera district hospital by AAH.
- SFP and OTP centres by Save the Children UK in Elwak.
- Distribution of relief food by (EMOP) WFP& COCOP (113,996 beneficiaries in July).

### **5.3 Other coping strategies**

- Provision of relief food and supplementary feeding for vulnerable groups.
- Causal works acts as a secondary coping strategy for households in agro-pastoral and pastoral livelihood zones.

### **6.0 Recommendations to DSG**

- Water tracking to 22 centres with acute water stress to continue. (Action: DWOs-Mandera West, Central, East, Arid lands and other Actors)
- Need to solicit emergency funds for livestock off take for pastoral communities as the situation is worsening. (Action: DSG, ALRMP and other actors)
- Drilling and equipping of Wangaidahan and Kob Adhadi boreholes needs to be fast tracked to alleviate suffering of people in Takaba and its environs. (Action: DWO-Mandera West)
- Vaccination of animals against PPR in Mandera west district. (Action: DVOs Mandera west and other Actors)
- Ensure peaceful co-existence and sharing of resources between communities in Lafey, Wargadud, Warankara and Elwak triangle. ( Action-Provincial Administration Mandera Central and East Districts)
- Supplementary feeding to continue to reduce malnutrition rates in the district. ( Action MOH, AAH, Islamic Relief and Save the Children-UK )