

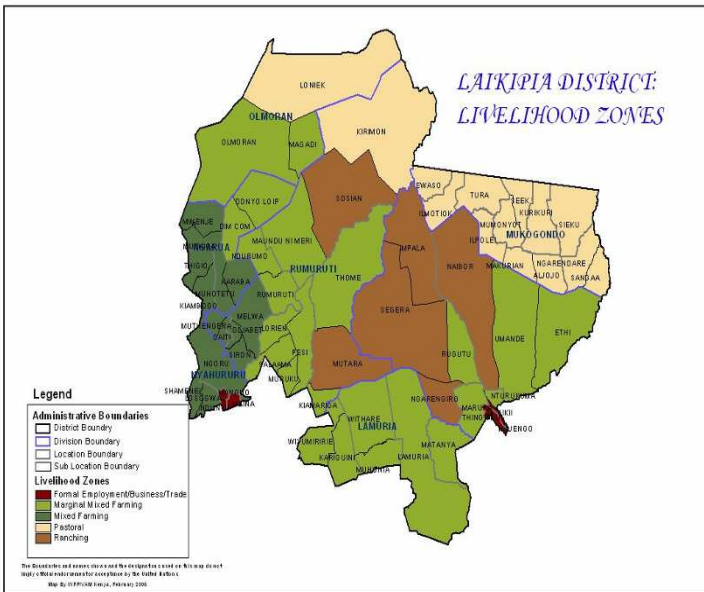


**OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
MINISTRY OF STATE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NORTHERN KENYA AND OTHER ARID LANDS
ARID LANDS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECT II**

DROUGHT MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR JUNE, 2008

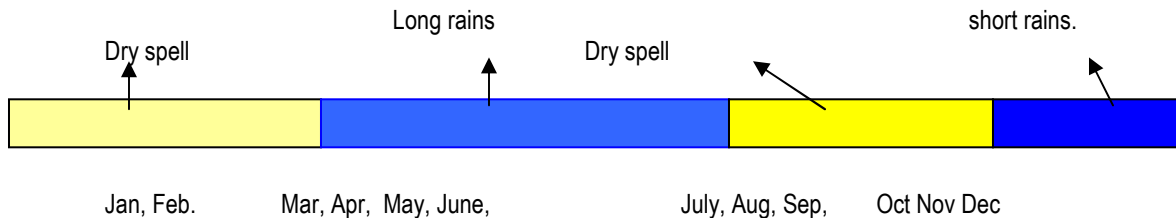
LAIKIPIA DISTRICT

WARNING STAGES



Livelihood Zone	Warning stage	Trend
Pastoral All Species	Alarm	Worsening
Agro Pastoral	Alarm	Worsening
Mixed Farming	Alert	Worsening
Marginal Mixed Farming	Alert	Worsening

SEASONAL CALENDER



Situation Overview

- The month of June has been dry, worsening the situation. All the Districts are at Alarm.
- Crops are dead in the fields in especially the Laikipia East and Laikipia West. Maize potatoes and peas are all withered.
- The agriculture department reported that this time even drought resistant wheat is withering.
- Livestock body condition is poor in all Districts, Laikipia East and North Districts being the worst.
- Livestock has started moving from the (Mukogodo) Laikipia North District to Laikipia East and especially to the Mt. Kenya.
- Cases of Foot and mouth reported from Laikipia East District in Lamuria and Central.
- Food shortage in house hold levels as the crops have failed due to the failure of the long rains.
- Human wildlife conflict in Central Division of Laikipia East District the little crops in field being destroyed by elephants moving in herds of 150 and over they are in migration from the north to Mt. Kenya.
- Watering points are drying up most of the pans and dams are drying up and water is becoming a stress
- Some schools are now recording absenteeism of students due to the drought.
- Livestock prices going down. Due to poor body conditions.

Recommendation to the district DSG

- Urgent relief food to the affected population in all the three Districts.
- School feeding programme to revived in the worst affected rural schools.
- The administration to control movement of the livestock as they are on the move to Mt. Kenya to avoid conflicts with the marginal farmers.
- Repair of various boreholes and hand pumps to be done to curb the water problem.
- Water department to control use of the river water as most of them drying up due to over extraction up stream
- Elephants to be controlled and guided to the mountains to stop the current destruction on crops.
- Veterinary department to be on the high alert on the movement of livestock and control any disease out break as the risk of FMD and PPR are eminent.
- Ministry of Health to be on the alert due to any out breaks of diseases to be caused by the dry spell.
- Ranchers to consider accommodating the pastoralists during this time of minimal resources.

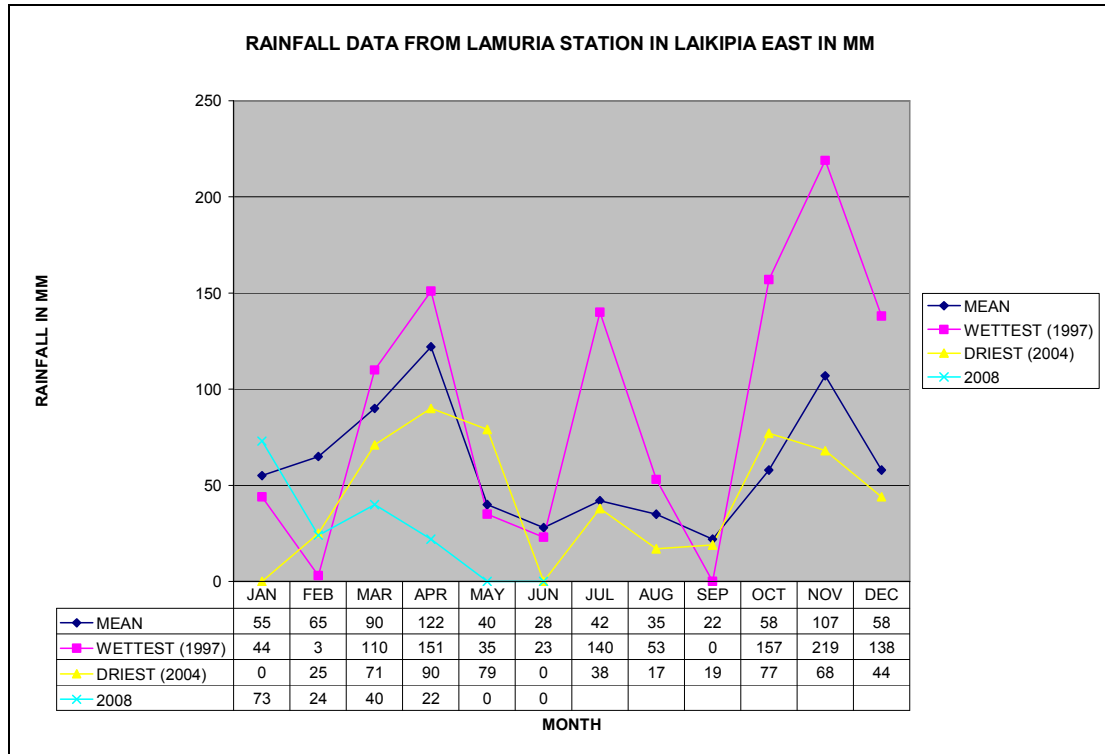
Recommendation to the KFSSG

- Relief food to the pastoral and marginal agricultures farmers to be given.
- School feeding programme to be revived in all the schools
- Veterinary department to be facilitated with necessary logistical and vaccines to curb the danger of disease out break.
- Water department to carry out repair of boreholes as dams and pans are drying up.

- Livestock off take to be taken by the government to salvage the situation before it gets out of hand

1. Environmental indicators

5.1 Rainfall



Rainfall data provided by WRMA (Water Resource Management Authority)

- There was no rains last two month at the Station

5.2 Natural vegetation (browse and pasture)

- There are very little pastures that have dried up hardly enough for livestock especially the Laikipia East and Laikipia North where livestock are moving to the mountains.

1.3 Water availability

- Most of the dams and pans have dried up in most of the Districts the worst being Laikipia East and Laikipia North.
- Distance to water is increased and the commodity has become scarce
- Most of the rivers are not flowing especially those from Mt Kenya, and this expounded by over extraction by farmers up stream.
- Several boreholes and hand pumps require to be repaired in order to curb the dry spell that might continue. These boreholes are in Rumuruti, Lamuria and Mukogodo.

2. Rural economy indicators

2.1 Livestock production

2.1.1 Livestock body condition

- Livestock have declining body condition especially in Laikipia North District. In Laikipia East the livestock is moving to Mt. Kenya for greener pastures. This is leading to low market prices.

2.1.2 Livestock diseases

- As the livestock are now moving the risk for disease spread is high especially with livestock from Isiolo and Samburu Districts. PPR is reported in Samburu and neighbouring Isiolo.
- Few cases of suspected of Foot and mouth has been reported in Lamuria and mpala. The vet department is still confirming this cases.

2.2 Crop production

2.2.1 Condition of various crops

- The crops have died in Laikipia East and part of Laikipia West especially in Rumuruti. The crops in Nyahururu and Ngarua are also very poor and they are on the process of dying.
- In the Laikipia East the crops are dying and little that is remaining is being feasted by elephants that are moving in herds of 150.

2.2.2 Pests and disease

- There were a few cases of quailar quelea birds in Central Division. But they were controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture.

2.2.3. Harvest

- No crops were harvested. And very poor insignificant crops in the fields.

2.4 Implications on food security

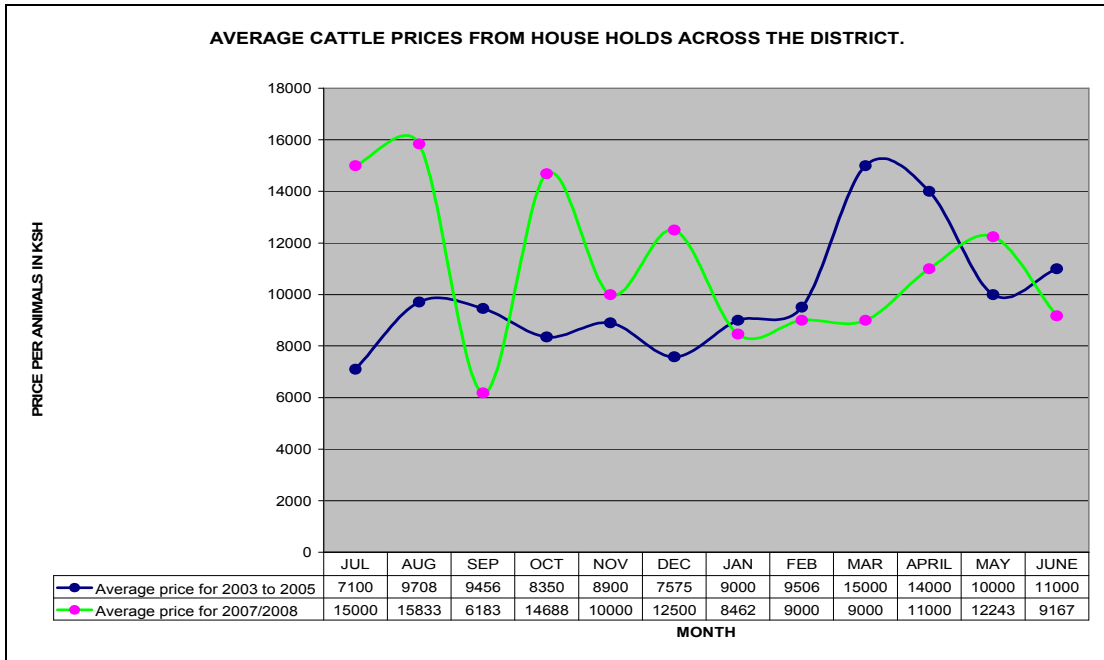
- The agriculture sector will have no contribution to the food security and thus. The current situation is not good as the crops are already dead in the farms due to the failure of the rains.

3. Access to food

3.1 Livestock marketing

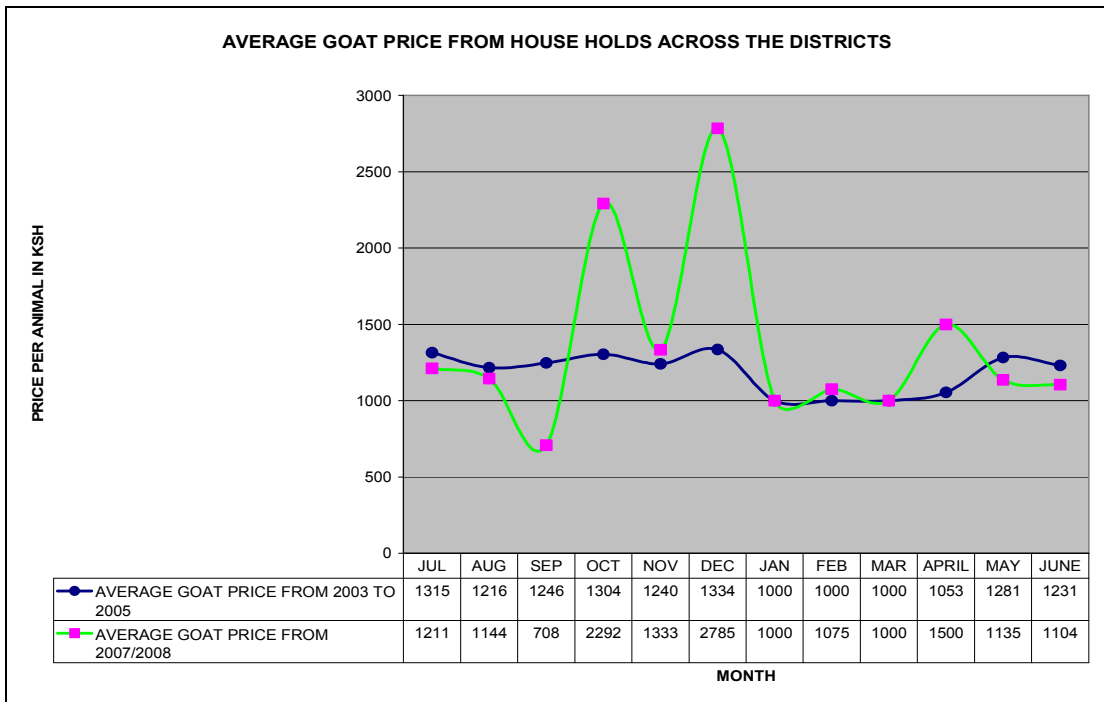
- Despite the fact that the livestock markets are operational there were very few animals as most of the cattle have now started moving for pastures and also they are also emaciated and cannot fetch good money.
- The Government to consider livestock off take as they did during last season before the animals die.

3.1.1. Cattle prices



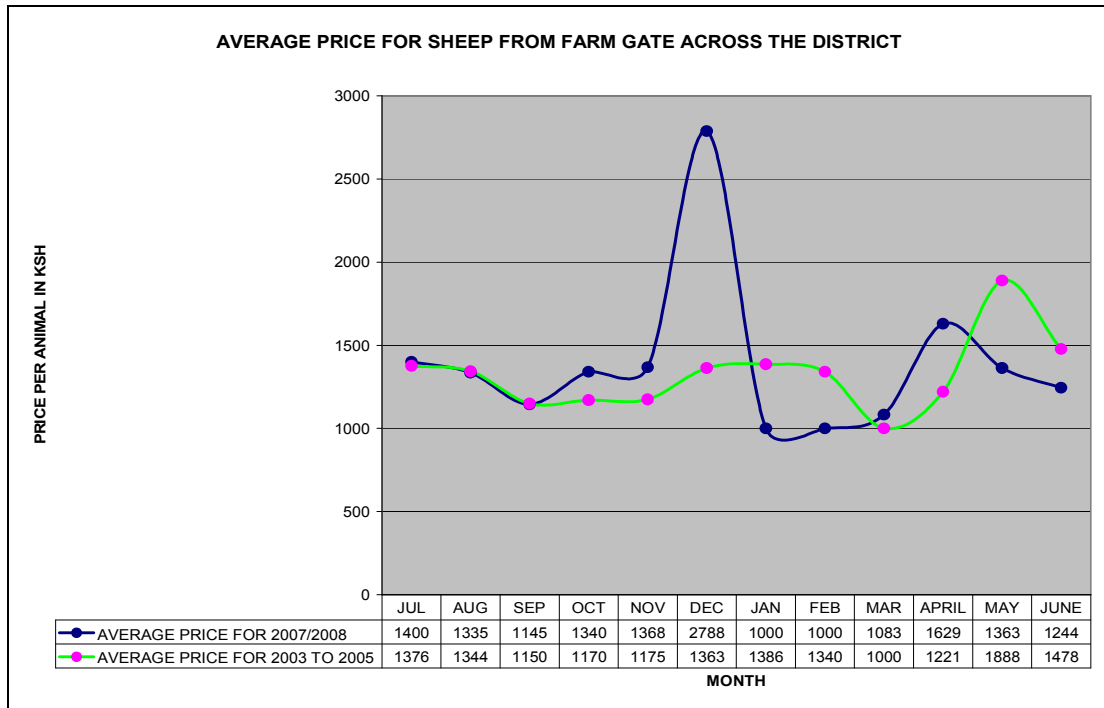
- The Average prices for cattle is going down and this is due to the fact that the body condition of the cattle is poor and they have moved out for the pastures

3.1.2. Goat prices



- Goats are also going down as their body condition is worsening. Though they are a little better than cattle and they are also the majority in the markets.

3.1.3. Sheep prices

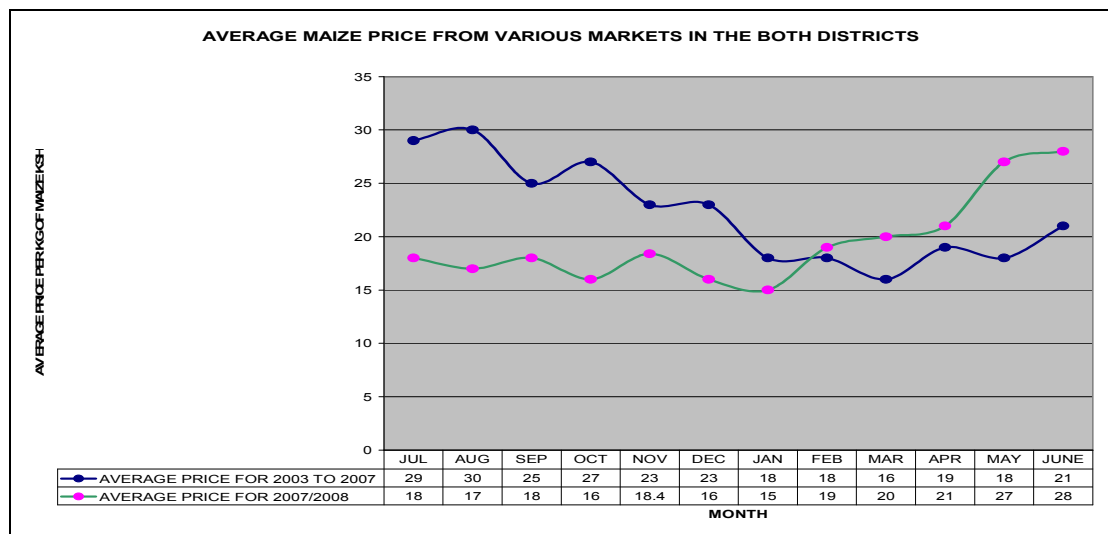


- Sheep just like the cattle have poor body conditions and they are very few in the markets fetching little money

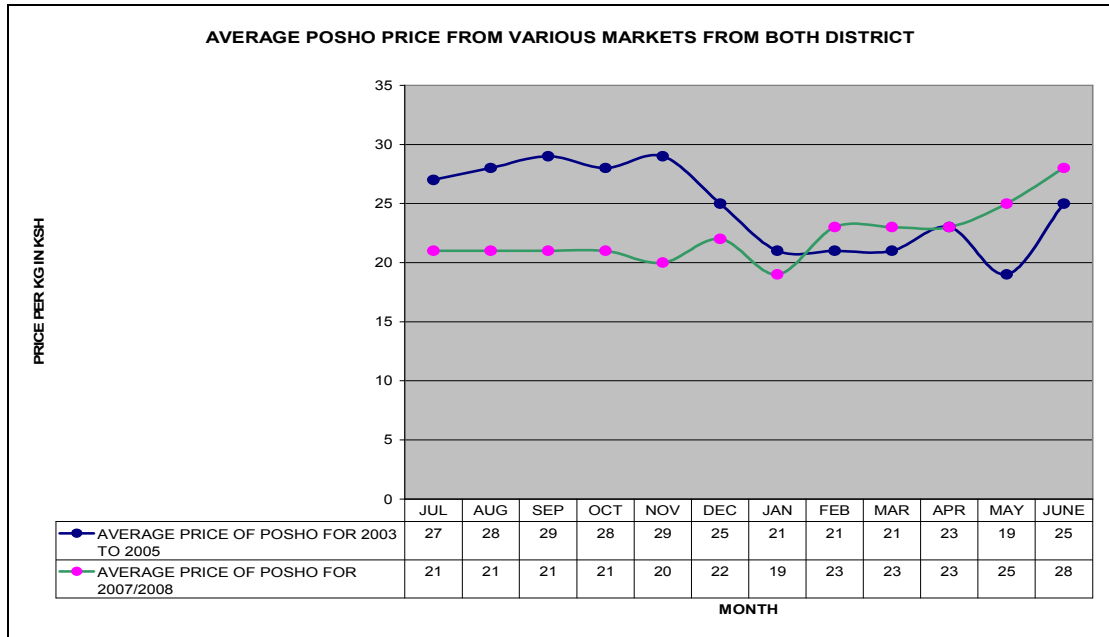
3.2 Food prices

3.2.1 Maize prices

- The prices of maize are going up and this is due to failure of both the short rains and long rains. And expounded by the post election violence which affected the farmers in Laikipia West forcing them to sell of the commodity to Nakuru and other neighboring districts



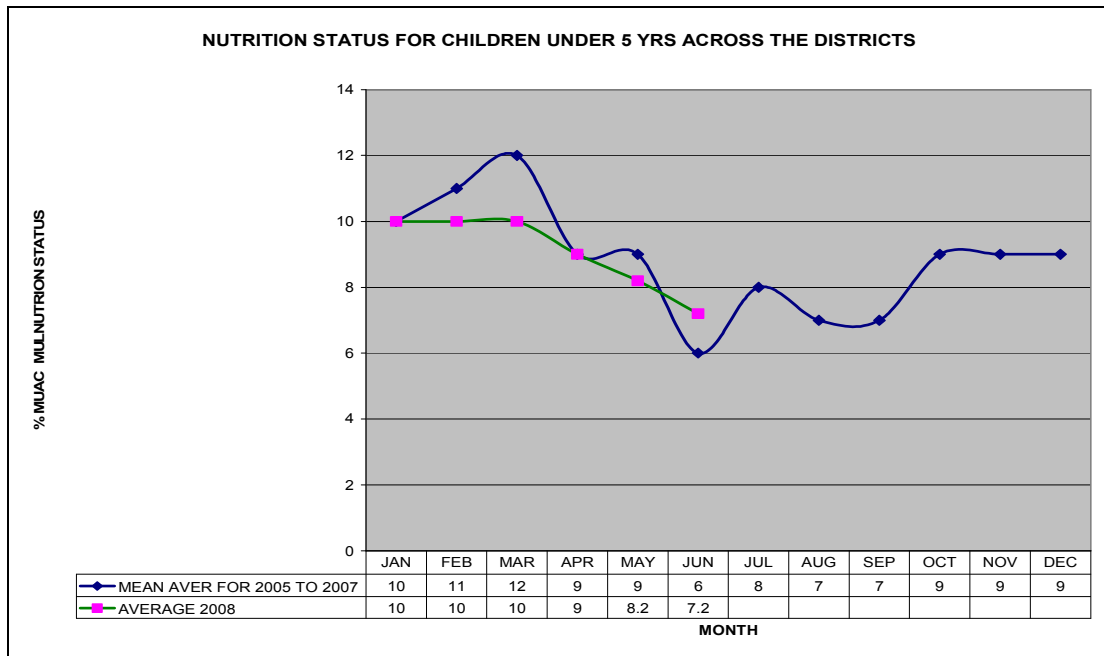
3.2.2 Posho prices



4. Human welfare indicators

4.1 Nutrition status

The Graph below shows nutritional status of the Children 12-59 months of Mid Upper Arm Circumference in Millimeters (MUAC)



- The nutrition in comparison to the mean average is not good at this time of the year and this is due to the ongoing stress and scarcity of food commodities like milk and eggs.

4.2 Food aid

- No food distribution that has taken apart from the distribution to the victims of the clashes and a few cases in district commissioner's relief food.

5. Insecurity/ human wildlife conflict

- Elephants are back and damaging crops in Laikipia East and parts of West.

6. Migration/ human displacement

- Pastoralists are moving in large numbers from Mukogodo and the neighboring districts Samburu and Isiolo.

7. Coping strategies

- Charcoal burning
- Rely on other families and well wishers
- Laboring in large farms like home grown.

8. Recommendations

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