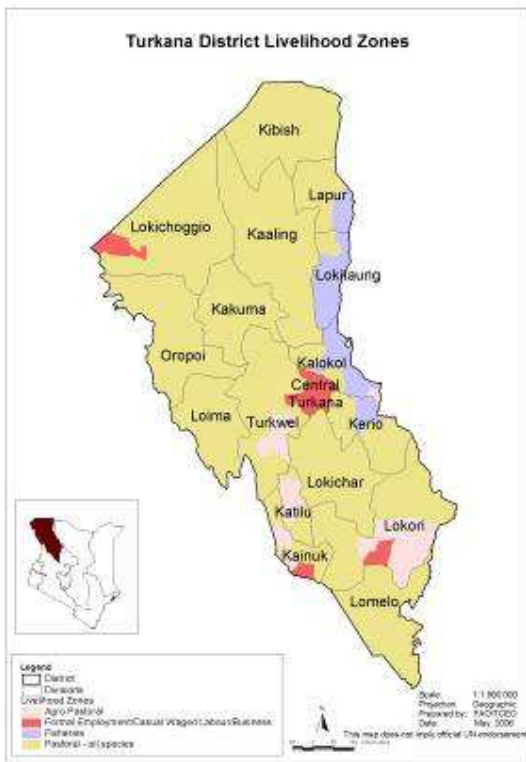




**OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
MINISTRY OF STATE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NORTHERN KENYA AND OTHER ARID LANDS
ARID LANDS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECT II**

**DROUGHT MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR JUNE, 2008
TURKANA NORTH, CENTRAL AND SOUTH DISTRICTS**

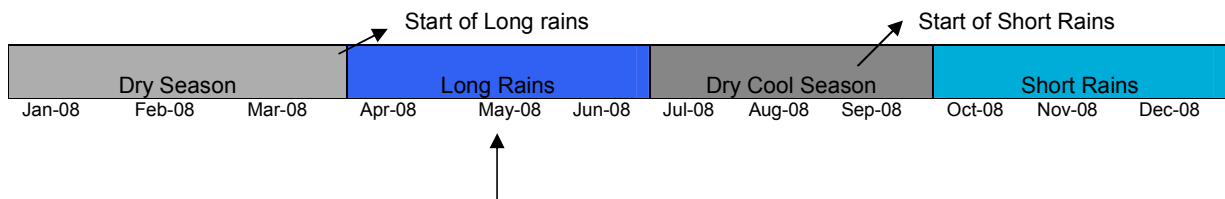
TURKANA DISTRICT



WARNING STAGES

Livelihood Zone	Warning Stage	Trend
Pastoral-all species	Alarm>Alert	No improvement
Agro-Pastoral	Alarm>Alert	No improvement
Fisheries	Alarm>Alert	No improvement
Formal Employment/ Casual Labour	Alarm	Slight improvement
DISTRICT	Alarm>Alert	Worsening

TIME LINE



- Inadequate quality and quantity of pasture and browse.
- Slight increase in milk production, hence small amount of milk available for consumption
- Slight increase in number of livestock new borns.

Situation overview

- In June 2008, the Greater Turkana District received a very negligible amount of rainfall. For instance, Lodwar meteorological station recorded a trace value of 0.0mm, which is far lower than the value of 0.8mm recorded in May'08. This is also lower than the 24.6mm of rainfall recorded for the same period of referenced year (2004).
- The quality and quantity of pasture and browse in wet season grazing areas (the lowland areas of the District) is both poor and inadequate.
- The distance to and from water sources has increased from 3.2 Km to 3.8 Km. This is attributed to the effects of the dry spell.
- During this month, the body condition of most livestock species ranged from fair-to-poor in most parts of the Turkana. This is explained by the prevalence of livestock diseases and drought. The most common diseases are: *Peste des Petits Ruminants* (PPR - locally termed as Lomoo/Lomanang' in shoats), Mange (camels), CBPP (cattle), CCPP, diarrhoea and worms (goats) and ticks to all species.
- However, the mortality rates for shoats' decreased, from 12.9% recorded in May'08 to 11.2% in June'08. The mortality rates for the large stocks (cattle & camels) dropped from a value of 27.6% in May'08 to value of 18.0% in June'08.
- The average birth rates for livestock decreased from 15.9% in May'08 to 14.45% in June '08. The birth rates recorded are: 28.7%, 9.0%, 6.6% and 13.5% for cattle, sheep, goats and camels respectively.
- Livestock sales rate of the small stock decreased from 3.0% in May'08 to a value of 2.8% in June '08.
- The household milk production across the three districts significantly decreased from a value of 12.5% in May'08 to 10.0% in June'08.
- The malnutrition rate increased, from 18.9% in May'08 to 20.6% in June'08. This situates the district at the Alarm>Alert phase.
- On human health, most health centres recorded cases of Malaria and upper respiratory tract infections (URTI). Some cases of other diseases were reported in most parts of Turkana.
- In regards to the conflict, the month of June'08, was characterized by conflict incidences in all the cross border zones of Turkana North, Central and South Districts. These incidences are attributed to the scramble for natural resources after the failure of the long rains. In terms of human displacements, more than fifteen thousand persons of Turkana origin have returned to the District following the recent post elections violence, which rocked some parts of the Rift Valley Province.

Recommendations to District Authorities and National KFSSG by the D.S.G

- There is need to increase substantially the number of beneficiaries targeted and the ration size in current phase of EMOP because of the worsening food security situation across Turkana.
- Every effort must be put in place to reduce the worsening levels of malnutrition in vulnerable groups such as children under five years, pregnant and lactating mothers, the sick and the elderly.
- The internally displaced persons, who flocked into district, as a result of the recent post election violence must be targeted 100% under General Food Distribution (GFD). They also must be assisted to resettle quickly, in order to resume their normal lives.
- Scaling up of water tracking and provision of water storage facilities to communities, which have been identified as being water stressed.
- Rehabilitation of broken down water points.
- Provision of fuel subsidy to support communities whose water points are equipped with motorized systems.
- Capacity building of water users association to improve management of water schemes.
- The Veterinary department and other partners must organize and conduct PPR vaccination campaigns. Other forms of supportive treatments like CCPP vaccination, deworming, mange and camel tryps can be done in combination.
- Conflict early warning and rapid response should be strengthened.
- Cross border peace meetings and community dialogues should be held in areas affected by insecurity.

- Recruiting more Kenya Police Reservists (KPR) in all the areas affected by insecurity and supplying them with enough ammunition to lend hand to the government security agencies in place.
- The food for assets (FFA) and cash for work (CFW) programs should be up scaled to take care of those left out of the targeting, so as to build their assets and resilience to drought.
- Reseeding of rangelands should be done in order to increase forage and browse for livestock.
- Provision of the fishing gears to the fisher folk communities found a long Lake Turkana.
- Construction of pit latrines/ toilets in communities and schools; and provision of safe drinking water to prevent outbreaks of contagious diseases like cholera.

Current interventions

Non-food interventions

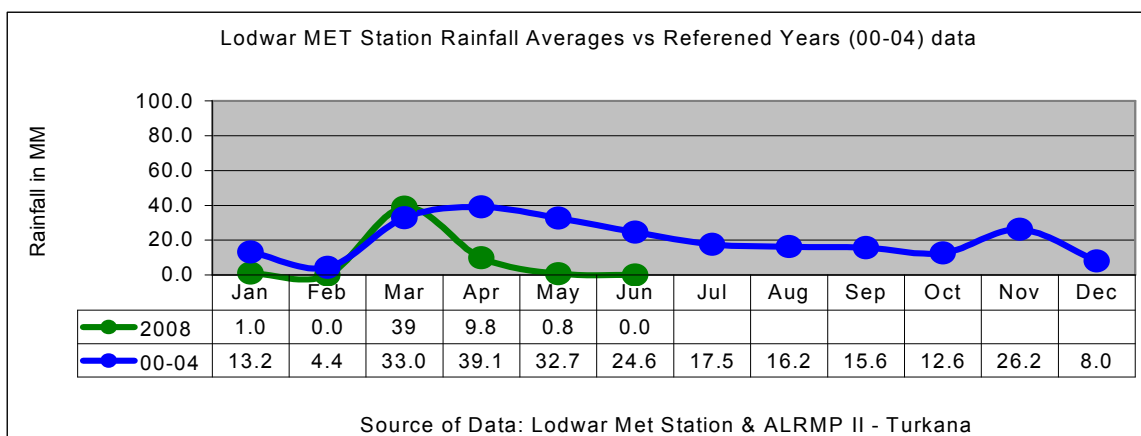
- Njaa Marufuku Kenya project by Ministry of Agriculture.
- Water resources development by Practical Action; ALRMP, OXFAM-GB and Diocese of Lodwar (DoL).
- Capacity building on public health and hygiene by UNICEF in partnership with MoH.
- Restocking.

Food aid

- General Food Distribution
- Supplementary feeding.
- Food for Assets phases II.

1. Environmental and grazing conditions (Stability)

1.1 Rainfall



- In June 2008, the Greater Turkana district received a very negligible amount of rainfall. A good example is Lodwar meteorological station, which recorded a trace value of 0.0mm, which is lower than the value of 0.8mm recorded in May '08. This is also much lower than the 24.6mm of rainfall recorded for the same period of referenced year (2000-2004).

1.2 Natural vegetation and pasture condition

- Availability of pasture and browse in wet season grazing areas has deteriorated in comparison to the previous month (May '08). In other words, the quality and quantity of pasture and browse in the lowland areas of Turkana remain poor and inadequate. Moreover, the average grazing distance has increased from 6Km in May '08 to 7.2Km in June'08.

1.3 Water sources and availability

1.3.1 Use of water sources

- Surface water sources have dried up in most parts of the greater Turkana. However, the underground water sources are yielding modicum amounts of water for human and livestock consumption. The two major seasonal Rivers (Turkwell and Kerio) were discharging very little amounts of water during the month.

1.3.2 Access to water

- The average walking distance from a house to fetch water has increased from 3.2 Km in May'08 to 3.8 Km in June'08.

1.4 Emerging issues

1.4.1 Return distance / time

- The return distance and time has increased as indicated above.

1.4.2 Human displacement issues

- In June '08, the incidences of conflict are still occurring at an alarming rate in all the cross border zones of the district. The most affected areas are: Koyasa, Napak and Lokamarinyang in Kibish division; Liwan and Meyan in Lapur Division (Turkana-Toposa-Nyang'atom zone); Letea and Lokipoto in Oropoi Division- (Turkana/Dodoth/Jie zone); Lokiriama, Lorengippi and Kotaruk (Turkana/Tepeth/Pokot zone); and lastly, Katilu, Kainuk, and Lomelo (Turkana South/Pokot zone). This increase in conflict incidences is attributed to the inadequacy of natural resources, following the failure of the long rains season.

1.4.3 Migration

- Most Pastoral herders have moved out of their normal rangelands to other areas within and beyond Turkana in search of pasture and water. For instance, some pastoralists in Kibish Division have moved to insecure areas of Kaitede, Natapar and Soya along Kenya – Sudan international border. Similarly, the pastoralists of Kakuma area have moved to Oropoi, Lokichoggio and Nanam divisions while those from Kaaleng have moved to Northeast region (Todonyang and Kokuro) a long the Kenya-Ethiopia border. Also, some herders from Loima Division are found at Loteere on the Kenya-Uganda international border while those from Kaaruko and Katilia pastoral communities are currently at Riet area in Loriu ranges. Other pastoral settlements are at Urum, Lorengippi, Naipa, Kalemunyang, and Kangirisae in Turkana Central District; and Kakong'u, Nakukulas, Kalapata plains and Loriu ranges in Turkana South District.
- As mentioned before, there is an influx of internally displaced persons to the District following the recent post election violence. Currently, their population is more than fifteen thousand.

1.5 Implication on food security

- The inward and outward migrations have a negative effect on household food security.

2. Rural economy (Food availability)

2.1 Livestock production & marketing

2.1.1 Livestock body condition

- Livestock body conditions ranges from fair (for the large stock) to poor (for shoats). The shoats are in poor health and stress associated with inadequate pastures/browses and water. Put simply, the shoats in wet grazing areas are generally sick and emaciated. Consequently, some of them have succumbed to diseases and starvation.
- In June'08, mortality rates for shoats decreased from 12.9% in May'08 to 11.2% June'08. Similarly, the general mortality rates for the large stocks (cattle and camels) decreased from a value of 27.6% in May'08 to value of 18.0% in June'08. The main causes of death in shoats, as mentioned above, are severe PPR & drought. However, CCPP (goats), CBPP (cattle), mange (camels), diarrhoea and internal parasites (worms) also contribute to livestock death.

- Livestock birth rates slightly decreased from, 15.9% in May'08 to 14.45% in June'08. The specific birth rates recorded for each of the species were: 28.9%, 9.0%, 6.6% and 13.5% for cattle, sheep, goats and camels respectively.

2.1.2 Livestock health condition

- The common diseases and pests affecting livestock in the District are: Contagious Caprine Pleural Pneumonia (CCPP) and *Peste des Petits Ruminants* (PPR) in shoats; Contagious Bovine Pleural Pneumonia (CBPP) in cattle, mange in Camels, leptospirosis, ticks and lice. During the month under review, some cases of these diseases were reported in certain areas.
- The resurgence of PPR is a real threat to livestock health and must be addressed with the seriousness and the urgency it requires. If it is not checked, this disease will completely ruin the livelihoods of the Turkana people.

2.1.3 Milk production

- The household milk production has decreased, from a value of 12.5% in May'08 to 10.0% in June'08. This is attributed to the effects of the failure of the season and the subsequent decrease in livestock birth rates.

2.2. Crop production

2.2.1 Timeliness and status of crop

- The crops, which had been planted by the farmers in anticipation of and/or the beginning of the long rains seasons, have since dried up due to the failure of the above mentioned rains.

2.2.2 Harvest

- There are no crops to be harvested now or in the next six month because of crop failure

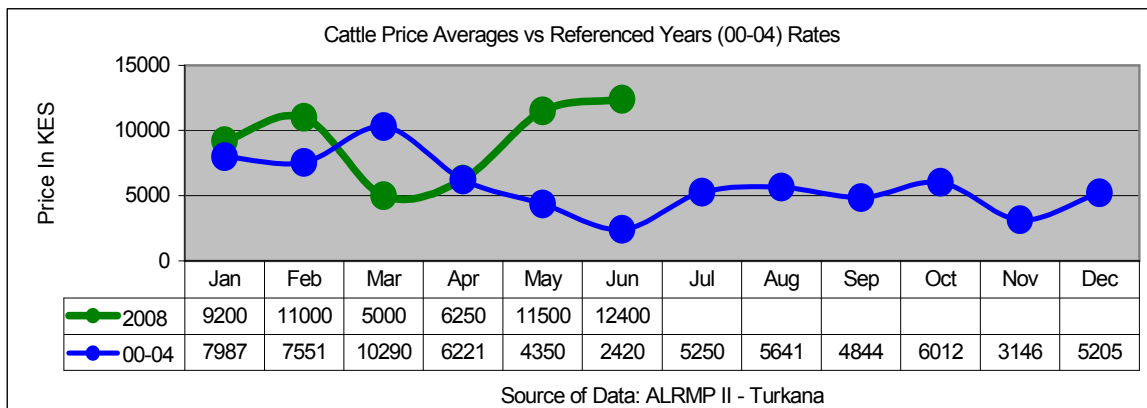
2.2.3 Implication on food security

- The food security situation is worsening following the total crop failure this season and the subsequent lack of harvests.

3. Access to food

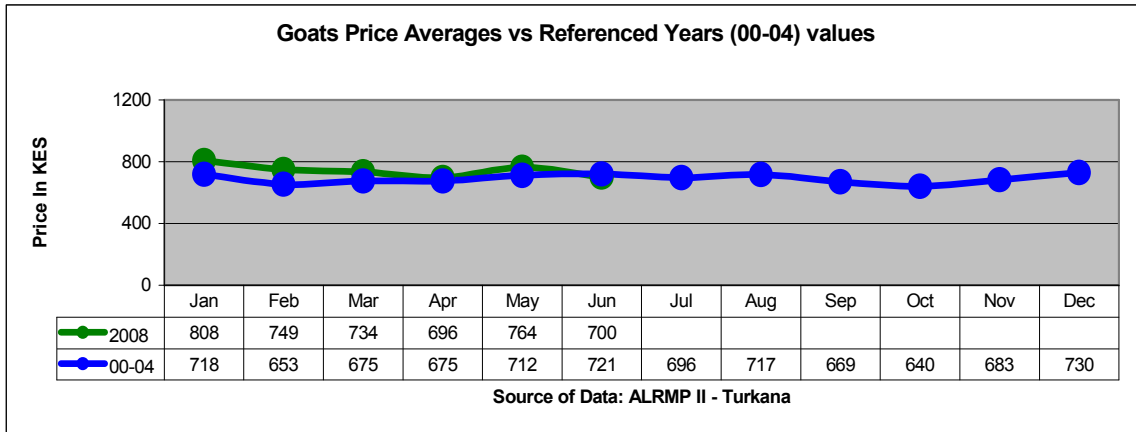
3.1 Livestock marketing

3.1.1 Cattle prices



- The average cattle price drastically increased in June'08 and fetched an amount of Ksh.12, 400 from a value of Kshs11, 500 in May'08.
- Relative to reference year (2004), the value of Ksh.12, 400 recorded during June'08, is much higher (with a difference of Ksh.9, 980) than that of Ksh.2, 420 recorded in the same period of the reference year (2004).

3.1.2 Goat prices



- The average goat price in June'08 decreased from a value of Ksh.764 in May'08 to a value of Ksh.700. However, the value realized this month was below the reference year's value of Ksh.721.

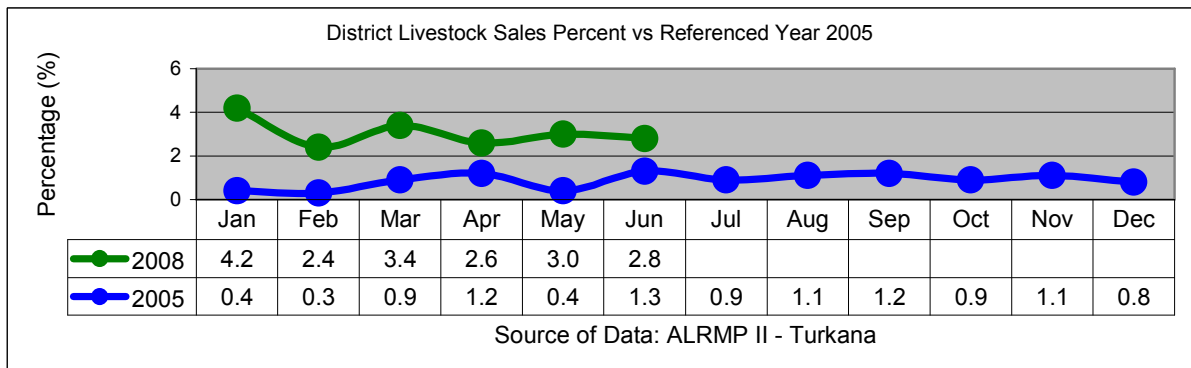
3.1.3 Sheep prices

- The price of sheep significantly increased from, Ksh.698 in May'08 to Ksh.803 per animal, in June'08.

3.1.4 Camel price

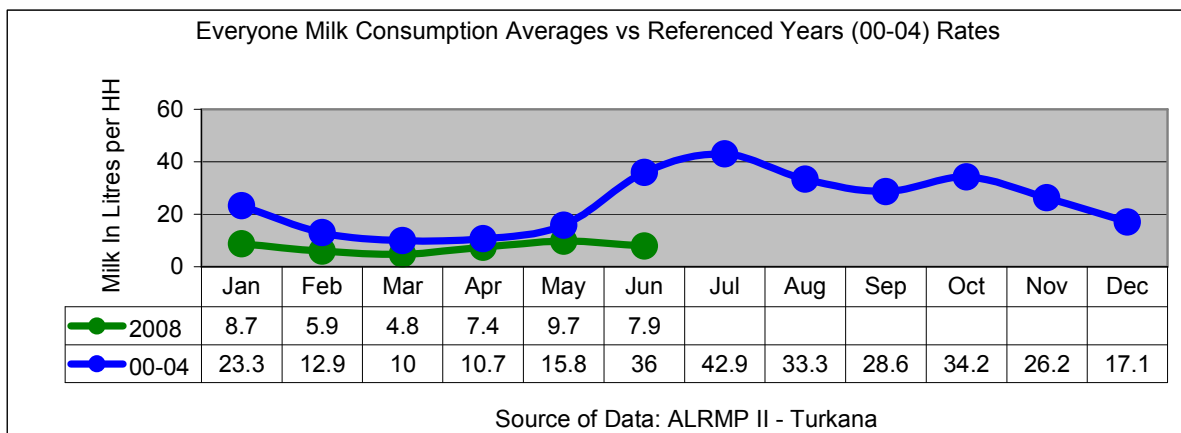
- The camels' sales price recorded in June'08 increased from, Ksh.8, 250 in May'08 to Ksh.10, 167 in June'08

3.2. Livestock sale



- The District saw a decrease in livestock sales rate, from a value of 3.0% recorded in May'08 to 2.8% in June '08. This value is higher compared to 1.3% recorded in the same period of the reference year (2005).

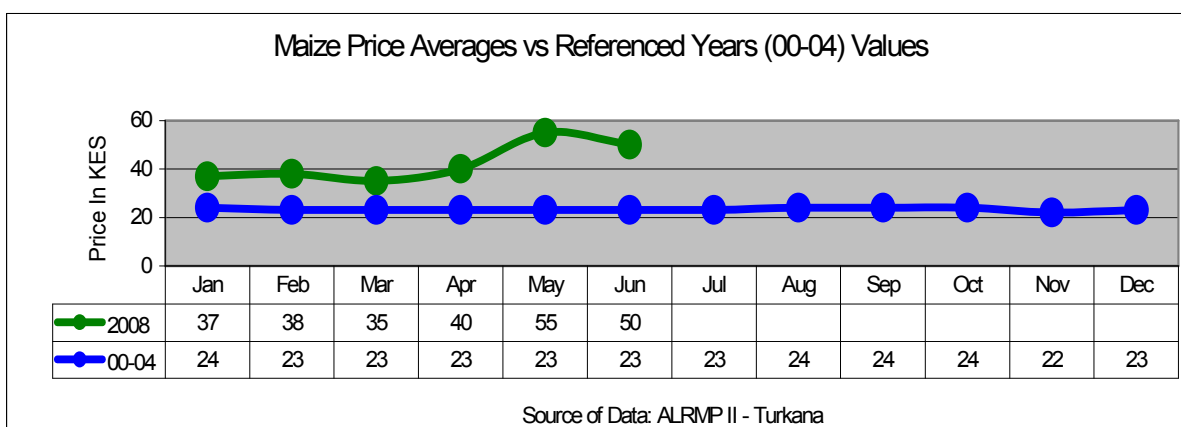
3.3. Milk consumption



- In June '08, the milk consumption rate decreased by 1.8%. The actual average value for June'08 was 7.9% compared to 9.7% recorded in May'08. This is 28.1% lower, than the value of 36.0% recorded for the same period of the reference year (2000-2004).

3.4. Crop prices – (Maize, Posho & Sorghum)

3.4.1 Maize prices



- The cereal prices across Turkana, generally ranged from Ksh.40 to Kshs.60. Hence, coming to an average of Ksh.50 per Kilogram. To be specific, Lokitaung & Kakuma Divisions registered the highest average price of Ksh.60 per Kg each; followed by Lokori Division, which recorded (Ksh.55), while others recorded their prices as follows: Kalokol (45); Kainuk Katilu, Lokichar and Turkwell Divisions, each recorded the price of Ksh.40 per Kilogram.
- This is a much higher price compared to the value of Ksh.23 recorded during the same period of the reference year (2004). The high prices are explained by the current inflation driven by the food and oil sectors. Moreover, the unavailability of cereals from irrigation schemes and the decreased supply of various kinds of food stuffs from agricultural areas outside Turkana, due to the recent post election violence, also account for the high food prices.

3.4.2 Posho (maize meal flour) prices

- The average posho price for June'08 was above normal. It had slightly decreased to an average value of Ksh.55 per Kg outside the urban centres where it ranges between Ksh.50 and Kshs. 60 per Kg.
- This price is relatively higher compared to the previous month's (May'08) value of Ksh.60. The reasons for this hike are explained in 3.4.1 above.

3.4.3 Sorghum prices

- The price of sorghum during this month had no change, compared to value recorded in May'08. It ranged between Ksh.30 and Kshs. 60 per Kilogram in different parts of Turkana. As such, the average price of sorghum is Ksh.45 per Kg. The possible explanations for this may be the decline in livestock products, reduced EMOP ration and scarcity of sorghum in the market.

3.5. Income

3.5.1 Livestock sales rate

- Livestock sales rate of the small stock decreased from 3.0% in May'08 to a value of 2.8% recorded in June'08. This increase is connected to the need to purchase foodstuffs, due to the problem of widespread hunger.

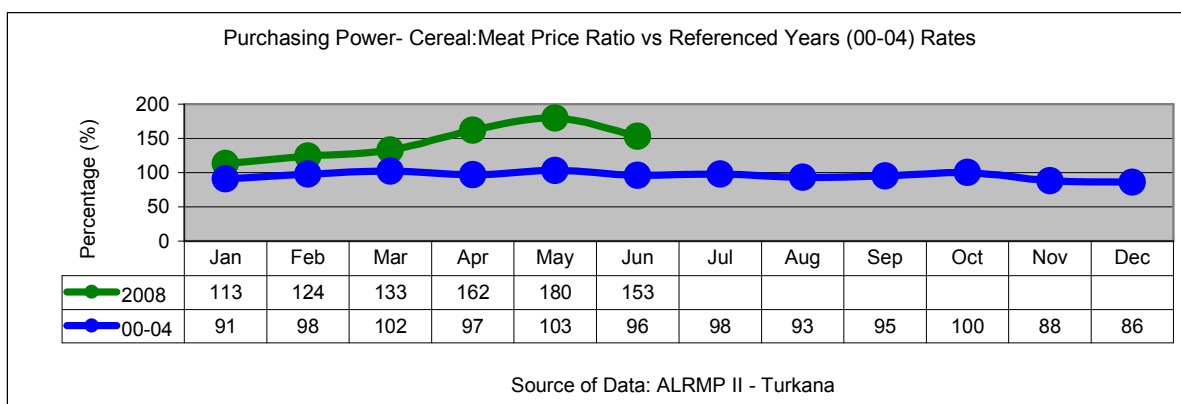
3.5.2 Crops

- As mentioned before, the crops which were planted at the beginning of the current season have since dried up due to failure of this rainy season. Consequently, there are no harvests realized or expected soon.

3.5.3 Other income (trade, wages, etc.)

- The percentage of people employed in June'08 increased marginally, from a value of 10.3% recorded during May'08 to a value of 19.0%. this was done by oil exploration company
- In June '08, the population engaged in small scale trading in most urban and peri-urban centres significantly increased to 23.0% from a value of 8.0% recorded in May'08. this is as result of sale
- During this month, the rate of casual work wages slightly decreased, from a value of Ksh.244 recorded in May'08 to Ksh.111 in June'08.

3.6. Terms of trade



3.6.1 Pastoralists' purchasing power in terms of trade (Cereal: Meat Price Ratio)

- The District cereal: meat price ratio for June'08 is 153%, which is still worsening compared to the previous month of May'08, which had recorded above a ratio of 100%. In other words, during the month of June'08, the (Cereal: Meat) price ratio was higher compared to the referenced year (00-04) percentage. The cereal: meat price ratio for each Division is: Lokori (190%), Lokitaung (177%), Turkwel (151%), Kalokol (148%), Katilu (136%), and Kakuma (116%).
- This value of Cereal: Meat price ratio is indicative of the fact that terms of trade have become not only worse, but also extremely adverse to the herders.

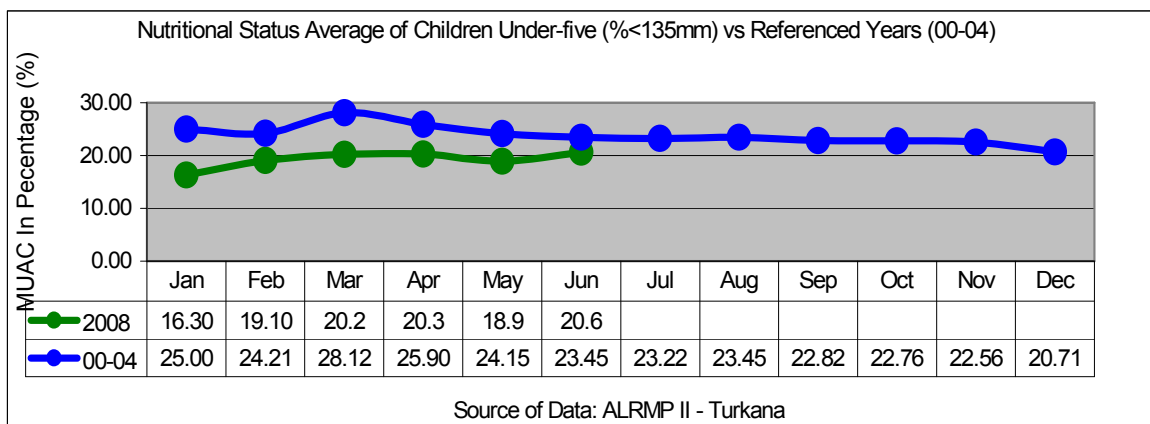
3.7 Implications on food security

- This rapid increase in cereal prices negatively affects the food security situation in the three districts of Greater Turkana. It will also affect livestock off-take (Destocking).

- In regards to the coping strategies index (0 to 10), the month of June '08 has slightly recorded a low value of 1.9%, from 2.1% reported in the previous month of May'08.

4. Pastoral welfare (Utilization of Food)

4.1. Nutritional status



4.1.1 Malnutrition

- In June'08, the malnutrition rate across the three districts stood at 20.6%. This percentage is slightly higher than that recorded in May'08 (18.9%). This is 5.6% above the 15 % WHO required level. This rate epitomizes a return to the worsening trend in the nutritional status of children under 5-years, between (12-59) months. This situates the three-Districts at “Alarm Alert” stage. Compared to the same period of the referenced year (2004), this is better.
- The malnutrition rates recorded for different divisions during June'08 were: Lokori and Lomelo (34.0%); Kakuma, Lokichoggio and Oropoi (24.5%); Kalokol, Central and Kerio (20.7%), Katilu, Kainuk and Lokichar (16.5%), Turkwel and Loima (14.9%), and Lokitaung, Kibish, Kaleng and Lapur (13.1%) each.

4.2. Health

- The human health conditions in Turkana North, Central, and South Districts were still unstable. Cases of malaria are continuously being reported across the three districts while mumps outbreak was reported in Loima Division.
- There were also many cases of Upper Respiratory Tract Infections (URTI), diarrhoeal diseases, internal parasites (worm infestation), typhoid, measles, skin diseases and eye infections being reported in various parts of the three Districts.
- Poor sanitation is still a major problem in all three Districts especially in centres and the settlements, found a long the river Turkwell and Lake Turkana. This problem is compounded by lack of public toilets in the communities and pit latrines in schools found in those areas. Moreover, inaccessibility to safe drinking water is a major challenge because many people still rely on water from riverbeds. This explains why in most cases there are outbreaks of water borne diseases in Turkana.

5. Current intervention measures & coping strategies

- Petty trade is mainly done in urban and peri-urban centres like, Lodwar, Lokitaung, Kaaleng, Kalokol, Kainuk, Lokichar, Kakuma and Lokichoggio. The commodities sold are: fish (dry & fresh), wood products such as: firewood, handicrafts and livestock products to mention but a few.
- Small-scale irrigation farming is practised along rivers Turkwel and Kerio, but low water levels have affected irrigation schemes found downstream.
- Sale and slaughtering of livestock is mainly practised in most parts of the three districts as alternative coping strategies.
- Poor pastoralists are also engaged in charcoal burning and selling alternatively.

- Provision of general health services by the Ministry of Health & other District's development partners.
- During the month under review, most households' coping strategies and mechanisms were: reduction in the number of meals per day; consumption of wild foods (fruits and meat) and taboo foods, among others.

5.1 Non-food interventions / measures

- Njaa Marufuku Kenya project under the Ministry of Agriculture.
- Capacity building on public health and hygiene by UNICEF in partnership with MoH.
- Drilling of boreholes in strategic zones by Ministry of Water, Diocese of Lodwar, ALRMP and other organizations.
- Construction of rock water catchments, sand dams, sub surface dams and water pans in various parts of the District.
- Improvement of traditional shallow wells and sinking of modern shallow wells in different areas by Practical Action, Turkana Rehabilitation Project(TRP), OXFAM GB and ALRMP.
- Conflict resolution and peace building meetings by different actors within the three Districts.

6. Food aid

6.1 World Food Programme/ other Development Partners

- General food distribution by WFP through the lead agencies (Oxfam GB & World Vision-Kenya).
- Supplementary feeding for the severely malnourished under-fives, pregnant and lactating mothers, aged and disabled groups (Merlin, etc).
- Food for Assets supported by WFP and ALRMP II through TRP for the host communities in Kakuma, Oropoi and Lokichoggio divisions. This is extended beyond initial 25 KM to include areas within 80 Km radius.

7. Recommendations

Food aid/ Agriculture

- There is need to increase substantially the number of beneficiaries targeted and the ration size in current phase of EMOP because of the worsening food security situation across Turkana.
- Every effort must be put in place to reduce the worsening levels of malnutrition in vulnerable groups such as children under five years, pregnant and lactating mothers, the sick and the elderly.
- The internally displaced persons, who flocked into district, as a result of the recent post election violence, must be targeted 100% under General Food Distribution (GFD). They also must be assisted to resettle quickly, in order to resume their normal lives.
- The food for assets (FFA), cash for work (CFW) and IGAs programs should be up scaled to take care of those left out of the targeting, so as to build their assets and resilience to drought.
- Capacity building/extension services should be improved especially in agricultural potential areas like Kapelbok, Kaputir, Katilu, Lokubae, Morulem, Nakurio, Kerio, Kangatotha and Naotin so as to make the people food secure.
- Farm tools and inputs should also be provided to agricultural potential areas to boost food production.
- Assistance to be provided to improve the non-conventional irrigation schemes found along the river.

Water

- Scaling up of water tracking and provision of water storage facilities to communities, which have been identified as being water stressed.
- Rehabilitation of broken down water points.
- Provision of fuel subsidy to support communities whose water points are equipped with motorized systems.
- Capacity building of water users association to improve management of water schemes

Livestock

- The Veterinary department and other partners must organize and conduct PPR vaccination campaigns. Other forms of supportive treatments like CCPP vaccination, deworming, mange and camel tryps can be done in combination.
- Training of community animal health workers (CAHW) to help sustain animal health efforts at the kraal level.
- Reseeding of rangelands should be done in order to increase forage and browse for livestock.
- Provision of the fishing gears to the fisher folk communities found a long Lake Turkana.


Health

- Ministry of health and partners to scale up integrated outreach services in areas without health facilities.
- Improve the infrastructure in non-functional health facility, furnish and lobby for adequate staffing to facilitate gazettelement for drug supply and benefit from health sector support fund.
- Ministry of health and partners should promote disease prevention and control by promoting insecticide treated net (ITN) use, house hold treatment of water in the areas with suspicious water use and promoting good health seeking behaviour besides conducting regular deworming to reduce the stress on the community.
- Ministry of health and partners to facilitate hygiene and sanitation promotion through latrine provision and use in all the affected areas to prevent oral faecal diseases.
- Ministry of health and partners to train community health workers to assist in minor ailment treatment in the community besides health promotion.

Conflict management and peace building

- Conflict early warning and rapid response should be strengthened.
- Cross border peace meetings and community dialogues should be held in areas affected by insecurity.

8. Warning phase

- Considering the general overview and owing to the effects of the failed long rains season, there are no changes, in the performance indicators of the general livelihoods within the district, compared to May'08. The prevailing situation can be classified as being at the **Alarm**  **Alert** phase, as illustrated by the issues listed below:
- During this month, the amount of rainfall received was insignificant. The situation is deteriorating significantly yet there are no signs of any rains.
- The quality and quantity of pasture and browse is both poor and inadequate.
- The amount and levels of Water in both surface and underground sources have declined significantly. Consequently, the distances to and from water sources have also increased.
- There is a continuous increase in the number of raids carried out against the Turkana community by their neighbours.
- The monthly fish production in Lake Turkana has declined because the water level in Ferguson Gulf has receded owing to the prolonged dry spell.
- Malnutrition rates across the three districts is significantly above the WHO recommended 15% thus indicating a worsening situation.
- The human health conditions are still unstable.
- There are no crops currently planted in the farm (both in irrigation schemes or rain fed shambas). Neither were there any harvests.
- Decrease in Milk production.
- Unfavourable terms of trade for pastoralists as indicated by very high cereals: meat price ratio.
- The influx of internally displaced person (IDPs) of Turkana origin into the District following the recent post election skirmishes in parts of Rift Valley. Their total population is now over 15,000.