

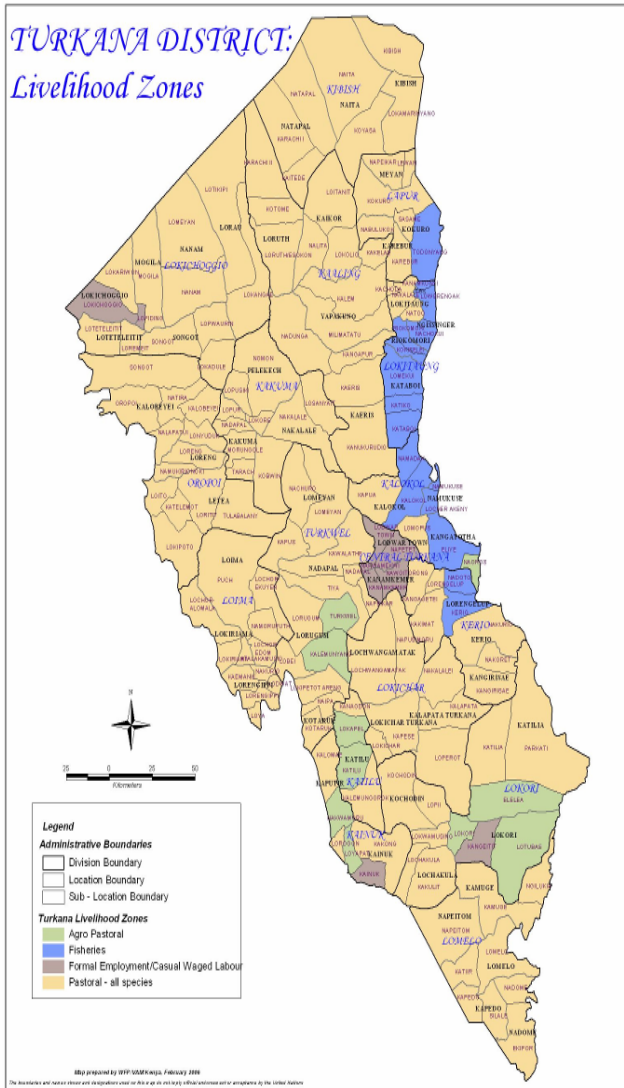


**OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
MINISTRY OF STATE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NORTHERN KENYA AND OTHER ARID LANDS
ARID LANDS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECT II**

DROUGHT MONITORING BULLETIN, AUGUST 2009

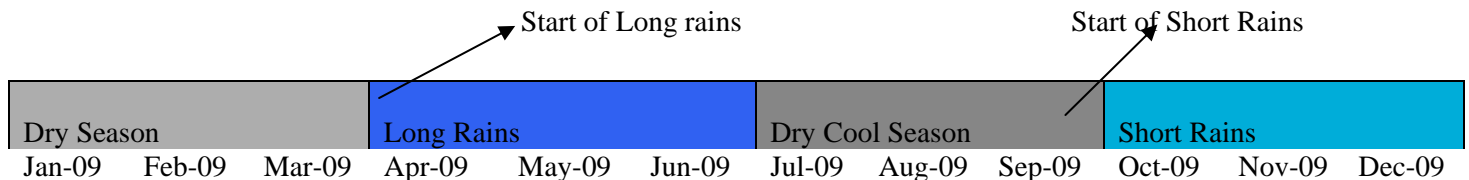
**Turkana North/Central/West/
East/South and Loima Districts**

Warning Stages



Livelihood Zone	Warning Stage	Trend
Pastoral-all species	Emergency	Worsening
Agro-Pastoral	Emergency	Worsening
Fisheries	Emergency	Worsening
Formal Employment/Casual Labour	Emergency	Worsening
District	Emergency	Worsening

Seasonal Calendar



- Decline in the quality and quantity of pasture and browse.
- Decrease in milk production.
- Drop in number of livestock newborns.

Situation overview

- The Greater Turkana district received no rainfall during the month under review. For example, the Lodwar meteorological station, recorded 0.0 mm same as the previous month.
- The quality and quantity of pasture and browse in wet season grazing areas continued to worsen.
- The average distance to and from water sources remained at 4.2 km, which was the same as that recorded in July. This was attributed to the grazing areas being very far from water sources. The body condition of most livestock species declined compared to the previous month.
- The mortality rate of all livestock species' increased from 3.38 % in July to 6.48 %. Mortality rate of large stock increased from 2.25% in July to 7.05. In that respect, the mortality rates for small stock increased from 4.5 % in July to 5.9 %. The average birth rate for livestock decreased from 11.13% in July to 8.4%. The birth rates recorded were: 12.6%, 9.2%, 6.3% and 5.6% for cattle, sheep, goats and camels respectively. The livestock sales rate decreased from 3.28% in July to 1.93%.
- The household milk production across the six districts decreased from 11.24% in July to 9.66%.
- The nutrition status of children below five years declined during the month, with the percentage of those rated at the risk of malnutrition increasing from 25.5% in July to 28.2% in August.
- Most health centres recorded cases of malaria and upper respiratory tract infections (URTI). Also cholera outbreak was reported in parts of Turkana Central Districts and two measles cases were reported.
- Numerous conflict incidences were reported in all the cross border zones of Turkana districts during the month.

Recommendations DSG and KFSM

- Increase the number of persons benefiting from general food distribution.
- Transport subsidy for livestock traders.
- 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.
- Provide fuel subsidy for the Water Users Association (WUAS) with motorized systems.
- Water trucking to communities and institutions, which are water stressed.
- Repair broken down pumps and flush boreholes across the district.
- The Veterinary department and other partners must continue with PPR vaccination campaigns. Other forms of supportive treatments like CCPV vaccination, deworming, mange and camel trypanosomiasis can be done in combination.
- Support livestock off-take (destocking) in the district.
- 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.
- Provision of the fishing gears to the fisher folk communities found a long Lake Turkana.
- Provide mobile health care services to pastoralists.
- Introduce solar fish dryers and cages to reduce the massive post harvest losses in the fisheries sector.
- Conduct emergency cholera treatment and Public health education in affected areas.

Current interventions

Non-food interventions

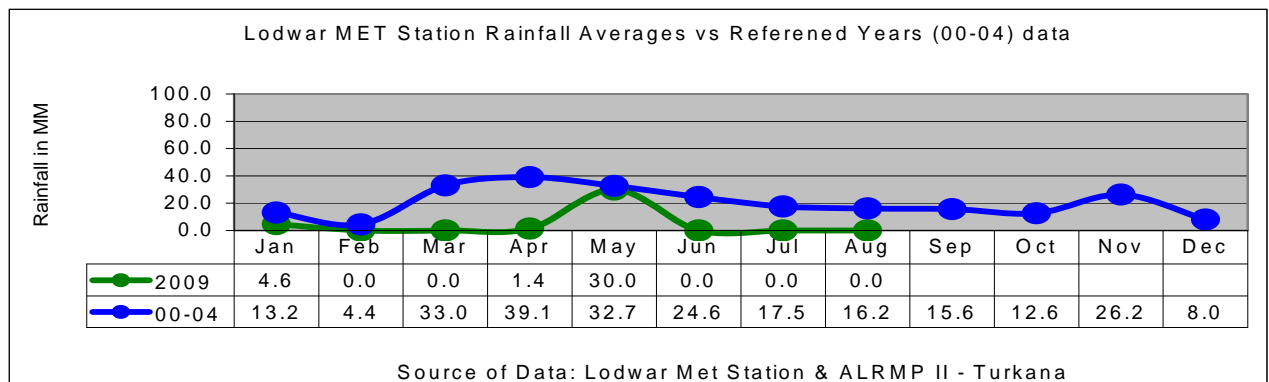
- The Hunger and Safety Net Programme(HSNP)-Pilot Phase.
- Njaa Marufuku Kenya project.
- The Drought Management Initiative Projects implemented by OXFAM GB and VSF- B.
- Water resources development by Practical Action; ALRMP, OXFAM-GB and Diocese of Lodwar.
- Conflict resolution and peace building initiatives by different stakeholders.
- Water trucking by ALRMP II and the Ministry of Water.
- UNDP Host Community Projects in Kakuma, Oropoi and Lokichoggio divisions of Turkana west district.
- Emergency Livestock off-take and slaughter by VSF –Belgium and AMREF.
- Emergency Polio campaign.
- National Household and population census.

Food aid

- General Food Distribution
- Supplementary feeding
- Food for Assets
- School feeding Programme

1.0 Environmental indicators (Stability)

1.1 Rainfall



The Greater Turkana district received no rainfall during the month. For example, the Lodwar meteorological station, recorded 0.0 mm which is the same as that recorded during the previous month of July. This was also much lower than the 16.2 mm of rainfall recorded for the same period of referenced year (2004).

1.2 Condition of natural vegetation and pasture

The quality and quantity of pasture and browse in Turkana areas worsened in the lowlands (wet grazing areas).

1.3 Water sources and availability

1.3.1 Use of water sources

Most surface water sources dried up completely. The underground water sources yielded little amounts of water for both human and livestock consumption. In addition, the two seasonal rivers of Turkwel and Kerio diminished flows, hence they cannot fully support schemes located downstream.

1.3.2 Distance to water sources

The average walking distance to and from water sources was stable at 4.2 km recorded in July.

1.4 Emerging issues

1.4.1 Conflicts and Human Displacement

- Conflict incidences between the Turkana and their neighbours were still high. A number of raids were reported in Kainuk Division in Turkana South District, which resulted in many lives and livestock being lost.
- In Turkana North, many incidences were reported for instance on 5th August Naduat was raided by Toposa from Sudan – 200 animals were taken away while 3 people were killed. Also on 22nd August, Naduat in Nanam was raided by Toposas 6 persons killed and 2 persons injured whilst 150 herds of cattle were driven away.

1.4.2 Migration

- Most pastoral herders moved towards the wet grazing areas (along the borders of Turkana) in search of water and pasture.

1.5 Implication on food security

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

2.0 Rural economy indicators (Food availability)

2.1 Livestock production

2.1.1 Livestock body Condition

- Livestock body conditions for all livestock species deteriorated but might worsen if the prevailing conditions do not change. The livestock continued to get emaciated.
- The mortality rates for all domestic livestock species greatly increased from 3.38 % in July to 6.48 %. The mortality rates in shoats increased from 4.5% in July to 5.9 %. The mortality rates for the large stocks (cattle and camels) increased from 2.25% in July to 7.05 %.
- The main causes of death in livestock, as mentioned were; Prolonged drought, PPR (Lomoo), CCPP (Shoats), Helminthiasis (goats), CBPP (cattle) and mange (camels). Predators, diarrhoea and internal parasites (worms) have also contributed to livestock death.
- The livestock birth rates have decreased from 11.13% in July 2009 to 8.43% in August 2009. The small stock decreased from 11.45% to 9.1% and large stock decreased from 11.45% to 7.75%. The specific birth rates recorded for each of the species were: 12.6%, 9.2%, 6.3% and 5.6% for cattle, sheep, goats and camels respectively.

2.1.2 Livestock health condition

- The common diseases and pests affecting livestock in the district were: Contagious Caprine Pleural Pneumonia (CCPP), *Peste des Petits Ruminants* (PPR), Foot and Mouth disease, Red Water and Helminthiasis in shoats; Contagious Bovine Pleural Pneumonia (CBPP) in cattle, Haemorrhagic septicaemia and mange in Camels, leptospirosis, ticks and lice.

2.1.3 Milk production

- In August 2009, the household milk production rate decreased from a value of 11.24% in July 2009 to 9.66% in August.

2.2 Crop production

2.2.1 Timeliness and status of crop production activities

- Some farmers in irrigation schemes were able to plant during the month. However, army worm infestation was reported in Nanyee and Kabulokor irrigation schemes.

2.2.2 Harvest

A few farmers are expected to harvest in the next one month.

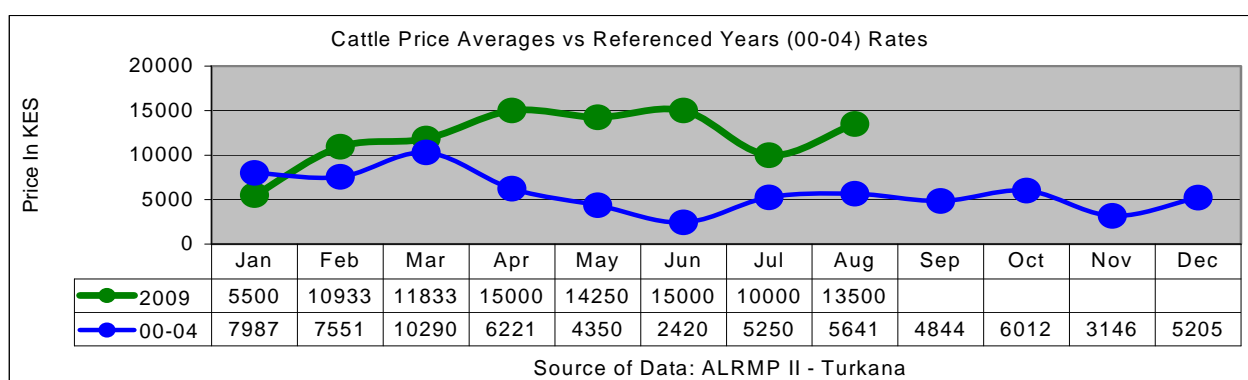
2.2.3 Implications on food security

The food security situation has not yet improved owing to the conditions above.

3.0 Access to food

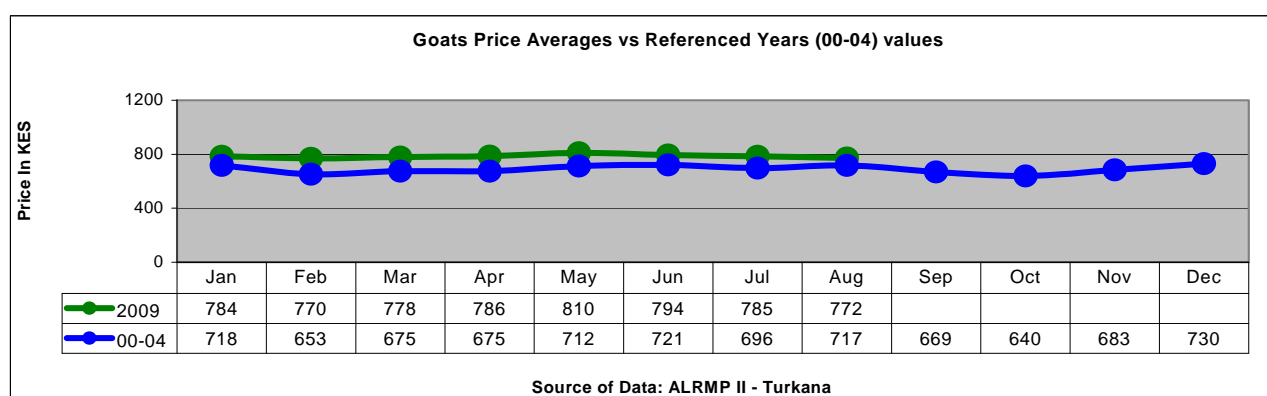
3.1 Livestock marketing

3.1.1 Cattle prices



- The average cattle prices have increased from a value of Ksh10, 000 in July to Ksh13,500.
- Relative to reference year (2004), the value of Ksh13,500 recorded in August, was much higher than that of Ksh5641 recorded in the same period of the reference (2004).

3.1.2 Goat prices



The average goat price in August has marginally decreased from a value of Ksh785 in July to Ksh772 in August. The value realised this month was higher than the reference year's value of Ksh717.

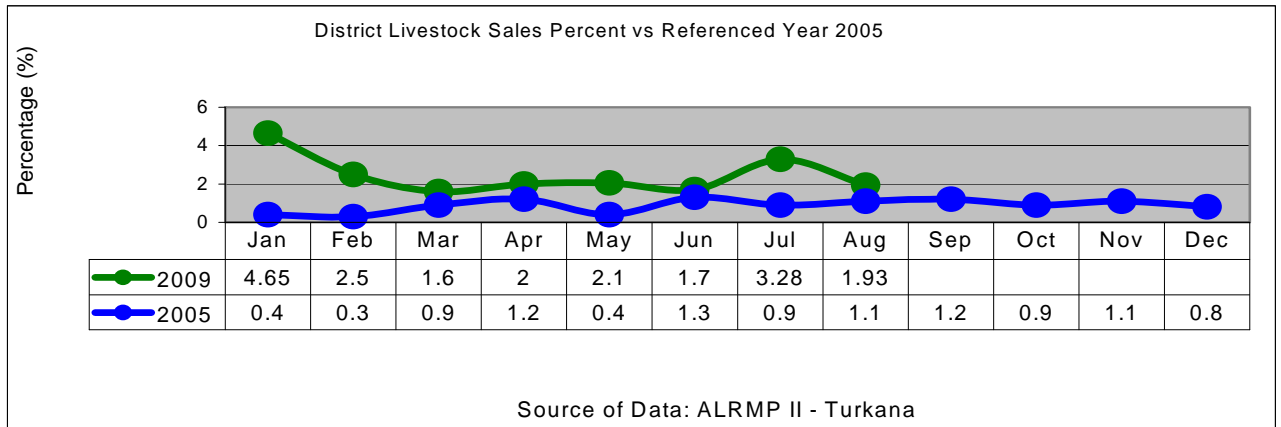
3.1.3 Sheep prices

The price of sheep increased by Ksh105.90, from Ksh796.90 in July to Ksh902.80.

3.1.4 Camel prices

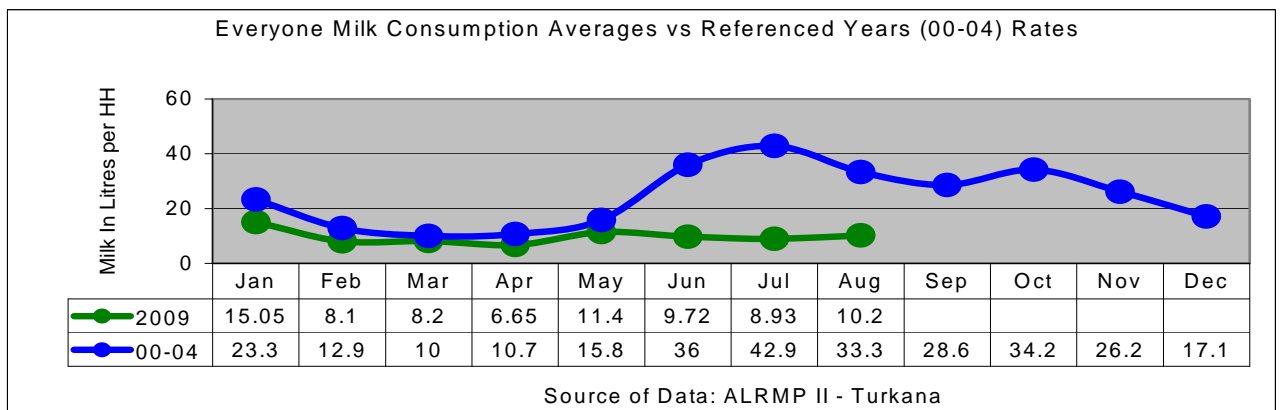
The camels' sales price recorded in August decreased to Ksh12,116.70 from 14, 325 in July.

3.2 Livestock sales



The six districts of Turkana realised a decrease in livestock sales rate from 3.28% in July to 1.93%. This value was higher compared to 1.1% recorded in the same period of the reference year (2005).

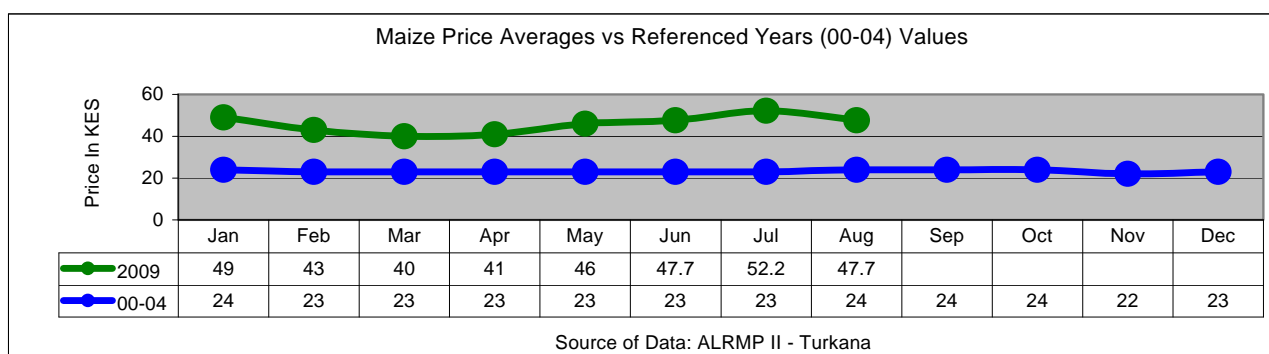
3.3 Milk consumption



There was a decrease in milk consumption rate. The actual average value for August was 10.2% compared to 8.93% recorded in July. This was 23.1% lower than, the value of 33.3% recorded for the same period of the reference year (2004).

3.4 Crop prices

3.4.1 Maize prices



The average price of maize across the greater Turkana district was Ksh47.70 per kilogram (the price ranged between Ksh20 to 60). This was a much higher price compared to the value of Ksh24 recorded during the same period of the referenced year (00-04).

3.4.2 Posho (maize meal flour) prices

The average posho price in August is Ksh49.10 per kilogram (ranges between Ksh28 and 60).

3.4.3 Sorghum price

The average sorghum price was Ksh52.50 per kilogram (the price ranged from Ksh24 to 64 per kilogram in different parts of the Greater Turkana District).

3.5 Income

3.5.1 Livestock income

The livestock sales rate decreased from 3.28% in July to 1.93 % recorded in August.

3.5.2 Crop income

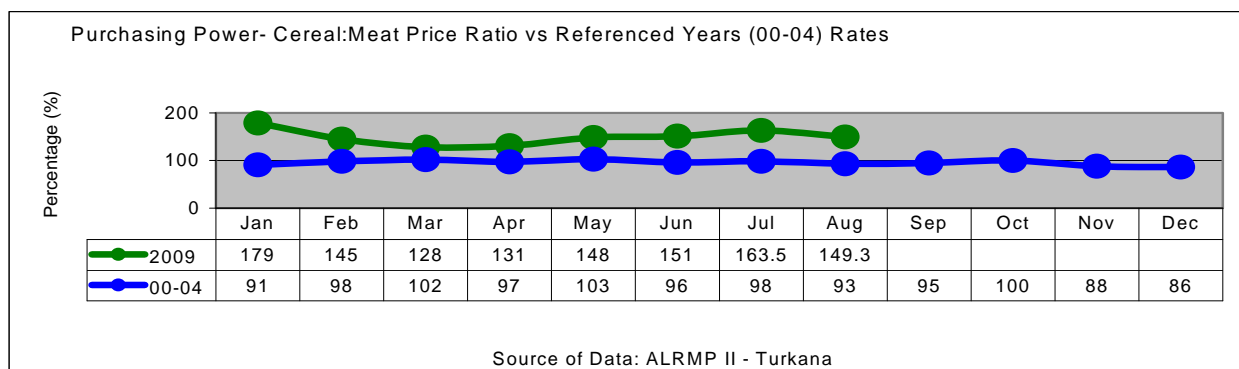
Agricultural crop production was below normal due to the failure by most farmers to plant at the start of long rains season. This was due to little rains received in the greater Turkana district. In addition, army worms infested some of the farms, destroying planted crops.

3.5.3 Other income (Trade, Wages, etc.)

The percentage of people employed increased from a value of 6.5% recorded during July to 10.2% in the month under review (August). The population engaged in small-scale trading in most urban and peri-urban centres was 27.0%.

At this period of the year, the rate of casual work wages decreased from Ksh170.8 in July to Ksh110.50 in August.

3.6 Terms of trade



The district cereal: meat price ratio for August was **149.3%**, which was a decline from what it was in July. In other words, during the month the Cereal: Meat price ratio was still higher compared to the referenced year's (2004) percentage of 93%. This was indicative of the fact that terms of trade are not only worse, but are still extremely adverse to the herders.

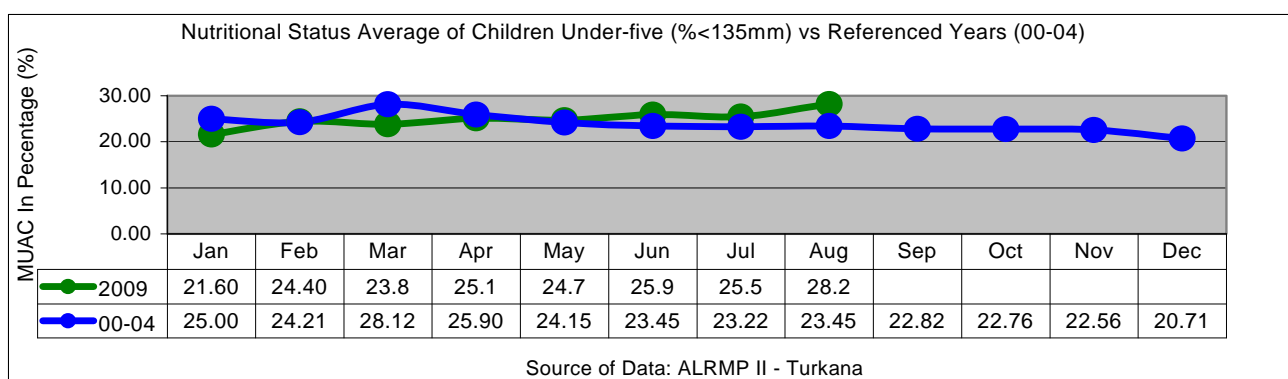
3.7 Implications on food security

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

In regards to the coping strategies index (0 to 10), the month of August 2009 has recorded a value of 2.0% compared to a value of 1.9% reported in the previous month of July 2009.

4.0 Human welfare indicators (Utilisation of food)

4.1 Nutritional status



- The nutrition status of children below five years declined during the month, with the percentage of those rated at the risk of malnutrition increasing from 25.5% in July to 28.2% in August.
- This value was higher than that recorded during the same period of the referenced year (2004). The rate indicates a worsening trend, placing Turkana at "Emergency" stage.

4.2 Human Health

- The human health conditions in Turkana are still unstable. Cases of malaria were continuously reported across the greater Turkana district, while those of measles and polio were reported in Kibish division and in the South Turkana.
- There were also many cases of Upper Respiratory Tract Infections (URTI), diarrhoeal diseases, internal parasites (worm infestation), measles, mumps, skin diseases (body rashes), and eye infections being reported in various parts of Turkana.
- Cholera outbreak was reported in the lake regions more specifically, in Kerio and Kalokol division. So far 15 people have died.
- Poor Sanitation was still a major problem in all six districts of Turkana, especially in areas of Loboolo, Lopur and in centres found a long the river Turkwel and Lake Turkana. This problem was compounded by lack of public toilets in the communities and pit latrines in schools found in those areas. Most latrines were made of temporary structures. Moreover, inaccessibility to safe drinking water was 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 such as cholera, dysentery and typhoid to mention but a few.

5.0 Current interventions

5.1 Non-food interventions

- The Hunger and Safety Net Programme(HSNP)-Pilot Phase.
- Njaa Marufuku Kenya project.
- The Drought Management Initiative Projects implemented by OXFAM GB and VSF- B.
- Water resources development by Practical Action; ALRMP, OXFAM-GB and Diocese of Lodwar.
- Conflict resolution and peace building initiatives by different stakeholders.
- Water trucking by ALRMP II and the Ministry of Water.
- UNDP Host Community Projects in Kakuma, Oropoi and Lokichoggio divisions of Turkana west district.
- Emergency Livestock off-take and slaughter by VSF –Belgium and AMREF.
- Emergency Polio campaign.
- National Household and population census.

5.2 Food aid

- 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 and World Vision Kenya.
- Food distributed by Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (CRWRC), Share International and Kenya Red Cross Society.
- School feeding Programme

5.3 Coping strategies

- Petty trade was mainly done in urban and peri-urban centres like, Lodwar, Kokuro, Kakuma, Lokichoggio, Kalokol, Kainuk and Lokichar. The commodities sold were: fish (dry & fresh), wood products (firewood), handicrafts and livestock products to mention but a few.
- Small-scale irrigation farming was practised along rivers Turkwel and Kerio.
- Sale and slaughter of livestock is mainly practised in most parts of the three districts as an alternative coping strategy.
- Poor pastoralists are also engaged in charcoal burning and selling.
- Provision of general health services by the Ministry of health & other development partners in the district.

- 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.

6.0 Recommendations DSG and KFSM

- Increase the number of persons benefiting from general food distribution.
- Transport subsidy for livestock traders.
- 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.
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- 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.
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