

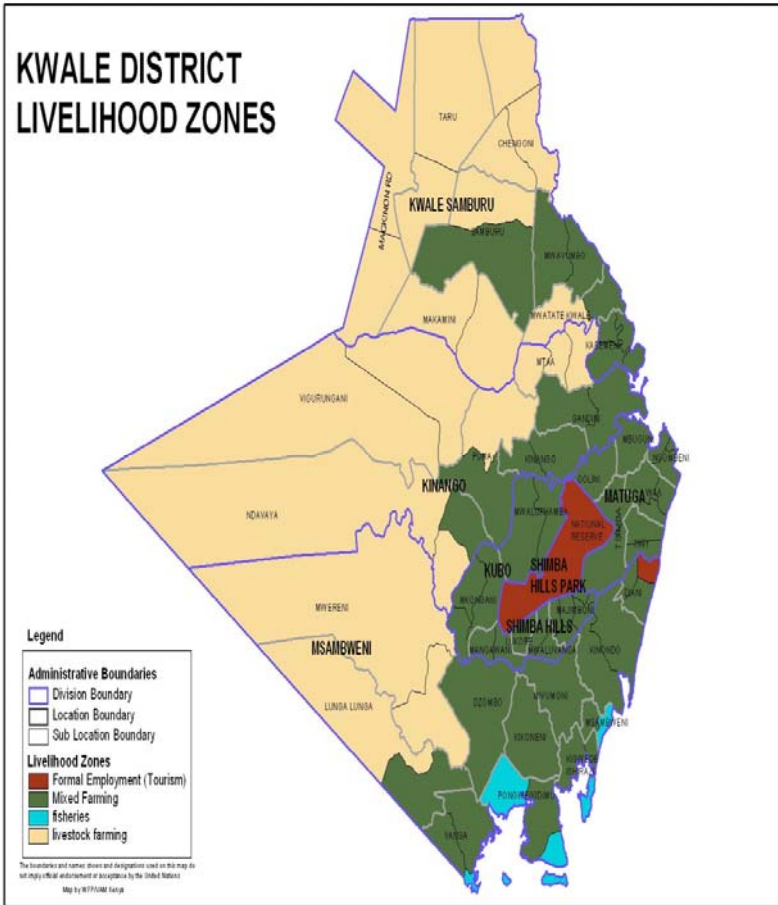


**OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
MINISTRY OF STATE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NORTHERN KENYA AND OTHER ARID LANDS
ARID LANDS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECT II**

DROUGHT MONITORING BULLETIN, JUNE 2009

Kwale, Kinango & Msambweni Districts

Warning Stages



Livelihood Zone	Warning stage	Trend
Livestock Farming	Alarm	Stable
Mixed Farming	Alarm	Improving
District	Alarm	Stable

Seasonal Calendar

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short rains harvests Short dry spell 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planting/Weeding Long rains 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long rains harvests A long dry spell 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short rains Planting/weeding 								
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

Situation overview

- The district was at alarm stage with stable trend.
- Few rainy days were recorded along the coastal line and mixed farming livelihood area of the district during the month.
- The livestock body condition can be rated as fair for all species.
- Livestock migration within all livelihood zones in search of pastures and water was reported in the district of Kinango.
- The main sources of water were the strategic pans and boreholes, which were also under pressure.
- Natural resource use tension, specifically for water is still being reported in areas with large concentration of livestock i.e. Kuranze.
- Livestock was migrating to Kinango from neighbouring provinces of Eastern and North Eastern in search of pasture.
- The nutrition status of children below five years deteriorated, with the percentage of children rated at risk of malnutrition rising to 9.2% compared to 8.8% for last month.
- Human/ wildlife conflict reported mainly due to elephant menace in the mixed farming livelihood area.

Recommendations to DSG and KFSM

- Address human/wildlife conflict in mixed farming livelihood, especially during this cropping season following the light showers received.
- Water trucking should continue in the livestock livelihood areas that are now experiencing acute water stress.
- Support District Peace Committee to address conflict over natural resource use.
- Ministry of Health to be on alert to control cholera and other diarrheal diseases reported.
- EMOP/PRRO phase to start immediately as vulnerable members of the community require food.
- The Kenya Wildlife Services to control crocodile menace in Kibuyuni Dam as it is the only source of water for that community.
- District veterinary office to control outbreak of Foot and mouth disease reported in Kinango.
- Ministry of public health to be alert on swine flu reported in the country.

Current interventions

Non food interventions

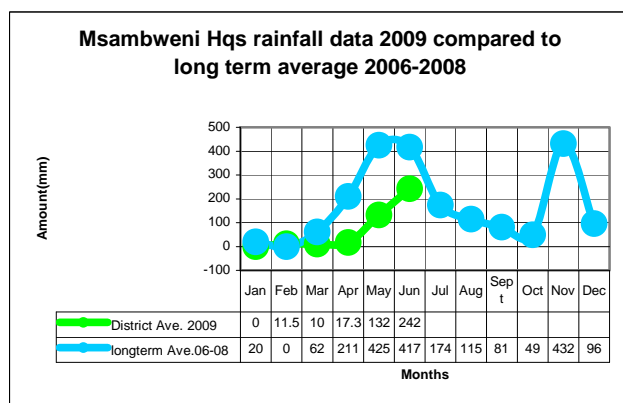
- Erection of 5km solar electric fence in Lukore in order to prevent elephants from destroying food crops.
- Assessment of degraded areas of Kinango district was done by District Environmental Committee.
- District Monitoring and Evaluation exercise conducted for Kwale, Msambweni and Kinango with support of Drought Management Initiative.
- Nutritional outreach programme done by Ministry of Health supported by Arid Lands Resource Management Project II.
- Nutrition survey conducted by World Vision/MOH/Unicef done for Kinango, Kwale and Msambweni.

Food aid

- The Drought Emergency Operation Programme(EMOP/Protracted Relief Recovery Operation) approved by Kenya Food Security Steering Group for Msambweni and Kinango to target 106,686 beneficiaries under 50% food ration is getting started with Kenya Red Cross as the appointed Lead Agency for the district.

1.0 Environmental indicators (Stability)

1.1 Rainfall



Source: Fig 1. District Agriculture office, Msambweni,

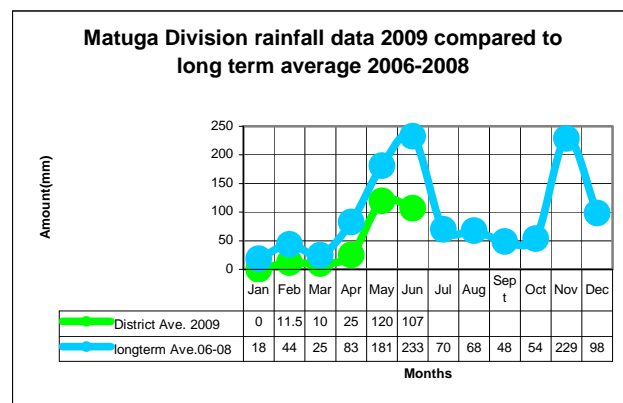


Fig 2. District Agriculture office, Kwale

- The district received some rains which were unevenly distributed; Msambweni - 242mm for 6 rain days, Matuga - 107mm for 10 rain days and Kinango- 84.4mm for 12 days.
- An increase was observed in the rainfall pattern for Msambweni compared to last month and a decrease in amount for Matuga though this is below the compared long term average 2006 - 2008.

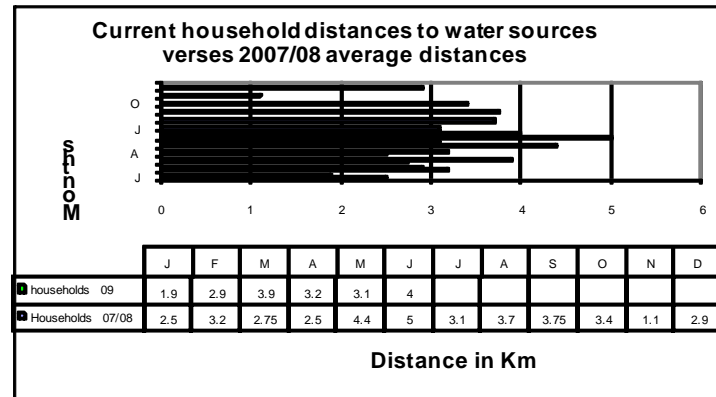
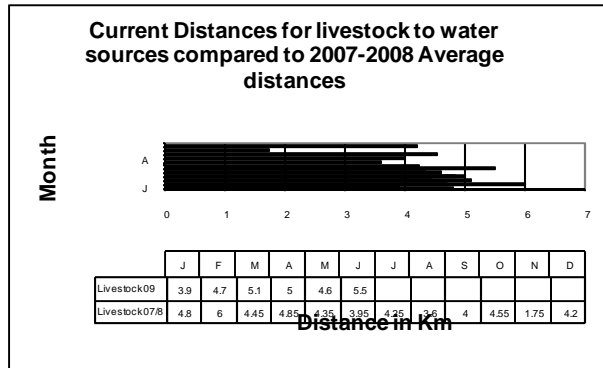
1.2 Condition of natural vegetation and pasture

- The pasture and browse was said to have slightly improved in terms quality and quantity due to the rains received in the mixed farming areas and part of livestock farming areas.
- Most livestock are currently depending on the regenerated grass and pastures.

1.3 Water sources and availability

- There was slight improvement in water situation compared to last month especially in the mixed farming livelihood zone.
- Water quantities in the Livestock livelihood zones are drying up. Most affected areas include: Vigurungani, Nyango, Makamini, Vinyunduni, Silaloni, Segal, Kilimangodo, Mwabila & Mwandimu areas. High livestock and human concentration reported on strategic dams.
- The percentage of communities accessing water from the pans and boreholes is 43% and 27% respectively.
- Water shortage at this time of the year is unusual and may continue to worsen as a result of poor long rains.

1.3.1 Water distances



- Distances to water has increased for both livelihood because the showers received did not have much impact on the water sources.
- Some extreme distances for livestock were recorded in Gulanze 8.7km, Mwabila 7.7km and Vigurungani 7.5km.

1.4 Emerging issues

- Deteriorating water situation felt currently may predispose to increased cases of human diseases due to the quality of the water.
- Livestock concentration at the strategic water sources may trigger conflicts due to Natural resource use if the condition will continue to prevail.

1.4.1 Insecurity/conflict/human displacement

- Human/wildlife conflict in form of crop destruction reported in Kubo, Matuga, Mtaa and Gulanze.
- Natural resource use conflict has been reported in Nyango and Kuranze areas between the pastoral communities. However District Peace Committees Kinango was facilitated to address any tension.

1.4.2 Migration

- Movement of livestock from Livestock Livelihood zone to mixed farming areas was noted during the month due to the light showers received in the latter livelihood.
- Movement of livestock from neighbouring provinces of Eastern and North Eastern into the ranches in Mwereni and MacKinnon road of Kinango district.
- Tanzanian herders are reported to have entered Kenya and settled at Kuranze posing more pressure to the available range resources
- Inter - district and inter - division search for casual labour and food has also been reported as a coping mechanism.

1.5 Implications on food security

- Livestock from neighboring districts/Province may contribute to increase in spread of livestock diseases.
- Insecurity / conflicts may occur due to competition for natural resource use.

2.0 Rural economy indicators (Food availability)

2.1 Livestock production

2.1.1 Livestock body condition

- Livestock body condition was fair for all species in the livestock farming zone. The situation is better for the mixed farming zone.
- Improvement in the quality of pasture following the light showers may contribute to the situation in the all livelihood zones.

2.1.2 Livestock diseases

- Foot and mouth disease outbreak reported in Kinango.
- The district veterinary officer placed a provisional quarantine.

2.2 Crop production.

2.2.1 Timeliness and condition of various crop production activities

- Most maize crops were at the tussling stage in the mixed farming zone. However the few who delayed in planting are weeding.

2.2.2 Pests and diseases

No serious crop diseases reported.

2.2.3 Harvests

No harvesting is taking place currently.

2.3 Implication on food security

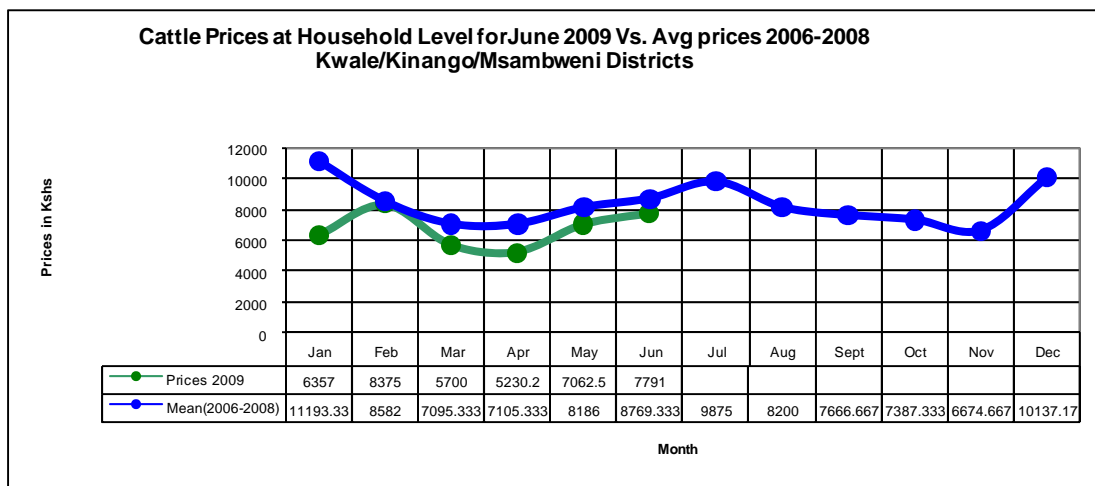
- Following the poor performance of the long rains, lack of food stocks in households and poor cropping seen, most households are undergoing a very difficult phase to access food.

3.0 Access to food

3.1 Livestock marketing

3.1.1 Cattle prices

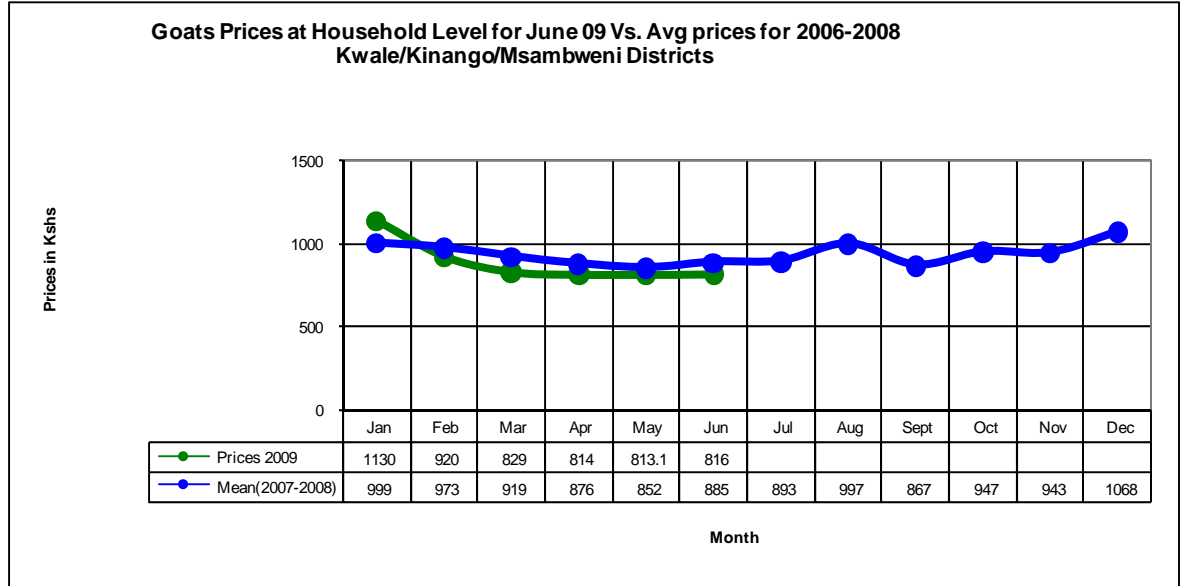
3.1.2



N= 300 HH

- The average price for cattle improved in the reporting month, recording Ksh7791 from Ksh7062.50 reported last month.
- The price was below the long term mean recorded in 2006-2008.
- This may be attributed to the improvement of its body condition due to the pastures that have regenerated from the showers experienced in some parts of the district.
- The above situation is expected to continue for some months.

3.1.2 Goat prices



N= 300 HH

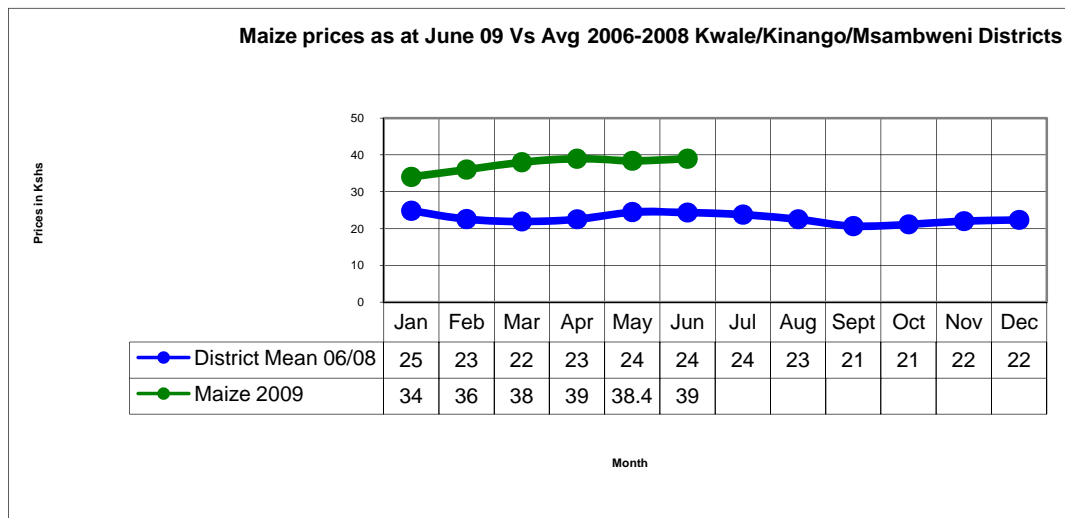
- The average price of goats increased slightly to Ksh816 from Ksh813 but slightly lower than the long term ranges of 2006-2008.

3.2 Livestock sales

- The sales rates for the month dropped for cattle and goats to 2.6% and 6.4% from 4% and 8.5% respectively.
- However sales rate for sheep increased to 5.2% from 4%.

3.3 Crop prices

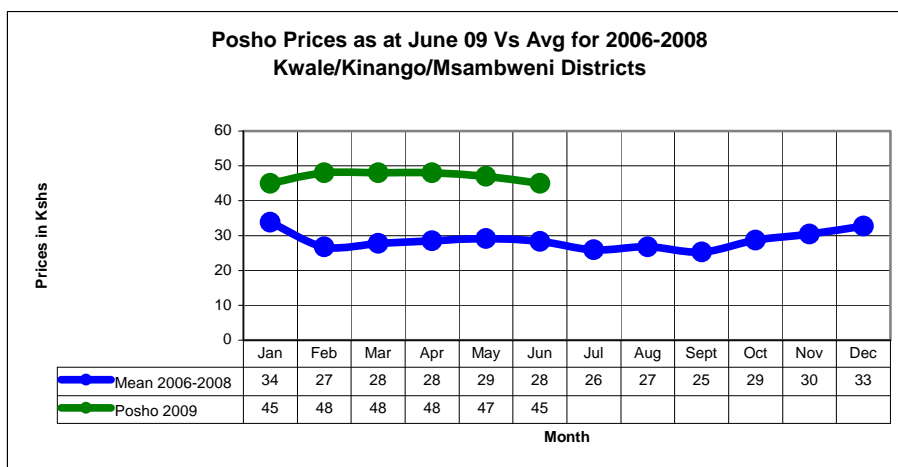
3.4.1 Maize prices



N= 300HH

- The price of maize reported a stable trend. However this was above the long term mean of 2006 – 2008.
- This observed trend was not normal for the time of the year.
- Most of the maize was sourced from the market outside the district.

3.4.2 Posho prices



- The price of posho reduced by Ksh2 from Ksh 47 last month to Ksh45 in the reporting month. However this price was still expensive.

- The sifted maize flour prices also continued to be unstable as a 1kg packet of sifted maize flour sells at an average of Ksh53. Other areas far from the major towns sell 1kg packet of sifted maize flour at Ksh60 – Ksh70, especially in the hinter lands of livestock farming zone.

3.5 Income

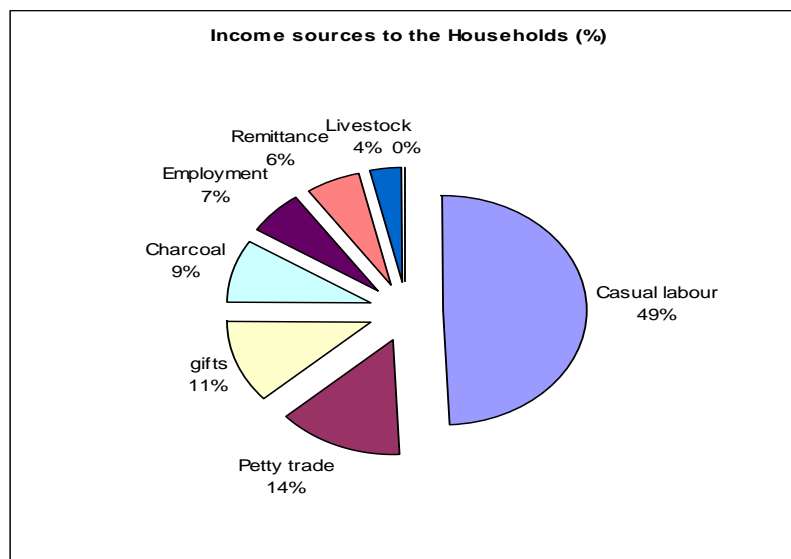
3.5.1 Crops income

- There were no households selling crops as most households are purchasing their food items in the reporting month.

3.5.2 Livestock income

- There was a reported reduction of income from livestock from 5% reported in last month to 4% recorded in the reporting month this was attributed to the rains received and most livestock owners are reluctant to sale their stock.

3.5.3 Other income



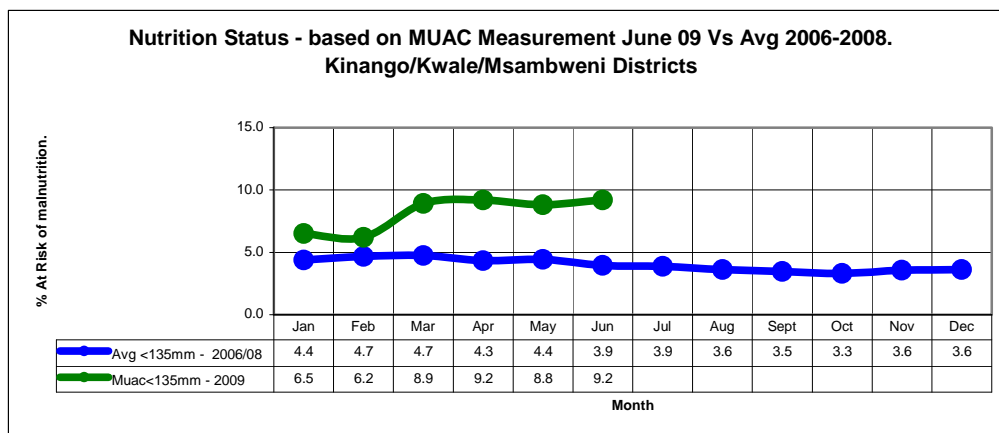
- The main source of income for the district remained casual labor which is 49%.
- Charcoal burning increased from 6% to 9%.

3.5 Implication on food security

- Unfavorable livestock prices and high prices of food items have contributed to households' low purchasing power.

4.0 Human welfare indicators (Utilisation of food)

4.1 Nutrition status



n=1546

- The percentage of children less than 5 years categorised at risk of malnutrition (based on the MUAC<135mm) increased to 9.2% this month from 8.8% last month.
- Worse malnutrition trends were observed in: Sega 14.0%, Vigurungani 22%, Mivumoni 10.3%, Mwabila 12.2%.

4.2 Health

- There was one confirmed case of cholera reported in Kinango from the twelve suspected cases of diarrhoea sampled. Msambweni had also cases of diarrhoea reported.

5.0 Current interventions

5.1 Non-food interventions

- Erection of 5km solar electric fence in Lukore in order to prevent elephants from destroying food crops.
- Assessment of degraded areas of Kinango district was done by District Environmental Committee.
- District Monitoring and Evaluation exercise conducted for Kwale, Msambweni and Kinango with support of Drought Management Initiative.
- Nutritional outreach programme done by Ministry of Health supported by Arid Lands Resource Management Project II.
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5.2. Food aid

- The Drought Emergency Operation Programme (Emop/Protracted Relief Recovery Operation) which was approved by Kenya Food Security Steering Group for Msambweni and Kinango to target 106,686 beneficiaries under 50% food ration is getting started with Kenya Red Cross as the appointed Lead Agency for the district.

5.3 Coping strategies

Some of the coping strategies employed during the month included:

- Casual labour.
- Remittance and gifts from relatives.
- Charcoal burning.
- Migration for labour.

- Petty trade.
- Change in feeding patterns , quantities and frequencies.

Recommendations to DSG and KFSM

- Address human/wildlife conflict in mixed farming livelihood, especially during this cropping season following the light showers received.
- Water trucking should continue in the livestock livelihood areas that are now experiencing acute water stress.
- Support District Peace Committee to address conflict over natural resource use.
- Ministry of Health to be on alert to control cholera and other diarrheal diseases reported.
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