



## Situation overview

- No rainfall was recorded in the three districts. The month of September was hot and dry.
- Boreholes, piped water, shallow wells were the main sources of water, for livestock and domestic use, as most temporary water sources such as the pans dams have dried up. The few boreholes, worked for longer hours (over 18 hours), due to low recharge rate and constant breakdown. The few community members left behind could not maintain the boreholes, necessitating provision of diesel and repairing the same. The return distances ranged between 20-60 KM. Use of borehole water for livestock was at a fee (Ksh20-50 per head per month). The community water trucked for weak, calves and domestic use was at - 200 litre drum for Ksh300 to Ksh500. Livestock accessed water after 2-3 days in most pastoral areas.
- Pasture condition, availability and accessibility remained poor in all areas. Pastoralists purchased hay (Ksh 250-300), bran and other feed supplements to augment the shortfall.
- Livestock (cattle) body condition in the three districts was poor to very poor and there was increasing high incidences of deaths in cattle, home slaughter of weak cattle, and sale recumbent cattle at as low as Ksh1, 500. Sheep and goats body condition was fair to poor and the condition affected sale of beef as only mutton and goat meat was availed to the local butchers.
- Kenya meat Commission off-take managed to purchase 1,616 heads of cattle (708 in Kajiado Central, 400 in Loitokitok and 508 in Kajiado North) valued at Ksh12,928,000. The cattle offered were in excess of 400 in 18 centers that were identified.
- Cattle prices were on downward trend compared to long term average, average cattle prices declined by 14.3 per cent from Ksh 4,962 in August to Ksh 4,251 in September. The price was below long term mean by 56%. Recumbent or weak cattle offered for sale fetched as low as Ksh1,500.
- There were no food stocks left in the crop growing areas as a result of the crop failure (3 seasons), resulting in imports of cereals and pulses in these areas outside the district. The ban of cross border imports exacerbated the deficits. Maize and beans prices were traded at Ksh 40 and Ksh 80 per kg respectively. The price was above long term mean by 50%.
- There was increased escalation and emerging conflicts over natural resource use and tension on water use between crop farmers and pastoralists in the irrigation areas in Loitokitok and Magadi as a result of over abstraction up stream, causing reduced water flow on the low lands. Intra and inter community conflicts over grazing (Keekonyokie- Purko in Ngong, pastoralists in Coast (Kwale and Ukambani) and conflict between KWS and pastoralists that are grazing in Nairobi and Tsavo National Parks were also reported .
- There were increased mortalities of ungulates in most pastoral areas and Amboseli National Park (Zebras, wildebeest and buffalos) as a result of the drought. Human/wildlife conflicts continued as elephants moved outside the parks into the farms in Loitokitok (Sompet, Entonet , Enchoro, Murtot and Nkama).
- Nutrition status of children 1- 5 years of age was on the decline as children increasingly fed on cereals (maize and maize flour) than on their traditional diet of milk. During the month under review children rated at the risk of malnutrition (based on the Mid Upper Arm Circumference -MUAC < 135mm) increased to 14.8% from 14.6 in August.
- The just-ended crop season was marked by 100% crop failure attributed to intermittent and poorly distributed rainfall. Households depended on cereals and pulses constituting 90-100% of household food needs.
- Charcoal burning and sand harvesting were on the upward trend as an alternative source of income. Demand for labour was low and rates ranged between Ksh70 and 100.

- The drought warning stage was at alarm stage and tending emergency in most divisions. The food security situation is rated as borderline food insecure with a moderate or high risk of sliding into acute food and livelihood crisis if the OND rains fail to commence in time.

### **Recommendations to DSG and KFSM**

- Up scaling the population under EMOP/PPRO of the total Kajiado and Loitokitok populations in August 2009: up to 30-40%  
Expansion of school feeding program: Consider primary schools in the pastoral areas for the regular SFP: the schools are yet to receive the all funds for the Homegrown feeding program
- Seeds: provision of certified drought tolerant crop varieties, and the orphans crops. The last good crop was in 2006, and the seed stocks are depleted.
- Livestock Off take .The DSG recommended 2<sup>nd</sup> phase and slaughter destocking at ‘source’. KMC off take managed to purchase 1,616 heads of cattle (708 in Kajiado Central, 400 in Loitokitok and 508 in Kajiado North) valued at Ksh. 12,928,000. In all centers pastoralists offered for sale livestock in excess of 400, initially the district was allocated 400 heads of cattle but farmers were able to sell more.
- Livestock disease surveillance/ Livestock disease control  
Need for adequate contingency and preparedness for RVF, in the event of the *Elnino*  
Treatment of disease that result of the livestock have been exposed to high tick and tse-tse fly, challenge, deworming and vaccination.: provision of FMD, CBPP, LSD, trypanocidal drugs and CCPP, sheep and goat pox vaccines
- Support operation of community boreholes, and minimal provision of water to community (women and children) and communities in left behind the pastoral areas. Fuel /diesel subsidy, Water trucking to communities and schools- O& M , fuel and DSA for drivers
- Rehabilitation of strategic boreholes and shallow wells
- Support water treatment: House hold water treatment
- Excavation of surface water storage before the onset of OND rains: water pans
- Improve water storage capacity at key community location: health centers and schools : plastic and bladders tank
- Scaling up nutrition intervention; supplementary feeding and therapeutic feeding for the vulnerable persons including children under five years, pregnant mothers, elderly and PLAWS and Hiv/Aids patients.
- There is need to put in place a mechanism that is going to mitigate or ameliorate the escalating and emerging conflicts that are expected to be on the increase between now and October/November by strengthening traditional natural/grazing committee and promotion/strengthening cross border/intra & inter clan/inter- conflict resolution initiatives to forestall natural use conflicts and enhance peace building.
- Apart from Livestock (KMC off-take) and Kajiado ALRMP drought contingency funds (conflict resolution, fuel subsidy for community boreholes, water to communities and institutions, rehabilitation of boreholes and shallow wells), the sectors have not received the drought mitigation funds. DSG recommends that the funds be released to the districts as soon as possible.

### **Current interventions**

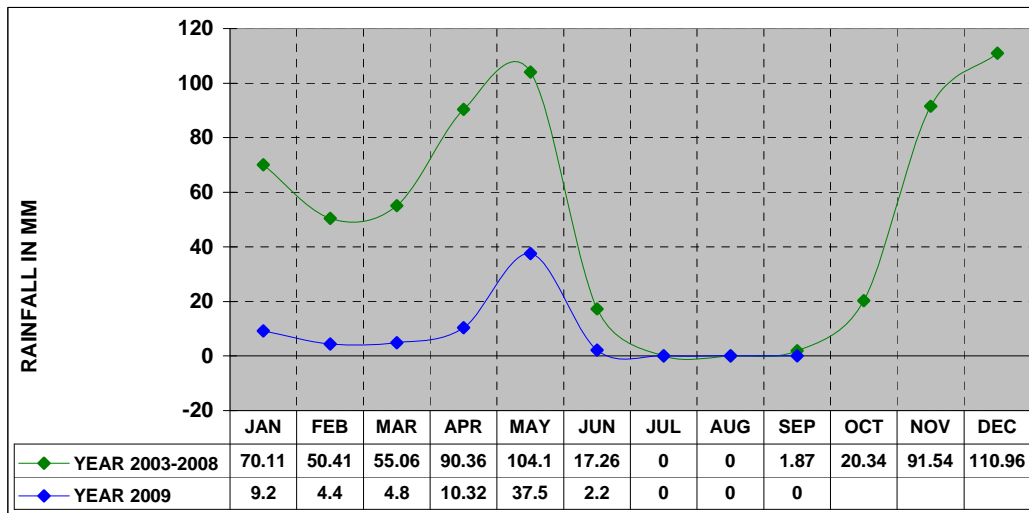
The following interventions are being undertaken to contain the drought situation in the district:

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Intervention (on-going)</b>
<b>ALRMP , GAA and MAAP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of diesel subsidy to community boreholes in Kajiado Central, North and South ,</li> <li>• Water tinkering to schools that are hard hit</li> <li>• Rehabilitation of strategic boreholes and shallow wells</li> <li>• Conflict resolution</li> </ul>
<b>Livestock</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KMC off take managed to purchase 1,616 heads of cattle (708 in Kajiado Central, 400 in Loitokitok and 508 in Kajiado North) valued at Ksh. 12,928,000.</li> </ul>
<b>NIA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead agency for relief food (EMOP Operation s) targeting 15% of the larger Kajiado population</li> </ul>
<b>Mercy – USA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementing an Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) Programme</li> </ul>

## **1.0 Environmental indicators (Stability)**

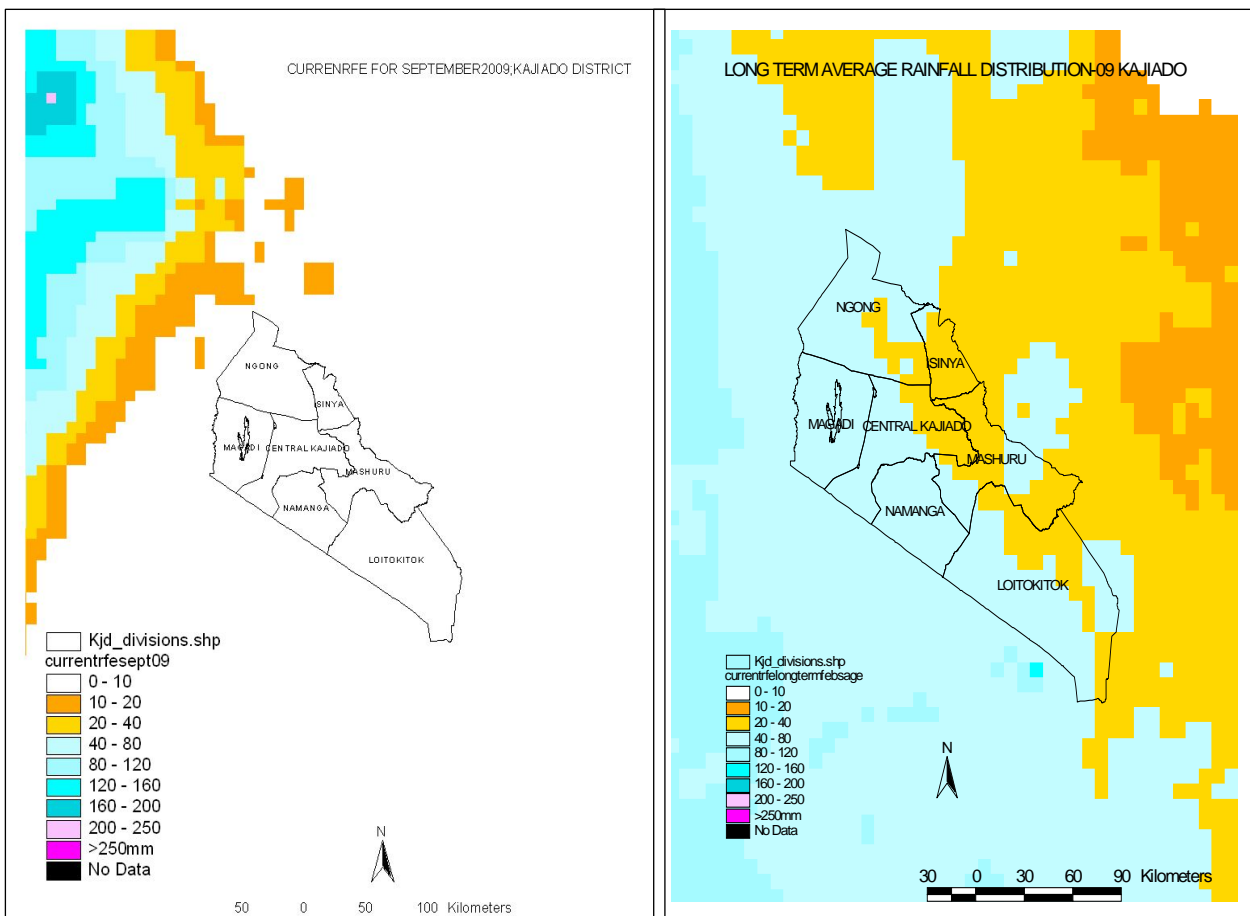
### **1.1 Rainfall**

**Rainfall data as at September 2009 compared to long term average 2003-08**



Source: ALRMP sample sites. Total sample size (n)-11 sites

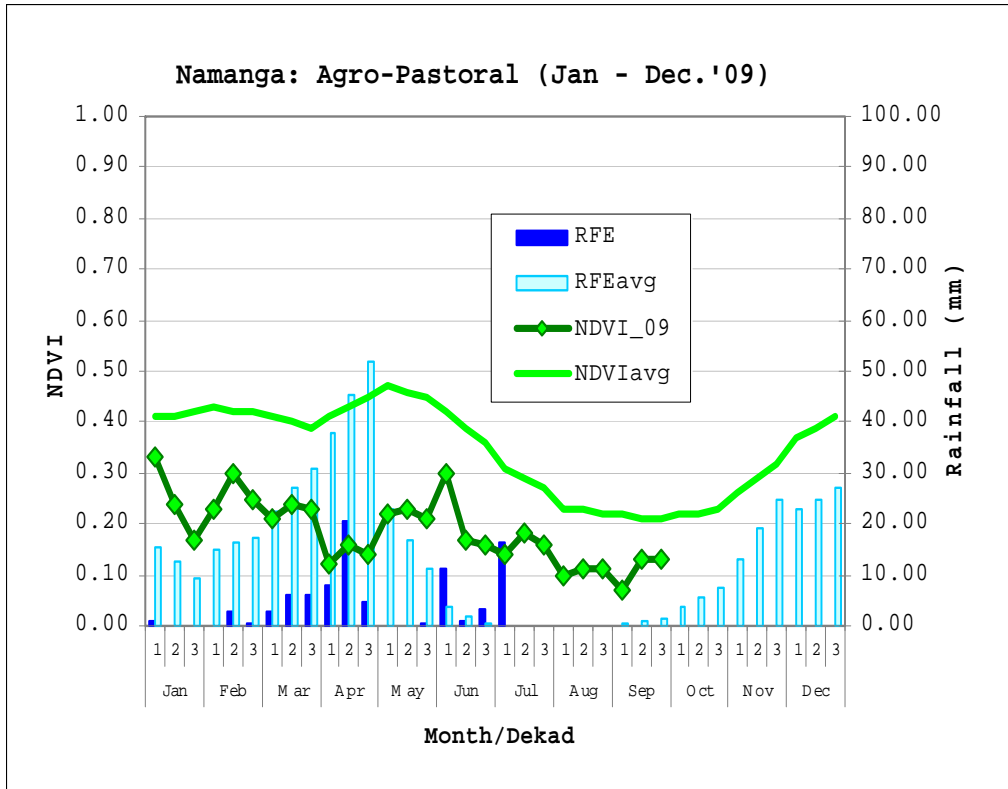
- The performance of rainfall was below normal compared to last month and the long term averages.
- No rainfall was recorded in the three districts and the month was hot and dry.
- Long rains (MAM) season 2009 was below normal, erratic and scantily distributed.
- Poor performance of the long rains (MAM) had negative implications on food security in all livelihood zones.

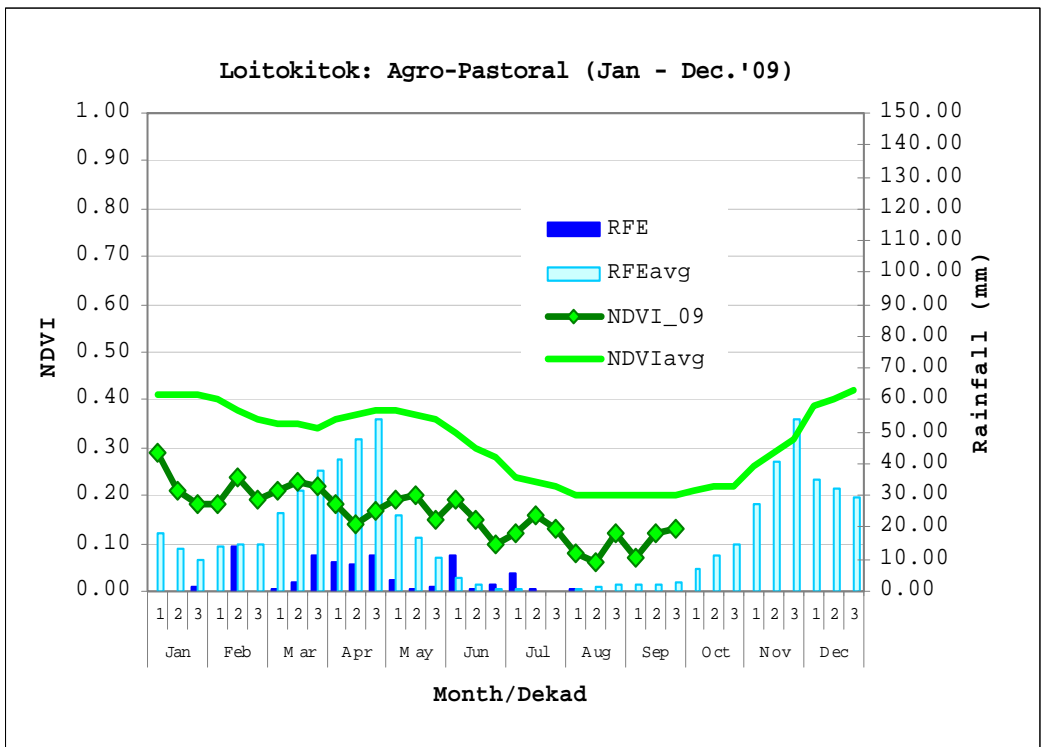


## 1.2 Condition of natural vegetation and pasture

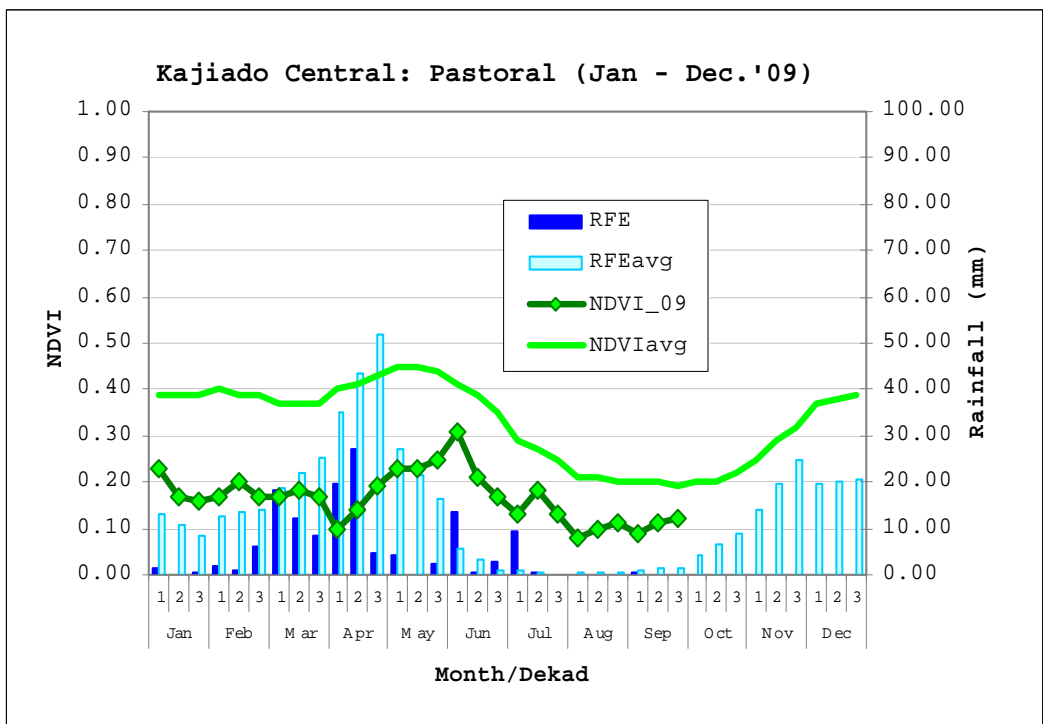
- In the Agro pastoral livelihood just like in the pastoral areas the range and vegetation conditions worsened compared to last year. The situation was also below the normal long term average.
- Availability and accessibility of natural vegetation and pasture remained poor in all areas. Pastoralists purchased hay at Ksh250-300, bran and other feed supplements to supplement the shortage.
- Poor range condition was occasioned by insufficient rainfall.
- The observed range condition had corresponding negative impact on livestock productivity and subsequently negative impact on food security status.

**Figure 1, 2& 3: In Namanga and Loitokitok there was progressively decline in pasture quality and quantity between June and September 2009. Generally Most areas remained dry and bare.**

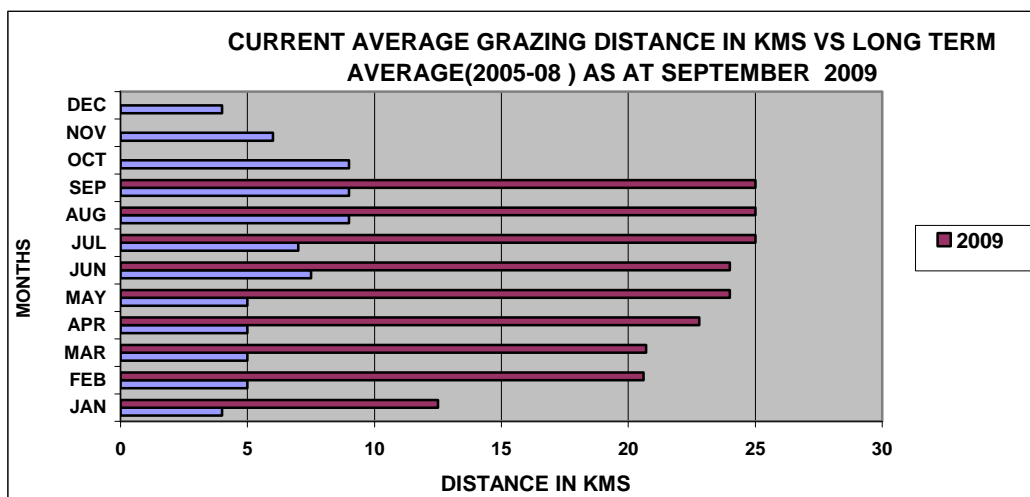




- Condition of pasture and browse in the pastoral livelihoods was poor and below the normal averages



### 1.2.1 Distance to grazing areas



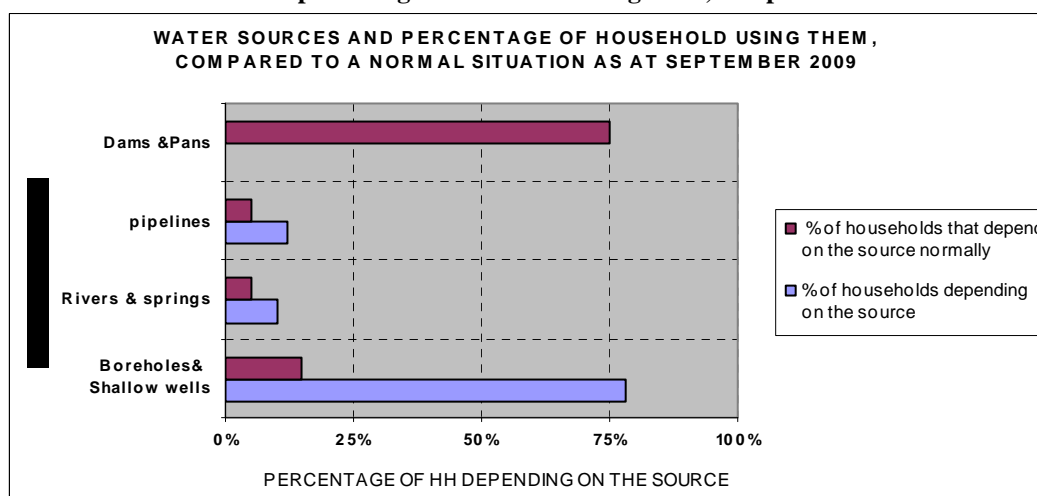
Source: ALRMP sample sites, Total Sample size(n) 270 households

- Return distances to grazing areas ranged from 20-25 Kms in most pastoral areas and increasing.
- Dry season grazing areas, national parks, conservation areas, were dry and bare as a result of over grazing.
- The normal range is usually 5 Km. The observed situation was below normal.

### 1.3 Water sources and availability

#### 1.3.1 Water sources

Table 2: Water sources and percentage of household using them, compared to a normal situation.



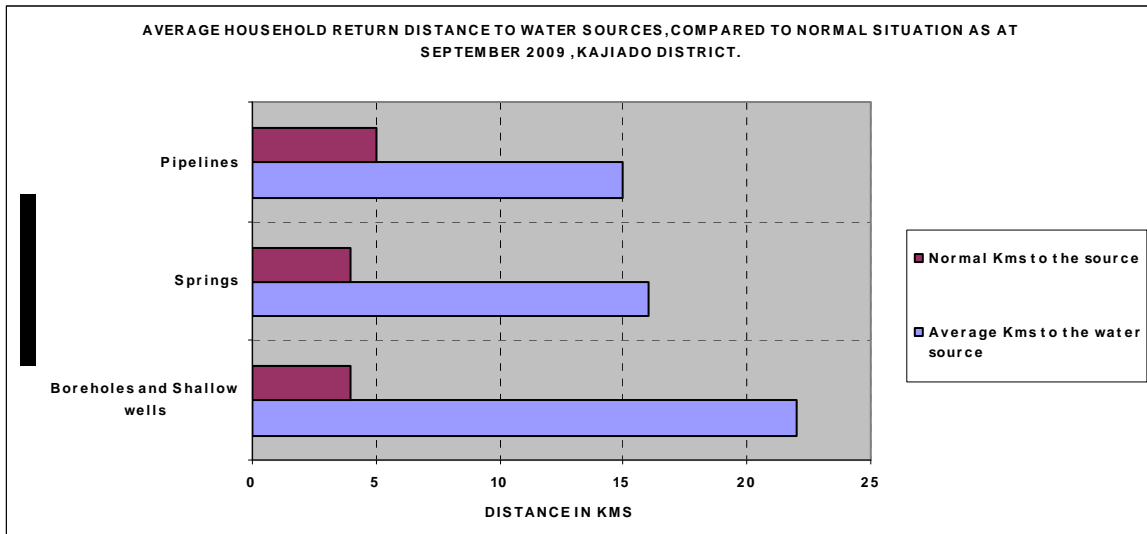
Source: ALRMP sample sites, Total Sample size (n) 270 households

- All temporary water sources (seasonal rivers, dams and pans) were dry.
- During the month boreholes, springs, pipeline and shallow wells were the major sources of water. As in the previous month, the traditional hand dug wells had water but levels were dropping and recharging was at an increased time frame of 12-24 hours.
- Boreholes were working for about 12 -18 hours a day and some broke down while others had very low output.
- The observed situation had negative implications on food security.

- The water situation was abnormal because during normal years dams and pans are usually the main sources of water for livestock and domestic use.

### 1.3.2 Household access to water

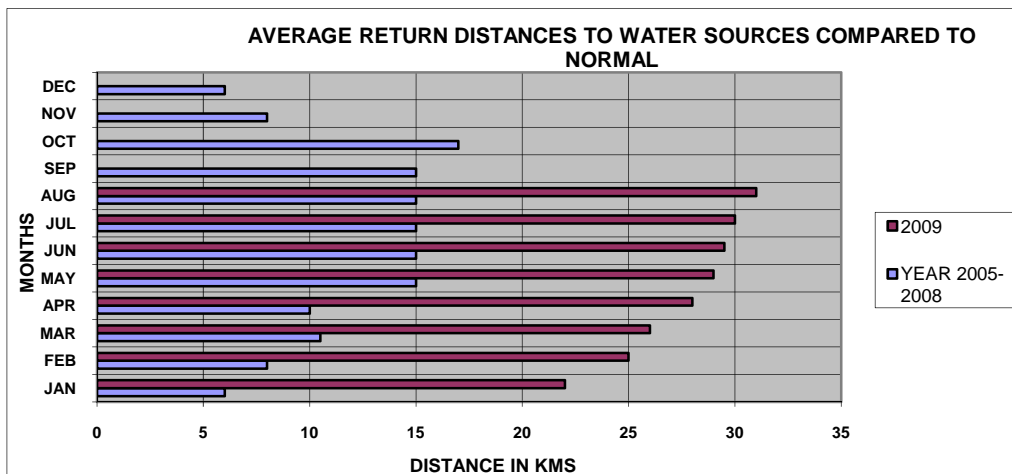
**Table 3: Average return distances to water sources, compared to a normal situation**



Source: ALRMP sample sites, Total Sample size (n) 270 households

- Return time for fetching water for domestic use ranged between 8-10hours in all areas. In hard hit areas women started fetching water as early as 3.00am.
- Water points were characterised by heavy concentration of livestock and long waiting hours. Livestock was given first preference to domestic use.
- Household members accessed water from strategic dry season boreholes, shallow wells and springs, which were far away from residential areas.

### 1.3.3 Livestock access to water



Source: ALRMP sample sites, Total Sample size (n) 270 households

- During the month, the average distance to water sources for livestock averaged 20-40 Kms in most areas.
- Livestock watered for 2-3 days per week, as most temporary water sources dried up.

- Water trucking for weak and young livestock in dry season grazing areas continued. The cost ranged between Ksh 600- Ksh 1000 for 200litr –drum in most areas.
- Return distances for livestock averaged 20-40 kms.

#### **1.4 Emerging issues**

- Massive livestock deaths associated with the prevailing drought (evident in all divisions).
- Increasing wildlife (zebras, wildebeests and buffalos) mortality owing to the drought.
- Stress-related abortions in livestock (cattle) were high in all Livelihood zones.
- Increasing incidences of livestock deaths associated with ECF as most livestock moved to dry season areas which have high tick challenge. Foot and Mouth disease (FMD) was reported in all divisions and even for those that had migrated outside the district.
- High food prices impacted negatively on purchasing power of pastoralists. Weak cattle were disposed at Ksh1500-2000 in most markets.
- Natural Resource Use Conflicts: Grazing livestock in restricted areas- Gazetted forests, National Parks and Nairobi suburbs; conflict between irrigation farmers and pastoralists attributed to over abstraction of water upstream, human/wildlife conflicts as farmers had to contend with elephants that had migrated outside the Amboseli and Tsavo National park to farms along the upper zone of Loitokitok and irrigation schemes of Rombo, Kimana, Elangata Enkema, Olorika and Ilchalai.
- Watering fee at dry season strategic boreholes soared to Ksh 20-50 per cow and Ksh 20-30 per shoat.
- There were reported cases of conflict between residents of Ukunda, Msambweni and Kilifi in coast province and pastoralists who had moved into these areas in search of pasture.
- Overcrowding of livestock and wildlife at water sources.
- Increased charcoal burning and sand harvesting as alternative sources of income.

### **2.0 Rural economy indicators (Food availability)**

#### **2.1 Livestock production**

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

- Cattle maintained poor body and health conditions. This was attributed to insufficient forage and long trekking distances to water and pasture.
- There were increased cases of home slaughter of weak and recumbent cattle and deaths. The body condition of goats was fair in most locations attributed to availability of acacia totillis pods and dry leaves.
- The observed trend had negative implications on food security as livestock in poor body condition fetched low prices (Ksh 2000).

##### **2.1.2 Livestock health**

- Stress-related abortions in livestock (cattle) were high in all pastoral areas while high mortality rates in small stock as a result of contagious caprine pleuropneumonia (CCPP) was reported in all the pastoral areas of the three districts.
- Trypanosomiasis was reported in livestock that had moved to Coast province and along Ewuaso Ngiro River in Magadi.
- Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) was reported both in livestock that migrated to other areas and those that were left at home.
- Incidences of tick-borne diseases, especially ECF, Anaplasmosis and Babesiosis, were evident in dry season grazing areas attributed to inadequate water for spraying and movement of livestock into areas with high tick challenge.

### 2.1.3 Milk production

- Owing to the prevailing drought, availability and accessibility of milk was below normal. Households accessed milk from small stock and this was inadequate for children under five years.
- The milk consumption trend had serious food security implications at household level.

### 2.1.4 Livestock migration

- Over 70% of cattle migrated out of the district in search of pasture. The migration was both external and within the district.
- Externally: To Nairobi (suburbs), private farms in Kiambu, Thika, Nakuru, Naivasha, Nyahururu Makueni, Tsavo East and West National Parks and areas around Lake Chyalla. Coast province (Ukunda, Kilifi, Maungu, Kinango, Voi).
- Cross-border migration in search of pasture was evident along Loitokitok/Namanga, Taita-Taveta/Tanzania border.
- A few farmers desperately returned home with very weak livestock having faced harsh conditions in areas of migration.

## 2.2 Crop production

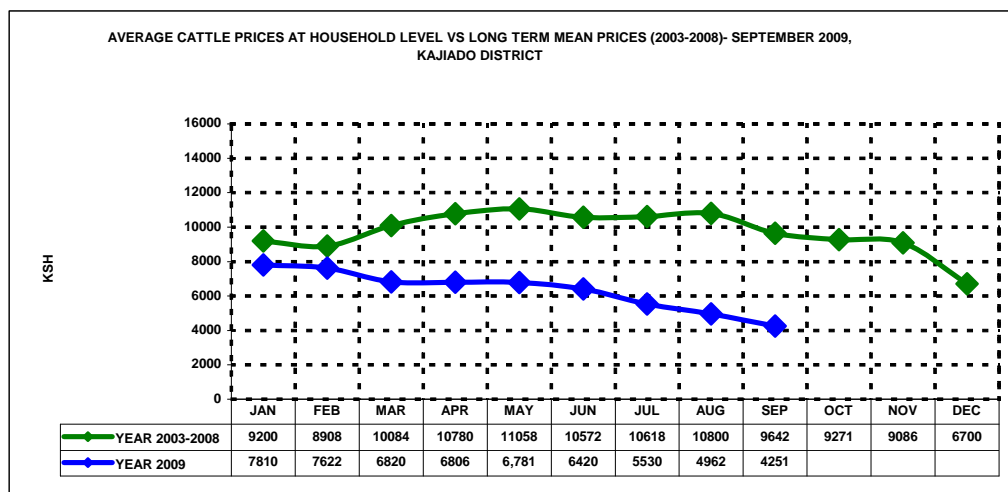
### 2.2.1 Timeliness and status of crop production activities

- The just ended crop season (MAM) was marked by 100% crop failure in the rain-fed crop growing areas of Loitokitok district, Mashuru, Isinya, Central, Namanga divisions in Kajiado and upper zones of Ngong as crops succumbed to serious water stress at critical growing stage.

## 3.0 Access to food

### 3.1 Livestock marketing

#### 3.1.1 Cattle prices

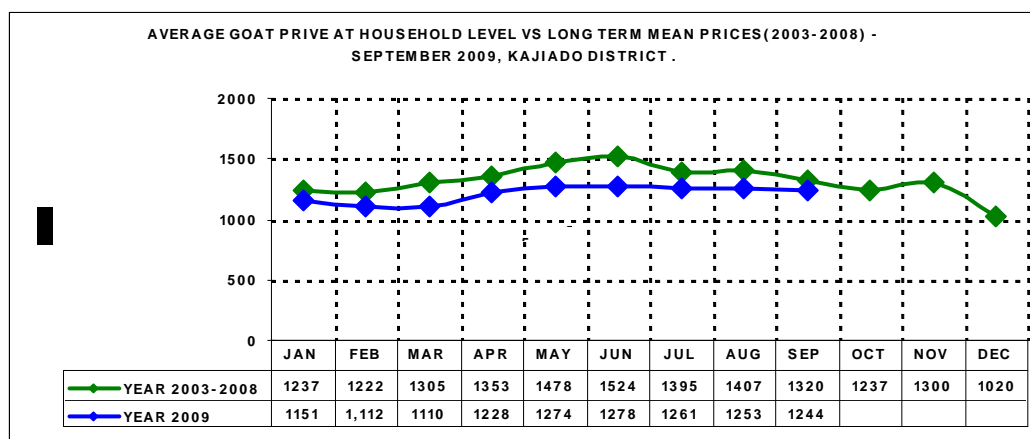


Source: ALRMP sample sites, Total Sample size (n) 270 households

- Average cattle prices declined by 14.3 per cent, from Ksh 4,962 in August to Ksh 4,251 in September. The price was below long term average by 56 per cent.
- The observed trend was attributed to poor body condition as a result of the prevailing drought.

- The observed price trend had negative implications on food security.

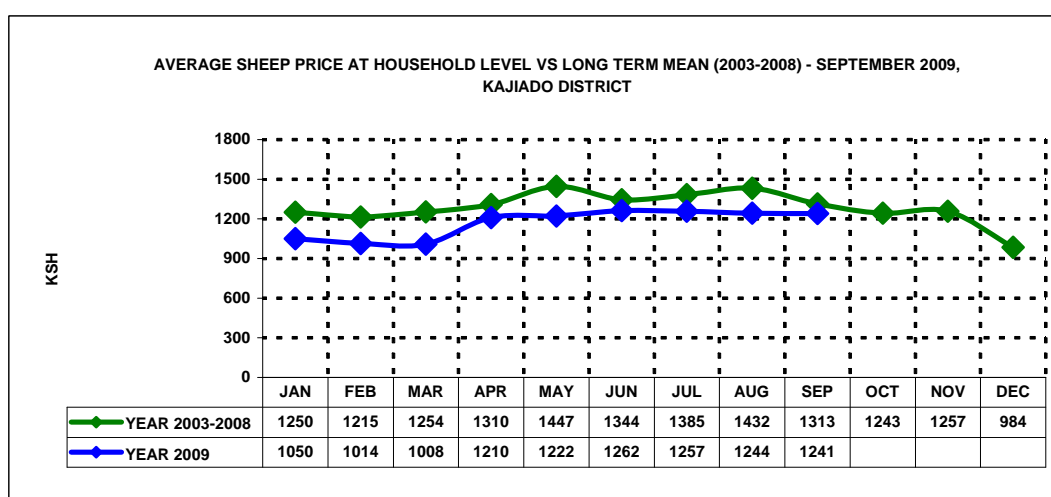
### 3.1.2 Goats prices



Source: ALRMP sample sites, Total Sample size (n) 270 households

- Average goat prices declined slightly by 0.95 percent from Ksh1, 253 in August to Ksh1, 244 in September 2009.

### 3.1.3 Sheep prices



Source: ALRMP sample sites, Total Sample size(n) 270 households

- Sheep prices declined by 0.24 percent during the month.
- The decline in goat's prices can largely be attributed to poor range condition district-wide.

### 3.1.4 Milk consumption

- During the month over 90 percent of households interviewed reported no milk at all.
- Milk availability was constrained by poor livestock body condition and internal and external migration in search of pasture.
- Unavailability of milk at household level had negative implications on food security, especially on nutrition status of children under five years.

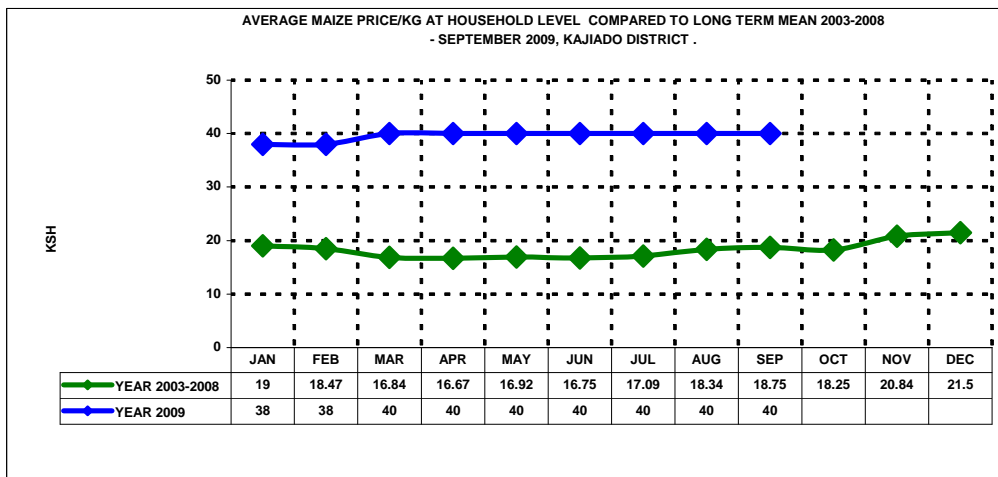
## 3.2 Implications on food security

The following impacted negatively on food security in the district:

- Unavailability of milk for children under five years. During the month under review, children rated as being at the risk of malnutrition (based on the Mid Upper Arm Circumference - MUAC < 135mm) increased to 14.8% compared to long term mean (10.3%).
- High food prices, coupled with very low livestock prices, especially cattle.
- Poor body condition of cattle and deaths with corresponding low prices (Ksh2000-4000).
- Migration of livestock that exacerbated unavailability of milk in rural households.
- Late commencement of rains portend poor crop performance in the rain fed crop growing areas.

### 3.3 Food prices

#### 3.3.1 Maize prices

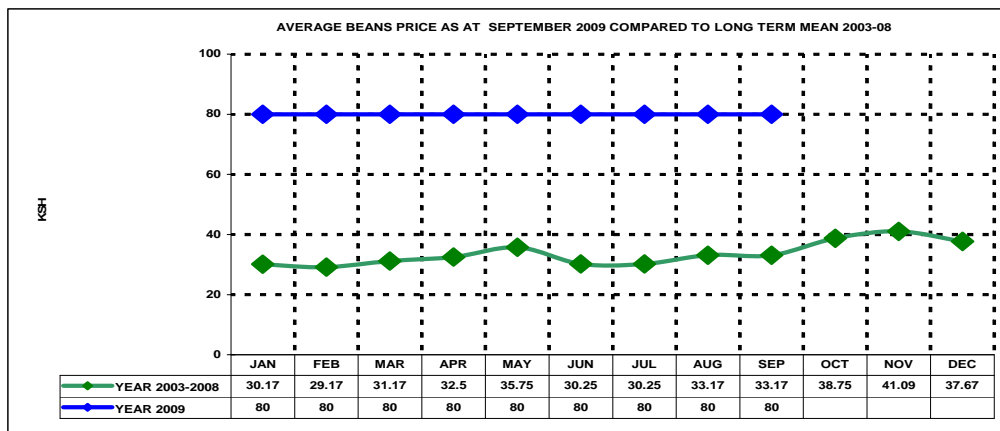


Source: ALRMP sample sites, Total Sample size (n) 270 households

- The average maize price stabilised at Ksh40 per kilo during the month under review compared to long term average of Ksh18.

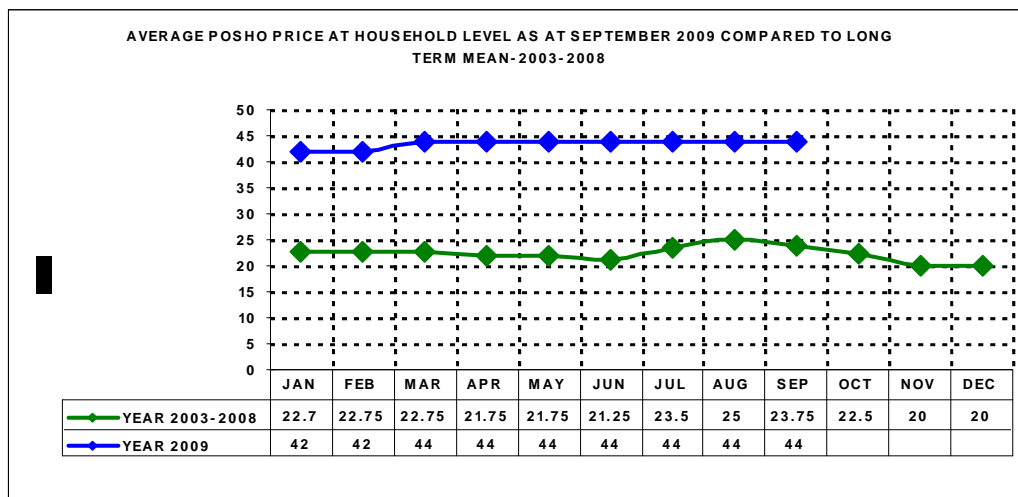
#### 3.3.2 Beans prices

- The average beans prices stabilised at Ksh80 per kilo.
- The prices were abnormal compared to long term mean of Ksh33 per kilo.



Source: ALRMP sample sites, Total Sample size (n) 270 households

### 3.3.3 Posho (locally milled maize meal) prices



Source: ALRMP sample sites, Total Sample size (n) 270 households

- The average price of posho stabilised at Ksh44 per kilo.
- The price was above normal compared to the long term mean of Ksh25 per kilo.

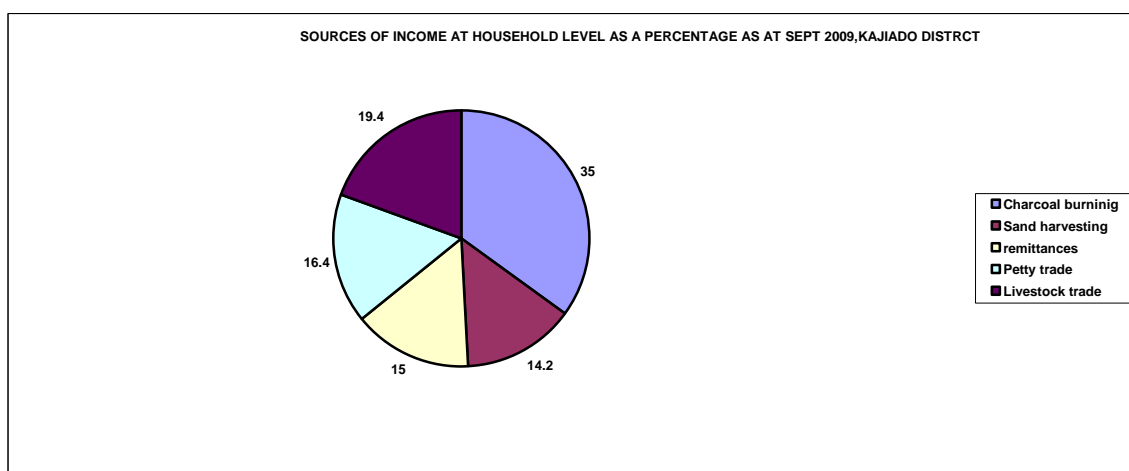
### 3.4 Income

#### 3.4.1 Crop income

- The month was characterised by below normal income from the irrigation areas which was attributed to decline in water levels and human/wildlife conflict.
- There was no crop income in rain-fed crop growing areas owing to the prevailing drought in the three districts.

#### 3.4.2 Livestock income

- Below normal livestock prices dominated all livestock markets. Low prices were mainly attributed to poor body condition.
- Other sources of income were sale of charcoal, sand harvesting, petty trade and remittances.
- Charcoal burning remained the main source of income for many households across all livelihood zones followed by sale of livestock. The observed trend can largely be attributed to the prevailing drought and migration of livestock in search of pasture and water. One bag of charcoal sold at between Ksh 350-500.



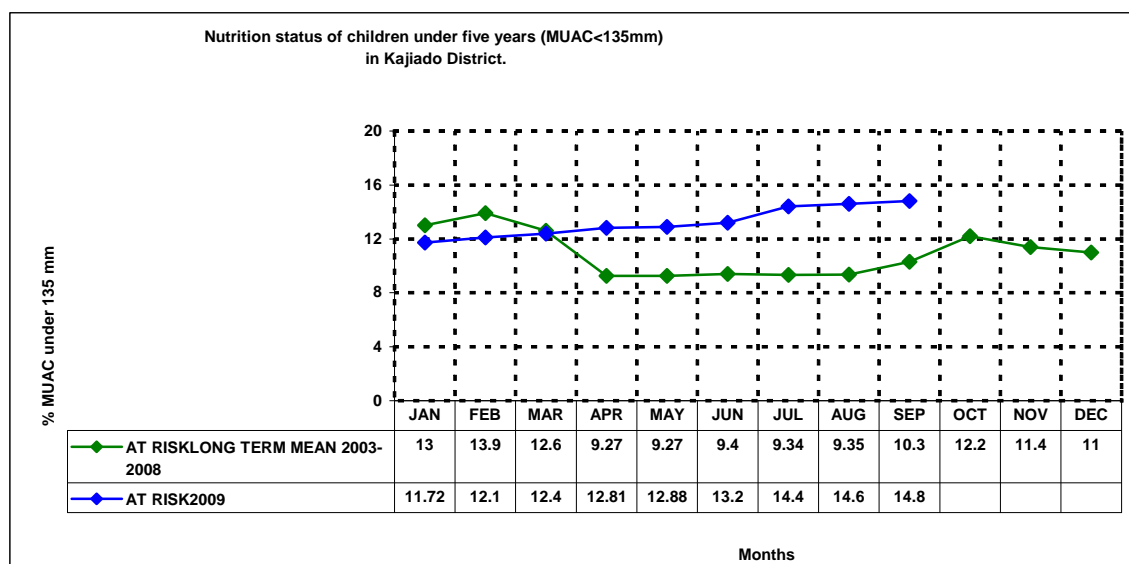
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### 3.5 Terms of trade for pastoralists

- Pastoralists' terms of trade remained poor, with high food prices and 56% decrease on livestock prices below the long term mean.
- High cereal prices, coupled with declining livestock prices had negative implication on household food security.

## 4.0 Human welfare indicators (Utilisation of food)

### 4.1 Nutrition status



Source: ALRMP sample sites, Total Sample size (n) 270 households-1,346 children were examined.

- The nutrition status of children 12-59 months declined slightly in all livelihood zones, with the percentage of those rated at risk of malnutrition rising to 14.8 from 14.6 in August.
- The rate was much higher than the long term mean of 10.3%. This can largely be attributed to declining availability of milk in rural households which was attributed to livestock migration in search of pasture and water and the recent 100% crop failure.

### 4.2 Human health

- The most common diseases reported during the month were malaria, diarrhoea and respiratory tract infections (RTIs). As reported, rural health centres were providing insecticide treated nets.

## 5.0 Current interventions

The following interventions are being undertaken to contain the drought situation in the district:

Institution	Intervention (on-going)
ALRMP, GAA and MAAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of diesel subsidy to community boreholes in Kajiado Central, North and South,</li> <li>• Water tinkering to schools that are hard hit</li> <li>• Rehabilitation of strategic boreholes and shallow wells</li> <li>• Conflict resolution</li> </ul>

<b>Livestock</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KMC off take managed to purchase 1,616 heads of cattle (708 in Kajiado Central, 400 in Loitokitok and 508 in Kajiado North) valued at Ksh. 12,928,000.</li> </ul>
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## 5.2 Coping strategies

- Purchase of hay and concentrates.
- Disposal of weak livestock.
- Hiring of grazing /pastures.
- Sharing of EMOP relief food.
- Reduce frequency of livestock watering 2-3 days per week.
- Pastoralists purchased hay (at Ksh 250- 300) to supplement the shortfall from Bissell, Namanga and Karen.
- Community water trucking to the dry season grazing areas.
- Migration of household heads to urban areas in search of employment.
- Dependence and/or receiving remittances.
- Reduced ration and number of meals per day.
- Increased charcoal burning and Sand harvesting.
- Livestock migration in search of pastures and water.

## 6.0 Recommendations to DSG and KFSM

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Expansion of school feeding program: Consider primary schools in the pastoral areas for the regular SFP: the schools are yet to receive the all funds for the Homegrown feeding program
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