



NATIONAL DROUGHT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

National Drought Early Warning Bulletin

April 2021

Drought indicators

Rainfall

Onset of the long rains season was late as most ASAL counties did not receive rainfall from the second and third week of March when the March-April-May (MAM) season normally begins.

During the month of March, depressed rainfall was experienced over most parts of the ASAL region with large areas in counties such as Turkana, Marsabit, Samburu, Isiolo, Baringo, Kajiado, Mandera, Wajir, Garissa, Tana River Kilifi, Taita Taveta, Kwale and Lamu receiving less than 50 percent of average amounts in March as shown in Figure 1.

The distribution of rainfall in time and space was generally poor across the ASAL counties.

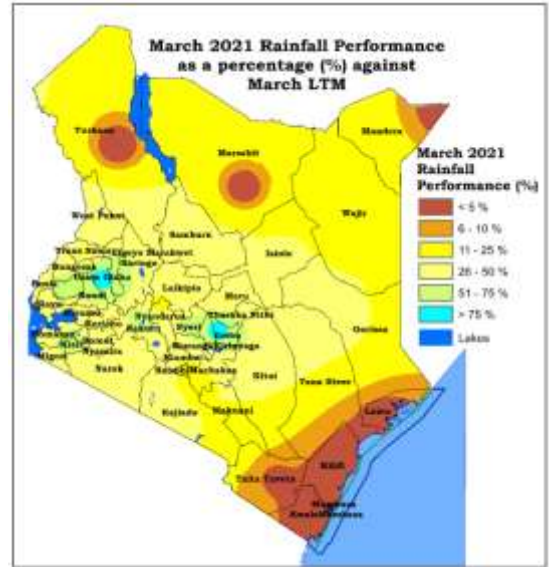
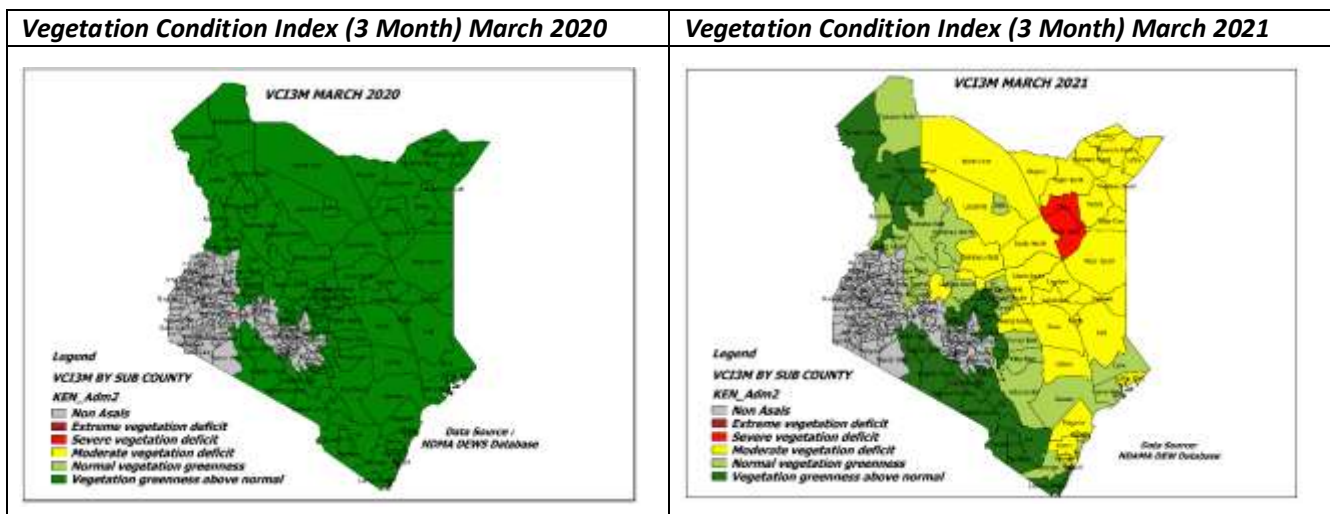


Figure 1: Rainfall Performance; Percent of March LTA

Vegetation condition

Figure 2 matches the vegetation condition index (VCI) in March 2020 with that in March 2021. When compared to similar period last year and the long term average, the current condition of vegetation is considerably below that of March 2020.

Figure 2: Comparison of Vegetation Condition Index (VCI), March 2020 and March 2021



As at the end of March 2021 counties with the highest vegetation deficit were Mandera, Marsabit, Wajir, Garissa, Isiolo, Tana River and Samburu. The seven counties experienced moderate

vegetation deficit implying that the VCI values recorded in March 2021 were below normal which indicates that the rains received so far were inadequate and had not brought about vegetation regeneration to the usual ranges for the period.

Vegetation Condition Index (VCI) status as at 29th March 2021 is summarized in Table 1. At sub county level, Wajir West and Eldas in Wajir County recorded the lowest VCI values with the two sub counties currently falling in the severe deficit band which is attributed to the poor rains received in March 2021. Generally, the negative VCI trends observed in many ASAL areas point to poor regeneration of pasture and browse during the month of March.

Table 1: Vegetation Condition Index (VCI), March 2021

Category	County		Sub Counties (No)
Severe vegetation deficit			Wajir West & Eldas (Wajir) (2)
Moderate vegetation deficit	Samburu Mandera Marsabit Tana River	Wajir Garissa Isiolo	(32)
Normal vegetation greenness	Laikipia Kilifi Lamu		(30)
Vegetation greenness above normal	West Pokot Taita Taveta Makueni Turkana Baringo Kajiado Tharaka Nithi	Nyeri Meru Narok Kwale Embu Kitui	(49)

Livestock production

In nearly all the counties, livestock production related indicators are currently poorer compared to last month due to decrease in pasture availability, both in terms of quantity and quality coupled with increase in distances walked by livestock in search of pasture and water.

Pasture and browse condition

The state of pasture and browse in most of the arid and semi-arid counties was generally in fair and poor conditions as shown in Table 1. The reduction in pasture and browse condition was attributed to the little amount of rainfall received in the 2020 October to December short rain season which did not support satisfactory growth of pasture and browse. The delayed onset of this year's March-April-May long rains is also another factor for the poor pasture and browse condition.

Table 1.0: Pasture and browse condition, March 2021

Pasture condition			Browse condition		
Poor	Fair	Good	Poor	Fair	Good
Baringo Garissa Isiolo Kilifi Laikipia Mandera Nyeri Tana River Turkana Wajir West-Pokot	Kitui Kwale Lamu Makueni Marsabit Narok Samburu Tharaka Nithi	Kajiado Meru Taita Taveta	Baringo Garissa Isiolo Mandera Nyeri Turkana	Embu Kilifi Kitui Kwale Laikipia Lamu Makueni Meru Samburu Tana River Tharaka Nithi Wajir West-Pokot	Kajiado Marsabit Narok Taita Taveta

Livestock body condition

The current livestock body condition has slightly declined compared to last month due to the increase in trekking distances in search of pasture and water coupled with reduction in pasture and browse quantity and quality. Overall, the current body condition of most livestock is below normal in comparison to similar periods during a normal year. Consequently, most counties reported livestock body condition as fair and poor as shown in Table 2.

Table 2.0: Livestock body condition, March 2021

Pasture condition			Browse condition		
Poor	Fair	Good	Poor	Fair	Good
Garissa Mandera Nyeri Samburu Tana River Turkana Wajir West Pokot	Baringo Embu Isiolo Kilifi Kitui Kwale Laikipia Lamu Makueni Marsabit Narok Tharaka Nithi	Kajiado Meru Taita Taveta	Turkana Wajir West Pokot	Baringo Garissa Isiolo Kilifi Kitui Kwale Laikipia Lamu Makueni Mandera Marsabit Meru Narok Nyeri Samburu Tana River Tharaka Nithi	Embu Kajiado Taita Taveta

Milk production

In comparison to the long term average; current milk production in seven counties is above LTA while in twelve counties which includes: Turkana, Mandera, Marsabit, Wajir, Baringo, Kajiado, Kilifi, Kwale, Laikipia, Meru, Nyeri and Tharaka Nithi the current amount is below LTA. The below normal milk production is attributed to water scarcity and inadequate forage. Milk production trends in the 23 ASAL counties is presented in Table 3.

Table 3.0: Milk production, March 2021

Indicator	Current status			Trend		
	Above LTA	At LTA	Below LTA	Improving	Stable	Worsening
Milk Production	Embu Garissa Lamu Makueni Narok Samburu West Pokot	Isiolo Kitui Taita Taveta Tana River	Baringo Kajiado Kilifi Kwale Laikipia Mandera Marsabit Meru Nyeri Tharaka Nithi Turkana Wajir	Kajiado Kitui Lamu	Garissa Kwale Makueni Meru Narok Nyeri Tharaka Nithi Samburu Taita Taveta Tana River	Baringo Embu Isiolo Kilifi Laikipia Mandera Marsabit Turkana Wajir West Pokot

Cattle prices

In majority of the county’s cattle prices are either stable or worsening owing mainly to the fact that the state of cattle body condition is on a downward trend as illustrated in Table 4. However, in spite of the recorded stability in cattle price during the period under review, the prevailing price is higher than the three-year average price of cattle for the month of March in about 70 percent of the ASAL counties. For instance, in Tharaka Nithi, Kajiado and Narok the current prices are above LTA by 66, 62 and 42 percent respectively.

Table 4.0: Cattle prices, March 2021

Indicator	Current status			Trend		
	Above LTA	At LTA	Below LTA	Improving	Stable	Worsening
Cattle Prices	Baringo Garissa Isiolo Kajiado Kilifi Kitui Laikipia Lamu Makueni Meru Narok Nyeri Tharaka Nithi Tana River Wajir West Pokot	Taita Taveta Marsabit Kwale	Embu Mandera Samburu Turkana	Makueni Meru Tharaka Nithi	Baringo Garissa Isiolo Kajiado Kilifi Kitui Laikipia Marsabit Narok Samburu Taita Taveta Turkana Wajir Kwale	Embu Lamu Mandera Nyeri Tana River West Pokot

Goat prices

Table 5 summarizes the trends in goat prices in ASAL counties. During the month of November goat prices in majority of the ASAL counties were mostly above average or close to LTA except in counties such as Mandera, Marsabit, Turkana, West Pokot, Kwale and Nyeri where they were below the three-year average price which was attributed to the deterioration in body condition of the goats owing to poor pasture and browse.

Table 5.0: Goat prices, March 2021

Indicator	Current status			Trend		
	Above LTA	At LTA	Below LTA	Improving	Stable	Worsening
Goat Prices	Baringo, Embu, Meru Narok, Garissa, Kitui Laikipia, Makueni Kajiado, Kilifi Tharaka Nithi Taita Taveta Tana River	Isiolo Lamu Samburu Wajir	Kwale Mandera Marsabit Nyeri Turkana West Pokot	Kwale	Isiolo, Kajiado, Embu Wajir, Narok, Meru, West Pokot, Kilifi Samburu, Garissa Laikipia Makueni, Nyeri Mandera, Kitui Tharaka Nithi, Taita Taveta, Tana River Marsabit	Turkana Baringo Lamu

Crop production

Land preparation and planting for the March to May (MAM) long rains season are on-going across the marginal agricultural areas. The late onset of the MAM rainfall season is likely to impact negatively on agricultural activities in most semi-arid counties. Consequently, farmers have been advised to plant fast-maturing crops and drought tolerant crops in areas expected to receive below-average rainfall.

Maize prices

In most counties the price of maize remained stable in March. As demonstrated in Table 6, the current maize prices are largely favourable with 15 counties recording prices that are below or close LTA.

However, Tana River, Isiolo, West Pokot and Wajir reported a worsening trend. For instance in Tana River County the average price for a kilogram of maize increased by 7 percent from Kshs 43 in February to Kshs 46 in March which was attributed to decrease in maize supply in markets due to below average seasonal harvests. Similarly, an uptrend in maize prices was reported in West Pokot as a result of diminishing maize stocks at household level and a decrease in maize supply in markets such as Chepareria, Sigor and Makutano.

Table 6.0: Maize prices, March 2021

Indicator	Current status			Trend		
	Above LTA	At/close to LTA	Below LTA	Improving	Stable	Worsening

Maize Prices	Garissa Kwale Makueni Mandera Marsabit Taita Taveta Tharaka Nithi Wajir	Baringo Isiolo Kitui Narok Nyeri Samburu Turkana	Embu Kajiado Kilifi Laikipia Lamu Meru Tana River West Pokot	Embu Kajiado Kwale Meru Nyeri	Baringo Garissa Kilifi Kitui Laikipia Lamu Makueni Mandera Marsabit Narok Samburu Taita Taveta Tharaka Nithi Turkana	West Pokot Tana River Isiolo Wajir
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Access to water for households

Average distances to water for households increased in March in more counties than they were reducing. For instance, household distances reduced in only five counties, remained the same as the previous month in 8 counties and increased in 10 counties. At the same time, return distances to water for households are above the long term average in 14 ASAL counties.

In Turkana County for example, average distances to water sources by households increased significantly by 43 percent from 8.3 km in February to 11.9 km in March. Likewise, in Samburu, access to water for domestic use increased by 30 percent compared with last month as households had to walk an average of 9.2 km to water points in March compared with 7.1 km in February.

The increase in the average distances to water points for households was occasioned by the drying up of surface water sources due to the poor performance of the October to December short rains of 2020 and the delayed onset of the MAM season. The trend in distances walked by households to access water is provided in Table 7.

Table 7.0: Distance from households to main water sources, March 2021

Indicator	Current status			Trend		
	Above LTA	At LTA	Below LTA	Improving	Stable	Worsening
Distance from households to main water sources	Embu Garissa Kilifi Kwale Makueni Mandera Marsabit Meru Nyeri Samburu Taita Taveta Turkana Wajir West Pokot	Laikipia	Baringo Isiolo Kajiado Kitui Lamu Narok Tana River Tharaka Nithi	Kajiado Lamu Marsabit Narok Tharaka Nithi	Baringo Garissa Kitui Kwale Laikipia Makueni Mandera Taita Taveta	Embu Isiolo Kilifi Meru Nyeri Samburu Tana River Turkana Wajir West Pokot

Access to water for livestock

The trend in the distance walked by livestock in search of water is presented in Table 8. Compared with the previous month, the current trekking distance to water source from grazing areas increased in all counties except in Kajiado, Narok and Marsabit. In addition, access to water for livestock was more challenging in March compared with normal times in most ASAL counties as the average trekking distances from the main water sources to grazing areas for livestock recorded in March 2021 was above the 2016 - 2020 long-term average (LTA) in 14 counties. The increase in trekking distances was attributed to diminishing pastures and drying up of water sources.

Table 8.0: Distance from livestock grazing area to main water sources, March 2021

Indicator	Current status			Trend		
	Above LTA	At LTA	Below LTA	Improving	Stable	Worsening
Distance from livestock grazing areas to main water sources	Baringo Embu Garissa Isiolo Kwale Lamu Makueni Mandera Meru Nyeri Samburu Tana River Turkana Wajir	West Pokot Laikipia Narok	Tharaka Nithi Taita Taveta Marsabit Kajiado Kilifi Kitui	Kajiado Marsabit Narok	Embu Laikipia Lamu Makueni Meru Tana River Tharaka Nithi Wajir	Baringo Garissa Isiolo Kilifi Kitui Kwale Mandera Nyeri Samburu Taita Taveta Turkana West Pokot

Terms of trade

Table 9 shows the trends in terms of trade (ToT) between the relative price of goats and maize in ASAL counties. In all but five counties ToT values are above the long term average (LTA). For instance, in Laikipia, Tana River, West Pokot, Wajir, Narok and Isiolo the current ToT are higher than the 2016 - 2020 average for March by 46, 44, 31, 26, 22 and 17 percent respectively. The relatively favourable situation for livestock keepers in these ASAL counties was attributed to high goat prices while maize prices had remained fairly stable.

On the other hand, terms of trade were unfavourable in Kwale, Turkana, Nyeri, Mandera and Marsabit counties where the current ToT were lower than the long term average for March by 35, 14, 12, 8 and 6 respectively. The poor terms of trade were due to decrease in the goat prices as a result of a downward shift in the body condition of goats, increase in volumes of livestock offered for sale and also a general increase in maize prices.

Table 9.0: Terms of trade, March 2021

Indicator	Current status			Trend		
	Above LTA	At LTA	Below LTA	Improving	Stable	Worsening
Terms of trade (ToT)	Baringo Embu Garissa Isiolo Kajiado	Kitui Samburu Taita Taveta	Kwale Mandera Marsabit Nyeri Turkana	Embu Kajiado Makueni Meru Nyeri	Garissa Kilifi Kitui Kwale Mandera	Baringo Isiolo Laikipia Lamu Tana River

	Kilifi Laikipia Lamu Makueni Meru Narok Tana River Tharaka Nithi Wajir West Pokot			Taita Taveta	Marsabit Narok Samburu Tharaka Nithi Wajir	Turkana West Pokot
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Health and nutrition

Table 10 shows the trend in the proportion of children at risk of malnutrition across the ASAL counties. The situation in most counties is stable and worsening with 21 out of 23 counties currently on either a worsening (5) or stable (16) trend. In the month of March, counties with malnutrition rates above LTA include: Isiolo, Mandera, Marsabit, Tana River, Baringo, Lamu, and Meru.

The observed negative trend in malnutrition was attributed to reduced milk consumption owing to decrease in milk production, livestock migration, and reduced household purchasing power due to the unfavourable ToT which impacted on food access resulting to inadequate dietary intake. In Marsabit, Turkana, Mandera, Samburu and Tana River increase in malnutrition cases was also associated with the reduction in the number of integrated health outreaches which has impacted negatively on the delivery of health and nutrition services.

Table 10.0: Children at risk of malnutrition (MUAC), March 2021

Indicator	Current status			Trend		
	Above LTA	At LTA	Below LTA	Improving	Stable	Worsening
MUAC	Isiolo Baringo Lamu Mandera Marsabit Meru Tana River	Embu Kwale Makueni Nyeri Samburu Tharaka Nithi Wajir	Garissa Kitui Kajiado Narok Turkana Kilifi Taita Taveta West Pokot Laikipia	Kitui Tharaka Nithi	Taita Taveta, Lamu Kwale, Meru, Nyeri Garissa, Isiolo Makueni, Mandera Narok, Samburu Laikipia, Kajiado Baringo, Embu Kilifi	Tana River West Pokot Marsabit Turkana Wajir

1.2 Drought phase classification

Table 11 sums up the trends in drought phase classification as at end of March 2021. On the basis of the range of indicators monitored above, three (3) counties; Mandera, Marsabit and Turkana are in the alarm drought phase, while seven (7) counties namely Garissa, Isiolo, Wajir, Lamu, Tana River, Kilifi, and Samburu are in alert drought stage. During the month under review, sixteen (16) counties reported a worsening trend with seven (7) counties recording a stable trend. The prevailing drought situation is mainly attributed to the delayed onset of the March to May long rains.

Table 11.0: Drought phase classification, March 2021

Drought status	Trend		
	Improving	Stable	Worsening
Normal		Embu (Mbeere), Kajiado, Laikipia, Narok, Taita Taveta, Tharaka Nithi (Tharaka)	Kitui, Nyeri (Kieni), West Pokot Baringo, Makeni, Kwale Meru (Meru North)
Alert			Garissa, Isiolo, Wajir, Lamu Tana River, Kilifi, Samburu
Alarm		Marsabit	Mandera Turkana

3 Recommendations

Food and safety nets

- Provision of food assistance and scaling up of cash transfers targeting households which are currently food insecure as a result of the prevailing drought stress.

Livestock sector

- Provision of livestock feeds and supplements.
- Treatment and vaccination against emerging livestock diseases.

Water sector

- Support water trucking interventions.
- Rehabilitation and maintenance of water facilities.
- Provision of fuel subsidies to motorized boreholes
- Procurement and distribution of water storage tanks.

Health and nutrition sector

- Support on hygiene and sanitation promotions
- Provisions for severe acute malnutrition - Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF).
- Supplies for moderate acute malnutrition - Ready to Use Supplementary Food (RUSF).

Education sector

- Enhance hygiene promotion in learning institutions.
- Provision of food to subsidize school fees in boarding secondary schools.

Peace and security sector

- Facilitating intra/inter communities peace dialogues and resource use agreements.
- Coordination of peace and security activities in conflict prone counties.

Coordination

- Support County Steering Groups (CSGs) to effectively coordinate drought response activities.

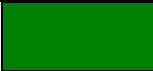




Annex 1.0 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI-3 month) as at 29th March 2020

ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT		VEGETATION GREENNESS		DROUGHT CATEGORIES/REMARKS		
COUNTY	Sub County	VCI-3 month as at 22 nd Feb 2021	VCI-3 month as at 28 th Mar 2021	Colour	VCI values (3-month)	Drought Category
					≥50	Vegetation greenness above normal
					>=35 - <50	Normal vegetation greenness
					>=20 - <35	Moderate vegetation deficit
					>=10 - <20	Severe vegetation deficit
					<10	Extreme vegetation deficit
BARINGO	County	51.8	42	The entire county and its sub counties recorded normal vegetation greenness as compared to previous month when they recorded above normal vegetation greenness. This is attributed to some light showers from the MAM rainfall season onset		
	Central	60.27	45.08			
	Eldama	56.38	44.04			
	Mogotio	47.5	35.66			
	North	52.03	39.58			
	South	44.82	39.51			
	Tiaty	53.32	44.72			
MANDERA	County	23.09	23.87	The county and its sub counties are in moderate deficit in the month of March. The situation experienced is due to late onset of the MAM seasonal rainfall. Notably, Mandera East improved from severe to moderate vegetation deficit.		
	Banissa	24.44	21.08			
	M East	18.2	20.34			
	Lafey	20.25	21.13			
	M North	25.21	23.89			
	M South	24.79	28.86			
	M West	22	23.61			
TURKANA	County	50.86	52.8	The county is in stability in VCI for the county and all its sub counties having recorded above normal vegetation greenness in the month of March. Turkana North and East recorded normal vegetation greenness.		
	T Central	62.38	74.84			
	T. East	42.15	40.69			
	T. Loima	62.81	65.62			
	T. North	40.08	40.66			
	T. South	53.62	55.47			
	T. West	57.89	59.45			
MARSABIT	County	22.8	31.72	The county and three of its sub counties remained at moderate vegetation deficit band. Saku sub county was stable at normal vegetation greenness. This is due to small warm humid micro-climate within Saku hills.		
	Laisaimis	22.81	32.26			
	Moyale	21.78	25.38			
	N. Horr	25.43	32.39			
	Saku	44.92	43.32			
WAJIR	County	22.37	24.86	The county remained in Moderate vegetation deficit with Wajir Eldas and Wajir West recording a severe vegetation deficit. The attributing factor is late onset of MAM long rains season.		
	W East	25.89	26.1			
	W. Eldas	9.71	16.47			
	W. North	25.09	31.18			
	W. South	28.07	26.85			
	W. Tarbaj	22.41	26.17			
	W West	10.57	15.58			

SAMBURU	County	33.77	36.34	The county improved to Normal vegetation greenness from Moderate vegetation greenness deficit band however Samburu East remained in Moderate vegetation deficit band.		
	S East	26.49	27.87			
	S. North	39.2	44.53			
	S. West	44.82	42.58			
ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT				DROUGHT CATEGORIES/REMARKS		
COUNTY	Sub County	VCI-3 month as at 22nd Feb 2021	VCI-3 month as at 28th Mar 2021	Colour	VCI values (3-month)	Drought Category
					≥50	Vegetation greenness above normal
					>=35 - <50	Normal vegetation greenness
					>=20 - <35	Moderate vegetation deficit
					>=10 - <20	Severe vegetation deficit
					<10	Extreme vegetation deficit
GARISSA	County	31.39	28.27	The county and its Sub counties remained in Moderate vegetation deficit band with Ijara sub county maintaining Normal vegetation greenness band.		
	Balambala	26.47	23.19			
	Daadab	28.59	24.8			
	Fafi	33.84	29.56			
	Ijara	37.86	36.7			
	Lagdera	24.8	22.52			
	Dujis	20.8	21.77			
ISIOLO	County	22.54	23.45	Stability in the vegetation greenness condition with entire county and its sub-counties falling in the moderate vegetation deficit. Isiolo North improved to Moderate vegetation deficit from the previous severe vegetation deficit band.		
	I. North	18.42	23.25			
	I. South	28.83	23.76			
TANA RIVER	County	34.3	33.28	The county and its sub counties remained at moderate vegetation condition. Garsen remained at Normal vegetation greenness.		
	Bura	26.5	25.41			
	Galole	26.5	33.19			
	Garsen	41.15	40.01			
KAJIADO	County	52.28	68.25	Stability noted across the county with all sub counties remaining at above normal vegetation greenness conditions. Kajiado county according to Kenya Met rainfall onset predictions received its onset rains on time, 3 rd dekad of March		
	K. Central	53.26	69.8			
	K. East	55.51	68.6			
	K. North	62.6	68.4			
	K. South	55	64.47			
	K. West	47.88	70.29			
LAIKIPIA	County	40.03	38.8	The county remained stable at normal vegetation greenness with Laikipia East maintaining moderate vegetation deficit as compared to the previous month.		
	L. East	30.78	34.76			
	L. North	41.02	39.39			
	L. West	42.63	39.65			
THARAKA NITHI	County	56.18	50.01	The county is in above normal vegetation greenness in the month under review. The situation is stable when compared to the previous month of February. Tharaka remained at normal vegetation greenness.		
	Chulga	70.67	68.33			
	Maara	72.88	72.56			
	Tharaka	45.39	35.91			
WEST POKOT	County	53.12	42.85	The vegetation greenness deteriorated for both the county and its sub counties recording normal condition compared to the previous		
	Kacheliba	48.16	38.24			

	Kapenguria	58.76	51.68	above normal. Kapenguria has remained at above normal vegetation greenness.		
	Pokot South	59.02	46.25			
	Sigor	53.92	41.78			
EMBU	County	71.32	68.82	The county and its sub-counties remained stable during the month of March across all the sub-counties with vegetation greenness above normal in all parts of the county.		
	Manyatta	79.68	81.9			
	Mbeere North	63.82	59.32			
	Mbeere South	70.77	66.41			
	Runyenjes	80.93	84.68			
ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT						
COUNTY	Sub County	VCI-3 month as at 22nd Feb 2021	VCI-3 month as at 28th Mar 2021	Colour	VCI values (3-month)	Drought Category
					≥50	Vegetation greenness above normal
					>=35 - <50	Normal vegetation greenness
					>=20 - <35	Moderate vegetation deficit
					>=10 - <20	Severe vegetation deficit
					<10	Extreme vegetation deficit
KITUI	County	51.71	41.59	The county and most of its sub counties recorded normal vegetation greenness condition. Mwingi North recorded moderate vegetation deficit.		
	Kitui Central	69.98	62.32			
	Kitui East	54.45	44.71			
	Mwingi Central	49.3	39.76			
	Mwingi North	37.76	28.1			
	Mwingi West	64.7	59.16			
	Kitui Rural	62.19	48.08			
	Kitui South	52.08	40.05			
	Kitui West	67.85	64.71			
MAKUENI	County	75.53	70.39	The county and its sub counties recorded above normal vegetation greenness conditions. The situation is stable when the current and previous months are compared.		
	Kaiti	88.8	81.45			
	Kibwezi East	78.08	70.11			
	Kibwezi West	75.02	71.43			
	Kilome	70.78	73.02			
	Makueni	66.9	61.82			
	Mbooni	82.6	75.49			
MERU	County	56.18	52.78	The vegetation greenness is above normal across the county and its Sub-counties except for Igembe central, Igembe south Tigania		
	Buuri	56.18	60.64			

	Central Imenti	62.79	63.2	East and Igembe North which recorded normal vegetation greenness.		
	Igembe Central	52.09	43.4			
	Igembe North	44.78	38.79			
	Igembe South	50.92	42.35			
	North Imenti	59.74	60.29			
	South Imenti	74.87	76.63			
	Tigania East	45.26	46.35			
	Tigania West	61.45	57.24			
NYERI	County	70.33	71.21	The county and its sub counties remained stable recording above normal vegetation greenness just like the previous month of February.		
	Kieni	61.51	61.56			
	Mathira	78.41	78.47			
	Mukurweini	81.23	84.3			
	Town	84.64	86.18			
	Othaya	83.45	86.47			
	Tetu	76.69	83.49			
KILIFI	County	38.7	31.2	Deterioration in vegetation condition across the county and most of its sub counties recording moderate vegetation deficit however Kilifi North recorded normal vegetation deficit.		
	Ganze	40.09	26.03			
	Kaloleni	40.32	27.69			
	Magarini	37.95	33.52			
	Malindi	37.95	31.19			
	Kilifi-North	44.28	37.54			
	Rabai	39.26	32.7			
	Kilifi-South	28.65	23.04			
KWALE	County	59.16	51.29	Above Normal vegetation greenness noted across the entire county which is a stability when the month under review is compared to the previous month of February. Kinango recorded normal vegetation deficit.		
	Kinango	55.81	45.9			
	Lungalunga	61.71	54.78			
	Matuga	67.2	64.76			
	Msambweni	66.07	64.34			
LAMU	County	38.94	37.22	The county remained in normal vegetation greenness however Lamu East recorded moderate condition.		
	Lamu East	37.5	34.72			
	Lamu West	39.77	38.66			
ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT		VEGETATION GREENNESS		DROUGHT CATEGORIES/REMARKS		
COUNTY	Sub County	VCI-3 month as at 22nd Feb 2021	VCI-3 month as at 28th Mar 2021	Colour	VCI values (3-month)	Drought Category

					≥50	Vegetation greenness above normal
					>=35 - <50	Normal vegetation greenness
					>=20 - <35	Moderate vegetation deficit
					>=10 - <20	Severe vegetation deficit
					<10	Extreme vegetation deficit
TAITA TAVETA	County	64.63	58.03	Stability in the vegetation condition greenness above normal in the county together with its all-sub-counties.		
	Mwatate	62.72	63.5			
	Taveta	59.61	58.36			
	Voi	65.97	55.12			
	Wundanyi	80.17	71.94			
NAROK	County	67.91	71.51	The county and its sub-counties remained stable in above normal vegetation greenness band. The attributing factor could be the timely onset of the long rains of MAM in the 3 rd dekad of March.		
	Narok-East	51.75	60.99			
	Emurua Dikirr	87.31	82.44			
	Kilgoris	79.72	77.78			
	Narok-North	64.25	59.17			
	Narok-South	59.72	69.43			
	Narok-West	77.06	80.2			

Annex 2.0 Summary of the drought early warning system

Each month, field monitors collect data in a number of sentinel sites across 23 arid and semi-arid counties. This is then complemented by information from other sources, particularly satellite data. For all indicators, the current value is compared with the long-term average for the time of year in order to establish whether it falls within seasonal norms.

Four types of indicator are monitored, capturing different kinds of impact (Table 12). The combined analysis from all four indicator groups then determines the particular drought phase: normal, alert, alarm, emergency or recovery (Figure 5). Identifying the correct drought phase helps to guide the most appropriate response for that stage in the drought cycle.

Table 11.0: Indicators monitored by the drought early warning system

Type of indicator	Examples of indicators monitored	Types of impact
Biophysical	Rainfall data Vegetation condition State of water sources	Environmental
Production	Livestock body condition Milk production Livestock migration Livestock mortality Crop production	Livestock production Crop production
Access	Terms of trade (meat/maize) Milk consumption Distances to water	Markets Access to food and water
Utilisation	MUAC (Mid-Upper Arm Circumference) Coping strategies	Nutrition Coping strategies

Figure 3.0: Drought Phase Classification

