



NATIONAL DROUGHT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

National Drought Early Warning Bulletin

MAY 2023

1. Drought Situation Overview

The ongoing March-April-May (MAM) rainfall season occasioned a positive impact on livelihoods across most parts of Arid and Semi-Arid counties with environmental indicators depicting recovery drought phase situation. Despite the recovery across the ASAL counties, food security situation is yet to improve and the number of people in need of assistance remains at 4.4 million following short rains (SRA) 2022 food security assessment while the risk of Acute malnutrition remains. There is often a lag between recovery from drought and food available across the livelihoods. Three counties (3), Wajir, Taita Taveta and Lamu remain in **Alert** drought phase while Seven (7) counties namely Embu, Meru, Tharaka Nithi, West Pokot, Baringo, Garissa and Narok are in **Normal** drought phase. Thirteen (13) counties including; Isiolo, Kajiado, Kilifi, Kitui, Kwale, Laikipia, Makueni, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River, Turkana and Nyeri are in the **Recovery** drought phase. Figure 1.0 shows drought phase classification. Conversely, the rains have caused flash floods in most of the Arid counties which has negative impacts on local livelihoods like displacements and destruction of critical facilities like roads thereby hindering movement and commerce.

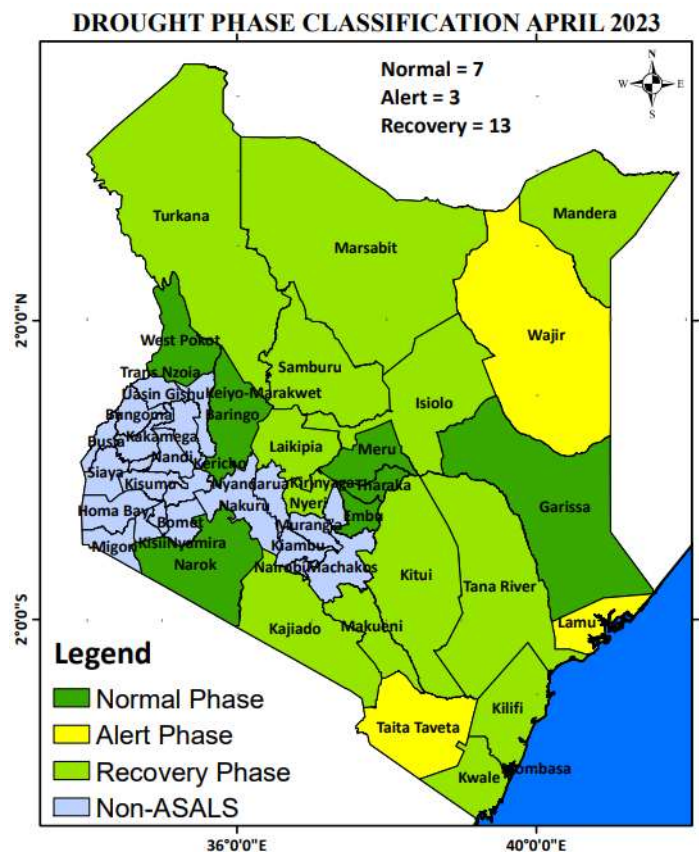


Fig 1: Drought Phase Classification, April 2023

Taita Taveta and Lamu remain in **Alert** drought phase while Seven (7) counties namely Embu, Meru, Tharaka Nithi, West Pokot, Baringo, Garissa and Narok are in **Normal** drought phase. Thirteen (13) counties including; Isiolo, Kajiado, Kilifi, Kitui, Kwale, Laikipia, Makueni, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River, Turkana and Nyeri are in the **Recovery** drought phase. Figure 1.0 shows drought phase classification. Conversely, the rains have caused flash floods in most of the Arid counties which has negative impacts on local livelihoods like displacements and destruction of critical facilities like roads thereby hindering movement and commerce.

1.1 Drought observed indicators

1.1.1 April Rainfall Performance

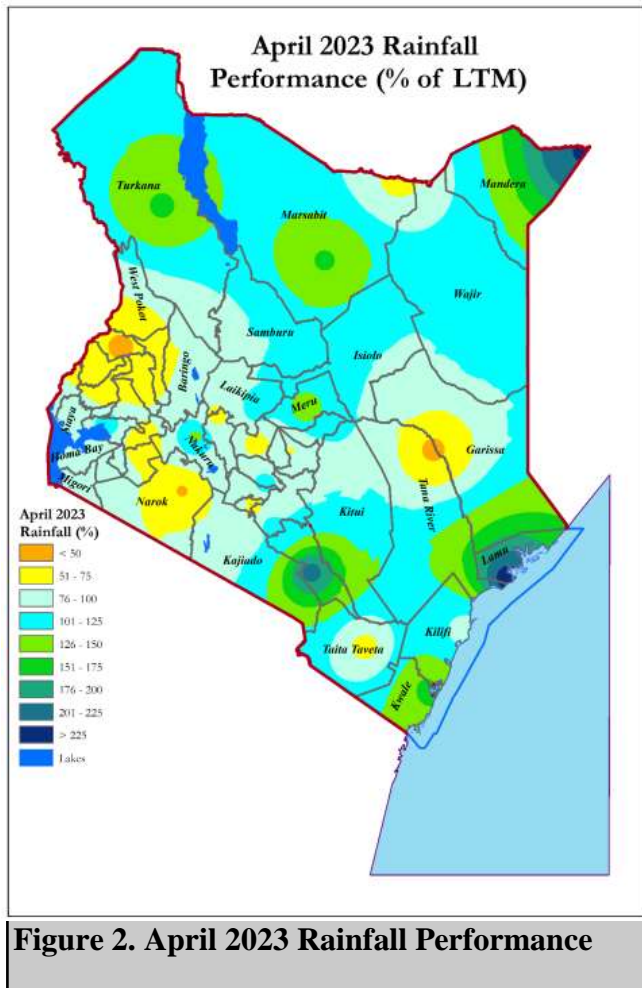


Figure 2. April 2023 Rainfall Performance

The analysis of the April 2023 monthly rainfall performance indicates that several parts of the ASALs received good amounts of rainfall. The Pastoral North East counties including; Mandera, Wajir, Isiolo, Tana River, Garissa and Pastoral North West counties including Turkana, Marsabit and Samburu received rainfall ranging between 101mm to 225mm of rainfall with central Turkana, Central Marsabit and North West Mandera receiving highest amounts of rainfall. The South East Marginal Agriculture counties including; Tharaka Nithi, Embu, Kajiado, Meru, Makueni, Kitui and the Agro Pastoral cluster including Kajiado, Laikipia, Narok, Baringo, Nyeri and West Pokot received average rainfall amounts during

the month of April ranging between 50mm to 100mm of rainfall. The Coast Marginal Agriculture counties including Kwale, Kilifi, and Lamu did receive good amounts of rainfall with Lamu county recording highest amounts of rainfall of greater than 225 mm as shown figure 2.0.

1.1.2 Rainfall outlook for the month of May

The rainfall outlook for the month of May is illustrated in figure 3. Most parts of the Arid and Semi Arid lands are forecasted to receive Near-Average to above-average rainfall. Parts of South East Marginal Agriculture including; Kitui, Makueni, Embu and Tharaka Nithi are forecasted to experience mainly Near Average rainfall. The AgroPastoral livelihood zones including; Kajiado, Narok, Nyeri, Laikipia and Baringo are forecasted to experience Near-Average rainfall. The coastal marginal agriculture counties including Taita Taveta, Kilifi, Lamu and Kwale counties are forecasted to get Near-Average to above average rainfall. Pastoral North East (Isiolo, Mandera, Wajir, Tana River and Garissa) are forecasted to



Figure 3. May 2023 Rainfall forecast

experience both Near-Average rainfall to above average rainfall while Pastoral North West (Turkana, Samburu and Marsabit) counties are are forecasted to experience Near-Average rainfall.

1.1.3. Flooding

Floods were experienced from March through April 2023 in the following counties including Marsabit, Garissa, Turkana, Tana River, Mandera and Wajir. Wajir County reported that an estimated 7,160 households were affected, out of which 6,325 were displaced. The roads linking various towns and settlements were rendered impassable in the county. The critical roads infrastructure including culverts, murrum, bridges and drifts were damaged. Communities reported loss of valuable assets including; livestock, destruction of farms and loss of essential commodities by small scale traders, among others. Mandera indicated that flash floods have affected all the 9 locations in Mandera town leading to destruction of various structures including

house, toilets, blocking of culverts, interruption of free movement and displacement of many families within the locations. This has negatively impacted the livelihood of the communities living in the town. A total of 4,172 households were affected and need urgent humanitarian intervention. Flooding in other counties including Tana River, Garissa and Marsabit had minimal impact.

1.2 Vegetation condition

Generally, the vegetation condition in the month of April showed slight improvement when compared to that of the month of March 2023. The reported rains are expected to continue to impact positively on vegetation condition.

1.3 Livestock production

1.3.1 Pasture and browse condition

The state of pasture and browse improved in 56 percent of arid and semi-arid counties with all counties recording fair to good pasture and browse conditions as shown in Table 2. However, the current pasture and browse conditions are below normal as compared to normal years with slight improvement realized when compared to the previous month of March. The pasture and browse regeneration continue to be registered in majority of the counties and expected to improve to normal status in the coming weeks with the ongoing March-April-May long rains.

Table 2.0: Pasture and browse condition, April 2023

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

1.3.2 Livestock body condition

The current livestock body condition for cattle was fair at 65 percent and good at 35 percent. The body condition for goats was also fair at 52 percent and good at 48 percent. Generally, the current body condition of most livestock is below normal in comparison to similar periods during a normal year however there is an improvement as compared to the previous month as shown in Table 3.

Table 3.0: Livestock body condition, April 2023

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

1.3.3 Milk production

Milk production during the month of April showed an improvement in trend as compared to the previous month of March in majority of the counties. However, milk production was below LTA of a normal year in 74 percent of the ASAL counties. Milk production is expected to increase with browse and pasture regeneration.

Table 4.0: Milk production, April 2023

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

1.3.4. Livestock diseases

Livestock diseases were reported in the counties of Garissa, Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River, Baringo, Turkana, Kajiado, Kilifi, Meru North, Narok and West Pokot. The diseases included Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP), Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP), Sheep and goat pox and Pest Petis Ruminantes (PPR) and foot and mouth diseases.

1.3.5 Cattle prices

In most of the ASAL counties (65 percent), cattle prices were below normal in comparison to similar periods during a normal year. However, an improving trend has been noted in majority of the counties as illustrated in Table 6. The current unstable livestock body condition is attributed to current below normal prices.

Table 6.0: Cattle prices, April 2023

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

1.3.6 Goat Prices

Goat prices in majority of the ASAL counties were above normal as a result of improving livestock body condition. Most of the counties recorded Improving trend. The following counties including Garissa, Kajiado, Kitui, Lamu and Meru were at LTA t While 35 percent of the counties remained in stable trend as shown in table 7.0 below.

Table 7.0: Goat prices, April 2023

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

1.4 Crop production

Crop production is mainly practiced in coastal marginal agriculture and south east marginal agriculture clusters. Most of the planted crops germinated and farmers in different agro-ecological zones are engaged in weeding activities.

Table 8.0: Current status of crop production

Cluster	Counties	Current state of crop production
Coastal Agriculture	Marginal Kilifi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers have their maize crop germinated and few are weeding • Cow peas were less planted
	Kwale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land preparation and planting for the season was on-going across the livelihood zones
South East Agriculture	Marginal Kitui	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crops were at germination to knee high/flowering stage and in good condition
	Makueni	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crops were in the early vegetative stage. Farmers were weeding and top dressing
	Tharaka Nithi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers were doing first weeding and pest control • Crop conditions were good and approaching flowering stage and at knee high

1.4.1 Maize prices

In the month under review, Maize prices remained above average across ASAL counties due to the depleted stocks, coupled with increased food and essential commodities prices across the country. Three counties namely Samburu, Tana River and Turkana showed an improving trend while Lamu, Makueni, Narok and West Pokot counties were on a worsening trend as shown in Table 9.0.

Table 9.0: Maize prices, April 2023

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

1.5 WATER ACCESS

1.5.1 Access to water for households

Distances to water for households has improved across the ASAL counties. In comparison with the previous month, there is a general improving trend in distance from household to water source. Arid (pastoral) counties distances to household water access ranged between 1.8km and 6.1 km with Isiolo recording lowest and Turkana recording highest distances as compared to the previous month where the lowest was 3.3km and highest 16.3 km. In semi-arid counties, Narok and Meru counties ranged between 1.5km to 7.2km respectively as compared to the previous month where it ranged between 2.4km to 9.7 km. All counties showed an improving trend in household access distances to water sources except for Makueni which was stable.

Table 10.0: Distance from households to main water sources, April 2023

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

1.5.2 Access to water for livestock

In comparison with the previous month, the current trekking distance to water source has reduced and thus indicating an improving trend. The average trekking distance for livestock for the month under review in Arid counties ranged between 5kms and 9.3km with Isiolo county recording lowest distances and Garissa highest as compared to the previous month where it ranged between 8.7km and 22 km. In the case of semi-arid counties, the distance to water sources for livestock ranged between 2.2 kilometers to 9.6 kilometers with Narok recording the lowest and Meru highest as compared to the previous month where it ranged between 3.2km and 13.3km.

Table 11.0: Distance from livestock grazing area to main water sources, April 2023

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

1.6 Terms of trade

The trends in terms of trade (ToT) between the relative prices of goats and maize in ASAL counties was stable across all counties but below LTA due to high maize prices as shown in Table 12. Terms of trade are expected to improve as the season progresses.

Table 12.0: Terms of Trade, April 2023

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

1.7. Health and nutrition

Table 13 shows the trend in the proportion of children at risk of malnutrition. MUAC measurements recorded an improvement across most of the ASAL counties. However, in 17 counties, the MUAC is still above LTA. This is mostly attributed to the continued reduced milk consumption at household level due to a decrease in milk production, as well as poor dietary diversity, poor child feeding practices, and reduced food intake at household level. Five counties recorded a worsening trend in the month under review while Embu, Kajiado, Kwale, Kitui, Mandera, Nyeri, Narok, Tharaka-Nithi, Wajir and West Pokot recorded an improving trend.

On a positive note, only Narok, Kilifi, Laikipia, West-Pokot and Taita Taveta counties that recorded MUAC below the long-term average.

Table 12.0: Children at risk of malnutrition (MUAC), April 2023

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

2.0 Drought phase classification

Table 13 sums up the trends in drought phase classification as at the end of April 2023. On the basis of the range of indicators monitored, seven (7) counties including Embu, Meru, Tharaka Nithi, West Pokot, Baringo, Garissa and Narok are in the Normal drought phase, while three (3) counties; Lamu, Wajir, Taita Taveta are in the Alert drought phase. Thirteen (13) counties namely; Isiolo, Kajiado, Kilifi, Kitui, Kwale, Laikipia, Makueni, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River,

Turkana and Nyeri are in Recovery drought phase. During the month under review, majority of the counties have reported an improving trend, five (5) counties recorded a stable trend, while none (0) counties reported a worsening trend.

Table 13.0: Drought phase classification, April 2023

<i>Drought status</i>	<i>Trend</i>		
	<i>Improving</i>	<i>Stable</i>	<i>Worsening/Deteriorating</i>
Normal	Embu, Meru, Tharaka Nithi, West Pokot	Baringo, Garissa, Narok	
Alert	Lamu, Wajir	Taita Taveta	
Alarm			
Emergency			
Recovery	Isiolo, Kajiado, Kilifi, Kitui, Kwale, Laikipia, Makueni, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River, Turkana	Nyeri	

Recommendations

Food and safety nets

- Monitoring the recovery phase and supporting food assistance and cash transfers targeting households which are currently food insecure.

Livestock sector

- Facilitating safe migrations for the pastoralists moving back to their settlements.
- Treatment and vaccination against emerging livestock diseases.

Water sector

- Rehabilitation and maintenance of water facilities.
- Provision of water treatment tabs
- Procurement and distribution of water storage tanks for roof catchment harvest.
- Investing in strategic water harvesting infrastructure for future lean seasons

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.




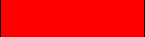

Peace and security sector

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

Coordination

- Support County Steering Groups (CSGs) to effectively coordinate drought recovery and resilience building initiatives.

Table 14: Vegetation Condition Index (VCI-3 month) as at 28th April 2023

ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT		VEGETATION GREENNESS		DROUGHT CATEGORIES/REMARKS		
COUNTY	Sub County	VCI-3 month as at 26 th Mar 2023	VCI-3 month as at 28 th Apr 2023	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	54.9	56.5	The county recorded above normal vegetation greenness during the month of April. Mogotio recorded moderate vegetation deficit		
	Central	83.34	86.15			
	North	66.27	71.21			
	South	41.16	41.62			
	Ravine	98.16	106.69			

ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT		VEGETATION GREENNESS		DROUGHT CATEGORIES/REMARKS		
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					≥50	Vegetation greenness above normal
					>=35 - <50	Normal vegetation greenness
					>=20 - <35	Moderate vegetation deficit
					>=10 - <20	Severe vegetation deficit
					<10	Extreme vegetation deficit
	Mogotio	31.24	29.31			
	Tiaty	48.98	49.08			
MANDERA	County	-18.86	-22.56			The county recorded a stable trend in vegetation condition to extreme vegetation deficit in the month of April.
	Lafey	-24.87	-29.31			
	North	-31.71	-38.54			
	Banissa	-22.63	-28.57			
	West	-13.97	-14.71			
	South	-5.31	-6.99			
	East	-12.89	-15.74			
TURKANA	County	43	41.29			The county recorded a stable trend in vegetation greenness to normal vegetation greenness during the month of April. Turkana East and Central worsened to severe vegetation deficit.
	East	23.2	18.37			
	South	27.55	22.38			
	Loima	36.34	32.63			
	Central	27.56	19.39			
	West	57.65	58.01			
	North	57.35	60.17			
MARSABIT	County	10.93	10.63			The county recorded severe vegetation greenness which was stable when compared to the last month of March
	Laisamis	12.83	12.3			
	Moyale	2.48	2.11			
	North Horr	12.06	11.9			
	Saku	9.9	9.94			
WAJIR	County	15.8	16.5			The county recorded severe vegetation deficit. Wajir west and Eldas improved to normal vegetation greenness.
	Tarbaj	15.41	15.92			
	North	12.86	16.77			
	South	10.46	5.29			
	West	32.87	40.61			
	Eldas	26.57	35.89			
	East	5.33	4.11			
SAMBURU	County	25.04	20.57			The county remained stable at moderate vegetation greenness during the month of April.
	East	17.88	11.78			
	North	29.85	26.22			
	West	37.76	37.08			

ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT		VEGETATION GREENNESS		DROUGHT CATEGORIES/REMARKS		
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					<10	Extreme vegetation deficit
GARISSA	County	24.02	13.35	The county experienced a worsening trend in vegetation condition index to severe vegetation deficit during the month of April. Township and Ijara were in above normal vegetation greenness.		
	Balambala	14.78	5.97			
	Township	63.11	57.38			
	Ijara	69.82	65.73			
	Fafi	13.04	-3.98			
	Lagdera	19.26	20.22			
	Dadaab	2.75	-13.16			
ISIOLO	County	17.46	16.42	The county and all of its sub counties were stable at severe vegetation deficit during the month of April.		
	North	16.19	16.75			
	South	19.4	15.92			
TANA RIVER	County	8.39	-2.58	The county and all of its sub counties were stable at extreme vegetation deficit		
	Bura	4.59	-5.61			
	Galole	-4.08	-17.77			
	Garsen	19.42	9.5			
KAJIADO	County	46.5	50.68	The county recorded an improvement in vegetation condition to above normal vegetation greenness during the month of April		
	Central	65.5	81.4			
	East	26.27	20.91			
	North	86.09	96.15			
	South	16.98	13.71			
	West	67.52	75.1			
LAIKIPIA	County	30.53	28.04	The County remained stable at moderate vegetation deficit during the month of April		
	East	49.88	42.04			
	North	27.57	27.08			
	West	26.75	23.06			
THARAKA NITHI	County	79.33	68.17	The county and its sub counties recorded a general stability in vegetation condition to above normal vegetation greenness during the month of April.		
	Chuka	91.07	80.71			
	Maara	127.25	124.46			
	Tharaka	59.59	45.46			
WEST POKOT	County	51.61	54.75	The county remained stable at above normal vegetation greenness during the month under review.		
	Kacheliba	42.6	46.32			
	Kapenguria	60.19	60.65			
	Pokot south	72.23	76.71			
	Sigor	48.56	52.15			

ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT		VEGETATION GREENNESS		DROUGHT CATEGORIES/REMARKS		
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					>=10 - <20	Severe vegetation deficit
					<10	Extreme vegetation deficit
EMBU	County	68.11	53.52	The county and two of its sub-counties recorded above normal vegetation greenness during the month of April.		
	Manyatta	120.12	119.18			
	Mbeere north	49.11	28.09			
	Mbeere south	51.91	33.84			
	Runyenjes	112.98	110.61			
KITUI	County	39.46	27.29	The county worsened in vegetation condition to moderate vegetation greenness up from normal vegetation greenness during the month of April when compared with the previous month of March		
	Kitui central	66.26	56.63			
	Kitui east	27.57	12.66			
	Kitui rural	94.58	89.18			
	Kitui south	48.14	37.54			
	Kitui west	73.27	64.42			
	Mwingi central	16.16	2.28			
	Mwingi north	31.79	17.86			
	Mwingi west	23.38	9.68			
MAKUENI	County	76.45	70.04	The county recorded a stability in vegetation greenness at above normal vegetation greenness during the month under review. Kilome subcounty maintained at moderate vegetation deficit.		
	Kaiti	100	99.86			
	Kibwezi east	87	83.18			
	Kibwezi west	59.25	48.85			
	Kilome	30.76	20.33			
	Makueni	94.07	89.63			
	Mbooni	88.88	82.55			
MERU	County	74.92	69.21	The county recorded a stability in vegetation condition at above normal vegetation greenness during the month of April		
	Buuri	87.41	87.93			
	Central Imenti	129.14	133.46			
	Igembe central	40.92	27.57			
	Igembe north	23.34	11.35			
	Igembe south	47	32.13			
	North Imenti	123.64	128.67			
	South Imenti	143.2	144.49			
	Tigania east	65.01	55.59			
Tigania west	103.84	101.92				
NYERI	County	119.36	122.68	The county and all its sub counties recorded a stability in vegetation condition at above normal vegetation greenness condition during the month of April.		
	Kieni	110.55	112.85			

ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT		VEGETATION GREENNESS		DROUGHT CATEGORIES/REMARKS		
COUNTY	Sub County	VCI-3 month as at 26 th Mar 2023	VCI-3 month as at 28 th Apr 2023	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
	Mathira	131.31	136.77			
	Mukurweini	129.91	135.7			
	Nyeri town	124.17	133.62			
	Othaya	125.99	127.76			
	Tetu	135.85	139.16			
KILIFI	County	33.76	30.2			The vegetation condition in the county remained the same in moderate vegetation deficit during the month under review. However, Kilifi north and Malindi sub counties worsened to extreme vegetation deficit.
	Ganze	45	48.25			
	Kaloleni	30.32	41.42			
	Kilifi north	14.2	0.36			
	Kilifi south	26.05	27.25			
	Magarini	33.49	26.44			
	Malindi	17.32	9.33			
	Rabai	29.59	35.3			
KWALE	County	60.45	71.08			The county recorded a stability in vegetation condition index during the month of April at above normal vegetation greenness
	Kinango	62.36	75.81			
	Lunga Lunga	58.31	67.79			
	Matuga	58.27	64.43			
	Msambweni	53.42	47.04			
LAMU	County	73.28	71.29			The County and all of its sub-counties recorded above normal vegetation greenness during the month under review
	Lamu east	70.52	70.76			
	Lamu west	74.88	71.59			
TAITA TAVETA	County	33.49	27.66			The county was stable at moderate vegetation deficit during the month of April. However, Mwatate and Taveta sub counties recorded extreme vegetation deficit.
	Mwatate	16.31	5.16			
	Taveta	9.29	-3.58			
	Voi	49.53	48.35			
	Wundanyi	23.23	15.57			
NAROK	County	94.93	109.96			The county recorded a stability in vegetation greenness condition at above normal vegetation greenness during the month of April.
	Emurua Dikirr	104.3	104.24			
	Kilgoris	104.24	112.69			
	Narok east	61.44	66.92			
	Narok north	95.17	101.76			
	Narok south	96.25	115.56			
	Narok west	102.17	125.25			

Table 15.0: 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
Utilization	MUAC (Mid-Upper Arm Circumference) Coping strategies Food consumption score	Nutrition Coping strategies

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 indicators are monitored, capturing different kinds of impact (Table 15). The combined analysis from all four indicator groups then determines the particular drought phase: normal, alert, alarm, emergency or recovery (Figure 4). Identifying the correct drought phase helps to guide the most appropriate response for that stage in the drought cycle.

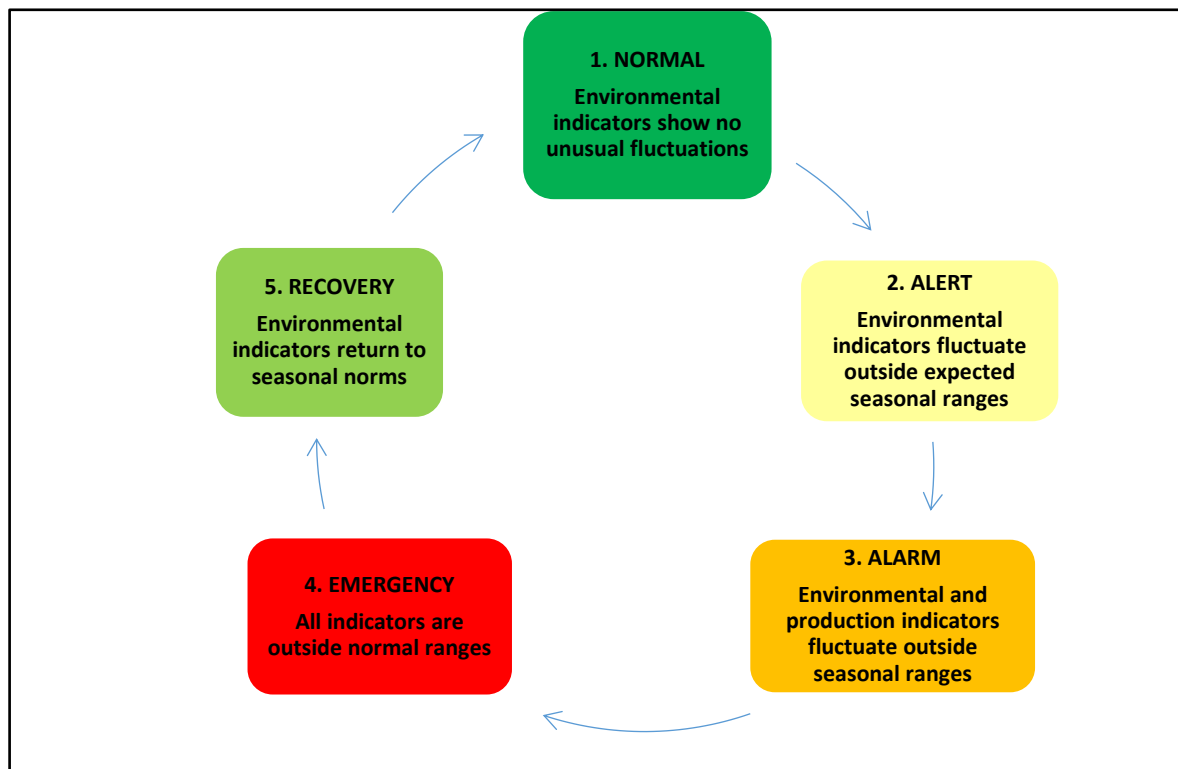


Figure 4.0: Drought Phase Classification