



# SHOCK RESPONSE UPDATE.

## THE KUZA JAMII II PROGRAM

ISSUE NO.2: JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2026

**INNOVATION  
AND FORWARD  
THINKING**

IN SOCIAL POLICY AND GLOBAL HEALTH.

**CHASP**  
ADVISORY



# INTRODUCTION

Kuza Jamii II - Transforming Communities is a six-month Economic Inclusion Program implemented by Village Enterprise, CHASP Advisory, Echo Network Africa Foundation (ENAF), Smart Regional Consultants (SRC) and Generation for Change and Development (GENCAD) with support from the UK Government.

The project aims to transition from cash transfers to more sustainable social protection programs by enhancing access to economic opportunities for extremely poor households in five Kenyan counties - Tana River, Isiolo, Garissa, Mandera and Marsabit. The project's objective is to enhance access of extremely poor and vulnerable households to social and economic inclusion services by increasing household access to skills, productive inputs, assets, finance, and economic opportunities.

CHASP Advisory is spearheading the technical guidance for the implementation of Result 3 of the Kuza Jamii Program. This component aims to enhance the capacity of the Kenyan government to deliver sustainable and effective social and economic inclusion services. A key focus within this area is building shock responsiveness, which will enable the project and other government programmes to adapt and respond effectively to emerging challenges like droughts, floods, or conflict, that may severely affect the targeted populations.

This quarterly shock update provides valuable information for Kuza Jamii II actors and other stakeholders, helping to anticipate and plan for potential disruptions to project activities that could be caused by shock-related events.



# GARISSA COUNTY



## SITUATION OVERVIEW

The county remains under dry-season stress, with drought conditions at alert phase following poor performance and delayed onset of recent rains. Below-average rainfall continues to strain pasture and water resources, resulting in increased livestock mobility towards fallback grazing areas and neighbouring counties.

Livestock productivity, especially milk production, remains below seasonal norms due to deteriorating rangeland conditions. Household food stocks are limited, increasing reliance on markets amid elevated food prices and reduced purchasing power. Consequently, food consumption has declined, with many households consuming fewer meals than normal.

The nutrition situation shows mixed outcomes. While the proportion of children at risk of malnutrition has slightly reduced due to ongoing cash transfers and nutrition support, it remains above the long-term average, driven by limited milk availability, poor dietary diversity, and disease burden among pastoral households.

## SHOCK AND RISK PROFILE

### Drought:

Persistent below-average rainfall and the delayed start of the 2025 OND season have slowed pasture regeneration and reduced water availability across the county. Vegetation is worsening with some wards facing severe to extreme deficits, while others show moderate stress. With limited forage and water, livestock now trek about 13 km to reach watering points, increasing strain on households and animals and heightening vulnerability in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas.

### Livestock Risk:

Livestock body condition across the county is fair to poor, reflecting limited pasture, browse, and water access. This has heightened susceptibility to endemic and vector-borne diseases, including Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), CCPP, Sheep and Goat Pox, anaplasmosis, babesiosis, and trypanosomiasis, particularly in hotspot areas where herds concentrate around scarce resources.

### Conflict / Resource Pressure:

Scarce grazing land and limited water sources are fueling resource-based conflicts, including sporadic livestock raids and occasional human fatalities. Increased livestock migration within the county, into neighbouring counties like Isiolo, Tana River and coastal areas, and across the border into Somalia has intensified competition over dwindling resources, threatening household safety and disrupting normal pastoral movement patterns.



## PREPAREDNESS & ONGOING RESPONSE

POTENTIAL SHOCK	LIKELIHOOD/IMPACT
Drought	LOW MODERATE HIGH
<p><b>Preparedness and Response</b></p> <p>NDMA is monitoring the situation, drilling and equipping strategic boreholes such as Bulesa Goda, and implementing pipeline extensions at Rig Dam, Balambala.</p> <p>NDMA and the County Government have desilted water pans in Faryar, Jilango, and Sanbir, provide water trucking to remote areas, distribute water purification tabs, and promote water-use efficiency and catchment protection.</p>	

POTENTIAL SHOCK	LIKELIHOOD/IMPACT
Conflict/Resource Pressure	LOW MODERATE HIGH
<p><b>Preparedness and Response</b></p> <p>The County Government, security agencies activated community peace committees to help address safer livestock migration routes, conflict mediation, and monitor cross-border and inter-county livestock movements, focusing on hotspot wards along the Isiolo border and parts of Tana River County.</p>	

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Livelihood Diversification:

To reduce household vulnerability to drought and livestock shocks, beneficiaries should be supported to diversify their livelihoods beyond traditional pastoralism. This will provide alternative income sources, reduce pressure on communal grazing resources, and enhance resilience to climate and market shocks.

### Communities in conflict:

Prone areas should have strengthened and active peace and resource management committees to mediate disputes over grazing and water, coordinate safe livestock movements, and monitor cross-border and inter-county migration.

### Community Preparedness & Early Warning Awareness:

Households and community leaders should receive orientation on shock response and early warning systems, including how to respond to drought, livestock stress, food insecurity, and market shocks without compromising nutrition or livelihoods. Regular awareness sessions, facilitated by CRPs, County Government, and implementing partners, will enable communities to anticipate risks, prepare appropriately, and respond effectively, strengthening overall resilience.

POTENTIAL SHOCK	LIKELIHOOD/IMPACT
Livestock Disease	LOW MODERATE HIGH
<p><b>Preparedness and Response</b></p> <p>The County Veterinary Department and Community Disease Reporters are conducting surveillance and vaccination campaigns for PPR, CCPP, Sheep &amp; Goat Pox, and FMD, alongside deworming and vector control.</p> <p>Feed support and nutritional supplements are provided in Balambala, Fafi, and Lagdera, and pastoralists are trained on livestock health and value chains.</p>	

POTENTIAL SHOCK	LIKELIHOOD/IMPACT
Food and Nutrition	LOW MODERATE HIGH
<p><b>Preparedness and Response</b></p> <p>Nutrition outreaches by KRCS and UNICEF target Lagdera and Balambala.</p>	



# MARSABIT COUNTY



## SITUATION OVERVIEW

The drought situation in Marsabit County remains in the Alert phase with a worsening trend, driven by persistent hot and dry conditions in January and poor recharge of water sources. Vegetation condition shows moderate deficit, and livestock and household water access indicators have deteriorated beyond seasonal norms.

January was predominantly dry, with suppressed rainfall across the county, limiting pasture regeneration and water availability. Livestock body condition remained generally fair; however, milk production was below the long-term average and declining. Livestock trekking distances increased significantly, with return distances to water at 17.6 km above the long-term average.

Goat prices remained above the long-term average but worsened, while maize prices increased compared to the previous month. Terms of trade deteriorated, reducing household purchasing power. Nutrition indicators worsened, with MUAC levels above the long-term average and rising malnutrition cases among children under five.

## SHOCK AND RISK PROFILE

### Drought:

Water access for household consumption deteriorated, with trekking distances above the long-term average due to drying water pans, poor recharge, and breakdown of strategic boreholes.

### Livestock disease:

Livestock diseases risks remain elevated. Reported cases during the period include PPR (Moyale, Saku, Laisamis, North Horr), CCPP (Laisamis), FMD (Saku), and haemorrhagic septicaemia in camels (Moyale and Laisamis).

### Nutrition:

Nutrition trends show a worsening phase, with MUAC levels remaining above seasonal averages. The deterioration is linked to reduced milk access, inadequate dietary diversity, food gaps, and rising cases of URTIs and diarrhoea. No major outbreaks were reported.

### Food security remains fragile:

Maize prices increased amid tightening supplies, while goat prices weakened month-on-month. Household purchasing power and heightened vulnerability among poor pastoral households.

### Minimal outward migration:

Minimal migration was reported however, internal livestock movements increased toward relatively better grazing areas within Moyale and Saku. Above-normal livestock trekking distances continue to exert pressure on water sources and rangelands.



## PREPAREDNESS & ONGOING RESPONSE

POTENTIAL SHOCK	LIKELIHOOD/IMPACT
Drought	LOW MODERATE HIGH
<p><b>Preparedness / Interventions</b></p> <p>Water trucking to critical areas, servicing of water bowsers, borehole repairs, fuel subsidy to strategic water points, and desilting of water pans and dams are ongoing by CGM and Partners.</p>	

POTENTIAL SHOCK	LIKELIHOOD/IMPACT
Food Insecurity	LOW MODERATE HIGH
<p><b>Preparedness / Interventions</b></p> <p>Food assistance targeting IPC 3 and above wards, alongside partner-supported cash transfers, is being implemented by Concern Worldwide (Unconditional cash transfer – 2,455 HH till March 2025), SND assistance to 720 households. to support vulnerable households.</p>	

POTENTIAL SHOCK	LIKELIHOOD/IMPACT
Malnutrition	LOW MODERATE HIGH
<p><b>Preparedness / Interventions</b></p> <p>Mass nutrition screening, integrated outreach services, and implementation of Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) across health facilities in Dukana, Sololo, Illeret, Golbo, Moyale, Uran, Butiye, Laisamis, Kargi/South Horr are underway with support from UNICEF, Concern WW, CRS, KRCS, PACIDA, Malteser International, FH, WFP, SND, WHH.</p>	

POTENTIAL SHOCK	LIKELIHOOD/IMPACT
Conflict & Resource Pressure	LOW MODERATE HIGH
<p><b>Preparedness / Interventions</b></p> <p>Strengthening of early warning systems, peace-building initiatives, and coordination with community structures in North Horr, Laisamis, Moyale, Saku sub-counties (50 mapped hotspots) is ongoing.</p>	

## RECOMMENDATIONS

**Scale Up Water and Rangeland Support:**  
 Prioritize repair of non-functional boreholes, expand water trucking to pasture-rich but water-deficit areas, and support designing of pans to improve spatial distribution of grazing pressure.

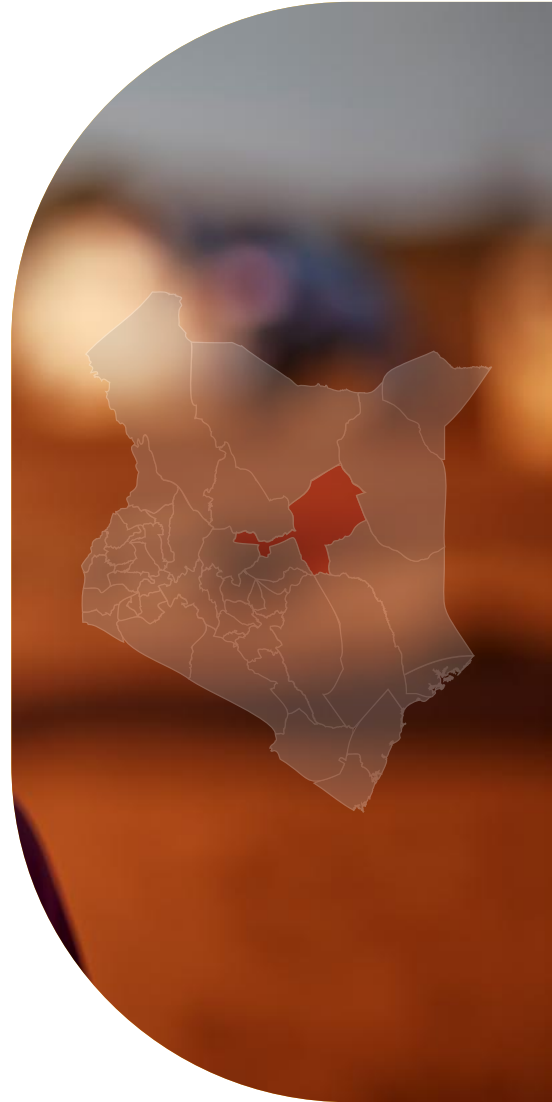
**Protect Livestock Assets and Support Herd Recovery:**  
 Intensify vaccination and disease surveillance campaigns, promote strategic destocking and commercial offtake, and support feed supplementation to reduce mortality and productivity losses.

**Expand Shock-Responsive Social Protection and Food Assistance:**  
 Strengthen safety nets and timely food assistance to cushion households facing crop failure, declining milk availability, and weakening purchasing power.

**Enhance Nutrition Response and Community Preparedness:**  
 Expand outreach services, sustain mass screening, and strengthen community-level dissemination of early warning information to reduce crisis coping and protect vulnerable children.



# ISIOLO COUNTY



## SITUATION OVERVIEW

Isiolo remains in Alert drought phase with Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes dominant through January. Short rains provided temporary rangeland relief in November-December, but conditions are stable to worsening as dry season intensifies toward February peak lean season.

Pasture and water sources are rapidly depleting, driving livestock influx from neighboring areas like Garissa into Sericho Location, Garbatulla Sub-County. This strains resources and heightens resource-based conflict risks along the Isiolo-Garissa corridor, prompting inter-county peace meetings by NDMA and Interior Ministry.

## SHOCK AND RISK PROFILE

### Drought/Dry Spells:

Failed or poor OND 2025 short rains led to vegetation deficits (VCI 47.5, trending poor in Isiolo South), pasture/browse depletion (fair-poor, lasting 1-2 months), and water shortages in Dadachabasa, Biliqo, Iresaboru.

### Resource Conflicts:

Emerging insecurity from livestock influxes (Garissa, Marsabit, Wajir), tensions in Sericho-Iresaboru and Isiolo-Garissa corridor due to competition for pasture/water

### Disease Outbreaks:

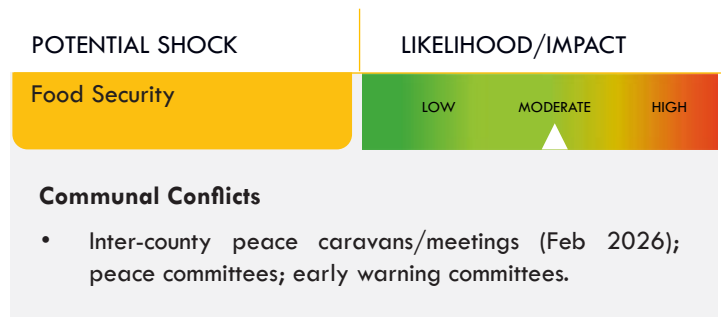
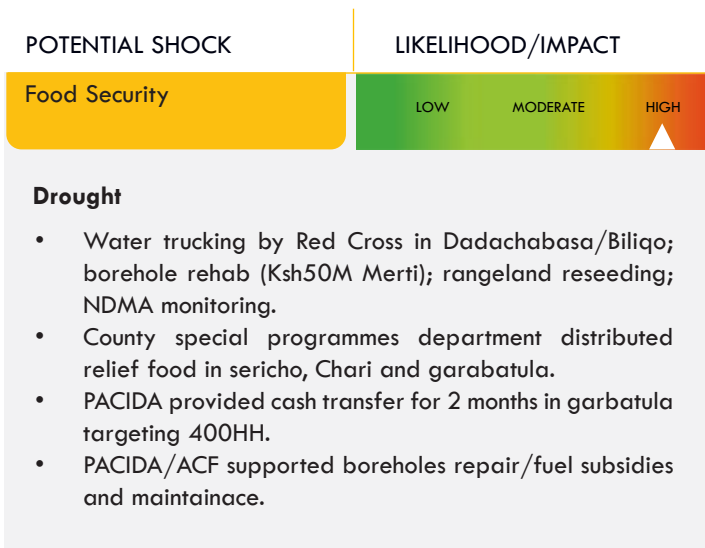
Endemic PPR, CCPP, sheep/goat pox prevalent; normal mortality but surveillance needed.

### Food Insecurity:

2.9% poor FCS, 38% borderline (population with low immediate hunger but vulnerability to future food security); rising malnutrition risk (3.8% MUAC, projected 12% by Feb 2026)



## PREPAREDNESS & ONGOING RESPONSE



## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Cash Transfers and Social Protection

Trigger cash transfers from partners and HSNP Phase 2 beneficiaries, prioritizing ultra-poor households and those most affected by the drought.

### Nutrition and Health

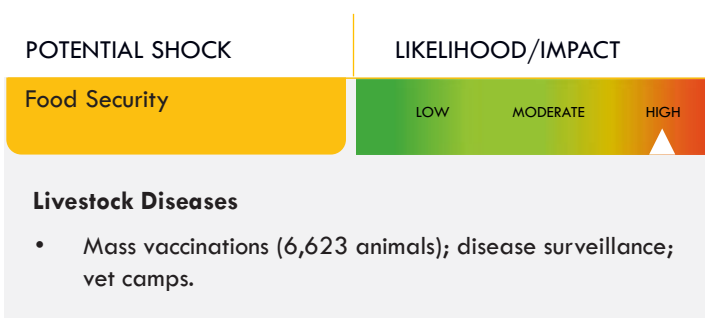
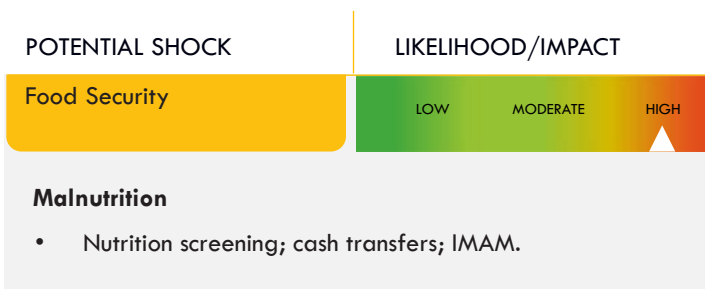
Participate in nutrition screenings to address rising MUAC risks (projected 12% peak), prioritizing children and the elderly, with focus on Merti and Garbatula sub-counties.

### Water Access

Advocate for borehole rehabilitation (e.g., Merti Ksh 50M) and water pans co-managed by EIP committees to reduce household distances from 1.7 km.

### Conflict and Targeting

Strengthen EIP community validation with peace committees in influx-prone areas, particularly Sericho–Iresaboru.





# MANDERA COUNTY



## SITUATION OVERVIEW

The county is currently in the Alarm drought phase with deteriorating conditions, driven by severe vegetation deficits, acute water shortages, and worsening food and nutrition outcomes. The failure of recent rainfall and early cessation of the OND season have significantly limited pasture regeneration and water recharge across all livelihood zones. As a result, households and livestock are trekking longer distances to access water, while reliance on water trucking has increased across the county.

Livestock productivity remains critically low, with body condition reported as poor across species and milk production far below seasonal norms. Reduced livestock productivity and declining market prices have constrained household purchasing power, while food stocks remain limited. Consequently, food consumption has deteriorated, with a large proportion of households falling within poor consumption categories.

The nutrition situation continues to worsen, with an increase in the proportion of children at risk of malnutrition. This trend is mainly attributed to reduced milk availability, limited dietary diversity, and heightened disease prevalence. Despite ongoing humanitarian interventions, household vulnerability remains high due to persistent drought stress and livelihood disruptions.

## SHOCK AND RISK PROFILE

### Drought

Persistent rainfall deficits and depressed vegetation conditions continue to limit pasture and water availability across Manderla. The three-month Vegetation Condition Index indicates extreme vegetation stress, while pasture and browse are largely depleted. Livestock trekking distances to water average over 15 km, reflecting severe resource scarcity and increased livelihood vulnerability.

### Livestock Risk

Livestock body condition remains poor across all species due to inadequate pasture and water. Disease incidence including PPR, CCPP, Sheep and Goat Pox, and trypanosomiasis has been reported, increasing mortality risks. Significant livestock losses have already been recorded in several sub-counties, further undermining pastoral livelihoods.

### Conflict

Resource-based conflicts and displacement incidents were reported during the month, driven by competition over limited grazing land and water resources. Continued livestock migration within and outside the county is intensifying pressure on already scarce resources and heightening insecurity risks.

### Food & Nutrition

Household food access remains constrained due to limited stocks and reliance on markets with unfavorable terms of trade. Milk consumption is extremely low, and food consumption scores indicate a high proportion of households with poor dietary intake. The proportion of children at risk of malnutrition has increased and remains above normal levels.



## PREPAREDNESS & ONGOING RESPONSE



### Preparedness / Interventions

The National Drought Management Authority and County Government are implementing water trucking across sub-counties, drilling and equipping emergency boreholes, providing fuel support to strategic water sources, and strengthening rapid response teams.



### Preparedness / Interventions

Coordination with security agencies and community actors is ongoing to manage resource-based conflicts and population movements.



### Preparedness / Interventions

Ongoing cash transfers, relief food distribution, and integrated health and nutrition outreaches are being implemented in many parts of the county to support vulnerable households.



### Preparedness / Interventions

County veterinary teams are conducting disease surveillance and planning mass vaccination campaigns, alongside sensitization on pasture and fodder conservation.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Livelihood Diversification

To reduce vulnerability to recurrent drought and livestock losses, households should be supported to diversify into alternative livelihoods such as small-scale trade, fodder production, and drought-resilient income activities. This will help stabilize incomes, reduce dependence on livestock, and strengthen resilience to climate shocks.

### Strengthen Peace and Resource Governance

Community-based peace structures and resource management committees should be strengthened to mediate conflicts over grazing and water, coordinate livestock movements, and promote equitable access to natural resources.

### Enhance Early Warning and Community Preparedness

Communities should receive continuous sensitization on drought early warning information and appropriate response measures. Strengthening community awareness on coping strategies, nutrition protection, and shock-responsive planning will improve preparedness and reduce negative coping behaviors.



# TANA RIVER COUNTY



## SITUATION OVERVIEW

Tana River County is currently in the Alert drought phase with a generally stable trend despite the below-average performance of the October–December 2025 short rains. The uneven rainfall distribution resulted in limited and patchy pasture regeneration and constrained recharge of water sources across pastoral and agropastoral livelihood zones.

Vegetation conditions have slightly declined compared to the previous month but remain near normal in some riverine and delta areas. Pasture and browse availability is mostly fair though gradually deteriorating in hinterland wards. Livestock body conditions are generally fair, with localized stress observed among cattle due to increasing grazing pressure and longer trekking distances to grazing and water points.

Water access is becoming more constrained as surface water sources recede. Households and livestock are increasingly relying on boreholes, shallow wells, and the River Tana. Livestock productivity remains below seasonal expectations, with slight declines in milk production and consumption following seasonal migration to dry grazing areas.

Food security indicators show emerging stress, with some households in borderline consumption categories and a growing reliance on market purchases, where staple food prices remain above long-term averages. The nutrition situation for children remains within normal seasonal ranges but requires close monitoring as food stocks and milk availability gradually decline.

## SHOCK AND RISK PROFILE

### Drought

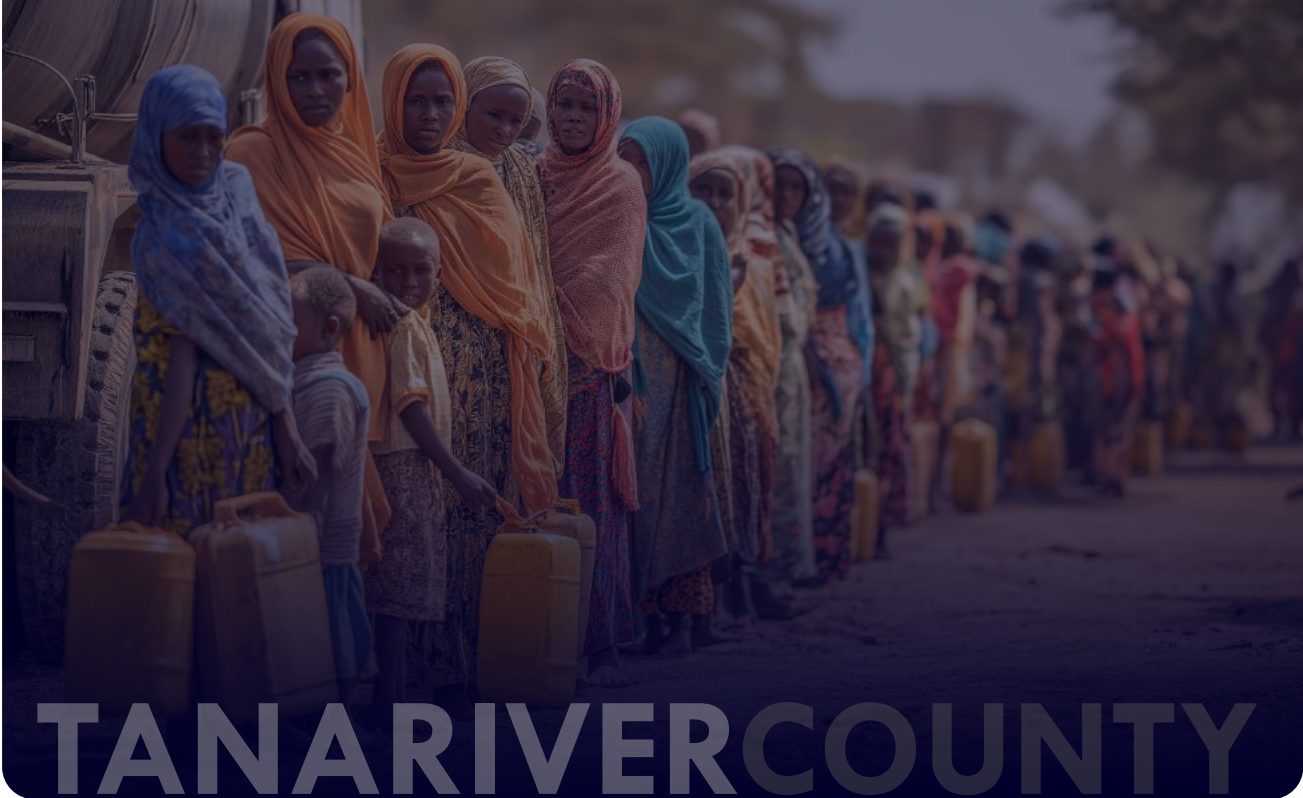
The county is currently experiencing drought conditions, which have had a negative impact on household food consumption. Average household milk consumption was below normal, estimated at 1 litre per household.

### Nutrition

The proportion of children at risk of malnutrition stands at 14.5% within the acceptable range but indicating emerging nutritional stress. A significant proportion of households recorded borderline to poor Food Consumption Scores (FCS). Households with poor FCS relied predominantly on staple foods and vegetables, with minimal consumption of protein-rich foods, reflecting inadequate dietary diversity and nutrient intake.

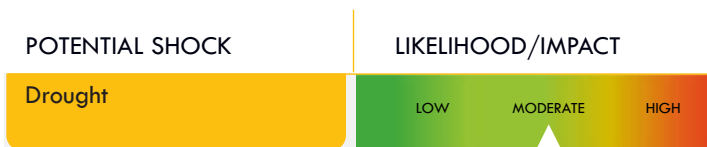
### Livestock

Cattle body condition was assessed as poor across the pastoral, marginal mixed, and mixed farming livelihood zones, indicating widespread and significant deterioration.



# TANARIVERCOUNTY

## PREPAREDNESS & ONGOING RESPONSE



### Preparedness and Response

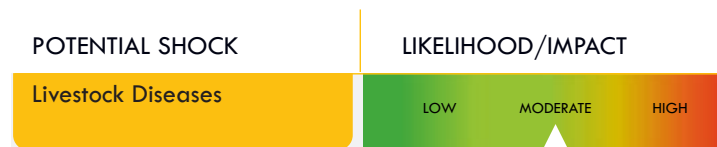
The World Food Programme (WFP), in collaboration with the Government, is implementing a food assistance intervention targeting 17,650 food-insecure individuals (2,942 households) across Chewani, Wayu, Hirimani, Sala, and Bangale wards.

Unconditional cash transfers through the Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP) targeting 7,377 beneficiaries, with each beneficiary receiving Ksh 2,700 per month.

Distribution of fodder seeds to increase animal feeds. This intervention is being implemented by WFP, WHH/BMZ, Red Cross.

Promotion of livestock enterprises by PGI & WHH.

Livestock insurance by DRIVE.



### Preparedness and Response

Veterinary drugs & vaccination (cattle, goats, poultry, camel) by intervention WHH/BMZ/FAO-SOLO.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Climate-Smart Livelihoods

The Programme can enhance its protective role by strengthening participants' capacity in climate-smart agriculture and shock-responsive livelihood strategies prior to cash disbursements. This will enable beneficiaries to invest in climate-resilient enterprises and improve their ability to withstand climate-related shocks.

### Partnerships and Institutional Linkages

The Programme should establish Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with the County Government and relevant departments to support technical training and interventions. Through these partnerships, beneficiaries can be integrated into county-led initiatives, including fodder production and seedling projects.



### Preparedness and Response

Interior coordination/chiefs and village elders try to resolve the conflict at the onset to avoid further escalation.



# THE KUZA JAMII II PROGRAM

