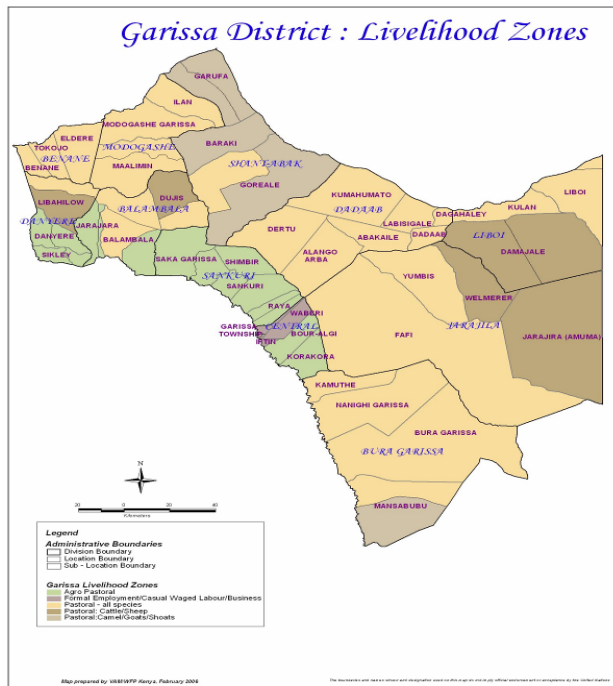


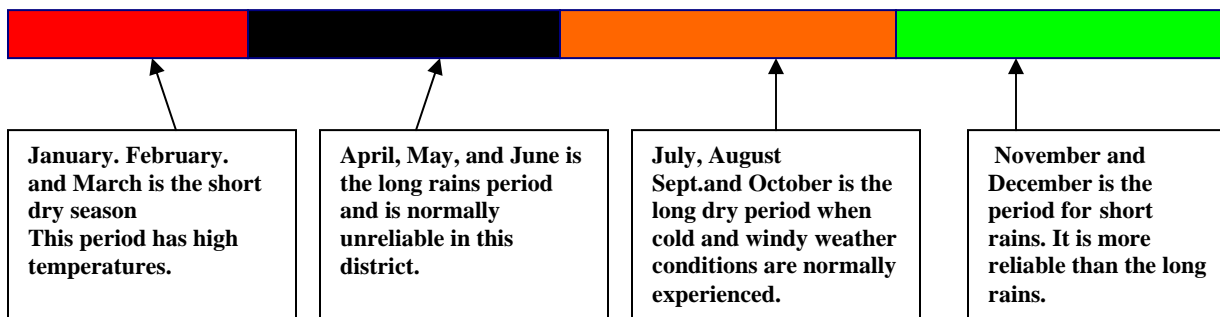


**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES
ARID LANDS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECT II**

**DROUGHT MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR APRIL 2007 DRAFT
GARISSA DISTRICT
WARNING STAGES**



Livelihood Zone	Warning stage	Trend
Agro pastoral	Alert	Improving
Formal employment/ Casual labour.	Alert	Improving
Pastoral- cattle/sheep.	Alert	Improving
Pastoral- all species	Alert	Improving
Pastoral: camels and goats	Alert	Improving
District	Alert	Improving



Situation Overview

- Rainfall started but not evenly distributed. The April long rains have started late and are not raining continuously. It has rained in parts of some division while other divisions have not received any rain.
- There is plenty of forage in all the divisions. However it is getting depleted when compared with the preceding month. The occurrence of wild fire has reduced in most parts of the district.
- Most of the pastoral communities were forced to move from large water pans in the center of the district which have dried up. Some of the water pans which dried up include Abdisemet, Khabobey, and Faf Kalala.
- Livestock moved to river Tana and to other major water sources in the district like boreholes, Benane springs and shallow wells of Galana Gof of Modogashe. Most of the boreholes are operational but not congested.
- Household accessibility to water has slightly reduced when compared with the preceding month and this is as a result most of the large water pans having dried up and the remaining becoming congested. The areas near the water pans is becoming depleted leading to an increase in the distance covered to fetch water.
- The distance for watering livestock has slightly increased because most of the large and small water pans have dried.
- There are no cases reported for conflict, insecurity and human displacement in the entire district but the security situation at the Kenya-Somali border still remained tense.
- There are no major out migration or in migration noted during the month under view. However there was slight movement of livestock from one water source to another. This is due to large water pans in the interior grazing areas drying up. Due to abundance of pasture/browse, all species of livestock body condition continued to improve fetching increased prices. Lifting of the ban on livestock sales and their products and the improvement of livestock health and body conditions reflects a positive food security implication.
- Crops diseases have not been reported from the entire district but the menace of crickets to crops remained alarming.
- Following the destructive flood of the short rains few seasonal farmers in pastoral areas have harvested few bags of maize and sorghum (Benane).
- Cattle prices continue to improve when compared with preceding month. This is due to the opening up of livestock market following the lifting of the ban. The demand for goats in big towns like Mombassa and Nairobi has increased. Sheep prices continue to improve when compared with the preceding month. Generally Livestock health and body conditions have improved during the last two months.
- The prices of maize continued to reduce when compared with the previous month. This is due to easily available cereals in rural areas. Food commodities like cooking oil and beans prices did not show any much change in prices. However sugar price has slightly reduced when compared with the preceding month.
- Opening up of municipality slaughter house, Garissa main livestock market, increased livestock prices and rehabilitation of irrigation farms indicate a positive food security implication.
- Both adults and children health continue to improve in pastoral communities. However, there are cases of measles and cholera being reported in one of the Dadaab refugee camps (IFO) and this is a threat to locals from the surrounding centers that come to sale their milk and buy their households needs from these camps.
- Children below the age of five (5) and above one (1) year nutritional status continue to improve in pastoral communities when compared with the previous month. This is due to improved health and increase in milk consumption at household level. The centers which are likely to be affected are those centers which are very close to refugee camps like Lebisigale, Alinjugur, Yumbis, Mathah gesi and Hagardere borehole five (5).

CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES

(NON FOOD)

- CARE continued to rehabilitate and service borehole facilities and engines.
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- Restocking by Oxfam through Garissa Peace Committee was carried out.

FOOD AID

- The EMOP for relief food distribution ended in March and for now reduced number of beneficiaries was anticipated to continue with effect from mid April.
- The initial figure for relief food beneficiaries in the district was 119,947 and now reduced to 91,408 beneficiaries. This was due to the last assessment done in February by KFSSG which revealed improved human and livestock conditions with increased livestock productivity.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

- The relief food should be distributed to all centers before the roads become impassable.
- More attention and assistance should be given to farms along river Tana that have been devastated by short rains flood.
- Continue to restock needy families (households) that have lost their livelihood.
- Restock with drugs and equip rural dispensaries which are not utilized.
- Continue to create awareness in pastoral communities in curbing down the burning of vegetation.
- Surveillance on livestock diseases should continue.

1.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITION

1.1 Rainfall

- Rain started but not evenly distributed. The April long rains have started late and are light. It has rained in parts of some divisions while other divisions have not received any rain. The current rains are believed to be below normal

1.2 Forage Condition

- There is plenty (above normal) of forage in the entire district. However it is getting depleted when compared with the preceding month. The occurrence of wild fire has reduced in most parts of the district.
- The available pasture is able to last for long.

1.3 Water Sources and Availability

1.3.1 Water Sources

- Most of the pastoral communities were forced to move from large water pans in the center of the district which have dried up
- Abdisemet, Khabobey, FAF Kalala and shidle water pans have dried and livestock moved to river Tana and Awliya water pan which has very little in it.
- Main water sources in the entire district are river Tana, boreholes, Benane springs and shallow wells of Galana Gof of Modogashe.

1.3.2 Household access to water

- Household accessibility to water has slightly reduced when compared with the preceding month. Most of the large water pans have dried up and the remaining becoming congested hence over populated areas becoming depleted leading to increase in the distance covered to fetch water. Agro-pastoral livelihood zones are more accessible to water sources and less distance covered compared with other pastoral zones.

1.3.3 Livestock access to water

- Most of the livestock are concentrated near few large water pans in different parts the interior grazing areas.
- In the mid of the month, a large number of livestock moved towards boreholes river Tana, Benane spring and shallow wells of Galana Gof in Modogashe division. This is so because most of the large and small water pans have dried up.
- The distance for watering livestock has slightly increased particularly in pastoral all species zone.

1.4 EMERGING ISSUES.

1.4.1 Insecurity/Conflict/ Human displacement.

- There are no cases reported for conflict, insecurity and human displacement in the entire district but the insecurity at the Kenya-Somali border still remained tense.

1.4.2 Migration

- There are no major out migration or in migration noted during the month under view. However there was slight movement of livestock from one water source to another. This is due to large water pans in the interior grazing areas drying up.

1.4.3 Implication on Food Security

- Lifting of the ban on livestock sales and their products and the improvement of livestock health and body conditions reflects a positive food security implication.

2.0 RURAL ECONOMY INDICATORS

2.1 Livestock Production

2.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- Due to abundance of pasture/browse, all species of livestock body condition continued to improve fetching increased prices in all agro-pastoral and pastoral zones.

2.1.2 Livestock Health and Diseases.

- Livestock health continued to improve in the entire district. No major livestock disease out break reported for all species in the course of the month under review.

2.1.3 Milk Production

- Milk production at household level continues to show an improvement. This is due to goats kidding down during the short dry season.

2.2 Crop Production

2.2.1 Crop production activities along river Tana.

- Irrigation farms along river Tana continue to improve depending on the capacity of the farmer.

2.2.2 Pests and Crop Diseases

- Crops diseases have not been reported from the entire district but the menace of crickets to crops remained alarming.

2.2.3 Harvest

- Following the destructive flood of the short rains few seasonal farmers in pastoral areas have harvested few bags of maize and sorghum (Benane).

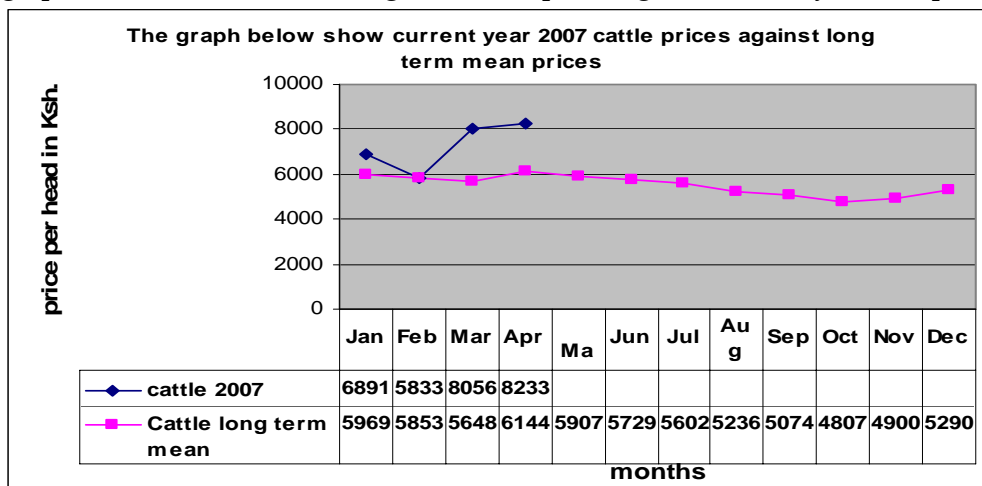
3.0 Access to food.

3.1 Livestock Marketing.

3.1.1 Cattle prices

- Cattle prices continue to improve when compared with preceding month. This is due to the opening up of Garissa livestock market and municipality slaughter house. Generally cattle prices remain high during this particular time of the year.

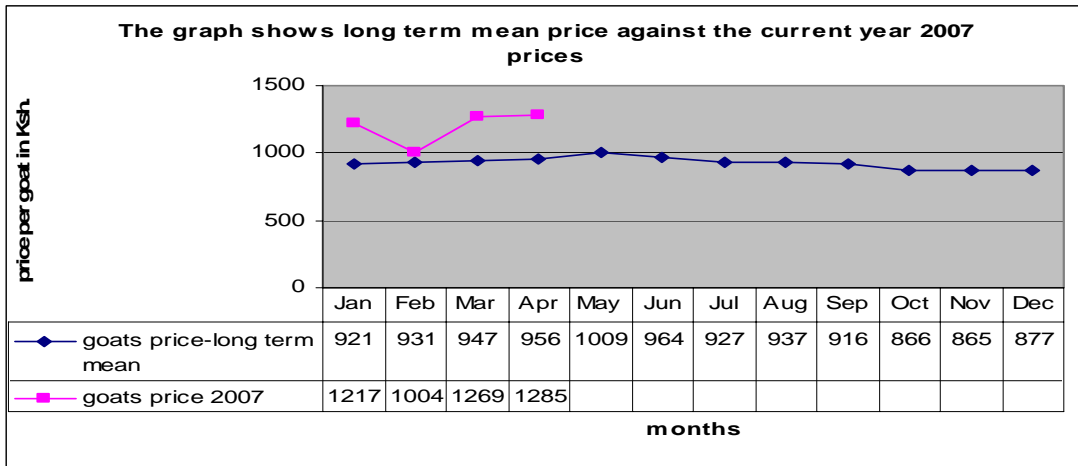
The graph below indicates cattle long term mean prices against current year 2007 prices.



3.1.2 Goats Prices.

- The price of goats continues to improve since the livestock and its products sales were lifted. The demand for goats in big towns like Mombassa and Nairobi has increased.

The graph below indicates goats' long term mean prices against current 2007 year prices.



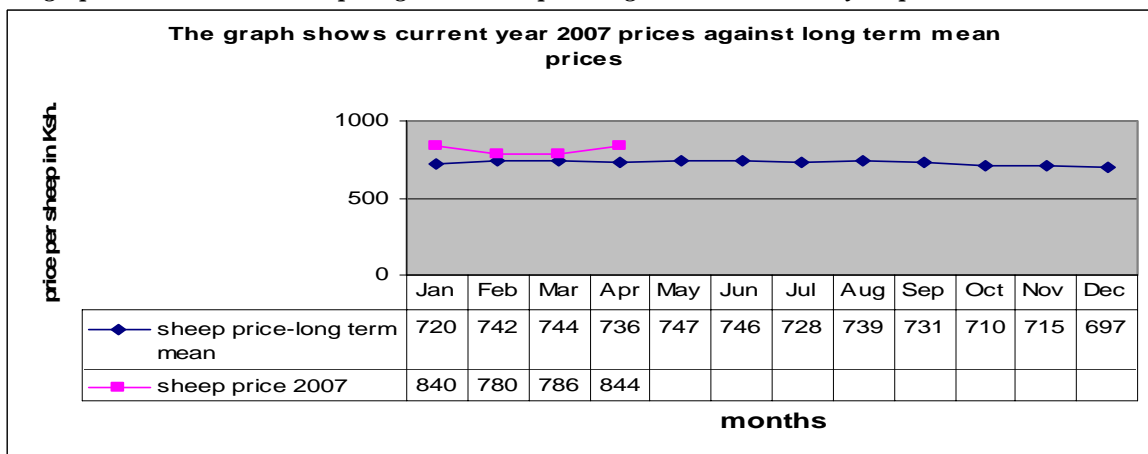
3.1.3 Sheep

Sheep prices continue to improve when compared with the preceding month. Livestock health and body conditions have improved during the last two months.

3.2 LIVESTOCK SALE

- Generally Livestock sales number has increased and their body and health conditions have also improved. Livestock traders from different parts of the country arrive in Garissa to purchase livestock hence the increase in prices and number presented for sale.

The graph below indicates sheep long term mean prices against current 2007 year prices.

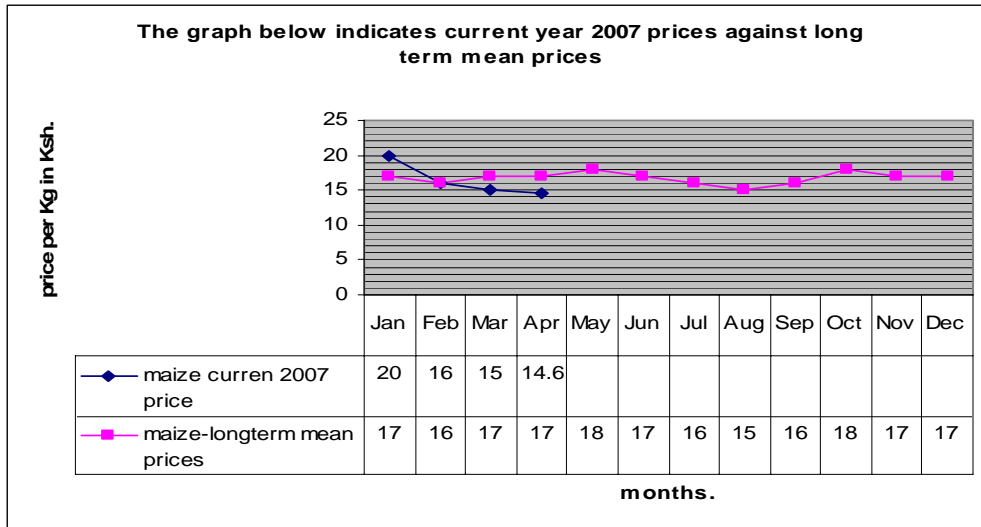


3.2.1 PURCHASE PRICE OF FOOD COMMODITIES

3.2.2 Maize price

- The prices of maize continued to reduce when compared with the previous month. This is due to easily available cereals in rural areas.

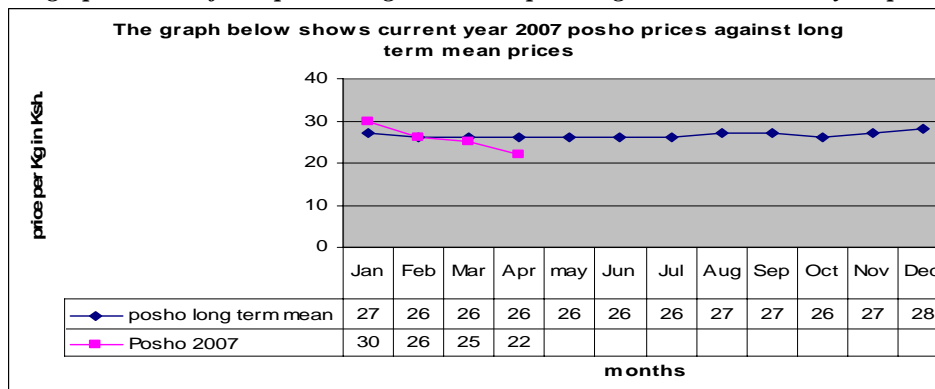
The graph below reflects maize long term mean prices against current 2007 year prices.



3.2.3 Posho (Jogoo and locally milled)

- Posho and jogoo are maize products which are largely consumed in pastoral communities. During the period under review prices of these commodities continued to fall but are anticipated to increase immediately after the onset of the rains.

The graph below reflects posho long term mean prices against current 2007 year prices



3.2.4 PURCHASE PRICE OF OTHER FOOD COMMODITIES

- Food commodities like cooking oil and beans prices did not show any much change in prices. However sugar price has slightly reduced when compared with the preceding month.

4.0 FOOD SECURITY IMPLICATION

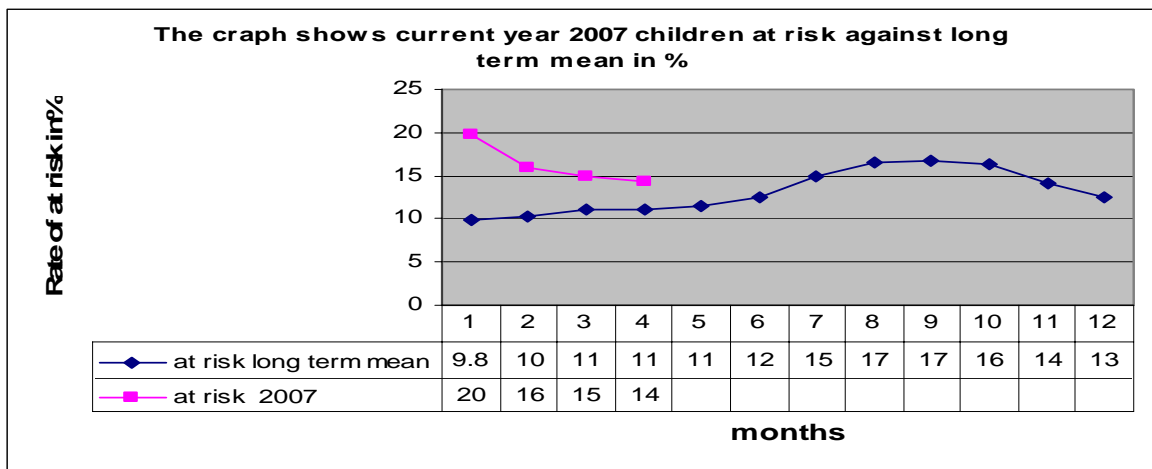
- Opening up of municipality slaughter house, Garissa main livestock market, increased livestock prices and rehabilitation of irrigation farms indicate a positive food security implication.

4.1 HUMAN WELFARE INDICATORS

4.2 Nutritional Status

- The nutritional status of children below the age of five (5) and above one (1) year continue to improve in pastoral communities when compared with the previous month. This is due to improved health and increase in milk consumption at household level.

The graph below reflects long term mean of children at risk against current 2007 year.



4.3 HUMAN HEALTH

- Both adults and children health continue to improve in pastoral communities. However, there are cases of measles and cholera being reported in one of the Dadaab refugee camps (IFO) and this is a threat to locals from the surrounding centers that come to sale their milk and buy their households needs from these camps.

4.4 FLAGGED AREAS (AFFECTED AREAS)

- The centers which are likely to be affected by the out break of the cholera and measles are those centers which are very close to refugee camps like Lebisigale, Alinjugur, Yumbis, Mathah gesi and Hagardera borehole five (5).

4.5 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES.

4.5.1 (NON-FOOD)

- CARE continued to rehabilitate and service borehole facilities and engines.
- Borehole maintenance unit continued to repair boreholes and funded by ALRMP.
- Restocking of destitute families by Garissa Peace Committee through funding from OXFAM continued during the month.

4.5.2 FOOD AID

- The EMOP for relief food distribution ended in March and for now reduced number of beneficiaries was anticipated to continue receiving relief food with effect from mid April.
- The initial figure for relief food beneficiaries in the district were 119,947 and now reduced to 91,408 beneficiaries. This was due to the last assessment done by KFSSG which revealed improved human and livestock conditions with increased livestock productivity.

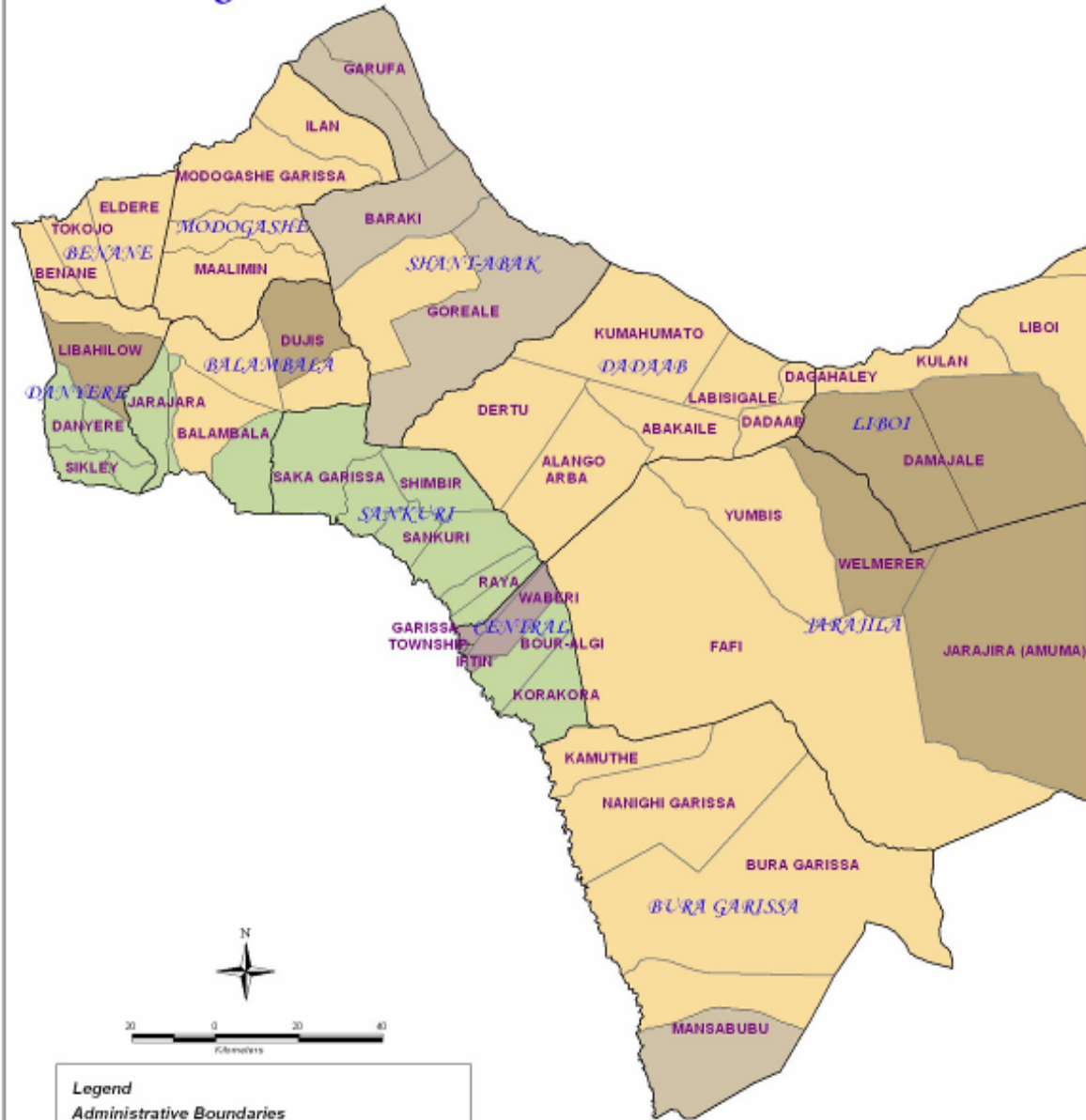
5.0 COPING STRATEGY.

6.0 There is abundance of forage in most parts of the district and pastoralists are really concentrated on how to increase their herd sizes and prepare for any eventuality.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS.

- The relief food should be distributed to all centers before the roads become impassable.
- More attention and assistance should be given to farms along river Tana that have been devastated by short rains flood.
- Continue to restock needy families (households) that have lost their livelihood.
- Restock with drugs and equip rural dispensaries which are not utilized.
- Continue to create awareness in pastoral communities in curbing down the burning of vegetation.
- Surveillance on livestock diseases should continue.

Garissa District : Livelihood Zones



Legend

Administrative Boundaries

- Division Boundary
- Location Boundary
- Sub - Location Boundary

Garissa Livelihood Zones

- Agro Pastoral
- Formal Employment/Casual Waged Labour/Business
- Pastoral - all species
- Pastoral: Cattle/Sheep
- Pastoral: Camel/Goats/Sheeps

Map prepared by WFP/Kenya, February 2004

The boundaries and names shown and designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations