

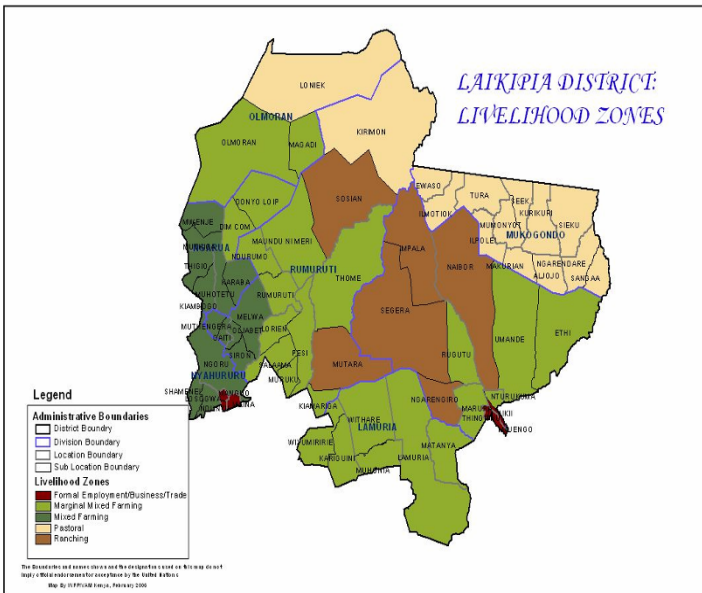


OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

DROUGHT MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR APRIL 2007

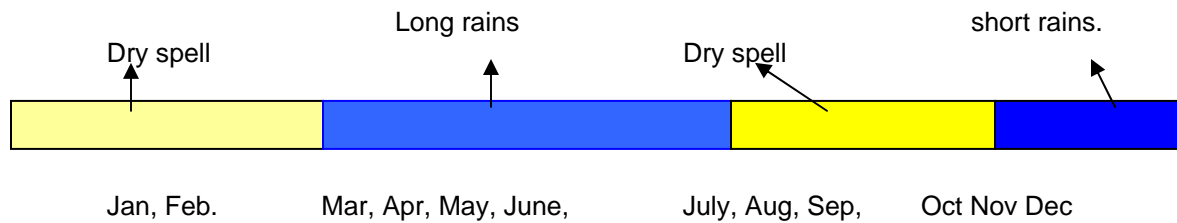
LAIKIPIA DISTRICT

WARNING STAGES



| Livelihood Zone | Warning stage | Trend |
|------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| PASTORAL ALL SPECIES | Alert | Improving |
| AGRO -PASTORAL | Alert | IMPROVING |
| MIXED FARMING | NORMAL | NORMAL |
| MARGINAL MIXED FARMING | ALERT | IMPROVING |

SEASONAL CALENDAR



Situation Overview

- ❖ Long rains have started and is poorly distributed, Mukogodo division being the worst with very little rains.
- ❖ Most of the rivers are flowing following the onset of the rains.
- ❖ Livestock body condition of most species is moderate to good especially for cattle and sheep.
- ❖ Crops are at germination stage in the marginal and mixed farming zones.
- ❖ Food security remained relatively stable as most of the livestock markets were open and the food stocks from the short rains were still available for the marginal agricultures zones.
- ❖ Pasture and browse were relatively fair and improving owing to the onset of the rains.

Recommendation to the district DSG

- ❖ Assessment of food security at house holds level for the pastoral and marginal agriculture zones.
- ❖ School fees bursaries to the poor parents of the pastoral and marginal agriculture zones
- ❖ Restocking to be done for the farmers who lost animals in the drought of last year.
- ❖ De-worming of the shoats following the rains.

1. Environmental indicators

1.1. Rainfall

- The rains stopped in mid march followed by dry period that went to mid April. Then followed by some scattered rains in parts of the district. Mukogodo and parts of Rumuruti division did not receive good rains the pastures are still dry in those parts of the district.

1.2. Natural vegetation (Browse and pasture).

- Pastures and browse are still available for the livestock there is no livestock that have moved due to lack of pastures.

1.3 Water Availability

- Most of the rivers are flowing owing this to the onset of the short rains in most of the district.
- Most of the rural people continued to access water from rivers and dams.
- Distance to water points decreasing. To the normal return time..

2. RURAL ECONOMY INDICATORS.

2.1 Livestock production.

2.1.1 Livestock Body Condition.

- Livestock body condition is still good to fair in most of the district following the good short rains and now the on set of the long rains.

2.1.2 Livestock Diseases.

- There were no major cases of livestock disease reported

2.2 CROP PRODUCTION.

2.2.1 Condition of Various Crops.

- In the marginal agriculture zones crops are now germinating following the delay of rains which started in mid-April instead of mid March. But in the mixed farming zones that Nyahururu and Ngarua they are now in the 1st weeding stage for maize crop.

2.2.2 Pests and Disease.

- No major pests reported from the agricultural zones.

2.2.3 Harvest.

- No crops in the farms.

2.2.4 Implication on Food Security.

- The rains have started late by one month i.e. they were expected to start in mid march but they have gone to mid April. The amount being received is not promising but by May an assessment should be done to determine the situation.

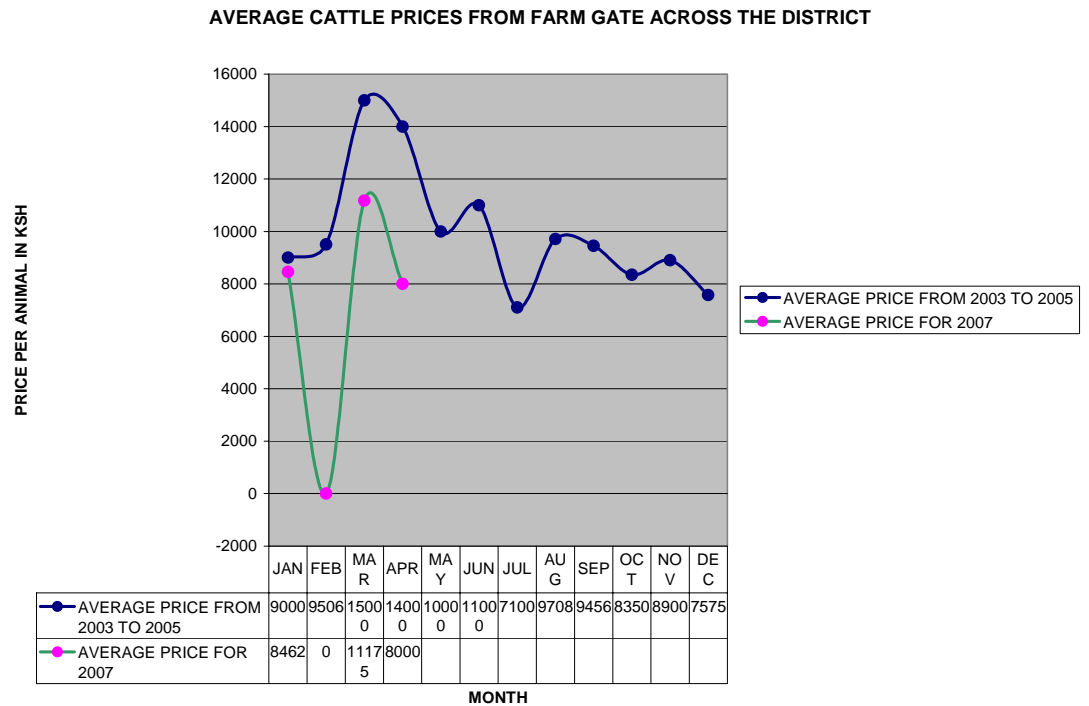
3. ACCESS TO FOOD.

3.1 Livestock Marketing

- Livestock markets are now open and livestock prices are still stable.

3.1.1. Cattle prices.

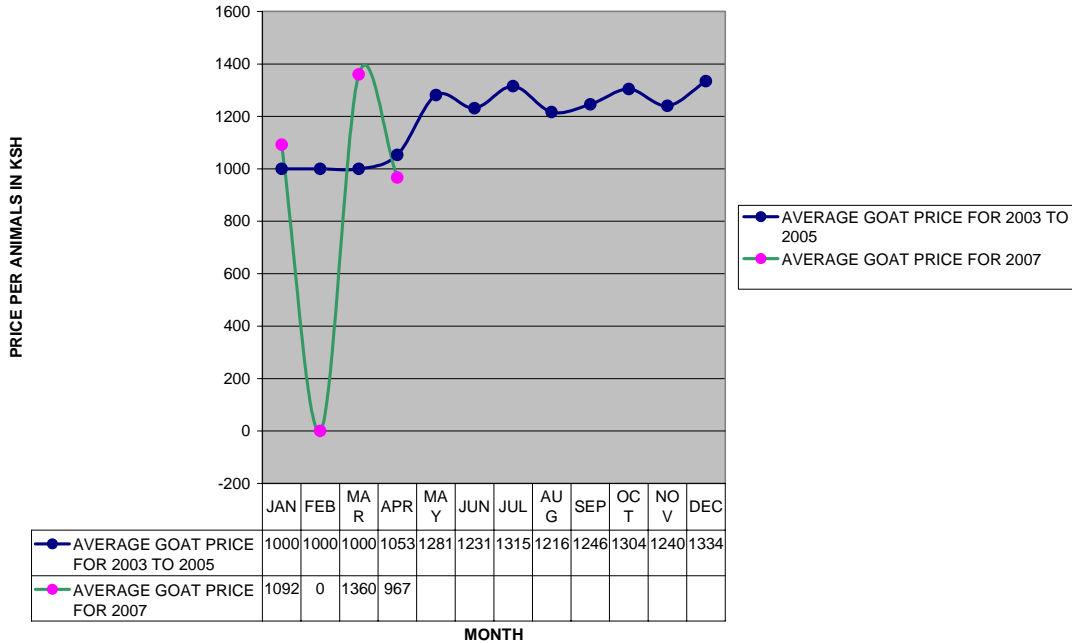
There were good sales of cattle and the price was good following the opening of the markets after the quarantine that was imposed the demand is also high.



** there were no sales in February due to the quarantine of rift valley fever.*

3.1.2. GOAT PRICES

AVERAGE LIVESTOCK PRICES FOR GOATS FROM FARM GATE ACROSS THE DISTRICT

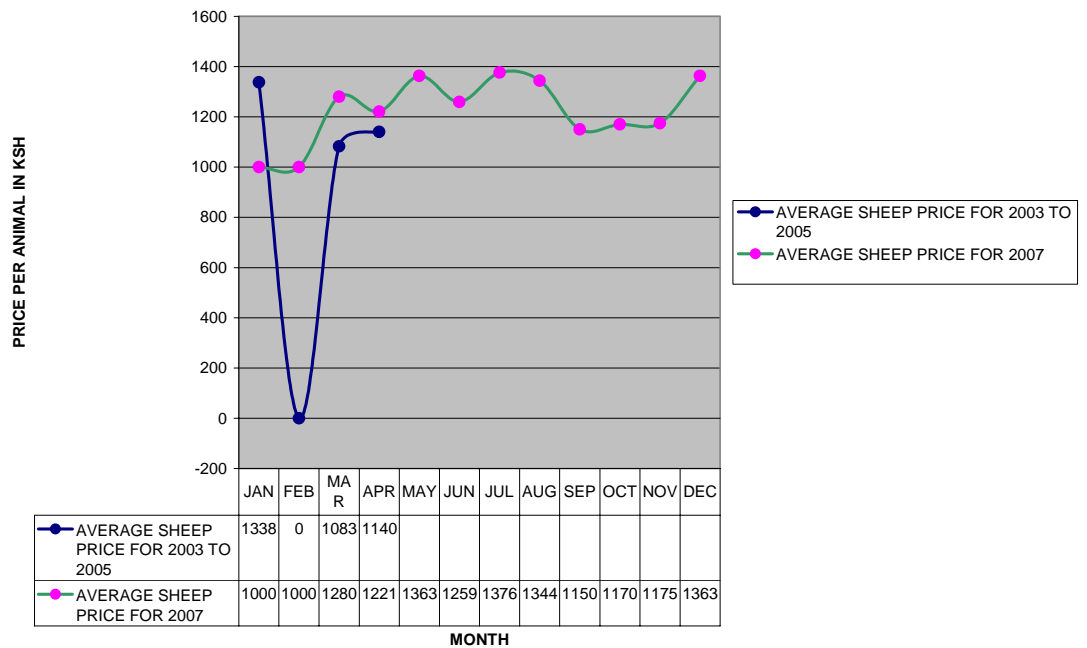


* there were no sales in February due to the quarantine of rift valley fever.

3.1.3. SHEEP PRICES.

➤ Sheep has also recorded good sales following the opening of markets.

AVERAGE SHEEP PRICE FROM FARM GATE ACROSS THE DISTRICT



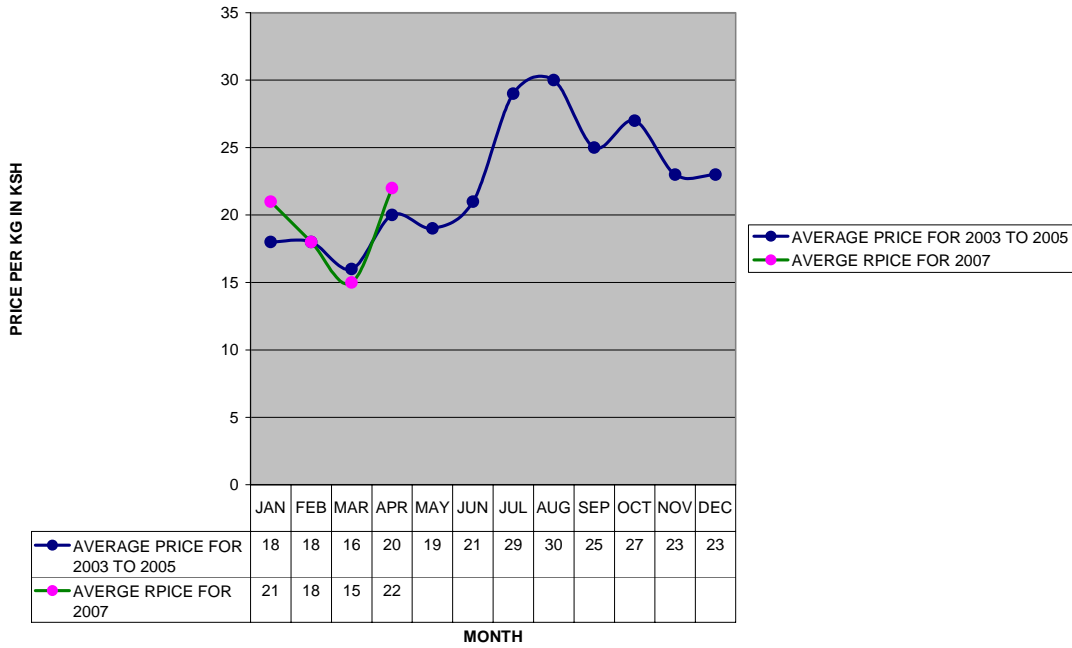
* there were no sales in February due to the quarantine of Rift Valley fever.

3.2 FOOD PRICES

3.2.1 MAIZE

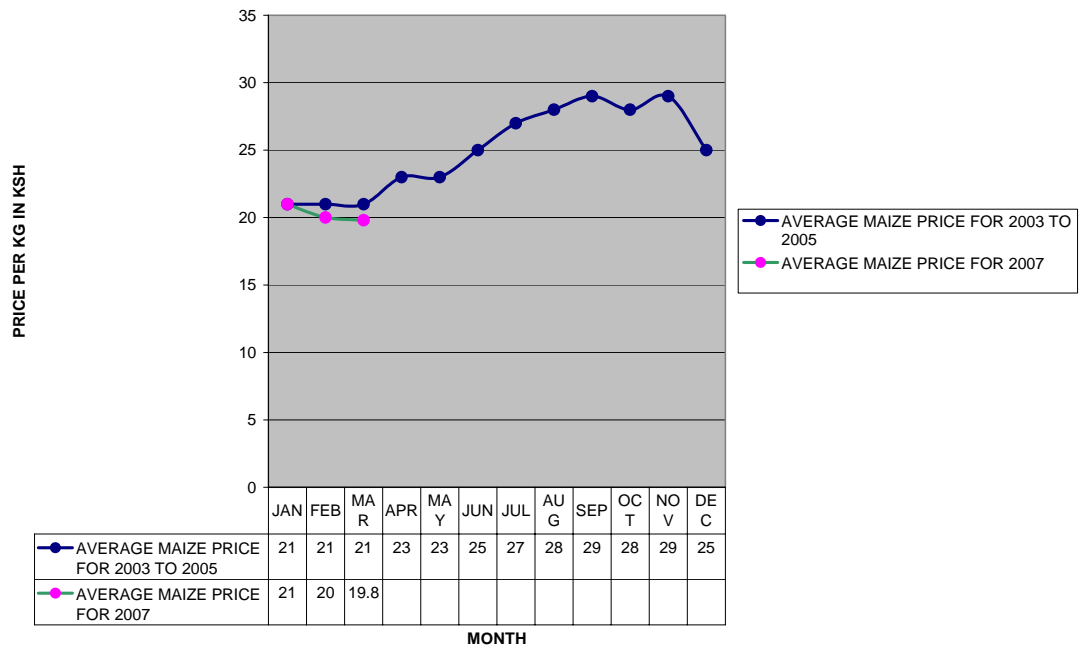
- The price of maize going down due to availability of other crops that were harvested during the short rains e.g. potatoes, beans etc.

AVERAGE MAIZE PRICE FROM VARIOUS MARKETS ACROSS THE DISTRICT



3.2.2 Posho prices

AVERAGE POSHO PRICE FROM VARIOUS MARKETS ACROSS THE DISTRICT

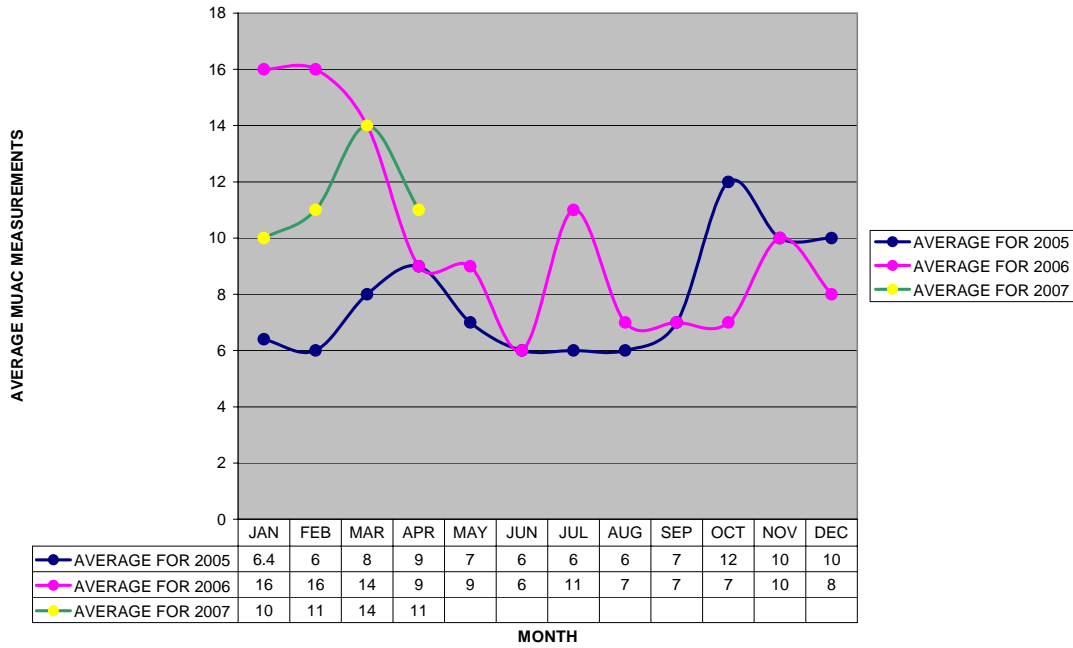


4. HUMAN WELFARE INDICATORS

4.1 NUTRITION STATUS OF SAMPLED CHILDREN IN THE DISTRICT SAMPLE AREAS.

The Graph below shows nutritional status of the Children 12-59 months of Mid Upper Arm Circumference in Millimeters (MUAC)

AVERAGE MUAC MEASUREMENTS FOR CHILDREN UNDER 5 YRS ACROSS THE DISTRICT



- Malnutrition is going down up for children under five. Due to the improved status of milk production and the good harvest of the short rains harvest.

4.2 HEALTH

No major disease out break for human beings.

3.1 FOOD AID

- There was no food aid distributed in the month.

3.2 INSECURITY/ HUMAN WILDLIFE CONFLICT

- No major cases of Human wildlife conflict reported

3.3 MIGRATION/ HUMAN DISPLACEMENT

- No migration of people and livestock was reported as most of the district still has enough pastures for the livestock.

3.3 COPING STRATEGIES

- Selling of crops harvested during the short rains

4 RECOMMENDATIONS.

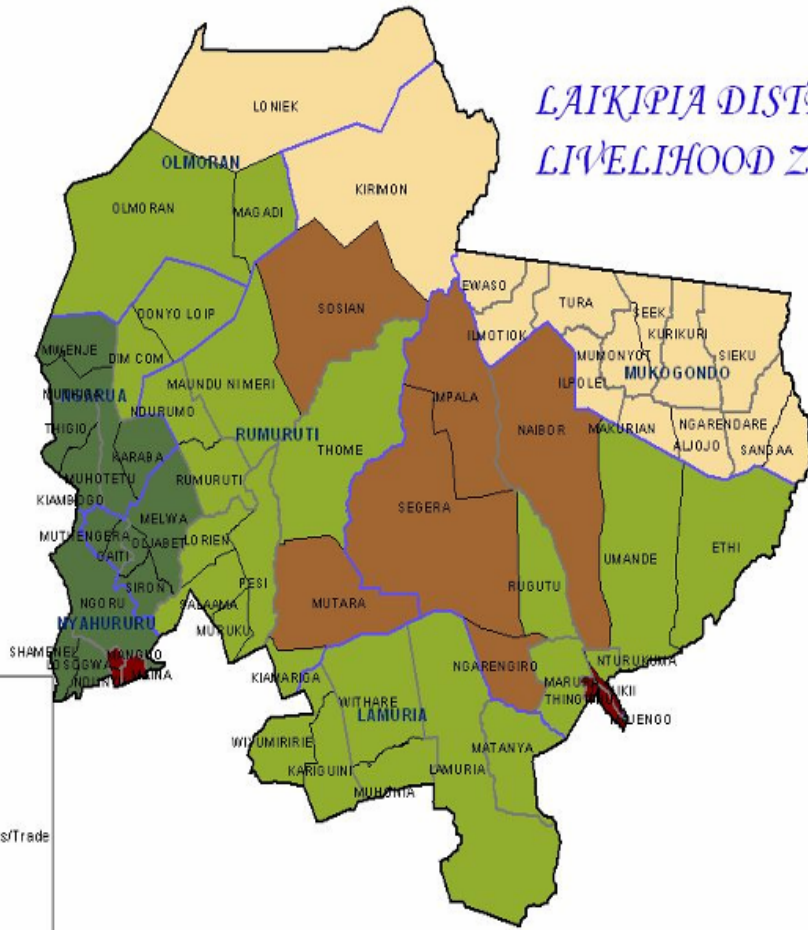
- Assessment of food security at house holds level for the pastoral and marginal agriculture zones.
- School fees bursaries to the poor parents of the pastoral and marginal agriculture zones
- Restocking to be done for the farmers who lost animals in the drought of last year.
- De-worming of the shoats following the rains.

LAIKIPIA DISTRICT: LIVELIHOOD ZONES

Legend

| Administrative Boundaries | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | District Boundary |
| | Division Boundary |
| | Location Boundary |
| | Sub Location Boundary |
| Livelihood Zones | |
| | Formal Employment/Business/Trade |
| | Marginal Mixed Farming |
| | Mixed Farming |
| | Pastoral |
| | Ranching |

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Map by WFP/FAO Kenya, February 2008



GOK -early warning semi-arid extension uses the following **WARNING STAGES** to indicate trends in food security in Rural households:

NORMAL: Environmental, livestock, crop production and Welfare indicators show no unusual fluctuations and remain in the expected seasonal range.

ALERT: Environmental indicators show unusual fluctuations outside expected seasonal ranges. This occurs within the entire district, or within localized regions,
OR: Asset levels of households are still too low to provide an adequate subsistence level and vulnerability to food insecurity is still high.

ALARM: Environmental and livestock/agriculture indicators fluctuate outside expected seasonal ranges, affecting the local economy. This condition occurs in most parts of the district, and directly, and indirectly threatens food security of Pastoralists / Agro- pastoralists and Marginal farmers.

EMERGENCY: All indicators are fluctuating outside normal ranges. Local production systems are collapsed as well as the dominant economy within the district. This situation affects the asset status and purchasing power of the population to an extent that welfare levels have.