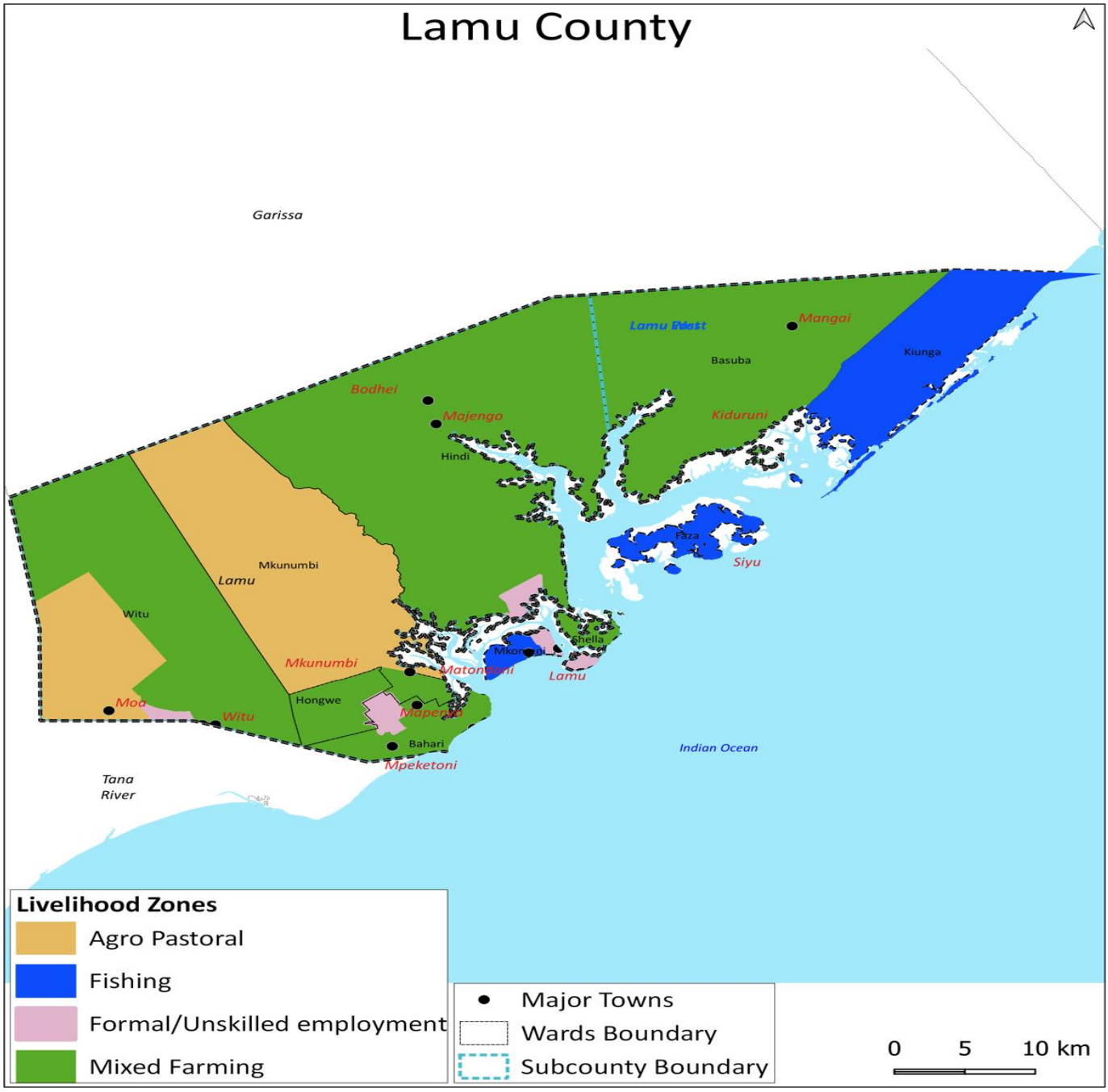
LAMU COUNTY
2025 LONG RAINS FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY ASSESSMENT REPORT



A Joint Report By the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG)[1] and Lamu County Steering Group/Technical Working Group

JULY 2025

[1] Adan Barre Mohamed (NDMA

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Food security assessments are conducted bi-annually following the county's bi-modal rainfall pattern after the two main seasons: March-April-May (MAM) long rains and October November-December (OND) short rains. The assessment covered three sub-counties namely Lamu West, Central and Lamu East within the Mixed Farming (MF) Agro-pastoral and fishing livelihood zones. The assessment was conducted from 16nd July to 26th July 2025. The main aim was to conduct an objective, evidence-based and transparent food security situation analysis following the performance of long rains season of 2025, considering the cumulative effect of previous seasons, and to provide recommendations for possible response options based on the situation analysis. The Key drivers of food insecurity were above average long rains, Army Worms infestation, crop failure, high prices of food commodities and insecurity. The onset of the rains was on third dekad of March, compared to the usual first dekad of March. The cumulative rainfall received in the county was 606.9 millimetres being five percent above the long-term average of 578.1mm. This was, however, higher by 37 percent compared to the same previous year that recorded 382.5mm. The rainfall was fairly distributed in both time and space across all Livelihood Zones. However, the cessation of the rains was delayed until the third dekad of May which was normal. Additionally, the acreage under rain-fed crop decreased compared to the long-term average. The area under maize production was 6.7 percent below average., while that of cowpeas and green grams was 24 and 26 percent below average respectively. The decline was attributed to flash floods and above average rainfall, high soil moisture which lead to crop loss. The expected yield for maize, cowpeas and green grams were, seven, 23 and 26 percent below average. The decrease in yield was attributed to the decrease in acreage of the area planted due to floods. The acreage under tomatoes was stable compared to the long-term average, kales and amaranthus recorded a decline of 10 percent and 14 percent respectively. The decline in acreage owed to the irrigation farmers putting more efforts to rain fed crops because of high of farm input. The major crop losses encountered in irrigated crops was attributed to high incidence of fungal disease and pests attack such as tuta absoluta experienced in tomatoes. The reduction in yields was attributed to the decline in cultivated acreage and the high operational costs. The maize stock held at farmer, trader and miller level were 27, 15 and 31 percent below the long-term average respectively. The reason for less grain at household and millers' level was attributed to by poor yield experienced in previous seasons as the stock is usually cumulative of immediate season. This downward trend in stocks held at various levels could be attributed to decrease in previous seasons harvest. Forage condition was fair to good in all Livelihood Zones but fair in the Fishing Zones compared to good in normally. Return trekking distances for water has decline in all the Livelihood Zones and below long-term average except in the fishing zone. The current Livestock body condition for cattle is fair to good while goat and sheep is good in all Livelihood Zones except the Fishing Zones, the body condition was fair compared to good in the normal period. The current birth rate is low and as a result led to below normal milk production and consumption across all Livelihood Zones. Water consumption per person per day has increased from 10-15 litres to the current 20-25 litres. The average maize price for the month of July retailed at Ksh. 66 per kilogramme compared to the long-term average price of Ksh 61. Goat prices recorded Ksh. 6000 for a medium sized goat which was higher compared to long term average price of Ksh. 5,200 Currently. Households can purchase 107 kilogrammes of maize compared to the long-term average of 103 kilogrammes from the sale of a medium-sized goat. According to NDMA sentinel site data for July 34 percent of the population had poor food consumption scores, 54 percent had borderline scores, and 12 percent had acceptable scores. The reduced copping strategy in July 2025, the county recorded a reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) of 13.59, up from 12.91 in June 2024, indicating that households were resorting to more severe consumption-based coping mechanisms. Sentinel site data revealed that 66 percent of households adopted moderate consumption-based coping strategies in response to food shortages, while one percent employed severe strategies. According to NDMA nutrition data for the month of July 2025 recorded 10.6 percent of children were at risk of malnutrition, a figure that remained stable compared to June.The current food security situation in the County is Stressed (IPC Phase 2).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1. Count y Background

Lamu County is located along the coastal strip of Kenya and borders Garissa to the North, Tana River to the South-west and the Indian Ocean to the east. The county's total population, according to KNBS (2019), was 143,920 people (76,103 males, 67,813 females, and 4 intersex individuals). The projected population for 2025 is 175,705. The county covers an approximate area of 6,474 square kilometres (km^2) which includes the mainland and over 65 islands that forms the Lamu Archipelago. The total length of the coastline is 130km while land water mass area stands at 308 km^2. Administratively, the county is divided into three sub-counties namely: Lamu East; Central; and Lamu West which span across four Livelihood Zones namely; Mixed Farming; Agro-Pastoral; Fishing; And The Formal/Casual/Business Livelihood Zones (Figure 1). The main sources of cash income in the Agro-pastoral Livelihood Zone include livestock keeping, with over 60 percent of households relying on it as their primary source of income and food. Additionally, 40 percent of households depend on other sources such as food crop sales, fishing, boda boda transport, and small businesses. In the Mixed Farming Livelihood Zone, farming and livestock keeping are the preferred livelihood patterns and constitute a significant source of both food and cash income. The sale of food crops contributes 10-30 percent of household income across the four wealth groups, while cash crop sales contribute 15-25 percent of household income. Additionally, households place reliance on a combination of small businesses, beekeeping, casual/waged labour, and livestock sales to supplement their income. In the Fishing livelihood zone, fishing serves as a significant source of both food and cash income. It is estimated that 35-60 percent of households rely on fishing as their primary source of income and food, while others depend on small businesses. Food crop production also supplements incomes for the very poor and middle households in the area. In the Formal/Unskilled Employment Livelihood Zone, formal waged labour, casual/waged labour, and business are the preferred patterns of livelihood and constitute a significant source of both food and cash income. Around 50-65 percent of households depend on casual/waged labour as their primary source of income, while 25 percent of middle households derive their income from formal waged labour. Poverty remains high across all Livelihood Zones, with 35.6 percent of the population living below the poverty line, and in areas like Lamu West and Lamu East, the rates are 34 and 25 percent, respectively.

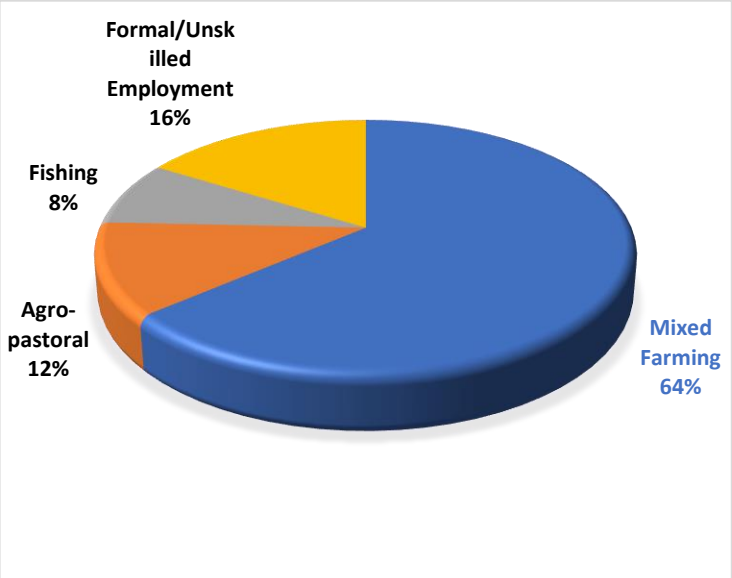


Figure 1: Population Proportion by Livelihood Zone

1.2. Objectives of the Assessment

The main objective of the Long Rains Food Security Assessment (LRA) was to conduct an objective, evidence-based and transparent food security situation analysis following the performance of Long rains season of 2025 in Lamu County, considering the cumulative effect of previous seasons, and to provide recommendations for possible response options based on the situation analysis. Specifically, the assessment was intended:To ascertain the quantity and quality of the 2025 Long rains, to assess the impact of the season's performance on food security situation, to assess the impact on livelihoods including crop and livestock production, markets, water, nutritional status and socio-economic conditions, to assess the geographical spread of other hazards,

and determine the impact of the shock on livelihoods, to take stock of the available response activities addressing food insecurity and malnutrition and to establish required non-food intervention, with particular emphasis on programmes that promote preparedness and build household resilience, to assess potential food needs, including options for appropriate transfer modalities such as cash transfers, food for assets, safety nets and general food distribution and to obtain adequate and reliable information for projecting food security needs.

1.3. Methodology and Approach

Both qualitative and quantitative methods were employed for the 2025 Long Rains Assessment. In Lamu County, the assessment took place from 16th to 24th July 2025. Data was gathered by technical officers from the agriculture, livestock, health and nutrition, water, and education sectors using structured sectoral checklists. Site selection was guided by several criteria, including the performance of the March–May (MAM) rains, crop conditions, ongoing irrigation activities, resource-based conflicts, and the presence of key markets. Primary data was collected at the sub-county level through key informant interviews, focus group discussions (FGDs), direct observations during transect drives, and the administration of checklists by sector officers. Secondary data sources included the NDMA drought monitoring bulletins, the Kenya Health Information System (KHIS), sectoral reports, rainfall estimates (RFE) maps, population data, and findings from previous assessments. Validation of checklist data was conducted through additional transect drives and FGDs across the county's livelihood zones. The assessment process began with an initial technical County Steering Group (CSG) briefing to outline its aims and objectives. This was followed by field visits and culminated in the drafting of the county assessment report, which was subsequently validated in a final CSG meeting.

2.0 DRIVERS OF FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY IN THE COUNTY

2.1 Rainfall Performance

Lamu County experiences Long Rains season in March, April and May (MAM). The county is dependent on the long rains as it contributes to 80 percent while short contribute 20 percent of the total annual crop production. The onset of the Long rains was late, occurring during the third dekad of March compared to the first dekad of March normally. Cumulative amounts of rains received in the county was 606.9 millimeters (mm) being five percent above the long-term average of 578.1mm. This was, however, higher by 37 percent compared to the long rains during the previous year that recorded 382.5mm. Most areas in the county especially in Lamu West and part of Lamu East sub counties recorded between 51-75 percent of the normal rains. Pockets in Agro-pastoral and part of Mixed Farming zones and fishing received between 76-90 percent of normal rains (Figure 2). The rains were characterized by fair temporal distribution as most of the rains were received in the three dekads of May. Spatial distribution was uneven across all Livelihood Zones. The cessation was in the third dekad of May, which was normal.

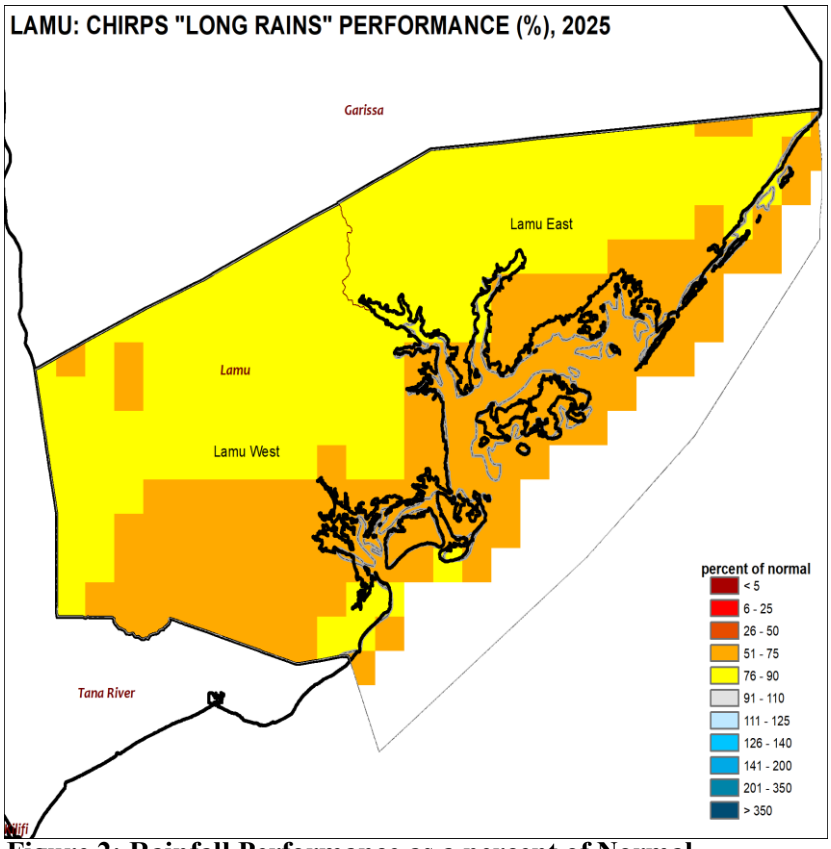


Figure 2: Rainfall Performance as a percent of Normal

2.2 Insecurity/Conflict

There were no reports of insurgents of terrorists in the County during the long rain season. However, there is fear among the communities on the same which has slowed down livestock and farming activities within the livelihood zones and caused fear among the residents. However, the situation was being monitored and contained through active surveillance by the government security personnel. Various peace-building initiatives on resource-based conflict between crop and livestock farmers were conducted in the Agro-pastoral and Mixed Farming zones. Human wildlife conflicts over crops destruction were also reported, thus reducing expected production.

2.3 Floods and Flash Floods

The reduction in acreage for the three crops was largely attributed to flash floods resulting from heavy rainfall, which led to waterlogging and crop losses, particularly in marshy areas. The floods also disrupted the delivery of essential health and nutrition services such as growth monitoring and immunization. Access to health facilities, especially in Witu Ward—including Chalaluma, Pandanguo, and Kona Mbaya—became difficult, adversely affecting the health supply chain. Additionally, the floods impacted grazing areas, leading to increased grazing distances for livestock.

2.4 Other Shocks and Hazards

High prices of food commodities

High prices of food commodities were witnessed during the season coupled with low purchasing power at household levels. Fishing Livelihood Zone was mostly affected with the high commodity prices exacerbated by high cost of sea travel.

Crop Failure

The acreage and yields of rain-fed crops such as maize, cowpeas, and green grams declined to below-average levels due to above-normal rainfall. Early-planted crops were adversely affected by excessive rainfall and prolonged soil moisture, leading to wilting and poor growth. Additionally, the premature harvesting and sale of green maize will further reduce the grain yield, worsening the prevailing food insecurity situation.

Livestock pests and diseases

Other hazards which impacted on food insecurity in the county included livestock diseases caused by tsetse fly infestation (Trypanosomiasis), ticks and worms impacting on livestock body condition and production. The county government has put in measures to contain these through vaccination, treatment and disease surveillance for timely interventions.

Crop pests and diseases – FAW

Significant crop losses were reported due to pest infestations and fungal diseases. Tomato yields declined by two percent, largely attributed to attacks by *Tuta absoluta* and fungal infections. Similarly, kales experienced a notable eight percent reduction in yield, primarily due to infestations by the diamondback moth.

3.0 IMPACTS OF DRIVERS ON FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

3.1 Availability

Food availability is primarily influenced by crop production, livestock productivity, and trade. Shortfalls in local food production are typically offset through imports from neighbouring counties, cross-border trade with Tanzania and Uganda, food assistance, and market supplies. This section analyses food availability by examining farm output and livestock performance.

3.1.1. Crop Production

Comparatively 80 percent of the county's annual food crop production is attributed to the long rains hence a very crucial season, while the remaining 20 percent is attained during short rains season. The main food crops grown during the season include maize, cowpeas, and green grams. In addition, other crops grown in specific Livelihood Zones include: In the Mixed Farming livelihood zone, maize, green grams, and cowpeas are grown for both food and cash. In the Fishing livelihood zone, cowpeas, green grams, and simsim are cultivated, with simsim primarily grown for cash. In the Formal/Unskilled Labour livelihood zone, maize, cowpeas, and green grams are grown for both food and cash. In the Agropastoral livelihood zone, maize, cowpeas and green grams are primarily cultivated for food.

Rain fed production

The area under maize production was 6.7 percent less than LTA while that of cowpeas and green grams were 24 percent and 26 percent less than LTA respectively. The decrease in Maize acreage could be attributed to the flash floods and excess soil moisture causing leaching and stunted growth and flooding. The decrease in acreage for pulse (cowpeas and green gram resulted from delayed planting by farmer to time were soil moisture decline. All these undermined the effort by the CGL, support to farmers by availing subsidized tractor hire service and free certified seeds maize (PH4,

PH1, KH500 and Haraka), cowpeas, green gram and sorghum seeds along other seedlings, provision of extension service and farmers' effort in adoption of modern farming techniques (use of certified seeds and herbicides). However, if the July August showers continue, there may be some improvement as planting has been continuing. The NCPB Mokowe depot in conjunction with CGL availed the subsidy fertilizer for registered farmers. The fertilizer types and quantities were; DAP, CAN and NPK. The expected yield for maize, cowpeas and green grams were, seven, 23 and 26 percent less than LTA respectively. The decrease in yield could be attributed to low acreage under the three crops and low production per unit area for instance maize approximately 8, 90kg bags/Ha while that of cowpeas and green gram 5, 90kg bag/Ha. There were some cases of flash floods in some parts of Witu, Mkunumbi and Hongwe wards in Lamu West Sub-County. The excess soil moisture resulted to stunted growth in maize and only farmers who could afford manure and fertilizer will realise some harvest. On the other hand, the pulses tended to be vegetative at the expense of pods formation. The Government subsidy fertilizer was limited to the farmers with E-vouchers, limited and inaccessible farm inputs (high cost of certified seeds and tractor hire service) contributed to poor anticipated yield. There were high variations in acreage and expected yield for maize, cowpeas and green gram across all the livelihood zones. But the most affected were low lying areas with sandy soils than high lying areas with loamy soils.

Table 1: Rain-fed crop production

Crop	Area planted during 2025 Long rains season (Ha)	Long-term Average area planted during the long rains season (Ha)	2025 short rains season production (90 kg bags) Projected	Long-term Average production during the short rains season (90 kg bags)
1.Maize	18,200	19,503	145,600	157,272
2.Cowpeas	2,230	2,926	12,711	16596
3.Green grams	2580	3,498	12,900	17507

Irrigated crop production

The area under the three main irrigated crops remained below the long-term average. While the acreage under tomatoes was stable compared to the long-term average, kales and amaranthus recorded a decline of 10 percent and 14 percent respectively. Many irrigation farmers shifted focus to rain-fed crop production due to the lower cultivation costs involved. This shift was largely driven by financial constraints, as farmers grappled with the rising costs of electricity and petroleum fuel. Additionally, the high cost of agrochemicals limited their use to only a few farmers who could afford them. Consequently, yields of irrigated crops declined by 24 percent for tomatoes, 10 percent for kales, and 13 percent for amaranthus compared to the long-term average. The reduction in yields was attributed to the decline in cultivated acreage and the high operational costs. The area lacks a formal irrigation scheme. However, some farmers rely on private shallow wells and small household water pans for irrigation. Key challenges affecting irrigated farming included the high cost of farm inputs, expensive casual labour, and the high cost of hiring private tractors all contributing to lower yields and reduced acreage. Additionally, farmers faced wildlife intrusion, which accounted for approximately 15 percent of yield loss. Pest and disease outbreaks, coupled with below-average rainfall in pockets of the fishing and agropastoral livelihood zones, contributed to a further 10 percent loss in crop yield.

Table 2: Irrigated crop production

Crop	Area planted during 2025 long rains season (Ha)	Long-term Average area planted during the long rains season (Ha)	2025 short rains season production (90 kg bags) Projected	Long-term Average production during the long rains season (90 kg bags)
Tomato	17	16	245	324
Kales	49	54	392	432
Amaranthus	45	52	405	468

3.1.2. Cereals Stock

The maize stock held at farmer, trader and miller level were 27, 15 and 31 percent below the long-term average respectively. The reason for less grain at household and millers' level was attributed to by poor yield experienced in previous seasons as the stock is usually cumulative of immediate season. While at traders' level, it could be as a result low purchasing power and commodity price fluctuation. The green gram stock was 30 and 49 below the LTA at farmer and trader level respectively. The scenario could be attributed to poor yield experienced from early planted crop. The crop was still young while some farmers were still planting with off-season rain showers. The situation is likely to improve if off-season rain continues. The rice stock was outsourced. There was no much variation in stocks held across the livelihood most of the households still depended on market for food supply, except a few pockets where farmers had matured green maize and green grams that was being harvested and consumed or sold to get some family income in mixed farming livelihood zone. The maize stock could last a week. Under normal circumstance, the food stocks at household level tends to overlap with the seasonal harvest and farmers sell to dispose off, creating room for new crop harvest storage and thus price tend to lower.

Table 2: Commodity Stocks in the County

Commodity / Held by	Maize		Rice		Green gram	
	Current	LTA	Current	LTA	Current	LTA
Farmers	2,500	3,446	190	218	20	27
Traders	670	786	4,200	4,567	89	101
Millers	59	86	0	0	0	0
Food Assistance	0	0	0	0		0
NCPB	208	21	4.2	0		0
Total	**3,437**	**4,339**	**4,394.2**	**4,786**	**109**	**128**

3.1.3 Livestock Production

Livestock contributes about 25 percent to income and food in the formal employment casual labour and mixed cash cropping livelihoods, 16 percent in the fishing livelihood and 36 percent in the agropastoral livelihood. Livestock species present in Lamu are mainly cattle sheep and goats. No major hazard has hit the livestock sector in the county except for drought experienced in Lamu east sub county prior to commencement of the long rains causing livestock deaths.

Pasture and Browse

Pasture and browse conditions are good across the mixed farming and agro-pastoral livelihood zones which is normal. Livestock trek for up to 3km in search of pastures. High influx of Livestock into Lamu County is causing increased competition for pastures and water. There are no clear livestock routes while looking for pastures thereby leading to an increase in Pastoralists-farmers conflict. Pastures in both livelihoods can last for three months. In the fishing livelihood zones that consist of the island villages of Pate, Siyu, Faza, Tchundwa and Kizingitini, pastures conditions are currently fair to good and is expected to last two months this is due to rainfalls received in the long rains. Browse conditions are good and can last for two months. Factors limiting access to pasture and browse includes biting flies, insecurity, and farming and wildlife conflict.

Table 4: Pasture and browse condition

	Pasture					**Browse**				
Livelihood zone	**Condition**		**How long to last (Months)**		**Factors Limiting access**	**Condition**		**How long to last (Months)**		**Factors Limiting access**
	Current	**Normal**	**Current**	**Normal**		**Current**	**Normal**	**Current**	**Normal**	
Mixed farming	Good	good	3	3	Tsetse and biting flies, diseases	good	good	3	3	Tsetse and other biting flies
Agro-pastoral	Good	good	3	3	Tsetse and biting flies, flooded areas, crop farming	good	Good	3	3	Tsetse and other biting flies
Fishing	fair	Fair	2	2	Tsetse flies	fair	fair	3	3	Tsetse and other biting flies

Pasture/ Fodder Conservation Status

Pasture and fodder conservation are still very low in Lamu County. There are only two hay stores in the county which are underutilized. There are also very few hay stores that are privately owned in the county. Low investment of fodder establishment and conservation is due to inadequate knowledge on the technology and vast rangeland in Lamu County. Lamu east, which is greatly affected by fodder shortages, does not have any hay store. Lamu east is greatly affected by fodder

shortages, only have hay store which is not utilized. The sub-county needs 200,000 bales of hay yet none is currently stored.

Table 5: Baled Hay Status

Sub County	No. of Hay Stores	Storage Capacity (Total number of bales)	No. of Bales currently being held	How long is expected to last (months)	Sub County demand	Average Weight per bale (in Kgs)	Average price per bale (Kshs.)	remarks
Lamu west	1	4000	1000	1 month	200,000	15	200	Government owned
Lamu west	1	2000	500	0.5 months	100,000	15	200	It is a private hay store
Lamu east	1	3000	0	0	200,000	15	350	Not in use

Livestock Productivity

Livestock Body Condition

Livestock body condition is currently good for cattle, sheep and goats in the mixed farming livelihood. In agro-pastoral livelihood zone, the body condition is also good while that of sheep and goats is good. In the fishing livelihood zone, the body conditions are currently poor for cattle and fair for sheep and goats. Browse conditions are still fair and is expected to last at least one month

Table 6: Livestock Body Condition

Livelihood zone	Cattle		Sheep		Goat	
	Current	Normal	Current	Normal	Current	Normal
Mixed farming	4	4	4	4	4	4
Agro-pastoral	3	4	4	4	4	4
Fishing	3	4	4	4	4	4

Note: BCS – Livestock Body Condition Score, BCS 1 – Very Poor (Emaciated) BCS 2 – Poor BCS 3 – Fair BCS 4 – Good BCS 5- Very Good

Birth Rate and Tropical Livestock Units

Poor, income households in the mixed farming livelihood zone own an average of one Tropical Livestock Unit (TLU), while those in pastoral zones own about three TLUs, levels considered normal for this time of the year. Across all three livelihood zones, livestock holdings for poor-income households were within the normal range, with households in the Fishing Livelihood Zone having the lowest TLU ownership. However, middle-income households across all zones recorded below-normal livestock holdings (Table 7). This decline was primarily due to livestock mortalities experienced during the prolonged and severe drought from 2021 to 2023, coupled with persistently low birth rates that have not yet recovered to seasonal norms. Moreover, restocking efforts, whether through markets, government initiatives, or support from development partners, have been minimal due to the ongoing economic challenges. Middle-income households in the Fishing Livelihood Zone currently own approximately 1.5 TLUs, compared to the normal three TLUs, largely due to inadequate rainfall received in the past seasons.

Table 7: Tropical Livestock Unit

Livelihood zone	Poor income households		Medium income households	
	Current	Normal	Current	Normal
Mixed farming	1	1	2.5	3
Agro-pastoral	2	3	10	10
Fishing	1	1	2	2.7

TLU Conversion factors: cattle = 0.7, sheep = 0.1, goats = 0.1, pigs = 0.2, chicken = 0.01. Donkey = 0.50, Camel = 1.3

Milk Production, Consumption and Pricing

Milk is a food source and an important income earner for mixed and agro-pastoral livelihood zone. This milk production was attributed to pasture Availability during the long rains thereby leading to good milk production. This record for milk production is below the LTA by 50 percent. The low average milk production was attributed to slow livestock recovery and distances covered in search of low-quality pasture caused by overgrazing and external livestock influx. Production was highest in the mixed farming livelihood zone at one litre and lowest in fishing zones at less than 0.5 litres. Milk was retailing at an average price of Ksh 80-100 in Agropastoral zones and Ksh 100 per litre in towns.

Table 8: Livestock Milk Production, Consumption and Pricing

Livelihood zone	Average milk Production (Litres)/Household/day		Average milk consumption (Litres) per Household/day		Prices (Kshs)/Litre	
	Current	LTA	Current	LTA	Current	LTA
Mixed farming	1	2	1.5	2	100	100
Agro-pastoral	1	3	2	3	80	100
Fishing	0.5	1	0.8	1	120	100

Livestock Migrations

Livestock migrated from Tana River and Garissa counties into Lamu County in search of water and pastures. This is likely to increase pressure on forage and water thereby depleting our livestock feeds at a faster rate. There are reports of livestock migration from Huluqo to fishing zone of Kiunga Mangai in Basuba ward.

Livestock Diseases and Mortalities

During the period under review, there were increased incidences of Trypanosomiasis, external parasites and internal parasites. There was also an increase in the number of tsetse biting flies, and CCPP. Mortality rate was in the normal ranges in cattle sheep and goats. The department of Veterinary services has revived the cattle dips in strategic locations for controlling external parasites. It has also undertaken mass vaccination of cattle against CBPP and PPR. During the period under review, there were increased incidences of Trypanosomiasis, external parasites and internal parasites.

Table 9: Livestock Diseases and Mortalities

Sub county	Livestock species	Total Sub county/ county livestock Population	Livestock deaths per species	Mortality rate per species	Remarks
Lamu West	Cattle	84,000	20	0.06%	Normal
	Goats	90,000	34	1.3%	Normal
	Sheep	55000	31	1.27%	normal
Lamu East	cattle	1600	2	0.1%	normal
	Goats	6000	4	0.1%	normal
	sheep	700	2	0,2%	normal

Water for Livestock

The main water source for livestock are water pans which had been recharged upto 70 -85 percent of their capacity but with a lot of siltation having taken place. This has tremendously reduced the volume of water held. The water is expected to last for 2-3 months. Since Livestock currently graze near to watering points, the average Livestock distance to water sources from grazing areas remained stable (8Kms) and comparable to the month of June. The recorded livestock distance was above the LTA by 37 percent. Return distances to water sources were highest in fishing zones at seven kilometres, and lowest in Mixed farming and Agropastoral zones at 2.3 kilometres and one kilometres respectively. Most livestock grazing areas were flooded, resulting in the relatively high grazing to water source distance reported.

Livelihood zone	Sources		Return average distances (km)		Expected duration to last (months) for each source	
	Current	Normal	Current	Normal	Current	Normal
Mixed farming	Shallow wells, water pans, rain water harvested	Shallow wells, water pans	2.3	2.3	2-3	2.5
Agro-pastoral	Water pans	Water pans	1	1	2-3	2.5
Fishing	Djabias, wells, water pans and desalination plants	Djabias, wells, water pans and desalination plants	7	7	Djabias to last 2 months	2

Watering Frequency

Watering frequencies for livestock species was at five to seven days per week, which is normal at such times in the year. Cattle are getting access to water at least seven days a week in both mixed farming and Agro-pastoral livelihoods due to plenty of water currently available. Most of the watering points like water pans, shallow wells and laKsh are full of water. In fishing livelihood, the Djabias are nearly full of water and are expected to last for two months. Water pan in Kiunga is

almost full and the water is expected to last only two months. The trekking distance to water points is reduced at this time.

Livelihood zone	Cattle		Goats		Sheep	
	Current	Normal	Current	Normal	Current	Normal
Mixed farming	7	7	7	7	7	7
Agro-pastoral	7	7	7	7	7	7
Fishing	7	7	7	7	7	7

Impact on Availability

There was a remarkable decline in rain fed crop acreage area planted in productivity as compared to the 2025 long rains season despite the early onset of the long rains witnessed in third dekad of March. Crop production is expected to be below average in the rain-fed areas hence upsurge in the food commodity prices. Rangeland resources registered remarkable improvement thus improving the livestock body condition and in turn will likely boost livestock productivity in the coming three months.

3.2 Access

3.2.1. Markets

Market Operations

The main available markets in the Mixed Farming Livelihood Zone are Mpeketoni and Hindi while in the Agro-pastoral Livelihood Zone the main markets are Witu, Mokowe, Hindi and Amu. In the Fishing Livelihood Zone, the main markets are Amu, Faza, Patte, Kiunga and Kizingitini. There were no market disruptions during the long rains period and operations remained largely normal. However, with the in-migration of livestock from Garissa and Tana River counties there is a likelihood of outbreak of diseases leading to livestock market closures and imposition of quarantine in the coming three to six months.

Market Supplies and Traded Volumes

Commodity traded volumes in local markets remained low, primarily due to insecurity in the Boni area of Basuba Ward, which disrupted supply chains. However, livestock trade volumes are expected to increase as animal body conditions improve, supported by the above-average seasonal performance. The main staple foods available in the market were maize and rice. While green maize was sourced locally, dry maize was procured from neighbouring counties and through cross-border imports, whereas rice was mainly imported. Other key commodities traded included sugar, salt, beans, paraffin, and cooking oil. With household food stocks from own production depleted, most poor households increased their dependence on markets to meet their food needs. Additionally, there was an unusual rise in livestock purchases during the reporting period due to Eid celebrations. Livestock market activity was dominated by individual farmers, middlemen, and butchers. Overall, more than 80 percent of households relied on markets to access basic food items.

Market Prices

Maize Price

According to NDMA sentinel site data, the average maize prices for the month of July retailed at Ksh. 66 per kilogramme which was stable compared to Ksh 67 in the month of June. The current price was eight percent above the long-term average price of Ksh 64 and was eleven percent compared to similar period in 2024 as shown in Figure 3. The observed trend in price stability of the commodity from February to May could be attributed to availability of the commodity in different markets. There was a higher preference for supplies from the external markets from neighbouring countries whose price was relatively cheaper. There were price variations across the Livelihood Zones with the highest price of Ksh. 100 reported in the Fishing Livelihood Zone in Kiunga, while the mixed farming Livelihood Zone posted an average price of Ksh. 45. Some markets in areas of Kiunga continued reporting remarkably high prices attributed to market demands, high cost of sea travel and poor road infrastructure coupled with insecurity. The price is likely to decrease but will remain above the long-term average across the Livelihood Zones in the next two months.

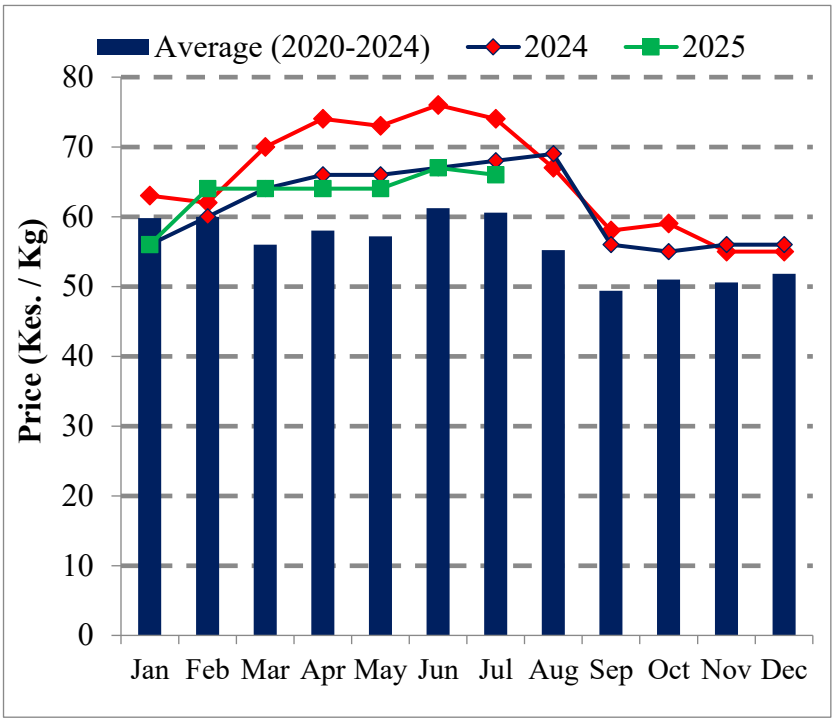


Figure 3: Average Maize Price in the County

Goat Prices

According to NDMA sentinel sites In July, the average price of a medium-sized goat was approximately Ksh 6,000, representing a seven percent increase compared to June. Prices remained relatively stable when compared to the same period last year, as illustrated in Figure 4. The price trend showed an upward movement in May and July, with a slight decline in June. The price stability and increase in May and July were largely attributed to heightened demand driven by cultural festivals. Price variations

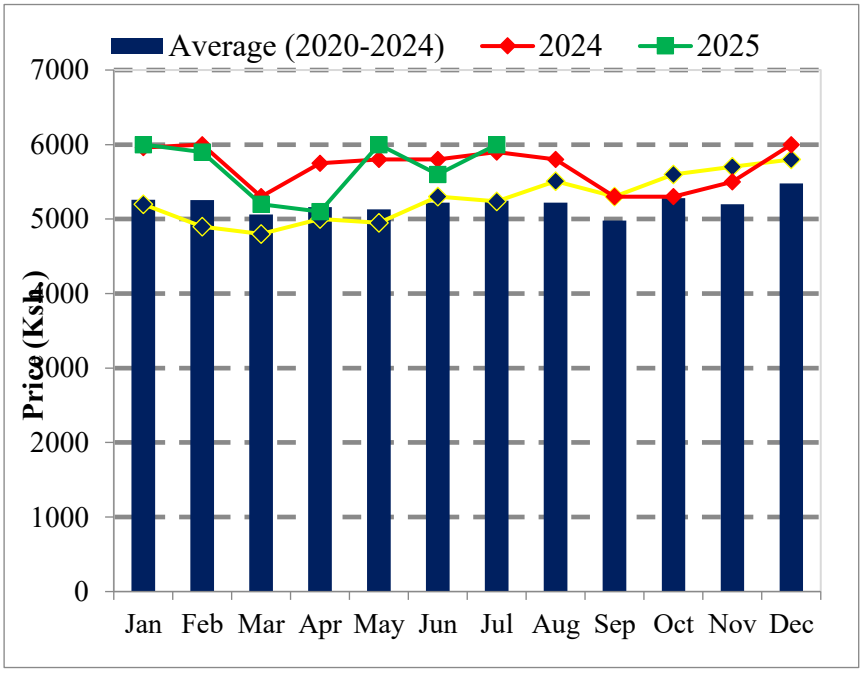


Figure 4: Average goat Prices in the County

were observed across livelihood zones, with the Agropastoral Livelihood Zone reporting the highest average price of Ksh 8,000 in Witu, while in the Fishing Livelihood Zone, prices reached up to Ksh 4,500 in Kiunga.

3.2.2 Terms of Trade

Currently, the sale of a medium-sized goat can purchase approximately 90 kilograms of maize, reflecting a three percent increase compared to June. The ToT is stable relative to the long-term average and is also three percent higher than that recorded same period last year, as shown in Figure 5. The terms of trade (ToT) have remained stable compared to the previous year, indicating consistent household purchasing power for food in the county. However, high food prices continue to limit access to essential food and non-food items. The ToT has remained stable since May and is projected to stay above the long-term average over the next two months, driven by expectations of below-average rainfall during the off-season period.

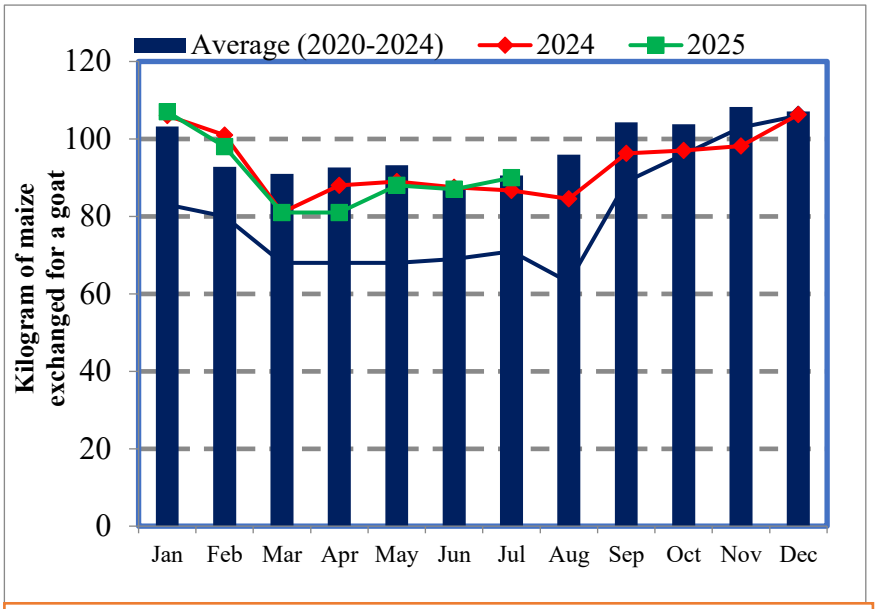


Figure 5: Average goat Prices in the County

3.2.3 Income Sources

According to NDMA sentinel site in the month of July, household income sources remained unstable, largely due to the delayed onset and forecasts of below-average long rains. The main income sources across the county were casual labour and trade, contributing 69 and 14 percent respectively. Notably, income from trade increased by five percent compared to the month of June. This was followed by income from the sale of livestock and livestock products (nine percent), and employment (seven percent), as illustrated in Figure 5. Crop sales were also reported as a source of income, remaining stable compared to the previous month of June.

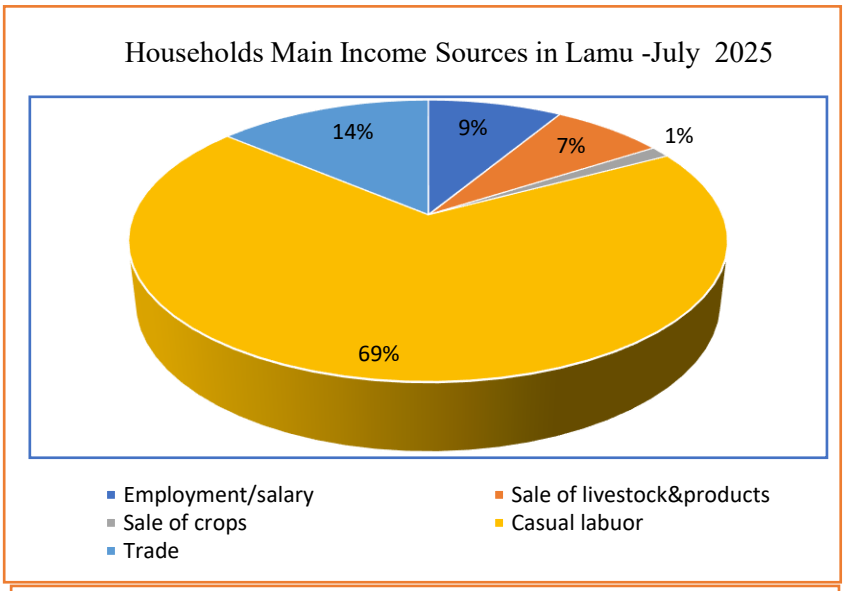


Figure 5: Household main source of income

3.2.4 Water Access and Availability (Including Cost and Consumption)

The three primary sources of water in Lamu County are shallow wells, boreholes, and water pans. Additional sources include desalination plants, which treat saline water, and Djabias, which are mainly used for harvesting rainwater. Piped water from local water service providers also contributes to the county's water supply. Currently, the most commonly used sources by households are shallow wells, boreholes, and water pans, as shown in Figure 7. The long rains had a moderate effect on recharging of open water sources such as laKsh, rivers, shallow wells, Djabias, and water pans. Recharge levels for these sources ranged between 70 and 85 percent of their full capacities, an improvement compared to normal years. Areas that had previously dried up, including Kiunga, Mtangawanda, Bahamisi, and Shanga, received some replenishment. In the fishing zones of Patte, Siyu, and Kizingitini. Shallow wells that had become saline have now recorded reduced salinity levels within acceptable limits. Water stored in Djabias and storage tanks is expected to sustain households for approximately two months across all livelihood zones.

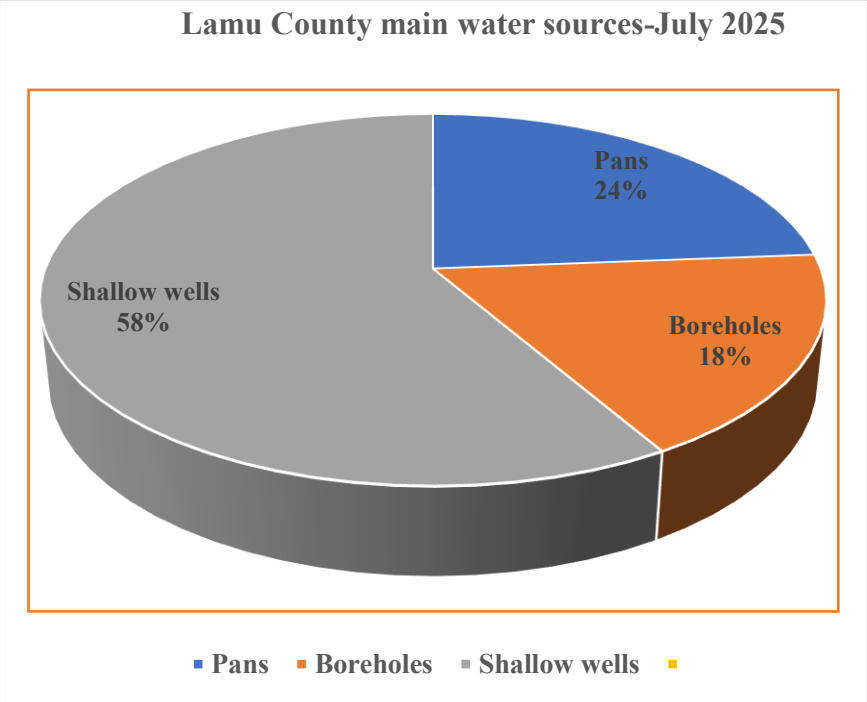


Figure 7: Current Water Sources in the County

Distance to Water Sources

Average household watering return distance remained stable at five Kilometres, compared to previous months at six kilometres; this stability in household water distance was attributed to the water trucking by County Government to hot spot areas in the County. Household return water distances per livelihood zones were as follows; the Agro pastoral four Kilometres, fishing five Kilometres and Mixed Farming zone recorded three Kilometres respectively.

Waiting Time at the Source

A decrease in waiting time is noted in all livelihood zones, attributed to recharge water yields from different sources due to average water recharge. In the Mixed Farming Livelihood Zone, current waiting times range between 10-20 minutes, compared to the normal 20-30 minutes. Similarly, in the Agro-Pastoral Livelihood Zones, waiting times have reduced to 20-30 minutes from the typical 30-40 minutes. Fishing Livelihood zone waiting time 10-30. However, longer than normal waiting time was noted in Kiunga at 30- 40 minutes, attributed to scarcity of water.

Cost of Water and Consumption

The cost of a 20 litre Jerrican of water in the Mixed Farming and Agro-pastoral Livelihood Zones is currently retailing at Ksh. 5 -10 which is normal at this time of the year but slightly higher in the Fishing Livelihood zone at Ksh. 50-100 against the normal Ksh. 10-20. Water consumption per person per day was 15-20 litres in Agro pastoral and mixed farming while in fishing zones the consumption per person per day was 10-15 litres compared to 20-30 litres during normal times as shown in Table 12.

Table 12: Distances to Water Sources, Cost and Consumption

Livelihood Zone	Return Distance to water for domestic use (Kms)		Cost of water at source (Ksh per 20 litres)		Waiting time at water source (minutes)		Average Consumption (litres/person/day)	
	Current	Normal	Current	Normal	Current	Normal	Current	Normal
Mixed farming	2-3	4-5	5-10	5-10	10-20	20-30	15-20	20-30
Agro pastoral	3-4	5-8	5-10	5-10	20-30	30-40	15-20	20-30
Fishing	3-5	5-10	50-100	10-20-	10-30	30-40	10-15	20-30

3.2.5 Food Consumption

According to NDMA sentinel site data for July 45 percent of the population had poor food consumption scores, 54 percent had borderline scores, and 12 percent had acceptable scores. This reflects a seven percent increase in the proportion of households with borderline consumption, while poor and acceptable food consumption scores declined by three and five percent respectively. The proportions varied across livelihood zones. In the Mixed Farming and Fishing Livelihood Zones, the percentage of households with poor food consumption scores stood at 33 and 50 percent respectively, as illustrated in Figure 8. Most households across the three livelihood zones fell within the borderline category—indicating that while they were consuming staple foods and vegetables daily, their intake of oil and pulses occurred only a few times per week. Alarmingly, no households in the Agropastoral and fishing Livelihood Zones recorded acceptable food consumption scores, highlighting significant challenges in food access. Households are currently consuming just one to two meals per day, with limited dietary diversity, typically only one to two food groups. This situation is further exacerbated by high food prices and inadequate

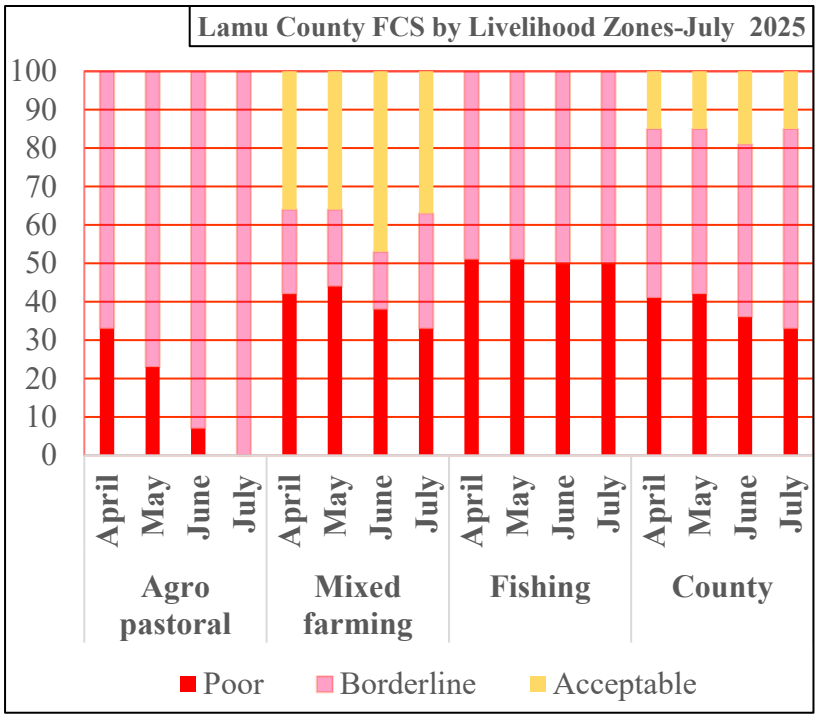
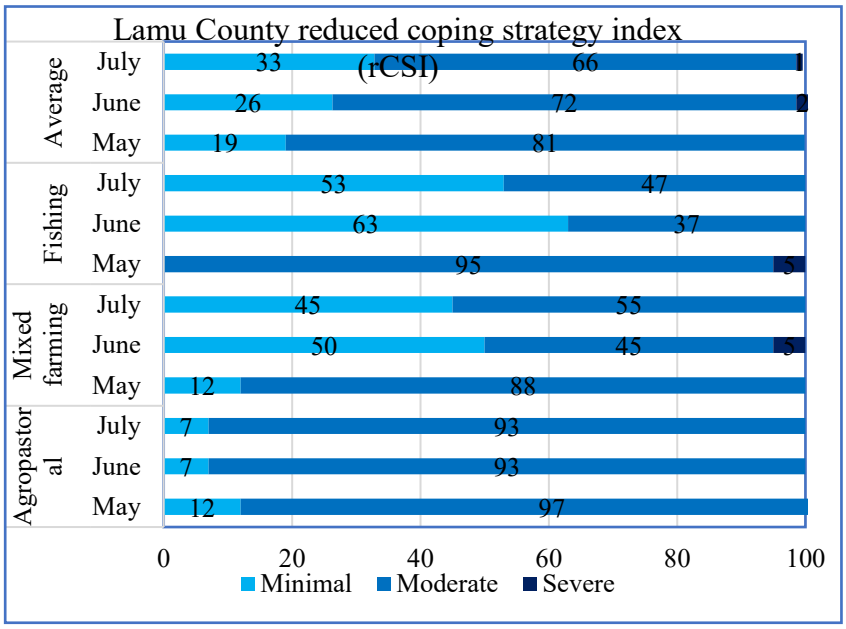


Figure 8: Food Consumption Score by Livelihood Zone

feeding programs, particularly those meant for primary and Junior Secondary School learners under the Ministry of Education.

3.2.6 Coping Strategy

The reduced copping strategy in July 2025, the county recorded a reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) of 13.59, up from 12.91 in June 2024, indicating that households were resorting to more severe consumption-based coping mechanisms. Across livelihood zones, the Fishing Livelihood Zone reported the highest rCSI at 17, followed by the Agro-pastoral Zone at 11, and the Mixed Farming Zone at 9, reflecting varied levels of stress in food access. Sentinel site data revealed that 66 percent of households adopted moderate consumption-based coping strategies in response to food shortages, while one percent employed severe or extreme strategies. The remaining 33 percent did not report using any coping strategies in July 2025. Disaggregated data by livelihood zone showed that 93 percent of households in the Agro-pastoral zone used moderate or worse coping strategies, compared to 55 percent in Mixed Farming and 47 percent in the Fishing zone (as illustrated in Figure 9). Field assessments further confirmed that the most common strategies included reducing the number of meals per day and decreasing meal portions. Additionally, livelihood-based coping strategies remained minimal, with 82 percent of households reporting no use of such strategies, 17 percent employing moderate measures, and only one percent resorting to severe livelihood coping mechanisms.



3.3 Utilization

3.3 .1 Nutritional Status and Dietary Diversity

According to NDMA nutrition data for the month of July 2025 the proportion of children at risk of malnutrition were 10.6 percent, and was comparable to June. In January to June, 2025, the proportion of children under five at risk of malnutrition were generally higher the long term average and the same period in 2023 and 2024. In July, 2025, the proportion was 33 percent higher than the long-term average and 25 percent higher than the same period in 2024, as shown in Figure 13. The highest rates of malnutrition were

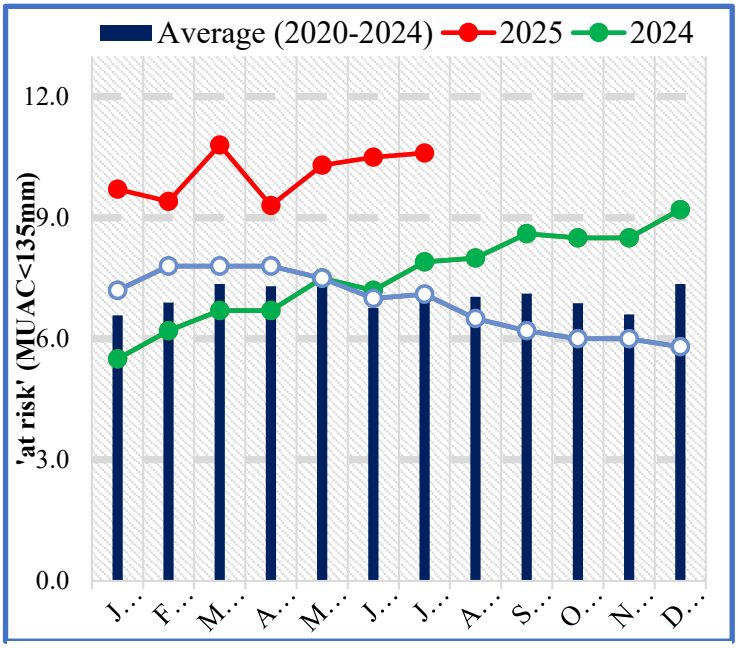


Figure 13: MUAC

recorded in the Mixed Farming Livelihood Zone, particularly in Bargoni, Kiangwe, and Pandanguo within Hindi, Basuba, and Witu wards. In the Fishing Livelihood Zone, the most affected areas included Kiangwe, Mangai, and Bahamisi villages in Lamu East Sub-County.

Malnutrition are influenced by a combination of environmental, socioeconomic, health, and cultural factors. Key drivers of malnutrition in the county include persistent food insecurity, poor infant and young child feeding practices including low rates of exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months, inadequate complementary feeding in terms of both quantity and quality as evidenced by low dietary diversity, poor milk consumption and inadequate hygiene and sanitation, leading to increased vulnerability to disease and limited access to essential nutrition services.Other contributing factors of malnutrition are low education levels that affect awareness and practices, cultural beliefs and taboos around feeding children and pregnant women.
Poor households, both male- and female-headed, typically consume only one to two meals per day, often composed of just one or two food groups. Additionally, many mothers are unable to initiate early or exclusively breastfeed due to low breast milk production, which is linked to poor maternal nutrition caused by limited purchasing power and inadequate access to vegetables and greens. The low access to vegetables has contributed to rising cases of anaemia among pregnant and lactating mothers and increased incidences of low birth weight deliveries.

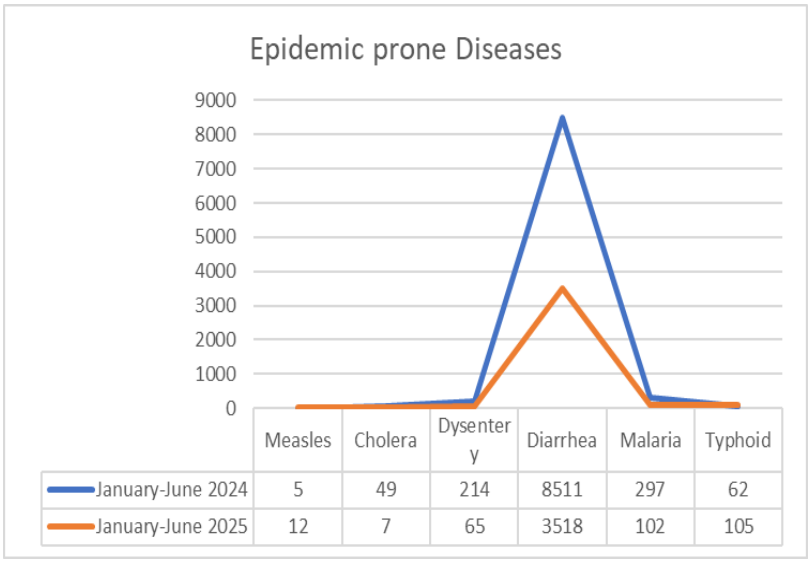
3.3.2 Morbidity and Mortality Patterns

A typically rise in cases of upper respiratory tract infections (URTIs) among children and adults is usually anticipated during the long rains and this is due to several environmental and biological factors triggered by increased moisture, cooling temperatures, and overcrowding indoors. The trends show slight increase in URTIs among children below five years this year however thr cases remained lower than the compared to the previous year same period whereas the general population is reported to have less prevalence this year compared to the previous year. Adults are not as vulnerable as children with Immature-immune systems, frequent hand-to-mouth contact and exposure in schools, daycare, or community settings.

Epidemic-Prone Diseases

Figure 14: Morbidity trends for general population

Epidemic-prone diseases tend to follow certain predictable trends due to environmental and socioeconomic conditions. This year Lamu county reported increased cases of measles and typhoid fever compared to last year same period with a big variation in less cholera cases this could be due to mitigation measures. Following the long rains, Lamu County experienced a surge in febrile illnesses, chikungunya and dengue virus infections, both transmitted by mosquito. These outbreaks have historically followed heavy rainfall due to increased breeding habitats in stagnant water. During primary data collection community member point out that children suffer on skin conditions and intestinal worms during the rainy season.

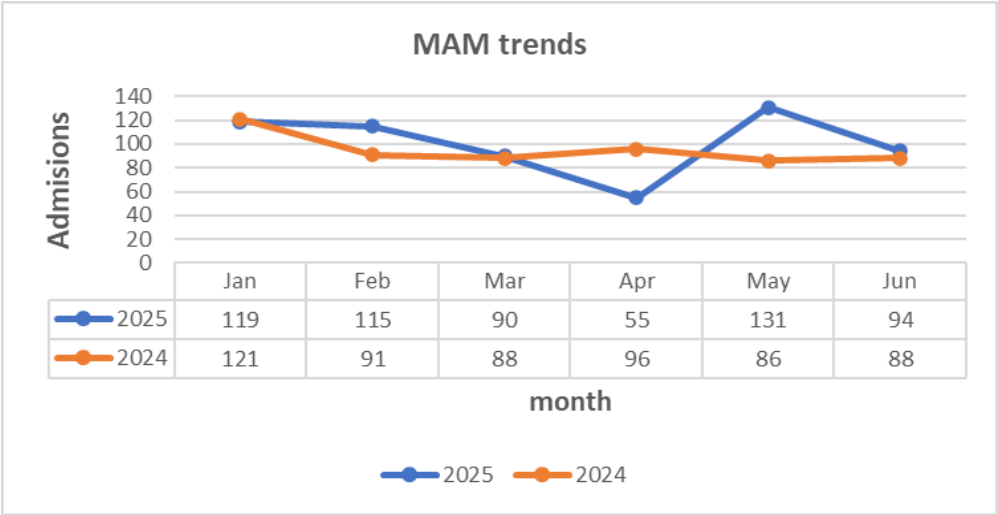


	Measles	Cholera	Dysentery	Diarrhea	Malaria	Typhoid
January-June 2024	5	49	214	8511	297	62
January-June 2025	12	7	65	3518	102	105

Figure 15: Epidemic prone diseases

3.3.3 Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM)

IMAM trends during long rains indicated that the admissions from January to June in 2025 were comparable except for the months of April when the cases were lower and the month of May, when there was a drastic increase in moderate and & severe acute malnutrition (MAM/SAM) due to food shortages from previous dry season, poor WASH practices & disease outbreaks diarrhoea, URTIs and maybe impact of floods. The variation observed a decline in new cases due to interventions in place.



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2025	119	115	90	55	131	94
2024	121	91	88	96	86	88

Figure 16: MAM trends

Immunization and Vitamin A supplementation.

According to the 2025 Lamu County January -June KHIS report, the pproportion of children under one year who are fully immunized is at 73.75 percent. The coverage for measles and Rubella 1 for the children under one year was 76.6 percent and is slightly lower than the national target of 80 percent. The proportion of children under 1 year who received OPV 1 were 72 percent while those who received OPV 3 were 53 percent of the target. Except for Measles, there was a reduction in coverage for OPV 1 and OPV 3 in 2025 compared to the same period in 2024. As of January- March 2025, Vitamin A supplementation (VAS) coverage stood at 34.3 percent for children aged 6–11 months and 13.7 percent for those aged 12–59 months. With support from UNICEF, *Malezi Bora* has significantly improved, particularly among the 12–59-month age group. The coverage for VAS for children aged 6-11 months stood at 61.6 percent while that of 12-59 months was at 45.7 which cumulatively led to a coverage of 47.7 percent for children aged 6-59 months. This achievement would not have been possible through routine service delivery alone

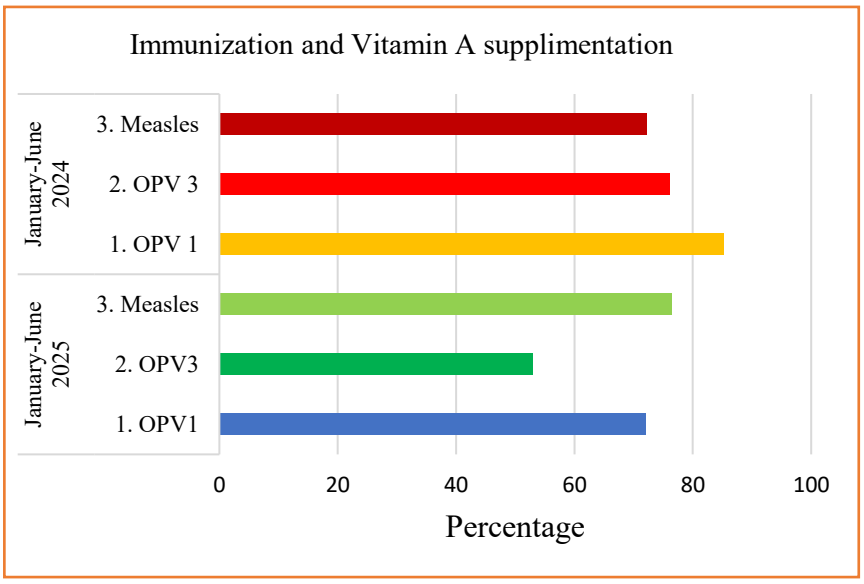


Figure 17: Immunization and Vitamin A supplementation

3.3.4 Dietary Diversity and Child Feeding practices.

According to NDMA sentinel site data for January most households across the three livelihood zones had borderline food consumption score meaning households were consuming staples and vegetables every day accompanied by oil and pulses a few times in a period of a week. Households are consuming one to two meals per day which is less diversified in diet, this has been worsened by the high food commodity prices. Early initiation to breastfeeding is putting a newborn baby on breast within an hour after birth. The KHIS show good performance on early initiation in our maternity units going hand in hand with exclusive breastfeeding for 6 months but on critical thinking with the cases of underweight and malnutrition among children below 6 months there is need to focus on Exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months through baby friendly community initiative.

3.3.5 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Sources of water in Lamu county are Shallow wells, boreholes, water pans, river. Other sources of water in the county include those from desalination plants which removes salinity in saline water as well as Djabias mainly used for rain water harvesting. Piped water from water service providers is also used as a source of water in the county. The widely used sources by the households currently are shallow wells, boreholes and water pans. Average household watering return distance remained stable at five Kilometres, Chlorination is the most used method of water treatment.

Available water treatment chemicals include Chlorine powder, Aqua tabs, PURR and chlorine tablets. However, access to water treatment chemicals has been a challenge to most HHs. The Department of Public Health has been working tireless to reach all HHs with water treatment chemicals through CHPs. Community disposes off both human and household waste within their compound in pits mostly in Lamu west and parts of the central sub county on the mainland. Latrine coverage per Sub county is as indicated on the figure 8.

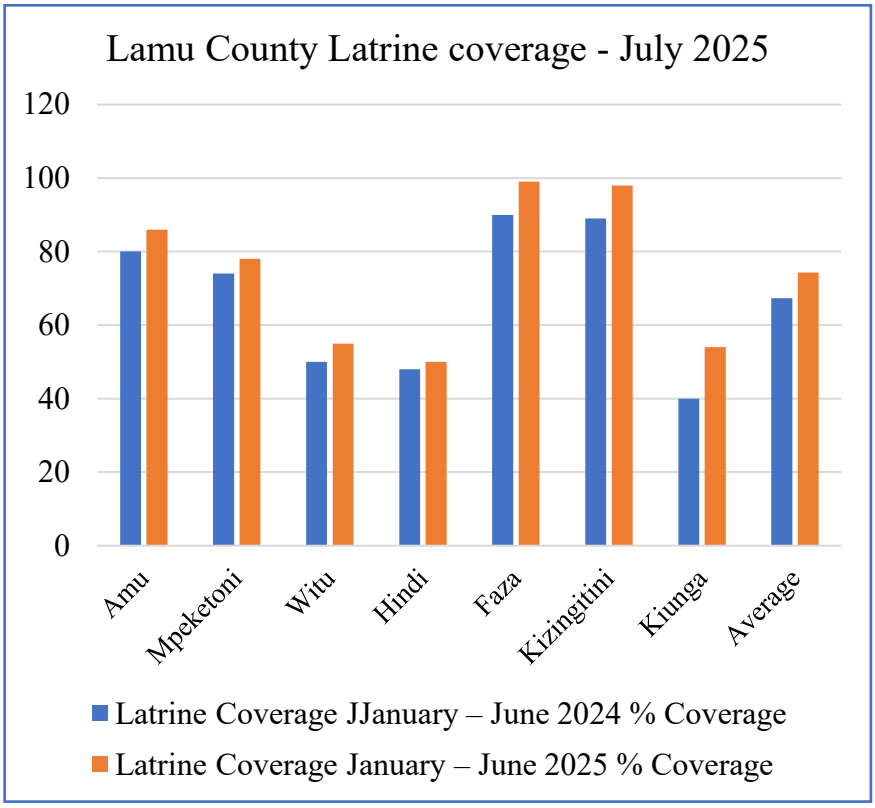


Figure 8: Lamu County Latrine coverage

3.4 Trends of Key Food Security Indicators

Table 13 shows trends of food security indicators from the short rains' assessment in February 2024 to the long rains' assessment in July 2025.

Table 13: Food Security Trends in Lamu County

Indicator	Short Rains Assessment, Feb 2024	Long Rains Assessment, July 2025
Percent of maize stocks held by households	86 percent of the LTA	72 percent of the LTA
Livestock body condition	Agro-pastoral: fair - Good Mixed Farming: Good Fishing: Fair - poor	Agro-pastoral: fair Mixed Farming: fair- Good Fishing: Fair - poor
Water consumption (litres per person per day)	Agro-pastoral: 15-25 Mixed Farming: 20-30 Fishing: 10-15	Agro-pastoral: 15-25 Mixed Farming: 20-30 Fishing: 15-20
Price of maize (per kg)	56 Ksh	66 Ksh
Distance to grazing (km)	Agro-pastoral: 1-2 km Mixed Farming: 1-3 km Fishing: 3-4 km	Agro-pastoral: 4-7 km Mixed Farming: 2-3 km Fishing: 4-7 km

Terms of trade (Agropastoral zone)	107kg	91kgs
Coping strategy index	rCSI: 12.60	rCSI: 13.59
Food Consumption Score per livelihood zones	Agro-pastoral Poor: 13 percent Borderline: 87 percent	Agro-pastoral Poor: 0 Borderline: 100 percent
	Mixed Farming Poor: 33 percent Borderline: 40 percent Acceptable: 27 percent	Mixed Farming Poor: 33 percent Borderline: 30 percent Acceptable: 37 percent
	Fishing Poor: 50 percent Borderline: 50 percent Acceptable: 0.0 percent	Fishing Poor: 50 percent Borderline: 50 percent Acceptable: 0.0 percent

3.5 Education

3.5.1 Enrolment

In Term One of 2025, Pre-Primary enrolment was 3,998 boys and 3,799 girls, totaling 7,797. In Term Two, enrolment slightly decreased to 3,980 boys and 3,781 girls, totalling 7,761 — an overall increase of 0.51 percent, equivalent to 18 boys and 18 girls. At the primary school level, enrolment decreased from 12,573 boys and 12,980 girls (totaling 25,553) in Term One, to 12,476 boys and 12,903 girls (totaling 25,379) in Term Two. This decline is attributed primarily to pupil transfers. Junior Secondary School (JSS) enrolment also saw a slight drop, from 5,767 boys and 5,580 girls last term to 5,745 boys and 5,498 girls this term, totaling 11,243. The decline is largely due to transfers. In secondary schools, enrolment dropped from 4,213 boys and 3,876 girls (totaling 8,089) to 4,185 boys and 3,850 girls (totaling 8,035), representing a decrease of 62 boys and 26 girls. Overall, the reduction in enrolment across all levels is primarily linked to early marriage, teenage pregnancy, inter-county transfers, child labour, and insecurity.

Table 14: Access (Enrolment)

Level	Term I 2025					Term II 2025					Indicate the difference (+) or (-) between current and previous terms	Reason for accessing/ not accessing school
	№ Boys	№ Girls	№ Learners with disabilities		Total	№ Boys	№ Girls	№ Learners with disabilities		Total		
			Boys	Girls				Boys	Girls			
Pre-Primary	3998	3799	12	20	7797	3980	3781	10	17	7,761	Negative -36	Transfers to other counties
Primary	12500	12880	73	100	25553	12407	12808	69	95	25379	-ve -174	Transfers to other counties

Junior School	5767	5580	0	0	11347	5445	5498	0	0	11243	-ve -104	Transfers to other counties, drop outs
Secondary	4213	3876	0	0	8309	4185	3850	0	1	8035	-ve -274	Transfers, child labour, Early pregnancies.

Enrollment in Private Schools for Previous Terms and Current

In Term One of 2025, enrolment in private pre-primary schools stood at 821 boys and 931 girls, totalling 1,752. This increased in Term Two to 919 boys and 935 girls, reaching a total of 1,854, a six percent rise, with 98 more boys and 4 more girls enrolled. At the private primary school level, enrolment declined slightly from 997 boys and 1,027 girls (total 2,024) in Term One to 1,010 boys and 1,008 girls (total 2,018) in Term Two, reflecting a two decrease, mainly attributed to pupil transfers. Private Junior Secondary Schools (JSS) experienced an increase in enrolment, from 279 boys and 315 girls in Term One to 298 boys and 325 girls in Term Two, totalling 623. This growth is largely credited to intensified enrolment efforts by local administrators. In private secondary schools, enrolment dropped from 80 boys and 120 girls (total 200) to 78 boys and 115 girls (total 193), reflecting a reduction of two boys and five girls. Overall, the decline in enrolment across some levels is mainly driven by factors such as early marriage, teenage pregnancy, inter-county transfers, child labour and insecurity.

Table 15: Enrollment in private schools for previous terms and current

Level	**Term I 2025**					**Term II 2025**					**Indicate the difference (+) or (-) between current and previous terms**	**Reason for accessing/ not accessing school**
	№ Boys	**№ Girls**	**№ Learners with disabilities**		**Total**	**№ Boys**	**№ Girls**	**№ Learners with disabilities**		**Total**		
			Boys	**Girls**				**Boys**	**Girls**			
Pre-Primary	821	931	0	0	1752	919	935	0	0	1854	+ve 102	Learners Transfer
Primary	997	1027	0	0	2024	1010	1008	0	0	2020	-ve 4	Learners Transferred to public schools
Junior School	279	315	0	0	612	298	325	0	0	623	+ve 11	Due to boarding facilities in schools
Secondary	80	120	0	0	200	78	115	0	0	193	+7	Due to boarding facilities in schools

3.5.2 Effect of the Season on Learning Continuity

The long rains had minimal overall impact compared to previous seasons; however, 10 primary schools in Lamu West experienced flooding, as detailed in the table below.

Table 16; Number of pre-primary schools damaged

S/No.	Sub-county	Number of Pre-primary schools damaged	Number of learners affected			Names of affected schools and Nature of damage that has affected teaching and Learning process
			Boys	Girls	Total	
1.	Lamu West	10	433	369	802	Zebra, Pangani, Poromoko, Lumshi, Tawakal, Amkeni, Jipendeni, Chalaluma, Nairobi Area, Bopwe Inaccessibility of schools' due floods leading to none attendance and absenteeism

Effect of the Season on Teaching and Learning in Schools

The main effects of the season on teaching and learning in primary schools impacted most schools in Lamu West sub-County, where 10 schools were affected with 942 boys and 1055 girls making schools inaccessibility challenge due floods leading to absenteeism and non-in attendance as indicated in the table below.

Table 17. Effects of The Season on Teaching and Learning in Primary Schools

S/No.	Sub-county	Number of Primary schools Affected/ damaged	Number of learners affected			Names of affected schools and Nature of damage that has affected teaching and Learning process
			Boys	Girls	Total	
1.	Lamu West	10	942	1055	1997	Zebra, Pangani, Poromoko, Lumshi, Tawakal, Amkeni, Jipendeni, Chalaluma, Nairobi Area, Bopwe Inaccessibility of schools' due floods leading to none attendance and absenteeism

Table 18: Effects of the season on teaching and learning in Junior School

S/No.	Sub-county	Number Junior schools damaged	Number of learners affected			Names of affected schools and Nature of damage that has affected teaching and Learning process
			Boys	Girls	Total	
1.	Lamu West	5	269	246	515	Pangani, Poromoko, Amkeni, Jipendeni, Chalaluma Inaccessibility of schools' due floods leading to none attendance and absenteeism

3.5.3 School Meals Programme

Most of the schools in the county lack food supplies, and the absence of school feeding programs negatively impacts access to education, attendance, retention, and transition rates. Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) centres and private schools are particularly affected, as they do not benefit from any feeding initiatives.

Table 19: School Meals in Public Schools

Category of School	Total Number of Public schools in Sub-County	Number of schools with School Meals Program in the sub-county	Total number of learners benefitting from the school meals program	
			№ Boys	№ Girls
Pre-Primary	0	0	0	0
Primary	123	123	12,407	12,080
Junior School	101	101	5,745	5,498
Grand total (boys + girls)	**224**	**224**	**36,458**	

3.5.4 Cross-Cutting Issues that Affected Learning Continuity During the Season

Most schools in the county have adequate access to water. However, during this season, many pit latrines overflow, particularly in areas with a high-water table. Waste disposal methods vary, with some schools using incineration while others rely on disposal pits. Notably, institutions serving learners with disabilities have not been affected during this period of the long rains.

Water in School

There are no boreholes in Lamu East Sub-County. A total of 28 primary schools, 27 junior secondary schools, and 8 secondary schools lack access to clean and safe water, and none of these schools have water treatment systems in place. Additionally, 128 schools require rainwater harvesting systems, 101 need proper water storage facilities, and 32 need both. Schools without access to water face significant challenges related to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). Notable hotspot schools include Mtangawanda, Bargoni, Pandanguo, Tewe, among others.

Table 20: Number of Schools With No Water Access

No of schools which have NO access to safe water (functional source within 100m radius)				№ of schools with no water treatment measures				№ schools in need of water harvesting and storage facilities e.g gutters, water tanks			
Pre-Primary	Primary	Junior School	Secondary	Pre-Primary	Primary	Junior School	Secondary	Pre-Primary	Primary	Junior School	Secondary
	28	27	8	0	28	27	8	0	128	101	32

3.5.4 Inter Sectoral links

Most schools in Lamu County have benefited from health interventions including deworming, Vitamin A supplementation, and cervical cancer vaccinations. While most schools have functional latrines, the facilities remain insufficient in meeting the recommended pupil-to-latrine ratio for both boys and girls. Some schools also face challenges in accessing clean water, resulting in limited handwashing facilities. In terms of nutrition, low household incomes continue to hinder access to adequate daily meals for learners. However, the Ministry of Education is implementing a school feeding programme, which has contributed positively to improved student retention and completion rates. Access to sanitary and hygiene products for girls remained limited, with the majority not receiving any supplies during the school term. A few institutions benefited from donations by well-wishers and development partners; however, no distributions were made during the school holidays, leaving many girls without access during that period.

4.0 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

4.1 Prognosis Assumptions

The following key assumptions underpin the food security outlook for the projection period:

- Due to the influx of livestock from neighbouring counties, availability of quality pasture and water is expected to reduce which will gradually lead to deterioration of livestock body condition resulting in lower livestock prices and reduced household purchasing power.
- The ongoing influx of livestock into the county is expected to overstretch available rangeland resources, increasing the likelihood of resource-based conflict, particularly over pasture and water, before the onset of the next rainy season.
- The presence of livestock disease vectors, especially tsetse flies, is expected to remain high throughout the projection period, further affecting livestock health, prices and productivity.
- Livestock prices are expected to stabilize as a result of the good body condition occasioned by the availability of rangeland resources. However, this improvement is likely to be short-lived as many farmers sell more livestock to buy other food items due to poor harvests,
- Household food stocks are projected to deplete rapidly, especially where no harvest was realized, leading to an increase in the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance.
- As open water sources begin to deplete, the competition for it, especially in the mixed farming zones, is expected to heighten tensions between pastoralists and local communities, increasing the risk of localized conflict.

4.2 Food security Outlook for the next six months

Food Security Outlook for August to October 2025

Food consumption is projected to decline due to the anticipated below-average long rains harvest, which is expected to increase the prices of staple food commodities. As a result, a considerable number of households are likely to shift from acceptable to borderline food consumption levels, and from borderline to poor. Reduced income from livestock and high food prices are expected to further limit household food access, prompting the adoption of more severe consumption- and livelihood-based coping strategies. The nutrition status of children under five is anticipated to worsen, driven by limited food availability and low household milk supplies. However, mortality rates are expected to remain within normal levels throughout the scenario period, corresponding to IPC Phase 2 (Stressed)

Food Security Outlook for November to January 2026

Poor households are expected to continue experiencing moderate food consumption gaps, primarily driven by depleted food stocks and reduced purchasing power. Household food reserves are likely to be exhausted by July, making markets the primary source of food. During this period, food prices are anticipated to rise across all livelihood zones. The decline in livestock body condition, worsened by below-average rains, will lead to unfavourable terms of trade (ToT) for pastoralists. Additionally, expected livestock births may reduce the number of saleable animals, contributing to a decline in both milk production and consumption. Although food access may stabilize slightly due to market supplies from various regions and cross-border trade, acute malnutrition levels are expected to remain seasonally unstable and above the long-term average across livelihood zones. Food consumption is projected to worsen further as households register low yields from the long rains harvest, resulting in many remaining in the poor or borderline consumption categories. Consequently, households are likely to adopt more stressed consumption-based coping strategies. Mortality rates are expected to stay within normal ranges, indicating a Stressed Phase (IPC Phase 2).

5.0 CONCLUSIONS AND INTERVENTIONS

5.1 Conclusion

5.1.1. Phase Classification

The current food security situation in the county is classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2), supported by the availability of rangeland resources across all livelihood zones. However, during the projection period (August to January 2026), the situation is expected to remain in Stressed Phase (IPC Phase 2), with an anticipated increase in the number of people requiring humanitarian assistance due to the below-average performance of the long rains harvest.

5.1.2 Summary of Findings

In the county, the proportion of households with poor, borderline, and acceptable food consumption scores stood at 34, 54, and 12 percent respectively. These figures varied by livelihood zone, with poor food consumption notably higher in the Fishing and Mixed Farming zones at 50 and 38 percent, respectively. The county's reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) rose to 13.59 in July 2025, up from 12.92 in June, indicating a rise in the severity of coping mechanisms used by vulnerable households. Sentinel site data showed that 66 percent of households were relying on moderate consumption-based coping strategies, while one percent resorted to severe or extreme measures. Nutritional status in the county has remained stable over the past three months. However, NDMA data for July 2025 reported that 10.6 percent of children under five were at risk of malnutrition, 49 above the long-term average and 34 percent higher compared to the same period in 2024.

5.1.3 Sub-county/Ward Ranking

Table 21: Ranking of Sub-county in order of Food Insecurity Severity

Sub County	Ward (1-n) in order of Food Insecurity	Predominant Livelihood and Hot spots	Food Insecurity Rank (1-3)	Main food security threat (if any)
Lamu East	1. Kiunga 2. Faza 3. Basuba	Shanga Rubu, Shanga Ishakani, Bahamisi, Mtangawanda, Kizingitini, Myabogi Tchundwa (Fishing zone); Kiunga, Ishakani, Mkokoni, Kiwayu and Ndau (Fishing zone) Basuba, Kiangwe, Milimani, Marareni, Bodhei (MF)	1	• Poor infrastructure, such as roads • Low precipitation • Low access to health facilities, erratic supply of drugs • High tides • Low fish catch • High cost of travel by sea • High incidence of livestock diseases • Insecurity • High food commodity prices
Lamu West	1. Witu 2. Bahari 3. Mkunumbi 4. Hongwe	Pandanguo, Didewaride, Chalaluma, Nyongoro, Maisha Masha, Pangani (Agropastoral zones); Lumshi A and B, Amkeni, Jericho, (MF); Koreni, Mkunumbi, Ndambwe (Agropastoral) Salama, Juhudi, Marafa, Kibaoni, Poromoko (MF); Mulei, Kiongwe, Tewe (MF)	2	• Livestock immigration • Human in- migration • High incidence of pest livestock diseases • Insecurity • Uneven distribution of rainfall • Poor sanitation practices • High cost of food prices • Inadequate water supply
Lamu Central	1. Hindi 2. Mkomani 3. Shella	Bargoni, Milihoyi, Bobo, Kibokoni, Hindi and Mokowe (Mixed farming) Kashmir, spotlight, Hidabu (Casual)	3	• High incidence of livestock diseases • Crop pests and diseases • Poor roads infrastructure • High cost of living • Human in-migration • Low household stocks • Inadequate water quality and accessibility • Insecurity

5.2 Ongoing Interventions

5.2.1 Food Interventions

A total of 25378 primaries and 11,243 Junior secondary school are currently on school feeding programme. There was food aid distribution by National government.

Sub-county	Ward	Location	Intervention	Level of school (Pre-Primary/ Primary/ Junior/Secondary)	No. of beneficiaries	Implementers	Impact in terms of food security	Timeframe
Lamu County	All	All	School meal	Primary & JSS	29109	MOE		Jan- Dec

5.2.2 Non-Food Interventions

Table 20: Non-food interventions

Sub County	Ward	Intervention	No. of beneficiaries		Implementers	Required resource	Available resource	Time Frame
Agriculture sector								
Immediate intervention								
All Sub counties	All wards	Provision of Extension services	10,000		CGL	2.5M		On-going
All Sub counties	All wards	Provision of subsidy tractor hire service	723		CGL	14.7 M		On-going
All Sub counties	All wards	Provision of relief seeds/planting material	20,000		CGL/World vision	35M		End June 2025
All Sub counties	All wards	Provision of farm input (GOK subsidy fertilizer)	2500		GoK CGL	20M		Continues
Health sector: Immediately ongoing								
All Sub counties	All wards		Male	Female	CGL/ UNICEF	500,000		JUNE 2025

		Vitamin A Supplementation	7420	2475				
All Sub counties	NIL	Zinc Supplementation			CGL/ UNICEF	900,000		ON GOING
All Sub counties	All wards	Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM)						
All Sub counties	All wards	IYCN Interventions (EBF and Timely Intro of complementary Foods)			CGL			ON GOING
All Sub counties	All wards	Iron Folate Supplementation among Pregnant Women	5565	1855	CGL	150,000		ON GOING
	All wards	Deworming	N/A	3500	CGL	150,000		ON GOING
All sub counties	All wards	Food Fortification-MNP	7420	2475				
Water sector								
Immediate ongoing								
Lamu Central Sub county	Shela ward-Manda	Pipeline extension + water kiosk	2,500		CGL	-		90%
	Hindi-Mokowe	Pipeline to underserved	6,500		CGL	-		80%
Lamu East Sub county	Kiunga-Kiwayu	Kiwayu chandani water project and pump station house	500		CGL	4.5M		90%
	Faza	Faza Desalination plant	2,500		CGL	7M		80%
	Medium and Long term							

Lamu West	Shella	Expand water pipeline network	400	CGL	5M		9 months
	Manda	Expand water pipeline network	360	CGL	3.5M		9 months
	Maweni	Expand water pipeline network	390	CGL	3.5		9 Month
Lamu central and west	All wards	Vaccination of cattle against LSD and Anthrax	3000	Department of veterinary services	5M		February 2025
Lamu west	All wards	External and internal parasites control	3000	Department of veterinary services		3,000,000	Continuous
Lamu West	All wards	Disease surveillance	3000	Department of veterinary services		300,000	continuous
Lamu West	All wards	Fodder establishment	600	Department of Livestock production		10,000,000	March 2025

5.3 Recommended Interventions

5.3.1. Food Interventions

Following the performance of the season, the assessment team recommended cash for asset as a modality for delivering assistance to the most food insecure population as shown in Table 21.

Table 21: Population in Need of Food Assistance

Sub County	Ward	Proportion of population affected	No. of Population in need of (Actual No.) food aid

Lamu East	Faza	30- 35	4075
	Kiunga	35 - 40	3,903
	Basuba	45 - 50	497
Lamu Central	Mkomani	25 - 30	4300
	Shella	30 - 35	2322
	Hindi	35- 40	4710
Lamu West	Bahari	35- 40	5500
	Hongwe	25 - 30	2657
	Mkunumbi	30 - 35	2,074
	Witu	35 - 40	5116
	TOTAL		35,154

5.3.2 Non-Food Interventions

Table 22: Non-Food Interventions

Sub County	Ward	Intervention	No. of beneficiaries	Implementers	Required Resources	Available Resources	Time Frame
Education Sector **Medium term / Long Term interventions**							
All Sub counties	All wards	Plastic water tank	42,408	MOE, NDMA, LCG	100M		Jan- Dec 2025
All Sub counties	All wards	Food for fees	9,326	NDMA and other agencies	120M		Jan- Dec 2025
All Sub counties	All wards	Constructing toilets	42,408	MOE, NDMA, LCG and other agencies	58M		Jan- Dec 2025
All Sub counties	All wards	-Hand washing facility	42,408	MOE, NDMA, LCG and other agencies	20M		Jan- Dec 2025
All Sub counties	All wards	Sanitary pads (Secondary school)	9,326	MOE & other agencies	32M		Continuence

Agriculture							
Medium term / Long Term interventions							
Lamu East and Lamu West	Bahari, Mkunumbi, Witu, Hindi, Kiunga, Faza and Basuba wards	Provision of Extension services	20,000	CGL, KRCS, Private tractor hire service operators	8.5M		Continuous
Lamu west	Faza, Kiunga, Basuba, Shela-Manda, Mkomani, Hindi, Mkunumbi, Bahari, Hongwe, and Witu	Provision of subsidy tractor hire service	2,500	CGL, KRC, Agro-Stockists	37.5M		Continuous (mainly ,off-season OND season, 2025)
Lamu East and Lamu West	Faza, Kiunga, Basuba, Shela-Manda, Mkomani, Hindi, Mkunumbi, Bahari, Hongwe, and Witu	Provision of relief seeds	10,000	CGL, World Vision, KARLO, NDMA, NGO/State Department of Agric., AFA	40M		OND season ,2025
Lamu East and Lamu West	Faza, Kiunga, Basuba, Shela-Manda, Mkomani, Hindi, Mkunumbi, Bahari, Hongwe, and Witu	Capacity building farmers on post-harvest management	1,000	CGL, World Vision, KARLO, NDMA, NGO/State Department of Agric., AFA	20M		Soonest

Health sector							
Medium and Long term Recommended Interventions							
All sub counties	All wards	Vitamin A Supplementation	12,580	CGL & UNICEF &KRCS	800,000		July -Dec 2025
All sub counties	All wards	Scale up Screening of malnutrition in hot spot area	5,500	KRCS AND MOH CGL & UNICEF &KRCS	3,000,000		July -Dec 2025
All sub counties	All wards	MIYCN Interventions	3800 pregnant and lactating mothers	CGL & UNICEF &KRCS	700,000		July -Dec 2025
All sub counties	Referral hospital	BFHI	Pregnant/lactating mothers	CGL/UNICEF	800,000		Dec 2026
All sub counties	All wards	SMART SURVEY		CGL/UNICEF/KRCS	1.5M		June 2026
Water sector							
Immediate invention							
Lamu Central	Hindi-Bargoni	Water Treatment Chemicals	1,800	NDMA CGL Kenya Red Cross	300,000		July- Dec 2025
	Mswakini	Provision of 20 storage plastic tanks-10m3	1200	NDMA CGL Kenya Red Cross	7.3M		July-Dec 2025-26
	Manda mawi	Provision of 10 storage plastic tanks-10m3	1,200	NDMA CGL Kenya Red Cross	4M		July-Dec 2025-26
	Manda Maweni	Rehabilitation of 3No Djabias	800	NDMA CGL Kenya Red Cross	5M		July-Dec 2025-26

Lamu West	Moa	Water Treatment Chemicals	1,300	NDMA CGL Kenya Red Cross	300,000		July-Dec 2025-26
	Nagelle	Desilting of water pan	1800	NDMA CGL Kenya Red Cross	5M		July-Dec 2025-26
Medium and Long Term recommended Interventions							
Lamu West	Pandanguo	Construction of 30,000M3 water pan	2,586	NDMA, CGL	17M		2025-2027
Lamu Central	Borabodhei	Construction of Boreholes	2,086	CGL/NDMA	2.5M		2025-2027
Livestock sector							
IMMEDIATE							
All Counties	All wards	Vaccination of cattle against BQ and CBPP	650	Department of veterinary services	2,500,000		May – October 2025
All counties	All wards	External parasites control	700	Department of veterinary services	1,000,000		Continuous
MEDIUM AND LONG TERM							
Lamu East, Central and west	All wards	Disease surveillance	700	Department of veterinary services	200,000		continuous
Lamu West	Witu Mkunumbi Bahari	Fodder establishment	300	Department of Livestock production	1,000,000		May 2025
Lamu West, East and Central	All wards	Purchase of goats and cows for the livestock keeping	600	KEMFSED			June 2025

		communities.					
Lamu East,	Faza Kiunga	Livestock Insurance	4,800	DRIVE Project State Department of Livestock production	56,000,000		continuous