




A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



National Drought Management Authority
WEST POKOT COUNTY
DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR AUGUST, 2025.

AUGUST EW PHASE	Early Warning Phase Classification		
Drought Status: NORMAL  Shughuli za kawaida	LIVELIHOOD ZONE	EW PHASE	TRENDS
	Agro Pastoral	Normal	Stable
	Pastoral	Normal	Stable
	County	Normal	Stable

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification	Biophysical Indicators		Value	Normal ranges
	Rainfall	Rainfall (% of normal)	112	80-120
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The county had normal rains during the reporting period. ▪ The amounts received were fair in both time and space across the livelihood zones. 	Rainfall Estimates in mm	97.37	35.56–97.37	
	VCI-3 month (NDMA FAO)	62.11	35-50	
	Forage Condition	Fair to good	Fair to Good	
	Production indicators	Value	Normal ranges	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vegetation condition index was above normal ranges ▪ Forage condition was fair to good which was normal 	Maize Crop Condition	Fair to Good	Fair to Good	
	Livestock Body Condition	Fair to Good	Fair to Good	
	Milk Production (in litres)	1.6	1.6-1.9	
	Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal	
	Livestock Deaths (from Drought)	0.0%	≤5%	
Access Indicators	Value	Normal ranges		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grain filling/podding and harvesting stages are in fair to good condition. ▪ Livestock body condition was fair to good. ▪ Low livestock in-migration was reported ▪ Livestock diseases were reported. ▪ Milk production was within the normal ranges. 	Terms of Trade (ToT)	65	72-94	
	Return Distance to Water Sources (Km)	Household	2.8	2.0–3.7
		Livestock	4.9	1.3–3.5
	Water Consumption	At Household	12	≥ 15
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal ranges		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Terms of trade were below normal ranges. ▪ Household water distances were within normal. ▪ Livestock watering distance were above the normal ranges. ▪ Water consumption was below normal. 	Percentage of children 6-59 months – At Risk < 135 mm	2.3	2.2–8.6	
	Milk Consumption (in litres)	1.43	1.39–1.79	
	Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)	5.06	0.7-2.3	
	Food Consumption Score	30	>35	

Dry Season			Long Rains			Dry Cool Season			Short Rains Season		
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- The county received fair to good amounts of rainfall, which were fairly distributed in time and space across the livelihood zones. According to WFP-VAM datasets, cumulative rainfall estimates increased by 37 percent, rising to 97.37 mm in August from 71.71 mm in July (Figure 1).

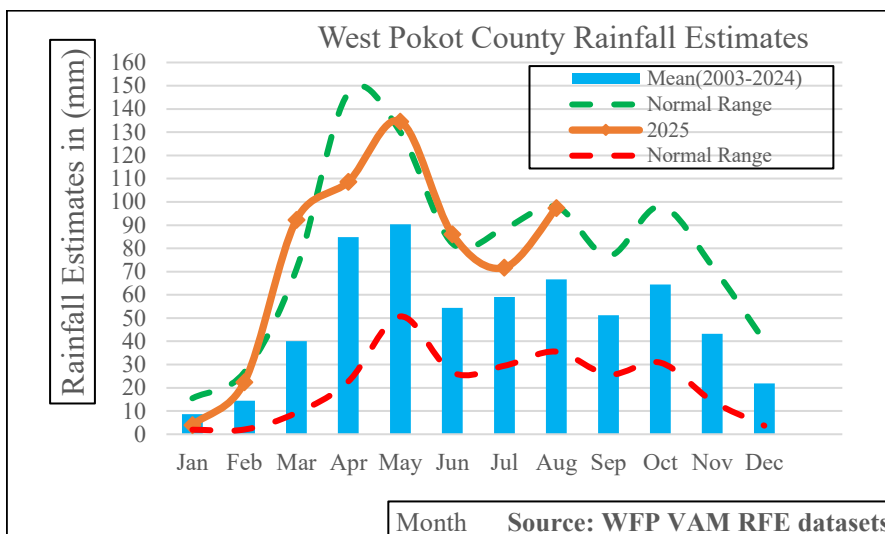


Figure 1: Rainfall Amounts in West Pokot County

Rainfall amounts were generally higher in August compared to July, with the highest rainfall recorded at the Kapenguria AWS in West Pokot Sub-county, while the lowest rainfall was observed at the DCC Office in Sigor (Weiwei Ward), Pokot Central Sub-county.

- The WFP-VAM rainfall estimates showed that amounts received in August were 46 percent above normal, falling within the normal range of 35.56–97.37 mm (Figure 1).

Table 1: Weather Stations Rainfall in West Pokot County

Weather Station/Sub- County	Livelihood Zone	July 2025 Total Rainfall in (mm)	August 2025 Total Rainfall in (mm)
Sigor AWS (Pokot Central)	Agro-pastoral	18.6	71.2
Nasukuta (Pokot South)	Agro-pastoral	103.3	150.9
Chepareria (Pokot South)	Agro-Pastoral	150.2	113
Alale (Pokot North)	Pastoral	41	67.5
Kacheliba AWS (Pokot North)	Pastoral	12.8	124.7
Konyao – Kapchok (Pokot North)	Pastoral	72.7	88.5
Surumben-Masol (Pokot Central)	Pastoral	29.8	108
Kaibos (Pokot West)	Mixed Farming	234.9	184.4
Kapkatet (Pokot West)	Mixed Farming	249.3	204.6
Kapenguria AWS (Pokot West)	Mixed Farming	244.4	276.7
Total Rainfall		1,157.0	1,389.5

2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

2.1.1 NDMA FAO Vegetation Condition Index (VCI) August 2025

- The 3-month Vegetation Condition Index (VCI) improved by 20 percent, rising to 62.11 in August from 51.80 in July. The VCI reflects a stable situation, showing a shift from near-normal vegetation conditions in July to above-normal conditions in August, according to FAO’s satellite-derived monthly datasets. A VCI above 35–50 denotes near- to above-normal vegetation conditions, which is consistent with the observed averages across livelihood zones (Figure 2).
- The Pastoral livelihood zones recorded near-normal vegetation conditions with a VCI of 53.24, while the Agro-Pastoral zones registered above-normal conditions, with a higher VCI of 71.41. This variation suggests better crop and pasture conditions in the Agro-Pastoral areas, likely driven by more diversified land use and higher soil moisture retention.
- At the ward level, Suam (38.23), Kodich (39.26), Riwo (42.96), and Mnagei (49.89) reported near-normal vegetation conditions. Overall, vegetation conditions in these wards showed improvement compared to the previous month.

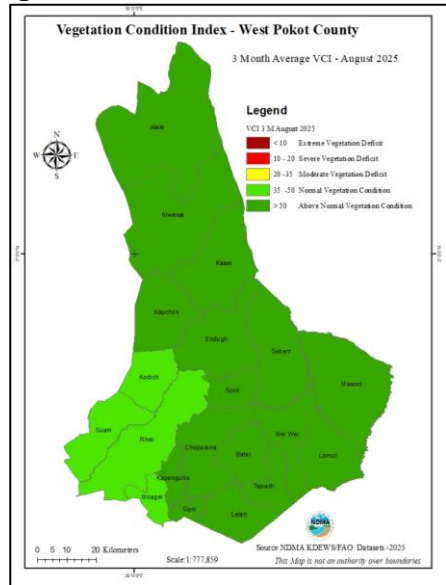


Figure 2: VCI 3 Month Map

2.1.2 Pasture

- The quality and quantity of pasture improved by six percent, with 69 percent of areas reporting fair conditions, up from 63 percent in the previous month. This improvement is attributed to increased wet days and moderate pasture regeneration during the current month.
- Pasture conditions ranged from fair to good across all livelihood zones, with an overall shift towards better conditions, as illustrated in Figure 3.
- In the Pastoral livelihood zones, 80 percent of pasture was reported to be in fair condition, while the Agro-Pastoral livelihood zones recorded 50 percent in fair condition.
- Pasture conditions in August were better than the same period in 2023, but worse than in 2024. Nonetheless, the available pasture is expected to last for 2-3 months, which is normal for this time of year.

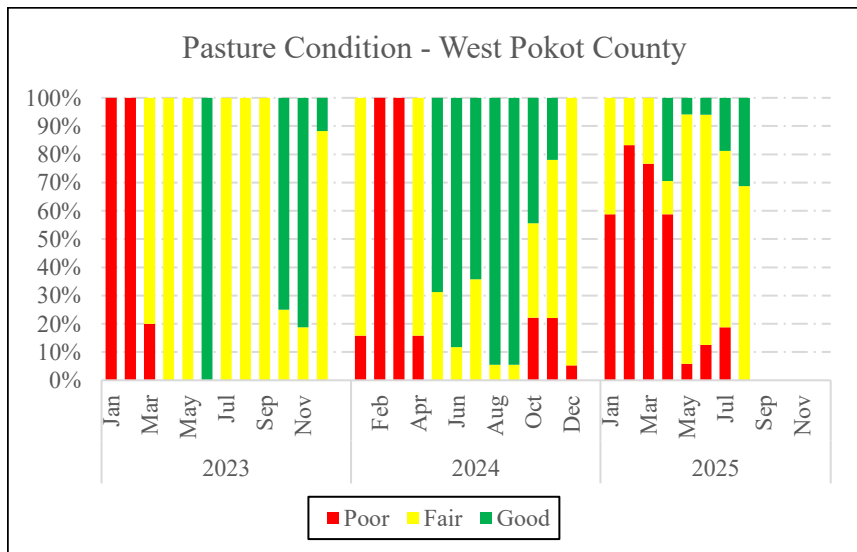


Figure 3 : West Pokot County Pasture Condition

2.1.3 Browse

- The browse condition improved by 12 percent, rising from 69 percent to 81 percent in good condition, while 19 percent remained in fair condition, down from 25 percent in the previous month, considering both quality and quantity (Figure 4).
- This moderate improvement is attributed to the fair rains received during the month, which supported browse regeneration.
- The Agro-Pastoral livelihood zones recorded better browse conditions (ranging from fair to good) compared to the Pastoral zones, due to the relatively more favorable wet conditions experienced in Agro-Pastoral areas.
- The current browse condition is better than the same period in 2023 but worse than in 2024.
- The available browse is expected to last for three to four months, which is normal for this time of year.

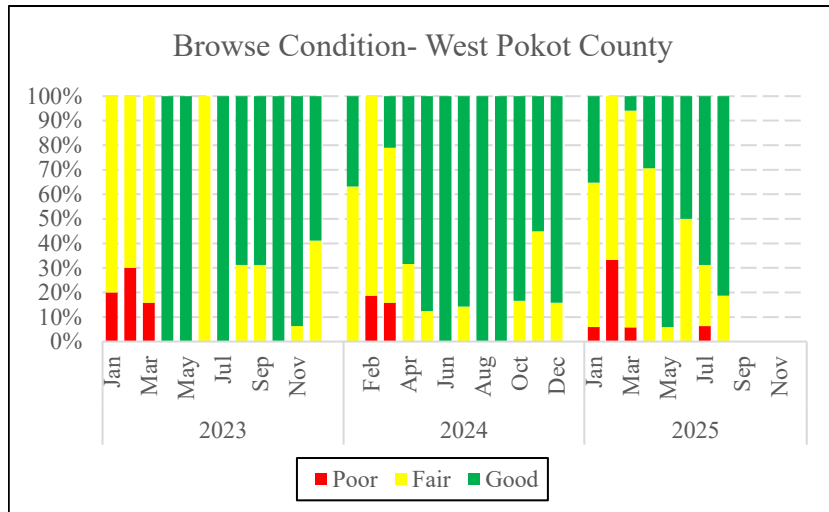


Figure 4 : West Pokot County Browse Condition

2.2 WATER RESOURCE

2.2.1 Sources

- The main water sources for both human and livestock consumption during the month were pans/dams, boreholes, traditional river wells, and rivers.
- Households relied equally on boreholes, pans/dams and traditional river wells, each accounting for 25, 23 and 19 percent of usage, as shown in Figure 5.
- The use of pans/dams and boreholes improved, supported by better water availability in these sources. Similarly, reliance on rivers and traditional wells increased, driven by enhanced underground water recharge following the recent rainfall.
- However, the efficiency of water retention facilities remained limited by siltation and high evaporation, which significantly reduced the recharge capacity of open water sources. These challenges pose a potential risk to water availability in the coming months, particularly if dry conditions persist.
- The state of water improved compared to the previous month, with recharge levels of open water sources increasing to 40–50 percent of their capacity in most areas, up from 35–45 percent.
- Recharge levels in the Pastoral livelihood zones are estimated at 25–30 percent, while in the Agro-Pastoral zones they are higher, at 60–70 percent.

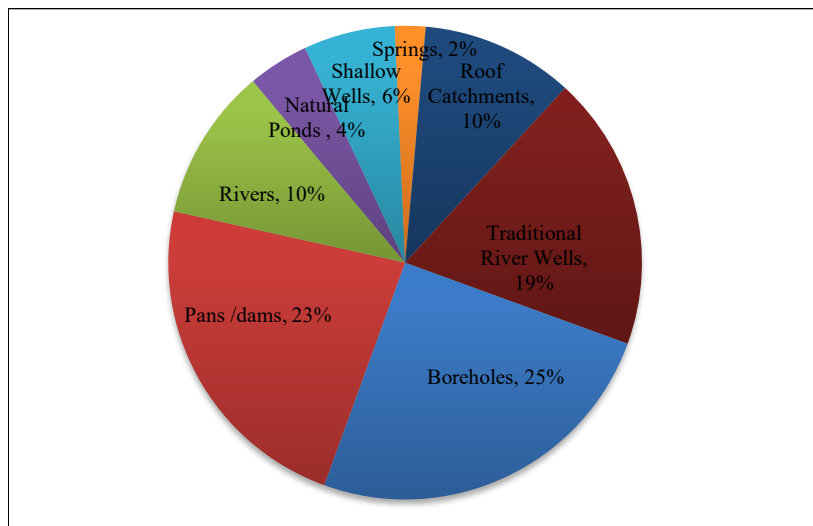


Figure 5 : Water Sources in West Pokot County

- The available open water sources are projected to last for 2–3 months, which is slightly below the normal 3–4 months.

2.2.2 Household Access and Utilization

- The average return distance from households to water sources decreased to 2.8 km, marking an 18 percent improvement from 3.4 km recorded in the previous month.
- Households in the Pastoral livelihood zones trekked significantly longer distances than those in the Agro-Pastoral zones, mainly due to lower surface water availability and reduced recharge levels in pastoral areas.

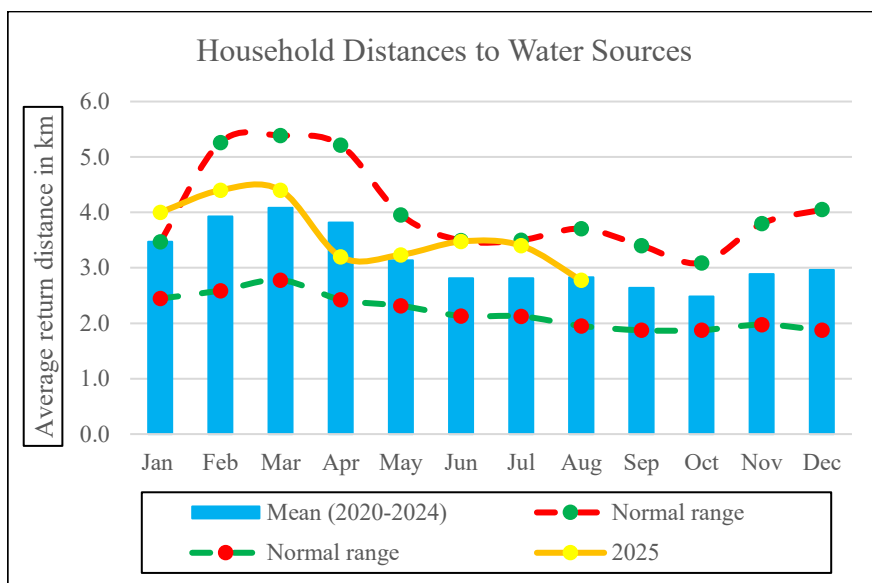


Figure 6: Household Access to Water

- The current average trekking distance is two percent below the long-term average and falls within the normal seasonal range of 2.0–3.7 km, as illustrated in Figure 6.
- Water consumption per person per day stagnated at 12 litres, reflecting a stable water situation. However, this remains below the recommended threshold of 15 litres or more. Clear disparities were observed between zones: Agro-Pastoral households consumed nine litres, while Pastoral households consumed 13 litres. Both are below the standard, signaling access constraints likely driven by rugged terrain, scattered settlements, and limited infrastructure.
- No households reported purchasing water, while four percent reported treating water before consumption, up from the previous month. Despite this improvement, the low adoption of water treatment practices poses a public health risk, particularly in areas where open water sources are prone to contamination and shared with livestock.

2.2.3 Livestock Access

- The The average return distance from livestock grazing areas to watering points worsened by eight percent, increasing from 4.6 km to 4.9 km during the current reporting period. This deterioration is largely attributed to increased livestock disease incidences, rather than limited browse and pasture availability, as the latter had regenerated sufficiently. Consequently, livestock were forced to travel farther in search of reliable water sources.

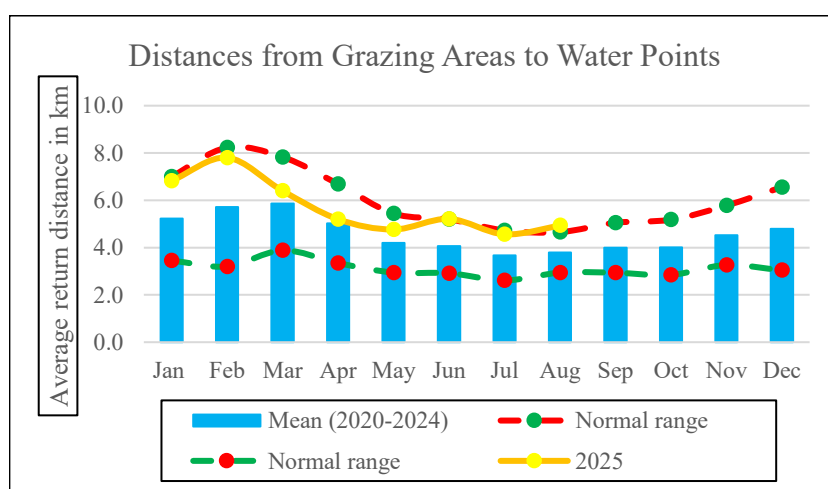


Figure 7: Distances from grazing areas to water points

- Livestock in Pastoral zones continued to trek longer distances compared to those in the Agro-Pastoral zones, a trend consistent with previous months. The longest distances were recorded in Masol and Weiwei wards, areas characterized by rugged terrain, dispersed settlements, and limited permanent water sources, which significantly constrain efficient access to water.
- Watering frequency remained daily in Agro-Pastoral zones and alternate in Pastoral zones, reflecting disparities in water infrastructure and vegetation cover. Agro-Pastoral areas benefit from relatively well-developed boreholes and surface water harvesting systems, which support more frequent access to water.
- With livestock trekking longer-than-normal distances, the current average distance is 30 percent above the long-term average and 4 percent above the normal seasonal range of 1.3–3.5 km (Figure 7). This underscores a persistent vulnerability in Pastoral areas, where water access remains fragile and heavily dependent on rainfall distribution, surface runoff efficiency, and effective disease control measures.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- Livestock The livestock body condition was generally moderate (neither fat nor thin) across all species and livelihood zones. However, there was a worsening trend of six percent, with the proportion of livestock in good, smooth body condition declining from 50 percent to 44 percent in the current month (Figure 8).
- This negative trend is primarily attributed to the reduced availability of crop residues due to wilting and stunted crop growth in the Pastoral zones, compounded by increased livestock disease incidences.

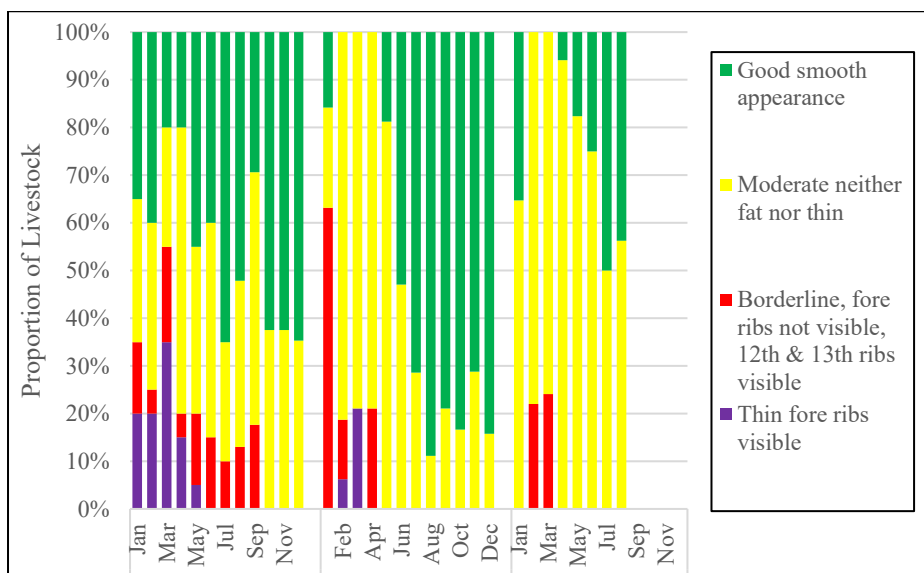


Figure 8: Cattle Body Condition

- A significant proportion of livestock in the Pastoral zones maintained only a moderate body condition, while those in the Agro-Pastoral zones exhibited mostly good, smooth body condition. This disparity reflects the advantages in Agro-Pastoral areas such as better water access, stronger crop-livestock integration, and greater availability of supplementary feeding options, particularly in Chepareria and Weiwei wards.

3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- During the reporting period, multiple livestock disease outbreaks were reported across West Pokot County (Table 2), with varying levels of risk.
- Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP) was the most severe outbreak, with 242 cases and 316 deaths in Pokot South Sub County. The risk level is very high.
- Newcastle Disease (NCD) affected 68 poultry, causing 20 deaths in West Pokot and Pokot South Sub Counties.
- Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) outbreaks occurred in Pokot South, Pokot Central, Pokot North, and West Pokot, affecting 164 small ruminants with 45 deaths. The risk level is high due

to its contagious nature and rapid spread across multiple sub-counties. Losses from PPR directly threaten household nutrition through reduced milk supply and diminish income from goat and sheep sales.

- Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) was reported in West Pokot, with 103 cases but no mortalities. The risk level is high given its impact on cattle trade restrictions, reduced market access, and lower milk yields, which negatively affect household earnings and food access.
- East Coast Fever (ECF) and Anaplasmosis were reported in Pokot South and West Pokot sub-counties, affecting 142 cattle. While no mortalities were recorded, the risk level is moderate.
- Lastly, Helminthiasis in Pokot South (32 cases) and Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) in West Pokot and Pokot North (22 cases) presented a low to moderate risk, with no recorded mortalities.
- A total of 1,301 animals were vaccinated across different wards in West Pokot County. In Pokot South Sub County, 100 sheep were vaccinated against Peste des Petit Ruminants (PPR) and 200 chickens against Newcastle Disease (NCD) in Chepareria Ward, while 1 head of cattle was vaccinated against East Coast Fever (ECF) in Lelan Ward. In Kapenguria Sub County, 216 chickens were vaccinated against Fowl Pox in Kapenguria Ward, and 100 goats against Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP) in Endugh Ward. In Sigor Sub County, Sekerr Ward recorded the highest number with 681 goats vaccinated against PPR.

Table 2: Livestock Pests and Diseases in West Pokot County, August 2025

Pest/Disease	Sub County	Case (s)	Motilities
East Coast Fever & Anaplasmosis	Pokot South and West Pokot	142	0
Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP)	Pokot South.	242	316
Peste des Petit Ruminants (PPR)	Pokot South, Pokot Central, Pokot North and West Pokot	164	45
Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)	West Pokot	103	0
Newcastle Disease (NCD)	West Pokot and Pokot South	68	20
Helminthiasis	Pokot South	32	0
Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD)	West Pokot and Pokot North	22	0
Total Cases/Mortalities		773	381

3.1.3 Milk Production

- The average household milk production increased from 1.41 litres to 1.62 litres during the reporting month, representing a 19 percent improvement compared to the previous month.
- This growth is mainly attributed to better forage conditions, which enhanced livestock productivity, particularly in Agro-Pastoral areas where crop residues provided additional feed support.

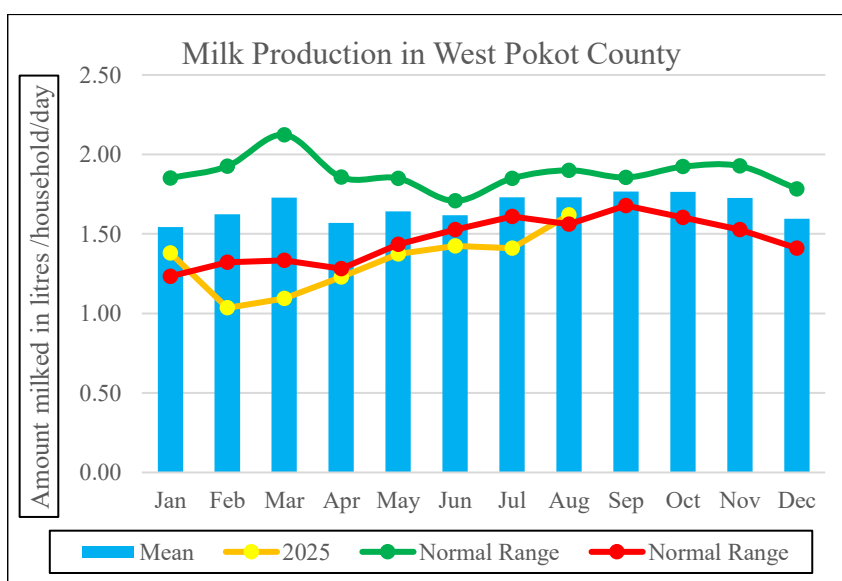


Figure 9: Milk Production

- Milk production remained consistently higher in Agro-Pastoral livelihood zones than in Pastoral zones, with the gap widening during the month due to improved feed availability, shorter water access distances, and more integrated livestock management practices. Despite these gains,

current milk production is still six percent below the long-term average and four percent below the normal seasonal range of 1.56–1.90 litres per household per day (Figure 9). This shortfall reflects the lingering effects of uneven pasture and browses recovery, especially in the drier Pastoral areas.

3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

3.2.1 Stage and Condition of Food Crops

- The major crops planted under rain-fed conditions in the Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone were maize and beans, while maize, beans, and Irish potatoes were the major crops planted in the mixed farming livelihood zone.
- Currently, most crops across the livelihood zones have advanced to the grain filling/podding and harvesting stages, with overall conditions ranging from fair to good. However, in areas that received below-average rainfall, some crops are exhibiting early to late signs of wilting caused by moisture stress, resulting in fair to poor performance. In such areas, affected crops are still being utilized as crop residues to support livestock feeding.
- In addition to rain-fed cropping, the main crops grown under irrigated farming were onions, tomatoes, cabbages, and kales in parts of Pokot South and Pokot West sub-counties. The crops were at various stages of growth and in good condition.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

4.1.1 Cattle Prices

- The average market price for cattle rose by 11 percent, from Ksh. 25,231 in the previous month to Ksh. 28,115 in the current reporting period, signaling a notable improvement in livestock value.

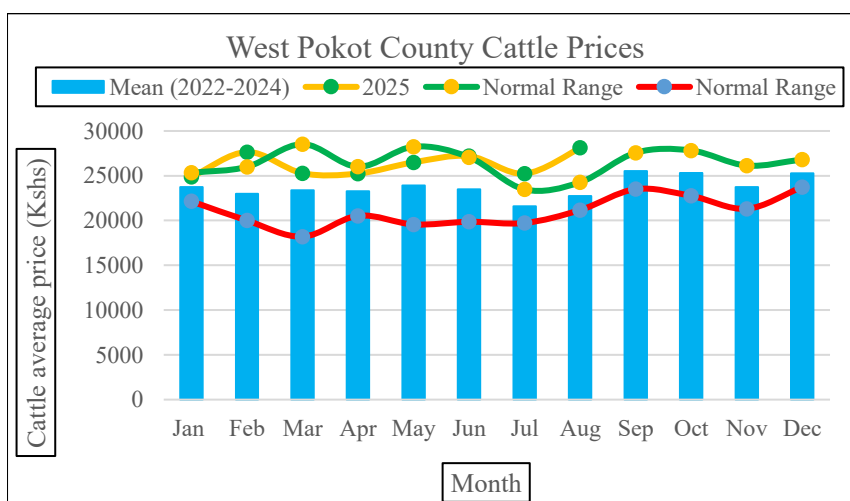


Figure 10: Cattle Prices

- Prices were highest in the Pastoral livelihood zones, averaging Ksh. 28,500, compared to Ksh. 26,833 in the Agro-Pastoral zones.

- The relatively lower prices in Agro-Pastoral areas were mainly attributed to weaker market dynamics, including reduced accessibility to major markets, periodic oversupply, and limited purchasing power among buyers.
- Importantly, current cattle prices remain well above seasonal reference points -11 percent higher than the short-term average and 24 percent above the normal range of Ksh. 21,171–24,273 (Figure 10). This sustained an upward trend strongly reflects improved livestock body conditions, consistent demand in well-connected trading centers, and overall market confidence, thereby underscoring the resilience of the livestock sector as a key livelihood and income source in the region.

4.1.2 Small Ruminants Prices (Goat Price)

- The average market price of a goat increased by 5 percent, rising from Ksh. 4,238 in the previous month to Ksh. 4,431 in the current reporting period. This improvement was mainly attributed to stronger market demand, supported by improved browse conditions that enhanced livestock body condition and marketability.

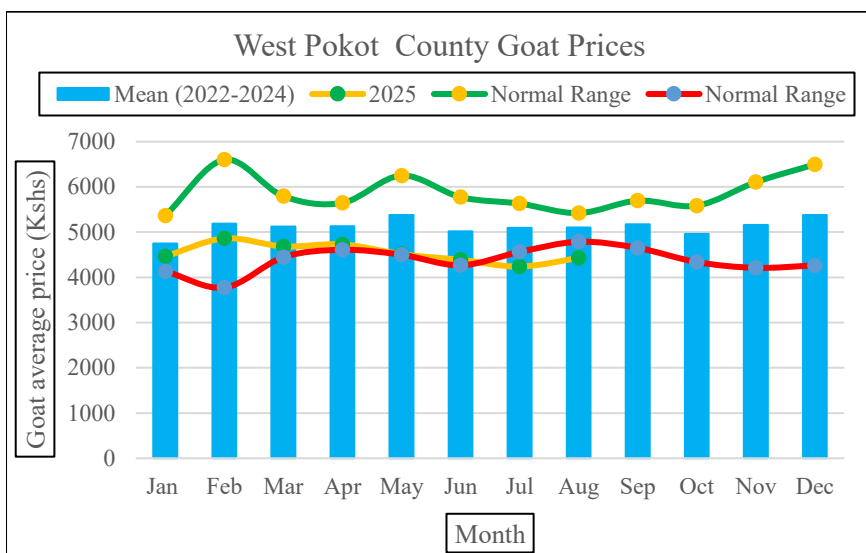


Figure 11: Goat Prices

- Notably, the Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone recorded a significantly higher average goat price of Ksh. 5,383 compared to Ksh. 3,860 in the Pastoral zone. This price disparity highlights the advantages of Agro-Pastoral areas, where farmers benefit from better access to stable markets, veterinary services, and relatively healthier livestock, while Pastoral zones continue to face challenges of remoteness, weaker demand, and limited market integration.
- Despite the monthly gains, the current goat prices remain 13 percent below the short-term average and 18 percent below the normal range of Ksh. 4,787–5,420 (Figure 11). This persistent shortfall underscores the lingering effects of market distortions and reduced purchasing power, particularly in Pastoral areas, thereby justifying the need for enhanced livestock market access, support services, and resilience interventions to stabilize incomes and safeguard household food security.

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize

- The average market price of maize per kilogram declined by 10 percent in August, dropping from Ksh. 75 in July to Ksh. 68. This decrease is mainly attributed to the onset of the local harvest season in Agro-Pastoral areas, where farmers began harvesting and selling produce. The fresh supply reduced dependence on external markets, eased market pressure, and contributed to price stabilization.
- Maize prices remained slightly higher in the Pastoral livelihood zones at Ksh. 69 compared to Ksh. 66 in the Agro-Pastoral zones. The price variation reflects the limited local production capacity in Pastoral areas, where rainfall is less reliable, and crop output remains minimal. As a result, these areas continue to rely heavily on market-supplied maize, sustaining relatively higher prices.

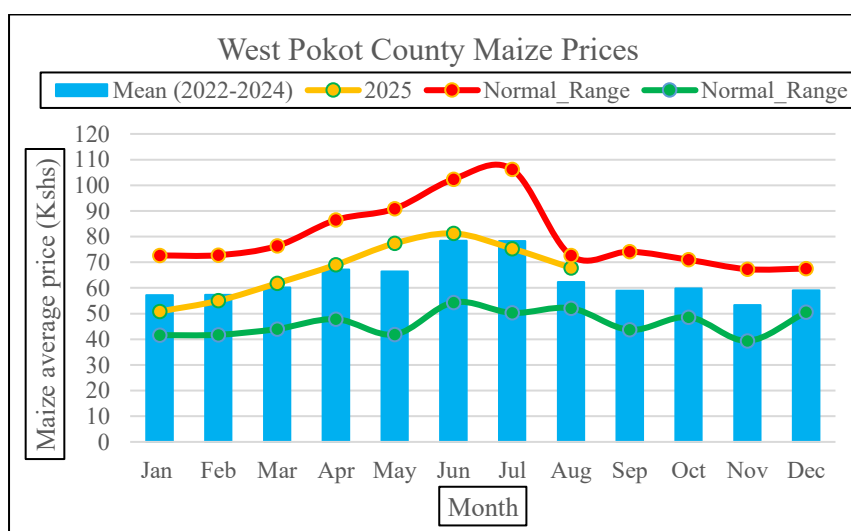


Figure 12: Maize Prices

- A large share of maize supplies still originated from external sources, particularly Trans-Nzoia County and neighboring Uganda. These major surplus-producing regions continue to play a critical role in supplementing local supplies and cushioning food availability in West Pokot, especially in non-harvesting zones that remain vulnerable to market fluctuations.
- Despite the recent price decline, the current maize price is nine percent below the short-term average but remains within the normal price band of Ksh. 52–73 per kilogram (Figure 12). This indicates that market conditions are generally stable and not under abnormal stress. However, continuous monitoring is required as post-harvest dynamics and potential disruptions in external supply chains could trigger further price volatility.

4.2.2 Beans

- The average market price of beans per kilogram decreased slightly two percent in August, dropping to Ksh. 130 from Ksh. 133 in July. This sharp decline is attributed to improved local supply following harvests from the Agro-Pastoral livelihood zones, where conditions were favourable for bean production. Increased availability at the household and market levels reduced pressure on prices, especially in key trading centres.

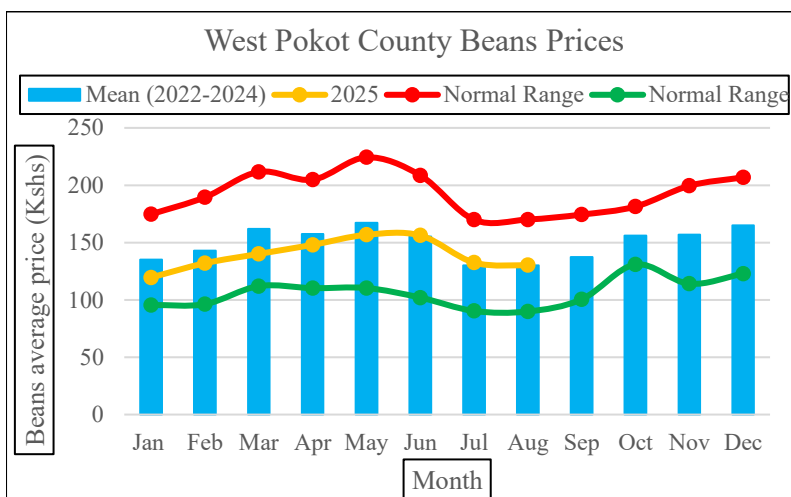


Figure 13: Beans Prices

- Bean prices were higher in the Pastoral livelihood zone compared to the Agro-Pastoral zone. This disparity is due to minimal bean production in the Pastoral areas, which are less agriculturally productive due to harsher climatic conditions and limited land under cultivation. Consequently, Pastoral areas rely more on market purchases, often sourced from the Agro-Pastoral areas or external markets, leading to higher local prices.
- The current average price of beans is normal and 23 percent within the normal price range of Ksh. 90–170, as illustrated in Figure 13. While prices have dropped, the supply has improved, demand particularly in food-deficit zones remains strong. Additionally, transportation costs from producing to consuming zones, especially in remote Pastoral areas, contribute to the elevated prices.

4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade

- The Terms of Trade (ToT) improved marginally by 16 percent in August, rising from 56 kilograms to 65 kilograms of maize per goat sold. This means that households could now purchase 65 kilograms of maize from the proceeds of selling one mature goat, compared to 56 kilograms the previous month. This improvement is primarily attributed to the

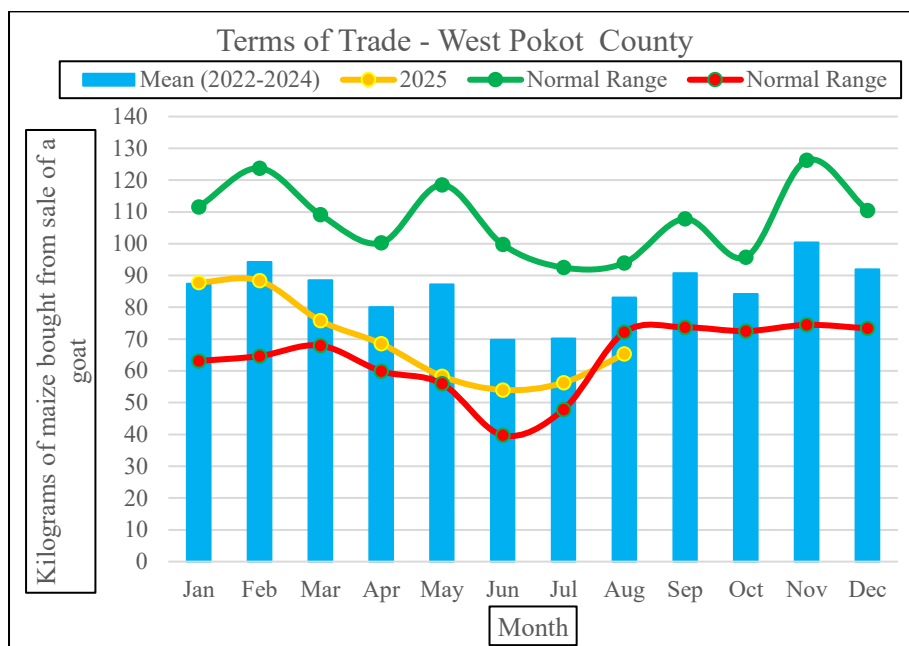


Figure 14: Terms of Trade

decline in maize prices following the onset of the harvest season, which eased market pressure on staple food commodities.

- ToT was more favorable in the Agro-Pastoral livelihood zones than in the Pastoral zones. Agro-Pastoral areas benefit from diversified income sources, including both livestock and crop production, and their proximity to major supply markets lowers food purchase costs. In contrast, Pastoral areas remain more vulnerable due to higher maize prices and reduced bargaining power, exacerbated by longer market distances and limited agricultural activity.
- Despite the recent improvement, the current ToT remains 21 percent below the short-term average, reflecting persistent market imbalances and limited recovery in livestock value due to ongoing animal health challenges. Nevertheless, the ToT remains 30 percent within the normal seasonal range of 72–94 kilograms, indicating that while conditions have not fully normalized. Figure 14 illustrates these dynamics clearly.

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- The average daily milk consumption per household increased by 19 percent in August, falling to 1.43 liters from 1.20 liters in the previous month. This upward trend is primarily attributed to decreased commercialization of milk at the household level.

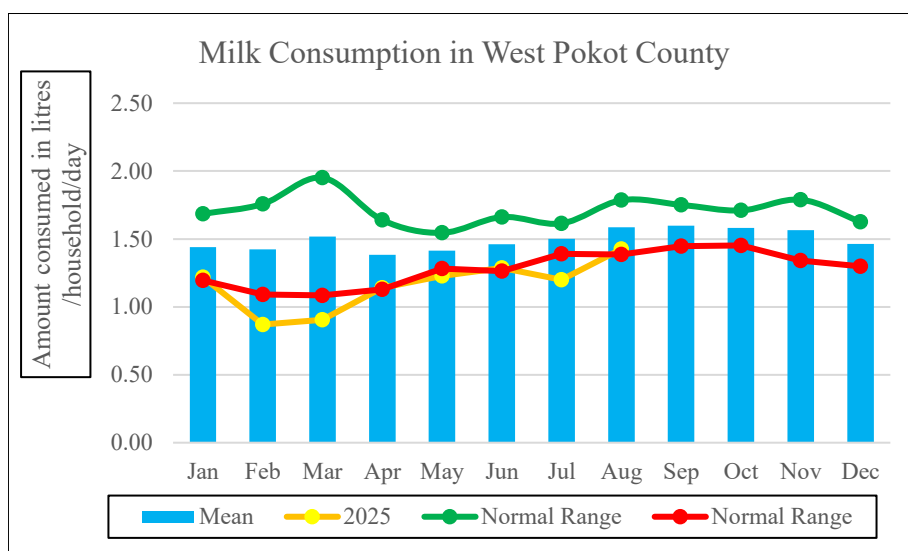


Figure 15: Milk Consumption

- Agro-Pastoral livelihood zones reported higher household milk consumption compared to Pastoral zones, consistent with the previous month. This difference reflects better access to both livestock feed and supportive infrastructure (water and pasture) in Agro-Pastoral areas, which enables sustained milk production and retention.
- The current consumption level remains ten percent below the short-term average and three percent within the normal seasonal range of 1.39–1.79 liters per household per day, as illustrated in Figure 15.

5.2 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE

- The proportion of households in the acceptable food consumption category slightly decreased to 46 percent in August 2025, up from 43 percent in July. the trend remained relatively stable, largely due to the increased availability of milk and vegetables during the early harvest period. These food items contributed to dietary diversity and nutritional adequacy in many households, mainly in Agro-Pastoral zones.

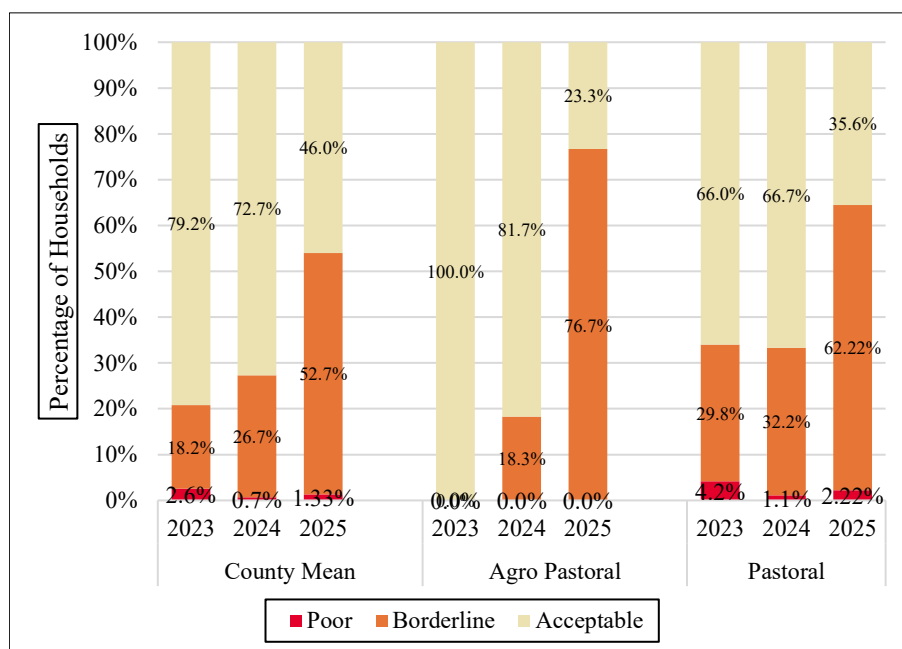


Figure 16: Food Consumption Score

- The majority of households (53 percent) remained in the borderline food consumption category, while 1.3 percent were categorized as having poor food consumption. This distribution suggests that although some improvements in food availability were recorded, a significant proportion of households are still consuming diets that are insufficient in either quantity, quality, or both particularly those in the Pastoral zones where market access and food diversity are limited.

- Agro-Pastoral zones continued to record a higher share of households in the acceptable category, supported by better food production systems, diversified sources of income, and improved coping mechanisms. In contrast, Pastoral households remained more vulnerable to dietary fluctuations due to their reliance on livestock and purchased food.
- Notably, the current proportion of households in the acceptable category is higher than during the same periods in 2024 and 2023, indicating gradual progress in food security, likely influenced by ongoing resilience-building and nutrition-focused interventions. As shown in Figure 16, this positive shift underscores the importance of sustaining community-based food systems and supporting household-level production to improve dietary outcomes.

5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

- The proportion of children aged 6–59 months at risk of malnutrition (as measured by MUAC <135mm) declined from 3.6 percent in July to 2.3 percent in August 2025. This improvement is attributed to ongoing nutrition interventions, increased milk availability from early lactating livestock, and heightened community awareness through health and nutrition campaigns. These factors have enhanced dietary intake and access to essential nutrients during the critical weaning stage.

- However, disparities persist across livelihood zones. The Agro-Pastoral zones recorded a higher risk (4 percent) compared to one percent in the Pastoral zones. The elevated risk in Agro-Pastoral areas is largely due to prioritized sale of nutritious commodities such as milk and eggs, driven by economic necessity.

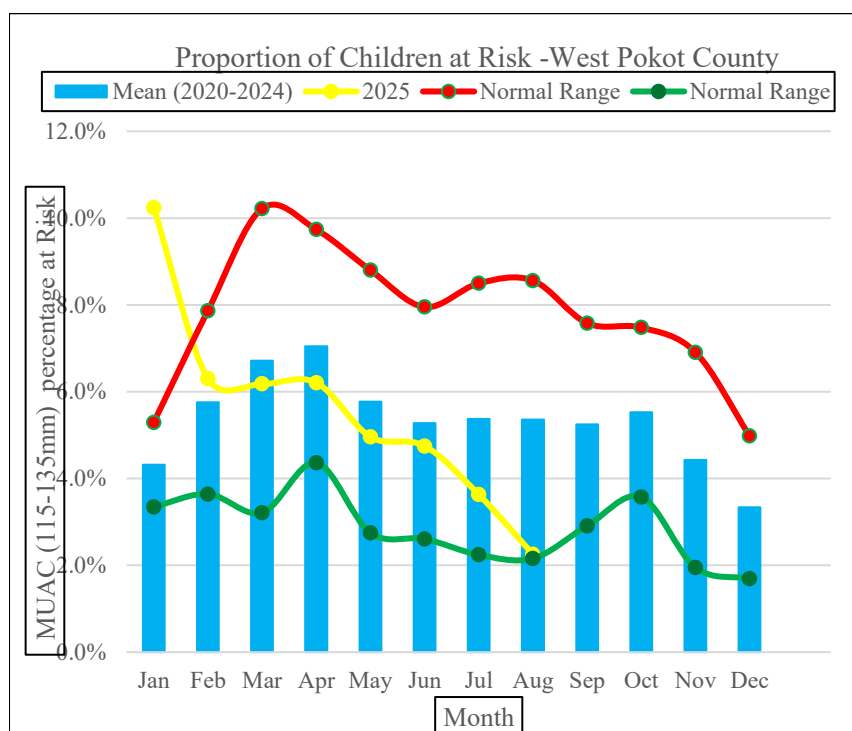


Figure 17: Children at Risk of Malnutrition

Furthermore, poor child care practices, including suboptimal feeding and limited health-seeking behavior, continue to undermine nutritional gains in these zones.

- The current countywide level of children at risk is 3.1 percent below the long-term average, and 6.3 percent within the normal range of 2.2–8.6 percent, as shown in Figure 17. This signifies positive progress in child nutrition outcomes. However, without addressing socio-economic pressures and reinforcing maternal education on infant feeding and care practices, such improvements may not be sustained.

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES

- The mean reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) decreased by 12 percent, decreasing to 5.06 in August from 5.68 in July. The decrease was mainly due to improved access to food and seasonal incomes from harvests, which reduced reliance on extreme coping strategies. However, the persistently elevated rCSI suggests that households continue to face food access challenges, especially in vulnerable zones.

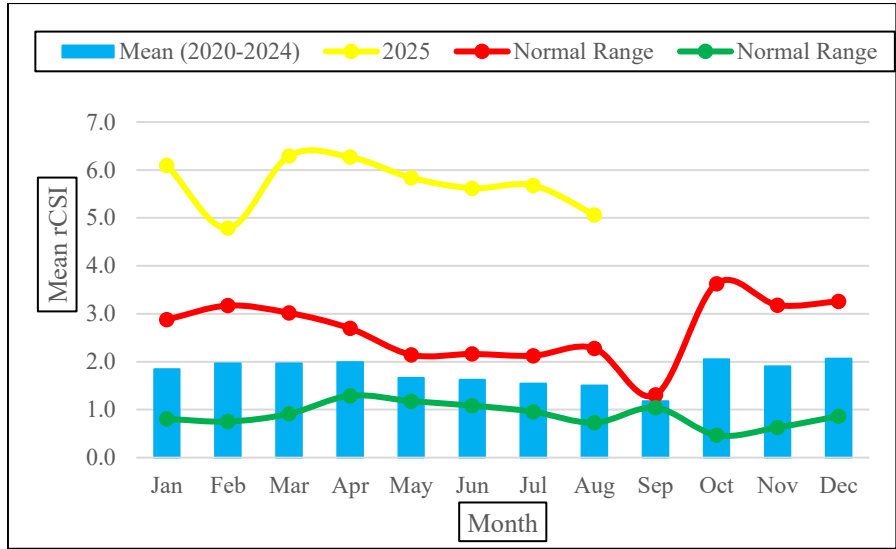


Figure 18: Reduced Coping Strategy Index(rCSI)

- Households in the Agro-Pastoral zones recorded a higher rCSI of 8.4 compared to 5.2 in the Pastoral zones, indicating that food insecurity pressure is still more pronounced in areas with higher market dependence and limited own production. The most frequently used coping strategies included reducing meal portions, skipping meals, and consuming less preferred foods, reflecting constrained food choices and unstable income streams.
- Alarming, the current rCSI is 236 percent above the long-term average and 171 percent higher than the normal range (0.7–2.3), as shown in Figure 18. This indicates stress on household food security, necessitating targeted interventions in food assistance, income diversification, and market stabilization to prevent further deterioration.
- In August 2025, 70 percent of households employed moderate food-based coping mechanisms, which was a worsening trend by two percent from 68 percent in the previous month.

- Households in the Agro-Pastoral livelihood zones continued to rely more on moderate food-based coping mechanisms compared to their counterparts in the Pastoral zones, likely due to their relatively higher reliance on markets and ongoing practices of selling milk rather than retaining it for household consumption.

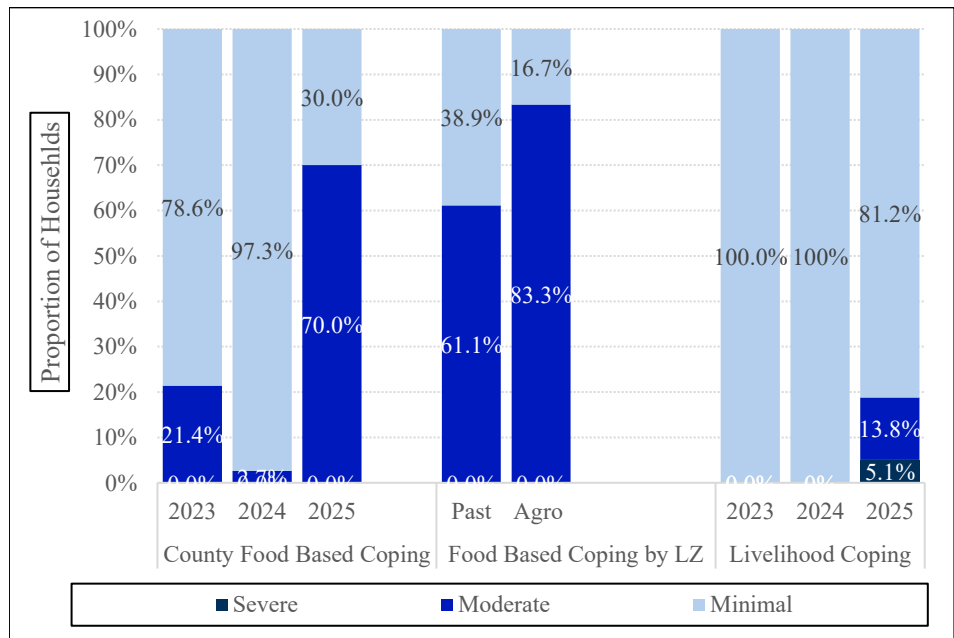


Figure 19: Households Employing Coping Mechanisms

- Notably, 81.2 percent of households applied minimal livelihood coping strategies, while 13.8 percent used moderate and 5.1 percent employed severe coping strategies. This shows a positive shift from the previous month, where 77.3 percent used minimal strategies, 12.0 percent

moderate, and 10.7 percent severe - demonstrating a significant reduction in distress-based responses.

- Despite this improvement, food-based coping strategies were employed more frequently in August 2025 than during similar periods in 2024 and 2023, indicating that households are still navigating chronic food access challenges, as shown in Figure 19.

6.0 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES

6.1 NON-FOOD INTERVENTIONS

Sector	Intervention	Quantity & Type (Cumulative to date)	Beneficiaries reached (Cumulative to date)			Supporting Agency	Geographical coverage	Quantify the cost of the intervention	Intervention gaps (Quantify and cost the intervention)
			Population/ Numbers ¹	Households	Institutions (specify) ²				
Water	Rehabilitation of Amolem and Cheperen Water Pans	Desilting of the pan and construction of toilets		800		NDMA and County Department of water	Masol Ward	21M	
	Upgrade of Cherangan Borehole	Borehole upgrade	2500			County	Kodich Ward, Pokot North	2.3M	
	Upgrade of Nakuyen Borehole	Replacement of pump and installation of water kiosks	1000			County Water Department	Suam Ward, Pokot North	2.3M	
	Completion of Mtelo Chesit Water Supply Project	Finalization of water project	1000			County Water Department	Sekerr Ward, Pokot Central	0.5M	
	Desilting of Lomorkong Water Pan	Water pans desilting	800			County Water Department	Masol Ward, Pokot Central	3M	

¹ The population in terms of human elements and numbers for the case of non-human elements

² Critical facilities like schools, health facilities, markets among others.

Sector	Intervention	Quantity & Type (Cumulative to date)	Beneficiaries reached (Cumulative to date)			Supporting Agency	Geographical coverage	Quantify the cost of the intervention	Intervention gaps (Quantify and cost the intervention)
			Population/ Numbers ¹	Households	Institutions (specify) ²				
	Repair of Sangat-Orolwo Furrow Line	Furrow repair and rehabilitation	1000			County Water Department	Weiwei Ward Pokot Central	0.5M	
	Construction of Muruny Intake	Intake construction	2000			County Water Department	Lelan Ward, Pokot South	0.5M	
	Construction of Mnapoi Intake	Intake construction	1000			County Water Department	Lelan Ward, Pokot South	0.5M	
	Sub-Total							30.6 M	80.5M
Livestock	Livestock disease surveillance	Carry out disease surveillance		10,000 HHs			Pokot North Sub County (Kiwawa and Kapchok wards), west pokot Sub County (Endough and Riwo wards), Pokot central sub county (Masol and sekerr wards)	1,000,000	

Sector	Intervention	Quantity & Type (Cumulative to date)	Beneficiaries reached (Cumulative to date)			Supporting Agency	Geographical coverage	Quantify the cost of the intervention	Intervention gaps (Quantify and cost the intervention)
			Population/ Numbers ¹	Households	Institutions (specify) ²				
	Enclosures and FMNR Practices	Rehabilitating degraded land by restricting grazing and allowing vegetation to recover		200 HHs			Kiwawa, Kapchok, Endough, Riwo, Chepareria Masol wards	1,000,000	
	Sub-Total							2 M	10M
Agriculture	Training on kitchen garden establishment	Assorted vegetable seeds	4,500	100	0	MOA, Department of Agriculture, Department of Health and Nutrition services and partners	Kapchok, Kodich, Suam, Riwo, Kapenguria, Mnagei, Chepareria, Batei, Weiwei, Lomut	2,144,200	
	Farm pond excavation with pond liners, shade nets, equipped with Solar pumps, Hose pipes	-	5,018		-	ADS-NRR	West Pokot County, West Pokot, North Pokot, South and Central	1,151,800/-	

Sector	Intervention	Quantity & Type (Cumulative to date)	Beneficiaries reached (Cumulative to date)			Supporting Agency	Geographical coverage	Quantify the cost of the intervention	Intervention gaps (Quantify and cost the intervention)
			Population/ Numbers ¹	Households	Institutions (specify) ²				
	and 1000 Litre tank						Pokot Sun-Counties and Suam, Riwo, Batei & Masol Ward.		
	Training on crop pest and disease control	PPEs, Chemicals and knapsack sprayers	4,238	100	0	MOA, Department of Agriculture, Department of Health and services, Partners	Alale, Kiwawa, Kasei, Suam, Riwo, Kapenguria, Chepareria, Lomut, Weiwei	2,860,000	
	Provision of water pumps and irrigation pipes	Water pumps, piping accessories	187			MOA, Department of Agriculture, Department of Water, Partners	Sekker, Masol	1,240,000	
	Sub-total							7,396,000	5 M

Sector	Intervention	Quantity & Type (Cumulative to date)		Beneficiaries reached (Cumulative to date)			Supporting Agency	Geographical coverage	Quantify the cost of the intervention	Intervention gaps (Quantify and cost the intervention)
				Population/ Numbers ¹	Households	Institutions (specify) ²				
Health and Nutrition	Vitamin A supplementation	Children aged 6-59 months		135,335		MOH, UNICEF & ACF	Health facilities,	3.54 M		
	Deworming	Children aged 6-59 months		120,298		MOH, UNICEF & ACF	Health Facilities	3.658 M		
	Iron folic supplementation	Pregnant women		36185		MOH, UNICEF & ACF	Health facilities,	4M		
	MIYCN	Pregnant women, breastfeeding women children <2 yrs		140561		MOH, UNICEF & ACF	Health facilities	25.38 M		
	Management of acute malnutrition	Children U 5 years		19,398		MOH, UNICEF & ACF	Health Facilities	50M		
	Subtotal							86.378	25.91 M	
Education	Construction 452 Classrooms	Primary, Junior, Secondary	5755			MoE through KPEEL Program	All	452M		

Sector	Intervention	Quantity & Type (Cumulative to date)		Beneficiaries reached (Cumulative to date)			Supporting Agency	Geographical coverage	Quantify the cost of the intervention	Intervention gaps (Quantify and cost the intervention)
				Population/ Numbers ¹	Households	Institutions (specify) ²				
	Water guards, water tanks, hand washing tanks	Primary and junior	4560				Impact water	Kanyarkwat and Riwo	2.5M	
	Sub Total								456.7 M	140 M
Social Protection	Support Vulnerable women with cash to start Income Generating Activities	-		399	Groups		ADS-NRR	West Pokot County, Pokot North, West, South and Central Sub-Countries, Suam, Riwo, Batei and Masol Ward.	475,000	
	Subtotal								475,000	20M
Total Cost of Interventions									581.32M	
Total Cost of Interventions Gaps									280.5M	

7.0 EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

- No major conflict issues that are related to drought were reported during the month under review.

7.2 Migration

- No major migrations were reported across the livelihoods. This is expected to emerge though at minimal levels.

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS- AUGUST – SEPTEMBER 2025

- According to the Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD) weather forecast for September released on August 31, 2025, the county is expected to receive near-to-above-average rainfall, though with intermittent breaks. This outlook suggests overall improvement in water and forage availability but with uneven distribution between Agro-Pastoral and Pastoral livelihood zones.
- In Agro-Pastoral zones such as Chepareria, Lelan, and Lomut, relatively consistent rainfall is likely to enhance soil moisture, support crop recovery, and sustain short-cycle vegetable production. This will also contribute to improved livestock body condition, milk production, and shorter trekking distances for water and pasture. Conversely, Pastoral zones including Kapchok, Kiwawa, Alale, and Kodich may still experience erratic and poorly distributed rains, sustaining localized water stress and constraining livestock productivity.
- The Vegetation Condition Index (VCI) forecast for September–November indicates moderate to normal vegetation, implying stable but uneven pasture and browse regeneration. While this will generally support livestock production, Pastoral areas may continue to experience strain, reinforcing disparities between zones.
- Soil moisture projections point to marginal recovery in Agro-Pastoral areas, boosting crop development, particularly late-planted maize at grain-filling stages, and enhancing prospects for household food stocks. However, prolonged rains during harvest could increase post-harvest losses due to inadequate drying and storage facilities.
- The livestock sector is expected to benefit from better forage and water availability, translating into improved milk yields in wet areas and reduced trekking distances. Agro-Pastoral zones are likely to sustain moderate production levels, but Pastoral zones may see only marginal improvement given structural water and pasture constraints.
- Water access may temporarily stabilize in wards with water pans and functional boreholes, but challenges such as siltation and high evaporation, particularly in Masol, Weiwei, and Kiwawa may undermine long-term water availability. In hard-to-reach areas, breaks in rainfall may worsen household water access, heightening vulnerability.
- Insecurity and seasonal migration, especially in border areas like Alale, Suam, and Kiwawa, may further compound food and market dynamics by disrupting trade flows, limiting service delivery, and displacing households.
- Wards requiring immediate attention include: **Kapchok, Kodich, and Kiwawa**- risk of moderate-to-severe vegetation decline, expected water stress, and worsening food insecurity, **Suam and Masol** - Erratic rainfall, poor pasture regeneration, and increasing livestock stress, **Alale and Lomut** - Risk of insecurity affecting food access, livestock movement, and market dynamics and **Weiwei and Chepareria** – Soil erosion and siltation of water sources threaten future water availability.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Immediate/Short term

National Government, County Government and Development partners to collaborate on:

SECTOR	INTERVENTION	TARGET AREA	ESTIMATED COST (Ksh.) in Million
Livestock	Strengthen Routine Vaccination Campaigns: Scale up ongoing vaccinations for PPR, CCPP, and Newcastle disease to reduce mortality and increase market access confidence.	Pokot North, Pokot North	8.0
	Improve Pasture Conservation and Supplementation: Promote pasture harvesting, storage (hay/silage), and supplementary feeding using crop residues to cushion against poor pasture regeneration.	Masol, Alale, Kodich	6.0
	Enhance Access to Veterinary Services: Deploy mobile veterinary units and establish strategic drug reserves in hard-to-reach wards.	Masol, Weiwei	5.0
Agriculture	Expand Access to Drought-Tolerant Seeds: Promote timely access to certified drought-resistant crop varieties, especially for maize and beans, to improve resilience in areas experiencing moisture stress.	Chepareria, Lomut, Kasei	15.0
	Promote Post-Harvest Handling and Storage Solutions: Support household-level granaries and community aggregation centres to minimize post-harvest losses and improve food availability through lean seasons.	Batei, Siyoi	15.0
Water	Desilt and Rehabilitate Open Water Sources: Prioritize cleaning of silted pans/dams and improve catchment protection to increase water retention and recharge.	Riwo, Kiwawa, Kiwawa	35.0
	Promote Household Water Treatment: Scale up awareness and distribution of water treatment options to reduce waterborne diseases, especially in zones relying on rivers and wells.	Kodich, Chepareria, Kacheliba	8.0
	Construct and Equip Strategic Water Points: Establish new boreholes and rehabilitate existing ones in critical wards to reduce trekking distances, especially for pastoralists.	Weiwei, Suam	40.0
Health	Scale Up Integrated Health Outreach Services: Target hard-to-reach pastoral wards with mobile health units for immunizations, child nutrition screening, and antenatal care.	Masol, Alale, Kiwawa	4.0
	Enhance Health Education: Increase behaviour change communication on hygiene, sanitation, and infant/young child	All pastoral wards	3.0

SECTOR	INTERVENTION	TARGET AREA	ESTIMATED COST (Ksh.) in Million
	feeding practices to address preventable illnesses.		
	Improve Disease Surveillance: Strengthen early warning systems and community health worker networks to monitor and report disease outbreaks quickly.	Pokot Central, Kipkomo	3.0
Nutrition	Promote Household Nutrition Gardens: Support low-cost, water-efficient kitchen gardens to diversify diets with vegetables and legumes, especially in Agro-Pastoral areas.	Agro-pastoral wards (Chepareria)	0.5
	Enhance Targeted Supplementary Feeding: Sustain nutrition interventions targeting children under five, pregnant and lactating women, especially in areas with high Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) risk.	Masol, Riwo, Kasei	1.0
	Promote Milk Retention for Household Use: Work with cooperatives and community leaders to balance milk sales with consumption, particularly in Agro-Pastoral areas.	Lomut, Chepareria	1.0
Markets	Support Livestock Market Access and Infrastructure: Rehabilitate roads and improve holding grounds and veterinary screening points to enhance livestock trade.	Kacheliba, Alale	8.0
	Stabilize Staple Food Markets: Strengthen cross-border and inter-county trade agreements with Uganda and Trans-Nzoia to ensure steady food supplies.	Nasukuta, Suam	3.0
	Promote Market-Based Livelihood Diversification: Train and support households in value addition, agribusiness, and off-farm income-generating activities to reduce dependence on distressed sales.	Lelan, Batei	3.0