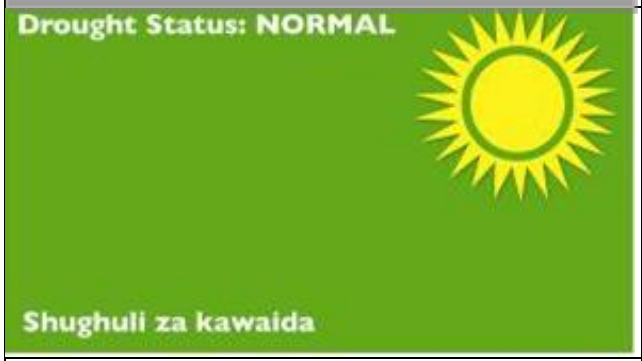
A Vision 2030 Flagship Project

National Drought Management Authority

WEST POKOT COUNTY

DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR OCTOBER, 2025.

OCTOBER EW PHASE



Early Warning Phase Classification

LIVELIHOOD ZONE	EW PHASE	TRENDS
Agro Pastoral	Normal	Stable
Pastoral	Normal	Stable
County	Normal	Stable

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

Rainfall

- The county had above normal rains during the reporting period.
- The amounts received were fair to good in both time and space across the livelihood zones.

Forage condition:

- Vegetation condition index was above normal ranges
- Forage condition was fair to good which was normal

Socio-Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

Production Indicators

- 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.

Access Indicators

- Terms of trade were above normal ranges.
- Household water distances were above normal.
- Livestock watering distance were above normal. ranges.
- Water consumption was below normal.

Utilization Indicators

- Risk of malnutrition was below the normal ranges. Forecasted to within the normal
- Milk consumption was within the normal ranges
- Reduced Coping Strategy Index was above normal ranges.
- Proportion of households in acceptable were above the long-term average

Biophysical Indicators		Value	Normal ranges
Rainfall (% of normal)		134.81	80-120
Rainfall Estimates in mm		82.60	30.81–98.05
VCI-3 month (NDMA FAO)		62.86	35-50
Forage Condition		Fair to good	Fair to Good
Production indicators		**Value**	**Normal ranges**
Maize Crop Condition		Fair to Good	Fair to Good
Livestock Body Condition		Fair to Good	Fair to Good
Milk Production (in litres)		1.7	1.6–1.9
Livestock Migration Pattern		Normal	Normal
Livestock Deaths (from Drought)		0.0%	≤5%
Access Indicators		**Value**	**Normal ranges**
Terms of Trade (ToT)		116	73-96
Return Distance to Water Sources (Km)	Household	3.2	1.9–3.1
	Livestock	5.2	2.8–5.0
Water Consumption	At Household	10	≥ 15
Utilization indicators		**Value**	**Normal ranges**
Percentage of children 6-59 months – At Risk < 135 mm		1.8	3.6–7.5
Forecast MUAC at Risk (Nov)		6.0	1.9-6.9
Milk Consumption (in litres)		1.5	1.5–1.7
Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)		6.37	0.5-3.6
Food Consumption Score		53	>35

Dry Season	Long Rains	Dry Cool Season	Short Rains Season
▪ Short rains harvests ▪ Short dry spell ▪ Reduced milk yields ▪ Increased HH Food Stocks ▪ Land preparation	▪ Planting/Weeding ▪ Long rains ▪ High Calving Rate ▪ Milk Yields Increase	▪ Long rains harvests ▪ A long dry spell ▪ Land preparation ▪ Increased HH Food Stocks ▪ Kidding (Sept)	▪ Short rains ▪ Planting/weeding

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- The county received good amounts of rainfall, which were fairly distributed in time and space across the livelihood zones. According to WFP-VAM datasets, cumulative rainfall estimates decreased by 84 percent, increasing to 82.60 mm in October from 44.86 mm in September (Figure 1).
- Data from the Kenya Meteorological Department's Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) and manned rain gauges indicated that the heaviest rainfall of 244.5 mm over 16 rainy days was recorded at the Sigor AWS in Pokot Central sub-county, while the least rainfall of 25.4 mm over 4 rainy days was recorded at the Konyao centre in Kapchok ward of Pokot North sub-county. The county received more rainfall in the month of October compared to the amount received in September

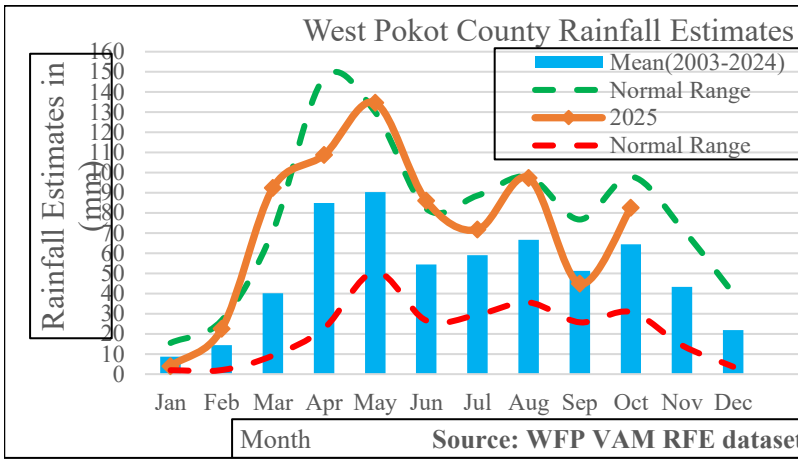


Figure 1: Rainfall Amounts in West Pokot County

- The WFP-VAM rainfall estimates showed that amounts received in October were 28 percent above the normal, the rains amounts were within the normal range of 30.81–98.05 mm (Figure 1).

Table 1: Weather Stations Rainfall in West Pokot County

Weather Station/Sub- County	Livelihood Zone	September 2025 Total Rainfall in (mm)	October 2025 Total Rainfall in (mm)
Sigor AWS (Pokot Central)	Agro-pastoral	51.0	244.5
Nasukuta (Pokot South)	Agro-pastoral	100.5	124.9
Chepareria (Pokot South	Agro-Pastoral	129.0	134.7
Alale (Pokot North)	Pastoral	36.5	39.4
Kacheliba AWS (Pokot North)	Pastoral	82.9	144.9
Konyao – Kapchok (Pokot North)	Pastoral	19.7	25.4
Surumben-Masol (Pokot Central)	Pastoral	75.9	166.8
Kaibos (Pokot West)	Mixed Farming	237.5	228.3
Kapkatet (Pokot West)	Mixed Farming	245.9	219.9
Kapenguria AWS (Pokot West)	Mixed Farming	207.4	230.0
Total Rainfall		**1186.3**	**1558.8**

2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

2.1.1 NDMA FAO Vegetation Condition Index (VCI) October 2025

- The Vegetation Condition Index (VCI): The 3-month VCI improved significantly by 22 percent, rising to 62.86 in October from 40.12 in September. Based on FAO's satellite-derived datasets, this indicates a shift from near-normal conditions in September to above-normal conditions in October. A VCI range of 35–50 generally represents near- to above-normal vegetation conditions, consistent with the observed averages across all livelihood zones (Figure 2).
- Livelihood Zone Comparison: There were no major variations across livelihood zones during the reporting month. The improvement in vegetation conditions was largely attributed to better crop performance and enhanced soil moisture retention across most zones.
- Ward-Level Deviations: Notably, Mnagei and Sekker Wards recorded near-normal vegetation conditions, with VCI values of 46.32 and 48.14, respectively. The near-normal status in these wards is attributed to below-average rainfall received during the first dekad of the month compared to seasonal norms.

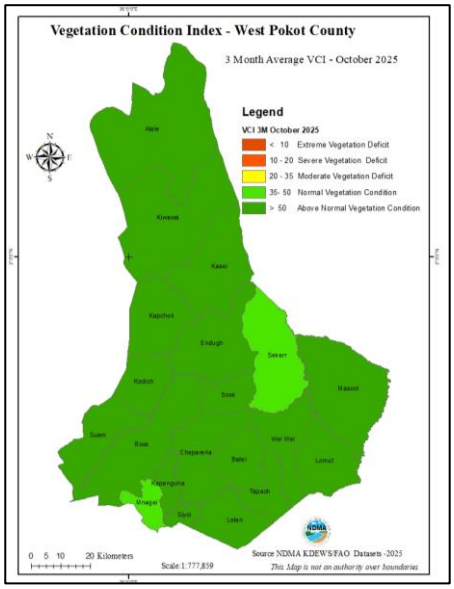


Figure 2: VCI 3 Month Map

2.1.2 Pasture

- The quality and quantity of pasture remained stable, with 40 percent of the areas reporting fair conditions, similar to the previous month. This stability is attributed to the consistent rainfall performance experienced during the reporting period.
- Overall Status: Pasture conditions ranged from fair to good across all livelihood zones, indicating a notable improvement in forage availability (Figure 3).
- Livelihood Zone Comparison: In the Pastoral zones, about 67 percent of pasture was classified as fair, whereas the Agro-Pastoral zones reported 100 percent in good condition, reflecting more favorable forage conditions in the mixed farming areas.

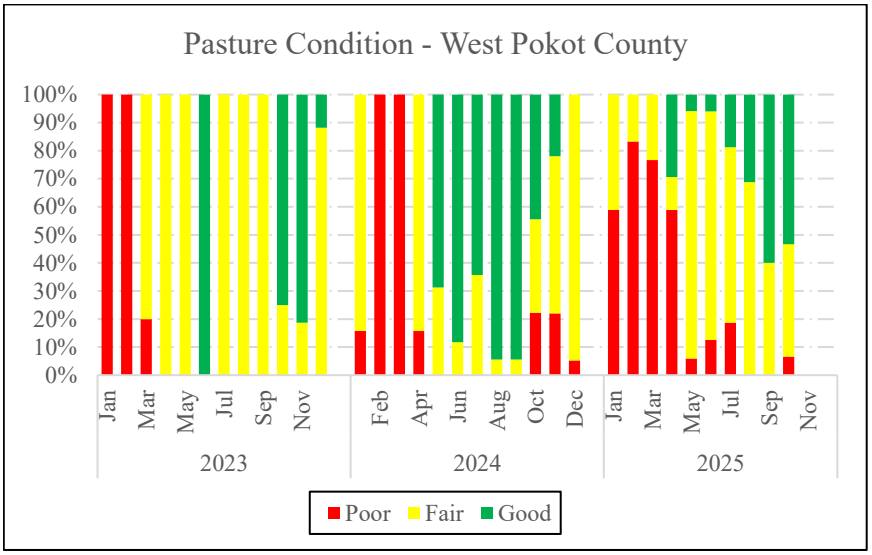


Figure 3 : West Pokot County Pasture Condition

- Temporal Comparison and Outlook: When compared to the same period in 2023 and 2024, pasture conditions in October 2025 were relatively worse. Nevertheless, the available pasture is expected to last 2–3 months, which remains normal for this time of year.

2.1.3 Browse

- The browse condition declined slightly by seven percent, dropping from 100 percent to 97 percent in good condition (Figure 4).

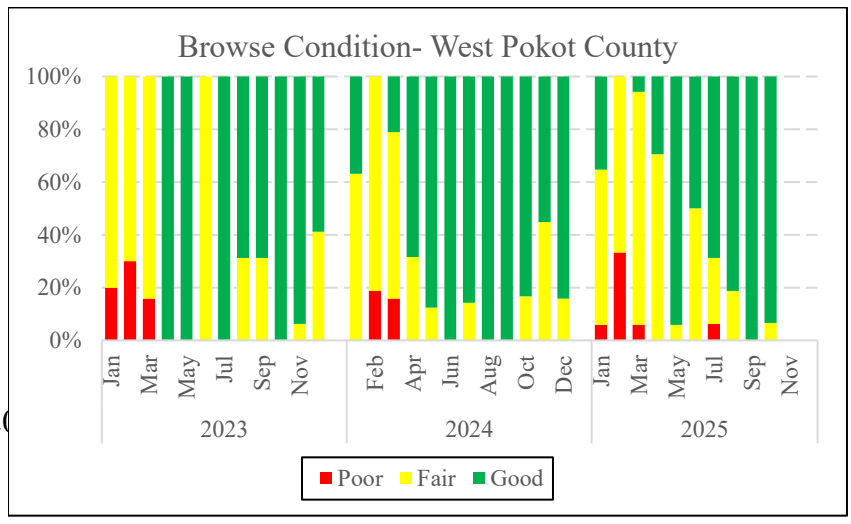


Figure 4 : West Pokot County Browse Condition

- The slight deterioration is attributed to the fair to good rainfall received during the month and the cumulative effects of the previous dry spell, which only moderately supported browse regeneration.
- Agro-Pastoral zones recorded better browse conditions (fair to good) compared to the Pastoral zones, owing to relatively more favorable wet conditions in the Agro-Pastoral areas.
- The current browse condition is better than the same period in 2023 but worse than in 2024. The available browse is projected to last 3–4 months, which is normal for this time of year.

2.2 WATER RESOURCES

2.2.1 Sources

- The main water sources for both human and livestock consumption during the month were pans/dams, boreholes, and traditional river wells.
- Households relied almost equally on these key sources, with pans/dams accounting for 29 percent, boreholes 22 percent, and traditional river wells 18 percent of total usage (Figure 5).

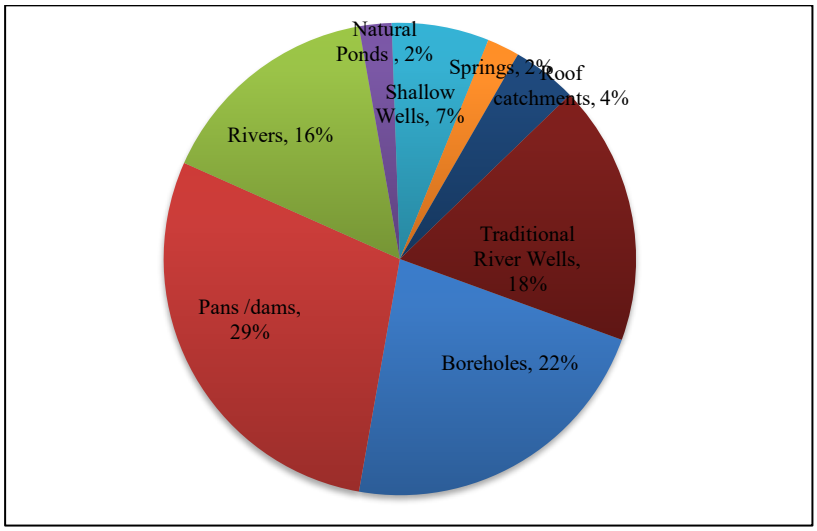


Figure 5 : Water Sources in West Pokot County

- The use of boreholes improved due to enhanced groundwater recharge following recent rainfall, while dependence on traditional wells declined. Despite these improvements, the efficiency of open water sources such as pans and dams remains constrained by siltation and high evaporation rates, which continue to limit water retention and recharge capacity. These factors pose a potential risk to water availability in the coming months, particularly if dry conditions persist.
- Overall, water availability improved compared to the previous month. Recharge levels of open water sources increased to 55–65 percent of capacity in most areas, up from 45–55 percent in the previous month.
- In the Pastoral zones, recharge levels were estimated at 40–45 percent, while the Agro-Pastoral zones recorded higher recharge levels of 75–85 percent, reflecting more favorable rainfall distribution.
- The available open water sources are expected to last for 3–4 months, which is normal for this time of year. main water sources for both human and livestock consumption during the month were pans/dams, boreholes, and traditional river wells.

2.2.2 Household Access and Utilization

- The The average return distance from households to water sources increased by 12 percent, rising to 3.2 km in October from 2.8 km in September. This indicates a deterioration

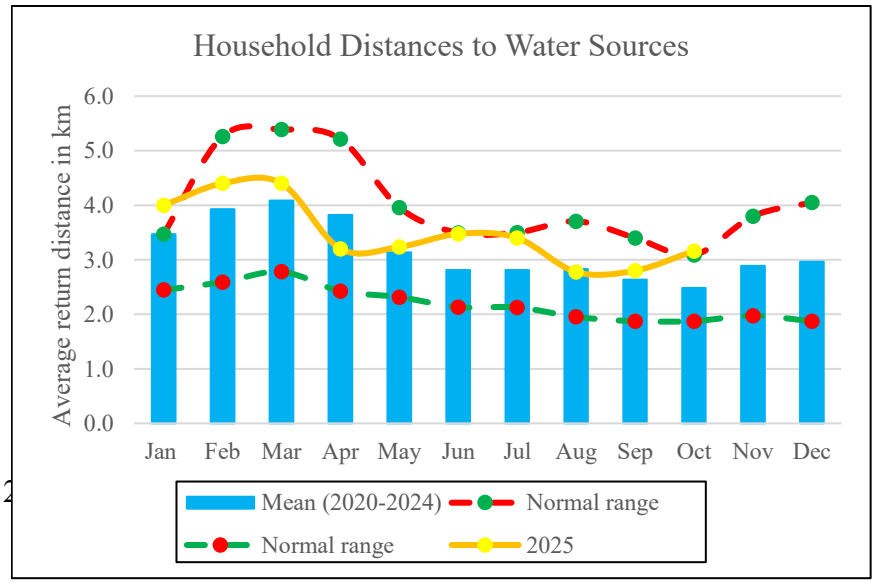


Figure 6: Household Access to Water

in access compared to the previous month.

- Livelihood Zone Comparison: Households in the Pastoral zones trekked significantly longer distances than those in the Agro-Pastoral zones, largely due to lower surface water availability and reduced recharge levels in Pastoral areas.
- The current average trekking distance is 27 percent above the long-term mean and 2 percent above the normal seasonal range of 1.9–3.1 km (Figure 6).
- Per capita water consumption remained stable at 10 litres per person per day, similar to the previous month, but still below the recommended minimum threshold of 15 litres. Marked disparities were noted between livelihood zones -Agro-Pastoral households consumed 8 litres, while Pastoral households consumed 12 litres per person per day. Both figures remain below acceptable standards, indicating continued access constraints linked to rugged terrain, scattered settlements, and limited water infrastructure.
- No households reported purchasing water during the reporting period. However, only 12 percent of households reported treating water before consumption, a decline from 14 percent in the previous month. The main treatment methods included filtration (11 percent) and chemical treatment (one percent). This represents a negative trend in water safety practices, and the low overall adoption of water treatment remains a significant public health concern, particularly in areas where open water sources are prone to contamination and are commonly shared with livestock.

2.2.3 Livestock Access

- The average return distance from livestock grazing areas to watering points worsened by 23 percent, increasing from 4.2 km in September to 5.2 km in October (Figure 7). This deterioration is mainly attributed to the cumulative effect of dry days experienced in the previous month and the delayed performance of the current rains.

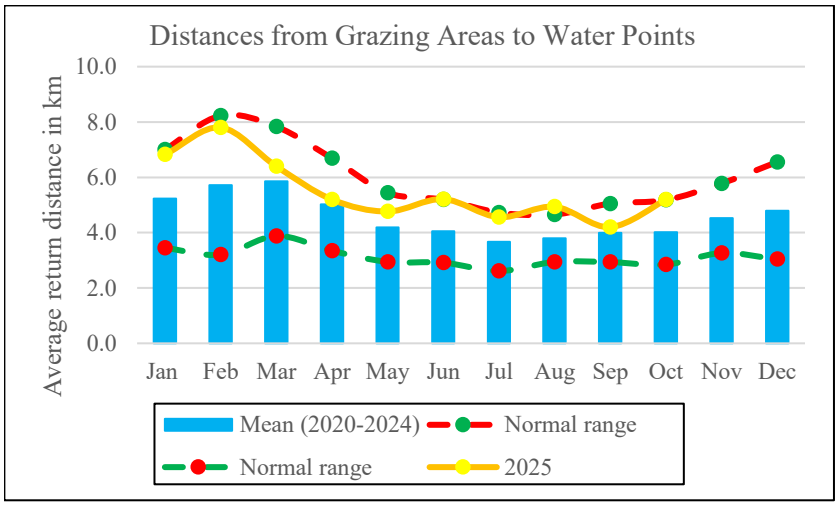


Figure 7: Distances from grazing areas to water points

- Livestock in Agro-Pastoral zones continued to trek longer distances compared to those in the Pastoral zones, a trend consistent with previous months. The longest distances were reported in Masol and Weiwei Wards, where rugged terrain, scattered settlements, and limited permanent water sources significantly constrain efficient livestock access to water.
- Watering frequency remained daily in Agro-Pastoral zones and alternate days in Pastoral zones, reflecting disparities in water infrastructure, vegetation cover, and proximity to reliable sources. The Agro-Pastoral areas benefited from better-developed boreholes and surface water harvesting systems, which supported more consistent watering schedules.
- The current livestock trekking distance is slightly above the normal seasonal range of 2.8–5.0 km (Figure 7), highlighting persistent vulnerability in Pastoral areas. Water access for livestock remains fragile and highly dependent on rainfall distribution, surface runoff efficiency, and the functionality of water infrastructure, with potential implications for livestock body condition and productivity if dry conditions persist.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- The livestock body condition was generally good, smooth body apprearance across all species and livelihood zones. This was a worse off situation from 73 percent to 53 percent by 33 percent, with 47 percent of livestock in moderate neither fat nor thin body condition worsening from 27 percent in the previous month (Figure 8).
- This negative trend is primarily attributed to improved pasture and browse situation.

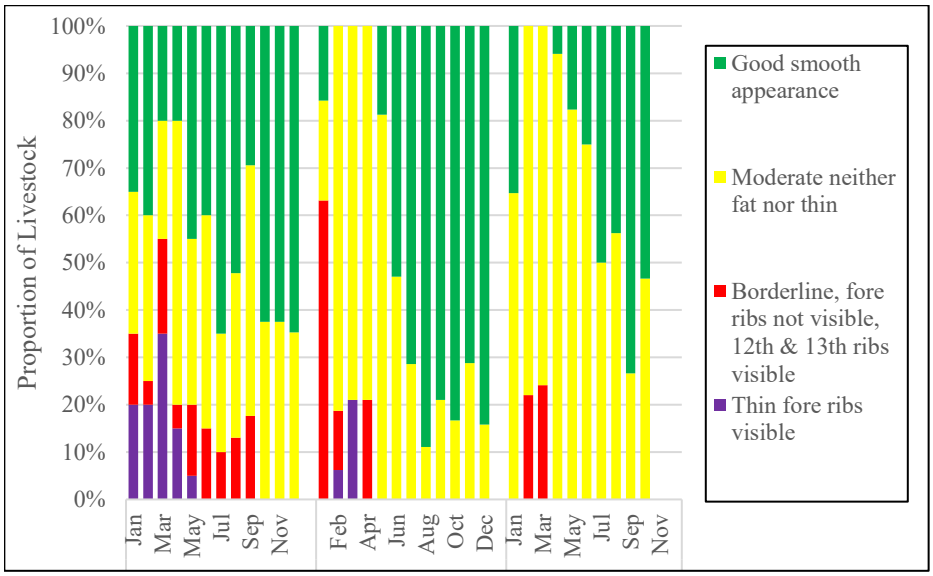


Figure 8: Cattle Body Condition

- A significant proportion of livestock in the Pastoral zones maintained 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

- According to NDMA Community reports from sentinel sites -livestock Livestock disease outbreaks remain a concern in parts of West Pokot County, posing a moderate to high risk to livestock productivity and household livelihoods. During the reporting period, Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP) cases were confirmed in Chepareria (120 cases) and Kapchok (30 cases) wards, while Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) was reported in Chepareria (90 cases) and Kapchok (30 cases) wards. Both diseases are transboundary and highly contagious, with significant potential for animal mortality, reduced productivity, and major economic losses.
- Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP), another serious respiratory disease affecting goats, was also reported in Chepareria ward (90 cases). Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) cases were confirmed in Kapchok ward (90 cases), contributing to localized movement restrictions and reduced livestock market activity.
- In response to the outbreaks, the County Veterinary Department intensified routine vaccination campaigns to mitigate spread and protect livestock assets. A total of 11,486 cattle were vaccinated against LSD in Sook, Riwo, and Lelan wards, as part of proactive containment measures which still a spill over to the current month. The department also initiated enhanced surveillance and community sensitization on early disease reporting and biosecurity practices to curb further spread.

3.1.3 Milk Production

- During the reporting month, average household milk production decreased from 1.80 litres to 1.74 litres, representing a three percent improvement compared to the previous month. Milk production was reported by 57 percent of households from 67 percent of households in previous month. About 60 percent of the milk was from the cattle.

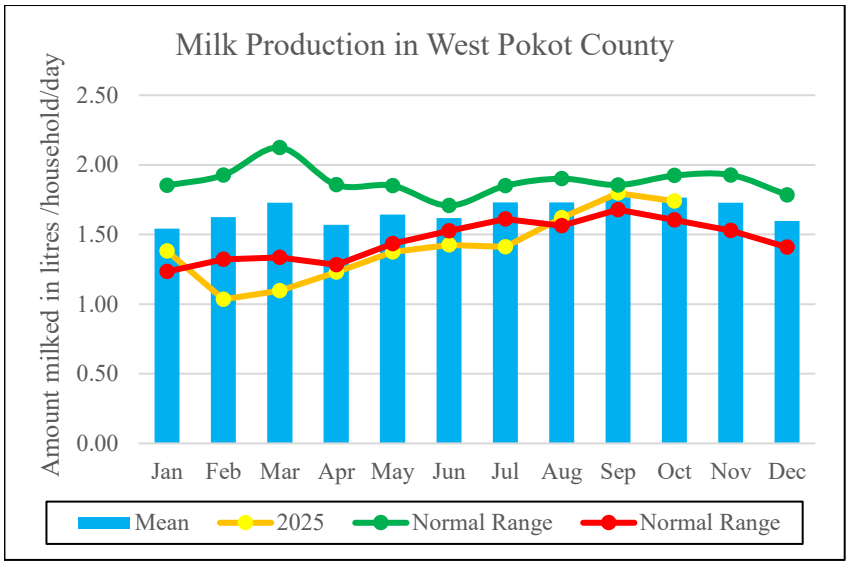


Figure 9: Milk Production

- The reduction was mainly attributed to fair to good forage conditions, which declined livestock productivity, particularly in Agro-Pastoral areas.
- 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 a percent below the long-term average and 10 percent below the normal seasonal range of 1.60–1.92 litres per household per day (Figure 9). This shortfall reflects the persistent effects of uneven pasture and browses recovery.

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.
- About 10-20 percent, of crops still in the farms across the livelihood zones are advanced to the grain filling/podding and harvesting stages, with overall conditions ranging from fair to good. However, Majority of crops harvested currently are facing post-harvest losses about 15-20 percent due to ongoing rains.
- 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 three percent, from Ksh. 30,000 in the previous month to Ksh. 31,000 in the current reporting period, signaling a notable improvement in livestock value.
- Prices were highest in the Agro-Pastoral

West Pokot County, October 20

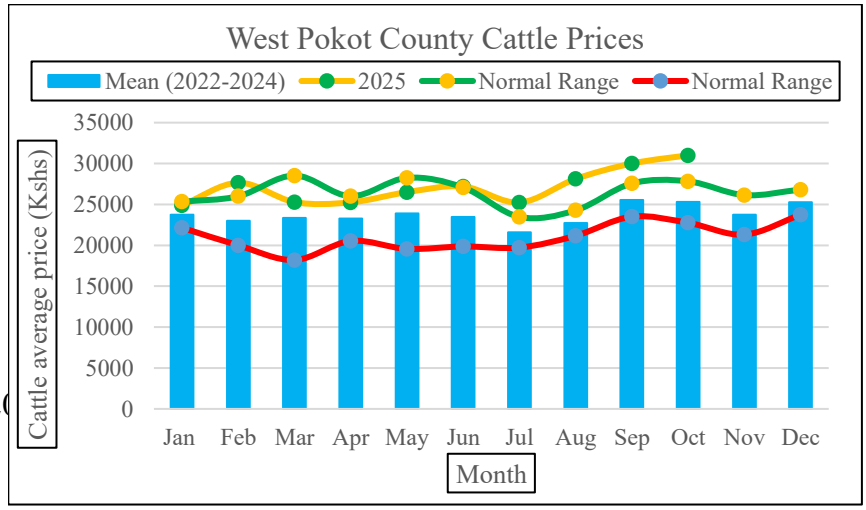


Figure 10: Cattle Prices

livelihood zones, averaging Ksh. 31,333, compared to Ksh. 30,888 in the Pastoral zones.

- The relatively lower prices in 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 23 percent higher than the short-term average and 11 percent above the normal range of Ksh. 22,754–27,827 (Figure 10). This sustained 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 medium-sized goat increased by eight percent, rising from Ksh. 4,760 in September to Ksh. 5,119 in October. This improvement was mainly driven by stronger market demand and better marketability of livestock during the month.
- The Agro-Pastoral zones recorded higher average goat prices of Ksh. 5,297, compared to Ksh. 5,000 in the Pastoral zones. This price disparity reflects the market advantages in Agro-Pastoral areas, where farmers benefit from better market access, veterinary services, and relatively healthier livestock. Conversely, Pastoral zones continue to face market inefficiencies linked to remoteness, weaker demand, and limited integration into major livestock trade networks.

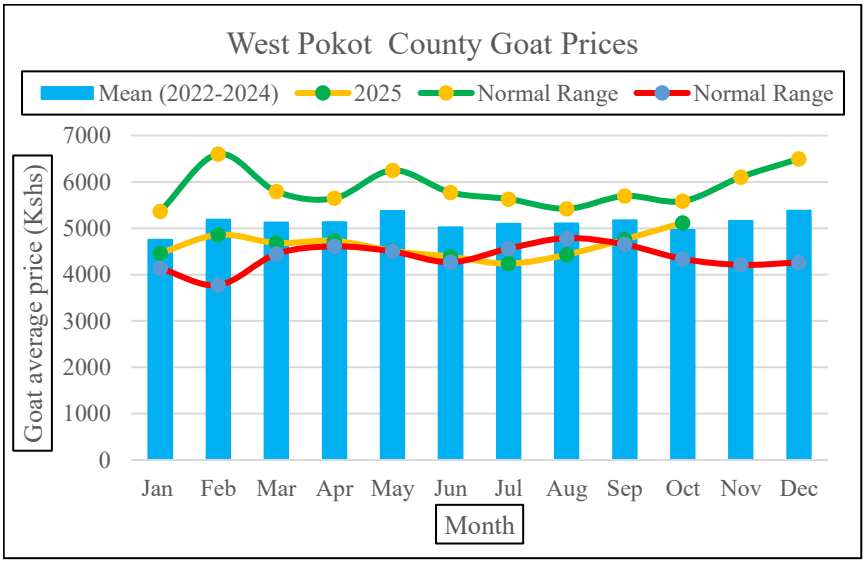


Figure 11: Goat Prices

- Despite the monthly price gains, current goat prices remain 3 percent below the short-term average and eight percent below the normal range of Ksh. 4,338–5,584 (Figure 11). This persistent shortfall underscores ongoing market distortions, particularly in Pastoral areas, reinforcing the need for enhanced livestock market access, value chain support, and resilience-building interventions to stabilize household incomes and strengthen food security average market price of a goat increased by eight percent, rising from Ksh. 4,760 in the previous month to Ksh. 5,119 in the current reporting period. This improvement was mainly attributed to stronger market demand and marketability.

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize

- The average market price of maize per kilogram declined by 23 percent in October, decreasing from Ksh. 68 to Ksh. 57. The decline is mainly attributed to the onset of the local harvest season

West Pokot County, October 20

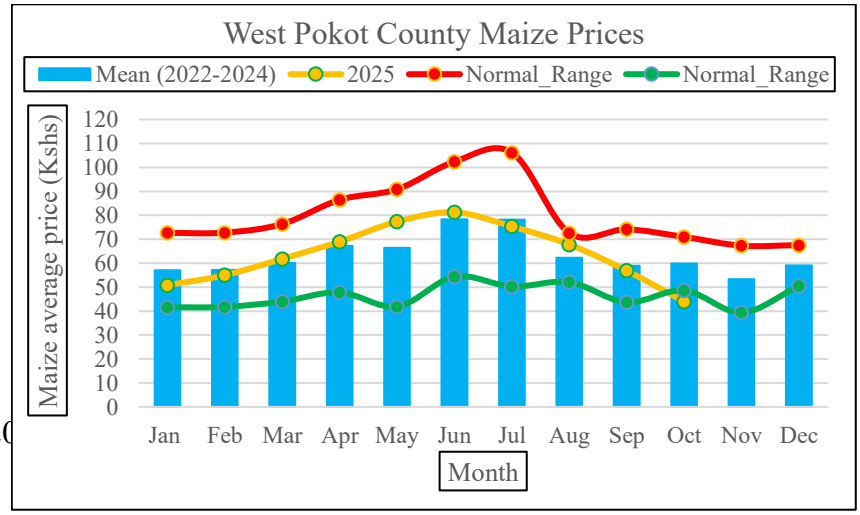


Figure 12: Maize Prices

in Agro-Pastoral areas, where farmers began harvesting and selling produce. The fresh market supply reduced dependence on external sources, eased market pressure, and contributed to price stabilization across most trading centers.

- Maize prices remained slightly higher in the Pastoral zones at Ksh. 46, compared to Ksh. 42 in the Agro-Pastoral zones. This variation reflects the limited local production capacity in Pastoral areas, where rainfall is less reliable and crop output remains minimal, resulting in greater reliance on market-supplied maize and consequently higher prices.
- Market Supply Sources: A substantial proportion of maize traded in the county continues to originate from external markets, particularly Trans-Nzoia County and neighboring Uganda. These surplus-producing regions play a critical role in supplementing local stocks and stabilizing food availability in non-harvesting zones of West Pokot, which remain vulnerable to market fluctuations and supply disruptions.
- Despite the recent decline, the current maize price is 26 percent below the short-term average, but still within the normal price band of Ksh. 44–74 per kilogram (Figure 12). This indicates that market conditions remain generally stable, with no signs of abnormal stress. However, continuous monitoring is recommended as post-harvest market adjustments and potential external supply chain disruptions could trigger renewed price volatility in the coming months.

4.2.2 Beans

- The average market price of beans per kilogram increased by three percent in October, rising to Ksh. 122 from Ksh. 119 in September. The increase is mainly attributed to reduced local supply following declining harvests from the Agro-Pastoral livelihood zones, which are the primary bean-producing areas. The decrease in availability at both household and market levels exerted upward pressure on prices, particularly across key trading centers.

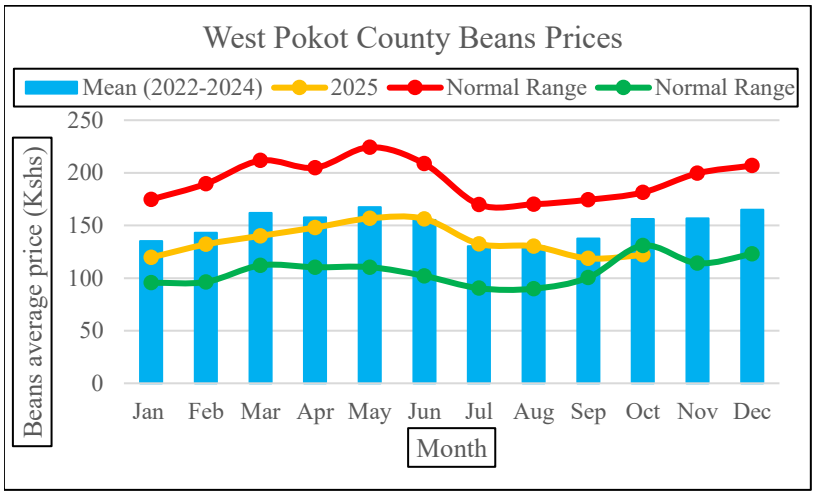


Figure 13: Beans Prices

- Beans prices remained higher in the Pastoral zones compared to the Agro-Pastoral zones. This disparity arises from minimal bean production in the Pastoral areas, where harsh climatic conditions and limited arable land constrain crop cultivation. As a result, households in Pastoral zones rely heavily on market purchases, often sourced from Agro-Pastoral or external markets, leading to higher local prices.
- The current average bean price is 22 percent below the short-term average and seven percent below the normal price range of Ksh. 131–181 per kilogram (Figure 13). While prices have increased slightly, supply conditions have worsened, and demand remains high, particularly in food-deficit zones. Additionally, high transportation costs from producing to consuming areas—especially in remote Pastoral locations-continue to contribute to elevated local prices.

4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade

- The Terms of Trade (ToT) improved significantly by 39 percent in October, increasing from 84 kilograms to 116 kilograms of maize per goat sold. This means that a household could purchase 116 kilograms of maize from the sale of one mature goat, compared to 84 kilograms in the previous month. The improvement is largely attributed to the decline in maize prices following the onset of the harvest season, which reduced market pressure on staple food commodities.

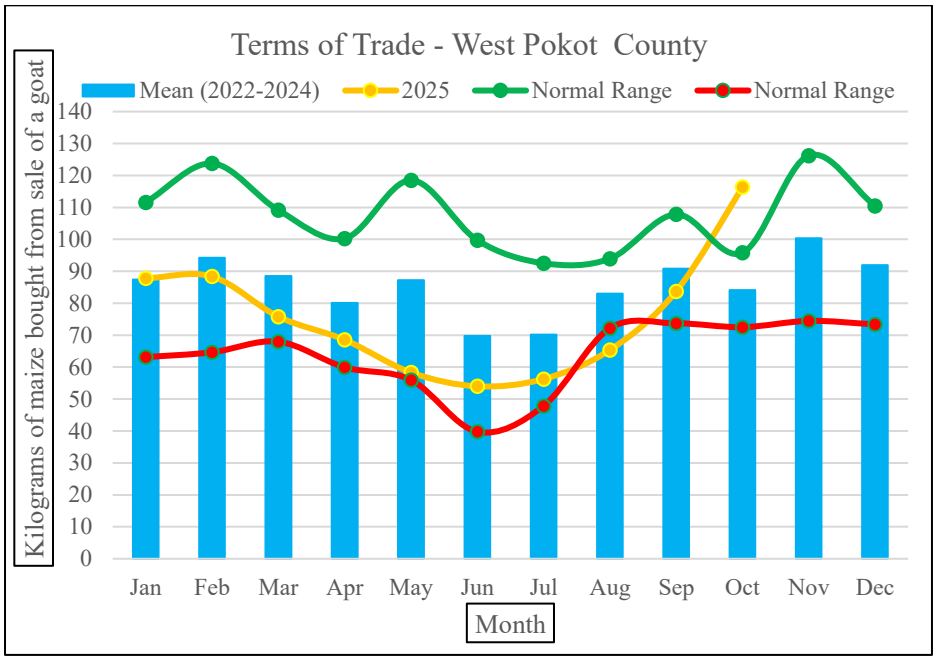


Figure 14: Terms of Trade

- The ToT was more favorable in Agro-Pastoral 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 helps lower food purchase costs. In contrast, Pastoral households remain more vulnerable due to higher maize prices, weaker livestock market integration, and greater distances to major trading centers, which reduce their overall bargaining power.
- Despite the recent improvement, the current ToT remains 38 percent above the short-term average, reflecting ongoing market imbalances and partial recovery in livestock value due to persistent animal health challenges. Nonetheless, the ToT is also 22 percent above the normal seasonal range of 73–96 kilograms, indicating favorable exchange conditions for livestock keepers, even though market dynamics have not yet fully normalized (Figure 14).

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- The average daily milk consumption per household remained stable at 1.52 liters, similar to the previous month. This stability is mainly attributed to the sustained commercialization of milk at the household level, which likely improved slightly compared to the preceding month

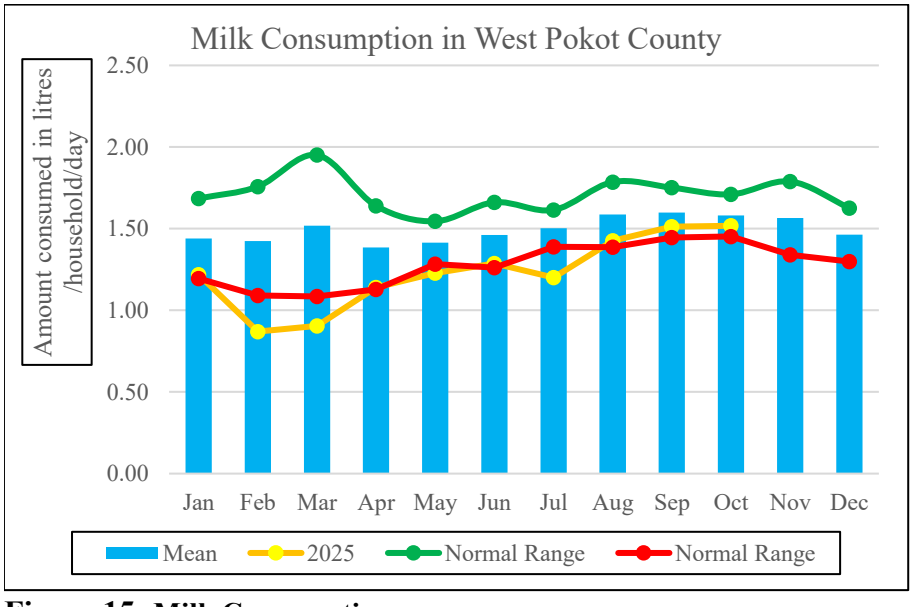


Figure 15: Milk Consumption

due to steady livestock productivity and stable market demand.

- Agro-Pastoral zones recorded higher household milk consumption than the Pastoral zones, consistent with previous trends. This disparity reflects better access to livestock feed, pasture, and supportive water infrastructure in Agro-Pastoral areas, which collectively support more consistent milk production and retention at the household level.
- The current consumption level is 4 percent below the short-term average, but remains within the normal seasonal range of 1.45–1.71 liters per household per day (Figure 15). This indicates a generally stable milk consumption trend, suggesting that rangeland recovery and livestock feeding conditions are adequately supporting household nutritional needs during the reporting period.

5.2 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE

- The proportion of households in the acceptable food consumption category improved by seven percent, rising from 45 percent in September 2025 to 52.7 percent in October 2025. This improvement is mainly attributed to the increased availability of milk and vegetables during the early harvest period, which enhanced dietary diversity and nutritional adequacy, particularly among households in the Agro-Pastoral zones.

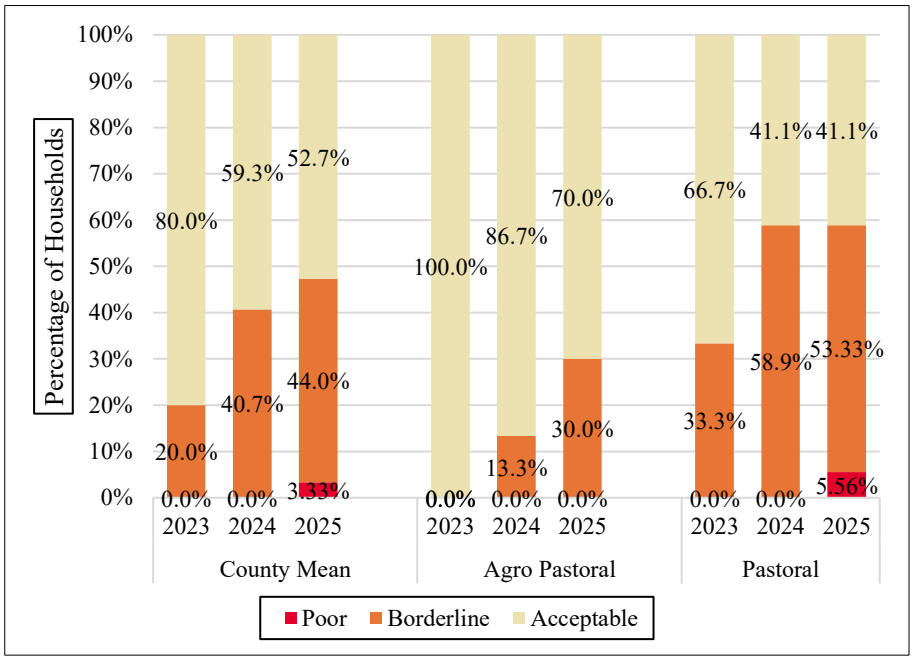


Figure 16: Food Consumption Score

- Despite this improvement, the majority of households (44 percent) remained in the borderline food consumption category, while 3.3 percent were classified as having poor food consumption. This distribution indicates that although food availability has improved, a significant proportion of households-especially in Pastoral zones-continue to consume diets inadequate in either quality, quantity, or both, largely due to limited market access and restricted food diversity.
- The Agro-Pastoral zones continued to report a higher share of households in the acceptable category, supported by better food production systems, diversified income sources, and stronger coping mechanisms. In contrast, Pastoral households remained more vulnerable to dietary fluctuations, given their dependence on livestock and purchased food as primary sources of sustenance.
- The current proportion of households in the acceptable category is higher than during the same period in 2024 and 2023, suggesting gradual improvement in household food security. This progress is likely linked to ongoing resilience-building, nutrition-sensitive interventions, and the promotion of community-based food systems. As shown in Figure 16, this positive shift underscores the importance of sustaining local food production and diversifying household diets to improve nutritional outcomes in the long term.

5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

- In October 2025, the proportion of children aged 6–59 months at risk of malnutrition-defined by MUAC <135 mm-improved to 1.8 percent, down from 2.3 percent recorded in the previous month. This analysis is based on a sample of 822 children (424 male and 398 female).

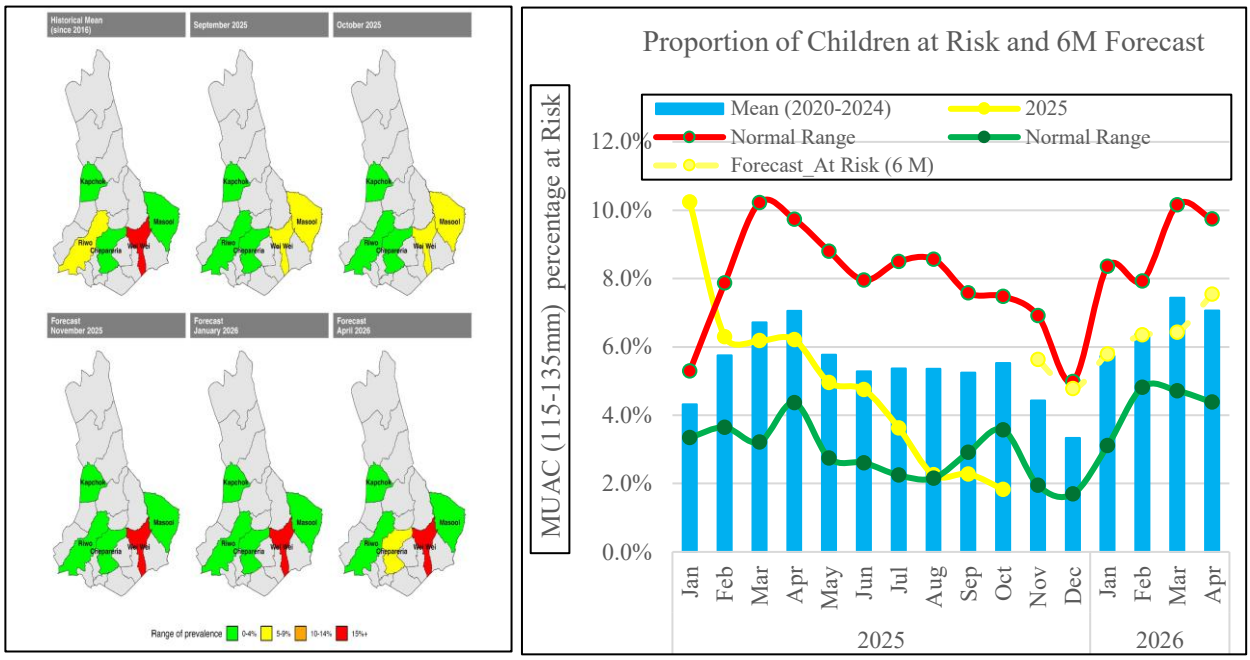


Figure 17: Children at Risk of Malnutrition

- The improvement is attributed to ongoing nutrition interventions, increased milk availability from early lactating livestock, and enhanced community awareness through continuous health and nutrition campaigns. These factors collectively contributed to better dietary intake and improved access to essential nutrients during the critical weaning stage. The worst-affected wards remain Weiwei and Masol.
- According to the Modeling Early Risk Indicators to Anticipate Acute Malnutrition (MERIAM) forecast model, the nutrition situation is projected to worsen in November 2025 and again between February and April 2026, with Weiwei Ward expected to experience the highest risk.
- The Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone is projected to remain most vulnerable, primarily due to the sale of nutritious commodities such as milk and eggs for income generation, which reduces household dietary diversity. Additionally, poor childcare and sub-optimal infant feeding practices, combined with limited health-seeking behavior, continue to undermine nutritional gains in these areas.
- Overall, the countywide proportion of children at risk stands at 3.7 percent, which is below the long-term average and 5.7 percent lower than the normal range of 3.6–7.5 percent (see Figure 17). This indicates positive progress in child nutrition outcomes. However, without addressing ongoing socio-economic pressures and strengthening maternal education on infant feeding and care practices, these improvements may not be sustained.

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES

- The mean reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) increased by eight percent, increasing to 6.37 in October from 4.68 in September. The increase was mainly due to worsened access

West Pokot County, October

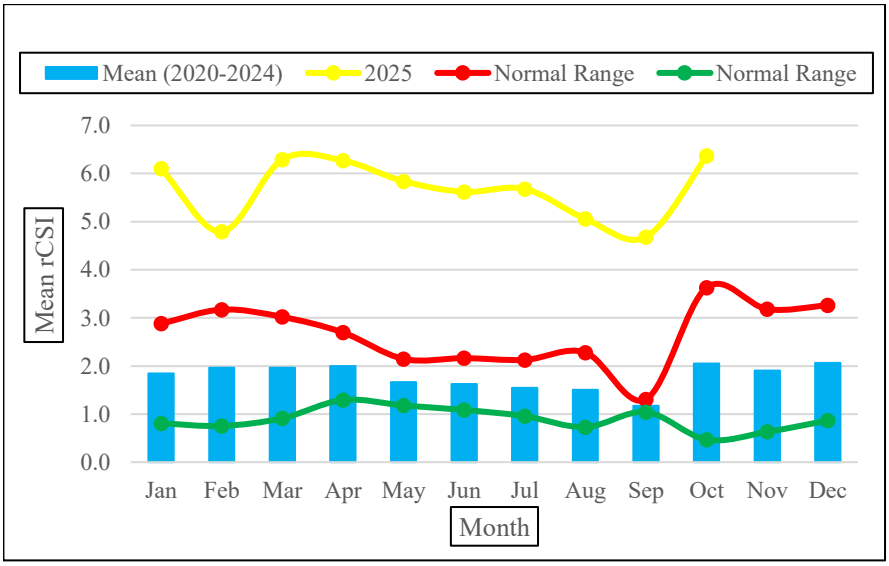


Figure 18: Reduced Coping Strategy Index(rCSI)

to food and seasonal incomes from harvests, which increased reliance on extreme coping strategies. However, the persistently elevated rCSI suggests that households continue to face food access challenges, especially in vulnerable zones.

- Households in the Agro-Pastoral zones recorded a higher rCSI of 9.47 compared to 4.3 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.
- Alarmingly, the current rCSI is 211 percent above the long-term average and 76 percent higher than the normal range (0.5–3.6), 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 October 2025, 62 percent of households employed moderate food-based coping mechanisms, which was an improvement by four percent from 64 percent in 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.

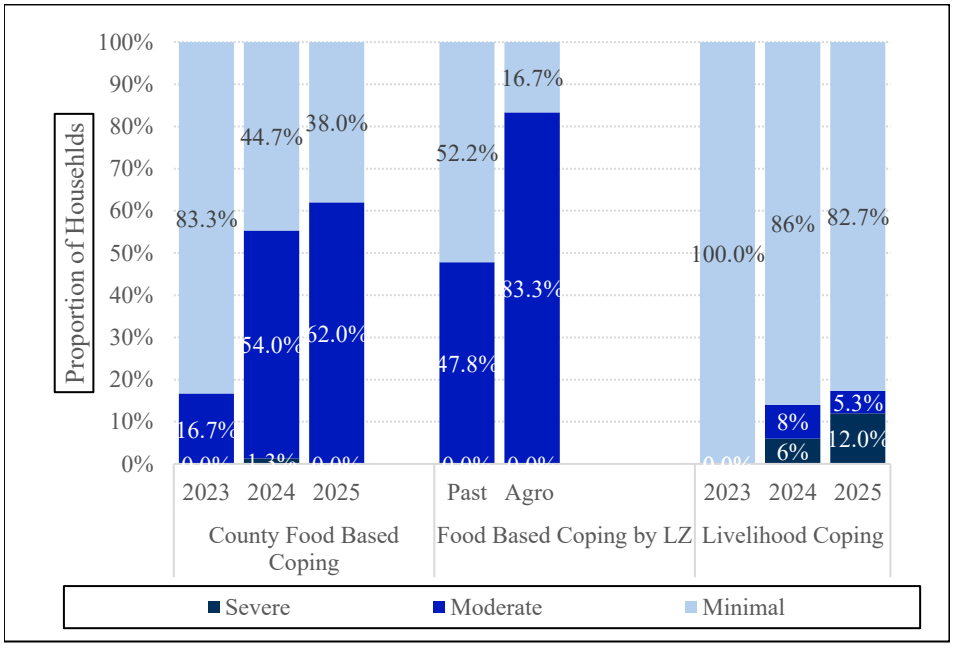


Figure 19: Households Employing Coping Mechanisms

- Notably, 82.7 percent of households applied minimal livelihood coping strategies, while 5.3 percent used moderate and 12.0 percent employed severe coping strategies. This shows a positive shift from the previous month, where 74 percent used minimal strategies, 12 percent moderate, and 14 percent severe - demonstrating a significant reduction in distress-based responses.
- Despite this improvement, food-based coping strategies were employed more frequently in October 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** (examples below)	**Quantity & Type (Cumulative to date)**	**Beneficiaries reached (Cumulative to date)**			**Supporting Agency** *(Institution supporting intervention)*	**Geographical coverage** *(County, Sub-County/ Ward)*	**Quantify the cost of the intervention in KSH**	**Intervention gaps (Quantify and cost the intervention**
			Population/Numbers [1]	**Households**	**Institutions (specify)[2]**				
WASH	Rehabilitation and upgrading of boreholes and water points	7	5400	900	Pipeline extensions to four schools, two dispensaries and community	Action Against Hunger/MOH/MOW	1.Nakuse-pokot North 2.Kaingeny-Kachelibа 3.lopushenikou - Kachelibа 4.Angamit-Kachelibа 5-Fr Leo-Pokot Central 6. Dung Dung-Pokot central 7. Snukul gravity Water Project-Completed awaiting community	20M	There are still more water points in the county in need of intervention Ongoing at community level. Currently at verification stage

[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 (examples below)	Quantity & Type (Cumulative to date)	Beneficiaries reached (Cumulative to date)			Supporting Agency *(Institution supporting intervention)*	Geographical coverage *(County, Sub-County/ Ward)*	Quantify the cost of the intervention in KSH	Intervention gaps (Quantify and cost the intervention
			Population/Numbers [1]	**Households**	**Institutions (specify)[2]**				
							handover		
	CLTS follow up and hygiene promotion	1 CU	8250	1375	3 schools and 1 health centre	ACF/MOH	KOLLELACH CU	1M	
	Sub-Total for WASH							**21,000**	
Agriculture	Post-harvest handling techniques	Technical trainings on post-harvest techniques		678		ADS NRR	Kacheliba-Suam Kipkomo-Batei Pokot Central-Masol West Pokot-Riwo	10,000	
		Technical trainings on environment, agriculture, water, land rehabilitation		1,032		ADS NRR	Kacheliba-Suam Kipkomo-Batei Pokot Central-Masol West Pokot-Riwo	10,000	
		Technical trainin		**785**		ADS NRR	Kacheliba-Suam		

Sector	Intervention (examples below)	Quantity & Type (Cumulative to date)	Beneficiaries reached (Cumulative to date)			Supporting Agency *(Institution supporting intervention)*	Geographical coverage *(County, Sub-County/ Ward)*	Quantify the cost of the intervention in KSH	Intervention gaps (Quantify and cost the intervention
			Population/Numbers [1]	**Households**	**Institutions (specify)[2]**				
		gs on agroecological					Kipkomo-Batei Pokot Central-Masol West Pokot-Riwo		
		Training on viable self-help initiatives and IGAs		843		ADS NRR	Kachelibа-Suam Kipkomo-Batei Pokot Central-Masol West Pokot-Riwo	15000	
		Training Environmental Champions on environmental advocacy issues.		128		ADS NRR	Kachelibа-Suam Kipkomo-Batei Pokot Central-Masol West Pokot-Riwo	8000	
	Provision of relief seed	Support 5 MTMSGs	75	450	0	Action Against Hunger (ACF)	Pokot North (Kiwawa ward)	40000	Supporting only 9 wards

Sector	Intervention (examples below)	Quantity & Type (Cumulative to date)	Beneficiaries reached (Cumulative to date)			Supporting Agency *(Institution supporting intervention)*	Geographical coverage *(County, Sub-County/ Ward)*	Quantify the cost of the intervention in KSH	Intervention gaps (Quantify and cost the intervention
			Population/Numbers [1]	**Households**	**Institutions (specify)[2]**				
	and farm inputs	with assorted certified vegetable seeds layered with trainings (Butternut, BulbOnion, Tomato, collards, spinach and indigenous vegetable)					Kacheliba (Suam, Kodich wards) Pokot South (Lelan ward) Kipkomo (chepareria ward) Pokot central (weiwei, Lomut, masol)		out of 20 wards. Inadequate extension staff to support in routine trainings and follow ups.
	Training of MTMSGs with Animal Husbandry	Supported 2 MTMSGs on management and rearing of gala Goats.	30	180	0	Action Against Hunger (ACF)	Pokot central (masol) Kacheliba (Suam)	40000	Supporting only 2 wards out of 20 wards. Inadequate extension staff to

Sector	Intervention (examples below)	Quantity & Type (Cumulative to date)	Beneficiaries reached (Cumulative to date)			Supporting Agency *(Institution supporting intervention)*	Geographical coverage *(County, Sub-County/ Ward)*	Quantify the cost of the intervention in KSH	Intervention gaps (Quantify and cost the intervention
			Population/Numbers [1]	**Households**	**Institutions (specify)[2]**				
									support in routine trainings and follow ups.
	Training of MTMSGs on poverty graduation modules	Supported 2 MTMSGs with the training	30	180	0	Action Against Hunger (ACF)	Pokot central (masol) Kacheliba (Suam)	60000	Supporting only 2 wards out of 20 wards. Inadequate extension staff to support in routine trainings and follow ups.
	Sub-total for Agriculture							**203,000**	
Health and Nutrition	High Impact Nutrition Intervention (HiNi) ongoing		**7000**		Health facilities implementing IMAM	Action Against hunger/MOH	1.Kachelibа Sub County 2 Pokot	400,000	

Sector	Intervention (examples below)	Quantity & Type (Cumulative to date)	Beneficiaries reached (Cumulative to date)			Supporting Agency *(Institution supporting intervention)*	Geographical coverage *(County, Sub-County/ Ward)*	Quantify the cost of the intervention in KSH	Intervention gaps (Quantify and cost the intervention
			Population/Numbers [1]	**Households**	**Institutions (specify)[2]**				
	across facilities implementing IMAM in Kacheliba,Pokot North and Pokot central sub counties						North Pokot Central		
	Mass screening targeting all the sub-counties		40,000			Action Against hunger/MOH	All sub counties	2M	
	Integrated health and nutrition outreaches	20 integrated outreaches			20 integrated health and nutrition outreaches	Action Against Hunger/MOH	Pokot North Pokot central Kacheliba sub county	7M	Out of 215 outreaches mapped in the county, ACF is supporting only 20 sites Approximately 40M

Sector	Intervention (examples below)	Quantity & Type (Cumulative to date)	Beneficiaries reached (Cumulative to date)			Supporting Agency *(Institution supporting intervention)*	Geographical coverage *(County, Sub-County/ Ward)*	Quantify the cost of the intervention in KSH	Intervention gaps (Quantify and cost the intervention
			Population/Numbers [1]	**Households**	**Institutions (specify)[2]**				
									required to support all the mapped outreaches
	Sub-total for Health and Nutrition Sector							9,400,000	
	Total Cost of the Intervention							30,603,000	
Total Cost of Intervention Gaps								**30,603,000**	

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- OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2025

- According to the Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD) County weather forecast for November issued on November 4, 2025, The County is likely to experience Near-Average to Above-Average rainfall, especially in the highlands. However, lowlands may receive Normal Rains. There are likelihoods of heavy storms occurrence, but over few places. Both spatial and temporal rainfall distributions are likely to be fair over several places.
- 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 Novemebr–October 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. However, prolonged rains during late planted harvests 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.
- Fragile Insecurity prone areas 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: Kodich, and Kapchok- risk of moderate-to-severe vegetation decline, expected water stress, and worsening food insecurity, Suam, Sook Riwo , Endugh and Batae - Erratic rainfall, fair 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 vaccination against PPR, CCPP, and Newcastle Disease to curb livestock mortality and enhance market confidence amid reported disease outbreaks.	Kapchok, Chepareria, Alale, Lomut, Kapenguria	8.0
	Fodder Production Units: Establishment of 50 acres of drought-tolerant fodder (sorghum, Sudan grass, Boma Rhodes) with community groups and farmer field schools.	Kodich, Kapchok Suam, Sook Riwo, Endugh, Batae, Alale Lomut, Weiwei and Chepareria	15.0
	Improve Pasture Conservation and Supplementation: Promote pasture harvesting, hay/silage/fodder storage (Construction of 5 community fodder banks for storage and distribution), and use of crop residues to cushion pastoral zones facing poor pasture regeneration.	Masol, Alale, Kodich, Kapchok Suam, Sook, Kiwawa, Weiwei	9.5
	Enhance Access to Veterinary Services: Deploy mobile vet units and pre-position veterinary drugs in remote areas with	Masol, Weiwei	5.0

SECTOR	INTERVENTION	TARGET AREA	ESTIMATED COST (Ksh.) in Million
	limited access and ongoing disease risks.		
Agriculture	**Expand Access to Drought-Tolerant Seeds:** Promote certified drought-resilient maize and bean varieties to support recovery in moisture-stressed Agro-Pastoral zones.	Chepareria, Lomut, Kasei	15.0
	Promote Post-Harvest Handling and Storage Solutions: Support household granaries and aggregation centers to reduce losses from expected rains during harvest.	Batei, Siyoi	15.0
Water	**Desilt and Rehabilitate Open Water Sources:** Prioritize de-siltation and catchment rehabilitation in areas affected by erosion and siltation to enhance water storage.	Riwo, Kiwawa, Kodich	35.0
	Promote Household Water Treatment: Scale up community awareness and provide treatment solutions to prevent waterborne diseases in high-risk zones.	Kodich, Chepareria, Kacheliba	8.0
	Rainwater Harvesting in Schools: Construction of rooftop rainwater harvesting systems, installation of gutters, storage tanks (10,000–30,000 L) in 20 priority schools.	Kodich, Kapchok Suam, Sook Riwo, Endugh, Alale, Lomut, Weiwei	20.0
	Rainwater Harvesting in Health Facilities: Installation of rooftop catchment systems and storage tanks in 10 health centers and dispensaries.	Kodich, Kapchok Suam, Sook, Endugh, Alale, Lomut, Weiwei	10.0
	Construct and Equip Strategic Water Points: Drill and rehabilitate boreholes to improve water access and reduce trekking distances, especially in dry pastoral areas.	Weiwei, Suam, Kodich	40.0
Health	**Integrated Health Outreach Services:** Deploy mobile health units to serve hard-to-reach areas with immunization, nutrition screening, and maternal care.	Kodich, Kapchok Suam, Sook Riwo, Endugh, Batae, Alale Lomut, Weiwei and Chepareria	4.0
	Enhance Health Education: Promote hygiene, sanitation, and infant feeding best practices through community-based behaviour change campaigns.	All pastoral wards	3.0
	Improve Disease Surveillance: Strengthen community-based disease early warning systems and improve response to livestock and human disease outbreaks.	Pokot Central, Pokot South	3.0
Nutrition	**Promote Household Nutrition Gardens:** Support low-cost kitchen gardens using	Chepareria (Agro-Pastoral)	0.5

SECTOR	INTERVENTION	TARGET AREA	ESTIMATED COST (Ksh.) in Million
	water-efficient methods to improve household diet diversity.		
	Enhance Targeted Supplementary Feeding: Sustain nutrition support for vulnerable groups (under-fives, PLWs) in areas with high GAM and food insecurity.	Masol, Riwo, Kasei	1.0
	Promote Milk Retention for Household Use: Collaborate with milk cooperatives to balance household consumption and market sales during the wet season.	Lomut, Chepareria	1.0
Markets	**Support Livestock Market Access and Infrastructure:** Rehabilitate feeder roads, holding grounds, and veterinary checkpoints to strengthen trade.	Kacheliba, Alale	8.0
	Stabilize Staple Food Markets: Facilitate cross-border and inter-county trade agreements with Uganda and Trans-Nzoia to ensure stable food flows.	Nasukuta, Suam	3.0
	Promote Market-Based Livelihood Diversification: Support households in value addition, agribusiness, and off-farm income activities to reduce reliance on emergency sales.	Lelan, Batei	3.0
Environment / Forestry	**Tree Planting and Rehabilitation:** Establishment of 50,000 seedlings (indigenous and agroforestry species) in degraded areas, schools, and water catchments.	All Sub Counties	5.0
Environment / Education	**School Greening Program:** Tree planting in 30 schools with student environmental/Drought Ambassadors' clubs for maintenance.	All Sub Counties	3.0
Cross-Sectoral (Coordination & Monitoring)	**Capacity Building and M&E:** Training of local committees, school management boards, and facility staff on system maintenance, record-keeping, and monitoring.	All Sub Counties	2.5