

EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL ACTIVATION

Kenya | Drought EAP

12/09/2025



Rehabilitation of solar driven borehole in Marich Pass-West Pokot County as part of testing drought Early Actions in the County by KRCS during the protracted 2020-2022 drought across Eastern Africa. Photo credit: John Bundi, KRCS.

EAP №:
EAP2022KE02

Operation №:
MDRKE055

EAP approved:
11/10/2022

Early action timeframe:
7 Months

Budget: 367,238 CHF
To assist: 150,000 people

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Activation Overview

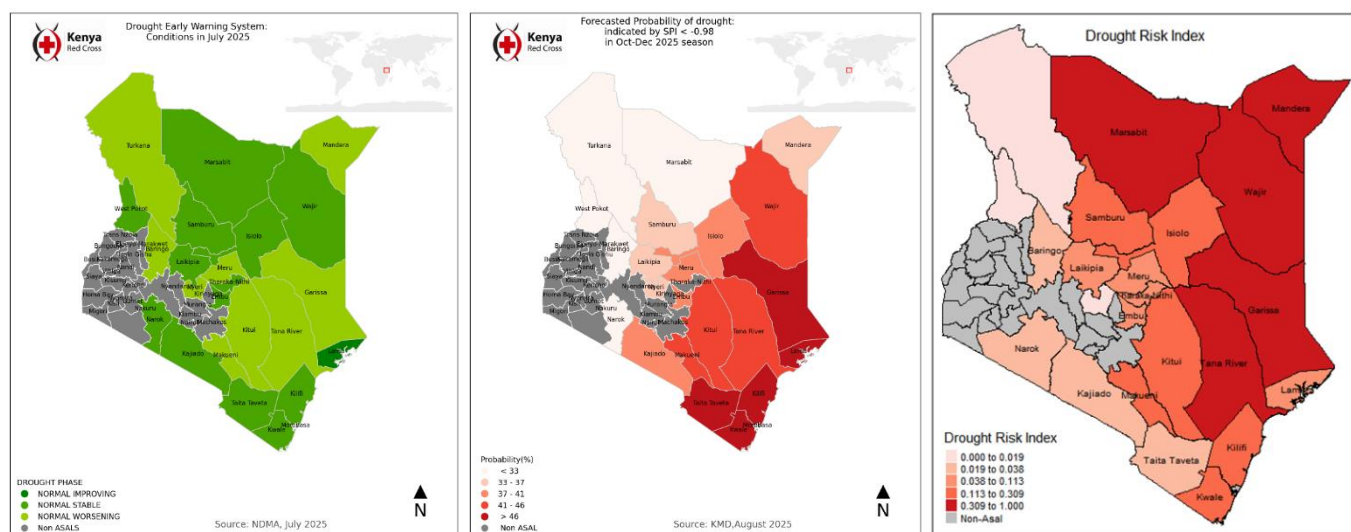


Figure 1: a-Left; Drought conditions in Arid and Semi-Arid Land (ASAL) counties in July (latest) from the monitoring system of the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), b-middle; Forecasted chances of drought indicated by SPI < -0.98 in the rainfall season of Oct-December 2025, predicted by at least 33%, c-right; estimated drought risk.

The Kenya Red Cross Society has activated its Early Action Protocol for Drought

Based on the methodology in the drought EAP, the 3-month SPI for October to December (OND) at -0.98 forecasted with at least 33% probability in at least 3 of the 23 counties indicates an imminent drought at national level. This criterion has been met in the forecast for the upcoming OND season, and drought conditions are expected to manifest immediately after a poor OND rainfall season being driven by a negative Indian Ocean Dipole. The threshold is met in most counties shown in Figure 1b other than 5. The projected risk of drought impacts from the forecast is presented in Figure 2c. Based on a range of early warning indicators monitored through the drought early warning system, all the 23 ASAL counties are in the 'Normal' phase, albeit the conditions have started deteriorating in nine (9) counties including Garissa, Mandera, Tana River, Turkana, Baringo, Meru, Nyeri and Kitui (Figure 1a). The worsening trend is expected to continue or at least kick-start in the other counties where the oncoming season is anticipated to be poor to sustain the indicators in their normal ranges. Rather, they are expected to hit at tipping point (alarm; with the leading climatic indicator: SPI reaching -0.98 threshold) beyond which drought would create an emergency within or shortly after the oncoming Oct-Dec season.

On a positive note, KRCS and partners are already implementing response initiatives that were activated by food security report which highlighted Counties in "stressed phase" of IPC classifications. Further, other partners are planning to implement drought Action plans and KRCS has established that the World Food Programme are in preparations to trigger AA in Marsabit and Wajir counties. Table below summarizes the risk in the first 13 counties in order of the calculated risk using INFORM index explained in the drought EAP, and ongoing interventions which give some of them alternative coping capacity to the drought.


County	Drought Risk Level	Ongoing drought intervention	Current Drought phase classification
Mandera	Very high risk	Yes-KRCS DREF	Normal deteriorating
Garissa	Very high risk	Yes-KRCS DREF	Normal deteriorating
Wajir	Very high risk	Yes-KRCS DREF, ongoing plans by WFP to implement drought AAs	Normal
Tanariver	Very high risk	In plan for response	Normal deteriorating


Marsabit	Very high risk	Yes-KRCS DREF, ongoing plans by WFP to implement drought AAs	Normal
Kwale	High Risk	No	Normal
Samburu	High Risk	Yes-KRCS DREF	Normal
Isiolo	High Risk	In plan for response	Normal
Kilifi	High Risk	No	Normal
Kitui	High Risk	No	Normal deteriorating
Makueni	High risk	No	Normal deteriorating
Lamu	Moderate Risk	No	Improving
Meru	Moderate Risk	No	Normal deteriorating

Considering the risk information, the first 3 prioritized counties are Kwale, Kilifi, and Kitui. With the drought conditions expected to worsen especially in the ASAL areas, cross county movement of the pastoral communities in search of water, pasture and food, are expected to increase exerting pressure on the pasture in Counties that are in relatively good conditions. This might exert pressure on and unbalance the socio-economic wellbeing of the better-off counties. The current context therefore provides a good opportunity to activate the selected/prioritized early actions in the Drought EAP. The KRCS has continually monitored the prevailing drought conditions based on the pre-agreed triggers as stipulated in the national Drought EAP. The trigger is met in more than one county and with sufficient lead-time (7 weeks) to start early actions implementation before the end of October to December season.


Early Action Overview


PLANNED OPERATIONS

 Livelihoods	Female:	5,738	109,774 CHF
	Male:	5,513	AP Code: 007
Indicator:	# of people reached with livelihoods interventions in advance of a hazard		
Priority Early Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advocate for improved post-harvest crop management to reduce post-harvest losses (with PSP approach following seasonal county forecast release/dissemination) 2. Advocate for crop diversification (with PSP approach following seasonal county forecast release) 3. Procure, target and distribute drought tolerant seeds (where feasible, consider use of commodity vouchers for procurement of seeds) 4. Advocating for expansion and protection of fallback grazing areas (with seasonal county forecast dissemination) 5. Advocacy on pasture management - fodder preservation / packaging (with seasonal county forecast dissemination) 6. Provision of fodder for priority stock (Use of commodity vouchers where feasible) 7. Market analysis 		


 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Female:	3,825	194,768 CHF
	Male:	3,675	AP Code: 110, 111
Indicator:	# of people reached with WASH interventions in advance of a hazard		


Priority Early Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rapid Assessment of functionality of water facilities 2. Repair and rehabilitation of water facilities 3. Desilting of Water pans, Repair of Earth dams 4. Activation of water committees with refresher trainings on O&M; 5. Cash for WASH 		
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 Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and recovery	Female:	76,500	2,008 CHF
	Male:	73,500	AP Code: 101, 103, 105, 106
Indicator:	# of people reached with risk reduction and/or climate adaptation interventions in advance of a hazard		
Priority Early Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dissemination of early warning messages to communities at risk of being affected 2. Dissemination of early warning messages to communities through 2 radio spots 		

 Community Engagement and Accountability	Female:	46	17,403 CHF
	Male:	45	AP Code: 129
Indicator:	# of people reached with community engagement and accountability interventions in advance of a hazard		
Priority Early Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deploy trained volunteers to engage communities and support dissemination of early warnings 2. Hold community review meetings to review ongoing implementation of the EAP 3. Community participatory documentation process 		

Enabling approaches

 Coordination and Partnerships	Female:	16	24,097 CHF
	Male:	15	AP Code: 118, 119, 127, 128
Objective:	# of stakeholder reached through coordination and partnerships interventions in advance of a hazard		
Priority Early Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Post Distribution Monitoring/Post-trigger survey 2. Lessons Learned Workshop 		

 Secretariat Services	-	-	15,172 CHF
	-	-	AP Code: 122
Objective:			
Priority Early Actions:	1. IFRC support with implementation of early actions 2. IFRC support with lessons learned and reporting		

 National Society Strengthening	Female:	46	4,016 CHF
	Male:	45	AP Code: 124,125,126
Objective:	# of people reached with national society strengthening interventions in advance of a hazard		
Priority Early Actions:	1. Insurance for 90 volunteers 2. Provide complete briefings on volunteers' roles and the risks they face		

Contact information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

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Reference



Click here for:

- [EAP Summary](#)
- [EAP-Update-2.](#)