

KENYA FLOODS SITUATIONAL UPDATE

TANA RIVER, MARSABIT & MANDERA COUNTIES

OCTOBER 31, 2019



FLOODS BACKGROUND

A strong positive Indian Ocean Dipole weather phenomenon in the western Indian Ocean has resulted in increased rainfall across Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. It is already leading to heavy rainfall, flash floods and landslides, causing loss of life, displacement, and damage to property and livelihoods. This situation is predicted to intensify through November and December according to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) forecasts.

In Kenya, heavy rain has affected large areas over the last weeks, causing flash flooding and landslides. The northern and north-eastern counties are most affected; as of 29 October, at least 21 people have died, thousands have been displaced, and houses, roads and other infrastructure have been damaged according to the Kenya Red Cross Society.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES



With the view of understanding the context and needs in greater detail following the October 2019 rains, the Kenya Cash Consortium has conducted a floods situational analysis. It is expected that findings and appropriate recommendations would be utilized to inform actors such as County Governments, National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), donors and aid agencies to plan immediate responses to the needs identified and ensuring responses are tailored to the most vulnerable.



METHODOLOGY



With support from ECHO, the Kenya Cash Consortium has compiled secondary data, notably assessment data from local county joint assessments, as well as rapid assessments carried out by consortium partners and NGOs in and around Tana River County, Marsabit and Mandera Counties.

MANDERA

26,514 households have been affected by the floods, highly putting at risk the food security in the county for the next four months. One child is reported to have died.

Prices in the markets have already increased by 25% since the beginning of October 2019. The overall losses in the County count 6,581 affected hectares, 8,001 farms (1,333 households) affected, a loss of the equivalent of 215,220,000 Kesh of crops (destroyed). In terms of livestock, a total of 30,647 shoats have so far died across the County, along with 86 cattle and 31 camels. Over 50,000 people are at risk of malaria and other water borne diseases.

About 2,273 latrines have been destroyed and are submerged all over the County according to Kenya red Cross Society.

TANA RIVER

3,093 households have been affected by floods with **352 households** displaced. Houses, roads and other infrastructure have been damaged in October 2019. This is expected to worsen based on 2018 flood patterns in the county. Since a high number of farms will likely be submerged, food shortages due to loss of livelihoods, personal belongings and low purchasing power are to be feared in this County. The main road between Bura and Bilbil is cut off.

One of the major impacts of the flooding in Tana River has been the deterioration of WASH infrastructure and access to clean water. Initial reports indicate that 468 households in Hosingo city is not able to access clean water.

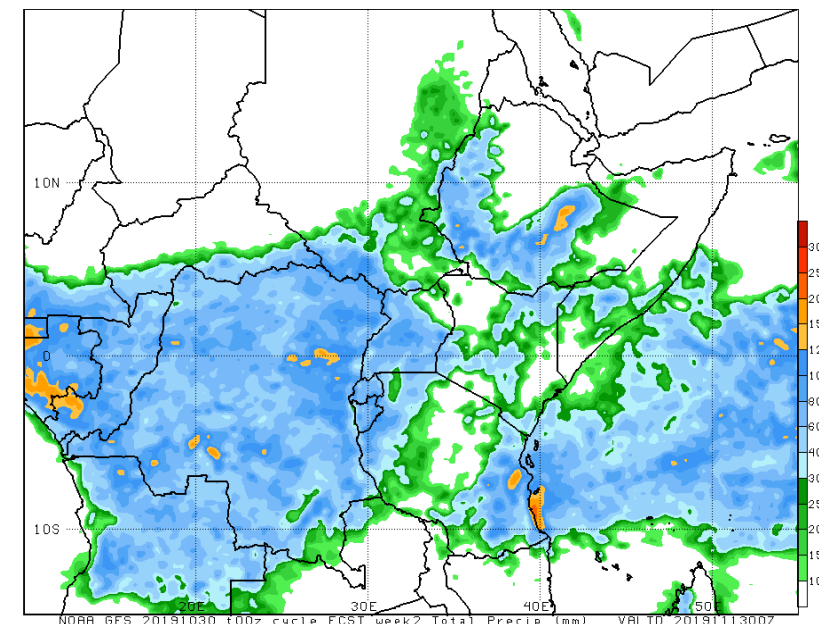
Several latrines were destroyed in all County.

MARSABIT

1,055 households have been affected by floods with 577 displaced in Moyale town as of October 2019.

Assessed communities mainly reported a lack of resources to purchase food, and concerns about its availability. Price increases in markets suggest that available food resources are under increasing pressure, with borderline to poor food consumption scores among the population.

About 85% of the affected households depend on livestock as their source of livelihood, which has been affected by floods. Approximately 2,200 small stock in Moyale, 500 in North-Horr, 1,500 in Saku and 500 in Laisamis settlements have been lost to rain in October 2019. Malaria cases have been reported especially in North Horr and Moyale wards.



Predicted rainfall for the first two weeks of November 2019, - Source NOAA



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SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIC AREAS



According to the County Health Department's report, Tana River is one of the Counties that has experienced above normal rainfall during the October rains, that may last until December. In Garsen especially, surface run-off has been observed during the past 3 weeks due to the heavy rainfalls.

The report states that in Tana North 8 villages are currently submerged; 1,076 households have been affected. They also indicate some WASH response actions have taken place, though the breadth of these is unclear. It is expected that the county will be overwhelmed by the ongoing drought-related needs and will be unable to provide all services.

Oxfam's local partner, ALDEF/PGI, were able to carry out an initial rapid assessment to assess the floods impact in Hola Sub-county and Bura Sub-county. Amongst the population, there is a high degree of fear that if the levels of water flow in Tana river increases, breaks will continue to occur.

One death case was reported on October 29 in Boka of a cash transfer beneficiary child who drowned in a seasonal river.

HISTORY REPEATED?

2018 TANA RIVER FLOODING OUTCOMES



According to ACAPS data, over 150,000 people were estimated to have been affected by the floods (Nation 30/04/2018), including 67,200 in Tana North Sub-county, 58,800 in Tana Delta Sub-county, and 33,600 in Tana River Sub-county.

Out of 12,809 directly affected households covered by the Kenya Inter-Agency Rapid Assessment (KIRA), 11,950 were staying in camps or open areas, while 859 sought shelter with host families and communities.

DISPLACEMENT



The Kenya Meteorological Department had issued an alert on the anticipated heavy and above normal rainfall in the northern counties of Kenya, early October. Thanks to this early warning through the local radio, approximately **682 households** have been able to **move to higher grounds in Tana County**.

In Tana north, the Sub-county's administration team reported the displacement of **352 households** due to the floods. The report states that if the rains continue, a significant percentage of the County's population will be displaced within the mixed pastoral land farming livelihood zones.

According to Oxfam's assessment, key informants worry that there will be a significant number of farm destructions and displaced populations who will require to be relocated to camps across Tana river County, due to loss of livelihoods, personal belongings and low purchasing power and subsequent food shortages.

PEOPLE AFFECTED, INCLUDING CASH CONSORTIUM BENEFICIARIES



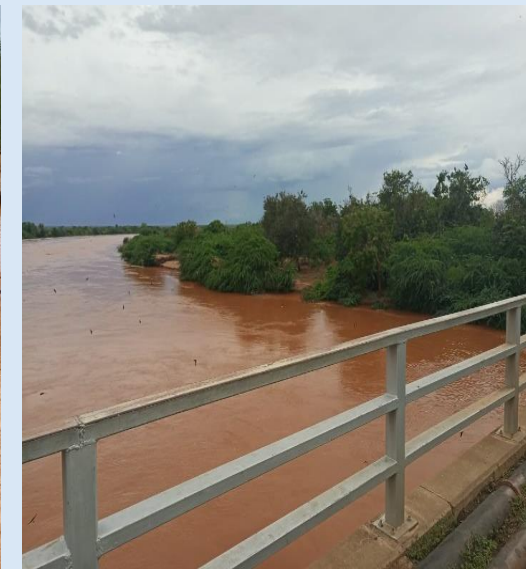
Bura Sub-county hosts all 4,546 households currently covered by the ECHO-funded cash transfer programme.

The entire County was affected by flooding, though the degree of impact varied per village.

According to Oxfam rapid assessments **3,093 households** have been directly impacted by the flooding either by displacement, loss of livelihoods or loss of shelter.



Left picture : Bura Bilbil Road has been cut off by the rains



Right picture : Rising river levels on Garissa Bridge

SOURCES



- *Statement on the current floods situation*, Tana River County Government, Department of Health, October 2019.
- *Rapid Assessment Report*, Oxfam, October 2019
- *Floods Situational update – Tana River*, Pastoralist Girls Initiative, ALDEF, Oxfam, ACTED, October 2019
- *Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) Kenya Floods*, International federation of red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/MDRKE045do%20%281%29.pdf>
- *Kenya Floods, ACAPS, May 4th 2018*, https://www.acaps.org/sites/acaps/files/products/files/20180504_acaps_briefing_note_floods_in_kenya.pdf
- *Indian Ocean Dipole spells flood danger for East Africa*, The Humanitarian, 22nd October 2019, <https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news/2019/10/22/Indian-Ocean-Dipole-flood-danger-East-Africa>

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SHELTER



The majority of traditional shelters have received at least a degree of damage due to the heavy rains.

The initial rapid assessment conducted by Oxfam, found at least 373 shelters were submerged, flooded or marooned across Tana River County.

FOOD SECURITY & MARKET ACCESS



The main road between Bura and Bilbil is cut off. Transporters are using alternative routes, but the same routes are starting to be impassable too. Already five trucks were witnessed stuck on the way. Equally, the road between Bangal and Boka is damaged and impassable, and these villages are part of the emergency cash transfer that is expected end of October.

Since a high number of farms will likely be submerged, food shortages due to loss of livelihoods, personal belongings and low purchasing power are to be feared in this County. Lack of roads and access to the local markets are to be thoroughly monitored.

INFRASTRUCTURE



In **Tana North**, roads have been affected by the floods, notably from Madogo to Bura, from Sala to Bawama, from Nanighi to Subo, from Bura to Wolesorea and Sabukia Tiltla, from Bangal to Woleskambi, Ziwani to Bakuyu, Bura to bilbil, Ghamano and Chewele. The road from Bangal to Boka has been cut off.

In **Galole**, the Boji-majengo road has also been affected, as well as the Hola-Haroresa, Hola-Daba-Waldena, Gamba-Mnazini and Oda-Shirikisho roads.

WASH



One of the major impacts of the flooding has been the deterioration of WASH infrastructure and access to clean water. Initial reports indicate that 468 households in Hosingo are not able to access clean water. As all shallow wells have been washed away, they are now using the rain runoff water for domestic use.

Water quality is low due to turbidity rise for the villages that access water from Tana River (i.e. those that are away from the water treatment plants in Hola, Garsen and Garissa). There are also inadequate storage facilities for drinking water (i.e. jerrycans).

22 latrines in Bura Village, Bulla Rig and Milimani have been damaged or destroyed.

LIVELIHOOD



The findings of the initial Oxfam assessment indicate that those households who were practicing farming along the banks of river Tana and had planted along the river have the plants swept away.

As per Oxfam rapid assessment, no animal death have been reported in Tana river.

However due to the government alerts the farmers reporting being able to move with their irrigation pumps to safer grounds before the farms were submerged by floods, irrigation systems were destroyed, and access to critical services was cut-off.

Since their farms will likely be submerged they will experience food shortages, due to loss of livelihoods, personal belongings and low purchasing power.

RECOMMENDATIONS



- Distribution of shelter kits (tarpaulin, tents, beddings, mosquito nets and blankets)



- Provision of safe water for drinking (water purifiers – aqua tabs, pure, and other water cleaning agents)



- Latrines to avoid open defecation (clean environment)



- Food or cash distribution to displaced households for basic needs



- Distribution of non food items and dignity kits (jerrycans, soap, buckets, mats, solar light and sanitary pads)



ONGOING RESPONSE



- **ECHO-funded emergency cash transfer** for 4,546 households in Tana North, the last cycle to be distributed by 26th Oct 2019.
- **Concern World Wide** is supporting drought **nutritional intervention** that has equally being ongoing since August to date.
- **Oxfam** provides **WASH drought support** (UNICEF): rehabilitation of shallow wells, hygiene promotion in Tana north part of the already affected sites by floods.
- Through the County government, **UNICEF** has made a commitment of **supplying 5,000 jerrycans, 5,000 pieces of bar soap, 5,000 packets of PUR and 5,000 pieces of Aqua tabs.**
- **KRCS** is distributing some **non-Food Items i.e. jerrycans**

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OVERVIEW



Onset of the short rains began on 3rd October 2019 across **Marsabit County**.

Moyale rainfall station recorded 451.6mm of rainfall in 23 rainy days whereas Marsabit Central recorded 411.2mm in 17 rainy days, which are substantial and above normal.

The short season of October-December rain started on 26th September, 2019 in Moyale Sub-county.

According to weather forecasts, the County of Marsabit will continue to experience heavy rains up to December 2019, as per the current forecasts from the Kenyan Meteorological Department (KMD), and will continue to affect a wider population in the affected and high risk areas.

MARSABIT 2018 FLOODS



Marsabit was one of Kenya's most affected county by the floods of 2018. In Moyale, 50,000 people were cut off from any aid and services as the road connecting them to Moyale town was blocked by floods.

PEOPLE AFFECTED



INCLUDING CASH CONSORTIUM BENEFICIARIES

According to Concern's rapid assessments **1,055 households have been directly impacted by the flooding** either by displacement, loss of livelihoods or loss of shelter.

A total of 478 cash transfer beneficiaries out of 2,559 in Marsabit within flood affected areas with a breakdown of Waldaa (40), Sololo (80), Turbi (134), Burgabo (74), Illeret (150).

DISPLACEMENT



According to the Marsabit County Steering Groups, a total of 577 households are displaced all over Marsabit, with the majority (544) in Moyale Sub-county including in locations covered by current cash transfers, 11 households in North Horr, 8 in laisamis and 13 in Saku sub County.

The affected population has moved to other places like towns, others were integrated within the community in the area and no specific camps have been established for the displaced as the rains are expected to persist.

SHELTER



No specific data is available yet on shelter damage in Marsabit county.

In Moyale, Marsabit county, a road linking 50,000 people to Moyale town was cut off

SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIC AREAS



The flood areas as at 29th October, 2019 in Marsabit County include the following locations by Sub-county. The blunt font locations are areas benefiting from the current ECHO-funded cash transfers.

- **Moyale:** Qalaliwe, Odha, Butiye, Uran, Golole, Walda, Rawana, Kinisa, Dabel, Amballo, Badan rero, Bori, Qate, Dadach lakole, Teso, Sololo.
- **North Horr:** Turbi, Burgabo, Illeret
- **Laiaamis:** Koya

When compared to the livelihood zones, the agro-pastoral livelihood zones in Moyale sub-county and Saku received above normal rains, while the pastoral livelihood zone received near normal to normal rains. Areas of Balesa, North-Horr, Gas, Elhadi and Yaa-Algana have received way below normal rains in 1-2 days since the onset.



Top left picture : Livestock swept and killed by floods in Teso, Moyale, October 2019

Top right picture: Damaged toilet in Kinisa and contaminated water pan in Bori, Moyale sub-county

Bottom picture: Road connecting Yabello completely cut-off, Marsabit October 2019

SOURCES



- *Rapid Needs Assessment of Massive Livestock deaths in Moyale Sub-County*, County Government of Marsabit, October 2019
- *Marsabit County Floods Situational report*, National Drought Management Authority, 28th October 2019
- *Rapid assessments*, Concern, October 2019

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FOOD SECURITY & MARKET ACCESS



The markets do not operate fully due to poor transport network, and the existing stock is expected to be depleted in the next days if the situation remains the same. Dabel, Godoma, Amballo and Badanrero recorded highest prices of food commodities due to the ongoing floods.

85% of the affected households depend on livestock as their source of livelihood which has been affected by floods. Most of the affected households have tried to employ some coping strategies with the progression of the flush floods. Malnutrition rates have increased across the entire county (Moyale 16.1%, Laisamis 30.9%, North Horr 31.3%) which have surpassed the global acute malnutrition rate of 15%.

WASH



Malaria cases have been reported, especially in North Horr and Moyale wards. Despite the outbreak being contained early in the month, increased numbers of cholera are also expected especially in Moyale Township where the outbreak has been confirmed.

Due to high malnutrition cases, most of the children under the age of five years are susceptible to water borne diseases in those flood affected areas.

No water infrastructures were affected, but 10 latrines in Kinisa and 28 latrines in Yabello have collapsed. Such damaged structures compromise the health and hygiene situation of those living in the area risking them of water borne diseases as some of the contents of the pits were washed into the pan. 40 Latrines were also damaged in Dadach Lakole.

LIVELIHOOD



Approximately 2,200 small stock in Moyale, 500 in North-Horr, 1,500 in Saku and 500 in Laisamis have been lost to rain in October 2019.

Livestock constitutes the main source of livelihoods with an estimated 81% of the Marsabit population dependent on livestock for food and income. The large losses of livestock to floods will contribute significantly to increased food security vulnerability.

Generally, livestock is still weak from the severity of the recent droughts. Many were infested with blood sucking parasites (lice, ticks), few deaths among weaner calves from diarrhea before the onset of rains. Deaths among goats and sheep is largely attributed to the effects of rain.

The **carcasses** scattered all over the grazing area pose a lot of **health risk in being a source of diseases**. This requires effort by all service providers to dispose safely.

INFRASTRUCTURE



A number of infrastructure including boreholes, latrines and roads have been destroyed or rendered impassable limiting access of food items and other commodities in the cut off areas.

Some roads are fully covered by water making it difficult to assess the areas like Kinisa, Amballo, Kituruni, Burgabo, Badanrero, Dabel, Godoma and Yabelo. Routes leading to some areas which were not usable during the time of the initial assessment still remain unusable. The roads connecting those areas are proving difficult for those who wants to reach them especially Kinisa and Yabelo where the roads are damaged making it impossible for vehicles to pass.

RECOMMENDATIONS



- Cash response targeting the 577 displaced households



- Cash response top up to current 478 beneficiaries in flood-affected areas



- Immediate general food distribution to 111,000 people in need of food assistance



- Distribution of non-food items to the 577 households affected



- Focus on disaster risk reduction activities, putting in place early warning, early action for flooding, law enforcement and community based early recovery strategies



- Disinfection of water sources and water treatment and monitoring to avoid upsurge of waterborne diseases.



- Malaria and cholera control.



- Livestock disease surveillance, treatment and vaccination. Restocking should also be undertaken in areas where livestock deaths were reported.

- Shelter rehabilitation and latrine rehabilitation in areas where homes were completely damaged

ONGOING RESPONSE



- Planned assessment by the CSG in the week of 29th Oct to 8th Nov 2019
- Food assistance from the government
- Kenya Red Cross support with shelter non food items, as well as cash transfers to displaced populations in Moyale

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OVERVIEW



The current flooding is as a result of heavy rains in Ethiopian highlands and above normal rainfall performance experienced during the onset of OND rains. The OND rainy season started with heavy flush floods with Dawa River bursting its banks across **Mandera County**.

The flash floods experienced by the county have affected communities in all pastoral, agro-pastoral, urban and peri-urban zones of Mandera County in October 2019, according to the Kenya Red Cross.

Flooding has now become a recurrent problem, especially during the rainy season, and the current flush floods occurrence is not usual as it used to be experienced mainly in agro pastoral and pastoral livelihood zones. Specifically the River Dawa bursts its banks on rainy seasons and caused severe damage to crops, farm tools and equipment, and irrigation infrastructure as well as water supply facilities, completely affecting community livelihoods.

The current flood is more severe as it caught most people unaware thus leading to great loss of properties, livestock deaths and crops according to the assessment report lead by Mandera County Administration in October 2019.

PEOPLE AFFECTED



A total of 76 locations have been affected due to the flooding situation. **26,514 households have been affected** by the floods and are reported to be at risk of starvation in the next four months.

In Mandera South and Mandera West, Sub-counties where ACTED is operationally present, there are a total of 15,554 individuals in need.

SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIC AREAS



Mandera County covers an area of 26,474 km², with a total population of 1,025,756 as per 2009 population census. Administratively the county is composed of seven Sub-counties (Mandera East, Mandera North, Mandera West, Mandera south, Banissa, Kutulo and Lafey).

The received rains caused **flush floods in all sub counties**, causing massive flooding of water accompanied by destruction to crops, farming infrastructure, loss of livestock and infrastructure destructions.

DISPLACEMENT



As a result to losses of accommodation, income sources with high crop destruction and livestock losses, displacement of families have been reported in Mandera County.

About ten families have been so far displaced in Kutulo Sub County, according to Mandera County Administration.

MANDERA 2018 FLOODS



In Mandera, some 15,000 people had been affected as of May 2018. About 4,500 people were estimated to have been displaced according to Save the Children in May 2018.

In Mandera South Sub-county, an estimated 8,600 people had been affected, including an estimated 6,300 in El Wak town according to Nation in April 2018.



Top left picture: Dead sheep and goats, Mandara County, October 2019

Top right picture: Collapsed pit latrine, Mandara, October 2019

Bottom picture: Lag warera flooding and cut off transport activity between Takaba town & Takaba airstrip

Source: Report on Impacts of OND Flush Floods in Mandara County, Mandara County

SOURCES



- *Situation report*, Kenya Red Cross, October 2019
- *Report on Impacts of OND Flush Floods in Mandera County*, Mandera County Administration, October 2019
- *Kenya Floods, acaps, May 4th 2018*, https://www.acaps.org/sites/acaps/files/products/files/20180504_acaps_briefing_note_floods_in_kenya.pdf

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LIVELIHOODS



According to the Manderla administration, the estimated acreage affected by the floods is 6,581 **hectares** and 8,001 **farms**. This loss has been valued at Ksh **215,220,000 of harvest losses** in the five wards assessed by the County. As a result, about 3,000 farm casual workers are expected to lose their jobs in the next 3 months.

Loss of farm inputs invested into the farms have also been reported, and crops at different stages of growth have been completely lost. Irrigation structures have been reported to have been damaged by floods. **Damaged agricultural land will lead to depressed harvests and in severely affected areas, a total loss of crop resulting** in food shortages and reduced incomes.

Livestock sector: According to the County Administration assessment report, a total of **30,647 shoats** have so far died across the county, along with **86 cattle and 31 camels**.

Expected yields from the farms were affected severely resulting to food insecurity and it is foreseen that farmers in the long run will have to rely on relief foods if appropriate actions is not taken early on.

INFRASTRUCTURE



According to the Manderla administration, 35 km of tarmac road class B9 was severely damaged with 35 culverts and 48 drifts being washed away. **Most of the roads have also been rendered impassable**; those affected include but not limited roads leading to Takaba town. Manderla South (Elwak South and North, Wargardud, Fincharo) and Kutulo.

There are reported cases of pit latrines that have collapsed presenting a health hazard and potential for spread/outbreak of water borne diseases. Homes and shops have been destroyed in some of the worst hit sub-counties.

FOOD SECURITY & MARKET ACCESS



Most of the county is facing critical food supply shortage due to damage of the road infrastructure and farmlands caused by the ongoing floods. Disruptions of critical food supply lines from Nairobi, Somalia and Ethiopia have been reported.

According to the County Govt of Manderla a total of **26,514 households risk starvation in the next four months**. Support is thus urgently required to meet immediate needs of affected Households for an estimated four month period.

Prices of food commodities have increased by 25% eroding the purchasing power of most affected households.

WASH



Most of the **sanitary facilities have been completely submerged** and some collapsed, presenting a public health hazard to the affected population. Some Sub-counties have begun reporting upsurges in diarrheal diseases in a county with pre existing outbreaks.

According to the assessment report the County government of Manderla, over **50,000 people are at risk of malaria and other water borne diseases**.

According to an assessment by Kenya Red Cross Society In Manderla West, 1013 latrines were submerged, affecting 25 schools and 3 health centres, 44 water storage facilities were as well affected. About 1096 latrines were affected in Manderla South and 164 in Lafey.

SHELTER



Houses have been submerged in all sub-counties, no specific figures have yet been released.

RECOMMENDATIONS



- Provision of mosquito nets to minimize risks of disease outbreaks



- Provision of relief food to alleviate food shortages due to losses of crops to the floods.



- Cash distribution if access to markets permits



- Provision of non-food items (NFIs) to meet immediate response gaps.



- Multipurpose cash transfers to purchase NFIs locally



- Provision of farm inputs i.e. seeds, fertilizer, farm tools, etc., in order to enable farmers to resume farming afresh



- Crop diversification (i.e. fruit farming along other crops)

- Mass public health education across all the affected areas to improve hygiene and sanitation accompanied with hygiene Kit distribution

ONGOING RESPONSE



- In response to the drought situation in the County, the Ministry scaled up integrated health and nutrition outreach services to reach populations living in hard to reach villages. Total mapped villages were 194. So far 145 villages were reached with health and nutrition services through health outreach programme in collaboration of implementing partners.

- KEMSA trucks carrying nutrition commodities (nutrition supplements) to the health facilities are stacked in between Wajir and Tarbaj town for more than a week now. The commodity is mainly, Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) for the treatment of severely malnourished children.