Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI)| Kenya: Dadaab and Kakuma Refugee Camps and Kalobeyei Integrated Settlement

MARKET OVERVIEW

Q4 2025 (October - December)

INTRODUCTION

To inform humanitarian cash assistance programming, the quarterly **Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) assesses the availability and prices of essential commodities** commonly sold in local markets and consumed by the average household. In Kenya, the Refugee JMMI is conducted in markets serving refugee populations in Dadaab, Kakuma and Kalobeyei.

The total number of registered refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya stood at 836,466 as at February 2026. Nearly half (49%) of the population resides in Dadaab camp in Garissa County, while 37% are hosted in Turkana County, primarily in Kakuma camp and Kalobeyei settlement.[4]

This factsheet highlights the price and availability of key foods and non-food items' (NFIs), cost of the Refugee Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)[1], and market functionality in the assessed camps. Data collection for Q4 2025 was conducted between 9th and 29th December 2025 across 12 markets (5 in Kakuma, 4 in Dadaab and 3 in Kalobeyei).

For more information on the methodology, please refer to page 9.

Q4 2025 COVERAGE

206	Vendors interviewed
36	Commodities assessed
12	Markets assessed
5	Participating agencies
3	Assessed locations

KEY INDICATORS

Cost of Food MEB[1]
11,918 KES
91.88 USD[2]
▲ 113 KES (1%)[3]

Cost of Non Food MEB[1]
4,135 KES
31.88 USD[2]
▼ 382 KES (9%)[3]

Cost of MEB[1]
16,052 KES
123.75 USD[2]
▼ 269 KES (2%)[3]

ASSESSED LOCATION AND MEDIAN MEB VALUES

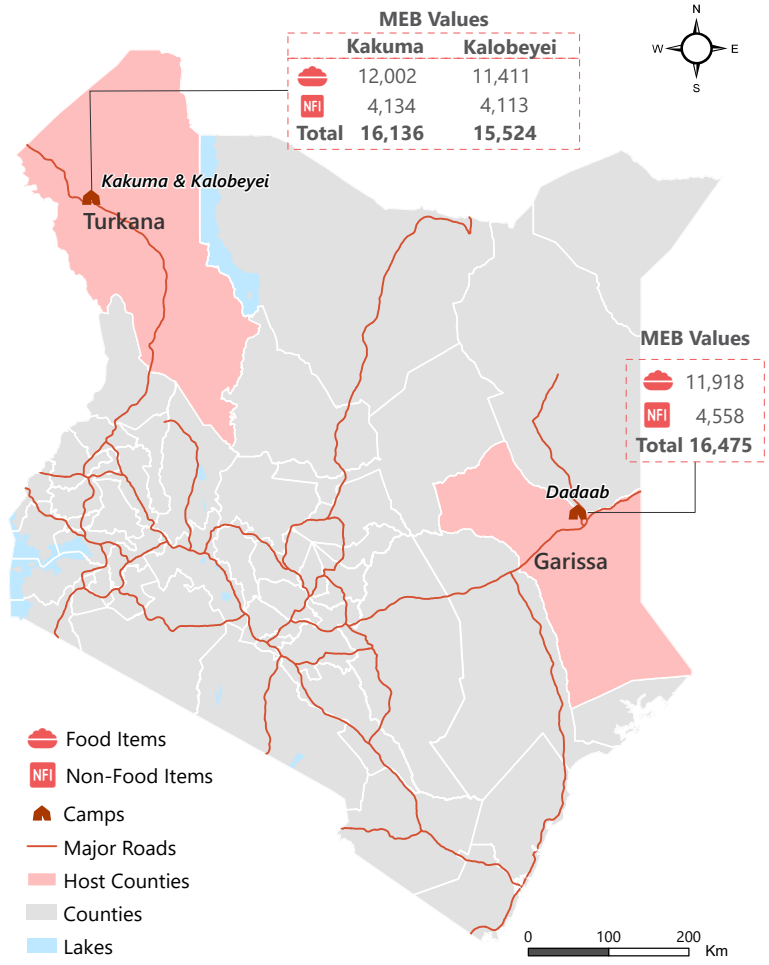


Figure 1: Map of the Q4 2025 assessed location and MEB values

KEY FINDINGS

- Despite a slight decline of 1% compared to the previous quarter, the Dadaab MEB[1] remained higher than in Kakuma and Kalobeyei.
- The majority of vendors (overall 97%) reported facing operational challenges. These were primarily linked to high customer debt, reduced customer numbers, and insufficient funds to restock. Consistent with these findings, many vendors also reported a significant decline in customer traffic.
- Supply constraints were more pronounced in Dadaab and Kakuma, where a higher proportion of vendors reported limited or complete unavailability of some commodities (74% and 71%, respectively), compared to Kalobeyei (44%).
- Marketplaces remained generally physically accessible, particularly in Dadaab and Kalobeyei. However, financial barriers continued to limit customer access, with the majority of interviewed vendors (overall 91%) reporting that customers faced financial difficulties.
- Of the 12 markets assessed, eight were classified as having limited functionality, with six markets improving their classification compared to the previous quarter, largely driven by the availability dimension.

REFUGEE MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET (MEB)

The refugee MEB is composed of essential commodities and services. The MEB is used as an operational tool to quantify the average minimum cost of the culturally adjusted basket of basic items required to support a five-person household for one month.

Developed by the Kenya Cash Working Group (KCWG) through the MEB work-stream, it differs from the Rural MEB by specifically considering refugee needs. Only the key components of the refugee MEB's key elements, i.e. fixed costs, food and NFIs as defined by the KCWG, were incorporated into computing the refugee MEB.

Food Items	Quantity
Maize grain	21 Kg
Rice	21 Kg
Wheat flour	21 Kg
Oil, Vegetable	5.25 L
Dried beans	7.5 Kg
Cow milk, whole	15 Kg
Dark green leafy vegetables	15 Kg
Salt, Iodized	0.75 Kg
Sugar	0.75 Kg

Non-Food Items	Quantity
Multipurpose soap	2.75 Kg
Toothpaste	0.140 L
Tissue paper	8 pcs
Sanitary pads	4 packs of 8
Education (pen, pencil, ruler, book, rubber, sharpener)	1 kit
Firewood	1.5 bundles
Matchbox	2 boxes
Lighting cost	800 KES
National Health Coverage	500 KES
Public transport	1,000 KES

MEDIAN PRICE IN KES OF ITEMS PER CAMP

Items	Unit	Dadaab	Change[5]	Kakuma[6]	Kalobeyei[6]
Food					
White maize	1kg	60	▼ 14%	60	60
Maize flour	1kg	100	0%	80	80
Wheat flour	1kg	100	0%	90	90
Rice	1kg	100	0%	110	100
Spaghetti	500g	75	▼ 6%	80	80
Beans	1kg	110	▼ 8%	120	100
Cowpeas	1kg	120	0%	150	150
Cowpea leaves	1kg	100	0%	100	100
Yellow split peas	1kg	100	▼ 17%	120	150
Sugar	1kg	110	▼ 8%	160	150
Vegetable oil	1lt	250	▼ 11%	300	270
Salt	1kg	50	▲ 43%	62	75
Cattle milk	1lt	180	▲ 20%	160	160
Camel milk	1lt	180	▲ 20%	*	*
Goat meat	1kg	800	0%	700	600
Camel meat	1kg	600	0%	600	*
Onions	1kg	100	▼ 17%	120	110
Tomatoes	1kg	30	▼ 50%	100	100
Kale	1kg	100	0%	100	95
WASH					
Tooth paste	70g	100	0%	50	50
Tooth brush	1pc	50	0%	30	30
Tissue paper	1pc	50	0%	30	30
Bar soap	200g	50	0%	50	50
Jerry can	1pc	150	0%	180	150
Bucket	1pc	185	▲ 23%	150	150
Pads	1pc	100	0%	100	100
Education					
Pencils	1pc	10	0%	5	5
Pens	1pc	10	0%	10	10
Exercise books	1pc	20	0%	15	15
Rubbers	1pc	10	0%	5	5
Ruler	1pc	30	0%	20	20
Geometric set	1pc	200	0%	100	100
Sharpener	1pc	10	0%	5	5
Energy					
Charcoal	2kg	200	0%	60	60
Matchbox	1pc	5	0%	5	5
Firewood	1 bundle	100	0%	75	60

KEY

▼ Decrease ▲ Increase

* No price information due to unavailability of the respective commodity at the time of data collection

COST OF THE MEB IN KES AND CHANGE SINCE Q3 2025

Camp[6]	MEB	Change	Food MEB	Change	NFI MEB	Change
Dadaab	16,475	▼ 1%	11,918	• 0%	4,558	▼ 2%
Kakuma	16,136		12,002		4,134	
Kalobeyei	15,524		11,411		4,113	

Overall, the Dadaab MEB remained relatively stable throughout 2025. Compared to the previous quarter, there was a slight decrease in the MEB, driven by a change in the NFI MEB (-80 Kes) due to a reduction in the cost of toothpaste, alongside mixed food price movements. In Dadaab, price decreases were observed for selected food items, including tomatoes (-50%), onions (-17%), and white maize (-14%), while increases were recorded for both cattle milk and camel milk (both by +20%). Prices of education items largely remained unchanged. Kalobeyei recorded the lowest MEB, mainly driven by lower food and NFI costs compared to Kakuma, particularly for items such as maize flour, cooking oil, and meat.

Prices across Dadaab, Kakuma, and Kalobeyei are generally comparable to or lower than those in host community markets, as reported in the KCWG Q4 2025 ASALs JMMI. Notably, staple commodities such as white maize, rice, and beans tend to be priced lower in the camps than in surrounding host communities.

A substantial proportion of vendors reported limited or no availability of certain commodities (74% in Dadaab, 71% in Kakuma, and 44% in Kalobeyei). Availability of essential commodities is generally highest in Kalobeyei, where most items are widely available given the minimal reported limitations. While staple foods remain widely available across all locations, availability gaps were more pronounced in Dadaab.

Despite restocking challenges, the average restocking time across assessed location was mostly one day. This short restocking period suggests a low likelihood of prolonged commodity shortages.

KENYA CASH WORKING GROUP

AVAILABLE STOCK, TIME NEEDED TO RESTOCK, AND CURRENT AVAILABILITY OF ITEMS IN THE MARKET PER CAMP

Items[7] -Dadaab	Wide availability (%KIs)	Limited availability (%KIs)	Remaining stock (days)	Time needed to restock (days)
White maize	32%	68%	15	1
Maize flour	95%	5%	14	0
Wheat flour	96%	4%	10	0
Rice	96%	4%	10	0
Spaghetti	96%	4%	10	0
Beans	86%	14%	14	0
Cowpeas	33%	67%	15	1
Cowpeas leaves	40%	60%	1	0
Yellow split peas	15%	85%	16	1
Sugar	96%	4%	10	0
Vegetable oil	68%	32%	14	0
Salt	78%	22%	20	0
Cattle milk	25%	75%	1	0
Camel milk	65%	35%	1	0
Goat meat	32%	68%	1	0
Camel meat	63%	37%	1	0
Onions	93%	7%	5	0
Tomatoes	93%	7%	3	0
Kale	52%	48%	1	0
Pads	14%	86%	20	1
Toothbrush	29%	71%	21	1
Tooth paste	13%	88%	21	1
Tissue paper	30%	70%	20	1
Bar soap	96%	4%	20	0
Jerry can	65%	35%	20	1
Bucket	50%	50%	20	1
Firewood	40%	60%	5	0
Charcoal	38%	62%	5	1
Matchbox	79%	21%	21	0
Exercise book	40%	60%	21	1
Pencil	65%	35%	21	0
Pen	85%	15%	21	0
Rubber	65%	35%	20	0
Ruler	31%	69%	21	1
Sharpener	61%	39%	20	0
Geometric set	57%	43%	20	1

Items[7]-Kakuma	Wide availability (%KIs)	Limited availability (%KIs)	Remaining stock (days)	Time needed to restock (days)
White maize	81%	19%	7	1
Maize flour	100%	0%	11	1
Wheat flour	91%	9%	7	1
Rice	95%	5%	7	1
Spaghetti	89%	5%	14	1
Beans	100%	0%	10	1
Cowpeas	80%	20%	7	1
Cowpeas leaves	100%	0%	1	2
Yellow split peas	33%	67%	7	1
Sugar	95%	5%	10	1
Vegetable oil	100%	0%	7	1
Salt	100%	0%	12	1
Cattle milk	78%	17%	7	1
Camel milk	*	*	*	*
Goat meat	33%	67%	1	1
Camel meat	38%	63%	1	1
Onions	81%	19%	4	1
Tomatoes	73%	27%	2	1
Kale	46%	54%	1	1
Pads	86%	14%	20	1
Toothbrush	86%	10%	21	1
Tooth paste	90%	10%	21	1
Tissue paper	80%	20%	10	1
Bar soap	87%	13%	28	1
Jerry can	23%	77%	14	1
Bucket	27%	73%	14	2
Firewood	42%	58%	6	2
Charcoal	44%	56%	5	1
Matchbox	100%	0%	15	1
Exercise book	75%	25%	20	1
Pencil	78%	22%	17	1
Pen	79%	16%	14	1
Rubber	73%	27%	20	1
Ruler	50%	50%	20	1
Sharpener	71%	29%	21	1
Geometric set	71%	29%	21	1

* No data collected as a result of the unavailability of the respective commodity at the time of data collection.

AVAILABLE STOCK, TIME NEEDED TO RESTOCK AND AVAILABILITY

Items[7]-Kalobeyei	Wide availability (%KIs)	Limited availability (%KIs)	Remaining stock (days)	Time needed to restock (days)
White maize	100%	0%	15	1
Maize flour	100%	0%	15	1
Wheat flour	100%	0%	14	1
Rice	100%	0%	21	1
Spaghetti	100%	0%	14	1
Beans	100%	0%	21	1
Cowpeas	57%	43%	5	1
Cowpeas leaves	89%	11%	1	1
Yellow split peas	89%	11%	14	1
Sugar	100%	0%	21	1
Vegetable oil	100%	0%	15	1
Salt	100%	0%	30	1
Cattle milk	100%	0%	10	1
Camel milk	*	*	*	*
Goat meat	43%	57%	1	1
Camel meat	*	*	*	*
Onions	100%	0%	5	1
Tomatoes	89%	11%	2	1
Kale	50%	50%	2	2
Pads	100%	0%	30	1
Toothbrush	100%	0%	30	1
Tooth paste	100%	0%	30	1
Tissue paper	100%	0%	30	1
Bar soap	100%	0%	30	1
Jerry can	25%	75%	11	1
Bucket	29%	71%	20	1
Firewood	75%	25%	3	1
Charcoal	75%	25%	3	1
Matchbox	100%	0%	30	1
Exercise book	89%	11%	30	1
Pencil	100%	0%	30	1
Pen	100%	0%	30	1
Rubber	90%	10%	30	1
Ruler	70%	30%	21	1
Sharpener	89%	11%	30	1
Geometric set	56%	44%	14	1

* No data collected as a result of the unavailability of the respective commodity at the time of data collection.

** This is a self-reported question to the vendors hence may be subjectivity to their experience, knowledge and awareness

LOCATION OF THE MAIN SUPPLIER

In Dadaab, all interviewed vendors reported sourcing their main commodities exclusively from Garissa County (100%), indicating a highly localized supply chain and strong dependence on Garissa as the primary market source.

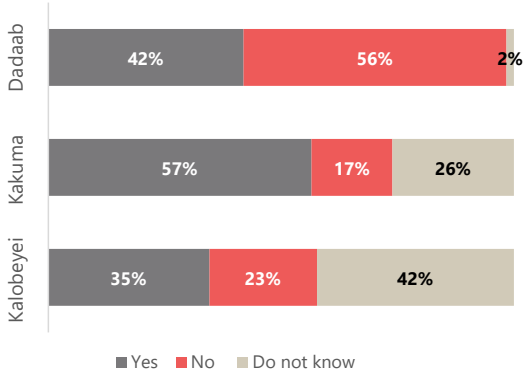
The majority of vendors in Kakuma (90%) and Kalobeyei (92%) relied predominantly on Turkana County, underscoring the importance of local county markets in sustaining commodity availability. A smaller proportion of traders reported that they sourced commodities from other counties such as the capital city or key agricultural production areas, suggesting some level of supply chain diversification.[8] In Kakuma, 7% of traders sourced from Nairobi, 2% from Trans Nzoia, and 1% from Nakuru. Similarly, in Kalobeyei, 4% sourced from Nairobi and 4% from Trans Nzoia.

The short restocking times, often within the same day or one day, can be attributed to the high proportion of vendors sourcing goods locally.

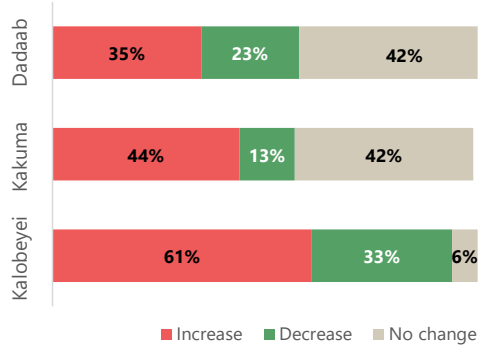
REPORTED PREDICTED CHANGES IN SUPPLIER'S PRICES

Vendors' ability to anticipate supplier price changes remains relatively low, particularly in Dadaab and Kalobeyei, where the majority of vendors reported being unable to predict price movements in the month following data collection. This suggests that vendors may have limited visibility over supplier pricing trends. Expectations of future price movements further underscore market uncertainty, especially in Kalobeyei, with some anticipating increases while others expected decreases, indicating an unpredictable market environment. In Dadaab and Kakuma, despite a considerable proportion of vendors expecting prices to remain the same, many still foresee increases, which suggests potential instability in supplier pricing.

Proportion of vendors reporting on their ability to predict changes in supplier's prices for popular commodities in the one month after data collection, per camp:**

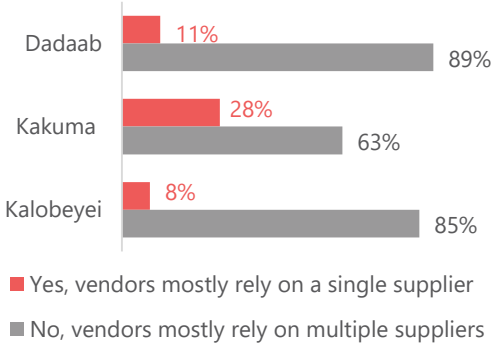


Expectation of supplier price changes one month following data collection, by % of vendors (42% in Dadaab, 57% in Kakuma and 35% in Kalobeyei) who reported being able to predict supplier price changes, per camp:[9]

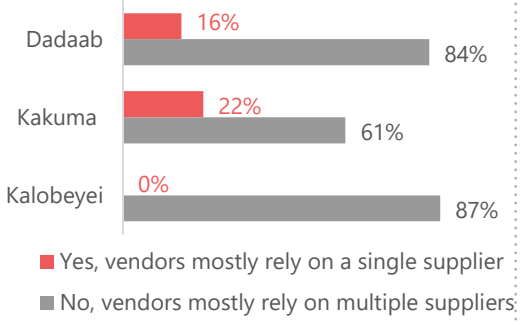


SUPPLIER

% of vendors reporting that they mostly relied on a single supplier for food items at the time of data collection, by camp:[9]



% of vendors reporting that they mostly relied on a single supplier for non-food items at the time of data collection, by camp:[9]

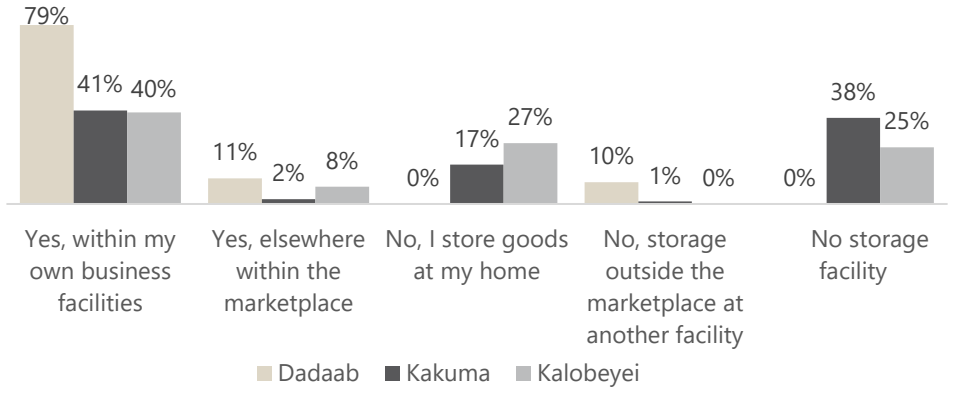


Vendors largely reported relying on multiple suppliers rather than a single source for both food and non-food items, indicating a relatively diversified supply base. Reliance on a single supplier remains limited, though slightly more common in Kakuma compared to Dadaab and Kalobeyei, suggesting greater vulnerability to supply disruptions. In Kalobeyei in particular, few vendors (8% for food and 0% for NFI) reported depending on a single supplier, suggesting greater diversification of sourcing.

ACCESS TO A LOCKED, SECURED STORAGE FACILITY

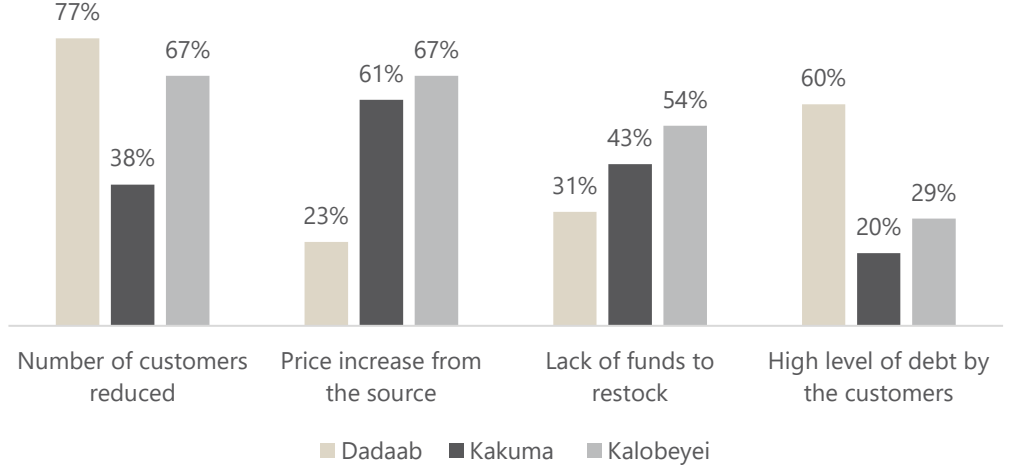
Notably, the lack of any storage facility was a key concern in Kakuma and Kalobeyei, where 38% and 25% of vendors, respectively, reported having no storage access at all, compared to none in Dadaab. Close to a quarter of both female vendors (23%) and male vendors (24%) reported not having access to any storage facility. Overall, the findings suggest stronger storage infrastructure among vendors in Dadaab, while storage constraints remain more pronounced in Kakuma and Kalobeyei, potentially affecting stock management, limiting vendors' ability to maintain adequate inventory, restricting product offerings, and reducing business resilience.

Proportion of vendors reporting on access to a locked, secured storage facility in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:[9]



VENDOR CHALLENGES

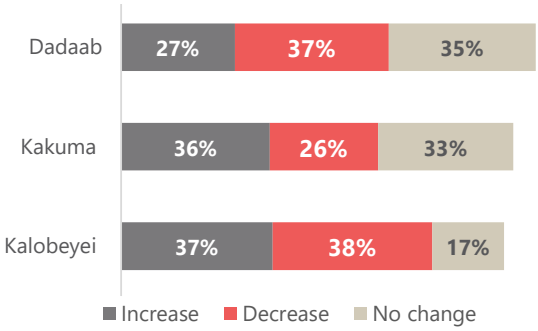
Most reported challenges by vendors in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:[10]



All vendors in Dadaab, as well as the majority of vendors in Kalobeyei (96%) and Kakuma (95%), reported facing various challenges in the three months prior to data collection.

CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF VENDORS

Proportion of vendors reporting on changes in the number of vendors operating in their marketplace in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:[9]



Vendors reported mixed changes, which suggest dynamic market entry and exit patterns that may be influenced by operational challenges.

CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS

% of vendors reporting on the change in the number of customers purchasing from their shop in the 3 months prior to data collection, among those vendors (73% Dadaab, 77% Kakuma, 83% Kalobeyei) who reported a change:

Dadaab	**33% ▲**	**67% ▼**
Kakuma	**38% ▲**	**62% ▼**
Kalobeyei	**40% ▲**	**60% ▼**

Most vendors reported a decline in the number of customers purchasing from their shops in the three months prior to data collection. This trend was most pronounced in Dadaab, followed by Kakuma (62%) and Kalobeyei (60%) suggesting weaker consumer demand and potentially lower household purchasing power.

DIFFICULTY IN KEEPING THE BUSINESS OPERATIONAL AND WELL-STOCKED

Among interviewed vendors, 65% of women and 60% of men reported difficulties in keeping their businesses operational and adequately stocked. The challenges affecting restocking were broadly similar, with increases in supplier prices emerging as the most commonly reported constraint. Over time, these challenges may lead to higher prices and fewer goods being available, which can reduce customer demand.

Reported difficulty in keeping the business operational and well-stocked by vendors in the 3 months prior to data collection:[10]

Dadaab

- **24%** Difficulty with price charged by supplier
- **21%** Difficulty with availability of core goods
- **16%** Movement restrictions
- **11%** Difficulty accessing enough bank notes to pay suppliers

Kakuma

- **42%** Difficulty with price charged by supplier
- **15%** Theft or damage of commodities
- **13%** Flooding in the market place
- **12%** Physically dangerous conditions in the area

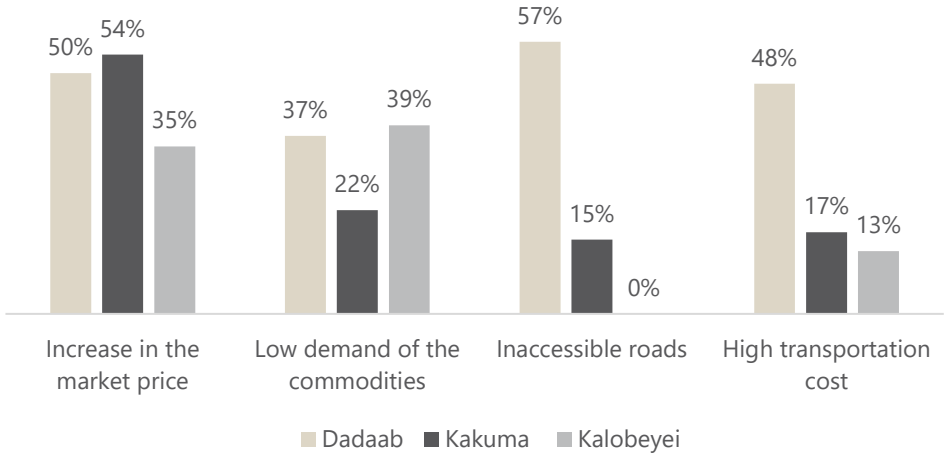
Kalobeyei

- **63%** Difficulty with price charged by supplier
- **12%** Difficulty with availability of core goods
- **4%** Physically dangerous conditions in the area
- **2%** Theft or damage of commodities

SHORTAGE OF COMMODITIES

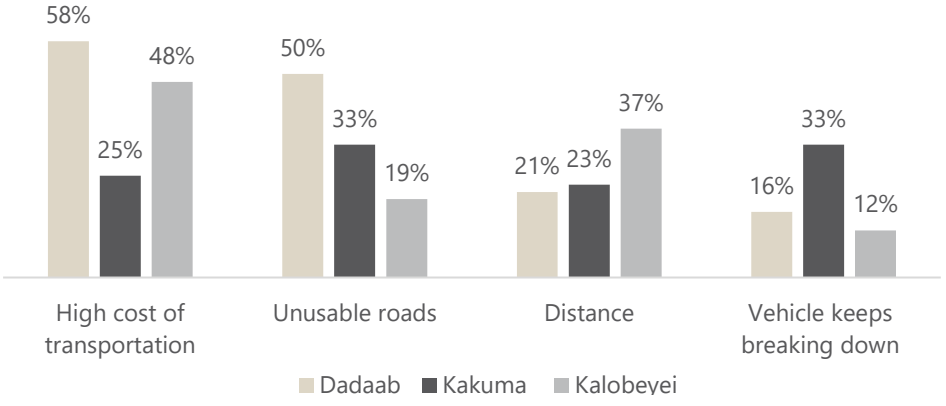
A high proportion of vendors reported experiencing shortages of some commodities at the time of data collection, particularly in Dadaab (74%) and Kakuma (71%), compared to Kalobeyei (44%). This is likely linked to the below-average rainfall and moisture deficits that have constrained crop production, while elevated fuel costs continue to drive transport expenses.[11]

Most reported causes of shortage of commodities by vendors (74% in Dadaab, 71% in Kakuma, 44% in Kalobeyei) who reported experiencing shortage of some commodities at the time of data collection, per camp:[10]



CHALLENGES FACED WHEN TRANSPORTING COMMODITIES

Most reported transportation challenges by vendors in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:[10]



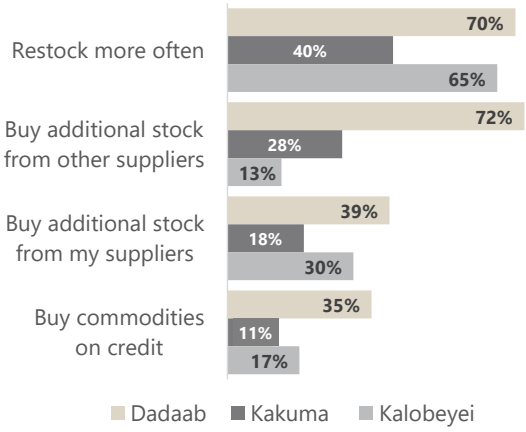
Transport challenges were more pronounced in Dadaab (98%), followed by Kalobeyei (94%) compared to Kakuma (87%). Vendors in Dadaab mainly relied on passenger cars (61%) and carts (23%)[10], while motorcycles were the dominant mode in Kakuma (45%) and Kalobeyei (44%).

COPING MECHANISMS EMPLOYED TO DEAL WITH SHORTAGE OF COMMODITIES

Vendors experiencing commodity shortages adopted several coping strategies to maintain stock availability. The most commonly reported response was restocking more often, particularly in Dadaab (70%)[10] and Kalobeyei (65%)[10], while vendors in Dadaab also frequently bought additional stock from other suppliers (72%)[10].

However, a notable proportion of vendors in Kakuma (32%) reported having no coping strategy in place, compared to none in Dadaab and only 4% in Kalobeyei. Combined with existing restocking challenges, this may increase vendors' vulnerability to revenue loss and business disruptions during periods of shortage.

Strategies employed by interviewed vendors to address unavailability of commodities at the time of data collection, by % of vendors (74% in Dadaab, 71% in Kakuma, 44% in Kalobeyei) who reported experiencing shortage of some commodities per camp:[10]



BARRIERS TO MARKET ACCESS

Physical barriers

Similar to the previous quarter, Kakuma continued to report comparatively higher physical access constraints. In Dadaab, reported barriers were mainly linked to inadequate facilities, while in Kalobeyei challenges included limited market operating hours. Limited transportation options and movement restrictions were common barriers reported across both Dadaab and Kalobeyei.

However, there is a slight gender disparity in terms of encountering barriers. A higher proportion of female vendors (35%) reported encountering barriers compared to male vendors (28%).

Most reported physical barriers to accessing the marketplace by vendors in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:[10]

Dadaab

84% No physical barriers

10% Inadequate facilities

8% Limited transportation options

6% Curfew or movement restrictions

Kakuma

52% No physical barriers

29% Limited operating hours of the market

14% Market inaccessible due to flooding

13% Curfew or movement restrictions

Kalobeyei

81% No physical barriers

12% Limited operating hours of the market

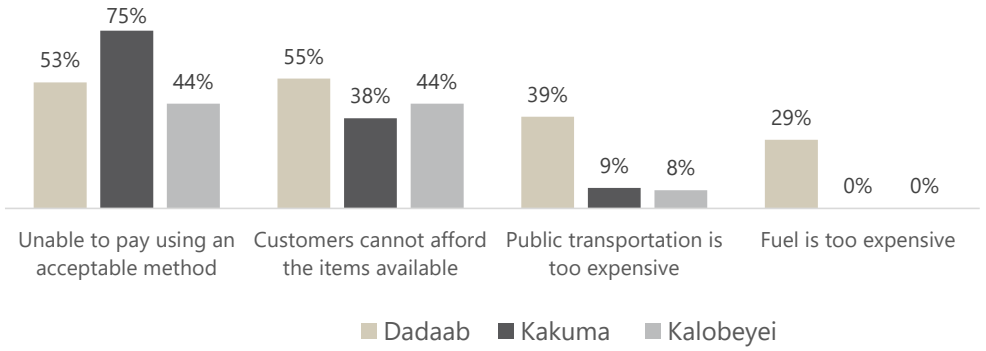
10% Curfew or movement restrictions

8% Limited transportation options

Financial barriers

Financial barriers continued to affect customers' access to marketplaces. The majority of interviewed vendors reported that their customers encountered financial difficulties, particularly in Kakuma (95%), followed by Kalobeyei (90%) and Dadaab (87%). In Dadaab, additional cost-related barriers, such as expensive public transportation and fuel, were also reported, indicating broader affordability constraints affecting market access.

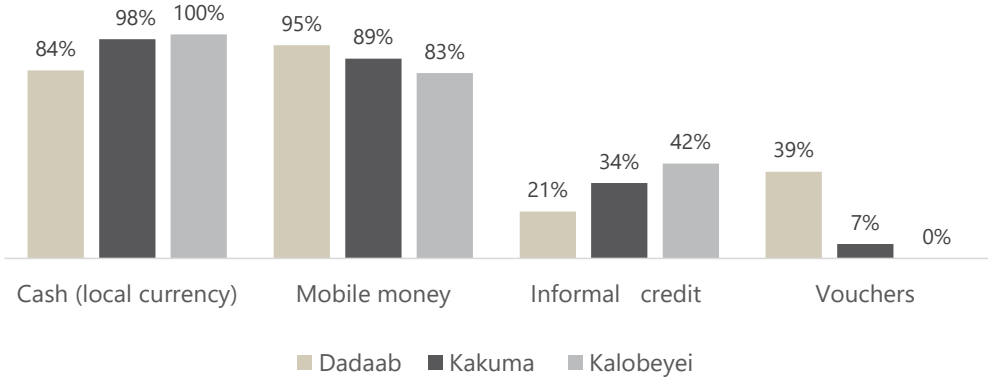
Most reported financial barriers to accessing the marketplace by customers as perceived by vendors in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:[10]



PAYMENT MODALITIES

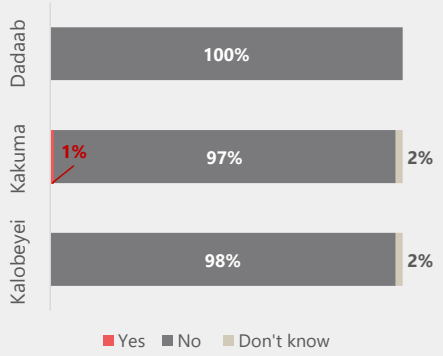
Cash payments in local currency and mobile money remained the most commonly accepted payment modalities. Informal credit was also used by a notable proportion of vendors, particularly in Kalobeyei (42%)[10], while voucher payments were most frequently reported in Dadaab (39%)[10] compared to Kakuma or Kalobeyei.

Most commonly reported accepted payment modalities, per camp:[10]



Social barriers

Proportion of vendors reporting groups of people who sometimes avoided going to the marketplace due to discrimination, exclusion, or feeling unwelcome in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:



Social exclusion was not widely perceived as a major barrier to marketplace access during the reporting period, with social barriers reported by only 1% of vendors in Kakuma's marketplace.

SECURITY ISSUES

In Kakuma, security challenges were more pronounced, with nearly half of vendors (47%) reporting security-related issues. Interviewed vendors cited fears of robbery (34%)[10], violence (24%)[10], and looting (26%)[10]. In Kalobeyei, more than three-quarters of vendors (77%) reported no issues, while some cited concerns related to fear of robbery (10%)[10] and violence (17%)[10].

In Dadaab 90% of interviewed vendors reported no issues. The main concerns cited were fear of robbery (10%)[10] or fear of violence (3%)[10]. Among interviewed vendors, 35% of women and 25% of men reported experiencing security issues in the three months prior to data collection.

MARKET FUNCTIONALITY SCORE (MFS)[12], BY CAMP

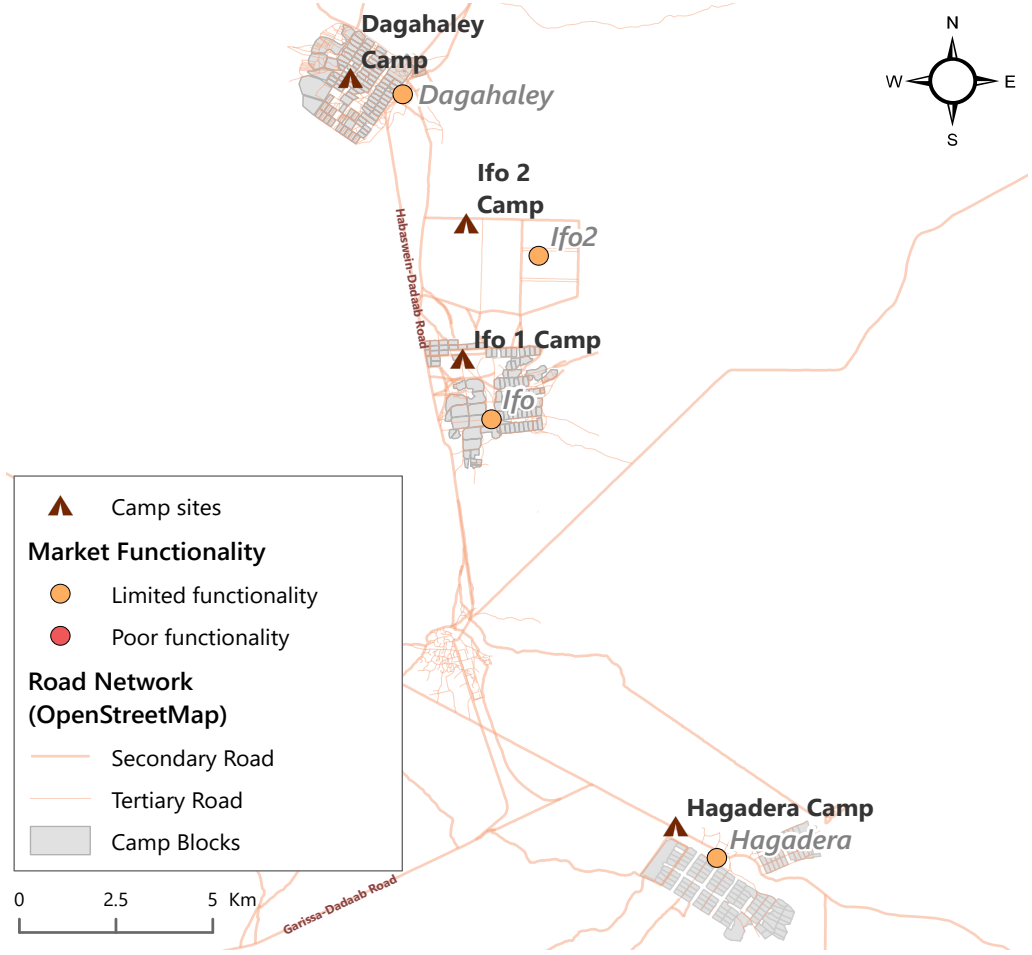


Figure 2: Map of market functionality of assessed markets in Dadaab

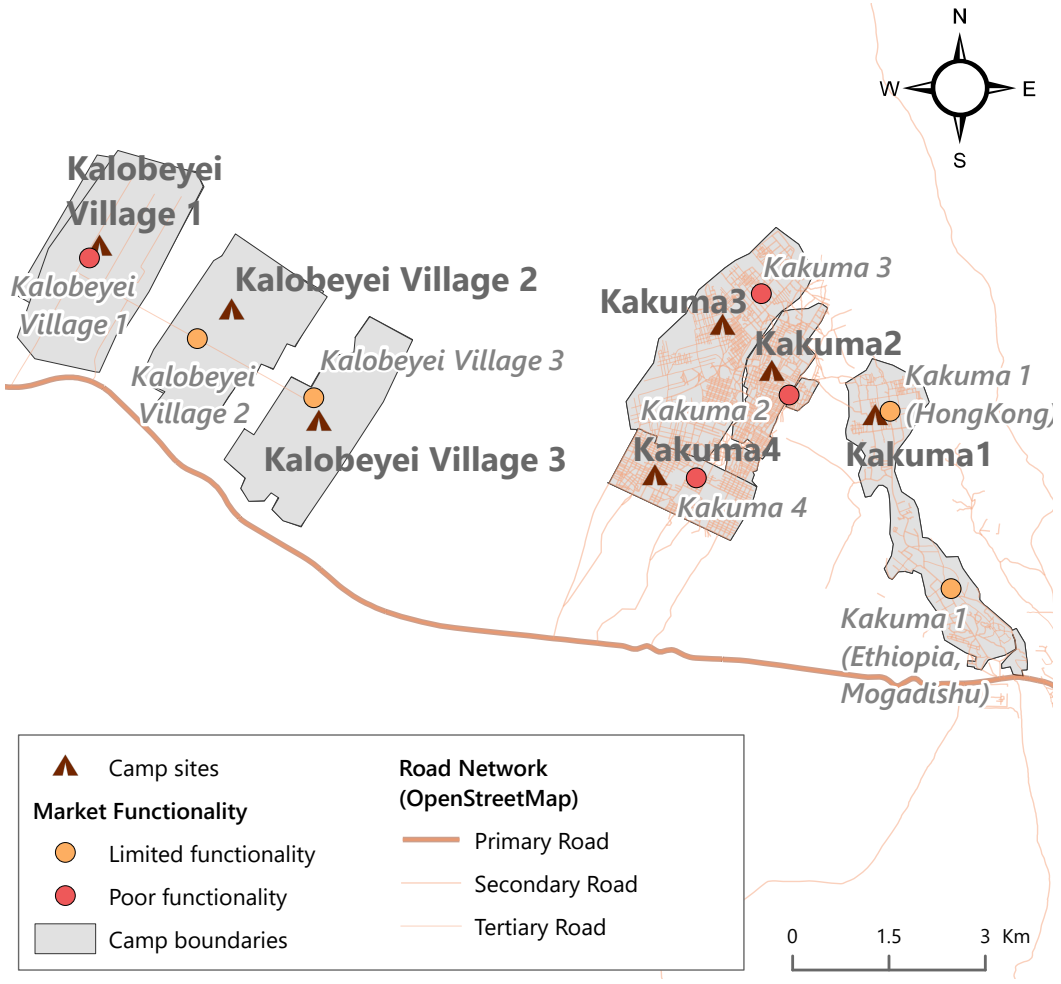


Figure 3: Map of market functionality of assessed markets in Kakuma and Kalobeyei

The Market Functionality Score (MFS)[12] evaluates markets across five key dimensions: accessibility, availability, affordability, resilience, and infrastructure. An analysis of the 12 markets assessed found notable improvements in market functionality compared to the previous quarter. All four markets in Dadaab (Dagahaley, IFO, IFO2, and Hagadera) improved from poor to limited functionality. In Kakuma, both Kakuma 1 markets also improved to limited functionality, while Kakuma 2, Kakuma 3, and Kakuma 4 remained classified as having poor functionality. In Kalobeyei, Village 2 improved to limited functionality, while Villages 1 and 3 maintained their previous classifications of poor and limited functionality, respectively. These improvements are largely attributed to the reported increase in availability of key commodities compared to the previous quarter, underscoring the markets' capacity to meet customer needs. However, it is important to note that "poor functionality" does not mean markets were fully dysfunctional, as they continued to serve local communities.

Affordability emerged as the weakest-performing dimension, with all assessed markets scoring below 50% of the maximum weighted score (15%). This reflects relatively high prices, unpredictability in commodity prices, and significant financial barriers for customers, including limited purchasing power and difficulties affording available goods. Accessibility was also a challenge, particularly in Kakuma and Kalobeyei markets, where the reported physical access barriers and security-related issues further constrained market performance.

Methodology

The JMMI is conducted jointly with KCWG partners. The geographic coverage is determined by the access and capacity of participating partners. The participating agencies collectively developed and reviewed the data collection tools and trained their enumerators on the JMMI methodology and data collection tools. Primary data was collected through interviews with vendors (who sell directly to customers) in the targeted marketplaces. Enumerators were asked to record three prices per item in each targeted marketplace. Data was collected through the Kobo collect mobile application and was uploaded to a secure server for cleaning and analysis.

For each item, the median prices per marketplace were calculated, after which the median of all those locations was calculated to derive the aggregated median prices presented in this factsheet. This methodology is derived to minimise the effects of outliers and differing amounts of data among assessed locations. Outliers are reported only where relevant. Non-numeric indicators of categorical values are calculated as proportions.

Using purposive sampling, 206 vendors were interviewed as key informants (92 Kakuma, 62 Dadaab and 52 from Kalobeyei). At least three prices per item in each of the camps were collected for a total of 36 basic food and NFIs. The interviews were conducted both face-to-face and remotely with vendors selling food and non-food items. Data was collected between 9th and 29th December 2025 across 12 markets (5 in Kakuma, 4 in Dadaab and 3 in Kalobeyei).

In addition to the core commodities regularly monitored, data on shelter-related items will be collected on an annual basis during the first quarter. These items include key household goods such as kitchenware and essential construction materials. This aligns with feedback from stakeholders and partners.

WFP performed daily data quality checks with the partners during and after data collection. This process includes checking for duplicate interviews and numerical outliers (particularly item prices). Data was analysed at the camp level using R statistical software. All findings are indicative and only apply to the period within which data was collected. Moreover, item specifications may vary slightly between locations according to the different brands available, and comparability between the locations assessed is limited.

Challenges and Limitations

- Price data is only indicative of the time frame within which it was collected.
- For some questions, vendors were asked to recall events over a 3-month period. This is a long period of time, which might impact the accuracy of answers.
- The JMMI data collection tool requests the cheapest available type of each item to be recorded, as availability varies across the camps, price comparisons across the camps may be based on slight variants of the same product.
- Some vendors lacked weighing scales and owing to this, an estimation of how much forms a kilogram was done. This was for commodities such as vegetables, onions, and tomatoes. In some cases, the estimation may differ.
- The methodology specifies that three prices should be collected per commodity in each market. However, due to the limited availability of vendors selling certain commodities, it was not possible to collect three prices for some items, such as camel milk, camel meat, and cowpeas, in some markets.

Endnotes

[1] World Food Programme, The Minimum Expenditure Basked (MEB) Analysis, July 2020.

[2] 1 USD-129.71 KES in December, 2025.

[3] Change since the last round of JMMI data collection in September 2025 (Q3 2025).

[4] UNHCR, Kenya Refugee and Asylum seekers population, February 2026.

[5] Price change in Dadaab compared to the last round of JMMI data collection in September 2025 (Q3 2025).

[6] No change is observed in Kakuma and Kalobeyei prices and MEB values, as the previous round reported aggregated results for Kakuma (inclusive of Kalobeyei).

[7] The total percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding up or respondents choosing "I do not know" or indicating "complete unavailability of commodity."

[8] KNBS, Gross County Product, December 2025.

[9] The total percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding up or respondents choosing "Prefer not to answer"or "Do not know".

[10] For multiple answer questions, respondents could select multiple options hence the findings may exceed 100%.

[11] Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWSNET), Food Security Outlook Update, December 2025.

[12] Market functionality score consists of a collection of indicators, drawn from a single vendor-focused assessment for ease of analysis, that capture data on the five different dimensions of market functionality; accessibility, availability, affordability, resilience, and infrastructure. The markets are categorized as having "full functionality", "limited functionality", "poor functionality", or severe issues.

About the Kenya Cash Working Group

The KCWG is a multi-agency, inter-cluster technical working group set up to ensure that cash and voucher assistance (CVA) in Kenya is coordinated, harmonised, and context-specific, and is undertaken in a manner that does not inflict harm or exacerbate vulnerabilities of the affected population. The working group was established to provide an enabling environment for collective learning, operational and technical collaboration. Additionally, develop a common reference point for both national and international actors for the harmonization of multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) across the country. The KCWG is currently co-chaired by the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) and Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS), and the MEB workstream is co-chaired by the World Food Programme (WFP) and REACH Initiative.

Participating agencies

HARAMBEE

National Drought Management Authority NDMA Committed to ending drought emergencies

UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

Kenya Red Cross

IOM UN MIGRATION

WFP World Food Programme

REACH Informing more effective humanitarian action