

Kenya cash consortium response in drought affected ASAL¹ counties

Baringo, Marsabit, Tana river, Turkana counties, Kenya September 2019



Background

Kenya is experiencing a prolonged drought due to below average precipitation from the seasonal short rains (Oct-Dec) in 2018 and 2019 long rains (April-June). The depressed rainfall performance in 2018/19 coming shortly after the 2016/17 drought emergency, has led to the deterioration of food and nutrition security, with about 2.6 million² people in Kenya estimated to be facing acute food insecurity and in need of food, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), and nutrition assistance.

The Kenya Cash Consortium led by ACTED in partnership with Concern Worldwide, Oxfam and IMPACT initiatives, together with PGI, ALDEF, PISP, SAPCONE, PACIDA and TUPADO are implementing an emergency cash assistance programme for the affected populations in the four most affected counties of Baringo, Marsabit, Turkana and Tana river. IMPACT initiatives conducted a baseline assessment in the four counties in order to assess the expenditure patterns and food security status of households (HHs) enrolled for the Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) before the cash transfer and will later conduct post distribution monitoring after cash is transferred.

Methodology

This factsheet presents the main findings of this baseline assessment. The baseline tool was designed by IMPACT initiatives in partnership with ACTED, Oxfam and Concern worldwide.

The baseline tool was combined with the registration tool, as a result, the assessment was carried out on the entire population of interest (the households identified for receiving the unconditional cash transfer) through household interviews. A total of 13,793 HHs were interviewed from 22 August to 7 September 2019. Data was collected during the day via smart phones using Open Data kit (ODK).

Number of HHs interviewed:

Turkana	4,874	
Baringo	3,500	
Tana river	3,413	
Marsabit	2,006	

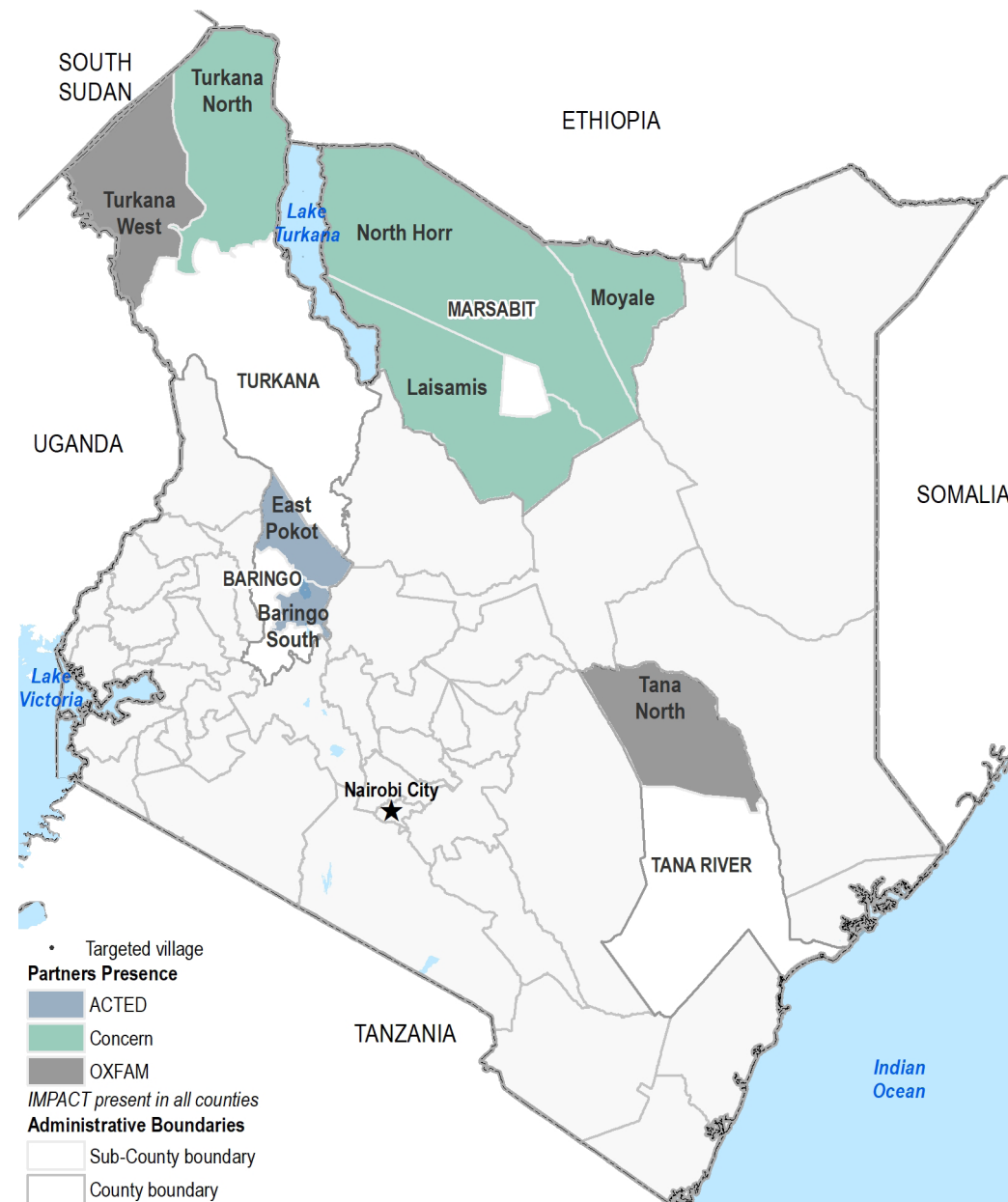
Average household size:

Turkana	8
Tana river	7
Baringo	7
Marsabit	6

1. Arid and semi arid land

2. NDMA long rains food security assessments <https://bit.ly/2nahDCu>

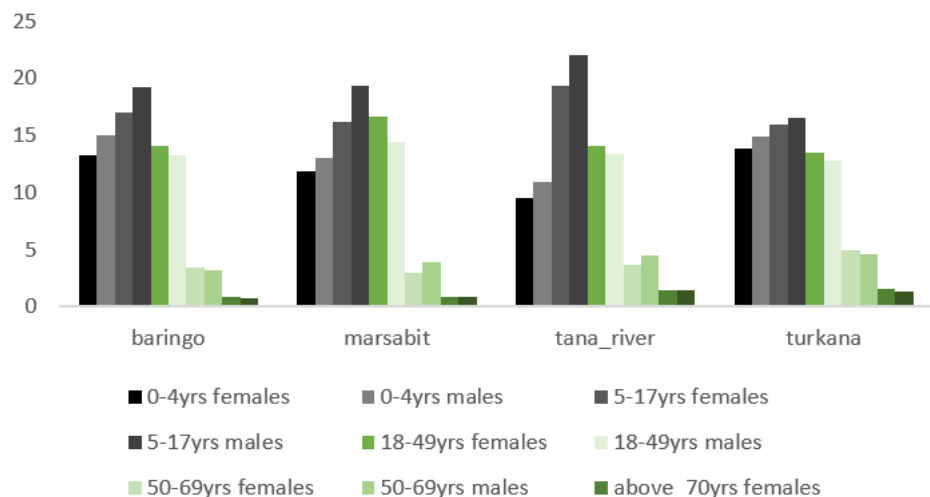
Coverage map





Demographics

% distribution of HH members by age and gender



Profile of head of household:

Baringo:

Man 18-59 years	51%
Woman 18-59 years	45%
Elderly above 59 years	4%



Tana river:

Man 18-59 years	60%
Woman 18-59 years	37%
Elderly above 59 years	3%



Marsabit:

Man 18-59 years	60%
Woman 18-59 years	39%
Elderly above 59 years	1%



Turkana:

Man 18-59 years	63%
Woman 18-59 years	34%
Elderly above 59 years	3%



Persons with specific needs

% of HHs with at least one member having the following top 3 specific needs⁴:

Baringo:

Lactating women	41%
Orphans	13%
Pregnant women	12%

Marsabit:

Lactating women	39%
Orphans	14%
Disabled	11%

Tana river:

Lactating women	28%
Orphans	23%
Disabled	15%

Turkana:

Lactating women	36%
Orphans	30%
Disabled	21%



Livelihoods

In all the counties, the top reported livelihood zone is pastoral, with Marsabit having 89% of the HHs in the pastoral livelihood zone. 31% of HHs in Baringo are in agro-pastoral livelihood zone.

The top reported expenditure across the four counties is food where beneficiaries in Tana river spent an average of 3,474 kes³, Baringo 1,834 kes³, Marsabit 1,4573 kes³ and Turkana 1,364 kes³ in the 30 days prior to data collection.

Main source of income reported by HHs at the time of data collection:

Baringo:

Casual labour	41%
Livestock keeping	23%
Sale of firewood and charcoal	19%

Marsabit:

Livestock keeping	75%
Casual labour	12%
Fishing	5%

Tana

Livestock keeping	37%
Farming	22%
Casual labour	19%

Turkana:

Sale of firewood and charcoal	38%
Livestock keeping	22%
Casual labour	16%

Livelihood coping strategy (LCS)⁶:

Livelihood Coping Strategy Index (LCSI) measures the reliance on livelihood-based coping mechanisms to cope with inadequate access to food by evaluating the frequency and severity of coping behaviours that HHs engage in when faced with food shortages.

Top 3 reported LCS in the 30 days prior to data collection⁵:

Baringo:

Purchase food on credit	52%
Borrow money for food	50%
Beg for food	34%

Marsabit:

Purchase food on credit	53%
Borrow money for food	33%
Beg for food	30%

Tana river:

Purchase food on credit	46%
Sell last female animals	22%
Borrow money for food	17%

Turkana:

Purchase food on credit	30%
Beg for food	27%
Borrow money for food	18%
Withdraw children from school	18%

3. 1 USD=103.82822 Kes in August 2019 <http://ec.europa.eu/budg/inforeuro/index#!/converter>

4. HHs could report several vulnerabilities

5. HHs could report several livelihood coping strategies

6. For more information on food security indicators (FCS, CSI, HDDS) please see: <https://bit.ly/2nmLWGV>

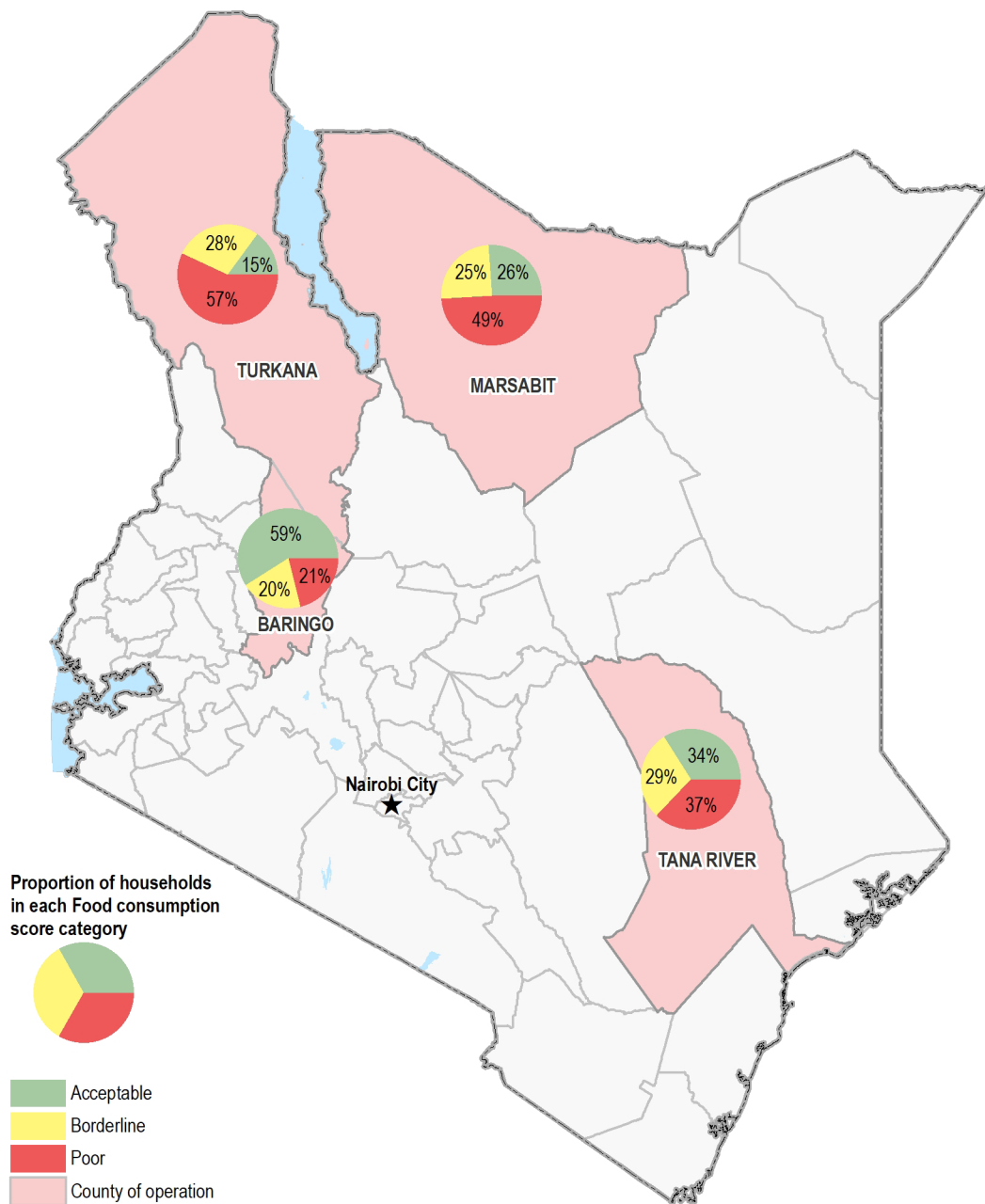


Food security

Food Consumption Score (FCS)⁶:

FCS measures how well a HH is eating by evaluating the frequency at which differently weighted food groups are eaten by a HH in the seven days prior to data collection.

In all the four counties, more than 70% of the HHs were found to have a poor or borderline FCS.



Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS)⁶:

HDDS measures the quality of a HH's diet by evaluating the variety of food groups consumed by a HH in the seven days prior to data collection. A lower HDDS means that the HHs consume less diverse meals while a higher HDDS means that the HHs consume more diversified meals.

In Marsabit, 99% of HHs were found to have a low or medium HDDS.

