Overview

The **ASAL Humanitarian Network's (AHN)** multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) programme provides two rounds of multi-purpose cash transfers (MPCTs) to vulnerable populations in dry spell-affected counties in Kenya. This response is primarily funded by Oxfam and consists of six implementing local partner non-governmental organisations (NGOs): TUPADO, WASDA, ALDEF, PGI, PACIDA SWT, SND and MIDP[1]. The AHN will be distributing two rounds of MPCTs between November 2021 and January 2022, to selected beneficiary households across seven counties in Kenya.

To monitor the ongoing impact of the UCTs on the beneficiary population, IMPACT Initiatives provides impartial third-party monitoring and evaluation. IMPACT conducted a baseline assessment prior to the first round of transfers, which will be followed by a midline assessment after the first round, and an endline assessment after the second & last round of transfers. This factsheet presents **key findings from the baseline assessment.**

Methodology

A total of 4991 households received the first round of MPCT in November 2021. A census approach was taken for the baseline assessment, aiming to cover all beneficiary households in the week prior to the first receipt of the assistance. The midline and endline assessments will be conducted with a regionally representative sample of MPCT beneficiary households two weeks after the first and last disbursement. The population included beneficiaries in all counties where the MPCT programme was implemented: Isiolo, Garissa, Wajir, Samburu, Turkana, Tana River, & Marsabit. The county-wise sample breakdown is shown in Annex 1.

This baseline factsheet provides findings from **4091 beneficiary households**, who were surveyed through a structured questionnaire between 6th and 15th November 2021[2].

Challenges & Limitations:

- Baseline data collection was conducted simultaneously with the registration of beneficiaries, which increased the duration of the assessment.

- Daily data checking and coverage tracking was affected by poor internet connection in some areas, which made it difficult to follow-up with the enumerators engaged in the field.

- Data on household expenditure was based on a 30-day recall period; a considerably long duration over which to expect households to remember expenditures accurately. This might have negatively impacted the accuracy of reporting on the expenditure indicators.

Beneficiary Caseload Profile

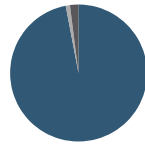## Livelihood Zone

% of households in each livelihood zone:

Livelihood Zone	%
Pastoral	**96.8%**
Semi-Urban	**2.6%**
Agro-Pastoral	0.5%
Riverine	0.1%
Urban	0.1%

Demographics

% of households by age and gender of the head of household:

Age Category	Female heads	Male heads
70+	2.0%	4.1%
50-69	9.5%	14.8%
18-49	31.7%	37.8%

- Female heads of household
- Male heads of household
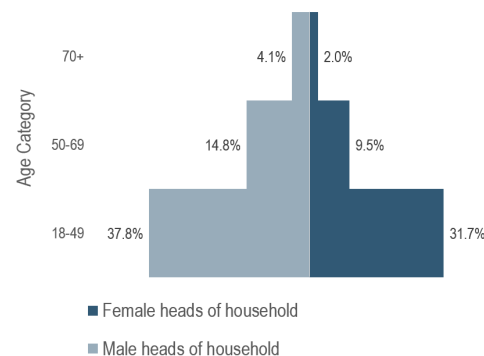
Average household size:	7.0
Average age of the head of household:	42.8

Locations Covered

Turkana, Marsabit, Samburu, Isiolo, Wajir, Garissa, Tana River

- Counties assessed
- Not covered by the programme

Income & Expenditure

Income Source

Most commonly reported primary sources of household income at the time of data collection:

1 · **41.2%** · Livestock
2 · **22.4%** · Firewood/charcoal sales
3 · **17.7%** · Casual labour
4 · **4.4%** · Remittances
5 · **12.4%** · Others

Average reported total household expenditure over a month	**2927 KES**
Average reported total household income over a month	**2873 KES**

Expenditure Share

Most commonly reported expenditure categories and average amount spent (in KES) per category per household in the month prior to data collection:

Food (**1806 KES**[2])	51.8%
Debt repayment (**296 KES**)	11.1%
WASH items (**294 KES**)	7.0%
Education (**195 KES**)	6.9%
Medical expenses (**186 KES**)	6.4%

Spending Decisions

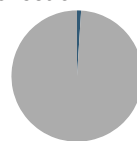**% of households by reported primary spending decisions maker:**

Male	**35.7%**
Joint decision-making	**45.8%**
Female	**18.5%**

Spending Conflict

% of households reporting conflict or problems within the household as a result of disagreement on how to spend money during the 6 months prior to data collection:

Yes	**0.5%**
No	**99.5%**

Dry Spell Effects

Dry Spell Impact

% of households reporting their community having been impacted by the dry spell in the 6 months prior to data collection:

Yes	**96.5%**
No	**3.5%**
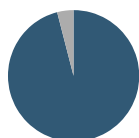
Crop Losses

Of households reporting having been impacted by the dry spell, % of households reporting facing any crop losses due to the dry spell:

Yes	**30.1%**
No	**69.8%**

Conflict

Of households reporting having been impacted by the dry spell, % of households reporting conflicts in and between communities due to the dry spell:

Yes	**55.9%**
No	**44.1%**
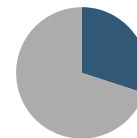
Rangeland Losses

Of households reporting having been impacted by the dry spell, % of households reporting facing any rangeland losses due to the dry

Yes	**84.4%**
No	**15.6%**

Key Impact Indicators

The key indicators include: Livelihood Coping Strategies Index (LCSI), Food Consumption Score (FCS), Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) and reduced Coping Strategies Index (rCSI).
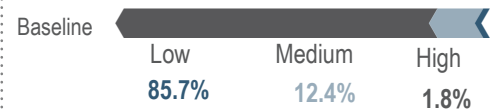
FCS[3]

% of households by FCS category:

Baseline

Poor	Borderline	Acceptable
72.2%	**16.0%**	**11.8%**

Average number of meals consumed by household members per day:	**1.5**

HDDS[4]

% of households by HDDS category:

Baseline

Low	Medium	High
85.7%	**12.4%**	**1.8%**

Average HDDS per household:	**2.9 (low)**

rCSI[5]

Most commonly reported strategies employed to cope with a lack of food or lack of money to buy food in the week prior to data collection, by average number of days these strategies had been employed:

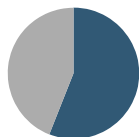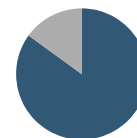|	
Reduced the number of meals eaten per day	1.9
Relied on less preferred, less expensive food	1.8
Reduced portion size of meals	1.7
Borrowed food or relied on help from friends or relatives	1.4
Restricted adults' consumption so children can eat	1.0
Average CSI score per household:	**11.2**

Water, Sanitation, & Hygeine (WASH)[6]

Reported main source of water for drinking and other household uses during the dry season:

1. **34.7%** Tanker truck
2. **30.2%** Tubewell
3. **9.2%** Public tap
4. **8.1%** Unprotected dug well
5. **5.5%** Water kiosk
6. **12.4%** Others

Reported main hand-washing materials used by household members:

Water	**58.7%**
Water & soap	27.1%
Water & ash	**14.2%**
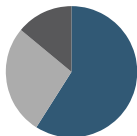
Reported distance between the water source and the household's dwelling place:

|	
Under 1km	**45.8%**
1km - 5km	43.0%
5km - 10km	8.4%
11km - 15km	2.4%
16km - 20km	**0.3%**
21km & above	**0.1%**
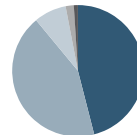
Of the households who reported having a toilet/latrine, average distance between the toilet/latrine and the household's dwelling place:

Less than 30m	**61.0%**
30m - 50m	32.1%
50m - 100m	5.2%
100m - 500m	**2.4%**

Average reported total amount of water (in litres) consumed by the household for drinking and cooking in the 24 hours prior to data collection: **46.2**

Average reported total amount of water (in litres) consumed by the household for personal hygiene in the 24 hours prior to data collection: **27.4**

Average reported total amount of drinking water (in litres) collected by households on a daily basis: **51.9**

% of households reporting believing that the location of water point is safe:

Yes	**81.3%**
No	18.7%
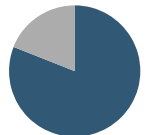
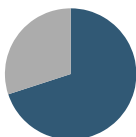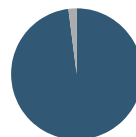**% of households reporting believing that the water collected is safe for consumption:**

Yes	**71.4%**
No	28.6%
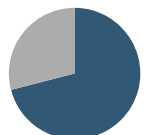
% of households reporting having a toilet/latrine:

Yes	**29.7%**
No	70.3%
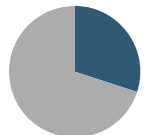
% of households reporting all members wash their hands after using the toilet/latrine

Yes	**29.7%**
No	70.3%

Protection

% of households reporting themself or someone in the community had been consulted by the NGO about their needs:

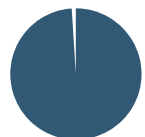|	
Yes	**70.0%**
No	30.0%
PNA[7]	0.0%

% of households reporting having paid, or knowing someone who paid, to get on the beneficiary list:

Yes	**0.1%**
No	99.8%
PNA	0.1%

% of households reporting being aware of any option to contact the agency if they had any questions, complaints, or problems receiving the assistance:

Yes	**92.9%**
No	7.1%

% of households reporting feeling safe going through the programme's selection & registration processes:

Yes	**98.1%**
No	1.9%
PNA	0.0%

% of households reporting feeling that they have been treated with respect by NGO staff upto the time of data collection:

Yes	**98.1%**
No	1.9%
PNA	0.0%

% of households by their preferred method of receiving assistance:

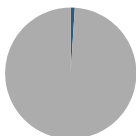|	
Mobile money	**99.3%**
Hawala	0.5%
Cash vouchers	0.1%

% of households reporting being aware of someone in the community being pressured or coerced to exchange non-monetary favours to get on the beneficiary list:
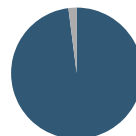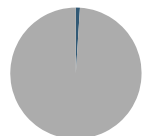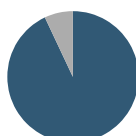
Yes	**0.0%**
No	99.8%
PNA	0.2%

% of households reporting believing that some households were unfairly selected:

Yes	**0.3%**
No	99.7%
PNA	0.0%

Analysis, feedback, and potential issues to follow up on:

When asked whether the household had been able to access enough money to cover their basic needs (including food, clothing, and shelter) in the 30 days prior to data collection, the majority (65.8%) of households reported never having had enough money, while 28.9% reported almost never having had enough money. Only 0.4% replied that they always or almost always having had enough money, while 0.4% preferred not to answer the question.

The majority (73.6%) of all households expected the next harvest of their most important cropt to be below average. Moreover, almost all households (99.88%) reported believing that their livestock was in poor condition, the majority of whom (92.2%) ascribed these poor livestock conditions to the dry spell.

Among those households who reported their community had been affected by the dry spell (96.6%), a majority (55.9%) also reported conflict in and between communities due to effects of the dry spell. Among these households the primary cited reasons for such conflict were water scarcity (89.9%) and limited pasture land (85.3%).

There was substantial variation in average household income at the county level. Average household income in Samburu (882 KES) and Turkana (1129 KES) counties were considerably lower than the national average (2723 KES).

On food security status, Tana River (46.9% acceptable FCS) and Isiolo counties (26.1% acceptable FCS) had considerably better food consumption score than the national average (11.8% acceptable FCS).

End Notes

1. The local partner NGOs are Turkana Pastoralist Development Organization (TUPADO), Wajir South Development Association (WASDA), Arid Lands Development Focus (ALDEF), Pastoralist Girls Initiative (PGI), Pastoralist Community Initiative and Development Assistance (PACIDA), Samburu Women Trust (SWT), Strategies for Northern Development (SND) and Merti Integrated Development Programme (MIDP).
2. For the baseline assessment, IMPACT aimed to conduct a census of all beneficiary households. While the total amount of beneficiary households was 4991, 4147 households were interviewed due to non-response. Eventually, 4091 surveys were kept after data cleaning.
3. USD = 113.1 KES as on 17th December 2021.
4. The Food Consumption Score (FCS) is a measure of the food intake frequency, dietary diversity, and nutritional intake. It is calculated using the frequency of a household's consumption of different food groups during the 7 days prior to data collection weighted according to nutritional importance.
5. The Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) is a measure of the number of unique food groups consumed by household members in the 24 hours prior to data collection.
6. The Reduced Coping Strategies Index (rCSI) is a measure of reliance on food consumption based negative coping strategies to cope with lack of food in the seven days prior to data collection.
7. WASH kits were distributed alongside the cash transfers in the four counties of Garissa, Tana River, Wajir, and Turkana. The WASH indicators were asked in the survey only in these 4 counties and are not represenatitive of the entire population surveyed.
8. PNA is the abbreviation for "Preferred not to answer".

Annex 1 - Sample Breakdown

County	Total households
Wajir	612
Tana river	582
Garissa	612
Isiolo	356
Marsabit	514
Samburu	680
Turkana	735
Total	4091

Annex 2: County breakdown of key indicators

		Garissa	Isiolo	Tana	Wajir	Samburu	Marsabit	Turkana	Average
Food Consumption Score (FCS)	Poor	55.2%	46.9%	36.4%	83.8%	89.6%	80.9%	93.0%	72.1%
	Borderline	34.8%	27.0%	16.7%	14.5%	10.1%	13.4%	4.0%	16.0%
	Acceptable	10.0%	26.1%	46.9%	1.6%	0.3%	5.6%	2.9%	11.8%
Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS)	Low	82.4%	81.5%	61.9%	84.6%	97.8%	94.2%	92.8%	85.7%
	Medium	15.0%	14.0%	31.4%	15.4%	2.2%	5.4%	6.8%	12.4%
	High	2.6%	4.5%	6.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.4%	1.8%
Average Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)		8.2	8.7	8.9	13.4	9.0	15.1	14.0	11.2
Average household income in KES in the month prior to data collection		3983	2585	3995	4464	883	3905	1129	2873
Average household total expenditure in KES in the month prior to data collection		3686	3185	3922	4354	875	4335	1238	2927
Average proportion of total expenditure spent on food in the month prior to data collection		65.2%	53.6%	67.9%	66.0%	56.6%	47.3%	72.8%	61.30%