

The Kenya Cash Consortium's Locally led Multi-Purpose Cash Response to Affected Communities in Kenya

September, 2023

Baringo, Garissa and Tana River Counties

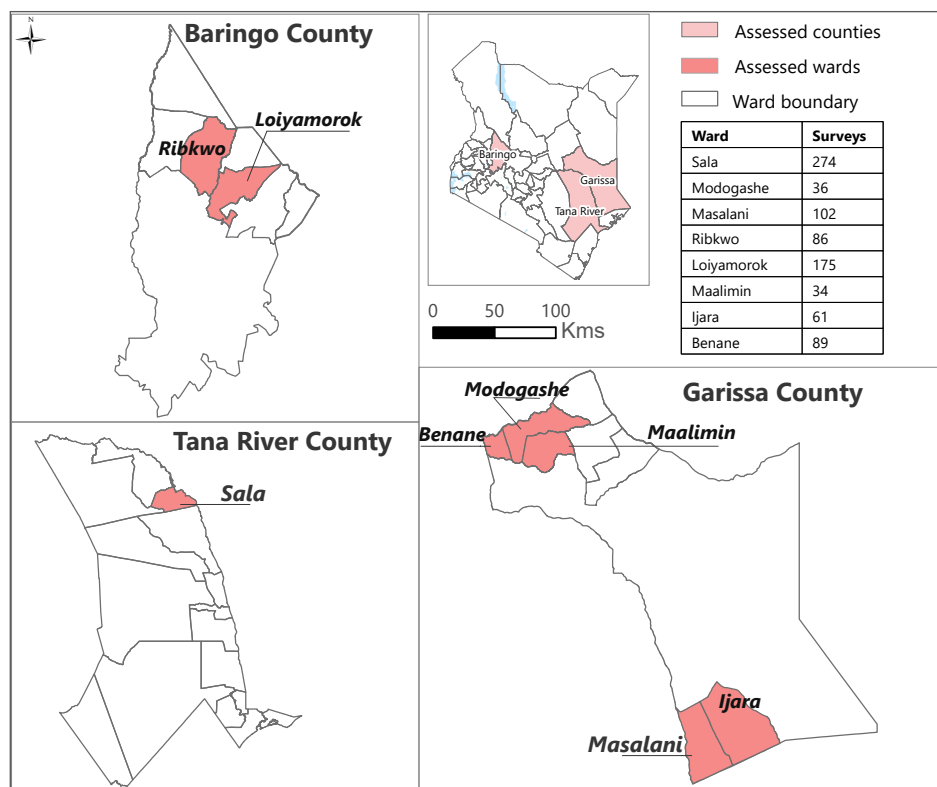
KEY MESSAGES

- **The average monthly expenditure (KES 8,114), was higher than the average monthly income (KES 6,538).** As a result, 95% of households (HHs) reportedly had debt at the time data collection. These HHs are likely to spend the cash transfer on debt repayment.
- **In Baringo County, majority of HHs (83%) were found to have a poor food consumption score (FCS)** suggesting limited dietary diversity and inadequate access to food. Close to three-quarters of HHs (72%) were found to engage in emergency-level coping strategies.
- **In Garissa County, half of the HHs (52%) were found to have borderline FCS** with a majority (70%) considered having used stress-level livelihood coping strategy (LCS) and that HHs relied mainly on purchasing food on credit (92%).
- **In Tana River County, 30% of HHs were found to have a poor FCS, with a majority (64%) of HHs resorting to using stress-level LCS.**

CONTEXT & RATIONALE

According to the September 2023 National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) drought bulletin, Baringo and Garissa counties were classified in the normal drought phase, while Tana River was under an alert drought phase.¹ Despite improvements in the drought classification, recovery from the five failed rainy seasons is expected to be gradual.² Moreover, the Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD) has issued an alert forecasting above-average rainfall across most of the country during the October-November-December (OND) 2023 'short rains' season.³ This forecast anticipates hazards such as floods in Garissa and likelihood of landslides in Baringo, particularly areas prone to these incidents. The expected adverse impacts include displacement and the spread of water and vector-borne diseases.⁴

ASSESSMENT COVERAGE



ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

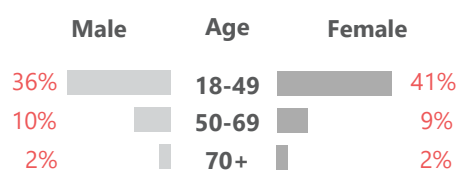
In response to the humanitarian needs of the affected communities in the Arid and Semi-Arid land (ASAL), the Kenya Cash Consortium (KCC) will implement a multi-purpose cash response through mobile money unconditional cash transfers (UCTs). The aim is to address economic root causes. This baseline aims to determine income and expenditure patterns, food consumption, and coping strategies before the first cash transfer.

METHODOLOGY

A simple random sampling approach was used for a representative sample of the beneficiary HHs, with a 95% confidence level and a 5% margin of error. The sample size was 857 HHs (322 HHs in Garissa, 274 HHs in Tana River and 261 HHs in Baringo). For more information on the methodology, please refer to page [Z](#).

DEMOGRAPHICS

% of HHs by Head of Household (HoHH) age and gender:



The interviews were conducted with more female (63%) respondents than male (37%). A slightly higher proportion of HHs were reportedly headed by women (52%), with 48% of HHs reportedly headed by men.

The Average HH Demographics per County:

County	Average age of the HoHH	Average HH size
Baringo	37	8
Garissa	44	7
Tana River	40	7

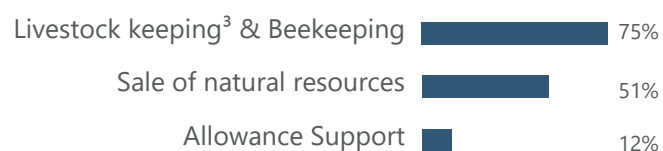
HOUSEHOLD INCOME

The average reported income for HHs (99%) that received some income in the 30 days prior to data collection was 6,538 KES. Most HHs in the ASALs reportedly depend on pastoralism as a primary source of income, with higher proportions in Baringo (75%) and Garissa (57%) counties.

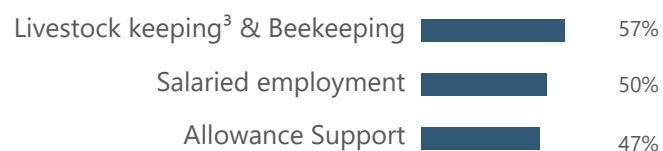
Average HH income (KES) in the 30 days prior to data collection, per county:

County	HH Income (KES)
Baringo	KES 5,216
Garissa	KES 7,652
Tana River	KES 5,571

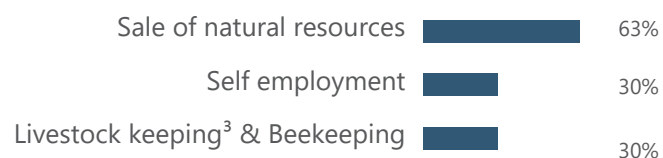
Top 3 reported primary sources of HH income in the 30 days prior to data collection for Baringo:¹ (n=261)²



Top 3 reported primary sources of HH income in the 30 days prior to data collection for Garissa:¹ (n=320)²



Top 3 reported primary sources of HH income in the 30 days prior to data collection for Tana River:¹ (n=264)²



HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE

The average reported expenditure for HHs (100%) that had spent some money in the 30 days prior to data collection was 8,114 KES.

Finding suggest that food constituted the primary expense for assessed HHs, as HHs reported that 48% of their average monthly expenditure was on food and 12% was spent on repayment of debt, which was used for the purpose of purchasing food.

Average HH expenses (KES) in the 30 days prior to data collection, per county:

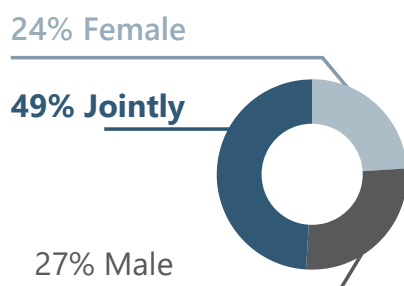
County	HH Expenditure (KES)
Baringo	KES 6,806
Garissa	KES 8,972
Tana River	KES 7,645

Most commonly reported expenditure categories and proportion of amount spent per category per HH that reported spending in that category in the 30 days prior to data collection:¹

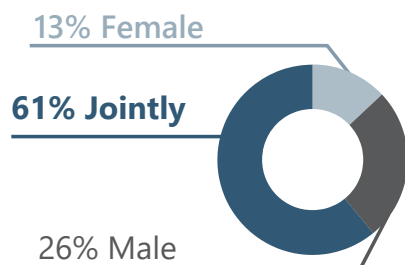
HH Expense	Baringo	Garissa	Tana river
Food (99% of HHs)	53%	41%	57%
Debt repayment for food (77% of HHs)	11%	14%	9%
Debt repayment for non-food items (58% of HHs)	3%	8%	4%
Medical expenses (69% of HHs)	8%	8%	5%
Education (school fees, uniform) (67% of HHs)	7%	7%	6%
WASH items (water, soap) (88% of HHs)	3%	6%	7%

DECISION MAKING

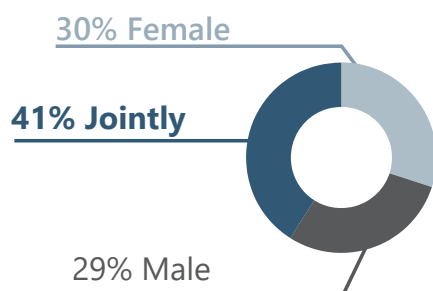
% of HHs in Baringo County by reported primary decision-maker on how to spend the HH's income in the 30 days prior baseline data collection:



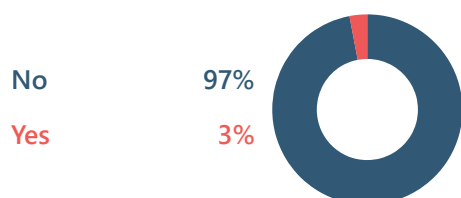
% of HHs in Garissa County by reported primary decision-maker on how to spend the HH's income in the 30 days prior baseline data collection:



% of HHs in Tana River County by reported primary decision-maker on how to spend the HH's income in the 30 days prior baseline data collection:



% of HHs reporting experiencing conflict on how to spend HHs income in the 30 days prior to data collection:



A majority of HHs (97%) reported not experiencing any problem in the HHs over how to spend money. Among those reporting experiencing problems (n=24)¹, the most cited problems faced across all assessed counties were; verbal violence (n= 14)¹ followed by denial of basic needs within the HHs (n=8)¹.

HOUSEHOLD DEBTS

A majority of HHs (95%) reported having debt at the time of data collection. The average amount of debt was 14,723 KES per HH.

Average HH debt (KES) at the time of data collection, per county:

County	HH Debt (KES)
Baringo	KES 2,673
Garissa	KES 22,522
Tana River	KES 10,776

Top 3 reported reasons for taking debt in Baringo:²

Accessing food	98%
Paying for healthcare	55%
Paying for education	27%

Top 3 reported reasons for taking debt in Garissa:²

Accessing food	99%
Paying for other basic needs	62%
Paying for healthcare	43%

Top 3 reported reasons for taking debt in Tana River:²

Accessing food	100%
Paying for healthcare	58%
Paying for education	53%

HOUSEHOLD SAVINGS

94%

of HHs reported having no savings. The average amount of savings found for HHs with any savings (n=61)¹ was 1,679 KES.

Among the HHs that reported having any savings, Baringo County (n=29)¹ had an average savings of 1,559 KES while Tana River County (n=31)¹ had an average savings of 1,781 KES. In Garissa, a single HH reported having savings of 2,000 KES at the time of data collection.

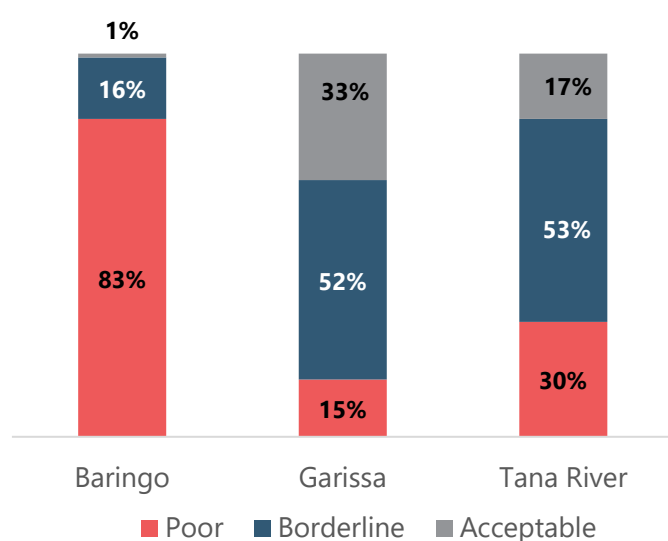
KEY INDICATORS ON FOOD SECURITY



FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE (FCS)¹

In Baringo, the majority of the HHs (83%) were found to have poor FCS, while in Tana River nearly a third (30%) of HHs and in Garissa 15% of HHs had poor FCS. This would likely be worse if HHs were not engaging in negative coping strategies. The high proportion of HHs having poor FCS in Baringo shows high levels of food consumption gaps experienced. HHs reportedly consumed an average of 2 meals during the 24 hours prior to the time of data collection.

% of HHs by FCS category at the time of data collection, per county:



REDUCED COPING STRATEGY INDEX (RCSI)²

The average rCSI for HHs was found to be 17.84 in Baringo, 11.03 in Tana River and 10.02 in Garissa. This indicates the use of negative coping mechanisms to cope with lack of adequate food such as reducing the number of meals eaten in a day and borrowing food.

The types of negative consumption-based coping strategies that were reported in the 7 days prior to data collection were:

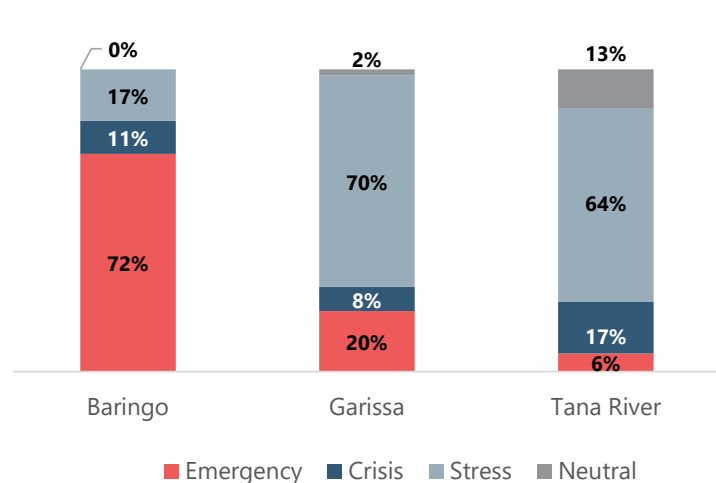
Strategies employed	Baringo	Garissa	Tana river
Rely on less preferred and less expensive foods	2	1	2
Reduce/Limit portion sizes at mealtimes	3	2	2
Borrow food, or rely on help from a friend or relative	2	1	1
Reduction in quantity consumed by adults or mothers for young children	2	1	1
Reduce the number of meals eaten in a day	2	2	2



LIVELIHOOD COPING STRATEGIES (LCS)³

Almost all (96%) of the HHs were found to be engaging in either emergency, crisis or stress level LCS. Notably, in Baringo, a majority (72%) of HHs were engaging in emergency-level LCS. The most commonly reported reasons for HHs adopting LCS in the 30 days prior to data collection were to access food (96%), health (52%) and education (41%). HHs are likely to exhaust their limited resources to afford basic needs which undermine their overall resilience.

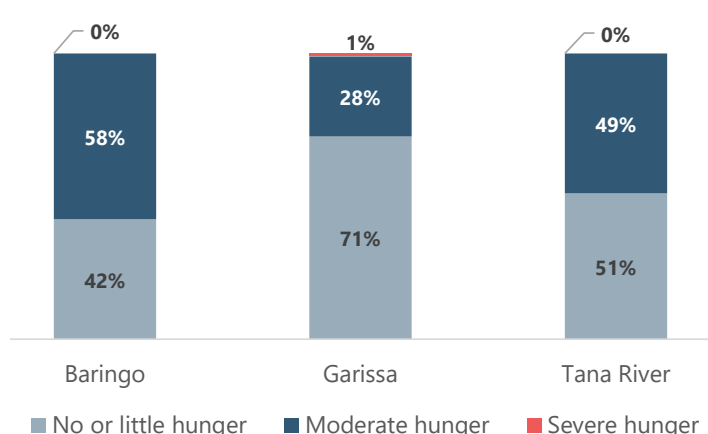
% of HHs by LCS category at the time of data collection, per county:



HOUSEHOLD HUNGER SCORE (HHS)⁴

HHs were found to be experiencing moderate hunger in the 30 days prior to data collection; Baringo (58%), Tana River (49%) and Garissa (28%). This indicates that HHs lacked adequate food. Almost half (49%) of the HHs reported HH members have resorted to sleep hungry due to lack of enough foods.

% of HHs by HHS category at the time of data collection, per county:



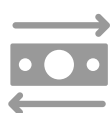
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING

% of HHs that reported on their economic well-being at the time of data collection, per county:

	Baringo	Garissa	Tana river
We are not meeting our basic needs	17%	21%	15%
We are rarely meeting our basic needs	81%	66%	76%
We are mostly meeting our basic needs	2%	11%	9%
We are always meeting our basic needs	0%	2%	0%

% of HHs that reported how they expect a crisis or shock would affect their HHs well-being at the time of data collection, per county:

	Baringo	Garissa	Tana river
Would be completely unable to meet basic needs for surviving	78%	35%	77%
Would meet some basic needs	22%	56%	12%
Mostly fine, regardless of these events	0%	8%	10%
Completely fine, regardless of these events	0%	0.3%	1%
Do not know	0%	0.3%	0%



PREFERRED METHOD OF ASSISTANCE

All the HHs reported that their preferred method of receiving assistance was through mobile money as opposed to food or cash vouchers.

The top reported reasons for preferring mobile money were that it was easily accessible (98%)¹ and offers more flexibility time to purchase (33%)¹.

ACCESS TO MARKETS

Reported average time taken by HHs to travel on foot to the nearest marketplace:

	Baringo	Garissa	Tana River
Less than 15 minutes	1%	28%	12%
Between 15 and 29 minutes	12%	37%	18%
Between 30 and 59 minutes	23%	26%	8%
Between 1 and 2 hours	45%	7%	24%
More than 2 hours	19%	2%	37%

PHYSICAL OR SOCIAL BARRIERS IN ACCESSING MARKETS

% of HHs that reported having any physical or social barriers in accessing markets, per county, at the time of data collection:



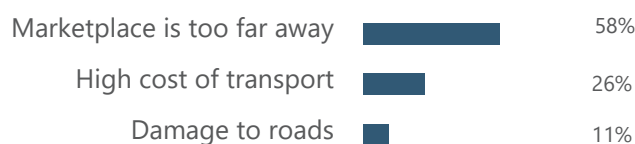
The top 3 physical or social barriers to consistently accessing marketplaces in Baringo County:¹



The top 3 physical or social barriers to consistently accessing marketplaces in Garissa County:¹



The top 3 physical or social barriers to consistently accessing marketplaces in Tana river County:¹



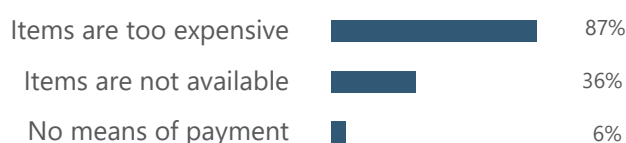
FINANCIAL BARRIERS IN ACCESSING MARKETS

Most HHs (79%) encountered financial difficulties when purchasing essential items in the marketplaces, particularly in Baringo county, as reported by 97% of HHs. The most commonly reported challenge faced was the high prices of the commodities (75%)¹. Another challenge faced was the unavailability of the items in the markets (28%)¹.

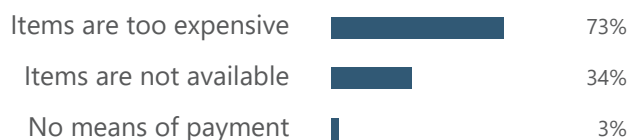
% of HHs that reported having any financial barriers, per county, at the time of data collection:



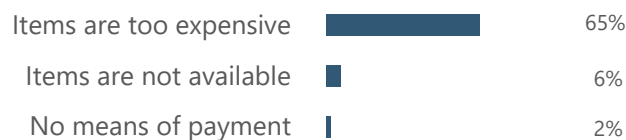
The top 3 financial barriers to consistently accessing marketplaces in Baringo County:¹



The top 3 physical or social barriers to consistently accessing marketplaces in Garissa County:¹



The top 3 physical or social barriers to consistently accessing marketplaces in Tana river County:¹



AWARENESS OF OPTIONS TO CONTACT THE AGENCY FOR QUESTIONS OR ANY PROBLEMS:

Awareness of options to contact the agency for questions or any problems by county:¹

	Baringo	Garissa	Tana River
NGO staff	59%	60%	56%
A dedicated NGO hotline	28%	39%	11%
A dedicated NGO desk	3%	26%	20%
Not aware of any option	21%	16%	27%

ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS

The accountability to affected populations is measured through the use of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). These KPIs have been put in place by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO). The aim is to ensure that humanitarian actors consider the safety, dignity and rights of individuals, groups and affected populations when carrying out humanitarian responses.

Respondents were asked if they felt safe throughout the selection process, if they were treated with respect by the NGO staff during the intervention, and if they perceived that there were any HHs that were unfairly selected to receive cash assistance.

Proportion of HHs reporting on key performance indicators (KPI):

	Baringo	Garissa	Tana River
Programming was safe	100%	100%	100%
Cash assistance is appropriate to HHs needs	100%	88%	97%
No coercion during registration	98%	100%	100%
Programming was respectful	100%	100%	100%
No unfair selection	100%	100%	100%
Community was consulted	55%	59%	47%
Average KPI Score	96%	96%	92%

CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS

- Data on household expenditure was based on a 30-day recall period; a considerably long period of time over which to expect households to remember expenditures accurately.
- Due to the length, complexity, and phone-based nature of the interview, respondents were prone to survey fatigue, which potentially affected the accuracy of their responses.

METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

The baseline survey collected data on the HHs' demographics, overall food security situation, income, expenditure, overall well-being, as well as their perceptions of whether the humanitarian assistance offered was delivered in a safe, accessible, accountable, and participatory manner. The targeted HHs were randomly selected from a list of registered beneficiaries. For sampling, a simple random sampling approach was used to have a representative

sample of the beneficiary HHs, with a 95% confidence level and a 5% margin of error. Out of the total 2,564 targeted beneficiary HHs, a sample of 857 HHs were interviewed. Data was collected between 22nd and 26th of September, 2023. The baseline survey was conducted remotely through mobile phone calls and data entered in open data kit (ODK). The data was then analysed using R software.

ENDNOTES

Page 1

¹ National Drought Early Warning Bulletin by NDMA, September 2023

² IPC acute food insecurity and malnutrition analysis, September 2023

³ Climate outlook for October-December 2023 Short-rains season by KMD, September 2023

⁴ El Niño, Positive Indian Ocean Dipole Forecast and Humanitarian Impact, October 2023

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¹ For multiple answer questions, respondents could select multiple options hence the findings may exceed 100%.

² Sample size n is the number of HHs in the given sample population.

³ Livestock keeping is the rearing of animals such as cattle, dairy cows, sheep, goats, camel often for their products such as meat, milk, eggs and wool.

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¹ Sample size n is the number of HHs in the given sample population.

² For multiple answer questions, respondents could select multiple options hence the findings may exceed 100%.

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¹ The Food Consumption Score (FCS) measures how well a household is eating by evaluating the frequency at which differently weighted food groups are consumed by a household in the seven days before data collection. Only foods consumed in the home are counted in this type of indicator. The FCS is used to classify households into three groups: those with a poor FCS, those with a borderline FCS, and those HHs with an acceptable FCS.

² The Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) is an indicator used to understand the frequency and severity of change in food consumption behaviours in the 7 days before data collection when households are faced with food shortage.

³ The Livelihood Coping Strategy (LCS) is measured to better try understand longer-term household coping capacities. The household's livelihood and economic security are determined by the HHs income, expenditures, and assets. The LCS is used to classify households into four groups: Households using emergency, crisis, stress, or neutral coping strategies. The use of emergency, crisis or stress-level livelihoods-based coping strategies typically reduces households' overall resilience and assets, increasing the likelihood of food insecurity.

⁴ The Household Hunger Scale (HHS) is an indicator used to measure the scale of households' food deprivation 30 days before data collection. It measures the frequency of occurrence as (rarely 1-2 times, sometimes 3-10 times, and often >10 times).

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¹ For multiple answer questions, respondents could select multiple options hence the findings may exceed 100%.

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¹ For multiple answer questions, respondents could select multiple options hence the findings may exceed 100%.

Annex 1: Breakdown of Key Indicators

Key Indicators		Baringo	Garissa	Tana River
Food Consumption Score (FCS)	Poor	83%	15%	30%
	Borderline	16%	52%	53%
	Acceptable	1%	33%	17%
Livelihood Coping Strategy Index (LCSI)	Emergency	72%	20%	6%
	Crisis	11%	8%	17%
	Stress	17%	70%	64%
	Neutral	0%	2%	13%
Average Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)		17.84	10.02	11.03
Average household income in the 30 days prior to the baseline data collection.		KES 5,216	KES 7,652	KES 5,571
Average household total expenditure in the 30 days prior to the baseline data collection.		KES 6,806	KES 8,972	KES 7,645

ABOUT IMPACT

IMPACT Initiatives is a Geneva based think-and-do-tank, created in 2010. IMPACT is a member of the ACTED Group. IMPACT's teams implement assessment, monitoring & evaluation and organisational capacity-building programmes in direct partnership with aid actors or through its inter-agency initiatives, REACH and Agora. Headquartered in Geneva, IMPACT has an established field presence in over 15 countries. IMPACT's team is composed of over 300 staff, including 60 full-time international experts, as well as a roster of consultants, who are currently implementing over 50 programmes across Africa, Middle East and North Africa, Central and South-East Asia, and Eastern Europe