

DROUGHT EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

TIM LETOOYIA
COUNTY DROUGHT RESPONSE OFFICER
WEST POKOT COUNTY

Drought Early Warning System

- Community based Drought Early Warning System
- Provides timely (monthly), reliable drought status information used for planning and response at national, district and community levels

Pillars of EWS

EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

RISK KNOWLEDGE

MONITORING AND
WARNING SERVICE

DESSIMINATION
AND
COMMUNICATION

RISK KNOWLEDGE

Systematically collect data and undertake risk assessments

Are the hazards and the vulnerabilities well known? What are the patterns and trends in these factors? Are risk maps and data widely available?

IN CMDRR participatory risk assessment helps communities to have achieve risk knowledge

Monitoring and warning services

- *Develop hazard monitoring and early warning services e.g. drought monitoring system in ASAL of Kenya, flood monitoring system in western Kenya*

Are the right parameters being monitored?
Is there a sound scientific basis for making forecasts? Can accurate and timely warnings be generated? Are indigenous warning signs known and used?

Dissemination and communication

- *Communicate risk information and early warnings*

Do warnings reach all of those at risk? Are the risks and the warnings understood by the vulnerable communities? Is the warning information clear and useable by the community?

Response capability

Build national and community response capabilities

Are response plans up to date and tested?
Are local (community) capacities and knowledge made use of? Are people prepared and ready to react to warnings?

Evaluating our EWS

- Look at the four pillars of an effective early warning system
 - What needs to be done to improve it so that it becomes more effective ; more useful for vulnerable communities
 - How can weather forecasting and diseases surveillance (human and livestock diseases) be integrated with into the system; any efforts in any of our districts where this has been consider or tried
-

What really happens???

Establishment of the Drought Early Warning System

- Criteria for selection of sentinel (sample) sites
 - _ Representation of all drought sensitive livelihoods in the district
 - _ On average 12 -15 sites per county
- Criteria for selection of households in a sentinel site
 - _ 30 households selected at random
- Selection of the key informants per site
- Identification and training of field monitors
 - _ one field monitor per sentinel site

Monitored food security indicators

- *Rainfall*
 - Amount
 - Temporal distribution
 - Spatial distribution
 - Other outstanding observations

-
- *Environmental (Stability)*
 - Condition of natural vegetation and pasture
 - ✓ Quality
 - ✓ Quantity
 - ✓ Distance to grazing areas

 - Water sources and availability
 - ✓ Water sources
 - ✓ Household access to water
 - ✓ Livestock access to water
-

- *Availability (Rural Economy)*

- Livestock Production

- ✓ livestock body condition
- ✓ livestock diseases
- ✓ milk production

- Crop Production

- ✓ timeliness and condition of various crop production activities
- ✓ pests and diseases
- ✓ harvest

- *Access to food*

- Livestock Marketing

- ✓ Prices of livestock

- ✓ Livestock sales

- ✓ Milk consumption

- Crop prices

- Prices of purchased food

- Income from crops

- Income from livestock

- Income from other sources (trade, wages, etc.)

-
- *Utilization*
 - Nutrition Status
 - Health

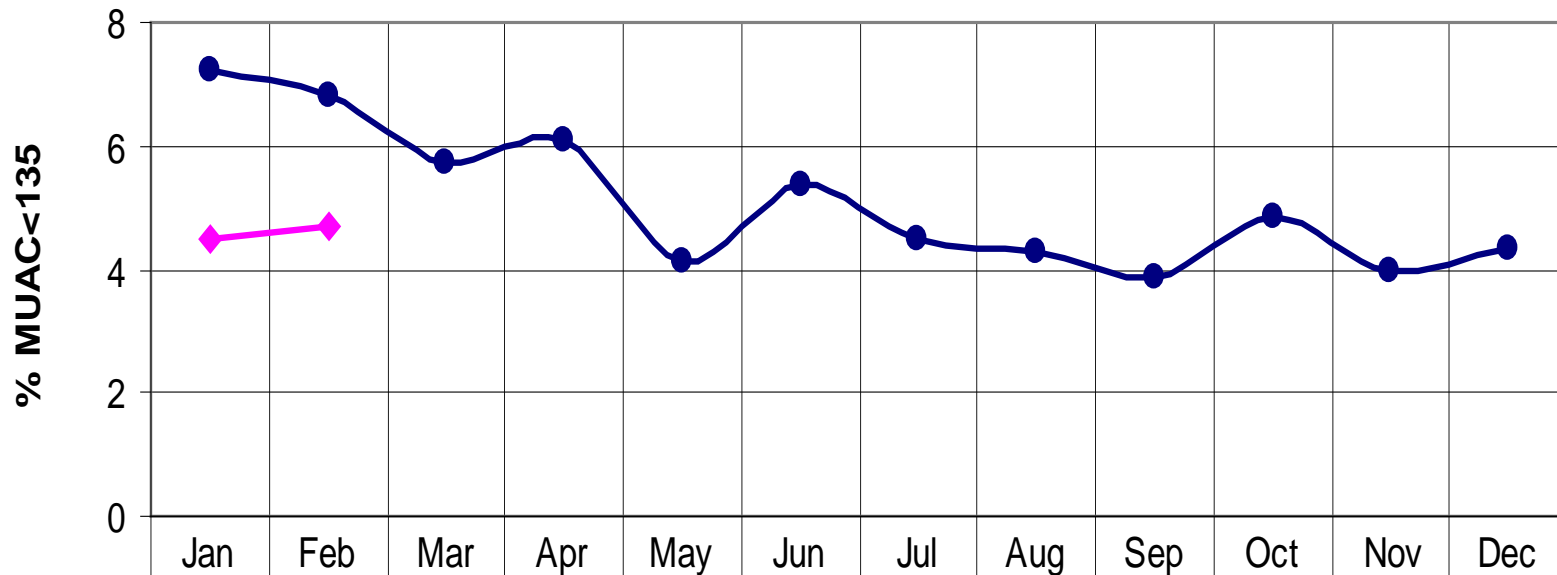
 - *Current Interventions*
 - *Coping Strategies*

-
- Data collection instruments
 - Household questionnaires
 - Key informants questionnaires

-
- Data Analysis and interpretation
 - Trends
 - Determination of levels of indicators Vs long term averages
 - Determination of deviating from the mean

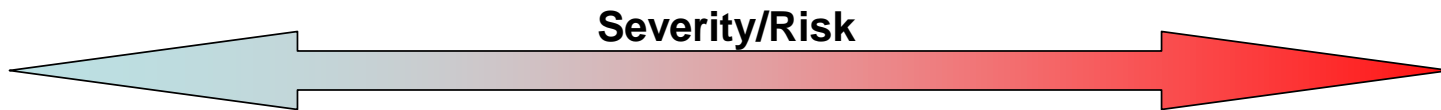
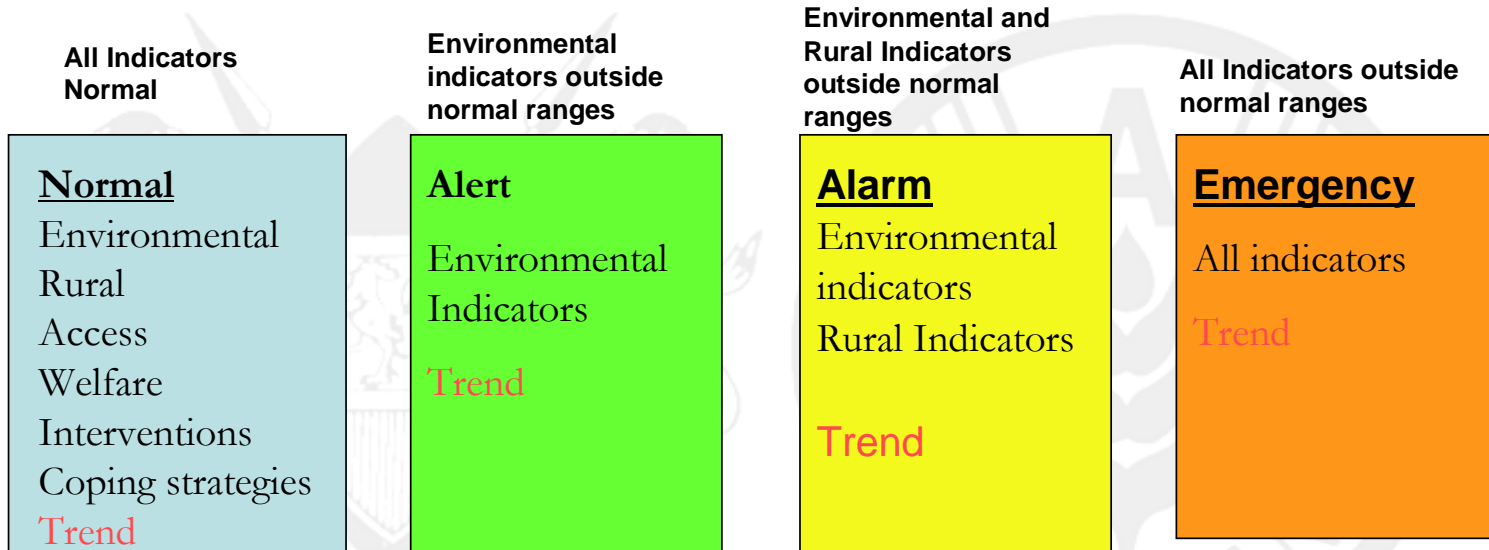
Nutrition Status- Taita-Taveta

**AVERAGE MALNUTRITION STATUS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS FOR FEBRUARY 2008
COMPARED TO LONG TERM MEAN 2006-2007**



● 2006-2007	7.25	6.8	5.75	6.1	4.15	5.35	4.5	4.3	3.85	4.85	3.95	4.35
◆ Current Yr. 2008	4.5	4.7										

Determination of warning phases or drought status and trends



Cont..d

Determination of warning phases or drought status and trends

-
- Production of bulletins
 - Presentation of bulletin to CSG for approval
 - Distribution of the bulletin to stakeholders

END OF PRESENTATION
THANK YOU FOR LISTENING