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## **BACKGROUND**

Since the Government of Kenya (GoK) declared a drought emergency in September 2021, the situation has been deteriorating. According to the appeal of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) published in November 2022, 4.5 million people are in dire need of food assistance in Kenya<sup>1</sup>. The January 2023 early warning bulletin of the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) showed that Samburu County has experienced severe vegetation deficit and the drought situation is deteriorating which placed the Samburu County at the alarm phase<sup>2</sup>.

Furthermore, the poor short rains in October-December 2022 made it the fifth consecutive below average rainfall rainy season since 2020<sup>3</sup>. Early forecasting models also pointed towards depressed rainfall during the March-May 2023 long rain season<sup>4</sup>. Therefore, the drought situation is expected to prolong for the time being. The severity of the situation illustrates the dire need of the drought affected population for an intensified humanitarian assistance. According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) early forecasts, the Acute Food Insecurity levels of several counties in Kenya are worsening and Samburu is classified as crisis phase 3<sup>5</sup>.

Based on UNOCHA Office of Southern and Eastern Africa (ROSEA) drought response plan, Samburu County is among the operational Priority One counties in need of the urgent multi-sectoral humanitarian support<sup>6</sup>.

To assess the drought-induced mobility and identify the most urgent sectoral needs experienced by the community, the IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Mobility Tracking and Multi-Sectoral Location Assessment (MSLA) baseline assessment has been rolled out in Samburu County

<sup>6</sup> https://reliefweb.int/report/kenya/kenya-drought-response-plan-2023-glance?\_gl=1\*bgoask\*\_ga\*MTA3MjM3MTI2MS4xNjY3MzcyNzU3\*\_



 $<sup>1 \</sup>quad \underline{\text{https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/horn-africa-drought-regional-humanitarian-overview-call-action-revised-28-november-2022?} \\ \underline{\text{gl=1*15lot11}}$ 

 $<sup>2\ \ \, \</sup>underline{\text{http://www.ndma.go.ke/index.php/resource-center/national-drought-bulletin/send/39-drought-updates/6778-national-monthly-drought-updates-january-2023}$ 

<sup>3</sup> https://www.ndma.go.ke/index.php/resource-center/national-drought-bulletin/category/39-drought-updates

<sup>4</sup> https://fews.net/east-africa/kenya

 $<sup>5 \</sup>quad \underline{\text{https://www.ipcinfo.org/ipc-country-analysis/details-map/en/c/1155938/?iso3=KEN}$ 

# **METHODOLOGY**

The DTM's Mobility Tracking and MSLA baseline assessment was conducted with the generous funding support from the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) and implemented by IOM in partnership with the Organization for Sustainable Development Africa (OSDA), an IOM implementing partner. The DTM was deployed in coordination with NDMA, the County Commissioner's Office (CCO), and the County Government of Samburu, from 16 January to 28 January 2023 in Samburu County.

The assessment of drought-induced mobility dynamics, as well as the MSLA are aimed at collecting baseline information on mobility trends and most urgent sectoral needs of the target mobile population groups and host communities.

Through this first round of assessment in Samburu, IOM has gathered basic information on the population mobility dynamics and their sectoral needs namely, livelihoods, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), health, emergency shelters, Non-Food Items (NFIs) and education.

The data collection was conducted across the entire three sub-counties of Samburu County by enumerators in 16 Wards, 110 sub-locations, and 686 settlements.

A total of 20 enumerators and two team leaders who were conversant with the local and administrative contexts were locally engaged and deployed to each sub-location. The local enumerators and team leaders were trained by IOM technical team on DTM data collection prior to field deployment. The data collection process was implemented by OSDA, with the technical support, guidance, and close monitoring by IOM on daily basis. The enumerators have accessed 107 sub-locations and carried out face-to-face interviews with the key informants. For the three sub-locations that were not accessible due to insecurity, data collection was conducted by interviewing key informants over mobile phones. The assessment has excluded refugee camps to avoid double counting of affected mobile population. For the assessments at the field level, 221 key informants were interviewed, covering a total of 686 settlements in Samburu County.

The field assessment activities for the DTM's Mobility Tracking and MSLA were focused on locations and sub-locations, as agreed between IOM, OSDA, NDMA, CCO and County government of Samburu County government technical representatives during the pre-DTM coordination workshop led by IOM. During the meeting with the key partners, it was agreed that the selection of key informants should come from the sub-location level that has representation from the county and national government's administrative structure. Traditional leaders and community representatives were also involved as key informants to promote a collective sharing of information on population groups' mobility and sectoral needs.



The diagram below shows how the baseline information was collected at the Ward and Sub-Location Levels.

### Unit of reference for data collection

County: Administered by County Government

Sub-County: Administered by Deputy County Commissioner reporting to County Commissioner and Sub-County Administrator reporting to County Administrator

Baseline1- Data Collection Level (Ward): Administered by Ward Administrator from County Government. The geographical coverage of the wards is smaller than the sub-counties and usually larger than the locations.

Location: Administered by Chief reporting to National Government

Baseline-2 Data Collection Level (Sub-Location): Administered by the Assistant chief (reporting to National Government) and one/more village admin/s (reporting to County Government). Census data is being collected at this level. There is a close collaboration between the National and County administration units and the local community.

Settlements: Located within the sub-location -not necessarily neighbouring each other-, administered by traditional, religious, or community leaders, collaborates with the government partners

The methodology deployed has captured the sub-location level's mobility dynamics, population, and most urgent sectoral needs. Prior to the DTM report publication, a post-DTM validation workshop was held by IOM with the key government stakeholders at the national and local levels to present and discuss the initial findings and assessment results. Apart from presenting and discussing the initial assessment reports during the workshop, the participants were also given a chance to present their observations, recommendations and feedback on the assessment results to promote sense of ownership of the DTM report. The key partners were represented by the CCO, NDMA, and the County government of Samburu County.

Findings are presented and aggregated at sub-county level. For more information on DTM's methodology, see <u>DTM's Methodological Framework.</u> You can also access the link of the dataset with information disaggregated at the sub-location level here: <u>Kenya | Displacement (iom.int)</u>



# **KEY FINDINGS**

Samburu County is the tenth largest county in Kenya covering 21,000 square kilometers (km)2, located in the upper Northern region of Kenya and is among the 29 counties identified as ASAL area. The county has three sub-counties with headquarters located at Maralal Town.

# Map of showing Sub-Counties in Samburu County



# Key Findings on the Population of Interest









Sub County	Sub-County details	Absentees (Households)		Returnee (House- holds)	Foreign Nationals (Households)
Samburu Central	38 Sub-Locations 264 Settlements	3,150	3,297	2,084	9
Samburu East	29 Sub-Locations 178 Settlements	2,279	4,527	1,397	1
Samburu North	43 Sub-Locations 244 Settlements	2,450	1,912	1,291	5
Total	3 Sub-Counties 110 Sub-Locations 686 Settlements	7,879	9,736	4,772	15

Elderly, children, and women-headed households are identified as the most vulnerable groups<sup>1</sup> due to their high exposure to protection issues, such as Gender-Based Violence (GBV), lack of access to basic social and maternal services, lack of employment opportunities, among others, in the rural settings amidst the drought. Therefore, IOM has also collected data on the vulnerable households. Population groups of interest and the host communities are both accounted in collecting the vulnerable household's data.

Number of vulnerable h	ouseholds	
34,647 households are headed by women	<b>13,173</b> households headed by elderly	<b>7,005</b> households headed by children

<sup>1</sup> Data collection on most vulnerable groups included mobile population and host communities.



# POPULATION GROUPS

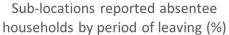
The impact of drought-induced mobility in Kenya is not fully understood. To address the data gap and identify the most urgent needs of the drought-affected communities, IOM, in partnership with UNOCHA, OSDA and the GoK has collected data on the mobility trends of the four identified population groups in Samburu County. Data driven and evidence-based decision making will be vital for future comprehensive planning and programming for humanitarian response and durable solution. Furthermore, the assessment shows a high number of mobility dynamics based on the identified drought affected population groups, namely:

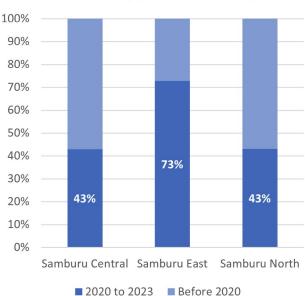
# Drought-Induced Human Mobility (Population Groups)

Type of Population Group	% of sub-locations which reported to have movement of population	Reason/s of movement of population	
Absentees	<b>96 per cent</b> of the sub-locations reported absentees	<b>95 per cent</b> of the sub-locations cited drought as the main reason for the movement of absentees	
Arrivals	<b>88 per cent</b> of the sub-locations reported arrivals at assessed sites.	<b>82 per cent</b> of the sub-locations cited drought as the main reason for the arrival movement	
Returnees	<b>87 per cent</b> of the sub-locations reported returnees at assessed sites	<b>70 per cent</b> of the sub-locations cited that they returned to their place of origin because they wanted or needed to rejoin their families	
Foreign Nationals	<b>8 per cent</b> of the sub-locations reported foreign nationals at assessed sites	*** In the case of Samburu, there were no recorded Foreign National arrivals at the assessment sites caused by the drought, resource-based conflict, ethnic clashes or floods.	

### **Absentees**

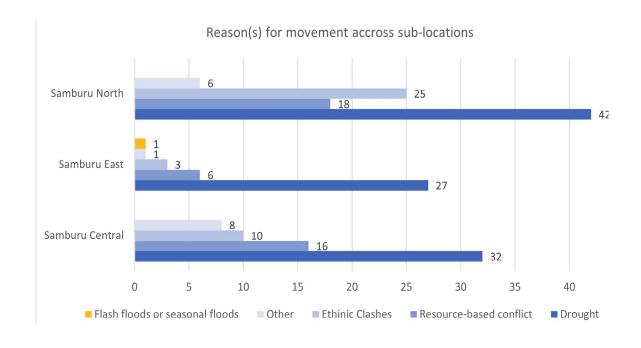
**Absentees** are residents of the sub-location who have left their settlement because of the drought (death of animals, lack of food, lack of water, search for services), resource-based conflict, ethnic tensions or conflict, and flash floods or seasonal floods. This population category provides an insight into the areas that have been hit by the drought and have few resources for the local population that is forced to migrate.





106 of 110 sub-locations reported absentees which overall accounted for 7,879 households. 52 per cent of the total absentee households were reported to have left their places of residence for over the last two years (from 2020 to early 2023), a period when the drought has severely affected the county.

According to the key informants, drought was the main reason of forced movement of people at 95 per cent of the sub-locations. The second reason for the movement of people was recorded as resource-based conflict (38%), closely followed by ethnic clashes (36%). Loss of livelihoods and land demarcation was also cited among other reasons of forced movement.

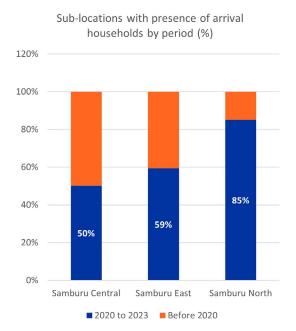




**106 of 110 sub-locations reported absentees** which overall accounted for **7,879 households.** 

### **Arrivals**

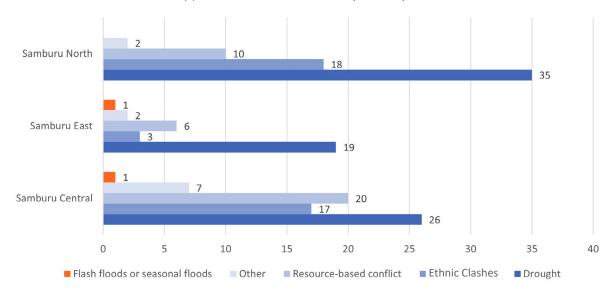
**Arrivals** are persons (Kenyan Nationals) who have left their places of origin and arrived at the assessed sub-locations because of the drought (death of animals, lack of food, lack of water, search for services), resource-based conflict, ethnic tensions or conflicts, and flash floods or seasonal floods.



97 of 110 sub-locations recorded arrivals of people, accounting to 9,736 households. 61 per cent of the overall arrival households arrived and temporarily settled at the assessment sites for over the last two years.

The majority (36%) of the newly arrived households in all assessed sub-locations came from Samburu County, and of those 62 per cent (2,113 households) have moved within the same sub-county. Some arrivals (30%) have arrived from Marsabit County. The two new sub-counties Marsabit South, and Loiyangalani - previously known as Laisamis sub-county of Marsabit County - are reported as the places of origin for the arrivals from Marsabit County.

#### Reason(s) for movement of arrivals reported by sub-location

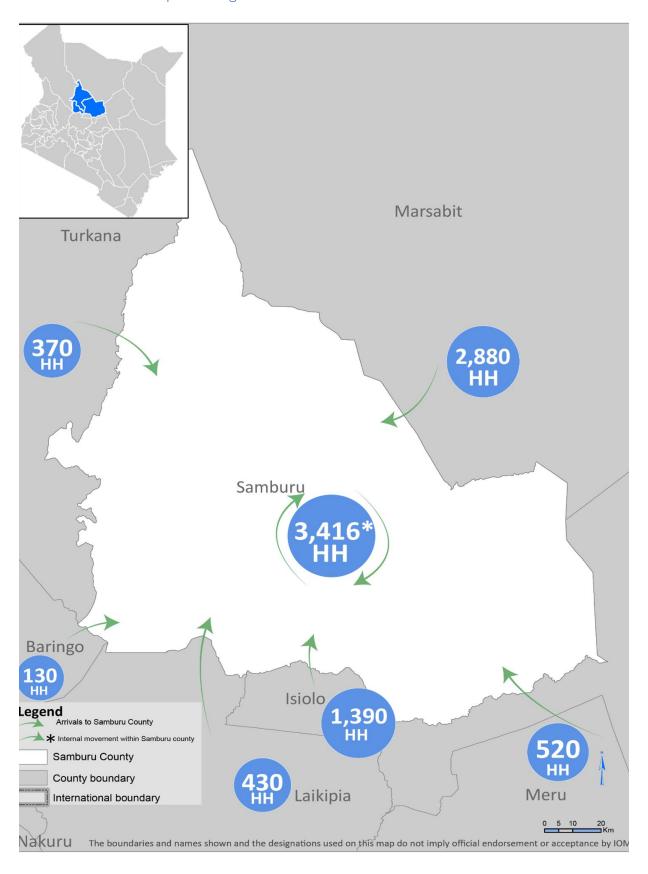




**97 of 110 sub-locations** experienced arrivals of people accounting to **9,736 households** 



# A Map Showing the Movement of the Arrival Households



Majority of the sub-locations (81%) reported that the Arrival households in Samburu County are accommodated by the host communities, while 13 per cent of them (arrivals) have been occupying temporary spontaneous sites<sup>2</sup>, while the 560 households in Samburu Central are living on a planned site<sup>3</sup>.

95 sub-locations have reported both absentees and arrivals. This indicates that almost all the Arrival households (98%, 9,736 households) arrived at the sub-locations who have been struggling on the severe effects of drought, resource-based conflict, and ethnic clashes.

Most Urgent Needs of Arrivals by Households as Cited by Key Informants					
Food	Water	Shelter	Health	Livelihood	NFI (including hygiene kits)
<b>7,680</b>	<b>7,496</b>	<b>2,757</b>	<b>7,012</b>	<b>2,805</b>	<b>540</b>
Households	Households	Households	Households	Households	Households
<b>84</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>7</b>
Sub-Locations	Sub-Locations	Sub-Locations	Sub-Locations	Sub-Locations	Sub-Locations

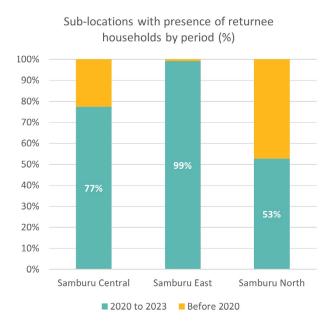
<sup>2</sup> Displaced households who live collectively outside of the government designated/planned sites. These households normally stay in open spaces or dwelling in makeshift shelters or tents.

<sup>3</sup> Planned site is where displaced households can build or install their temporary or makeshift shelters on an allocated site by the Government.



### Returnees

**Returnees** are the people (Kenyan Nationals) that had left the sub-location because of the drought (death of animals, lack of food, lack of water, search for services), resource-based conflict, ethnic tensions or conflict, flash floods or seasonal floods, and settled at a temporary site (in Kenya or in a foreign land) but came back because they have not found assistance, needed to rejoin the family, and/or have returned with assistance.



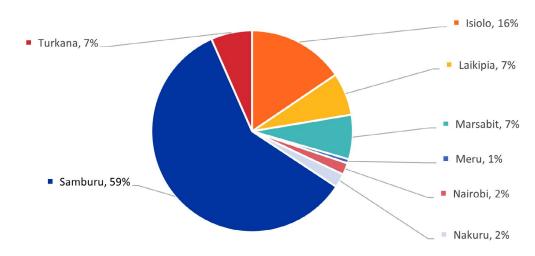
96 of 110 sub-locations revealed the presence of Returnees totaling 4,772 households. 77 per cent of the overall Returnees have returned to their places of origin within the last three years.

56 per cent of the Returnee households came back to their places of origin after residing in temporary settlements in Samburu and of those 82 per cent moved within the same sub-county.

This shows that there is a dynamic of internal movement within Samburu County.

The majority of the Returnee households (97%) are living with their communities, while three per cent are living in spontaneous sites.





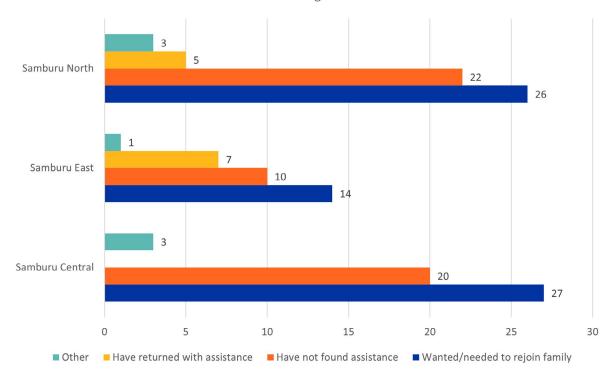
The need to rejoin the families was cited as the main reason for return in 70 per cent of the sub-locations, followed by "not finding assistance" in the temporary places of residence<sup>4</sup> (52 sub-locations or 54%).

Almost all the Returnee households (99%, - 4,772 households) returned to their places of origin which reported as Absentee households due to the drought, ethnic clashes, and resource-based conflict.

<sup>4</sup> Outside of their places of origin.



### Main cause for returning across sub-locations



Most Urgent Needs of Returnee Households as Cited by Key Informants					
Food	Water	Shelter	Shelter Health	Livelihood	NFI (including hygiene kits)
**	1	\$	\$ <b>&gt;&gt;</b> >	NFI	
<b>4,525</b> Households	<b>4,118</b> Households	<b>2,094</b> Households	<b>3,168</b> Households	<b>1,554</b> Households	<b>344</b> Households

# Foreign Nationals

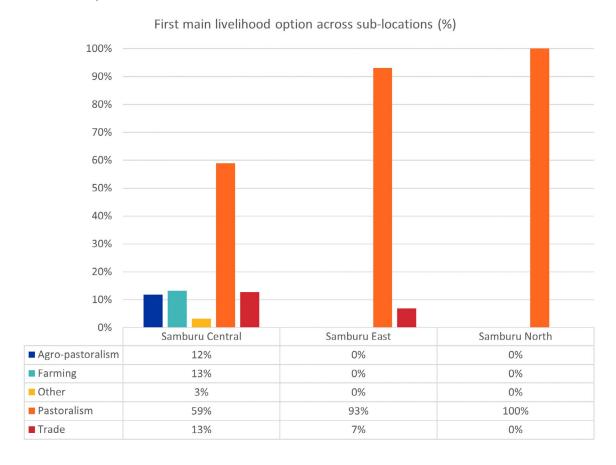
**Foreign Nationals** are non-Kenyan nationals who arrived in the assessed sub-locations because of the drought (death of animals, lack of food, lack of water, search for services), resource-based, ethnic tensions or conflicts, flash floods or seasonal floods. This includes irregular migrants who cannot return, and continue their journey or who are destitute in the location of assessment, and currently affected by the drought in Kenya as well.

The DTM-Mobility Tracking and MSLA have recorded 15 households of Foreign Nationals. Only one household ran away from ethnic clashes while the remaining ones have come for multiple other reasons, including marriage.



# LIVELIHOOD

During the assessment, the key informants have stated that pastoralism is the primary source of livelihood in 83 per cent of the sub-locations, representing a total of 69,894 estimated households, followed by engaging in other economic activities, such as trade with 5,590 households, or farming with 4,056 households. It was reported that there are 38 livestock markets spreading across three sub-counties in Samburu County.



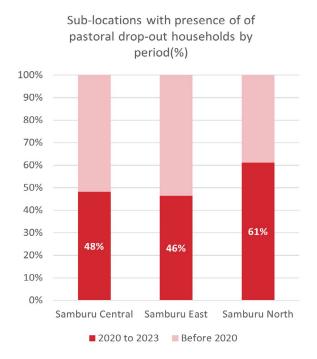
On business and monetary transactions, the most common modality is M-pesa transactions, as cited by 80 sub-locations, followed by cash transfers in 48 sub-locations.



Pastoralism is the primary source of living in 83% of the sub-locations, representing a total of 69,894 estimated households.

### Pastoralists Drop-outs

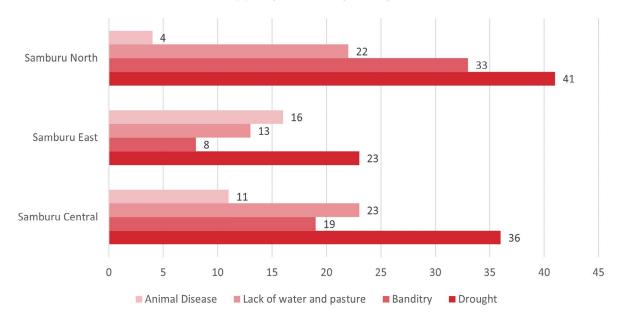
**Pastoralist Drop-outs** are pastoralists and agro-pastoralists who have lost their livestock because of the drought, lack of water, animal disease, conflicts/insecurity or whose land has become unproductive and have therefore become destitute. Pastoralist drop-outs are accounted for both the population groups and the host community.



The presence of Pastoralist Drop-outs was reported in 100 of 110 sub-locations accounting to 25,528 households. 52 per cent of the pastoralist drop-outs were recorded in the last two years.

Pastoralism is recorded as the main source of livelihood, as confirmed by the key informants. However, pastoralism has also been making the pastoralist drop-out among the most vulnerable groups in the county as these people depend solely on financial gains from pastoralism without any alternative means of living. Therefore, prolonged drought has further exacerbated their economic condition and vulnerability to cope with the severe impact of drought, such as the continued deterioration of pastures and lack of food. As a result, community members have either lost their livestock, or they have been stolen by other pastoralists in order to replenish the deceased animals.

#### Main reason(s) for pastoral drop-out by sub-location

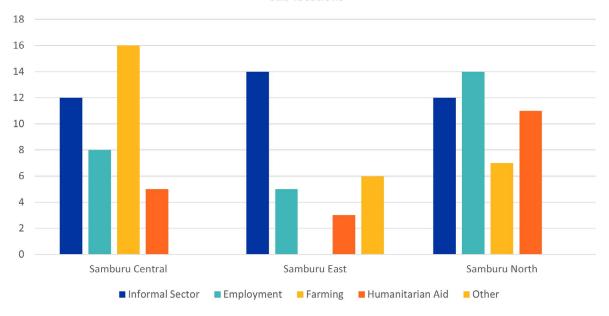




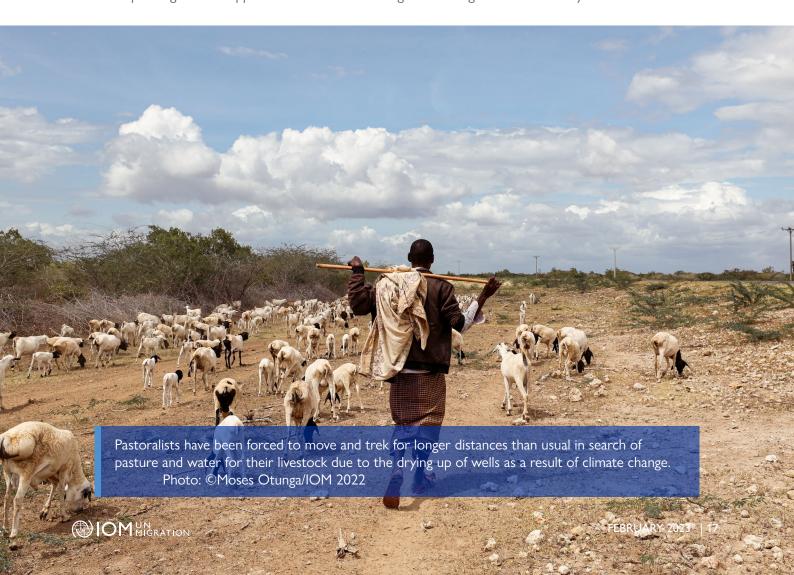
Presence of Pastoralist Drop-outs was reported in 100 of 110 sub-locations accounting to 25,528 households. 52 per cent of the pastoralist drop-outs were recorded in the last two years.



Sectors in which pastoralist drop-outs find livelihood opportunities and support by sub-locations



In 38 sub-locations, pastoralist drop-outs were trying to cope themselves by engaging into informal sectors with unstable means of livelihood, such as charcoal burning, boda-boda taxi (motorcycle taxi), and labour services followed by engaging into employment in 27 sub-locations. In 19 sub-locations they are depending on the support of the humanitarian agencies and government's safety net funds.

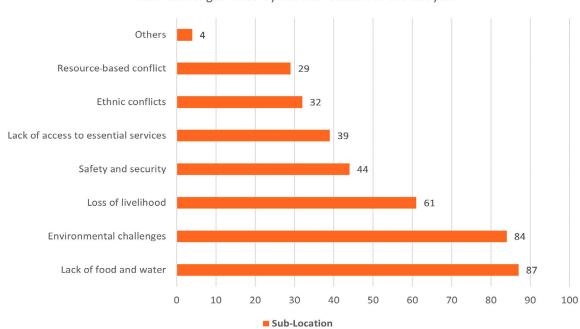


## CHALLENGES AND COPING MECHANISMS

The main challenges being faced by the community are the lack of food and water, as mentioned in 79 per cent of the sub-locations, closely followed by environmental challenges (76%). Prolonged drought has affected the communities' main source of income, as well as their resilience and coping mechanisms. Slightly more than half of sub-locations (55%) have reported the loss of livelihood as the main challenge faced since 2021.

Resource-based conflict has been cited as the second main reason of movement of the absentees in Samburu County, and in 40 per cent (44 sub-locations), safety and security were cited among the challenges being faced by the community.

Although the early forecast of the rainfall is not yet perceived, it is certain that the Samburu County is in need of further humanitarian support with or without the sufficient rainfall, since the prolonged drought has already been affecting the lives of mobile population which has compromised their safety and security.

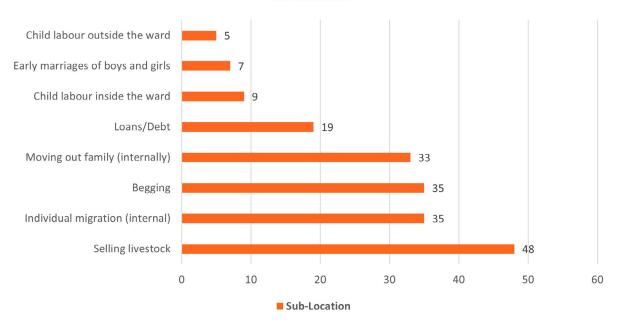


Main challenges faced by the sub-location in the last year

Community members are facing lack of food and water and have no choice but to sell their livestock in 48 sub-locations for survival. Individual migration and alternative livelihoods were cited among the coping mechanisms. Begging has also been cited as a means of survival by key informants at 35 sub-locations. Cases of early marriages also emerged in seven sub-locations as a way to escape from poverty, hoping to have a decent life. Child labour outside of wards, was reported in 5 sub-locations.



# Coping mechanism of the community with the lack of food and water across sub-locations



It was found out that people are in dire need of humanitarian assistance which should be provided in a timely manner to improve the living condition of the displaced and host community households to cope with the adverse impact of drought. Cross-cutting issues, such as protection and conflict mitigation should further be addressed in a broader human sense of security, through a multi-stakeholder and collective intervention approach among the government and humanitarian agencies. During the assessment, it is noted that both the National Government's administrative units and the County Government are open to cooperate with the international partners to address these issues.



## **MULTI-SECTORAL ASSESSMENT**









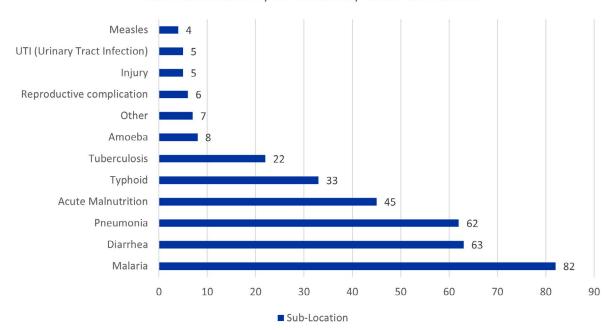
Apart from the mobility dimension of the population groups and host communities, IOM was able to assess the most urgent sectoral needs of the population groups on health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), education, shelters, and non-food items (NFIs).



The most common primary health issue is malaria, followed by diarrhea, pneumonia, and acute malnutrition. In 41 per cent of the sub-locations, acute malnutrition is observed among the displaced and host communities.

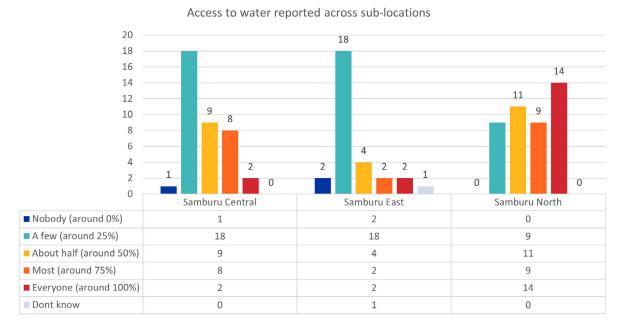
Waterborne diseases have also emerged as critical health issues due to unprotected and contaminated source of water supply. On top of that, lack of adequate water sources is also another variable of waterborne diseases.

#### Health issues faced by the community across sub-locations



The key informants in 70 per cent of the sub-locations have reported having health facilities. However, lack of medicine, distance, basic medical equipment, and personal protective equipment (PPE) have been observed as the main issues when accessing the health facilities and services. Therefore, humanitarian interventions are needed in support of the National and County governments' continued efforts to address the emergency health issues. While the majority, 47 sub-locations or 61 per cent, reported that their health facilities are in good condition, 22 per cent are in need of major repairs and 17 per cent are in need of minor repairs on health structures.





The MSLA baseline assessment has recorded that there are 242 functional water sources found in 104 of 110 sub-locations, while 6 sub-locations reported that there are no functioning water sources at all.

In 77 sub-locations, there are existing WASH committees (WASHCOs)<sup>5</sup>, while in 33 sub-locations, WASHCOs do not exist. WASH committees are responsible for planning, organizing, decision-making, coordination, control, and monitoring of the water facilities and schemes at the grass roots level. Therefore, technical maintenance of the water sources is also part of their mandate. However, due to lack of funding, and other issues in some (48%) sub-locations, water sources are only maintained by the government and humanitarian agencies. In 12 sub-locations, there have been no care and maintenance structures and mechanisms at the community level, while in the remaining 46 per cent of the sub-locations, the care and maintenance of water sources are carried out by the communities.

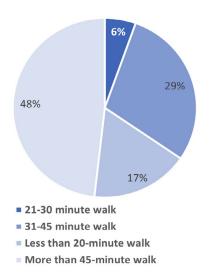
Distance and the insufficient number of potable water points are the main barriers in accessing the water.



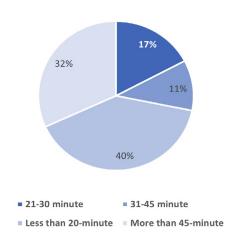
**6 sub-locations reported** that there are **no functioning water sources at all.** 

<sup>5</sup> WASHCO is the local Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Committee

### One way trip to water point across sublocations (%)



Average queue time when fetching water across sub-locations (%)

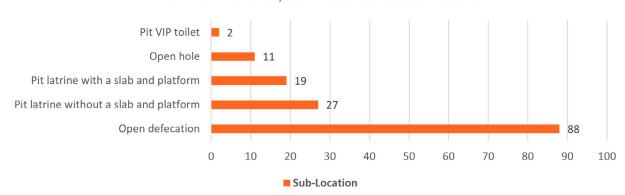


67 per cent of the sub-locations' drinking water supply were found to be untreated against harmful bacteria and any water-related diseases. On the other hand, when treated, the most common method was boiling, but only being practiced in 16 sub-locations.

Open defecation was reported in most (80%) of the sub-locations. The main reason for open defecation is the lack of privacy (no partition for male and female cubicles), difficulty in accessing the latrines and high cost of latrines installation or construction. Furthermore, one of the main reasons observed was also the lack of sanitation and hygiene promotion among displaced households and host communities.

Majority of the sub-locations, respondents have stated that human faeces will likely contaminate the water sources, especially during rainy season, when the source of drinking water is not properly protected and well-treated. Communities are facing health issues, such as waterborne diseases (diarrhea and typhoid), as stated among the primary health issues in 63 sub-locations.

#### Most common toilet/latrine used across sub-locations





### The problems faced by the community in accessing the latrines across sublocations



Where do most people of this sub-location collect drinking water?					
Source	Samburu Central	Samburu East	Samburu North	<b>Grand Total</b> (Sub-Location)	
Lake/Pond	4	1		5	
Motorized borehole	14	11	4	29	
Other	1		1	2	
Protected Spring	2	1	1	4	
Protected well			1	1	
Public tap	2		4	6	
Rainwater		1		1	
Rainwater collection			2	2	
River	8	10	16	34	
Tap water network		1	3	4	
Unprotected spring	3		1	4	
Unprotected well	4	4	9	17	
Water trucking distribution points			1	1	
Grand Total (Sub-Location)	38	29	43	110	

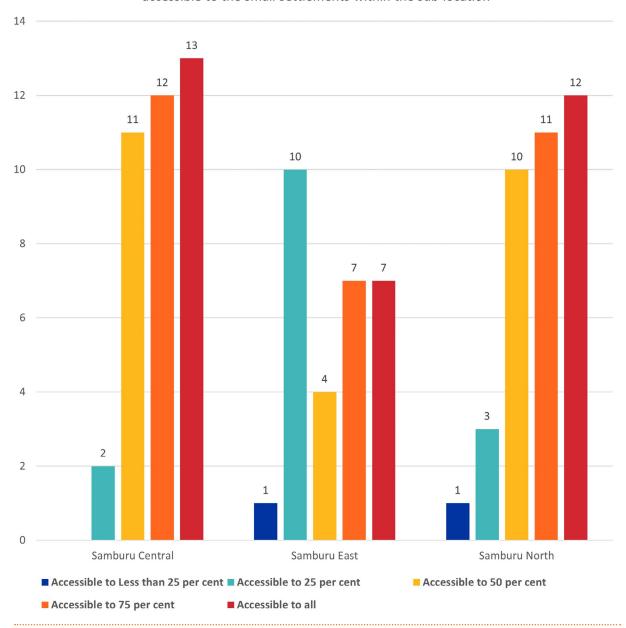


### Education

Samburu County has active educational institutions in 95 per cent of its sub-locations, while 5 per cent do not have educational facilities. The sub-locations with no educational facilities include Nakupurat, Moruakiring and Lokorkor sub-locations located in Samburu North. Those educational facilities were closed due the students' drop-outs as a result of intense drought and conflicts.

The nearest schools for sub-locations without school structures and facilities were reported to be more than 10 kilometers away at four sub-locations, and 3-5 kilometers away at two sub-locations. The key informants have cited that there was a significant number of schools drop-outs in 106 sub-locations (96% of sub-locations) accounting to 14,336 pupils/students.

# If there is an educational facility, is the educational facility/facilities for children accessible to the small settlements within the sub-location



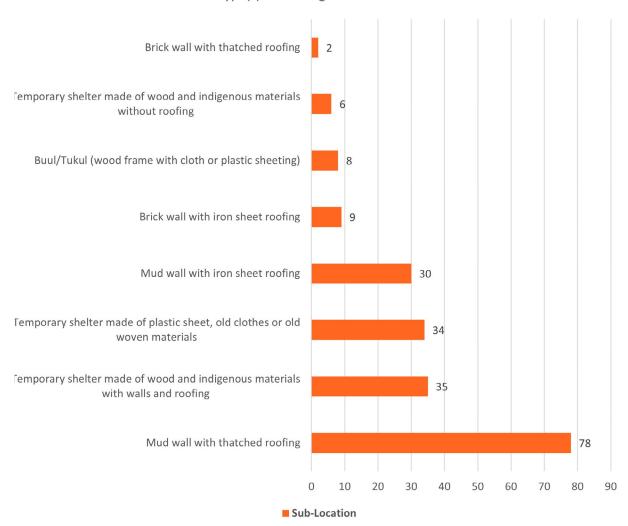


# Shelters and NFIs

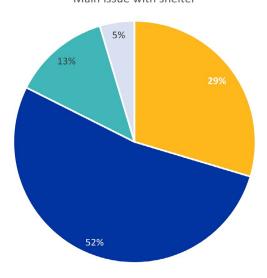
Majority of the sub-locations (85%) reported that when the mobile and host communities were constructing their shelters, they have sourced out their shelter materials for free from surrounding bushes, while 7 per cent have sourced out their shelter materials from nearby towns. The shelters are sub-standard and only made of light materials and are not stable enough to withstand with any environmental hazards and security threats, which also increases the vulnerabilities of the displaced population groups to safety and security issues. It was further reported that the construction of a decent shelter is expensive due to the high price of shelter primary materials in the market.

Most of the communities (71%) are occupying a mud wall type of shelters with thatched roofing. 32 per cent are occupying temporary shelters made of wood and indigenous materials with walls and roofing. 31 per cent are occupying temporary shelter made of plastic sheet, old clothes, or old woven materials.

#### Main type(s) of housing across sub-locations

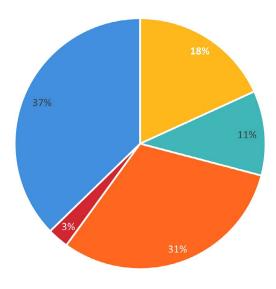


Main issue with shelter



- The cost of construction is too expensive
- The quality of shelters is sub-standard (does not protect from weather)
- The size of shelters is insufficient (overcrowding, no privacy)
- Unequal or no access because of status

Main safety concerns with the shelters



- Lack of basic services (water, electricity etc.)
- Lack of privacy
- Lack of security
- Land and property issues
- Weather



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