



KEY MESSAGES ON DROUGHT EMERGENCY PAYMENTS IN JANUARY 2017 BASED ON DECEMBER 2016 VEGETATION COVER INDEX (VCI) REPORT

a) Rationale

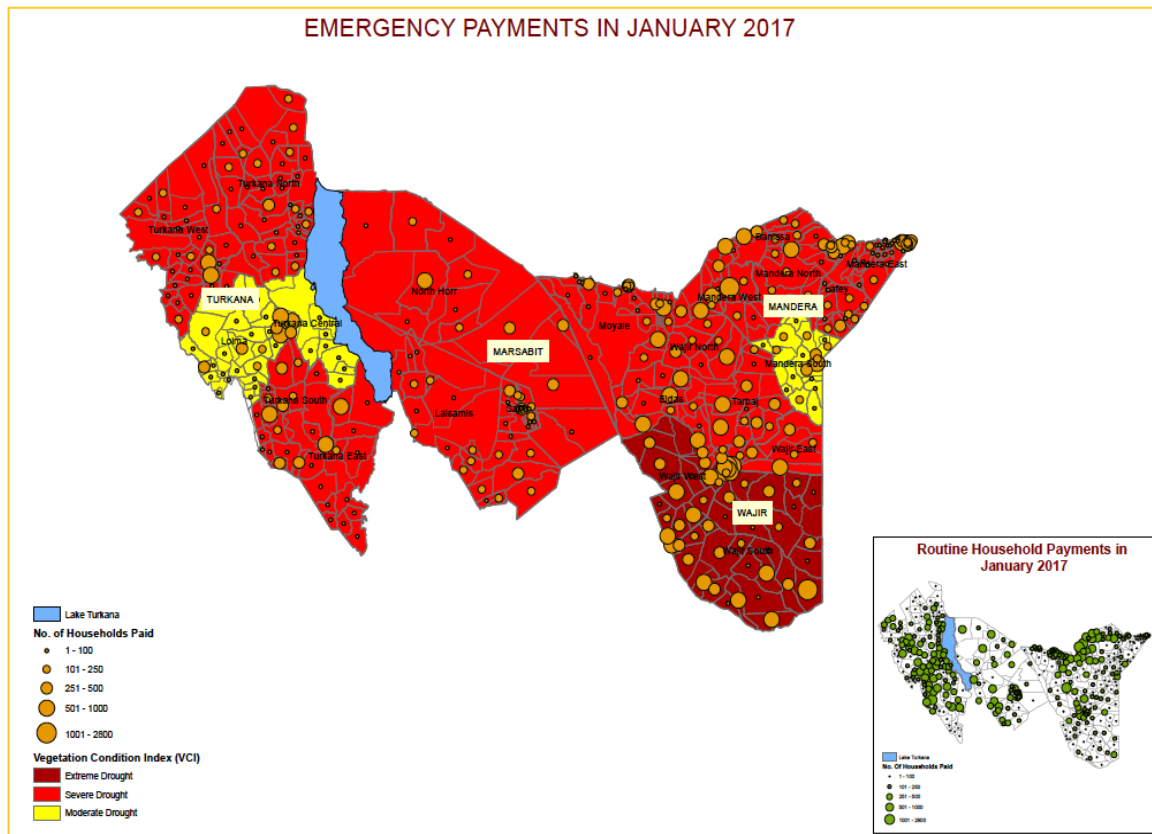
1. Emergency cash transfers (CTs) during drought are one of the objectives of the HSNP Phase 2 and a key component of the National Safety Net Programme (NSNP) Programme for Results (P4R).
2. Delivery of emergency cash transfers during floods is a mandate of Government of Kenya's under the National Disaster Operations Centre (NDOC) for mitigating the impacts of El Nino.
3. HSNP 2 registered all the HHs across the four Counties of Turkana, Mandera, Marsabit and Wajir. The HHs were categorised as Group 1 (regular- to receive bi-monthly CTs) and Group 2 (emergency).
4. It was envisioned that an other form of assistance, from government, development partners, INGOs and others would target Group 2
5. **NDMA drought status** is determined using the Vegetation Condition Index (VCI). The trigger VCI is classified as follows: - ≥ 50 and 35 to 50 (wet or no drought), 20 to 30 (moderate drought), 10 to 20 (severe drought) and ≤ 10 (extreme drought).
6. Emergency payments are only made to Group 2 households. This depends on 1) The level of drought status 2) Availability of funds 3) Whether the Group 2 HH has an active bank account.
7. Not all Group 2 HHs benefit during Emergency for reasons provided in point 4.
8. All emergency payments are done through the National Government- the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) - which is mandated to manage HSNP.
9. All the 8 emergency payments made between 2015- 2017 were funded by DFID's UK government

b) Geographical Selection criteria for Emergency Drought payments

1. Once the trigger is hit, the County is allocated a number of households eligible for scaled up payments.
2. When a Sub-County meets the 'Severe' drought threshold, a budget allocation is generated for emergency cash transfer beneficiaries which bring the total number of beneficiaries in the sub-county to 50% of all households on the HSNP MIS including regular beneficiaries. However, the regular beneficiaries do not receive any additional emergency cash.

3. HSNP developed a programme policy on re-allocation of emergency payment allocation. This is to address the stress experienced by sub-Counties under **Moderate** drought status bordering sub-Counties under **Severe** or Extreme. **Moderate** sub-Counties experience influx of livestock and households migrating from **Severe** and **Extreme** sub-Counties.

Photo 1: Drought status as of 30th December 2016 VCI report



c) Selection of households (Group 2) for Emergency Drought CT payments

1. PILU has produced lists of all Sub-Locations and specific Households in the Counties to be included in the Emergency drought payment as guided by the VCI report.
2. In each of the targeted Sub-Locations, beneficiary households will be selected from Group 2 households on the HSNP MIS in wealth order. Households that do not have an active bank account will not be selected even where they are lower in the wealth ranking than other households that do have bank accounts.
3. Where the percentage of Group 1 HHs exceeds the standard percentage of HH eligible for emergency CTS, there will be no additional households e.g. If a sub-location is under Severe, it needs to scale up to 50% of all HHs (Group 1 and 2). However, if in that particular sub-location Group 1 HHs total 50% or above, no additional Group 2 HHs will receive payments.
4. The lists of selected HHs are sent to the County specific NDMA offices that will distribute the lists for each Sub-Location to Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs. These lists are posted at their local Chief's

office or the names of Group 2 HHs to benefit from the emergency payments are read at the public barazas.

5. Chiefs, Assistant Chiefs and Payment agents are notified about emergency payments through HSNP SMS alerts, phone calls or face-to-face meetings with HSNP/NDMA County officers or
6. Group 2 HHs are notified either through local radio, public *barazas*, word of mouth and payment agents to check whether their names are listed.

d) Payment of Emergency Payments in January 2017

1. Emergency drought CTs will only be paid to the selected Group 2 HHs with active Equity bank accounts.
2. These emergency payments will start on Monday, 30th January 2017.
3. Payments will be made through Equity POS Agents, over the Counter at any Equity Branch at a service fee of Kshs. 150 and through ATMs if one has a PIN.
4. The value of emergency cash transfers is Kshs. 2,700 (one month equivalent of the routine payment).
5. Routine HSNP beneficiary HHs (Group 1), with active Bank Accounts will continue to receive their bi-monthly payments (Kshs. 5,400) as normal. They will not receive any emergency payment
6. There will be no back payments due to any HHs that attain activated bank account after the emergency CTs have been made.

Summary of HSNP drought emergency payments for January 2017

