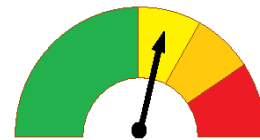
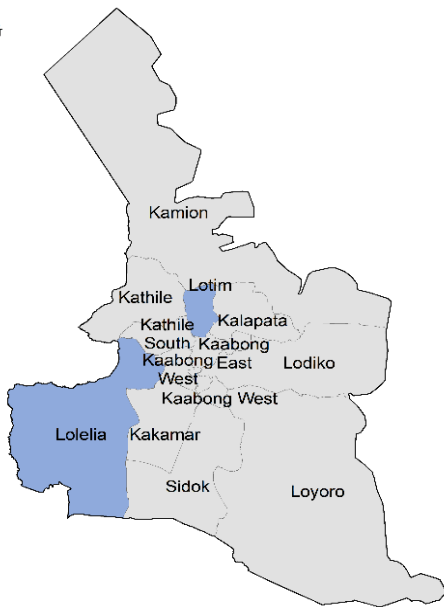
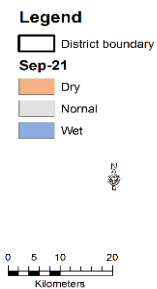


KAABONG DROUGHT BULLETIN SEPTEMBER 2021

Strengthening Shock Responsive Systems in Karamoja, Pro-Act Uganda Project.



KAABONG



Watch

SECTORS	July	August	September
Livestock	Watch	Alarm	Watch
Livelihood	Watch	Alarm	Watch
Crops	Watch	Alarm	Watch
Water	Normal	Alarm	Normal
Livelihoods	Watch	Alarm	Watch
Health	Watch	Alarm	Watch




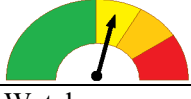


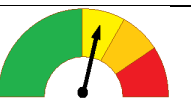
Normal

Sub counties	July	August	September
Lolelia	Watch	Alarm	Normal
Lodiko	Alert	Alarm	Normal
Sidok	Normal	Alarm	Normal
Kathile	Normal	Alarm	Normal
Kalapata	Watch	Alarm	Normal

Situational Overview

Overall, the district is at **NORMAL** stage because the bigger part of the district is in Normal stage. This is because almost all the sectors including the Livestock, water and livelihoods are at **NORMAL** stages. This is attributed to the availability of water and pastures for animals which has reduced on the stress of animals moving long distances in search for water and pasture. Other interventions such as disease treatments, deworming and spraying of the animals that have been carried out by the district and development partners have been beneficial. However, in the agro-pastoral zone, the district is at **WATCH**. This is because the Livestock and Crops which form the livelihood options for the community are all at **WATCH** and this is attributed to the stress obtained by animals which are engaged in ploughing and those that still move long distances in search for grazing grounds as the nearby ones are currently being cultivated, crops are withering because sufficient rains are yet to come and the low wages earned by labor compared to the relatively high sorghum prices is affecting the livelihoods of the people.

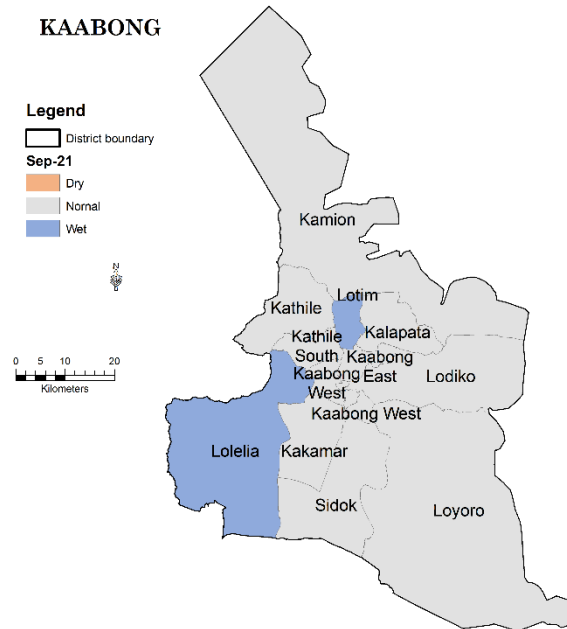
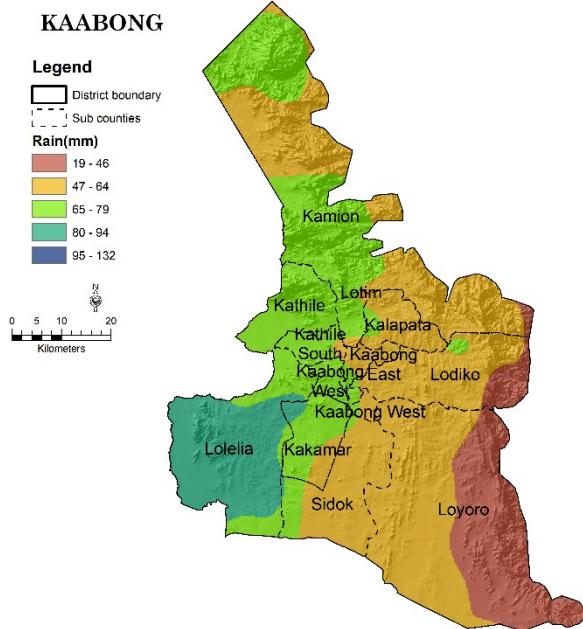
ANALYSIS OF SECTORS

Sectors	Sectoral levels	Comments and Recommendations
Socio-economic		<p>Socio-economic indicators i.e. Average cost of labor, daily wages terms of trade, prices of food stuffs, livestock and daily wages show unusual fluctuations outside expected seasonal ranges, but these fluctuations are still minimum.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities are encouraged to use income obtained from casual labor, economic activities (sales of livestock, charcoal, brewing, retail business and others) to buy food stock and reserve for future consumption.
	Watch	
Livestock		<p>No significant livestock migration confirmed, movements reported were in between parishes within same Sub County to the grazing grounds.</p> <p>There are cases of livestock theft, and Animal disease especially 4 FMD cases in Lolelia Sub County, 103 cases of ECF, 121 cases of Anaplasmosis, 153 CBPP (Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia) in cattle across the district, 63 Mange, 105 worms, orf 73 in sheep across the district, 108 Mange, 145 Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP) 93 worms in goats across the district.</p> <p>Recommendation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities advised to report any cases of disease outbreak for timely and effective management.
	Watch	
Water		<p>The water sources are adequately distributed in the district. The boreholes were reported to be well distributed deep in villages within Parishes, while tap waters sources were reported in community trading centers and urban areas within Sub County/Town Council). Natural sources of water (rivers, ponds, springs and wells) provided alternative options for very few HHs located in the rural communities in Kaabong district.</p> <p>Recommendation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities to report non -functioning boreholes to district authorities for repairs.
	Normal	
Livelihoods		<p>During the three months period, most of the HH (70% - 80% plus), reported depending on causal labor, brewing, sale of firewood and sales of charcoal to get money to access food items from markets. This was common among HHs within Lodiko, Lolelia, Kathile Sub Counties trading centers and Kathile</p> <p>Recommendation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities are advised to plant short maturing crops especially vegetables in order to reduce the food shortages. Farmers are advised to sell a few of their animals in order to purchase food.
	Watch	
Health		<p>During the month of September, 6,002 Malaria, Typhoid 145, Acute Diarrhoea 741, Persistent Diarrhoea, 1 Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI), 26 Tuberculosis, Severe Acute Malnutrition(SAM), 575 Moderate Acute Malnutrition(MAM) cases reported across Kaabong district.</p> <p>Recommendation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities to always seek health attention from nearest Village Health Team Members, health centers and Kaabong Hospital for timely management.
	Watch	



2- Drought Severity and Outlook

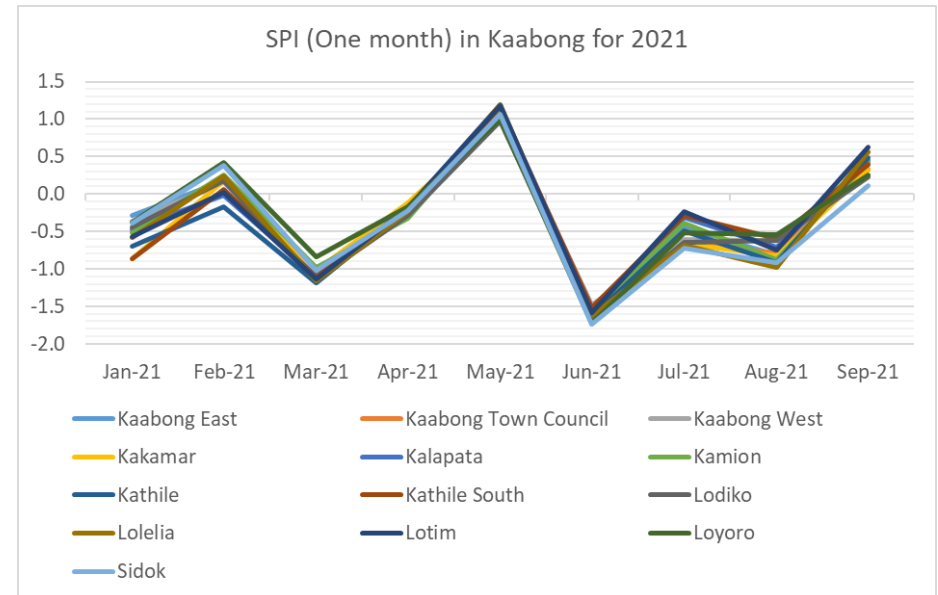
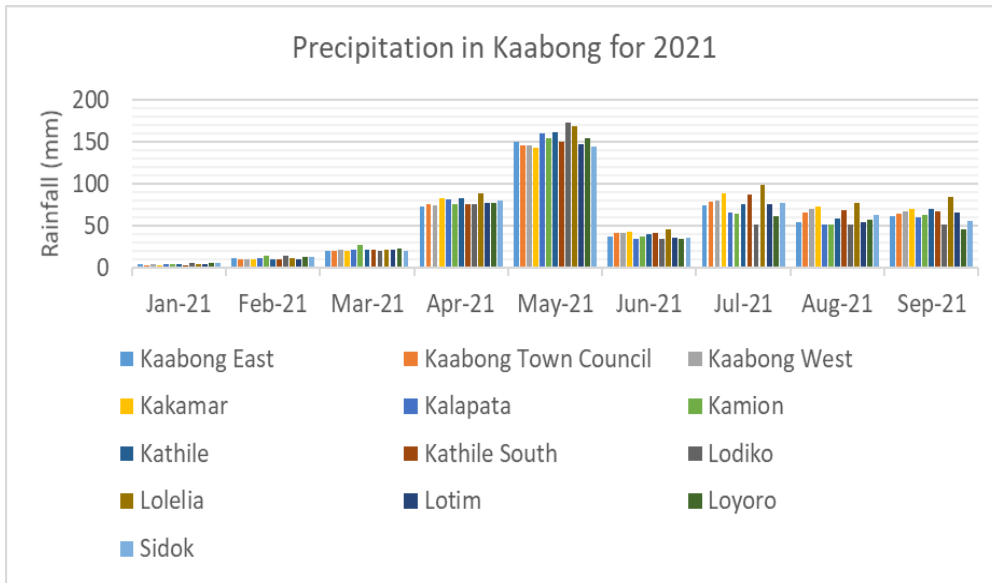
Rainfall and Current Conditions



Kaabong district received more than average rainfall in September. The southern parts of the district, Lolelia sub county experienced the most rainfall in the first 20 days of the month averaging at about 84 mm (map on the far left). The amount of precipitation reduces eastwards but with the whole district receiving above 45 mm of rain. These rainfall values resulted into normal conditions for Kaabong in terms of magnitude and severity of drought classification. The map on the right has details of all sub counties within normal and wet ranges.

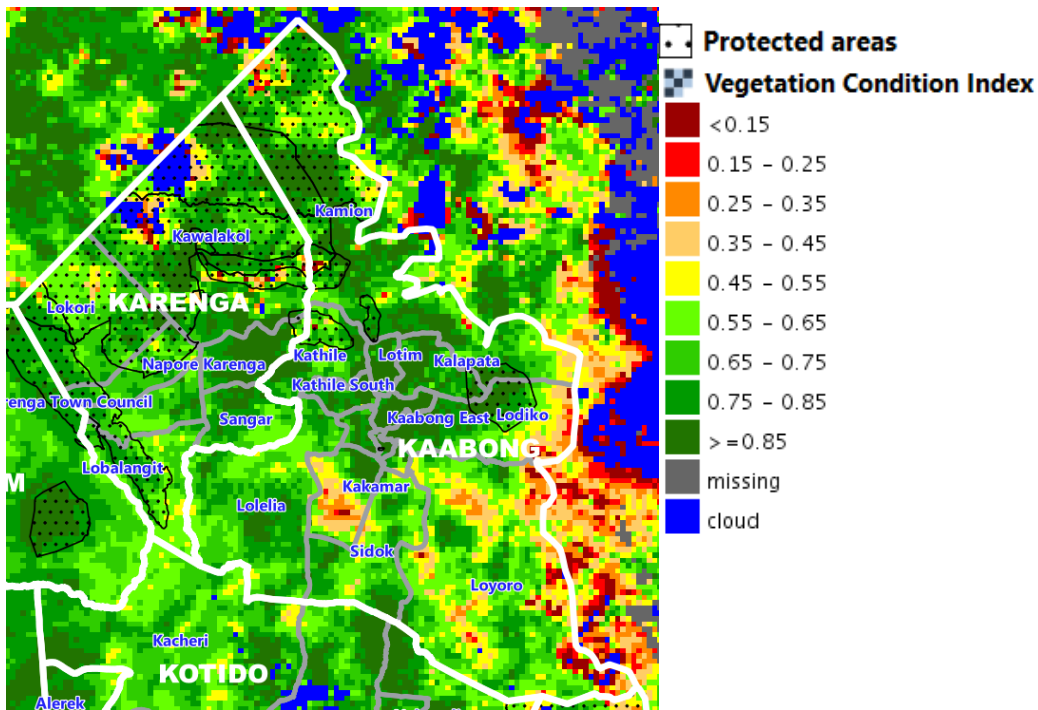
Rainfall in the first 20 days of September

Drought Severity and Magnitude based on SPI



The graphs above show how rainfall (left) and drought categories (right) have been fluctuating since the beginning of the year in January. Accordingly, in the graph June to August were months under watch since all sectors were performing fairly with SPI values below zero and September is performing averagely well as for the SPI values are above zero within district.

Vegetation Condition



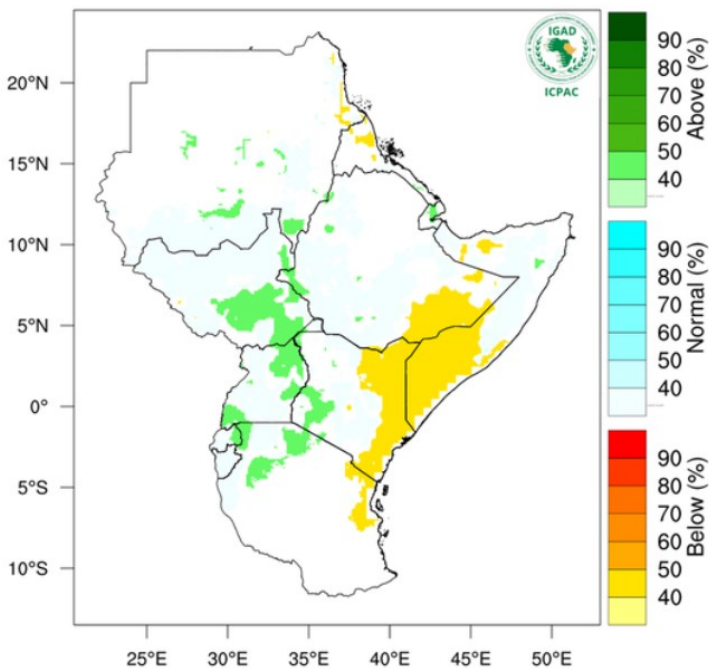
The vegetation conditions based on Vegetation Condition Index (VCI), are above average for most of the district. Sparsely distributed hotspots of vegetation stress were experienced within areas of Kakamer, eastern parts of Sidok along the Kenya – Uganda border and Loyoro sub counties.

The VCI evaluates the current vegetation health in comparison to the historical trends. The VCI relates current dekadal (10 – day) Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) to its long-term minimum and maximum, normalized by the historical range of NDVI values for the same dekad/10 days. The VCI was designed to separate the weather-related component of the NDVI from the ecological element.

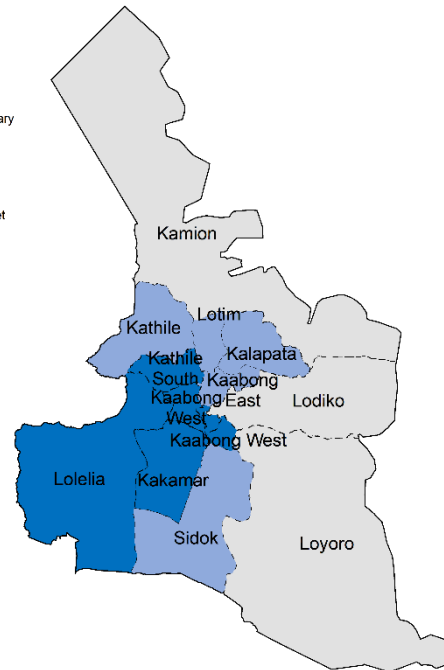
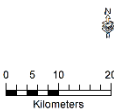
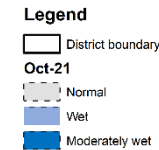
Source: FAO Earth Observation – Country Indicators:
<http://www.fao.org/giews/earthobservation/country/index.jsp?lang=en&code=UGA>

Weather Forecast

Rainfall Probabilistic Forecast for October 2021



KAABONG



Rainfall Forecast:

Rainfall forecast for October 2021 is favorable, with a greater chance of experiencing wetter than usual conditions (above normal rainfall conditions) predicted for Kaabong district as a whole. Rainfall intensity is expected to be highest in sub counties neighbouring Karenga and Kotido and reducing eastwards towards the international border with Kenya.

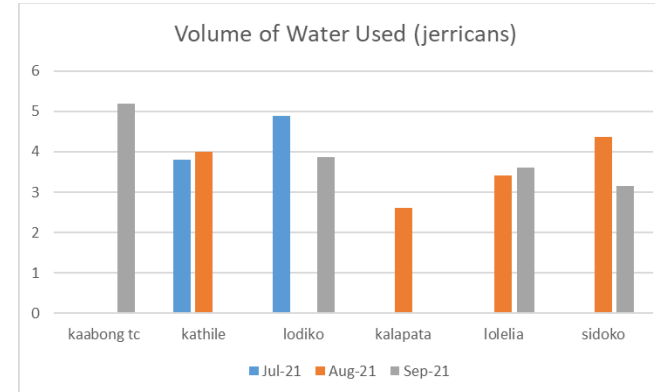
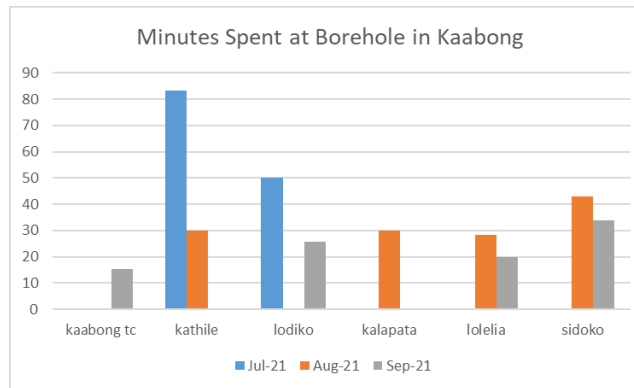
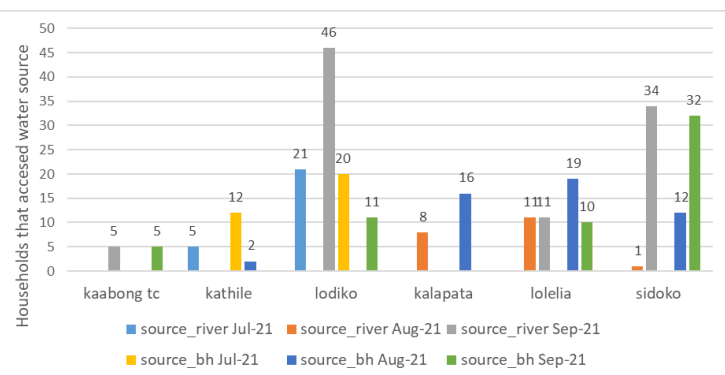
The seasonal forecast issued by the IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) is presented in the map on the left. The forecast puts at least 40% or better possibility for wetter than usual conditions. A localized computation of the ICPAC prediction highlights that Lolelia, Kathile and Kaabong Town Council are expected to receive more than normal rains in October. While areas of Kamion Sub County and Loyoro South Sub County are expected to experience normal conditions (map on the right).

Source: ICPAC – IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Center.

Risk of Drought

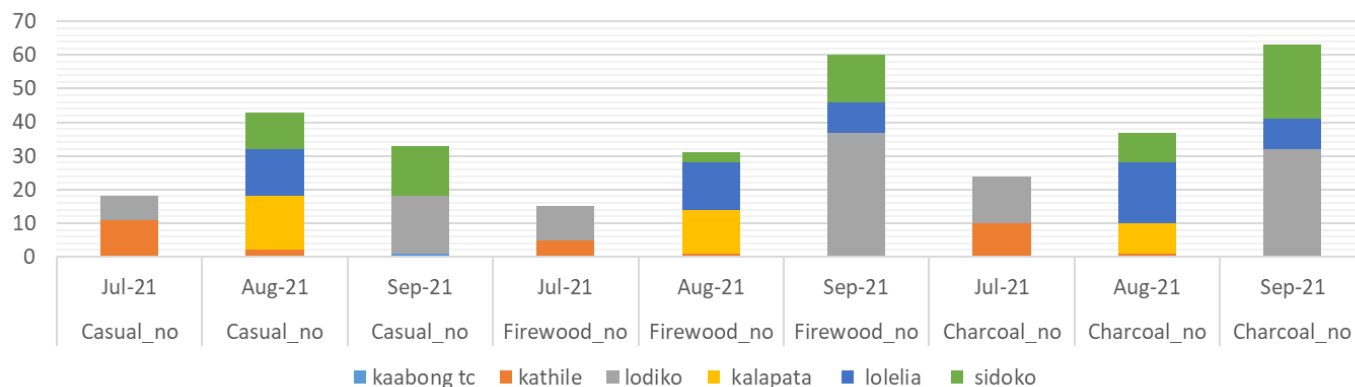
Despite negative SPI values for most of the district since June, the risk of drought is low based on the forecast for the month of October above. There is little possibility of onset of drought in October 2021 considering dry spells and intermittent rainfall amounts experienced since June 2021, though Uganda meteorological authority predicted much wetter conditions for June, July, August, September and October.

Access & Usage of Water

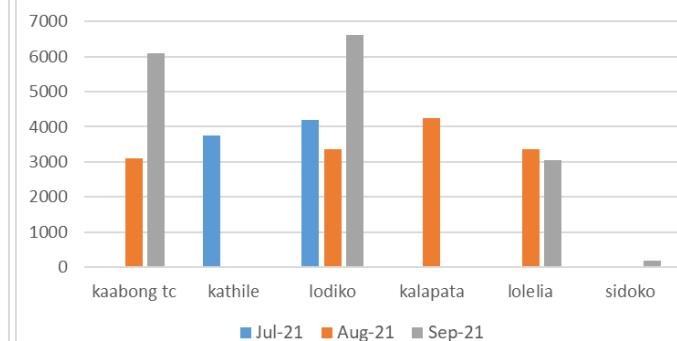


Sources of Income

Key Sources of Income July - September in Kaabong



Coping Labour Wages (UGX)



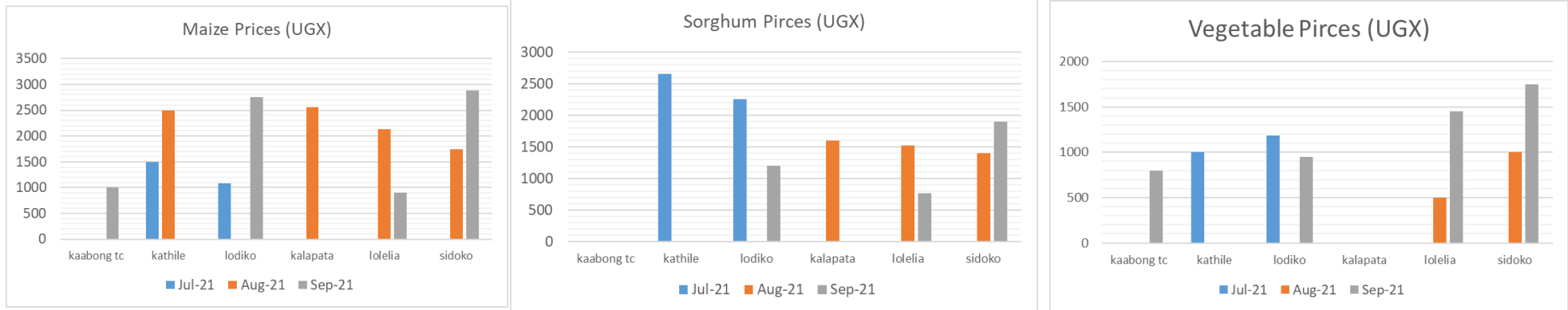
Trends in Water access, Income Sources and Food prices

There is an unexplained rise in usage of rivers in Lodiko to more than doubling between July and September. A similar rise is seen in Sidoko where borehole usage almost tripled from August to September. The time spent at boreholes reduced tremendously in Kathile, Lodiko, and Lolelia. While the number of jerricans does not change significantly from July to August. Most households in the district access water for home use from nearby rivers estimated to be an average of 2km distance with others sourcing water from community boreholes though bigger percentage of the boreholes are non-functioning due to breakage across the district. This makes the households lack enough water for domestic use leaving them in need to meet hygiene and sanitation standards at household level.

The number of households deriving income from casual labor reduced between August and September as those depending on charcoal and firewood sales kept increasing since July.



Food prices



In all the 5 sub counties of Kathile, Lodiko, Kalapata, Lolelia and Sidok, food prices were high ranging from 1250/= UGX per kilogram of Maize, Sorghum to 2200/= per kg of Irish potatoes, and most households had their own home grown vegetables except for peri-urban based households that depend on bought food stuffs including vegetables. This can further be clarified by the graphs above indicating food prices trends for the past three months in the district.

Contingency Activation

Kathile, Lodiko, Lolelia, Sidok Lodiko sub counties have been classified in Drought Early Warning (DEW) ***Phase 1 Normal*** since **Monthly SPI value is also zero or above**. Sectoral indicators are within normal or expected range. There were reported cases of crop and livestock pests and diseases especially 4 cases of Foot and Mouth Disease in Lolelia Sub county, (Anaplasmosis , East Coast Fever, mange, Helminths, fall armyworm, beetles especially in Kalapata, Lolelia, Lodiko, Sidok and Kathile sub-counties) .



There is need to continue activation of contingency plans since the district has been classified in DEW ***normal*** phase though conditions are expected to continue improving within October 2021. Action is also needed to deal with cases of livestock/ crop pests and diseases as well as insecurity in communities within the district.

Early Action Messages

Appropriate early messages for October 2021 conditions in Kaabong district include: Dissemination of Early warning information through different channels (frequent spot messages via radio/ church leaders, community health centers, public address systems, are recommended as well as SMS directly to households in local dialect).

Early Warning Messages

These messages cut across Social Economic and Livelihoods, Livestock, Crop, Water and Health sectors as indicated below:

SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND LIVELIHOOD SECTORS

- Households are encouraged to use income obtained from casual labor, economic activities (sales of livestock, charcoal, brewing, retail business and others) to buy food stock and reserve for future consumption.
- Communities are advised to harvest, stock foods, minimize post-harvest losses, use the harvested foods sparingly while reserving for consumption in the period of scarcity.

LIVESTOCK SECTOR

- Communities are advised to report any cases of livestock raids, theft and insecurity immediately to authorities for follow-up.
- Farmers are encouraged to keep hygiene for kraals including routine spraying, vaccination and deworming of their livestock
- Train livestock herders on correct use and application of acaricides by the sellers and community animal health workers who are qualified and registered service providers.
- Conduct routine livestock disease surveillance by district authorities in addition to regularly report any disease outbreaks to the extension officers.
- Ensure restriction in the movements of animals to control spread of livestock diseases especially FMD.
- Households are encouraged to boil/ cook animal products (beef, milk & blood) properly before eating to control incidences of Brucellosis and other diseases.



- Development partners are advised to support the district with vaccination of livestock against FMD and other diseases.
- District Veterinary Officer is advised to map out sub counties with cases of FMD for follow up and support.
- District Veterinary department to source vaccines through MAAIF line department

CROP SECTOR

- Encourage population to use food stocks sparingly especially communities that have benefited from green harvest to dry their food and store it.
- Practice soil and water conservation measures such as digging of water retention ditches, contour bans, mulching to preserve adequate soil moisture for vegetable growth.
- Communities are encouraged to practice vegetable growing and kitchen gardening to support household food nutrition security.
- Farmers are encouraging to report prevalent cases of crop diseases and pests and the district agricultural department is encouraged to stock crop pesticides and fungicides for use in case any pest and disease outbreak including training farmers to adopt use of organic pesticides.
- District production department is encouraged to regularly conduct crop pests and disease surveillance for timely/early action.

WATER SECTOR

- Communities are encouraged to use boreholes / taps as the main sources of water for drinking to avoid infections.
- Communities are encouraged to put in place water harvesting facilities under their roofs like tanks and drums to harvest rain water when and if it rains.
- Communities are encouraged to maintain hygiene around existing water sources.
- Report any borehole breakages to the right authorities as soon as possible so that they can be helped in time.
- District water department is encouraged to carry boreholes/taps functionality assessments to help map out faulty ones for repairs.
- District Water Officer is advised to work hand in hand with the Sub County Development Officer in mobilizing, establishing and training of water user managing committees.
- District Water Officer/ DCDO/SCDO are advised to collaborate with the political leadership to ensure proper maintenance of the water points and sources.

HEALTH SECTOR

- Communities are encouraged to sleep under insecticide treated mosquito nets already distributed and clear bushes around HHs and homesteads



- People Living with HIV/AIDS and are on ART are encouraged to adhere to their medication routine for effectiveness and efficiency in treating the disease.
- Development partners are advised to support people leaving with HIV/AIDS in Kaabong district with food supplements to boost their immunity during this lean season.
- DHO is advised to keep updated records and provide counselling to those living with HIV/AIDS
- Communities are advised to follow Covid-19 standard operating procedures (SOPS) issued by the Ministry of Health (social distancing, washing hands regularly with soap, wearing masks especially when in crowded places) and going for vaccination when an opportunity presents itself.