

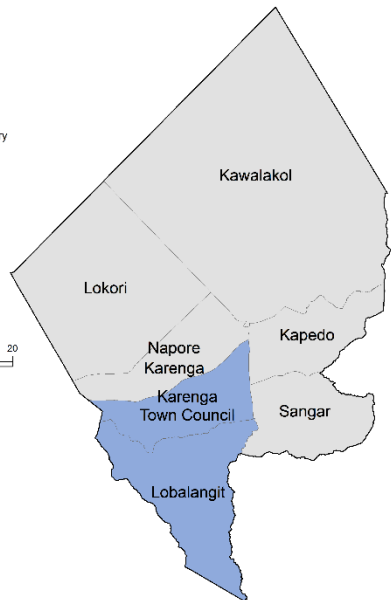
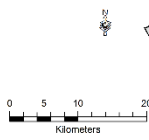
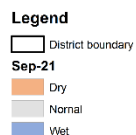


KARENGA DROUGHT BULLETIN SEPTEMBER 2021

Strengthening Shock Responsive Systems in Karamoja

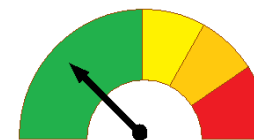


KARENGA



Watch

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

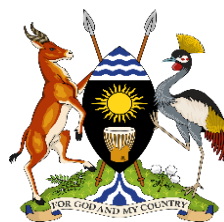


Normal

Sub counties	July	August	September
Kapedo	Watch	Watch	Normal
Kawalakol	Watch	Normal	Normal
Lokori	Watch	Normal	Normal
Karenga	Watch	Normal	Normal
Lobalangit	Watch	Normal	Normal

Situational Overview

Overall, the district is rated at a **Watch** stage; this is in relation to the outbreak of African swine fever reported in the Agro-Pastoral zone (Kapedo, Kawalakol and Sangar) and prevalence of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) intensified by the prevalence of endemic tick-borne and tsetse flies, threat from COVID19, prevalence of malaria which stands at 56.6%, increasing interference of wild animals on peoples crop gardens reported in Sangar, Lokori and Lobalangit Sub Counties. It was reported in the month of July 2021 that problem animals destroyed **327.5** acres of Cassava, Sorghum, Maize and Millet gardens by the Wild animals in Kapedo, Sangar and Kawalakol Sub Counties.



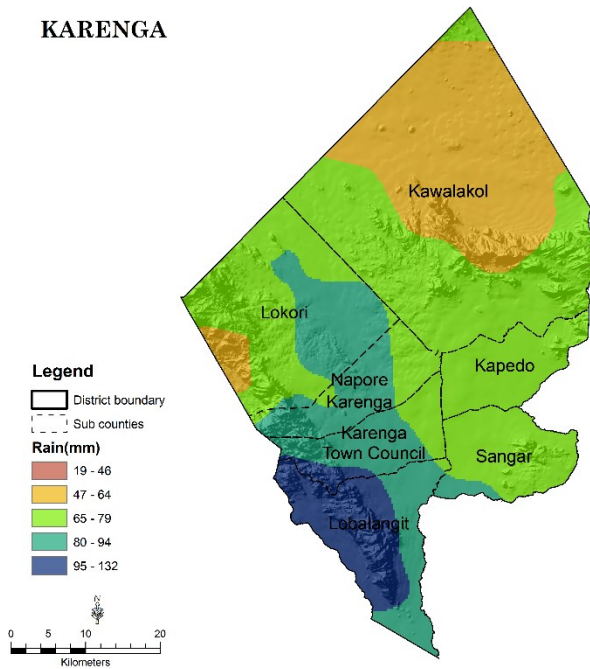
Sectors	Sectoral levels	Comments and Recommendations
Socio-economic		<p>The commercial sector is noted to be on ALERT this is attributed to the high food prices caused by scarcity of the food items in the market, depletion of food stocks at household level; the market price for Maize goes for UGX 1,500 per kilogram in both Kapedo and Lobalangit, while the market price for Sorghum goes for UGX 900 and UGX 1,000 in Kapedo, Kawalakol and Karenga</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members are advised to venture into other income generating activities like pot making. Farmers are called upon to improve on their seed quality to compete favorably in the market. Partners are requested to strengthen farmer organizations to support farmers in marketing their products. Farmers are encouraged to plant short maturing crop varieties like <i>“muranga pul”</i> beans type.
	Watch	
Livestock		<p>The livestock sector is recorded to be on WATCH this is in relation to the outbreak of African swine fever reported in the Agro-Pastoral zone (Kapedo, Kawalakol and Sangar) and prevalence of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) intensified by the prevalence of endemic tick-borne and tsetse flies.</p> <p>However, the situation is expected to normalize with measures that have been put in place like quarantine, vaccination that is ongoing against FMD; the production department is planning to complete vaccination of livestock in the remaining Sub Counties of Kapedo and Sangar with the 5000 doses of FMD vaccine in store.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farmers are encouraged to present their animals for vaccination against FMD. Farmers are advised to control movements of their animals to avoid catching the African swine fever. <p>Farmers are advocated to open more chunks of land to improve agricultural production.</p>
	Watch	
Water		<p>The water sector ranked under NORMAL for three consecutive months this is credited to the borehole coverage that stands at 82% and functionality stands at 79%, presence of numerous water sources (boreholes, taps, rivers, river wells, pans and dams).</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The water department is encouraging stakeholders to map out areas of water stress like Kakwanga thereafter direct appropriate interventions. <p>The water sector is welcoming support from partners to put up a gravity water system in Lobalangit Sub County</p>
	Normal	
Livelihoods		<p>The health sector is estimated at a WATCH this is ascribed to the threat from COVID19, prevalence of malaria which stands at 56.6% the prevalence of malaria is caused by community reluctance in utilizing nets that were given to them by the ministry of health and bushy surroundings of the homesteads that act as breeding grounds for mosquitoes.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The District Health Sector recommends continuous surveillance of COVID19 cases with the help of the Local Council One chairpersons and the village health teams. The District Health Sector encourages community members to cooperate during contact tracing of the suspected COVID19 contacts. .
	Watch	



2- DROUGHT SEVERITY AND OUTLOOK

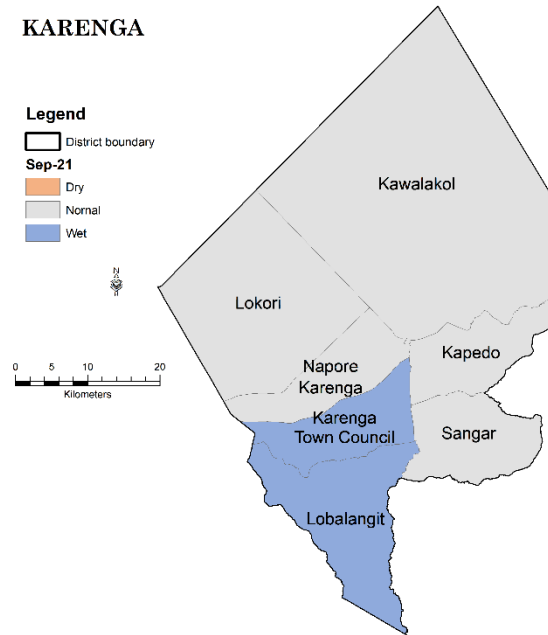
Rainfall and Current Conditions

KARENGA



Rainfall in the first 20 days of September

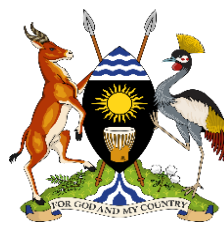
KARENGA



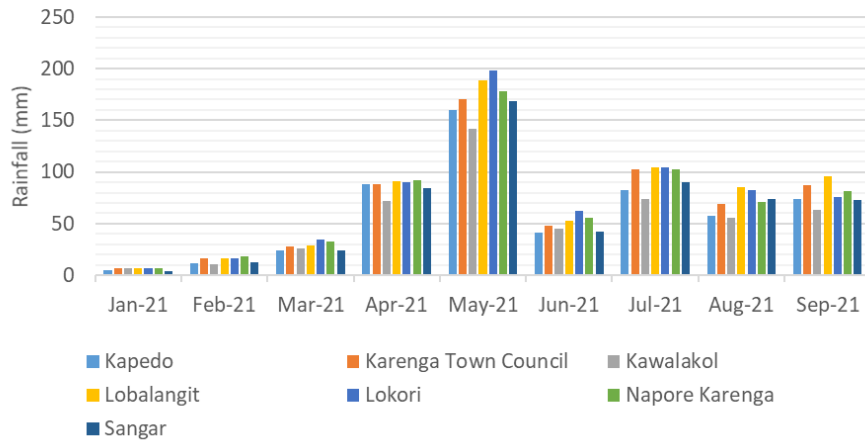
Drought Severity and Magnitude based on SPI

Karenga received rainfall ranging from 63 – 95 mm. The southern parts of the district in Lobalangit sub county experienced the most rainfall in the first 20 days of the month (map on the far left). The amount of precipitation reduces northwards but with the whole district receiving above 75 mm of rain. These rainfall values resulted into normal conditions for Nabilatuk in terms of magnitude and severity of drought classification for the northern part of Karenga. The map on the right has details of all sub counties within normal or expected ranges.

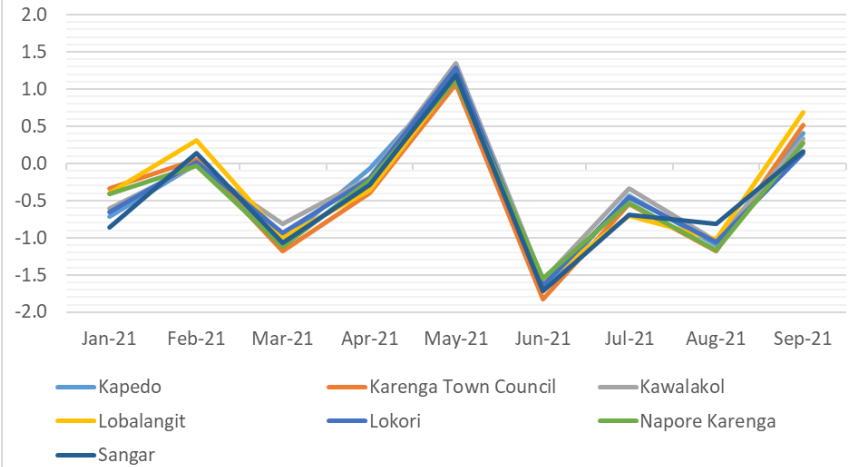
Source: FEWSNET



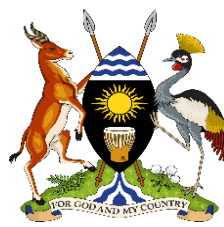
Precipitation in Karenga for 2021



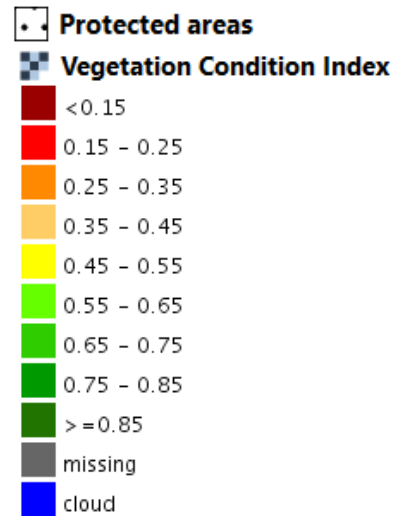
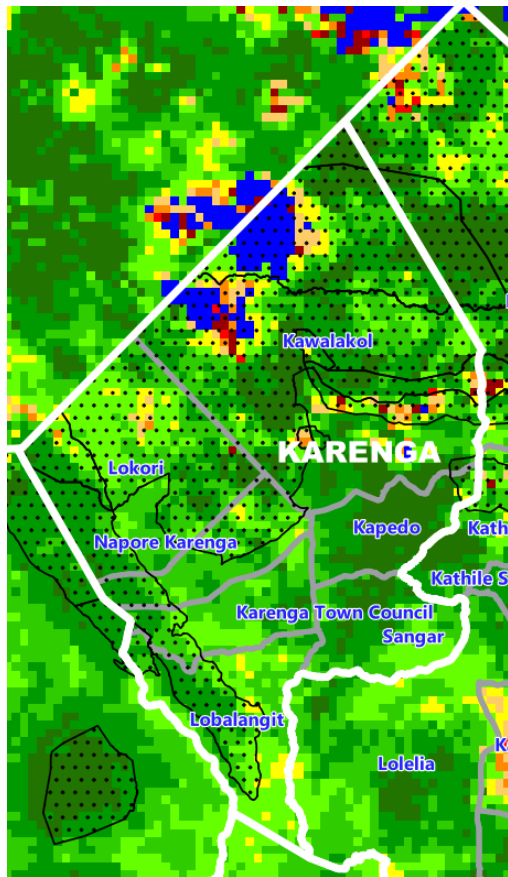
SPI (One month) in Karenga for 2021



The graphs above show how rainfall (left) and Drought categories (right) have been fluctuating since the beginning of the year in January 2021. In the graphs, the month of September 2021 received moderate rainfall amounts during the last two Weeks; this was unevenly distributed throughout the District with the Agricultural zone experiencing more rainfall as compared to the Agro-Pastoral zone. This explains why river and river well water was used by households in the Agricultural zone,



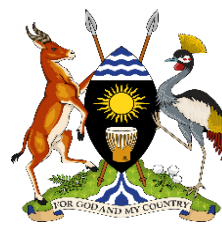
Vegetation Condition



The vegetation conditions based on Vegetation Condition Index (VCI), are above average for the southern part of the District. The vegetation conditions in the North Eastern part (Kawalakol) and Southern part (Lobalangit) Sub Counties show signs of vegetation and crop stress in localized and specific spots to about 15 % below long-term average.

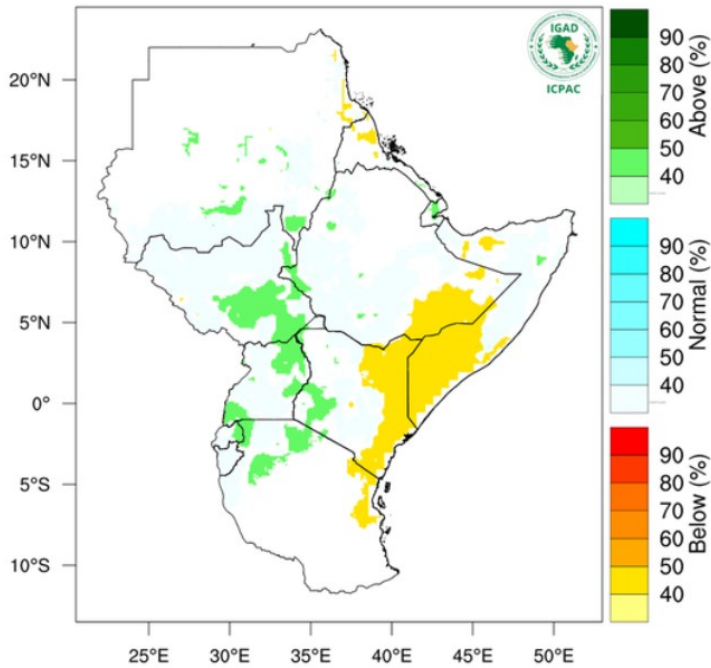
The VCI evaluates the current vegetation health in comparison to the historical trends. The VCI relates current dekadal (10 – day) Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) to its long-term minimum and maximum, normalized by the historical range of NDVI values for the same dekad/10 days. The VCI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

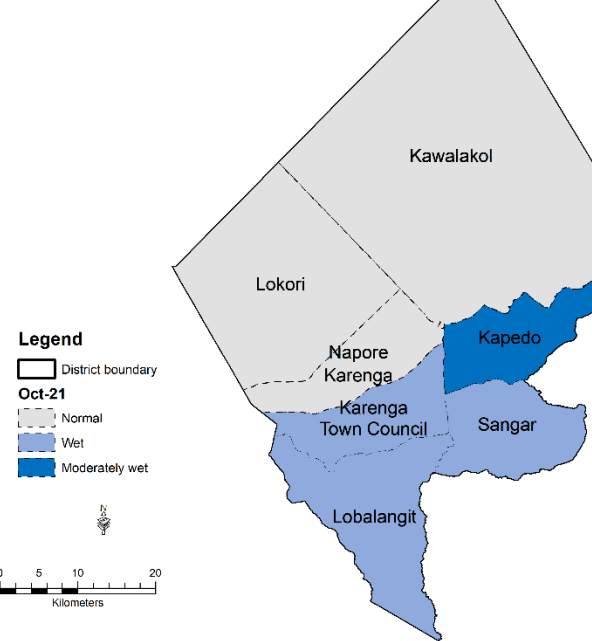


Weather Forecast

Rainfall Probabilistic Forecast for October 2021



KARENGA

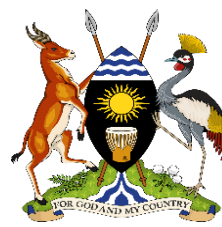


Rainfall Forecast:

Rainfall forecast for October 2021 is favorable, with a greater chance of experiencing wetter than usual conditions (above normal rainfall conditions) predicted for Karenga district as a whole.

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 Kawalakol, Lokori and Napore Karenga are expected to receive normal rains in October. While areas of Town council, Lobalangit and Sangar Sub County are expected to be wetter than usual and Kapedo will most likely be the wettest (map on the right).

Source: ICPAC – IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Center.

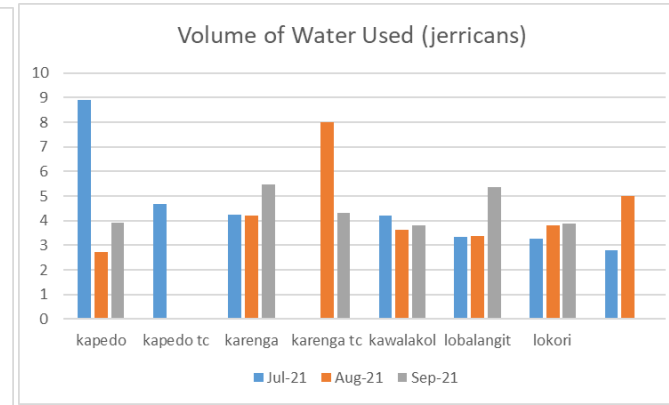
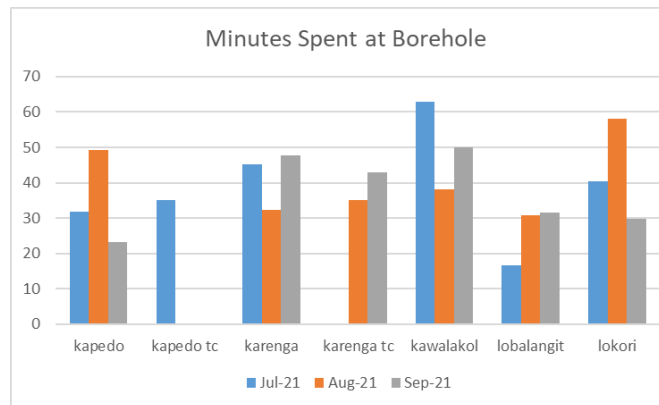
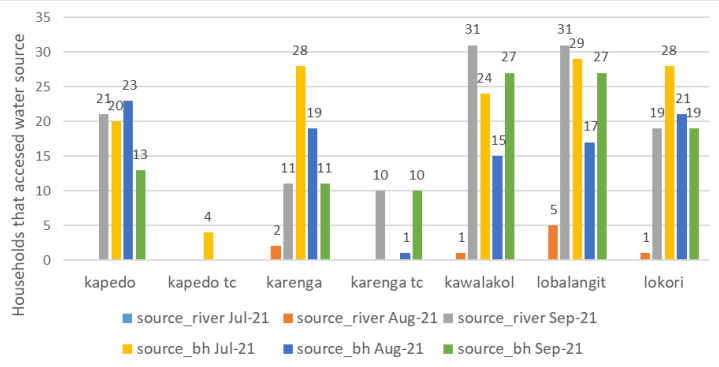


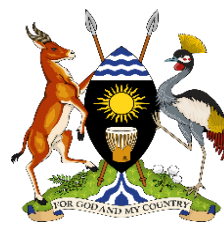
Risk of Drought

In spite of negative SPI values for most of the District since June and July, the risk of Drought is low. With projections from the September, October, November, and December (SOND) weather forecast, the intermittent rains are expected to continue up to around late September. Overall, there are high chances for slightly more than normal rains over this region.

Considering of September 2021 Standard Precipitation Index Values for the four (4) Sub Counties and one (1) Town Council in Karenga District (Karenga Town Council, Kapedo, Kawalakol, Lobalangit, Lokori, and Karenga Sub Counties) all fall under zero (in neutral values). Water for livestock and human consumption is available since water sources (rivers/ springs, boreholes, taps, pans & dams, ponds and water ponds) are reportedly having water.

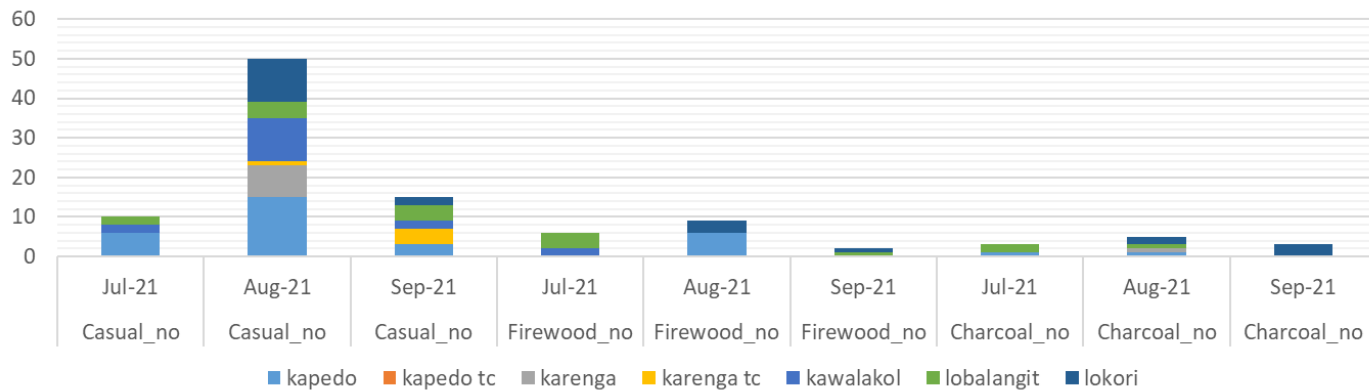
Access & Usage of Water



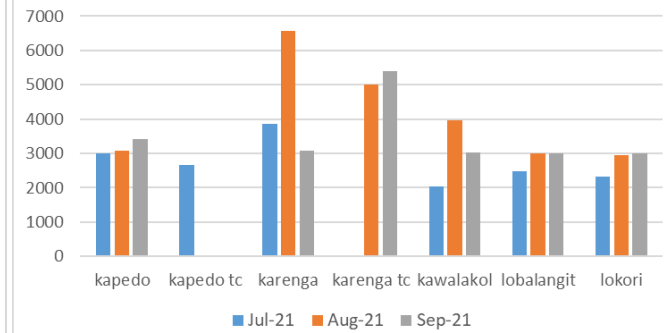


Sources of Income

Key Sources of Income July - September



Coping Labour Wages (UGX)

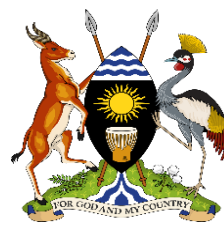


Trends in Water access, Income Sources and Food prices

The following were the main water sources used by the communities during the month of September 2021; in the Agricultural Livelihood zone; borehole, Tap, River, and River well; while, in the Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone, households were mainly using Boreholes and Tap water.

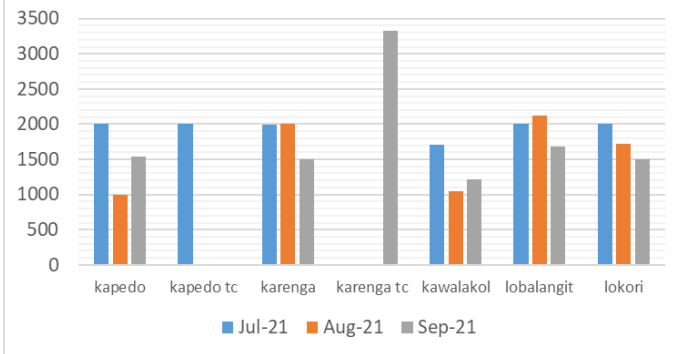
The District Water Section observed that, the average time taken to fetch water by the Households was moderately good, this is credited to the borehole coverage that stands at 82% and functionality stands at 79%, presence of numerous water sources (boreholes, taps, rivers, river wells, pans and dams).

The commercial sector noted that brewing (not shown in graphs) is high in Kapedo, Karenga and Kawalakol as a source of income with higher returns than most activities because, there is readily available local material in the community for the activity. The community Development Officer argued that brewing does not require a skill and that explains why the activity is prevalent in those communities. The district planner in his comment mentioned that brewing is high because it does not require much capital to start. The district education Officer in yet another comment said, the community in Lobalangit depends on groups for casual labour farming, in that case, the employer of the group has to make local brew to facilitate the weeding activity that explains why brewing is high Lobalangit. In a discussion, the commercial sector reported that the high market prices for Maize and Sorghum is attributed to the scarcity of the commodities in the market, high food prices in Kapedo and Kawalakol is as a result of low production.

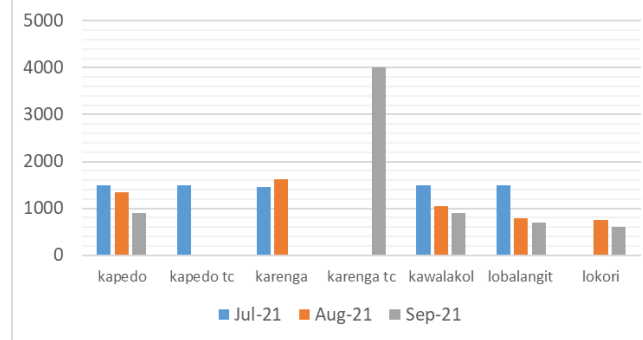


Food prices

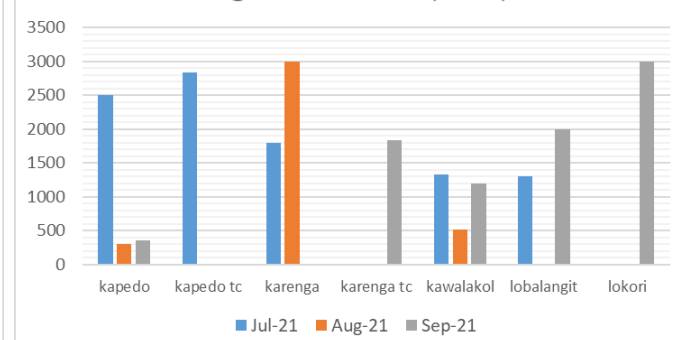
Maize Prices (UGX)



Sorghum Prices (UGX)



Vegetable Prices (UGX)



Contingency Activation

There is need to activate contingency plans since the District has been classified under *Watch* phase classification and conditions are expected to deteriorate further. Action is also needed to deal with cases of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) among livestock as well as crop pests and diseases, insecurity in the neighboring Districts of Kaabong and Kotido which might sneak into the District.

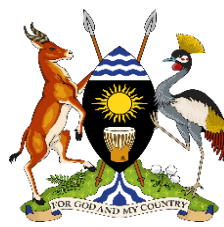
Early Action Messages

Appropriate Early Warning messages for September 2021 conditions in Karenga District.

Dissemination of Early warning information through different channels (public address system moving around the community airing out early warning messages, are recommended as well as WhatsApp messages to groups and SMS to key informants).



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



- Community members are advised to venture into other income generating activities like pot making.
- Farmers are called upon to improve on their seed quality to compete favorably in the market.
- Partners are requested to strengthen farmer organizations to support farmers in marketing their products.
- Farmers are advised to diversify crop production with other activities like petty trade to avoid relying on one item.
- Community members are encouraged to plant short maturing crop varieties like “*muranga pul*” beans type.
- Farmers are encouraged to present their animals for vaccination against FMD.
- Farmers are advised to control movements of their animals to avoid catching the African swine fever.
- The community is advocated to open more chunks of land to improve agricultural production.
- Farmers are advised to buy seeds from recommended seed companies.
- Community members are encouraged to use the available rains to grow vegetables.
- Farmers are instructed to preserve vegetables to consume in times of scarcity.
- The water department is encouraging stakeholders to map out areas of water stress like Kakwanga thereafter direct appropriate interventions.
- The water sector is welcoming support from partners to put up a gravity water system in Lobalangit Sub County.
- The District Health Sector recommends continuous surveillance of COVID19 cases with the help of the Local Council One chairpersons and the village health teams.
- The District Health Sector encourages the public to cooperate during contact tracing of the suspected COVID19 contacts.
- The health department urges partners to strengthen support for VHT activities through monthly or quarterly meetings.
- There is need to monitor utilization of the ICCM drugs.
- The health sector recommends partners to strengthen health education to communities on management of malaria.