

MOROTO DROUGHT BULLETIN SEPTEMBER 2021

Strengthening Shock Responsive Systems in Karamoja

MOROTO

Legend

□ District boundary

Sep-21

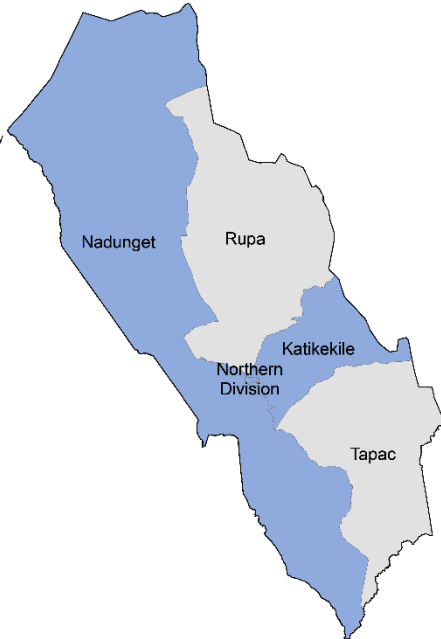
■ Dry

■ Normal

■ Wet



0 5 10 20
Kilometers



EWPC (Early Warning Phase
Classification)



Normal



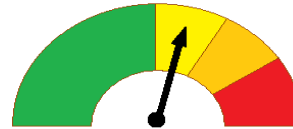
Watch



Alarm



Emergency



Watch



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

Sub counties	July	August	September
Nadunget	Watch	Alarm	Watch
Rupa	Watch	Alarm	Watch
Tapac	Normal	Watch	Watch
Katikekile	Normal	Watch	Watch
South Division	Watch	Watch	Watch
North Division	Watch	Watch	Watch

Situational Overview

The district is noted to be in the Watch stage and this is mainly attributed to the fact that the crop sector is noted to be at the Watch stage because of the poor harvest registered in the district, the health sector is at Watch because of the COVID 19 pandemic that has hindered a lot of activities besides the other human diseases that have continued to affect the district, the livestock sector is at Watch because of the continued insecurity that has continuously led to loss of livestock in the district coupled with the prevalent livestock diseases in the district, and the livelihood sector is also at Watch because of the **high risk coping strategies being used such as**; extensive exploitation and sale of natural resources, sale of personal physical assets, early and forced marriages among children under 18 years besides using them for child labor.



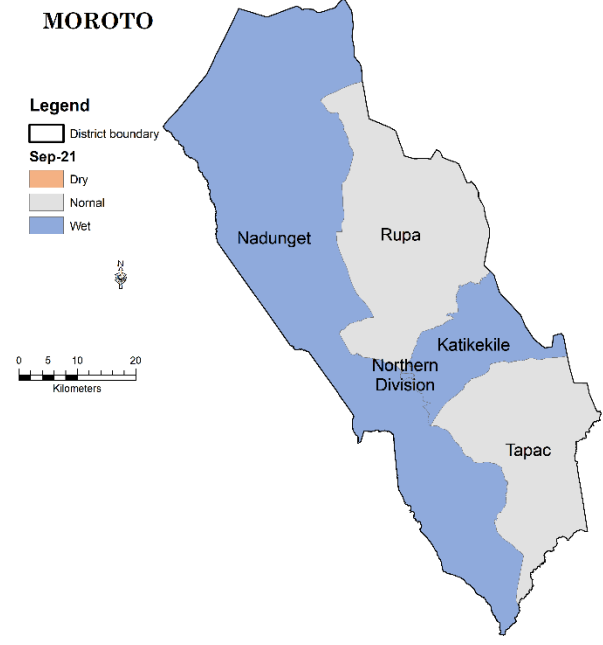
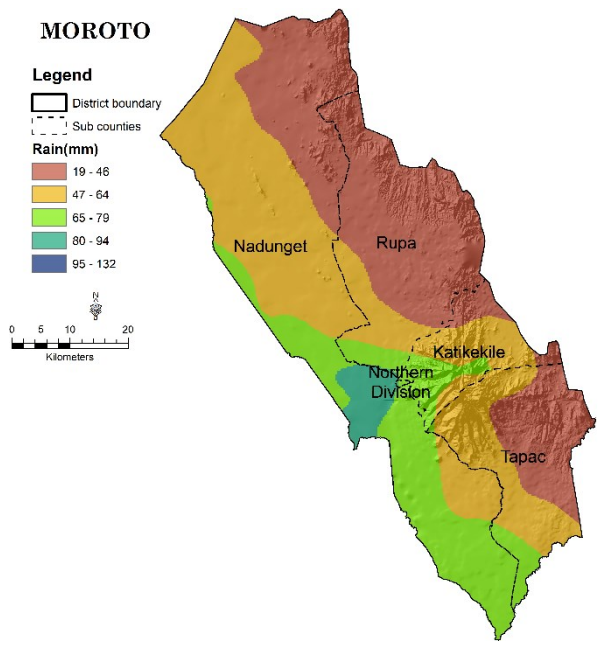
ANALYSIS OF SECTORS

Sectors	Sectoral levels	Comments
Socio-economic		All indicators such as cost of casual labor, prices of food items, livestock, terms of trade and food stock estimates are within watch thresholds. Diverse livelihood activities were registered during the month and include; Bodaboda riding, casual labor, brewing, mining etc. However, despite the above diversity the sector is noted to be in the Watch stage because most of the households have started using high risk copying strategies such as; extensive exploitation and sale of natural resources, sale of personal physical assets, early and forced marriages among children under 18 years besides using them for child labor
	Watch	
Livestock		This sector is in the watch stage. This is mainly attributed to the prevalent livestock diseases (Anaplasmosi, CCPP, CBPP, East Coast Fever, Heart water, Foot rot, Helminthiasis and Parvoviruses and worm infestation) and the current insecurity that has put animals at threat.
	Watch	
Water		This sector is at the Normal stage because all the households noted that they were using safe water sources such as boreholes and taps as the main source of water, time spent to fetch water was at the normal threshold and access was also noted to be at normal threshold.
	Normal	
Crop		The sector is considered to be in the watch because of the dry spell in the month of June and August that affected crops generally especially maize and beans. There were cases of crop pests and coupled with the poor harvest that has been registered in the district across all the sub counties in the district.
	Watch	
Health		This sector is considered to be in the Watch because of the high current COVID 19 cases, high malnutrition cases coupled with other diseases like malaria, Tuberculosis etc.
	Watch	



2- DROUGHT SEVERITY AND OUTLOOK

Rainfall and Current Conditions

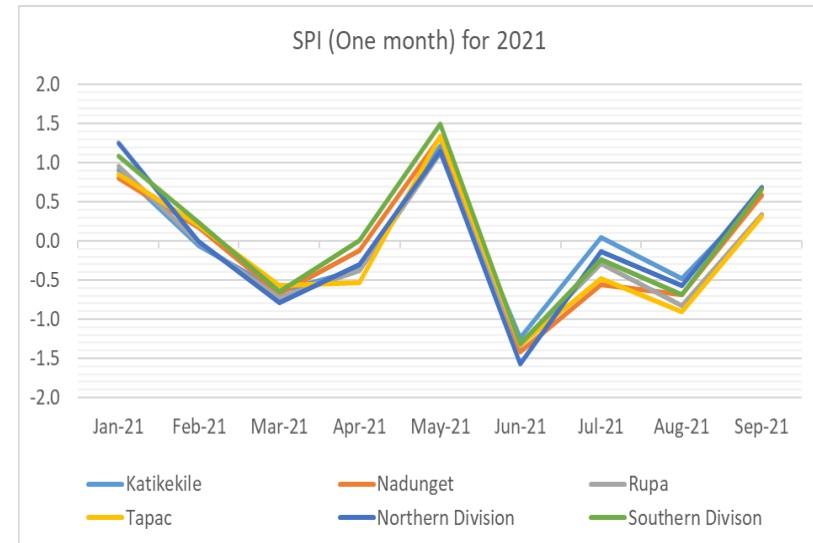
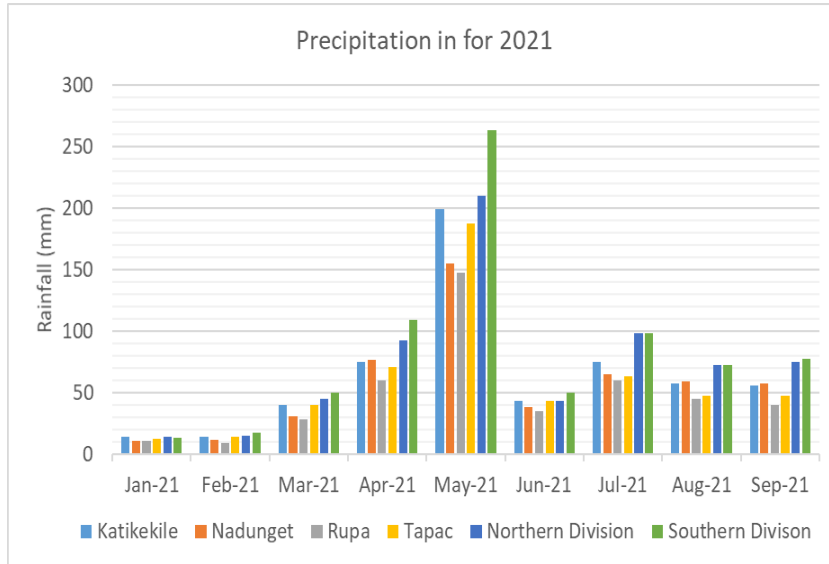


Moroto district was characterized with rainfall of between 39 and 78 mm across the district with most of the rain being experienced in the areas of the Municipality. Rupa and Tapac Sub counties received the least amount of rainfall of less than 40mm.

Source: FEWSNET

Rainfall in the first 20 days of September

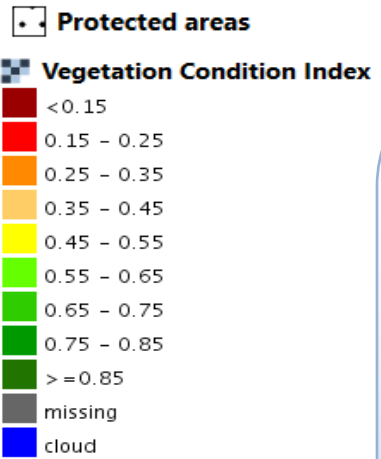
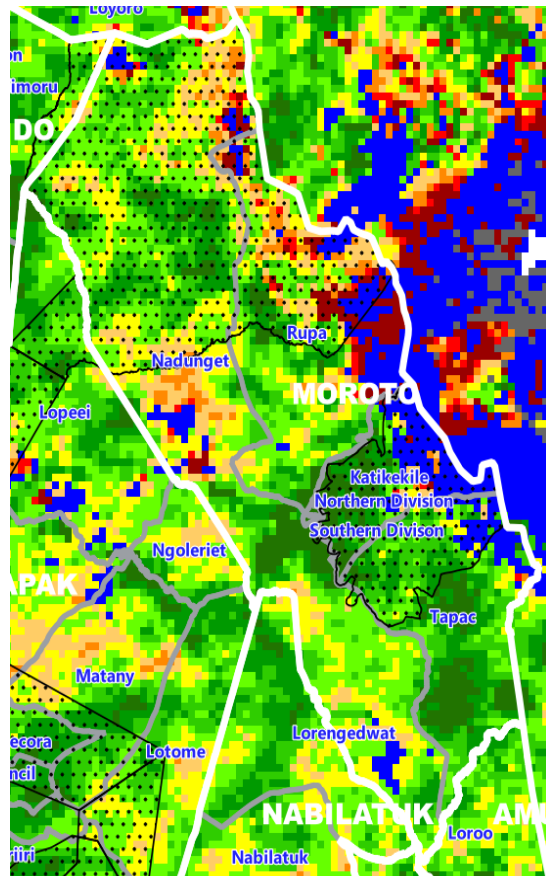
Drought Severity and Magnitude based on SPI



The graphs above show how rainfall (left) and drought categories (right) have been fluctuating since the beginning of the year in January. September registered and improvement in the SPI values with all in the positive normal area with the least being registered during the month of June 2021. The district registered some rainfall of <80mm across the whole district.



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 spotted southern parts Rupa and spotted eastern parts of Katikekile show elements of vegetation and crop stress in localized and specific spots up to less than 15 % below long-term average.

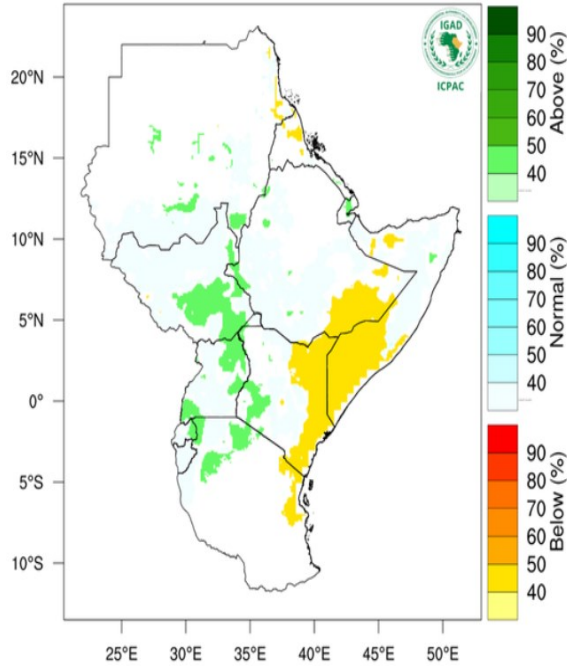
The VCI evaluates the current vegetation health in comparison to the historical trends. The VCI relates current dekadal (10 - day) Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) to its long-term minimum and maximum, normalized by the historical range of NDVI values for the same dekad/10 days. The VCI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



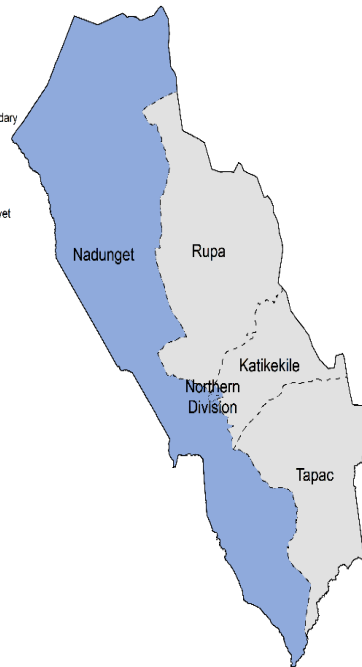
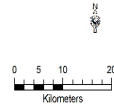
Weather Forecast

Rainfall Probabilistic Forecast for October 2021



MOROTO

- Legend**
- District boundary
 - Oct-21
 - Normal
 - Wet
 - Moderately wet



Rainfall Forecast:

Rainfall forecast for October 2021 is favorable, with a greater chance of experiencing wet conditions (above normal rainfall conditions) predicted for Nadunget Sub county. The seasonal forecast issued by the IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) is presented in the map on the left. The Prediction shows that the sub counties of Rupa, Katikekile and Tapac are projected to receive less rain compared to the municipality and Nadunget sub county.

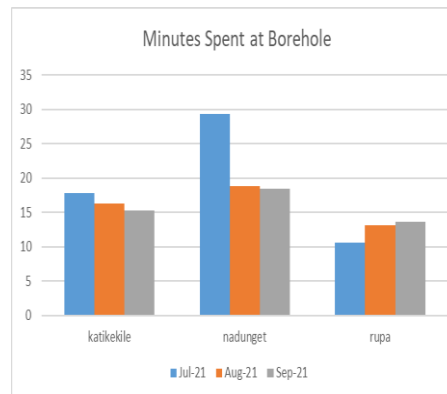
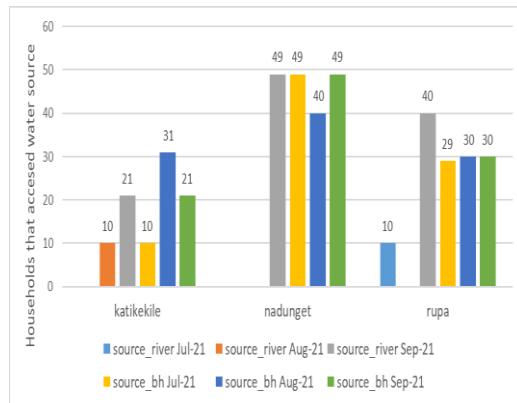
Source: ICPAC – IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Center.



Risk of Drought

The risk of drought for the month of October is low because the forecasted SPI values shows an improvement and the rainfall forecast shows that the district is expected to be wet

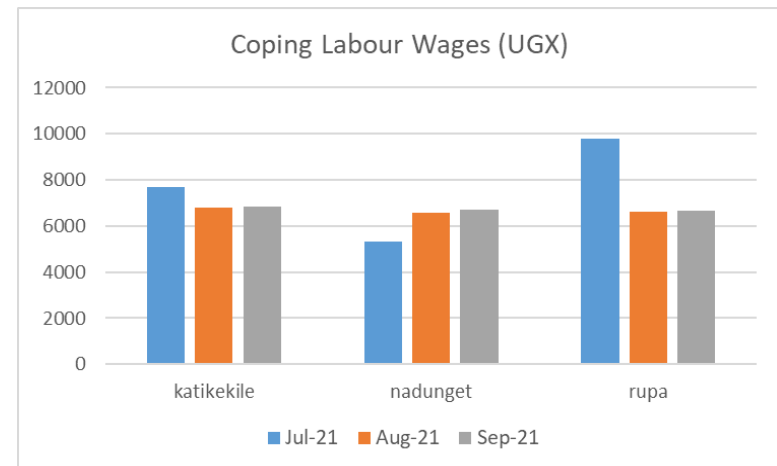
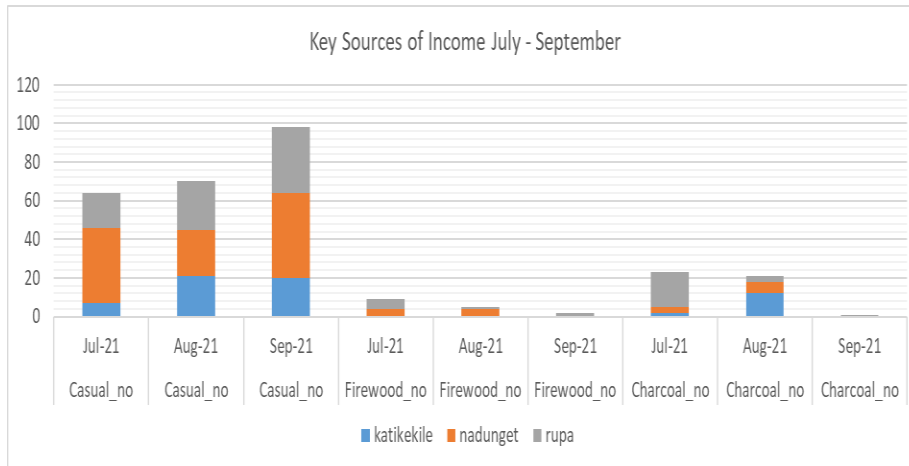
Access & Usage of Water



Boreholes have been noted as the main source of water during the previous three months and the time taken to access water from these sources has been noted to be normal at below 30 minutes. This is mainly attributed to the repairs done by the district, partners and the water user communities.



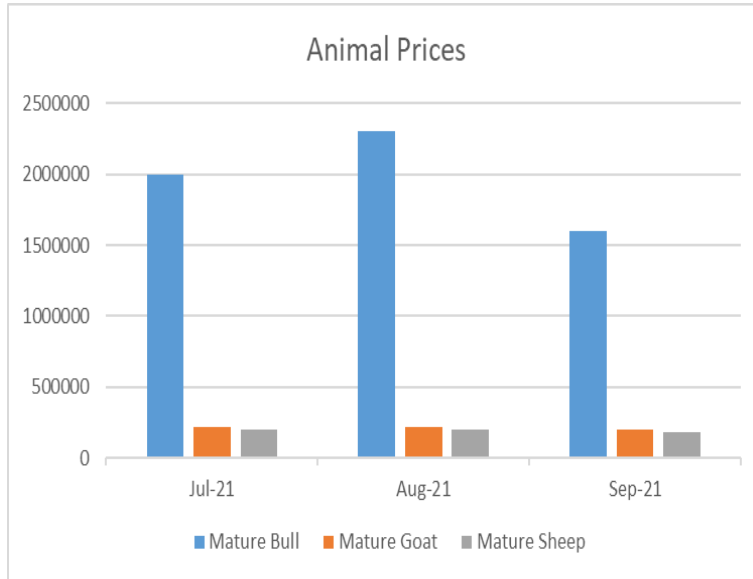
Sources of Income and labor prices



The main sources of income registered during the previous three months include, provision of casual labor, sale of charcoal and sale of firewood by households. The price of casual labor has been noted to remain stable. The district also noted that communities have started engaging in high risk coping mechanisms such as engaging young children in provision of casual labor and this is mainly attributed to poor performance of the crop sector coupled with loss of livestock to insecurity.



Food and Animal prices



Animal and food prices have been noted to reduce during the month of September 2021. This is mainly attributed to the opening of the markets that has made these items relatively available hence forces prices down.



Contingency Activation

The

contingency plan should be activated based on the fact that the crop sector was greatly affected by pest infestations (Fall Army Worm, Sorghum smuts, and Cassava Mosaic) and the dry spell that resulted in to a very poor harvest, food is depleting from the household granaries, the livestock sector has continued to be hit by parasites and tick-borne diseases, labor prices decreased while food prices increased and communities have continuously resorted to adverse coping mechanisms such as having one meal, engaging in child labor, taking children for early marriages etc.

Early Action Messages

No	Sector	Early Warning Message
01	Socio-Economic and Livelihoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DDMC to continuously update their contingency plans to foster early response ▪ Communities should avoid tree cutting and bush burning to preserve pastures ▪ Communities are encouraged not use child labor and avoid marrying of children at an early age of less than 18 years and sub county officials are called upon to enforce the enacted ordinances and bylaws on child labor. ▪ Community department is encouraged to revive the early childhood development centers so as to keep the children engaged ▪ The natural resource department is encouraged to foster proper catchment management to avoid encroachment on wetlands ▪ Communities with woodlots are encouraged to water the young trees ▪ Communities are encouraged to practice natural tree regeneration
02	Livestock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Livestock owners are encouraged to practice rotational grazing to avoid overgrazing ▪ Farmers are encouraged to maintain manageable herds and carry out pest controls. ▪ Farmers and livestock intervention partners are encouraged to continue routine vaccination and animal treatment against common diseases and worms ▪ Livestock farmers are encouraged to make hay and use pastures sparingly.
03	Crops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Farmers are encouraged to plant short maturing crops like vegetables



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Farmers are encouraged to use proper post-harvest and storage practices to minimize losses ▪ Farmers are encouraged to use low cost or small scale drip irrigation such as use of plastic bottles and water
04	Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use water sparingly since there is a likelihood of water stress. ▪ Partners and the district should support in desilting of valley dams to ensure maximum water collection. ▪ Wash partners are the water user communities are encouraged to repair boreholes that have broken down. ▪ There is need for WASH partners and the department to upgrade the high yielding boreholes to motorized boreholes to enhance their productivity.
05	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Department advises the community to follow standard operating guidelines issued by the MoH i.e. social distancing, washing hands regularly with soap, wearing masks, especially when in crowded places. ▪ Health workers should intensify health education and awareness campaigns on the use of mosquito nets, slashing of bushes around homesteads, disposing open containers, filling up open pits, and draining stagnant water around homesteads in order to reduce breeding places for mosquitoes ▪ Health workers should ensure increased surveillance of diseases ▪ Communities are advised to stop using mosquito nets for not intended purposes and sub counties are advised to enact ordinances to apprehend those who miss use nets.