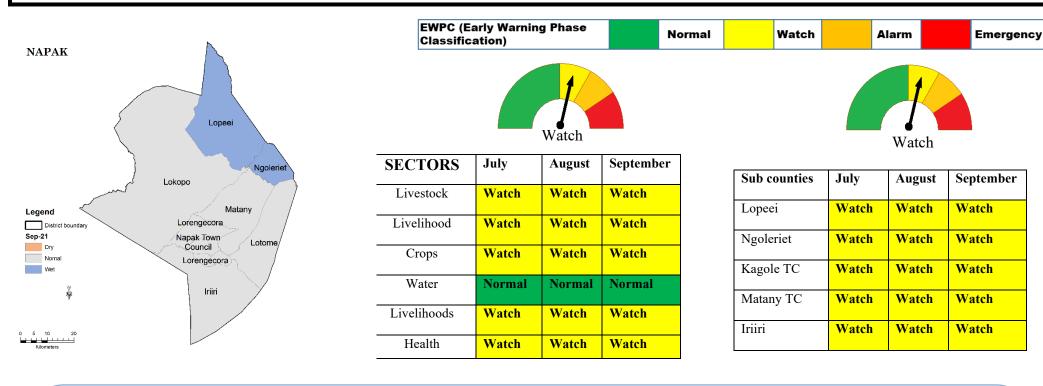






NAPAK DROUGHT BULLETIN SEPTEMBER 2021

Strengthening Shock Responsive Systems in Karamoja



Situational Overview

Overall, Napak District is rated at **WATCH** stage attributed to the impacts of the COVID19 pandemic, flash floods and insecurity characterized by raids in some parts of the District. These have impacted so much on free movement of people and socio-economic activities. Most of the sectors flagged **WATCH** stage such as Livestock Sector with no livestock migration reported between parishes, Livelihoods Sector with 85% households are depending on food from the market due to poor harvest and floods. Water Sector continued at **NORMAL** stage with water coverage at 85% despite 155 boreholes being broken.

The Drought Bulletin is representative of at least 3 parishes of the five sub counties in Napak District.



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations





Sectors	Sectoral levels	Comments and Recommendations
Socio- economic	Watch	 Average Cost of casual labor in Napak District ranges between UGX 2000/= to UGX3000/=; Terms of Trade have been unfavorable with a fall in price of livestock(Cost of Mature Bull from UGX 1,000,000/= to 700,000/=, Mature Cow from UGX 800,000/= to UGX 700,000/=, Heifer from UGX 600,000/= to 500,000/=) due to raids; Increased prices for food stuffs (Sorghum and Sunflower seeds from UGX 2,500/= to 3,500/= respectively) due to poor harvest across sub-counties of Iriri and Matany. <u>Recommendations.</u> Government and partners support to communities with food and other non-food items Government intensification of security and community vigilance on personal security
Livestock	Watch	 No livestock migration reported between parishes within same Sub County to the grazing grounds. Despite the a few attempted cattle raids in Lopeei and Iriri. Tick Borne Disease remains rampant and worm infestation in Kraals in sub-counties like Lopeei, Matany. <u>Recommendations.</u> Government encouraged to strengthen disease and pest surveillance Farmers are encouraged to keep their kraals clean, especially as rain sets in. Farmers should spray and treat their animals/livestock regularly, especially as rains set in.
Water	Normal	In the Sub-Counties of Kangole, Matany and Ngoleriet and the presence of other water sources such as such as Nakicumet dam serving more than 500 households, Kangole and Matany Trading centers have motorized water. The water coverage remains at 85%, there are 554 Boreholes across Napak despite 155 being broken, 17 piped water systems, 6 Dams this has contributed to the increase in the water sources available for both Households and livestock. Recommendations. • Communities should improve on maintenance of their boreholes to avoid regular breakdown.
Livelihoods	Watch	 GAM rate remained high at 16% from 14%, food stocks have been depleted, over 85% households are depending on food from the market. This was attributed to poor harvest and floods in Lopeei and some parts of Iriri like Nabwal whose roads were impassable. In addition, malnutrition among children has increased since school going children are home and not able to get food at school premises as it had been previously due to delayed opening of education centers for instance in sub-counties like Iriri, Nabwal, Lopeei among others. Recommendations Communities plant short maturing crops especially vegetables to reduce the food shortages. Communities advised to stock more Household food and sell less of their harvest Nutritional programs encouraged to curb the current malnutrition among the communities.

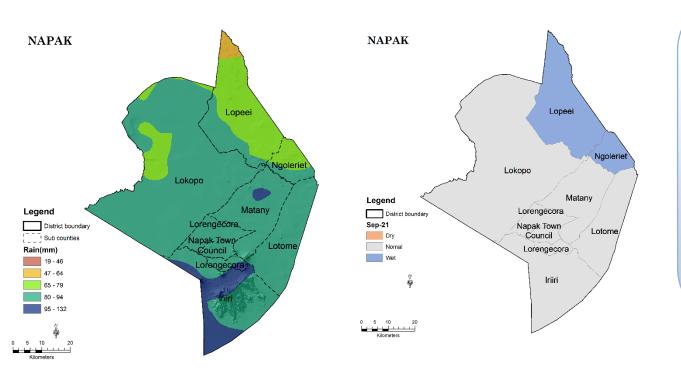






2- DROUGHT SEVERITY AND OUTLOOK

Rainfall and Current Conditions



Napak District received rainfall on average 45 mm to 95 mm (map on the far left). The amount of precipitation reduced northwards but with the whole district receiving rain. The map on the right has details of all sub counties within normal or wet ranges of drought magnitude and severity.

Source: FEWSNET

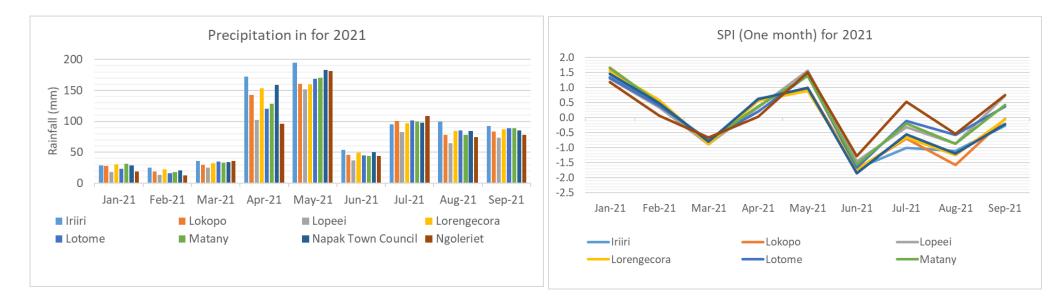
Rainfall in the first 20 days of September

Drought Severity and Magnitude based on SPI









The rainfall patterns dropped by 10 mm in Iriiri, Matany and Lorengecora in the September as observed from August 2021 whereas the remaining sub-counties of Lopeei, Lokopo, Lotome, Napak Town Council and Ngoleriet had rainfall on average above 60 mm.

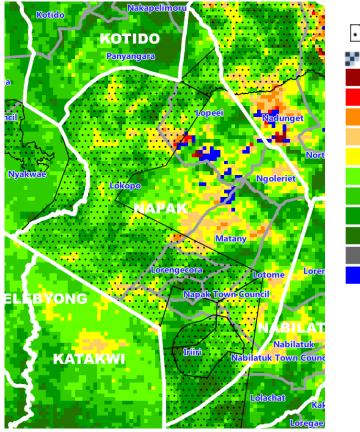
In September 2021 SPI values showed overall range above -0.5 across all the sub-counties of Iriiri, Matany, Lorengecora, Lopeei, Lokopo, Lotome, Napak Town Council and Ngoleriet that indicated a higher level of significance for normal to wet conditions across Napak District.







Vegetation Condition



Protected areas Vegetation Condition Index <0.15 0.15 - 0.25 0.25 - 0.35 0.35 - 0.45 0.45 - 0.55 0.55 - 0.65 0.65 - 0.75 0.75 - 0.85 >=0.85 missing cloud

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.

For most of the district, vegetation conditions are good and well above average this time of year. some areas have excellent vegetation condition indices of greater than 75% above the long-term average especially in Iriiri, Lopeei and Ngoleriet within the protected areas Towards the north western and south eastern boundaries, as well as the central part of the district, there are localized but significant areas of vegetation stress.

Conditions are still a bit favorable for good crop growth in the north eastern part of the district. Crop stress is above the minimal threshold as it tends to almost 20 % of crop areas of the district.

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

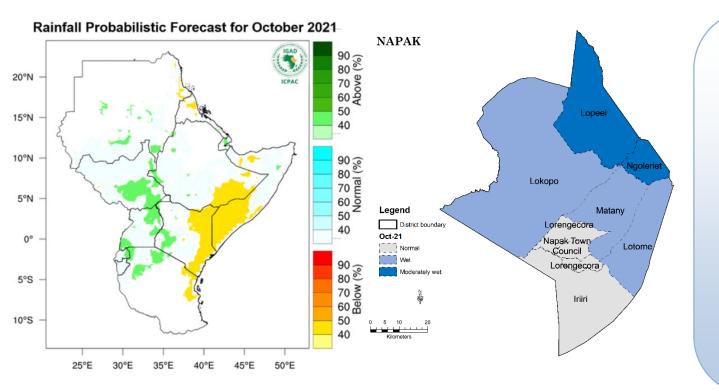








Weather Forecast



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 Napak 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 Iriiri, Lorengecora and Napak Town Council are expected to receive normal rains in October. While areas of Lotome and Lokopo Sub are expected to be wetter than usual expect Ngoleriet and Lopeei having moderately wet conditions (map on the right).

Source: ICPAC – IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Center.



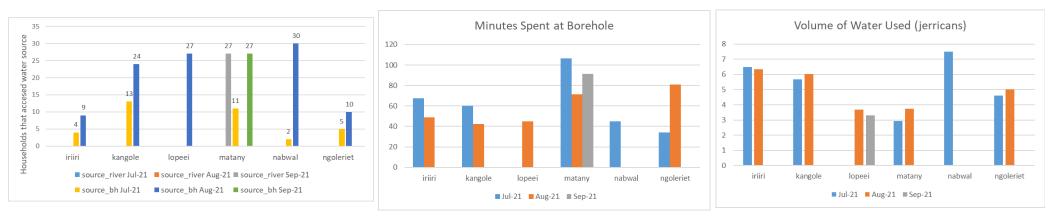




Risk of Drought

The risk of the onset of drought in October 2021 remains low Since September 2021 SPI values showed overall range above -0.5 across all the sub-counties of Iriiri, Matany, Lorengecora, Lopeei, Lokopo, Lotome, Napak Town Council and Ngoleriet that indicated a higher level of significance for normal to wet conditions across Napak District.

Access & Usage of Water

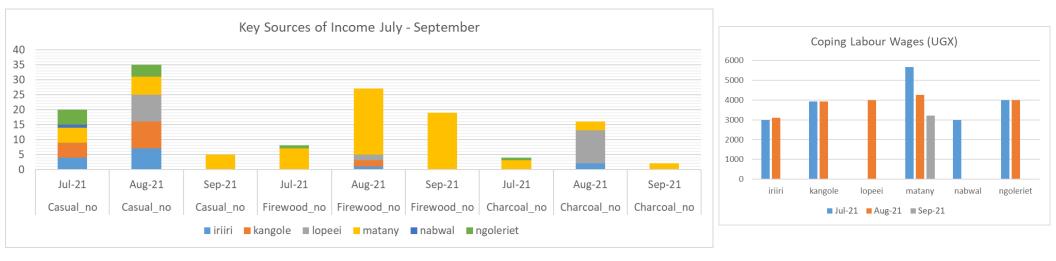








Sources of Income



Trends in Water access, Income Sources and Food prices

Most of the Households in the sub-counties of Iriiri, Kangole, Matany, Nabwal and Ngoleriet in Napak District use boreholes as a source of water. The longest time spent to fetch water is in Matany sub-county for over 100 minutes.

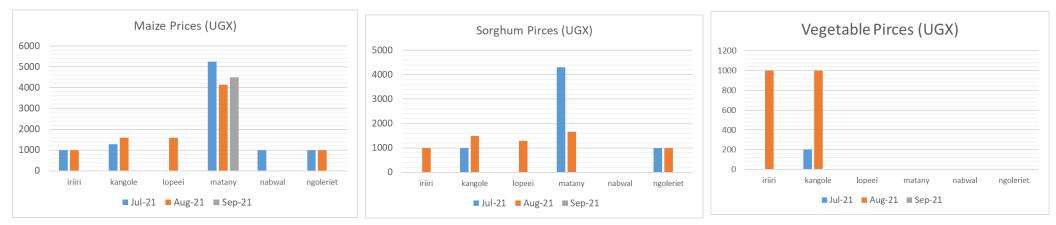
Households across Napak district were mainly engaged in casual work earning from UGX 3,000/= to 5,500/=. A good number of households were also involved in firewood and charcoal sales. The number of households engaged in these economic activities increased in August and then reduced in September.







Food Prices



Contingency Activation

There is need to activate the Contingency plan this is associated with the current COVID19 pandemic impacts in Napak District.

August 2021 was classified in the Drought Early Warning (DEW) <u>Phase 2 Watch</u> since August 2021 SPI value for falls below zero (in negative). It had the sub counties of Lopeei, Ngoleriet, Mantany and Lotome experience dry conditions, while Lokopo, Lorengecora, Iriri and Napak town council were moderately dry. These dry conditions have progressively continued in August from July where for most of the sub counties the SPI values plunged below -1 and almost reaching - 2.

In addition, the sectoral indicators flagged <u>WATCH stage</u> such as Livestock Sector with no livestock migration reported between parishes, Livelihoods Sector with 85% households are depending on food from the market due to poor harvest and floods. Water Sector continued at <u>NORMAL stage</u> with water coverage at 85% despite 155 boreholes being broken.







Early Action Messages

No	Sector	Early Warning Message	
01	Socio-Economic and	• Harvest, stock foods, minimize post-harvest losses, use the harvested foods sparingly while reserving for consumption in the period of scarcity.	
	Livelihoods	• Reporting cases of livestock raids, theft and potential insecurity to authorities for follow-up.	
		• 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.	
00	T • 4 T	Harvest and dry green vegetables for futures consumption.	
02	Livestock	• Cut and preserve pastures in form of hays and silages for use during season of scarcity.	
		• Take initiatives to spray and deworm livestock routinely.	
		• Keep hygiene in the kraals and routinely check for cases of foot rot.	
		Routinely vaccinate livestock against notifiable diseases.	
		 Conduct routine livestock disease surveillance across all Sub Counties to avoid sudden outbreak. 	
		Ensure restriction in the movements of animals to control spread of livestock diseases.	
03	Crops	 Practice vegetable growing and kitchen gardening to provide alternative food supplements to HHs. 	
		 Harvest and stock foods and use harvested foods sparingly and reserve for period of scarcity. 	
		 Minimize post-harvest losses during the harvesting and protect harvested crops from rains and animals. 	
		• Liaise with agriculture extension workers and timely report prevalent cases of crop diseases and pests.	
		• The district and Sub County to conduct routine crop pets and disease surveillance during crop growth stages and take timely action.	
04	Water	• Communities are encouraged to use boreholes / taps as the main sources water of drinking water so as to avoid infections.	
		• Protect and maintain proper hygiene and sanitation around water sources (boreholes, taps, springs/wells).	
		• Make use of water harvesting facilities under roofs like tanks and drums to harvest rain water when and if it rains.	
		• District water department is encouraged to carry boreholes/taps functionality assessments to help map out faulty ones for repairs.	
05	Health	• 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).	
		Go for COVID-19 vaccination when an opportunity presents itself.	
		• Sleep under mosquito nets and clear bushes around HHs and homesteads.	