



# Emergency Payments May 2015

## Key Messages

20<sup>th</sup> May 2015



Photo 1: Bank Account opening in Wajir



Photo 2: Payment of emergency cash at an Equity Bank agent in Turkana



## Key messages

### a) Rationale

1. Emergency cash transfers (CTs) during drought is 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. **NDMA drought status** is determined using the Vegetation Condition Index (VCI). The trigger VCI is classified as follows:  $\geq 50$  and 35 to 50 (wet or no drought), 20 to 30 (moderate drought), 10 to 20 (severe drought) and  $\leq 10$  (extreme drought).
3. Since December 2014, drought situation had been declining in the four (4) (Marsabit, Wajir, Mandera and Turkana) HSNP Counties.
4. In March the status worsened with 5 sub-Counties reaching 'Severe' drought status, and eleven (11) in 'Extreme' (with Moyale having the lowest VCI of 2.26).
5. In 15th April 2015, HSNP piloted emergency transfers to 90,648HHs totalling Kshs. 416,710,700.00 across the four Counties. The emergency payment was for January – March 2015.
6. In April, the status had started to improve with the onset of rains, however, 11 sub-Counties were still classified as 'Severe' drought status (Mandera North, Mandera South, Mandera East, Mandera West, Banisa, Lafey, Wajir East, Wajir North, Eldas, Laisamis and Moyale), and 1 (North Horr, Marsabit) in 'Extreme'. All sub-Counties in Turkana are classified as 'Moderate'.
7. In response to this, on **May 29<sup>th</sup> 2015** HSNP will deliver emergency CTs for May 2015 to 38,961HHs totalling Kshs. 95,454,450.00 in the 12 sub-Counties across the three Counties for the month of April 2015.
8. Emergency CTs will be a one off payment through active bank accounts.

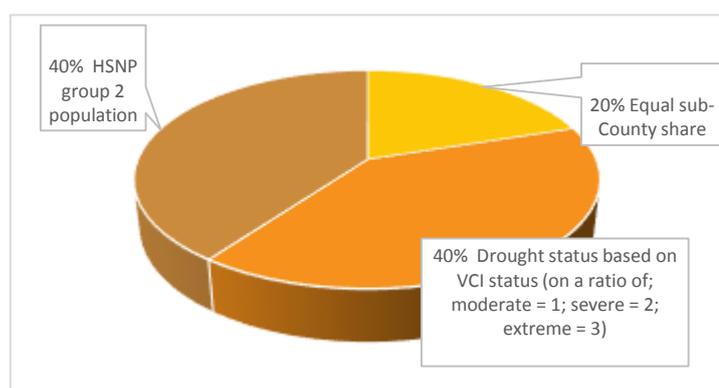
### b) Geographical Selection criteria

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 brings the total number of beneficiaries in the sub-county to 50% of all households on the HSNP MIS including regular beneficiaries. The regular beneficiaries however do not receive any additional emergency cash.
3. When a Sub-County meets the 'Extreme' drought threshold – a budget allocation is generated by taking 75% of all households on the HSNP MIS and deducting the number of existing routine HSNP beneficiaries.
4. The total County allocation is the total allocation calculated for each of the affected sub-Counties.

5. **For May 2015 payment**, the County CT allocation is reallocated to all Sub-Locations in all Sub-Counties that are in 'Moderate', 'Severe' or 'Extreme' drought using the following formula:

6. This reallocation approach will generate a quota for each Sub-Location (SL) in all Sub-Counties where drought is moderate, severe or extreme. As with the first pilot transfers, all SLs in the same Sub-County will have the same overall coverage when routine and emergency CTs are combined.

Figure 1: Formula for May 2015 emergency payments allocation across sub-Counties



7. NDMA County Drought Coordinator (CDC) will inform the County authorities i.e. County Steering Group (CSG) as well as HSNP Implementing Partners in the county of this budget allocation and household selection.

#### c) Selection of households (Group 2)

1. PILU has produced lists of all Sub-Locations and specific Households to be included in the Emergency CT for May 2015.
2. In each of the targeted Sub-Locations, beneficiary households will be selected from the non-routine (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 routine HHs exceeds the standard percentage of HH eligible for emergency CTS, there will be no additional households.
4. The list of selected HHs has been sent to the CDC's office who are distributing the lists for each Sub-Location via Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs. The lists will be posted at their local Chief's office and HHs will be notified through radio and public *barazas* to check whether their names are listed.
5. Routine beneficiaries will continue receiving regular payments once every two months.

#### d) Payment

1. Emergency CTs will only be paid to the selected HHs with active bank accounts.
2. Payment will be through Equity POS Agents, over the Counter at any Equity Branch and ATM if one has a PIN.
3. The value of emergency CT is Kshs. 2,450 (one month equivalent of the routine payment) for the month of April 2015.
4. Routine HSNP beneficiary HHs (Group 1), with active Bank Accounts will continue to receive their bi-monthly payments (Kshs. 4,900) as normal. They will not receive any additional payment as part of the May emergency CTs.
5. Not all HHs that received the pilot emergency payments in April will receive emergency CTs in May 2015.
6. There will be no back payment due to any HHs that attain activated bank account after the emergency CT round 2 has been made.

#### e) Duration and frequency

1. Given the current context a **single emergency CT payment** will be made on **29<sup>th</sup> May 2015**. This will cover April 2015.
2. The payment will be based on the VCI report for each of the three Counties for the month of April 2015.