



CORE Group Partners Project (CGPP), Horn of Africa Bi-weekly Bulletin: FY23 Week 25 (4th – 25th March 2023)

CGPP Supports One Health Cross-border Coordination Between Kenya and South Sudan in Turkana County, Kenya.

- In an effort to improve access to animal, human and environmental health across Kenya and South Sudan border, CGPP together with National/County/State Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, WHO, UNHCR and other health partners met to discuss on the component of surveillance, areas of integration and craft a joint workplan on the 'One Health (OH) Approach' in a two-day (7-8 March 2023) conference in Kakuma, Turkana county. The conference brought together animal and human health specialists to brainstorm and deliberate on ways to allow border communities, who are mostly nomadic pastoralists and marginalized in both South Sudan and Kenya, access equitable and quality health care services.
- Speaking while opening the conference in Kakuma, Chief Officer for Preventive and Promotive Health, Peter Lomorukai said that working jointly with one health stakeholders is an important aspect in the implementation of the One Health. Seasonally, pastoralists from both Kenya and South Sudan move across the border in search of pasture/water for their livestock. Additionally, Kenya continue to receive sizeable population across the border as asylum searchers. All these predispose the region to cross-border disease transmission
- Key deliberation for the meeting were to create a OH cross-border coordination committee at the County and State level as well as Kapoeta East County and Turkana West sub-county to share information on the current surveillance situation of vaccine preventable disease, priority zoonotic diseases and other disease of public health emergency.
- Eastern Equatoria State (EES) Minister of Health Pascal Lodae Woyakori, who led the south Sudanese OH team said that although three out of 10 states are currently facing an outbreak of measles, his South Sudanese MoH and partners are containing the situation to prevent a spill over to neighboring states and countries.
- The conference was also attended by representatives of partner NGOs such as USAID/AMREF, Imarisha Jamii Concern Worldwide, UNHCR, WHO, VSF-Germany among others.
- The meeting was organized by CGPP and partners including Turkana county government, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and Ministry of Health.



Photo of the One Health cross-border coordination meeting.
Photo credit – Abubakar – CGPP secretariat



Participants

49 Participants attended the meeting

deliberating on

◆ **VPDs**
◆ **PZDs**

Other disease of public health concern



Disease Surveillance

3 out of **10**

States in South Sudan are currently facing outbreak of measles

Cross-border surveillance activities.

Cross Border Health Activities Updates
(Kenya)

Cross-border Health surveillance:

- 3 suspected AFP and 14 suspected measles and 2 Neonatal tetanus cases were reported during the reporting period by the community mobilizer (CMs) in Turkana, Wajir and Marsabit counties.
- During active case search, the CMs visited 4,201 households while also sensitizing the community.

Routine Immunization Outreaches:

- The project supported 20 immunization outreach services in border health facilities since the start of the quarter.
- 671 children < 1 years were vaccinated with various polio antigens during the period.

Social Mobilization:

- 6,716 households were visited reaching 4,374 community members (1,6117males & 2,763 females).
- This is done through weekly routine sensitization on immunization & surveillance through house-to-house strategy by the community mobilizers.

Defaulter tracing:

- 465 (71%) children < 1-year were traced out of 651 defaulters in our project areas.

Cross Border Health Activities Updates
(Somalia)

Cross-border Health surveillance:

- During the week, no suspected neonatal tetanus , AFP and measles cases reported by CMs.
- During active case search, the CMs visited households and a total of 1,015 children under 5 years for screening.

Routine Immunization Outreaches:

- No outreach immunization sessions were supported during the reporting period.

Social Mobilization:

- 230 households were visited and sensitized during the two weeks
- Community mobilizer use the house-to-house strategy to sensitize the communities on various vaccine preventable disease topic.

Defaulter tracing:

- 2 (100%) children < 1-year children were traced out of a total of 2 defaulters.
- Community mobilizer trace children who defaulted through active case search, house-to-house visits, social mobilization or during outreach session.

Priority Zoonotic Diseases Updates:
(Kenya):

Anthrax outbreak in Garissa County


- Reports of cattle death mimicking signs of anthrax were shared from Sankuri village
- 2 animals died with blood oozing from natural opening while 4 were severely affected.
- The county one health investigation team collected 3 samples from cattle and donkeys.
- Microscope slide showed the presence of Bacillus Rods
- The county confirmed anthrax outbreak with the epi-center in Sankuri village, 20km to Garissa town on March 17th.
- CGPP enhanced surveillance especially on suspected anthrax.

Community Based Surveillance:

- During the community-based disease surveillance by the community mobilizers and diseases reporters (CM/CDRs) reported a total of 57 suspected animal alert.

The suspected cases are as follows:

- 26 suspected trypanosomiasis ,7suspected rabies , 13 suspected Rift valley fever, 6 Cluster of animal deaths, 4 Brucellosis, 1 Anthrax.



Anthrax outbreak in Sankuri ,Garissa county.

COVID-19 activities in Somalia

- **Coordination and collaboration of COVID-19**
 - Participated in Juba land health quarterly review meeting,
 - Participated In health and nutrition cluster meetings
 - Private sector engagement such as private hospitals before the mass campaign.
 - Coordinated with MoH on cold chain maintenance.
- **Cold chain and logistics**
 - Supported transportation of vaccines to 3 facilities in Lower Juba – 5,000 doses – through integration with other activities
- **COVID-19 vaccination campaign in Lower Juba**
 - Mass campaign were planned and conducted in Lower Juba during the first 10 days of January with a target of 5,000, reaching 96.8% (4,840)
 - Supported through social mobilization activities.
- **Training**
 - CGPP supported 2 training on COVID-19 related topics. These include:
 - COVID-19 surveillance
 - Risk communication and community engagement
 - 80 health care workers and community mobilizers. 40 trained in Gedo region while 40 were trained in Lower Juba)
- **Community sensitization forums**
 - Supported 4 community sensitization forum in Lower Juba
 - 2 in Badhadhe district and 2 in Kismayo
 - The total number of people trained were 105 (38F, 67M)



Community sensitization forums health in Lower Juba



Training of health care workers and community mobilizer in Kismayo.

Cholera outbreak in Kenya

Total cases – 7,593

Male – 3,944

Female – 3,649

Death – 121

CFR – 1.6%

Key highlights

- In the past 10 days, 510 cases were reported nationwide.
- Total number of cases to 7,593 cases as of March 24, 2023.
- In CGPP area the cumulative cases are from Garissa (2,163), Nairobi (1,208) - Kamukunji (75), Wajir (655), Mandera (1,464)
- Among the 121 deaths reported, 59 (49%) are from Nairobi, and Tana River
- counties, while Garissa, and Wajir account for 24 (20%) deaths in total.
- Overall, Garissa (257.1) and Tana River (241.5) Counties have the highest attack rates, with national (affected counties) being 33.3 per 100,000.
- In the last 10 days, Mandera (16.2), Wajir (6.8), and Kajiado (6.4) counties have had the highest attack rates/100,000 population

Source – Ministry of Health

CGPP affected areas	Population	Cumulative cases	Lab confirmed cases by culutre	Positive by RDT	Cumulative deaths	Outbreak status
Garissa	841,353	2,165	35	326	12	Active
Mandera	867,457	1,502	3	399	10	Active
Nairobi	4,397,073	1,242	64	461	42	Active
Wajir	781,263	655	4	123	12	Active

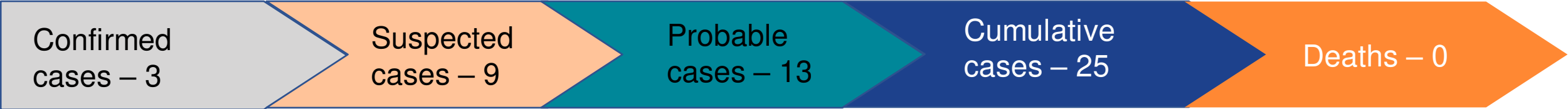
Source – Ministry of Health



Community mobilizer conduct sensitization in Hulugho. The mobilizer also sensitized the mothers on cholera, due to the number of cases reported in the county.

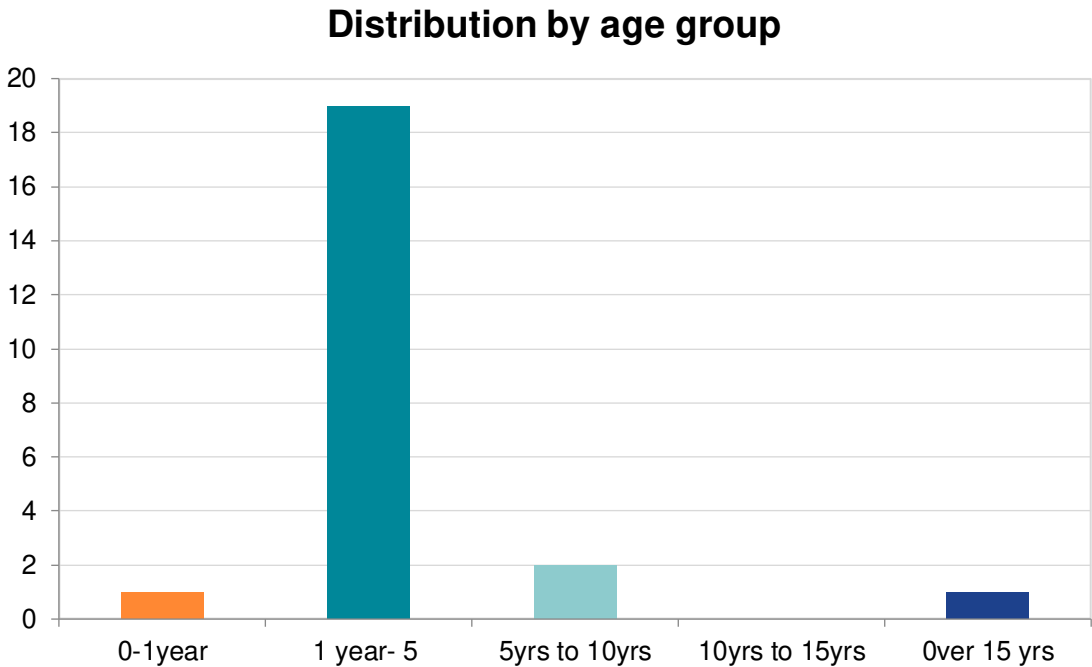
Photo-credit
Hassan - IRC

Measles outbreak in Turkana (Turkana West Sub-county) County

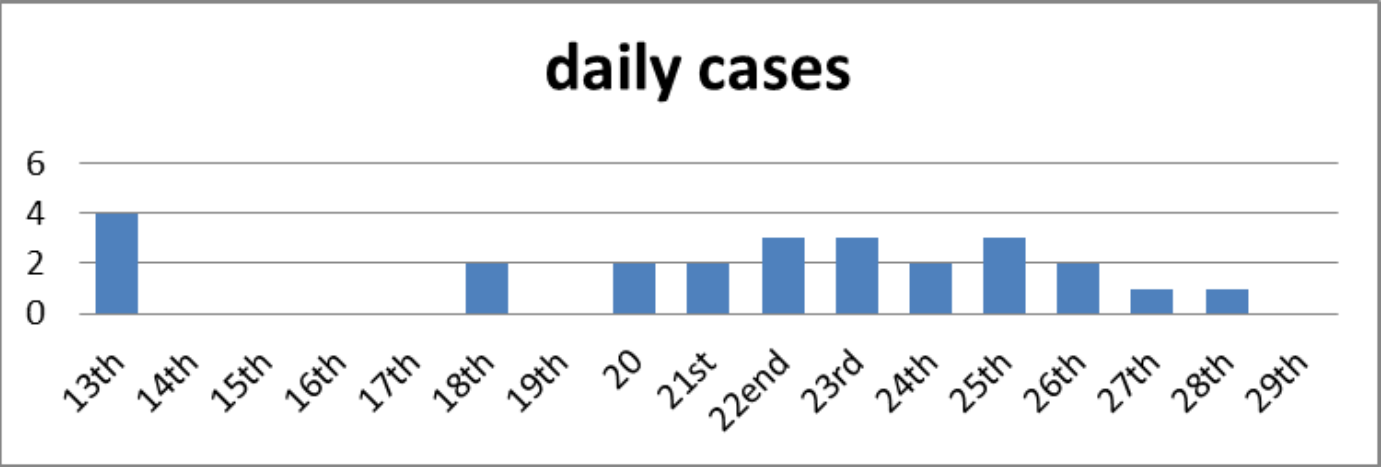


Key highlights

- The second wave of measles began on March 13, 2023.
- No new cases been reported in last 24 hours
- Total number of cases linked to lab confirmed 21.
- No fatality reported (CFR)=0.0%
- 24 cases distributed as follows:
 - Nalapatui 20
 - Amusait 1
 - Oropoi 1
 - Nakururum 1



Source – Ministry of Health



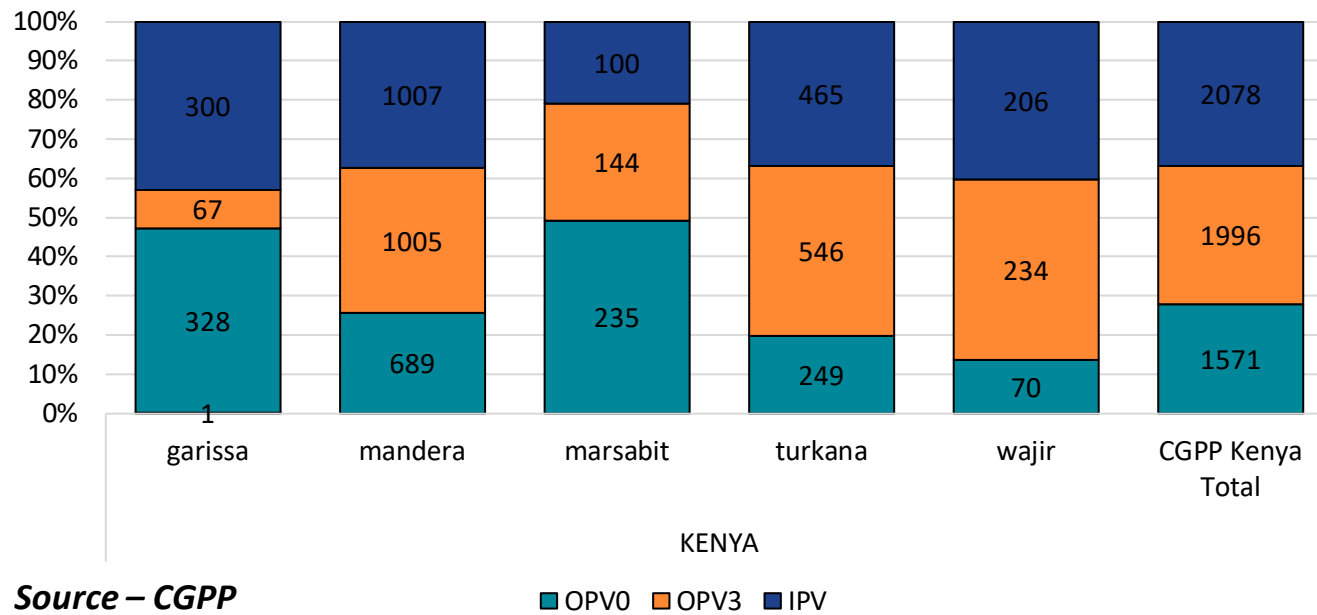
Source – Ministry of Health



Active case search in Turkana West with a second wave of measles outbreak reported in the sub county

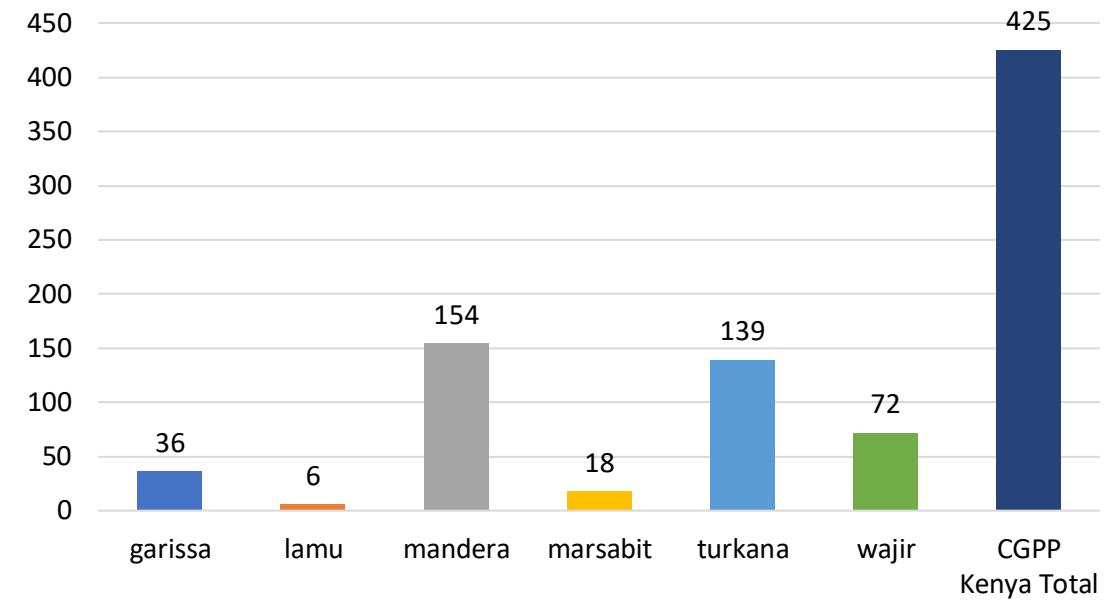
Strengthening of immunization systems: Outreach services to hard-to-reach border, nomadic pastoralist.

of children <1 years reached with various polio antigens during outreach session in Kenya and Somalia (3rd October - 25th March 2023)



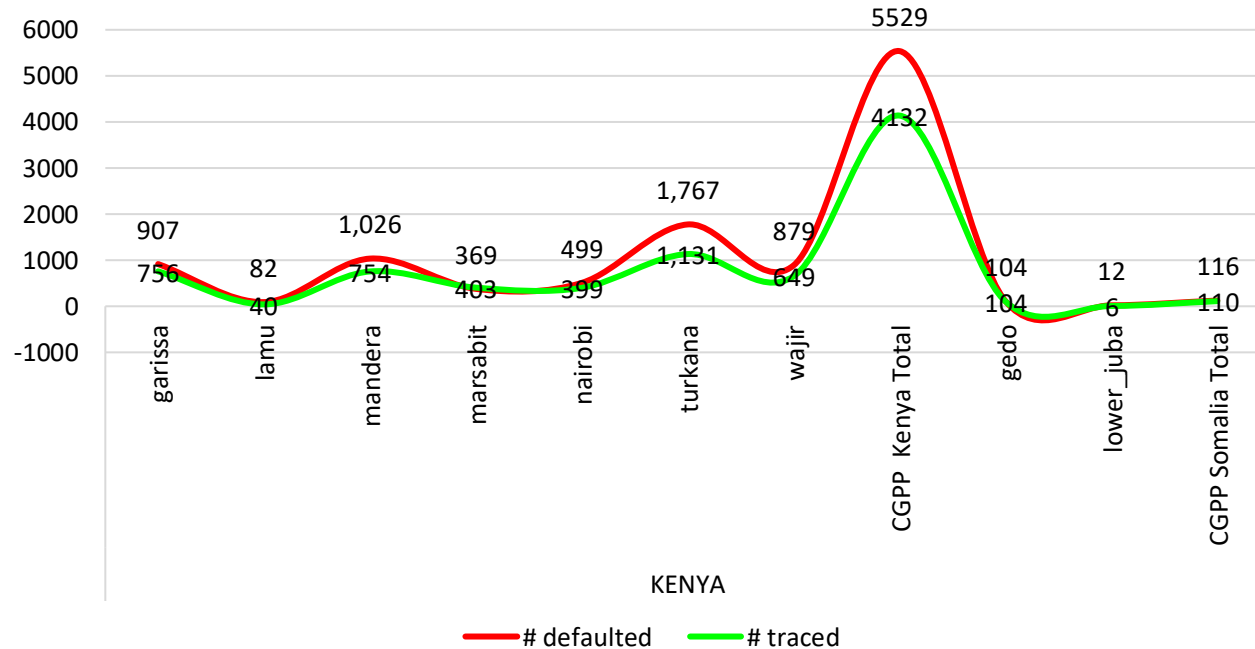
Source – CGPP

of Supported Outreaches in Kenya and Somalia (03/10/2022 - 25/03/2023)



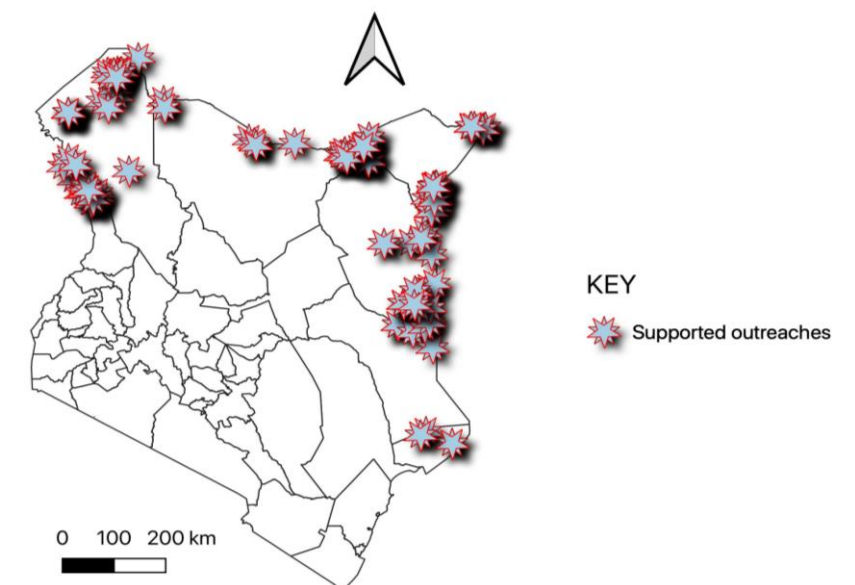
Source – CGPP

Number of children < 1 years who defaulted during routine immunization sessions in Kenya and Somalia (03/10/22 - 25/03/23)



Source – CGPP

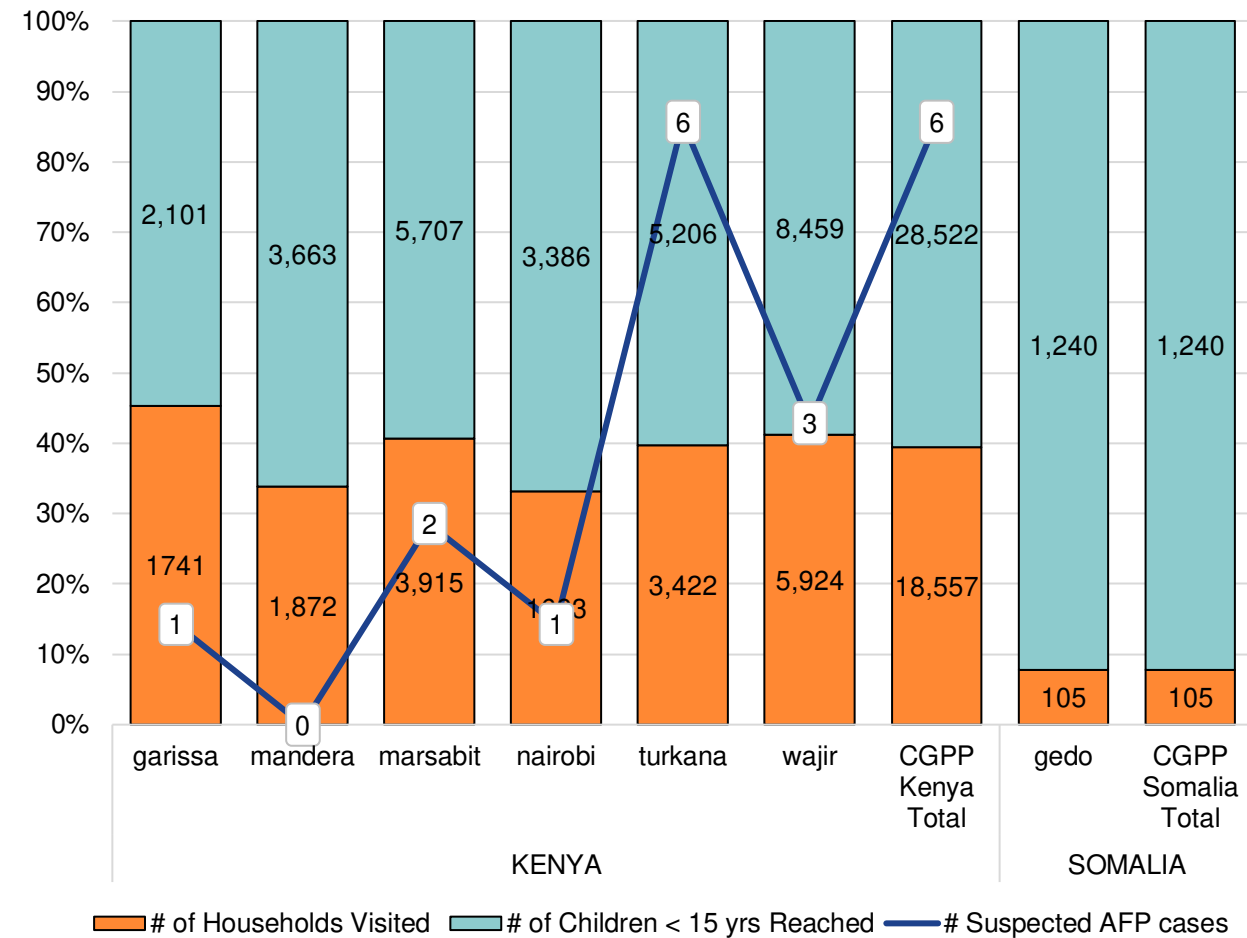
Geocoded CGPP Supported integrated outreach Sites In Kenya (03/10/2022 - 4/03/2023)



Source – CGPP

Community Based Disease Surveillance on Human Alerts/Active Case Search

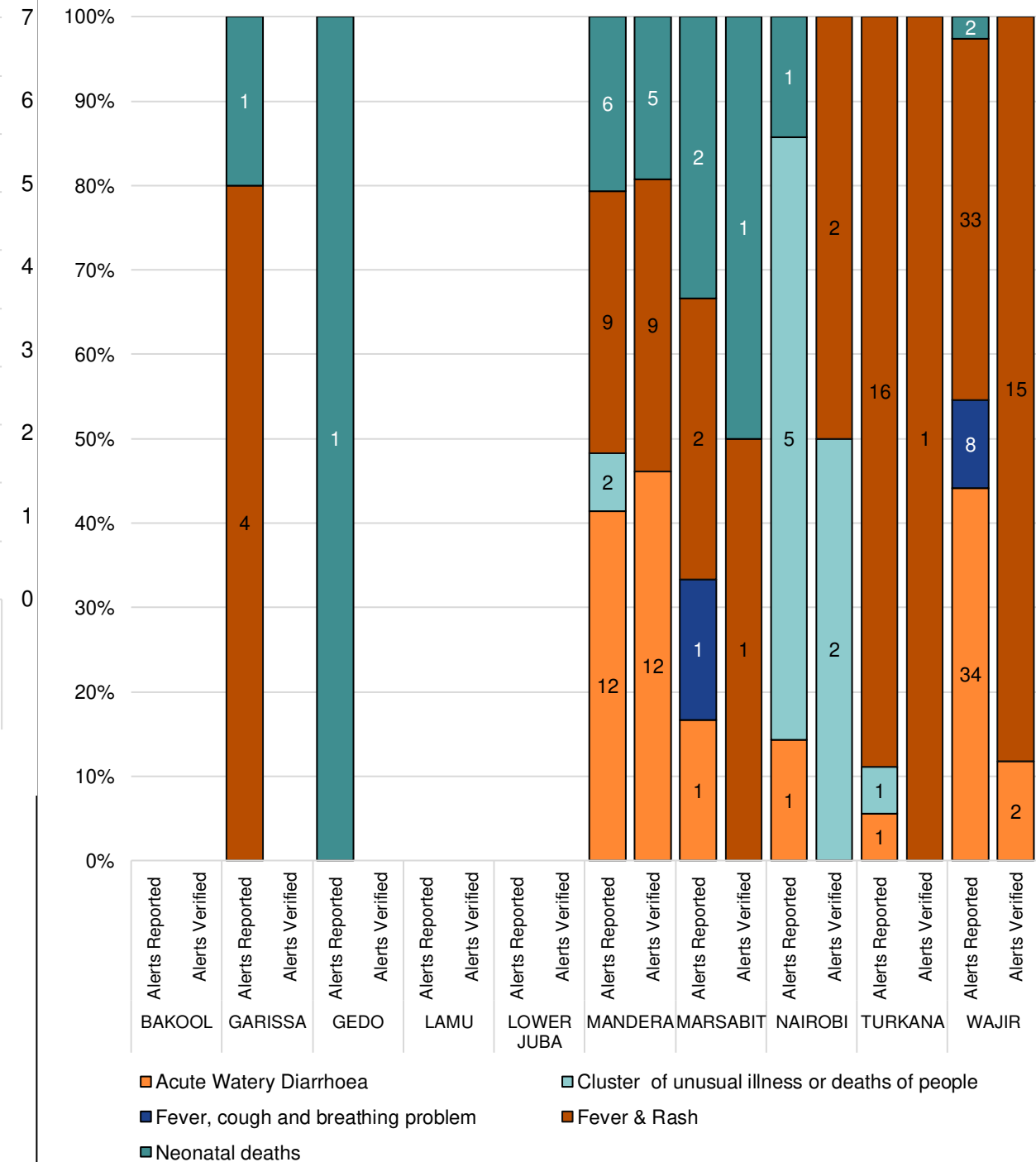
Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) active case search in CGPP areas
03/10/2022-25/03/2022



Source – CGPP

- During active case search, the community mobilizers visited a total 4,201 households both in Kenya and Somalia.
- The team reached 6,929 children under the age of 15 years to screen their status of immunization, suspected AFP and other vaccine preventable diseases when conducting active case search and social mobilization.
- The team reported 3 suspected AFP cases during this reporting period.

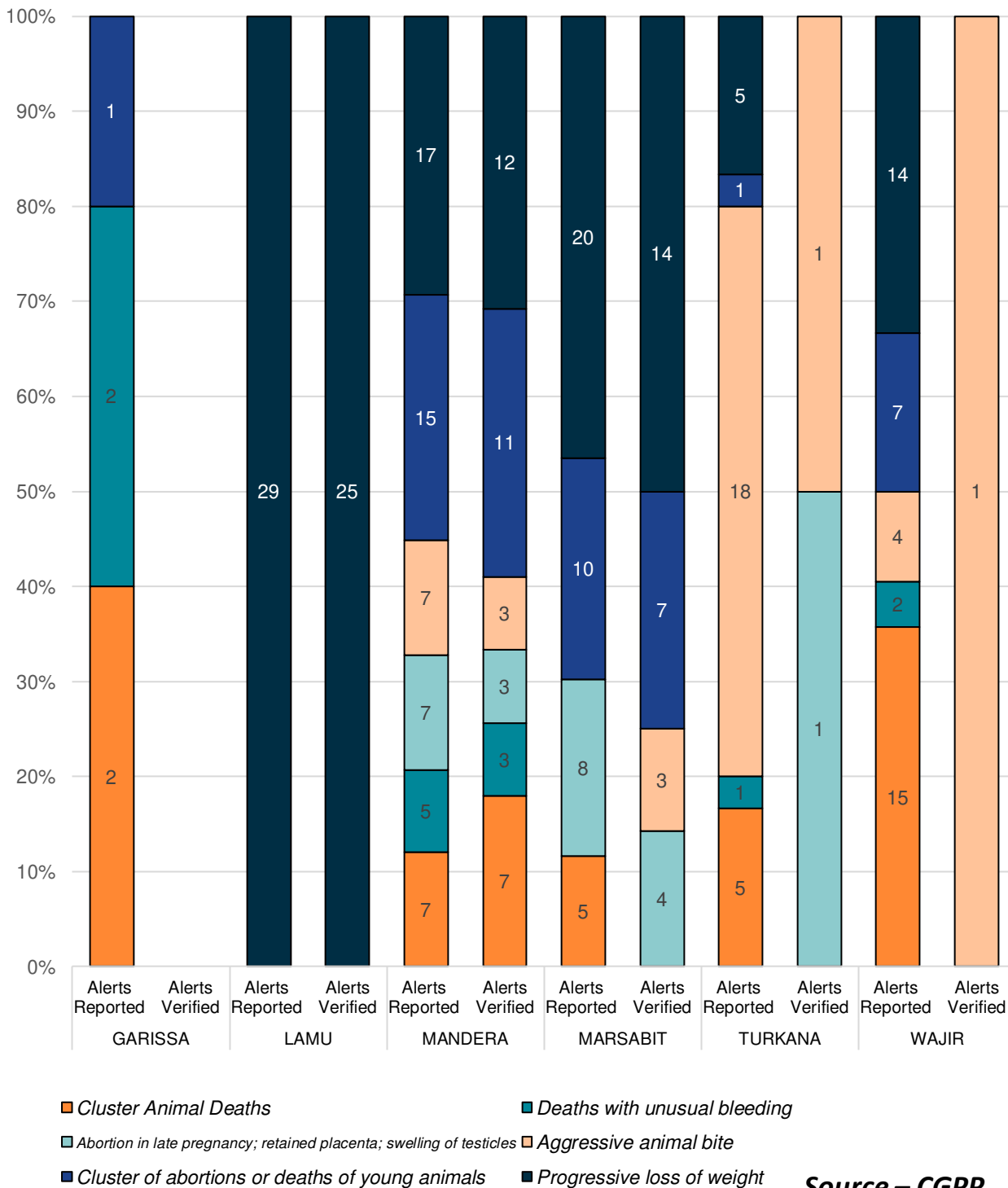
Suspected Human disease alerts received by counties
(03/10/2022-25/03/2022)



Source – CGPP

Community Based Disease Surveillance on Priority Zoonotic Diseases.

Suspected Animal Alerts Received by counties
(03/10/2022-04/02/2023)



Source – CGPP

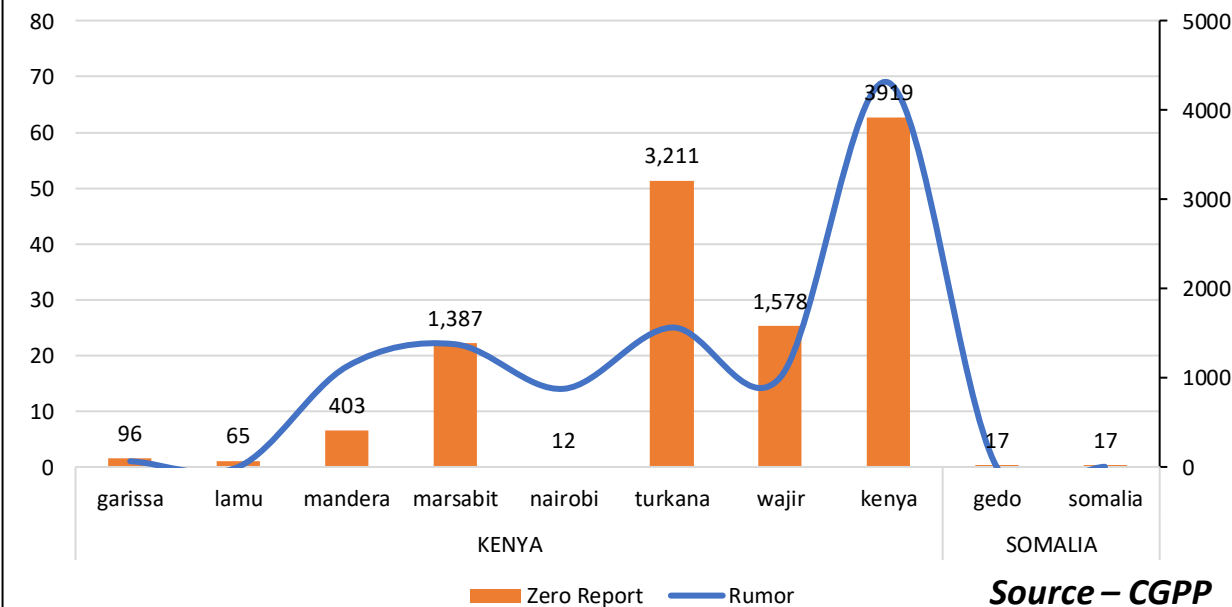
Community feedback trends:

- 45 feedback were received from communities
- Topics were on animal, human health and other concerns
- Concerns about animal health, cholera
 - There is high number of animal death - Mandera county
 - Animal having saliva and biting people - Mandera
 - Animals shedding tears and showing fever – Turkana county
 - There fear outbreaks of cholera, since there is a report of diarrhoea cases reported – Marsabit
 - Foul smelling diarrhea causing dehydration – Marsabit
 - Fearing for cholera spreading this time of flood - Marsabit
- Feedback were classified under surveillance, logistical concerns and current floods.

Recommendation to address concerns about cholera and dog bites and suspected trips:

- Enhance disease surveillance by CMs/CHVs
- Strengthen sensitization especially on cholera and RVF

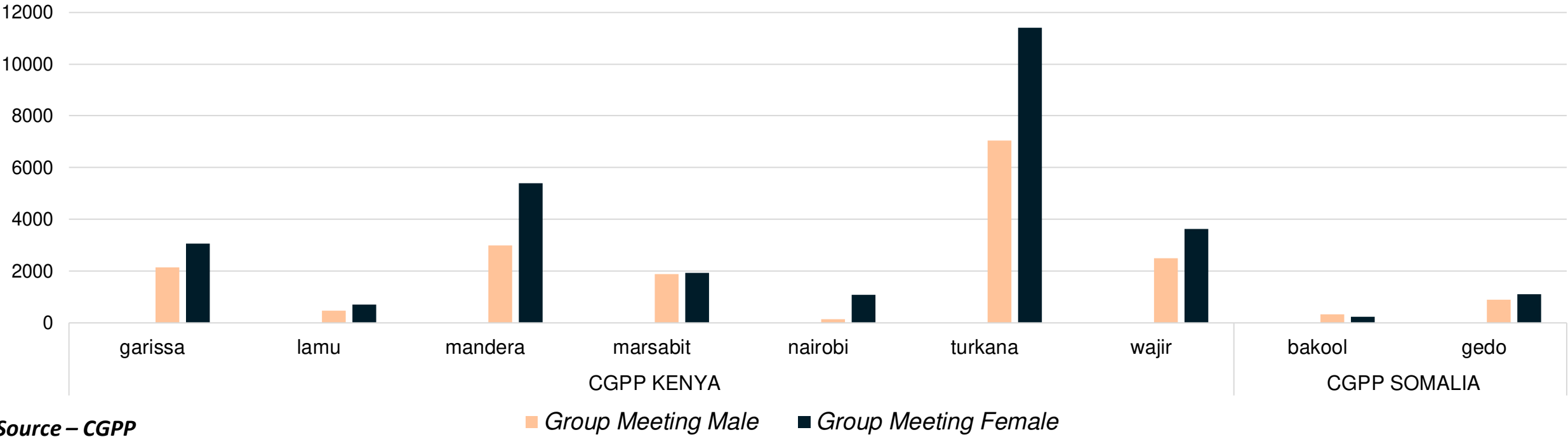
Rumor and Zero reports



Source – CGPP

Social Mobilization Activities

Number of Person Reached during Social Mobilization Activities - (on Group Meetings)
in CGPP Project Areas (24 october - 25th March 2023)



SUMMARY: A total of 6, 716 households were visited during the week for a social mobilization both Kenya and Somalia 8,954 children under the age of 5 years reached for screening of AFP, schedule for immunization and defaulter tracing during the visits, with mothers sensitized on the importance of immunization, polio and other vaccine preventable diseases.

- A total 414 villages were visited during the week reaching a total of 4,374 community members through community group sessions,.
- 257 Stakeholders such as women groups ,religious leaders, village elders and traditional healers were also sensitized.



Community mobilizer in Kiwayuu, Lamu East during a household visit on vaccine preventable diseases, routine immunization and hygiene

Photo credits: mohamed Amin – CGPP/IRC

Coordination Meetings/Trainings/Supervision During The Week

Coordination meeting:

- Turkana county participated in the launch of the cross-border animal health promotion exercise where CGPP supported the vaccination through social mobilization by CMs and CDRs. 40 people attended (16F, 24M)
- Participated in the review of the County One Health Strategy with final validation of the strategy expected to be done on 30th March 2023. 19 people (6F, 13M)
- Supported sub-county coordination meeting in Mandera, where surveillance and challenges of the sub-county were discussed. 36 people attended (6F, 30M)
- Participated in the county steering group meeting Garissa county in response to the anthrax outbreak that were reported 40 people attended (12F, 28M)

Sensitization

- Supported 4 community sensitization forums in Mandera reaching a total of 230 people (141F, 89M).
 - Key community stakeholders were sensitized on the importance of vaccination due to high number of Cholera cases, COVID-19 vaccination, other VPDs and PZDs.
 - The community were also sensitized on animal disease with number of animal deaths reported.
- Supported 2 care group mother meeting in Kamukunji, Nairobi. Mothers were trained using the Care Group flipbooks on immunization, VPDs and hygiene. 36 mothers were sensitized. The sensitization was attended by CGPP HQ members and secretariat.

Training

- Community mobilizers were trained in Kamukunji, Nairobi on care group model with focus on VPDs and hygiene. The CMs then cascade and sensitize community using flipbooks. 10 CM trained (8F, 2M)

Joint supportive supervision (JSS)

- Joint support supervision together with the USAID mission GHS team (Joseph Njoroge and Dr. Andrew Thaiyah) in Turkana County
 - Courtesy with MoH and Veterinary department – CEC, Chief officers and directors
 - Deliberation with County One Health Unit (COHU) on One Health strategy in Turkana county and surveillance
 - Joint visit to USAID supported projects (NAWIRI project) on areas of synergy such as capacity building for community disease reporters.
 - Field visits: Community dialogue session, Health facilities, Veterinary laboratory
- Key JSS recommendations
 - Enhance the integration of other USAID supported projects/activities with CGPP project eg PREG partners and NAWIRI project



County One Health coordination meeting in Turkana county



Care Group model meeting in Kamukunji, Nairobi.



The JSS team visiting the veterinary lab and where COHU will be hosted.

Challenges/Events/Photos of The Week

Challenges

- Excessive rainfall and local flooding in project areas with high risk of diseases such as Rift Valley fever and cholera outbreaks.
- Road unpassable due to the current floods affecting project activities
- Cold chain challenges reported in Turkana county especially Turkana West with some facilities having no cold chain equipment. The area is reporting a second wave of measles outbreak.

Upcoming Events/Meetings/Conferences

Date

- USAID Mission - CGPP meeting

March 31

- Weekly BMGF –FARID Meeting

March 30

- USAID – Implementing Partners (IPs) Comms Network Monthly Meeting

April 6

- CGPP – IPs meeting

April 4



Cross-border animal health promotion exercise targeting shoats, donkey, camels and dogs along the Kenya – Uganda border, Turkana county.



Integrated outreach immunization session in Bulla Godana, Borehole 11, Mandera county



People searching for loved one after floods in Juba river in CGPP project area of Bardera district, Gedo region, Somalia.