

# National Drought Management Authority

## GARISSA COUNTY

### DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR FEBRUARY 2017



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



## FEBRUARY EW PHASE



### Early Warning Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral	Alarm	Deteriorating
Pastoral cattle/sheep	Alarm	Deteriorating
Pastoral-all species	Alarm	Deteriorating
County	Alarm	Deteriorating
Biophysical Indicators	value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)		80 -120
SPI-3Month (TAMSAT)		
VCI-3Month	16.2	>35
Forage condition		
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Crop Condition(specify crop)		
Livestock Body Condition	4-5	Moderate
Milk Production	9.3	36litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	No migration	Normal
Livestock deaths (from drought)	Small stock death	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	27	>66
Milk Consumption	2.9	36 litres
Return distance to water sources	29	<5 Km
Cost of water at source (20 litres)	5-10	<5Kshs
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	25.7%	<13.4
Coping Strategy Index (CSI)		
Food Consumption Score		

### Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

#### Biophysical Indicators

- The average vegetation condition index for the county decreased from 16.83 to 16.2 and remains within the severe vegetation deficit category.
- The current average is below the normal range of >35
- The sub counties of Fafi and township are in moderate vegetation deficit category.
- Dadaab sub county is in extreme vegetation condition category.
- Water sources currently in use are boreholes, River Tana and spring, and water trucking.

#### Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

- 100% of the livestock population remain in poor body condition, with worst affected being the grazers (sheep and cattle).
- Milk production recorded was at 9.3 litres and continue to decrease and remains below the normal of 36 litres.
- There was no livestock migration reported.
- The terms of trade recorded remained stable at 27kgs of maize per sale of goat.
- The return distance to water sources increased to 29km.
- The at risk to malnutrition for children under five increased from 25.7%. The mid at risk levels increased from 19.5% to 21.5% , the moderately malnourished increased from 1.52% to 2.99% and the severely malnourished category increased to 1%

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Short rains harvests</li> <li>▪ Short dry spell</li> <li>▪ Reduced milk yields</li> <li>▪ Increased HH Food Stocks</li> <li>▪ migrations</li> <li>▪ Land preparation</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Planting/Weeding</li> <li>▪ Long rains</li> <li>▪ High Calving Rate</li> <li>▪ Milk Yields Increase</li> <li>▪ Breeding period</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Long rains harvests</li> <li>▪ A long dry spell</li> <li>▪ Land preparation</li> <li>▪ Increased HH Food Stocks</li> <li>▪ Kidding (Sept)</li> <li>▪ Migrations</li> <li>▪ Herd separations</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Short rains</li> <li>▪ Planting/weeding</li> <li>▪ High birth rates</li> <li>▪ Weeding</li> </ul>		
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

**1. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS**

**1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE**

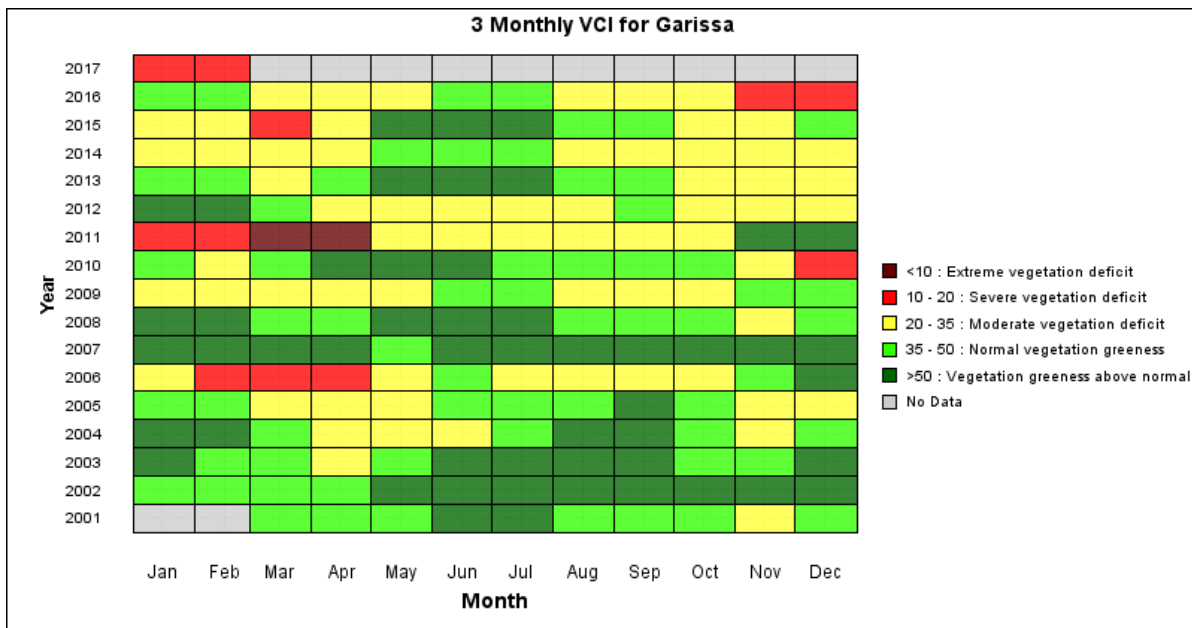
- No rainfall was reported during the month, it is the start of the short dry spell

**2. IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER**

**2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION**

**2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)**

- The average vegetation condition index for the county decreased from 16.83 to 16.2 and remains within the severe vegetation deficit category
- The current average is below the normal range of >35
- The Sub county of Dadaab are in extreme vegetation deficit category of 9.1
- The sub counties of Fafi and Township are in moderate vegetation deficit category of 20.77 and 19.97 respectively.
- Lagdera and Ijara are in severe vegetation deficit category.
- The matrixes below indicates the vegetation condition index for the worst affected Sub County with the lowest VCI and the best Sub County with highest VCI average



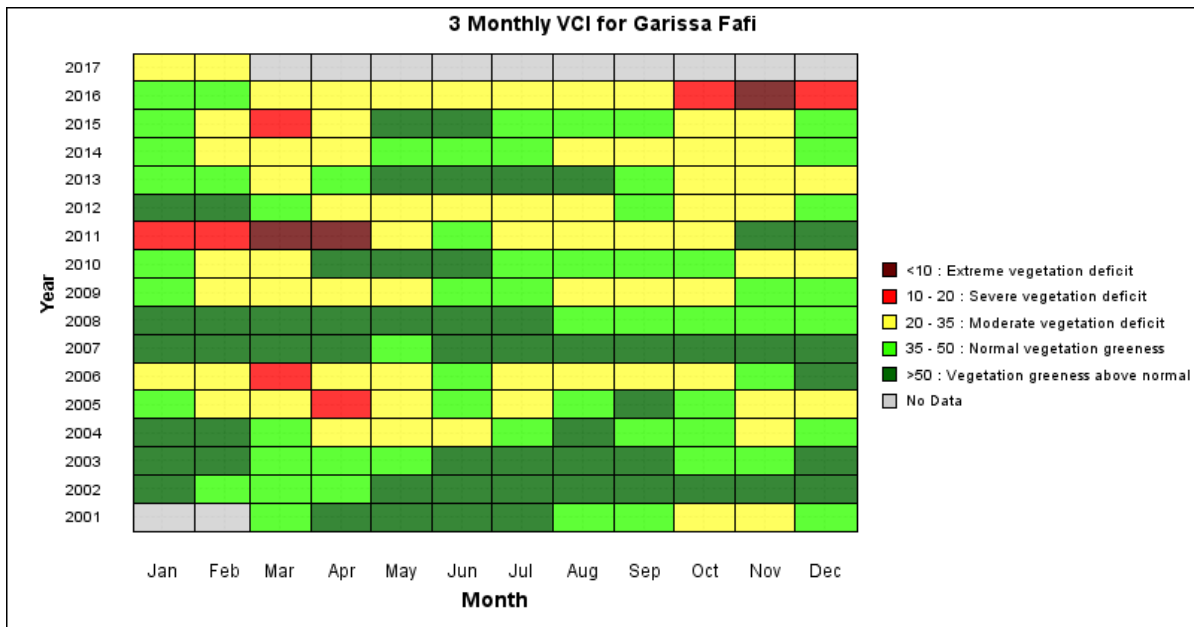
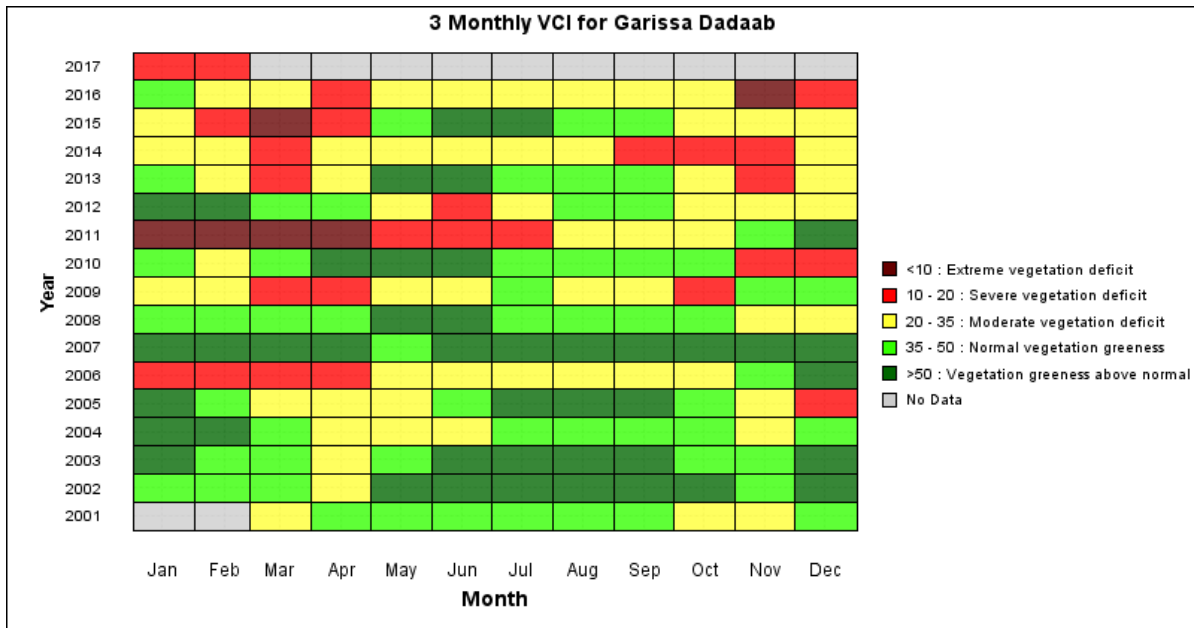
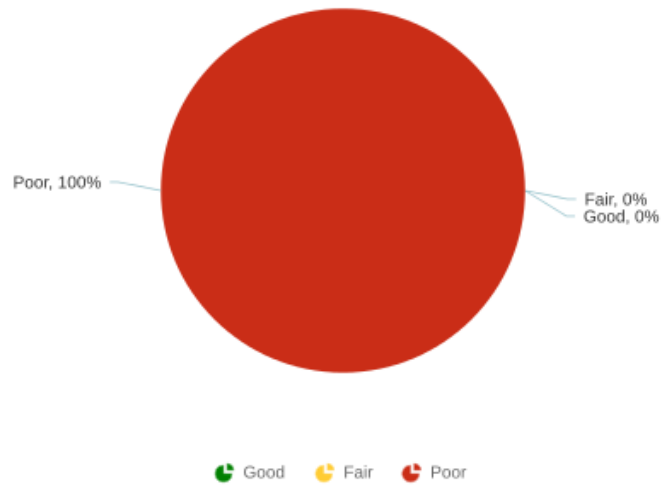


Figure 1: VCI Matrix for Garissa County, 2001 – 2017

**2.1.2 Pasture**

- 100% of sampled communities reported that pasture condition was poor.
- The condition is anticipated to worsen across the livelihood zones.

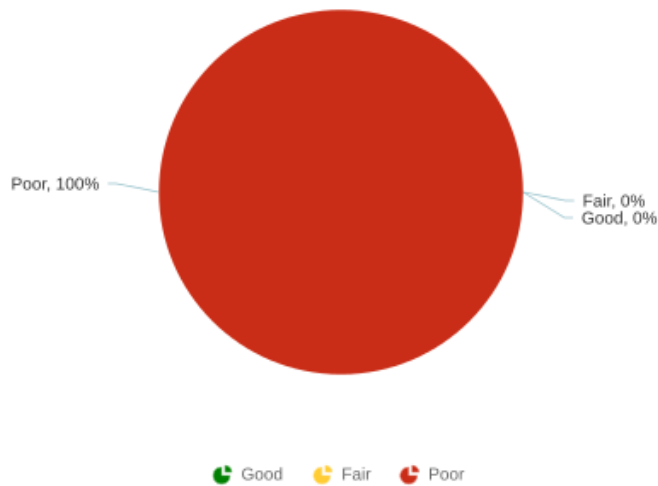
### Garissa Pasture Condition (Feb 2017 - Feb 2017)



#### 2.1.3 Browse

- 100% of communities sampled reported the browse condition to be poor and the trend deteriorating. All livelihood zones have similar patterns of reducing availability and accessibility.
- The browse condition is expected to last for 1 month in all livelihoods.

### Garissa Browse Condition (Feb 2017 - Feb 2017)



## 2.2 WATER RESOURCE

### 2.2.1 Sources

The current water sources are boreholes, River, spring and water trucking.

### 2.2.2 Household access and Utilization-

- The average return distances from household to water sources continue to increased, the average distance recorded for the month was 115.3km.
- The distance is slightly above the long term average of 14km.
- The pastoral all species livelihood zone recorded the highest trekking distance for household’s water access at 19km while formal employment livelihood zone had recorded the lowest distance at 8km.

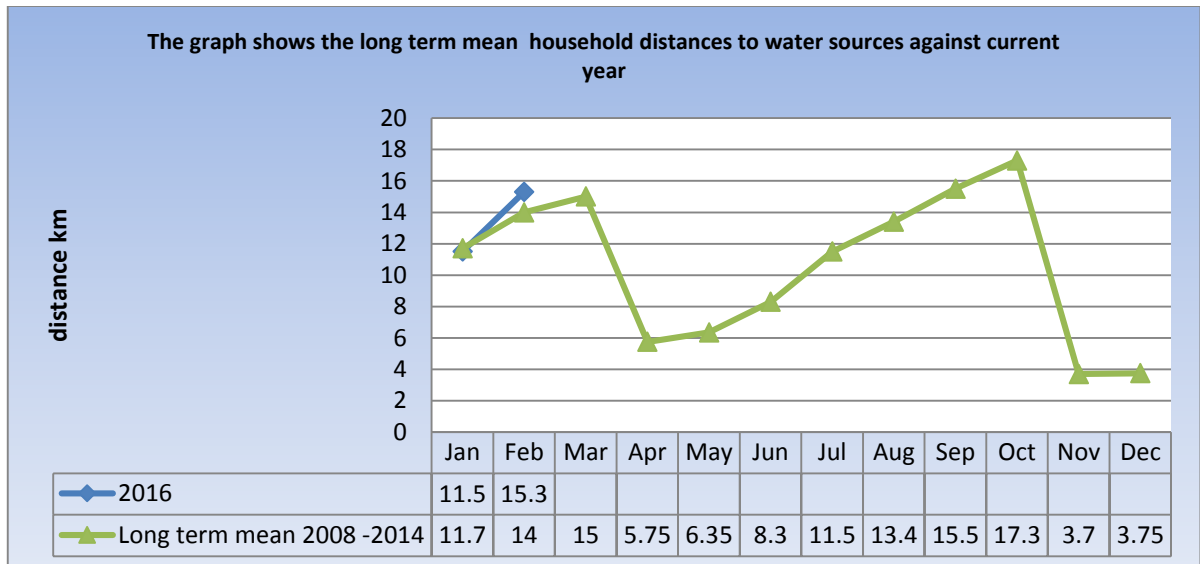


Figure 2: Trends of household distance to water sources for Garissa County, 2008 - 2017

### 2.2.3 Livestock access

- The average livestock return distances from grazing field to water sources increased, the average recorded was 29km
- The current distance is above the long term average for the month of 18km.
- Pastoral all species livelihood zone recorded the highest livestock trekking distances at 32km

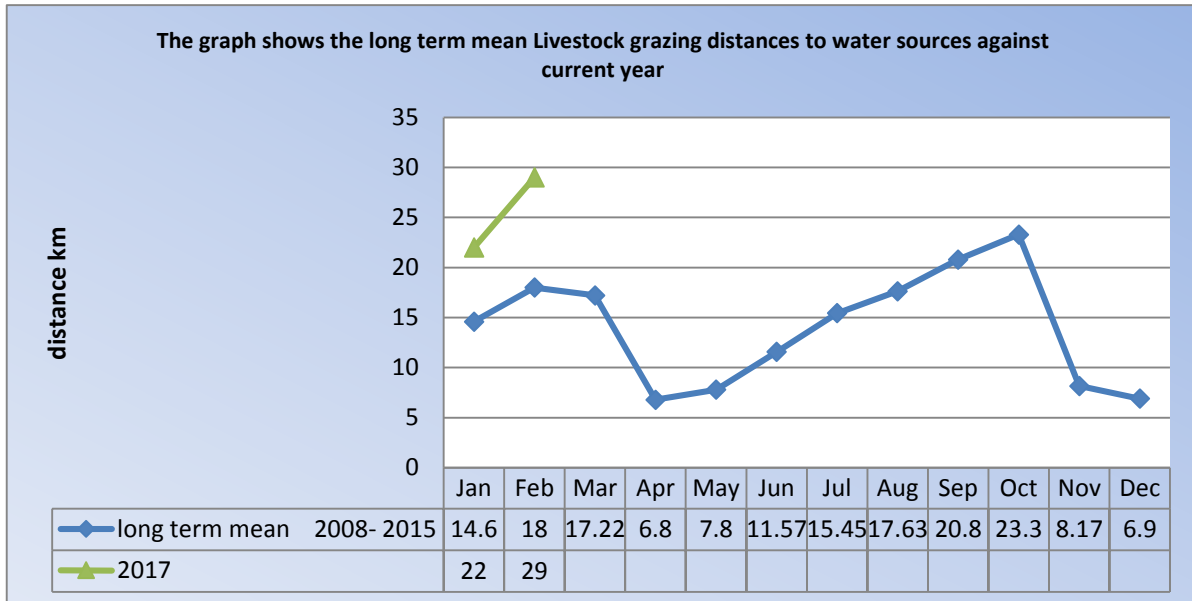


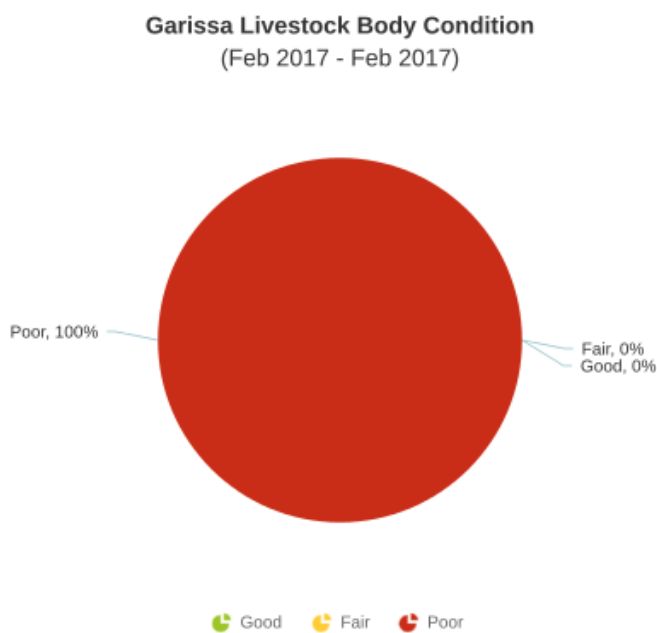
Figure 3: Trends of Livestock grazing distance to water sources for Garissa County, 2008 - 2017

### 3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

#### 3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

##### 3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

##### 3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition



- 100% of the livestock population are in poor body condition, sheep and cattle mortalities was reported across all the livelihood zones.

- The body condition is anticipated to deteriorate further and as the trekking distances increase and pasture /browse diminish.

### 3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- No major outbreak of livestock diseases was reported, suspected cases of goats/sheep pox and PPR was reported in parts of agro pastoral livelihood zone.
- Mange and increased worm infestation was reported in pastoral all species livelihood zone.

### 3.1.3 Milk Production

- Milk production recorded was at 9.3litres and shows decrease in trend when compared with the previous month.
- The current production is highly below the long term average of 32.57 litres.
- The pastoral livelihood zone recorded the lowest average milk production of 3.3 litres per household while Agro-Pastoral livelihood had recorded the highest milk production at 10.2 litres
- The market price of 750ml bottles increased to Kshs100.

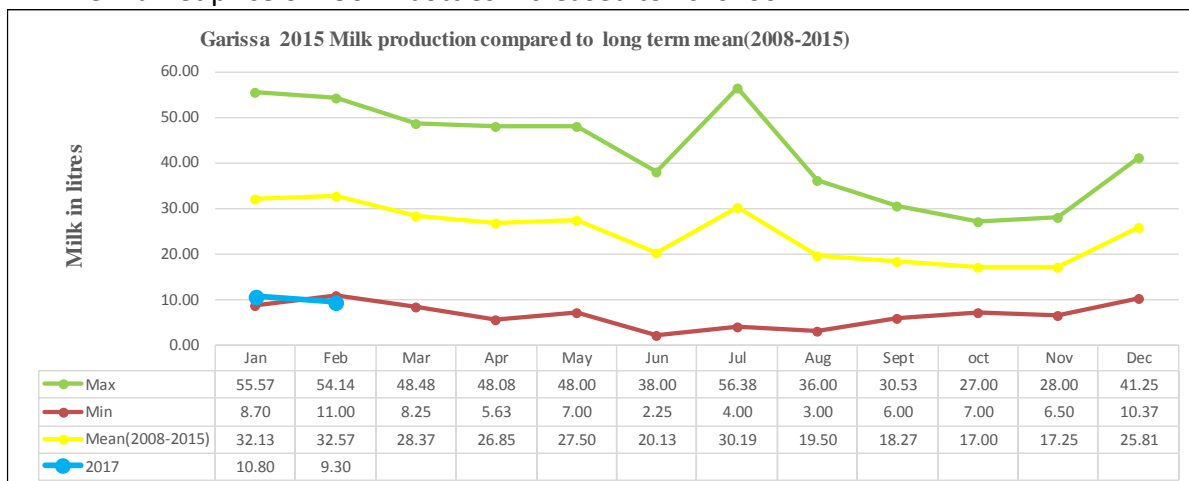


Figure 4: Trends of average milk production per households for Garissa County , 2008-2017

## 3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

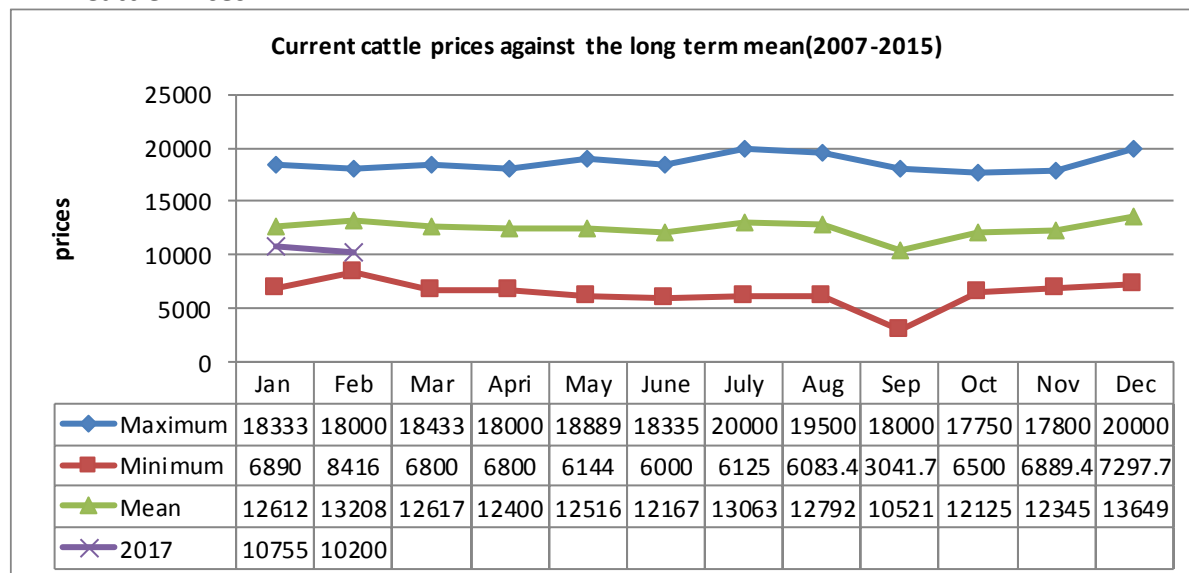
### 3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops

There were no crops planted in the month under review

## 4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

### 4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

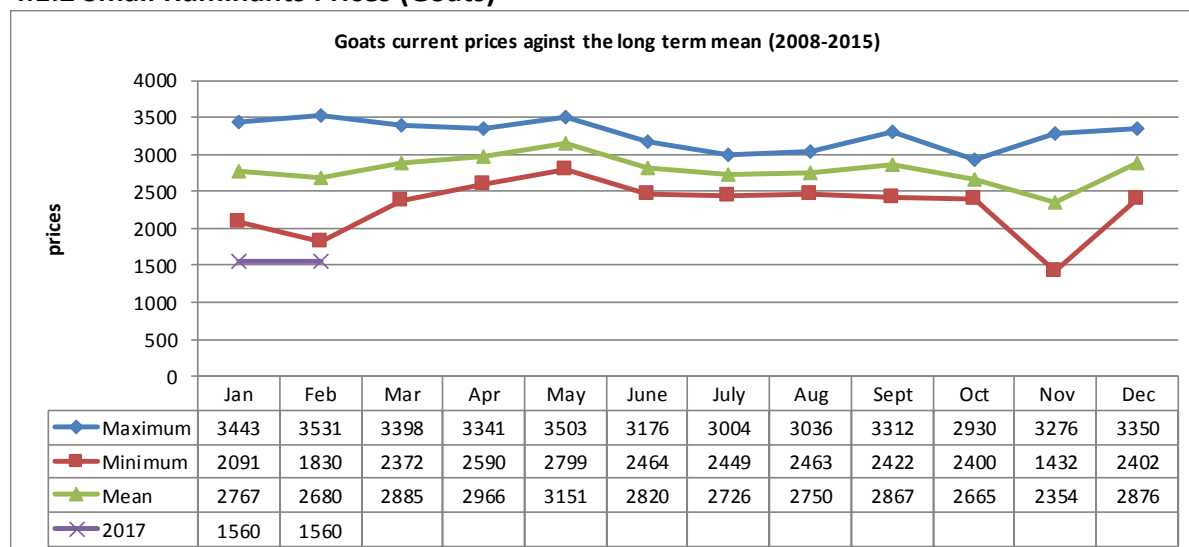
#### 4.1.1 Cattle Prices



**Figure 5: Trends of cattle prices for Garissa County,2007-2017**

- The average cattle price continues to decrease; the current price is kshs10200
- The negative trend relates to the poor body condition and reduced market demand.
- The highest price was recorded in Agro-pastoral livelihood zone at ksh12600 while pastoral all species has fetched the lowest price at ksh8000
- The current price is highly below the long term mean for the month of kshs13208.

#### 4.1.2 Small Ruminants Prices (Goats)



**Figure 6: Trends of Goats prices for Garissa County ,2008-2016**

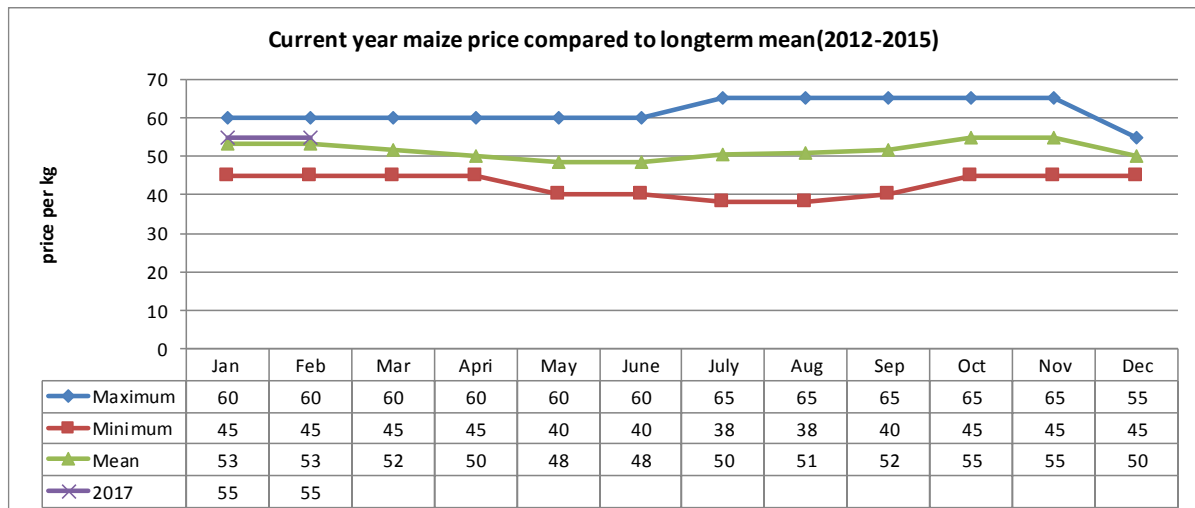
- The average price of goats remained the same when compared with the previous month. The recorded price for the month was kshs1560



- The condition is attributed to poor body condition due to diminishing browse availability and water stress.
- The current average price is below the long term average recorded of kshs2680
- Agro-pastoral livelihood zone recorded the highest goat prices at ksh2300 while pastoral livelihood recorded the lowest average price of 1300

## 4.2 CROP PRICES

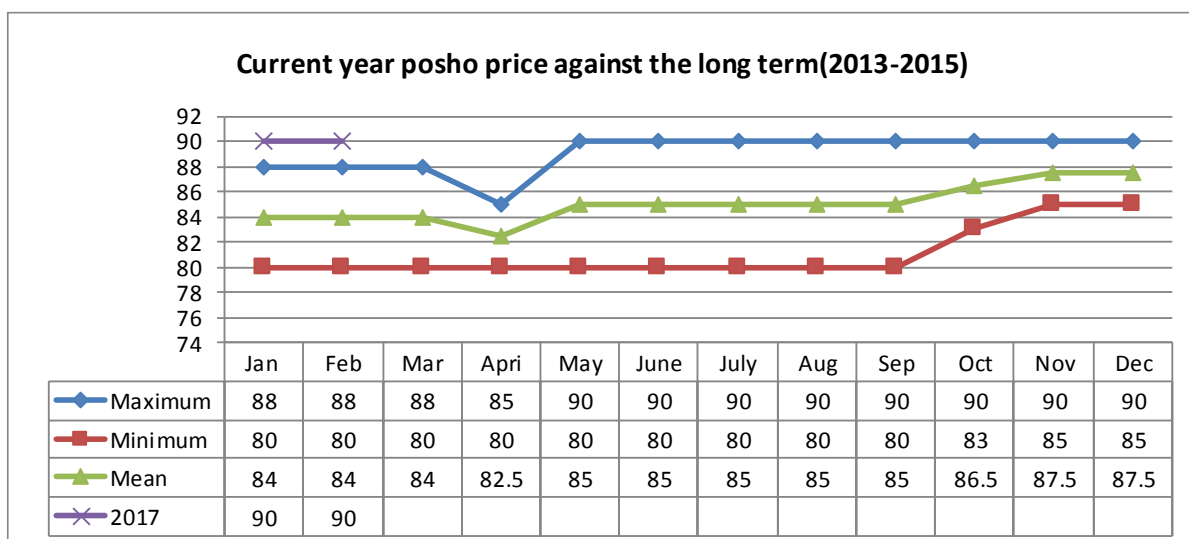
### 4.2.1 Maize



**Figure 7: Trends of Maize prices for Garissa County, 2007-2017**

- The average maize price for the month continued to remain stable; a kg was traded at kshs 55 per kg.
- The demand for maize is high as it is used as supplementary feed for livestock, though other cereals are equally available in the market at lower prices.

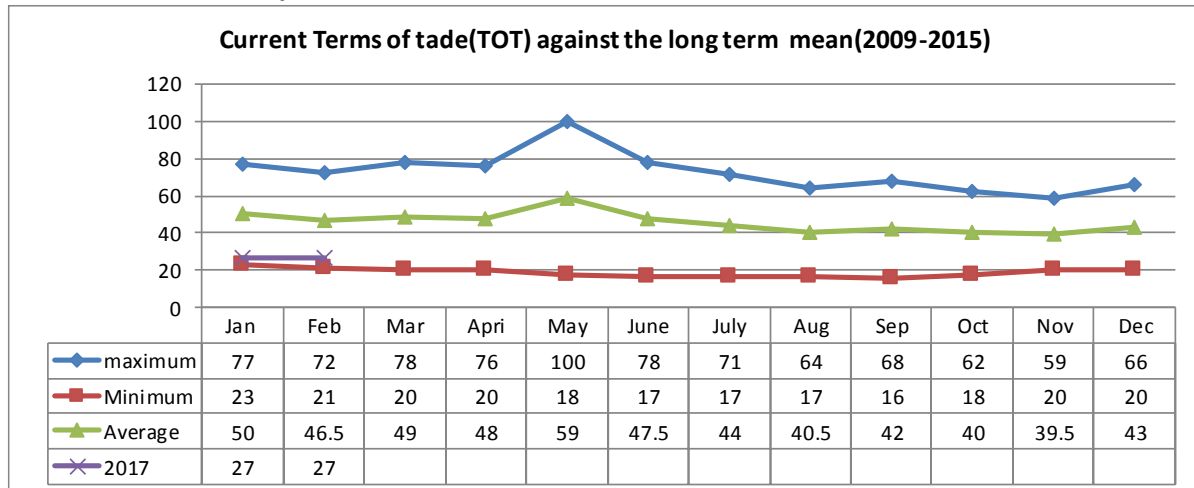
### 4.2.2 Sifted Maize Meal



**Figure 8: Trends of Sifted Maize Meal prices for Garissa County, 2013 -2017**

- The current average price for sifted maize meal remained stable at ksh 90 when compared with the previous month. The price is considered high and affects the pastoralist purchasing powers negatively.
- The average price recorded of ksh 90 was the same across the livelihoods zones.
- The current average price is slightly above the long term average recorded atksh84

### 4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade



**Figure 9: Trends of terms of trade for Garissa County, 2009-2017**

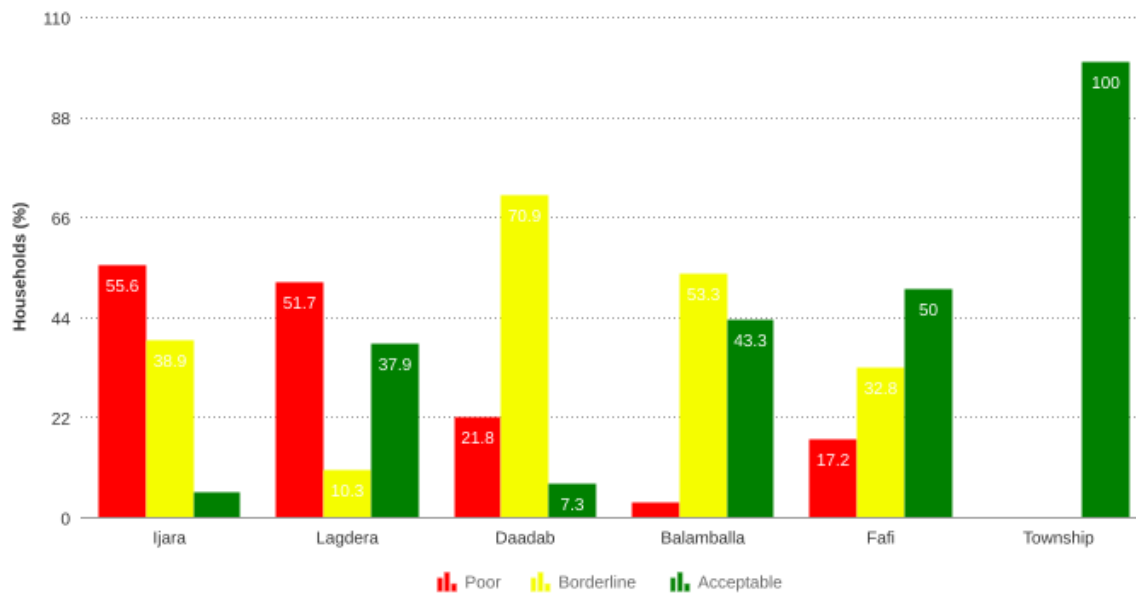
- The terms of trade recorded for the month was 27kg per sale of goat. The term of trade remained stable but on the lower side for the pastoralist struggling with water charges for livestock and households.
- The current terms of trade is below the long term average recorded at 46.5kgs

## 5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

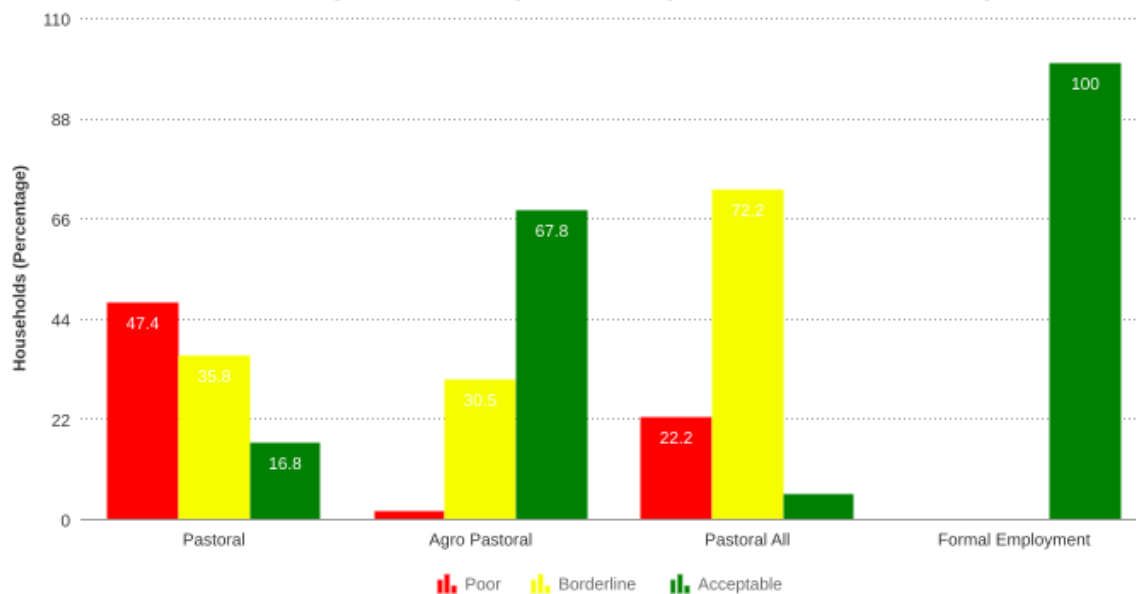
### 5.1 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE

- The food consumption score for the month shows 36.7% of households are in poor food consumption category while 21.3% are in borderline while 43% of households are in acceptable level.
- The changes in trend was due to several ongoing interventions within the county.
- Ijara Sub County has the highest household with poor food consumption score at 56 % and lagdera Sub County has 51.7%household with poor food consumption score.
- In Lagdera sub county water trucking activities and GoK food distribution improved household water access and improved meals availability.
- The pastoral livelihood zones have highest number of household with poor food consumption score at 47.4 %. The formal employment livelihood zone have no households in the poor category.
- The charts below shows the comparison of the food consumption score based on livelihood zones and by sub counties

**Garissa County Food Consumption Score by Sub Counties - February 2017**

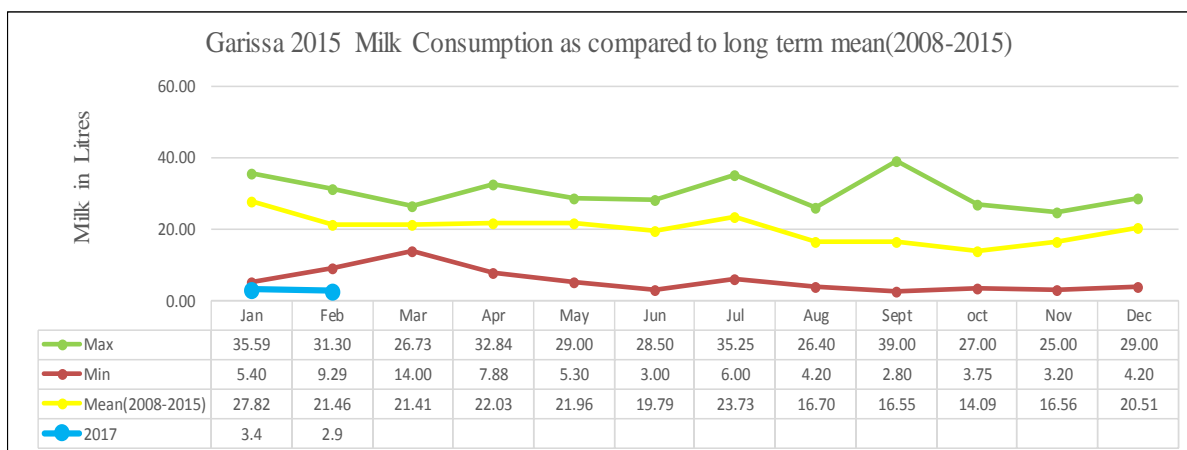


**Garissa County Food Consumption Score by Livelihoodzones - February 2017**



## 5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- The average milk consumption per household for the month under review continue to decrease with decrease in milk production when compared with the previous month.
- The current amount recorded was 2.9litres.
- The current milk consumption per household is highly below the long term average recorded at 21.46 litres during same period of the year.

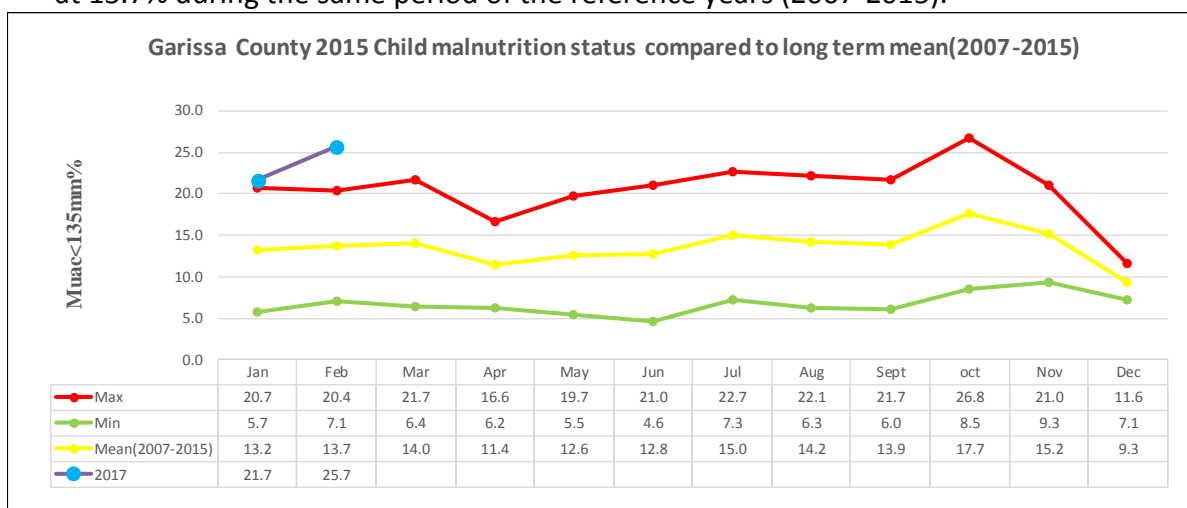


**Figure 10: Trends of Milk consumption for Garissa County, 2008-2016**

### 5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

#### 5.3.1 Nutrition Status

- The at risk to malnutrition for children under five increased from 21.7% to 25.7%
- The mid at risk levels increased from 19.5% to 21.5%, the moderately malnourished increased from 1.52% to 2.99% and the severely malnourished category increased to 1%
- The current average malnutrition level was above the long term average recorded at 13.7% during the same period of the reference years (2007-2015).



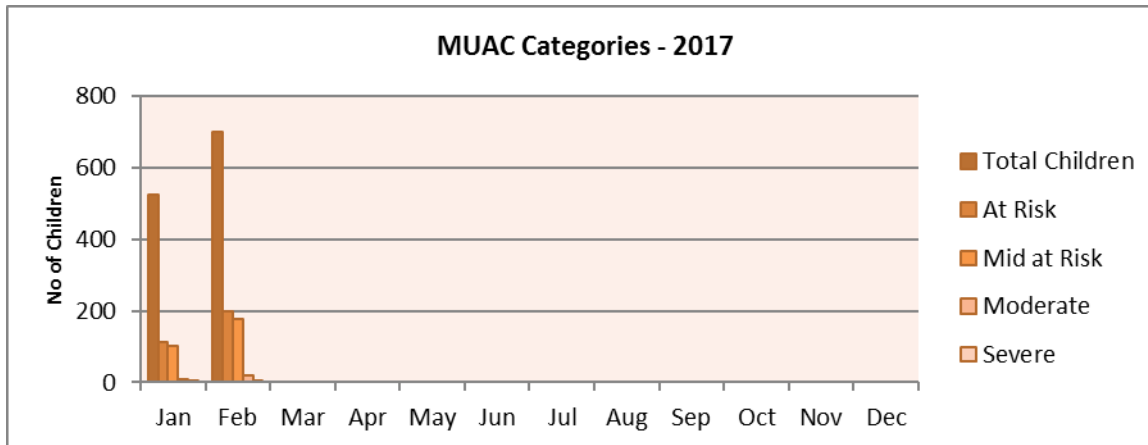


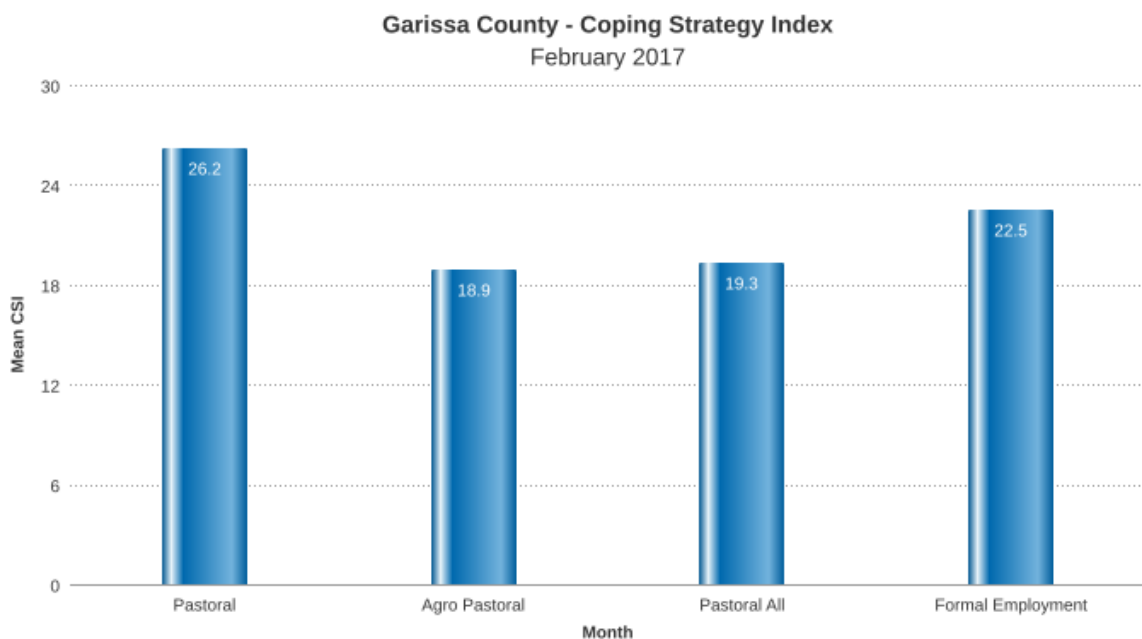
Figure 11: Trends in the proportion of U5 at risk of malnutrition in Garissa County, 2007 – 2016

### 5.3.2 Health

- There were suspected cases of cholera in parts of Ijara Sub County though no major diseases outbreak reported, however there is increased in morbidity for respiratory tract infection, diarrhoea, pneumonia and disease of the skin.
- The diseases were reported across all the livelihood zones.

### 5.4 COPING STRATEGIES INDEX

- The average coping strategies index for the county was 22.36.
- The formal employment livelihood zone has the highest index at 26.2 while the agro-pastoral has the lowest at 18.
- The graphs below shows the mean coping strategy based on the livelihood zones.



The coping strategies adopted by the pastoralist included;

- Borrowing of credit from petty traders

- Charcoal burning and sale of wood product in the agro pastoral and formal employment livelihood zone
- Water trucking for livestock

## **6. CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)**

### **6.1 NON-FOOD INTERVENTIONS**

- Provision of livestock feed supplements (livestock).
- Livestock offtake (KMC, Livestock,)
- Desilting and construction of new water pans
- Drilling and equipping boreholes
- Water trucking
- Micronutrient supplementation
- Health Outreach Services
- CDF bursaries to secondary school students
- Provision of stationery kits to all ECD schools & Food for fees programme rollout in selected secondary schools
- Procurement of pump sets and assorted horticulture crop seeds for Riverine farmers
- Promotion of cow peas and sorghum for food security (promotion, provision of inputs)
- Opening of farm access roads

### **6.2 FOOD AID**

- Food for asset food distribution to the beneficiaries through work norm verification.
- GOK food distribution by the respective deputy county commissioners.
- Supplementary feeding programme for the management of malnutrition in the health facilities

## **7. EMERGING ISSUES**

### **7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement**

There were no reported cases of conflict over resource utilization and human displacement in the month under review

### **7.2 Migration**

There was no livestock out-migration reported during the month.

### **7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS**

- The drought stage is Alarm and the trend is deteriorating.
- During the month of March, household food consumption is expected to seasonally decline as household incomes reduce due to declining livestock prices and limited on-farm wage labor opportunities due to reduced crop production

- Further deterioration of livestock body condition in most parts of the Pastoral Zone through March resulting in reduction in milk production availability and consumption increasing risk of child malnutrition

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Up-scaling of livestock off-take, destocking and provision of livestock feeds
- Expansion of pasture and fodder production initiatives
- Livestock insurance Index
- Repair of existing water supplies and water bowsers
- Provision of water treatment chemicals
- Continue with the mass treatment and outreach programme for children under five, pregnant and lactating mothers.