

National Drought Management Authority
WAJIR COUNTY
DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR MAY 2018



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



MAY EW PHASE 2018



Early Warning Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral	Normal	Improving
Pastoral cattle	Normal	Improving
Pastoral-all species	Normal	Improving
Pastoral camel	Normal	Improving
Informal employment	Normal	Improving
County	Normal	Improving
Biophysical Indicators	value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)	60	80 -120
VCI-3Month	78.18	>35
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Livestock Body Condition	good	Normal
Crop production	Poor	Good
Milk Production	2.6	>3-4litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal
Livestock deaths (from drought)	No death	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	63	>66
Milk Consumption	2.2	>3
Return Distance to water source	1.6	<5 Km
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	14.3	<6.6
Coping Strategy Index (CSI)	7.08	<0.95

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

Rainfall Report

The county Recorded Above normal rainfall during March, April and May 2018, however the distribution was good in both time and Space and was characterized by heavy rainfall storms that caused flooding over most parts of the county.

Vegetation condition: Current VCI in the county recorded vegetation greenness above normal with aVCI of 78.18 as compared to previous month figure of 49.27 which showed significant increase in Vegetation condition. With all other sub-counties recording vegetation greenness above normal.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

Livestock body is good in the county, Pasture and browse available, Milk production slightly declined, No Migration of livestock witnessed. No livestock death recorded. Terms of trade not favourable, Reduce trekking distance, Percentage of children under five at risk of malnutrition declined from 15.0 in April to 14.3 in the month under review. Less coping strategies were applied in all livelihood zones except pastoral livelihood zones and agro-pastoral livelihood zones that employed more coping strategies compared to previous month.

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

1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITION

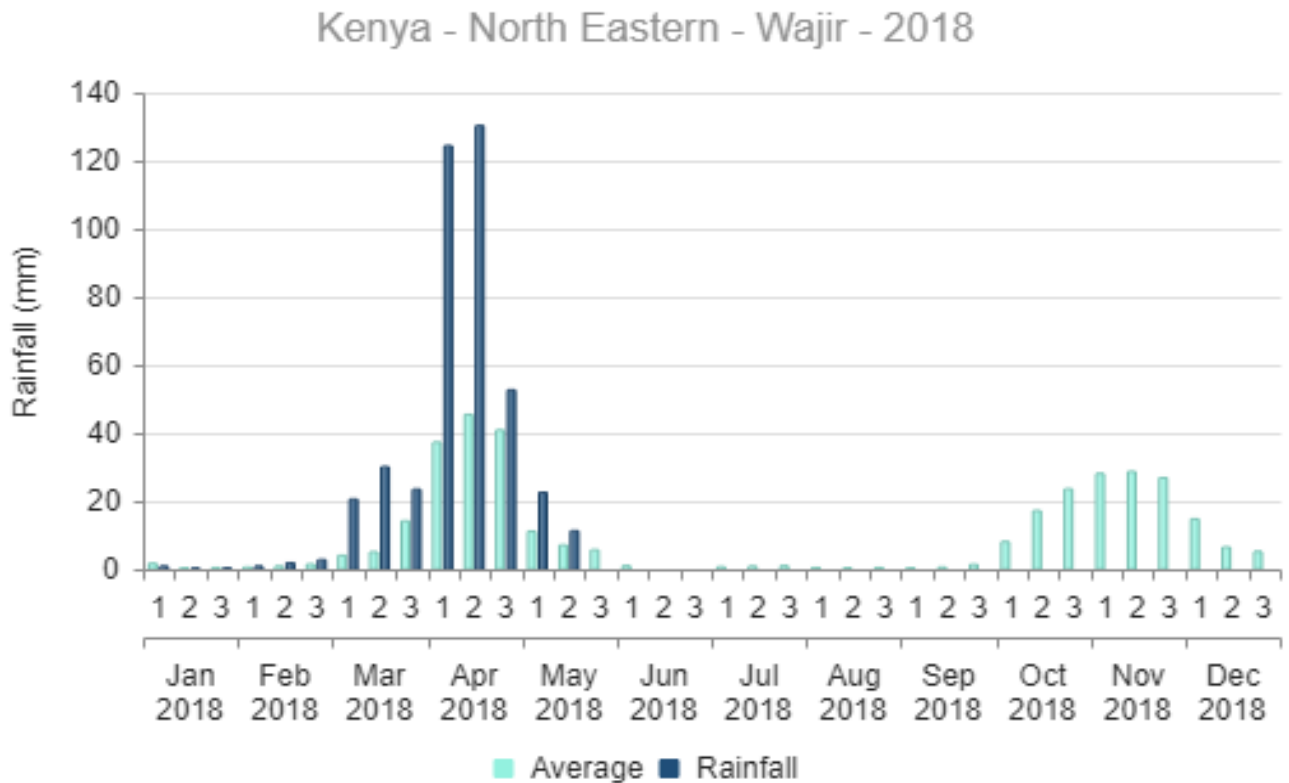
1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

1.2 Onset

- The county Received above Normal Rainfall during the season (MAM), however in the Month of May Rains were received in the 1st Dekad and 2nd Dekad where the distribution was poor.

1.2.1 Amount of rainfall and spatial Distribution

- The county recorded some little rainfall in the fast dekad and 2nd dekad of May 2018, though the distribution was poor.



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2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 Vegetation Condition

2.1.1 Vegetation condition index (VCI)

Current vegetation cover indexes for the county indicated Vegetation greenness above Normal with a VCI score of 78.18 as compared to previous month with a score of 49.27 indicating significant increase in vegetation greenness in all livelihood zones. The Vegetation condition is expected to decline as rains cease and dry spell expected in the coming months.

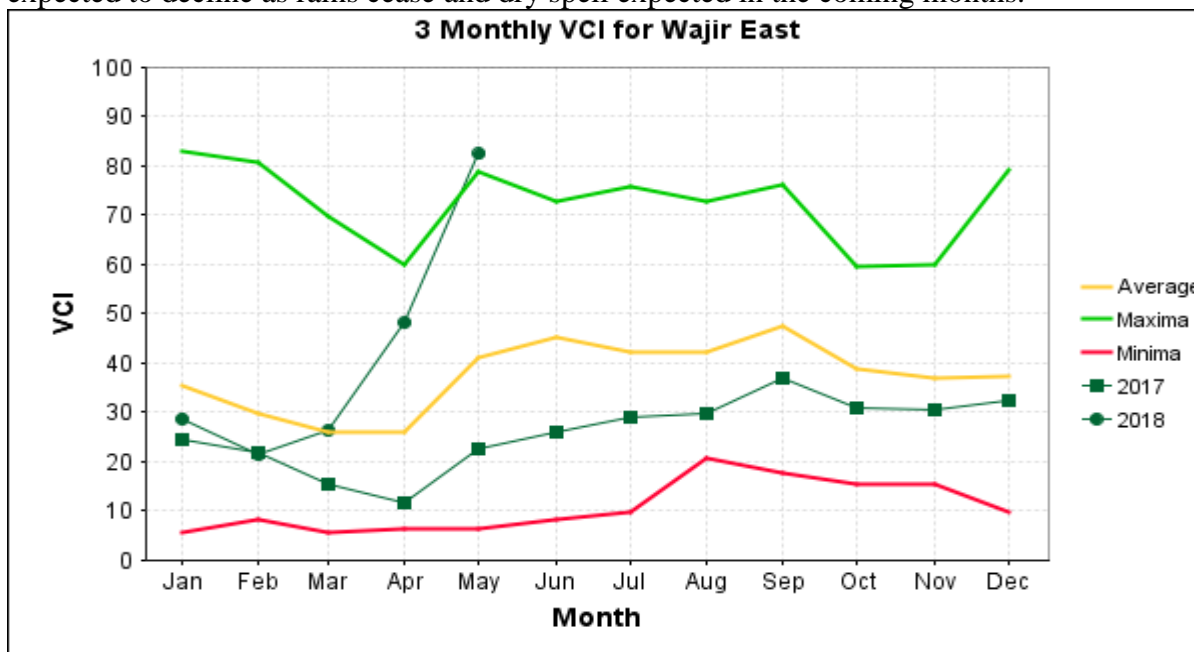


Figure 1: A chart of Wajir County overall 3-monthly VCI during the month of May 2018

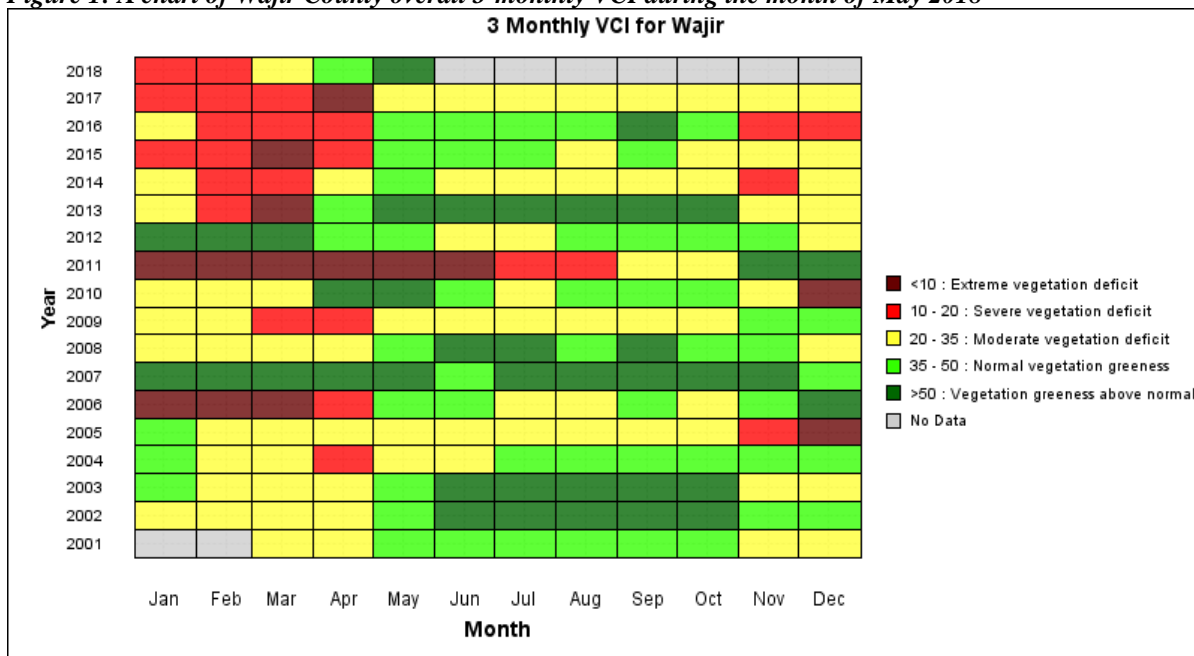


Figure 2: A matrix of 3-monthly VCI for Wajir County during the month of May 2018

2.1.2 Pasture

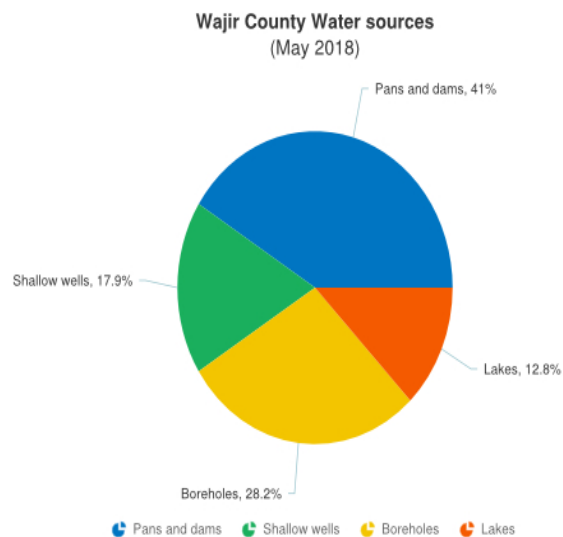
- Pasture situation in all livelihood zones are generally good due to heavy rains witnessed during the season.
- Pasture condition greatly improved across the livelihood zones when Compared to the earlier month due to cumulative effect of the Normal rain received.
- Pasture is highly available in all livelihood zones with all having good quality and Quantity.
- Pasture varies according to livelihood zones where agro-pastoral livelihood zones in Wajir North, Pastoral all species in Wajir West, Tarbaj and Parts of Pastoral Cattle livelihood zones in Wajir South reported to have good pasture. While pockets of Wajir South and Wajir West still observed to have fair condition.
- Available pasture is expected to stand with pastoral livestock for a period of three months (June-August 2018).
- No constraints reported during the month.

2.1.3 Browse

- Browse condition in all livelihood zones remained good due to continuous rains witnessed in the county during long rains.
- When Compared to previous month browse condition is above normal in all livelihood zones due to cumulative rains observed in the county during the long rains.
- The available browse and shedding of browse pods are expected to last for a period of two months.
- No constraints reported during the month under review.

2.2.0 Water Sources

- Main water sources used by both human and livestock in all livelihood zones are boreholes, water pans, lagas, Natural ponds and shallow wells which is normal at this time of the year where all water pans in the county are fully recharged.
- Compared to the previous month water condition in the county remained the same due to continuous rains observed during the month.
- Available water are expected to last for a period of three to four months.



2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

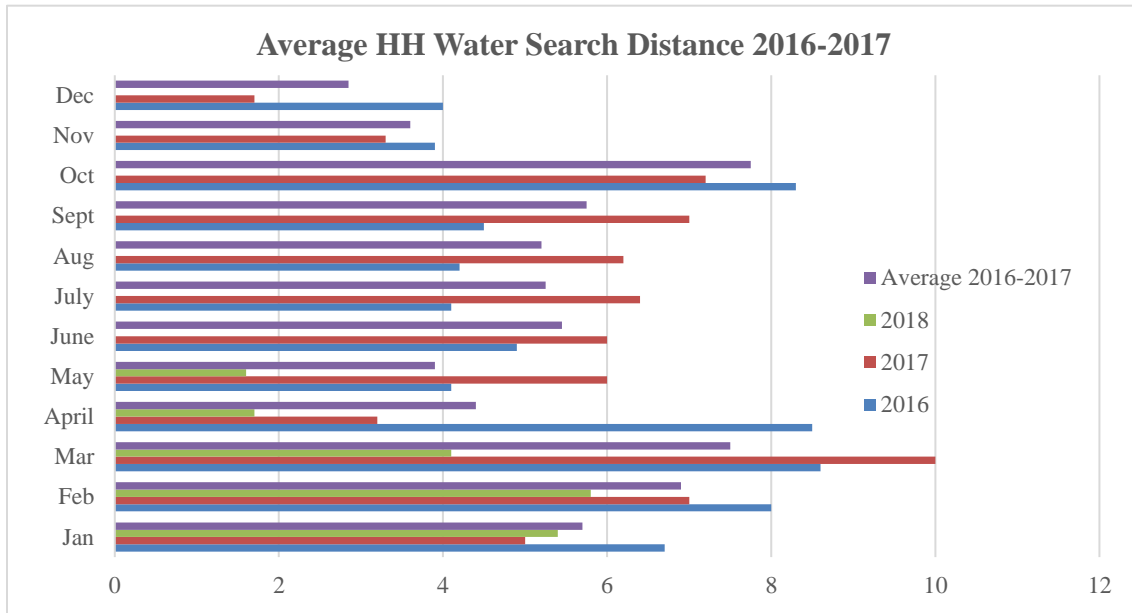


Figure 4: A chart indicating return distance to water sources against 2016-2017 average

- Current average household return distances to main water sources slightly decreased from 1.7km in April to 1.6km in the month under review due to adequate rains received which impounding water pans, lagas and shallow wells.
- Current average household water consumption per person per day increased as water pans, Lagas and shallow wells fully impounded.
- The proportion of pastoral households that treat water is too small with households in the urban town’s only treat water.

2.2.3 Livestock access

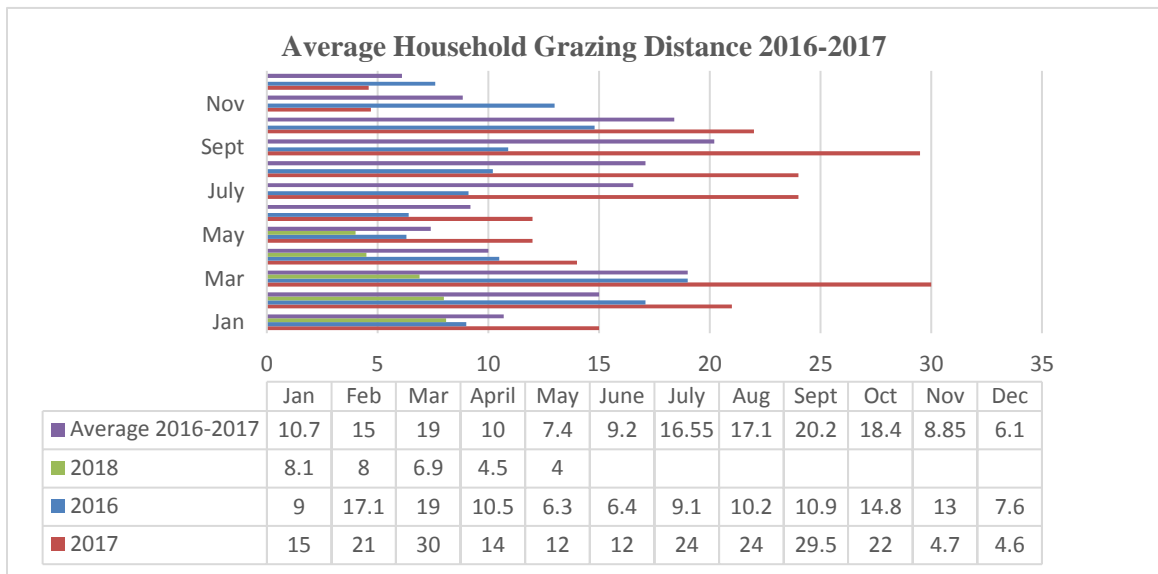


Figure 5: A graph indicating current grazing distance against (2015-2016) average

- Current average trekking distance from grazing area to water point slightly decreased from 4.5km in April to 4.0km in May as a result of available water, pasture and browse in all livelihood zones thus reduced trekking distance.

- Average grazing distance is below the long term average and previous year's month average.
- Frequency of watering livestock from grazing area to water points become minimal as the distance to water point decreased significantly as a result of available water and continuous rains observed in the county.
- Watering frequencies for livestock species were watered on daily basis as a result of available water and full recharged of water sources.
- Livestock Distance from grazing area varies according to livelihood zones where the highest grazing distance was still reported in Wajir south, and Wajir west and lowest was reported in Wajir North, Wajir East and Tarbaj.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 Livestock production

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- Livestock body situation was generally good for all livestock species in all livelihood zones attributed to above normal vegetation greenness and high recharge level of service water.
- When Compared to the previous month the livestock body condition is above normal due to available pasture, browse and reduced trekking distance, while compared to the same period in previous year, the livestock body condition is above normal as a result of cumulative effects of good forage condition.

3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- Currently there were no outbreak of livestock disease but cases of CCPP, PPR and sheep and goat pox across the county are still witnessed.

3.1.3 Milk Production

- Current average household milk production per household per day slightly decreased from 3.2litres in April to 2.6litres in the month under review due to lower calving rate.

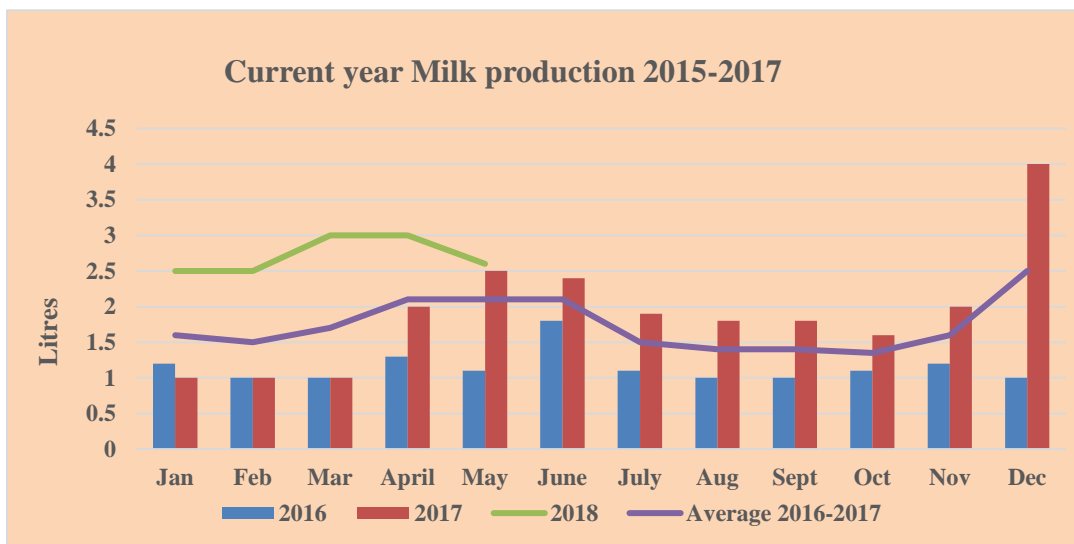


Figure 6:

Current Household milk production against (2007-2016) long-term average

- Current average milk production is above the long term average and previous year average indicating rise in milk production as compared to previous year's average due to adequate pasture, browse and water. This is normal at this time of the year.
- Highest milk production was recorded in Pastoral all species, agro-pastoral livelihood zones, Pastoral camel areas and Tarbaj while lowest recorded in Eldas.

3.2.1 Stage and condition of food Crops

Most of the farmers in Wajir planted their crop mainly maize, Bean, Sorghum and other crops such as Kales, Spinach and Water melon, Where Currently Maize and Sorghum is almost at maturity while Water melon and Kales are being harvested.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1. LIVESTOCK MARKETING

4.1.1 Cattle prices

- Current average price of four year old medium size bull increased from Kshs 20,315 in April to 22,420 in the month under review as a result of increase in market demand and improved livestock body condition.
- Highest average prices was recorded in urban areas and lowest was recorded in the rural areas.
- Current average price is above the long term average (LTA) and previous year's average.
- Market indicates that markets prices are favourable as compared to previous years.

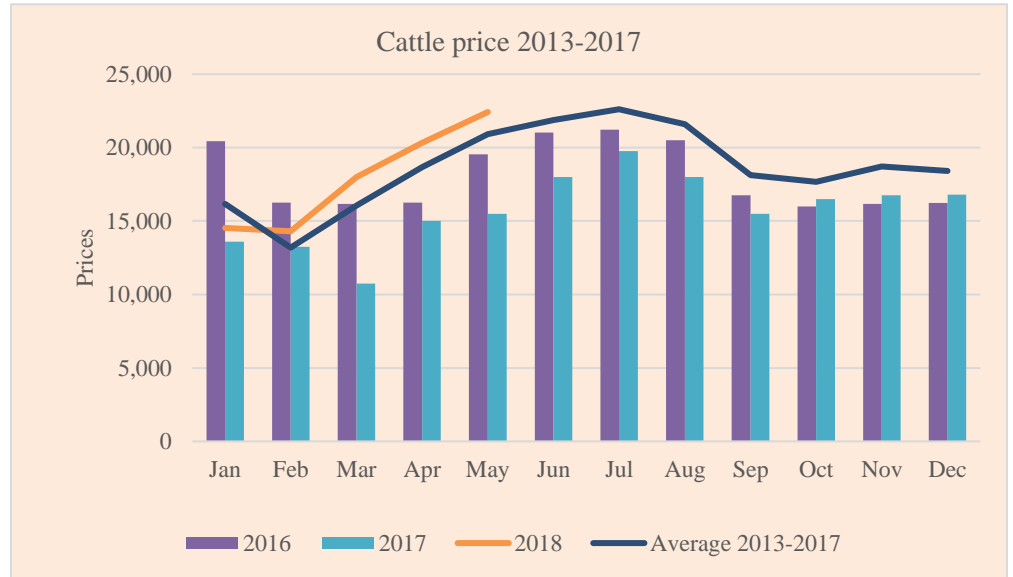


Figure 7: A graph of current cattle price against the long term (2013-17) mean prices

4.1.2 Small Ruminant (Goat price)

- Current average price of a two year old goat slightly decreased from Kshs 3,766 in April to Kshs 3,225 in the month under review due to more supply in the market and less demand attributed to poor transport.
- Current average price is below the Long term average (LTA) but above previous month price.
- The livelihood with the highest prices was recorded in Wajir south, Wajir town and lowest was recorded in Tarbaj.

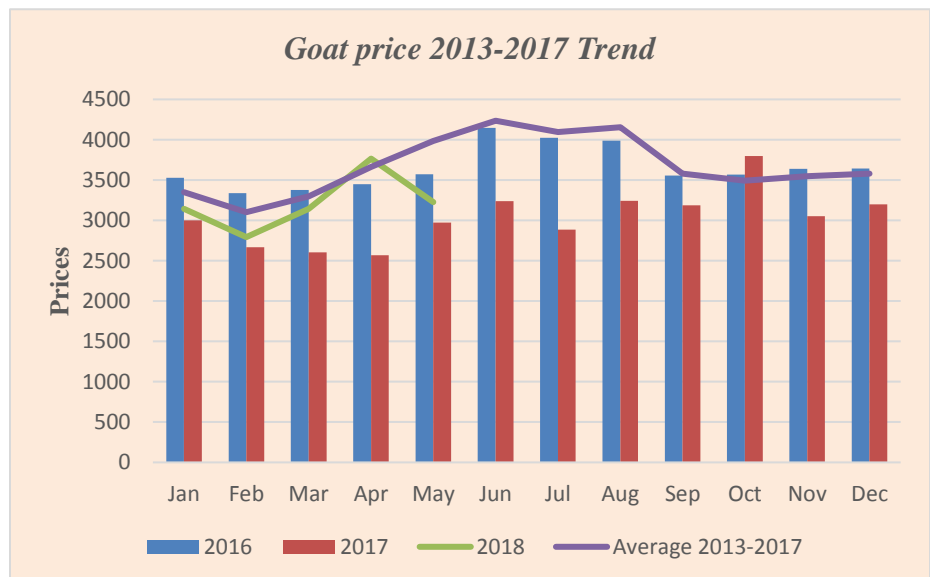


Figure 8: A graph of current year goat prices against the short-term mean 2013-2017

4.1.3 Camel price

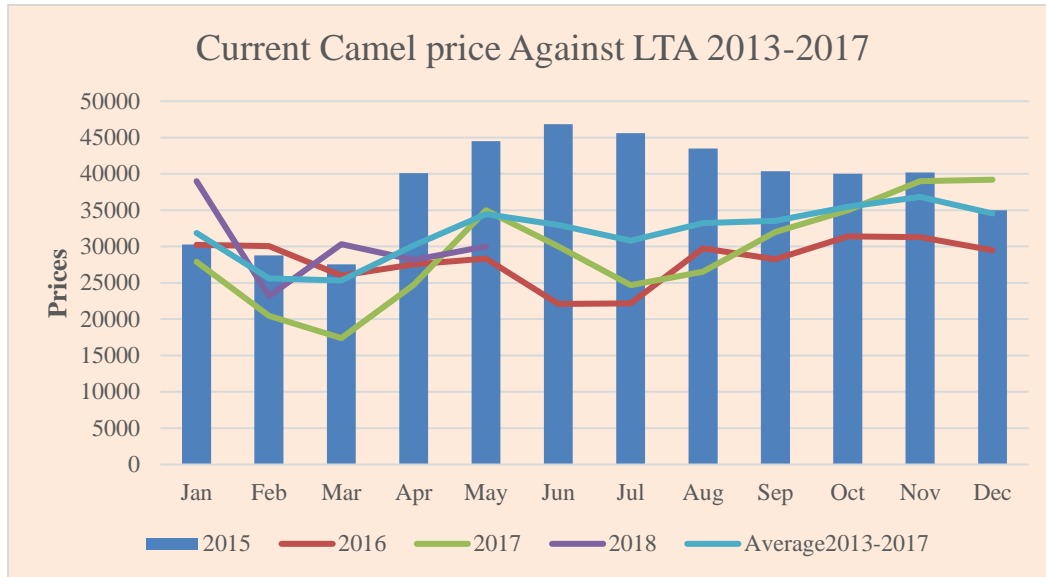


Figure 9: A graph of current camel prices against the long term mean (2013-2017).

- Current average price of four year old Camel increased from Kshs 28,166 in April to Kshs 30,000 in the month under review due to slight increase in market demand and low supply.
- Livelihood zones with the highest price was recorded in Wajir South, and lowest recorded in Wajir North.
- Current average price of camel is below long term average (LTA) and previous year's month price thus making market not favourable as compared to previous years price.

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize

- Current average maize price remained stable from Kshs 51 per kg in April to Kshs 51 per kg in May as a result of relief food distribution by the National government and availability of stock in the market.
- The highest maize prices was shown in the rural areas and lowest recorded in the urban towns.

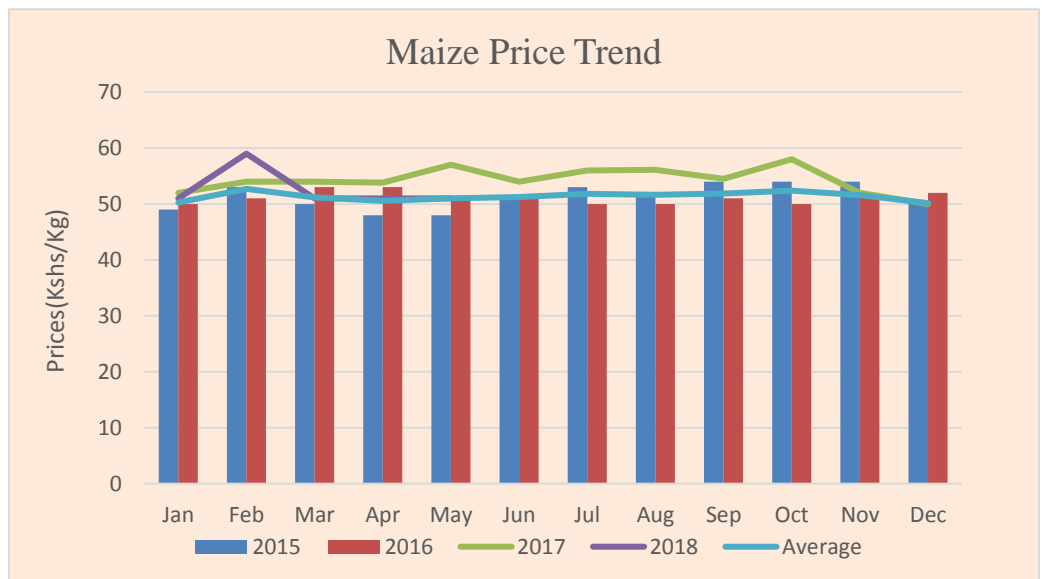


Figure 10: A graph of Current Maize Trend (2015-2017)

- Current maize price was equal to the long term average but below previous year's month Price, as Compared to long term average and previous year price this is not normal.

4.2.1.1 Other outstanding observation

- Maize been not staple food consumed in Wajir, Major staple food utilized are rice, beans, meat, milk and spaghetti in all the livelihood zones.

4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade (TOT)

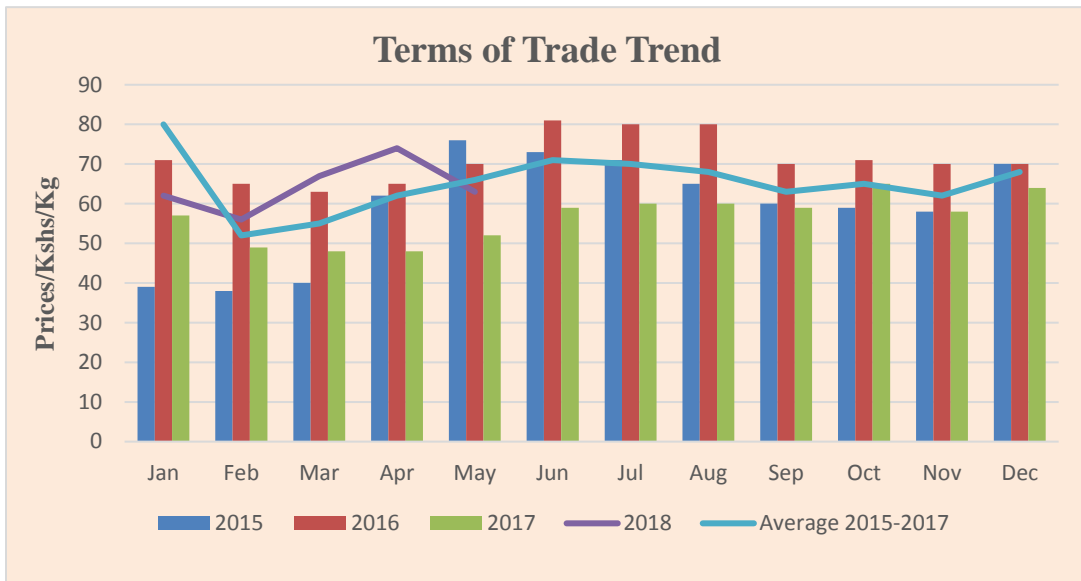


Figure11: A graph of current Terms of Trade against the long term (2015-2017) mean price

- Current household terms of trade decreased from 74kg in April to 63kg in the month under review due to slight decrease in goat price and stability in maize thus making Terms of trade not favourable as compared to previous month.
- Current term of trade is below the long term average and above previous year's month average.
- No market disruption reported during the month.

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

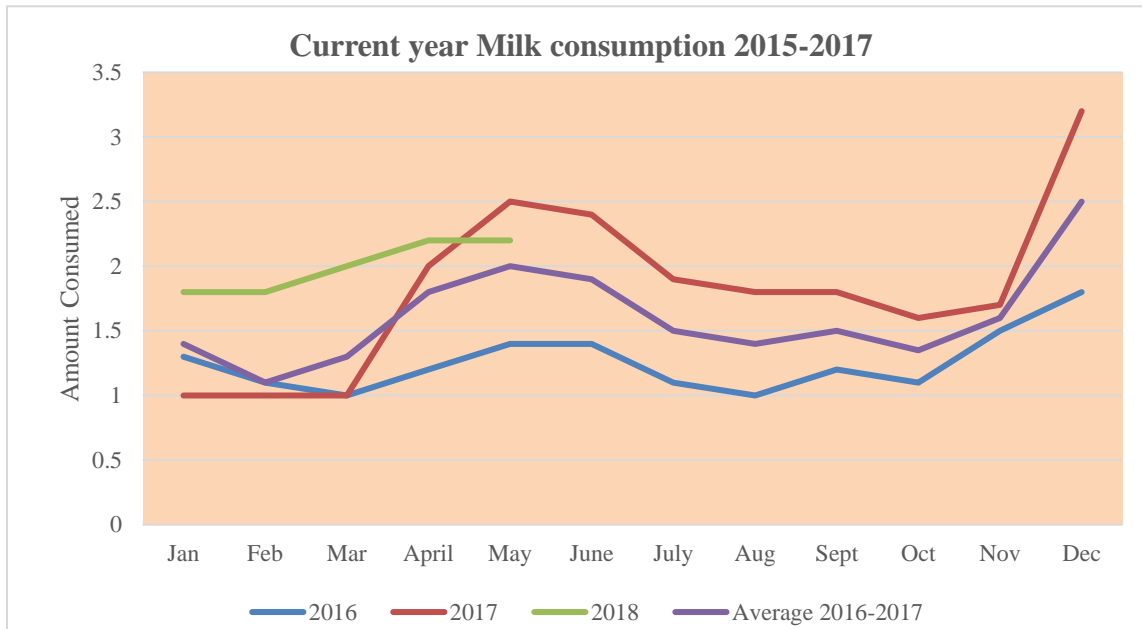
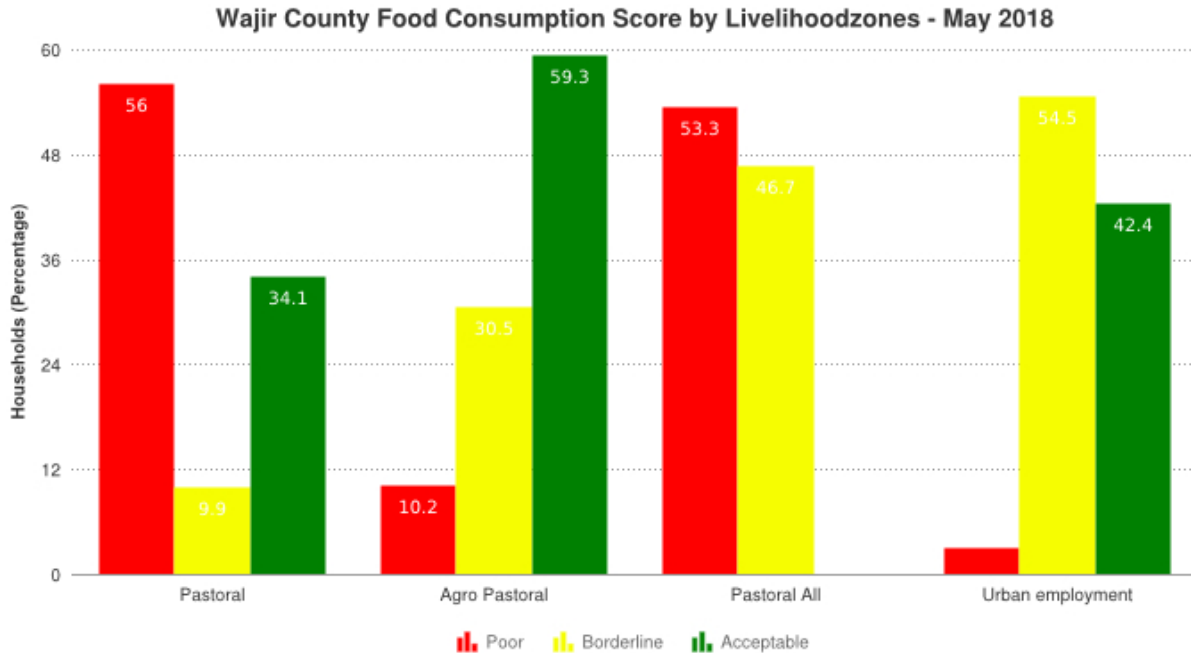


Figure 12: A graph showing current average milk consumption for Wajir against (2015-2017) mean

- Current average milk consumption per household per day remained the same with 2.2litres as compared to previous month showing also 2.2litres thus improving nutrition status of children under five.
- Current average household milk consumption per household per day is above the long term average but below previous year's average.
- Current highest milk production was reported in Wajir West, Wajir South, Wajir North and Tarbaj while lowest was still recorded in Eldas.
- Highest species producing milk are Mainly Camel and Cattle.

5.2 Food Consumption Score



- Pastoral livelihood zones and pastoral all species are the household with poor score of 56 and 53.3 in the month under review as compared to 38.8 and 64.1 in April showing arise in pastoral livelihood zones and a decline in pastoral all species.
- As compared to the previous month Pastoral livelihood zones has higher score of 56 in May from a score of 38.8 while pastoral all species livelihood zones decline from a score of 64 to a score of 53.3, while other household are in Borderline and Acceptable respectively.
- In agro-pastoral livelihood zones 10.2 of the households are in poor compared to previous month with a score of 20.7 showing an improve in food consumption and other household been in Borderline and acceptable.

5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

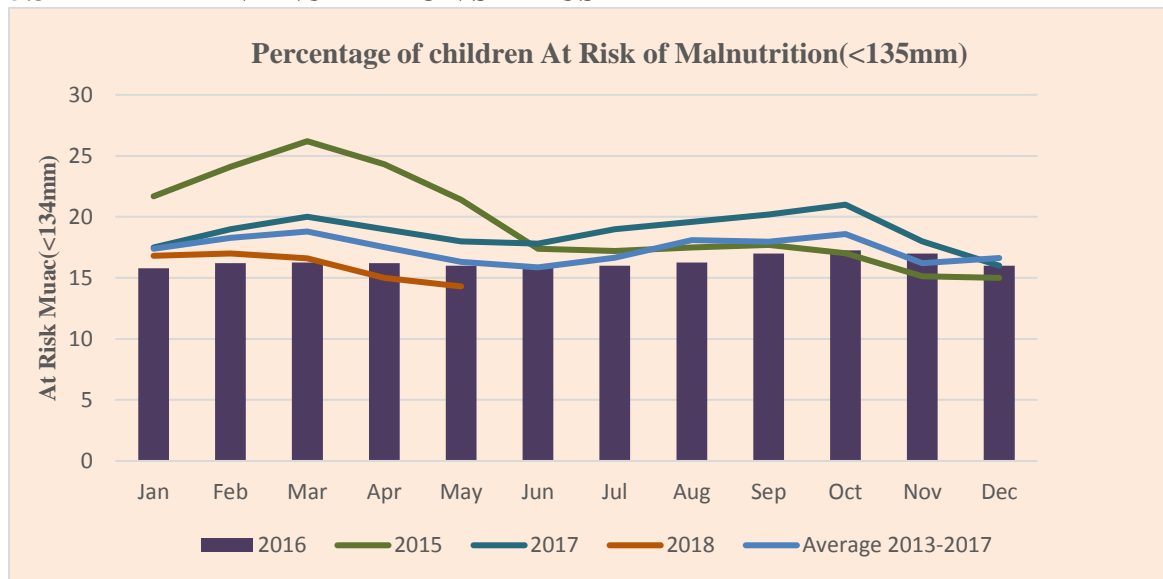


Figure 14: A graph of Nutritional status of children between 12-59 months against (2013-17) long-term mean

- In Wajir a total of 640 children (6-59 months) were sampled for both girls and boys and assessed for malnutrition using muac Tape. From the sampled children, 14.3% were at risk of malnutrition (MUAC <135 mm) as compared to previous month which was 15.0% showing improvement in malnutrition.
- In Wajir North Sub-county (Bute and Buna/Batalu) total number of Sample children assessed for malnutrition using Muac Tape for boys and girls, From the sample children 13.2% were at risk of malnutrition (MUAC <135 mm) when compared to previous month which was 9.0% indicating rise in malnutrition.
- Wajir South Sub-county total number of sampled children assessed for malnutrition using Muac both girl and boys, from the sample children 12.1% were at Risk of malnutrition (MUAC <135 mm) when compared to previous month which was 13.1% indicating a slight improvement in malnutrition.

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

- The proportion of children under five at risk of malnutrition in the month of April decline from 15.0 to 14.3 in the month under review due adequate milk available at household level.
- The proportion of children under five with severe category increased from 0.9% in April to 2.4 % in the month under review showing rise in the number of children with severe category.
- The current proportion (MUAC <135 mm) is below the long term average and previous year's month average, showing an improvement in malnutrition as compared to previous year's month.

5.3 COPING STRATEGY INDEX

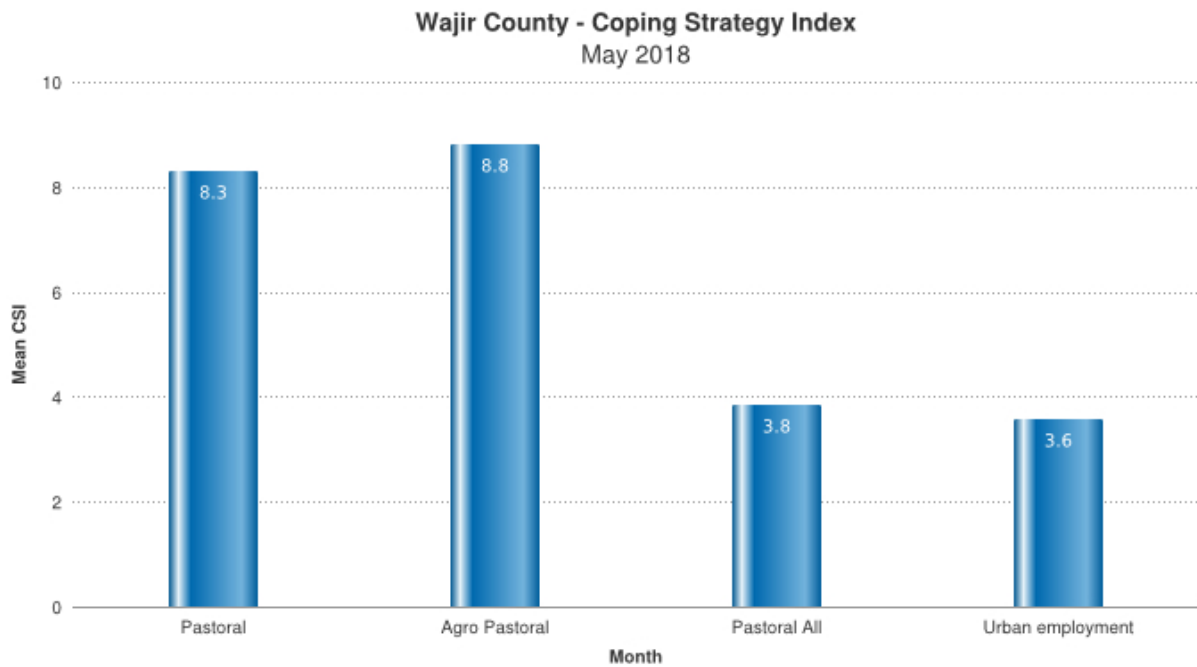


Figure15: A graph showing average (2015-2017) (coping strategy index (CSI) against the current trend

- Agro-Pastoral and pastoral livelihood zones applied more coping strategy with an index of 8.8 and 8.3 respectively while pastoral all and urban employment livelihood zones employed less coping strategy. The mean CSI for the county is 7.08 as compared to the previous month which showed 11.3 showing less coping was employed.
- Reduced the number of meals taken per day.
- Relied on less preferred and less expensive food
- Reduced the quantity of food consumed by adult/mothers

6.0 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)

6.1 Non-food interventions.-Ongoing

- Livestock disease surveillance in the County
- Monitoring and treatment of human disease- ongoing
- Rehabilitation, servicing and equipping of Borehole
- Food for Asset(FFA)

6.2 Food Aid.

- Relief food distribution by National Government.

7.0 EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

- There were no incident of insecurity reported in the county during the month.

7.2 Migration

- No migration of livestock reported in the county during the month where most the herd's access pasture closer to the household due to adequate pasture and browse.

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- Pasture condition will likely remain stable in the next two to three month and thereafter deteriorate due to the dry spell.
- Migration of livestock are expected to be minimal in the next two month due to available pasture and browse and thereafter movement of livestock will be observed due to dry spell.
- Water availability and accessibility in all livelihood zones are likely to be good in the next three months and thereafter deteriorate during the dry spell.
- Trekking distance to water sources will likely reduce and thereafter increase during the dry spell.
- Nutrition status will likely improve due to availability and accessibility of milk in all livelihood zones and thereafter deteriorate during the dry spell.
- Livestock body condition will likely remain to be good in the next two months and thereafter decrease during August 2018.
- Availability of milk is expected to increase further as the livestock body condition improved and thereafter decline during the dry spell.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Health & Nutrition.

- Strengthening and Capacity building of health worker on IMAM
- Water Treatment(Aqua tabs, PUR, chlorine powder
- Routine Monitoring of malnutrition in the county
- Conducting an Outreach services and Scale up on daily basis –ongoing
- Scale up of HINI/IMAM/IYCN interventions-ongoing

Livestock Sector.

- Monitoring of Livestock Market trend
- Livestock surveillance by monitoring and treatment of animals.

Water Sector

- Water hygiene and sanitation standards must be observed in order to minimise chances of outbreak of water borne diseases
- Improved water harvesting technologies and sensitization of the communities on the methods of harvesting water during this rainy season

Agriculture Sector:

- Provision of farm inputs to the farmers-ongoing
- Provision of seeds to farmers
- FFA-ongoing
- Installation of Solar panels