

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



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



**JUNE EW PHASE 2018**



**Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification**

**Biophysical Indicators**

**Rainfall Report**

The county did not receive any rainfall during the month under review though characterised by cold and cloudy weather condition over most part of the county.

**Vegetation condition:** Current VCI in the county indicated vegetation greenness above normal with a score of 81.92 as compared to previous month figure of 78.18 with all the livelihood zones recording vegetation greenness above normal.

**Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)**

Livestock body condition is good in all livelihood zones. Pasture and browse remained the same. Milk production slightly declined. No Migration of livestock witnessed. Cases of livestock disease reported, Terms of trade favourable. Reduce trekking distance. Percentage of children under five at risk of malnutrition remained stable. More coping strategies were employed, compared to previous month.

**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)	0	80 -120
VCI-3Month	78.18	>35
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Livestock Body Condition	good	Normal
Crop production	Poor	Good
Milk Production	2.5	>3-4litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal
Livestock deaths (from drought)	No death	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	75	>66
Milk Consumption	1.8	>3
Return Distance to water source	2.0	<5 Km
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	14.0	<6.6
Coping Strategy Index (CSI)	11.13	<0.95

<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>Weddin</li> </ul>								
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

## 1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITION

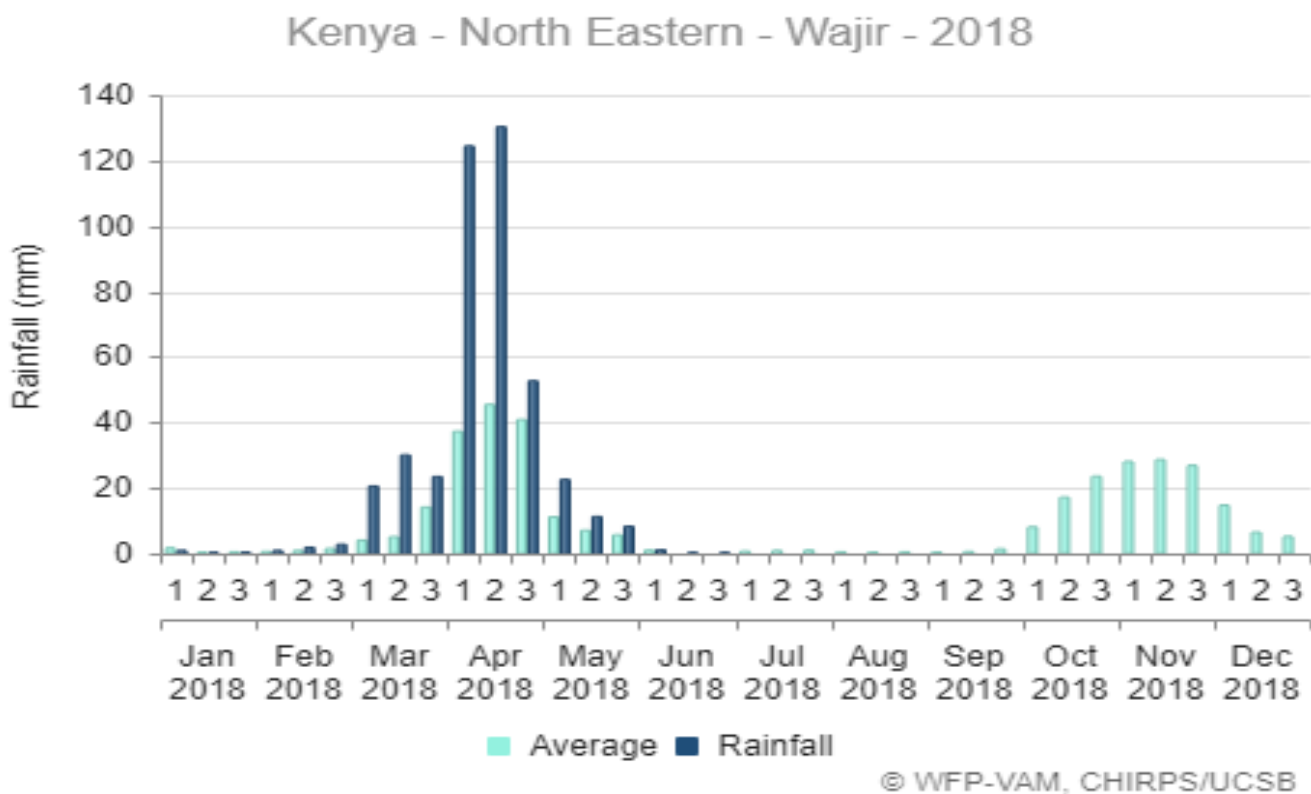
### 1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

#### 1.2 Onset

1.2.1 The county received above normal rainfall during the months of March, April and May (MAM), although in June no rainfall was recorded. Cold and cloudy weather was experienced in most parts of the County.

#### 1.2.2 Mount of rainfall and spatial Distribution

- The county received no rainfall in the month under receive, though characterised by cold and cloudy weather during the day and night.



## 2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

### 2.1 Vegetation Condition

#### 2.1.1 Vegetation condition index (VCI)

Current vegetation cover for the county showed Vegetation greenness above Normal score of 81.92 in comparison to previous month with a VCI of 78.18 indicating an increase in vegetation greenness in all livelihood zones. The Vegetation condition is expected to deteriorate as the dry spell starts.

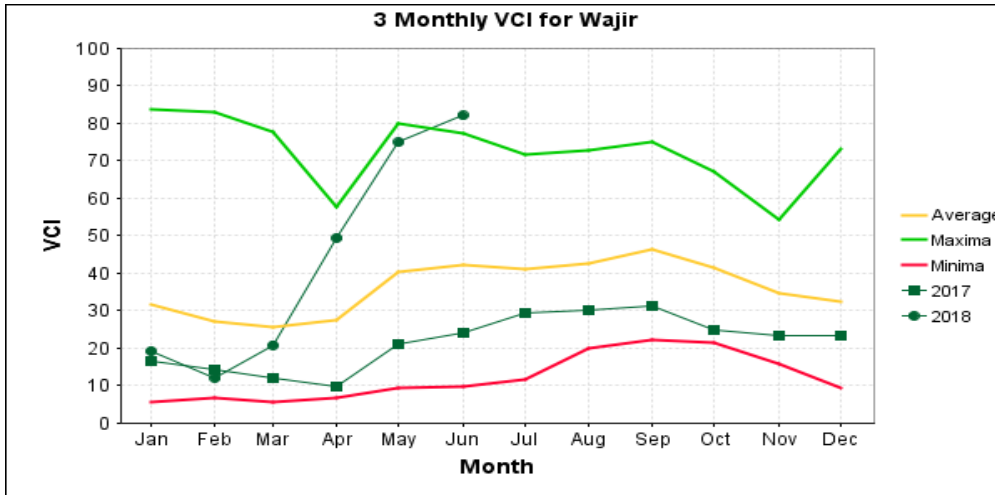


Figure 1: A chart of Wajir County overall 3-monthly VCI during the month of June 2018

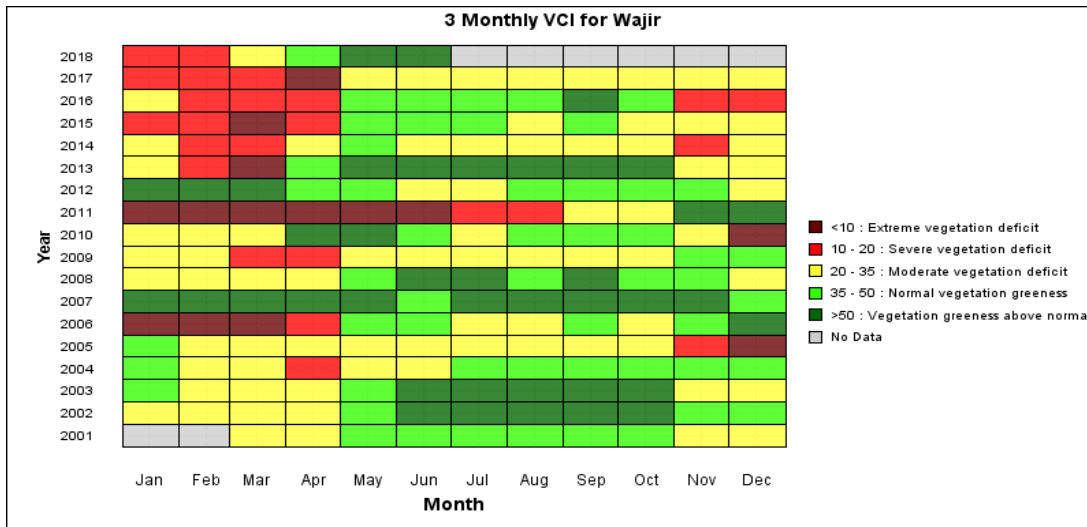


Figure 2: A matrix of 3-monthly VCI for Wajir County during the month of June 2018

#### 2.1.2 Pasture

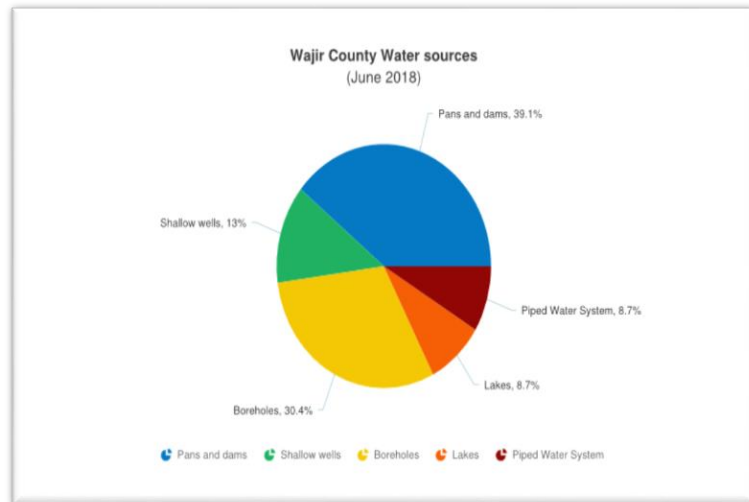
- Pasture condition in the county still remained to be good due to adequate rains received during MAM, though pasture continue to dry up as dry spell starts.
- Current Pasture situation remained the same as compared to the previous month as a result of sufficient rains received during the last season.
- Available pasture is expected to last for a period of three months (July-September 2018).
- No constraints reported during the month.

### 2.1.3 Browse

- Current Browse condition was good in the county attributed to sufficient rains witnessed during MAM season which significantly improved browse condition.
- The available browse is expected to last for a period of two months.
- Browse condition varies according to livelihood zones where highest browse reported in pastoral camel, Agro-pastoral livelihood zones, Tarbaj and lowest Reported in Pastoral Cattle livelihood zones and Pastoral all species livelihood zones with slight variation.
- No constraints reported in the month of June.

### 2.2.0 Water Source

- 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 all livelihood zones are impounded with water.
- Current situation of water in the county in the month of June remained the same as compared previous months as a result of adequate rains recorded during MAM which fully recharged water pans.
- Available water is expected to last for a period of three months



### 2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

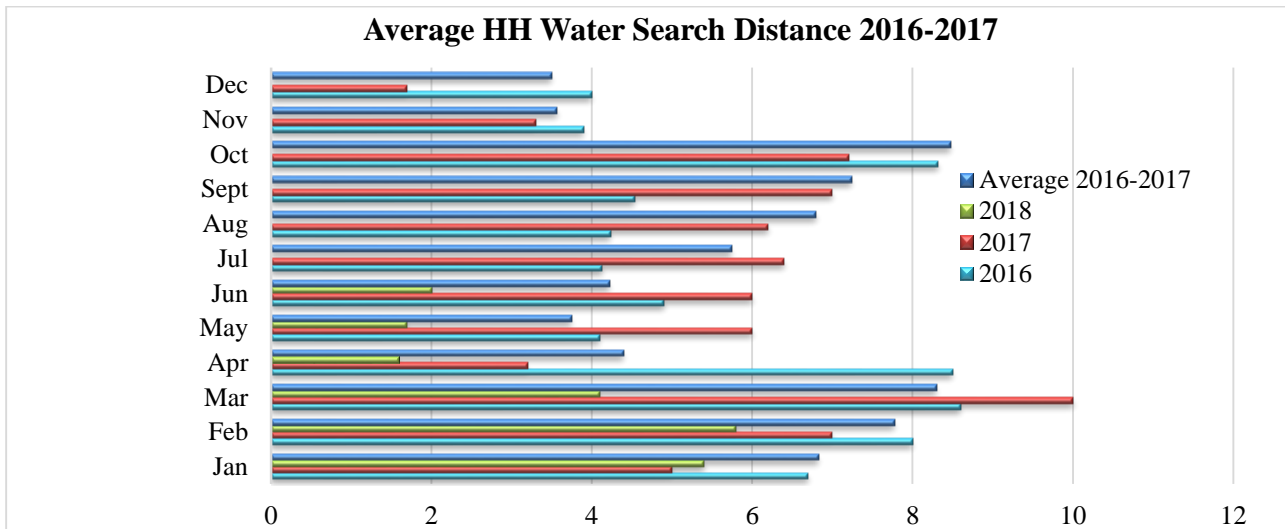


Figure 4: A chart indicating return distance to water sources against 2016-2017 average

- Current average household return distances to main water sources slightly increased from 1.6km in May to 2.0 km in the month under review, though water pans are still fully recharged but lagas have dried up due to cessation of the MAM.
- Current average household water consumption per person per day remained the same as water pans in all livelihood zones are fully recharged.

- The proportion of pastoral households that treat water was minimal with some households in the urban town's only treat water.

### 2.2.3 Livestock access

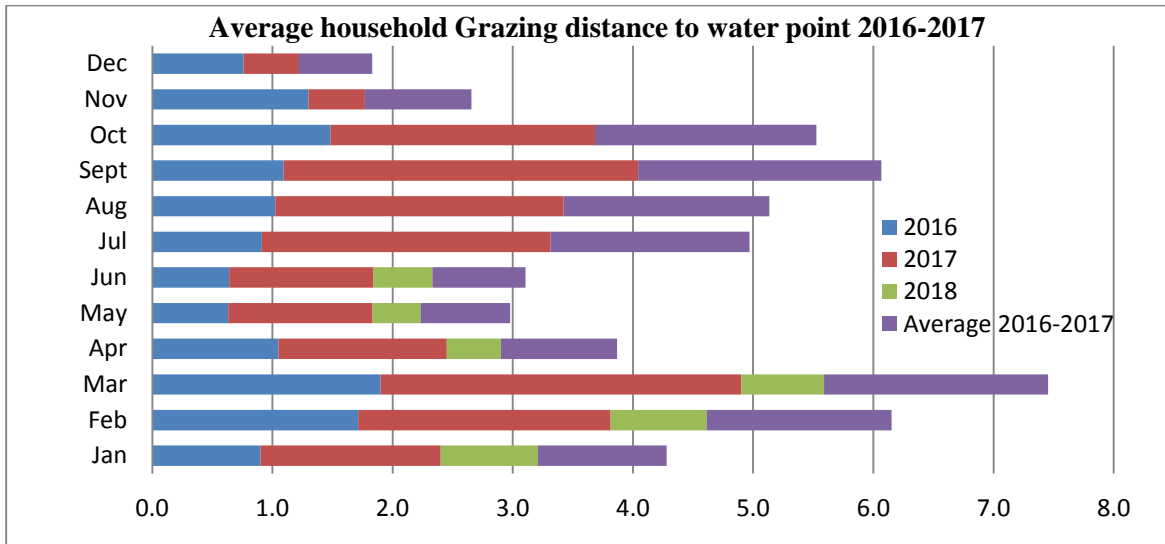


Figure 5: A graph indicating current grazing distance against (2015-2016) average

- Current average trekking distance from grazing area to water point slightly increased from 4.0km in May to 4.9 km in June, though pasture, water and browse is adequately available slight increase was observed due to the dry up of the lagas.
- 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 remained the same as the distance increased slightly with no significant changes 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 condition in all livelihood zones are good due to adequate pasture, browse, water and reduced trekking distance as a result of normal rainfall received during previous season.
- In comparison to the previous month the livestock body situation remained the same due to available browse, water and pasture, while compared to the previous season in previous year livestock body condition improve significantly.

##### 3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- Currently there is outbreak of livestock disease that was reported in some parts of the sub-counties Mainly Rift valley fever and incidences of CCPP, PPR and sheep and goat pox across the county.

##### 3.1.3 Milk Production

- Current average milk production per household per day slightly declined from 2.6litres in May to 2.5 litres in June due to outbreak of livestock diseases and low calving rate.
- Current average milk production is above the long term average and previous year average showing availability of Milk production as a result of enough pasture browse and water. This is normal at this time of the year.
- Highest milk production was reported in pastoral all species, Pastoral camel and Agro-pastoral livelihood zones while lowest recorded in Eldas.

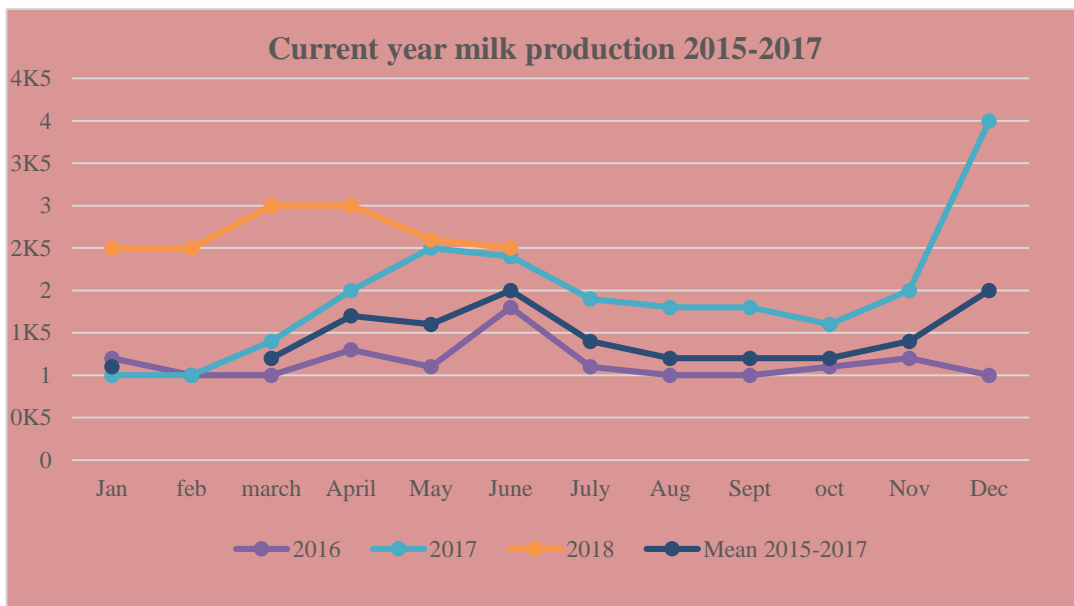


Figure 6: Current Household milk production against (2007-2016) long-term average

##### 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 and some about to be harvested and 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 declined from Kshs 22,420 in May to 21,272 in June due to low market demand and less supply of livestock.
- Highest average prices were reported in the urban towns and lowest recorded in the rural areas.
- Current average price is below the long term average (LTA) but above previous year's average.
- Market shows that prices are favourable as compared to previous year.

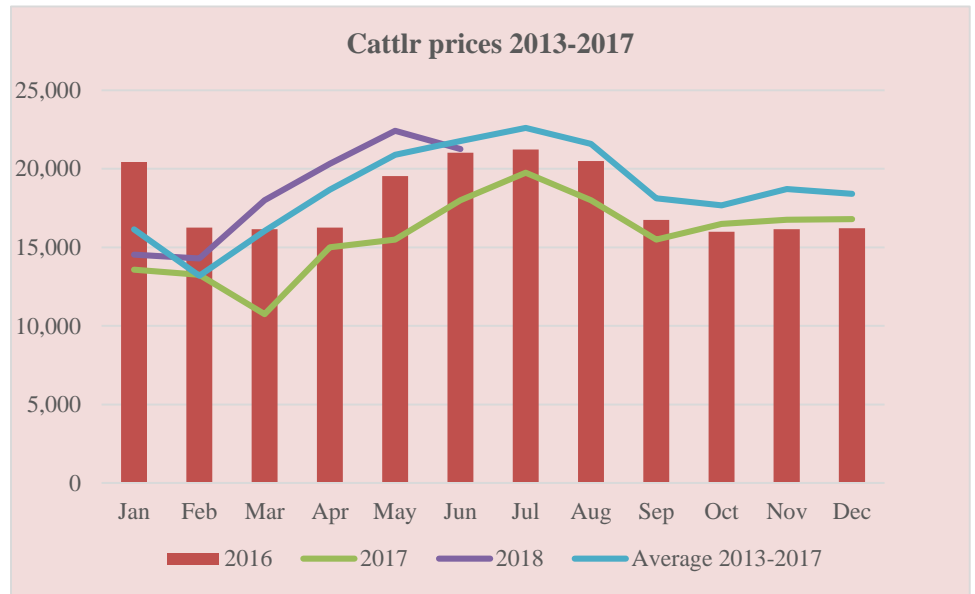


Figure 7: A graph of current cattle price against the long term (2013-17) mean prices

#### 4.1.2 Small Ruminant (Goat price)

- Current average price of a two-year-old goat slightly increased from Kshs 3,225 in May to Kshs 3,636 in June as a result of market demand attributed to Idd celebration in June.
- Current average price is below the Long term average (LTA) and above previous month average.
- The areas with the highest prices were recorded in urban towns and lowest reported in rural areas.

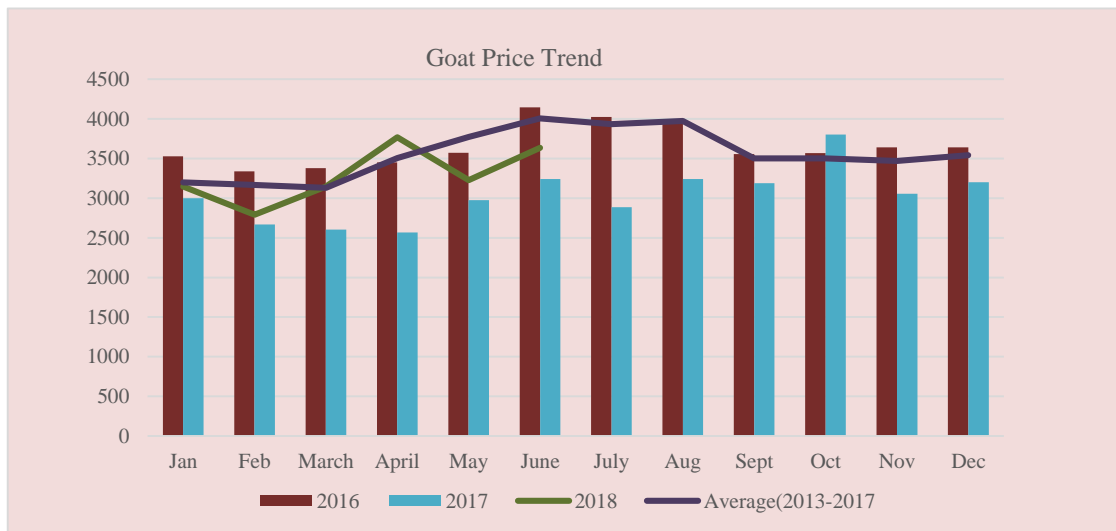


Figure 8: A graph of current Goat price against the long term (2013-17) mean prices

### 4.1.3 Camel price

- Current average price of four-year-old Camel decreased from Kshs30,000 in May to Kshs28,166 in June as a result of less market demand attributed to livestock disease. A livelihood zone with the highest price was recorded in Dagahley market in Wajir south and lowest recorded in Eldas Sub-county and Wajir North.
- Current average price of camel is below long term average (LTA) and previous year's month price due to low demand and closure of market as a result of livestock disease outbreak in the county.

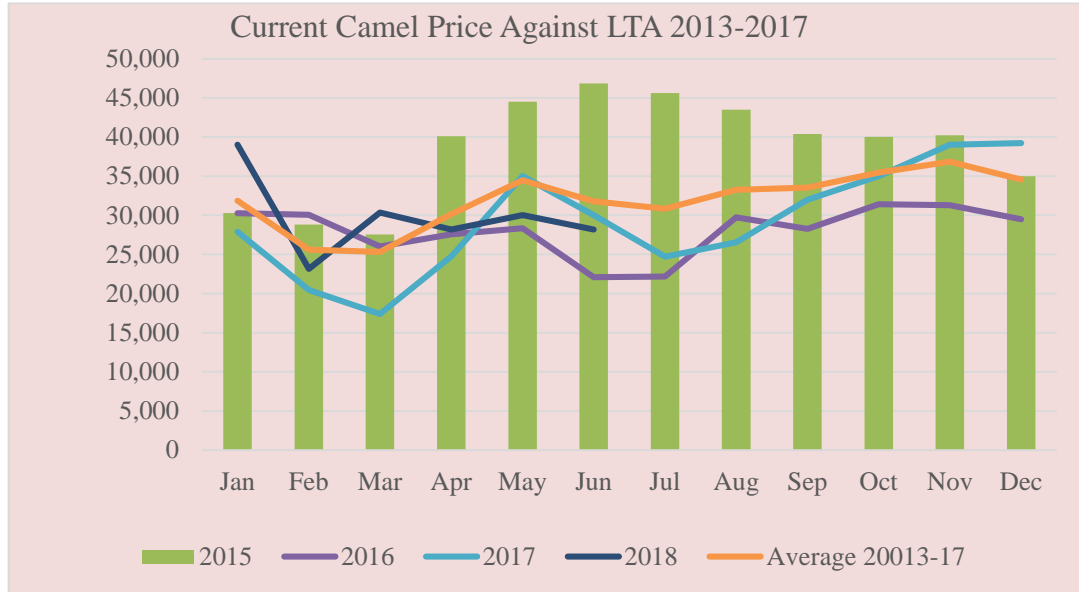


Figure 9: A graph of current camel prices against the long term mean (2013-2017).

## 4.2 CROP PRICES

### 4.2.1 Maize

- Current average maize price slightly declined from Kshs 51 per kg to kshs 48 per kg due to supply of relief food in the county and low market demand.
- The highest maize prices was shown rural areas and lowest reported in urban areas.
- Current maize price is below the long term average and previous years due more supply in the market and less demand.

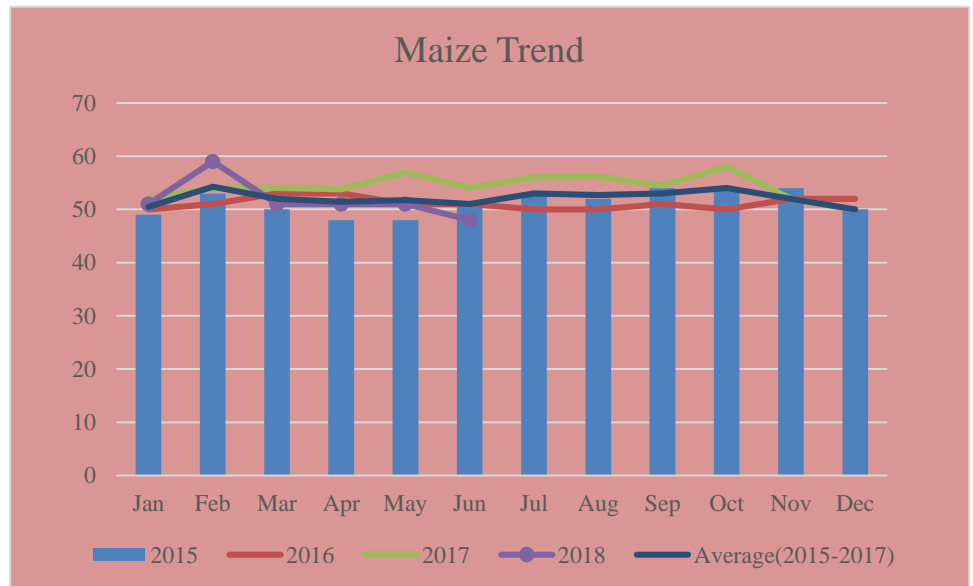


Figure 10: A graph of Current Maize Trend (2015-2017)

#### 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)

- Current household terms of trade increased from 63kg in May to 75kgs in the month under review as result of increase in goat prices and decline in maize price thus making terms of trade favourable.
- Current term of trade is above the long term average and previous year's month average as compared to previous month and previous season making terms of trade favourable.

Closure of livestock markets reported in the county due to outbreak of Rift valley fever in some parts of the sub-counties.

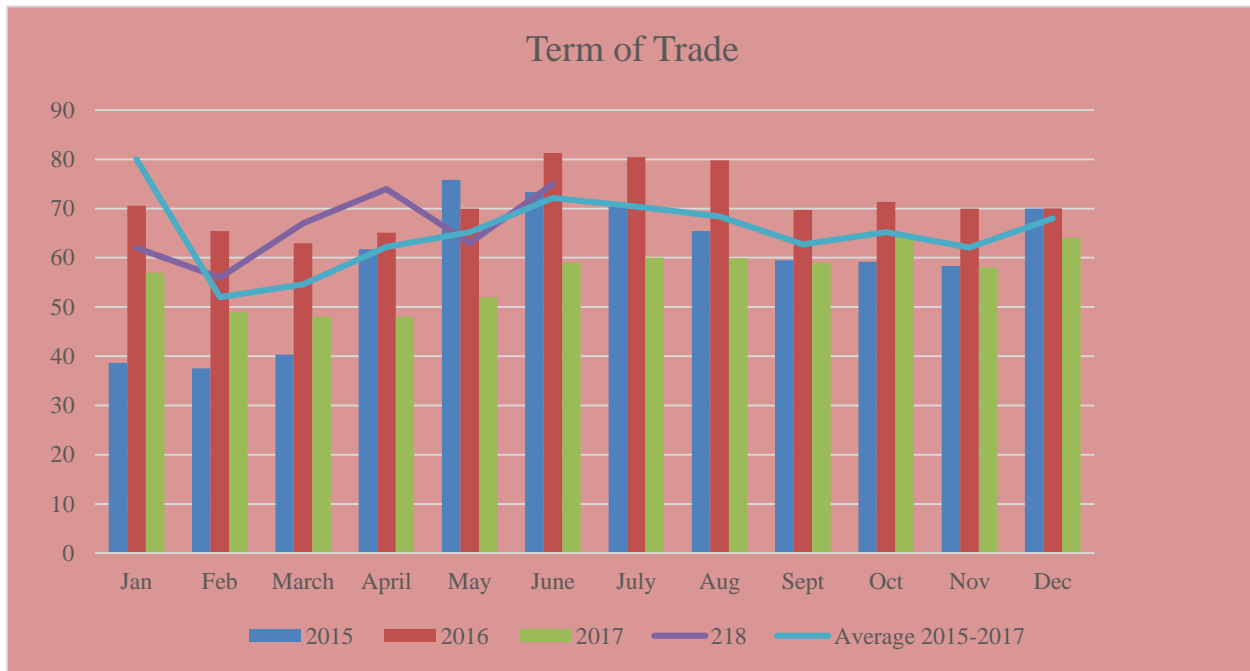


Figure 11: A graph of current Terms of Trade against the long term (2015-2017) mean price

## 5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

### 5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- Current average milk consumption per household per day decreased slightly from 2.2litres in May to 1.8 liters in the month under review due to low production, low calving rate and outbreak of Rift valley fever making the households not to consume the milk.
- Current average household milk consumption per household per day is below the long term average and previous year's average.

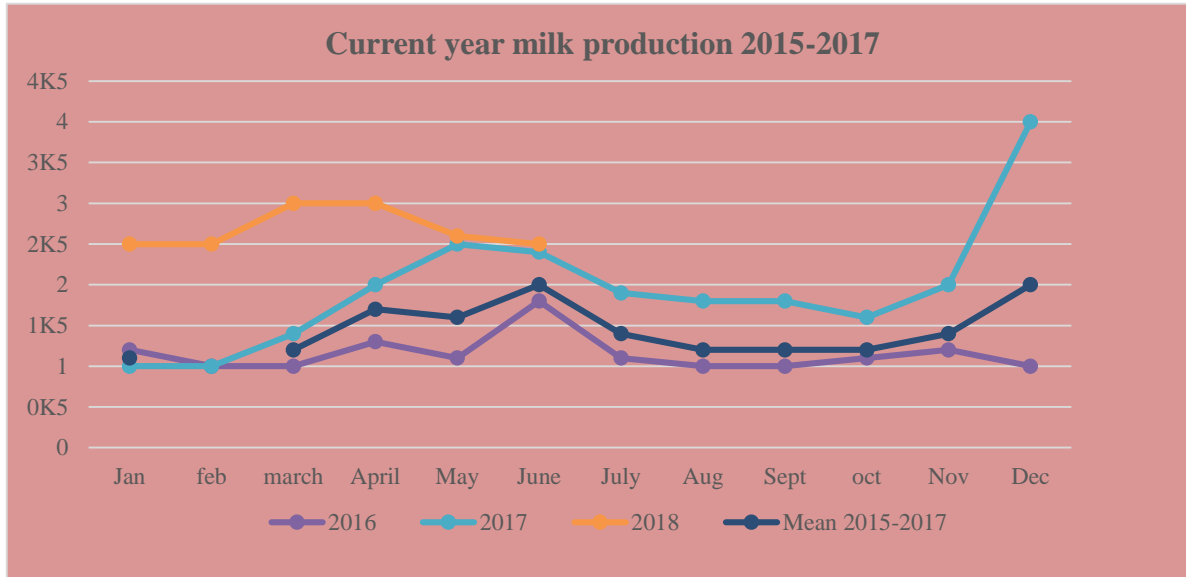
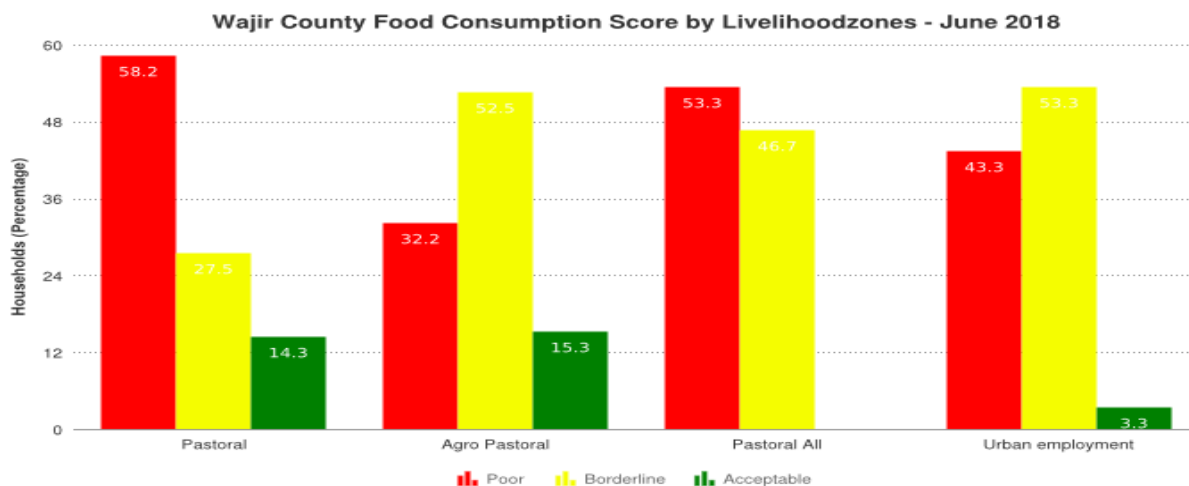


Figure 12: A graph showing current average milk consumption for Wajir against (2015-2017) mean

- Current highest milk production was reported in Pastoral all species in Wajir West, Pastoral cattle in Wajir South and Agro-pastoral livelihood zones in Wajir north and lowest was recorded in Eldas.
- Highest producing milk is Mainly Camel and Cattle.

### 5.2 :Food Consumption Score



- Pastoral livelihood zones, pastoral all species, Agro-pastoral and urban employment are the proportion of household with poor score of 58.2,53.3,43.3 and 32.2 in June as compared to the month of May recording a score of 56 and 53.3 respectively indicating a decline in food consumption..

- As compared to the previous month all household in all livelihood zones showed poor score of food consumption of 58.2, 53.3, 43.3 and 32.2 respectively in June while other household are in Borderline and Acceptable.

### 5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

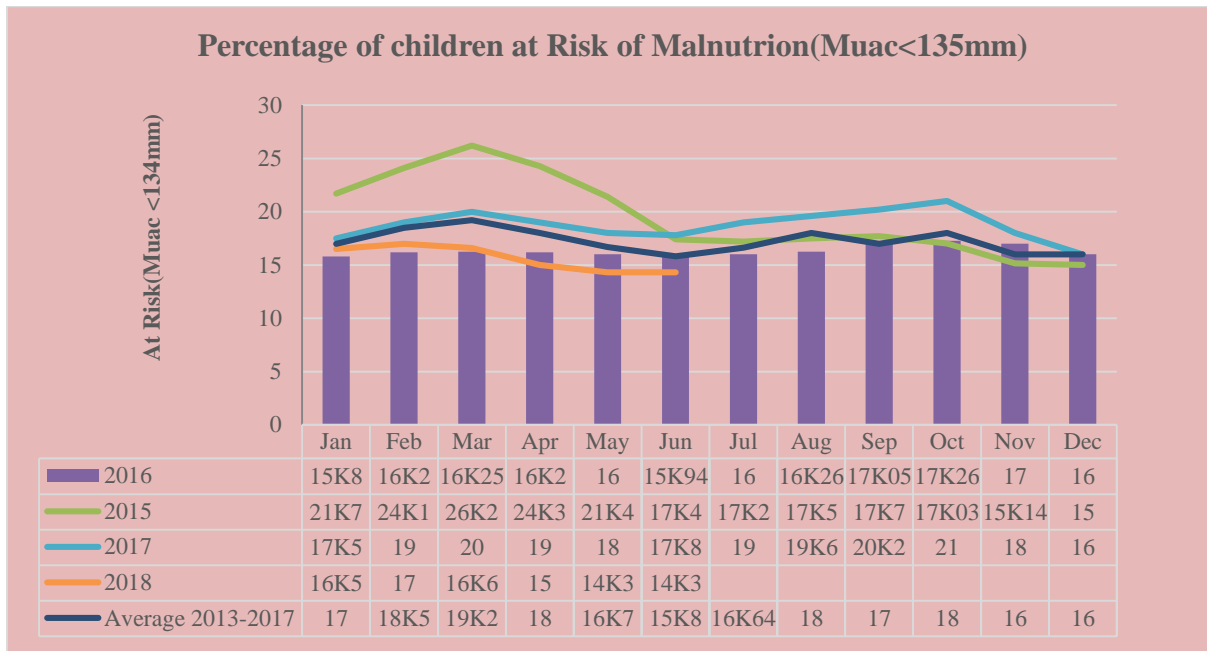


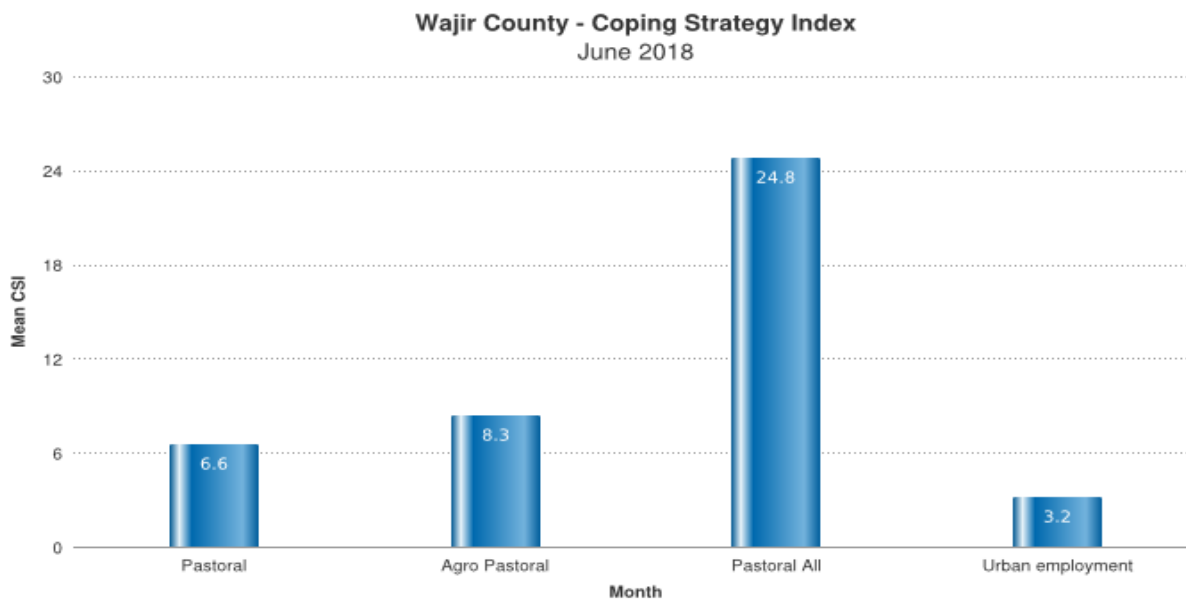
Figure 14: A graph of Nutritional status of children between 12-59 months against (2013-17) long-term mean

- In Wajir a total of 647 children (6-59months) were sampled for both girls and boys and assessed for malnutrition using MUAC Tape. From the sampled children, 16.5% were at risk of malnutrition (MUAC <135 mm) as compared to previous month which was 14.3% indicating an increase in malnutrition.
- In Wajir North Sub-county (Bute and Buna/Batalu) a total of 178 children were assessed for malnutrition using Muac Tape for boys and girls, From the sample children 16.5% were at risk of malnutrition (MUAC <135 mm) when compared to previous month which was 12.1% showing an increase in malnutrition, while The proportion of children under five with severe category decreased from 1.3% in May to 0.6% in the month under review indicating a decline in the number of children with severe category
- In Wajir South Sub-county a total of 150 children were assessed for malnutrition using Muac both girl and boys, from the sample children 8.8% were at Risk of malnutrition (MUAC <135 mm) when compared to previous month which was 12.1% indicating an significant improvement.

#### 5.3.1 Nutrition Status

- The proportion of children under five at risk of malnutrition in the month of June remained the same recording 14.3 in the month of May to 14.0 in the month under review due to sufficient milk available at household level making no significant changes.
- The proportion of children under five with severe category decreased from 2.5% in May to 0.9% in the month under review indicating significant decline in the number of children with severe category.

### 5.3.2 COPING STRATEGY INDEX



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

- Pastoral all species livelihood zones employed more coping strategy with an index of 24.8 while other households in all livelihood zones applied less coping strategy. The mean CSI for the county is 11.3as compared to the previous month which showed 7.8 indicating more coping strategy was applied.
- 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**

- Monitoring and treatment of human disease- ongoing
- Food for Asset(FFA)
- Livestock disease surveillance in the County

### **6.2 Food Aid.**

- Relief food distribution by National Government.

## **7. 0 EMERGING ISSUES**

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

- Cases of insecurity were reported in Tarbaj sub-county by terror attack where eight security officers were killed during the month.

### **7.2 Migration**

Minimal migration of livestock within the sub-counties were reported in June where most of them move to where their pasture and water.

### **7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS**

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

## **8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Health & Nutrition.**

- Strengthening and Capacity building of health worker on IMAM
- Scale up of HINI/IMAM/IYCN interventions-ongoing
- Routine Monitoring of malnutrition in the county

### **Livestock Sector.**

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

### **Water Sector**

- Water hygiene and sanitation standards must be observed in order to minimise chances of outbreak of water borne diseases

### **Agriculture Sector:**

- Provision of farm inputs to the farmers-ongoing
- Training of farmers
- Training communities on CMDRR
- FFA-ongoing