



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



**National Drought Management Authority
WAJIR COUNTY
DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR JUNE 2022**

EW JUNE PHASE 2022

Drought Status: **ALARM**



Mipango ya kukabiliana na ukame

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

In June 2022, the whole County remained dry. The July 2022 weather outlook indicates that the county will be generally dry and sunny.

Vegetation Condition: The county and five of its sub counties recorded moderate vegetation deficit, while Eldas Eub-County remained at severe vegetation band. No further improvements are expected since there was no off-season rainfall received in June.

Production indicators

- Livestock body condition is fair to poor and on a deteriorating trend.
- Milk production per household declined.
- Cases of endemic livestock diseases such as SGP and FMD still persist in the county. Suspected cases of heartwater disease reported in Wajir West.
- **Access indicators:**
- Migration within and outside the County was reported.
- Terms of trade is unfavorable when compared to normal
- There was a slight decrease in household milk consumption.
- Slight increase in household distance to water sources was reported
- Livestock grazing distance increased slightly when compared to last month.

Utilization Indicators:

- The proportion of children below the age of five at risk of moderate malnutrition stood at 26.8 percent during the month under review.
- Households employed more coping strategies.
- More than 28.9 percent of the households in the Pastoral Livelihood Zone registered poor food consumption score.
- Kala-Azar and Chikungunya outbreaks are still active. Seven measles cases reported at Konton in Wajir East.

Early Warning Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-Pastoral	Alarm	Stable
Pastoral	Alarm	Stable
Informal Employment	Alert	Stable
County	Alarm	Stable

Biophysical Indicators	value	Normal Range
Rainfall (% of Normal)	0.0	80 -120
VCI-3Month	23.26	>35
Forecasts (VCI)	-	>35
Forecasts (SM)	-	<=0.6

Production indicators	Value	Normal Range
Livestock Body Condition	Fair-poor	Normal
Crop production	Poor	Good
Milk production	1.1	>3-4litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	Not normal	Normal

Access Indicators	Value	Normal Range
Terms of Trade (ToT)	41	>66
Milk consumption	<1.0	>3
Household Return Distance to water source	6.7	<5 Km
CSI	8.38	<10

<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 rai Calving Rate ▪ Milk Yields Increase ▪ Breeding period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Long rains harvests ▪ Along dry spell and preparation ▪ Increased HH Food Stocks ▪ Kidding (Sept) ▪ Migrations ▪ Herd separations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short rains ▪ Planting/weeding ▪ High birth rates ▪ Wedding

1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITION

1.1 Rainfall performance

The month was characterized by dry weather conditions across the County. No rains were received throughout the month. This is normal at this particular time of the year. The current Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) is slightly below average on a declining trend when compared to the previous month as shown in the figure below. This is attributed to poor regeneration of forage resulting from the depressed rains received during the 2022 long rains season.

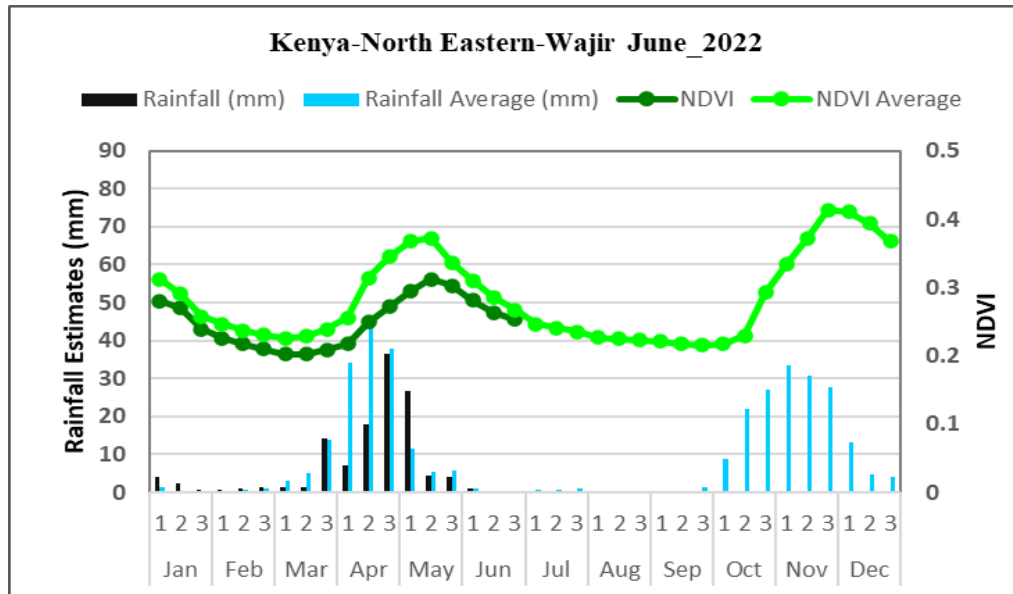


Figure 1: Rainfall and NDVI Trend

1.2 Amount of rainfall and spatial Distribution

No rains were received in the month of June 2022. This is normal during this particular season of the year. June marks the beginning of the June-September dry season. According to the Kenya Meteorological Department, the July 2022 weather outlook indicates that the County will be generally dry and sunny. Occasional cool and cloudy conditions are expected to prevail in the county during the month.

2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 Vegetation Condition

2.1.1 Vegetation condition index (VCI)

Slight improvement in vegetation condition index was recorded during the month under review. The county and five of its sub counties recorded moderate Vegetation Deficit, except Eldas Sub-County which remained at severe vegetation deficit band. When compared to the previous month, the Vegetation Condition Index improved from 18.6 in May 2022 to 23.26 currently.

No improvements are likely to occur as June is normally a dry season. However, ground-based observation indicates that the vegetation condition in the County is generally poor following the below normal rains received during the 2022 long rains season.

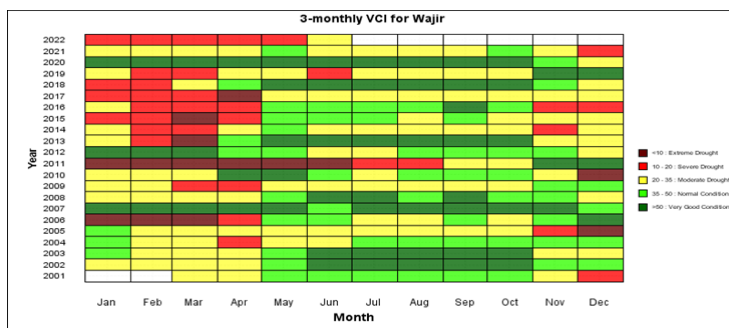


Figure 2: VCI Chart -June 2022

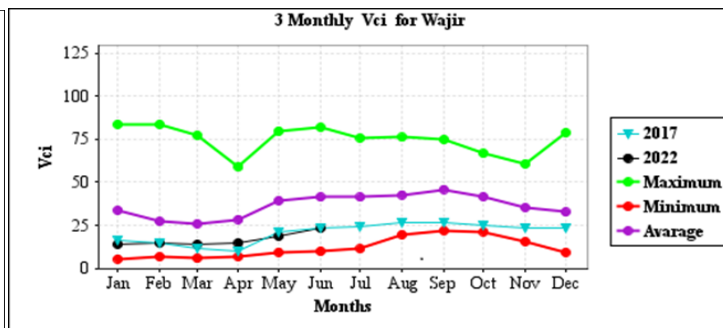


Figure 3: VCI Graph -June 2022

2.1.2 Pasture

- The pasture condition is poor and on a high rate of depletion across all the livelihood zones.
- When compared to similar previous periods, the pasture condition is poor across the livelihood zones due to the below normal rains experienced over most parts of the County during the last season.
- The quality and quantity of pasture is still poor due to suppressed regeneration of pasture occasioned by depressed rainfall and rangelands degradation.

2.1.3 Browse

- The current browse condition is deteriorating from fair to poor. There was moderate regeneration of browse in some parts of the county during the MAM 2022 rainy season. However, this fair condition of browse in parts of the County may not last for long due to high concentration of pastoralists in those areas that experienced improved vegetation.
- The quality and quantity of browse is generally poor across the County, except in some few pockets across the Pastoral Livelihood Zone.
- Browse condition is expected to deteriorate across the County, even in areas that experienced improved regeneration.

2.2 Water Sources

2.2.1 Sources

- Major water sources utilized for both domestic and livestock needs are boreholes, water pans, shallow wells and low-scale water trucking for areas that have no permanent source of water.
- Water levels in majority of the water-pans that were recharged during the long rains season are decreasing day by day and may not last for long during the current June – September 2022 dry season.
- When compared to previous seasons and years, the current water condition is below the normal range due to early cessation of the 2022 MAM rainy season.

2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

- The average household trekking distance to water sources increased slightly to stand at 6.7 KM in June 2022. This increase is due to the drying up of both the alternative and main water sources that were recharged during the long rainy season.
- The reported distance in June is lower than dry year's average distance.
- Average water consumption per person per day largely remained the same when compared to the previous month.
- Water consumption per person per day is expected to reduce as the water pans across the County are drying up, which will in turn lead to high concentration at the strategic boreholes.

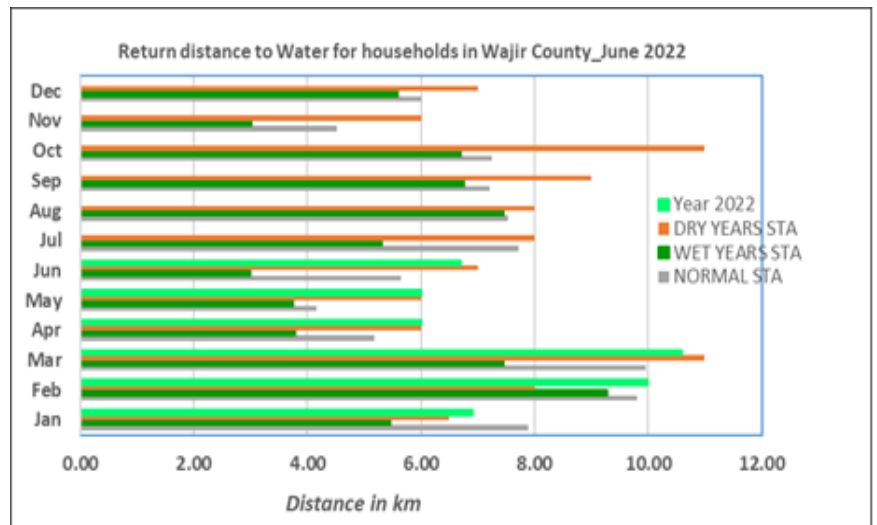


Figure 4: Household Return distance to water sources

2.2.3 Livestock access

- The current grazing distance to water sources slightly increased to an average of 9.5KM when compared to the previous month.
- This slight increase is attributed to the drying up of water pans, particularly near the grazing areas. Increased distance to water sources affects livestock productivity due to weakening livestock body condition.
- The trend is expected to increase as pastoralists migrate further from the water sources in search of browse and pasture for their livestock.
- Distance from grazing areas to water sources varies according to livelihood zones, with the highest distance to grazing area reported in the Pastoral Livelihood Zone and lowest in the Agro-Pastoral Livelihood Zone.

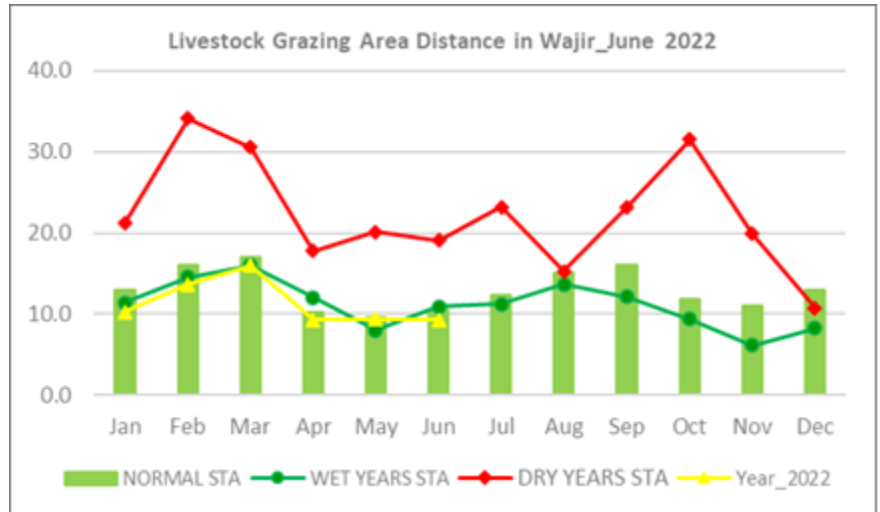


Figure 5: Grazing Area Distance to water Sources

2.2.4 Status of groundwater use for domestic and intermediate water needs

An estimated 504,000 people, translating to 64.6 percent of the population in Wajir County, currently depend on groundwater for their domestic water needs. 19.3 percent of the populations in Wajir County are also relying on groundwater for their intermediate water needs. The use of groundwater for both domestic and intermediate needs is expected to increase by 83.8 percent and 120.8 percent respectively when compared to the five-year long-term average.

Eldas sub-county is projected to experience highest use of ground water for domestic needs at 82.2 percent while Wajir East is expected to experience lowest ground water use at 20.2 percent. Wajir town in Wajir East Sub-County mainly relies on shallow wells for their domestic water needs. When compared to last year, Tarbaj and Wajir East registered a decrease in the use of ground water for domestic needs at 7.6 percent and 22 percent respectively. Tarbaj Sub-County largely relies on surface water sources for their domestic and intermediate water needs.

During the June to September 2022 dry season, an estimated 67.5 percent of the population in Wajir County is expected to experience high ground water use which is eight percent less than the previous year. September is expected to record the highest use of groundwater for domestic needs at 65 percent.

Table 1: Groundwater use for domestic water needs by sub-county-June 2022

Sub-County	Pop (# thousand)	Pop (%)	Last year (%)	5-year average (%)
All	504	64.6	16.8	83.8
Eldas	75	82.2	21.4	69.7
Tarbaj	83	75.5	-9.7	79.3
Wajir East	27	20.2	-23.8	37.2
Wajir North	142	73.0	35.8	126.6
Wajir South	99	63.5	11.6	74.4
Wajir West	68	69.8	60.2	69.7

Table 2: Groundwater use for intermediate water needs by sub-county-June 2022

Sub-county	Population (# thousand)	Population (%)	Last year (%)	5-year average (%)
All	151	19.3	12.5	120.8
Eldas	18	19.7	9.5	57.8
Tarbaj	8	7.2	-47.6	-0.7
Wajir East	0	0.3	Inf	725.3
Wajir North	86	44.1	24.5	229.3
Wajir South	23	14.6	-11.1	39.8
Wajir West	12	12.2	74.1	110.6

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 Livestock production

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- The current livestock body condition ranges from fair to poor and on a deteriorating trend across all the Livelihood Zones.
- The deteriorating body condition is as result of decrease in pasture availability; both in terms of quantity and quality.
- When compared to similar previous periods, the current condition is not normal due to poor forage, increased grazing distance and high livestock migration attributed to the inadequate rains received in the last four consecutive seasons.
- The livestock body condition is expected to deteriorate as we mark the start of the June-September dry season.

3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

There were reported cases of endemic livestock diseases such as Sheep and Goat Pox (SGP) and Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). There were suspected cases of heartwater diseases reported in parts of the County. There is the need to heighten and sustain livestock disease monitoring and surveillance.

3.1.3 Milk Production

- The average milk yield derived from livestock per household per day in June 2022 decreased slightly when compared to the previous month.
- This slight decrease in milk production is due to high depletion rate of browse and pasture that regenerated during the last season. Milk production is expected to deteriorate further as the June to September dry season starts.
- Available milk is derived from cattle, camel and small stocks.

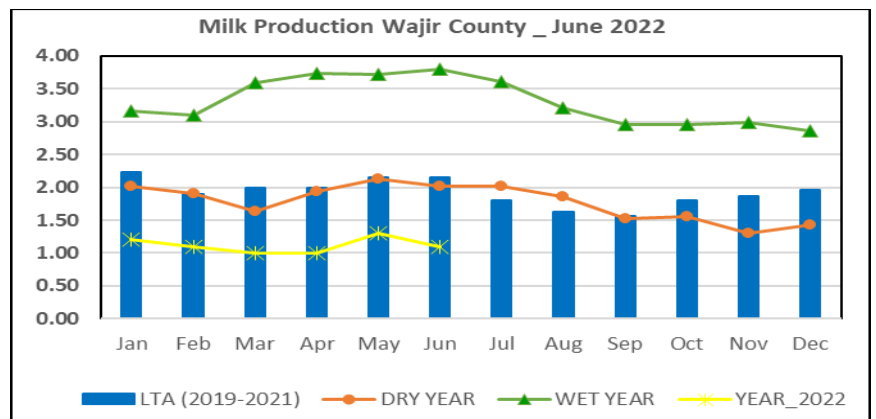


Figure 6: Milk Production -June 2022

3.2 Crop Production

The County experienced total crop failure for rain-fed agriculture following the poor performance of the 2022 long rains. Crop production under irrigated agriculture is expected to be below normal since the shallow wells and water pans used for irrigation were not sufficiently recharged.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1. Livestock Marketing

Cattle Prices

- The price of a 4-year-old medium-size bull slightly increased to an average of KES.16,400 when compared to the previous month.
- The slight increase in price is attributed to reduced supply and increased demand in the market.
- The reported prices of cattle in the month under review were however still lower than the short term, dry and wet year average prices despite the slight increase during the month under review.

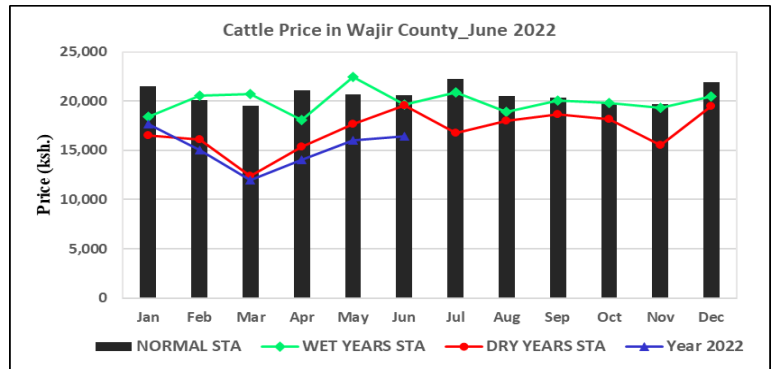


Figure 7: Cattle Price

4.1.2 Small Ruminant (Goat price)

- The price of a medium sized goat during the month under review stabilized and remained the same as last month.
- However, the average price is still below the long term and good season average prices.
- The prices are projected to start declining due to deteriorating livestock body condition occasioned by poor forage and water resources.
- The highest prices were recorded in the urban areas and lowest in the rural areas.

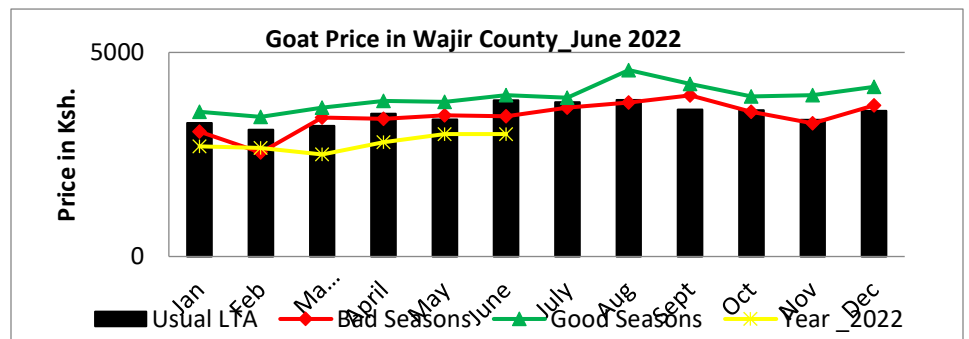


Figure 8: Goat prices in June 2022

Camel price

- There was a slight increase in camel prices from an average of KES. 25,550 in May to KES. 26,500 in the month under review. This is due to low supply and high demand in the market.

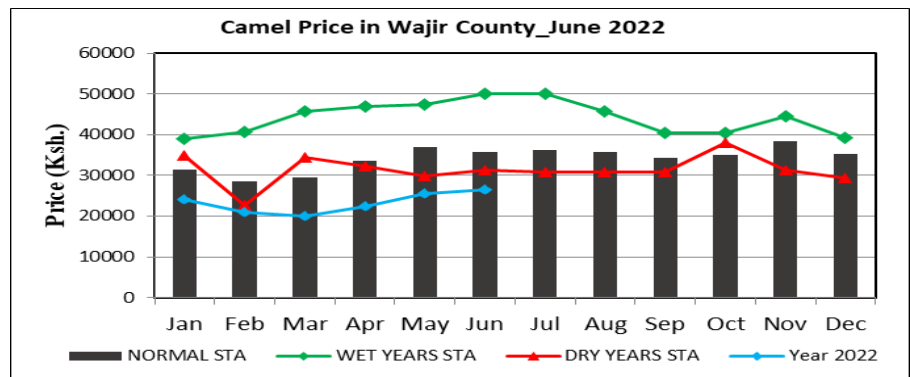


Figure 9: Camel Price

- The current price is below the short term, wet and dry year’s average prices.
- The prices are projected to start declining owing to the poor performance of the 2022 long rains that resulted in poor vegetation condition across the livelihood zones.

4.2 CROP PRICE

4.2.1 Maize

- Current average maize price is approximately at KES 72.1 per kilogramme. The current prices are high when compared to the short term, wet and dry year’s average prices.
- This increase in maize prices is attributed to reduced supply and increased demand by the pastoralists. The product is largely outsourced which sometimes results in reduced supply.
- The highest prices were recorded in the rural areas and lowest recorded in the urban area where the product is readily available.

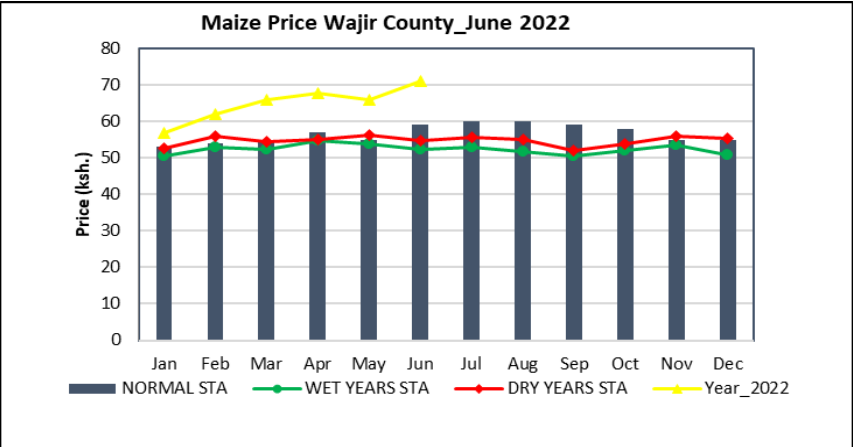


Figure 10: Maize Price

4.3 Terms of Trade (TOT)

- The current trend in the terms of trade between goats and maize prices reduced from 45 in May 2022 to 41 during the month under review.
- The Terms of Trade is still unfavourable due to the below average goat prices and high maize prices in the market.
- The below normal livestock prices have resulted in reduced household access to food and income.
- The declining household purchasing power is attributed to reduced livestock productivity resulting from diminishing rangeland resources across the County.

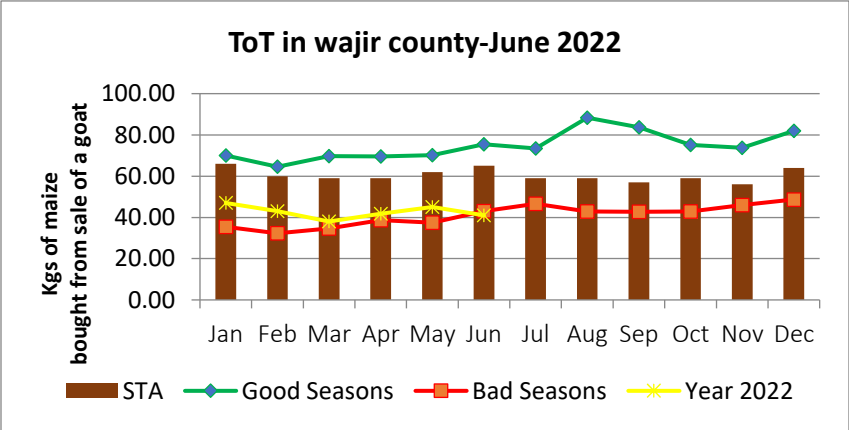


Figure 11: ToT in June 2022

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 Milk Consumption

- Household milk consumption per household per day stood at an average of less than one litre in June 2022.
- There was a slight decrease in milk consumption and it's attributed to slight decrease in milk production and availability.
- The current average household milk consumption per household per day is below the long-term and wet years' average and it is attributed to the failed 2022 long rains that affected livestock productivity due to poor forage regeneration.

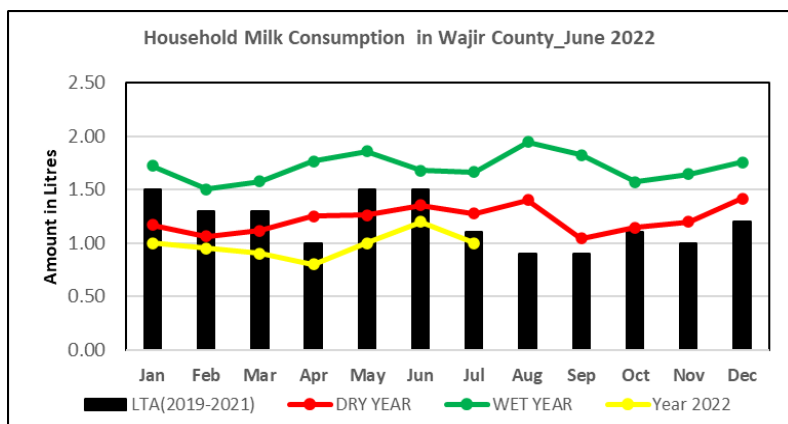


Figure 12: Milk Consumption

5.2 Food Consumption Score

Table 3: FCS By Livelihood zones – June 2022

LivelihoodZone * FCS_Categories Crosstabulation					
% within LivelihoodZone					
		FCS_Categories			Total
		Poor	Borderline	Acceptable	
Livelihood Zone	Agro Pastoral	3.3%	45.0%	51.7%	100.0%
	Pastoral	28.9%	36.7%	34.4%	100.0%
	Pastoral All	15.7%	56.2%	28.1%	100.0%
	Urban employment	0.0%	3.4%	96.6%	100.0%
Total		15.7%	41.4%	42.9%	100.0%

- The proportion of households with poor food consumption score was at 28.9 and 3.3 percent in Pastoral and Agropastoral Livelihood Zones respectively.
- When compared to the previous month, the proportion of households with poor food consumption stabilized at approximately 16.0 percent as shown in table 1 above.
- Dietary diversity, especially in the Pastoral Livelihood Zone, remained poor; a scenario that reflects reduced household access to food and income. The pastoral households are projected to experience food consumption gaps following the ravaging drought in the county.

5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

- Figure 13 below shows the distribution of MUAC colour categories for children under the age of five. The proportion of children with malnutrition was at 26.8 percent during the month under review.
- This deterioration in malnutrition rate is attributed to decreased milk production occasioned by worsening livestock body condition.

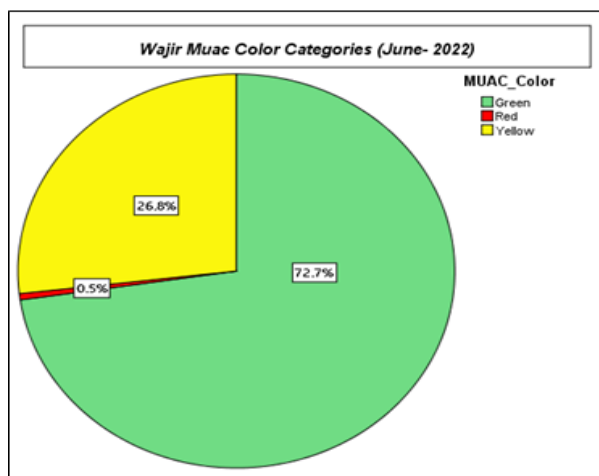


Figure 13: Malnutrition Rate

5.3.2 Health Status

There were seven reported cases of measles at Konton in Wajir East Sub-County. Chikungunya outbreak was reported at Wargadud Ward in Tarbaj Sub-County, with 190 cases line-listed. Visceral Leishmaniasis was reported in five sub-counties; Wajir West, Eldas, Wajir East, Wajir South and Wajir North. 450 cases have been reported, with 4 confirmed deaths. Malaria cases also remain at 466 positive cases with no fatalities.

5.4 COPING STRATEGY INDEXES

5.4.1: Reduced coping strategy index (rCSI)

- The coping mechanisms put in place by the communities to safeguard themselves against the persistent drought, measured using the Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI), remained stable at 8.4 in the month of June 2022.
- Households in Pastoral Livelihood Zone applied the most coping strategies at 10.4 while those in Urban employment applied the lowest index at 1.6.
- Strategies commonly employed by pastoral households include relying on less preferred food, borrowing food, reducing number of meals and reducing portion size and quantity for adults.

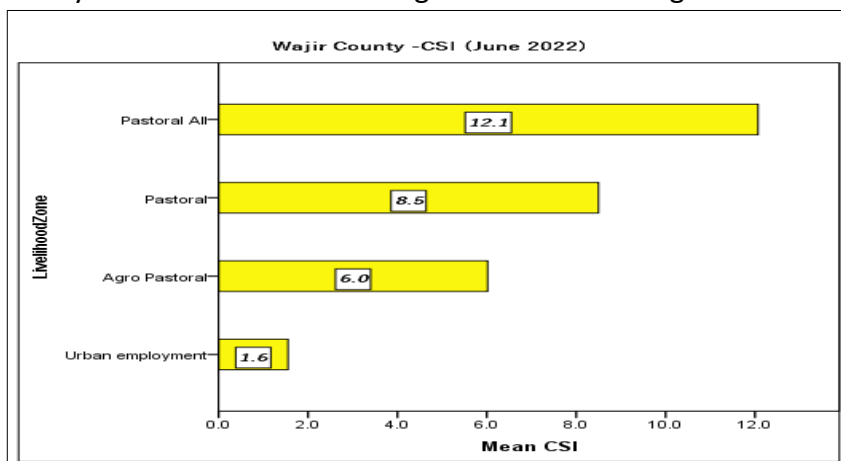


Figure 14: Coping Strategy Index

6.0 EMERGING ISSUES

6.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

- There was a resource-based conflict on the border with Isiolo County that resulted in deaths and displacement. There is the need to continue strengthening peace building initiatives following the below average performance of the 2022 long rains.

6.2 Migration

- Migration of livestock within and outside the county was reported. Most of the livestock migrated to Wajir West and Wajir South sub-counties, except those that moved to Garissa, Tana River and Somalia that are yet to come back.
- Migration into the traditional grazing areas in Isiolo and Marsabit Counties has been curtailed by conflicts among the border communities. Pastoralists from the Pastoral Livelihood Zone in Wajir West and Eldas sub counties have limited access to the rangeland resources along the border grazing areas.

6.3 Food security prognosis/forecasts

- According to the Kenya Meteorological Department, the July 2022 weather outlook indicates that the County will be generally dry and sunny. Occasional cool and cloudy conditions are expected to prevail in the County during the month.
- Pasture and browse conditions are expected to deteriorate in the coming months following the depressed rains received during the long rains season.
- According to the Drought Resilience Impact Platform (DRIP), an estimated 67.5 percent of the population in Wajir County is expected to experience high ground water use during the June to September 2022 dry season, with September being the peak month.
- The livestock body condition is expected to worsen from fair to poor due to quick depletion of the available water and forage resources.
- Milk production and consumption is likely to decline as livestock body condition deteriorates due to depleted rangeland resources.
- Livestock prices are likely to decrease due to deteriorating livestock body condition.
- Malnutrition cases will likely increase due to reduced milk production and consumption across the livelihood zones.
- Migration within and outside the County will intensify due to diminishing rangeland resources.
- The resource-based conflict on the border with Isiolo and Marsabit counties may further escalate unless proper community peace dialogue meetings and initiatives are put in place.

7.0 Ongoing Interventions

Table 4: Ongoing interventions

Sub-County	Intervention	Implementing agencies	Cost (Kshs)
Livestock			
All	Monitoring of livestock migration	CGW-DALF	1M
All	Disease surveillance and monitoring	CWG-DALF	3M
Food Security/Social Protection			
All	Extension services	CGW (DALF)	1.5M
All	Support in irrigation infrastructure	CGW (DALF)	3M
All	HSNP-Group 2	NDMA	94M
Tarbaj, Eldas & Wajir North	Cash Transfer	ALDEF	2.1M
Wajir South, Wajir West, Eldas & Wajir North	Cash Transfer	Save the Children	61M
Tarbaj & Eldas	Provision of Dignity Kits to 200 school going girls	ALDEF	-
Health and Nutrition			
All	Human disease surveillance	CGW (Health)	1M
Tarbaj, Wajir North & Eldas	Integrated outreach programme	CGW-Health, Save the Children	1M
All	IMAM surge	CGW, partners	1M
Tarbaj, Eldas	Supply of Nutrition Commodities	ALDEF	-
Water			
Wajir West-Hadado Ward	Rehabilitation and maintenance of strategic boreholes	Save the Children	3.5M
Tarbaj	Rehabilitation and maintenance of strategic boreholes	ALDEF	-
All	Low scale water trucking	CGW, partners	10M

8.0 Recommended interventions

Table 5: Recommended interventions

Ward	Intervention	Implementers	Required Resource	Available Resource
Livestock				
All	Ring vaccinations	CGW-DALF and partners	Vaccines DSA	Vaccines
	Livestock disease surveillance	CGW-DALF & partners	Sampling kits DSA, Fuel	Sampling kits Staff
All	Sensitization on commercial offtake	CGW-DALF and partners	Logistics DSA	Staff
All	Livestock deworming	CGW-DALF and partners	DSA Logistics	Staff
Health and Nutrition				
All	Scale up disease surveillance	CGW (health)	2M	00
All	Scale up wash interventions	CGW (health) And partners	2M	1M
All	Strengthening and scale up of IMAM surge	CGW, partners	2M	00
All	Scaling up PD hearth	CGW, partners	3M	00
All	Scaling up of integrated outreaches	CGW, partners	2M	00
Water				
30 centres	Water trucking for 30 centres	CGW (Water) & partners	10M	00
All	Repair and maintenance of water bowsers	CGW (Water) & partners	2M	00
10	Provision of fast- moving spare parts for 10 strategic boreholes	CGW (Water) & partners	4M	00
All	Repair and maintenance of strategic boreholes	CGW (Water) & partners	3M	00
Education				
All	Meals for ECD and primary schools	MoE, CGW, partners	30M	00
All	Provision of clean water and water storage facilities	MoE, CGW, partners	10M	00
All	Bursary for vulnerable children	MoE, CGW, partners	15M	00
All	School enrolment/retention drive	MoE, CGW, partners	10M	00