

# National Drought Management Authority MARSABIT COUNTY DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR FEBRUARY 2018



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



## EW PHASE: ALERT

Drought Status: **ALERT**

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Maandalizi ya mapema

## Early Warning (EW) Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral	Alarm	Worsening
Pastoral All species	Alert	Worsening
Fisherfolk/ Casual labour /Petty Trading	Alert	Worsening
County	Alert	Worsening
Biophysical Indicators	Value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)	72	80 -120
VCI-3Month	14.58	>35
Forage condition	Fair-Poor	Good
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Livestock Body Condition	Fair	Good
Milk Production	1.0	>1.2Litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal
Livestock deaths (from drought)	No death	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	59	>64
Milk Consumption	0.5	>0.9Litres
Return distance to water	3.7	0.0-4.0 Km
Cost of water	0-5	<Ksh.5
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	18.1	0.0-22.8
Coping Strategy Index	18.7	<20
Food Consumption score	33.9	>35

### Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

#### Biophysical Indicators

- **Rainfall:** Rainfall of low intensity was received in Moyale and its environs, parts of North Horr sub-county and light showers received in Mt.Marsabit.
- **Vegetation condition:** Vegetation Condition Index for the month of February was 14.58 shifting from the moderate vegetation band to severe vegetation band thus exhibiting momentous vegetation deterioration. Forage condition is fair-poor across the livelihood zones.

#### Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

- Production indicators:** Livestock body condition was generally good-fair for camels and small stock whereas fair-poor for cattle across the livelihood zones. Milk production slightly dropped from 1.2Litres in the previous month to 1.0Litres in the month under review. No livestock disease outbreak reported except sporadic cases of endemic diseases. No crops harvest experienced due to total crop failure.
- **Access indicators:** Household and livestock trekking distances to water points gradually declined due to off-season rains received and fell within the normal ranges. Milk consumption dropped to 0.5Litres which was below normal. Terms of trade are not favourable due to high maize prices which have been stable across the livelihood zones.
  - **Utilization indicators:** Nutritional status for children below the age of five years improved and fell within the normal ranges. Food consumption score gradually declined to borderline category whereas the coping strategy Index slightly increased and fell within the stress phase of food security.

<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>▪ 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> </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> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Short rains</li> <li>▪ Planting/weeding</li> </ul>		
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

## 1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

### 1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

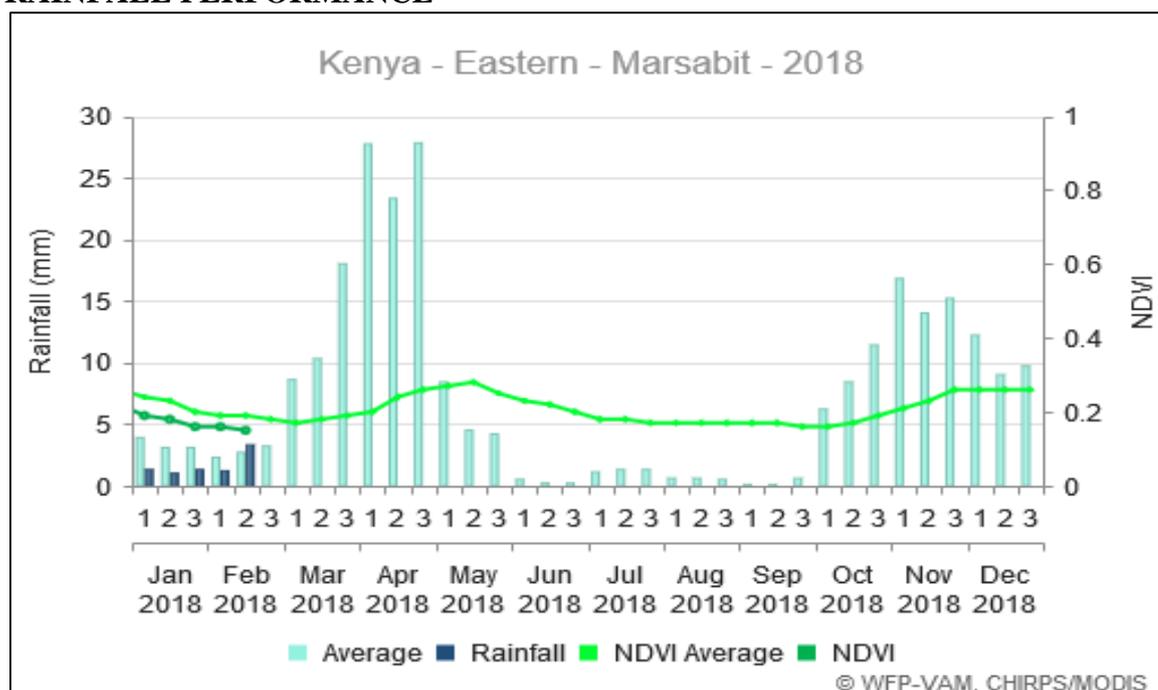


Figure 1: Rainfall(mm) and NDVI in Marsabit

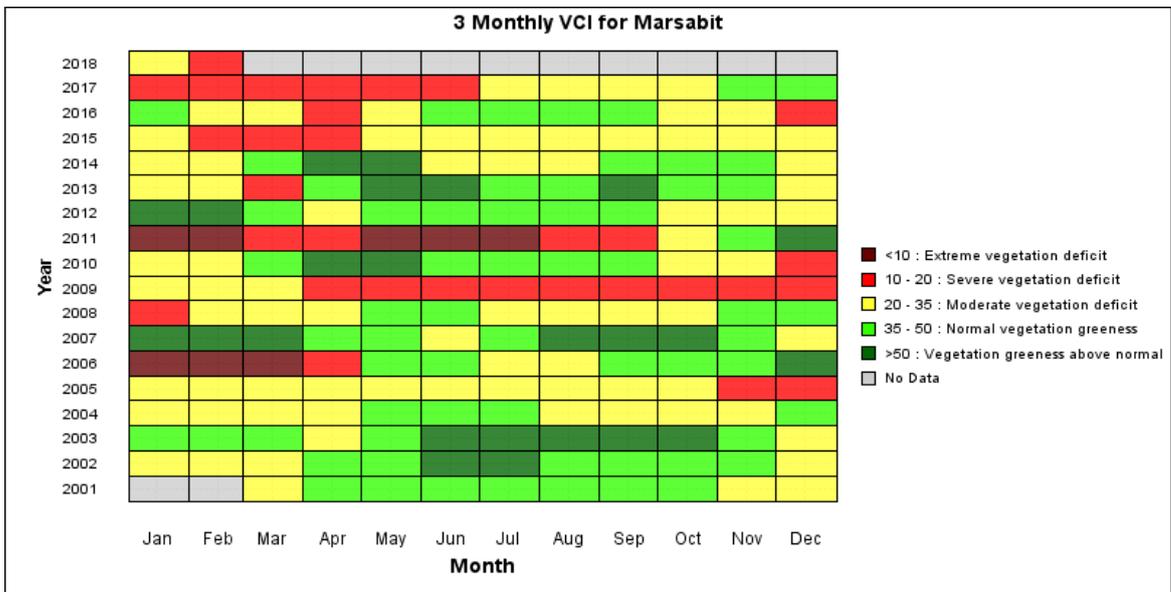
- From the (Figure 1) shown above, Marsabit County received rainfall in the second dekad of the month which was above normal. Dekadal rainfall amounts for month under review were 1.2mm and 3.3mm against the longterm dekad rainfall amounts of 2.3mm and 3.7mm in the first and second dekads respectively.
- Light showers were received on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February around Mt.Marsabit. Moyale Township recorded rainfall amounts of 31.2mm (four wet days) with the highest amount received on 18<sup>th</sup> February at 17.9mm. Uran and parts of Obbu received normal rainfall amounts in 2 rainy days whereas Golbo ward experienced depressed rainfall in two rainy days (Moyale sub-county).
- Other areas that received rainfall include Sololo (Moyale sub-county), Dukana and Forolle (North Horr sub-county) along the Ethiopia/ Kenya border belt. All other areas generally remained dry for the month under review.
- Normalised difference vegetation index (NDVI) has been below normal and on a declining trend since the beginning of the year as a result of the progression of the short dry spell.

## 2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

### 2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

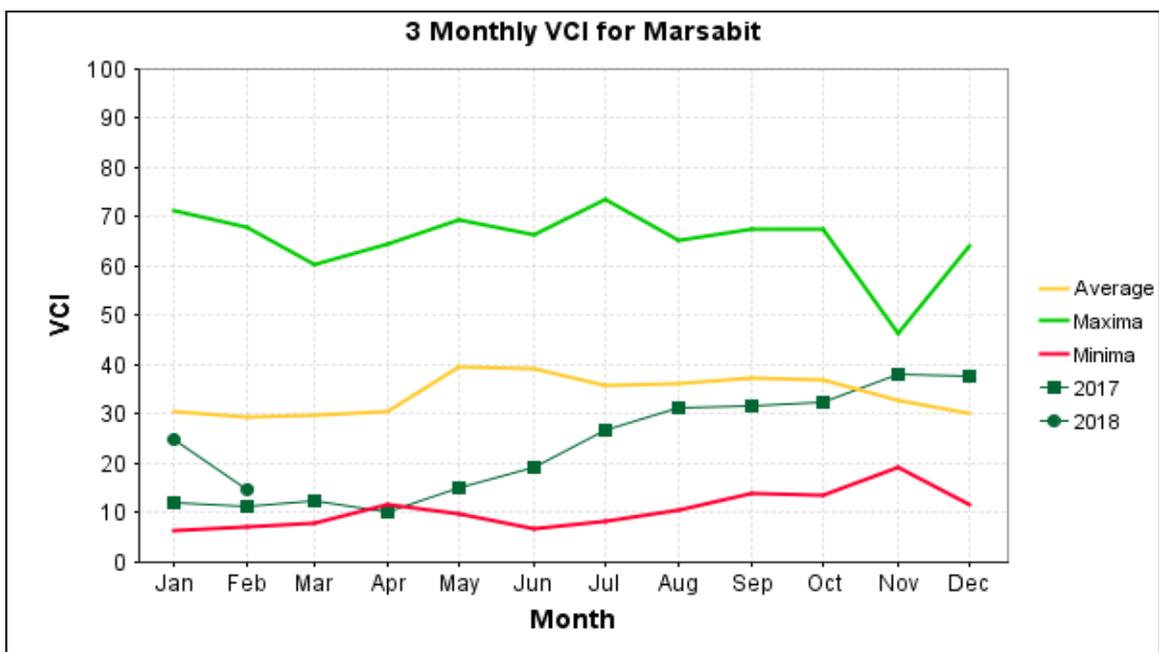
#### 2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- (Figure 2) shown below displays three months Vegetation Condition Index groups of respective months in terms of agricultural drought based on indicative VCI thresholds. Retrospectively, vegetation condition index has been categorized to the vegetation deficit band for the month under review.
- Vegetation condition index incorporates the analysis of the relative Normalised Difference Vegetation Index variation with respect to minimum and maximum historical NDVI values.



**Figure 2: Vegetation Condition Index, Marsabit County**

- The figure shown above illustrates significant departure of the 3-month vegetation condition index from 24.68 in the previous month to 14.58 in the month under review. This therefore exhibited a change from moderate vegetation deficit band to severe vegetation deficit band.
- Significant deterioration was prompted by vegetation deterioration and convergence of livestock along the traditional migratory routes across the livelihood zones.
- The vegetation condition index for North Horr, Laisamis and Saku sub-counties dropped the moderate vegetation deficit band to severe vegetation deficit band in February.
- Moyale sub-county had the lowest vegetation condition index at 8.43 from 18.76 recorded in the previous month hence shift from moderate to severe vegetation deficit band.



**Figure 3: Vegetation Condition Index Trends, Marsabit County**

- (Figure 3) shown above compares 2018 vegetation condition index trends to 2017, long term average and gives maximum and minimum values ever recorded. Inference can be made that generally the county witnessed significant deterioration of the 3-months vegetation condition index occasioned by forage dip across the county.
- Notably, the current vegetation condition index is approaching the minimum ever received VCI value.

### **2.1.2 Pasture**

- Pasture condition is generally poor across the county. When compared to the previous month, pasture condition deteriorated across the livelihood zones which was attributed to the progression of the short dry spell and intensive livestock migration.
- Pasture is only available (Mt.Kulal, Dedertu, Yel, Kom and Soriadi) in Laisamis sub-county which is generally fair. In Saku sub-county pasture is available in few pockets in Karare, Shurr and Mt.Marsabit exhibiting a generally fair condition. North sub-county has pasture in areas of Illeret, Chari Ashe, Elbesso, Hurri Hills, Lalesa, Dukana, Forolle, Ndoto ranges, Elhadi and Diid Gola. Uran, Sololo, Walda, Rawana, Dabambala Fachana and Somare in Moyale sub-county have pasture but depleting at a faster rate.
- Herbaceous vegetation species have been emerging in most parts of the County particularly in North and Laisamis sub-counties hence crippling forage cover.
- The available pasture is expected to last for the next 2 weeks across the livelihood zones against the normal one month.

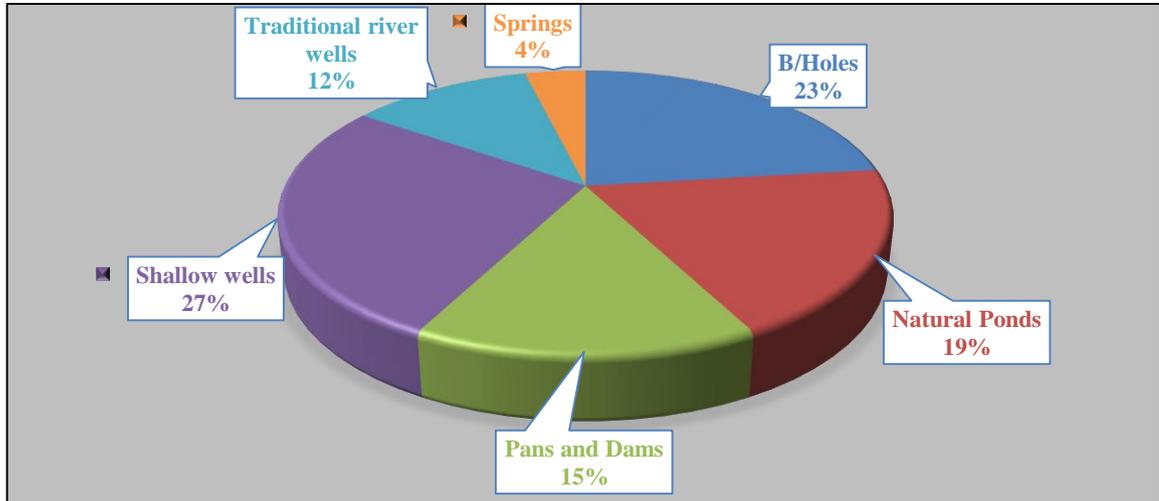
### **2.1.3 Browse**

- Generally, browse condition is poor across the livelihood zones with exceptions of Mt.Marsabit and Karare(Saku-subcounty), southern parts of Laisamis and Mt.Kulal(Laisamis sub-county), Illeret, Hurri Hills, Lalesa and Dukana(North Horr sub-county), Walda, Uran, Dambala Fachana and Sololo(Moyale sub-county) which depicts fair browse condition.
- Browse condition is below normal at this time of the year. Below normal browse condition was attributed to the persistence of the short dry spell and intensive livestock migration to their traditional migratory routes.
- The available browse is expected to last for the next 1month across the livelihood zones against the normal 2months.

## 2.2 WATER RESOURCE

### 2.2.1 Sources

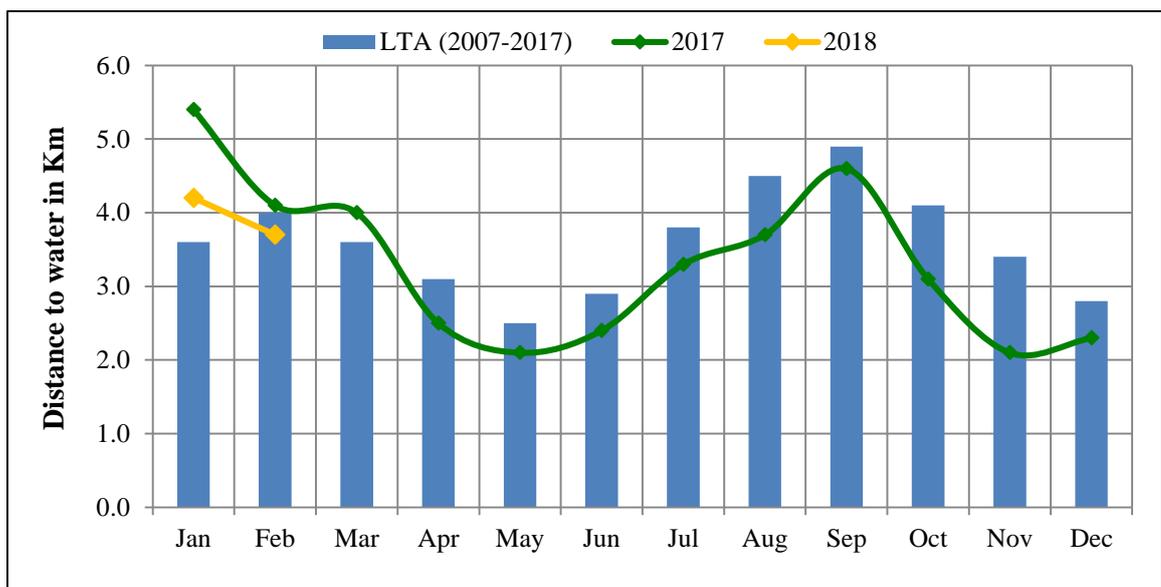
- From the (Figure 4) shown below, major water sources used by communities are shallow wells, boreholes and natural ponds at 27percent, 23percent and respectively in february.
- Other water sources used by the communities were water pans, traditional river wells and springs at 15percent, 12percent and 4percent respectively.



**Figure 4: Major water sources**

- Service water sources were majorly used due to the off-season rains received. This has led to slight reduction in over-reliance of the strategic and drought fall back boreholes.
- With the progression of the off-season rains, the open water sources will be partially recharged to a rate of 30percent.
- Service water sources are not the normal sources at this particular time of the year.
- Partially recharged open water sources are expected to last for the next one and half months against the normal one month.

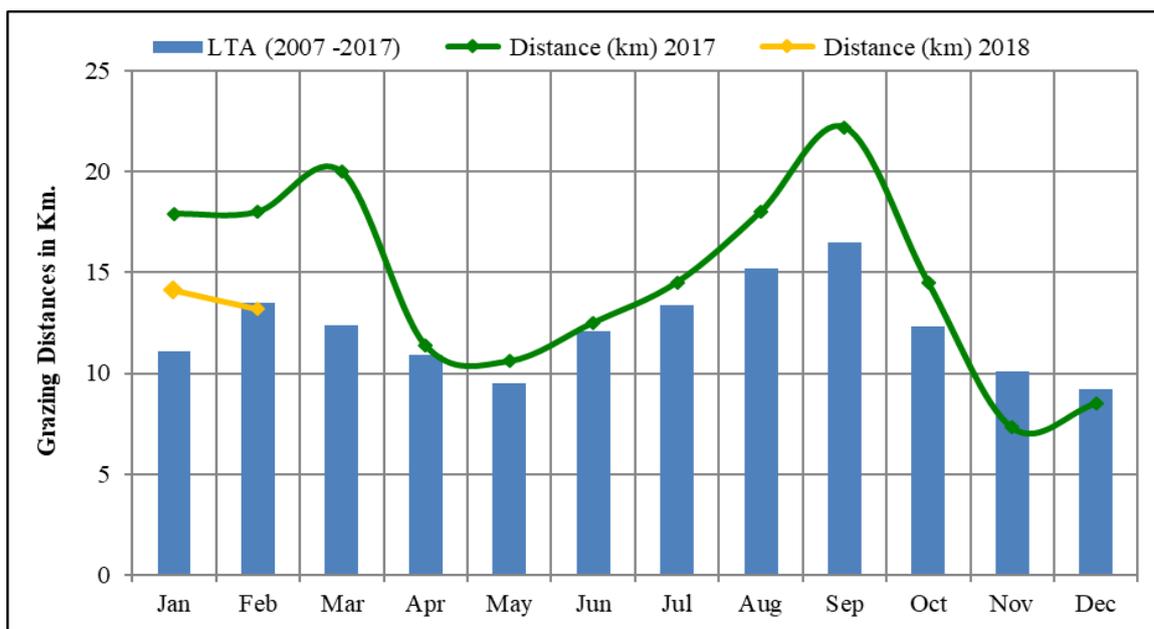
### 2.2.2 Household access and Utilization



**Figure 5: Household access to water compared to the Long Term Average**

- (Figure 5) shown above depicts that household water distances to the main water sources was 3.7Km in the month of February.
- When compared to the previous month distance of 4.2Km, household water distances gradually declined. Reduction in household water distances were occasioned by the off-season rains experienced in the month under review.
- Longer household water distances were depicted in most of the Agro-pastoral livelihood zone as opposed to the Pastoral livelihood zone which recorded shorter distances because of improved presence of the boreholes.
- The current household water distance of 3.7Km is 8percent shorter than the normal household water distances of 4.0Km.
- Slightly reduced waiting time at the water source was witnessed at an of average 30-45minutes compared to 45-60 minutes in the previous month.
- Current household water consumption is 13Litres/per person/day in the Pastoral livelihood zone whereas in the Agro-Pastoral zone its 11Litres/per person/day zone hence improved water consumption across the livelihood zones when compared to the previous month.
- Cost of water varies at Ksh.0-5/20Litres jerrycan across the county with exception of Marsabit and Moyale towns where water vendors retailed water at Ksh.50/20Litres jerrycan.

### 2.2.3 Livestock access



**Figure 6: Livestock trekking distances compared to the Long Term Average distances**

- From the (Figure 6) shown above, return livestock trekking distance from grazing areas to water points was 13.2Km in the month of February. Thus a gradual improvement from 14.1Km recorded in the preceding month.
- Slight improvement in livestock trekking distances across the livelihood zones was attributed improved recharge levels of the open water sources when compared to the previous month due to the off-season rains received.
- The current livestock trekking distance of 13.2Km is 2percent shorter hence normal when compared to the usual trekking distance of 13.5Km.

- However, close monitoring need to be enhanced despite gradual water improvement as livestock are still migrating to their usual traditional routes.
- Watering frequencies for livestock species varied. For cattle/small stock it is after two days whereas for camel is after 4 days across the livelihood zones. When compared to a normal season, watering intervals are the same.

### **3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS**

#### **3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION**

##### **3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition**

- Livestock body condition is fair in few isolated areas where pasture is available such as southern parts of Laisamis sub-county, Mt.Kulal, Northern parts of North Horr sub-county, Mt.Marsabit and Northern parts of Moyale sub-county.
- When compared per species, Cattle and Sheep have fair-poor body condition, goats are generally fair and camels in good-fair body condition.
- Gradual deterioration in livestock species was witnessed in cattle and small stock due to generally poor pasture condition. The body condition of the livestock is expected to slightly improve in the next three weeks as the off-season rains continues.
- When compared to the normal season, livestock body condition is below normal. Below normal livestock body condition has relatively been attributed to poor forage condition.

##### **3.1.2 Livestock Migration**

- Intensive and normal livestock migration continued to be witnessed into and outside the County.
- Generally, livestock migrated towards their normal traditional routes. Migration was witnessed from Laisamis sub-county outwards to Samburu County in Baragoi, Serelivi, Archers post and Wasin-wamba.
- Intra migration across Laisamis sub-county involved livestock migrating towards Gudas, Kom, Soriadi, Nolotola, Yel, Mt.Kulal, Koya and Lembarpar.
- In North Horr sub-county, most livestock are grazing internally and are migrating towards Chare Ashe, Lalesa, Diid Gola, Elhadi, Elbesso, Dukana and Hurri Hills.
- Livestock from Wajir, Isiolo and parts of Moyale have migrated towards Bori, Badanrero, Dabel, and Malbebal in Moyale sub-county mainly in search of water.

##### **3.1.3 Livestock Diseases**

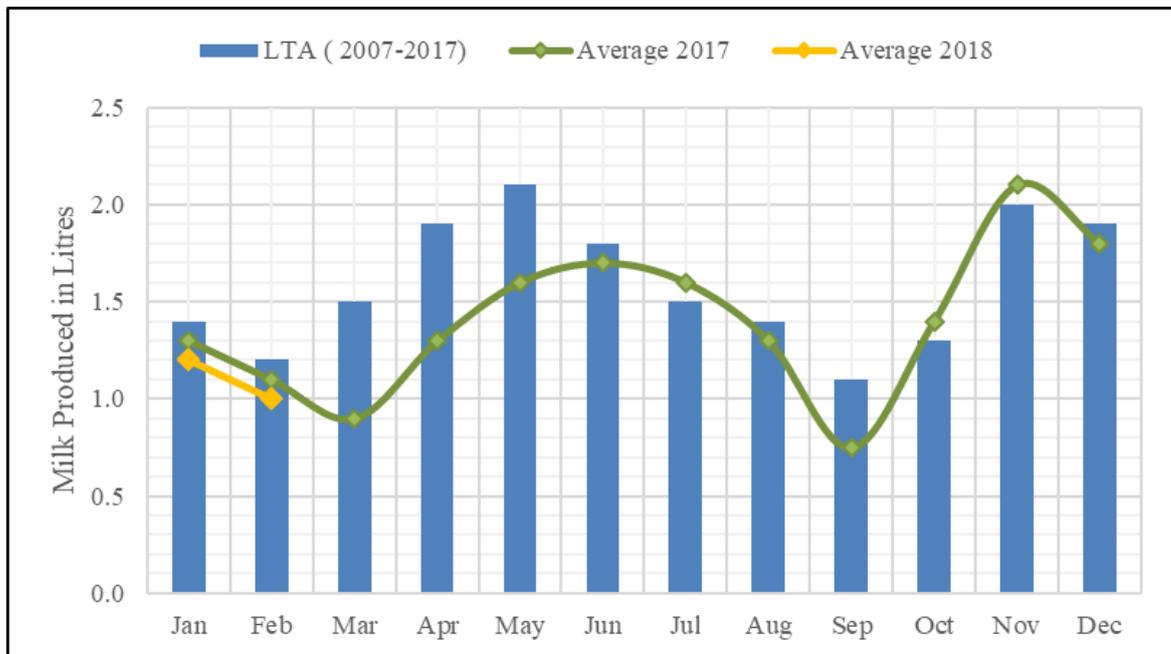
- There were no outbreaks of livestock diseases reported. However, there have been sporadic cases of Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) in El-Dimtu- Kalacha and Laqi (pastoral livelihood zone) reported. Also CCPP, CBPP and worms' infestation have been reported across the two livelihood zones.

##### **3.1.4 Livestock mortalities**

- No cases of livestock mortalities attributed to drought were reported across the across the County.

##### **3.1.5 Milk Production**

- The (Figure 7) shown below illustrates that household milk production per day for the month under review was 1.0Litres. When compared to the previous month milk production of 1.2Litres, gradual decline was noted.
- Milk production was 17percent below the long term average milk production of 1.2Litres/Household/Day.



**Figure 7: Milk production in Litres/Household/Day**

- In the agro-pastoral zone, production was from cattle while in pastoral production was mainly from goats and camels. Most of the milk is produced in the dry season grazing areas therefore only a few households have milk.
- The decrease in milk production is attributed to below normal birth rates, inadequate pasture and browse and migration of livestock to drought fall back areas.
- The birth rate of all livestock species was below normal due to the prolonged drought in both agro pastoral and pastoral livelihood zones.
- Milk prices are retailing at an average price of Kshs.100-120 per Litre across the livelihood zones which is above the normal milk price Kshs.80-90 per Litre.

### 3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

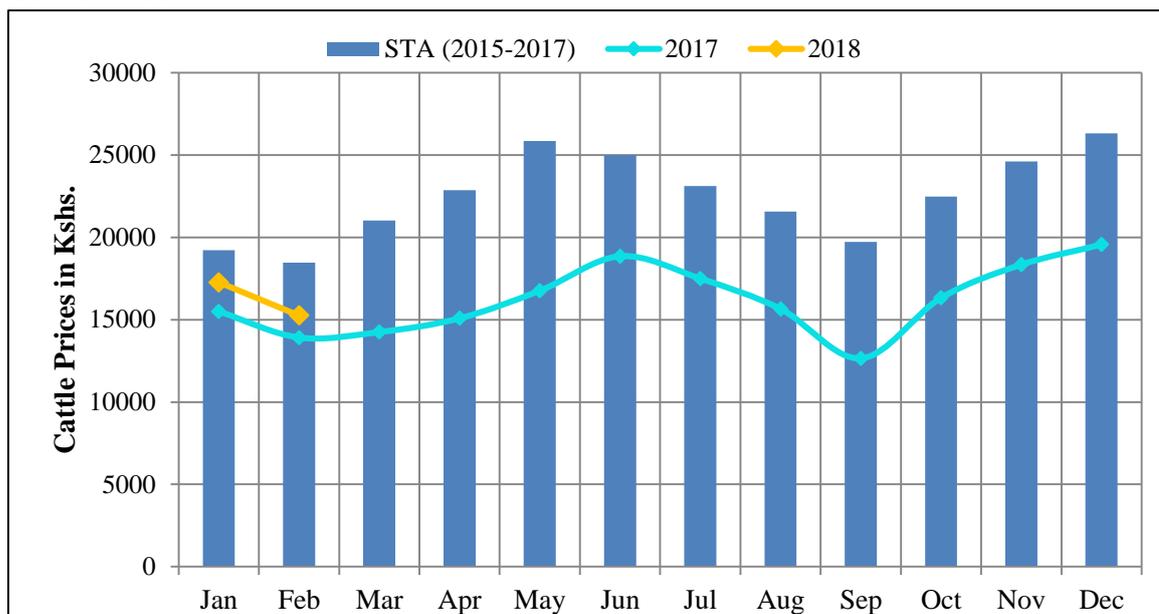
#### 3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops

- Total crop failure was experienced in all areas of agro-pastoral livelihood zone with worst affected areas being foot slopes like Gororukesa and Dub Gomba in Saku sub-county, Gatab in Laisamis sub-county and all parts of Moyale sub-county.
- A projected production of 45 bags from wheat is expected from the short rains season against the long term average of 250 bags which represent a decline of 82 percent.
- Total crop failure was attributed to: Delay and distribution of inadequate seeds, late planting, early cessation of the short rains leading to withering of plants before tussling and untimely weed control.
- Currently, farmers in the Agro-pastoral areas of Moyale, Saku and parts of Laisamis sub-county(Gatab) are ploughing their land in readiness for planting during the next month.

## 4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

### 4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

#### 4.1.1 Cattle Prices

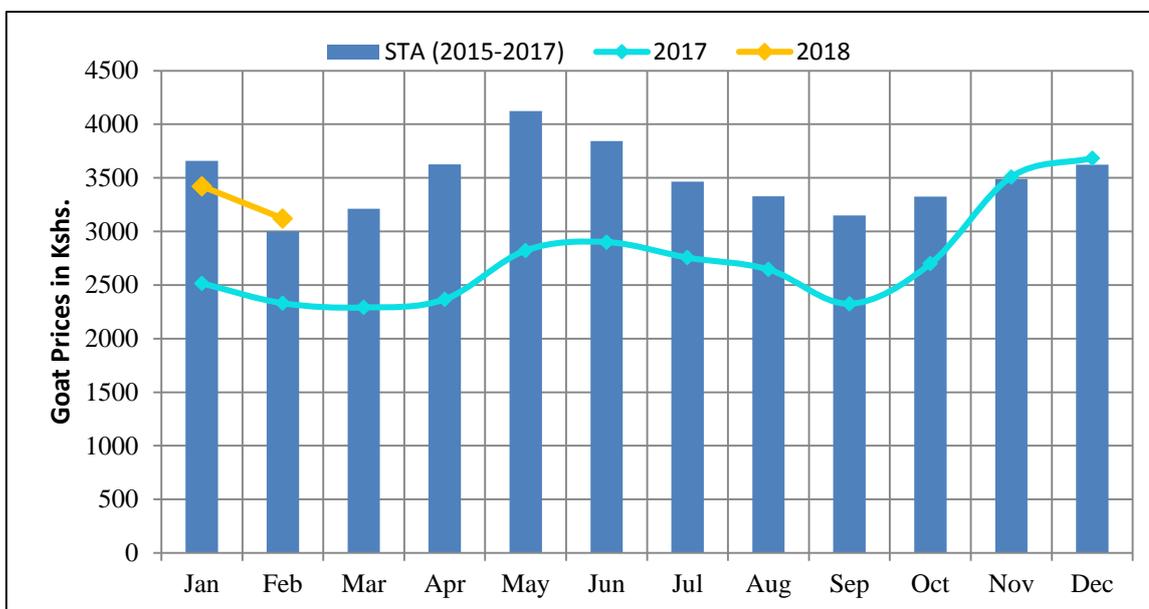


**Figure 8: 2018 Cattle Prices compared to Short Term Average**

- From the (Figure 8) shown above, cattle price for the month under review was Ksh. 15,256 which is an indicative of a decline from Kshs. 17,263 recorded in the previous month.
- Reduction in cattle prices were attributed to deteriorating cattle body condition witnessed across the livelihood zones, improved traded volumes in the main terminal livestock markets across the county.
- Current average cattle price of Kshs. 15,256 is 17percent below the short term average price of Kshs. 18, 456.
- Merille and North Horr livestock markets depicted favourable cattle prices of Kshs. 20,000-Kshs. 30,000. Local livestock markets such as Forolle, Illaut, Korr acted as feeder markets to the terminal ones. However, Moyale livestock market exhibited unfavourable cattle prices due to inadequate buyers prompted by suspected cases of insecurity along the Kenya-Ethiopia border.

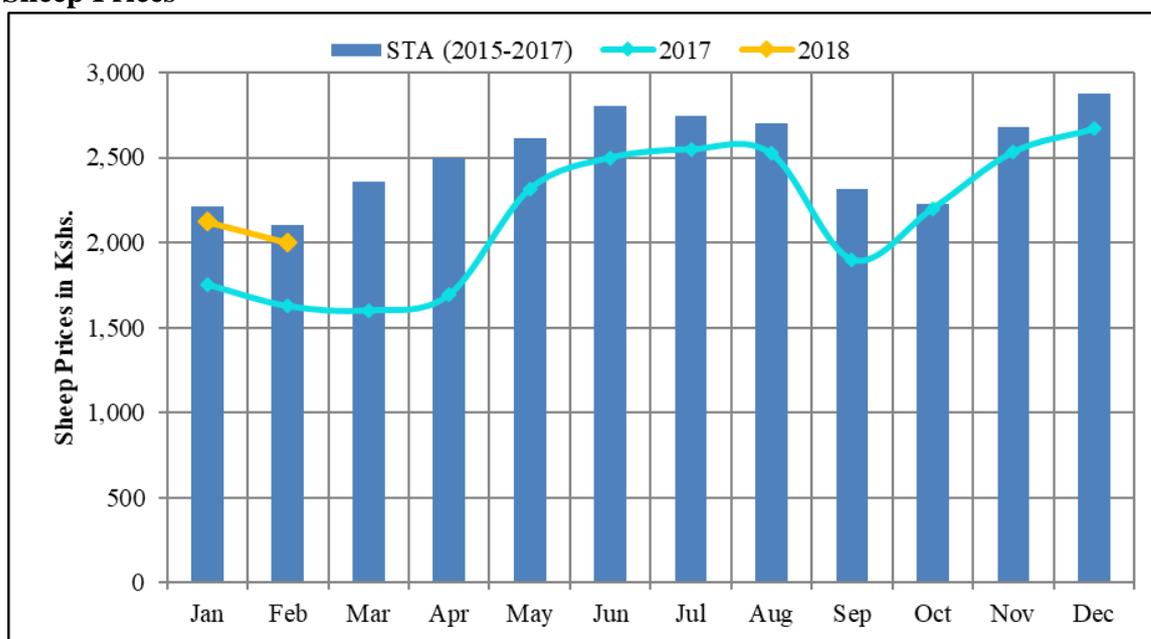
#### 4.1.2 Goat prices

- The figure shown below portrays that the average goat price is Kshs.3, 120 across the livelihood zones.
- When compared to the previous month price of Kshs. 3, 421, goat prices relatively remained the same.
- The current goat price of Kshs. 3, 120 is normal when compared the short term average goat price of Kshs. 3, 000.
- Normal goat prices were majorly induced no marginal change as a result of insignificant deterioration which didn't affect the market prices hence relatively remaining the same.
- Favourable goat prices were reported in Merille, Forolle, Illaut and North Horr livestock markets with prices ranging between Kshs. 4,500-Kshs. 6,000.
- Goat prices are expected to improve in the next one month due to expected impact of the off-season rains received across the livelihood zones.



**Figure 9: 2018 Goat Prices compared to Short Term Average**

### 4.1.3 Sheep Prices



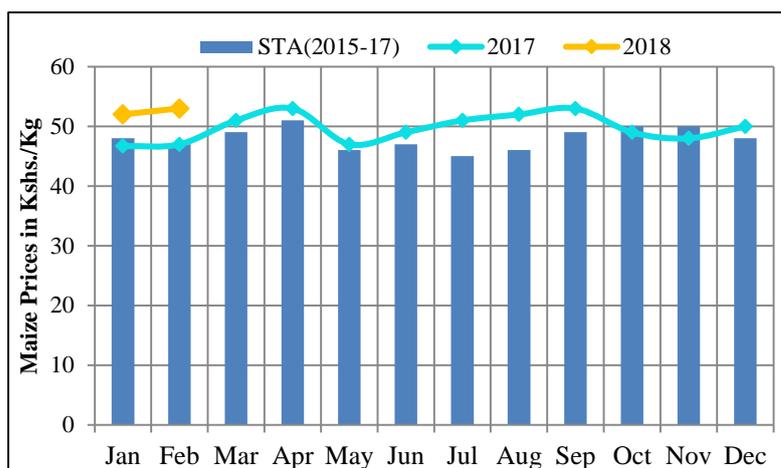
**Figure 10: 2018 Sheep Prices compared to Short Term Average**

- From the (Figure 10) shown above, the average sheep price in the month under review was Ksh. 2, 000 across the livelihood zones.
- When compared to the preceding month sheep prices of Kshs. 2, 123, sheep prices relatively remained the same.
- The current sheep price of Kshs. 2,000 is normal when compared to the short term average price of Kshs. 2,100.
- Sheep prices were favourable in Merille and North Horr livestock markets with prices ranging between Kshs. 2,500-Kshs. 3,000. Better sheep prices in North Horr and Merille markets were attributed to better livestock marketing infrastructure.

## 4.2 CROP PRICES

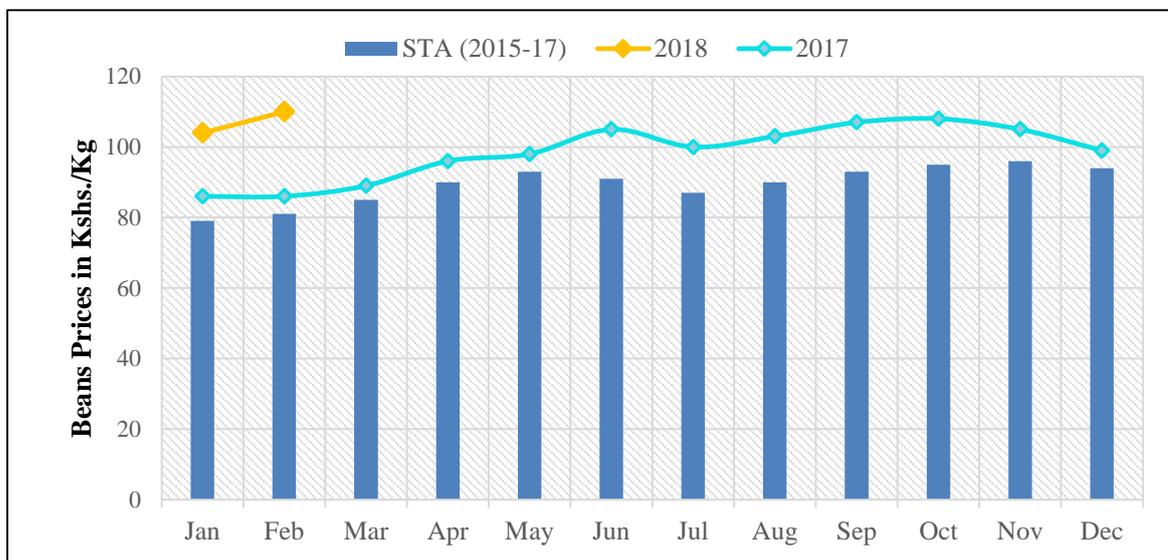
### 4.2.1 Maize

- From the (Figure 11), current average price of maize is Kshs.53/kg across the livelihood zones.
- When compared to the previous month maize price of Kshs.52/kg, maize prices relatively remained stable.
- When compared to the short term average price of Kshs.47/kg, current maize price is 13percent above normal. The lowest maize prices were recorded in Marsabit commodity market and border points of Moyale, Dukana and North Horr at Ksh.40-50 per kg. However, lower maize prices in Moyale were still above the long term average of Ksh. 30-35 per kilogram which has been occasioned by limited access.
- The highest prices were reported in the southern parts of Laisamis, Logologo, Mt.Kulal Loiyangalani, El Molo, Barambate and Korr where the price ranged between Ksh.70 to 90 per kg.



**Figure 11: Current Maize Price compared to Short Term Average**

### 4.2.2 Beans

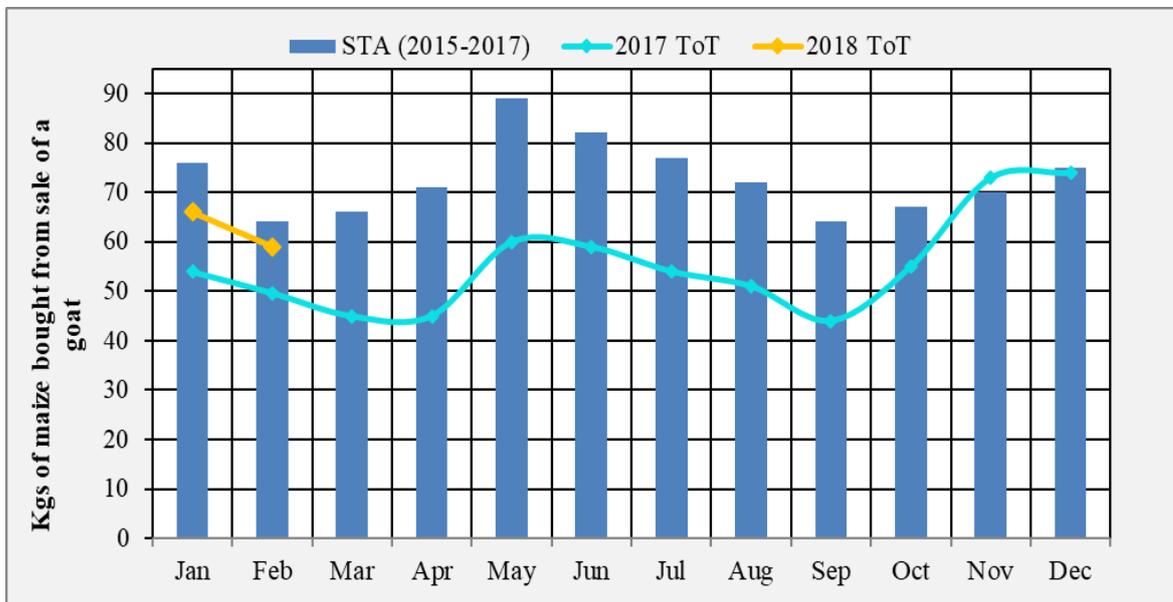


**Figure 12: Current Beans Prices compared to the Short Term Average**

- The figure shown above illustrates that in the month under review beans prices were retailing at Kshs.110/kg. Beans prices gradually increased from Kshs.104/kg recorded in the previous month.
- The current beans price of Kshs. 104/kg is 36percent above the short term average price of Kshs. 81/kg.

- Favourable beans prices were recorded in Dukana and North Horr commodity markets with prices averaging at Kshs.90 per kilogram due to improved supplies of beans from the neighbouring vibrant Ethiopia market.
- Above normal beans prices have been prompted by total crop failure of two consecutive rainy seasons and limited access of Moyale market.

#### 4.2.3 Terms of Trade (TOT)



**Figure 13: Current Terms of Trade compared to the Short Term Average**

- The figure shown above depicts that the current terms of trade 59 across the livelihood zones. Terms of trade declined when compared to the previous month terms of trade of 66.
- Decline in the terms of trade was occasioned by relatively above normal maize prices hence pastoralists derived less quantities of maize from a sale of a goat.
- Below normal terms of trade was majorly attributed to total crop failure in the Agro-pastoral areas of Moyale and Saku sub-counties and continued limited access in Moyale.
- Dukana, North Horr and Merille exhibited favourable terms of trade due to better goats prices.
- The current terms of trade will likely continue to be unfavourable until the next harvest season.

## 5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

### 5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- From the figure 14 shown below, current household milk consumption is 0.5Litres/household/day across the livelihood zones.
- In comparison to the previous month of 0.75Litres/household/day, milk consumption declined.
- When compared to the long term average milk consumption of 0.9Litres/household/day, current household milk consumption is 44percent below normal.
- Majority of the households are depending on processed or powder milk sold in local kiosks if they can afford it.

- Below normal milk consumption may be attributed to reduced milk production as a result of continuation of the short dry season. Milk consumption is expected to slightly improve due to the off-season rains experienced which will positively impact on milk production.

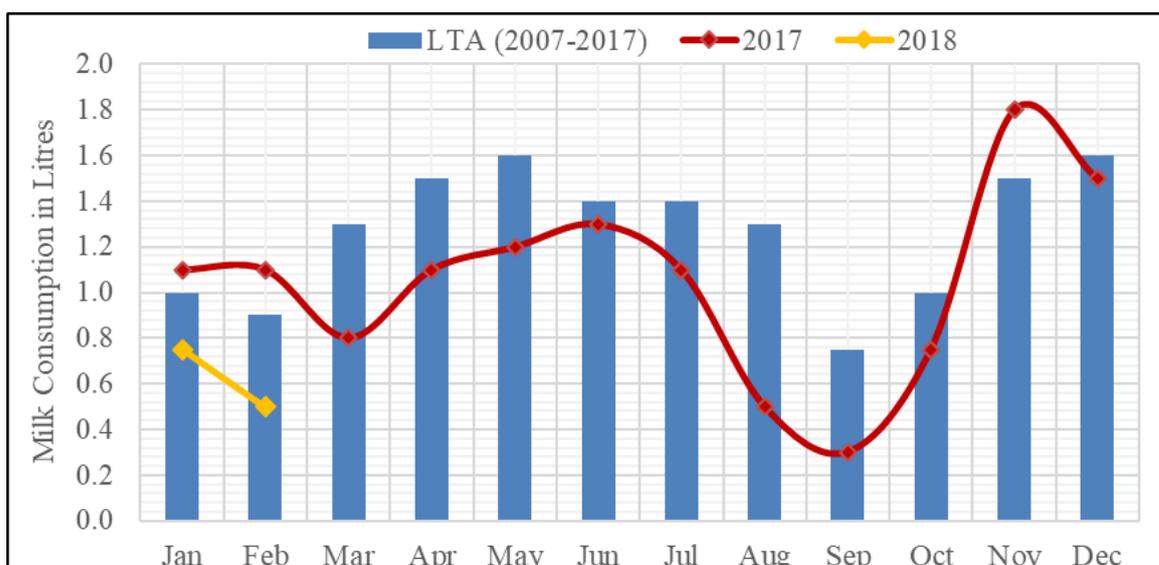


Figure 14 : Milk Consumption per Household per Day compared to the Long Term Average

## 5.2 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE (FCS)

- From the figure shown below, the mean food consumption score for the month under review was 33.9 across the livelihood zone hence was within the borderline food consumption score band.
- Food consumption score slightly declined from acceptable food consumption score of 37.6 recorded in the previous month to borderline food consumption score of 33.9 posted in February.

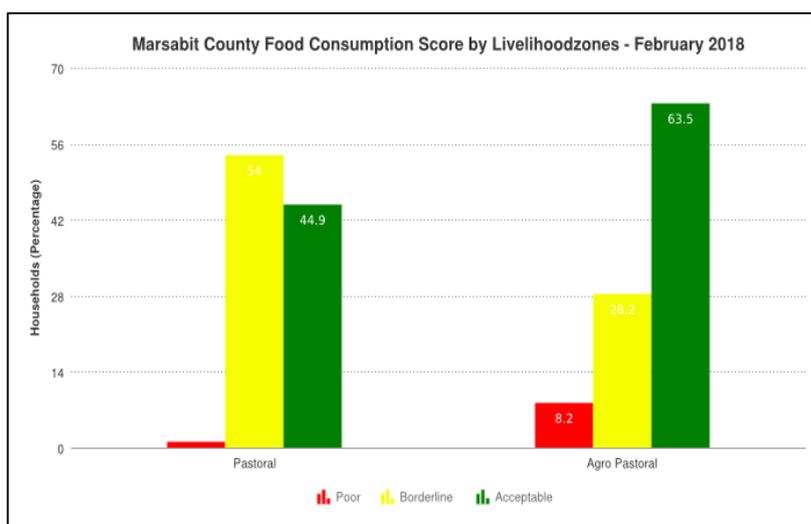
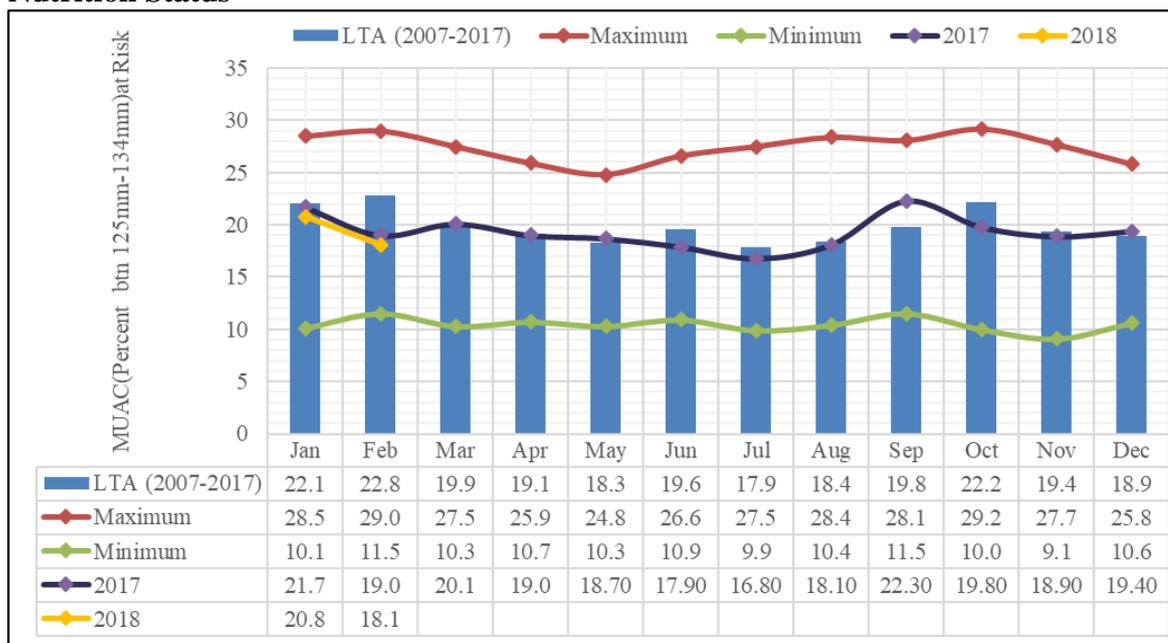


Figure 15: Food Consumption Score

- When compared across the livelihood zones, food consumption score was better in Agro-pastoral than Pastoral livelihood zone with a mean of 37.2 and 30.6 respectively.
- Proportion of households in the Agro-pastoral livelihood zone that were within the acceptable, borderline and poor food consumption score were 63.5percent, 28.2percent and 8.2percent respectively. Likewise, in the Pastoral livelihood zone; households that had acceptable, borderline and poor food consumption scores were 44.9percent, 54percent and 1.1percent respectively.
- Therefore, households in the Agro-pastoral livelihood zone consumed staple and vegetables complemented by a frequent four days per week consumption of oil and pulses than those in the Pastoral livelihood zone.

### 5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

#### 5.3.1 Nutrition Status

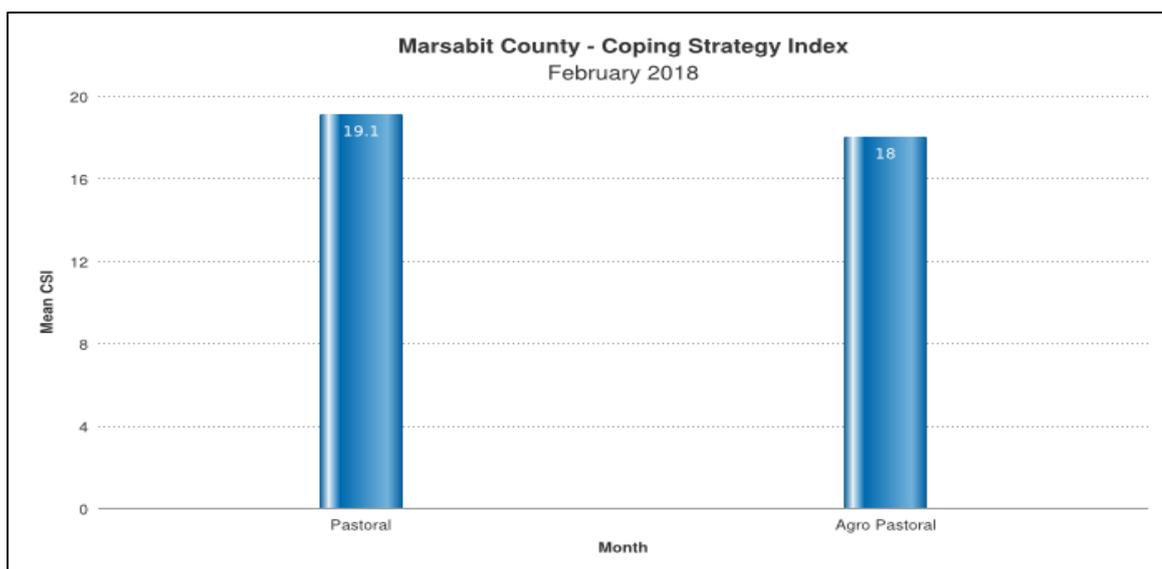


**Figure 16 : Nutritional status of children below the age of five years**

- From the figure shown above, children rated ‘at risk’ of malnutrition from 20.8percent recorded in the previous month to 18.1percent in February.
- Children rated ‘at risk’ of malnutrition were generally within the long term MUAC average of 22.8percent.
- SMART Survey conducted in North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties posted Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence rate of 21.8 percent and 21.2 percent respectively. There was significant drop in GAM rates for North Horr sub-county. However, Laisamis sub county exhibited insignificant improvement. Nevertheless, malnutrition rates in the two sub-counties remained extremely critical.
- Significant improvement in North Horr sub-county was attributed to the implementation of blanket supplementary feeding program (BSFP), above normal rains, HSNP unconditional cash transfer among other related food security interventions.
- Poor dietary diversity was noted across all livelihood zones at three to five food groups with a minimum meal frequency of one to two per day mostly beans and maize. The SMART survey results further indicated that 82percent and 84percent of households in North Horr and Laisamis were consuming less than five food groups per day.

#### 5.4 COPING STRATEGIES

- From the figure shown below, coping strategy index for the month under review was 18.7.
- When compared to the preceding month coping strategy index of 18.5, there was no notable change in the coping strategy index however situation remains stress.
- Coping strategy index for Pastoral and Agro-Pastoral livelihood zones were 19.1 and 18 respectively hence households in the Pastoral livelihood zone were more food insecure than those in the Agro-pastoral livelihood zone.



**Figure 17: Coping strategy index across the livelihood zones**

- Employment of coping strategies depicts that households employed severe consumption based coping mechanisms in the month under review as the coping strategy index fell under the stress band.
- Proportion of households who coped and didn't cope in the month under review were 81percent and 19percent respectively.
- Notable consumption based coping strategies employed by the households in the month under review were reliance on less preferred/less expensive food, reduction in frequency of food consumption and reduced portion size of meals.
- Livelihood change has been witnessed in some parts of the Agro-pastoral areas in Saku sub-county as farmers shifted preference to miraa farming from maize production due to successive failure of the rainy seasons.

## **6.0 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES**

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

- NDMA HSNP unconditional cash transfer across the County.

### **6.2 FOOD AID**

- Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme intervention continued in North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties and implemented by WFP, UNICEF, Concern WW, FH Kenya, World Vision and Sub Counties health management teams.
- Therapeutic Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition for the Under-fives, Pregnant and Lactating Mothers (Supplementary Feeding Program (SFP), Out Patient Therapeutic Program (OTP) by MOH supported by UNICEF, WFP, World Vision, CONCERN WW and FHK.

## **7.0 EMERGING ISSUES**

### **7.1 INSECURITY/CONFLICT/HUMAN DISPLACEMENT**

- Influx of IDPs who have settled in Watiti, Moyale sub-county.

## **7.2 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS.**

- Food security situation is expected to gradually improve from the month of March as a result of the off-season rains being witnessed coupled with above normal forecasted long rains across the county. The above normal rainfall forecast might influence early preparation of land and planting by farmers. Pasture and browse is expected gradually regenerate in the next 3 weeks thus improving the livestock body condition, milk availability and livestock productivity.
- Livestock migration is expected to be normal and towards traditional grazing areas. Open water sources are expected to partially recharge hence slight reduction in distances to watering points, the waiting time and improved water consumption levels at the household level. Livestock prices are likely to slightly improve as pastoralists will be unwilling to trade their livestock as a result of expected improved forage condition and water resources. Households are expected to employ less severe coping strategies. Likewise, food consumption is expected to improve as households will likely consume more food groups frequently due to improved market access. Nutritional status for children under five years is anticipated to improve due to the ongoing blanket supplementary feeding programme among other related food security interventions.

## **8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Provision of livestock feeds in areas where pasture is depleted
- Stock piling of essential veterinary drugs, vaccine, equipment and other inputs
- Vaccination, mass treatment and deworming by department of veterinary services
- Mass screening, intensified integrated outreach services and recruiting of community health workers
- Coordination of cash transfers programmes undertaken by various implementers
- Facilitation of Intercommunity, sub counties peace dialogue meeting for common action area across the County