National Drought Management Authority
MARSABIT COUNTY
DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR JUNE 2019

A Vision 2030 Flagship Project

KENYA VISION 2030

EW PHASE: ALARM

Drought Status: ALARM

Mipango ya kukabiliana na ukame

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

Rainfall: Offseason rains were received in few pockets across the County. Offseason rains were depressed poorly distributed both temporally and spatially.

Vegetation condition: The 3-months Vegetation Condition Index for the month of June was 19.95 which is an illustrative of gradual deterioration when compared to the previous months' vegetation condition index of 22.57. Forage condition was fair-poor across the livelihood zones.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

Production indicators: Livestock body condition was fair for all the livestock species across the livelihood zones with save for sheep that exhibited generally poor body condition. Milk production was 1.0Litres/household/day which was below normal. No livestock deaths were reported due to drought. Total failure of rain-fed crops was witnessed in the agro-pastoral areas of Moyale and Saku sub-counties.

Access indicators: Household and livestock trekking distances to water sources increased and 90percent of the water pans dried up. Milk consumption was 0.75Litres which is below normal. Terms of trade was normal due to stable goat and maize prices. Markets were operational however traded volumes for livestock significantly declined.

Utilization indicators: Nutritional status of children below the age of five years deteriorated but was normal. Food consumption score remained in the borderline band while 54percent of the households adopted stressed reduced consumption based strategies. Morbidity and mortalities trends for children below the age of five years was within normal.

Early Warning (EW) Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral	Alarm	Deteriorating
Pastoral All species	Alarm	Deteriorating
Fisherfolk/ Casual labour /Petty Trading	Alarm	Stable
County	Alarm	Deteriorating
Biophysical Indicators	**Value**	**Normal Range/Value**
Rainfall (% of Normal)	50	80 -120
VCI-3Month	19.95	>35
Forage condition	Fair-Poor	Good
Production indicators	**Value**	**Normal**
Livestock Body Condition	Fair	Good
Milk Production	1.0	>2.3Litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	Unusual	Normal
Livestock deaths (from drought)	No death	No death
Access Indicators	**Value**	**Normal**
Terms of Trade (ToT)	74	>75
Milk Consumption	0.75	>1.5Litre
Return distance to water	7.1	0.0-3.1 Km
Cost of water	0-5	<Ksh.5
Utilization indicators	**Value**	**Normal**
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	18.1	0.0-18.9
Coping Strategy Index	18.38	<20
Food Consumption score	34.86	>35

▪ Short rains harvests ▪ Short dry spell ▪ Reduced milk yields ▪ Increased HH Food Stocks ▪ Land preparation	▪ Planting/Weeding ▪ Long rains ▪ High Calving Rate ▪ Milk Yields Increase	▪ Long rains harvests ▪ A long dry spell ▪ Land preparation ▪ Increased HH Food Stocks ▪ Kidding (Sept)	▪ Short rains ▪ Planting/weeding

Jan		Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

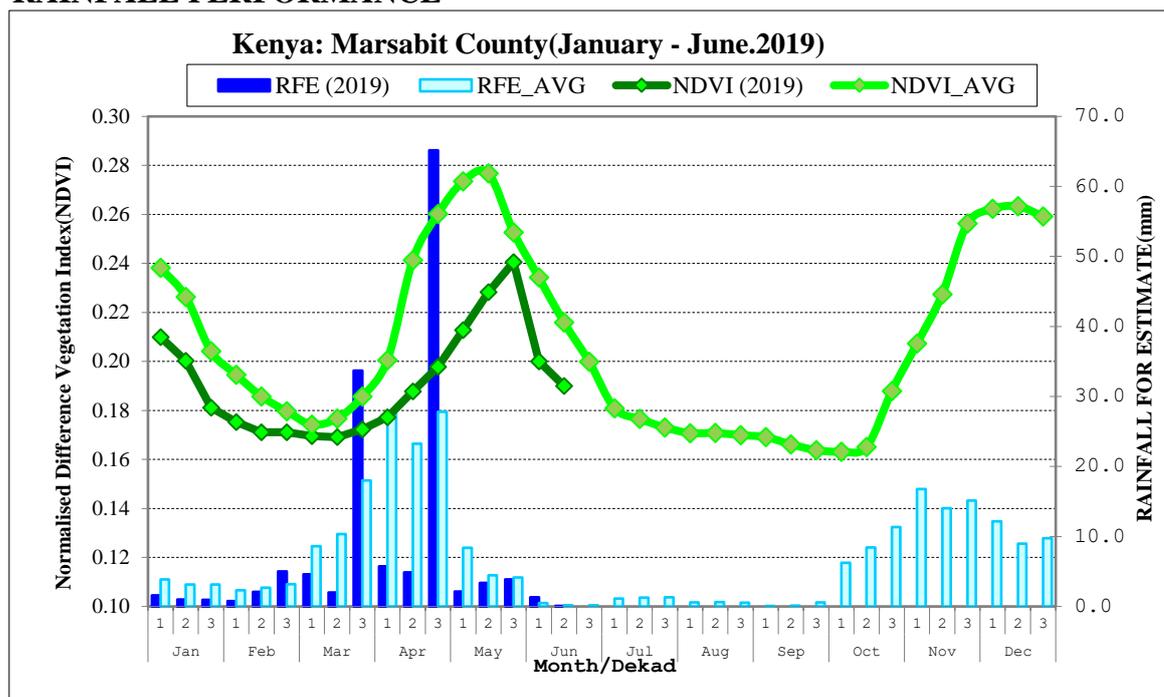# 1.0   CLIMATIC CONDITIONS
1.1   RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

Figure 1: Dekadal Rainfall(mm) and NDVI values compared to the Long Term Average

Source: WFP-VAM, CHIRPS/MODIS

- From the figure 1 shown above, current dekadal amounts (rainfall for estimate) for the first dekad was slightly above normal whereas second and third dekads were normal when compared to the long term dekadal averages. Correspondingly, Normalized Difference Vegetation Index(NDVI) for all the dekads in the month under review were below the dekadal long term NDVI values. Normalized Difference Vegetation Index for the month under review was below normal because of long rains deficits across the livelihood zones.

1.2   Amounts received

- During the month under review, off-season rains were received a few pockets across the County. 10.2mm of rainfall was recorded in Moyale rainfall station for a period of 1-2 rainy days whereas Marsabit Mountain exhibited traced rainfall amounts totalling to 2.9mm. Northern parts of Laisamis and Northern parts of North Horr sub-counties also received light showers in the month under review.

1.3   Spatial and temporal distribution

- Distribution of off-season rains was poor in time and space and was characterized by light showers in a few pockets across the County.
- Sarima, South horr and Mt.Kulal in Laisamis sub-county, Sololo and Township in Moyale sub-county, Illeret and Bales Saru in North Horr sub-county received light showers in the month under review in 1-2 rainy days.
- However, most parts of the County didn't receive any rains in the month of June. When compared based on the livelihood zones, Agro-pastoral of Moyale sub-county received light showers while agro-pastoral areas of Saku sub-county didn't receive any rains in the month under review. Most parts pastoral areas across the County didn't receive rains during the reporting period.

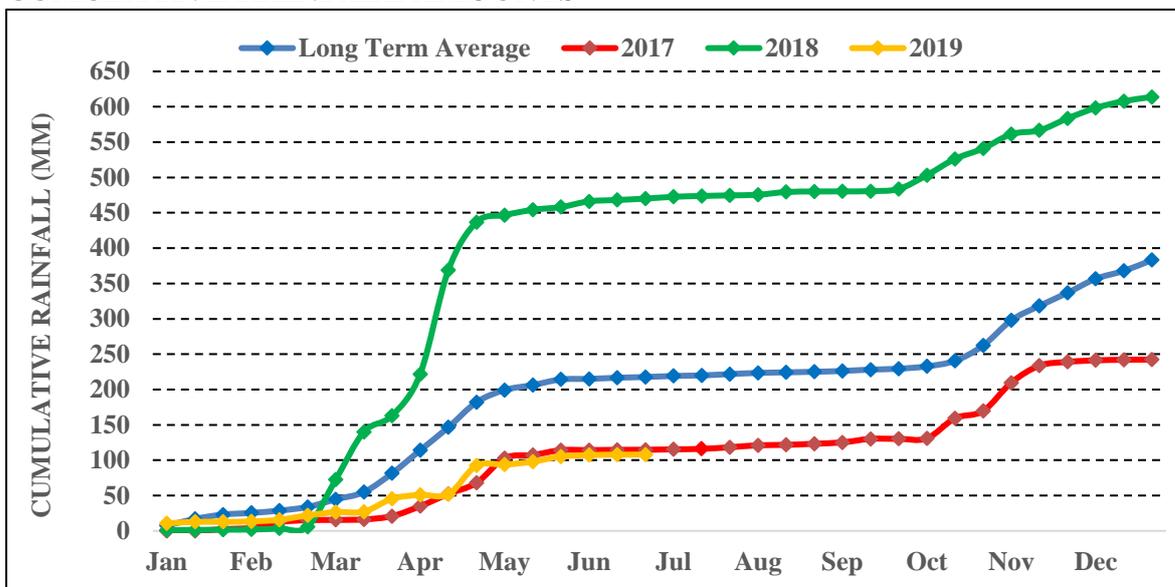## 1.5   CUMULATIVE RAINFALL AMOUNTS

Figure 2: Marsabit County Cumulative Rainfall Amounts(mm)

- From the figure (2) shown above, current cumulative rains were 50percent of the long term cumulative rains. The current cumulative rainfall amounts are similar to the cumulative rains of 2017 which was a bad year hence a depiction of seasonal rainfall shortfalls.

- With progression of the long dry spell, cumulative rainfall amounts are expected to stagnate until towards the third dekad of October when onset of the short rains are expected to commence.

2.0   IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER
2.1   VEGETATION CONDITION
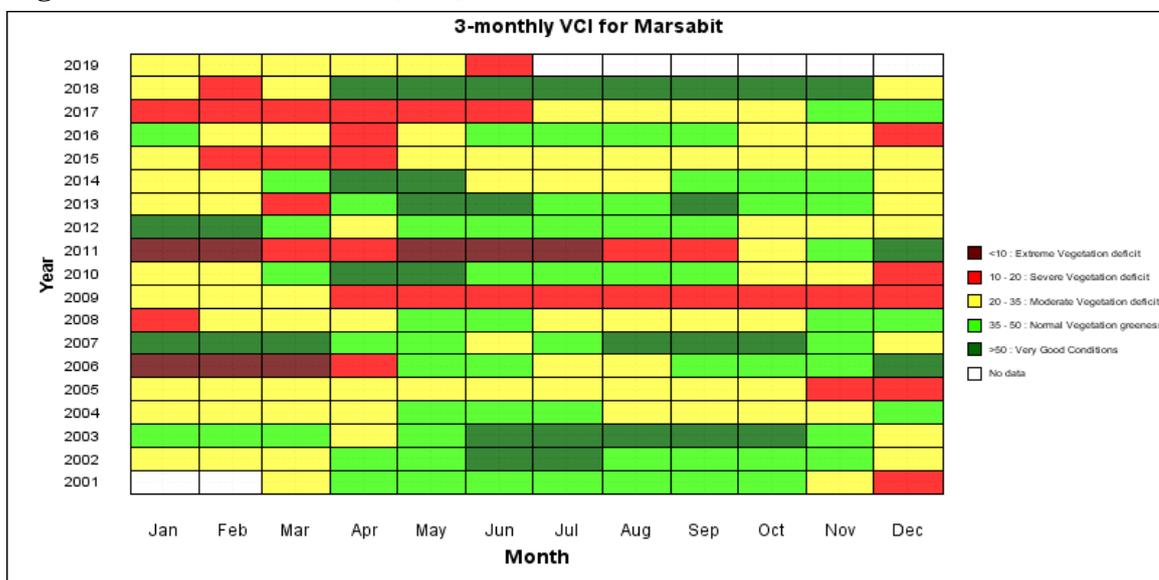### 2.1 1   Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

Figure 3: Vegetation Condition Index Across the County

- From the matrix shown above, the 3-months vegetation index for the month under review was 19.95 which depicts gradual deterioration when compared to the preceding months' vegetation condition index of 22.57. Continued long dry spell coupled with deteriorating vegetation cover led to a shift the 3-months vegetation condition index from moderate vegetation deficit to severe vegetation deficit band.
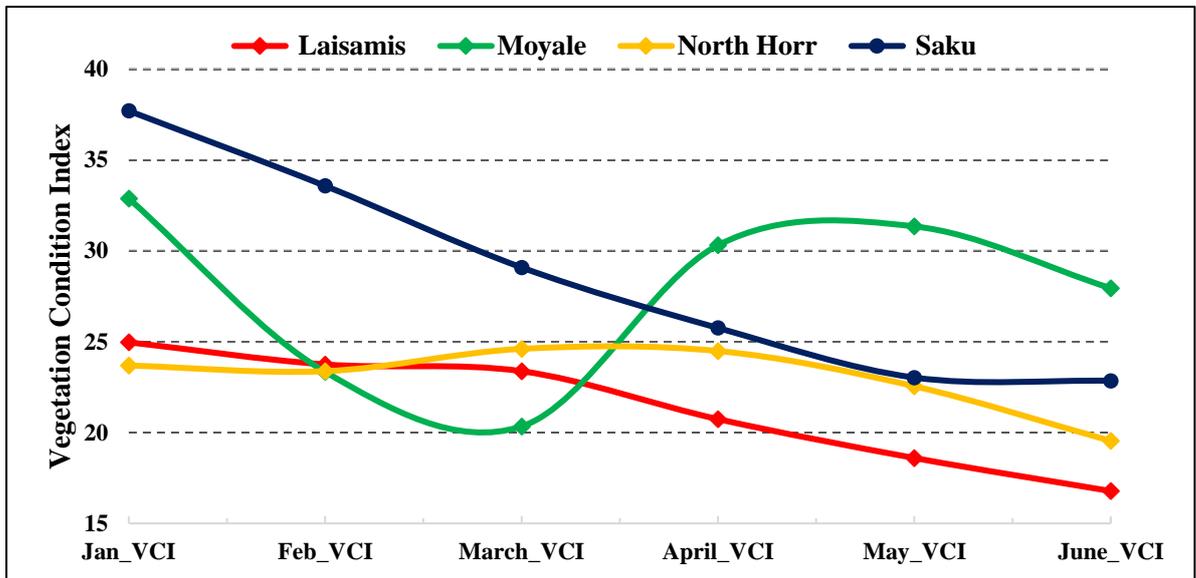
Figure 4: Vegetation Condition Index across sub-counties

- From figure (4) shown above, Moyale sub-county illustrated better vegetation condition index than other sub-counties attributed to slightly enhanced rains in Moyale sub-county.

- Saku and Moyale had a 3-months vegetation condition index of 22.85 and 27.95 respectively thus remained in the moderate vegetation deficit band. However, North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties fell within the severe vegetation deficit band as illustrated with a 3-months vegetation condition index of 19.54 and 16.78 respectively.

- Decline in vegetation condition index was prompted by failure of the long rains which was characterized cumulative rainfall hence minimal causality on vegetation cover and therefore didn't revitalize forage condition save for agro-pastoral parts of Moyale sub-county.
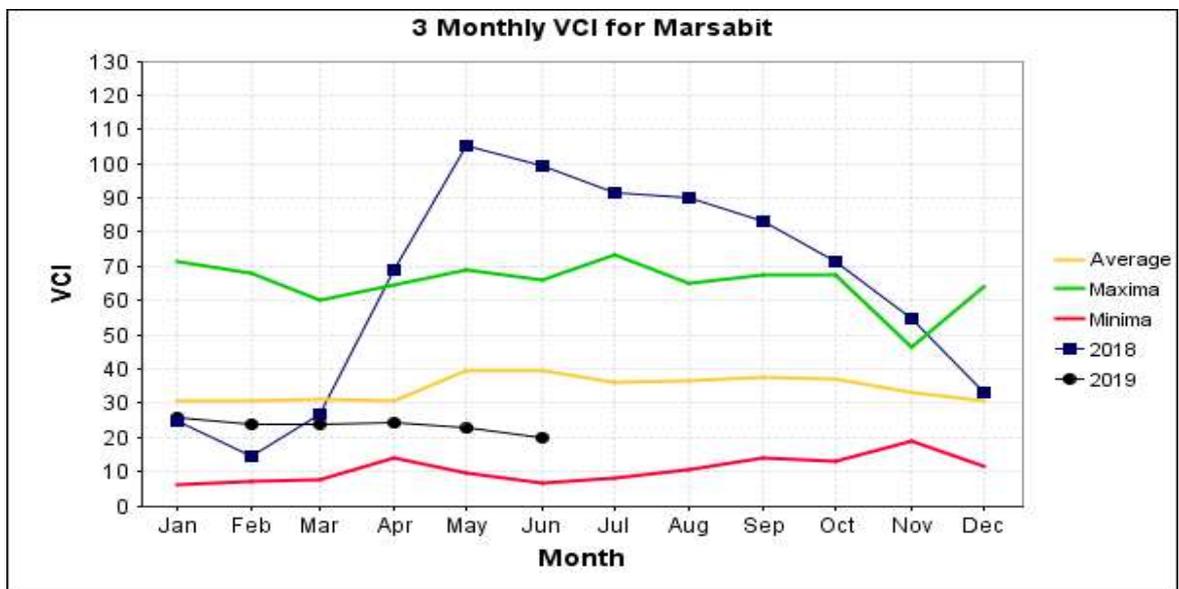

Figure 5: Vegetation Condition Index Trends across the County

- The figure shown above compares June 2019 vegetation condition index to June 2018, long term average and also illustrates maximum and minimum VCI values ever recorded.

- From the figure shown above, vegetation condition index for the month under review was abnormally below the June 2018 VCI value. When compared to the long term average, the current vegetation condition index was below normal for six consecutive months. With the progression of the long dry spell, vegetation condition index will significantly decline but remain in the severe vegetation deficit band.

2.1.2 Pasture
- Pasture condition was poor across all the livelihood zones compared good-fair of the normal season. However, pasture was fair in the pastoral areas of Mt.Kulal, Kargi, Logologo and South Horr in Laissmis sub-county, Darade, Illeret, Bulluk, Bares Saru and Huri Hills in North Horr sub-county , Sololo and Uran wards in Moyale sub-county. Most parts of the Agro pastoral areas of Saku sub-county pasture condition was generally poor.
- Pasture was also available along the borders of Kenya and Ethiopia e.g. Forole and Dukana area but the communities couldn't access pasture due to insecurity along porous border.
- Light showers received in few pockets of Saku sub-county didn't have a significant effect on pasture since the seeds had already dried up which negatively affected the length of growing period for pasture.
- Pasture is expected to significantly deteriorate in the next one month if the long dry spell continues
- Available pasture is expected to last for the next 1-2 months against the normal 3 months in the agro-pastoral areas whereas in the pastoral areas, pasture is expected to last for the next 1 month against the normal 2 months.

2.1.3 Browse
- Browse condition was fair in Moyale, Laisamis and Saku sub-counties. However, North Horr sub-county exhibited poor browse condition.
- Slight improvement in browse has been observed in Bale Saru, South Horr, Mt Kulal, Kargi and close environs attributed to the off season rains received
- There was widespread emergence of non-palatable vegetation across the County especially calotropis procera.
- Quality and quantity of browse is fair, normally is always good. Browse is expected to last for the next 2-3months against the normal 4months in the agro-pastoral areas whereas in the pastoral livelihood zone browse is expected to last for the 2 months against the normal of 3 months.

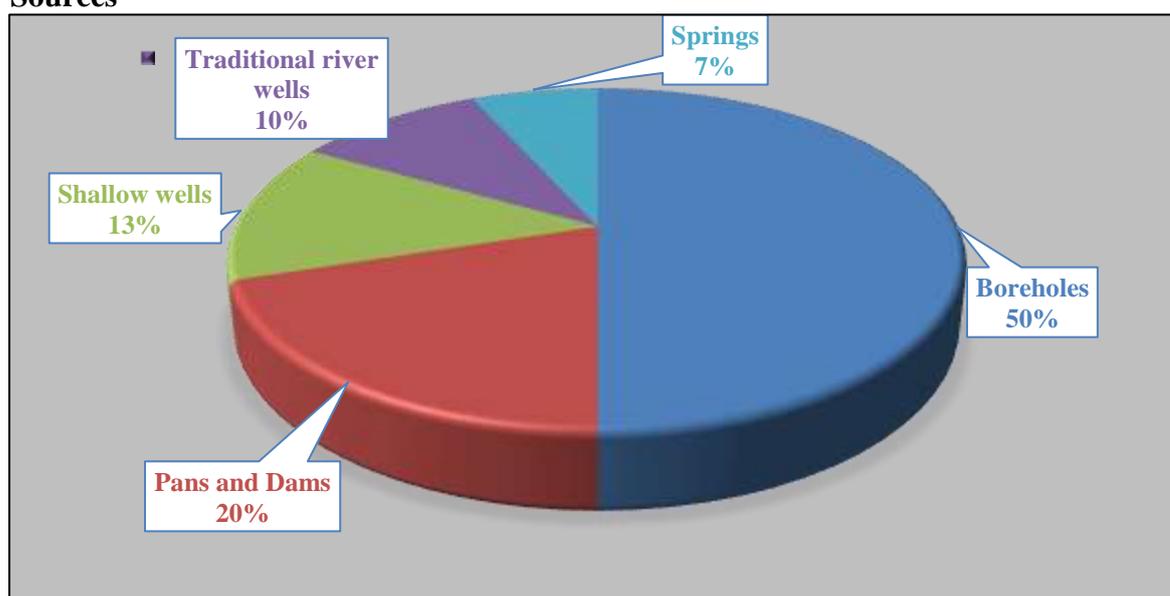## 2.2 WATER RESOURCE
2.2.1 Sources

Figure 6: Major water sources across the livelihood zones

- From figure 6 shown above, borehole was the major water source employed by the majority of households across the livelihood zones at 50percent which is not normal at this time of the year. Usually, water pan is always the main water source.
- Other water sources utilized by the communities were water pans, shallow wells, traditional river wells and springs at 20percent, 13percent, 10percent and 7percent respectively.
- 90percent of the water pans are currently dry and the few water pans that are partially recharged will last for the next one month because of massive livestock migration across the livelihood zones. 50percent of the shallow wells are currently operational and are expected to dry up completely in the next 1 month as the long dry spell progresses. Some boreholes have broken down and water trucking is currently ongoing as illustrated in the table below.

Sub-County	Boreholes that have broken down	Areas where water trucking is still ongoing
Saku	Kubibagasa	➤ Sagante/Jaldesa Ward-Boru Haro, Gar Qarsa, Qachacha,Manyatta Jillo,Jillo Schemes,Wario Duba,Kubi Dibayu,Galgallo Halake,Golole 1,Golole 2,Huka Adhi,Kukub Tiro,Dub Goba,Wario Guyo,Malka Lakole, Kubibagasa
		➤ Karare Ward-Parkishon
		➤ Central/Mountain Ward-Public institutions (St. Theresa, Dibayu High School,Kiwantja Ndege)
		➤ Manyatta Daba, Manyatta Chorora, Manyatta Turkana
North Horr	Malalba Shegel Airstrip	➤ North Horr Ward-Kob Dertu,Malabot/Gorich
		➤ MaikonaWard-Kalesa,Yaa Sharbana,Qatamur
		➤ DukanaWard-Elhadi
		➤ Turbi/Bubisa Ward-Tigo Area
Moyale	Qate, Rawana 2	➤ Illadu,Mayie,Kukub,Aria,Damballafachana,Adadi Odda, Bori Junction,, Funannyata, Godhe, Antut,Laqi, Osmole,Funanqumbi,Elleborr,Elleimtu,GadaKorma,Somare
Laisamis	Meille1, Civicon, Thurusi 1	➤ Namarei,Leskushula,
		➤ Lependera,Kambinye

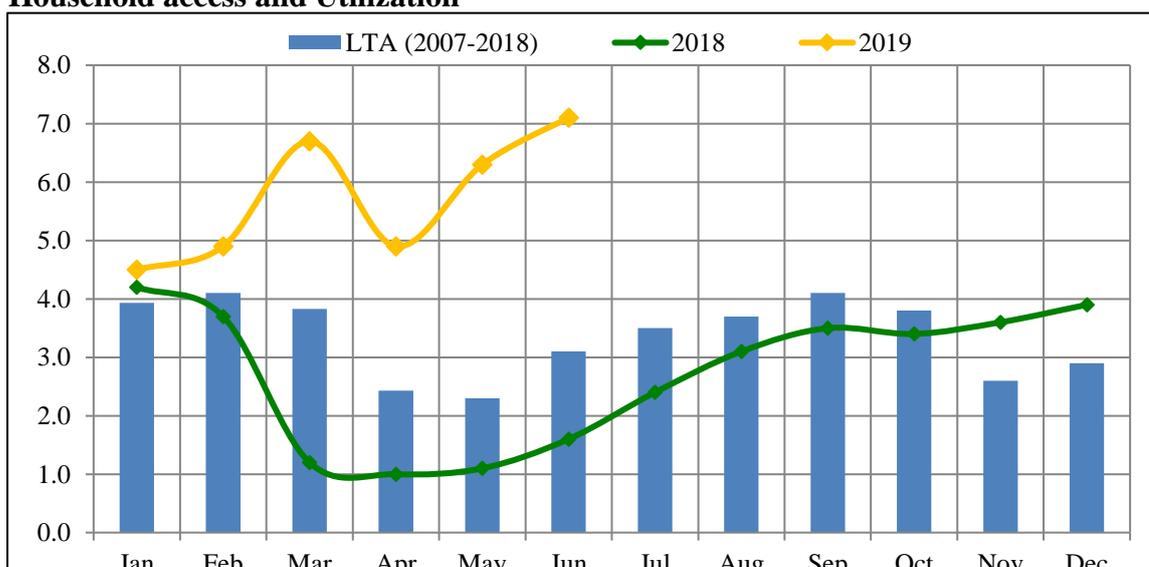## 2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

Figure 7: Current household return water distance(km) compared to Long Term Average distances(km)

- From (Figure 7) shown above, return household water distances to the main water sources was 7.1km in the month of June which is an illustrative of an increase when compared to preceding months' household water distances of 6.3km.

- When compared to similar periods, the current household water distance is above normal.
- However, in the pastoral areas of North Horr sub-county (Gas, Malabot, Kalesa, Qatamur, Anchacha, Tigo,Kubiadhi,Shankuru, Hurri Hills), Moyale sub-county (Elle-Borr,Elledimtu, Qolob, Antut, Adadi, Mayie, Kukub, Illadu, Guyotimo) , (Lependera, Namarei, Lekuchula, Kambinye) in Laisamis sub-county households trekked for more than 15km longer return.
- The current waiting time in the agro-pastoral was 45-60 minutes against the normal of 15-30 minutes. In the pastoral areas, waiting time was 45-90 minutes compared to normal 30 minutes
- The cost of water was sold at Ksh.3-5 per 20 litres across the livelihood zones compared to the normal price of Kshs.2-5 per 20 litre jerrican. Cost of water was high in Marsabit Central and Moyale Township where vendors sold water at Ksh.40-50 per 20 litre jerrican.
- The average water consumption across the livelihood zones was 5-6 litres per person per day against the normal 15-20 litres per person per day.
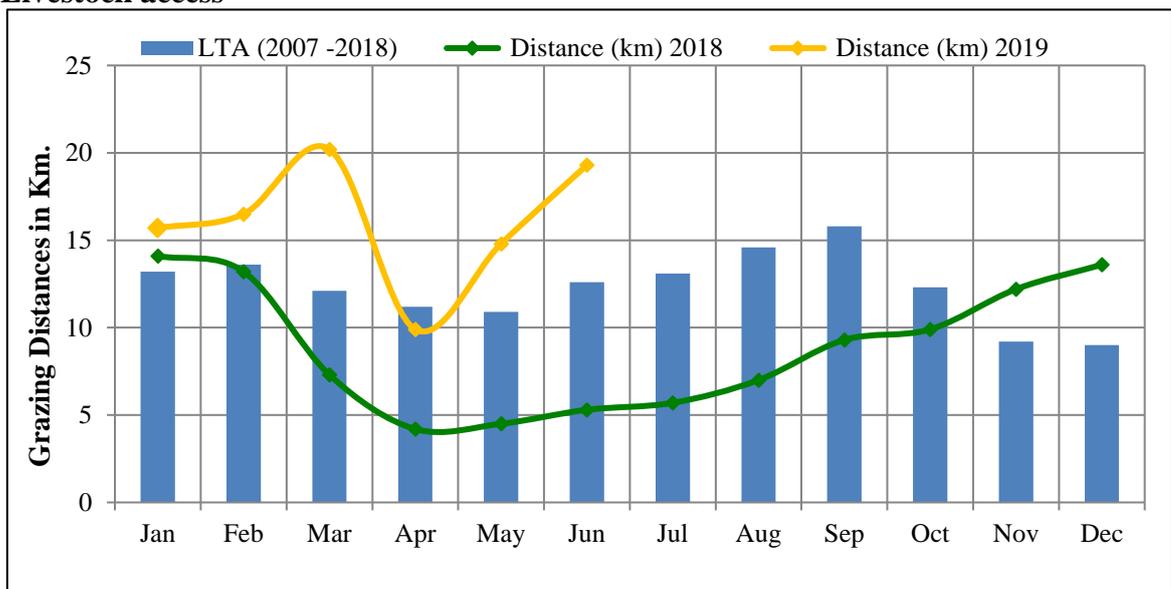
2.2.3 Livestock access

Figure 8: Current livestock trekking distances compared to long term average trekking distances(km)

- From (Figure 8) shown above, return livestock trekking distance from grazing areas to water points is 19.3km across the livelihood zones.
- When compared to the preceding months' livestock trekking distances of 14.8km, there was increased livestock trekking distances from grazing areas to water points due to progression of the long dry spell.
- Current livestock return trekking distance of 19.3km is above normal by 53percent when compared to the long term average trekking distances of 12.6km.
- The return livestock distances are likely to increase further due to drying up of water sources and pasture deterioration in most parts of the County. Livestock in North Horr and Laisamis areas trekked longer distances greater than 20 km. High concentration of livestock was observed in Hurri hills, Darade, Amballo, Arapal borehole and Misa borehole.
- Watering frequencies decreased due to increased livestock trekking distances in most parts of the County. Currently, cattle are watered after every 2-3 days; small stock 3-4 days and camels after 10-12days across the livelihood zones which is not the normal livestock watering frequencies.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- In the pastoral and agro pastoral livelihood zones, the body condition of cattle was fair to poor compared to good at this time of the year. Poor cattle body condition was witnessed in Sagante/Jaldesa ward in Saku sub-county, parts of Obbu, Butiye and Golbo wards in Moyale sub-county and Lependera in Laisamis sub-county. The body condition of sheep was generally poor across the livelihood zones.
- Livestock body condition for cattle was good in Karare ward, Hurri Hills in North Horr sub-county, Logologo and Mt.Kulal in Laisamis sub-county, Sololo and Uran wards in Moyale sub-county. The body condition of goats and camel was fair across the livelihood zones.
- Livestock body conditions are likely to deteriorate further in the next one month due to rapid waning of pastures and browse, depletion of most of the sub-surface water sources and longer livestock trekking distances. 75percent, 55percent, 65percent and 35percent of livestock in North Horr, Moyale, Saku and Laisamis sub-counties will be in poor body condition for all the species in the next 1 month.

3.1.2 Livestock Migration

- Livestock migratory routes were unusual in dry grazing areas across all the livelihood zones which is not normal at this time of the year. In Laisamis sub-county, livestock from Laisamis, Korr, Merille, Logologo have migrated towards Gudas, Dedertu, Sabarwawa and Kom in Isiolo. Those in Ngurnit, Illaut, and South horr are moving towards Baragoi in Samburu. Livestock from Sarima moved to Losam and Likayo in Samburu county and others to Karumbe and Kamesesil in Mt Kulal. Those livestock from Moite moved to Lochalgoro,Halgore Darade and Sarima.
- In North-Horr sub-county livestock have migrated towards Darade, Sarimo and Hurrihills. Livestock from Maikona, Turbi, Bubisa, and Burgabo have migrated towards Hurrhills or Hawaye and Lalesa. Livestock from Dukana migrated to Sabare, Bulluk, Alaftisi and Tao.
- In Moyale sub-county livestock from Golbo migrated towards Misa and Dirdima, Livestock from most parts of Obbu ward are concentrated in Sololo. Reported cases of In-migration of livestock from Wajir (Buna, Bute, Korondile, Hote) towards Misa in Golbo ward. Livestock from Uran are concentrated in Banale, Uran dida and Rawana. Livestock from Butiye ward have migrated towards Badanrero, Sololo and southern Ethiopia.
- In Saku sub-county, most of the livestock are concentrated in Dokatu and Garqarsa. 70percent, 80percent, 85percent and 95percent of livestock in Laisamis, Saku, Moyale and North Horr sub-counties have migrated to abnormal grazing areas in search of pasture and water and the situation is likely to intensify in the next 1 month as the long dry spell progress.

3.1.3 Livestock diseases and mortalities

- No major outbreak reported across all the livelihood zones. In small stock, Peste des Pettis Ruminants (PPR) and CCPP have been widely reported in North Horr, Saku sub county and Moyale sub-county. Sheep and goat pox was reported in many areas of Laisamis, North horr and Moyale sub-counties.
- Progressive Interstial Tissue Pneumonia(PIP) was reported to have caused death amongst sheep in Gas (North Horr sub-county) and in border areas around Magado and Elledimtu. In Elmolo bay (Laisamis sub-county) a mysterious disease caused paralysis of the hide quarters was reported to have affected many small stocks especially the young ones resulted to paralysis which led to deaths of small stock.

- Mortalities were normal across all livestock species except in camels due to disease incidences and kids in parts of Moyale sub-county (Walda, Dambala Fachana and Gadakorma).
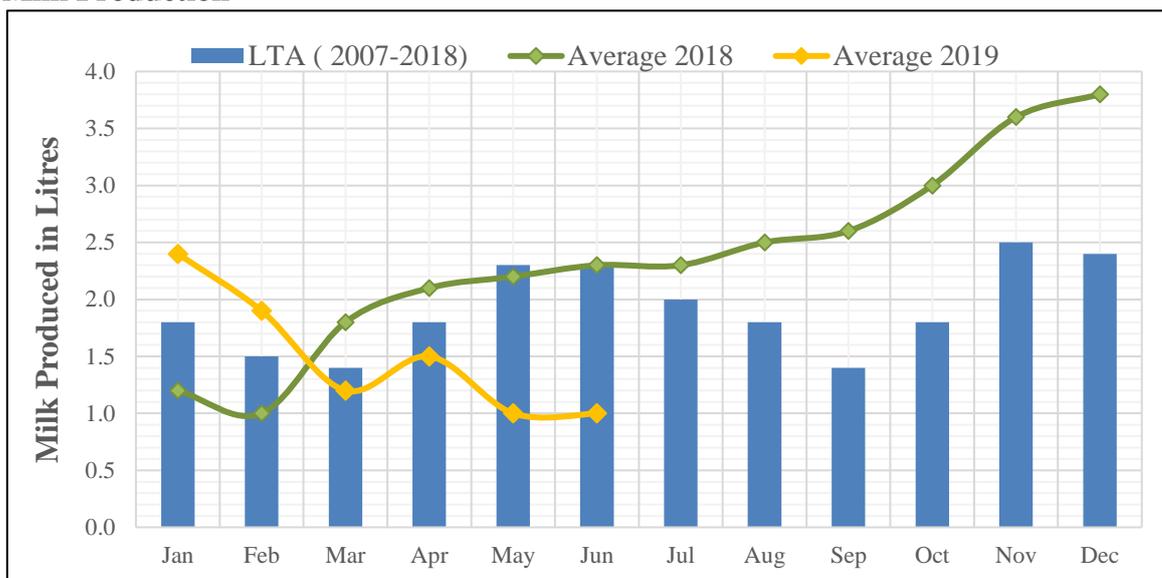
3.1.4 Milk Production

Figure 9: Milk production per household per day in litres across the livelihood zones

- From figure 9 shown above, household milk production per day for the month under review was 1.0Litre/Household/Day across the livelihood zones.
- When compared to similar periods, average milk production of 1.0Litre was below the long term average milk production of 2.3Litres.
- Below normal milk production was attributed to massive abnormal livestock migration to drought fall back areas.
- In the pastoral livelihood zone, milk production was 0.5-1 litres compared to 2-4 litres normally. Few lactating herds especially camels and goats were available near homestead which provided milk to the households.
- Generally, price of milk is Ksh.80-120 per litre with exception of few pockets in the agro-pastoral areas where milk retailed at Ksh.75 per litre.

3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

- Area under rain-fed maize and beans production reduced by 26 and 15 percent respectively when compared to the long term averages. Variations in area under crop cultivation were attributed to: majority of the farmers didn't plant their farms due to delayed onset of rains, false germination due to poor onset of rains, short length of growing period, tribal conflicts around Sagante ward, lack of certified seeds for pulses in the local markets, resultant late land preparation and planting, demoralization of farmers due to unsuccessful previous rainy seasons in the agro-pastoral areas of Moyale sub-county and high farming drop- out rates in Moyale sub-county.
- The projected crop production will be negligible with a paltry 4 bags of maize, 3 bags of beans and 6 bags of green grams mainly attributed to failure of the season which was characterized by shortfalls of the cumulative rainfall amounts. Slight variations were noted that is total crop failure in agro-pastoral areas of Saku sub-county when compared the agro-pastoral areas of Moyale sub-county due to considerable rainfall disparities within the same livelihood zone, high farming dropout rates in Moyale Sub County and inconsistencies in uptake of crop farming.

4.0   MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1   LIVESTOCK MARKETING
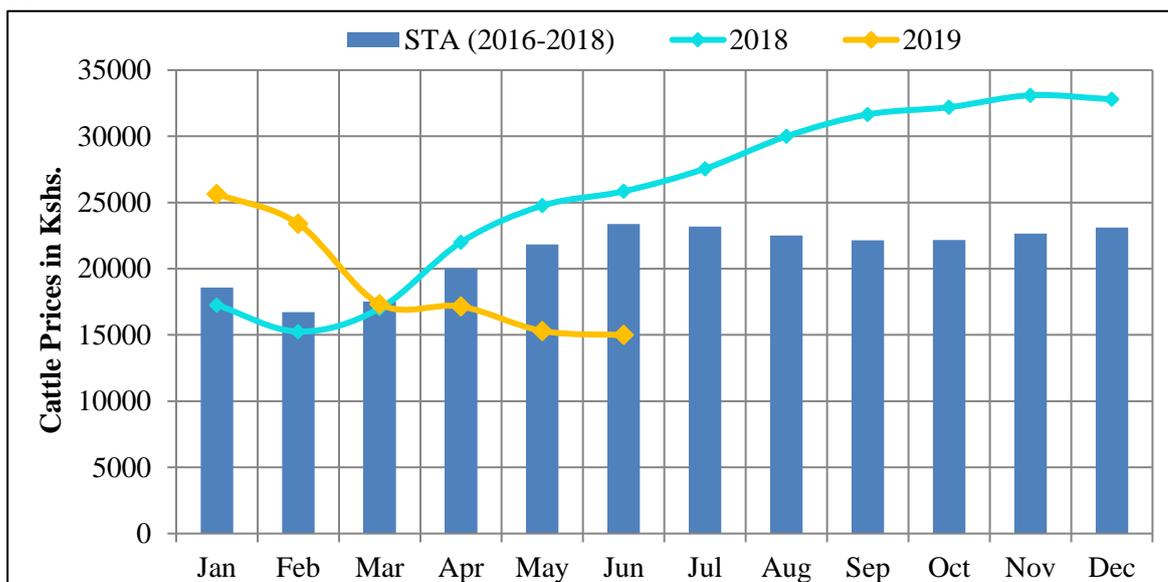
4.1.1   Cattle Prices

Figure 10: Current cattle prices compared to the short term average prices

- From the figure (10) shown above, cattle price for the month under review was Kshs. 15,000 which was a depiction of no change when compared to the preceding months price of Kshs. 15,300.
- When compared to similar periods, current cattle price of Kshs. 15,000 is below the normal price of Kshs. 23,378 by 36percent. Below normal cattle price was prompted by generally poor body condition and lack of ready buyers in the major livestock markets.
- Moyale livestock market posted fairly better cattle prices with prices averaging at Kshs. 20,000 whereas North Horr and Jirime markets recorded lower cattle prices.
- With the progression of the long dry spell, terminal livestock markets are likely to post lower and below normal cattle prices due to reduced saleable livestock herds.

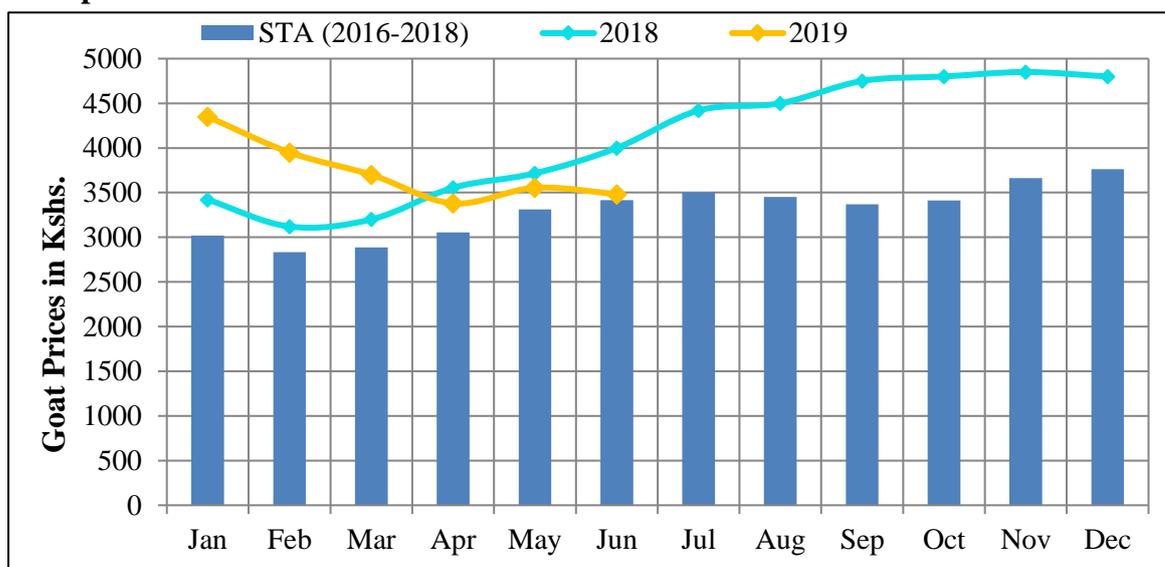#### 4.1.2   Goat prices

Figure 11: Current goat prices compared to short term average prices

- From figure 11 shown above, the average goat prices in the month under review was Ksh. 3,482 which was normal when compared to the short term average goat price of Ksh. 3,416.
- Normal goat price was occasioned by the spill-over effects of the 2018 long rains which were remarkably high and fair browse condition across the livelihood zones which led to good -fair body condition hence better market prices.
- However, higher goat prices were recorded in Moyale livestock market with prices ranging between Ksh 4500-5500 whereas North Horr sub-county posted lower goat prices ranging between Ksh.2500-3000.As the long dry spell continues, goats' prices are expected to be slightly below normal in the next 1 month across the livelihood zones.
- Market operations were normal across the county, however disruptions in the livestock market in North Horr sub-county were reported with its neighbouring Ethiopia due to spate of insecurity incidences.
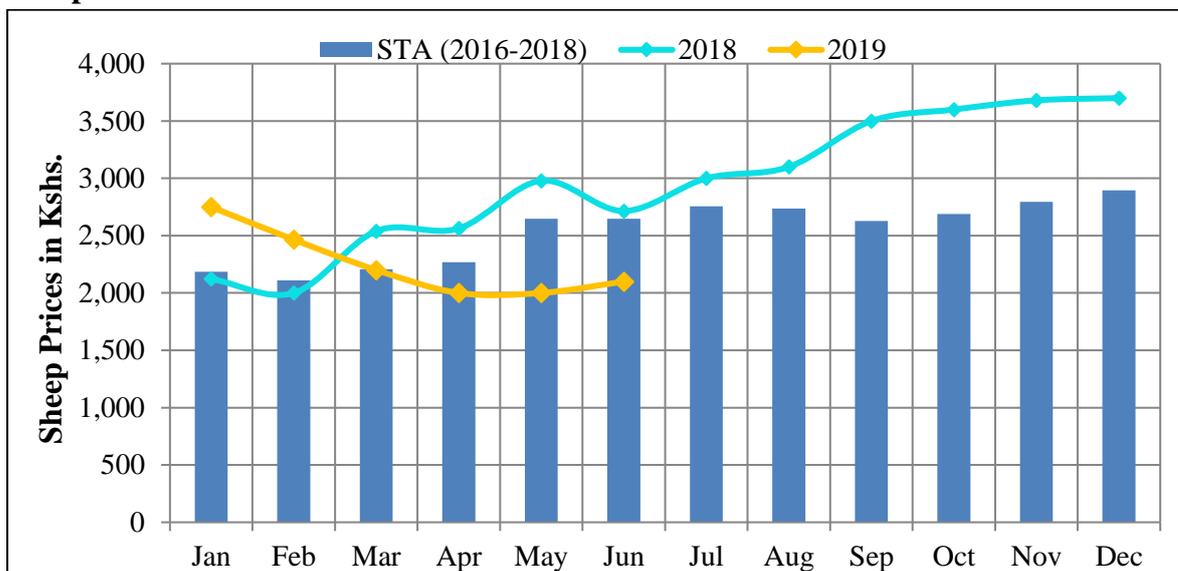
4.1.3 Sheep Prices

Figure 12: Current sheep prices compared to the short term average prices(kshs.)

- From the figure 12 shown above, sheep price for the month of June was Kshs. 2,100 across the livelihood zones which is an illustration of no change when compared to the preceding months' sheep prices of Kshs.2, 000.
- When compared to the short term average price of Kshs. 2,648, current sheep price is below normal by 21percent. Below normal sheep prices were attributed to generally poor pasture condition across the livelihood zones which impacted negatively on sheep body condition.
- Sheep prices were slightly better in Moyale livestock market with prices averaging at Kshs. 2,500 attributed to the vibrant Ethiopia market. In other livestock markets, sheep prices ranged between Kshs. 1,500- 2,000.
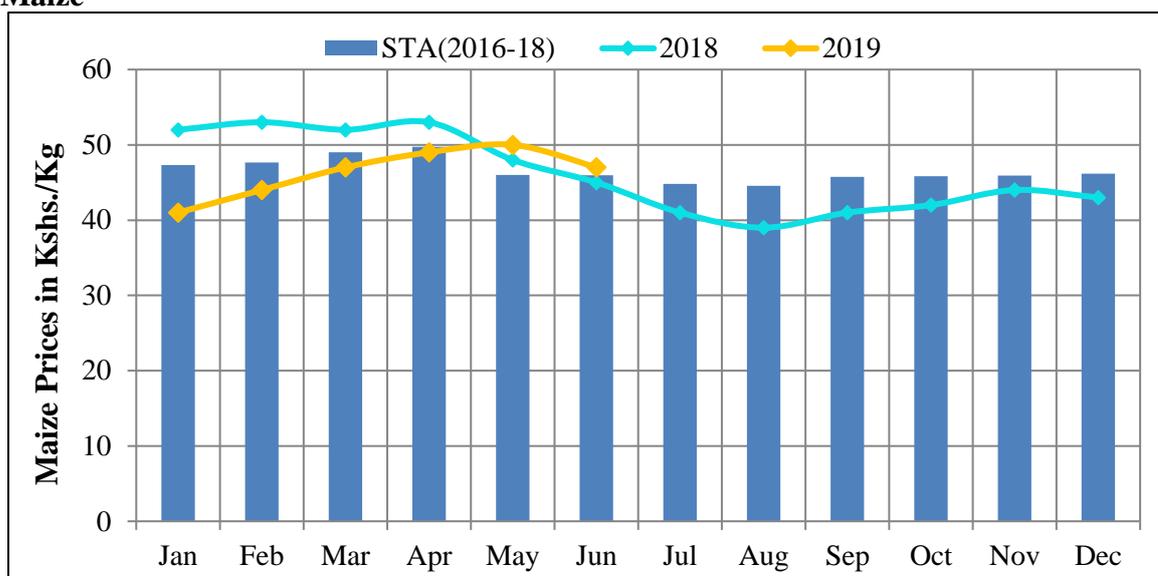
4.2   CROP PRICES
4.2.1   Maize

Figure 13: Current maize prices compared to the short term average maize prices(Kshs.)

- The average price of maize for the month under review was Ksh.47 per kg which was normal when compared to the short term average of Ksh. 46 per kg.
- However, maize prices were favourable in Moyale and Saku sub-counties as it retailed at Kshs. 30-40 per kilogram due to the vibrant Ethiopia market and injections from the Meru and Nyahururu commodities markets. However, higher maize prices are noted in most parts of Laisamis sub-county where a kilogram retailed at Kshs.70-80.
- North Horr sub-county recorded increased maize prices due to limited supplies from Ethiopia which was occasioned by tension and insecurity incidences.
- Maize prices are expected to increase further in the next 1 month due to total crop failure in the agro-pastoral areas of Moyale and Saku sub-counties.
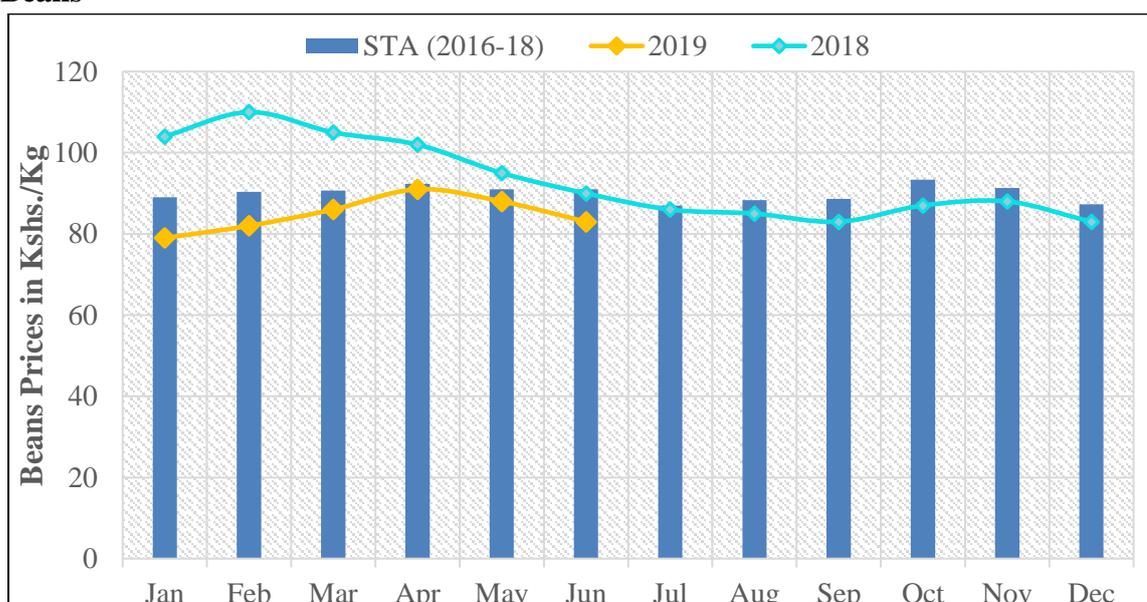
4.2.2   Beans

Figure 14: Beans prices compared to the short average term average prices(Kshs.)

- From the figure shown above, beans prices retailed at Kshs.83/kg in the month under review. When compared to the preceding months' beans price of Kshs.88/kg, beans prices relatively remained stable across the livelihood zones.
- When compared to similar periods, beans price of Kshs.83/kg is slightly below the short term average price of Kshs.91/kg by 9percent.
- Better beans prices were posted in Moyale and Sololo markets markets with pric es ranging between Kshs.50-75/kg. Marsabit commodity market also posted better beans prices. Largely, favourable beans price was attributed to market injections from the neighbouring vibrant Ethiopia market and supplies from Meru and Nyahururu.
- However, beans prices were higher in most parts of Laisamis sub-county due to reduced market access.
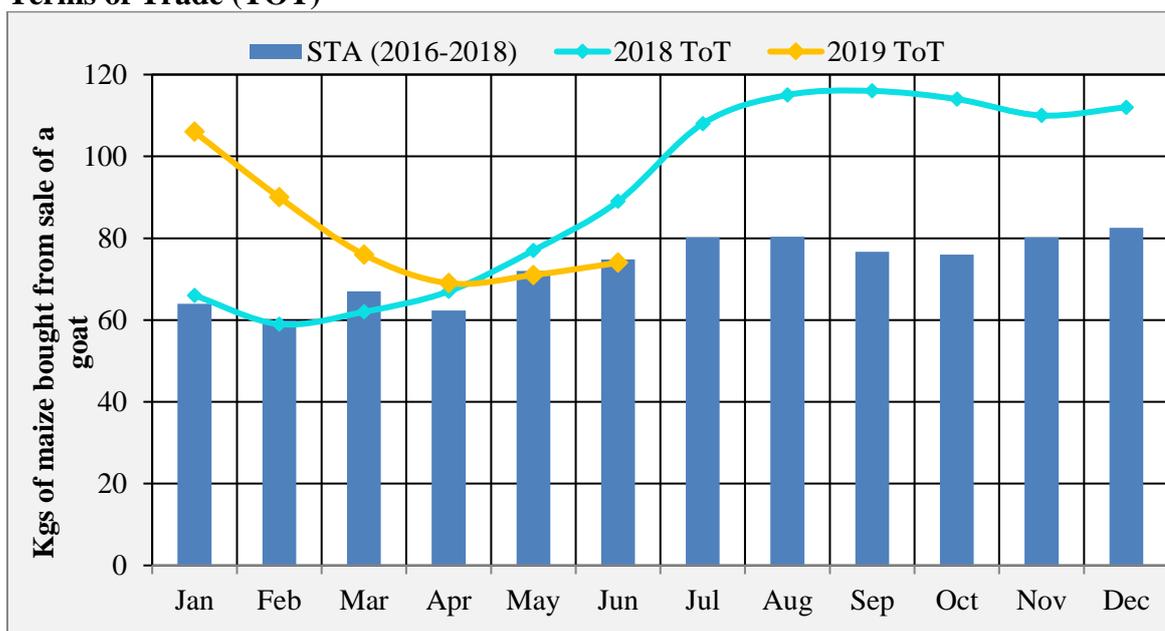
4.2.3 Terms of Trade (TOT)

Figure 15: Current terms of trade versus short term average terms of trade

- The current terms of trade is 74 across the livelihood zones thus stable when compared to the preceeding months terms of trade of 71.When compared to similar periods, current terms of trade of 74 is normal.
- Normal terms of trade was attributed to stable goats and maize prices.
- Terms of tade is expected to worsen in the next one month and fall below the long term average due to expected slightly below normal goats prices coupled with increased maize prices.
- Terms of trade is above normal in Moyale sub-county due to favourable market with its neighbouring Ethiopia, normal in Saku sub-county and below normal in North Horr and Laismis sub-counties.
- North Horr sub-county will be continue to post dismall terms of trade due to insecurity incidences and severe drought that has lately been witnessed.

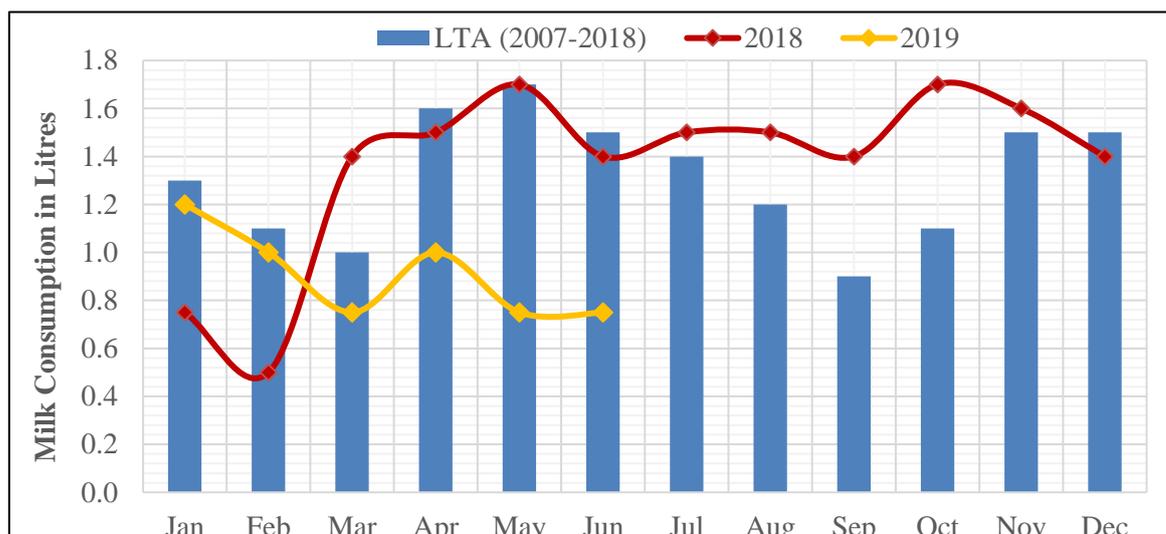## 5.0   FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS
5.1   MILK CONSUMPTION

Figure 16: Current milk consumption/household/day/litre against long term average

- From the figure 16 shown above, household milk consumption is 0.75itres/household/day in the month under review across the livelihood zones. When compared to the previous month, milk consumption remained the same.
- When compared to the long term average milk consumption of 1.5litres/household/day, current milk consumption is below normal.
- Average household milk consumption per day in the pastoral zone is 0.5-1.0litres against the normal 2.0litres whereas in the agro-pastoral livelihood zone household milk consumption is 0.5litres against the normal 1.5litres.
- Below normal milk consumption was attributed to reduction in milk production across the County due massive livestock migration to drought fall back areas hence limiting milk availability and access at household level
- Majority of households generally used processed or powdered milk. Milk consumption is expected to worsen further in the next 1 month as the long dry spell continues.

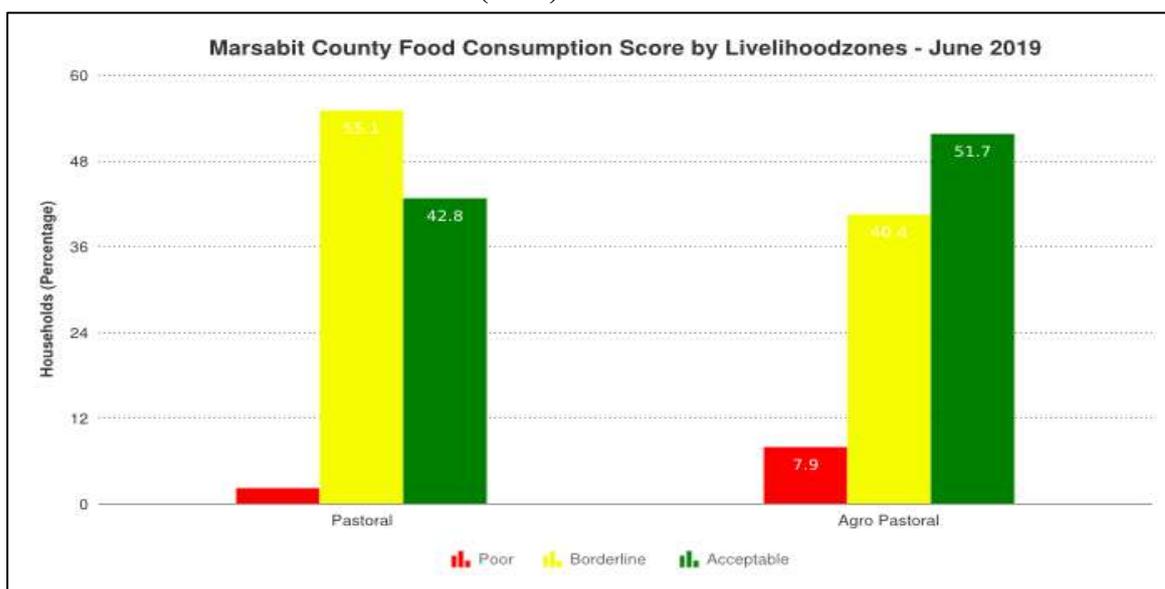## 5.2   FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE (FCS)

Figure 17: Food Consumption Score across Livelihood Zones

- The mean food consumption score was 34.86 across the livelihood zones hence an illustration of no change when compared to preceding months' food consumption score of 34.69 hence most of the households' remained in the borderline food consumption band.
- Proportion of households in the agro-pastoral livelihood zone that were within the acceptable, borderline and poor food consumption score were 51.7percent, 40.4percent and 7.9percent respectively. Likewise, proportion of households in the pastoral livelihood zone that were within the acceptable, borderline and poor food consumption scores were 42.8percent, 55.1percent and 2.1percent respectively
- Food consumption score was better in the agro-pastoral than the pastoral livelihood zone with a mean of 35.18 and 34.75 respectively. Golbo and Uran wards in Moyale sub-county, Karare ward in Saku sub-county and Laisamis ward had better food consumption score. However, North Horr ward in North Horr sub-county, Sagante ward in Saku sub-county, Korr ward in Laisamis sub-county and Heillu Manyatta ward in Moyale sub-county had slightly worse off food consumption scores.
- With the progression of the long dry spell, food consumption score will likely deteriorate and majority of the households will still remain fall in the borderline food consumption band.

5.3   HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS
5.3.1   Nutrition Status

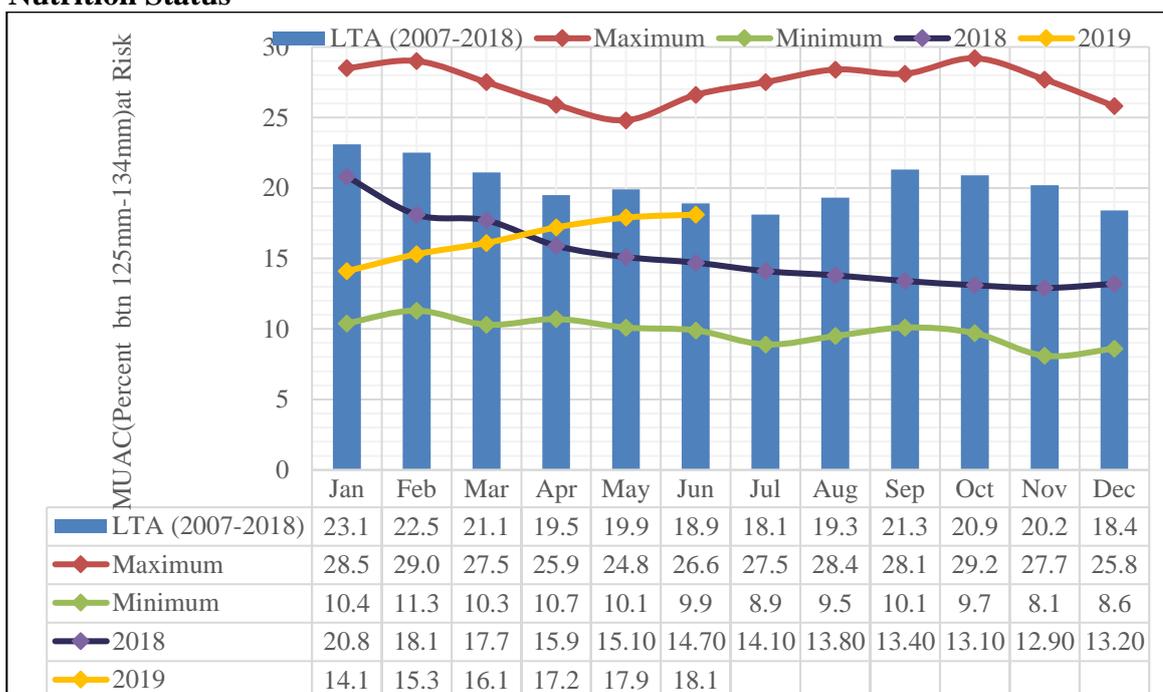| MUAC (Percent btn 125mm-134mm) at Risk	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
LTA (2007-2018)	23.1	22.5	21.1	19.5	19.9	18.9	18.1	19.3	21.3	20.9	20.2	18.4
Maximum	28.5	29.0	27.5	25.9	24.8	26.6	27.5	28.4	28.1	29.2	27.7	25.8
Minimum	10.4	11.3	10.3	10.7	10.1	9.9	8.9	9.5	10.1	9.7	8.1	8.6
2018	20.8	18.1	17.7	15.9	15.10	14.70	14.10	13.80	13.40	13.10	12.90	13.20
2019	14.1	15.3	16.1	17.2	17.9	18.1						

Figure 18: Nutritional status of children below the age of five years verses long term average

- From (Figure 18) shown above, the proportion of children under the age of five years with MUAC less than 135mm was 18.1 percent in the month under review which is an illustration of gradual increase when compared to the preceding months' MUAC of 17.9 percent.
- When compared to similar periods, the proportion of children at risk of malnutrition was normal thus hence an indication of deteroriating nutritional status for children below the age of five years.
- Gradual decline in nutritional status of children below the age of five years was attributed to below normal milk consumption at household level and the ongoing drought bein currently witnessed in most parts of the County.

- From the latest Nutrition Sector report, enhanced screening and active case finding across North Horr and selected hotspots in Laisamis and Moyale sub counties from May 2019 to date has doubled the monthly admissions by all programs. North horr sub county has reported the highest increase in monthly admissions attributed to the enhanced screening and follow up through the community health volunteers.
- There were no disease outbreaks reported in the month under review. The leading cases of morbidity for both children under five years and the general population for the month were; Upper Respiratory Tract Infections (URTI), Diarrhea, Pneumonia and fever.
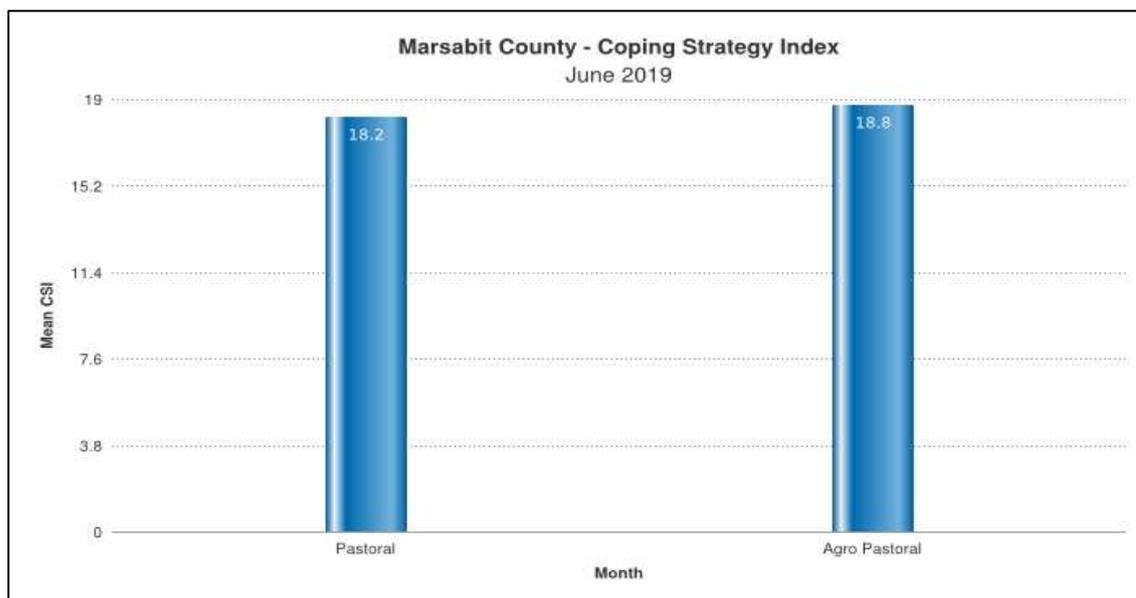
5.4   COPING STRATEGIES

Figure 19: Coping Strategy Index across livelihood zones

- From (Figure 19) shown above, reduced consumption based coping strategy index(rCSI) for the pastoral and agro-pastoral livelihood zones was 18.2 and 18.8 respectively hence 54percent of the households adopted stressed reduced food consumption based strategies across the livelihood zones. Reduced consumption based coping strategy index(CSI) for the month under review was 18.38.
- 90percent of the households adopted coping mechanisms while only 10percent of the households didn't cope.
- From table shown below, households in Loiyangalani, Sagante, Dukana, Golbo and Korr wards posted higher consumption based coping strategies whereas Logologo, Karare and Uran recorded consumption based coping mechanisms less frequently.

Consumption based coping strategy index(rCSI)		
Sub-county	**Ward**	**rCSI**
Saku	Sagante	25.59
Saku	Karare	10.5
Laisamis	Korr	20.17
Laisamis	Loiyangalani	30.07
Laisamis	Logologo	13.21
North Horr	North Horr	18.1
North Horr	Dukana	23.47
North Horr	Turbi/Bubisa	13.22
Moyale	Heillu Manyatta	18.63

Moyale	Uran	12.53
Moyale	Golbo	21.47

- Notable reduced consumption based coping strategies employed by the households across the livelihood zones were reduced portion size of meals, reduction in frequency of food consumption and reliance on less preferred food.

6.0   CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES
6.1   Food Aid
- USAID/World Food Programme through SND distributed 109.8kg of sorghum, 21.96kg of pulses and 7.28kg of vegetable oil each to 9168 households across the 15 wards in the County as food ration for 2 months under the Sustainable Food Systems Programme.

6.2   NON-FOOD AID
- Unconditional Cash transfer to 20488 households - Hunger Safety Net Programme through National Drought Management Authority
- Kenya RedCross supported 4000 households with cash with each household receiving Kshs. 3,000 per month in the month of June (Laisamis, North Horr and Moyale sub-counties).
- World Vision Kenya supported One off Cash transfer to 2,000 HH in Laisamis and Moyale sub counties. Each beneficiary to get Ksh 3,000 totalling to Kshs.3M.
- Concern WorldWide to support 3months' drought intervention where vulnerable households will receive veterinary services and drugs through the e-voucher approach worth Kshs. 3,000 each per household.
- UNICEF, Concern Worldwide, World Vison Kenya, Kenya RedCross, FH-K, NHPPLus and GIZ continued to provide direct support to the department of Health through Capacity Building for Health workers on IMAM surge approach; Support Vitamin A supplementation during Malezi Bora and supplying all the health facilities with Ready to Use Therapeutic Feeds (Plumpy Nuts).
- UNICEF, Kenya RedCross, FH-K, Concern Worldwide, World Vison Kenya, GIZ, CCM and NHPPLus supported integrated medical outreaches for screening of Pregnant and Lactating Women and Children under the age of 5 years.
- Department of Water undertook water trucking in areas of Laisamis, North Horr, Saku and Moyale sub-counties that are experiencing acute water shortage
- CCM through one health project with VSF Germany supported linkage between human, livestock and environmental health in North Horr sub-county.
- PACIDA supported vulnerable households with unconditional cash transfer of Ksh 3,000 to 200households in Burgabo, 200households in Bubisa, 150 households in Turbi and another 150households in Maikona. One off food distribution in Farakoen and Lependera and water trucking in Tigo, Yaa Odhola and Yaa Galbo, Diid Galgallu

7.0   EMERGING ISSUES
7.1   DISEASES/CONFLICT/HUMAN DISPLACEMENT
- There has been an outbreak of Kalazaar in Laisamis and Logologo wards. Cumulatively 1387 cases have been seen, 1072 negatives, 315 positives and 15 deaths case fatality stands at 4.7percent as at 20th May 2019. Currently 55patients are on treatment cumulatively in 3 treating centres, 33 at Laisamis county referral hospital, 10 at Logologo model health centre, and 12 at Marsabit county referral hospital. Stock was received from Isiolo county referral

hospital 200 test kits. spraying of households in Loglogo was done through the support of county government and Kenya Red Cross.

- Security incidences have been reported in Darade where 2 herders have been killed. There is tension along Ethiopia/Kenya border, Marsabit/Samburu border as herders migrate to areas with pasture.

7.2   FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS.

- The 2019 seasonal cumulative rainfall amounts are similar to the cumulative rains of 2017 which was a bad year hence a depiction of seasonal rainfall shortfalls. With progression of the long dry spell, cumulative rainfall amounts are expected to stagnate until towards the third dekad of October when onset of the short rains are expected to commence.
- Decline in 3-Vegetation Condition Index from Moderate to Severe Deficit Vegetation Deficit Band which was prompted by seasonal cumulative rainfall deficits hence minimal causality on vegetation cover and therefore didn't invigorate forage condition save for agro-pastoral parts of Moyale sub-county and vegetation condition is expected to worsen further in the next one month.
- Market prices for cattle and sheep was below normal across the livelihood zones and it's expected to decline to an all-time low in the next 1 month while goat prices which are currently normal will decline and fall below the long term average in the next 1 month hence low traded volumes and poor households will likely have limited saleable livestock.
- Terms of trade is expected to be below normal by July due to expected below normal goat prices and high maize prices.
- Nutritional status of children below the age of five years will likely deteriorate and with the ongoing active case finding, more children are expected to be enrolled in Outpatient Therapeutic and Supplementary Feeding Programmes. Food consumption score will decline and households will continue to adopt coping mechanisms of high severity. Generally, the season has failed and the impact of negative food security has been felt.

8.0   RECOMMENDATIONS

- Immediate food assistance to the vulnerable population
- Stockpiling of vaccines, strategic vaccination, multivitamin, deworming and enhancement of disease surveillance
- Procurement and stock piling of fast moving spare parts for strategic water sources. Repair of strategic boreholes, servicing of gensets and rehabilitation of grounded water bowzers.
- Water trucking in drought hit areas and institutions across the County.
- Commercial destocking across the markets to salvage pastoralists against imminent losses.
- Enhanced screening and referral for malnutrition in all hot spot areas in all livelihood zones with continued active case finding through MUAC screening and referral by CHVs alongside health education on importance of hygiene and water treatment.
- Reprioritization of integrated outreach support based on community based surveillance finding to ensure all the hot spot areas are supported to enhance access to emergency nutrition services with continued surveillance through IMAM surge monitoring and support.
- The National Government, County Government and other implementing partners should lead and coordinate reconciliation efforts in North Horr and Saku sub-counties. In addition, develop and update negotiated and agreed land use and range management plans and continue research on current grazing patterns to prevent sporadic violence.