

# National Drought Management Authority

## MANDERA COUNTY

### DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR SEPTEMBER 2017



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



#### SEPTEMBER EW PHASE

**Drought Status: ALERT**



**Maandalizi ya mapema**

#### Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

##### Biophysical Indicators

- One-day Rainfall was received in Mandera and Elwak towns during the month of September. The rest of the county was dry.
- Vegetation condition;** the Vegetation Condition index for the month of September was 48.58 categorizing the County as normal vegetation greenness band.
- Field Observation shows that the pasture conditions are depleted in all the sub counties.
- Browse conditions are poor in the entire County.
- Pastoral communities are buying and grinding maize grains to feed their animals to save their livestock.

##### Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

- Production indicators;** Milk production and consumption are below long term average.
- Livestock deaths specially cattle due to nutritional deficiency was reported in Mandera South sub county during the month under review.
- Term of trade is below long-term average making unfavourable to pastoral communities

#### Early Warning (EW) Phase Classification

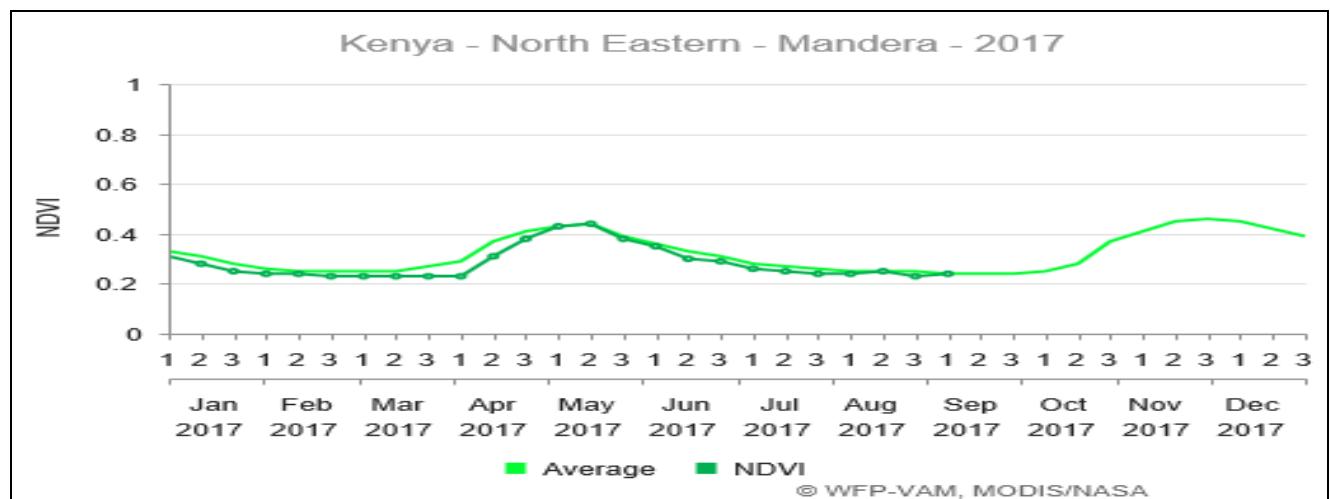
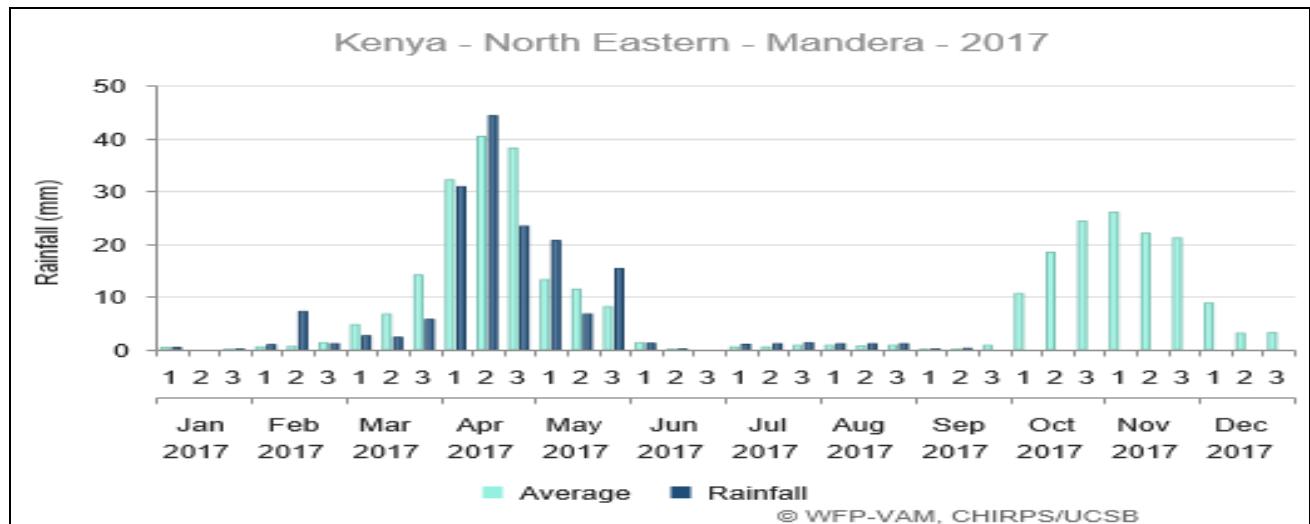
Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral zone	ALERT	Worsening
Irrigated Cropping zone	ALERT	Worsening
Pastoral all species	ALERT	Worsening
County	ALERT	Worsening
Biophysical Indicators	Value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)	0	80 -120
SPI-3Month (TAMSAT)	-0.42	-1.0 to 1.0
VCI-3Month	48.58	>35
Forage condition	poor	Good
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Crop Condition (specify crop)	Poor	Good
Livestock Body Condition	poor	Normal
Milk Production	1.6	>46.0
Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal
Livestock deaths	Deaths reported	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	35	>47
Milk Consumption	0	40.3 litres
Return distance to water sources	15.0	<4 Km
Cost of water at source (20 litres)	10	<5Kshs
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	31.3	<30.0
Coping Strategy Index (CSI)		<0.95
Food Consumption Score		

▪ Short rains harvests	▪ Planting/Weeding	▪ Long rains harvests	▪ Short rains
▪ Short dry spell	▪ Long rains	▪ A long dry spell	▪ Planting/weeding
▪ Reduced milk yields	▪ High Calving Rate	▪ Land preparation	
▪ Increased HH Food Stocks	▪ Milk Yields Increase	▪ Increased HH Food Stocks	
▪ Land preparation		▪ Kidding (Sept)	
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
			September
			Jun
			Jul
			Aug
			Sept
			Oct
			Nov
			Dec

# 1. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

## 1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- One-day rainfall was reported in Elwak and Mandera Town during the month of September
- Light showers were also received in some parts of Mandera West and Banisa sub counties though the rest of the county was dry.
- These are off season rains which is not normal during the time of the year
- The next rains are expected to start on second week of October.



- The Current NDVI is showing normal deviation trend compared to normal.

## 1.3 Other Events

### 1.3.1 Flooding

- Flash floods from Ethiopian highlands were reported in areas of Mandera North and few parts of East along River Daua.

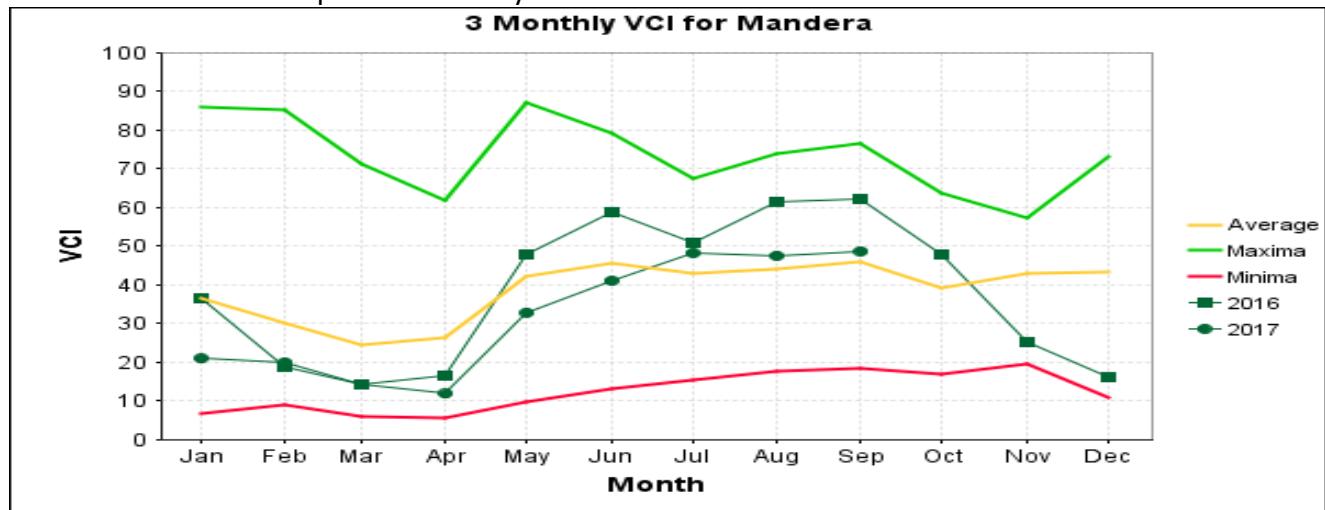
## 2. IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

### 1.2 AGRICULTURAL DROUGHT

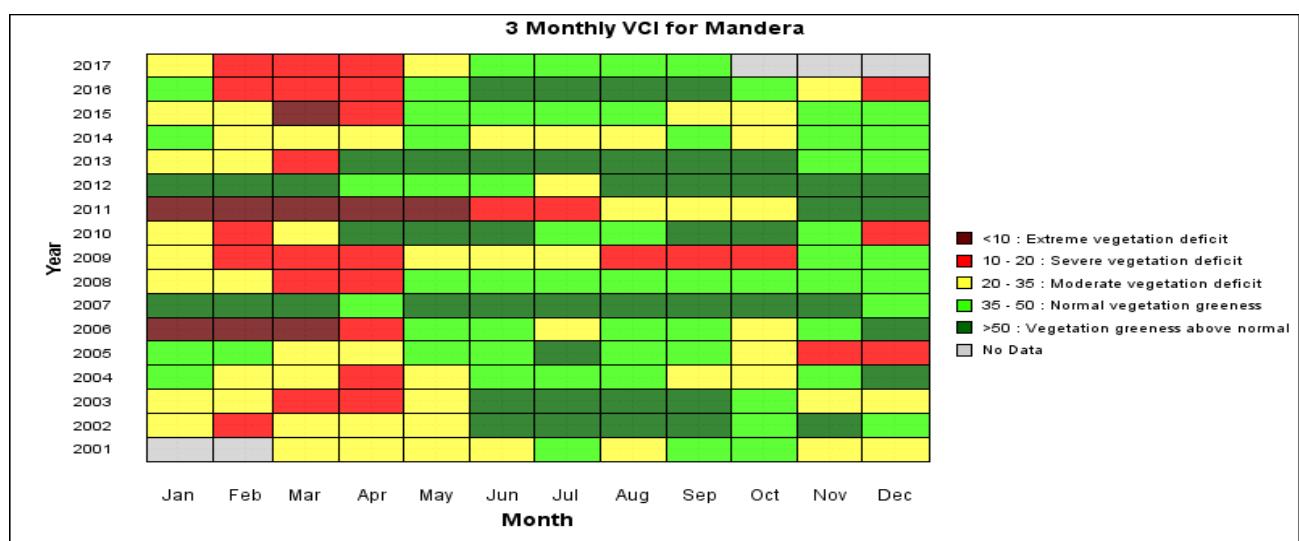
#### 1.2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION INDEX (VCI)

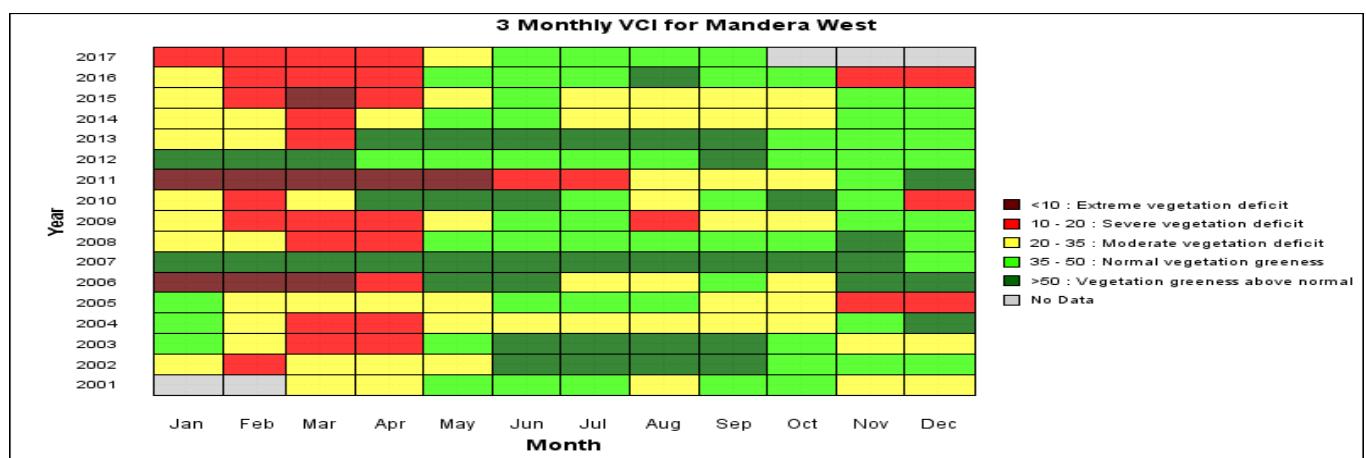
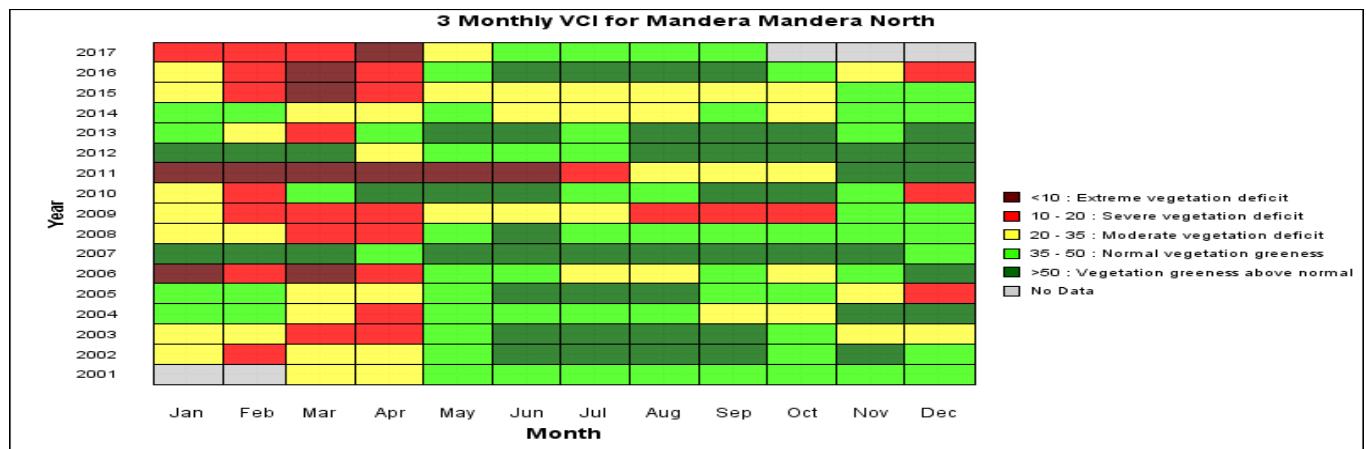
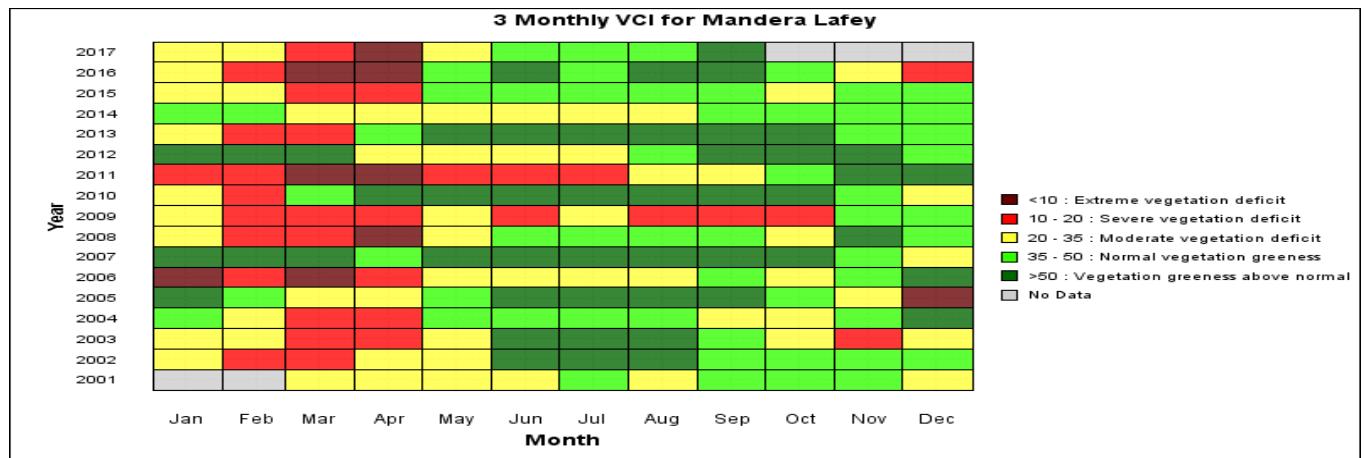
##### Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- The Vegetation condition index was for the County for the Month of September was 48.58 indicating Normal vegetation greenness. The VCI is slightly above the long-term average but below when compared to same year.



- The 3-monthly Vegetation condition index matrix for the County is showing normal vegetation greenness band
- All the sub counties are indicating normal vegetation greenness as shown below.





## Field Observation:

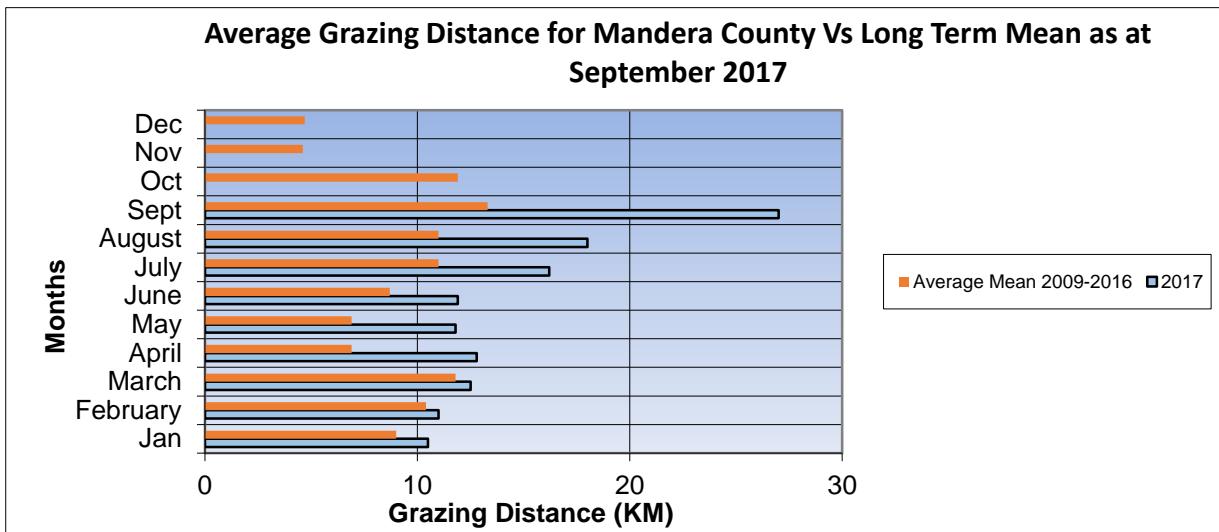
### 2.1.2 Pasture:

- The pastures situation is depleted in the entire county during the month of September.
- When compared to the same period of the same year, the conditions of pasture is worse.
- Pastoralist are buying and grinding maize grains to feed their livestock as pasture is unavailable.

### 2.1.3 Browse:

- The browse conditions are poor in all the six sub counties of the County.
- These is not normal during the time of the year.

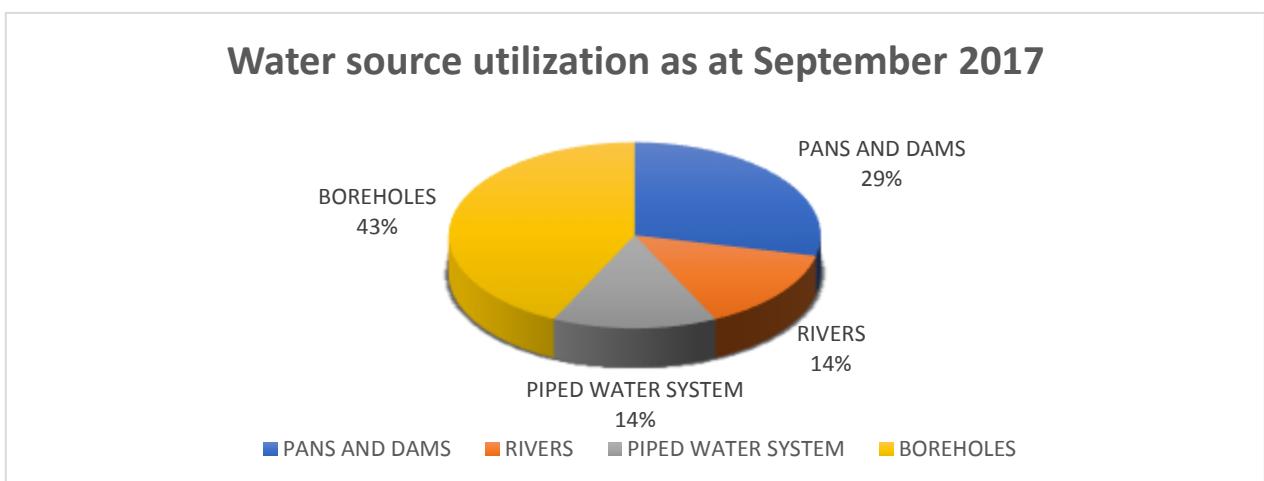
- The average distance to grazing areas from the main source of water is 27Km while that of households' access to water was 15km, and when compared to the month of August, the average grazing distance had increased by 9Km due to depletion of pasture and water as shown in graph below.



## 2.2 WATER RESOURCE

### 2.2.1 Sources

- The current main sources of water in use by both human and livestock's in the county are boreholes, River Daua and water pans. This is normal at this time of the year; Most of the household use earth pans with 28.6%, Piped water at 14.3%, Boreholes 42.9% and rivers with 14.3% respectively.
- Water trucking in ongoing in the entire County where over seventy centres including institution are being water trucked by the County Government.



### 2.3 Implication to food security

- Poor livestock body condition and decreased prices impact negatively on pastoral return at household level thus reducing food security at household level.

## 3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

### 3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

#### 3.1.2 Livestock Body Condition

- The cattle and sheep's body condition is poor with very thin fore ribs visible while goat and camel has fair to poor (thin fore ribs visible) body condition in all livelihood zones. This is not normal at this time of the year.

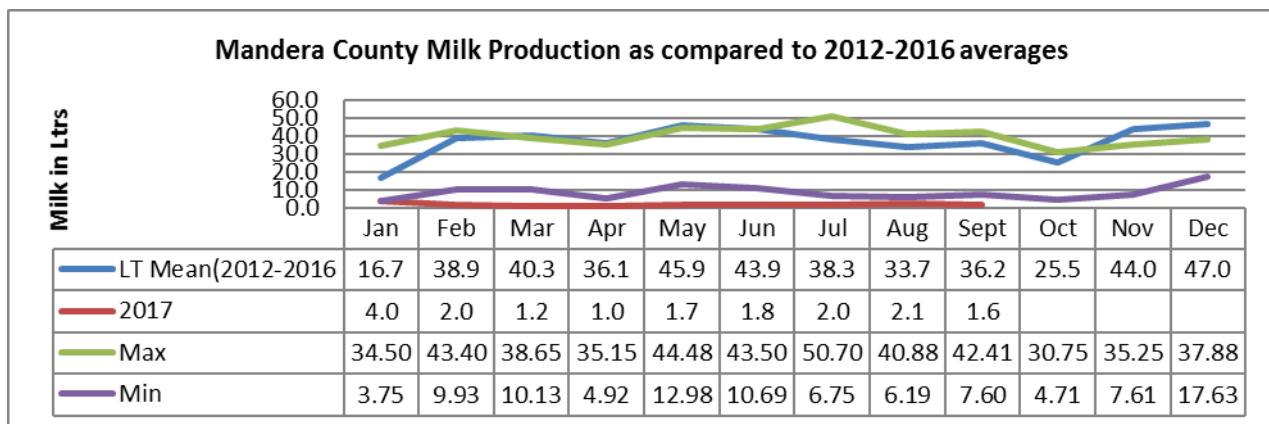
BODY CONDITIONS	SCORE
Emaciated, little muscle left	1
Very thin no fat, bones visible	2
Thin fore ribs visible	3
Borderline fore-ribs not visible. 12 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup> ribs visible	4
Moderate. Neither fat nor thin	5
Good smooth appearance	6
Very Good Smooth with fat over back and tail head	7
Fat, Blocky. Bone over back not visible	8
Very Fat Tail buried in fat	9

#### 3.1.3 Livestock Diseases

- The Livestock diseases that are reported in the County include Contagious Caprine Pleural Pneumonia (CCPP) in goats, Contagious Bovine Pleuro-pneumonia (CBPP), tick borne diseases, Mange and Poxes in camels, cattle, goats and sheep
- There were cattle deaths reported in Mandera South sub counties during the month of September due to nutritional deficiency.

#### 3.1.4 Milk Production

- Currently, the milk production is 1.6 litres in the months of September 2017 in all livelihood zones. The milk production is much low than the LTA and lower than the minimum of the same month, this is attributed to poor pasture conditions due to poor body condition.
- Pastoral all species zone reported highest milk production followed by Agro pastoral and irrigated cropping zone respectively.



## **3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION.**

### **3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops**

- In irrigated cropping zone: crops are at tussling stage of crop production. Farmers are using as a fodder for their livestock so no harvest will be expected
- In Agro pastoral zone No crops have been planted during the month under review

## **3.3 IMPLICATION OF THE ABOVE INDICATORS TO FOOD SECURITY**

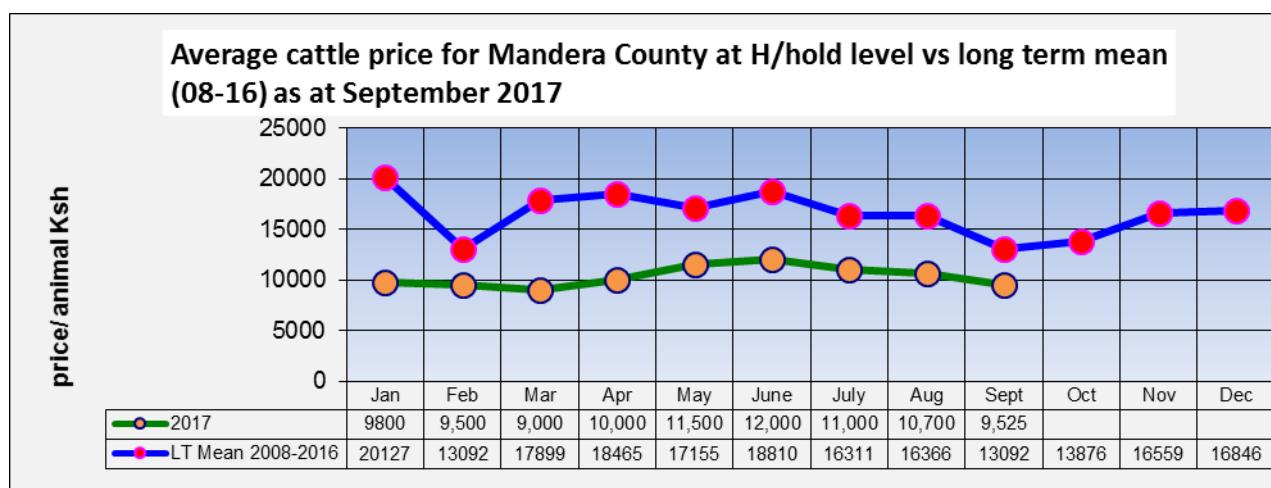
- No crops harvested in irrigated and Agro pastoral zones thus leading to negative food security at household level.

## **4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE**

### **4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING**

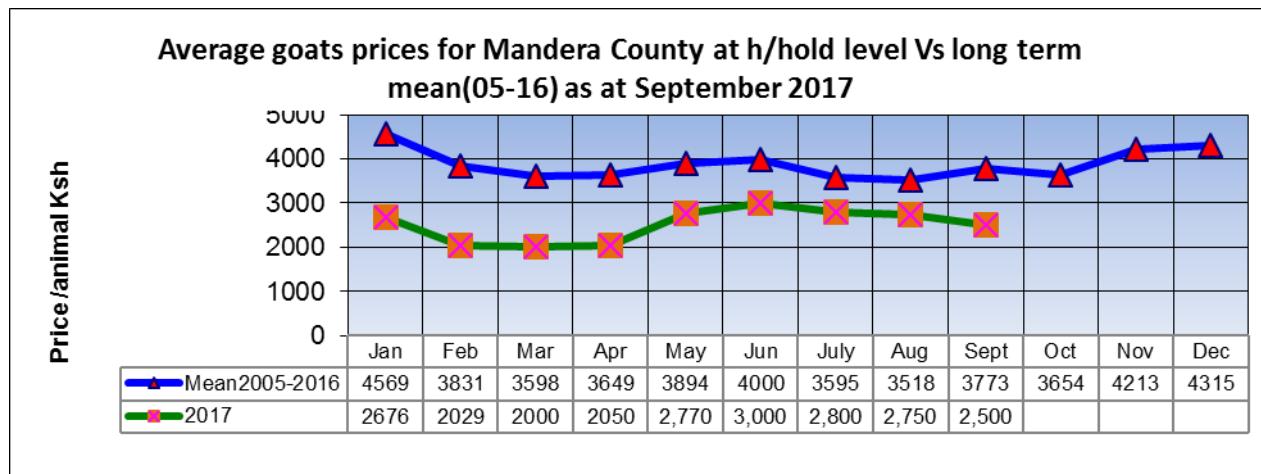
#### **4.1.1 Cattle Prices**

- Average cattle price decreased from Ksh10, 700 in August to Ksh9,525 in the month of September 2017.the decreased price is due poor body condition and decreased market demand.
- When compared to the long-term mean, the average price is below the expected normal range as shown below.

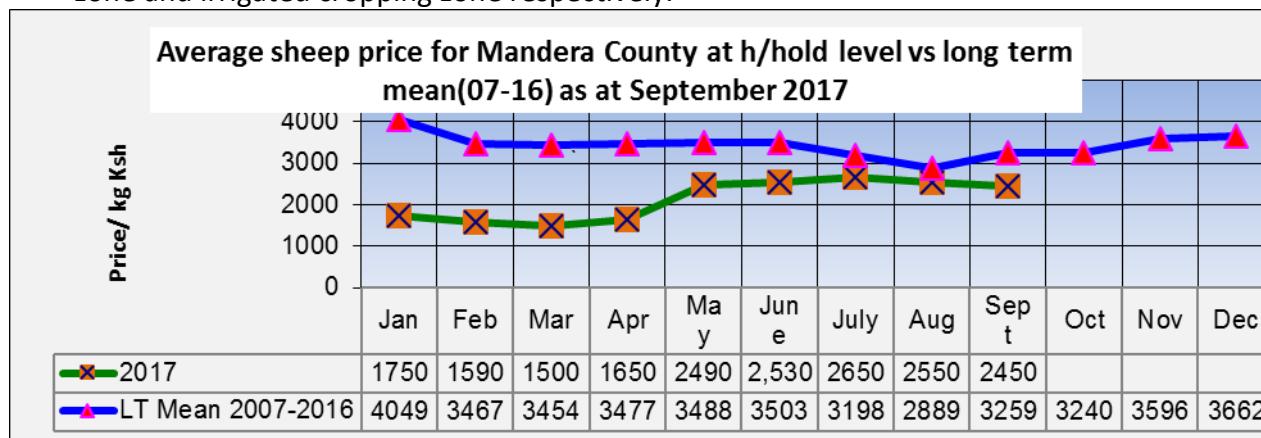


#### **4.1.2 Goat Prices**

- Average goat price decreased was Ksh 2500 in September compared in August with Ksh 2750/. The decrease in price is due to poor body condition.
- Compared to the long-term mean (2011-2016), the average price was below the normal Range.

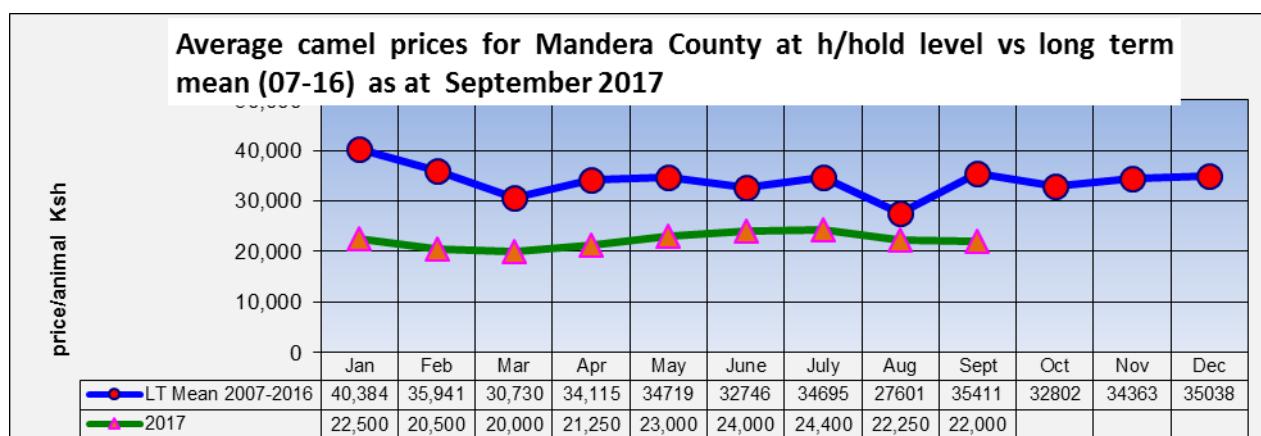


- Average sheep price decreased slightly from Ksh. 2,550 in August 2017 to Ksh.2,450 in the month of September 2017.
- The current average sheep price is below the long-term mean.
- The highest average prices were noted in Agro pastoral zone followed by Pastoral all species zone and irrigated cropping zone respectively.



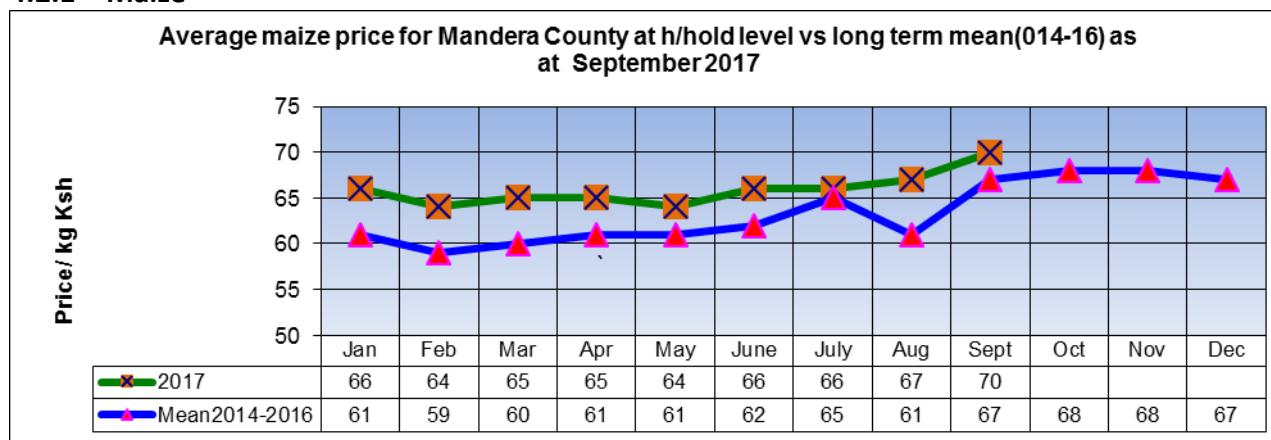
#### 4.1.3 Camel Prices

- The average camel price during the month of September 2017 is Ksh22,050/= when compared to last month the average price decreased
- The average camel price was below the normal range as shown in the table below



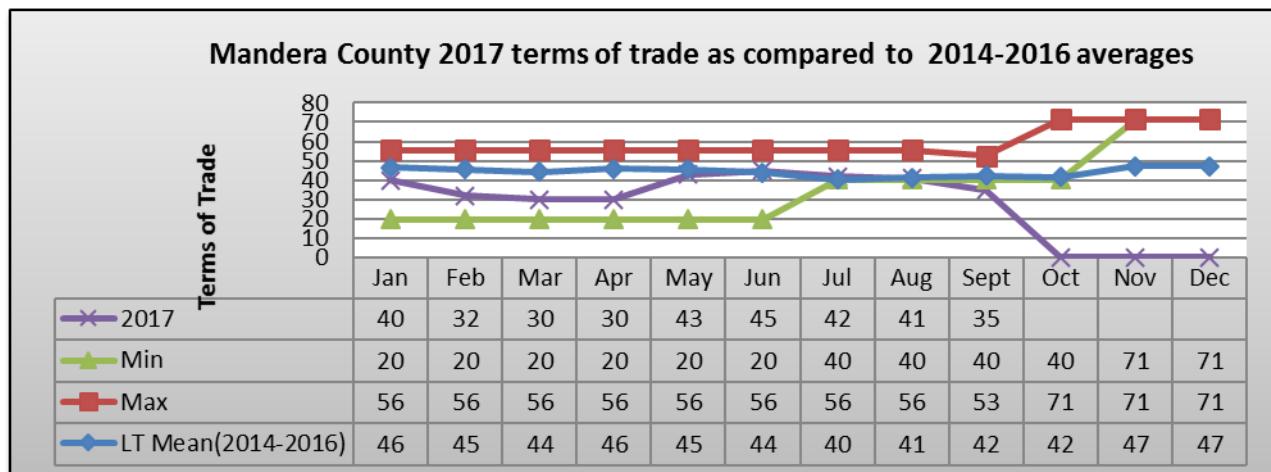
## 4.2 CROP PRICES

### 4.2.1 Maize



- The average maize price during the month of September 2017 was Ksh.70per kg.
- Compared to the previous month, the average price has increased by Ksh 3.
- When compared to the long term mean price, the average price was higher than the long term mean.

## 4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade



- Currently a household can purchase 35Kilogam of maize by selling one medium goat.
- The Terms of trade decreased when compared to last month, this is attributed to the decrease in goat price and increase in maize price.
- The terms of trade are unfavourable to pastoral communities when compared to long term average

## 5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

### 5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- The total number of litres consumed was 1 litres while total produced was 1.6litres on average for all the sampled sentinel sites. The average milk price was Ksh 90 per 750 ml bottle during the reporting month.

### 5.2 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

- The percentage of children (<5yrs) at mid-risk category for 125mm to 134mm during the month of September was 31.3%. When compared to last month it has increased by 4%
- The high levels of nutritional cases are attributed to below normal milk production, Poor dietary diversity, poor child feeding practices, poor caring and poor feeding practices.



#### 5.3.2 Health

- No outbreak of diseases reported in the entire county.

### 5.4 COPING STRATEGIES

The main coping strategies used by communities include-

- Feeding livestock with grinded maize grains and fodder
- borrowing from friends and relatives
- consumption of less preferred and cheaper foods,
- purchasing food on credit
- reduction in the number and sizes of meals,
- skipping of meals
- Provision of relief food and supplementary feeding for the vulnerable groups of the communities in the divisions still remained as the top most coping strategy.
- Remittance and Casual labour

## **6. CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)**

### **6.1 NON-FOOD INTERVENTIONS - NOTE THE FOLLOWING**

- NDMA is currently distributing 15,600 bales of Hay in areas mostly affected by the current drought.
- NDMA is also distributing spare parts to 10 strategic boreholes in the County.
- Kenya Red Cross distributed livestock feeds to three sub counties of Mandera East, Lafey and South Sub counties
- Save The Children is conducting water trucking in institution of Mandera west sub county

### **6.2 FOOD AID - NOTE THE FOLLOWING**

- No FFA food during the months but Blanket supplementary feeding programme is conducted by COCOP and Save the Children in the entire County.

## **7.0 EMERGING ISSUES**

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

No insecurity incidence was reported during the month under review

### **7.2 Migration**

- No Migration was reported during the month under review.

### **7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS**

- High malnutrition rates, Increased trekking distance, Depleted pasture and browse are factors that led to worsening food security situation in the County. The trend is expected to continue worsening until after the onset of the rains.

## **8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Water trucking to areas under water stress in the entire County
- Mass deworming and treatment of livestock county wide.
- Disbursement of Drought Contingency funds for response activities.
- Up scale Hunger Safety Net Programme across all the group two beneficiaries
- Scale up of health and nutrition outreach programme for settlement without facilities
- Increase mass screening of under five children.