

**National Drought Management Authority**  
**MANDERA COUNTY**  
**DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR NOVEMBER 2019**



**NOVEMBER EW PHASE**



**Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification**

**Biophysical Indicators**

- Rains were received in all parts of the county during the Month under review.
- **Vegetation condition;** the current three-month Vegetation Condition index for the County showed vegetation greenness above normal band.
- Pasture and browse conditions are good in most parts of the County.
- Water availability has improved across the County with all the earth pans impounding water.

**Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)**

- Floods destroyed crops along the riverine, as farms are still water logged.
- **Production indicator;** milk production is improving when compared last month but below long-term average
- Livestock body condition is fair to good
- Household return distance to water sources significantly decreased
- **Access Indicator:** The terms of trade are unfavourable to pastoral communities but on improving trend
- **Utilization indicator:** The MUAC rates are outside the expected normal range.

**Early Warning (EW) Phase Classification**

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral zone	Normal	Stable
Irrigated Cropping	Normal	Stable
Pastoral all species	Normal	Stable
County	Normal	Stable
Biophysical Indicators	Value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)	0	80 -120
VCI-3Month	73.23	>35
Forage condition	Good	Good
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Crop Condition (Maize)	Poor	Good
Livestock Body Condition	Fair	Good
Milk Production	1	1.5 litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	No migration	Normal
Livestock deaths	No deaths	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	35	>51kgs
Milk Consumption	0.8	1.2 litres
Return distance to water sources	3	<4.6 Km
Cost of water at source (20 litres)	2	<5Kshs
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	25.6	14.32
Coping Strategy Index	14.93	<0.95

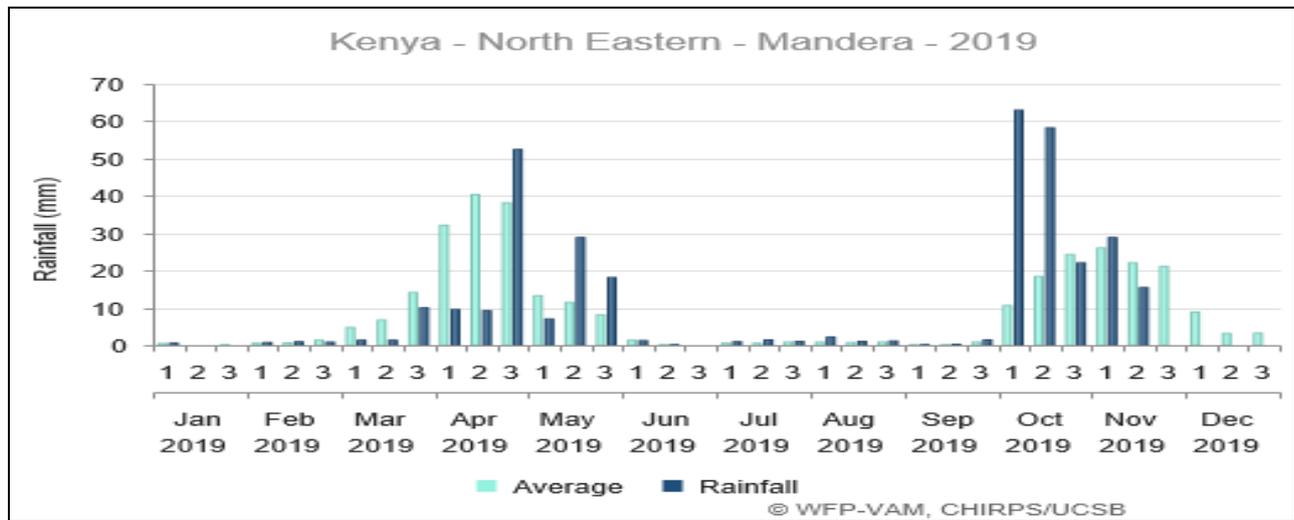
**Seasonal Calendar**

<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

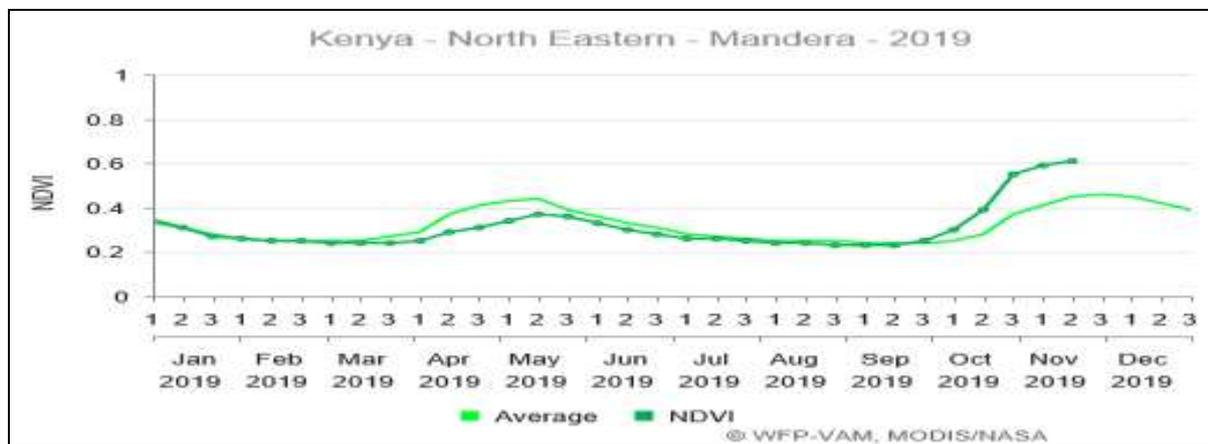
# 1. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

## 1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- The onset of the short rains was in the first week of the month of October, which is early onset. The performance of the rains was above normal rainfall across the County. The rains had good temporal and even spatial distribution in the entire County.
- During the Month of November, the rainfall received were above normal.
- The rains ceased during the last week of November



- The current NDVI and rainfall averages is at bar with the seasonal norm as shown below.



### Other Events

#### 1.3.1 Flooding

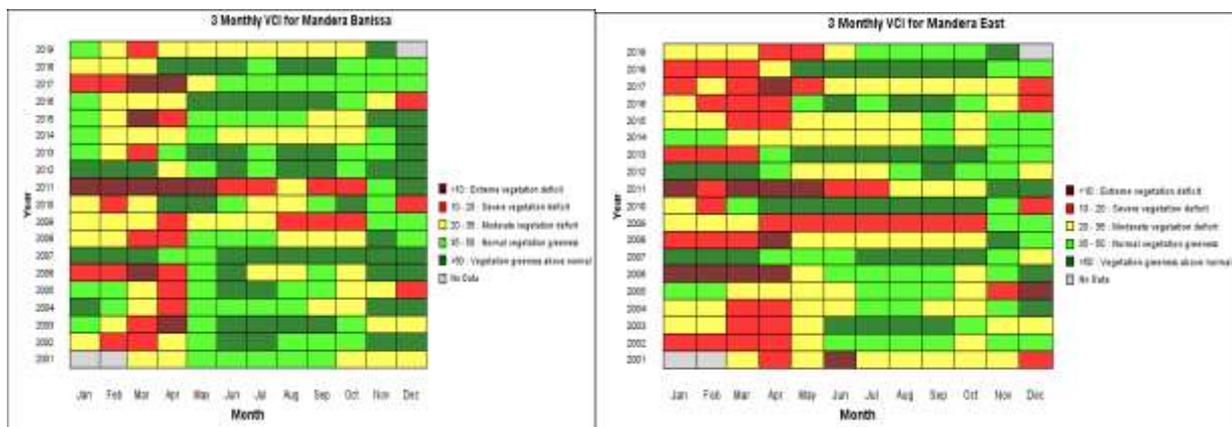
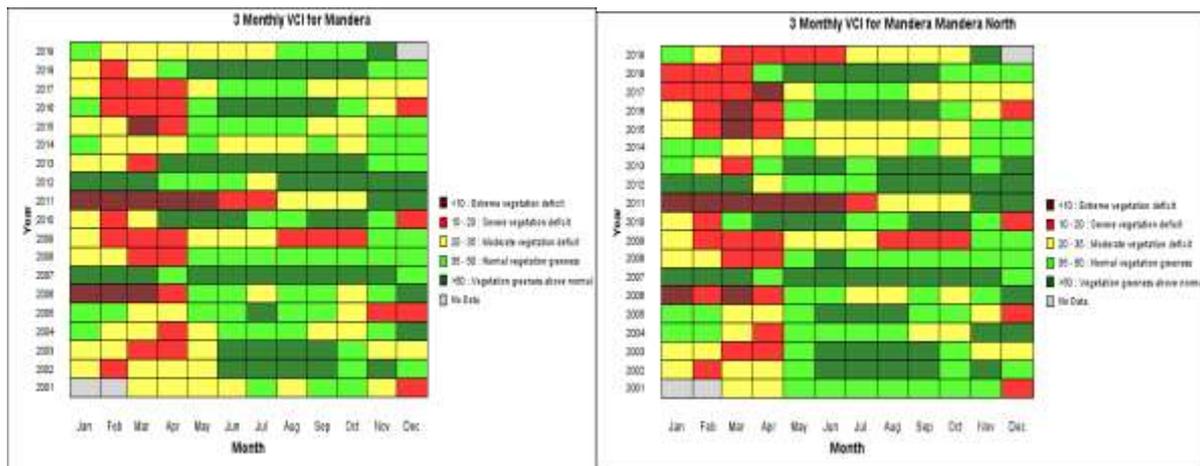
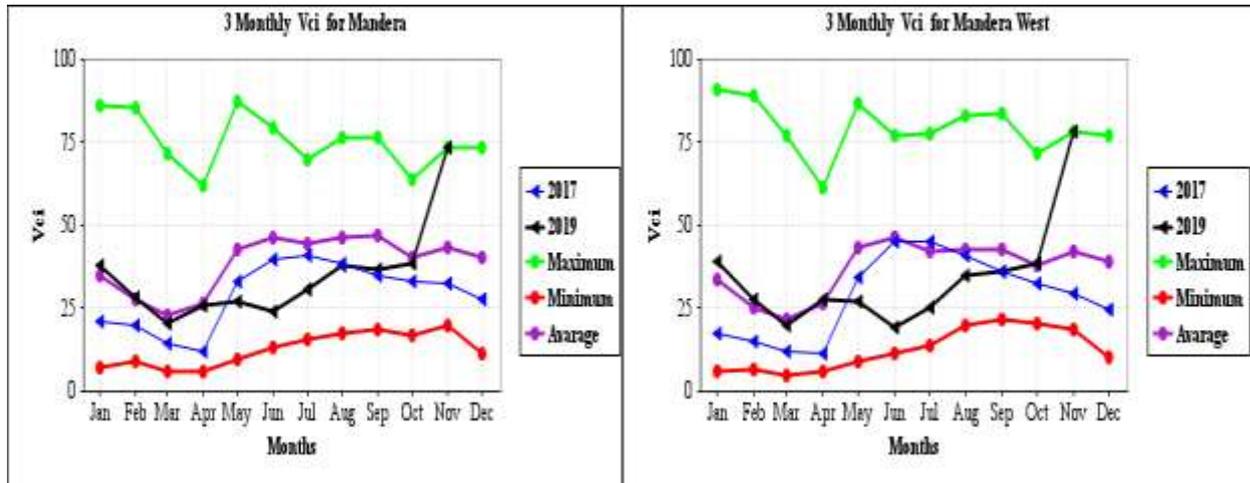
- Floods have still been reported in the month of November along the River Daua that has destroyed crops and washed away farm implements. most of the farms are water logged and farmers cannot plant their farms until the water recedes.

## 2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

### 2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION INDEX

#### 2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- The current vegetation condition index showed vegetation greenness above normal band for the County.
- When compared to the previous month, the current 3-month VCI increased from 38.14 in October to 73.23 in November 2019.
- All the six sub counties are showing vegetation greenness above normal and these is attributed to the October to November rains which were above normal.



### 2.1.2 Pasture and Browse

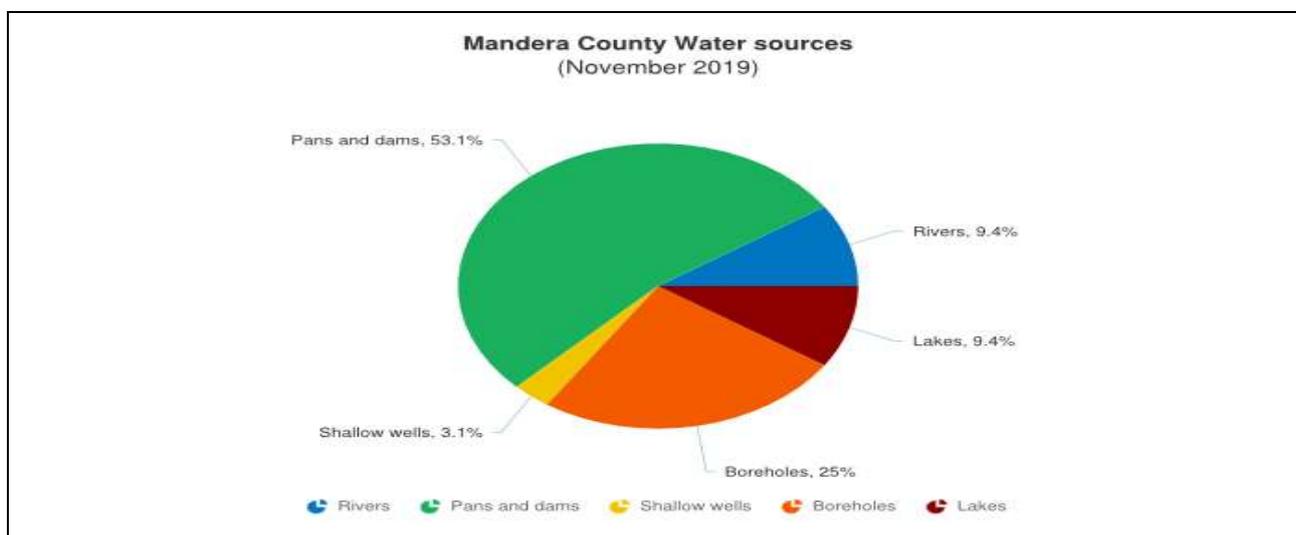
- According to sampled communities, 82.6percent of the 210 households interviewed reported that the pasture condition is good while 17.4 percent reported pasture condition as fair as shown in the chart below
- Seventy three percent of the 210 households interviewed reported browse conditions as good while 26 percent reported browse condition as fair.
- When compared to last month pasture and browse have improved in all parts of the county.
- There was no constraint in pasture access reported across all the livelihood zones in the county.



## 2.2 WATER RESOURCE

### 2.2.1 Sources

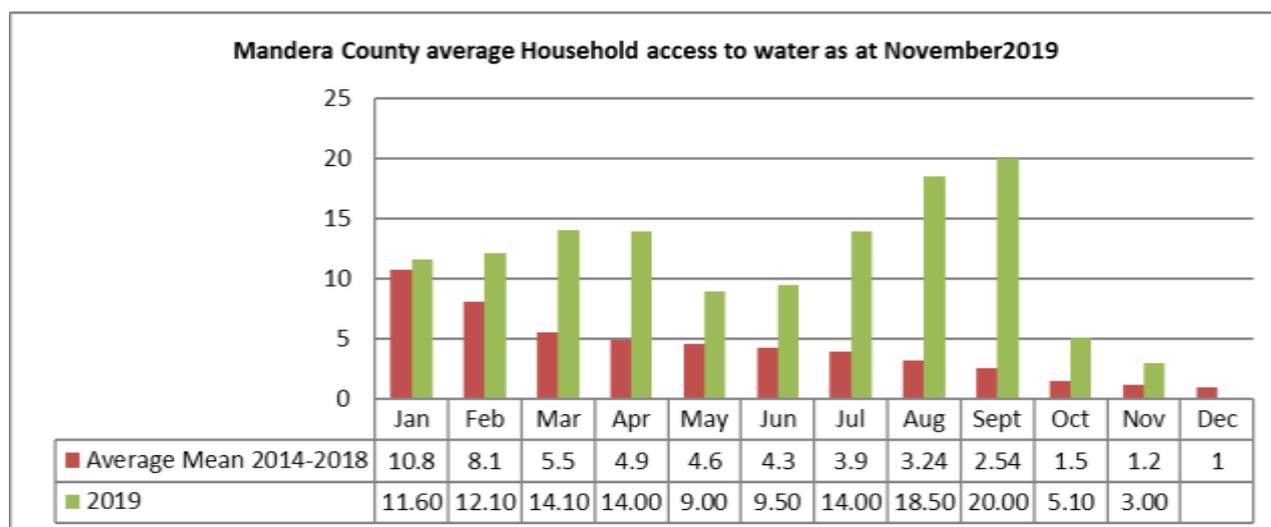
- The current main sources of water in use for both human and livestock in the county are boreholes, River Daua and water pans.
- When compared with the previous month, the water availability has increased and the situation has improved in the entire county when compared to previous seasons.



### 2.2.2 Household access and utilization

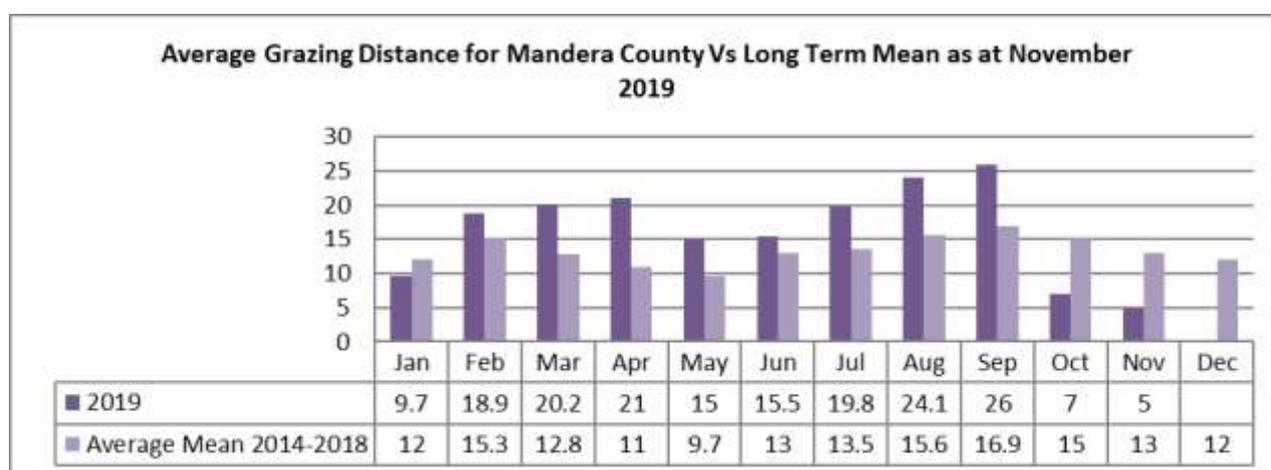
- The average household return distance to watering sources recorded during the month was 3Km as shown in the chart below.
- The current average return distance is below normal when compared to long-term average.
- The average household distance decreased by 2.1km when compared to previous month and this is attributed to good performance of November rains.
- The average cost of 20-litre jerry can at the source is less than Ksh3, which is normal at this time of the year, and water consumption is normal in all parts of the county

- The proportion of households currently treating water is significantly very low with only few households mainly in urban centers reported to have used boiling methods



### 2.2.3 Livestock Access

- The current trekking average return distance from grazing areas to the main source of water is 5Km, the average grazing distance has decreased by 2km when compared to last month and this is attributed to availability of pasture and browse due to above normal rainfall received during the month under review.
- The average grazing distance is expected to decrease as pasture and browse conditions are still improving.
- Pastoral all species zone reported the longest average return grazing distance at 4.7Km followed by Agro pastoral livelihood zone at a distance of 3.3km.
- The current trekking distances are below the long-term averages as shown in the table below



### 2.3 Implication on food security

- Availability of water and pasture conditions will improve the body condition of livestock thus increasing the production at household level.

### 3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

#### 3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

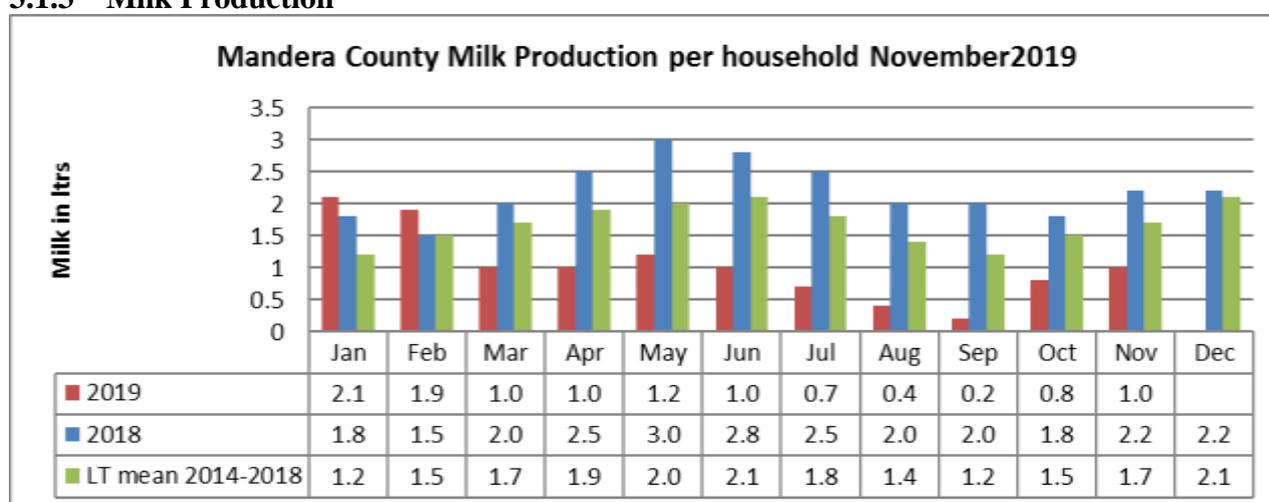
##### 3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- The body conditions of livestock for all species is on improving trend across all livelihood zones in the County.
- Currently the body condition for shoats is fair to good while cattle and camel have fair body conditions.
- Compared to a similar period in the previous years, the situation has improved during these time of the year
- No Major livestock death were reported during the month under review

##### 3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- There are suspected cases of PPR, CCPP, and Black Quarter County wide. The department of veterinary service continues to carry out routine treatment and deworming of reported cases

##### 3.1.3 Milk Production



- The average milk production per household was 1litre in November, compared to the previous month the production increased by 0.2litre. The milk production is expected to increase as the pasture and browse is also improving.
- Agro pastoral zone reported highest milk production with 0.3litre per HH followed by irrigated cropping zone and Pastoral all species respectively.
- The current milk production is below the long-term average.

### 3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION.

#### 3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops

- Floods were still reported during the month of November after River Daua burst its banks destroying crops, infrastructures, pump sets and pump houses washed away. Most of the farms are water logged and farms are inaccessible and this will delay the planting of the farms along the Irrigated cropping zone
- in the Agro pastoral zone, crops mainly Sorghum are at tussling stage of production

### 3.3 IMPLICATION OF THE ABOVE INDICATORS ON FOOD SECURITY.

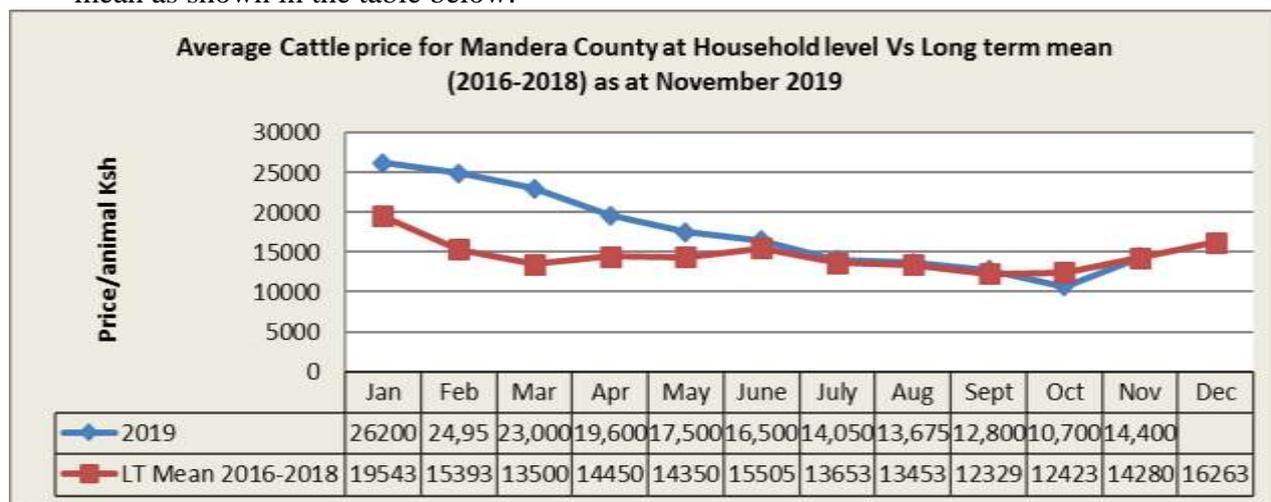
- Minimal harvest is expected along River Daua as flood have destroyed all crops and farms are still water logged.

## 4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

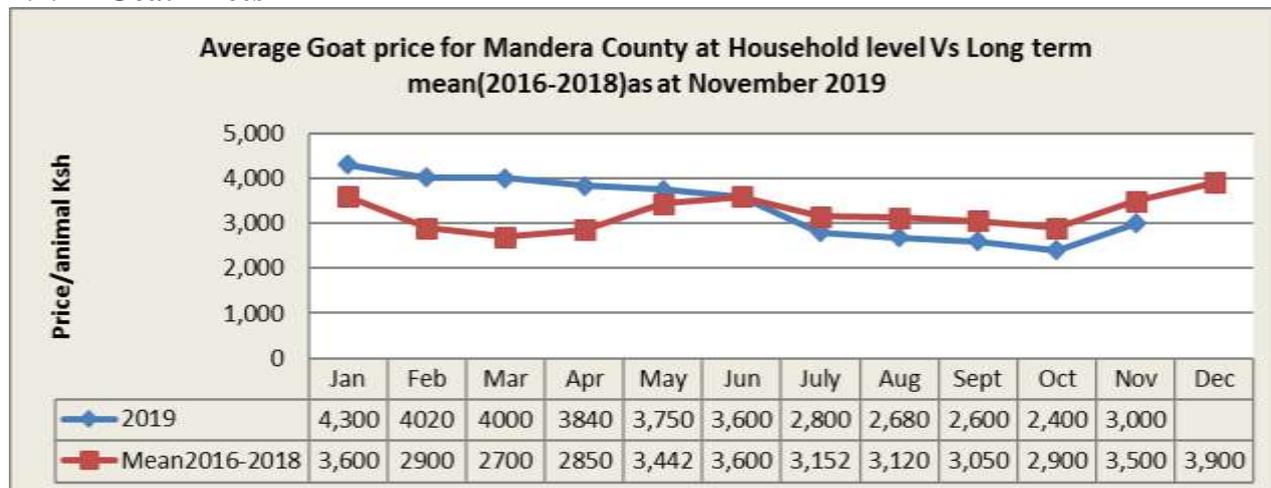
### 4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

#### 4.1.1 Cattle Prices

- Average cattle price increased from 10,700Ksh in October to 14,400Ksh in the month of November 2019. These is attributed to improving body condition.
- Pastoral all species recorded the highest average price followed by Irrigated and Agro pastoral livelihood zone respectively.
- When compared to the long-term mean, the average cattle price is same as the long-term mean as shown in the table below.



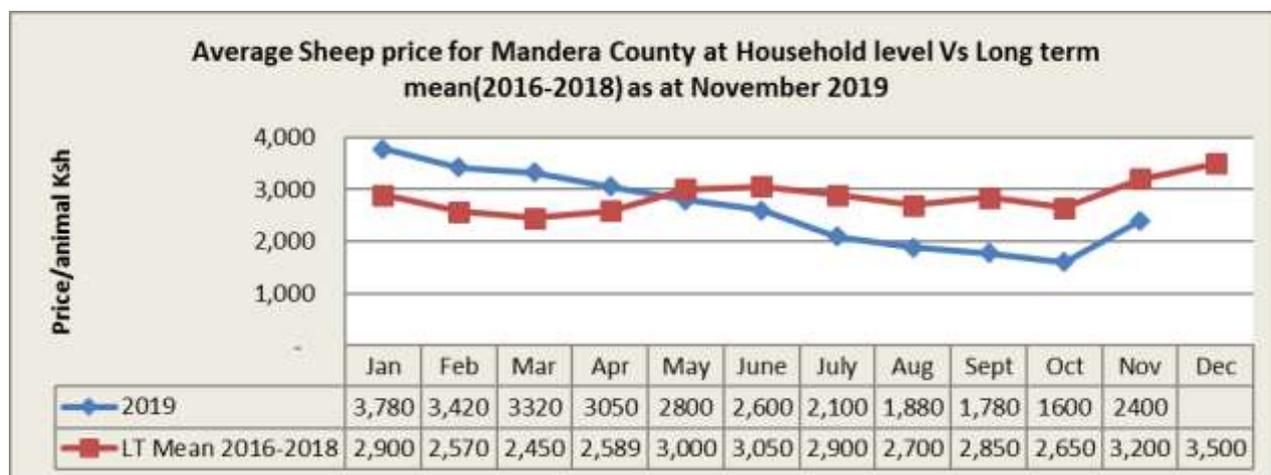
#### 4.1.2 Goat Prices



- Average goat price for the month of November was Ksh 3,000 when compared to previous month the average prices has increased by Ksh600 and These is attributed to good body condition.
- Highest price range was Pastoral all species livelihood zone followed by Agro pastoral and Irrigated livelihood zone.
- Compared to the long-term mean (2016-2018), the average price Is below Long-term mean

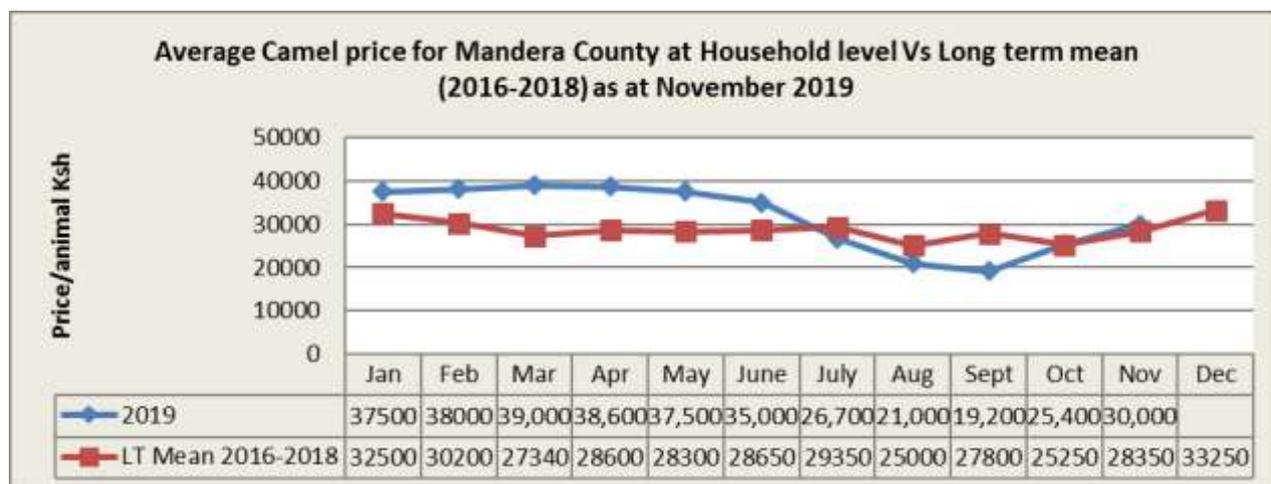
## Sheep Price

- Average sheep price was Ksh 2,400Ksh in November and when compared to the previous month the average price increased and this is attributed to good body condition.
- The average price was lower when compared to long term average of the same month,
- The highest average price was noted in irrigated cropping zone followed by Pastoral all species zone and Agro pastoral zone respectively.



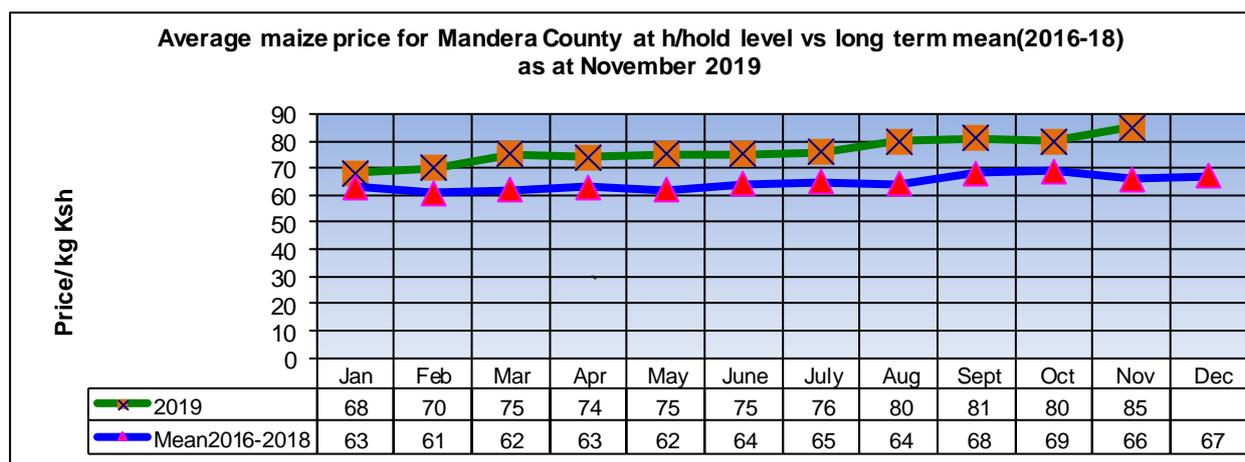
### 4.1.3 Camel Prices

- The average camel price during the month of November 2019 is Ksh30, 000 when compared to the previous month the average price increased by Ksh4700.
- Highest average price was recorded in Pastoral all species livelihood zone followed by Agro pastoral livelihood zone.
- The average camel price is slightly above the normal range as shown in the table below.



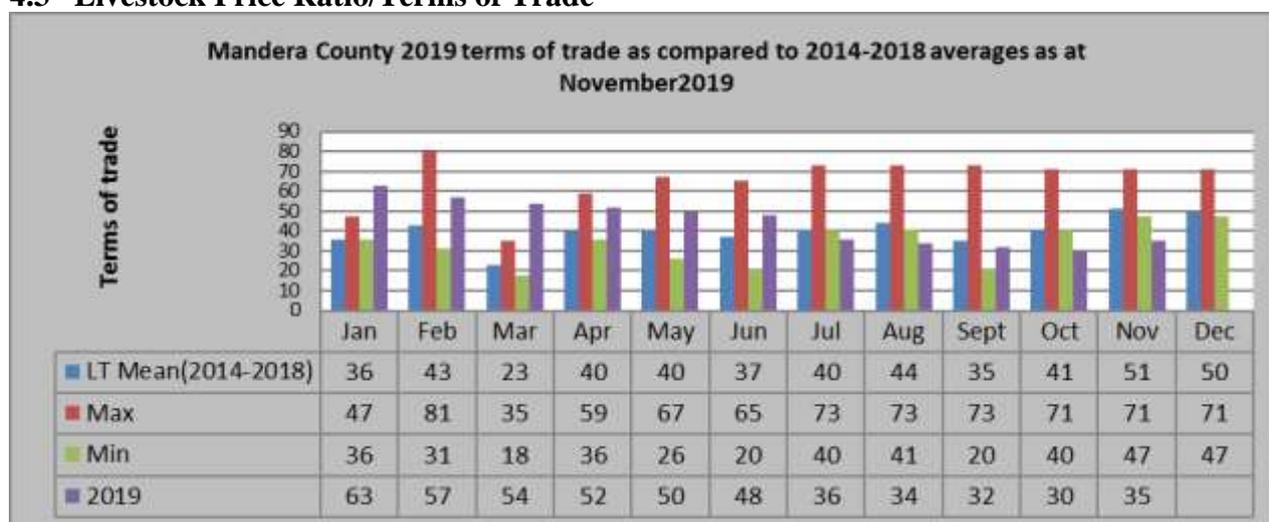
## 4.2 CROP PRICES

## 4.2.1 Maize



- The average maize price during the month of November 2019 was Ksh.85 per kg.
- Compared to the previous month, the average price increased by 5Ksh.
- When compared to the long-term mean price, the average price was higher.

## 4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade



- Currently a household can purchase 35Kgs of maize by selling one medium goat.
- The Terms of trade increased when compared to last month and this is attributed to increase in goat price.
- The terms of trade are still unfavourable to pastoral communities when compared to long-term average and with improving trend. The current ToT is lower than the long-term average for the month of November.
- The highest terms of trade were reported in Pastoral all species livelihood zone followed by Agro pastoral and Irrigated livelihood zone.
- Flush floods have affected the roads of the County from Wajir and Moyale making it impassable and over 200 vehicles carrying essential food communities and other items stranded in the road. These has resulted to decrease in stock available in the County and hiking of the price of food commodities to double.

## 4.4 Implication of above indicator on Food Security

- Poor livestock prices coupled with high cereal prices impacted negative on pastoral return and decreasing the purchasing power of pastoralist.

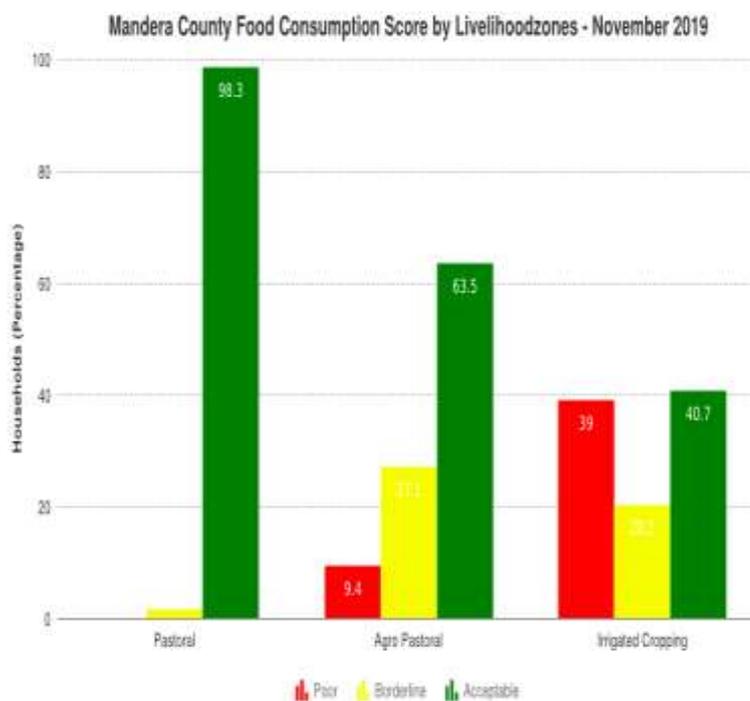
## 5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

### 5.1 Milk consumption

- Milk consumption per household was 0.8liter in the month of November.
- Milk consumption per household was 0.8liter in all livelihood zones. The average milk price was Ksh 70 to 100 per 750 ml bottle during the reporting month.
- The current milk consumption rate is below the long term mean which is not normal at this time of the year thus making children under five be food insecure.
- The decline in milk consumption is attributed to poor body conditions.

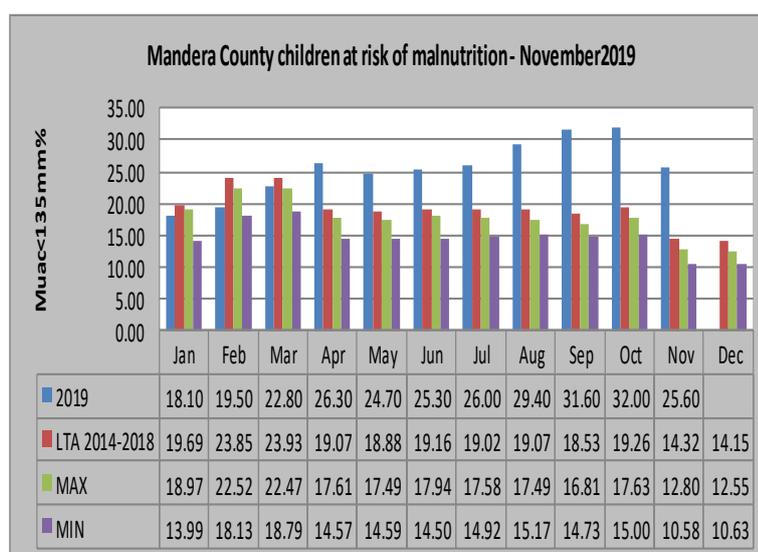
### 5.2 Food Consumption Score

- The proportion of households with a poor food consumption score was 24percent in Oct compared to 15percent recorded in November. The proportion in the borderline category was 66 percent in November in comparison to 42 percent in Oct 2019 while those in the acceptable food consumption score were at 36 percent.
- The proportion of households in Pastoral all species and Agro pastoral zone with acceptable food consumption score was below sixty percent. This implies that majority of households were consuming staples (maize) every day, frequently accompanied by oil and pulses. The food consumption situation at livelihood zone level is shown in the graph below:



### 5.3.1 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

- The percentage of children (<5yrs) at mid-risk category for 125mm to 134mm during the month of November was 25.6%. The proportion of children at risk of malnutrition in Mandera has decreased by 7% compared to last month. MUAC rate are higher than the long-term average
- The high levels of malnutrition cases are attributed to Poor dietary diversity, poor child feeding practices, poor caring and poor feeding practices.
- Shimbir Fatuma sentinel site in the pastoral zones recorded the highest percentage of malnourished children while the lowest percentage of malnourished children is Banisa sentinel site in the Agro pastoral Livelihood zone.

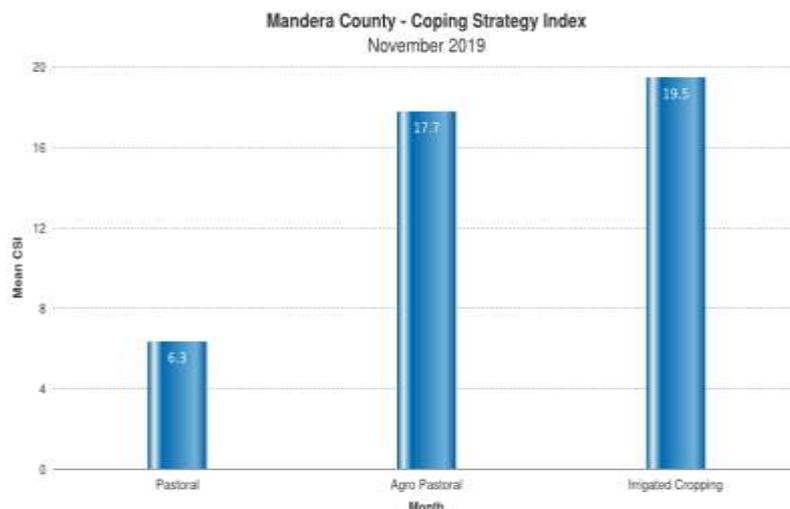


### 5.3.2 Health

- No outbreak of human disease was reported across the County.

### 5.4 COPING STRATEGIES

- The Coping Strategy Index (CSI) was 14.93. The highest CSI is in the Irrigated cropping livelihood zone followed by Agro pastoral zone and Pastoral livelihood zone respectively. This implies communities were employing less severe strategies to cope with food shortages.
- The indices at livelihood zone level are shown in the graph below:

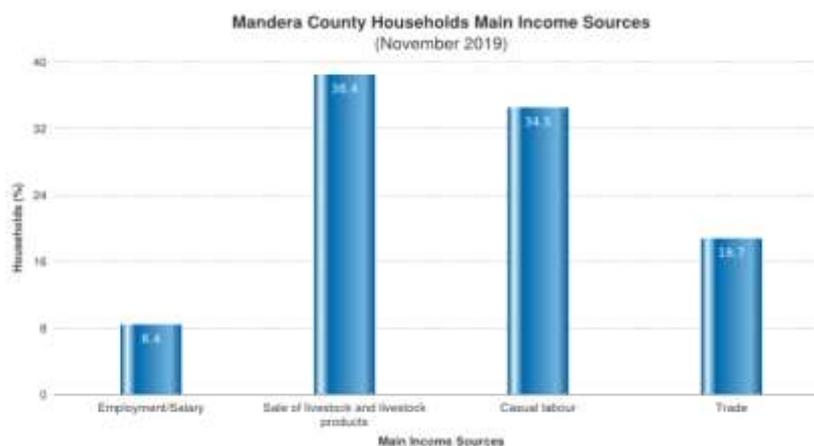


The main coping strategies used by communities include-

- HSNP regular beneficiaries receiving by monthly payment for 22231 households.
- Food and nutrition support services offered by various actors
- Sale of livestock
- Purchasing basic food items on credit from local shops.
- Borrowing and receiving of gifts from neighbours.
- Engaging in casual labour to support families
- Financial aid and remittances from relatives working in and outside the County
- charcoal burning and cutting wood materials for sale.
- borrowing from friends and relatives
- consumption of less preferred and cheaper foods,
- reduction in the number and sizes of meals,
- skipping of meals
- scale up of group two HSNP beneficiaries for 4,535 beneficiaries

### 5.5 HOUSEHOLD SOURCE OF INCOME

- The main sources of income in the County normally include sale of livestock and livestock products, casual waged labour, petty trade and employment.
- The main household income for the county during the month of November was sale of livestock and livestock products and casual labour as shown in the graph above.



## 6. CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)

## **6.1 NON-FOOD INTERVENTIONS**

- Hunger safety net programmes provides regular payment of Ksh5,400/= bi-monthly to 22231 beneficiaries in order to build households resilience and to help mitigate the shocks of the drought in the entire County.
- Kenya Red cross society is conducting 16 outreach sites In Mandera East, North and Banisa sub counties

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

- Supplementary feeding to 63 health facilities by WFP through KEMSA and COCOP

## **7.0 EMERGING ISSUES**

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

- No major insecurity incidence reported during the month under review.

### **7.2 Migration.**

- No migration pattern noted during the month under review

## **7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS**

The Food security situation has improved compared to last month. These is attributed to above normal rain received in all parts of the County. The pasture and browse condition are generally good, water availability across all the livelihood zones has also improved. decreased the trekking distance for both domestic and livestock was also noted. milk availability at household level has increased, livestock body condition is currently fair to good while livestock prices are on improving trend.

## **8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Construction of dykes and other floods control measures along the riverine
- Food aid to beneficiaries affected by the floods
- Construction of toilets to beneficiaries affected by floods
- Mass deworming and treatment of livestock county wide.
- Disbursement of Drought Contingency funds for resilience activities.
- Capacity building and training of communities on Disaster Risk Reduction and drought cycle management.
- Scale up of health and nutrition outreach programme for settelement without facilities
- Increase mass screening of under five children.
- Provide essential drugs to all health facilities particularly newly operationalised facilities
- Fast truck nutritional commodities supplies to avoid IMAM programme defaulters.