

**National Drought Management Authority
MARSABIT COUNTY
DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR MAY 2020**



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



EW PHASE: NORMAL

Drought Status: NORMAL



Shughull za kawalda

Early Warning (EW) Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral	Normal	Stable
Pastoral All species	Normal	Deteriorating
Fisher folk/ Casual labour /Petty Trading	Normal	Deteriorating
County	Normal	Deteriorating
Biophysical Indicators	Value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)	139	80 -120
VCI-3Month	64.72	>35
Forage condition	Good	Good
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Livestock Body Condition	Good	Good
Milk Production	1.2	>1.8Litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal
Livestock deaths (from drought)	No death	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	76	>65
Milk Consumption	1.0	>1.4Litre
Return distance to water	5.2	0.0-5.9Km
Cost of water	0	<Ksh.5
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	15.9	0.0-19.9
Coping Strategy Index	15.61	<20
Food Consumption Score	40.41	>35

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

Rainfall: In the month under review, rains were received in few areas which were not well distributed both spatially and temporally in 1-5 rainy days. The rainfall amounts received were significantly of reduced intensity when compared to the previous month.

Vegetation condition: 3-months Vegetation Condition Index was 64.72 across the County hence fell within the above normal vegetation greenness strap.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

Production indicators: Livestock body condition was good for all the livestock species across the livelihood zones. In the agro-pastoral areas of Saku and Moyale sub-counties, maize is at knee high-tussling stage whereas beans at podding-flowering stage. Milk production was 1.2Litres/household/day, which was below normal across the livelihood zones. Livestock grazed within their normal traditional grazing areas. There were incidences of livestock diseases reported especially in North Horr and Moyale sub-counties.

Access indicators: Household and livestock trekking distances were shorter than the long term average attributed to 80percent recharge level of sub-surface water sources. Milk consumption was 1.0Litres/household/day which was below normal. Terms of trade was above normal attributed to slightly below normal goat prices and stable maize prices.

Utilization indicators: Nutritional status of children below the age of five years slightly deteriorated but within normal. Food consumption score fell within acceptable band while coping strategies employed were stressed.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short rains harvests ▪ Short dry spell ▪ Reduced milk yields ▪ Increased HH Food Stocks ▪ Land preparation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planting/Weeding ▪ Long rains ▪ High Calving Rate ▪ Milk Yields Increase 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Long rains harvests ▪ A long dry spell ▪ Land preparation ▪ Increased HH Food Stocks ▪ Kidding (Sept) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short rains ▪ Planting/weeding 								
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

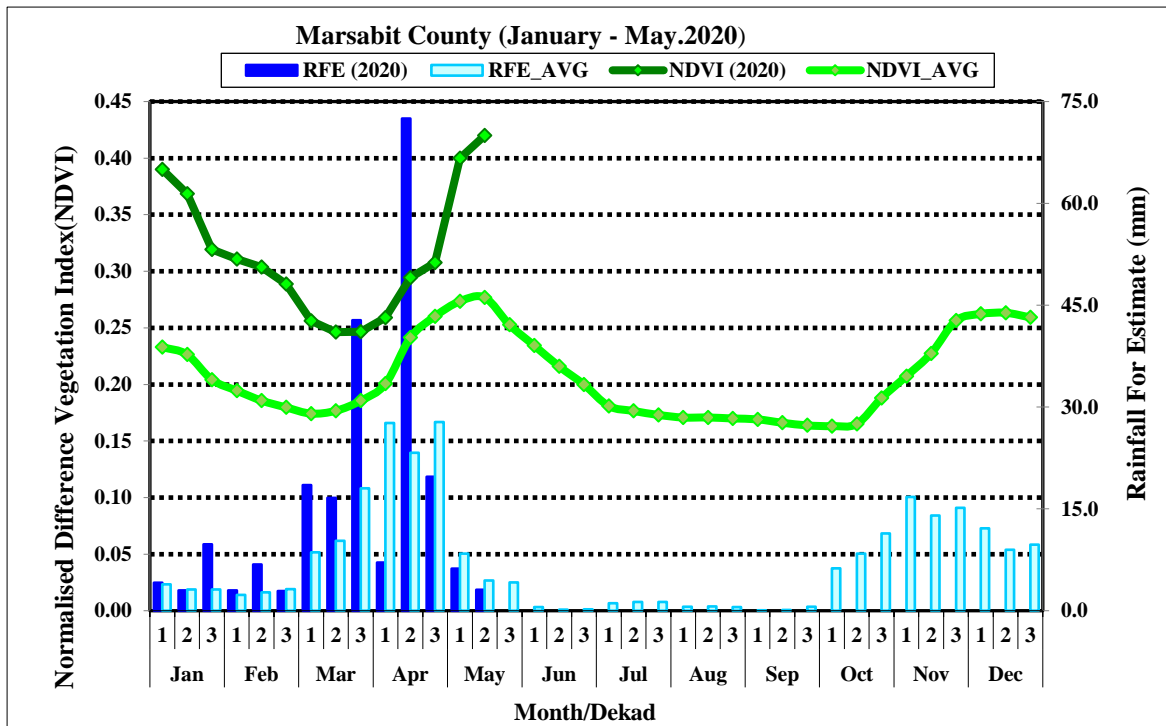


Figure 1: Dekadal Rainfall (mm) and NDVI values compared to the Long Term Average

Source: WFP-VAM, CHIRPS/MODIS

- From the figure 1 shown above, dekadal rainfall for estimate amounts for the first and second dekads were below normal when compared to their respective long-term dekadal rainfall for estimate averages. Generally, current dekadal rainfall amounts considerably declined when compared to the previous months dekadal rainfall amounts.
- Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) for the first and second dekads were way above normal when compared to their corresponding long term dekadal NDVI values.

1.2 Cessation of the Long Rains

Cessation of the long rains was normal as it occurred in the second dekad of the 2nd month across the County which is usual.

1.3 Amounts received

- In the month under review, Moyale Township received 157.2mm of rainfall in 6 rainy days while other days were characterized by traced rainfall amounts, the maximum rainfall amount was received on 7th May at 114.4mm thus torrential. However, Marsabit Mountain received 38.7mm of rainfall in 3 rainy days. Most parts of North Horr sub-county largely remained dry with exception of parts of North Horr ward (Gas) which received rainfall amounts of 53mm and also parts of Dukana ward. Similarly, most parts of Laisamis sub-county didn't receive rains in the month under review apart from Loiyangalani, Lependera, Ngurunit, Mt. Kulal and South Horr which received some rains in 1-3 rainy days.

1.4 Spatial and temporal distribution

- Distribution of the May rains was poor both temporally and spatially across most parts of the County. In Moyale sub-county, Moyale Township, Heillu Manyatta, Sololo, Butiye and Obbu wards received quite enhanced rains while Golbo and Uran wards received depressed rainfall amounts. In Laisamis sub-county, parts of Korr Ngurunit and Loiyangalani wards

received some showers in the month under review. North western parts of North Horr sub-county (parts of Dukana ward) received rains.

- Agropastoral areas of Moyale sub-county received more rains than Saku sub-county whereas most parts of the pastoral areas of North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties largely remained dry in the month under review.

1.5 CUMULATIVE RAINFALL AMOUNTS

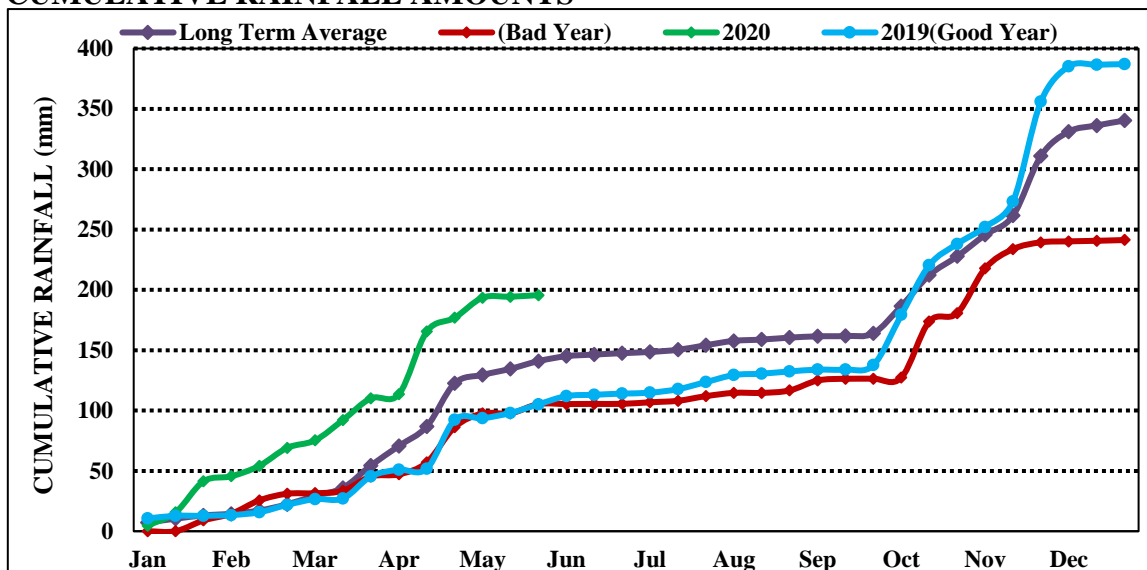


Figure 2: Marsabit County Cumulative Rainfall Amounts (mm)

- From the figure (2) shown above, current cumulative long rains are above the long-term cumulative rainfall amounts.
- The current cumulative rainfall amounts are above the normal cumulative rainfall amounts due to the timely onset of the long rains that were enhanced and above normal across the livelihood zones.

2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

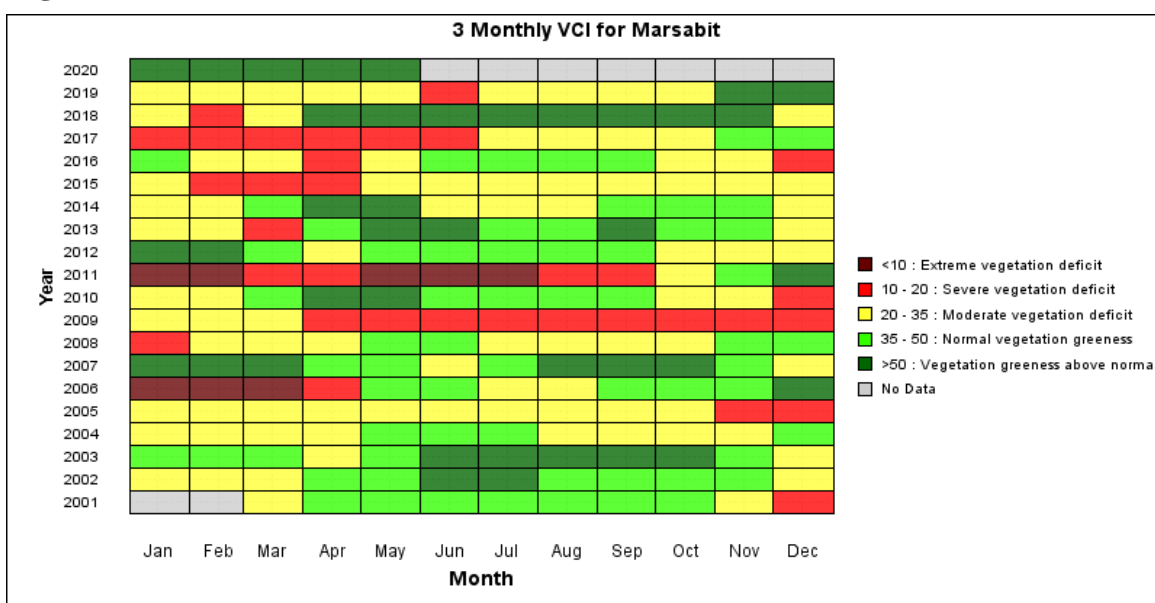


Figure 3: Vegetation Condition Index across the County

- From the figure shown above, the current vegetation condition index is within the above normal vegetation greenness band. The current value of vegetation condition index is 64.72 which exhibits a decline when compared to the preceding months' vegetation condition index of 70.51 attributed to generally dry conditions witnessed in most parts of the County in the month under review.
- Above normal vegetation greenness was attributed to generally good performance of the long rains. With the cessation of the long rains, vegetation condition index will deteriorate further but still fall in the above normal vegetation greenness band.
- When compared based on the sub-counties, Saku, Laisamis, North Horr and Moyale sub-counties illustrated a 3-months vegetation condition index of 71.03, 66.68, 65.89 and 54.44 respectively thus a decline from the previous month's corresponding vegetation condition values but still fell in the above normal vegetation greenness strap.

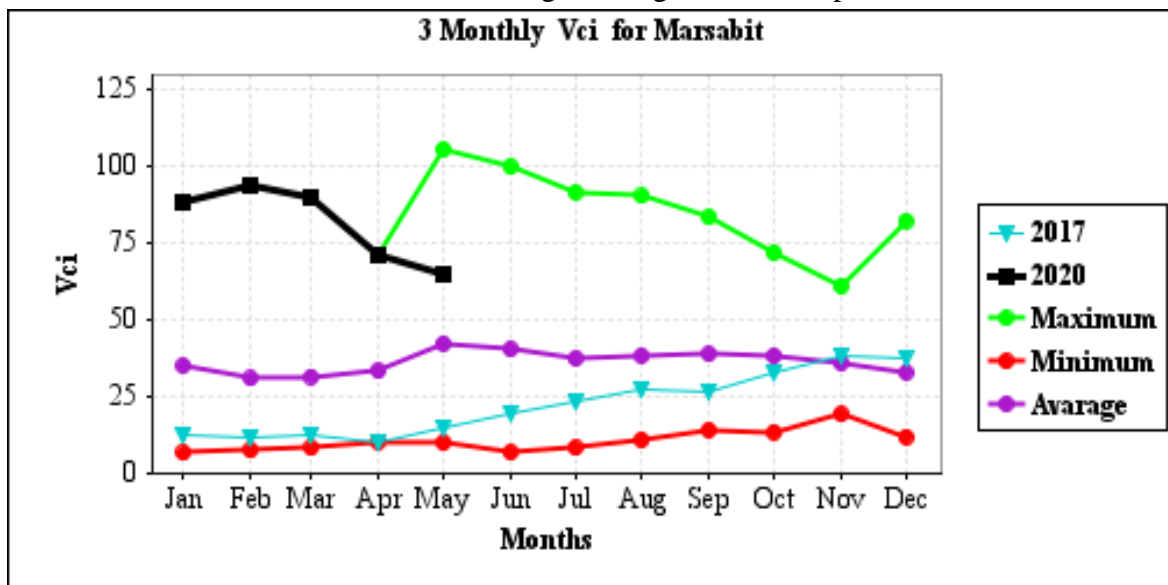


Figure 4: Vegetation Condition Index Trends across the County

- Figure (4) shown above compares May 2020 vegetation condition index to May 2019, long term average and also exhibits the maximum and minimum vegetation condition index values ever recorded.
- When compared to the long-term average, the current vegetation condition index is above the long term average. However, the current vegetation condition index is below the maximum value ever recorded at this particular time of the year.
- Even though drier than normal condition is expected to persist in the next month, the 3-months vegetation condition index is expected to decline and slightly be above the long term average.

2.1.2 Pasture

- Pasture condition is good in all the livelihood zones attributed to generally good performance of the long rains. In the agro-pastoral areas of Moyale and Saku sub-counties, pasture condition is better than the pastoral areas of North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties. When compared normally, the quality and quantity of pasture was good in all the livelihood zones.

- With the current emergence of second generation desert locust invasion in North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties, pasture has been decimated in some parts of Korr-Ngurunit, South Horr-Loiyangalani and Laisamis wards in Laisamis sub-county. In North Horr sub-county, the most affected wards are North Horr, Maikona and Dukana wards. Pasture is expected to last for the next 1 month against the normal of 3-4 months in areas invaded by desert locusts.
- The desert locust has decimated approximately 45,000 hectares of livestock rangeland in the aforementioned areas.

2.1.3 Browse

- Browse condition is good in all the livelihood zones attributed to good performance of the long rains.
- Emergence of non-palatable vegetation was experienced in North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties especially *calotropis procera* and bush encroachment.
- Quality and quantity of browse is good in all the livelihood zones. Generally, in the agro-pastoral areas, browse will last for the next four months whereas in the pastoral livelihood zone browse is likely to last for the next 3 months against the normal of 4 months.
- In areas invaded by the second generation locusts, browse is expected to last for the next 1 and half months against the normal three-four months.

2.2 WATER RESOURCE

2.2.1 Sources

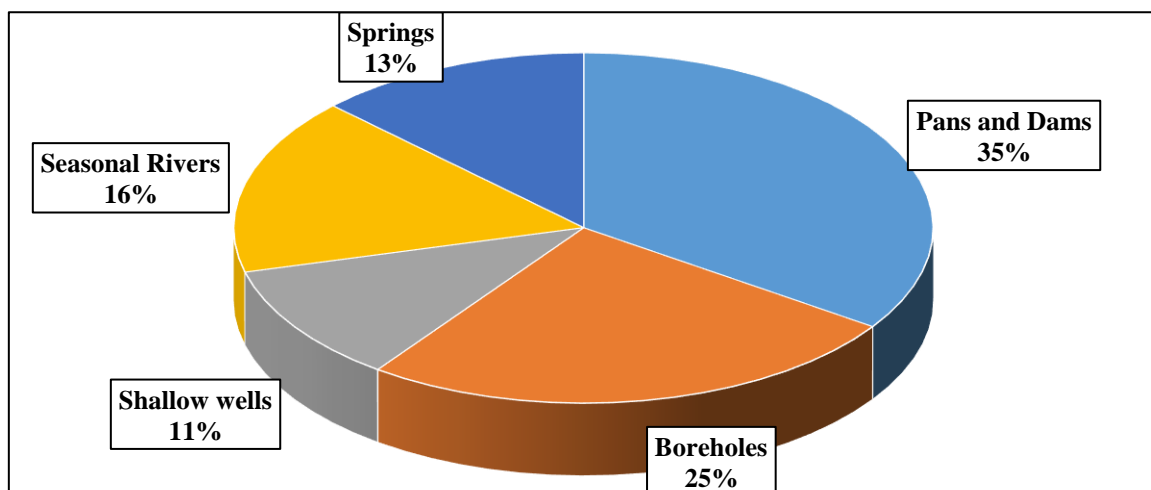


Figure 5: Main sources of water across the livelihood zones

- From figure 5 shown above, water pans and boreholes are the main water sources employed by majority of the communities across the livelihood zones as illustrated by a response rate of 35 and 25percent respectively.
- Other water sources used by the communities in the month under review were seasonal rivers, springs and shallow wells at 16percent, 13percent and 11percent respectively.
- Currently, 80percent of sub-surface water sources in all the livelihood zones are recharged and expected to last for the next 4 and half months. Due to the floods that were received in some parts of the County, a total of 7 water pans were breached. Other boreholes that are not functional include Laisamis, Ndikir, Namarei, Lapikutuk and Balesa boreholes.

2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

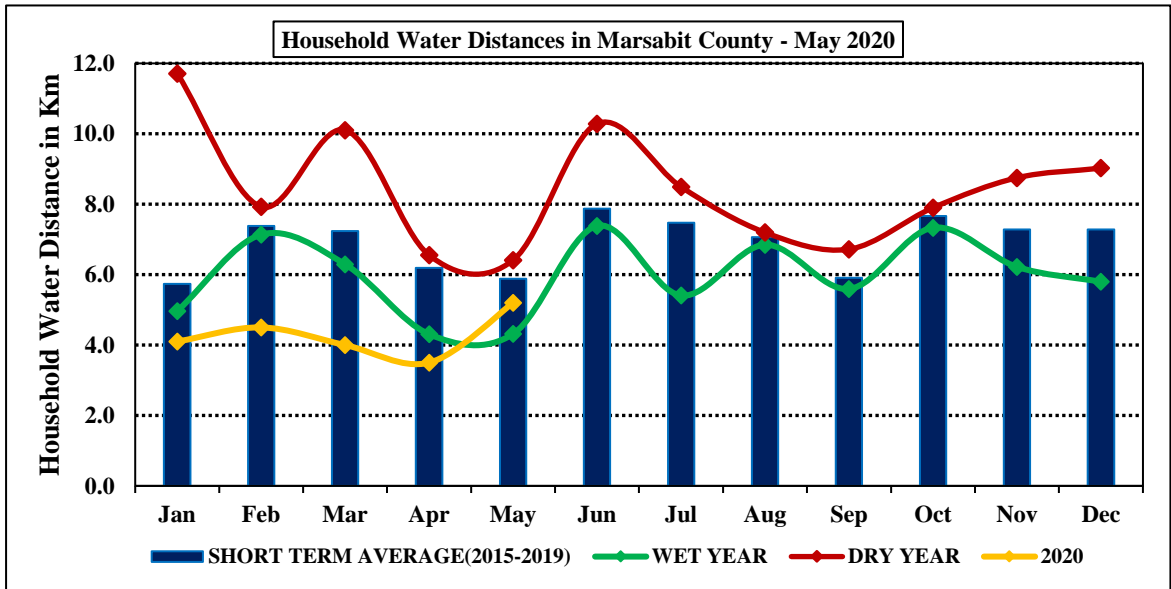


Figure 6: Current household return water distance (km) compared to Short Term Average distances (km)

- From (Figure 6) shown above, return household water distances to the main water sources was 5.2km in the month under review which depicts an increase when compared to the previous month’s household water distance of 3.5km.
- When compared to similar periods, the current household water distance of 5.2km is 13percent shorter than the short term average household water distance of 6.0km, attributed to 80 percent recharge of subsurface water sources across the livelihood zones.
- The current waiting time in the agro-pastoral was 5-15 minutes against the normal of 30 minutes. In the pastoral areas, waiting time was 10-20 minutes compared to a normal of 30-45 minutes. In some parts of North Horr sub-county, household waiting time is below five minutes. Generally, households waiting time at the water source is currently low due to good recharge levels of water sources.
- The current average water consumption in all the livelihood zone is 15-20 litres per person per day which is normal.

2.2.3 Livestock access

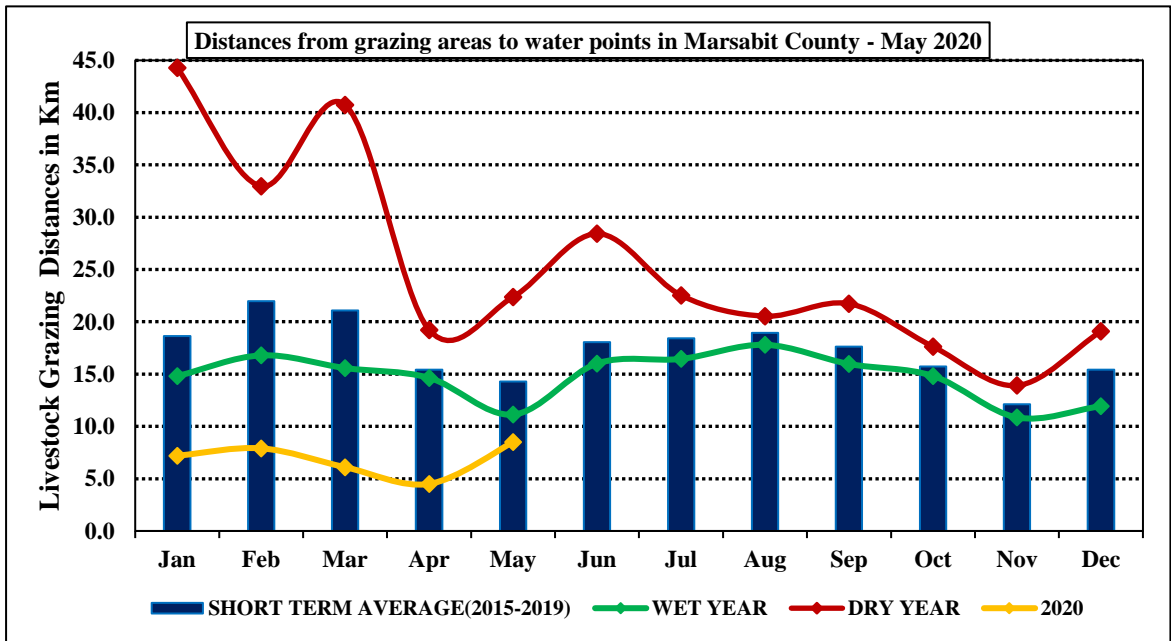


Figure 7: Current return livestock trekking distances compared to the short term average distance (km)

- From (Figure 7) shown above, return livestock trekking distance from grazing areas to water points is 8.5km across the livelihood zones which depicts an increase when compared to the preceding months distance of 4.5km.
- When compared to the short term average livestock grazing distance of 14.3km, the current livestock trekking distance of 8.5km is shorter by 41percent.
- Shorter livestock trekking distances were witnessed in agro-pastoral areas of Moyale and Saku sub-counties where livestock grazed at an average of 5km.
- Currently, cattle and small stock are watered daily and camels watered after 1-2 days across all the livelihood zones thus watering frequencies were high. Normally, cattle are always watered after 1-2 days, small stock after 2 days and camel after 4-6 days.
- With expected drier than normal condition in the next month, watering frequencies are expected to decline for all the livestock species across the livelihood zones.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- The body condition of cattle and small stock was good across the livelihood zones which is normal when compared to similar periods attributed to above normal vegetation greenness.
- Camels were in very good body condition across all the livelihood zones which is normal at this time of the year occasioned by good browse and improved watering frequencies intervals.
- With the current livestock disease incidences in North Horr, Moyale and Laisamis sub-counties, body condition of livestock is expected to deteriorate unless timely surveillance and treatment is conducted to curb spread of the diseases.

3.1.2 Livestock Migration

- Intra migration of livestock to major grazing areas was noted for livestock in North Horr and Laisamis sub counties. In Dukana ward, livestock migrated towards Sabarei, Araftis while in North Horr ward livestock migrated to Chari-Ashe, Sarimo and Galas. In Korr and Laisamis ward livestock migrated towards Elem, Serei, Afare, Ririma and Koya which are the traditional grazing areas.
- With the second generation desert locust in Laisamis and North Horr sub-counties, more acreage of livestock rangeland will be decimated thus likelihood of uncontrolled livestock movements from the next month.

3.1.3 Tropical Livestock Units (TLU) and Calving & Kidding Rates

- In the agro-pastoral livelihood zone, poor income households had 2-3.5 tropical livestock units compared to 2-5 normally while the middle income had 5-12 compared to 10-17 normally. In the pastoral livelihood zone, poor income households had 2-6 tropical livestock units compared to 4-8 normally while the middle income had 8-15 compared to 15-20 normally.

3.1.4 Livestock diseases and mortalities

- Outbreak of an acute respiratory syndrome in North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties that affected all ages of camel but very severe in calves and weaners, deaths of camel calves in numbers were reported from diseases symptoms of cough and swollen glands.
- Notably, high numbers of deaths have already been registered in Yaa Gara, Turbi and Dokatu all in North Horr sub-county. Reported outbreak of Lumpy Skin Disease in cattle

around Hurri hills and Forole was reported and camel deaths in Dambala Fachana and Dabel in Moyale sub-county due to ill-health.

- There were reported cases of cattle deaths at Lagilwarabesa in North Horr sub-county and Walda in Moyale sub-county due to plant poisoning.

3.1.5 Milk Production

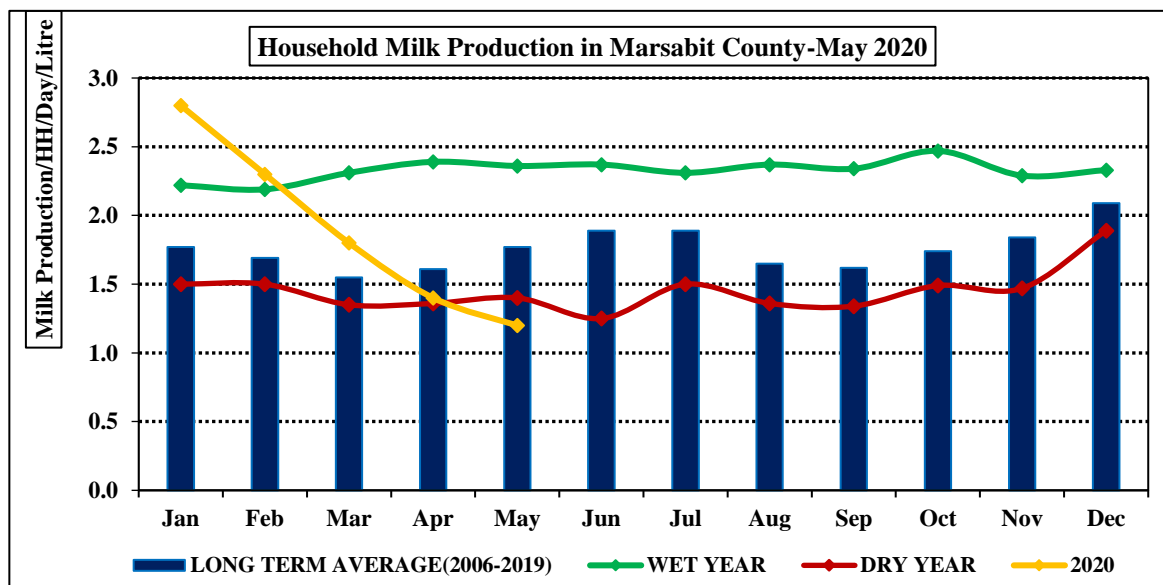


Figure 8: Milk production per household per day in litres across the livelihood zones

- From figure 8 shown above, household milk production per day for the month under review was 1.2litre/household/day across all the livelihood zones hence reduced when compared to the previous month's milk production of 1.4litres.
- When compared to similar periods, current milk production of 1.2litres is below normal by 33percent when compared to the long term average milk production of 1.8litres. Below milk production at household level is attributed to in calves in camel and cattle coupled with migration to traditional grazing areas. Few goats are currently being milked and most of them are conceiving hence low milk production.
- Mortality of camel calves in parts of North Horr sub-county poses negative implication on milk production as well as stock asset build-up.
- Milk prices retailed at an average of Ksh.80-90 per litre across the livelihood zones with exception of the agro-pastoral areas of Saku sub-county where milk retailed at Ksh.90-120.

3.1 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops

- Current crop condition in farms is good in the agro-pastoral livelihood zone of Saku and Moyale sub-counties. The area planted range from half acre to two acres per household.
- The early-planted maize crops are tussling while the late-planted maize crops are at knee high stage. Early planted beans are forming pods while late planted are flowering.
- Incidences of crop pests especially fall armyworm (FAW), maize stalk borer and caterpillars were reported in Karare, Sagante, Uran, Kinisa and Bori while the other areas reported minimal or no pest invasion.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

4.1.1 Cattle Prices

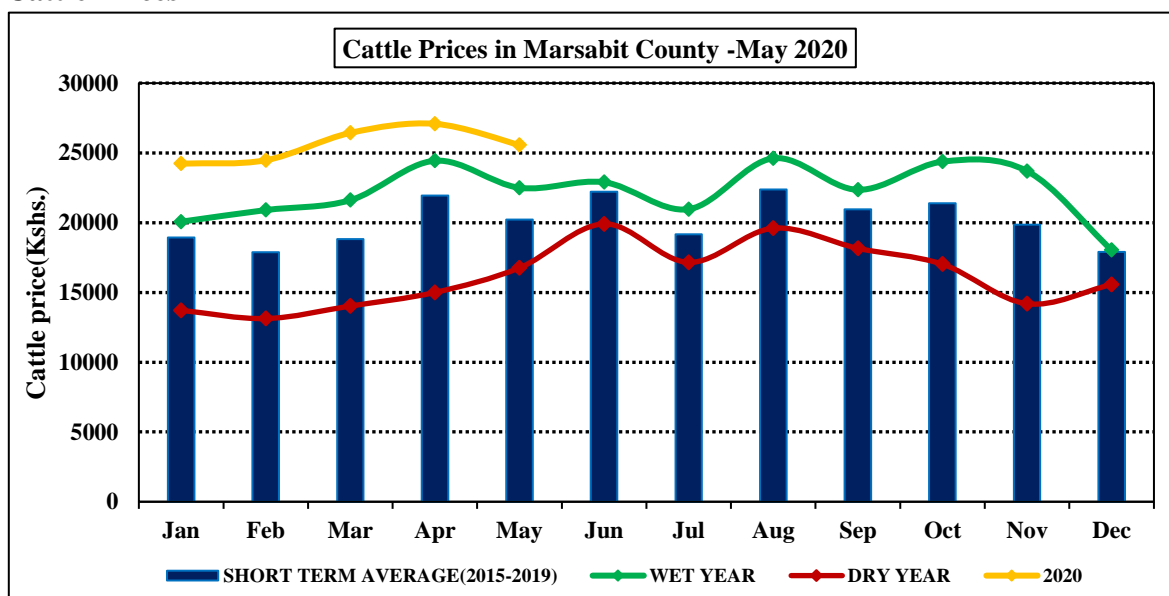


Figure 9: Current cattle prices compared to the short term average prices

- From the figure (9) shown above, cattle price for the month under review was Kshs. 25,560 hence declined when compared to the previous months' price of Kshs. 27,083.
- When compared to similar periods, current cattle price of Kshs. 25,560 is above the short-term average price of Kshs. 20,226 by 26percent.
- Above short term average cattle price is attributed to generally good body condition across the livelihood zones and unwillingness of the pastoralists to sell as cattle are currently in calving.
- The current cattle price is at the farm gate level as the major livestock markets are not operational due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- With the current persistence of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on livestock market, cattle prices are likely to dip further in the next one month across the livelihood zones.

4.1.2 Goat prices

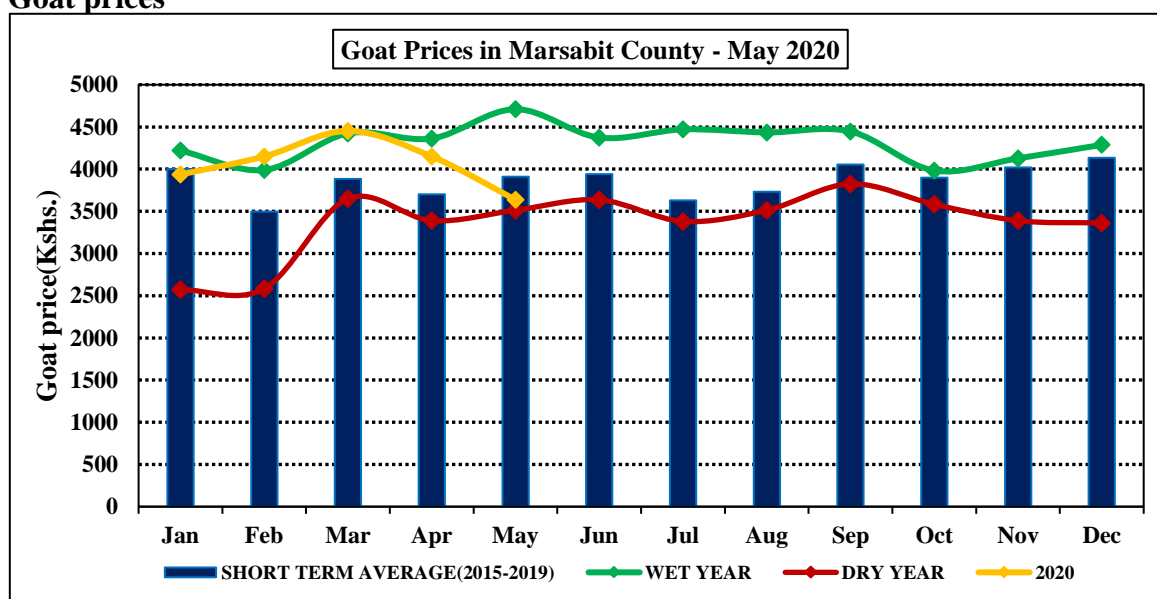


Figure 10: Current goat prices compared to short term average prices

- From figure 10 shown above, the current average goat price is Kshs. 3,636 hence a reduction when compared to the preceding months' price of Kshs. 4,150.
- When compared to the short term average price of Kshs. 3,912, current goat price is below normal by 7percent.
- Below normal and declining goat prices were attributed to sale of goats at the farm gate and the closure of major livestock markets.
- Prices of goats are expected to reduce further if the livestock market restrictions continue and expected to be below normal in the next month.

4.1.3 Sheep Prices

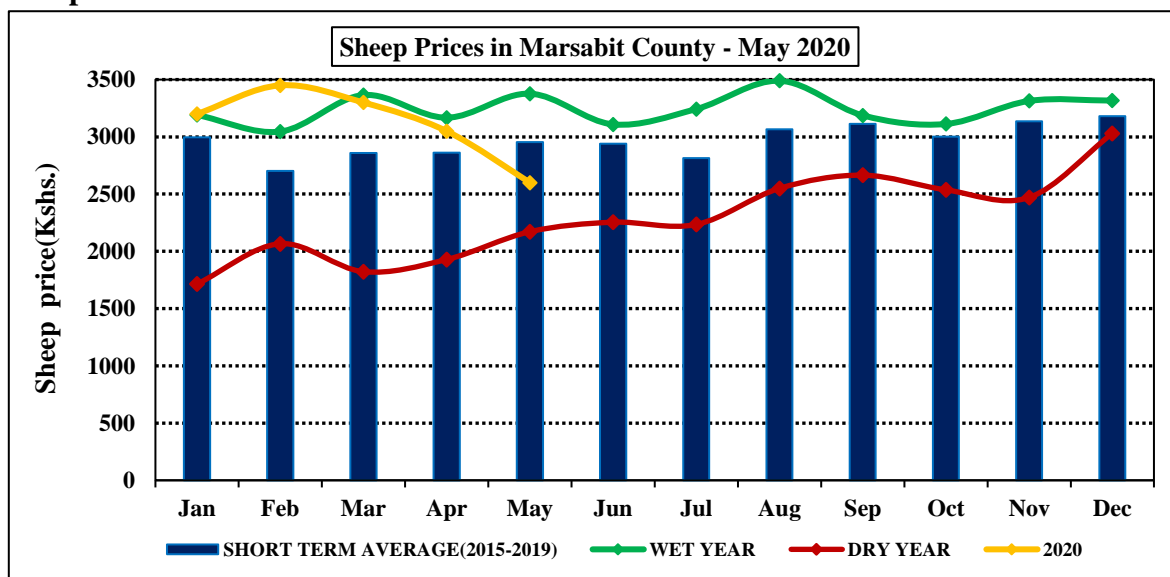


Figure 11: Current sheep prices compared to the short-term average prices (Kshs.)

- From the figure 11 shown above, sheep price for the month under review was Kshs. 2,600 across the livelihood zones hence declined when compared to the preceding months' sheep price of Ksh.3, 050.
- When compared to the short-term average price of Kshs. 2,955, current sheep price is below normal by 12percent. Below normal sheep prices occasioned by generally unfavourable prices at the farm gate as closure of major markets persists.
- Sheep prices are expected to decline further if livestock market closure continues.

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize

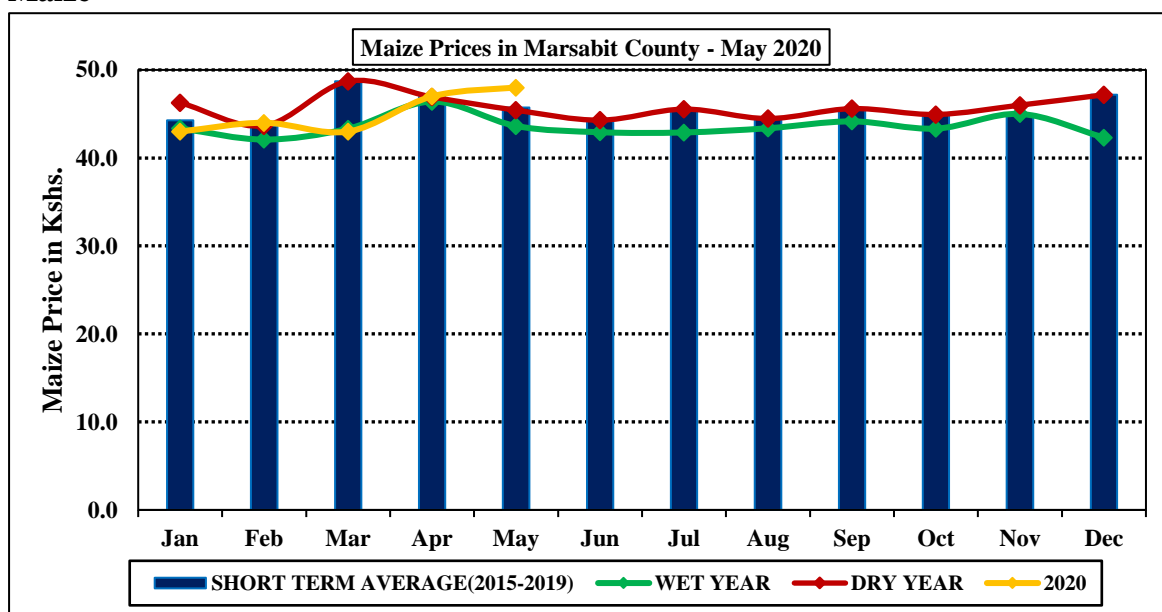


Figure 12: Current maize prices compared to the short-term average maize prices (Kshs.)

- The average price of maize for the month under review was Kshs.48 per kg thus remained stable when compared to the previous months' maize price of Kshs.47 per kg.
- When compared to the short term average maize price of Kshs.46 per kg, current price is normal.
- Moyale commodity market registered lower maize prices averaging at Kshs.35-40 per Kg.
- However, maize prices were high in most parts of Laisamis and North Horr sub-counties with prices ranging between at Kshs.55 and 60per kg due to poor market integration and reduced supplies attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.

4.2.2 Beans

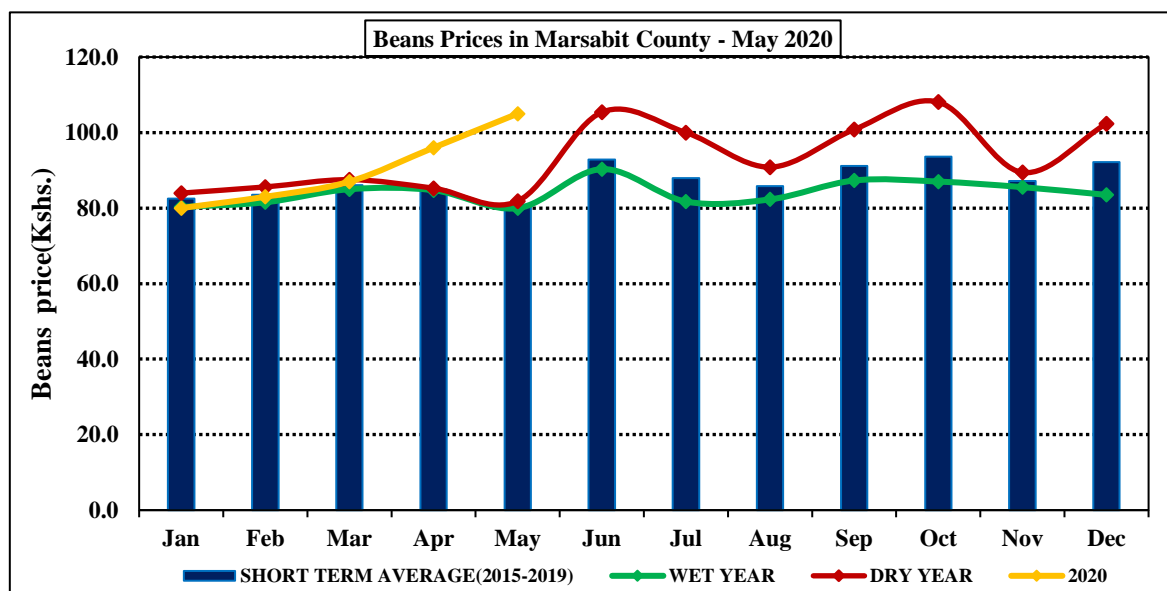


Figure 13: Beans prices compared to the short average term average prices(Kshs.)

- From the figure shown above, beans prices retailed at Kshs.105/kg in the month under review across the livelihood zones hence increased when compared to the previous months' beans price of Kshs.96/kg.

- When compared to short-term average beans price of Kshs.81/kg, current beans are above normal by 30percent. Increased beans prices reported in most parts of the County is attributed to reduced supplies from commodity markets of neighbouring Ethiopia and Meru.
- However, Moyale commodity market depicted favourable beans prices with prices ranging between Kshs.60-75/kg. Favourable beans prices in Moyale commodity market was occasioned by good commodity market integration.
- In North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties, there was a surge in beans prices retailing at Kshs.100-120 due to reduced supplies and poor market integration.

4.2.3 Terms of Trade (TOT)

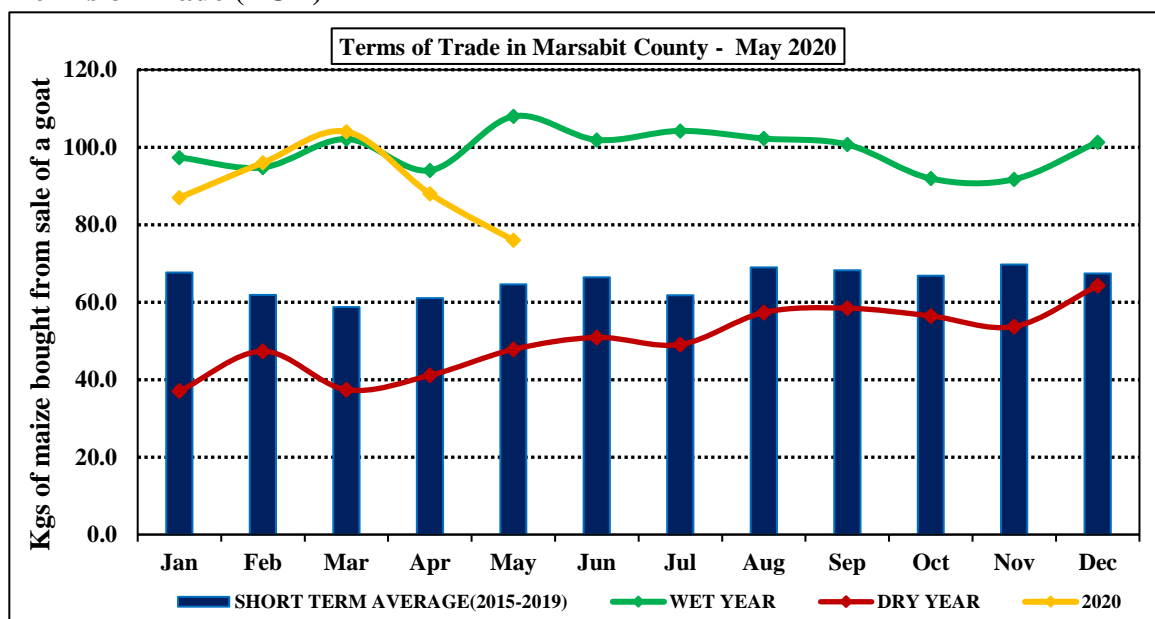


Figure 14: Current terms of trade versus short term average terms of trade

- In the month under review, terms of trade are 76 kilograms which depicts a decline when compared to the preceding month's terms of trade of 88 kilograms.
- The current terms of trade are 76 kilograms in exchange for the sale of a goat which is 17 percent above the short term average terms of trade of 65 kilograms.
- Even though terms of trade is above normal, it declined when compared to the previous months terms of trade of 88 kilograms and its likely to decline further in the next one month due to expected reduction in goat prices coupled with closure of the major livestock markets.
- Moyale sub-county posted better terms of trade than other sub-counties due to generally favourable maize prices.

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 Milk Consumption

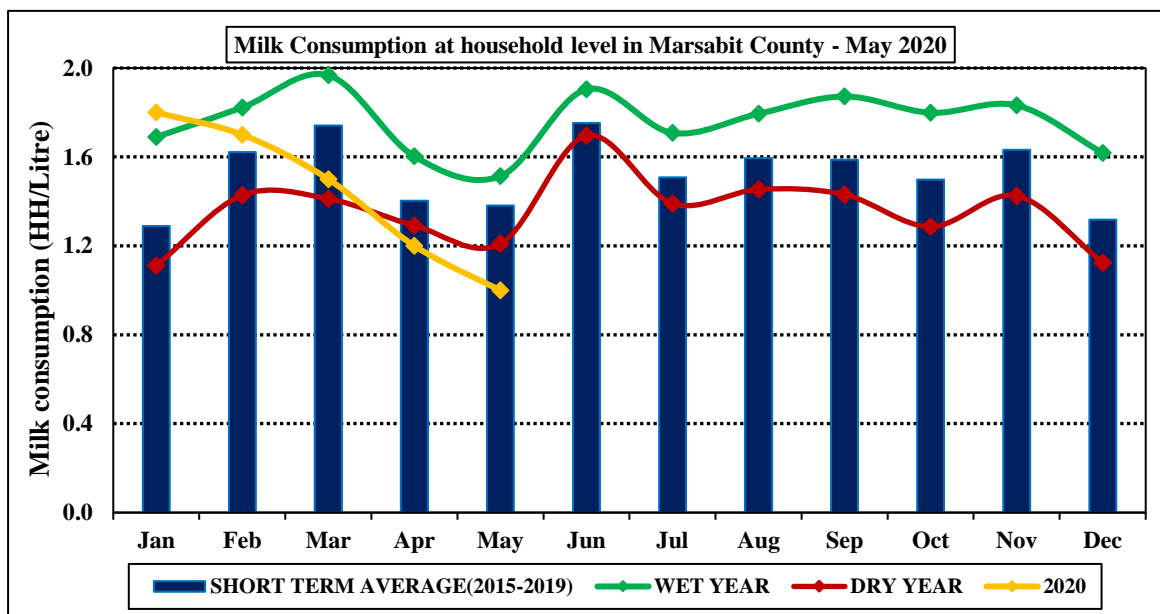


Figure 15: Current milk consumption/household/day/litre against long term average

- From the figure 15 shown above, household milk consumption is 1.0litre/household/day in the month under review across the livelihood zones thus reduced when compared to the preceding month's milk consumption of 1.2litre/household/day.
- When compared to the long-term average milk consumption of 1.4litres/household/day, current milk consumption is below normal by 29percent.
- Below normal milk consumption at the household level was attributed to low milk production across the livelihood zones and the in calving amongst camel and cattle.

5.2 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE (FCS)

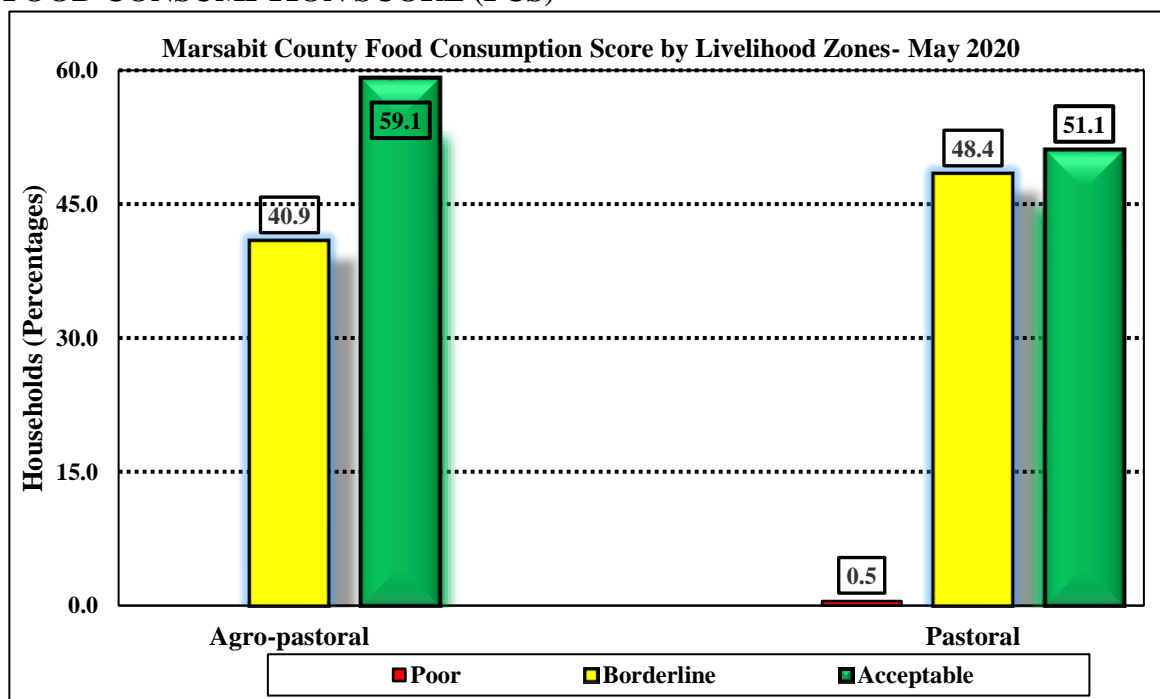


Figure 16: Food Consumption Score across the livelihood zones

- In the month under review, mean food consumption score is 40.41 across the livelihood zones hence remained stable when compared to previous months' food consumption score of 40.65.
- The current food consumption score is within the acceptable band in all the livelihood zones. Food consumption score for the agro-pastoral and pastoral livelihood zone is 45.22 and 39.09 respectively.

	FCS Mean	Poor FCS	Borderline FCS	Acceptable FCS
County	40.41	0.5%	46.7%	52.8%
Dukana	37.27	0.0%	36.67%	63.33%
Golbo	49.50	0.0%	16.55%	83.45%
Karare	52.93	0.0%	10.34%	89.66%
Korr	34.68	0.0%	60.0%	40.0%
Loiyangalani	29.19	3.23%	77.42%	19.35%
Logologo	48.67	0.0%	6.67%	93.33%
North Horr	27.23	0.0%	87.5%	12.5%
Turbi	50.86	0.0%	6.90%	93.10%
Heillu Manyatta	30.72	0.0%	96.67%	3.33%
Sagante	31.30	0.0%	80.0%	20.0%
Uran	55.32	0.0%	9.5%	91.5%

- From the table shown above, 0.5percent of households consumed staples and vegetables every day and never or very rarely are consuming protein rich food such as meat and dairy. 46.7percent of the households consumed staples and vegetables every day, accompanied by oil and pulses a few times a week while 52.8percent consumed staples and vegetables every day, regularly accompanied by oil and pulses and occasionally meat of dairy product.
- Proportion of households in the agro-pastoral livelihood zone that were within the acceptable and borderline food consumption score were 59.1percent and 40.9percent respectively. Similarly, proportion of households in the pastoral livelihood zone that were within the acceptable, borderline and poor food consumption scores were 51.1percent, 48.4percent and 0.5percent respectively.
- It can also be deduced that Golbo and Uran wards in Moyale sub-county, Karare ward in Saku sub-county, Logologo ward in Laisamis sub-county, Turbi and Dukana wards in North Horr sub-county fell in the acceptable food consumption band. However, Heillu Manyatta, Korr, Sagante, Loiyangalani and North Horr wards fell in borderline food consumption band.
- By and large, food consumption score has been in the acceptable band for the last 6 months in all the livelihood zones.

5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

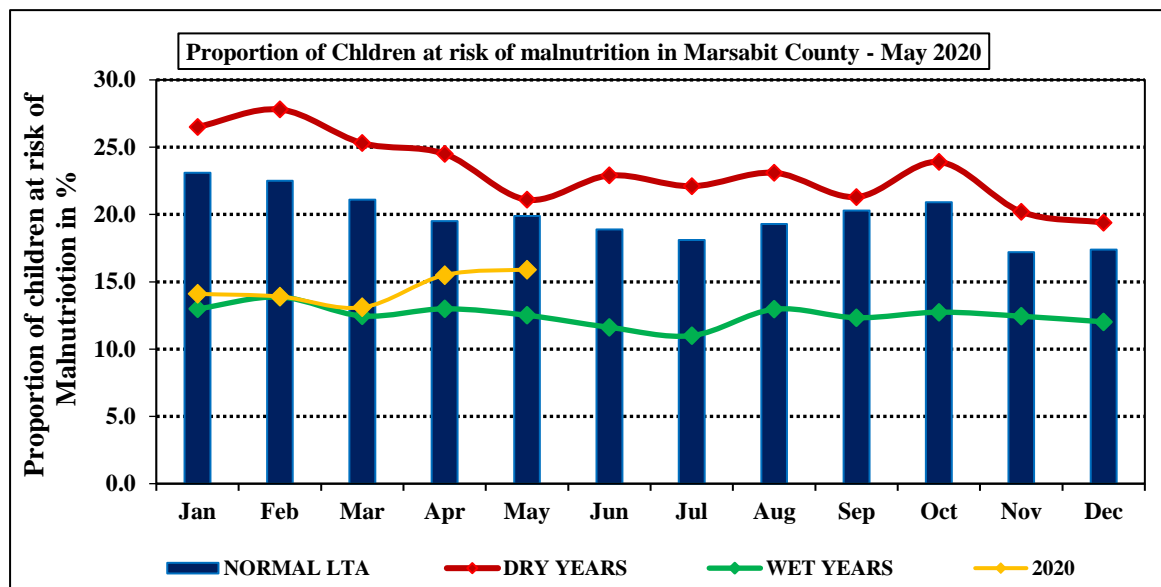


Figure 17: Nutritional status of children below the age of five years verses long term average

- From (Figure 17) shown above, proportion of children under the age of five years who were ‘at risk’ of malnutrition was 15.9percent in the month under review hence gradually increased when compared to the preceding month’s MUAC of 15.5percent attributed to below milk consumption and increasing food commodity prices. When compared to the long term average MUAC of 19.9percent, proportion of children ‘at risk’ of malnutrition was within the normal range.
- One cycle of integrated outreaches was conducted by MoH and supported by Concern Worldwide in all the 40 outreach sites across North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties. A total of 1,250 children below five years were screened out of which 19(1.52%) and 117(9.4%) referred to therapeutic and supplementary feeding programmes respectively. A total of 376 pregnant and lactating women were screened out of which 99(26.3percent) were referred to supplementary feeding programme. Active Case Finding was conducted in North Horr Sub County by 172 community health volunteers across 30 community units where a total of 8,035(69.5%) children below five years were screened out of which 226(3%) and 561(9.8%) were referred to therapeutic and supplementary feeding programmes respectively.

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES

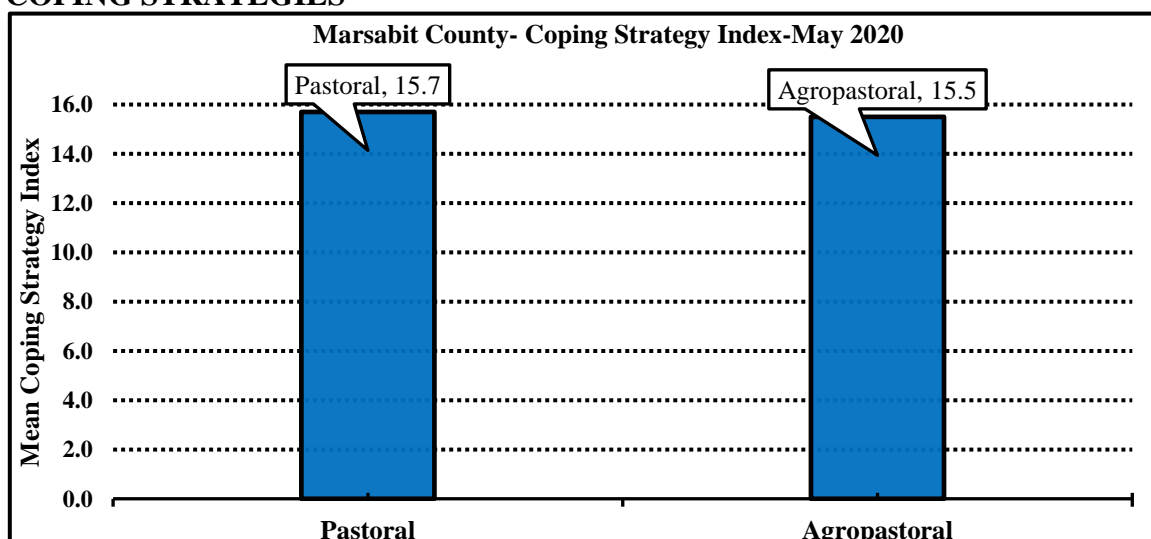


Figure 18: Coping Strategy Index across livelihood zones

- From figure 18 shown above, reduced consumption based coping strategy index(rCSI) for the agro-pastoral and pastoral livelihood zones was 15.5 and 15.7 respectively thus majority of households applied stressed reduced food consumption based coping mechanisms across the livelihood zones.
- Reduced consumption based coping strategy index (rCSI) for the month under review is 15.61 hence increased when compared to April rCSI of 13.93.
- 89.8percent of the households applied coping mechanisms while 10.2percent of the households didn't apply any of the reduced coping strategies in the month of May.
- From table shown below, households in Loiyangalani, Golbo, Dukana and Sagante wards applied more severe reduced consumption based coping mechanisms whereas households in Karare, Uran and Turbi wards applied less severe coping strategies.

Consumption based coping strategy index(rCSI)		
Sub-county	Ward	rCSI
Saku	Sagante	20.33
Saku	Karare	8.76
Laisamis	Korr	17.47
Laisamis	Loiyangalani	31.09
North Horr	Turbi	11.89
North Horr	North Horr	13.33
North Horr	Dukana	20.73
Moyale	Uran	11.72
Moyale	Heillu Manyatta	15.23
Moyale	Golbo	23.71

- It can also be deduced that 20percent, 48percent and 31percent of the households applied reduced consumption based coping mechanism that are minimal, stressed and crisis respectively.
- Notable reduced consumption based coping strategies employed by the households were reduction in frequency of food consumption, reduced portion size of meals and reliance on less preferred food in all the livelihood zones.

6.0 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES

6.1 Food Aid

- USAID/WFP through SND distributed 458.4MT of sorghum,114.6MT of pulses and 33.9MT of vegetable oil to 9,168 households in 50 food distribution points across the County under the sustainable food system programme.
- County Government of Marsabit distributed relief food to at least 20,000 households across the County with each household receiving 10kg of rice, 5kg of sugar, 6kg of maize flour, 6kg of wheat flour, 5kg of beans, tea leaves, 3 litres of cooking oil and salt.
- CARITAS distributed food (rice, beans, sugar and vegetable oil) to 450 households in Dadach Kambi, Kubiqallo, Rawana and Amballo.

6.2 Non-Food Aid

- Unconditional Cash transfer to HSNP II beneficiaries through National Drought Management Authority targeting 20,332 households received Kshs.5, 400 each totalling to

Kshs. 109,792,800 and 75 proxy households (child and elderly headed households) received Kshs. 5,400 each (Kshs. 405,000).

- World Vision Kenya supported households affected by Desert Locust in Laisamis sub-county with cash transfer of Ksh.3000 monthly. Namarei (30 Household, Ngurunit - 30 Households, Illaut & Farakoren, Nairibi - 35 Households, and Lontolio - 37 households.
- PACIDA supported 1240 households that were affected by desert locust invasion in Laisamis and North Horr sub-counties with a monthly cash transfer of Kshs. 3,000.
- FH-K supported trainings of 231 CHVS in Sololo, distributed 30 hand wash facilities to health centres and communities in Sololo, five-day public awareness in Sololo, provided 480 liters of liquid soap – 160 handed over to Covid19 team and 320 distributed to health facilities in Kalacha, El-hadhi, Hurri Hills, Elgade, Turbi and Bubisa in North Horr sub-county. FH-K also supported surveillance team to carry screen at Sololo Makutano Junction.
- Kenya Red Cross Society procured personal protective equipment's, facemasks and hand sanitizers through the support from UNFPA.
- Concern continued to support MoH on community level interventions through stipends provision for 375 CHVs in North Horr (175) and 200 (Laisamis) as well as facilitating the CHAs in the two Sub Counties to supervise the activities of CHVs.
- PACIDA supported desert locust control (70 Locust monitors and reporters) and Radio Talk Shows on COVID-19 and desert locust sensitization.
- NAWIRI consortium under CRS lead supported MoH to build clinical health workers on COVID-19 prevention and Management. A total of 60 health workers from North Horr were trained on COVID-19 in Kalacha, 80 from Saku Sub County, 55 from Laisamis. The Moyale SC health workers will be trained in June 2020.
- CARITAS provided 200 personal protective equipment, 200 N95 masks and 2500 surgical masks for COVID-19 response.
- SND supported the department of health with personal protective equipment's and sanitizers for COVID-19 response.
- FAO provided logistical support to department of agriculture for desert locust control.
- FAOKE is supporting the training of 120 personnel in the county to assist in the survey and control operations.
- Kenya Red Cross Society distributed none food items to families whose shelter were destroyed and lost household items. The total number of household assisted by Kenya Red Cross in Moyale sub-county were 191 (Bori junction 117, Qoloba 61) and 13 in Ilaut, Laisamis sub-county.
- World Vision Kenya supported the County team, and NYS to conduct surveillance, mapping and monitoring of the desert locust affected sites and spraying within the operation area- Marsabit south.
- Boma distributed over 3500 sanitizers to boma groups in all their operation areas and also do community sensitization in all the sub-counties through their mentors.
- Concern Worldwide supported MoH in staff re-deployment in the following health facilities; Watiti, Funa qumbi, Eldimtu and Illeret were supported with redeployment of one nutritionist each while Qorga, Elbesso, Telesqaye and Boji were supported each with one nurse deployment. This support will continue up to 30th June 2020
- Kenya Red Cross Society supported public address sensitization campaigns on COVID-19 in Moyale.

- Sign of Hope conducted sensitization campaigns on COVID-19 in Illeret and Dukana. They also did hygiene promotion in Dukana on hand washing plus one-month sensitization over the radio.
- Concern Worldwide supported 9 days of logistics for investigation of camel respiratory syndrome. Supported communities in Obbu and Uran ward in Moyale sub-county with a total of 40(forty), 5000liters tanks and supported earth pan desilting and fencing in Soito and Farakoren villages of Korr- Ngurunit ward in Laisamis sub-county.

7.0 EMERGING ISSUES

7.1.1. Desert Locust Invasion

- Second generation nymphs already emerged in hotspots areas of Oltorot, Kargi and Pallo in Loiyangalani ward. In North Horr sub-county, second generation swarms were spotted in Balesa, Kalacha, Elbesso, El-Isako Mala, El-Boru Magado, Yaa Algana, El-Mudha and Gas ares of North Horr sub-county. In Laisamis sub-county, nymphs were spotted in Illaut, Farakoen, Arge, Ririma, Kargi, Sarima, Moite and Oltorot in Laisamis sub-county. However, in the next one-week North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties should brace itself for sustained second-generation nymph attack in the hot spot areas.
- Second generation nymphs in the aforementioned hot spot areas poses significant risk to the livestock grazing area and consequently community livelihoods. With the persistence of the nymph, the total area likely to be decimated shall probably exceed the 45,000 hectares of livestock rangeland in North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties and the situation will be made worse with the projected hotter than normal conditions across the County for the next 3 months.

7.2 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS.

- Agropastoral areas of Moyale sub-county received more rains than Saku sub-county whereas most parts of the pastoral areas of North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties largely remained dry in the month under review thus most areas are expected to remain relatively dry in the next 3 months.
- Vegetation condition index is within the above normal vegetation greenness band but exhibits a decline when compared to the preceding months' VCI value. With the expected drier than normal conditions, vegetation condition index will deteriorate further but still fall in the above normal vegetation greenness band in the next one month.
- Second generation nymphs in some parts of North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties poses significant threat to the livestock grazing area and more acreage of rangeland is expected to be decimated as the invasion persists and this will likely impact on uncontrolled livestock movements within and outside the County.
- 80percent of subsurface water sources in all the livelihood zones are recharged and with expected high evapotranspiration rates in the next one month, water recharge levels will decline. Household and livestock water distances are below the short term average and expected increase in the next one month.
- Crop condition for maize and beans is good in the agro-pastoral livelihood zone of Saku and Moyale sub-counties. The early-planted maize crops are tussling while the late-planted maize crops are at knee high stage. Early planted beans are forming pods while late planted are flowering. Due to sufficient moisture content, the rainfed crops are expected to attend their physiological maturity.

- The likelihood occurrence of rift valley fever might result in quarantine being imposed in the affected areas hence restrictions of trade in livestock and livestock products which might impact negatively on livelihood.
- Though terms of trade are above normal, it declined when compared to the previous month's terms of trade of 88 kilograms and its likely to decline further in the next one month due to expected reduction in goat prices coupled with closure of the major livestock markets.
- The mean food consumption score fell in the acceptable food consumption score band in all the livelihood zones and expected to be in the same band in the next one month while reduced consumption based coping strategies are likely to be in the stressed phase.
- As a result of below normal milk consumption at household level, expected further increase in food commodities prices due to the COVID-19 pandemic coupled by dwindling terms of trade, nutritional status of children below the age of five years is expected to deteriorate in the next one month.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provision of personal protective gears, face masks, hand sanitizers, training of public health officers, continuous awareness campaigns across the County on COVID-19.
- Intensive ground and aerial spraying in hotspots areas where the second generation desert locusts have invaded.
- Sensitization of community members on threat and adverse effect of desert locust to their livelihoods.
- Stimulation of the Community Disease Reporters in the hot spot areas to support with livestock husbandry and disease surveillance and control especially diarrhoea noted in goats and camels.
- Continuous experts' advisory on migration patterns of the desert locust determine the direction of the swarm movement and effective control measures.
- Enhanced surveillance with an objective sampling frame to help ascertain the cause of camel calves' deaths. Bacterial sensitivity tests to help identify the most appropriate therapy for the conditions.
- Ring vaccination of livestock within 25km radius around the infected area, imposing quarantine to control movement of livestock into and out of the affected regions and sensitization of the communities on the importance of quarantine in managing the spread of the Lumpy Skin Disease.
- Hygiene promotion in areas affected by Cholera majorly in Illeret ward (North Horr sub-county) and control of upsurge in malaria cases.
- Rehabilitation of Laisamis, Ndikir, Namarei, Lapikutuk and Balesa boreholes. Repair and desilting of Turbi water pan.