

National Drought Management Authority
WAJIR COUNTY
DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR NOVEMBER 2017



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



NOVEMBER EW PHASE 2017

Early Warning Phase Classification

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

Rainfall Report

During the season the county received enhanced rainfall in most part of the county where the highest rainfall was recorded in Wajir town and lowest recorded in Habaasweine. The rainfall distribution, both in time and space, was generally good over most parts of the county mainly during the first half of the month

Vegetation condition: Condition of Pasture and browse in all livelihood zones ranges from fair to good.

Current VCI in the county shows moderate vegetation deficit which recorded 23.18 in the month under review as compared to previous month figure which showed 24 with no significant changes. Wajir South and Wajir West are still indicating severe vegetation deficit but on an improving trend. Distance to water points for households and grazing areas significantly decreased which is normal at this time. State of water level is normal as compared to last month and previous year's season, improved water recharge level

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

Livestock body condition ranges from fair to good for cattle, sheep, and goat and good for camel. Pasture and browse situation improved, Milk availability and accessibility increased, migration of livestock was reported in some other counties, Reduced trekking distance, Terms of trade still not favourable, Percentage of children under five at risk of malnutrition slightly decreased from 21.0 in October to 18.0 in the month under review. Less coping strategies were employed as compared to previous month.

| Livelihood Zone | Phase | Trend |
|--|-----------|--------------------|
| Agro-pastoral | Alert | Improving |
| Pastoral cattle | Alarm | Improving |
| Pastoral-all species | Alarm | Improving |
| Pastoral camel | Alert | Improving |
| Informal employment | Alert | Improving |
| County | Alert | Improving |
| Biophysical Indicators | value | Normal Range/Value |
| Rainfall (% of Normal) | 68 | 80 -120 |
| VCI-3Month | 23.18 | >35 |
| Production indicators | Value | Normal |
| Livestock Body Condition | Fair-good | Normal |
| Crop production | Poor | Good |
| Milk Production | 2.0 | >3-4litres |
| Livestock Migration Pattern | Normal | Normal |
| Livestock deaths (from drought) | No death | No death |
| Access Indicators | Value | Normal |
| Terms of Trade (ToT) | 58 | >66 |
| Milk Consumption | 1.7 | >3 |
| Return Distance to water source | 3.3 | <5 Km |
| Utilization indicators | Value | Normal |
| Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition) | 18 | <6.6 |
| Coping Strategy Index (CSI) | 11.7 | <0.95 |

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

1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITION

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

1.2 Onset

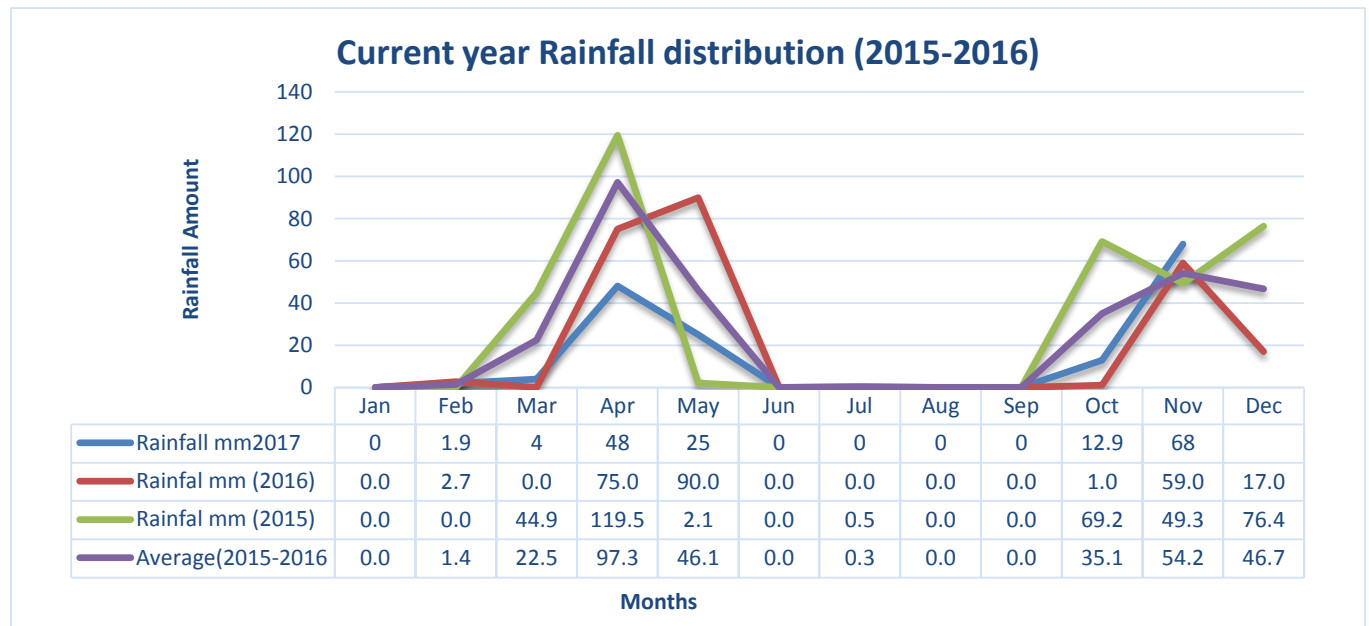
- During Onset rainfall was experienced in third week of October where few rainfall storms were recorded. However in the month under review heavy rainfall amount were recorded in some towns mainly Buna, Wajir Airport, Wajir-bor and Griftu while lowest was recorded in Habaswein showing 205.6mm, 205mm, and others recorded between 150-200mm respectively. Lowest was recorded in Habaswein

1.3 Amount of rainfall and spatial distribution

- The amount of Rainfall recorded in October-November indicates enhanced Rainfall where most part of the county received rainfall and Quite a number of towns achieved sufficient rains except few areas in Wajir south and Tarbaj sub-counties. The highest rainfall amount was indicated in Buna, Wajir Town, Wajir Bor and Griftu and lowest was experienced in Habaswein and Tarbaj Sub-county.
- The rainfall distribution, both in time and space, was generally good over most parts of the county.

1.1.1 Rainfall station data

Table 1: A table of the stations and amount of rainfall received in the month of October (Source KMS)



2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 Vegetation Condition

2.1.1 Vegetation condition index (VCI)

The current vegetation cover indexes in the month of November indicated moderate vegetation deficit in the county with a vci score of 23.18 as compared to previous month which showed a VCI of 24 with no significant changes. However the VCI in wajir south and Wajir west still indicates severe vegetation deficit but expected to improve. Other sub-counties showed moderate vegetation deficit mainly wajir East, Wajir North, Tarbaj and Eldas However, this situation is expected to improve following the rains received during the OND.

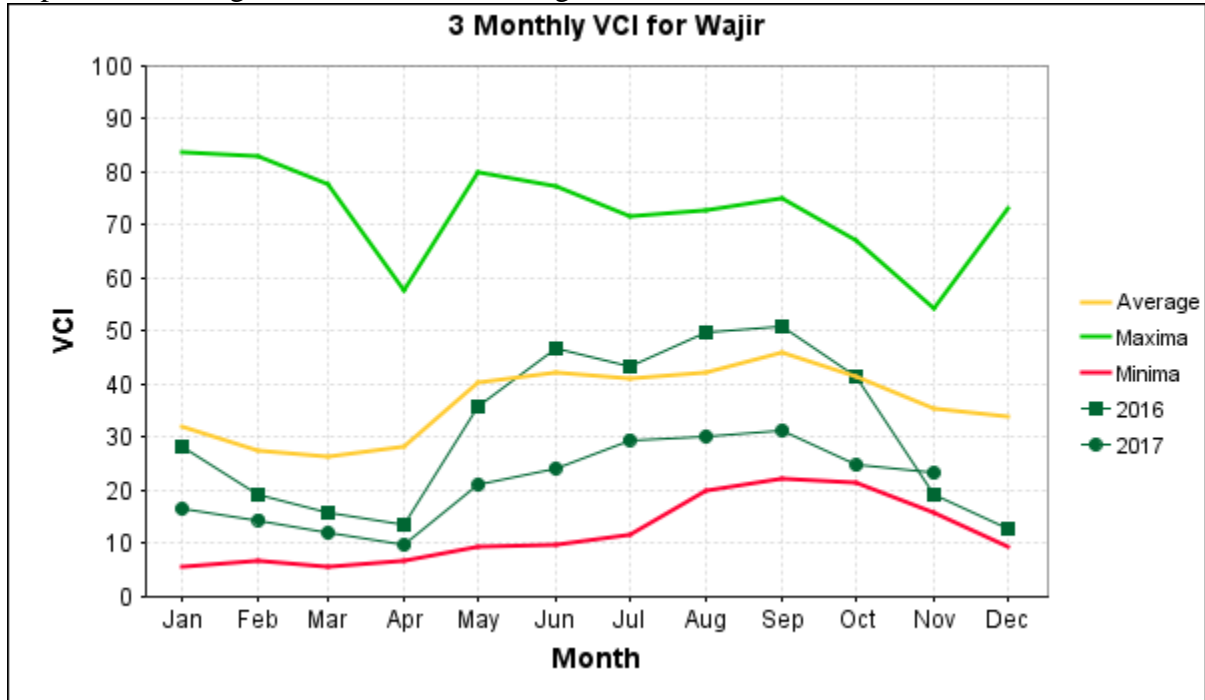


Figure 1: A chart of Wajir County overall 3-monthly VCI during the month of November 2017

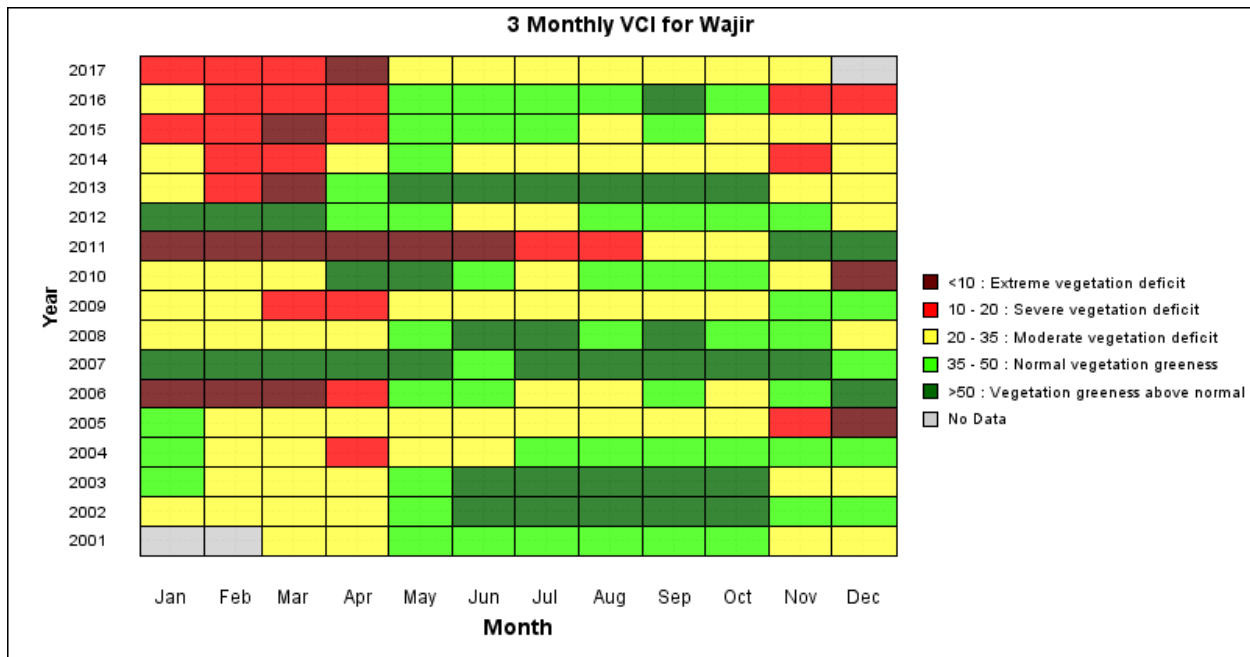


Figure 2: A matrix of 3-monthly VCI for Wajir County during the month of November 2017

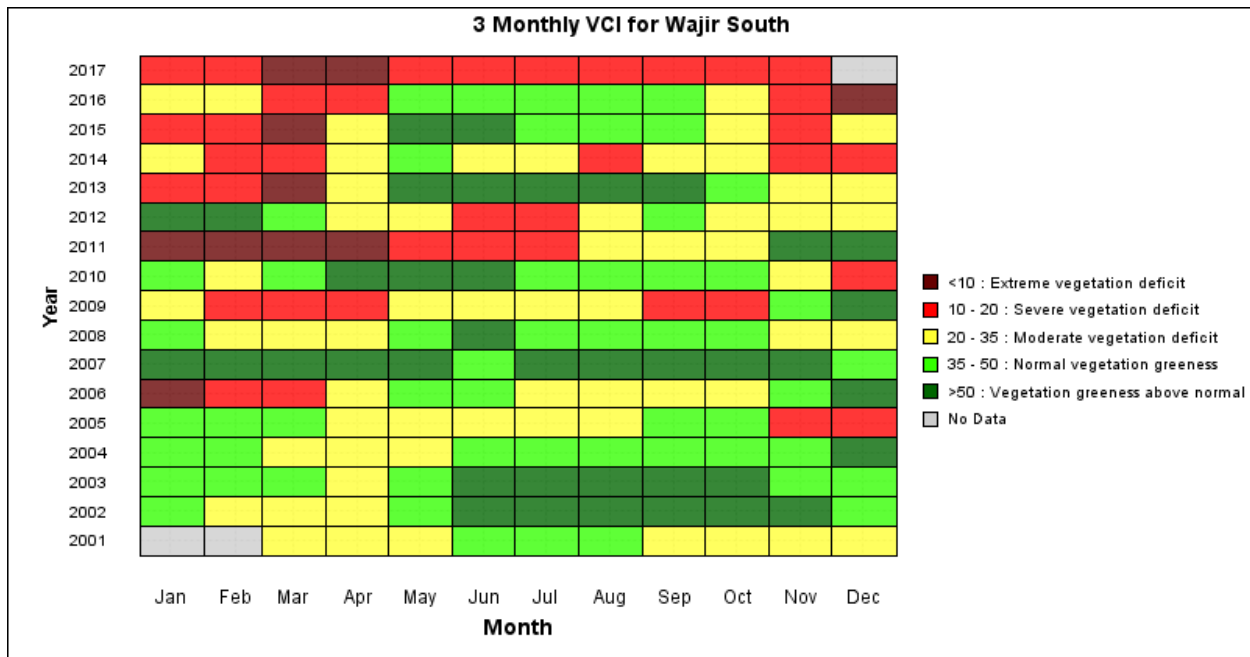


Figure 3: A matrix of 3-monthly VCI for Wajir South during the month of November 2017

2.1.2 Pasture

Pasture situation improved in the county mainly Agro-pastoral areas in wajir North, Pastoral camel in Wajir East, Pastoral all species in Wajir west, Eldas and Pastoral cattle in Wajir South where pasture ranges from fair to good, however there are some pockets in Wajir south, Wajir West, Tarbaj and Eldas sub-county which have poor regeneration of pasture as a result of insufficient rains witnessed during OND. In comparison to the previous month the situation has improved in all the livelihood zones in the county. Available pasture is expected to last for a period of 1-3

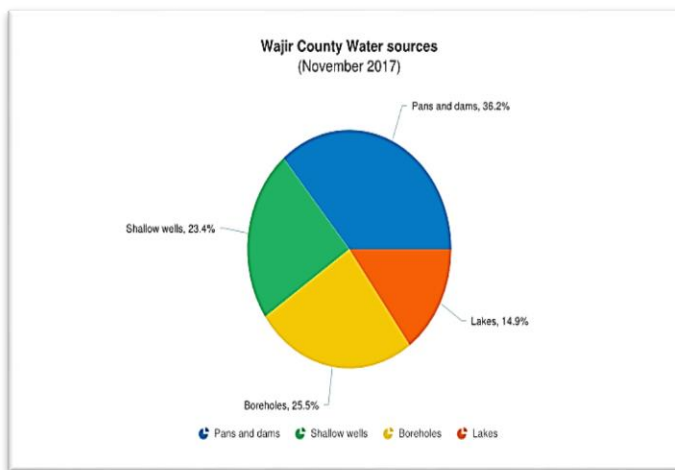
month except areas that did not receive sufficient rains especially Tarbaj sub-county and parts of Wajir South. No constrain reported during the month.

2.1.3 Browse

The situation of browse improved in all livelihood zones particularly areas that received sufficient rains mainly Agro-pastoral in wajir North, Pastoral camel in Wajir East , Pastoral cattle in Wajir South, Eldas and Pastoral all species livelihood zones in wajir west. The condition of browse ranges from fair to good. However there are pockets in Wajir south, Wajir West, Eldas and Tarbaj sub-county that ranges from fair to poor due to insufficient rain noted during the season. Available browse expected to last for 1-2 month. No constraint in access was reported during the month under review.

2.2.0 Water Sources

The main water sources currently in use in the county by both human and livestock are shallow wells, boreholes, and seasonal lagas and water pans. The condition of water in all livelihood zones has improved as compared to the previous month, where 70% of water pans are fully recharged particularly agro-pastoral in wajir North, Pastoral camel in wajir East, pastoral all species in wajir West, Tarbaj and Eldas, Except pockets in pastoral cattle in wajir south(Dilmanyaley,Sabuli,siriba,shidley, Habaswein), pastoral all species in wajir west (Baragothe,Lolkuta North, Eldas and Tarbaj sub-county(Mansa,ogorale,hungai) that did not receive sufficient rain. The available water is expected to last for a period of 1-3 month. The state of water in the county is at level five (5) and the situation is normal.



2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

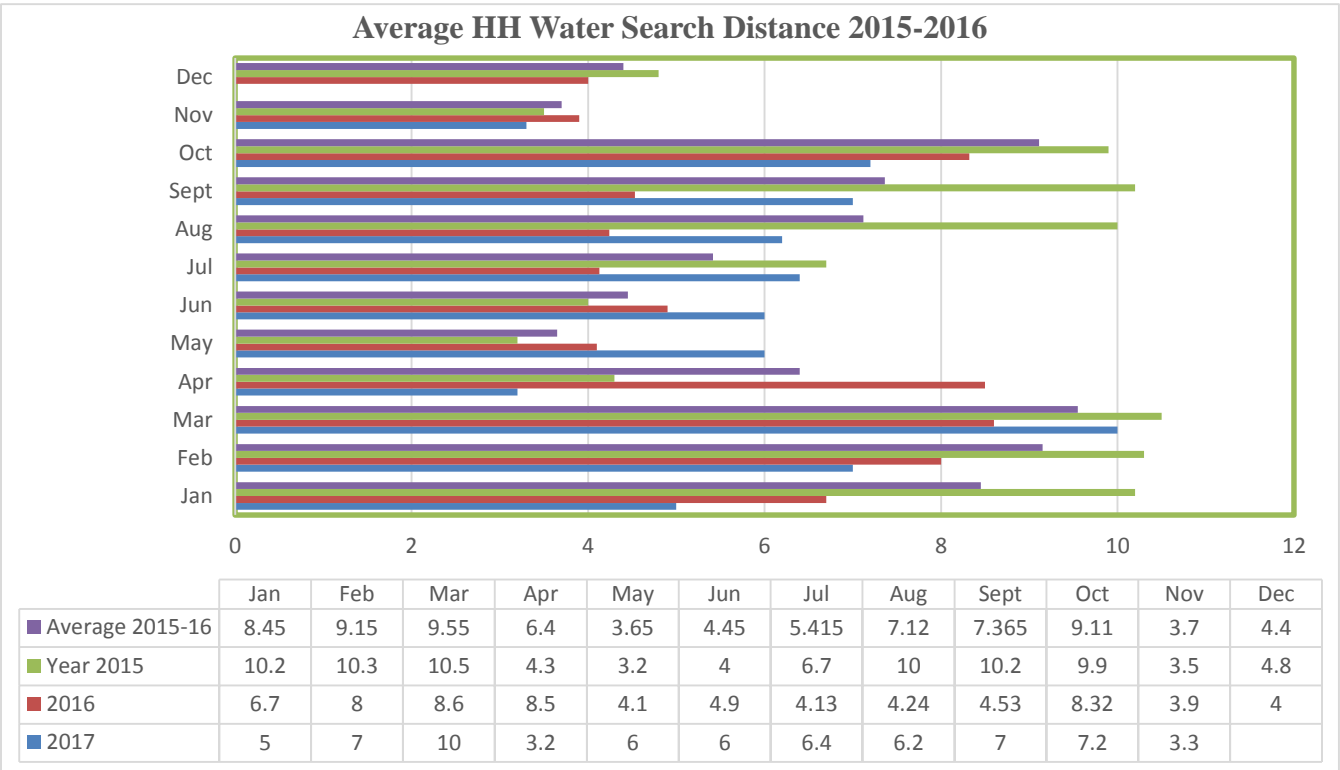


Figure 4: A chart indicating return distance to water sources against 2015-2016 average

- Average household return distances to the main water sources decreased significantly from 7.2km in the month of October to 3.3km in November due to sufficient rains received attributed to impoundment of water pans and reduced trekking distance to water source.
- Current average household water consumption per person per day increased as availability and accessibility of water becomes simple as a result of rains experienced.
- Low consumption of water was recorded in areas that have water stress including parts of Tarbaj and pockets of wajir south due to little rainfall received during the season.
- The proportion of households that treat water is too low with only few households in the urban areas centre using aqua tabs.

2.2.3 Livestock access

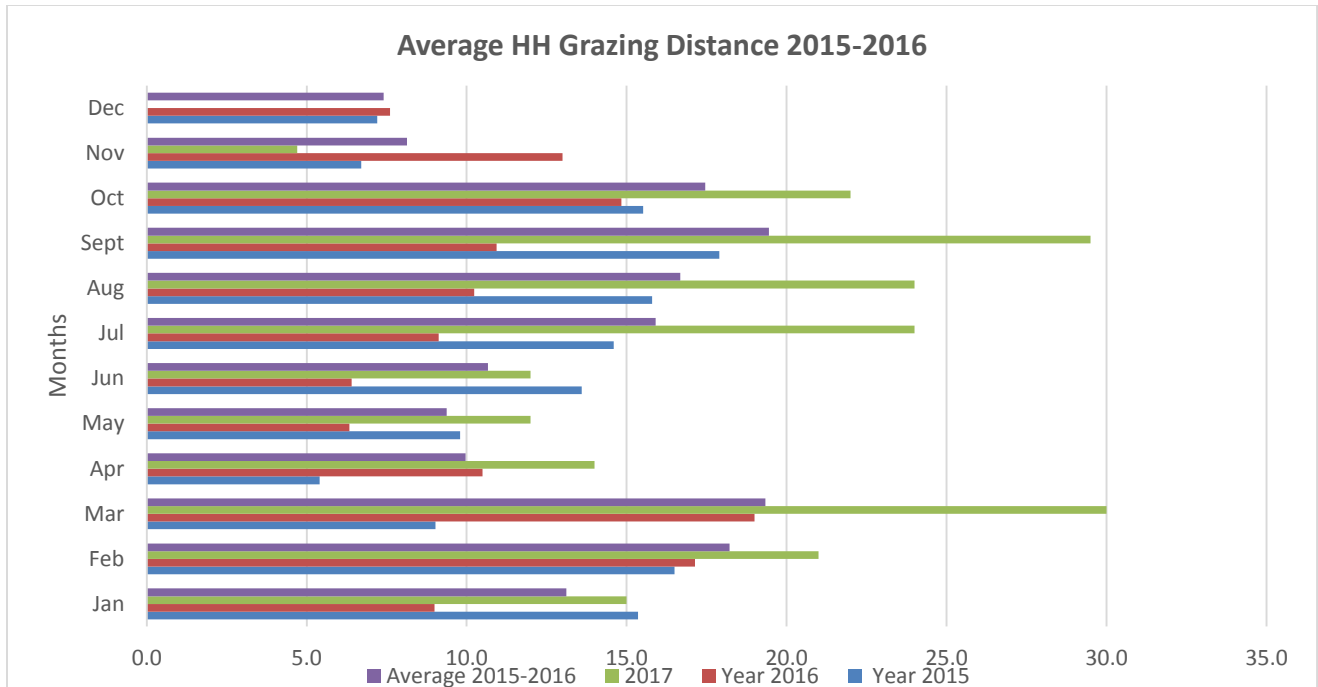


Figure 5: A graph indicating current grazing distance against (2015-2016) average

- The Current average livestock grazing distance to water point decreased from 22km in the month of October to 4.7km in the month under review due to adequate rains experienced in all livelihood zones during the season thus reduced livestock trekking distance attributed fully recharge of water point.
- Current average grazing distance is below the long term average and previous year's month average.
- Frequency of watering livestock at water point decreased as compared to the previous month as a result of sufficient rains received during the season. Currently the watering interval for cattle, goat/sheep are 1-2 and camel is 7-10days.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 Livestock production

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

Livestock body condition in all livelihood zones ranges from fair to good in the county though it is on a recovery mode with varying degree of improvement. Goat and camel condition ranges from fair to good with smooth appearance across the livelihood zones except areas that had insufficient rains noted with some week livestock, cattle and sheep ranges from fair to good in agro-pastoral areas, Pastoral all species, pastoral cattle with smooth appearance but still some have not yet recovered fully. In Comparison to the previous months the body condition of livestock have improve in the county due to sufficient rains received with regeneration of pasture and browse, reduced trekking distance. The general livestock body condition is normal.

3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

The veterinary department reported that no outbreak of livestock diseases except case of Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia(CCPP),Contagious Bovine pleuro-pneumonia(CBPP),Sheep and goat pox and Peste des Petits Ruminants(PRR) were reported in the county.

3.1.3 Milk Production

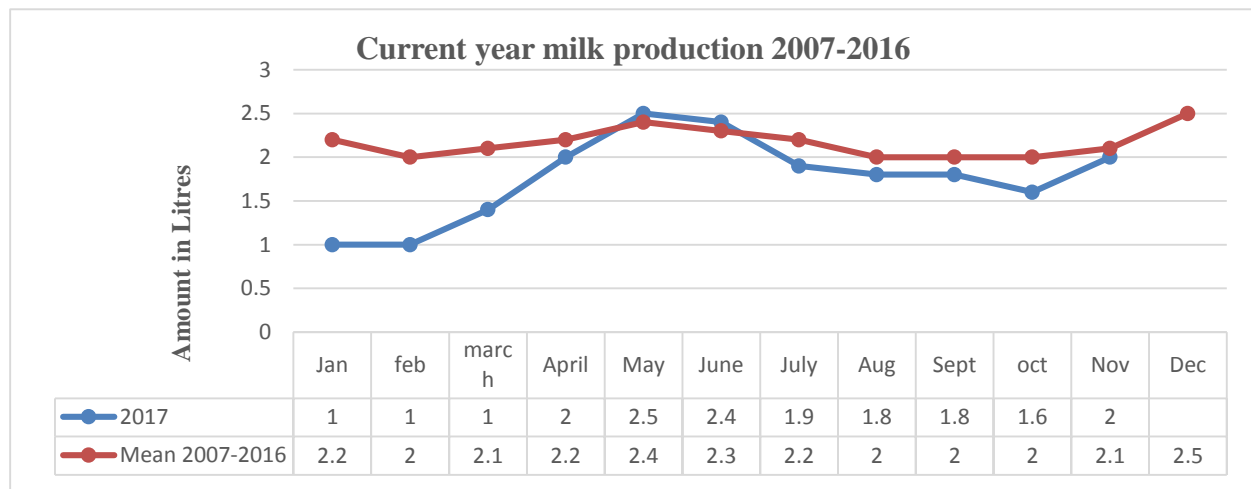


Figure 6: Current Household milk production against (2007-2016) long-term average

- Current household milk production per household per day slightly increased from 1.6 in the month of October to 2.0 in the month under review due to availability of pasture, browse, improved livestock body condition, reduced trekking distance attributed to rains received during the season.
- Current average milk production is below the long term average.
- The situation is normal at this time of the year.
- The highest milk production was recorded in Pastoral camel, Pastoral all species and Agro-pastoral livelihood zones and lowest was recorded in Pastoral cattle livelihood zone.

3.2.1 Stage and condition of food Crops

The crop planted during the season are maize, sorghum, capsicum and beans and other crops such as pawpaw, water melon, tomatoes and vegetable. The few farmers in Agro-pastoral areas have planted their crops and germinated and it is at the flowering stage.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1. LIVESTOCK MARKETING

4.1.1 Cattle prices

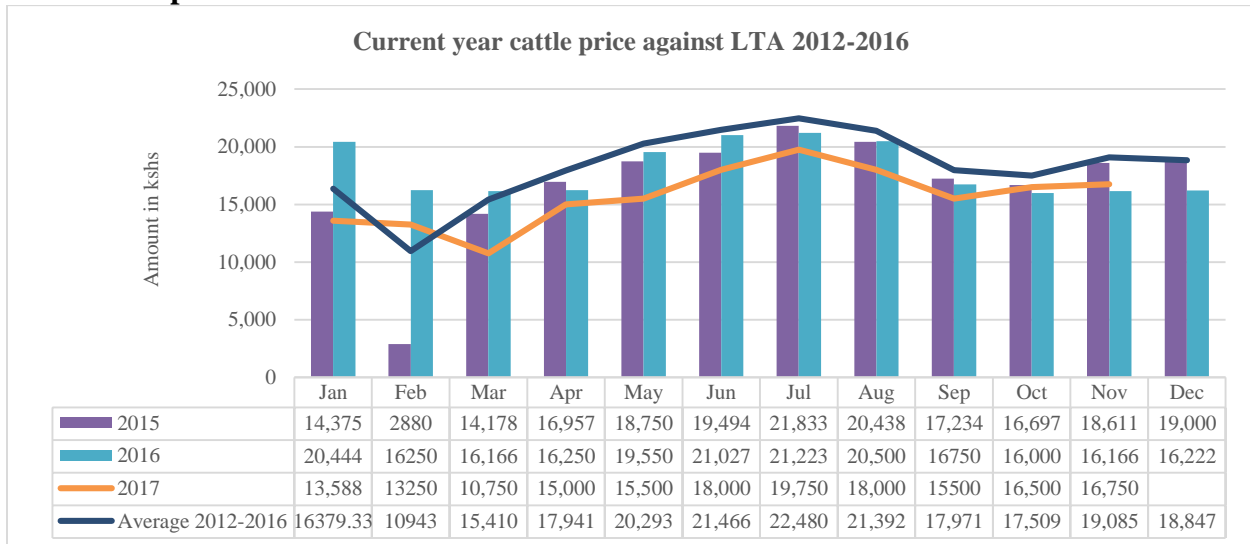


Figure 7: A graph of current cattle price against the long term (2012-16) mean prices.

- Current average price of medium size cattle increased slightly from Kshs 16,500 in October to 16,750 in the month under review with no significant changes due to low market demand.
- Highest average prices were recorded in the urban towns and lowest recorded in the rural.
- Current average prices were lower than the long-term average and above previous year's price.
- Market prices remained the same compared to previous years prices

4.1.2 Small Ruminant (Goat price)

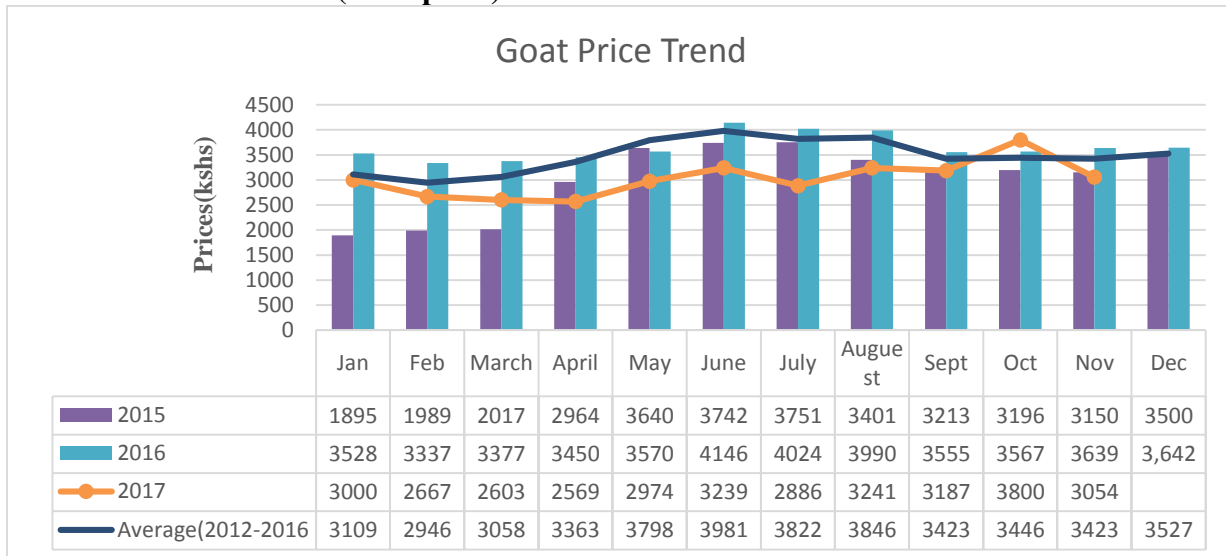


Figure 8: A graph of current year goat prices against the short-term mean 2012-2016

- Current average goat's price decreased from Kshs.3800 in the month of October to Kshs 3,054 in the month under review due to poor market and low demand.
- The market is expected to improve as the livestock body condition improves.
- Prices of Goat are higher in urban areas and lower in the rural areas.

- The average price is lower than both the long term average and previous month price and this is not normal at this time of the year. Market prices is not favourable as compared to the previous season.

4.1.3 Camel price

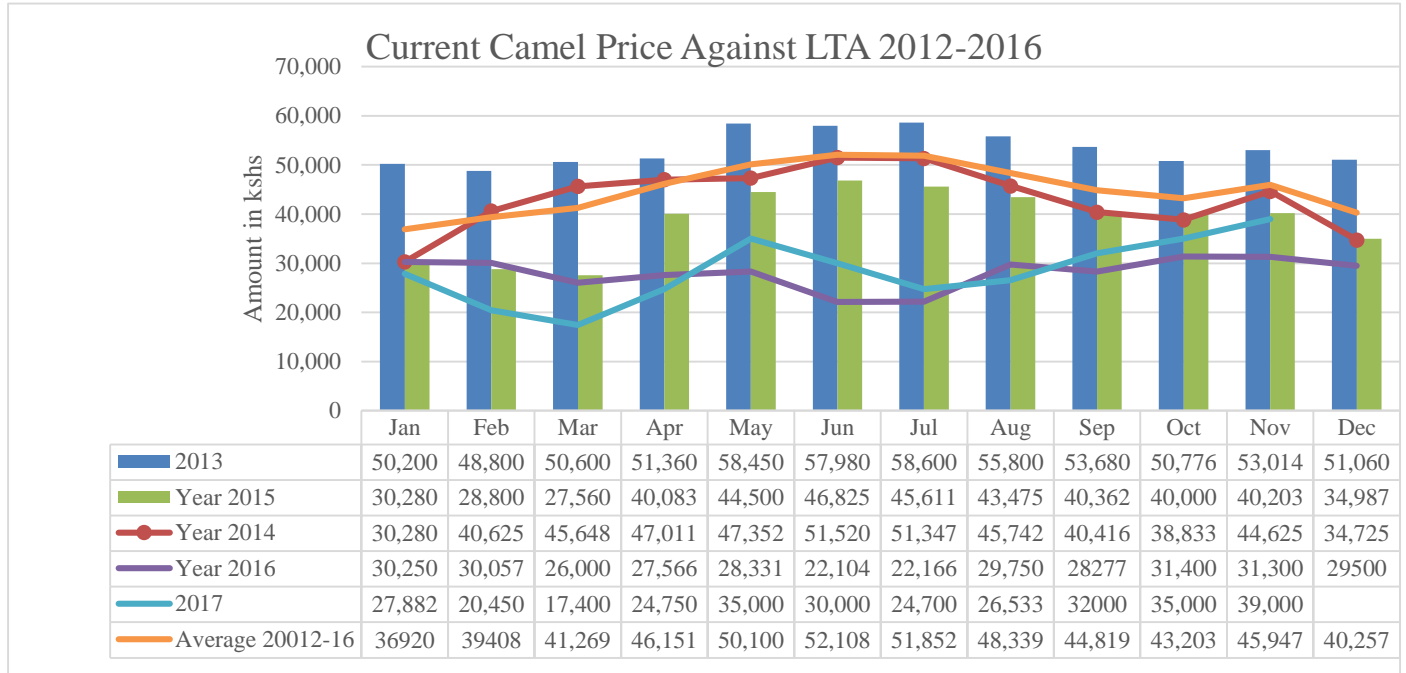


Figure 9: A graph of current camel prices against the long term mean (2012-2016)

- Current average price of a camel increased slightly from Kshs 35000 in the month of October to Kshs 39,000 in the month under review due to improved livestock body condition, good market price and increased demand.
- Average price of camel is lower than the long-term average and higher than previous year's price indicating the price of market is favourable compared to previous month prices but still not favourable as compared to the long term average.
- Wajir town and Agro-pastoral livelihood zones recorded the highest price as pastoral all species livelihood zone and pastoral cattle livelihood zones recorded the lowest price.
- Market prices for camel are normal compared to previous year's price.

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize

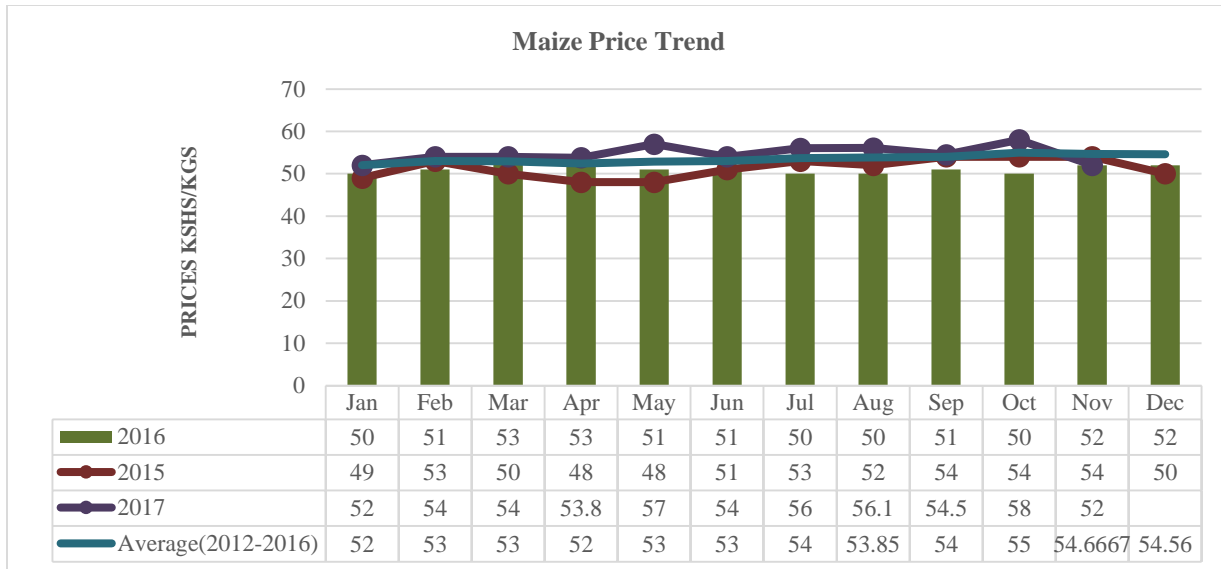


Figure 10: A graph showing current year price of maize as compared to the short-term (2012-15) mean

- Current average maize price decreased from Kshs 58 in October to Kshs 52 in the month under review increase in supplies and distribution of relief food by the National government.
- The commodity is available in all markets with a constant supplies from major markets such as Moyale and Meru
- The highest price was recorded in the rural areas and lowest prices were recorded in the urban centres
- The average price of maize is lower than both the long term average and previous year's price.
- Lower maize Prices are noted in Wajir town.

4.2.1.1 Other outstanding observation

- Maize being not a staple food consumed in Wajir County, the main staple food are beans, meat, milk and spaghetti in all the livelihood zones.

4.2.2 Posho (Maize meal)

- Current average price of Posho was stable as compared to the previous month which recorded the same.
- The highest prices were recorded in the rural areas of Wajir as a result of unavailability of the commodity and high transport cost incurred during transportation. Lowest was recorded in urban areas.
- The price is considered normal as the trend shows stable condition over the period

4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade (TOT)

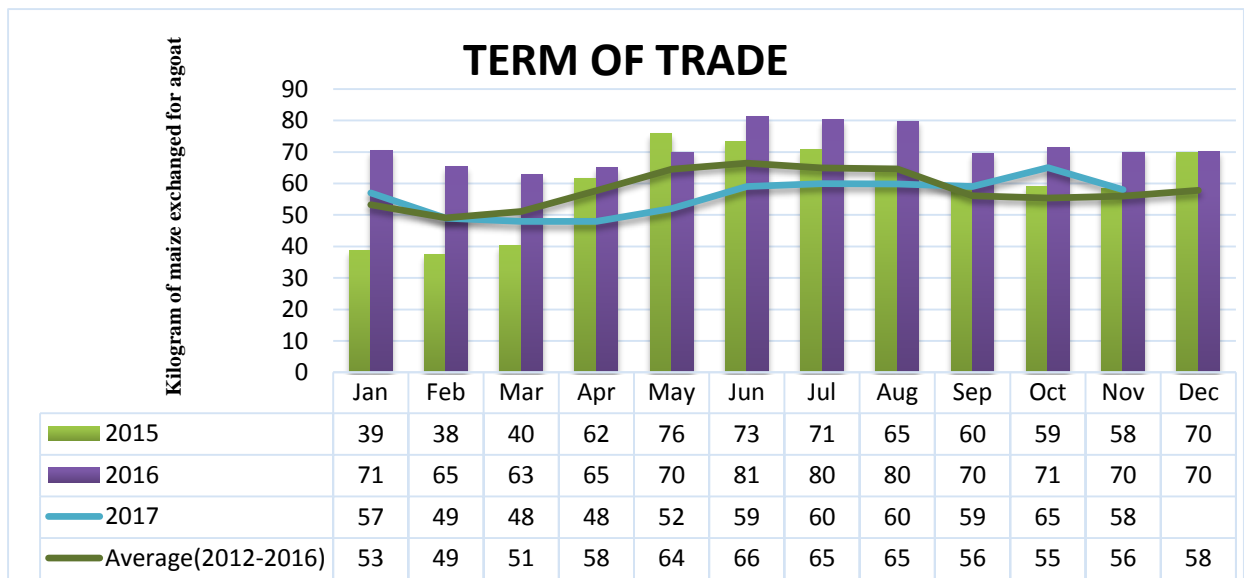


Figure11: A graph of current Terms of Trade against the long term (2012-2016) mean price

- Household terms of trade decreased significantly from 65kg in October to 58kg in the month under review due to decrease in goat prices thus affecting the purchasing power of pastoralist and making the terms of trade not favourable.
- The current terms of trades are above the long term average and below previous years' prices.
- No market disruption reported in the month under review.

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

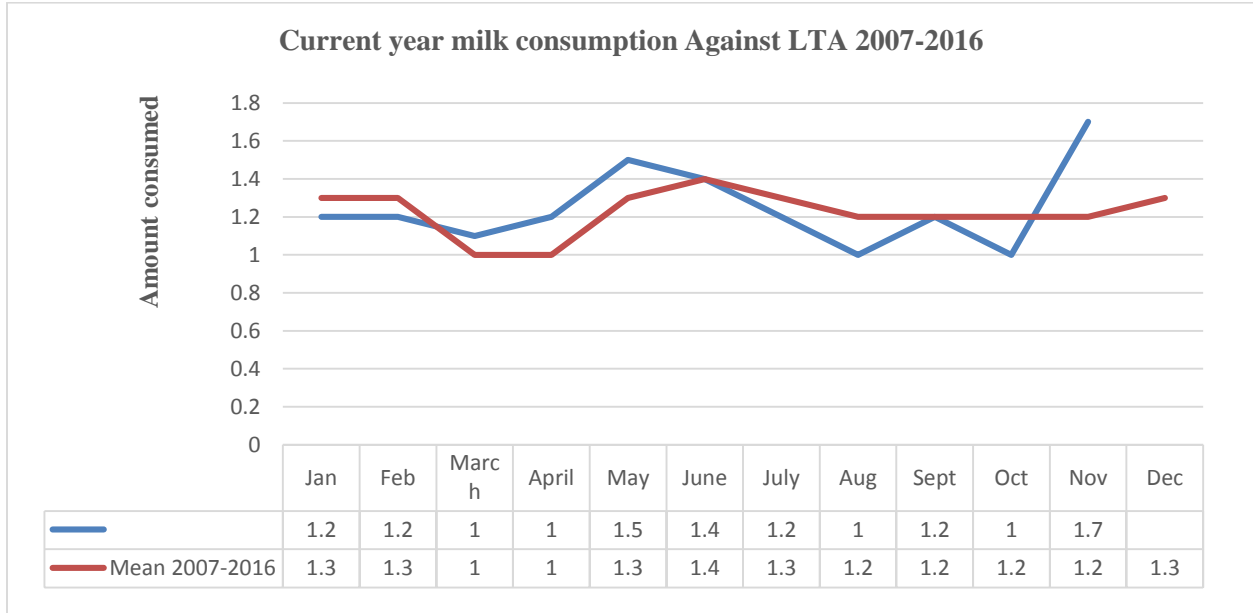
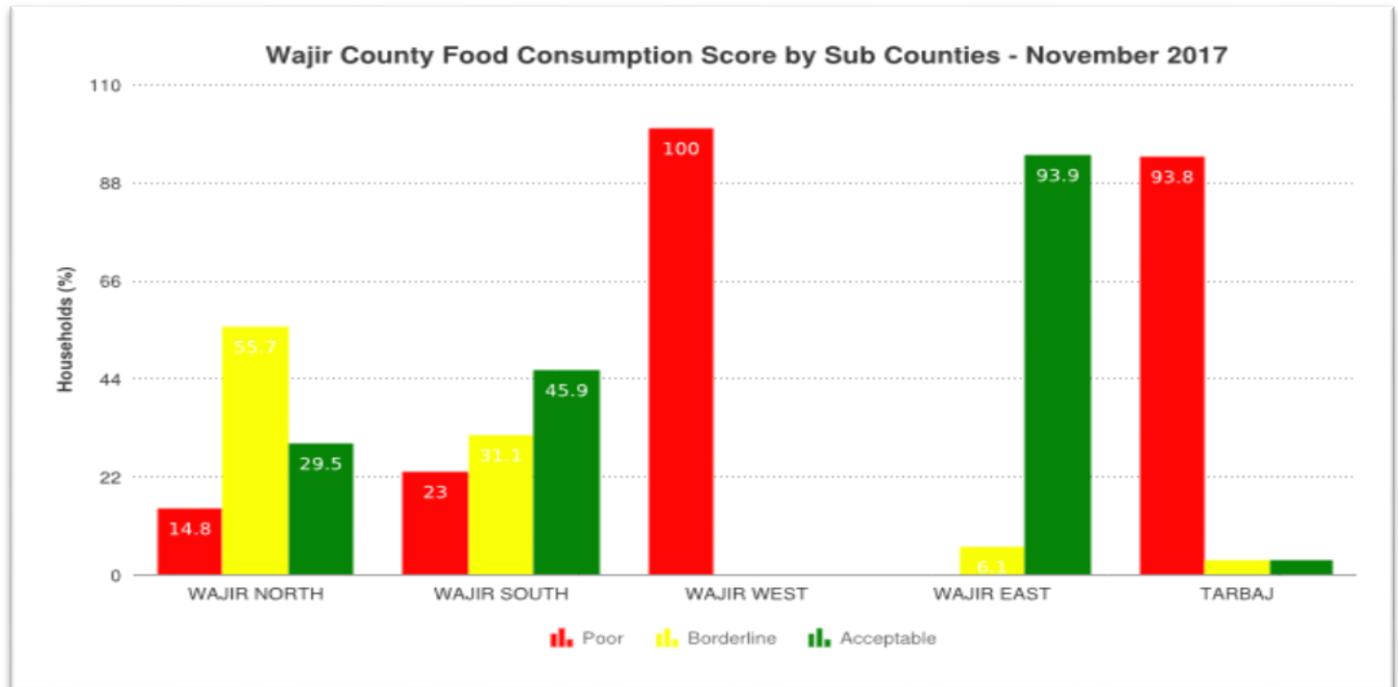


Figure 12: A graph showing current average milk consumption for Wajir against (2006-2016) mean

- Average milk consumption per household per day significantly increased from 1.0 in October to 1.7 liters in November attributed to availability of milk, good livestock body condition, reduced trekking distance, good pasture and browse thus improving the nutrition status of children under five.
- Current average household milk consumption is above the long term average which is normal for the period of the year.
- The highest milk consumption was experienced in Agro-pastoral areas in wajir North, Pastoral cattle in Wajir South, Pastoral all species and lowest was reported in Tarbaj sub-county.
- The main source of milk production at household and market levels is camel and cattle.

5.2 Food Consumption Score



- Pastoral all species, Tarbaj and pockets of Pastoral cattle livelihood zones are the household with poor dietary diversity showing 100,93 and 23 while other remaining percentage indicated borderline and acceptable respectively.

5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

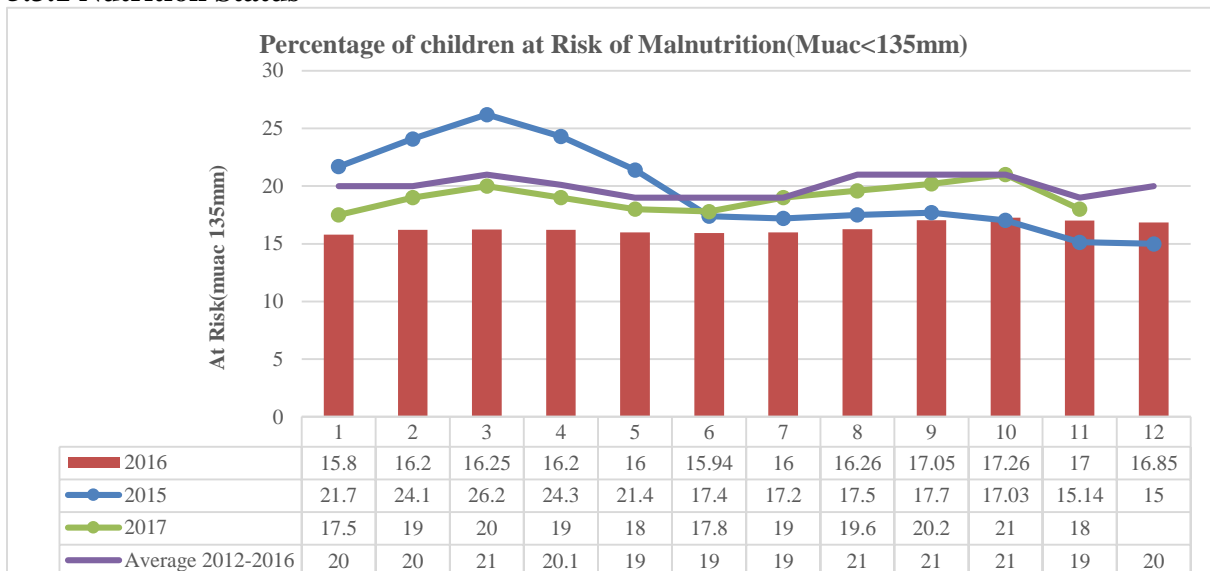


Figure 14: A graph of Nutritional status of children between 12-59 months against (2012-16) long-term mean

- The proportion of children under five at risk of malnutrition in the month of November decreased slightly from 21.0 in October to 18.0 recorded in the month under review as the

condition of children under five improves slightly due to availability and accessibility of milk.

- The current proportion is below the long term average and above previous year’s month average, showing that the malnutrition of children under-fives is still at risk compared to previous year’s month.
- The highest percentage of malnourished children was recorded in wajir south mainly lagbogol, Wajir north and lowest reported in Wajir East.

5.3.2 Health

Malnutrition reports for children less than 5 years: 2 children were admitted as in-patients for Management of Severe Malnutrition. 137 new children (6-59 months) were admitted to the Outpatient Therapeutic Program (OTP) while 445 children (6-59 months) were admitted to Supplementary Feeding Programme (SFP). (Source: DHIS October 2017). Under 5 year’s morbidity in October was; diarrhoea (2515), pneumonia (940), diseases of the skin including wounds (692), (Source: DHIS October 2017). Over 5 year’s morbidity in October was: diarrhoea (1078), confirmed malaria (18), Urinary Tract Infections (3632) and diseases of the skin including wounds (1021). (Source: DHIS October 2017).

5.4 COPING STRATEGY INDEX

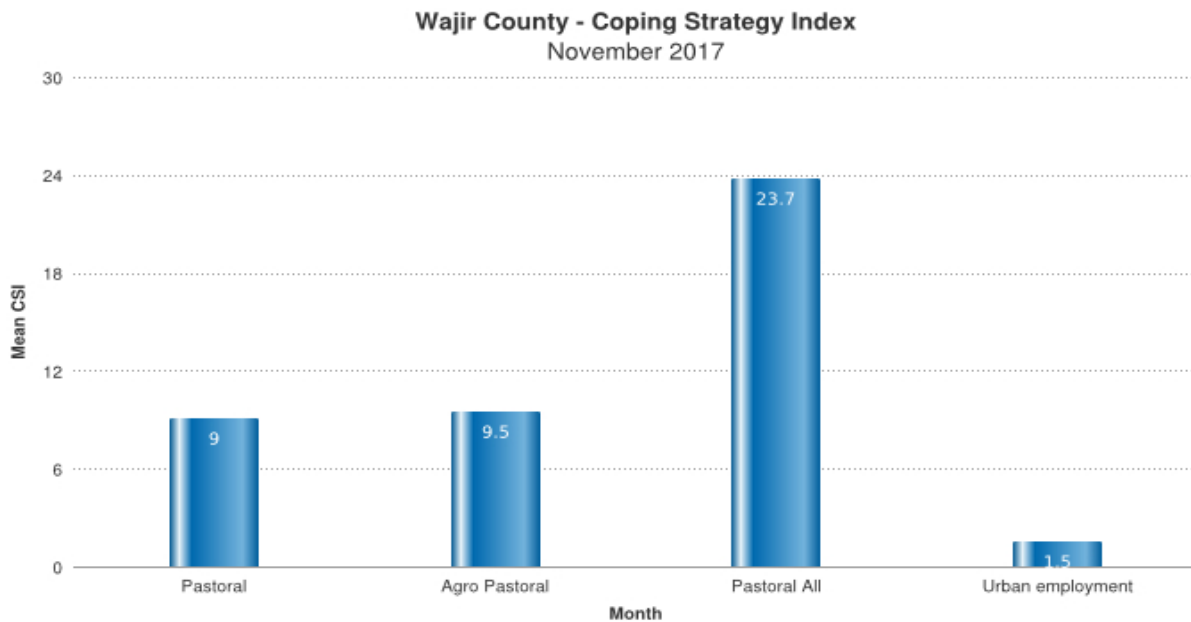


Figure15: A graph showing average (2013-2015) (coping strategy index (CSI) against the current trend

- Household in Pastoral all species in wajir west employed more coping strategy in the month of November as compared to previous month which recorded less severity. Others employed less coping strategies with less severity. The mean CSI for the county is 11.7 as compared to the previous month which showed 12.7
- Reduced the number of meals taken per day.
- Reduced the quantity of food consumed by adult/mothers
- Borrowed food or relied on help from friends or relative.
- Relied on less preferred and less expensive food

6.0 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)

6.1 Non-food interventions.-Ongoing

- Monitoring and treatment of human disease ongoing
- Routine Human and livestock disease surveillance in the County..
- Vaccination and Deworming of livestock.
- Integrated outreaches and screening across the County
- Treatment of malnutrition cases and referral cases to the main health facilities
- Food for Asset(FFA)

6.2 Food Aid.

- General Relief food distribution by National Government and County government.

7.0 EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

- There were no reported cases of insecurity in all livelihood zones in Wajir County during the period.

7.2 Migration

Migration of livestock within the county was too minimal since most of the sub-counties received rains during the season except Tarbaj sub-county where herders moved to Wajir East due to little rains witnessed during the season. However migration of livestock from neighboring counties mainly Isiolo County to Wajir west was witnessed during the current season due to inadequate rains reported in Isiolo County.

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- Above-average (generally enhanced) rainfall was recorded over most parts of the county during the month of November (the rainfall peak month) 2017
- Livestock production in terms of milk availability and Accessibility will increase and thereafter decrease after the OND.
- The county is likely to experience generally sunny and dry weather conditions for most of December
- Pasture and browse condition will likely regenerate fully during OND and thereafter degenerate after the long dry spell
- Environmental condition is expected to improve significantly and deteriorate during the dry season till the onset of the short rains..
- Forage and pasture conditions in the county is expected to slightly diminish due to the expected sunny and dry conditions in December.
- The distances to water sources are likely to decline in the months of OND and thereafter increase in all livelihood zones.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Health & Nutrition.

- Promote hand washing campaign among the villages in Wajir
- Monitor malnutrition in the county especially in areas where the rains were inadequate
- Improve sanitation and waste management in Wajir town
- Capacity building of health worker on IMAM-ongoing
- Strengthening of IMAM-ongoing
- Scale up HINI/IMAM/IYCN interventions-ongoing
- Outreach services Scale up-ongoing

Water (on-going).

- Open up the inlets of water pans in areas where water is not flowing in properly
- Water harvesting in areas where there are storage facilities.
- Reconstruction of poorly done water storage facilities in schools and hospitals.
- Support and provide good water management approaches to reduce wastage and pollution of water points

Livestock Sector and Agri-culture

- Routine Livestock disease surveillance to be conducted in all species and cattle livelihood zones.
- Support prevention and treatment of livestock diseases
- Vaccination and Deworming of livestock
- Control of Tick in the areas that are affected.
- Food for Asset(FFA)
- Desilting of water pan

Peace and Security

- Strengthened peace building initiatives in the county