

National Drought Management Authority

GARISSA COUNTY

DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR AUGUST 2017



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



AUGUST EW PHASE



Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

- The average vegetation condition index for the county reduced from 30.54 to 28.15 and fall in the moderate vegetation deficit category.
- The current average vegetation condition index is below the normal range of >35
- Balambala dadaab and fafi subcounties are in moderate vegetation deficit with index of 26.2, 28.52 and 26.47 respectively.
- Lagdera in severe vegetation deficit category with index of 17.17
- Township and ijara sub counties are in normal vegetation deficit category with an index of 37.72 and 39.9
- Water sources currently in use are boreholes, River Tana, spring, water trucking and few water pans in the southern part of the county.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

- The livestock accessed recorded poor body condition. The livestock body condition started to reduce when compared with preceding month this relates to the reducing pasture and browse condition, the livestock body score is at a scale of 4-5
- Milk production recorded reduced to 14.4litres and is below the normal of 36 litres.
- There was no livestock migration reported during the month
- The terms of trade recorded at 41.7kg of maize per sale of goat.
- The return distance to water sources for livestock increased to 17.0km when compared with previous month.
- Children under five years at risk of malnutrition increased from 22.7% to 23.5%. The mid at risk levels reduced creased from 17.8% to 13.2%, the moderately malnourished increased 5.6% to 12.3%. The severely malnourished children reduced from 10% to 4.69%.

Early Warning Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral	Alarm	Deteriorating
Pastoral cattle/sheep	Alarm	Deteriorating
Pastoral-all species	Alarm	Deteriorating
County	Alarm	Deteriorating
Biophysical Indicators	value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)	Nil	80 -120
SPI-3Month (TAMSAT)		
VCI-3Month	28.15	>35
Forage condition		
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Crop Condition(specify crop)		
Livestock Body Condition	4-5	poor
Milk Production	14.4	36litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	No migration	Normal
Livestock deaths (from drought)	No death	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	41.7	>66
Milk Consumption	6.1	36 litres
Return distance to water sources	17.0	<5 Km
Cost of water at source (20 litres)	5-10	<5Kshs
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	23.5%	<13.4
Coping Strategy Index (CSI)		
Food Consumption Score		

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

1. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

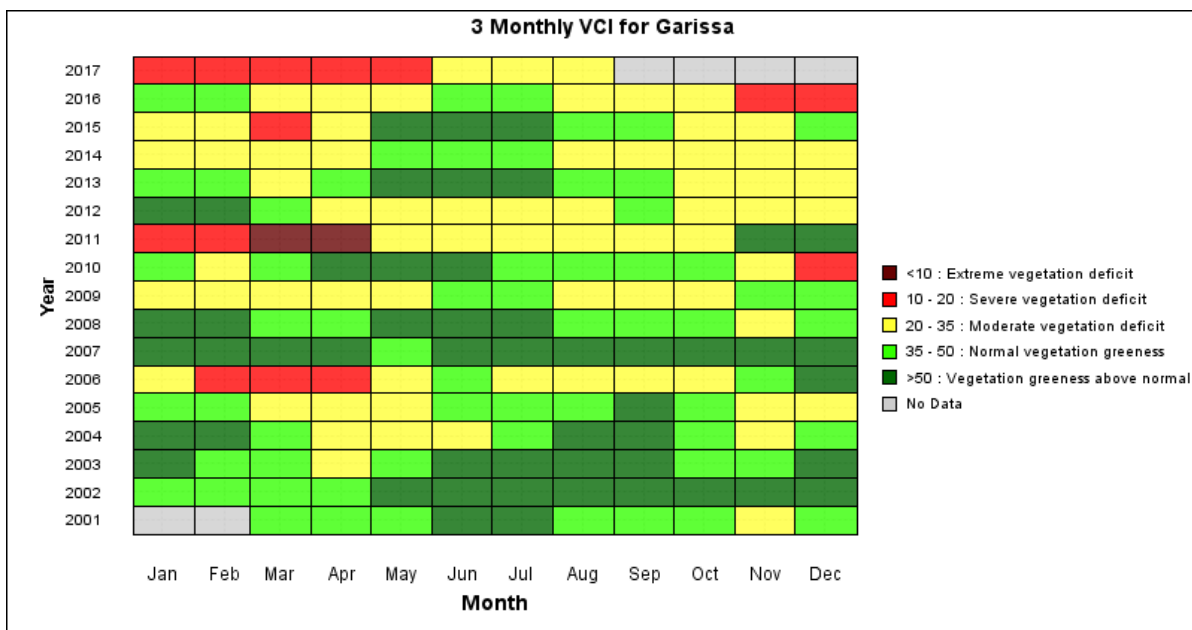
- The long rains seasons session was on the month of May, but out of season showers were received in the southern parts of the county (Ijara and Fafi) during the month for few days.

2. IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

2.1 1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- The average vegetation condition index for the county reduced from 30.54 to 28.15 and fall in the moderate vegetation deficit category.
- The current average vegetation condition index is below the normal range of >35
- Balambala Dadaab and Fafi sub counties are in moderate vegetation deficit with index of 26.2,28.52 and 26.47 respectively.
- Lagdera in severe vegetation deficit category with index of 17.17
- Township and Ijara sub counties are in normal vegetation deficit category with an index of 37.72 and 39.9
- The matrixes below indicate the vegetation condition index for the worst affected Sub County with the lowest VCI and the best Sub County with highest VCI average



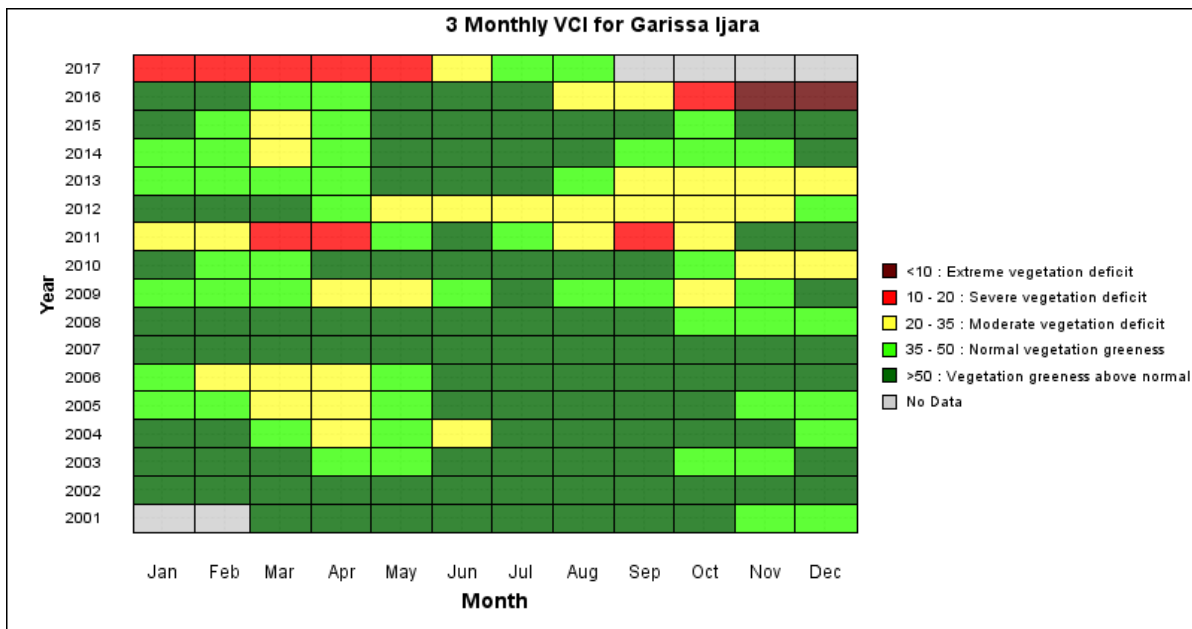
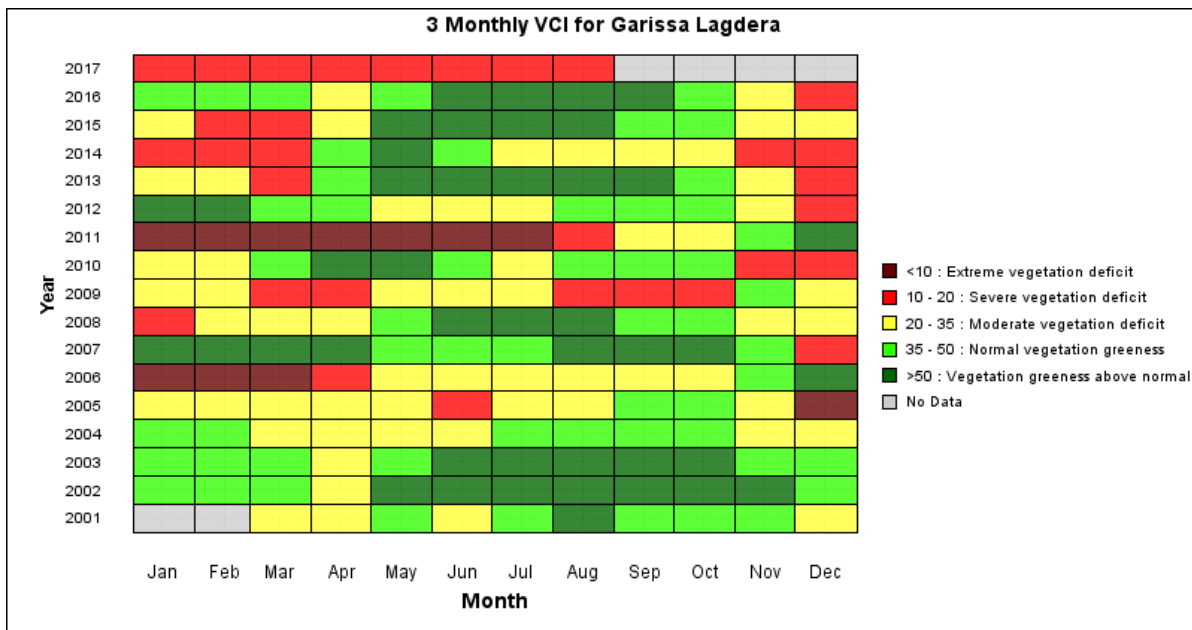
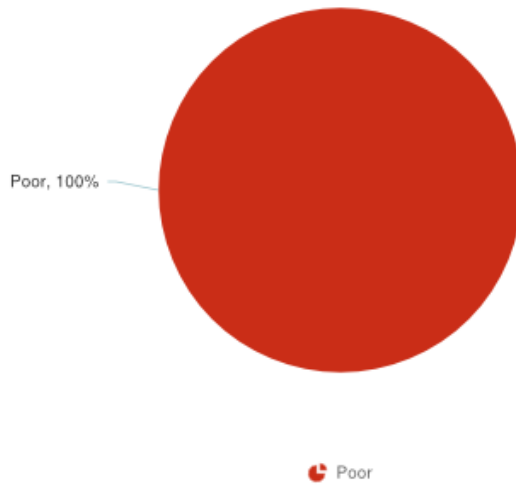


Figure 1: VCI Matrix for Garissa County, 2001 – 2017

.1.2 Pasture

- 100% of communities sampled reported poor pasture condition in all the livelihood zones. Some areas were constrained by the insecurity along the border with Somalia.
- The pasture condition indicated deteriorating trend when compared with preceding month.
- The negative trend was attributed to continued overgrazing due to livestock concentration in areas that received few costal showers.

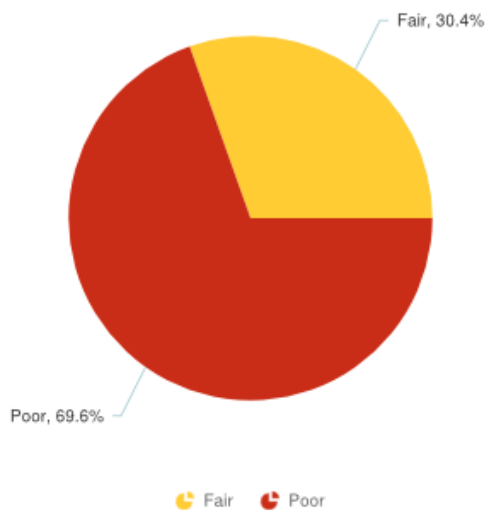
Garissa Pasture Condition
(Aug 2017 - Aug 2017)



2.1.3 Browse

- Generally, the quality and quantity of browse condition slightly deteriorated.
- 69.6% of reported fair browse condition due to the showers received in most parts of the county. While 30.4% reported browse to be poor.
- The browse condition is anticipated to deteriorate further as the dry spell continues.

Garissa Browse Condition
(Aug 2017 - Aug 2017)



2.2 WATER RESOURCE

2.2.1 Sources

The current water sources are boreholes, River, water pans, spring and water trucking.

2.2.2 Household access and Utilization-

- The average return distances from household to water sources increased when compared with the previous month and the current recorded distance is 9km.
- The increased distance was attributed to diminishing water sources.
- The current distance is below the long term mean for the month.
- Other areas are dependent on water trucking thus zero trucking distances.
- The pastoral all species livelihood zone recorded the highest trekking distance for household's water access at 14km while agro pastoral livelihood zone had recorded the lowest distance at 7km.

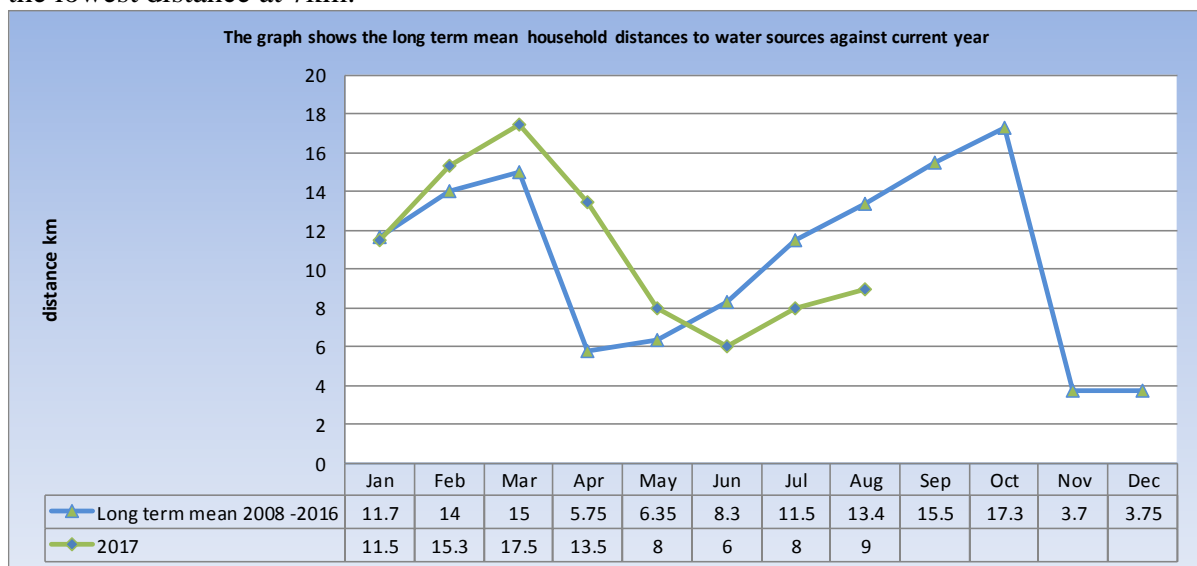


Figure 2: Trends of household distance to water sources for Garissa County, 2008-2017

2.2.3 Livestock access

- The average livestock return distances from grazing field to water sources slightly increased to 17.0km.
- The increasing trend was due to diminishing forage from around water sources to the interior of the rangeland.
- The current distance is within the long term average for the month recorded at 17.63km
- Pastoral all species livelihood zone recorded the highest livestock trekking distances at 18km while the agro pastoral recorded the lowest at 12km

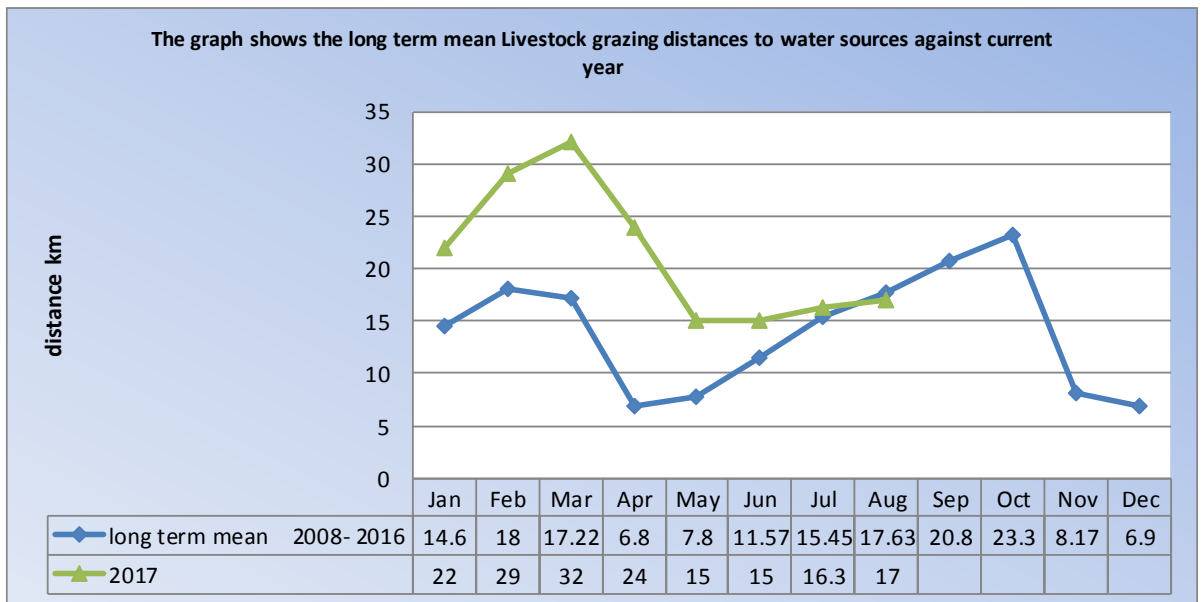


Figure 3: Trends of Livestock grazing distance to water sources for Garissa County, 2008 - 2017

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

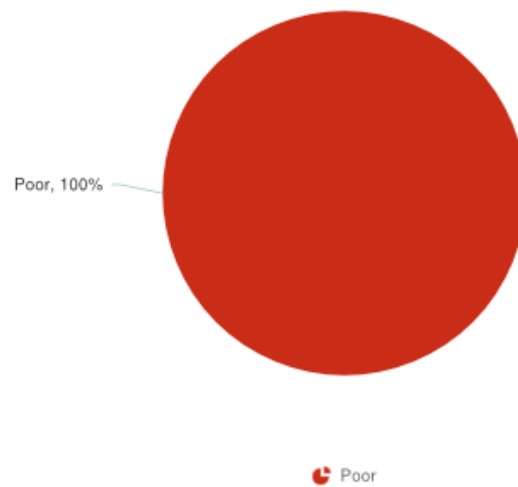
3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- 100 % of communities sampled reported poor livestock body condition.
- The livestock accessed recorded poor body condition. The livestock body condition started to reduce when compared with preceding month this relates to the reducing pasture and browse condition,
- The fall back areas of Boni forest and areas along the borders with Somalia is no go zones due to security operation and insecurity.
- The body condition is anticipated to continue deteriorating as the dry spell continue

Garissa Livestock Body Condition
(Aug 2017 - Aug 2017)



3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- No major outbreak of livestock diseases was reported
- cases of endemic diseases such as CCPP, Anaplasmosis and helminthiasis were reported in all the Sub Counties
- No livestock death related to disease was reported.

3.1.3 Milk Production

- The average milk production recorded reduced from 19.0 litres to 14.4 litres in the month under review.
- The reducing milk production trend is attributed to decreasing body condition.
- The current production is below the long term average recorded at 19.50 litres.
- The pastoral all species livelihood zone recorded the highest average milk production at 17.5litres per household while Pastoral livelihood zone had recorded the lowest milk production at 10.3 litres
- The market price of 750ml bottles slightly increased to Kshs100.

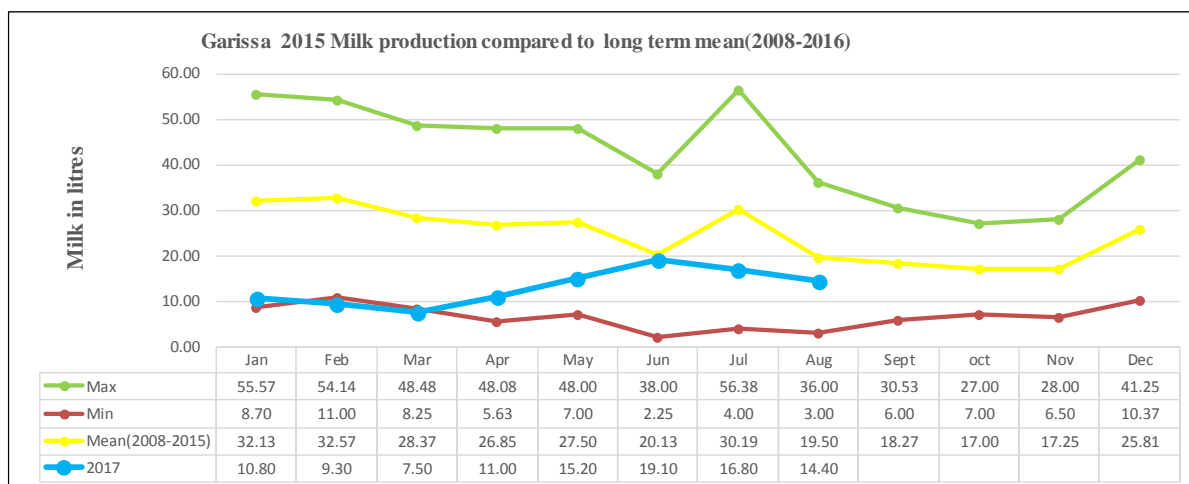


Figure 4: Trends of average milk production per households for Garissa County, 2008-2017

3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops

There were no crops planted in the month under review

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

4.1.1 Cattle Prices

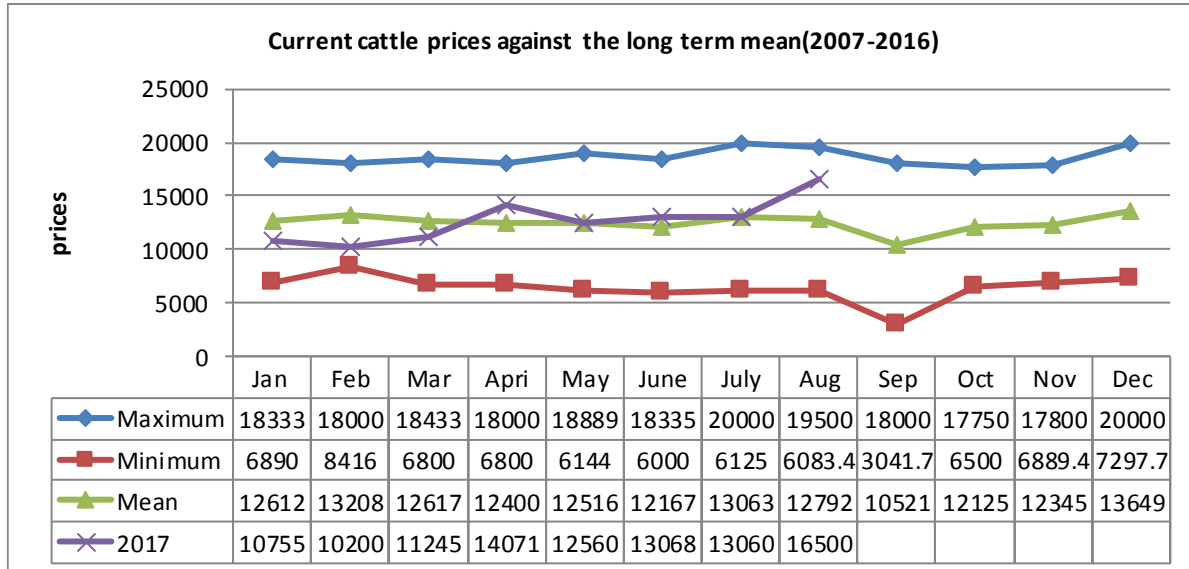


Figure 5: Trends of cattle prices for Garissa County, 2007-2017

- The average cattle price increased when compared with the previous month. The average price recorded was kshs 16500
- The price trend was attributed to the Muslim festival which increased the demand of the traders.
- The current price is above the long term mean for the month recorded at kshs12792 but below the maximum levels reached for the month that indicated kshs19500.
- The highest price was recorded in pastoral all species livelihood zone at ksh17800 while pastoral livelihood zone recorded the lowest price at ksh 13400

4.1.2 Small Ruminants Prices (Goats)

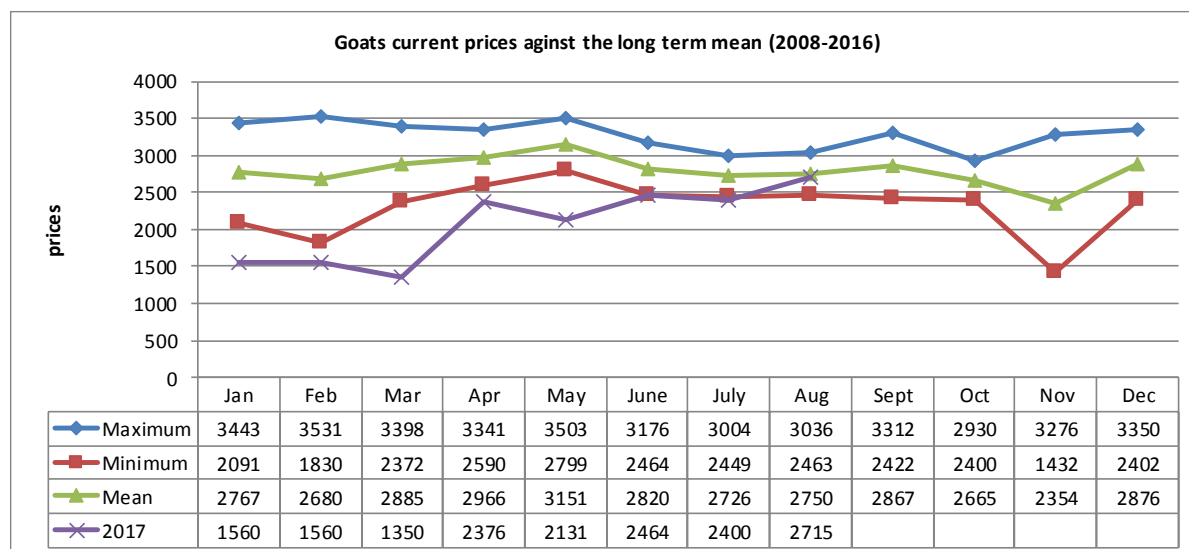


Figure 6: Trends of Goats prices for Garissa County ,2008-2016

- The average price of goats increased from kshs2400 to kshs2715 in the month under review
- The increasing prices were attributed to increased demand from traders and reduced supplies to the market.
- The current average price is below the long term average price recorded at kshs2750
- Agro Pastoral all species livelihood zone recorded the highest goat prices at ksh 2650 while pastoral livelihood recorded the lowest average price of kshs 2000

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize

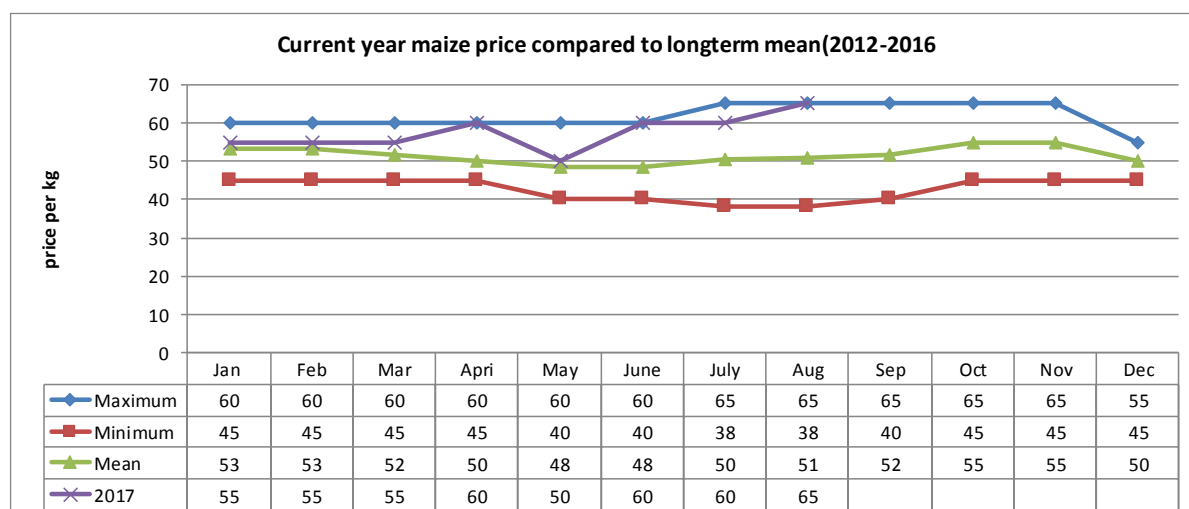


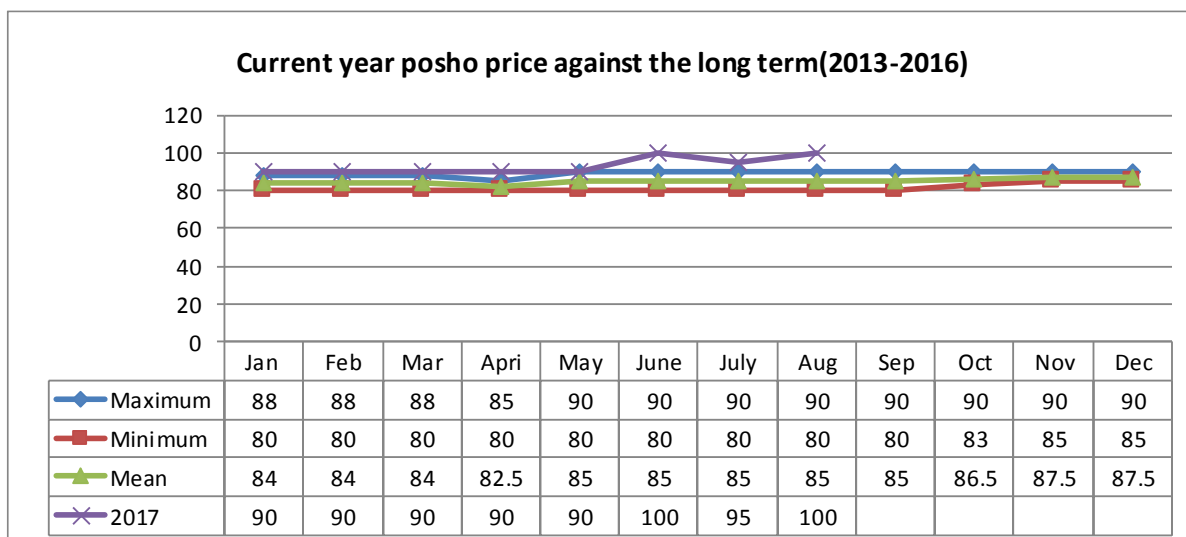
Figure 7: Trends of Maize prices for Garissa County, 2012-2017

- The average maize price for the month increased when compared with the previous month and was trading at kshs 65 per kg.
- The maize price trend was due to scarcity of the commodity in the market and demand to feed livestock as feed supplement.
- The average maize price for the month is higher than long term mean average recorded at kshs 51 and is the maximum price for the month.

4.2.2 Sifted Maize Meal

Figure 8: Trends of Sifted Maize Meal prices for Garissa County, 2013 -2017

- The average price for sifted maize meal slightly increased from kshs 95 to kshs100 in the month of august.
- The price increase is attributed to limited markets supply availability and the price of the parent product.
- The average price recorded was the same across the livelihoods zones.
- The current price is above the long term average and the maximum price reached for the period between 2013 -2016. thus negative impact on the purchasing powers of the pastoralist.



4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade

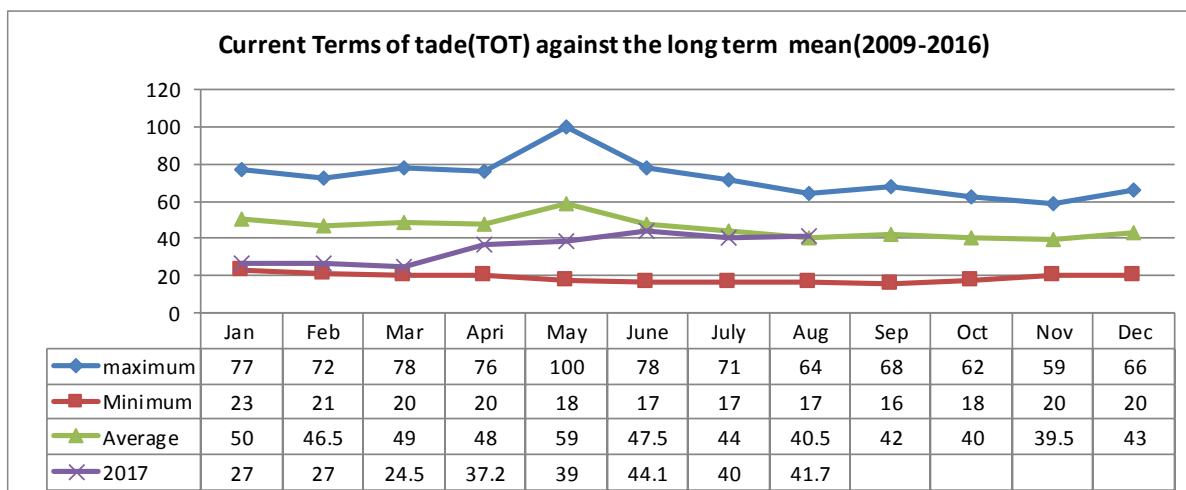


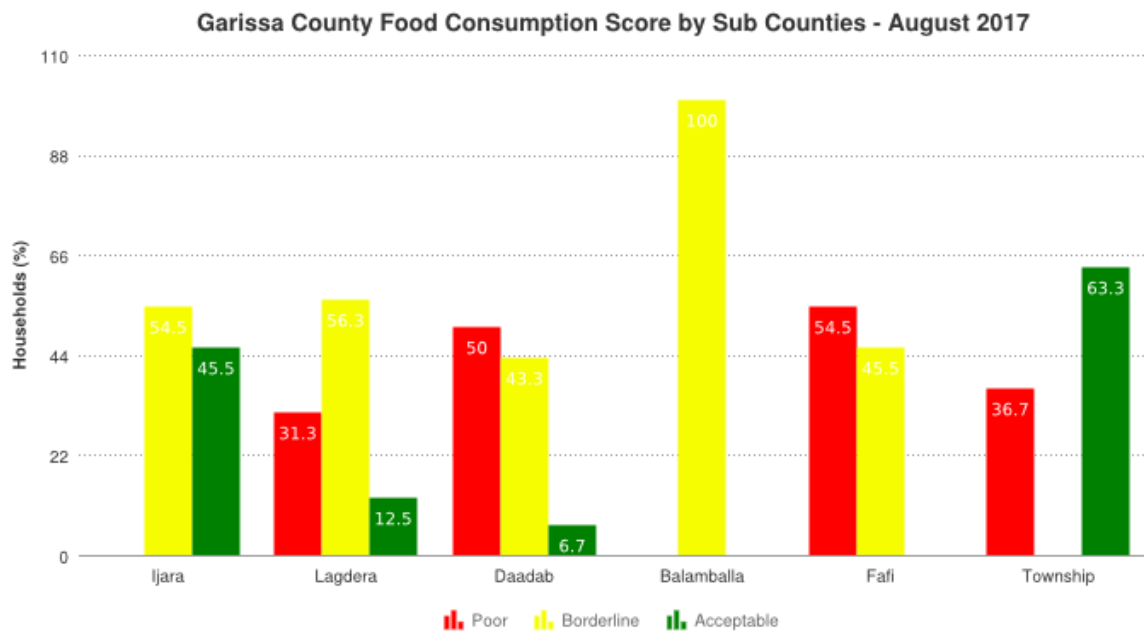
Figure 9: Trends of terms of trade for Garissa County, 2009-2017

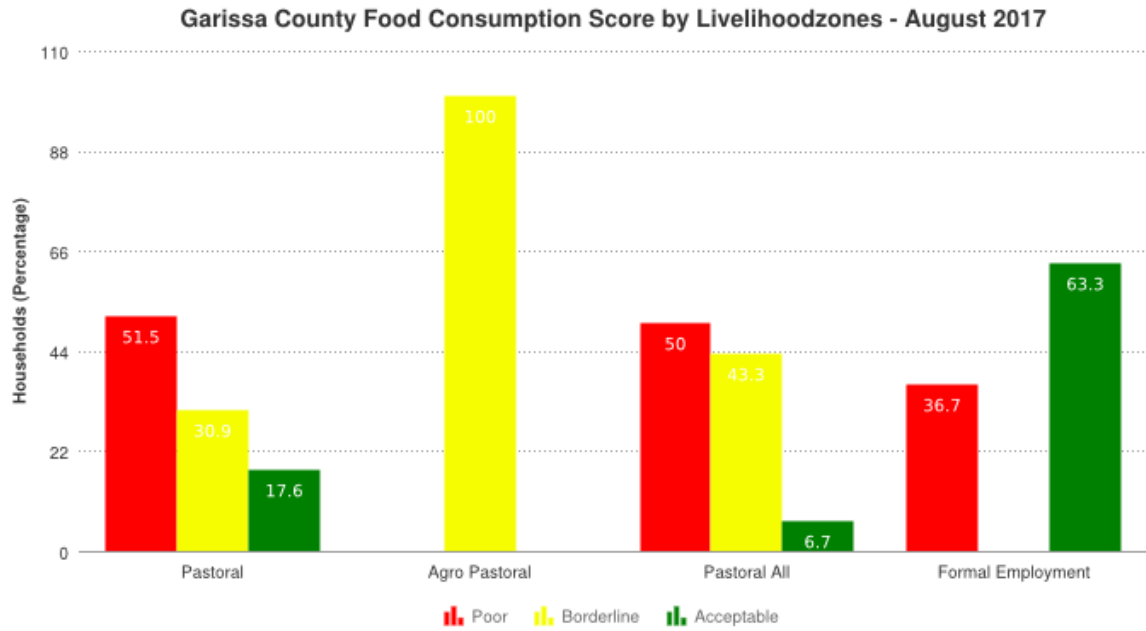
- The terms of trade for pastoralist increased when compared with the previous month. The current recorded terms of trade were 41.7 kg per goat sold at farm gate price. The price at the main market is slightly higher but other cost involved in the process make it difficult for the pastoralist to access the same markets.
- The current terms of trade was above the long term average recorded at 40.5kg per goat sold.

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE

- The food consumption score for the month shows 36.2% of households are in poor food consumption category while 47.1% are in borderline while 16.7% of households are in acceptable level.
- Fafi Sub County have the highest households with poor food consumption score at 54.4% while Balambala Sub County has the lowest at 0%
- In addition, Dadaab Sub County has 50% of household with poor food consumption score.
- The pastoral livelihood zones have highest number of household with poor food consumption score at 51.5 %.the agro pastoral livelihood recorded no household with poor food consumption score.
- The charts below show the comparison of the food consumption score based on livelihood zones and by sub counties





5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- The average milk consumption per household reduced from 6.8 litres to 6.1 in the month of august.
- The decreased consumption rate was due to low production rate realised during the month due to deteriorating livestock body condition as a result of poor nutritional value forage uptake.
- The current milk consumption per household is below the long term average recorded at 16.70

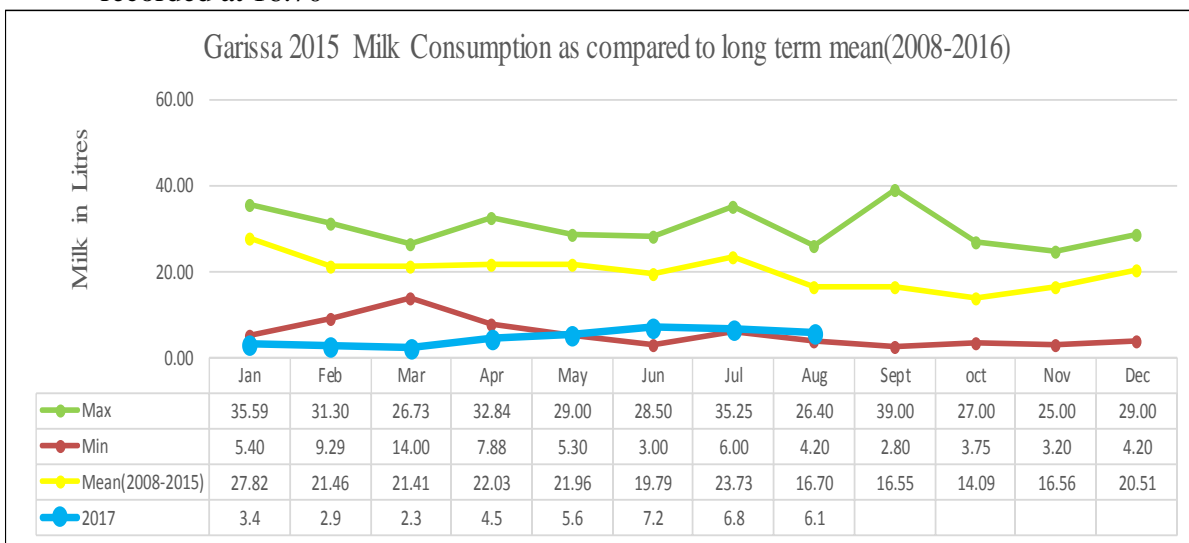


Figure 10: Trends of Milk consumption for Garissa County, 2008-2016

5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

- The at risk to malnutrition increased from 22.7% to 23.5%, The mid at risk levels reduced from 17.9% to 13.2%
- Moderately malnourished level increased from 5.6% to 12.34% while severely malnourished category reduced from 10% to 4.6%.
- The increasing levels for at risk levels was attributed to limited animal products (milk and meat) availability and increased cases of child related illness reported during the month and reduced intervention during the month.
- The current average malnutrition level was above the long term average recorded at 14.2% but within the maximum levels reached during the same period of the reference years (2007-2016).

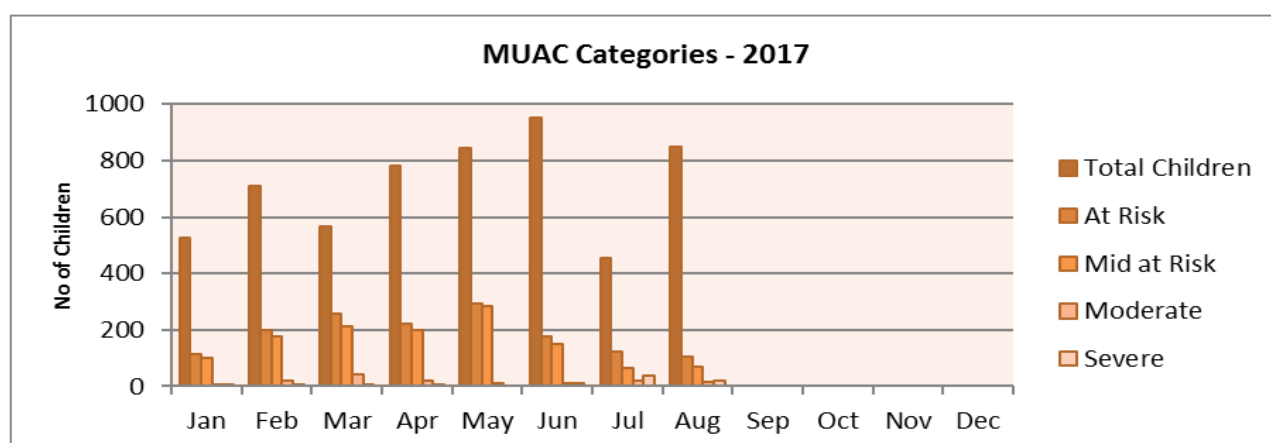
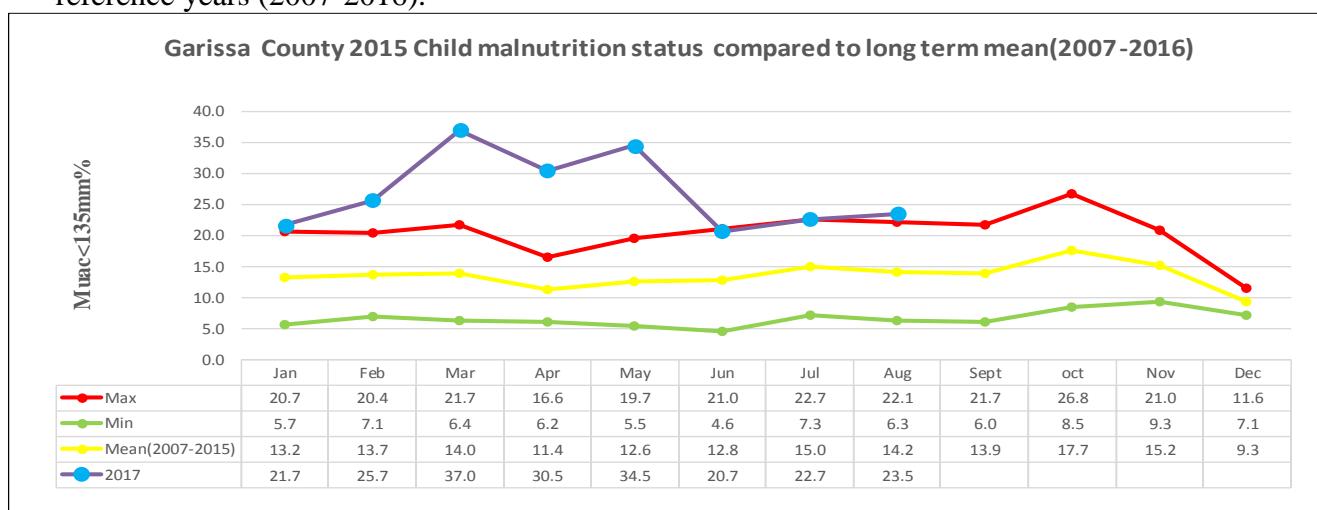


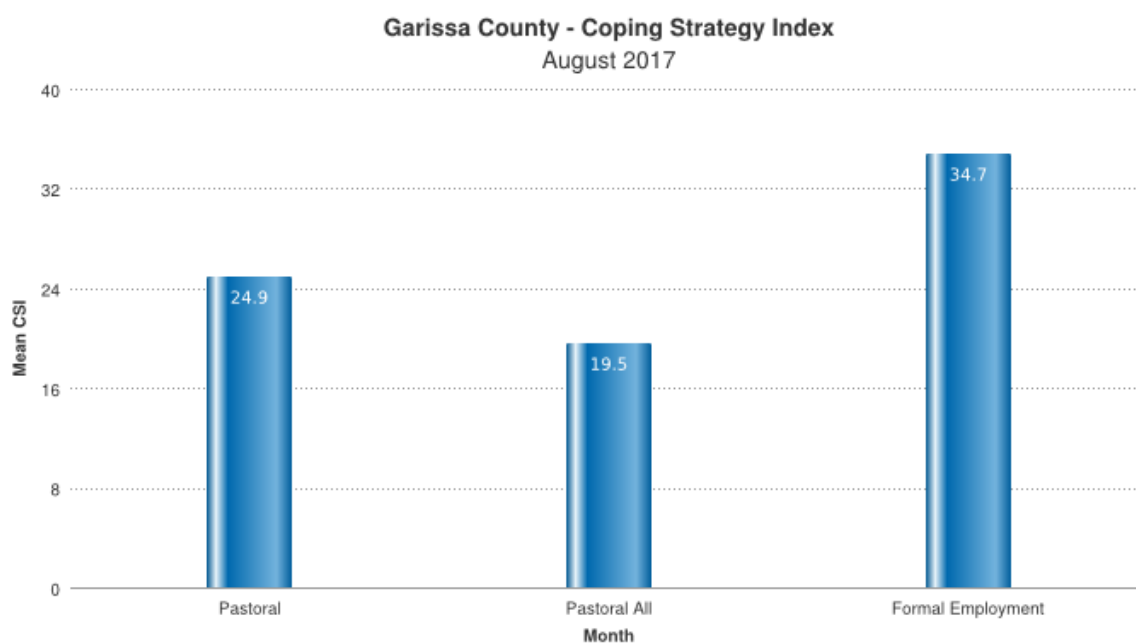
Figure 11: Trends in the proportion of U5 at risk of malnutrition in Garissa County, 2007 – 2016

5.3.2 Health

- Upsurge of other diseases like diarrhoea, upper respiratory tract infection and urinary tract infection were reported in both adults and children all the livelihood zones.
- No outbreak of major disease was reported during the month.

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES INDEX

- The average coping strategies index for the county increased from 10 to 19.5 this shows more households are stressed and applying different coping strategies during the month.
- The formal employment livelihood zone has the highest index at 34.7 while the agro-pastoral has the lowest at 0
- The graphs below show the mean coping strategy based on the livelihood zones.



The coping strategies adopted by the pastoralist included;

- Borrowing of credit from petty traders
- Reduce household meals and number of meals per day.
- Herd separation
- Herding
- Charcoal burning and sale of wood product in the agro pastoral and formal employment livelihood zone

6. CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)

6.1 NON-FOOD INTERVENTION

- Desilting and construction of new water pans
- Water trucking to Lagdera sub county by NDMA and Islamic relief
- Cash transfer programme for poor and needy households by KRCS supported by WFP and GOK.
- Health Outreach Services

6.2 FOOD AID

- Supplementary feeding programme for the management of malnutrition in the health facilities
- Food distribution by Muslim charity groups and Islamic relief organization.
- GOK food distribution by the respective deputy county commissioners.
- Food for asset food distribution to the beneficiaries through work norm verification.

7. EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

There were no reported cases of conflict over resource utilization and human displacement in the month under review.

7.2 Migration

There was no livestock migration reported during the month under review.

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- The drought stage is Alarm and the trend is worsening.
- The livestock body condition is currently poor and is anticipated to deteriorate further as the dry spell continue
- Water availability is critical as all the water are dry and pressure mount on the permanent water sources which are anticipated to reduce yield.
- Livestock trekking distances to water sources is increasing tremendously which has negative impact on livestock body condition and production performance.
- The deteriorating trend has negative food security impact for the county
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8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- The next two months is critical for the livestock sector we therefore need to cushion the pastoralist from losses through provision of livestock supplementary feed for the lactating and small stock.
- Upscale the food ration for the vulnerable households under the FFA and general food distribution.
- Expansion of pasture and fodder production initiatives along river tana
- Provide fuel subsidy for strategic boreholes and areas that require urgent support.
- Livestock insurance Index
- Provide supplementary feeding for malnourished children
- Upscale water trucking