

National Drought Management Authority

GARISSA COUNTY

DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR FEBRUARY 2018



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



FEBRUARY EW PHASE



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)	(% of Nil)	Nil	80 -120
VCI-3Month		6.24	>35
Forage condition		Poor	Good
Production indicators		Value	Normal
Livestock Body Condition	Body	4-5	5
Milk Production		1.5	36litres
Livestock Migration Pattern		No migration	Normal
Livestock deaths (from drought)		No death	No death
Access Indicators		Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)		44.3	>66
Milk Consumption		1.4	36 litres
Return distance to water sources		23.7	<5 Km
Cost of water at source (20 litres)		5-10	<5Kshs
Utilization indicators		Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)		14.6	<13.4
Coping Strategy Index (CSI)		25.6	<20
Food Consumption			

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

- There was no rainfall reported during the month and is normal for this period of the month.
- The average greenness for the county as per the vegetation condition index for 3 month decreased by 38% and is currently at extreme vegetation deficit category of 6.24
- The current average vegetation condition index is below the normal range of >35
- All sub counties are in extreme vegetation deficit category except ijara sub county which is in severe vegetation deficit category
- 100% of households sampled reported poor pasture and browse condition
- Water sources currently in use are boreholes, River Tana, Benane spring and water pans. Higher percentage of both livestock and household depend on boreholes.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

- 100 % of communities sampled reported poor livestock body condition,
- Average milk production recorded was 1.5 litres and is greatly below the normal of 36 litres.
- The terms of trade recorded at 44.3kg of maize per sale of goat.
- No livestock migration was reported
- The return distance to water sources for livestock increased to 23.7km from 16.6km of the previous month.
- The malnutrition rate of children under five years mid at risk based on MUAC increased from 10.31% to 14.6% in the month under review.

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

1. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- There was no rainfall reported during the month.

2. IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- The average greenness for the county as per the vegetation condition index for 3 month continue to decrease and is currently at 6.24 indicating extreme vegetation deficit category.
- The county is in worse condition comparable to the year 2011 and 2001. The current condition is the cumulative effect of the poor performance of the last two rainy seasons.

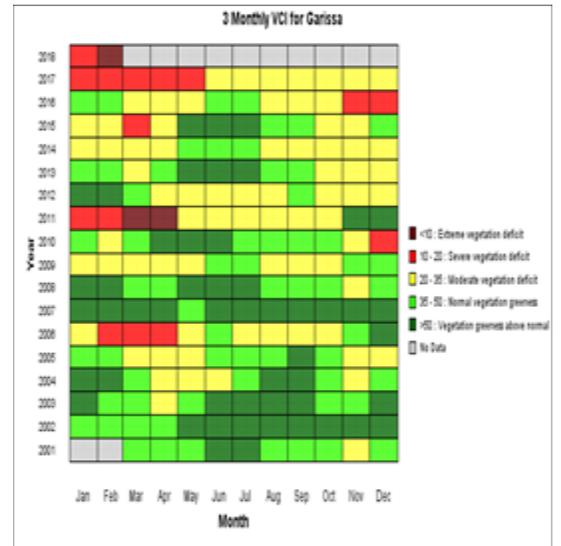
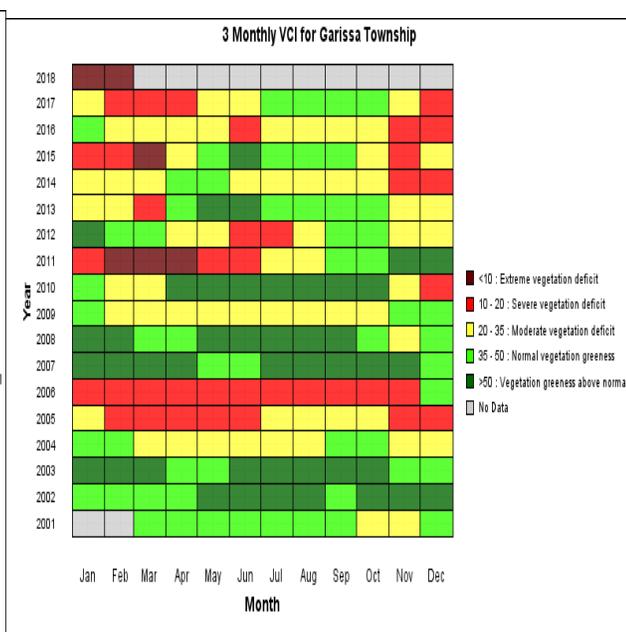
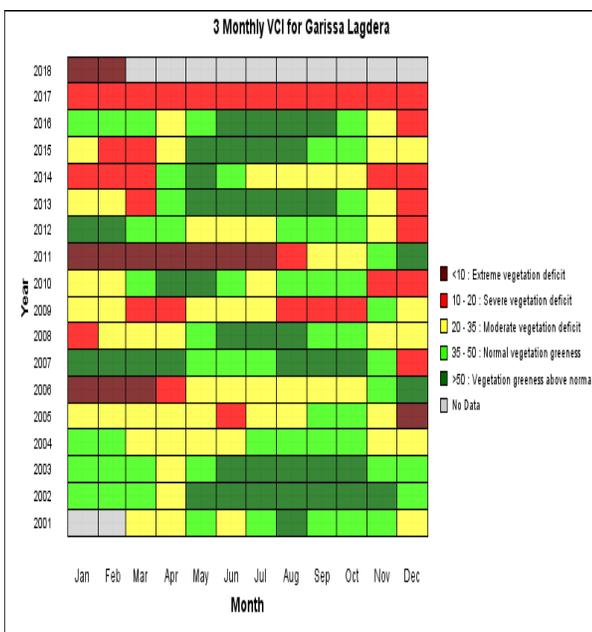


Figure 1. Garissa county vegetation condition index

- The current average vegetation condition index is below the normal range of >35
- Sub counties of Fafi, Dadaab, Lagdera, Balambala and Township continue to be in extreme vegetation deficit category and in worsening trend with an index of 4.87, 3.72, 2.04, 2.04 and -1.4 respectively
- Ijara sub county is in severe vegetation deficit category



Figures 2&3: VCI Matrix for Lagdera and township sub counties, 2001 – 2018

2.2 Pasture

- Compared with the previous month the pasture condition deteriorated in all the livelihood zones
- Livestock are in dry period grazing areas with poor pasture condition.
- All livelihood zones have poor pasture condition in deteriorating trend.
- The pasture condition is projected to last for less than 2 weeks in all the livelihood zones.

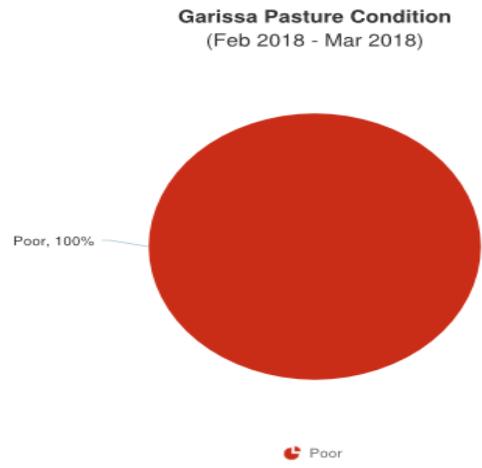


Figure 4: Garissa pasture condition

2.1.3 Browse

- Browse condition is poor and below normal across all the livelihoods.
- The browse condition is expected to last for 1 month in average across the livelihood zones.

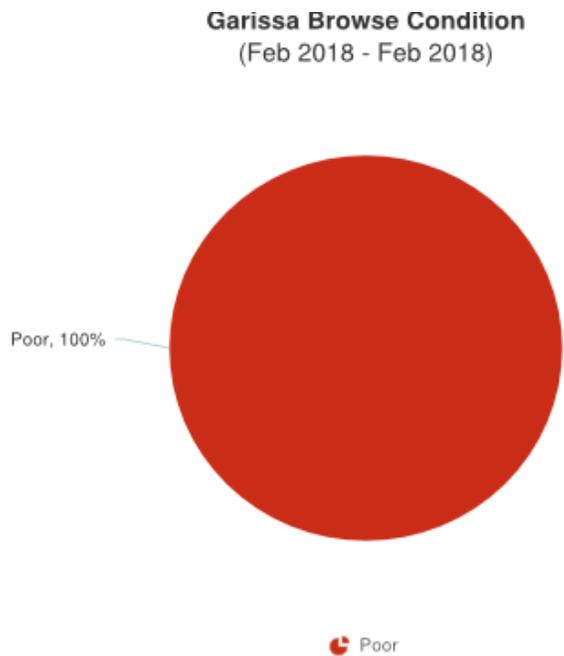


Figure 5. browse condition

- Browse access was constrained in northern parts of the county by water scarcity and conflict with herders from Isiolo county

2.2 WATER RESOURCE

2.2.1 Sources

- The current water sources are boreholes, River Tana, spring and water pans
- Water pans are in use in the southern part of the county.

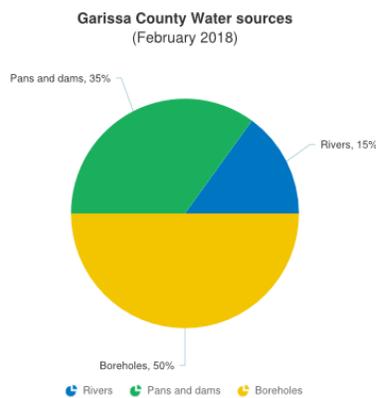


Figure 6: water sources in use

2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

- The average return distances from household to water sources significantly increased when compared with the previous month.

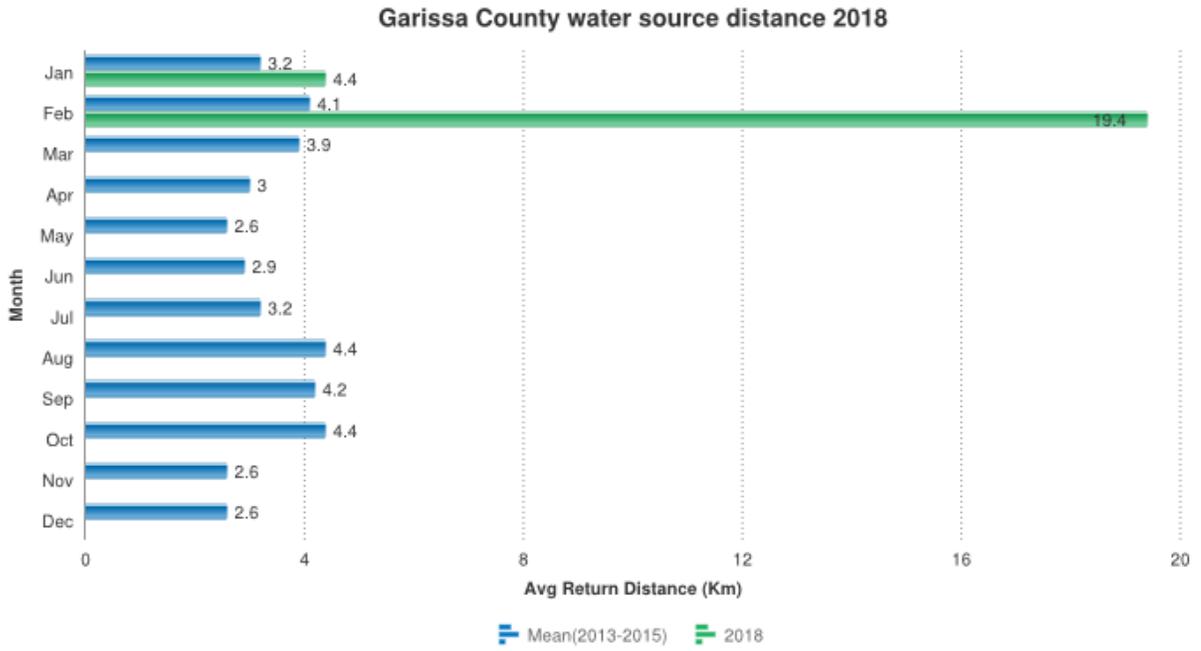


Figure7: Trends of household distance to water sources for Garissa County, 2018

- The current distance was highly above the long term average for the month
- 15% of households sampled are employing water treatment for the raw water drawn from the water pans and river Tana. The treatment method used were mainly boiling.

2.2.3 The pastoral all species livelihood zone recorded the highest trekking distance for household’s water access at 21 km while the Agro pastoral livelihood zone had recorded the lowest distance at 8km.

2.2.4 Livestock access

- The current average livestock return distances from grazing field to water sources was 23.7km in the month under review.

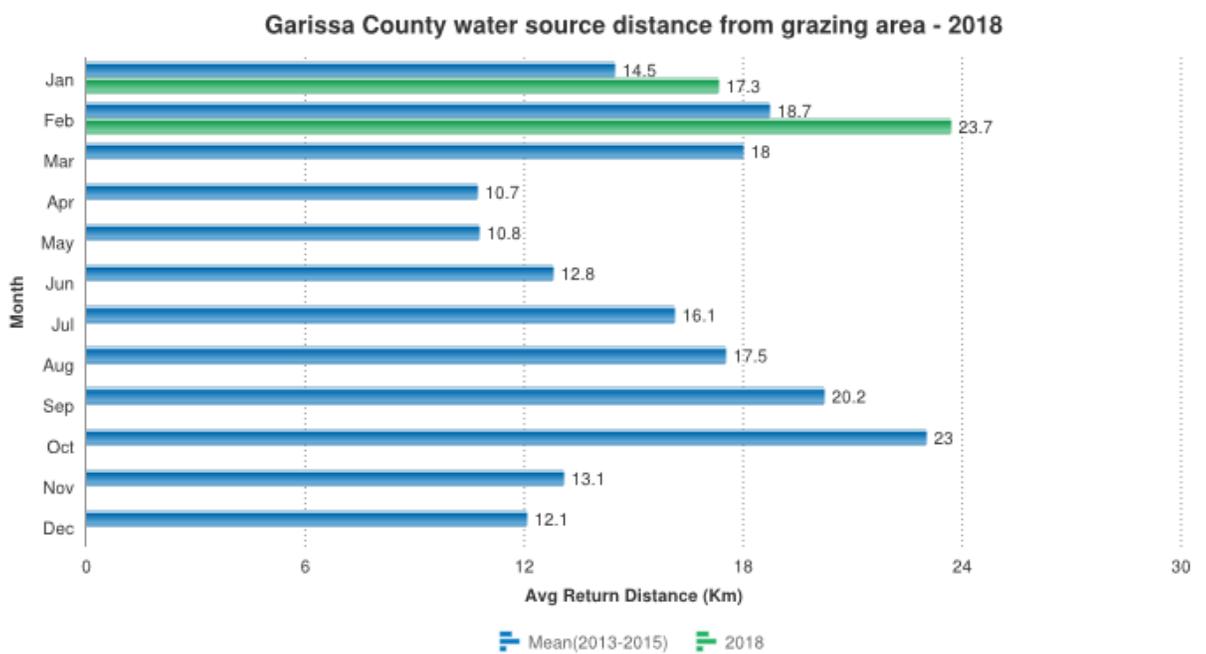


Figure 8: distance to water sources, 2018

- When compared with the previous month the distance increased by 30% thereby increasing time and workload for pastoralist.
- The current distance is above the long term average for the month.
- Watering interval for different species was twice a week for cattle and small stock, once a week for camels.

- Pastoral All species livelihood zone recorded the highest livestock trekking distance at 28km km while Agro Pastoral livelihood zone recorded the lowest distance at 17km.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- Generally, cattle are in body condition score of 4-5, which is poor, small stock are in 3-5 poor body condition and camel are in fair to poor body condition
- The current livestock body condition deteriorated when compared with the previous month and was attributed to poor condition of pasture and browse.
- The current body condition is below normal when compared with similar periods of the years.
- Across all the livelihood zones the livestock body condition was rated poor with highest percentage found in pastoral all species livelihood zone.

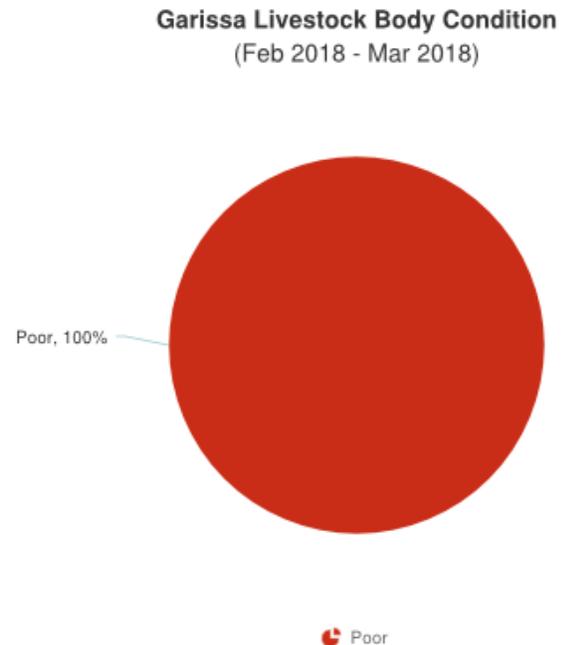


Figure 9: Garissa livestock body condition february 2017

3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- There was no major outbreak of livestock diseases reported in the month under review.
- Metabolic disease due to the drought condition was reported in most parts of the county.
- Common diseases like contagious caprine pleuropneumonia, anaplasmosis and helminthiasis were also reported.

3.1.3 Milk Production

- The average household milk production continues to decrease when compared with the previous month.

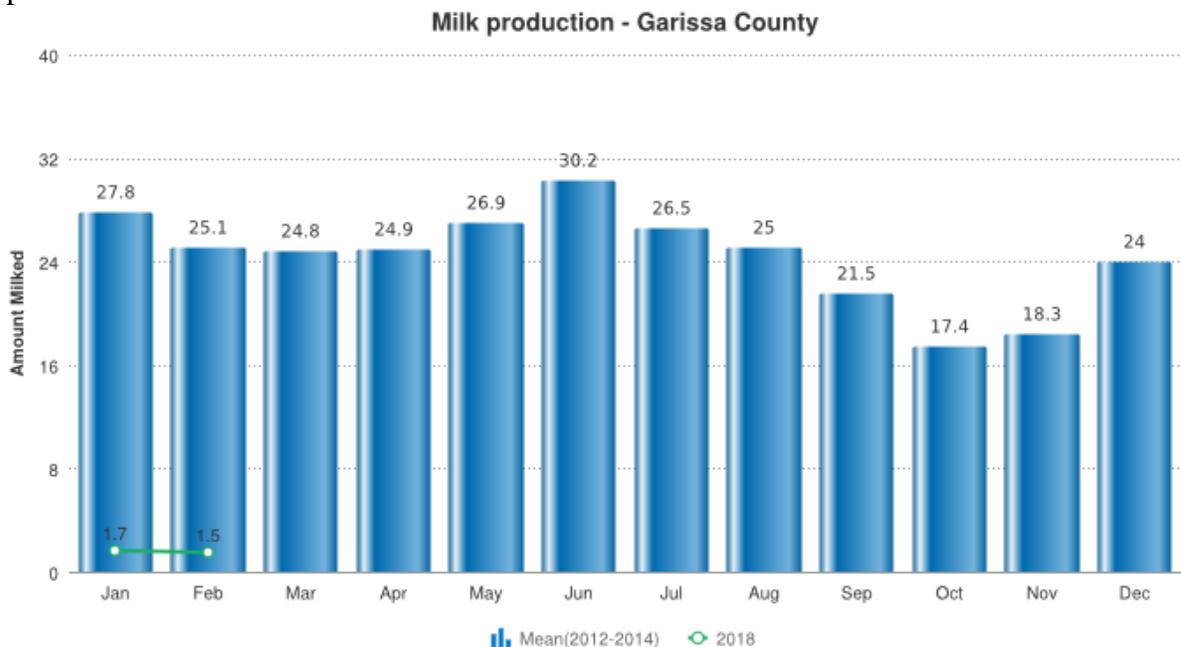


Figure 10: Trends of average milk production per households for Garissa County,

- The downward trend is attributed to poor livestock body condition and inadequate forage in the rangelands.

- The current production was below the long term average for the month (2013-2017)
- The Agro pastoral livelihood zone continue to recorded the highest milk production while Pastoral livelihood zone had recorded the lowest milk production.
- The market price of 750ml bottles is Kshs90 and increased by 12 % from the previous month.

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

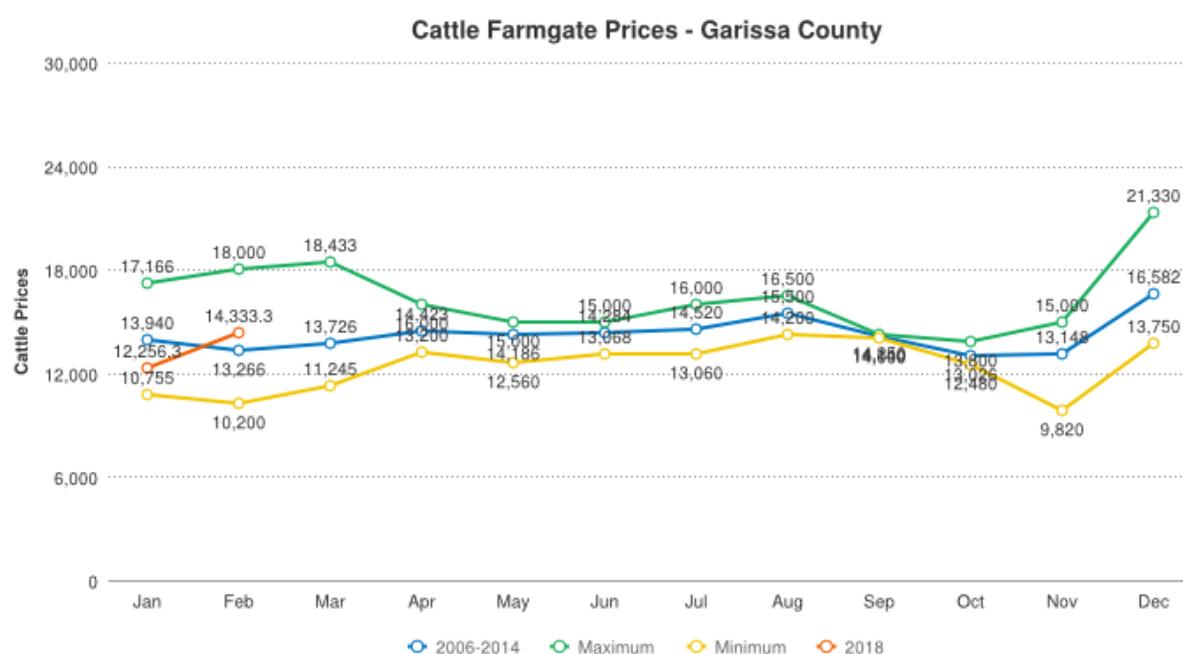


Figure 11: Trends of cattle prices for Garissa County, 2007-2017

- The current cattle price was kshs 14,330, the current prize when compared with the previous month increased due to low supply to the markets and improved traders demand in anticipation of off season rains.
- The prize range for the Agro-pastoral livelihood zone was between ksh 13996 and kshs 13312 with pastoral livelihood zone recording the lowest prize.
- The different prizes recorded in different livelihood zones is attributed to the slightly varied livestock body condition and proximity to the main market.
- The current prize when compared with the long term average (2015-2017) for the same period, it is slightly above with 7.8% difference.

4.1.2 Small Ruminants Prices (Goats)

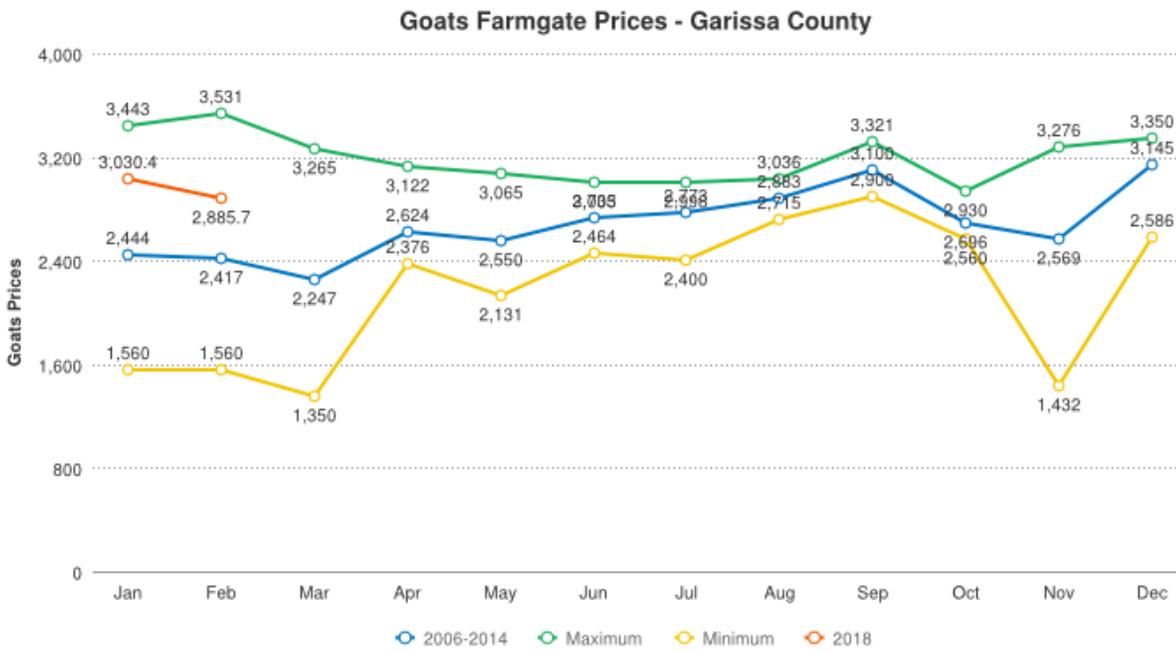


Figure 12: Trends of goat farm gate prices

- The average price of goats reduced when compared with the previous month. The percentage reduction was 4% which is within the same range for the previous month.
- The reduced price was attributed to deteriorating goats' body condition and increased trekking distance to markets.
- The Agro pastoral livelihood zone reported the highest prize of kshs3245 while the Pastoral all livelihood zone recorded the lowest goat prices at kshs2505.
- The current prize when compared with the long term for the same month is higher than the three-year period average of kshs2417, but below the maximum price for same period..

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize

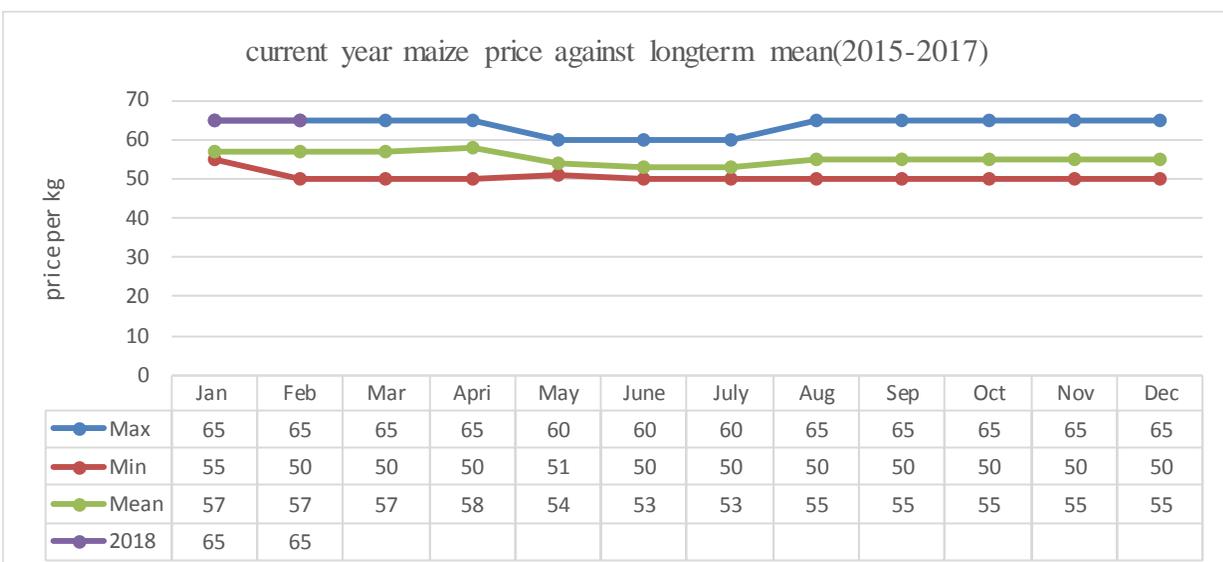


Figure 13: Trends of Maize prices for Garissa County, 2015-2017

- The average maize price of kshs 65 continue to remain stable when compared with the previous month.
- The current price when compared with the long term means for three-year period for the same month by 13%.
- The pastoral livelihood zone recorded the highest price of kshs70 while the agro pastoral recorded the lowest price at kshs60.

4.2.2 Sifted Maize Meal

- The average price for sifted maize was kshs100 per kg and remained stable when compared with the previous month.
- The average price recorded was the same across the livelihoods zones.

- The current price was above the three years long term average by 12.8%

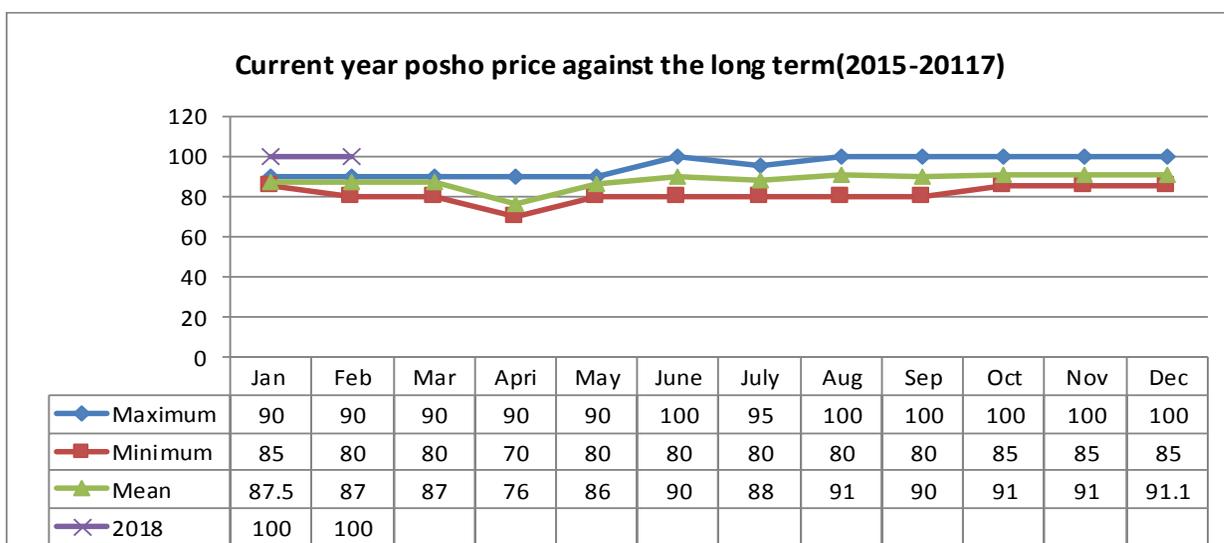


Figure 14: Trends of Sifted Maize Meal prices for Garissa County, 2015 -2017

4.2.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade

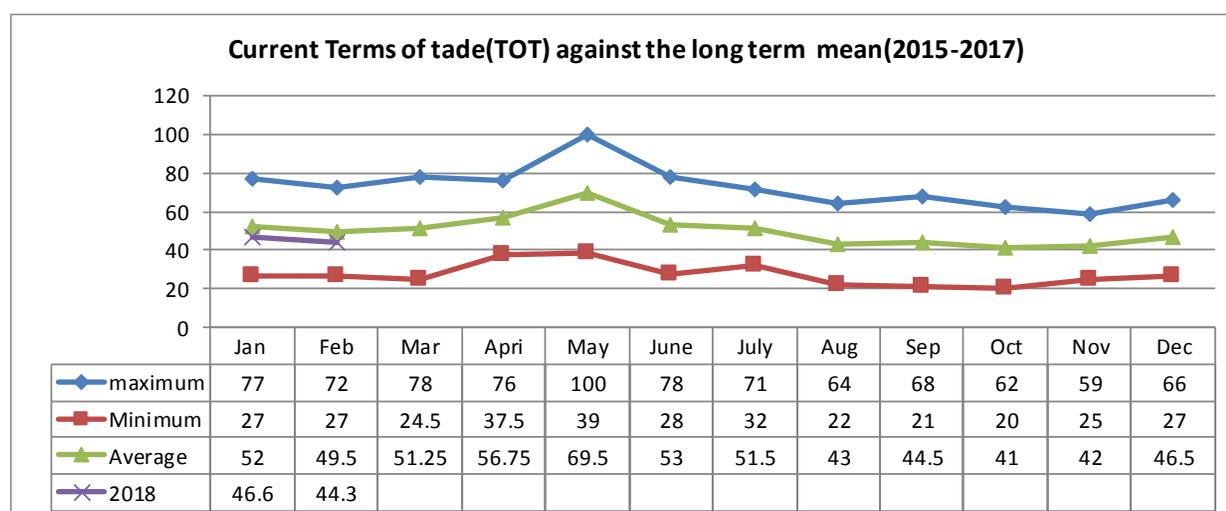


Figure 15: Trends of terms of trade for Garissa County, 2015-2017

- The current terms of trade for pastoralists was 44.3 kg of maize per goat sold. The current term of trade when compared with the previous month the ratio reduced by 5%.
- The terms of trade when compared with the three-year long term period, the ratio is slightly below but remained within the normal range.
- The pastoral all species livelihood zone has the lowest term of trade at 38.5kg of maize per goat.

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE

- The proportion of households with poor food consumption score for the month were 43% those with border line score were 20% and with acceptable at 37%.
- Lagdera sub county has the highest proportions of households while township sub county has no households in the poor category.
- The pastoral all species livelihood zones have highest proportions of household with poor food consumption at 68.4 and the formal employment livelihood zone has the lowest households with poor food consumption score.
- The charts below show the comparison of the food consumption score based on livelihood zones and by sub counties

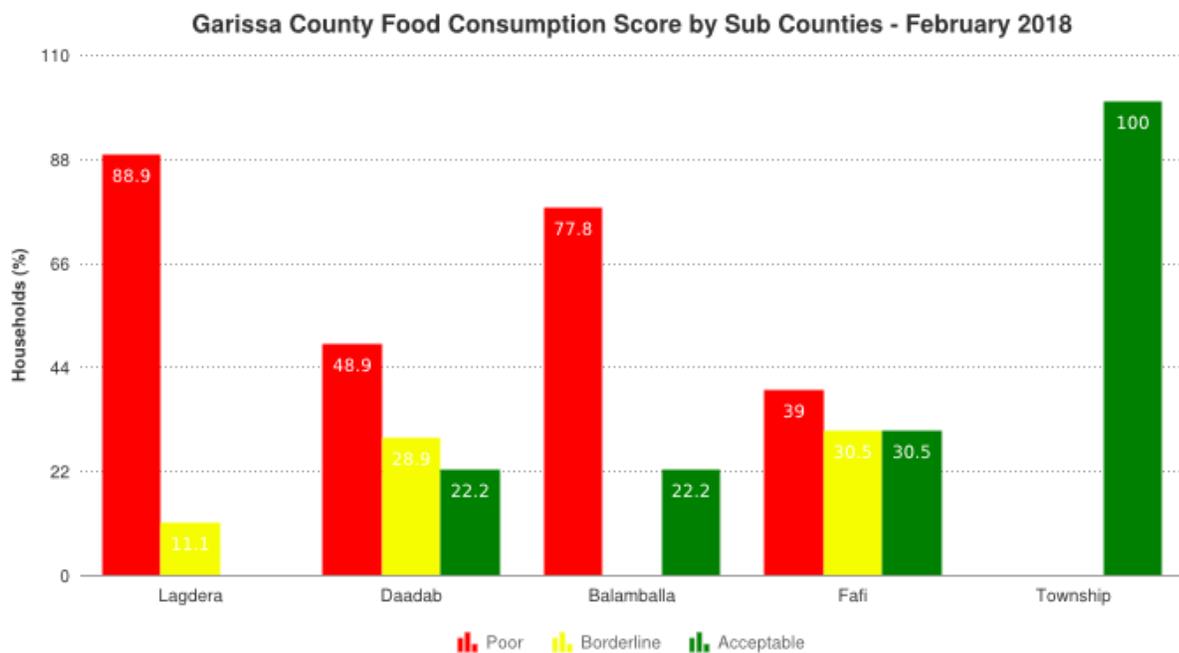


Figure 16: Garissa County food consumption score by sub county

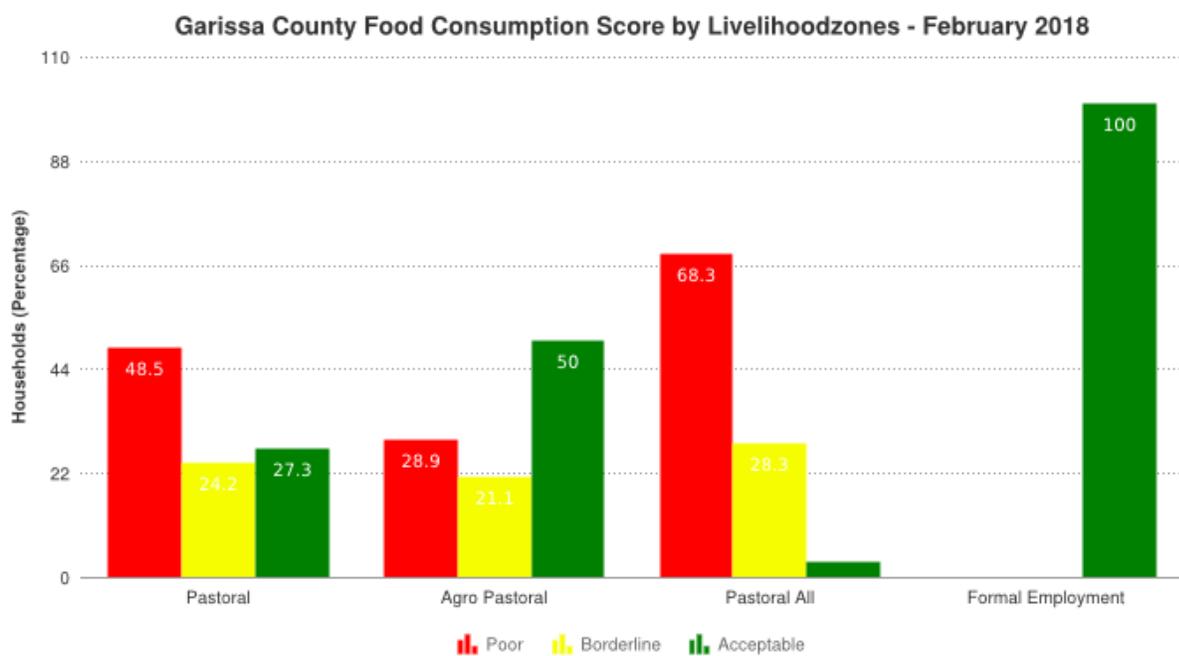


Figure 17: Garissa County food consumption score by livelihood

5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- The average milk consumption per household for the month was 1.4litres and continue to reduced when compared with the previous month.
- The decreasing trend in milk consumption was attributed to decreasing milk production levels.
- The current milk consumption per household was below the long term average recorded for five years' period
- Pastoral all species livelihood zone recorded the lowest milk consumption levels.

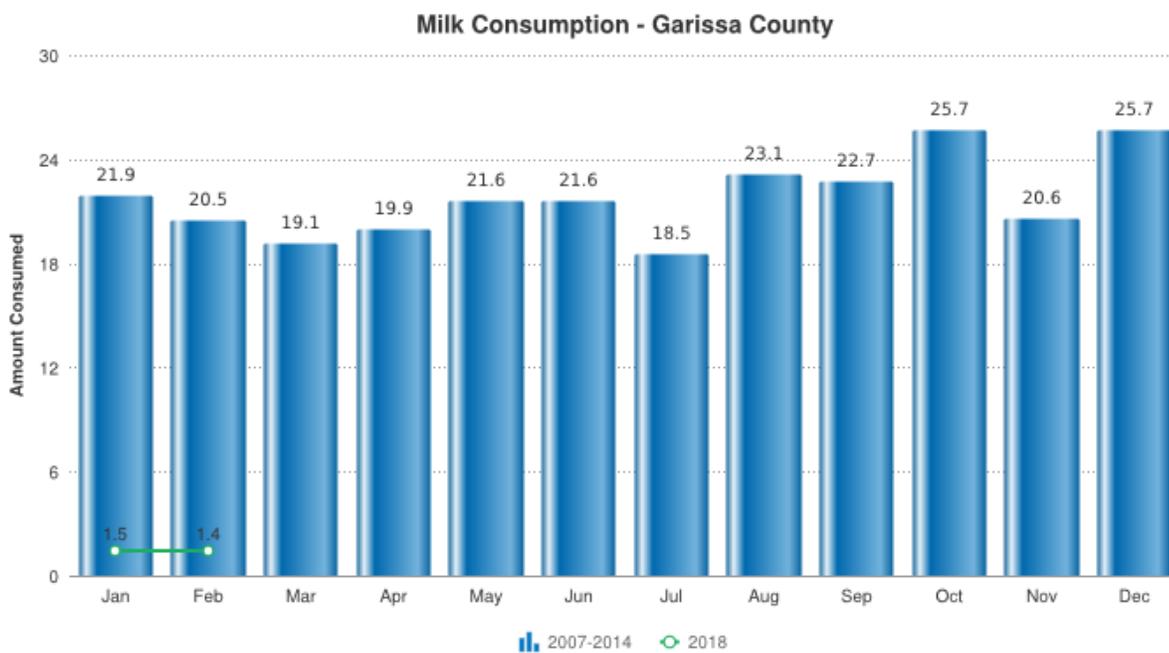


Figure 18: Trends of Milk consumption for Garissa County, 2013-2017

5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

- The malnutrition rate of children under five years mid at risk levels increased from 10.31% to 14.6%, moderately malnourished level remained the same at 3.2% while severely malnourished category increased to 4.9%.
- The increasing trend was attributed to water scarcity leading to low food intake and upsurge of water related diseases and other child related illness.
- The current average malnutrition level was slightly below the long term average recorded at 16. %

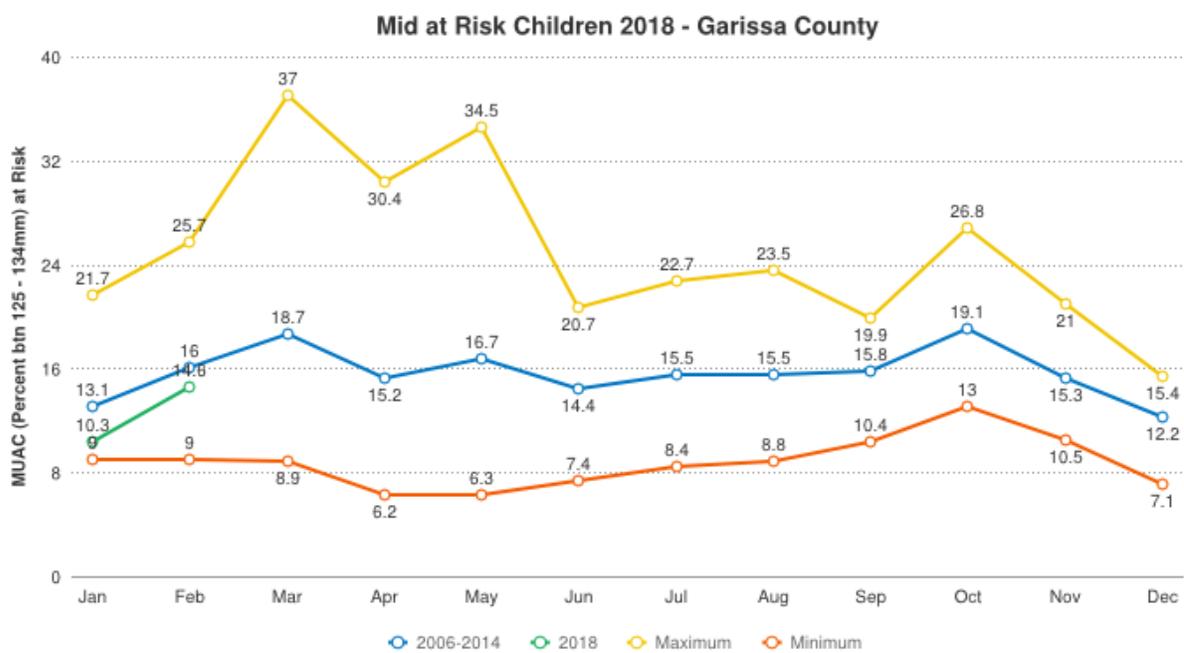


Figure 19: Trends in the proportion of US mid at risk of malnutrition in Garissa County, 2018

5.3.2 Health

- There was roll over of the cholera outbreak reported during previous month in parts of the county though at decreasing level.
- Upsurge of upper respiratory tract infection due to dusty condition, water scarcity related diarrhoea and scabies, urinary tract infection due to high temperatures and malaria were reported in most of the health facilities

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES INDEX

- The average coping strategies index recorded during the month was 25.6 and when compared with the previous month the index increased by a margin of 5 %.
- The formal employment livelihood zone has the highest index at 42.8 while agro pastoral livelihood zone recorded the lowest at 5.
- The graphs below show the mean copying strategy based on the livelihood zones.

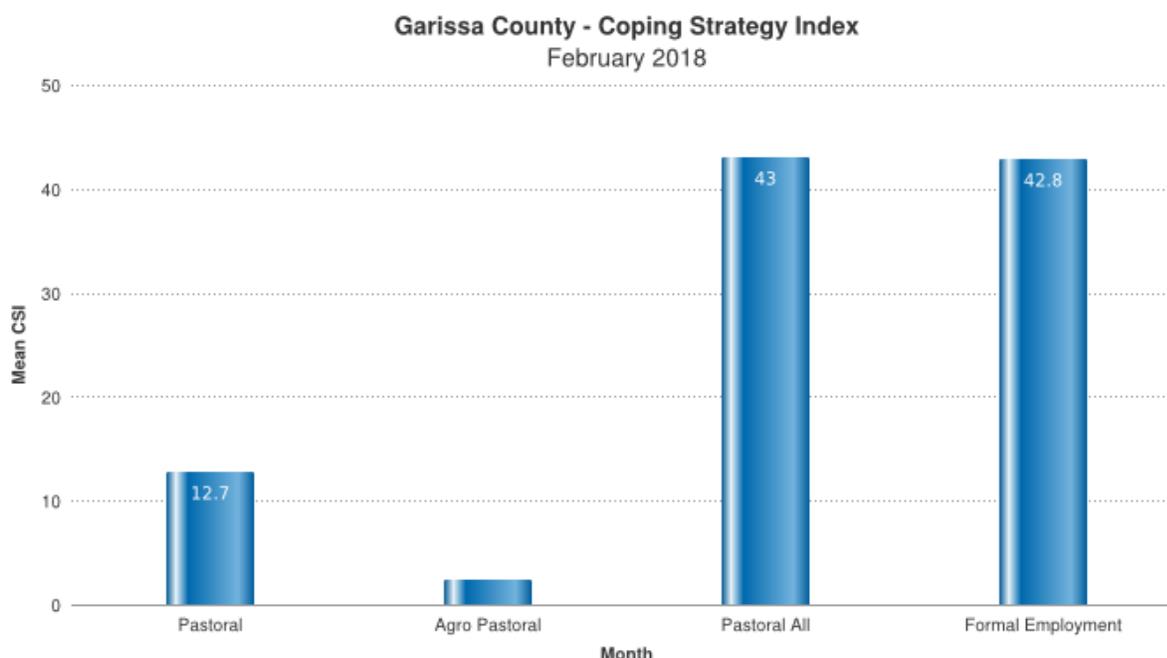


Figure 20: Garissa County coping strategy

The coping strategies adopted by the pastoralist included;

- Livestock watering at the grazing areas
- Borrowing of credit from petty traders.
- Reliance on relief food from Government
- Sale of productive herd.
- 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

Activity	Beneficiaries	Implementers
Vitamin A and Zinc supplementation	20400 persons	MOH and partners
Management of acute malnutrition	26323 beneficiaries	MOH, Mercy USA, TDH, IRC
IYCN Interventions (EBF and Timely Intro of complementary Foods)	150715	MOH, UNICEF
Livestock feed supplementation (drought pellets)	8000 cattle , 12000 small stock	NDMA,
Conflict resolution and peace building activities	Modogashe /sericho	COUNTY GOVERNMENT, NDMA
Cholera management by MOH	56 patients	MOH and Partners
Cash transfer by for enhanced retention targeting Dadaab sub county.	300 pupils	WINDLE TRUST INTERNATIONAL KENYA
Provision of new & repair of existing Gen-sets and purchase of fast moving items.	50000 beneficiaries	UNICEF, COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Water trucking and Provision of water storage tanks in Lagdera.	22 centres	COUNTY GOVERNMENT , NDMA
Procurement of 15 irrigation pumpsets for farmers	15 farms	COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Disease surveillance and vaccination against CCP	120000 small stock	COUNTY GOVERNMENT

6.2 FOOD AID

- Regular School Meals programme by WFP across the county targeting 55,553 pupils
- Supplementary feeding programme for the management of malnutrition in the health facilities targeting 2240 children and
- Food for asset food distribution to the beneficiaries through work norm verification. With total beneficiaries of 70524.

7. EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

Cases of resource based conflict continue to be reported between the northern border of the county with Isiolo county.

7.2 Migration

- There was no livestock outmigration reported in the month under review

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- The poor performance of the short rains seasons continues to negatively impact on the water availability and accessibility within the county.
- It is anticipated that the forage situation in the county may continue to worsen in the next two months if the expected long rains season onset and performance may not be timely and normal. In the likely event of early long rains season onset and showing good performance then the situation is expected to improve.
- The worsening trend of forage condition is expected to affect negatively on livestock body condition thus anticipated continued poor production and negative food security situation.
- The resource based conflict may continue and affect negatively on food security situation of the county.
- All wards in Lagdera, Balambala, Dadaab, township and Fafi sub counties need to be monitored closely.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provision of meals to ECD centres and Food for fees
- Drilling and rehabilitation of boreholes.
- Support to Rapid Response Teams and repair of water bowsers and cranes
- Provision of new and repair of existing Gen-sets and purchase of fast moving items
- Provision of water treatment chemicals and water storage tanks
- Fuel subsidy and water trucking
- Feed supplementation, commercial destocking and slaughter offtake
- Disease surveillance and vaccination (CCPP)
- Procurement of solar powered pump sets for irrigation.
- Procurement of assorted drought tolerant seeds and agrochemicals
- Provision of farm seeds and tools
- Surveillance for epidemic prone diseases
- Hygiene and sanitation promotion
- Integrated out reaches and Mass screening to ascertain the impact of drought on under-fives as well as Pregnant and Lactating Women