



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



## National Drought Management Authority MARSABIT COUNTY DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR AUGUST 2018

**EW PHASE: NORMAL**



### Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

#### Biophysical Indicators

- Rainfall:** There was no rainfall received in the month under review across the County. Cumulative rainfall from the onset of the rains to date was 133percent of the normal.
- Vegetation condition:** 3-months Vegetation Condition Index for the month under review was 90.09 hence falls in the above normal vegetation greenness band. Forage condition is good across the livelihood zones.

#### Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

**Production indicators:** Livestock body condition was good for all the livestock species across the livelihood zones. Milk production slightly improved from 2.3Litres in the previous month to 2.5Litres in August. Maize and beans harvested declined by 46 and 62 percent respectively of the long term average. Area planted under maize and beans declined by 53 and 62 percent respectively compared to the long term average.

**Access indicators:** Household and livestock trekking distances to water points are shorter when compared to the long term average. Milk consumption relatively remained stable across the County. Terms of trade are favourable due to enhanced livestock markets and lower maize prices. Households are majorly relying on water pans and boreholes.

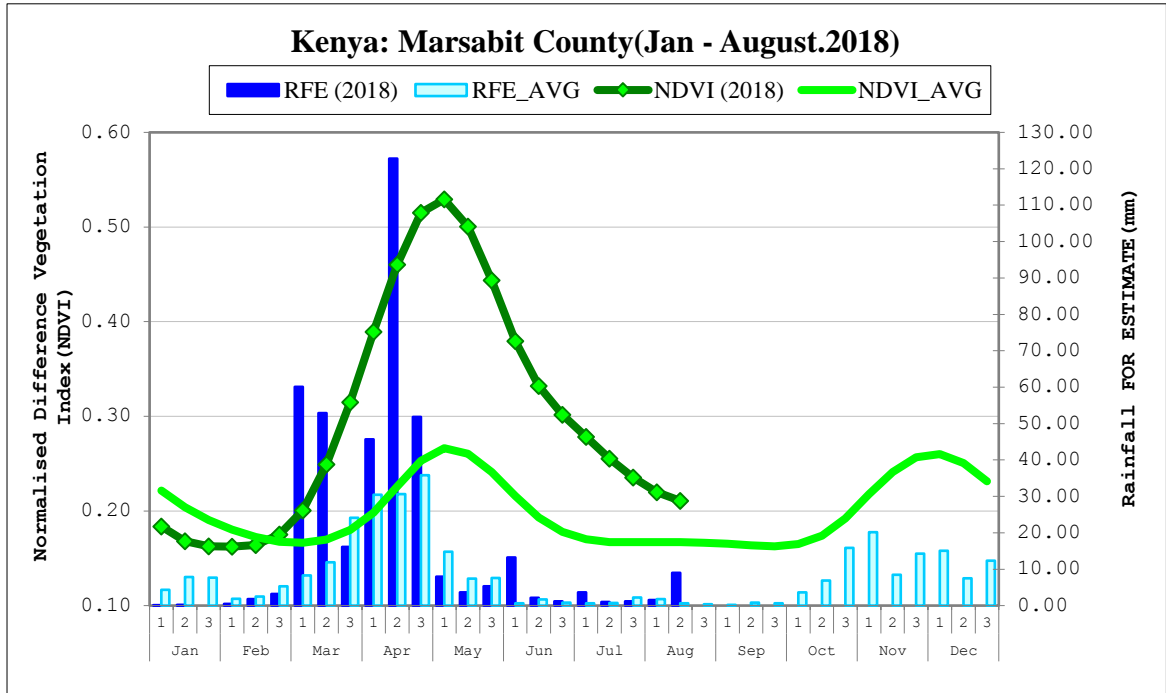
- Utilization indicators:** Nutritional status of children below the age of five years remained stable and were below normal across the livelihood zones. Food consumption score slightly declined when compared to the previous month but still fell under the acceptable strap coping strategy index marginally increased across the livelihood zones.

### Early Warning (EW) Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral	Normal	Deteriorating
Pastoral All species	Normal	Deteriorating
Fisherfolk/ Casual labour /Petty Trading	Normal	Deteriorating
County	Normal	Deteriorating
Biophysical Indicators	Value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)	133	80 -120
VCI-3Month	90.09	>35
Forage condition	Good	Good
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Livestock Body Condition	Good	Good
Milk Production	2.5	>1.4Litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal
Livestock deaths (from drought)	No death	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	115	>72
Milk Consumption	1.5	>1.3Litres
Return distance to water	3.1	0.0-4.5 Km
Cost of water	0-5	<Ksh.5
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	13.8	0.0-18.5
Coping Strategy Index	18.4	<20
Food Consumption score	45.7	>35

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

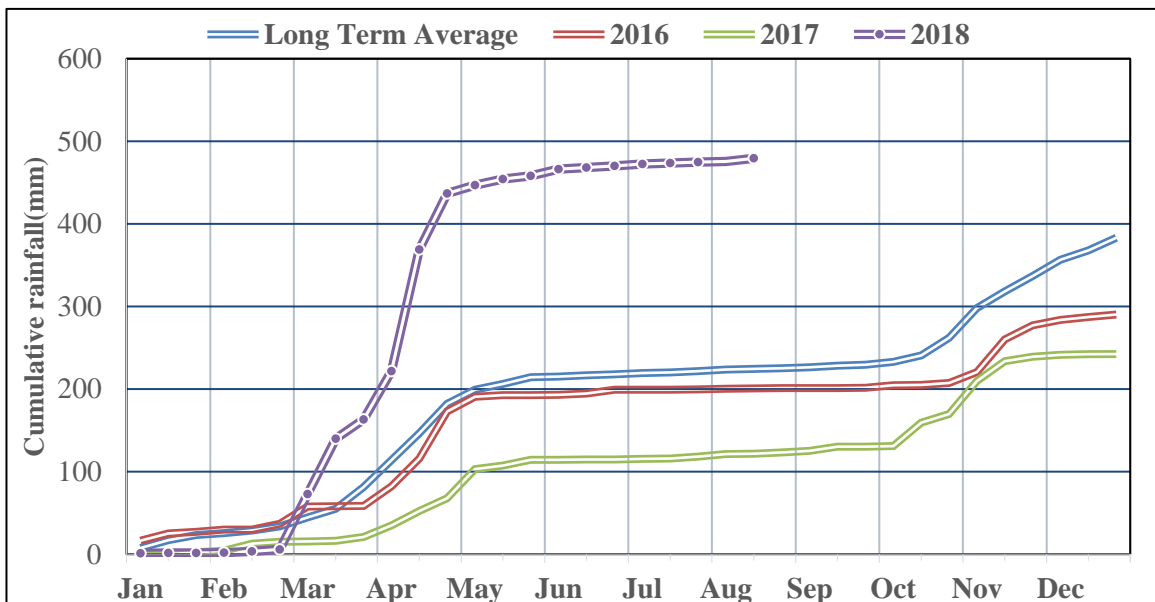
**1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS**  
**1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE**



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

- There was no rainfall received across the County in the month of August. However, traced amounts were noted in Mt. Marsabit and Moyale Township between 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> of August.
- From the (Figure 1) shown above, decadal normalised difference vegetation index(NDVI) for the first and second dekads were 0.22 and 0.21 against long term decadal averages of 0.17 respectively. Above normal normalised difference vegetation index was stimulated by above normal cumulative rains received during the long rains.

**1.2 AMOUNT OF RAINFALL AND DISTRIBUTION(SPATIAL)**



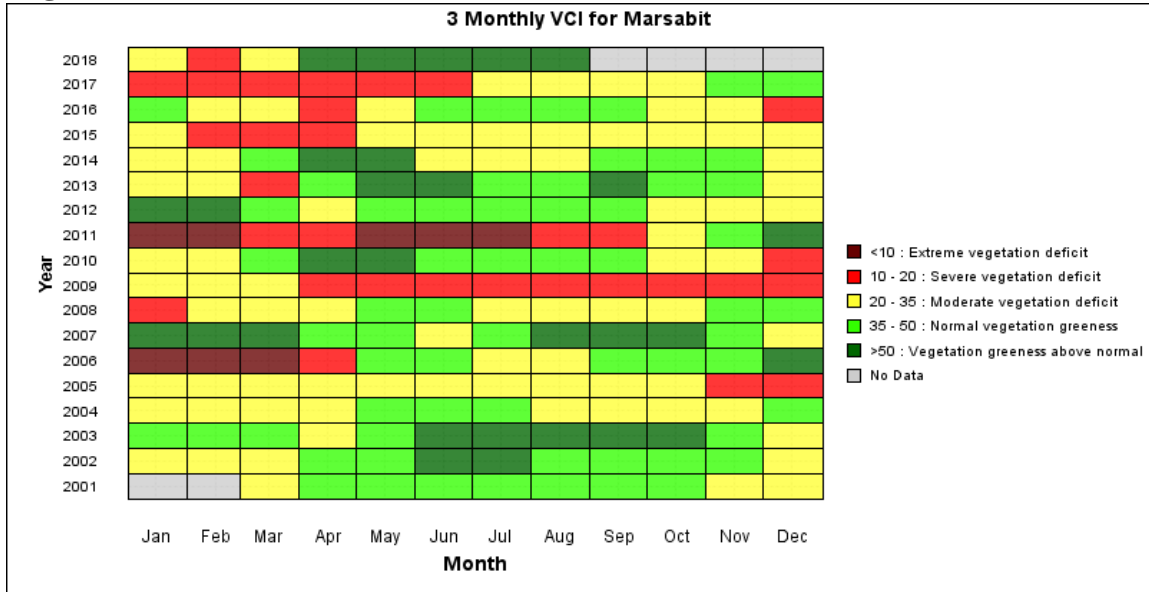
**Figure 2: Marsabit County Cumulative Dekadal Rainfall Amounts(mm)**

- From the figure (2) shown above, cumulative rainfall from March- August amounted to 479.4mm which is 139percent above the long term average cumulative rainfall of 201mm. Cumulative rainfall for August 2018 is remarkably above cumulative rainfall amounts for similar periods for the years 2017 and 2016. Generally, from the trend analysis 2017 was a bad year while the current year has largely been good.

## 2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

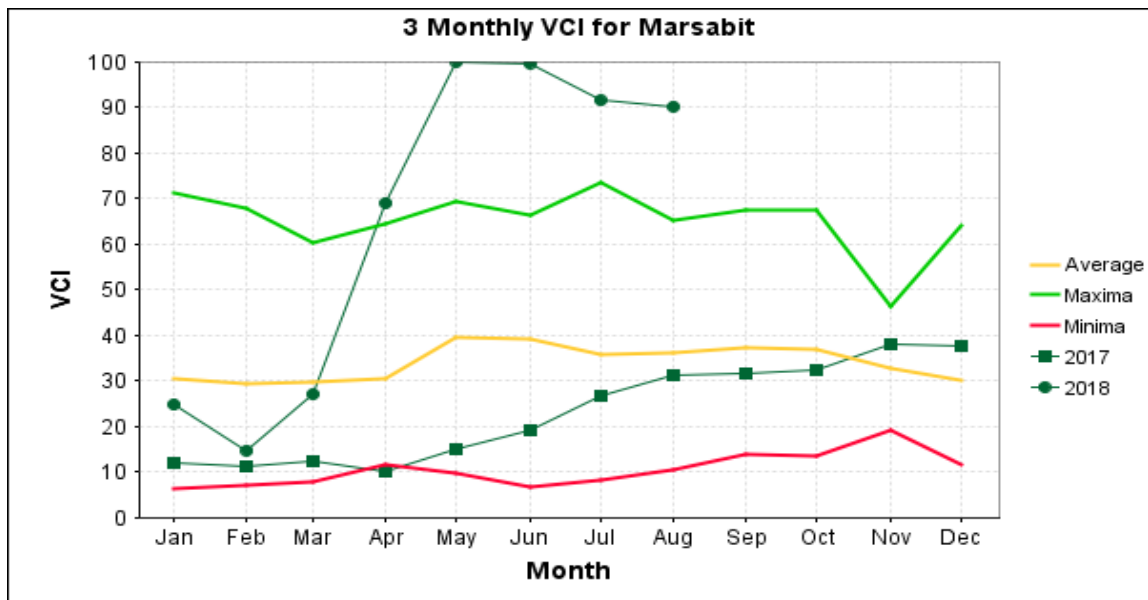
### 2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

#### 2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)



**Figure 3. Vegetation Condition Index across the County**

- From figure 3 shown above, the county has been in vegetation greenness above normal from April to date. Meaningful progression in vegetation condition index was plausibly evidenced by a 3-months VCI of 90.09 which falls within the above normal vegetation greenness band. Substantial improvement in the 3-monthly vegetation condition index from April- August was effected by the amassed positive outcome of the above normal cumulative rains which resuscitated forage cover across the County.
- 3-monthly VCI for the sub-counties fell within the above normal vegetation greenness ensemble. Saku, Laisamis, North Horr and Moyale exhibited a 3-monthly vegetation index of 104.7, 96.1, 90 and 74.2 respectively which is outstandingly further on the normal threshold of 35 and above.



**Figure 4:Vegetation Condition Index Trends**

- (Figure 4) shown above relates 2018 vegetation condition index trends to 2017, long term average with their respective maximum and minimum values.

- Vegetation condition index for the last four successive months has been above the maximum prompted by above normal cumulative rains which led to exponential growth in vegetation cover.
- When compared to similar period last year and the long term average, current vegetation condition index is remarkably above August 2017 and long term average VCI values.

### 2.1.2 Pasture

- Pasture condition is generally good across all livelihood zones occasioned by above normal cumulative rains(March-June) received across the County.
- However, in few isolated areas of Dukana, Korr and Shurr largely nearby the watering points, pasture is fair due to overgrazing. Currently, there is no limiting factor to access forage across the county.
- An upsurge of non-palatable vegetation was noted to be predominant in some parts of North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties.
- Good pasture observed across the county is expected to last for the next 4 months against the normal 1month. When compared to similar periods, pasture condition is above normal.

### 2.1.3 Browse

- Browse condition is good across the livelihood zones. When compared to similar period, browse condition is above normal.
- Above normal browse condition was attributed to the cumulative effect of the above normal long rains which promptly rejuvenated vegetation cover across the livelihood zones.
- Browse is expected to last for the next 5 months against the normal 2 months.

## 2.2 WATER RESOURCE

### 2.2.1 Sources

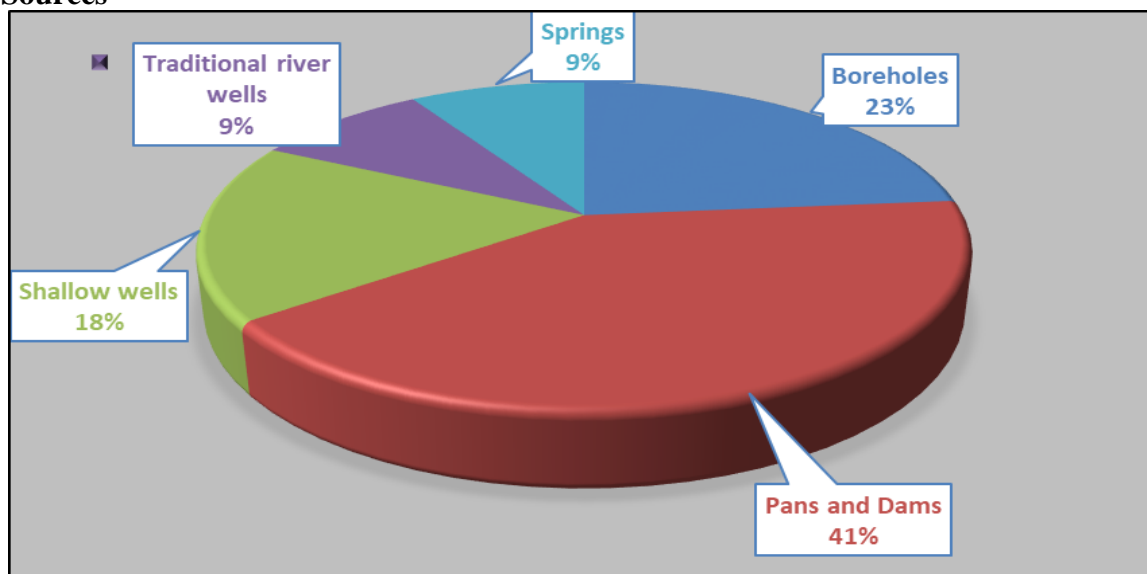


Figure 5: Water sources across the livelihood zones

- From (Figure 5) shown above, major water sources used by communities are water pans, boreholes and shallow wells at 41percent, 23percent and 18percent respectively in the month under review across the livelihood zones.
- Other water sources utilized by the communities were traditional river wells and springs at 9percent and 9percent respectively.

- Most shallow wells and water pans remains unprotected and are subject to pollution as observed in Kituruni, Karare, Lekuchula, Lontolio.
- Nine out of 116 boreholes have broken down across the county. Non-operational boreholes include Gadamoji Dam, Kubi Qalo 2 Borehole, Haro Bota Earth Pan, Maikona Shallow Wells, Ramata Dam and Shallow Wells-North Horr (Horr Gudha) while some shallow wells in Korr and Dukana were fully covered by silt.
- At this time of the year, most households usually depend on boreholes as the main source of water. However, 41percent of the households are drawing water from the pans currently and they are expected to last for the next 4months.

## 2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

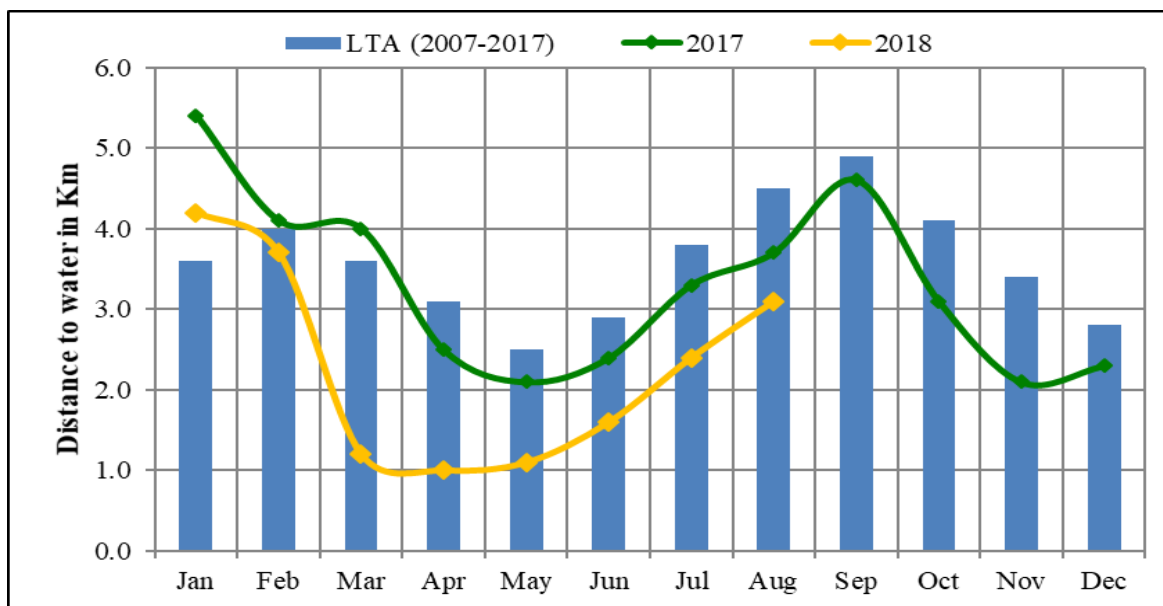


Figure 6: Current household water return distance(km) compared to the long term average distances(km)

- From (Figure 6) shown above, return household water distances to the main water sources was 3.1Km in the month under review which gradually increased from 2.4km posted in the preceding month across the livelihood zones.
- Gradual increase in household water distances was mainly occasioned by drying up of a few sub-surface water sources.
- When compared to similar periods, the current household water distance of 3.1Km is 31percent shorter than the normal household water distances of 4.5Km.
- Average waiting time across the livelihood zones is less than 10 minutes compared to the normal 30-45 minutes due to high recharge levels. However, extreme cases were observed in some parts of Moyale and Laisamis sub-counties where waiting time was 60-90 minutes.
- Average water consumption in both Agro-pastoral and pastoral areas is 15-20 litres per person per day across the county. Current consumption level has improved from the normal 10-15 litres per person per day across the livelihood zones.
- Water is free of charge in most areas across the county with exception of areas where borehole is pumped using generator. However, Marsabit and Moyale Township water vendors sell water at Ksh.40- 50/20 litre jerrican.

### 2.2.3 Livestock access

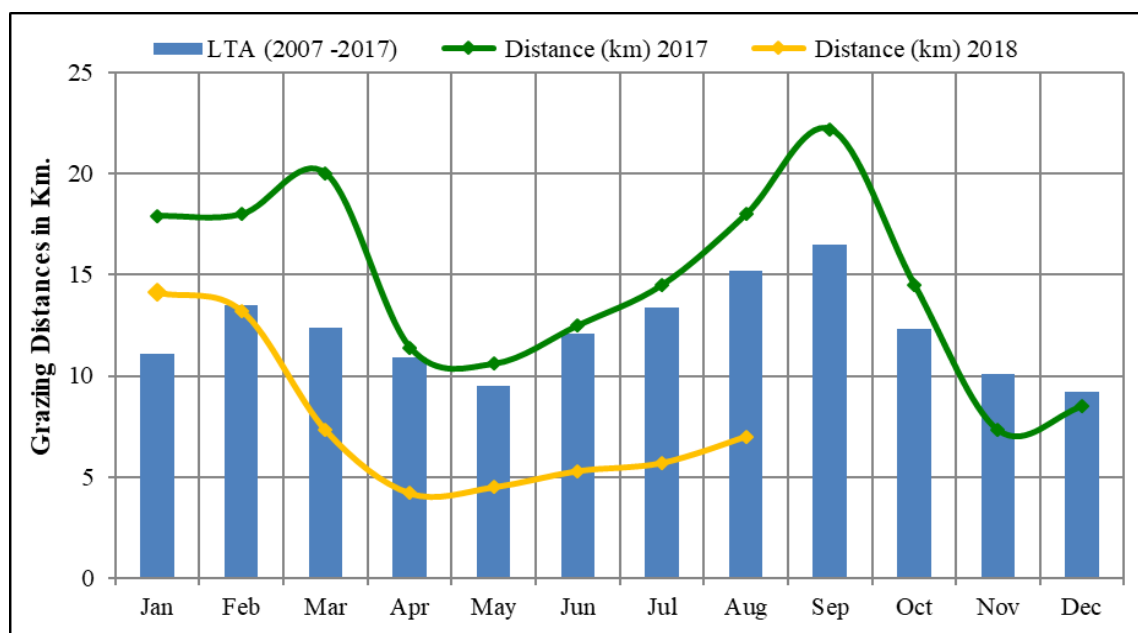


Figure 7: Current livestock return trekking distance compared to the long term trekking distances(km)

- From (Figure 7) shown above, current return livestock trekking distance from grazing areas to water points is 7.0Km across the livelihood zones thus an increase from 5.7Km recorded in the previous month due to drying up of a few sub-surface water sources.
- When compared to similar periods, current livestock return trekking distance of 7.0Km is 54percent shorter than the normal livestock trekking distance of 15.2Km.
- Return livestock trekking distances have decreased from the normal 12-15Km to 4-8Km in the Pastoral zone. Similarly, return distances to water sources have also decreased from the normal 8-10Km to 2-4Km in the agro-pastoral zone.
- Currently, cattle are watered after every 1-2 days; shoats 2 days and camels after every six days across the livelihood zones. When compared to similar periods, watering frequency has declined significantly due to high recharge levels of the sub-surface water sources and good forage condition.

## 3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

### 3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

#### 3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- Cattle, camels, donkeys, goats and sheep are all in good body condition across all the livelihood zones with exception of the young kids (3-4 months old) which exhibited poor body condition as a result of maternal antibodies and PPR outbreak in Northern parts of North Horr sub-county (Dukana, Balesa, Elhadi) and southern parts of Laisamis sub-county.
- At this time of the year, body condition is usually fair for all the livestock species apart from cattle in the pastoral zone that usually range from fair to poor. Body condition is expected to remain good for the next 3 months which will coincide with the onset of the short rains in October.

#### 3.1.2 Livestock Migration

- There is no abnormal livestock migration as the livestock are in their normal grazing areas. In North Horr sub-county few herds from Shurr and Bubisa which have moved to Maikona-

Medate area, Dukana and El hadi to North Horr, hurri hills to Kalacha in search for salty water.

- In Moyale sub-county livestock are migrating from Korondile (Wajir County) through Dabel- Bute (Wajir County) through Watiti-Golbo ward. Southern Ethiopia towards Uran, Obbu, Butiye and Golbo wards.
- In Laisamis, livestock are migrating normally from Korr- Lontolio-Merille, Korr-Oldonyo, Mara-Mt. kulal, Korr-Loglogo- Gudas-Soriadi, Laisamis- Koya, Laisamis- Soriadi. Kargi-Mt Kulal. Loiyangalani –Moite. Loiyangalani- Mt Kulal with exception of movement of livestock from Kargi- Maikona which is unusual.

### 3.1.3 Livestock Diseases

SPECIES	NO DEAD	CAUSE OF DEATH	LOCATION- LAISAMIS SUB-COUNTY
Goats	560	Abomasal Impaction, PPR, CCPP, Entero,	Laisamis, Merille, Kargi, Korr, Loglogo, Moite, Olturot, South Horr, Ngurunit, Mt Kulal
Sheep	580	Abomasal Impaction, PPR, Entero	Laisamis, Merille, Kargi, Korr, Loglogo, Moite, Olturot, South Horr, Ngurunit, Mt Kulal
Cattle	255	Three days sickness, LSD, FMD,	Laisamis, Mt Kulal, South Horr, Ngurunit, Loglogo
Camels	126	HS, Tryps, ACDS	Moite, Laisamis, Kargi, Olturot, merille, Loglogo

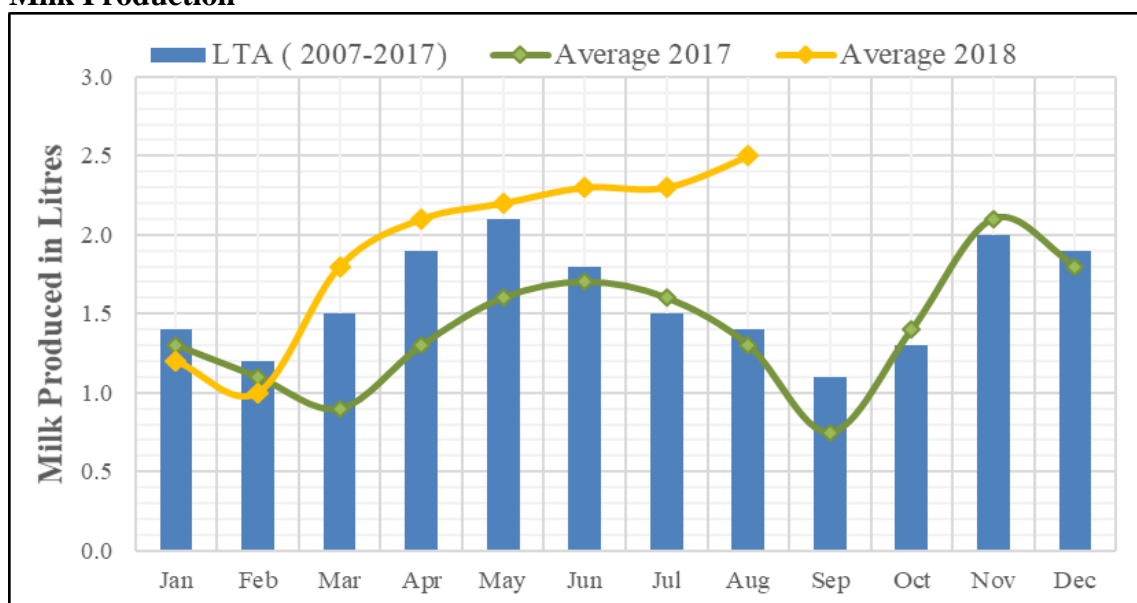
NO	WARD-NORTH HARR SUB-COUNTY	SHEEP AND GOATS	CATTLE	CAMELS
1.	Dukana	364	0	11
2.	Illeret	212	0	3
3.	North Horr	226	0	7
4.	Turbi	45	0	4
5.	Maikona	0	6	18
<b>Totals Deaths</b>		<b>847</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>43</b>

S/No	Ward- Moyale Sub-County	Sheep And Goats	Cattle	Camels
1.	Uran	22	53	3
2.	Sololo	0	2	0
3.	Obbu	0	10	12
4.	Butiye	30	13	24
5.	Golbo	836	21	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>888</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>39</b>

### 3.1.4 Livestock mortalities

- No cases of livestock mortalities attributed to drought were reported across the across the County. However, mortalities reported were as a result of diseases. Mortalities were higher in small stock due to diseases.

### 3.1.5 Milk Production



*Figure 8: Milk production/Household/Day/Litres compared to Long Term Average*

- From (Figure 8) shown above, household milk production per day for the month of August was 2.5Litres/Household/Day across the livelihood zone which gradually improved when compared to the previous month.
- When compared to similar periods, current milk production of 2.5Litres is 79percent above the long term average milk production of 1.4Litres/Household/Day.
- Available milk produced is mainly from camels and goat. The average household milk production per day in the Pastoral zone is 2-4litres compared to the long term average of 2-3litres whereas most households in agro-pastoral zone are producing between 1-3litres compared to the normal 1-2litres.
- Above normal milk production was attributed to good livestock body condition, most of the livestock accessing primary pastures and water nearer to the homestead.
- Milk prices are retailing at an average price of Kshs.60-80 per Litre across the livelihood zones which is the normal milk price.

## 3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

### 3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops

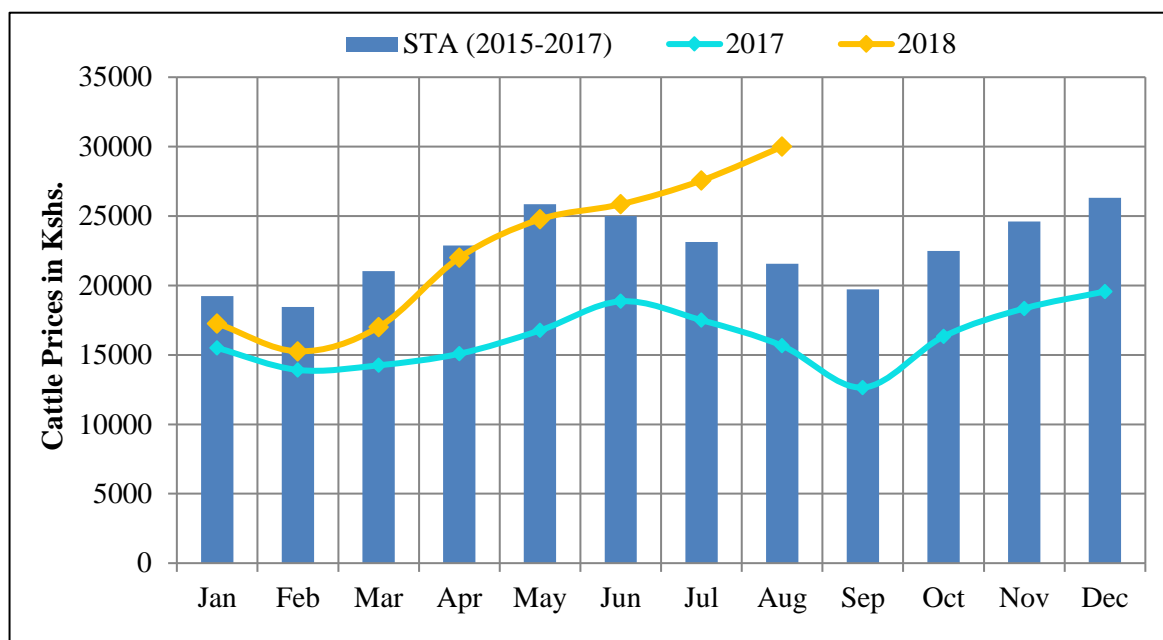
- The three main crops grown that were put under rain fed production include maize and beans. Area planted under maize and beans declined by 57 and 48percent respectively compared to the long term average.
- The decline in areas planted is attributed to unanticipated early onset of rains in early March which was contrary to weather forecast that indicated the County was likely to experience depressed rainfall. About 80 percent of farmers had not prepared their farms by the onset of rains and this led to difficulties in use of mechanized services for land preparation during the rains.
- Maize yield declined by 53percent while actual production of beans declined by 62 respectively when compared to the long term average. The decrease in production for maize and beans was attributed to decline in areas planted, late land preparation hence late planting,



effects of insufficient and untimely weeding operation and inadequate labor as a factor of production.

- Prolonged rains and low temperatures resulted to rampant fungal infestations and spoilage of pulses while wildlife destruction in Karare led to loss of crops. Army worm infestations led to about 40 percent loss of maize crop.
- Generally, Moyale sub-county experienced better harvest than Saku sub-county.

#### 4.1.1 Cattle Prices



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

- From (Figure 9) shown above, cattle price for the month under review was Ksh. 30,000 which posted an improvement from Ksh. 27,560 exhibited in the month of August.
- Enhanced cattle prices were attributed to improve livestock market operations, increased livestock sales and good cattle body condition across the livelihood zones.
- Current cattle price of Kshs. 30, 000 is above the short term average of Kshs. 21564 by 39percent.
- Moyale and Merille livestock markets posted favourable cattle prices of Kshs. 30,000-Kshs. 35,000. North Horr and Dukana posted cattle price of Kshs. 25,000-30,000.
- Livestock market prices are expected to improve further due to good livestock body condition.

### 4.1.2 Goat prices

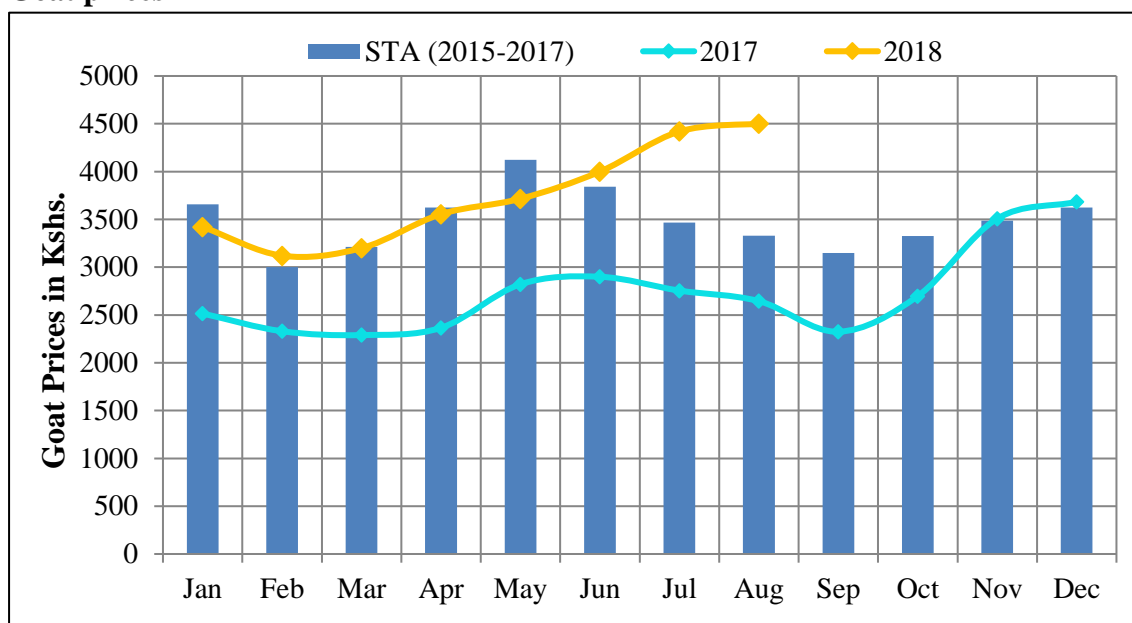


Figure 10: Current goats' prices compared to short term average prices

- The figure shown above depicts that the average goat price for the month of August was Kshs.4, 500 across the livelihood zones. Current goat price relatively remained stable when compared to the previous month goat price of Kshs.4, 420.
- The current goat price of Ksh. 4,500 is 35percent above the short term average goat price of Kshs.3, 328.
- Above normal goat prices were improved market stimulation coupled with good body condition of the goats across the livelihood zones.
- Favourable goat prices were exhibited in Moyale, Jirime, Illaut, Merille and Loyangalani livestock markets with prices ranging between Kshs. 4,500-6,000.
- Goat prices are expected to improve further in the next 1month.

### 4.1.3 Sheep Prices

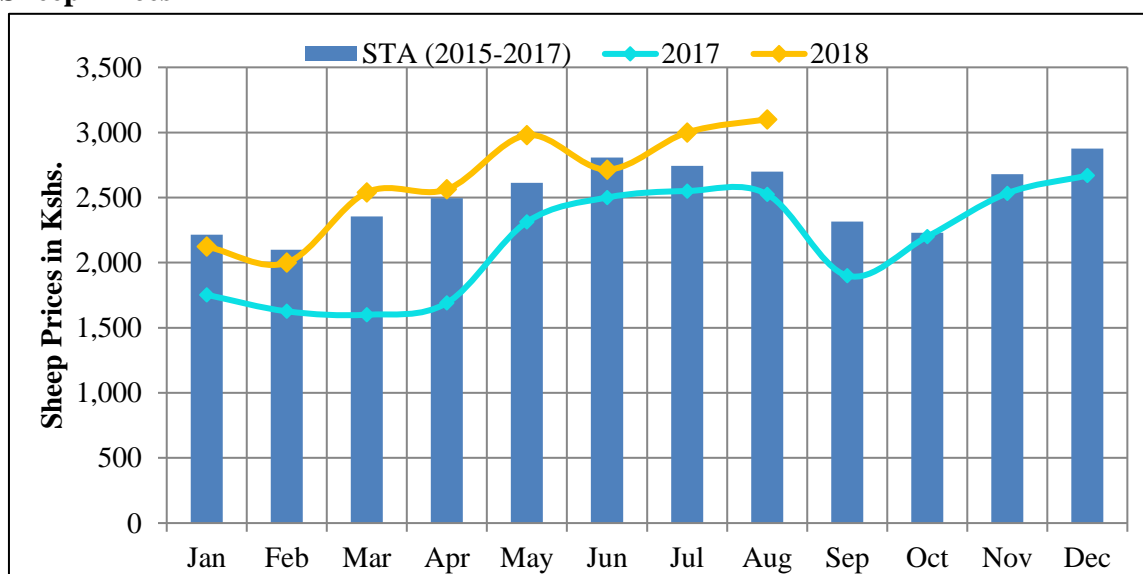
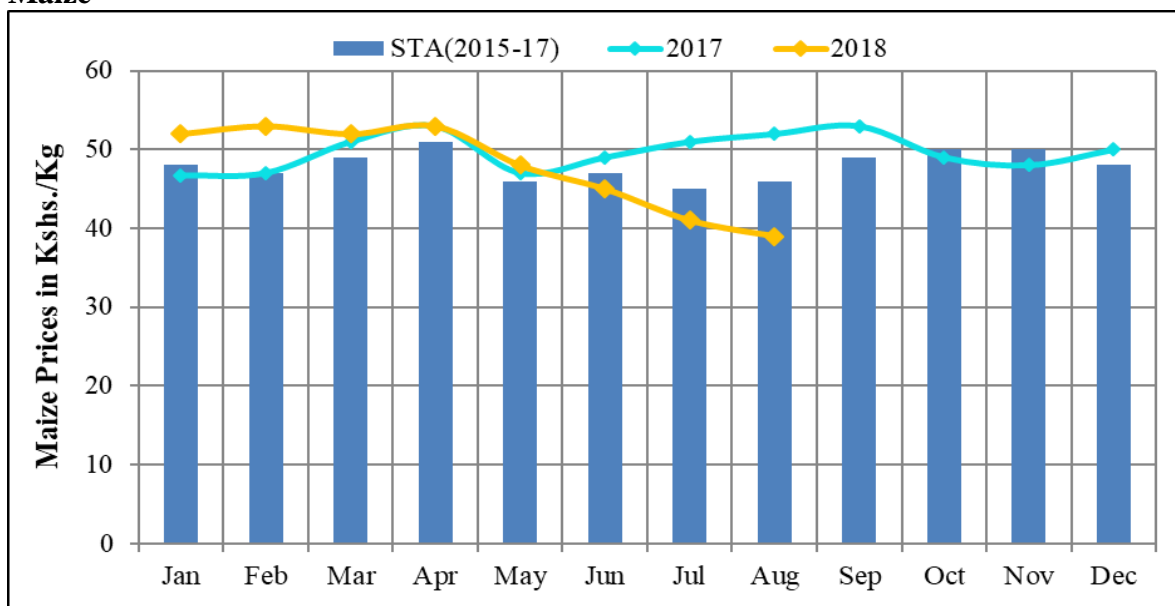


Figure 11: Current sheep prices compared to the short term average prices(kshs.)

- From the (Figure 11) shown above, sheep price for the month of August was Kshs.3, 100 across the livelihood zones.
- Sheep prices relatively remained stable when compared to the previous month price of Kshs.3, 000.
- When compared to the short term average price of Kshs. 2,699, current sheep price is 15 percent above normal. Above normal sheep prices were attributed to generally good body condition.

## 4.2 CROP PRICES

### 4.2.1 Maize

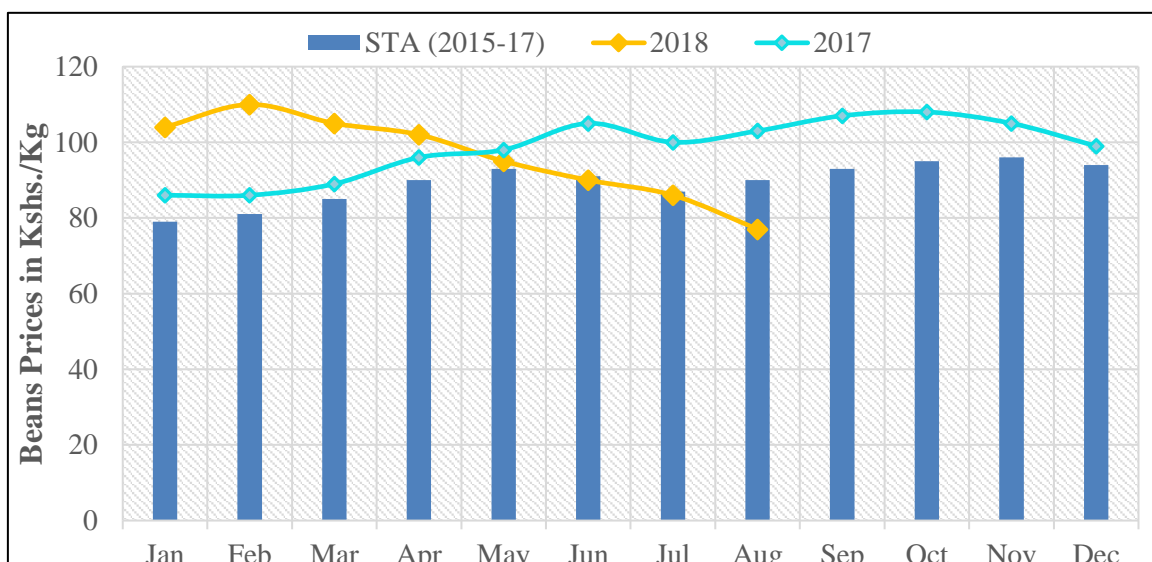


*Figure 12: Current maize prices compared to the short term average prices(kshs.)*

- From the figure shown above, current maize price is Kshs.39/kg across the livelihood zones.
- When compared to the previous month price of Kshs.41/kg, maize prices relatively remained stable. Stable maize prices were occasioned by some harvests mainly in the Agro-pastoral areas of Moyale sub-county (Uran, Sololo wards), market injections from terminal markets such as Nyahururu and Meru and the neighbouring Ethiopia market.
- When compared to similar period, current maize price of Kshs.39/kg is below normal by 15percent to the short term average price of Kshs.46.
- Favourable maize prices were recorded in Moyale, Sololo, North Horr, Dabel and Dukana ranging between Ksh.30-35/kg.
- Highest prices were posted in Loyangalani and Korr with prices averaging at Ksh.50/per kg.

### 4.2.2 Beans

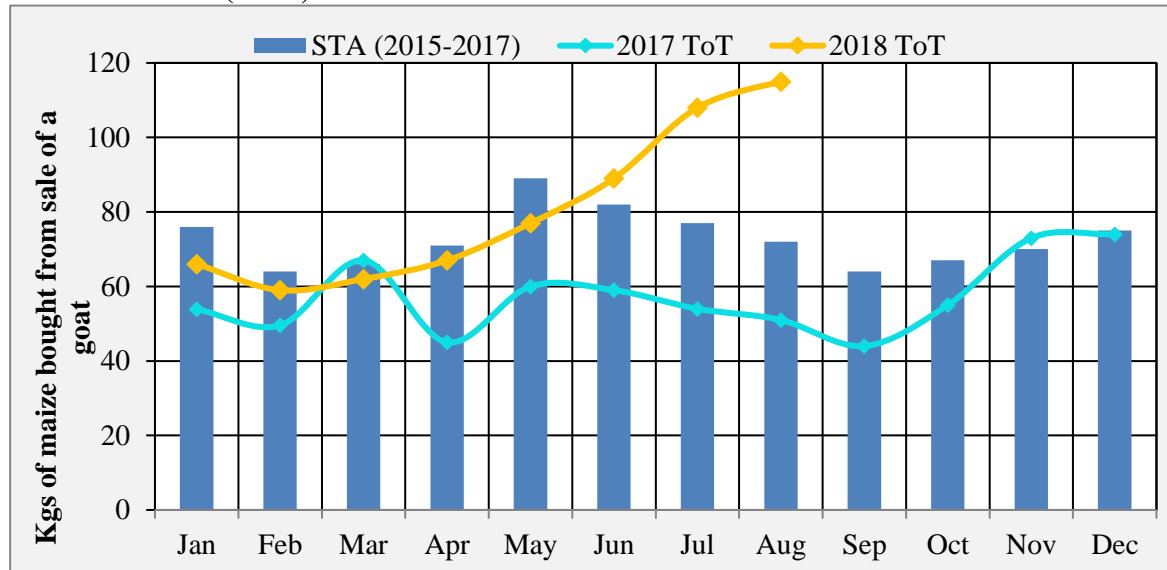
- Figure 13 below illustrates that in the month under review beans prices averaged at Kshs.77/kg. When compared to the previous month beans price of Kshs.86/kg, reduction was noted across the County notably in the Agro-pastoral areas.
- When compared similar periods, beans price of Kshs.77/kg is below the short term average price of Kshs.90/kg by 14percent.
- Favourable beans prices were recorded in Moyale, Saku and parts of North Horr sub-county with prices ranging between Kshs.60-73/kg.



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

- Unfavourable beans prices were exhibited majorly in most parts of Laisamis sub-county with prices ranging between Kshs.90-100/kg.
- Reduction in beans prices majorly in the Agro-pastoral areas of Moyale and Saku sub-counties and pastoral area of North-Horr was attributed with harvest of beans albeit below the long term average yield and increased market injections from the neighbouring Ethiopia market.

#### 4.2.3 Terms of Trade (TOT)

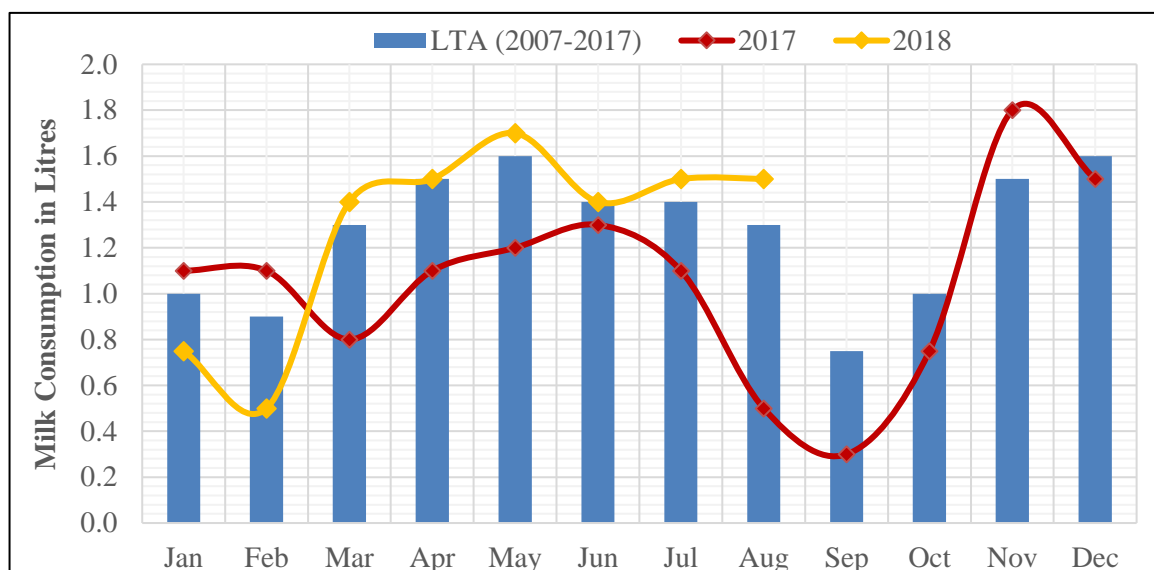


**Figure 14: Current Terms of Trade against Short Term Average Terms of Trade**

- The figure shown above illustrates that the current terms of trade is 115 across the livelihood zones.
- Noticeable improvement was posted in the current terms of trade when compared to the previous month terms of trade of 108.
- Significant improvement in terms of trade was occasioned by improved goats prices coupled with below normal maize prices. When compared to similar periods, current terms of trade is above the short term average terms of trade (72) by 60percent.

- Current terms of trade is expected to probably improve further due to anticipated increase in goat prices and below normal maize prices.

## 5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION



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

- From the figure 15 shown above, current household milk consumption is 1.5litres/household/day across the livelihood zones.
- Milk consumption relatively remained stable when compared to the previous month consumption of 1.5litres.
- The current milk consumption of 1.5litres/household/day is slightly above normal when compared to the long term average milk consumption of 1.3Litres/household/day across the livelihood zones. Above normal milk consumption was attributed to above normal milk production across the livelihood zones.
- The average household milk consumption per day in the pastoral zone is 1-2.5litres compared to the long term average of 1-2litres whereas most households in agro-pastoral zone are consuming between 1-2litres compared to the normal 0.5-1litres.
- The current price of milk in the agro-pastoral zone is Kshs.80-90/litre against the normal Kshs.90-120/litre whereas in the pastoral zone milk price Kshs.60-90/litre compared to the normal of Kshs.90-100/litre.

## 5.2 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE (FCS)

- The mean food consumption score for the month under review was 45.7 across the livelihood zones hence there was notable change when compared to the previous month food consumption score of 47.9. Food consumption score fell within acceptable food consumption strap for four successive months.
- From the figure (16) shown below, proportion of households in the agro-pastoral livelihood zone that were within the acceptable, borderline and poor food consumption score were 73.3percent, 18.9percent and 7.8percent respectively. Likewise, in the pastoral livelihood zone; proportion of households who were within the acceptable, borderline and poor food consumption scores were 73.2percent, 26percent and 0.9percent respectively.

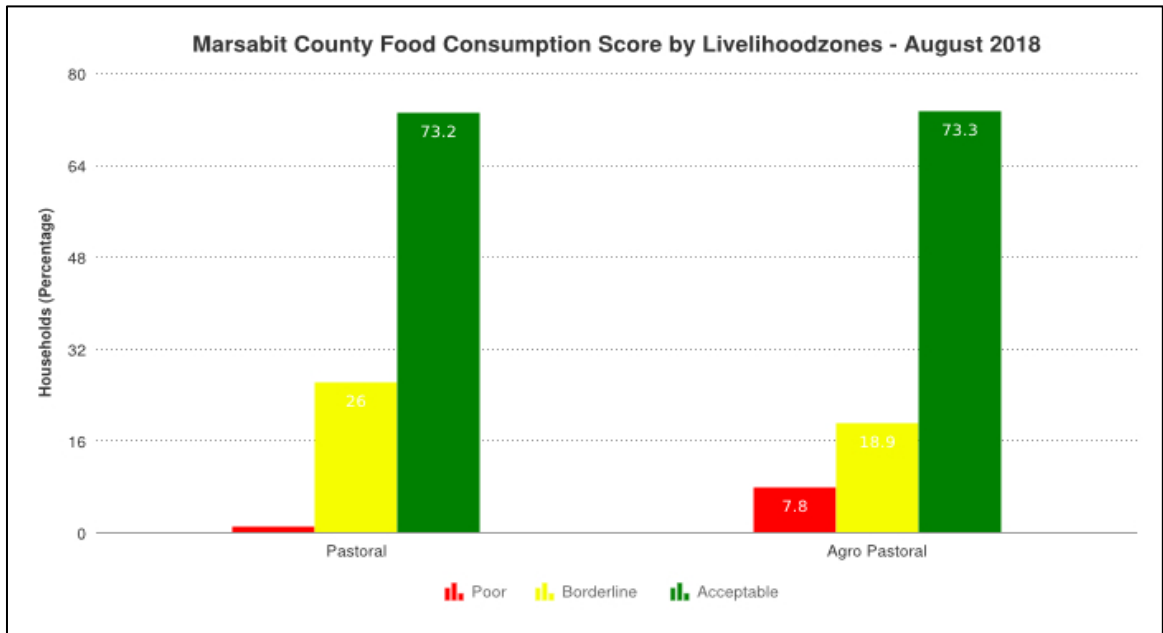


Figure 16: Food Consumption Score across the livelihood zones

- Food consumption score was better in the pastoral than agro-pastoral livelihood zone with a mean of 46.5 and 44.9 respectively hence households in the agro-pastoral zone were more food secure than those in the pastoral livelihood zone.
- Therefore, both households in the agro-pastoral and pastoral livelihood zones consumed staple and vegetables complemented by a frequent four days per week consumption of oil and pulses.
- Over 50 percent of households across all livelihoods were consuming more than five food groups with highest proportion being in Moyale and Saku sub-counties.

### 5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

#### 5.3.1 Nutrition Status

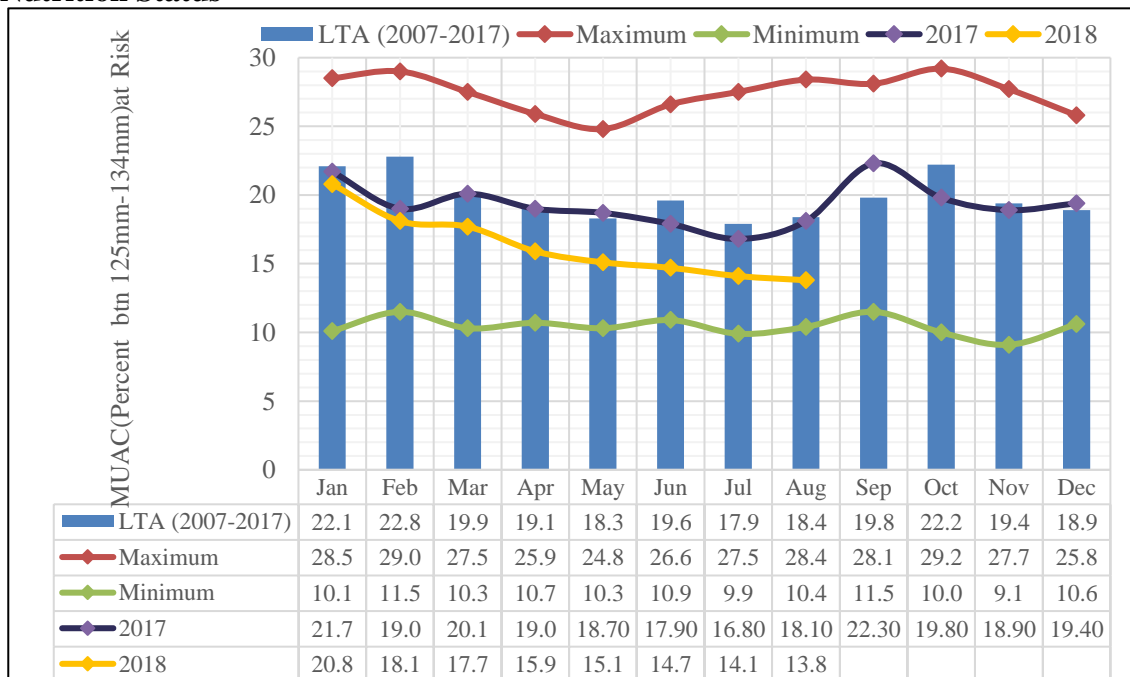
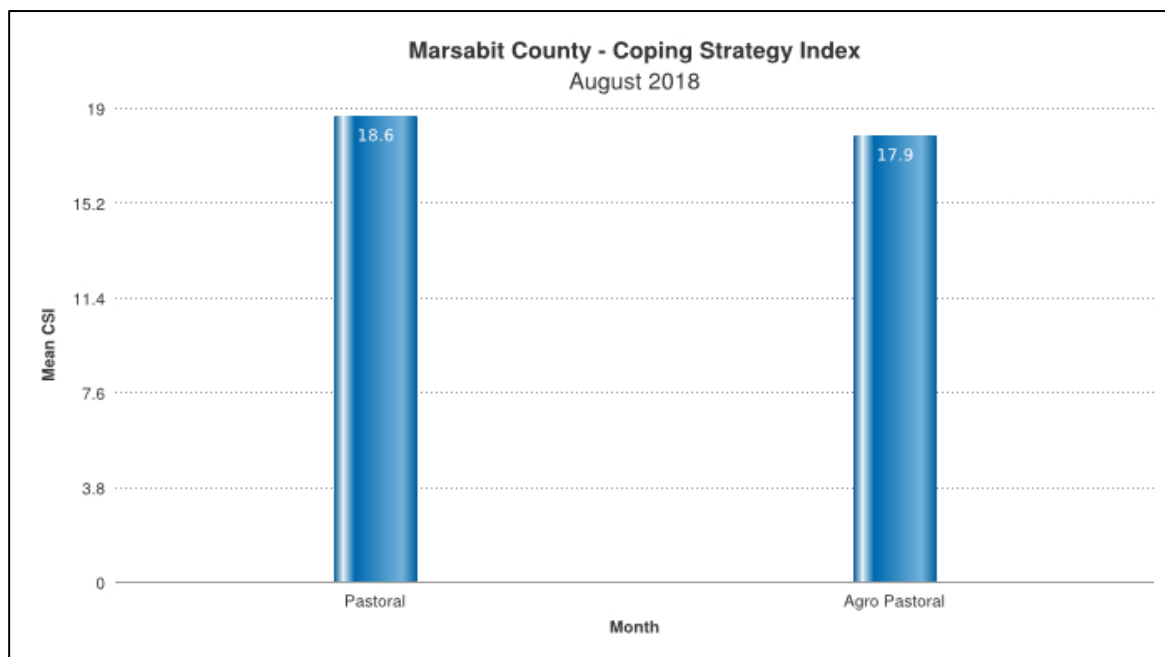


Figure 16: Nutritional status of children below the age of five years across the livelihood zones

- From the figure shown above, children rated ‘at risk’ of malnutrition slightly improved from 14.1percent posted in the preceding month to 13.8percent exhibited in the month of August.
- When compared to similar periods, the current MUAC average of 13.8percent is 25percent below the normal MUAC of 18.4percent.
- From the SMART survey results, GAM rate significantly improved from 16.9(emergency) in July 2017 to 12.4(serious) in July 2018. Significant improvement in GAM rate was attributed to above normal cumulative rains, social protection interventions, increased case finding, good IMAM coverage and cure rates and improved food consumption.
- Saku and Moyale are in Alert phase, Laisamis in serious phase whereas North Horr fell in the critical phase.
- Areas that are hotspots with high malnutrition rates in North Horr sub-county (Illeret, Bubisa, Shurr, Maikona, Elhadi and Gallas) and Laisamis sub-county (Laisamis, Kargi, Kurungu, Mpagas, Lontolio and Merille).
- Significant reduction in the number of children who are underweight compared to the previous years associated with increased maternal and young child health and nutrition interventions.

#### 5.4 COPING STRATEGIES



*Figure 15: Coping Strategy Index across the livelihood zones*

- From the figure shown above, reduced consumption based coping strategy index(rCSI) for the agro-pastoral and pastoral livelihood zones were 17.9 and 18.6.
- Reduced coping strategy index for the month under review was 18.4 which indicate a slight increase from 17.2 recorded in the preceding month.
- Proportion of households who coped and didn't cope in the month under review were 78percent and 22percent respectively across the livelihood zones.
- Coping strategies adopted by households in the month under review were slightly more severe when compared to those mechanisms employed in the month of July.

<b>Table 1: Consumption based coping strategy index(rCSI)</b>		
<b>Sub-county</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>rCSI</b>
Saku	Sagante	13.9
Laisamis	Korr	18.4
Laisamis	Loiyangalani	32.5
North Horr	North Horr	17.7
North Horr	Dukana	13.6
North Horr	Turbi	19.4
Moyale	Uran	14.1
Saku	Karare	14.9
Laisamis	Laisamis	16.3
Moyale	Golbo	25.5
Moyale	Heillu-Manyatta	14.8

- The table shown above illustrates reduced coping strategy index across the wards. Inferences can be made that Loiyangalani (32.5) and Golbo (25.5) wards illustrated reduced coping strategy indexes greater than 20 hence households in the two mentioned wards employed more severe coping mechanisms than those in the other wards. Sagante, Dukana and Uran wards posted lower reduced coping strategy indexes.
- Notable consumption based coping strategies employed by the households in the month of August were reliance on less preferred food, reduction in frequency of food consumption and reduced portion size of meals.

## **6.0 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES**

### **6.1 NON-FOOD AID**

- Hunger Safety Net Programme through National Drought Management Authority
- Asset creation beneficiaries of 4067 households enlisting 24,402 beneficiaries benefited from ration by WFP, World Vision and NDMA.
- Therapeutic Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition for the Under-fives, PLWs, Supplementary Feeding Program, Out Patient Therapeutic Program by MOH supported by UNICEF, WFP, World Vision, CONCERN WW, FHK and NHP PLUS
- Development of 3 medium sized dams and a borehole e.g 1 in Saku, 1 in Moyale, Drilling Borehole in Kargi, 150M<sup>3</sup> underground tank at Mude in Saku, 15000m<sup>3</sup> Water pan at Uran and 18000m<sup>3</sup> Water pan at Uran (Funded by Water Services Trust Fund), Construction of Marsabit Urban Water Supply funded by African Development bank
- Continued provision of agriculture extension services by the county government and other stakeholders.
- Construction of 100M<sup>3</sup> underground tanks, drilling of borehole at Balchoki and Gamura complete with solar installation, piping and construction of storage tank, pipeline extension at several boreholes supported by county government and FH-Kenya



## **7.0 EMERGING ISSUES**

### **7.1 INSECURITY/CONFLICT/HUMAN DISPLACEMENT**

- There was no insecurity or human displacement in the month under review.

### **7.2 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS.**

- Cumulative rainfall(March-June) was extraordinarily above cumulative rainfall amounts for similar periods for the years 2017, 2016 and the long term averages. With the forecasted rainfall amounts that exhibit that the short rains shall be above normal, food security situation is expected to improve further for the better part of the year.
- Good pasture and browse observed across the county is expected to last for the next 4-5 months against the normal 1-2months which is above normal. Above normal forage condition has led to good livestock body condition for all the livestock species across the livelihood zones with exception of the young kids (3-4 months old) which exhibited poor body condition as a result of maternal antibodies and PPR outbreak in Northern parts of North Horr sub-county (Dukana, Balesa, Elhadi) and southern parts of Laisamis sub-county.
- Most of the open water sources are recharged thus household and livestock trekking distances will still be shorter when compared to similar periods historically however as the dry spell continues water distances are expected to be slightly longer but below the long term average due to good recharge levels across the livelihood zones.
- Two consecutive drought seasons prolonged breeding (usually high in March and April) for all the livestock species albeit this season being an exceptionally good year. Due to good forage and good body condition, most camel, cattle and small stocks are in-calf/ in-kid and birth rates are expected to increase between October and November.
- Nutritional status of children below the age of five years is expected to be stable in the month of September and gradually improved from October when livestock birthrates' will peak coupled with the onset of the short rains.

## **8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Expansion of land under cultivation through subsidized tractor services, early mobilization of farmers for land preparation, support vulnerable farmers with certified seeds and dissemination of climate information to the farmers.
- Enhanced commercial livestock offtake through market stimulation and restocking to areas where massive livestock deaths were witnessed in the previous drought especially for camels and galla goats in Laisamis and North Horr sub-counties.
- Continuous peace building initiatives around Mt.Kulal ecosystem and grazing areas convergence for Marsabit, Samburu and Isiolo counties.
- Support development of community grazing plans and awareness on commercial pastoralism
- Desilting of Gadamoji, Karare, Logologo, Laisamis, Korr, Kargi, Loiyangalani, Dukana, Qalaliwe and North Horr water pans.
- Scale up of nutrition education across the County.