

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



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



EW PHASE: NORMAL



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)	78	80 -120
VCI-3Month	54.62	>35
Forage condition	Good	Good
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Livestock Body Condition	Good	Good
Milk Production	3.2	>2.0Litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal
Livestock deaths (from drought)	No death	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	110	>70
Milk Consumption	1.6	>1.5Litres
Return distance to water	3.6	0.0-3.4 Km
Cost of water	0-5	<Ksh.5
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	12.9	0.0-19.4
Coping Strategy Index	19.98	<20
Food Consumption score	44.6	>35

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

- Rainfall:** Rainfall was received in most parts of the County which was below normal characterized by poor spatial and temporal distribution of across the livelihood zones.
- Vegetation condition:** 3-months Vegetation Condition Index for the month of November was 54.62 which illustrated significant decline when compared to the previous months' vegetation condition index of 71.5. Forage condition is generally good across the County.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

Production indicators: Livestock body condition was good for all the livestock species across the livelihood zones. Milk production improved to 3.2Litres/household/day due to high birthrates experienced in the month under review. Crops are flourishing well across the agro-pastoral livelihood zone of Moyale and Saku sub-counties.

Access indicators: Household and livestock trekking distances to water points have slightly increased when compared to the previous month. Milk consumption has gradually declined to 1.6Litres/household/day which is marginally above the Long term average. Terms of trade was favourable due to good goats' prices coupled with stable 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 at 12.9percent and was within the normal ranges. Food consumption score fell within the acceptable band for six consecutive months. There was no significant change in consumption based coping strategy index.

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

1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

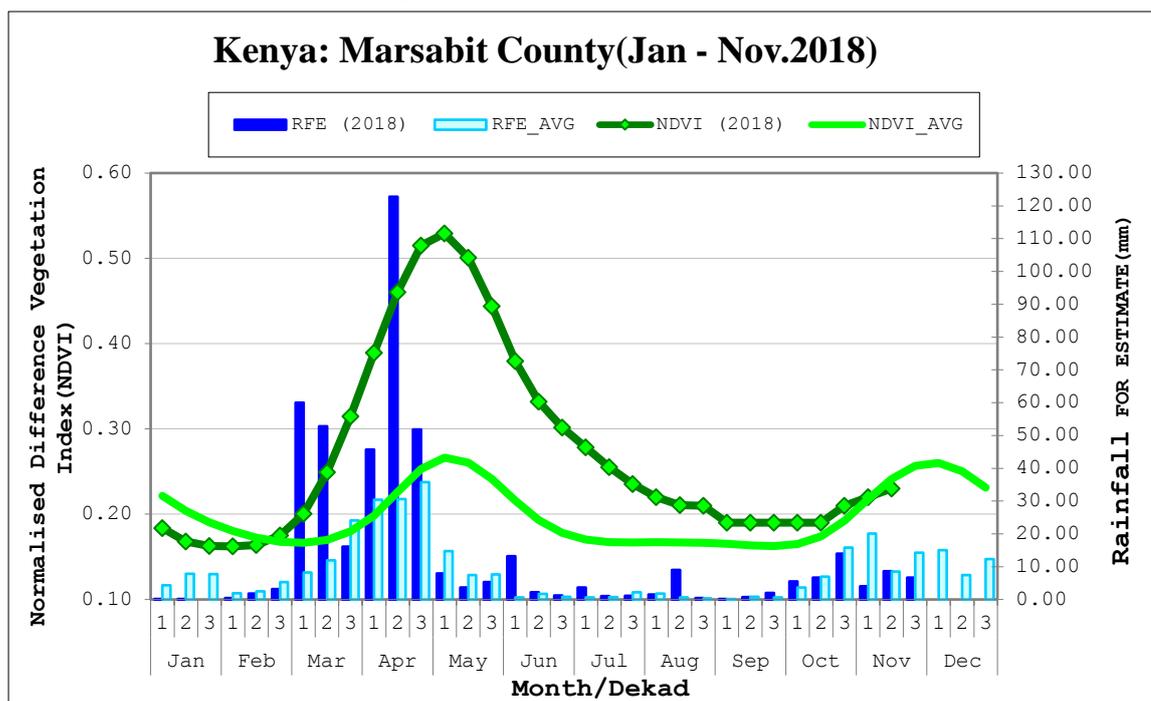


Figure 1: Dekadal Rainfall(mm) and NDVI values compared to the Long Term Average

- From the (Figure 1) shown above, dekadal rainfall for estimate(RFE) for the first, second and third dekads were 4.0mm, 8.6mm and 6.7mm respectively against the dekadal long term averages of 20.14mm, 8.48mm and 14.23mm for the first, second and third dekads respectively. The dekadal rainfall for estimate for the first and third dekad were below normal whereas the second dekad was normal.
- The normalised difference vegetation index(NDVI) for the first and second dekads for the month under review were 0.23 and 0.22 for the first and second dekads respectively which were normal.

1.2 Onset of the Short Rains

- Onset of the short rains occurred in the second dekad of the month of October across the County. When compared to a normal season, the onset of the short rains was timely.

1.3 Amounts received

- Marsabit Mountain received rainfall amounting to 73.6mm in 7 rainy days with the highest amount recorded on 26th November at 15mm. Likewise, Moyale station recorded rainfall amounts of 98.9mm in 8 rainy days with the maximum amount recorded on 25th November at 32.3mm. Generally, Saku and Moyale sub-counties received near normal rainfall amounts whereas Laisamis and North Horr sub-counties received depressed and below normal rainfall. Nonetheless, some parts of Laisamis sub-county (South Horr, Merille, Korr, Logologo, Kargi, Mt.Kulal) and North Horr (Dukana, Illeret, Turbi, Hurri Hills, Sibilo, Bales saru and Bulluk) received slightly enhanced rains but still were below normal.

1.4 Spatial and Temporal Distribution

- Spatial and temporal distribution of rainfall was poor across the County since rainfall of different intensities were received at varied time intervals. Saku (Karare and Mt.Marsabit) and Moyale (Sololo, Uran, MadoAdhi, Wahegogha, Walda, Township, Butiye, Kinisa) sub-counties received rains in 7-8 rainy days. However, few parts Laisamis and North Horr sub-counties received rains the frequency was quite low averagely between 1-4 rainy days. Loyangalani and Farakoen in Laisamis sub-county, Maikona, Balesa and Elgade in North Horr sub-county, Amballo, Laqi and Golla in Moyale sub-county haven't received any rainfall amounts. Agro-pastoral livelihood zone in received near normal rains whereas Pastoral livelihood zone received below normal rainfall amounts in the month under review.

1.5 CUMULATIVE RAINFALL AMOUNTS

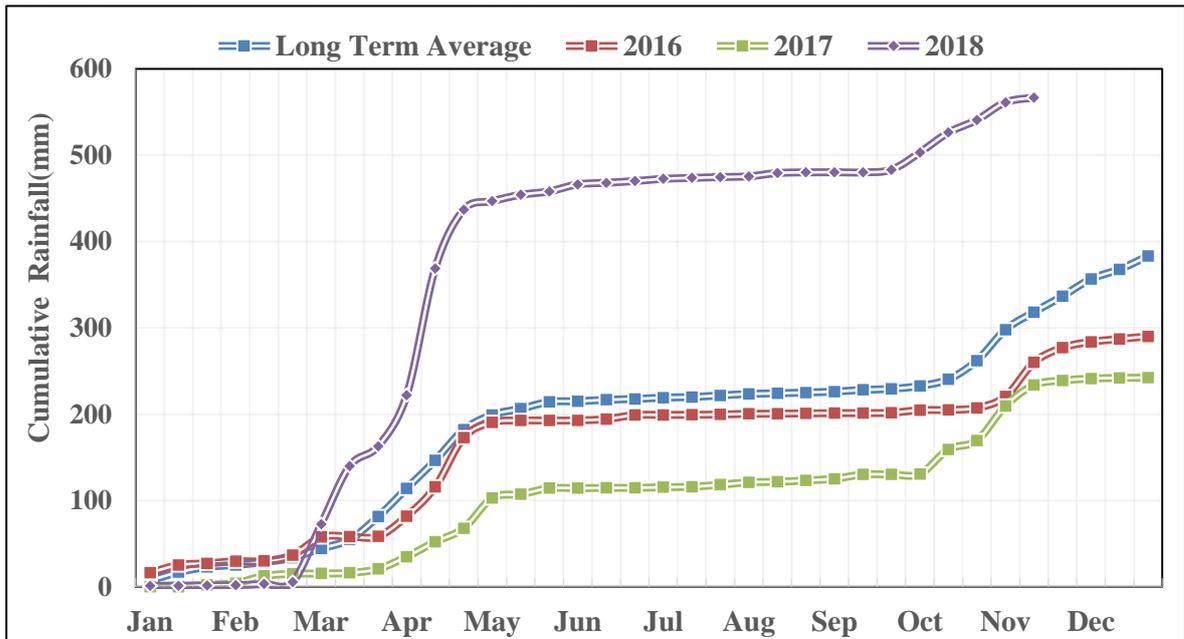


Figure 2: Marsabit County Cumulative Rainfall Amounts(mm)

- From the figure (2) shown above, 6-months cumulative rainfall was 78percent of the normal across the County. This is attributed to depressed and erratic rains short rains that have been received.
- By and large, 2018 has generally been a good year albeit unpromising short rains which are currently below normal. The years 2017 and 2016 were mostly bad years as they were below the cumulative long term average rainfall amounts.

2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

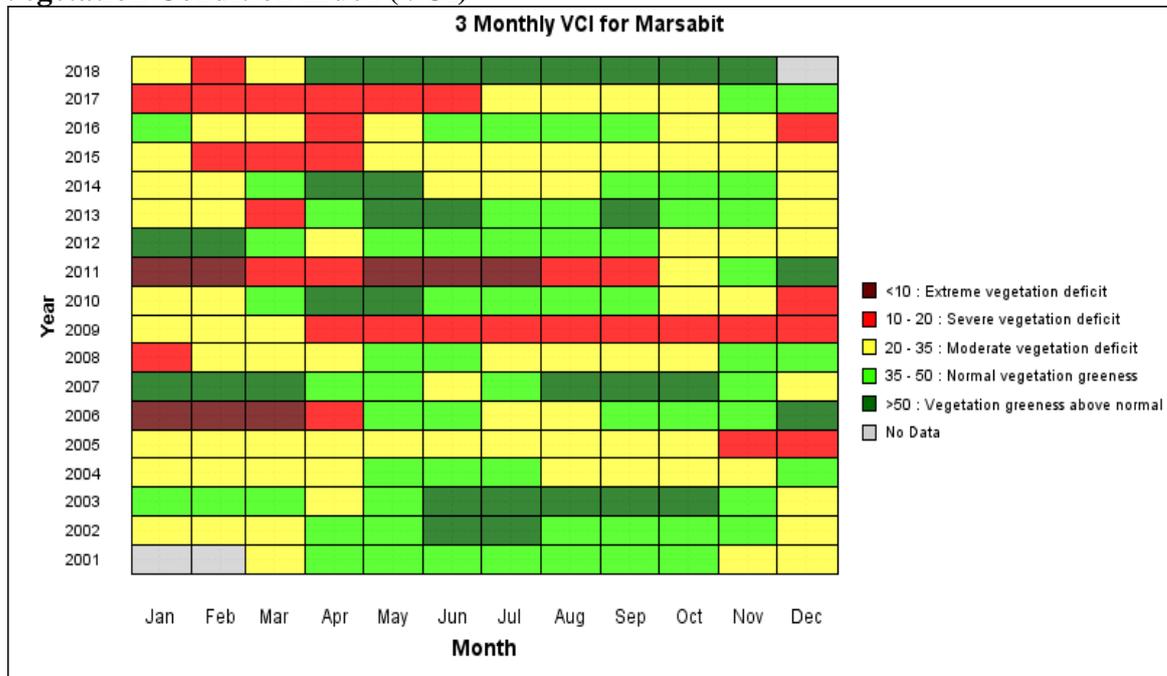


Figure 3: Vegetation Condition Index across the County

- The foundation of the vegetation condition index comprises of relative association of differences in NDVI with respect to minimum and maximum historical NDVI values.
- From the matrix shown above, above normal vegetation greenness has been recorded for 8 consecutive months attributed to cumulative effect of the above normal long rains which invigorated vegetation cover across the livelihood zones albeit erratic and depressed short rains received so far.
- The 3-months vegetation index for the month of November was 54.62 which is within the above normal vegetation greenness band but considerably declined when compared to the preceding months' VCI of 71.5.
- Equally, 3-monthly vegetation condition index for all the sub-counties fell within the above normal vegetation greenness strap. Saku, North Horr, Laisamis and Moyale displayed a 3-monthly vegetation index of 60.13, 56.76, 52.08 and 50.61 respectively which illustrates significant decline when compared to the previous months' VCI of 80.42, 72.77, 70.04 and 67.63 correspondingly.

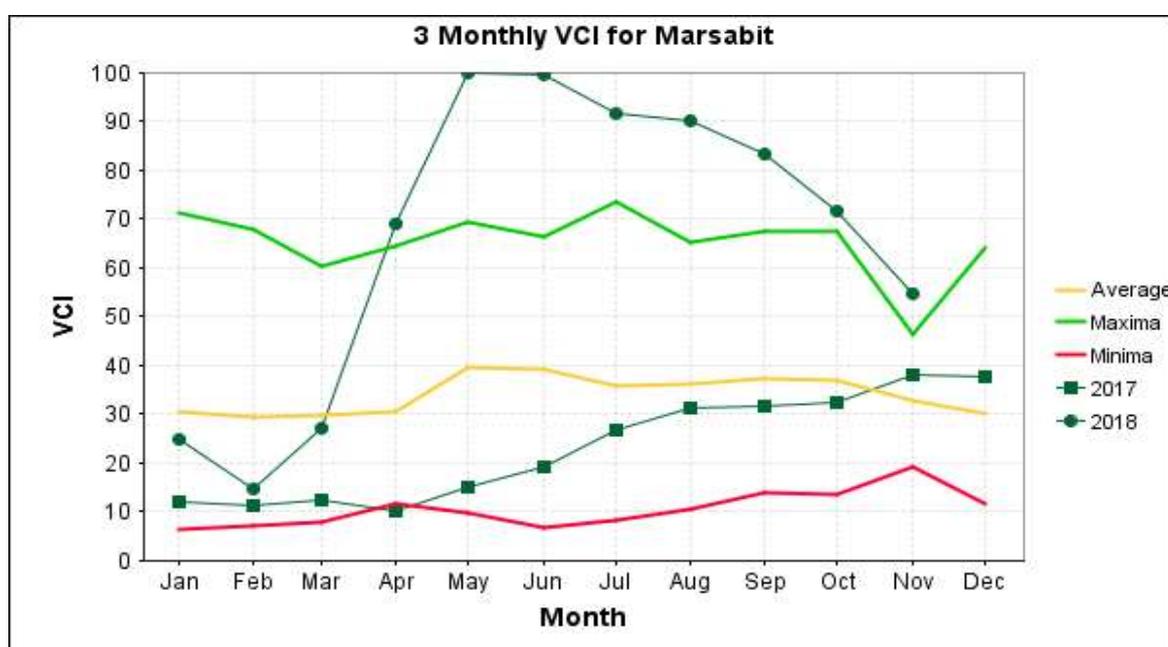


Figure 4: Vegetation Condition Index Trends across the County

- The figure shown above compares 2018 VCI trends to 2017, long term average and gives maximum and minimum values ever recorded.
- Vegetation condition index for the last eight successive months have been remarkably above the long term average due to the cumulative outcome of exceedingly above normal long rains which led to momentous invigoration of vegetation across the livelihood zones.
- When compared to similar periods, the current vegetation condition index is above normal.

2.1.2 Pasture

- Pasture condition is generally good in the agro-pastoral livelihood zone of Moyale and Saku whereas good-fair in the pastoral livelihood zone of Laisamis and North Horr sub-counties.
- Quality and quantity of pasture is good in Saku and Moyale sub-counties due to slight improvement when compared to the previous month. However, most parts of North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties pasture deteriorated. Areas of Korr, Sarima and Laisamis of Laisamis sub-county exhibited fair pasture whereas in North Horr sub-county; Kalacha,

Maikona, Balesa, Dukana, Gas, Malabot depicted fair to poor pasture which significantly deteriorated when compared to the preceding month.

- Reported cases of emergence of non-palatable vegetation was predominant in the northern and southern parts of North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties respectively especially *calotropis procera*.
- Available pasture is expected to last for the next 3months against the normal 2months.

2.1.3 Browse

- Generally, browse condition is good across the livelihood zones. When compared to similar period, browse condition is above normal.
- Above normal browse condition was attributed by the summative effect of the last season which was characterized by above normal rains although currently the short rains have been depressed.
- When compared to similar periods, browse is expected to last for the next 4 months against the normal 3 months.

2.2 WATER RESOURCE

2.2.1 Sources

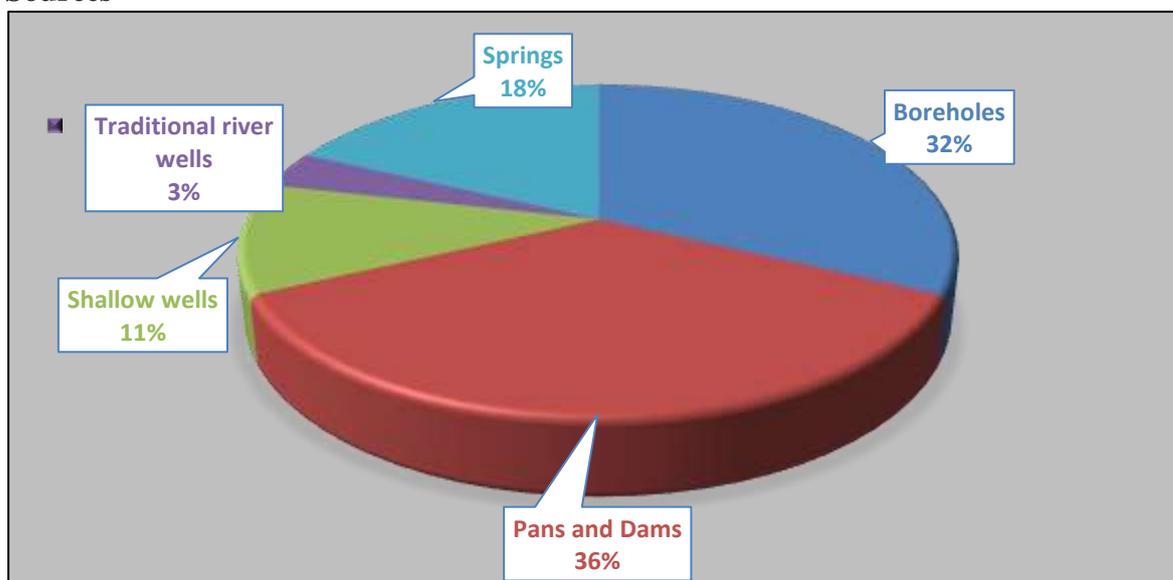


Figure 5: Major water sources across the County

- From (Figure 5) shown above, major water sources employed by the communities are water pans, boreholes and springs at 36percent, 32percent and 18percent respectively in the month under review across the County.
- Other water sources used by the communities were shallow wells and traditional river wells at 11percent and 3percent respectively. Seasonal rivers have also been noted especially in Laisamis sub-county.
- Recharge levels of the open water sources are generally fair at 50percent and 70percent in the agro-pastoral livelihood zone of Moyale and Saku sub-counties. Notably, low water recharge levels were recorded in North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties at 10percent and 20percent respectively.
- At this time of the year, most households usually depend on water pans as the main source of water which is similar to the current months' main source of water employed.

2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

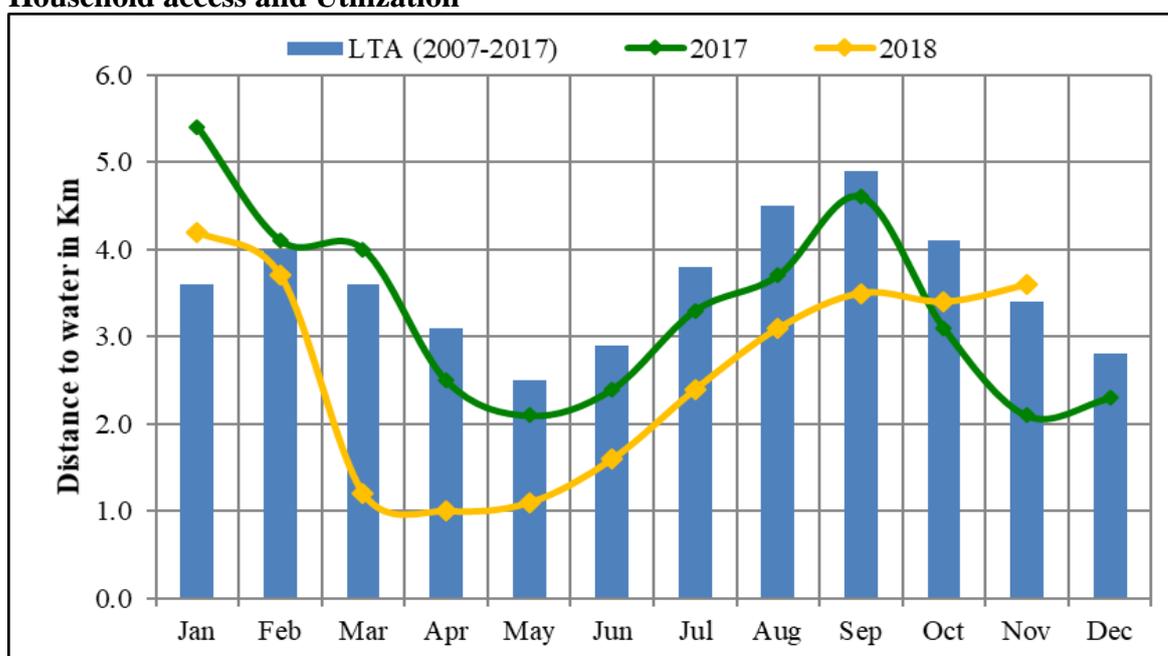


Figure 6: Current household return water distance(km) compared to Long Term Average distances(km)

- From (Figure 6) shown above, return household water distances to the main water sources was 3.6Km for the month of November across the livelihood zones which was an indicative of slight increase when compared to previous months' household water distances of 3.4km.
- The current household water distance of 3.6Km is 6percent longer than the normal household water distances of 3.4Km. Slight increase in households' water distance was majorly attributed to depressed rains that were recorded in November as most of the open water sources were not recharged in the pastoral livelihood zone of Laisamis and North Horr sub-counties respectively.
- Average waiting time across the livelihood zones is 5-60 minutes which is slightly above the normal waiting time of 0-45 minutes at this particular time of the year. Longer waiting time was recorded in Marsabit Central, Golbo and Township in Moyale sub-county and southern part of Laisamis sub-county. Lower waiting time was recorded in most parts of North Horr sub-county attributed to improved access to water points(boreholes).
- Average water consumption in the Pastoral and Agro-pastoral areas are 8 and 15 litres per person per day respectively. Laisamis sub-county depicted low household water consumption. However, Moyale and Saku sub-counties exhibited normal household water consumption whereas North Horr posted above normal household water consumption.
- At the source, the cost of water is zero in most areas across the county with exception of areas where borehole is pumped using generator. However, water vendors are selling water at Ksh.40- 50per 20litre jerrican in Marsabit Central and Moyale Township.

2.2.3 Livestock access

- From (Figure 7) shown below, current return livestock trekking distance from grazing areas to water points is 12.2Km across the livelihood zones.
- Therefore, increased livestock trekking distances were noted in the month under review when compared to month of October grazing distance of 9.9km. Longer livestock trekking distances were exhibited in North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties because of deterioration of pasture and low recharge levels of the open water sources. Nevertheless, there was no notable change of livestock trekking distances in Saku and Moyale sub-counties.

- When compared at similar period, current livestock return trekking distance of 12.2Km is 21percent longer than the normal livestock trekking distance of 10.1Km.
- Return livestock trekking distances have increased from the normal 10-15Km to 10-20Km in the Pastoral zone. Likewise, return livestock trekking distances to water sources have remained the same at this particular time of the year in the agro-pastoral livelihood zone.

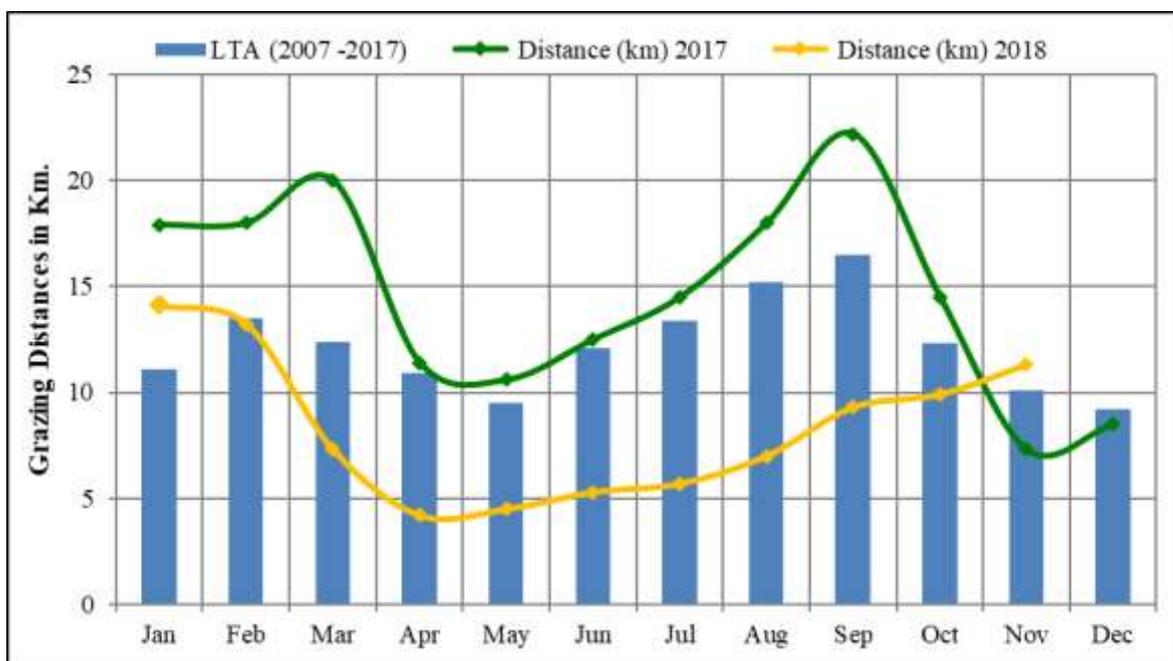


Figure 7: Current livestock return trekking distances compared to long term average trekking distances(km)

- Currently, cattle are watered after every 2 days; small stock 2-3 days and camels after every seven days across the livelihood zones. When compared to similar periods, watering frequency has slightly increased due to increased livestock trekking distances.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- Livestock body condition is generally good for all the species across all the livelihood zones with exemption of the young kids which exhibited poor body condition in Demo and Illeret of North Horr sub-county due to illness.
- At this time of the year, body condition is usually fair for all the livestock species with exception of camel that usually exhibit good body condition. Due to the erratic and depressed status of the short rains, livestock body condition is expected to be good-fair hence deterioration.

3.1.2 Livestock Migration

- Currently, livestock are migrating within their normal traditional grazing areas across the livelihood zones.
- 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 sub-county, livestock is migrating towards Soriadi and Gudas mainly from Logologo, Laisamis, Lontolio and Korr, Illaut and Ngurunit migrating towards Ndoto ranges and South Horr, Kargi and Kurkum migrating towards Olturot and Arapal.
- In North Horr sub-county, livestock from Elhadi, Balesa and Dukana are migrating towards Ito, Tao, Garwole and Bales Saru while those in Elbesso, Qorqa, Malabot, Gas are moving Sarima in search of pasture.

3.1.3 Tropical livestock units (TLUs)

- Sustained gestation period for livestock was experienced due to extreme drought witnessed in 2016 and 2017. Nevertheless, the peak season for calving and kidding is currently being observed across all the livelihood zones at an increase of 21percent.
- Currently, poor households own an average of 3 TLUs while the medium income households have between 4-4.5TLUs. A medium household owns between 22 and 28 herds of cattle, between 120 and 170 small stock and between 11-22 camels. Poor household owns between 6 and 10 herds of cattle, between 55 and 115 small stock and between 2-6 camels.

3.1.4 Livestock diseases and 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 young kids due to incidences of endemic livestock diseases in North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties.

SUB-COUNTY	LOCATION	SPECIES AFFECTED	REPORTED SIGNS
North-Horr	Demo	Goats	Mass death of 2-3months old goat kids with the following signs: Diarrhoea, nasal and ocular discharges, ulcers in the mouth.
	Illeret	Sheep and goats	Sudden death Anorexia Swollen gall bladder Diarrhoea Unthriftness Chronic cough commonly in sheep Staggering gaits High mortality rates in young one
Laisamis	Namarei and Ndikir	Camel	Sudden death with the following post-mortem signs: Very dry hard faeces in the rectum All lymph nodes are swollen, Oedematous and congested Swollen liver Yellowish intestinal contents with foul smell when opened Swollen heart with excess pericardial fluid

3.1.5 Milk Production

- From (Figure 8) shown below, household milk production per household per day for the month under review improved to 3.6Litres from 3.0Litres posted in the previous month across the livelihood zones.
- When compared to similar periods, current milk production of 3.6Litres is above the long term average milk production of 2.0Litres/Household/Day.

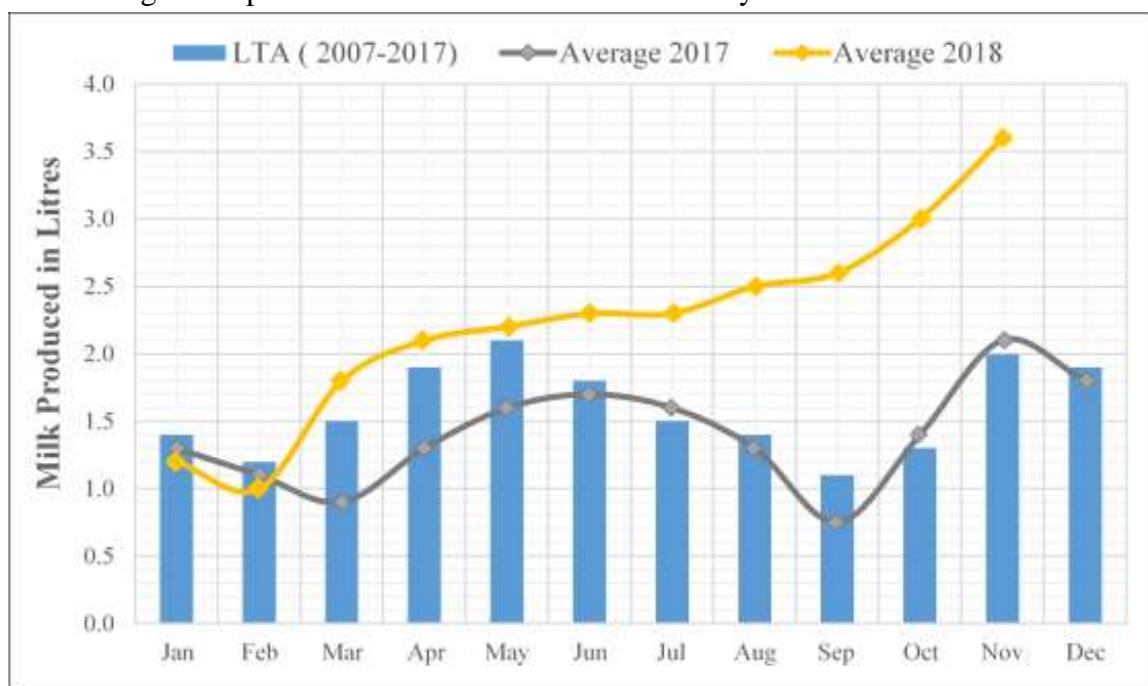


Figure 1: Milk production/Household/Day/Litre compared to the Long Term Average

- There was increased milk production from camel and cattle by 45percent and 53percent respectively. With the progression of calving, milk production is likely to improve further.
- Average household milk production per day in the pastoral livelihood zone is 2-5litres against the normal 1-3litres. In the agro- pastoral zone, household milk production is 1.5-3.5litres compared to the long term average of 1-2litres.
- Above normal milk production was occasioned by continued improvement in birth-rates and generally good livestock body condition.
- Currently, milk prices are retailing at an average price of Kshs.60-80 per Litre across the livelihood zones which is normal.

3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

- Acreage in Saku was 1160ha, 640ha in Moyale, 40ha in North Horr and 86ha in Laisamis. The early planted maize crops are at knee high stage and weeding is on progress across the agro-pastoral livelihood zone.
- About 40percent of the maize farms are not performing well due to overwhelming weeds infestation and approximately 30percent of the farms have been attacked by stalk borer pest in Karare ward.
- Beans are at flowering stage and no pest attack has been reported in the County. About 30percent of the expected beans yield might be lost due to weeds and pest infestation. Generally, all other crops are performing well following favourable weather condition.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

4.1.1 Cattle Prices

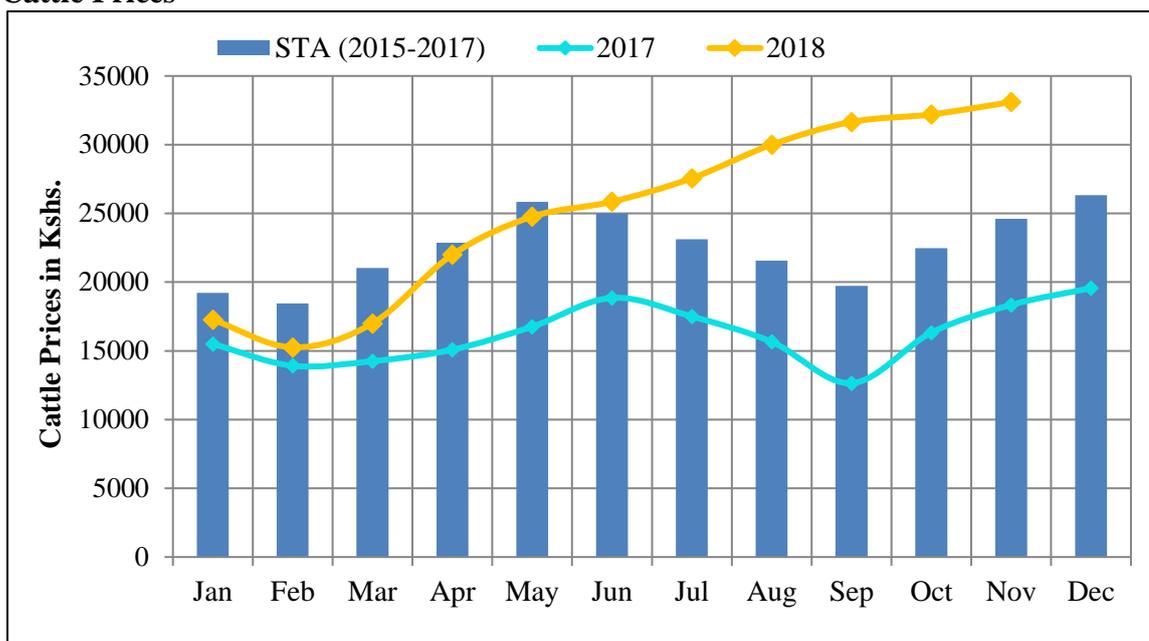


Figure 8: Current cattle prices compared to the short term average prices

- From the figure shown above, cattle price for the month under review was Ksh. 33,100 which depicted a gradual increase from Ksh. 32,200 recorded in the previous month.
- Current cattle price of Kshs. 33, 100 is 34percent above the short term average price of Kshs. 24, 613. Improved cattle prices were attributed by improved campaigns on activation of livestock markets and good cattle body condition across the livelihood zones.
- Merille (Laisamis sub-county) and Gurumesa livestock market in Moyale sub-county exhibited favourable cattle prices ranging between Kshs. 30,000-Kshs. 35,000. Jirime and Dabel livestock markets posted fair cattle price averaging at Kshs. 25,500.
- Primary and secondary livestock markets are expected to be fully operational due to return of calmness after incidences of conflict in some parts of the County coupled with good body condition will likely lead to an upsurge in cattle prices.

4.1.2 Goat prices

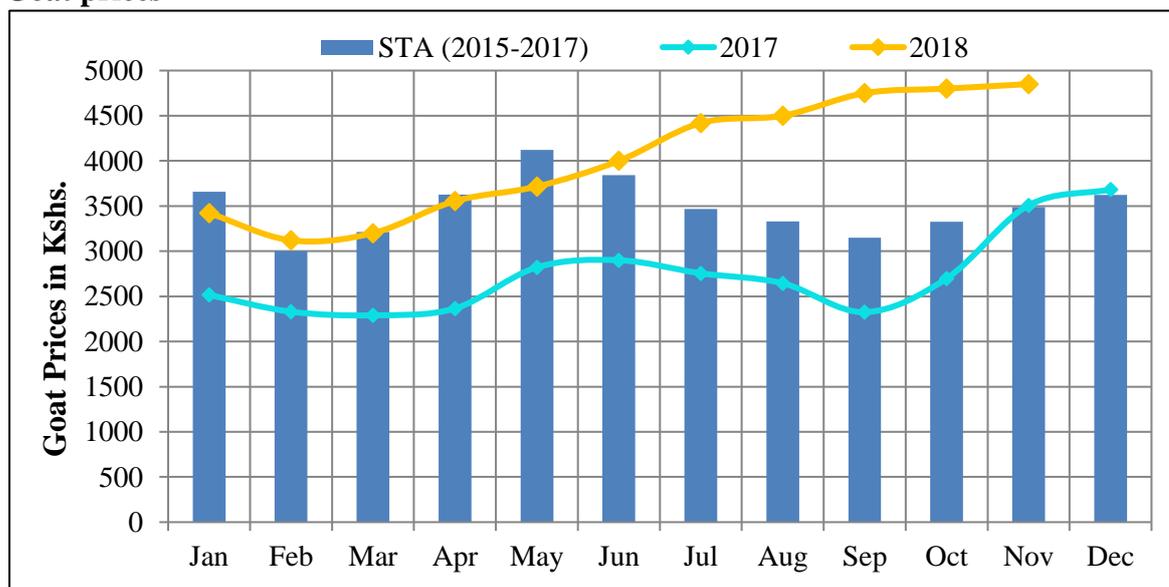


Figure 9: Current goat prices compared to short term average prices

- From the figure shown above, current goat price is Kshs.4, 850 across the livelihood zones hence no notable change when compared to the preceding months' price of Kshs. 4, 800.
- The current goat price of Ksh. 4, 850 is 39percent above the short term average goat price of Kshs.3, 488.
- Above normal goat prices were attributed to good body condition for the goats, improved livestock market stimulation and livestock market system strengthening activities that have been undertaken across the livestock markets within the County.
- Stable goat prices were exhibited in Merille, Moyale, Jirime, Dambala Fachana, Karare and Loyangalani livestock markets with prices ranging between Kshs. 4,500-6,000. Goat prices are likely to improve further in the next month due to expected increase in demand.

4.1.3 Sheep Prices

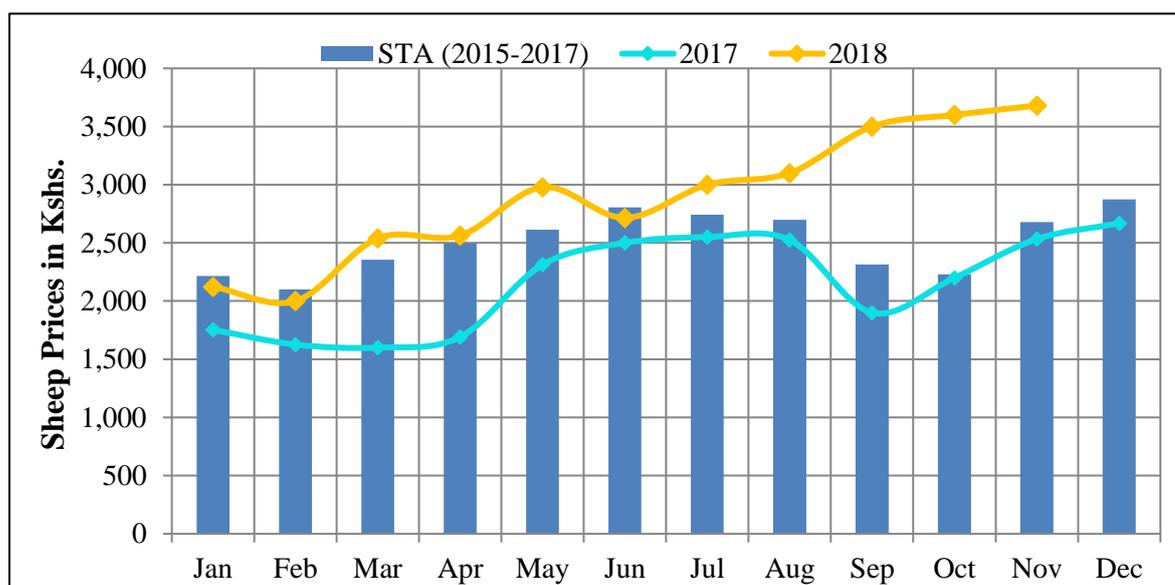


Figure 11: Current sheep prices compared to the short term average prices(kshs.)

- From the (Figure 11) shown above, sheep price for the month of under review was Kshs.3, 680 across the livelihood zones.
- When compared to the short term average price of Kshs. 2,680, current sheep price is 37percent above normal. Above normal sheep prices were attributed to generally good body.
- Sheep prices were favourable in Moyale livestock markets with prices averaging at Kshs.4, 000. Favourable sheep prices in the Moyale were attributed to the vibrant market with the neighbouring Ethiopia market.

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize

- From the figure shown below, current maize price is Kshs.44/kg across the livelihood zones thus remained stable when compared to the previous months maize price of Kshs.42/kg.
- Stable maize prices were attributed to increased maize injections from terminal markets such as Meru, Nyahururu and the neighbouring vibrant Ethiopia market.
- When compared to similar period, current maize price of Kshs.44/kg is below normal price of Kshs.50 by 12percent.

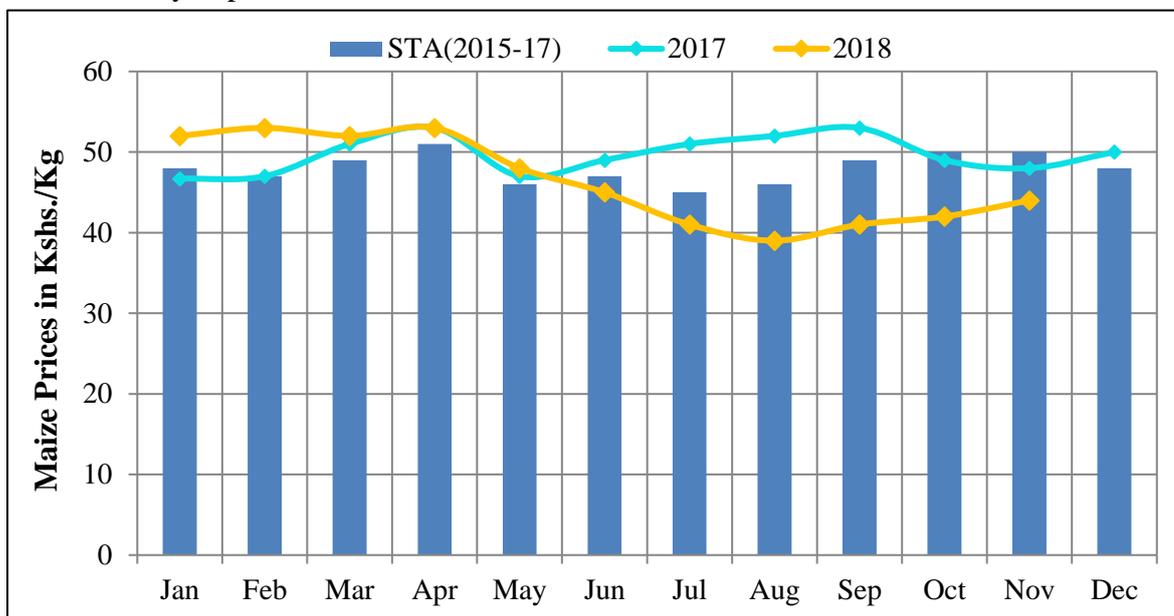


Figure 12: Current maize prices compared to the short term average maize prices

- Favourable maize prices were recorded in Moyale, Sololo, Dukana and North-Horr with prices ranging between Ksh.30-35/kg.
- Higher prices were recorded in Korr, Sarima, Loyangalani, Korr and Merille with prices ranging between Ksh.50-60/per kg.

4.2.2 Beans

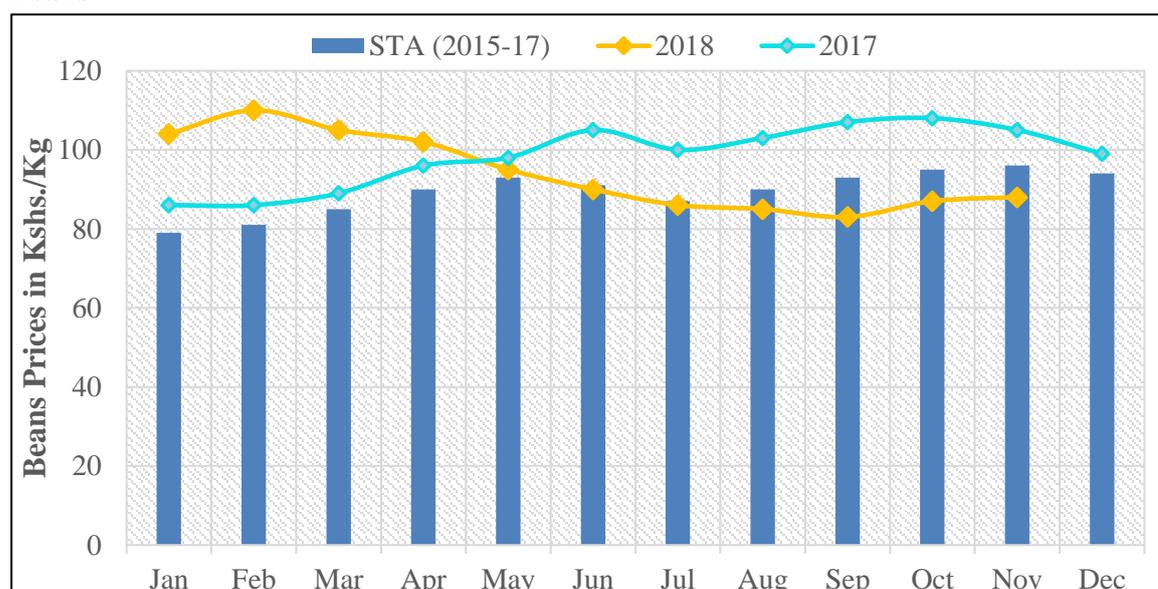


Figure 13: Beans prices compared to the short average term average prices(Kshs.)

- From the figure shown above, current beans prices averaged at Kshs.88/kg. When compared to the previous month beans price of Kshs.87/kg, beans prices relatively remained stable across the livelihood zones.
- When compared similar periods, beans price of Kshs.88/kg is below the short term average price of Kshs.96/kg by 8percent.
- Favourable beans prices were recorded in Sololo, Marsabit Central, Dukana and North Horr with prices ranging between Kshs.60-75/kg and in some especially Moyale averaging at Kshs.50/kg.
- Higher beans prices were recorded in Sarima, Loyangalani, Mt.Kulal and Korr with prices ranging between Kshs.90-100/kg.
- Favourable beans prices majorly in Moyale, Sololo, Dukana, North Horr and Marsabit town was occasioned by improved injections from the neighbouring vibrant Ethiopia market.

4.2.3 Terms of Trade (TOT)

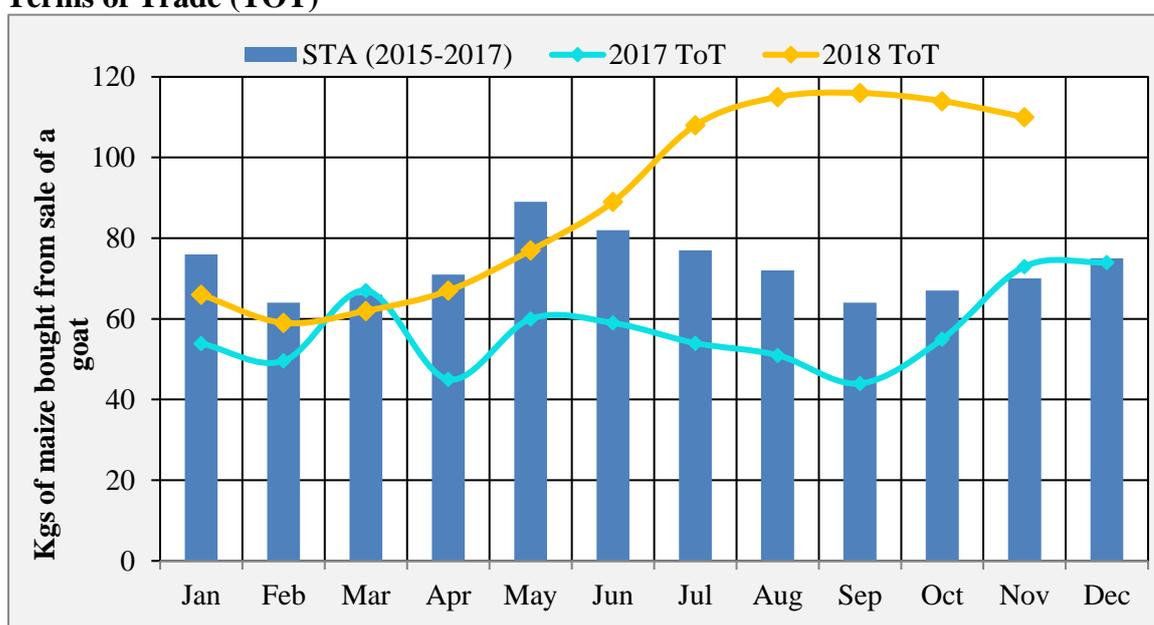


Figure 14: Current terms of trade versus short term average terms of trade

- From the figure shown above, the current terms of trade is 110 across the livelihood zones hence there was no notable change when compared to the preceeding months' terms of trade of 114.
- When compared to similar periods, current terms of trade of 110 is above the short term average terms of trade of 70 by 57percent.
- Above normal terms of trade was attributed to favourable goats prices coupled with stable maize prices.
- Therefore, terms of trade is expected to improve further due to expected increase of goat prices in the next month as demand will likely improve in addition to stable maize prices.
- Moyale and North Horr sub-counties posted better terms of trade due to proximity with the neighbouring vibrant Ethiopia market.

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS
5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

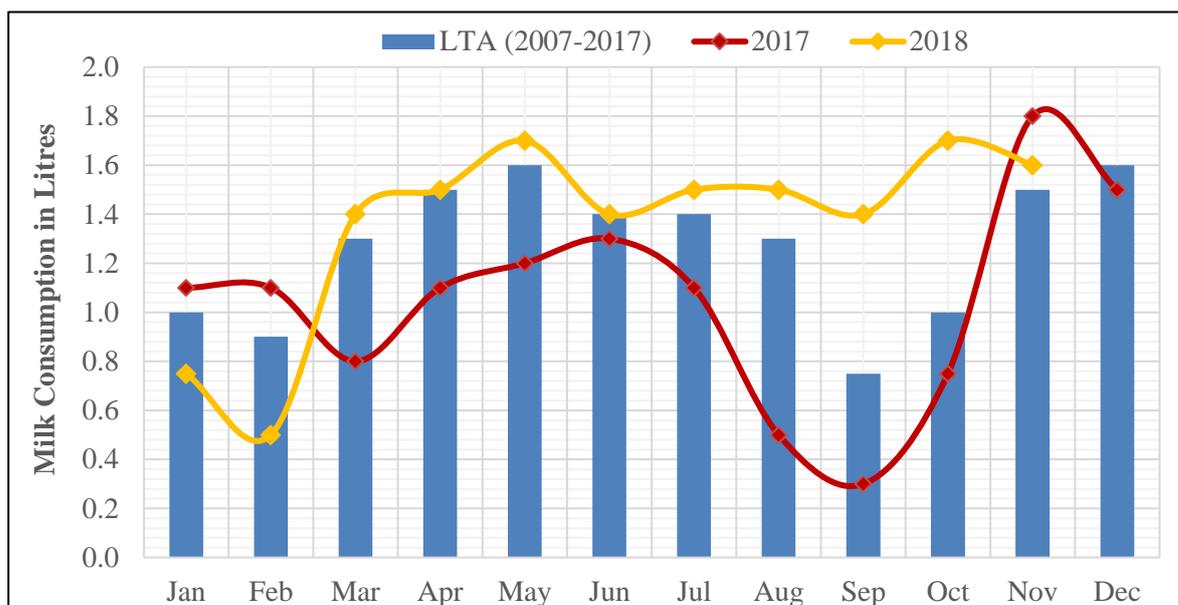


Figure 15: Current milk consumption/household/day/litre against long term average

- From the figure 15 shown above, household milk consumption is 1.6litres/household/day across the livelihood zones for the month of November.
- When compared to the previous months, milk consumption insignificantly declined. The average household milk consumption per day in the pastoral zone is 1-3litres compared to the long term average of 1.9litre whereas in the agro-pastoral livelihood zone household milk consumption averages at 1-2litres compared to the normal 0.5litres.
- Insignificant decline in milk consumption was attributed to more production being witnessed in the foras hence limiting access to households.
- When compared to the long term average milk consumption 1.5litres/household/day, the current milk consumption is above normal by 7percent.
- 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 is Kshs.60-90/litre against the normal of Kshs.90-100/litre.

5.2 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE (FCS)

- The mean food consumption score for the month under review was 44.6 across the livelihood zones hence slightly improved when compared to the month of October which posted a food consumption score of 42.2. Food consumption score fell within the acceptable food consumption band for the last 7months.
- 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 89.2percent, 8.1percent and 2,7percent respectively. In the pastoral livelihood zone; proportion of households that were within the acceptable, borderline and poor food consumption scores were 73.3percent, 24.4percent and 2.2percent respectively
- Food consumption score was better in the agro-pastoral than the pastoral livelihood zone as indicated with a mean of 49.6 and 39.5 respectively. Hence households in the agro-pastoral zone were more food secure than those in the pastoral livelihood zone

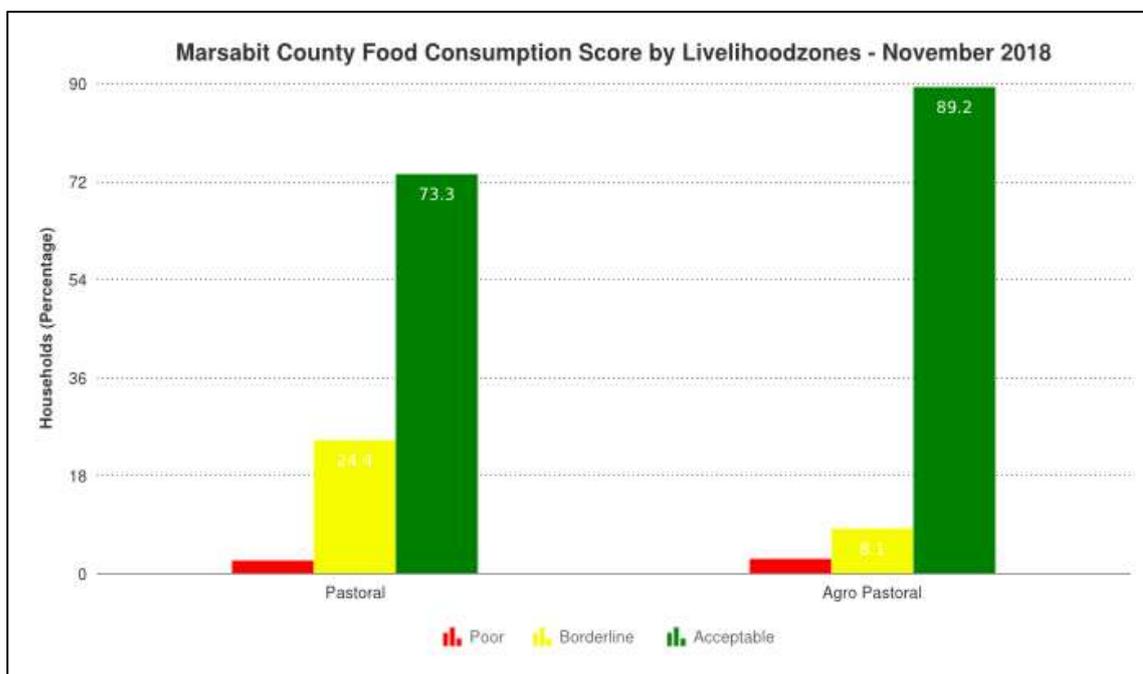


Figure 16: Food consumption score across the livelihood zones

- Acceptable food consumption score is an indicative of households both the agro-pastoral and pastoral livelihood zones consuming staple and vegetables accompanied by frequency of four days per week consumption of oil and pulses.
- Approximately 55percent of households across all livelihoods were consuming more than five food groups with highest proportion being in Moyale and Saku sub-counties whereas Laisamis and North Horr sub-counties households consumed largely two-three food groups.

5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

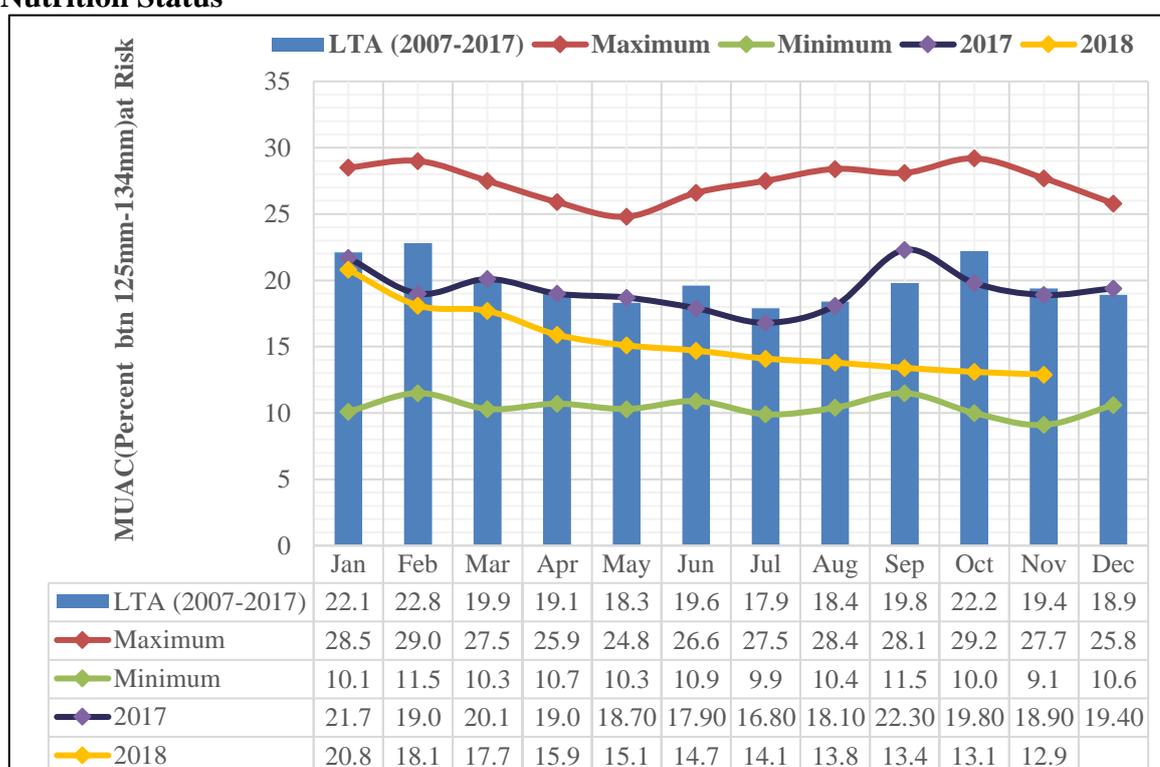


Figure 17: Nutritional status of children below the age of five years verses long term average

- From the figure (17) shown above, current children rated ‘at risk’ of malnutrition gradually improved to 12.9percent from the preceding months’ of 13.1percent.
- The current MUAC average of 12.9percent is 34percent below the long term average MUAC of 19.4percent.
- Gradual reduction in children below the age of five years who are at ‘risk’ of malnutrition was prompted by slightly above normal milk consumption levels and acceptable food consumption score in-addition to other nutritive supplementary feeding practices. Also the purchasing power at household level improved due to favourable terms of trade.
- Due to the depressed rainfall that has been witnessed in most parts of the County, nutritional status of children below the age of five years is expected to gradually deteriorate in the next 2months when likelihood of season failure shall be felt.
- From the NDMA surveillance data, high malnutrition cases were reported in Loiyangalani, Dabel and Korr. Morbidity trends were within normal across the County.

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES

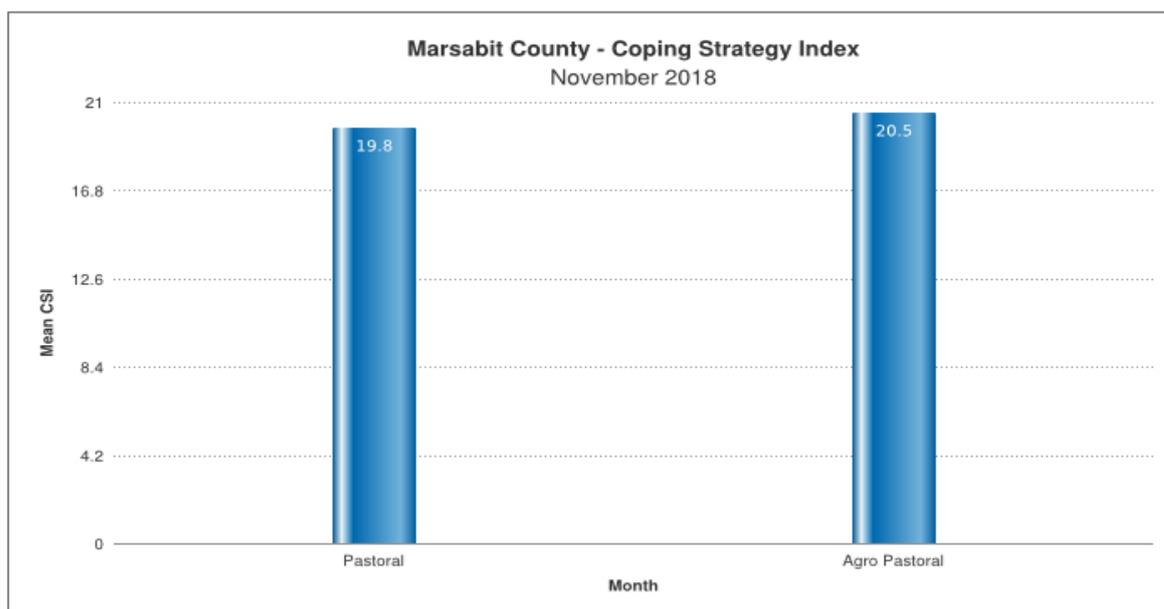


Figure 18: Coping Strategy Index across the livelihood zones

- Reduced consumption based coping strategy index(CSI) for the month under review was 19.98 which depicts no notable change from 20.3 recorded in the month of October.
- From the figure shown above, reduced consumption based coping strategy index(rCSI) for the agro-pastoral and pastoral livelihood zones were 20.5 and 19.8 respectively.
- Coping strategies employed by households in the month under review were of the similar severity when compared to the previous months’ coping mechanisms.
- Proportion of households who employed and didn’t employ coping strategies in the month under review were 79percent and 21percent respectively across the livelihood zones.

Table 1: Consumption based coping strategy index(rCSI)		
Sub-county	Ward	rCSI
Saku	Sagante	16.7
Laisamis	Korr	17.1
Laisamis	Loiyangalani	33.3
North Horr	North Horr	17.6
North Horr	Dukana	21.8
North Horr	Turbi	22.0
Moyale	Uran	18.2
Saku	Karare	10.6
Laisamis	Laisamis	13.9
Moyale	Golbo	25.5
Moyale	Heillu-Manyatta	12.9

- From the table shown above, reduced consumption based coping strategy index across the surveillance sentinel sites. Loiyangalani, Golbo and Turbi displayed higher reduced coping strategy indexes therefore households employed more severe coping strategies in the aforesaid sentinel sites. Households in Karare, Heillu Manyatta and Laisamis wards employed less severe coping mechanisms and less frequently.
- Notable reduced consumption based coping strategies adopted by the households across the livelihood zones were reduced portion size of meals, reliance on less preferred food and reduction in frequency of food consumption.

6.0 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES

6.1 NON-FOOD AID

- Hunger Safety Net Programme through National Drought Management Authority
- UNICEF continued to provide direct support to the department of Health through the following key interventions during the Month of November 2018: Capacity Building for Health workers on IMAM surge approach, MIYCN, BFCI; Joint Maternal and Child Nutrition Program Monitoring with Concern and Department of Health; Support Vitamin A supplementation during Malezi Bora Monthly and Supplying all the health facilities with Ready to Use Therapeutic Feeds (Plumpy Nuts).
- Malterser International supported sensitization of 300 CHVs on Community Based Nutrition in Loglogo, Loyiangalani and Illeret. Sensitized 57 mother to mother groups members in North Horr on community nutrition and supported North Horr supervision of 15 health facilities with Vitamin A as well as reporting tools.
- Concern Worldwide supported exhaustive screening for malnutrition for all children 6-59 months in North Horr sub county, those requiring emergency nutrition services were enrolled for treatment.
- Hodi provided solar powered vehicles to Dokatu, Jaldesa and Funan Idda in the conflict hotspots
- PACIDA, SND and NRT supported series of peace meetings in Moyale, Sololo, Forole, Turbi, Elebor, Funan Qumbi, Rawan and across the border.

6.2 FOOD AID

- Department of veterinary conducted vaccination against PPR in North Horr sub-county.

- Food Aid distribution by KRCS to 665 HH in Shurr and Diid Adhi (for households displaced from Qubi Qalo). The households received 10kgs rice, 3kgs beans and 9kgs Maize flour.
- County Government provided farmers with drought tolerant seeds as follows; 8MTs of maize KCB, 6MTs of beans Kat B1, 2MTs of cowpeas K80 and 2MTs green grams.

7.0 EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 INSECURITY/CONFLICT/HUMAN DISPLACEMENT

- There were no reported cases of insecurity, conflict nor human displacement. Generally, the insecurity situation calmed and normalized due to concerted effort by the inter-faith mediation team amongst other stakeholders.

7.2 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS.

- Due to erratic and depressed short rains received so far, food security situation is expected to gradually decline if the next month doesn't receive enhanced rains. Quantity and quantity of pasture is expected to deteriorate across the livelihood zones which is expected to last for the next 3months. With expected decline in quality and quantity of pasture, livestock body condition will likely decline from good to good-fair for all the species with exception of camels. Terms of trade will probably improve due to anticipated increase in the demand for goats and stable maize prices.
- If above normal rains which are not received in the next month, recharge levels of open water sources are likely to reduce significantly hence increasing household and livestock water distances. As the peak season for calving and kidding is currently being experienced across the County, tropical livestock units is expected to gradually improve.
- There was increased milk production from camel and cattle by 45percent and 53percent respectively. However, with expected increase in livestock trekking distances most of the milk will be available in the fora hence limiting household access.
- Nutritional status of children below the age of five years is likely to be stable for the next one month and thereafter gradually decline from the month of January during the short dry spell.
- About 40percent of the maize farms are not performing well due to overwhelming weeds infestation and approximately 30percent of the farms have been attacked by stalk borer pest in Karare ward. Beans are at flowering stage and no pest attack has been reported in the County. About 30percent of the expected beans yield might be lost due to weeds and pest infestation.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continued 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.
- Urgent livestock vaccination in North Horr sub-county (Demo and Illeret) amongst the small stock, Namarei and Ndikir in Laisamis sub-county for Camel.
- Crop pest and disease control especially maize stalk borer in Karare ward.
- Pasture enclosures and hay storage due to the bleak future of the short rains.
- There is need to undertake exhaustive screening in parts of Moyale where influx from within and across the Ethiopian border has been experienced to ensure all mothers and children requiring treatment for malnutrition and other illnesses have access to services. Kargi and Loiyangalani wards also require some screening to be undertake in December-Early January to ensure we are reaching all the vulnerable children are reached.