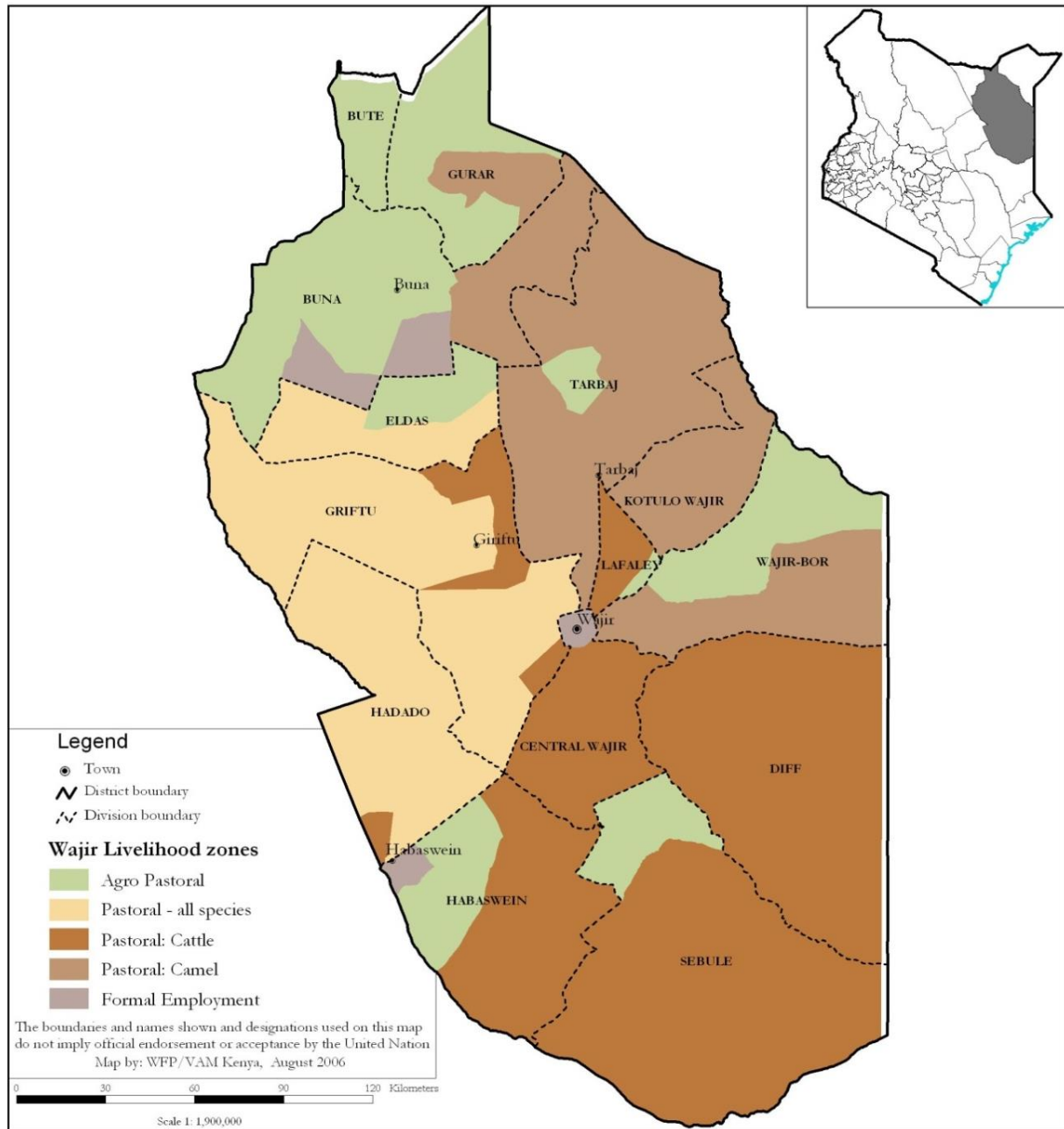


WAJIR COUNTY 2016 SHORT RAINS FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT REPORT



A Joint Report by the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG)¹ and Wajir County Steering Group (CSG).

February, 2017

¹ Elijah Lwevo (DALF), Hassan Ibrahim Abdi (NDMA), Nuria Ibrahim Abdi (County Nutrition) and Wajir County Steering Group

Executive Summary

The overall food security situation in the county is classified under IPC phase 2 (Stressed) with a majority of the households with minimally adequate food consumption but unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures. Areas in the southern part of Wajir of Diff, Sebule, Habaswein and Hadado are classified to be in the ‘Crisis’ (IPC Phase 3) phase. The county experienced poor rainfall that led to total crop failure leading to reduced food availability and consumption across livelihood zones. In the pastoral livelihoods, 31 percent of the households had a poor food consumption score while 38 percent of the households and 31 percent had borderline and acceptable food consumption. The coping strategy index (CSI) for agro-pastoral and for pastoral zones was 8.5 and 11 respectively compared to 19 to last year such a time, implying that households were applying less severe coping strategies to access food

There are no staples expected from crop production due to the below average rains forecast that deterred farmers from planting crops. Total maize stocks held in the County are currently 46 below the LTA with household maize stocks at 19 percent of the LTA projected to last for less than one week. Milk production is also below average and reduced from 1 -2.5 to 1 -1.5 litres)/hh/day. There is reduced food availability across the county and this is impacting especially on the poor and very poor households.

Access to food remained relatively stable through January 2017 helping maintain some food security. A kilogram of maize was Ksh 53 and within the LTA, and above average goat prices resulted in favorable terms of trade (ToT) of 58 kilograms of maize in exchange for a goat (9 percent above the LTA) implying above average purchasing power for pastoralists. Water costs remained stable at the normal Ksh. 5 per 20 litre jerrycan maintaining reasonable access.

There is a slight deterioration in terms of food utilization from the previous year shown by a general increase in morbidity and low level of Fully Immunized Children (FIC) at 49.6 percent in July – December 2016, slightly lower than 54.1 in 2015. The proportion of children at risk of malnutrition was stable at 16.9 percent but 12 percent higher than in 2015 coupled with low Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) coverage.

Major contributing factors to food insecurity in Wajir County are; poor performance of the short rains, low crop and livestock productivity, livestock diseases and in-migration of livestock.

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1. Introduction

1.1 County background

Wajir County covers an approximate area of 56,686 square kilometers with a total population of 458,900 people (KNBS, 2016). The county is divided into six administrative sub counties namely: Wajir north, Wajir south, Wajir west, Wajir east, Tarbaj and Eldas. The main livelihood zones are agro-pastoral, pastoral all species, pastoral cattle, pastoral camel, and formal/informal employment in various proportions shown in Figure 1.

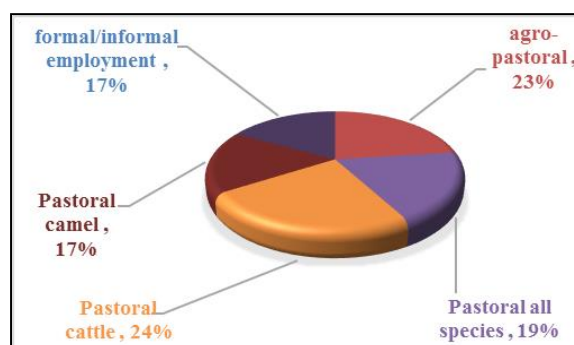


Figure 1. Livelihood Zones in Wajir County

1.2 Objective and approach

The overall objective of the assessment was to develop an objective, evidence-based and transparent food security situation analysis following the October to December (OND) 2016 short rains season taking into account the cumulative effect of the previous seasons, and to provide recommendations for possible response options, based on the situation analysis.

Specific objectives were to:

- Establish the impacts of compounding factors on household food security, such as crop failure due to inadequate rains, livestock pest and disease and food prices.
- Ascertain at the livelihood level the quality and quantity of the 2016 short rains and assess their impact on all key sectors including crop agriculture, livestock, water, health and nutrition and education.
- Establish required non-food interventions, with particular emphasis on programmes that promote preparedness and build household resilience.
- Assess potential food needs, including options for appropriate transfer modalities including food for assets, cash and vouchers, safety nets and general food distribution.

The overall assessment processes and methodologies were coordinated and developed by the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG). The county team collected secondary data (included livelihood zone baseline data, drought monitoring information, monthly nutrition surveillance data, price data and satellite imagery) and more information was collected by the technical county steering group (CSG) members from various departments through checklists. The NDMA drought monitoring bulletins, secondary data and the KFSSG monthly Food Security Updates provided important additional information.

A transect drive across the county was done to collect information from the community and households using community interview guides in each sector. The team also visited health and education institutions to gather relevant information. Visual inspection techniques were used to obtain qualitative data. The field data was collated, reviewed, analyzed and triangulated to verify its validity. After the drive, the CSG was debriefed to verify collected data.

The results from sampled areas, along with outcomes of discussions with the larger CSG and secondary data analysis, were used to draw inferences for non-visited areas situated in similar livelihood zones. The findings and recommendations were made planning purposes. The food security integrated phase classification (IPC Version 2.0) was employed in classifying severity levels of food insecurity in different livelihood zones.

2. Drivers of Food and Nutrition Security in the County

2.1 Rainfall Performance

The onset of the short rains was late, third dekad of October, compared to normal (second dekad) of the season. The distribution in both space and time was uneven. The pastoral all species and pastoral camel livelihoods zones received normal amounts between 110—140% of the normal while agro-pastoral, pastoral cattle and some parts of pastoral all species recorded 50—90% of the normal rainfall amounts. (Figure 2).

The highest rainfall amount was recorded at Khorof harar with 114.8mm while Habaswein and Lagbogol recorded 32.8mm and 45.5mm respectively, though its distribution in time was poor. The cessation was normal in the third dekad of December.

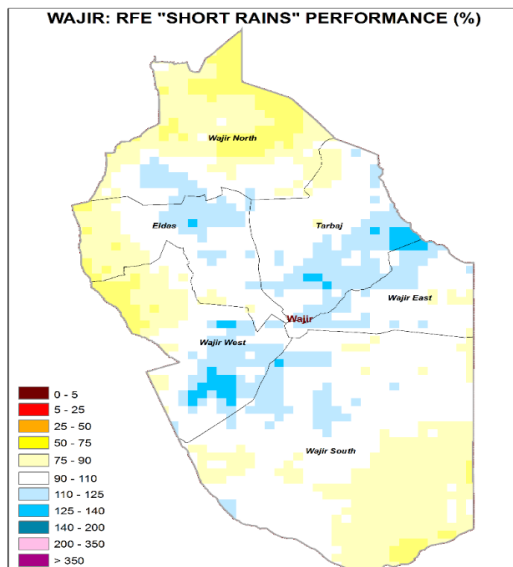


Figure 2. Wajir RFE short rains performance

2.2 Insecurity/Conflict

There were no cases of conflict reported in all livelihood zones. However, due to diminishing pasture, browse and water accelerated by in-migration, there is likelihood of an increase in conflict incidences.

2.3 Other shocks and hazards

The current shocks and hazards include;

- Poor performance of the short rains season across all the livelihoods, leading to low crop and livestock productivity, affecting food availability, access and utilization
- Livestock diseases-across the livelihood zones reduces livestock productivity and access.
- In-migration of livestock from neighbouring counties depleted the pasture and browse reducing milk availability and access.

3 Impact of drivers on Food and Nutrition Security

This section examines impact of driver of food security on food availability in the county, the ability of population to access food and utilization.

3.1 Availability

The County is facing food shortage due to crop failure and low milk production; this has been attributed to poor performance of rains during the season.

3.1.1 Crops Production

Rain-fed Crop Production

The cultivated crops under rain-fed production are mainly watermelon, sorghum and maize. There was negligible acreage under these crops during the season attributed to late land preparation following the forecast for a depressed rainfall and therefore, no harvest for cereal compared to the LTA of the same season. This reduced food availability, thus households resorted to other coping strategies to access food. However, some areas that received rains produced watermelons at the average (Table 1).

Table 1. Rain-fed crop production

Crop	Area planted during 2016 Short rains season (Ha)	Long Term Average area planted during the Short rains season (Ha)	2016 Short rains season production (90 kg bags) Actual	Long Term Average production during the Short rains season (90 kg bags)
1.Maize	0	413	0	1500
2.Sorghum	3	421	0	895
3.Cowpeas	0	168	0	481
4.Water melon	150	120	420	420

Irrigated crop production

The main crops grown under irrigation are kales, tomatoes and onions in Wajir East, Habaswein and Wajir West. The area planted and production were below the LTA (Table 2). Production was low limiting food availability and access across the livelihood zones.

Table 2. Crop Production under Irrigated Agriculture

Crop	Area planted during 2016 Short rains season (Ha)	Long Term Average area planted during the Short rains season (Ha)	2016 Short rains season production (90 kg bags) Actual	Long Term Average production during the Short rains season (90 kg bags)
1.Tomatoes	44.5	56.65	204	416.6
2.Onions	15	17	142	242
3.Kales	25.75	22.35	115.2	144.7

Maize stocks

Stocks held at households were 19 of LTA and consisted of relief food rations while those held by traders were 37.8 percent of the LTA and mostly sourced from markets outside the County (Table 3). The main markets are Moyale, Isiolo, Meru and Garissa. The national cereals and produce board (NCPB) had stocks that were at 84% of the LTA. The maize stocks at household level were projected to last for a week.

Table 3. Maize stocks in the county

Maize stocks held by	Quantities held currently (90-kg bags)	Long Term Average quantities held (90-kg bags) at similar time of the year
Households	109	563
Traders	521	1,378
Millers	0	0
NCPB	560	660
Total	1,190	2,601

3.1.2 Livestock Production

The main livestock species kept in Wajir County are camel, goat, cattle, sheep and donkey. Livestock production contributes 61 percent of cash income in the agro-pastoral zone, 71 percent in the pastoral all species livelihood zone, 56 percent in the pastoral camel livelihood zone and 71 percent in the pastoral cattle livelihood zone.

Pasture and Browse

The pasture condition in pastoral cattle (Wajir south), parts of pastoral all species (Wajir west & Eldas) and agro-pastoral livelihood zones (Bute, Ajawa and Gurar) was fair to poor. The pasture is expected to last for a period of less than a month (Table 4) and will likely be depleted in February. Browse condition was good to fair but expected to worsen in the coming one to two months. In the agro-pastoral zone, pasture conditions were deteriorating at a high rate due to in-migration of livestock from Ethiopia, Somalia and the neighboring counties of Marsabit and Isiolo.

Table 4. Pasture and browse condition

Livelihood zone	Pasture condition			Browse condition		
	Current	Situation at this time of year	Projected Duration to last (Months)	Current	Situation at this time of year	Projected Duration to last (Months)
Agro pastoral	Fair	Good	Less than one month	Good	Normal	2 months
Pastoral all species	Fair - poor	Fair	Less than months	Poor	Below Normal	Less one month
Pastoral cattle	Fair - Poor	Fair	Less than a month	Fair – poor	Normal	Less than one months
Pastoral camel	fair	Fair	Less than one months	Good	Normal	2 month

Livestock Productivity

Livestock body condition

The body condition of livestock for all species was good to fair across the livelihood zones (Table 5). The body condition is likely to decline as pasture and browse continues to deteriorate because of the increased pressure brought by in-migration of livestock and herders from neighbouring counties of Marsabit, Mandera and bordering countries of Ethiopia and Somalia. Poor body

condition reduces milk availability to the households and fetches a poor price on the market also reducing household purchasing power in form of terms of trade (ToT).

Table 5. Livestock Body Condition

Livelihood zone	Cattle		Sheep		Goat		Camel	
	Current	Situation at this time of year	Current	Situation at this time of year	Current	Situation at this time of year	Current	Situation at this time of year
Agro pastoral	Good-fair	Good	Good-fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Pastoral all species	Fair	Good	Fair	Good – fair		Good – fair	Good	Good – fair
Pastoral cattle	Fair-poor	Good	Fair-poor	Good	Good – fair	Good	Good – fair	Good
Pastoral camel	Fair	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good

Birth rate, milk availability and consumption

Across livelihood zones, kidding, calving and lambing were normal due to the moderately favorable forage resources as shown in Table 4 previously. Milk production, consumption per household per day and prices are shown in Table 6. Household milk production in the agro-pastoral zone was slightly higher than the pastoral livelihood zones due to higher availability of pasture and browse.

Table 6. Milk Production, Consumption and Prices

Livelihood zone	Livestock species	Milk Production (Litres)/HH/Day		Milk consumption (Litres)/HH/Day		Prices (Ksh)/Litre	
		Current	LTA	Current	LTA	Current	LTA
Agro pastoral	Camel	6	7	2	3	80	80
	Cattle	1.5	2.5	1	1.5	100	80
	Goats	1	2	<1	0.5	100	100
Pastoral	Camel	5	7	2	2	90	80
	Cattle	1	1.5	0	0.5	120	80
	Goats	1	1	1	5	120	100

Tropical livestock units

The average livestock tropical livestock units (TLUs) per household were 19 compared to normal of 25. Households had 100, 25 and 12 goats, cattle and camel respectively in normal years compared to 90, 15 and 6 goats, cattle and camel respectively in all livelihood zones. The reasons for the decrease may be attributed to fair to poor pasture/browse condition and sale of livestock in fear of drought.

Livestock water access

The main sources of water for livestock are shallow wells, boreholes and water pans. The water pans and shallow wells are drying up due to low recharge and most water pans were expected to last for less than 10 days. The return trekking distance from grazing areas to water points was 9 - 15 kilometres, which is above normal of 5 – 9 kilometres at the time of the year. Watering frequency is once every 2 – 3 days for cattle, goats and sheep above from 1 – 2 days and 4 – 7

compared to 3 – 5 days for camel. Increases trekking distances and watering intervals reduced milk production across the livelihood zones affecting availability at the households.

Migration, Livestock Diseases and Mortalities.

Livestock migration was reported in all livelihood zones as livestock herders resorted to movement in search of forage and water. Livestock in pastoral cattle (in Wajir south) moved towards Wajir East (Khorof Harar, Gerille and Konton) and Wajir West (Arbajahan, Garsaqoftu and Eldas). There was in-migration from Bute, Gurar, Ajawa, Godama, Moyale, Marsabit, Mandera, and Ethiopia to Buna, Ingirir and Milsadhet. In-migration will accelerate depletion of available forage thus reducing the milk availability in the affected livelihood zones.

Livestock diseases *caprine bovine pleuropneumonia* (CBPP), Black-quarter and Anaplasmosis in cattle were reported in Riba, Qarsa and Khorof harar. Suspected but unconfirmed cases of Foot and mouth disease (FMD) were reported in Wajir South, Diff and Burder, *pestis de pestis ruminanti* (PPR) was also reported in Wajir North- Watiti, Gurar and Bute, Sheep and goat pox disease in; Wajir East, (Sitawario, Arbaqaremso), Wajir west, (Jaghir, Matho,) Wajir South, (Leheley, Lagbogol, Harkhotkhot). Livestock diseases reduced livestock productivity in terms of meat and milk forcing households to employ other coping mechanisms to obtain food.

3.2 Access

3.2.1 Markets and trade

Wajir town and Habaswein are the main markets in the County, other markets include; Moyale, Griftu, Eldas, Bute, Tarbaj, Kutulo and Sabuli. In all livelihood zones, the market operations were normal. Prices for most market commodities including cereals as well as for livestock remained stable and within the normal ranges. However livestock owners from Buna and Bute area had poor access to Wajir livestock market due to insecurity along livestock market routes. Eighty percent of pastoral and agro-pastoral households relied on the market for food commodities. Terms of trade (ToT) were favorable since the goat prices decline while the maize prices were stable. The supply of traded volumes in the market were normal. Milk, meat, rice, wheat flour, beans, and maize were some of the staple foods available in the market. They were supplied from Moyale, Nairobi, Garissa, Isiolo, Meru and Somalia markets.

Maize prices

In January 2017, was Ksh 53 per kilogram and was within the LTA. The trend has remained stable for the last six months of 2016 (Figure 3). The variations in price across the livelihood zones are minimal. However, maize is not a staple food in all the livelihoods, therefore, having minimal influence on food availability, access and utilization. Rice, pasta (spaghetti), meat and milk are the main food consumed at household level whose prices remained stable.

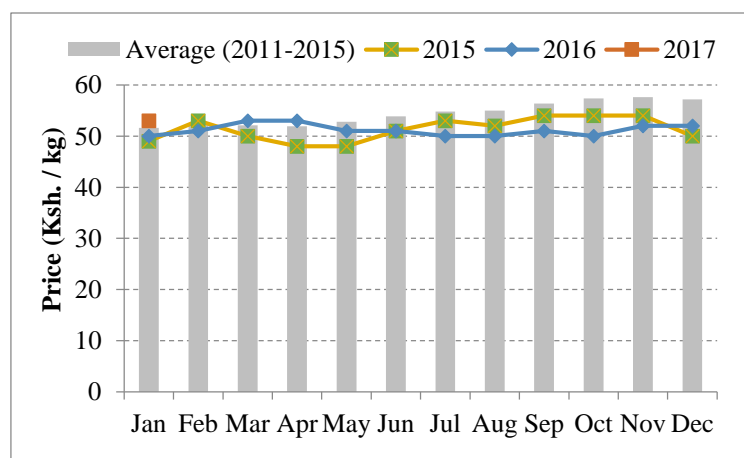


Figure 3. Maize prices

Goat's prices

The average goat price was Ksh 3,000 in January 10 percent above the LTA (Figure 4). The prices have followed the seasonal trend though elevated from June 2016 to January 2017. Reduction in prices was attributed to high volumes of goat in the market as livestock owners offloaded their stock to obtain income for fees for school going children and to safeguard from losses due to dry spell progress. In addition the deteriorating body conditions of goats also resulted in low market prices affecting negatively on food availability and access in all livelihood zones.

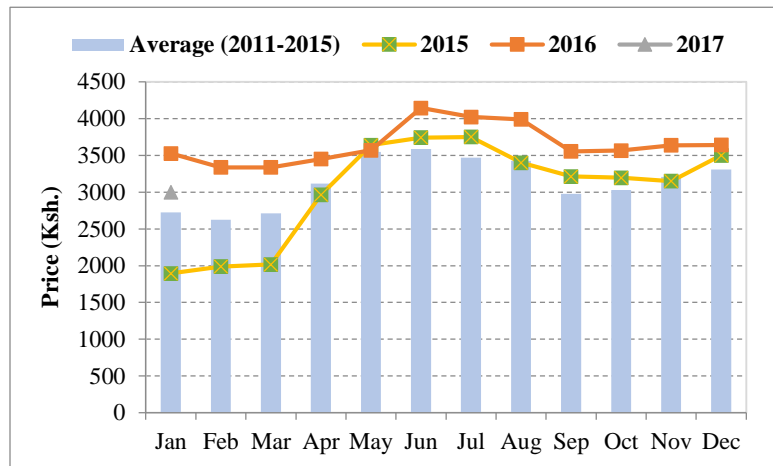


Figure 4. Goats' prices

Terms of Trade (ToT)

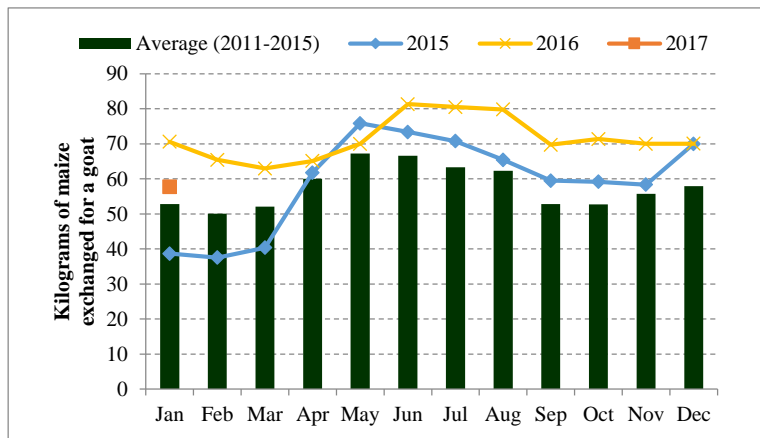


Figure 5. Terms of Trade (ToT)

In January, the terms of trade (ToT) were 58 kilograms of maize in exchange for a goat which was 9 percent above the LTA of 53 kilograms of maize (Figure 6). The terms of trade remained favorable to the livestock sellers implying a reasonable purchasing power at household level and equally reasonable access to food and non-food commodities.

3.2.2 Income sources

The main sources of income in the county are livestock production, small businesses/own business including crafts, non-farm production, casual waged-labour income. Other sources include food crop production especially watermelon, firewood collection, remittance and gifts and formal employment. The hunger safety net programme (HSNP) is also a source of income for about 23.5 percent of the population. Majority of the households depend on livestock production, however during the season livestock prices declined due to high volumes in the market, fear of losing of stock during the dry spell.

Table 7. Income sources

Livelihood Zone: Agro Pastoral	Average % of Cash Income
Livestock Production (including meat, milk, hides, skins, and by products)	60
Food Crop Production	30
Casual Waged-labour Income	4
Small Businesses/own business including crafts, non-farm production, bee	3
Firewood collection/charcoal burning	1
Petty Trading	1
Poultry Production including meat and egg production	1
Livelihood Zone: Informal Employment	
Small Businesses/own business including crafts, non-farm production, bee	56
Casual Waged-labour Income	16
Petty Trading	10
Cash Crop Production	5
Remittance and Gifts	5
Formal Waged Labour including public and private sector employees	4
Poultry Production including meat and egg production	2
Firewood collection/charcoal burning	2
Livelihood Zone: Pastoral - all species	
Livestock Production (including meat, milk, hides, skins, and by products)	70
Food Crop Production	15
Small Businesses/own business including crafts, non-farm production, bee	6
Casual Waged-labour Income	3
Petty Trading	3
Remittance and Gifts	2
Formal Waged Labour including public and private sector employees	1
Firewood collection/charcoal burning	1
Poultry Production including meat and egg production	1
Livelihood Zone: Pastoral - Camel	
Livestock Production (including meat, milk, hides, skins, and by products)	55
Small Businesses/own business including crafts, non-farm production, bee	15
Food Crop Production	15
Casual Waged-labour Income	15
Petty Trading	5
Remittance and Gifts	3
Formal Waged Labour including public and private sector employees	1
Poultry Production including meat and egg production	1

3.2.3 Water access and availability (including cost & consumption)

The major sources of water in all livelihood zones are boreholes, water pans and shallow wells which are for both domestic and livestock use. Most boreholes and shallow wells are saline in nature. There are 258 boreholes, 285 medium sized and small seasonal water pans and over 18,210 shallow wells that were operational. About 13 percent of shallow wells have dried up in the formal/informal household zone of Wajir town. Water pans are expected to last for 10- 15days due to low recharge, high rate of evaporation and high concentrations of livestock around the water pans. Currently water trucking is done in 152 centers including 15 out of 52 schools, 8 health facilities. Water trucking centers are likely to increase.

Distances to Water Sources, Waiting time, water consumption and cost

The average distance to domestic water sources was at the normal of 4 kilometers. The average waiting time varies in livelihoods, depending on the water source and livestock population in the shared sources. The cost of water was normal across the livelihoods (Ksh 5 per 20 litre jerrycan) while water consumption ranged between 3– 6 litres per person per day (lpppd) compared to the normal 10 lpppd due to reduction of water sources as they dry up and as some boreholes break down.

3.2.4 Food Consumption

The proportion of households with poor food consumption measured by food consumption score (FCS) were 70.7 and 100 percent in agro-pastoral and pastoral all species, indicating the households have minimally adequate food consumption but are unable to afford some essential nonfood expenditures without engaging in irreversible coping strategies. In the pastoral livelihood zones the proportion was 31.3 percent in the month of December (Figure 6). The number of meals taken per day was two-three meals. The composition of meals included two food groups namely rice, milk and beans.

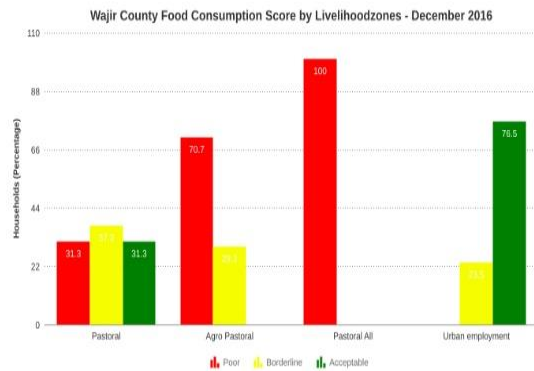


Figure 6. FCS by livelihoods for December 2016

3.2.5 Coping strategy

Coping strategy index (CSI) in December 2016 for pastoral all species livelihood zone was high at 38.8 showing high household stress due to food insecurity, therefore, they employed more coping strategies to access food. In the pastoral and agro-pastoral livelihood zones, the CSI was low at 8.5 and 11.1 percent respectively compared to 19 in previous season (Figure 7) which implied that the households were currently applying less severe coping strategies to access food.

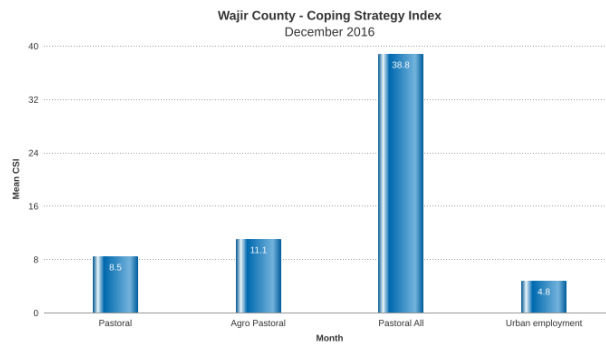


Figure 7. Coping Strategy Index. December 2016

3.3 Utilization

3.3.1 Health and Nutritional status Morbidity and mortality patterns

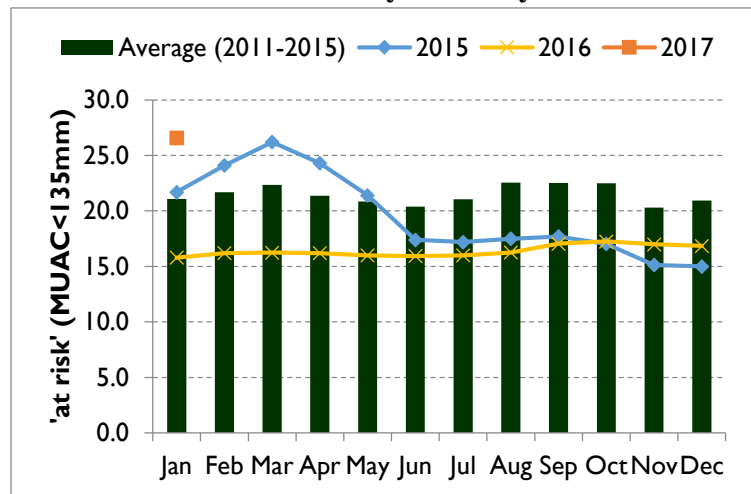
The top five common diseases for under-fives and the general population across all livelihood zones were upper respiratory tract infections (URTI), other respiratory infections, diarrhea, pneumonia and disease of the skin and urinary tract infections (UTI). There was reported increase in URTI, which was associated with increased dust especially among children under-five years of age. For the general population, the most common diseases were; pneumonia, diseases of the skin and other diseases of respiratory system. There was reported cases of upsurge of dysentery cases

in Wajir south (Meri) and of diarrhea and vomiting in Buna and Ingirir. The waterborne diseases were due to poor sanitation; reduced water levels in open water sources. The combination of disease and malnutrition weakens the metabolism creating a vicious cycle of infection and undernourishment, leading to vulnerability to illness thus resulting to increase in cases of malnutrition.

Immunization and Vitamin A supplementation

The proportion of fully immunized children (FIC) (that had received oral polio vaccine (OPV) 1, 3 and measles vaccines) was 49.6 percent in July – December 2016, which was slightly lower than 54.1 percent reported at the same period in 2015 as per district health information system (DHIS). Coverage is still below the national target of 80 percent and is attributed to the vast distances to health facilities, limited support for outreaches and insecurity. Vitamin A supplementation of children 6–11 months was above the national target of 80 percent, however, supplementation of children 12–59 months was 59 percent an improvement from 39.4 percent reported at the same period in 2015 attributed to supplementation carried out during ‘Malezi Bora’ healthy days action scale up of all health activities through Early Childhood Development (ECD) centers and Islamic schools (*Dugsi*).

Nutrition Status and Dietary Diversity



The proportion of children under five years at risk of malnutrition, based on mid upper arm circumference (MUAC) of < 135 mm, increased from 16.8 in December 2016 to 26.6 percent in January 2017 and was above the LTA by 26 percent. This is attributed to a decrease in milk availability and consumption at household level.

Admission data for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) from July to

Figure 8. Children at risk of malnutrition by MUAC

December 2016 shows a downward trend. However, downward trends could be attributed to reporting and the reduced outreach services In January; most health facility reported increase cases of malnutrition. The number of meals taken per day was two-three meals for children. The

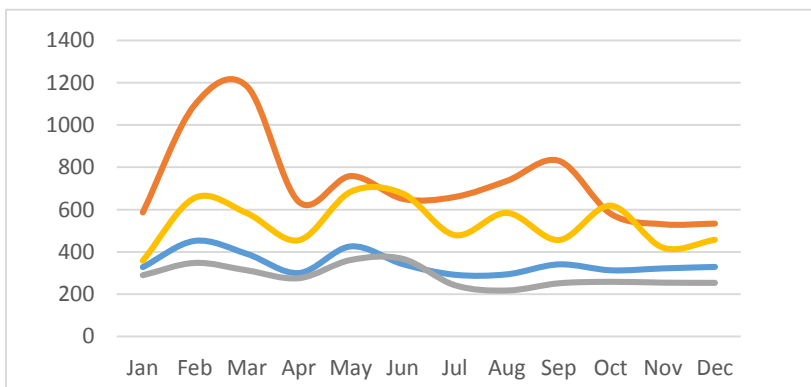


Figure 9. Acute malnutrition (MAM)

composition of meals included two food groups namely rice, milk and beans.

3.3.2 Sanitation and Hygiene

Most open water sources such as water pans and shallow wells are contaminated with either livestock waste or other source of waste. Shallow wells in Wajir are contaminated due to poor waste disposal. Some boreholes are also highly saline and not fit for human and livestock consumption. Poor waste management at the watering points is a major source of contamination in most agro pastoral and pastoral zone water pans. The current latrine coverage remains at 34% with Wajir town having the highest coverage (49%). Other sub counties with relatively high latrine coverage include Eldas, Habaswein, Buna and Bute (27 – 43%). Most pastoral households still practice open space defecation and pose serious environmental and health challenges increasing the vulnerability to infectious and water-borne diseases, which are direct causes of acute malnutrition.

3.4 Trends of key food security indicators

Table 7 below summarizes key food security indicators showing previous and current season level. The indicators discussed include maize stocks, livestock body condition, water consumption, distance to grazing, terms of trade, food consumption scores, coping strategies index. Price of maize.

Table 8: Food security trends in Wajir County

Indicator	Long rains assessment, July 2016	Short rains assessment, Feb 2017
% of maize stocks held by households (Agro-pastoral).	26 percent of the LTA	19 percent of the LTA
Livestock body condition	Good	Good to fair
Water consumption (litres per person per day).	10-15 lpppd	10-15 lpppd
Price of maize (per kg)	Ksh 50	Ksh 53
Distance to grazing	9.1 Km	7.6-14.8 Km
Terms of trade (pastoral zone)	80 Kg	58 Kg
Coping strategy index (CSI)	19	Agro-pastoral 11.1 Pastoral 8.5 Pastoral all species 38.8
Food Consumption Score(FCS)	Poor: 10 percent Borderline: 25 percent Acceptable: 64 percent	Poor: 31.3percent Borderline: 26.3 percent Acceptable: 31.3 percent

3.5 Education

3.6.1 Enrolment

The schools had low enrolment due to migration where students moved with their pastoralist families in search of pasture and water for their livestock as the effects of the drought continued to be felt. The decline in enrolment was also attributed to adherence to cultural practices where the children accompanied parents during migration, preference of education to boys, poor attendance of girls as result of domestic chores and paternalistic hardships experienced by the girl child. Dropout rates are about 16 percent for girls and 11 percent for boys with the high levels of dropouts

among the girls caused mostly by the aforementioned reasons. There was low transition in all schools with transition rates for girls at 56 percent and that of boys at 70 percent.

There was no regular school meals program (RSMP) for both public primary and pre-primary schools which discouraged students from attending schools. There is a total food pipeline breakdown for School Feeding Programme (SFP) food rations provided by the world food programme (WFP) in partnership with Ministry of Education (MoE). The county government has purchased 4,446 bags of (90kgs) of maize for Early Childhood Development (ECDE) centers.

4. Food Security Prognosis

4.1 Assumptions

Over the next six months (February – July), food security outcomes will mainly be influenced by several drivers. This section summarizes the assumptions about the key food security drivers.

- According to the CPC/IRI there is a probability that the March – May long rains are likely to be below average with a late onset.
- Rangeland conditions are expected to deteriorate during the months of February to March due to insufficient rains received that did little to improve rangeland condition.
- Livestock market price would likely decline during the dry spell due to poor livestock body condition, and low market demand
- Conflict will likely to occur due to in migration and high concentration in search of pasture and water.

4.2 Food Security Outcomes from February to April 2017

From February, livestock body condition, milk production, distances to water sources are expected to worsen during the initial period and later improve in subsequent months. Nutrition status especially of children under five is likely to deteriorate. Prices of livestock are expected to decline due poor body condition and low demand, thus affecting the terms of trade and purchasing power of households. Food consumption is expected to worsen during the dry spell as food prices continue to increase further worsened by the deteriorating terms of trade. The forecasted below average rains are expected to begin late in April and will likely have a minimal effect relieving water and forage stress momentarily. The food security situation is likely to deteriorate with more households moving from “Stressed” (IPC Phase 2) phase to “Crisis” (IPC Phase 3) phase.

4.3 Food Security Outcomes from May to July 2017

From May, the below average forage production will minimally increase milk availability and improve food consumption and dietary diversity slightly reducing malnutrition. From June, livestock productivity will begin to decline, with it, milk availability and terms of trade. In July, a likely below average long rains harvest will minimally increase food availability and consumption for the household momentarily. The below average rains will result in reduced on-farm labour opportunities and household incomes. Overall, there will be an improvement in food security from the previous period but will be short lived considering the below average rains and effects of two consecutive poor seasons, food insecurity will increase with a majority of households will be in the Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and more households moving to IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) phase of food insecurity.

5 Conclusion and Interventions

5.1 Conclusion

5.1.1 Phase classification

The county is classified as “Stressed” in the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) of food insecurity. Households are able to afford minimally adequate food consumption but are unable to afford essential non-food expenditures without engaging in irreversible coping strategies. Current factors affecting food security in the county are poor pasture, crop failure in the agro pastoral zone, and browse regeneration, livestock diseases, poor water infrastructure, poor road network and poor market access. Other underlying factors contributing to food insecurity include the prevalence of high poverty rates, limited income diversification, low use of modern farming technologies, and poor infrastructural facilities.

5.1.2 Summarize the findings

The rainfall distribution was poor in time and space with most parts of the county experiencing below normal rainfall during the short rains. Late land preparation coupled with depressed rainfall resulted in crop failure leading to limited food availability, accessibility and utilization in agro-pastoral livelihood zone. Pasture condition was fair to poor across the livelihood zones and milk production and consumption reduced across the County. The average livestock TLUs per household were 19 compared to a normal of 25 attributed to fair to poor pasture/browse condition and sale of livestock in fear of drought. Market operations were normal with no market disruptions, the terms of trade were favorable for pastoralists with a goat exchanging at 53 kilogram of maize. Open water sources may last less than 15 day while shallow wells are drying up. Return trekking distances from grazing areas to water point were up to 15 kilometers reducing livestock production and accessibility. Water consumption is about 20-40 litres per household per day and costs Ksh. 5 per 20-liter container. Food consumption scores were poor for 70.7 of households in the agro-pastoral and 100 for the pastoral all species livelihood zones indicating poor dietary diversity and frequency. The CSI in December 2016 for agro-pastoral livelihood zone was 11.1, 38.8 in the pastoral all species was while in the pastoral cattle zone it was 8.5 indicating the pastoral all species employed severe coping strategies in response to food consumption gaps. The proportion of children under five years at risk of malnutrition increased from 16.8 in December 2016 to 26.6 percent in January 2017 and was above the LTA by 26 percent attributed to a decrease in milk availability and consumption at household level.

5.1.3 Sub-county ranking

Ranking of sub-county in order of food insecurity severity

Table 9: sub-county ranking in terms of food insecurity

Sub-county	Population	Proportion of the population	Sub-county Ranking (1 Most food insecure 6 least food insecure)	Pop in need (% range min - Max)	Main Food Security Threats
Wajir south	73,216	11,715	1	12-16	Water scarcity, poor pasture, migration, reduced livestock production and productivity, livestock diseases and predation (<i>severity- very High</i>)
Wajir west	31,530	5,045	2	32-36	Water scarcity, migration, overgrazing, poor livestock prices and predation (<i>severity- moderately High</i>)
Wajir north	93,941	15,031	3	1-5	Water scarcity, depleting pasture, migration, livestock diseases and predation (<i>severity- moderate</i>)
Eldas	94,999	15,200	4	10-14	Poor pasture, water scarcity, out-migration, lack of milk, depleting vegetation conditions and predation (<i>severity- moderate</i>)
Tarbaj	77,539	12,406	5	10 -14	Water scarcity, depleting pasture, poor livestock prices, low production of milk. (<i>severity- moderate</i>)
Wajir east	87,676	14,028	6	11-15	Water scarcity, poor pasture, livestock diseases, migration, reduced livestock production and productivity, livestock mortality and predation (<i>severity- High</i>)

5.2 Ongoing Interventions

5.2.1 Food interventions

- ✓ Food distribution
- ✓ Distribution of 9,000 bales of hay, livestock feed supplement and concentrates.
- ✓ Food For Assets (FFA)

Table 10. FFA in Wajir County

Sub-County	Households
Wajir South	1040
Wajir West	940
Eldas	555
Wajir North	920
Tarbaj	691
Wajir East	520
Grand Total	4,666

5.2.2 Non-food interventions

Intervention	Location	No. of beneficiaries	Implementers	Impacts in terms of food security	Cost (Ksh M)	Time Frame
AGRICULTURE SECTOR						
Agricultural extension services.	County Wide		Department of Agriculture. ASDSP	Improving food access and security at HH level	3,000,000	Jan March, 2017
WATER SECTOR						
Water trucking to communities and institutions	All sub-counties	151 centers,	Wajir County Government	Expected to improve water availability in the county	30	
Rapid response to borehole break down	All sub-counties		Wajir County Government	Expected to improve water availability in the county	5	
HEALTH AND NUTRITIONAL SECTOR						
Mass screening of children 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating mothers in 345 villages and mapping of 5 hot spots in each sub county	All sub-counties		Wajir County Government		1.8	
Scale-up integrated outreach activities based on mass screening findings	All sub-counties		Wajir County Government		3.4	
Provision of water treatment chemicals (Aqua tabs, PUR, chlorine powder)	All sub-counties		Wajir County Government		0.8	
Open Defecation Free (OPF).		15 villages			8	
LIVESTOCK SECTOR						
Vaccination of livestock	All sub-counties		Wajir County Government	Improve animal health to increased productivity	9.6	On-going
Disease surveillance	All sub-counties		Wajir County Government		1.2	June 2016
Provision of livestock feed (hay range cubes and UMMB)	All sub-counties		Wajir County Government	Improve livestock productivity	96	
EDUCATION SECTOR						
Purchased 4,460 (90Kg) bags for ECDE					13.4	
SOCIAL PROTECTION SECTOR						
Provision of relief food	All sub-counties		National Government		350	

Safety net programme and FFA

The safety net programmes in Wajir are; cash Transfer for the Orphaned and Vulnerable Children (CT-OVC), Older Persons Cash Transfer (OPCT) and Persons with Severe Disabilities (PWSD-CT). Hunger Safety Net Programme has made regular payment for 17,980 beneficiaries in November 2016 and 18,420 in January 2017. Emergency scape up payment in the month of November 2016 was 20,275 and 35,425 in January 2017.

5.3 Recommended Interventions

5.3.1 Food interventions

- Up scaling the FFA should be scaled up and sites operationalized
- Food for TB and PLHIV to be up scaled
- School meal programme
- Emergency slaughter off take for livestock

Proposed Population in need of food assistance

Table 11: A table of proposed population in need of assistance in the county

Sub-county	Population	Pop in need (% range min – max)	Pop in need	Proposed mode of intervention
Wajir South	73,216	12-16	11,715	HSNP/FFA/CT
Wajir West	31,530	11-15	5,045	FHSNP/FFA/CT FA/CT
Wajir North	93,941	32-36	15,031	HSNP/FFA/CT
Wajir East	94,999	10 -14	15,200	HSNP/FFA/CT
Tarbaj	77,539	10-14	12,406	HSNP/FFA/CT
Eldas	87,676	1-5	14,028	HSNP/FFA/CT

5.3.2 Non-food interventions

Table 12. Non-food interventions

Intervention	Location	No. of beneficiaries	Implementers	Impacts in terms of food security	Cost (Ksh M)	Time Frame
AGRICULTURE SECTOR						
Agricultural extension services.	County Wide	6,000	Department of Agriculture. ASDSP	Improving food access and security at HH level	4,000,000	Jan March, 2017
Provision of Irrigation infrastructure	County wide	5,000	WCG, SDC, WORLD VISION	Expected to improve food security	20,000,000	Jan march, 2017
Provision of Shed net	County wide	300	County Government of	Expected to improve	10,000,000	Jan March, 2017

Intervention	Location	No. of beneficiaries	Implementers	Impacts in terms of food security	Cost (Ksh M)	Time Frame
			Wajir, World Vision DPA	food security		
WATER SECTOR						
Water trucking to communities and institutions	All sub-counties	200,000	Wajir County Government	Expected to improve water availability in the county	31.2	Jan March, 2017
Water trucking for Livestock(hire of water bowsers)	All sub-counties	350,000	Wajir County Government	Expected to improve water availability in the county	144	
Rapid response to borehole break down(per diem for 4	All sub-counties	350,000	Wajir County Government	Expected to improve water availability in the county	4	
Fuel for rapid response teams	All sub-counties	100,000	Wajir County Government	Expected to improve water availability in the county	1.3	
Purchase of stand by gensets	All sub-counties	180,000	Wajir County Government	Expected to improve water availability in the county	18	
Purchase of stand by submersible pumps	All sub-counties	150,000	Wajir County Government	Expected to improve water availability in the county	10	
Purchase of fast moving spare parts	All sub-counties	300,000	Wajir County Government	Expected to improve water availability in the county	10	

Intervention	Location	No. of beneficiaries	Implementers	Impacts in terms of food security	Cost (Ksh M)	Time Frame
Fuel subsidy for 50 high-yielding boreholes with high livestock population.	All sub-counties	240,000	Wajir County Government	Expected to improve water availability in the county	18	
HEALTH AND NUTRITION						
Mobilization for mass screening for facilities and villages in all sub-counties	All sub-counties	110,000	Wajir County Government	Expected to improve the health and nutritional status of the county	0.23	Yearly
Mass screening of children 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating mothers in 345 villages and mapping of 5 hot spots in each sub county	All sub-counties	110,000	Wajir County Government		0.65	
Mass screening of 10 identified hot sports per sub county in February 2017	All sub-counties	30,000	Wajir County Government		0.71	
Scale-up integrated outreach activities based on mass screening findings	All sub-counties	120,000	Wajir County Government		3.4	
Provision of water treatment chemicals (Aqua tabs, PUR, chlorine powder)	All sub-counties	400,000	Wajir County Government		0.8	
Supply of safe water storage containers	All sub-counties	100,000	Wajir County Government		1	
LIVESTOCK SECTOR						
Vaccination of 800,000 animals against CCPP	All sub-counties	300,00	Wajir County Government	Improve the animal health with the aim of increased productivity	9.6	On-going
PPR vaccines for 1,000,000 sheep	All sub-counties	280,000	Wajir County Government		10	
Disease surveillance	All sub-counties	200,000	Wajir County Government		1.12	June 2016
Provision of livestock feed to core breeding herd 100,000(Hay)	All sub-counties	300,000	Wajir County Government	Expected to improve livestock body	96	

Intervention	Location	No. of beneficiaries	Implementers	Impacts in terms of food security	Cost (Ksh M)	Time Frame
				condition and productivity		
Provision of livestock feed for core breeding herd(Pellets)	All sub-counties	270,000	Wajir County Government		12.5	
Provision of livestock feeds to core breeding herd (Range cubes)	All sub-counties	320,000	Wajir County Government		12.5	
Provision of livestock feeds to core breeding herd (UMMB blocks)	All sub-counties	100,000	Wajir County Government		1.25	
Disease surveillance	All sub-counties	200,000	Wajir County Government		1.12	
Accelerated livestock off take	All sub-counties	289,000	Wajir County Government		60	
Emergency slaughter destocking(sheep)	All sub-counties	200,000	Wajir County Government		27	
Emergency slaughter destocking (Goats)	All sub-counties	300,000	Wajir County Government		18	
Emergency slaughter destocking (Cattle)	All sub-counties		Wajir County Government		20	
EDUCATION SECTOR						
Bursary to improve retention for pastoralists	Affected schools	287	Wajir County Government	Improve retention levels in the schools	70	
Purchase of plastic water tanks for 30 schools (10,000L)	Affected schools	100,000	Wajir County Government		3	
SOCIAL PROTECTION SECTOR						
Provision of relief food	All sub-counties		Wajir County Government		350	
Up scaling of the emergency cash transfer	All sub-counties	35,424	Wajir County Government		324	
Conflict resolution and inter community peace dialogue	All sub-counties	100,000	Wajir County Government		3.4	