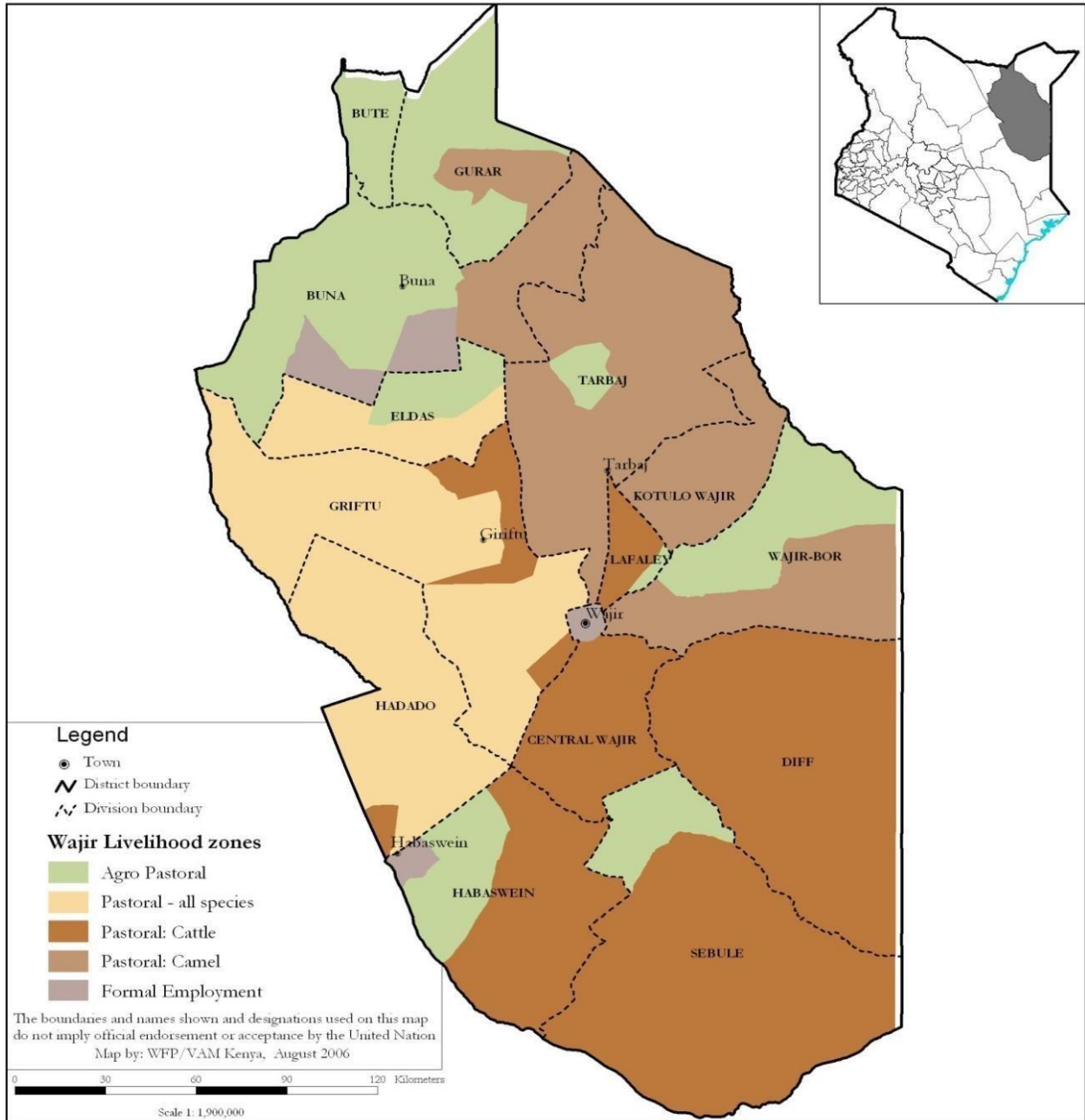


WAJIR COUNTY 2019 LONG RAINS FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY ASSESSMENT REPORT



Report by the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG)¹ and

Wajir County Steering Group (CSG)

July, 2019

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Executive Summary

The Long rains food security assessment was conducted from 8th to 19th July 2019 in the County and was Coordinated by the County Steering Group (CSG). The overall objective of the seasonal assessment was to analyze and determine the impact of the 2019 long rains season on food and nutrition security, taking into account the cumulative effects of previous seasons and other shocks and hazards. Mainly, the assessment looks into the impact of the season on food availability, access and utilization, considering the contributing factors and outcomes, and at how each sector has been affected in one way or another. The ultimate goal was to provide recommendations for possible response options, based on the situation analysis. The assessment covered eight sub-counties of Wajir with the unit of analysis being the livelihood zones, therefore, the assessment report is the definitive statement on food security in Wajir County.

The below normal rainfall experienced in 2019 March-April-May have significantly affected the regeneration of pasture and browse across the livelihood zones. Depletion of feed resources has led to increasing trekking distances between grazing areas and water points thus deteriorating livestock body condition. Poor livestock body has impacted negatively on milk production and availability at household and market level thus higher malnutrition rates and poor food consumption scores among the pastoral community in the county. Areas in Pastoral All species, Eldas, Pastoral Camel and parts of Pastoral Cattle livelihood zones have experienced enhanced depletion of pastures and browse, where some sedentary pastoralists have also started feeding their stocks on cartons and other food left-overs. Poor livestock body condition, low market prices thus affecting the purchasing power of households. Low birth rates was reported particularly for small stock and cattle due to poor pasture and browse and poor livestock condition attributed to below normal rainfall. Migration of livestock in to other counties in search of pasture and browse was reported. Upsurge of both livestock (CBPP, PPR and CCPP) and human diseases (Cholera, measles, Kalaazer) across the livelihood zones was reported due to migration and high concentration at the water point. Incidence of resource base conflict along the border of Wajir County, Marsabit and Isiolo County was reported. no deaths due to drought have been reported, Return trekking distances between water sources have significantly increased across the livelihood zones (12-30km), Watering frequency increased due to the drying up of all water pans. All markets are operational though markets prices are very low as compared to normal of this time. In food consumption most of the pastoral households in all livelihood zones are between poor and borderline with a percent of 25.7 and 37.6 respectively, while in reduced coping strategy most of the households are employing stressed coping strategy with a total mean of 77.9 percent. Household dietary diversity based on 24-hour recall reported that only 29 percent of the population consumed more than 5 food groups (Phase 1),18.8 percent consumed less than 3 food groups(phase 4& 5),while 52.2 percent of the households consume 3-5 food groups(phase3) and other households consumed less than 3 food group(18.8). Nutrition situation was reported to be critical according to the survey conducted in July 2019 due to high morbidity, outbreak of diseases such as cholera, measles and kala azar (Visceral leishmaniosis). Severe acute malnutrition and moderate acute malnutrition was 2.7 percent and 13.7 percent respectively. Girls were observed to be the most affected with a GAM of 19.1 percent with boys at 14.1 percent. Admissions to outpatient therapeutic and supplementary feeding programme increased in the month of March 2019 following mass screening.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 County Background

Wajir County is located in the North Eastern region of Kenya between latitudes 3° N 60°N and 0° 20°N and Longitudes 39° E and 41° E and covers an area of 56,685.9 Km². It borders Somalia to the East, Ethiopia to the North, Mandera County to the Northeast, Isiolo County to the South West, Marsabit County to the West and Garissa County to the South. The county comprises of eight sub-counties namely Wajir East, Tarbaj, Wajir West, Eldas, Wajir North, Buna, Habswein and Wajir South. It is further divided into 28 divisions, 128 locations and 159 sub-locations.

The County has a total population of 661,941 people (KNBS₁ 2009 census). The main livelihood zones are agro-pastoral, pastoral all species, pastoral cattle, pastoral camel, and formal/informal employment in various proportions as shown in (Figure 1).

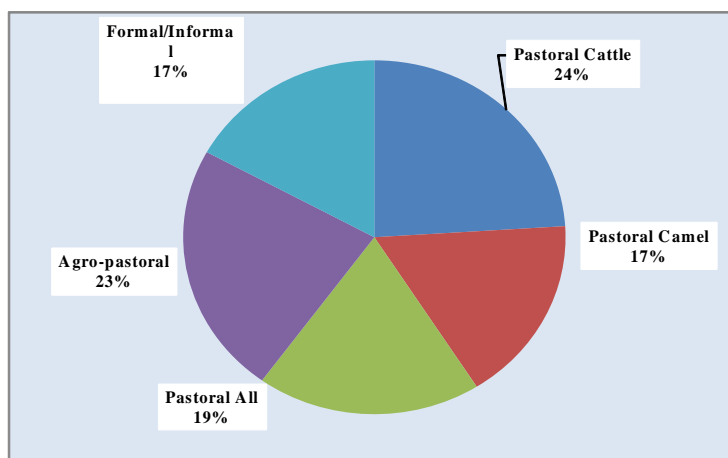


Figure 1: Livelihood zones

Livestock production contributes 70 percent of household income in both pastoral all species and pastoral cattle, 60 percent in Agro pastoral and 55 percent in pastoral camel livelihood zones. Crop production contributes 30 percent of household income in Agro pastoral and 15 percent in other livelihood zones.

1.2 Methodology and Approach

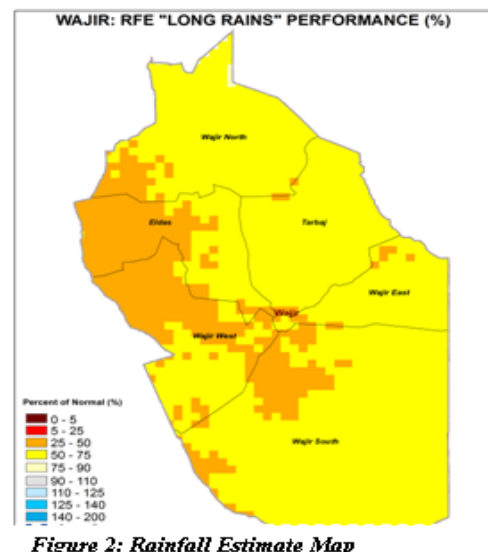
The overall assessment processes and methodologies were coordinated and developed by the County Steering Group (CSG) in collaboration with the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG). The county team collected secondary data (including livelihood zone baseline data, drought monitoring information, monthly nutrition surveillance data, nutrition survey data, price data and satellite imagery) and more information was collected by the CSG team from various departments through checklists.

A transect drive across the county was done to collect information from the community and households using community interview guides in each sector. The teams 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 transect drive and analysis of field data, the CSG was debriefed for validation. 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 for planning purposes.

2.0 DRIVERS OF FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY IN THE COUNTY

2.1 Rainfall Performance

The onset of long rains was late in the third dekad of March 2019 instead of expected seasonal norm of 2nd dekad of March 2019. Generally, most of the county recorded between 50-75 percent of normal rainfall amounts across the livelihood zones, except a few parts which received between 25-50 percent of normal rains in areas of Eldas, Wajir West and Wajir South (Figure 2). The Peak of the rains was in the third dekad of April 2019, which was 28.75 percent of the total rainfall recorded. Both temporal and spatial distribution was poor across the livelihood zones. Cessation was in the third dekad of May which was normal.



2.2 Insecurity/Conflict

Cases of resource based conflict was reported along the border of Wajir and Marsabit county, along the stretch of Basir, Busuqe and Shurr areathis which led to loss of two lives. This has affected access to pasture, browse and water. Wajir County has continued to experience intensive terror attack and related insecurity along the border of Kenya (Konton and Khorof harar) and Somalia, where a number of lives have been lost and movement of pastoralists towards the border was severely affected.

2.3 Other shocks and Hazard

Livestock Diseases

Incidence of livestock disease was reported in all livelihood zones. The reported cases are PPR, CCPP and CCBP.

Human Diseases

There was reported outbreak of Kalaazar (Wajir West, Wajir South and Eldas sub-counties), measles (Wajir East, Wajir West and North) and Cholera outbreak (Wajir East and Wajir west) and still active. Cholera outbreak was reported in Wajir East and Wajir West sub-counties on 18th May to 25th July 2019 respectively, total line listed so far is 211 with five deaths (CFR, 3.0percent). Kalaazar was reported in 4 sub-counties (W/West, Eldas, W/South, W/East), total of 380 cases have been line listed with 7 unfortunate deaths. The active cases of kalaazar are attributed to prolonged drought which favor the vector.

3.0 IMPACTS OF DRIVERS ON FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

3.1 Availability

Pastoralism and agro- pastoralism are the main livelihoods and primary source of food and income in Wajir County. Approximately 30 percent of the population relies on crop production based activities for their food and income. Food availability is also influenced by food import from other counties, which covers food shortages in the County and stabilizes market prices. Food assistance by the National and County Government as well as humanitarian agencies is a source of food availability for many vulnerable households in Wajir. Adequate availability

of food is a prerequisite for people to meet basic food needs, but often the mere presence of food does not ensure access to “sufficient, safe, and nutritious food.”

3.1.1 Crops Production

Rain fed crop production is mainly practiced in Lorian swamp in Wajir South and along the drainage lines in Wajir North which usually receives enhanced seasonal rains compared to other parts of the county. Some areas of Tarbaj and Wajir East sub-counties are major producers of sorghum during seasons of enhanced rains. In a way of striving towards attainment of food security and ending drought emergencies by 2022, efforts have been put by Wajir County Government and development partners towards increasing crops productivity through irrigated agriculture in various parts of the County. The main food crops produced in Wajir are maize, sorghum, millet, cow peas, beans and green grams. Cash crops grown are mainly water melon, simsim, tomatoes, Kales, spinach, onions, capsicum and fruit trees, (mangoes, pawpaw, citrus and lemon). Long rains season is the main season spreading from 60 to 90 days compared to the short rains 50 to 60 days. Majority of the farms are small scale with average holding of 2.4 hectares mostly used for subsistence farming. Due to aridity of the county, crop production is limited and contributes 30 percent and 15 percent to household income in the agro pastoral and pastoral livelihood zones respectively in a normal cropping season.

Rain-fed Crop Production

Rain-fed crop production is popular in depressions and along drainage lines where there is more moisture due to seasonal flooding especially in Wajir North which originates from Ethiopian highlands. The long rains contribute approximately 69 percent of the annual food produced in the county. However, this was not so during the 2019 long rains season as the onset delayed with much depressed precipitation spreading only over a few days. As a result, majority of the farmers did not plant and the few who did greatly reduced their targeted acreage but experienced a total crop failure and do not expect any harvests (Table 1).

Table 1: Rain-fed crop production

| Crop | Area planted during 2019 Long rains season (Ha) | LTA (5yrs) area planted during the Long rains season (Ha) | 2019 long rains season production (90 kg bags) Actual | LTA production during the long rains season (90 kg bags) |
|-----------|---|---|---|--|
| 1.Maize | 21 | 259 | 0 | 2092 |
| 2.Sorghum | 59 | 333 | 0 | 3824 |
| 3.Cowpeas | 18 | 69 | 0 | 543 |

Irrigated Crop Production

The main crops produced under irrigated agriculture are vegetable crops which include water melon, tomatoes, bulb onions and kales. Irrigation is mainly carried out on small scale by either use of shallow wells or water pans. The performance of the irrigated crops this season is lower than the short-term average as many of the water pans did not impound water and yields of shallow wells with Wajir town was very low.

Table 2: Irrigated Crops

| Crop | Area planted during the 2019 Long rains season (ha) | STA (3 years) area planted during Long rains season (ha) | 2019 Long rains season production (90 kg bags/MT) actual | STA (3 years) production long rains season (90 kg bags/MT) |
|---------------|---|--|--|--|
| 1. Watermelon | 24 | 47 | 65 | 113 |
| 2. Tomatoes | 9 | 28 | 32 | 105 |
| 3. Kales | 11 | 19 | 37 | 73 |

Cumulatively, the area under irrigated horticultural crops was significantly below the long rains long term average by 54 percent which can be attributed to inadequate water for irrigation. Shallow wells within Wajir East were poorly recharged resulting to low yields for irrigation expansion. Most of the water pans had no water and the ones with some water the communities decided to reserve it for livestock and domestic use. Production of watermelon decreased by 53 percent, tomatoes by 68 percent and kale by 43 percent when comparable with the three year short term average; this was as a result of diminished capacity to irrigate, destruction of crops by wildlife and high incidences of pests and diseases especially for tomatoes. The three crops are a source of income for agro-pastoral livelihood zone, thus affecting household purchasing power.

3.1.2 Cereals stock

The only cereal stocks in the county apart from food assistance or in NCPB, were held by traders and which was five percent below the long term average (Table 3). Farmers who usually have stock for maize and sorghum had depleted all their household food stocks and do not expect any more stocks until after the next short rains as they expect a total crop failure this season.

Table 3 Quantities held currently (90-kg bags)

| Commodity | Maize | | Rice | | Sorghum | | Green gram | | TOTAL | |
|----------------------|---------|-------|---------|--------|---------|------|------------|-----|---------------|---------------|
| | Current | LTA | Current | LTA | Current | LTA | Current | LTA | Current | LTA |
| Farmers | 0 | 1123 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1850 | 0 | 0 | | 2973 |
| Traders | 16,700 | 17500 | 34,600 | 36,900 | 700 | 900 | 0 | 0 | 52000 | 55300 |
| Millers | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Food Aid/NCPB | 266 | 300 | 0 | 0 | 10377 | 2000 | 0 | 0 | 10643 | 2300 |
| Total | | | | | | | | | 62,643 | 60,573 |

3.1.3 Livestock Production

Camels, goats, cattle, sheep and donkeys are main livestock species kept in Wajir County under the extensive system of livestock production. Local chickens are also reared by sedentary households. Livestock production contributes an average of 65 percent of income for the county with 61 percent of cash income in the agro-pastoral livelihood 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

Pasture and browse condition in all the livelihood zones are poor and fair respectively (Table 4). The lower parts of Wajir West and Eldas (pastoral all species), Tarbaj (pastoral camel) and Wajir South (pastoral cattle) have experienced enhanced depletion of pastures and browse as the rainfall was poorer in these areas. In areas where some pasture/browse is available, it is in form of ground litter and is not expected to last beyond July. Sedentary pastoralists have also started feeding their stocks on cartons and other food left-overs.

Depletion of feed resources has led to increasing trekking distances between grazing areas and water points thus deteriorating livestock body condition. This has impacted negatively on milk production and availability at household and market level thus higher malnutrition rates and poor food consumption scores among the pastoral community in the county.

Table 3: Pasture and browse condition

| Livelihood zone | Pasture | | | | | Browse | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|--------|---------------------------|----------|---|-----------|--------|---------------------------|----------|---|
| | Condition | | How long to last (Months) | | Factors limiting access | Condition | | How long to last (Months) | | Factors Limiting access |
| | Current | Normal | Current | Normal | | Current | Normal | Current | Normal | |
| Agro pastoral | Fair | Good | Less than 1 month (July) | 3 months | - Conflicts (resource-based) - Water scarcity | Fair | Good | Less than 1 month (July) | 4 months | - Conflicts (resource-based) - Water scarcity |
| Pastoral all species | Poor | Good | Less than 1 month (July) | 3 months | - Conflicts (resource-based) - Scarcity of water | Poor | Good | Less than 1 month (July) | 4 months | - Conflicts (resource-based) - Scarcity of water |
| Pastoral cattle | Poor | Good | Less than 1 month (July) | 3 months | - Resource-based conflicts - Insecurity along the Somalia border | Fair | Good | Less than 1 month (July) | 4 months | - Resource-based conflicts - Insecurity along the Somalia border |
| Pastoral camel | Poor | Good | Less than 1 month (July) | 3 months | - Insecurity along the Somalia border | Fair | Good | Less than 1 month (July) | 5 months | - Insecurity along the Somalia border |

Livestock Productivity

Livestock Body Condition

The body condition of livestock for all species range from fair to poor but on a deteriorating trend across the livelihood zones as shown in Table 5 below. The body condition for all species in pastoral cattle and pastoral all species livelihood zones are fair compared to normal as a result of inadequate and poorly distributed rains received that led to poor regeneration of pasture and browse especially in the lower parts and increasing return trekking distances to the watering points.

The deteriorating body condition is likely to lead to low level of production especially for milk and lower livestock market prices. This will ultimately impact negatively on nutritional status of children less than five years of age and also lower the purchasing power of the pastoral households leading to increase in the number of food insecure households.

Table 4: Livestock Body Condition

| Livelihood zone | Cattle | | Sheep | | Goat | | Camel | |
|----------------------|-------------|--------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|---------|-----------|
| | Current | Normal | Current | Normal | Current | Normal | Current | Normal |
| Agro pastoral | Fair | Good | Fair | Good | Good - Fair | Good | Fair | Excellent |
| Pastoral all species | Fair - poor | Good | Fair - poor | Good Fair | Good - Fair | Good - fair | Fair | Excellent |
| Pastoral cattle | Fair | Good | Fair | Fair | Fair | Good | Fair | Excellent |
| Pastoral camel | Fair | Good | Fair | Good | Fair | Good | Fair | Excellent |

Tropical Livestock Units

Livestock tropical livestock units (TLUs) across the livelihood zones per household were two compared to normal of six in poor income households whereas it was averaging eight compared to normal 15 per household in medium income households as shown in Table 7. The reasons for the decrease may be attributed to fair to poor pasture/browse condition and low birth rates especially in cattle and small stock.

Table 6: TLU by Livelihood Zones

| Livelihood zone | Poor income households | | Medium income households | |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------|
| | Current | Normal | Current | Normal |
| Agro pastoral | 2 | 5 | 7 | 8 |
| Pastoral all species | 2 | 6 | 9 | 13 |
| Pastoral cattle | 3 | 6 | 10 | 18 |
| Pastoral camel | 3 | 8 | 10 | 17 |

The reduction in TLUs across the livelihood zones and households will impact negatively on herd size thus lowering milk production and consumption. This reduction in TLUs will also affect the purchasing power of the pastoral households.

Birth Rate and Milk Availability

Below normal birth rates were reported in small stock and cattle due to fair to poor forage resources and deteriorating livestock body condition attributed to consecutive below average

rainfall in the last two seasons. However, birth rates among camels were observed to be normal with most herds recording slightly above 40 percent. Household milk production and consumption across the livelihood zones were lower than the long term average as shown in Table 6 below. Milk prices have also been reported to increase by an average of 40 percent across the livelihood zones.

Table 7: Milk Production and Consumption

| Livelihood zone | Milk Production (Litres)/HH/Day | | Milk Consumption (Litres)/HH/Day | | Prices (KShs./Litres) | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|
| | Current | LTA | Current | LTA | Current | LTA |
| Agro pastoral | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 70 | 60 |
| Pastoral all species | 1 | 3 | 0.6 | 2 | 80 | 60 |
| Pastoral cattle | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 80 | 60 |
| Pastoral camel | 3 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 80 | 60 |

Migration, Livestock Diseases and Mortalities

Current migration of livestock is across the livelihood zones and into neighboring Counties of Isiolo and Marsabit. In Isiolo County, livestock from pastoral cattle and pastoral all species livelihood zones have migrated to Sericho, Hawayu and Sabarwawa. In Marsabit, livestock from the agro-pastoral and pastoral all species have moved to Busuke, Mudhuma and Sololo. There have also been migrations from areas around Eldas and Wajir West to Wajir South. Pastoralists from pastoral cattle and pastoral camel have also moved into the neighboring Republic of Somalia.

The traditional grazing areas around Kalalut and Griftu have been depleted. Strategic borehole at Arbajahan has lesser number of livestock compared to normal at this time of the year. However, more activity on water at this point is on water trucking.

Suspected cases of livestock diseases such as PPR, CBPP, CCPP and sheep and goat pox were reported in all livelihood zones. There were vaccinations recently targeting livestock against RVF in areas prone to this disease targeting 600,000 livestock. However, no deaths due to drought have been reported.

Livestock Water Access

Main sources of water for livestock are shallow wells and boreholes as shown in Table 8 below. During the previous rainy season, most water pans in the all the livelihood zones impounded some water due to flash floods experienced in these areas. Most of these water pans have been in use as source of water for both livestock and domestic and have since dried up. Return trekking distances between water sources have significantly increased across the livelihood zones.

Table 8: Water availability and access

| Livelihood zone | Sources | | Return average distances (km) | | Expected duration to last (months) | | Factors limiting access |
|-----------------|----------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--------|------------------------------------|--------|--|
| | Current | Normal | Current | Normal | Current | Normal | |
| Agro pastoral | Shallow wells Boreholes | Water pans Boreholes Shallow wells | 12-18 | 5 | Overstretching | 4 | Fear of conflicts Borehole breakdowns |
| Pastoral camel | Boreholes | Water pans Boreholes | 16-30 | 8 | Overstretching | 3 | Trekking distances |

| Livelihood zone | Sources | | Return average distances (km) | | Expected duration to last (months) | | Factors limiting access |
|----------------------|--|--|-------------------------------|--------|------------------------------------|--------|---|
| | Current | Normal | Current | Normal | Current | Normal | |
| | Shallow wells | | | | | | Borehole breakdowns |
| Pastoral all species | Shallow wells Boreholes | Water pans Boreholes Shallow wells | 16-30 | 6-9 | <1 for the water pans | 3 | Livestock diseases eg PPR, S&G pox Borehole breakdowns |
| Pastoral cattle | Boreholes Water pans Shallow wells | Water pans Boreholes Shallow wells | 12-24 | 6-8 | <1 for the water pans | 3 | Trekking distances |

Watering Frequency

Watering intervals have increased compared to the normal across the livelihood zones from 1-2 days for cattle, sheep and goats to 2-4 days as shown in Table 9. The watering intervals for camels increased to 10-14 days from 5-7 days normally in the agro pastoral and pastoral camel livelihood zones. In the pastoral all species livelihood zone the intervals increased to 7-10 days and in the pastoral cattle zone to 8-16 days for camels. The increase in watering frequency for all livestock species has been occasioned by the increasing trekking distances between forage and water points.

Table 9: Watering frequency in days

| Livelihood zone | Cattle | | Camels | | Goats | | Sheep | |
|----------------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| | Current | Normal | Current | Normal | Current | Normal | Current | Normal |
| Agro pastoral | 2-3 | 1-2 | 10-14 | 5-7 | 2-4 | 1-2 | 2-4 | 1-2 |
| Pastoral camel | 2-3 | 1-2 | 10-14 | 5-7 | 2-4 | 1-2 | 2-4 | 1-2 |
| Pastoral all species | 2-3 | 1-2 | 7-10 | 5-7 | 2-4 | 1-2 | 2-4 | 1-2 |
| Pastoral cattle | 2-3 | 1-2 | 8-16 | 5-7 | 3-4 | 1-2 | 3-4 | 1-2 |

3.1.4 Impact on Food Availability

There is reduced food availability across the livelihood zones owing to the crop failure and reduced milk production. Reduced milk production has also led to increase in prices and low consumption at the household level thus impacting negatively on the nutritional status of children. The increasingly depletion of forage resources and increasing return trekking distances has led to migrations and deteriorating body condition resulting in poor livestock market prices. This has as well led to lower purchasing power of the households that depend on livestock and limiting food access and consumption.

3.2 Access

3.2.1 Markets and trade

Major markets across the livelihood zones are Wajir, Bute, Griftu, Buna, Eldas, Tarbaj, Dagahley and Habaswein, All the markets are functioning with livestock and food commodities being traded. The county rely on imported food and non-food Commodities from other markets which include Moyale, Isiolo, Meru, Garissa, Thika and Nairobi. The main staple food commodities are rice, pasta and wheat flour, whereas the livestock species traded are

cattle, camel, goat and sheep. Key items purchased by most Pastoral households in the entire livelihood zones are cooking oil, beans, milk, sugar, and maize. The current market conditions will likely remain stable in the next three months and thereafter will be disrupted due to due to poor infrastructure during OND rains.

Maize prices

In July the current price of maize recorded kshs 56.8 as compared to a long term average of kshs 51 indicating 11 percent above the long term average and also 18 percent above the previous month price. prices of Maize have been steadily rising from January to April and since then has stabilized from June to July 2019. The current stable prices are due to fair demand and supply From our

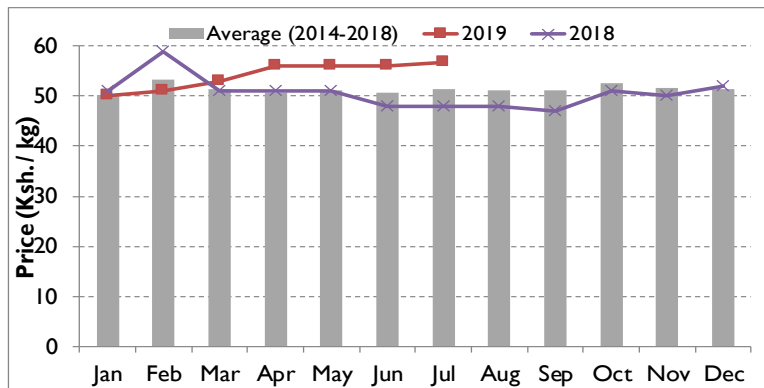


Figure 3: Maize prices

side the county. The livelihood with the highest prices were recorded in the Pastoral Cattle, Pastoral all species and lowest reported in th Formal/Informal settlement. The prices are expected to be stable due to relief food distribution by the County and National government and supply inflows from outside source Markets.

Goat prices

Current Averages prices of a goat in the month of July 2019 slightly decreased from kshs 3,180 in June to 3,131 in the month under review with no significant change. The prices of July is below the long term average by was below the long term average by 22 percent as compared to kshs. 3,726 normally. The average prices of goat have been gradually declining from April to July 2019, due to Poor livestock market attributed to low demand and

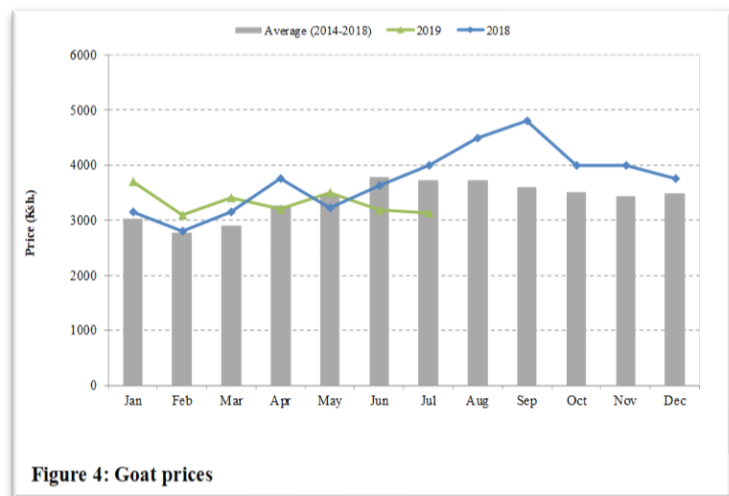


Figure 4: Goat prices

high supply of livestock. The highest prices of livestock were reported in the urban areas and lowest were recorded at the rural areas. The average prices are expected to worsen as the livestock body condition deteriorates and dry spell continues.

3.2.2 Terms of Trade (ToT)

The Terms of Trade was unfavorable compared to long term average. In July 2019, 55 kilograms of maize can be exchanged from the sale of a goat compared to the long term average of 72 Kilograms, the terms of trade was less 24 percent when compared to the long term average. The ToT for period of March to July 2019 has been fairly stable throughout the season. The

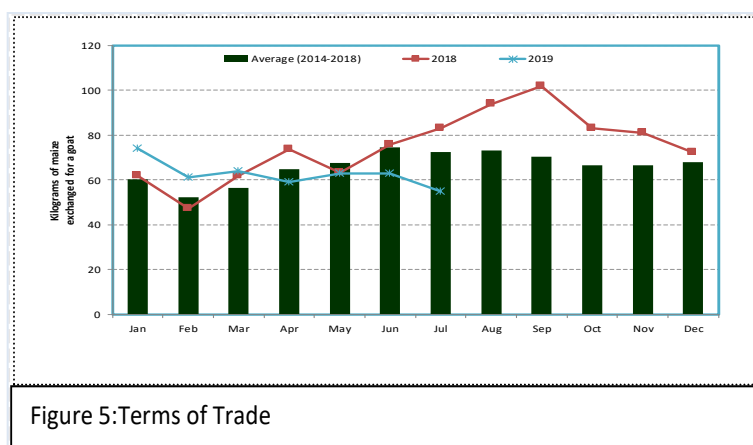


Figure 5: Terms of Trade

trend is expected to deteriorate as the prices of goat decreases and prices of maize are expected to remain constant.

3.2.3 Income Sources

Major source of income across livelihood zones are livestock production contributing 60 – 70 percent, whereas crop production contributes 30 percent in the agro-pastoral zone and 15 percent in the pastoral all species and pastoral camel livelihood zone. Other income sources are small scale businesses, formal and informal employment. Disposable income at household level has negatively been affected by the current poor state of market where pastoralists are not able to sell their livestock to enable them buy food items. In the agro pastoral livelihood where crop production is a major activity, the reported crop failure has reduced household purchasing power. Other sources of income noted at the time of the assessment include: casual waged labor, sale of charcoal, petty trade, remittances and the sale of firewood.

Water Access and Availability

Major water sources across the livelihood zones are boreholes, hallow well, and few dams in Agro-pastoral areas. Majority of the pastoral households in the rural and urban settlement in the county depend on boreholes and shallow wells, while few others rely on dams. There are about 300 boreholes, 350 medium sized and small seasonal water pans and over 25,000 shallow wells which are operational in the County. However, as result of insufficient rains experienced during the season, there was low recharge in water pan, shallow wells and dams in the entire county. Currently about 263 boreholes are operational in the County whereas fifteen boreholes are non-operational. Most of the water pans have dried up, while those holding water are expected to dry up within the next one week due to over concentration of both human and livestock, evaporation and seepage. The normal source of water in the county used by both human and livestock at this time of year is water pan, shallow wells and some boreholes. However, due to below normal rains during, households have resorted to utilization of strategic water sources that would have normally been used late in the season. Areas with high concentration was experienced in Pastoral all species in WajirWest (Adhamasija, Athibohole, LolkutaNorth, GarseQoftu, Griftu) Eldas (Lakole, Basir , Masalale, Kikiley, Eldas, Abdiwako), PastoralSouth (Abakore, Biyamathow, Karu, Abore, Qurah, Mechesa, andaki South, Salalma, Habaswein) and Agro-pastoral livelihood zones (Qudama, Korondile). The few water pans that are holding water are expected to last for a duration of one week across the livelihood zones.

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

Current average return distance to water point across the livelihood zones is about 3-10 km as compared to normal of 2-5 km. However, the distance varies according to livelihood zones. The livelihood zones with the highest distance was reported in Pastoral all species, Pastoral Cattle and Parts of Agro-pastoral areas of Tarbaj and Wajir North. This variation was due to poor recharge of water pans attributed to below normal rainfall. Current waiting time at the water sources depend on the concentration of livestock and borehole yield. Average waiting time across the all livelihood zones are between 2-4 hours.

Average water Consumption per person per day varies according to livelihood zones. Whereas agro-pastoral areas and Pastoral Camel are within Normal ranges between 15-20 litres. Other Pastoral livelihood zones in Wajir South, Wajir West, Part of Tarbaj and Wajir North are about 10-15 litres per person per day. There are no cost incurred in accessing government water bowsers but where water is sold, average cost of water per 20litre *Jerican* kshs. 2-15 as compared to normal of Kshs. 5-10. This mainly varies according to livelihood zones, where Wajir town cost remain normal at Ksh 25 per 20 litres *jerican* owing to its urban nature.

3.2.5 Food Consumption

Food Consumption Score (FCS)

According to July data 2019, In food consumption, most of the pastoral, pastoral all species, agro-pastoral livelihood zones and urban employment had a poor food consumption of 57.9 percent, 30.5 percent, 1.9 percent respectively, while in all the livelihood zones had a borderline of 7.0 percent, 69.5 percent, 48.9 percent and 15.6 percent for Pastoral, Pastoral all, Agro-pastoral and urban employment and Acceptable also had 35.1 percent, 50.1 percent and 84.4 percent for Pastoral, Agro-pastoral livelihood zones and urban employment. This indicates that most of the pastoral households in All livelihood zones are between poor and borderline with a percent of 25.7 and 37.6 respectively.

Reduced coping strategy of non/minimal had 48.1 percent in agro-pastoral, 40.6 percent of urban employment, 5.1 percent of pastoral all species and 1.2 percent of Pastoral Cattle. While others fall in stressed and crisis with 83.1 percent, 98.8 percent pastoral cattle, 51.9 percent in agro-pastoral and 59.4 percent urban employment respectively. this shows that majority of the households are employing stressed coping strategy with a total mean of 77.9 percent. Household dietary diversity based on 24-hour recall reported that only 29 percent of the population consumed more than 5 food groups (Phase1), 18.8 percent consumed less than 3 food groups, while 52.2 percent of the households consume 3-5 food groups (phase3) and other households consumed less than 3 food group (18.8).

3.3 Utilization

3.3.1 Morbidity and Mortality Pattern

The top three under-five morbidity are upper respiratory tract infections, diarrhea and pneumonia which are comparable to last season. There was reported outbreak of Kala azar (Wajir West Wajir South and Eldas sub-counties), measles (Wajir East Wajir West and North) and Cholera outbreak (Wajir East and wajir west) and still active. Cholera outbreak was reported in Wajir East and Wajir West sub-counties on 18th May to 25th July 2019 respectively, total line listed so far is 211 with five deaths (CFR, 3.0percent). Kalaazar was reported in 4 sub-counties (W/West, Eldas, W/South, W/East), total of 380 cases have been line listed with

7 unfortunate deaths. The active cases of kalaazar are attributed to prolonged drought which favour the vector.

3.3.2 Immunization and Vitamin A supplementation

Proportion of children under one year who are fully immunized was 64.5 percent an improvement from 58.6 percent reported last year, but still below the national target of 80 percent. Vitamin A supplementation as per DHIS for children aged 6 – 11 months and 12 – 59 months was 115.5 percent and 50.6 percent respectively for semester one of 2019. In the first semester of 2018 coverage was 97.6 percent and 55.6 percent for 6 – 11 months and 12 – 59 months respectively. Nutrition survey coverage for vitamin A for 6 - 11 months has significantly dropped from 84 percent to 71.4 percent and 69 percent to 63.6 percent for agro pastoral and pastoral respectively in the period under review compared to the same period last year across the livelihood. County coverage for children aged 12- 59 months was 32percent and 34.4percent for 2018 and 2019 respectively. Vitamin A supplementation integrated with measles campaign reached a total of 98,646 (104.1percent).

3.3.3 Nutritional Status and Dietary Diversity

Household Dietary diversity based on 24 hour recall reported that only 29 percent of the population consumed more than 5 food groups.

The nutrition situation was observed to be **critical** (16.4 percent) as per the survey carried out in June 2019 2019. Severe acute Malnutrition and Moderate

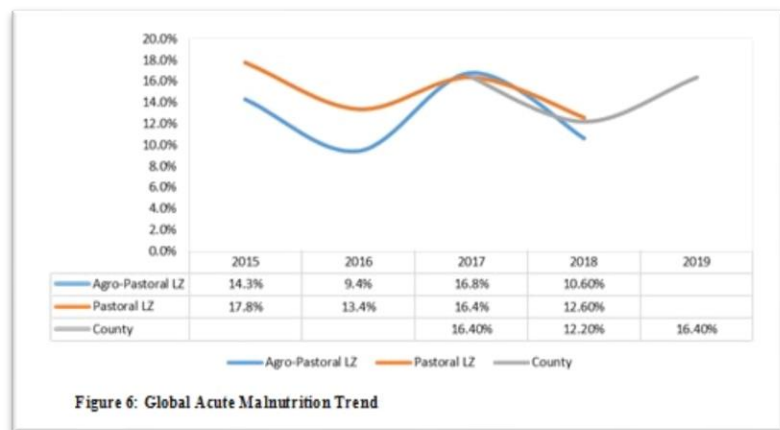


Figure 6: Global Acute Malnutrition Trend

acute malnutrition was 2.7 percent and 13.7 percent respectively. Girls were observed to be the most affected with a GAM of 19.1 percent with boys at 14.1 percent. Compared to 2018 as shown in figure 7 below GAM in 2019 increased. Children at risk of malnutrition by MUAC (<135mm) were equal to the long term average for the month of July 2019 (NDMA bulletin). Mass screening integrated with measles campaign in carried in March 2019, reported that 25.2percent of children aged 6 – 59 months were at risk of malnutrition by MUAC with 0.4 percent and 3.4percent being severe and moderate respectively. Admissions to outpatient therapeutic and supplementary feeding programme increased in the month of March 2019 following mass screening, the deteriorating nutrition situation is attributed to high morbidity, outbreak of diseases such as cholera, measles and kala azar (Visceral leishmaniasis) and decline in Milk production and consumption in all.

3.3.4 Sanitation and Hygiene

Current source of drinking water for households are boreholes and unprotected shallow wells at 29 percent and 24.6 percent respectively, with approximately 19 percent getting water from earth pans. In Wajir North sub-county majority (58 percent) draw their water from earth pans (Nutrition survey, 2019). Trekking distance is 3 – 10 Km which is above the normal term average with variation in the livelihood zones. Majority of the households store water in open

containers with only 23 percent treating their water before drinking. Chemicals (Pur and water guard) is widely used for water treatment at approximately 60 percent followed by boiling at 21 percent. Hand washing with soap and water is very poor at 20.6 percent, with 60 percent washing hands in all four critical times. Households with no relieving points are at 43percent with pastoral livelihood zones at 44.5 percent. Poor hygiene and sanitation observed could be attributed to outbreak of cholera.

3.4 Trends of key food security indicators

The key food security indicators across the county are maize stocks, livestock body condition, water consumption, distance to grazing, ToT, milk consumption and CSI. The key food security indicators for previous and current seasonal level (Table 10).

Table 10: Food security trends in Wajir County

| Indicator | Long rains assessment July 2019 | Short rains assessment, Feb 2019 |
|---|---|---|
| Percent of maize stocks held by households (Agro-pastoral). | Nil | Nil |
| Livestock body condition | Fair | Fair |
| Water consumption (litres per person per day). | 10-15(Pastoral all species, Pastoral Cattle, parts of Agro-pastoral). 15-20(Agro-pastoral and Camel) | 15-30 |
| Price of maize (per kg) | Ksh. 56 | 50 |
| Distance to grazing | 12-30km | 5-20km |
| Terms of trade (pastoral zone) | 63Kg | 74 |
| Reduced Coping strategy index (rCSI) | NDMA July data 2019 Non-19.0 Stressed-77.9 Crisis-3.1 | Rcsi Pastoral:28.6% Agro-pastoral: 2.7% |
| Livelihood change | No coping-65.9 Stressed-10.2 Crisis-12.8 Emergency-11.1 | Nil |
| Food Consumption Score (FCS) | Ndma data for July 2019 FCS Poor-25.7 Boaderline-37.6 Acceptable-36.6 Smart survey June 2019: Poor:3.1% Boarderline:14.5% Acceptable%82.5 | Smart Survey August 2018 Pastoral-28.6% Agro-pastoral: 2.7% Borderline 1% Acceptable 97% |

4.0 CROSS – CUTTING ISSUES

4.1 Education

Enrolment

The enrolment rate for secondary schools has tremendously increased by 100 percent due to transition rate as compared to term one of 2019, while ECD and Primary registered slight decrease in enrollment which was attributed to preference of Duksi and Madarasa by the parent.

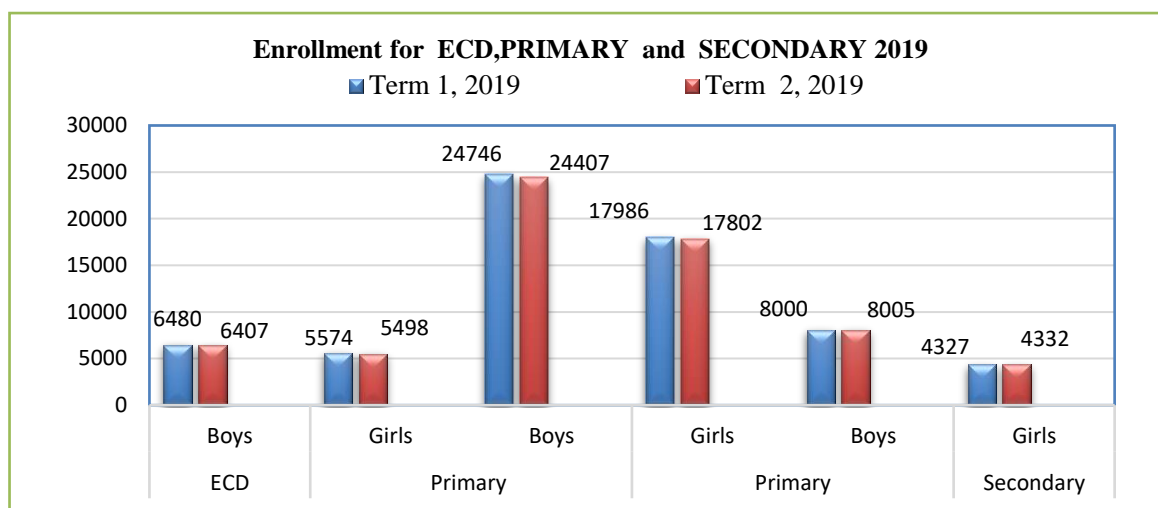


Figure 7: Enrollment for ECD and Primary and Secondary

3.5.1 Participation

The average attendance rate for primary school is 98 and 99 percent for boys and girls respectively, which is higher compared to 97 and 95 percent for boys and girls respectively in term 1 of 2019.

Retention

The drop-out rate for both boys and girls was insignificant at 0.1 percent for primary, while ECD had the highest dropout rate (1.3percent), which could be attributed to the preference of Duksi by parents. The government through the ministry of education and the ministry of interior is enforcing 100 percent transition for both ECD to primary and primary to secondary school. This enforcement is supported by the free primary and free secondary education programmes which has greatly lessened the burden of education on parents by removing tuition fee, which was major barriers to education.

School meals programme

The school meals programme has contributed greatly to improved enrolment, retention and increases transition rate. There are 58,665 children from the 254 primary schools in Wajir who are benefiting from the regular school meals programme (RSMP). Nonetheless 11 newly established primary schools with a population of 1,705 pupils have not been included in the regular school feeding programme. The government has gradually taken over the responsibility of providing meals to schools since 2009, hence the transition has demonstrated a strong national commitment to continuing and expanding the school feeding programme and shifting from a donor finance programme to a government- led programme. Wajir County department of education has procured 221 MT of food (168MT of rice; 45MT of beans; 6MT of vegetable oil and 2MT of salt) for ECDE feeding using part of the KSH 35 million allocation for ECDE centers with a total enrolment of 18,078 pupils (9,857 boys and 8,221 girls) and has so far employed 553 ECDE teachers. Provision of ECDE meals will not only boost learners' enrolment and retention, but also go a long way in cushioning vulnerable households during July – September dry spell. There is need to fast track development of County ECDE meals policy to strengthen systems for sustaining funding and quality of ECDE programme.

5.0 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

5.1 Assumptions

- Above normal or below normal rainfall are likely to in October, November and December.
- Regeneration of pasture and browse are likely to be realized during short rains
- Recharge of water pans, shallow wells are expected during the short rains
- Prices of livestock are expected to be poor in the month of September and mid Octobers and there after improve during OND 2019.
- Prices of food commodities are likely to remain stable in the month of September and mid Octobers thereafter increase due to above onormal rains which will cutoff roads.
- Further Increase of livestock trekking distance in the month of september and mid Octobers and thereafter reduce due to the short rains.

5.2 Food Security Outcomes from August to October 2019

Range land conditions are expected to drive further deterioration in livestock health and productivity due to depletion of resources, thus elevating likelihood of resources base conflict and the susceptibility of livestock to disease, depletion of pasture and browse are likely to increase further due to poor rainfall received during, Increased resource-based conflict is also likely as livestock herders clash over rangeland resource, Distance from grazing area to water sources are expected to deteriorate further as the dry spell progresses, an Upsurge of livestock diseases are likely to occur during the season due to migration of livestock within and outside the county. Intense migration of livestock within and across the county is likely to rise further as the condition of rangelands deteriorate, Poor households purchasing power and food access are anticipated to considerably decrease due to below average income from livestock production and rising stable food prices, Poor households are expected to intensify dependence on non-livestock related income sources, such as charcoal and firewood sales and remittances from relatives, but expandability of these sources is limited. As a result, many households will face increased difficulty purchasing their minimum food needs without engaging in crisis-coping strategies and livelihood asset depletion. The Condition of drought in this period are expected to increase prevalence of crisis outcome until the short rains season in October 2019.

5.2 Food Security Outcomes from November 2019 to January 2020

Above normal rainfall are likely to be received in the short rains (OND 2019). (OND 2019), Forage condition are expected to be good thus improving livestock body condition. Milk production will likely remain below average due to slow recovery and likely fewer births. Regeneration of forage and water resources are expected to gradually lead to food security improvements due to the onset of the short rains in October. Many poor households are expected to be able to meet their minimum food needs and the prevalence of acute malnutrition is anticipated to gradually decline as a result of increased milk availability and income and improved terms of trade. Livestock body conditions and productivity are expected return to normal from late October to January, as livestock return to wet season grazing areas near homesteads, household income will increase as livestock prices and goat and camel milk production return to normal level. Terms of trade will be favorable as the prices of goat will be good and maize prices will be stable in all livelihood zones thus increase the purchasing power of pastoral households.

6.0 CONCLUSION AND INTERVENTIONS

6.1 Conclusion

6.1.1 Phase classification

- Food security situation in the county indicated crisis owing to depressed rainfall attributed to poor regeneration of pasture and browse, low recharge of water pans, increased trekking distance, low milk production thus affecting nutrition status of children under-fives. Intense migration in search of pasture and browse thus causing conflict, low market prices, decline in milk production, unfavorable terms of trade, upsurge of both livestock and human disease. The county food security situation is expected to worsen further as the dry spell continues and what need to be monitored is resource base conflict, migration, livestock disease, malnutrition status and market prices

6.1.2 Summary of the Findings

- The overall food security situation in the county remains critical owing to poor performance of the 2019 long rains which cause poor regeneration of pasture and browse, low recharge of water pans, increased trekking distance, low milk production thus affecting nutrition status of children under-fives. Low market prices,unfavourable terms of trade,high malnutrition rate,high morbidity outbreak of disease,poor livestock body condition,Depletion of pasture and browse and mass migration of livestock.

6.1.3 Sub County Ranking

Ranking of sub-county in order of food insecurity severity

Table 11: sub-county ranking in terms of food insecurity

| Sub County | Pop in need (percent range min – max) | Proposed mode of intervention | Main Food Security Threats |
|-------------|--|-------------------------------|--|
| Wajir West | 25-30 | HSNP/FFA | Water scarcity, total crop failures, poor pasture and browse, migration, reduced livestock production and productivity, livestock diseases and predation |
| Eldas | 20-25 | HSNP/FFA | Water scarcity, massive migration, poor pastures, overgrazing, poor livestock prices and predation |
| Wajir South | 15-20 | HSNP/FFA | Water scarcity, depleting forage resources, migration, livestock diseases and predation |
| Wajir North | 15-20 | HSNP/FFA | Poor pasture, water scarcity, outmigration, lack of milk, depleting vegetation conditions and predation |
| Tarbaj | 10-15 | HSNP/FFA | Water scarcity, depleting pasture, poor livestock prices, low production of milk. |

| | | | |
|------------|-------|----------|---|
| Wajir East | 10-15 | HSNP/FFA | Water sources diminishing, fair to poor pasture, livestock diseases, migration, reduced livestock production (milk) and predation |
|------------|-------|----------|---|

6.2 Ongoing Interventions

6.2.1 Food Interventions

The Major food assistance interventions ongoing are sustainable food system program targeting 4667 households spread against 35 sites by WFP that targets 28,000 beneficiaries and cash transfers by the Hunger Safety Net Programme by the National Drought Management Authority.

6.2.2 Non Food Interventions

Table 12: Food Interventions

| Intervention | Objective | Specific Location | Activity target | Cost | No. of beneficiaries | Implementation Time Frame | Implementation stakeholders |
|---|--|---|---|-------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Food distribution | Cushion the vulnerable communities against hunger | All sub counties | | | 5700HHs | Continuous | WCG |
| Cash transfer (HSNP) | Cushion the vulnerable communities against hunger | Entire county | | 39 M | 14,707 HHs | continuous | NDMA, WB |
| Sustainable Food System(SFSP) | Building the resilience of food insecure households | County Wide | Improved food system for better nutrition | | 28,000(4667 HH) | 2023 | WFP,WCG and small holder farmers |
| Peace and Security | | | | | | | |
| Activation and sensitization of conflict mitigation teams | Preparedness for community peace dialogues Assessing and mapping conflict | Hawaya , Sericho, and Gafars Khorof Harar | Pastoralists and Host community | 2.6 M | 200,000 persons | July - August | CGW,NDMA, Ministry of interior, |
| Water | | | | | | | |
| Water trucking | Supply for domestic, institutional and | County wide | | 150 M | 250,000 people 2.5m livestock | July – September 2019 | WCG, Mercy corps |

| Intervention | Objective | Specific Location | Activity target | Cost | No. of beneficiaries | Implementation Time Frame | Implementation stakeholders |
|---|--|----------------------------|---|------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | livestock use | | | | | | |
| Maintenance of borehole water supplies | Improve water provision for domestic and livestock | County wide | | 8M | 680,000 persons 5.5 million livestock | July - November 2019 | CWG, NDMA |
| Livestock | | | | | | | |
| Vaccination of livestock against CPP, PPR | Improve animal health | County Wide | 70,000 on CPP and 500,000 PPR | | 570,000 Livestock | July - August 2019 | RPLRP |
| Health | | | | | | | |
| Integrated health and nutrition outreach services | Improve access to health services | Wajir South and Wajir East | Communities with no access to health facilities | 2 M | 50,000 | October 2019 | CGW, KRCS |

6.3 Recommended Interventions

6.3.1 Food Interventions

Table 13: Recommended food interventions

| Intervention | Objective | Specific Location | Activity target | Cost | No. of beneficiaries | Implementation Time Frame | Implementation stakeholders |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|---------------------------------|------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Food distribution | Cushion the vulnerable communities against hunger | All sub counties | | | 5700HHs | Continuous | WCG |
| Cash transfer (HSNP) | Cushion the vulnerable communities against hunger | Entire county | | 39 M | 14,707 HHs | continuous | NDMA, WB |
| Sustainable Food System(SFSP) | Building the resilience of food insecure households | County Wide | Improved food system for better | | 28,000(46 67 HH) | 2023 | WFP,WCG and small holder farmers |

6.3.2 Non Food Interventions

Table 14: Recommended non food interventions

| Intervention | Objective | Specific Location | Activity target | Cost | No. of beneficiaries | Implementation Time Frame | Implementation stakeholders |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------|-------|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Livestock | | | | | | | |
| Provision of hay | Save lives and livelihoods | All sub counties | | 25 M | 3000H Hs | August-October 2019 | WCG |
| Provision of Drought Pellets | Save lives and livelihoods | County Wide | | 20 m | 8400H H | August 2019 | NDMA |
| Conduct inter Community Dialogue meeting | | Marsabit,Isiolo,Wajir | | 2.6 m | 300HH | July-September 2019 | NDMA |
| Provision of Supplementary feeds | To enhance and improve productivity | County Wide | | 60 M | 10,000 0 | August-October 2019 | WCG,NDMA,RPRLP |
| Livestock disease surveillance | Save lives and livelihoods | County Wide | | 2 M | 1,000,000 Livestock | August-November 2019 | WCG,NDMA,RPRLP |
| Commercial Off take | To cushion livestock losses | Wajir West, Eldas and Part of Wajir South | | 72 m | 2000H H | September-October2019 | Government, NDMA,RPRLP |
| Water Sector | | | | | | | |
| Fuel subsidy for boreholes | To support vulnerable households | Wajir West, Eldas and Part of Wajir South | | 5 M | 20,000 HH | September/October | WCG,NDMA,RPRLP,KRC |
| Water Trucking of 115 centres | Provide water to affected zones | County Wide | | 10 M | 20,000 HH | August-October 2019 | WCG |
| Provision of fast moving | Improve lives and | County Wide | | 10 M | 20,000 HH | August-October 2019 | WCG,NDMA,KRC |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|--|--------------|--|------------------|------|
| spare parts to 30 strategic boreholes | livelihods | | | | | | |
| Provision of 8400 of drought pellets | Improve lives and livelihsods | County Wide | | 20 m | | August 2019 | NDMA |
| Provision of Submersible pumps | Improve lives and livelihsods | County Wide | | 3 M | | August-Sept 2019 | NDMA |
| | | | | | | | |
| TOTALS | | | | 184 M | | | |