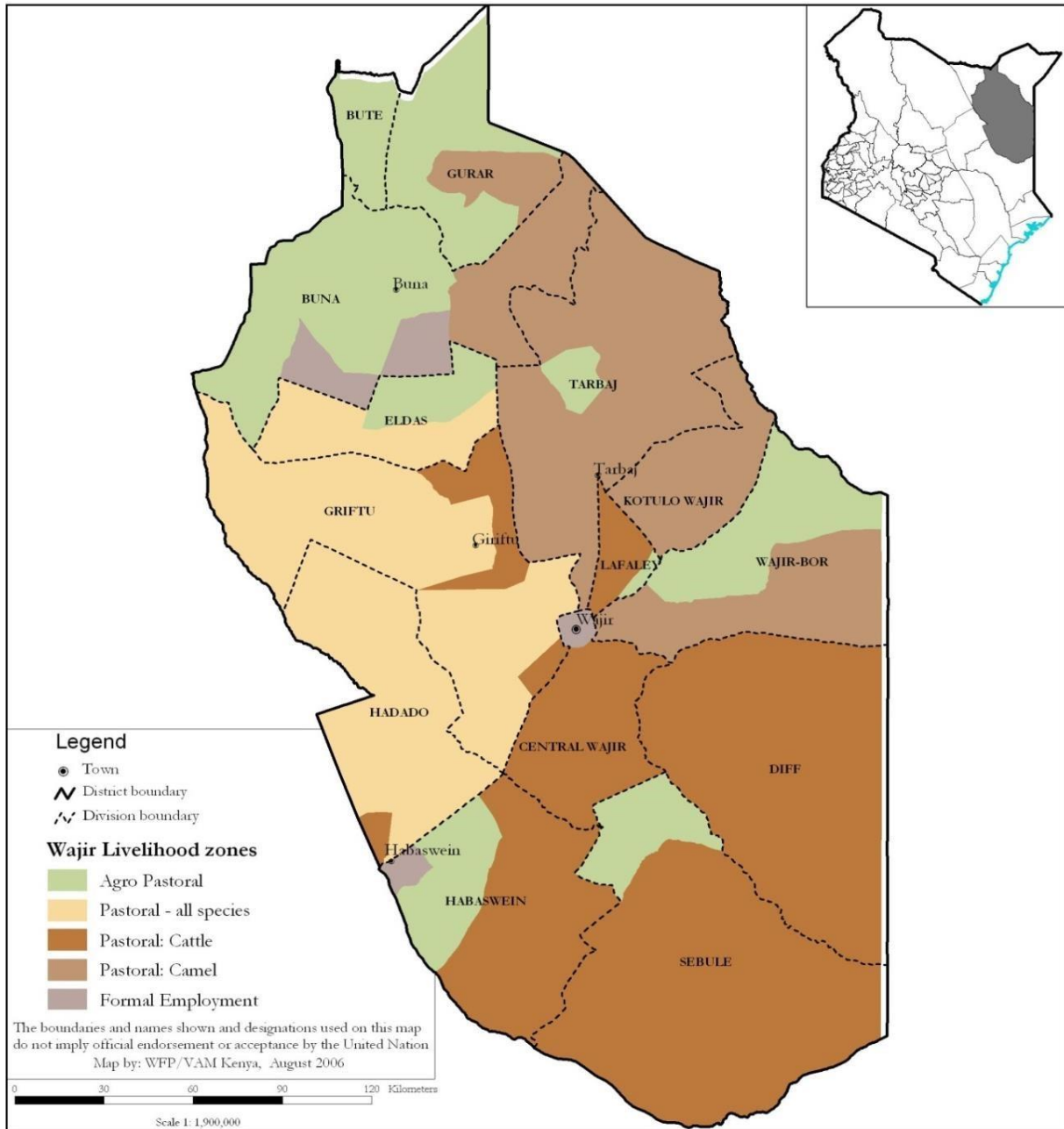


WAJIR COUNTY 2017 SHORT RAINS FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT REPORT



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

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Executive Summary

The onset of the short rains in Wajir County was in the second dekad of October while cessation was in the third dekad of November. However, the peak of the rainy season was in the second dekad of November. The county received negligible amount of rainfall in the month of December. This rainfall was poorly distributed both in space and time. Some areas in the pastoral livelihood zones hardly received the rains during this period. Persistence conflicts between the clans in the agro-pastoral and pastoral livelihood zones border have impaired access to markets, pasture and browse, water and critical facilities like schools and health centres/dispensaries. This is between Buna and Eldas sub counties with Malkagufu and Korondile wards and Likole/Basir Ward respectively.

Due to the poorly distributed rainfall witnessed, there is no cereal crop yield expected from the rain-fed production. The cereal stocks currently held by various actors are below the long term averages (LTA) compared to normal times. Pasture and browse regeneration was fair to good but has been on a deteriorating trend thus reduction in milk production coupled with poor livestock body condition. The livestock body condition of the grazers was poorer in parts of pastoral livelihood zone than in the agro-pastoral and pastoral camel livelihood zone and resulting to low prices and purchasing power/terms of trade of the pastoral households. However, in the agro-pastoral and upper parts of the pastoral all species livelihood zone, regeneration was good resulting into good pastures and better livestock body condition thus higher prices of livestock.

The top five diseases affecting children under-five years of age between July and December 2017 were diarrhea, upper respiratory tract infections (URTI), other diseases of the respiratory system, ear infection and skin disease. Compared to the same period last year, morbidity was stable. There were reported outbreaks of Kalaazar and cholera during the period though Cholera has been contained. Both July 2017 and February 2018 SMART surveys show a critical GAM levels an indication of non-improving nutrition situation in the county.

The average price of a kilogram of maize was Ksh. 50 per kilogram which was slightly lower than the LTA. These have been on a declining trend from October 2017 but have since started increasing in the month of January 2018 due to fluctuations in supply of the commodity. Maize was not a staple commodity consumed at the household level, thus having slight impact on household food security. The main staple foods utilized in the county are rice, pasta/spaghetti, wheat flour, meat and milk whose prices have gone high. The average cost of water per 20 liters jerrycan was Ksh. 5-10 which is normal at this time of the year. The current waiting time in most water source and quantity per person per day show insignificant variations which was normal at this period of the year. The county food security condition is currently classified as “Stressed” (Phase 2) but some parts are classified as “Crisis” (Phase 3). Pockets of pastoral livelihood zones are in crisis phase with majority of the households here having minimal adequate food consumption and are unable to afford some essential food commodities. They are the most affected areas of the county and have experienced massive outward livestock migration in the last four seasons.

1.0 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 Projections). 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 (Figure 1).

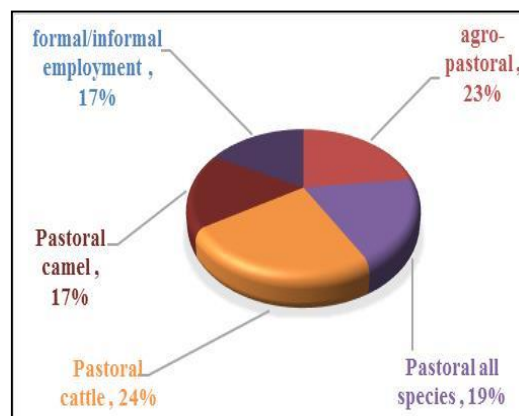


Figure 1: Livelihood zones

1.2 Objectives 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) 2017 short rains season taking into account the cumulative effects of the previous seasons, and to provide recommendations for possible response options, based on the situation analysis. 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 (included livelihood zone baseline data, drought monitoring information, monthly nutrition surveillance data, price data and satellite imagery) and more information was collected by the CSG members 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 drive and analysis of field data, the CSG was debriefed to verify the report from the field. 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. The integrated food security phase classification (IPC Version 2.0) was employed in classifying severity levels of food insecurity in different livelihood zones.

2.0 DRIVERS OF FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY IN THE COUNTY

2.1 Rainfall Performance

The onset of the short rain season was in the second dekad of October which was normal. The distribution in both space and time was fair with most parts of Wajir North and Wajir East recorded between 90 to 200 percent while parts of Eldas and Tarbaj sub counties recording rainfall amounting 110 to 125 percent of normal. Other parts of the county received between 50 to 90 percent of normal especially pastoral cattle in Wajir South and pastoral all species in Wajir West (Figure 2). The highest rainfall amounts were recorded in Wajir Airport, Wajir Town, Hadado, Wajirbor and Gurar at 163mm, 123.6mm, 125.5mm, 120.6mm and 110mm respectively. The lowest amounts were recorded in pastoral cattle livelihood zone of Wajir South with Habaswein at 5mm. The peak of the season was in the second dekad with the cessation across the county being early in the third dekad of November.

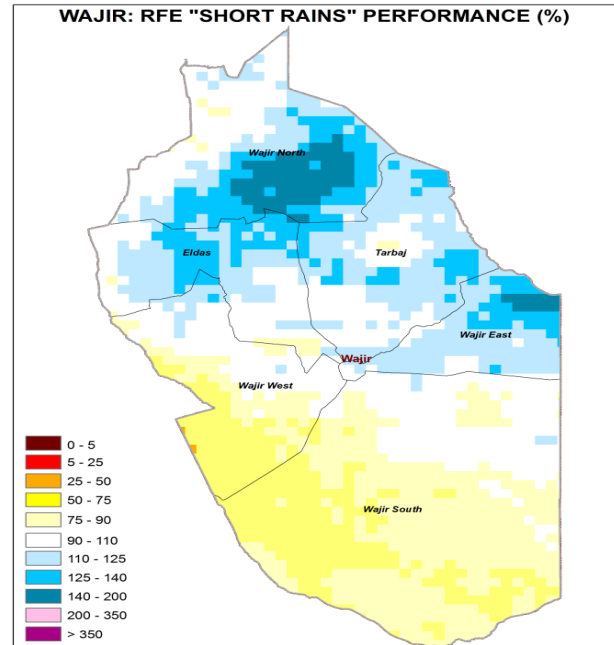


Figure 2: Rainfall performance

2.2 Insecurity/Conflict

There were reported cases of insecurity in parts of pastoral all species and agro pastoral livelihood zones in Wajir North mainly Lakolle South, Masalale, Orote Dam, Malkagufu, Fullo, Ingirir, and Basir. The conflict has been as a result of administrative boundary. This affected accessibility to the main Wajir market and livestock migratory routes. There were no movement of goods between main Wajir market and markets in Wajir North sub-county as public transport services have been paralyzed. There are reported cases of conflicts in Bojigaras in Wajir East sub-county between two warring sub-clans.

2.3 Other shocks and hazards

The county has experience consecutive failure of earlier rain seasons in pastoral cattle, pastoral all species and pastoral camel livelihood zones attributing to poor pasture and browse regeneration thus low livestock production. Crop failure under rain-fed agriculture was realized due to inadequate and early cessation of the rains. Migration of livestock to neighboring counties and across the sub counties were witnessed during the season. Wildlife menace was experienced across the county with livestock being preyed on by hyenas and lions while farms destroyed by giraffes, warthogs and squirrels. Suspected livestock diseases have also been reported especially sheep and goat pox, CCPP, PPR and CBPP. These have been aggravated by the concentration of livestock at the some watering points.

3.0 IMPACT OF DRIVERS ON FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

3.1 Availability

Following the failures of prior rains witnessed during the season, there have been total crop failures, especially cereals, and poor regeneration of pastures and browse thus low livestock production. Milk availability at household level across the livelihood zones were below normal.

3.1.1 Crops Production

Crop production contributes 30 percent and 15 percent income in the agro pastoral and other livelihood zones respectively. It also contributes to food availability at household level. Cereal crops grown across the livelihood zones include maize, sorghum and millet. Other crops grown in the area are cowpeas, beans, green grams, watermelon, onions, tomatoes, kales, spinach and capsicum. Fruit trees are grown in isolated areas of the county in small scale. Such fruit trees include mangoes, pawpaw, citrus and lemon. However, livestock production is the core source of livelihood in the county.

a) Rain-fed Crop Production

The main crops under rain-fed production are maize, sorghum and cowpeas. The acreage of crops established was lower than the LTA for the major crops in the county due to continued crop failure experienced in the previous seasons discouraging majority of farmers (Table 1). Established crops did very well in the initial stages of growth. However, this was short lived due to the early cessation of the rains resulting to premature drying of crops. This reduced food availability and income, thus households resorted to other coping strategies to access food. Currently, there is ongoing watermelon harvesting mainly in Wajir Central periphery (Formal/Informal employment livelihood zone).

Table 1: Rain-fed crop production

Crop	Area planted during 2017 short rains season (Ha)	LRA (5yrs) area planted during the short rains season (Ha)	2017 Short rains season production (90 kg bags) Actual	LTA production during the short rains season (90 kg bags)
1.Maize	222	268	0	591
2.Sorghum	312	379	0	1092
3.Cowpeas	59	65	0	256
4.Water melon	230	250	80MT	180 MT

b) Irrigated Crop Production

The main crops produced under irrigated agriculture are vegetable crops including tomatoes, bulb onions and kales. Irrigation is mainly carried out on small scale by either use of shallow wells or water pans. During the period under review the rains were suppressed and poorly distributed which negatively affected re-charge of the shallow wells and water pans resulting in the reduced acreages under irrigation. The performance of the irrigated crops this season is lower than the short-term average (three years) (Table 2). The county thus relies on import of vegetables from the neighboring counties such as Isiolo, Meru and Garissa which has led to increase in prices of these food commodities.

Table 2: Irrigated Crops

Crop	Area planted during the 2017 short rains season (ha)	STA (3 years) area planted during short rains season (ha)	2017 short rains season production (90 kg bags/MT) Projected/actual	STA (3 years) production short rains season (90 kg bags/MT)
1.Tomatoes	29	36	192	256
2.Onion	8	10	30	90
3.Kales	19	25	150	200

3.1.2 Cereal Stocks

Maize stocks held by various actors are below the LTA caused by the shortage of maize at the source of supply (Table 3). The usual sources of the supply for the county are Moyale, Isiolo, Meru and Garissa. The national cereals and produce board (NCPB) store in the county currently have no stocks of maize.

Table 3: Quantities of Staple Cereals Held (90 Kg Bags)

Commodity		Farmers	Traders	Millers	Food Aid	NCPB	Total
Maize	Current	90	895	15	56	0	1056
	LTA	164	910	80	0	0	1154
Rice	Current	0	1310	0	1648	0	2958
	LTA	0	1890	0	0	0	1890
Sorghum	Current	177	83	0	3619	0	3879
	LTA	385	732	670	0	0	1787
Millet	Current	0	0	0	0	0	0
	LTA	0	0	0	0	0	0

3.1.3 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 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 ranges from fair to poor (Table 4). However, some parts of the agro pastoral, pastoral all species and pastoral cattle livelihood zones particularly Arbajahan, Adanwale, Lakolle, Ingirir, Lensayu, Malkagufu, Dela, Elyunis, Ibrahim Ure and Burder showed good pasture condition as a result of fair rains recorded in those areas during the season. The lower parts of Wajir West (pastoral all species), Tarbaj (pastoral camel) and Wajir South (pastoral cattle) have experienced depletion of pastures and browse. In these areas, even ground litter has been depleted and livestock have migrated to other parts of the county and other counties like Isiolo (Sericho area) and Marsabit (Busuke area).

Table 4: Pasture and browse condition

Livelihood zone	Pasture				Factors Limiting access	Browse				Factors Limiting access
	Condition		How long to last (Months)			Condition		How long to last (Months)		
	Current	Normal	Current	Normal		Current	Normal	Current	Normal	
Agro pastoral	Fair	Good	One month (Feb)	3 months	In migration Conflicts Scarcity of water	Fair	Good	2 months (March)	4 months	In-migration Conflicts Scarcity of water
Pastoral all species	Fair to Poor	Good	Less than a month (Feb)	3 months	Conflicts Scarcity of water In-migration	Fair	Good	1 month (Feb)	4 months	Conflicts Scarcity of water
Pastoral cattle	Poor	Good	Less than a month (Feb)	3 months	Resource-based conflicts Scarcity of water Insecurity along the Somalia border	Fair to Poor	Good	Less than one month (Feb)	4 months	Resource-based conflicts Scarcity of water Insecurity along the border
Pastoral camel	Fair	Good	Two months (March)	3 months	In-migration Fear of terrorism	Fair	Good	2 months (Months)	5 months	In-migration Fear of terrorism

Livestock Productivity

Livestock Body Condition

The body condition of livestock for all species ranges from good to poor across the livelihood zones (Table 5). The body condition for cattle and sheep, grazers, in pastoral cattle and pastoral all species are fair to poor compared to a normal of good as a result of inadequate and poorly distributed rains received that led to poor regeneration of pasture and browse especially in the lower parts. However, in the pastoral camel and agro-pastoral livelihood zones, their body conditions are good to fair due to the fair pasture and browse situation as a result of the fair rains during the OND. The livestock body conditions are likely to deteriorate further owing to the pressure on the pasture and browse and increasing return trekking distances. The deteriorating body condition is likely to lead to low production levels especially for milk and poor livestock market prices. This will ultimately impact negatively on nutritional status of children under five

years of age and also lower the purchasing power of the pastoral households thus increasing food insecurity.

Table 5: Livestock Body Condition

Livelihood zone	Cattle		Sheep		Goat		Camel	
	Current	Normal	Current	Normal	Current	Normal	Current	Normal
Agro pastoral	Good – Fair	Good	Good-fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Pastoral all species	Fair -Poor	Good	Fair -Poor	Good – fair	Fair -Poor	Good – fair	Fair	Good – fair
Pastoral cattle	Fair -Poor	Good	Fair -Poor	Fair	Fair	Good	Good – Fair	Good
Pastoral camel	Fair	Good	Fair	Good	Fair	Good	Good - Fair	Good

Birth Rate and Milk Availability

The birth rates were below normal due to the fair to poor forage resources and the deteriorating livestock body condition attributed to continuous failure of rainfall (Table 6). Household milk production in the agro-pastoral and pastoral camel zones were slightly higher than other pastoral livelihood zones due to higher availability of pasture and browse although lower than the LTA.

Table 6: Milk Production

Livelihood zone	Milk Production (Litres)/HH/Day	
	Current	LTA
Agro pastoral	3	4
Pastoral all species	2	3
Pastoral cattle	2	4
Pastoral camel	3	6

Tropical Livestock Units

The average 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 (Table 7). The reasons for the decrease may be attributed to fair to poor pasture/browse condition and low birth rates.

Table 7: TLU by Livelihood Zones

Livelihood zone	Poor income households		Medium income households	
	Current	Normal	Current	Normal
Agro pastoral	2	3	7	8
Pastoral all species	2	4	7.5	13
Pastoral cattle	3	6	10	18
Pastoral camel	3	5	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. This ultimately increases the level of food insecurity in the households across the livelihood zones.

Livestock Water Access

The three main sources of water for livestock in the county are shallow wells, boreholes and water pans (Table 8). During the OND rainy season, most water pans in the agro-pastoral, pastoral all species and pastoral camel livelihood zones impounded water to their capacity 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. Some of them have been depleted while those remaining are expected to last for up-to two months. In the pastoral cattle and parts of pastoral all species, water pans did not impound enough water thus are either depleted or can hardly last a month as these areas received below normal rains. Return trekking distances between water sources and pastures have significantly increased across the livelihood zones as the forage resources get depleted. Greater increases are in the pastoral cattle and pastoral all species

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	Water pans Shallow wells Boreholes	Water pans Boreholes Shallow wells	8-10	5	2 (March)	4	-Conflicts in Lakolle, Basir, Malkagufu, Masalale, Fullo, Ingirir
Pastoral camel	Water pans Boreholes	Water pans Boreholes	8-10	8	2 (March)	3	
Pastoral all species	Shallow wells Boreholes Water pans	Water pans Boreholes Shallow wells	10-15	6-9	<1 for the water pans	3	-Conflicts in Lakolle & Basir -Diseases eg S&G pox
Pastoral cattle	Boreholes Water pans	Water pans Boreholes	10-15	6-8	<1 for the water pans	3	-Diseases eg S&G pox, PPR and CBPP

Watering Frequency

Watering intervals have increased compared to the normal across the livelihood zones (Table 9). This 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	6-9	5-7	2-3	1-2	2-3	1-2
Pastoral camel	2-3	1-2	7-10	5-7	2-3	1-2	2-3	1-2
Pastoral all species	3-4	1-2	7-10	5-7	2-4	1-2	2-4	1-2
Pastoral cattle	3-4	1-2	8-12	5-7	3-4	1-2	3-4	1-2

Migration, Livestock Diseases and Mortalities

Current migration of livestock was across the livelihood zones and into neighboring counties of Isiolo and Marsabit. Some livestock have migrated from the pastoral cattle and lower pastoral all species into the upper pastoral all species and agro-pastoral livelihood zones where the pasture

and browse situation was good to fair following the enhanced rains in these areas. Livestock from these livelihood zones have also migrated to Isiolo and Marsabit counties. Concentration of livestock is also noted in Wajir East (pastoral camel livelihood zone), upper Wajir West and Eldas (pastoral all species). Outbreaks of livestock diseases such as PPR, CBPP, CCPP and sheep and goat pox were reported across the livelihood zones. Currently, there are no vaccines in the veterinary store as these have already been depleted when attending to these cases. This is not normal at this time of the year and was attributed to concentration of livestock at certain grazing and watering points like Arbajahan, Kanchara, Burder, Dalsan, Mashinben and Gunana. Rabies in donkeys and camels in Wajir North and Wajir West sub counties respectively have also been reported and confirmed. Abortions in goats across livelihood zones have been witnessed though causes are unknown. Mortality rates across the livelihood zones are insignificant. Livestock mortalities due to these diseases are within normal ranges.

3.1.4 Impact on Food Availability

Crop failure witnessed across the livelihood zones has led reduced food availability at the household level. 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. Low levels of production, reduced TLUs and deteriorating body conditions as a result of diminishing forage and increasing return trekking distances likely to lead to poor livestock market prices thus low purchasing power or unfavorable terms of trade.

3.2 Access

3.2.1 Market Prices and Functionality

Wajir and Habaswein are the main livestock markets in the county though there are other markets namely Bute, Dagahley, Eldas, Griftu, Tarbaj and Buna (Table 10). Supply of essential food and non-food items is from markets outside the county such as Moyale, Garissa, Nairobi, Meru and Isiolo. All markets across the livelihood zones are operation except some in agro-pastoral and pastoral all species livelihood zones such as Lakolle, Basir, Buna and Malkagufu markets due to clan-based conflicts. These disruptions have affected the availability and access to food commodities in the market. Pastoral households' purchasing power has also been reduced as they have not been able to access markets for livestock. If the conflicts continue, the households will be more food insecure. The volumes and prices of livestock traded differ across the livelihood zones. Prices are higher in the agro-pastoral (Bute and Buna; goat price is Ksh. 4,000) while record low in pastoral cattle (Dagahley market; goat price Ksh. 2,100) and this was attributed to the poor body condition and market access (supply) due to clan conflicts (Table 11).

Table 10: Main livestock markets

Livelihood zone	Main Market (Name)	Type of species	Have market functions been normal?	Comment on market functions. (indicate reasons for disruption or closure)	Alternative markets
Pastoral cattle	Habaswein Livestock Market	Cattle, Goat, Sheep and Camel	Normalizing	Operational though under reconstruction	Dagahley
Informal employment	Wajir Livestock Market	Cattle, Goat, Sheep and Camel	Normal	N/A	N/A

Table 11: Livestock sales and volumes

Livelihood Zone	Name of the main market	Main livestock sold	Number of livestock or volumes traded for the last one month		Main sources of supply		Type and number of traders buying the livestock species currently; and compared to usual
			Above, Below or normal	Explain (why)	Current supply source	Normal supply source	
Informal/formal employment	Wajir	Cattle, Goat/ Sheep Camel	Normal	N/A	Traders Producers	Traders Producers	Traders
Pastoral Cattle	Habaswein	Goats/ Sheep, Cattle, Camel	Normal	N/A	Traders	Traders	Middlemen
	Dagahley	Cattle	Normal	N/A	Producers Traders	Producers Traders	Traders /Middlemen
Agro pastoral	Bute	Goats/ Sheep, Cattle, Camel	Below normal	Conflicts in the north	Livestock owners Traders	Livestock owners Traders	Middlemen

Maize prices

In January 2018, current average maize prices recorded Ksh. 51 which was below the LTA of Ksh. 55. Agro-pastoral livelihood zone indicated the highest maize prices while pastoral cattle recorded the lowest prices as attributed by conflict and constant supply of food commodities from Garissa respectively. The trend has been fluctuating since July 2017 but remained near stable during the months of November, December 2017 and January 2018 (Figure 3). Maize prices are likely to increase due to low production and supply from other counties.

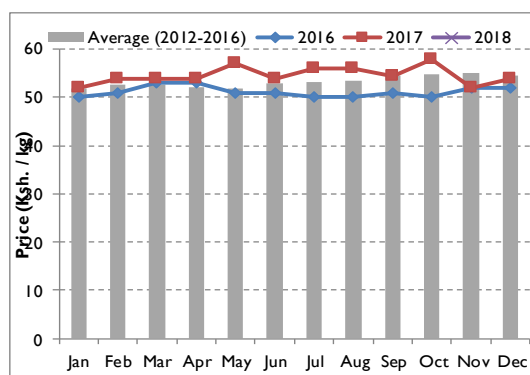


Figure 3: Maize prices

Goat's prices

Average goat price in January was Ksh. 3,145 as compared to the LTA of Ksh. 3,527 with no significant change (Figure 4). Agro-pastoral livelihood zone recorded the highest goat prices at Ksh. 4,000 in Bute and Buna markets while the pastoral cattle recorded the lowest at Ksh. 2,500 at Dagahley. The proximity of Moyale market to the agro-pastoral livelihood zone markets led to increased demand thus higher prices. There is higher supply of the goats in the pastoral market but low demand thus decreases in prices. Livestock prices are likely to decline due to poor livestock body condition attributed to depletion of pasture, browse and water and increased trekking distances.

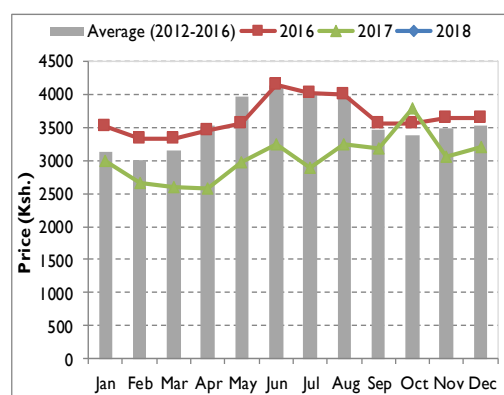


Figure 4: Goat prices

3.2.2 Terms of Trade (ToT)

In January, the terms of trade recorded 62 kilograms of maize in exchange for a goat as compared to LTA of 65 (Figure 5). The terms of trade were not favorable to the pastoral households thus reducing their purchasing power. The ToT is likely to deteriorate further as the market prices of livestock decrease while maize prices increase.

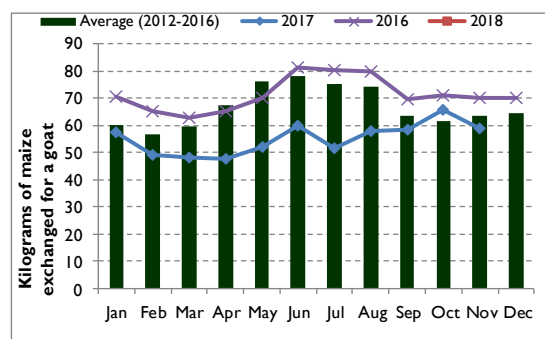


Figure 5: Terms of trade

3.2.3 Income Sources

The main sources of income in the county are livestock production, small businesses/own business including crafts, non-farm production and casual waged-labor. Other sources include food crop production especially watermelon, firewood collection, remittance and gifts and formal employment (Table 12). Social protection programs are also sources of income for households supported by NDMA, County Government of Wajir (CGW), Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS), State Department of Social Services (SDSS) and World Food Programme (WFP).

Table 12: Income sources

Livelihood Zone:	Average % of Cash Income				
	Agro Pastoral	Formal/Informal Employment	Pastoral - all species	Pastoral Camel	Pastoral Cattle
Livestock Production (including meat, milk, hides, skins, and by products)	60	-	70	55	55
Food Crop Production	30	-	15	15	15
Cash Crop Production (tomatoes, capsicum, watermelon, pawpaw, kales, spinach, lemon)	-	5	-	-	-
Casual Waged-labour Income	4	16	3	5	6
Small Businesses/own business including crafts, non-farm production, bee	3	56	6	15	14
Firewood collection/charcoal burning	1	2	1	-	-
Petty Trading	1	10	3	5	5
Poultry Production including meat and egg production	1	2	1	1	1
Remittances and gifts	-	5	2	3	3
Formal-waged labour including public and private sector employees	-	4	1	1	1

3.2.4 Water Access and Availability

The three major water sources across the livelihood zones are boreholes, water pans and shallow wells which is normal at this time of the year. There are 272 boreholes, 380 water pans and over 16,000 shallow wells (Table 13). Boreholes are all functional but with periodic breakdowns across the livelihood zones. About 70 percent of the water pans were fully recharged during the

previous season though currently, 40 percent of them are holding water enough to last for a period of one month. Most of the water pans in pastoral cattle, pastoral all species, pastoral camel and parts of agro-pastoral livelihood zones have dried up particularly in Adanawale, Kubeyssurur, Diff, Burder, Lolkutta, Wara, Haragal, Dambas, Majabow, Elati, Dela and Tulatula due to previous concentration of both human and livestock in these areas. Some have been silted and hardly impound water.

Table 13: Water availability

Ward/ Livelihood zone	Water Source (Three (3) major sources)	No. of Normal Operational	No. of Current Operational Sources	Projected Duration (Operational Sources)	Normal Duration that water last in months	% of full Capacity Recharged by the Rains	Locality of Non- operational Water Sources
Agro Pastoral	Boreholes	61	61				Bute, Dugow, Sire, Qarsabula, Qarsasare, Tuloroba
	Water Pans	101	60	2 months	2 months	90	
	Shallow wells	107	101				
Pastoral All species	Boreholes	86	84				Dela, Tulatula, Wara, Lolkuta Elati, Lakolle, Orote, Bagalla, Kubeyssurur, Adanawale
	Water Pans	112	28	1 month	2 months	56	
	Shallow wells	1,091	1,901				
Pastoral cattle	Boreholes	83	83				Diff, Burder, Bicilburbur,
	Water pans	91	39	Less than 1 month	3 months	40	
	Shallow wells	87	84				
Pastoral camel	Water pans	72	51	Less than 1 month	3 months	62	Majabow, Hungai, Dambas, Haragal, Tarbaj
	Boreholes	54	54				
	Shallow wells	15,000	15,000				

Current average distances to domestic water sources ranges 2-5 km across all the livelihood zones except for the informal/formal employment livelihood zone and these are normal at this time of the year (Table 14). This has been occasioned by existence of more reliable water sources such as boreholes and shallow wells that complement the diminishing quantities in the water pans. However, prices and waiting time have slightly increased owing to the concentration at the permanent water sources (boreholes and shallow wells). Some water points have since started experiencing concentration of human and livestock such as Arbajahan, Griftu, Sarman, Eldas, Dagahley, Biyamadhow and Khorofharar. Prices charged by water vendors in the informal/formal livelihood zone are however higher at up-to Ksh. 25 per 20litre and this is attributed to the low recharge levels of the shallow wells in Wajir town.

Table 14: Water Access and Utilization

Livelihood zone	Return Distance to Water for Domestic Use (Km)		Cost of Water at Source (Ksh. Per 20litres)		Waiting Time at Water Source (Minutes)		Average Water Consumption (Litres/person/day)	
	Normal	Current	Normal	Current	Normal	Current	Normal	Current
Pastoral	4 – 5	2-4	2 – 5	5 -10	10-15	15-30	15 - 20	10-15
Agro-pastoral	3 – 4	2-5	2 – 5	2- 5	10-15	10 - 20	15 - 20	15- 20
Informal/formal	<0.2	<0.2	2-5	5-10	0-5	5-10	15-20	15-20

Water trucking is currently being done to 55 centres across the livelihood zones (Table 15). It is carried out in more centres in the pastoral all species (Wajir West and Eldas) and pastoral cattle (Wajir South) livelihood zones compared to the agro-pastoral, pastoral camel and informal/formal employment livelihood zones. These centres normally rely on water pans which have since dried up due to the below normal rains received.

Table 15: Location of water trucking centres

Sub county	No. of centres
Wajir South	31
Wajir West	14
Wajir North	31
Eldas	11
Tarbaj	10
Wajir East	4
Total	101

3.2.5 Food Consumption

Milk Consumption

Current milk consumption across the livelihood zones have significantly dropped as the levels of production have gone down. The milk market prices have also gone higher thus making it unaffordable to majority pastoral households (Table 16). The number of food insecure households will rise thus increasing proportion of malnourished children under five. Current milk prices in the agro-pastoral, pastoral cattle and pastoral camel livelihood zones are above the LTA while in the pastoral all species livelihood zone the prices have remained the same as LTA. The higher prices are attributed to low production which led to low supply of the commodity in the market.

Table 16: Milk Consumption and Prices

Livelihood zone	Milk consumption (Litres)/HH/Day		Price (Ksh./Litre)	
	Current	LTA	Current	LTA
Agro-pastoral	2	3	70	60
Pastoral all species	1	2	80	80
Pastoral cattle	1	2	100	80
Pastoral camel	2.8	4	80	60

3.2.6 Food Consumption Score (FCS) and Coping Strategy Index (CSI)

According to NDMA Early Warning Bulletin (Jan 2018), household food consumption deteriorated in agro pastoral livelihood zone (Poor 17%, Borderline 43%) compared to December 2017 (Poor 16%; Borderline 35%), while it slightly improved in pastoral all species

livelihood for the same period (Poor 41%, borderline 60%) compared to previous month (poor 48%, borderline 52%). The mean FCS score has remained stable for borderline, while the FCS poor has improved from 32 percent in December 2017 to 26 percent in January 2018 (Table 17). However pastoral all species show overall deterioration compared to same period last year. Further, preliminary results of knowledge, attitude, behavior and practices KABP survey conducted in 2017, show that breastfeeding practices in Wajir is high with exclusive breastfeeding at 70 percent and timely initiation of breastfeeding at 88 percent. However, complementary feeding practices remain suboptimal with minimum acceptable diet at 12 percent. The CSI has remained stable for pastoral livelihood zone, while for both agropastoral and pastoral all species the CSI has been increasing comparing January 2018 and December 2017 (Table 18).

Table 17: Food Consumption

Period	Food Consumption		
	Poor	Borderline	Acceptable
December 2017	32	26	42
January 2018	26	26	47

Table 18: Coping Strategy

Period	Coping Strategy Index		
	Pastoral	Agro pastoral	Pastoral All Species
January 2018	8.3	9.8	4.1
December 2017	8.4	8.4	3.9

3.3 Utilization

3.3.1 Morbidity and Mortality Patterns

According to District Health Information System (DHIS) top five diseases affecting children under-five years of age between July and December 2017 were diarrhea, upper respiratory tract infections (URTI), other diseases of the respiratory system, ear infection and skin disease. Compared to the same period last year, morbidity was stable with no upsurge noted. However, outbreak of Kalaazar (*Visceral leishmaniasis*) and cholera were reported. Cholera outbreak was reported in December 2017 in Wajir East (central) and Wajir South (in Dagahley) sub-counties with 17 and one case being line listed, respectively compared to 20 cases reported in same period in 2016. Cholera outbreak was attributed to poor environmental sanitation and hygiene. On the other hand, Kalaazar outbreak was reported in February 2017 and remained active throughout the year, with a total of 67 cases line listed between July and December in Wajir West, Wajir East, Wajir South, Wajir and Eldas sub-county. Notably, in both outbreaks no case fatality was reported.

3.3.2 Immunization and Vitamin A supplementation

Immunization coverage for OPV antigens as reported in the DHIS for July – December 2017 show a slight decrease, OPV1 dropped from 66% to 60%, while

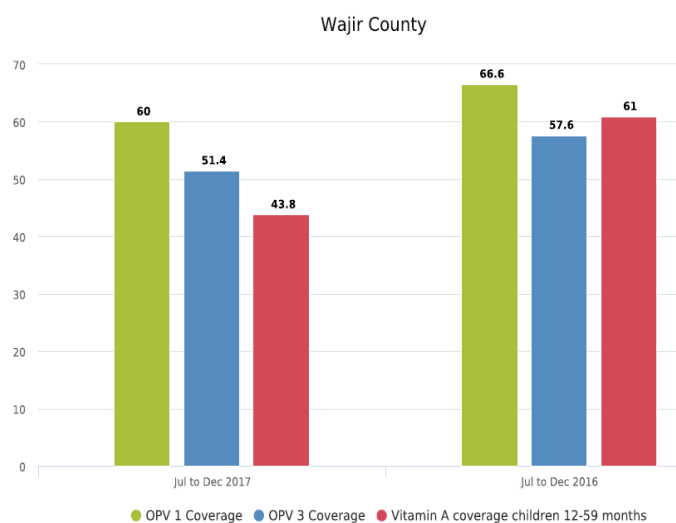


Figure 6: Oral Polio Vaccine coverage

OPV3 dropped from 57.5% in 2016 to 51.4%. Similar drop was also noted in vitamin A coverage for children 12-59 months from 61% in 2016 to 43.8%. This could largely be attributed to the impact of the nationwide nurse’s strike that affected health service delivery in major health facilities offering immunization services in the county. However, it is worth noting that population level vitamin A coverage for children aged 12-59 months remains low in both pastoral and agro pastoral livelihood zones at 32% and 24%, respectively (SMART, July 2017)

3.3.3 Nutrition Status and Dietary Diversity

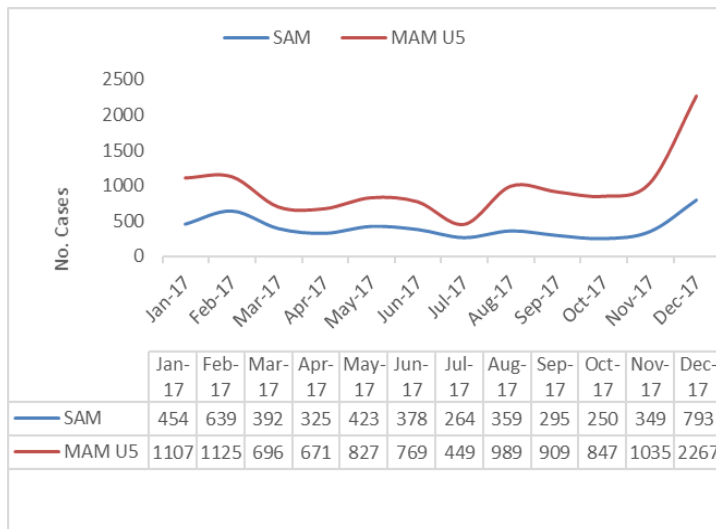


Figure 7: SAM and MAM U5 Admission trend from Jan 2017 - Dec 2017

feeding program (SFP) increased in the last quarter of the year with the highest admissions recorded in the month of December 2017 (Figure 7). This could be attributed to intensified screening during outreaches that continued uninterrupted during the nationwide nurse’s strike period and countywide mass screening conducted in December 2017.

Results of nutrition SMART survey done in July 2017 showed critical nutrition situation for both pastoral (GAM 16.4 % (12.8 - 20.7 95% C.I.) and agro-pastoral (16.8 (13.4 - 20.9 95% CI) livelihood zones with the situation deteriorating significantly in agro-pastoral livelihood zone compared to the same period in 2016. Preliminary results of recent SMART survey conducted in agro-pastoral zone have revealed that nutrition situation in Wajir North remains critical (GAM (SMART, February 2018). Number of

children under-five years of age admitted into outpatient therapeutic program (OTP) and supplementary

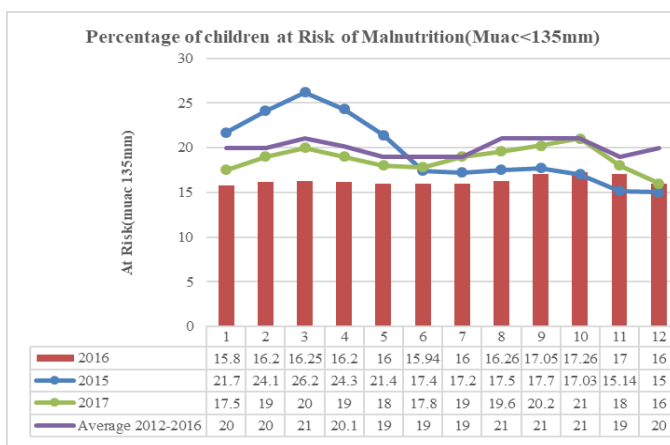


Figure 8: Percentage of children at risk of malnutrition (MUAC<135mm)

The proportion of children under five at risk of malnutrition in December 2017, with mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC<135mm) was 16.0 which was below the LTA of 20.9. However, in January 2018 this proportion slightly increased to 16.5. A higher percentage of malnourished children were recorded in the agro-pastoral and pastoral cattle livelihood zones. The informal/formal employment livelihood zone had the lowest percentage of children at risk.

3.3.4 Sanitation and Hygiene

Sanitation

The main sources of water in the county are shallow wells, boreholes and water pans. Most of the water points (pans and shallow wells) in the county are easily exposed to waste and get contaminated. Some of the boreholes and shallow wells are saline in nature and not fit for human and livestock consumption. Their level of concentration increases as the dry spell bites. Currently, there is minimal water treatment at household level. Latrine coverage in the county is at 53.9 percent and 34.1 percent in the agro-pastoral and pastoral livelihood zones respectively. Thus, more people practice open defecation (OD) in the open areas of the rangelands.

3.4 Trends of key food security indicators

The key food security indicators include 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 19).

Table 19: Food security trends in Wajir County

Indicator	Long rains assessment, July 2017	Short rains assessment February 2018
Percent of maize stocks held by households (Agro-pastoral).	Nil	Nil
Livestock body condition	Good to fair	Fair to Good
Water consumption (litres per person per day).	5-10 liters per person per day	10-15
Price of maize (per kg)	Ksh. 54	Ksh. 50
Distance to grazing	8-15km	8-12
Terms of trade (pastoral zone)	59 Kg	62Kg
Coping strategy index (CSI)	Agro-pastoral:10.4 Pastoral :10.8 Pastoral all species:46	Agro-pastoral: 8.3 Pastoral: 8.4 Pastoral all species: 4
Food Consumption Score(FCS)	Poor:50-97 Boarderline:31-43 Acceptable:47	Poor: 16 Borderline: 35 Acceptable: 49

3.5 Education

Enrolment

Primary school and early childhood development education centres (ECDE) had enrolment of 55,279 and 16,673 pupils respectively. There are 22,557 girls and 32,722 boys in the primary section while in ECDE there are 9,471 boys and 7,202 girls. The enrollment for boys is higher than that of girls in both ECDE and primary school due to the herding small stock, preference of education to boys and attending to other household chores.

Drop Outs

There were minimal drop outs reported in both ECDE and primary school levels especially in the agro pastoral (Buna area) and parts of pastoral all species. Lakolle South primary school has since been closed due to the waring inter-clan conflicts in that zone. However, pupils and teachers from this school have been integrated in other schools including Eldas, Buna and Korondile primary schools. Others insignificant drop outs in the primary school level were attributed to migration, insecurity/conflicts, herding of livestock, and the household not seeing the value of education were reported. More boys dropped outs compared to the girls.

School Meals Program

Regular school meals program (RSMP) is currently on-going in all public primary schools in the county.

4.0 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

4.1 Assumptions

- The expected March-April-May (MAM) long rains are likely to be below average tending to average.
- Availability and accessibility of milk is likely to increase thus improving the nutrition status of the county.
- The prices of essential food commodities are likely to increase due cutting off of the roads during the rainy season thus affecting food accessibility and availability.
- Rangeland conditions are expected to deteriorate during the months of March going into mid-April and thereafter improve after the onset of MAM long rains.
- As the dry season escalates and the growing gruel among clans in the agro-pastoral and pastoral all species livelihood zone, conflicts are likely to continue.

4.2 Food Security Outcomes from February to April 2018

Food security situation in the county is deteriorating and expected to worsen in the coming two months due to successive failure of rains. Pastoral households across the livelihood zones are likely to experience inadequacy in food availability due to the reduced production levels hampering even their incomes. Pasture and browse are expected to diminish leading to poor livestock body condition and low milk production and consumption at household level. The trekking distance to water sources for livestock is likely to increase due to drying up of water pans. Concentration of livestock and human at the permanent water sources is likely to be experienced with the diminishing water in the pans. The waiting time at the water sources and the cost is likely to increase. The number of water trucking centres is also expected to increase as water pans dry up. Livestock prices are also likely to decrease thus reducing the purchasing power at the household level. There is also the likelihood of upsurge of livestock diseases due to their concentration at the water points. However, the food security situation is likely to improve during the last month of the period due to the expected MAM rains.

4.3 Food Security Outcomes from May to July 2018

It is expected that the long rains will improve crop and livestock production leading to increased food availability and income at household level. Pasture and browse condition and water

recharge levels in all the livelihood zones are expected to improve during the rains. Livestock body condition is likely to improve in the month of May to July as a result of the expected rains. Milk production and consumption at household level is likely to increase thus improving the nutritional status. Market prices for livestock are also expected to improve thus increasing the purchasing power of the households. Trekking distance to water sources and grazing areas will reduce as water pans are likely to be recharged thus reducing the waiting time and cost of water. The food security situation is generally expected to improve as all pillars show an increasing trend.

5.0 CONCLUSION AND INTERVENTIONS

5.1 Conclusion

5.1.1 Phase classification

The current food security in the county is “Stressed” (Phase 2) and some areas of the county are in “crisis” (Phase 3). The food security situation is expected to deteriorate in the next two to three months. The worsening situation is attributed to fair to poor long rains performance, unfavorable ToT, insecurity, migration and low milk production. Other factors to be monitored are nutrition status, livestock body condition, distance to water sources, conditions of grazing, market prices and coping strategies. Also considered is the FCS and nutritional status of the under five children.

5.1.2 Summary of the Findings

The temporal and spatial distribution of the rainfall was fair to poor. Most parts of the county recorded below normal rainfall during the OND season. However, even where the rainfall amounts were high like Wajir Airport and town, the distribution was poor. Depressed rainfall in the pastoral all species and pastoral cattle resulted in crop failure leading to limited food availability, accessibility and utilization. The acreages planted were also lower than the LTA due to fear of the seasonal performance by the agro pastoralists envisaged during the previous seasons. Pasture and browse condition was fair to poor and milk production and consumption reduced across the livelihood zones. Milk prices were also higher than the LTA during same period. The number of TLUs per household was lower than the LTA across the livelihood zones and wealth category. Market operations were normal with no market disruptions except for the low volumes of livestock traded across the livelihood zones. The ToTs were unfavorable for pastoralists with a goat exchanging at 59 kilogram of maize. Water pans may last for up to two months depending on the livelihood zone whereas the return trekking distances from grazing areas to water point are increasing reducing livestock production and accessibility.

5.1.3 Sub County Ranking

Ranking of sub-counties in order of food insecurity severity (Table 20).

Table 20: Sub-county ranking in terms of food insecurity

Sub county	Population	Proportion of the population in need	Sub-county Ranking (1 Most food insecure 6 least food insecure)	Pop in need (% range min - Max)	Main Food Security Threats
Wajir South	110,136	44,054	1	30-40 %	Water scarcity, total crop failures, poor pasture and browse, migration, reduced livestock production and productivity, livestock diseases and predation (<i>severity- High</i>)
Wajir West	82,602	26,433	2	25-32%	Water scarcity, massive migration, poor pastures, overgrazing, poor livestock prices and predation (<i>severity- moderately High</i>)
Tarbaj	64,246	18,632	3	20-29	Water scarcity, depleting forage resources, migration, livestock diseases and predation (<i>severity- moderately high</i>)
Eldas	55068	16,520	4	25-30	Poor pasture, water scarcity, outmigration, lack of milk, depleting vegetation conditions and predation (<i>severity- moderate</i>)
Wajir East	91780	10,096	5	8-11	Water scarcity, depleting pasture, poor livestock prices, low production of milk. (<i>severity- moderate</i>)
Wajir North	55,068	12,115	6	18-22	Water sources diminishing, fair to poor pasture, livestock diseases, migration, reduced livestock production (milk) and predation (<i>severity- moderate</i>)

5.2 Ongoing Interventions

5.2.1 Food Interventions

Table 21: On-going food interventions

County	Sub County	Intervention	No. of beneficiaries	Implementers	Impacts on food security	Cost (Ksh)	Time Frame
1. Agriculture sector							
IMMEDIATE							
Wajir	All sub counties	Food for asset (FFA)	28,000 HH	CGW (DALF) and WFP	Asset creation	122M	Sept 2016 to Apr. 2018
2. Education sector							
IMMEDIATE							
Wajir	All public schools	Regular school meals programme		Ministry of Education & WFP	Retention of pupils		On-going

5.2.2 Non-food Interventions

Table 22: On-going non-food interventions

County	Sub County	Intervention	No. of beneficiaries	Implementers	Impacts on food security	Cost (Kshs)	Time Frame
1. Livestock sector							
IMMEDIATE							
Wajir	Wajir West (Hadado & Ademasajid a) Wajir South (Habaswein)	Slaughter destocking	427 HH	CGW (DALF) VFS (Suisse)/FAO Community	Improving the survivability of breeding stock	3.5M	March 2018
Wajir	All Sub Counties	Disease surveillance	All pastoral HHs	CGW (DALF), NDMA, RPLRP SDL, SDC	Improve animal health to increased productivity	2.2M	Feb -July 2018
MEDIUM AND LONG TERM							
Wajir	All wards	Livestock insurance	4,000	SDL CGW (DALF) Takaful	Asset protection scheme	115M	July 2016 – July 2019
Wajir	Wajir West Wajir North Wajir South Wajir East	Excavation and desilting of water pans for livestock use	215,000	CGW (DALF) RPLRP	Improved access to water for both domestic and livestock use	144M	On-going
2. Agriculture sector							
IMMEDIATE							
Wajir	All sub counties	Extension services	8,000 HH	CGW (DALF) Partners (WFP, WVK, SDC)	Improve food production	8M	Mar –June 2018
Wajir	Wajir North Wajir	Seed procurement and distribution	4,000 HH	CGW (DALF)	Improve food production	3M	Feb –May 2018
MEDIUM AND LONG TERM							
3. Health and sanitation sector							
IMMEDIATE							
Wajir	All Sub Counties	Management of acute malnutrition (IMAM)	All facilities	CGW (Health) UNICEF	Improve the nutrition status of U5		Feb –April 2018
Wajir	All sub counties	Human disease surveillance	Whole county	CGW (Health)	Early warning and preparedness enhanced		Feb –April 2018
Wajir	All sub counties	Outreach programs	102 centres	CGW (Health) UNICEF Save the Children	Enhanced coverage and health services		Feb –April 2018

				KRCS	delivery		
MEDIUM AND LONG TERM							
Wajir	All sub counties	Scale up of outreach programs	100	CGW (Health) UNICEF Save the Children KRCS	Enhanced coverage and health services delivery		Feb –April 2018
	All sub counties	Monitoring of malnutrition	All health facilities	CGW (Health) UNICEF Save the Children KRCS	Early warning and preparedness enhanced		Feb –April 2018
4. Water sector							
IMMEDIATE							
Wajir	All sub counties	Maintenance of water boozers	6 water bowzers	CGW (Water)	Enhance operationalization of the tankers	1.8M	Feb –May 2018
Wajir	All sub counties	Borehole maintenance	As per demand	CGW (Water) Oxfam, NDMA Red cross, CARITAS	Ensure steady supply of water	3M	Continuous
Wajir	All sub counties	Water trucking	101 centres	CGW (Water) NDMA	Provide water to HH and schools	8M	Feb –April 2018
MEDIUM AND LONG TERM							
Wajir	Pastoral all species (Arbajahan) Agro-pastoral (Ingirir)	Drilling of emergency boreholes at pocket pasture zones	127,000	CGW (Water) Partners	Enhance water access at the pasture zones	8M	Feb –April 2018
	Wajir South (Karu) Wajir East (Sitawario) Wajir North (Watiti)	Excavation of water pans	2,000 HH	RPLRP	Enhance rain water harvesting	60M	Feb –April 2018
5. Education sector							
IMMEDIATE							
MEDIUM AND LONG TERM							
Wajir County	All public schools	Supply of text books		MoE	Enhance learning		On-going
6. Social Protection							
Wajir	All sub counties	Hunger Safety Net Program (HSNP) – Regular	18,977	NDMA	Enhanced access to food	47,442,500	On-going
		HSNP –	32,678	NDMA	Intervention	88,230,600	On-going

		Upscale			towards drought		
		Linda lishibora	9,200	WFP		165,600,000	
		Cash transfer	2,923	KRCS		8,769,000	
7. Peace and Security							
Wajir	Eldas Wajir North Wajir East	Community dialogues	230,000	NDMA CGW (Peace)	Conflicts management thus enhanced access to essential facilities like markets, schools.	1.8M	On-going

5.3 Recommended Interventions

5.3.1 Food Interventions

Table 23: Recommended food interventions

County	Sub County	Intervention	No. of beneficiaries	Proposed Implementers	Required Resources	Available Resources	Time Frame
1. Agriculture Sector							
Wajir	All sub counties	Relief food distribution	114,315	Ministry of Devolution CGW (Special Programs)			Mar – Mid April 2018

5.3.2 Non Food Interventions

Table 24: Recommended non-food interventions

County	Sub County	Intervention	No. of beneficiaries	Proposed Implementers	Required Resources	Available Resources	Time Frame
1. Agriculture Sector							
Wajir	All sub counties	Farm inputs distribution	80,097	DALF WFP	17.8M	Technical staff	Mar 2018
Wajir	All sub counties	Capacity building of farmers	80,097	CGW (DALF), WFP NDMA, RPLRP, SDC,	5M	Technical staff	2018
2. Livestock Sector							
Wajir	All sub counties	Supply of hay and other supplementary feeds	491,000	CGW (DALF), NDMA RPLRP, FAO, KRCS	170M	Technical staff	Mar – Mid April 2018
	All sub counties	Disease surveillance	491,000	CGW (DALF), NDMA RPLRP, FAO, KRCS	2M	Technical staff	Mar – Mid April 2018
	All sub counties	Mass vaccinations	491,000	CGW (DALF), NDMA	82M	Technical staff	Mar – Mid April 2018

County	Sub County	Intervention	No. of beneficiaries	Proposed Implementers	Required Resources	Available Resources	Time Frame
				FAO, RPLRP, KRCS			
3. Health and sanitation sector							
Wajir	All sub counties	Mass screening	222,000	CGW (health), SCUK UNICEF, NDMA	26M	Nil	Mar –May 2018
Wajir	All sub counties	Supply of safe water storage containers to facilities	86 Facilities	CGW (health), SCUK UNICEF, NDMA	4M	Nil	March 2018
Wajir	All sub counties	Water trucking to health facilities	12 facilities	CGW (health), SCUK UNICEF, NDMA	7.2M	Nil	Mar – Mid April 2018
		Supply of drugs and other medical supplies	All facilities	CGW (health), SCUK UNICEF, NDMA	150M	-	Mar- May 2018
4. Water sector							
Wajir	All sub counties	Logistic support to borehole maintenance	272 boreholes	CGW (Water) , NDMA, SCUK, KRCS UNICEF, Oxfam	7M	Nil	Mar –April 2018
Wajir	All sub counties	Provision of fast moving spares	272 boreholes	CGW (Water) , NDMA, SCUK, KRCS UNICEF, Oxfam	38M	Nil	Mar –April 2018
Wajir	All sub counties	Rehabilitation of water harvesting structures like water pans	42 water pans	CGW (Water), NDMA SCUK, RPLRP, Oxfam	120M	Nil	Mar –April 2018
5. Education sector							
Wajir	All sub counties	Provision of school bursaries	11,000	CGW, CDF NDMA, MoE	99M	Nil	Mar –Apr 2018
	All sub counties	School feeding program	55,279	CGW, CDF NDMA, WFP, MoE	200M	Nil	Mar –Apr 2018
6. Peace and Security Sector							
Wajir	All sub counties	Leaders' peace fora	250	CGW, NDMA, Mercy corps, Oxfam, WASDA, ALDEF	5M	1.5M	Mar –May 2018

County	Sub County	Intervention	No. of beneficiaries	Proposed Implementers	Required Resources	Available Resources	Time Frame
		Cross-border peace fora	150	CGW, NDMA, Mercy corps, Oxfam, WASDA, ALDEF	12M	Nil	Mar –May 2018
		Dissemination of peace messages	All sub counties and cross border counties including use of local media	CGW, NDMA, Mercy corps, Oxfam, WASDA, ALDEF	3.2M	Nil	Mar –May 2018