

National Drought Management Authority MARSABIT COUNTY DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR AUGUST 2020



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



EW PHASE: NORMAL

Drought Status: NORMAL

Shughull za kawalda

Early Warning (EW) Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral	Normal	Deteriorating
Pastoral All species	Normal	Deteriorating
Fisher folk/Casual labour/Petty Trading	Normal	Deteriorating
County	Normal	Deteriorating
Biophysical Indicators	Value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)	65	80 -120
VCI-3Month	68.87	>35
Forage condition	Good-Fair	Good
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Livestock Body Condition	Good	Good
Milk Production	1.4	>1.7Litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal
Livestock deaths (from drought)	No death	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	87	>69
Milk Consumption	0.75	>1.6 Litres
Return distance to water	8.3	0.0-7.1Km
Cost of water	0	<Ksh.5
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)		0.0-18.1
Coping Strategy Index	16.8	<20
Food Consumption	43.49	>35

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

Rainfall: The County generally did not receive rains during the month under assessment.

Vegetation condition: 3-months Vegetation Condition Index for the month under review was 68.87 across the County hence no change when compared to the previous months VCI of 62.24.

Socio-Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

Production indicators: Livestock body condition was good for all the livestock species across the livelihood zones. Milk production was 1.4litres/household/day, which was below normal across the livelihood zones. There was no unusual livestock migration in all the livelihood zones. Incidences of livestock diseases were reported in Saku, North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties. There were no reported livestock deaths as a result of the ongoing dry spell.

Access indicators: Household water distances was above normal by 16percent whereas livestock trekking distances was shorter than the long term average. Boreholes, shallow wells and water pans were the main sources of water. Milk consumption was 0.75litres/household/day which was way below normal. Terms of trade was above normal attributed to stable goat and maize prices.

Utilization indicators: Reduction in admission trends for moderate acute malnutrition across the County recorded. Household food consumption score remained within acceptable band while coping strategies applied by households were stressed in all the livelihood zones. There were no notable variations in livelihood coping strategies employed.

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

1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS
1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

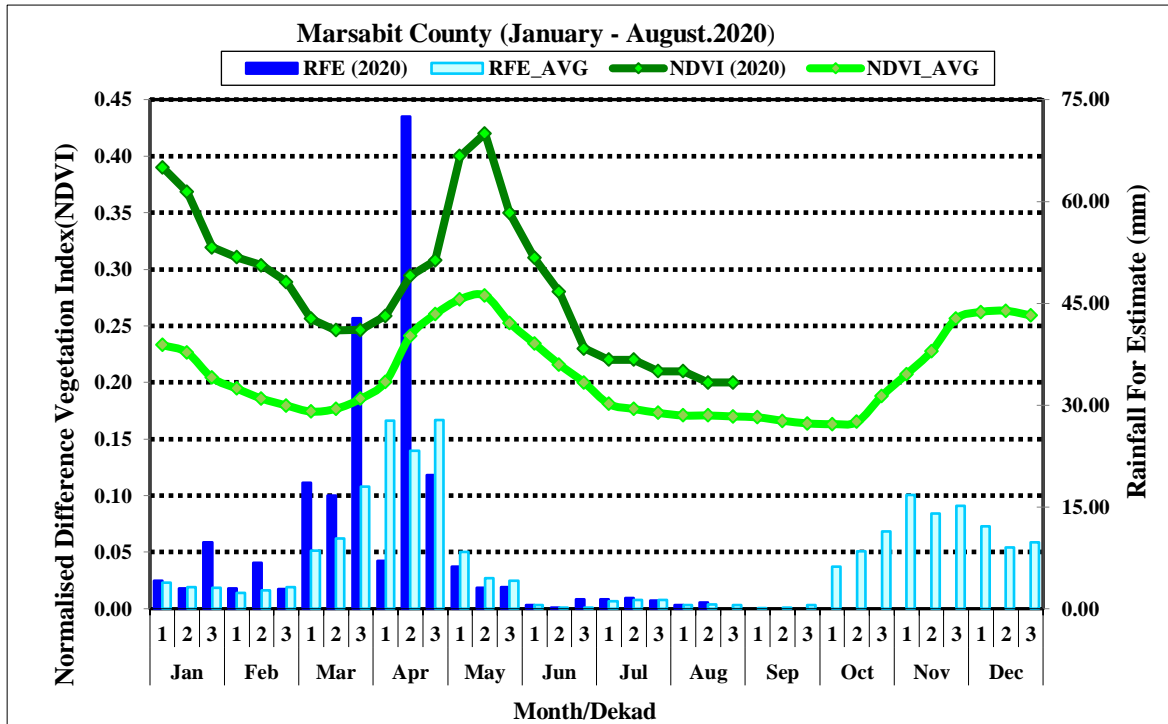


Figure 1: Dekadal Rainfall (mm) and NDVI values compared to the Long Term Average

Source: WFP-VAM, CHIRPS/MODIS

- From the figure 1 shown above, dekadal rainfall for estimate (RFE) amounts for the first, second and third dekads were normal when compared to their respective long-term dekadal rainfall for estimate(RFE) averages. Generally, current dekadal rainfall amounts followed a similar trend when compared to the previous months dekadal rainfall amounts.
- Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) for the first, second and third dekads were above normal when compared to their respective long term dekadal NDVI values.

1.2 CUMULATIVE RAINFALL AMOUNTS

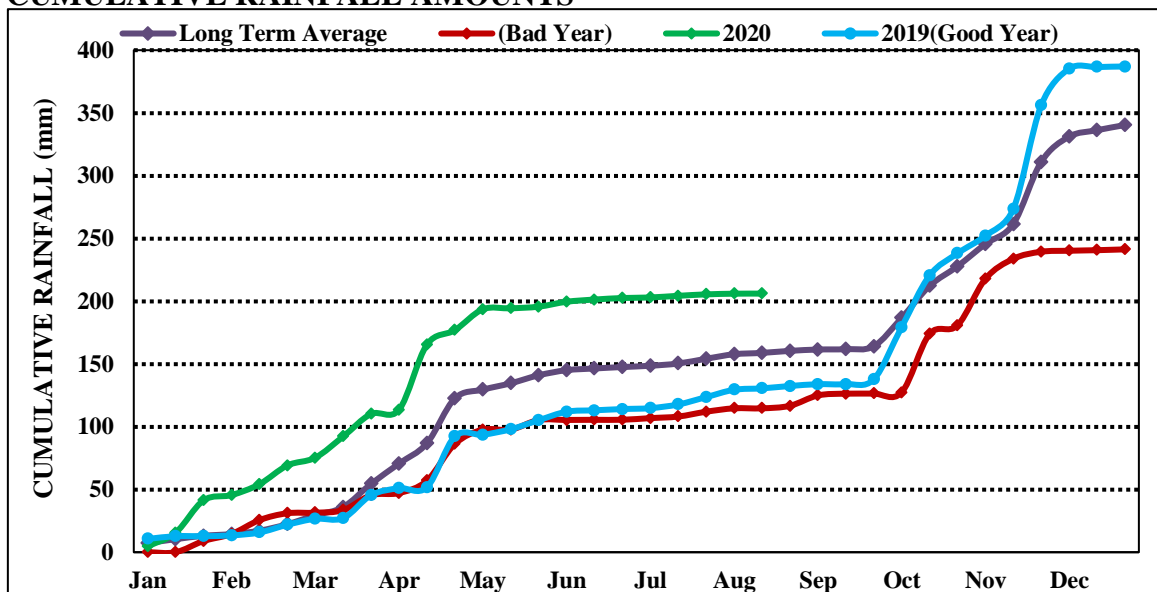


Figure 2: Marsabit County Cumulative Rainfall Amounts (mm)

- From the figure (2) shown above, current cumulative long rains are above the long-term cumulative rainfall amounts.

- The current cumulative rainfall amounts are above the long term cumulative rainfall amounts due to the enhanced cumulative seasonal rainfall amounts received in all the livelihood zones.

2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

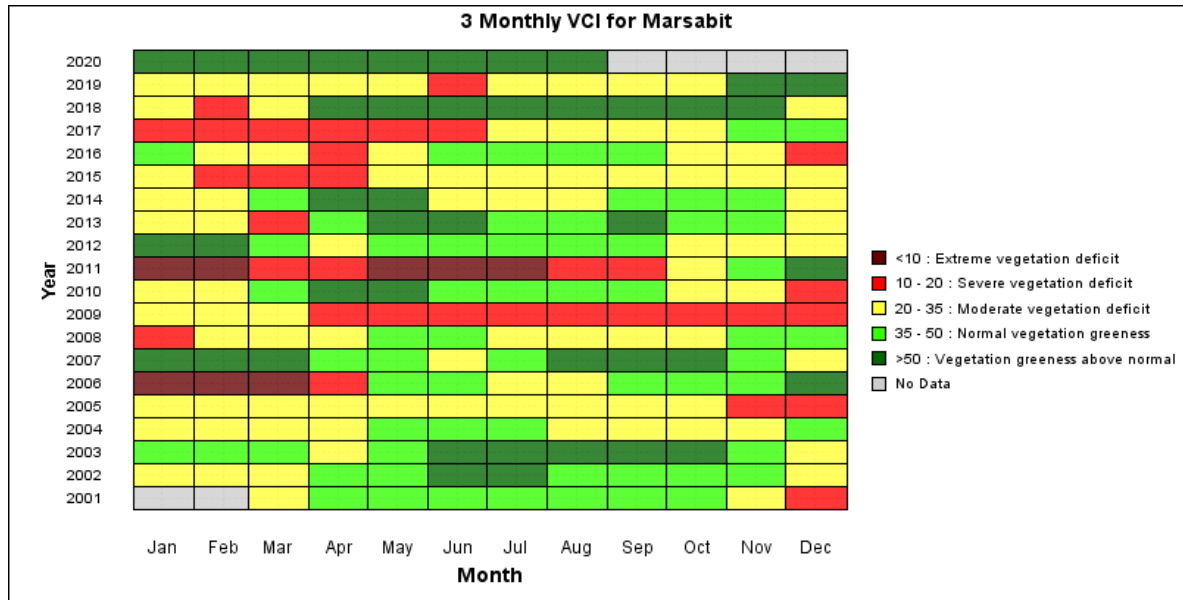


Figure 3: Vegetation Condition Index across the County

- From the figure 3 shown above, current vegetation condition index is 68.87 hence exhibited no change when compared to the preceding month's vegetation condition index of 64.24. Current vegetation condition index is within the above normal vegetation greenness band.
- Above normal vegetation greenness was attributed to the combined effects of the good performance of the short and long rains that was well distributed in all the livelihood zones.
- With the progression of the long dry spell, the 3-months vegetation condition index will gradually deteriorate in the next one month but still remain in the above normal vegetation greenness band.

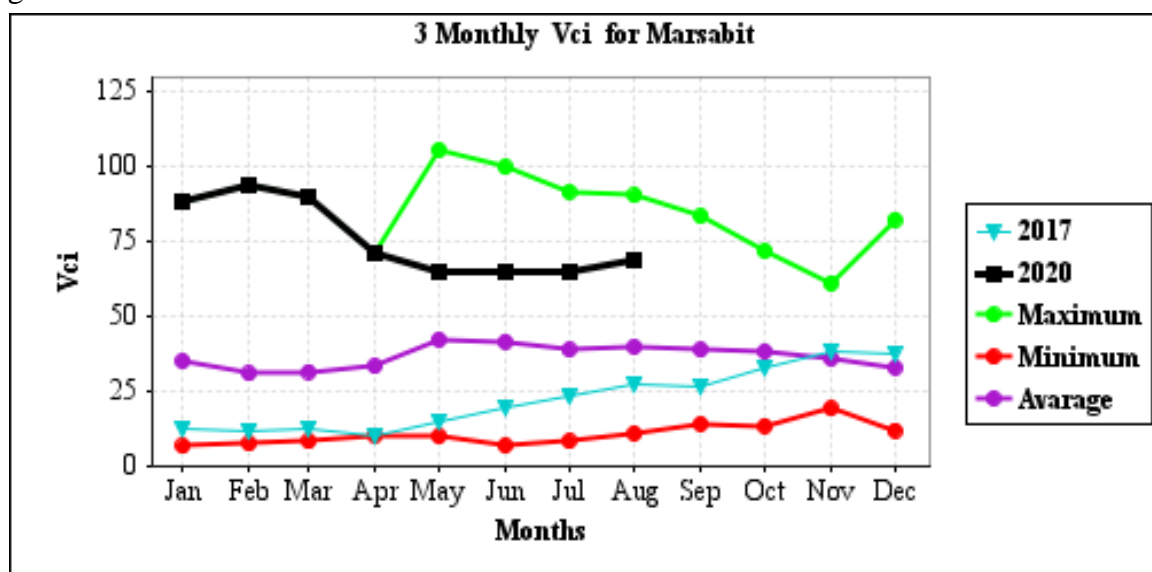


Figure 4: Vegetation Condition Index Trends across the County

- When comparison is made based on the sub-counties, Saku, Laisamis, North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties exhibited a 3-months vegetation condition index of 81.41, 73.62, 67.08 and 62.73 respectively thus relatively remained stable when compared to the preceding month's respective vegetation condition index values.
- Figure (4) shown above compares August 2020 vegetation condition index to August 2019, long term average and also illustrates the historical maximum and minimum vegetation condition index values.
- When compared to the long-term average, the current vegetation condition index is above the long term average. However, the current vegetation condition index is below the maximum value ever recorded at this particular time of the year.
- As the long dry spell continues in the next one month, the 3-months vegetation condition index is likely to deteriorate but still fall above the long term average.

2.1.2 Pasture

- Pasture condition is good-fair in all the livelihood zones. In the agro-pastoral areas of Moyale and Saku sub-counties, pasture condition is good while fair in the pastoral areas of Laisamis and North Horr sub-counties.
- However, in isolated areas of Moyale sub-county (Dirdima, Misa, Dabel, Uran, Watiti), Laisamis sub-county (Farakoen, Loiyangalani, Korr, Kurkum) and North Horr sub-county (parts of North Horr and Maikona wards) pasture is fair-poor.
- When compared to similar periods, the quality and quantity of pasture is above normal in all the livelihood zones. Pasture is expected to last for 2 months in all the livelihood zones against the normal of 1 month.
- However, pasture and browse is expected to last for two-four weeks in areas of North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties that were infested by the desert locust.

2.1.3 Browse

- Browse condition is good-fair in all the livelihood zones. However, there is rapid emergence of non-palatable vegetation in Moyale, North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties especially *calotropis procera* and bush encroachment attributed to environmental degradation.
- Quality and quantity of browse is good-fair in all the livelihood zones. Generally, in the agro-pastoral areas, browse will last for 2 months whereas in the pastoral livelihood zone browse is expected to last for one and half months.
- Insecurity in parts of Moyale sub-county (parts of Obbu and Uran wards) and North Horr sub-county (Idido and Sibilo) limited access to forage.

2.2 WATER RESOURCE

2.2.1 Sources

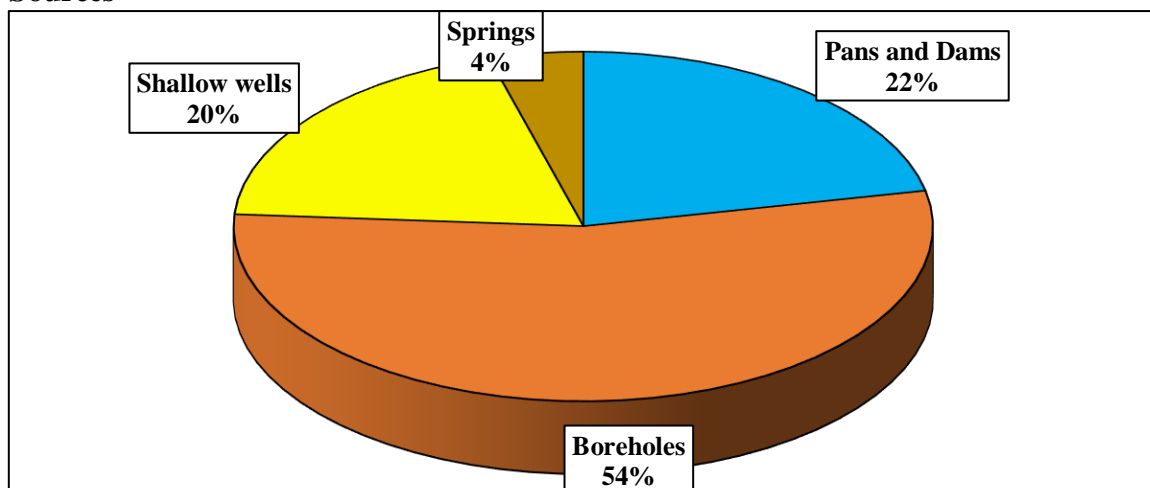


Figure 5: Main sources of water across the livelihood zones

- From figure 5 shown above, boreholes, water pans and shallow wells are the main water sources applied by majority of the communities in all the livelihood zones as exhibited by a response rate of 54, 22 and 20percent respectively.
- When compared to similar periods, borehole is usually the main source of water at this particular time of the year.
- Other water source applied by the communities in the month under review was springs at 4percent.
- 70percent of surface water sources in agro-pastoral livelihood zone of Moyale and Saku sub counties have dried up.

Sub-County	Name of the borehole	Nature of breakdown
Moyale	Amballo II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motor was burnt • Draw pipes have issues
	Ramole II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depth issues
	Anona I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motor was burnt • Wiring problem
	Adadi I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Machine problem
Laisamis	Ulauli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motor was burnt • Control panel has a problem
	Ndikir II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access route has challenges • Motor has been procured • Facilitation required for BRRT team to finalize the work
	Lapikutuk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genset requires major overhaul • Motor needs replacement required • Facilitation for BRTT required to complete the work
	Laisamis Water Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair work that requires a crane vehicle is required
	Civicon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensor problem • Engine problem and servicing is required
North Horr	Bubisa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both motor and the pump require replacement • Two(2) draw pipes need replacement

- Water trucking is currently ongoing in some parts of the County. Laisamis sub-county (Ulauli, Weltei, Lapikutuk, Mbagas, Sakardala, Lependera), North Horr sub-county (Elhadi, Kubi Adhi, Qorqa, Gas, Chari Ashe, Tigo, Mude, Kalesa), Moyale sub-county (Elle Dimtu, Elle Borr, Funanqumbi, Amballo, Dambala Fachana, Badanrero, Bori) and Saku sub-county (Kambinye, Dololo Dokatu, Karare, Jaldesa) require immediate water trucking. Most of the remaining open water sources are likely to dry up in the next one month coupled with breakdown of boreholes.

2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

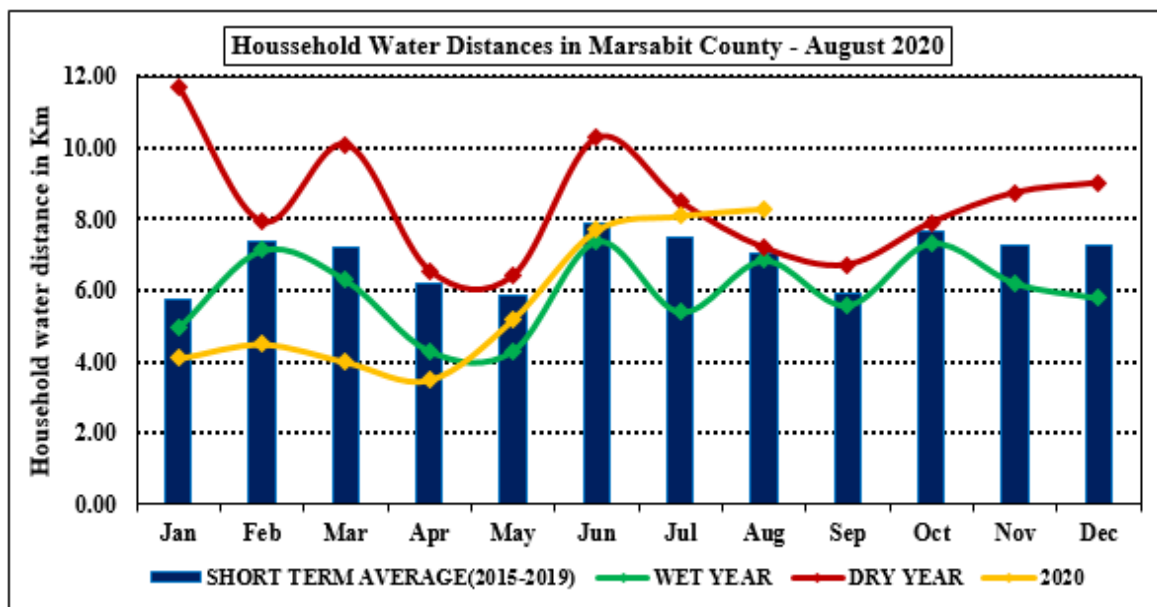


Figure 6: Current household return water distance (km) compared to Short Term Average distances (km)

- From (Figure 6) shown above, return household water distances to the main water sources was 8.3km in the month under review which exhibits a gradual increase when compared to the previous month's household water distance of 8.1km in all the livelihood zones. The current household water distance of 8.3km is above normal by 17percent when compared to the short term average household water distance of 7.1km.
- Current waiting time in the agro-pastoral livelihood zone varied between 15-30 minutes which is below the long term average of 30-45 minutes whereas in the pastoral livelihood zone, waiting time was 30-45 minutes compared 45-60 minutes normally.
- Agro-pastoral livelihood zone reported water consumption per person per day of 8-10 litres while in the pastoral livelihood zone, water consumption per person per day was 5-8 litres.

2.2.3 Livestock access

- From (Figure 7) shown below, return livestock trekking distance from grazing areas to water points is 16.5km in all the livelihood zones which depicts a gradual increase when compared to the previous month's distance of 15.2km.
- When compared to the short term average livestock grazing distance of 18.9km, the current livestock trekking distance of 16.5km is shorter by 13percent.
- However, other areas posted longer trekking distances greater than 25km which include: Moyale sub-county (parts of Golbo, Obbu and Uran wards), North Horr sub-county (Yaa Gas, Gara, Bubisa, Demo, Dukana, Toricha, Konon Gos, Kubiadhi, Wara) and Laisamis sub-county (parts of Korr-Ngurunit and Laisamis wards).

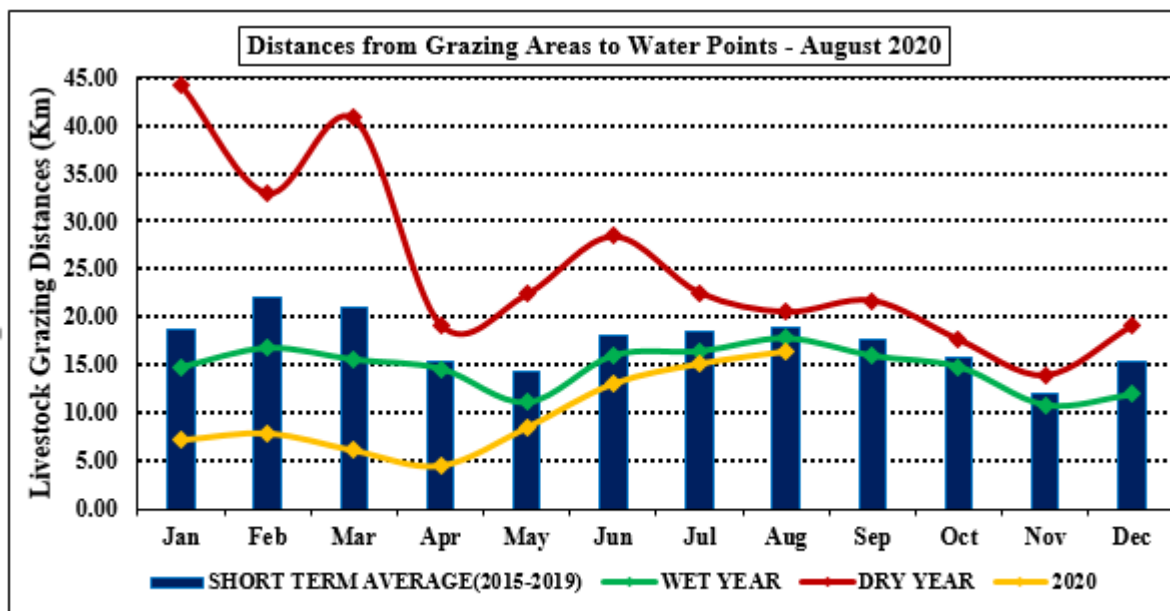


Figure 7: Current return livestock trekking distances compared to the short term average distance (km)

- Watering intervals for cattle and small stock is 1-2 days and 2-3 days respectively across the livelihood zones which is normal. Camels watering frequency is 6-8 days against 7-14 days normally.
- With the progression of the long dry spell, watering frequencies are expected to decline for all the livestock species in all the livelihood zones.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- Body condition of cattle and small stock is good in all the livelihood zones which is above normal when compared to similar periods attributed to availability of forage. Camels are in very good body condition in all the livelihood zones.
- With the expected persistence of the drier than normal condition, the livestock body condition is expected to deteriorate but still fall within the good condition range in all the livelihood zones.

3.1.2 Livestock Migration

- Intra migration of livestock to major grazing areas were witnessed in all the livelihood zones along the traditional migratory routes. In-migration of livestock to the dry grazing areas were noticed in Laisamis, North Horr and parts of Moyale sub-counties. Livestock in Turbi ward have majorly migrated towards Kalacha and Hurri-Hills in Maikona ward. In Dukana ward, livestock have migrated to Sabarei, Bulluk, Araftis while in North Horr ward they have migrated towards Darade, Chari-Ashe, Sibilo, Sarimo, Moite and Galas.
- Livestock from Karare and Loglogo have migrated towards Gudas, Soriadi and Malgis areas. In Korr and Laisamis wards livestock have moved towards Koya, Merille, Losidan, Gatab and Lontolio while in Moyale sub-county, livestock from Golbo and Heillu Manyatta wards have migrated to Korondile in Wajir, Basil, Laqi and Antut while livestock from Uran ward have migrated to southern Ethiopia. 50percent of the camels, 10percent of cattle and 5percent of small stock have migrated to the dry season grazing areas mentioned above in search of forage and water. However, livestock from Kurkum, Kobotaro, Damele have abnormally migrated to Mt. Kulal because of destruction of pasture and browse by wild fire.

- Livestock from Songa in Saku sub-county cannot access the dry season grazing areas due to insecurity. Livestock migration in the areas mentioned above has led to reduction of milk production at the household level.
- As the long dry spell continues, more proportion of livestock especially camel species are expected to migrate further to dry season grazing areas.

3.1.3 Tropical Livestock Units (TLU) and Calving & Kidding Rates

- In the agro-pastoral livelihood zone, poor income households had 2-3.5 tropical livestock units compared to 2-5 normally while the middle income had 5-12 compared to 10-17 normally. In the pastoral livelihood zone, poor income households had 2-6 tropical livestock units compared to 4-8 normally while the middle income had 8-15 compared to 15-20 normally.

3.1.4 Livestock diseases and mortalities

- There is a report of a strange disease killing cattle along Malgis river especially Soriadi area. Livestock develop signs of paralysis in all the limbs then afterwards get recumbent. More than 12 cows have been lost due to suspected plant poisoning.
- There is suspected cases of rabies in Sarima area around Lake Turkana wind power farm and also similar cases of suspected rabies in North Horr.
- In Saku sub-county, there are cases of lumpy skin disease reported in Badassa area.
- Generally, livestock disease incidences are normal in all the livelihood zones.

3.1.5 Milk Production

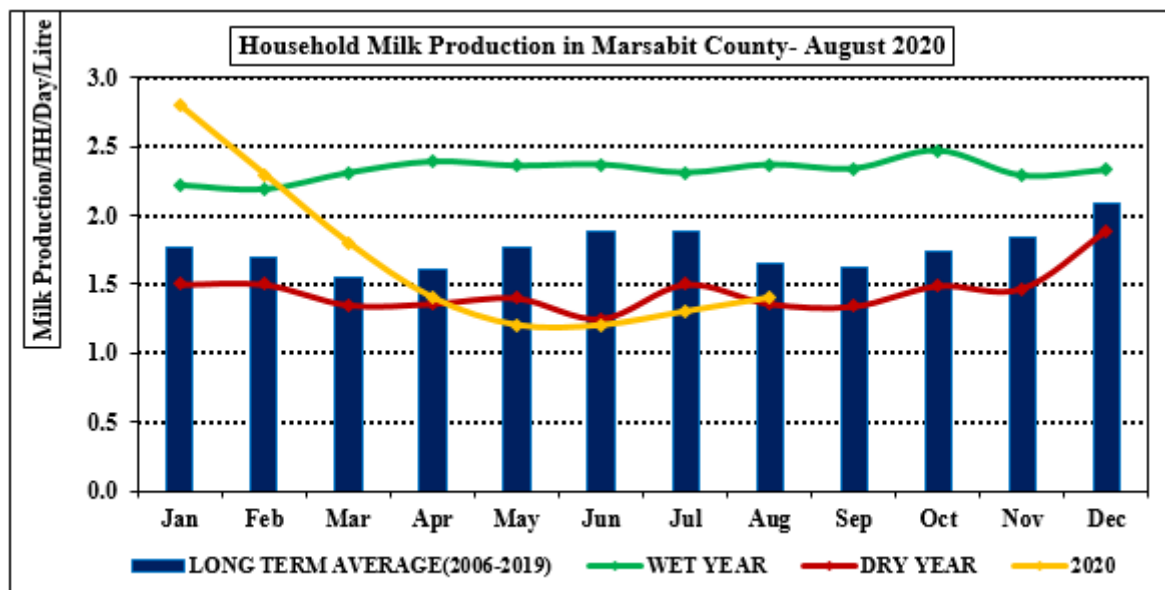


Figure 8: Milk production per household per day in litres across the livelihood zones

- From figure 8 shown above, household milk production per day for the month under review was 1.4litre/household/day in all the livelihood zones hence didn't change when compared to the preceding month's milk production of 1.3litre/household/day.
- When compared to similar periods, current milk production of 1.4litres is below normal by 18percent when compared to the long term average milk production of 1.7litres.
- Below normal milk production is attributed to very low calving rates as most of camels and cattle are likely to calve down in the next 2-3 months in all the livelihood zones. Available milk is mainly derived from goats and sheep across the County.
- Milk retailed at an average of Kshs 75-90 per litre in all the livelihood zones compared to Kshs 60-75 normally which is 20-25 percent above normal attributed to low milk production.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

4.1.1 Cattle Prices

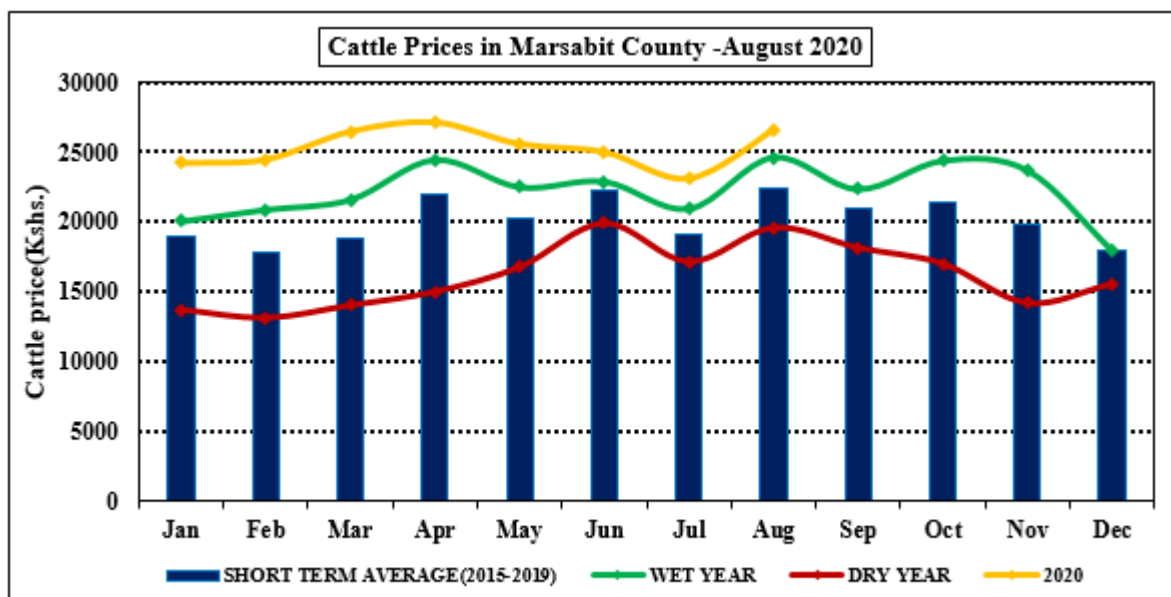


Figure 9: Current cattle prices compared to the short term average prices

- From the figure (9) shown above, cattle price for the month under review was Kshs 26,580 thus improved when compared to the previous months' price of Kshs 23,150.
- When compared to similar periods, current cattle price of Kshs 26,580 is above the short-term average price of Kshs 22,375 by 19percent. Above short term average cattle price is attributed to generally good body condition across the livelihood zones.
- Current traded volumes of cattle in the livestock markets increased by 5percent when compared to the previous month.
- With ease of restrictions and re-opening of the livestock markets, cattle prices are expected to be stable in the next one month across the livelihood zones.

4.1.2 Goat prices

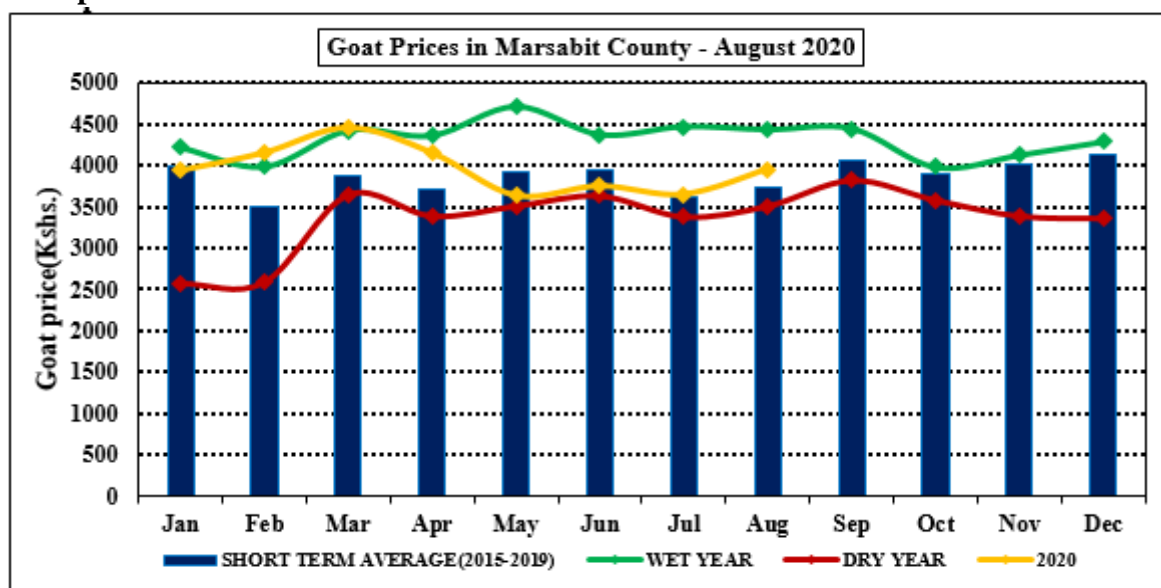


Figure 10: Current goat prices compared to short term average prices

- The current average goat price is Kshs 3,955 hence normal when compared to the long term average price of Kshs 3,734 across the livelihood zones. Normal goat prices were attributed to generally good body condition.

- However, near average prices were depicted in major livestock markets of Laisamis and North Horr sub-county due to disruptions of the supply chains. Moyale livestock market recorded better prices of Kshs 4000-4500 with daily traded volumes for Moyale livestock market at a low of 100-120 goats compared to normal daily volumes of 150-200 goats.
- With the progression of the long dry spell and ease of restrictions attributed to COVID-19, supply chain may be restored thus goat's prices are likely to remain stable in next one month.

4.1.3 Sheep Prices

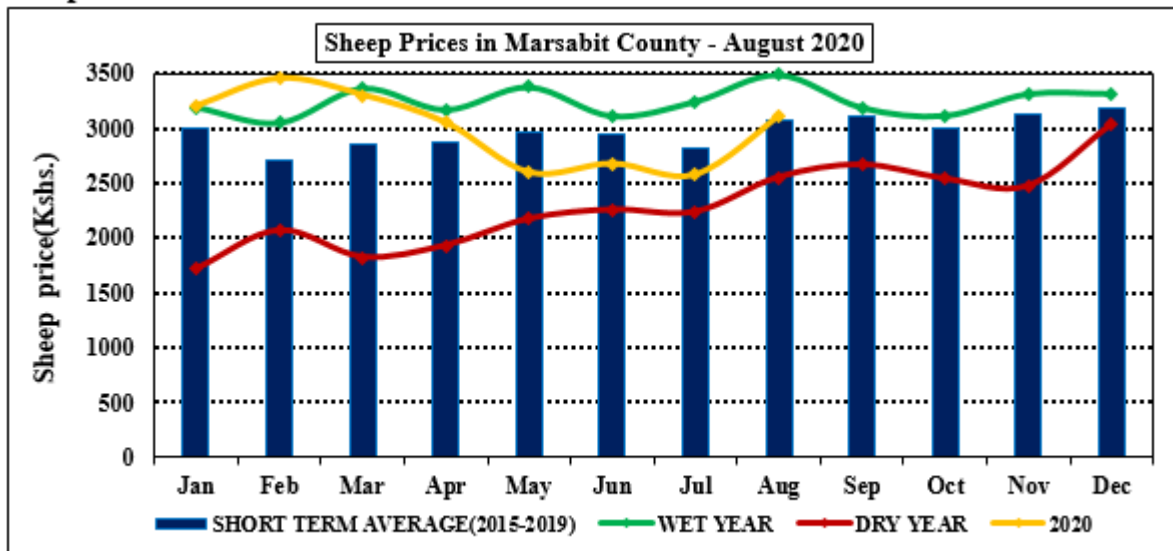


Figure 11: Current sheep prices compared to the short-term average prices (Kshs.)

- From the figure 11 shown above, sheep price was Kshs 3,110 thus improved when compared to the preceding month's sheep price of Kshs 2,580.
- When compared to the short-term average price of Kshs 3,066, current sheep price is normal attributed to generally good body condition.
- Additionally, majority of the pastoralists are currently holding their livestock which has a positive implication on prices as market supplies is limited.
- With the re-opening of the livestock markets and ease of COVID-19 containment measures, sheep prices are expected to be stable in the next one month across the livelihood zones.

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize

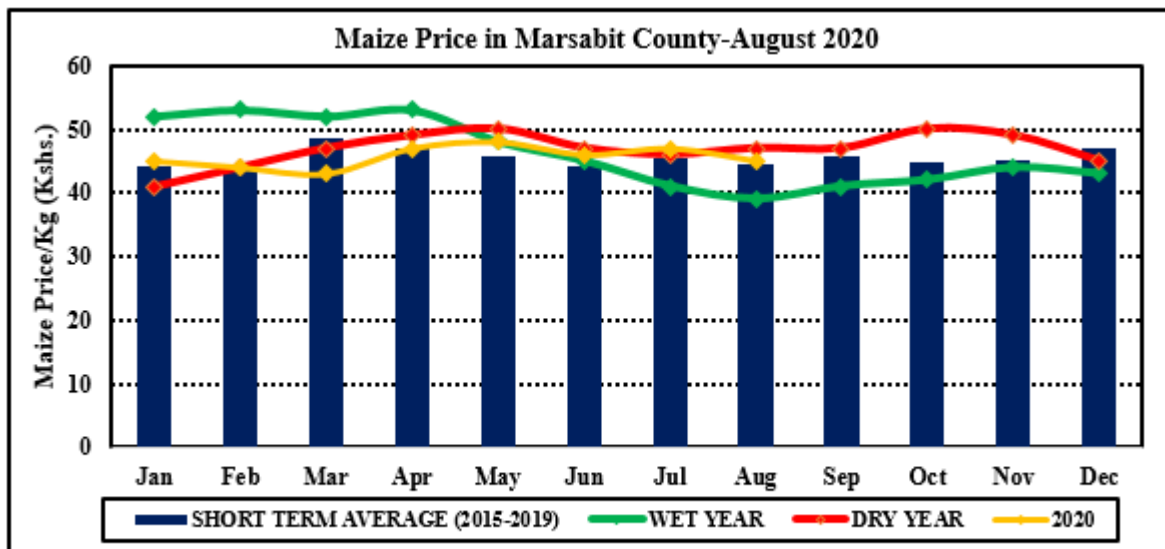


Figure 12: Current maize prices compared to the short-term average maize prices (Kshs.)

- The current average maize price is Kshs. 45/kg which is normal when compared to the long term average price of Kshs 44/kg. Moyale sub-county recorded better maize prices averaging at Kshs 30/kg due to above normal maize harvest in addition to cross border supplies from Ethiopia.
- Saku sub-county posted stable maize price at Kshs 40/kg attributed to supplies from the external terminal markets of Meru and Nyahururu and harvests received in the agro-pastoral areas.
- However, most markets in North Horr and Laisamis sub-county registered high maize prices of Kshs 55-60/kg indicating 25percent above the long term average attributed to poor local market integration and insecurity incidences.
- Notable high maize prices were recorded in some parts of Laisamis and North Horr sub-counties with prices averaging at Kshs 80/kg.

4.2.2 Beans

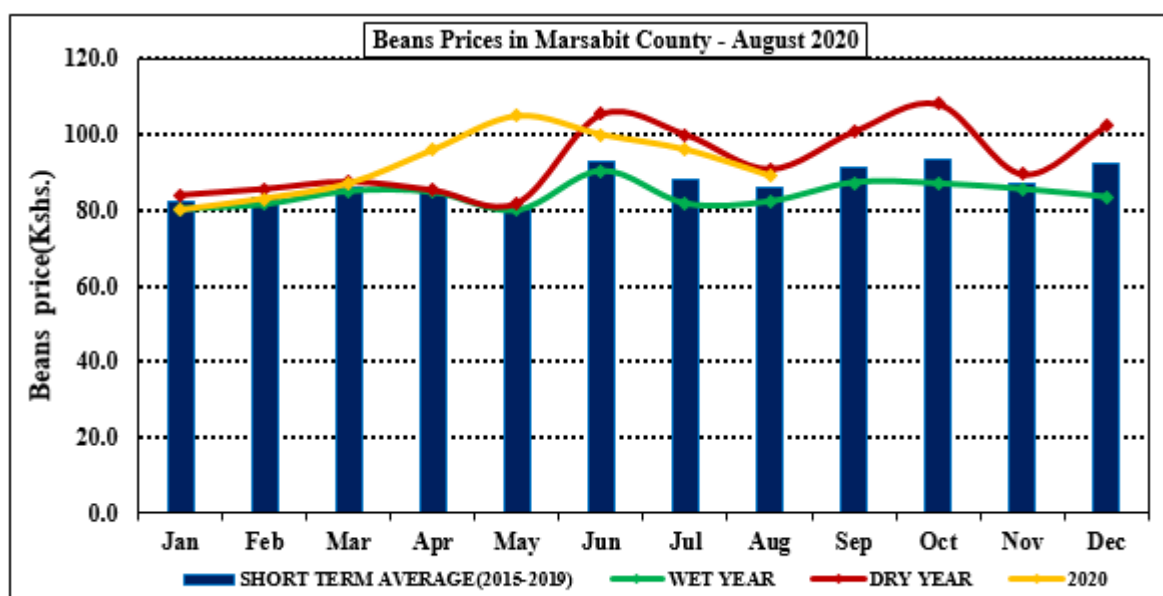


Figure 13: Beans prices compared to the short average term average prices(Kshs.)

- From the figure shown above, beans prices retailed at Kshs 89/kg in the month under review across the livelihood zones thus reduced when compared to the preceding month's beans price of Kshs 96/kg.
- Decline in beans price was recorded in the agro-pastoral areas of Moyale and Saku sub-counties where majority of the farmers had already harvested beans.
- However, when compared to short-term average beans price of Kshs 86/kg, current beans price is normal.
- Moyale commodity market registered favourable beans prices of Kshs 60/kg. Favourable beans prices in Moyale commodity market was attributed to generally good commodity market integration.
- North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties recorded high beans prices of Kshs 100-120 attributed to generally inadequate supplies and limited access.

4.2.3 Terms of Trade (TOT)

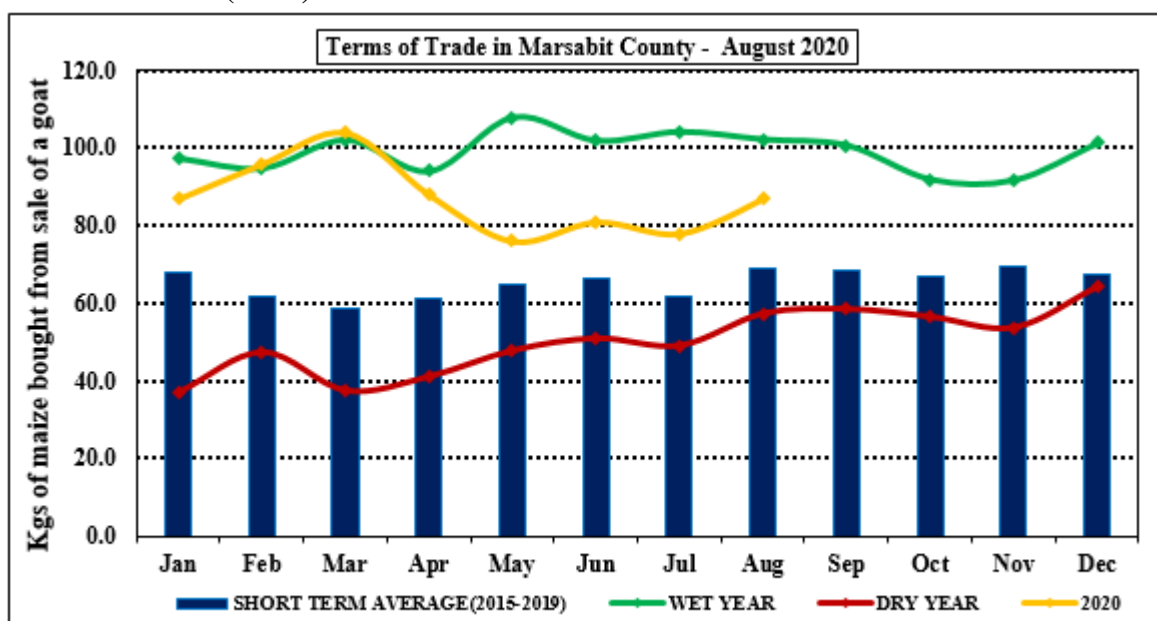


Figure 14: Current terms of trade versus short term average terms of trade

- The current terms of trade is 87 kilograms in exchange for the sale of a goat which is 26 percent above the long term average terms of trade of 69 kilograms.
- Terms of trade is above normal attributed to operationalization of major livestock markets that were initially closed due to COVID-19 pandemic and good livestock body condition.
- Moyale sub-county posted better terms of trade than other sub-counties due to better goats' prices and below normal maize prices driven by injections from the Ethiopia market.
- However, terms of trade were below the long term average in North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties majorly attributed to limited access.
- With stable goat prices, resuscitation of the livestock markets and stable maize prices, terms of trade is expected to be stable in the next one month.

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 Milk Consumption

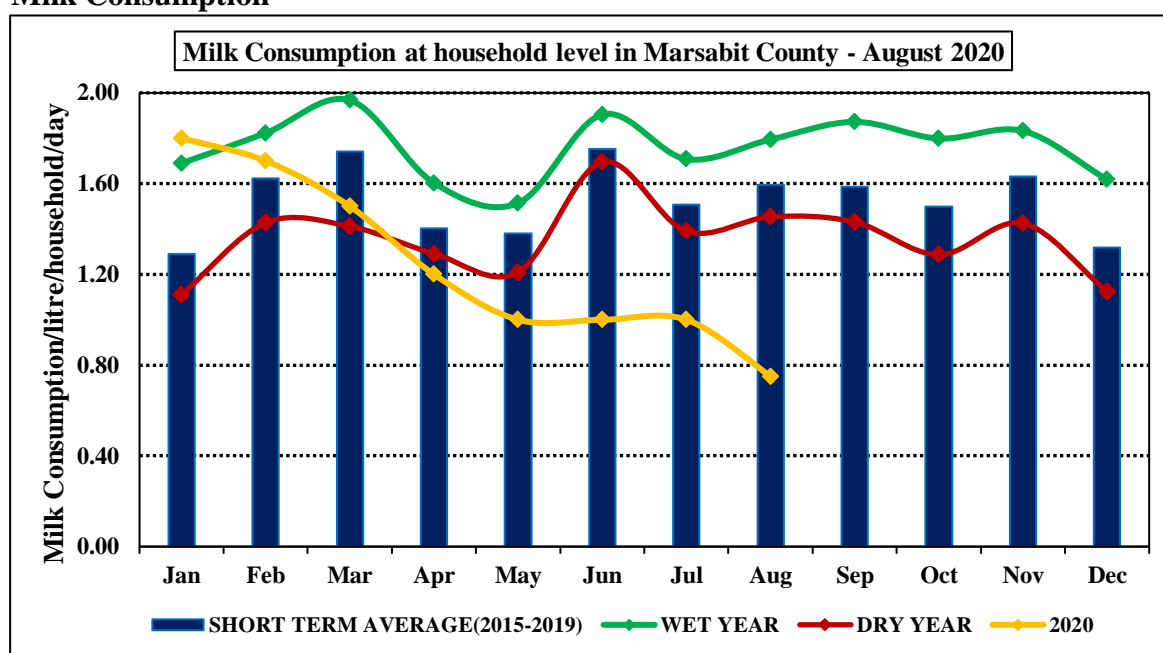


Figure 15: Milk Consumption at household level in Litres per day

- From the figure 15 shown above, household milk consumption is 0.75litre/household/day in the month under review across the livelihood zones thus gradually reduced when compared to the preceding month's household milk consumption of one litre/household/day.
- When compared to the long-term average milk consumption of 1.6litres/household/day, current milk consumption is below normal by 53percent.
- Below normal milk consumption at the household level was attributed to low milk production in all the livelihood zones as calving expected in the next 2-3 months.

5.2 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE (FCS)

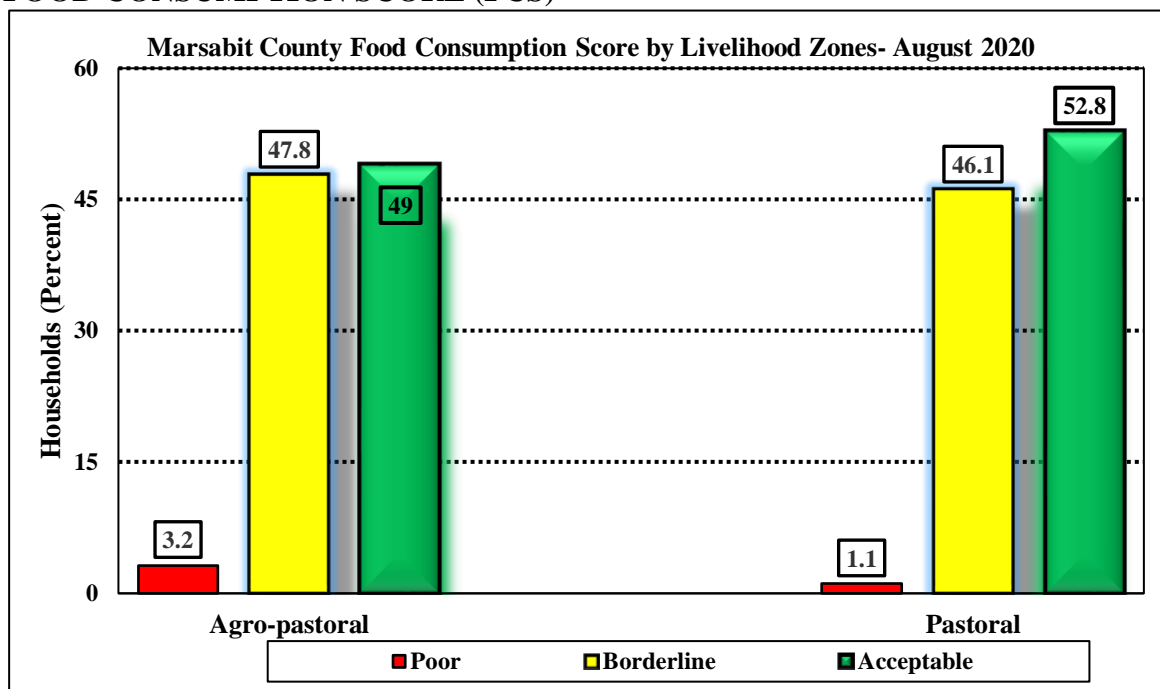


Figure 16: Food Consumption Score across the livelihood zones

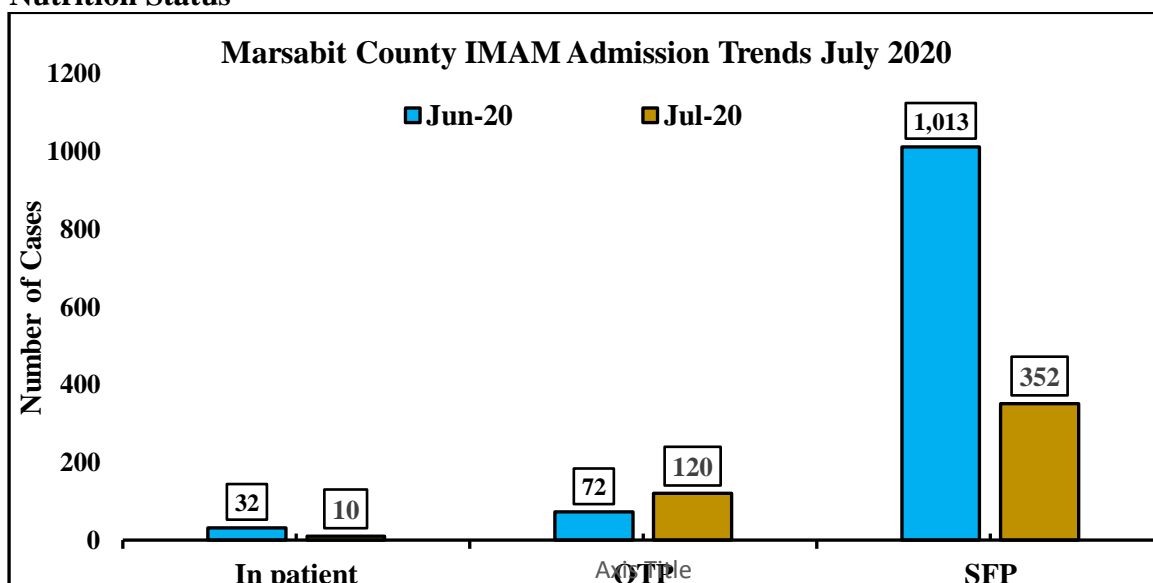
- In the month under review, food consumption score is 43.49 in all the livelihood zones the slightly improved when compared to the previous month's food consumption score of 40.04.
- Agro-pastoral and pastoral livelihood zones posted food consumption score of 42.60 and 47.17 respectively. Proportion of households in the pastoral livelihood zone that were within acceptable, borderline and poor food consumption score were 52.8percent, 46.1percent and 1.1percent respectively. Similarly, proportion of households in the agro-pastoral livelihood zone that were within the acceptable, borderline and poor food consumption scores were 49percent, 47.8percent and 3.2percent respectively.

	FCS Mean	Poor FCS	Borderline FCS	Acceptable FCS
County	43.5	2.2%	46.9%	50.9%
Dukana	42.2	1.1%	15.5%	83.4%
Golbo	39.9	0.5%	51.4%	49.7%
Karare	56.6	0.0%	12.5%	87.5%
Korr	37.7	0.0%	33.3%	66.7%
Loiyangalani	30.3	6.7%	80.0%	13.3%
Logologo	48.6	0.0%	18.9%	81.1%
Turbi	36.8	0.0%	78.3%	31.7%
North Horr	46.9	2.7%	10.2	87.1%
Heillu Manyatta	28.5	0.0%	94.0%	6.0%
Sagante	36.4	5.5%	41.3%	53.2%
Uran	48.7	0.0%	4.5%	95.5%

- From the table shown above, 2.2percent of households consumed staples and vegetables every day and never or very rarely are consuming protein rich food such as meat and dairy. 46.9percent of the households consumed staples and vegetables every day, accompanied by oil and pulses a few times a week while 50.9percent consumed staples and vegetables every day, regularly accompanied by oil and pulses and occasionally meat or dairy product.
- Sagante and Karare wards in Saku sub-county, Golbo and Uran wards in Moyale sub-county, Logologo and Korr-Ngurunit wards in Laisamis sub-county, Dukana and Turbi wards in North Horr sub-county fell in the acceptable food consumption band. However, Heillu Manyatta and Loiyangalani wards fell in the borderline food consumption band.
- Food consumption score is in the acceptable band across livelihood zones attributed to ongoing safety nets, food stock from harvest of rain-fed crops and food interventions.

5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.3.1 Nutrition Status



Source: Ministry of Health

- During the period under review, 10 new cases of severe acute malnutrition were admitted in the stabilization centers as opposed to 32 cases that were admitted in June 2020, 120 new cases admitted in Outpatient therapeutic program which is an indicative of massive increase from the previous month where 72 cases were admitted while 352 cases were enrolled in Supplementary feeding program compared to 1,013 from the previous month. The above bar graph illustrates a decline of admission in the SFP programme that could be associated with access related issues after closure of a number of outreaches in the County and low community level engagement secondary to weak community health strategy (CHS) support in the County and not necessarily improved food situation.

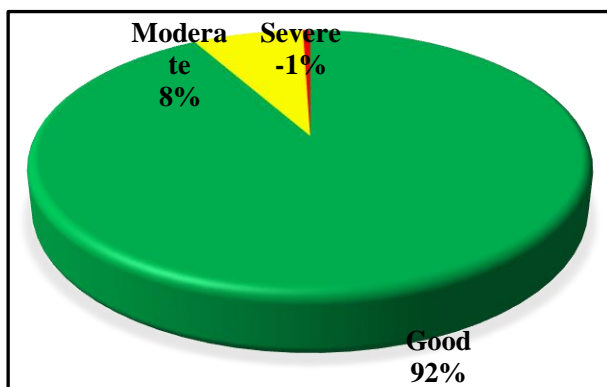


Figure 17: Family MUAC Measurements (Under-Fives)

- Figure 17 above illustrates caregiver’s family MUAC results across the sentinel sites which indicates that 91.8percent of the under-fives recorded MUAC > 124 while 7.7percent and 0.5percent of the under-fives are moderately and severely malnourished respectively.

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES

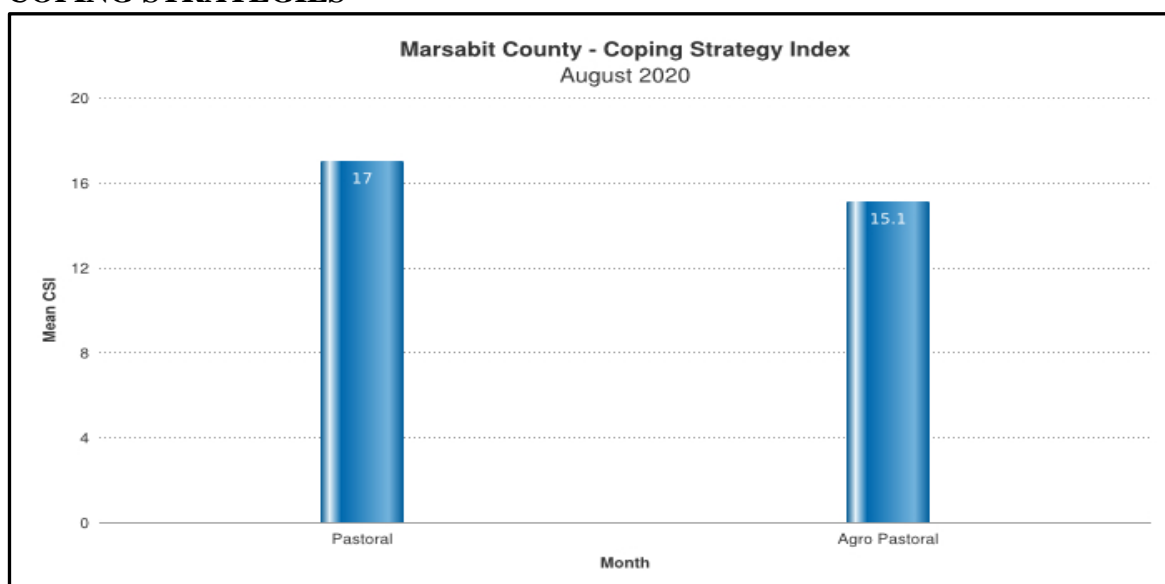


Figure 19: Coping Strategy Index across livelihood zones

- From figure 19 shown above, reduced coping strategy index(rCSI) for the pastoral and agro-pastoral livelihood zones was 17.0 and 15.1 respectively thus majority of households applied stressed reduced food consumption based coping strategies in all the livelihood zones.
- Reduced consumption based coping strategy index (rCSI) for the month under review is 16.8 thus gradually increased when compared to the previous months rCSI of 15.9.
- 99.3percent of the households applied coping mechanisms while a paltry 0.7percent of the households didn't apply any of the reduced coping strategies in the month under review.
- From table shown below, households in Golbo, Loiyangalani, North Horr, Sagante and Dukana wards employed crisis reduced consumption based coping strategies whereas those in Karare, Logologo and Uran wards applied less severe coping strategies.

Consumption based coping strategy index(rCSI)		
Sub-county	Ward	rCSI
Saku	Sagante	19.9
Saku	Karare	9.2
Laisamis	Korr	15.6
Laisamis	Logologo	7.8
Laisamis	Loiyangalani	30.9
North Horr	North Horr	25.0
North Horr	Turbi	13.1
North Horr	Dukana	21.4
Moyale	Uran	10.5
Moyale	Heillu Manyatta	12.2
Moyale	Golbo	26.0

- It can also be deduced that 4percent, 58percent and 38percent of the households applied reduced consumption based coping strategies that were minimal, stressed and crisis respectively.
- Notable reduced consumption based coping strategies employed by the households were reduction in frequency of food consumption, reduced portion size of meals and reliance on less preferred food in all the livelihood zones.

6.0 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES

6.1 Food Aid

- USAID/WFP through SND distributed food rations to 9168 households across the 50 sites in the County under the Sustainable Food System Programme which comprised of 384.2Mts of cereals, 84.524Mts of pulses and 28.232Mts of vegetable oil.

6.2 Non-Food Aid

- World Vision Kenya supported households affected by Desert Locust in Laisamis sub-county with cash transfer of Ksh.3000 monthly. Namarei (30 Household, Ngurunit - 30 Households, Illaut & Farakoren, Nairibi - 35 Households, and Lontolio - 37 households).
- FAO through CIFA undertook desert locust recovery response project in Moyale sub-county (Dirdima, Missa, Qolob, Antut) community beneficiary households 473 among this 426 are working household and 47 households are most vulnerable all benefitting from Kshs.500 per day for 12 days. Main activity is rangeland rehabilitation on bush control for 130 hectares.
- FAO through PACIDA to supported access to emergency livestock feed by vulnerable households, access to animal health services-mass vaccination, deworming and treatment of sick animals to communities affected by desert locust.
- FAO through CARITAS to undertake water harvesting through farm pond construction, inputs distribution, agri-nutrition interventions, establishment of kitchen gardens/vertical gardens.
- CRS provided 225 complete set of hand washing stations, 1992 5L liquid soaps and 224 5L bleach for COVID-19 response. NAWIRI also supported training of 250 CHWs and 1000 CHVs/CHAs.
- Concern WorldWide trained 79 secondary school mentors on home learning, menstrual hygiene, child protection and safety during COVID 19. The mentors conducted six successive mentorship sessions per mentor among 241 mentees. The project further supported 79 secondary school girls and 241 mentees with dignity pack. Twenty vulnerable girls from the twenty project targeted schools in North Horr and Moyale sub-county were supported with cash transfer of Kshs 2000 to meet their personal needs during this period.
- Concern WorldWide conducted two days training for 45 community facilitators from fifteen community conversation groups, four from Turbi and eleven from Hurri Hills on continuity of learning, child safeguarding and routine preparation. Education project supported eight (8) women groups from Walda, Rawana, Funan Qumbi, Turbi and Hurri Hills with additional grants amounting to Kshs 200,000.
- Concern WorldWide supported needy households from locust affected communities with cash transfer of MEB value Kshs 4616 to 830 beneficiaries under ELMA foundation funding: and 2260 beneficiaries in partnership with PACIDA under ECHO funding. Supported 700 needy households from locust affected communities of North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties with livestock range cubes of 50Kg per household to feed milking herd for continued milk access at the household.
- Concern WorldWide supported MoH in monitoring IMAM surges, treatment of malnutrition and ensuring supplies in all the facilities in Laisamis. This was achieved through joint health facility visits that was conducted in 11 facilities namely Illaut, Namarei, Korr, Burarmia, Ballah, Ngurunit, Gatab, Oltorot, Loiyangalani, Elomolo Bay and Kurungu. The visit highlighted the need to support the facilities with IMAM surge monitoring charts a follow up action, which is being currently undertaken.

- FH-K supported child sponsorship programmes in Sololo, Saku, North Horr and Kargi in Laisamis.
- FH-K supported capacity building of Self Help Groups (SHG) in Sololo, Saku and North Horr on kitchen gardening, supported animal husbandry training and issuance of small stocks.
- FH-K supported Community and School led Total Sanitation in collaboration with Ministry of Health. In addition, FH-K had outreaches and supported cooking demonstration.
- FH-K supported education activities-Early grade learning and literacy mainly through Cascade groups, improvements of infrastructures, latrines, classrooms, and administration blocks.
- FH-K supported COVID-19 Response - creation of awareness through community meetings/through radio spots/live in, support MOH to train CHVs/CHEWs Nurses and PHO in Sololo, Saku and North Horr, distribution of hand wash facilities, liquid soaps, 47 protective gowns and rehabilitation of water harvesting structures in schools.
- BOMA disbursed Covid Stimulus grants for BOMA Business of 4030 women across the county, grant disbursement for 330 Businesses across the county, monthly business skills/micro skills training to 4030 participants and distribution of 4030 facemasks.
- Sign of Hope to target 100 households. This is the third ration accompanied by livelihood training.

7.0 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS.

- Current vegetation condition index is within the above normal vegetation greenness band. Above normal vegetation greenness was attributed to the combined effects of the good performance of the short and long rains that was well distributed in all the livelihood zones. With the progression of the long dry spell, the 3-months vegetation condition index will gradually deteriorate in the next one month but still remain in the above normal vegetation greenness band.
- Quality and quantity of pasture and browse is good-fair in all the livelihood zones. Pasture and browse is expected to last for 2 and half months in all the livelihood zones against the normal of 1-2 months.
- Break down of boreholes in Laisamis sub-county is pronounced. 70percent of surface water sources in agro-pastoral livelihood zone of Moyale and Saku sub counties have dried up. With the progression of the long dry spell, more strategic boreholes are expected to break down and water trucking to continue in isolated pockets of the County.
- With expected persistence of the drier than normal condition, household and livestock trekking distances are likely to increase further, watering frequencies are expected to decline for all the livestock species in all the livelihood zones.
- Generally, kidding and lambing is high across all the livelihood zones with exception of camels and cattle which are expected to calf down in the next 2-3 months.

- Milk production is below normal attributed to very low calving rates as most of the camels and cattle are likely to calf down in the next 2-3 months in all the livelihood zones.
- Harvested rain-fed crops (maize and beans) in the agro-pastoral areas of Moyale and Saku sub-counties will last for the next 2-3 weeks.
- With stable goat prices, resuscitation of the livestock markets and stable maize prices, terms of trade is expected to be stable in the next one month.
- The mean food consumption score fell in the acceptable food consumption score band in all the livelihood zones and expected to remain in the acceptable band in the next one month while reduced consumption based coping strategies are likely to remain in the stressed phase.
- Nutritional status of children below the age of five years has been on a gradual deteriorating trend in all the livelihood zones occasioned by below normal milk consumption and expected to deteriorate further until the end of the year. Due to closure of a number of outreaches across the County, decline of admission in the programmes is expected.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provision of personal protective gears, face masks, hand sanitizers, training of public health officers, continuous awareness campaigns across the County on COVID-19.
- Continuous experts' advisory on migration patterns of the desert locust determine the direction of the swarm movement and effective control measures.
- Community health volunteers to enhance COVID-19 education session in order to reduce stigma. Each CHV to develop household visit schedule. Replacement and on the job training for the new CHVs.
- Desalination of water pans, repair of broken down boreholes, provision of fast moving spare parts for strategic boreholes and support to borehole rapid response teams.
- Intensive stimulation of major livestock markets across the County.
- Livestock disease surveillance and vaccination against endemic disease incidences across the County.
- Capacity building of healthcare workers on business continuity process for health and nutrition in the context of Covid 19 pandemic.
- Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) especially hotspots in North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties.
- The County Government should lead and coordinate reconciliation efforts at all levels. In addition, develop and update negotiated and agreed land use and range management plans and continue research on current grazing patterns to prevent sporadic violence.