



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



AUGUST EW PHASE 2017

**Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification
Biophysical Indicators**

Wajir County did not receive any rainfall in the month, though most of the days were characterized by cloud cover and long dry spell. vegetation cover indexes for the month of August still remained the same which showed moderate vegetation deficit band with a VCI score of 30 from previous month figure of 29 with no significant changes, Although areas of Pastoral cattle in Wajir South and pastoral all species in Wajir west are the most affected zones with avci scores of 14.39 and 16.42 respectively, with both showing severe vegetation deficit.

The main sources of water are boreholes, shallow wells and water pans.

The condition of water in the county has deteriorated as most of the water pans are dry as a result of over concentration of livestock as compared to similar time last year. Increase in trekking distance which is attributed to depletion of pasture, browse and drying of water pans thus reducing livestock body condition and production.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

Livestock body condition still remained the same ranging from fair to poor. Condition of camels is fair, Production of Milk deteriorated, increase in livestock trekking distance, the terms of trade not favourable at 59.9.kg in August to 59kg in July for a sale of one medium size goat with no significant change recorded. No disruption of market reported. Migration of livestock still continued in search of pasture, water and browse, Condition of Pasture and browse worsened, the percentage of children under five at risk of malnutrition increased from 19.0 in July to 19.6 indicating no significant changes as compared to previous month.

Early Warning Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral	Alert	Worsening
Pastoral cattle	Alarm	Worsening
Pastoral-all species	Alarm	Worsening
Pastoral camel	Alert	Worsening
Informal employment	Alert	Worsening
County	Alert	Worsening
Biophysical Indicators	value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)	0	80 -120
VCI-3Month	30	>35
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Livestock Body Condition	Fair -poor	Normal
Crop production	Poor	Good
Milk Production	1.8	>3-4litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal
Livestock deaths (from drought)	No death	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	59.9	>66
Milk Consumption	1.0	>3
Return Distance to water source	6.2	<5 Km
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	19.6	<6.6
Coping Strategy Index (CSI)	12	<0.95

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

1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITION

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

The county did not received any rainfall in August, although most of the days were characterized by cloudy and dry weather during the season.

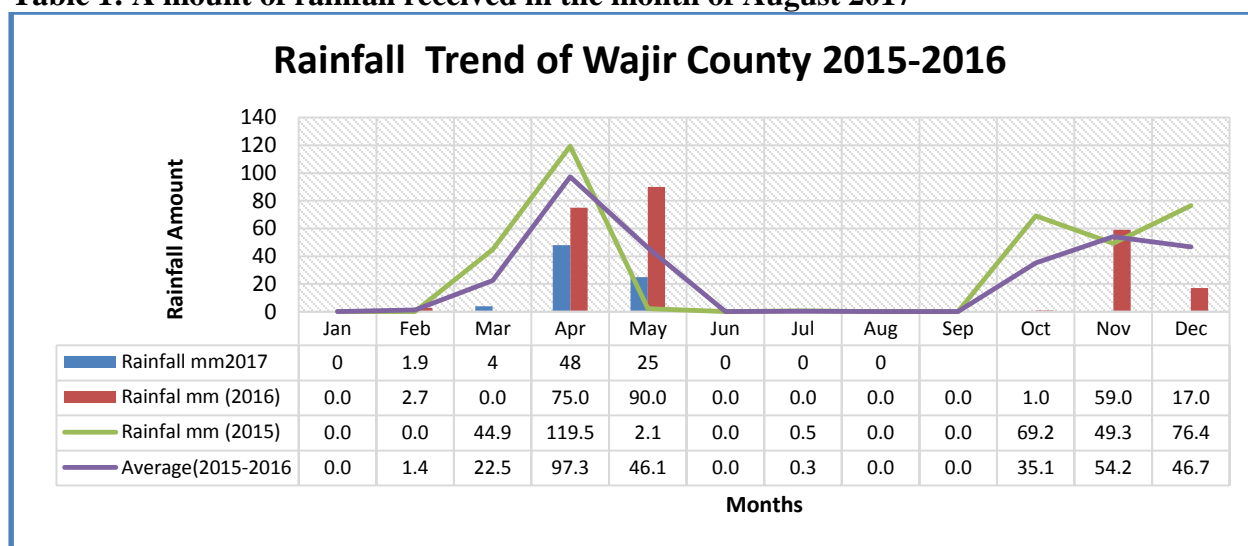
Amount of rainfall and spatial distribution

There was no rainfall recorded in August 2017, though it was cloudy and dry during the dry.

1.1.1 Rainfall station data

The county did not receive rainfall in August and this was normal at these time of the year.

Table 1: A mount of rainfall received in the month of August 2017



2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 Vegetation Condition

2.1.1 Vegetation condition index (VCI)

- Current vegetation cover indexes for the county in August still showed moderate vegetation deficit in all livelihood zones except Wajir south, Wajir west which showed severe vegetation deficit.
- Areas that are widely affected in the county are Pastoral cattle in Wajir south and pastoral all species in Wajir west indicating severe vegetation deficit, while other sub-counties showed moderate vegetation deficit.
- The severity in Wajir south and Wajir west was as a result of insufficient rains witnessed in the last three seasons thus leading to depletion of pasture, browse and water. The Situation is likely to worsen further as the long dry spell continues.

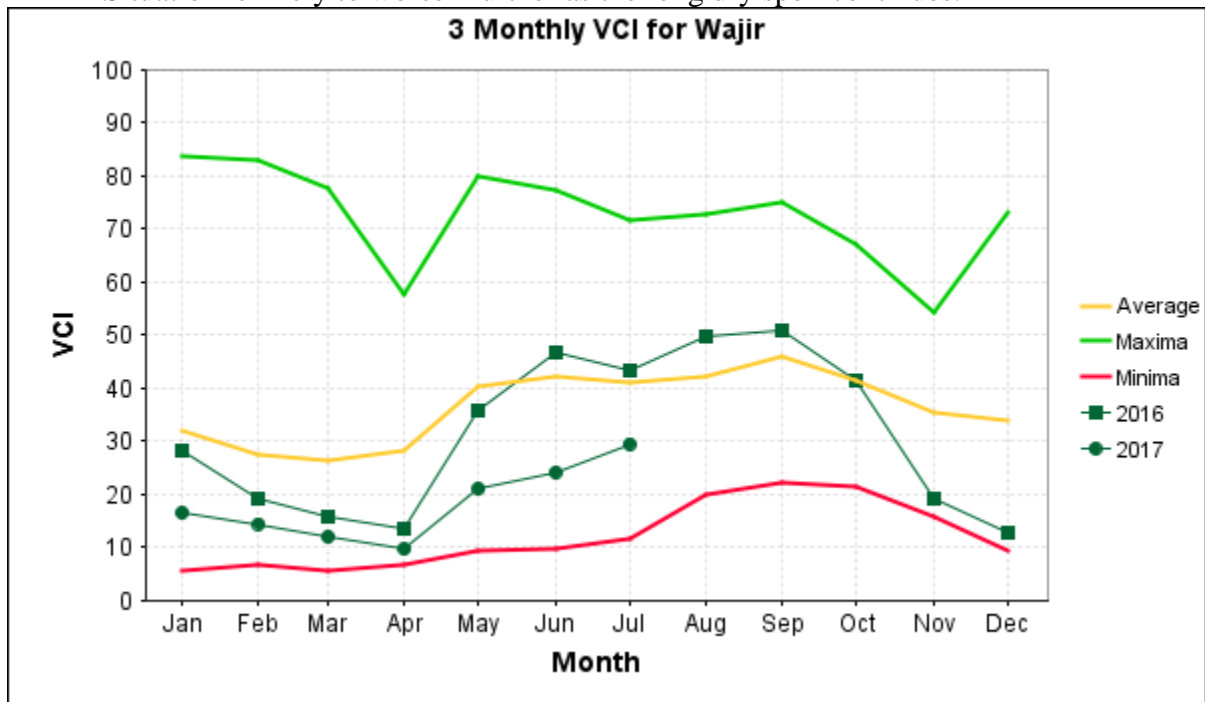


Figure 1: A chart of Wajir County overall 3-monthly VCI during the month of August 2017

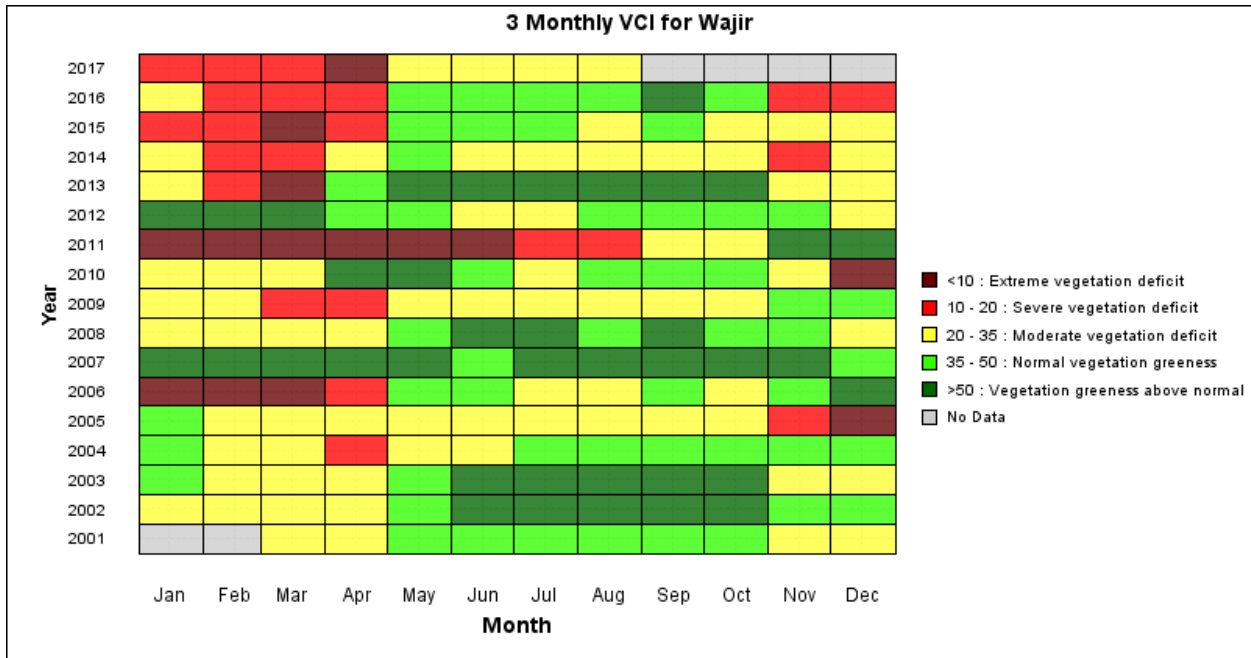


Figure 4: A matrix of 3-monthly VCI for Wajir County during the month of August 2017

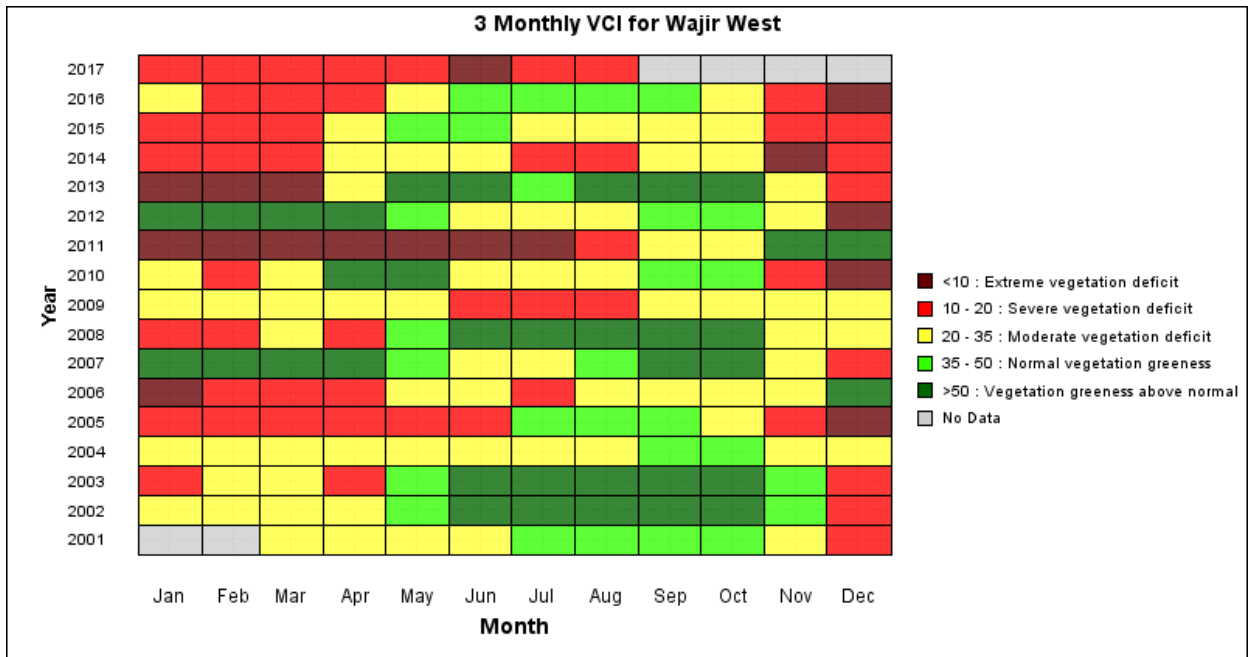


Figure 4: A matrix of 3-monthly VCI for Wajir County during the month of August 2017

2.1.2 Pasture

- The condition of Pasture remained to be fair to poor in the county as a result of poor pasture attributed to insignificant rainfall received and over concentration of livestock, thus led to depletion in areas that experienced significant rainfall deficit.
- Particularly Pastoral all species in Wajir West and Pastoral Cattle in Wajir South are the worst affected areas with severe deficit, while areas in Wajir North, Wajir East and Tarbaj received sufficient rains during the season.
- However they are also experiencing depletion of pasture and browse due to over concentration of livestock from other parts of the county and neighbouring Counties.
- The little Pasture is likely to last for a period of less than a month in the areas that received adequate rains during last season but other areas are already depleted.
- No constraints to access of pasture reported during the month of review.

2.1.3 Browse

- Condition of browse in all livelihood zones ranged from fair to poor, although Wajir south and Wajir West which revealed poor due to depressed rainfall deficit witnessed during the last seasons hence making it to be poorer.
- Comparing to the earlier season the situation worsened as a result of over concentration of livestock experienced in the zones that hard adequate browse.
- Caused by depressed rainfall received during that period, the current browse is expected to last for less than a month.
- No constraints reported during the month under review.
- The situation varies according to livelihood zones where agro-pastoral and pastoral camel showed fair browse condition and pastoral cattle and pastoral all species indicated poor browse condition.

2.2 Water Sources

- The Main water sources in the county are water pans, boreholes, and shallow wells and Water Trucking.
- In Comparison to the previous month the situation of water in the county deteriorated in some of the livelihood zones due to over concentration at the water point occasioned by in migration and insufficient rains witnessed during the season attributed to low recharge, poor pasture and browse.
- Although there are zones that have water pressure as a result of drying up of water points.
- The remaining water pans are expected to last for a period of one month generally in Wajir North, Wajir East, Eldas and Tarbaj While Wajir West and Wajir South are already under pressure.

2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

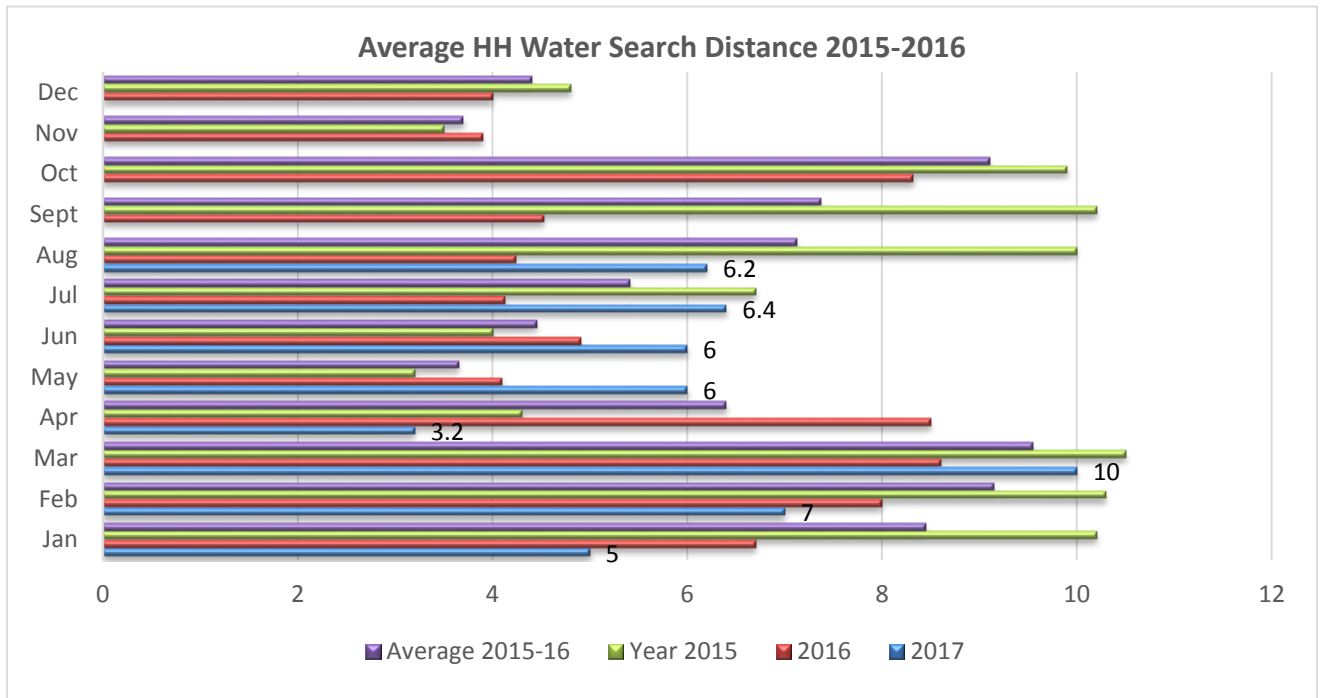


Figure 5: A chart indicating return distance to water sources against 2015-2016 average

- Average household distances to the main water sources recorded 6.2km in August as compared to the previous month which showed 6.0 with slight increase due over concentration of livestock at the water point, but pastoral cattle in Wajir south and Pastoral all species in Wajir west indicated pressure at the water points.
- Current average household water consumption per person per day decline slightly due to water decline in water availability except areas in Wajir south, Wajir West and Wajir town that recorded low consumption of water due insufficient water.
- The proportion of households that treat water is minimal with only households in the urban centre use aqua tabs.

2.2.3 Livestock access

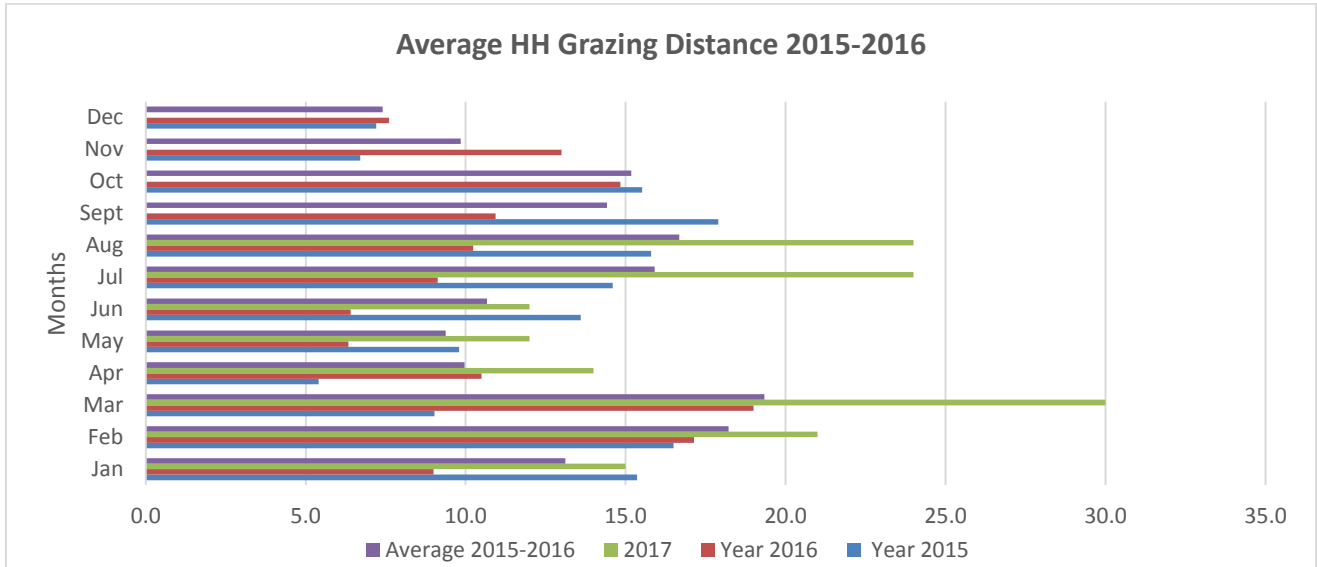


Figure 6: A graph indicating current grazing distance against (2015-2016) average

- Average livestock grazing distance to water point recorded 24km in the month of August as compared to the month of July which showed the same as a result of deterioration of pasture, browse and in migration making livestock to trek long distance.
- Current average is above the long term average and previous year's month average.
- Frequency of watering livestock at water point decreased as the distance to water source and grazing distance increased. Currently, the watering interval for cattle and goats/sheep is normal.
- Pastoral all species, Pastoral cattle and some parts of wajir East, Tarbaj and Eldas are the most affected zones under stress due to depressed rainfall experienced during the last three seasons for wajir west and south and over concentration for those that received sufficient rainfall during last season resulting to long trekking distance, poor pasture, browse and water.

2.3 Implication on food security

- Increase in trekking distance will likely lead to poor livestock body condition, low production thus affecting food security

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 Livestock production

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- The livestock body condition ranges from fair to poor in the county, though areas in Wajir North, Wajir East and Tarbaj indicated fair condition while areas in Wajir south and Wajir west indicated poor livestock body condition due to insignificant rainfall received during the season.
- Camel was reported to be fair whereas cattle, goat and sheep was reported to be fair to poor across the livelihood zones.
- In comparison to the previous month the condition of the livestock are worsening particularly in areas in Wajir south, Wajir west and some parts of Eldas, Wajir East and Tarbaj due to insufficient rains experienced during the last season and over concentration witnessed in the area that had adequate pasture and browse.
- This is normal at this time of the year.

3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

There were cases of Contagious Caprine Pleuro pneumonia (CCPP), Contagious Bovine Pleuro pneumonia (CBPP), Peste de Petit Ruminants and Sheep and Goat Pox still though intervention has been carried in all livelihood zones and it is been contained.

3.1.3 Milk Production

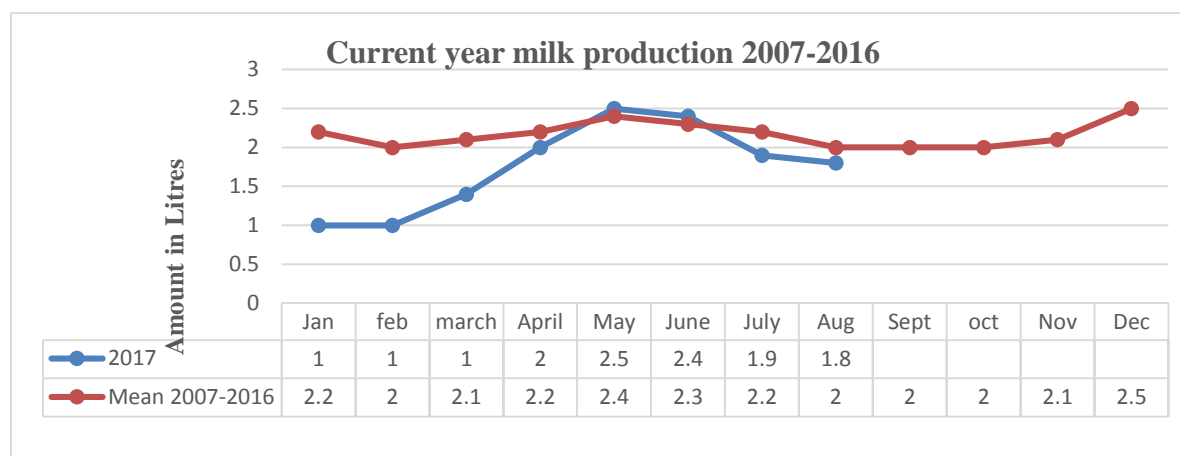


Figure 7: Current Household milk production against (2007-2016) long-term average

- Current average household milk production per household per day significantly declined from 1.9 litres in the month of July to 1.8 in August due to poor livestock body condition, livestock increase trekking distance which in turn led to low production.
- Current average milk production is below the long term average and normal at this time of the year.
- The highest milk production was recorded in Agro-pastoral and Pastoral camel and lowest recorded in Pastoral all species and Pastoral cattle livelihood zones.
- Production of milk per household per day is expected to deteriorate in the coming month as long dry spell progresses and livestock body condition diminish and trekking distance continue to increase thus reducing milk production affecting the nutrition status of under-fives.

3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

3.2.1 Stage and condition of food Crops

Maize crops performed poorly in all sub-counties following the depressed rainfall in the March-April-May rainfall. There was no harvest of food crops made during the month under review. However there was harvest of water melons and tomatoes in few areas where farms were irrigated using shallow wells.

3.3 Implication of the above indicators on food security

- Poor crop production and little harvest in the county would make the people to be food insecure thus leading crisis.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1. LIVESTOCK MARKETING

4.1.1 Cattle prices

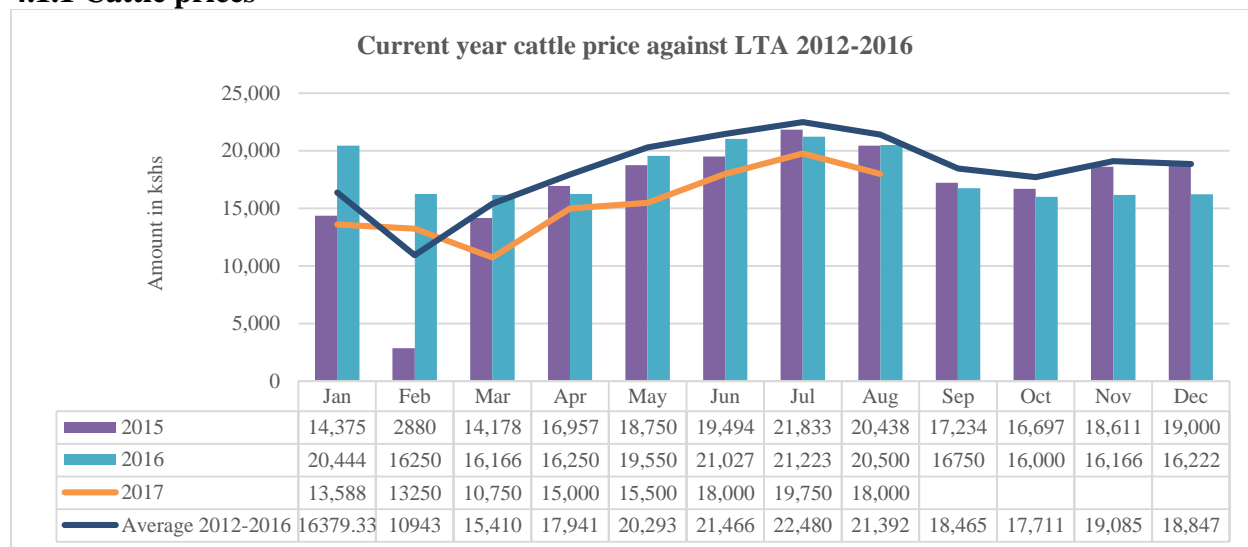


Figure 9: A graph of current cattle price against the long term (2012-16) mean prices.

- Current average price of cattle slightly decreased from Kshs19,750 in the month of July to Kshs18,000 in the month under review. This is due to low market demand and poor market attributed to poor livestock body condition. Highest average prices were recorded in the urban and lowest recorded in the rural.
- Current average prices were lower than both the long-term average and previous year's price.
- Market prices are not normal compared to previous years prices

4.1.2 Small Ruminant (Goat price)

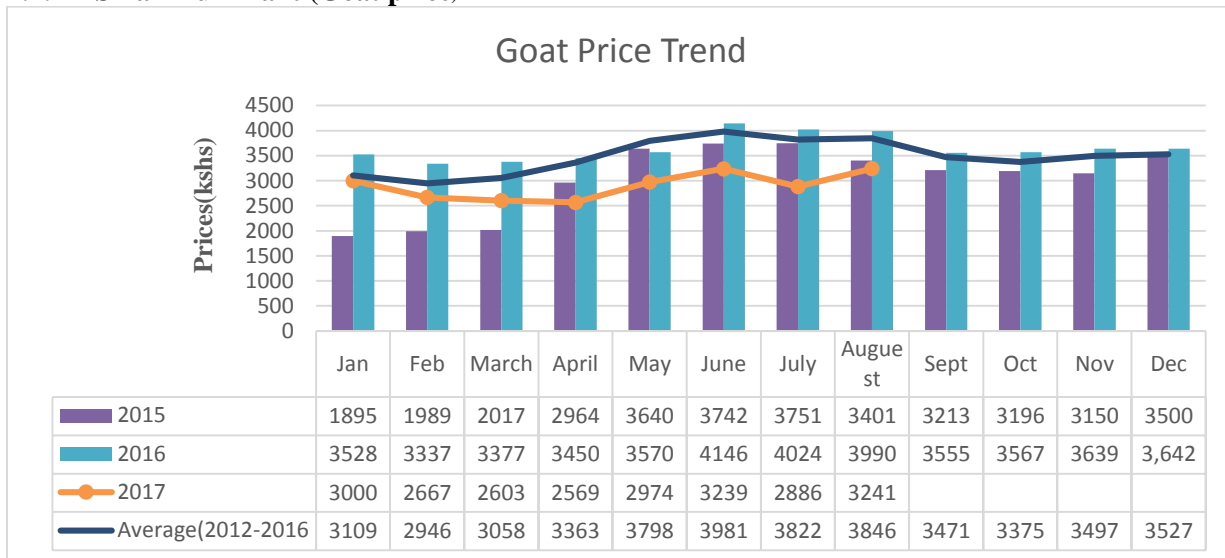


Figure 10: A graph of current year goat prices against the short-term mean 2012-2016

- Current average goat's price increased from Kshs.2886 in July to Kshs3241 in the month of August caused by high market demand and limited supply of livestock due to the festive season (Iddul Adha)thus increasing market price. However the market is likely to deteriorate as the livestock body condition declines, trekking distance increase and long dry spell continues.
- prices are higher in urban centres and lower in the rural
- Current average price is lower than both the long term average and previous month price and this is normal at this time of the year. Market prices still not favourable compared to the previous season.

4.1.3 Camel price

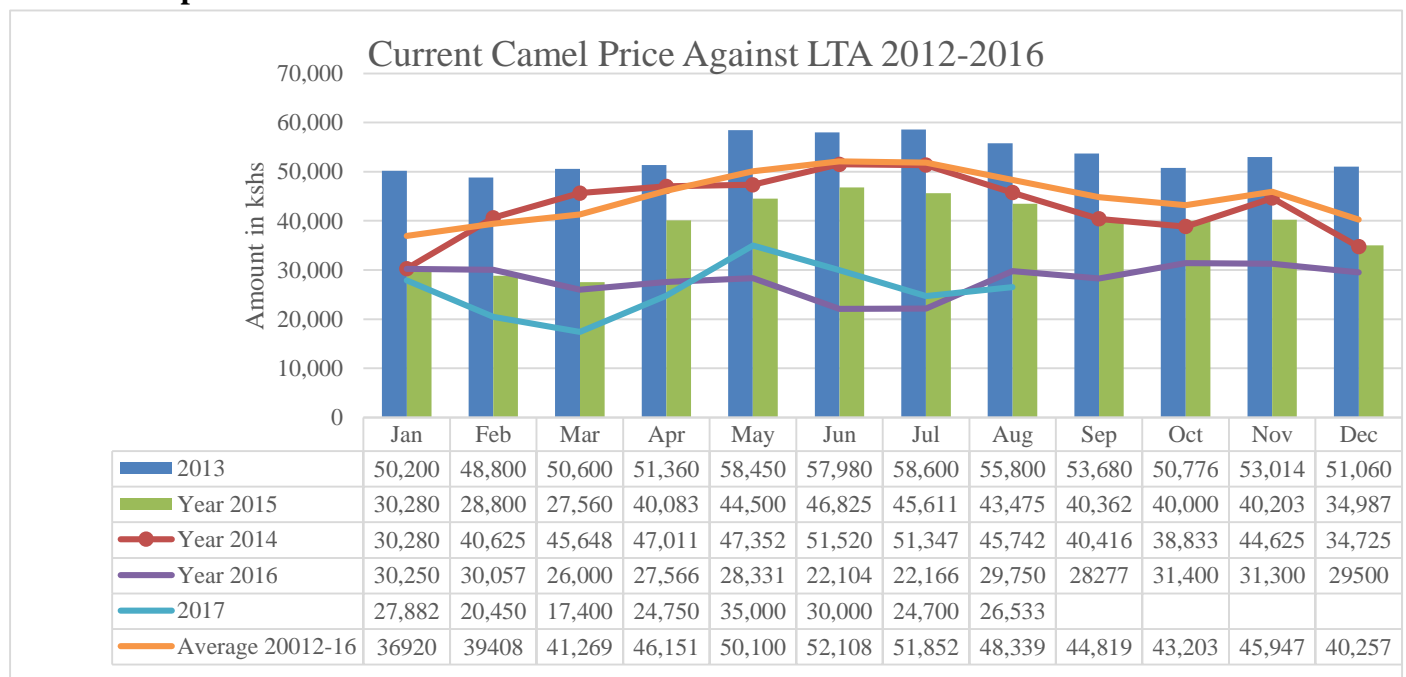


Figure 12: A graph of current camel prices against the long term mean (2012-2016)

- Current average price of a camel increased slightly from Kshs24,700 in the month of July to Kshs26,533 in the month under review as a result of higher demand and good livestock body condition.
- Current average price of camel is both lower than the long-term average and previous year’s price indicating market price is not favourable compared to previous prices.
- Agro-pastoral livelihood zones in Wajir North still recorded the highest price as pastoral all species livelihood zone in Wajir West recorded the lowest price.
- The prices are not normal compared to previous year’s price.

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize

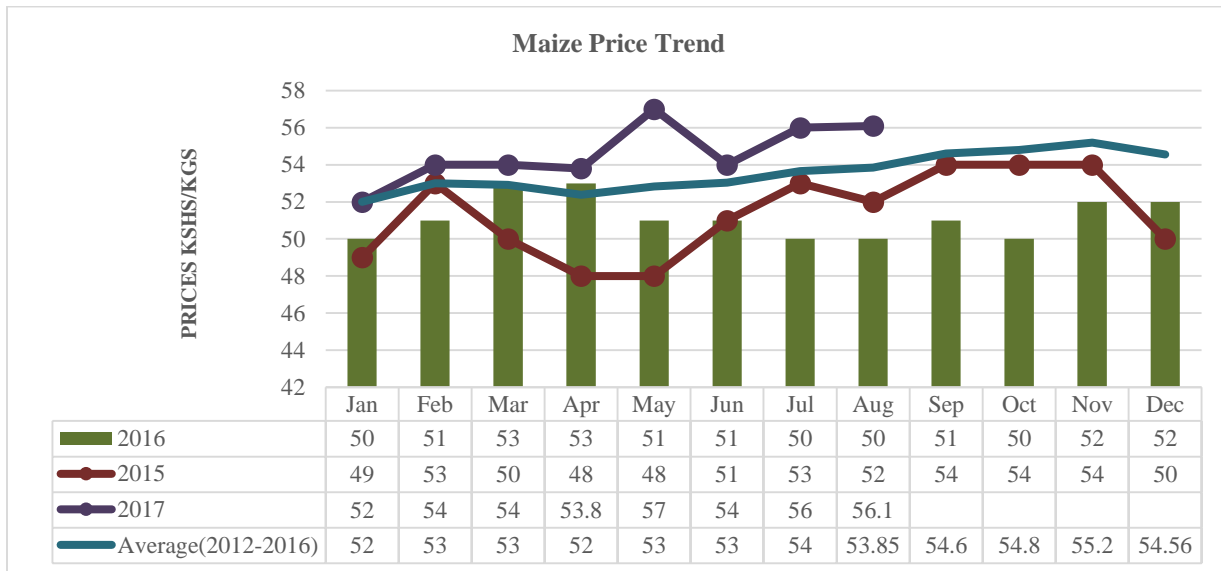


Figure 13: A graph showing current year price of maize as compared to the short-term (2012-15) mean

- Current average price of maize remained stable as compared to the previous month which recorded Kshs56 due to limited supply and increased demand attributed to poor road and high transportation. The situation is normal. The highest price was recorded in the rural areas and lowest prices were showed in the urban centres
- The food commodity price is above both the long term average and previous year’s month price.

4.2.1.1 Other outstanding observation

- Maize being not a staple food consumed In Wajir County, the main staple food are beans, meat, milk and spaghetti are the main stable food used in all livelihood zones.

4.2.2 Posho (Maize meal)

- Current average price of Posho remained the same as compared to the previous months.
- The highest prices were recorded in the rural areas of Wajir as a result of unavailability of the commodity and high transport cost incurred during transportation. Lowest was recorded in urban areas.
- The price is considered normal as the trend shows stable condition over the period

4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade (TOT)

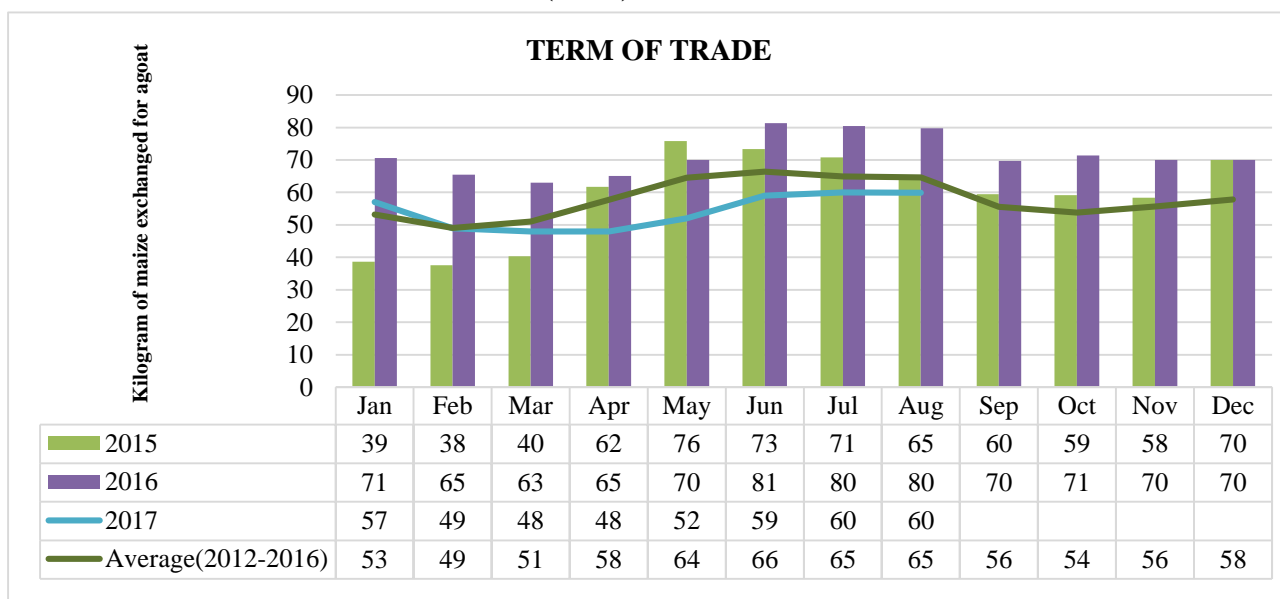


Figure: A graph of current Terms of Trade against the long term (2012-2016) mean price

- Household terms of trade remained the same indicating 60kg in the month of August as compared to the previous. This was due to increase in goat prices thus stabilizing the price of maize. However the Terms of trade are not favourable due to increase in goat price.. The prices are likely to deteriorate as the dry spell progresses.
- The current terms of trades is below both the long term average and previous years' prices.
- No market disruption witnessed in the month under review.

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

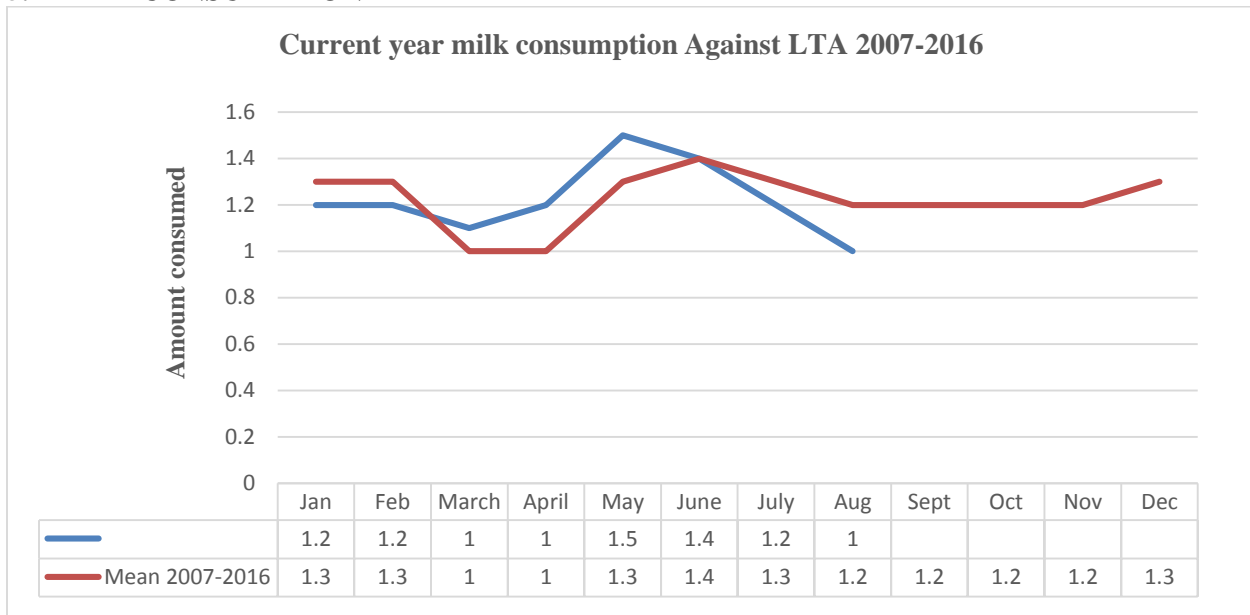
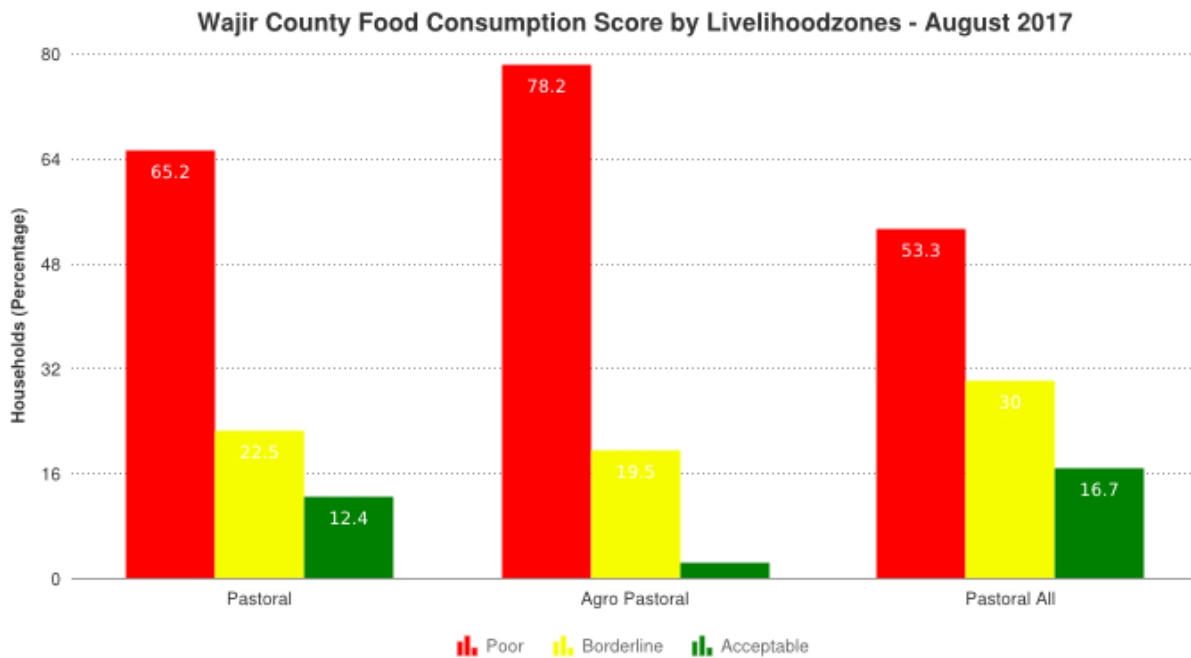


Figure 15: A graph showing current average milk consumption for Wajir against (2006-2016) mean

- The current average milk consumption per household per day deteriorated from 1.2 in the month of July to 1.0 liters in August due to increase trekking distance, Poor livestock body conditions, absence of livestock in the homesteads through migration which in turn reduced household milk availability and household accessibility thus affecting food security situation in the county.
- Current average household milk consumption is below the long term average which is normal for the period of the year.
- The highest consumption was reported in Pastoral camel in Wajir East and Agro-pastoral in Wajir North and lowest recorded in Pastoral cattle in wajir South and Pastoral All species in Wajir West livelihood zones.
- The main source of milk production at household and market levels is camel and cattle.

5.2 Food Consumption Score



- Agro-pastoral, Pastoral and Pastoral All species livelihood zones are the household with poor dietary diversity which recorded 78, 65 and 53 and while other remaining percentage indicated borderline and acceptable respectively.

5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

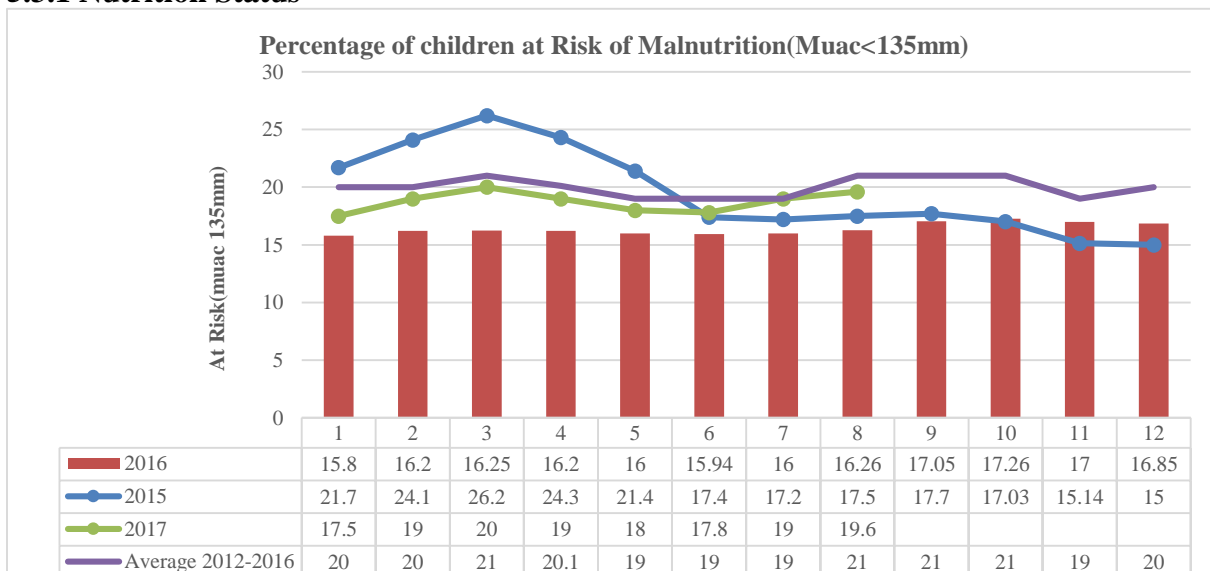


Figure 16: A graph of Nutritional status of children between 12-59 months against (2012-16) long-term mean

- The proportion of children under five at risk of malnutrition in August indicated 19.6 as compared to the previous month that recorded 19.0 showing no significant changes.

- The current proportion is below to the long term average and above previous year’s month average, meaning the malnutrition status for under-fives has increased as compared to previous year’s month.
- The highest percentage of malnourished children were recorded in wajir south, wajir west Wajir north and lowest reported in Wajir East and Tarbaj.

5.3.2 Health

Malnutrition reports for children less than 5 years: 4.0 children were admitted as in-patients for Management of Severe Malnutrition. 121 new children (6-59 months) were admitted to the Outpatient Therapeutic Program (OTP) while 427 children (6-59 months) were admitted to Supplementary Feeding Programme (SFP). (Source: DHIS August 2017). Under 5 year’s morbidity in July was; diarrhoea (1791), pneumonia (587), diseases of the skin including wounds (555), (Source: DHIS July2017). Over 5 year’s morbidity in July was: diarrhoea (842), confirmed malaria (21), Urinary Tract Infections (2806) and diseases of the skin including wounds (986). (Source: DHIS July 2017).

5.4 COPING STRATEGY INDEX

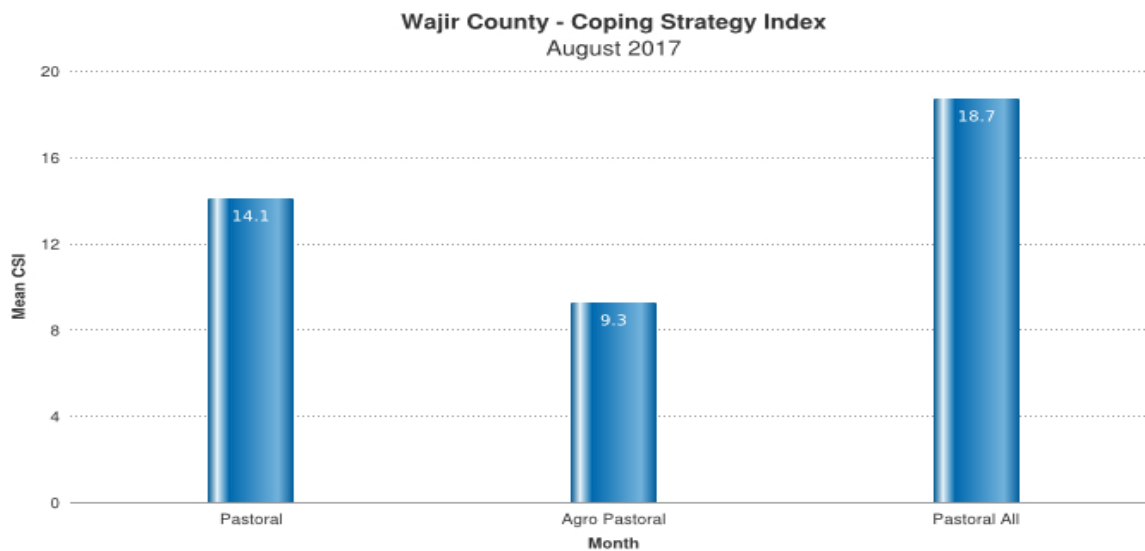


Figure17: A graph showing average (2013-2015) (coping strategy index (CSI) against the current trend

- Pastoral all species in wajir west engaged more coping strategy showing more severity in August as compared to previous month which recorded less severity. Others employed less coping strategies with less severity. The mean CSI for the county is 12.0 as compared to the previous month which showed 15.0.
- Reduced the number of meals taken per day.
- Borrowed food or relied on help from friends or relative.
- Reduced the quantity of food consumed by adult/mothers
- Relied on less preferred and less expensive food

6.0 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)

6.1 Non-food interventions.-Ongoing

- Routine Human and livestock disease surveillance across the County –on-going
- Treatment of malnutrition cases and referral of cases to the main health facilities

6.2 Food Aid

- Food Aid was received during the month and was distributed by the National Government.

7.0 EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

- There were no reported Cases of insecurity in Wajir County during the period.

7.2 Migration

- In-migration of pastoralists was more in Wajir North, Wajir East and Tarbaj due to sufficient rains experienced during the season and less in the rest of the livelihood zones due to insufficient rains received during the period and some moved to other parts of the counties and countries, particularly where herders have migrated to Marsabit county and Somalia respectively.
- The current situation of movement is more as compared to a similar period in the previous year which is normal phenomenon at this time of the year.
- The movements are expected to increase in the coming months as pasture and browse already got depleted especially in areas where rains underperformed.

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- Environmental situations have worsened over the month under review and are expected to worsen further till the onset of October – December short rains season 2017
- State of forage has been declining as it ranged from fair to poor in all livelihood zones in terms of quantity and quality.
- Availability and accessibility of Household milk is likely to decrease thus affecting the nutrition status of children under five and thereafter improve in the month of November.
- Rangeland resources are expected to deteriorate during the month of September and thereafter improve from October during OND.
- Pasture, browse and water situation are expected to worsen further in the month of September and October and thereafter improve during OND 2017.
- Milk production in all livelihood zones are expected to deteriorate in the next one months and thereafter improve during OND 2017.
- Prices are likely to be stable in the next two months and hence increase during the October, November and December.
- Migration of livestock are expected to worsen in the month of September and thereafter reduce during OND.
- Trekking distance for livestock are expected to increase and thereafter to reduce further with progression of the rains

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Health & Nutrition

- Monitoring of malnutrition in the county-ongoing
- Water Trucking on-going in some parts of the county
- Outreach services Scale up-ongoing
- Water Treatment(Aqua tabs, PUR, chlorine powder-ongoing
- Scale up HINI/IMAM/IYCN interventions-ongoing
- Supply of safe water storage containers-ongoing
- Sensitization on hygiene promotion

Water (on-going)

- Repair and Maintenance of boreholes
- Water trucking on-going in some sub-counties (Wajir south and Wajir west)
- Provision of water Treatments
- Prepare a contingency plan to cater for water provision services for any emergency.
- Provide water storage facilities and clean water to schools in areas facing water shortages

Livestock Sector

- Training of farmers on disease reporting
- Livestock Vaccination
- Relocation of Livestock movement
- Support prevention and treatment of livestock diseases

Peace and Security

- Support Peace building and reconciliation initiatives-ongoing.