



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



National Drought Management Authority Kilifi County

DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR MARCH 2020

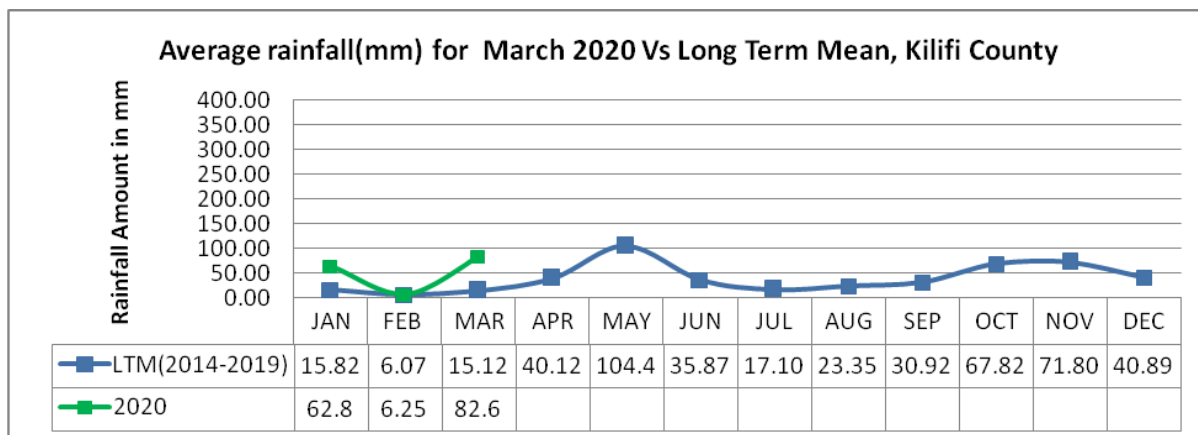
MARCH EW PHASE	Early Warning Phase Classification			
<p>Drought Status: NORMAL</p> <p>Shughuli za kawaida</p>	LIVELIHOOD ZONE	EW PHASE	TRENDS	
	Marginal Mixed farming	Normal	stable	
	Livestock/Ranching	Normal	Stable	
	Cash Cropping/Dairy	Normal	Stable	
	Food Cropping	Normal	Stable	
<p>Biophysical Indicators (Environmental indicators)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The month under review recorded some significant amount compared to the previous month and even long term average. On average, the state of water sources was good On average, vegetation condition remained good. <p>Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)</p> <p>Production indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal water and pasture stress thus average livestock body condition ranged between as good to fair across the livelihood zones for all species. Milk production recorded minimal increase compared to the previous month Land preparation was the main activities recorded during the month under review though on a minimal scale. <p>Access indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average Terms of Trade recorded an increase for the month under review compared to the previous month. Average distances to the water sources for households and livestock recorded some increase compared to the previous month. Average maize prices recorded some decrease while beans recorded an increase. <p>Utilization indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proportion of children at risk of malnutrition recorded a decrease in the month under review. The number of households at the borderline food consumption band recorded an increase compared to the previous month while those at acceptable decreasing. 	COUNTY	Normal	Stable	
	Biophysical Indicators		Value	Normal
	Average Rainfall (mm)	82.6	15.12	
	VCI	84.45	35-50	
	Production indicators		Value	Normal ranges
	Livestock Migration Pattern	No Migration	No migration	
	Livestock Body Conditions	7	6-8	
	Milk Production Ltr/hh/day	4.5	4.3	
	Crop condition	Harvesting	Harvesting	
	Access Indicators		Value	Normal
	Terms of Trade (ToT)	100.5	90.8	
	Milk Consumption (% range)	1.6	1.6	
	Average Water Distance for Households (Km)	2.3	5.5	
	Average Grazing-Water point Distance (Km)	2.7	6.6	
	Utilization indicators		Value	Normal ranges
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	2.5	5.3		

<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"> ▪ Long rains ▪ Planting/Weeding ▪ 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/pest control/ 								
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

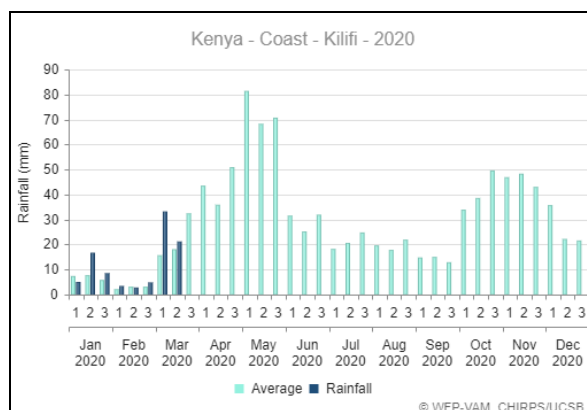
1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 Rainfall performance.

- March recorded significant amount of rainfall compared to the previous month.
- Spatial distribution varied across the livelihood zone with the livestock farming zone recording the highest average amount of 143.15mm while the mixed farming zone recorded the lowest of 16.3mm.



- March recorded more rains compared to the long term mean at this time of the year.

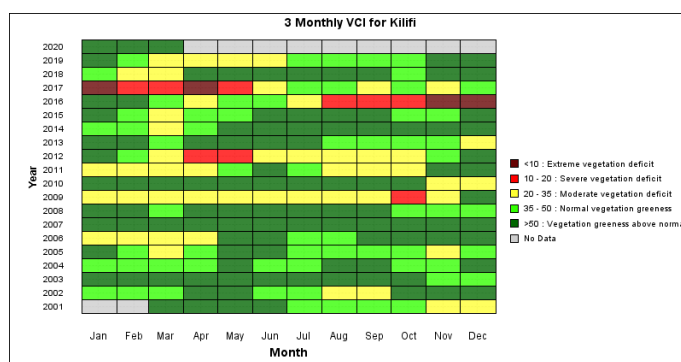


2.0 IMPACT ON VEGETATION

2.1 Vegetation Condition

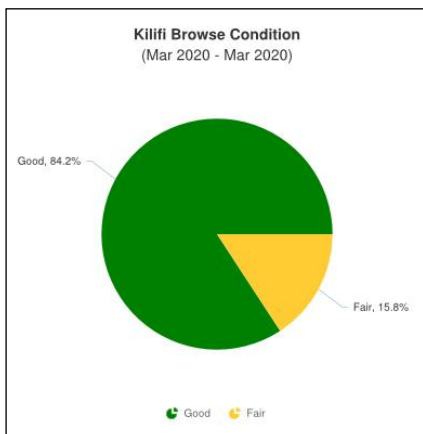
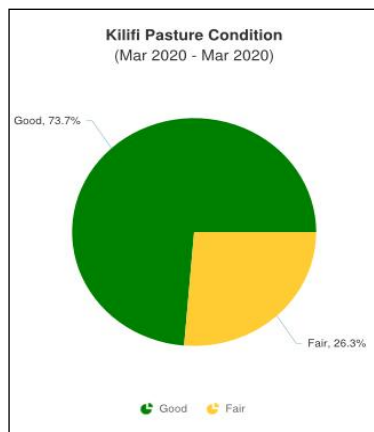
2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index [VCI]

- The Vegetation Condition Index (VCI) compares the current NDVI to the range of values observed in the same period in previous years. The VCI is expressed in % and gives an idea where the observed value is situated between the extreme values (minimum and maximum) in the previous years.
- In March the county recorded an average of above normal vegetation greenness.
- The above normal vegetation greenness was recorded across the sub counties.



2.1.2 Pasture

- The current month recorded a decrease in pasture condition compared to February.
- Condition expected to improve as the long rains season started.
- Pasture condition was above normal at this time of the year



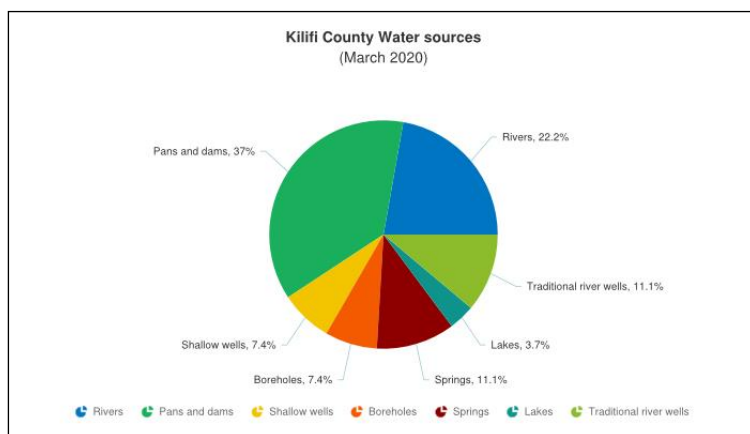
2.1.3 Browse

- 84.2 percent of sampled households recorded good browse condition with 15.8 percent recording fair condition a decrease for both compared to the previous month.
- Browse condition expected to improve as the long rains season started.
- Browse condition was normal at this time of the year.

2.1 Water Resources

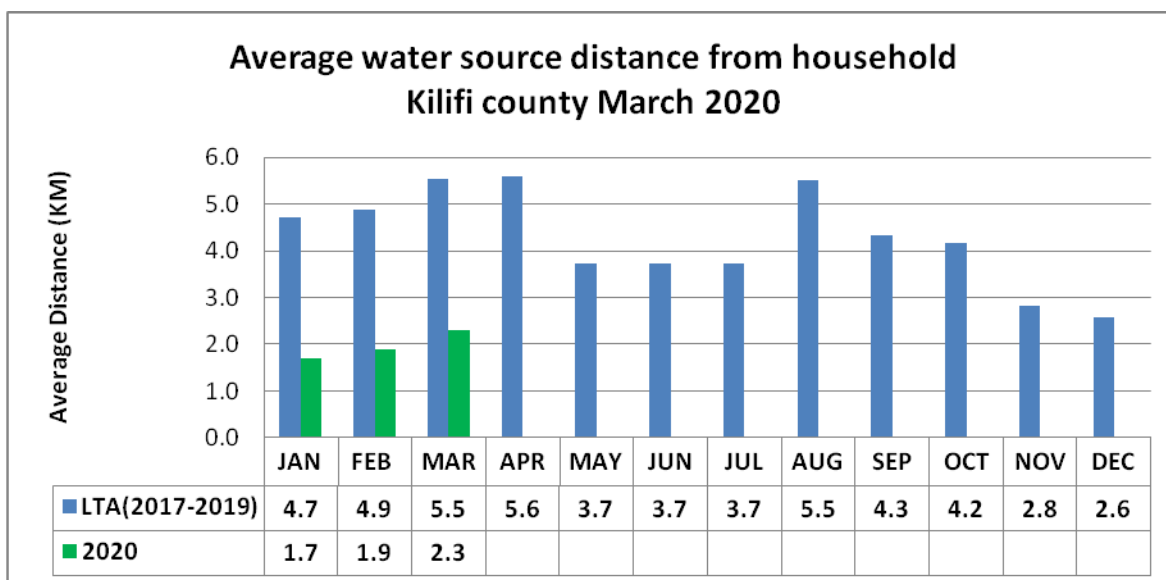
2.2.1 Water Sources

- On average, water pans and dams, rivers, and springs remained the main water sources for the month under review.
- The percentage of sampled households who depended on the pans and dams decreased compared to the previous month as water quality in the small pans declined.
- The situation expected to remain stable for the next 0.5-1 months as the dry spell continued.



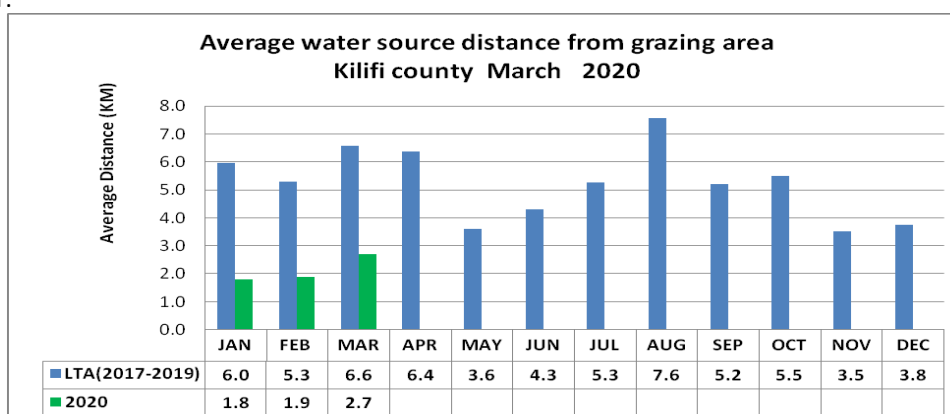
2.2.2 Household water access and utilization

- March recorded an increase in average water distance for the households.
- The increase can be attributed to decline in water quality of the small pans near the households thus trekking for long distances in search for water.
- The average distance during the month under review was 52.7 percent lower compared to the long-term mean at this time of the year.



2.2.3 Livestock access to water

- The average trekking distance from grazing area to water sources recorded some increase compared to the previous month.
- The increase can be attributed to a deterioration of pasture condition forcing search for pasture far from the water points.
- The current average distance was 59 percent lower compared to the long-term mean at this time of the year.



3.0 PRODUCTION

3.1 Livestock Production

3.1.1 Livestock body condition

- Following minimal stress in access to pasture and water, livestock body condition ranged between good to fair across the livelihood zones.
- Body condition was normal at this time of the year.
- Good to fair body condition expected for the next 2-3 weeks as the rains are too expected to increase.

3.1.2 Livestock disease

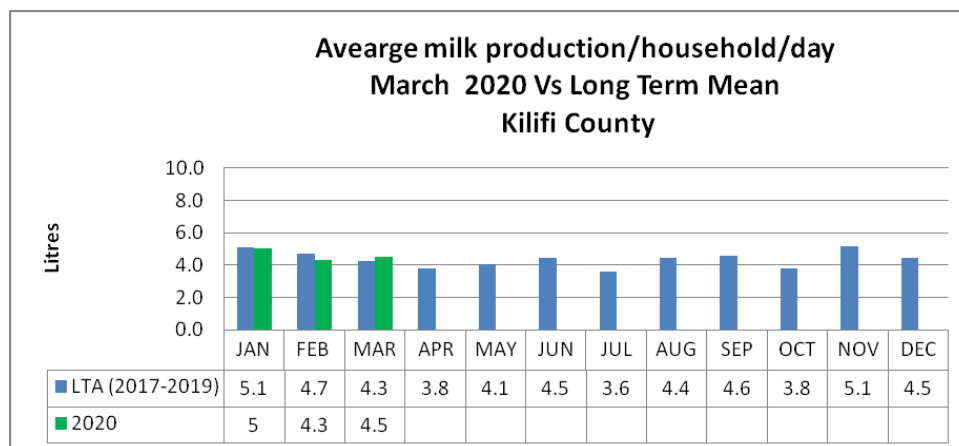
- Few cases of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Lumpy skin disease, CCPP across the livelihood zones.

3.1.3 Livestock Migration.

- No Migration reported during the month of March

3.1.4 Milk production

- March recorded some minimal increase in milk production.
- The increase can be attributed to new calving recorded.
- The average milk production during the month was 4.6 percent higher compared to the long term mean at this time of the year.



3.2 Rain Fed Crop Production

3.2.1 Stage and condition of food crops

- Cassava was the main food crop still in the farms and was in good condition and in most farms it was ready for harvest.

3.2.2. Crop Harvest

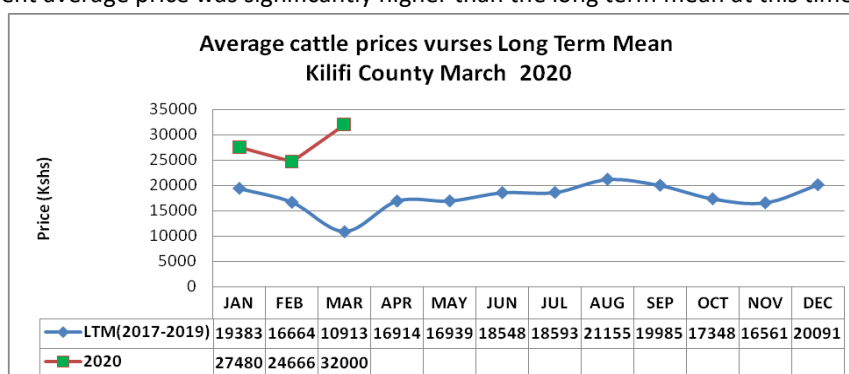
- The main crop harvest during the month was cassava whose supply in the market continued to increase.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1. LIVESTOCK MARKET

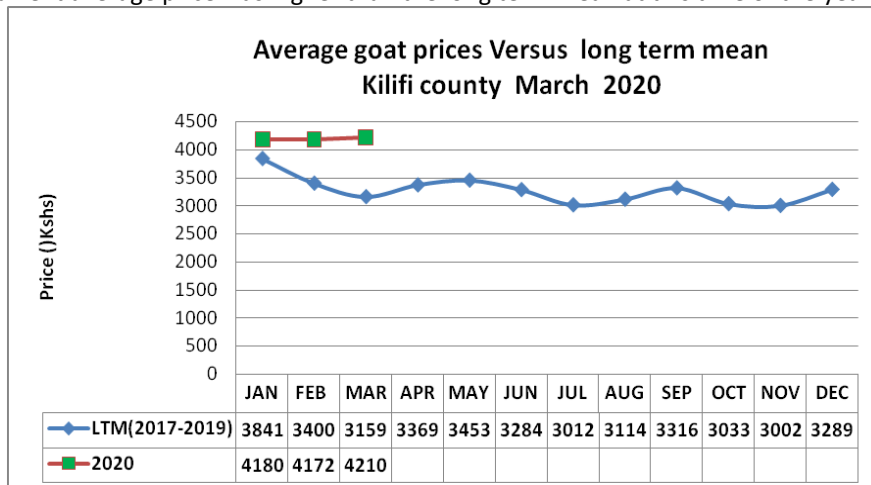
4.1.1 Cattle prices.

- The average price of a 4-year bull during the month under review recorded an increase compared to previous month.
- The increase can be attributed low supply in the market as schools closed thus reduced pressure on school fees payment.
- The current average price was significantly higher than the long term mean at this time of the year.



4.1.2 Goat prices

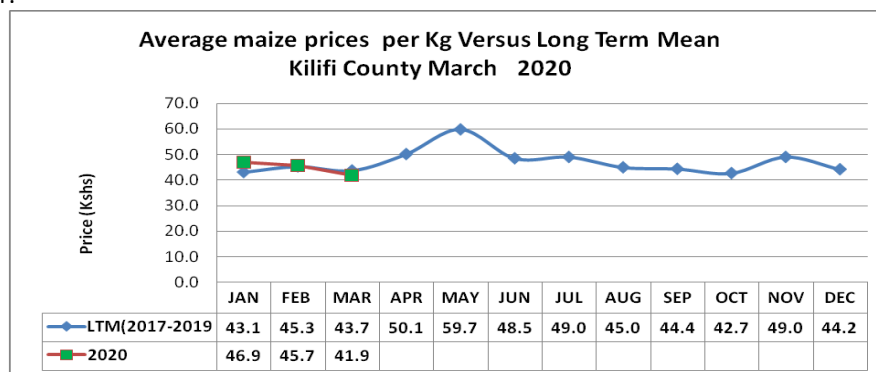
- Average price of a 3-year-old medium size buck during the month under review recorded a slight increase compared to the previous month.
- The average price increase can be attributed to reduced supply in the market.
- The current average price was higher than the long term mean at this time of the year.



4.2 Crop prices

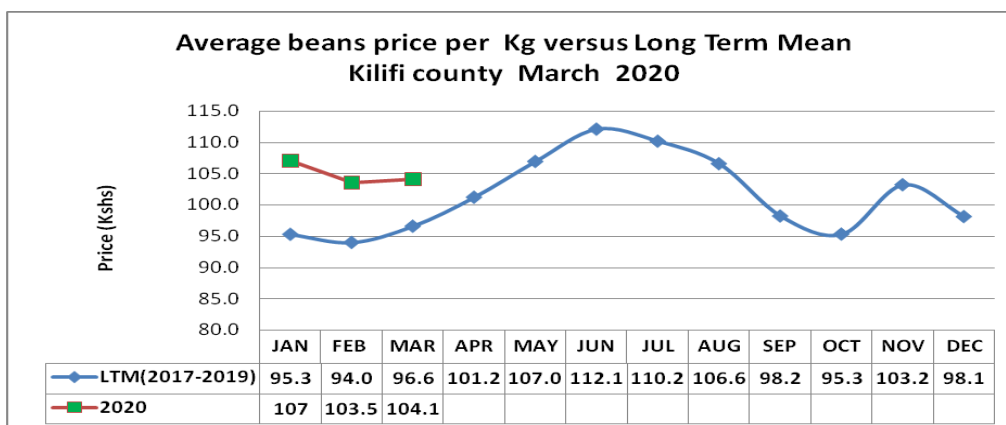
4.2.1 Maize

- The average maize price per kilo recorded a decrease compared to the previous month.
- The decrease can be attributed to high demand for Sifted maize meal following Corona-Virus movement restriction to minimize contacts as most service providers closed down their businesses.
- The current average maize price was 4 percent higher compared to the long term mean at this time of the year.



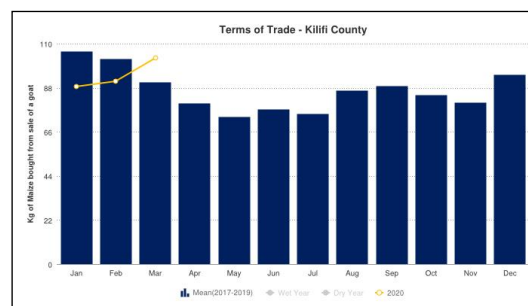
4.2.2 Beans

- There was a recorded increase in average price for a kilo of beans compared to the previous month.
- The increase can be attributed to low supply in the market following the Corona- Virus transport restriction.
- The current average price/kg was 7.8 percent higher than the long-term mean at this time of the year.



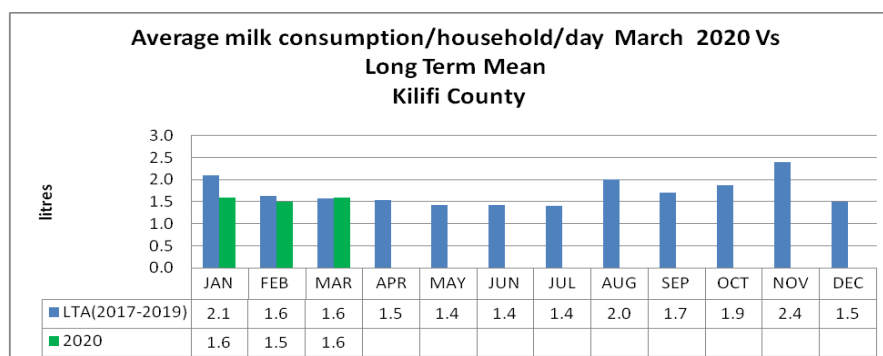
4.3 Terms of Trade (TOT)

- The Terms of Trade (ToT) during the month under review recorded an increase compared to the previous month.
- The increase can be attributed to a reduction in average maize prices as compared to the previous month.
- March average ToT was higher than the long term mean at this time of the year.



5.0 NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 Milk Consumption

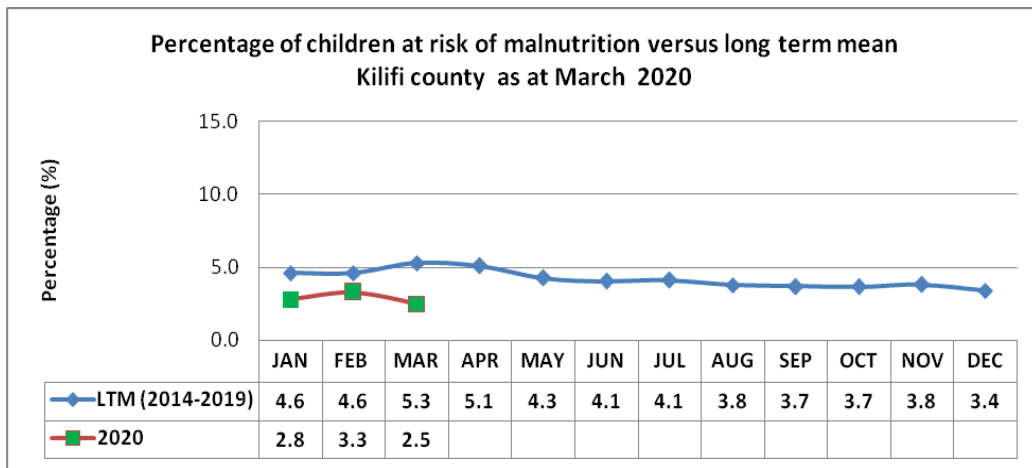


- Milk consumption in March remained stable compared to the previous month.
- The stability can be attributed to minimal change in milk production.
- The current average milk consumption remained the same as the Long term mean at this time of the year.

5.2 Health and Nutrition Status

5.2.1 Mid Upper Arm Circumstance (MUAC)

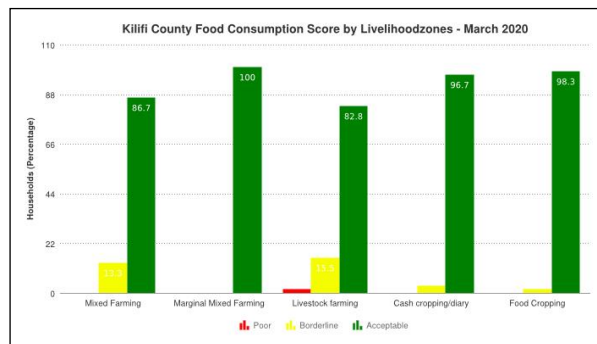
- The proportion of children at risk of malnutrition aged five years and below with cut offs of 125-134 mm recorded a decrease compared to the previous month.



- The decrease can be attributed to health sector and partners interventions including the baby friendly initiatives.
- The month under review's average was 52.8 percent lower compared to the Long term mean at this time of the year.

5.2.2 Food Consumption Score

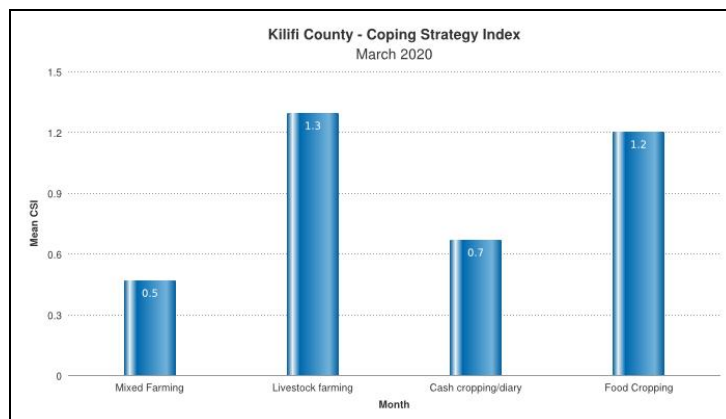
- Proportion of households under boardline food consumption continued to increase as those at acceptable food consumption recorded a decrease.
- The livestock farming zone continued to recorded some households under poor food consumption.



5.3 COPING STRATEGIES

5.3.1 Coping Strategy Index (CSI)

- The livestock and food cropping zones recorded the highest score compared to other zones in March.



6.0 CURRENT ONGOING INTERVENTION MEASURES

6.1 Food- aid

- Supplementary feeding program by the health sector across the health facilities targeting under fives and pregnant and lactating women.

6.2 Non-food aid

Health Sector interventions

- Integrated Medical outreaches across the county by MoH, KRCS, World Vision and UNICEF.
- Family MUAC project by UNICEF under the health sector in Magarini and Ganze sub counties.
- Training on Nutrition Improvement through Cash and Health Education (NICHE) by MoH, UNICEF and Children department.

Livestock sector

- Community awareness creation on Poultry, dairy value chains under National Agricultural and Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NARIGP).

Agriculture Sector

- Farmers capacity building on provision by KCEP CRAL farm-inputs vouchers system
- Community awareness creation on Coconuts farming under National Agricultural and Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NARIGP)

Water and Environment Sector

- Drilling of boreholes in Rabai Sub County by Kilifi County Government.
- Policy makers and stakeholders sensitization on KCEP-CRAL Climate Change Component by NDMA and ADA Consortium.

7.0 EMERGING ISSUES

- Minimal land preparation for the long rains season as scarce available resources was diverted to food purchase following income challenges caused by Corona Virus government directives to curb the spread of the virus.

7.1 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- Following government directives to curb the spread of Corona Virus, food prices are likely increase significantly as curfew continued and market supply recording a decrease.
- Following closure of many businesses, sources of income recording a decrease thus cases of household food insecurity expected to hike.
- Following the directive to stay at home during this rains season, land preparation affected thus low acreage expected to be under crop.
- Following closure of the schools to reduce the risk of the spread of COVID-19, there is increased pressure at households stocks and household budgets for food purchase indication an increase in food insecure households.
- Livestock body condition expected to remain good to fair as pasture and water stress remained minimal.
- Average livestock prices expected to reduce as the sale of livestock expected to remain the only source of income.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

Water Sector

- More investment on water harvesting infrastructures for the next rains' season.
- Community awareness on water collection, conservation, usage and recycling for the precious commodity.

Livestock Sector

- Support Livestock Resilient investments
- Farmers capacity development on pasture conservation during good seasons.

Health Sector

- Community sensitization on Corona Virus control

Agriculture Sector

- Community sensitization on Early land preparation season for the long rains
- Community sensitization on rain water harvesting technologies for the current rain season.
- Community capacity development on Climate Change Adaptation and smart agriculture for resilience building

Coordination

- Close monitoring of vulnerable households' food security as COVID-19 impacted on the economy negatively.
- Support to drought early warning household selection and refresher training for FMs after COVID-19.
- Community capacity building on Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction
- County and ward Contingency Planning and simulation
- Community capacity building on Drought Early Warning System