

National Drought Management Authority
MANDERA COUNTY
DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR NOVEMBER 2017



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



NOVEMBER EW PHASE



Early Warning (EW) Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral zone	ALERT	Worsening
Irrigated Cropping zone	ALERT	Worsening
Pastoral all species	ALERT	Worsening
County	ALERT	Worsening
Biophysical Indicators	Value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)	0	80 -120
SPI-3Month (TAMSAT)	-0.42	-1.0 to 1.0
VCI-3Month	32.35	>35
Forage condition	poor	Good
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Crop Condition (specify crop)	Fair	Good
Livestock Body Condition	Fair	Normal
Milk Production	5.4	>46.0
Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal
Livestock deaths	No deaths	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	43	>47
Milk Consumption	2	40.3 litres
Return distance to water sources	14	<4 Km
Cost of water at source (20 litres)	7	<5Kshs
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	29.5	<30.0
Coping Strategy Index (CSI)		<0.95
Food Consumption Score		

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

- There was some rain received in different parts of the County during the first dekad of November. No rains were received after the first dekad.
- **Vegetation condition;** the Vegetation Condition index for the month of November was 32.35 categorizing the County as moderate vegetation deficit band.
- Field Observation shows that the pasture regeneration was poor in all the sub counties though significant regeneration of browse was noted in most parts of the County.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

- **Production indicators;** Milk production and consumption are below long term average but have improved compared to last month.
- Livestock prices have improved compared to last months.
- Term of trade is below long-term average making unfavourable to pastoral communities
- The livestock body condition for all species is improved
- The utilization indicator is outside the normal range

<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
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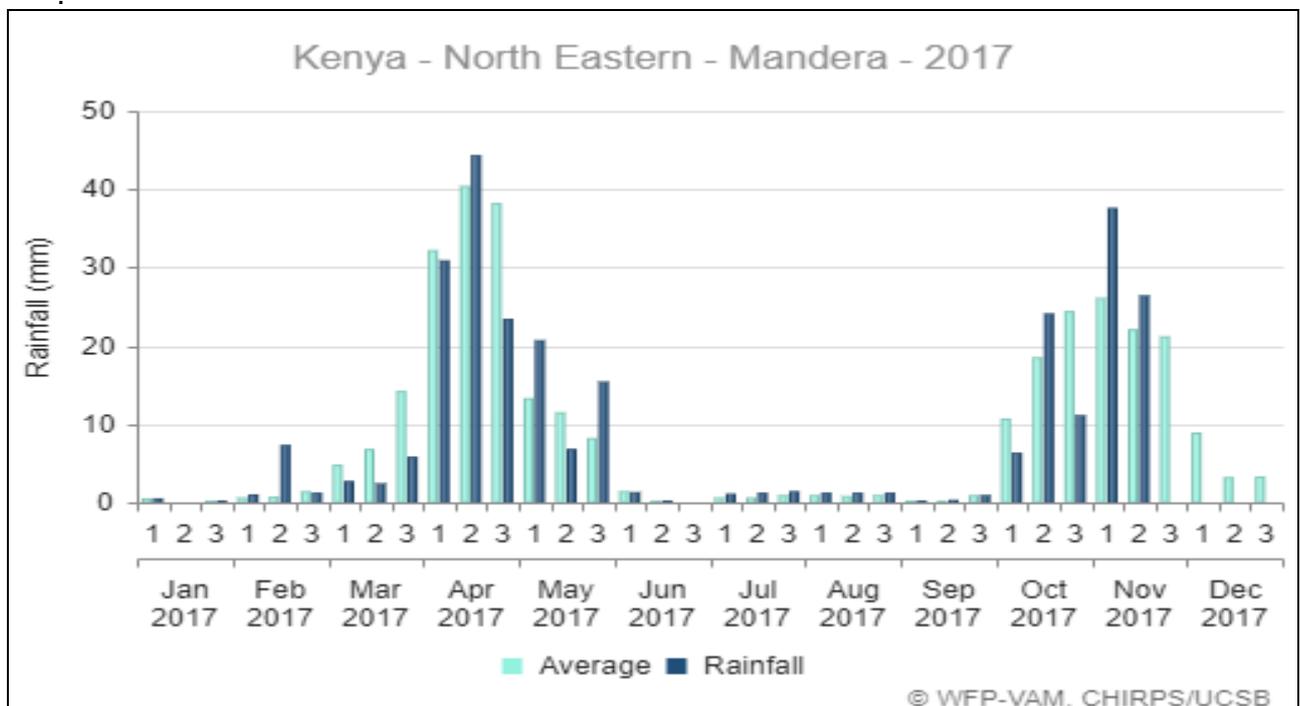
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Septem ber	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	

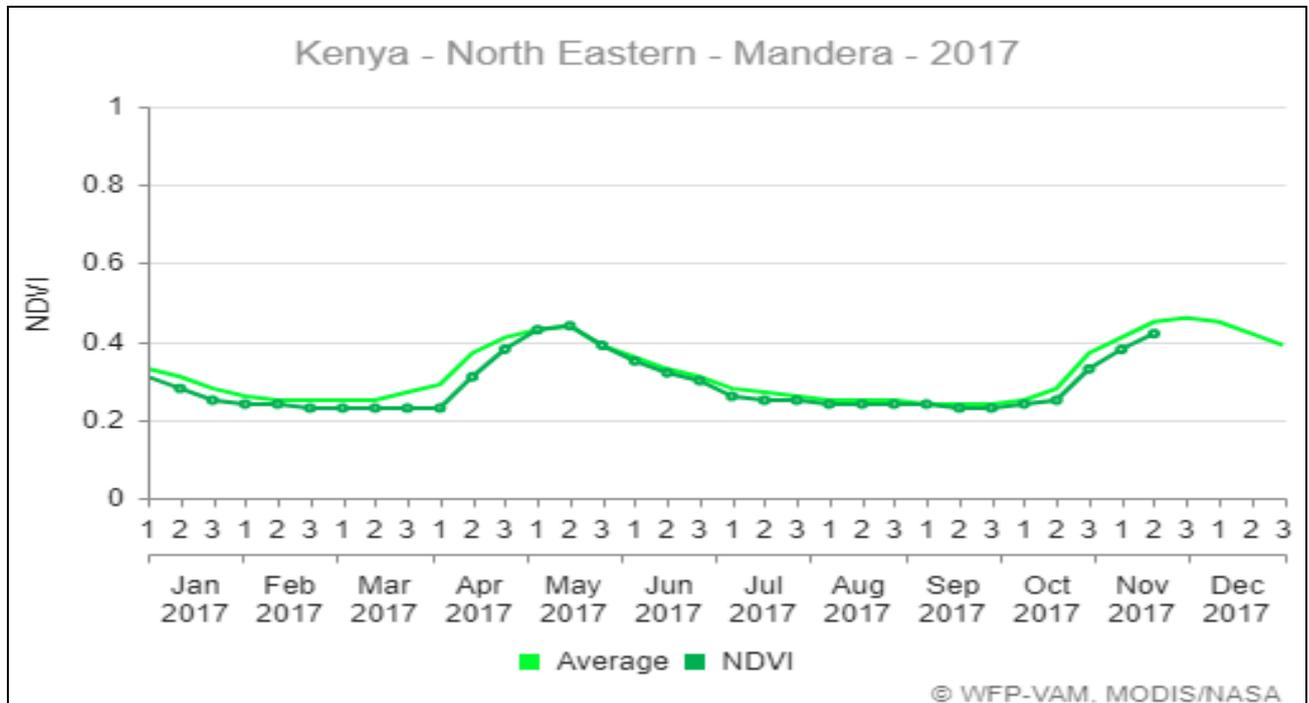
Seasonal Calendar

1. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- During the month under review, the County received rainfall during the first dekad of November where most places only received one to two days rainfall period, no rainfall was received after the first dekad of the month as it was dry. The amount of rainfall received in the first dekad in most parts of the County was depressed of 50 percent of normal rains. Both temporal and spatial distribution was poor across all livelihood zones.





1.3 Other Events

1.3.1 Flooding

-No floods were reported during the month under review though some farms in Khalalio and Hareri divisions are still flooded with water.

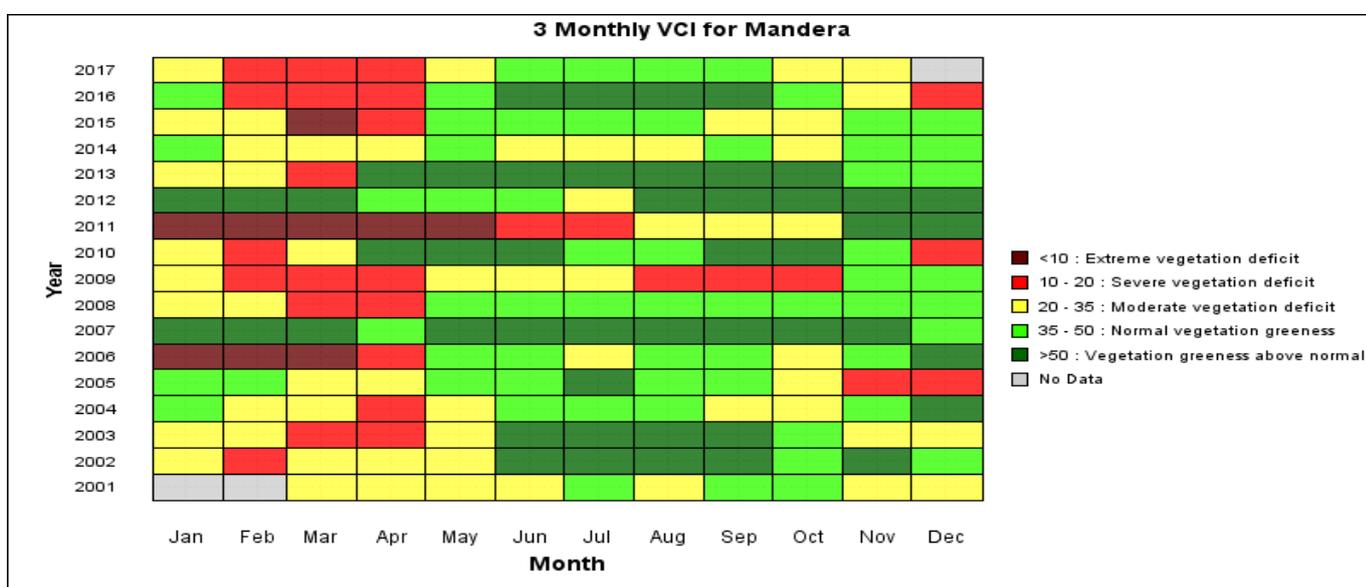
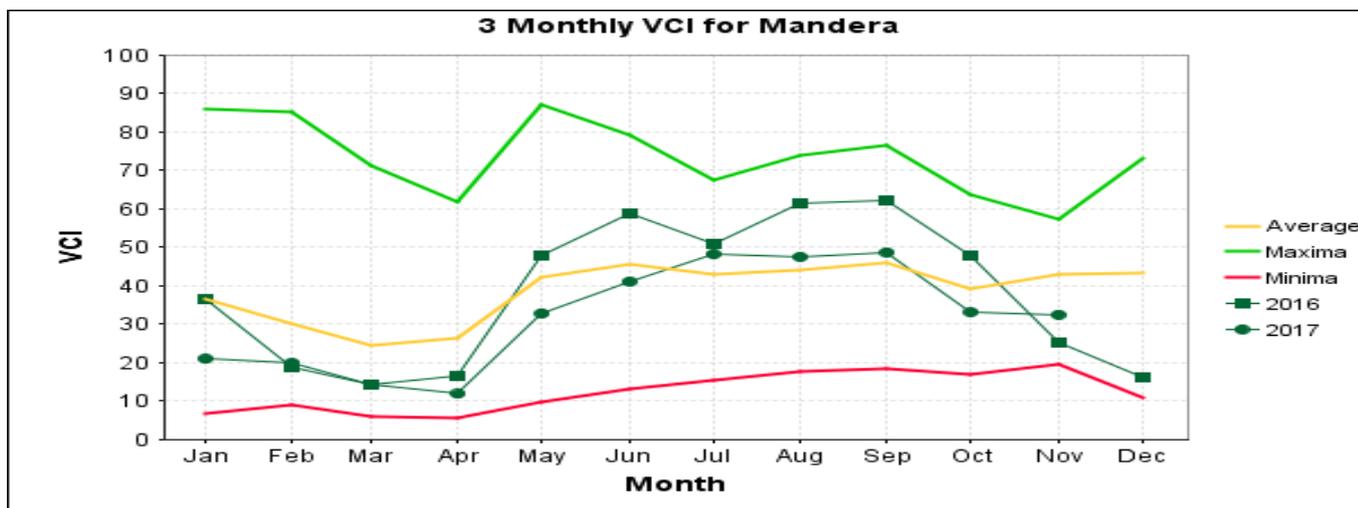
2. IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

1.2 AGRICULTURAL DROUGHT

1.2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION INDEX (VCI)

Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- The vegetation condition index for the County worsened from 32.99 in October compared to 32.35 in November indicating moderate vegetation deficit. The deterioration of VCI is as a result of below normal rains witnessed in most parts of the County except Banisa and Mandera South Sub counties which received near normal rainfall. The VCI for Mandera East, West, North and Lafey sub counties are all showing moderate vegetation deficit (below normal for the period) while Banisa and Mandera South sub counties have normal vegetation greenness. The VCI is below the long-term average but slightly below same year as shown in the graph below.



Field Observation:

2.1.2 Pasture:

- The pasture regeneration was poor in all livelihoods zones except some interior parts of Banisa sub county where the pasture is said to be slightly fair. Pasture situation is poor in all other part of the county as a result of below normal October November rains and consecutive rainfall failure witnessed in previous seasons. These is not normal during this time of the year. This condition is expected to worsen as rain are not expected in the coming months.

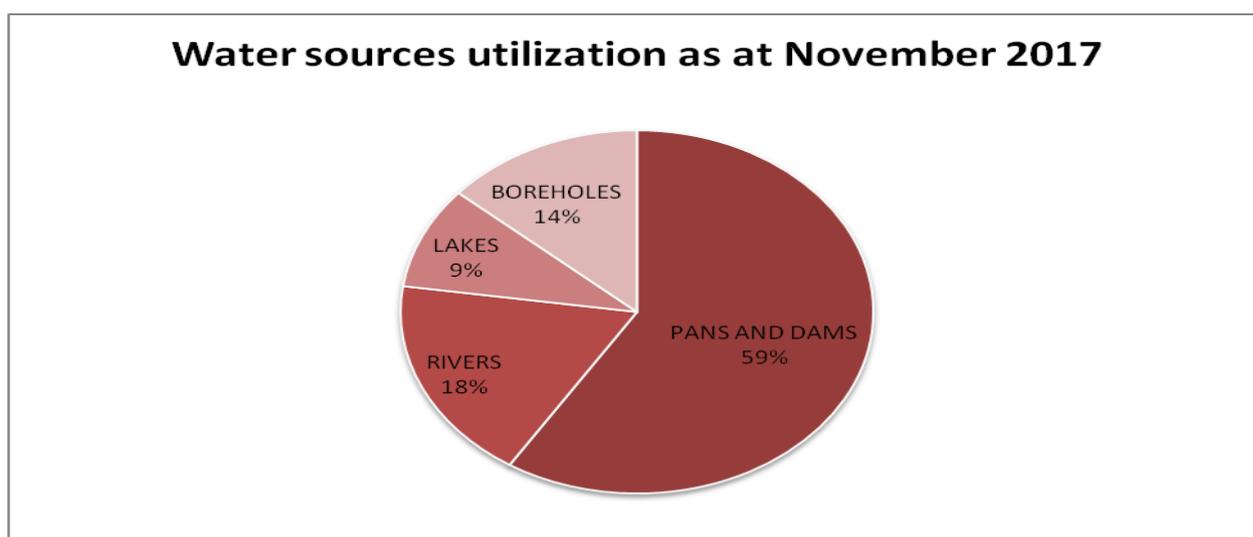
2.1.3 Browse:

- The browse conditions are fair in the Agro pastoral and some parts of Pastoral all species (Kutulo, Wargadud, Ashabito, simbir Fatuma and Warankara divisions) and Irrigated livelihood zone (Rhamu dimtu division) while poor in Pastoral all species of Lafey and Fino divisions and areas along River Daua of Khalalio, Libehia and Hareri divisions. The regeneration of browse was due to the rains received during the October- November but when compared to same month, the browse situation is below normal. The available browse is expected to last at least one to two months.

2.2 WATER RESOURCE

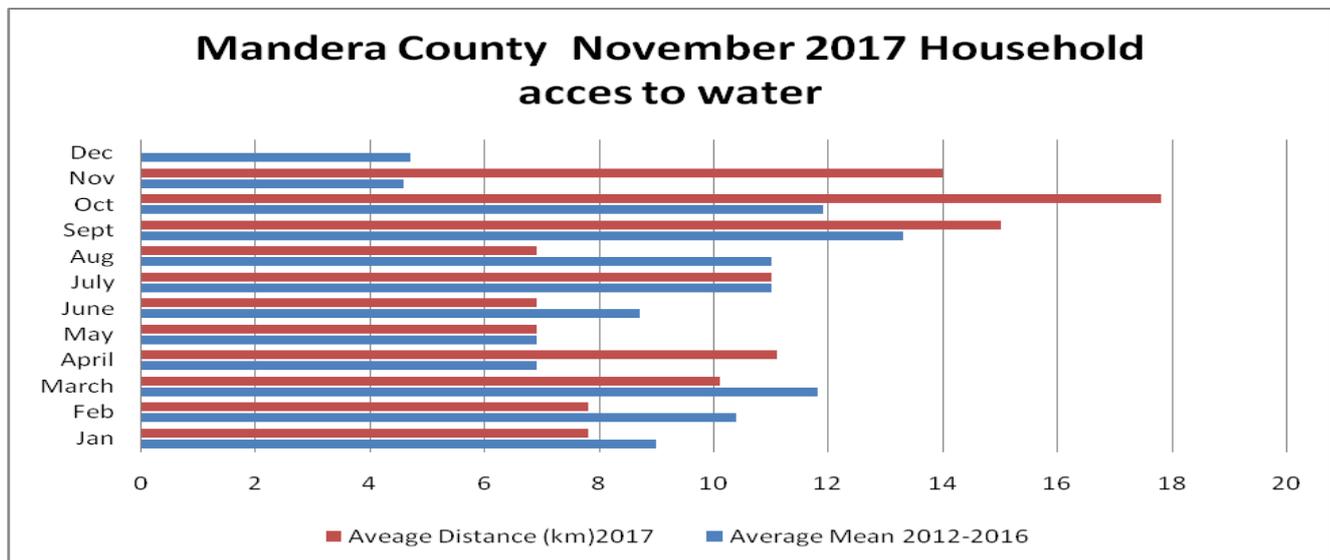
2.2.1 Sources

- The current main sources of water in use by both human and livestock's in the county are boreholes, River Daa and water pans. Most of the household use earth pans with 59%, shallow well at 9.1%, Boreholes 13.6% and rivers with 18.2% respectively. This is normal at this time of the year, except Lafey and Mandera East sub counties which received below normal and currently depend on borehole as their earth pans did not impound water, there are areas in Lafey sub county and Arabia division of Mandera East which will be water trucked in the coming weeks if rains are not received. The water pans are likely to last for a period of 1-2 months.



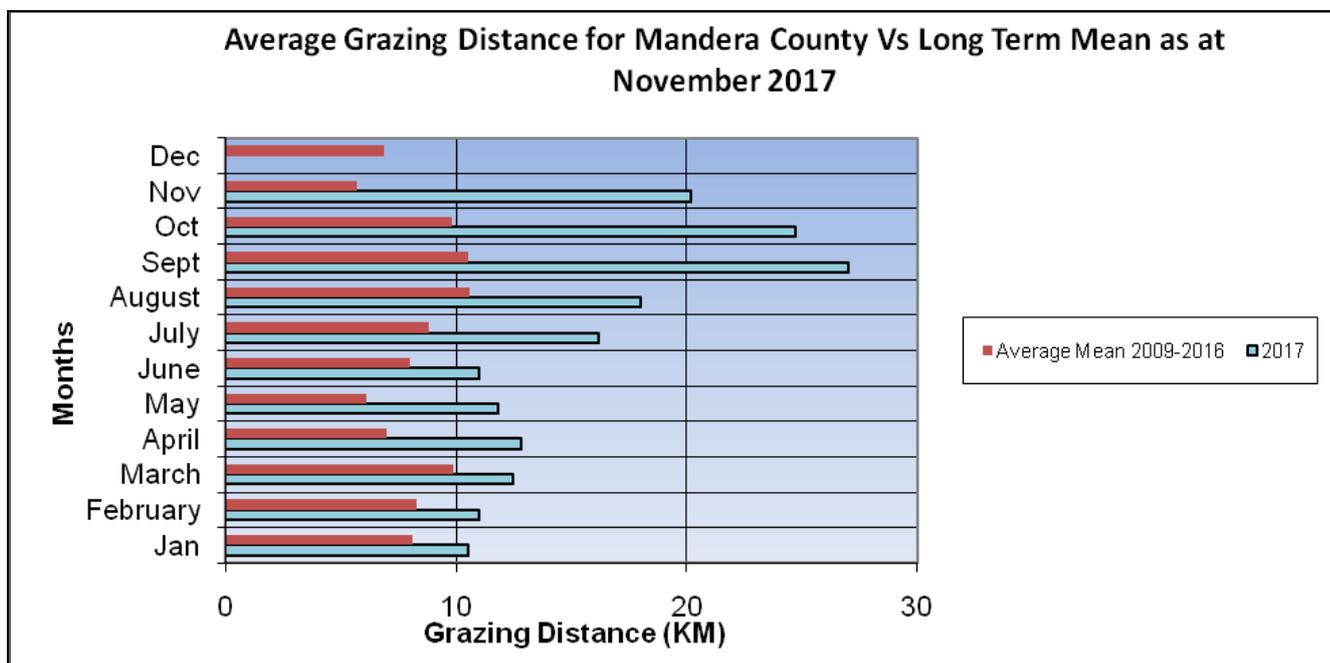
2.2.2 Household access and utilization

- The average distance to watering sources was recorded at 14km having decreased from 17.8km recorded in the previous month as shown in the chart below. The current average distance is above normal at this time of the year.
- The current average household consumption per person per day remained stable due to availability of water in most parts of the county and this is normal at this time of the year, though areas in Lafey and Mandera East sub counties have low household consumption as a result of poor performance of the October- November rains
- The proportion of households currently treating water is significantly very low with only few households mainly in urban centres reported to have used boiling methods.



2.2.2 Livestock Access

- The average distance to grazing areas from the main source of water is 20.2Km, the average grazing distance had reduced by 4Km when compared to last month and these is due to browse regeneration in most parts of the County as shown in graph below.
- Pastoral livelihood zone recorded the longest average return distance while the Agro pastoral zone recorded the lowest average
- The current distances are the above the long-term averages



2.3 Implication to food security

- Decline in distance to grazing field is expected to improve the livestock body condition and productivity thus impacting on food security.

- High production mainly milk will probably improve the malnutrition level in the county thus enhancing food security.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.2 Livestock Body Condition

- The general body conditions of all species of livestock in the county improved in all livelihood zones with the 12th and 13th ribs not visible. Goat body condition is fairly good with smooth appearance across the livelihood zones with those in Agro-pastoral and some pastoral all species livelihood zone, while the rest parts of the County is fair. Cattle and sheep in Agro-pastoral zones have good body condition with fore-ribs not visible while those in pastoral all species range between fair to poor due to insufficient rains and poor pasture regeneration. In Comparison to the previous months the body condition of livestock has improved in all livelihood zones except Lafey and areas of Mandera East sub counties which the body is slightly poor as a result of poor regeneration of browse during short rains. Livestock body conditions will likely remain normal in the next one month

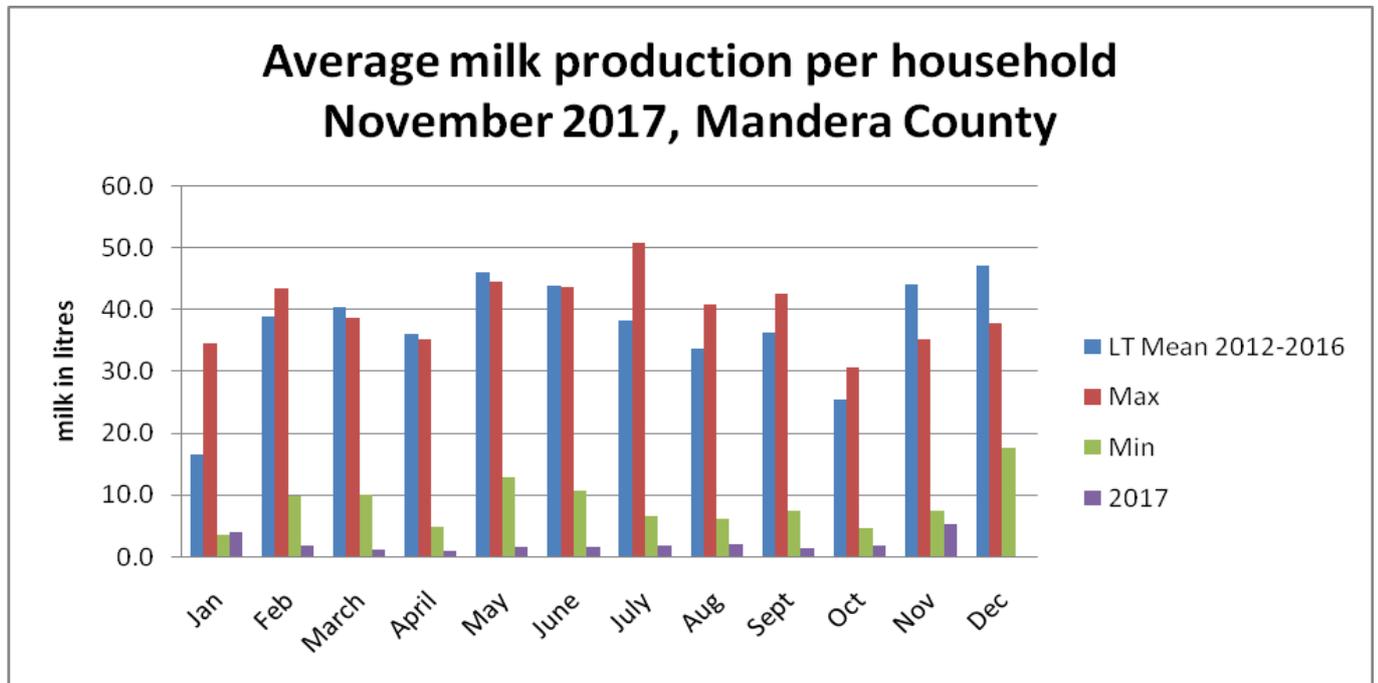
BODY CONDITIONS	SCORE
Emaciated, little muscle left	1
Very thin no fat, bones visible	2
Thin fore ribs visible	3
Borderline fore-ribs not visible. 12 th & 13 th ribs visible	4
Moderate. Neither fat nor thin	5
Good smooth appearance	6
Very Good Smooth with fat over back and tail head	7
Fat, Blocky. Bone over back not visible	8
Very Fat Tail buried in fat	9

3.1.3 Livestock Diseases

- The endemic diseases in the area include Contagious Caprine Pluero Pneumonia (CCPP), Sheep and Goat Pox and Contagious Bovine Pleuro Pneumonia (CBPP). No new outbreaks were reported during the month under review.

3.1.4 Milk Production

- There was increase in availability of milk for all livestock species (camel, goat, cattle) and at household levels in all the livelihood zones. Average milk production per household is currently about 5.4 liters. When compared to last month, the average milk productions have improved and these is attributed to browse regeneration leading fair body condition of livestock. Agro pastoral zone reported highest milk production followed by Pastoral all species by and irrigated cropping zone respectively. These is normal during the time of the year.



3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION.

3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops

- In irrigated cropping zone: Farms in Khalalio, Malka shuftu, Bela and Aresa are still water logged and water has not receded. Whereas the other parts which flood have receded, famers have started land preparation and planted with maize and cow peas, there are also few who have not planted their farms due to fear of drying up of season River Daua. In Agro pastoral zone crops have been planted and progressing well.

3.3 IMPLICATION OF THE ABOVE INDICATORS TO FOOD SECURITY

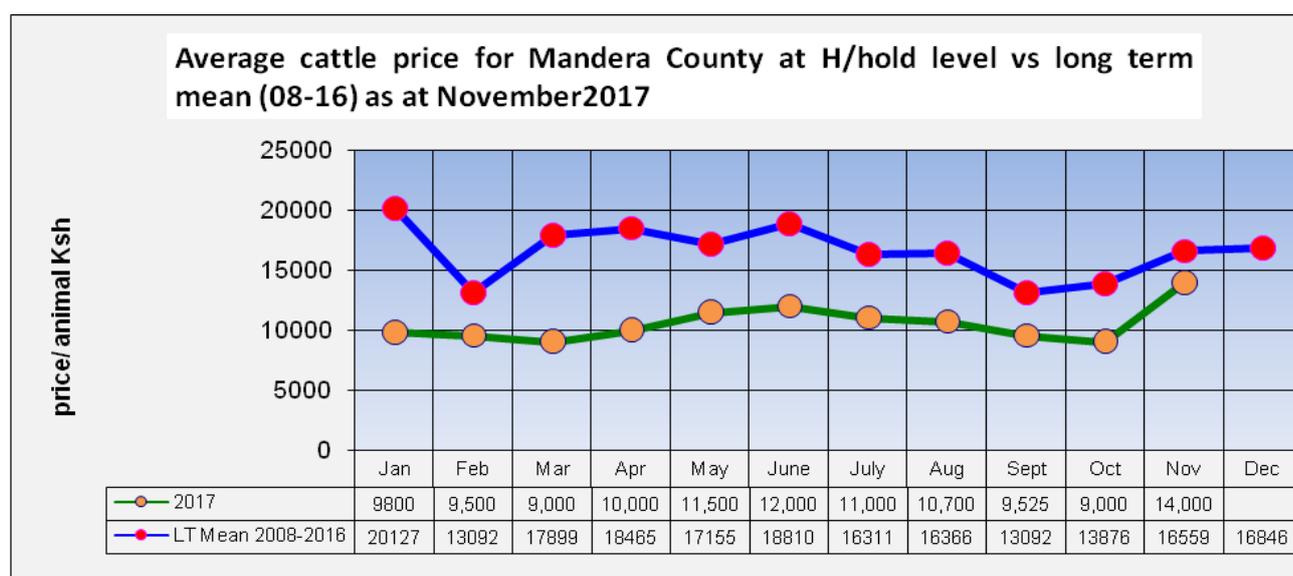
- Below normal and depressed rainfall experienced during short rains will affect crop production thus impacting on food security.
- The floods that destroyed crops will affect the irrigated cropping zone along River Daua.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

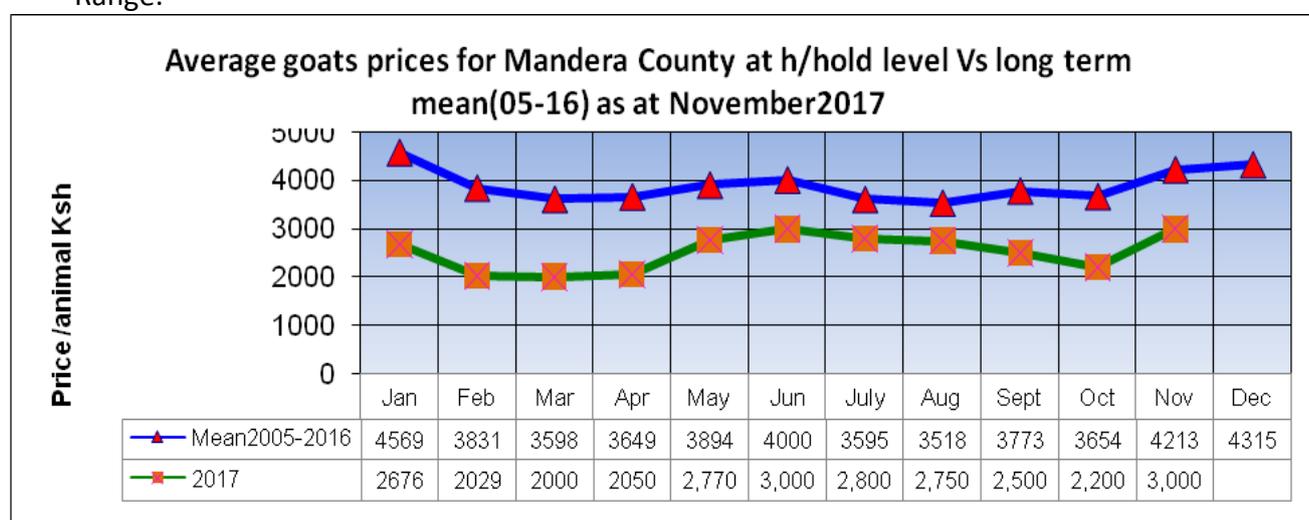
4.1.1 Cattle Prices

- Average cattle price increased from Ksh9000/=in October to Ksh14, 000/= in the month of November2017.the increased price is due to fair of body condition and increased market demand.
- When compared to the long-term mean, the average price is below the expected normal range as shown below.

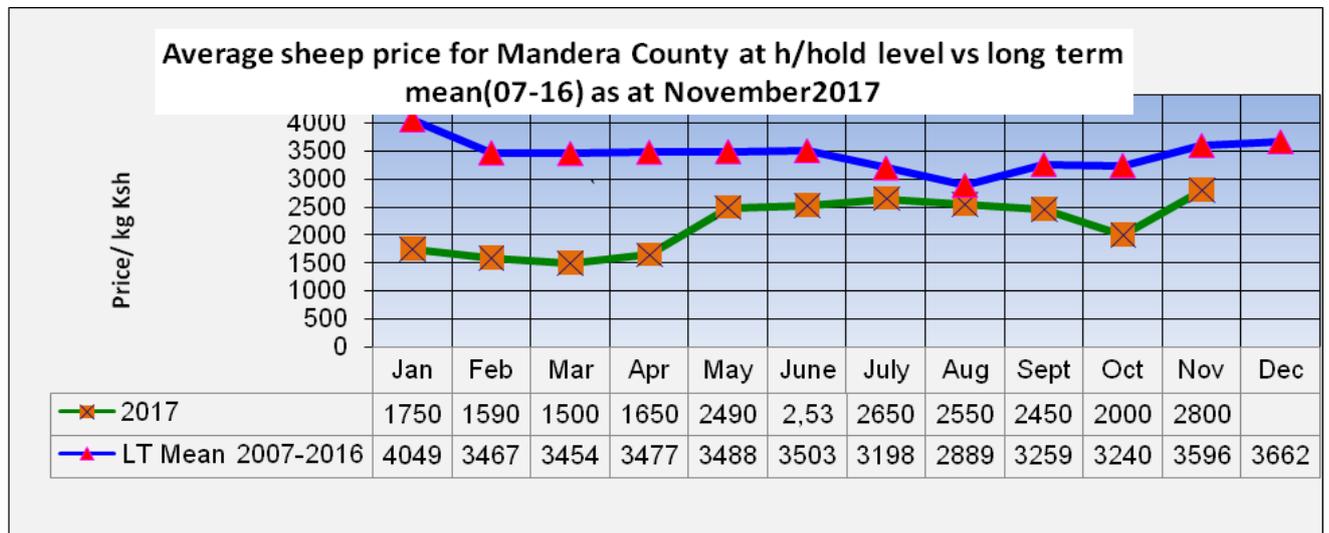


4.1.2 Goat Prices

- Average goat price increased from Ksh 2200 in October to Ksh 3000/= in November. The increase in price is due to the good body condition.
- Compared to the long-term mean (2005-2016), the average price was below the normal Range.

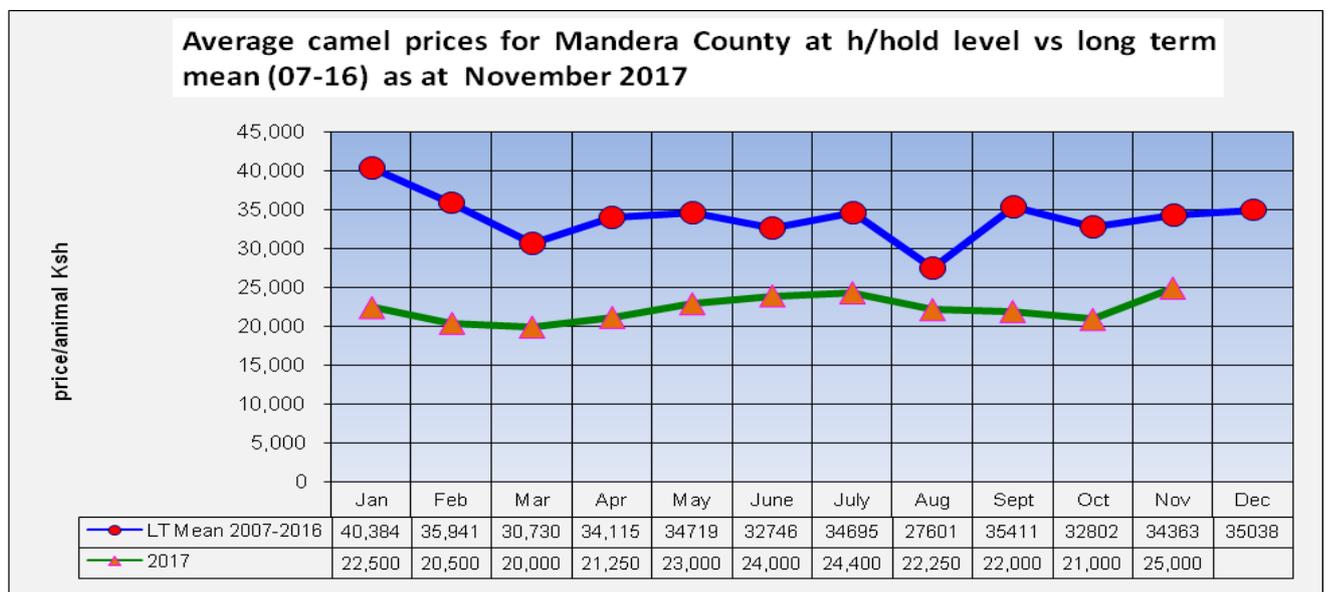


- Average sheep price increased from Ksh. 2, 000/= in October 2017 to Ksh.2800 /= in the month of November2017.
- The current average sheep price is below the long-term mean.
- The highest average prices were noted in Agro pastoral zone followed by Pastoral all species zone and irrigated cropping zone respectively.



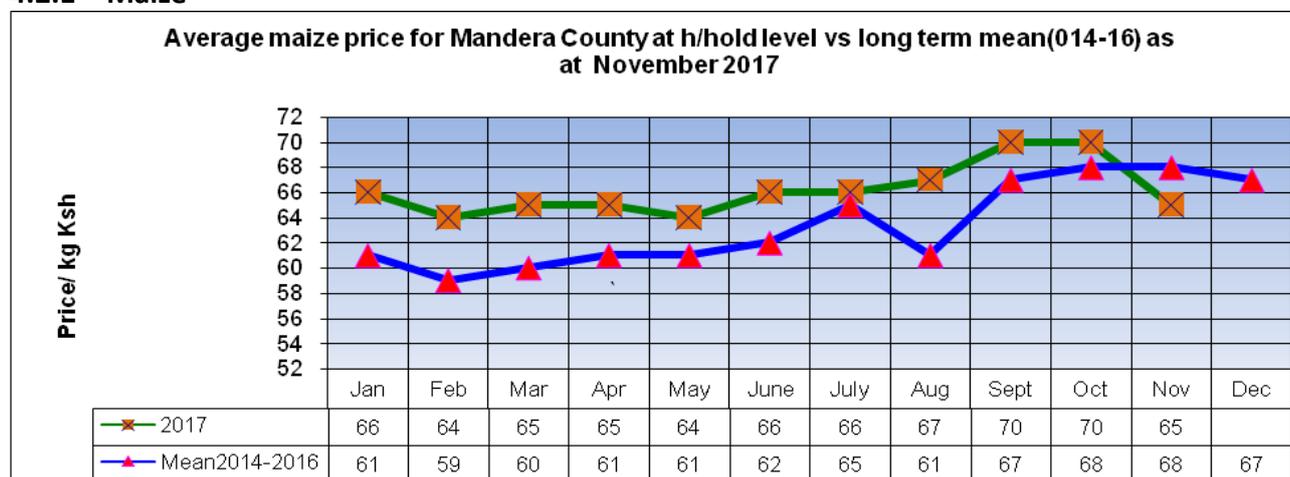
4.1.3 Camel Prices

- The average camel price during the month of November2017 is Ksh25,000/= when compared to last month the average price increased
- The average camel price was below the normal range as shown in the table below



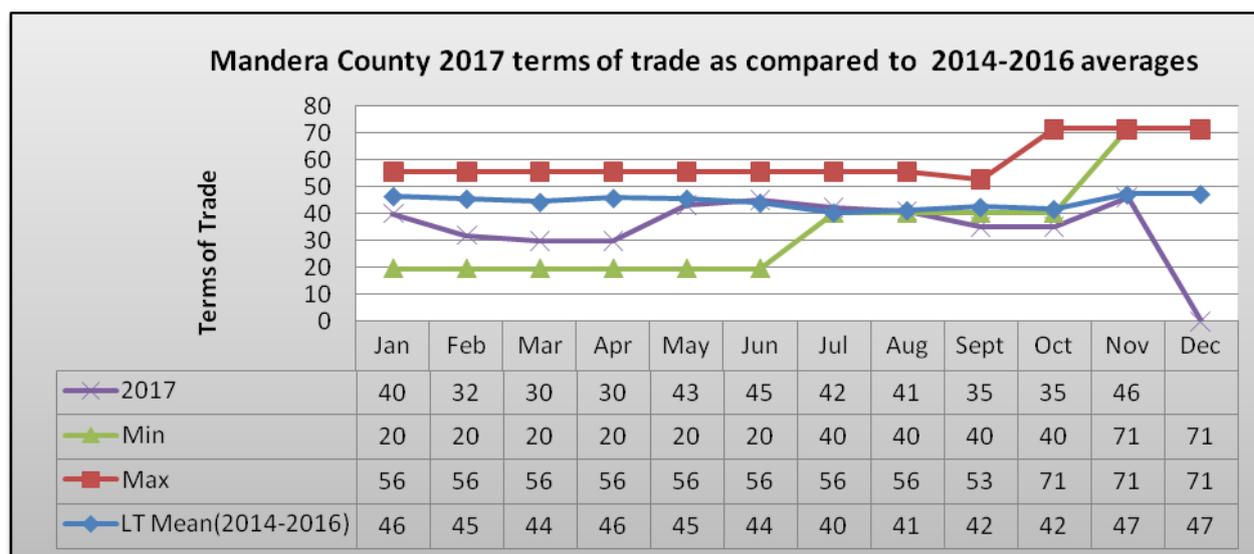
4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize



- The average maize price during the month of November 2017 was Ksh.65per kg.
- Compared to the previous month, the average price reduced by 5Ksh.
- When compared to the long term mean price, the average price was higher than the long term means.

4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade



- Currently a household can purchase 46Kilogram of maize by selling one medium goat.
- The Terms of trade improved when compared to last month, this is attributed to the increase in goat price and decrease in maize price.
- The terms of trade are unfavourable to pastoral communities when compared to long term average.

- The price of goat is likely to improve or remain stable as the body condition improve.
- The markets across the County continued to function normally with no cases of reported disruptions

4.4 implication of above indicator to Food Security

- Livestock production such as milk and meat will likely improve the purchasing power of Pastoralist through sale of the product which in turn improve malNurtition.in the county.
- Easy availability and accessibility of house food commodity to the market due to more supply.
- improved livestock price will have positive impacts on pastoralist return thus enhancing food security at household level.

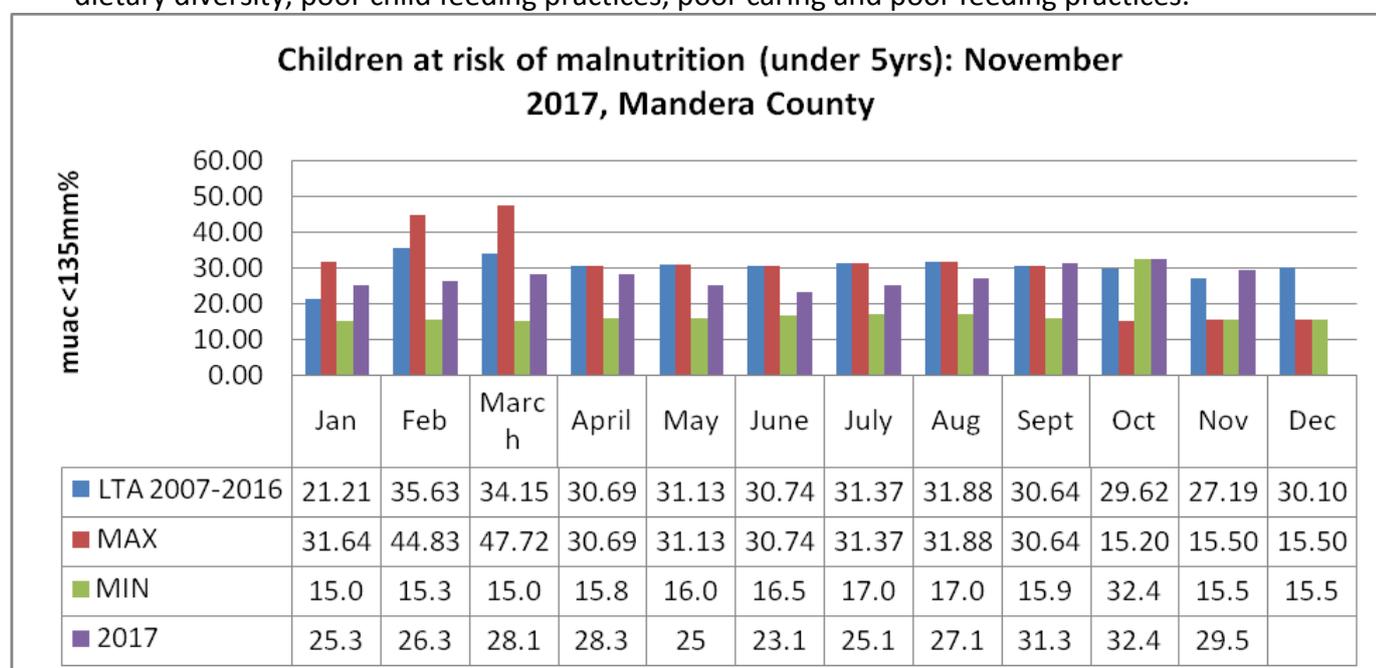
5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- The total number of litres consumed was 2 litres while total produced was 5.4litres on average for all the sampled sentinel sites. The average milk price was Ksh 100 per 750 ml bottle during the reporting month.

5.2 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

- The percentage of children (<5yrs) at mid-risk category for 125mm to 134mm during the month of October was 29.5%. When compared to last month it has decreased by 2.9%
- The high levels of nutritional cases are attributed to below normal milk production, Poor dietary diversity, poor child feeding practices, poor caring and poor feeding practices.



5.3.2 Health

- Cases of Dengue Fever and Diarrhoea reported in Mandera East Sub County during the month under review.

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES

The main coping strategies used by communities include-

- borrowing from friends and relatives
- consumption of less preferred and cheaper foods,
- purchasing food on credit
- reduction in the number and sizes of meals,
- skipping of meals
- Provision of relief food and supplementary feeding for the vulnerable groups of the communities in the divisions still remained as the top most coping strategy.
- Remittance and Casual labour

6. CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)

6.1 NON-FOOD INTERVENTIONS - NOTE THE FOLLOWING

- Hunger safety net programmes provides regular payment of Kshs. 5,400 bi-monthly to 22231 beneficiaries in order to build households resilience and to help mitigate the shocks of the drought
- NDMA is currently distributing drought seeds and fuel subsidy to farmers along the River Daua
- Regional Pastoral Livelihood Resilience project(RPLRP) is in the process of purchasing spare parts for strategic boreholes and maintenance and repair of boreholes.
- RPLRP is under taking disease surveillance and supportive treatment to notifiable disease in 18 sites within the County.
- RPLRP is also purchasing supplement feeds and provision of range cubes in the all six sub counties
- Health and nutrition outreach in 116 sites in Mandera west, south and Banisa.

6.2 FOOD AID - NOTE THE FOLLOWING

- No FFA food distributed during the months but Blanket supplementary feeding programme is conducted by COCOP and Save the Children in the entire County.

7.0 EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

- No security incidence was reported in the entire County during the month under review.
- Alshabab remains major threat to government and NGO workers in the entire county especially Arabia, Lafey road

7.2 Migration

- Migration of livestock from pastoral and irrigated cropping zone to Agro pastoral zone was reported during the month under review. These will result in depletion of browse in the sub counties

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- The county is at alert phase and the situation is on worsening trends across the county except Banisa sub County. Due to poor short rain performance food security situation is stressed and expected to go into crisis before the onset of long rains. As the stress period progresses food deficits will increase, nutritional status of under five children and general population will worsen, livestock body condition will worsen, household food security vulnerability will increase. Key issues to monitor among others are human and livestock disease incidences, borehole break

downs and inefficiencies, market food availability volumes and commodity price changes, and community conflict.

Most affected sub counties are Mandera west, Mandera East, Lafey and Mandera North sub counties which have moderate vegetation deficit and received below normal rains. Livestock surface water sources are expected to dry up leading to high concentration of livestock on strategic livestock boreholes running for 24/24 hours, resulting into frequent breakdowns and low yield levels. The situation needs to be closely monitored as the rains are below normal.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Response:

- Develop contingency scenario building to enhance early response as the short rains are projected to be below normal

Water

- Facilitate repair response team to carry out service and maintenance of livestock strategic boreholes
- Provision of fast moving spare parts to livestock boreholes and repair of defective boreholes
- Fuel subsidy to boreholes to support overburden pastoral communities who lost purchasing powers
- Water trucking to all affected water stress centres for human and livestock consumption

Livestock

- Mass deworming and treatment of livestock county wide. Cattle disease surveillance to be undertaken to determine cause of deaths reported in Mandera south sub county
- Provision of hay and mineral supplements for the affected areas

Livelihoods

- Support to vulnerable households estimated at 300,000 persons with food aid across the county
- Up scale Hunger Safety Net Programme across all the group two beneficiaries

Agriculture

- Support to vulnerable households estimated at 300,000 persons with food aid across the county.
- Fuel subsidy for Riverine farmers
- Supply of fodder/crop seeds for riverine farmers specially early maturity seeds

Health

- Scale up of health and nutrition outreach programme for settlement without facilities
- Increase mass screening of under five children.
- Provide essential drugs to all health facilities particularly newly operationalised facilities
- Fast track nutritional commodities supplies to avoid IMAM programme defaulters.