higher than 12 months earlier (FAO-GIEWS, December 2019), supported by crop production shortfalls, lower imports from Uganda and disruptions to transport infrastructure. A poor harvest due to heavy rainfall contributed to sustain the high level of prices, although the Government’s stock release prevented further spikes (FAO-GIEWS, February 2020).

Livestock prices increased in late 2019 as animal body conditions improved, and in most pastoral key reference markets ranged from average to 42 percent above average in December. These increases outpaced those of cereal prices, and the goat-to-maize terms of trade were 6–23 percent above average in December, thus supporting gains in household purchasing power (FEWS NET, December 2019).

**NUTRITION OVERVIEW**

The nutrition situation deteriorated in several counties from February–July 2019. Laisamis, Turkana South and North were classified in Extremely Critical (IPC Phase 5); North Horr, Turkana Central and West, Manda, Wajir, Garissa and Tiway in Baringo county were in Critical (IPC Phase 4); Isiolo and West Pokot were in Serious (IPC Phase 3) (IPC, July 2019).

In ASAL counties over 541,300 children (6–59 months) required treatment for GAM in 2019, including 113,941 for SAM (UNICEF, March 2019). Poor food availability (including of milk) and increasing food prices are among the drivers of this high prevalence of acute malnutrition. Limited access to health and nutrition services following a scale-down of integrated outreaches in some areas, such as Laisamis in Marsabit, are also contributory factors. High morbidity, poor child-feeding practices, poverty, high illiteracy and poor infrastructure aggravate the problem (IPC, July 2019).

In 2014, the national prevalence of stunting was 26 percent, ranging from ‘medium’ in Nairobi and Central region to ‘very high’ in Coast and Eastern regions (DHS 2014).

By the end of the year 5,150 cholera cases had been reported with the outbreak still active in Garissa, Wajir, Turkana and Kirinyaga counties (European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, accessed 27 January 2019). In the first half of the year, 418 measles cases were reported across Wajir, Tana River, Kilifi and Kwale counties. In September, 425 suspected cases were reported in Kajiado county and in December, a new outbreak was reported in Pokot North (WHO, January 2020).

**Refugee nutrition status**

The prevalence of GAM was 12.7 percent in Kakuma, 9.3 percent in Kalobeyei and 8 percent in Dadaab camps in December 2018. The prevalence of stunting averaged 22.6 percent in Kakuma and Dadaab refugee camps. The high prevalence of anaemia (>40 percent among children aged 6–59 months and non-pregnant women aged 15–49 years) remained a key concern in these two camps. Nearly 11 percent of households were not consuming micronutrient-rich foods in Kakuma and Dagahaley camps (SENS, 2018).