

National Drought Management Authority
TURKANA COUNTY
DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR JUNE 2017



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



JUNE EW PHASE



Early Warning (EW) Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Pastoral-all species	Alarm	Improving
Agro-Pastoral	Alert	Improving
Fisheries	Alarm	Improving
Formal Employment/Casual Labour	Alarm	Improving
COUNTY	ALARM	IMPROVING

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

- There was little/no rainfall recorded. Rainfall performed poorly in the county and were below normal.
- Pasture condition was generally poor across all the livelihood zones. The situation is below normal.
- The water state remained the same as the previous month. It is below normal.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

- There was fewer unusual migration incidences during the month.
- The livestock body condition was fair although below normal.
- The Terms of Trade of trade were unfavourable. Below normal.
- Percentage of children at risk of malnutrition was high (15), although below the seasonal norm.

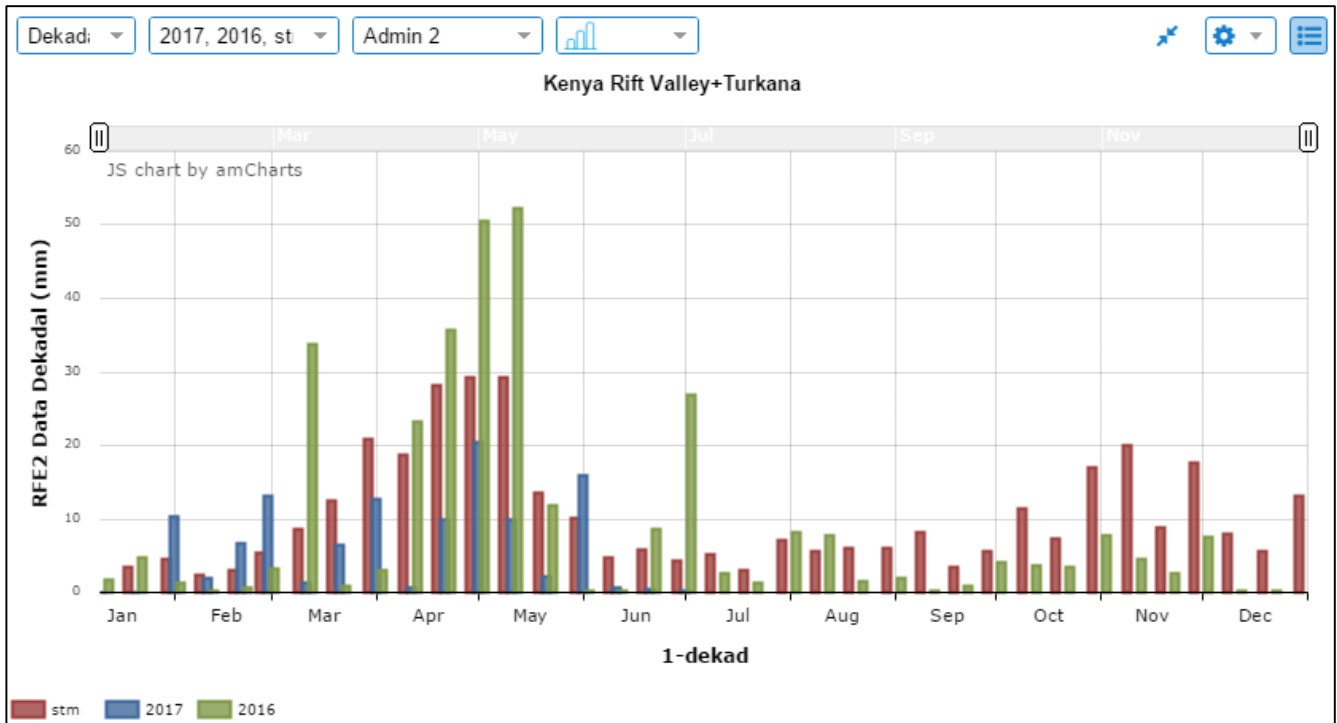
Biophysical Indicators	Value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)	9	60-100
VCI-3 month	18	>35
State of Water Sources	2	3-4
Vegetation Condition	Below Normal	Normal
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal
Livestock Body Conditions	Fair	Normal
Milk Production	2	>85 litres
Livestock deaths (from drought)	Fair	No Deaths
Crops Condition	poor	Fair
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	24	>32
Milk Consumption	2	>50 litres
Return distance to water sources	10 km	<4.96 Km
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	15	<18
Coping Strategy Index (CSI)	21	<32

<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

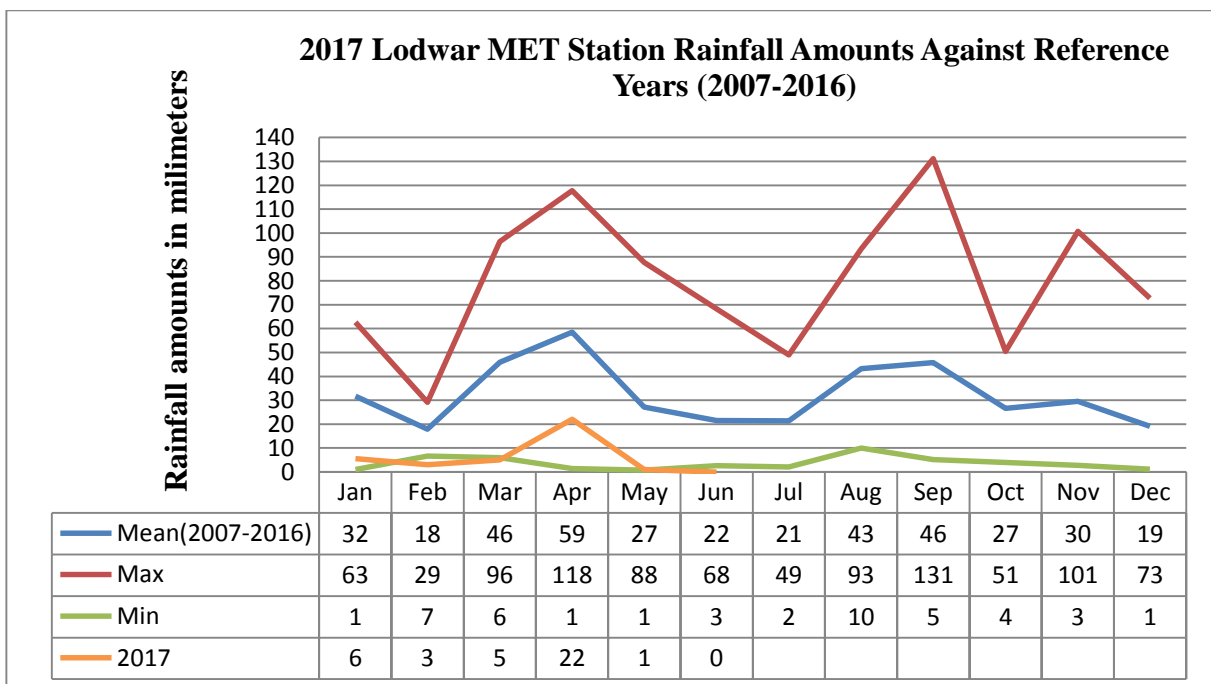
1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- Turkana County received little/no rains during the month of June 2017, except for Loima and Turkana sub-counties which received relatively fair amounts, especially Loima ranges.
- The rains recorded were nine percent of normal, constituting below normal quantities.



1.2 AMOUNT OF RAINFALL AND SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION

- The distribution of rainfall was poor across all the livelihood zones in the county.
- There was no rainfall recorded by the Lodwar Meteorological station. The MET reports indicated that there was rainfall in parts of Loima Sub-County although it was not measured.

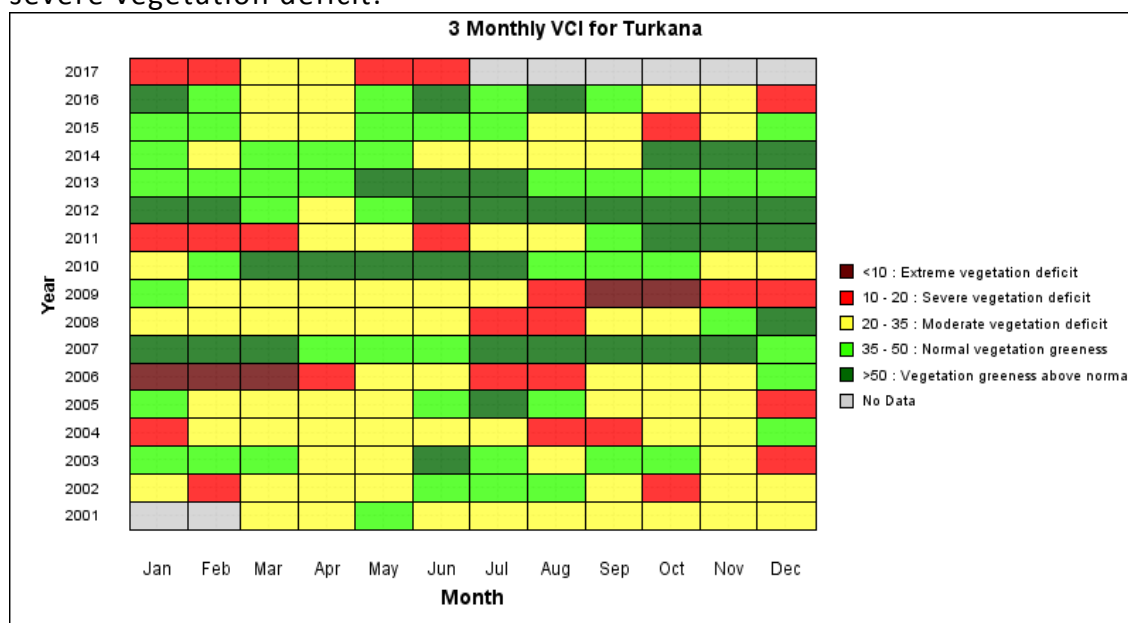


2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

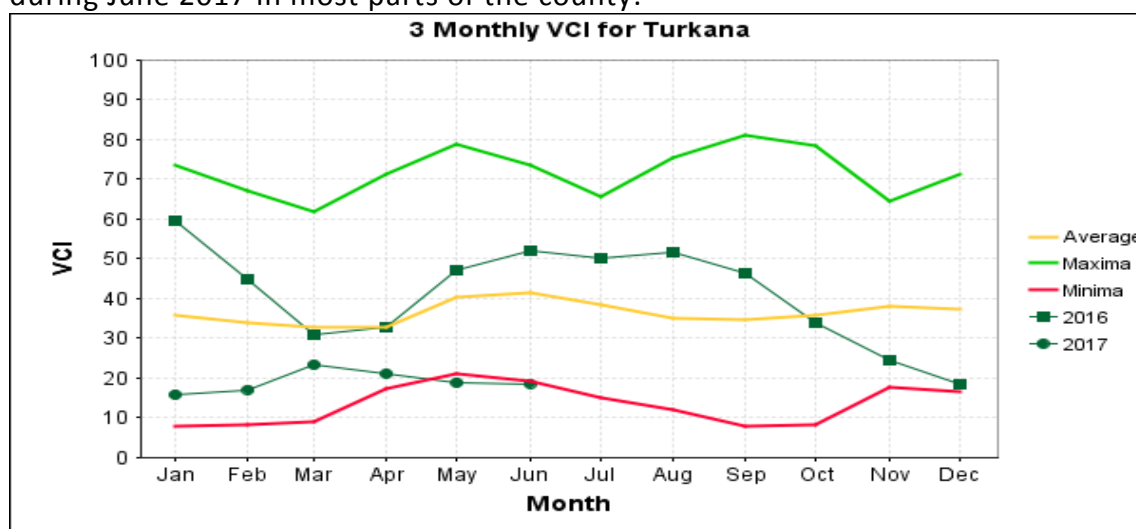
2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- The VCI, which indicates the vegetation greenness, during the month of June 2017 was 18, representing a decrease from 20 recorded in the previous month. The VCI is below normal of 35 for such a time of the year. The VCI pointed to a severe vegetation deficit.



- Turkana North Sub-County recorded the highest VCI of 23, whereas Turkana central sub-county recorded the lowest one of 15.
- The decreasing VCI indicates deterioration of the vegetation cover across the county which is attributed to the poor rains received during May 2017 and none recorded during June 2017 in most parts of the county.



2.1.2 Pasture

- The pasture condition (quantity and quality) was poor in June 2017 which is attributed to lack of rains during the month.
- The current state of pasture was a little bit fair in Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone, (Turkwel Ward), which relies on the riverine along River Turkwel. Pasture was poorer in fisheries

livelihood zone.

- The pasture situation is poor compared to the previous month and its below normal for such time of a normal year.

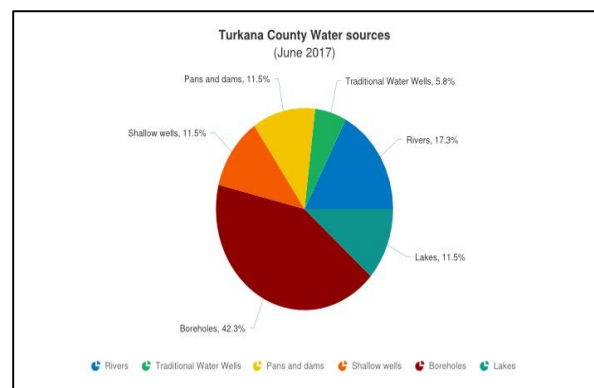
2.1.3 Browse

- The quality and quantity of browse was generally fair in the county. Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone had fairer browse compared to other zones while fisheries had most deprived browse. Browse condition generally improved a little bit, during June 2017 compared to the previous month.
- The browse condition is below normal compared to such time of a normal year. The available browse is expected to last for two (2) months or less owing to the poor/lack of rains during the month.

2.2 WATER RESOURCE

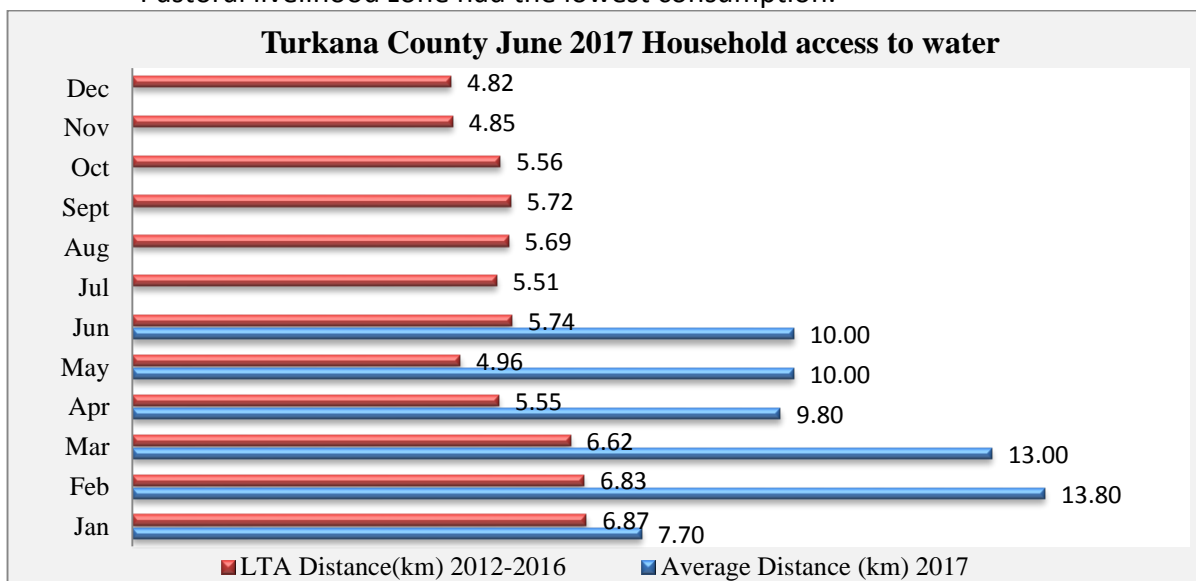
2.2.1 Sources: Percent of water sources in use

- The current main water sources in use for both households and livestock are Boreholes (43%), Rivers (17%) and Lakes (12%). Fisheries livelihood zone relied mainly on Lake water while Agro-Pastoral and Pastoral zones relied mainly on Rivers and Boreholes in the county.
- Boreholes remain the dominant water source in the county as shown in the pie chart.



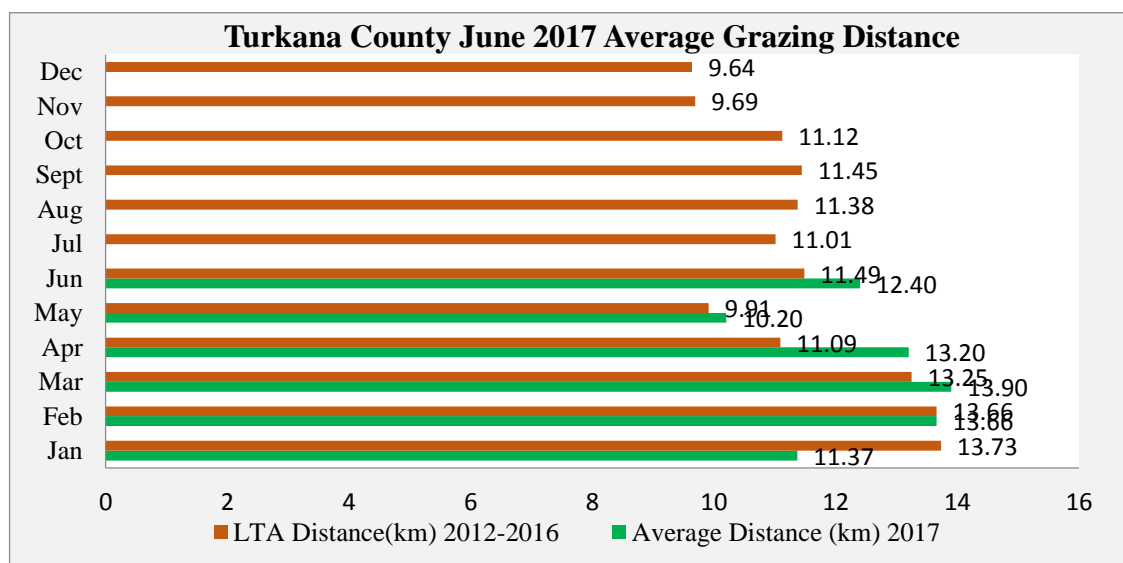
2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

- In the month of June 2017, households recorded an average return distance (to main water sources) of 10 Kms, which is same as the distance recorded in the previous month. This is attributed to households using the same water sources and staying in the same location as in the previous month.
- Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone had the highest consumption of water per person per day because more households and livestock are still concentrated along the riverine of Turkwel. Pastoral livelihood zone had the lowest consumption.



2.2.3 Livestock access

- In June 2017, the trekking average return distance of livestock from grazing areas to the main water sources was 12.4 Kms, indicating an increase from 10.2 recorded in the previous month. This is attributed to browse getting depleted away from the current main water source as a result of livestock feeding on the browse.



- The average livestock return distance from grazing to main water source is expected to increase in coming months if the rains fail to improve.

2.3 Implication to food security

- The declining state of water, reduced pasture and browse as a result of low rainfall would affect directly the availability of milk and water at household level, hence affecting food security.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

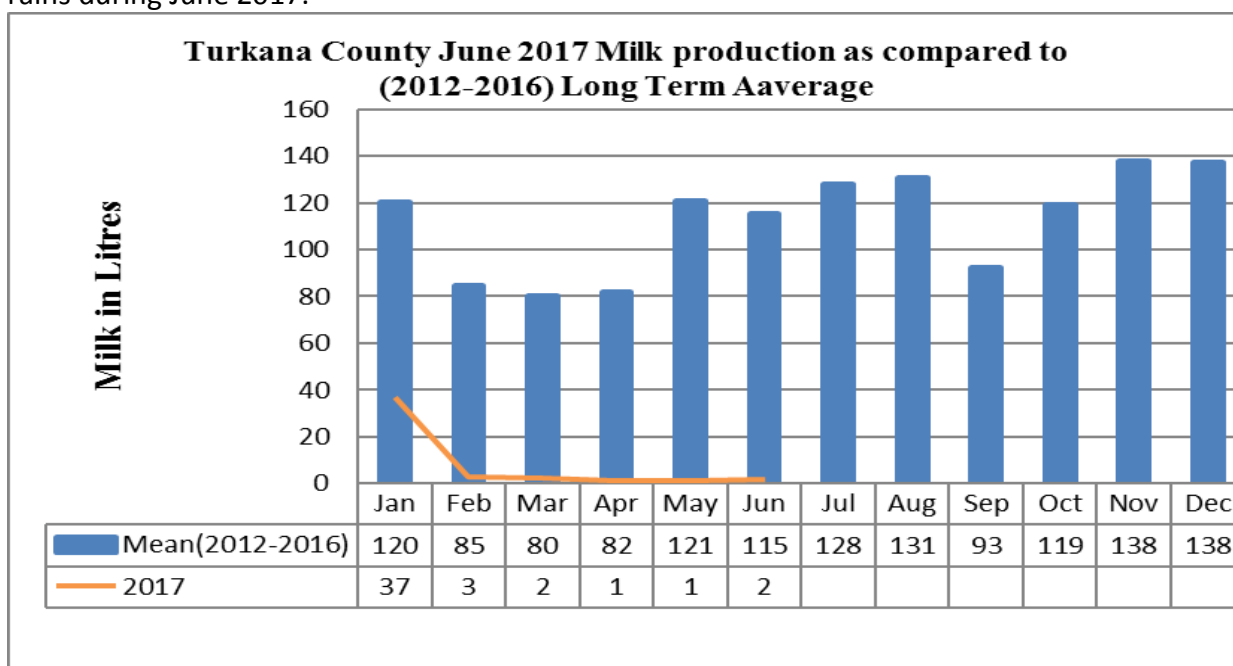
- According to Early Warning System classification, the general body condition of livestock was observed to be fair across the county in June 2017.
- Goats and camels have fair body condition in Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone and poor in fisheries livelihood zone.
- Compared to the previous month, the overall livestock body condition is fair. This is attributed to the little existing browse as a result of the rains received in late May 2017.

3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- Trypanosomiasis, Contagious Caprine Pleural Pneumonia (CCPP, Contagious Bovine Pleural Pneumonia (CBPP) and mange remained the main diseases reported during June 2017.
- Few livestock deaths were reported and they were caused by the diseases above.

3.1.3 Milk Production

- In June 2017, the average production recorded was 2 litres in the county. The milk produced was from the camels and few lactating goats in the Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone.
- However, milk is expected to decrease across all the livelihood zones due to the poor/lack of rains during June 2017.



- During the month, milk production increased from one 1 litre, recorded in the previous month of May 2017.
- This is below normal of 115 litres of milk produced at such a time of a normal year.

3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops

- Farmers along River Turkwel had no crops in their farms during June 2017. However, farmers in Letea ward had planted sorghum and it was at the flowering stage.

- The general performance of rain-fed crops is poor as most farms remained bare without any crop across all the cropping livelihood zone.
- There were no major crop pests and diseases reported.

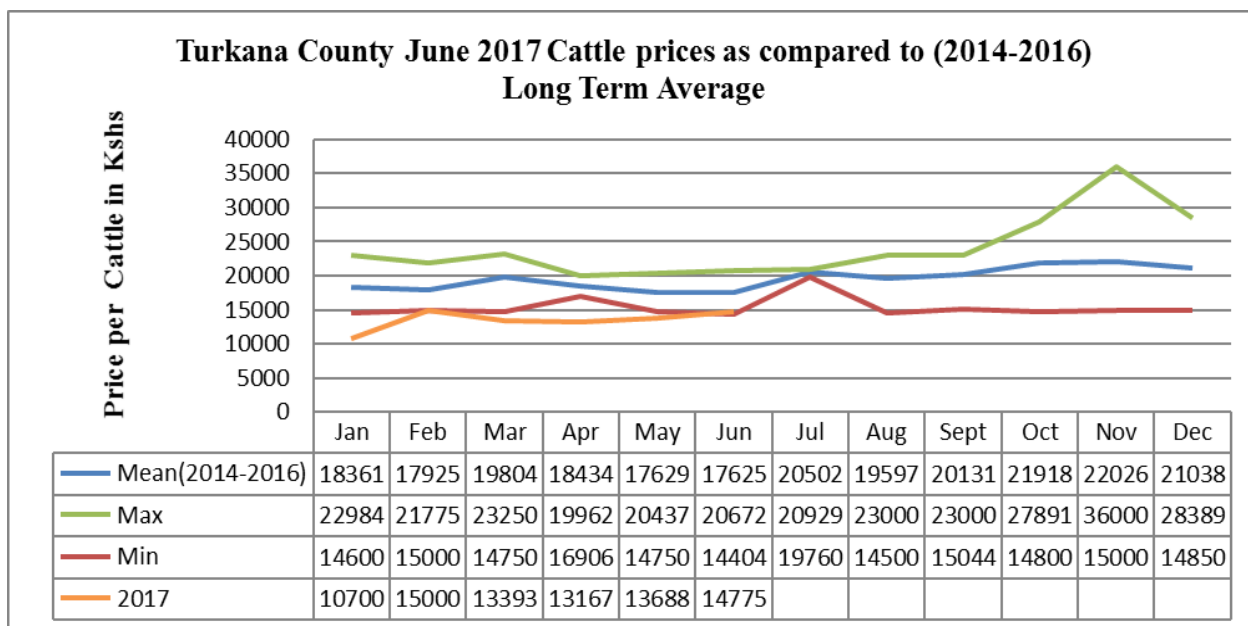
3.3 IMPLICATION OF THE ABOVE INDICATORS TO FOOD SECURITY

- The slightly improved livestock body condition will fetch good market prices for livestock and improve the purchasing power of farmers which will improve food security especially in the Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone.
- However, the poor performance of rain-fed crops will on the other hand slow the effect of livestock body condition on improving food security. Therefore, food security is expected to be poor in the coming months due to lack of rain in the reporting month.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

4.1.1 Cattle Prices

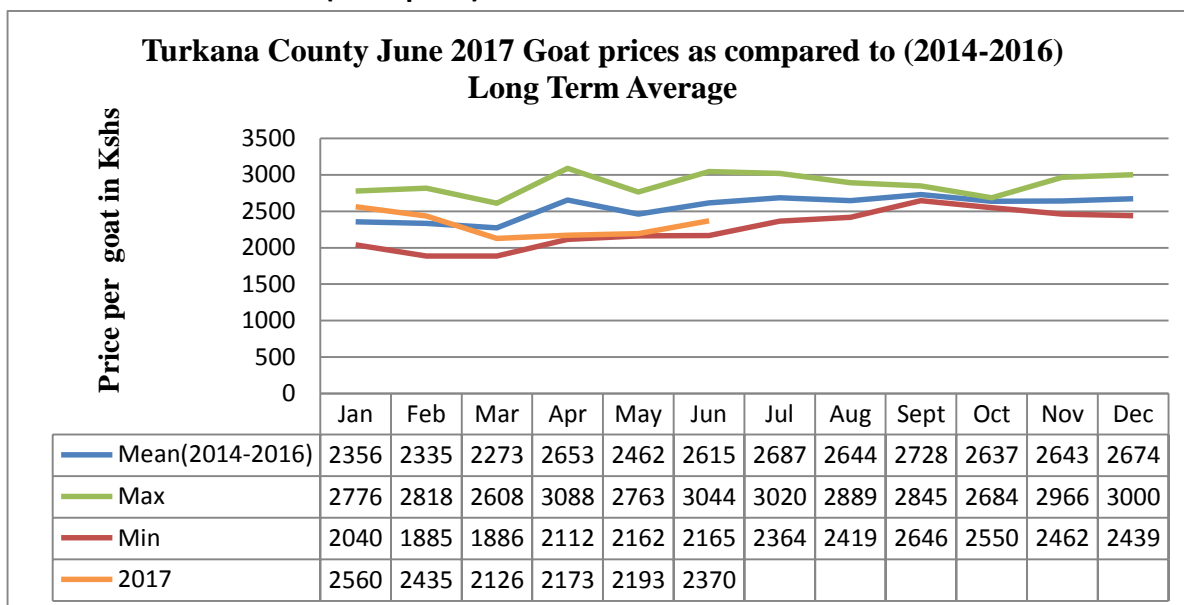


- In June 2017, a medium size bull was sold at an average price of Kshs 14,775 which is an increase from Kshs 13,688 recorded in the previous month.
- Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone recorded the highest cattle price at Kshs 14,833 while the Pastoral recorded the lowest at Kshs 14,300. Fisheries livelihood zone made no cattle sales during the reporting month.
- The increase in cattle price is attributed to improved browse condition in the county especially in the Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone.
- Compared with such time of a normal year, the cattle price is below the normal price of Kshs 17,625.

4.1.2 Other outstanding observations

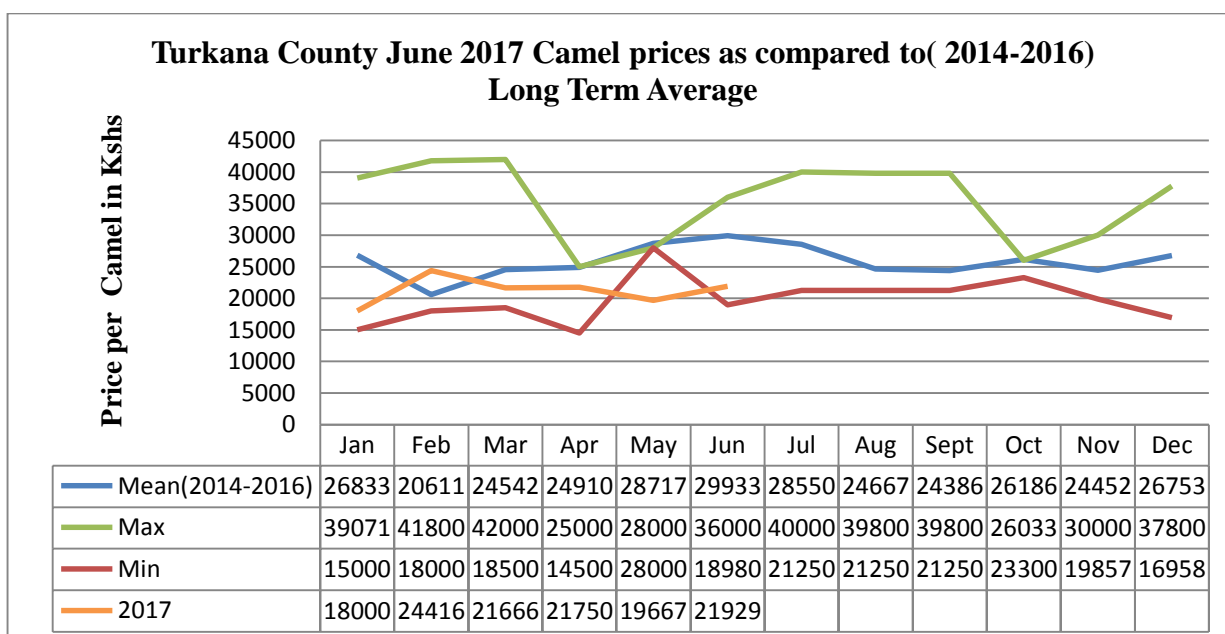
- Cattle were not readily available in the markets as most farmers were reluctant to sell cattle. They would rather keep the cattle for production.

4.1.3 Small Ruminants Prices (Goat price)



- A medium size goat was sold at an average price of Kshs 2,370 indicating an increase from Kshs 2,193 recorded in the previous month.
- Kshs 2,500 was the highest price per goat in the Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone while Fisheries livelihood zone recorded the lowest price at Kshs 2,250.
- The increase in price of goat realized in the county in due to the slightly fair browse condition in the county. Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone had fairly good browse and hence the good price.
- Farmers were still holding on their goats for purposes of production hence low availability of goats at the market and this resulted to the increase in goat price.
- The goat price is below the normal (Kshs 2,615) for such time of the year.

4.1.4 Camel Prices

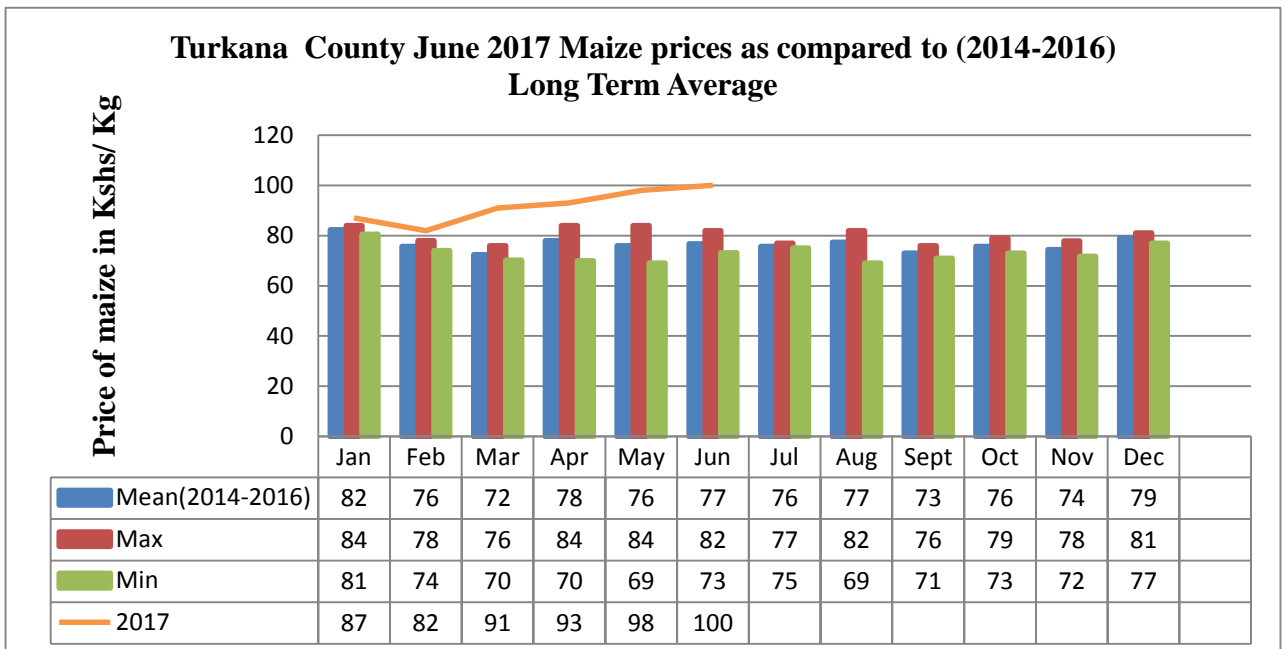


- In June 2017, a 4-year old camel was sold at an average price of Kshs 21,929 which is an increase from Kshs 19,667 recorded in the previous month. The increase in camel price is as a result of low availability of the camel in the markets as well as their fair body condition.

- During the month, the camel price was highest at Kshs 23,566 in pastoral livelihood zone and lowest at Kshs 19,750 in fisheries livelihood zone.
- However, the camel price is below the normal of Kshs 29,933 for such time of the year.

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize



- The price of maize was Kshs 100 per kg of maize in the county, which was an increase from Kshs 98 recorded in the previous month.
- Pastoral livelihood zone recorded the highest maize price of Kshs 110 per kg of maize while the lowest price was recorded in Agro-Pastoral zone at Kshs 87.
- The upward trend in the maize price is attributed to traders transporting maize to interior parts of the county and thus include the transportation cost into the maize price. Maize is also scarcely available in the markets leading to increase in price.
- The maize price is above the normal price of Kshs 77 for such time of the year.

4.2.1.1 Other outstanding observations

- Maize production is poor in the county which will lead to a further increase in maize price in the coming months.

4.2.2 Posho (Maize Meal)

- During the reporting month of June 2017, the price of Posho (Maize meal) was recorded at Kshs 120 which is similar to the price recorded in the previous month.
- Compared with three-year average, the price of Posho remained above normal.

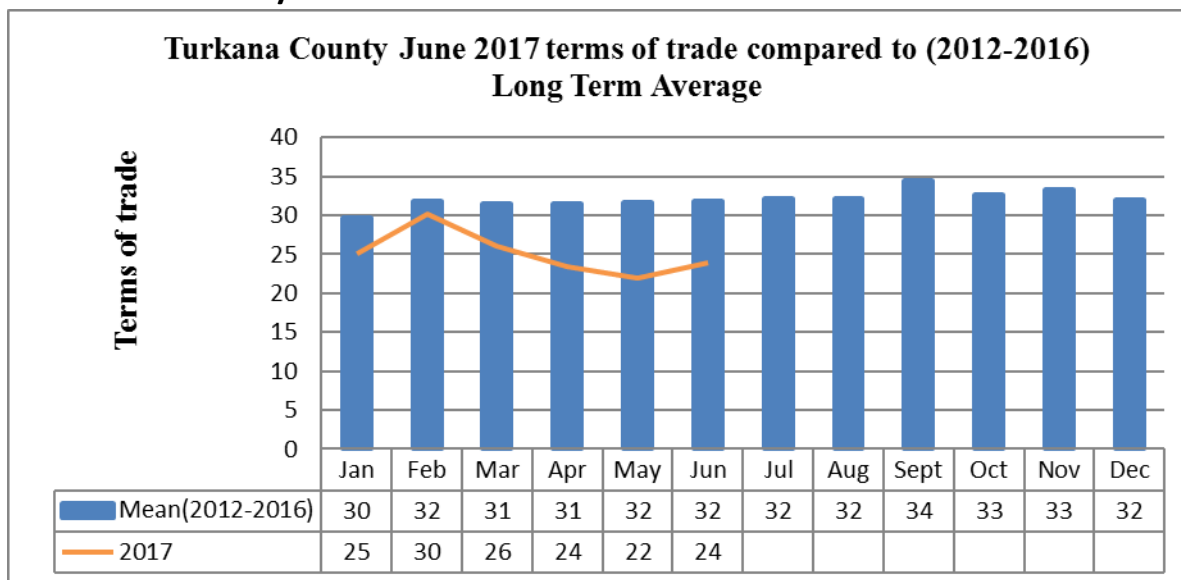
4.2.2.1 Other outstanding observations

- Posho was generally unavailable in markets across the county. The price of Posho is higher than that of maize because millers include the cost of milling into the price of Posho, usually opted in areas without grinding mills.

4.2.3 Beans

- During the month, Beans was sold at Kshs 180 per kg indicating an increase from Kshs 175 recorded in the previous month.
- Fisheries livelihood zone recorded the highest average market price of Kshs 182 per kg while Agro-pastoral livelihood zone recorded the lowest price at Kshs 170. The low price of beans in the Agro-Pastoral zone is due to some stock of green grams available in the households (they harvested in April 2017).

4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade



- During the reporting month, the county recorded Terms of Trade (ToT) at 24 which indicates an increase from 22 recorded in the previous month.
- ToT was lowest (22) in fisheries livelihood zone and highest (55) in Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone. The low ToT (unfavourable) recorded in fisheries zone is due to low goat price and the high ToT (favourable) recorded in Agro-Pastoral zone is attributed to high goat price and low maize price.
- The ToT is below normal of 32 for such time of the year.

4.4 Implication of the above indicators to food security

- Owing to the increasing ToT, it is expected that food security situation will improve and therefore, farmers will sell fewer goats in order to buy similar amount of cereals.

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

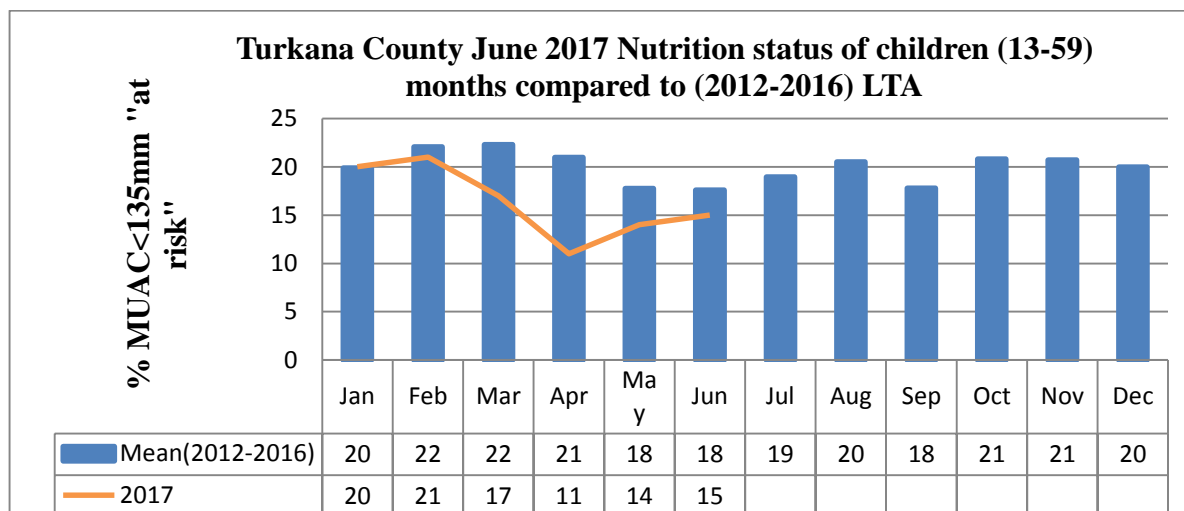
5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- Milk consumption was recorded at two 2 litres, depicting an increase from one 1 litre recorded in the previous month.
- Compared with a normal year, Milk consumption is below normal for such time of the year.
- Milk consumption was recorded in Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone.

5.2 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

- The proportion, by gender, of children sampled in the reporting month was 53 percent boys and 47 percent girls.

5.2.1 Nutrition Status



- In June 2017, the percentage of children under five years who are at risk of malnutrition where the Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) was less than 135mm) is 15, representing an increase from 14 recorded in the previous month.
- Compared with the five-year average, MUAC is below normal (18) for such time of the year.
- The relatively scarce milk has significantly contributed to the increase (though small) in cases of malnutrition in the county. This is expected to increase further if milk remains scarce.

5.2.2 Health

- Malaria and coughing remained the major diseases reported in the county during the reporting month.
- There were no major epidemic disease outbreaks reported.

5.3 COPING STRATEGIES

- In June 2017, the Coping Strategy Index (CSI) was 21 indicating an increase from 19 recorded in the previous month. The CSI is below the normal index (32).
- Pastoral livelihood zone recorded the highest index of 23 and Agro-Pastoral livelihood zone recorded the lowest index of 18.
- Households relied on less expensive foods and reduced the portion of meals in order to cope with unavailability of food.

5.4. Implication of the above indicators to food security

- Food security situation is expected to be poor due to the increasing CSI. This indicates that most households applied more coping strategies in order to get food.

6.0 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES

6.1 NON-FOOD INTERVENTIONS

- Land preparation for women and youth groups and initiation of small-scale farming **by Lokado.**
- Negotiation with WHH on CSB supplementation feeding for Turkana west and North target population **by Lokado.**
- Desilting of a water pan at Nanyaa (Oropoi division) **by Lokado.**
- Secure funding with UNICEF to undertake emergency WASH for 3 months in Turkana south Sub-County **by World Vision.**
- Upscaling of emergency beneficiaries for hunger safety net programme targets **by NDMA.**
- Cash Transfer program to 1355 target households in Turkana North sub-county **by World Relief.**
- Setting up a water tank in Lokichoggio **by Lokado.**
- Drill a borehole in Kakuma **by Lokado.**
- Cash transfer program to schools (Term three already paid) **by WFP.**
- Livestock offtake at Kangatoha (258 households targeted) **by HelpAge International.**
- Cash transfer program at kapua and Lochoremoit where 450 households were targeted **by HelpAge International.**
- Training on climate change adaptation **by GIZ.**
- Drought resilience program **by GIZ.**
- Cash transfer program to 700 households in Kakuma and kalobeyei **by DRC.**
- Poultry farming support to 400 households in Kakuma **by DRC.**
- Agricultural support to refugees and host community (harvest ongoing) **by DRC.**

6.2.1 FOOD AID

- Integrated health and nutrition in Turkana Central and Loima **by IRC.**
- Support emergency nutrition for one year in Turkana south sub-county **by World Vision.**
- Negotiate with WFP to undertake Blanket Supplementary Feeding Program (BSFP) blanket supplementary feeding programme for 3 months in Turkana south and east sub counties **by world vision.**
- Blanket Supplementary Feeding Program in the county **by WFP.**
- Supplementary feeding mapping out in the county (rolled out in Turkana central and Loima) **by WFP.**
- Supporting school meals programme **by World Food Programme (WFP).**

7.0 EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

- There were no cases of insecurity reported in the county in June 2017.

7.2 Migration

- There were few cases of livestock migration into their normal grazing areas.

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- Food security situation is likely to worsen since there was no rainfall recorded by the Lodwar meteorological station in June 2017. However, parts of Loima that were reported to have received some rainfall, though not measured, might have its food security situation being better than other parts of the county.
- Forage is expected to deteriorate in the next three months as no rains are expected and poor/none was received in the reporting month.
- The expected deterioration in livestock body condition due to diminishing browse will result to unavailability of milk in the county and hence poor food security situation.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increase supply of nutrition supplements to more affected areas (Turkana Central, Loima and Turkana West sub-counties).
- Strengthen existing Stabilization Centres in Turkana South (Katilu Health Centre), Turkana West (Lopiding Hospital) and Turkana East (Lokori AIC Health Centre).
- Enhance livestock disease surveillance in areas where livestock diseases have been reported.
- Continue supporting farmers farming with seeds, especially for drought tolerant crops and training them on sustainable crop farming.
- Initiate peace activities in areas with high insecurity cases especially Turkana East and Turkana South sub-counties.
- Drilling of more boreholes and installation of handpumps in areas that experience water scarcity especially Kerio, Turkana North and Loima.