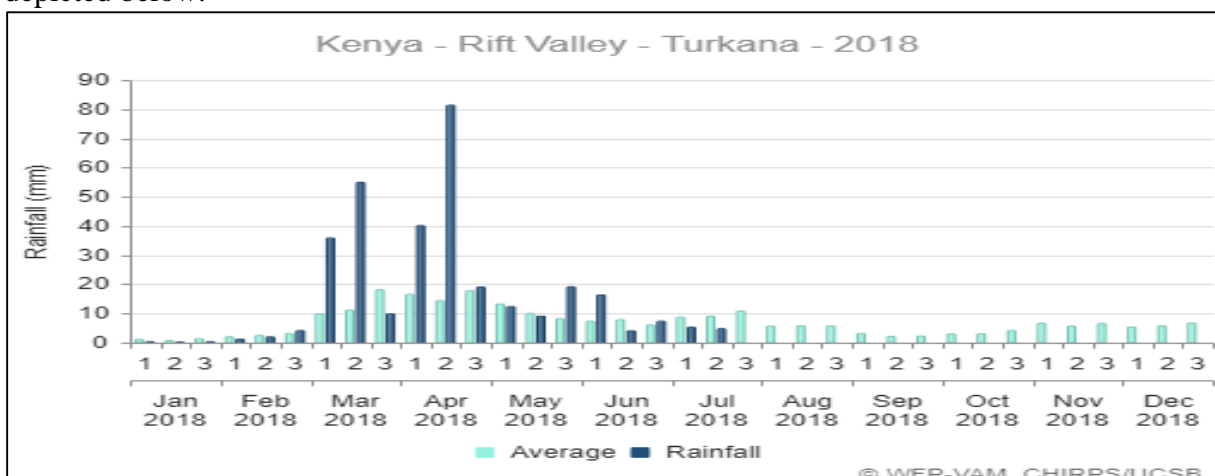


1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

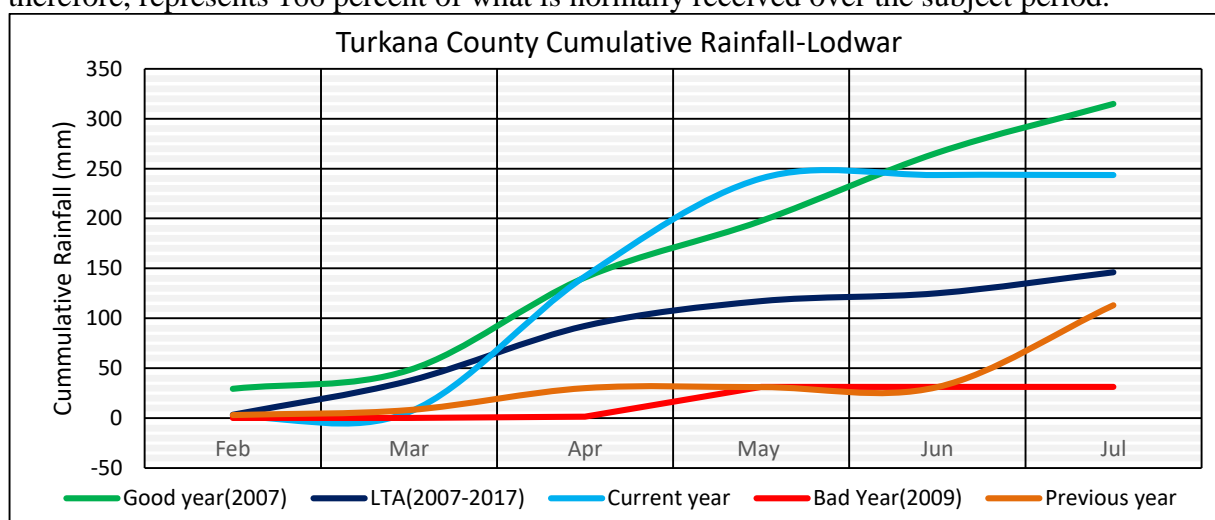
- No rainfall was received across most sites in the county during the month under review save for trace amounts recorded in some parts of the county.
- Comparatively, the decadal rainfall for July was below the long term average for the month as depicted below.



Source: VAM-World Food Programme

1.2 AMOUNT OF RAINFALL AND SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION

- Contrary to the normally expected amount of 21mm in Lodwar during the month of July, nil amount was recorded with the distribution in space being highly uneven within the pocket sites that reported trace amounts in the aforementioned sub counties.
- The cumulative rainfall for the 6-month period covering February 2018 to July 2018 that equals to 243.6mm exceeds the 11-year cumulative rainfall average for the same period by 97.4mm and therefore, represents 166 percent of what is normally received over the subject period.



Source: Meteorological Department-Turkana County

- The current cumulative rainfall is higher than the cumulative rainfall recorded for the same six month period during the previous year (Feb 2017 to July 2017) by a margin of 110.6mm.
- The period (Feb 2009 -July 2009) represents the segmental bad year within the last 11 years.

1.3 OTHER EVENTS

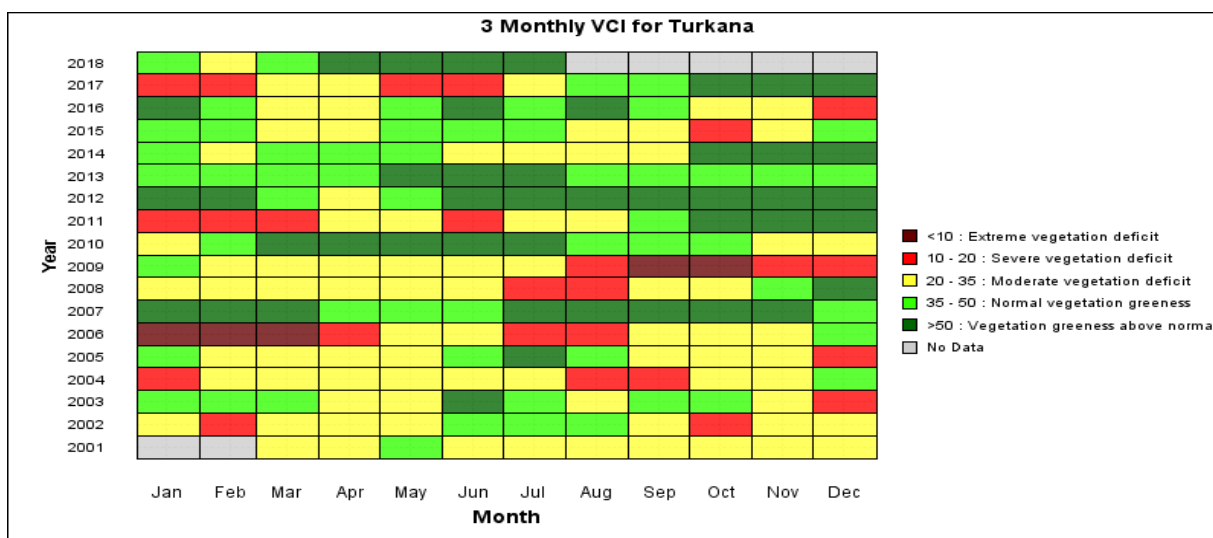
- No events such as flash floods, mud slides, lightning nor hailstorm associated with rainfall was reported in the county during the period under review.

2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

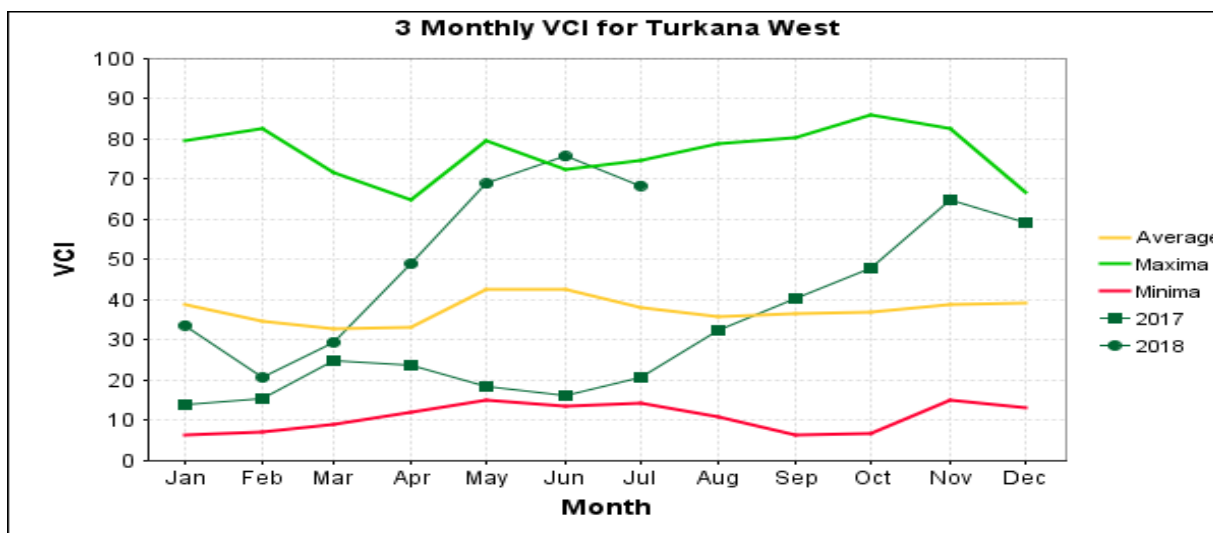
2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- Below is an illustration of how months have been categorized based on the applicable VCI thresholds. Upon establishing the level of vegetation deficit after conducting a retrospective analysis, each month is placed under an appropriate band.
- The basis for VCI is comparison of the relative NDVI (Normalized Difference Vegetation Index) change in regard to the minima and maxima NDVI value recorded historically.
- The condition of vegetation deteriorated slightly in comparison to that witnessed in June as evidenced by the shift in VCI-3month from 91 recorded previously to 78. Consequently, the county exhibited above normal conditions in terms of vegetation greenness.



- The greenness of vegetation across all the sub counties was above normal during the month under review. However, a negative trend was noted in Turkana west (illustrated graphically below) whose VCI-3month dropped considerably to 55 from the 68 recorded previously.



- The observed negative trend could be attributed to absence of rainfall during the month under review and thus the prevailing vegetation condition was as a result of the cumulative effect of the March, April and May (MAM) rains.

2.1.2 Pasture

- Pasture condition across the three livelihood zones in July was good and above the normal level witnessed normally. The observed condition was due to the cumulative effect of the MAM rains.
- Available pasture is projected to last 1-2 months owing to the high rate of degeneration.
- The major impediments to pasture access include insecurity in areas such as Nakukulas, Napeitom, Todonyang, Kibish and locust infestation across most sites including Lokori, Lobokat, Kokuro, Kalemunyang, Lokichar and Letea.
- No significant variation in terms of pasture quality and quantity exists across the Pastoral, Agro Pastoral and Fisheries livelihood zones.

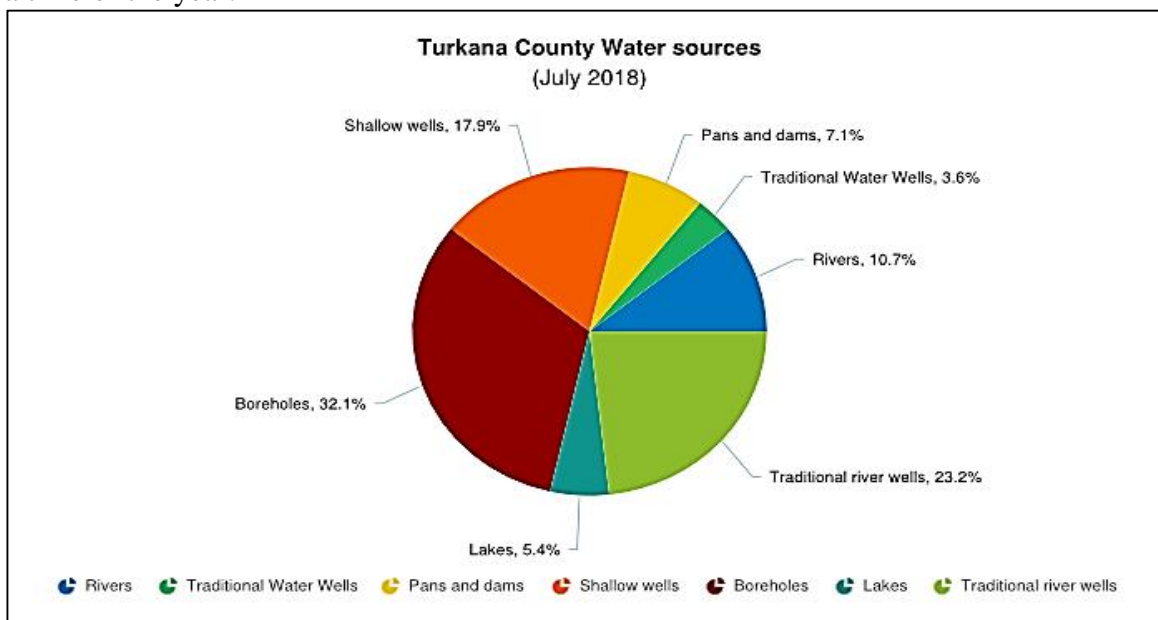
2.1.3 Browse

- During the month under review, the condition of browse was good and above the normal level witnessed normally at such a time of the year across the county. The observed condition was a result of the cumulative effect of the MAM rains.
- The available browse across all sites in the county is expected to last for a period of 2-3 months.
- Insecurity and locust infestation more so along the Pastoral and Agro Pastoral livelihood zones remain the major constraints to browse access.
- Across all the livelihood zones, there was no notable variation in terms of the quality and quantity of browse observed during the month of July.

2.2 WATER RESOURCE

2.2.1 Sources

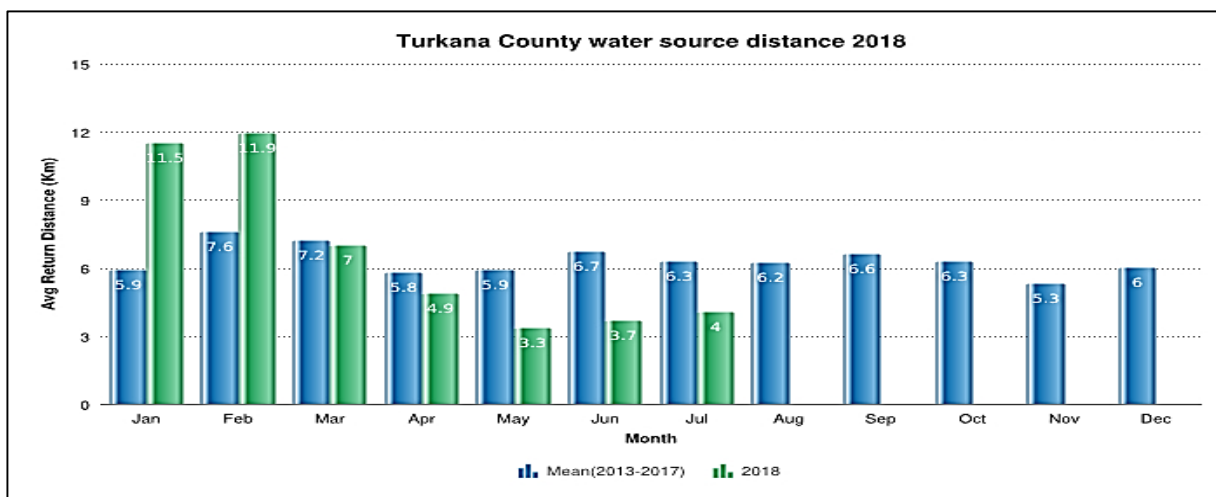
- Majority of the households during the period under review utilized boreholes, traditional river wells and shallow wells as their main sources of water.
- The water situation changed slightly with most water pans being 50-75% full unlike the previous month when majority were full.
- The aforementioned sources are the normal sources of water for households and livestock at such a time of the year.



2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

- Household return distance to water source during the month under review remained stable in relation to the previous month and was lower than the long term average distance for the month of July by thirty seven percent.

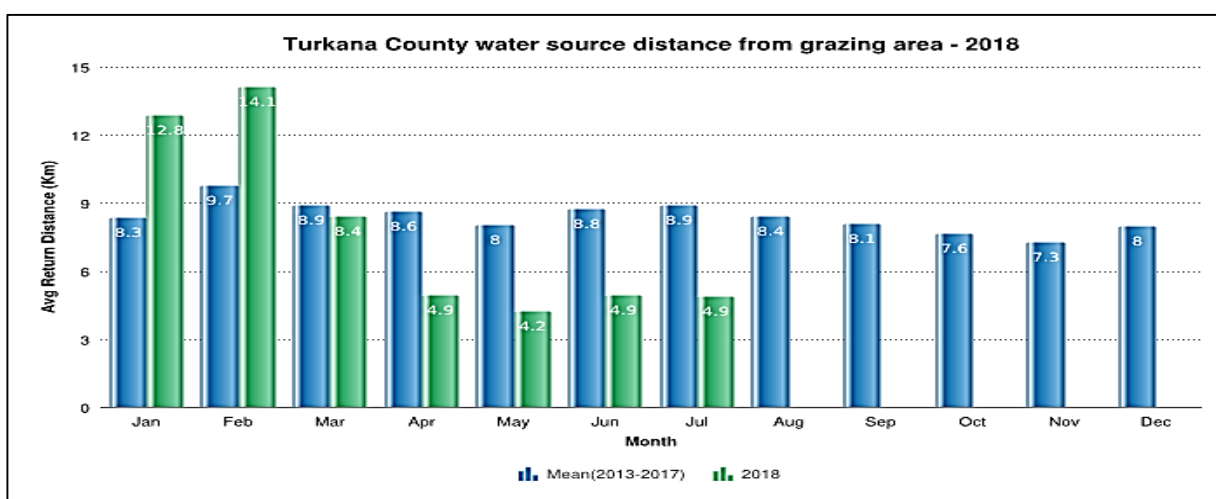
- The longest distance was reported along the Pastoral livelihood zone with the least being recorded in the Fisheries livelihood zone.



- Average waiting time at water source across the three livelihood zones was under 15 minutes.
- Household water consumption per person per day averaged 60 litres, 50 litres and 40 litres across the Fisheries, Agro Pastoral and Pastoral livelihood zones respectively and thus remained unchanged from the previous month.
- A 20 litre jerry can was retailing at five shillings across most water kiosks in urban centres but it was generally cost free at source. The price is within the normal range for the month under review.

2.2.3 Livestock access

- The return trekking distance for livestock to water source from grazing areas remained unchanged from that reported in June and was lower than the long term average trekking distance for the month under review by 45 percent.
- The longest trekking distance was recorded along the Pastoral livelihood zone with the least being reported in the Fisheries livelihood zone.



- Pasture availability in areas adjacent to water sources was the major driver behind the observed stability.
- Across all the livelihood zones, the watering frequency for all animal species was seven times in a week during the month under analysis and this could be attributed to improved water availability.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

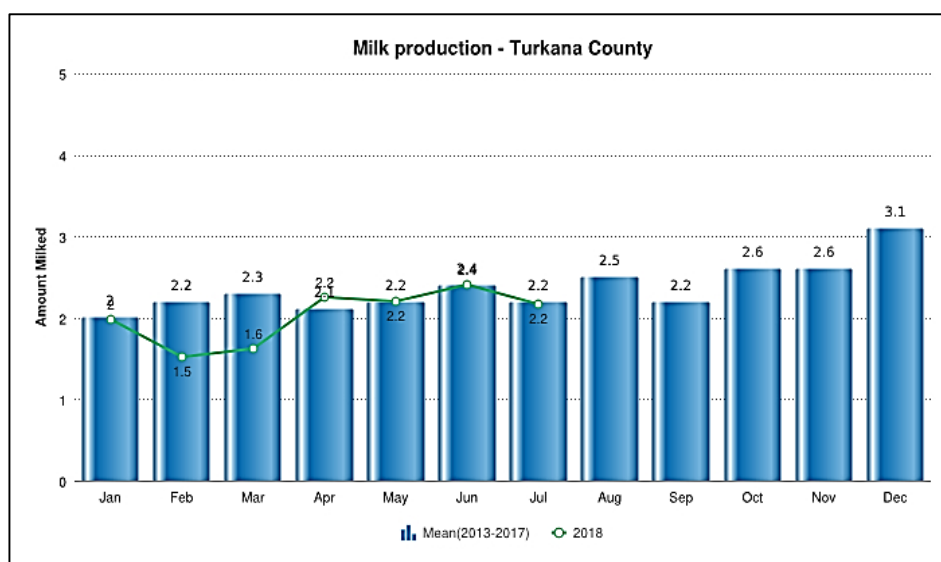
- Across the three livelihood zones, the body condition for all livestock species was good during the month under review. For example, sheep had huge deposits of fat on tail head with cattle being well covered with flesh. The same was exemplified in camel that had a wide and well developed loin up to the shoulder region.
- Owing to availability of pasture in sufficient quantities across all sites in the county, the body condition of all livestock species is anticipated to remain stable over the next one month.
- In comparison to identical periods during the previous years, the current body condition of livestock rates above normal. This has been influenced by improved forage condition hence availability integrated with reduced trekking distance to water source.

3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- Incidents of Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP) in cattle were reported by a few households in Lokichar and Letea with some cases of Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) in goats being reported in Loima during the month under review.

3.1.3 Milk Production

- No significant change was recorded in terms of amount of milk produced in July from that reported in June but a negative trend was evident. Goat was the leading producer of milk in the county.
- Notably, the current production level just like in June is at par with the normal production level for the period under analysis.
- The observed stability could be attributed to the fact that the underlying factors influencing production such as pasture and water availability, size of milking herd have remained constant over the last two months.



3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

3.2.1 Stage and Condition of Food Crops

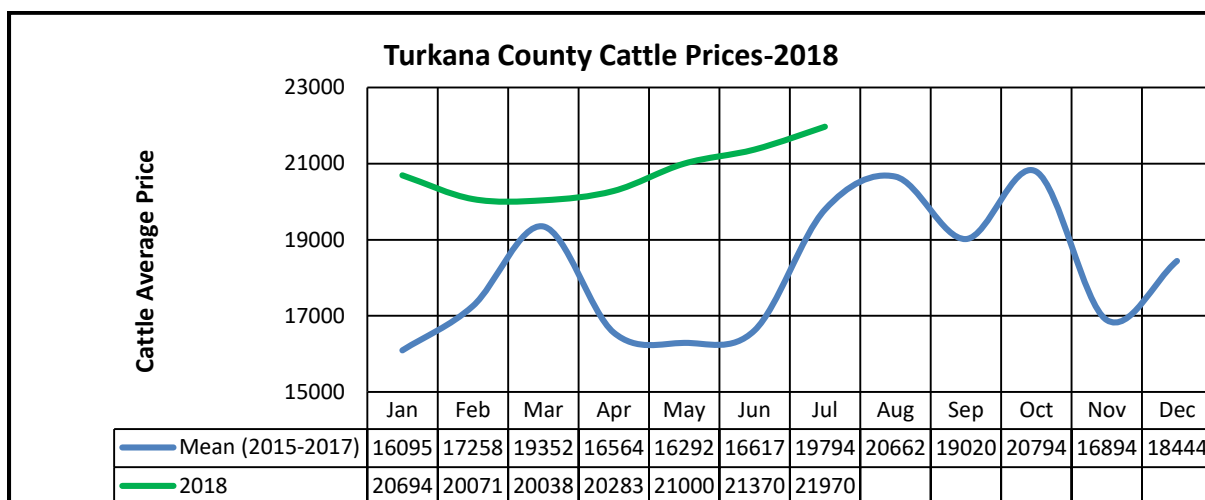
- Maize, Sorghum and Cowpeas are the major crops cultivated by most farmers along the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone over the long rains season.
- The major agricultural activity that was taking place across most farms in areas such as Turkwel, Kalemgorok, Kaitese, Katilu and Kabulokor during the month under review was harvesting of Maize and Sorghum.
- However, majority of the farmers reported low yields due to the impact of the flash floods experienced during the long rains season and destruction of crops by locusts that had invaded most parts of the county.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

4.1.1 Cattle Prices

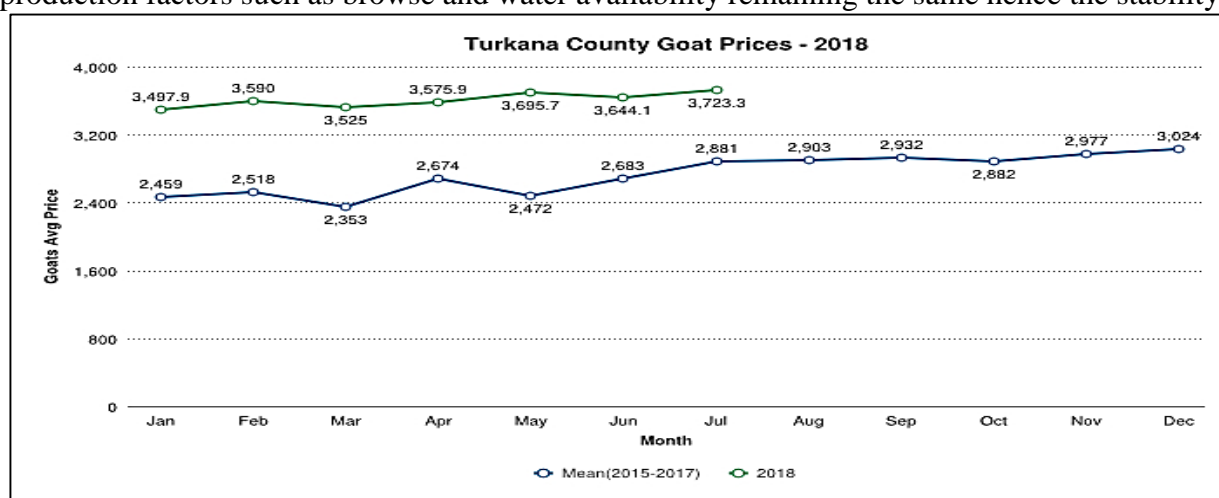
- As illustrated below, a 4-year old medium sized bull retailed at Ksh. 21,970 during the month under review and thus the price did not change significantly although tending to increase slightly from that reported in June.



- Reduced trade volumes at the major terminal markets occasioned by pastoral households unwillingness to dispose due to prevailing better conditions in terms of improved pasture and water availability was the major factor driving the stability.
- The Pastoral livelihood zone reported the lowest price of Ksh.18, 200 with the highest price of Ksh.22, 670 being recorded along the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone.
- The short term average price of cattle for the month under review is surpassed by the current market price of cattle by ten percent hence remains within the normal range.

4.1.1 Small Ruminants Prices (Goat price)

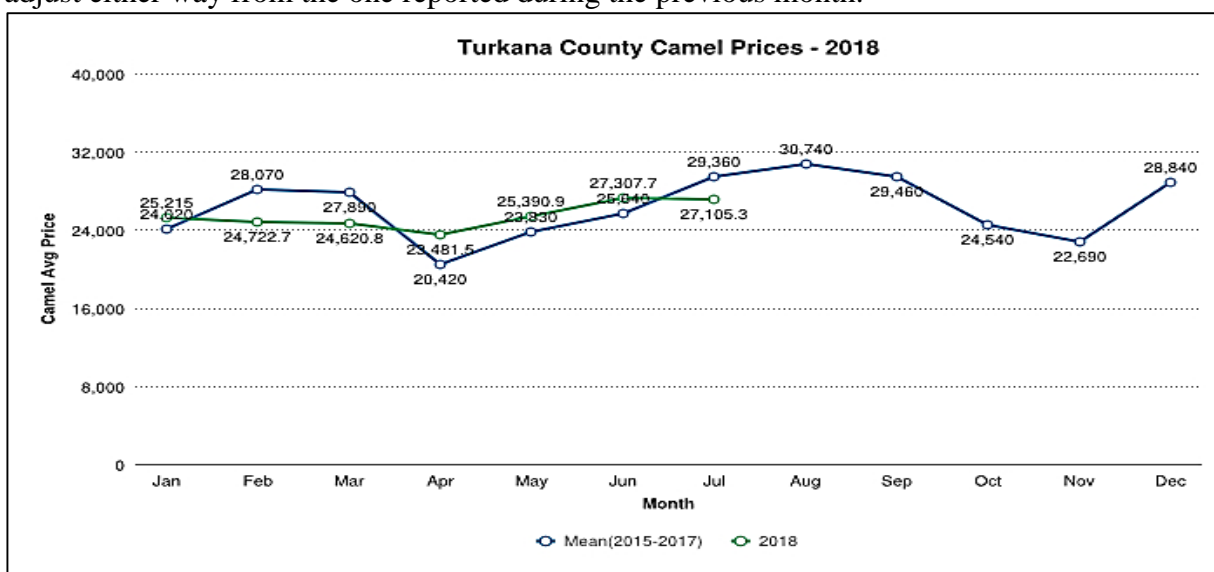
- The figure below depicts that the price of a 2-year old medium sized goat during the month under review was Ksh.3, 720 and thus did not change significantly from the Ksh. 3,640 reported in June.
- There was no notable change in the body condition of goat during the month of July owing to production factors such as browse and water availability remaining the same hence the stability.



- The Pastoral livelihood zone reported the highest price of Ksh. 3,830 with the least price of Ksh. 3700 being recorded in the Fisheries livelihood zone.
- The short term average price of goat for the month of July is exceeded by the current goat price by a remarkable margin of twenty nine percent.

4.1.4 Camel Prices

- The price of a 4-year old camel during the month under analysis was Ksh.27, 100 and thus did not adjust either way from the one reported during the previous month.

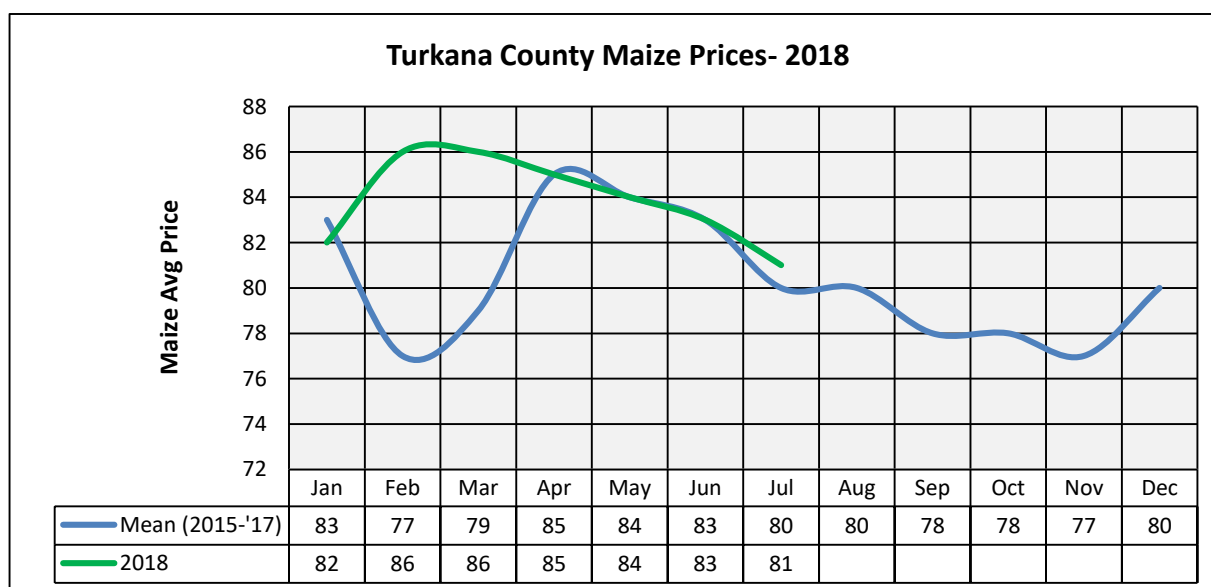


- The stability in price could be attributed to a stable camel body condition occasioned by existence of similar conditions to those witnessed previously ranging from reduced trekking distance, improved browse and water availability.
- The Fisheries livelihood zone reported the least price of Ksh. 22,500 while the highest of Ksh. 28,500 was recorded along the Pastoral livelihood zone.
- Notably though unlike other species, the price of camel during the month under review was lower than the short term average price for the month of July albeit by a paltry eight percent.

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize

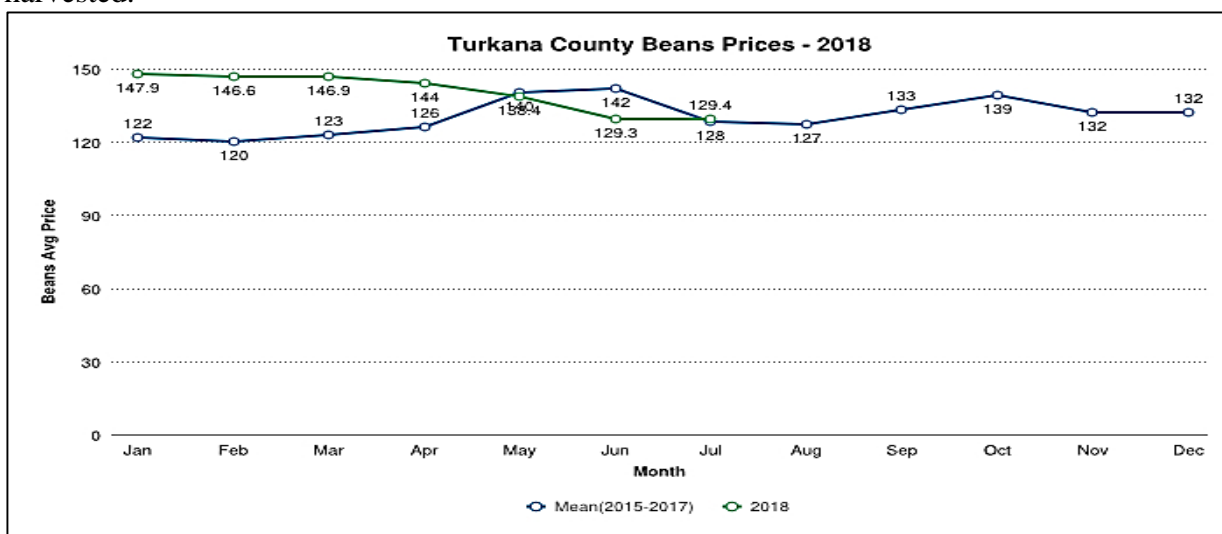
- A slight drop in price per kilogram of Maize was recorded during the month under review. However, the price remained at par with the short term average price for the month of July.



- The Agro Pastoral livelihood zone reported the least price of Ksh. 75 per kg while the highest price of Ksh. 91 was reported along the Pastoral livelihood zone. The harvesting witnessed during the month along the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone had stabilized the price unlike the Pastoral zone that was heavily dependent on the former zone hence the variation.

4.2.2 Beans

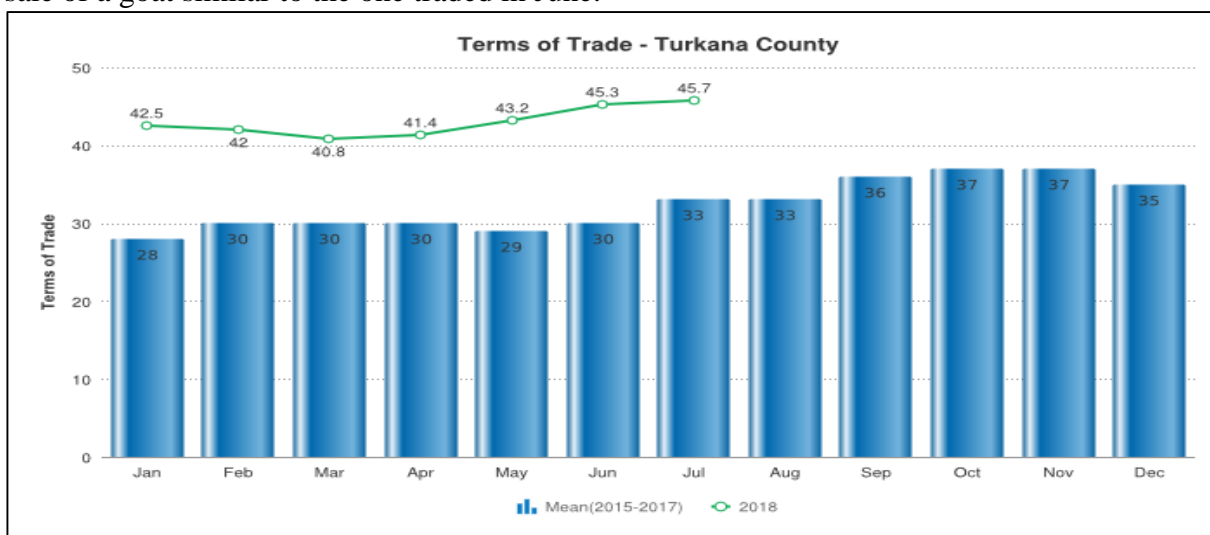
- The price of beans per kilogram remained stable at Ksh.129. The stability could be attributed to beans availability especially along the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone where farmers had already harvested.



- The Pastoral livelihood zone recorded the highest price of Ksh.137 per kilogram of beans with the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone reporting the least price of Ksh.118 during the month of July.
- The current price of beans per kilogram is at par with the short term average price for the month under review.

4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade

- As illustrated below, the terms of trade in July remained the same as those reported during the previous month of June. Additionally, it was favourable to pastoral households.
- These terms of trade were above the short term average ToT for the period under review by an outstanding margin of thirty eight percent.
- Consequently, pastoralists continued obtaining a significant number of kilograms of maize from sale of a goat similar to the one traded in June.

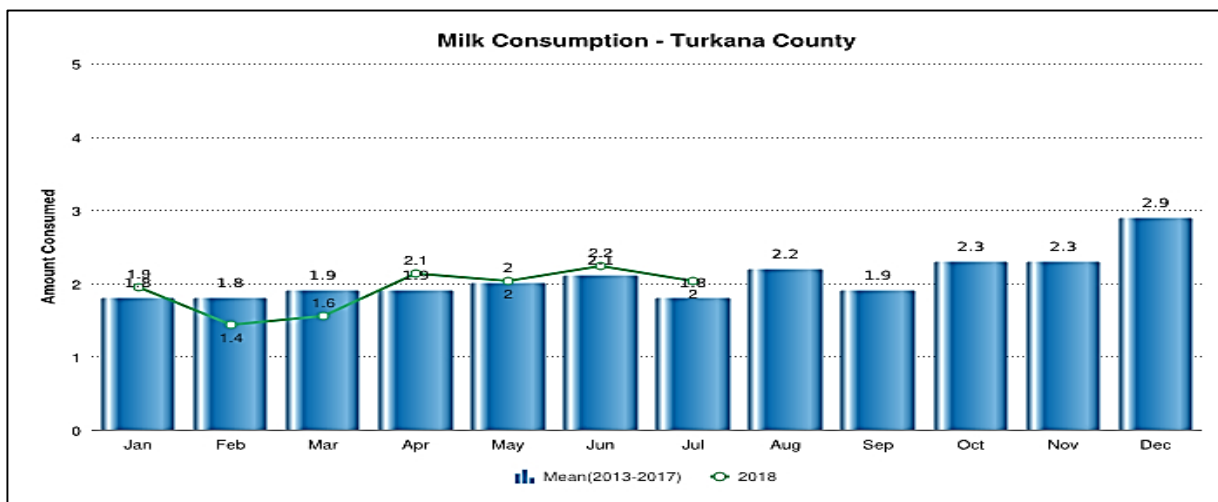


- The stability in the price of goat and maize were the major drivers behind the observed stability.
- The ToT is highly anticipated to assume a negative trend over the next 1-2 months as the rangeland conditions start deteriorating implying reduced return value of goat price at market coupled with the rising maize price likely to be witnessed over that period driven by dwindling maize stocks within the county.

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

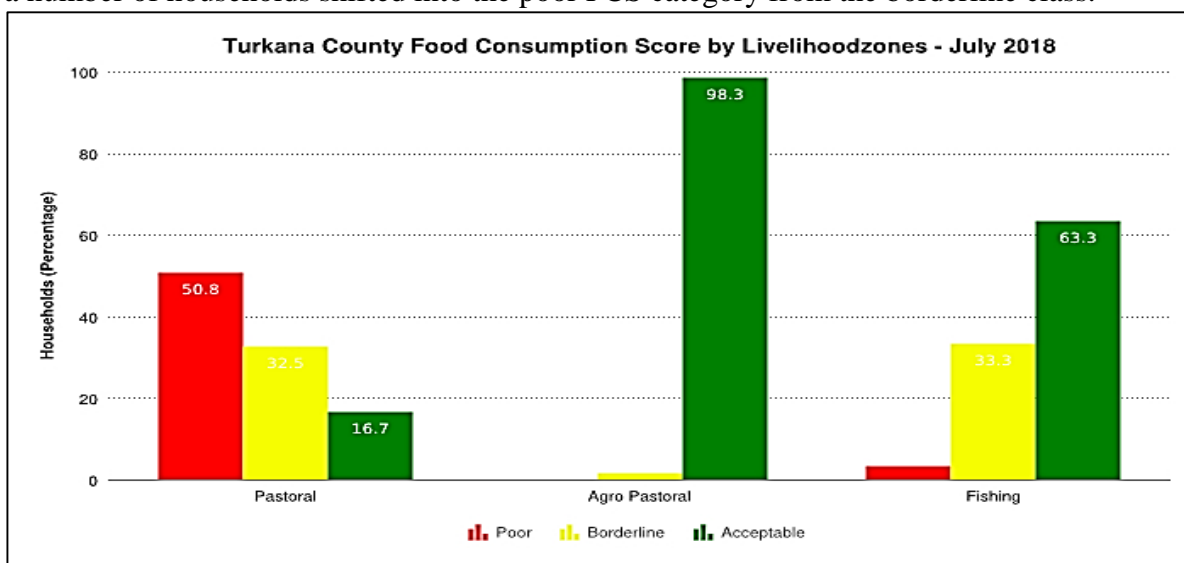
- Based on 116 households that reported to have consumed milk during the month under review, a slight decrease in relation to June was observed as depicted below.



- A negative trend in production informed by a probable decrease in the size of the milking herd was the major factor driving consumption down.
- In relation to the milk consumption level normally at such a time of the year, the current consumption is at par.

5.2 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE (FCS)

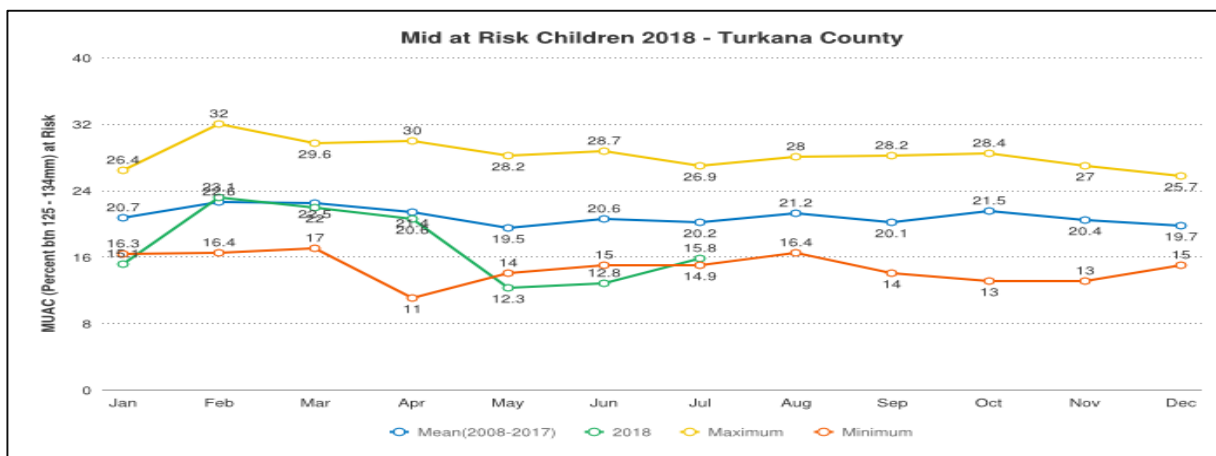
- From the sampled 210 households in July, forty six percent of them were categorized as having an acceptable food consumption score with twenty four percent falling under the borderline band while the rest constituting thirty percent were classified as having a poor food consumption score.
- Stability in food consumption was observed during the month under review as evidenced by the unchanged FCS of 42 for the entire county.
- Significant variability was evident across the three livelihood zones. Majority of households in the pastoral livelihood zone were classified as having a poor FCS unlike in the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone where most fell under the acceptable FCS band. Compared to the month of June, a number of households shifted into the poor FCS category from the borderline class.



5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

- Forty seven percent of the children whose mid upper arm circumference measurements were taken were females while the rest were males.
- From the sample, the proportion of children rated as being ‘at risk’ of malnutrition increased slightly from that reported during the previous month.



Sample size, n=1338

- The current proportion of children rated as being ‘at risk’ of malnutrition is lower than the long term average proportion by twenty two percent.
- The slight adjustment upwards in the number of under-fives falling outside the normal range of children at risk of malnutrition could be attributed to reduced milk consumption and limited access to essential medical and nutrition services in some sites.

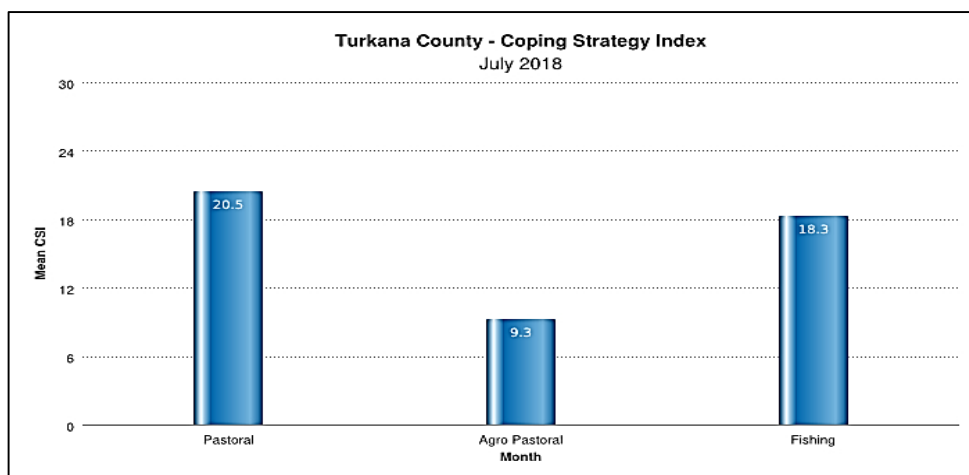
5.3.2 Health

- Fever with chills like malaria was the most commonly reported ailment among the sampled children during the period under review.

5.4 COPING STRATEGY

5.4.1 Coping Strategy Index (CSI)

- Households applied similar coping strategies to those employed in June as evidenced by the unchanged coping strategy index of 16.
- Fewer and less severe coping strategies were applied by households along the Agro Pastoral zone as opposed to those resident along the Pastoral and Fisheries livelihood zones.
- The prevalent coping mechanism employed by majority of households was reliance on less preferred/less expensive food and reduced portion size during the period under analysis.



6.0 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)

6.1 FOOD

- During the month of July, no relief food distribution was conducted.

6.2 NON-FOOD

Intervention	Sub-County/Ward/Location	No. of Beneficiaries	Implementers/Organization
Promotion of youth in small scale business through business start-up kit of Ksh.30, 000 per youth. A total of 2.7 million disbursed.	Lobokat Kaputir, Katilu	30 Youths 22 Youths 38 Youths	Livelihood and Resilience Project-World Vision
Malnutrition screening through integrated health and nutrition outreaches	20 sites in Turkana East and 30 in Turkana south	4487 (2200 Male,2287 Female) children 6-59 months and 1687 Pregnant and Lactating Women	Turkana Emergency Nutrition Project-World Vision
Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) nutrition training	Turkana South (Kaptir and Kainuk Turkana East (Elelea)	54 CHVs	Turkana Emergency Nutrition Project-World Vision

7.0 EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 INSECURITY/CONFLICT/HUMAN DISPLACEMENT

- During the month under review, incidents of insecurity were reported in Turkana North Sub County (Todonyang).

7.2 MIGRATION

- No significant in-migration nor out-migration was taking place during the month under review.

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- Livestock body condition is expected to remain stable over the next one month owing to availability of pasture and browse. However, the scenario will most likely change over the course of the second month as pasture starts depleting across most sites. As a consequence, livestock production indicators including milk production will most likely assume a negative trend.
- Over the next one month, pastoral households will be well positioned in terms of meeting their elementary food requirements due to the prevailing favourable terms of trade implying better purchasing power at household level.
- Malnutrition level will most probably remain stable for a while but start tending upwards after the elapse of the first month. Therefore, enhanced security more so along market access roads will be key in terms of aiding households' bridge any foods gaps that may arise through markets.
- Majority of households are thus anticipated to remain within the minimal phase of food insecurity with more households likely to fall into the stressed band after the first month being the most likely scenario.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Health and Nutrition:** Intensify integrated health outreach activities to areas where high rates of malnutrition have been reported while educating the communities on water treatment techniques so as to minimize the risk of any water borne disease outbreak.
- **Water:** Enhance water availability for livestock during scarcities especially along migratory routes through drilling, excavating and equipping climate proofed strategic/contingency boreholes and water pans.
- **Veterinary:** Enhance livestock disease surveillance while monitoring and vaccinating animals that will be migrating to dry season grazing areas to curb the spread of any disease.
- **Agriculture:** Minimize post-harvest losses through conducting post-harvest storage awareness campaigns in the Agro- Pastoral areas.