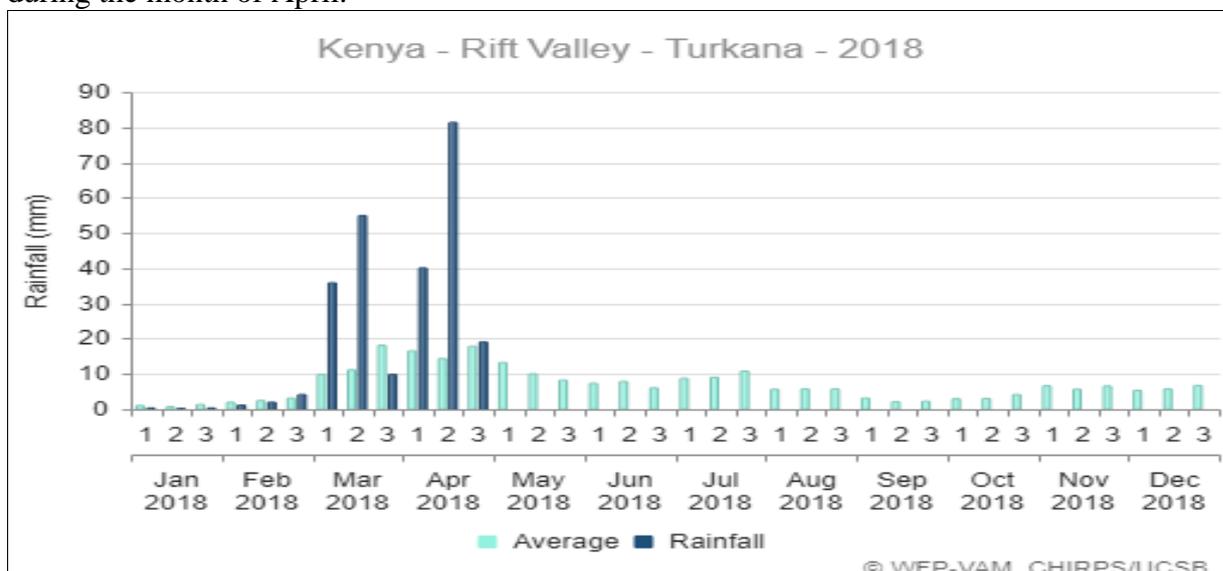




# 1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

## 1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- Rainfall onset was experienced in the county during the first dekad of the month under review, it was timely and normal. Rainfall of high intensity was witnessed across all the dekads.
- Most areas in the county recorded above normal rainfall with a temporal distribution of 15-17 days during the month of April.

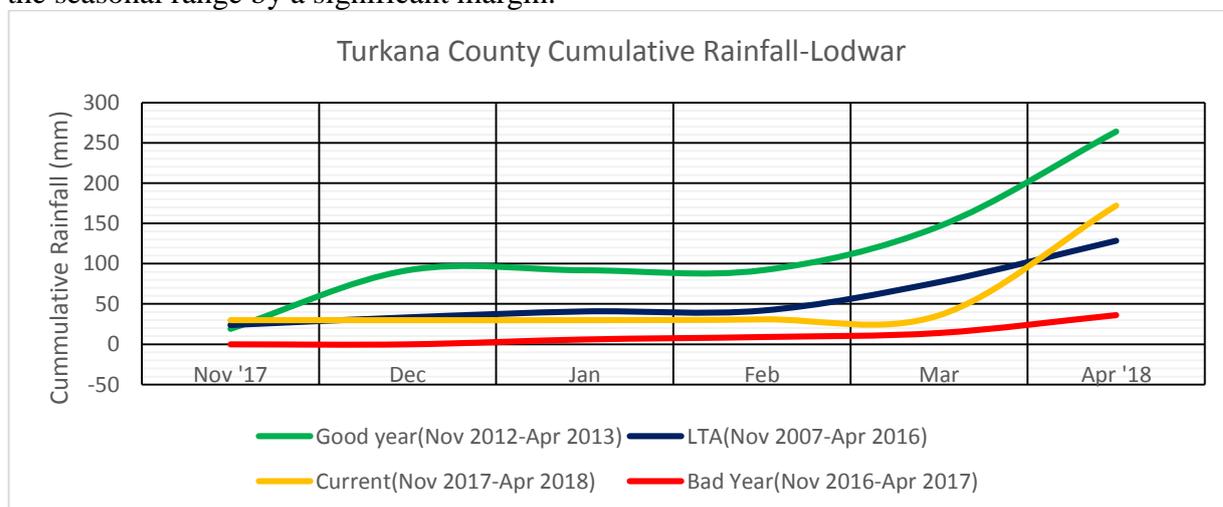


Source: VAM-World Food Programme

- The progression from dekad one to two was good (continuous) and as illustrated above there was a gradual increase in amount of rainfall received from the first dekad to the second.

## 1.2 AMOUNT OF RAINFALL AND SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION

- Rainfall received was of good amount and evenly distributed in space across all livelihood zones.
- During the month, Lodwar rainfall station that acts as the baseline for the county recorded 136.6mm of rainfall in 15 days against the expected 55.2mm normally for the month under review.
- In reference to the above rainfall station, the cumulative rainfall for the six month period (November 2017 to April 2018) amounts to 172.0mm against the cumulative ten year rainfall average for the same period that amounts to 128.3mm.
- Therefore, the amount of rainfall recorded above for the six month period within the current year represents 134 percent of the average rainfall normally received for the period and thus falls above the seasonal range by a significant margin.



Source: Meteorological Department-Turkana County

- In comparison to the cumulative rainfall recorded for the same six month period during the previous year (November 2016 to April 2017), the current cumulative rainfall is higher by three hundred and seventy seven percent.
- The aforementioned period (November 2016 to April 2017) is considered to be the segmental bad year historically as depicted above.

## 1.2 OTHER EVENTS

### 1.2.1 Floods

- During the month under review, a number of areas in the county were affected by floods as illustrated below.

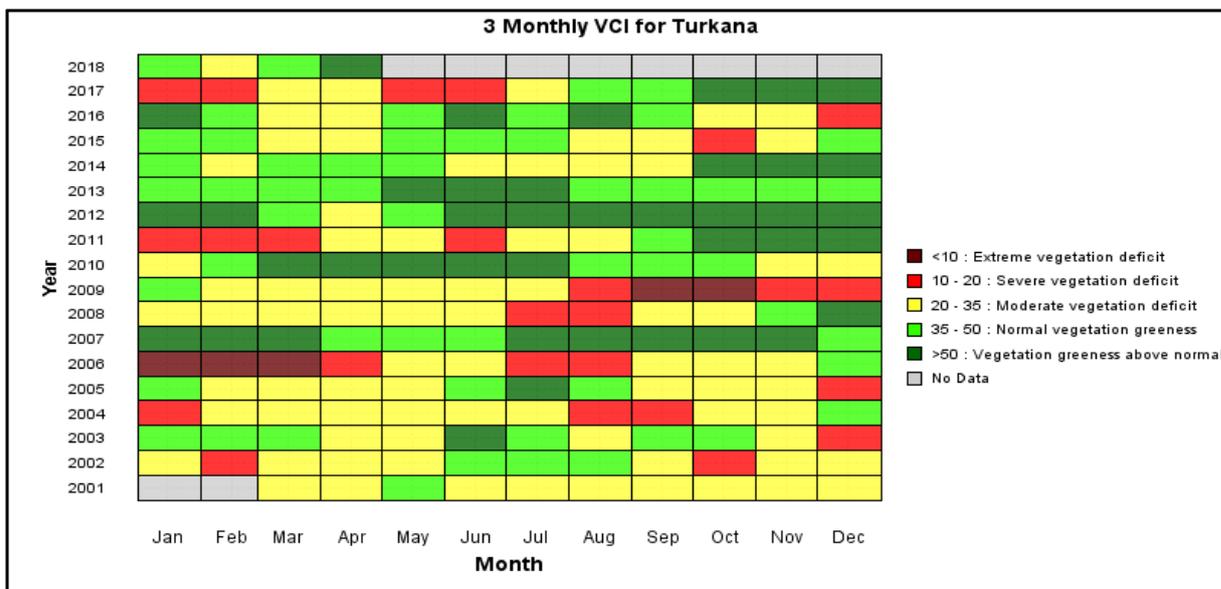
SUB COUNTY	AFFECTED VILLAGES	IMPACTS & THEIR EXTENT
Turkana Central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Napetet, Soweto, Nabute, Borabuyong, Ng'iitakito</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water supply pipeline washed away and access roads destroyed</li> </ul>
Turkana West	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nanam-Kadingding &amp; Ngikwatiak, Nasinyono, Lomidat, Lokangae, Pokotom, Ngogoloki, Letea, Kalobeyei</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 57 makeshift shelter washed away</li> <li>• 10 sheep washed away</li> <li>• Sorghum farms destroyed affecting 20 farmers</li> <li>• Health facility at Lokangae marooned in floods</li> <li>• Sections of Kakuma-Nasinyono road destroyed</li> <li>• 15 goats lost to floods</li> <li>• Deep gulleys along Kalobeyei-Oropoi-Nawountos road .</li> </ul>
Turkana South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Katilia,, Lokichar-Naoyatira and Ng'inokakim, Kaputir Kalapata, Kalemgorok</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shelter within the Lokichar IDP camp collapsed</li> <li>• River bank erosion at Naoyatira</li> <li>• 45 shoats lost to floods at Kaimegur and Kalemgorok</li> <li>• 58 houses blown off at Lomeleku and Kalemgorok</li> <li>• Irrigation canals at Nakwamoru affected and crops lost at Kanaodon</li> </ul>
Loima	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kaitese, Kabulokol, Lorugum, Lobei, Lokiriama, Atesiro, Naremit, Ngamakolol, Nakatiyan, Nakejuakal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 300 acres of cropland flooded</li> <li>• 46 houses destroyed by the floods in Lorugum</li> <li>• 31 goats lost to floods</li> </ul>

## 2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

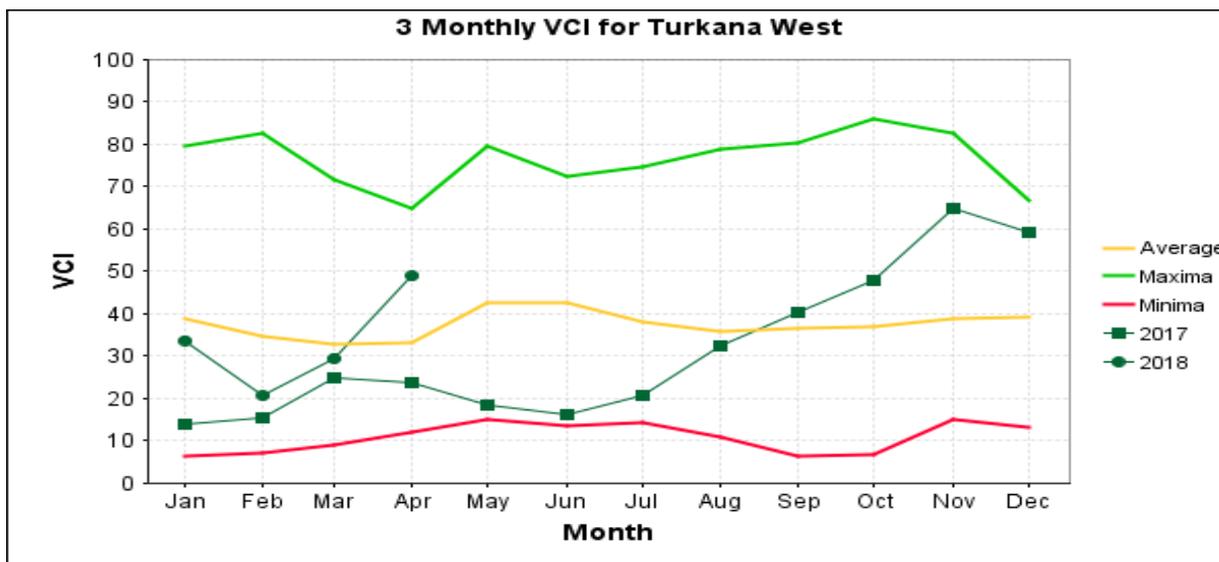
### 2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

#### 2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- The figure below depicts how months have been categorized based on relevant VCI thresholds. Each month has been placed under an appropriate vegetation deficit class upon conducting a retrogressive analysis of the vegetation condition.
- Significant improvement in vegetation condition was witnessed during the month of April as evidenced by the shift in VCI-3month to 62 (depicting above normal conditions) from the 39 recorded previously.



- A positive trend in the condition of vegetation was witnessed across all the sub counties as supported by the shift in the respective VCI-3month. For instance, Turkana West recorded a VCI-3month of 49 during the month under review up from 29 reported previously.
- The observed trend could be attributed to receipt of good long rains that promoted massive regeneration of the vegetation across all livelihood zones.



### 2.1.2 Pasture

- Pasture condition across all the three livelihood zones during the month under review was good and above the level normally witnessed at such a time during a normal year. The observed condition could be attributed to receipt of good long rains that promoted massive pasture regeneration across all the sites in the county.
- Further improvement in the condition of pasture is expected as the county continues receiving rainfall of significant amount.
- Currently there is no major constraint to pasture access across most sites in the county save for a few pocket zones such as Kibish, Lomelo, Kapedo, Kapetadiye and Todonyang that normally experience insecurity.
- There was no variation observed in terms of pasture quantity and quality across the three major livelihood zones during the period under review.

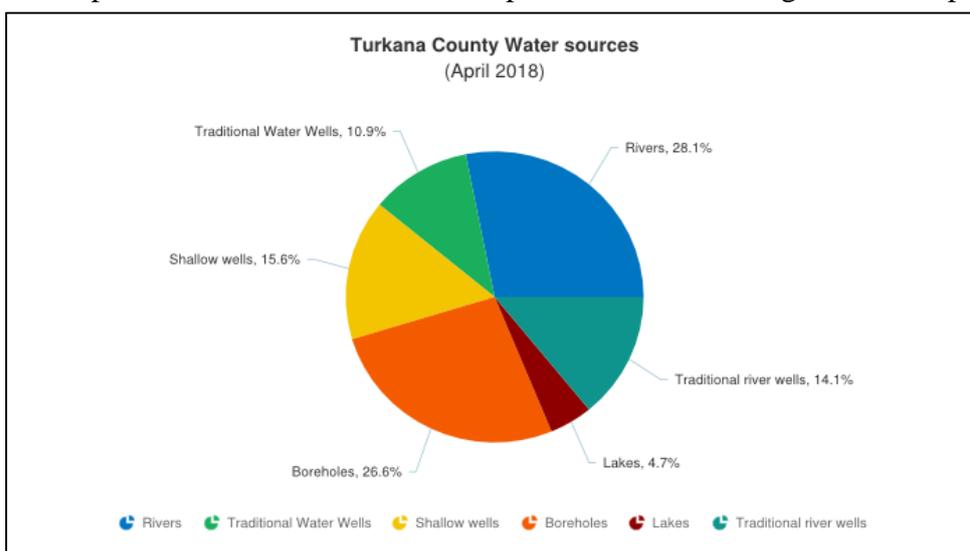
### 2.1.3 Browse

- Across all the livelihood zones, the condition of browse was very good during the month under review. The current browse level significantly surpasses that normally witnessed at such a time during a normal year. The improved browse situation could be greatly attributed to receipt of good long rains across all sites in the county during the month of April.
- The available browse is projected to last for over three months due to continued regeneration attributed to the rains currently being experienced.
- Browse is generally accessible across most areas in the county with the exception of a few sites such as Katilia, Lapur, Orum, Napak and Lokamarinyang that are major insecurity hotspots.
- Across all the livelihood zones, there was no variation in browse quality and quantity observed during the period under analysis.

## 2.2 WATER RESOURCE

### 2.2.1 Sources

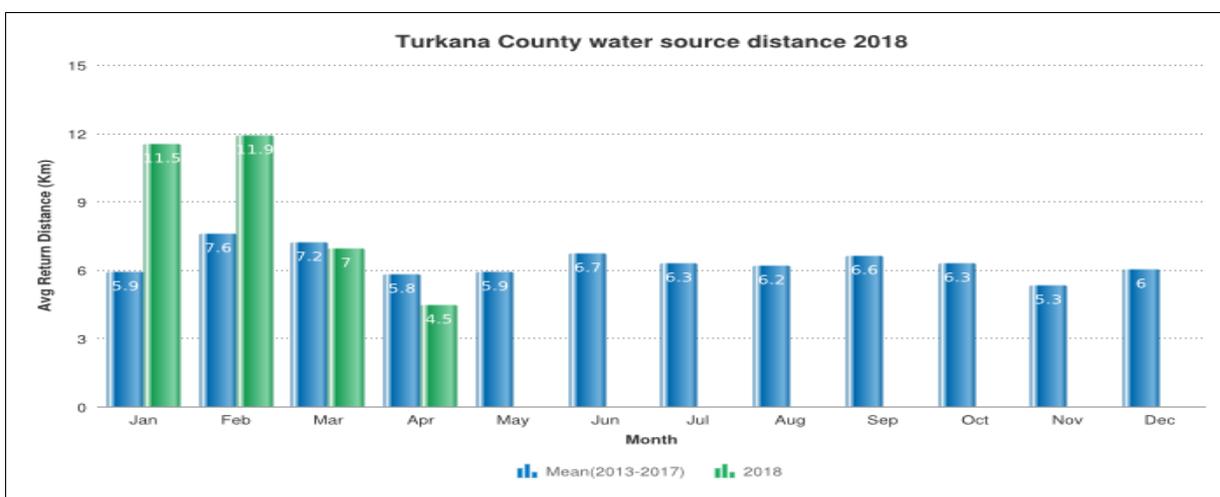
- During the month under review, household water needs were met through use of boreholes and rivers as the main sources of water with a significant proportion of households as depicted below utilizing them.
- Most open water sources such as water pans and dams recharged to full capacity during the month



of April due to receipt of above normal rainfall and thus the water situation (quality and quantity) in relation to the previous month improved significantly. The above 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

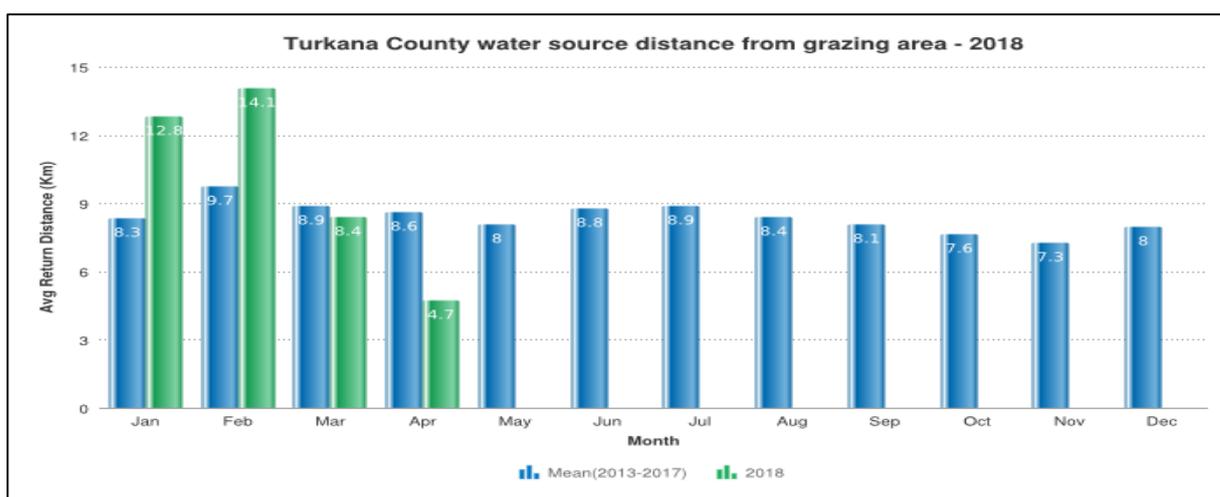
- During the period under review, household return distance dropped by 2.5km from the 7km recorded previously. Current distance is below the normal range for the month by 22 percent.
- Notably though, households along the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone covered longer distances to water source compared to those resident in the Pastoral and Fisheries livelihood zones.



- For the Pastoral and Agro Pastoral livelihood zones, waiting time at water source during the month under review was below 15 minutes and thus within the normal range for the period.
- Household water consumption per person per day improved drastically and averaged 60litres, 50litres and 40litres for the Fisheries, Agro Pastoral and Pastoral livelihood zones respectively.
- The cost of water at the source is generally free save for water kiosks in towns that dispense a 20litre jerry can at five shillings. This price is within the normal range for the month under review.

## 2.2.3 Livestock access

- The return distance for livestock from grazing zones to water source dropped from the 8.4km recorded previously to 4.7km in April. In comparison to the long term average trekking distance for the month under review, the current distance is shorter by a significant margin of 45 percent.
- The longest distance was recorded in the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone, followed by that in the Pastoral livelihood zone and the fisheries livelihood zone in that order.



- The decrease in distance could be attributed to pasture availability in sufficient quantity across all sites in the county and in close proximity to water sources that were fully recharged too.
- Across all the livelihood zones, currently livestock watering frequency is seven times in a week.

### 3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

#### 3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

##### 3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

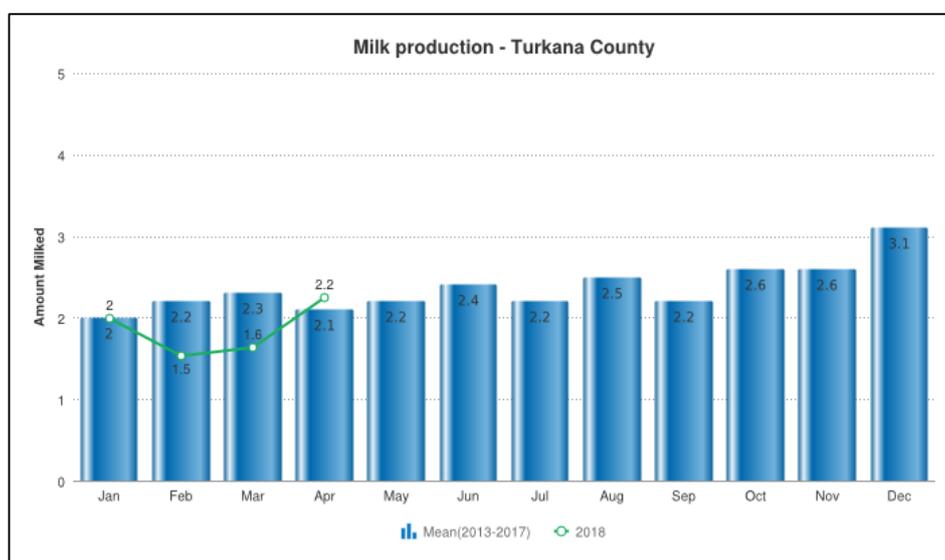
- The body condition for all livestock species is good across the three livelihood zones. For instance, Sheep exhibit a very fat tail buried and in fat with camels and cattle having a very good smooth body with fat over back and tail head in both the Pastoral and Agro Pastoral livelihood zones.
- Body condition for all species is anticipated to improve further with availability of quality pasture and browse in adequate quantities sustained by the on-going long rains over the next 3-4 months.
- When compared to similar periods during previous years, the current body condition of all species is above normal and this is greatly credited to the limited trekking promoted by forage and water availability within the reach of households.

##### 3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- Most households in Lokichar and Turkwel wards reported incidents of Contagious Caprine Pleuro Pneumonia (CCPP) in goats with some cases of Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP) in cattle being reported in Letea during the month under review.

##### 3.1.3 Milk Production

- Amount of milk produced during the month under review increased slightly from that recorded in March. Camel is the main milk producer in the county.
- Noteworthy is the fact that the current household milk production level falls above the normal range of household milk produced for the month under review by five percent, a scenario not witnessed over the past three months.
- A positive shift in the causal factors influencing production such as a larger milking herd following in migration, feed availability (pasture, browse and water) coupled with high calving rate were the major drivers behind the observed trend.



#### 3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

##### 3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops

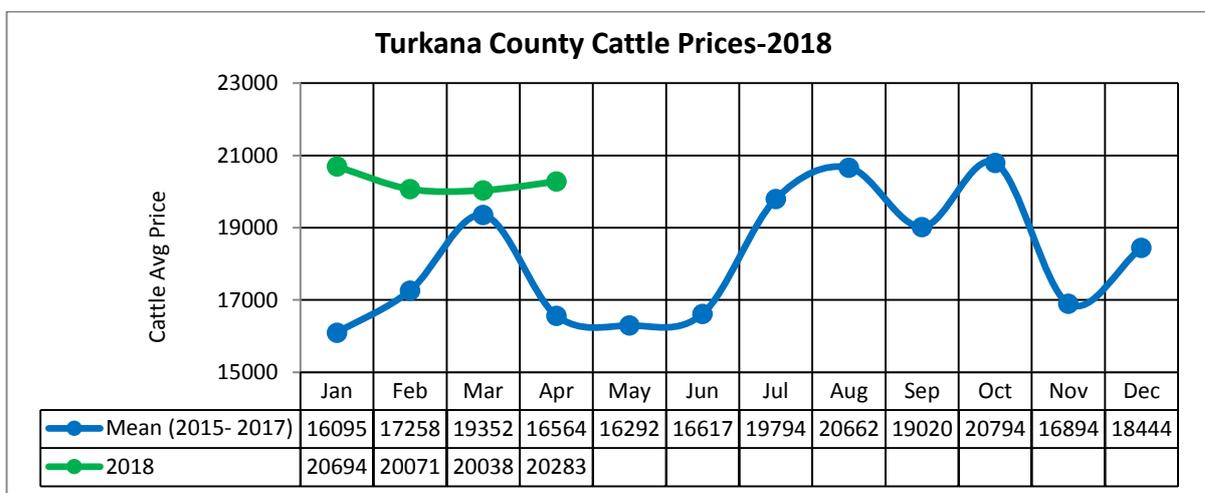
- Maize, Sorghum and Cowpeas are the dominant crop species cultivated by most farmers mainly along the Agro Pastoral zone during the long rains season.
- Some farmers were engaged in re-planting after the earlier crops planted had been washed away by the floods witnessed across most parts of the county.
- Maize production is projected to be lower than normal due to crop loss to floods affecting over 300 acres.

## 4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

### 4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

#### 4.1.1 Cattle Prices

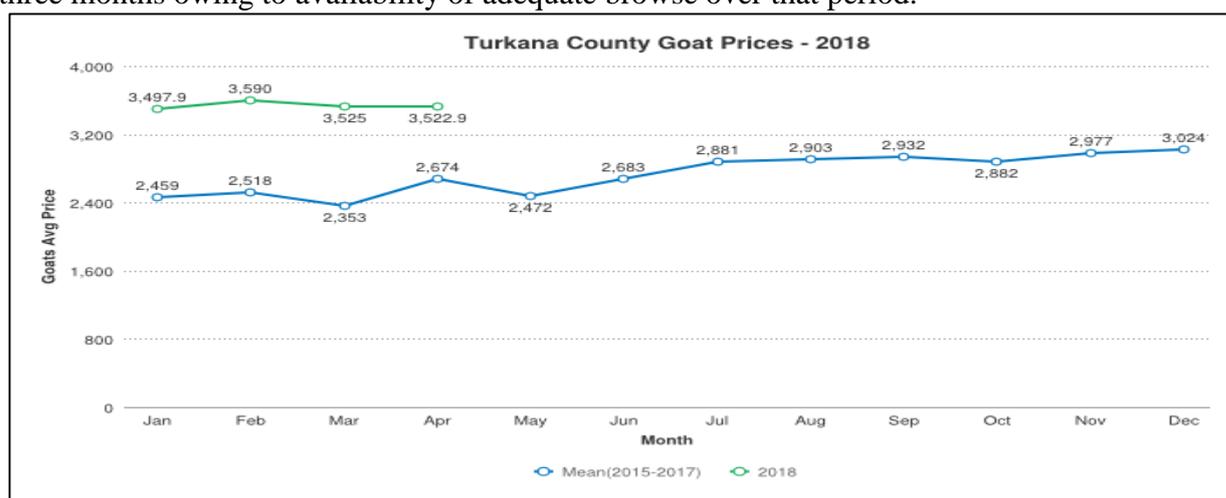
- The price of cattle adjusted upwards slightly during the month under review with a 4year old medium sized bull trading at Ksh. 20,280.



- Improved cattle body condition due to availability of quality pasture and water within the county was the major factor behind that slight increase in price.
- The highest price was reported in the Pastoral livelihood zone (Ksh.20, 670) with the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone reporting Ksh. 20,100.
- The current cattle market price surpasses the short term average price for the month under review by twenty three percent.

#### 4.1.1 Small Ruminants Prices (Goat price)

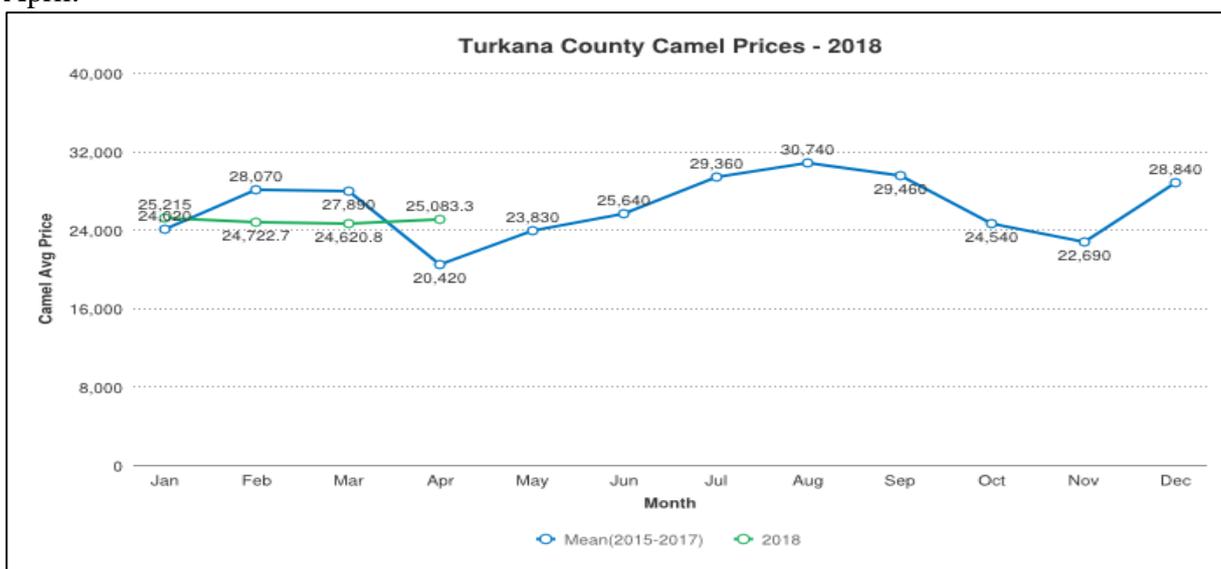
- During the month under analysis, the price of a 2-year old medium sized goat remained relatively unchanged from that reported in March.
- The observed trend could be attributed to the stable goat body condition witnessed over the past three months owing to availability of adequate browse over that period.



- Goat traded at the highest price along the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone (Ksh 3,580) compared to the Ksh. 3500 reported along the Pastoral livelihood zone.
- The current price of goat exceeds the short term average price for the month by thirty two percent.

#### 4.1.4 Camel Prices

- Camel price increased slightly with a 4-year old camel trading at Ksh. 25,080 during the month of April.

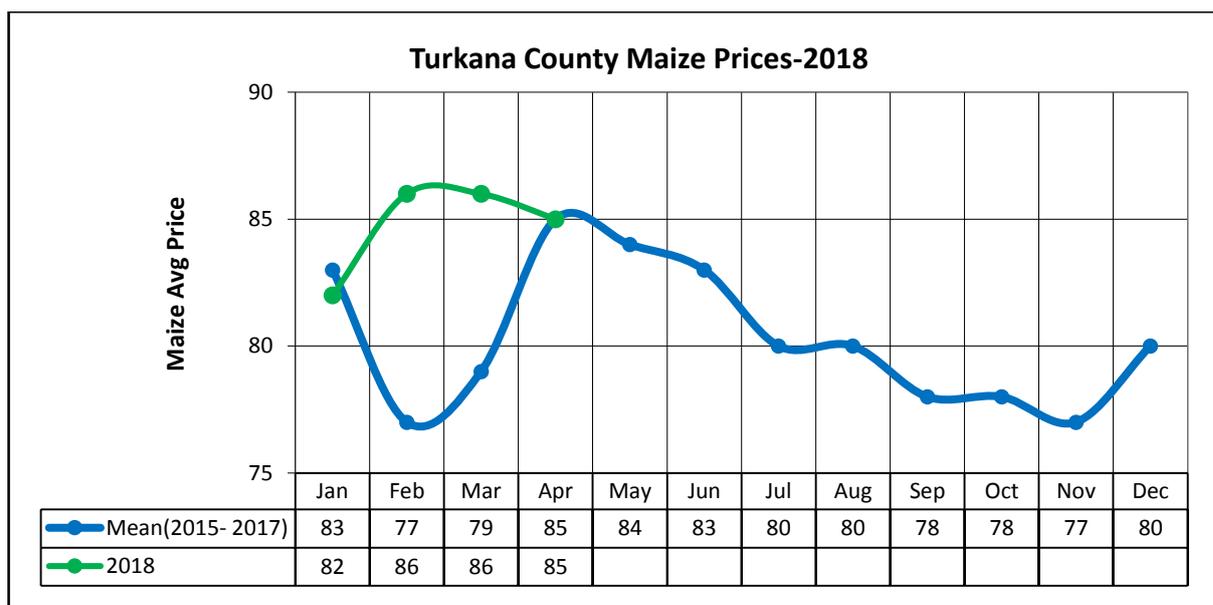


- The shift in price could be attributed to improved body condition occasioned by browse availability in sufficient quantities within the county hence limited trekking distance.
- The Pastoral livelihood zone reported the highest camel price at Ksh. 25,500 in comparison to the Ksh. 24,970 reported along the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone during the month under review.
- When compared to the short term average price for the month, the current price is higher by twenty two percent.

### 4.2 CROP PRICES

#### 4.2.1 Maize

- During the month under review, the price per kilogram of Maize was Ksh.85 and thus remained unchanged from that recorded during the previous month.
- The current price is at par with the short term average price for the month.



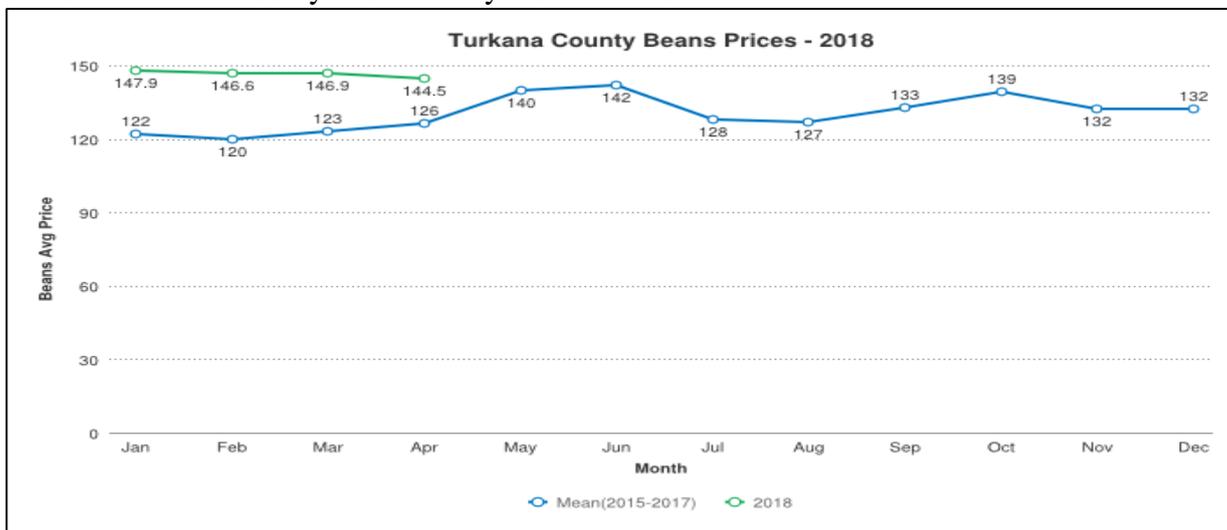
- The Agro Pastoral livelihood zone reported the lowest price (Ksh.82) in comparison to the Ksh. 90 reported in the Pastoral zone. The variation in price is as a result of the Agro Pastoral zone

supplementing its needs through own production unlike the latter zone that is heavily dependent on the external market for its supplies.

- The observed stability in price is due to existence of limited stocks within the county and thus the price is mainly influenced by the dynamics in the external source market.

#### 4.2.2 Beans

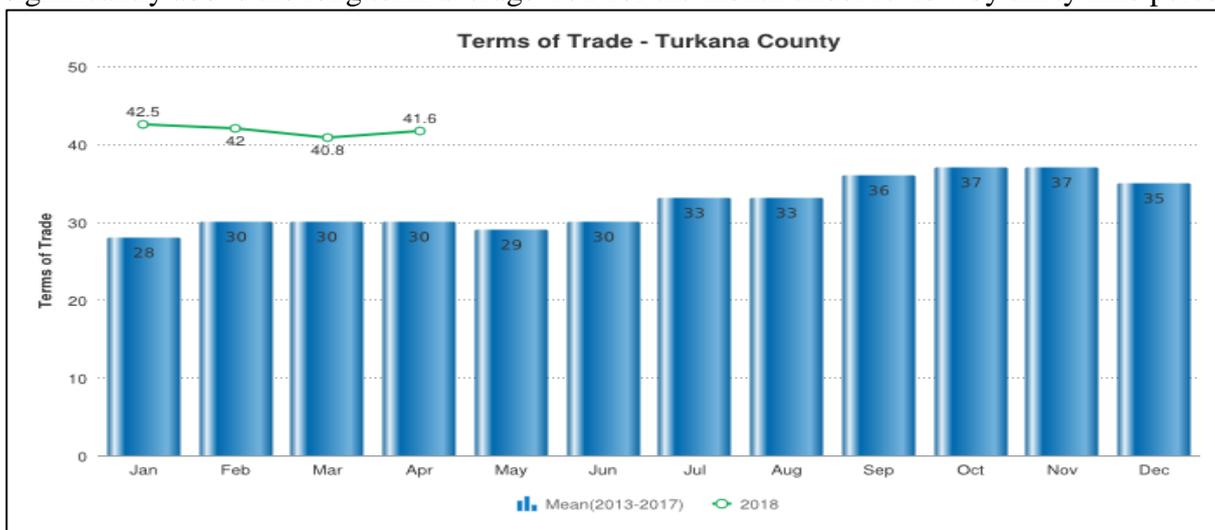
- The price per kilogram of beans was ksh. 145 during the month of April and thus remained stable in relation to the previous month. This stability could be attributed to the fact that the price of beans in the county is mainly determined within the external source markets.



- The Pastoral livelihood zone reported the highest price (Ksh.146) and the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone reported Ksh.142 per kilogram of beans.
- Compared to the short term average price for the period under review, the current price is higher by fifteen percent.

#### 4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade

- Terms of trade did not change from those recorded during the previous month but remained significantly above the long term average ToT for the month under review by thirty nine percent.

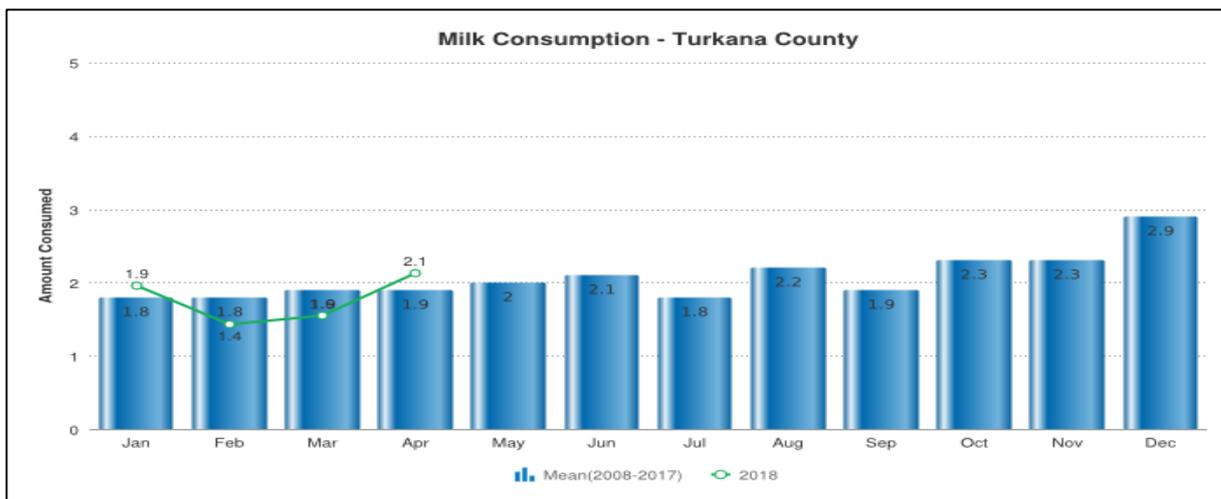


- The observed stability in ToT could be attributed to the price of goat and maize not adjusting significantly from that reported during the month of March.
- The ToT is projected to assume an ascending trend owing to improved rangeland conditions occasioned by continued receipt of the long rains and thus attractive market return value for goat whose body condition would have improved further.

## 5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

### 5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

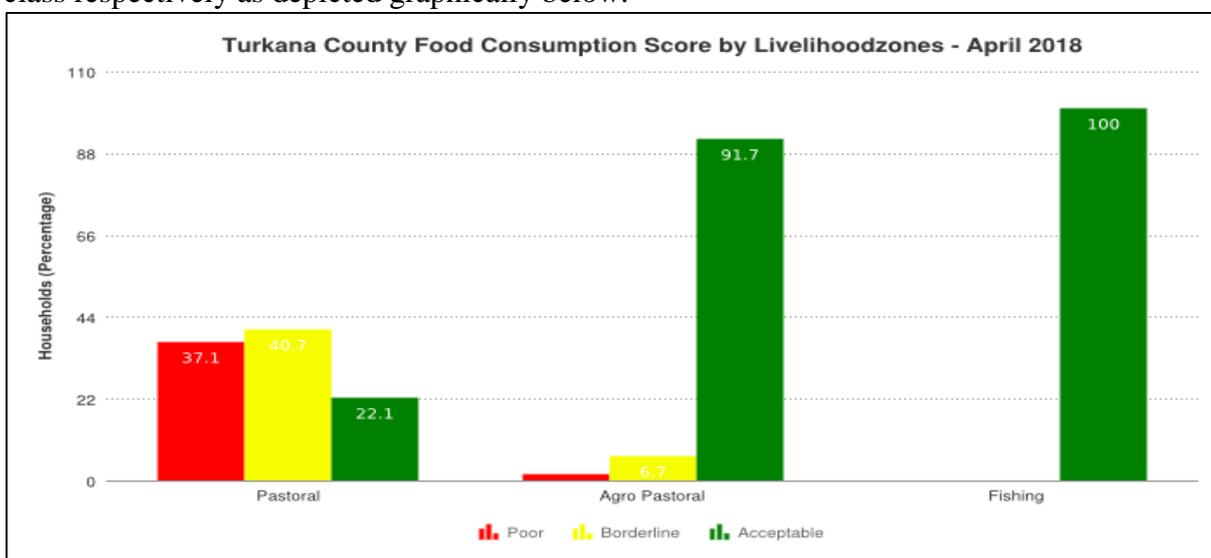
- Across the three livelihood zones, the level of milk consumed during the month under review per household per day rose albeit by a slight margin.



- The above adjustment could be attributed to the slight increase in milk produced recorded during the month of April coupled with a reduced sale rate.
- Compared to the level of consumption at such a time of the year normally, the current consumption level is higher by eleven percent.

### 5.2 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE (FCS)

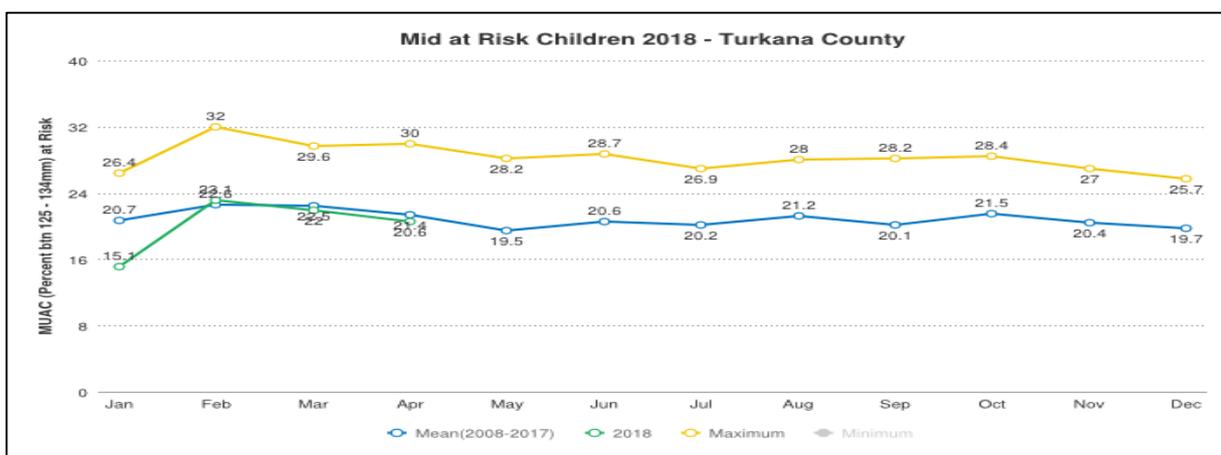
- Among the sampled households during the month under review, fifty percent of them were categorized as having an acceptable food consumption score with twenty seven percent and twenty three percent of them falling within the borderline and poor FCS category.
- Food consumption during the month of April improved slightly as evidenced by the shift in the FCS for the entire county to 47 from the 43 reported in March. In addition, ten percent of the households transitioned from the poor and borderline FCS category into the acceptable FCS band.
- Notably though is the level of variation observed across the three livelihood zones. The Agro Pastoral livelihood zone reported a majority of households (approximately 92%) as having an acceptable FCS as opposed to the Pastoral livelihood zone that reported 22% as lying within the acceptable FCS band with majority (41% and 37%) falling under the borderline and poor FCS class respectively as depicted graphically below.



## 5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

### 5.3.1 Nutrition Status

- Proportion of children rated as being ‘at risk’ of malnutrition decreased slightly to twenty percent from the twenty two percent recorded during the previous month.



- The current proportion of children at risk of malnutrition is at par with the long term average for the month under analysis.
- Improved milk consumption coupled with ease of access to other nutrition supplements through programmes such supplementary feeding and intensified integrated outreaches even in hard to reach areas were the factors contributing to the drop in number of under-fives falling outside the normal range of children at risk of malnutrition.

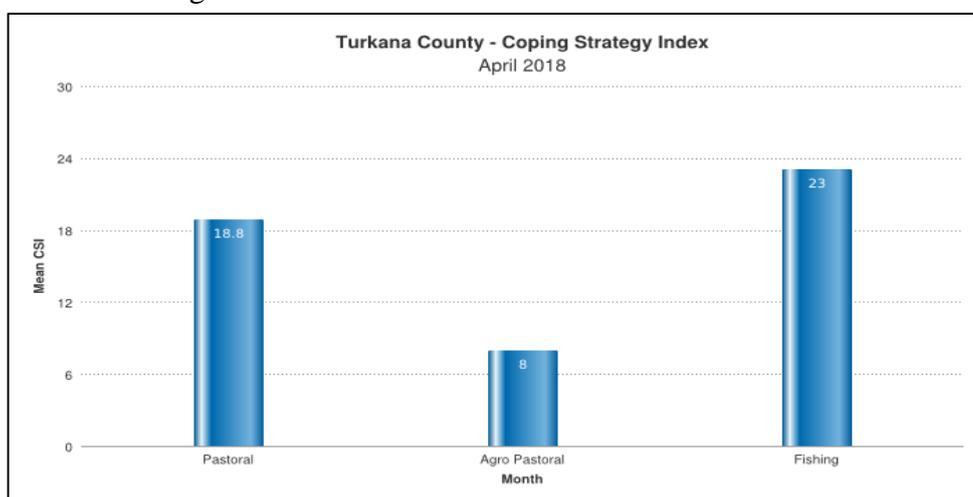
### 5.3.2 Health

- For the sampled children during the month of April, the most commonly reported ailments included diarrhoea and malaria with fever in addition, to few cases of Pneumonia.

## 5.4 COPING STRATEGY

### 5.4.1 Coping Strategy Index (CSI)

- Stability in the coping mechanisms employed by households was observed during the month under review as evidenced by the recorded and unchanged CSI from the previous month of 16.5.
- The CSI for the Pastoral livelihood zone slightly decreased but that of the Agro Pastoral livelihood remained unchanged from the one reported in March.
- The highest CSI was recorded along the Fisheries livelihood zone and this could be attributed to limited fishing activity currently taking place at the lake following the imposed ban.
- Reliance on less preferred and/or less expensive food was the most commonly applied coping strategy during the period under review.



## 6.0 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)

### 6.1 FOOD

INTERVENTION	SUB COUNTY/WARD/LOCATION	NO.OF BENEFICIARIES	IMPLEMENTERS
Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP)	Turkana North and Kibish	Total reached: 27,995 Under-five: 21941(10384M, 11557F), PLW-6054.	Save the Children
Relief Food to flood affected communities (50 kg -100bags of cereals, 90kg-50 bags of pulses and 50kg-100bags of rice)	AIC centre, Nataparkakono and Ng'iitakito	396 Households	National Government- Ministry of Planning and Devolution

### 6.2 NON-FOOD

INTERVENTION	SUB COUNTY WARD/LOCATION	NO.OF BENEFICIARIES	IMPLEMENTERS
Registration of Farmers and Distribution of Farming tools (Grass slasher, Knapsack sprayer, Machetes, Pick axe with chisel& handle, Hoe with handles, Rake with handle, shovel with Handle, and Shallow weeder)	Kang'alita,Moruese,Kaitese/Kolypro,Kalemnyang/Kotela,Napeikar,Nanyee Irrigation Schemes – Loima Sub-County	1633M, 1881F	VSF Germany
	Katilu Irrigation Scheme – Turkana South Sub-County	987M, 1167F	
	Morulem, Lokubae Irrigation Schemes-Turkana East Sub-County	1766M, 2214F	
Hygiene Promotion	Kibish, Turkana North Sub Counties and Kerio Ward	1766M, 2214F	Save the Children
Cash Transfer	Kibish, Turkana North Sub Counties and Kerio Ward	1432 HHs (64M,1368F) -Ksh 4000 per HH	Save the Children
Distribution of Ordinary Blankets to flood affected victims	Napetet, Soweto,Borabuyong, Nabute	510 Households	Turkana County Government- Ministry of Public Service, Administration and Disaster Management

## 7.0 EMERGING ISSUES

### 7.1 INSECURITY/CONFLICT/HUMAN DISPLACEMENT

- No major incidents of insecurity were reported countywide during the month under review.

### 7.2 MIGRATION

- During the period under review, no out-migration was taking place. However, in-migration was taking place although not significant.

### 7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- Livestock body condition is expected to improve further due to availability of sufficient forage for utilization sustained by the long rains whose performance has been above normal. Consequently, the quantity of milk produced most likely will increase with the market price of livestock projected to rise steadily over the next 2-3 months.
- However, agricultural productivity will most likely be affected in the long term following the destruction of crops planted earlier in the season by the floods and thus production is forecasted to drop marginally.
- An ascending trend in the terms of trade will most likely be the scenario following the anticipated increase in market price of goat owing to improved body condition coinciding with a stable maize price (or shifted insignificantly upwards) and thus translating to a superior/higher purchasing power more so for pastoral households over that period.
- Intensified market activity is likely to be witnessed with most households supplementing their expanded dietary needs with alternative nutritious foods and this is likely to have a significant impact in terms of maintaining malnutrition levels at the optimal minimum.
- Therefore, most households are expected to be within the minimal phase in the context of food insecurity with markets well positioned to bridge any food gaps that may arise over the next 2-3 months.

## 8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Livestock:** Upscale efforts aimed at stock piling livestock feeds in strategic hay reserves for use during the dry season by providing farmer groups with pasture seeds so as to maximize production over the long rains season.
- **Health and Nutrition:** Strengthen the on-going integrated health outreaches through provision of all essential nutrition and medical care services, stock pile drugs in all health facilities and avail adequate number of health personnel to support outreaches in all hotspots within the county.
- **Veterinary:** Intensify disease surveillance efforts in areas prone to CBPP and CCPP while focussing on animal health by providing essential veterinary services through mass vaccination drives and treatment where applicable.
- **Water:** Enhance water availability for humans and livestock during scarcities by drilling and equipping strategic/contingency boreholes.