

National Drought Management Authority

TURKANA COUNTY

DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR AUGUST 2019



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



AUGUST EW PHASE

Drought Status: NORMAL



Shughuli za kawaida

Early Warning (EW) Phase Classification

LIVELIHOOD ZONE	PHASE	TREND
PASTORAL-ALL SPECIES	NORMAL	STABLE
AGRO-PASTORAL	NORMAL	STABLE
FISHERIES	NORMAL	WORSENING
COUNTY	NORMAL	STABLE

Biophysical Indicators	Value	Normal Range
Rainfall (% of Normal)	82	60-100
VCI-3 month (County)	63	>35
VCI-3 month (T. North)	48	>35
State of Water Sources	5	5-6

Production Indicators	Value	Normal Range
Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal
Livestock Body Condition	Fair	Good
Milk Production	1.2 L	> 1.8 Litres
Livestock deaths (attributed to drought)	No Deaths	No Deaths

Access Indicators	Value	Normal Range
Terms of Trade (ToT)	40	>46
Milk Consumption	1.2 L	>1.4 Litres
Return distance to water sources	3.8 km	< 6.1 km
Cost of Water(Ksh/20L)	KSh. 0-5	<KSh .5

Utilization Indicators	Value	Normal Range
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	15.6	<20.9
Food Consumption Score (FCS)	30.8	>35
Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)	15.8	<17.7

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

- Rainfall received in localized sections of the county was highly depressed with a distribution in time of 2-3 days. Cumulative rainfall for the period March to August during the current year accounts for 82 percent of the rainfall normally received over that span of time.
- Stability in the vegetation condition in relation to previous month was observed with the recorded VCI-month value of 63 depicting above normal vegetation greenness.
- Most open water sources were at 50-75 percent capacity.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

- Livestock body condition for all species was generally fair and the return trekking distance to water source remained unchanged from the previous month and was within the normal range for the period under review.
- Milk production declined slightly but amount consumed was the same as that recorded in July.
- No variation in the terms of trade was observed but it fell below the three year average. There was neither notable migration taking place nor deaths occasioned by drought.
- Despite the food consumption pattern remaining outside the acceptable standards, proportion of children 'at risk' of malnutrition was stable and within the normal range with the coping capacity not significantly compromised.

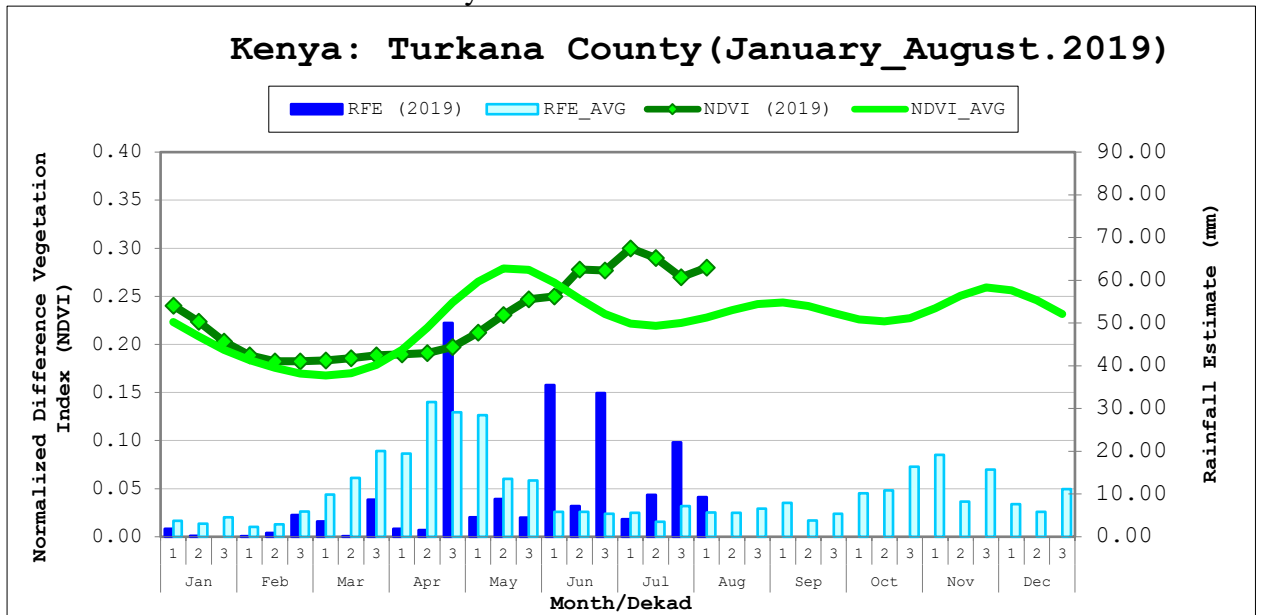
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short rains harvests ▪ Short dry spell ▪ Reduced milk yields ▪ Increased HH Food Stocks ▪ Land preparation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planting/Weeding ▪ Long rains ▪ High Calving Rate ▪ Milk Yields Increase 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Long rains harvests ▪ A long dry spell ▪ Land preparation ▪ Increased HH Food Stocks ▪ Kidding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short rains ▪ Planting/weeding
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Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
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1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- There was no significant rainfall witnessed across most parts of the county during the month under review save for some select few areas mainly along the western side that reported rainfall with a distribution in time of 2-3 days.

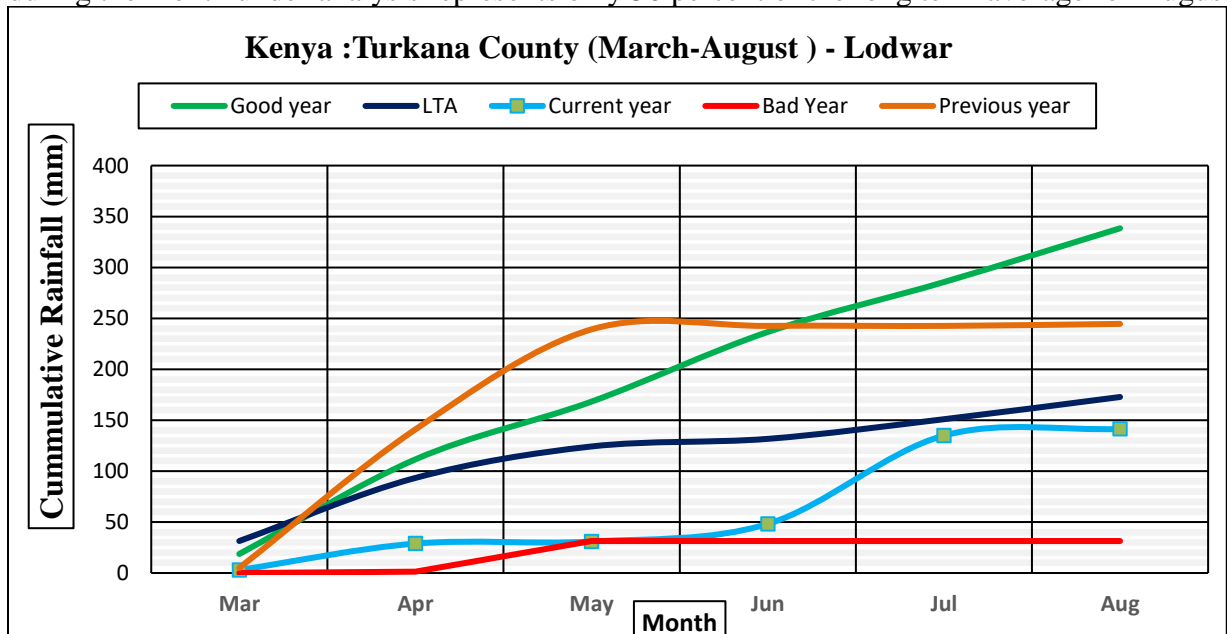


Source: VAM-World Food Programme

- The recorded rainfall for dekad one was slightly higher than the average with the normalized difference vegetation index (NDVI) equally remaining above average for the period.

1.2 AMOUNT OF RAINFALL AND SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION

- Analysed cumulative rainfall for the period commencing March to August for the current year indicates that the amount recorded for that period accounts for 82 percent of what is normally received for that duration. Additionally, amount recorded at Lodwar meteorological station during the month under analysis represents only 30 percent of the long term average for August.



Source: County Meteorological Department-Lodwar

- During the month of August, the rainfall distribution in space across the three livelihood zones in the county was highly uneven.

- In comparison to the cumulative rainfall for the period March to August the previous year, the current cumulative rainfall for the same period is lower by 42 percent.
- Historically, the period between March to August 2009 is considered to be the bad year as illustrated in the figure above.

1.3 OTHER EVENTS

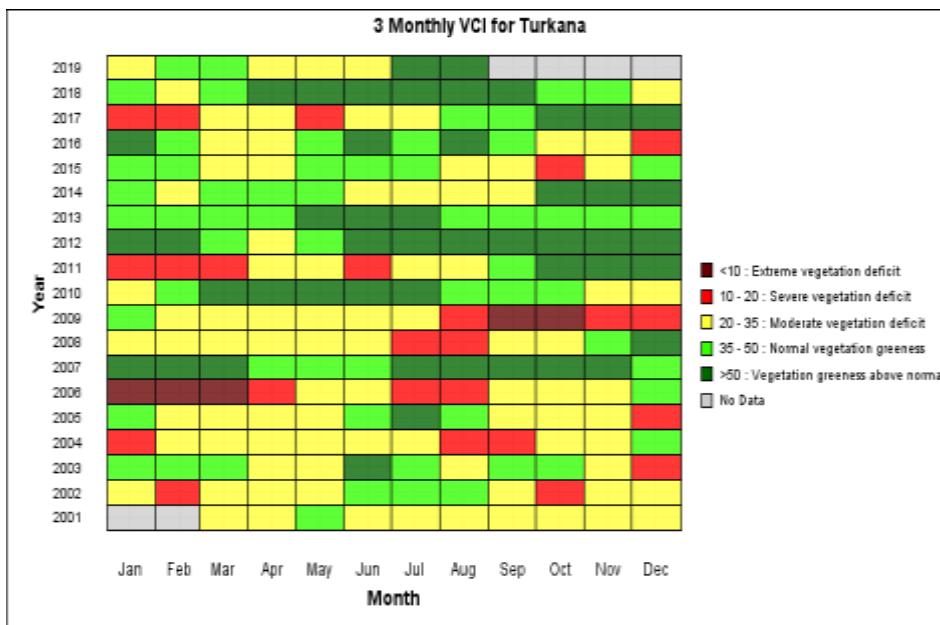
- There was no major other incident such as floods/flash floods, lightning or strong winds witnessed in the county during the period under review.

2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- The matrix below depicts how various months across a number of years have been classified based on a retrogressive analysis of the vegetation condition.



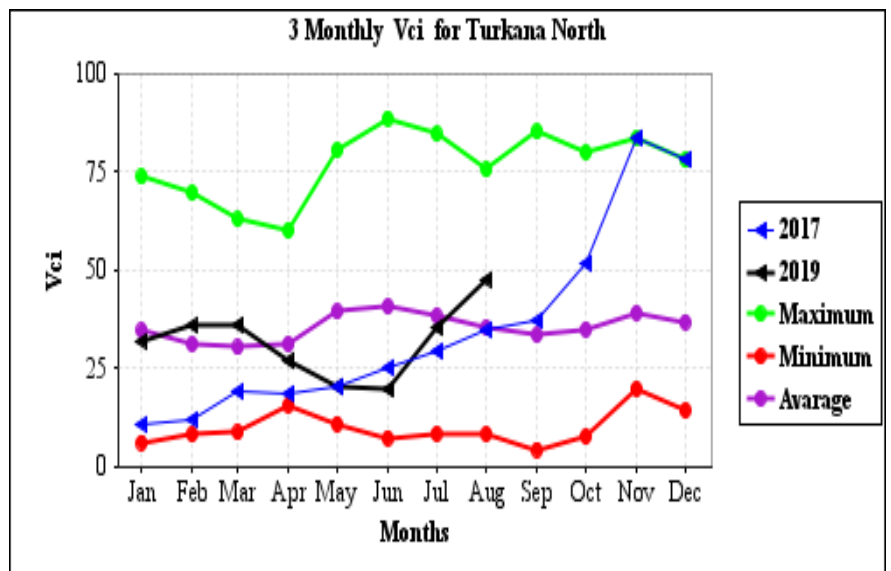
- Stability in the condition of vegetation (canopy) was observed across most sites as supported by the VCI-3 month value of 63 that further illustrated relatively good conditions for the month under review.

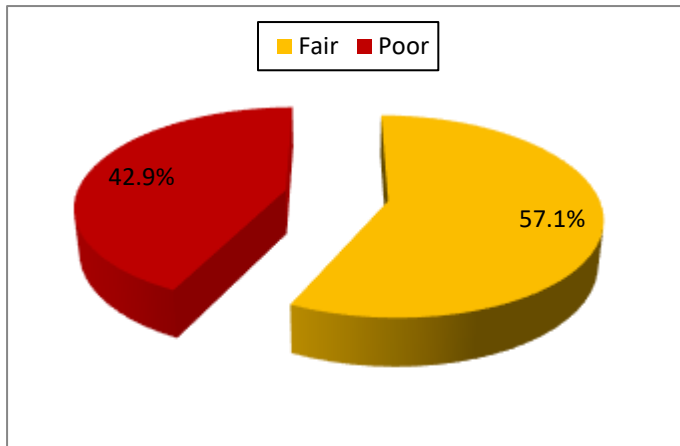
- Some of the Sub counties reporting significant improvement in overhead vegetation condition during the

period under review just like the previous month were Turkana central, south and east.

- On the other hand, slight improvement was witnessed in Turkana north and west sub counties as evidenced by the relatively minimal shift in the VCI-1month values from those of the previous month. Nonetheless, vegetation condition remained within the normal greenness level with precipitation deficit curtailing massive regeneration.

- Variation in condition of vegetation across the county could be attributed to the cumulative effect of the long rains, offseason rainfall in July and showers received in some select parts of the county as opposed to others.





2.1.2 Pasture

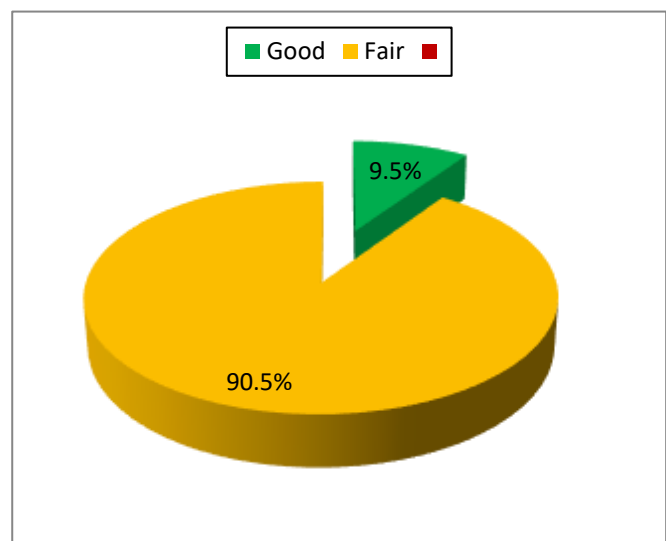
- The condition of pasture across the three livelihood zones remained fair to poor in August as illustrated in the figure. Most sites exhibiting poor pasture condition during the period were in the Fisheries livelihood zone. The witnessed level of pasture during the month under review was slightly above that normally observed at such a time of the year across majority of the areas within the county.

- The observed stability in pasture condition mainly in the Pastoral and Agro Pastoral livelihood zones could be attributed to off season showers experienced with dwindling levels mainly in the Fisheries livelihood zone being occasioned by drier than normal weather conditions prevailing during the month.

- Available pasture in the plains is projected to last for a period of one to two months in some areas as opposed to one to less than one month normally. Kasuroi, Nachukui, Kataboi, Kerio, Lochwaa, Kaeris, Lorugum, Lorengelup, and Lopii were some of the sites with pasture whose condition was poor.
- Proliferation of some poisonous invasive species in some areas, perennial insecurity in the major pasture reserves along the county borders and high incidents of transmittable livestock diseases along some major migratory routes were some of the major factors hindering access to pasture.
- There was a notable variation in the quality and quantity of pasture available in the Fisheries livelihood zone whose recovery had been compromised by inadequate rainfall unlike that along the Agro Pastoral and Pastoral livelihood zones.

2.1.3 Browse

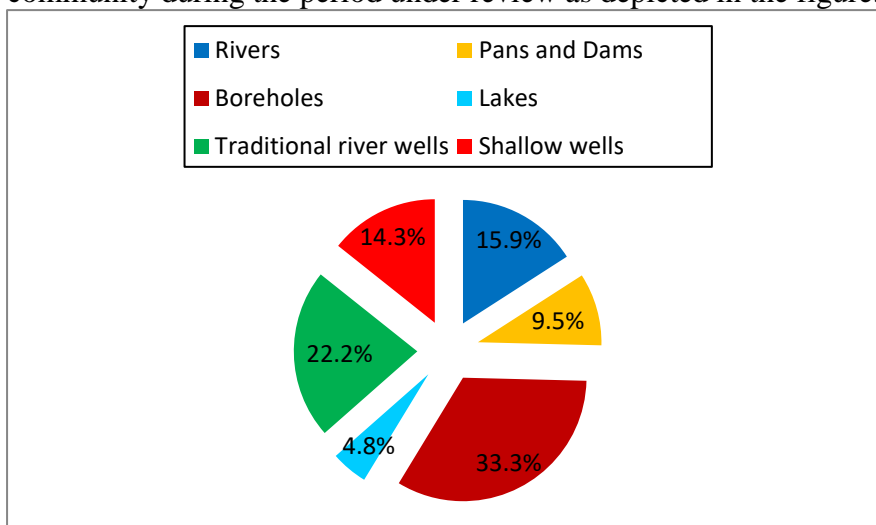
- The condition of palatable browse was good to fair across the Fisheries and Pastoral livelihood zones with that in the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone being good as depicted below and slightly above the normal level at such a time of the year in the county.
- Stability in the condition of browse in relation to the previous month could be attributed to receipt of showers in some areas mainly in the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone coupled with the cumulative effect of the long and off season rains received in July across most parts of the county.
- The available browse is expected to last for a period not less than three months with a possible extension into the next dry spell if the onset of the short rains is timely and the performance is normal to above normal.
- During the month under review, the major impediment to browse across most areas in the county is the presence of notifiable diseases coupled with insecurity in some areas mainly in Turkana east, south and Kibish sub counties.
- The Fisheries livelihood zone exhibited browse of relatively fair quality and less quantity in comparison to the one available in the Pastoral and Agro Pastoral livelihood zones.



2.2 WATER RESOURCE

2.2.1 Sources

- Boreholes, traditional river wells and rivers were the three major water sources in use by the community during the period under review as depicted in the figure.

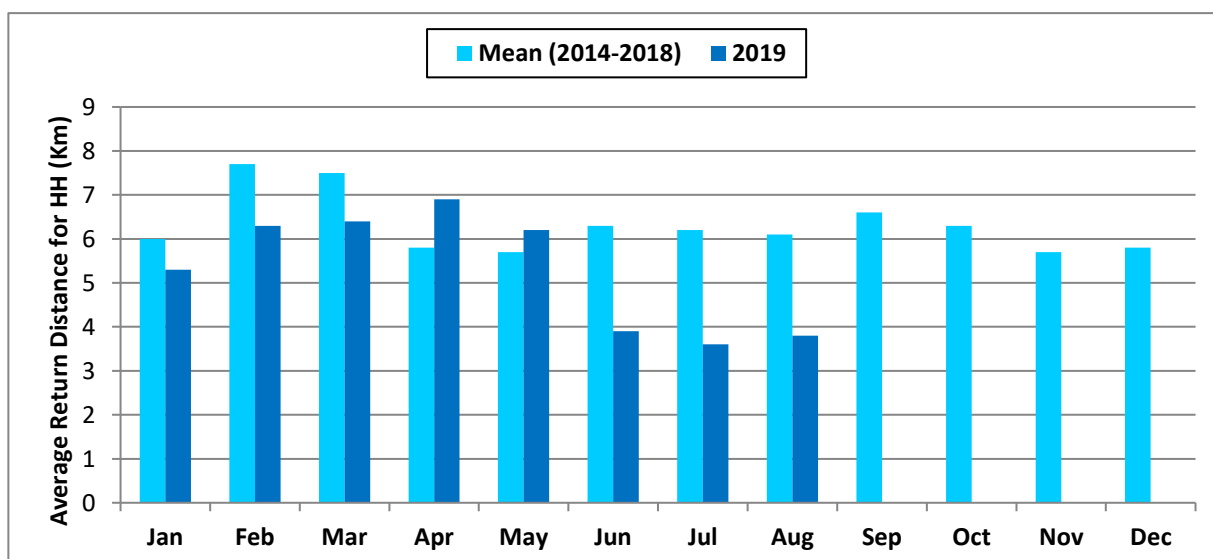


- However, there was no significant shift in the proportion of households utilizing each of these sources from that reported during the previous month. This was informed by the improved ease of access to water through the open water sources across most areas in the county during the period under review.

- Across the three livelihood zones, most open water sources such as water pans and rock catchments were at 50-75 percent capacity during the period and the available water is anticipated to last for at least two to three months.
- The water situation as at August was slightly better in the Pastoral livelihood zone and at par with the level normally witnessed for the month under review in the Agro Pastoral and Fisheries livelihood zones.
- Water flow through the two permanent rivers in the county normally utilized for irrigation along the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone was normal with periodic instances of increased volume attributed to rainfall in the neighbouring county and Uganda.
- The sources in use during the month of August were the normal sources where majority of households drew water from at such a time of the year.

2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

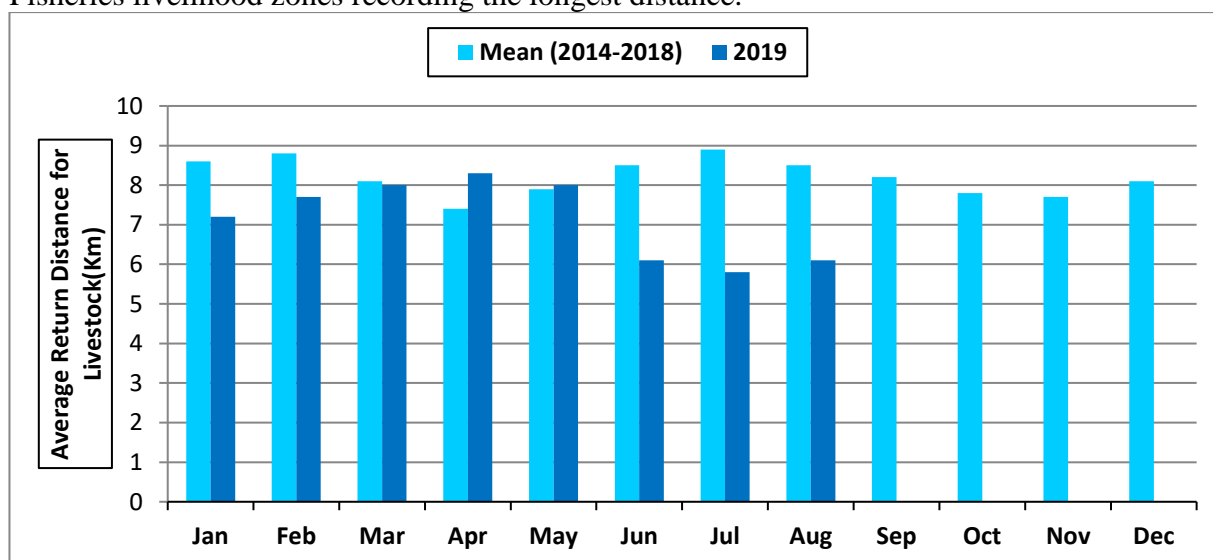
- During the month under review, stability in return trekking distance to water source for households was observed with the average distance being 3.8 km. The recorded distance was significantly lower than the long term average distance for the period under analysis by 37 percent as illustrated in the figure below.



- The Agro Pastoral livelihood zone returned the longest distance with the least distance being recorded in the Fisheries livelihood zone during the month of August hence no significant shift from the pattern witnessed in July.
- Stability in the average waiting time at water source by households was observed in relation to the previous month. Subsequently, households resident in the Fisheries and Agro Pastoral livelihood zones spent on average less than 15 minutes before exiting water points compared to 15-30 minutes normally while those in the Pastoral livelihood zone took 15-30 minutes as opposed to 30-45 minutes normally.
- On the other hand, water consumption per person per day too did not adjust significantly and thus remained at 40-60 litres compared to 40-50 litres normally in the Fisheries and Agro Pastoral livelihood zones while in the Pastoral livelihood zone it averaged 30-45 litres as opposed to 25-30 litres normally.
- Water at source was cost free but water vendors along major urban centres such as Lodwar, Kakuma, Lokichoggio, Lokichar, Kalokol and Lokori were dispensing a 20 litre jerrycan at five shillings at the point of sale with the cost rising to 20-30 shillings once delivered to the household by motor bikes. The reported price was within the normal range for the month under review.

2.2.3 Livestock access

- During the month of August, the return trekking distance to water source for livestock from grazing sites remained unchanged from the one reported in July as illustrated in the figure below (6.1 km) and was lower than the long term average distance for the month under review by 28 percent.
- The shortest distance was reported in the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone with the Pastoral and Fisheries livelihood zones recording the longest distance.



- The observed stability in the return trekking distance to water source for livestock could mainly be attributed to absence of migration due to availability of pasture and browse in areas adjacent to water sources utilized during the previous month coupled with a limited number of non-operational water sources across all the livelihood zones.
- The watering frequency for the small stock in the Fisheries and Agro Pastoral livelihood zone was seven times in a week while in the Pastoral livelihood zone it was five to six days. For the large stock in the Pastoral livelihood zone, the watering frequency was four to five days while in the Fisheries and Agro Pastoral livelihood zones it averaged five to six times per week.
- Availability of water within the water pans, shallow wells, rivers and boreholes in close proximity to grazing zones were the major factors influencing the relatively improved watering frequency for livestock across all the livelihood zones during the month of August.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

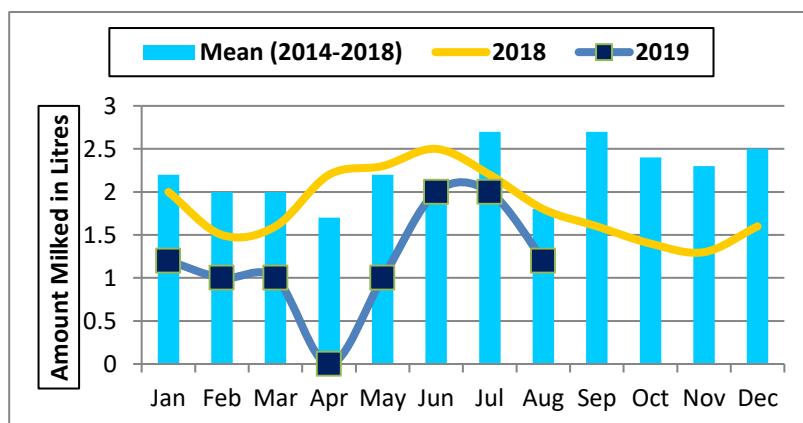
- The body condition of all livestock species was generally fair with a small percentage mainly in the Agro Pastoral zone exhibiting good body condition during the period under review.
- Goats and camels in the Agro Pastoral and Pastoral livelihood zones were characterized with a good smooth appearance with sheep being blocky albeit in select areas within those zones. On the other hand, small stock in the Fisheries livelihood zone were neither fat nor thin.
- Generally, stability in the body condition of all livestock species was observed in relation to the month of July and a similar trend is anticipated across September owing to availability of forage in areas adjacent to water sources with an implication of shorter trekking distances especially in the Agro Pastoral and Pastoral livelihood zones.
- On the contrary, it is highly forecasted that the body condition more so for grazers in the Fisheries livelihood zone might deteriorate slightly owing to the dwindling pasture reserves whose depletion might be accelerated by the high temperatures across September.

3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- Some households in Turkana north reported incidents of Pest Petis Ruminantes (PPR) with those in Loima and Turkana south reporting high worm load as well as cases of Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP).

3.1.3 Milk Production

- Out of the sampled households, thirteen percent reported to have milked either goats or camels during the month under review.
- Amount milked per household per day decreased from two litres to 1.2 litres as depicted in the figure. Therefore, milk availability was limited to a small portion of households just like the previous month.
- In comparison to the normal production level for the month under review and the one reported during the same month the previous year, the current production level is remarkably lower by 33 percent.
- The average price of milk per litre across all the livelihood zones remains at KSh. 60-80.
- Despite the trekking distance remaining shorter owing to availability of forage and water, the calving rate was low hence the observed trend.



3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

3.2.1 Stage and Condition of Food Crops

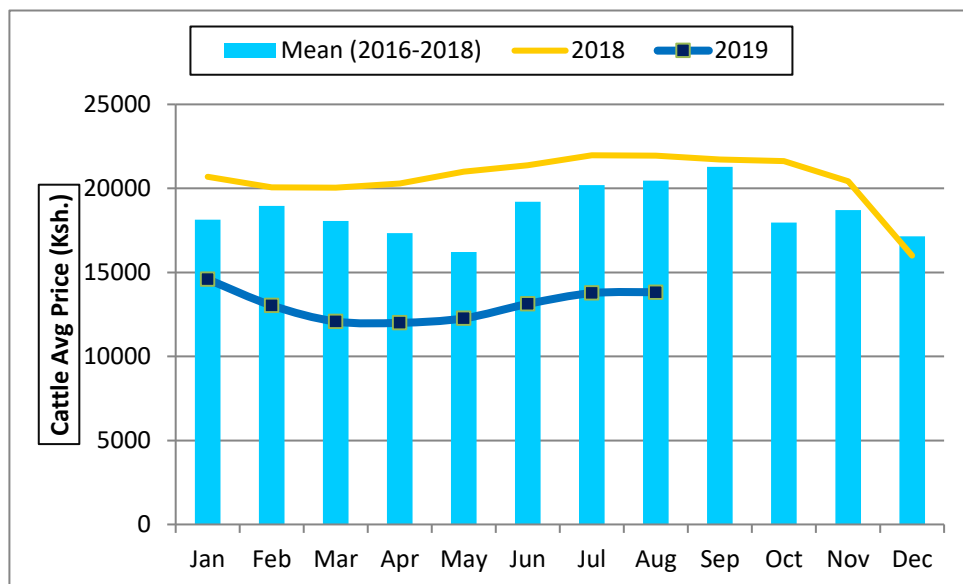
- Maize, sorghum and cowpeas are the three main crops cultivated by a significant proportion of farmers mainly in the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone during the long rains season.
- The major agricultural activity taking place during the period under analysis was harvesting of sorghum with horticultural production entailing Mangoes and water melons also on going mainly in Loima and Turkana south sub counties.
- Continuous supply of cowpeas leaves to major markets such as Turkwel and Lodwar was also witnessed during the month under review.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

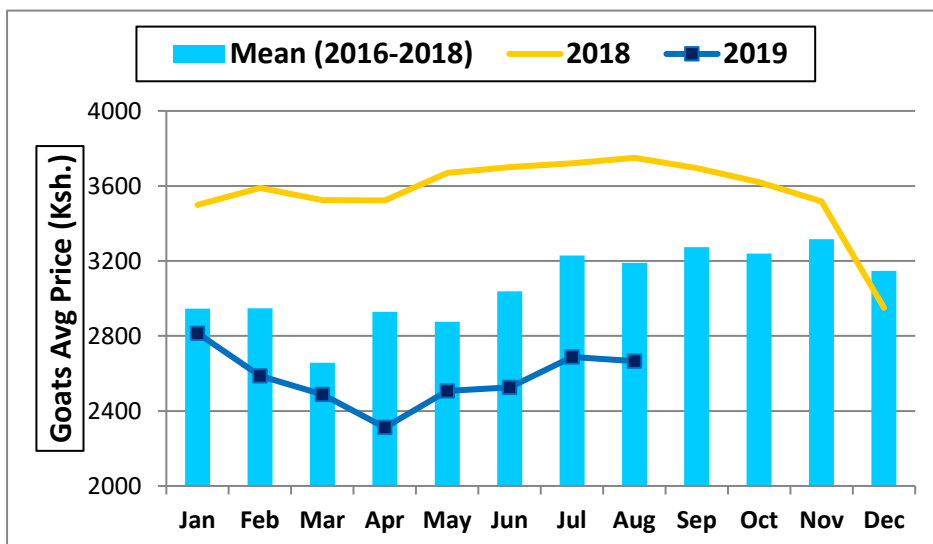
4.1.1 Cattle Prices

- Stability was observed in the price of a 4-year old medium sized bull that traded at KSh. 13,820 during the month of August as illustrated here.
- The observed stability in price during the period under review was as a result of the body condition of cattle not adjusting significantly due to the pasture condition and water availability remaining relatively the same as that of the previous month.
- The least price of KSh. 13,720 was reported in the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone with the highest price of KSh. 13,890 being recorded in the Pastoral livelihood zone.
- The reported price during the period under review was significantly lower than the one posted during the same month the previous year by 38 percent.
- In addition, the price was equally lower than the three year average price for the month of August by 32 percent.



4.1.2 Small Ruminants Prices (Goat price)

- The price of a 2-year old medium sized goat remained unchanged from the one reported during the previous month of July and thus on average such a goat traded at KSh. 2,665 during the period under review as illustrated in the figure below.
- The body condition remained relatively the same as the one observed in July owing to the production factors such as browse availability and water access not depicting any significant deviation from the previous state hence the stability in price.
- The variability in price of goat during the month of August was low across the three livelihood zones. For instance, the Agro Pastoral, Pastoral and Fisheries livelihood zones returned an average price of KSh. 2,600, KSh. 2,690 and KSh. 2,700 in that order.
- The prevailing market price of goat was lower than the price reported for that species during the

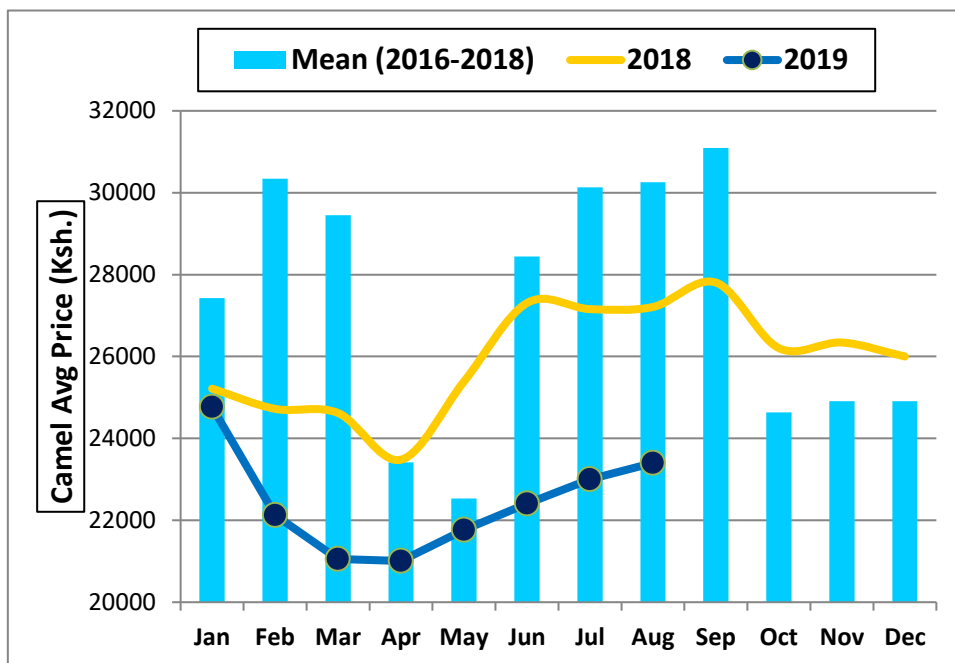


previous year by a remarkable percentage margin of 29 percent.

- Compared to the three year average price, the current price is lower by 15 percent.

4.1.3 Camel Prices

- During the month under review, the price of a 4-year old camel did not fluctuate significantly from the one reported in July and thus it remained stable at KSh. 23,400.
- The production push factors bore similar characteristics to those witnessed in July and thus there was no noticeable changes in the body condition of the camel during the period under review hence the observed price stability.

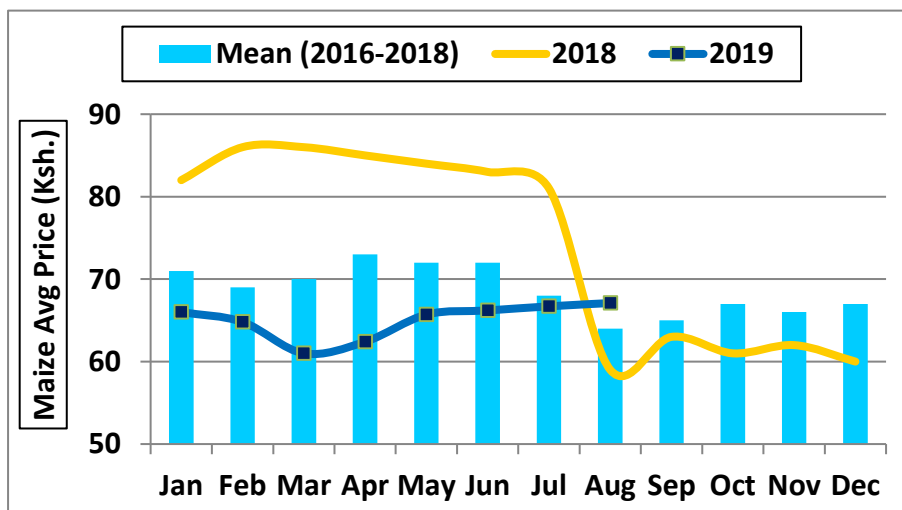


- The Agro Pastoral livelihood zone posted the lowest price of KSh. 23,250 in comparison to the KSh. 23,500 reported along the Pastoral livelihood zone.
- With respect to the price reported for the month of August during the previous year and the short term average price for the period under review, the prevailing market price was lower by 14 percent and 23 percent respectively.

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize

- There was no shift in the price of maize reported in August and thus a kilogram retailed at KSh. 67 across most markets in the county. Notably, the reported price was higher than that reported during the same period the previous year and the short term average price for the month of August by 14 percent and four percent respectively.
- The Pastoral livelihood reported the highest price of KSh. 70 per kilogram of maize with the Fisheries and Agro Pastoral livelihood zones reporting an average price of KSh. 65 and KSh. 62 accordingly during the month of August.
- Markets in Turkana south and Loima that are largely Agro Pastoral returned the lowest price per kilogram (KSh. 55-60) with those in the north including Kaaleng, Lokitaung and Kaeris posting higher prices in the range of KSh. 100-120. High reliance on market and poor road infrastructure were the two major price drivers in that sub county.

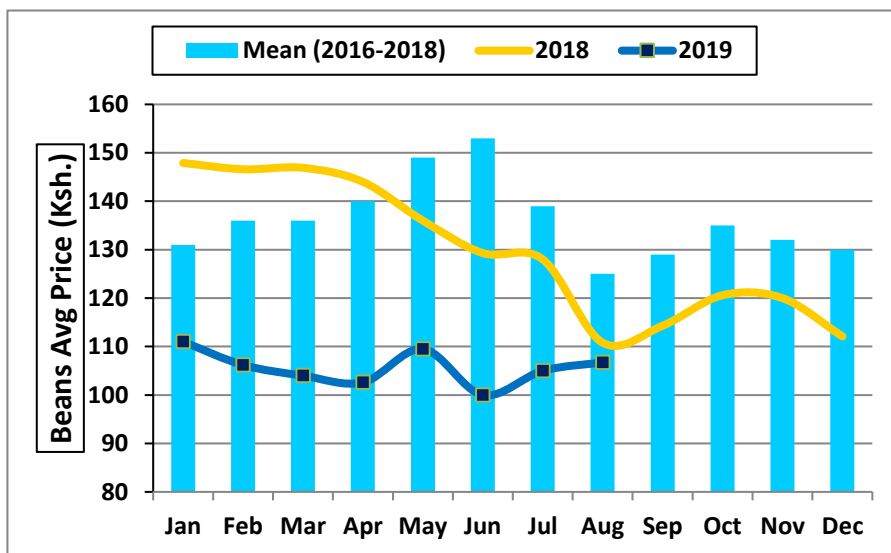


were the two major price drivers in that sub county.

- Improved access to maize through the major markets supplied by traders from external markets and imports from Uganda was the major factor influencing the observed price stabilization during the period under review.

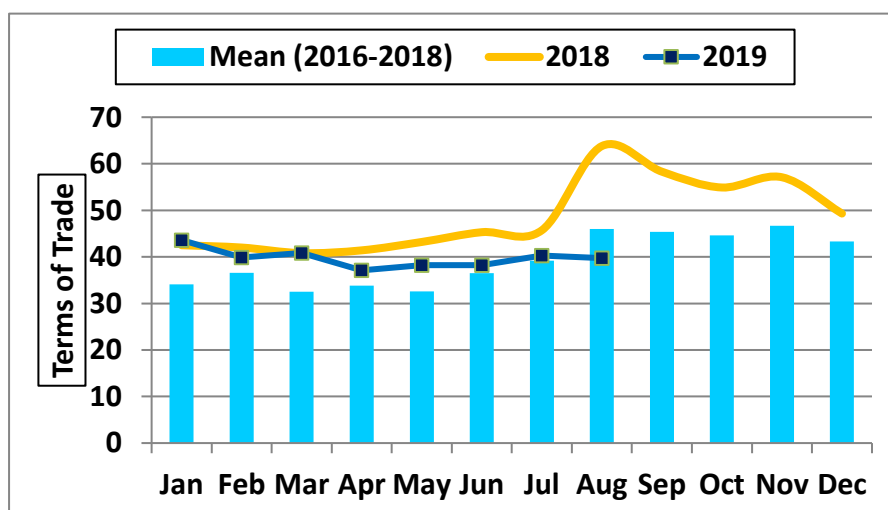
4.2.2 Beans

- During the period under analysis, the price of beans remained the same as that reported during the month of July. Consequently, a kilogram of beans continued trading at an average price of KSh. 106 across the county as depicted in the figure.
- Provision of beans as relief food to affected households, absence of major price shocks within the external and cross border markets that normally influence internal pricing were the major factors driving the observed stability with a continuous supply of the legume being witnessed over that period under review.
- The lowest price of Ksh. 100 was recorded in the Fisheries livelihood zone with the highest price of Ksh. 110 being recorded in the Pastoral livelihood zone, the Agro Pastoral livelihood zone returned an average trading price of Ksh. 103 during the period under analysis.
- Whereas the reported price for the month of August was at par with that reported during the same period the previous year, it was lower than the short term average price of beans for the period under review by 15 percent.



4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade

- The terms of trade remained the same as those reported during the month of July as illustrated in the figure below. This therefore meant that in August pastoralists could only access forty kilograms of maize through the market upon sale of a goat similar to the one traded previously.
- Comparatively, the reported terms of trade for the period during the previous year and the three year average terms of trade for the month under review was higher than the reported terms of trade by 37 percent and 14 percent respectively.
- Despite the observed stability, the ToT for the period under review was unfavourable to pastoralists who normally rely on markets for their monthly household food supplies.
- The unchanged goat price coupled with the price of maize that remained the same as the one reported in July were the major factors influencing the stability in ToT during the month.
- Owing to the high maize price recorded in Turkana north, pastoralists from the sub county continued being the biggest losers due to the ToT remaining significantly low at 32

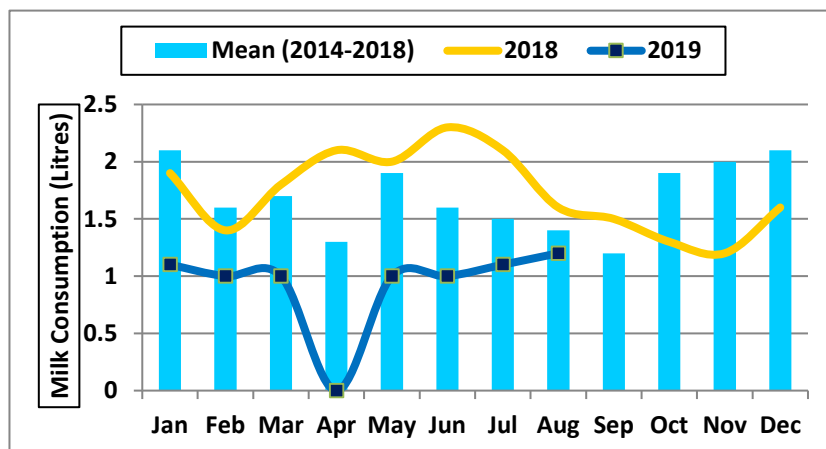


- The terms of trade is projected to decrease albeit marginally across September given minimal to none improvement in the body condition of goat is expected as the rangeland conditions deteriorate and likely to be compounded with the anticipated rise in the price of maize over the next one month.

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- Only 13 percent out of the sampled two hundred and nine households reported to have consumed milk out of own production in August. The average consumption was 1.2 litres / household/ day



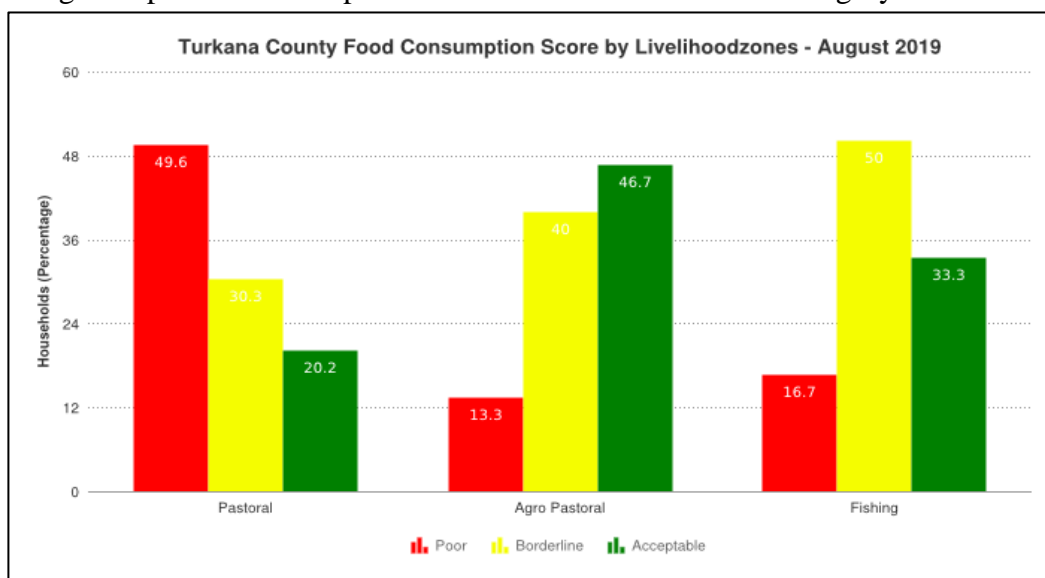
and hence did not show any remarkable variation from the one reported during the month of July as illustrated in the figure.

- The stability observed during the month under review was hugely dictated by the production level that remained the same as that of the previous month owing to the calving rate being low.
- In comparison to the consumption level reported in August during the previous year, the reported consumption level during the month under review was significantly lower by 25 percent. In addition, the five year average milk consumed was higher than what was consumed in August by 14 percent.

5.2 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE (FCS)

- Out of the sampled two hundred and nine households, the proportion of households classified as having poor, borderline and acceptable food consumption scores was 34.4 percent, 35.9 percent and 29.7 percent respectively during the month of August.
- Consequently, there was no notable adjustment in these proportions from those reported during the month of July across the three livelihood zones that were 35.1 percent, 32.2 percent and 32.7 percent for those respective categories.
- Stability in food consumption was thus evident during the month under review as evidenced by the overall mean FCS of 30.8 for the county that remained relatively unchanged.
- A significant proportion of households constituting 49.6 percent in the Pastoral zone had a poor FCS with an additional 16.7 percent and 13.3 percent from the Fisheries and Agro Pastoral zones also depicting similar characteristics. Half of the household's resident in the Fisheries livelihood zone fell within the borderline class with the other two zones including the Pastoral and Agro Pastoral contributing 30.2 percent and 40 percent of the households into the category.

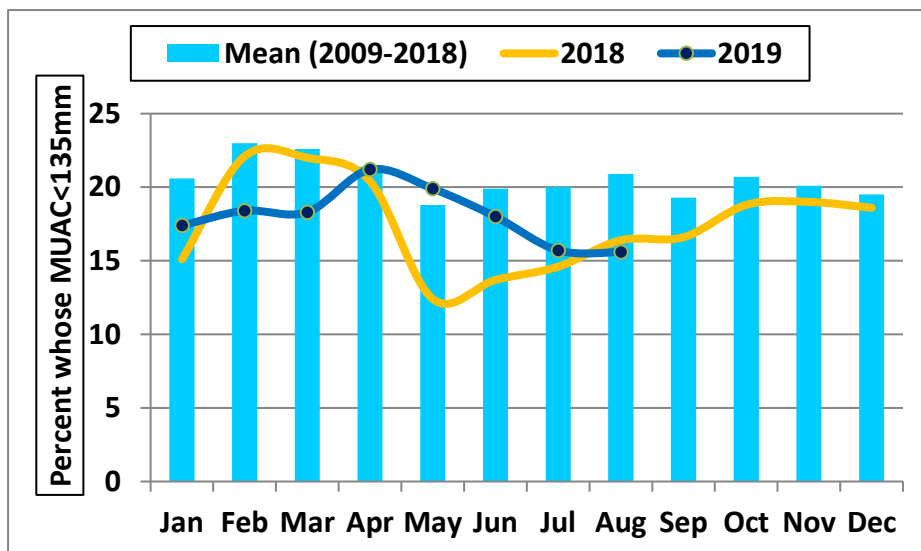
- The lowest FCS of 25 was recorded in the Pastoral livelihood zone with the Fisheries and Agro Pastoral livelihoods returning a score of 33 and 35 respectively.



5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

• During the period under review, 56 percent of the sampled children whose mid upper arm circumference measurements were taken were males with 44 percent constituting females.

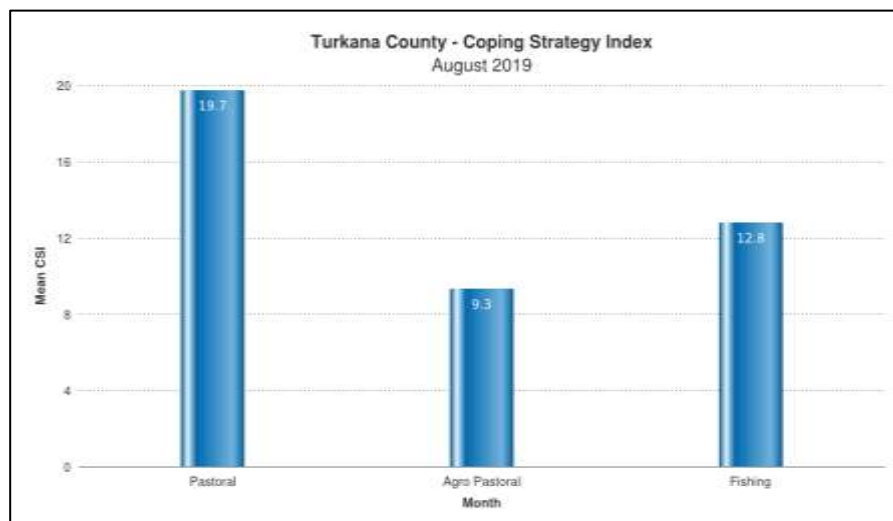


- Based on those measurements taken, the proportion of children classified as being ‘at risk’ of malnutrition did not vary from the one recorded in July and hence remained at 15.6 percent.
- Noteworthy, the reported proportion of under-fives considered to be ‘at risk’ of malnutrition during the month under review was almost at par with that recorded during the same period the previous year but significantly lower than the long term average proportion by 25 percent.
- The observed stability in the proportion of under-fives categorized as being ‘at risk’ during the month under analysis could be ascribed to food availability at the household level in form of relief, stable milk consumption pattern albeit within select households and other nutrition interventions such as provision of Unimix by various agencies within the county.
- Improved access to alternative foods through markets especially by households under the cash transfer programmes and concerted efforts to manage diseases across most facilities in the county were some of the other factors having a positive impact.

5.4 COPING STRATEGY

5.4.1 Coping Strategy Index (CSI)

- Stability was observed in the overall reduced coping strategy index (rCSI) for the county that was 15.8 and therefore did not fluctuate significantly from the 15.1 reported in July.
- The implied effect was that consumption based coping strategies in application by majority of the households across the two months (July and August) remained relatively the same.
- However, just like the previous months and as illustrated by the reduced coping strategy index for every livelihood zone in the figure below, households resident in the Pastoral livelihood zone were more constrained in accessing food/ money to buy food in comparison those in the Fisheries and Agro Pastoral livelihood zones.
- The most commonly applied consumption based coping strategies across the three livelihood zones were reduced portion size of meals and reliance on less preferred /less expensive food.



6.0 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)

6.1 FOOD

- Relief food distribution was conducted by the county government and World Vision as illustrated in the table below.

Table 1: Food Interventions

Intervention(s)	Sub-County/Ward/Location	No. of Beneficiaries	Implementers
Food Distribution-SFSP. Cereals-716MTs, Pulses-142.95MTs, Vegetable Oil-47.639MTs... Total Tonnage-906MTs	Turkana South, Turkana East, Turkana Central, Loima and Turkana North Sub-Counties	6,630	World Vision Kenya on behalf of WFP and Turkana County Government.
Emergency relief food distribution. 53,728 (50 Kg) bags of Cereal, 10,974 (50 Kg) bags of Pulses and 9,594 (20 litre) Jerry cans of vegetable oil.	All the six sub counties	609,167	Turkana county Government

6.2 NON-FOOD

- During the period under review, among the non-food interventions implemented include the ones listed in the table below.

Table 2: Non- Food Interventions

Intervention	Sub-County/Ward/Location	No. of Beneficiaries	Implementer/Organization
Conducted EIA and HGS for proposed Kaputir Borehole	Kaputir Location, Kaputir Ward, Turkana South Sub county	4000 people	World Vision
Construction of water kiosks and tank tower in Kangiregae	Kalemngorok Location, Katilu Ward, Turkana Central Sub-county	1500 people	
Installation of prepaid water meter in Kakimat	Turkana Central Sub-county	150 households	
Participatory disease surveillance in Kibish Sub County.	Kibish Sub-County (Nawoi adome, Kibish, Lokamarinyang, Koyasa, Loruth Narionobukui, Loruth Esekon, Kaitede, Natelo, Lobulono and Napak). Alternative borehole drilling site - Lotiakabelei	44	VSF Germany Turkana County Government – Department of Veterinary services.
Training of Natural resource management committee on Pasture husbandry	Kibish (Loitanit)	30	VSF Germany and Turkana County Government – Livestock production department.
Training of (13) Women and Youth Business Groups on small business management, business plan development and record keeping. Distribution of VSLA Kits (2 lockable metallic boxes)	Turkana North (Moru Eris, Kaaleng, Kachoda, Karebur and Lokitaung). Kibish (Nakinomet, Koyasa, Lokamarinyang).	311	VSF Germany

7.0 EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 INSECURITY/CONFLICT/HUMAN DISPLACEMENT

- During the period under review, there were no serious cases of insecurity reported across most parts of the county.

7.2 MIGRATION

- There was no significant livestock migration taking place during the period under review save for movement of some herds into the county from Uganda where they had previously migrated to that was reported mainly in Turkana west and Loima sub counties.

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- Following the late onset of the long rains in the major external commodity source markets, the likelihood of commodity (maize) prices increasing marginally remains high due to the anticipated delay in harvesting and therefore, household food stocks will most likely be minimal to depleted especially for households resident in the Pastoral livelihood zone.
- The possibility of rangeland conditions starting to/deteriorating further shall remain high owing to the normal to above normal temperatures likely to be witnessed across September and that will most likely have a negative impact on livestock production due to the declining body condition hence the purchasing power is anticipated to decline slightly too.
- Consequently, the probability of poor households mainly in the Pastoral and Fisheries livelihood zones remaining constrained in accessing essential food stuffs through the market will equally be high as a result of the expected decline in the livestock to cereals price ratio.
- It's highly probable that an upward shift in the rate of malnutrition will be witnessed albeit remaining within the normal range over that period and therefore enhanced security along all market access roads shall play a critical role in mitigating the existing food gaps and therefore managing although not adequately any further rise in the malnutrition levels.
- As a consequence of the aforementioned, the severity of food insecurity is expected to intensify across September with a significant proportion of the population in the county bearing the negative effects of crisis (IPC phase 3) food insecurity outcomes.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Food and Safety Net:** Provision of relief food and scaling up cash transfers targeting the over 63,000 household's currently experiencing crisis food insecurity outcomes across all the livelihood zones.
- **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. Additionally, improve water access for schools and health facilities through installation of water harvesting and storage structures such as tanks while strengthening the capacity of the rapid response teams as a preparedness measure.
- **Veterinary:** Enhance livestock disease surveillance while monitoring and vaccinating animals migrating into the county to curb the spread of any notifiable diseases.
- **Agriculture:** Minimize post-harvest losses by conducting post-harvest storage awareness campaigns targeting farmers in the Agro- Pastoral areas at the same time sensitizing them on the management of fall army worm.
- **Health and Nutrition:** Conduct community sensitization on hygiene practices and awareness creation on child care practices while providing essential nutritional commodities to the under-fives targeting all malnutrition hotspots in the county.
- **Livestock:** Enhance resilience building through restocking with small stock targeting select locations within all the sub counties.