REPUBLIC OF KENYA

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

MAKUENI

County Director of Meteorological Services
(CDMS)

RAINFALL OUTLOOK FOR THE OCTOBER-NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

(OND) 2025

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TECHNICAL STATEMENT FROM THE COUNTY CLIMATE OUTLOOK - MAKUENI

The "**Short Rains**" October-November-December (OND) season constitutes an important rainfall season in Kenya, particularly in the **Central and Eastern** regions of the country.

- The Climate Outlook for the October–December 2025 "Short Rains" season indicates that most of the Northeast, **Southeastern lowlands** and Coastal region are expected to receive below average rainfall.
  - The **Main Driver** of this outlook is the developing negative Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), which is expected to persist from September to November 2025 before returning to neutral conditions in December.
  - A **negative IOD** typically **brings drier than normal conditions over East Africa**, potentially suppressing rainfall during the short rains.

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According to the most recent update issued on 2nd September 2025 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), there is **about a 55% chance of La Niña developing during September–November 2025**, **rising to 60% in October–December 2025**. The Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD) will continue to closely monitor ENSO conditions.

- **La Niña** conditions are associated with depressed rainfall also. As a result, The distribution of rainfall is expected to be **poor**, with **prolonged dry spells** and isolated storms in some areas.
- **South-eastern Lowlands Counties** (Kitui, **Makueni**, Taita Taveta, Southeastern Kajiado, Tana River and central and eastern Machakos): These counties are expected to experience **intermittent rainfall** throughout the season.
- **However**, the **total rainfall amounts** are likely to be **below the long-term average** for the season.
  - **Prolonged dry spells** are also likely
  - The rainfall is expected to be **poorly distributed** both in **space** and time.

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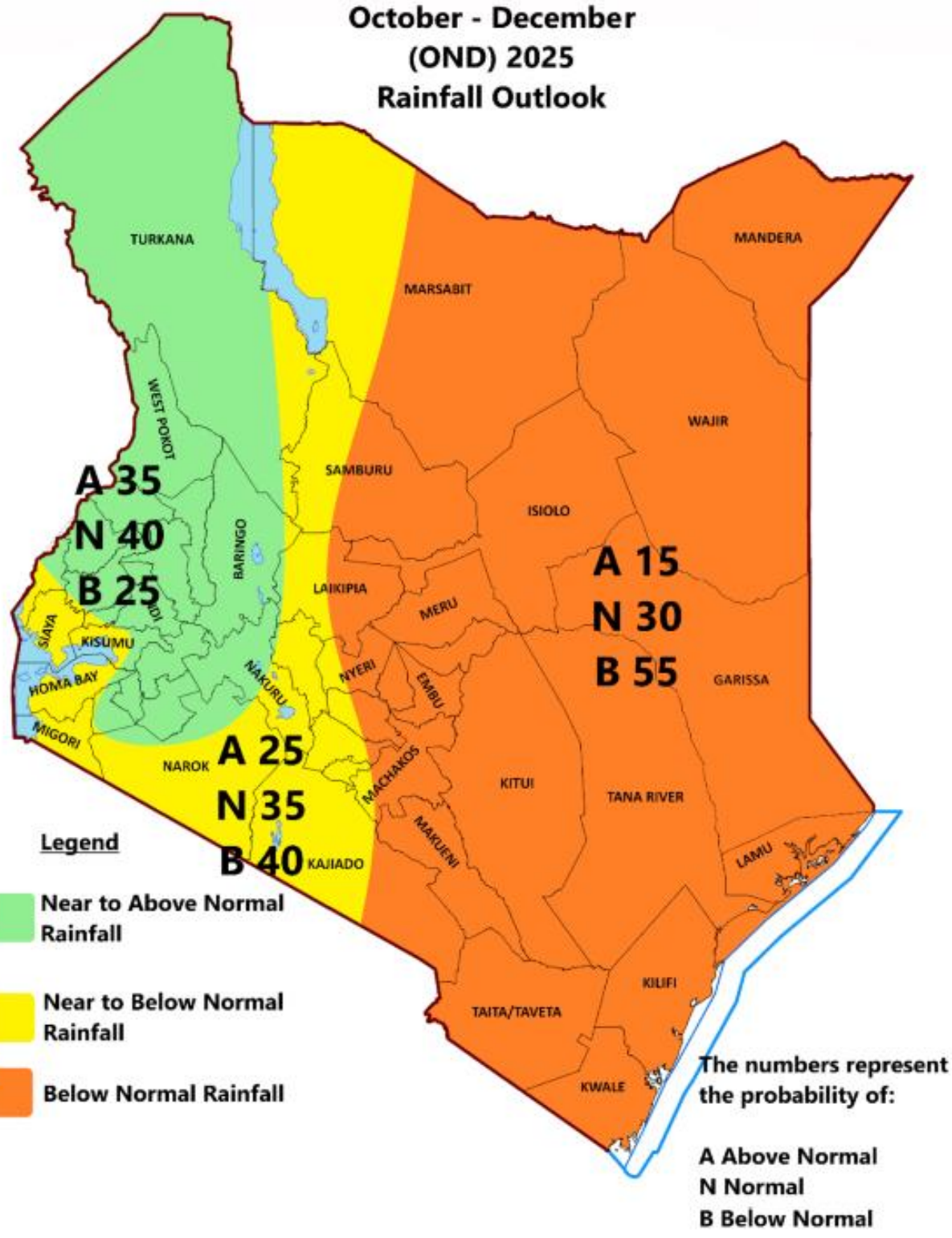

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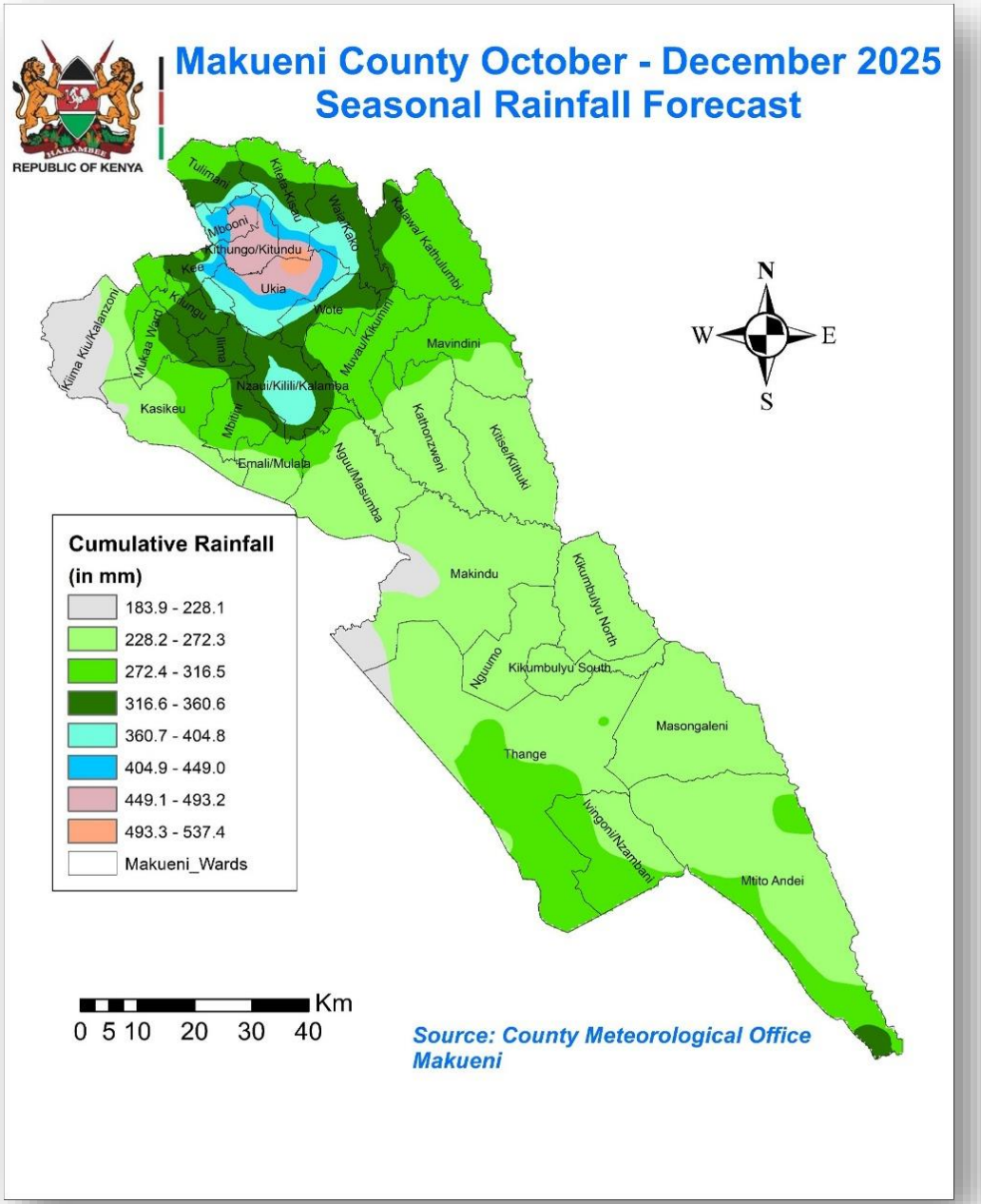

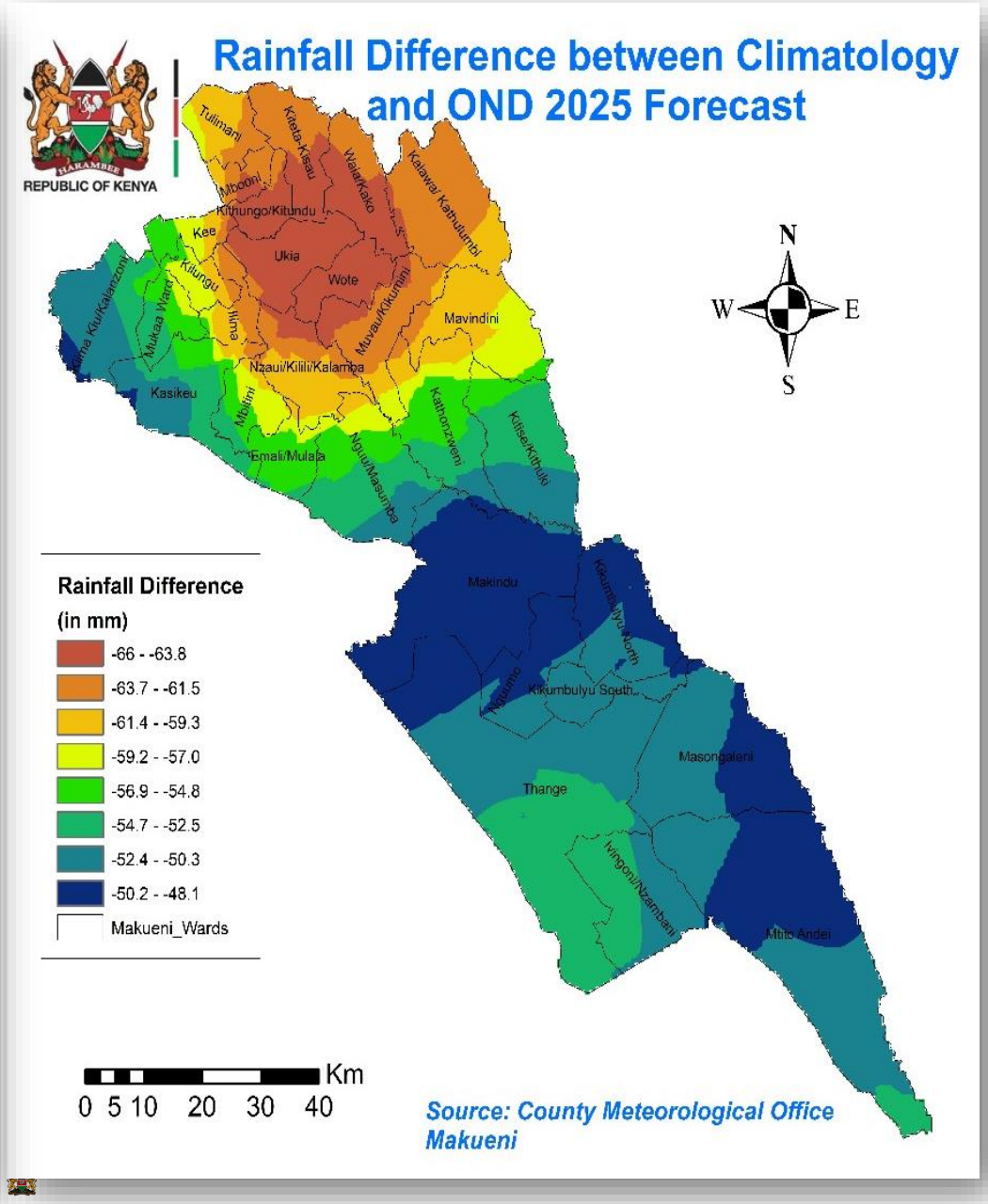

Expected distribution of the OND Rainfall, onset and cessation dates

Distribution

The predicted onset, cessation, and distribution of rainfall is derived from dynamical models and statistical analysis of the past year, which showed similar characteristics to the current year, and are as indicated as follows;

Onset and Cessation

COUNTY	Onset	Cessation	Distribution
Makueni	**3rd to 4th week of November, 2025.**	**3rd to 4th week of December, 2025**	**Poor**

NB: Updates on the onset, distribution, and cessation of rainfall will be provided regularly through weekly as the season approaches. These updates will offer detailed insights into any changes and developments in rainfall patterns to keep stakeholders informed and support timely decision-making.

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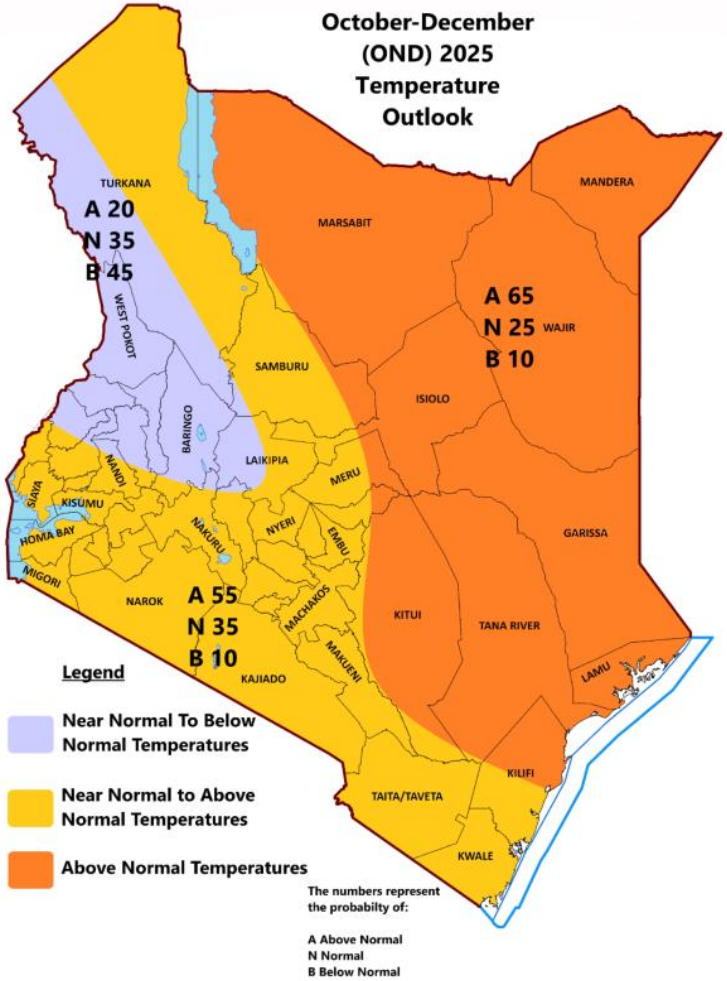
OND 2025 Temperature Outlook

The temperature outlook shows that most parts of the county are expected to be warmer than average, with an expectation in some sub counties having higher probabilities for warmer than average temperature.



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NB: There are intraseasonal drivers of variability, such as **tropical cyclones** and the **Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO),** that are **only predictable at shorter lead times**.

It is therefore imperative to stay up to date with subsequent forecasts and updates.

This outlook should be used together with the 24-hour, 5-day, 7day, monthly, special forecasts and regular updates/advisories issued by this Department as well as Weekly and Monthly County forecasts developed and availed by County Meteorological Office.

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Potential Impacts of The OND 2025 Rains

The expected rainfall during the months of October to December rains season is expected to have mostly negative impacts across various sectors**.**

The following key statements have been consolidated from the advisories presented and deliberated upon by the technical team during the Participatory Scenario Planning (PSP) session.

Important Notice:

The information provided herein represents summarized highlights of the advisories. ***Stakeholders are formally advised to consult the respective sector leads for the full and detailed advisories*** *to ensure accurate guidance and effective implementation.*

Makueni County
October - December 2025
Seasonal Advisories

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

Makueni County
October – December 2025
Seasonal Advisories
(Agriculture and Livestock)

1. Upper zones – Ukia, Mbooni, Kithungo/Kitundu, Kilungu, Ilima, Mbitini (Upper)
Probable OND 2025 Rainfall amount: 360 -540 mm

Crop	Recommended varieties
Maize	Pioneer series, DK 8031, DK 777, SC Duma 41, Tsavo WE 4141, Tosheka (MH 401), DH02, Kishindo, Kiongozi (WE 5120) SC Sungura 301, Haraka
Beans	KAT B1, GLP 92, KATX56, KAT B9, Locals, KATX69, Nyota
Cow peas	K80, M66, KVU419, KVU27-1, Locals (Kangau), Ken Kunde, Kunde Soko, Kunde Mboga
Pigeon Peas	ICEAP 00936, ICEAP 00554, ICEAP 01552 (Mpesa), Mituki, Mbaazi 1, Locals
Dolicos Lablab	DL 1002, DL 1009
Sorghum	Ndume, Jasiri, Hummer, Smart Sorghum, Pato 1, Gadam, Serena, Seredo, Kari Mtama 1, Kari Mtama 2, Macia, Sila, local varieties,
Millets	Finger millet, Pearl Millet varieties PM 1, PM2, PM3
Sunflower	Kenya Fedha, 8998, HYSUN 33

Perennial Crops (Coffee, Avocado, Mangoes, Citrus) : Undertake crop care practices for the perennial crops to ensure alternative source of income through enterprise diversification
Pasture and fodder - Napier, Juancao, Pakchong, Brachiaria/ Boma Rhodes, Lucerne & Desmodium, Sorghum/millets,
Fodder tress – leucaena and calliadra, Cow peas forage (M66), Dolicos Lablab
fodder (DL 1002, DL 1009), Azolla

2. Middle zone wards – Kee, Tulimani, Kisau Kiteta, Nzakika, Kako Waia, Muvau Kikumini, Wote Nziu, Emali Mulaa, Mukaa, Kasikeu, Mbitini (Lower) Probable OND 2025 Rainfall amount: 270 - 360 mm

Crop	Recommended varieties
Maize	SC Duma 41, Tsavo WE 4141, Tosheka (MH 401), DH02, Kishindo, Kiongozi (WE 5120) SC Sungura 301, Haraka
Beans	KAT B1, GLP 92, KATX56, KAT B9, Locals, KATX69, Nyota,
Green grams	BIASHARA, KAREMBO, KS20, N26, NDENGU TOSHA
Cowpeas	K80, M66, KVU419, KVU27-1, Locals (Kangau), Ken Kunde, Kunde Soko, Kunde Mboga
Pigeon Peas	ICEAP 00936, ICEAP 00554, ICEAP 01552 (Mpesa), Mituki, Mbaazi 1, Locals
	Dolicos Lablab: -DL 1002, DL 1009
Sorghum	Ndume, Jasiri, Hummer, Smart Sorghum, Pato 1, Gadam, Serena, Seredo, Kari Mtama 1, Kari Mtama 2, Macia, Sila, local varieties,
Millets	Finger millet, Pearl Millet varieties PM 1, PM2, PM3
Sunflower:	Kenya Fedha, 8998, HYSUN 33
Simsim	White, Brown & Black

Pasture and Fodder
Napier, Juancao, Pakchong, Brachiaria/ Boma Rhodes, Lucerne & Desmodium, Sorghum/millets, Fodder tress – leucaena and calliadra, Cow peas forage (M66), Dolicos Lablab
fodder (DL 1002, DL 1009), Range pastures (cenchrus ciliaris, panicum max, eragrostis s, chloris roxburghiana, enterephogon macro.), Azolla

3. Lower zone wards – Kiima Kiu Kalanzoni, Makindu, Nguu Masumba, Kalawa, Kikumbulyu South, Kikumbulyu North, Nguumo, Thange, Nzambani Ivingoni, Mavindini, Kathonzweni, Kitise Kithuki, Masongaleni, Mtito Andei
Probable OND 2025 Rainfall amount: 180 - 270 mm

Maize: No variety recommended due to the forecast erratic rainfall for Lower Zone
Beans: No variety recommended due to the forecast erratic rainfall for Lower Zone

Crop	Recommended varieties
Green Grams	BIASHARA, KAREMBO, KS20, N26, NDENGU TOSHA
Cowpeas	K80, M66, KVU419, KVU27-1, Locals (Kangau), Ken Kunde, Kunde Soko, Kunde Mboga
Pigeon peas	ICEAP 00936, ICEAP 00554, ICEAP 01552 (Mpesa), Mituki, Mbaazi 1, Locals
Dolicos Lablab	DL 1002, DL 1009
Sorghum	Ndume, Jasiri, Hummer, Smart Sorghum, Pato 1, Gadam, Serena, Seredo, Kari Mtama 1, Kari
	Mtama 2, Macia, Sila, local varieties
Millets	Pearl Millet varieties PM 1, PM2, PM3
Simsims	White, Brown & Black

Pasture and fodder
Sorghum/millets, Fodder tress – leucaena, Cow peas forage (M66), Dolicos Lablab
Fodder (DL 1002, DL 1009), Range pastures (cenchrus ciliaris, panicum max, eragrostis s, chloris roxburghiana, enterephogon macro.), Azolla

Water Sector

Avoid water wastage, adopt drip as opposed to open canal irrigation, ensure household water treatment before use, intensify water harvesting through farm ponds, roof catchment, pans and dams, harness water from roads to the farms to improve crop production, adopt conservation agriculture, report any breakdowns in water projects promptly for early interventions

Health

Practice preventive health measures to reduce avoidable illnesses (treating water, hand washing, safe food handling), report and seek medical help for any unusual illnesses to the nearest health facility, seek help for mental health (talk to a CHP, health worker or trusted community member if stress feels overwhelming), plan your meals by use of available healthy and nutrient-dense foods for optimal health.

Environment and Forestry

Prepare tree planting sites early, source drought resistant and high value seedlings, develop water conservation structures early such as Cut Off Drains, terraces and meter drains, monitor and control burning during farm preparation, avoid smoking and charcoal burning in the forests, report smoke, fire or suspicious activities forests, practice pruning and thinning of trees to conserve moisture.

Trade, Industry & Finance

diversify income generating activities, sell livestock early, support local saving groups to strengthen community trade and access to finances, support markets functionality, support value chains development.

Transport & Energy

Report damaged infrastructure, work together to share available transport for goods and services delivery, save energy, use solar power

Education

The education sector is expected to experience challenges arising from inadequate water and food supply, alongside increased education costs, which may lead to reduced class attendance, absenteeism, poor performance, low retention, and delayed fees payment.
Recommended interventions: procuring water storage facilities, scaling up feeding programs, sinking boreholes.

Wildlife

Avoid grazing livestock near wildlife corridors, travel in groups while near wildlife corridors, do not harm or kill wildlife, expect more wildlife animals near settlements in search of water, place water at strategic places at household levels (for snake-prone areas), report wildlife conflict incidences promptly to KWS

Be Climate Resilient

Use The Forecast

THANK YOU

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COUNTY DIRECTOR OF METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES – MAKUENI COUNTY