Republic of Kenya   **Republic of Kenya**

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT   **MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

MALARIA EPIDEMIC EARLY WARNING PREDICTION SYSTEM FOR WESTERN KENYA HIGHLANDS FOR FEBRUARY 2026

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Preamble

This report presents the malaria epidemic early prediction model outputs for the Western Highlands of Kenya, covering Kakamega, Kisii, and Nandi, for the period February 2026 to March 2026. The analysis is based on observed climate data (temperature and rainfall) and model simulations that estimate the percentage risk of malaria transmission. Overall, the results indicate **a low risk of 18.2% of Malaria epidemic in Kakamega and No Risk of malaria epidemic across Nandi and Kisii** areas during the forecast period.
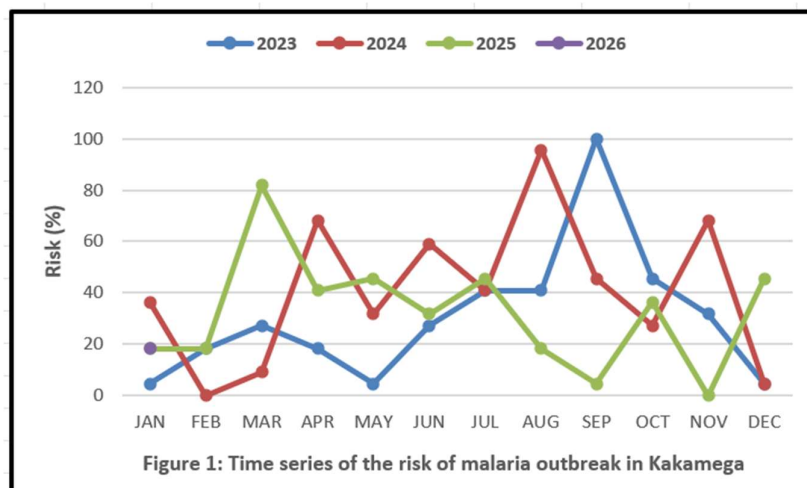
1.   Model Outputs

1.1   Malaria epidemic early prediction system for Kakamega

The observed climate data for January 2026 indicates an increase in the average maximum temperature from 29.3°C in December 2025 to 31.1°C in January 2026. This observation in January 2026 *was positive 2.8 above the long term mean of the month.* Rainfall decreased from 173.7mm in December 2025 to 37.4 mm in January 2026. The additive model percentage risk is **18.2%.**

Box 1:
For Kakamega, the epidemic threshold level is 30%.

Consequently, there is a low risk of Malaria Epidemic in Kakamega in the months of February 2026 and March 2026 (See Figure 1)

Figure 1:

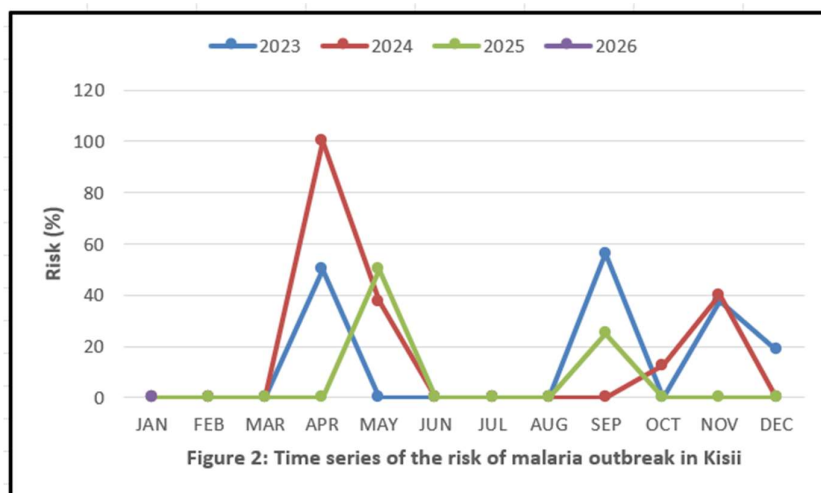Figure 1: Time series of the risk of malaria outbreak in Kakamega

1.2   Malaria epidemic early prediction system for Kisii

The observed climate data for Kisii for January 2026 indicates an increase in average maximum temperature from 26.0°C in December 2025 to 28.1°C in January 2026. This observation in January 2026 was *positive 2.0 above the long term mean of the month.* Rainfall decreased from 117.3mm in December 2025 to 28.4mm in January 2026.

Box 2:
For Kisii, the epidemic threshold level is 20%.

The model output risk is **NIL (0%). Therefore, there is no risk of malaria epidemic in Kisii in the months of February 2026 and March 2026.** (See Figure 2).

Figure 2:

Figure 2: Time series of the risk of malaria outbreak in Kisii

1.3   Malaria epidemic early prediction system for Nandi

The maximum temperature in Nandi indicates an increase from 24.5°C in December 2025 to 26.5°C in January 2026. This observation in January 2026 for Nandi was *positive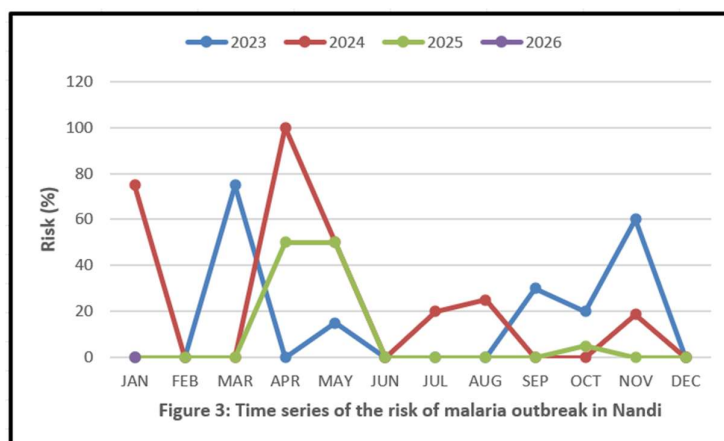 3.2°C above the long term mean of the month.* Cumulative Rainfall decreased from 106.5mm in December, 2025 to 26.7mm in January, 2026.

> **Box 3:**
> **For Nandi, epidemic threshold level is 20%.**

The additive model percentage risk is **NIL (0%). Hence, there is no risk of malaria outbreak in the months of February 2026 and March 2026.** (See Figure 3)

Figure 3:

Figure 3: Time series of the risk of malaria outbreak in Nandi

3. Disclaimer

The information presented in this bulletin is based on predictive models and observed climate data, which are subject to change. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the data, the following should be noted.

Public Health Advisory: This bulletin is intended for informational purposes only. It should not be used as the sole basis for public health decisions. Local health authorities should be consulted for actionable guidance and preventive measures against malaria.

Continuous Monitoring: Malaria transmission dynamics are influenced by numerous factors, including temperature, rainfall, and human behaviour. Continuous monitoring and updates to the predictive models are essential for accurate assessments.

Updates: This bulletin reflects data and predictions as of January 2026. A new update will be issued in the month of March 2026.

For: **Ag DIRECTOR, KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT**