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KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT
KISII COUNTY METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES
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1. MARCH-APRIL-MAY (MAM) 2026, LONG RAINS SEASON.

Summary Outlook for the March-April-May (MAM) 2026 Season

Near-average to slightly above-average rainfall is projected across most parts of **Kisii County** during the MAM 2026 "**Long Rains**" season. The spatial and temporal distribution of precipitation is expected to be fair to good across most regions.

- **Onset:** The seasonal rains are expected to transition seamlessly from February, continuing throughout the MAM period.
- **Cessation:** The season is forecast to conclude (withdraw) during the month of **June 2026**.

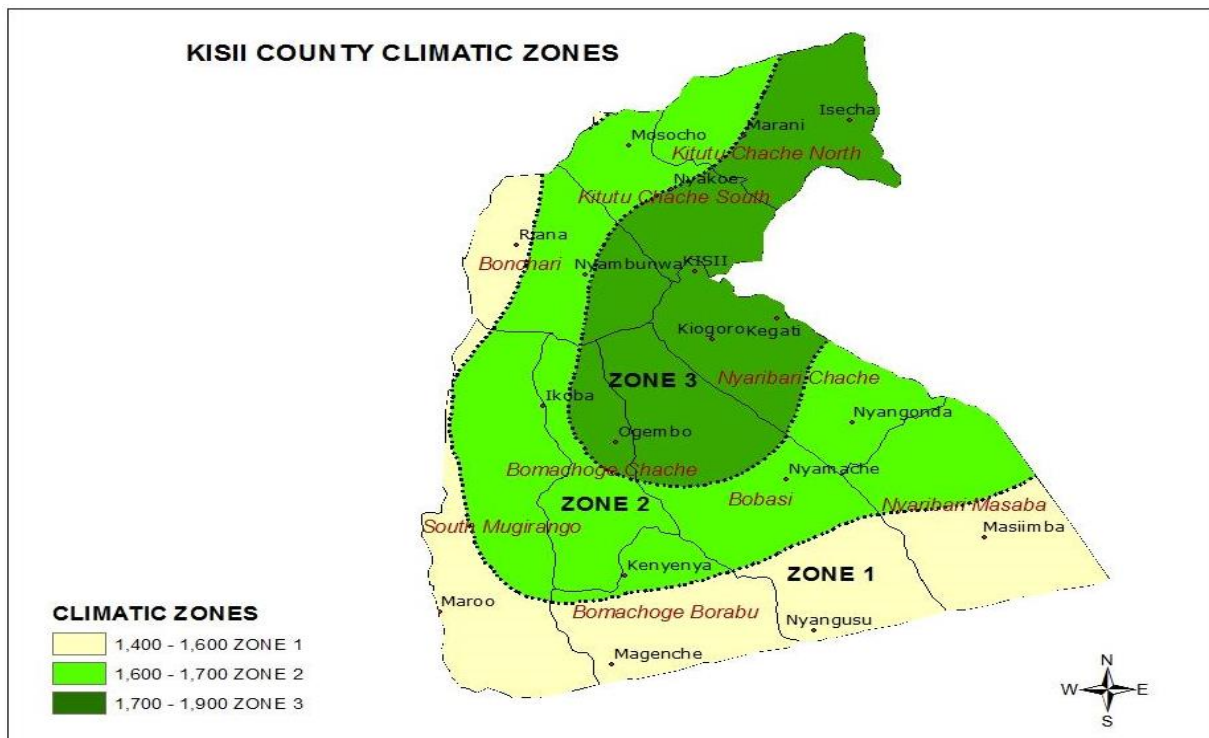
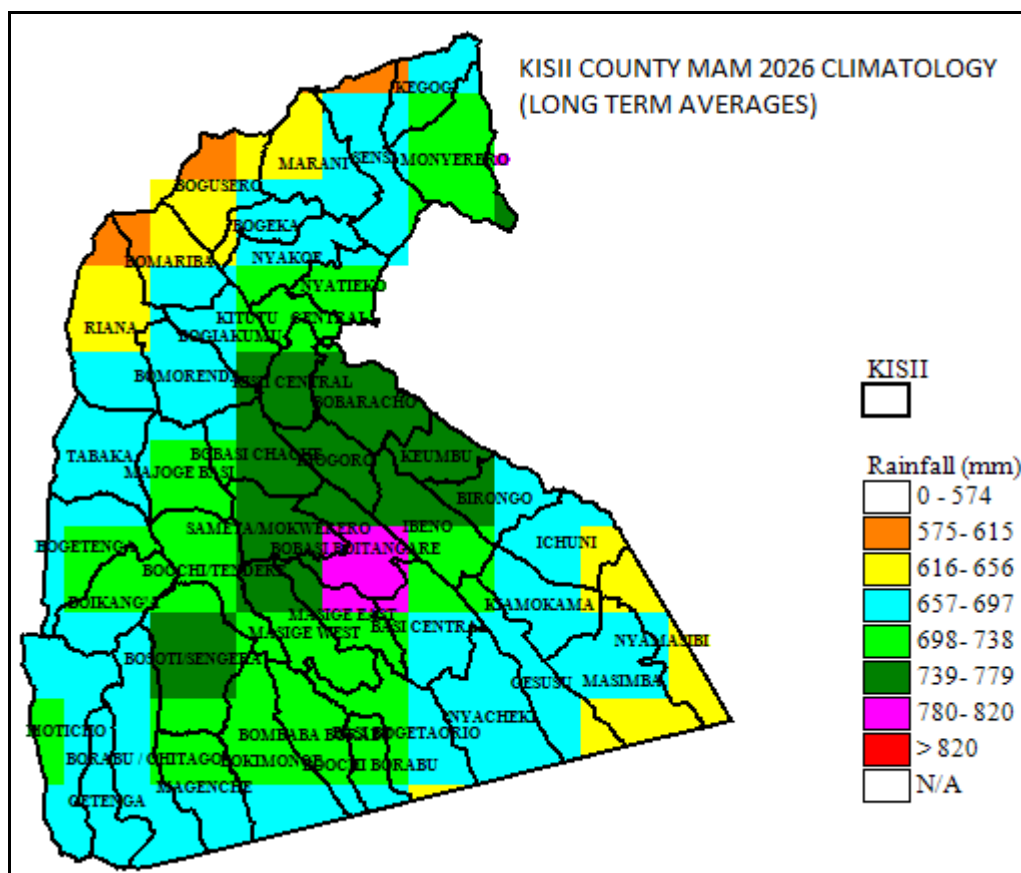


Figure 1: Kisii County climate zones

Summary of Rainfall Zones

As illustrated in **Figure 1**, Kisii County is categorized into three distinct climatic zones based on average annual rainfall distribution:

- **Climatic Zone 1:** Comprises Nyangusu, Magenche, Masimba, Nyachekei, Riana, and Nyamasibi. This zone typically records [1400-1600 mm] annual rainfall totals in the county.
- **Climatic Zone 2:** Consists of Birongo, Mosoch, Nyamache, Nyangonda, Kenyanya, Ikoba, Sengera, Riosiri, Sameta, and Itumbe. This region represents the county's [1600-1700 mm] rainfall belt.
- **Climatic Zone 3:** Encompasses Kegati, Ibeno, Keumbu, Kiogoro, Bobaracho, Kisii Central, Getare, Boitangare, Marani, Ogembo, Isecha, Nyakoe, Nyambunwa, Nyatieko, and Monyerero. This zone is characterized by the [1700-1900 mm] annual rainfall levels.



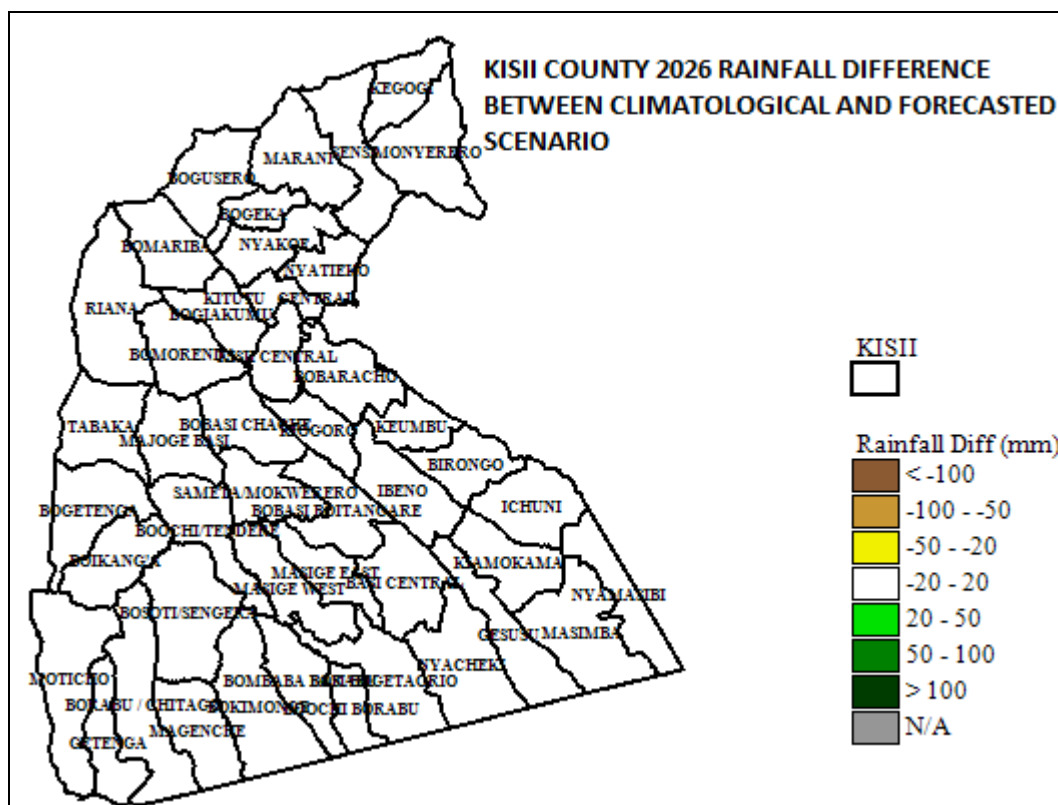


Figure 4: Kisii County rainfall differences between long term (climatology) and the forecasted rainfall amounts for different parts of the County.

As demonstrated by the anomaly map in Figure 4, the differential between the seasonal forecast and the long-term average suggests a trend of near-normal precipitation across the entire county, with a slight inclination toward above-average totals.

Rainfall Performance Classification

Rainfall as % of LTM / Range	Description
< 75%	Below Normal (Depressed) rainfall
75% and 125%	Near normal rainfall
> 125%	Above Normal (Enhanced) rainfall

POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE MAM 2026 LONG RAINS SEASON

With **near-normal to above-normal** rainfall forecasted for Kisii County, various sectors will face a range of both positive and negative impacts. It is essential to implement emergency preparedness measures to mitigate risks while strategically leveraging the opportunities provided by the enhanced precipitation.

1. POULTRY SECTOR (Indigenous Chicken)

- **Potential Hazards:** Increased prevalence of damp-related diseases (Coccidiosis, Fowl Cholera, and Fowl Typhoid); high chick mortality due to cold-induced stress; and infrastructure damage from flash floods and lightning.
- **Risk Zones:** Coops located in low-lying, poorly drained areas and free-ranging birds in open terrain.
- **Opportunities:** Abundant availability of green forage and insects; replenishment of poultry watering points.
- **Advisories:**
 - **Housing:** Ensure coops are waterproof, elevated, and well-ventilated to reduce dampness.
 - **Health:** Administer timely vaccinations and deworming protocols.
 - **Safety:** Confine birds in secure enclosures during heavy storms to prevent loss from lightning and floods.

2. LIVESTOCK SECTOR

- **Potential Hazards:** Upsurge in vector-borne diseases (East Coast Fever, FMD, Lumpy Skin Disease) and internal parasites (worms); livestock drowning in floodplains; and fatal lightning strikes.
- **Risk Zones:** Riverbanks, low-lying grazing lands, and substandard animal shelters.
- **Opportunities:** Significant improvement in pasture and fodder biomass; replenishment of dams and water pans; and enhanced milk production.
- **Advisories:**
 - **Disease Control:** Conduct mass vaccinations and intensify tick control and deworming schedules.

- **Resource Management:** Harvest surplus fodder for hay and silage to ensure food security during future dry spells.
- **Relocation:** Move herds to higher ground and secure shelters before the peak of the rains.

3. CROP SECTOR (Maize, Beans, Bananas)

- **Potential Hazards:** Waterlogging leading to root rot and stunted growth; accelerated soil erosion on Kisii's hilly terrain; and physical damage (lodging) to maize and bananas from hailstorms and high winds.
- **Risk Zones:** Valley bottoms, steep un-terraced slopes, and wind-exposed plantations.
- **Opportunities:** High yield potential due to optimal soil moisture; favorable conditions for high-yielding and early-maturing crop varieties.
- **Advisories:**
 - **Soil Management:** Implement contour farming and maintain terraces to prevent topsoil loss.
 - **Crop Protection:** Use certified, disease-resistant seeds and adopt Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to control blight and fungal infections.
 - **Structural Support:** Support banana stems with sturdy props to prevent toppling during windstorms.

4. HEALTH SECTOR

- **Potential Hazards:** Outbreaks of waterborne diseases (Cholera, Typhoid, Dysentery) and vector-borne illnesses (Malaria); increase in respiratory infections; and injuries from falling trees or lightning.
- **Risk Zones:** Informal settlements with poor sanitation and villages near stagnant water bodies.
- **Advisories:**
 - **Water Safety:** Boil or treat all drinking water.
 - **Prevention:** Distribute and utilize insecticide-treated mosquito nets (ITNs).
 - **Response:** Pre-position emergency medical supplies in high-risk sub-counties.

5. TRANSPORT AND SAFETY

- **Potential Hazards:** Landslides and mudslides blocking transit corridors; submerged bridges; and reduced visibility leading to road accidents, particularly for Boda Boda operators.
- **Risk Zones:** Hilly terrains, unpaved rural roads, and low-lying river crossings.
- **Advisories:**
 - **Public Safety:** Residents must avoid crossing flooded rivers or bridges. Drivers and riders should exercise extreme caution during downpours.
 - **Monitoring:** The Roads Department should conduct structural inspections of critical bridges and provide real-time updates on road closures.

6. ENERGY SECTOR

- **Potential Hazards:** Power outages caused by lightning strikes on transformers; falling trees damaging transmission lines; and the high risk of electrocution from downed cables.
- **Advisories:**
 - ✓ **Infrastructure:** KPLC is encouraged to prune trees near power lines and inspect aging poles.
 - ✓ **Public Awareness:** Residents should stay away from fallen power lines and immediately report outages or hazards to KPLC.

7. WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

- **Potential Hazards:** Contamination of shallow wells by flood runoff; collapse of pit latrines; and heavy siltation of water intake points.
- **Opportunities:** Ideal window for rooftop rainwater harvesting and the replenishment of groundwater aquifers.
- **Advisories:**
 - ✓ **Sanitation:** Utilize elevated pit latrines and secure well covers to prevent inflow of contaminated runoff.
 - ✓ **Harvesting:** Invest in storage tanks to capitalize on the abundant rainfall for domestic and agricultural use.

BY



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