

MARCH TO MAY 2026 SEASONAL FORECAST

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Weather Forecasting Terms

- **Below Normal** → **Below normal rainfall**
(Below 75%)
- **Near Normal** → **Near normal rainfall**
(75 – 125%)
- **Above Normal** → **Above normal rainfall**
(More than 125%)
- **Onset date** → **Onset date** The beginning date of seasonal rainfall
- **Cessation date** → **Cessation date is the expected ending date of seasonal rainfall**

TEMPORARY EARLY-SEASON RAINFALL IN ISIOLO COUNTY LINKED TO MADDEN–JULIAN OSCILLATION (MJO)

- ✓ Isiolo County is experiencing rainfall outside the typical forecasted onset period due to temporarily favourable atmospheric conditions that have enhanced rainfall over parts of the country.
- ✓ The early-season rainfall is linked to increased convective activity associated with the Madden–Julian Oscillation (MJO), a large-scale system that moves across the tropics and influences rainfall patterns.
- ✓ During late February to early March, the MJO has been in a favourable phase, enhancing moisture convergence and upward air movement, which has resulted in intermittent rainfall occurring slightly earlier than expected in Isiolo County.
- ✓ However, this rainfall is temporary. Forecasts indicate that from mid-March, the MJO is likely to shift into a less favourable phase, leading to suppressed convective activity, reduced rainfall amounts, and an increased likelihood of dry spells as seasonal conditions normalize.

WEATHER REVIEW(OND) 2025 “SHORT RAINS” SEASON

- Most parts of the county experienced below normal (depressed) rainfall during the OND 2025 “Short-rains” season.
- Onset was realised in the first week of November in few parts of the county peaking in the second week of November 2025.
- Cessation was realised in the fourth week of November 2025.
- Most parts of the county including Sericho, Chari, Cherab and Garbatulla wards received depressed rainfall, some parts in those regions did not receive any rain
- The distribution was poor both in time and space.

WEATHER REVIEW (OND) 2025 “SHORT RAINS”- RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

Station Name	Oct	Rain Days	Nov	Rain Days	Dec	Rain Days
Isiolo	63.7		91.3		185.0	
Kinna	110.6		43.7		2.5	
Kulamawe	67.1		39.7		13.0	
Olodonyiro	165.8		0	0	79.7	
Tware	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kipsing	4.0		11.1		20.8	0
Garbatula	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sericho	0.0		8.3		6.2	
Gafarsa	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malkagalla	9.4		5.6		0.0	0
Bisan Biliqo	19.5		0	0	6.9	
Merti	-	-	-	-	-	-
Garemara	41.3		34.6		-	

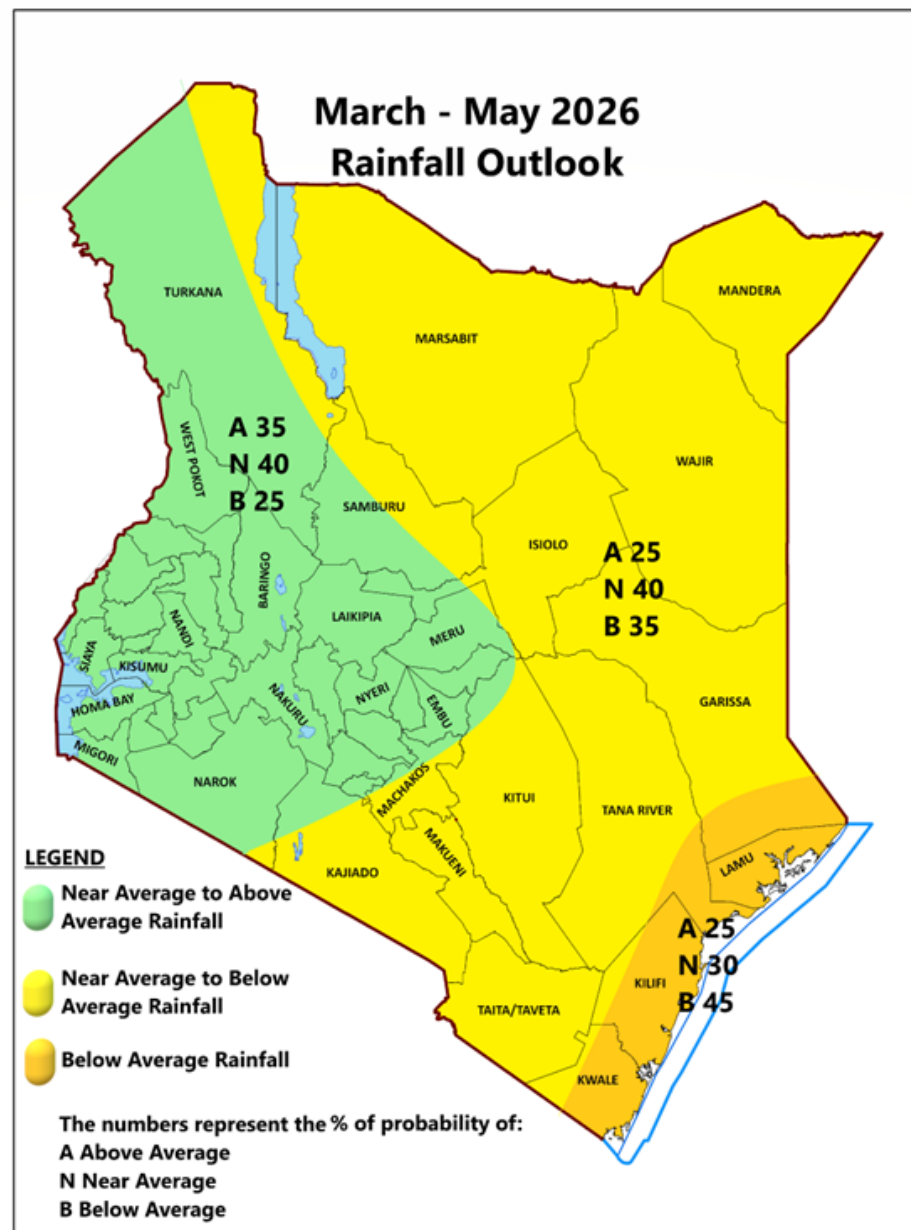
MAM 2026 Outlook

MAM 2026 was based on:

- ❖ Prevailing and the expected evolution of SST Anomalies over the Pacific, Indian and Atlantic Oceans.
- ❖ Synoptic, Mesoscale and local factors that affect the climate of this region.
- ❖ These factors were assessed using ocean-atmosphere models, statistical models, satellite derived information and expert interpretation
- ❖ The predicted onsets, cessations, and distribution of rainfall were derived from 5 Global Climate Model (GCMs) runs as well as statistical analyses of past years which showed similar characteristics to the current year.
- ❖ The analogue (similar) year chosen are 2023.
- ❖ The season is expected to have a late onset over most parts of the county, onset expected to be on the 1st to 2nd week of April but with intermittent rainfall in February and March.

MAM 2026 Rainfall Forecast

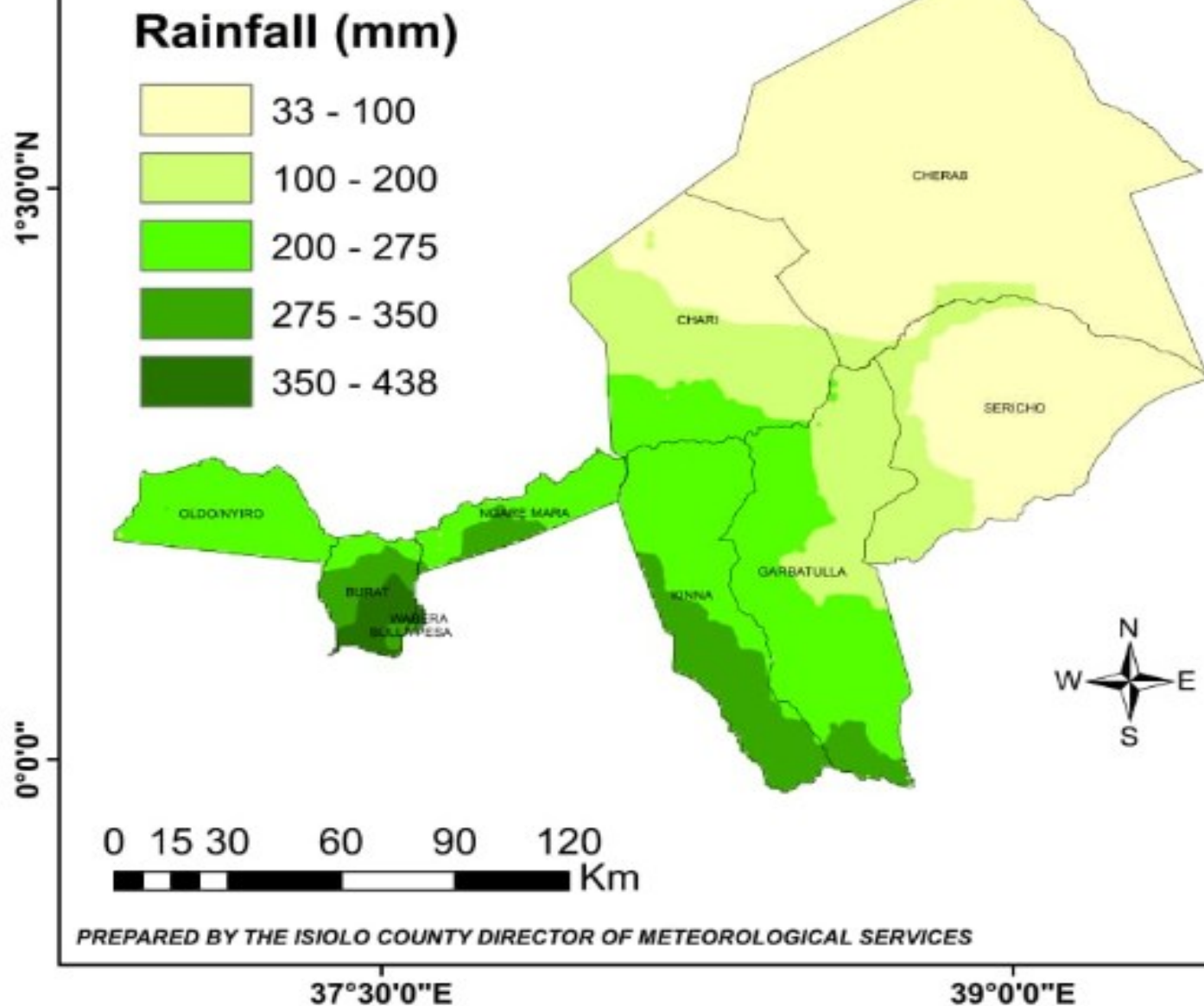
- Near average to above average rainfall is likely to occur in the Central Highlands, the Lake Victoria Basin, the Rift Valley, Western and North-western Kenya.
- Near average to below average rainfall is likely to occur in the South-eastern Lowlands and North-eastern Kenya.
- Below average rainfall is expected in the Coast



ISIOLO COUNTY LONG RAINS SEASON (MAM) 2026 FORECAST SUMMARY

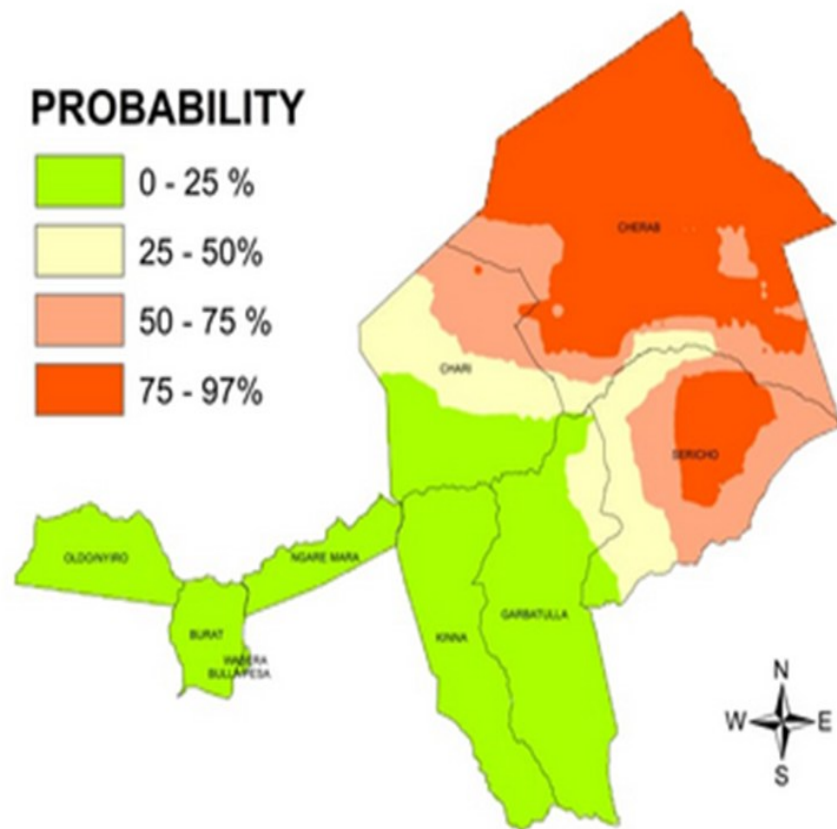
- ❖ The 2026 long rain season (March – May) are likely to be near normal rainfall with a tendency toward below-average amounts(depressed) in most parts of the county with varied levels of impacts in the socio-economic sectors.
- ❖ The onset in Wabera, Bura Pesa, small portions of Burat, Ngare Mara and Kinna is expected to be in the fourth week of March to first week of April 2026.
- ❖ Expected cessation dates are 3rd to 4th week of May 2026.
- ❖ The onset in Oldonyiro, Chari, Cherab, Garba Tulla, Sericho, large portions of Kinna, Burat and Ngare Mara is expected to be in the first to second week of April 2026.
- ❖ Expected cessation dates are first to Second week of May 2026.
- ❖ It is anticipated that most areas will have a relatively fair to poor distribution of rainfall in both time and space.

EXPECTED RAINFALL OVER THE MARCH APRIL MAY 2026 SEASON



PROBABILITY OF RECEIVING LESS THAN 100mm OF RAINFALL DURING THE MAM 2026 SEASON

PROBABILITY

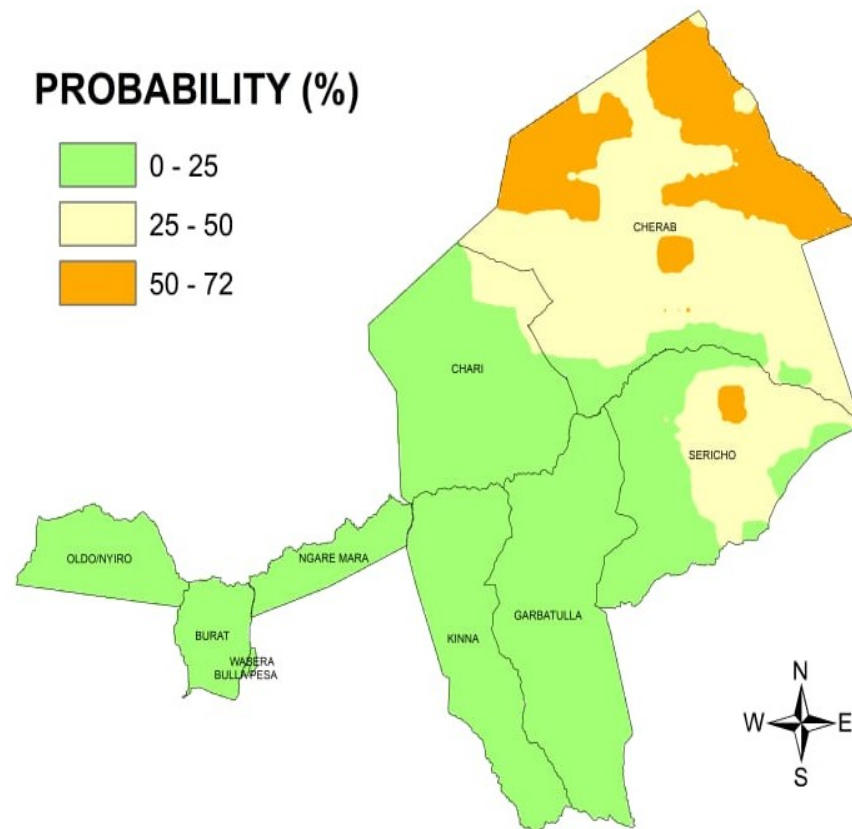
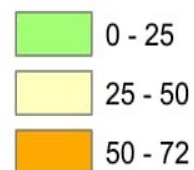


0 15 30 60 90 120 Km

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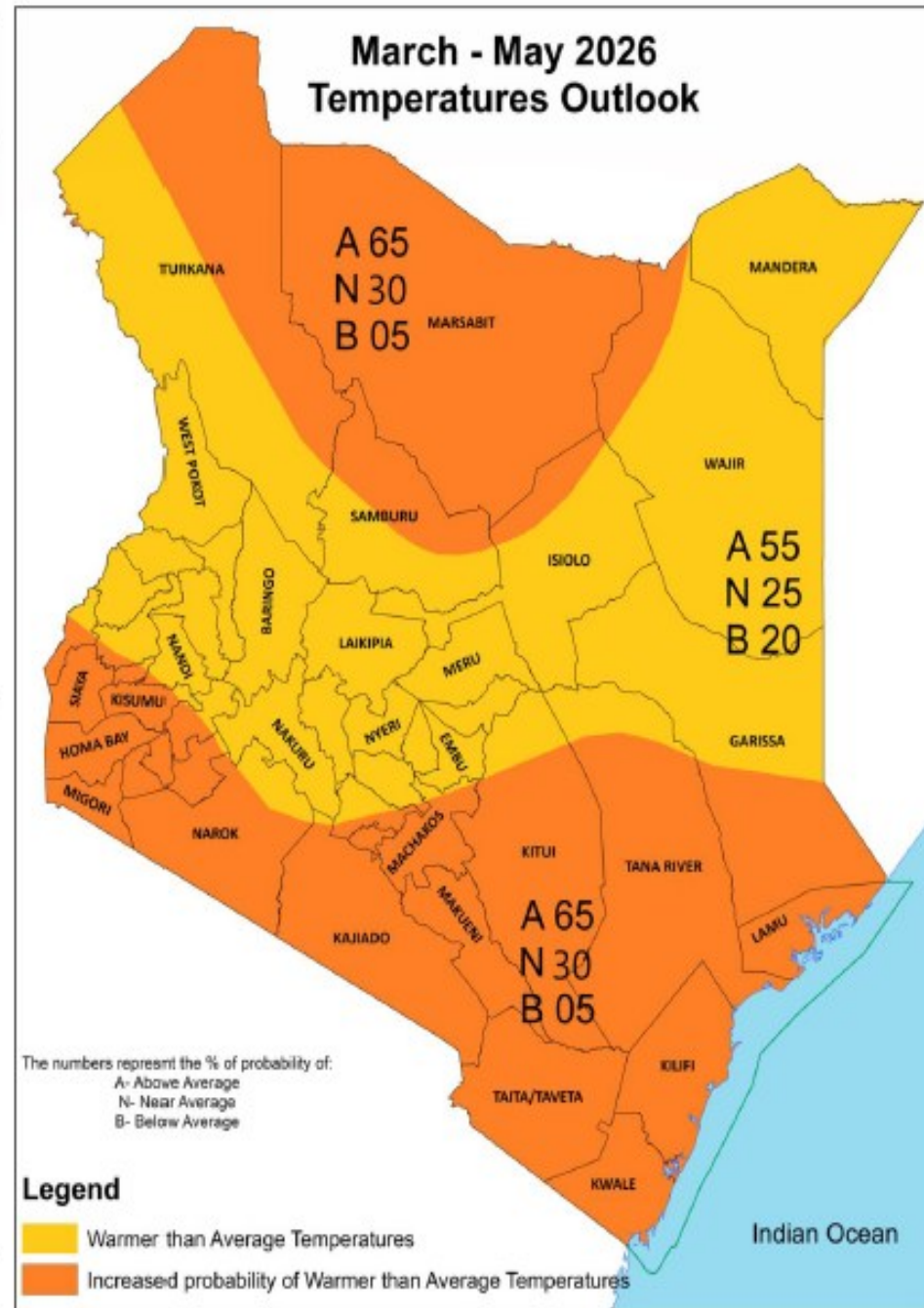
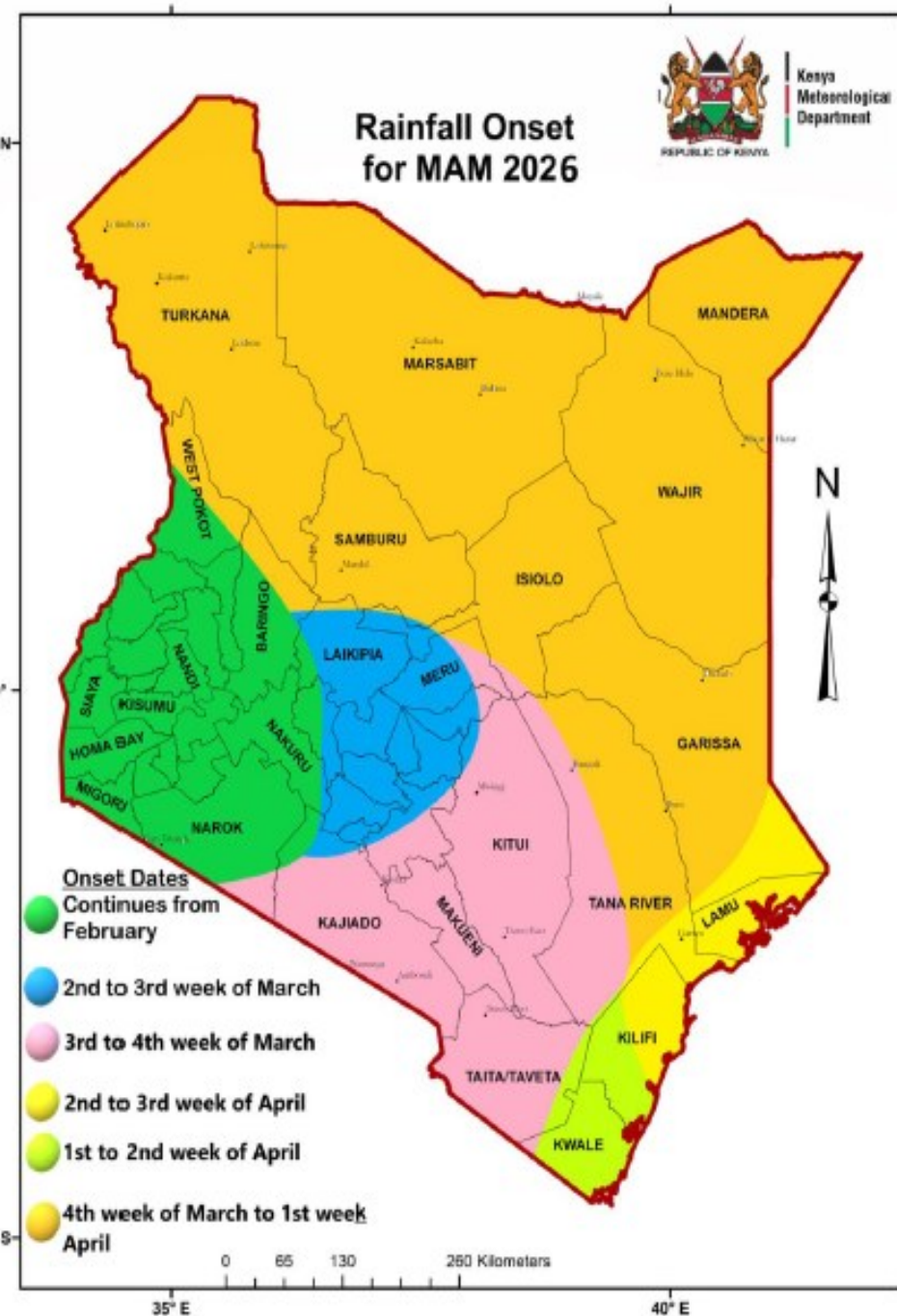
PROBABILITY OF GETTING LESS THAN 50MM DURING THE MARCH TO MAY 2026 RAINS

PROBABILITY (%)



0 15 30 60 90 120 Km

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CONCLUSION

- ✓ The catchments rivers feeding the Ewaso Nyiro river is expected to have increased water flow due to expected near normal rainfall from the said catchment areas in the 2026 MAM rainfall season. The increased Water levels may cause occasional floods in the lower floods' prone areas of the County.
- ✓ During MAM 2026, it is expected that several parts of Isiolo County will experience near normal with a tendence to below normal rainfall. Distribution will be relatively fair to poor both in time and space.
- ✓ Occasional storms are likely to occur over some parts of the county during the season which may cause flash floods.
- ✓ This forecast should be used in conjunction with the five-day, weekly and monthly forecasts including updates issued by Meteorological Department
- ✓ This forecast should be used as a guidance in planning and preparedness by decision-makers and the public and in various climate sensitive sectors.

THE END



THANK YOU ALL.