



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND FORESTRY
KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

BUSIA COUNTY

OCTOBER–NOVEMBER–DECEMBER (OND) 2026
CLIMATE OUTLOOK

Date of Issue: 1st September 2026

1. SUMMARY OF THE RAINFALL OUTLOOK

Rainfall in **Busia County** during the **October–November–December (OND) 2026 rainy season** is expected to be **higher than the long-term average** over the past 30 years. The season is likely to experience an **early onset**, with rains continuing from **late September into October**. They are very likely to extend into **January 2027**.

Rainfall distribution over time is expected to be fair to good. Few or no dry spells are expected in October and November. December may contain some dry spells.

November is expected to be the peak rainfall month.

There is an increased likelihood of **heavy to very heavy rainfall events**. These may result in **flooding in low-lying areas and in valley bottoms where rivers overflow their banks**.

The River Nzoia valley is especially vulnerable to flooding, particularly in the **Budalang'i floodplain** in Bunyala sub-county. **Flooding is also expected in the catchment areas of the rivers Sio, Malaba and Malakisi.**

Lightning strikes, occasional strong winds, and, on rare occasions, hailstorms may accompany some rainfall events.

The rainfall map below 2 (Fig 1) shows the cumulative amount of rain that is forecast to fall in each part of Busia County between the start of October and the end of December. Rainfall amounts are shown in millimetres (mm). Darker shading indicates higher expected rainfall totals.

Rainfall will be heaviest in west-central areas of the county. Many parts of Busia and Teso South sub-counties are expected to receive more than 660 mm. Rainfall will be lightest in the south of Busia County. Most of Bunyala sub-county is forecast to get less than 520 mm.

Compare the expected rainfall amounts shown on this map with the rainfall amounts that are normally received by Busia County during the OND rainy season, shown in Fig 2 on the following page.

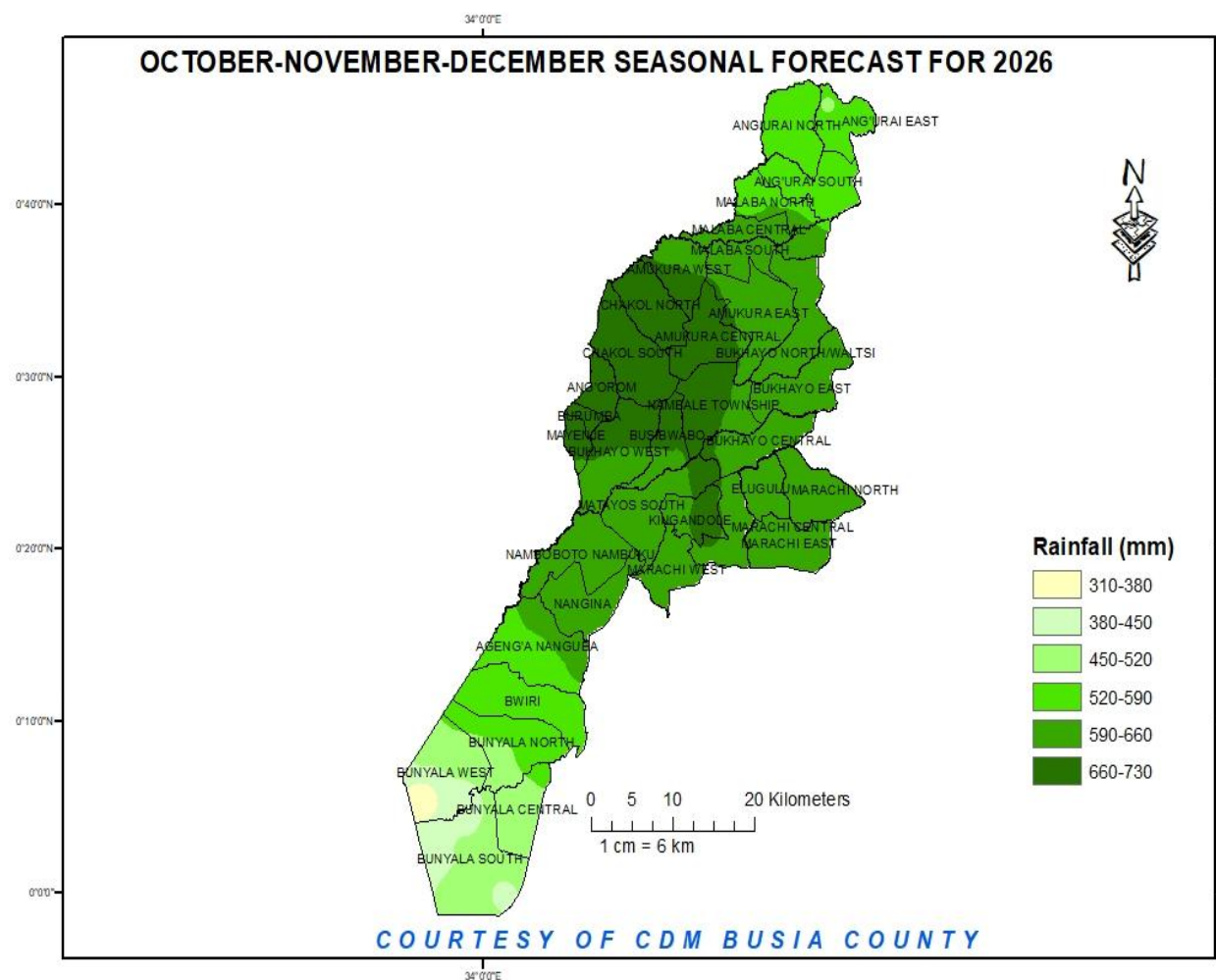


Fig 1. Forecast rainfall in Busia County during the October, November, December 2026 rainy season

The rainfall map below (Fig 2) shows normal rainfall amount received in each part of Busia County during the OND rainy season. Normal rainfall means the average amount received in October, November and December over the last 30 years.

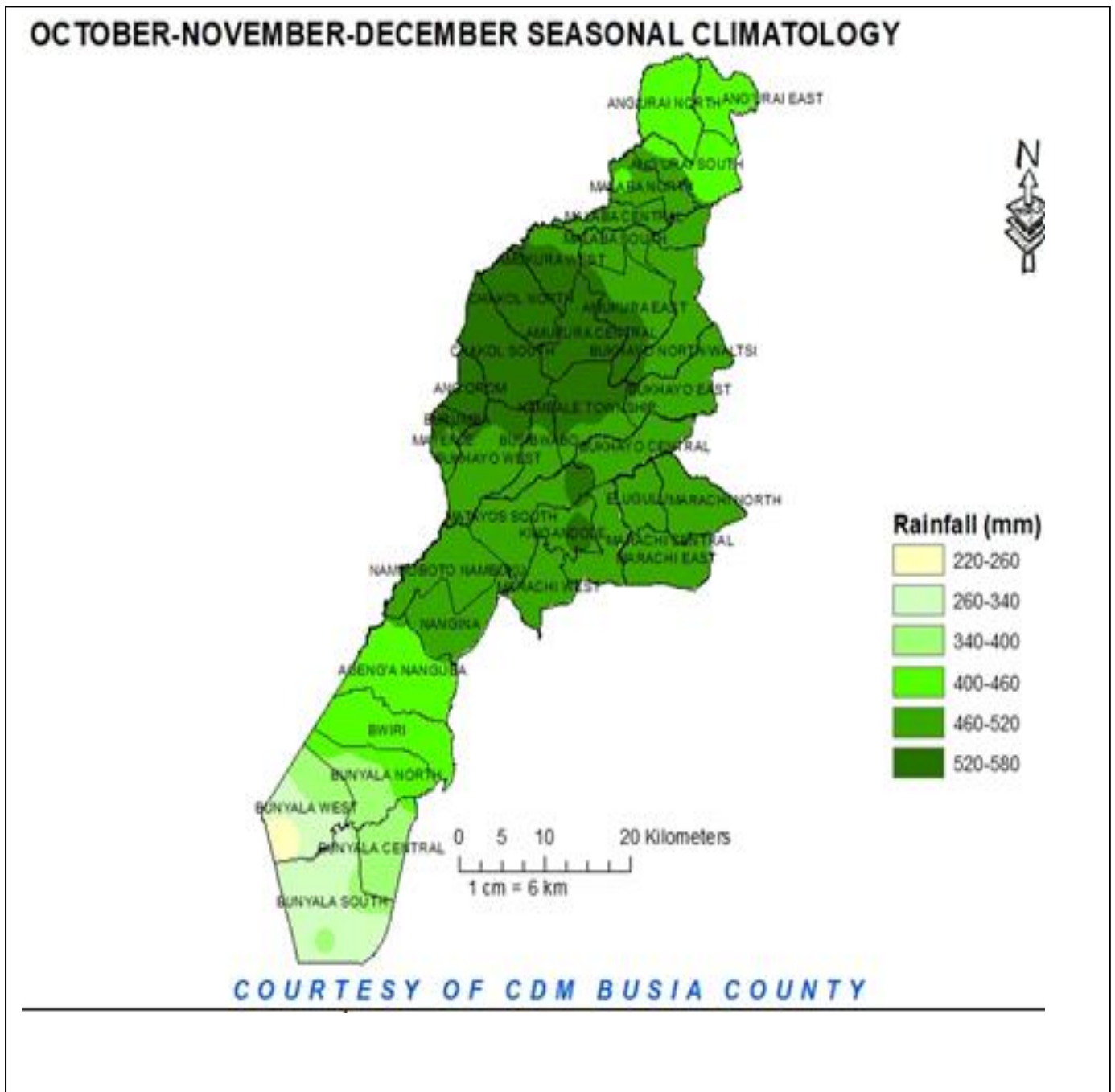


Fig 2. Normal (average) rainfall in mm in Busia County during the October, November, December rainy season – the average amount of rainfall received during this three-month period between 1991 and 2020.

2. RAINFALL OUTLOOK BY CLIMATIC ZONE

This section shows more precisely the rainfall outlook for each of the four climatic zones of Busia County during the 2026 OND rainy season.

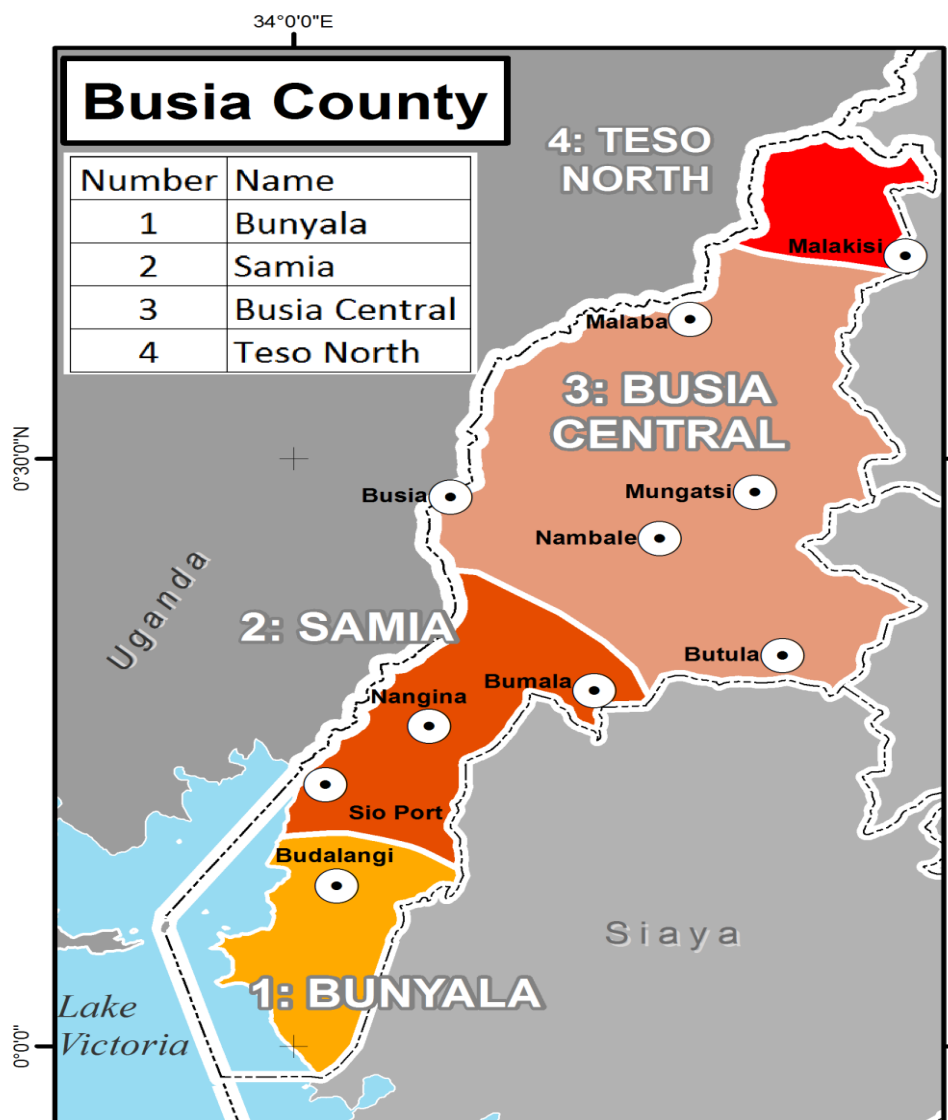


Fig 3. The main climatic zones of Busia County. These are the zones referred to in the local forecasts for each area of the county below.

Zone 1: Bunyala

- **Onset (start) of rains:** Early onset, continuing from late September into October 2026, with minimal dry spells in October.
- **Cessation (end) of rains:** Rains are likely to extend into January 2027.
- **Expected rainfall amount:** 310–500 mm, above the long-term average.
- **Rainfall distribution:** Fair to good distribution.
- **Peak rainfall month:** November

Zone 2: Samia

- **Onset (start) of rains:** Early onset, continuing from late September into October 2026, with minimal dry spells in October.
- **Cessation (end) of rains:** Rains are likely to extend into January 2027.
- **Expected rainfall amount: 500–600 mm**, above the long-term average.
- **Rainfall distribution:** Fair to good distribution.
- **Peak rainfall month:** November

Zone 3: Busia Central

- **Onset (start) of rains:** Early onset, continuing from late September into October 2026, with minimal dry spells in October.
- **Cessation (end) of rains:** Rains are likely to extend into January 2027.
- **Expected rainfall amount: 600–730 mm**, above the 30-year average.
- **Rainfall distribution:** Fair to good distribution.
- **Peak rainfall month:** November

Zone 4: Teso North

- **Onset (start) of rains:** Early onset, continuing from late September into October 2026, with minimal dry spells in October.
- **Cessation (end) of rains:** Rains are likely to extend into January 2027.
- **Expected rainfall amount: 450–600 mm**, above the long-term average.
- **Rainfall distribution:** Fair to good distribution.
- **Peak rainfall month:** November

3. WHAT THE CLIMATE OUTLOOK MEANS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

3.1 Rainfall and Associated Hazards

Most parts of Busia County are likely to experience **above-average rainfall**. During the OND 2026 season:

- The **enhanced rainfall** should allow **a bumper harvest in Busia County** if farmers plant appropriate crop varieties and tend them well and all the rain water is well utilized.
- **Heavy and very heavy rainfall events** may cause:
 - Flooding in low-lying and riverine areas
 - River overflows
 - Soil erosion and crop damage
- **Lightning strikes, occasional strong winds, and some hailstorm events** may pose risks to:

- Human life
- Livestock
- Crops
- Houses, schools, and other infrastructure

Communities are advised to **avoid open fields during the rains, secure rooftops and farm structures, and stay away from swollen rivers.**

3.2 Temperature Outlook

Temperatures during the OND 2026 season are expected to be **warmer than usual**. This may:

- Increase soil moisture loss
- Raise water requirements for crops and livestock
- Cause heat stress (discomfort) to people and animals

4. FLOOD SAFETY ADVICE BY ZONE

Zone 1: Bunyala (River Nzoia – Budalang'i Floodplain)

Heavy rainfall in upstream counties may cause **River Nzoia flooding**. Residents are advised to:

- **Listen daily to local radio**, especially **Bulala FM (107.5 FM)**
- **Consult local WhatsApp groups** for real-time information
- **Subscribe to the Nzoia Flood Early Warning WhatsApp Platform**
 - Send a message to **+254 722 225 268** to join
 - Ensure data bundles are available
- **Maintain close contact with community leaders**, including administrators, chiefs, religious leaders, teachers, and village leaders
- **Attend barazas** and follow guidance from chiefs and assistant chiefs

Zones 2 and 3: Samia and Busia Central

Exercise caution whenever water levels in the rivers rise. **Keep well away from swollen waters** in the **River Sio and its tributaries** to avoid drowning and injuries.

Zone 4: Teso North and parts of Busia Central

Exercise caution whenever the water level in rivers starts to rise. **Keep well**

away from swollen waters in the **Malakisi and Malaba rivers and their tributaries** to remain safe.

*Note: Parts of Busia Central lie within both the **River Sio and Malaba/Malakisi** catchments and both river systems should be monitored.*

5. KEEP UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST WEATHER INFORMATION

Weather forecasts and outlooks are always being updated as new information becomes available. This seasonal outlook should be used **together with KMD's monthly, weekly, 5-day, and daily forecasts**, as well as **ad hoc severe weather warnings** from **KMD** and advice messages from the relevant authorities to support:

- Safe farming decisions
- Travel planning
- Community safety and preparedness

All Climate information stakeholders are encouraged to **share practical, timely advice** to protect lives and livelihoods.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND ADVICE

For sector-specific advice, contact your **Ward or Sub-County, or County Officer** for crops, livestock, health, water, education, or environment.

For weather updates, call **County Director of Meteorology: Mr. Benjamin Bahati** on:

Mobile/WhatsApp: **+254 722 225 268**

or email: **benbahati2005@gmail.com**.

*County Government departments and partner organisations are encouraged to **develop detailed sector-specific advisories** based on this outlook to enhance resilience and climate-informed decision-making.*

NOTE: See annex 1 for selected sector specific advisories