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CLIMATE OUTLOOK FOR THE OCTOBER-NOVEMBER -DECEMBER (OND) 2026 "SHORT RAINS" SEASON

1.HIGHLIGHTS

1.1 Forecast for October-November-December (OND) 2026 "short rains" season

- The seasonal forecast indicates most parts are expected to receive above normal (slightly enhanced) rainfall of between 203-338mm
- The enhanced rainfall has a higher probability of about 50% over our county.
- This will be driven by warmer than average Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, indicating the presence of El Niño conditions.
- The seasonal rainfall distribution is anticipated to be fair to good both in time and space.
- Onset is expected in 2nd to 3rd week of October and the rains continue in to January 2027.

1.2 Weather forecast for September 2026

- Generally sunny and dry weather conditions with occasional rainfall are likely in the fourth week of September over few places.

1.3 Review of rainfall in June-July-August (JJA) 2026

- Most parts of the country received below-average rainfall during the June-July-August 2026 season.
- Most parts of the county experienced sunny and dry weather condition over several places with night time cloudy conditions

1.4 Review of rainfall in March-April-May (MAM) 2026

- Most regions experienced below average rainfall. May Notably, experienced significant sunny and dry spells.
- A few stations in Tana Delta (Garsen) Sub County recorded near average rainfall (between 75 to 125%) of their long-term mean (LTM) for MAM season.
- The temporal and spatial distribution of rainfall was generally poor, in March and April.

KEY SCIENTIFIC WORDS

Rainfall performance	
Rainfall as % of the LTM/Range	**description**
<75%	Below normal (depressed)rainfall
75% and 125%	Near normal rainfall
>125%	Above normal (enhanced) rainfall

Rainfall coverage	
Term	**Meaning**
Most places	Between 66% to 100%
Several places	Between 33% to 66%
Few places	Between 0% to 33%

2.0. TANA RIVER COUNTY SHORT RAINS SEASON.

2.1.1 LONG TERM MEAN RAINFALL DISTRIBUTION

Tana River County has distinct climatic zones receiving different rainfall amounts that determine the livelihoods and the potential risks and hazards. The rainfall amounts range from minimum of less than 76mm in Sala and Garsen south wards to a maximum of greater than 270 mm in parts of Bangale and Hirimani wards in Tana North (Bura) Sub County

The figure1 below shows the long-term rainfall distribution for October to December short rain season in Tana River County.

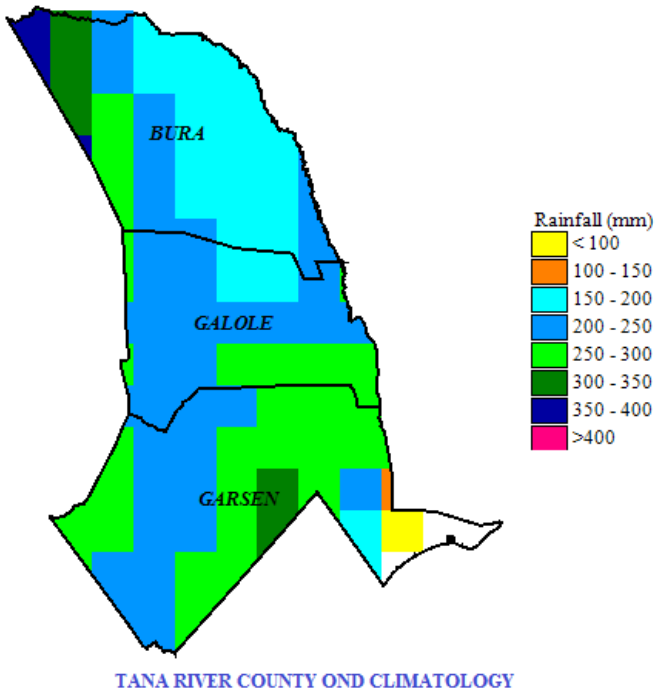


Figure1. October to December long term rainfall average.

2.1.2 FORECAST FOR OCTOBER-NOVEMBER-DECEMBER (OND) 2026 "SHORT RAINS SEASON"

- The "short rains" October-November-December (OND) is a very important season in Tana River County.
- During OND 2026 most parts of the County are expected to receive slightly enhanced rainfall (above normal) that will be fairly well distributed both in time and space.
- The figure two below shows the forecasted rainfall distribution across the Country and county specific.

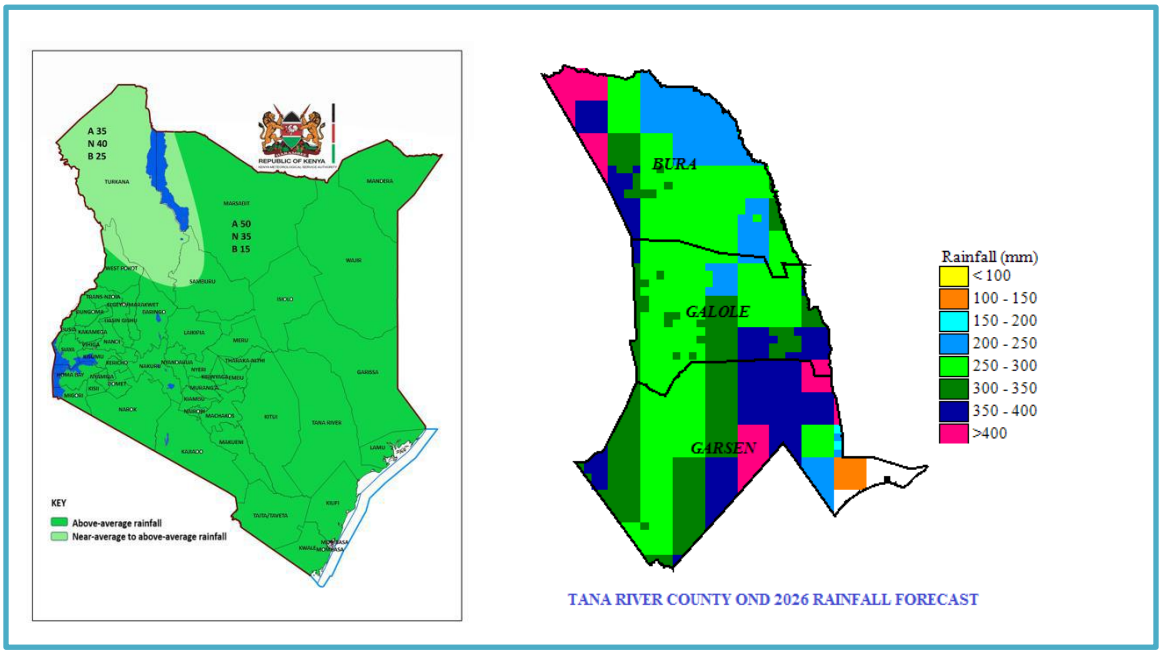


Figure2.October to December 2026 enhanced forecast rainfall scenario

2.1.3 SHORT RAINS SEASON ONSET AND CESSATION DATES

County Tana river	Onset dates	Cessation dates
Galole, Tana Noth, Bangale and Galdiertu	**3rd to 4th week of October**	**Continues in to Jan 2027**
Garsen, Kipini, Tarassaa	**2nd to 3rd week of October**	**1st to 2nd week of December**

2.1.4. STANDARDIZED PRECIPITATION INDEX (SPI) FORECAST

For contextualization of the expected enhanced rainfall with respect to past OND seasons and easy assessment of the expected scenario, the rainfall forecast has been expressed as standard deviations from the mean using the standard precipitation index (SPI). A forecast of SPI indicates the probability of the various parts of the county either sliding into the Alert or the

Alarm worsening phases of the national drought early warning system. The forecast probabilities for the two scenarios are shown below

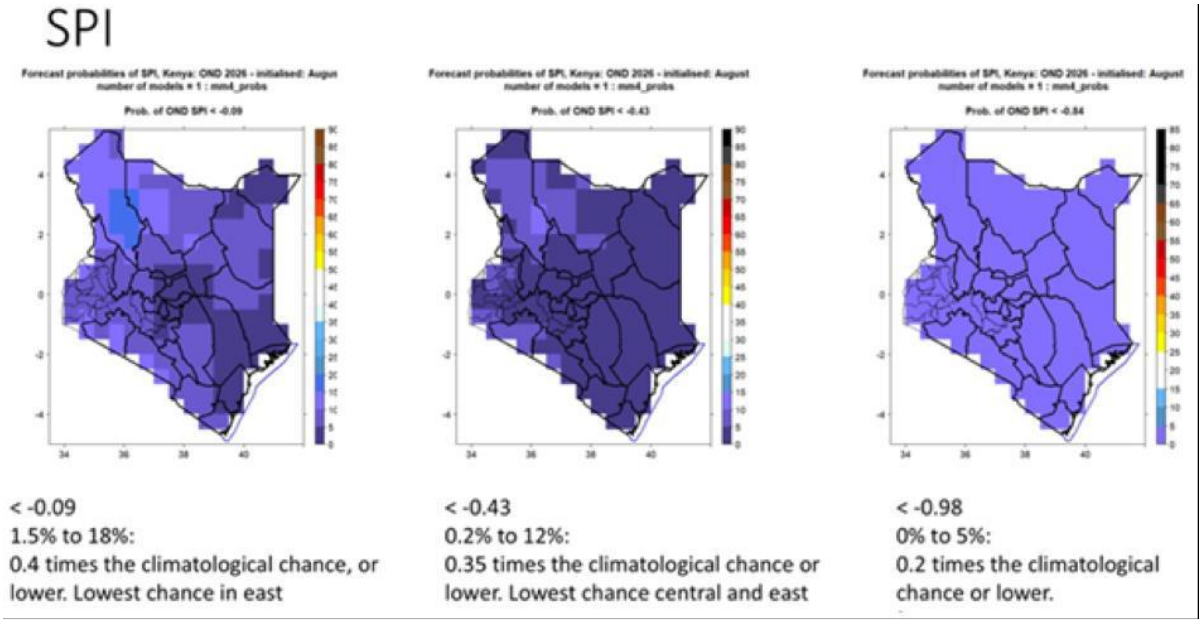


Figure 4: OND 2026 SPI Forecast

The forecast probability of the likelihood of the county getting in to Alarm worse phases is below 05%.

3.0 POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE OND 2023 RAINS

Following the forecast of enhanced rainfall many sectors are likely to be impacted in various ways. With adequate preparation, the county can avoid some of the likely negative impacts while taking full advantage of the positive ones. The most likely impacts are as follows:

3.1. Agriculture, Livestock Development and Food Security Sectors.

Negative impacts

- land degradation due to Water logging, soil erosion and nutrient leaching.
- Crops and livestock pests and diseases are likely to increase due to high humidity and warmer temperatures.
- pre and post harvesting losses due to excess moisture and contamination
- Increased weed proliferation which may increase the cost of farm management

Decrease of farm operations due to Damage to agricultural infrastructure and roads

3.2. Disaster Management Sector

Negative impacts

- Floods and flash floods are likely over several parts of the county. poor urban drainage system could lead to destruction of property, loss of lives and displacement of people.
- Heavy rainfall could lead to river Tana bursting its banks, people to avoid the banks.
- There may be emergence of desert locusts over some parts of the country.

- Disruption of social economic activities such as education, agriculture and supply chain

3.3. Health Sector

Negative Impacts

- Waterborne diseases, such as cholera, are likely to increase as a result of contamination
- Increase in vector-borne diseases such as malaria, Rift Valley fever and dengue fever due to stagnant water.
- Respiratory illnesses such as asthma may increase as a result of prolonged periods of cold weather.
- Mental health issues may arise as a result of displacement and loss/destruction of property.
- Destruction of infrastructure such as roads, bridges and health facilities making it difficult to access health care among the vulnerable.

3.4. Water and Energy Sectors

Negative Impacts:

- Increased siltation and sedimentation in some rivers and dams.
- Pollution and contamination of surface and groundwater.

Destruction of wetlands and swamps

3.5. Environment and Natural Resources Sector

Negative Impacts

- Damage of tree seeds and seedlings.
- Siltation and sedimentation of mangrove degraded areas.
- Increased forest harvesting costs.
- Spread of invasive alien species (IAS) Mathenge

3.6. Transport and public safety sector

The expected enhanced rainfall is likely to lead to muddy conditions on the roads in some parts leading to slippery conditions that may cause some vehicle to veer off the roads and cause accidents.

- *KENHA, KURA and KERRA should consider repairing, repainting and putting road signs on all tarmac roads.*
- *Motorists are advised to drive carefully to avoid accidents that may be a result of slippery conditions.*

NB

This forecast should be used in conjunction with the five-day, weekly, monthly forecast including regular updates, advisories and alerts issued by this office

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Tana river County.