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When Replying please quote reference and date

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Seasonal Weather Forecast for March-April-May 2025
Migori County Agro-Climatic Zones

Fig. 1: Shows the three Agro-Climatic zones of Migori County named as Western, Central, Eastern respectively as 1, 2, 3



No.	Name	Rainfall (mm)
1	Western	954 - 1,258
2	Central	1,258 - 1,562
3	Eastern	1,562 - 1,866

Fig 2: MIGORI COUNTY MARCH-APRIL-MAY LONG TERM AVERAGE RAINFALL VOLUME (MM): This map shows the average rainfall experienced during the same three-month period over 30 years between 1991 and 2020

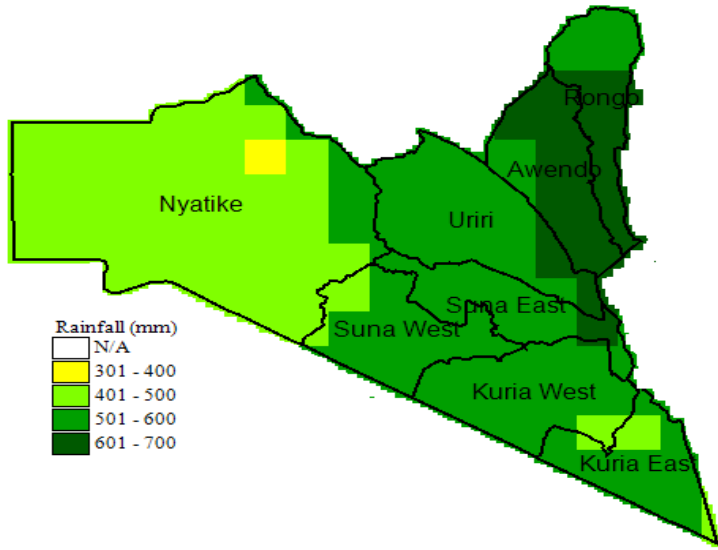
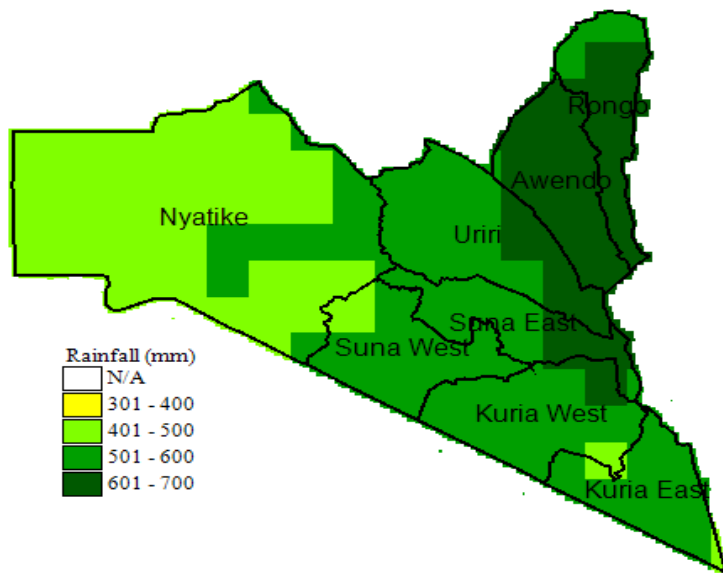


Figure 3: Downscaled Migori Seasonal Rainfall Forecast (March-May 2025): This map shows forecast volumes of Rainfall in (mm) in Migori County during March-April-May (MAM2025) rainy season



Probability of different rainfall scenarios occurring:

Above Normal Rainfall	40 %
Normal Rainfall	35%
Below Normal rainfall	25%

Summary

The County is expected to receive near normal to above normal rainfall in all

the three Agro-Climatic zones i.e, **Western, Central and Eastern (1, 2 and 3)**)

- *Most parts of Western Sector, Nyatike sub county are expected to receive rainfall of between 400mm and 500mm and few areas in this region receiving slightly above 500mm (Figure 2)*
- *Most parts of Central Sector and Eastern sector (Rongo, Awendo, Uriri, Suna East, Suna West, Kuria West and Kuria East Sub Counties) are expected to receive rainfall amounts of between 500mm and 700mm (Figure 3)*

Expected Onset: **From 1st to 2nd Week of March 2025**

Cessation: **Continues in to June 2025**

Probable volume: **Between 400 to over 700 mm Entire County**

Probable distribution of rainfall during the rainy season: **FAIR TO GOOD**

Commentary by County Meteorological Director:

- *The season is likely to receive near normal to above Normal rainfall with FAIR TO Good distribution during the season.*
- *The onset is expected from 1st to 2nd Week of March 2025 and Cessation to continue into June 2025*
- *The rains are likely to be accompanied with lightning and thunderstorms; therefore people should avoid taking shelter under the trees.*
- *Need for early dredging of the trenches, culverts to allow for free flow of rain waters and prevent overflowing waters due to undirected surface runoffs*
- *Water pans and dams to be desilted on time to enable optimal surface runoff harvesting*
- *The Department of agriculture to timely advise farmers on the crops to plant*
- *County Disaster preparedness team to be on the alert for the likely flash floods due to occasional storms*
- *Flooding is expected in some areas like: Uriri, Rongo, Awendo, Suna East & West, Kuria East and West. Konyango, Nyora/Kabuto, Sauriyako villages, Osani, Nyakigo, Nyakore, Ratieny, Tito. Also Lwanda and Onyadhi along the rivers, Kuja, Migori, Miroche and Ongoche*
- *The County government is advised to take appropriate measures as per expected weather forecast*

Review of the Performance of the October-November-December OND (Short Rains) 2024

An analysis of the October-November-December (OND) 2024 seasonal rainfall reveals several stations recorded near average to enhanced rainfall. The onset of the rains was late over several parts of the county with some areas experiencing a false onset that was followed by a dry spell.

The highest seasonal rainfall amounts in the country (805.3mm) were recorded in Miyare rainfall station followed by Ulanda Girls High School AWS with 707.1mm: Other stations that recorded high amounts of rainfall are Nyaroya (694.8mm), Koromangucha (637.5mm), Kanga High AWS (592.9mm, Migori Dept' of Environment (549.8mm).

Figure 4 below shows the distribution of October to December 2024 rainfall over the county.

Figure 4: October to December 2024 Rainfall performance

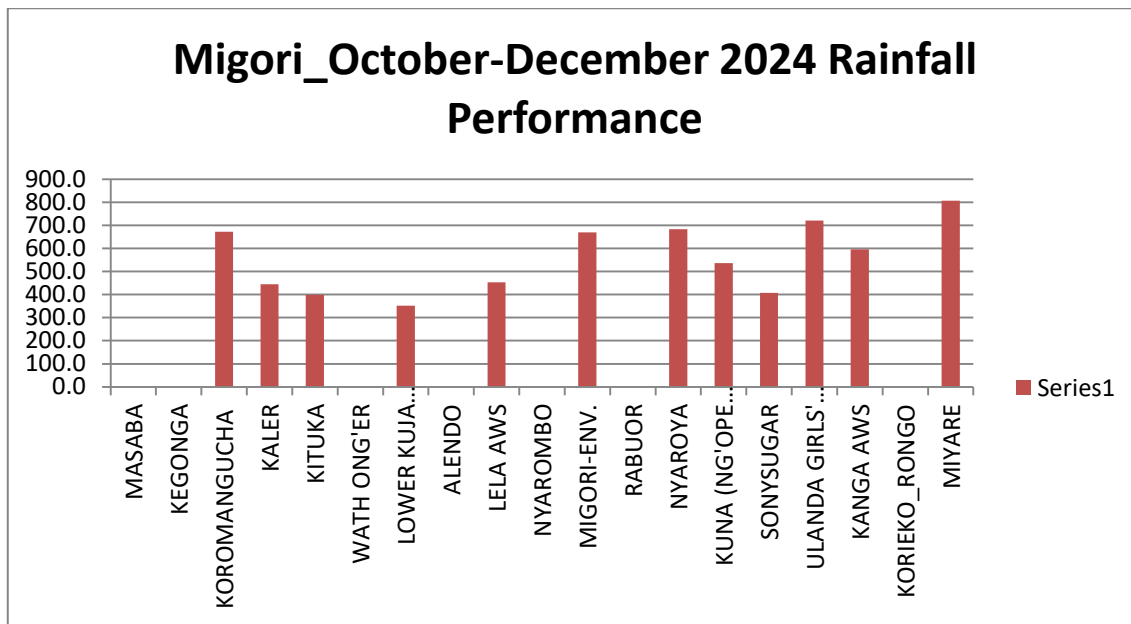
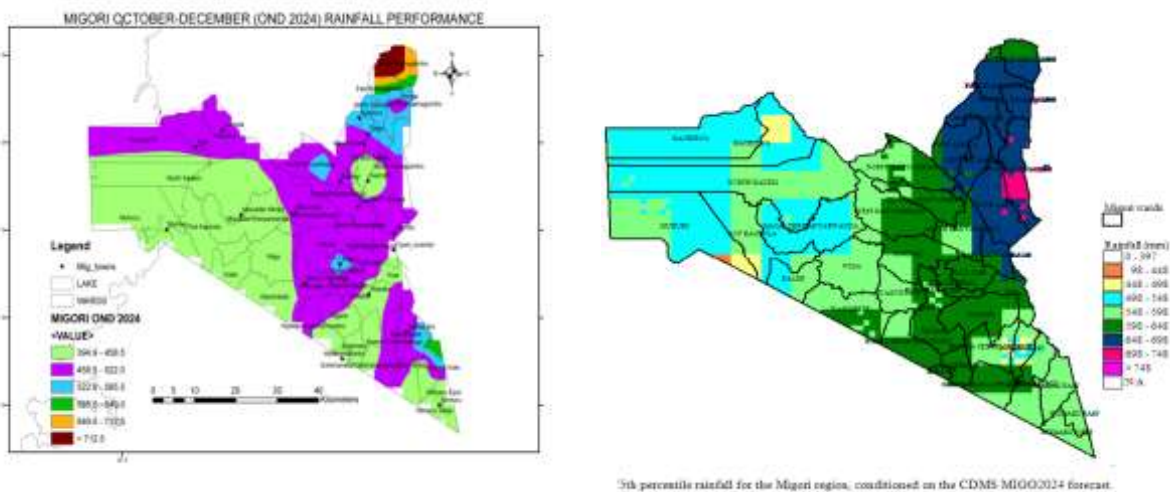


Figure 5 below: shows the spatial map of rainfall performance during October to December 2024 rainfall season versus the forecasted for the same period.



POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE MAM2025 SEASONAL RAINFALL

In view of the forecasted enhanced rainfall, many sectors are likely to be impacted in various ways. With adequate preparations, the County can avoid some of the likely negative impacts while taking full advantage of the positive ones.

AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FOOD SECURITY SECTORS

Positive Impacts

- The rainfall expected over the western sector of the country is likely to enhance agricultural and livestock production, which will in turn lead to enhanced food accessibility and **improvement in nourishment**
- Availability of water for agricultural activities.

Negative Impacts

- Some areas over the county may experience soil erosion, nutrient leaching and degradation due to floods. This may negatively affect crop and pasture growth
- High humidity coupled with warmer temperatures may lead to influx of pests and diseases that may affect crops and livestock over the county
- Pre and Post harvesting losses may be experienced over the county
- There may be proliferation of weed growth as a result of the enhanced rainfall which is likely to increase productions costs over the county

Key mitigation and management strategies

- Prevention and control of disease through routine surveillance, control and prevention
- Restoration and recovery of pasture and rangeland management
- Diversification of agricultural enterprises
- Capacity building for farmers on coping technologies, innovations and management practices through agricultural extension services
- Provision of insurance packages for crops and livestock (such as Index based livestock and crop insurance) to cushion farmers against adverse weather
- Adopting climate smart technologies such as minimal tillage and grazing management
- Promotion of early maturing, drought tolerant and adaptive fodder, pasture and crops

Disaster Management Sector

Areas expected to receive near to above average rainfall

- Flooding is likely especially over parts of Nyatike and Uriri sub counties
- Mudslides may be experienced over some areas
- Floods may lead to displacement of some communities
- There may be an increase in Gender Based Violence (GBV) cases

Key mitigation and management strategies

- Dissemination of early warning and advisories to all, especially the most vulnerable
- Mapping of hotspot areas and risk assessment for floods
- Strengthening mechanisms for coordination, partnership and collaboration among all sectors

Transport and Public

Safety Positive impacts

- Minimal disruption to transport systems
- The environment is likely to be favorable for implementation, construction of infrastructure
- Increased transport demand from increased food productivity

Negative impacts

Flash floods may still occur the county. This might cause:

- Disruption of road transport
- Reduced visibility from heavy storms

Key mitigation and management strategies

- Unblocking and desilting existing drainage structures
- Repair and restoration of damaged infrastructure
- Proper road marking and signage
- Regular weather updates
- Sensitization of motorists not to overspeed
- Frequent watering of earth and gravel roads to abate dust

Water Resources Management

Sector Positive Impacts

- Increased inflows into water reservoirs in areas expected to receive near to above average rainfall
- Improved aquifer recharge in areas expected to receive near to above average rainfall
- Availability of water in areas expected to receive near to above average rainfall

Negative Impacts

- Floods over the Lake basin may destroy water infrastructure and lead to pipeline leakages. This may in turn lead to increased maintenance costs

Key mitigation and management strategies

- Mapping of available water sources
- Encourage water harvesting
- Public awareness on water conservation, water abstraction surveys and enforcement of water allocation plans
- Enhanced monitoring and early warning
- Mapping of flood risk areas

Health

Sector Positive

Impacts:

- Reduced malnutrition cases due to improved food availability
- Increased water availability, leading to a reduction in WASH-related diseases

Negative Impacts:

- Flooding may result in increased deaths and water contamination, causing outbreaks of waterborne diseases such as cholera, typhoid, and bilharzia
- Flooding may also lead to vector-borne diseases like malaria, dengue fever, and Rift Valley fever
- Health systems may face stress due to submerged facilities, impassable roads, and shortages of drugs, affecting vulnerable groups like pregnant women, under-fives, and patients on routine medication
- Malnutrition may increase among under-fives, pregnant women, and lactating mothers
- Mental health stress may rise due to the compounded effects of flooding

Key Mitigation and Management Strategies:

- For vector-borne diseases, implement proper waste disposal, unclog drainage systems, conduct indoor residual spraying, and distribute LLITNs, malaria drugs, and testing kits
- For waterborne diseases, intensify hygiene promotion, distribute WASH commodities, separate animal and human water points, and conduct water sampling and testing
- To address malnutrition, stockpile nutrition commodities, set up screening centers, and provide nutrition counseling and education
- To reduce health system stress, stockpile drugs, organize mobile medical camps, and strengthen real-time disease surveillance systems
- For heat stress, develop climate-smart cooling systems and sensitize communities on rehydration and heat stress management
- To address mental health, establish psychosocial support programs and provide mental health services for high-risk communities

Environment and Forestry Sectors

Positive Impacts

- Enhanced business opportunities for establishment of tree nurseries to raise stock for tree growing
- Widespread afforestation, reforestation and restoration opportunities
- Improved food security through plantation establishment and livelihood improvement scheme (PELIS), Seedlings and Tree nursery establishment
- Increased forest biodiversity

Negative Impacts

- Mudslides may be experienced over the county
- There may be an increase in the spread of invasive alien species
- Increased forest fires and biodiversity loss especially in the ASAL areas

Key mitigation and management strategies

- Create awareness and community engagement on tree growing
- Enhance forest health monitoring and reporting
- Enhance fire management practices including community education and awareness
- Mapping of hotspots of forest fires
- Provide watering points for wild animals

Macroeconomy

sector Positive

Impacts:

- Increased food production county due to near-average to above-average rainfall
- Stabilization of food prices and support for household incomes in regions with favorable rainfall conditions
- Surplus food production from 2024 expected to provide short-term food security, cushioning the impact of below-normal rainfall in other areas

Key Mitigation and Management Strategies:

- Leverage surplus food production from 2024 to boost food supply in the near term
- Government interventions, including increased spending on mitigation measures
- Increased monitoring and surveillance of weather conditions by key stakeholders to enable early mitigation efforts

Media

The media holds a critical role in safeguarding public preparedness during the March-April-May (MAM) 2025 season. Media organizations are urged to proactively procure, track, and promptly disseminate forecasts and cautionary details as they emerge, ensuring timely access to vital information for the populace. To enhance the reliability and relevance of weather advisories, collaboration with experts—such as meteorologists, government officials, and disaster management specialists—is essential during the formulation, production, and distribution of these alerts. This ensures the content is both scientifically accurate and actionable for end-users. Additionally, adopting plain language in communication is strongly advocated to bridge the gap between technical forecasts and public understanding, enabling communities to grasp risks and respond effectively. By prioritizing clarity, accuracy, and accessibility, the media helps families and communities stay safe, make informed choices, and support one another through the challenges of the MAM 2025 season.

NB: This forecast should be used with daily, weekly and monthly forecasts issued by this Department

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