

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND FORESTRY

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT WEST POKOT COUNTY METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES OFFICE

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MARCH-APRIL-MAY 2025 INTEGRATED 'LONG RAINS' SEASONAL WEATHER OUTLOOK:

1.0 Seasonal Rainfall outlook for March-April-May (MAM), 2025

The long rains constitute an important season for crop farmers and livestock keepers who depends very much on rain-fed agriculture and animals respectively. Majority of farmers grow different varieties of crops and pastures for their livestock's during this season. Therefore, this season is important across all livelihoods and thus it means its performance will determine the food security in the county.

Several places in the highlands are likely to *Rainfall that is above its long term average*. *However, the lowlands may receive near to below average rainfall. The onsets are likely to be late in the lowlands and normal in the highlands*. The distribution of rainfall both time and space are expected to be poor to fair as the season progresses to May. The peak of the rains is expected to be in April over most places. Cessation of the rains to continue into June 2025. On temperature outlook, the county is likely to experience warmer than average conditions with increased probabilities in the lowlands.

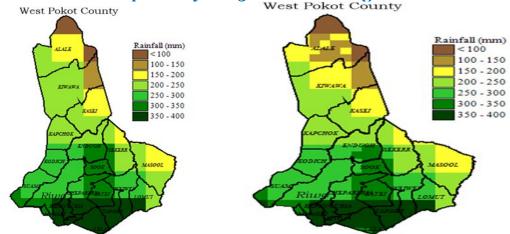
1.1 Convergence of Indigenous Traditional Knowledge (ITK) versus Conventional Forecast

- Onset of rains are similar 3rd week of March and to 02nd week of April 2025
- Generally poor rainfall performance is anticipated (drought to continue in some areas of lower Pokot Central and North).
- Floods are anticipated in rivers such as Muruny river, Wei-wei and Kanyang'areng
- Winds are currently blowing from North to South and thus dry winds, once it chances direction from East to West, then we may receive rains.
- On Security, the ITK foresaw a situation where there is relatively calm situation with our neighbors. He said peace keepers to continue with peace initiatives
- Rainfall peak is in April over most places

Similarities of the two weather forecasts

Rainfall Event		Scientific Forecasts	
Onsets	Mid-March to mid-April	03 rd week of march to 01 st	
	_	week of April	
Distributions	Good in the highlands and poor in	Poor to fair as the season	
	the lowlands	progresses	
Cessations	Rainfall is likely to continue until	Rainfall to continue into June	
	next season(June-July-August)	2025	
Peace& security	Calm situation with our neighbors	No forecast on this	

Find below March-April-May 2025 rainfall average and Seasonal Forecast



March-April-May 2025 Rainfall Long Term Average

March-April-May 2025 Rainfall Forecast

Figure 1a: March-April-May 2025 rainfall LTM. Figure 1b: March-April-March 2025 Seasonal Rainfall Forecast

Analysis of MAM 2025 Forecast as per the above figures (specific areas):

Region(wards)	Rainfall Regime expected	
Siyoi, Lelan, Batei, Tapach, upper Chepareria, upper Sook, upper Sekerr,	300-400mm	
Kapenguria, Mnagei, upper Riwo, upper Suam, Upper Endugh, upper		
Lomut and upper Weiwei, Chepareria-Above its LTM-Enhanced Rainfall		
Lower Riwo, lower Suam, lower Chepareria, Lower Lomut, Lower	250-300mm	
Weiwei, Western sides of Masol, Western Sekerr, Southern Endugh,		
Kodich, Southern sides of Kapchok-Below normal rains		
Northern-Eastern sides of Masol, N.E Sekerr, kapchok, Kiwawa, Alale,	>100-250mm	
Kasei -Below normal rains		

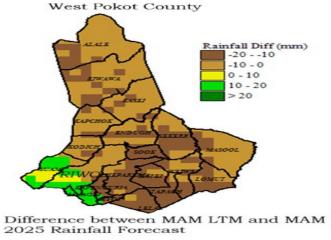


Figure 1c: The difference between climatology and forecast for MAM 2025

Analysis: Most places of the county is indicating a negative rainfall in the range -10mm-0mm. Only a small portion at upper Suam, upper Riwo, some parts of Mnagei, upper Kapenguria and some parts of Siyoi may experience an increase in rain fall in the range 0-20mm in the entire season.

2.0 Onset, Distribution and Cessations

Table1: Onsets, Cessations and Distributions of MAM 2025

3.0 Potential Impacts for the season MAM 2025

S/NO	Region	Onset dates	Distributions	Cessations
1	South_East (Riwo, Suam, Kodich, Mnagei,	Normal onsets 03 rd to 04 th week of March with occasional breaks (dry spells)	Poor to fair as the season progresses.	Rainfall likely continue into June, 2025
2	Kasei, Masol, lower Lomut,	Occasional rainfall in March and onsets in 04 th week of March to 01 st week of April.	Poor	undefined

3.1 Agriculture, Food Security and Livestock Sectors

• Enhanced rainfall anticipated in the highlands and transitional zones of this county may lead to good agricultural activities and therefore farmers are advised to maximize and practice climate smart agriculture. The rains may lead to good pasture and fodder growth and availability of water for livestock as well. Seek advice from the experts to sustain your livelihoods throughout the season.

3.2 Disaster Management Unit

Episodes of heavy rains/storms may lead to climate risks such as lightning strikes, floods and flash-floods, landslides, mudslides/rock fall. So those residing in the hot spots areas (associated hot spots) are encouraged to be vigilant or relocate to safer grounds. Continued sensitizations and awareness creation is highly encouraged.

- Episodes of Flash Floods/floods; (Kongelai, Konyao, Kanganyangar basin, Sigor, Lomut, chepareria and Sebit environs). Clear drainage systems beforehand.
- Landslides, Rock falls and lightning strikes; (Cheptulel, Chesesgon, Muino, Tapach, Sekerr, Ortum environs, Lelan-imonpoghet and upper Chepareria)

Meteorological Advisories:

- Take caution and don't cross swollen rivers or walk in swampy areas.
- Stakeholders to enhance sensitizations and awareness creation
- Enhance county preparedness/response in case of disasters

3.3 Transport and Public Safety

- Episodes of heavy storms may destroy bridges/roads that may lead to transport challenges
- Slippery roads may pause danger to motorists and pedestrians and therefore drive safely i.e with extra caution.

3.4 Water Resources Management Sector

- Water recharge in all water sources are likely to improve
- Practice rain water harvesting to boost domestic water supply and for small irrigation

3.5 Health Sector

- Malaria cases are likely to emerge due to stagnant pools of rainy waters as breeding grounds, therefore sleep within the confines of mosquitos nets.
- Malnutrition cases are likely to increase where depressed rainfall are anticipated. Health authorities are advised to equip hospitals with necessary drugs to be able to deal with situations as they arise on various opportunistic diseases.

3.6 Environment

The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry should encourage residents to put in place soil conservation measures to minimize environmental degradation due to soil erosion. People should also be encouraged to continue growing more indigenous and fruit trees in order to increase forest cover (15 billion trees in order to meet presidential target by 2032) and take conservation measures seriously.

3.7. Energy

The Turkwel Hydro-power catchments areas are expected to experience significant rainfall and thus significant water inflows-floods.

N/B: This forecast shall be used with other weather updates such as weekly and monthly weather outlooks.

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