

# Signal → State

Kenya's short rains:  
the forecast is only the first decision

|                      |                             |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>RECORD</b>        | <b>KE-OND-2026-001</b>      |
| <b>STATE</b>         | <b>Decision window open</b> |
| <b>LAST REVIEWED</b> | <b>12 September 2026</b>    |
| <b>REVISION</b>      | <b>1.4</b>                  |

A source-linked record of what follows an authoritative climate signal: responsibility, finance, execution, public consequence and the evidence still absent.

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CURRENT DECISION BRIEF

# The seven facts a reader should establish first.

ACTIVE SIGNAL

## Kenya - October-December 2026 short rains

ICPAC places north-eastern Kenya within a 90% likelihood zone for enhanced rainfall. Kenya's national outlook continues to favour wetter-than-normal conditions across much of the country.

LATEST REVIEW

### Regional decision window fixed for 15-17 September

ICPAC has scheduled a Horn of Africa ministerial preparedness forum.

NEXT DECISION

### Test the forum outputs for actions, finance and deadlines

The announced Call to Action and technical report are not yet verified outputs.

RESPONSIBLE NOW

### IGAD and ICPAC hold the regional convening step

Kenyan implementation duties remain national and subnational.

VERIFIED ACTION

### Two downstream planning actions

Finance, procurement, stock mobilisation and field delivery remain open.

EVIDENCE OPEN

### Forum outputs, plans, assignments, money and delivery

Submissions must be public, dated and source-verifiable.

FOLLOW OR CONTRIBUTE

### RSS, low-data, WhatsApp and evidence submission

The public record changes only after review.

DECISION TRACE

# Six tests from signal to public outcome.

A status records the maturity of evidence at each stage. It does not grade institutional performance.

|                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div><div>T0 SIGNAL</div><div>Verified</div><div>ICPAC now places north-eastern Kenya within a 90% enhanced-rainfall likelihood zone.</div></div>                    | <div><div>T1 TRIGGER</div><div>Verified</div><div>The national health contingency plan has been activated; its threshold remains unpublished.</div></div>           |
| <div><div>T2 AUTHORITY</div><div>Mapped</div><div>IGAD and ICPAC now hold a dated regional convening step; Kenyan implementation duties remain separate.</div></div> | <div><div>T3 COMMITMENT</div><div>Verified</div><div>Two Kenyan planning actions are verified; the scheduled forum proves no new commitment or finance.</div></div> |
| <div><div>T4 EXECUTION</div><div>Open Evidence</div><div>No downstream preparedness or service action has entered the record.</div></div>                            | <div><div>T5 OUTCOME</div><div>Not Yet Assessable</div><div>The seasonal decision window precedes the outcome period.</div></div>                                   |

TO - SIGNAL

# What authoritative information was issued?

Publication date and forecast validity are kept separate. A weekly forecast is not treated as a seasonal conclusion. Greater Horn evidence enters this Kenyan record only when it materially informs Kenya or a cross-border consequence.

REGIONAL DECISION WINDOW

ICPAC - High-Level Ministerial Forum

Scheduled 15-17 September 2026

The forum will consider regional preparedness actions and anticipatory finance. Its intended outputs are not yet treated as endorsed or published.

REGIONAL SEASONAL

ICPAC - GHACOF 74

Issued 18 August; valid October-December 2026

Wetter-than-normal conditions are favoured across much of the equatorial and southern Greater Horn, including Kenya.

DECISION GUIDANCE

ICPAC - Summary for Decision Makers

Published 10 September; valid October-December 2026

A 90% chance of enhanced rainfall is assigned to north-eastern Kenya, with advisories across eight public systems.

NATIONAL SEASONAL

Kenya Meteorological Department

Issued 31 August; valid October-December 2026

Above-average rainfall is expected across most counties, with heavy-rainfall risk and opportunities for recharge, pasture and production.

REGIONAL WEEKLY

ICPAC weekly forecast

Valid 8-15 September 2026

Light rainfall in central-western and coastal Kenya; parts of eastern Kenya are within an extreme-caution heat-stress area.

NATIONAL DAILY

# Kenya Meteorological Department

Issued 11 September; valid 12  
September 2026

Retained as the shortest forecast horizon for  
immediate conditions, not as a seasonal  
conclusion.

T2 - AUTHORITY

# Responsibility is distributed, but it is not indeterminate.

Forecast ownership, readiness, public finance and local execution are separate functions.

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                    |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| REGIONAL EVIDENCE AND CONVENING | <div>ICPAC and IGAD systems</div> <div>Issue regional outlooks and convene the 15-17 September preparedness forum; the meeting does not prove national implementation.</div>            | ICPAC ministerial forum notice     |
| NATIONAL EVIDENCE               | <div>Kenya Meteorological Service Authority</div> <div>Provide and regulate meteorological services.</div>                                                                              | Meteorology Act, 2026              |
| DROUGHT READINESS               | <div>National Drought Management Authority</div> <div>Operate drought early warning and facilitate contingency processes.</div>                                                         | NDMA Act, section 5                |
| NATIONAL HEALTH                 | <div>Ministry of Health, KNPHI and county health authorities</div> <div>Plan surveillance, laboratory readiness, water and sanitation, risk communication and service continuity.</div> | WHO Kenya statement, 8 September   |
| COUNTY PREPAREDNESS             | <div>Mandera Social Services, Special Programmes and Disaster Preparedness</div> <div>Lead scenario planning with departments, NDMA, WFP and other partners.</div>                      | Mandera County notice, 1 September |

PUBLIC FINANCE

National Treasury and county treasuries

Disaster Risk Financing Strategy 2026-2030

Connect risk information to contingency finance, budgets and reporting.

COUNTY EXECUTION

County health, water, roads, livestock and preparedness functions

Constitution, Fourth Schedule

Translate evidence into local priorities, service continuity and documented action.

OPEN ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTION

Regional convening is now dated. The record still lacks the forum's endorsed outputs, complete Kenyan county assignments and a funded intergovernmental delivery plan tied to the outlook.

T3 - COMMITMENT

# Has authority become funded or operational?

The enabling framework is separated from evidence that money has moved for this signal.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div>MAPPED</div> <div>Enabling framework</div> <div>Kenya's Disaster Risk Financing Strategy 2026-2030 establishes a risk-layering and pre-arranged-finance direction. It is not proof of a release for this signal.</div> | <div>UNDER REVIEW</div> <div>Reported rapid-finance process</div> <div>Reuters reports that Kenya and the World Bank are finalising a framework that could cover an eligible El Nino emergency. No primary project document or disbursement is in this file.</div> |
| <div>OPEN EVIDENCE</div> <div>Appropriation</div> <div>No forecast-linked allocation or contingency release has entered the record.</div>                                                                                   | <div>OPEN EVIDENCE</div> <div>Procurement</div> <div>No tender, purchase order or mobilisation tied to this signal has entered the record.</div>                                                                                                                   |
| <div>OPEN EVIDENCE</div> <div>Delivery</div> <div>No dated delivery or field-execution evidence tied to this signal has entered the record.</div>                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

NEXT CONSEQUENTIAL DECISION

Test the 15-17 September ministerial outputs for named actions, finance and delivery deadlines.

The forum precedes the second-to-third-week October onset expected for Garissa, Mandera, Wajir, Marsabit and Isiolo. The existing Kenyan planning steps still require implementation evidence before

that window.

**T4 - EXECUTION**

# What action has been verified?

Forecast publication is evidence production. It is not relabelled as preparedness or delivery.

| DATE      | RECORD                                       | ACTOR                                 | STAGE               | STATUS              |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 18 Aug    | Regional OND outlook published               | ICPAC                                 | Evidence            | Verified            |
| 31 Aug    | Kenya OND outlook published                  | KMD                                   | Evidence            | Verified            |
| 1 Sep     | Scenario-planning process initiated          | Mandera County / partners             | Planning            | Verified            |
| 8 Sep     | Health contingency plan activated            | Ministry of Health / KNPHI / counties | Commitment          | Verified            |
| 11 Sep    | Daily forecast valid 12 September            | KMD                                   | Evidence            | Verified            |
| 10 Sep    | Sectoral decision guidance published         | ICPAC                                 | Guidance            | Verified            |
| 15-17 Sep | Ministerial preparedness forum scheduled     | IGAD / ICPAC / participants           | Decision window     | Mapped              |
| Open      | Health plan, county assignments and schedule | Health authorities                    | Commitment          | No evidence entered |
| Open      | Mandera final plan and assigned actions      | Mandera / partners                    | Commitment          | No evidence entered |
| Open      | Finance, procurement or field delivery       | National / county actors              | Finance / execution | No evidence entered |

**EVIDENCE STILL OPEN**

Regional: the endorsed Call to Action and technical report, including named actors, finance and deadlines.

Health: the activated plan, county assignments, owners, thresholds and schedule.

County: Mandera's completed scenario plan and equivalent records elsewhere.

Finance: an official instrument, appropriation, release or procurement tied to the signal.

Delivery: dated proof of stock mobilisation or field action.

## Absence rule

No evidence in this file is not proof that no action occurred. It is a bounded statement about the reviewed public record.

PUBLICATION HISTORY AND SOURCES

Previous editions and principal sources

|      |                   |                                                                                                                                                    |
|------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| v1.4 | 12 September 2026 | Specified the 15-17 September ministerial decision window without treating its intended outputs as completed commitments.                          |
| v1.3 | 11 September 2026 | Verified national health and Mandera planning actions; added ICPAC decision guidance and a qualified rapid-finance watch.                          |
| v1.2 | 11 September 2026 | Added primary legal and policy sources, specified the next operational horizon, and introduced the public catalogue and open record specification. |
| v1.1 | 10 September 2026 | Added the immediate weekly horizon and the six-stage Decision Trace. A complete preserved snapshot is available online.                            |
| v1.0 | 9 September 2026  | Opened the record. A change note survives; a complete opening snapshot was not retained.                                                           |

PRIMARY SOURCES

- ICPAC High-Level Ministerial Forum, 15-17 September 2026
- ICPAC GHACOF 74 technical statement
- ICPAC Summary for Decision Makers, 10 September 2026
- KMD October-December 2026 seasonal outlook
- KMD daily forecast valid 12 September 2026
- WHO Kenya health-system preparedness statement, 8 September 2026
- Mandera County preparedness notice, 1 September 2026
- Reuters rapid-finance report, 10 September 2026
- ICPAC weekly forecast, 8-15 September 2026
- Meteorology Act, 2026
- National Drought Management Authority Act, section 5
- Kenya Disaster Risk Financing Strategy 2026-2030
- Constitution of Kenya, Fourth Schedule

CITATION

Ahmed Nadhir Omar, 'Kenya's short rains: the forecast is only the first decision', Signal to State, KE-OND-2026-001, revision 1.4, reviewed 12 September 2026.

[Open the canonical record](#)