

Kenya

HEALTH  
**EMERGENCIES**  
programme



## Kenya Emergency Preparedness and Response Weekly Bulletin

**Week 11: 13 March to 20 March 2025**  
Data as reported by: 1700 hrs (EAT), 21 March 2025

<b>1</b> New Events	<b>6</b> Ongoing Events	<b>5</b> Outbreaks	<b>0</b> Humanitarian Crisis
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<b>2</b> Grade 3	<b>1</b> Grade 2	<b>0</b> Grade 1	<b>3</b> Ungraded
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# Summary of Health Emergencies in Kenya

Event	Total Cases	Cases Confirmed	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate	Case Contacts	Counties	Start of reporting period	Grade
<b>Cholera</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2.3 %</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>2 counties</b>	<b>21 Feb 2025</b>	<b>Grade 3</b>

Nairobi has reported a confirmed case of cholera detected in Kibra subcounty. No new cases reported in Migori county.

<b>Mixed Enteric Infection Outbreak</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Kisii</b>	<b>26 Feb 2025</b>	<b>Ungraded</b>
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Kisii County reported a Mixed Enteric Infection Outbreak. Cases presented with non-specific abdominal and respiratory symptoms: fever, sore-throat, chills, headache, diarrhoea, severe abdominal pain. Laboratory testing of collected stool samples identified *Escherichia coli*, *E. coli*, (a bacteria that can cause severe diarrhoea), in all 17 stool samples, *Salmonella* spp in five, *Giardia* and *Campylobacter* in two, *Cryptosporidium* in several and *Norovirus* in one. Environmental testing found *E. coli* contamination in peripheral water sources, while central and tap water remained unaffected, indicating contamination at the peripheral level.

<b>Mpox</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>13 Counties</b>	<b>31 July 2024</b>	<b>Grade 3</b>
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Five new cases have been reported in the past week from Busia (3), Mombasa (1) and Migori (1) counties. Forty nine patients have recovered, six are admitted and four are under home-based care. Cumulatively, 3.85 million travellers have been screened across 26 of Kenya's official points of entry including airports, ports and land-crossings. 274 of the contacts have completed follow up.

<b>Measles</b>	<b>1329</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>13 Counties</b>	<b>2024- 2025</b>	<b>Ungraded</b>
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Counties affected include Garissa, Kilifi, Mandera, Mombasa, Nairobi, Nakuru, Tana River, Turkana, Uasin Gishu, Isiolo, Samburu, Marsabit and Kajiado. A national measles vaccination campaign is planned for June 2025.

<b>Visceral Leishmaniasis</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3 Counties</b>	<b>Jan 2025</b>	<b>Ungraded</b>
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A total of 710 cases have been reported across Wajir (454), Marsabit (227), and Mandera (29) counties. Out of these 560 are confirmed (Wajir 448, Marsabit 83 and Mandera 29). Fourteen deaths have been reported (CFR 2.0%). Out of these deaths 12 are reported by Wajir county all among children aged less than five years and two in Marsabit. Ongoing response activities include case management in health facilities and vector control activities such as Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) in selected hot spots.

<b>Poliovirus</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2 Counties</b>	<b>26 June 2024</b>	<b>Grade 2</b>
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In 2024, circulating Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus type 2 was isolated from healthy children in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Turkana (4) and an environmental sample from Eastleigh Kamukunji, Nairobi (1). Additional cases were identified in bordering countries Uganda and Ethiopia. In response, the Ministry of Health has conducted a series of mass polio vaccination campaigns including the most recent one in February 2024, reaching 920 000 children from Garissa, Mandera, Wajir and Marsabit counties. Next round in planned for April 2025.

Grade 3 **Cholera** 2 Counties

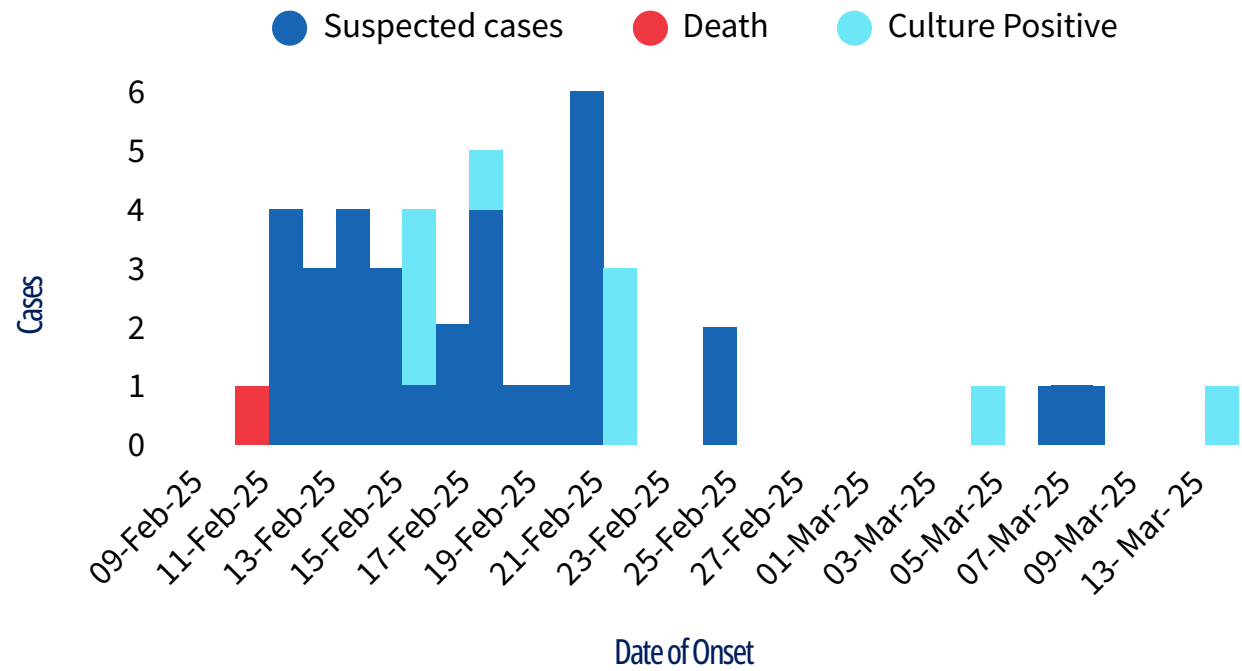
**43** Cases

**12** Lab-Confirmed Cases

**1** Death

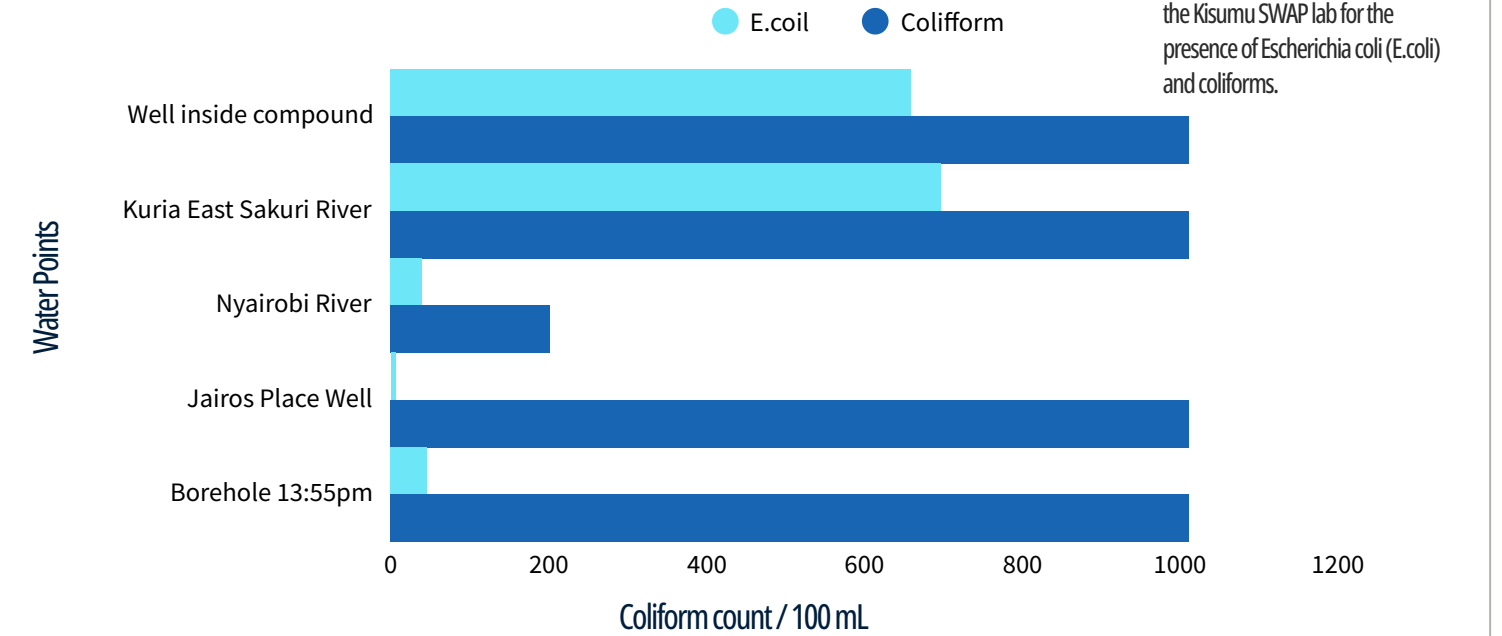
- One new case reported by Gatwekera village, Kibra sub county, Nairobi
- Sex distribution: **26 (62.1%)** are Males
- Age distribution: **21 (50%)** are aged **15 to 44 years**

Epi Curve of Cholera Outbreak, February to March 2025, Migori County



- Sakuri River in **Kuria East (687.3)** and a well inside a compound (**658.6**) have the highest E. coli levels, indicating fecal contamination
- All sources had **coliform levels of 1011**, making the water unpotable

Kuria West and East Tested Sources



**KEY INTERVENTIONS**

- **Seventy nine (79) Healthcare workers** have been sensitized on Cholera case management and Infection Prevention Control
- Commodities for Cholera case management have been distributed to the isolation facilities
- Distribution of water treatment chemicals, PUR, water guard and aquatabs to households in the affected areas.

**CHALLENGES**

- Limited access to alternative water sources for daily use.
- Insufficient safe water in high-density areas like mines.
- Reliance on unsafe water sources for consumption.
- Soil instability affecting latrine construction.
- Lack of adequate knowledge and supplies for proper household water treatment.
- Frequent travel between Kenya and Tanzania pose cross-border transmission risks.

**NEXT STEP**

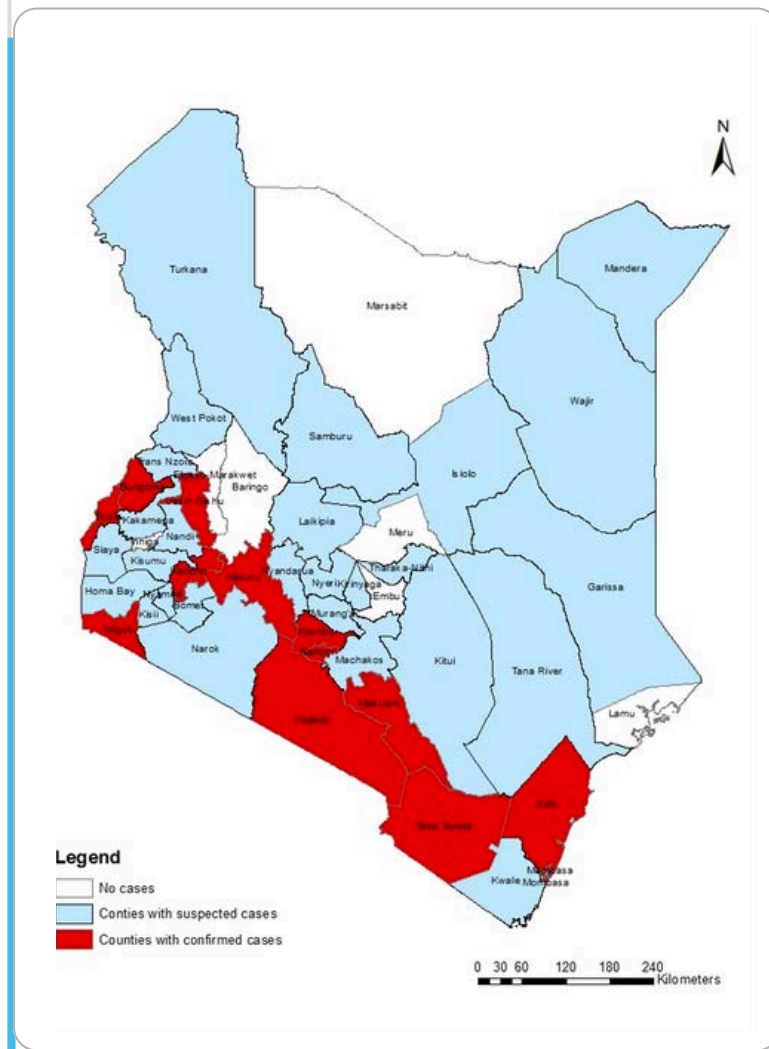
- Train local artisans on SAFI(Sanitation for Improved Hygiene) latrine construction and engage communities in sanitation efforts.
- Provide logistical support to strengthen public health infrastructure and emergency response.



Grade 3 Mpox 13 counties

5 New cases | 60 Confirmed Cases | 1 Death

- Five new cases reported by Busia (3), Mombasa (1) and Migori (1) Counties
- Of the confirmed cases, there are **32 (56%)** females
- Busia (**17 cases**), Mombasa (**11 cases**) and Nakuru (**10 cases**) counties constitute **63%** of all reported cases.
- From the beginning of 2025, the hot spots are Teso North sub county in Busia County and Kibwezi west sub county in Makueni County

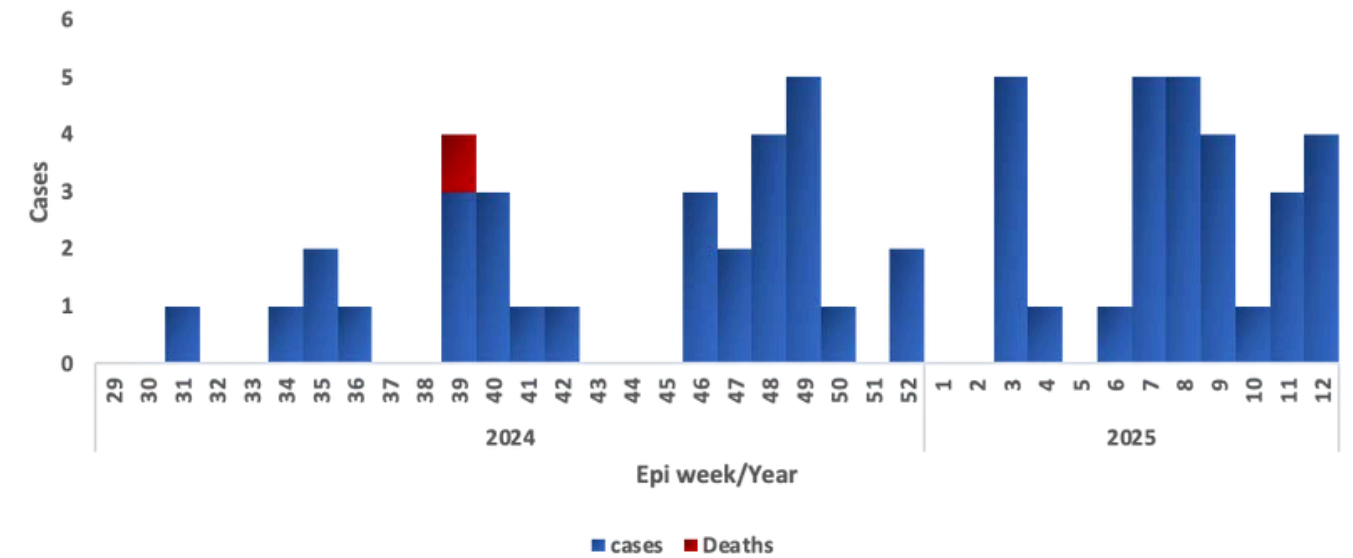


- Cumulatively **467** samples have been tested and **60 (12.8%)** tested positive.
- No pending results.

### KEY CHALLENGES IN MPOX RESPONSE

- Mpox vaccines and **antiviral drugs are not** widely available.
- Healthcare workers need **more training on Mpox** identification and case management.
- **Strengthening reference labs** at the sub-national level is essential.
- There is a need to build and establish **dedicated isolation facilities.**
- **Inadequate financial resources** are limiting Mpox response efforts.

### Epi Curve of Mpox cases, in Kenya, 2024 - 2025



October 14, 2024: WHO handed over supplies to Kenya's Ministry of Health to support the Mpox response efforts. These included Diagnostic kits for testing 2,688 mpox samples, 2,500 scalpel blades .  
© WHO / Genna Print

Grade 2

# Leishmaniasis

3 counties

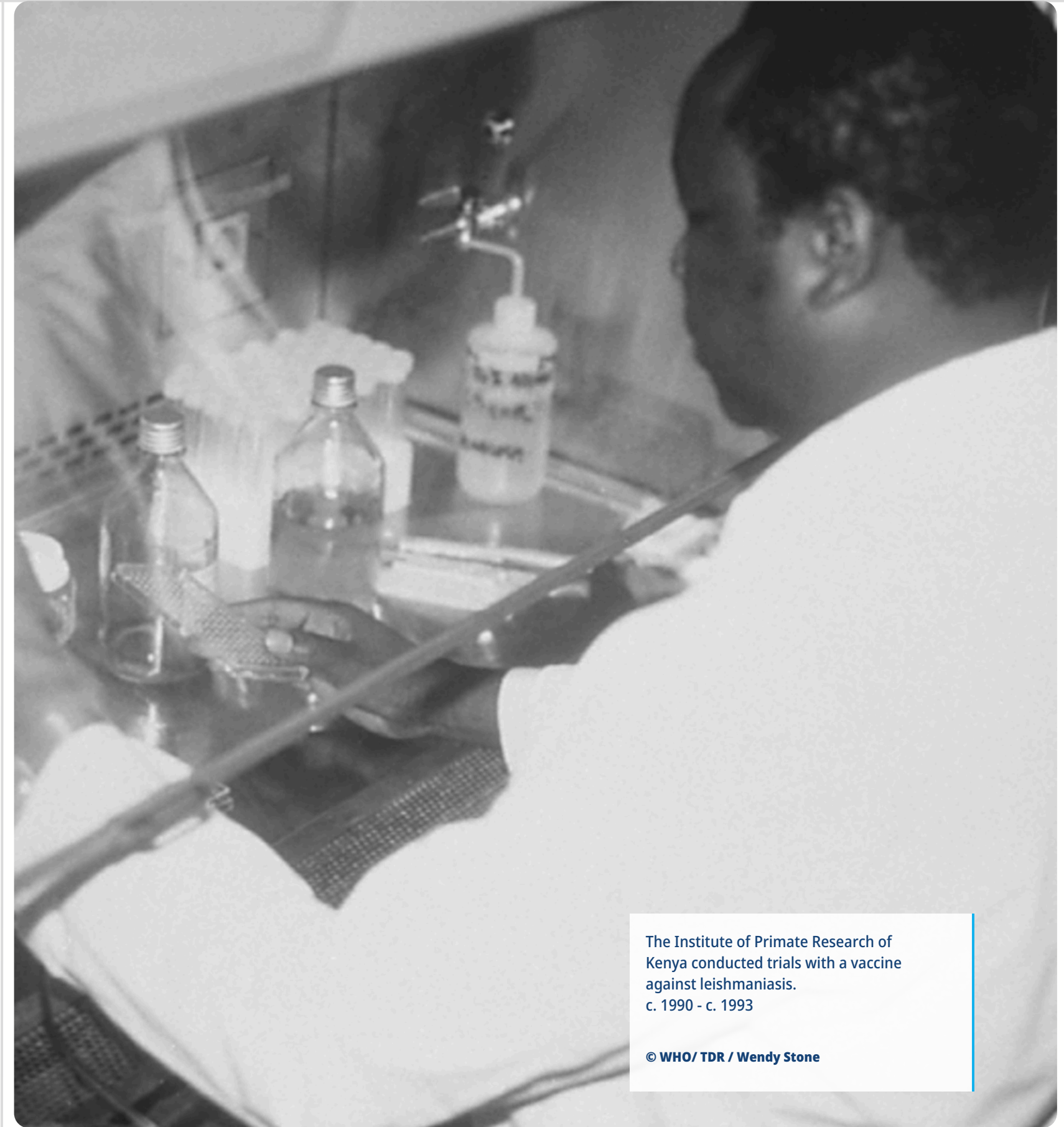
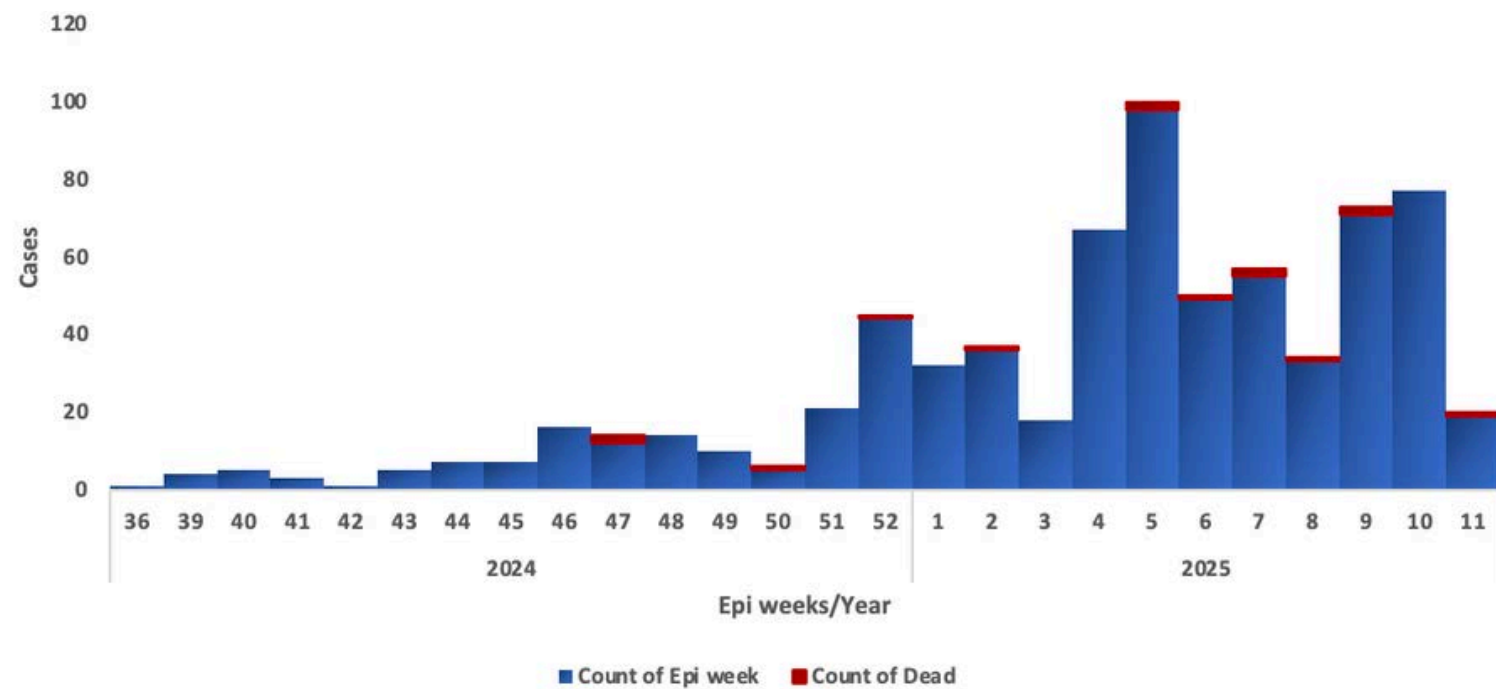
## 710 Cases | 560 Lab-confirmed Cases | 14 Death

- A total of **710** have been reported in Wajir (**454**), Marsabit (**238**) and Mandera (**29**) counties
- A total of **14** deaths (**CFR 1.9%**) have been reported of these deaths, **12 (86%)** occurred in Wajir (all children under five) and **two (14%)** in Marsabit

### INTERVENTIONS

- Enhanced surveillance in the affected counties and the neighbouring Counties
- Case management of the cases in health facilities ongoing

Epi Curve of Visceral Leishmaniasis, Kenya, September 2024 - 2nd March 2025



The Institute of Primate Research of Kenya conducted trials with a vaccine against leishmaniasis. c. 1990 - c. 1993

© WHO/ TDR / Wendy Stone



# Grade 3 Filovirus Disease (Sudan Virus Disease and Marburg Virus)

## Sudan Virus Disease In Uganda

**14** Cases  
12 confirmed and 2 probable cases

**4** Deaths

- Kenya remains of high-risk of importation of filovirus due to current outbreak in neighbouring countries (SVD in Uganda), high human cross-border movement and sub-optimal readiness across five pillars.
- SVD is a highly virulent haemorrhagic fever (VHF) from the **same family as Ebola**, sharing similar transmission modes.
- It has **NO approved vaccine** or specific treatment.

### KENYAS PREPAREDNESS MEASURES

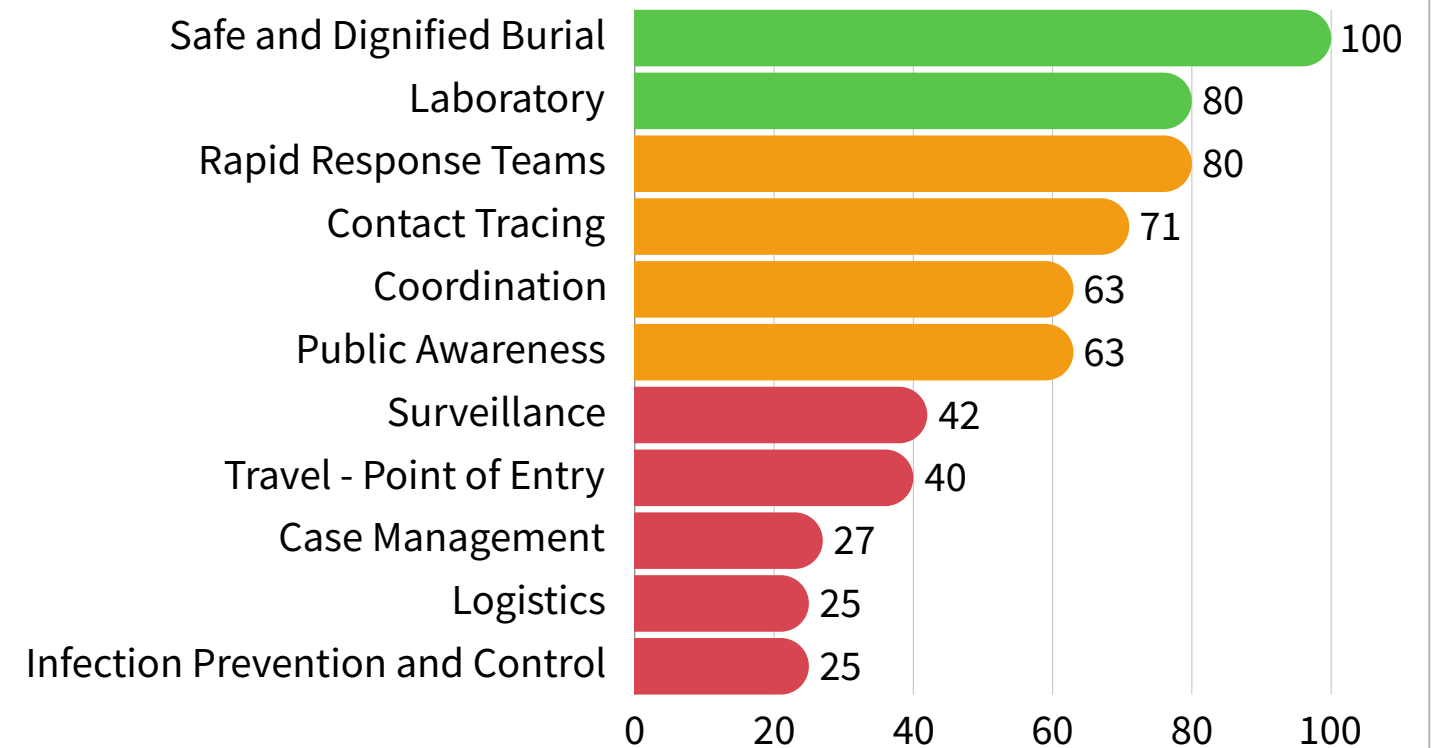
- **Completed the review the standard operating procedures** for surveillance, response , infection and management of sick travellers at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.
- Preparation of sensitization for health care workers is underway
- Virulent haemorrhagic fever (VHF) preparedness and response plan updated.



## Kenya Readiness for Filovirus Disease

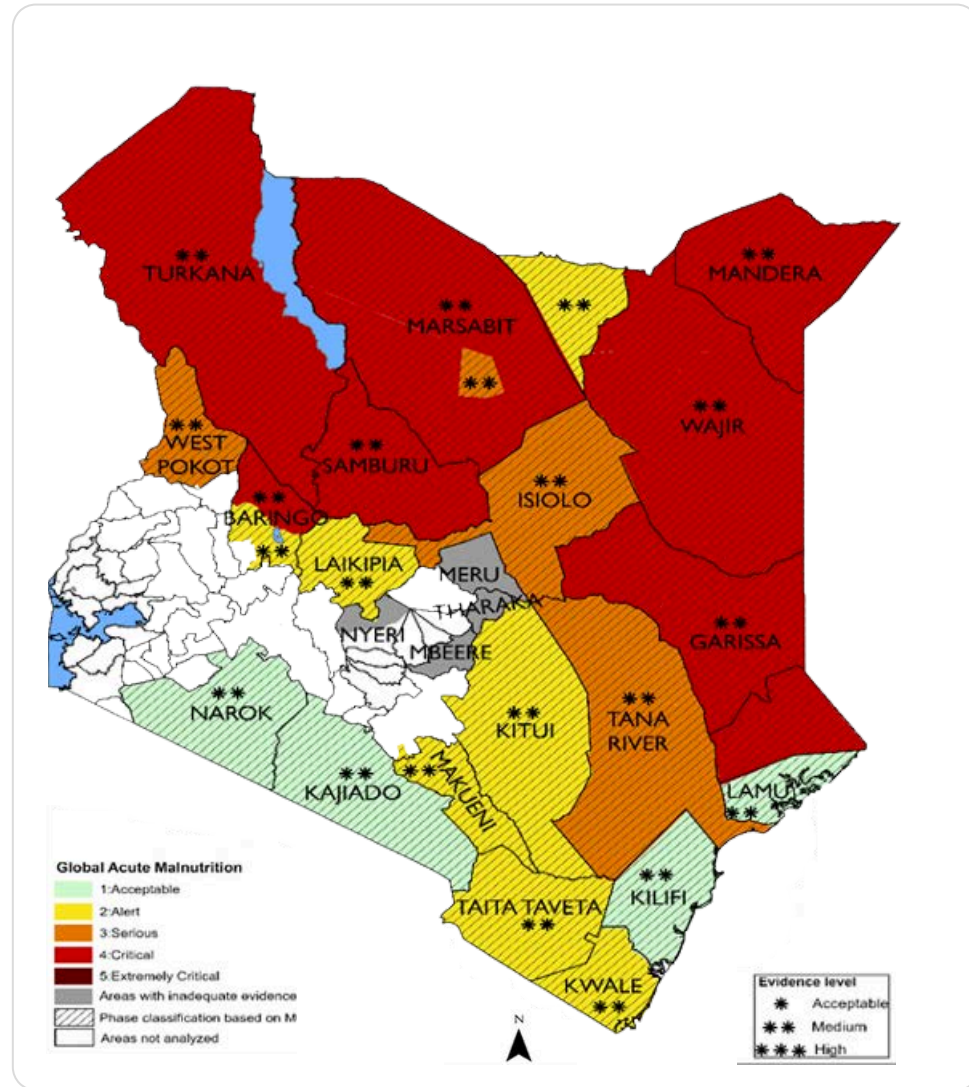
Overall readiness: **56%**

- Limited
- Moderate
- Good



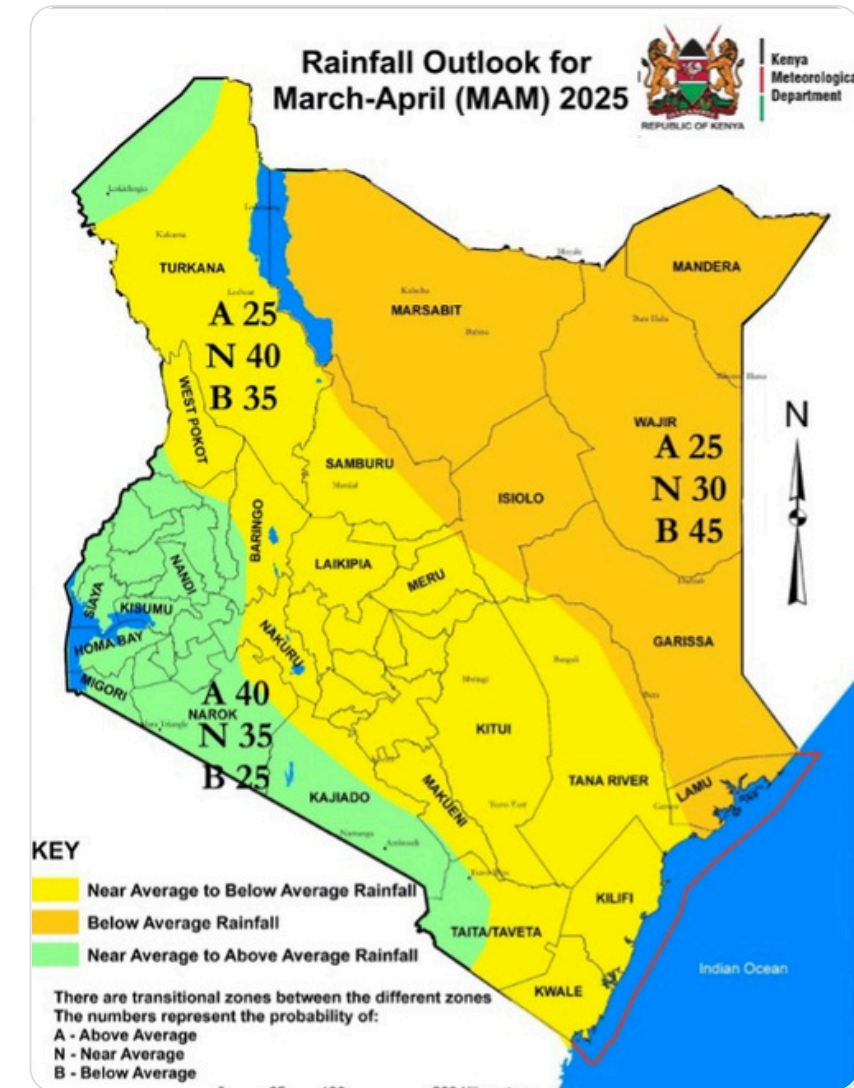
January 2025 Assessment

## Severe Acute Manultrition (SAM) Updates



- The nutrition situation remains stable in most areas, similar to last year.
- However, Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, Samburu, Turkana, Baringo (Tiaty), and parts of Marsabit (North Horr & Laisamis) are still in a critical state (IPC Phase 4).
- Saku is likely to worsen, and other areas are at risk of increasing malnutrition.

## 2025 Long Rains (March-April-May) Climate Outlook



- Peak of the rains is expected to be in **April** for most regions, except over the Coastal Strip where the peak is expected in **May**.
- **Above-average** rainfall is expected in the Lake Victoria Basin, South Rift Valley, most of the Highlands west of the Rift Valley, the southern parts of the Southeastern Lowlands, and the extreme northern areas of Northwestern Kenya.
- **Near to below average** rainfall is expected over Central Rift Valley, Highlands East of the Rift Valley (including Nairobi County), most of Northwest, Coastal region, Southeastern lowlands and isolated areas over the Highlands West of the Rift Valley.
- **Below average rainfall** is expected over the Northeastern Kenya and over the North Coast.



## 17th March 2025 Social Listening Report : Kenya Health Concerns

Social Listening : Provides key highlights and operational recommendations based on social listening data.

### CHOLERA

- Concern :Poor sanitation and cross-border movement increase risk
- Action: Risk communication, hygiene promotion, cross-border collaboration

### ACUTE RESPIRATORY ILLNESS

- Concerns: Cross-border transmission, misinformation (new pandemic claims)
- Action: Public awareness, enhanced surveillance

### MPOX

- Concerns: Stigma, misinformation, declining public engagement
- Action: Community engagement, social media strategy, boosting awareness

### MIXED ENTERIC INFECTION OUTBREAK

- Concerns: Contaminated water, misinformation (supernatural causes)
- Action: Community engagement, water safety education

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Combat misinformation:
- Strengthen public health messaging via social media and community leaders
- Improve surveillance & response:
- Rapid response teams, cross-border collaboration, enhanced case tracking
- Boost public awareness & vaccination campaigns:
- Measles & cholera immunization drives, hygiene and risk communication
- Strengthen health infrastructure & partnerships:
- Address funding gaps post-USAID withdrawal, ensure sustainable responses



On 17 Feb 2023, community elder Diis Ali at a temporary camp in Modeka, Garissa County, told WHO staff during a cholera vaccination campaign, "They advised us to stay clean, but cleanliness needs water... You can see the scarcity here."

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Thanks to the Ministry of Health, our  
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