



## MAM 2024 PARTICIPATORY SCENARIO PLANNING WORKSHOP

**5TH – 7TH March 2024**





**MACHAKOS  
COUNTY**  
THE PLACE TO BE



**ClimSA**  
CLIMATE SERVICES AND RELATED APPLICATIONS PROGRAMME  
An initiative of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States funded by the European Union



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## **Background**

The ClimSA program, under the Intra-ACP framework, seeks to promote sustainable development in the IGAD region by bridging gaps in climate services and integrating them into policy frameworks at regional, national, and sub-national levels. As part of this initiative to enhance connections between ICPAC/KMD and local communities, a climate demonstration pilot was proposed to facilitate structured engagement between users, researchers, and climate service providers in Machakos County in Kenya. This is the 2nd participatory Scenario held in the county that has brought together the different sectors involved in the climate services value chain including the county government, farmers, county meteorological department, local media, indigenous forecasters, and representatives from the county ministries of water and agriculture. The main objective of the workshop was to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders in enabling access to, collective interpretation and understanding of seasonal climate forecasts and associated uncertainty into locally relevant information that is useful for sectoral decision-making in agriculture, food security, water and energy sectors, among others.

### **Key workshop expectations from the Machakos community**

- To know the onset and the end of the rainy season for the March to May season.
- Whether the rains would be sufficient for agriculture and for harvesting to be used in future.
- Adaptation and mitigation mechanisms that can be adopted by the community to deal with the changing climatic conditions.
- Rain distribution for the MAM season in Machakos.

On average, the performance of the OND season was good for all the wards in Machakos County. The advisories developed during the PSP were useful, they were translated and displayed at Market places and during meetings. The media (Musyi FM, Citizen FM, Athiani FM and Mutongoi TV) also played a role in the dissemination of the forecast and the advisories and covered key stories of cases of flooding during the season.

Collaboration between the local community, the county, the met services, media and ICPAC was encouraged to ensure the sustainability of the PSPs even after the project.

## **MAM 2024 Seasonal Forecast for Machakos**



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The MAM 2024 seasonal forecast was released, providing insights into the expected weather patterns for the season. The forecast indicates that Machakos County is anticipated to experience above-average rainfall throughout the MAM season. The onset of the rains is expected to occur between the second week of March, transitioning from the rainfall received in February 2024. These rains are forecasted to cover all the wards in the county, contributing to overall moisture and agricultural prospects.

A review for February was also discussed during the PSP and it was observed that most parts of the county received significant amounts of rainfall during the month. However, towards the end of February, a dry spell was experienced before the onset of the anticipated seasonal rains in March.

The anticipated above-average rainfall forecasted for Machakos County is expected to create favourable conditions for agricultural activities, significantly benefiting local farmers and communities. With increased rainfall, crop production is anticipated to improve, leading to higher yields and ensuring food security for the region. Additionally, the rainfall will contribute to the rejuvenation of pastureland in the arid and semi-arid areas of Machakos County, particularly along rivers Athi, Mwala, and Yatta.

However, along with the benefits of increased rainfall, there are also potential challenges that need to be addressed. Areas such as Kibauni and Kanzalu Hills, as well as Mua Hills, may experience soil erosion if not adequately protected. Moreover, heavy clay soils in locations like Katheka Kai, Kyeleni, Matuu, and parts of Muthwani ward may face waterlogging issues. Additionally, sloppy areas that have not been properly protected may suffer from land degradation.

Therefore, while the forecasted rainfall presents opportunities for agricultural productivity and ecosystem rejuvenation, stakeholders need to take proactive measures to mitigate potential challenges such as soil erosion, waterlogging, and land degradation to maximize the benefits of the upcoming rainy season.

In addition to the Participatory scenario, a Seasonal Media Action Plan (SMAP) training was done to the major media houses in the county. The media team then came up with an action plan for the MAM season that would guide their reporting for the season.



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## Advisories MAM 2024, Machakos County

IMPACT MAM 2024	MITIGATION MEASURES/RESPONSE STRATEGIES	RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS
i. Contaminated water and pollution	Public Sensitization Provision of water treatment chemicals in in Athi river/ Muthwani/Matungulu West/Kinanie/ Mbiuni/Kithimani/Mwala/Katangi/Wamunyu/Iko mbe/Kibauni on the Athi River and Lower Kaewa wards along Thwake River	Community CGM GoK Development partners Community
	Storm drainage management in in Tala/Athi River/ Masii/Mlolongo/Matuu/Mbiuni/Ekalakala Ward	Community CGM GoK Development partners Community
ii. Loss of life	Disaster Management in Athi River Kasuitu area and All the wards along the Athi River Risk of loss of lives at all earth dams developed by the county government of Machakos and private water sources	Community CGM GoK Development partners Community
iii. Displacement of people and livestock	All flood prone wards Tala, Athi River, Muthwani Matungulu West and Matungulu East	Community CGM GoK Development partners Community
iv. Soil erosion	Kathiani, Kangundo, Machakos Kalama sub county	Community CGM GoK Development partners Community
v. Land slides	Kathiani, Kangundo, Machakos Kalama sub county	Community CGM GoK



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		Development partners Community
vi. Silting of dams	All 40 Wards	Community CGM GoK Development partners Community
vii. Increased human diseases	All 40 wards	Community CGM GoK Development partners Community
viii. Increased crop diseases and pests	All 40 wards	Community CGM GoK Development partners Community
ix. Increased temperature	All 40 wards	Community CGM GoK Development partners Community
<b>Economic</b>		
x. Destruction of water infrastructure	Climate proofing of county infrastructure	Community CGM GoK Development partners Community
	Awareness creation for community ownership of projects funded by devolved funds	Community CGM GoK Development partners Community
xi. Fluctuation of market prices	Sensitization for the development of farm activities schedules by farmers to avoid over supply of farm produce -Promotion of micro irrigation to avoid over reliance on rain fed agriculture	Community CGM GoK Development partners Community



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	<p>-development of cold storage facilities in all sub counties</p> <p>-Capacity building on improved farm productivity and postharvest handling to avoid losses Enable farmers to aggregate produce and secure market linkagesfor all 40 wards</p>	
xii. Increased costs of reconstruction/rehabilitation of affected infrastructure	Climate proofing of county infrastructure	<p>Community</p> <p>CGM</p> <p>GoK</p> <p>Development partners Community</p>
xiii. Increased in post-harvest losses eg aflatoxin	<p>Capacity building on improved farm productivity and postharvest handling to avoid losses</p> <p>- Enable farmers to aggregate produce and secure market linkagesfor all 40 wards</p> <p>Development of drying facilities for kalama sub county, Kangundo and Kathiani sub counties</p>	<p>Community</p> <p>CGM</p> <p>GoK</p> <p>Development partners Community</p>
<b>Environmental</b>		
i)Excess growth of weeds	Provision of subsidized farm inputs (fertilizers, certified seeds, pesticides) in all 40 wards	<p>Community</p> <p>CGM</p> <p>GoK</p> <p>Development partners</p>
ii)Soil erosion	Environmental Protection/management measures in all 40 wards	<p>Community</p> <p>CGM</p> <p>GoK</p> <p>Development partners</p>
iii)Land and environmental degradation	Construction of gabions in ten identified sites (1 site per sub county)	<p>Community</p> <p>CGM</p> <p>GoK</p> <p>Development partners</p>
iv)Gulley erosion	Environmental Protection/management measures in Matungulu East, Kathiani Central, Upper Kaewa and Kalama Wards	<p>Community</p> <p>CGM</p> <p>GoK</p> <p>Development partners</p>



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<p>v) Destruction of fragile Ecosystems</p>	<p>Spring protection works to prevent contamination.</p>	<p>Community CGM GoK Development partners</p>
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