



MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Department of Climate Change and
Meteorological Services

2026/2027 DOWNSCALED SEASONAL FORECAST

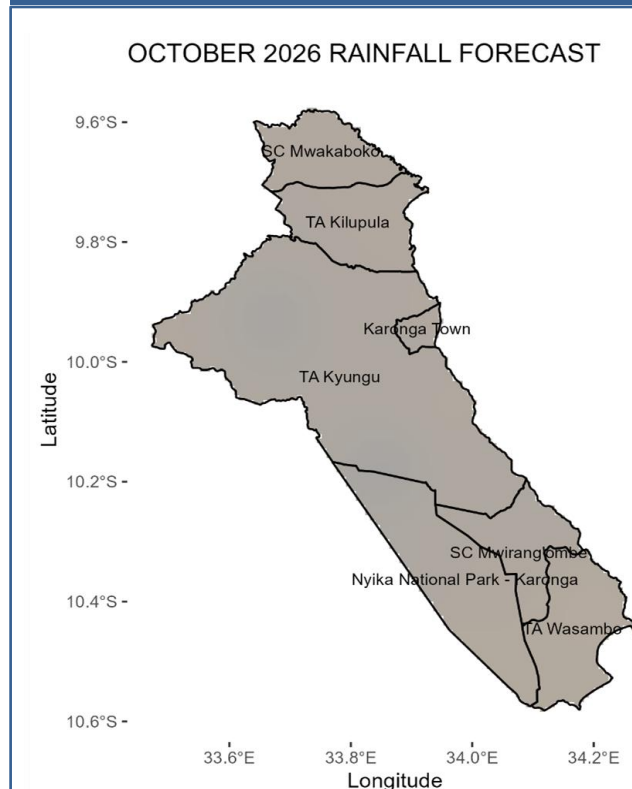
KARONGA DISTRICT

Overview

The 2026-2027 rainfall season is expected to be influenced by a strong El Niño. El Niño is the unusual warming of waters over the central-eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean which affects global rainfall patterns.

Karonga district is expected to **receive normal to above normal** cumulative rainfall during the 2026-2027 rainfall season.

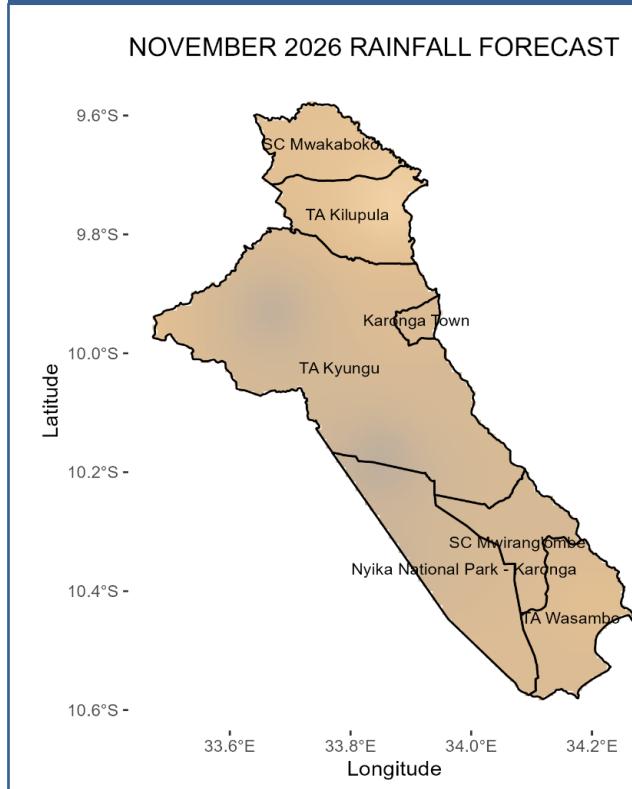
October 2026



Normal to above normal rainfall amounts expected. Chizimalupsa rainfall is likely, with amount of less than 50mm over some areas.

Occurrences of gusty winds during Chizimalupsya rains are expected during this month.

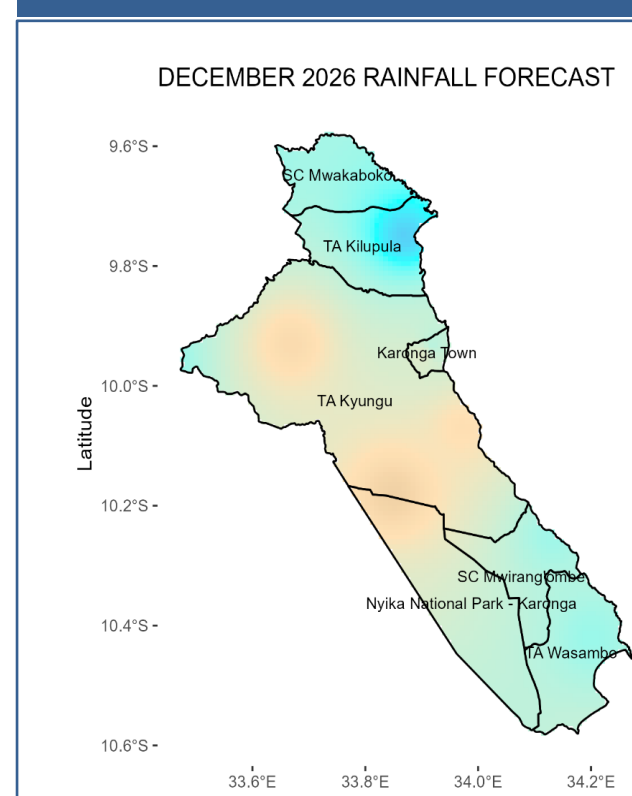
November 2026



Most areas are expected to receive rainfall not more than 200 mm, which are generally above normal.

Occurrences of gusty winds and lightning are expected during this month.

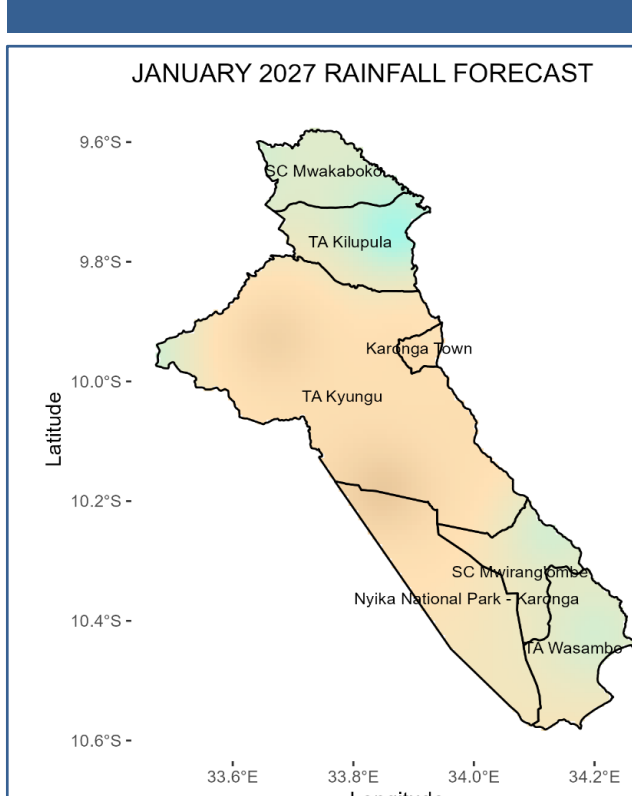
December 2026



Normal to above normal rains amounting to 200 – 250mm are expected in most areas during the month of December, with some areas in TA Kilupula expected to receive close to 350 mm.

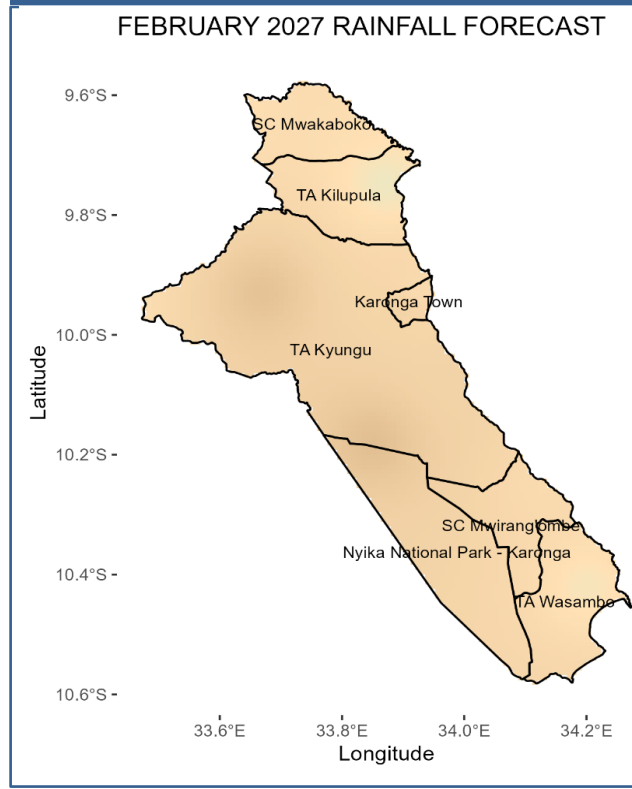
Rainfall onset is expected from the first to second week of December

January 2027



Normal to above normal rainfall about 200-250 mm is expected over most areas. However, few areas in northernmost and southernmost parts of the district may receive higher rainfall amounts of around 300 mm. The district will likely experience a dry spell of a week during this month.

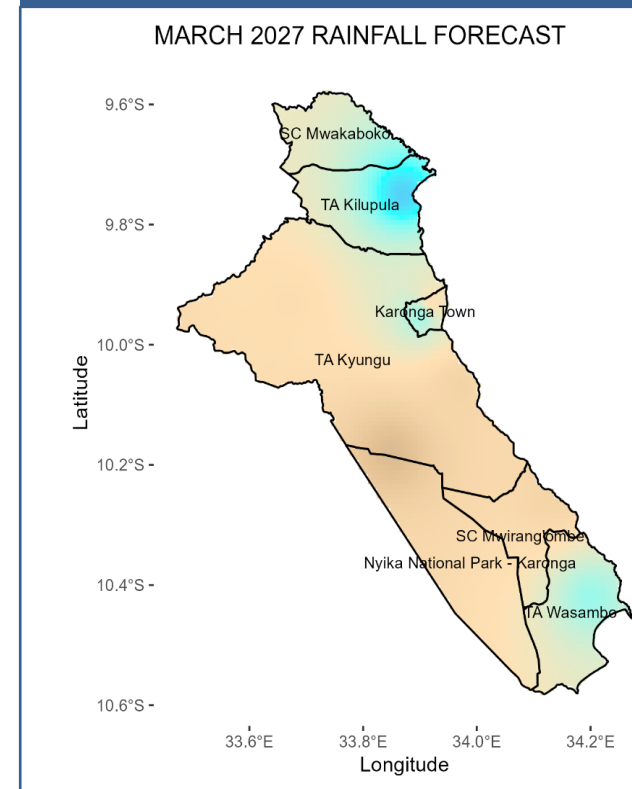
February 2027



Most areas in the district are expected to receive between 150 - 200 mm of rainfall, categorized within the normal to above normal range for this month.

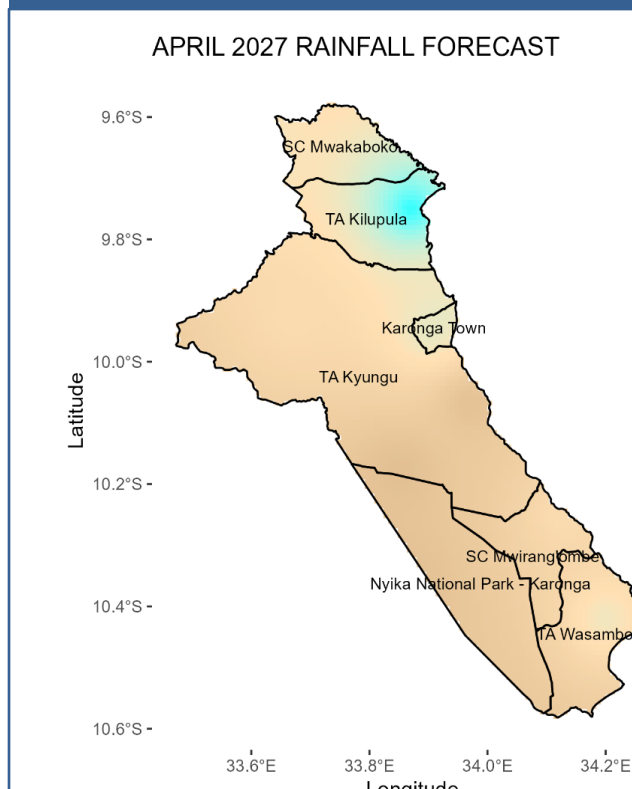
A dry spell about a week is anticipated over most areas in the month of February.

March 2027



Most areas in the district are expected to receive below normal rainfall amounts, generally below 200 mm. Except areas in TA Kilupula, Karonga Town and TA Wasambo, which are expected to receive over 300mm of rainfall during this month

April 2027



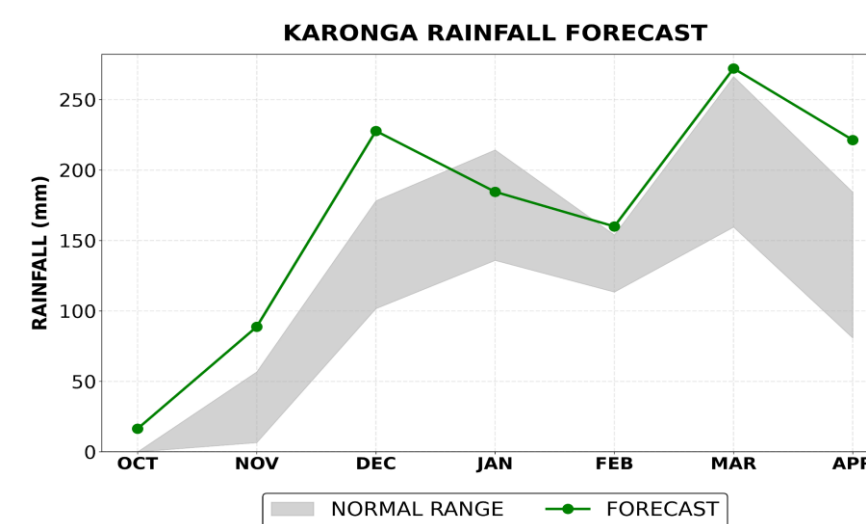
Normal to above-normal rainfall amounts of around 200mm are expected over most areas in this month except areas in the TA Kilupula expecting amounts reaching 300mm.

Cessation of rainfall is likely to be expected towards the second week of April.

SEASON IN SUMMARY

Rainfall Onset	Dry Spells	Seasonal Length	Cessation
Excepted from first to second week of December	High likelihood of a week-long dry spell in January and February	Expected to last 110 to 130 days	Likely towards the second week of April 2027

MONTH	NORMAL RANGE	FORECAST
OCT	0.0 – 0.0	16.4
NOV	6.5 – 56.8	88.8
DEC	101.7 - 178.2	227.8
JAN	135.9 - 214.3	184.6
FEB	113.4 - 154.0	160.0
MAR	159.5 - 266.4	272.2
APR	80.8 – 184.9	221.4



The table and figure above show monthly rainfall distribution at KARONGA with a normal band in grey.

Produced and published with assistance from:



Follow weather forecasts and advisories from DCCMS throughout the season



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