

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 9th, 2024: Flood Alert In Counties In The Upper And Lower Tana Basins

The Tana and Athi Rivers Development Authority (TARDA) is issuing an urgent flooding alert for residents of the Upper and Lower Tana River Basins. According to the latest forecast from the Kenya Meteorological Department dated April 5, 2024, heavy rainfall persists, heightening the risk of flooding across the region. Of particular concern is the surge in rainfall within the Nyambene Hills catchment area, spanning Meru and Tharaka Nithi counties, resulting in a significant increase in the flow of the Tana River. As a consequence, this has caused a substantial rise in the Tana River flow overtopping the banks at Garissa and inundating the adjacent areas towards the Tana Delta.

The rapid surge in water levels along the Tana River at Garissa have surpassed the 4-meter flood alarm threshold by over 1 meter within the last 24 hours:

- **08/04/2024: 4.91m at 06:00hrs, 5.11m at 09:00hrs, and 5.14m at 18:00hrs**
- **09/04/2024: 4.85m at 00:00hrs and 4.92m at 03:00hrs**

Additionally, Mount Kenya and Aberdare catchments have witnessed substantial rainfall, leading to swift rises in the levels of Seven Forks dams. As of 09/04/2024 at 05:00hrs, Masinga and Kiambere dam levels were reported at 1.41m and 1.03m respectively below their full supply capacity. TARDA is actively monitoring the dam levels along the Tana River, ensuring the safety and well-being of all communities in the area.

STATION	COUNTY	SEVEN-DAY TOTAL RAINFALL (mm)
MERU METEOROLOGICAL STATION	MERU	262.0
MUKAA RAINFALL STATION	MAKUENI	249.6
KIANAMU RAINFALL STATION	EMBU	221.1
IKISAYA PRIMARY SCHOOL RAINFALL STATION	KITUI	214.8
NJUKI-INI FOREST RAINFALL STATION	KIRINYAGA	206.3
MIAD KANDONGU RAINFALL STATION	KIRINYAGA	195.1
MATERI GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL RAINFALL STATION	THARAKA NITHI	185.5
GITII-NGURA RAINFALL STATION	EMBU	175.5
KIIMA KIU RAINFALL STATION	MAKUENI	172.0
NYERI METEOROLOGICAL STATION	NYERI	169.3

Rainfall from The Last Seven Days To Date

In light of these developments therefore, we urge residents to remain vigilant and prepared. It is crucial for communities residing within the Lower and Upper Tana Basins to heed the warnings that have been issued by the relevant authorities and to take the necessary precautions to safeguard their families and property.

TARDA remains committed to working in collaboration with various stakeholders across the board from various sectors to assess the flood situation and provide essential advice on relocating to safer areas in collaboration with the relevant agencies.

For any further inquiries, please contact us on **020 3341781/82/90**, or email us on info@tarda.go.ke.