

ML-Enhanced Vegetation Condition Forecasting — Kenya's National Drought Management Authority Early-Warning Extension

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · Kenya

Quality score: 67/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Researchers at the University of Sussex and Kenya's RCMRD built machine-learning models forecasting NDMA's official VCI3M drought indicator up to 6 weeks ahead — achieving roughly 89% hit rate at 4 weeks and 81% at 6 weeks — intended for Kenya's county-level drought bulletins.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	2/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	3/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability beyond pilot	2/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-13

[National Drought Management Authority \(NDMA\), Kenya, with RCMRD and the University of Sussex](#) — accessed 2026-07-13

[University of Sussex — Forecasting for drought in Kenya](#) — accessed 2026-07-13

[arXiv:1911.10339 — peer-reviewed forecasting methodology](#) — accessed 2026-07-13

[Sigma Earth — Harnessing AI for early drought prediction in Kenya](#) — accessed 2026-07-13

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