Identify the main climatic regions in Kenya and Eastern Africa

What are the main climatic regions in Kenya and Eastern Africa



ACTIVITY: Watch the following video showing climatic regions of Eastern Africa

Main climatic regions in Kenya and Eastern Africa.

Equatorial Climate (Tropical Rainforest)

- **Location**: Found along the equator in central and western Kenya, parts of Uganda, and the central highlands of Tanzania.
- Characteristics:

 \Box Consistently high temperatures (25°C to 30°C).

 \Box High humidity (over 70%).

 \Box High rainfall throughout the year (1500-2500 mm annually).

 \Box Dense rainforests.

• **Examples**: The central highlands of Kenya (e.g., areas around Mount Kenya) and parts of Uganda.

2. Tropical Savanna Climate (Semi-Arid)

• **Location**: Found in most parts of Kenya (like parts of the Rift Valley and Eastern Kenya) and the lowlands of Ethiopia, Sudan, and parts of Tanzania.

• Characteristics:

 \Box Distinct wet and dry seasons.

□ Rainfall varies from 500 to 1500 mm annually.

 \Box Warm temperatures throughout the year (25°C to 30°C).

□ Vegetation is typically grasslands, savannas, or scrublands.

• **Examples**: Areas like Tsavo National Park in Kenya, northern Tanzania, and southern Ethiopia.

3. Arid and Semi-Arid Climate (Desert and Drylands)

• Location: Found in the northern and northeastern parts of Kenya, such as Turkana, Marsabit, and parts of eastern Ethiopia and Somalia.

• Characteristics:

 \Box Very low rainfall (less than 500 mm annually).

□ Extreme temperatures (up to 40°C during the day, cool nights).

- □ Sparse vegetation (mainly shrubs, desert plants, and occasional drought-resistant trees).
- **Examples**: Parts of northern Kenya, Somali region, and southern Ethiopia.

4. Mountain Climate (Highland Climate)

- **Location**: Found in the highland areas of Kenya, including Mount Kenya, the Aberdare Range, and parts of Tanzania (e.g., Mount Kilimanjaro).
- Characteristics:
 - □ Cooler temperatures as altitude increases (ranges from 10°C to 20°C).
 - □ Moderate rainfall (1000-2000 mm annually).
 - □ Forests and grasslands at lower altitudes; alpine vegetation at higher elevations.
- **Examples**: Mount Kenya, Mount Kilimanjaro, and the Aberdare Mountains.

5. Coastal Climate (Tropical Monsoon)

- Location: Found along the coastal regions of Kenya, Tanzania, and Somalia.
- Characteristics:
 - \Box High humidity and temperatures (28°C to 32°C).
 - □ Heavy rainfall, particularly between March and May (monsoon season).
 - □ Dry season between June and September.
 - □ Mangrove forests and coral reefs dominate the coastal ecosystems.
- **Examples**: Mombasa, Lamu, and Zanzibar.

6. Mediterranean Climate

- Location: Found along the higher-altitude parts of the southeastern coast of Africa, such as parts of southwestern Kenya and coastal Tanzania.
- Characteristics:
 - □ Mild, wet winters and warm, dry summers.
 - □ Rainfall primarily occurs in the winter (June to August).
 - \Box Average temperatures between 15°C and 25°C.
 - □ Vegetation includes scrublands and forested areas.

• **Examples**: The coastal region of southern Kenya near the Tanzanian border.

7. Semi-Tropical Climate

• Location: Found in parts of southern Kenya, Uganda, and northern Tanzania, specifically in areas that are not too high in altitude but still experience some rainfall throughout the year.

• Characteristics:

 \Box Average temperatures of 20°C to 25°C.

□ Rainfall ranges from 800 mm to 1500 mm annually.

□ Mixed vegetation, including forests, grasslands, and shrubs.

• **Examples**: Kisii and Nyanza regions of Kenya, parts of Uganda.

8. Highland Tropical Climate

• Location: Found in the highland regions of Kenya and parts of Uganda and Tanzania, especially in areas over 1500 meters above sea level.

• Characteristics:

- □ Moderate temperatures, ranging between 15°C and 22°C.
- □ Adequate rainfall, typically between 800 mm and 1500 mm annually.
- □ Fertile land supporting agriculture, including coffee and tea plantations.
- **Examples**: The highlands of Kenya, Uganda's western Rift Valley, and parts of Tanzania.

Assessment.

Identify the major climatic regions in Eastern Africa.