

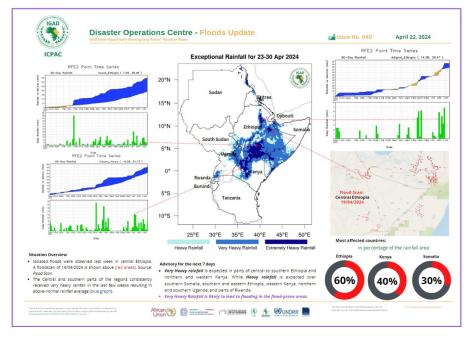
## IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) Technical Report on the Ongoing Flood Impact in the IGAD Region

## As of April 26th, 2024

## **Flood Situation Update**

The IGAD region is grappling with an unprecedented challenge of a climate emergency within the member states. The region, vulnerable to extreme events including floods, has again been tested by the ongoing rains. Heavy rainfall that has been recorded in the past few days, has caused widespread flooding in the region including Kenya and neighboring countries like Ethiopia, Somalia, Tanzania and Burundi. The extent of the impacts of these floods shows the gaps in preparedness and early action despite early warning information being availed on time.

The devastating floods have killed at least 193 people, including children, across the Horn of Africa in recent weeks, with more than 700,000 people displaced according to the Relief Web and rains showing no signs of slowing down as per the ICPAC forecast below.



Persistent rainfall across Kenya's northern and central counties and the capital Nairobi has led to widespread flooding, displacing an estimated 11,000 people and killing 38 people since the beginning of the rainy season less than a month ago. (data from the Kenya Red Cross Society showed on Tuesday (April 23, 2024). In Tanzania, flooding and landslides caused by weeks of heavy rain have killed 155 people and injured 236 others, according to the country's prime minister. (Source: <u>AJ</u>)

Similarly, heavy rainfall in the Ethiopian highlands and across Somalia, is intensifying, with flash floods reported in some places since April 19, and while in Burundi, around 96,000 people were reported to have been displaced by months of relentless rains (UN OCHA).

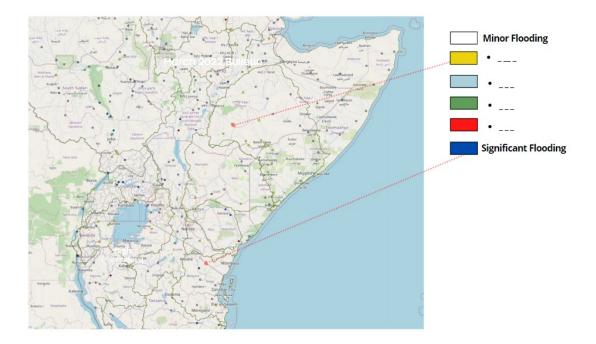
Uganda has also suffered heavy storms that have caused riverbanks to burst, with two fatalities confirmed so far and several hundred villagers displaced.

Dual (flooding and landslides) disasters result in compounded impacts intensify human and economic losses and deepen inequality. Governance to address these challenges is an essential investment to reduce risks such as reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries.

Disaster Risk management authorities in the member states need to scale up their preparedness actions based on the weather and hydrological forecasts to act in good time. For countries that have anticipatory action in place, they need to stand ready to activate in good time and ICPAC stands ready to provide technical assistance on weather and hydrological forecast as well as on thresholds.

## Flood forecasts for the next two weeks (ICPAC)

Based on the climate and hydrological forecast from ICPAC, certain regions are expected to experience increased rainfall, raising the risk of floods in specific areas. It is crucial to closely monitor weather forecasts provided by national hydro-meteorological institutions to take timely action to mitigate potential risks associated with floods and potential landslides.



For media requests contact:

Paula Machio: +254746511941, <u>paula.machio@igad.int</u> Edwin Kiplagat: +254724874765, <u>edwin.kiplagat@igad.int</u> Emebet Jigssa: +254748108077, <u>emebet.jigssa@igad.int</u>