



ICPAC

IGAD Climate Prediction
& Applications Centre

Summary for Decision Makers

SEASONAL FORECAST

March to May 2020

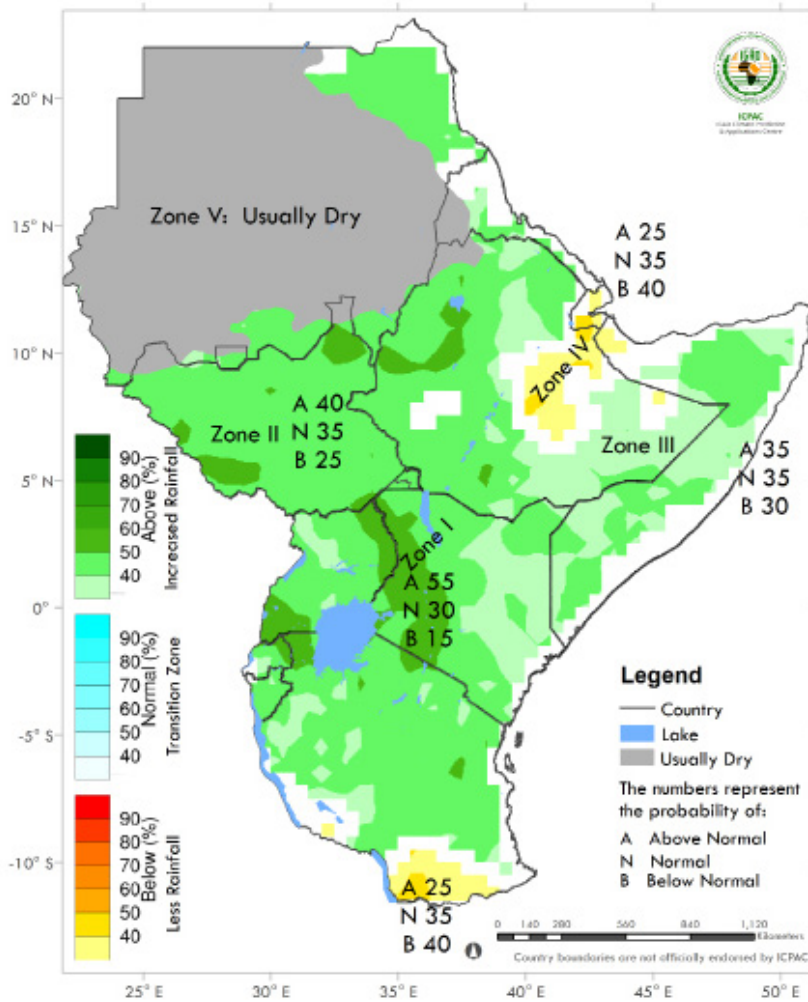
Rainfall and Temperatures

March, April, May is an important rainfall season in East Africa. The forecast indicates a high likelihood of a wetter than usual season in western Kenya, south-western and eastern Uganda as well as eastern Rwanda and western parts of South Sudan. This increases the risk of flash floods in these areas. Considering October, November and December rainfall season was one of the wettest on record, leading to major floods across the region, which affected infrastructure and livelihoods, stakeholders are advised to remain vigilant and implement the required mitigation measures. On the other hand, drier than usual conditions are expected over central and north-eastern Ethiopia and southern Tanzania.

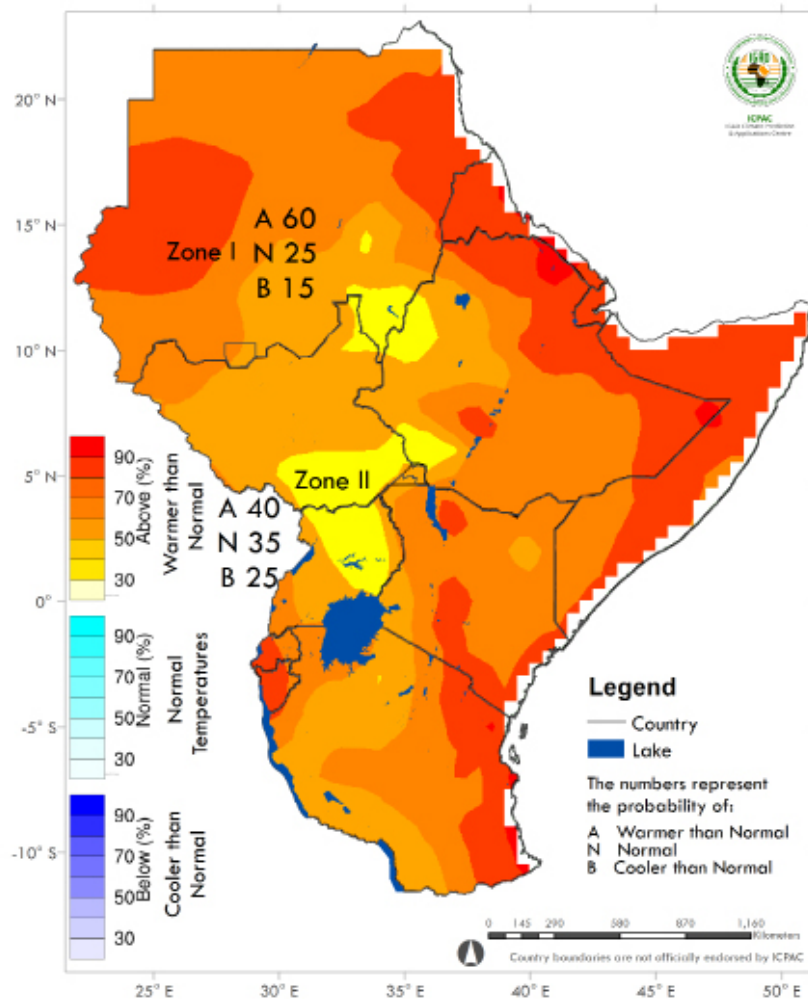
An earlier than usual start of rains is expected across most of the region, especially over northern Tanzania, northern Uganda, western and north-eastern Kenya, south-western Ethiopia, and southern Somalia. A delayed rainfall onset is expected over central and north-eastern Ethiopia and northern Somalia. These areas are also likely to have prolonged dry periods a few weeks after the start of the season.

Higher than usual temperatures are expected over much of the region, in particular, eastern Tanzania, eastern Somalia, eastern Ethiopia, south-western Kenya, western Rwanda, much of Eritrea and Burundi as well as eastern and south-western Sudan.

Caution: Seasonal forecasts need to be used as indicator for the upcoming season for early planning. It should not be taken as given state of the season. This because of the uncertainty inherent in seasonal forecasting. It is especially true for the onset and dry spell forecasts for March, April, and May 2020 because of the long two-month lead times between the times that models initiated the forecasts and the validity of March - May. Therefore, it is crucial to monitor detailed forecast updates issued every month and ten-days by ICPAC and NMHSs.



Rainfall

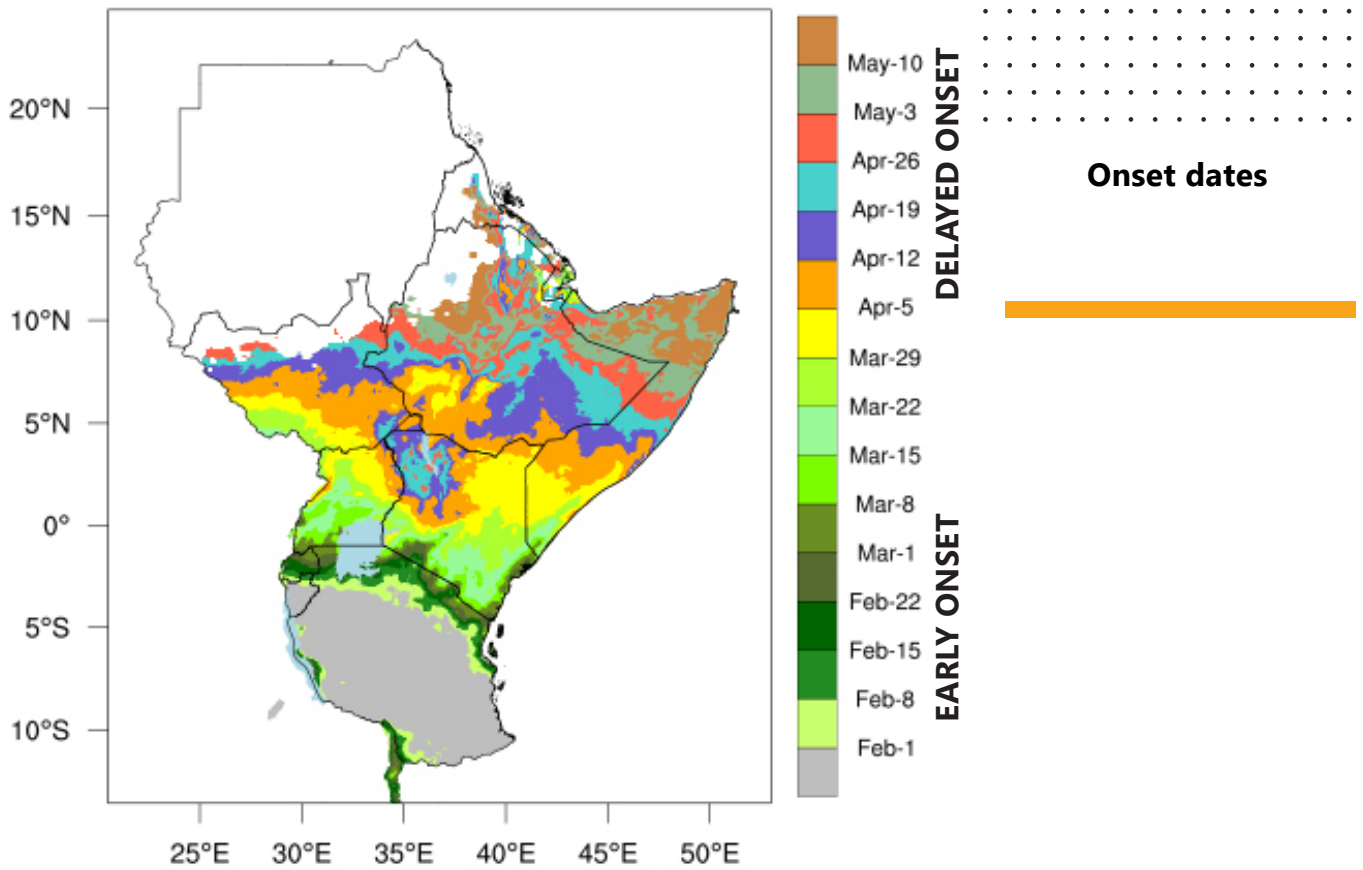


Temperature

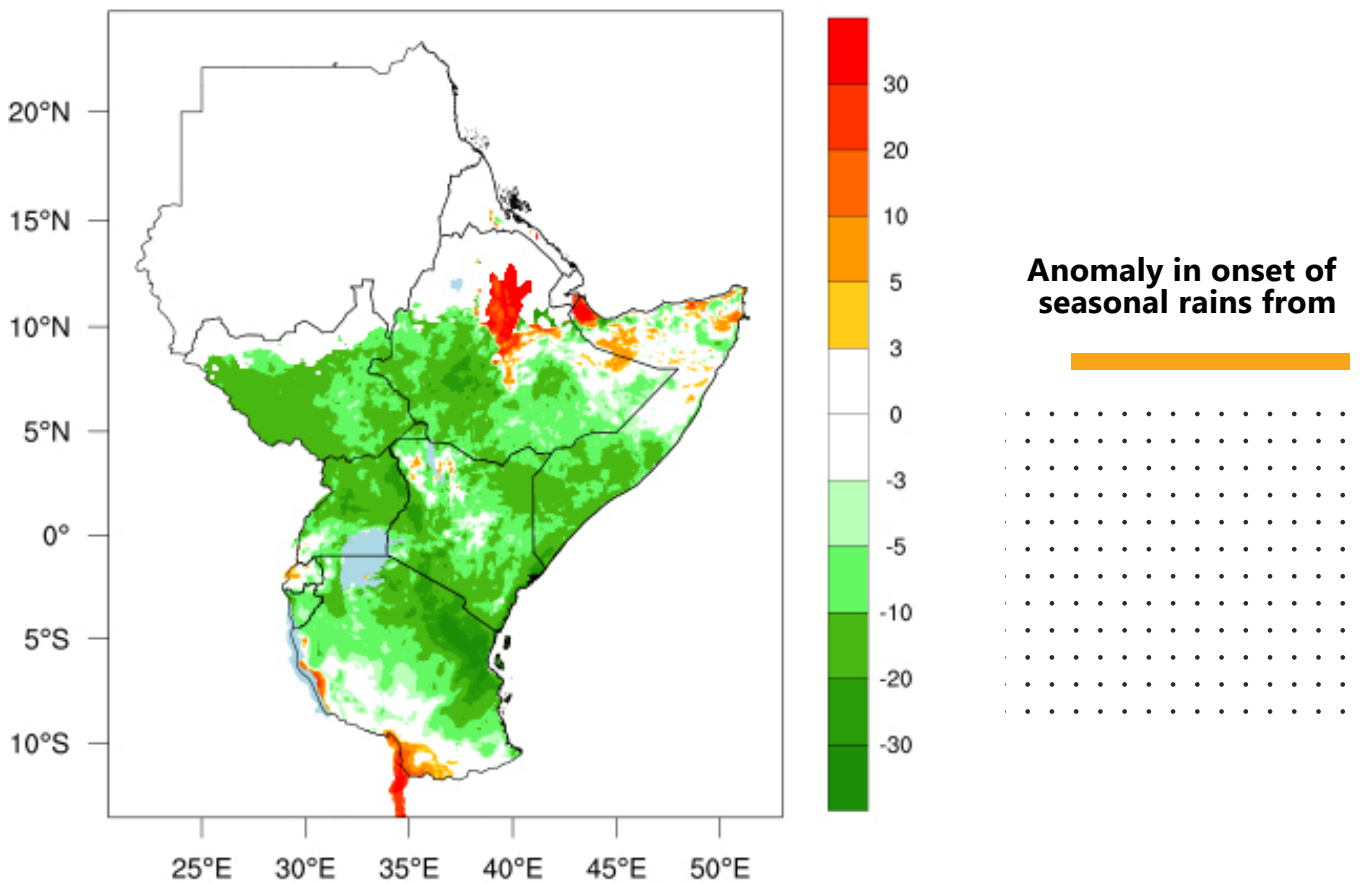
FIGURE 1 and 2:
Seasonal climate outlook for
March to May 2020

Early rains are expected over most parts of the region and late onset in central Ethiopia, northern Somalia, and southern Tanzania.

MAM 2020: Onset dates (Ens Mean) Days



MAM Onset Ens. Mean Anomaly





DJIBOUTI



Disaster Risk Management

Mild drought and dry conditions are expected, especially over the northern and eastern parts of the country.

Advisory

- Disseminate Early Warning information
- Water tracking and supply for rural areas



Agriculture and Food Security

This is an unfavorable season for agriculture due to the dry conditions across the country, which might lead to water scarcity and the continuation of Desert locust's invasion to the region.

Advisory

- Provision and import of fruit, vegetables and other food items
- Drilling to mobilize groundwater for irrigated farms
- Monitoring and surveillance of Desert locust's movement



Water and Energy

During this months water scarcity is expected leading to mild to moderate drought.

Advisory

- Disseminate Early Warning information.
- Water tracking
- Use renewable energy sources for power supply



Livestock

The dry conditions are expected to result in poor pastures regeneration. The degradation of pastures and continuous livestock movements increases pressure at watering points and the risk of animal diseases.

Advisory

- Review of the distribution of concentrates before the pastures deteriorate.
- Supplemental feed supply and destocking and strategic offtakes.
- Animal treatments and vaccinations at sharing water points.
- Early warning on expected conditions.



Health

The season might lead to health risks associated with water's shortage, heat stress and poor sanitation. Likely outbreak of diseases such as Malaria and Dengue Fever.

Advisory

- Surveillance for early detection and treatment of cases
- Treatment of domestic water –Chlorine-based
- Promote health education, hygiene, and other preventive measures
- Safe fecal disposal



Conflict Early Warning

Depressed rainfall expected to have negative impacts.

Advisory

- Downscaling and dissemination of the forecast at the local level
- Coordination with security agencies, local authorities, and other organizations for conflict prevention



ETHIOPIA



Disaster Risk Management

Floods expected in low lying and riverine areas, as well as landslides and soil erosion.

Advisory:

- Issue Early Warning advisory on time
- Conduct protection measures against soil erosion
- Clear waterways and carry out proper water harvesting techniques



Agriculture and Food Security

Risk of floods and landslides in southern and western parts of the country and drought and water shortages in the central and north eastern parts. The upsurge of Desert Locust threatens food security.

Advisory

- Disseminate agromet advisory for early action
- Harvest rainwater and drill borehole to access groundwater for irrigation
- Monitor and control Desert Locust spread
- Provide agricultural inputs and tools to support and improve production



Water and Energy

The above-normal rainfall is expected to enhance hydropower production, water storage, and water supply.

Advisory

- Improve communication between operators of reservoirs (hydropower, agriculture, water supply)
- Encourage storage of water for small scale farmers
- Improve design of intakes for water supply schemes



Livestock

Good forecasted rains in southern parts of the country likely to lead to pasture regeneration. Potential migration of animals from flooded areas.

Advisory

- Preposition drugs and feed for livestock
- Pasture development and feed provision
- Monitor continuously the forecasts
- Conduct water harvesting activities



Health

Southern and western parts of the country might be affected by flood-related health hazards (e.g. Malaria, Diarrhea etc.). Central and northern areas might be impacted by health risks associated with water and food shortages.

Advisory

- Surveillance and strengthening of treatment services
- Surveillance for early detection and treatment
- Treatment of domestic water Chlorine-based
- Health education and hygiene promotion for prevention



Conflict Early Warning

Potential increase in domestic violence.

Advisory

- Downscale and disseminate the forecast at the local level



Disaster Risk Management

The above-normal rainfall might lead to overflow of Tana river causing flooding, landslides, soil erosion, lightning, damage to Infrastructure and loss of assets.

Advisory

- Dam reservoirs to harvest water and drainage cleaning
- Relocate people out of landslide-prone areas
- Repair flood-affected infrastructure



Agriculture and Food Security

The above normal rainfall is good for production but might harm crops due to the risk of floods. Fall armyworms, Desert Locust and Post-Harvest losses threaten food security in the country.

Advisory

- Maximize production of cereals, legumes, root crops, vegetables, plantation crops
- Avoid planting in flood-prone areas and establish soil-erosion control structures
- Proper harvesting and post harvest handling
- Monitoring and control of Desert locust
- Engage in alternative income generating activities



Water and Energy

The above normal rainfall might lead to flooding and dam spilling. It also provides an opportunity for stable hydropower production, water storage and supply.

Advisory

- Raise Awareness and inform stakeholders about risks
- Improve communication between operators of reservoirs (hydropower, agriculture, water supply)
- Develop measures for bulk transfer of water from flooded areas to dry areas in order to avoid displacement of people/destruction of property
- Design & develop groundwater recharge areas (subsurface dams) that store flood



Livestock

The expected above-normal rainfall builds on heavy rainfall from the previous season which will likely lead to better regeneration of pastures in most parts of the country. Milk production is expected to increase leading to low prices.

Advisory

- Tick-Borne diseases
- Be on high alert for Rift Valley Fever
- Governments may consider bridging the gap in milk prices
- Encourage the private sector to invest in milk products (Cheese, milk powder, yogurt)



Health

The risk of flood is high in the flood-prone areas, which might result in displacement and damage in health sector facilities. Increased climate suitability (conductive conditions) for vector-borne and Waterborne diseases.

Advisory

- Intensifying surveillance and providing daily and weekly situation reports on any detected outbreaks
- Multi Disease risk mapping of hotspots in the Countries
- Intensifying Vector control for Malaria – Nets, IRS, larviciding



Conflict Early Warning

More pastures and likely water opportunistic crime incidents. Potential safety risk due to heavy rainfall, flood, and damage in the roads.

Advisory

- Improve coordination with security departments and other concerned agencies

KENYA



SOMALIA



Disaster Risk Management

Currently, the Jubba and Shebelle rivers are full and if rains are above normal more floods could be expected.

Advisory

- Activate sectoral contingency plans of flood task force and water harvesting measures
- Those already relocated to higher grounds like in Baletweyn to remain in their places



Agriculture and Food Security

The above-normal rainfall over the northern and western parts of the country are expected to improve production. The risks of floods, displacement, and the current Desert Locust upsurge are expected to threaten food security.

Advisory

- Share the seasonal forecast information with the agricultural community
- Prepare for response to flooding
- Monitor and control Desert Locust spread



Water and Energy

The expected above-normal rainfall will increase water storage, hence provide stable water supply, especially in the northern and western parts of the country.

Advisory

- Improve design of intakes for water supply schemes
- Develop measures for bulk transfer of water from flooded areas to dry areas in order to avoid displacement of people/destruction of property
- Design and develop groundwater recharge areas (subsurface dams) that store flood waters and subsequently provide supply during drought



Livestock

South West Somalia is of greatest concern (long dry spells, high temperatures). Better regeneration of pastures and recharge of water reservoirs expected in most parts of Somalia

Advisory

- Vaccination and treatment of animals
- Issue Early Warning on pasture and water conditions
- Target to sell more on the export markets during the Hajj (MAY) due to good body conditions of livestock.



Health

Floods are expected in flood-prone areas resulting in Displacement and damage in health sector facilities. It might also lead to an outbreak of vector-borne diseases such as Malaria, Diarrhea, Cholera.

Advisory

- Activate and facilitate rapid response teams (RRTs) at National and sub-National level
- Local health promotion by local authorities including sensitization of health work workers using mass media and social media
- Development of contingency plans at National and Sub-National levels for outbreak response and control strategies.



Conflict Early Warning

The above-normal rainfall is likely to decrease climate based resource conflicts.

Advisory

- Disseminate early warning information



SOUTH SUDAN



Disaster Risk Management

Since the country was affected by floods during the past season, the expected above normal rainfall means further risk of flooding.

Advisory

- Sensitize communities on possible impacts and disseminate Early Warnings
- Open water way and early prepositioning of Food and Non-Food Items (NFI)
- Activate state early warning task force



Agriculture and Food Security

Climate and non climatic factors might pose risk to agriculture and food security. Flooding, post-harvest Losses, Desert Locusts invasion, and displacement are among them.

Advisory

- Maximize production of cereals, legumes, root crops, vegetables, plantation crops
- Good agronomic and IP/DM principles
- Avoid planting in flood-prone areas
- Desert locust control



Water and Energy

Increased water storage and hence stable water supply. Sustained fishing grounds.

Advisory

- Develop measures for bulk transfer of water from flooded areas to dry areas in order to avoid displacement of people and destruction of property
- Design and develop groundwater recharge areas (subsurface dams) that store flood waters and subsequently provide supply during drought



Livestock

Likely animals movement from neighbouring countries like Ethiopia and Sudan. Improved regeneration of pastures and fodder development.

Advisory

- Prepare and export fodder to neighbouring countries
- Be on high alert for Rift Valley Fever



Health

High risk of water-related diseases such as Malaria, Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) and Rift Valley Fever, Cholera, Hepatitis and E Virus.

Advisory

- Preventive tools and services targeting potential diseases
- Surveillance for early detection and treatment of cases
- Treatment of domestic water Chlorine-based
- Health education and hygiene promotion for prevention
- Safe fecal disposal



Conflict Early Warning

Good pasture regeneration is expected resulting into minimal resource based conflict.

Advisory

- Activate state early warning groups, getting updates from meteorological services.



SUDAN



Disaster Risk Management

Dry climate conditions are likely to worsen the harshness of the season leading to heat waves and very warm temperatures.

Advisory

- Close monitoring and dissemination of early warning information
- Improve coordination between all the stakeholders



Agriculture and Food Security

The high inflation and Desert Locust are the main risks to food security in the country. Agriculture is mainly irrigated.

Advisory

- Increase production from irrigated schemes and farms
- Provide pesticides to fight locust,
- dissemination of early warning



Water and Energy

The country doesn't expect much rain at this time of the year. The low water level in the Nile and its tributaries is expected to reduce hydropower generation. Drying of the seasonal rivers. Expected water scarcity in urban and rural areas.

Advisory

- Improve water supply from different sources to avoid water shortages in urban areas
- Prepare alternative power sources to cover the shortages in hydropower generation
- Clean the old and drill new boreholes in the rural areas to maintain water supply
- Enact and enforce policies preventing people from settling in flood plains



Livestock

Movement of pastoral communities towards South Sudan, which might lead to spread of diseases at water-sharing points. Tick-Borne Diseases and Tsetse (Blue Nile state, South Darfur).

Advisory

- Fodder market in Sudan will be active
- Animal treatments and vaccinations at sharing points
- Early warning on expected conditions



Health

Health hazards associated with water shortage, heat stress and dryness are likely to occur. Outbreak of scabies, meningitis and skin related diseases due to scarcity of water.

Advisory

- Distribute Chlorine for water treatment to households that are drinking from unsafe water sources
- Strengthen treatment services for detection and case management of diseases
- Undertake tailor-made social behavior change communication for prompt care seeking, personal protection and appropriate utilization of preventive tools and services targeting potential diseases



Conflict Early Warning

Likelihood of land use conflicts between pastoralists and farmers.

Advisory

- Improve coordination with security departments and other concerned agencies



UGANDA



Disaster Risk Management

Continuation of risk due to flooding and landslides, thunderstorms and lightning. Sustained displacement and disruption of social services such as schools. Damage to roads and bridges and other key infrastructure.

Advisory

- Prepare and revise contingency plans
- Disseminate early warning information
- Encourage people not to return back to high risk localities



Agriculture and Food Security

The above-normal rainfall is good for agriculture but also poses a risk of flooding and landslides, post-Harvest Losses and Desert Locust spread.

Advisory

- Maximize production of cereals, legumes, root crops, vegetables, plantation crops
- Good agronomic and IP/DM principles
- Avoid planting in flood-prone areas
- Conduct Desert locust control measures



Water and Energy

The above-normal rainfall is likely to enhance hydropower production due to the increase of water supply and storage. It also increases the risk of floods and landslides.

Advisory

- Improve communication between operators of reservoirs (hydropower, agriculture, water supply) and take safety measures against landslides



Livestock

The expected wet conditions increase the risk of Rift Valley Fever. Further spread of tsetse flies especially in areas bordering wild animals and clostridial diseases upsurge

Advisory

- Animal treatments and vaccinations
- Early warning on expected conditions



Health

The expected wet conditions might lead to an abundance of surface water, leading to flooding and resulting in vector breeding, intense transmission and possible outbreaks of malaria.

Advisory

- Surveillance for early detection and treatment of cases
- Health education for prevention through contact with animal products



Conflict Early Warning

More pastures and likely water opportunistic crime incidents. Potential conflicts in social and cultural events, including marriages. Response to interventions is expected to be low, with poor meeting attendance.

Advisory

- Strengthen and support of community dialogues, peace committees, Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution (CPMR) platforms
- Conduct cross-border meetings and programmes
- Conduct a rapid assessment of vulnerable and isolated areas



BURUNDI



Agriculture and Food Security

The wet conditions might lead to good production but the risk of flooding, Landslides, Post-Harvest Losses remains. Also, the risk of Desert Locusts threatens food security.

Advisory

- Maximize production of cereals, legumes, root crops, vegetables, plantation crops
- Good agronomic and IP/DM principles
- Avoid planting in flood-prone areas



Water and Energy

The above-normal rainfall is expected to enhance and stabilize hydropower production. It will also increase pressure on the Dam and water management systems

Advisory

- Manage hydro dams for the next seasons
- Dams monitoring and control



Livestock

The season is likely to lead to availability of fodder and water for livestock.

Advisory

- Increase availability of veterinary services such as vaccination
- Paddocking



Health

The above-normal rainfall is likely to increase Malaria cases. Expected diarrhoeal diseases like Cholera due to floods and surface runoff.

Advisory

- Ensure diagnostic supplies, Long lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) and antimalarial are in place
- Health promotion and education on the use of Mosquito nets
- Health promotion campaigns on WASH and proper sanitation
- Strengthen surveillance and case detection



Conflict Early Warning

Increased alcoholism and substance abuse.

Advisory

- Conduct rapid assessment of vulnerable and isolated areas



Health

Due to water associated diseases increased surface runoff and flooding, water sources for domestic use will be contaminated and may result in AWD/cholera outbreak

Advisory

- Surveillance
- Detection and treatment of cases and prepositioning of testing and IRS in houses and larviciding in vector breeding water habitat using of drones
- Distribution and promotion of use of mosquitos nets,
- Treatment services – Static and outreach/temporary treatment services to under-served populations



Conflict Early Warning

Potential conflicts during social cultural events including marriages. Likelihood of improved food security.

Advisory

- Strengthen and support of community dialogues, peace committees

RWANDA



Disaster Risk Management

The previous season was wetter than usual causing floods and damage to the infrastructure. The current forecast continues to pose risks of flooding.

Advisory

- Raise community awareness and disseminate mitigation advisories
- Repair flood-affected infrastructure
- Put in place soil-erosion control structures



Agriculture and Food Security

The expected above normal rainfall is good for production. But several factors such as flooding, landslides, post-harvest losses, Desert Locusts invasion threaten food security.

Advisory

- Repair flood-affected infrastructure
- Maximize production of cereals, legumes, root crops, vegetables, plantation crops
- Good agronomic and IP/DM principles
- Avoid planting in flood-prone areas
- Monitor and control Desert locust spread
- Proper harvesting and post-harvest handling
- Encourage alternative income-generating enterprises



Health

The wetter season is expected to increase Malaria cases, outbreaks of dengue, Chikungunya or cholera. Likelihood of increased impacts of diarrheal diseases like Shigella, Typhoid, Hepatitis A. Likely increase in insect bites.

Advisory

- Ensure Health facilities have sufficient medical supplies and diagnosis kits
- Conduct campaigns to improve drainage systems
- Ensure constant movement of rainwater to avoid stagnation
- Destruction of mosquito breeding sites, larviciding
- Constant use of Long-lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs)
- Drink safe/boiled/treated water

TANZANIA






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