



UGANDA NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL AUTHORITY

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SEASONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK FOR JUNE TO AUGUST 2016 PERIOD OVER UGANDA

1. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES IN UGANDA

The Uganda National Meteorological Authority under the Ministry of Water and Environment was established by an Act of Parliament (UNMA ACT 2012) which went into effect on 24th January 2014.

The UNMA Vision is “being a center of excellent on weather and climate services for sustainable development of Uganda”.

The Mission is “to contribute to the overall national development through provision of quality, customer-focused, cost-effective and timely information for weather services to all users”.

The Overall Goal is “to improve technical and institutional capacity for providing weather and climate information, prediction products and services, early warning system, and related services for sustainable development in Uganda”.

UNMA as the Government’s authoritative voice on weather and climate, is mandated to install and maintain weather observations and monitoring equipments, monitor weather and climate, exchange meteorological data, information and meteorological products and issue weather and climate advisories to all sectors of the economy in particular and to the international partners in general.

As per its mandate, UNMA provides critical services to different sectors of the economy including the aviation industry, air defence, environmental monitoring, water resources management, agriculture, transport and communication as well as tourism and disaster management among others. This mandate has become increasingly pivotal at this time when human kind is faced with the increasing negative impacts of climate change where the poor among our communities are expected to be affected most.

UNMA normally issues timely seasonal climate forecasts just before the beginning of each rainfall season in Uganda. The seasons are March, April and May (MAM), June, July and August (JJA) and September, October, November and December (SOND). The climate forecast in every season provides indications of the expected performance of seasonal rains

including the onset and cessation windows and proposed advisories for the different sectors of the economy. The expected impacts from the forecast are also highlighted for the purposes of advancing appropriate safeguard planning strategies and decision making for various sectors.

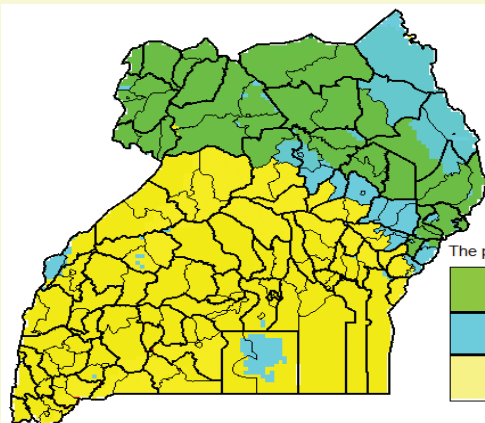
2. SEASONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK FOR JUNE TO AUGUST 2016 OVER UGANDA

The forecast period (June, July and August) is generally part of the dry season over most parts of south western, central, Lake Victoria basin and some parts of eastern region but a continuation of rainfall season for much of the northern Uganda. Following the conclusion of the 43rd Climate Outlook Forum for the Greater Horn of Africa held in Naivasha, Kenya from 30th – 31st May 2016, the national, regional and international climate scientists reviewed the state of the global climate system and its implications on the seasonal rainfall over the east African region. It was observed that the major physical conditions likely to influence the weather conditions of Uganda and the rest of the region for the forecast period of June to August 2016 are as follows:

- The neutral conditions of Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the equatorial Pacific Ocean with a heightened likelihood of La Niña episode to start developing during the second half of 2016 with a 75% chance of at least a weak La Niña by the end of the year which calls for close monitoring;
- The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) that has significant influence on regional climate is also predicted to be in the negative phase during the second half of 2016.
- The influence of regional circulation patterns, topographical features and large inland water bodies.

Based on the above considerations as well as details of the climatology of Uganda and scientific tools for climate analysis, Uganda National Meteorological Authority in the Ministry of Water and Environment, has come up with the following detailed forecast:- Overall, there is an increased likelihood of near normal tending to above normal rainfall over the northern and some parts of eastern region, while the rest of the country is expected to experience below normal rainfall punctuated with occasional light rainfall.

SEASONAL RAINFALL FORECAST FOR JUNE- TO AUGUST 2016



The probability of rainfall occurring in each category

Green	High chances for above normal rainfall
Blue	High chances for near normal to above normal rainfall
Yellow	High chances for near normal to below normal rainfall

The breakdown of the forecast for each region is given as follows:-

2.1 WESTERN REGION

2.1.1 South Western (Kisoro, Kabale, Rukungiri, Kanungu, Ntungamo, Mbarara, Kiruhura, Isingiro, Ibanda, Bushenyi, Buhweju, Mitooma, Sheema, Rubirizi and Kasese) districts

The region is currently experiencing dry conditions with some isolated intermittent light rains. The current situation is expected to persist up to mid/end of June and thereafter drought conditions are expected to set in and continue up to around mid August when isolated outbreak of light showers is expected to get established until the end of the season. Overall, there are high chances of normal dry conditions over most parts of this region.

2.1.2 Central Western (Bundibugyo, Ntoroko, Kabarole, Kyenjojo, Kyegegwa, Kamwenge, Masindi, Buliisa, Hoima and Kibaale) districts

Currently the region is experiencing isolated showers which are expected to persist up to around mid/late June when drought conditions are expected to set in and continue up to around early August and thereafter occasional outbreaks of light showers is expected to set in and continue up to the end of the season for most parts of the region. Overall, there are high chances of near normal dry conditions over the southern parts of this region.

2.2 LAKE VICTORIA BASIN AND CENTRAL AREAS

2.2.1 Western parts of Central (Nakasongola, Luwero, Kyankwanzi, Nakaseke Kiboga, Mubende, Sembabule, Western Masaka, Lwengo, Lyantonde, and Rakai) districts

The light intermittent showers which is currently being experienced over this region is on a decline and is expected to continue up to mid/end of June when the dry season is expected to set in up to around late July/early August. Thereafter, dry conditions punctuated with occasional outbreaks of showers are expected to get established and continue up to the end of the season. Overall, there are high chances of drier than normal conditions with significant water stress over most parts of this region during this season.

2.2.2 Eastern parts of Central (Mukono, Buikwe, Kayunga, Buvuma) districts

The occasional outbreaks of showers and thunderstorms which are currently being experienced in this region are expected to continue up to mid/late June when the dry season is expected to set in up to late July/early August. Thereafter, steady rains are expected until the end of the season. Overall, there are high chances of near normal with a tendency to below normal rain over most parts of this region.

2.2.3. Central and Western Lake Victoria

Basin (Kalangala, Kampala, Wakiso, Eastern Masaka, Mpigi, Butambala, Kalungu, Bukomansimbi, Gomba, Mubende, and Mityana) districts

The region is currently experiencing occasional outbreaks of light showers and thunderstorms, which are on decline. This situation is expected to continue up to late June/early July, thereafter, dry season punctuated by intermittent light showers is expected to set in. This situation is expected to continue until late July/early August when occasional outbreaks of showers are expected to set in and continue until the end of the season. Overall, there are high chances of average dry conditions with localized water stress over this region during this season.

2.2.4 Eastern Lake Victoria Basin: (South Jinja, South Bugiri, South Busia, Mayuge)

Currently the region is experiencing some declining occurrence of light showers and thunderstorms that are likely to continue up to mid/late June. Thereafter the dry season punctuated by irregular outbreak of light showers is expected to set in and prevail up to late July/early August. This is expected to give way to occasional outbreaks of showers and thunderstorm up to the end of the season. Overall, a near normal dry season with isolated occasional light rainfall is expected over this region.

2.3.0 EASTERN REGION

2.3.1 Eastern Lake Victoria and South Eastern: (North Jinja, Kamuli, Iganga, North Bugiri, Luuka, Namutumba, Buyende, Kaliro, Namayingo, Butaleja, North Busia and Tororo) districts

The on-going outbreaks of light showers with short-lived dry spells are expected to continue up to late June/early July when the dry season is expected to set in. This situation is expected to continue up to late July/early August, thereafter, dry condition with intermittent outbreak of showers and thunderstorms is expected to get established and continue up to the end of the season. Overall, near normal rainfall conditions with localized water stress is expected over this region.

2.3.2 Eastern Central: (Pallisa, Budaka, Kibuku, Mbale, Sironko, Manafwa, Bududa, Bulambuli, Kapchorwa, Kween, Bukwo, Bukedea, Kumi, and Soroti) districts

The region is currently experiencing intermittent light rainfall punctuated by dry spells which are expected to continue up to around mid/late June. Thereafter, occasional outbreaks of showers and thunderstorms are expected to set in and continue up to the end of the season. Overall, there are high chances of near normal rainfall over most parts of this region.

2.3.3 North Eastern: (Katakwi, Moroto, Kotido, Nakapiripirit, Abim, Napak, Amudat, Amuria, and Kaabong) districts