



UGANDA NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL AUTHORITY

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SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2016 SEASONAL RAINFALL OUTLOOK OVER UGANDA

Overview

September to December period constitutes the second major rainfall season in Uganda. During the 44th Climate Outlook Forum (COF44) for the Greater Horn of Africa that was held at Speke Resort Hotel Munyonyo from 29th to 30th August 2016, the national, regional and international climate scientists reviewed the current state of the global climate systems and their implications on the seasonal rainfall over the east African region.

It was observed that the major physical conditions that are likely to influence the evolution of weather conditions over Uganda and the rest of the east African region for the forecast period of September to December 2016 will be mostly *La Niña conditions* predicted to persist during the rest of the 2016 and early months of 2017 and Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) predicted to be in the negative phase during the forecast period. This means that several parts of Uganda are expected to receive below normal (suppressed) rainfall. Based on these conditions, and the influence of regional circulation patterns, topographical features and inland water bodies, the Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) in the Ministry of Water and Environment has come up with the detailed forecast as follows:-

General forecast

Overall, there is an increased likelihood of near normal to below normal rainfall over several regions of the country. However, areas of south western, Lake Victoria basin, and south-eastern Uganda are expected to receive near normal rains, while, north-western Uganda and Mt. Elgon areas are expected to have high chances of experiencing near normal to above normal rainfall.

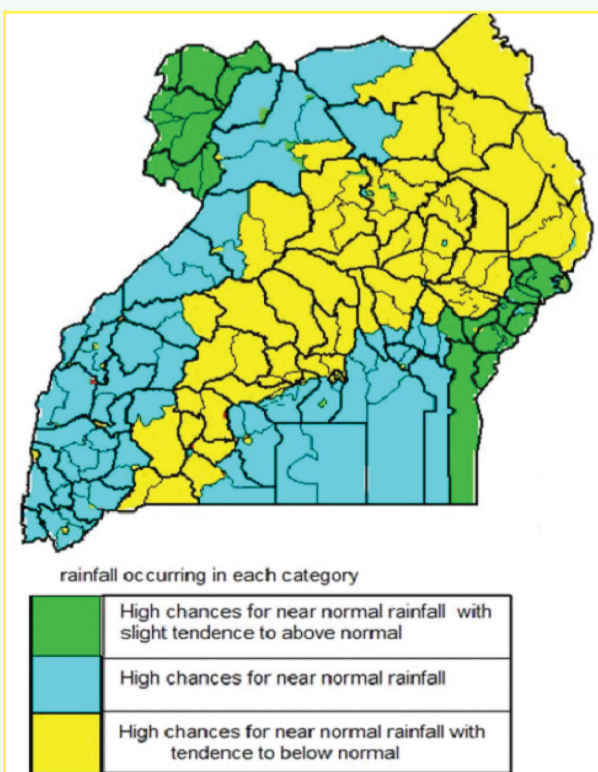


Figure 1: September to December (SOND) 2016 forecast map

WESTERN UGANDA

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 light intermittent rains in some few areas. This situation is expected to continue up to around mid / late September when the onset of seasonal rains is expected to get established. The steady rains are expected to intensify with peak being experienced around late October. The cessation of rains is expected around late November / early December. Overall, near normal rains are expected over this region.

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

Northern parts of this region have been receiving substantial amount of rainfall during August. Currently, the region is experiencing intermittent light rains. The onset of seasonal rains is expected around mid/ late September. The peak of seasonal rains is expected to be realized around mid October. The cessation of rains is expected early December. Overall the region is expected to receive near normal rains.

North Western (Moyo, Arua, Maracha, Nebbi, Okoro, Adjumani, western Amuru, western Nwoya, Yumbe, Koboko and Zombo) districts

The region is currently experiencing its main rainy season which started in June. Steady rains are expected to get established by mid-September with the main peak occurring around late October to early November. Thereafter, a sharp decline is expected with cessation of seasonal rains likely to occur around late November. Overall, near normal rains with slight tendency to above normal are expected to prevail over this region.

CENTRAL UGANDA

Western parts of Central (Rakai, Lyantonde, Lwengo, Kalungu, Bukomansimbi, Sembabule, Mubende, Kiboga, Kyankwanzi, Nakaseke and Nakasongola) districts

Currently this region is experiencing dry conditions. Onset of seasonal rains is expected around mid/ late September with the peak occurring around late October. Cessation of the rains is expected around early December. In general, there is a high chance of this region receiving near normal to below normal rains over this forecast period.

Eastern parts of Central (Mukono, Luwero, Buikwe and Kayunga) districts

The region is currently receiving intermittent light rains and thunderstorms punctuated with dry spells which are expected to continue up to mid-September when normal seasonal rains are likely to set in. Thereafter, the rains are expected to intensify with a peak occurring around late October/early November. A steady decline of rains punctuated by dry spells is expected late November and cessation of seasonal rains expected around early December. Overall, there are high chances for near normal rains over most parts of this region.

LAKE VICTORIA BASIN

Central and Western Lake Victoria Basin (Kalangala, Buvuma, Kampala, Wakiso, Masaka, Mpigi, Butambala, Kalungu, Gomba and Mityana) districts

This region is currently experiencing light isolated intermittent rains and thunderstorms. The onset of seasonal rainfall is expected around mid/late September. Peak rains are expected around late October/early November. Cessation is expected around early December. Overall, there is a high chance of near normal rains in this region.

Eastern Lake Victoria Basin (Jinja, Mayuge, Bugiri and Busia) districts.

Currently the region is experiencing intermittent light and thunderstorms punctuated with dry spells over several areas. The onset of seasonal rains is expected to set in around mid/late September and steady rains are expected to reach the peak levels during the month of October and November. The season is expected to end around early December. Overall, near normal rains are expected to prevail over most part of this region.

EASTERN UGANDA

South Eastern (Kamuli, Iganga, North Bugiri, Luuka, Namutumba, Buyende, Kaliro and Tororo) districts

This region has been experiencing some isolated light outbreaks of showers and thunderstorms since July. Steady seasonal rains are expected to set in by mid / late -September reaching the peak levels around late-October to late November. The rain is expected to cease around early December. In general, near normal rains are expected to prevail over this region

Eastern Central (Pallisa, Budaka, Mbale, Sironko, Manafwa, Bududa, Kapchorwa, Kumi, Kaberamaido, Soroti, Serere, Amolatar, Butaleja, Bulambuli, Kween, Bukwo, Bukedea and Ngora) districts

The onset of seasonal rains is expected to set in by mid-September reaching the peak around late-