



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

## UGANDA NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL AUTHORITY

Head Office: Tel: +256 414 251798, Plot 67 – 75, Fax: +256 414 251797  
Clement Hill Road, P.O. Box 7025, KAMPALA E-mail:com.met@meteo-uganda.net, www.unma.go.ug



October to late November. Thereafter, the rains are expected to decline steadily with cessation expected around early December. Overall near normal to above normal rains are expected over this region.

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

The region has been experiencing its seasonal rainfall since July which was punctuated by short dry spells over several parts. The intermittent rains are expected to continue up to around late September. Overall, there are high chances for below normal rains over this region.

### NORTHERN UGANDA

Central Northern and Eastern parts of Northern Region (Gulu, Apac, Lira, Alebtong, Kitgum, Otuke, Pader, Amuru, Agago, Amolatar, Lamwo, Nwoya, Oyam, Kole, Dokolo and Kiryandongo) districts

The region is experiencing its major rainy season with isolated showers and thunderstorm in several parts. However, some parts have been experiencing dry spells. The current moderate seasonal rains are expected to continue up to early October when the peak of the seasonal rains is expected to set in. The rains are expected thereafter to decline with cessation around late November to early December. Overall, near normal rains are expected over this region.

### IMPLICATIONS OF THE FORECAST

- The seasonal climate forecast for September to December 2016 indicates that there is an increased likelihood of near normal to below normal rainfall over several regions of the country. This implies that most regions of the country are expected to receive the total rainfall that is below 75% of the long term mean (LTM) of the base period of 1981-2010. Under this range there are high chances for socio-economic activities being stressed, the level of stress increasing with increasing rainfall deficiency. The areas that are likely to be more affected are those that lie along the Cattle Corridor of Uganda. Expected impacts include; water stress, shortage of pastures, Internal and cross-border conflicts, human and animal disease outbreaks, food insecurity leading to Poor Nutrition, possibility of diseases related to dry conditions such as meningitis and animal diseases such as foot and mouth disease, reduced water levels, Low discharges, drying up of aquifers and wetlands and reduced water availability.
- For the areas that have high chances of receiving near normal rains, means that the total rainfall expected will range between 75% to 125% of the long term mean (LTM) of the base period of 1981-2010. This range of rainfall is expected to adequately support the normal socio-economic activities for the various areas in those areas.
- The regions expected to receive near normal above normal rainfall, it implies that the total

rainfall in those areas is expected to be above 125% of the long term mean (LTM) of the base period of 1981-2010. This means that the Impacts on socio-economic activities are mostly boosted especially in the modest degrees of above average for several areas. This is expected to be reflected in north-western and some parts of eastern regions.

### GENERAL ADVISORIES TO DIFFERENT SECTORS

#### REGIONS EXPECTING TO EXPERIENCE NEAR NORMAL TO BELOW NORMAL RAINFALL CONDITIONS

- ☒ The Agricultural and food security Sector
  - Plant early maturing crops such as beans, upland rice and drought resistant varieties like non-cooking bananas, cassava (NASSE 14-drought tolerant), sweet potatoes etc that can withstand the little rainfall situations;
  - Farmers are encouraged to carry out proper post-harvesting and storage practices so as to limit the post-harvest losses during transportation from gardens to stores;
  - Communities are advised to use available food and water sparingly to ensure water availability for small scale crop growing;
  - The pastoral households should maintain manageable herds and carry out Pests and Disease control measures for their livestock e.g. tick borne disease;
  - Proper management of fruit trees like mangoes, oranges is encouraged;
  - Water harvesting practices are advised.
  - Diversify livelihood options for easy adaptation due to high chances of low levels of agricultural output expected;

#### ☒ Health sector

- Sensitization and awareness campaigns on sanitation and hygienic issues to prevent disease outbreaks like meningitis and other airborne diseases should be carried out;
- Vaccination and immunization of animals should be carried out in the pastoral communities especially Karamoja region due to expected cross boarder movements.

#### ☒ Water and Energy sector

- Efficient power utilisation and adoption of alternative power sources such as solar, wind, geothermal, gas etc is encouraged;
- Water harvesting, storage and proper usage should be enhanced to resolve the issues of the expected water scarcity;
- Communities should ensure proper catchment management and avoid encroachment on wetlands;
- Desilting of valley dams is encouraged to ensure the maximum collection of the rain water;

#### REGIONS EXPECTING TO EXPERIENCE NEAR NORMAL CONDITIONS / TO ABOVE NORMAL RAINFALL CONDITIONS

##### The Agricultural and food security Sector

- The farming communities are encouraged to carry out timely planting of all forms of crops both perennial and annual such as commercial trees, fruit trees, cotton, coffee;
- Soil Water Conservation practices like mulching, trenches are encouraged to ensure maximum water moisture content storage in the soil for proper plant growth and development;
- Disease control measures should be put in place by agricultural communities, for instance, weeding, pruning and increased frequency of spraying during the rainy season at least once a week for both livestock and fruit trees like citrus;
- There is need for timely procurement of farm inputs like seeds, manure, to avoid unnecessary late planting ready by start of the rains;
- Pastoral communities are encouraged to maintain manageable numbers of livestock and to grow surplus pastures and fodder, hay making and silage for future use.

#### Disaster risk management

- Establishment of food reserves at household levels / Village grain banks to prepare for the expected food insecurity;
- Enacting and enforcement of By-laws and ordinances in the respective local governments as far as disaster management is concerned is encouraged;
- Enhance and empower operations of District Disaster Committees as far as resources for disaster management is concerned;
- Early warning information dissemination channels should be developed to ensure quick action by authorities in case of any emergencies;
- Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) and Ministry of Tourism and Trade should sensitize communities around the parks and wildlife reserves on the negative impacts of encroachment on game reserves especially during this La Nina period;
- The government should introduce and establish weather insurance Index for extreme weather events to guarantee compensation of disasters affected communities.

#### Health sector

- Regular surveillance of diseases, stock of relevant drugs and supplies is encouraged as a contingency measure against any expected disease outbreaks;
- Clearing bushes, opening of drainages, purchase of mosquito nets, fumigating in and around homesteads is encouraged as a precautionary control measure against Malaria;
- Immunization of animals against trypanosomiasis which is a common animal disease during rainy periods should be carried out;

#### Water and Energy sector

- The concerned authorities should prepare for routine de-silting of channels and reservoirs
- Buffer zones of vegetated/forested areas around water sources should be set up to guard against water pollution, and communities should avoid consumption of contaminated water;