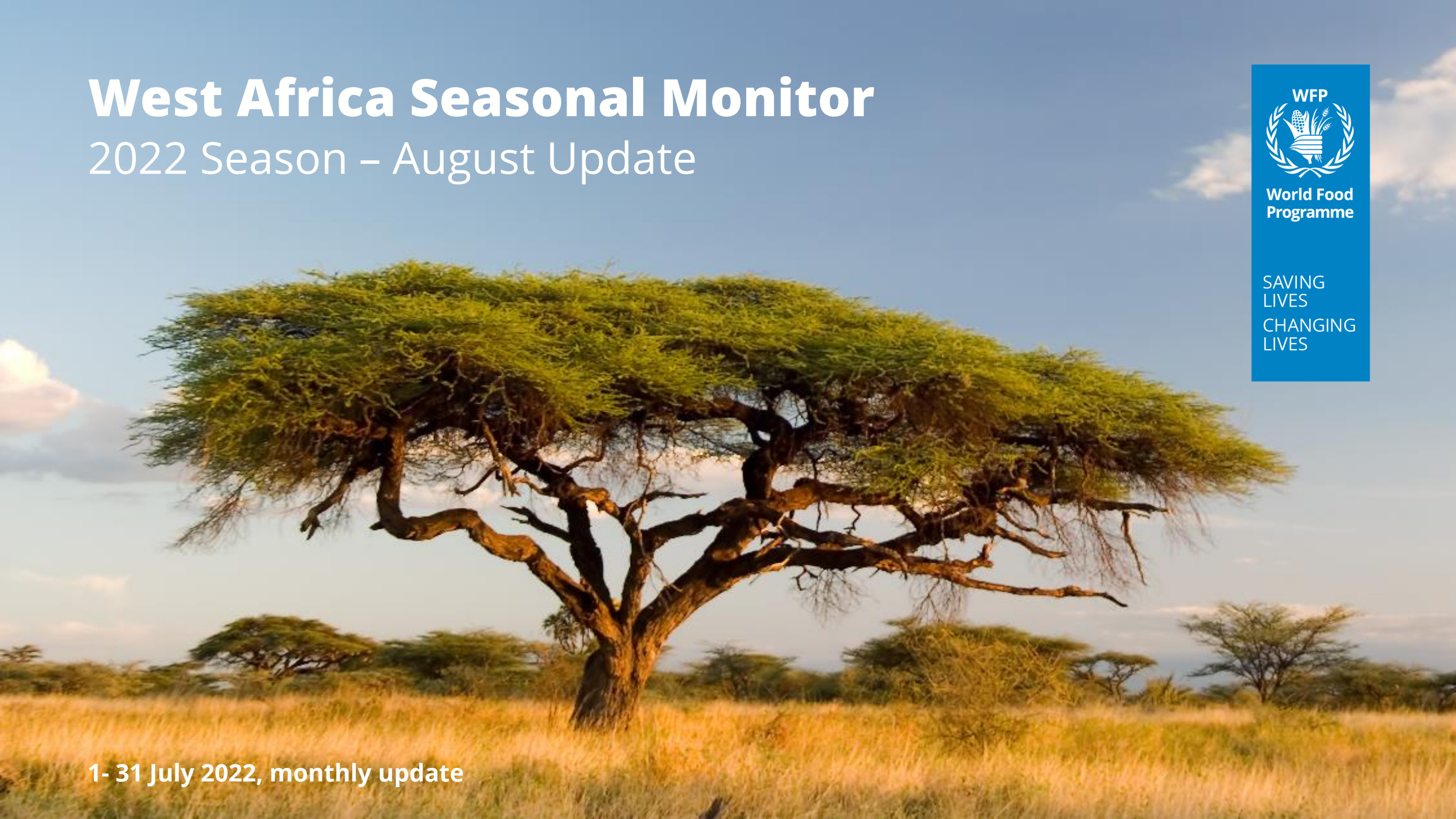
West Africa Seasonal Monitor

2022 Season – August Update



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

1- 31 July 2022, monthly update

Highlights

- **As of late of July, the early stage of the core period of the rainy season**, overall in July, West Africa continue to be characterized by below average seasonal rainfall and deficits mainly affected far northern Senegal, southern Mauritania, western Mali, eastern Guinea, western Niger as well as Gulf of Guinea and Mono River (from Sierra Leone to Nigeria) while the western parts of the Sahel (Senegal, The Gambia) and central Burkina Faso and the eastern parts of the region (Chad, Cameroon and CAR) experienced above normal rainfall conditions. Seasonal rains during this first dekad of the month of July were mixed while the second dekad remained well below average. Favourable conditions during last dekad of July offset some of the early season deficits in areas over westernmost part of the region (Senegal, Mauritania, Gambia), while abnormal dryness persist in central southern Mali and western Niger as well Gulf of Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia and eastern Guinea.

- **The rainy season so far (over the past tree (3) months (May-July 2022)),** was characterised by mixed conditions. Over the western Sahel (Senegal, The Gambia,), the central Sahel (central Burkina Faso) and the eastern part of the region (eastern Niger, Chad, Cameroon and CAR) above normal rainfall was received. Central western and south coastal Nigeria, far northern Senegal, southern Mauritania, eastern Guinea, Sierra and Liberia experienced below average rainfall. Erratic seasonal rainfall since early May has resulted in abnormal dryness over central southern Mali, western Niger, central Nigeria. Lack of rains during July resulting below average rainfall over northern Senegal and southern Mauritania. These deficits may have major impacts on agricultural activities, given that planting normally occurs during the month of July. Meanwhile heavy rains have caused flooding, leading to fatalities, damaged infrastructures, and people affected over areas in Gambia, Senegal, Mali, Chad and Nigeria. Further south, drier than normal conditions were also observed in Sierra Leone, Liberia and western Cote d'ivoire.

- **Vegetation conditions** are below average over a wide area in the Sahel from western Mali across Burkina Faso to northern Nigeria as well as northern Senegal. Vegetation deficits are particularly pronounced in western Niger, northern Senegal, Nigeria and eastern Burkina Faso). In some areas, these conditions are expected to improve due to more favourable expected rainfall conditions in the coming weeks. On the other hand, better than normal vegetation conditions can be observed in southern Senegal, south-eastern Mauritania, central Mali, north-western Nigeria, extreme north Cameroon and the sahelian belt of Chad.

- **The short-term forecasts** indicate that by mid-August (20 August 2022), seasonal rainfall will likely be mostly above average for the West Africa region, except southern coastal areas (southern cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin Cameroon, Sierra Leone), as well as CAR, western Senegal and northwestern Mauritania with below average seasonal rainfall. Drought will likely be most pronounced in southern coastal Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, south-eastern Liberia and southern Cameroon. This might partially offset the rainfall deficits in parts of the Sahel (northern Senegal, southern Mauritania, western Mali, western Niger) and the lead to more favorable conditions during the early stages of the growing season. However, for the countries of the Gulf of Guinea this deserves close monitoring.

- **According to the 2022 PRESASS seasonal forecast**, average to above average seasonal rainfall is expected in most of the Sahelian Belt (from Senegal through to Chad), including Cabo Verde. Average to below average rainfall is expected in south-eastern Nigeria and south-western Cameroon. The seasonal forecast also suggests that the start of the season will be early to normal, with shorter than normal dry spells during the first half of the rainy season across the Sahelo-Sudanian zone.

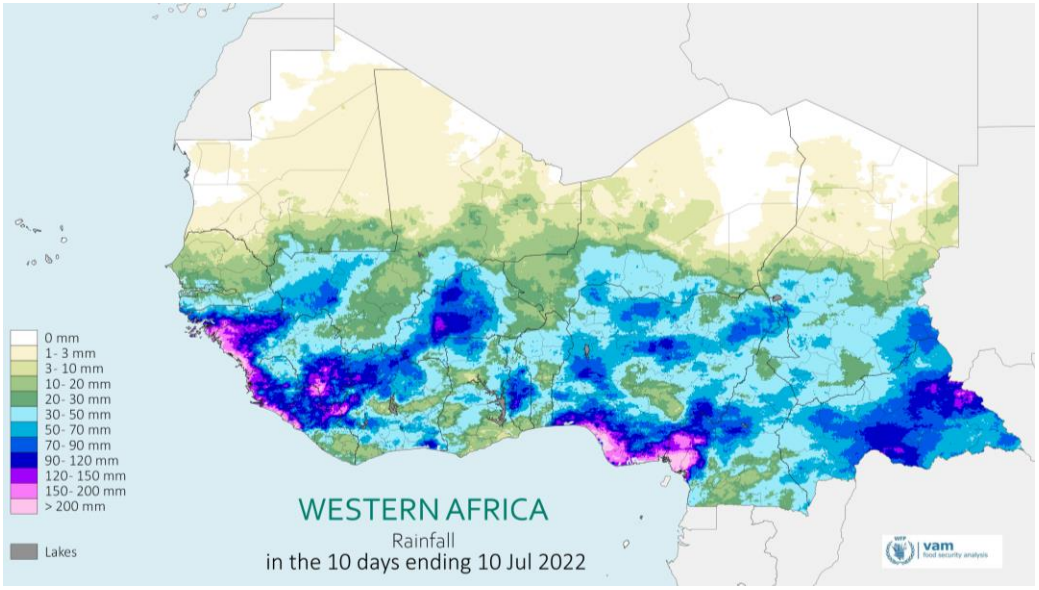
Content

Note: *this document is the monthly update of the Seasonal Monitor for West Africa. The Seasonal Monitor will be updated in full every month during the 2022 rainy season (May-October).*

SECTION 1:

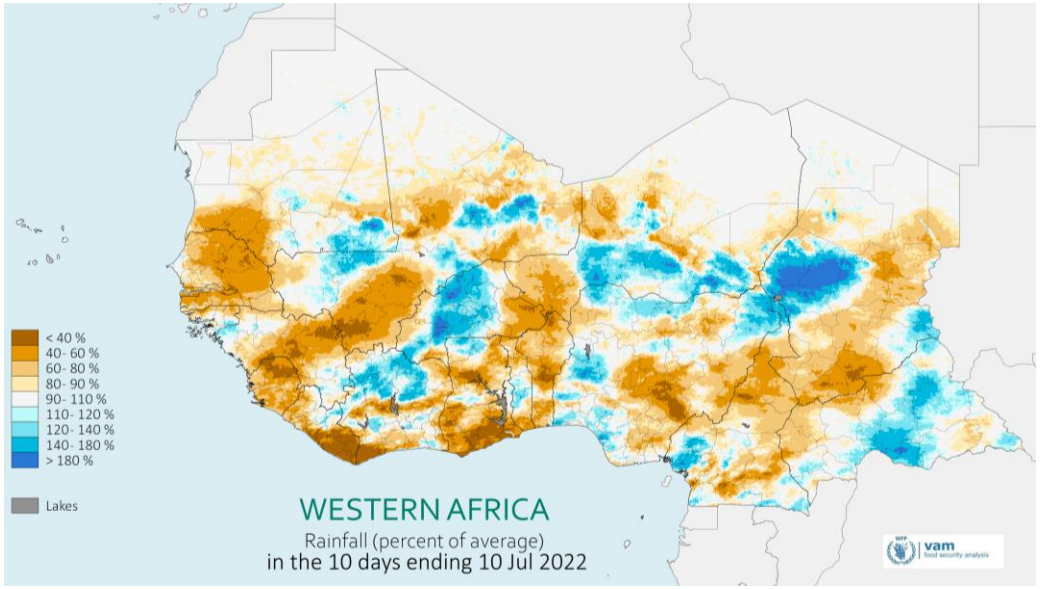
DEKADAL TRENDS

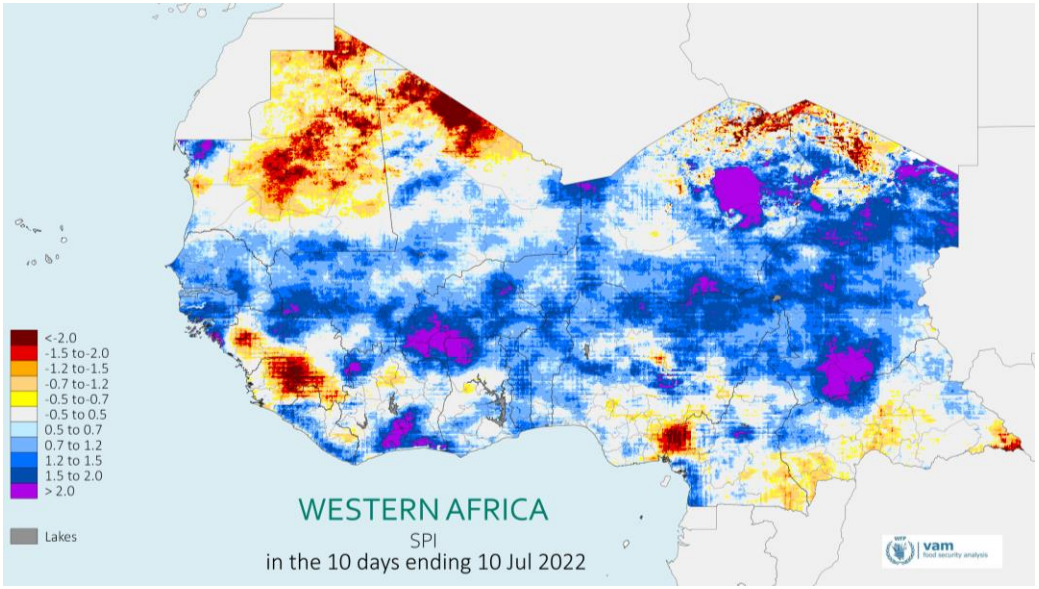
Rainfall patterns: 1-10 July 2022



*The **map to the left** shows the **total rainfall received** over the first dekad (10 days), based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Areas highlighted in light green have received little rainfall, while areas in dark blue or pink have received moderate to intense rains.*

*The **map to the right** shows the **rainfall anomaly** over the first dekad, expressed in percentage of the long-term average, based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Areas in light to dark brown have received below average rains, while areas in dark blue have experienced above normal rainfall over the past 10 days.*

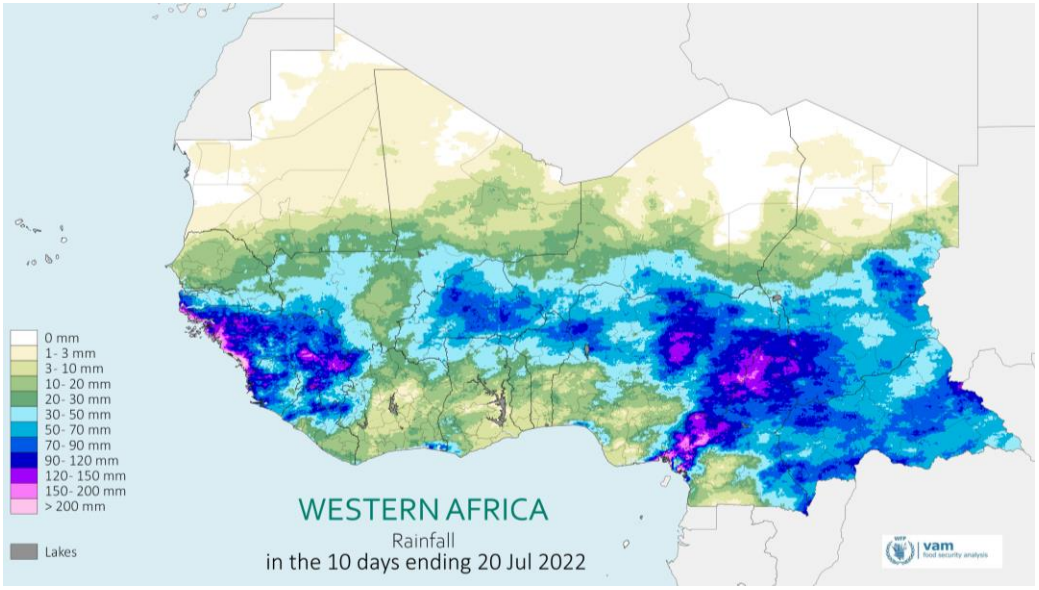




*The **map to the left** shows the **Standard Precipitation Index (SPI)** for the first dekad, based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. This simultaneously shows the experience of wet conditions on one or more time scales, and dry conditions on other time scales. Blues - dark purple for wetter conditions , Yellow – Browns for drier conditions.*

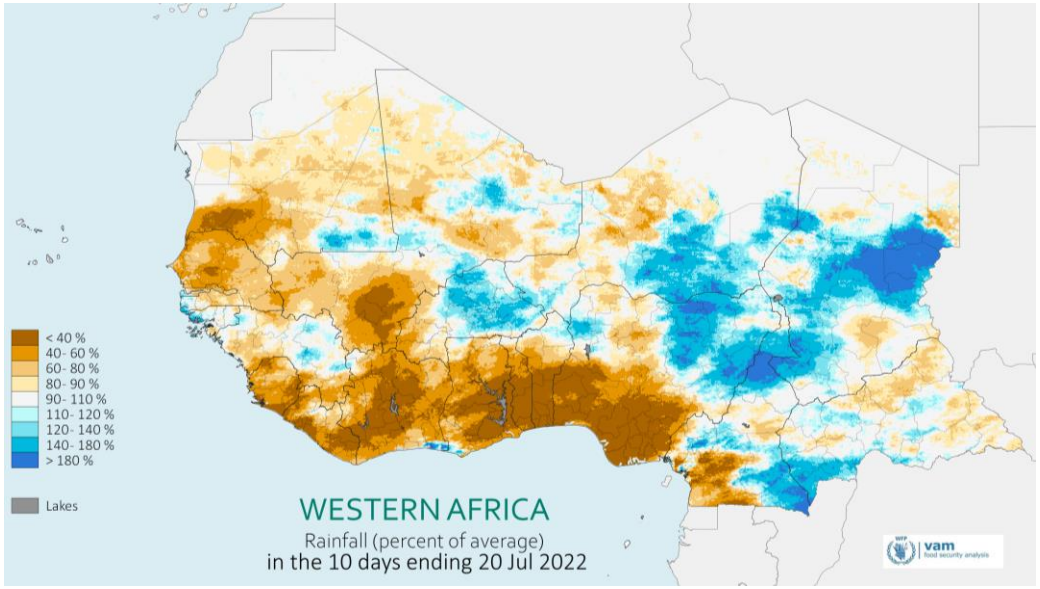
- **Cumulative rainfall**: During the first dekad of July (1-10 July), West Africa experienced mixed rainfall patterns with moderate to heavy rains (of 50 mm up to 200 mm) recorded in central Burkina Faso, eastern CAR, north-western Cote d'Ivoire, southern Nigeria, western and eastern Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, southern Senegal, Sierra Leone and western Liberia. Meanwhile, light rains were received in most of Senegal, Gambia, western Niger, Mauritania and central Mali.
- **Rainfall anomaly:** The seasonal rainfall rains during this first dekad of the month of July were mixed. Some areas such as central Burkina Faso, northern Cote d'Ivoire, central and eastern Niger, western Chad, western Nigeria and central CAR experienced significantly above normal rainfall. On the other hand, most other areas remained abnormally dry, particularly southern Liberia, southern Ghana and parts of Sierra Leone, Guinea and south-western Mali.
- **Standard Precipitation Index (SPI):** During the first dekad of July, the SPI suggests that the West Africa region remained characterised by a positive signal. During the dekad, dry conditions remained localised over parts of Sierra Leone and western Guinea, the border areas between Nigeria and Cameroon, south-eastern Cameroon, parts of CAR and northern Mauritanaia. It is important to note that the SPI is more accurate for areas where the season has progressed further and/or which experience higher overall rainfall amounts. For further information on the SPI, see this factsheet.

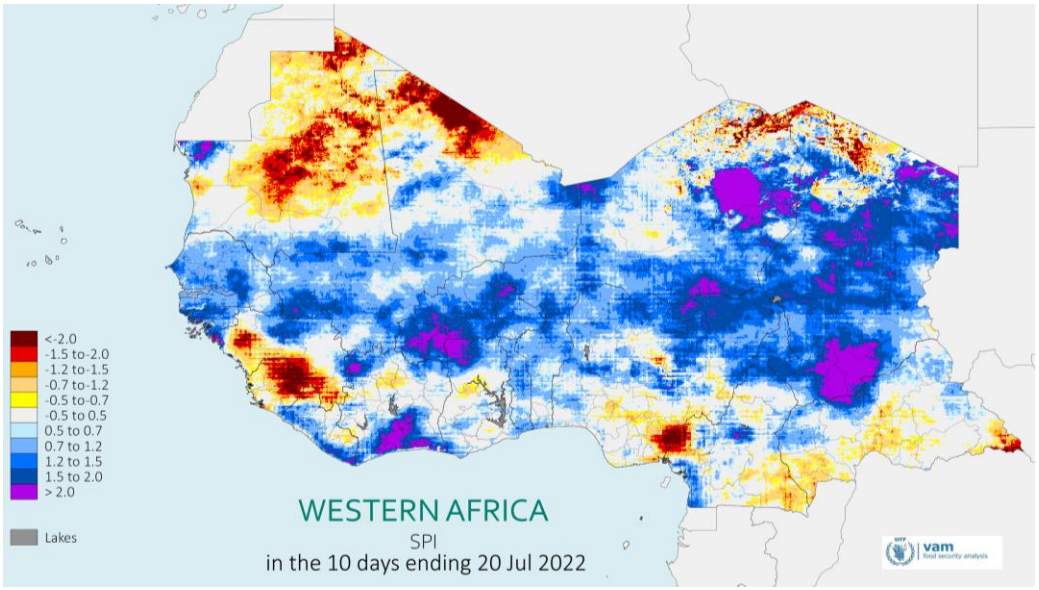
Rainfall patterns: 11-20 July 2022



*The **map to the left** shows the **total rainfall received** over the second dekad (10 days), based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Areas highlighted in light green have received little rainfall, while areas in dark blue or pink have received moderate to intense rains.*

*The **map to the right** shows the **rainfall anomaly** over the second dekad, expressed in percentage of the long-term average, based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Areas in light to dark brown have received below average rains, while areas in dark blue have experienced above normal rainfall over the past 10 days.*

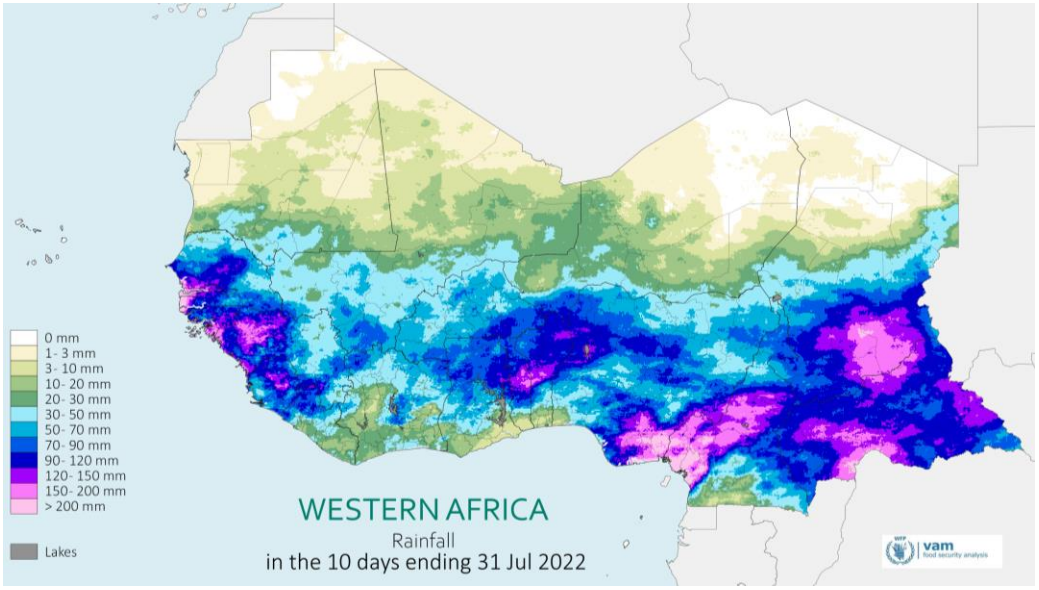




*The **map to the left** shows the **Standard Precipitation Index (SPI)** for the second dekad, based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. This simultaneously shows the experience of wet conditions on one or more time scales, and dry conditions on other time scales. Blues - dark purple for wetter conditions , Yellow – Browns for drier conditions.*

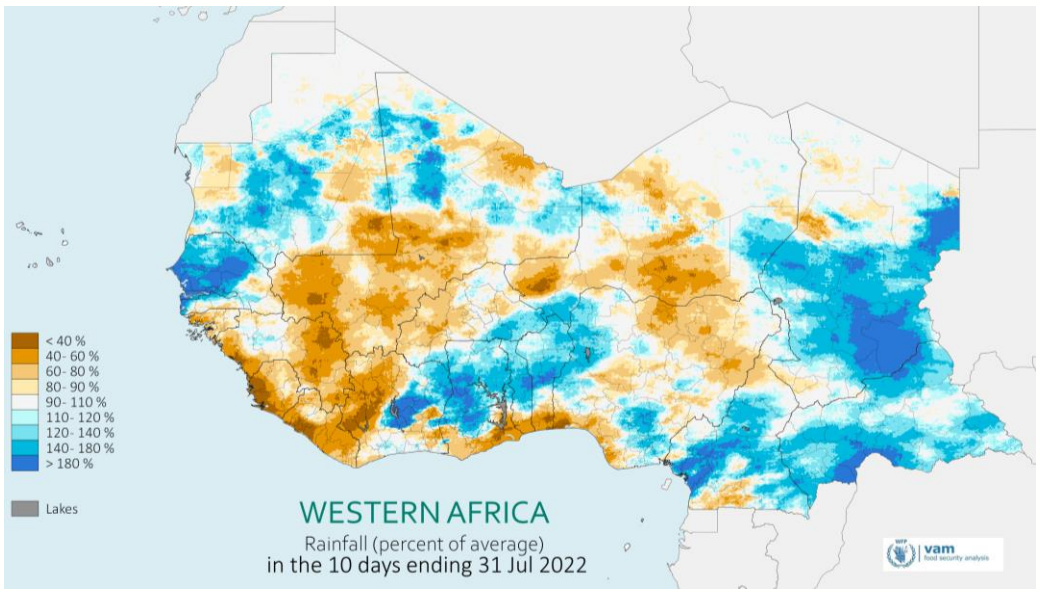
- **Cumulative rainfall**: During the second dekad of July (11-20 July), heavy rainfall (above 90 mm) was received in coastal areas of southern Senegal, Guinea-Bissau and Guinea, in inland areas of Guinea, as well as in the south-eastern parts of the region, including in north-western Nigeria, Cameroon and southern Chad. In the rest of the region, including in coastal areas along the Gulf of Guinea and in the northern Sahel, light to moderate rains (up to 50 mm) were received
- **Rainfall anomaly**: Compared to the long-term average, rainfall during the second dekad of July remained well below the long-term average in most coastal countries, from Sierra Leone through to Cameroon. Rainfall was also below normal in the north-western parts of the region (Senegal and Mauritania), as well as in south-western Mali. The central (Burkina Faso) and eastern parts of the region (eastern Niger, north-easter Nigeria, northern Cameroon and Chad) experienced above normal rainfall.
- **Standard Precipitation Index (SPI):** During the second dekad of June, the SPI indicates wetter than normal conditions throughout most of the region, except for western Guinea, Sierra Leone, the border areas between Nigeria and Cameroon, as well as southern Cameroon, CAR and northern Mauritania. It is important to note that the SPI is more accurate for areas where the season has progressed further and/or which experience higher overall rainfall amounts. For further information on the SPI, see this factsheet.

Rainfall patterns: The last dekad (21-31 July 2022)



*The **map to the left** shows the **total rainfall received** over the last dekad of June (21-31 July 2022), based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Areas highlighted in light green have received little rainfall, while areas in dark blue or pink have received moderate to intense rains.*

*The **map to the right** shows the **rainfall anomaly** over the last dekad of June (21 -31 July 2022), expressed in percentage of the long-term average, based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Areas in light to dark brown have received below average rains, while areas in dark blue have experienced above normal rainfall over the past 10 days.*



- **<u>Cumulative rainfall</u>:** During the last decade of the month (21-31 July), most of the Sahel experienced light to moderate seasonal rainfall. In other places over central, western and south western Senegal and most of Gambia were received moderate to heavy rainfall (90 mm to over 200mm).
- In south western coastal areas of the region over western Guinea, Guinea Bissau, and Sierra Leone were recorded moderate to heavy rains (90 – 200mm).
- Significant rainfall (90-200 mm) were received in northern Ghana, Togo and Benin, north-western Nigeria and south-eastern Nigeria, Central Cameroon, Southern Chad and CAR. Elsewhere light to moderate seasonal rainfall were received while particularly far southern coastal of Gulf of Guinea and eastern Mano river recorded very little amounts of rains.
- **<u>Rainfall anomaly:</u>** Compared to the long-term average, the rains recorded in the last dekad of July were above average in Senegal, Gambia, most of Mauritania, Chad, CAR, southern Cameroon as well as northern Togo, Benin, Ghana, central Cote d'Ivoire and western Nigeria.
- On the other hand, rainfall received in Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Sierra, Liberia, western Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, south-western Burkina, most of Niger, NE Nigeria and far southern of Gulf of Guinea were below average.

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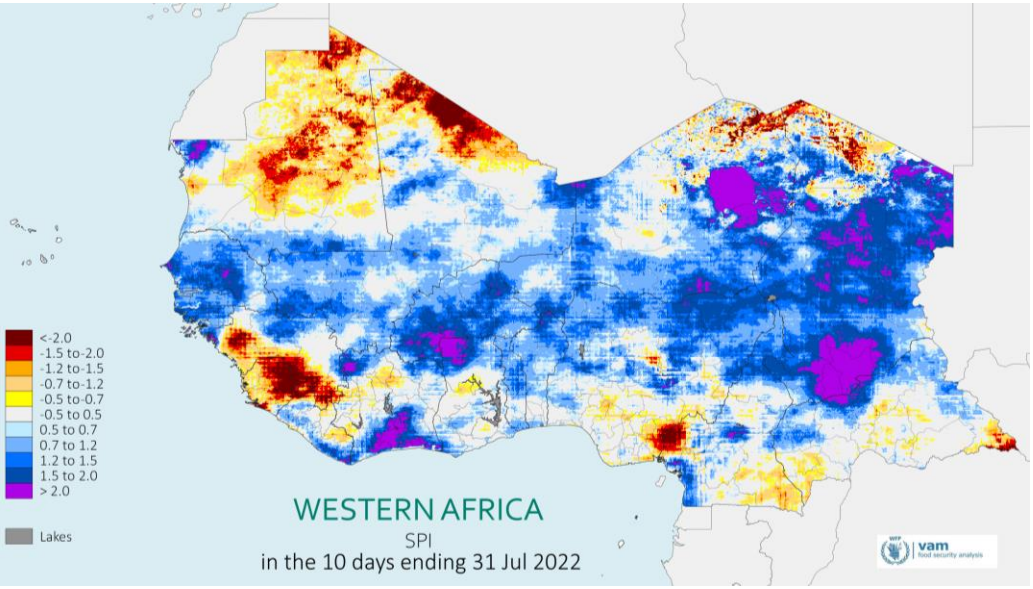
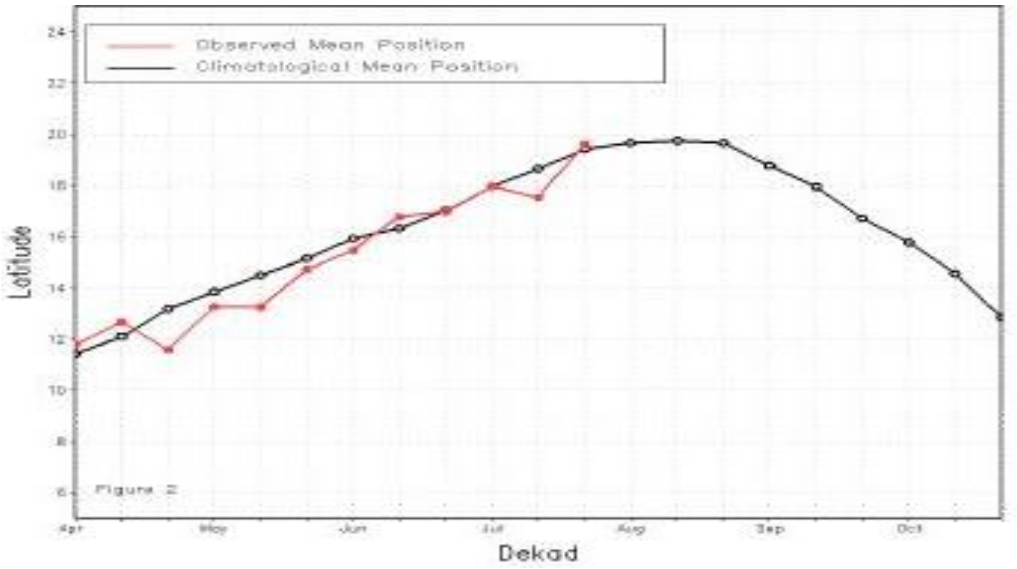
Rainfall patterns: The last dekad (21-31 July 2022)



*The **map to the left** shows the **Standard Precipitation Index (SPI)** for the last dekad of June (21-31 July 2022), based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. This simultaneously shows the experience of wet conditions on one or more time scales, and dry conditions on other time scales. Blues - dark purple for wetter conditions , Yellow – Browns for drier conditions.*

*The **graph to the right** shows the **current ITCZ position** (red) compared to the long-term average (black). The ITCZ is the border between dry areas and areas where the rainy season is ongoing. Delays in the ITCZ progression lead to drier than normal conditions, while an above average ITCZ position is associated with above normal rains.*



- **Standard Precipitation Index (SPI):** The SPI suggests that conditions were wetter than normal throughout the region during the last dekad of July (21-31 July), except for some parts of Guinea, Sierra Leone, south-western Cameroon and northern Mauritania as well as parts of CAR and south-eastern Nigeria.
- It is important to note that the SPI is more accurate for areas where the season has progressed further and/or which experience higher overall rainfall amounts. For further information on the SPI, see this factsheet.
- **ITCZ**: The Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) progressed northwards and remain located approximately at 19.6 degrees N, above the long-term average.
- The progression of the ITCZ has been slightly below normal during the first part of the season, late June and early July. However, during the second dekad of July ITCZ position was approximately located at 17.7N which was below the long-term average. From 11 – 31 July It was located above the climatology position leading to more favourable rainfall conditions over the western part of region and most of Sahel.

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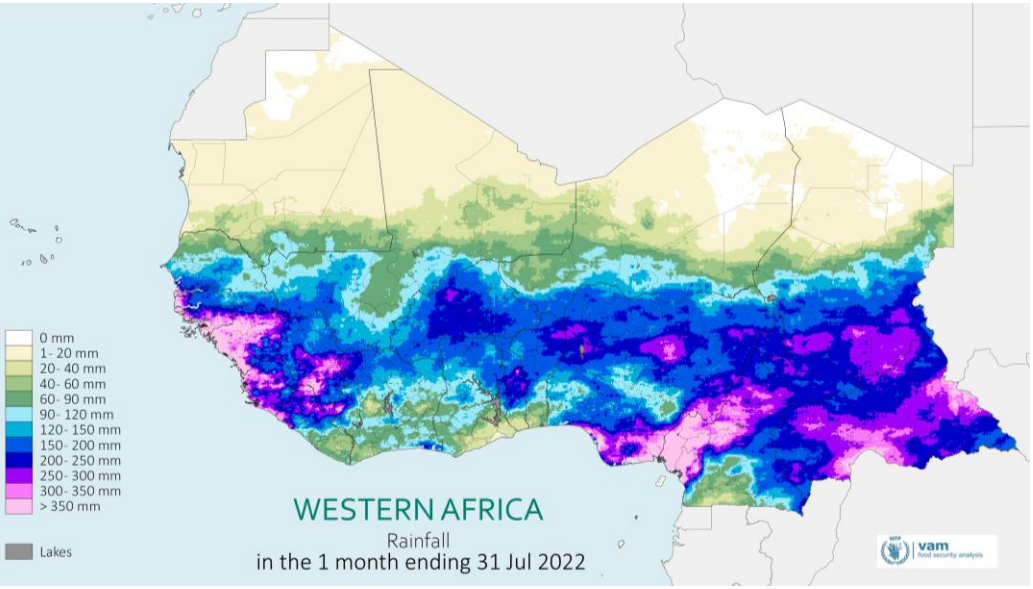
SECTION 2:

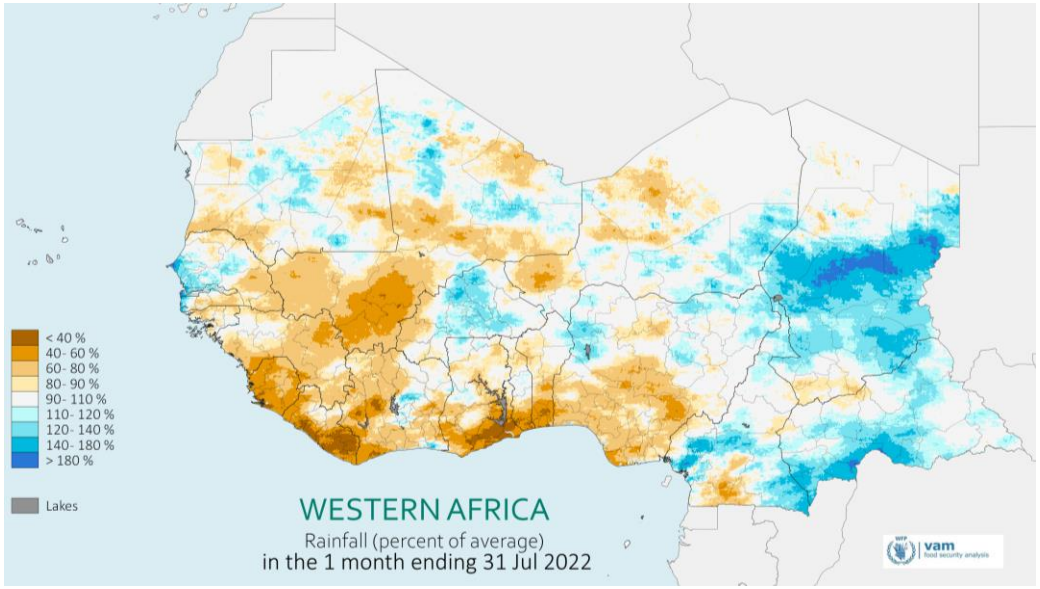
MONTHLY TRENDS

Rainfall patterns: The last month (1-31 July 2022)



*The **map to the left** shows the **total rainfall received** over the last month (1-31 July 2022), based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Areas highlighted in light green have received little rainfall, while areas in dark blue or pink have received moderate to intense rains.*

*The **map to the right** shows the **rainfall anomaly** over the last month (1-31 July 2022), expressed in percentage of the long-term average, based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Areas in light to dark brown have received below average rains, while areas in dark blue have experienced above normal rainfall over the past month.*



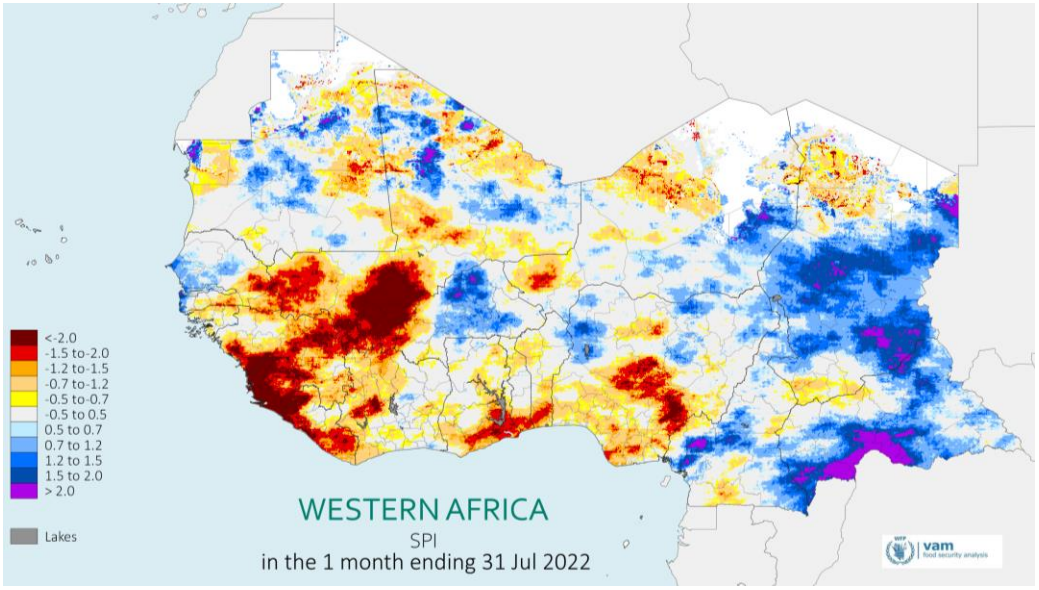
Cumulative rainfall:

- Over the course of the last month (1-31 July 2022), the seasonal rains progressed from the southern parts of the region reaching the Sahel region.
- During this period, the western fringe coastal of the region (Senegal, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone and western Liberia) received moderate to heavy seasonal rainfall (90 to over 200 mm).
- Moderate to heavy rainfall were received in central Burkina Faso, northern Gulf of Guinea countries, most of Nigeria, Cameroon, southern Chad and CAR.
- Were received over the northern parts of the Sahel, western central Mali and southern coastal areas of Gulf of Guinea , light rains.
- Overall, in July 2022, the most important seasonal rainfall was recorded over the western fringe coastal areas of western Africa (Senegal, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone) and the eastern parts of the region (Nigeria, Cameroon, southern Chad and CAR) while northern Sahel, western central Mali, southern coastal areas of Gulf of Guinea and eastern Liberia received little seasonal rainfall.

Rainfall anomaly:

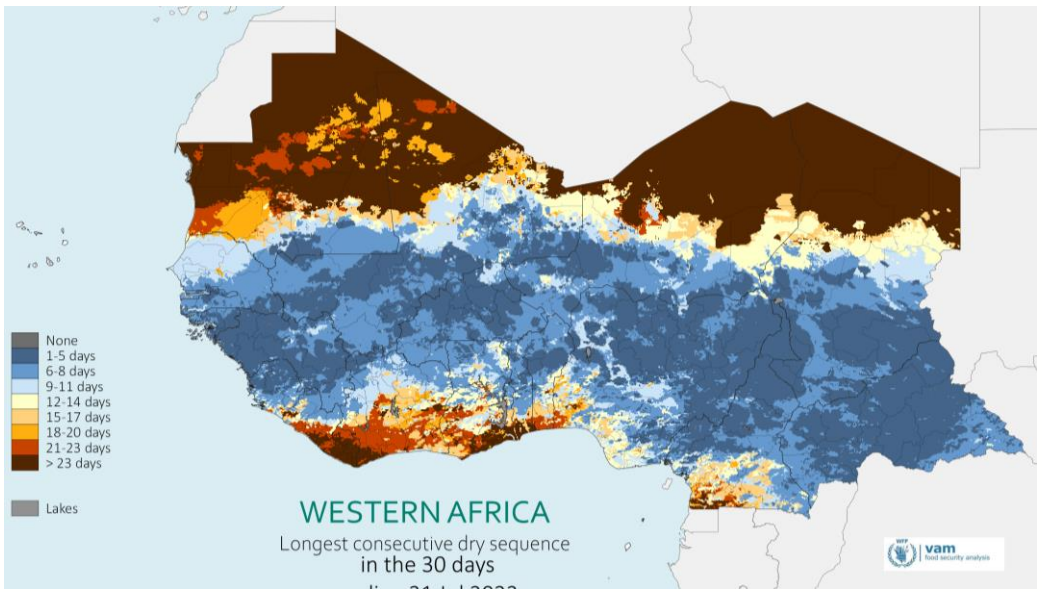
- Compared to the long-term average, below average conditions were recorded across most of the region in July.
- The western parts of the Sahel (Senegal, The Gambia), experienced above normal rainfall during the month of July, which can be attributed to the heavy rains received during the last dekad (21-31 July) at the same time, the above average seasonal rainfall observed in central Burkina Faso and the western part of the (Chad, Cameroon and CAR) can be mainly attributed to rains received during the both two (2) last dekads (11-31 July).
- However, far northern Senegal, southern Mauritania, western Mali trough to eastern Guinea, western Niger and Gulf of Guinea and Mono River (from Sierra Leone to Nigeria) experienced below average seasonal rainfall.
- This dryness observed over Mali, western Niger, northern Senegal and southern Mauritania, may have a negative impact on the agricultural season, given that main planting activities in these areas usually start during this windows of the season.

Rainfall patterns: The last month (1-31 July 2022)



*The **map to the left** shows the **Standard Precipitation Index (SPI)** for the last month (1-31 July 2022), based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. This simultaneously shows the experience of wet conditions on one or more time scales, and dry conditions on other time scales. Blues - dark purple for wetter conditions , Yellow – Browns for drier conditions.*

*The **map to the right** shows the **longest consecutive dry sequence** over the past month (1-31 July 2022), based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Araes in blue have experienced shorter dry sequences, while areas in brown have experienced longer ones. Note that in some areas, this is linked to the fact that the season has not started yet.*



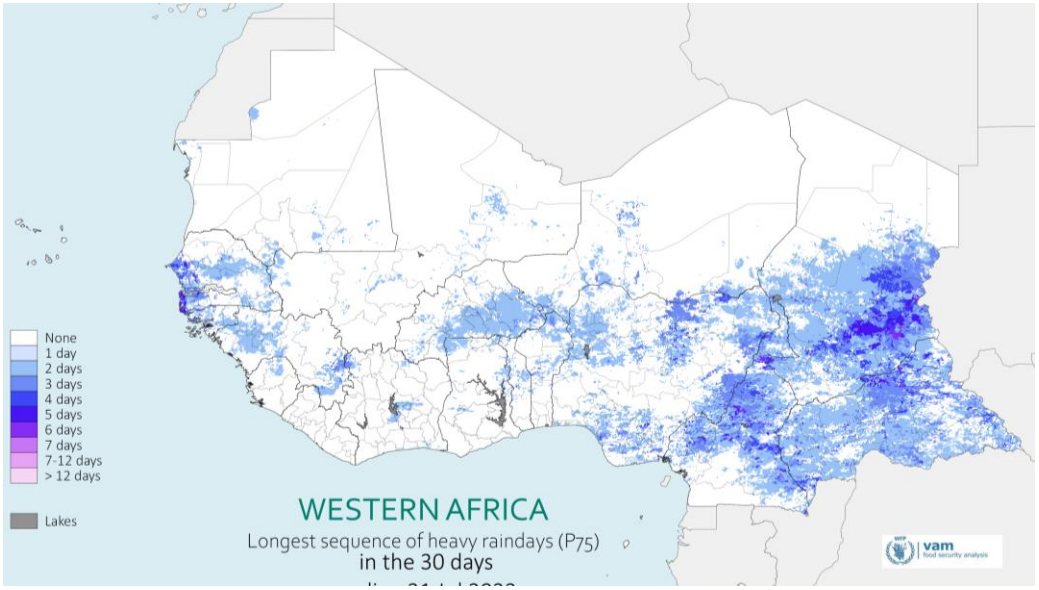
Standard Precipitation Index (SPI):

- The SPI suggests that most of the region experienced drier than normal conditions in July, except for western Senegal, Gambia and the eastern part of the region (Chad, Cameroon, and CAR) with wetter condition.
- It's important to not that the drier than average patterns over the northernmost parts of the region should be attributed to the lower accuracy of the indicator for areas that receive very little seasonal rains.
- The accuracy and relevance of the monthly SPI is higher, and the indicator will become more accurate as the season progresses. For further information on the SPI, see this factsheet.

Dry Sequences:

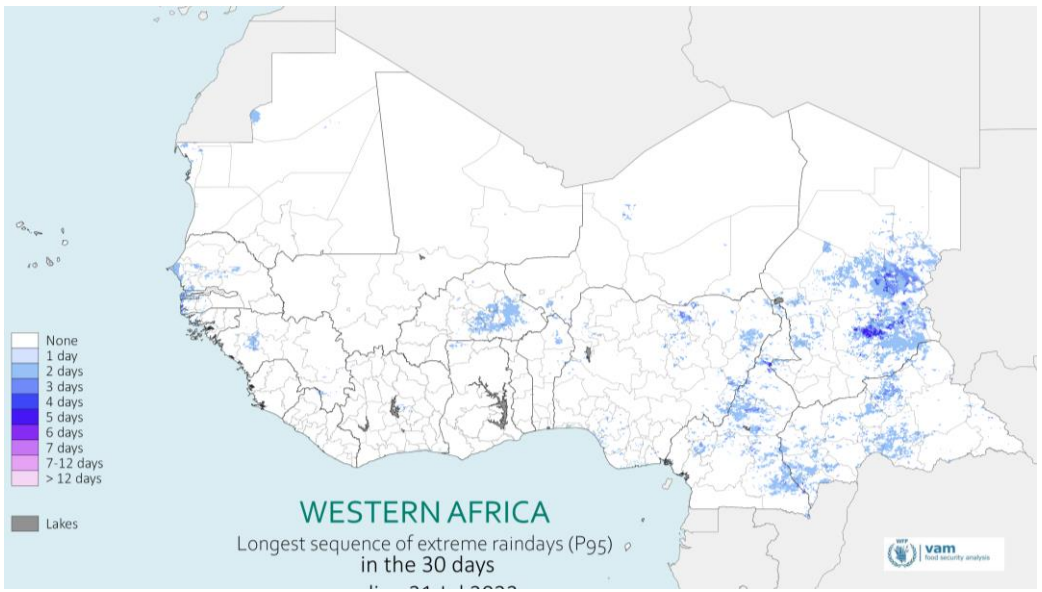
- Over the month of June, the northern part of the season experienced long dry spells, which is due to the fact that the rainy season has not started yet meanwhile southern Mauritania, south-eastern Liberia, south coastal areas of Gulf of Guinea and south eastern CAR experienced long dry spells up to 23 days.
- In the southern parts of the region, dry-spells were generally short (1-5 days). However, some areas including central Cote d'Ivoire, central Ghana, as well as the southernmost areas of the Sahel experienced slightly longer dry sequences of up to 11 days.
- During this period in early stage of the core months of the season, these long dry spell due to erratic distribution of the seasonal rainfall could negatively impact sowing activities and some cash crop.

Rainfall patterns: The last month (1-31 July 2022)



*The **map to the left** shows the **longest sequence of heavy raindays** over the past month (1-31 July 2022), based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Areas highlighted in dark blue and purple have experienced longer sequences of intense raindays (defined as days with a 75th percentile of rain received) over the last 30 days.*

*The **map to the right** shows the **longest sequence of extreme raindays** over the past month (1-31 July 2022), based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Areas highlighted in dark blue and purple have experienced longer sequences of intense raindays (defined as days with a 95th percentile of rain received) over the last 30 days.*



Heavy raindays:

- Overall, the region experienced short to moderate sequences of heavy raindays (defined as days with a 75th percentile of rain received) during the month of July.
- The longest sequences of heavy raindays were observed over parts of western Senegal and Gambia as well as eastern Chad, Central Cameroon and north eastern CAR.
- In most other parts of the region, the sequences of heavy raindays remained relatively short (0-3 consecutive days).

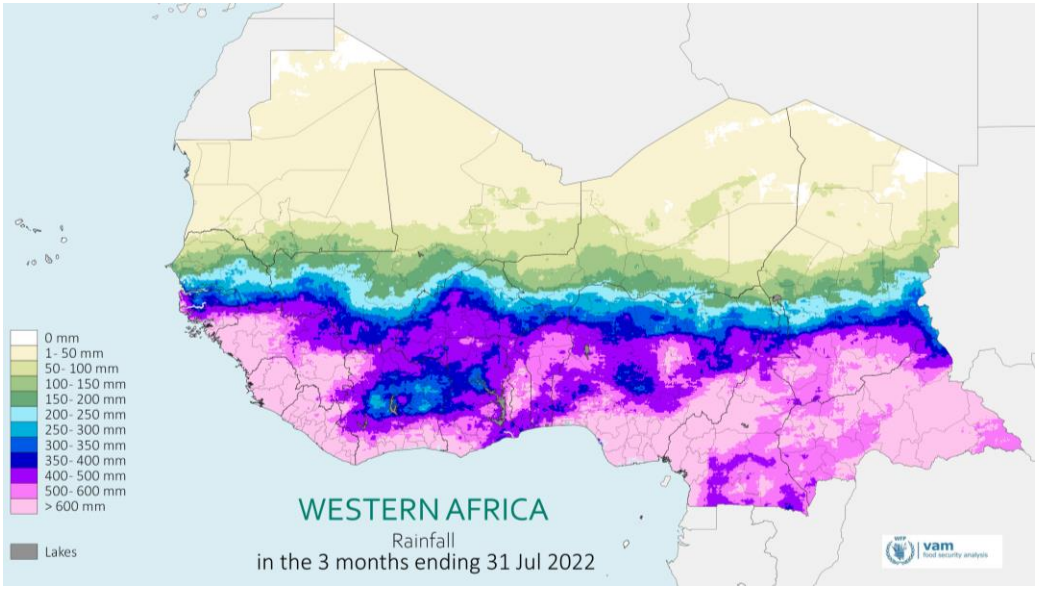
Extreme raindays:

- The occurrence of extreme raindays (defined as days with a 95th percentile of rain received) was relatively limited in July 2022. In the eastern Chad, the sequences of extreme raindays remained relatively short (0-3 consecutive days).
- It is expected that the likelihood of extreme rainfall events, which can potentially lead to river floods and flash floods, increases as the rainy season progresses in the region.

SECTION 3:

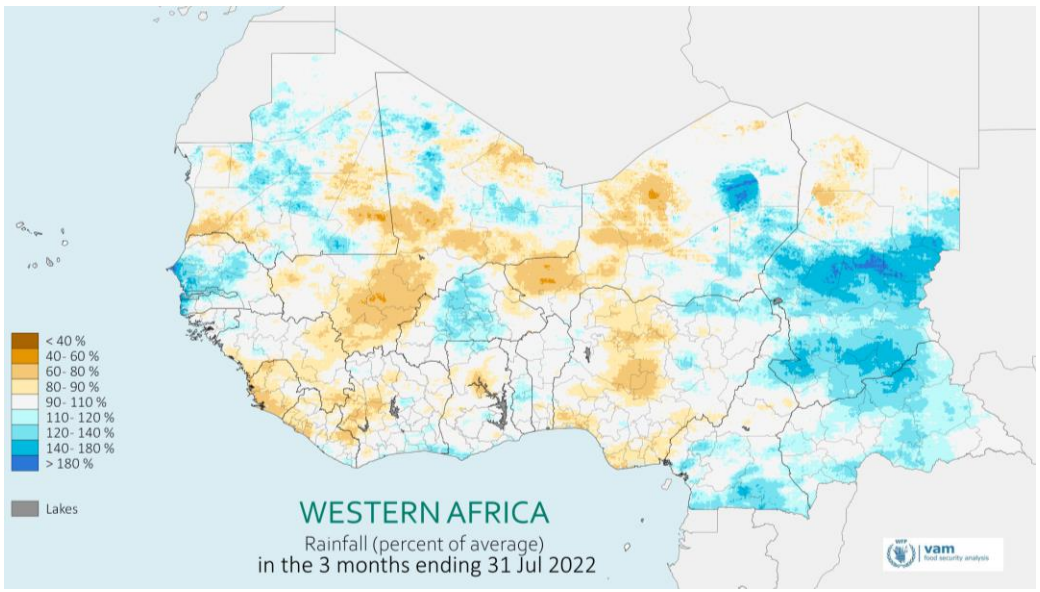
THE SEASON SO FAR

The progression of the season so far



*The **map to the left** shows the **total rainfall received** over the last 3 months (May - July 2022), based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Areas highlighted in light green have received little rainfall, while areas in dark blue or pink have received moderate to intense rains.*

*The **map to the right** shows the **rainfall anomaly** over the last 3 months (May –July 2022), expressed in percentage of the long-term average, based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Areas in light to dark brown have received below average rains, while areas in dark blue have experienced above normal rainfall over the past month.*



Cumulative rainfall:

- By the end of July the early core months of the rainfall season, as the region enters its core period from July to September. So far, heavy rains (above 600 mm) have been received over most coastal areas in the south-western parts of the region (Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea), as well as over southern Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Cameroon and CAR.
- Meanwhile, moderate seasonal rainfall (up to 400 mm) was received over far southern Mali, northern Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin southern Burkina Faso, Togo, Benin, central Nigeria, northern Cameroon, far southern Niger, southern Chad, Guinea Bissau and Southern Senegal.
- Over the Sahelian belt, little has been received so far. However, more intense rainfall is expected in these areas over the coming weeks and months.

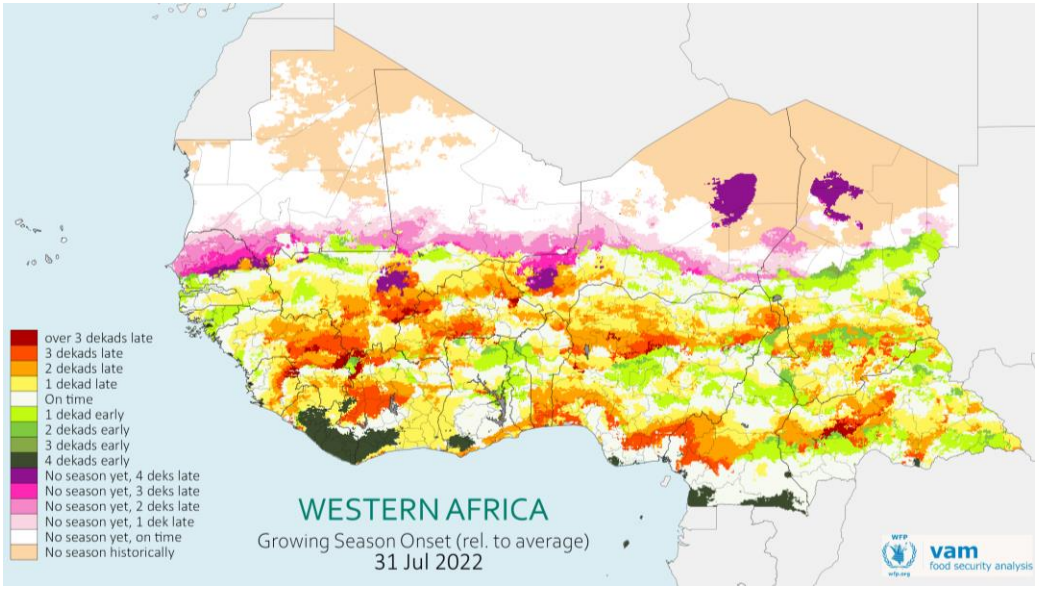
Rainfall anomaly:

- The early stages of the 2022 rainy season (May-July 2022) were characterised by mixed conditions. Over the western Sahel (Senegal, The Gambia,), the central Sahel (central Burkina Faso) and the eastern part of the region (eastern Niger, Chad, Cameroon and CAR) above normal rainfall was received
- In central Sahel abnormal dryness was observed in central southern Mal and western Niger.
- Central western and south coastal Nigeria, far northern Senegal, southern Mauritania, eastern Guinea , Sierra and Liberia experienced below average rainfall.

Summary:

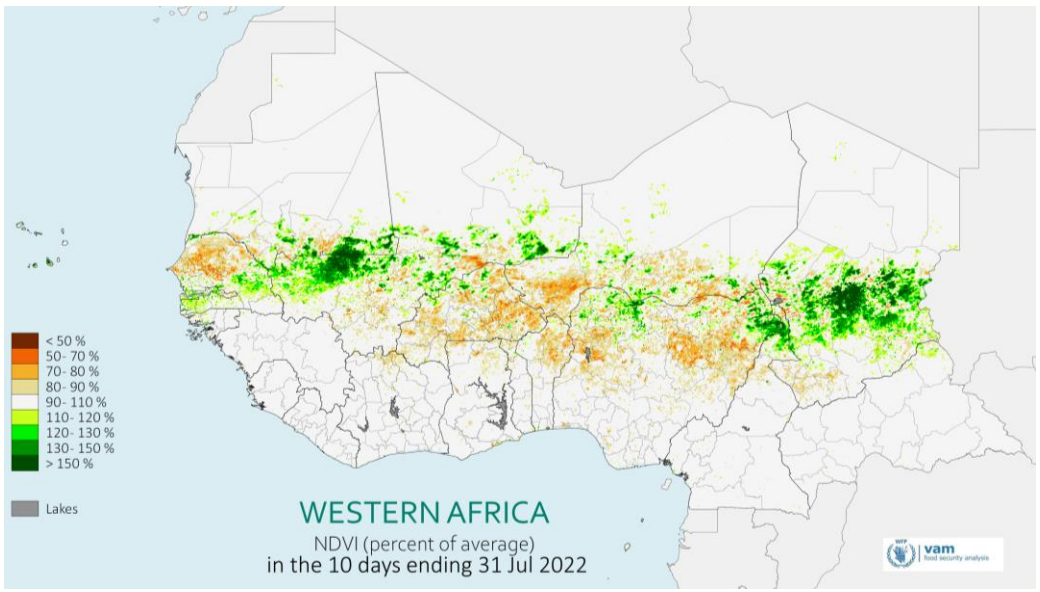
- So far West Africa rainy season remain to be characterized by mixed conditions. Only the eastern part of the region and the western fringe coastal areas of the region benefited from wetter than average condition.
- Erratic seasonal rainfall since early May has resulted in abnormal dryness over central southern Mali, western Niger, Central Nigeria. Lack of rains during July resulting below average rainfall over northern Senegal and southern Mauritania.
- These deficits may have major impacts on agricultural activities, given that planting normally occurs during the month of July. Meanwhile heavy rains have caused flooding in Gambia, Senegal, Mali, Chad and Nigeria.
- Further south, drier than normal conditions were observed in Sierra Leone, Liberia and western Code d'ivoire

The progression of the season so far



*The **map on the left** shows the **start of the growing season anomaly** (as of 31 July 2022), using the vegetation phenological cycle to show the possible start of sowing activities. Areas with delays in the onset of growing season are highlighted in yellow and red, while areas where the season has started earlier than normal are presented in green.*

*The **map on the right** shows the vegetation anomaly as a percentage of the average (as of 31 July 2022), based on the MODIS NDVI. Green for above normal vegetation, yellows and browns for vegetation production deficit.*



Start of season:

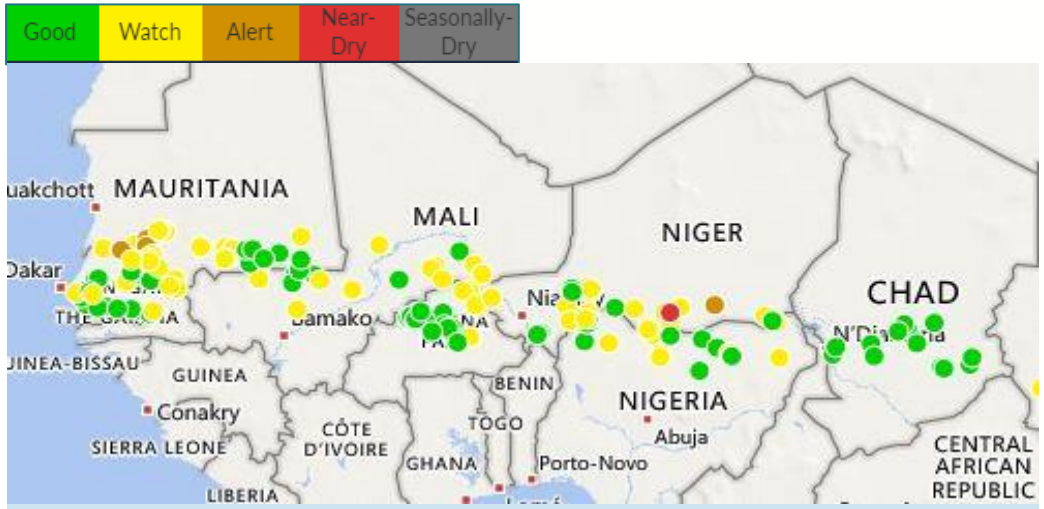
- The growing season onset map suggests that the 2022 season has started later than normal (1-4 dekads) in most of the region, except for parts of CAR, Cameroon, Chad, central Nigeria and Togo, as well as the far western areas (Guinea Bissau, southern Senegal and western Mali) where the season started early.
- In areas affected by a late start of the season (mapped in yellow to red above), the delays can be attributed to erratic rains in the early stages of the rainy season. In most of the Sahel, particularly in areas highlighted in purple above (norther Niger, northern and central Mali, southern Mauritania, and northern Senegal), the conditions for the potential start of planting activities have not yet been met.

Vegetation:

- As a result of the mixed start of the rainy season, vegetation conditions are below average over a wide area in the Sahel from western Mali across Burkina Faso to northern Nigeria as well as northern Senegal. Vegetation deficits are particularly pronounced in western Niger, northern Senegal, Nigeria and eastern Burkina Faso. In some areas, these conditions are expected to improve in the coming weeks.
- On the other hand, better than normal vegetation conditions can be observed in southern Senegal, south eastern Mauritania, central Mali, north western Nigeria, extreme north Cameroon and the sahelian belt of Chad.

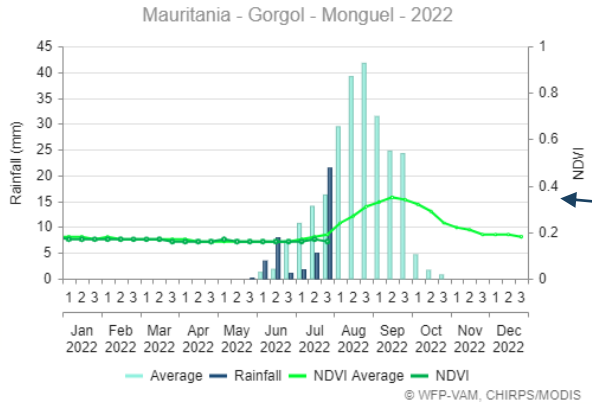
Water resources:

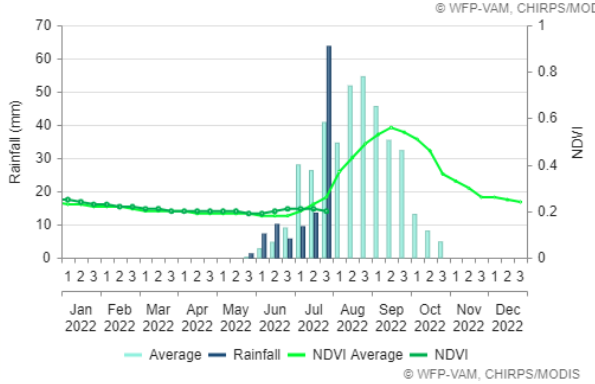
- The availability of water resources is mostly improved due to the favourable rainfall conditions during July. Mixed conditions (good and watch conditions) can be observed in most of the region (Senegal, Mali, Burkina, Niger) while good conditions remained in Chad.

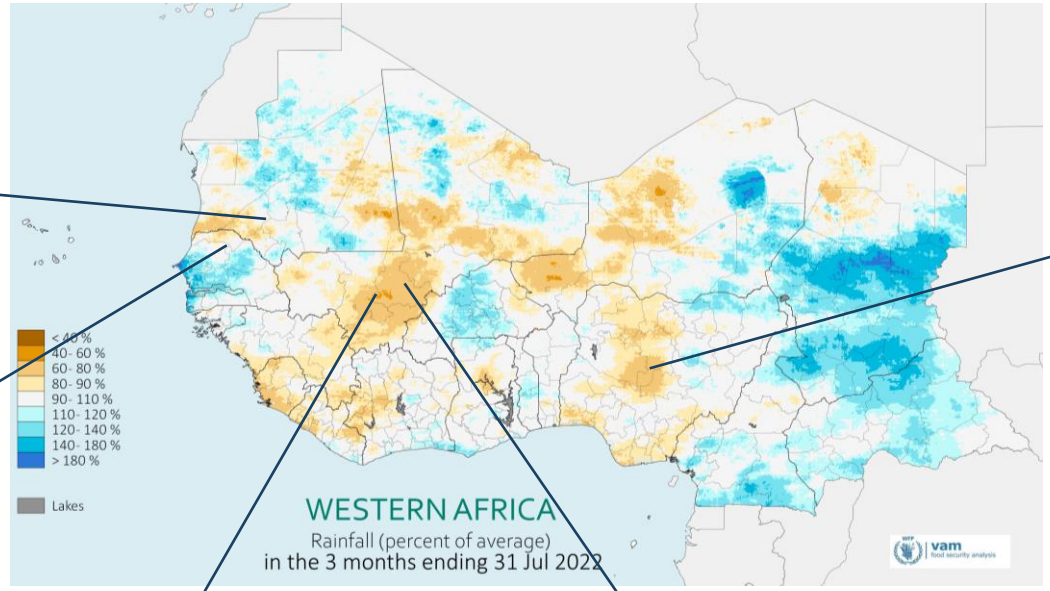


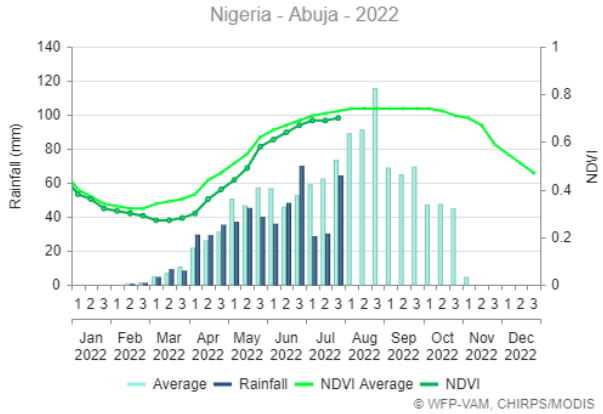
***CHIRPS Water point status (as of 10 August 2022):** Good: Higher than long term level (LTL), Watch: Between 50 to 100% of LTL, Alert: Between 3% and 50% of LTL, Near-Dry: Below 3% of LTL (https://earlywarning.usgs.gov/fews/waterpoint/index.php)*

The progression of the season so far (Area of concern)

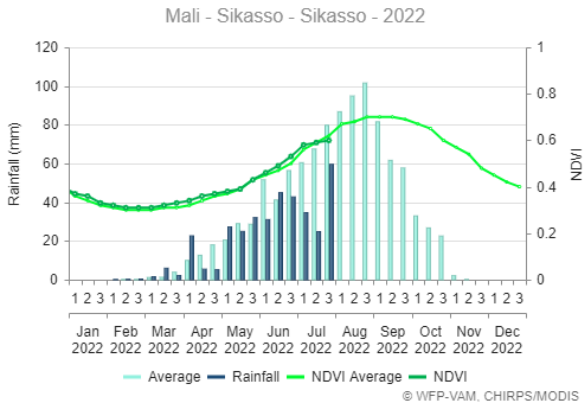


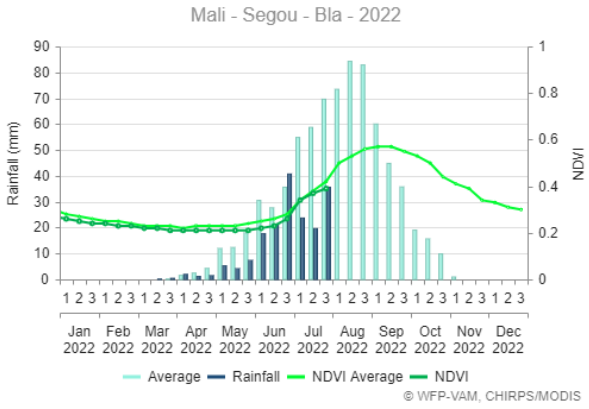






*The **map to the right** shows the **rainfall anomaly** over the last 3 months (May –July 2022), expressed in percentage of the long-term average, based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Areas in light to dark brown have received below average rains, while areas in dark blue have experienced above normal rainfall over the past month.*



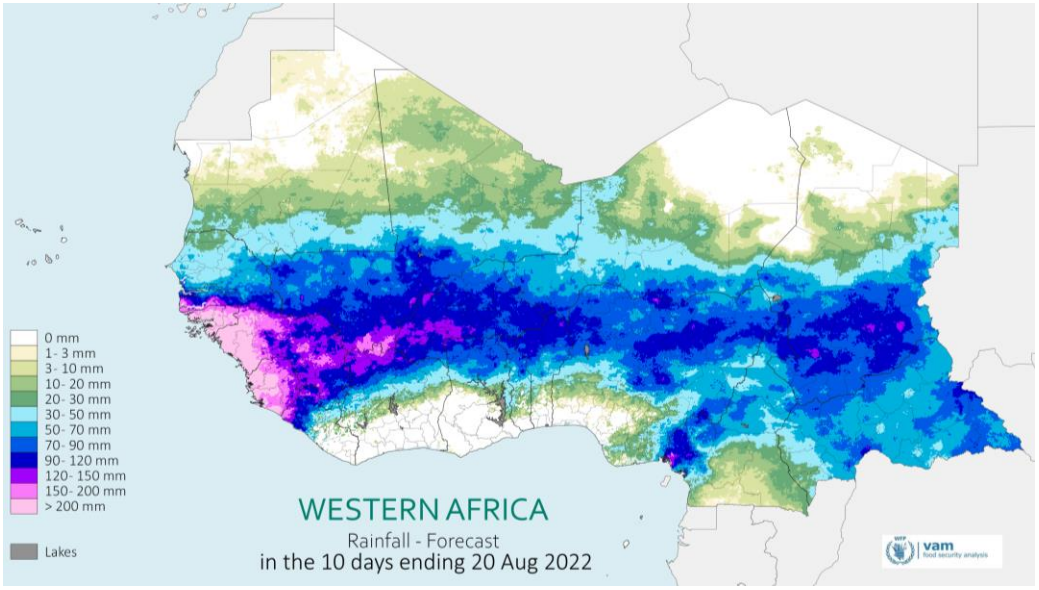


World Food Programme

SECTION 4:

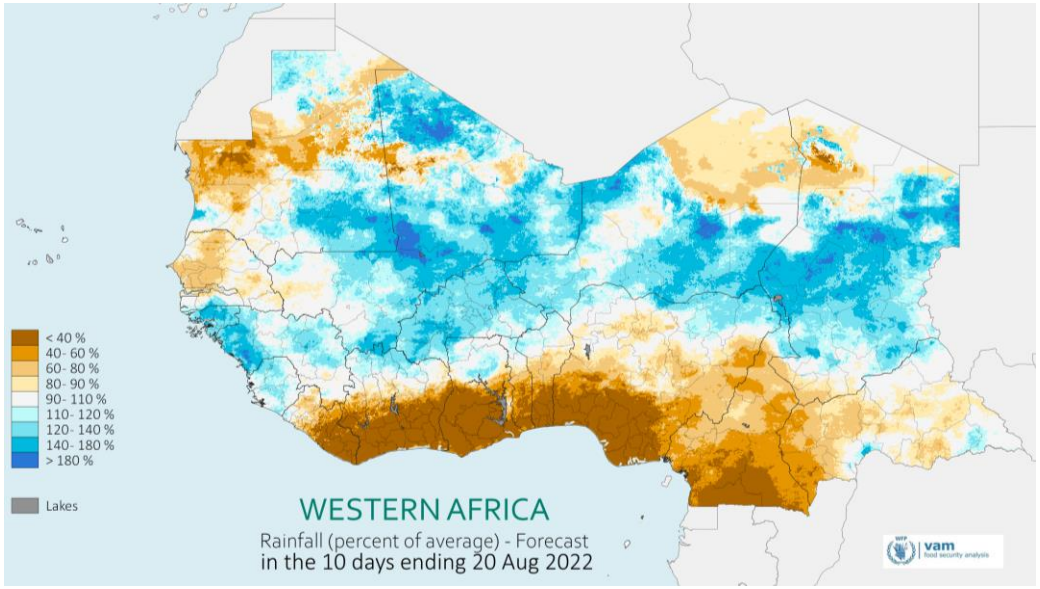
THE SHORT- AND MEDIUM-TERM OUTLOOK

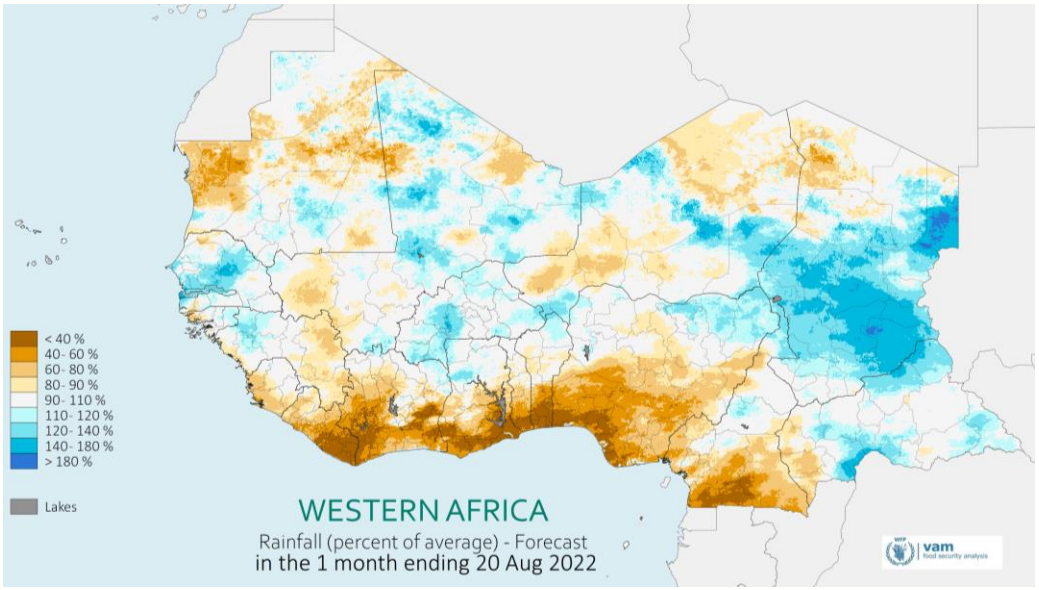
The short-term outlook



*The **map on the left** shows the **short-range CHIRPS-GEFS forecasts** of the total rainfall expected for the upcoming dekad,. Blues for wetter than average conditions, browns for drier than average conditions.*

*The **map on the right** shows the **short-range CHIRPS-GEFS forecasts** for the upcoming dekad, expressed in percentage of the long-term average. Blues for wetter than average conditions, browns for drier than average conditions.*



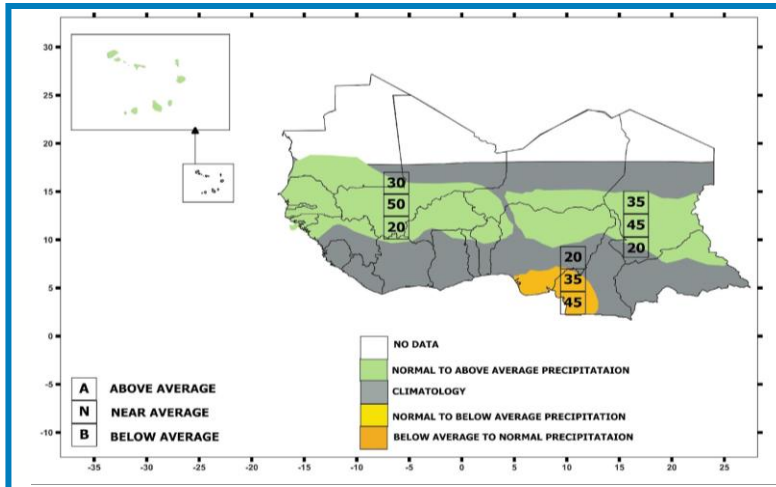


*The map to the right shows the **short-range CHIRPS-GEFS forecasts in one-month** for the upcoming month, expressed in percentage of the long-term average. Blues for wetter than average conditions, browns for drier than average conditions.*

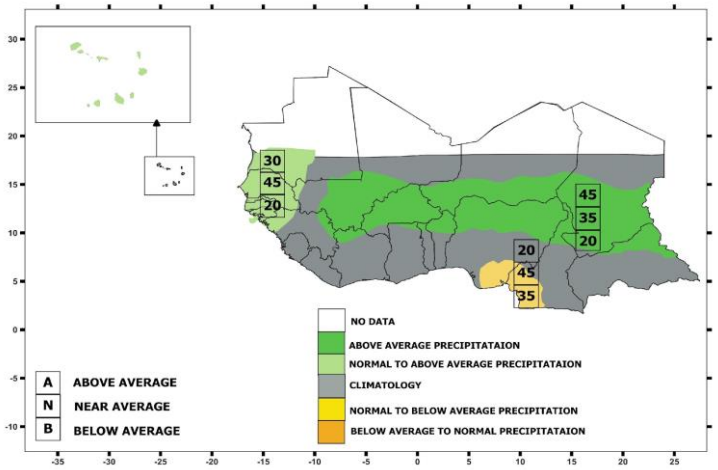
- Short range forecasts provide rainfall estimates up to August 20. In mid August most of the region will be average to above average except the southern coastal area over Gulf of Guinea (southern Ghana, Togo, Benin and Nigeria) as well as southern Cameroon, Liberia, southern Sierra Leone, eastern Guinea and northern Mauritania.

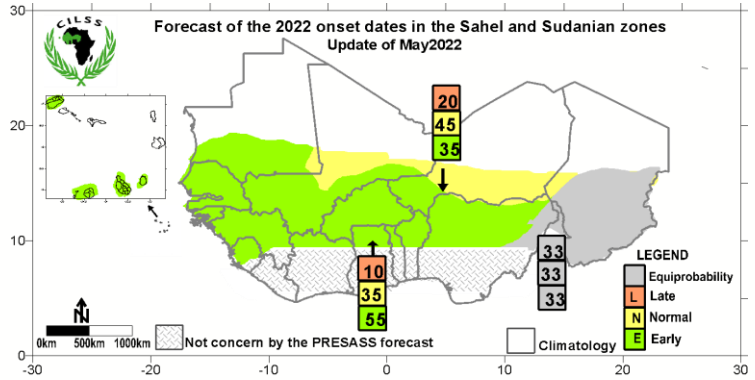
- If these forecasts are verified, rainfall in the month leading up to 20 August will have been mostly above average for the West Africa region, except southern coastal areas (southern cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin Cameroon, Sierra Leone), as well as CAR, Western Senegal and northwestern Mauritania with below average seasonal rainfall. Drought will likely be most pronounced in southern coastal Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, south-eastern Liberia and southern Cameroon.

The medium-term outlook: the May 2022 PRESASS seasonal forecast Updated



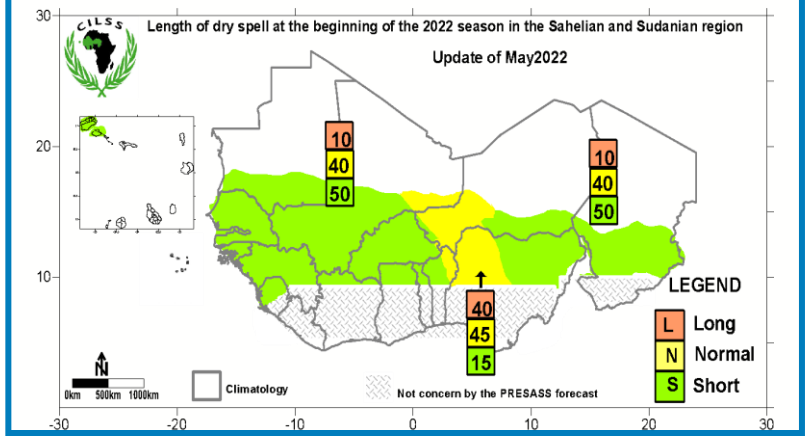
According to the April 2022 PRESASS seasonal forecast, average to above average seasonal rainfall (in May-July 2022, map above) is expected in most of the Sahelian belt including Cabo Verde. Rainfall in some coastal areas (Sierra Leone, Liberia) is expected average to below-average during the same period, while rainfall will likely be below average in coastal areas of Cameroon and south-western Nigeria throughout the season (May-July and Jul-Sep, map below).

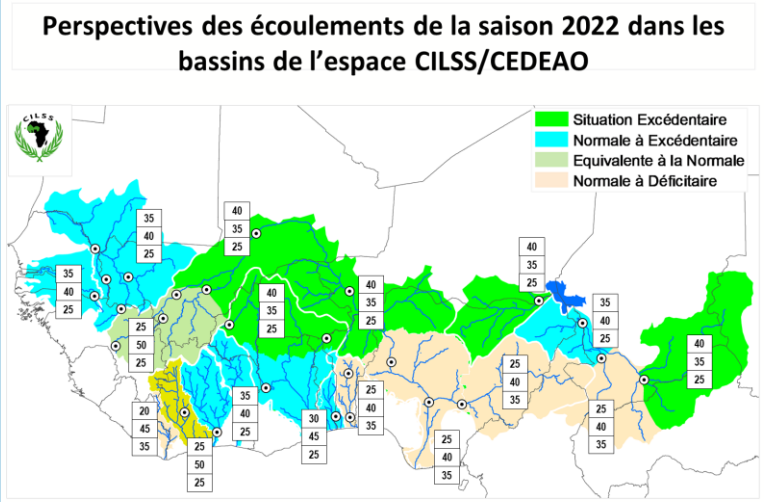




An early to normal onset of seasonal rains is expected (map above) in the Sahelo-Sudanian zone covering Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, some Cabo Verde islands, southern parts of Mauritania, Mali, southwestern Niger, northern parts of Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria and central Chad.

At the beginning of the season **shorter to medium dry spells** are expected over the Sudanian and Sahelian belts of West Africa and Chad, except in south-west Niger, north-east Benin and north-western Nigeria where medium to long dry spells are expected (map below). Towards the end of the season, dry spells are expected to be shorter in the western half of the Sudano-Sahelian belt and normal to long on the eastern half.





*The **map above** shows the **river basin levels** expected in 2022. Green indicates above normal river levels, blue normal to above normal levels, grey normal levels and pink below normal river levels compared to the long-term average.*

In terms of the **hydrological situation**, normal to above normal river levels are expected in the Sahelo-Sudanian zone, apart from the Lower Niger, Logone, Ouémé and Cavally basins. River levels are expected to be:

- Above average in the Inner Delta (in Mali) and the middle basin of the Niger River, the Komadougou Yobé and the upper basins of the Chari and the Volta (Burkina Faso).
- Average to above average in the basins of Senegal, Gambia, Comoé, Bandama (Côte d'Ivoire), Mono (Togo and Benin), Lower Volta (Ghana) and the downstream part of the Chari-Logone.
- And average in the Sassandra basin in Côte d'Ivoire, the upper Niger River basin (in Guinea and Mali) and iv) below average in the Lower Niger basins integrating the Bénoué, Logone (Chad), Ouémé (Benin) and Cavally (Côte d'Ivoire).

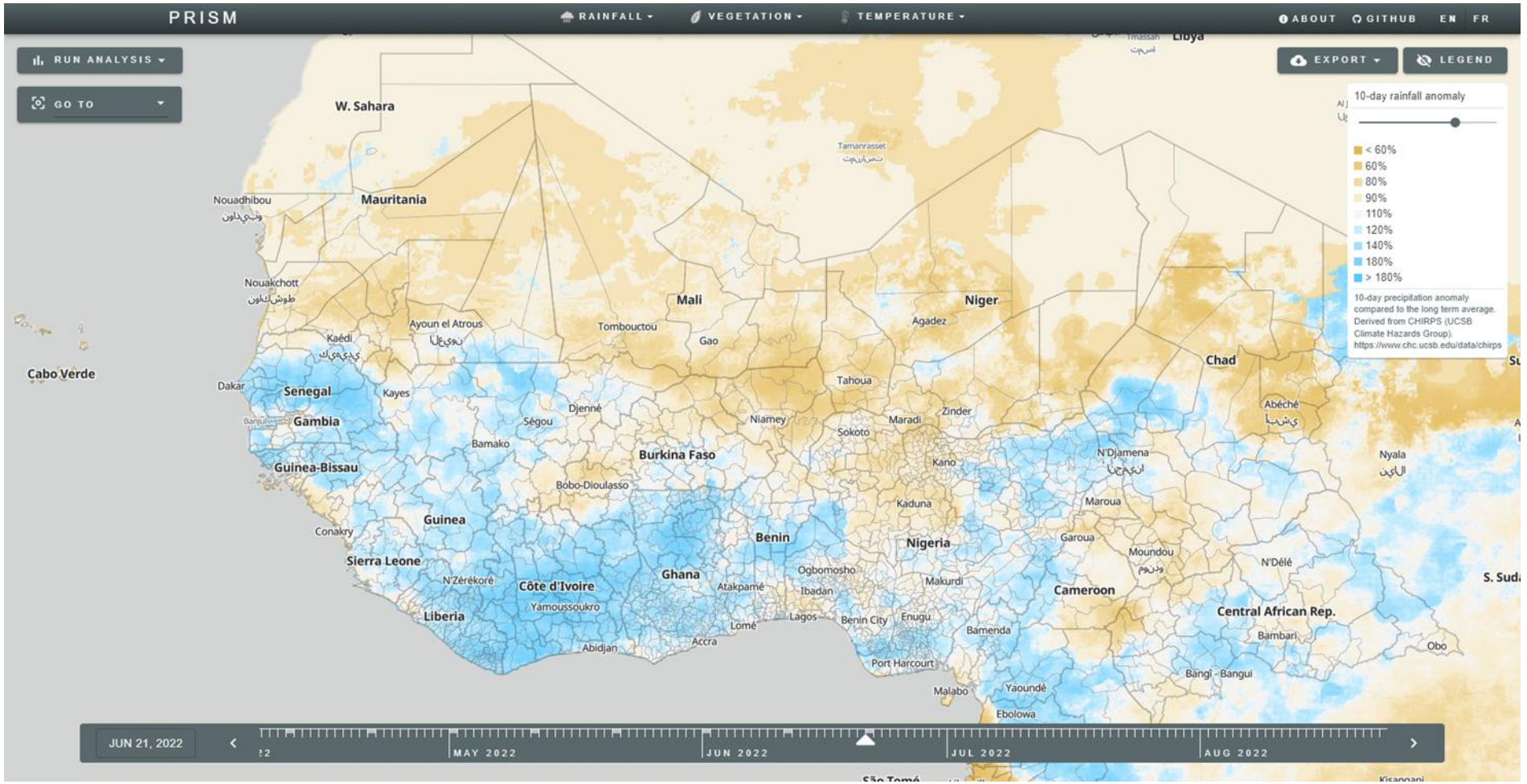
SECTION 5:

THE PLATFORM FOR REAL-TIME IMPACT AND SITUATION MONITORING (PRISM)

The Platform for Real-time Impact and Situation Monitoring (PRISM)

RBD RAM is pleased to announce the launch of the **PRISM platform for West Africa**. In its first deployment phase, PRISM will allow users to visualise and download all key climate data used in this seasonal monitor. PRISM allows for near real-time monitoring of the progression of the rainy season, and to the explore historical rainfall, vegetation and temperature data.

In the coming months, additional hazards such as conflicts, as well as vulnerability layers including the historical Cadre Harmonisé (CH) and Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) data will be incorporated into the platform. The integration of these layers will also allow users to run risk impact analyses. Further functionalities and impact analytics will be built into the platform in the future. RBD RAM will also explore the integration of external data generated by national and regional partners.



*You can **access the RBD PRISM Platfom** (internally and externally) by clicking on the map above, or through the following link: **https://prism.dakar.wfp.org/**.*

*For **more information on PRISM**, please visit this website: https://innovation.wfp.org/project/prism. For any specific enquiries about RBD RAM's Geospatial Analysis workstream and the roll-out of the PRISM Platform in West Africa, please contact the RBD RAM Team (rbd.ram@wfp.org).*

WFP World Food Programme

Data sources:
Rainfall: CHIRPS, Climate Hazards Group, UCSB
Vegetation: MODIS NDVI, ESODIS-NASA

Data Processing:
RAM software components, ArcGIS, QGIS

For further information:
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