

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

EARLY WARNING: RISK OF FLASH FLOODS INCREASING DUE TO ENHANCED RAINS

The last dekad of April is forecasted to experience a gradual increase of rainfall to between 150 and 200 mm on average, with the highest levels expected along the central highlands' governorates of Dhamar, Ibb, Raymah and parts of Sana'a and Al Dhale'e. The estimated precipitation levels are higher compared to their levels recorded during the same period last year. The second dekad was marked by some flood occurrences in Hadramaut and Al Maharah governorates. It is highly likely that the enhanced and intensified rains towards the end of the month will result in widespread flash floods across many locations in the country.

Flood forecast models using rainfall and topographic parameters indicate heavy and long-lasting rainfall (more than 80 mm in some parts and more than 100 mm in others) even in areas that normally have few spells at this time of year. This increases the risk of floods, whose impact is greater along the main valleys, such as Wadi More (Hajjah and Al-Hudaydah), Wadi Siham, Rumah, Sordod and Zabid (Al-Hudaydah), some places from Ibb and Dhamar), and in wadi Danah in Marib. Rain is expected to fall in the upper parts of the basins of Wadi Bana and Taban, but with less tensity. This will be accompanied by landslides mostly in steep topographies along the main roads in Manakha (Sana'a), Somarah (Ibb) and Kuhlan (Hajjah) (Fig. 1).

These events will weigh negatively on households who heavily rely on crop production. As most farms are heading for early planting, the intense rains and floods will likely affect the already prepared farms, thereby affecting this season's crop production.

Water logging will likely persist in Sayun and Al Mukala cities as they have been struck by flash floods more recently, presenting an increased risk of disease spread and outbreaks.





No Alert	No Alert					
Minimal Risk	Precaution is advised. Decision-making should kick-start contingency plans					
Alert	Avoiding exposure to the hazard and implementation of contingency plans is advised					
High Risk	Avoiding exposure to the hazard and implementation of contingency plans is <i>strongly</i> advised					

Cyclone	es Desert	Locusts	Drought Intensity	Extremely High Temperatures	Floods	Landslides	Frost/Low Temperature	Hail	Sand and dust storms	Thunderstorms	Fall Armyworms
No Aler	t No Aler	't	No Alert	No Alert	Alert	Minimal Risk	No Alert	No Alert	No Alert	No Alert	No Alert

Sources:

 Precipitation, dust, desert locusts, temperature, and wind forecasts were sourced from the Civil Aviation and Meteorology Authority (CAMA), WRF-Chem model (IERSD/NOA), FAO Locust Watch, and the Climate Prediction Centre respectively.

- Drought conditions were sourced from GIEWS.
- Flood impact estimate is based on the intersection of areas to be affected and local population.

Desert Locust Watch (DLW)

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