



Most of South Sudan expected to experience drier conditions between October and December 2020, as the Eastern Equatoria border intersection with Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda is expected to experience an earlier than normal start of the rainy season.

HIGHLIGHTS

- October to December constitutes an important season in South Sudan as it is the harvesting period for most parts of the country as well as the start of the rainy season for some areas in the South of the country, particularly in Eastern Equatoria.
- Between October and December, most parts of South Sudan (except for the extreme southeastern part) will be off season, thus experiencing drier conditions that are suitable for crop harvesting. In the extreme southeastern part of the country that borders Uganda, Kenya and Ethiopia, rains will begin during the same period and are expected to be near average. (Figure 1).
- Between October and December 2020, the temperature outlook for South Sudan indicates increased likelihood of warmer than normal temperatures over most of central South Sudan, while the rest of the country will experience warm temperatures that are closer to normal. (Figure 2).

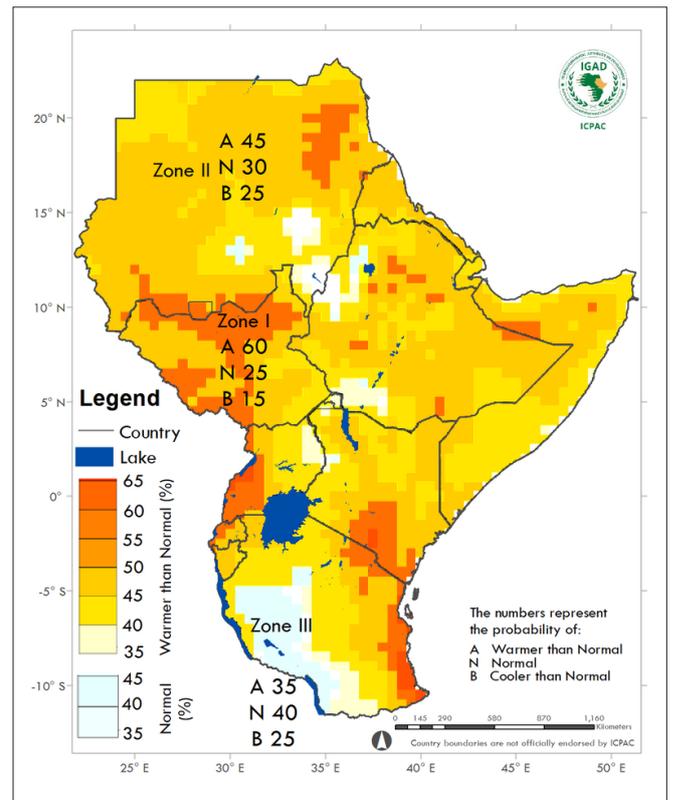
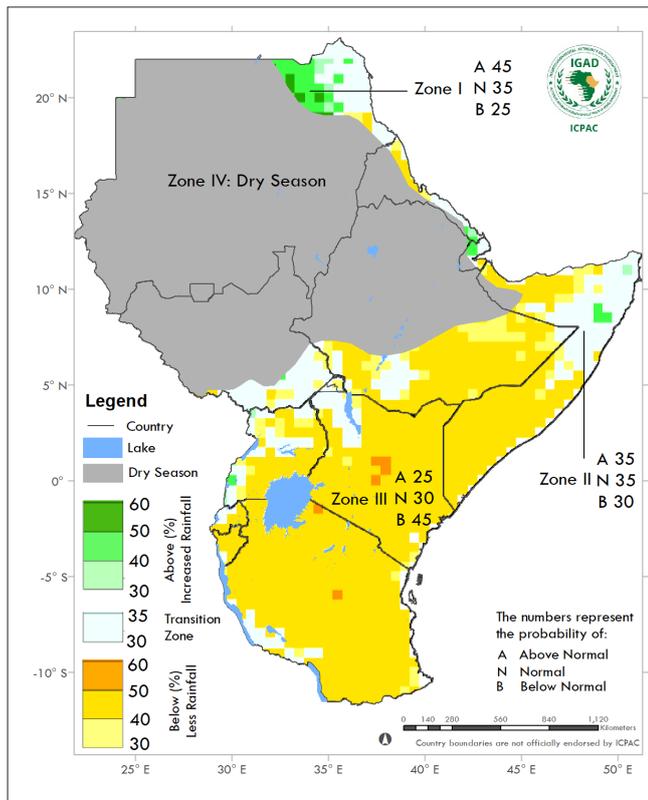


Figure 1 - Greater Horn of Africa Objective rainfall Outlook for the October to December 2020 rainfall season (Source: ICPAC).

Zone IV - Usually dry during October to December.

Figure 2 - Greater Horn of Africa Mean Surface Temperature Outlook for October to December 2020 (Source: ICPAC).

Zone I - In this Zone (all dark orange shading) the above normal (i.e. warmer than normal) temperature category has the highest probability.
Zone II - In this Zone (light yellow to light orange) probabilities for the above normal temperature category are 40-50% and exceed those of the average and below categories.

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF THE OUTLOOK

Positive implications of the outlook

- In most parts of the country, the drier and warm conditions will be favourable for crop harvesting and cereal drying. These conditions will also make it easier for farming households to access markets and sell their farm produce.
- The rainy conditions in the southeastern parts of the country will favour second season farming, particularly of fast maturing maize and vegetables.
- As seasonal flood waters begin to recede and swamps form, fish availability and access will improve.
- Availability of residual moisture in the soil will favour growth of pasture near homesteads, ensuring access to livestock products by households. Conflicts over resources for livestock i.e. water and pasture, are also likely to lessen during this period.

Negative implications of the outlook

- The rainy conditions in the southeastern parts of the country are likely to cause accessibility challenges as non-paved roads deteriorate with the onset of the wet season. This will impact physical movement and functionality of markets in the region.
- As the dry season kicks in and waters start to recede, incidences of water-borne diseases such as Malaria and AWD/Cholera are likely to increase as pools of stagnant waters form, particularly in the flood-affected areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Advocate for timely harvesting and use of appropriate post-harvest practices by farmers so as minimize crop losses.
- Promote recession farming, especially of vegetables and other fast-maturing crops.
- Scale-up provision of health services to combat the likely increase of water-borne diseases.
- Support the populations affected by the floods to restart their lives and livelihoods through the provision of non-food items, re-establishment of WASH facilities, provision of food, livelihood kits and animal health services.



This report is produced by FAO South Sudan's project (*Strengthening the Livelihoods of Pastoral and Agropastoral Communities in South Sudan's Cross-border Areas with Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda*) which is funded by the European Union. For more weather information:

[2020 Dekadal Seasonal Progression Tracker \(PDF\)](#)

[2020 Rainfall & NDVI Graphs and data \(MS Excel\)](#)

Project Website:

<http://www.fao.org/in-action/south-sudan-cross-border-project/en/>

CLIMIS Portal:

https://climis-southsudan.org/agromet/rainfall_data

Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on all maps in this bulletin do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by UN-FAO. Final boundary between the Republic of South Sudan and the Republic of Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined.

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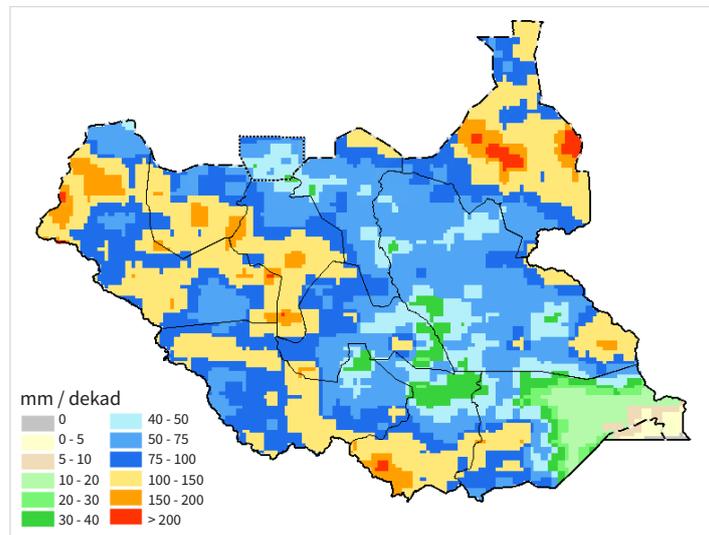


Figure 1 - Estimated rainfall, Dekad 2, August 2020 (Source: FAO GIEWS)

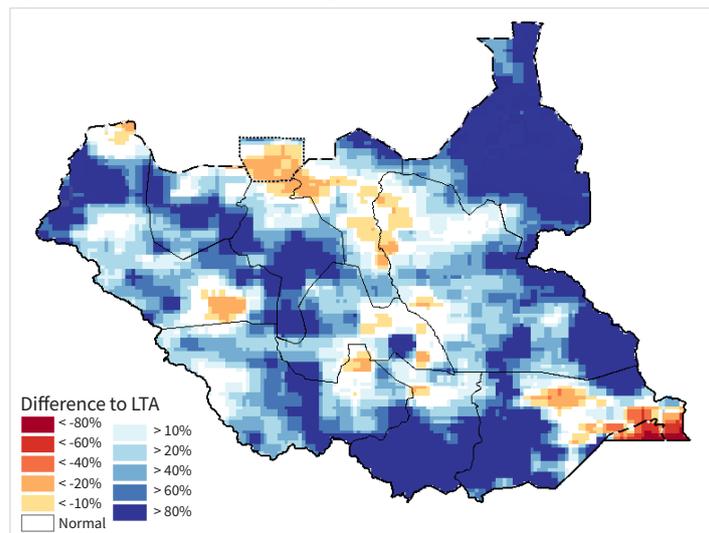


Figure 2 - Estimated rainfall anomaly, Dekad 2, August 2020 (Source: FAO GIEWS)