

West Africa Seasonal Monitor

2023 Season – August Update



World Food
Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

1- 31 July 2023, monthly update

Highlights

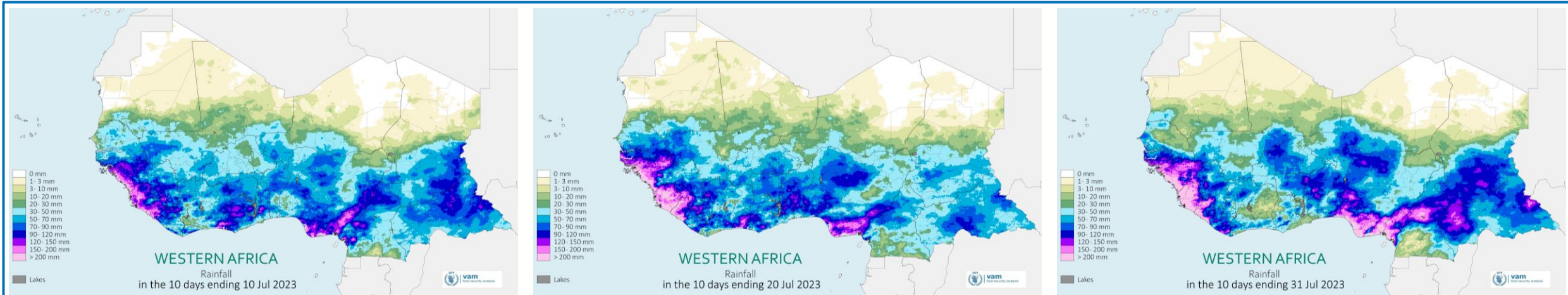
Contents

- 1. Highlights.....2
- SECTION 1: DEKADAL TRENDS.....3**
- 2. Rainfall Patterns.....4
- SECTION 2: MONTHLY TRENDS....5**
- 3. Rainfall patterns: The last month.....6
- SECTION 3:THE SEASON SO FAR.....7**
- 4. The progression of the season so far.....8
- SECTION 4: THE SHORT- AND MEDIUM-TERM OUTLOOK.....10**
- 5. The short-term outlook.....11
- 6. Seasonal Forecasts.....12
- SECTION 5: AREAS OF CONCERN : FLOOD RISK (PREPAREDNESS EFFORTS).....13**
- 7. Heavy & Extreme rainfall: May 2023.....14
- 8. Flood preparedness efforts15
- SECTION 6: AREAS OF CONCERN : DROUGHT RISK.....16**
- 9. SPI & Dry Sequences: May 2023.....17
- 10. NDVI and Areas to be monitored18
- SECTION 7: THE PLATFORM FOR REAL-TIME IMPACT AND SITUATION MONITORING (PRISM).....19**
- 11. The Platform for Real-time Impact and Situation Monitoring (PRISM).....18

- **As of late of July, the early stage of the core period of the rainy season, so far West Africa rainy season remain to be characterized by mixed conditions.** Only the eastern part of the region (southern and western Niger, Chad, northern Cameroon, southwestern Nigeria and CAR) and the western coastal areas (southern, northern and western Senegal, eastern Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, northern Sierra Leone, southern Mauritania) as well southern coastal Cote d’Ivoire and Ghana, of the region benefited from wetter than average conditions. Erratic seasonal rainfall has resulted in abnormal dryness over central north and southern Mali, eastern and far southwestern Burkina Faso, eastern Niger, eastern Guinea, north-western Cote d’Ivoire, eastern Nigeria and far southwestern Cameroon. The seasonal cumulative rainfall from April to July has been average to above average over most of the region. However, over areas where dryness has persisted such as western and central Senegal, central Mali, western Niger, Burkina Faso, and LCB, crops and pasture development could be negatively impacted. The developments over the coming weeks will be monitored closely, particularly in the Sahel, given that main planting activities in these areas occurs during this period of the season.
- An early season dryness and a poorly distributed rainfall across western Africa region led to a noticeable impact on **vegetation cover** development. **Vegetation conditions** are below average across a wide area of the Sahel over Senegal, southern and eastern Mauritania, central western Mali, parts of western and eastern Niger, Burkina Faso, LCB as well as northern Nigeria, Benin, Togo and Ghana. This may evolve favourably now given recent improved rains, but the coming 3-4 weeks will be critical for the overall seasonal performance across the Sahel. On the other hand, a markedly above average vegetation cover extends over the eastern part of the region across south-eastern Niger, NE Nigeria, far northern Cameroon and Chad. Better than normal vegetation conditions can be observed in parts of eastern Mali and north-eastern Burkina Faso. **Water resources** are at good levels across most of the Sahel and are much improved since late May. However, over south-eastern Mauritania, south-eastern Senegal, central Mali, north-eastern Burkina, south eastern Niger and NE Nigeria, water points are watch or alert at the end of July.
- **The short-term forecasts (up to 20 August 2023)** suggest that by late August (20 August 2023),rainfall improvement will likely be observed over West Africa Region, in particular over the Sahel with widespread wetter conditions. If the forecasts are verified, we might see an alleviation of the rainfall deficits in the region and the onset of more favorable conditions for the early stages of the growing season. However, in some areas over western Mauritania, central and eastern Senegal, eastern Guinea, central southern Mali (Sikasso), most of Cote d’Ivoire, northern Ghana, NE and eastern Nigeria, and far southern Cameroon could remain drier than average conditions.
- **According to the 2022 PRESASS seasonal forecast,** above average to average seasonal rainfall is expected in the far western Sahel ((Cap Vert, Sénégal, western Guinea and south-western Mauritania) and Central Sahel (Mali and part of northern Burkina Faso) Elsewhere conditions will likely be generally average while average to below average seasonal rainfall will be expected over coastal areas of Gulf of Guinea countries. In the sahelian Belt this likely to result in good crop prospects, but also increasing the risk of flooding in some areas. This is likely to be exacerbated by the ongoing [EL Niño](#) events which is anticipated to continue through February 2024(with greater than 95% chance), resulting in the potential shift of rainfall patterns in West Africa. This associated with above-average rainfall across the Sahelian strip in July - August.
- **Flood preparedness efforts:** the underlying flood risk of admin level 2 areas in river basins that are expected to experience normal to above normal river levels in 2023 highlighted: (1) administrative areas with **a medium or high flood risk located in river basins with above average expected river levels** in the Gambia basin, the Falémé basin (tributary of the Senegal), the Inner Niger Delta in Mali, the middle Niger river basin, the Komadougou Yobé (In Nigeria), the middle Chari, the Lower Chari-Logone (in Chad and CAR. and (2) administrative areas with **a high flood** risk located in river basins with average to above average expected river levels in the upper Niger River basin (in Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire and Mali), the upper Chari basin, the Lower Niger, the Bafing and Bakoye sub-basins (Senegal basin), the Mono (Togo and Benin) and Ouémé (Benin) basins and in the upper and western Volta basin. ([The admin2 areas to monitor](#)).
- **Areas to be monitored : Below average seasonal rainfall** over coastal areas of Gulf of Guinea countries (Sierra Leone, Liberia, Nigéria and Cameroon in June-August 2023.

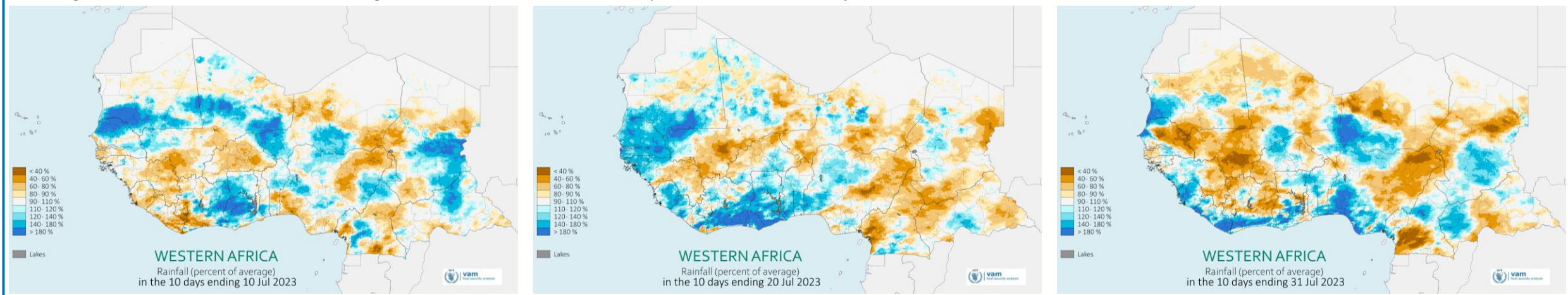
SECTION 1:
DEKADAL TRENDS

Dekadal rainfall patterns: July 2023



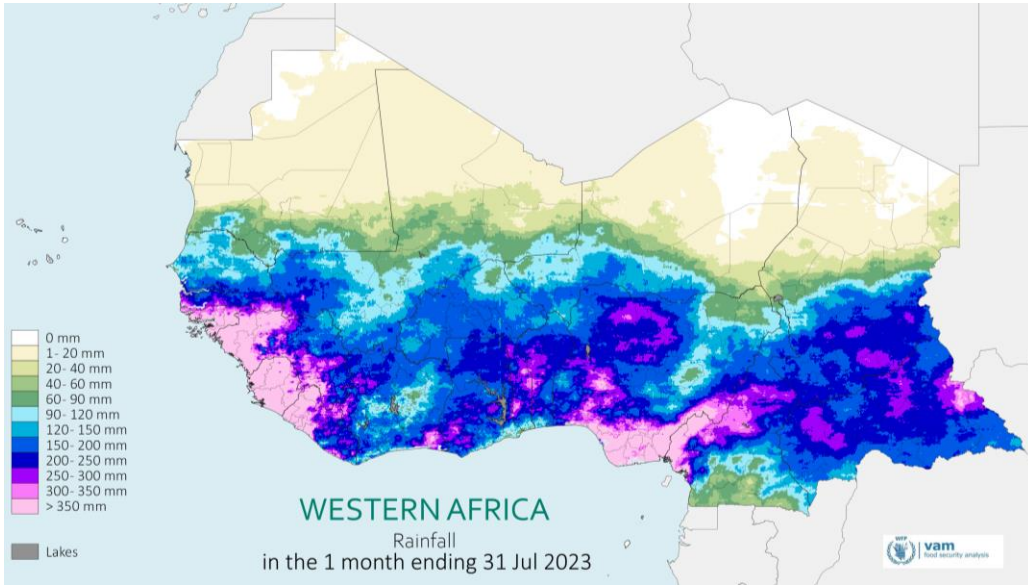
The maps above show the **total rainfall received** over the first (left), second (centre) and third (right) dekads (10-day period) of the month of July 2023, based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Areas highlighted in light green have received little rainfall, while areas in dark blue or pink have received moderate to intense rains.

The maps below show the **rainfall anomalies** over the first (left), second (centre) and third (right) dekads of the month of July 2023, 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.



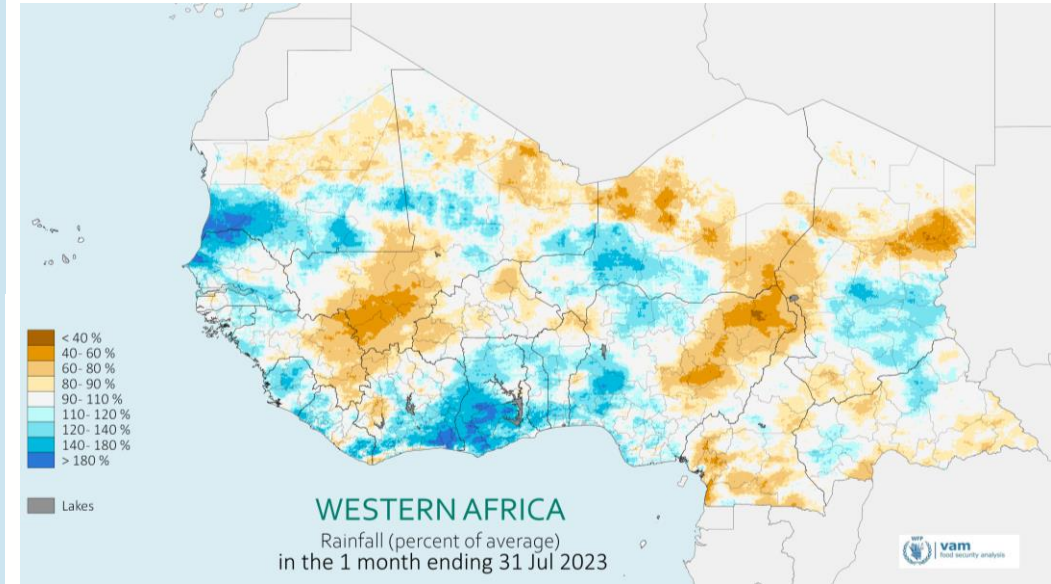
SECTION 2:
MONTHLY TRENDS

Rainfall patterns: The last month (1-31 July 2023)



The map to the left shows the total rainfall received over the last month (1-31 July 2023), 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 2023), 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 2023), the seasonal rains progressed from the southern parts of the region reaching the Sahel region.
- During the first dekad of July (1-10 July 2023), widespread seasonal rainfall was observed over West Africa. Heavier rains (of up to 200 mm) were recorded in Guinea Bissau, western Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ghana, southern Nigeria, western Cameroon, north-eastern Chad and south-eastern. Meanwhile, elsewhere including the Sahel light to moderate rainfall was recorded.
- During the second dekad of July (11-20 July 2023), heavy rainfall (above 90 mm) was received over the western area of region in southern Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, western Mali, as well as in the south-eastern parts of the region including in coastal areas along the Gulf of Guinea and Mono River, in north-western Nigeria, Cameroon, southern Chad and most of Burkina Faso. In the rest of the region, including southern Cameroon and northern Sahel light to

moderate rains (up to 50 mm) were received.

- During the last dekad of July (20-31 July 2023), significant rainfall (90-200 mm) was received in western and southern Senegal, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Burkina Faso, half western Niger, Nigeria, southern Ghana, Benin and Togo, most of Cameroon, CAR and southern Chad. Elsewhere light to moderate seasonal rainfall were received while particularly central eastern Cote d'Ivoire and southern Cameroon recorded very little amounts of rains.
- Overall, in July 2023, the most important seasonal rainfall was recorded over the southern coastal areas of Western Africa, southern Senegal, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, in Mano River countries (Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire), in Gulf of Guinea (Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria and most of Cameroon) as well as in CAR and southern Chad.
- In the Sahel over areas further northern seasonal rainfall was light to moderate.

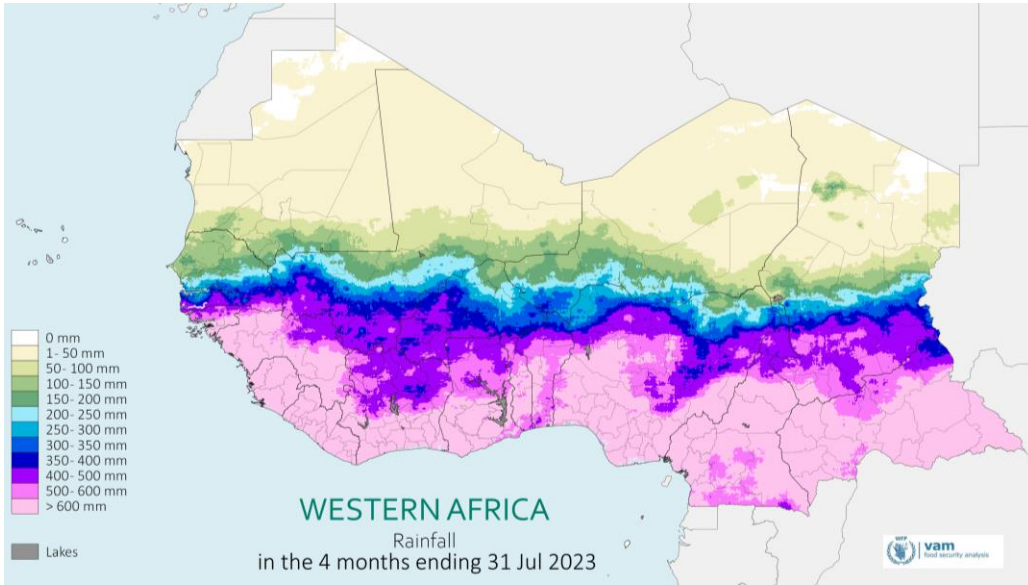
Rainfall anomaly:

- Compared to the long-term average, drier than normal conditions were recorded in Burkina Faso, western Mali, southwestern Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, as well as LCB, western and far southern Nigeria, southern Cameroon and western CAR during the first dekad of July.
- During the second dekad of July (11-20 July) seasonal rainfall particularly remained below average in most of western Africa except in some coastal countries (Sierra Leone, Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Benin and Togo) and in the far western Sahel (Southern Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia and far western Mali) with above average conditions.
- During the last dekad of July drought persist in some areas of the region. These rainfall deficits mainly affected western Mali, western Burkina Faso, eastern Guinea, western and eastern Niger, LCB, eastern Nigeria, northern and southern Cameroon, southern and eastern CAR as well as central, eastern and south western Senegal, half northern Cote d'Ivoire and northern arid areas of Western Africa.

- This dryness observed over Mali, eastern Guinea, pockets in eastern and southwestern Senegal and western Niger, in Burkina Faso and LCB may lead to significant impact on the agricultural season, given that main planting activities in these areas occurs during this period of the season.
- Overall, during July mixed conditions prevailed throughout the region. Below normal rainfall mainly affected south-western Mali, half eastern Guinea, in pockets over Burkina, pockets over central-eastern and south-western Senegal, central-western Gambia, northern Mauritania, LCB, eastern Nigeria, northern Niger, northern, western and far southwestern Chad as well Cameroon and pockets over southern and central CAR
- The evolution of the ITCZ as of 31 July 2023, confirms the erratic evolution of the seasonal rains over the region, and is currently characterized by variable conditions. During the first dekad of July it's located slightly above the climatological position and during the second and the last decade of July 2023, below the climatological position.

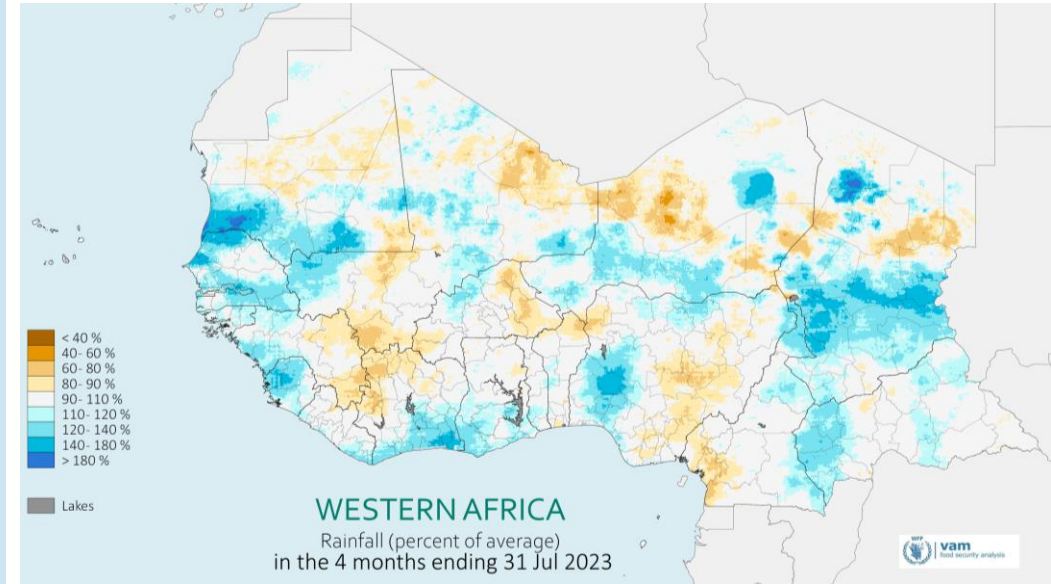
SECTION 3:
THE SEASON SO FAR

The progression of the season so far



The map to the left shows the **total rainfall received** over the last 3 months (April- July 2023), 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 (April- July 2023), 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, southern Chad, Guinea Bissau and far southern Senegal.
- Over the Sahelian belt, little seasonal rainfall has been received so far. However, more intense rainfall is expected in these areas over the coming weeks and months.

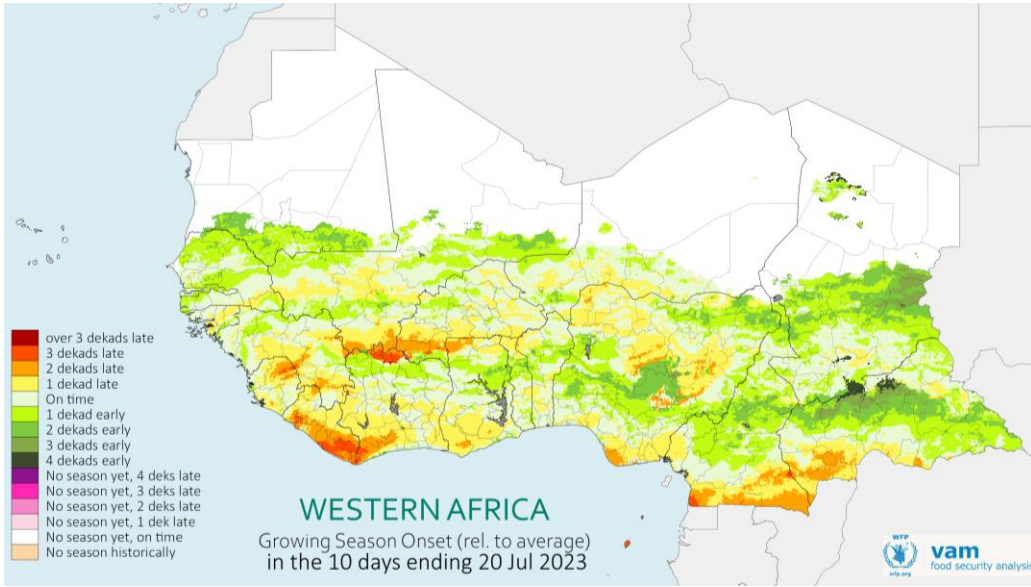
Rainfall anomaly:

- The early stages of the 2023 rainy season (April-July 2023) were characterised by mixed conditions, mostly dominated by average to above average conditions. Over the western part of the region (southern Mauritania, Senegal, eastern Gambia,, far western Mali, western Guinea, eastern Guinea Bissau and western Sierra Leone)), and the eastern part of the region (southwestern Nigeria, southern and far western Niger, northern Cameroon, Chad) as well as far southern coastal Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana and western CAR. above normal rains were received
- In the Sahel over central north (northern Mopti and Segou regions) and southern (Sikasso and southern Koulikoro regions) Mali, eastern and far southwestern Burkina Faso, eastern Niger experienced abnormal dryness.
- Below average seasonal rainfall was observed over eastern Guinea, north-western Cote d'Ivoire, eastern Nigeria and far southwestern Cameroon.

Summary:

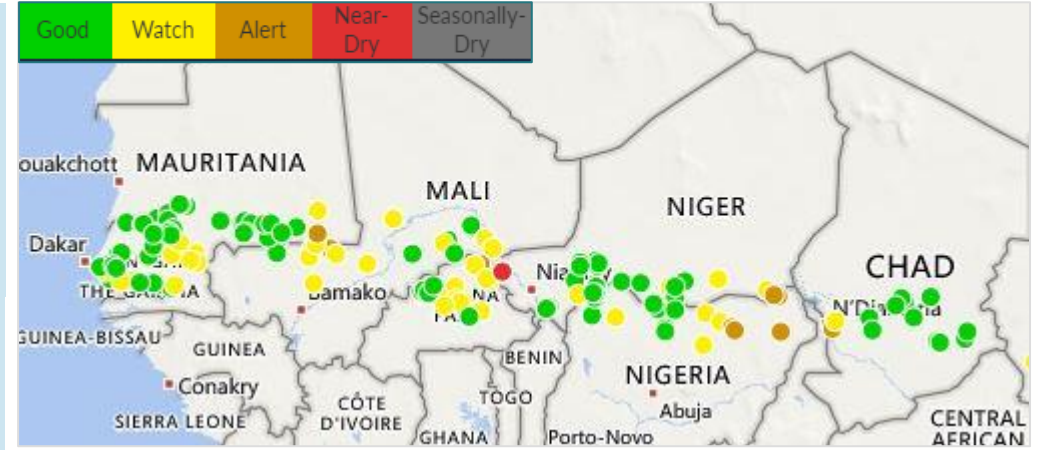
- So far West Africa rainy season remain to be characterized by mixed conditions. Only the eastern part of the region (southern and western Niger, Chad, northern Cameroon, southwestern Nigeria and CAR) and the western coastal areas (southern, northern and western Senegal, eastern Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, northern Sierra Leone, southern Mauritania) as well southern coastal Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana of the region benefited from wetter than average conditions.
- Erratic seasonal rainfall has resulted in abnormal dryness over central north and southern Mali, eastern and far southwestern Burkina Faso, eastern Niger, eastern Guinea, north-western Cote d'Ivoire, eastern Nigeria and far southwestern Cameroon. The seasonal cumulative rainfall from April to July has been average to above average over most of the region. However, negative impact of dryness on crop and pasture development over areas where dryness has persisted such as western and central Senegal, central Mali, , wester Niger, Burkina Faso, and LCB is expected. The developments over the coming weeks will be followed closely, particularly in the Sahel, where this period coincides with the planting window.

The progression of the season so far



The map on the left shows the start of the growing season anomaly (as of 31 July 2023), 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.

Water point status (as of 07 August 2023): 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>)



Start of season:

- The growing season onset map suggests that the 2023 season is characterized by mixed conditions mostly dominated by normal to early start of the season. Over the eastern part of the region across Chad, most of Cameroon, CAR, NE and central south belt Nigeria as well as Senegal and southern Mauritania can be observed an earlier than usual season onset of 1 to 3 dekads.
- In areas affected by a late start of the season (mapped in yellow to red above), over southern Cameroon, south-western CAR, central north belt Nigeria, southern and south-western Burkina Faso, southern Ghana, southern Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone, southern Guinea, western Mali, Guinea Bissau and south-eastern Senegal, the delayed start of the season can be attributed to erratic and poor rains in the early stages of the season.

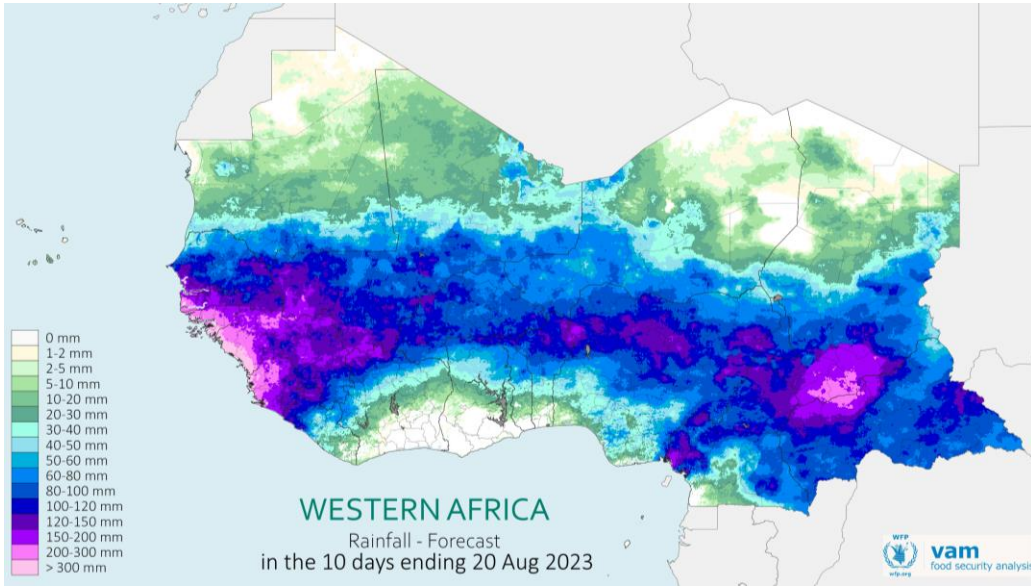
late May. However, over south-eastern Mauritania, south-eastern Senegal, central Mali, north-eastern Burkina, south eastern Niger and NE Nigeria, water points are watch or alert at the end of July.

Water resources:

- The availability of water resources is favourable in most of the Sahel and has improved since

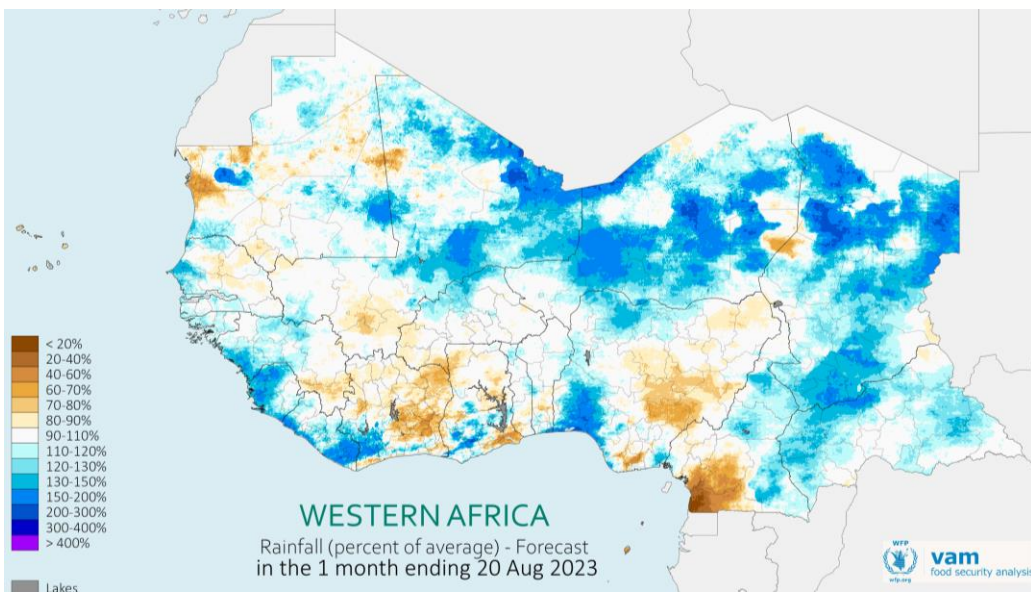
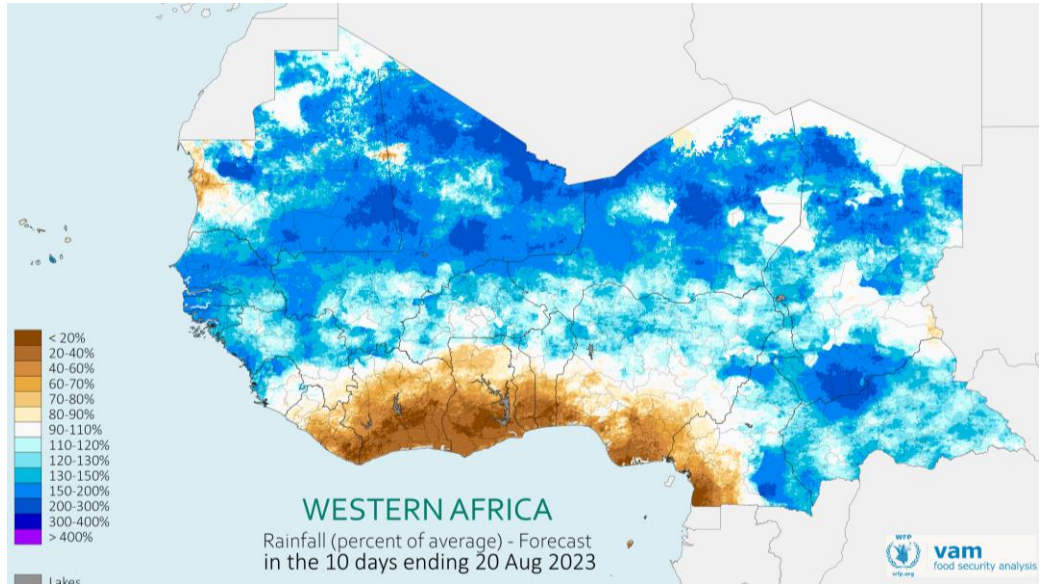
SECTION 4:
**THE SHORT- AND MEDIUM-TERM
OUTLOOK**

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.

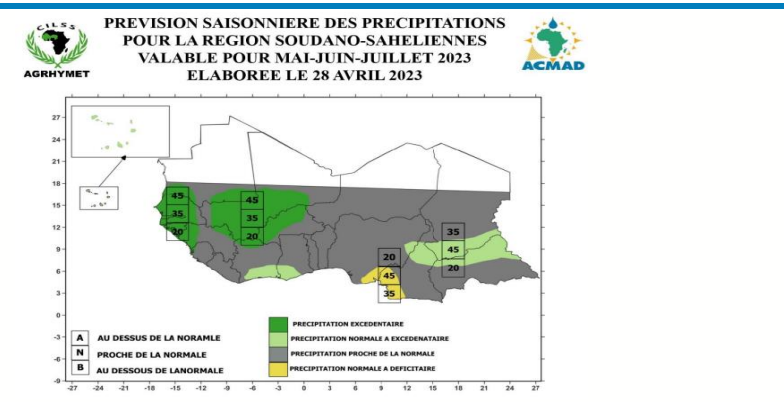
The map on the right shows the short-range CHIRPS-GEFS forecasts for the upcoming dekad, expressed in percentage of the long-term average. Blues for wetter than average conditions, browns for drier than average conditions.



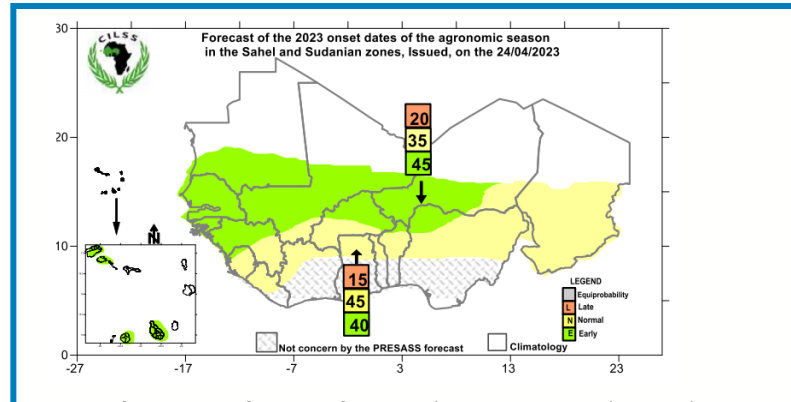
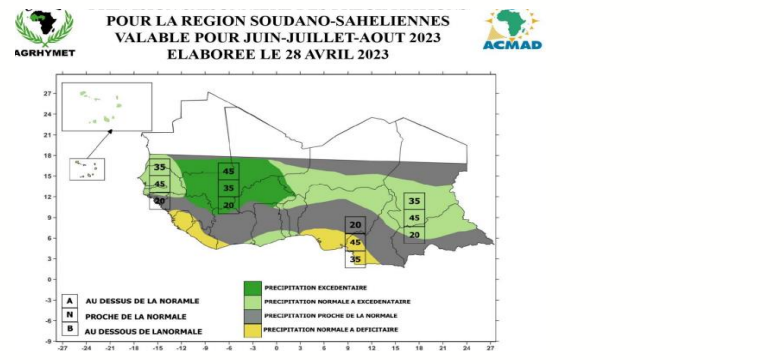
The map to the right shows the short-range CHIRPS-GEFS forecasts in one-month for the upcoming month, expressed in percentage of the long-term average. Blues for wetter than average conditions, browns for drier than average conditions.

- Short range forecasts provide estimates of rainfall up to August 20th. In late August, rainfall improvement will likely be observed across West Africa Region, in particular over the Sahel with widespread wetter conditions. However, coastal areas of Gulf of Guinea and Mano river's countries will likely be experiencing below average rainfall.
- If the forecasts are verified, we might see an alleviation of the rainfall deficits in these regions and the onset of more favorable conditions for the early stages of the growing season. However, in some areas over western Mauritania, central and eastern Senegal, eastern Guinea, central southern Mali (Sikasso), most of Cote d'ivoire, northern Ghana, NE and eastern Nigeria, and far southern Cameroon could remain drier than average.

The medium-term outlook: the April 2023 PRESASS seasonal forecast

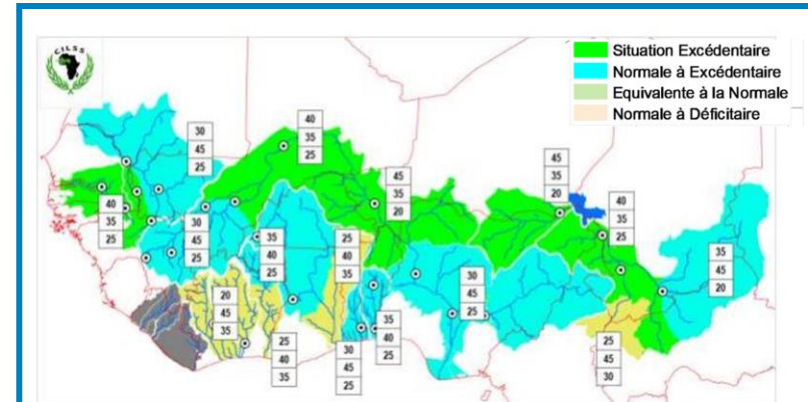
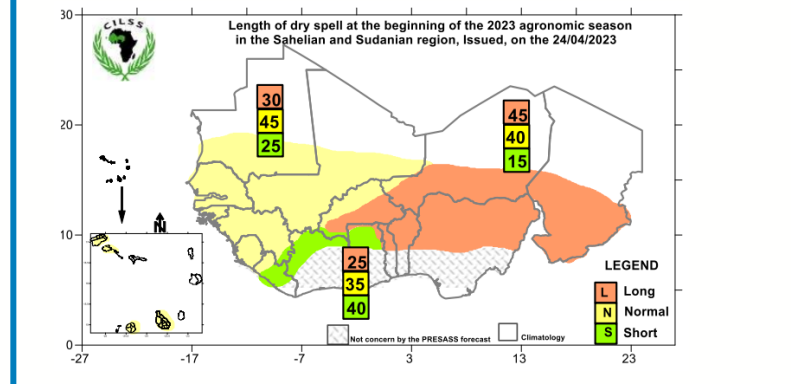


According to the April 2023 PRESASS seasonal forecast, above average to average seasonal rainfall (in May-July 2023, map above) is expected in the far western Sahel ((Cap Vert, Sénégal, western Guinea and south-western Mauritania) and Central Sahel (Mali and part of northern Burkina Faso) Elsewhere conditions will likely be generally average. During May-July and Jul-Sep. 2023, (map below), conditions will likely be more favourable over the Sahelian belt with above average rainfall while average to below average seasonal rainfall will be expected over coastal areas of Gulf of Guinea countries (along of Sierra Leone, and Liberia, coastal areas of Nigéria and Cameroon). In the Sahelian Belt this likely to result in good crop prospects, but also increasing the risk of flooding in some areas. This is likely to be exacerbated by the ongoing [EL Niño events](#) which is likely to develop with 82% probability in May-July and is expected with at least 90 percent chance to continue through February 2024, resulting in the potential shift of rainfall patterns in West Africa. This associated with above-average rainfall across the Sahelian strip in July - August.



An early to normal onset of seasonal rains is expected (map above) in the western Sahel including Cabo Verde island as well as the central Sahel. In the Sahelo-Sudanian zone and the eastern Sahel covering southern Sierra Leone, Guinea, Mali, Burkina Faso, Chad, far eastern Niger and over northern parts of Libéria, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin and Nigéria is expected normal to an early seasonal rainfall onset.

At the beginning of the season **average to longer dry spells** are expected over the Sudanian and Sahelian belts of West Africa and Chad, with high probability to observe more longer dry spells over the half eastern of the Sudano-Sahelian belt (map below). Towards the end of the season, dry spells are expected to be longer over northern Togo, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, north-western Benin, half southern Sierra Leone and half northern Liberia.



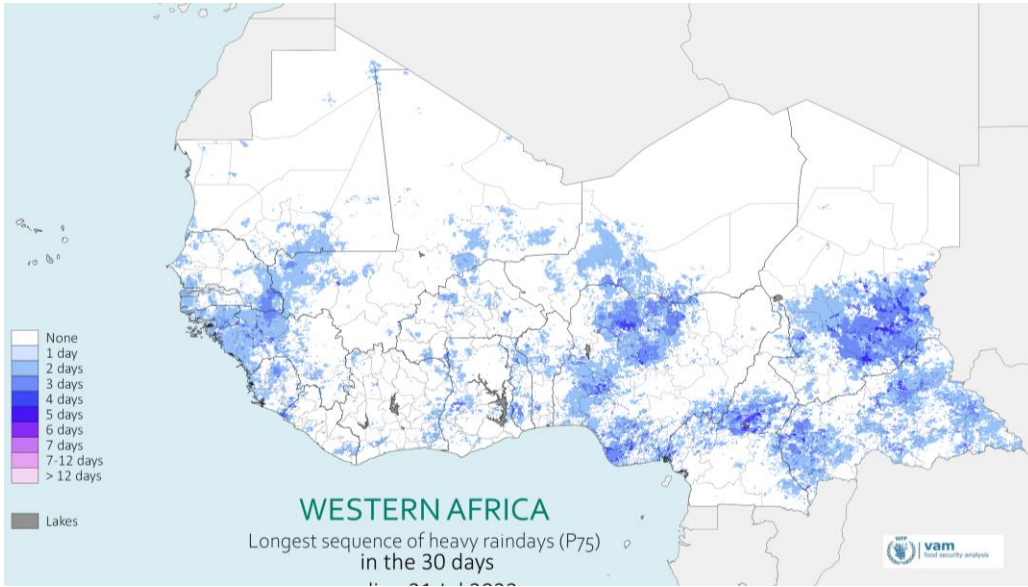
The map above shows the river basin levels expected in 2022. Green indicates above normal river levels, blue normal to above normal levels, grey normal levels and pink below normal river levels compared to the long-term average.

In terms of the **hydrological situation**, globally equivalent to above the average river levels are expected in the upper basins of the Sahel and equivalent to below average are expected in the lower parts of these basins:

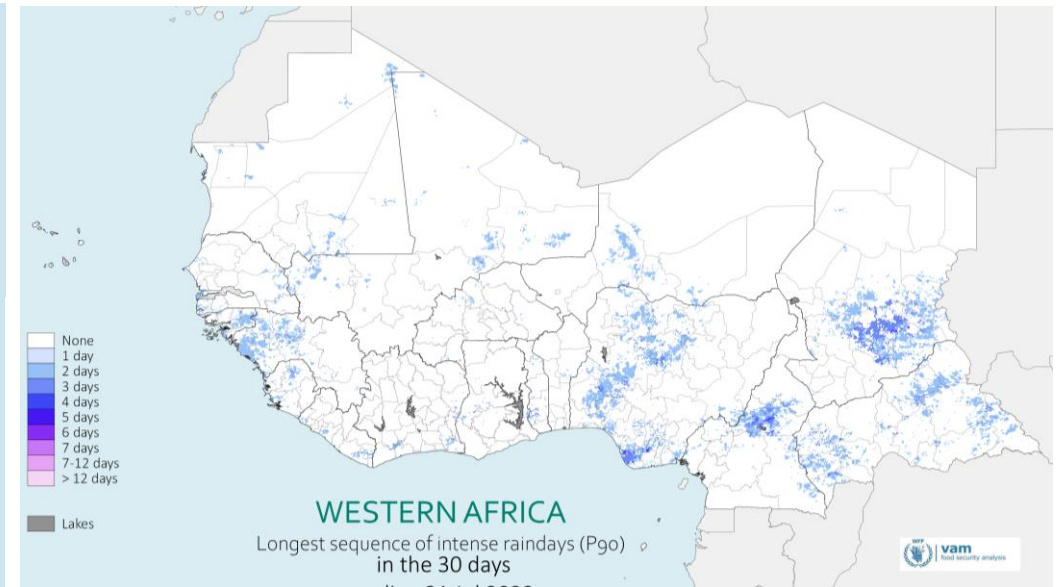
- **Above average** are specifically expected in the Gambia basin, the Falémé basin (tributary of the Senegal), the Inner Niger Delta in Mali, the middle Niger river basin, the Komadougou Yobé, the middle Chari, the Lower Chari-Logone.
- **Average to above average** are expected in the upper Niger River basin (in Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire and Mali), the upper Chari basin, the Lower Niger, the Bafing and Bakoye sub-basins (Senegal basin), the Mono (Togo and Benin) and Ouémé (Benin) basins and in the upper and western Volta basin.
- And **below average** are expected in the Sassandra and Bandama basins (in Côte d'Ivoire), the lower Comoé, the upper Logone basin and in the eastern part of the Volta (Benin, Burkina Faso, Togo and Ghana).

SECTION 5:
AREAS OF CONCERN : FLOOD RISK (
PREPAREDNESS EFFORTS)

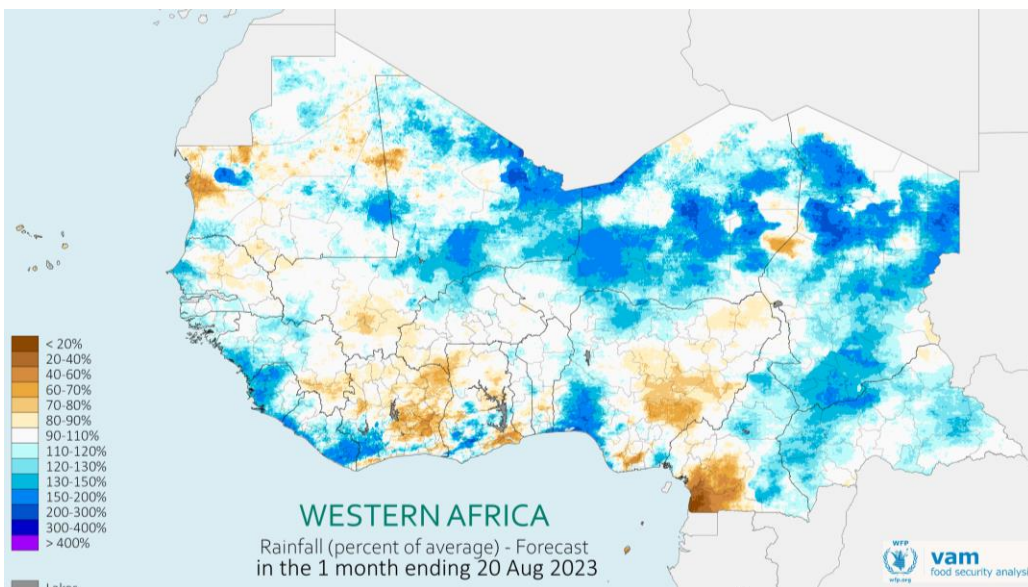
Heavy & Extreme rainfall: July 2023



The map to the left shows the longest sequence of heavy raindays over the past month (1-31 July 2023), 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 2023), 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.



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.

Heavy raindays:

- So far 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 southern Senegal, far western Mali, far western Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, far south coastal and western Nigeria, central Cameroon, and south-eastern Chad.
- 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 June 2023.

- 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.

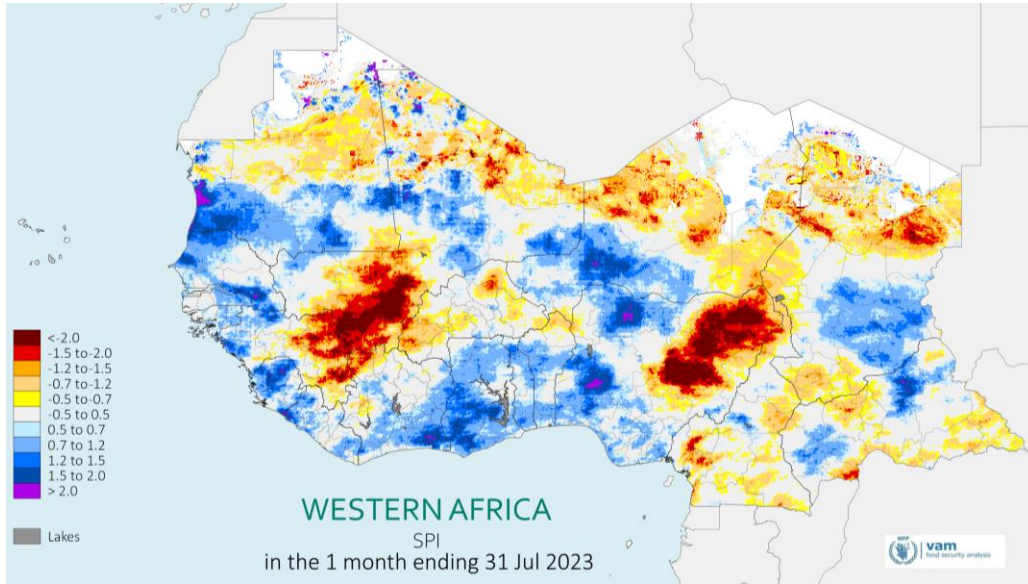
One month Forecast:

- In one month ending 20 August, forecasts suggest more favorable conditions over the region. However, in some areas over western Mauritania, central and eastern Senegal, eastern Guinea, central southern Mali (Sikasso), most of Cote d'ivoire, northern Ghana, NE and eastern Nigeria, and far southern Cameroon could experience drier than normal conditions.

SECTION 6:

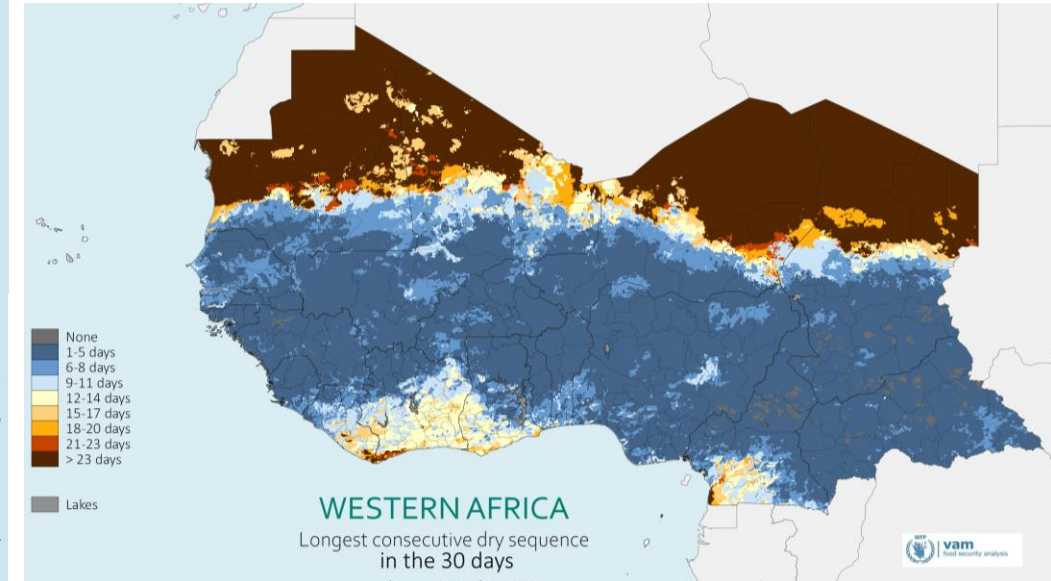
**AREAS OF CONCERN : DROUGHT
RISK**

SPI & Dry Sequences: July 2023



The map to the left shows the **Standard Precipitation Index (SPI)** for the last month (1-31 July 2023), 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 2023), based on CHIRPS satellite rainfall estimates. Areas 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.



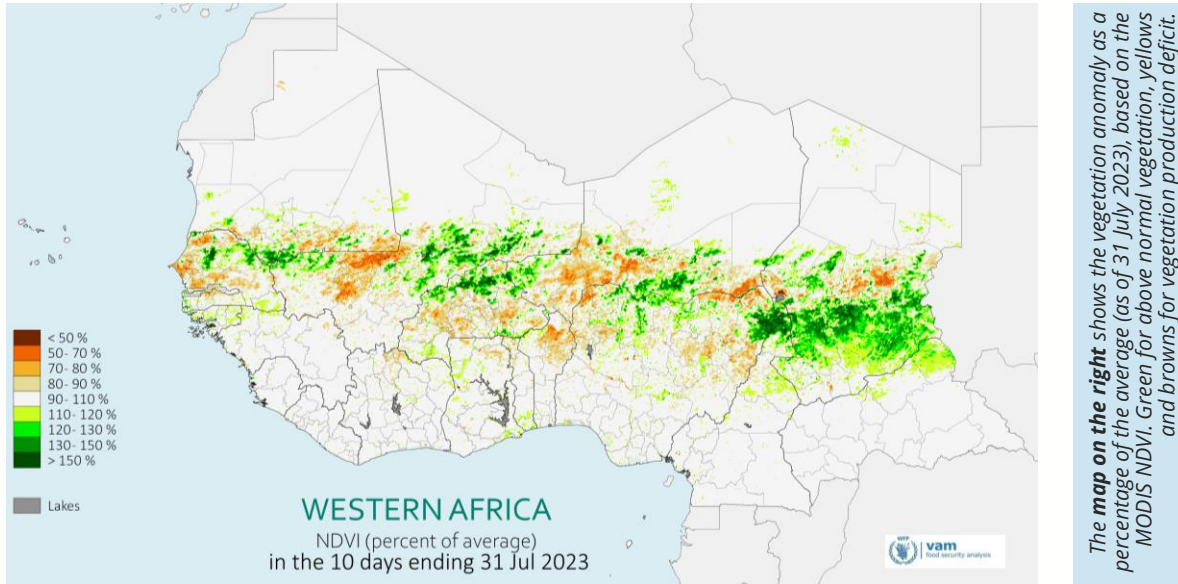
Standard Precipitation Index (SPI):

- As mentioned above, the SPI is less accurate or relevant at this stage of the season, when many areas normally experience dry conditions in West Africa and received very little seasonal rainfall.
- This explains the somewhat contradictory picture given by the dekadal SPI for the three dekads of July 2023 compared to the rainfall anomaly maps. The accuracy and relevance of the monthly SPI is higher, and the indicator will become more accurate once the season progresses. For further information on the SPI, see [this factsheet](#).
- The monthly SPI for July 2023 suggests mixed conditions mostly dominated by normal to wet conditions across the region.
- on the other hand, areas over central north and southern Mali, eastern and southwestern Burkina Faso, eastern Niger, eastern Guinea, north-western Cote d'Ivoire, eastern Nigeria, LCB, far southern Chad, central and southern CAR and southwestern Cameroon as well as the arid areas of the region experienced drier than normal conditions.

Dry Sequences:

- Over most of the region, dry-spells were generally short (1-5 days). However, the southernmost areas of the Sahel experienced slightly longer dry sequences of up to 11 days.
- However, some areas including half southern of Cote d'Ivoire, most of Liberia, southwestern Ghana and far south-eastern Cameroon experienced longer dry sequences of up to 23 days.
- While it is unlikely that these moderate dry spells had any significant impact on agricultural activities at this very early stage of the season in the region, the progression of the rains, and particularly their spatial and temporal distribution should be monitored closely, as erratic rainfall at the start of the season could negatively impact the crops development.

NDVI and Areas to be monitored



Areas to be monitored

Below average seasonal rainfall over coastal areas of Gulf of Guinea countries (Sierra Leone, Liberia, Nigéria and Cameroon during **June-August 2023**

Vegetation:

An early season dryness and a poorly distributed rainfall across western Africa region led to a noticeable impact on vegetation cover development.

Despite the average to above-average seasonal rainfall experienced, below vegetation average can also be observed across a wide area of the Sahel of over Senegal, southern and eastern Mauritania, central western Mali, parts of western and eastern Niger, Burkina Faso, LCB as well as northern Nigeria, Benin, Togo and Ghana.

This may evolve favourably now given recent improved rains, but the coming 3-4 weeks will be

critical for the overall seasonal performance across the Sahel.

- On the other hand, a markedly above average vegetation cover extends over the eastern part of the region across south-eastern Niger, NE Nigeria, far northern Cameroon and Chad. Better than normal vegetation conditions can be observed in parts of eastern Mali and north eastern Burkina Faso.

SECTION 7:

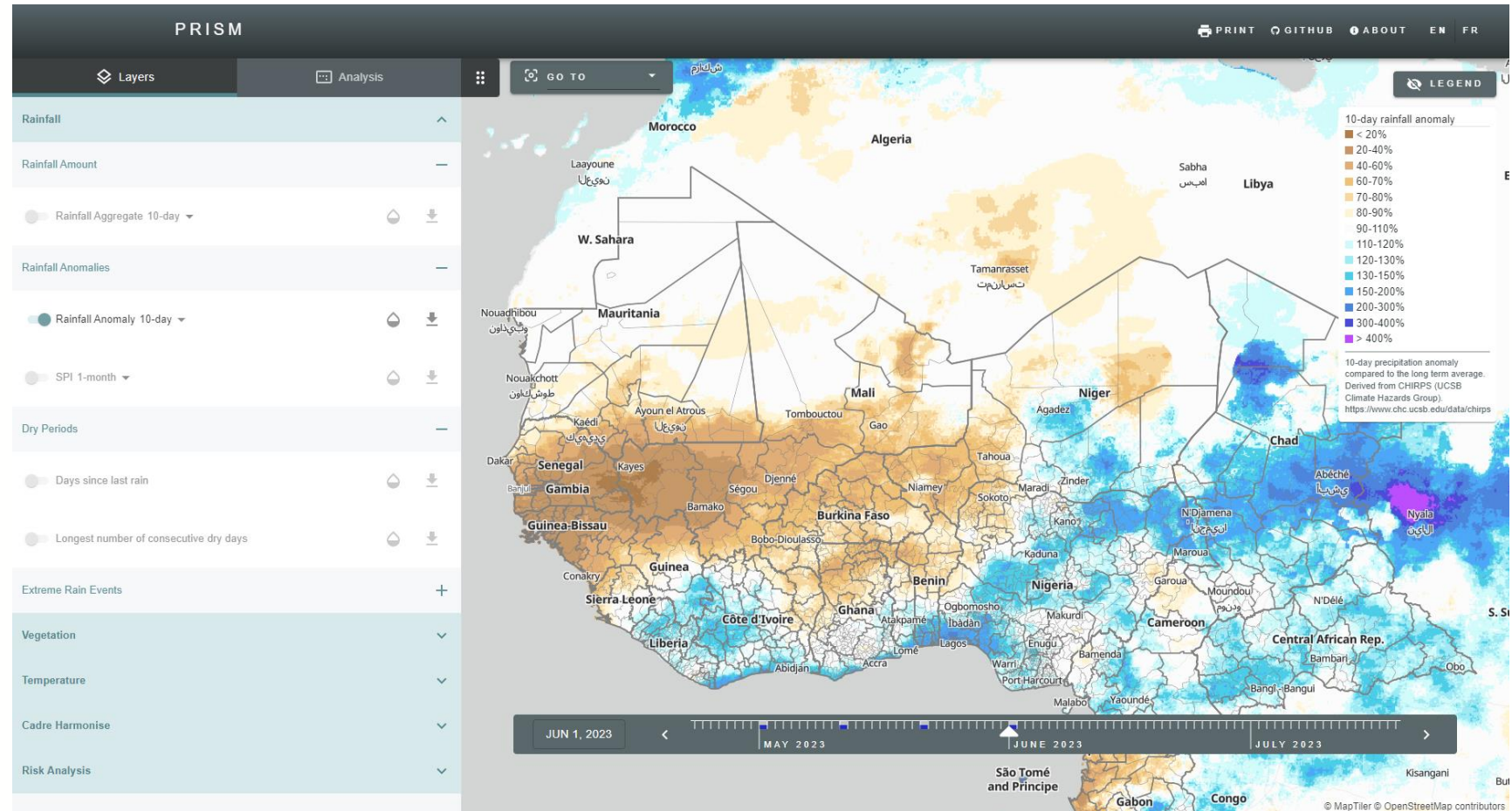
**THE PLATFORM FOR REAL-TIME
IMPACT AND SITUATION
MONITORING (PRISM)**

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**. PRISM allows users to **follow climate and hazard indicators in near-real time** and to conduct **analyses that combine hazard data with risk layers** – for instance, you can use the analysis feature to identify acutely food insecure areas that are experiencing drought conditions.

PRISM currently includes a series of **hazard layers** including data on rainfall amounts and anomalies, dry periods and extreme rain events, vegetation and land surface temperatures. In addition, the platform includes historical **Cadre Harmonisé (CH) results from 2018 onwards**, as well as other **risk analyses** such as WFP's Integrated Context Analysis (ICA) and the Multi-Dimensional Risk Analysis. WFP is working with regional and national partners to expand the datasets included in PRISM.

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





Data sources:

Rainfall: CHIRPS, Climate Hazards Group, UCSB

Vegetation: MODIS NDVI, ESODIS-NASA

Data Processing:

RAM software components, ArcGIS, QGIS

For further information:

RBD RAM Unit
WFP Regional Bureau for
Western Africa (RBD)
Dakar, Senegal
rbd.ram@wfp.org