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MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT
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30th July, 2026

EARLY WARNING INFORMATION ON THE ANTICIPATED 2026/2027 EL NIÑO EVENT AND THE ASSOCIATED IMPACTS OVER UGANDA

WEATHER ADVISORY

The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) through the Department of Meteorological Services (DMS), wishes to inform the general public, government institutions, development partners, private sector stakeholders, and the media that the World Meteorological Organisation and the global climate monitoring centres are indicating that there is an increased likelihood of the development of an El Niño event during the second half of 2026, with a possible persistence into 2027.

El Niño is a naturally occurring climate phenomenon characterized by **warmer than normal sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean**. Historically, El Niño events have been associated with enhanced rainfall over many parts of East Africa, including Uganda, resulting in increased risks of flooding, landslides, infrastructure damage, disease outbreaks, and disruption of livelihoods.

While the exact magnitude and impacts of the anticipated El Niño event are still being assessed, preliminary climate outlooks suggest a high probability of **above-normal rainfall** episodes in several parts of the country during the upcoming rainfall season of September to December (SOND). Areas that are particularly vulnerable include flood-prone lowlands, urban centres with inadequate drainage systems, river catchments, wetlands, and mountainous regions susceptible to landslides.

The Ministry of Water and Environment through DMS is closely monitoring the evolution of this climate phenomenon through continuous analysis of global, regional, and national climate conditions. In collaboration with regional and international climate centres, MWE will continue to provide timely forecasts, advisories, and early warning information to support preparedness and informed decision-making.

Mission

To promote and ensure the rational and sustainable utilization, development and effective management of water and environment resources for social economic development of Uganda

The Ministry urges all stakeholders to ensure appropriate preparedness, planning and take precautionary measures, including:

- Strengthening disaster preparedness and response plans.
- Clearing drainage channels and flood pathways.
- Avoiding settlement and cultivation in flood-prone and landslide-prone areas.
- Enhancing community awareness and early warning dissemination.
- Preparing contingency measures in all climate sensitive sectors, including agriculture, health, transport, water resources, and infrastructure.
- Following official weather and climate updates issued by MWE through the Department of Meteorological Services.

The media is encouraged to support public awareness efforts by disseminating accurate and timely weather and climate information to communities across the country.

The Ministry of Water and Environment reassures the general public that it will continue to provide regular updates regarding the development and potential impacts of the anticipated 2026/2027 El Niño event, in view of the fact that **early warning and early action save lives, protect livelihoods, and reduce disaster related losses.**"

For official weather forecasts at different timescales, including 6 hours, 24 hours, 10 days, 30 days, seasonal outlooks, and early warning information, the general public is advised to follow updates through MWE's communication channels.



Dr. Alfred Okot Okidi
PERMANENT SECRETARY

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