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Date of issue: 3rd October, 2025

WEATHER UPDATE FOR OCTOBER 2025 OVER UGANDA

1.0 INTRODUCTION

October falls within the September-October-November-December (SOND) rainfall season, which is the second rainy period over all parts of Uganda. It is generally a rainy month, characterized by heavy showers defining the peak period for SOND rainfall season over Uganda. All these result from the positioning and orientation of the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) over the country due to the apparent migration of the overhead sun to the southern hemisphere.

2.0 CLIMATE DRIVERS FOR OCTOBER 2025

- The rain bearing winds from Indian Ocean is expected to be weak and variable due to the current negative Sea Surface Temperature (SST) anomaly over the Indian Ocean. This negative SST anomaly is projected to become neutral by the end of October.
- The westerly winds driving the moist Congo Air mass is expected to be stronger. This will be the main driver of the rainfall over Uganda during the month of October
- The current location of the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) over Uganda will provides the conducive environment for convergence of moisture which will enhance rainfall during this month of October
- The Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO), the global-scale atmospheric phenomenon characterized by an eastward-moving "pulse" of clouds, rainfall, and winds in the tropics, is currently strong and in a phase expected to increase rainfall over the country in the first week of October.

3.0 SEPTEMBER 2025 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

The month of September was characterised by prolonged dry spell in many parts of Central and parts of Western, while Northern and many parts of Eastern received enhanced rainfall during the month of September (more than what is always received during the month of September). The observed enhanced rainfall over Northern and parts of Eastern was due to the advection of the moist Congo Air Mass. This created monsoon-like conditions, with prolonged periods of heavy rainfall, causing flash floods, river overflows, and waterlogging in low-lying areas during September. Areas around Lake Victoria received the lowest rainfall during the month of September. This was majorly attributed to the weak negative Indian Ocean Dipole and La Nina condition over the equatorial Pacific Ocean, resulting in weakening of the Easterly wind system which brings moisture to our region during this period. Figure 1 (a) below shows the comparison of rainfall observation over selected parts of the country with their respective Long Term Mean (LTM) values for the month of September.

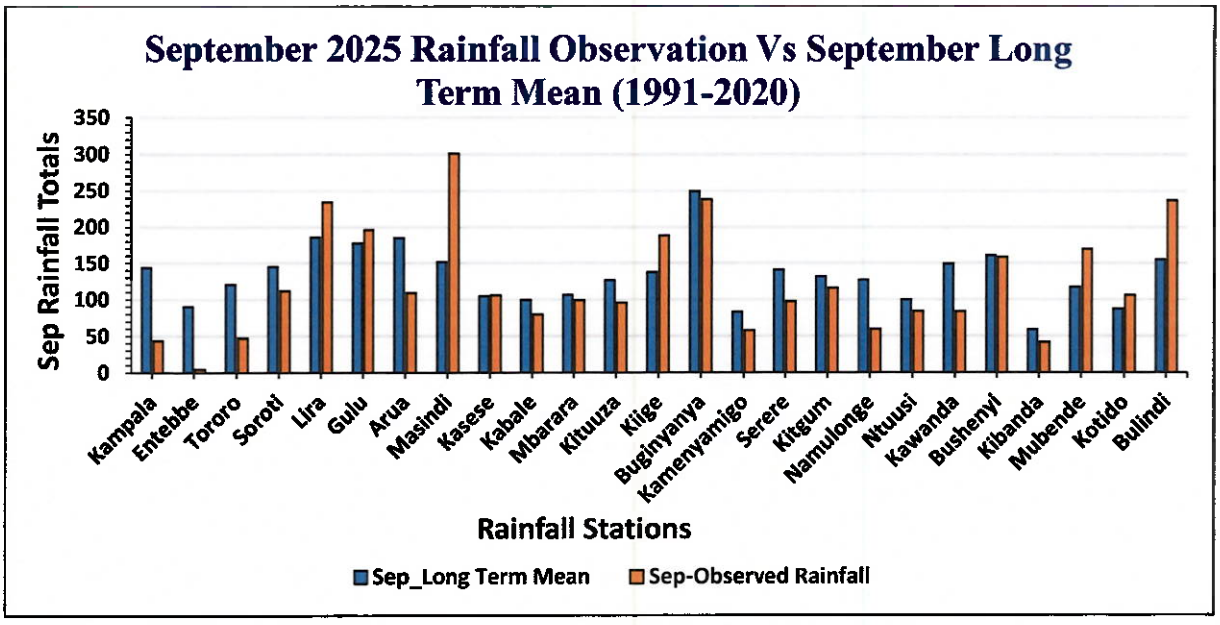

Figure 1 (a): *September 2025 Rainfall compared with September LTM*

Figure 1 (b) Shows the spatial total rainfall distribution over the country during the month of September. It can be seen that Masindi district received the highest amount of rainfall

over the country, followed by the highland areas of mount Elgon areas and Ruwenzori region. Lake Victoria region received the lowest amount of rainfall during September.

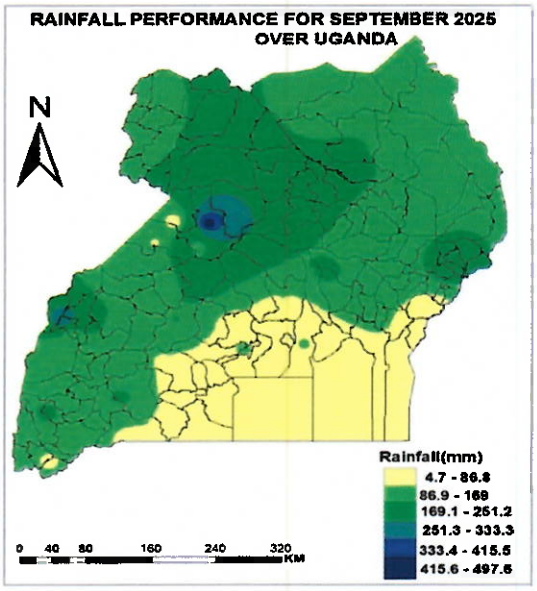

Figure 1 (b): *Spatial map for September 2025 Rainfall Distribution*

4.0 RAINFALL OUTLOOK FOR OCTOBER 2025

During the release of SOND 2025 Seasonal Rainfall Outlook, it was predicted that the peak of the rainfall season is expected during the month of October. Given the current conditions of rainfall drivers, October is expected to have enhanced rainfall over most parts of the country.

Areas around Lake Victoria and other parts of western, which has been receiving intermittent rainfall, are expected to receive enhance rainfall during this month of October. The overall outlook for the month of October rainfall is as indicated in Figure 2 below.

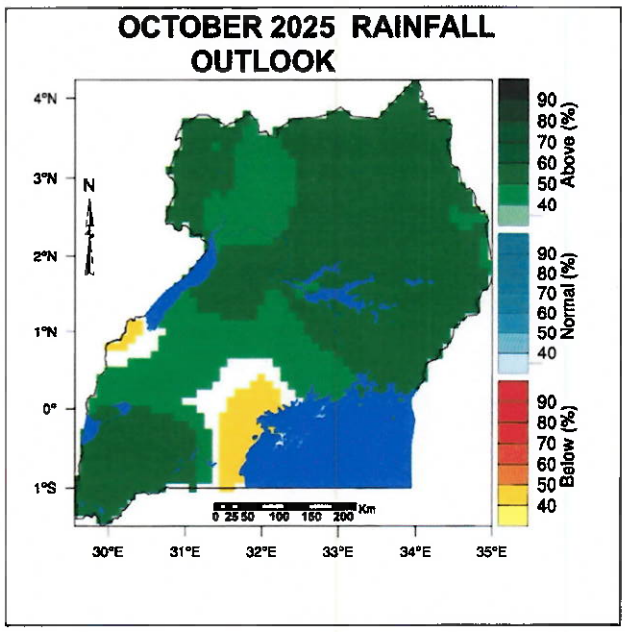

Figure 2: *Expected Spatial rainfall outlook for October 2025*

5.0 REGIONAL BREAK DOWN OF OCTOBER 2025 RAINFALL OUTLOOK

5.1 Western Region

The ongoing rainfall over this region is expected to continue, reaching its peak by the end of October. Overall, most parts of this region are expected to receive enhance rainfall during this month of October.

5.2 Central Region

Most parts of this region are currently experiencing isolated showers and thunderstorm, which is expected to stabilise over most areas of the region during this month of October. Areas in the western parts of Lake Victoria (Southern cattle corridor) may receive slightly little rainfall compared to other parts of Central. Overall, most parts of this region are expected to receive enhance rainfall during this month of October.

5.3 Eastern Region

In Eastern region, including Bukedi, Teso, Bugisu and Karamoja are currently experiencing showers and thunderstorm. This is expected to continue, reaching the peak during this month of October for the SOND 2025 rainfall season over Bukedi, Teso and Bugisu, while the Karamoja region is expected to reach the peak by mid-October.

Overall, these region is expected to receive enhance rainfall during this month of October.

5.4 Northern Region

The current showers and thunderstorms over this region are expected to continue, reaching its peak level during this month of October over most areas of the region. The region is also expected to receive enhance rainfall during October.

6.0 TEMPERATURE FORECASTS FOR AUGUST 2025.

Overall, the temperature forecast indicates that there will be a reduction in average temperature over most parts of the country during October. This is expected to be attributed to the enhance rainfall over the country during this period as shown in Figure 3 below.

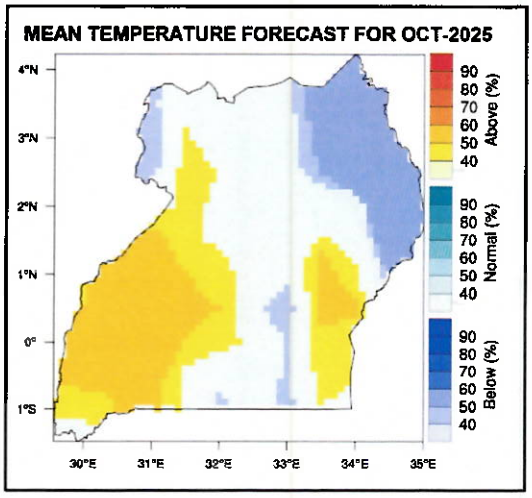

***Figure 3**: Expected Spatial AverageTemperature over Uganda during October 2025*

7.0 EXPECTED POTENTIAL IMPACTS DURING AUGUST 2025 AND ADVISORIES

Potential Impacts

The rainfall forecast depicts continuation of rainfall activity over most parts of the country. The expected potential hazards are flash floods, waterlogging, contamination of water sources due to increased surface runoff, and disruption of traffic flows along transportation routes as some bridges may collapse or be washed away.

Advisories

- The country is advised to use the current rainfall for continued planting of new crops;
- Soil and water conservation practices (waterways, trenches, stone bands, contour trenches, diversion channels, grass bands) are encouraged to minimize the impact of floods and water logging;
- Early/timely weeding to address the rampant growth of weeds such as nut grass, spear grass, wandering jews, and coach grass which increases the cost of production;
- Stocking of pesticides due to expected increase in pests and disease incidence (bacterial for vegetables and fungal for cereals and vegetables);
- Sensitize and advise communities to plant trees for firewood and use of energy-saving stoves;
- Advocate for fertilizer use to enhance soil fertility due to the likelihood of soil erosion in several districts leading to increased leaching of soil nutrients especially in the lowlands;
- Relocating kraals to raised and fresh grounds to manage foot rot due to the muddy conditions;
- Local Authorities are encouraged to clear off clogged water pathways or open up drainage channels to avoid truncation of the roads by turbulent water overflows and over-flooded transport routes;
- Water harvesting should be encouraged to improve water availability especially during dry spells;
- Monitor the malaria prevalence and reposition stocks of drugs and routine distribution of long-lasting insecticide treated mosquito nets;
- Visibility may occasionally become poor due to foggy and hazy conditions especially during morning hours. Motorists are cautioned to exercise extra care when driving to avoid accidents.

The predicted rainfall requires timely action to mitigate risks and take advantage of favorable conditions. It should be used together with the 6 hours, 24-hour, 5-day/city, and 10-day forecasts, routinely issued for proper planning and decision making.

The Ministry of Water and Environment, through the Department of Meteorological Services, will continue to monitor the weather patterns and regularly issue updates to climate-sensitive sectors to strengthen economic resilience and community well-being.

David Okurut
For: PERMANENT SECRETARY