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# **U - NIEWS**

The Official Government of Uganda Inter-Ministerial/Agencies
Monthly National Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning Bulletin

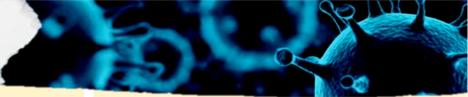


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Issue 48

# UPDATE ON CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OCTOBER 2020



#### Coronavirus (COVID-19) global outlook

Almost ten months after the first case COVID-19, the virus has so far spread to more than 217 countries, with the cumulative total of over 36.4 million cases including 1,056,186 deaths, reported by WHO and case fatality rate (CFR) of 2.9%. According to WHO Draft landscape of COVID-19,42 vaccines are in the clinical evaluation while 151 are in preclinical evaluation stage, among those on clinical evaluation 8 are already at stage 3/3 with clinical data being analyzed. Despite the extremely fast progress in vaccine development supported through The Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, the Coronavirus still poses a significant challenge globally as well as in many countries. Beyond supporting development of vaccine, the ACT consortium is also supporting the building of manufacturing capabilities, and buying supply, ahead of time so that 2 billion doses can be fairly distributed by the end of 2021 because as COVID crisis has reminded us, Nobody is safe, until everyone is safe. Uganda has joined the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access Facility (COVAX Facility).

#### COVID-19 worldwide

As of 13th October, there have been **37,601,848** confirmed cases of COVID-19, including **1,077,799** deaths, reported to WHO. Globally the Americas region continues to be the worst affected globally with **18** million cases reported and **592,561** deaths. The USA, Brazil and Argentina remain on the top ranks of affected countries in their region reporting cumulative cases of **7.6** million, **5.1** million and **894,206** cases respectively as of 13th October.

Globally, USA and Brazil are followed by India with 7.2 million cases and 106,460 deaths reported.

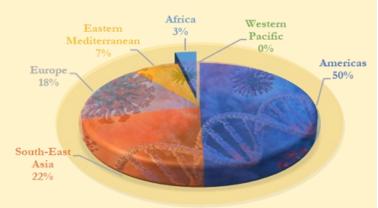


Figure: 1 Situation (reported COVID-19) cases by WHO Region. Data source: WHO October 2020

In terms of the demographic profile of reported cases, the highest percentage of cases have been reported in the **25-39** age group, with approximately **50%** of cases in the **25-64** age group. Incidence on younger population might explain the relatively lower mortality rates despite increase in infections. As confirmed by epidemiological studies, the rate of deaths increases with age, and approximately 75% of deaths are in the group age of above 65 years old.

#### COVID-19 in Africa

According to statistics from WHO, **1,231,808** cases have been reported in Africa (**47** countries) with cumulative mortality reaching **27,397** as of October 13<sup>th</sup>. If we consider the 55 African countries covered by the African Union /African Center for disease control (CDC), the region has reached a cumulative figure of **1,584,484** cases (representing **4%** of global cases), **38,597** deaths and **1,312,128** recoveries as of 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020 with a case fatality rate of 2.4 (**CFR: 2.4%**). The COVID-19 CDC outbreak brief 38 from 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020 indicated an increase of **53,639** cases in the region from the of week 29<sup>th</sup> September or a **2%** regional increase.

The proportion of new COVID-19 cases reported by region is as follows: Northern region 52% (28,088 cases; 1% increase), Southern region 25% (13,523; 2% decrease), Eastern region 16% (8,516; 17% increase), Western region 6% (3,083; 3% decrease) and Central region 1% (429; 39% decrease).

In Africa, South Africa is most affected with 692,471 cases and 17,780 deaths, followed by Morocco with 153,761 cases and 2,636 deaths and Egypt with 104, 648 cases and 6,062 deaths.

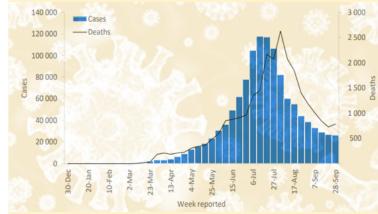


Figure: 2 Number of COVID-19 cases and deaths reported weekly by the WHO African Region, as 4 October 2020



#### Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System - Monthly Bulletin

#### UPDATE ON CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OCTOBER 2020

#### Snapshot of COVID-19 in East Africa region

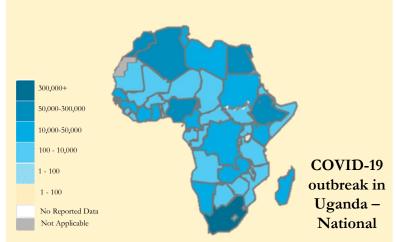
At Africa Centre for Disease Control (CDC), a COVID-19 press briefing was held on 1st October, where the Commissioner for Social Affairs, H.E. Amira Elfadil Mohammed, announced the launch of the *Trusted Travel Portal*, an initiative to facilitate safe travel corridors as countries reopen their borders as part of the Africa CDC and African Union campaign "Saving Lives, Economies and Livelihood.

Africa CDC has collaborated with Facebook and Access Challenge to implement two campaigns on social media platforms to raise awareness on hand washing, respiratory hygiene, testing, as well as dispelling COVID-19 rumors.

According to the AU CDC as of 13th October, 14 countries of the Eastern Africa region have reported cumulative cases 185,988 cases, 3,530 deaths and 112,307 recoveries.

In the 6 EAC countries (Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda), cumulative cases have reached **60,209 cumulative** figures with **43,931** recovered and **15,298** active cases and **980** deaths.

Kenya continues to be the most affected in terms of confirmed cases in the EAC region with 401,619 cases and 777 deaths. Uganda comes right after with 9,801 cases and 94 deaths (community transmission - WHO classification), while Rwanda has reported 4,905 cases and 32 deaths and South Sudan 55 deaths and 2,798 cases.



Data Source: WHO Dashboard available in https://covid19.who.int/region/emro/country/ye

#### statistics as of October 11th, 2020

As of October 11th, Uganda Ministry of Health statistics showed **9,864** cumulative cases reported (86,8% local vs. 13,2% imported cases), 63 new cases, *6109* recoveries and *94* deaths. Out of the cumulative cases, there are 765 active cases.

In the past 4 weeks from date of data of reference (week 40 | 5<sup>th</sup> October) for this bulletin, there have been cumulatively **5,189** cases a significant increase from last U-NIEWS bulletin.

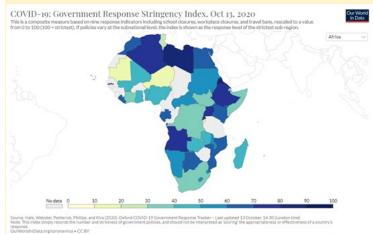
In terms of testing, cumulative number has reached 415,196 with test positive rate of 6.99 and new 1,188 hospital admissions on week 40 reaching a total admission figures of 9,864 patients (100% not in intensive care unit). 29,911 cumulative contacts are listed, and 35,902 contacts are under follow up according to MoH and 3,095 persons are under institutional quarantine.

In the last presidential speech, H.E President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni relaxed some of the restrictions he had imposed since March as follows:

- \* Decided to re-open schools for the candidate classes of P-7, S-4, S-6, finalists in tertiary colleges and finalists in Universities.
- \* The International Airport and Land borders would now be opened for inbound and outbound flights, provided they **tested negative 72 hours before arrival** in Uganda Restrictions on movements on border districts were also lifted.
- \* Mobile Markets, monthly cattle auction and produce markets, were to remain closed as the Ministry of Health was to develop SOPs.
- \* Restaurants were to continue to emphasize takeaways. Indoor restaurant services were to be minimized and follow the SOPs.

On October 8th, the Presidents of Uganda, Yoweri Museveni, Rwanda, Paul Kagame of Rwanda, Angola, João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenco of Angola and DR Congo, Félix-Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo held a virtual meeting to discuss security issues and the COVID-19 pandemic. The presidents agreed to establish a cross-border plan to strengthen surveillance.

According to the Oxford University COVID-19 Government Response Tracker (OxCGRT) which measures policy responses that governments have taken to respond to the pandemic using 17 indicators, Uganda scored 73 on the stringency index 0-100 (100 =most stringent response). Results as of 13th October for African countries are showed in the map below.

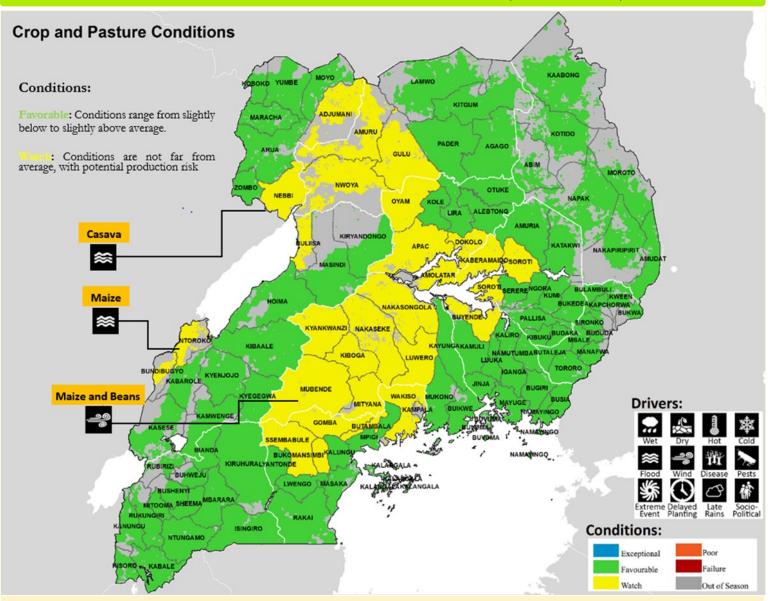


The index includes 8 policy indicators on containment and closure policies, such as school closures and restrictions in movement and 4 indicators on economic policies, such as income support to citizens or provision of foreign aid and 5 indicators on health system policies such as the COVID-19 testing regime or emergency investments into healthcare.



# Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System - Monthly Bulletin

#### CROP & PASTURE CONDITIONS MAP OF UGANDA (OCTOBER 2020)



Source: Crop Monitor of Uganda. This crop conditions map synthesizes information for selected crops and pasture as of 12° October 2020. Crop conditions over the main growing areas are based on a combination of national and regional crop analysts' inputs along with remote sensing and rainfall data.

#### Early Warning for Regions!

Elgon, Karamoja, and South Western: The regions are under favorable crop conditions due to average to above-average rainfall received. Planting of major food crops especially maize is still underway.

Western: Favorable crop conditions exist in the region except for districts of Ntoroko, Bundibugyo and Buliisa, which are under watch. Recent re-bursting of riverbanks of several rivers and lakeshores of L. Albert due to above average rainfall explain the watch crop conditions.

**Central 1&2:** Watch crop conditions prevail in the regions except for the districts of Rakai, Lwengo, Mpigi, and Kalungu for Central 1 and Mukono, Kayunga and Buikwe for central 2 that are under favourable crop conditions. Strong winds that devastated crops in Mubende and Kassanda district and delayed onset of September-October-November-December (SOND) rainfall account for the watch conditions.

#### Early Warning for Regions!

West Nile: Favorable crop conditions exist across the regions except for districts of Nebbi and Adjumani that are under watch. Recent floods due to bursting of River Nile largely account for the watch conditions.

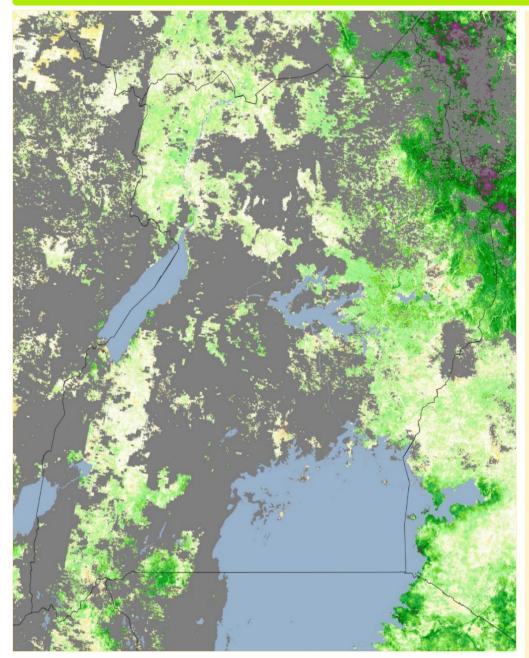
**Acholi:** The region is under favorable crop conditions except for Gulu, Amuru and Nwoya which are under watch crop conditions. Below average rainfall due delayed onset of SOND rains could explain the observed watch crop conditions. However, favorable crop conditions are expected with full onset of SOND rainfall. Land preparation for the second season is underway.

Lango, East Central and Teso: Favorable crop conditions still exist except for districts such as Buyende in East Central; Soroti and Kaberamaido in Teso; and Apac, Amolatar, Oyam and Dokolo in Lango sub region. Floods due to bursting of lakeshores of L. Kyoga and delayed rains could account for watch crop conditions.



# Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System - Monthly Bulletin

#### HIGHLIGHTS -NDVI Anomaly (04th OCTOBER to 11st OCTOBER 2020)



Terra MODIS NDVI 8-day
Uganda

0.75

0.65

0.55

0.50

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

Sep

Oct

Month

NASA/GSFC/GIMMS
USDA/FAS/IPAD

NASA/GSFC/GIMMS
USDA/FAS/IPAD

NASA/GSFC/GIMMS
USDA/FAS/IPAD

NASA/GSFC/GIMMS
USDA/FAS/IPAD

The Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) is a crude measure of the state of plant health based on how the plant reflects light at certain frequencies. Its use is widespread in monitoring vegetation status for agriculture purposes and is commonly used as an indicator for droughts early warning which enable preventive early action to minimize their impacts.

NDVI anomaly is the difference between the average NDVI for a particular period of the year and the average NDVI for same period over a specified number of years (2001-2018 in our case)

For the period of 04th October to 11st October 2020, the NDVI anomaly image show, the green color representing areas where conditions are "above normal." The light green color represents areas where conditions are better than "normal". The yellowish-brown areas represent areas where the vegetation conditions are near normal which could be associated with delayed onset of rains over those areas. Due to cloud cover, anomalies cannot be assessed in the grey areas.

Despite the NDVI satellite image available present considerable cloud coverage, we can infer that as the climatic conditions remain favorable in most parts of the country, plants are thriving.

The early start of the second rainy season has contributed to the revitalization of vegetation and crop growth. Early rains have improved water availability for irrigation, enhancing productivity and contributed for improved availability of local agriculture products on the market with positive implications for gradual improvements on food availability and access.

Despite positive impacts of early rain onset, considering that almost normal to below-normal rains are forecasted for late October and early November, the amount of greenish will probably decrease in the coming weeks.

The chart below the image complements the data represented above, showing the current vegetation conditions. The red line represents the average conditions in 2020 and compares with the average conditions (black line) for the period (2001-2018). The grey area shows how values tend to spread from the mean (min/max). For the country, current conditions were aligned with the long-term maximum deviation from the above-average. From the first week of June, until now, we can observe, compared to the previous year (2019) there was a gradual decrease of NDVI with small oscillations.



### Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System - Monthly Bulletin

#### OCTOBER TO NOVEMBER 2020, SEASONAL RAINFALL OUTLOOK OVER UGANDA

#### Lake Victoria Basin and Central Region

Western parts of Central (Nakasongola, Luwero, Nakaseke, Kyankwanzi, Kiboga, Mubende, Kasanda, Sembabule, Lwengo, Lyantonde, and Rakai) districts. Near normal to below normal rainfall conditions are expected.

Eastern parts of Central: (Mukono, Buikwe, Kayunga, Buvuma) districts. Near normal to below normal rainfall conditions are expected.

Central and Western Lake Victoria Basin: (Kalangala, Kampala, Wakiso, Masaka, Mpigi, Butambala, Kalungu, Bukomansimbi, Gomba, and Mityana) districts. Near normal to below normal rainfall is expected.

Eastern Lake Victoria Basin: (Jinja, Bugiri, Busia, Mayuge, Namayingo and Tororo) districts. Near normal to below normal rainfall conditions are expected.

#### Western Region

South Western: (Kisoro, Kabale, Rubanda, Rukiga, Rukungiri, Kanungu, Ntungamo, Rwampara, Kazo, Mbarara, Kiruhura, Isingiro, Ibanda, Bushenyi, Buhweju, Mitooma, Sheema, Rubirizi, Kitagwenda and Kasese) districts. Near normal to above normal rainfall is expected.

Central Western: (Bundibugyo, Ntoroko, Kabarole, Kyenjojo, Kyegegwa, Kamwenge, Masindi, Buliisa, Hoima, Kakumiro, Kagadi, Kikube and Kibaale) districts. Near normal to above normal rainfall is expected.

#### **Eastern Region**

South Eastern: (Kamuli, Iganga, Luuka, Namutumba, Buyende, Kaliro, and Butaleja) districts Near normal to above normal rainfall is expected.

Eastern Central: (Pallisa, Butebo, Budaka, Kibuku, Mbale, Sironko, Manafwa, Bududa, Bulambuli, Namisindwa, Kapchorwa, Kween, Bukwo, Bukedea, Kumi, Kalaki, and Soroti) districts.

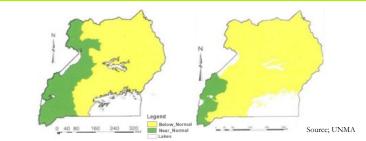
Near normal with a slight tendency to below normal rainfall conditions are expected.

North Eastern: (Amuria, Kapelebyong, Katakwi, Moroto, Kotido, Nakapiripirit, Nabilatuk, Abim, Napak, Amudat, Karenga and Kaabong) districts. Near normal to below normal rainfall is expected.

North Western: (Zombo, Nebbi, Pakwach Madi-Okolo, Arua, Koboko Terego, Maracha, Moyo, Yumbe, Obongi, Adjumani) district Near normal with a slight tendency to below normal rainfall conditions are expected.

Eastern Northern Part: (Lira, Kitgum, Agago, Otuke, Pader, Kole, Dokolo and Kaberamaido) district Near normal with a slight tendency to below normal rainfall conditions are expected.

Central Northern Parts: (Gulu, Apac, Kwania, Pader, Lamvo Nwoya, Amuru, Oyam and Kiryandongo) districts Near normal with a slight tendency to below normal rainfall conditions are expected.



#### SEASONAL RAINFALL OUTLOOK OVER UGANDA— OCTOBER 2020 (UPDATE)

Since early September up to mid-October the country experienced a peak of rainfall in most of parts of the country as forecasted by the Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UMNA) in seasonal outlook for the period from September to December (SOND). However, there is an overall increased likelihood of near normal to below normal rainfall over most parts of the country from October to beginning of November.

According to ICPAC - Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (GHACOF 56) the consolidated objective climate forecast from 9 WMO Global Producing Centres (GPCs) indicates higher chance of drier conditions during October -November -December (OND) 2020 season.

As per the regional consensus forecast, probabilities for below normal rainfall are 40-50% over most parts of the region including Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda, most of Uganda, Kenya southern, central, and northwestern Somalia, and southern and south-eastern Ethiopia.

According to the East Africa Sub-seasonal Weekly Forecasts newsletter for the Food and Nutrition Security Working Group, for the two last weeks of October, Uganda's rainfall is expected to be a little more than the normal mainly in western area of the country.

# POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF FORECASTED CONDITIONS in DIFFERENT SECTORS and VULNERABLE GROUPS

#### ON DISASTERS RISKS

The rainfall forecast, from mid-October until early November might add on pre-existing vulnerable conditions likely to create additional hydrometeorological risk (floods and landslides) for some part of the countries. Communities affected by floods and landslides, displaced people, refugees in camps and people living in informal settlements poorly served by water and sanitation infrastructures might experience cascading health hazards linked to vector and waterborne diseases.

# ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK & PASTURE AND DEPENDENT LIVELIHOODS

Farmers and herders are advised to store water to provide for irrigation and livestock in the event of a shortage in the coming months, especially in regions where rainfall forecasted below-average .

Despite both UNMA and ICPAC forecasted below normal rainfall for most parts of the country, the western part is likely to receive normal rainfall to above average. Therefore, western zones have increased risk of floods and landslides affecting agricultural production and other sectors. For suppressed rainfalls (below normal) forecasted from October/November, agriculture dependent communities and stakeholders are advised to stay tuned to monthly forecast and remain attentive to Farmer's advisory by the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries.

#### AGRICULTURE

Farmers are advised to avoid planting in flood-prone areas | Speed up the harvesting process in the south western to avoid impact of rainfall and post -harvest losses | Harvest and store safely matured crops

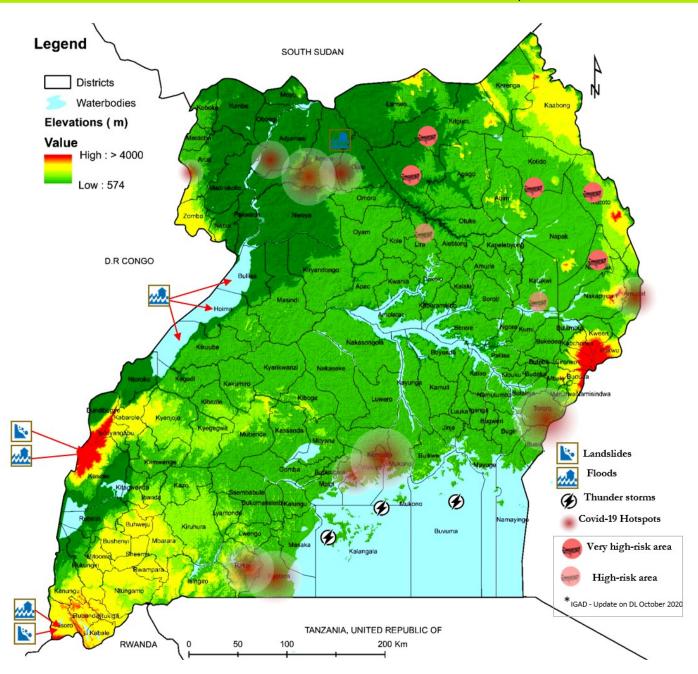






### Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System - Monthly Bulletin

#### MULTI-HAZARD EARLY WARNING PROBABILITY MAP - OCTOBER /NOVEMBER 2020



#### **BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS**

#### Communicable disease outbreaks, epidemics and health emergencies

- \* According to the Ministry of Health's statistics, more than 86% of confirmed cases of COVID 19 were linked to community transmission. Compared to previous bulletin, the reported cases have considerably increased. Considering the increase of cases and fatalities, citizens and authorities are reminded to follow closely the Ministry of Health *guidelines* to avoid new transmissions. Proper use of masks (covering nose, mouth, and chin) in public spaces is compulsory, extreme care on wearing and disposing mask is strongly recommended and respect of physical distancing measures is strongly advised.
- \* The expected wetter than usual conditions for the western regions might lead to an abundance of surface water flooding and result in vector breeding, intense transmission, and possible outbreaks of malaria. People are advised to spray the indoor walls and ceilings of homes with insecticides and sleeping under bed nets is one of the most effective ways of preventive.
- \* According to the Desert Locust Movement Prediction by IGAD, Climate Prediction and Applications Centre, based climatic conditions suitable for desert locust development are forecasted to be highly suitable in eastern Uganda, therefore Moroto, Kotido, Kitgum, Nakapiripirit and Pader as very high-risk areas, while Lira and Katawi as high-risk areas for Desert Locust swarms and adult locust invasion.

District officials and the public for the above-mentioned district and neighboring districts must be vigilant and report the DL invasion on a toll-free line of NECOC, 0800177777.



# Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System - Monthly Bulletin

#### DISASTER EARLY WARNINGS AND OUTLOOK - 15th OCTOBER - 15th NOVEMBER 2020

#### HYDRO-METEREOLOGICAL HAZARD

#### DRY PERIOD

During the October-November period, overall, there is an increased likelihood of near normal to below normal rainfall in most parts of the country as forecast by Uganda National Meteorology Authority for SOND, while ICPAC - Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (GHACOF -56) seasonal forecast for October -December 2020 indicates higher chance of drier conditions during October -November -December 2020 season probabilities for below-normal rainfall are 40-50% over most parts of the region including most of Uganda.

**Alert Level:** 





Moderate

- \*Farmers are advised to utilize the forecasted dry conditions to harvest maturing crops in the field, especially in northern Uganda and Karamoja.
- \*Closely monitor pasture and water conditions until May 2021 and plan for feed/water assistance (water tracking, fodder supplementation for the breeding stock, etc.)
- \*Herders are advised to use the available grazing resources sparingly
- \*Harvest and keep water, dry herbage and standing hav. Enhance efficiency on water storing and use to minimize losses.

#### **FLOODS**

In the other hand, enhanced chances for above-normal rainfall are predicted for parts of the northern region that usually benefit from late rainfall in November. Weekly enhanced chances of the average and above normal rainfall categories are predicted for parts of western Uganda including Rwenzori and Amuru in Acholi subregion. Considering the weather forecast, floods might occur in western regions.

**Alert Level:** 





Higth

- \* Districts are advised to continuously revise and update their contingency plans, maintain up to date emergency resources databases, regularly exercise their plans. District Disaster Management Committees (DDMC) are advised to continue with sensitisation efforts, monitor updated forecasts and step up their efforts in dissemination of warning information and advisory messages to the communities. Ensure capacities for timely disaggregated data collection on humanitarian needs, disaster effects and impacts and share it with **NECOC**.
- \* DDMC and residents are advised to desilt existing drainage systems to avoid puddles which risk becoming mosquito breeding sites. Dwellers of informal areas are encouraged to dig/open drainage channels around households and gardens.
- \* Conduct regular maintenance and desilt drainage channels. Ensure road signage is properly maintained. Advise people to avoid crossing flooded road sections.
- \* The public is advised to support those persons living near lake shores and riverbanks and low-lying areas to relocate to higher ground/safer zones.

#### LANDSLIDE/MUDSLIDES

Landslides are very likely to occur on hazard-prone mountainous areas of Rwenzori region

Alert Level:





Higth

- \* All people living or undertaking economic activities on steep slopes across the mountainous specifically around western areas of the country are advised to move to safer areas.
- \*Local government authorities are advised to capacitate local leaders and communities to monitor signs of landslides like cracks, saturated soils, leaning trees, and create channels for reporting hazard sign to responsible authorities.

LIGHTNING STORMS -Thunder and lightning storms risks are considerable.

Alert Level:

Moderate



High

\* To minimize lightning risks: the public is advised to install arrestors in public premises such as schools, churches, hospitals, etc. Avoid areas with tall unsafe structures like those under construction; avoid standing under the trees during storms; and avoid using phones during rain downpours.

#### **BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS**

**Alert Level:** 

Moderate



High

• To minimize public health risks during emergency response: When responding to floods, landslides or others disaster events, local authorities should extreme precautions to avoid spread of COVID-19 in evacuation sites and temporary shelters by strengthening risk communication on respiratory/coughing etiquette, physical distancing and hand washing, as well as improving hygiene conditions and avoiding overcrowding in shelters, reducing occupancy rates, identifying additional temporary shelters and arranging isolation rooms for suspected cases.

#### TRANSPORT TECHNOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Transport Accidents: Any Location

Fire: Any Location Alert Level: Moderate High



# Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System - Monthly Bulletin

#### **DISASTER STATISTICS -AUGUST**

#### **HYDRO - METEREOLOGICAL EVENTS**

FLOODS | Reported in Packwach

LIGHTENING | Reported in Buyende

Affected: 3 Deaths | 2 Injured 1

MUDSLIDE| Reported in Mbale

No of People | Affected: 4 Displaced 0 Deaths | 2

HAILSTORMS | Not Reported

Source: NECOC/OPM, and Partners - September 2020

#### **BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS**



MALARIA | 26,916 cases Deaths 34

\* Suspected Cases



ANIMAL BITES | 268 cases reported DEATHS | Not reported

Cumulatively, seventy-nine (79) districts have detected and investigated at least one suspected measles case.

36/81 districts reporting measles cases have had at least one positive IgM case

A total of 8 AFP cases was reported during week 38 compared with 7 cases reported in week37.

The 8 cases were reported from: Butambala 1, Luuka 1, Mayuge 1, Nakaseke 2, Obongi 1, Rukiga 1 and Tororo 1.

The Non-polio AFP rate is 1.28/100,000 children 0-14 years compared with 2.26/100,000 children 0-14 years in 2019

The adequate samples collection rate is 93.86% compared with 90.15% in 201

Source: MOH/EPI -WEEK 38: 14th-20th September 2020

#### TRANSPORT/ TECHNOLOGICAL EVENTS

Fire, drowning, fatal road accidents occurred across the country.

Affected: 70 Injured: 34 Deaths: 35

Source: NECOC/OPM, Uganda Police Force, September 2020

# BRIEF UPDATE ON FOOD SECURITY SETEMBER 2020 and OCTOBER forecast

#### Highlights!

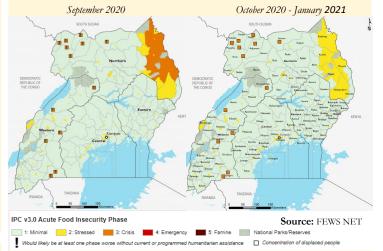
According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network FEWS NET, in September districts in the border with Kenya, especially Kotido, Kaabong, Moroto and Napak in Karamoja sub-region were under the IPC 2-stressed phase on the acute food insecurity phase, while hotspot of crisis were registered in specific district in the West Nile region and Western region.

In regard to food prices, according to the September 2020 Global Price Watch for East Africa, staple food price trends varied across the region. COVID-19 related movement restrictions continued to contribute to some atypical supply, demand, and price patterns. Maize prices declined in surplus-producing Uganda with the progression of May-to-August harvests and in a context of weak regional demand.

Retail prices for cassava chips, maize grain, and sorghum range from near to below average in most key reference markets. In contrast, bean prices range from 30 to 40 % above average due to three consecutive seasons of below-average bean production. Livestock prices remained stable at elevated levels due to good animal body conditions.

According to the October –January forecast, second season production prospects in November/December are below average due to a seasonal forecast of below-average rainfall from October to December, resulting from La Niña conditions and a weak negative Indian Ocean dipole. Although harvest prospects are below average due to erratic rainfall performance earlier in the season, household food stocks are expected to be sufficient through December or January. However, household income from livestock and milk sales and alcohol production is limited, due to livestock quarantines associated with the local Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak, open-air market closures related to COVID-19 restrictions, and an increase in livestock thefts and related insecurity. Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes are likely from October to January.

As of UNHCR/OPM, Uganda hosted 1,428,961 refugees and asylum

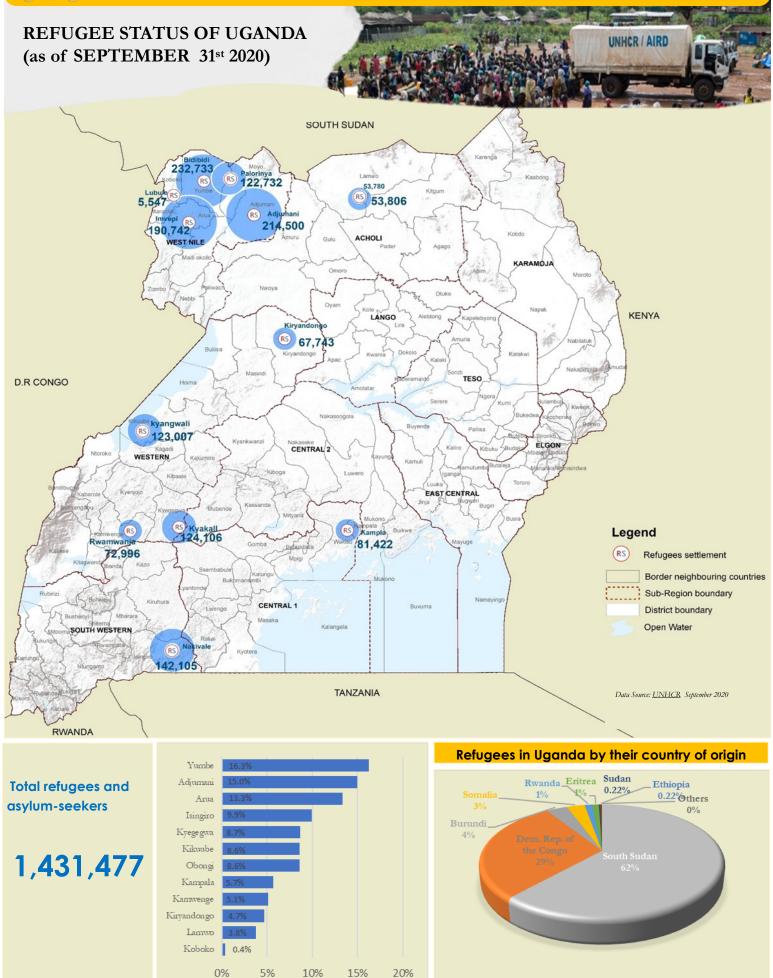


seekers as of August 31st. Approximately 95 percent of the population is receiving a 70 percent in-kind or cash/voucher ration via WFP, which is expected to be provided through December. Although the GoU has lifted most COVID-19 lockdown measures across the country, Kyangwali refugee settlement is under lockdown due to a recent spike in new cases. In other settlements, regained relative mobility is expected to facilitate an increase in household income. Despite this, refugees will likely still have a reduced ability to access inputs and invest in second season planting. A scale-up in food assistance to restore a full ration and investments in livelihoods support are required to prevent Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes.

# **LOS**

# **U - NIEWS**

Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System - Monthly Bulletin





# Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System - Monthly Bulletin

#### National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre (NECOC)

The Office of the Prime Minister's Department for Disaster Preparedness and Management established the National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre (NECOC) in October 2014, with the support of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Uganda's National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre (NECOC) is a 24 hour, 7- days a week central facility for early warning dissemination and coordination of emergency and crisis response and recovery action. The NECOC is established under the National Policy for Disaster Preparedness and Management of Uganda (NPDPM) with the purpose of contributing towards the functionality and characteristics that make creation of an integrated and multi-sectoral system approach to planning, preparedness and management of disasters that is fundamental to sustained productivity and socio-economic growth of the country.

# **Important Note!**

#### The Uganda National Integrated Multi Hazard Early Warning System (U-NIEWS)

U-NIEWS monthly bulletin can be used to understand the conditions of crops and pasture, food insecurity, weather/climate forecast and to determine the anticipated disasters which may occur in the days to come while providing the disaster and humanitarian response status update based on monthly statistics. The information in this bulletin can be used as baseline information for planning processes while detail information may required for respective locations through relevant local and technical agencies for local level planning. For any specific details and information, relevant sources should be contacted using the NECOC website given below. In addition, Sub national level officials are encouraged to re circulate U-NIEWS among the locals including CSO's in their respective districts. The development partners are also encouraged to re circulate this bulletin among their partners, peers and colleagues.

The information provided here is shared by the respective government, UN agencies and non-governmental agencies stationed in Uganda. The Uganda National Integrated Early Warning monthly bulletin is issued on the 15th of every month to notify Ministries, Departments, Authorities, UN Agencies and General public on probable disasters which may occur without warning.

#### For more details:

### Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)

National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre (NECOC)

5th Floor, Postel Building, Clement Hill Road P.O Box 341, Kampala Uganda. Tel No. 0414 342 104

Toll Free Hotline on all Networks: : 0800 177 777



Photo credit Uganda Red Cross Society: Floods in Kanara sub-count, Ntoroko district, October 2020



















