



U - NIEWS



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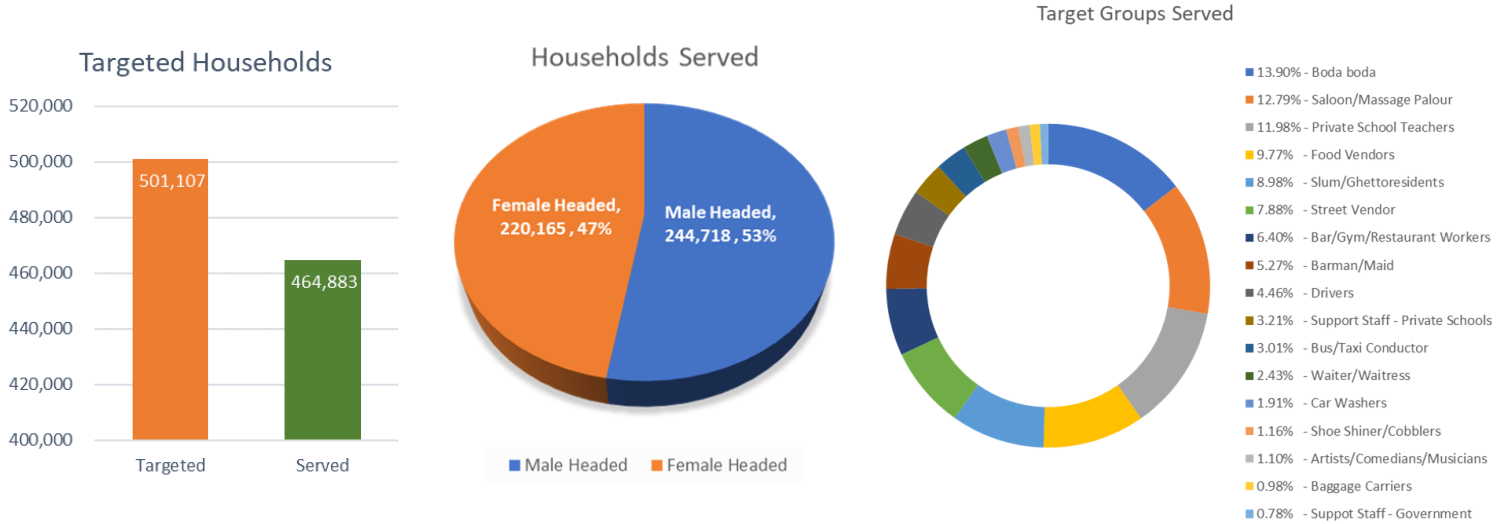
The Official Government of Uganda Inter-Ministerial/Agencies
 Monthly National Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning Bulletin

Vol. 04

15th JULY – 15th AUGUST 2021

Issue 56

ALERTS & UPDATE ON COVID-19 RELIEF ASSISTANCE



COVID-19 UPDATES : Uganda's Variants of Concern (VOC)

The second wave of the SAR-CoV-2 was observed in Uganda in April 2021 with increased infections in Kampala, Soroti, Kiryandongo and later spread to other parts of the Country. Consequently investigations were conducted in which 8 lineages were identified including 3 variants of concern (VOC) that may provide the viruses with some ability to bypass immune response that have developed in the community to single lineage. Therefore increased vigilance and surveillance are important to track and control transmission of the variants.

Uganda variants analysed between 1st April and 9th May 2021.

- 8 lineages have been observed in samples collected during May
 - 3 of these are **Variants of Concern** (B.1.1.7, B.1.352, B.1.617.2) due to increased transmissibility.
- Most frequent lineage is B.1.525 (Nigeria variants)
- Cluster in Kiryandongo was predominantly B.1.525 (first identified in March among truck drivers) was associated with high transmissibility but mild symptoms
- Cluster in Jinja was associated with the Delta variant B.1.617.2, originally identified in India – which is associated with increased transmissibility. Cases presented with severe symptoms

Lineage	Count
B.1.525	10
A.23.1	5
B.1.617.2	4
B.1.1.7	3
B.1.351	3
A.19	1
B.1.1	1
B.1.1.318	1
Total	28

Current Advisory

- With 3 VOC circulating in Uganda exponential cases continue to be expected
- Communities along transnational highways continue with enhanced surveillance
- Continue genomic surveillance

Best measures to address VOC's remain implementation of public health and social measures particularly Infection prevention and control.

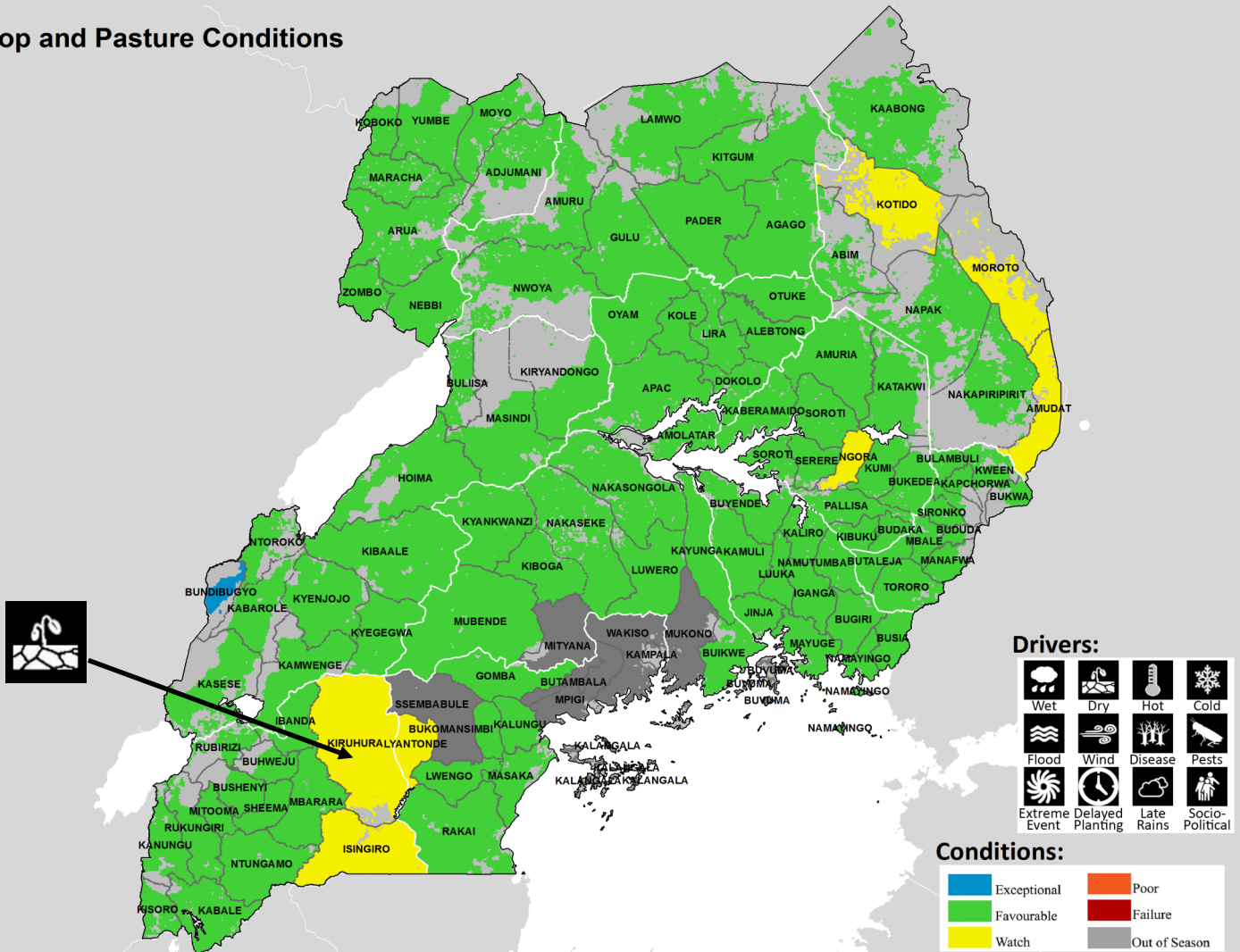
As of 15th July 2021

Source: MOH, Public Health Emergency Operations Centre (PHEOC), July 2021



CROP & PASTURE CONDITIONS MAP OF UGANDA (JULY 2021)

Crop and Pasture Conditions



Source: Crop Monitor of Uganda. This crop conditions map synthesizes information for selected crops and pasture as of 15th July 2021. 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!

Central 1, and Central 2: The region remained under favorable crop condition in the region except Kyegegwa, Mubende, Kyankwazi, Lwengo and Rakai that showed slight decline. The main food crop under observation being bananas are not affected with this slight decline. Other seasonal crops and pasture in the region are currently ripening for harvest and hence the observed trend. There is however a noticeable decline in the pasture conditions in Lyantonde and this might have an indication on the water availability.

Elgon: Except **Kween** district whose conditions declined due to early cessation of the rains affecting the maize crop in the lower belt sub counties, the rest of the region is under favourable but stable crop conditions sustained during the months of May and June 2021.

West Nile, Acholi, Lango, Teso and Karamoja: Most of the districts are under favourable crop condition in the region. Generally, the conditions are stable in all the districts except **Kole, Lira** and **Alebtong** districts in Lango sub region that have declined to watch crop and pasture conditions. In Teso, most of the districts are under stable and favourable conditions except **Ngora** which has declined to watch conditions. In Karamoja, conditions in **Moroto, Kotido,** and **Amudat** districts are showing considerable decline in the crop and pasture con-

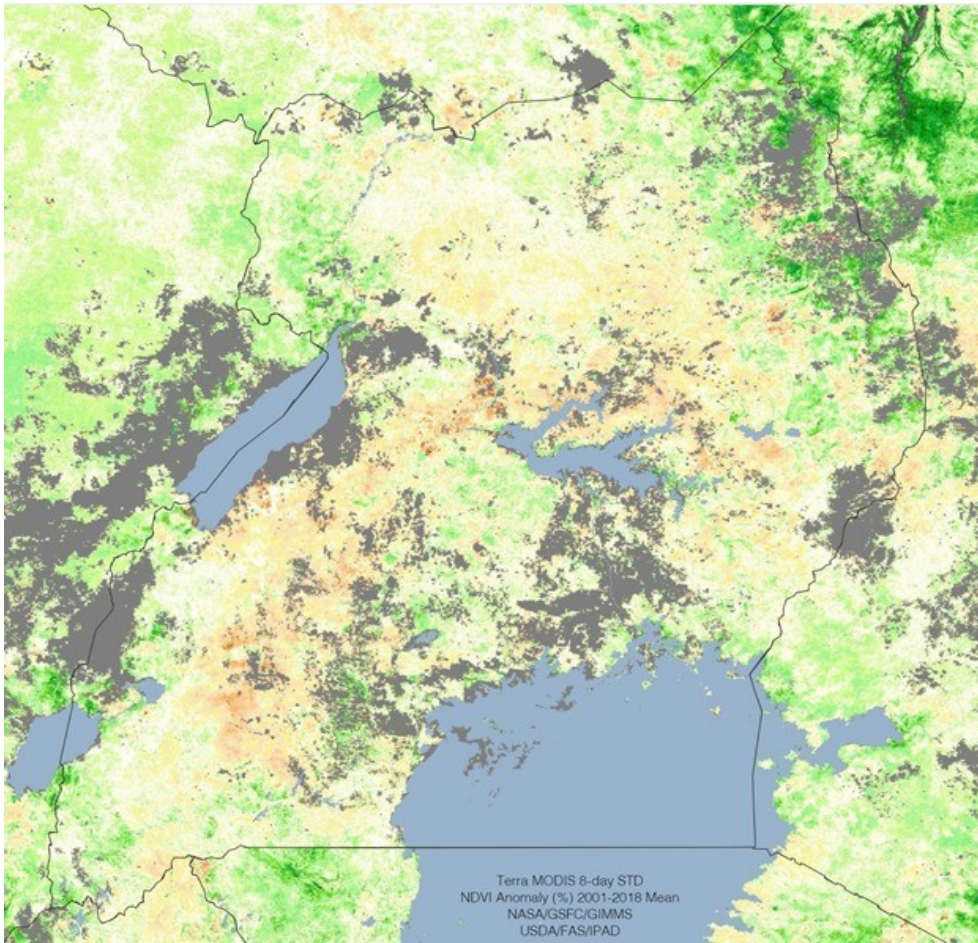
Early Warning for Regions!

Western and South Western: Bundibugyo has maintained exceptional conditions throughout the season, the rest of the districts are under favorable and stable crop conditions. Attention however has to be put on the trends of crop and pasture conditions in **Isingiro** and **Kiruhura** districts that have deteriorated to watch conditions before it degenerates to affecting surface water availability, stress conditions on mostly the seasonal crops. However, the onset of JJAS 2021 will nor-

The observed and expected trends for the month of July 2021 presents a steady performance over most of the Country with isolated cases scattered across the country as depicted by the map. This calls for not only proper management and utilization of the first season harvest but also closer monitoring of the evolution of the June July August September (JJAS) season in the affected regions of **Teso** (Ngora), **Karamoja** (Kotido, Moroto, Amudat), **Central 1** (Lyantonde) and **South Western** (Isingiro and Kiruhura).



HIGHLIGHTS - NDVI Anomaly (04th to 11th, JULY 2021)



The Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) is used to characterize the health of the vegetation for a particular timeframe compared to what is considered normal. In agricultural monitoring, negative values can be a good indicator of poor crop conditions or a slower growth rate of the crop due to a variety of environmental conditions such as drought or a significantly delayed season 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.

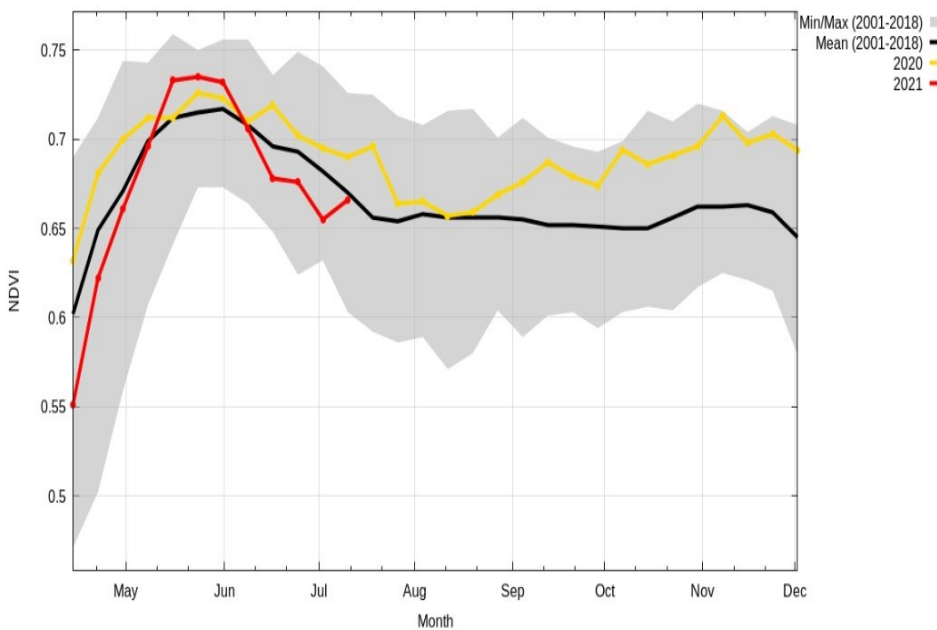
For the period of 04 to 11 July 2021, the NDVI anomaly image shows in green color in the areas where conditions are “above normal.” The light green color represents areas where conditions are better than “normal”. The yellowish-brown areas represent areas where the vegetation conditions are below normal which could be associated with early cessation of rains over those areas. Due to cloud cover, anomalies cannot be assessed in the grey areas.

The suppressed rainfall that characterized the month of June contributed to the poor crop and pasture performances observed in parts of Karamoja, Lango, Elgon (**Kween**), Teso (**Ngora**) and the south western cattle corridor. The rest of the country had favourable but deteriorating conditions that are likely to regain with the expected above normal rains in northern and eastern parts of the country. The South western cattle corridor which is already stressed and further expected to have below normal rains during the month of July should be closely monitored and water harvesting and management for livestock enhanced to stabilize productivity. Generally, Favorable conditions are expected to be established by August.

Below is a graphical representation of the current vegetation conditions. The red line represents the average conditions for three months until July 2021 and compares with the average conditions (black line) for the same period (2001- 2018). The grey area shows how values tend to spread from the mean (min/max). Current conditions are aligned with the long-term maximum deviation from the above-average.

It is observed that in June 2021 the NDVI continued to decline steadily until July when it started to improve as the June July August September (JJAS) gets established and confirmed by UNMA’s rainfall outlook for July 2021 that indicates enhanced rainfall in West Nile, northern and eastern parts of the Country and the rest of the country to experience suppressed conditions.

Terra MODIS NDVI 8-day
Uganda



Sat Terra EOS AM
Product MODIS NDVI 8-day
Mask MOD44W_2009_land
Shape ADM
Unit Uganda

NASA/GSFC/GIMMS
USDA/FAS/IPAD



JULY 2021 RAINFALL OUTLOOK OVER UGANDA

WESTERN REGION

Central Western (Bundibugyo, Ntoroko, Kabarole, Bunyangabu, Kyenjojo, Kyegegwa, Kamwenge, Masindi, Buliisa, Hoima, Kakumiro, Kagadi, Kikube and Kibaale) districts . Overall, near normal (near average) rainfall is expected

South Western (Kisoro, Kabale, Rubanda, Rukiga, Rukungiri, Kanungu, Ntungamo, Ruvumara, Kazo, Mbarara, Kiruhura, Isingiro, Ibanda, Bushenyi, Buhweju, Mitooma, Sheema, Rubirizi, Kitagwenda and Kasese) districts . Overall, near normal (average) with tendency to below normal rainfall is expected

LAKE VICTORIA BASIN AND CENTRAL REGION

Northern and Southern parts of Central (Nakasongola, Luwero, Nakaseke, Kyankwanzi, Kiboga, Mubende, Kasanda, Lwengo, Lyantonde, Sembabule, and Rakai) districts. Overall, there are high chances of near normal (near average) rainfall .

Eastern parts of Central (Mukono, Buikwe, Kayunga, Buvuma) districts. The occasional rainfall is expected to prevail towards the end of forecast period. Overall, there are high chances of near normal (near average) rainfall conditions .

Central and Western Lake Victoria Basin (Kalangala, Kampala, Wakiso, Masaka, Mpigi, Butambala, Gomba, Kalungu, Bukomansimbi, and Mityana) districts . Overall, near normal (near average) rainfall is expected over most parts of this region.

Eastern Lake Victoria Basin: (Jinja, Bugiri, Busia, Mayuge, Namayingo and Tororo) districts. Overall, near normal (average) rainfall with a tendency to average is expected .

EASTERN REGION

South Eastern: (Iganga, Kamuli, Luuka, Namutumba, Buyende, Kaliro, and Butaleja) districts Overall, there are high chances of this area receiving normal (average) with a slight tendency to above normal rainfall conditions.

Eastern Central: (Pallisa, Budaka, Butebo, Kibuku, Mbale, Sironko, Manafwa, Bududa, Bulambuli, Kapchorwa, Kween, Bukwo, Bukedea, Kumi, Kaberamaido, Kalaki, Serere and Soroti) districts. Overall, there are higher chances experiencing near normal (near average) tending to above normal rainfall.

North Eastern: (Amuria, Kapelebyong, Katakwi, Nabilatuk, Moroto, Kotido, Nakapiripirit, Abim, Napak, Amudat, Kaabong and Karenga) districts .Overall, near normal with a tendency to above normal rainfall is expected over most parts of this region.

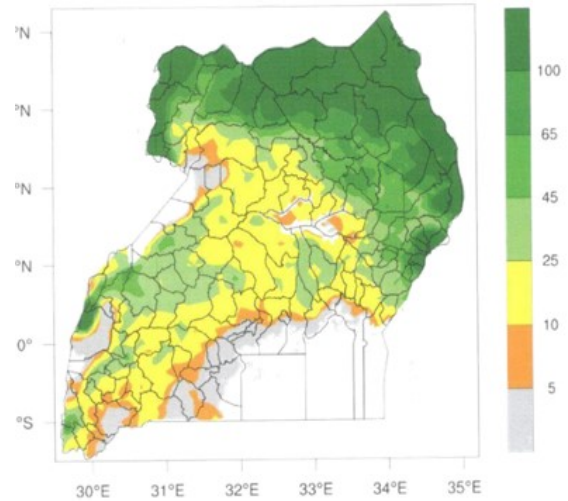
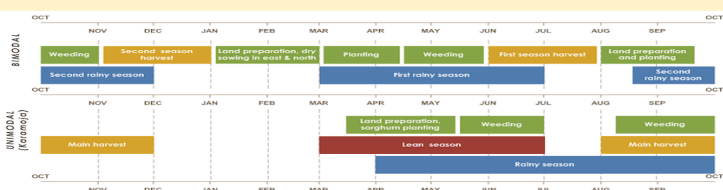
NORTHERN REGION

North Western (Arua, Maracha, Terego, Koboko, Yumbe, Moyo, Adjumani, Obongi, Madi Okolo, Zombo, Nebbi and Pakwach) districts Overall, near normal rainfall conditions are expected.

Eastern Northern Parts: (Kitgum, Lamwo, Agago, Lira, Otuke, Pader, Alebtong, Kole, and Dokolo) districts Overall, there are high chances for this region receiving near normal with a slight tendency to above normal rainfall

Central Northern Parts: (Gulu, Nwoya, Amuru Apac, Oyam and Kiryandongo) districts Overall, there are high chances for near normal with slight tendency to above normal rainfall (wetter conditions) over this region.

SEASONAL CALENDAR



RAINFALL OUTLOOK

The rainfall outlook for July 2021 indicates that most parts of the Northern Uganda stretching from Karamoja, Acholi, Lango, West Nile, parts of Teso and Elgon sub region are expected to experience enhanced rainfall while the rest of the country is expected to experience suppressed rainfall conditions associated with episodes of isolated showers.

Overall, cool temperatures are likely to be experienced through out the forecast period.

Potential Impacts expected during July 2021

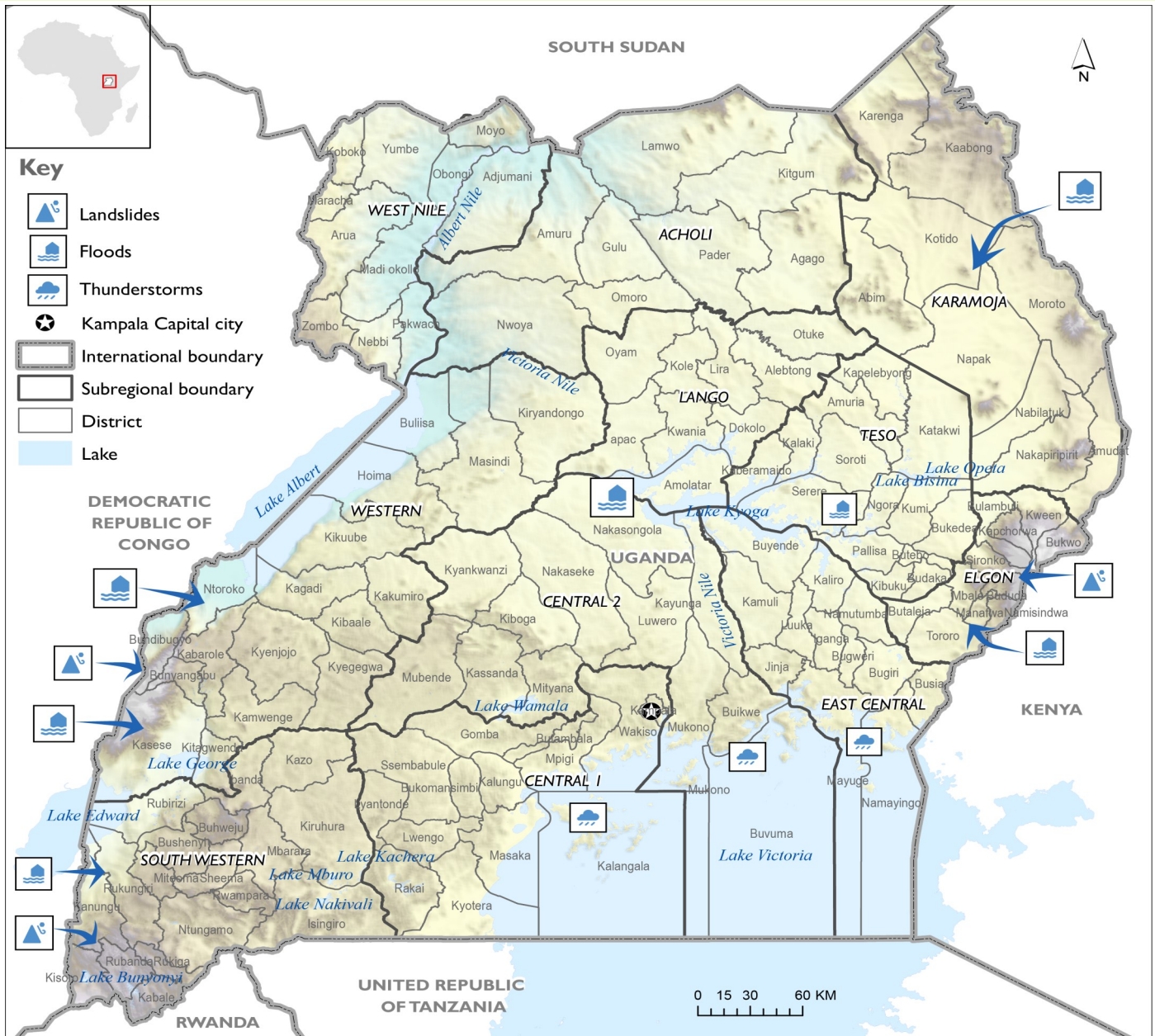
The predicted rains over most parts of the country and generally dry conditions in the south are expected to result into the following impacts;

- In agricultural sector ,farmers especially in the north are expected to continue planting and weeding their crops while farmers in the south are expected to start preparation of their fields
- In pastoral areas especially in the southern cattle corridor, the suppressed rains may lead to further deterioration in foliage and pasture for livestock.
- Chances of flooding are likely in low lying areas in some parts of north of the country where enhanced rains are expected to be experienced .
- Supplementary irrigation is encouraged in areas likely to receive below normal rainfall especially in southern parts of the country.
- Chances of occasional cool and cloudy conditions are likely to be experienced especially in the southern parts of the country and this may pose health related challenges.

U – NEWS

Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System – Monthly Bulletin

MULTI HAZARD EARLY WARNING PROBABILITY MAP –15TH JULY –15TH AUGUST



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Communicable disease outbreaks, epidemics and health emergencies

*Overall, most parts of northern, West Nile and Karamoja are expected to experience moderately enhanced rainfall (normal with slight tendency to above normal) while the rest of the country is expected to experience normal conditions characterized by episodes of isolated showers; the associated risk of disease outbreak is at hand, especially in areas that will receive moderately enhanced rainfall as well as those that will experience reduced rains. Dwellings with inadequate management of surface water run-off may be affected. Areas close to the shorelines and banks of water basins as well as low lands prone to water logging are mostly likely to have disease outbreaks.

*With most places of the West Nile, Northern and Eastern parts of the country expected to receive near normal to above normal (enhanced) rainfall, the period is normally dry season over most parts of Western, Central, Lake Victoria basin and parts of Eastern region but a continuation of the rainy season for northern Uganda. Therefore, communities in areas projected to receive enhanced rainfall are advised to clear bushes around their homesteads and also sleep under mosquito nets to prevent and avoid malaria outbreaks that might arise from puddles of water being used as breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

TECNOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Road Accidents: To prevent traffic accidents, drivers are advised to drive carefully, avoid driving after consuming alcohol, respect road signs and road conditions, and follow the guidelines of the Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA).



U - NEWS

Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System – Monthly Bulletin

DISASTER EARLY WARNINGS AND OUTLOOK - 15th JULY - 15th AUGUST 2021

BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Disease outbreak

With most places of the northern and eastern parts of the country expected to receive near normal to above normal (enhanced) rainfall *and the imminent risk of disease outbreak, flooding, water logging will most likely lead to;*

- High risk of water borne diseases such as cholera, dysentery in parts of the Karamoja sub region and other low lying areas. Communities are advised to draw water from safe water sources. Village Health teams are urged to create sensitize the communities on the consequences associated with water borne diseases.
- High risk of malaria in the low lying areas around Teso sub region, Elgon region, Lake Victoria basin and Lake Kyoga.

To minimize public health risks during the projected rainy period: There is need to conduct community awareness about the potential outbreak of the diseases and improve surveillance.

Alert Level: **Moderate** → **High**

HYDRO-METEOROLOGICAL HAZARD

WATER LOGGING/ FLASH FLOODS

The seasonal forecast indicates that most parts of Northern, West Nile and Karamoja are expected to experience moderately enhanced rainfall (normal with slight tendency to above normal) while the rest of the country is expected to experience normal conditions characterized by episodes of isolated showers.

Communities living in low lying areas and in close proximity to the water bodies, are advised to undertake flood mitigation measures.

- Open up and de-silt drainage channels in the urban areas.
- Create buffer zones for water sources to avoid contamination.
- Dig trenches around the houses to avoid water from pooling around the housing structures.
- Avoid crossing flooded sections of the roads.

Alert Level: **Moderate** → **High**

LANDSLIDE/MUDSLIDES

Considering enhanced rainfall is expected for the seasonal forecast in the mountain areas of Elgon, the risk of landslides in these areas is very high.

- All people living or undertaking economic activities on steep slopes across the mountainous areas especially in the Elgon sub-region are advised to move to safer area and/or to avoid visiting or spending time on dangerous locations.
- Community based early warning systems should be activated for this period. Local leaders and communities should monitor early signs of landslides like cracks, saturated soils, leaning trees, and create channels for reporting hazard signs to responsible authorities; self-evacuate or follow other protective behaviours.

Alert Level: **Moderate** → **High**

LIGHTNING

There is increasing likelihood of lightning strikes in the areas prone to the hazard especially on lakes Albert and Victoria during storms.

- Avoid taking shelter under trees. Lightning will always strike the tallest object in the surrounding most of which are trees in our rural communities.
- Ensure that you have trees planted around your homesteads to protect your building in case of the strike.
- Ensure all public buildings (administration centres, schools, health centres, churches, mosques, business places etc) are fitted with lightning arresters to reduce lightning risks to the population.

Alert Level: **Moderate** → **High**

TRANSPORT TECHNOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Transport Accidents: Any Location

Fire: Any Location

Alert Level: **High** → **Moderate**



DISASTER STATISTICS – JUNE

TRANSPORT/ TECHNOLOGICAL EVENTS

Motor and Aero Accidents

Reported in | Across the country.



36

Motor Accidents



71

Affected



24

Injured



47

Deaths

CATTLE RUSTLING | Karamoja Sub-Region

Affected: 0 | Deaths: 00 | Injured: 0

DROWNING | 01 Reported

Affected: 01 Deaths 01 Injured 00

LIGHTNING | 00 Reported Deaths: 00 Injured:00

Source: NECOC/OPM, and Partners – June Summary

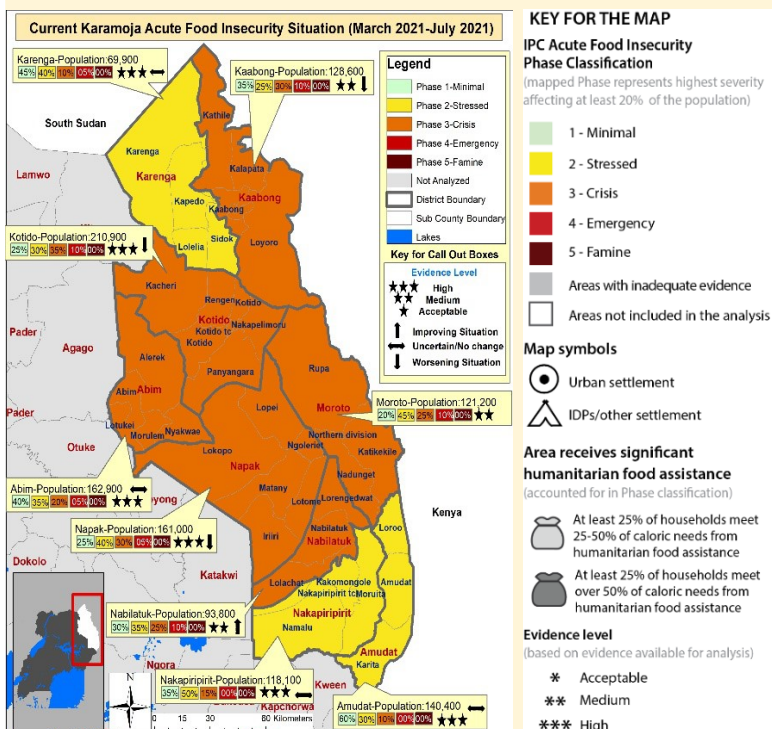
FIRE

Fire incidents across the country.

Affected: 00 Injured: 00 Deaths: 00

Source: NECOC/OPM, Uganda Police Force, June 2021

Current Karamoja Acute Food Insecurity Situation March 2021 - July 2021



Source - UG_IPC%20AMN_Karamoja%20Report_April%202021_Final.pdf



BRIEF ON FOOD SECURITY SITUATION

HIGHLIGHTS

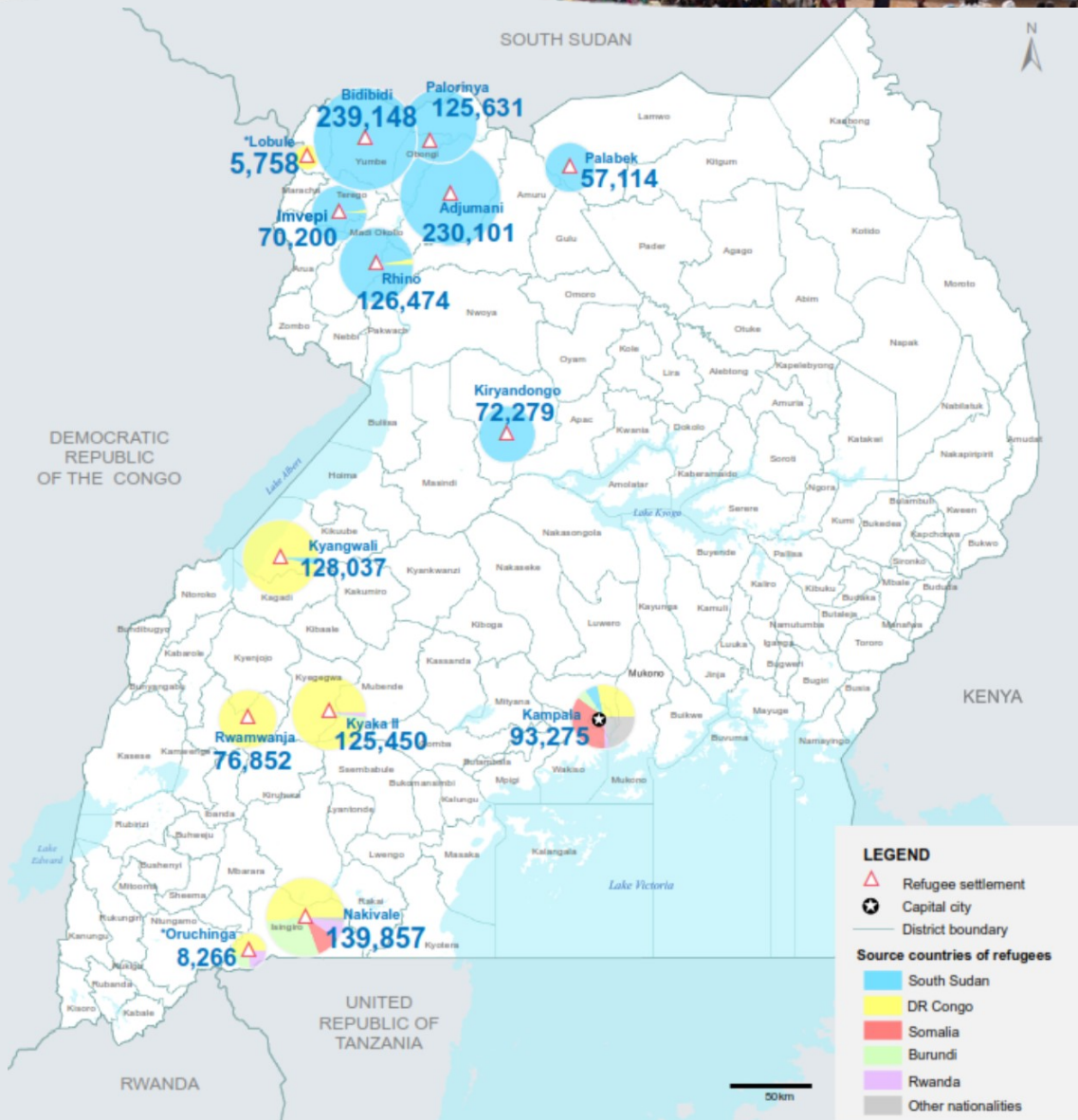
In June, Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes are likely among poor households in urban areas with some of the worst-affected households facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes following the reinstatement of stringent COVID-19 movement restrictions for 42 days. Reductions in daily wage-earning opportunities, limited alternatives for earning income, and delayed and inadequate coverage of cash assistance from the government are expected to drive insufficient food access. Although the availability of the bimodal harvest in June is maintaining below-average staple food prices, the loss of income during this period is expected to reduce food access among poor urban households through at least August.

Due to persistently poor rainfall through the end of the March to May first season harvests in most of greater northern Uganda are delayed and below-average. As a result, most poor rural households have below-normal income from crop sales and seasonally limited income from other sources. Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes are likely in greater northern Uganda through September.

In Karamoja, Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected through September with some of the poorest households likely in Emergency (IPC Phase 4), particularly in Kaabong and Moroto districts worsened by limited income sources to purchase food. Food insecurity is driven by a delayed and significantly below-average main season harvest, COVID-19 restrictions, and livestock loss through raids, which have together reduced local food availability and household purchasing power. Although the availability of the harvest in October/November will temporarily improve food security, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes will persist in areas where crop harvests are likely to be insignificant.

Given below-normal crop production and low capacity to earn income following a reinstated national lockdown, many refugees are expected to face Crisis! (IPC Phase 3!) outcomes throughout the projection period, meaning that at least 20 percent of refugees in each settlement are likely experiencing slight to moderate food consumption gaps or engaging in negative and unsustainable coping strategies. Humanitarian food assistance, estimated at a 60 percent ration, is likely preventing worse outcomes but is insufficient to meet all basic food needs for many refugee households. Based on available plans from WFP, in-kind assistance is funded through August and cash-based assistance is funded through September. WFP anticipates a pipeline break in funding after September. However, historical trends suggest that additional funding will likely be secured to continue with assistance throughout the projection period, even though ration sizes may be reduced.

REFUGEE STATUS OF UGANDA (as of June 30th 2021)



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

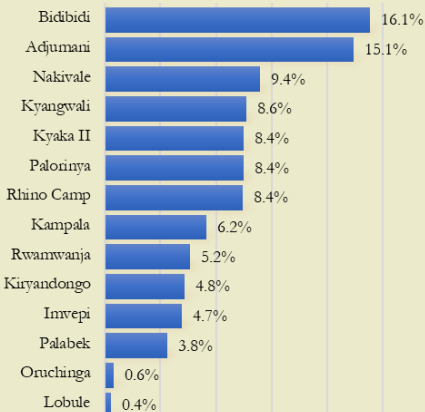
*Oruchinga and Lobule symbols not to scale

Population data: proGres (OPM) Author: UNHCR Representation in Uganda Feedback: ugakaimug@unhcr.org For more info, please visit: www.ugandarefugees.org

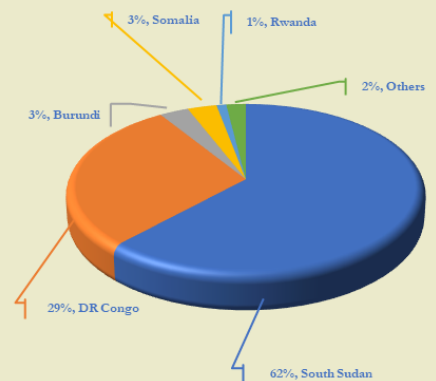
Refugees by Location

Total refugees and asylum-seekers**

1,498,442



Refugees by country of origin





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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: Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Robinah Nabbanja launching the first batch of Covid-19 cash relief at the Office of the Prime Minister

