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15th MAY 2022 – 15th JUNE 2022

Issue 66

Anthrax Alert

Following the confirmed outbreak of Anthrax in Bududa District in Eastern Uganda, the National Early warning team brings you an update of the situation and guidance on how the general public should deal with the situation as well as the actions being undertaken by the Government.

What is Anthrax and how is it Transmitted?

Anthrax is an acute infectious disease caused by bacteria known as *Bacillus anthracis*. The bacteria occur naturally in soil and commonly affects domestic and wild animals. Anthrax is zoonotic disease (spread between humans and animals). People can get sick with anthrax if they come in contact with infected animals or contaminated animal products. Anthrax can cause severe illness in both humans and animals.

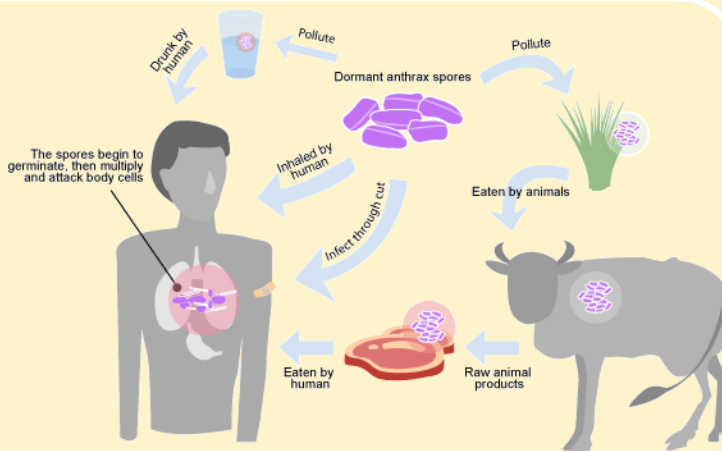
Who is at risk?

People who handle animal products.

Humans can acquire the disease through getting in contact with infected animals or their products, such as hides. For this reason, people in certain occupations, like veterinarians, farmers, livestock producers, and others who handle animals and animal products may have an increased risk of exposure.

2. Laboratory professionals

Laboratory workers who handle anthrax may be at risk for being exposed if proper safety precautions aren't followed.



Source: CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

What is the Government doing about the situation?

- (i) Restriction of animal movement and slaughter
- (ii) Surveillance
- (iii) Case management
- (iv) Coordination; A District Task force (multi-sectoral rapid response team) was established to coordinate response
- (v) Training health workers on the management of cases and also train laboratory technicians on sample collection

what is expected from the public

Community sensitization

Vaccination of animals in all districts around the affected area and all livestock rearing districts across the Country

Source: MAAIF



Wear a mask



Wash your hands



Keep a distance

COVID 19 | Statistics

2,465,948
Tested overtime

07
New Cases

21,044,948
Vaccinated

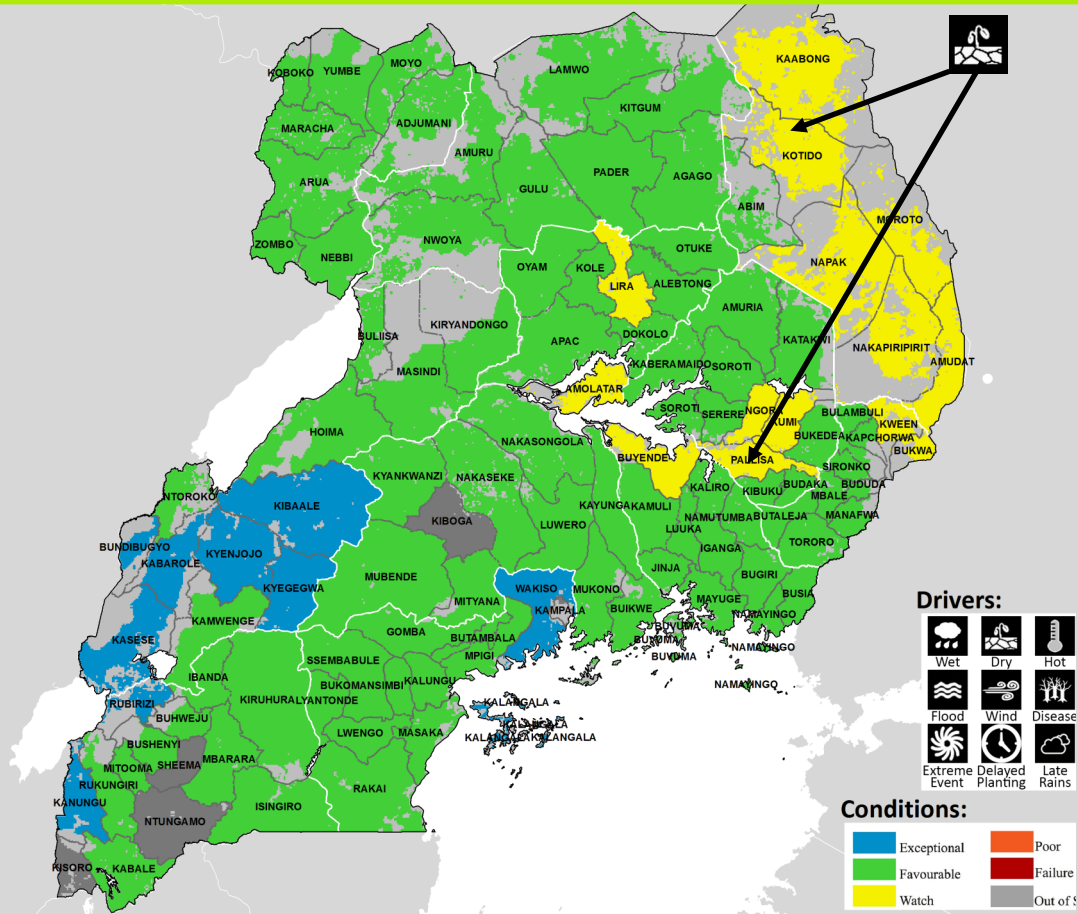
3,600
Deaths

As of 21st May 2022

Uganda Ministry of Health.
<https://covid19.gou.go.ug>



CROP & PASTURE CONDITIONS MAP OF UGANDA (MAY 2022)



Source: Crop Monitor of Uganda. This crop conditions map synthesizes information for selected crops and pasture as of 15th May 2022. Crop and Pasture conditions over the first major rain in the Country based on a combination of national and regional analysts' inputs along with remote sensing and rainfall data.

Early Warning for Regions!

Central 1, and Central 2: Much of the region remained under favorable conditions with great improvement in the values. All the districts previously under watch have shown considerable improvements, an indication that the season is fully established. Most of the weeding operations have either been concluded or being finalized. Farmers are advised to continue with pest control operations with respect to African army worms. Due to increased rainfall activity in the sub region, incidences of flash floods have been reported and this have had negative implications not only on the crop lands but also wider sectors of the economy. Storm water management at both farm level, road infrastructure and the built up environment is strongly advised for all responsible entities. Livestock farmers are advised to intensify tick control operations to avoid incidences of tick borne diseases prevalent during heavy rain seasons.

Elgon: Favorable conditions observed in all the districts in the sub region except **Kween** and **Bukwo** that showed watch conditions. Much as the season was delayed, Maize and bean crops have steadily established and taken shape. Farmers are currently undertaking second weeding and incidences of African army worms have been observed. Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries responded by dispatchingto the affected districts.

West Nile, Acholi, Lango: Most of the districts in the region have showed improvements to favorable conditions though with variations in actual values. **Lira** and **Amolatar** have however declined to watch conditions. This is likely to have negative implications on the seasonal crop performance especially in Amolatar. District Disaster Management Committees in the affected Districts are advised to assess the current conditions and inform OPM as soon as possible.

Early Warning for Regions!

Teso and Karamoja: All the districts in Teso region improved to favorable conditions except **Ngora**, **Kumi** and **Pallisa** that sustained watch. In Karamoja with an exception of **Abim** that showed favorable conditions, all the other districts sustained watch conditions though trends indicated a slight improvement in the actual values. This is an indication of bad season in the watch districts that needs to be addressed through all possible measures.

Western and South Western: All the districts, including **Ntoroko** and that was previously under watch improved to favorable conditions. Exceptional performances were recorded in **Kyegegwa**, **Kyenjojo**, **Kabarole**, **Bundibugyo**, **Kasese**, **Rubirizi** and **Kanungu**. Whereas stable harvests of Bananas and other crops are expected from the region, Communities and business located in the flood and landslide prone areas should be put on high alert by the authorities to prepare for possible evacuation if the current rainfall activity prevails throughout the month of May 2022.

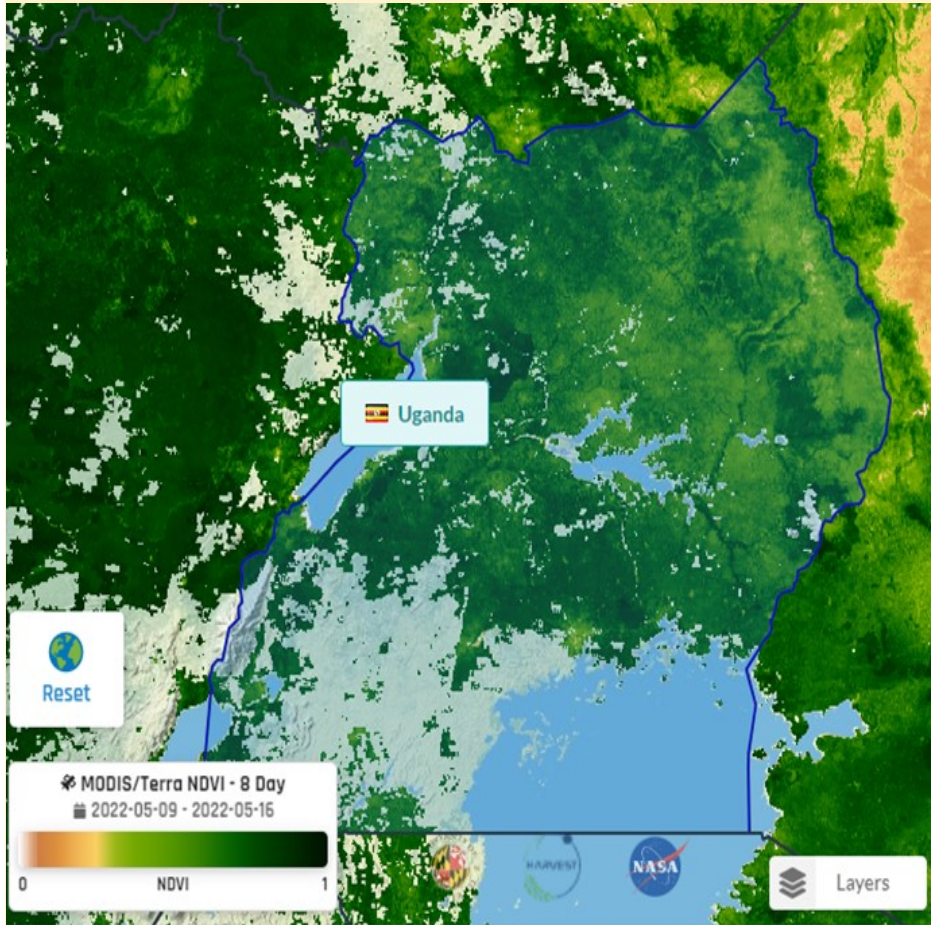
East central sub region: Most of the districts either improved or maintained favorable conditions except **Buyende**, that sustained watch conditions for the fourth month in a row. This is attributed to the poor MAM seasonal performance recorded in some parts of the Country. Like in Lango, the District Disaster Management Committee of Buyende is also advised to assess the impacts of sustained watch conditions and report to OPM. Farmers in the sub region are advised to manage the African army worms in their fields and plant short ripening crops, on addition to the conventional types. Office of the Prime Minister shall closely monitor the MAM-JJA interface issue timely advisories as the season unfolds



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HIGHLIGHTS - NDVI Anomaly (1st - 09th, MAY 2022)



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.

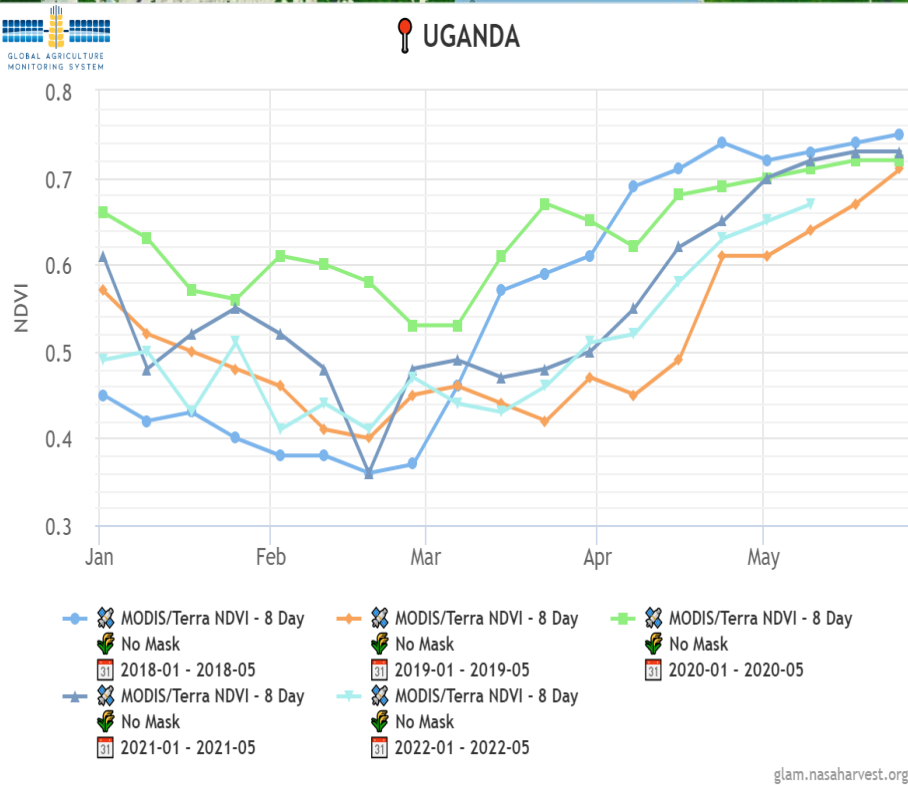
NDVI anomaly is the difference between the average NDVI for a particular period of the year and the average NDVI for same period over a specified number of years.

For the period of 1st - 09th, May, the NDVI anomaly 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 to dark brown areas represent areas where the vegetation conditions are below normal and associated with delayed on set of rains over those areas. Due to cloud cover, anomalies cannot be assessed in the grey areas.

The improved performance of the April-May rainfall over most parts of the Country explains the continuous increase in the NDVI values. There has been significant increase in the NDVI values across the Country with many districts in South western parts posting excellent conditions above 0.8. The rest of the Country has remained normal except with improvements slowly being registered in Karamoja, Lango and, Teso, that had showed persistent watch conditions. Though actual values are characterized by regional spatial variations as shown by the map, on average, much of the Country has maintained great improvement towards the end of MAM and beginning of June July August (JJA). This trend might have had implications on seasonal crops productivity but perennial crops, pasture and water availability shall greatly benefit from the observed trends.

Below is a graphical representation of the current vegetation conditions. The red line represents the conditions for six months from January - May 2019 and the light blue line just above it showing the same period of 2022. The green and blue lines above them indicating the 2018, 2020 and 2021 conditions respectively.

It is observed that from March to May 2022, the NDVI values persistently stayed below the average values, keeping slightly above the 2019 values that were affected by the cyclone idai. It is however observed that from late April to May, there has been a sharp and upward trend that is expected to improve further. Further observations made shall be corroborated with the JJA seasonal forecast from Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) and subsequent updates for validation and further advisories.





RAINFALL OUTLOOK OVER UGANDA

CENTRAL REGION LAKE VICTORIA BASIN AND EASTERN UGANDA

Western parts of Central (Nakasongola, Luwero, Kyankwanzi, Kakumiro, Kasanda, Nakaseke, Kiboga, Mubende, Kasanda, Sembabule, Lwengo, Lyantonde, Kyotera, and Rakai) districts. Overall, there is a high chance for this region to receive near normal rains with a slight tendency to above normal rains.

Eastern parts of Central (Mukono, Buikwe, Kayunga, Buvuma) districts. Overall, near normal rainfall with a high tendency to above normal rainfall is expected.

Central and Western Lake Victoria Basin (Kalangala, Kampala, Wakiso, Masaka, Lwengo, Mpigi, Butambala, Gomba, Kalungu, Bukomansimbi, and Mityana) districts. Overall, there is a high chance for near normal with a slight tendency to above normal rainfall.

Eastern Lake Victoria Basin & South Eastern: (Jinja, Bugiri, Kamuli, Iganga, Buyende, Bugweri, Luuka, Namutumba, Kaliro, Busia, Mayuge, Namayingo and Tororo) districts. Overall, this region has a high chance of receiving near normal to above normal rainfall.

Central Eastern: (Pallisa, Budaka, Butebo, Kibuku, Mbale, Sironko, Manafwa, Bududa, Bulambuli, Namisindwa, Kapchorwa, Kween, Bukwo, Bukedea, Kumi, Kalaki, Ngora, Serere and Soroti) districts. Overall, there is a high chance for near normal (closer to average) rainfall to above normal rainfall conditions to prevail over this region.

North Eastern: (Amuria, Kapelebyong, Katakwi, Nabilatuk, Moroto, Kotido, Nakapiripirit, Abim, Napak, Amudat, Karenga and Kaabong) districts. Overall, high chance for near normal (closer to average) to above normal rainfall conditions to prevail over this region.

WESTERN REGION

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

Central Western (Bundibugyo, Ntoroko, Kabarole, Bunyangabu, Kyenjojo, Kyegegwa, Kamwenge, Masindi, Buliisa, Hoima, Kakumiro, Kagadi, Kikuube and Kibaale) districts. There is a high chance for the area to experience near normal with a high tendency to above-normal rainfall.

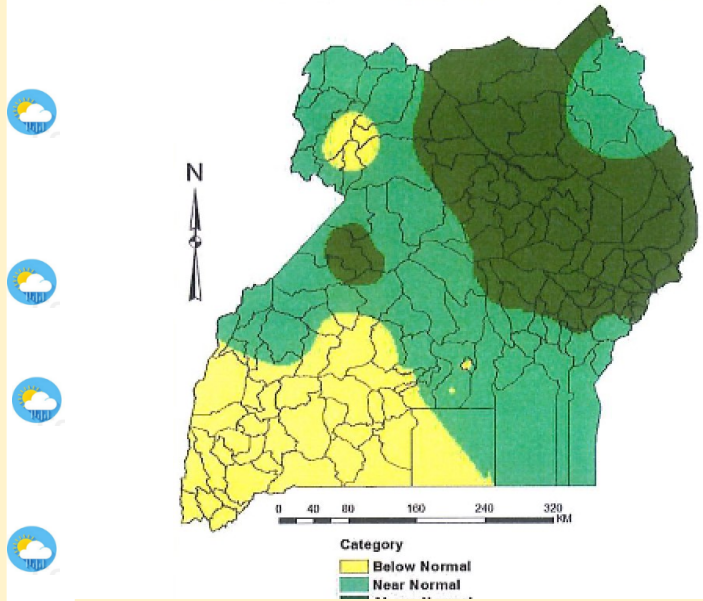
NORTHERN REGION

North Western (Zombo, Nebbi, Pakwach, Madi-Okolo, Arua, Maracha, Terego, Koboko, Yumbe, Moyo, Obongi, and Adjumani) districts. Overall, this region is likely to receive near normal (closer to average) rainfall.

South-Eastern areas of Northern Parts: (Lira, Alebtong, Amolatar, Kitgum, Lamwo, Agago, Otuke, Pader, Kole, and Dokolo and Kaberamaido) districts. Overall, near normal (closer to average) rainfall is expected over this region.

Central Northern Parts: (Gulu, Omoro, Nwoya, Amuru, Oyam and Kiryandongo) districts. Overall, this region is expected to receive near normal (closer to average) with a slight tendency to above normal rainfall.

Rainfall Outlook for June to August (JJA) Season 2022



RAINFALL OUTLOOK

The rainfall outlook for May indicates that most parts of the country are expected to receive near normal (near average) with a slight tendency to above normal (enhanced) rainfall during the forecast period. However, some parts of West Nile, Northern Lake Kyoga and western parts of Lake Victoria basin have a high likelihood of experiencing near normal (near average) to below normal (suppressed) rainfall.

The average temperature during the month of May is expected to vary between 20°C to 24°C over several parts of Northern and Eastern Uganda while the rest of the country is expected to range between 14°C to 18°C.

Potential Impacts

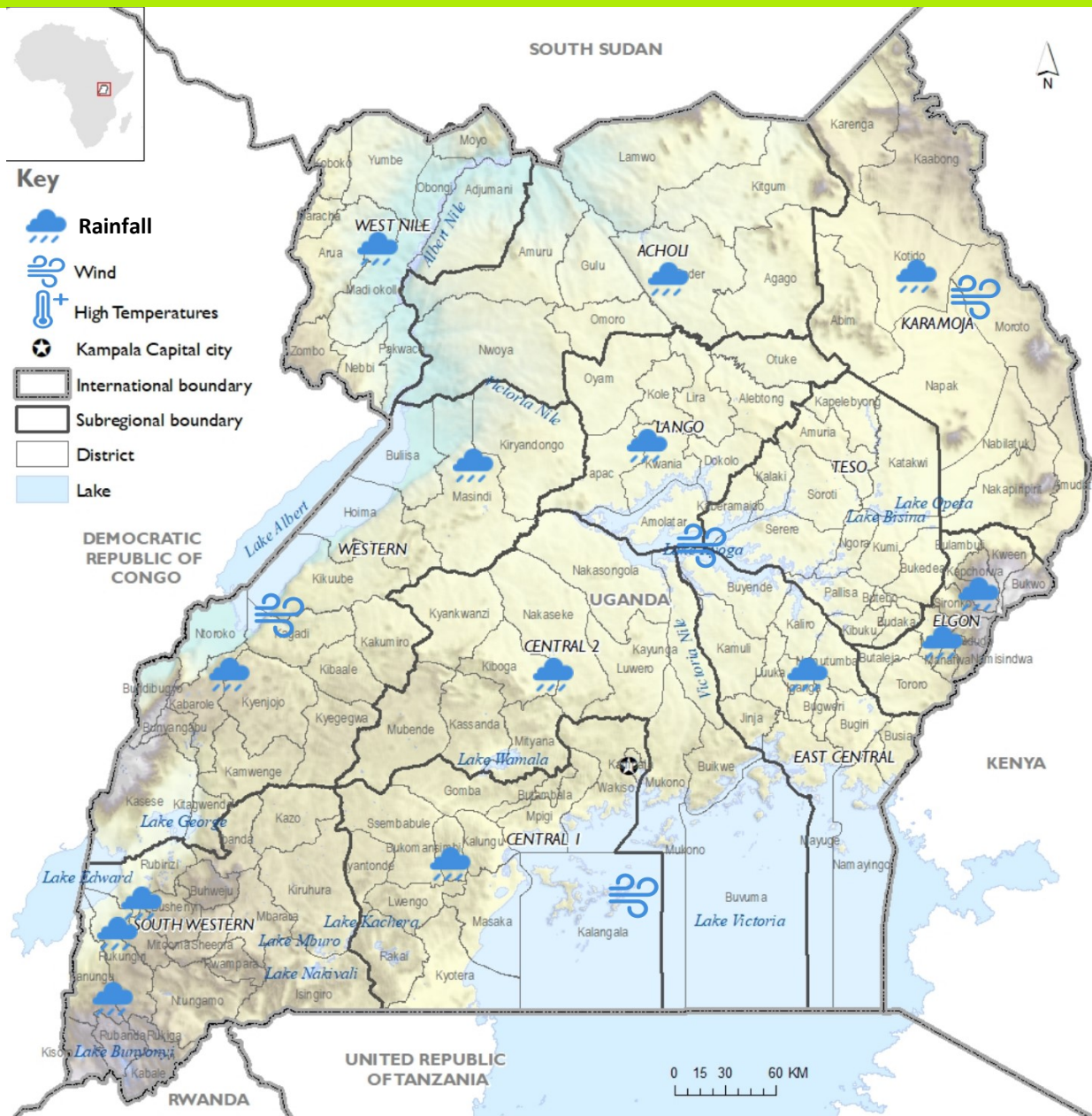
The predicted rains over most parts of the country are expected to have impacts. The following are advisories to the communities;

- ◆ Farmers are expected to continue weeding their crops. And apply pesticides where necessary with guidance of agricultural officers.
- ◆ In the Pastoral areas, the current rains are expected to further improved foliage and pasture. Pasture preservation and management should be encouraged.
- ◆ Communities are encouraged to harvest water to improve water availability especially during the dry period of June-August 2022.
- ◆ Local authorities especially in Urban centres should work on the drainage systems in order to avoid the risk of the flash floods.
- ◆ There is still a high risk of malaria and water borne diseases due to the occasional flash floods that may include but not limited to cholera and bilharzia.
- ◆ Health education and awareness campaigns should be intensified on the use of mosquito nets, slashing of bushes around homesteads, disposing of open containers, filling up open pits and draining stagnant water around homesteads in order to reduce breeding places for mosquitoes.
- ◆ Frequent health inspections and surveillance in all communities is encouraged.

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MULTI HAZARD EARLY WARNING PROBABILITY MAP – 15th May -15th June 2022



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Communicable disease outbreaks, epidemics and health emergencies

The rainfall outlook for indicates that most parts of the country are expected to receive near normal to above normal rainfall with early onset and cessation over several places. The associated risk of outbreak of diseases such as cholera, dysentery, bilharzia, asthmatic cases, rift valley fever in the cattle corridor; is at hand. Areas close to the shorelines and banks of water basins are advised to keep their surroundings clean and in proper hygiene to avoid disease outbreaks.

- ◆ The public is advised to enhance diseases surveillance in flood –prone areas for prevention and treatment .
- ◆ Monitor and reposition stocks of drugs & routine distribution of long –lasting insecticide mosquito nets.
- ◆ Encourage routine water treatment at all levels

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).



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DISASTER EARLY WARNINGS AND OUTLOOK - 15th May - 15th June 2022

BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Disease outbreak

The MAM rainfall outlook indicates that most parts of the country are expected to receive near normal to above normal rainfall with early onset and cessation over several places. The associated risk of outbreak of diseases such as cholera, dysentery, bilharzia, asthmatic cases, rift valley fever in the cattle corridor; is at hand. Areas close to the shorelines and banks of water basins are advised to keep their surroundings clean and in proper hygiene to avoid disease outbreaks.

- Village Health teams are urged to sensitize the communities to maintain good sanitation and hygiene so as to avoid exposing themselves to preventable health risks.
- Clearing bushes, opening of drainages, use of mosquito nets, fumigating in & around homesteads is encouraged as a precautionary control measure against malaria.

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

Floods and Wind storms

The rainfall outlook for March indicates that most parts of the country are expected to experience near normal to above normal rainfall conditions which are likely to be accompanied by intense rainfall events that may lead to flash floods in some localized places, especially urban areas.

- Urban authorities need to clear and reduce blockages of the drainage systems to avoid water logging on streets.
- Implement flood risk mitigation measures at community level
- Prioritize resettlement of flood affected communities in Kayunga, Bullisa, Ntororko, Nakasongola and Kasese.
- De-silt dams and drainage channels.
- Secure the roofs of building structures that may be loose.
- Objects outdoor that may blow around in high winds should be secured.
- Caution should be taken if driving by keeping both hands on the wheels and slowing down.

Alert Level: **Moderate** → **High**

TRANSPORTATION ACCIDENTS

Considering that March will be characterized by flash floods, lightning strikes, hailstorms at the onset of rain season, in the country. It is also associated with increased occurrence of accidents due to poor visibility and state of the roads and operator errors.

- Road users should take extra care to avoid driving or walking through flooded road sections and under poor visibility conditions
- Local Government Authorities should consider providing mechanisms to update the public on the state of the roads in their areas of jurisdiction.
- Communities should be encouraged to open drainage channels to avoid flood risks.

Alert Level: **Moderate** → **High**

TRANSPORT TECHNOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Transport Accidents: Any Location

Fire: Any Location

Alert Level: **High** → **Moderate**



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DISASTER STATISTICS – MARCH

TRANSPORT/ TECHNOLOGICAL EVENTS

Motor and Aero Accidents

Reported in | Across the country.



63

Motor Accidents



106

Affected



48

Injured



58

Deaths

CATTLE RUSTLING | Karamoja Sub-Region Reported Twice

Affected: 04 | Deaths: 01 | Injured: 03

DROWNING | 08 Reported

Affected: 08 Deaths 08 Injured 00

Source: NECOC/OPM, and Partners – April Summary

FIRE

Fire incidents across the country.

Reported :16 Affected: 09 Injured: 05 Deaths: 04

Source: NECOC/OPM, Uganda Police Force, April 2022.



BRIEF ON FOOD SECURITY SITUATION

HIGHLIGHTS

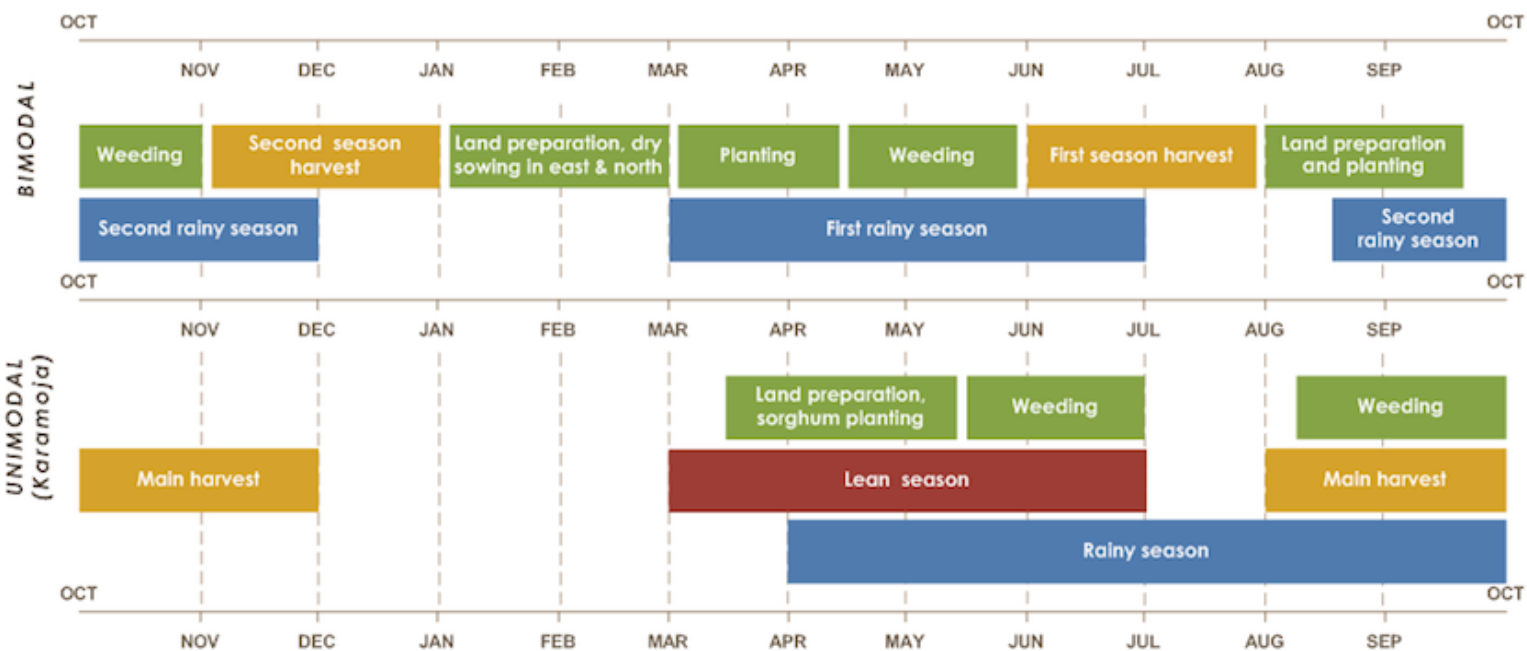
Across most bimodal areas, the March to May rainy season started late, and cumulative rainfall to date has been significantly below average in the northern and eastern regions and parts of the central region. Given this, first season crop production is expected to be below average at the national level, with northern and eastern areas likely to experience the worst production losses. Given eroded coping capacity following two consecutive below-average production seasons, below-average income-earning and above-average prices are expected to drive an increasing number of poor households in northern areas to face Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes prior to the start of harvesting in June/July, when the harvest will support some improved access to food and income through September. Across other rural bimodal areas, Minimal (IPC Phase 1) outcomes are expected to persist at the area level through September 2022.

Staple food prices have continued to increase in recent months and are higher than prices recorded last year and five-year average levels across most of Uganda. Prices of staple sorghum and maize are now significantly above average in several key reference markets across the country. In Karamoja, terms of trade for sorghum against firewood, charcoal, and goats are below average and worse than last year, significantly restricting food access for poor households. After the first season bimodal harvest in June/July, food prices are expected to decline but are now expected to remain above average given expectations for below-average production, increased net exports, and impacts of the war in Ukraine on global supply chains and prices.

Though some Karamoja households will likely experience improvements in food consumption when prices decline with the bimodal harvests and, following this, when the start of harvesting in Karamoja improves food availability, overall below-average access to food and income is likely to sustain area-level Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in large parts of Karamoja through at least September.

Seasonal Calendar

Typical Year





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Important Note!

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.

UPCOMING DRM EVENTS;

- **National Dialogue on Youth Participation to Achieve the SDGs . 14th June 2022 , SDG Secretariat**
- **Stakeholder Consultative workshop on the Principles of the Disaster Management Bill 13th - 17th June 2022**

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

Website: www.necoc-opm.go.ug

Toll Free Hotline on all Networks:

: 0800 177 777



Following the confirmed outbreak of Anthrax in Bududa District in Eastern Uganda, Veterinary Officers are advised to undertake vaccination of animals in all districts around the affected area and all livestock rearing districts across the Country.

