



U - NEWS

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



15th DECEMBER 2022 – 15th JANUARY 2023

Issue 73

Anthrax Advisory

What is Anthrax?

Anthrax is caused by *Bacillus anthracis*, which forms spores that survive for years in the environment. Cattle, sheep, and goats are at the highest risk of developing anthrax, but other farm animals, as well as wildlife and humans, can contract the disease. Uganda is one of the countries in the world with high incidence of zoonotic diseases, with anthrax as one of the priority diseases.

What are the symptoms of Anthrax?

People and animals develop anthrax when the organisms enter through a wound or skin opening, are inhaled in contaminated dust, or are eaten in undercooked meat from infected animals. Animals suddenly die with blood oozing from all body openings whereas in humans, the skin develops a small blister with a black spot in the centre and adjacent lymph nodes may swell.

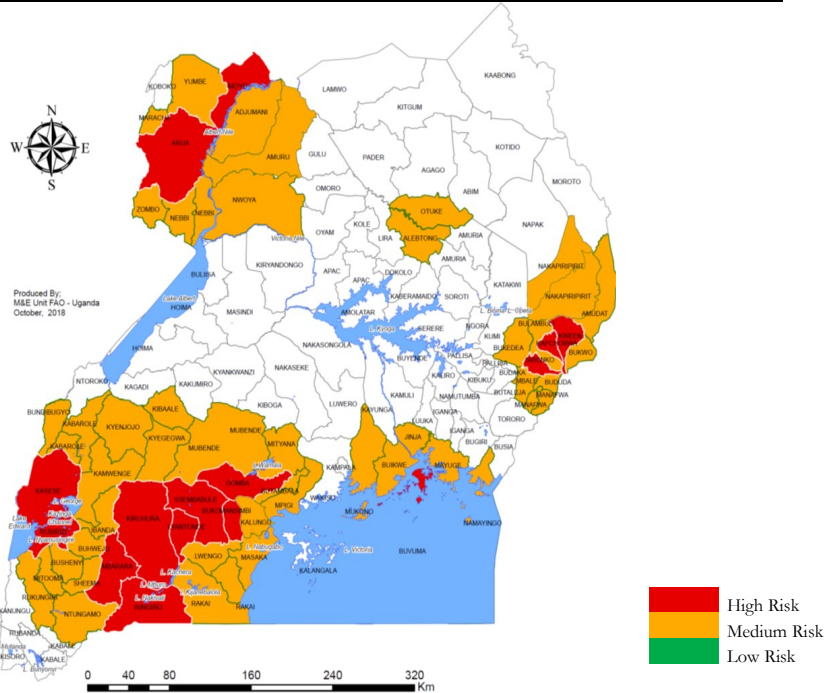
Who is most at risk?

Workers at risk for anthrax include **farmers, veterinarians, laboratory technician, and any person who handles animal products. The risk of anthrax is highest after flooding and/or during drought and in alkaline areas.**

What is the treatment for Anthrax?

It's important to get medical care quickly under supervision of a qualified physician to have the best chances of a full recovery. Prompt treatment of animals at the earliest sign of illness should be effective.

DISTRICTS AT RISK OF ANTHRAX & PROPOSED PREPAREDNESS MEASURES



Preparedness Measures

Preparedness measures should start in November through January and December to mitigate or limit impact of the outbreak through the following measures;

1. Vaccination of livestock in areas where animals have had anthrax in the past.
2. Do not eat raw or undercooked meat and avoid contact with infected livestock, animal products, and animal carcasses.
3. Deep burial (6-8 feet) of the carcass is an acceptable practice if incineration is not a viable option.

Hazard	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Anthrax	Preparedness	Response	Response	Response	Response	Response	Response	Response	Response	Response	Preparedness	Preparedness

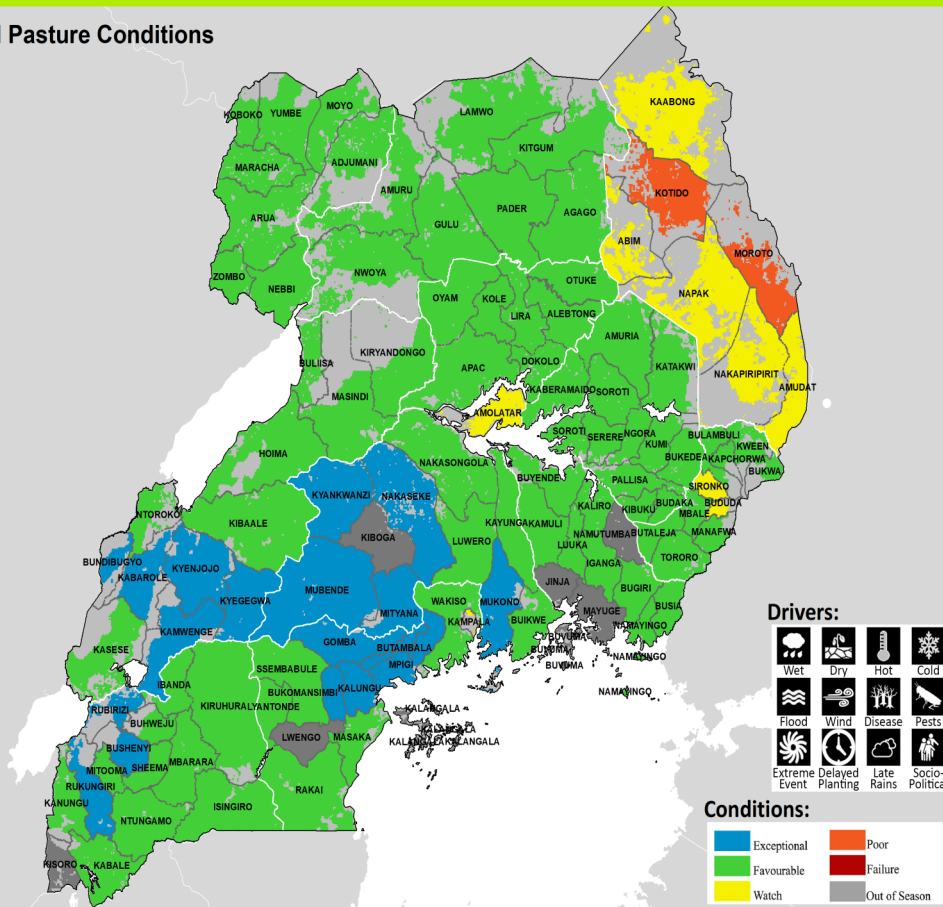
Health contact information

If a suspected anthrax case is detected from the community, send sms to 6767 or call MoH Toll free 0800-203-033 / 0800-100-066/0800-303-033, or the National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre (NECOC) ON Toll free line: 0800177777 and also report to the nearest health facility. Notify the area veterinarian for anthrax cases in animals.



CROP & PASTURE CONDITIONS MAP OF UGANDA (NOVEMBER 2022)

Crop and Pasture Conditions



Source: Crop Monitor of Uganda. This crop conditions map synthesizes information for selected crops and pasture as of 17th November 2022. Crop and Pasture conditions over the ND 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: The region maintained favorable to exceptional conditions. Both pasture and water availability has been sustained and the trend will continue in the coming month due to the extended rain season in central and south western parts of the Country. Farmers are advised to continue with pest control operations for both crops harvested and those still in the gardens. Surface water harvesting and storage is strongly advised among livestock farmers in preparation for the January - February dry period. vaccinations and spraying to control livestock diseases associated with wet weather conditions is strongly advised as the exceptional conditions may take long to recede.

Elgon: Favorable, though stable conditions were maintained in all the districts except **Sironko** and **Bududa** that declined to watch. This was also an advantage as the watch conditions imply safety from mudslide risks. Not much crop damage is expected since the two districts are predominantly banana growing areas. The many incidences of hailstone events in the region have led to poor harvests of maize, beans and other seasonal crops. Farmers are advised to utilize the harvests sustainably to ensure stable food supplies to the next season. As advised in the previous issue, the end of season rains should now be used for implementing environmental restoration measures like desilting of streams and rivers by the high risk communities, land preparation for the next season to avoid delays and planting of short maturing crops like vegetables.

West Nile, Acholi, Lango: The region sustained favorable conditions with declining values as the season faces recession. Amolatar district in Lango sub region declined rapidly to watch. Due to the extended rainfall pattern in the central and south western part of the Country, the risk of flooding remains high in the districts along the Nile and around L. Kyoga. Farmers are expected to be harvesting mature crops. This calls for proper post harvest handling and management to maintain produce quality and quantity.

Early Warning for Regions!

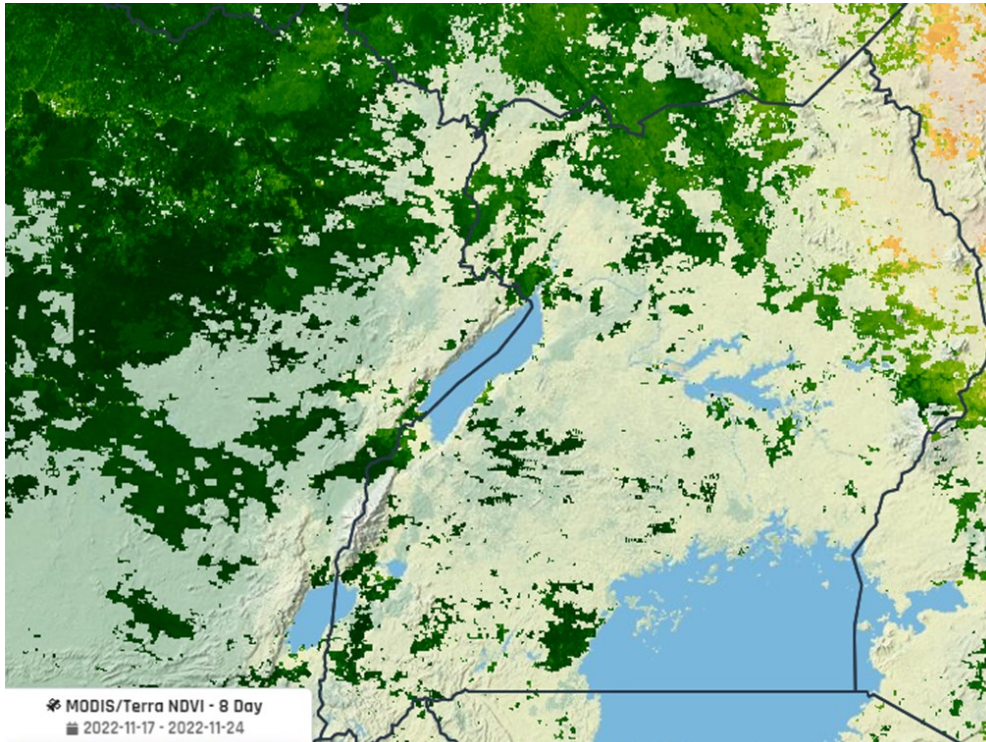
Teso and Karamoja: The dry season is now fully established in Karamoja as observed from the poor conditions (red) observed in **Moro-to** and **Kotido**. While the rest of the districts are in watch (yellow). This early decline in the conditions is a worrying trend that leads to rapid pasture and water resources depletion especially in Karamoja in the coming months. Teso sub region still maintained favorable conditions though with declining values indicating end of season. Proper post harvest handling and management is encouraged to maintain produce quality and quantity. **Government and partners should start planning the Karamoja drought response and possible scale up areas as the drier months approach.**

Western and South Western: Favorable to excellent conditions were observed with improving values implying that the region will have more wetter weeks to months ahead. Livestock farmers in the cattle corridor districts should utilize the available vegetation to process hay, repair water harvesting/storage facilities for their livestock and, ensure vaccination and treatment of livestock against diseases associated with wet weather. **The risk of flooding in the low lying areas remains high.** DDMCs are advised to assess all the flood events using the DRM [standard assessment tool](#).

East central sub region: The region maintained favorable and improving conditions, though the improvements came late, Crops are expected to give better yields this time than the previous season. This will caution farmers from the effects of the poor MAM performance provided quality and quantity are maintained. The off season rains still being received can be used for land preparation and planting short maturing crops like vegetables in the wetter areas and low lands.



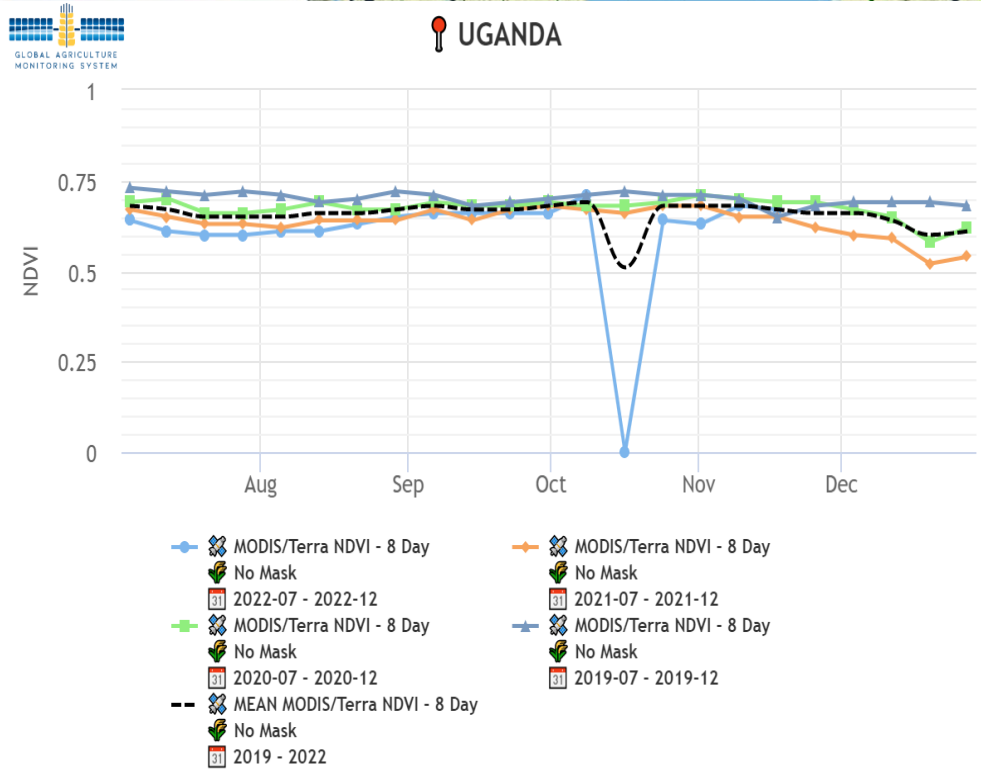
HIGHLIGHTS - NDVI Anomaly (09th– 17th, NOVEMBER 2022)



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 09th - 17, November, 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 onset of SOND over those areas. Due to cloud cover, anomalies cannot be assessed in the grey areas.



It is observed that much of the Country is still under thick cloud cover, implying that there is still possibility of getting off season rains, except in Karamoja which is already drying up. Though actual values have shown stability and very insignificant decline in East central, Acholi, Lango and West Nile sub regions which are characteristics of regional spatial variations as shown by the map. Much of the country has maintained favorable conditions during the November - December period.

Below is a graphical representation of the current vegetation conditions. The orange line represents the conditions for six months from June - December 2021 and the deep blue line above all the others (from June - December) shows the same period of 2019. The green line indicates the 2020. The 2022 conditions are shown by the light blue line lying below the other lines from mid June to November an indication of the intensity of the 2022 dry spell and rainfall deficiencies especially in the North eastern. The black dotted line is the average of the four (4) years represented by the graph and it shows that 2022 values largely remain below average.

Interestingly, NDVI values have presented normal conditions all over the Country for the period September - December. These conditions are expected to be maintained in the next couple of weeks. Farmers across the country are advised to utilize late rains that are responsible for these favorable conditions for land preparation, hay processing, water harvesting, pest and disease/ vector controls. Office of the Prime Minister in collaboration with Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) shall continue monitoring the evolution of ND to provide subsequent updates and further advisories.



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RAINFALL OUTLOOK OVER UGANDA

WESTERN REGION

Central Western (Bundibugyo, Ntoroko, Kabarole, Bunyangabu, Kyenjojo, Kyegegwa, Kamwenge, Masindi, Buliisa, Hoima, Kakumiro, Kagadi, Kikuube and Kibaale) districts . Overall, near normal with slight tendency to Above normal rainfall is expected over most parts of the region.

South Western (Kabale, Kisoro, Rubanda, Rukungiri, Rukiga, Kanungu, Ntungamo, Ruvumbarara, Kazo, Mbarara, Kiruhura, Isingiro, Ibanda, Bushenyi, Buhweju, Mitooma, Sheema, Rubirizi, Kitagwenda and Kasese) districts . Overall, near normal rainfall with high tendency to below normal is expected to prevail over most parts of the region.

LAKE VICTORIA BASIN & CENTRAL REGION

Northern & Southern parts of Central(Nakasongola, Luwero, Kyankwanzi, Kakumiro, Kasanda, Nakaseke, Kiboga, Mubende, Kasanda, Sembabule, Lwengo, Lyantonde, Kyotera, and Rakai) districts. Overall, there are high chances of near normal to below average conditions over most parts of the region.

Eastern parts of Central (Mukono, Buikwe, Kayunga, Buvuma) districts. Overall, there are high chances for near normal rainfall over most parts of this region.

Central and Western Lake Victoria Basin (Kalangala, Kampala, Wakiso, Masaka, Lwengo, Mpigi, Butambala, Gomba, Kalungu, Bukomansimbi, and Mityana) districts . Overall, near normal with a slight tendency to above normal is expected to prevail over this region.

Eastern Lake Victoria Basin (Jinja, Bugiri, Kamuli, Iganga, Buyende, Bugweri, Luuka, Namutumba, Kaliro, Busia, Mayuge, Namayingo and Tororo) districts. Overall, near normal with a tendency to above normal rainfall during this season is expected to prevail over this region.

EASTERN REGION

South Eastern: (Kamuli, Iganga, Luuka, Namutumba, Buyende, Kaliro & Butaleja) districts. Overall, there are high chances of near normal rainfall conditions over this region.

Eastern Central : (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 good possibility of near normal rainfall with a slight tendency of above normal rainfall over this region .

North Eastern: (Amuria, Kapelebyong, Katakwi, Nabilatuk, Moroto, Kotido, Nakapiripirit, Abim, Napak, Amudat, Karenga and Kaabong) districts . Overall, near normal with a higher probability of above normal rainfall is expected during the forecast period.

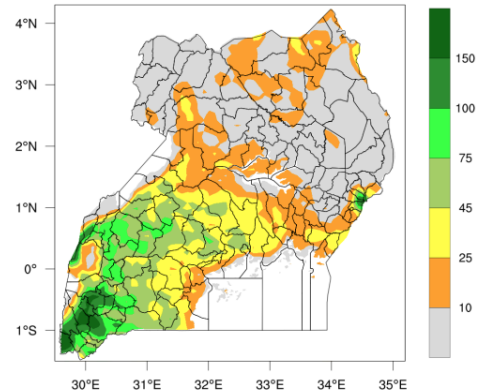
NORTHERN REGION

North Western (Zombo, Nebbi, Pakwach, Madi-Okolo, Arua, Maracha, Terego, Koboko, Yumbe, Moyo, Obongi, and Adjumani) districts. Overall, there are high chances for near normal rainfall over most parts of this region.

Eastern Northern Parts: (Lira, Alebtong, Amolatar, Kitgum, Lamwo, Agago, Otuke, Pader, Kole, and Dokolo and Kaberamaido) districts. Overall, there are high chances for near normal rainfall with a high tendency for above normal rainfall over most parts of the country.

Central Northern Parts: (Gulu, Omoro, Nwoya, Amuru, Oyam and Kiryandongo) districts Overall, there is a high likelihood of near normal rainfall with a high tendency of above normal rainfall over this region.

Rainfall Forecast (mm): 01-10 December 2022



RAINFALL OUTLOOK

The rainfall forecast for the first ten days of December is portraying a significant reduction in rainfall activity over the entire northern portion of the country covering the areas of West Nile, Acholi, Lango, Karamoja, Eastern and in all areas surrounding Lake Kyoga. The same situation is also expected in most areas in Bunyoro subregion, northern and north east of Lake Victoria. In contrast, a continuation of rainfall activity is expected in some areas of south western (Kigezi and Ankole sub regions), Rwenzori sub region, and Toro sub region.

For temperature extremes, it can be observed that during the first dekad of December, a persistence of the same pattern of warmer conditions is expected in the northern part of the country, particularly in West Nile, Acholi and Lango sub regions than the rest of the country just like in November. The maximum temperatures are expected to lie in the range of 280C to 320C.

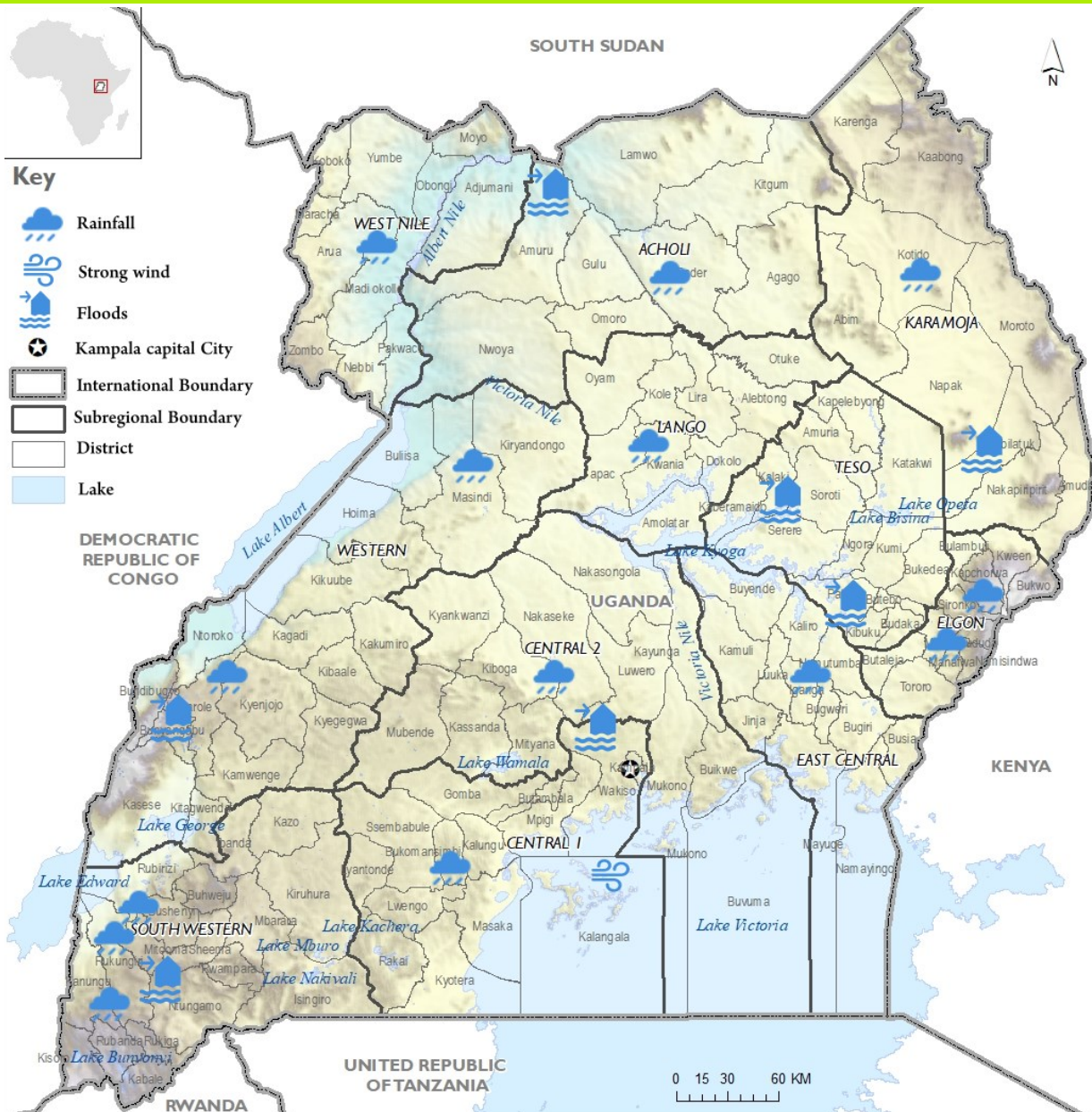
Advisories

- With the anticipated relaxation of the rains over most parts of the country, this will offer conducive conditions for drying of harvested crops and those intending to do so still need to be careful. Drying should be undertaken on clean hard surfaces or tarpaulins to avoid comprising on quality.
- The communities in the entire cattle corridor, northern and eastern are advised to continue putting in place water storage facilities for immediate harvesting of water (or rainwater) in order to avoid a water crisis in late December.
- Pruning of tree crops and mulching should be undertaken to conserve soil moisture in southwestern, central western, central and in highlands.
- Communities in areas expected to receive a reduction in rainfall can take advantage and carry out harvesting and drying of crops
- Monitor and report any emergence of crop pests, animal parasites and plant diseases to technical staff at subcounty and district.
- Farming population is advised to use mosquitoes at all times in this month because as the rains ease in most areas, it provides a fertile environment for rapid breeding and hatching of mosquito larvae. Therefore, there is a potential for a malaria upsurge in many areas of the country.

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MULTI HAZARD EARLY WARNING PROBABILITY MAP – 15th December 2022 -15th January 2023



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Communicable disease outbreaks, epidemics and health emergencies

- ◆ There is an increased likelihood of near normal rainfall with a slight tendency to above normal conditions over the Northern and Eastern and mid– western Uganda. There is likely to be an increased prevalence of malaria in West Nile, Karamoja, and Eastern region. The associated risk of outbreak of water borne diseases such as typhoid, cholera is expected.
- ◆ 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

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 - 15thDecember 2022 - 15th January 2023

BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Disease outbreak

The rainfall outlook for November indicates a high likelihood of experiencing near normal rainfall to above normal rain condition over the South West, and around the Elgon sub region. The associated risk of outbreak of diseases such as malaria, typhoid fever cases; 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 period: There is need to conduct community awareness about the potential outbreak of the diseases and improve surveillance.

Alert Level: **Moderate** → **High**

HYDRO-METEREOLOGICAL HAZARD

Water logging /Flash Floods

The rainfall outlook indicates that South Western are expected to experience near normal rainfall conditions that may lead to floods and water logging in some localized places especially the low lying areas.

- Urban authorities need to clear and reduce blockages of the drainage systems to avoid water logging on streets.
- Avoid crossing flooded road sections at all times. It is advisable to wait until the water has receded
- Implement flood risk mitigation measures at community level
- Communities should be encouraged to open drainage channels to avoid floods.
- De-silt dams and drainage channels

Alert Level: **Moderate** → **High**

FIRE OUTBREAKS

Considering that dry conditions are likely to prevail over the north and north eastern parts of the country and a rise in temperatures during the day and night, the risk of fire outbreaks are high; There is a tendency in the rural communities to burn the bushes ahead of the start of the next season, this at times negatively impacts on the livelihoods and assets more so at the household level, given the nature of roofing materials used in some communities.

- Community leaders are advised to sensitize the masses against engaging in bush burning as it destroys the micro ecosystems.
- Formulate a team of community helpers to carry out regular fire safety drills in the communities.
- Fire safety education among the communities to help them know the causes of fires at household level and keep them mindful in their day-to-day activities.

Alert Level: **Moderate** → **High**

TRANSPORT TECHNOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Transport Accidents: Any Location

- Road users should take extra care to avoid driving recklessly and under poor visibility conditions
- Road users should watch their driving speeds especially after it has rained as roads tend to be slippery.
- Caution should be taken if driving by keeping both hands on the wheel and slowing down.
- Local Government Authorities should consider providing mechanisms to update the public on the state of the roads in their areas of jurisdiction.

Alert Level: **High** → **Moderate**



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DISASTER STATISTICS – NOVEMBER

TRANSPORT/ TECHNOLOGICAL EVENTS

Motor and Aero Accidents

Reported in | Across the country.



46

Motor Accidents



94

Affected



39

Injured



55

Deaths

FLOODS | 02 Reported

Affected: 00 | Deaths: 00 | Displaced: 06

DROWNING | 07 Reported

Affected: 08 Deaths 08 Injured 00

Building Collapse:02 Reported | Deaths 04 | Injured 02

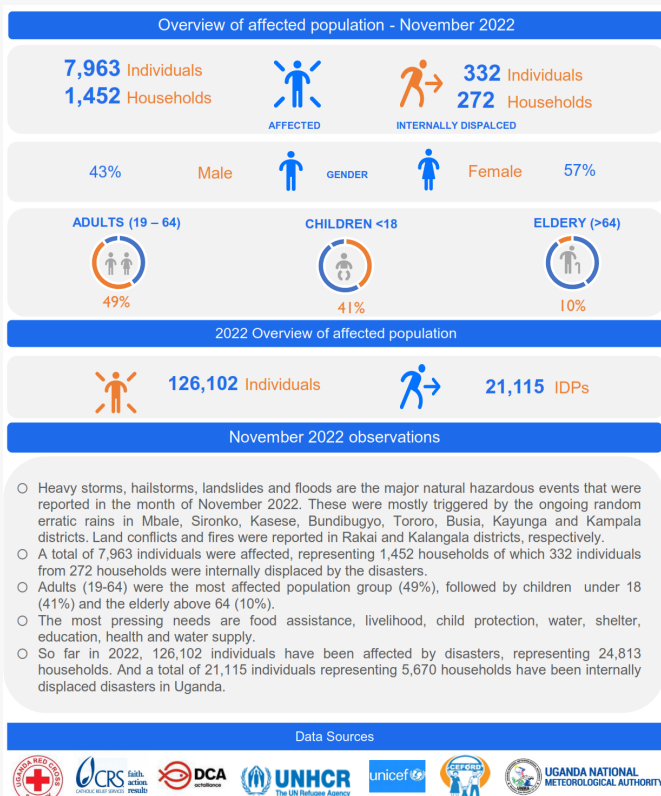
Source: NECOC/OPM, and Partners – November Summary

FIRE

Fire incidents across the country.

Reported : 11 Affected: 09 Injured: 01 Deaths: 08

Source: NECOC/OPM, Uganda Police Force, November 2022



BRIEF ON FOOD SECURITY SITUATION

HIGHLIGHTS

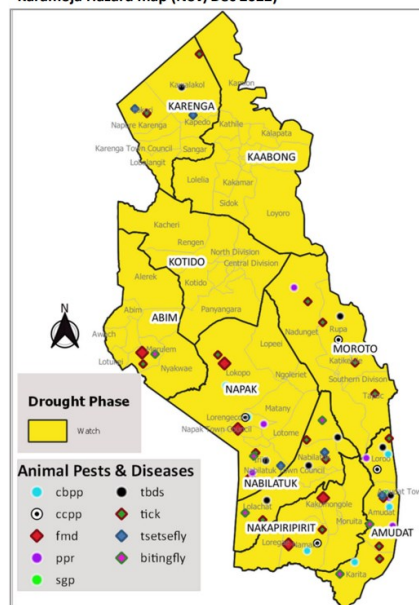
The food security in Karamoja stands threatened in the coming months due to high market prices of staple food and essential commodities coupled with low income at the household level. Further poor crop harvest in September has led to a quick depletion of food stock among the communities. This calls for targeted humanitarian action in the sub-region until the next harvest is realized.

The December 2022 rainfall forecast calls for drier-than-normal conditions across all nine districts of the Karamoja sub-region. The expected harsh weather conditions and the cumulative effect of poor rains in September—November will lead to depletion of pasture and significant water stress in the coming months. Drought hazard level is classified in the WATCH phase during Nov/Dec period and is expected to deteriorate until the next rainy season in Mid-March 2023.

The animal sector is facing multiple threats of limited pasture and high risk of Foot and Mouth Diseases (FMD) spread following an outbreak in Nakapiripirit (1,655 cases), Napak (329 cases), Abim (15 cases), and Nabilatuk (3 cases) districts. More than 157 animals were reported dead due to FMD in both districts. There is a need for a scale-up of vaccination and active surveillance.

The current reporting period is out of the cropping season of significant crops. However, horticulture cropping is ongoing in some districts, such as Kotido and Kaboong, with minimal crop pests and diseases. The sector is, therefore, in a Normal hazard phase.

Karamoja Hazard map (Nov/Dec 2022)



Note: By the time of publication, animal pests and diseases data from Kotido and Kaabong as well as a few other sub-counties from across the sub-region were not available. This map will be updated in the next issue.

EXTRACT | KARAMOJA MULTI HAZARD BULLETIN—NOV 2022



THE UNIEWS PUBLICATION TEAM

Cherishes your readership

SO WE SAY

MERRY

Christmas

& HAPPY NEW YEAR





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;

- **US AFRICA Leaders Summit 2022— Keynote speech by the President of the Republic of Uganda H.E Kaguta Museveni. (16 December 2022)**
- **Annual State of Disaster Report (2021 –2022) Data Collection across the country (December—January) OPM & UBOS.**

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

For more details:



Officers from 11 DECOC being trained on the use of drones as a tool for risk mapping and disaster assessment—Buluchoke, Bududa November 2022.

