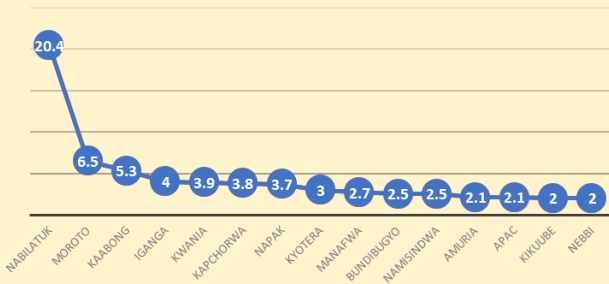




Scan me

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL ADVISORY

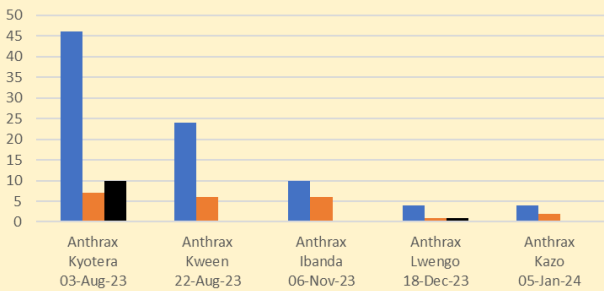
District Tuberculosis Status during 2024 Week 01
(Rate per 100k)



Advisory!

Tuberculosis (TB) is a bacterial infection that mainly affects the lungs. It is transmitted through the air when a person with active TB coughs, sneezes, or speaks. TB can be prevented by vaccination, early diagnosis, and treatment. People who have symptoms such as cough, fever, weight loss, or night sweats should seek medical attention and get tested for TB. Those diagnosed with TB should complete the full course of treatment as prescribed by their health care provider. If you are in close contact with TB patients should also get tested and treated if needed. People who are at high risk of TB, such as health workers, prisoners, or people living with HIV, should receive preventive therapy if eligible. Travelers to areas with high TB burden should avoid crowded and poorly ventilated places, and wear a mask if possible.

Active Public Health Emergencies in Uganda during 2024 WK01



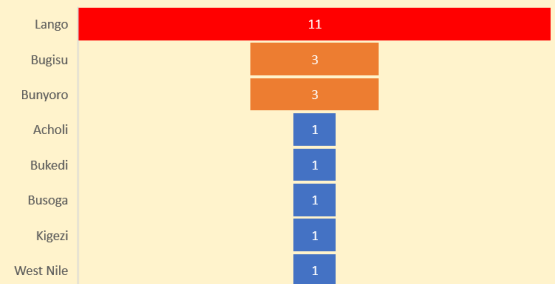
Anthrax, a serious infection caused by spores of the bacterium *Bacillus anthracis* can affect the skin, lungs, or digestive system. It is usually contracted by contact with infected animals or their products, such as meat or hides. Anthrax can be prevented by avoiding exposure to infected animals or their products, and by taking antibiotics after exposure. People who work with animals or animal products should wear protective clothing, gloves, and boots, and wash their hands frequently. Meat for consumption should be well cooked and from a safe source. Those with skin lesions, respiratory symptoms, or gastrointestinal symptoms after exposure to animals or animal products should seek medical attention and inform the nearby health facility about their exposure. Communities exposed to anthrax spores, should take antibiotics as soon as possible to prevent infection. People who are at high risk of anthrax exposure, such as veterinarians, farmers, or laboratory workers, should consider protective measures at all times.

Maternal and perinatal deaths are serious public health issues that affect the lives and well-being of women, children, and families. According to the latest data from the District Health Information System (DHIS2), the Lango and Acholi sub-region have high numbers of deaths with Gulu and Kitgum districts having the highest rates of 35 and 28 per 1,000 annual averages respectively.

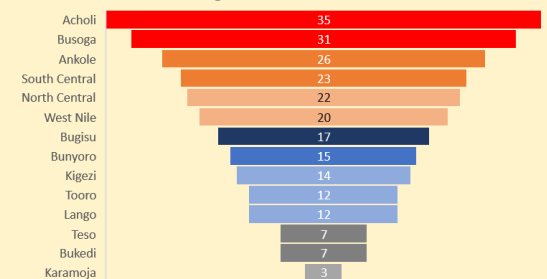
The main causes of maternal and perinatal deaths include hemorrhage, infection, hypertensive disorders, obstructed labor, unsafe abortion, preterm birth, birth asphyxia, and congenital anomalies. Many of these deaths are preventable or treatable with timely and quality care before, during, and after pregnancy and childbirth. **Therefore, we urge all agencies working in the Lango and Acholi sub-regions to intensify their efforts to improve the access and utilization of maternal and newborn health services.** Some of the key interventions that can help prevent maternal and perinatal deaths include:

- * Promoting family planning and reproductive health education to prevent unintended pregnancies, especially among adolescents.
- * Encouraging pregnant women to attend at least four antenatal care visits and to deliver at health facilities with skilled birth attendants and obstetric care.
- * Providing antenatal corticosteroids to women at risk of preterm labor to prevent respiratory distress in premature babies.
- * Initiating kangaroo mother care for low birth weight and preterm babies to keep them warm, promote breastfeeding, and reduce infections.
- * Ensuring postnatal care for both mother and baby within two days of delivery and up to six weeks after birth, including screening and treatment for postpartum hemorrhage, infection, and depression.
- * Strengthening maternal and newborn death surveillance and response systems to identify and address the gaps and challenges in the health system and the community that contribute to these deaths.
- * Advocating for the rights and empowerment of women and girls to make informed decisions about their sexual and reproductive health and to seek care when needed.

Sub-Regional Maternal Deaths



Sub-Regional Perinatal Deaths



Source: MoH PHEOC

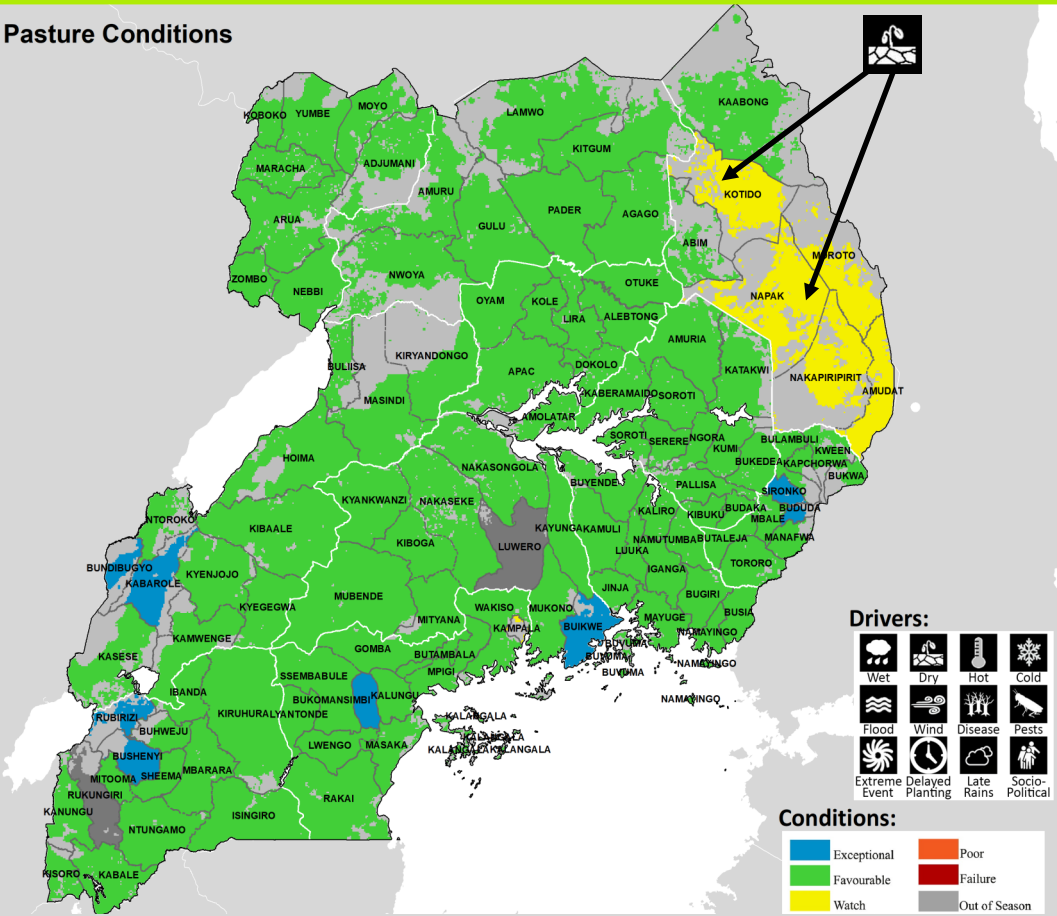


U - NEWS

Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System – Monthly Bulletin

CROP & PASTURE CONDITIONS MAP OF UGANDA (December 2023)

Crop and Pasture Conditions



Source: Crop Monitor of Uganda. This crop conditions map synthesizes information for selected crops and pasture as of 7th December 2023. Crop and Pasture conditions over the month of November 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: All the districts maintained favourable and relatively stable conditions except Buikwe, Bukomasimbi and Kalangala that sustained exceptional conditions with very low values. Generally, good harvest is expected of the banana and coffee (perennial crops). However, the persistence of El nino conditions may cause a challenge to the seasonal crops, especially maize that are due for harvesting as it may lead to rotting of the maize cobs. Good yields are expected within the sub region and supply of pasture and water is expected to remain stable throughout the advisory period. Farmers in the Anthrax infested districts and surrounds should continue observing and practicing preventive measures of quarantine and vaccination.

Elgon: Favorable conditions were maintained in the sub region with stable values as the December - January season unfolds. Bududa district registered exceptional conditions typically advantageous for Banana production during this period but also serves as warning to those in cracked hill slopes to continue taking extra care as even slight rains may still trigger mass wasting. These exceptional conditions also present a challenge to the post harvest management of beans and coffee crop. Farmers are encouraged to ensure that harvested crop quality is maintained amidst this seasonal challenge.

West Nile, Acholi, Lango: The sub regions sustained favorable conditions that have continued to decline as the El nino conditions relaxes. Like Elgon, available moisture may still affect dry/ mature crops that have not yet been harvested. Farmers should ensure timely harvesting, proper post harvest handling and storage of crops. Adequate care must also be taken to prevent the risk of wild fires that are common during such seasonal breaks. Authorities should implement measures to reduce the impacts of flooding in the districts along the Nile with respect to infrastructure, agriculture and water sources before the next rain season sets in. There is still adequate pasture and water for livestock & households.

Early Warning for Regions!

East central sub region: The sub region sustained favorable conditions throughout with stable values. Farmers are advised to ensure harvesting and proper management of mature crops still in the garden to avoid losses that might be occasioned by the off season rains resulting from persistence of El nino conditions. Farm level water management for livestock, vegetable and fruit growing should be intensified. Land preparation should also be carried out by those farmers with excess farm lands using the current off season rains.

Teso and Karamoja: On addition to Kotido, Moroto, and Amudat, Nakapiripirit and Napak have also declined to watch conditions as the rest of the districts continue to register favourable conditions though still with slow declining values. The favorable conditions indicate pasture availability throughout the warning period (Mid February). Proper management of water storage dams and improved human and livestock security at the dams and other water points is important during this period. Where possible all livestock accessing the dams should be vaccinated. In Teso sub region, the mature /dry crops should be harvested and stored for to safe guard quality.

Western and South Western: The exceptional conditions persisted in Bundibugyo, Bushenyi, Rubirizi and Kabarole. The rest of the districts maintained favorable conditions with stable values indicating relaxation in the rainfall performance and, this has had a positive contribution to both the crops and pasture conditions and also, presented increased risk of flooding in the low lands and landslides in the highland areas. Lightening strikes have been occasioned in the sub region and communities have to practice safety measures. Anthrax prevention and control measures should still be enforced in the districts adjacent to the infested districts of central 1&2 to prevent its spread.

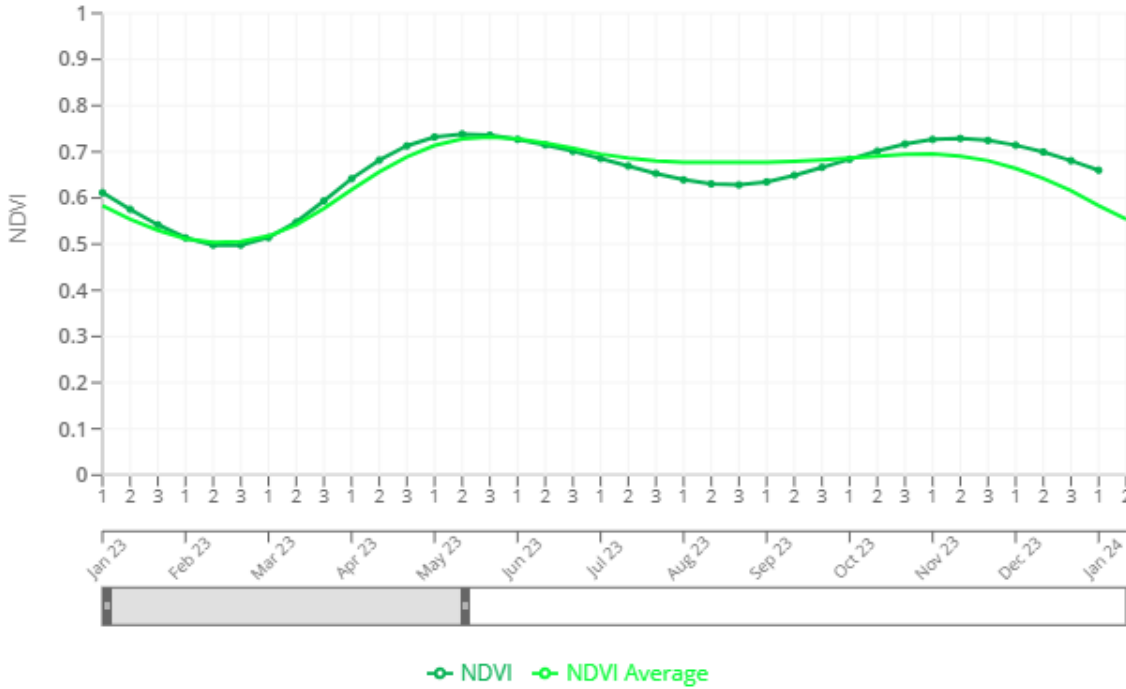


U - NEWS

Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System – Monthly Bulletin

HIGHLIGHTS - NDVI Anomaly (31st DECEMBER - 7th, JANUARY 2024)

Uganda - 2024



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 drought monitoring and 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.

The NDVI curve is intended to show a graphical representation of the current vegetation conditions for the period 8th December 2023 - 7th January 2024. The dark green line above represents the conditions for the three weeks of 2023/24 and the light green line below it shows the long term average of the same period. The graph presents evidence of the enhanced vegetation growth in the Country as a result of the El nino rains that are characterized by persistent rains (see section; January 2024) monthly rainfall outlook.

Generally, the NDVI values have presented above normal conditions for the period of December 2023 (Second dekad) to January (First dekad) and therefore, confirmed the persistence of El nino conditions. Authorities, farmers, businesses and communities are therefore encouraged to follow the sector specific advisories issued from time to time, including but not limited to;

Maintain the pest and disease Control, Prevention and Containment measures already instituted especially for anthrax infested districts through vaccination, surveillance and carcass management.

Ensure timely harvesting of mature/dry crops to avoid the risk of rotting with the off season rains.

Households are advised to store adequate food reserves to take them through the lean season to the next harvest

Assess and rehabilitate water sources and other flash flood affected infrastructure in all districts

Erecting fire lines to prevent fire risks and wildlife invasion in the fire prone sub regions of West Niles, Acholi, Lango, Karamoja and Teso as dry season advances.

Risk communication; Conduct fire risk awareness, Community education on wildlife behaviors during such periods and observe safety measures as may be dictated by the prevailing weather and road conditions (too much dust on the roads may reduce visibility, as well as ensuring the right tyre pressure to avoid the risk of tyre burst as temperatures are forecasted to be high than the previous months.

Office of the Prime Minister in collaboration with Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA), the District Disaster Management Committees and other relevant Agencies shall continue monitoring the conditions and provide subsequent updates and area specific advisories to the public.



RAINFALL OUTLOOK OVER UGANDA

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

FOR CLIMATE-RESILIENT AGRICULTURE

Three interventions that can be used separately or in combination, depending on the context of the region include:

- (1) Integrating strips of forage grasses and legumes.
- (2) Rainwater harvesting through tied ridges and ripping techniques.
- (3) Constructing banks and ditches as part of an agroforestry system.

A farmer who practices these soil and water conservation technologies can reap a variety of benefits, both in the short and long term. Some of the key advantages:

Increased productivity and food security:

Reduced soil erosion. By protecting the soil from wind and water erosion, farmers can maintain valuable topsoil, which is crucial for crop growth. This leads to higher yields and more food production.

Improved water management. The techniques like tied ridges and rainwater harvesting help capture and store more water in the soil, making it available for plants during dry periods. This can boost yields even in drought-prone areas.

Enhanced soil fertility. Integrating legumes and cover crops in these systems adds organic matter and nitrogen to the soil, improving its overall health and fertility. This leads to better nutrient uptake by plants and further increases yields.

Reduced costs and risks:

Less reliance on irrigation. The improved water management practices can reduce the need for expensive irrigation systems, saving farmers money and resources.

Increased resilience to climate change. These technologies help farmers adapt to changing weather patterns, such as more frequent droughts or floods. This makes their livelihoods more secure and protects them from potential losses.

Lower dependence on chemical fertilizers. The improved soil fertility through organic matter additions can reduce the need for synthetic fertilizers, saving farmers money and minimizing environmental impacts.

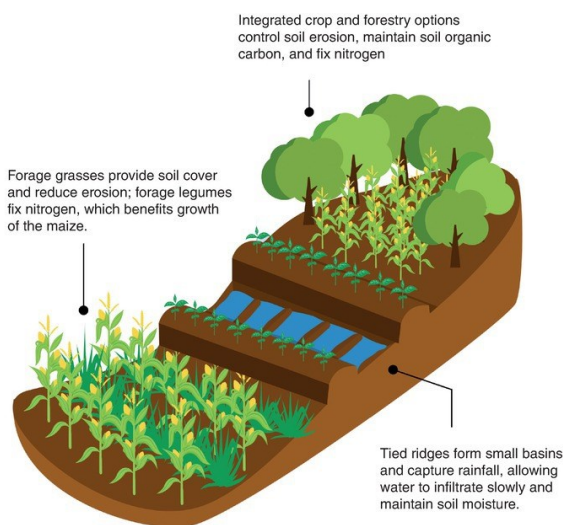
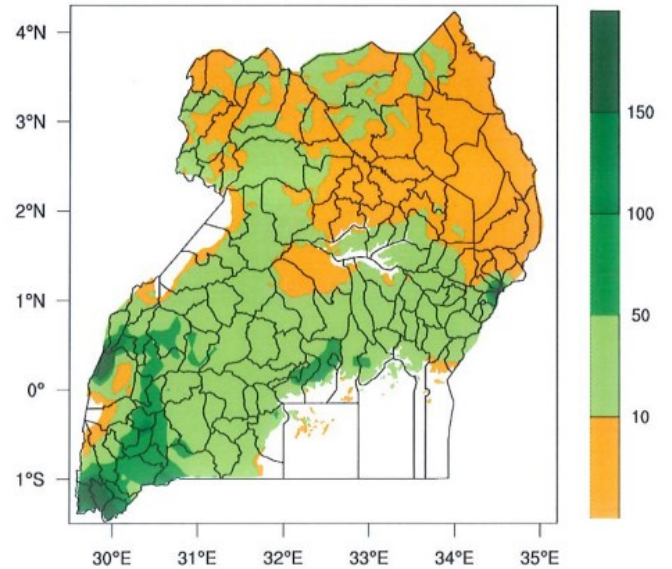


Figure Above: Conceptual illustration of a validated soil and water conservation interventions. At the lowest part of the farm, forage grass strips are planted along the contours to slow water runoff and reduce erosion. In the middle section, tied ridges form micro-basins for water to pond and then infiltrate into the crop root zone. On the highest land, an integrated crop and forestry system helps to retain soil, water, and nutrients within the landscape. Source: Kizito (original artwork, 2020); open access. Read more about the technology [here](#).

Rainfall Forecast (mm): January 2024



RAINFALL OUTLOOK

The rainfall outlook indicates a likelihood of dry, sunny and hazy conditions to prevail over several parts of the country. However, areas around Kigezi are expected to experience wetter conditions, while areas around Lakes Victoria and Kyoga basins likely to experience occasional rainfall.

Advisories

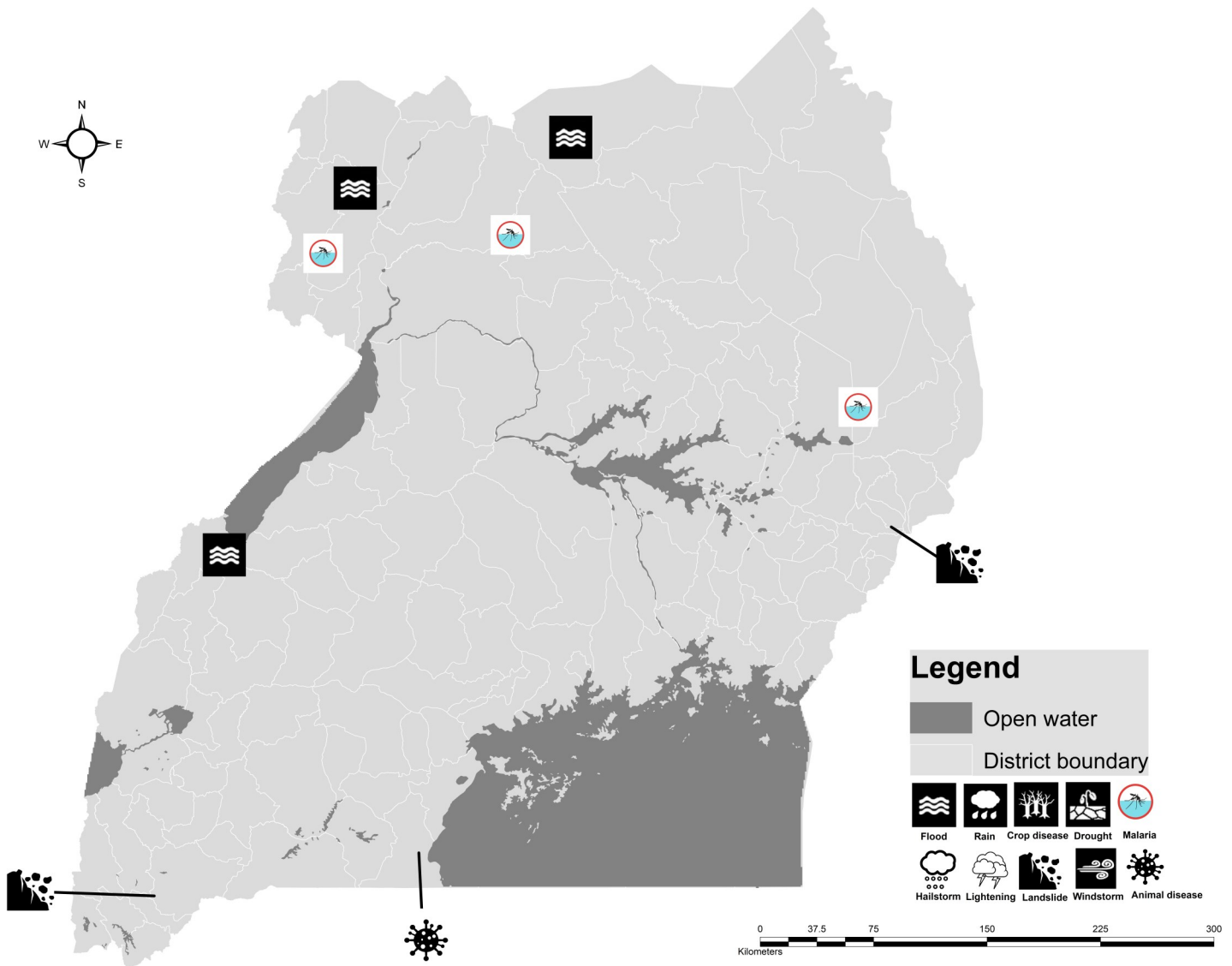
The predicted sunny and hazy weather conditions over most parts of the country and wet conditions in Kigezi are expected to have impacts. The following are advisories to the communities and respective authorities are set as below;

- ◆ Activation of contingency plans in the Kigezi and South Western parts of the Country. Activations should be undertaken at a case by case basis.
- ◆ The general public may call NECOC Toll Free 0800-177-777 to report any emergency incidents in their areas.
- ◆ For Karamoja sub region, the community is encouraged to monitor and conserve available water resources.
- ◆ For those regions in the low land and urban areas, local authorities have been advised to embark on widening and desilting of rivers and drainage channels to reduce flooding impacts.
- ◆ Communities are advised not to take shelter under tall structures or trees when it is raining to reduce lightning strike risks. Use of lightning arrestors on public buildings such as health centres, schools is highly recommended.
- ◆ Farmers are also encouraged to handle their harvest (post harvest handling) with care. Use of solar driers is highly encouraged.
- ◆ Due to the expected malaria incidences, health education and awareness raising on malaria prevention across the country is highly recommended.
- ◆ Partners are advised to collaborate with local governments to prepare, monitor and respond to any eminent risk or emergence.

U – NIEWS

Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System – Monthly Bulletin

MULTI HAZARD EARLY WARNING PROBABILITY MAP – 15th January -15th February 2024



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Anthrax Alert

An Anthrax outbreak in Kyotera district in December 2023 with the neighboring districts also at risk. The outbreak is believed to have started from Kyamayembe sub county as a result of community consumption of a dead cow from a farm. Most people who get sick from Anthrax are exposed while working with infected animals or animal products such as skins and hides or eating undercooked meat from infected animals.

Malaria Alert

The relaxation of rains in the northern part of the country coupled with gradual warming of the region and the water logging conditions as a result of enhanced rainfall in the last month, creates a conducive environment for mosquito breeding across the north, and the eastern regions of the country. This will result into a surge of malaria cases across the region. The most affected areas will include Lango, Acholi, West Nile, Elgon, Teso, Busoga, and Albertine regions.

HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL HAZARDS

Landslides and floods: A shift of rainfall to the south western part of the country increases the risk of landslides and floods in the Kigezi region. Communities from Kabale, Rukungiri, Rukiga, Rubanda are advised to be very vigilant and immediately evacuate to safe areas in case of any eminent risk.



U - NEWS

Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System – Monthly Bulletin

DISASTER EARLY WARNINGS AND OUTLOOK - 15th January - 15th February 2024

BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Disease outbreak

The ministry of health declared a malaria pandemic across the country due to increased rainfall that has resulted into flooding and water logging conditions. The northern part of the country is the most at risk with current flooding conditions as a result of rainfall relaxation and subsequent warming of the Northern regions. Such conditions create a conducive environment for mosquito breeding thus the malaria pandemic. Therefore the general public is advised to implement malaria prevention measures within their homes as follows;

- The general public is urged to sleep under treated mosquito nets.
- Clearing bushes around their homes
- Anthrax suspects are encouraged to immediately report to health facilities for immediate support by government health team.
- Restocking of health supplies within the national hospitals and health centres.
- High vigilance to anthrax outbreak.
- Indoor residual spraying
- Risk communication and sensitization on malaria risks
- Districts and community to support VHTs and provide regular performance feedback *To minimize public health risks* .

Alert Level: **Moderate** → **High**

HYDRO-METEREOLOGICAL HAZARD

Landslides, Flooding, Flash floods & Water logging and Lightening

The rainfall outlook indicates that the Kigezi and neighboring areas are expected to experience wet conditions over the month of January that may result into landslides and mudslides, riverine flood, urban floods, and water logging conditions in the country. On 13th January a lightning strike event was reported in Kimondo II cell, in Sheema district killing four children from the same family.

Clearing and expansion of drainage channels and rivers is highly recommended to reduce flooding incidents.

- Immediate evacuation to safe areas incase of suspected flood or landslide incident
- High vigilance to landslide indicators such as cracks and slanting trees in Kigezi.

Alert Level: **High** → **Moderate**

TRANSPORT TECHNOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Transport Accidents: Any Location

Fire: Any Location

Considering that there is a high likelihood of experiencing near normal rainfall over some parts of the country during this period, it is 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
- Road users should watch their driving speeds especially after it has rained as roads tend to be slippery.
- 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.
- Schools should implement fire mitigation guidelines as provided by government to reduce the risk of fires.

Alert Level: **Moderate** → **High**



U - NEWS

Uganda National Integrated Early Warning System – Monthly Bulletin

DISASTER STATISTICS – DECEMBER

TRANSPORT/ TECHNOLOGICAL EVENTS

Motor and Aero Accidents

Reported in | Across the country.



69

Motor Accidents



152

Affected



66

Injured



86

Deaths

DROWNING: Reported: 14 | Affected: 18 | Deaths: 18 | Injured: 00

ARSON: Reported: 10 | Deaths: 00 | Injured: 00

EXPLOSIVES: Reported: 00 | Death: 00 | Injured: 00

LIGHTNING: Reported: 01 | Death: 02 | Injured: 00

ELECTROCUTION: Reported: 04 | Death: 04 | Injured: 00

Source: NECOC/OPM, and Partners – December 2023

FIRE

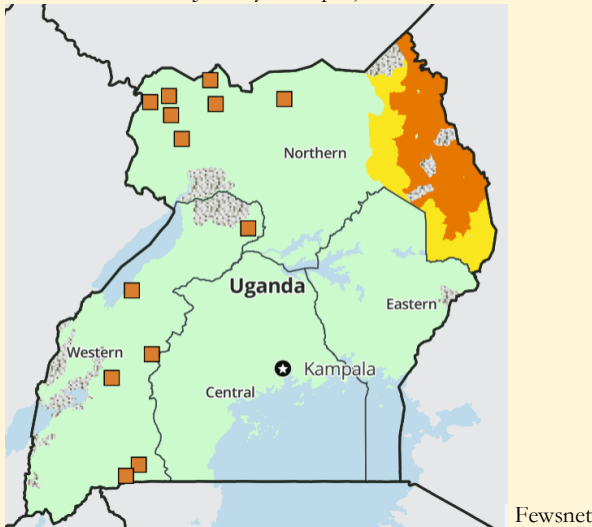
Fire incidents across the country.

Reported: 32 | Affected: 28 | Death: 11 | Injured: 17

Source: NECOC/OPM, Uganda Police Force, December 2023

UGANDA ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY

November 2023 - January 2024 projected outcomes



IPC 3.1 ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Reported in November 2023

Click on a geographic unit to view its Integrated Phase Classification history

Presence Countries

1: Minimal 2: Stressed 3: Crisis 4: Emergency 5: Famine

National Parks/Reserves

Symbols

□ Settlement of displaced populations

! Would likely be at least one phase worse without current or planned humanitarian food assistance



BRIEF ON FOOD SECURITY SITUATION

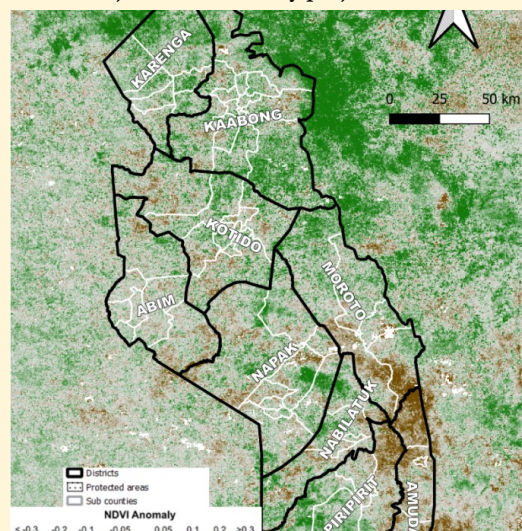
ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY(AFI)

Overall, second season rainfall has supported favorable crop growth. During a food security and markets assessment in mid-November, FEWS NET observed that second season crops are generally in the reproductive or early maturation stages for green harvest consumption. However, according to key informants, localized heavy rainfall caused waterlogging and flooding, particularly in Packwach, Ntoroko, Amuru, Mubende, Kyankwanzi, Kakumiro, Nakaseke, Nakasongola, Butaleja, and West Nile. The flooding damaged infrastructure, inundated croplands, and displaced populations. Above-average rainfall forecasted through December is likely to damage maturing legume crops, and there remains an elevated risk of landslides in the flood-prone areas of Elgon and Rwenzori. In November, with the increased availability of the early green harvest and reduced market prices, food availability and access have improved to Minimal (IPC Phase 1) in bimodal areas.

The improved seasonal abundance of other food crops like cassava, sweet potatoes, millet, and various fruits and vegetables is also moderating food prices and increasing financial access to food for the urban poor.

In Karamoja, the below-average 2023 harvests are beginning to exhaust for households, and many will likely be entirely purchase-reliant for food by December. The increased supply of staple foods with the bimodal green harvest in surrounding areas has supported stable market prices in Moroto and Nakapiripirit and a decline in Kotido between September and October. According to Farmgain, in several major markets in Karamoja in October, the price of sorghum was 14 to 37 percent lower than last October. However, in Abim, Kaabong, and Napak markets, the price of sorghum remained elevated, increasing by 8 to 25 percent from September to October due to the considerably below-average sorghum production in Karamoja. Overall, staple prices remained well above the five-year average. Livestock, charcoal, and firewood prices have all increased, supporting marginal improvements in the terms of trade compared to last year and improvements in financial access to food for poor households. Food purchases are also being supplemented by safety net programs by WFP. However, households continue to face food consumption gaps and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes, which are expected to be sustained through May 2024. Source :Fewsnet

Karamoja Food Insecurity projected outcomes



From: MHEWS



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:

- **DRR Platform Meeting 25 January 2024**

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



MOF: Interministerial Technical Team during the training on integration of Climate Change and Environmental Statistics into Macroeconomic models organised by Ministry of Finance, 8th - 12th January 2024 at Serena Hotel, Kampala.

