

The Official Government of Uganda Inter-Ministerial/Agencies



Monthly National Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning Bulletin

15th JUNE- 15th JULY 2024

Issue 91



Key Highlights

Following the detection of circulating Vaccine Derived Polio Virus (cVDPV2) in an environmental sample collected on May 31st, 2024 from the Doko sewer in Mbale City, a polio outbreak was declared by the Ministry of Health on June 7th. To investigate the extent of the outbreak, a community survey to assess childhood vaccination rates was conducted between June 1st and 6th. Stool samples were also collected from healthy children and shipped for further testing. In addition to the survey and sample collection, health facilities in Mbale City and District began actively searching for cases of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP), a polio symptom. UNICEF and NSTOP teams were deployed to the region on June 6th and 7th respectively to support the outbreak response.

CIRCULATING VACCINE DERIVED POLIO VIRUS TYPE 1 OUTBREAK

Attention Residents of Mbale City and Neighbouring District:

Following the detection of poliovirus in the environment, the Ministry of Health has declared a polio outbreak. To help control the outbreak, health officials are conducting a survey to assess childhood vaccination rates and actively searching for potential cases.

What you can do:

- Ensure all children under 5 are fully vaccinated against polio.
- If you notice any child experiencing sudden weakness or loss of muscle function (acute flaccid paralysis), consult a health facility immediately.
- Cooperate with health officials conducting the survey and stool sample collection.

To all stakeholders

Provide comprehensive training programs for Village Health Teams (VHTs) on community- based active case search methodologies

Need for continued social mobilization, community engagement and risk communication

Strengthen risk communication through community health sensitization and Surveillance, distribute IEC materials and job aids to both the communities and HFs in the region

Develop and implement detailed district micro plans

Activate the city/district task forces

Undertake active case search

Given the fast-evolving nature of this outbreak, errors and omissions are inevitable. The Incident Management Team welcomes feedback and any information that could help rectify this. Send any comments and feedback to: E-mail: nyongesaedwardjuma@mail.com, Tel: +256779002615

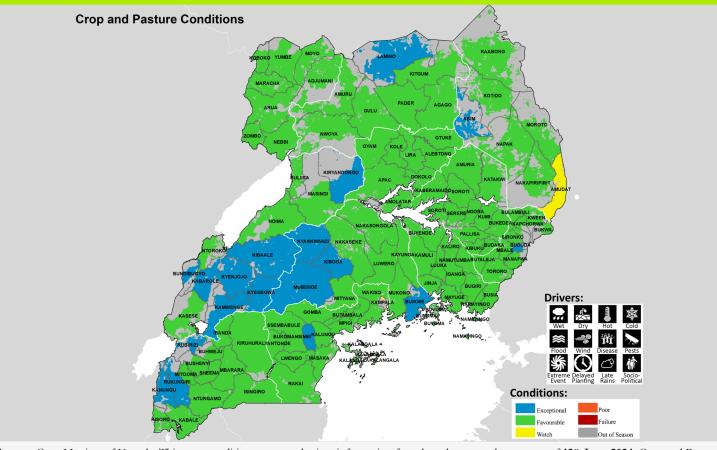
Emergency contact information:

The National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre (NECOC) ON Toll free line: **0800177777.**



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CROP & PASTURE CONDITIONS MAP OF UGANDA (MAY 2024)



Source: Crop Monitor of Uganda. This crop conditions map synthesizes information for selected crops and pasture as of 12^{6h} June 2024. Crop and Pasture conditions over the month of July 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 sub region maintained favourable conditions with a few districts bordering the western sub region progressing to exceptional conditions due to persistence of rains at the onset of June July August season. Other districts that experienced the short dry spell maintained favorable conditions because the crops were already established, and in some areas ripening. Farmers are advised to prepare for post harvest handling and storage as well as prepare fields for season two planting. Government secured vaccines for foot and mouth diseases and all livestock farmers in the sub region are encouraged to ensure vaccination of their livestock to avoid resurgence of the disease whose spread already affected the sub region from December 2023 to May 2024

Elgon: The sub region maintained favourable conditions with stable values for the third month of observation. (March-May) . Exceptional conditions were observed in **Bududa** district which is also an indicator of the increased likelihood of landslide occurrence should the JJA season rains perform above normal. In overall, a good season is expected and farmers advised to ensure proper post harvest handling to safeguard crop quality. The flood risk in the sub region at the moment is low but Communities are advised to follow the monthly weather updates for better preparedness as the season unfolds.

West Nile, Acholi, Lango: The sub region showed favourable conditions with increasing values throughout MAM implying a good seasonal crop performance. This however, presents a challenge of post harvest losses as most small older farmers in the sub region do not have the facilities for post harvest handling and storage. Government and partners involved in agribusiness are encouraged to support communities in handling and storage of harvested crops to safe guard quality. The observed conditions also provide an opportunity for farmers with adequate land sizes to plant early for season two. The exceptional conditions observed in Lamwo district is not a cause to worry because Lamwo is not prone to flooding.

Early Warning for Regions!

Teso and Karamoja: The whole sub region improved to favourable conditions. Amudat district registered exceptional conditions during the period of observation. Where as this is good for the crops in the field, it also increases the risk of flash flooding as the soils get saturated. The human - wildlife conflict is also reduced due to availability of water and pasture in the entire sub region. With the likely good performance, farmers are advised to ensure timely weeding and pest control in the sub region. Since there is likely to be no relaxation in the rains during JJA, farmers can still plant the short ripening crops in extra fields to boost the food yield.

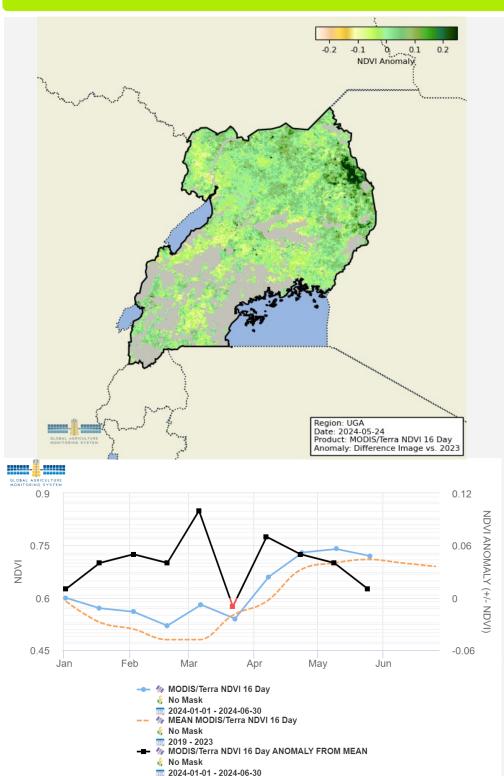
Western and South Western: Much of the sub region maintained favourable conditions with exceptional conditions observed in Kanungu, Rukungiri, Rubirizi, Kamwenge, Kabarole and Bundibugyo. Where as this is good for the banana crop and pasture, it also possess high risk of landslides to the communities in the highland areas in the sub region. Livestock farmers are encouraged to access Government vaccination program for Anthrax and Foot and Mouth Disease to eradicate the vice, while adhering to the recommended preventive guidelines.

East central sub region: The sub region sustained favorable conditions for the third month of observation which is an indicator of a good season. Like the rest of the sub regions, farmers with extra land are advised to plant more crops as they wait for the current crops to mature. Adequate preparation for post harvest handling is also encouraged to safeguard crop quality.



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HIGHLIGHTS - NDVI Anomaly (12st - 24th, May 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 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 12th- 24th 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 onset of MAM over those areas. Due to cloud cover, anomalies cannot be assessed in the grey areas.

It is observed that much of the Country had normal to near normal conditions. The yellowish colour depicts areas were the earlier crops are ripening or the late the crops are affected by the short dry spell during the third dekad of May 2024. This is likely going to affect the production of maize and other seasonal crops in the most parts of the country except Northern and Karamoja sub regions. It should be noted that this trend does not affect the pasture and banana crops and therefore, the south western and central regions remain classified as normal.

Below is a graphical representation of the current vegetation conditions. The black line above the others represents the conditions for six months from Febuary July 2019 and the orange line shows the average of the period 2019-2023. The blue line indicates the current conditions of 2024. The reduction in the gradient from late April to May indicates either the ripening of early crops or the stress on the late crops for areas that planted late due to delayed onset of the MAM season.

Generally, the NDVI values have presented near normal conditions all over the Country for the period of May to June with varying relaxation dates and therefore implications on the sub regional crop performance. Farmers are therefore advised to ensure proper post harvest handling of the ripening first season crops and those with extra land are advised to plant short maturing crops for the period June July August since the JJA is expected to be wetter than the previous periods.

glam.nasaharvest.org

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



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RAINFALL OUTLOOK OVER UGANDA

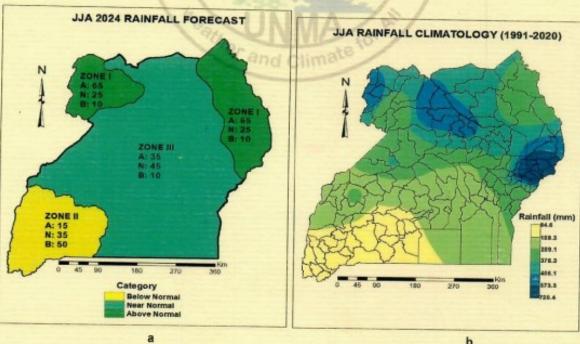


Figure 1: (a) Seasonal climate outlook for June to August (JJA), 2024 (b) JJA rainfall climatology (1991-2020)

RAINFALL OUTLOOK

Overall, the JJA 2024 forecast indicates that the northwestern and northeastern parts of the country are expected to receive above normal rainfall. Parts of central and southwestern Uganda are likely to experience dry conditions during the forecast period. The rest of the country is expected to receive near normal (near average) to above normal (more than average) rainfall.

Potential impacts

Pastoral region: Increased likelihood of animal and crop diseases as well as pests/vectors e.g. Rift Valley Fever and Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)

Local Authorities: We expect to have incidences of flash floods especially in the urban areas under near normal rainfall category in September to December.

Farmers: Watch out for post-harvest losses (crops, fish, and animals) are expected to be high.

Soil erosion from surface runoff and leaching of minerals

Wastage and washing off of agricultural chemicals (herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers is likely to be high.

Milk Production: We expect high production of milk due to abundant pastures and water

Disaster management: There is a high likelihood of floods in the low lands, down streams of rivers and streams, and urban areas with poor drainage network. These incidences are expected in areas under near normal to above normal rainfall.

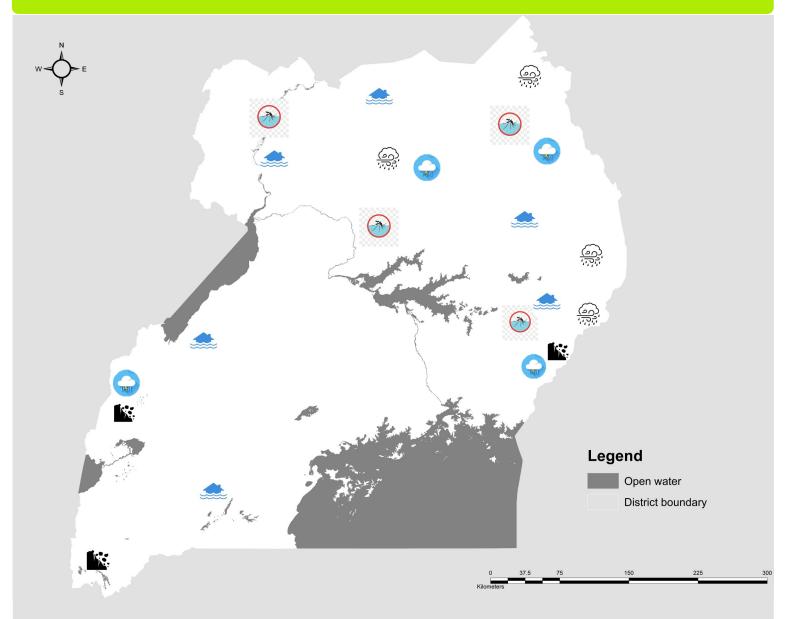
Advisories

The predicted rainfall outlook is likely to perform from near normal to above normal and this is likely to impact on activities especially agriculture and food security sub sectors. The following are advisories to the communities and respective authorities are set as below;

- Activation of contingency plans in South Western and central 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.
- Use of early warning weather updates is encouraged especially for the fishermen.
- Communities are encouraged to harvest rainwater for both domestic use and agricultural use.
- Monitor and report any emergence of crop pests and diseases as well as animal parasites to the responsible authorities
- Kampala and other urban centres are advised to open up drainage channels to avoid flash floods.
- Intensify monitoring of water resources for both quality and quantity.
- 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.
- District health teams are advised to continuously sensitize communities on disease control measures like sleeping under mosquito nets and minimize breeding sites for mosquitoes by clearing bushes near homes, to control malaria.
- Partners are advised to collaborate with local governments to prepare, monitor and respond to any eminent risk or emergence.

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MULTI HAZARD EARLY WARNING PROBABILITY MAP 15th June–15th July 2024



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Disease Outbreak

Due to the continuation of above normal to near normal rains expected during this season, some areas may experience a surge in water borne diseases like cholera and typhoid, vector borne like malaria, increased respiratory infections like Asthma, increased skin allergies and zoonotic diseases due to increase contact with animals.

HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL HAZARDS

Landslides, Floods, Lightning & Hailstorms: Above normal to near normal rains are projected for Westnile, Rwenzori, Bugisu, parts of Teso, Bukedi and Karamoja for the JJA season 2024. These areas are prone to the risk of landslides, floods, lightning and hailstorms.

Communities from Bududa, Sironko, Manafwa, Bulambuli, Ntoroko, Kasese ,Nakasongola, Dokolo are advised to be very vigilant and immediately evacuate to safe areas incase of any eminent risk. They are also encouraged to desilt drainage channels, valley dams and rivers to avert the risk of floods.



DISASTER EARLY WARNINGS AND OUTLOOK - 15th June - 15th July 2024

BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Epidemiological Summary

On 31st May 2024, Uganda confirmed a circulating Derived Polio Virus type 2 (cVDPV2) from one sample collected on the 7th May 2024 from the sewage plant in Doko, Mbale city which is one of the sentinel environmental surveillance sites in Uganda. The tests were conducted at Uganda Virus Research Institute and further confirmed by the National Institute for Communicable Diseases in South Africa that the virus is genetically linked to one cVDPV2 that was detected in Garissa Province in Kenya emerging from Somalia.

To all stakeholders

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Need for continued social mobilization, community engagement and risk communication

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Alert Level:

Moderate



High

HYDRO-METEREOLOGICAL HAZARD

Landslides, Flooding, Flash floods & Water logging and Lightening

The rainfall outlook indicates that the West Nile and North Eastern parts of the country are expected to experience above normal rainfall conditions over the season that may result into mudslides, riverine floods, urban floods, and water logging conditions. 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 highland areas.

Alert Level:

Moderate



High

TRANSPORT TECHNOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Transport Accidents: Any Location

Fire: Any Location

Considering that there is a high likelihood of experiencing rainfall episodes 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.

Alert

Alert Level:





Moderate



DISASTER STATISTICS - MAY

TRANSPORT/ TECHNOLOGICAL EVENTS

Motor and Aero Accidents

Reported in | Accross the country.









DROWNING: Reported: 13 | Affected: 19 | Deaths: 17 Injured: 02

ARSON: Reported: 10 | Deaths: 05 | Injured: 00

LANDSLIDE: Reported: 02 | Death: 04 | Injured: 02

FLOODS: Reported: 01 | Death: 06 | Injured: 03

ELECTROCUTION: Reported: 01 | Death: 01 | Injured: 00

Source: NECOC/OPM, and Partners – May 2024

FIRE

Fire incidents across the country.

Reported: 17 | Affected: 15 | Death: 12 | Injured: 03

Source: NECOC/OPM, Uganda Police Force, May 2024

CURRENT ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY MARCH -JULY 2024



People facing high acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above)

IN NEED OF URGENT ACTION

00	Phase 5	0 People in Catastrophe
	Phase 4	84,000 People in Emergency
	Phase 3	516,000 People in Crisis
	Phase 2	450,000 People Stressed
	Phase 1	275,000 People in food security

Key Drivers for Acute Food Insecurity



Insecurity poses a significant challenge in the region, attributed to incidents such as cattle raids and thefts, which have greatly impacted the livelihoods of the local population. These incidents involve the theft of animals from homesteads and robberies during transit, further exacerbating the economic hardships faced by the community.



In 2023, the region experienced insufficient rainfall and prolonged dry spells for the third consecutive year, resulting in crop and livestock losses. Below-normal rains were recorded in April and May 2023, as well as in August and September 2023. Dry spells were prevalent throughout June and July 2023.



Price shocks

The rising cost of food commodities and livestock are attributed to a decrease in supply coupled with moderate to high demand, stemming from food scarcity. This increase in prices has resulted in diminished purchasing power for households, exacerbated by prolonged drought conditions.



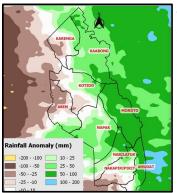
Crop pests and animal diseases have caused a decline in agricultural productivity and livestock health, impacting both food production and availability. Cases such as Fall Army Worm, bean fly, smuts, variegated grasshopper and African Swine Fever (ASF), CBPP and Lumpy Skin Disease were reported for crop and livestock

KARAMOJA SUB -REGION FOOD SECURITY OUT-

In Uganda, Karamoja is the most vulnerable region to climaterelated shocks and hazards which significantly contribute to persistent low levels of food and livestock production. The 2023/24 crop production season yields were below average due to a series of prolonged dry spells which reduced availability of pastures for livestock and induced migration to the neighboring districts. For the current analysis period (March - July 2024), which corresponds to the lean season, all the nine districts of Karamoja region are classified in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis), with 45 percent of the population analysed (600,000 people) facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above). An estimated 84,000 people (6 percent of the population analysed) are classified in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) while 516,000 people (39 percent of the population analysed) are classified in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). Compared to historical trends, the region's food insecurity situation continues to increase with the population in IPC Phase 3 or above increasing from 27 percent in June 2020, to 30 percent in April 2021, 41 percent in April 2022, 45 percent in May 2023 and 45 percent in 2024.

Source :IPC Report

Map Below: Karamoja Mar- May 2024 rainfall performance



The month of May marks the peak of the Mar-May (MAM) rainfall seasonal which is followed by a relatively drier month of June and thereafter a long rainy season which ends in November as seen in figure 1 below. Cumulatively, the MAM season has been within the average with most of the rains being experienced in April with a slight reduction in May. As seen in Map 1,

the eastern districts recorded average to above average rains while the western districts such Abim, large parts of Karenga, and southern Nakapiripirit received slightly depressed rains compared to the long tern average. The relatively good rains have been significant to all production sectors and has contributed to the reduction of water stress in Karamoja.

The near normal intensities and the relatively even spatial distribution of precipitation in all districts, was also reflected in vegetation vigour. The Vegetation Conditions Anomaly by end of May as shown in map 2, shows this positive impact in form of an increase in the green hue/intensity across Karamoja. There were however some shades of brown still in southern in Amudat indicating a sigcant deviation in vegetation vigour in the district. Source: Karamoja Multi-Hazard Early Warning Bulletin—FAO/PROACT.



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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:

 UGANDA'S 3RD SDG CONFERENCE AND DISSEMINATION OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT OF SERVICE DELIVERY REPORT 2023 Scheduled for 19th—20th June 2024, Speke Resort Munyonyo

Register and Join virtually: http://bit.ly/4c0mKJ5

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. <u>0414 342 104</u>

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