

SAVING
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Rainy Season Monitoring

World Food Programme
Angola

Highlights

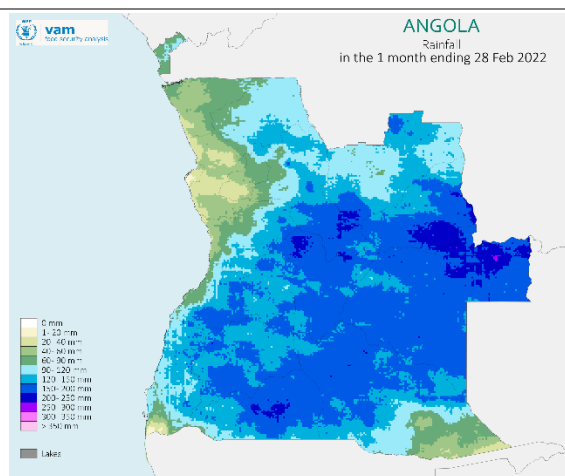
- Significant reduction of precipitation in the first ten days of May 2022.
- Namibe and Benguela provinces close the rainy season with below-average vegetation cover.
- There are significant improvements in vegetation cover in the provinces of Cunene, Huila, and Huambo.

Rainy Season Performance

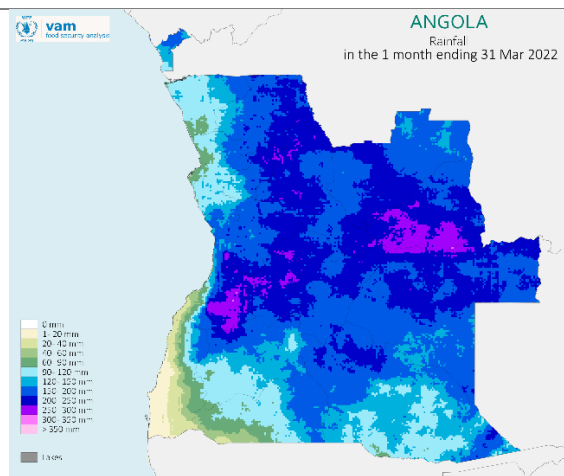
Historical precipitation data indicate that precipitation ends by mid-May. There was a drastic reduction in precipitation from April to the first 10 days of May 2022, indicating the end of the 2021/2022 rainy season.

The 2021/2022 rainy season was characterized by below-average rainfall in the first three months, from October to December 2021, mainly in the provinces of Namibe, Huila, Cunene, Cuando Cubango, and the southwestern region of Benguela province, where the precipitation did not go beyond 80% of average. In the following two months, January and February 2022, there were improvements in precipitation in the provinces of Namibe, Benguela, and the northwestern region of Cuando Cubango, while some regions of the provinces of Zaire, Bengo, Luanda, and the southeastern region of Cuando Cubango received 40% to 80% of average rainfall. In March and April 2022, southwestern Angola again experienced rainfall shortages.

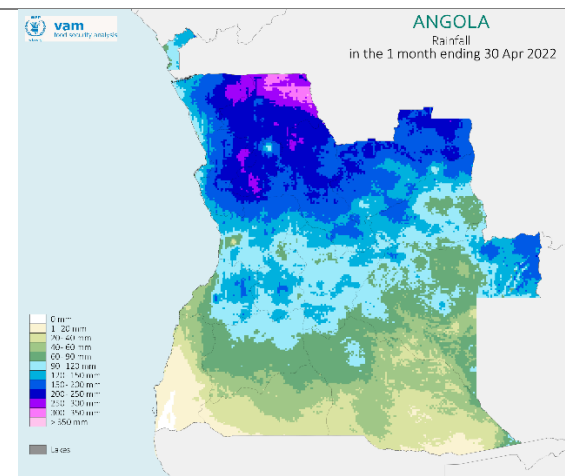
The relatively abundant precipitation observed in February and April 2022 allowed a significant improvement of vegetation cover, with some regions of the provinces of Cuanza Sul, Huambo, Huíla, Cunene, and Cuando Cubango closing the rainy season with above-average vegetation cover, contrary to the scenario observed in the 2020/2021 rainy season.



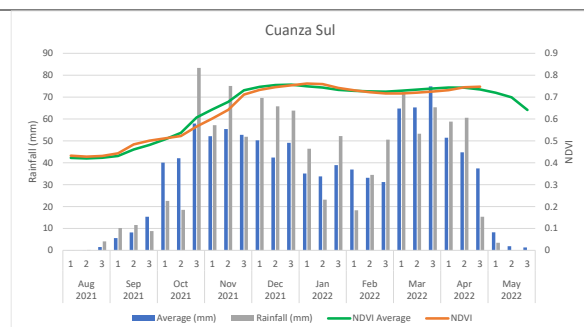
Cumulative Precipitation of February 2022.



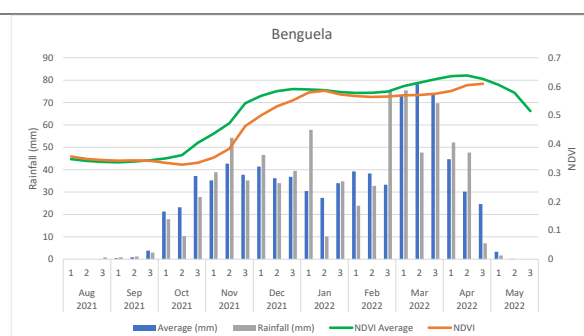
Cumulative Precipitation of March 2022.



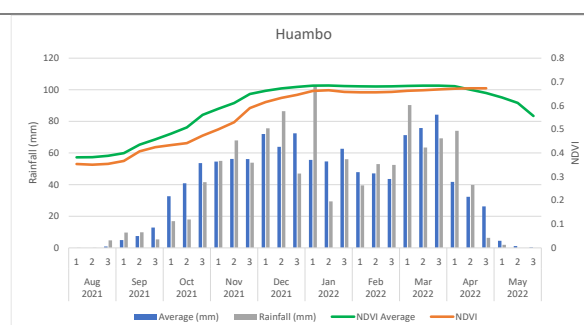
The following is a description of precipitation and vegetation cover in the provinces most affected by drought in the 2020/2021 rainy season, namely the provinces of Cuanza Sul, Benguela, Huambo, Namibe, Huila, and Cunene.



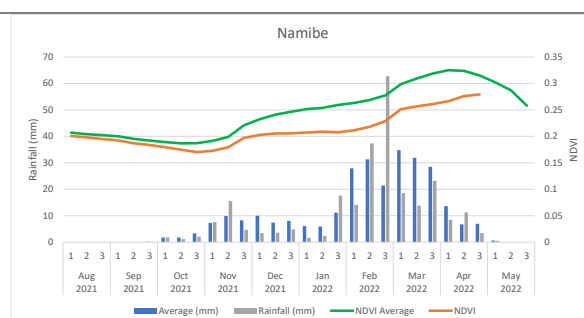
Cuanza Sul province received equal or above-average precipitation in April 2022 which allowed for continued slight growth in vegetation cover. It can be expected that in the coming months the vegetation cover will follow the normal trend.



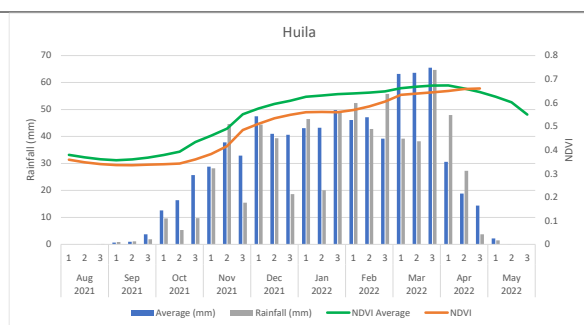
Benguela province, although it received above-average rainfall in April 2022, the vegetation cover did not grow enough to reach the average. Thus, the province closes the rainy season with below-average vegetation cover.



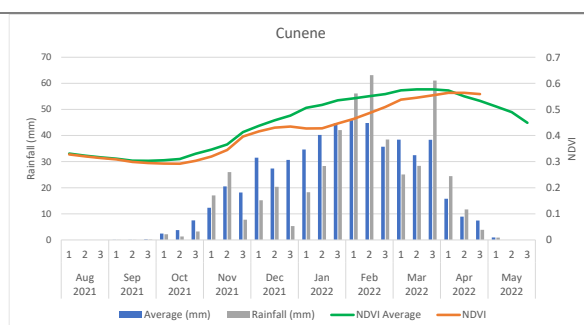
In the province of Huambo, the rainfall observed in April 2022 managed to maintain the trend of stable vegetation cover that is slightly above average until the end of April 2022.



The Namibe province continued with below-average precipitation since last March and therefore the vegetation cover failed to reach the average. Therefore, the province ends the rainy season in worse than normal conditions



In the province of Huila, the above-average rainfall observed between the last decade of March and the second of April 2022 allowed an increase in the vegetation cover, which was slightly above average. Although the rain fell late, it leaves the pasture in better than normal conditions



Cunene province received above-average precipitation in April 2022, and as a result, the vegetation cover continued to grow to be above average in April 2022. In this way, current pasture conditions are better than in the same period in 2021.

Implications for Food and Nutrition Security

In general, the rainfall of recent months has allowed a significant improvement in vegetation cover that is above average in some regions of the provinces of Cuanza Sul, Huambo, Huila, Cunene, and Cuando Cubango. Thus, it can be expected a relatively better production than that of 2020/2021, but below average considering the long period that was observed with below-average precipitation. Pasture conditions and access to water for cattle are better this season when compared to last season. It should be noted that the drought of 2020/2021 was the worst in the last 40 years in some regions of southwestern Angola, and therefore its consequences are still present this season.

Therefore, the magnitude of acute food insecurity is expected to be lower when compared to the assessment made in 2021. However, for households that did not or will not be able to harvest in this crop season for the second or third consecutive year, acute food insecurity and acute malnutrition in children may be more severe.

The National Food Security Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, with financial and technical support from partners, is coordinating a post-harvest assessment to ascertain the current and projected acute food insecurity and acute malnutrition situation through March 2023, the end of the consumption year 2022/2023. Data collection is planned to start in June 2022

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