

vam
food security analysis

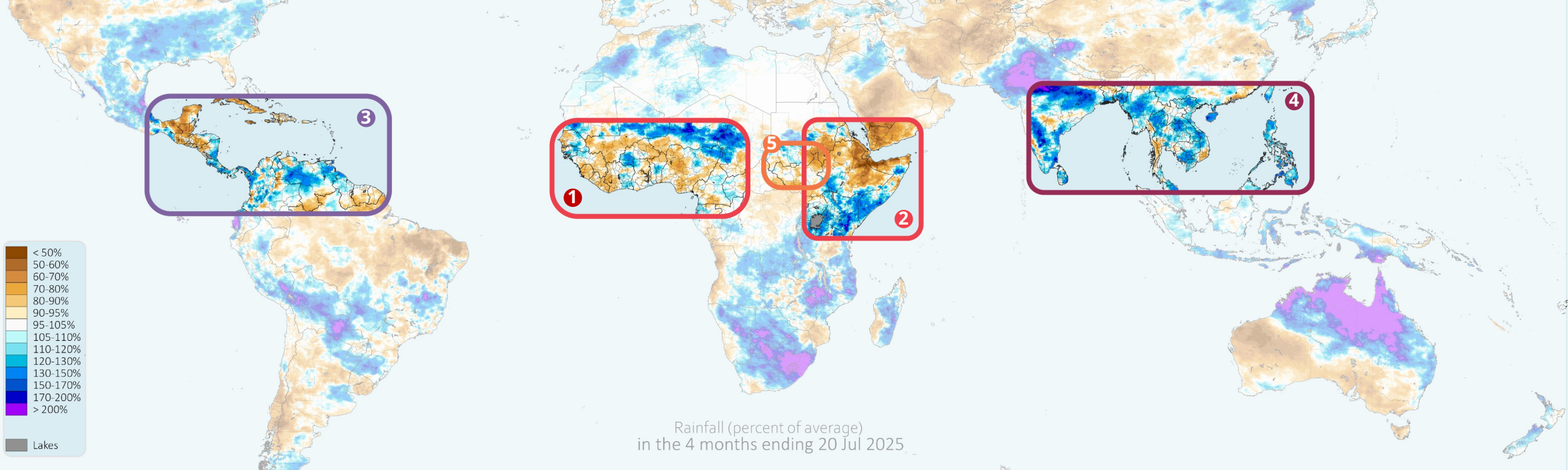
Global Seasonal Outlook

July 2025



World Food
Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

ENSO OUTLOOK

ENSO-neutral conditions are projected to persist through the Northern Hemisphere summer, with a transition to La Niña possible later in 2025

1 WESTERN AFRICA



Rainfall conditions across the Sahel remain mixed, with some areas experiencing above-average precipitation while others face deficits leading to early signs of vegetation stress. Flood risk persists for the next months. In the Gulf of Guinea, continued below-average rainfall raises the likelihood of a dry season in some countries.

2 EAST AFRICA



Eastern Africa's 2025 rainfall season has been mixed—early dryness disrupted planting in Ethiopia, Sudan, Yemen, and South Sudan, but recent rains aided some recovery. However, rising flood risks, especially in South Sudan, threaten livelihoods as above-average rainfall is forecast to persist through October.

3 C. AMERICA & CARIBBEAN



The Primera season has begun under dry conditions across Central America and the Caribbean raising concerns over crop development. While recent rainfall events have brought some relief, albeit triggering localized flooding, seasonal forecasts indicate continued dryness through October, coupled with an elevated risk of storm-related disruptions.

4 SOUTH & S. E. ASIA

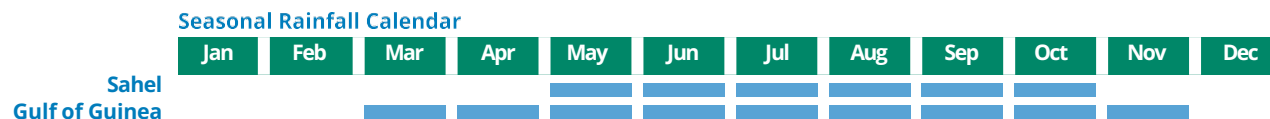


The 2025 monsoon season has started with generally favorable rains supporting planting across South and Southeast Asia, though early flooding and continued wet forecasts raise concerns over localized impacts on agriculture and livelihoods.

5 SPECIAL FOCUS: SUDD FLOODS OUTLOOK



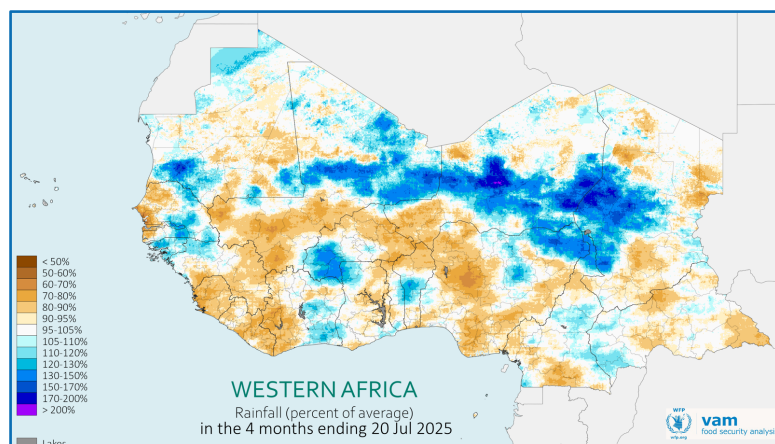
Given the current extent of inundation in the Sudd wetlands and forecasts predicting continued above average rainfall through October, the probability of flooding reaching or surpassing 2024 levels is considerably heightened.



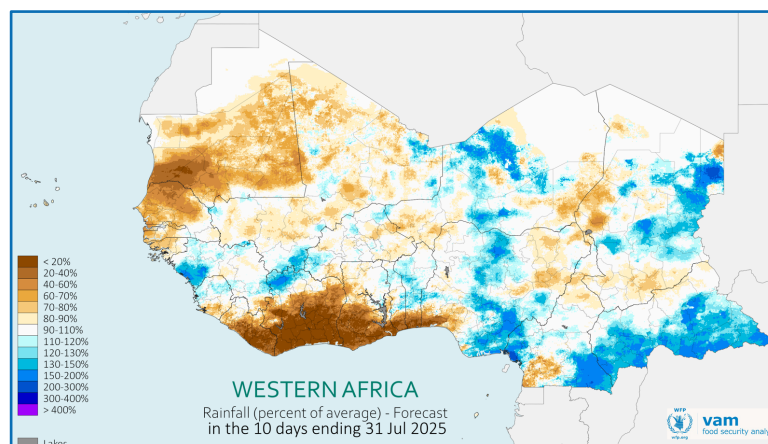
Sahel sees mixed rains with flood risks; Gulf of Guinea facing dry conditions

As the rainy season advances across the Sahelian region, conditions remain mixed. Over the past four months, central and eastern Niger, northeastern Nigeria, southern Burkina Faso, and western Chad have received normal to above-average rainfall. In contrast, below-average precipitation has been observed in western Niger, northwestern Nigeria, central areas of the Central African Republic, parts of southern Mali, eastern Burkina Faso, sections of Senegal, and southern Chad. As a result, vegetation development in these areas is beginning to show signs of stress. The latest three-month forecast through the end of the rainy season indicates predominantly average rainfall across the Sahel, with localized above-average conditions expected in parts of Chad, Niger, and along the eastern border between Niger and Nigeria. These areas face an elevated risk of flooding.

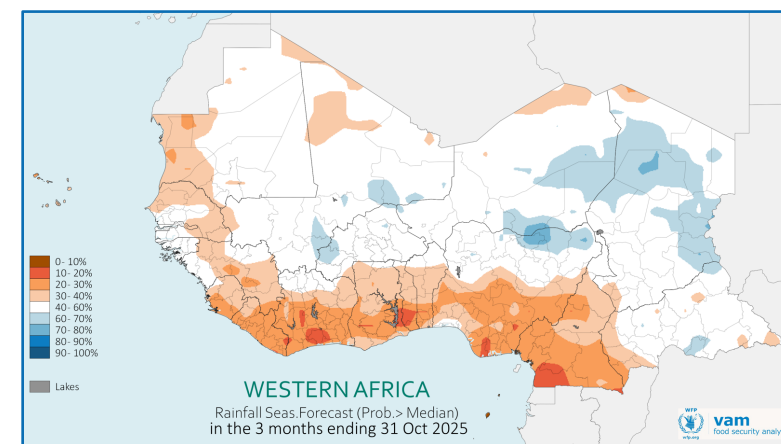
Meanwhile, countries along the Gulf of Guinea—particularly Sierra Leone, Liberia, eastern Côte d'Ivoire, and southern Nigeria—have experienced below-average rainfall. Short-term forecasts point to continued dry conditions, and the seasonal outlook suggests this trend is likely to persist. There is a high probability of recurrent dry episodes, which may impact both coastal and inland areas throughout the region.



Rainfall **Apr 2025** to **July 2025**, as a proportion of the long-term average. Blue and purple (orange and brown) shades correspond to above (below) average rainfall



Rainfall forecast for the 10 days **Jul 2025** as a proportion of the long-term average. Blue and purple (orange and brown) shades correspond to above (below) average rainfall



Rainfall forecast for the 3-month **Aug - Oct 2025** as the likelihood of exceeding the long-term median. Blue (orange) shades for likely wetter (drier) than usual conditions

Seasonal Rainfall Calendar

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

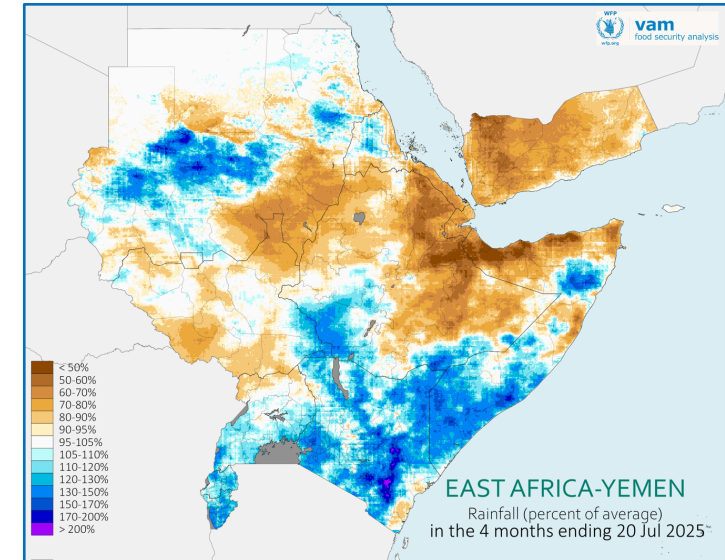
Eastern Africa
Sudans and Ethiopia (Meher)

Improved July Rains but Flood Risks Rising

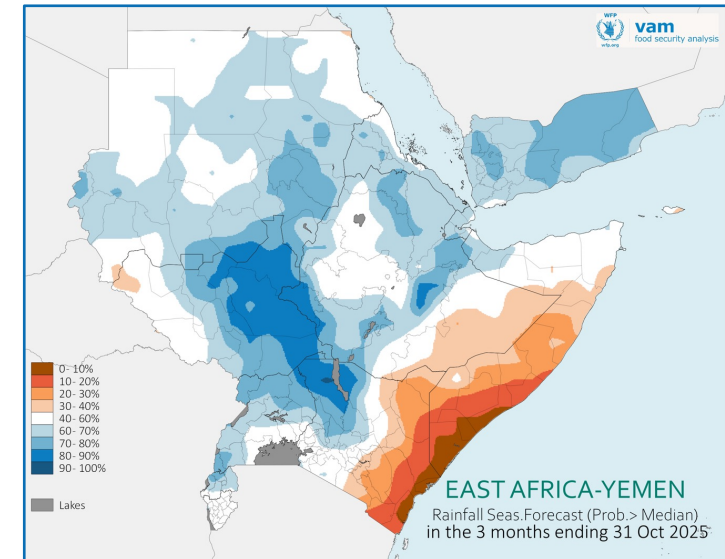
The 2025 rainfall season in Eastern Africa has unfolded under mixed conditions, with early-season dryness affecting parts of the north, and more favourable rainfall in southern areas.

From April to mid July, below-average rainfall persisted across central and eastern Ethiopia, northeastern and southwestern areas of South Sudan, South Sudan and Yemen, disrupting planting activities. In Ethiopia, the below average rainfall conditions have likely affected Belg crops in central and northern area and may delay or limit planting for the main Meher season and have potentially compromised early-season sowing in parts of Sudan and South Sudan. However, recent rainfall improvements have reduced deficits and provided a window for partial crop recovery in these affected regions except in Yemen where dry condition continued.

Nevertheless, the increased rainfall is raising significant flood risks. This is particularly evident in South Sudan's Sudd wetlands, where water levels are already exceptionally high (see the special focus), and in other low-lying areas along the Nile River. Flooding has already been reported and the seasonal forecast through October continues to indicate a high likelihood of above-average rainfall across most of the region, especially in South Sudan, western and southern Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda, and Yemen. While this forecasted rainfall is beneficial for late planting and pasture conditions, and overall water availability, the persistent excess rainfall is likely to exacerbate existing flood risks, with the threat expected to intensify in the coming months, potentially disrupting agricultural activities and impacting livelihoods.



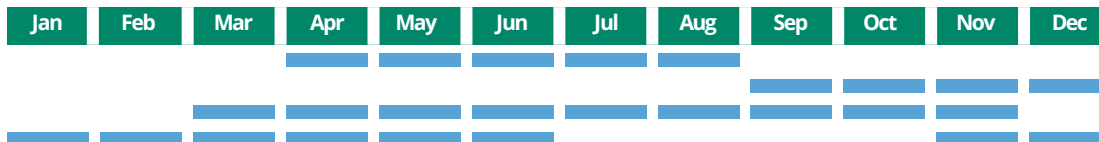
Rainfall **Apr 2025** to **July 2025**, as a proportion of the long-term average. Blue and purple (orange and brown) shades correspond to above (below) average rainfall



Rainfall forecast for the 3-month periods **Aug-Oct 2025** as the likelihood of exceeding the long-term median. Blue (orange) shades for likely wetter (drier) than usual conditions

Central America Primera
Central America Postera
South America (Northern)
South America (Southern)

Seasonal Rainfall Calendar



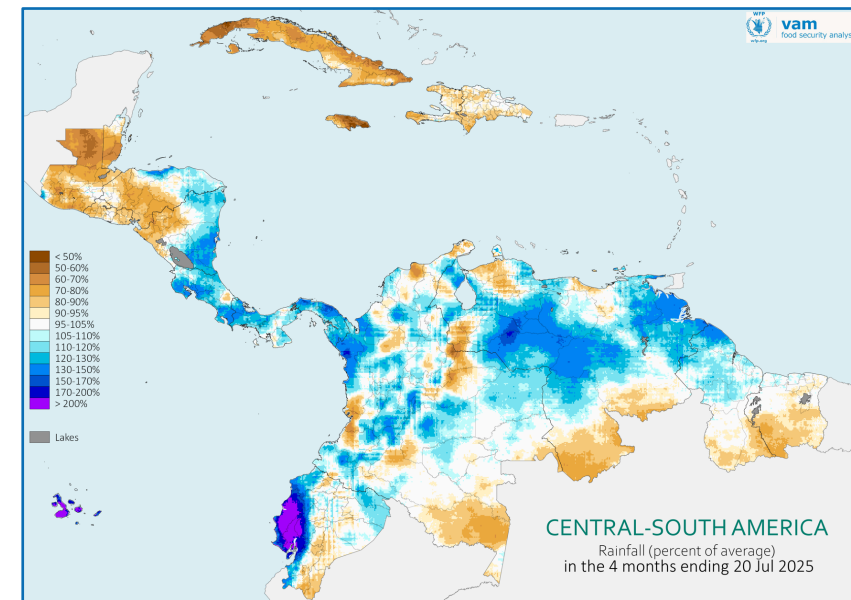
Primera season under pressure: Dry conditions and Hurricane risks

Central America and the Caribbean: The 2025 Primera season continues under mostly dry conditions across in northern Central America and Caribbean, following a delayed and erratic onset. Since March below-average rainfall has been widespread across the region, especially in parts of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Cuba and Haiti. This has disrupted sowing activities and negatively impacted early crop development. Recent heavy rainfall has led to some flooding but has also contributed to improved conditions in some affected areas.

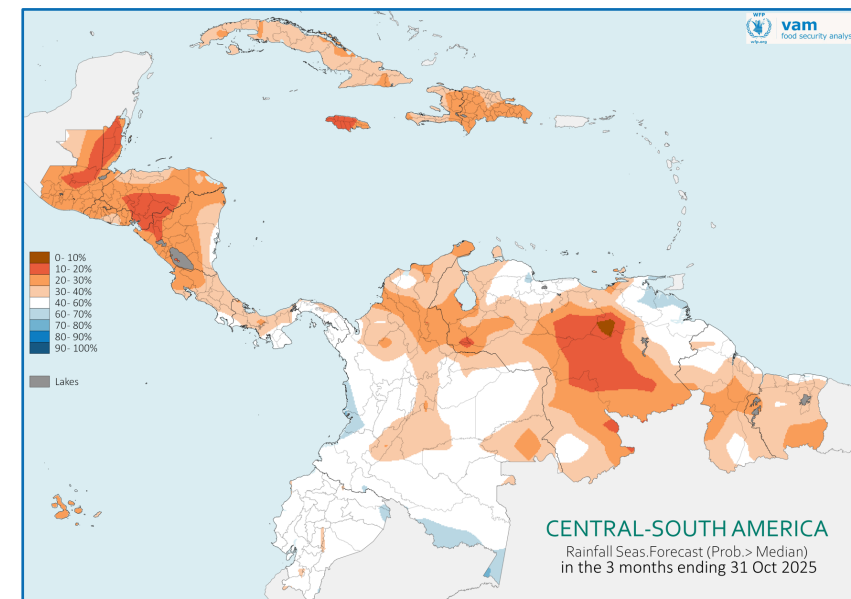
The forecast through the end of July indicates predominantly dry conditions across the region. Forecasts through October point to continued below-average rainfall across most of Central America and the Caribbean, raising concerns for the remainder of the season and increasing the risk of crop failure.

The 2025 Atlantic hurricane season is projected to be active, with average to above-average storm activity driven by unusually warm ocean temperatures, posing heightened risks for vulnerable island nations and coastal areas of Central America

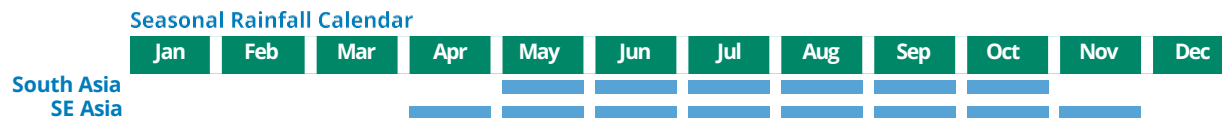
Northern South America: Rainfall has remained above-average in parts of Venezuela and Colombia since March, triggering localized flooding events. Forecasts through October suggest a shift to drier conditions in several areas, particularly in Venezuela, which could affect the ongoing cropping season. While parts of Colombia may continue to receive near-normal rainfall, the outlook remains uncertain with potential variability through the end of the season.



Observed rainfall from **March to 20 July 2025** as a proportion of the long-term average. Blue and purple (orange and brown) shades correspond to above (be- low) average rainfall



Rainfall forecast for Aug-Oct 2025 as the likelihood of exceeding the long-term median. Blue (orange) shades for likely wetter (drier) than usual condition

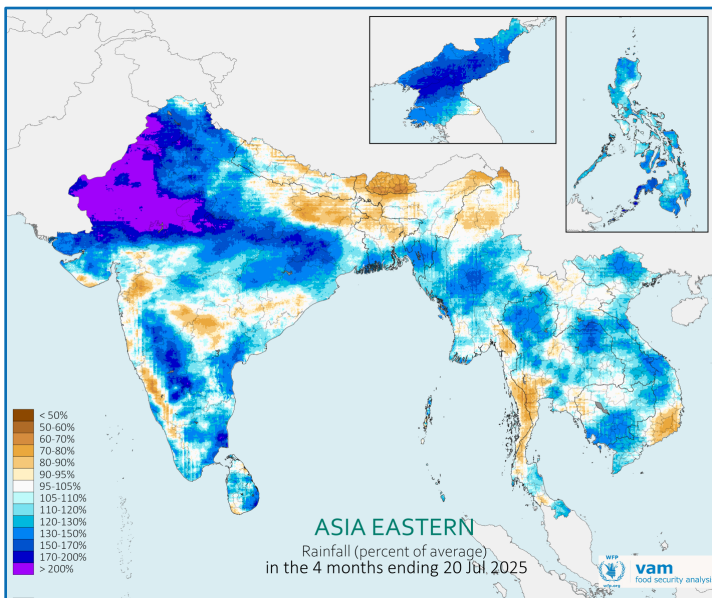


Monsoon season brings mixed impacts across Asia

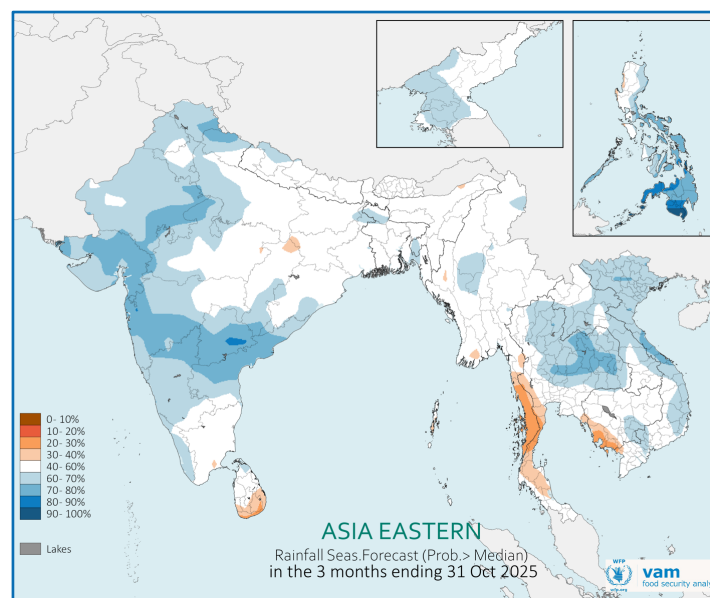
Favorable rainfall patterns have marked the early phase of the 2025 monsoon season across much of South and Southeast Asia, helping planting and land preparation in key agricultural zones including India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, and the Philippines. Despite this positive start, northern India, northern and western Myanmar, Bangladesh, and the northern and southern Philippines have already experienced episodes of heavy rainfall that triggered localized flooding.

The outlook for the remainder of July points to a continuation of the wet pattern seen over the last four months, with sustained above-average rainfall across large parts of Southeast Asia. Forecasts for the August to October period suggest that above-average rainfall is likely to continue, particularly across the Philippines and the northwestern and eastern part of the region. While this could further support crop development, the increased rainfall also elevates the risk of flooding and landslides in vulnerable areas. At the same time, above-average temperatures are expected to persist across the region, potentially intensifying evapotranspiration rates affecting rainfed systems.

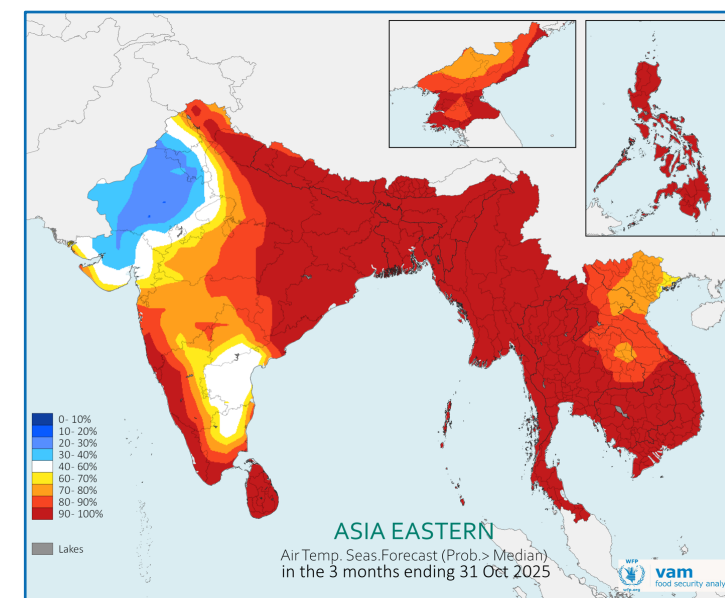
In the Philippines, the expected increase in rainfall overlaps with the tropical cyclone season. Although storm frequency is forecast to remain near or slightly above normal, the potential for damaging weather events remains high, with possible impacts on agriculture and livelihood.



Rainfall **Apr 2025** to **July 2025**, as a proportion of the long-term average. Blue and purple (orange and brown) shades correspond to above (below) average rainfall



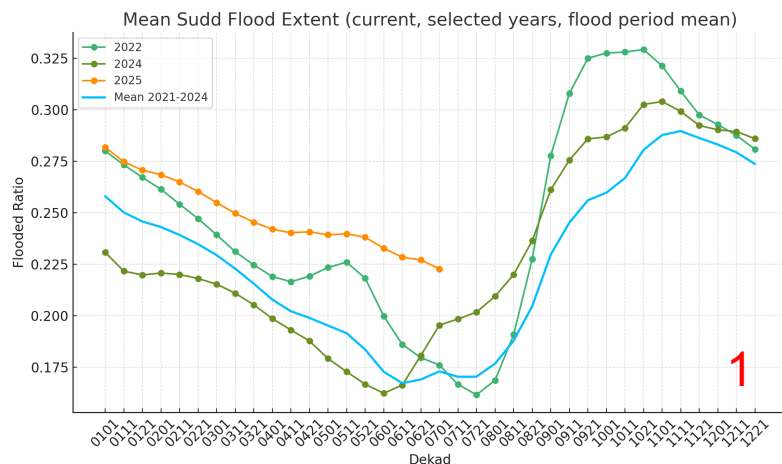
Rainfall forecast for the 3-month **Aug-Oct 2025** as the likelihood of exceeding the long-term median. Blue (orange) shades for likely wetter (drier) than usual conditions



Temperature forecast for the 3-month periods **Aug-Oct 2025**. as the likelihood of exceeding the long-term median.

South Sudan Flood Outlook: July – October 2025

As of July 2025, South Sudan is facing high flood risk, with the extent of inundation in the Sudd wetlands reaching unprecedented levels for this time of year, as observed through satellite data (see chart 1). River levels along the White Nile at locations such as Juba, Nimule, and Malakal are trending above those of the previous year and continue to rise. Upstream, Lakes Victoria, Kyoga, and Albert remain significantly elevated, suggesting sustained high flows into South Sudan (see chart 2).

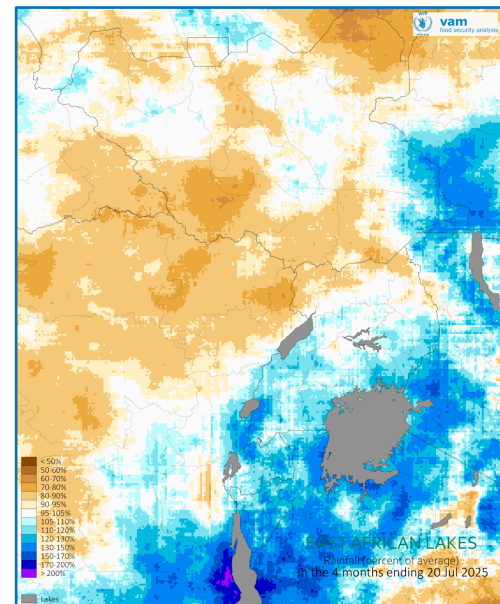


Sudd wetland extent derived from thermal satellite data. Current year 2025, 2024 (previous large flood extent), 2022 (record extent) and 2021-2024 average.

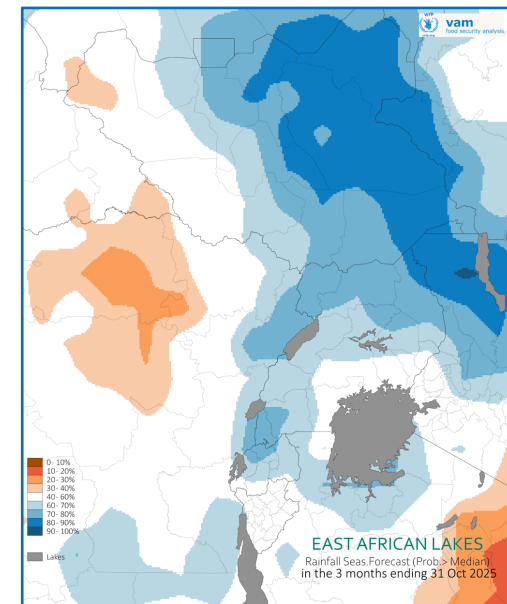


Lake Victoria levels from 2018 to present. Note the sudden rise in lake levels from late 2019, the all-time record in the first half of 2024 and a recent peak arising from the November 2024 exceptional rainfall.

After a drier than usual start of the season, July's abundant rainfall and upcoming forecasts indicate a shift, to wetter-than-normal conditions expected to persist through October, both across South Sudan and within the Great Lakes catchments increasing the risk of flooding, especially in the context of an already high baseline of flood extent and reduced evaporation. The flood extent, which is now near its seasonal low, is expected to grow steadily through July and August, likely reaching its peak between October and December. With current high-water levels, saturated soils, and forecasts indicating continued above average rainfall, the likelihood of flooding on par with or exceeding 2024 levels is significantly elevated.



Rainfall **Apr 2025 to July 2025**, as a proportion of the long-term average. Blue and purple (orange and brown) shades correspond to above (below) average rainfall



Rainfall **seasonal forecasts** for the 3-month periods **Aug to Oct 2025** as the likelihood of exceeding the long-term median. Blue (orange) shades for likely wetter (drier) than usual conditions

METHODOLOGY

All satellite data (rainfall, vegetation index and land surface temperature) both current and historical are stored and processed at the WFP-HQ Humanitarian Data Cube AWS cloud system.

Rainfall: Primary dekadal data (CHIRPS) from Univ California St Barbara Climate Hazards Centre (<https://www.chc.ucsb.edu/data/chirps>)

Various accumulations are computed on a dekadal basis and anomalies derived relative to a 25 year-long mean (1994-2018). Rainfall charts from WFP Seasonal Explorer (https://dataviz.vam.wfp.org/seasonal_explorer/rainfall_vegetation/visualizations)

Land Surface Temperature: Primary data from MODIS-AQUA (NASA), cloud cleared and gap-filled, both daytime and nighttime images. Thermal amplitude derived from difference between the two. Long term averages 2002-2018 used to derive anomalies

Vegetation Index: Primary data from MODIS-AQUA and TERRA (NASA), cloud cleared and gap-filled. Long term averages 2002-2018 used to derive anomalies

Seasonal Forecast: [ECMWF seasonal forecasts](#) (SEAS5) | The forecast anomalies are presented as the probability of exceeding the median, indicating the likelihood that seasonal precipitation will be above the median of the 24-year climatological distribution. These anomalies are derived from a 51-member forecast ensemble and are calculated relative to a 24-year model climatology (based on a 25-member ensemble reforecast) spanning 1993–2016

Water level in reservoirs: [G-REALM](#) data from USDA Foreign Agricultural Service.

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