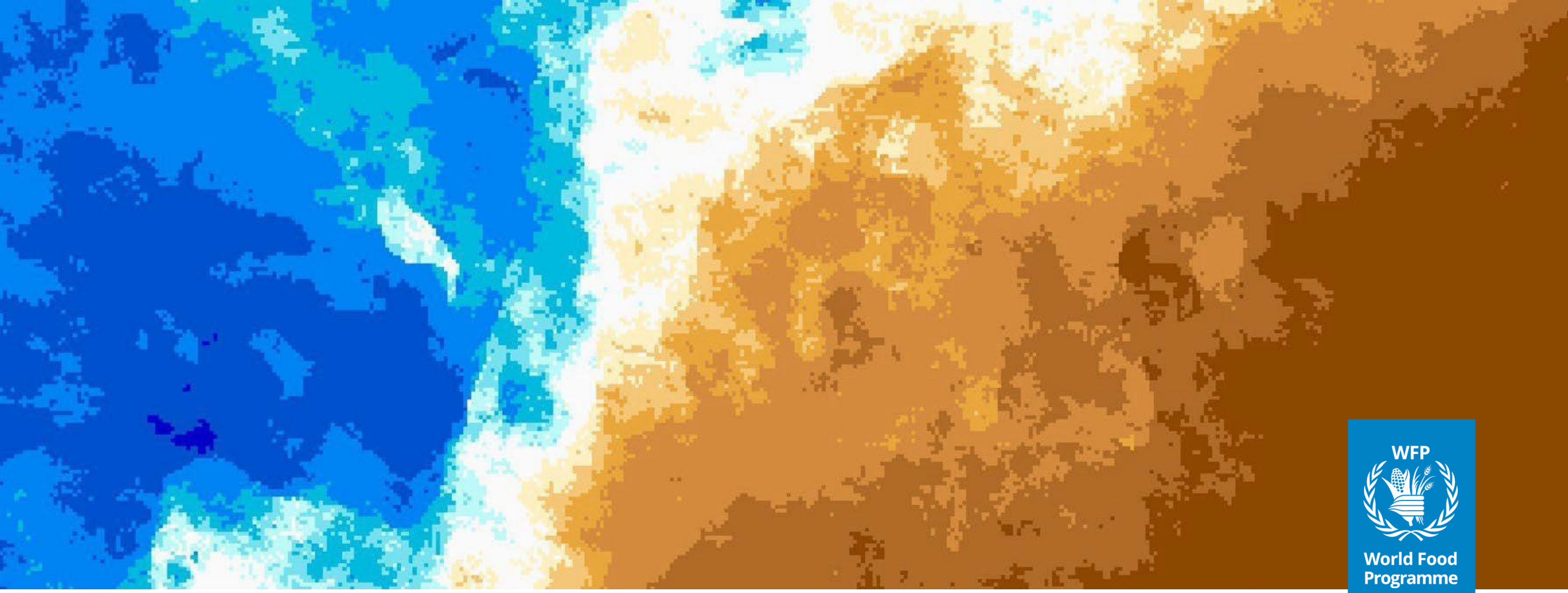


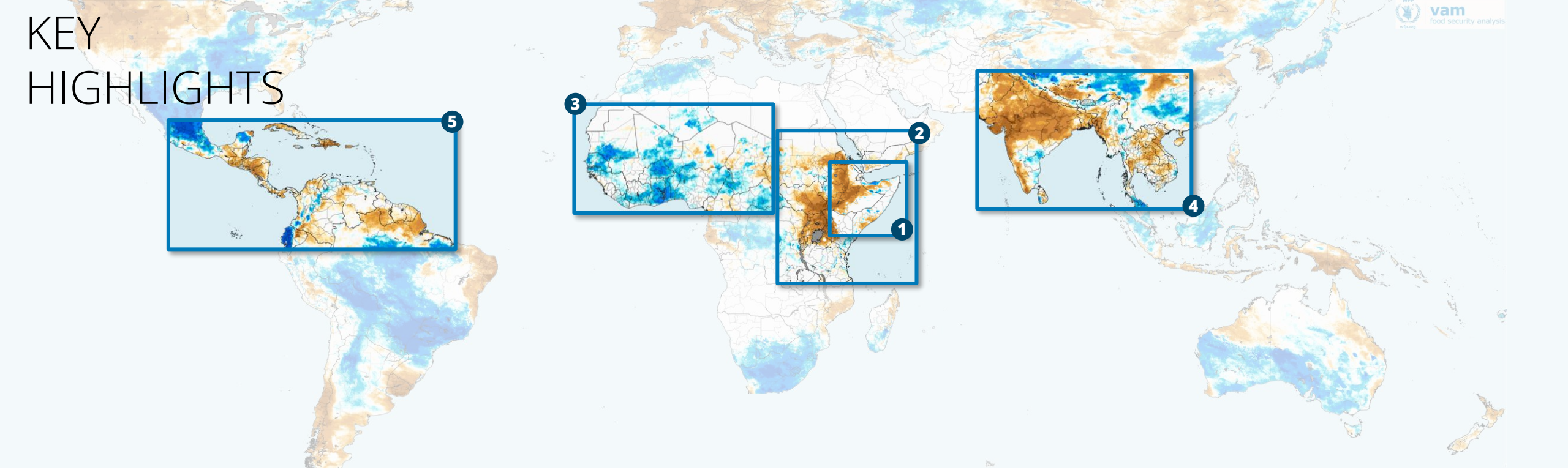
WFP
World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

Global Seasonal Outlook

2026 June

KEY HIGHLIGHTS



Regions are ordered to reflect the seasonal progression — from areas currently in-season to those where the rainy season is expected to begin:

1 HORN OF AFRICA

Dryness

After a favorable onset, rainfall weakened during April and May, reducing seasonal performance across parts of Somalia, southeastern Ethiopia, and eastern Kenya. Somalia remains the primary area of concern, as below-average Gu rainfall raises the risk of a second consecutive poor season, which could have serious repercussions for an already critical food security situation.

2 EAST AFRICA

Dryness

Favorable early-season conditions are giving way to increasing dryness concerns, with forecasts indicating below-average June–September rainfall across parts of Ethiopia, South Sudan, Sudan and neighboring areas during a critical stage of the growing season.

3 WESTERN AFRICA

Dryness

Seasonal conditions remain generally favorable across much of the Gulf of Guinea, while forecasts indicate an increased likelihood of below-average rainfall across Sahel during the core June-September rainy season.

4 SOUTH & SE ASIA

Dryness Flood

The monsoon is underway across the region, with drier-than-average conditions affecting much of South Asia. Forecasts indicate that these conditions are likely to persist over the coming months, in line with typical El Niño patterns. In mainland Southeast Asia, rainfall remains uneven; however, forecasts generally point to a favorable agriculture season with a potential risk of flooding events.

5 LATAM

Dryness

The onset of the current season is consistent with expected El Niño patterns, characterized by drier-than-average conditions across the region, with seasonal forecasts indicating that these conditions are likely to continue in the coming months. Despite a potentially less active Atlantic hurricane season, impactful storms remain possible.

El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Outlook

El Niño is underway. There is a 63% likelihood that a very strong El Niño will occur between November and January.

SPECIAL FOCUS

El Niño Outlook – June 2026

El Niño conditions are present with an upward trajectory towards a very strong event

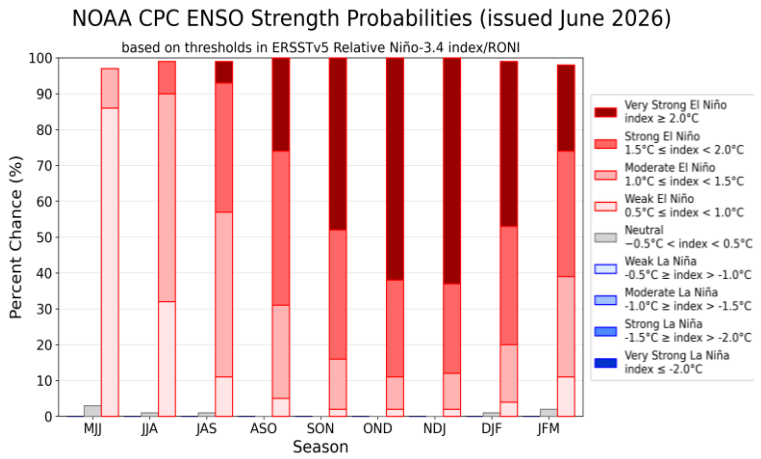


Figure 1: NOAA ENSO strength probabilities issued in June 2026

- El Niño likely to gain strength and continue through January to March 2027 (98%)
- El Niño expected to reach the **peak between October 2026 to January 2027**
- Probability of a very strong El Niño **(>2 °C)** increased **from 37% to 63%**
- Multi-model SST forecasts (C3S and NMME) show Niño 3.4 anomalies exceeding **+2.5 °C** through October 2026–December 2026, with strong inter-model agreement.
- A **very strong El Niño, possibly of historic magnitude, cannot be excluded.**

Niño 3.4 and 4 regions reaching record levels of warmth
Areas in red = among the warmest on record since 1982

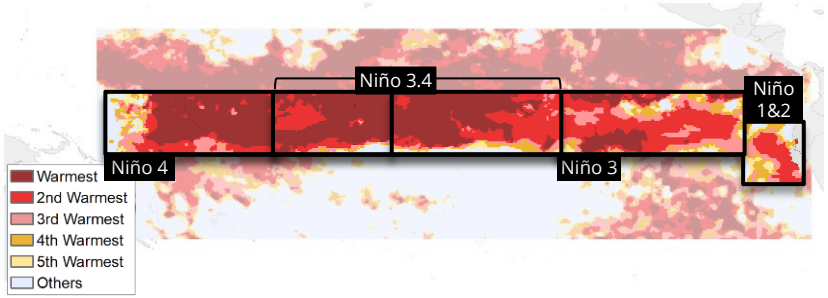


Figure 2: 1 to 15 June 2026 sea surface temperature ranking since 1982 (data: NOAA CDR OISST v02r01: Optimum Interpolation Sea Surface Temperature)

Sea surface temperatures (SST) in the Pacific in the first half of June 2026 reached **record** levels since 1982 across a large portion of the Niño regions. The map highlights that much of the Niño 4 and Niño 3.4 regions in 2026 fall within the top three warmest years in the historical record (in red), compared to the same period over past observations.

These widespread exceptionally warm conditions supports the expectations of a potentially very strong event in the coming months.

What are the **climate impacts** of El Niño?

Tends to **redistribute rainfall**, causing flooding in some regions and drought in others.

Raise global temperatures, often contributing to the warmest years on record.

Increase the likelihood of climate extremes, such as floods, droughts, heatwaves, and wildfires, and typically suppresses Atlantic tropical cyclone activity while enhancing activity in the Pacific.

Does **El Niño strength** influence the impact?

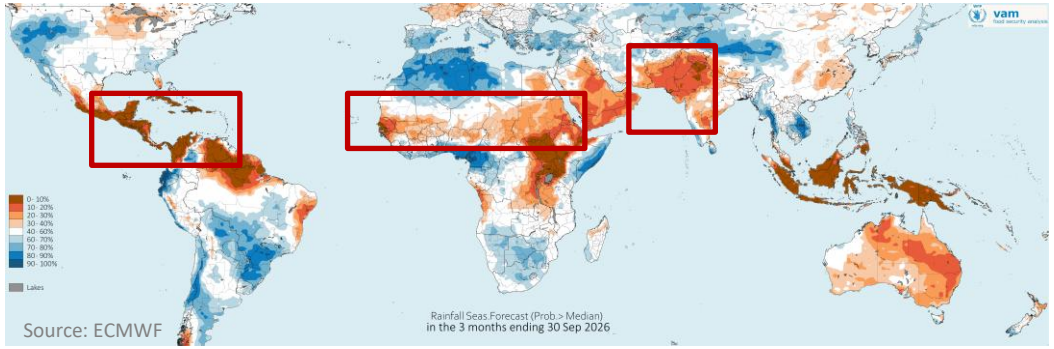
The **relationship between El Niño strength and impacts is not linear**, where even weak events have resulted in severe impact.

Stronger events **do not always translate into greater weather or climate impacts**, but they do make certain impacts **more likely to occur.** ENSO is only one of many factors that can influence seasonal weather and climate.

SPECIAL FOCUS

Northern Hemisphere Growing Season and El Nino

Seasonal forecasts confirm conditions consistent with typical El Niño patterns

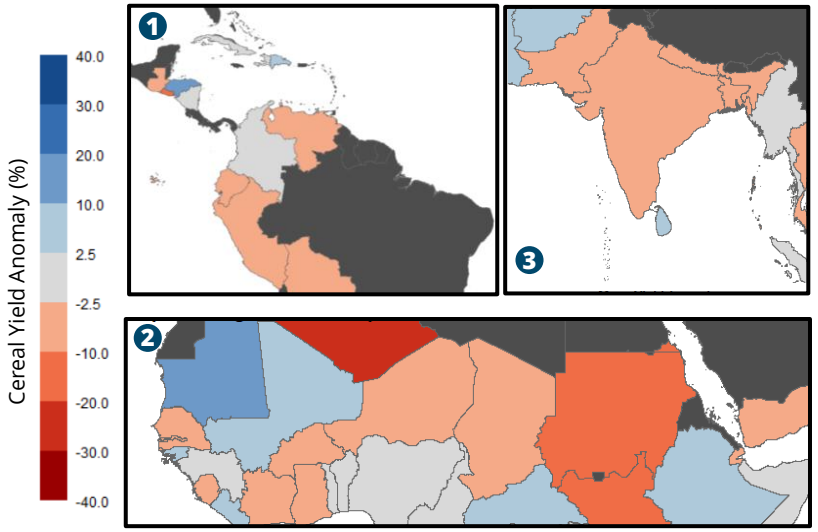


Rainfall forecast for **Jul –Sep** as the likelihood of exceeding the long-term median. Blue (orange) shades for likely wetter (drier) than usual condition.

Crop growing seasons has started across the Northern Hemisphere, with harvests expected in the autumn period.

Current rainfall forecasts are consistent with the development of El Niño-related patterns across most of the regions. Forecast indicate significant impacts on rainfall distribution in parts of Eastern Africa, notably Sudan, South Sudan, as well as in Central America and Caribbeans, western Sahel, Pakistan and north-western India.

As the season progresses, continued monitoring will be important to confirm these dry conditions and to better understand their implications for agricultural production and food security.



Mean cereal yield anomaly against the linear trend during the top 3 strongest El Niño since 1980. Source: FAOSTAT and RONI index.

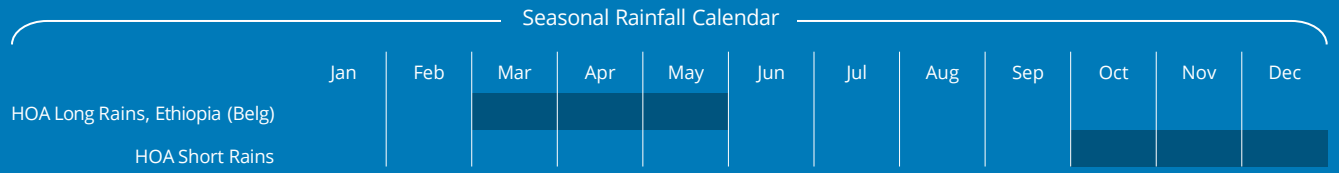
Impacts of the Three Strongest El Niño Events on Cereal Yields

1. **Americas & Caribbean:** El Salvador (−16%) and Guatemala (−8%) experienced the most significant reductions in cereal yields, largely due to adverse conditions in the Dry Corridor.
2. **The Sahel, Sudan, South Sudan and Ethiopia:** Yield reductions dominated across the region, with the most severe impacts in Sudan and South Sudan (−15%), Niger, Côte d'Ivoire (-8%), Burkina Faso and Chad (-7%). Conversely, Ethiopia displayed positive anomalies, with average yield gains of approximately +8%.
3. **South Asia:** India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Nepal experienced substantial cereal yield reductions ranging from −18% to −5% below trend. Reductions in rice yields in India can significantly affect global supply.

Note 1: National aggregates may mask important sub-national variability, particularly in large countries where El Niño impacts are spatially heterogeneous (e.g. Ethiopia) or where irrigation can moderate agricultural stress (e.g. Americas).

Note 2: Stronger El Niño events are generally associated with more predictable, though not systematically more severe, crop yield responses. However, impacts vary between events due to differences in their characteristics and interactions with other climate patterns.

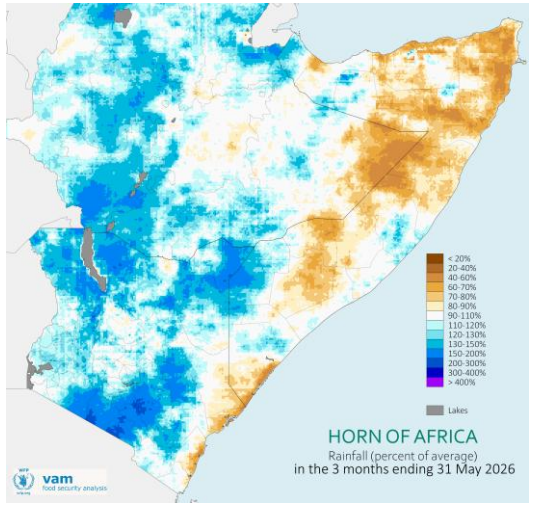
HORN OF AFRICA



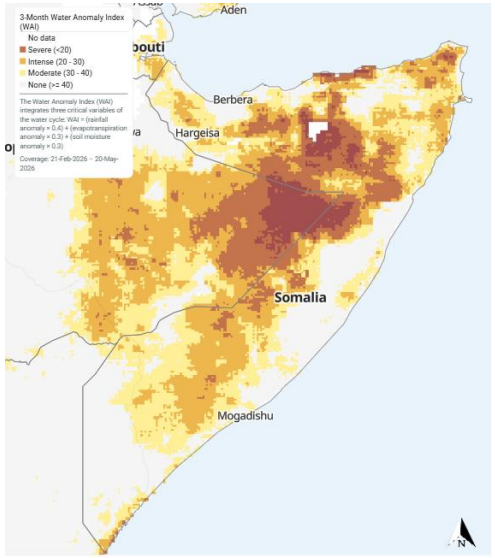
Good Seasonal Onset Followed by Drought Concerns

The March–May Gu/Long Rains season ended with mixed outcomes across the Horn of Africa. An exceptionally favorable onset in March supported crop establishment, pasture regeneration, and water availability across many areas. However, rainfall performance weakened during April and May, particularly across Somalia, southeastern Ethiopia, and parts of eastern Kenya, progressively reducing the benefits of the early-season rainfall.

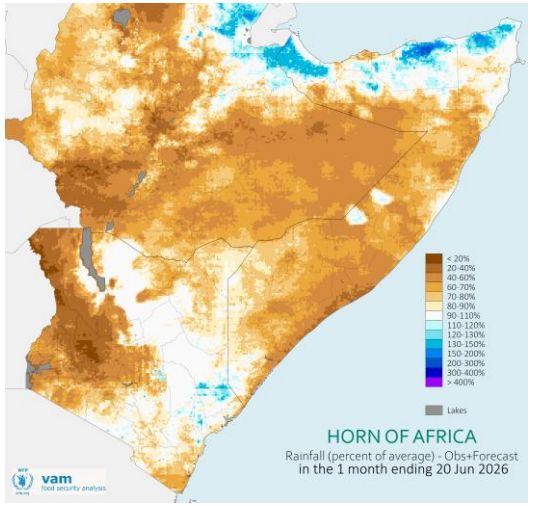
Forecasts through June indicate generally below-average rainfall across much of the eastern Horn, suggesting limited opportunity for late-season recovery in areas affected by moisture deficits. While seasonal conditions remained generally favorable across parts of the region, moisture stress emerged in several agricultural and pastoral areas during the latter part of the season. Somalia remains the principal area of concern, where the Water Anomaly Index (WAI) indicates persistent drought stress across parts of the south and center, including Bay Region known as the "Sorghum Belt". This deterioration is occurring within an already severe humanitarian context. Recent IPC projections indicate that approximately 6 million people, representing roughly one-third of the analyzed population, are expected to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse outcomes during the April–June 2026 period, including approximately 1.9 million people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) conditions, increasing the risk that localized agricultural and pastoral losses could further strain already vulnerable livelihoods. Similar moisture deficits were also observed across parts of southeastern Ethiopia.



Rainfall observed for the 3-month ending **31 May 2026**, as a proportion of the long-term average. Blue and purple (orange and brown) shades correspond to above (below) average rainfall.



Water anomaly Index for the 3-month ending **31 May**. Blue and purple (orange and brown) shades correspond to wetter (drier) conditions.



Observed and Rainfall forecast for the 1-month ending **20 Jun 2026**, as a proportion of the long-term average. Blue and purple (orange and brown) shades correspond to above (below) average rainfall.

EAST AFRICA

Seasonal Rainfall Calendar

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Eastern Africa (Sudans and Ethiopia (Meher))				■	■	■	■	■	■	■		

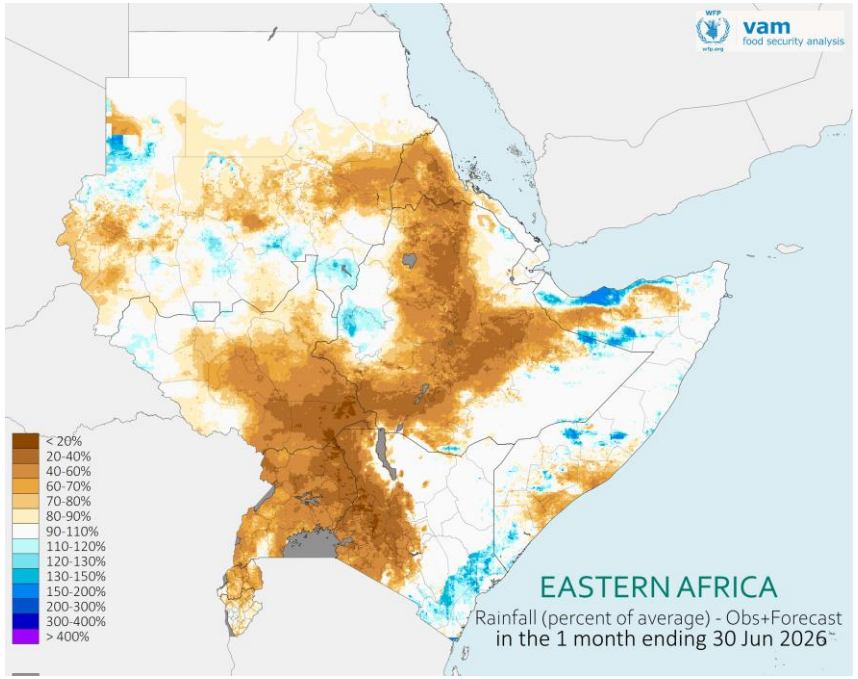
Early Season Gains Face a Drier Outlook

The current rainfall season has so far been characterized by a favorable early onset followed by increasing dryness concerns. Above-average rainfall during March and April supported planting activities, vegetation development, and water availability across large parts of Ethiopia, South Sudan, Uganda, and neighboring countries.

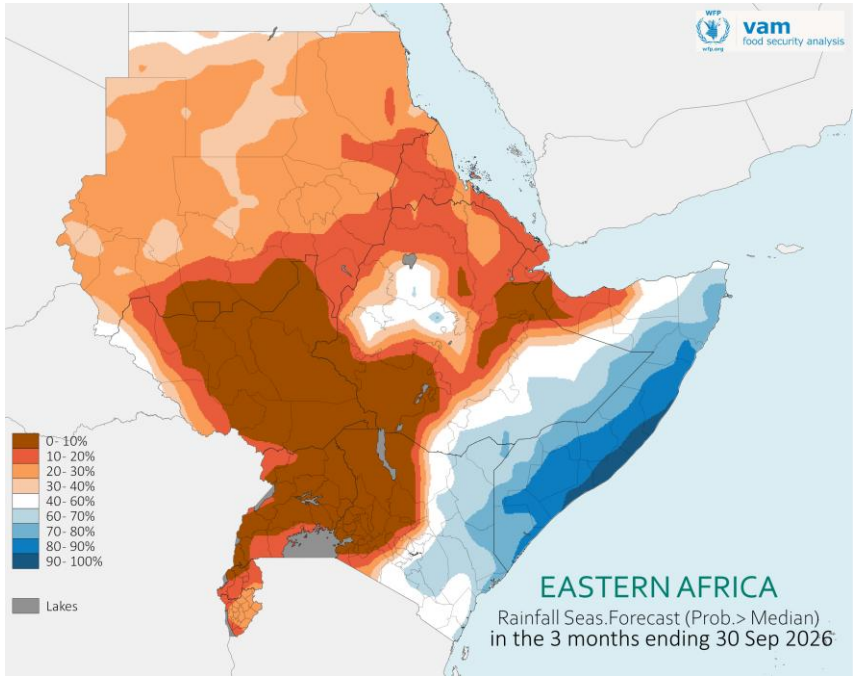
However, rainfall conditions deteriorated in May, with below-average rainfall becoming more widespread across much of the region.

While seasonal conditions remain generally favorable in many areas, forecasts through June and seasonal outlooks for the June–September period indicate an increased likelihood of below-average rainfall across much of the region, consistent with El Niño conditions.

As crops enter critical growth stages, continued monitoring will be required, as persistent rainfall deficits through the remainder of the season could adversely affect seasonal production prospects.

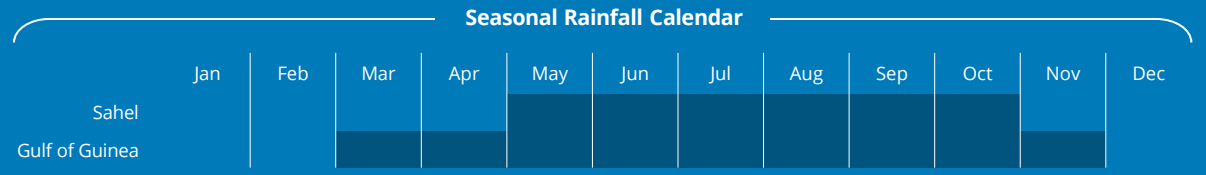


Observed and Rainfall forecast for the 1-month **ending 30 Jun 2026** as a proportion of the long-term average. Blue and purple (orange and brown) shades correspond to above (below) average rainfall.



Rainfall forecast for the 3-month period **Jun-Sep 2026** as the likelihood of exceeding the long-term median. Blue (orange) shades for likely wetter (drier) than usual conditions.

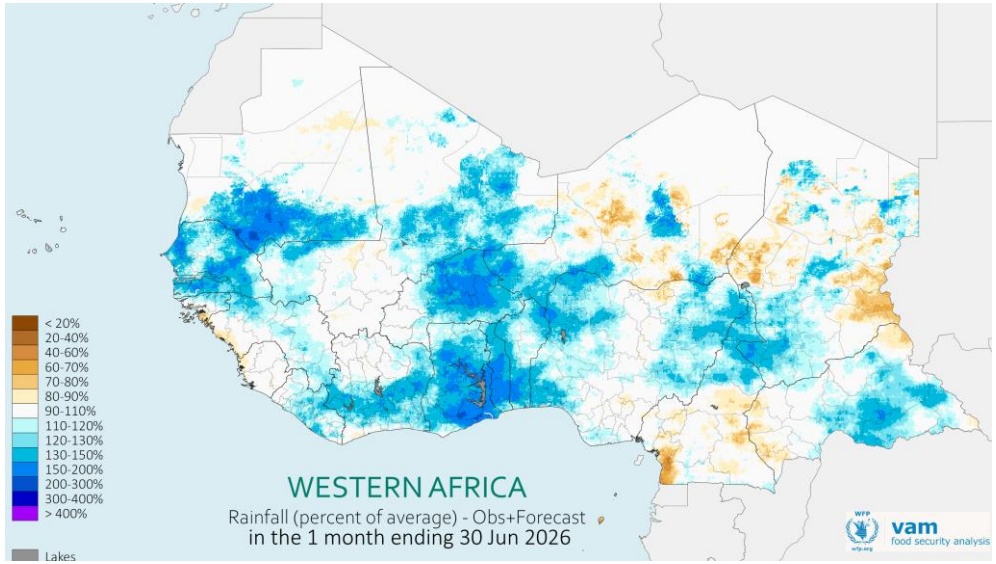
WESTERN AFRICA



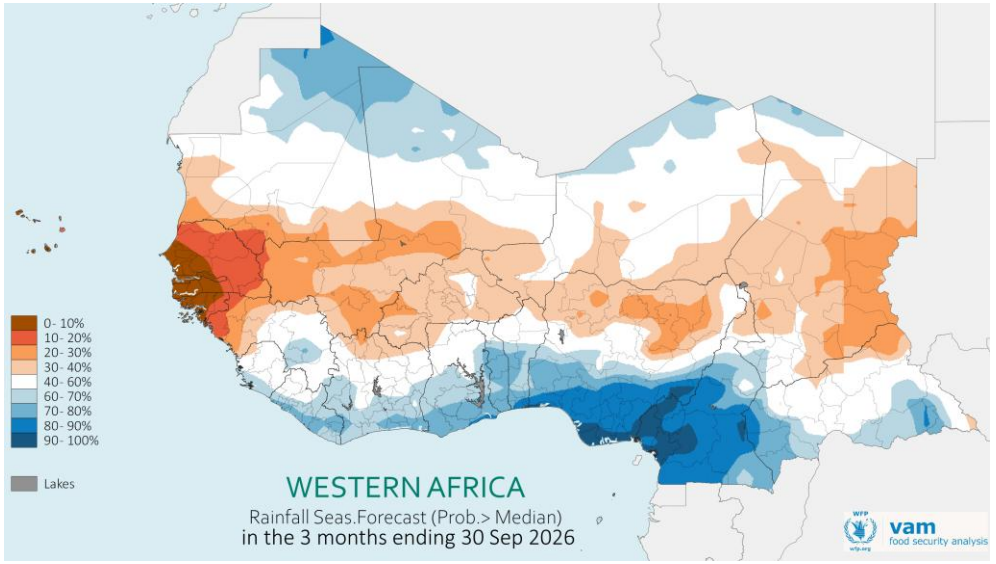
Mixed Early-Season Conditions with Growing Concerns in the Sahel

Across the Gulf of Guinea, the 2026 rainy season has progressed under generally favorable conditions despite periods of rainfall variability during April and May. Following a relatively wet onset, alternating wet and dry conditions were observed across several coastal areas. Forecasts indicate continued rainfall during June, supporting ongoing seasonal development across much of the coastal belt.

Further north, the seasonal rains are gradually advancing across the Sahel. While recent rainfall has supported seasonal progression in many areas, conditions remain spatially variable, particularly across portions of the eastern Sahel. Seasonal forecasts for June-September indicate an increased likelihood of below-average rainfall across parts of Senegal, The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau and western Mali, as well as along the Niger-Nigeria border and Chad. In contrast near- to above-average rainfall is expected across much of the Gulf of Guinea. Continued monitoring will be important to assess how rainfall conditions evolve as the season advances and agricultural activities expand northward.

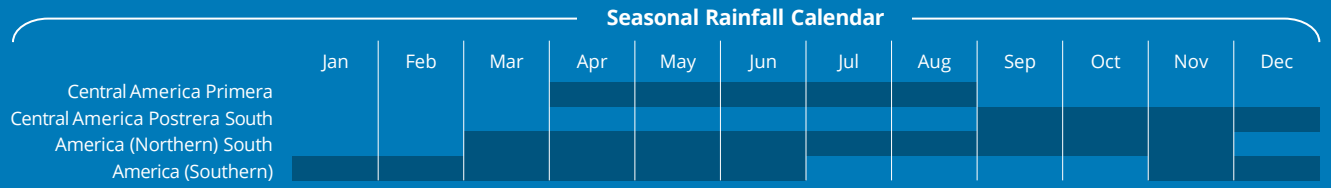


Observed and Rainfall forecast for the 1-month **ending 30 Jun 2026** as a proportion of the long-term average. Blue and purple (orange and brown) shades correspond to above (below) average rainfall.



Rainfall forecast for the 3-month period **Jul-Sep 2026** as the likelihood of exceeding the long-term median. Blue (orange) shades for likely wetter (drier) than usual conditions.

LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

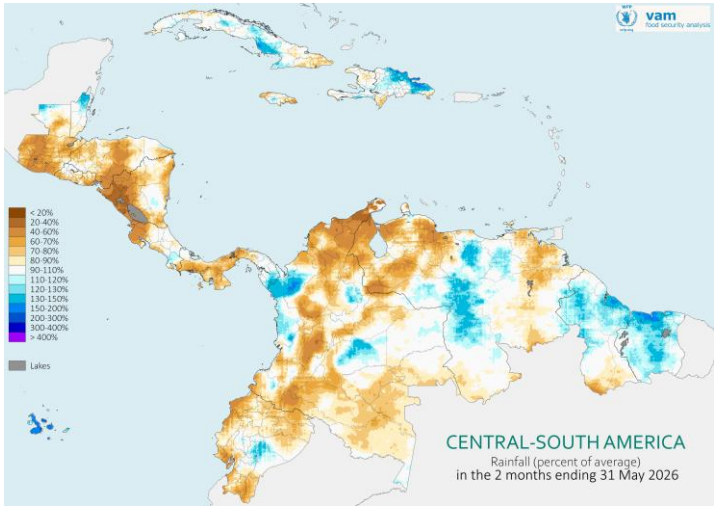


Dry Conditions Persist as El Niño Develops

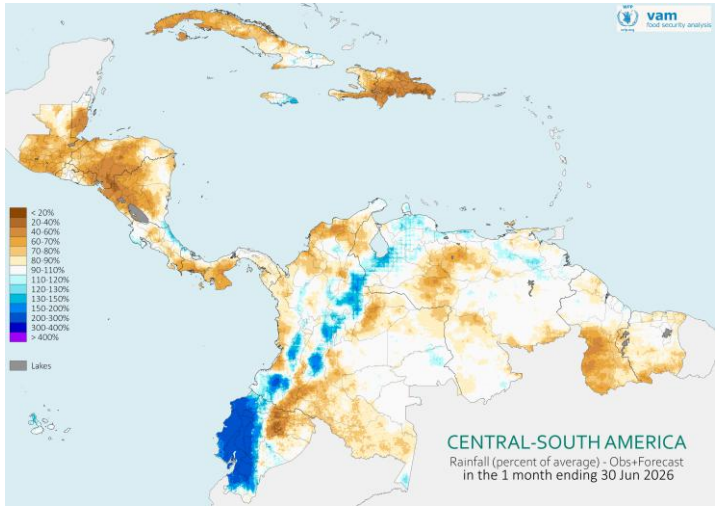
The onset of the Primera season has been characterized by below-average rainfall and above-average temperatures across large parts of the region, leading to delays in planting, reduced soil moisture, and increasing concerns for rainfed agricultural production, particularly in the Dry Corridor.

Looking ahead, forecasts suggest that dry conditions are likely to persist in the coming months. The development of El Niño is expected to further increase the probability of below-average rainfall and above-average temperatures across the region in the next months. These conditions could hinder crop establishment and development during the ongoing Primera season, potentially resulting in below-average production. Impacts may also extend into the second agricultural season, raising the risk of reduced harvests later in the year.

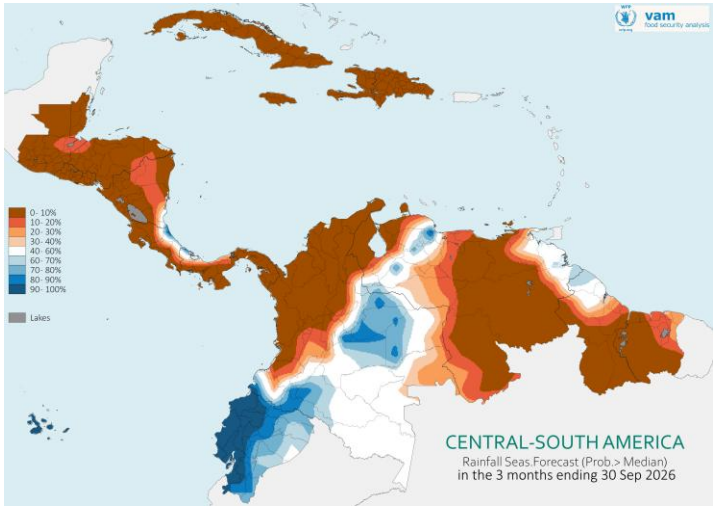
El Niño conditions are typically associated with a less active hurricane season in the Atlantic basin. However, tropical cyclone activity may intensify in the eastern Pacific, while unusually warm sea surface temperatures could still support the development of impactful storms in both basins.



Rainfall observed for 2-months ending **31 May 2026**, as a proportion of the long-term average. Blue and purple (orange and brown) shades correspond to above (below) average rainfall.



Observed and Rainfall forecast for the 1-month **ending 30 Jun 2026** as a proportion of the long-term average. Blue and purple (orange and brown) shades correspond to above (below) average rainfall.



Rainfall forecast for **Jul –Sep 2026** as the likelihood of exceeding the long-term median. Blue (orange) shades for likely wetter (drier) than usual condition.

SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

Seasonal Rainfall Calendar



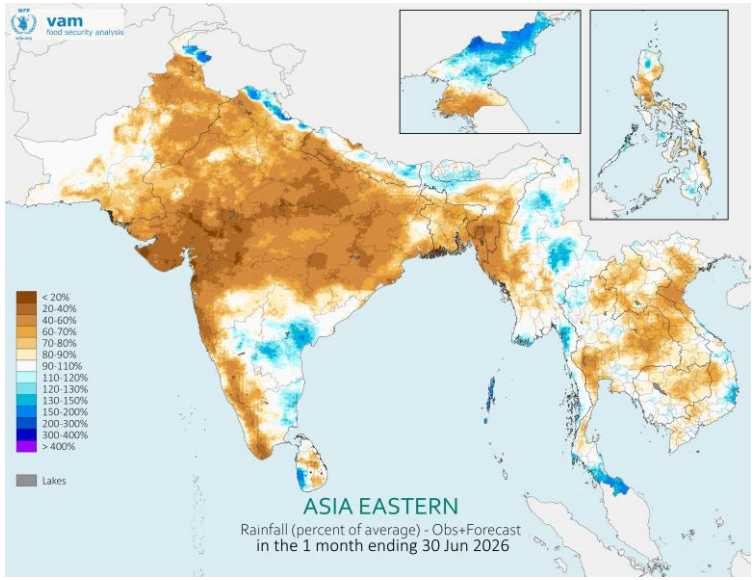
Contrasting Monsoon Conditions Under El Niño

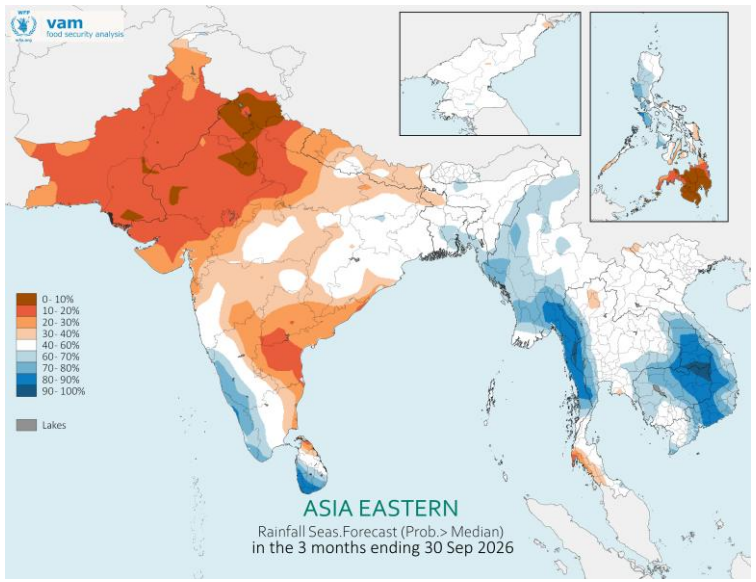
The monsoon is now underway across the region, marking the beginning of the main agricultural season. Drier-than-average conditions are affecting much of South Asia, while in Southeast Asia rainfall patterns remain uneven, with an alternation of areas experiencing above- and below-average rainfall. Recent weeks have also been marked by severe weather in parts of the region including flooding.

Looking ahead, El Niño is expected to exert an increasing influence on regional climate conditions. Across much of South Asia, including India, Pakistan, and Nepal, forecasts point to below-average rainfall and above-average temperatures during the monsoon season, which could negatively affect agricultural production. Below-average rainfall is also forecast in the southern Philippines. In contrast, wetter-than-average conditions are expected in parts of mainland Southeast Asia, particularly in Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia. While these conditions are generally favorable for crop development, they may also elevate the risk of localized flooding.

During El Niño, tropical cyclones tend to form farther east in the Pacific (in the central and eastern Pacific rather than near Southeast Asia), leading to reduced cyclone activity along regional coastlines

Observed and Rainfall forecast for the 1-month **ending 30 Jun 2026** 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 period **Jul -Sep 2026**, as the likelihood of exceeding the long-term median. Blue (orange) shades for likely wetter (drier) than usual conditions.

NOTES

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).

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

What is ENSO? ENSO is a recurring climate pattern in the equatorial Pacific, alternating between El Niño, La Niña, and Neutral phases. Shifts in ocean temperatures and atmospheric pressure during these phases influence global weather, affecting rainfall, temperatures, and the risk of extremes such as droughts, heavy rains, and tropical cyclones.
(https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/)

Water level in reservoirs: G-REALM data from USDA Foreign Agricultural Service.

Flood Forecast: GLOFAS-Copernicus and GOOGLE Flood Hub

WFP World Food Programme

For further information please contact:

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