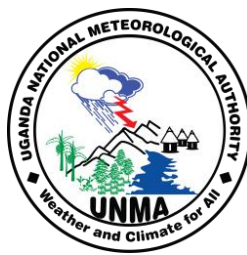


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22nd February 2019

MARCH TO MAY 2019 SEASONAL RAINFALL OUTLOOK OVER UGANDA

1.0 Overview

March-April-May (MAM) constitutes the first major rainfall season over Uganda. During the 51st Climate Outlook Forum for the Greater Horn of Africa (GHACOF51) which was held in Imperial Golf View Hotel in Entebbe, Uganda from 11th to 12th February 2019, the National, Regional and International Climate Scientists reviewed the state of the global climate system and its implications on the seasonal rainfall over the region. It was observed that the major physical conditions likely to influence the weather conditions over Uganda for the forecast period of March to May 2019 are as follows:

The observed and predicted atmosphere-ocean conditions in the Indian and Pacific Oceans with implications of moisture transport and distribution of rainfall in the region;

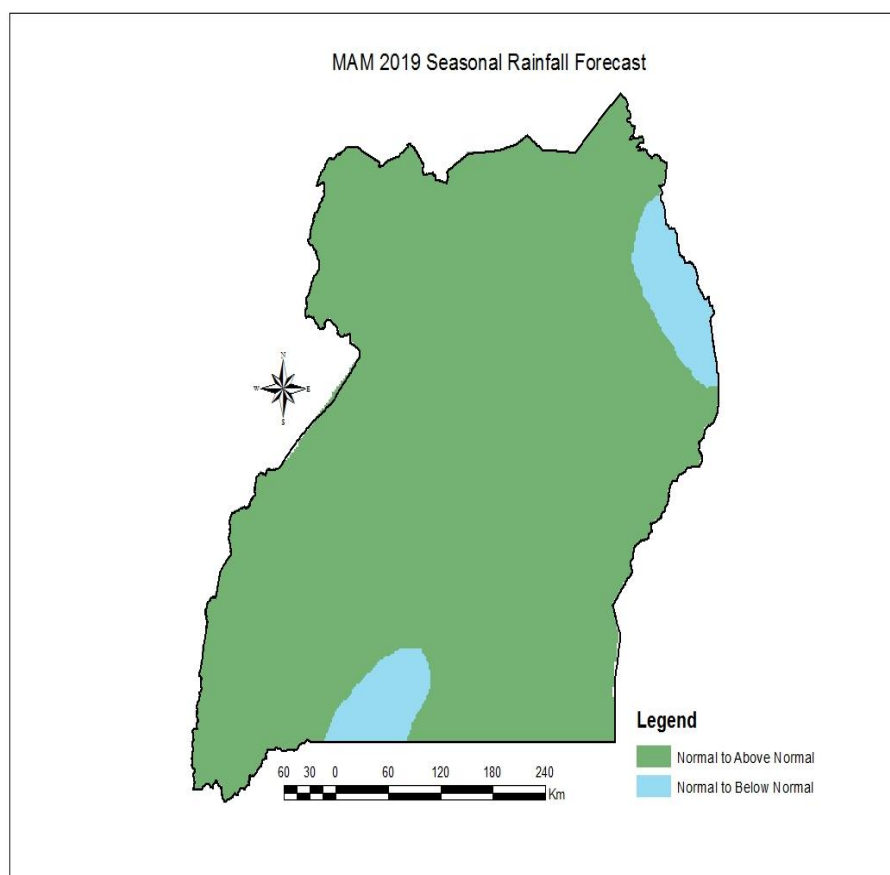
1. Global scale forcing due to the neutralising/declining Tropical Pacific Sea Surface Temperature (SSTs) but still positive, with indication of an increase towards end of MAM;
2. Neutral state of Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) expected to persist until April
3. Influence of Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) which is still weaker than last year;
4. The influence of regional circulation patterns, topographical features and large inland water bodies;

Based on the above considerations as well as details of the climatology of Uganda and scientific tools for climate analysis and prediction, Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) has come up with the following rainfall outlook:

2.0 General Forecast

- Overall, there is an increased likelihood of near normal with a slight tendency to Above Normal rainfall over several parts of the country with the exception of some parts of southern Karamoja region and cattle corridor in the South-western expected to receive near Normal with a slight tendency of Below normal rainfall.
- The onset of the seasonal rains is expected to be early in South-western (Late Feb) with a gradual progression in other parts of the country and to finally parts of eastern and North-eastern region around end of March to early April. The rainfall during this

season is also highly expected to be characterized by severe isolated thunderstorms and hailstorms in some parts of the country.



The MAM 2019 Rainfall Outlook breakdown details:

Region	Onset	Peak	Cessation	Forecast
2.1.0 Eastern Uganda				
2.1.1 Eastern Lake Victoria and South Eastern				
Districts of Jinja, Mayuge, Kamuli, Iganga, Bugiri, Namayingo, Luuka, Namutumba, Buyende, Kaliro, Busia and Tororo	early to mid- March	mid-April to early May	Late May to early June.	Overall, this region has a high chance of receiving near normal to above normal rainfall
Pallisa, Budaka, Kibuku, Butaleja, Kumi, Kaberamaido, Soroti, Serere, Amuria,	mid to late march	late-April to early May	moderate relaxation around mid- June	Overall, this region has a high chance of receiving near normal to above

Bulambuli, Kween, Bukwo, Bukedea and Ngora, Mbale, Sironko, Manafwa, Namisindwa, Bududa, Kapchorwa				normal rainfall
North Eastern Region				
Katakwi, Moroto, Kotido, Nakapiripirit, Nabilatuk, Abim, Napak, Amudat and Kaabong	steady rains will be established by late March	mid to end of May	moderate relaxation is expected around mid- June	Overall, there are high chances for near normal with slight tendency to below normal rains over most parts of the region. However areas in the north most parts of Karamoja have high chances of normal with slight tendency to above normal rainfall.
NORTHERN UGANDA				
Eastern parts of northern region				
Lira, Amolatar, Apac, Alebtong, Pader, Otuke, Kitgum, Agago, Kole, and Dokolo	early to mid- March	mid April to mid-May	moderate relaxation of the rain is expected around mid- June	Overall, this region is expected to receive near normal with a tendency to above normal rainfall during this season
Central Northern Parts				
Gulu, Omoro, , Lamwo, Nwoya,	early to mid- March	mid-April to early May	moderate relaxation of	Overall, this region is

Amuru, Oyam and Kiryandongo			the rain is expected around mid-June	expected to receive near normal with a tendency to above normal rainfall
North Western				
Arua, Maracha Moyo, Zombo, Nebbi, Pakwach, Yumbe, Koboko, Terego and Adjumani	early to mid-March	late April to early May	moderate relaxation around mid-June	Overall, there are high chances for this region receiving near normal with a slight tendency to above normal rains.
WESTERN UGANDA				
South Western				
Kisoro, Kabale, Rubanda, Rukiga, Rukungiri, Kanungu, Ntungamo, Mbarara, Kiruhura, Isingiro, Ibanda, Bushenyi, Buhweju, Mitooma, Sheema, Rubirizi and Kasese	late February to early March	early to mid-April	around late-May to early-June	Overall, the region is expected to receive near normal with a slight tendency to above normal with the exception of some parts of southern cattle corridor expected to receive near normal tending to below normal rains
Western Central				
Bundibugyo, Ntoroko, Kabarole, Kyenjojo, Kyegegwa, Kamwenge, Kibaale, Kakumiro, Kagadi, Hoima,	early to mid-March	mid to late April	early to mid-June	Overall, there are high chances for the region to receive near normal rain with a slightly tending to above normal rains

Kikube, Buliisa and Masindi				
CENTRAL REGION AND LAKE VICTORIA BASIN				
Central and Western Lake Victoria Basin				
Kampala, Wakiso, Mpigi, Butambala, Masaka, Lwengo, Kalungu, Bukomansimbi, Gomba, Mityana and Kalangala	early to mid-March	around mid to end of April	around early to late May	Overall, there are high chances for the region to receive near normal rain with a slightly tending to above normal rains
Western Parts of Central				
Nakasongola, Luwero, Kyankwanzi, Nakaseke, Kiboga, Mubende, Sembabule, Western Masaka, Lyantonde, Kyotera and Rakai	early to mid-March	around mid to end of April	late-May to early-June	Overall, there are high chances for the region to receive near normal rain with a slightly tending to above normal rains
Eastern parts of Central				
Mukono, Buikwe, Kayunga, Buvuma	early to mid-March	around mid to late April	early June	Overall, near normal tending to above normal rainfall is expected over this region

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Festus Luboyera
Executive Director