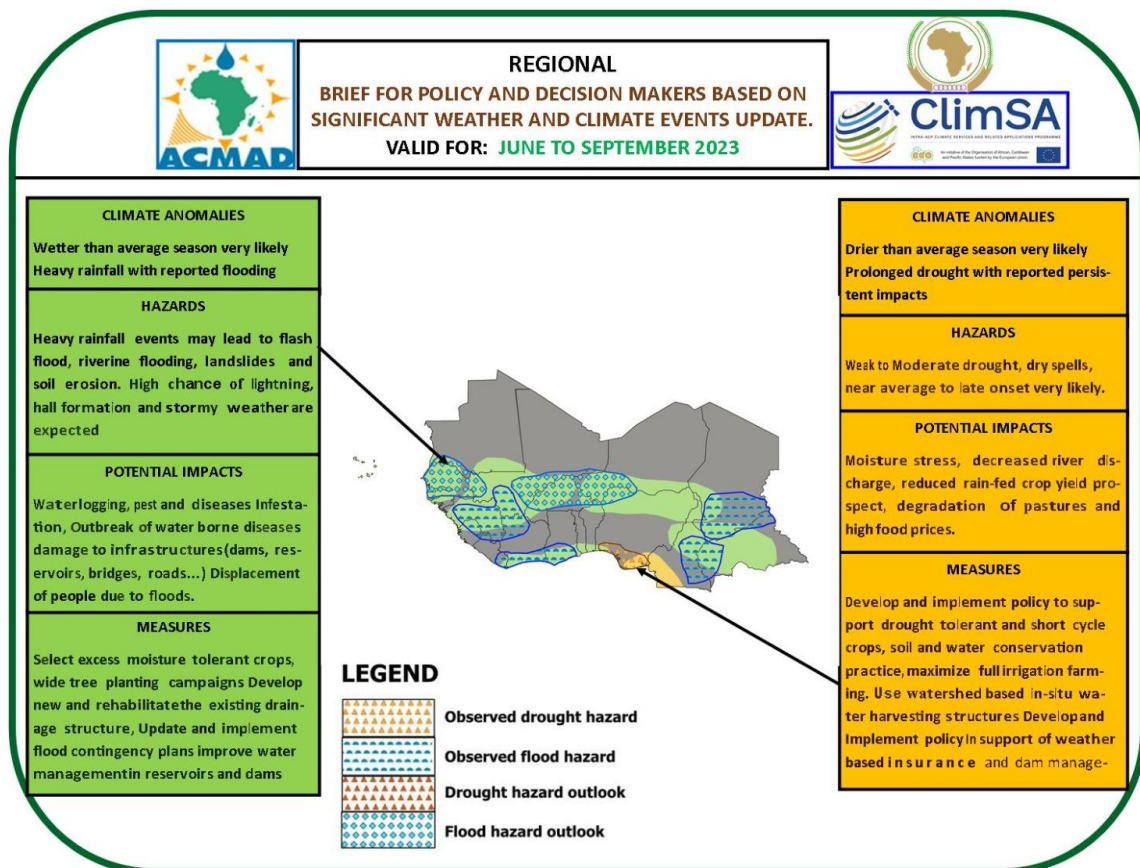


SEASONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK

Theme: « Climate service for Early Warning for Early Action ».

UPDATE OF SEASONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK
VALID FOR JUNE-JULY-AUGUST AND JULY-AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2023
SUMMARY FOR DECISION MAKERS
ISSUED ON 07 JUNE 2023



This outlook is relevant for seasonal timescales and covers relatively large areas. Local and month-to-month variations might occur as the season progresses. While sporadic heavy rainfall is most probable over much of eastern and central Sahel, extended dry spells and below normal rainfall may occur even in areas with an increased likelihood of near normal to above normal rainfall and vice versa.

ACMAD will continue providing monthly Regional and Continental updates on a regular basis while the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) will provide detailed national and sub-national climate updates.

1. Summary

The seasonal rainfall forecast is a description of the expected rainfall over a given region. It provides the expected rainfall or seasonal temperature which can be below, near or above average over a reference multiyear period.

The seasonal forecast is therefore, a decision-making tool for the management of agriculture and food security, as well as other socio-economic sectors such as water resources, public health, management of natural disasters, etc "; ***is one of the strategic information for the adaptation to variability and climate change and disaster management.***

June to September (JJAS) constitutes an important rainfall season, particularly in the Sudano Sahelian region of Africa where the JJAS rainfall contributes to more than half of the annual rainfall totals.

From February 2023 onwards, there has been a significant increase in sea surface temperatures in the Equatorial Pacific, with notably stronger warming along the coast of South America.

As of mid-April 2023, the sea surface temperatures and other atmospheric and oceanic indicators in the central-eastern tropical Pacific were consistent with ENSO-neutral conditions.

In May 2023, weak El Niño conditions emerged as above-average sea surface temperatures (SSTs) strengthened across the equatorial Pacific Ocean. ***El Niño conditions are present and are expected to strengthen into the Northern Hemisphere winter 2023-24. An El Niño Advisory status with at least moderate intensity during winter 2023/24 very likely is now in effect.***

The update of the forecast from June to September 2023 indicated:

- **Near to above average precipitation is expected over southern Mauritania, much of Senegal, Mali, Guinea central Sahel, northern-east CAR, southern Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, south-eastern Nigeria, northern Cameroon as well as over Lac Tchad Region in the JJA and JAS 2023 seasons.**
- **Above to near average precipitation is expected over Mali, Burkina Faso, Guinea Conakry and south-eastern Mauritania during the JAS 2023 season.**
- **Below average precipitation is very likely over south-eastern Nigeria and western Cameroon in the JJA and JAS 2023 season.**
- **As of June 05, 2023, near to late start of the agriculture season characterized much of Burkina Faso, central and eastern parts of the Gulf of Guinea, southern Cameroon, northern DRC, southern CAR and Uganda. Near to early start of the agriculture season dominated much of other parts of Africa.**

Users are strongly advised to contact their National Meteorological and Hydrological Services as well as ACMAD website (www.acmad.org) for further expert advices and assistance.

2. OUTLOOK PRECIPITATION & START OF AGRICULTURAL SEASON

- **Below average precipitation is very likely** from June to September 2023 over south-eastern Nigeria and western Cameroon.
- **Near to above average precipitation is very likely** over southern Mauritania, much of Senegal, Mali, Guinea central Sahel, northern-east CAR, southern Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, south-eastern Nigeria, northern Cameroon as well as over Lac Tchad Region in the season JJA 2023 and JAS 2023.
- **Above average precipitation is very likely in the JAS** season over Mali, Burkina Faso, Guinea Conakry and south-eastern Mauritania during the season JAS 2023

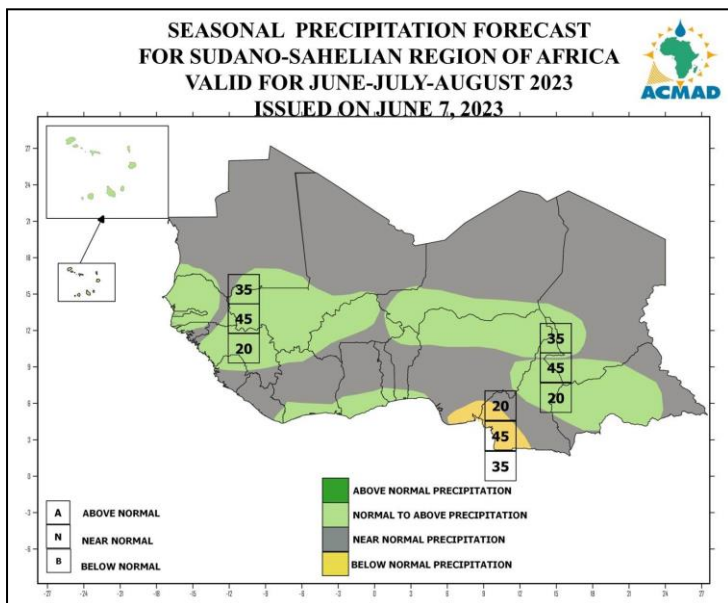


Fig 1: Seasonal Rainfall Outlook valid for JJA 2023

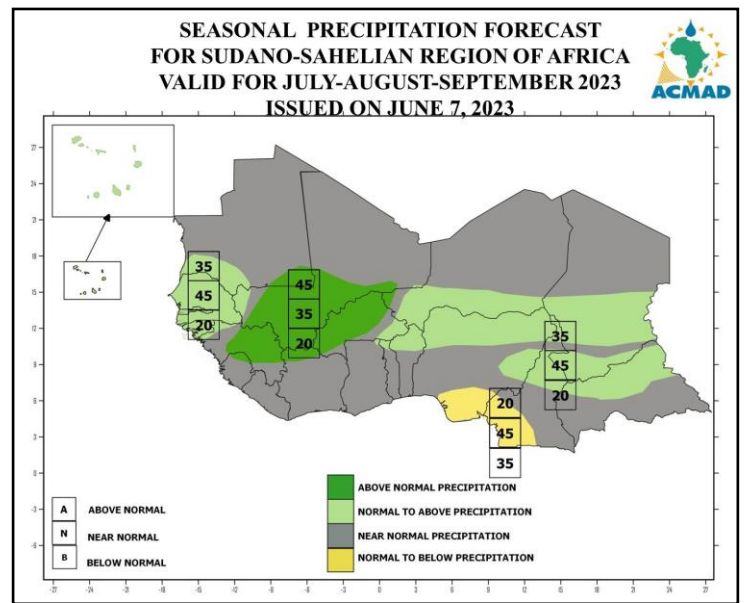


Fig 2: Seasonal Rainfall Outlook Valid for JAS 2023

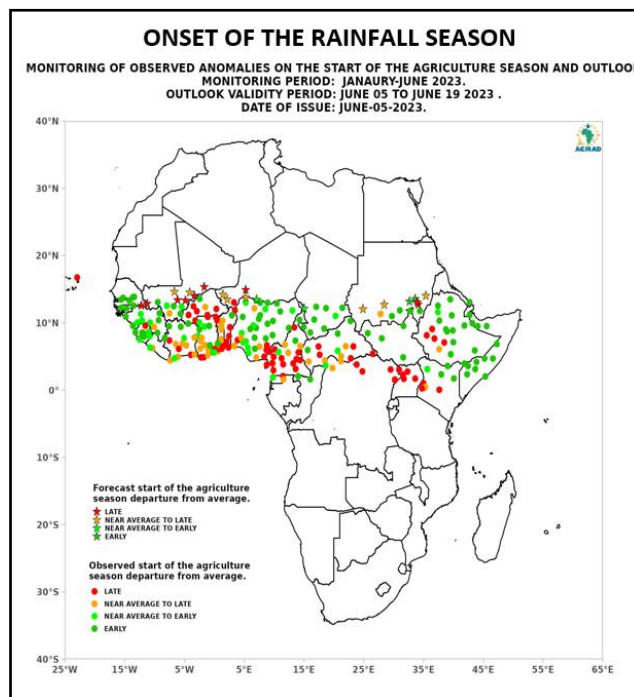


Fig 3: Onset of the Rainfall Season Map