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AFRICA: Monthly Climate Outlook February to November

Issued: May 2025

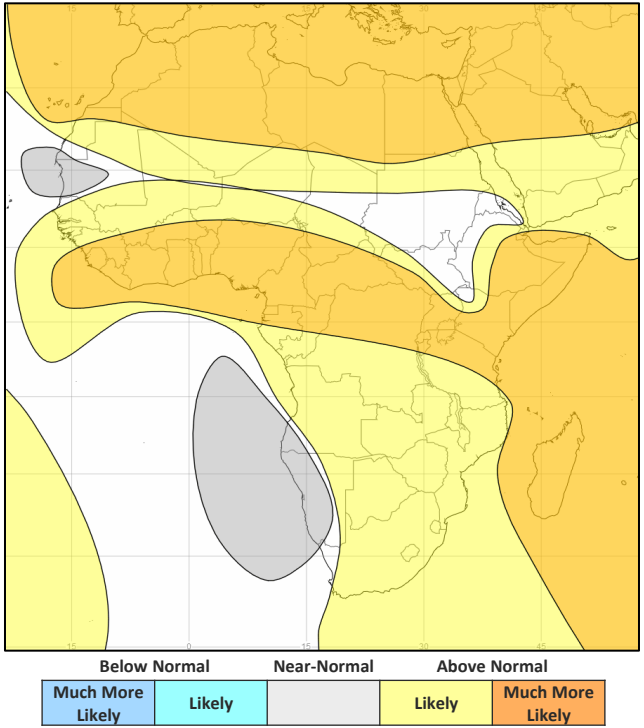
Overview

Africa Current Status and Outlook - Temperature

Current Status: Many areas were warm or hot over the last three months though there were some exceptions. Much of northern Africa including the Sahel experienced near normal temperatures in February and again in April, with some of these areas being cool. Temperatures in Madagascar were below normal between February and April and were also widely below normal across Southern Africa in February. Some parts of East Africa also had below normal temperatures in February.

Outlook: Consistent with a warming climate, warmer than normal conditions are likely or very likely across most areas. However, there are some exceptions; across parts of the western Sahel normal temperatures are expected whilst climatological odds are forecast for some parts of East Africa.

3-Month Outlook June to August - Temperature

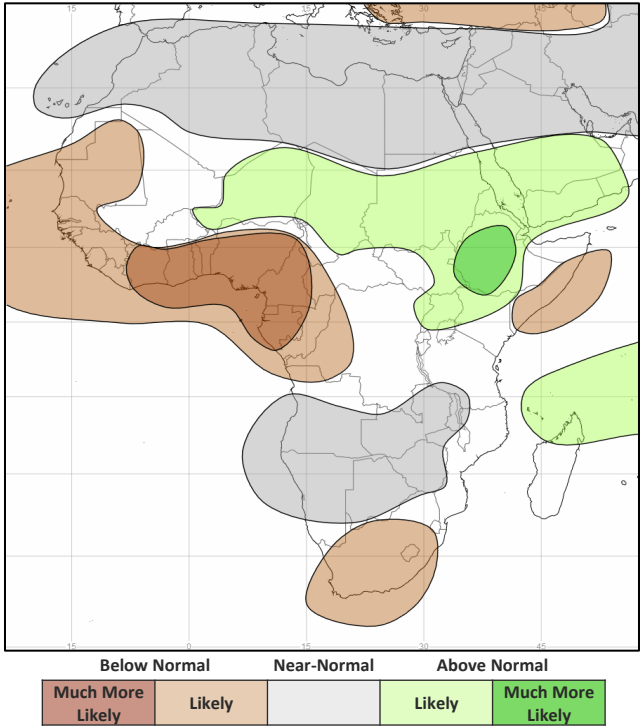


Africa Current Status and Outlook - Rainfall

Current Status: During February rainfall tends to be focused over Southern Africa with Malawi and some nearby areas experiencing wet or very wet conditions. During March and April, rainfall tends to shift further north over East Africa with above normal rainfall experienced across parts of Mozambique, Tanzania and Kenya, whilst Somalia was very dry in parts during April.

Outlook: Across East Africa, for the end of the Long Rains season, drier than normal conditions are likely for southern Somalia. The West African monsoon becomes the focus of rainfall over the continent through this period, as rains extend further inland. Across parts of the Sahel, wetter than normal conditions are likely, and much more likely than normal across western Ethiopia. For countries adjacent to the Gulf of Guinea, drier than normal conditions are likely.

3-Month Outlook June to August - Rainfall



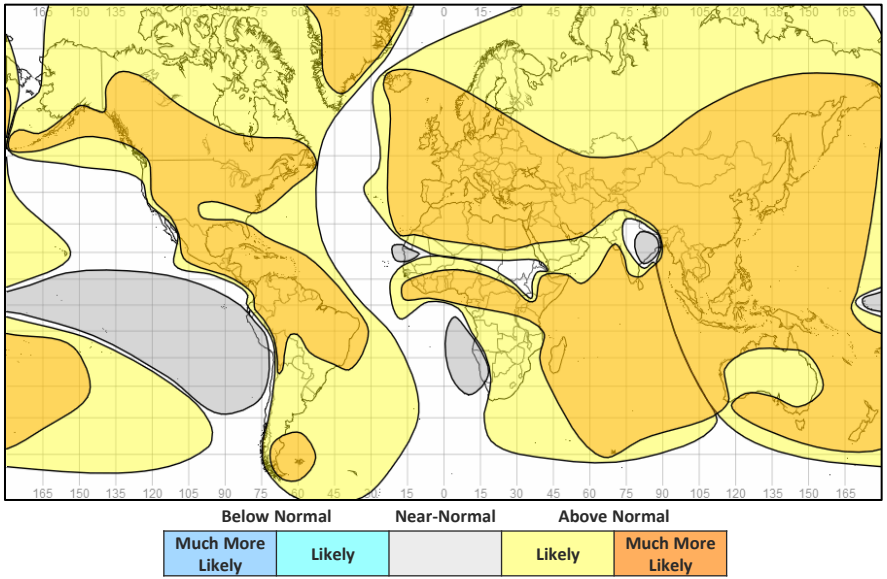
Global Outlook - Temperature

Outlook:
ENSO is now neutral and will have minimal influence on global temperature forecasts through this period.

Consistent with a warming climate, nearly all land areas are likely or very likely to experience warmer than normal conditions through the next three months.

The main exceptions over parts of Africa and southern Asia, mainly India, owing to likely active monsoon seasons.

3-Month Outlook June to August - Temperature



Global Outlook - Rainfall

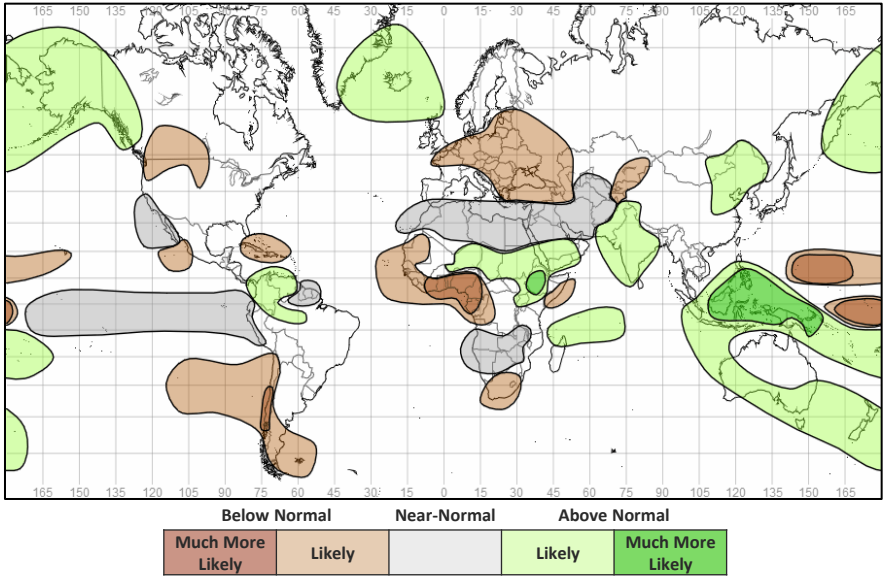
Outlook:

El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) – Following the recent La Niña, sea surface temperatures in the tropical Pacific have returned to around normal with ENSO now in a neutral state. There are some mixed signals from various modelling centres regarding the evolution of ENSO later this year. However, ENSO is most likely to remain neutral through the next three months.

More information on typical impacts can be found here: https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/climate/seasonal-to-decadal/gpc-outlooks/el-nino-la-nina/enso-impacts

Indian Ocean Diploe (IOD) – The IOD is currently neutral. However, sea surface temperatures are currently widely above normal over the Indian Ocean, this probably a factor driving the increased likelihood of a wetter than normal South Asian monsoon.

3-Month Outlook June to August - Rainfall



Current Status

Current Status maps

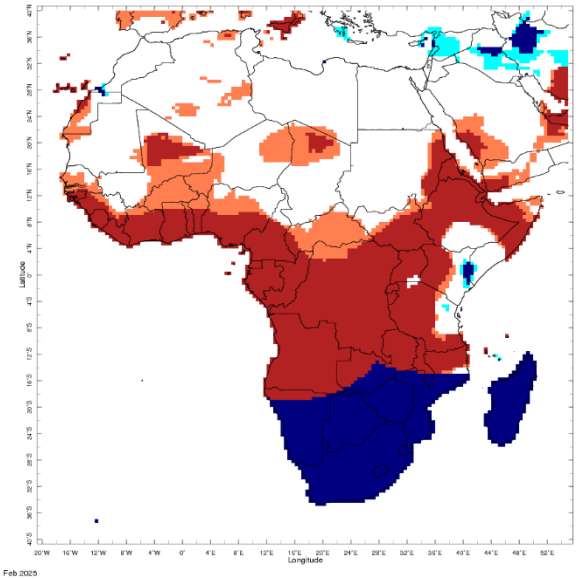
Western Africa

Central Africa

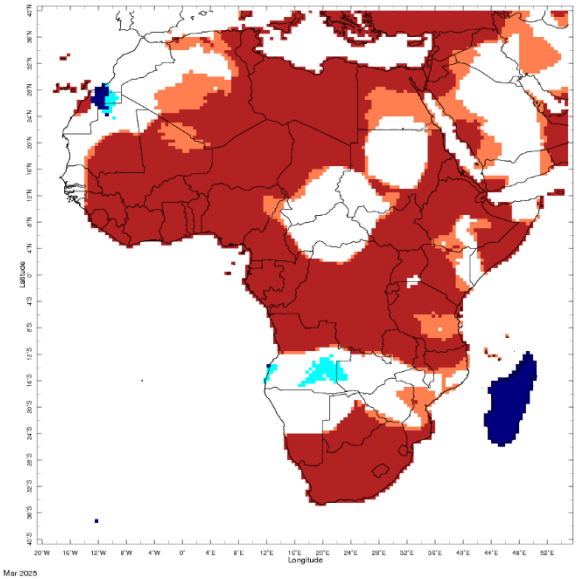
Eastern Africa

Southern Africa

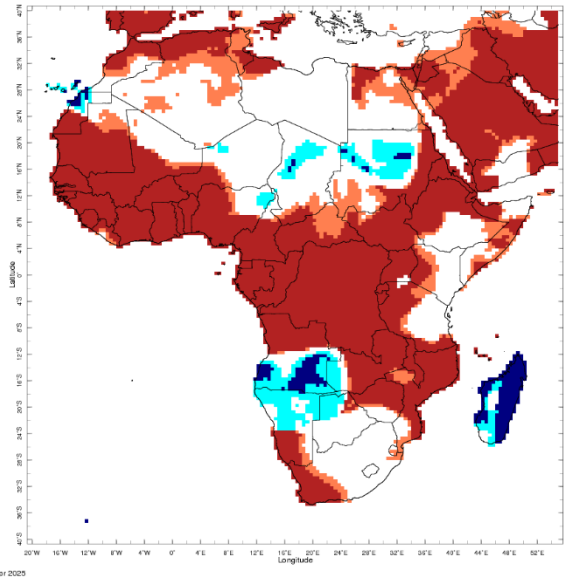
Current Status – Temperature percentiles



February



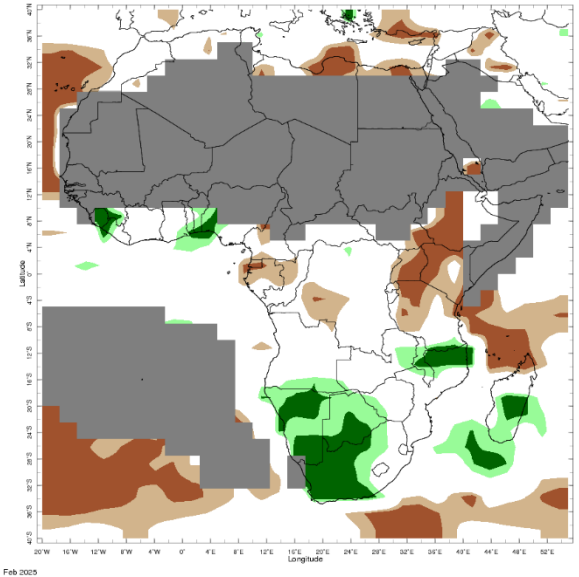
March



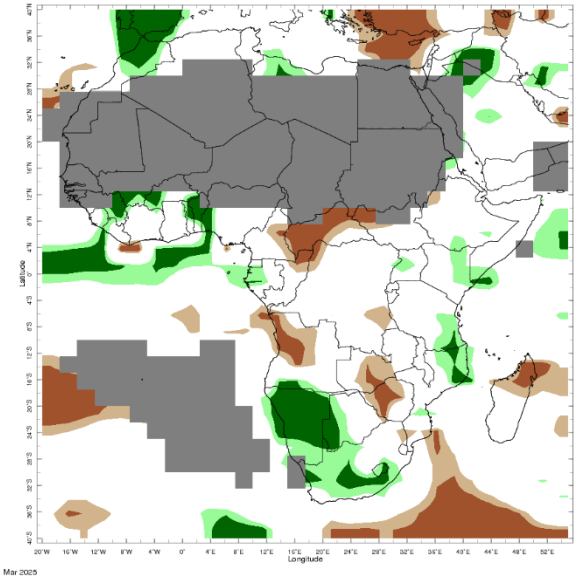
April

Notes: The percentiles shown in the map indicate a ranking of temperature, with the 0th percentile being the coolest and the 100th percentile being the warmest in the 1981-2010 climatology. Orange and red shading represent values above the 80th (Warm) and 90th (Hot) percentile, respectively; regions shaded in light and dark blue indicate values below the 20th (Cool) and 10th (Cold) percentile, with respect to the 1981-2010 climatology. The data used in this map are from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center.

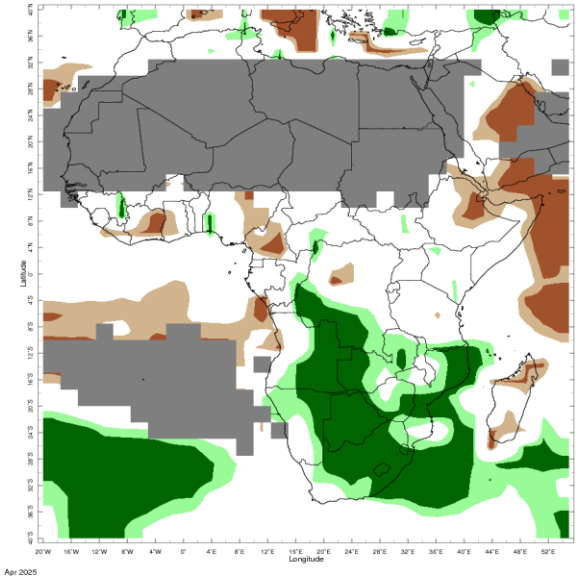
Current Status – Precipitation percentiles



February



March



April

Notes: The percentiles shown in the map indicate a ranking of rainfall, with the 0th percentile being the driest and the 100th percentile being the wettest in the 1981-2010 climatology. Green and dark green shading represent values above the 80th (Wet) and 90th (Very Wet) percentile, respectively; regions shaded in light and dark brown indicate rainfall below the 20th (Dry) and 10th (Very Dry) percentile, with respect to the 1981-2010 climatology. Grey areas on the map mask out regions that receive less than 10 mm/month of rainfall on normal in the 1981-2010 climatology for the month. The data used in this map are from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center.

Current Status – Western Africa (1)

	Current Status: Temperature			Current Status: Rainfall		
	February	March	April	February	March	April
Mauritania	Normal	Mixed (1)	Mixed (2)	Normal*	Normal*	Normal*
Sierra Leone	Hot	Hot	Hot	Very Wet	Normal	Normal
Liberia	Hot	Hot	Hot	Normal	Normal	Normal
Mali	Warm	Hot	Mixed (2)	Normal*	Normal (3)	Normal

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room: http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

(1) Note: Hot in the southeast, normal in the northwest
(2) Note: Hot in the southwest, normal in the northeast
(3) Note: Normal, but wet in the far south

Current Status – Western Africa (2)

	Current Status: Temperature			Current Status: Rainfall		
	February	March	April	February	March	April
Ghana	Hot	Hot	Hot	Normal	Normal	Normal (6)
Nigeria	Hot (1)	Hot	Hot (3)	Normal	Normal	Mixed (4)
Cameroon	Hot	Hot (1)	Hot (2)	Normal	Normal	Dry (5)
Burkina Faso	Warm	Hot	Hot	Normal*	Normal	Normal

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room: http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

(1) Note: Warm in the north
(2) Note: Normal in the north
(3) Note: Hot, but normal in the northeast
(4) Note: Wet in the far west and dry in parts of the east, else normal
(5) Note: Dry, and very dry in parts of the south
(6) Note: Normal, but dry in the west

Current Status – Central Africa

	Current Status: Temperature			Current Status: Rainfall		
	February	March	April	February	March	April
Niger	Normal	Hot	Mixed (2)	Normal*	Normal*	Normal*
Chad	Normal	Mixed (1)	Normal	Normal*	Normal*	Normal*
DRC	Hot	Hot	Hot	Normal	Normal	Mixed (3)

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room: http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

(1) **Note**: Hot in the north, normal in the south
(2) **Note**: Normal, but hot in the southwest
(3) **Note:** Mainly normal, but wet or very wet in the southwest

Current Status – Eastern Africa (1)

	Current Status: Temperature			Current Status: Rainfall		
	February	March	April	February	March	April
Sudan	Normal (1)	Normal (1)	Mixed (2)	Normal*	Normal*	Normal*
South Sudan	Hot (3)	Hot (3)	Hot	Normal*	Normal*	Normal*
Uganda	Hot	Hot	Hot	Very Dry	Normal	Normal
Rwanda	Hot	Hot	Hot	Dry	Normal	Normal

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room: http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

(1) Note: Hot in the far east
(2) Note: Mainly normal, but cool on parts of the north and hot in the east
(3) Note: Normal in the northwest

Current Status – Eastern Africa (2)

	Current Status: Temperature			Current Status: Rainfall		
	February	March	April	February	March	April
Tanzania	Mixed (1)	Hot	Mixed (1)	Mixed (7)	Normal (4)	Normal
Eritrea	Hot	Hot	Hot	Normal*	Normal	Dry
Ethiopia	Hot	Hot	Mixed (3)	Normal (5)	Normal	Mixed (8)
Kenya	Mixed (2)	Hot	Mixed (2)	Dry	Normal	Normal
Somalia	Hot (3)	Hot	Mixed (6)	Normal*	Normal	Mixed (8)

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room: http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

(1) **Note:** Warm or hot in the southwest, normal in the northeast
(2) **Note**: Warm or hot in the west, cool or cold in the east
(3) **Note**: Hot in the north, normal in the south
(4) **Note**: Wet in parts of the south
(5) **Note**: Dry or very dry in the southwest
(6) **Note**: Normal, but warm or hot in parts
(7) **Note:** Dry in the north, very wet in the far south, else normal
(8) **Note:** dry or very dry in the north and east, else normal

Current Status – Southern Africa

	Current Status: Temperature			Current Status: Rainfall		
	February	March	April	February	March	April
South Africa	Cold	Hot	Mixed (3)	Mixed (4)	Wet	Very Wet
Zambia	Mixed (8)	Mixed (8)	Mixed (5)	Mixed (1)	Normal	Wet
Zimbabwe	Cold	Normal	Hot	Normal	Dry	Wet
Mozambique	Mixed (8)	Warm	Hot	Normal (2)	Normal (2)	Very Wet
Malawi	Mixed (8)	Hot	Hot	Wet	Normal	Wet
Madagascar	Cold	Cold	Cold	Mixed (7)	Normal (6)	Normal (6)

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room: http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

(1) **Note:** Very wet in the east, normal or dry in the west
(2) **Note:** Very wet in the north
(3) **Note:** Normal, but warm or hot in the southwest
(4) **Note**: Very wet in the west, normal in the east
(5) **Note**: Mainly hot, but cool in the far west
(6) **Note:** Dry or very dry in the north
(7) **Note:** Very dry in the far north, otherwise wet or very wet
(8) **Note**: Hot in the north, cold or normal in the south

Outlooks

Outlooks: Notes for use

Outlooks for months 4 to 6:

As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range.

Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Climatological odds:

A forecast is only provided in the outlooks where there is information in the model data about likely outcomes. Therefore, where the likelihoods for above, near and below normal conditions are evenly balanced the phrase 'climatological odds' will be used. This means the outcome could fall anywhere within the possible climatological range. Near-normal conditions should not necessarily be assumed, and users should update with shorter-term forecasts when available.

Outlook: June to November – Western Africa (1)

		Forecast summary		
		June	June to August	September to November
Mauritania	*Temperature*	Climatological odds in the west, but **Much more likely to be warmer than normal** in the east	**Likely to be near-normal** in the west, else **Likely to be warmer than normal**	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Mainly **Likely to be near-normal**, but **Much more likely to be drier than normal** in the far south	**Likely to be drier than normal**	Climatological odds
Sierra Leone	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	**Likely to be drier than normal**	Likely to be drier than normal
Liberia	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	**Likely to be drier than normal**	**Likely to be drier than normal**	Much more likely to be drier than normal
Mali	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	**Likely to be drier than normal**	Climatological odds	Climatological odds

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: June to November – Western Africa (2)

		Forecast summary		
		June	June to August	September to November
Ghana	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Generally Climatological odds, but **Likely to be drier than normal** in the south	**Much more likely to be drier than normal**	Much more likely to be drier than normal
Nigeria	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	**Much more likely to be drier than normal**	Climatological odds in the north, Much more likely to be drier than normal in the south
Cameroon	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	**Much more likely to be drier than normal**	Likely to be drier than normal
Burkina Faso	*Temperature*	**Likely to be warmer than normal**	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	**Likely to be drier than normal**	Climatological odds	Climatological odds

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: June to November – Central Africa

		Forecast summary		
		June	June to August	September to November
Niger	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	**Likely to be warmer than normal**	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	**Likely to be wetter than normal**	Likely to be near-normal in the north, but Likely to be wetter than normal in the south
Chad	*Temperature*	**Likely to be warmer than normal**	**Likely to be warmer than normal**	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	**Likely to be wetter than normal**	Likely to be near-normal in the north, but Likely to be wetter than normal in the south
Democratic Republic of Congo	*Temperature*	**Likely to be warmer than normal**	**Likely to be warmer than normal**, and **Much more likely to be warmer than normal** in the north	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	**Likely to be near-normal** in the south, **Likely to be wetter than normal** in the northeast, else Climatological odds	mainly Climatological odds, but **Likely to be drier than normal** in the west	Likely to be wetter than normal in the east, but Much more likely to be drier than normal in the west

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: June to November – Eastern Africa (1)

		Forecast summary		
		June	June to August	September to November
Sudan	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	Climatological odds, but Likely to be warmer than normal in the north	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	Likely to be wetter than normal	Likely to be near-normal in the north, Climatological odds in the south
South Sudan	*Temperature*	Climatological odds in the east, but **Much more likely to be warmer than normal** in the west	Climatological odds in the east, but **Much more likely to be warmer than normal** in the west	Climatological odds in the east, but Much more likely to be warmer than normal in the west
	Rainfall	**Much more likely to be wetter than normal** in the east, else Climatological odds	Likely to be wetter than normal	Likely to be wetter than normal
Uganda	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Likely to be wetter than normal	Likely to be wetter than normal	Likely to be wetter than normal

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: June to November – Eastern Africa (2)

		Forecast summary		
		June	June to August	September to November
Rwanda	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	Likely to be wetter than normal	Climatological odds
Tanzania	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal and **Much more likely to be warmer than normal** in the north	Likely to be warmer than normal, and Much more likely to be warmer than normal in the east
	Rainfall	Likely to be near-normal	Climatological odds	Climatological odds
Eritrea	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	Climatological odds	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	Likely to be wetter than normal	Likely to be near-normal

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: June to November – Eastern Africa (3)

		Forecast summary		
		June	June to August	September to November
Ethiopia	*Temperature*	Climatological odds in the west, but **Much more likely to be warmer than normal** in the east	mainly **Much more likely to be warmer than normal**, but Climatological odds in the west	Likely to be warmer than normal, and Much more likely to be warmer than normal in the east
	Rainfall	**Likely to be wetter than normal,** and **much more likely to be wetter than normal** in the west.	**Likely to be wetter than normal,** and **much more likely to be wetter than normal** in the west.	Generally Climatological odds, but Likely to be wetter than normal in the west and Likely to be drier than normal in the east
Kenya	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**, but Climatological odds in the northwest	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal** in the north and likely to be warmer than normal in the south.	Likely to be warmer than normal, and Much more likely to be warmer than normal in the east
	Rainfall	**Likely to be wetter than normal,** and **much more likely to be wetter than normal** in the north.	Climatological odds.	Much more likely to be drier than normal in the east, else Climatological odds
Somalia	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	**Much more likely to be drier than normal** in the south, but Climatological odds in the north	Climatological odds in the north, but **Likely to be drier than normal** in the south	Much more likely to be drier than normal

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: June to November – Southern Africa (1)

		Forecast summary		
		June	June to August	September to November
South Africa	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Likely to be near-normal	Likely to be drier than normal	Climatological odds
Zambia	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Likely to be near-normal	Likely to be near-normal	Climatological odds
Zimbabwe	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Likely to be near-normal	Likely to be near-normal	Climatological odds
Mozambique	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	Climatological odds	Climatological odds

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: June to November – Southern Africa (1)

		Forecast summary		
		June	June to August	September to November
Malawi	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	Likely to be near-normal	Climatological odds
Madagascar	*Temperature*	Much more likely to be warmer than normal	Much more likely to be warmer than normal	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds, but Likely to be wetter than normal in the far north	Climatological odds, but Likely to be wetter than normal in the far north	Climatological odds

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Annex 1 – Supplemental Information

For further information

WMO Lead Centre for Long-Range Forecast Multi-Model Ensemble (LC-LRFMME)
https://www.wmolc.org/seasonPmmeUI/plot_PMME

International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)
http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/

NOAA El Niño technical info
https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/enso/

Met Office
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/services/government/international-development

Climate Outlook Fora (WMO Factsheet), including:

Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (GHACOF): GHACOF 64 Statement (May 2023)
PRÉvisions climatiques Saisonnières en Afrique Soudano-Sahélienne (PRESASS): http://acmad.net/rcc/presassS.php (April 2022)
Southern African Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF): http://csc.sadc.int/en/news-and-events/338-the-twenty-sixth-southern-africa-regional-climate-outlook-forum-sarcof-26 (August 2022)
PRÉvisions climatiques Saisonnières en Afrique, pays du Golfe de Guinée (PRESAGG): https://agrhymet.cilss.int/doss/tocharg/2023/02/COMMUNIQUE-FINAL_PRESAGG_2023_VF_Engl.pdf (February 2023)
South-West Indian Ocean Climate Outlook Forum (SWIOCOF) - https://www.commissionoceanindien.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/SWIOCOF11_Statement-EN-final.pdf (September 2022)

Technical notes

The WMO lead centre for long-range forecast multi-model ensemble (LC-LRFMME) produce a probabilistic multi-model mean forecast product in which the multi-model mean is based on uncalibrated model output with a model weighting system that accounts for errors in both the forecast probability and ensemble mean. The method used by LC-LRFMME separately computes a probabilistic forecast and calculates tercile probabilities with respect to climatology for each individual model, before creating the weighted multi-model mean. In seasonal prediction, shifts in the tercile probabilities are always closely associated with the shifts in the probability of extremes, and we can use the probability of terciles to provide information on the likelihood of above- or below- normal conditions. The thresholds used in the forecast summaries are defined below.

Seasonal forecasts rely on the aspects of the global weather and climate system that are more predictable, such as tropical sea-surface temperatures or the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO). However, whilst such forecasts may be able to show what is more or less likely to occur, they acknowledge that other outcomes are possible.

In addition, forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range so the 6-month outlook is less reliable. It is also based on less information, because not all models are available to this range. Therefore the information presented here should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards, and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

In the report and tables precipitation is referred to as rainfall but in fact encompasses any form of water, liquid or solid, falling from the sky. Temperatures are the (2 metre) near-surface temperature.

Description	Definition
Much more likely to be below normal	When probability of lower tercile > 70%
More likely to be below normal	When probability of lower tercile is 40-70%
Likely to be near-normal	When probability of middle tercile is 40-70%
Much more likely to be near-normal	When probability of middle tercile > 70%
Likely to be above normal	When probability of upper tercile is 40-70%
Much more likely to be above normal	When probability of upper tercile > 70%
Climatological odds	When probabilities for all categories are roughly 33%

Global Producing Centres (GPC) forecasts used by WMO LC-LRFMME:

- GPC CPTEC (INPE),
- GPC ECMWF,
- GPC Exeter (Met Office),
- GPC Melbourne (BOM),
- GPC Montreal (CMC),
- GPC Moscow (Hydromet Centre of Russia),
- GPC Offenbach (DWD),
- GPC Pretoria (SAWS),
- GPC Seoul (KMA),
- GPC Tokyo (JMA),
- GPC Toulouse (Meteo France),
- GPC Washington (NCEP)

Enquiries

Email: internationaldevelopment@metoffice.gov.uk

Web: https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/services/government/international-development