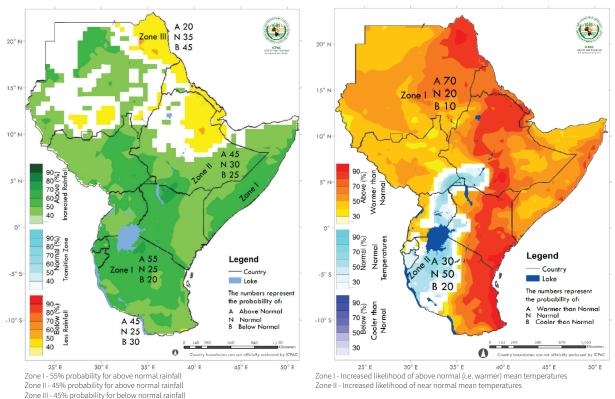


## OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2019 CLIMATE OUTLOOK FOR SOUTH SUDAN - FAO KEY MESSAGES

Based on the 53rd Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (GHACOF 53) Workshop held in Hyatt Hotel, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 26th to 28th August 2019





December 2019

Figure 2: Greater Horn of Africa Mean Surface Temperature Outlook for October to

October to December constitute an important rainfall season in South Sudan as this is the main cereal harvest period in both bi-modal areas (with second season crops) and unimodal areas.

RAINFALL OUTLOOK: From October to December 2019, there is a high probability of above normal rainfall in the eastern part of the country with normal and below normal rainfall in the other parts of the country. All counties of South Sudan fall within the highest probability of above normal rainfall (Zone I & II) with slight variations in rainfall intensity. However, the former States of Jonglei, most parts of Upper Nile and Eastern Equatoria have a higher probability (55%) of above normal rainfall while the rest of the country has a 45% probability of above normal rainfall.

**TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK**: There is an increased likelihood of above normal (i.e. warmer) mean temperatures in most parts of the country with increased likelihood of near average temperatures in the south-eastern part of the country. In particular, former Northern and Western Bahr-el Ghazal, Warrap, Lakes, Central and Western Equatoria, Upper Nile, Unity and the northern part of Jonglei will experience warmer temperatures. There is an increased likelihood of near normal mean temperatures in the eastern part of Budi and Kapoeta East of former Eastern Equatoria.

## IMPLICATIONS OF THE CLIMATE OUTLOOK ON AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK IN SOUTH SUDAN

- The above normal rainfall forecast for most of South Sudan is likely to continue sustaining pasture growth as well as water availability and recharging of hafirs in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas. This will further sustain livestock body conditions and ensure continued milk supply for consumption.
- Incidents of livestock diseases are however likely to increase due to favorable climatic conditions i.e. warmer temperatures and increased humidity.
- The above normal rainfall conditions and warmer temperatures in most parts of the country is also likely to increase incidents of plant diseases and pest infestation, thus affecting productivity of crops still in the field.
- During harvesting period, above normal rainfall conditions are likely to slow down the drying of crops in readiness for harvesting and this may lead to crop losses.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continuous crop monitoring to be adopted in order to provide early warning for early action, especially with the threat of reduced production due to excessive rain during the harvesting period.
- Advocate for timely harvest and proper post-harvest practices to farmers to minimize crop loss.
- Promote planting of early maturing crops such as cowpeas and other vegetables to take advantage of the remainder of the rainy season.
- Enhance livestock diseases surveillance systems for early detection, identification and reporting on animal health risks for timely intervention.
- Vaccination against deadly diseases is recommended during this period of the season to minimize livestock loss.

