

# Somalia Rainfall Outlook for Gu 2015

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SWALIM

## Normal rains expected in most parts of Somalia during the Gu 2015 season

The Gu rainy season is the primary cropping season because it is more dominant in terms of quantity and reliability. 75% of the annual rainfall in Somalia is recorded during this season. The Gu rains start in March/April and ends at different times throughout the country depending on the movement of the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ). The long term average Gu rainfall distribution for Somalia is given in Figure 1.

According to the recently issued climate forecast for the Greater Horn of Africa, the 2015 Gu rainy season in Somalia is expected to be **within normal**, however, there is increased likelihood of near normal to below normal rains (zone II, Figure 2) with 40% probability of experiencing normal rains and 35% probability of below normal rains in most parts of the country.

However, the North Eastern and Southern most parts of the country are expected to receive enhanced rains with 40% probability of normal rains and 35% probability of above normal rains during the same period. The rains are expected to benefit all sectors including agriculture, livestock, and water resources.

It should be noted that this is a probabilistic forecast designed for a regional audience that addresses the cumulative rainfall forecast over the three-month period from (March to May 2015). The rainfall pattern may vary from place to place with the areas expected to receive high rains experiencing periods of prolonged dry spells and areas expected to receive low rains experiencing heavy storms. However, SWALIM and other technical partners will keep updating this forecast for shorter lead time periods and will share with you through the regular bulletins throughout the rainfall season.

For more information about the climate outlook methodology and statement visit: <http://www.icpac.net>

Figure 1: Long term average Gu rainfall in Somalia

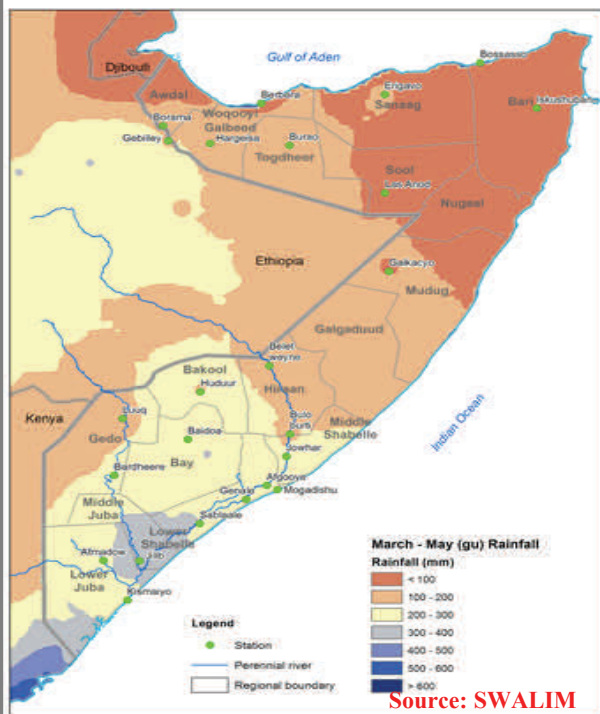
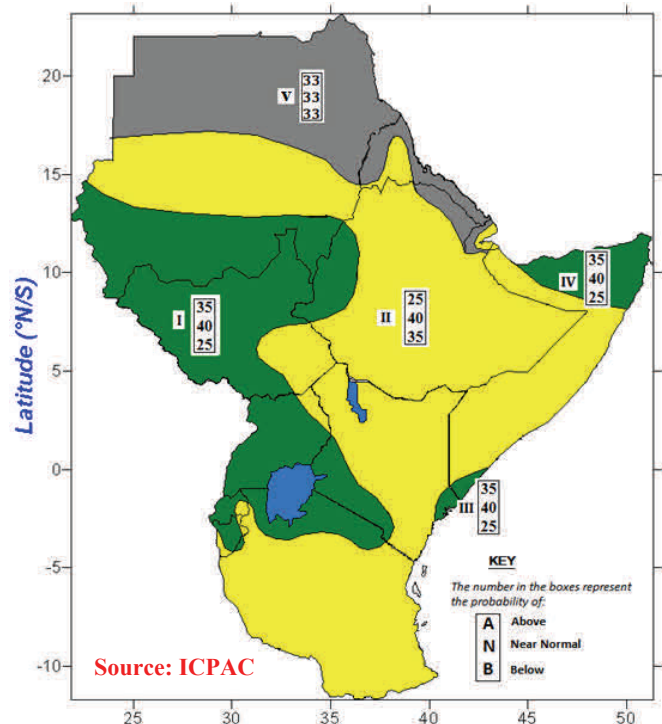


Figure 2: Rainfall Outlook for March to May 2015



**Zone I:** Increased likelihood of normal to above normal rainfall.

**Zone II:** Increased likelihood of near normal to below normal rainfall.

**Zone III:** Increased likelihood of near normal to above normal rainfall

**Zone IV:** Increased likelihood of near normal to above normal rainfall

**Zone V:** This zone is usually dry during March to May season.

### SWALIM Technical Partners



### SWALIM Funding Agencies

