

SOMALIA WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Valid From 1st to 7th November 2023

Extremely heavy rainfall is expected over Gedo, Lower Juba, Hiran, and Togdheer regions; Moderate to heavy rainfall over several other parts except for Bari region and coastal areas of the country where light rains is expected.

Review of the Weather for the Period 25th to 31st October 2023

During the period under review, thirty-seven (37) stations observed cumulative rainfall equal to or greater than 30 mm with rainfall of at least 1 mm being recorded in seventy-four (74) stations spread across the country (Graph 1). The following eighteen (18) stations received substantial rainfall amounting to 60 mm and above: Qansax Dheere (254.5 mm), Baidoa (164.5 mm), Buur Hakaba (115.4 mm), Dinsor (77 mm) and Bardaale (125 mm) in Bay region, Bardheere (196 mm) in Gedo region, Jowhar (136.7 mm) in Middle Shabelle region, El Barde (120.5 mm) and Hudur (69 mm) in Bakool region, Berbera (110 mm), Laas Dawaco (80 mm), and Dooxaguban (85.5 mm) in Woqooyi Galbeed region, Wanlewayne (77.2 mm) in Lower Shabelle region, Mogadishu (68.7 mm) in Banadir region, Gargara (65 mm) and Lughaye (61 mm) in Awdal region, Sheikh (65 mm) in Togdheer region, Waridaad (61.5 mm) in Sool region.

The longest rainy periods were observed at Baidoa (164.5 mm in 6 days), Jowhar (136.7 mm in 5 days), Bardaale (125 mm in 5 days) and Bulo Burte (54.5 mm in 5 days). The most intense rains were received at Berbera (110 mm in a day), Bardheere (196 mm in 2 days) and Gargara (65 mm in a day).

Forecast of the Weather for the Period 1st to 7th November 2023

Extremely heavy rainfall is expected over Gedo, Lower Juba, Hiran, and Togdheer regions; moderate to heavy rainfall is anticipated over several other parts except for Bari region and coastal areas of the country where light rains is expected. A three-days forecast shows that much of these rains are likely to be received between 1st and 3rd November 2023. The spatio-temporal variation of the forecast rainfall (Map 1) is described below:

Extremely heavy rainfall of between 150 mm and 200 mm

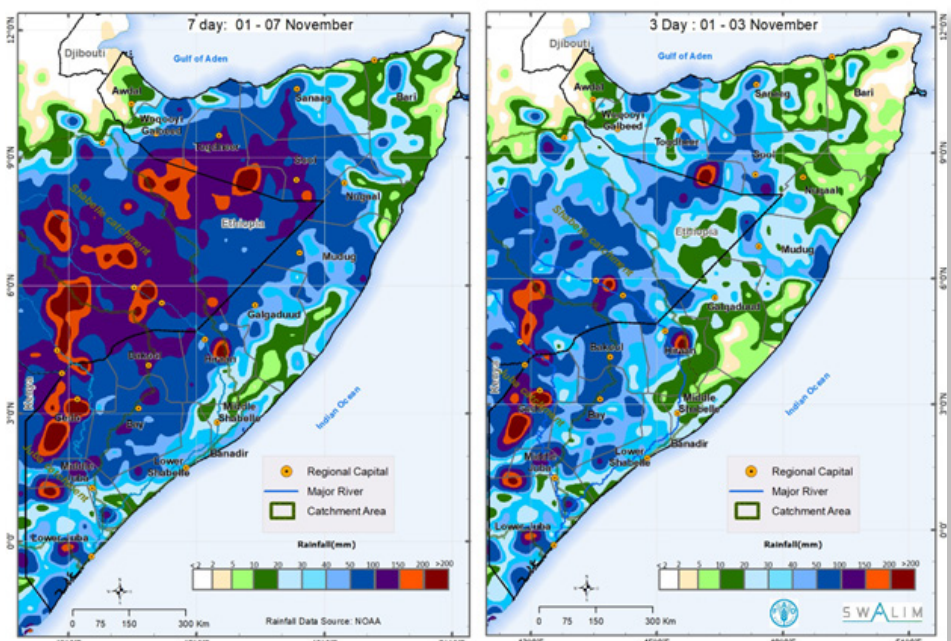
is expected over several areas in Gedo region, Afmadow district in Lower Juba region, southern parts of Saakow district in Middle Juba region, Beletweyne and Bulo Burte districts in Hiraan region, southern parts of Togdheer region, and Las Anod. The rains particularly over Gedo region, northern parts of Afmadow district in Lower Juba region, southern parts of Beletweyne district and northern parts of Bulo Burte district in Hiraan region, and Buuhodle district and southern parts of Burco district in Togdheer region are likely to be very intense leading up more than 200 mm. Rains of comparable amounts is also forecast over the middle and upper catchments of both Juba and Shabelle Rivers in Ethiopian Highlands.

Moderate to heavy rainfall of between 50 mm and 100 mm is forecast over most areas in Bakool, Bay, Saakow and Jilib districts in

The rains received in the last week alone over Qansax Dheere (254.5 mm), Bardheere (196 mm), Baidoa (164.5 mm) and Jowhar (136.7 mm) represents 140 %, 91 %, 71 %, and 70 % of their total Deyr LTM. This is a clear demonstration of the El Nino impact on the Deyr rainfall over the southern parts of the country.

Significant fluctuations in water levels were observed along both Juba and Shabelle Rivers since Wednesday 25th November 2023 when SWALIM issued its last weekly bulletin. Heavy rains received at Luuq and Bardheere led to flash floods that damaged croplands in both areas and threatened to cut off road transport into and out of Luuq town. The subsequent run off later resulted in sharp rise in the water levels along the Juba River surpassing the established high flood risk thresholds thus posing continued risk. At Jowhar, moderate rains led to flash floods that affected livelihood activities in the town and surrounding areas including IDP camps at Bada Cas and croplands, as reported on 31st October 2023. The water levels along the Shabelle River have fluctuated just below the moderate flood risk level.

Middle Juba region, Cabudwaaq district in Galgaduud region, Galdogob district, eastern and southern parts of Gaalkayo district and northern parts of Hobyo district in Mudug region, and isolated areas in Lower Juba region. Towards the north, rainfall of similar amounts is also anticipated over several areas in Togdheer and Sool regions, Hargeisa district in Woqooyi Galbeed region, Ceel Afweyn district and southern parts of Ceerigaabo district in Sanaag region, Burtinle district in Nugaal region, and isolated areas in Bari region.



Map 1: 7-Days and 3-Days Cumulative rainfall forecast over Somalia

Light to rainfall of below 50 mm is expected over several areas in Lower Shabelle and Middle Shabelle regions, central parts of Lower Juba region, Bualle district in middle Juba region, and Jalalaqsi district in Hiraan region. Such rains are also expected over the central parts of the country including Galgaduud region, Xarardheere district and southern parts of Hobyo district in Mudug region, Eyl and Garowe districts in Nugaal region. In the north, rains of such amounts are expected over several areas in Bari region, Laasqoray district and eastern parts of Ceerigaabo district in Sanaag region, Gebiley district and central parts of Berbera district in Woqooyi Galbeed, Baki and Lughaye districts in Awdal region.

Dry conditions are expected over the coastal areas in both Iskushuban and Caluula districts in Bari region and the southern parts of Borama district and western parts of Zeylac district in Awdal region.

High temperatures of between 35°C and 45°C are likely over Badhaadhe, Kismaayo and Jamame districts in Lower Juba region, Jilib district in Middle Juba region, and Sablaale and Baraawe districts in Lower Shabelle region. Milder temperatures of between 20°C and 25°C are likely over the highlands in central parts of Sanaag region, northern parts of Bari region particularly Qandala district, northwestern parts of Togdheer region particularly Burco district, southwestern parts of Woqooyi Galbeed particularly Gebiley district, and Borama district in Awdal region. The rest of the areas in country is expected to observe moderate temperatures with temperatures between 25°C and 30°C likely in the southern and that between 30°C and 35°C dominant over the northern parts.

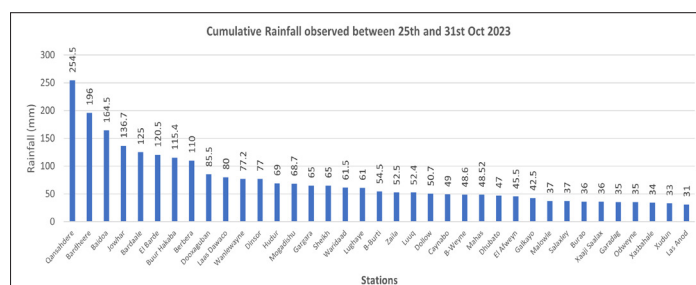
Based on both rainfall and temperature conditions a dry but warm air mass is expected over Borama district in Awdal region. A favorable wet air mass with milder temperatures is likely to be observed over of the highlands in central parts of Sanaag region, western parts of Togdheer region, and southern parts of Woqooyi Galbeed. There is very low likelihood of dry and hot and wet and hot conditions both of which are unfavorable for economic and social livelihoods.

Current River Levels

Significant fluctuations in water levels were observed along both Juba and Shabelle Rivers over the last one week. Compared to observations taken on the 25th of October 2023 along Juba River, today's (1st November 2023) water levels represent increases from 3.78 m to 5.80 m at Dollow, from 4.58 m to 6.40 m at Luuq, from 7.10 m to 9.00 m at Bardheere, and from 7.4 m to 7.70 m at Bualle. The high flood risk levels have subsequently been surpassed by 80 cm, 40 cm and 80 cm at Dollow, Luuq and Bardheere, respectively. The implication is that the water levels are now **just 20 cm, 60 cm and 140 cm below the bankful levels at Dollow, Luuq and Bardheere, respectively.**

Along Shabelle river, today's (1st November 2023) water levels represent increase from 6.22 m to 6.50 m at Beletweyne, from 5.48 m to 5.94 m at Bulo Burte, and from 4.28 m to 4.30 m at Jowhar, compared to 25th October 2023. These fluctuations mean that water levels are now **at moderate flood risk level at Beletweyne and just 56 cm and 70 cm below at Bulo Burte and Jowhar, respectively.**

Figures 1 and 2 show the current river levels against the Short Term Mean and 2022 levels for Belet Weyne and Luuq stations respectively.



Graph 1: Cumulative rainfall (mm) at different stations between 25th and 31st October 2023

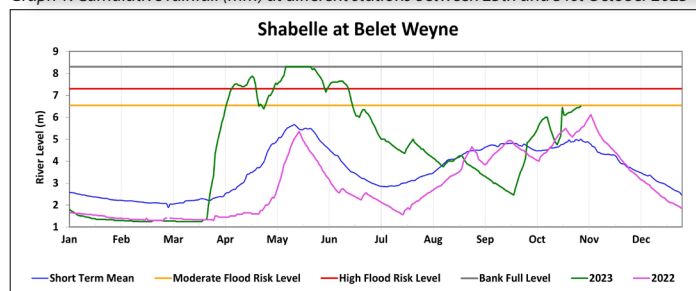


Figure 1: Shabelle river level at Belet Weyne gauging station as on 1st November 2023

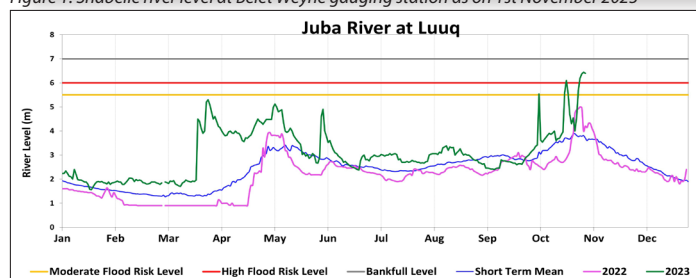


Figure 2: Juba River level at Luuq gauging station as on 1st November 2023

Impacts Associated with the Weekly Weather Forecast

The heavy rainfall of above 150 mm predicted over the Ethiopian highlands and over both Juba and Shabelle river catchment areas within the country are likely to result in voluminous runoff into the river streams. Following the approximately one-month long rains, the accelerated run off over the already saturated soils will lead to a rise in water levels along the Juba and Shabelle rivers posing **high risk of flooding from the first part of the forecast period onwards**. There is an added **potential high risk of flash flooding in susceptible built-up areas** in Gedo region, northern parts of Afmadow district in Lower Juba region, southern parts of Beletweyne district and northern parts of Bulo Burte district in Hiraan region, and Buuhodle district and southern parts of Burco district in Togdheer regions as a result of the anticipated heavy storms. Residents living within these vulnerable areas are strongly advised to remain vigilant and take necessary precautions. It is imperative to proactively implement both riverine and flash flood anticipatory measures, especially in vulnerable areas, as an integral component of the early warning system.

Based on both rainfall and temperature conditions, there is very low likelihood of dry and hot and wet and hot conditions. A dry and warm air mass is expected over Borama district in Awdal region which is likely to lead to significant evapotranspiration. The wet soil conditions associated with the seasonal rainfall projection will still favor crop, pasture, and fodder production. A favorable wet air mass with milder temperatures is likely to be observed over of the highlands in central parts of Sanaag region, western parts of Togdheer region, and southern parts of Woqooyi Galbeed leading to less evapotranspiration. The conditions are therefore generally favorable for socio-economic livelihood activities including crop as well as fodder growth.

SWALIM is a multi-donor project managed by FAO and currently funded by The European Union, SDC, FCDO, Government of France and USAID



Funded by the European Union

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

British Embassy Mogadishu

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité



USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE