

## SOMALIA WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Valid From 11th to 17th Oct 2023

**Moderate to heavy rains expected over northern regions**, specifically in Woqooyi Galbeed, Togdheer, Sool, and Sanaag. The heaviest precipitation is projected to occur during the initial three days of the forecast period.

### Review of the Weather for the Period 4th to 11th Oct 2023

During the review period, various regions in southern Somalia experienced substantial rainfall. Baidoa, in particular, recorded an exceptionally high amount of precipitation at 179.7 mm on October 4th, resulting in extensive flash floods within the town. Similarly, Luuq received a significant amount of rainfall, measuring 123 mm on the same day, leading to limited flooding in nearby farms. Other areas that received noteworthy rainfall, surpassing 30 mm, include Galdogob (54.9 mm), Las Anod (47 mm), Mataban (35.3 mm), Buuhoodle (35 mm), Bulu Burti (34.5 mm), Xaaji Sallax (32 mm), and Galkayo (31 mm) (Graph 1).

Additionally, there were reports of riverine floods at Mahaday Weyne due to river breakages and moderate rains received on October 5th, 2023.

The levels along Shabelle River at Belet Weyne have been rising steadily since mid-September due to the light to moderate rains received over the catchment within the country and upstream in the Ethiopian Highlands. The levels along the Juba River in the upstream stations are gradually increasing while in the lower stretches, the levels have been fluctuating over the last one week. Along the entire stretch the river levels are above the short-term mean.

### Forecast of the Weather for the Period 11th to 17th Oct 2023

**Moderate to heavy rainfall** of between 50 and 100 mm is anticipated in the northern regions of the country, especially in proximity to Gebiley, Hargeisa, and areas adjacent to the Ethiopian border in Woqooyi Galbeed. Part of Togdheer region is expected to experience similar high amount of rainfall especially Sheikh, Odweyn and Buuhoodle districts. In Sanaag region the highest amount of rainfall within the forecast period is expected in Ceel Afweyn and Erigavo districts. Areas around Qardho and Qandala in Bari, as well as Garowe and Burtinle in Nugaal, should anticipate a comparable pattern. Rainfall of comparable amounts is also likely to be observed in many parts of Sool region with chances of heavier storms localized over Xudun, Taleex, and Buuhodle districts.

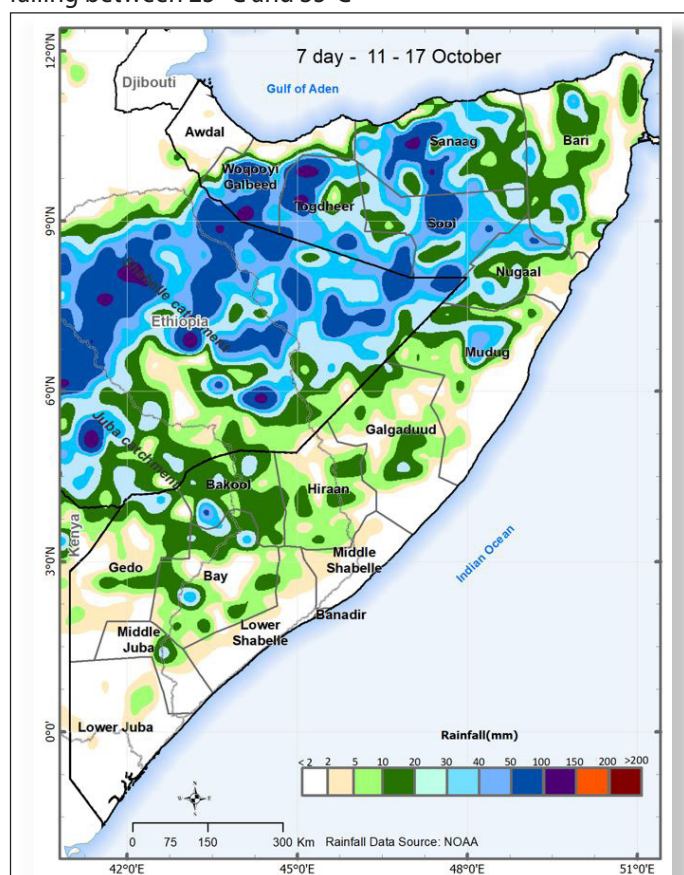
Other parts of the country expected to receive moderate to heavy rainfall include Galkayo and Hobyo in Mudug, Waajid in Bakool, Diinsor in Bay, and Bualle in Middle Juba Region. It is important to point out that rainfall of similarly moderate to heavy amounts is forecast over the Ethiopian highlands. Within Somalia, the heaviest precipitation is projected to occur during the initial three days of the forecast period especially in the northern parts of the country.

**Light to moderate rainfall** is anticipated in Ceel Waaq and Luuq districts in Gedo, Baydhaba in Bay, extensive areas of Bakool, parts of Hiraan particularly Jalalaqsi and Bulu Burti districts, Ceel Buur and Cabudwaaq in Galgaduud, and most parts of western Mudug.

The rest of the country is likely to experience scattered light showers throughout the week as per the forecast.

### Temperature Forecast

Elevated temperatures are likely in the southwestern Gedo, as well as the western regions of Middle and Lower Juba, ranging from 35 °C to 45 °C. Meanwhile, the majority of other areas in the country is likely to experience more moderate temperatures, falling between 25 °C and 35 °C

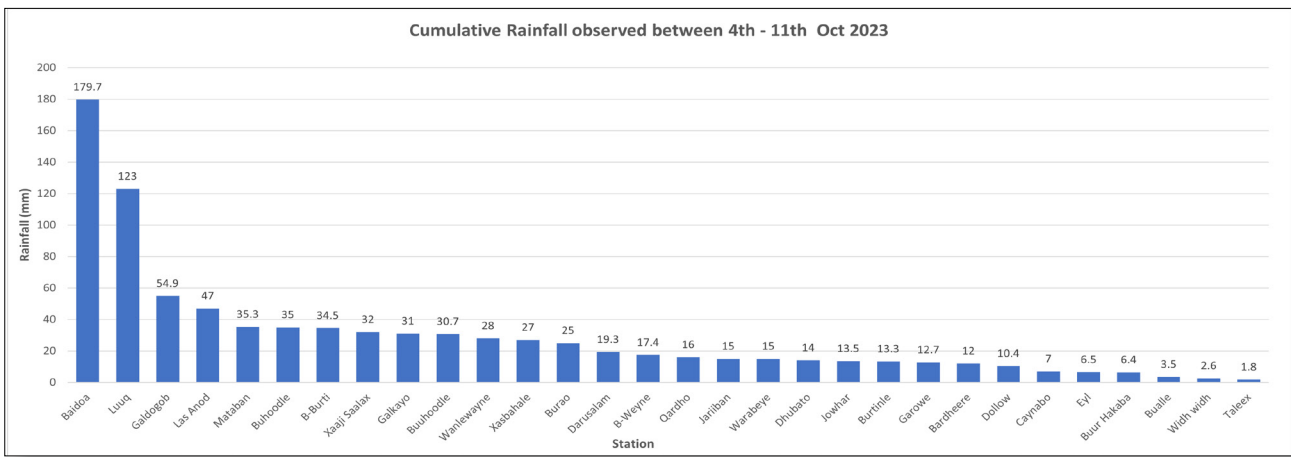


Map 1: Cumulative rainfall forecast over Somalia between 11th and 17th October 2023

### Current River Levels

The water levels along the Shabelle Rivers have shown a consistent increase, attributed to the occurrence of light to moderate rainfall within the country's catchment area and upstream in the Ethiopian Highlands. Notably, at the Belet Weyne, Bulu Burti, and Jowhar Stations in Shabelle river and along the Juba River, specifically at the Dollow, Luuq, Bardheere, and Bualle stations, the river levels have exceeded both the short-term average and the levels recorded in 2022. The levels along the Juba River in the upstream stations are gradually increasing while in the lower stretches, the levels have been fluctuating over the last one week.

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) observed at different stations between 4th - 11th Oct 2023 across Somalia

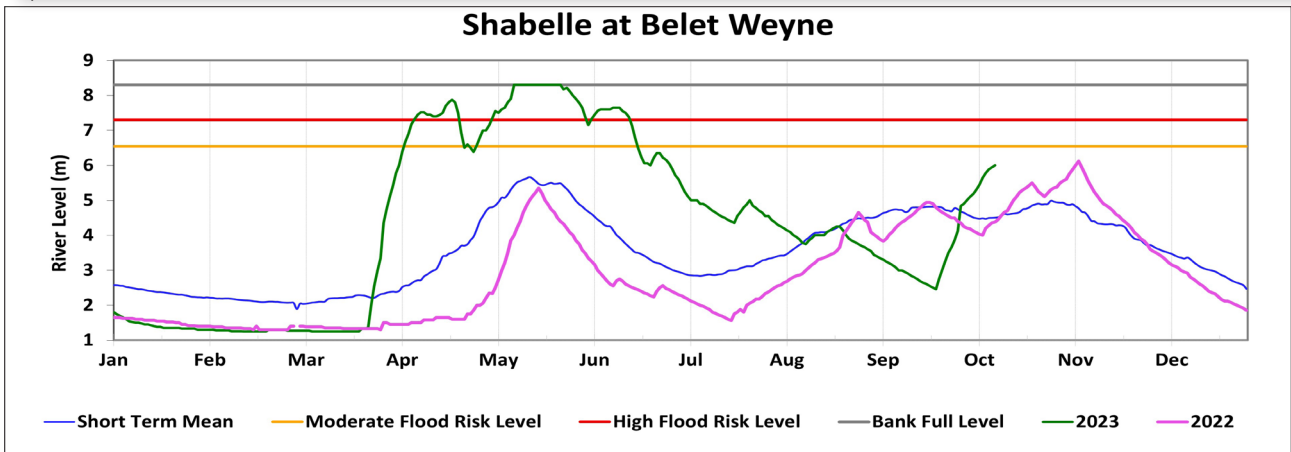


Figure 1: Shabelle river level at Belet Weyne gauging station as at 11th Oct 2023

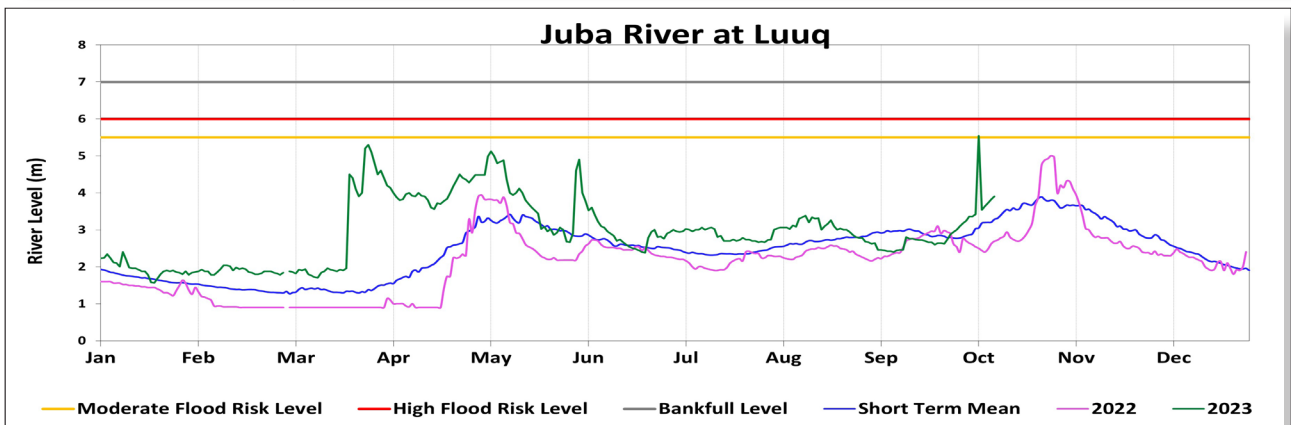


Figure 2: Juba River level at Luuq gauging station as at 11th Oct 2023

### Impacts Associated with the Weekly Weather Forecast

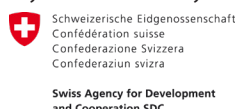
The moderate to heavy rains predicted over the Ethiopian highlands and over the river catchment areas within the country are likely to result in accelerated runoff into the river streams. Given the already saturated soils, it is projected that the runoff will lead to a rise in water levels along the Juba and Shabelle rivers posing risk of moderate flooding during the forecast period. Considering the forecasted heavy storms in the areas under moderate to heavy rainfall, there is also a potential risk of flash floods in susceptible built-up areas, such as Sheikh, Burco, Erigavo and Qarhdo towns. 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.

The anticipated moderate to heavy rainfall expected over the agropastoral livelihood zones in the northern, central and southwestern parts of the country will be favorable for late planting and crop germination as well as fodder growth. The projected weekly precipitation, combined with the moderate temperatures ranging between 25°C and 35°C across most parts of the country, will create warm soil conditions ideal for germination. However, the moderately high temperatures, exceeding 35°C, in Lower Juba region and the southwestern parts of Gedo region, could result in significant evapotranspiration. However, the wet soil conditions associated with the seasonal rainfall projection will still favor crop, pasture and fodder production.

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