

SOMALIA WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Valid From 30th October to 5th November 2024

Moderate to heavy rainfall expected over central parts of Somaliland with a sustained spread of light to moderate rains from Ethiopia into Bakool region of Somalia.

Weather Review for the week between 22 and 28 October 2024

The last week of October was marked by moderate rainfall in the central parts of Somaliland and light rainfall in the central parts of the country, particularly Hirshaeblla region, with 52 stations (Figure 1) receiving more than 1 mm of rain between 22 and 28 October 2024. The following stations received moderate rainfall of more than 50.0 mm: Widh Widh (98.9 mm), Xudun (85.4 mm), Las Anod (74.0 mm), Garadag (69.0 mm), and Caynabo (65.0 mm) in Sool region; Dhubato (86.5 mm), Cadaadley (49.0 mm) in Woqooyi Galbeed Region; Gacanlibaah (84.0 mm), and Sheikh (75.0 mm) in Togdheer region. Light rainfall between 30.0 and 50.0 mm was received in the following stations: Wanle Weyn (44 mm), and Jowhar (31.1 mm) in Middle Shabelle, Xaji-Salah (41.0 mm), and Burao (30.5 mm) in Togdheer region; and Mataban (40 mm) and Belet Weyne (38.4 mm) in Hiraan region.

The light (25 – 50 mm) to moderate (more than 50 mm) rainfall observed over the nearby portions of Juba and Shabelle River catchments in Ethiopia is likely to have generated run off that led to the rise in the river levels.

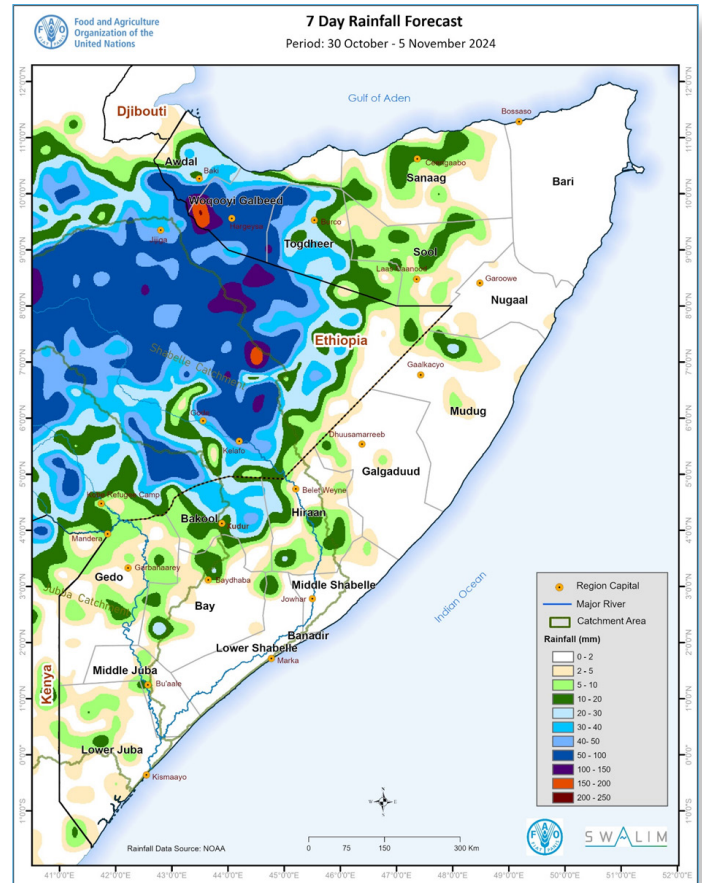
Based on the seasonal forecast, Deyr rains are expected to have spread southwestwards into South-West and Jubaland States by the end of October. However, dry conditions generally prevailed over Lower Juba, Middle Juba and most parts of Middle Shabelle, Lower Shabelle, and Gedo regions.

Weather Forecast for the week between 30 October and 05 November 2024

According to NAA-NCEP GFS, rainfall is expected to continue over most parts of Somaliland with a sustained spread of light rains over Hiran, Bay and Bakool regions. The expected eastward and southward distribution of the rains from Somaliland during this time of the season seems to have been hindered by a poorly organized Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ). Cloudiness in the south, particularly over Lower Juba, Middle Juba and Gedo regions will only translate to light rains. However, there are chances of somehow intense rains in the second week of November.

The temporal and spatial distribution of the forecast rainfall (Map 1) are as follows:

Heavy cumulative rainfall between 100 mm to 150 mm is expected over southern parts of both Borama and Baki districts in Awdal region, southern half of Gebiley district and southwestern parts of Hargeisa district in Woqooyi Galbeed region. Similarly heavy rain is likely over the southern border areas of Hargeisa and Owdweyne district in Togdheer region. The rains in some of these areas is likely to be intense leading up to up to 200 mm by the end of the week. It is important to also note that such intense rains are also likely over some isolated areas within the middle portions of Shabelle River catchment in Ethiopia.



Map 1: Cumulative rainfall forecast over Somalia between 30 October and 5 November 2024

Moderate rainfall between 50 and 100 mm is likely over the following most parts of Hargeisa district in Woqooyi Galbeed region, southern halves of both Baki and Borama districts in Awdal region, Sheikh and western parts of Owdweyne district in Togdheer region, southwestern parts of Baki in Awdal region. Most parts of the northern sections of the middle portions of Shabelle River catchment in Ethiopia are expected to receive such moderate rains.

Light cumulative rainfall of less than 50 mm is forecast over vast areas in Togdheer and Bakool regions, northern half of Awdal region, northern ranges areas in Sanaag region, central parts of Sool region, and Galkacyo district in Mudug region. Isolated rains over Hiraan, Bay, Gedo, Middle Juba and Lower Juba regions are also likely to cumulate to less than 50.0 mm at the end of the forecast week.

Dry conditions are likely to prevail over vast areas in Bari, Nugaal, Mudug, Galgaduud, Banadir, Middle Shabelle, Lower Shabelle, Middle Juba, Lower Juba, and Gedo regions and southern parts of Bay region. It is important to note that except for northern ranges in Sanaag region, the coastal parts of the country are likely to remain dry.

Temperature Forecast

Elevated daily maximum temperatures of above 40 °C are expected in the southern parts of the country particularly over inland areas in Badhaadhe, Kismaayo and Jamaame districts in Lower Juba region, Jilib district in Middle Juba region, and Sablaale and Kurtunwarey districts in Lower Shabelle region. Most inland areas in Lower Juba, Middle Juba, Gedo, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Hiraan, central parts of Galgaduud region, and some parts of Bay and Bakool regions are also likely to observe moderately high daily maximum temperatures of between 35°C and 40 °C.

Moderate daily maximum temperatures of between 30 °C and 35°C are likely to be observed over the entire Puntland, Lughaye and Zeylac districts and northern half of Baki district in Awdal region, Berbera district in Woqooyi Galbeed region, Ceel Afweyn district in Sannag region, central parts of Sool region, central parts of Bay region including Baidoa district, the northern half of Bakool region including Xudur district, and the coastal areas of Lower Juba, Middle Juba, and Lower Shabelle regions

Moderately low daily maximum temperatures of between 25 °C and 30°C are expected over most areas in Sanaag and Togdheer regions, Borama and southern half of Baki district in Awdal region, Gebiley and Hargeisa districts in Woqooyi Galbeed region, Laas Canood district in Sool region, Qandala district in Bari region and the narrow eastern coastal strip from Middle Shabelle, Galgaduud, Mudug, Nugaal and Bari regions including Banadir. The areas around Ceerigaabo district in Sanaag region are likely to observe temperatures below 25 °C.

Based on forecast daily minimum temperature, most parts of the country are expected to experience warmer nights (25 °C – 30 °C) except Dollow and Luuq districts in Gedo region and inland parts

of Hobyo district in Mudug region where moderately high nighttime temperatures are likely (30 °C to 35 °C) and Borama district in Awdal region, Gebiley and Hargeisa districts in Woqooyi Galbeed, Sheikh and Burco districts in Togdheer region, Ceerigaabo district in Sanaag region, and Qandala district in Bari region where milder nights (20 °C to 25 °C) are anticipated.

Rainfall Forecast for the Month of November and Beyond

The latest objective ENSO forecast from International Research Institute (IRI) issued on 18 October indicates moderate chances for continued ENSO-neutral conditions in Oct-Nov-Dec 2024. The forecast then favors weak La Niña conditions that remain till February 2025. The Climate Prediction Centre’s (CPC) ENSO forecast issued on 10 October, which includes expert/human judgement, favors the occurrence of La Niña with of 60 % likelihood in September-October-November, 71 % in October-November-December and 75 % in November-December-January.

Based on the evolution of sub-seasonal drivers, moderate rainfall is expected over the greater horn of Africa including Somalia in the second week of November. However, the rains may be short-lived with a 40 -50 % likelihood of cumulative monthly rainfall amounts being below the long-term mean over all the project districts according to North America Multi Model Ensemble (NMME). There is an increased likelihood (up to 50 %) of below normal rains during the November-December-January period.

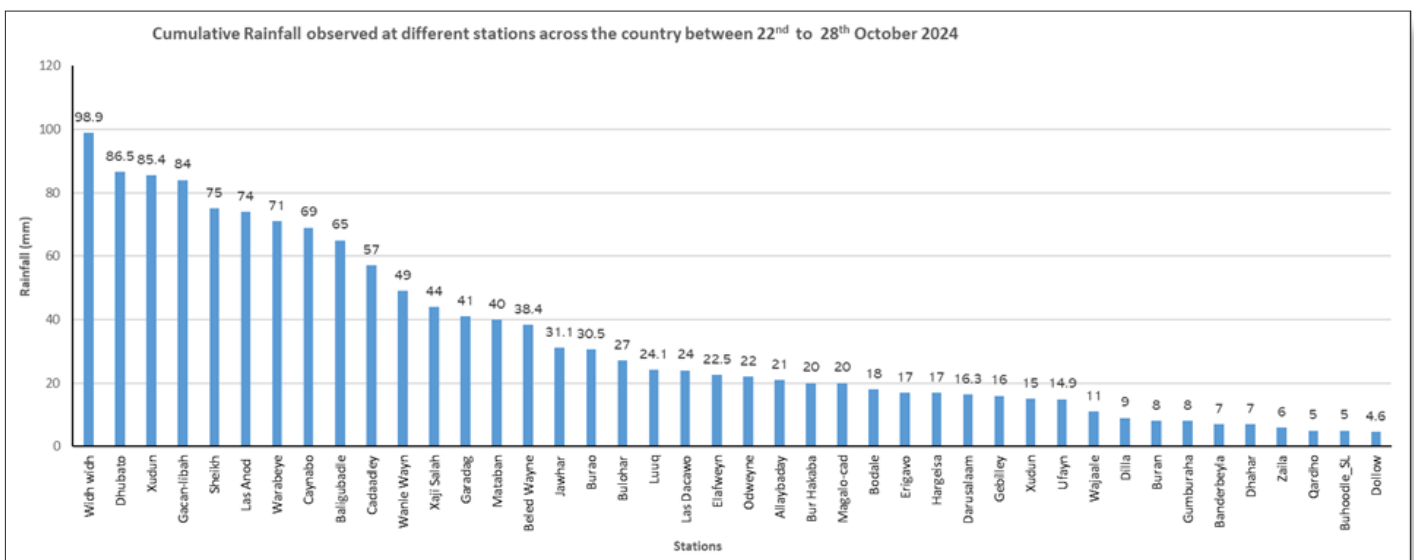
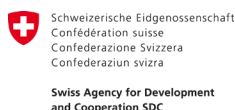


Figure 1: Stations that observed rainfall of more than 1 mm between 22 and 28 October 2024

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



Current River Levels

Although there has been a drop in the water level along the Shabelle River in the last two days at Belet Weyne, the current average level for the week from 23 to 30 October 2024 at Belet Weyne, is higher than the previous week (16 to 22 October 2024). Specifically, the river level rose by 46 cm from 6.85 m to 7.31 m. The current water level is now higher than the LTM and is likely driven by the increased run off following the moderate rainfall in the middle and upper catchment areas in Ethiopia and very recent rains within the country.

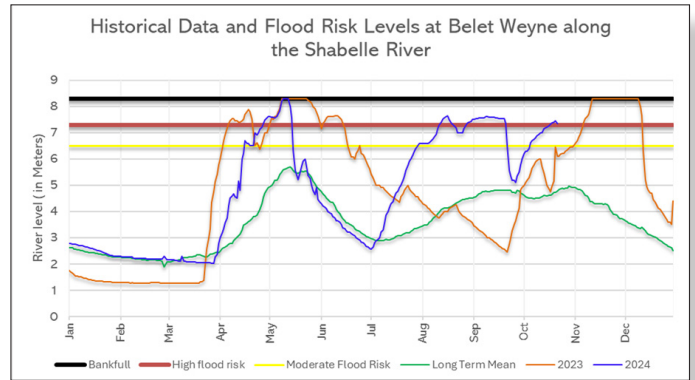
Along the Juba River, the current average level at Luuq represents a 33 cm rise from an average of 3.15 m last week to 3.48 m. The current water level is higher than LTM and is likely to be caused by increased run off following the moderate rainfall in the upper catchment areas in Ethiopia.

Impacts Associated with the Weekly Weather Forecast

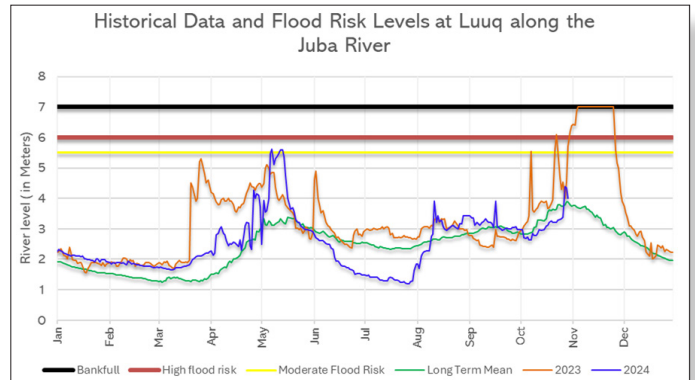
The forecast moderate to heavy rainfall over the middle portion of Shabelle River catchment in Ethiopia is likely to generate sufficient run off to offset the recent drop and sustain the river level above moderate flood risk level at Belet Weyne with a tendency towards high flood risk but below bankful-level by the second week of November. The previously high volume of water is likely to lead to a rise in the water level at Bulo Burte but below flood risk levels. The light to moderate rains forecast over the Juba River catchment in Ethiopia is likely to sustain the steady rise in the river level at Dollow and Luuq but below flood risk levels in the coming week. This calls for continued monitoring of rainfall over the Shabelle River catchment and the river levels, particularly in areas prone to flooding, to mitigate potential impacts on communities along the river.

The forecast moderate temperature (25°C to 35°C) with considerable rainfall (50 mm and 100 mm) is expected to create warm and moist conditions conducive for a range of agropastoral livelihood activities in most parts of Hargeisa district in Woqooyi Galbeed region, southern halves of Baki and Borama districts in Awdal, Sheikh and western parts of Owdweyne district in Togdheer region. Unfortunately, such warm and moist conditions are likely to favor vector-borne diseases, water-borne illnesses, and allergies.

On the other hand, the forecast elevated temperatures above 35 °C with dry conditions and minimal rainfall are likely to result in hot and dry conditions unfavorable for most agropastoral livelihood activities over Lower Juba, Middle Juba, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Gedo, and southern Bay region, particularly in inland areas of Badhaadhe, Kismaayo, Jamaame,



Graph 1: Shabelle River level at Belet Weyne Gauging Station as of 30 October 2024



Graph 2: Juba River level at Luuq Gauging Station as of 30 October 2024

Jilib, Sablaale, and Kurtunwaarey districts. Moreover, such hot and dry conditions are likely to lead to dehydration, heat stress, and exacerbate respiratory problems. The moderately high minimum temperatures (30 °C to 35 °C) forecast over Dollow and Luuq districts in Gedo region and inland parts of Hobyo district in Mudug region are likely to lead to nighttime thermal discomfort.

Given the delayed Deyr rains over Puntland and most areas in the southern parts of the country, and considering the onset of the typically hot and dry Jilaal conditions in the second half of December, the intensity and distribution of rains received in the month of November will dictate the likelihood and magnitude of drought as early as December, which will only be recovered from in April onwards even if substantial rains begin in March 2025.

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