

AFRICAN REGIONAL CLIMATE CENTRE

LONG RANGE FORECAST PRODUCT FOR AFRICA
VALID FOR JANUARY-FEBRUARY-MARCH 2020
AND FEBRUARY-MARCH-APRIL 2020 SEASONS.
ISSUED ON DECEMBER 31, 2019

Highlights

- During January to April 2020, below average precipitation is very likely over southernmost of Cameroon, much of Guinea Equatorial and Gabon.
- Near to below average precipitation is very likely over northern Morocco, south-eastern Angola, western Zambia, northern and eastern Botswana, much of Zimbabwe, Eswatini, north-eastern part of South Africa and southern Madagascar from January to April 2020.
- Over northern Algeria and Tunisia, southernmost of Guinea, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and Benin, southern and eastern of Congo, south-western and easternmost DRC, southern Uganda and Kenya, much of Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania, north-western Angola, eastern Zambia, most parts of Malawi, and northern Mozambique and Madagascar near to above average precipitation is very likely during the season of the January to April 2020.
- Near to above average temperature is very likely over most parts of Northern Africa, northern and central parts of Sahel region, central and western Angola, central Zambia, northern Zimbabwe, central and southern Mozambique, southern South Africa and western Namibia during January to April 2020.
- From January to April 2020, above average temperature is very likely over eastern Angola, south-western Zambia, much of Zimbabwe central, Namibia, Botswana, South Africa, Lesotho and Eswatini.

RECENT SST CONDITIONS AND OUTLOOK

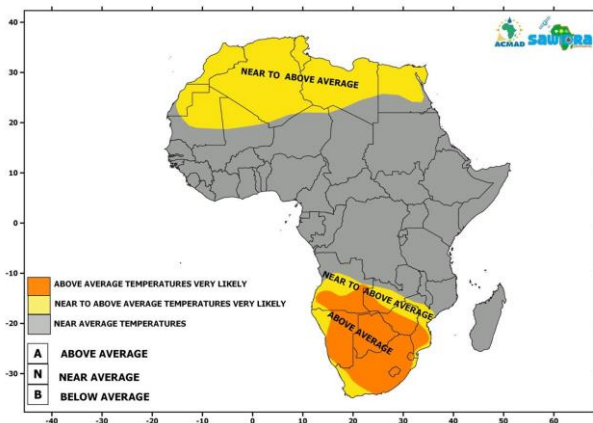
- During December 2019, near to above average of SSTs was observed over the ENSO region. Model output and experts' assessment predicts the persistence of these conditions during the coming three months.
- Over the Tropical North Atlantic (TNA), near below average SSTs were observed during December 2019. This condition will be persisting during the coming three months.
- Over Equatorial Atlantic in the Gulf of Guinea near to above average SSTs prevailed during the last month. This condition will be persisting during the coming few months.
- The Tropical South Atlantic (TSA) region was characterized by above average SSTs during the month December 2019. From January to April 2020 above average SST in this region is expected.
- The SSTs in the Mediterranean Sea, was near average over the eastern and western parts. These conditions are very likely to persist in the next three months.
- Near to above average SSTs were observed over the Western Tropical Indian Ocean (WTIO). Above average condition will be observe in the next three months.
- Over the Southeastern Tropical Indian Ocean (SETIO), near to above average SSTs prevailed during the past month. The persistence of this state pattern is expected during the coming season.
- Below average SSTs were observed over the Southwestern Indian Ocean (SWIO), Persistence of this condition is favorable during the coming few months.

Given these SST anomalies, sub-surface temperature patterns and trends, knowledge and understanding of seasonal climate variability in Africa, and the available long range forecast products from Global Producing Centers for Long Range Forecasts, the following outlooks for precipitation and temperature are provided for January-February-March (JFM) 2020 and February-March-April (FMA) 2020 seasons across Africa (see the figures below):

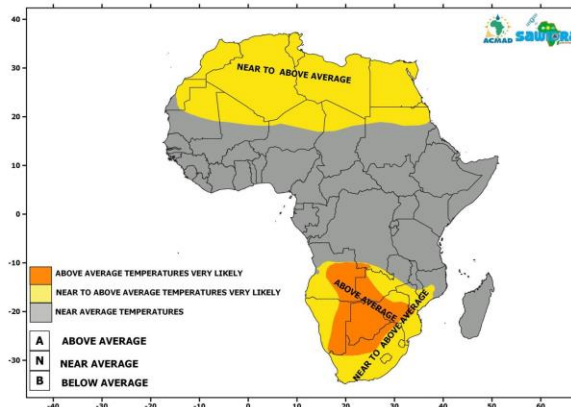
- ✚ During January to April 2020, below average precipitation is very likely over southernmost of Cameroon, much of Guinea Equatorial and Gabon.
- ✚ Near to below average precipitation is very likely over northern Morocco, south-eastern Angola, western Zambia, northern and eastern Botswana, much of Zimbabwe, Eswatini, north-eastern part of South Africa and southern Madagascar from January to April 2020.
- ✚ Over northern Algeria and Tunisia, southernmost of Guinea, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and Benin, southern and eastern of Congo, south-western and easternmost DRC, southern Uganda and Kenya, much of Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania, north-western Angola, eastern Zambia, most parts of Malawi, and northern Mozambique and Madagascar near to above average precipitation is very likely during the season of the January to April 2020.
- ✚ Near to above average temperature is very likely over most parts of Northern Africa, northern and central parts of Sahel region, central and western Angola, central Zambia, northern Zimbabwe, central and southern Mozambique, southern South Africa and western Namibia during January to April 2020.
- ✚ From January to April 2020, above average temperature is very likely over eastern Angola, south-western Zambia, much of Zimbabwe central, Namibia, Botswana, South Africa, Lesotho and Eswatini.

NB: Users are advised to seek more detailed climate information on the distribution of precipitation during the season, impacts and action options from National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and ACMAD website (www.acmad.net/www.acmad.org).

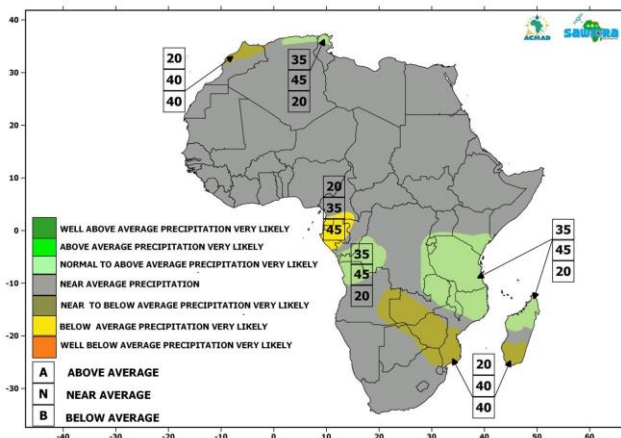
SEASONAL TEMPERATURE FORECAST
FOR JANUARY-FEBRUARY-MARCH 2020
ISSUED ON DECEMBER 31, 2019



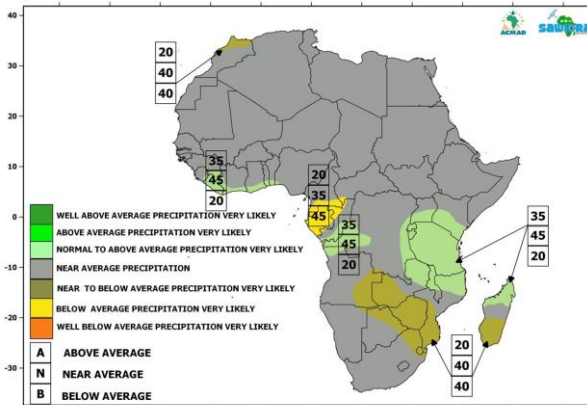
SEASONAL TEMPERATURE FORECAST
FOR FEBRUARY-MARCH-APRIL 2020
ISSUED ON DECEMBER 31, 2019



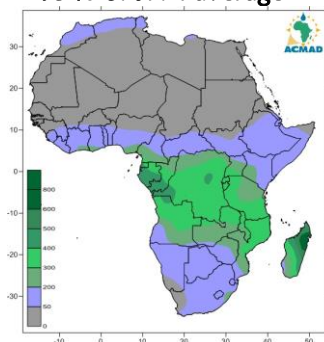
SEASONAL PRECIPITATION FORECAST
FOR JANUARY-FEBRUARY-MARCH 2020
ISSUED ON DECEMBER 31, 2019



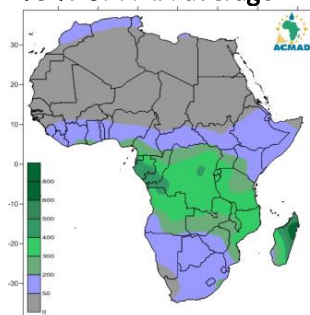
SEASONAL PRECIPITATION FORECAST
FOR FEBRUARY-MARCH-APRIL 2020
ISSUED ON DECEMBER 31, 2019



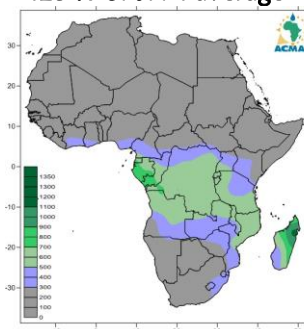
75% of JFM average



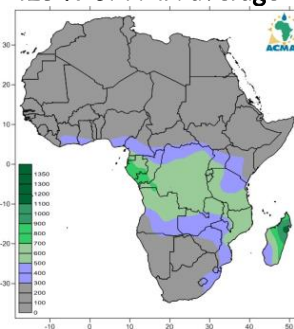
75% of FMA average



125% of JFM average



125% of FMA average



The African seasonal precipitation average based on reference period 1981-2010 for January-February-March (JFM) and February-March-April (FMA), the threshold 75% depicts areas under significant deficits or drought.

Data source: NOAA/NCEP/CPC/CAMS-OPI

The African seasonal precipitation average based on reference period 1981-2010 January-February-March (JFM) and February-March-April (FMA), the threshold 125% depicts areas under significant excess precipitation.

Data source: NOAA/NCEP/CPC/CAMS-OPI