

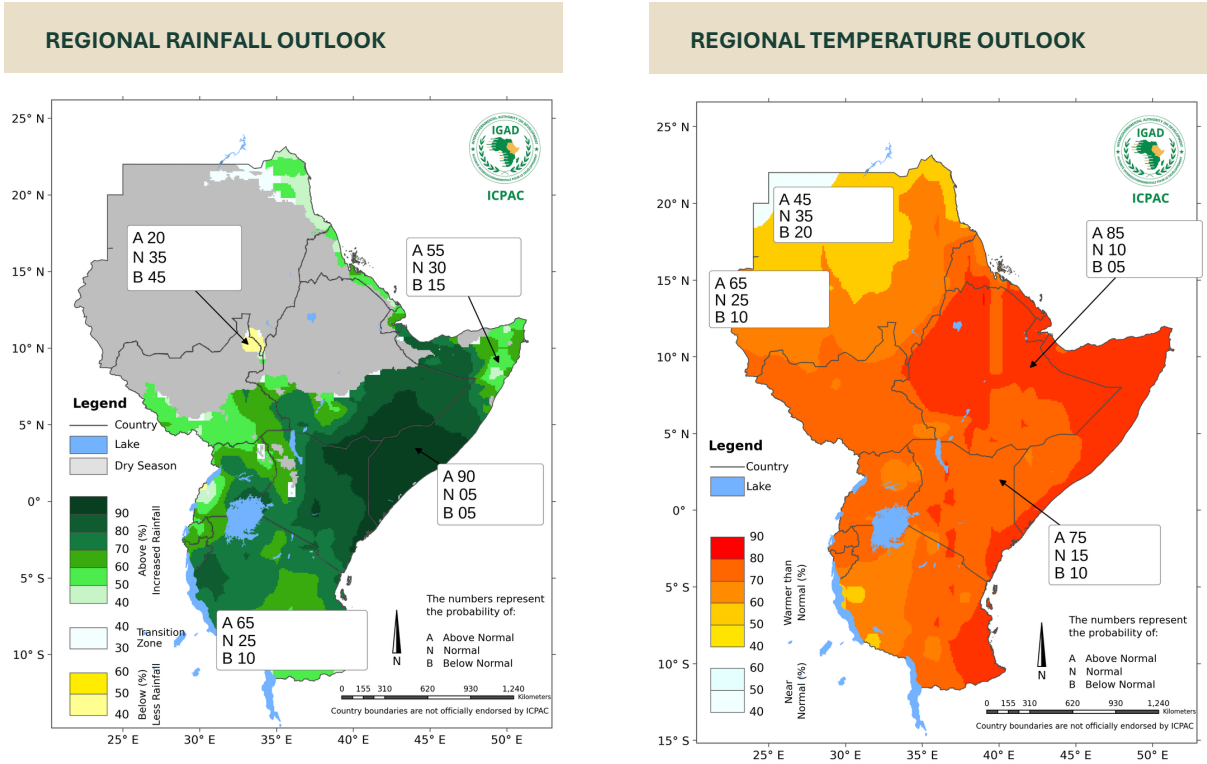
HUMANITARIAN CLIMATE OUTLOOK

OCTOBER–DECEMBER 2026 | CLIMATE INFORMATION TRANSLATED FOR HUMANITARIAN DECISION-MAKING

OND 2026 — THE BIG PICTURE

- Wetter-than-normal and warmer conditions are more likely across much of Eastern Africa, with an earlier start to the rains in some areas.
- El Niño is strengthening, but its regional expression is not uniform. The outlook points to a combination of rainfall variability and above-normal temperatures across Eastern Africa, with implications differing substantially by location.

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HOW TO READ THE MAPS

A = Above-normal | N = Near-normal | B = Below-normal. Numbers show the probability (%) of each category occurring.
Example: A 90 / N 05 / B 05 means a 90% probability of above-normal conditions.
Above-normal rainfall does not necessarily mean flooding, and below-normal rainfall does not necessarily mean drought.

KEY CLIMATE MESSAGES

RAINFALL

Wetter than normal conditions are more likely.

Technical: Above-normal rainfall

RAINY SEASON

Rain may begin earlier than usual in some areas - mid September in parts of Uganda, South Sudan, Ethiopia.

Technical: Earlier onset

TEMPERATURE

Temperatures are likely to be higher than normal.

Technical: Above-average temperature

WHAT THIS FORECAST TELLS US

The outlook indicates the likelihood of conditions being wetter, drier or warmer than normal over the season. It does not predict specific rainfall events, floods or droughts at specific locations and dates. Actual conditions can vary by location and as the season evolves.

Source/Methodology: This brief interprets the October–December (OND) 2026 seasonal rainfall outlook issued by the IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services, released at the 74th Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (GHACOF 74), Kigali, August 2026. Forecasts are probabilistic and should be read alongside ICPAC’s monthly updates and national forecasts as the season progresses. Ethiopia’s hotspot reflects the technical statement’s narrative; a specific probability wasn’t available from this map extract. Full technical statement: [ICPAC](#)

BASED ON THE OND 2026 OUTLOOK

- Wetter-than-normal conditions, earlier rainfall onset in some areas and warmer-than-average temperatures may have different implications across humanitarian programmes and operations.
- The following areas show the clearest above-normal rainfall signal for OND 2026:

SOMALIA

Central to southern parts of the country

KENYA

Central parts, north-eastern/eastern, Lake Victoria Basin

TANZANIA

Eastern and western parts of the country

ETHIOPIA

Southern parts of the country

POTENTIAL HUMANITARIAN IMPLICATIONS

WASH

Potential outcomes: Water contamination, flooding, increased water demand.

Consider: Vulnerable water sources, drainage, storage and emergency supply.

HEALTH & NUTRITION

Potential outcomes: Changing disease risk, heat stress, increased service demand, disruption of health facilities.

Consider: Surveillance trends, facility preparedness and seasonal disease patterns.

LOGISTICS & SUPPLY CHAIN

Potential outcomes: Road/access disruption, delayed supplies, alternative routes, increased transport requirements.

Consider: Alternative routes, transport plans and pre-positioning.

SHELTER, SETTLEMENTS & NON-FOOD ITEMS

Potential outcomes: Flooding of settlements, damage to shelters, displacement, increased shelter and household-item needs.

Consider: Flood-prone locations, shelter resilience, contingency stocks, evacuation arrangements and displacement planning.

FOOD SECURITY & LIVELIHOODS

Potential outcomes: Crop and livestock impacts, changes in food availability, livelihood disruption, market access constraints.

Consider: Seasonal livelihood risks, market functionality, vulnerable populations, food-security monitoring and early-response measures.

INFRASTRUCTURE & OPERATIONS

Potential outcomes: Damage to facilities, power and water disruptions, reduced operational access, interruptions to service delivery.

Consider: Critical infrastructure vulnerabilities, business continuity measures, backup systems, staff access and operational preparedness.

PREPARE

Routes, water, supplies, infrastructure and contingency plans.

MONITOR

Weather, hazards, health/environment indicators and access.

REVIEW

Reassess programme plans and preparedness measures.

CONTRIBUTE / COLLABORATE

Practitioners, researchers, forecasters and humanitarian organisations interested in contributing data, operational perspectives or future editions are welcome to get in touch.

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About this outlook

A regional climate outlook translating seasonal forecast information into potential humanitarian implications and practical actions across Eastern Africa.