

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

SOUTH SUDAN DEKADAL WEATHER UPDATE

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Heavy rains and broken dykes cause flash floods in Bor as above-average rainfall is experienced in most areas of Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile states

HIGHLIGHTS

- Heavy rainfall and faulty flood control structures (dykes) have resulted in flooding in Bor and Duk counties - resulting in population displacement and loss of homesteads and assets for some of the affected people.
- According to satellite-based rainfall estimates, most parts of the country continue to receive rainfall, with the eastern parts of the country i.e. Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile states recording above-average rainfall in the 1st Dekad of June 2020. During the same period, most of Western Equatoria State received normal to belownormal rainfall, even as Kapoeta East recorded drier than normal conditions (*Figure 2*).
- Northern Bahr el Ghazal continues to experience below average rainfall and less rainfall than the same period last year. While these conditions are unfavourable for the cropping season, the below-average rainfall across most of the State reduces the risk of flooding – at least for now. However, this State is worth watching as the season progresses because it was one of the worst hit by floods last year.



Figure 1: Estimated rainfall, Dekad 1, June 2020 (Source: FAO GIEWS)



Figure 2: Estimated rainfall anomaly, Dekad 1, June 2020 (1989-2015)

FORECAST

According to the ICPAC forecast for 11-20 June 2020, the central and western parts of South Sudan are expected to experience heavy rainfall above 200mm, with the much of the rest of the country expected to experience moderate rainfall in the range of 50-200 mm. Some parts of Eastern Equatoria are likely to experience drier conditions, with rainfall amounts below 30 mm.

Incidents of flash floods are expected in locations experiencing localized and excessively heavy rainfall.



FLOOD UPDATE

From field monitors, there are reports of confirmed flooding incidents in the counties of **Bor South** and **Duk** in Jonglei State. In both locations, the flooding has arrived earlier than normal.

Bor South: In Bor South, flooding, whenever it occurs, usually takes place around July to September. However, this year, it has started early in May and June. The flooding was caused by heavy rainfall and water from the River Nile which burst its banks following the destruction of the primary dyke in Bor town. Consequently, the neighbouring villages were submerged in water. The areas most affected are the neighbourhoods of Acindir, Malou, Hai machuei, Panliet and Negel in Bor Town as well as Arek and Langbaar Payams in Bor South.

A rapid assessment conducted by WFP, IOM, HDC, RRC, UNICEF, MAFS, WHO and other national NGOs early in June estimated that 1,800 households have been affected by the floods and in need of urgent assistance.

Currently, the local authorities in Bor Town are working on repairing the dyke so as to prevent further overflows of water from the River Nile into the town.

Duk: There are reports of flooding having occured in Poktap Boma of Ageer Payam in Duk. *More details will be provided in the next update*.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Humanitarian actors with the appropriate expertise and resources to work closely with the local authorities in Bor town to repair the dykes so as protect the villages located along the River Nile from further flooding incidents.
- Provision of humanitarian assistance to the flood-affected populations in Bor town and Poktap in Duk County.
- Humanitarian actors to work with local authorities in flood-prone areas to provide early warning to communities who are at risk. FAO is already working on a strategy to re-package weather-related early warning messages and relay them to rural communities who are at risk of being affected by flooding.



Figure 4: Flooding in Duk



Figure 5: Flooding in Acindir, Bor South



Figure 6: Flooding in Panliet, Bor South



This report is produced by FAO South Sudan's project (*Strengthening the Livelihoods of Pastoral and Agropastoral Communities in South Sudan's Cross-border Areas with Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda*) which is funded by the European Union. 2020 Dekadal Seasonal Progression Tracker (PDF, 1.2MB) 2020 Rainfall & NDVI Graphs and data (MS Excel, 188KB) **Project Website:** http://www.fao.org/in-action/south-sudan-cross-border-project/en/ **CLIMIS Portal:** http://www.climis-southsudan.org **View Rain Gauge Data on the CLIMIS Portal:** http://www.climis-southsudan.org/agromet/rainfall_data

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