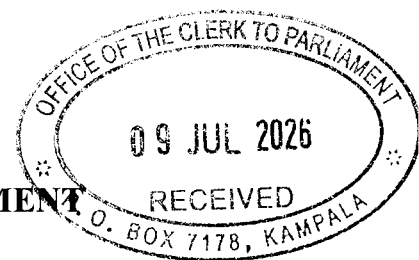


**A BRIEF TO PARLIAMENT ON THE PREVAILING WEATHER
CONDITIONS IN JULY 2026 OVER UGANDA**

BY

THE HON. MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT



1.0. INTRODUCTION

Rt. Hon. Speaker, this brief has been prepared to update you on the weather patterns expected in July 2026 across the country.

2.0. The Ministry of Water and Environment, through the Department of Meteorological Services produces weather and climate forecasts and information for different sectors, including aviation, marine transport, water resources management, agriculture, health, national defense and security, disaster preparedness and other developmental activities to support planning and decision making for sustainable development.

3.0. The forecasts are generated and disseminated at different timescales, including 6 hours, 12 hours, 24 hours (daily), 10 days (Dekadal), 30 days (monthly) and 90 days (seasonal), and other tailored weather and climate information depending on user needs. For easy interpretation and uptake of seasonal forecasts, especially by the farmers, the forecasts are usually translated into 35 local languages, depending on availability of funds.

4.0. Rt. Hon. Speaker, as you are aware, Uganda experiences two major rainfall seasons, namely, March - April - May (MAM), and September - October - November - December (SOND). However, Northern and parts of Eastern Uganda usually receive substantial rainfall during the months of June-July-August (JJA). The two major rainfall seasons are separated by two dry periods, namely, December to February, and June to August for the southern sector.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, on 28th May 2026, the Ministry released a monthly weather update which follows the June – July – August (JJA) 2026 seasonal forecast. In the JJA seasonal forecast, we indicated that there would be suppressed rainfall during JJA season across the country, partly due to the developing El Nino condition (warming of the sea surface) over the equatorial Central and Eastern Pacific Ocean. As a result, the rainfall recorded during June 2026 across the country was largely suppressed as was predicted.

5.0. RAINFALL OUTLOOK FOR JULY 2026

Rt. Hon. Speaker, the rainfall outlook for July 2026 over Uganda indicates that Northern and some areas of Eastern Uganda are expected to receive occasional (on and off) light, isolated rainfall. In contrast, Central, Southwestern, areas around Lake Victoria, and some parts of Eastern are expected to remain predominantly dry. Overall, most parts of the country are expected to experience below average rainfall during the month of July 2026.

6.0. TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK FOR JULY 2026

Rt. Hon. Speaker, the temperature is expected to be higher than average during the month of July due to the predicted dry conditions, which is largely influenced by the ongoing development of El Nino condition over the equatorial Central and Eastern Pacific Ocean

7.0. WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS?

Rt. Hon. Speaker, the expected weather conditions in July 2026 are expected to result in several impacts, particularly on climate sensitive sectors:

- i. **Agriculture and Food Security:** We are likely to have reduced crop yields, livestock stress and chances of increased pests and diseases that thrive in warm and dry conditions.
- ii. **Water and Environment:** The expected impacts include; Water shortages, increased risk of wild fire and loss of biodiversity.
- iii. **Health:** The expected impacts include; Heat related illnesses, waterborne diseases and poor nutrition.
- iv. **Social impacts** include; food insecurity, conflicts over resources and migration from one place to another.
- v. **Economic impacts** include; reduced household income and increased food prices.

8.0. ADVISORIES

Rt. Hon. Speaker, in response to the expected weather conditions, the following advisories are recommended:

- i. Communities are encouraged to practice water conservation strategies;
- ii. Promote efficient use of water for domestic and production purposes;
- iii. Promote public education on heat safety;
- iv. Communities are encouraged to use supplementary irrigation for those with access to water resources;
- v. Communities are encouraged to use available food efficiently;
- vi. Continued dissemination of Early Warning Information to Communities is encouraged.


9.0. FUTURE OUTLOOK

Rt. Hon. Speaker, future outlook indicates that the dry and warm conditions are also expected to prevail in the month of August 2026.

10.0. CONCLUSION

Rt. Hon. Speaker, the dry and warm conditions are expected to affect Agriculture, Water Resources, Public Health, Ecosystems and Livelihoods. Effective planning and adaptation measures can help reduce these impacts. I encourage you to make use of this forecast for planning and decision-making. This information should be used to guide rain-fed economic activities to improve livelihoods and economic welfare in our communities. It should also be considered alongside other weather updates regularly provided by the Ministry, through Department of Meteorological Services.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, the Ministry will provide detailed weather updates for August 2026 at the end of July 2026, before releasing the seasonal forecast for **September-October-November and December 2026** at the end of the month of August 2026. Finally, the Ministry needs to be supported with resources and specialised equipment to put in place a comprehensive Early Warning System for the country.



Hon. Beatrice Atim Anywar

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JULY, 2026

ANNEXES

- i. **Weather update for July 2026 over Uganda**
- ii. **June to August 2026 Seasonal Climate outlook over Uganda**

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WEATHER UPDATE FOR JULY 2026 OVER UGANDA

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The month of July is a transitional month in the June-July-August (JJA) rainfall season over Uganda, characterized by peak of the dry JJA season over Central, Southwestern, and the Lake Victoria basin. It is also the peak harvest time for crops planted in the first rainfall season of March-April-May (MAM). However, over Northern and parts of Eastern Uganda, July is a wetter month and is usually a continuation of the March-to-May long rains.

2.0 EXPECTED CLIMATE DRIVERS FOR JULY 2026

- The ongoing development of El Nino signal over the Pacific Ocean is expected to suppress the July rainfall due to its teleconnection; During the month of July, the Central, Southwestern and areas around Lake Victoria are expected to experience the peak of the dry season due to increased dominance of dry continental air masses and reduced moisture convergence over these regions.
- The current northward shift and orientation of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) from the equator is expected to play a role in the occurrence of on and off rainfall over the Northern and parts of Eastern regions.
- The regional pressure systems, including the Arabian Ridge and the Mascarene High are also expected to control occasional moisture transport that may result in an on and off rains over some parts of the country.
- The Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) is currently in a neutral phase. However, it is projected to strengthen and move into a phase that is expected to suppress rainfall over many parts of the country during the next three weeks.
- The influence of Lake Victoria, through the lake breeze and its interaction with the surrounding topography, is expected to induce occasional rainfall in the vicinity of the lake.

- Orographic influence: The mountainous areas such as the slopes of Mount Elgon and Rwenzori are expected to receive occasional rainfall due to the uplift of moist air.

3.0 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2026

Analysis of the observed rainfall for the month of June 2026 generally indicates that most parts of the country received below average rainfall as was expected. However, Lira, Serere and Sembabule recorded near average with a tendency to above average rainfall as shown in Fig. 1(a) below.

The spatial analysis of the rainfall distribution of the June rainfall revealed that light to moderate rainfall was observed across parts of Northern and Eastern regions during June 2026, while Central and Western regions experienced the least rainfall as shown in Fig. 1(b) below. Overall, the month of June 2026 recorded **below average rainfall** over most parts of the country, with exception of Lira and Serere in Northern and Eastern regions, respectively, where rainfall was **near average, with a slight tendency to above average rainfall**. The observed decline in rainfall over most parts of the country during the month of June was attributed to the influence of the developing El Nino conditions over the Central and Eastern Equatorial Pacific Ocean.

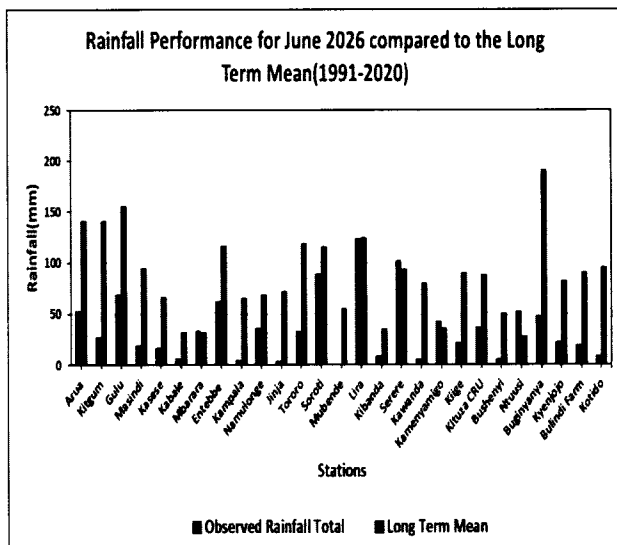


Fig 1(a): The observed June 2026 rainfall Vs June LTM

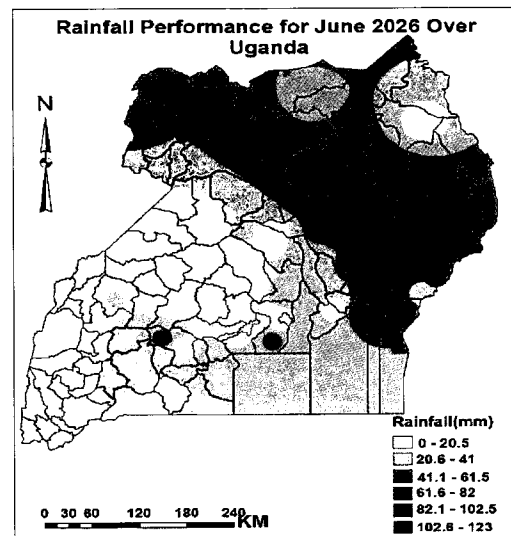


Fig 1 (b): Observed June 2026 spatial rainfall distribution

4.0 RAINFALL OUTLOOK FOR JULY 2026

The rainfall forecast for July 2026 over Uganda indicates that Northern and some areas of Eastern Uganda are expected to receive occasional (on and off) light, isolated rainfall. In contrast, the Central, Southwestern, areas around Lake Victoria, and some parts of Eastern are expected to remain predominantly dry. Overall, most parts of the country are likely to experience below average rainfall during the month of July 2026. Refer to Fig. 2 below for details.

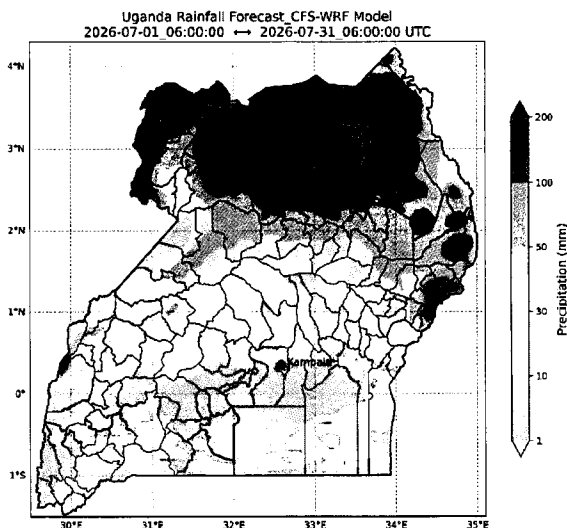


Fig. 2: Expected spatial rainfall distribution for July 2026

The forecast further indicates that, during the first 10 days of July, dry conditions are expected to persist across most parts of the country, with the exception of a few areas over northern Uganda that are likely to receive light, isolated rainfall. During the second 10 days of July, dry conditions are expected to continue persisting over the southern sector of the country, while the northern sector is likely to experience occasional light, isolated rains. In the third 10 days of July, most parts of the country are expected to become drier than the first and second 10 day periods, with below average rainfall across much of Uganda. Refer to Figs. 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 for details.

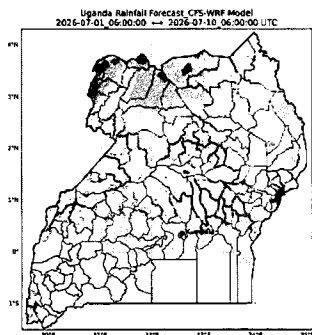


Fig.2.1: 1st 10 days of July

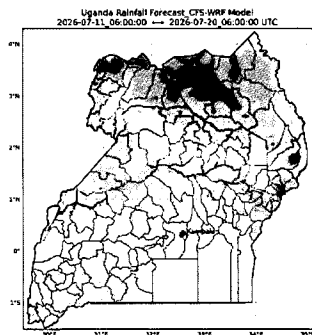


Fig.2.2: 2nd 10 days of July

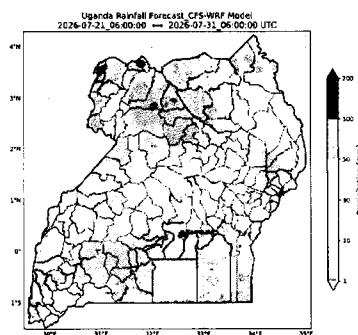


Fig.2.3: 3rd 10 days of July

5.0 REGIONAL BREAKDOWN OF JULY 2026 RAINFALL OUTLOOK

5.1 Western Region

The current dry conditions over this region is expected to persist throughout the month of July. Overall, much of the region is expected to experience the peak of the dry season with the conditions likely to be drier than the usual dry period of July.

5.2 Central Region

Many parts of this region are currently experiencing dry conditions, except for areas near Lake Victoria, which are experiencing occasional isolated rainfall. The dry conditions are expected to persist, reaching the peak of the dry season later in the month. Overall, most parts of this region are expected to receive suppressed rainfall during the month of July.

5.3 Eastern Region

A few parts of this region are currently receiving light isolated rainfall while most areas are experiencing dry conditions. These conditions are expected to persist up to the end of July. Overall, suppressed rainfall is expected across the region during the month of July.

5.4 Northern Region

The current on and off isolated rainfall being experienced over this region is expected to persist up to the end of July. Overall, this region is expected to receive below average rainfall during the month.

5.5 Karamoja Region

Most parts of this region are currently experiencing dry conditions, with a few areas receiving light, isolated rainfall. These conditions are expected to persist until mid-July, after which, dry conditions are expected to dominate most parts of the region up to the end of July. Overall, below average rainfall is expected across the region during this month.

6.0 TEMPERATURE FORECAST FOR JULY 2026

Overall, the average temperatures values over most parts of the country are expected to be higher than expected during the month of July 2026 due to the expected dry conditions during the month.

6.1 Maximum Temperature

The highest average maximum temperatures in July 2026 are expected to range between 28°C to 30°C over most parts of the country, while the highland areas are likely to experience average maximum temperatures between 22°C to 26°C. Refer to Fig. 3 (a) below for details.

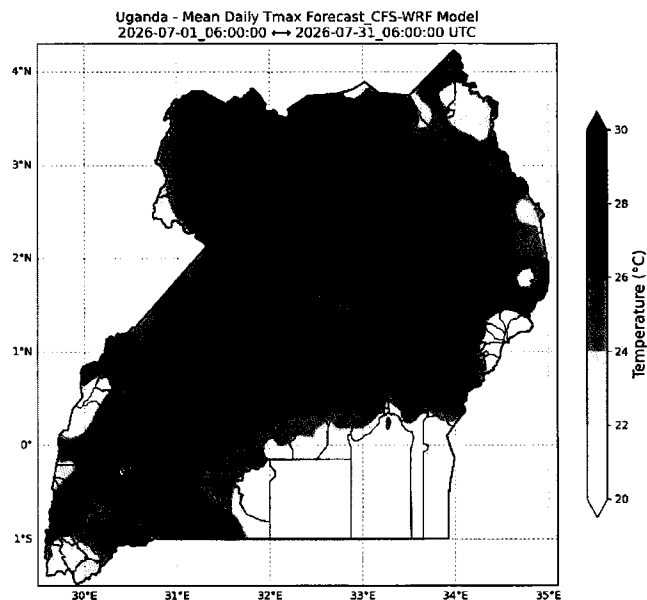


Fig. 3 (a): Expected spatial average maximum temperature distribution over Uganda in July 2026

6.2 Minimum Temperature

The average minimum temperature values are expected to range between 18°C and 22°C over most parts of Northern and Eastern regions and areas around Lake Victoria, while Southwestern and parts of Central region are expected to experience minimum temperatures between 12°C and 18°C. The highlands of Southwestern, Mt. Rwenzori and Elgon areas are expected to experience temperatures less than 12°C. Refer to Fig. 3 (b) for details.

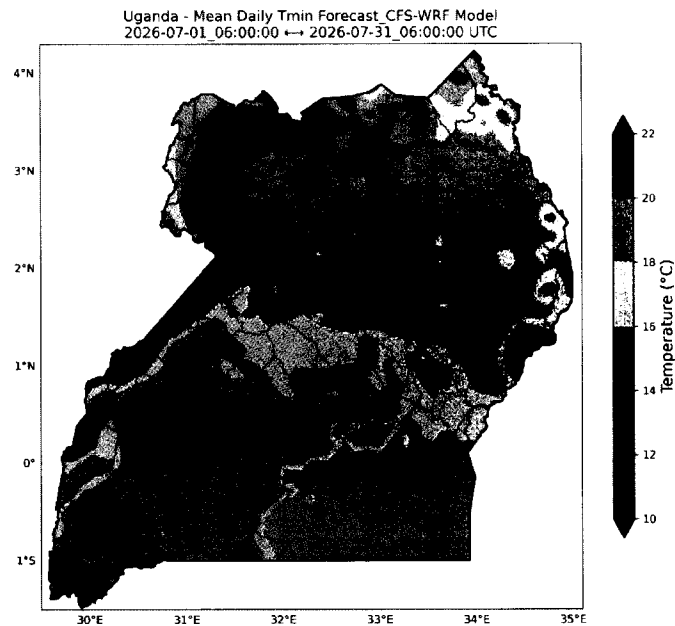


Fig. 3 (b): Expected spatial average minimum temperature over Uganda in July 2026

6.3 Mean Temperature

The mean temperatures over Northern and Eastern regions, and northern parts of Central region are expected to range between 22°C and 24°C, with exception of areas along the fringes of Albert Nile which are expected to experience mean temperatures ranging from 24°C to 26°C. However, most parts of Central and Western regions are expected to experience mean temperatures between 16°C and, while the highlands areas are expected to experience the lowest mean temperature values below 16°C. Refer to Fig. 3 (c) for more information.

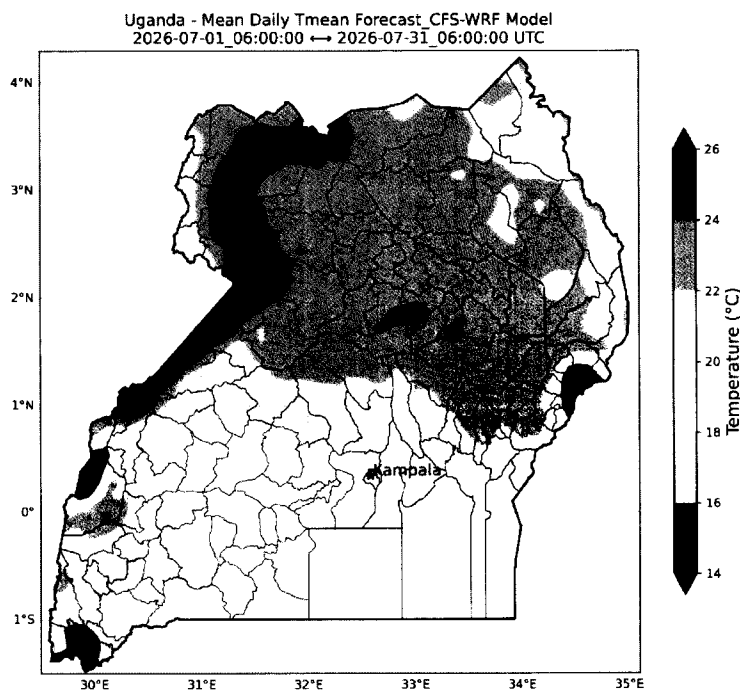


Fig. 3 (c): Expected spatial average mean temperature over Uganda in July 2026

7.0 POTENTIAL IMPACTS EXPECTED AND ADVISORIES DURING JULY 2026

In May 2026, the Ministry of Water and Environment through Department of Meteorological Services released the June-July-August 2026 seasonal climate outlook, indicating that below-average rainfall is expected across most parts of the country, and warmer than normal temperatures are expected, with prolonged dry spells.

Given that July 2026 is expected to exhibit **below-normal rainfall** over most parts of Uganda, the potential impacts include; drying of crops, reduced pasture and water for livestock, reduced water resources, heat related illnesses, dust related illnesses, poor sanitation as a result of water scarcity, and bush burning. Below are the advisories provided for potential impacts on climate sensitive sectors, including Agriculture and Food Security, Water Resources, Disaster Risk Management and Health.

7.1 Agriculture and Food Security

- Promote water conservation and rainwater harvesting for crop and livestock use;
- Use mulching and other soil moisture conservation practices to reduce evaporation losses;
- Prioritize irrigation where water resources are available;
- Monitor crops for moisture stress and adjust planting schedules accordingly;
- Encourage the planting of drought tolerant and early maturing crop varieties;
- Strengthen extension services to provide location-specific advisories to farmers;
- Use of available water for livestock sparingly during prolonged dry spells;
- Preserve pasture and fodder through hay and silage making;
- Avoid overgrazing to minimize land degradation;
- Monitor livestock for heat stress and disease outbreaks associated with dry conditions;
- Report livestock diseases to the authorities

7.2 Water Resources

- Encourage households and institutions to use water efficiently;
- Protect water sources from contamination and over extraction;
- Increase storage in valley tanks, reservoirs, and community water facilities where possible;
- Water authorities should monitor reservoir and groundwater levels closely.

7.3 Health Sector

- Promote safe water storage and hygiene practices;
- Ensure adequate water supplies in schools, health facilities, and vulnerable communities;
- Strengthen public awareness on dry and high temperature illnesses;
- Report any health cases to authorities.

7.4 Disaster Risk Management

- Strengthen measures to prevent bush fires and wild fires, particularly in dry grassland areas;
- Avoid prolonged exposure to direct sunlight during peak heat hours;
- Promote efficient use of water at household and institutional level;
- Monitor drought prone districts for early warning signs of water stress;
- Report incidences of drought to authorities.

General Public

- Use water sparingly and repair leaking systems;
- Harvest and store rainwater whenever rainfall occurs.

8.0 CONCLUSION

The predicted rainfall and temperature require timely action to mitigate risks and take advantage of favorable conditions. This forecast should guide planning in all climate-sensitive sectors to enhance economic resilience and community well-being. The Ministry of Water and Environment, through the Department of Meteorological Services will continue to monitor the drivers of our weather, and regularly issue weather updates to support planning and decision making at all levels. The July weather update should be used alongside other forecasts, including severe weather warnings, six-hourly, daily and dekadal (ten days) weather information. In case of need for weather and climate information, please dial *901# on all networks or refer to the website: <https://mwe.go.ug/weather> .



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