Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

SWALIM
Somali Water and Land Information Management

Vey light rainfall expected over the Berbera district in the northeastern parts of the project area, with dry conditions prevailing in the other areas.

Weather Review for the Period 14th to 20th November 2023

During the period under review, rainfall of at least 1 mm was observed in thirty-four (34) stations, as illustrated in Graph 1. This marks an increase from the previous week's thirteen (13) stations with recorded rainfall. Twenty stations (20) reported cumulative rainfall exceeding 30 mm. The specific stations, their respective rainfall totals and rainy days are as follows: Laas Dawaco (122 mm in 2 days), Bulohar (110 mm in 2 days), Gacan_libah (97 mm in 3 days), Malawle (75 mm in 2 days), Gargara (61 mm in 1 days), Baligubadle (59 mm in 2 days), Gerisa (58.5 mm in 2 days), Berbera (56 mm in 2 days), Hargeisa (55 mm in 2 days), Salaxley (53 mm in 2 days), Xeego (50 mm in 2 days), Garbodadar (47.5 mm in 1 days), Lughaye (46 mm in 3 days), Sayla (45 mm in 1 days), Dhubato (43.5 mm in 2 days), Cadaadley (35 mm in 1 days), Dararweyne (34.5 mm in 3 days), Geedeble (34 mm in 1 days), Zaila (34 mm in 2 days), and Taysa (33 mm in 2 days). Having been recorded on one of the days of the week under review, the rains over Bulohar (70 mm), Laas_Dawaco (68 mm), Gargara (61 mm) and Gacan_libah (56 mm) were the most intense. The best three-days rainfall distribution was achieved over Gacan_libah, (97 mm), Lughaye (46 mm) and Dararweyne (34.5 mm).

Weather Forecast for the Period 22nd to 28th November 2023

Rainfall Forecast: The weather forecast indicates very light rainfall of between 2 and 5 mm over the northeastern parts of the project area. These areas include western parts of Berbera, Banmadar and Cabdi Geeddi in the eastern part of Baki district; Ceel Lay Heelay,

Bildhaaley, Bodale and Daradawanley in the northern part of Hargeisa district. Dry conditions with chances of rainfall less than 2 mm will prevail over the rest of the project areas.

Temperature Forecast: Milder temperature of 20°C to 25°C is expected over some areas in the south of Gebiley district and in the southwest of Hargeisa district. Comparatively higher temperature of between 30°C and 35°C is anticipated in Lughaye district and some areas in the northeastern parts of Baki district. Moderate temperatures of between 25°C to 30°C are expected to prevail over the rest of the project areas.

Impacts Associated with the Weekly Weather Forecast

The forecast for rainfall and temperature suggests the presence of a relatively warmer and dry air mass over Lughaye district and some areas in the eastern parts of Baki district. While the generally dry forecast conditions are not favorable over the entire project area, this air mass is likely to lead to heightened evapotranspiration leaving less soil moisture for crop and fodder productivity. Coupled with the previous week's wet conditions, the mild temperatures over some areas in the south of Gebiley district and in the southwest of Hargeisa district will favor various agropastoral activities such as crop cultivation, pasture growth, and fodder production. Despite these favorable conditions, given the forecast period's progression beyond the mid-Karan season, agro-pastoralists are advised to prioritize water conservation, especially in areas where favorabe rains (above 60 mm) were received in the previous week like Laas_Dawaco, Bulohar, Gacan_libah, Malawle and Gargara. The current forecast provides an opportune time for farmers to engage in harvesting, processing, and storing available fodder, ensuring a sustainable supply for animal feeding during the upcoming dry season.
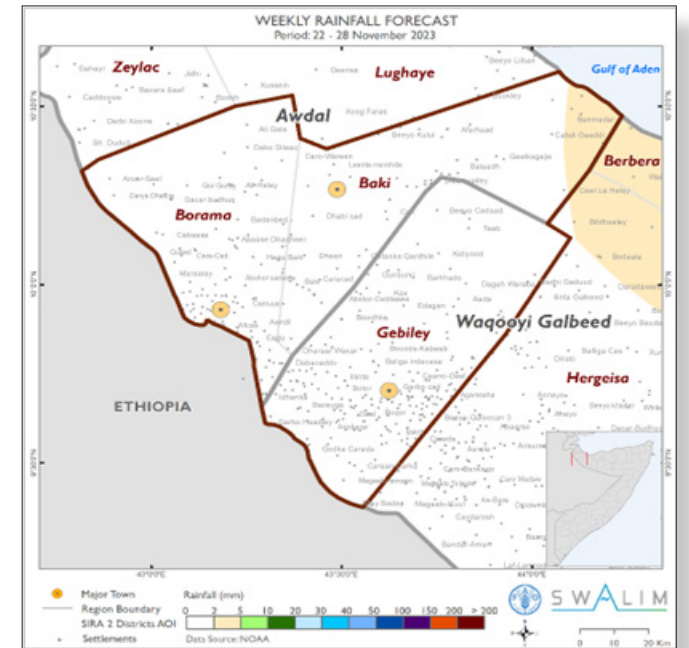
Map 1: Cumulative rainfall forecast for the period 22 to 28th November 2023 over SIRA 2 project districts in Somaliland
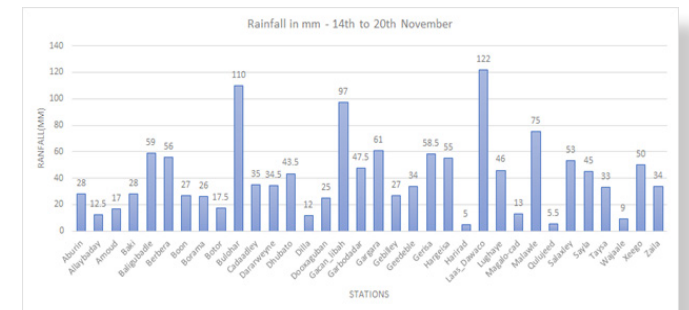
Graph 1: Cumulative rainfall (above 1 mm) observed at different stations between 14th and 20th November 2023 over SIRA 2 project districts in Somaliland