

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR JANUARY, 2023 AND WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR FEBRUARY, 2023

Highlights of weather summary for January, 2023 and outlook for February, 2023:

This statement summarizes the current state of climate systems and associated weather observed during the month of January, 2023 and subsequently the outlook for the climate system and rainfall distribution for the month of February, 2023 over the country.

- During the month of January 2023, the presence of Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) over the country as well as occurrence of severe tropical storm 'CHENESO' over northern Madagascar influenced rainfall activities over most parts of the country especially during the third week of the month.
- During the month of February, 2023 rainfall activities are expected to continue over unimodal areas. However, some parts of bimodal areas are expected to experience off seasonal rains.
- Warm to hot temperatures are likely to persist over some areas of the country especially in areas where suppressed rainfall activities are anticipated.

1.0 REVIEW OF JANUARY, 2023 WEATHER.

During the month of January 2023, most area of the country experienced occasional periods of rains. However, the occurrence of severe tropical storm 'CHENESO' over northern Madagascar caused periods of heavy rains over some areas of south-western highlands, central, Ruvuma region and coastal areas. The highest amount of rainfall

(95.8 mm) was recorded over Mahenge on 16th January, 2023 followed by 76.6 mm and 74.1 mm which was recorded over Ilonga agrometeorological station (Morogoro) and Songwe on 18th and 19th January, 2023 respectively. Other stations which recorded daily rainfall more than 50 mm were Mpanda (54.3 mm) on 06th January, Mahenge (61.9 mm) on 07th January and Singida (68.2 mm) on 12th January, 2023.

2.0 OUTLOOK FOR FEBRUARY, 2023

2.1 WEATHER AND CLIMATE SYSTEMS

Slight cooler than normal sea surface temperature (SST) over the Central Equatorial Pacific Ocean (CEPO) is expected to persist in February, 2023. Normal SSTs are expected over most of western and eastern Indian Ocean. This condition is likely to reduce the advection of moisture influx towards the coastal areas. Normal to slight cooler SSTs are expected off Angola coast, this condition is expected to trigger the flow of moisture rich westerly winds towards the Lake Victoria basin and western part of the country. Southern high-pressure systems are expected to relax during the month allowing rainfall making mechanism (ITCZ) to continue remaining in the southern part of the country.

2.2 WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR FEBRUARY, 2023

Generally, periods of rains are expected over most areas of the country. However, slight enhancement of rainfall activities is expected over some areas of the country. On the other hand, warm to hot temperatures are expected to persist over some areas of the country where insufficient rainfall activities are anticipated. Details of the weather outlook are as follows;

Northern Coast (Tanga, Pwani, Dar es Salaam regions, northern sector of Morogoro region, Mafia, Unguja and Pemba Islands):

Rainfall activities are likely over some areas with enhanced rains expected during first and second weeks of February, 2023. However, suppressed rains are expected during the fourth week of the month.

North Eastern Highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions):

Light to moderate rains are likely over some areas with enhanced rains expected during the first week of February, 2023 followed by reduced rainfall activities for the remaining period of the month.

Lake Victoria basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Mara and Simiyu regions):

Light to moderate rainfall activities are expected over few areas during the month.

Western regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions):

Rainfall activities are expected to continue over some areas during February, 2023.

Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions):

Rainfall activities are expected to continue over some areas during February, 2023.

Southwestern Highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe, Iringa regions and Southern sector of Morogoro region):

Rainfall activities are expected to continue over some areas with reduced rains expected during the third week of February, 2023.

Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions):

Rainfall activities are likely over some areas with enhanced rains expected during first and second weeks of February, 2023. However, suppressed rains are expected during the third week of the month.

Southern Region (Ruvuma region):

Light to moderate rains are likely over some areas during February, 2023. However, suppressed rains are likely during the third week of the month.

2.3 FURTHER OUTLOOK FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 2023.

During the month of March, 2023 rainfall activities are expected to persist over some areas. On the other hand, temperatures are expected to be normal over most areas of the country.

2.4 ADVISORY

Msimu rainy season is progressing over some areas of unimodal, moreover, periods of heavy rains are also expected at times. Therefore, communities living on flood prone areas or in their proximity, should continue to take appropriate measures to reduce the associated impact of expected heavy rains including floods.

Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) advises all users of weather information including farmers, livestock keepers, wildlife conservation authorities, hydrological and health sectors to continue seeking and utilizing experts' advice on their relevant sectors.

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TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AUTHORITY