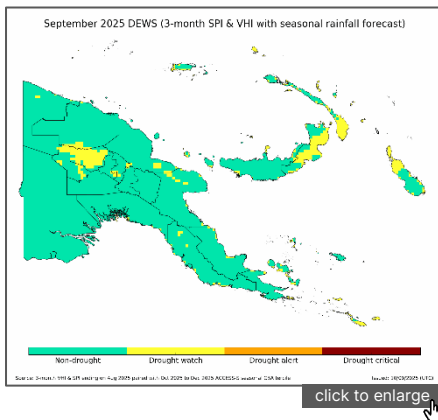


Over 6 months period, New Guinea Islands region, including Bougainville, parts of East Sepik, Enga, Madang and islands of Milne Bay have been in drought watch. These prolong dry periods may possibly affect water resources and water dependent crops in specific areas. El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remains neutral. However, there is increased chances of a transition from ENSO-neutral to La Niña in the next one to three months. Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) has transitioned to negative conditions. Negative IOD conditions are likely to persist during this forecast period.

Drought Early Warning Status (DEWS)

Derived from observed 3-month rainfall and vegetation health, along with 3-month forecasted rainfall.

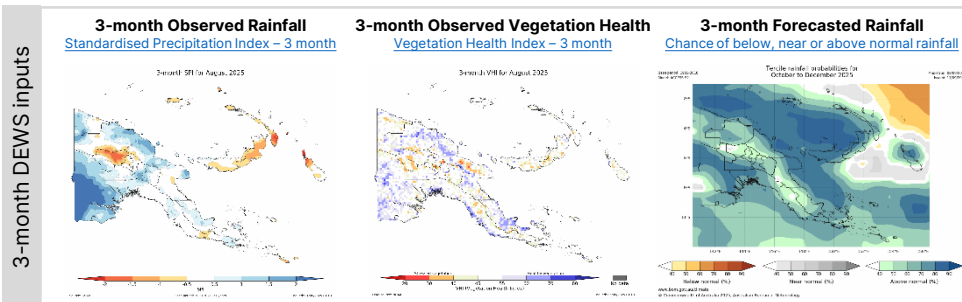


- East New Britain, Manus and New Ireland remain in drought watch at a three months timescale. In addition, Enga and Port Moresby have transitioned to drought watch.
- Over 6 months period, New Guinea Islands region, including Bougainville, parts of East Sepik, Enga, Madang and islands of Milne Bay have been in drought watch.
- Prolong dry periods are likely to affect water resources and water dependent crops.
- However, above normal rainfall forecasted for October indicates chances of flooding in specific localities.

3-month timescale provincial summary

(A province's overall status is given by its majority status on the map and is presented in this [summary table](#))

 Drought Watch	 Drought Alert	 Drought Critical
Below average rainfall or Stressed vegetation or Dry forecast	(Below average rainfall or Stressed vegetation) and Dry forecast	Below average rainfall and Stressed vegetation and Dry forecast
East New Britain, Enga, Manus, NCD, New Ireland,		No Provinces



Links to other timescales:

1-month Drought Early Warning Status

Drought early warning status using 1-month rainfall, 1-month vegetation health and 3-month rainfall forecast.

1-month Standardised Precipitation Index
Rainfall over the last month.

1-month Vegetation Health Index
Vegetation health over the last month.

6-month Drought Early Warning Status

Drought early warning status using 6-month rainfall, 6-month vegetation health and 3-month rainfall forecast.

6-month Standardised Precipitation Index
Rainfall over the last 6 months.

6-month Vegetation Health Index
Vegetation health over the last 6 months.

Provinces at Risk if Drought Occurs

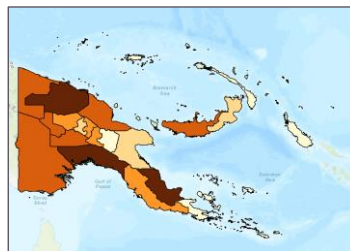
Contextualise drought early warning information with drought risk information.

Drought risk is the probability of harmful impacts resulting from interactions between drought hazard, exposure, and vulnerability. Hazard information is given by the Early Warning Status, with drought exposure and vulnerability levels shown in the maps below.

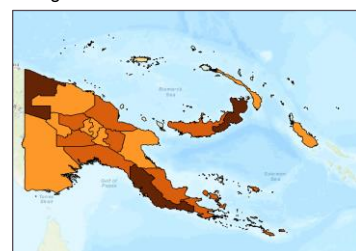
Provinces of concern:

- East New Britain, Manus and New Ireland remain in Drought watch status with mild to moderate exposure levels and severe to extreme vulnerability levels.
- Both NCD and Enga have transitioned to a drought watch status with moderate exposure and severe to extreme vulnerability levels.

Exposure - Extent of exposed aspects of the total population and its livelihoods in an area which drought may occur.



Vulnerability - Likelihood of exposed factors to suffer negative impacts when drought occurs.



Extreme
Severe
Moderate
Mild
Very Mild
No Data

Climate Context

A summary of the relevant climate drivers affecting PNG over the coming months

- ACCESS-S rainfall outlooks for October shows above normal over PNG. However, November to December shows the country is likely to receive average.
- El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remains neutral. However, there is increased chances of a transition from ENSO-neutral to La Niña in the next one to three months.
- Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) has transitioned to negative conditions. Negative IOD conditions are likely to persist during this forecast period.
- The MJO is weak. It is forecasted to remain inactive over the next one to two weeks.