

**Drought and Flood Monitoring Bulletin**

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**PREAMBLE**

This month edition of the Drought and Flood Monitoring Bulletin (DFMB) was prepared using the WMO recommended Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) technique, which compares this month's rainfall values with the normal across the country. This value could be higher, equal or lower than the 30-year average. During this period, few places in the extreme north with the inland and coastal cities of the south experienced slightly above normal rainfall events. The maps represent the 1-month (i.e. April, 2018), the 3-month (February - April, 2018), the 6-month (November, 2017 - April, 2018) and the 12-month (May, 2017 - April, 2018) SPIs respectively depicting degree of wetness and/ or dryness across the country.

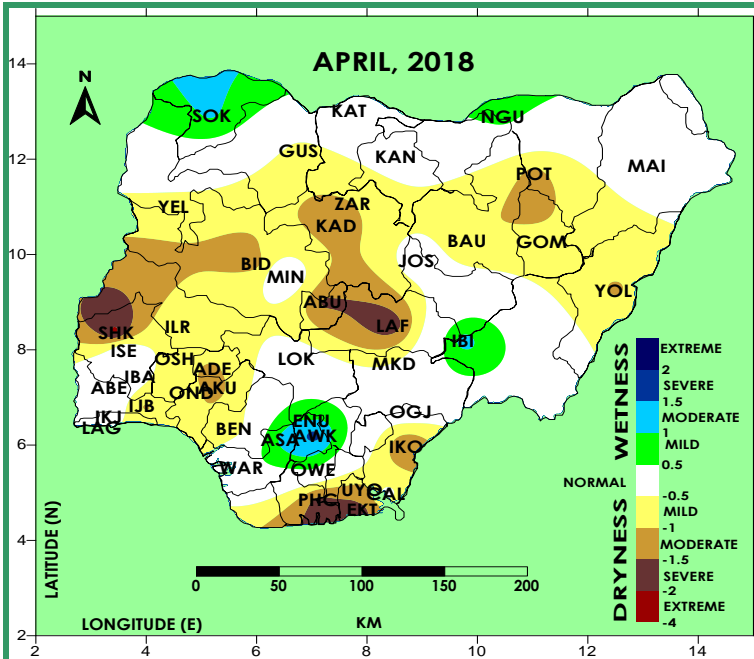


Fig.1: 1-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for meteorological drought)

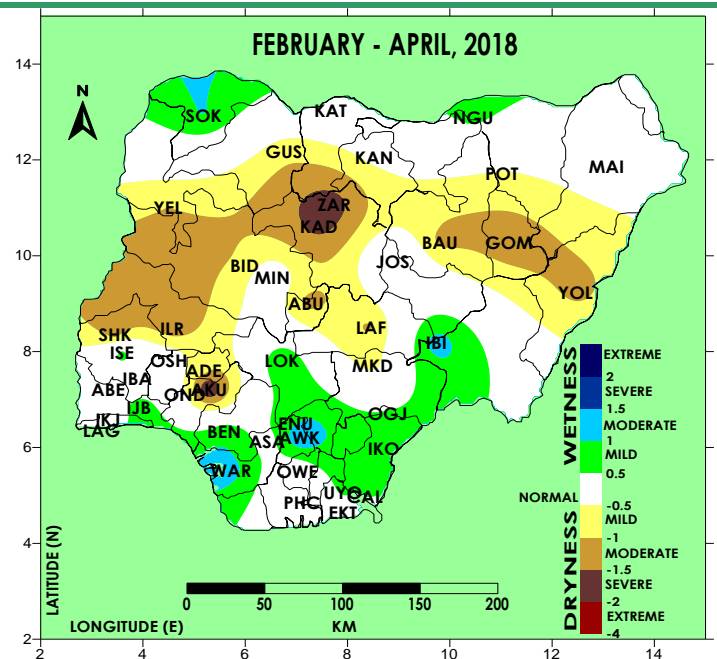


Fig.2: 3-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for agricultural drought)

**OBSERVED FEATURES**

The 1-month Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) for April 2018 (Fig.1) shows mild-to-moderate wetness over parts of Sokoto, Taraba, Delta, Enugu, and Anambra with normal conditions prevailing over parts of Borno, Kano, Zamfara, Sokoto, Kebbi, Plateau, Akwa Ibom, Kogi, Niger, Imo, Ogun, Oyo and Lagos states. However, parts of Oyo, Nasarawa and Rivers states experienced severe dryness while other states experienced mild- to- moderate dryness.

Analysis of the 3-month Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) in (Fig.2) depicts moderate wetter soil conditions over parts of Sokoto, Taraba, Anambra and Delta. Although places like parts of Yobe, Cross River, Enugu, Akwa Ibom, Imo, Lagos, Kogi, Ogun, Oyo and Kebbi States showed mild wetness during the month in discuss. Kaduna and Ondo had severe dryness with the other states maintaining mild-to-moderate dryness as shown in Fig. 1, except for parts of Rivers, Akwa Ibom, Ogun and Ondo where normal-to-moderate wetness had prevailed.

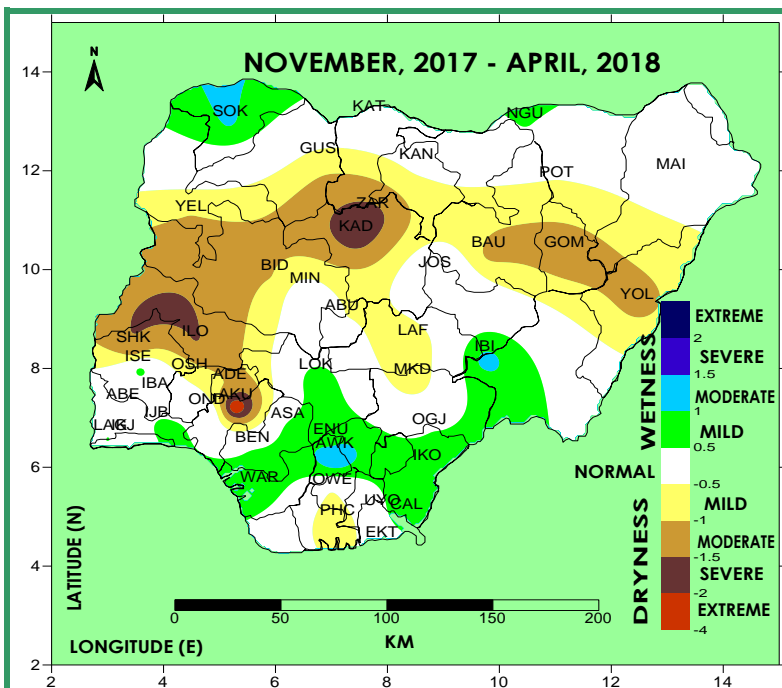


Fig. 3: 6-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for Groundwater drought)

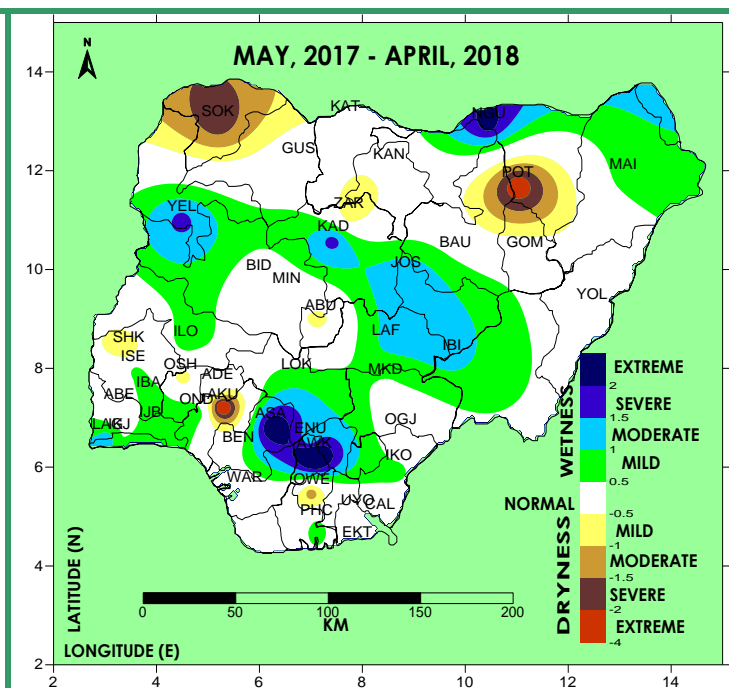


Fig.4: 12-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for stream-flow and lake storage drought)

The cumulative rainfall analysis (SPI-6) for groundwater monitoring (Fig.3) shows moderate wetness over parts of Sokoto, Taraba and Anambra, becoming mild over parts of Kebbi, Yobe, Kogi, Enugu, Akwa Ibom, Cross River and most parts of Taraba and Sokoto. This condition will favor the recharge of groundwater resource in these areas. Although, parts of Ondo state (especially Akure) experienced extreme dryness while Kaduna and Kwara displayed severe dryness. Parts of Northwest (excluding Sokoto), Northeast, North central, Ekiti, Oyo, Edo and Rivers recorded mild-to-moderate dry conditions while the rest of the country witnessed normal conditions.

The 12-month Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) for stream flows and lake storage monitoring analysis reveals increased wetter than normal conditions over parts of Kebbi, Taraba, Kaduna, Delta and Anambra states. However, parts of Yobe and Ondo experienced extreme dryness but becoming mild-to-moderate over parts of Zamfara, Gombe, Bauchi, FCT, Kaduna, Oyo, Imo and Osun States. Other part of the country experienced normal conditions.

### OUTLOOK FOR MAY, 2018

Improved wetter conditions are expected over the country, as the rainy season becomes more established particularly over the Central and the coastal States. Agricultural activities are therefore expected to peak during the month while dam managers, reservoir operators and other actors in the hydrological cycle are advised to look out for impacts of improved flows, recharges and river discharges.

#### For Comments, please write to:

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