

Drought and Flood Monitoring Bulletin

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PREAMBLE

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, was used in the preparation of this edition. During the period under review, rainfall activities were observed across the country. Above normal rainfall amounts were reported in parts of the northwest, the central states, the Southwest inland, Imo in the South East Inland and parts of the South east coast. The maps represent the 1-month (i.e. June 2018), the 3-month (April - June 2018), the 6-month (January, 2018 - June, 2018) and the 12-month (July, 2018 - June, 2018) SPIs respectively. They show the degree of wetness and/ or dryness across the country during the periods under review.

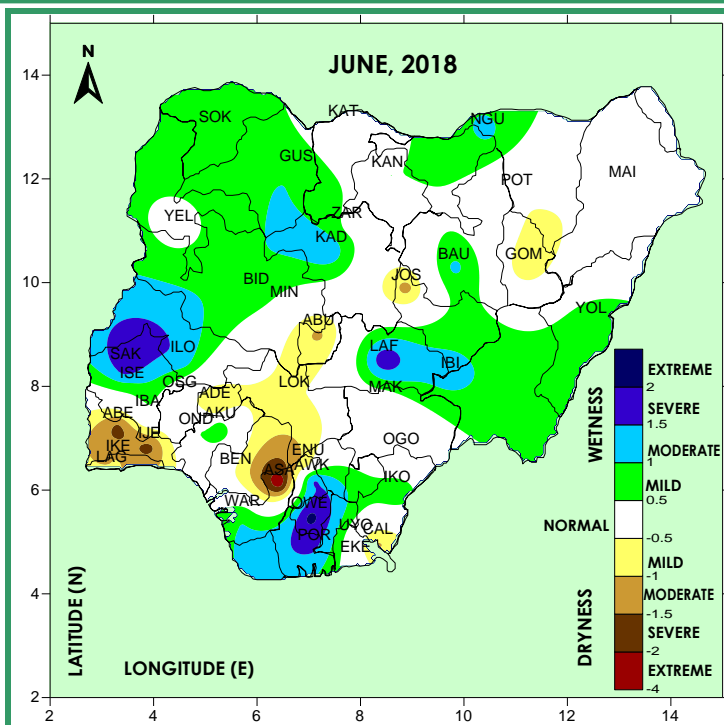


Fig.1: 1-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for meteorological drought)

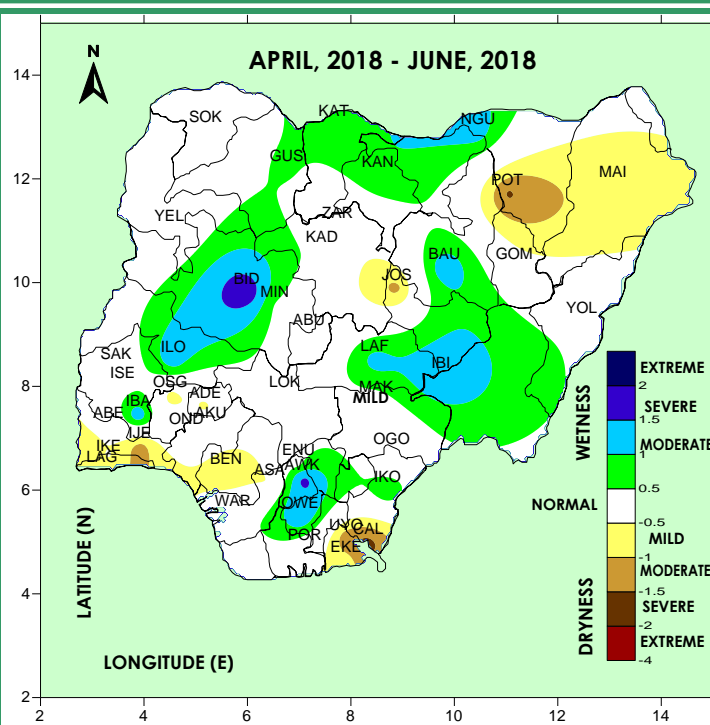


Fig.2: 3-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for agricultural drought)

OBSERVED FEATURES

Figure 1 is the 1-month Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) for June 2018. The index shows moderate-to-Severe wetness over the north western flank of the country covering locations as Sokoto, Kaduna, Niger, Zamfara, Oyo, and Imo states. Other locations showing mostly moderate wet conditions include; northern Yobe, Bauchi, Adamawa, Taraba, Delta, Bayelsa and Akwa Ibom States. Extreme wet conditions were observed over Nasarawa and Rivers states. On the other hand, places in and around FCT, Plateau, Gombe, Lagos, Ogun, Ekiti and Parts of Delta States experienced mild-to-extreme dryness with other parts of the country under Normal rainfall conditions.

The 3-month cumulative Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) is presented in **Figure 2**. The indices indicate that Katsina, Kano, Zamfara, Bauchi, Niger, Taraba, Benue, Imo and parts of Rivers States are under mild-to-severe wet conditions. On the other hand, locations such as Yobe, Borno, and Cross River, parts of Akwa Ibom and Lagos states experienced mild-to-moderate dryness. The rest of the country had normal soil moisture condition.

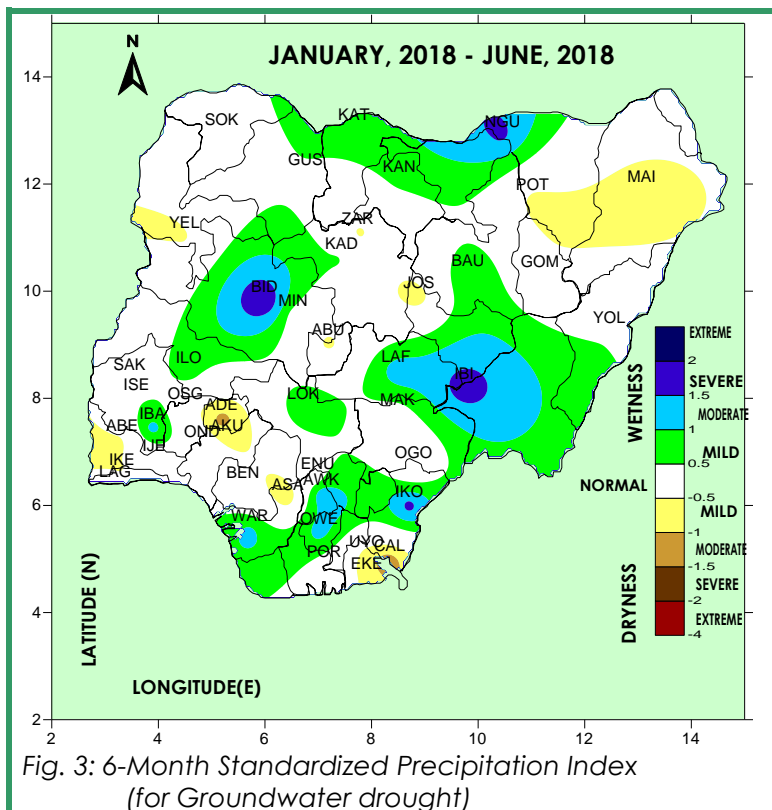


Fig. 3: 6-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for Groundwater drought)

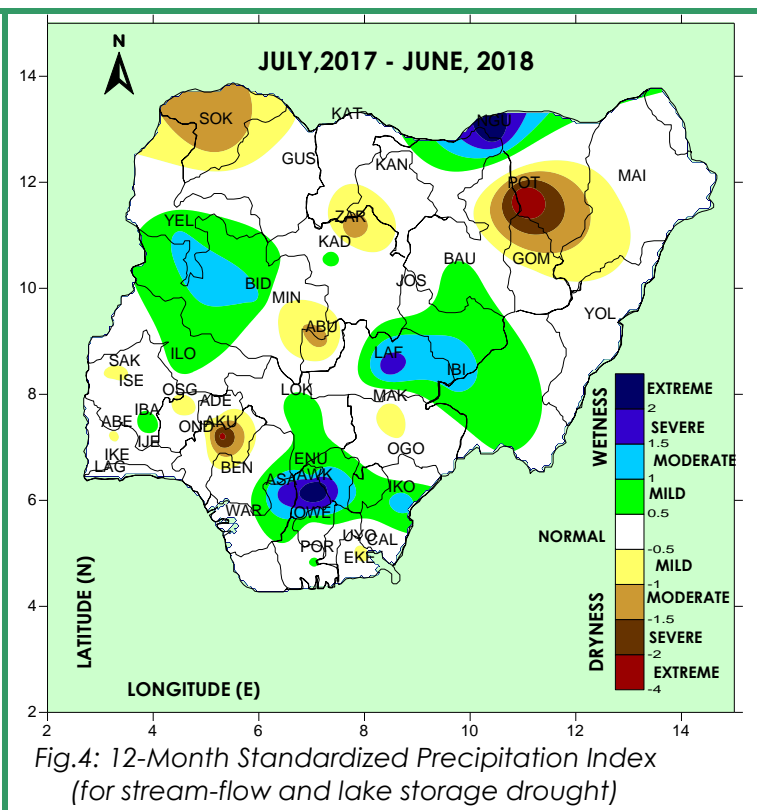


Fig.4: 12-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for stream-flow and lake storage drought)

Presented in **figure 3** is the 6-month cumulative Standardized Precipitation Index for monitoring groundwater resources. In this case, the indices show moderate-to-extreme wet conditions over the northern part of Yobe, Taraba, Delta, and Cross Rivers states. These observations indicate availability of ground water resources in the aforementioned locations. Locations such as Katsina, Kano, Bauchi, Nasarawa, Oyo, parts of Anambra, and Rivers states recorded mild wet condition. However, mild dryness was observed over Borno, parts of Kebbi, southern Yobe, Ondo, Ekiti, and Akwa Ibom states. Other parts of the country had normal groundwater condition.

The streamflow and surface reservoir conditions are indicated by the 12-month SPI (Fig. 4). Moderate to extreme wetness were observed in parts of Yobe, Niger, Nasarawa, Taraba Imo, parts of Akwa Ibom and parts of Anambra states. Similarly, mild wet condition was observed in and around Bauchi, Kaduna, Kwara, Kogi and Enugu states. However, the index indicates extreme dryness over Potiskum in Yobe state and Akure in Ondo state. Mild-to-moderate dryness was recorded over Sokoto, Zaria in Kaduna state and parts of Abuja.

OUTLOOK FOR JULY, 2018

The month of July is expected to be generally wetter across the country. Areas such as Yobe, Niger, Taraba, Oyo, Imo and Anambra states are at high risk of imminent flood events. Agricultural activities are expected to receive a boost in the indicated areas with surplus moisture. Furthermore, this is expected to favor positive recharge of groundwater sources. Dam managers and reservoir operators should engage in close monitoring of their facilities to avoid overflow of embankments.

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