

Drought and Flood Monitoring Bulletin

Providing Weather Climate and Water Information for Safety and Sustainable Development

Monthly Bulletin

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PREAMBLE

The Drought and Flood Monitoring Bulletin (DFMB) for July was prepared using the WMO recommended Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI). In line with the month of June edition's outlook for July, most parts of Lagos and south of Niger State especially Suleja were flooded. The maps represent the 1-month (July, 2017), the 3-month (May - July, 2017), the 6-month (February - July, 2017) and the 12-month (August, 2016 - July, 2017) SPIs respectively, showing various degrees of wetness and / or dryness across the country.

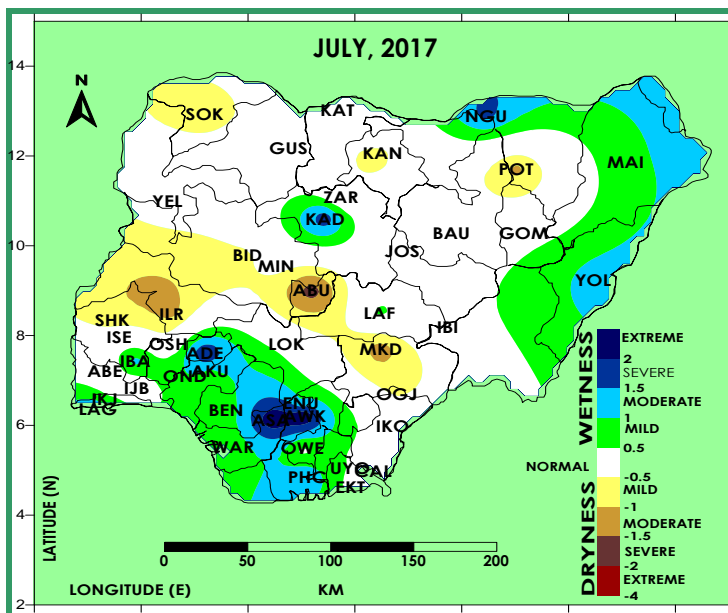


Fig. 1: 1-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for meteorological drought)

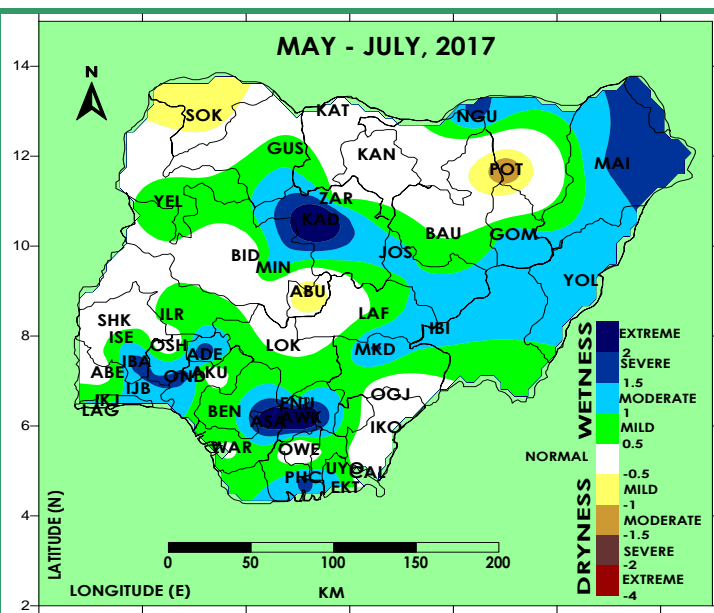


Fig. 2: 3-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for agricultural drought)

OBSERVED FEATURES

The 1-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) analysis for July (Fig.1) reveals extreme wetness over Anambra, Ondo, Kaduna and northern Yobe States. The rainfall was severe to moderate wetness over parts of Enugu, Ebonyi, Edo, Ekiti, Lagos, Delta, Imo, Bayelsa, Rivers, Adamawa, and Borno States. Meanwhile, places around the FCT, Benue and Kwara States were drier during the month. Other parts of the country remained normal.

For 3-month Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) (Fig. 2), above-normal accumulated rainfall was observed in many parts of the country, leading to pronounced soil moisture condition over parts of Kaduna, Delta, Anambra, Borno, Yobe, Enugu States and parts of the southwest; and becoming severe -to- moderate in parts of the adjoining States. However, deficit accumulated rainfall was observed over Potiskum during the period. Normal conditions prevailed over the rest of the country.

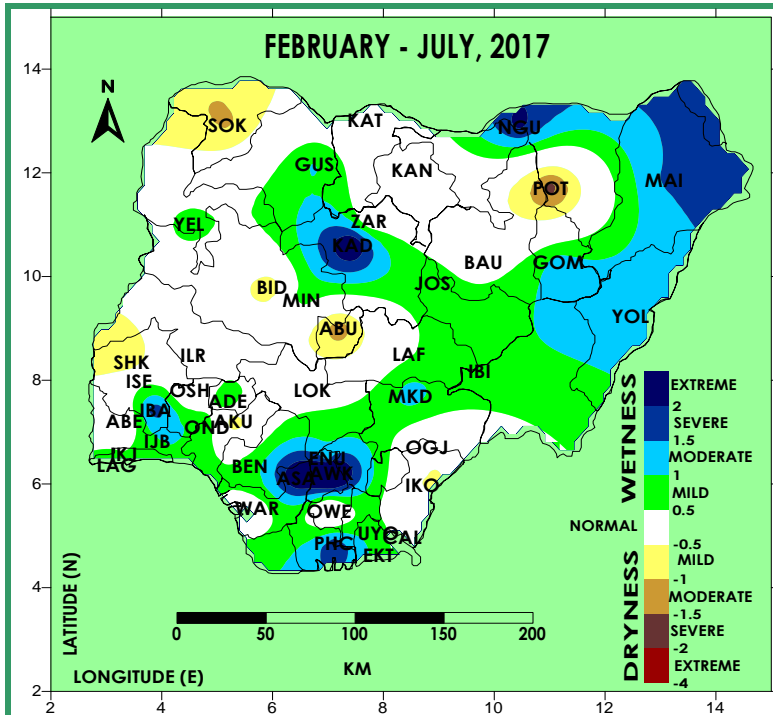


Fig. 3: 6-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for Groundwater drought)

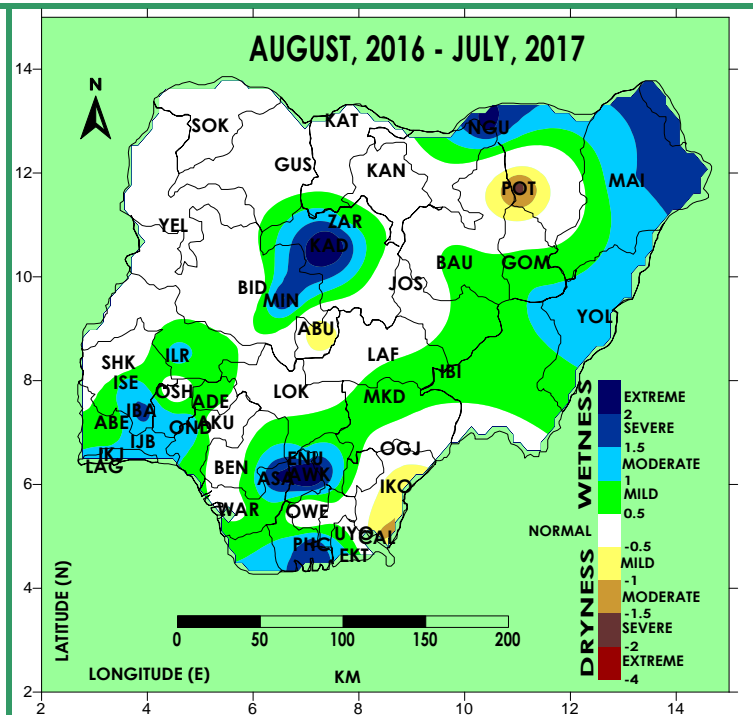


Fig.4: 12-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for stream-flow and lake storage drought)

Groundwater recharge is expected to be positive in parts of Borno, Yobe, Anambra, Delta, Kaduna and Oyo States as the 6-month cumulative rainfall (SPI) analysis show extreme - to - severe wetness over the areas. Therefore, prospect of increasing groundwater recharge is likely in the aforementioned areas. However, some places in the FCT, Sokoto and Yobe States experienced mild-to-moderate dryness, leaving the rest of the country under normal conditions (Fig.3).

The 12-month Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) for stream flows and lake storage monitoring (Fig.4) reveals continued wetter than normal conditions (extreme-to-severe) over northern Yobe, Borno, Kaduna, south of Niger, Oyo, Anambra, Delta, Enugu and Rivers States. Reducing in intensity over the neighboring areas in light blue and green backgrounds (moderate-to-mild). These locations are vulnerable to incidences of flooding. However, parts of Cross River, FCT, Bauchi, Gombe and Yobe States had mild-to-moderate dryness, while every other parts of the country remain in normal conditions. The persistence of dryness over Potiskum is an indication of the area entering into hydrological drought period.

OUTLOOK FOR AUGUST, 2017

Generally, wetter conditions are expected over most parts of the country in the month of August, especially with the approach of rainfall peak in the North. Agricultural and hydrological activities are therefore expected to thrive better with increased river and stream flows, which may impact positively on maritime and hydro-power generation activities. Prospects of flash flood may not be ruled out in and around Yobe, Kaduna, Oyo, Anambra, Niger Delta and other flood prone areas.

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