CLIMATE OUTLOOK FOR *VULI* RAINFALL SEASON OCTOBER – DECEMBER, 2026

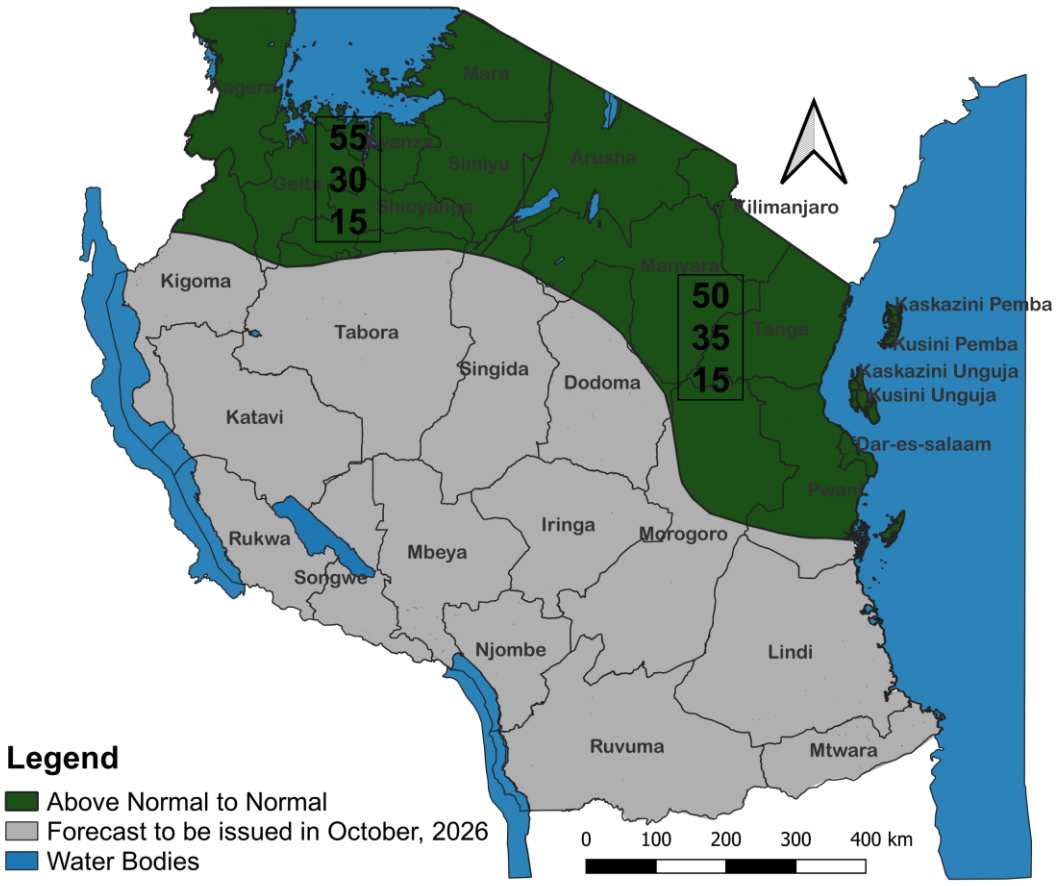


Figure 1: Outlook for October to December, 2026 rainfall season.

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Highlights for *Vuli* (October – December), 2026 Rainfall Season

This statement describes the evolution of the Climate Systems and provides the Outlook for the *Vuli (*October to December), 2026 rainfall season*.* It also presents advisories and Early Warnings for various weather-sensitive sectors, including Agriculture and Food Security, Livestock and Fisheries, Tourism and Wildlife, Transport and Transportation, Local Authorities, the Private Sector, the Media, Energy, Construction, Water and Mining, the Health Sector and Disaster Management. This forecast is specific to areas that experience two rainfall seasons per year, namely the north-eastern highlands, the northern coast, the Lake Victoria Basin and the northern Kigoma region. The key messages of this statement are as follows:

a) The *Vuli,* 2026 Rainfall Season

i. The *Vuli*, 2026 season is more likely to be influenced by Very Strong El-Niño conditions.

ii. The *Vuli*, 2026 rains are expected to be Above Normal to Normal over most parts of the northern coast, north-eastern highlands, Lake Victoria basin and northern Kigoma region.

iii. The *Vuli*, 2026 rains are expected to start during the fourth week of September and first week of October, 2026 over Lake Victoria and gradually spreading to other areas during October. Usually, *Vuli* rains cease in December, however during this season off-seasonal rains are expected to continue in January, 2027.

iv. Enhanced rainfall is expected during the month of November, 2026.

b) Expected Impacts:

i. Periods of excessive soil moisture and flooding may occur, potentially affecting crop growth and agricultural infrastructure. However, normal agricultural practices are expected to continue over some areas during the *Vuli,* 2026 season.

ii. Increased water levels in rivers and reservoirs are anticipated, which may affect water and energy infrastructure.

iii. Outbreaks of diseases such as vector borne and waterborne diseases are likely due to water contamination.

1. OUTLOOK FOR VULI (OCTOBER – DECEMBER), 2026 RAINFALL SEASON

The *Vuli* rainfall season is specific to areas of the north-eastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions), northern coast (northern part of Morogoro region, Pwani (including Mafia Island), Dar es Salaam and Tanga regions, Unguja and Pemba isles), Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Simiyu and Mara regions) and the northern part of Kigoma region.

Based on the expected climate systems (as indicated in section 2 of this outlook), generally, Above Normal to Normal rains are expected over most parts of Kagera, Geita, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Simiyu, Mara, Arusha, Manyara, Kilimanjaro, northern part of Kigoma, Dar es Salaam, Tanga, northern part of Morogoro and Pwani (including Mafia Island) regions, together with Unguja and Pemba Islands.

Usually, *Vuli* rains cease in December, however during this season off-seasonal rains are expected to continue in January, 2027. In addition, enhanced rainfall is expected during November, 2026.

Details of the rainfall season are as follows:

i. *Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Simiyu and Mara regions) and northern part of Kigoma region (Kakonko and Kibondo districts):*

The *Vuli* rains are expected to be Above Normal to Normal over Kagera, Geita, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Simiyu and Mara regions together with the northern part of Kigoma region.

The rains are expected to start in the fourth week of September to first week of October, 2026. These rains are expected to continue through January, 2027.

ii. *Northern Coast area and its Hinterlands: (northern part of Morogoro region, Pwani (including Mafia Island), Dar es Salaam and Tanga regions, Unguja and Pemba islands):*

Seasonal rains are expected to be Above Normal to Normal over Dar es Salaam, Tanga, northern part of Morogoro and Pwani (including Mafia Island) regions together with Unguja and Pemba Islands. The rains are expected to start during the first and second week of October, 2026 and cease in January, 2027.

iii. *Northeastern Highlands: (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions):*

Above Normal to Normal rains are expected over Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions and are predicted to start during the first and second week of October, 2026 and cease in January, 2027.

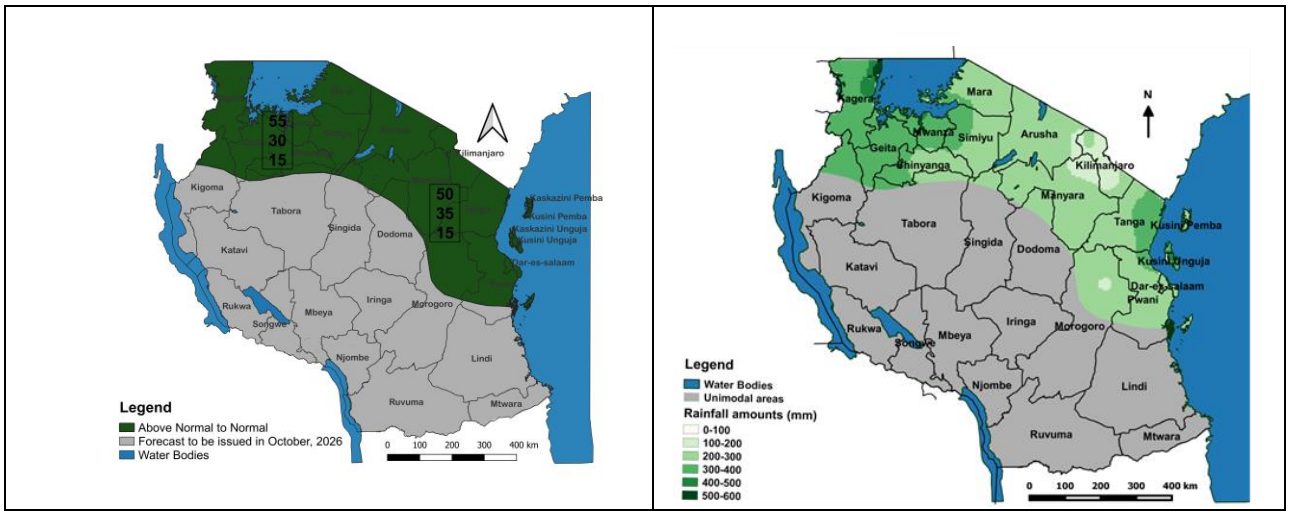


Figure 2: Left: Rainfall Outlook for Vuli (October – December) 2026 season and right: Long-term average (30 years) of October to December climatological rainfall (1991-2020).

Note 1: *Due to the presence of El-Niño, occasional rainy periods are expected in September, 2026 in some areas of the country. However, the seasonal rains (Vuli, 2026) are expected to start in October, 2026 in many areas.*

Note 2: *The presence of El-Niño towards the end of the year may result into the early onset of the "Msimu" rains (November-April) in some areas with a unimodal rainfall regime, where the rainy season normally begins in November.*

Note 3: *The rainfall forecast for this season mainly considered spatial and temporal averages over larger areas. Features and systems that influence small scales temporal and spatial climate variability will be addressed in the subsequent daily and monthly forecast. Users of this outlook are, therefore urged to make good use of daily, ten-day, monthly, and warning updates issued by the Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA).*

2. CLIMATE SYSTEMS OUTLOOK

During this season, Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) are expected to remain significantly Above Normal over the Central Equatorial Pacific Ocean (CEPO), indicating the presence of Very Strong El-Niño conditions. In addition, Above Normal SSTs are expected over the western Indian Ocean relative to the eastern Indian Ocean, favouring moderate to strong positive Indian

Ocean Dipole (IOD) conditions. Meanwhile, Normal to slightly Above Normal SSTs are anticipated over the eastern Atlantic Ocean (off-Angola coast). Collectively, these ocean-atmosphere conditions are expected to enhance the rainfall making mechanisms over most parts the country.

3. LIKELY IMPACTS AND ADVISORY

Sectoral impacts and advisories provided hereunder were jointly developed by the Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) and experts from respective sectors during the stakeholders meeting held on 14th August, 2026 and media forum held on 17th August, 2026. Stakeholders from various social and economic sectors are advised to utilize tailor made products provided by TMA during planning and implementations of their activities.

a) Agriculture and Food Security

Periods of excessive soil moisture and flooding may occur and affect crop growth and agricultural infrastructure. Crop diseases caused by fungi, bacteria and viruses are expected to increase. These diseases can affect growth, quality and yields of various crops, especially potatoes, sunflowers, beans, sesame, fruits and vegetables. Prolonged rainfall can disrupt harvesting activities and lead to post-harvest crop losses. However, normal agricultural practices are expected to continue over some areas during the *Vuli,* 2026 season.

Farmers are advised to prepare their fields, plant, weeding and use relevant farm inputs timely, and are further advised to use the best methods and technologies to prevent water stagnation in the field, erosion and loss of soil fertility; and choose the right seeds and crops for this *Vuli* season as advised by extension officers and through regular weather information updates. It is also recommended to strengthen agricultural infrastructure, harvest and store rainwater, and control plant pests and diseases. These measures will help to reduce disease impacts and increase production.

b) Livestock and Fishery

Livestock keepers and fishers are likely to benefit from availability of pasture and food for fish. However, outbreaks of livestock diseases such as rift valley fever, foot rot and breeding of vector-borne insects may occur. Also, increased incidences of seaweeds diseases and decline in seaweeds production due to a decrease in seawater salinity are expected.

Furthermore, livestock keepers are advised to practice good animal husbandry in order to conserve pasture and harvest rainwater for future use. The community is advised to put in place good plan for management and conservation of water and animal feeds. Seaweed farmers are advised to conduct cultivation in deep water to get rid off the effects of rainwater entering the sea. In addition, pastoralists and fishers are advised to use weather forecast updates and adhere to the advice provided by extension officers in order to minimize possible adverse impacts and capitalize on expected favourable conditions during the season.

c) Tourism and Wildlife

The availability of pasture and water for wildlife in parks and game reserves is expected to be good. However, excessive rainfall may lead to water stagnation and widespread flooding, which could lead to migration of wildlife into community areas.

This condition is likely to trigger the risk of disease transmission from wildlife to domestic animals as wildlife entering into community areas surrounding parks and game reserves. Such movements may also increase the likelihood of human–wildlife conflicts, posing risks to both people and livestock.

The relevant authorities are advised to improve the various infrastructures in wildlife reserves and raise community awareness on preventing and responding to human–wildlife conflicts. Community members should promptly report any wildlife entering residential areas to the relevant authorities so that appropriate control measures can be taken.

d) Transport and Transportation

Severe weather events may adversely affect transport infrastructure and operations, including roads, railways, ports, and airports. Potential impacts include soil erosion, collapse of road embankments, and damage to bridges and MGR and SGR railway infrastructure, which may increase the risk of accidents. In addition, cargo loading and unloading operations at ports may be delayed, particularly for goods that require protection from moisture. Overall, these conditions may disrupt transport services, damage cargo and infrastructure, and increase operational and maintenance costs.

Stakeholders in this sector are advised to take appropriate measures including regular inspections of the transport and transportation infrastructure to reduce the effects that may arise.

e) Construction

Periods of heavy rainfall may affect the construction sector by delaying projects and causing contractual disputes, damaging construction materials and infrastructure, increasing construction costs, compromising the quality of work, and posing safety risks to workers. Furthermore, excessive rainfall may cause soil erosion, damage to completed and ongoing construction works due to flooding, and increase moisture levels in buildings, thereby reducing the durability and structural integrity of infrastructure and causing damage to equipment and raw materials.

Stakeholders are advised to take this Vuli rainfall forecast into consideration when planning construction activities, particularly during periods when Above Normal rainfall is expected. They are also advised to take appropriate precautionary measures, including relocating heavy

machinery and construction equipment from valleys, low-lying areas, and waterlogged locations before the onset of rainfall, in order to minimize potential impacts.

Furthermore, stakeholders are advised to procure and store, in advance, materials that may be damaged by moisture, such as cement and reinforcing steel bars, in safe and properly protected storage facilities. This may help to prevent shortages and avoid price increases during the rainy season. In addition, robust safety measures should be put in place at construction sites to safeguard workers and equipment.

f) Energy, Water and Mining

Increased water levels and pollution in lakes, rivers and reservoirs are anticipated, which may affect water and energy infrastructure. In areas with small-scale mining activities, appropriate safety precautions should be observed, as Above Normal rains may increase the risk of landslides and the collapse of unstable excavations.

Stakeholders are encouraged to promote the sustainable use and conservation of water resources in mineral processing, electricity generation, industrial operations, and domestic activities. Although Above Normal rainfall is expected to enhance water availability, relevant authorities are advised to implement appropriate water resource management measures to minimize the risk of flooding, sedimentation, and deterioration of water quality. In addition, authorities are encouraged to strengthen the resilience of water and energy infrastructure and, where appropriate, diversify energy sources to reduce potential disruptions associated with heavy rainfall and flooding.

g) Local Authorities

Periods of heavy rain can cause water stagnation and flooding, which may lead to infrastructure damage and loss of lives and properties. Local authorities are advised to improve water drainage systems to reduce effects that may be caused by floods in line with providing education to the communities on the measures that need to be taken. These include strengthening disaster committees at the village and district levels to manage and reduce the associated impacts.

h) Health

Destruction of water infrastructure due to stagnant and surface runoff may cause water contamination and disease outbreaks such as vector and water borne diseases. Relevant authorities responsible for public health and individuals are advised to take necessary health precautions needed to minimize the expected negative impacts on health such as destroying mosquito-breeding sites and ensure enough stock of medicines and other health facilities taking into consideration of possible destruction of transportation infrastructure. Health facilities are advised to have contingency plans in place to ensure continuity of healthcare services.

i) Private Sector

The private sector is expected to benefit from the sufficient rains in this season, particularly in large scale agricultural activities, industrial production, etc. However, excessive rain could impact on infrastructure construction activities, agriculture, storage and transportation of perishable crops, goods and products.

The private sector is advised to partner with various relevant experts, including TMA experts, to mitigate potential impacts. Banking and Insurance Institutions are advised to prepare and provide specific services particularly consultancy services to their stakeholders to enhance resilience and safeguard business profitability.

j) Disaster Management

Enhanced rainfall during the season is likely to trigger floods and landslides in some areas. This situation could result in infrastructure damage, disruption of social services, loss of property, and adverse impacts on human lives and the environment. Therefore, the National Disaster Management Department is advised to continue coordinating the implementation of plans aimed at mitigating potential impacts. Furthermore, relevant sectors, authorities, and Disaster Management Committees at the Regional, District, Ward, and Village/Street levels are advised to collaborate and take appropriate measures, including providing early warnings, public education and guidelines to promote disaster prevention or mitigation, preparedness, response, and post-disaster recovery.

k) Media

Journalists are advised to obtain and disseminate only official weather forecasts and warnings issued by TMA to ensure the timely provision of accurate information for public awareness and preparedness. In accordance with the Tanzania Meteorological Authority Act, No. 2 of 2019, the dissemination of weather-related information from unofficial sources is a legal offence.

Journalists are further advised to seek sector-specific guidance from relevant experts and communicate weather-related information in a clear and simple language to enhance public understanding and support effective preparedness for adverse weather conditions.

TMA advises all users of this climate outlook including farmers, livestock keepers, wildlife conservation authorities, transport and transportation, hydrological and health sectors to continue seeking and utilizing experts' advice on their relevant sectors.

TMA will continue to monitor developments of the weather systems and issue updates whenever appropriate. Users are encouraged to consult TMA for specialized outlooks and forecasts on relevant sectors so as to suit their specific needs.

Issued on: 18th August, 2026
By Tanzania Meteorological Authority

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