

Drought and Flood Monitoring Bulletin

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PREAMBLE

The December edition of the Drought and Flood Monitoring Bulletin (DFMB) was prepared using the WMO recommended practice, the Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI). During the period under review, most parts of the country experienced normal condition except for a few places with mild degrees of wetness and dryness. The maps describing the condition of the ground moisture at different time scales are presented below;

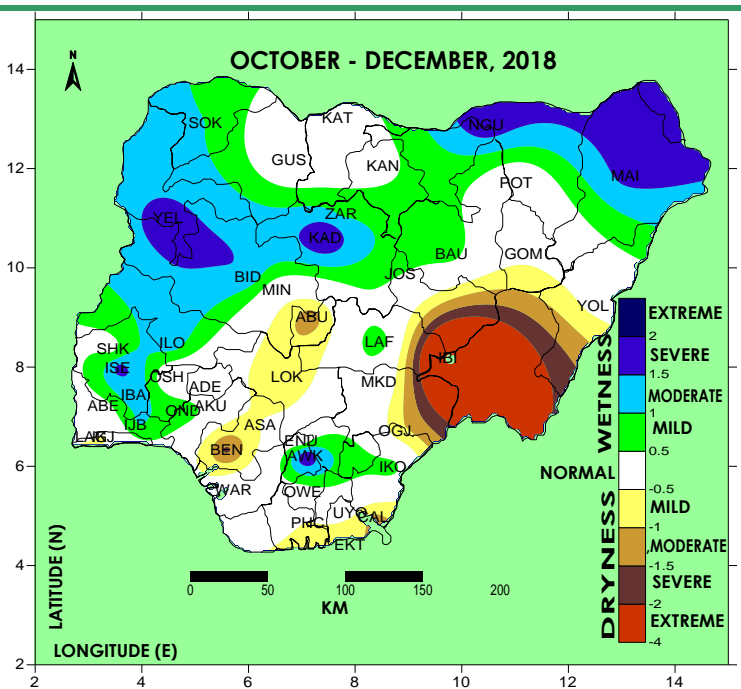
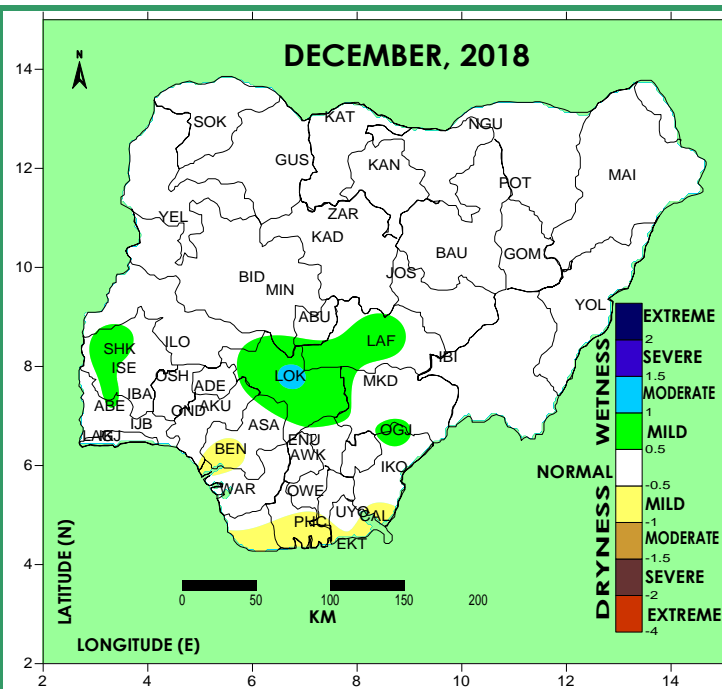


Fig.1: 1-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for meteorological drought)

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

OBSERVED FEATURES

The 1-month Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) (Fig.1) shows that normal condition prevailed over most parts of the country except for parts of Kogi state that experienced moderate wetness. Parts of Nasarawa, Oyo, Delta and Cross River states witnessed mild wetness. However, Places around Edo, Delta, Bayelsa, Rivers, Akwa Ibom and Cross River states experienced mild dryness.

The 3-month Standardized Precipitation Index (Fig.2) indicates moderate – to- severe wetness over parts of Borno, Yobe, Kaduna, Kebbi, Oyo and Anambra states. However, extreme dryness was very pronounced in and around Taraba State with few surrounding high ground areas of Adamawa, Gombe Plateau, Nasarawa and Benue states experiencing mild –to - severe dryness. In the same vein, parts of the FCT, Kogi, Delta, Rivers, Akwa Ibom and Cross rivers states observed mild – to – moderate dryness. Other parts of the country had mild wetness –to – normal conditions.

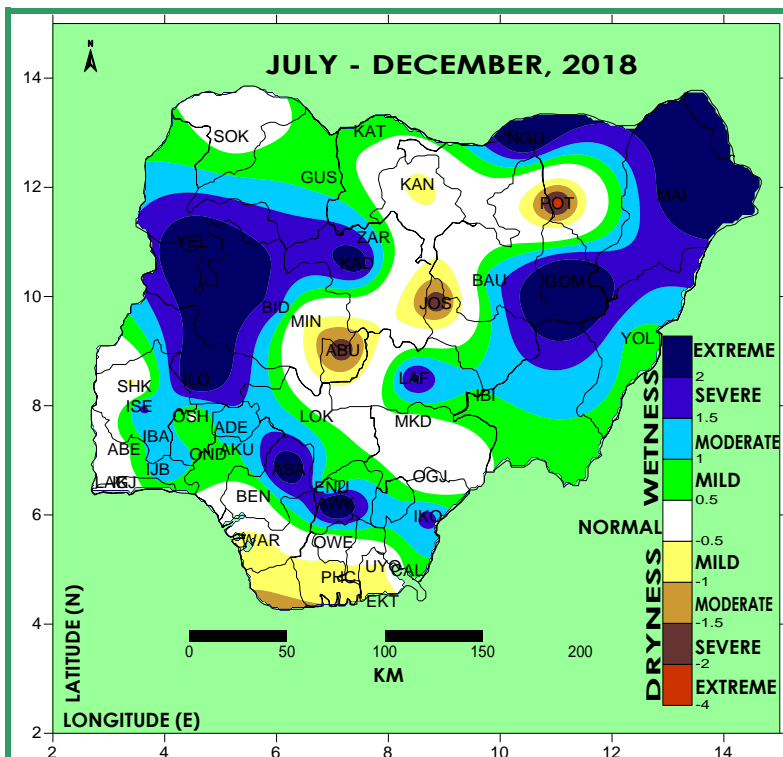


Fig. 3: 6-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for Groundwater drought)

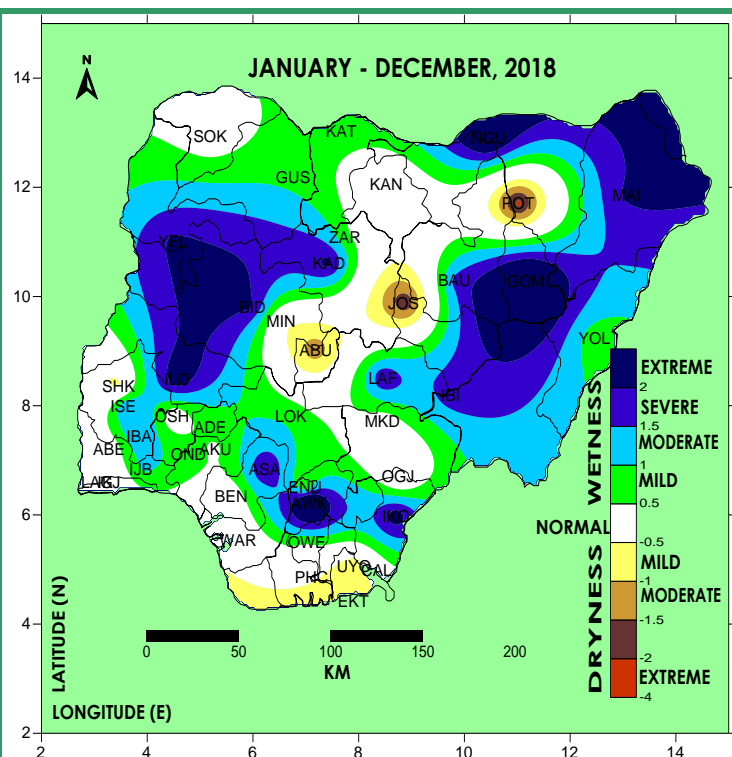


Fig.4: 12-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for stream-flow and lake storage drought)

The cumulative rainfall analysis map (SPI-6) for groundwater monitoring depicts extreme – to – moderate wetness in the past six months over parts of Gombe, Borno, Yobe, Kaduna, Kebbi, Niger, Kwara, Delta, Anambra and Akwa Ibom states. In addition, places around Katsina, Zamfara, Sokoto, Adamawa, Benue, Oyo, Osun, Ogun, Ekiti, Ondo, Imo and Cross River states experienced mild wetness. Moreso, severe – to extreme dryness was observed over parts of Yobe, Plateau and FCT while mild dryness prevailed over parts of Kano, Delta, Bayelsa, Rivers and Akwa Ibom states. Other few places remained normal (Fig.3).

The 12-month Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) for stream flows and lake storage monitoring analysis reveals a very similar picture with Fig. 3 but with slight difference of deteriorating dryness over the southern Coast with mild dryness over the FCT, and an improved wetness around parts of Adamawa – Taraba axis.

OUTLOOK FOR JANUARY , 2019

Following the cessation of rains, It is expected that drier conditions would prevail over the Northern part of the country with increased evaporation. Dry season farmers, especially in the North, are expected to explore irrigation practices for optimum yields. Noticeably, the 6 and 12- Month cumulative indexes shows very good prospects for recharge which could promote positive water resource management and maritime activities, especially in the coastal region.

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