

SEASONAL FORECAST OUTLOOK (OCTOBER 2024- JANUARY 2025)

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HIGHLIGHTS

➤ **Rainfall - The country received relatively normal rains during the period October 2023 to March 2024 throughout the country -----**

STATE OF GLOBAL CLIMATE

- **The El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is currently neutral.**
- **Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) in the central equatorial Pacific Ocean are ENSO-neutral, having gradually cooled from El Niño levels since December 2023.**
- **The ENSO Outlook remains at La Niña Watch. La Niña Watch does not guarantee La Niña development, only that there is about an equal chance of ENSO remaining neutral or La Niña developing during the remainder of 2024.**

SUMMARY OUTLOOK

- **The country's seasonal rainfall forecast for first half of summer 2024/25 (October to December) show a generally normal forecast with a bias of Above-Normal Rainfall over the entire country, with rains ranging between 200mm to 500mm during the October - December 2024 period.**
- **During the last half of summer, January to March 2025, the forecast shows that there is a high chance of a normal forecast with a bias of Above-Normal Rainfall over the entire country, with rains ranging between 300mm for areas in the lower Lowveld to 500mm and above for some areas in the Highveld during the January - March 2025 period**

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SEASONAL OUTLOOK

OVERVIEW

The El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is currently neutral. Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) in the central equatorial Pacific Ocean are ENSO-neutral, having gradually cooled from El Niño levels since December 2023. This cooling is being sustained by deep waters surfacing in the central and eastern Pacific.

The country's seasonal rainfall forecast for summer 2024/25 show a generally normal forecast with a bias of Above-Normal Rainfall over the entire country, with rains ranging between 200mm to 500mm in different parts of the country during the October 2024 - March 2025 period.

October – November - December 2024 (OND) Rainfall

The predictors used put most of the country in Normal-Above-Normal rainfall over the forecast period. The National breakdown of the predicted October-November-December (OND) 2024 rainfall probabilities are as presented below:

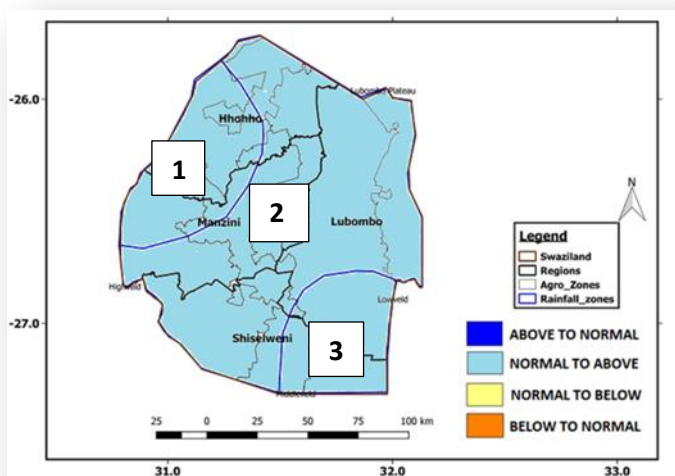


Figure 1: OND 2024 Rainfall Outlook

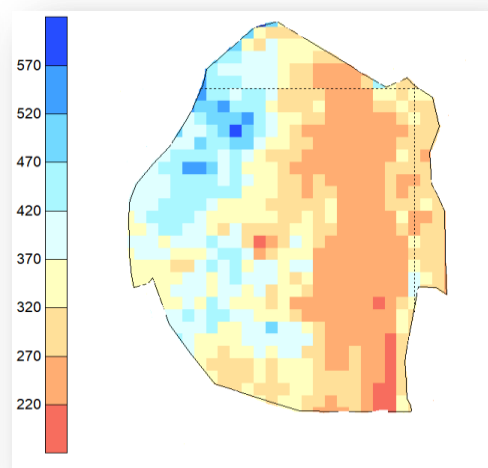


Figure 2: OND LongTerm Mean

Zone I

There is a chance of Normal-to-Above-Normal rainfall over most areas within the region during the OND 2024 period.

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Zone II

There is a chance of Normal-to-Above-Normal rainfall over most parts of the regions during the forecast period, OND 2024.

Zone III

There is a chance of Normal-to-Above-Normal rainfall over most areas within the region during the OND 2024 period.

November -December –January 2024/25 (NDJ) Rainfall

The predictors used put most of the country in Normal-to-Above-Normal rainfall over the forecast period. The National breakdown of the predicted November - December –January (NDJ) 2024/25 rainfall probabilities are as presented below:

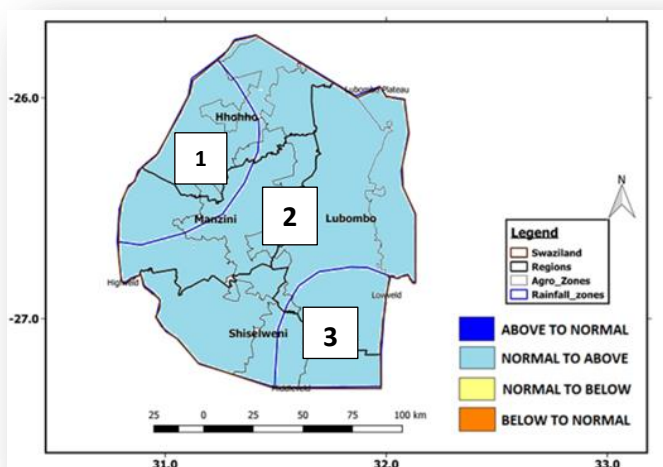


Figure 3: NDJ 2024/25 Rainfall Outlook

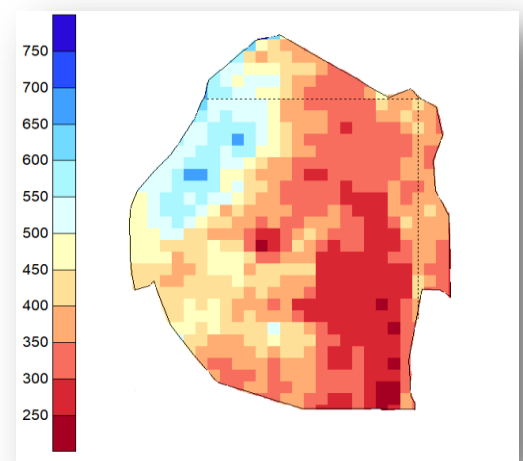


Figure 4: NDJ Longterm Mean

Zone I

There is a chance of Normal-to-Above-Normal rainfall over most areas within the region during the NDJ 2024/25 period.

Zone II

There is a chance of Normal-to-Above-Normal rainfall over most parts of the regions during the forecast period, NDJ 2024/25.

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Zone III

There is a chance of Normal-to-Above-Normal rainfall over most areas within the region during the NDJ 2024/25 period.

December –January -February 2024/25 (DJF) Rainfall

The predictors used put most of the country in Normal-to-Above-Normal rainfall over the forecast period. The National breakdown of the predicted December – January -February (DJF) 2024/25 rainfall probabilities are as presented below:

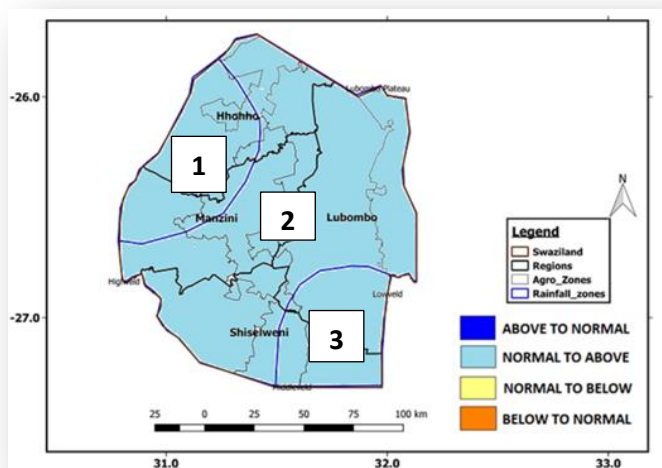


Figure 5: DJF 2024/25 Rainfall Outlook

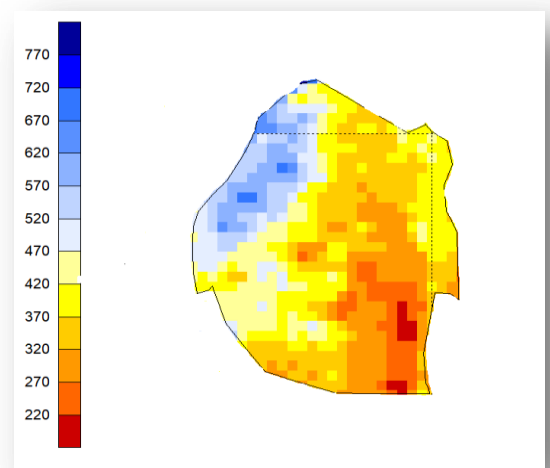


Figure 6: DJF Longterm Mean

Zone I

There is a chance of Normal-to-Above-Normal rainfall over most areas within the region during the DJF 2024/25 period.

Zone II

There is a chance of Normal-to-Above-Normal rainfall over most parts of the regions during the forecast period, DJF 2024/25.

Zone III

There is a chance of Normal-to-Above-Normal rainfall over most areas within the region during the DJF 2024/25 period.

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January – February - March 2025 (JFM) Rainfall

The predictors used put most of the country in Normal to Above-Normal rainfall over the forecast period. The National breakdown of the predicted January-February-March 2025 rainfall probabilities are as presented below:

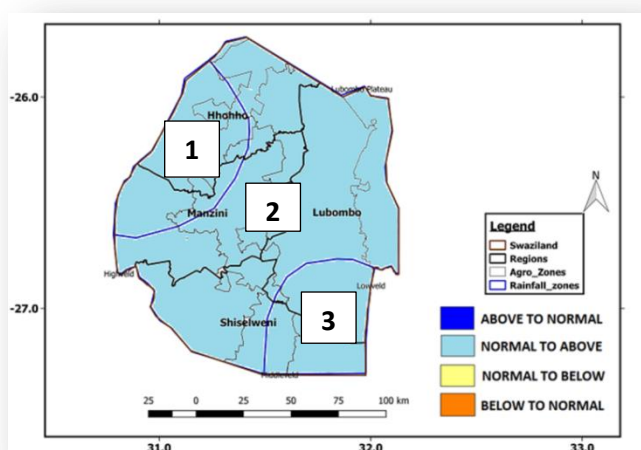


Figure 1: JFM 2025 Rainfall Outlook

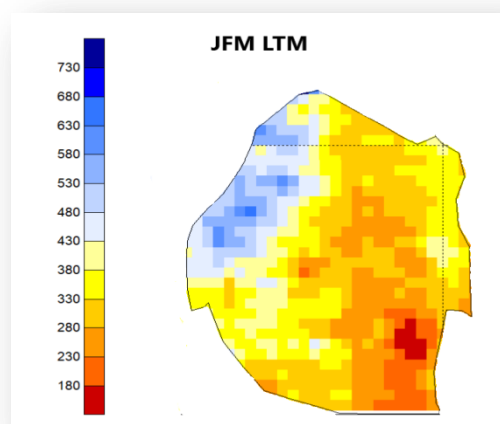


Figure 2: JFM Long Term Mean

Zone I

There is a chance of Normal-to-Above-Normal rainfall over most areas within the region during the JFM 2025 period.

Zone II

There is a chance of Normal-to-Above-Normal rainfall over most parts of the regions during the forecast period, JFM 2025.

Zone III

There is a chance of Normal-to-Above-Normal rainfall over most areas within the region during the JFM 2025 period.

NOTE:

1. Shorter timescale climate variations may occur, which can be determined through our daily and ten-day weather forecasts. The Eswatini Meteorological Service will continuously provide updates monthly during the summer season.
2. The users are strongly advised to contact **Eswatini Meteorological Service** for interpretation of this Outlook, finer details, updates and additional guidance.

3. Acknowledgements:

- ✓ SADC-CSC,
- ✓ Global climate monitoring and prediction centres
- ✓ WMO

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