



SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY CLIMATE SERVICES CENTRE

MONTHLY CLIMATE BULLETIN

Bulletin Period: **OCTOBER 2018**

1. INTRODUCTION

The monthly climate watch bulletin was prepared with products generated using Africa Rainfall Climatology version 2 data (ARC2) for rainfall and African Flood and Drought Monitor dataset (AFDM) for temperature. This bulletin provides an analysis of the climate conditions that were experienced in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) during October 2018. It reviews the total rainfall experienced together with the departure from long term average and the minimum and maximum temperatures and their respective anomalies.

2. HIGHLIGHTS

Most parts of the region received fair amounts of rainfall which was an improvement from the rainfall situation from the previous month with the northern parts of the region receiving more rainfall. From the long-term outlook the rainfall performance was most normal to below normal with normal to above normal conditions being experienced in western tip and south eastern parts of the region amongst others (Figures 1 & 2).

Warmer than long-term average temperature was experienced over most parts of the region. Warmer than average long-term average minimum temperatures were experienced over much of the region in places like southern Angola, bulk of Namibia, most of South Africa, Lesotho, Botswana, central Zimbabwe and western Zambia. The rest of the region experienced slightly warmer than average minimum temperature.

3. RAINFALL ANALYSIS

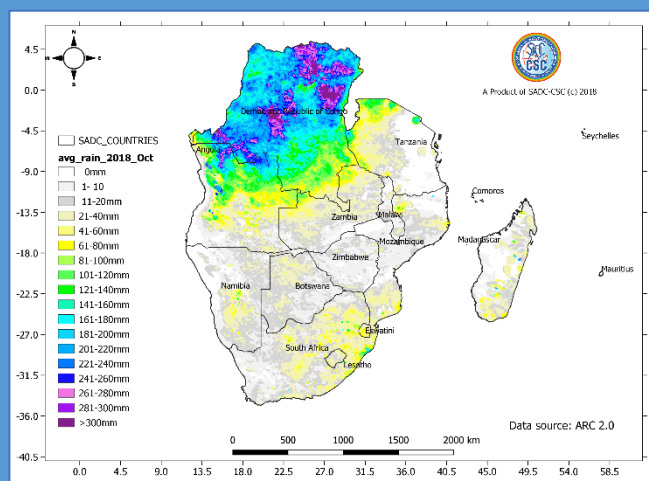


Figure 1: distribution of rainfall for October 2018 (Data source:ARC2)

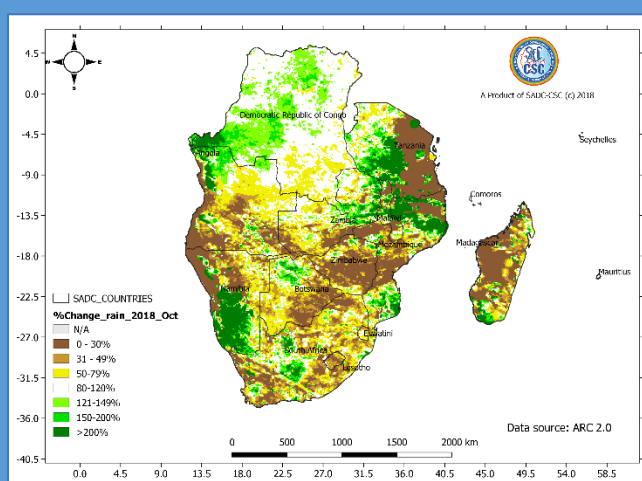


Figure 2: percentage change from long-term average (1983-2012) rainfall for October 2018 (Data source:ARC2)

Most of the region received rainfall as a great improvement from the month before with DRC and northern tip of Angola having received more than 280 mm. Northern Tanzania, southern DRC fairly good amounts of more than 140 mm of rainfall and the rest of the region a little less than 60 mm received over those areas. The region as shown in Figure 2 received normal to below normal rainfall with the western-most, north eastern and south eastern parts of the region experiencing below normal rainfall compared to the long-term average for this month. Cases of above normal rainfall were recorded over southern Namibia, parts of central South Africa, northern Mozambique, western Tanzania, central Malawi and south western DRC.

4. TEMPERATURE ANALYSIS

REVIEW OF LAST 30 DAYS

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

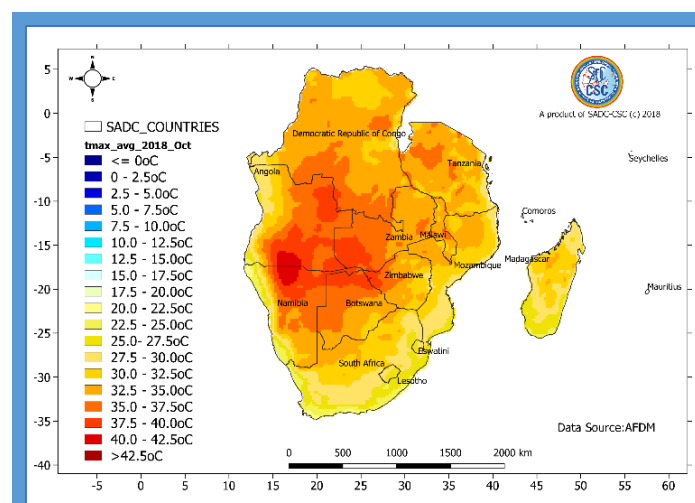


Figure 3: average maximum temperature for October 2018 (Data source AFDM)

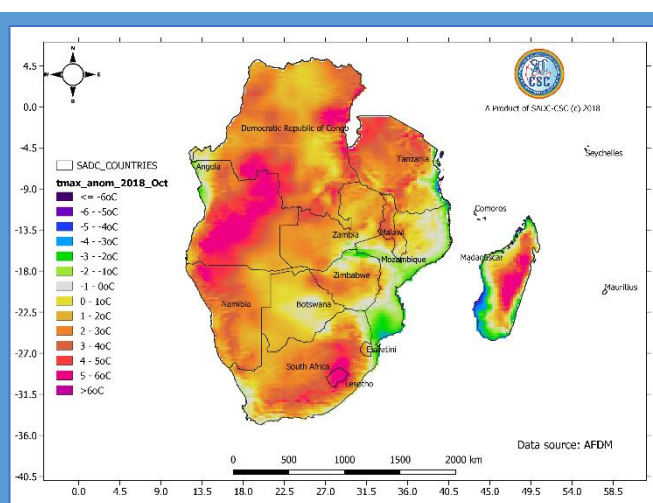


Figure 4: difference from long-term average (1981-2010) maximum temperature for October 2018 (Data source: AFDM)

The temperature situation over the region has not improved much with the western and southern coasts of the region experienced mild temperatures of 20 °C covering southern Madagascar, Lesotho, Eswatini and south western tip of Mozambique. Very hot temperatures of more than 37 °C were experienced over the central parts of the region in places like southern DRC, eastern half of Angola, western Zambia, most of northern Namibia and Botswana. The rest of the region experienced fairly warm temperatures of around 25 °C to 27 °C. Warmer than long-term average temperature was experienced over most parts of the region. The coast and southern tip of Mozambique, western tip of Angola and south eastern coast of Tanzania experienced cooler than long-term average maximum temperatures

MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

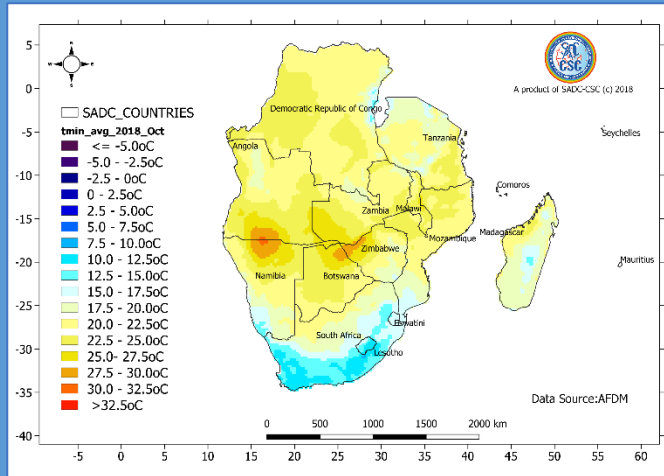


Figure 5: average minimum temperature for October 2018 (Data source AFDM)

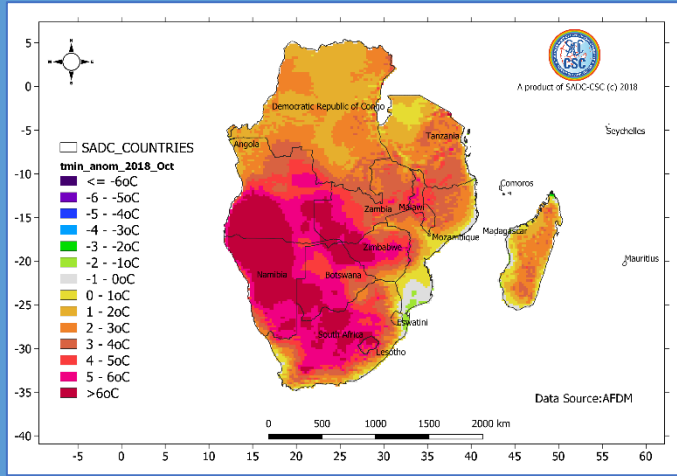
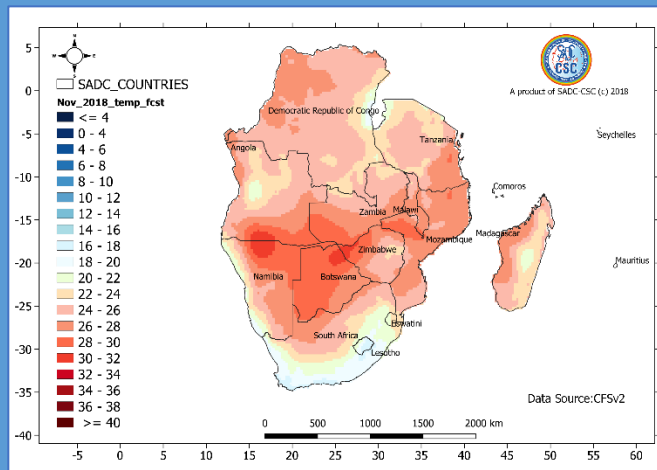
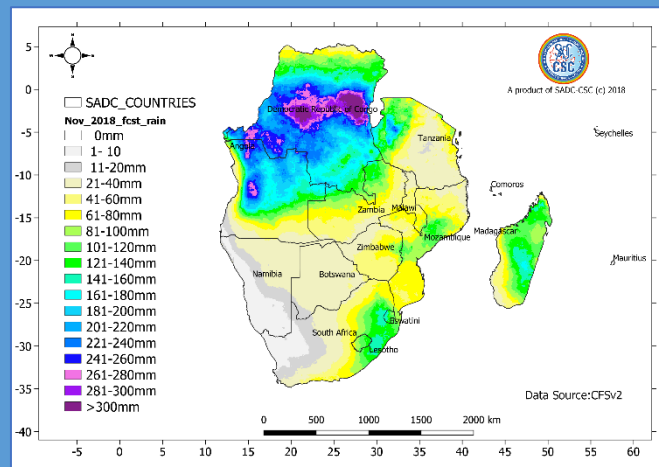


Figure 6: difference from long-term average (1981-2010) minimum temperature for October 2018 (Data source: AFDM)

The bulk of the region experienced warmer than long-term average minimum temperature with the southern half of Angola, northern Namibia, bulk of Botswana, western most of Zambia into central Mozambique and bulk most of Madagascar experiencing more than 20 °C. Parts of central Madagascar, Eswatini, Lesotho, most of southern South Africa and the tip south western tip of Namibia experienced cool minimum temperatures of below 15 °C.

5. CLIMATE OUTLOOK

FORECAST FOR THE NEXT 30 DAYS



For the coming 30 days the bulk of the region is expected to receive good amounts of rainfall (Figure 7) with parts of DRC and northern Angola expected to record more than 200 mm of rainfall and more than 140 mm expected over northern parts of Zambia, western Tanzania, central Mozambique, Lesotho, Eswatini eastern South Africa, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and Comoros islands. With the expected improvement of rainfall the temperature situation is expected to reduce over the region with a few exception being the central parts in places like Botswana, western Zimbabwe, south western Zambia and southern most of Angola all expected to experience more than 30 °C of temperature

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