



SADC-CLIMATE SERVICES CENTRE

HEAVY RAINFALL ADVISORY

ISSUE NUMBER: 03 OF 2021/22

RELEASE DATE: 02/02/2022

RAINFALL SEASON: 2021/22

HIGHLIGHTS

1. **BATSIRAI** has further intensified into an Intense Tropical Cyclone and is currently affecting Mauritius. Model outputs indicate that it will continue to move westwards and very likely to make landfall over Madagascar on Saturday 05 February 2022.
2. Heavy rainfall expected over other regions of the SADC due to Tropical Cyclone BATSIRAI and active weather systems.

Evolving over a favourable environment, **BATSIRAI** has intensified into an Intense Tropical Cyclone and affecting Mauritius with cyclonic conditions (winds of the order of 120km/h, very heavy rainfall and high to phenomenal seas). According to the Mauritius Meteorological Services, ITC BATSIRAI was located at 0600UTC near 18.4S 57.7E, moving south-westwards.

Analysis from the following sources: European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting (ECMWF), Joint Typhoon Warning Centre (JTWC), Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC) La Reunion and the SADC Climate Services Centre WRF-GFS, indicate the ITC BATSIRAI will maintain a general westerly track and is very likely to make landfall over Madagascar on Saturday 05 February 2022.

WARNING ZONE

The forecast track shows that the tropical cyclone is still approaching Mauritius and will start to affect Madagascar in the next few days.

Other parts of SADC region that will experience increased rainfall during the period 02 to 07 February 2022 include Comoros, Seychelles, eastern Namibia, whole United Republic of Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo, east Angola, and parts of South Africa, and Botswana, as shown in Figure 1 below.

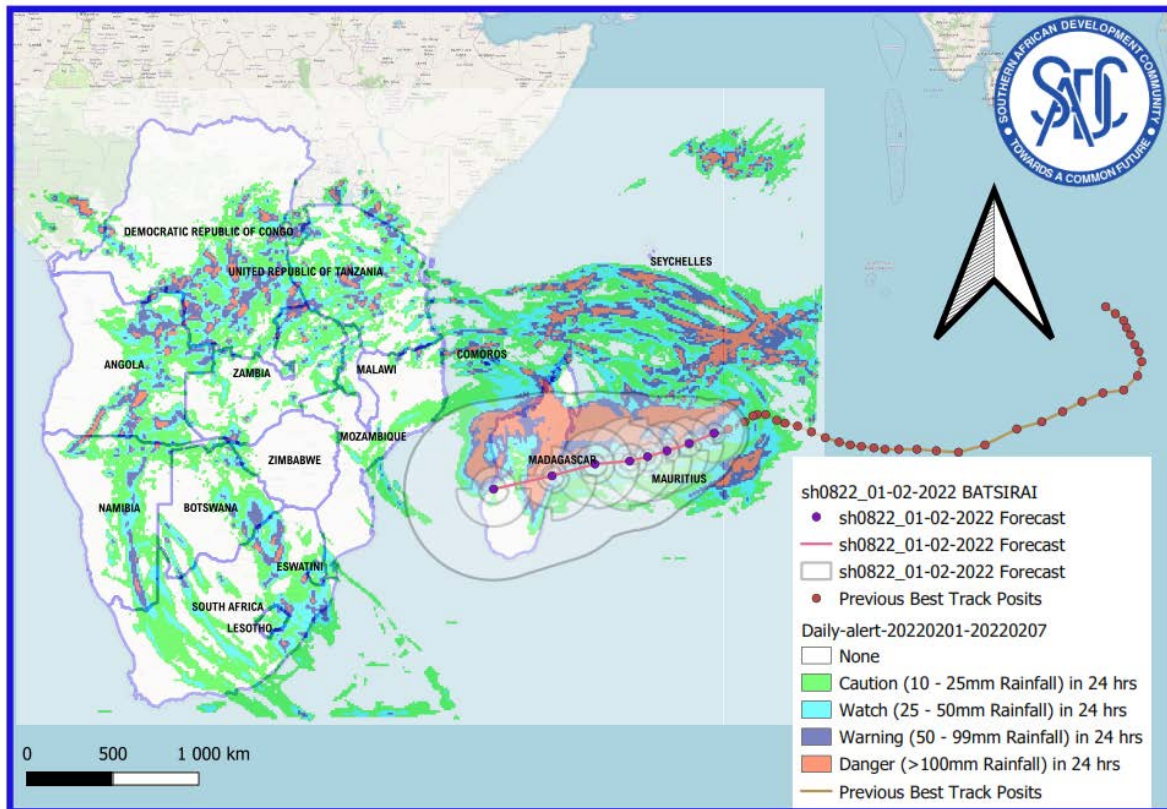


Figure 1: Heavy rainfall expected over the SADC region due to a very intense tropical cyclone BATSIRAI and other weather systems during the period of 02 to 07 February 2022 (Source: SADC-CSC WRF-GFS Model and JTWC (tracks))

RECOMMENDED ACTION

National Meteorological and Hydrological Services are requested to closely monitor these events and update relevant institutions such as Disaster Risk Management Agencies at Member States level to support preparedness and response measures to protect lives and property.

For more information on TC BATSIRAI, please visit the websites of RSMC Reunion (<http://www.meteofrance.re/cyclone/activite-cyclonique-en-cours>) and Mauritius Meteorological Services (<http://metservice.intnet.mu>).

NEXT ADVICE

The next advisory will be issued when there is need to update information on the current evolving tropical system over the Indian Ocean, which will have a direct impact on the SADC Region.

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Disclaimer: Users are encouraged to consult National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in Member States for interpretation of this advisory

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