



INTRA-ACP CLIMATE SERVICES AND RELATED APPLICATIONS PROGRAMME

# SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

## CLIMATE SERVICES CENTRE (SADC-CSC)

### REGIONAL CLIMATE MONTHLY MONITOR

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**ClimSA**  
INTRA-ACP CLIMATE SERVICES AND RELATED APPLICATIONS PROGRAMME



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#### BENEFICIARIES



## A. HIGHLIGHTS

- **The rainfall during November:** During November 2025 the rainfall exhibited strong spatial contrasts across the SADC region, with wetter-than-usual conditions over the northern areas, particularly across the DRC and northern Angola, and generally moderate rainfall over the eastern sector. In contrast, predominantly dry conditions prevailed across much of the western and southern parts of the region, including the southern half of Madagascar, while rainfall anomalies indicated above-normal conditions in parts of central southern Africa and near-normal conditions confined to isolated areas.
- **Drought monitoring:** During November 2025, soil moisture conditions across the SADC region showed pronounced spatial contrasts, with dry to very dry conditions prevailing over parts of the northern DRC, central Angola, western Namibia, south-western South Africa and large areas of Madagascar. In contrast, wetter soil moisture conditions were confined to isolated areas, mainly along parts of the DRC border regions, sections of eastern Botswana and western Zambia, northern South Africa, and northern Madagascar. Most of the remaining areas of the subcontinent experienced near-normal soil moisture conditions.
- **Dry days:** During November 2025, prolonged dry spells dominated the western fringes of the SADC region and parts of the eastern sector, while shorter dry spells prevailed across the central belt of the subcontinent. Most remaining areas experienced moderate dry spell durations, reflecting generally suppressed rainfall conditions across large parts of the region.
- **The minimum temperature anomalies:** During November 2025, cooler night-time conditions were mainly confined to the interior of southern Africa and parts of Madagascar, while generally mild minimum temperatures prevailed across most of the subcontinent. Minimum temperature anomalies were predominantly above normal over large areas, with pockets of cooler-than-normal conditions observed mainly over parts of Botswana and eastern Zambia, while near-normal conditions dominated the remaining regions.
- **Maximum temperatures anomalies:**
- Daytime temperatures during November 2025 were generally high across most of the SADC region, with warmer-than-normal conditions prevailing over large areas, including eastern Madagascar. In contrast, cooler-than-normal daytime temperatures were observed over parts of south-eastern southern Africa and western Madagascar, while the remainder of the region experienced near-normal maximum temperature conditions.
- **Day and nighttime heat waves:** During November 2025, daytime heatwave conditions were mainly concentrated over parts of central and eastern Africa,

particularly across the DRC and northern Tanzania, with isolated occurrences in eastern Angola and Madagascar, while the southernmost parts of the subcontinent were largely unaffected. Night-time heatwaves were more widespread across the region, affecting large areas of eastern and central Africa, with shorter and more localised events extending into parts of southern Africa and Madagascar.

- **Rainfall and temperature outlook for November:**
- Rainfall outlook for January 2026 indicates an increased likelihood of wetter-than-normal conditions over much of the southern half of the SADC region, while near-normal rainfall is expected in isolated areas across parts of central and western Africa. In contrast, drier-than-normal conditions are anticipated over northern Mozambique, the southern parts of Madagascar, and isolated areas elsewhere in the region. Temperatures are forecast to be predominantly above normal across most of the SADC region, including Madagascar, with only limited areas expected to experience near- to below-normal temperature conditions.

## 1. REGIONAL RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

During November 2025, rainfall distribution across the SADC region was highly variable. The northernmost parts of the region experienced substantial rainfall, with accumulated totals exceeding 200 mm, particularly over most of the DRC and northern Angola. In contrast, the eastern sector of the region, including eastern DRC, Zambia, most of Zimbabwe, Botswana, the north-western fringe of Tanzania, northern Madagascar, and north-eastern South Africa, recorded moderate rainfall ranging between 80 and 120 mm. Much of the remaining region was generally dry, although isolated areas in Tanzania recorded very high localised accumulations of up to about 800 mm [Figure 1, left].

Rainfall anomaly patterns indicated markedly above-normal conditions over large parts of central South Africa, southern Botswana, central Namibia, northern Malawi, northern Mozambique, and northern Madagascar. Near-normal rainfall was observed in isolated areas, mainly across parts of the DRC, eastern Angola, western Zambia, north-eastern South Africa, Botswana, and central Mozambique. Conversely, below-normal to dry conditions dominated the western coastal areas, including western Angola, western Namibia, and western and southern South Africa, as well as the southern half of Madagascar [Figure 1, right].

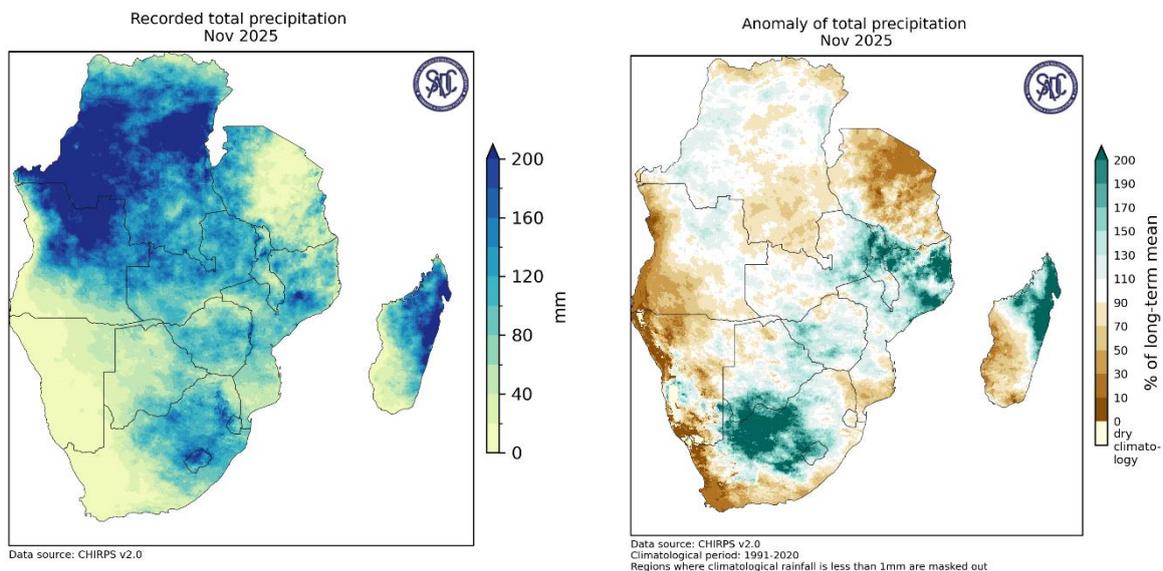


Figure 1: Observed rainfall (left) and rainfall anomaly (right) for the month of November 2025.

### 1.1 Drought Monitoring

#### 1.1.1 Seasonal and Annual Drought Assessment

During November 2025, long-term soil moisture conditions, as reflected by the 12-month SPI, indicated severely dry conditions over parts of the northern DRC, central Angola, the western fringes of Namibia, south-western South Africa, and much of central and northern Madagascar. In contrast, moderately wet to very wet soil moisture conditions were observed in isolated areas along the DRC–Tanzania border, near the DRC–Angola border, parts of eastern Botswana and western Zambia, the northern parts of South Africa near the tri-border area, and northern Madagascar. Near-normal soil moisture conditions prevailed across most of the subcontinent [Figure 2, left].

Shorter-term soil moisture conditions, based on the 3-month SPI, showed dry to very dry conditions across the western fringes of Angola and Namibia, parts of eastern DRC, isolated

areas of Tanzania, and the south-eastern parts of Madagascar. The remainder of the region experienced largely near-normal soil moisture conditions [Figure 2, right].

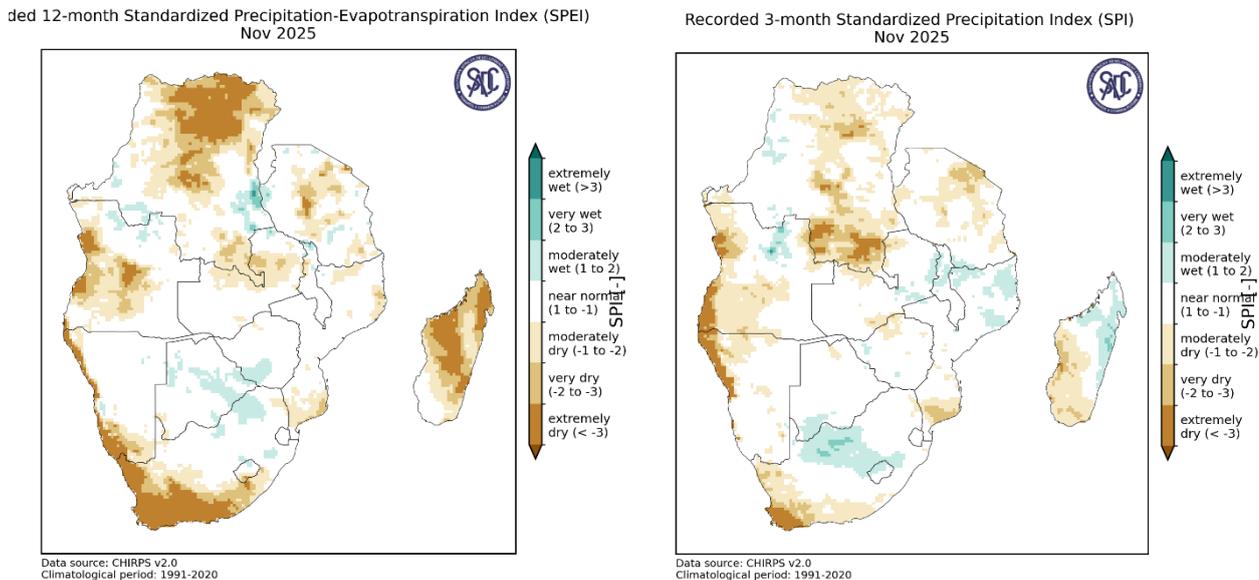


Figure 2: Drought assessment: SPI for 12-months (left) and 3-months SPI (right).

### 1.1.2 Short term drought (dry spells)

A prolonged spell of dry conditions, lasting between 24 and 30 consecutive days, was observed along the western fringes of the subcontinent, including south-western South Africa and the western parts of Namibia and Angola. Similar prolonged dry spells were also recorded in parts of the eastern region, covering southern Mozambique, eastern Tanzania, and the south-western portions of Madagascar. Short dry spells of approximately 0 to 3 days were recorded across much of the DRC, north-eastern Angola, and parts of central Madagascar. Overall, the central belt of the subcontinent, extending across the DRC, Zambia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, northern Madagascar, and parts of northern Mozambique, experienced dry spells ranging between 3 and 9 days, while the remaining areas recorded dry spell durations generally between 15 and 18 days [Figure 3].

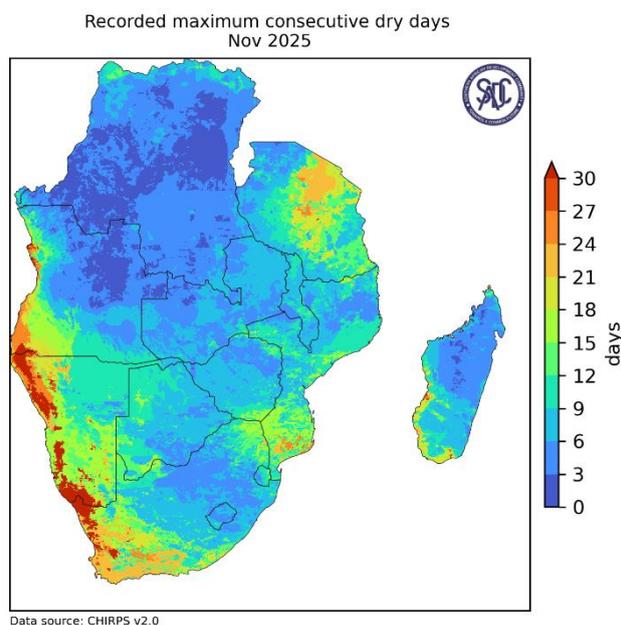


Figure 3: Dry spells prevalence during the month of November 2025.

## 1.2 Extreme Rainfall

Most of the subcontinent did not experience extreme single-day precipitation events during November 2025, with large areas, including much of Madagascar, recording little to no rainfall. However, isolated pockets of relatively higher daily rainfall were observed across parts of north-western DRC, northern Angola, South Africa, Tanzania, and several areas of Mozambique, where moderate single-day accumulations were recorded [Figure 4].

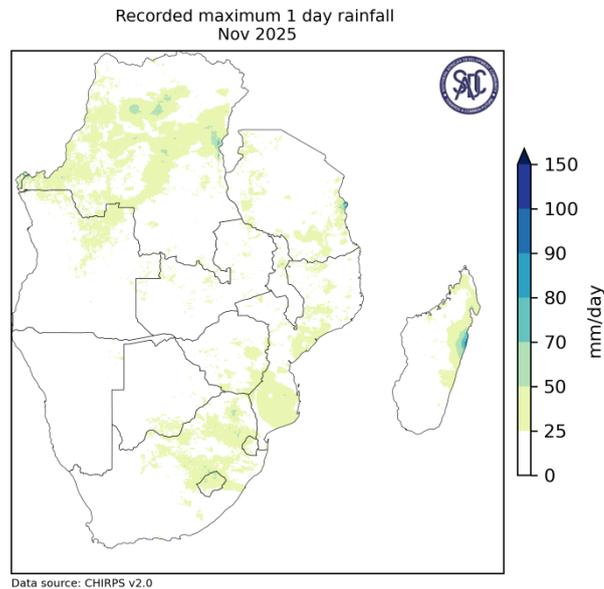


Figure 4: Maximum rainfall recorded over a one-day period during the month of November 2025.

## 2. REGIONAL TEMPERATURE

### 2.1 Minimum Temperature

In November 2025, the lowest mean minimum temperatures, reaching around 4°C, were observed over much of the interior of South Africa, Lesotho, and central Madagascar. The remainder of the subcontinent recorded mean minimum temperatures generally ranging between 15 and 20°C [Figure 5, left].

Mean minimum temperature anomalies were predominantly positive across large parts of the subcontinent, including eastern Madagascar, much of the DRC, Angola, Tanzania, south-western South Africa, and central Mozambique. Negative anomalies were mainly observed over most of Botswana and parts of eastern Zambia. Near-normal minimum temperature conditions prevailed across the remaining areas, including the northernmost parts of the DRC, eastern Angola, most of Zambia, much of Mozambique, Namibia, Zimbabwe, eastern South Africa, and western Madagascar [Figure 5, right].

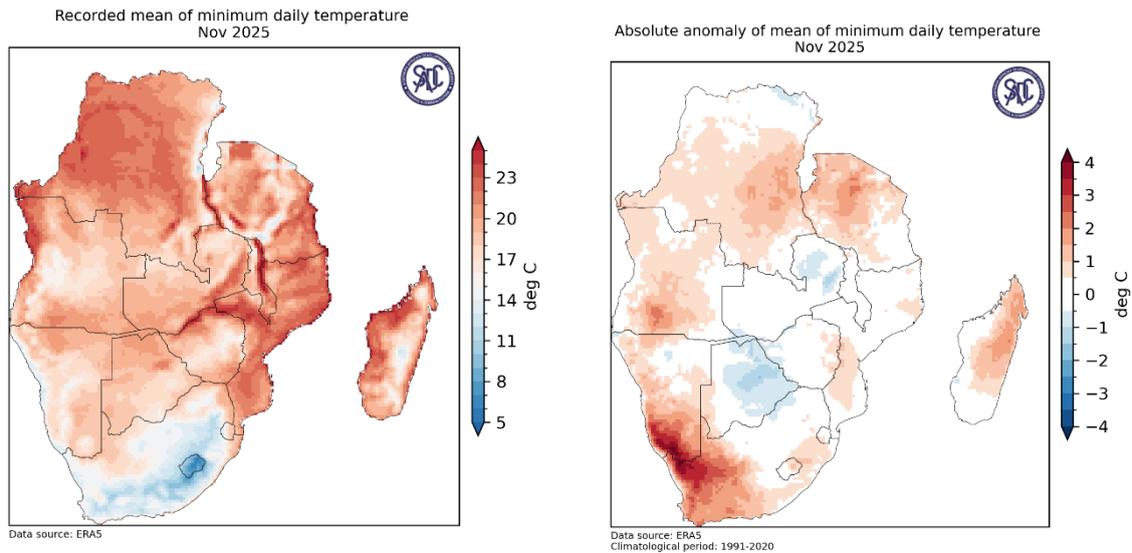


Figure 5: Observed average minimum temperature (left) and anomalies (right) for November 2025.

## 2.2 Maximum Temperature

In November 2025, mean maximum temperatures across most of the subcontinent ranged between 26°C and 36°C, covering large areas including the DRC, Tanzania, Mozambique, Madagascar, Zambia, Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe, and Angola. Lower mean maximum temperatures, generally between 18°C and 20°C, were observed in a few isolated areas, mainly over eastern South Africa, Lesotho, eastern Zimbabwe, and central Madagascar [Figure 6, left].

Maximum temperature anomalies during November 2025 were predominantly positive across much of the subcontinent, including eastern Madagascar, with anomalies reaching up to about +3°C. In contrast, negative anomalies of up to about -3°C were recorded over parts of south-eastern southern Africa, including most of Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, eastern South Africa, Mozambique, and western Madagascar [Figure 6, right].

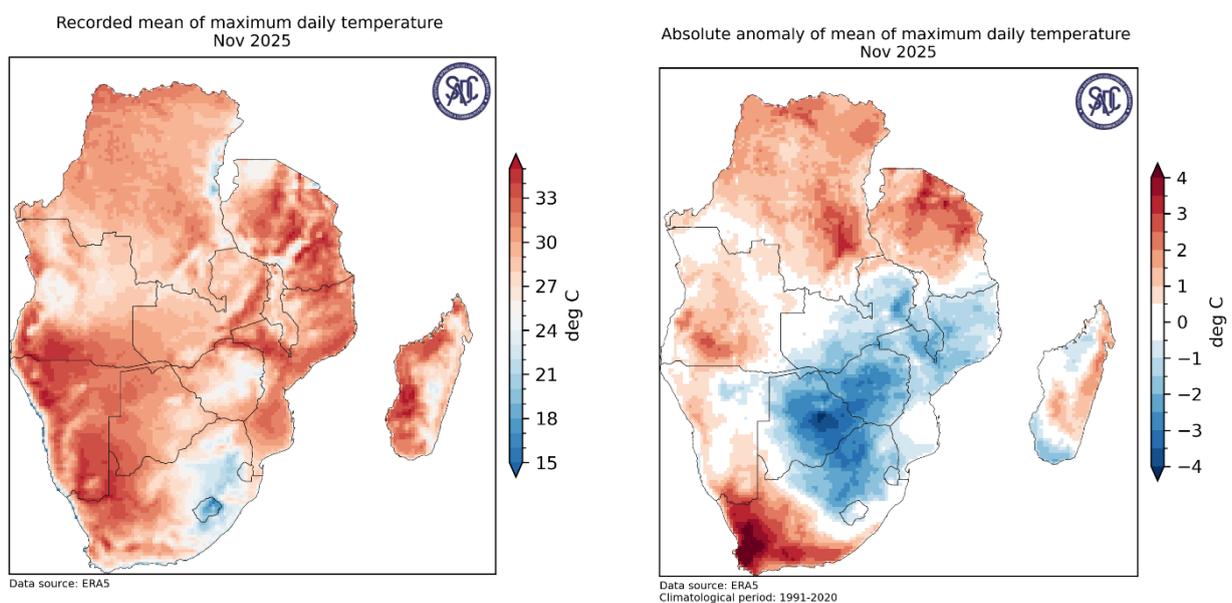


Figure 6: Observed maximum average temperature (left) and anomalies (right) for November 2025.

## 2.3 Heatwaves

During November 2025, prolonged daytime heatwaves were recorded across several parts of the region, particularly over much of the DRC and northern Tanzania, with additional isolated occurrences in eastern Angola and Madagascar. In contrast, the southernmost parts of the subcontinent and most of Madagascar did not experience daytime heatwave conditions during the month [Figure 7, left].

Night-time heatwaves were more widespread, with persistent events observed mainly over eastern DRC, Tanzania, and Angola. Most of the southern parts of the subcontinent experienced shorter-duration night-time heatwaves, while isolated areas along the western fringes of Namibia and South Africa, as well as central Madagascar, also recorded notable night-time heatwave conditions [Figure 7, right].

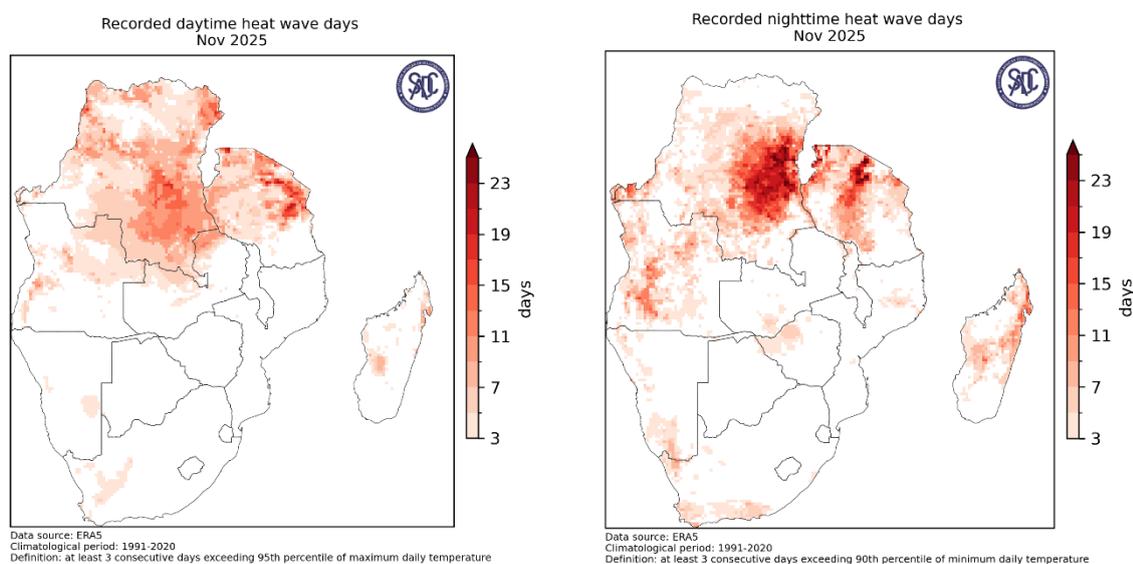


Figure 7: Heatwaves detected during the month of November 2025

## 3. REGIONAL MONTHLY OUTLOOKS

### 3.1 Rainfall Outlook

An increased likelihood of above-normal rainfall is forecast for January 2026 across much of the southern half of the subregion, covering most of western Zambia, large parts of Mozambique, eastern Namibia, and the bulk of Botswana, Zimbabwe, South Africa, as well as the northernmost parts of Madagascar. Near-normal rainfall conditions are expected in isolated areas, mainly across parts of the DRC, and along the western fringes of Angola, Namibia, South Africa, and Tanzania. In contrast, below-normal rainfall is forecast for northern Mozambique, much of the southern half of Madagascar, parts of South Africa, and isolated areas of the DRC and eastern Zambia [Figure 8].

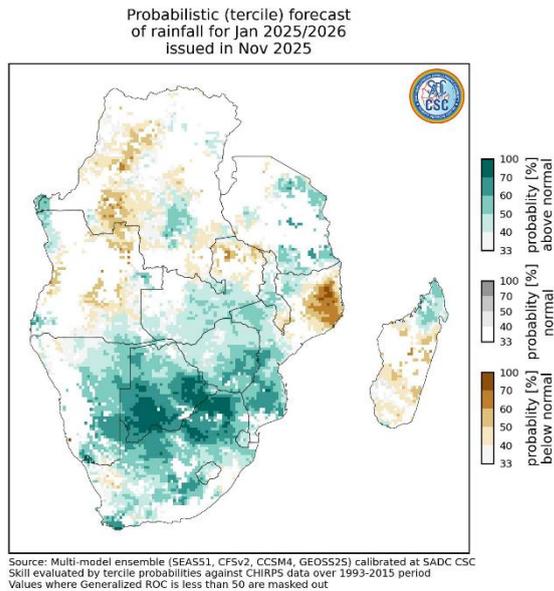


Figure 8: Rainfall probabilistic forecast for January 2026

### 3.2 Temperature Outlook

Above-normal temperatures are forecast to prevail across most of the SADC region during January 2026, including nearly the entire island of Madagascar. The strongest signal for warmer-than-normal conditions is expected across much of the region, while pockets of near- to below-normal temperatures are forecast in limited areas, particularly along the northern Mozambique–Tanzania border, Malawi, eastern Zambia, parts of central South Africa, and small sections of eastern coastal Madagascar. Isolated areas along the Mozambique–Zambia border are also expected to experience below-normal temperature conditions [Figure 9].

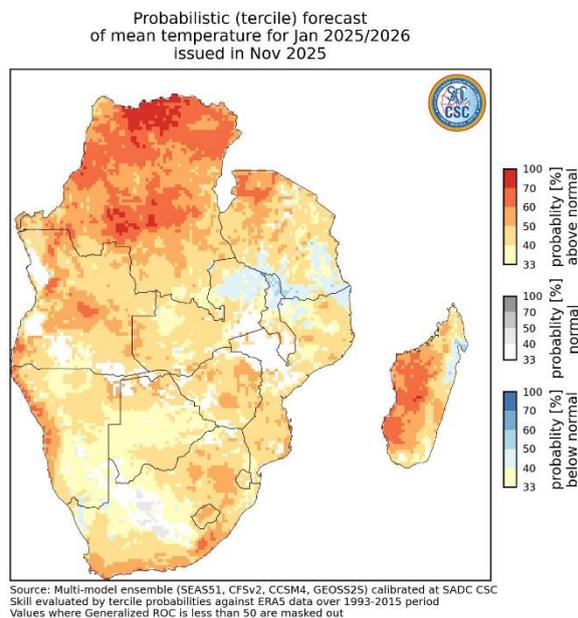


Figure 9: Temperature probabilistic forecast for January 2026

**NOTE:**

This bulletin used CHIRPS and ERA5 data. While these datasets are considered broadly representative to local conditions over the SADC region, the results presented here October differ from those derived using local observations from Member States.

***Users are therefore, urged to consult the local National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) for local conditions and detailed interpretation of the contents of this bulletin.***



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