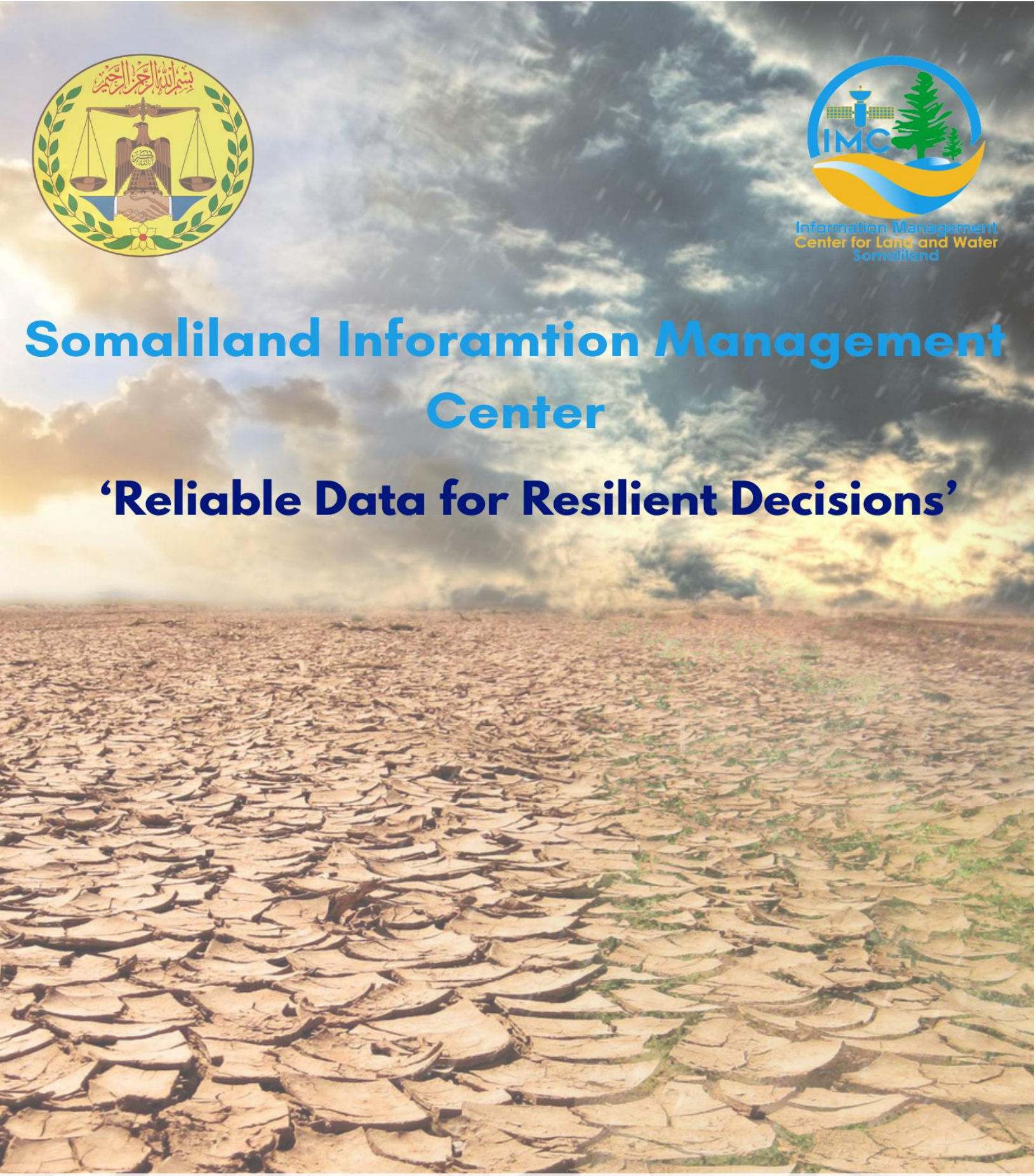


Somaliland Inforamtion Management Center

‘Reliable Data for Resilient Decisions’

RAINFALL OUTLOOK FOR THE OCTOBER-NOVEMBER-DECEMBER (OND) 2025 FOR SOMALILAND

Somaliland Probabilistic Deyr (October-December) 2025 Seasonal Rainfall Forecast

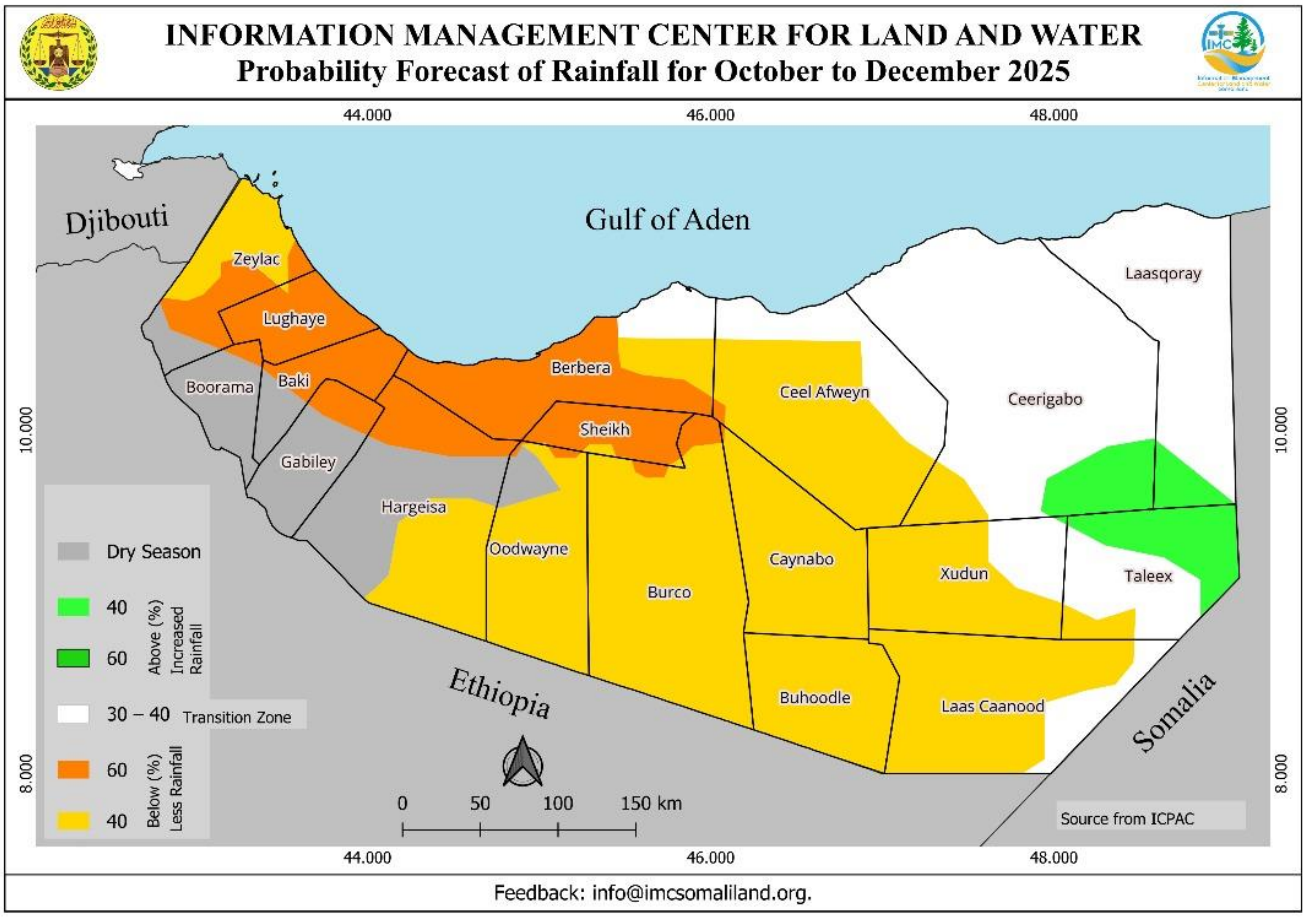
1.1 Probabilistic Deyr (October – December) 2025 Seasonal Outlook

Deyr short rainy season (OND) contributes roughly 25% to 35% of the annual total, depending on the region with the eastern parts being heavily reliant on the season. The Deyr rains begin in the western parts of the country and then gradually spread eastward. According to IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC), Deyr 2025 is predicted to be characterized by below normal rainfall and above normal temperatures. There is a 40% likelihood that most central parts of the country (yellow in Map 1) will observe below normal rains. These areas include Gabiley district in Maroodijeex region, most parts of Burco, Buhoodle and Oodwayne districts in Togdheer region, Ceelafwayn district in Sanaag region, western parts of Hargeisa district in Maroodijeex region and most western parts of Berbera in Saaxil region. Similar chances of below normal rains are also likely over the northern parts of Zeylac district in Awdal region. There is even a higher likelihood (60 %) of below normal rainfall (dark orange in Map 1) over Lughaya district, few southern parts of Zeylac, northern parts of Baki and few areas in northern parts of Borama in Awdal region. This suggests significant dryness and possible worsening of drought conditions being observed over these areas.

There are chances of very isolated above-normal rains (light green in Map 1), particularly in the far southern parts of Ceerigabo district and the southern parts of Laasqorey district in Sanaag region, as well as in the eastern and northern parts of Taleex district in Sool region.

However, there is an equal chance (33 %) of isolated transitions between above-, normal and below-normal rains in some eastern regions, including Ceerigabo and Laasqorey districts, a few western parts of Ceel Afweyn district in Sanaag region, the eastern parts of Xudun district, the western parts of Taleex district, a few areas in the eastern parts of Lascanood district in Sool region, and very small areas in the northern parts of Berbera district in Saaxil region.

Most parts of Gabiley district and western parts of Hargeisa district in Maroodijeex region and most parts of Borama district, and southern parst of both Zeylac and Baki districts in Awdal region (grey areas) are expected to remain in the dry season zone, receiving little to no rainfall.



Map 1: Probabilistic Rainfall outlook for Deyr (October – December) 2025 over Somaliland

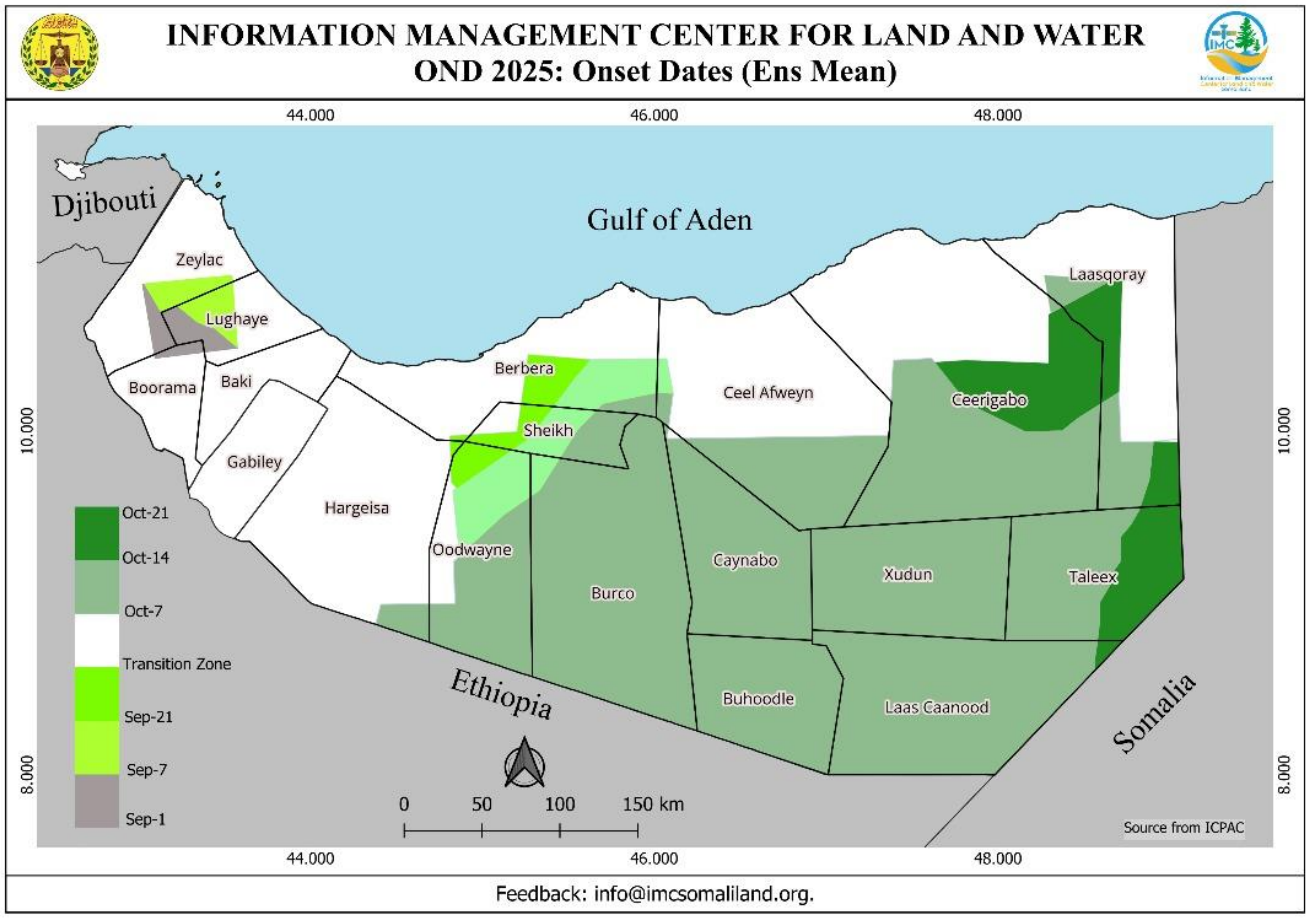
1.2 Deterministic and Probabilistic Rainfall Onset and Cessation Forecast

The Deyr 2025 rains are likely begin with a spillover of the ***Karan rains*** in the central Lughaye-Zeylac border and Berbera-Sheikh-Odweyne border in last dekad of September spreading eastwards to most parts of Sool and Togdheer and southern half of Sanaag in the first dekad of October. Onset is not likely until the second dekad of October in the eastern parts of Taleex district in Sool region and central border areas of Ceerigaabo and Laasqoray districts in Sanaag. Based on climatology, onset timing for Deyr rains in Somaliland is most likely "normal" (neither significantly early nor late) with chances of being late especially in some areas of the country. The expected onset and cessation dates in terms of weeks and distribution over the regions and districts are as indicated in Table 1. Except over Berbera and Sheikh districts where rains will likely be observed till the 2nd to 3rd week of December with fair to good temporal distribution, the spread of the Deyr rains will be poor to fair over the rest of Somaliland. The earliest cessation is likely to be observed in Awdal region, particularly over very small areas in Lughaya and Zeylac districts.

However, the is an equal chance of isolated transitions between late or normal onset of rains in Borama and Baki districts in Awdal region, Gabiley and Hargeisa districts in Maroodi Jeex region, most parts of Berbera district in Saaxil region, and most parts of Ceel Afwayn, Ceerigabo, and Laasqorey districts in Sanaag region.

Table 1: Expected Onset and Cessation Dates and Distribution of the OND 2025 Rains over Somaliland

Regions	Onset	CESSATION	Distribution
Saaxil region (Berbera and Sheikh districts)	4th week of September, 2025.	2nd to 3rd week of December, 2025.	Fair to good
Awdal region (very small areas in Lughaya and Zeylac districts)	1st week of October, 2025	3rd to 4th week of November, 2025.	Poor to Fair
Togdheer (Burco, Oodwayne and Buuhoodle districts)	2nd week of October, 2025.	1st to 2nd week of December, 2025.	Poor to Fair
Sool region (Taleex, Laascanod, Xudun, and Caynabo districts)	2nd week of October, 2025	1st to 2nd week of December, 2025.	Poor to Fair
Sanaag region (Laasqorey, Ceerigaabo, and Ceelafwayn districts)	2nd week of October, 2025.	1st to 2nd week of December, 2025.	Poor to Fair



Map 2: Deterministic Forecast of Deyr (OND) 2025 Rainfall Onset over Somaliland

NB: Regular updates on the onset, distribution, and cessation of rainfall will be shared through weekly and monthly forecasts as the season progresses. These updates will provide comprehensive insights into any shifts or developments in rainfall patterns, ensuring that stakeholders remain well-informed and are able to make timely, evidence-based decisions.

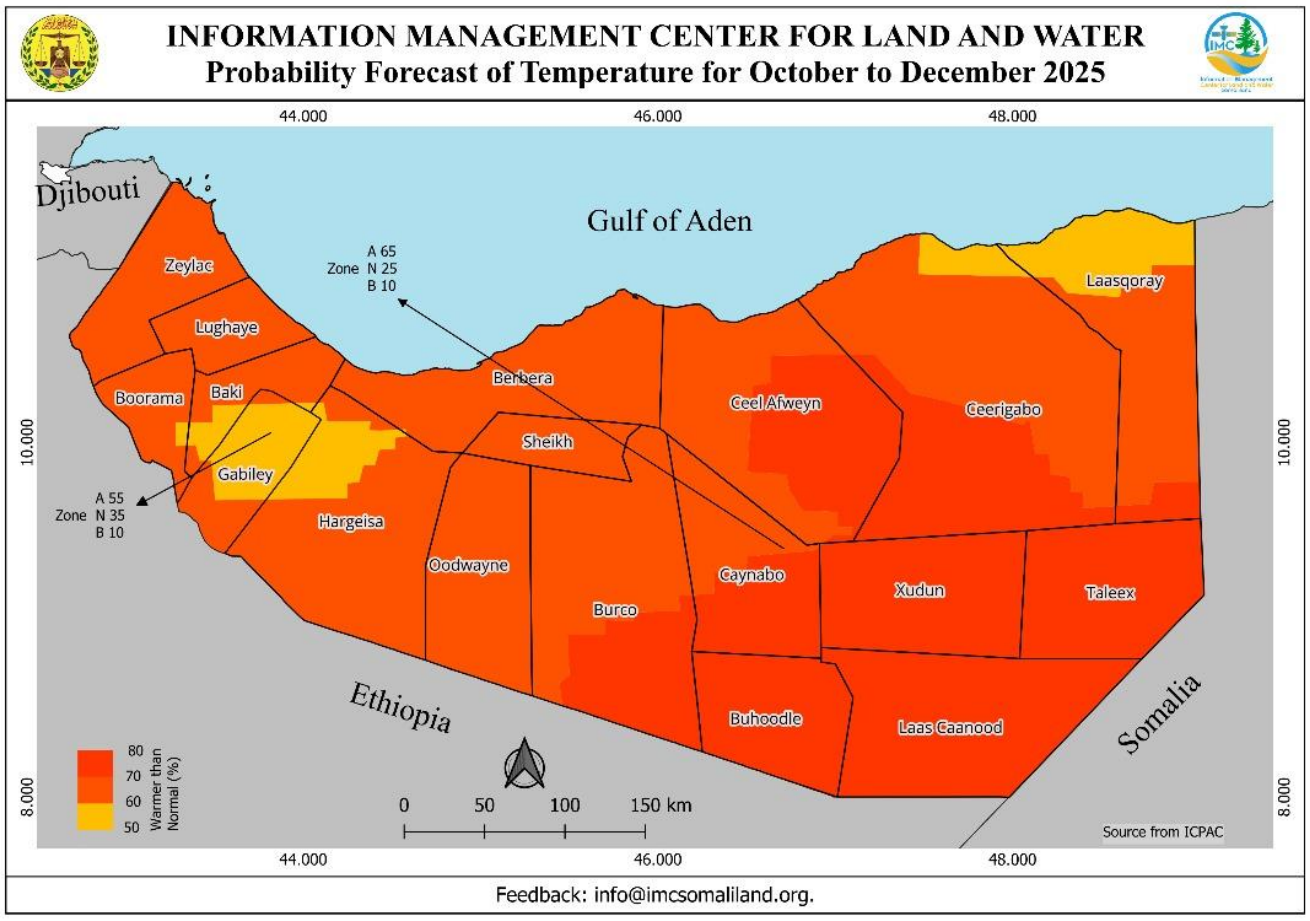
2.0 Deyr (October-December) 2025 Temperature Forecast

The upcoming Deyr season (October-December 2025) temperature forecast for Somaliland shows a **distinct spatial pattern**, highlighting expected above-average and below-average temperature probabilities across different parts of the country. This forecast is crucial for early planning in agriculture, water management, and pastoral activities. The spatial variation of probabilistic temperature forecast is as follows:

- There is a moderate chance (55 %) of above normal temperature **(orange colour in Map 3)** over northern parts of Gabiley district and a few northwestern parts of Hargeisa district in Maroodijeex region; the southern parts of Baki district in Awdal region; and the northern parts of both Laasqorey and Ceerigaabo districts in Sanaag region

- There is a 65 % likelihood **(shaded dark orange colour in Map 3),** over Zeylac district, Lughaya district, Borama district, and most northern parts of Baki in Awdal region; most of southern and eastern parts of Hargeisa district, southern parts of Gabiley district in Maroodijeex region; Berbera district and Sheikh district in Saaxil region; Oodwayne district and northern parts of Burco district in Togdheer region; and western parts of Ceel afwayn district, central and northern parts of Ceerigaabo district and most of eastern and western parts of Laasqorey district in Sanaag region
- There is increased likelihood (75 %) of above normal temperatures (**red colour in Map 3** over Laascanod, Taleex district and Xudun districts, most parts of Caynabo district in Sool region, Buhodle district and eastern parts of Burco district in Togdheer region, eastern parts of Ceel afwayn district; southern parts of Ceerigaabo district and few southern parts of Laasqorey district in Sanaag region.

The inclusion of **district capitals and primary roads** helps in planning localized advisories and response actions.



Map3: Probabilistic Deyr (October – December) 2025temperature Forecast Over Somaliland

3.0 Recommendations

Strengthen Seasonal Forecasting Systems: The scientific forecasting community should explore the integration of higher-resolution dynamical models and other sub-seasonal predictors such as the Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) and sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies into seasonal forecast production. IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC) should conduct post-season forecast verification to identify model biases and enhance the credibility and skill of future outlooks.

Improve Early Warning Communication and Translation: Government of Somaliland and humanitarian and development partners should develop actionable and sector-specific advisories that link rainfall onset and trends to key livelihood activities such as planting, herding, and disease prevention. Government of Somalia and humanitarian partners (e.g., FAO, OCHA), humanitarian communication partners (e.g., Radio Ergo) should translate advisories into Somali and other local languages and disseminate through trusted communication channels, including FM radio, SMS platforms, social media, and community forums.

Agriculture & Food Security

- Poor crop germination and reduced yields (sorghum, maize, and cash crops).
- Failure of rain-fed farming leads to food shortages.
- Increased food prices due to scarcity.
- Rainfall Onset Timing: o the expected early rainfall onset in parts of Awdal will likely enable earlier planting of crops and fodder, benefiting agricultural productivity.

Livestock & Pasture

- Limited pasture regeneration → poor livestock body condition.
- Water scarcity for animals → higher livestock deaths.
- Reduced milk and meat production → loss of household nutrition and income.
- Livestock: Poor pasture regeneration will increase livestock stress, resulting in higher mortality rates

Water Resources

- Shallow wells and berkads (water catchments) not replenished.
- Rural communities are facing acute water shortages.
- Increased competition and conflict over water points.
- Temperature: Higher-than-normal temperatures will likely increase evapotranspiration rates, leading to higher water demand.

- Water Conservation and Demand Management: Promote efficient water use, recycling, and reuse in drought-prone regions, with priority allocation to households, schools, and health facilities

Humanitarian Impacts

- Worsening food insecurity, especially in already drought-affected regions (Sanaag, Togdheer, Saaxil, Sool).
- Malnutrition rates rise among children and vulnerable groups.
- Increased displacement as people move in search of water/pasture.

Health & Sanitation

- Poor water availability → hygiene challenges → disease outbreaks (cholera, diarrhea, measles).
- Heat stress combined with water scarcity affects vulnerable groups.
- Malnutrition among children and increased cases of micronutrient deficiencies (e.g., anemia, stunting, waste).
- Scale up nutrition screening for children and lactating mothers.
- Ensure availability of basic medicines in rural health posts.
- Monitor potential heat-related illnesses due to above-average temperatures.
- The most frequent droughts are expected to occur in the eastern regions, which are currently experiencing drought conditions, as the Deyr rains are their second main rainy season, meaning widespread droughts are likely in these areas.

Environmental & Socio-Economic

- Land degradation and desertification accelerate.
- Loss of biodiversity (wildlife, grazing species).
- Rural economies shrink due to dependence on rain-fed systems.