



## FLOOD ADVISORY FOR JUBA AND SHABELLE RIVERS, SOMALIA

**Deyr 2024 Flood Advisory No. 1**

**Date Issued: 11 November 2024**

**Validity Period: 11 to 14 November 2024**

**Location: Belet Weyne, Dollow and Luuq Districts**

**(Message begins)**

**Juba River:** Reported River floods at Dollow with decreasing intensity and expected Moderate River flow at Luuq

**Shabelle River:** Sustained Moderate River Flows at Beletweyne

### Juba River

The levels along Juba River have demonstrated notable variations when compared to the long-term mean (LTM) and last year's El Niño-influenced behaviour. The level at Dollow is 40 cm above high flood risk level (5.00 m) today (11 November 2024) having rose sharply from 4.08 m on 4 November to 5.40 m today. A similar behaviour is expected at Luuq, where the level today is at moderate flood risk level (5.50 m) having rose sharply from 4.20 m on 4 November to 5.50 m today. This increase is occasioned by moderate cumulative rainfall over its catchment in the Ethiopian highlands and light rainfall within Somalia.

Moderate rainfall is expected over the Juba River catchment in the second week of November. However, with the further development of La Niña, these rains may be short-lived. Considering the lag effect of previous rains, the light to moderate rainfall forecast over Juba River catchment in Ethiopian Highlands and within Somalia will generate moderate runoff enough to sustain the high river flows at the upper reaches of Juba River within the coming week. While the high flows will be transmitted downstream to Bardheere, Saakow, Bualle and finally to Jilib in the long run, less intense rains are expected in the second half of November 2024.

There is therefore **SUSTAINED HIGH RIVER FLOWS at Dollow and MODERATE RIVER FLOWS at Luuq** with expected rise at Bardheere in the coming week. Although high river flows do not necessarily translate to riverine flooding, **day-by-day rainfall and river level monitoring is advised.**

### Shabelle River

Notable fluctuations have also been observed along the Shabelle River in recent weeks compared to the LTM, last year's conditions influenced by El Niño, and even last week. After a slight drop of the high flows on 29 October 2024, the Shabelle River level at Belet Weyne today (7.00 m) is 50 cm above moderate flood risk level (6.50 m) and only 30 cm below high flood risk level (7.30 cm). This behaviour is driven by the occurrence of wet and dry spells in its catchment within Somalia and in the Ethiopian highlands. The levels today at Bulo Burte (5.35 m) and Jowhar (4.38 m) are still well below flood risk levels.

Moderate rainfall is expected over the Shabelle River catchment in the second week of November. However, with further development of La Niña, the rains may be short-lived. Considering the lag effect of previous rains, the light to moderate rainfall forecast over Shabelle River catchment in Ethiopian Highlands and within Somalia will generate moderate runoff enough to sustain the river flows at the upper reaches of Shabelle River within the coming week. While the high flows will be transmitted downstream to Bulo Burte, Jalalaqsi, Jowhar and finally to Balcad in the long run, less intense rains are expected in the second half of November 2024.

There is therefore **SUSTAINED MODERATE RIVER FLOWS at Belet Weyne** with expected rise at Bulo Burte in the coming week. Although high river flows do not necessarily translate to riverine flooding, **day-by-day rainfall and river level monitoring is advised.**

SWALIM is a multi-donor project managed by FAO and currently funded by The European Union, AICS, SDC, FCDO, Government of France, USAID and SIDA

