JANUARY 2025

CLIMATE BULLETIN

DEKAD 1, JANUARY (01-10)

GMET/CLIMATE/011225 FORM337

1/1/2026

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SUMMARY

- **Rainfall:**
  - Few areas in the country received rainfall above 50mm.
  - Abetifi received the highest rainfall of 89 mm.
  - Half Assini recorded the highest rainy days of 6 days.
- **Rainfall Anomalies:**
  - Surplus rainfall was recorded over most places in the south and north western portions while the north eastern side and few places with the south experienced a deficit rainfall.

- **Temperatures:**
  - **Maximum:**
    - Above normal temperatures experienced in almost of the country.
    - The maximum of the Maximum temperature of 38.32°C was recorded in Navrongo
    - The minimum of the maximum temperature of 19°C was recorded in Prang tamale.
    - Relatively cooler temperatures along the coast and places in the forest areas.
  - **Minimum:**
    - Above normal temperatures recorded over the entire of the country
    - Warmer temperatures in parts of the Northern and Coastal areas
    - The maximum of the Minimum temperature was recorded in Wa (26ºC) and Ada (25.6°C).
    - The minimum of the Minimum temperature was recorded in Akuse, reaching 20.9°C.

1.0 OBSERVED CLIMATE DRIVERS

1.1 INTERTROPICAL FRONT

This is also known as the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), is a critical meteorological feature that significantly influences weather patterns in West Africa, including Ghana. The ITF is a boundary zone where the warm, moist air from the Atlantic Ocean (south westerly monsoon winds) meets the hot, dry air from the Sahara Desert (northeasterly Harmattan winds). This convergence leads to the formation of clouds and precipitation, making it a key driver of the rainy season in West Africa. The northward movement of the ITF during March-July brings the rainy season to Ghana. Table 1 below shows the evolving ITF's position over Ghana from January located between 5W and 5E. During the first dekad of January, the ITF band was closer to the Western side of the region meaning the sector is likely to receive more moisture and cloud activities while the eastern side is likely to have a weaker rain approximately with respect to the Greenwich meridian.

Table 1:Dekadal evolution of the ITF position over Ghana 2026

Dekad	5W	0	5E
Jan 1	**10.7**	**9.0**	**6.6**

2.0 RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE AND RELATIVE DISTRIBUTION

2.1 RAINFALL

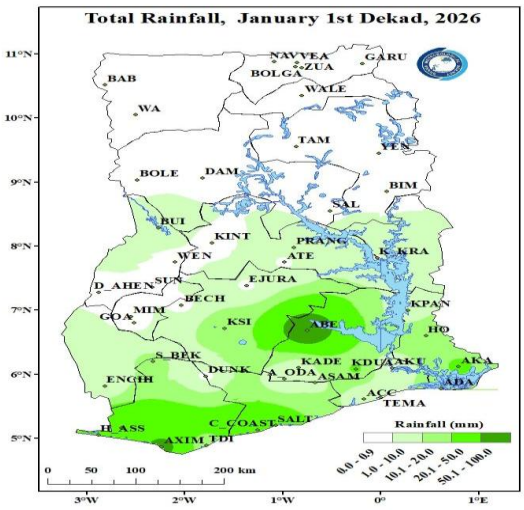


Figure 2a: Total Rainfall January 1st Dekad, 2026

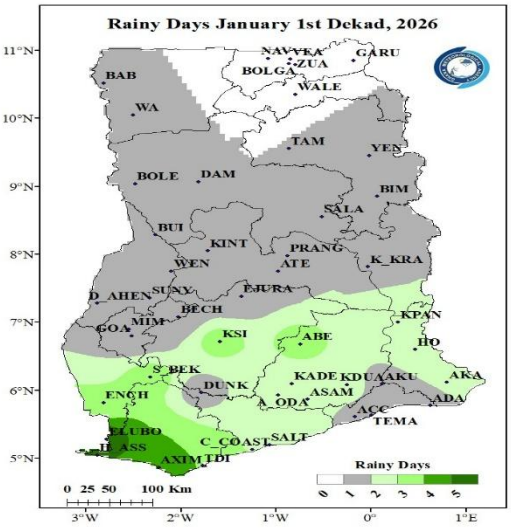


Figure 1b: Rainy Days January 1st Dekad, 2026

Figure 2a the figure illustrates the spatial distribution of rainfall across Ghana during the first ten-day period of January. Most areas in the southern part of the country, especially the southwestern sector, received high amounts of rainfall. Stations such as **Half Assini**, **Asamankese**, **Axim**, **Abetifi**, **Cape Coast**, and **Takoradi** recorded rainfall amounts above 50 mm. Among these stations **Abetifi** recorded the highest rainfall amount of about 89 mm.

The transition zone recorded moderate rainfall generally between 10 and 20 mm.

However, the northern sector of the country received little to no rainfall. Most stations in the northeastern part including **Navrongo**, **Zaurenugu**, **Bolgatanga**, **Walewale**, **Tamale**, **Yendi**, **Bimbila**, as well as **Damongo** and **Salaga** recorded less than 1 mm of rainfall.

The southern sector recorded up to 5 rainy days while the northeastern recorded none

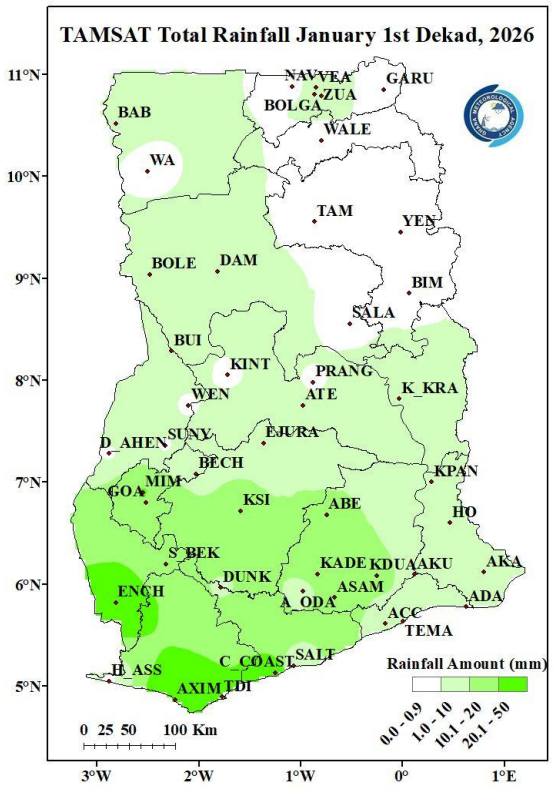


Figure 2a: Tamsat Total Rainfall January 1st Dekad, 2026

TAMSAT underestimated rainfall across the southern sector, with the greatest mismatch at Abetifi (89 mm observed vs. 20.1-50 mm estimated). The transition zone showed reasonable agreement. The northern sector recorded strong agreement, with both datasets confirming near-zero rainfall under prevailing harmattan conditions.

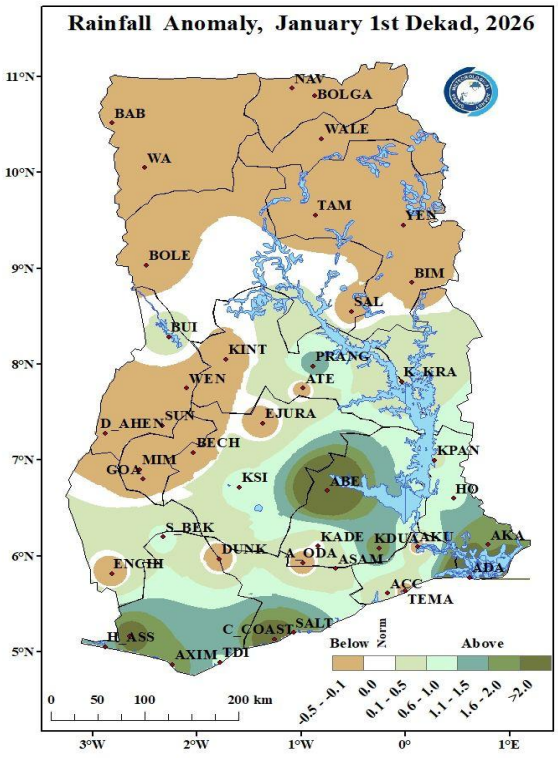


Figure 2b: Rainfall Anomaly January 1st Dekad, 2026

Figure 4 This map shows the rainfall anomaly across Ghana during the first ten-day period of January 2026. Rainfall anomaly simply compares the rainfall received with the climatological average rainfall expected for that period.

Most parts of the northern sector including areas around **Bolgatanga**, **Navrongo**, **Wa**, **Tamale**, and **Yendi** show negative anomalies. This means rainfall in these areas was below the normal amount expected for the period. The brown shading over much of northern and parts of the middle sector indicates drier than normal conditions.

However, parts of southern Ghana recorded positive rainfall anomalies. Areas around **Abetifi**, **Kade**, **Akim Oda**, **Asamankese**, and the coastal stations **Axim** and **Half Assini** show above normal rainfall conditions. The darker green shading around **Abetifi** suggests the area experienced much higher rainfall than its usual amount for early January.

2.2 TEMPERATURE

Maximum

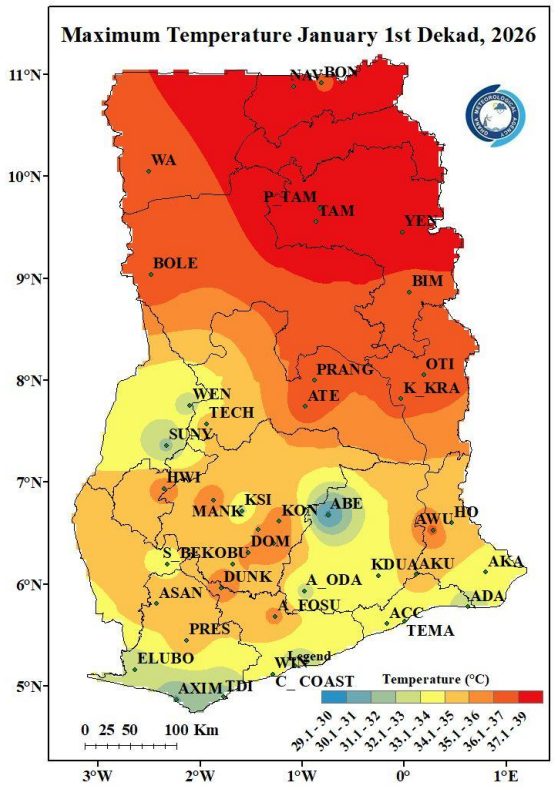


Figure 3a: Average Maximum Temperature January 1st Dekad, 2026

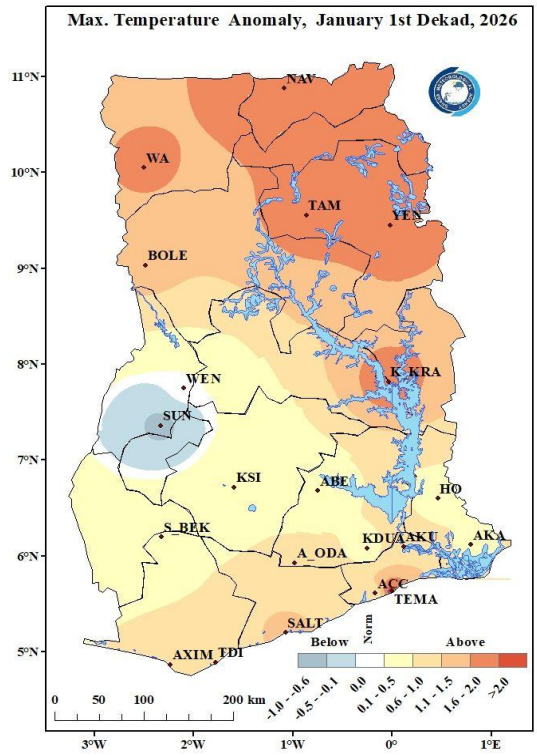


Figure 3b: Average Maximum Temperature Anomaly January 1st Dekad, 2026

Figure 3a: illustrates the spatial distribution of average maximum temperatures across the country during the first dekad of January 2026. The highest temperatures were observed over the northern sector, particularly at stations such as Navrongo, Tamale, and Yendi, as well as isolated areas within the transition zone, with values ranging from 37.1°C to 39°C. The northern sector experienced intense heat driven by the prevailing harmattan conditions. Relatively cooler conditions prevailed over the forest and coastal zones, including stations such as Axim, Takoradi, and Cape Coast, where maximum temperatures ranged from approximately 29.1°C to 32°C, largely influenced by the Atlantic Sea breeze.

Figure 5b: The maximum temperature anomaly map indicates that most parts of the country recorded above-normal maximum temperatures during the first dekad of January 2026. The northern sector, particularly around Wa, Navrongo, Tamale, and Yendi, recorded the highest positive anomalies exceeding 2.0°C above the long-term normal. The transition zone and parts of

the south recorded slight to moderate positive anomalies ranging between 0.1°C and 1.5°C. However, isolated areas around Sunyani recorded below-normal maximum temperatures, with anomalies ranging between -0.5°C and -1.0°C, representing the only notable cold anomaly observed during the period.

Minimum Temperature

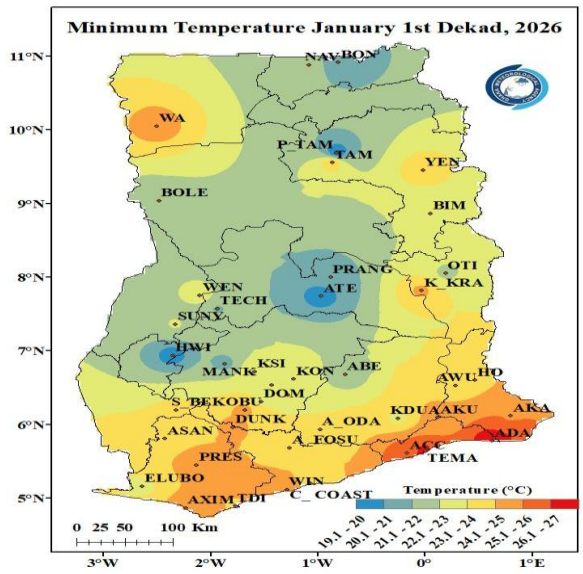


Figure 4a: Minimum Temperature January 1st Dekad, 2026

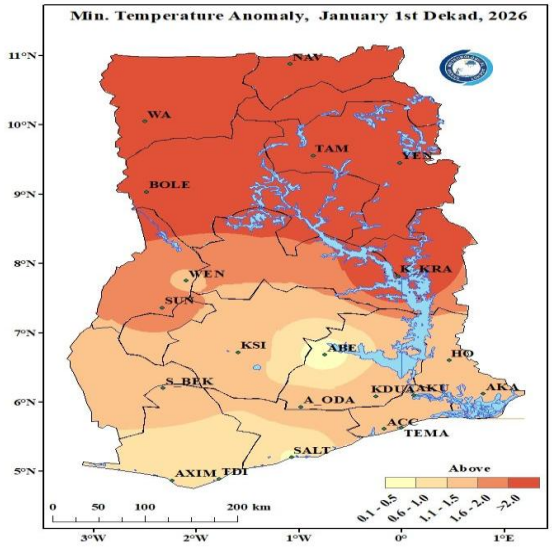


Figure 4b: Minimum Temperature Anomaly January 1st Dekad, 2026

The spatial distribution of average minimum temperatures shows that the southeastern coastal zone, particularly around Accra, Tema, and Ada, recorded the highest minimum temperatures ranging from 26.1°C to 27°C. Wa in the northwest also recorded notably warm nights. The coolest minimum temperatures were observed over the interior areas of the transition zone, particularly around Atebubu and Prang, as well as Navrongo and Bongo in the north, with values ranging between 19.1°C and 21°C, associated with the cooling effect of the dry harmattan winds and clear night skies.

The minimum temperature anomaly map shows that the entire country recorded above-normal minimum temperatures during the first dekad of January 2026. The northern sector, including Wa, Tamale, Yendi, and Kete-Krachi, recorded the highest positive anomalies exceeding 2.0°C above the long-term normal. The

transition zone recorded moderate positive anomalies between 1.1°C and 2.0°C. The southern and coastal zones recorded the least positive anomalies, ranging between 0.1°C and 1.0°C. Notably, no below-normal minimum temperatures were recorded anywhere across the country during this period, indicating a widespread warmer-than-usual night condition nationwide indicating a widespread warmer-than-usual night condition nationwide.

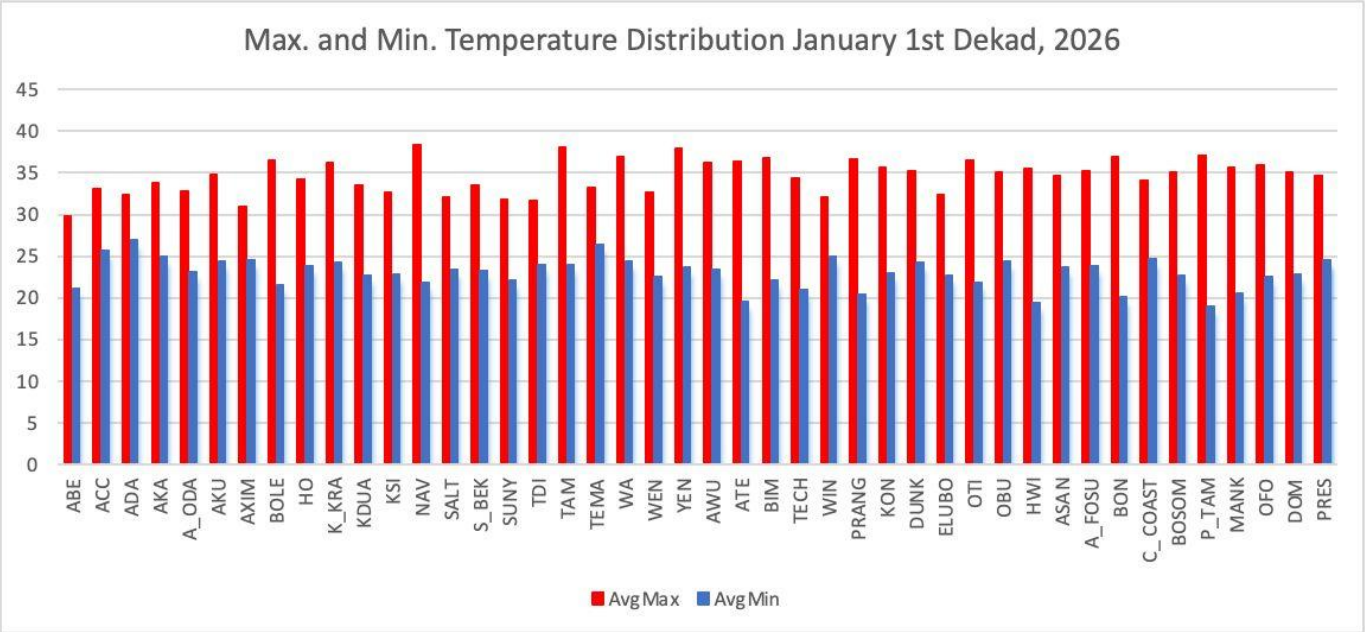


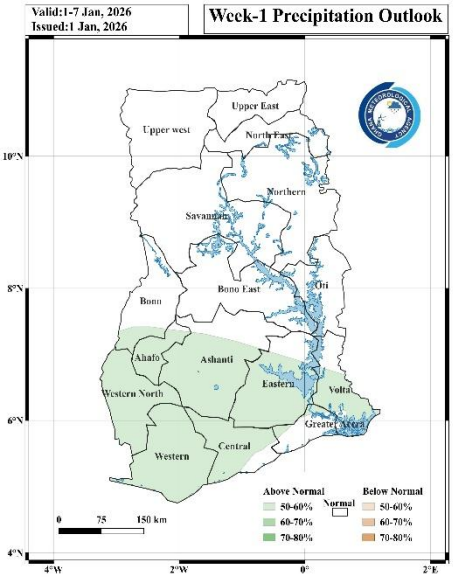
Figure5: Max. and Min. Temperature Distribution for January 1st Dekad, 2026

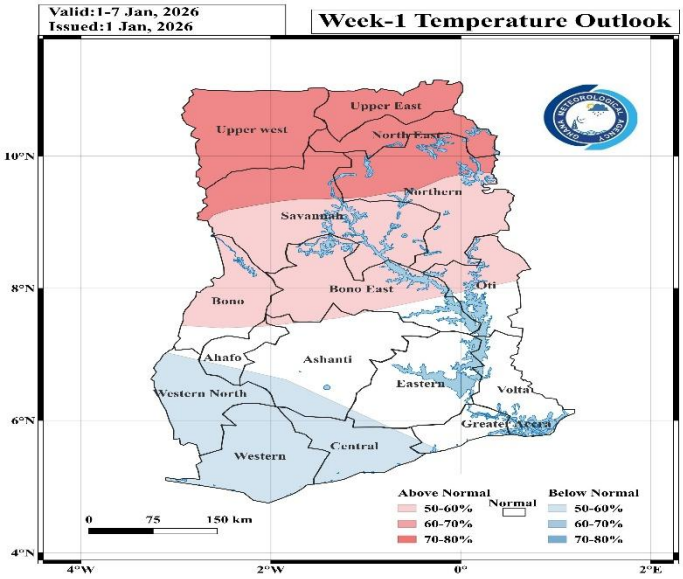
3.0 RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK 1ST- 14TH JANUARY 2026

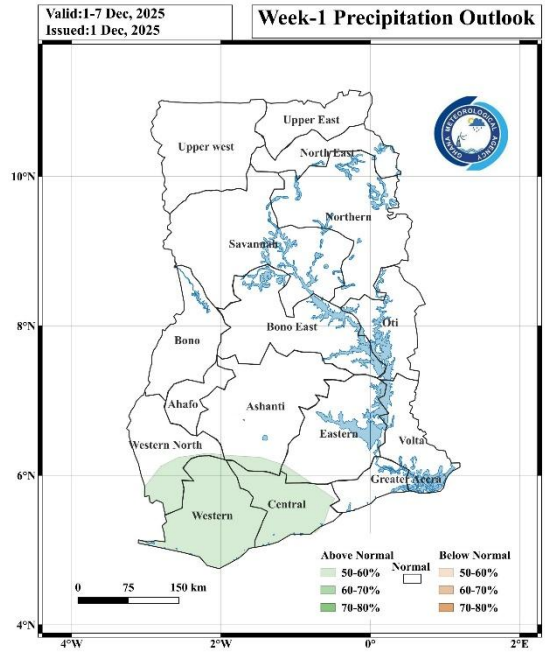
During Week 1 (1–7 January), above-normal rainfall is expected over the southwestern portions of the country, while normal rainfall conditions are anticipated over the northern, transition, and the remaining southern regions. Temperatures are generally expected to be above normal over the northern regions, with the southern and coastal zones experiencing below-normal temperature conditions.

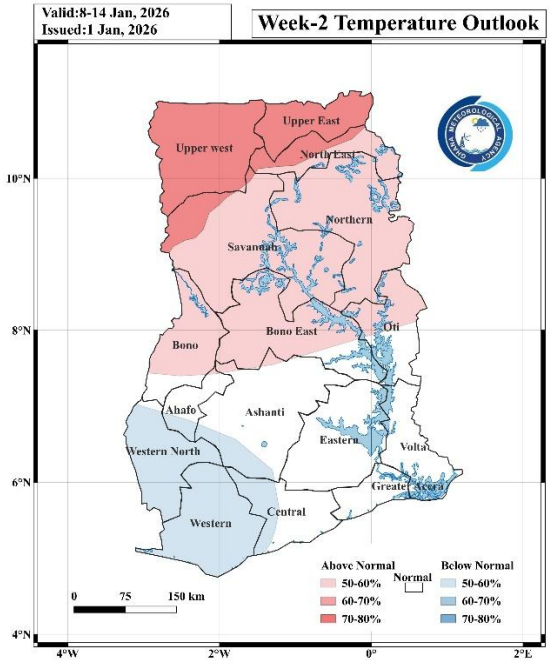
During Week 2 (8–14 January), rainfall is expected to be above-normal across the southwestern parts and few areas within the forest zone, while the rest of the country is expected to experience normal rainfall conditions. Temperatures during this week are expected to be above normal over

the northern portions and below normal over the south, most especially the western portions. The transition zone and southeastern portions are expected to experience normal temperature conditions.









4.0 ADVISORIES

1. Agriculture

- Farmers in the north should consider water-conserving practices such as mulching and avoid excessive reliance on rainfall for newly planted crops.
- Irrigation scheduling may be needed in areas expecting reduced rainfall to prevent crop stress.

2. Flood and Drainage Management

- Communities in southern and middle belts should clear drainage channels and avoid dumping wastes at inappropriate places to reduce localized flooding risks.
- Residents in flood-prone areas should stay alert to weather updates from the Ghana Meteorological Agency.

3. Transportation

Motorists should drive with caution during rainfall, as visibility may be significantly reduced. Drivers are also strongly advised to avoid attempting to drive through floodwaters.

4. Health

- Increased rainfall can promote mosquito breeding; communities are encouraged to clear stagnant water and use protective measures such as insecticide-treated nets.
- Cooler, below-normal temperatures may lead to respiratory infections; warm clothing is advised, especially for children and the elderly.
- During extreme heat, stay hydrated, avoid outdoor activity at peak hours and dress in light clothing.

5. Water Resource Management

- Water managers should store and regulate water efficiently in the southern and middle belts to take advantage of increased runoff.
- In the north, prudent water use is recommended due to expected below-normal rainfall.

6. Energy / Power Sector

- Hydropower generation may benefit from increased inflows in the south and middle zones; monitoring of water levels is advised.

5.0 APPENDIX

5.1 TABLE OF STATIONS

TABLE OF STATIONS

Station	Abbreviation	Station	Abbreviation
Abetifi	ABE	Kete Krachi	K_KRA
Accra	ACC	Kade	KADE
Ada	ADA	Koforidua	KDUA
Akatsi	AKA	Kintampo	KINT
Akim Oda	A_ODA	Ho	HO
Akuse	AKU	Kpando	KPAN
Asamankese	ASAM	Kumasi	KSI
Atebubu	ATE	Mim	MIM
Axim	AXIM	Navrongo	NAV
Babile	BAB	Prang	PRANG
Bechem	BECH	Sefwi Bekwai	S_BEK
Bimbila	BIM	Salaga	SALA
Bole	BOLE	Saltpond	SALT
Bolga	BOLGA	Sunyani	SUNY
Bongo	BON	Pong Tamale	P_TAM
Bui	BUI	Tamale	TAM
Cape Coast	C_COAST	Takoradi	TDI
Damongo	DAM	Vea	VEA
Dompase	DOM	Asankragua	ASAN
Dormaa Ahenkro	D_AHEN	Tema	TEMA
Dunkwa Offin	DUNK	Wa	WA
Ejura	EJURA	Walewale	WALE
Elubo	ELUBO	Obuasi	OBU
Enchi	ENCH	Wenchi	WEN
Garu	GARU	Yendi	YEN
Goa	GOA	Zuarungu	ZUA
Half Assini	H_ASS	Assin Fosu	A_FOSU
Hunney Valley	H_VAL	Winneba	WIN
Konongo	KON	Bosomtwe	BOSOM
Mankranso	MANK	Techiman	TECH
Oti	OTI	Kajaji	KAJ

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