



## Review of October 2023 to June 2024

For the 2023/2024 summer season the start of rains occurred on the second week of October 2023. October to December season generally received normal to above normal rainfall, in contrast to the main rainfall season of December to February which received below normal rainfall. October experienced a series of cold fronts and Cut-Off-Low weather systems which contributed to the significant rainfall. High temperatures were observed during the first week of October and towards the end of November. The second half of the season observed relative dry conditions with high temperatures in the months of February and March.

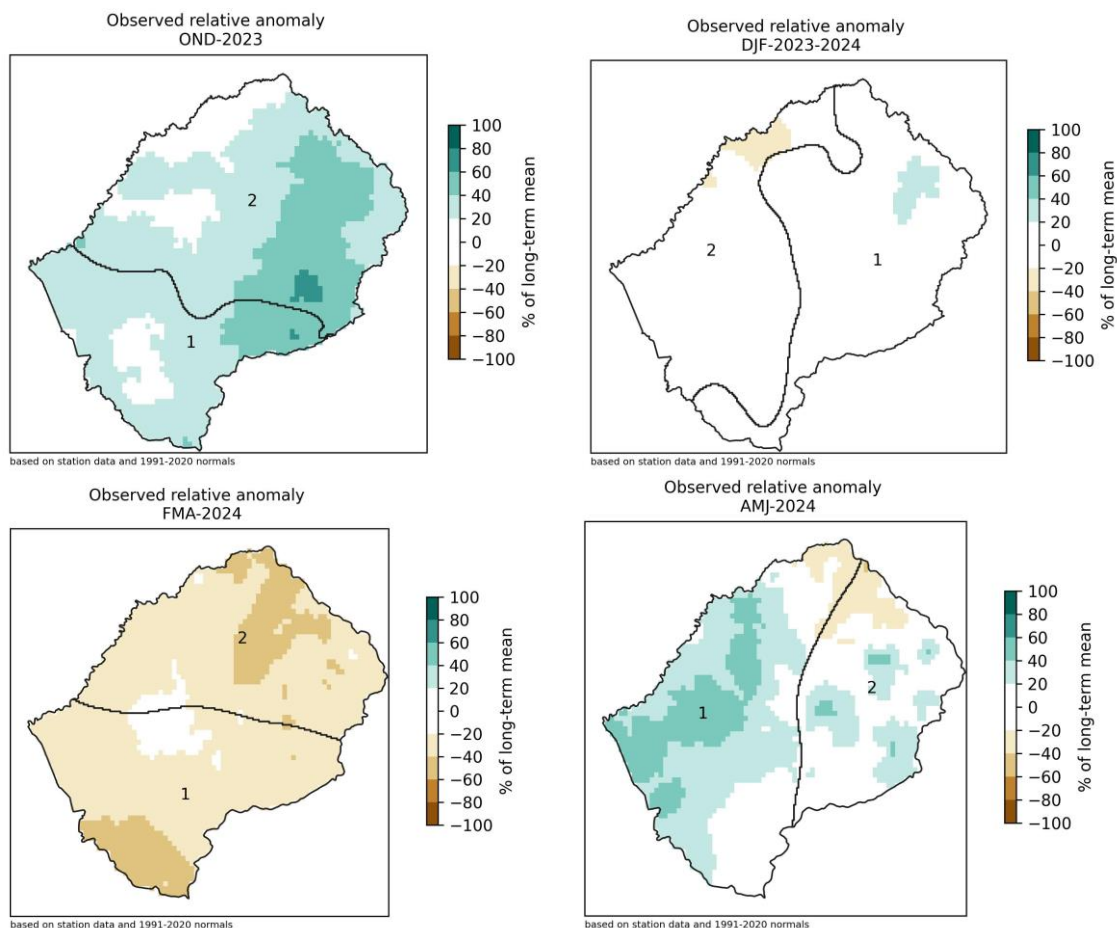


Figure 1. Rainfall Performance for October 2023 to June 2024 against 1991 - 2020 period.



# Lesotho Meteorological Services

*We are at your service/Re sebelise*

Form No. 726



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Station	Period	Temperature Range (°C)	Normal Temperature Range (°C)
Moshoeshoe I	4 <sup>th</sup> to 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	30.2 – 33	22.5 – 25.2
Moshoeshoe I	19 <sup>th</sup> to 20, 22 <sup>nd</sup> to 23 <sup>rd</sup> and 26 <sup>th</sup> to 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	30.5 – 33.2	25 – 26.4
Moshoeshoe I	17 <sup>th</sup> to 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2024	30 - 34	25.4 - 26.9
Botha-Bothe	5 <sup>th</sup> to 7 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	30 -32.3	23.4 – 24.3
Botha-Bothe	26 <sup>th</sup> to 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	31.8 – 32.8	24.6 – 25.6
Mafeteng	4 <sup>th</sup> to 7 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	30 – 31.6	23.5 – 24.1
Mafeteng	20 <sup>th</sup> to 24 <sup>th</sup> and 26 <sup>th</sup> to 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	30.7 – 33.7	25.6 – 25.8
Mafeteng	18 <sup>th</sup> to 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2024	30.5 - 33.8	24.9 - 26.2
Quthing	4 <sup>th</sup> to 7 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	30 – 32.6	23.2 – 24.2
Quthing	26 <sup>th</sup> to 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	31.5 -33.6	25 – 25.8

Table 1. High Temperature Ranges at some stations in Oct 2023 – Mar 2024



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## El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and Analog Years

The El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is currently in a Neutral phase and according to the latest predictions is likely to transit to a weak La Nina from October 2024 until February 2025. This season compares to three other past seasons in the current climatological period (1991 - 2020) which are 1998-1999, 2010-2011 and 2016-2017. These are seasons in which the ENSO phase transitioned from strong El Nino phase to Weak La Nina.

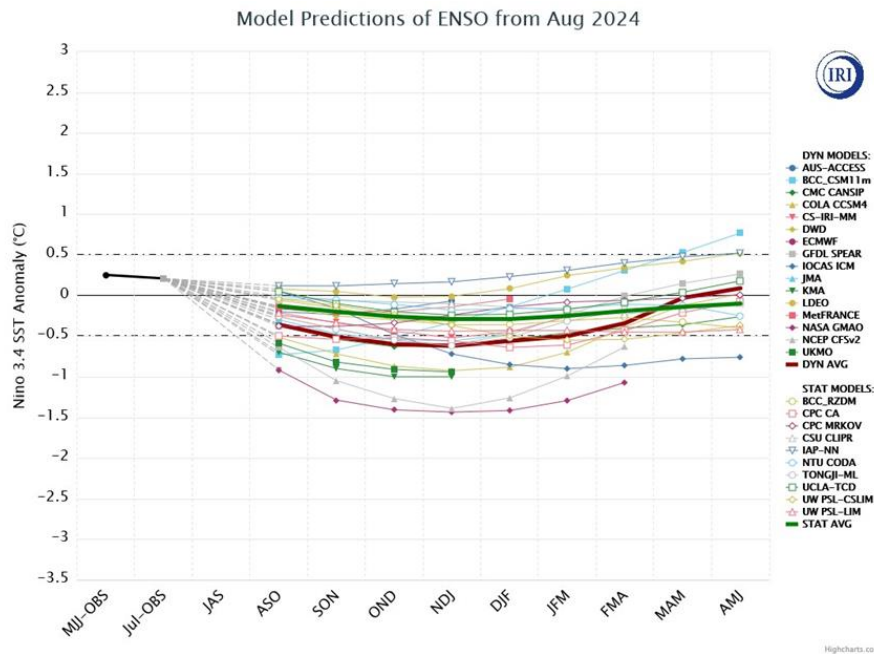


Figure 2. ENSO Predictions Ensemble For 2024/2025 By International Research Institute (IRI)

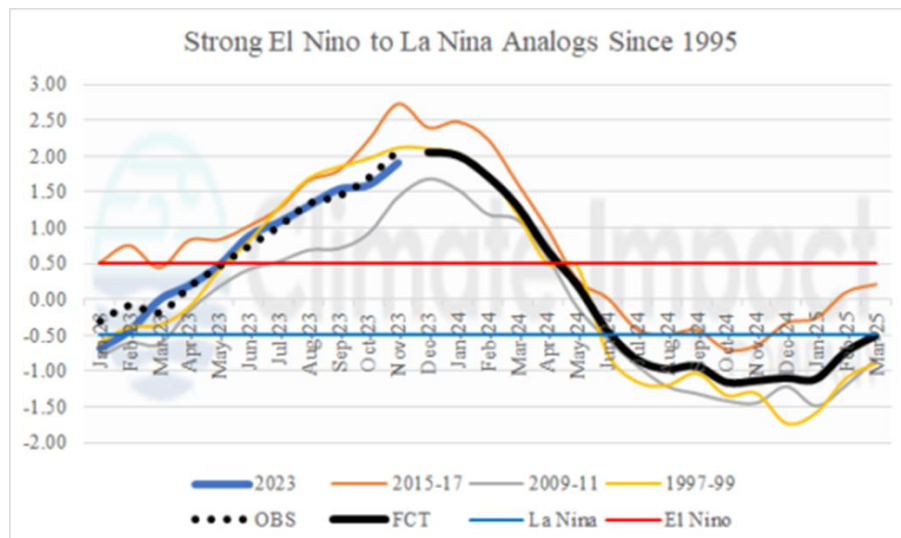


Figure 2. Strong El Nino to Weak La Nina Analogs since 1995.



## **Rainfall and Temperature Outlook October 2024 to March 2025**

The bulk of Lesotho is likely to receive below normal rainfall for the season October to December 2024 except for the southwestern and extreme northern parts where normal to above normal rains are expected during the same period. The forecast for the period November 2024 to January 2025 is dominated by above normal rainfall conditions and few areas are expected to receive normal to above normal rainfall. The January to March 2025 outlook shows a likelihood of normal to above normal rainfall except for the eastern parts which are likely to receive normal to below normal rainfall. Temperature outlook for the entire 2024/25 rainfall season is expected to be mostly above long term averages.

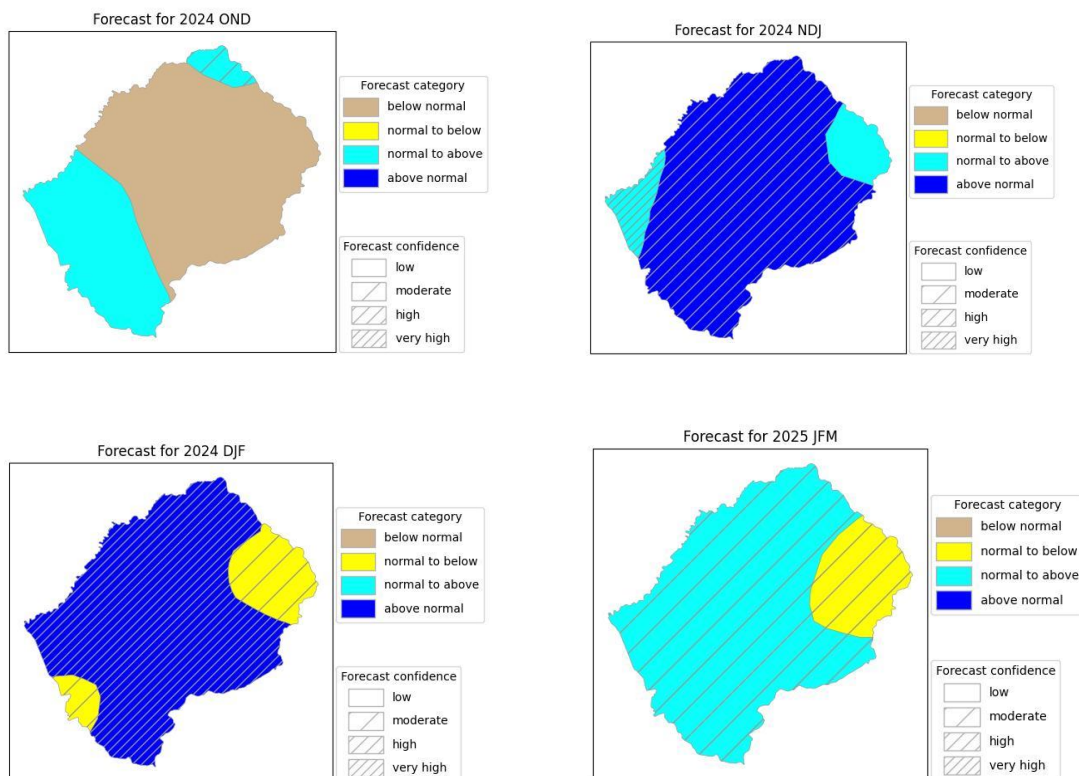
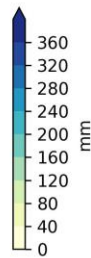
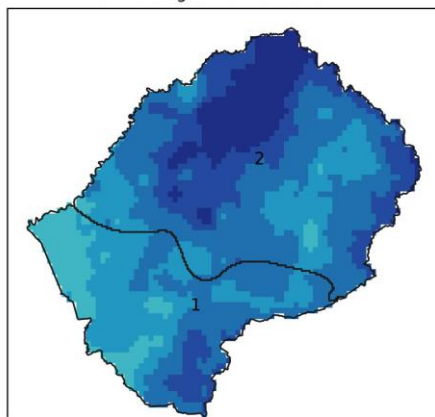


Figure 4. Seasonal Forecast for the period October 2024 to March 2025



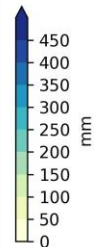
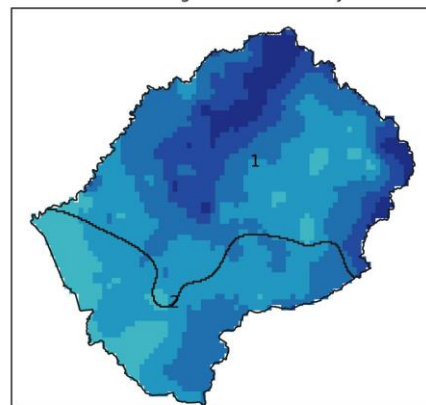
## Long-Term Median Rainfall

Climatological rainfall for OND



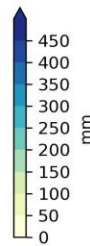
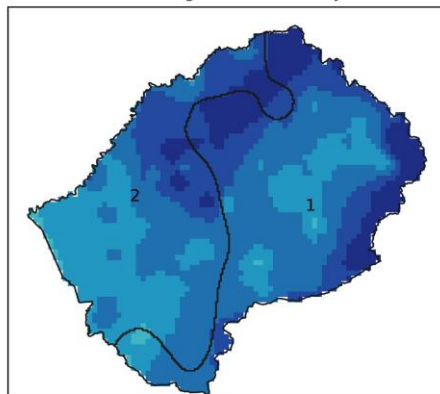
based on station data and 1991-2020 normals

Climatological rainfall for NDJ



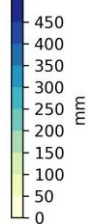
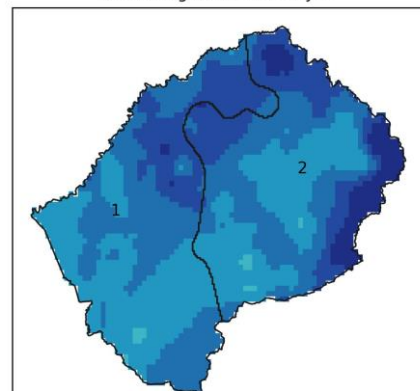
based on station data and 1991-2020 normals

Climatological rainfall for DJF



based on station data and 1991-2020 normals

Climatological rainfall for JFM



based on station data and 1991-2020 normals

Yours sincerely,

*C. Beale*

For, Mr. Mokoena France  
(Director a.i)