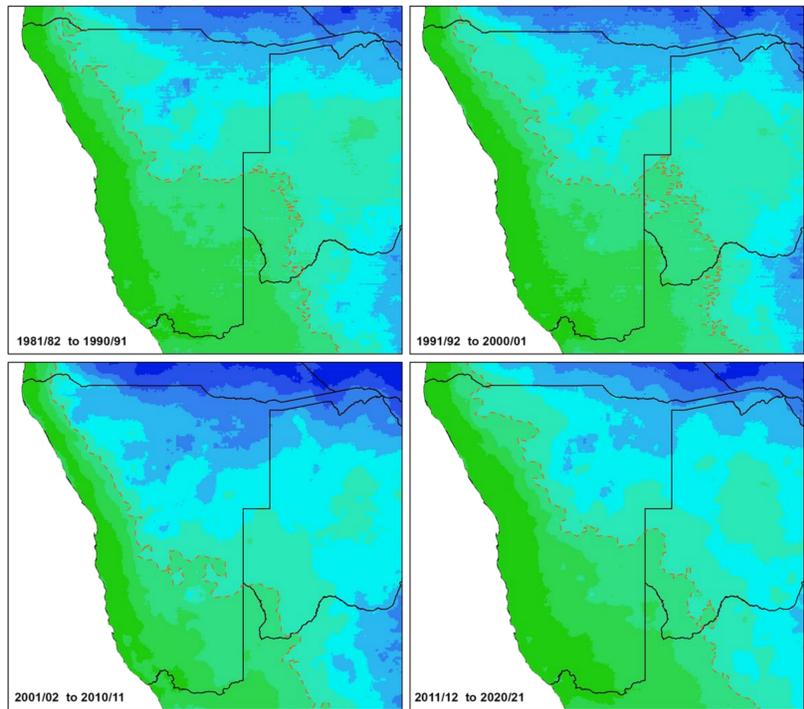
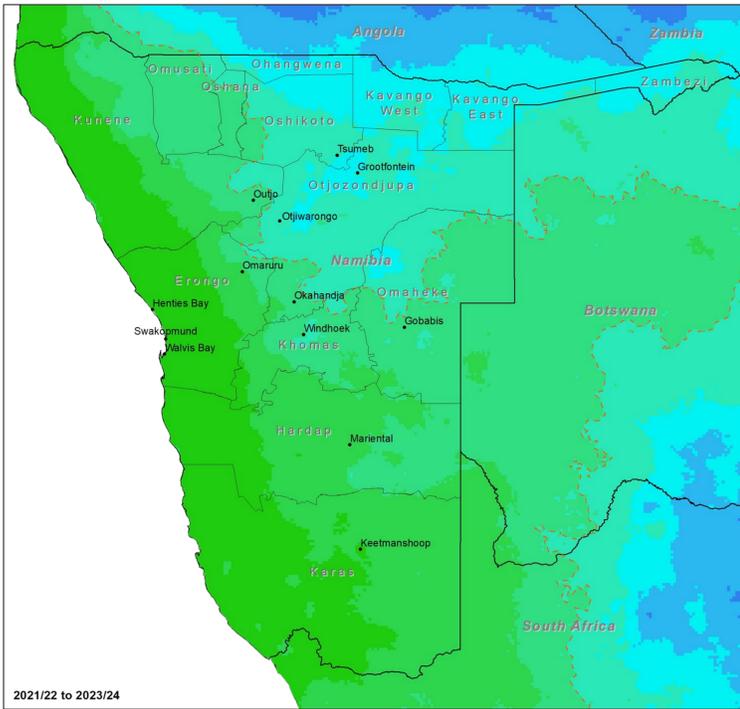


Namibia - the Land of Extremes

Seasonal Rainfall Summary from 1981/82 to 2023/24

While Namibia has a semi-arid to arid climate, it's highly erratic rainfall regime can vary from periods of prolonged droughts to unmanageable high rainfall. The year 2025, as far as our human memory is concerned, will no doubt be a year of unprecedented rainfall events. The final prognosis will only be available at the end of the 2024/25 rainfall season, hence, after 30 September 2025.

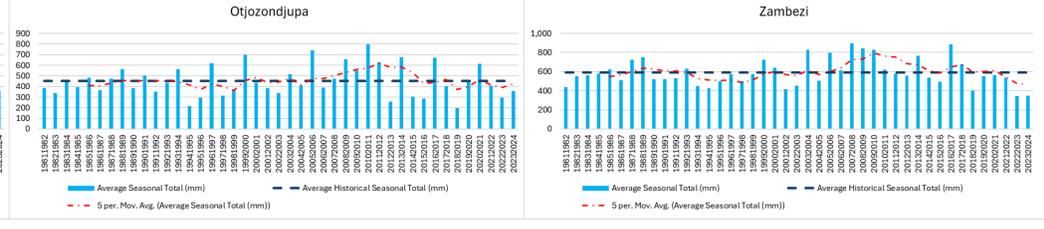
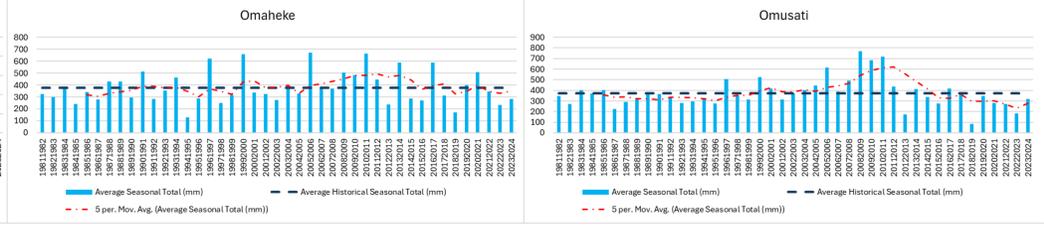
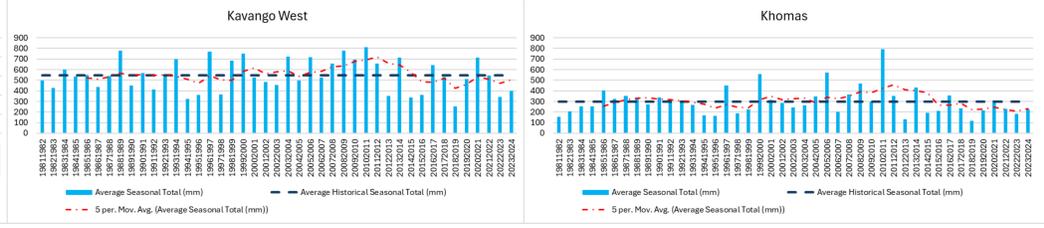
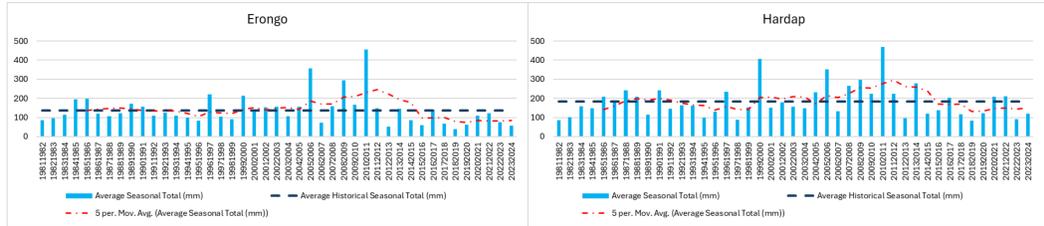
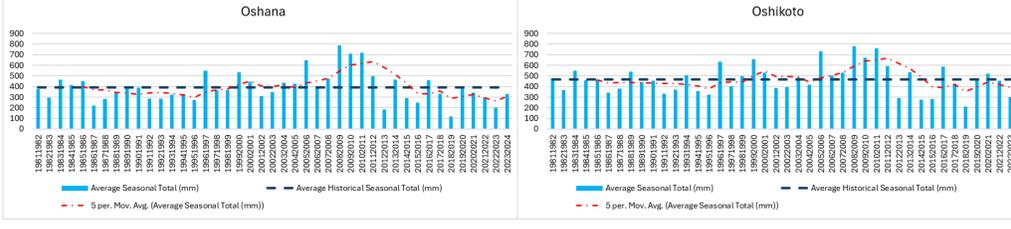
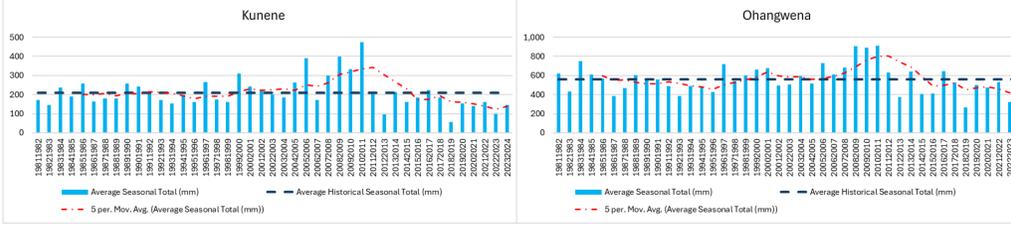
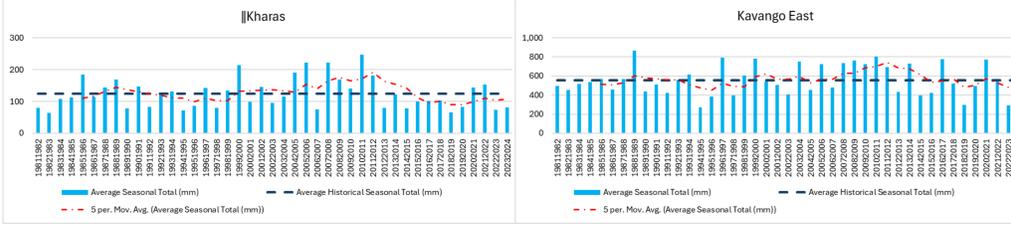
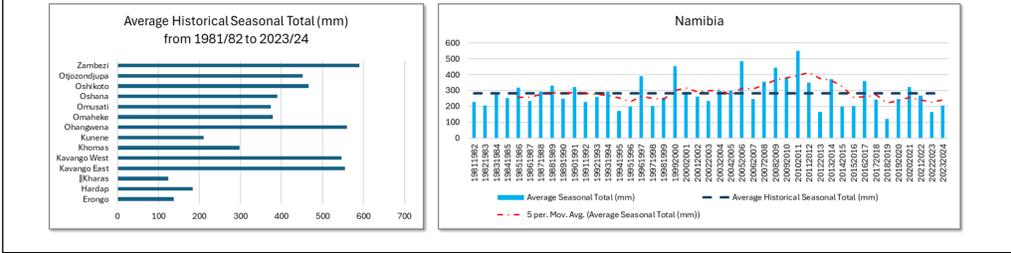
In the meantime, with this poster, we look into our satellite-based rainfall record for the past 43 rainfall years, starting with 1981/82. Our maps and analytics will demonstrate the erratic nature of our rainfall regime. But it will also highlight that for the past 14 seasons, we have seen more extreme events.



The 300 mm rainfall isohyet separates the minimum suitability of land for cattle farming, with lower rainfall deemed more appropriate for sheep farming (Coetzee & Werger 1975).

Each decades shifting 300 mm rainfall isohyet underlines the erratic rainfall regime. For the past three years, due to the drought, the area suitable for cattle farming has been greatly diminished.

Namibia is a huge country and even its regions by themselves are larger than many other countries in the world. So, while these graphical representations do not capture the detail of the country's spatially variable rainfall and local micro-climates, it does provide us with invaluable insight into historic trends. The graphs leave no doubt: the past 15 years have seen more pronounced extreme events than the prior 30 years. For most of the country, the wettest and the driest periods have been in the past 15 years.



The past 14 years have seen very variable rainfall. The 2010/11 rainfall year will be remembered as a very good rainfall year for Namibia. Five of the past 14 years were generally above average for Namibia, when compared to the average annual rainfall from 1981/82 to 2009/10. Nine of the past 14 years were generally below average rainfall years. A prolonged drought started in 2021/22. Only the current rainfall season finally brought relief from the drought.

