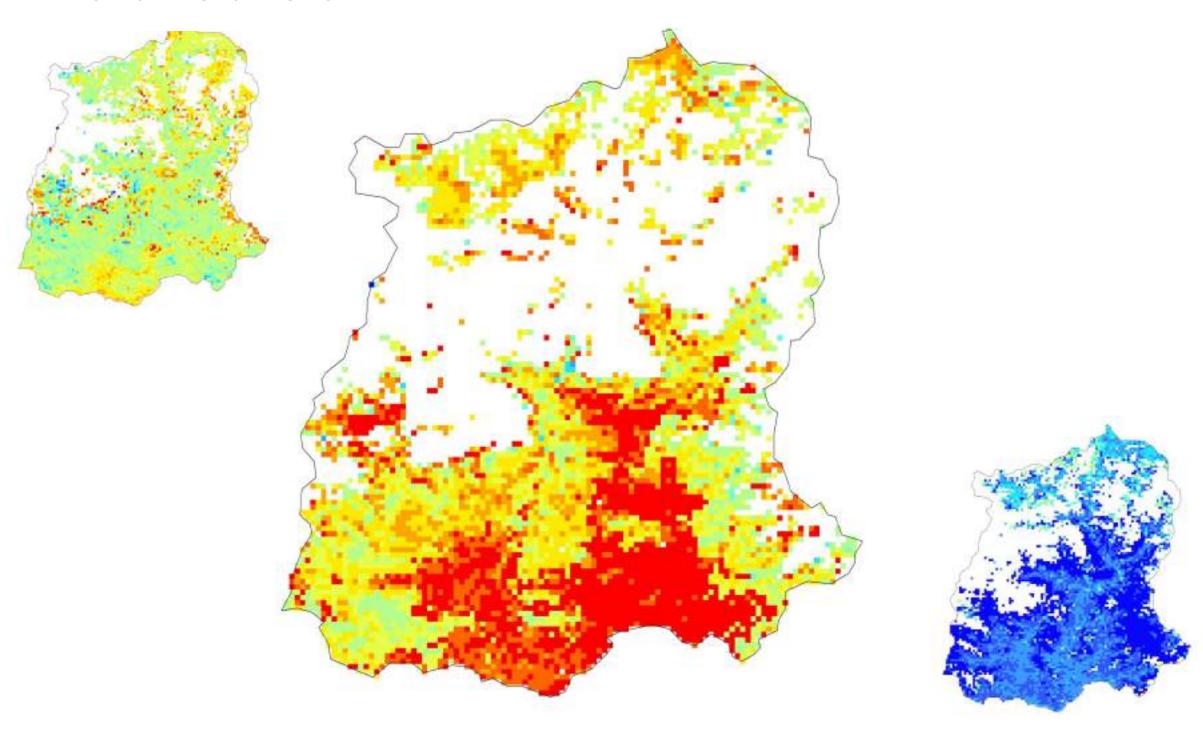
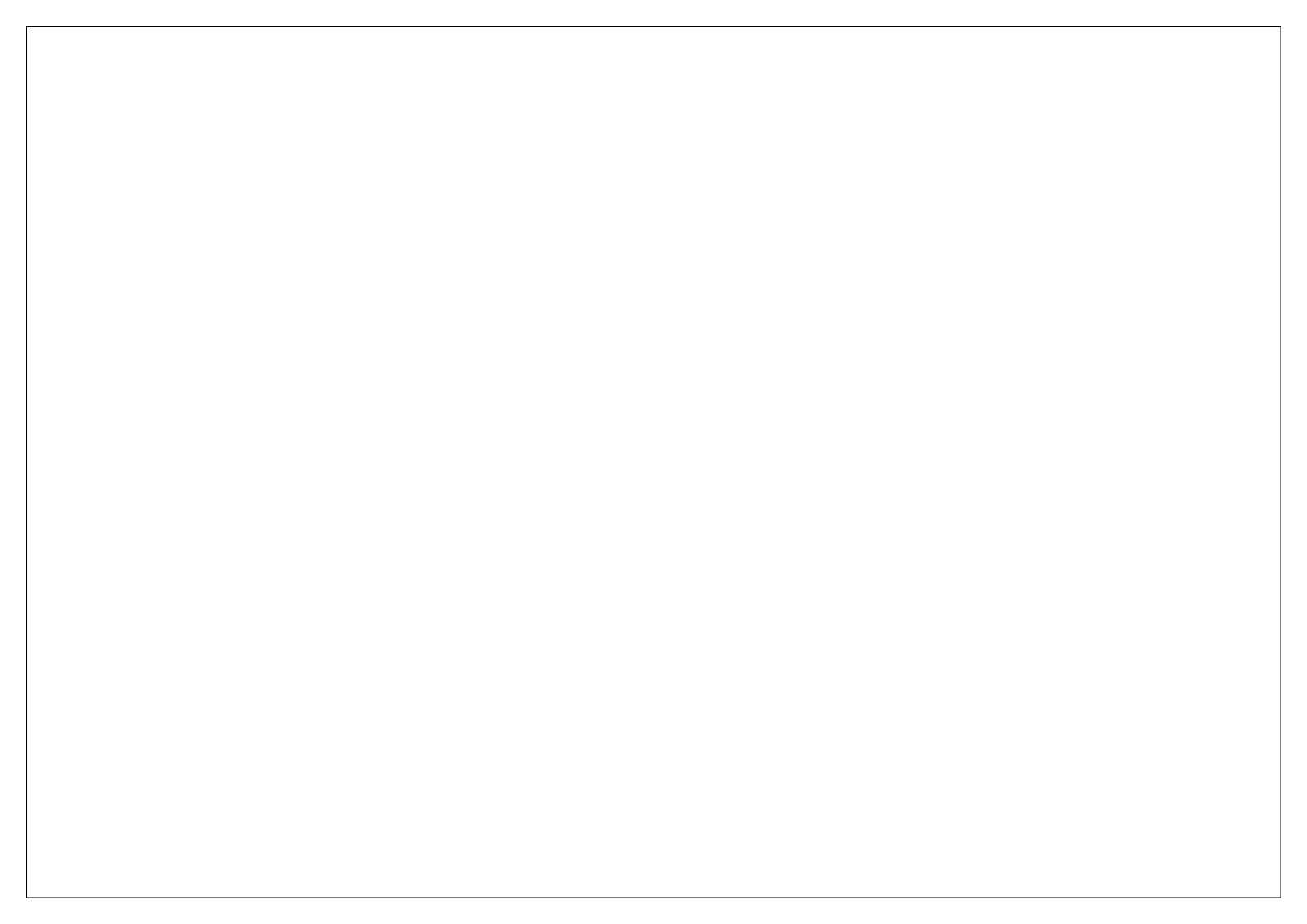
THE DROUGHT ATLAS OF SIKKIM

Dr. Hemu Kharel Kafle





The Drought Atlas of Sikkim

Dr. Hemu Kharel Kafle

Center for Water and Atmospheric Research



The Drought Atlas of Sikkim

(Historical monthly drought of Sikkim from 2000-2020)

Dr. Hemu Kharel Kafle

Publisher: Kathmandu Institute of Applied Sciences

Bagdol, Lalitpur, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Figures/Maps: Ms. Soni Khaitu

Edition: First, 2022, January

Price: Rs. 5000.00 (NPR)

ISBN: 978-9937-1-3062-2

No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

Acknowledgement

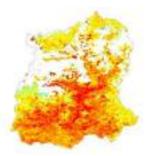
The Center for Water and Atmospheric Research (CENWAR) at Kathmandu Institute of Applied Sciences has produced the first edition of the Sikkim Drought Atlas. This Atlas uses a Drought Severity Index (DSI) to highlight the intensity of drought. Descriptive graphs and visuals are used to highlight the drivers and effects of drought in Sikkim.

We would like to thank our collaborators, Prof. Dr. Vimal Khawas from Sikkim University, Sikkim, India for his kind contributions, coordination, and valuable inputs in this atlas of Sikkim.

We are grateful to our technical supervisors Prof. Dr. Yasushi Yamaguchi from Nagoya University and Dr. Shinichi Sobue from GEOGLAM for their advice and inputs in this study. We sincerely thank Asia Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) for funding this research work.

Table of Contents

	Chapters	Page no.
1.	What is Drought?	2
2.	Sikkim Overview	
3.	Remotely Sensed Data	4
4.	Drought Severity Index (DSI)	
5.	January DSI Maps	
6.	February DSI Maps	17
7.	March DSI Maps	28
8.	April DSI Maps	39
9.	May DSI Maps	50
10.	June DSI Maps	61
11.	July DSI Maps	72
12.	August DSI Maps	83
13.	September DSI Maps	94
14.	October DSI Maps	105
15.	November DSI Maps	116
16.	December DSI Maps	127
17.	Drought Severity Index of Sikkim	138
18.	References	139

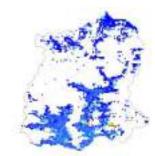












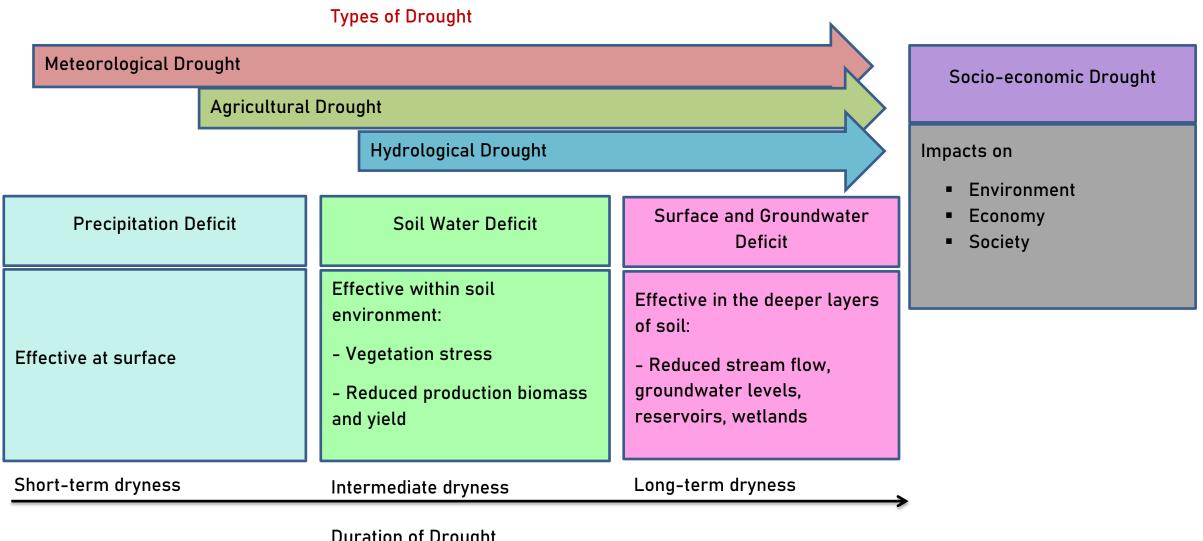


What is Drought?

Drought is a period of time when there is a lack of water on land. Drought mainly results from abnormally low rainfall leading to water scarcity (Wilhite, 2000b). It is defined as "severe water shortage".

Drought is a complicated phenomenon, yet one of the least understood of all natural hazards impacting more people than any other disaster (Obasi, 1994). Since the demand for water is increasing along with the population in many parts of the world, water supply interruptions caused by drought can be expected to produce greater impacts (Hewitt, 1997).

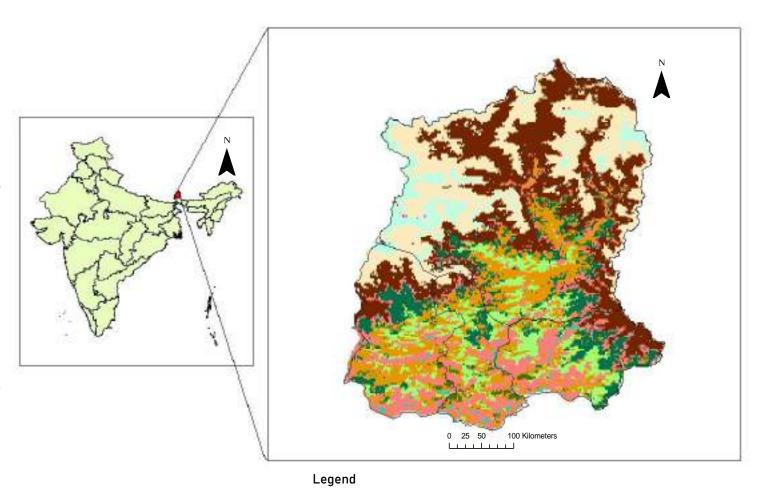
Drought is a global phenomenon; however, their effects are more vulnerable in developing countries because of the lesser potential to mitigate the impacts of such extreme events (Wilhite, 2000).



Sikkim Overview

Sikkim is a state in northeast India with a land area of 7,096 km² and borders Bhutan, Tibet, and Nepal. It is located at latitude 27°31'58.7"N and longitude 88°30'43.98"E. The state of Sikkim is known for its rugged landscape, which is found in the Himalayan highlands. The state is almost entirely hilly, with elevations varying from 280 meters (920 feet) in the south at the border with West Bengal to 8,586 meters (28,169 ft.) in northern peaks near Nepal and Tibet. Because of the steep, precipitous slopes, the terrain is mostly unsuitable for agriculture. Some hill slopes, on the other hand, have been transformed into terrace farms. East Sikkim, North Sikkim, South Sikkim, and West Sikkim are the four districts of Sikkim. Winter, summer, spring, autumn, and monsoon season are the five seasons in the state. The climate in Sikkim varies from subtropical to tundra in the north. The majority of Sikkim's inhabited areas have a temperate climate, with summer temperatures rarely topping 28 °C (82 °F). The average yearly temperature in much of Sikkim is around,18°C(64°F).

Land Cover Classification of Sikkim 2020



Evergreen Needleleaf Forest

Evergreen Broadleaf Forest

Deciduous Broadleaf Forest

Mixed Forest

Open Shrublands

Woody Shrublands

Savannas

Grasslands

Permanent Wetlands

Croplands

Cropland Mosaics

Snow and Ice

Bare Soil and Rocks

Water Bodies

Remotely Sensed Data

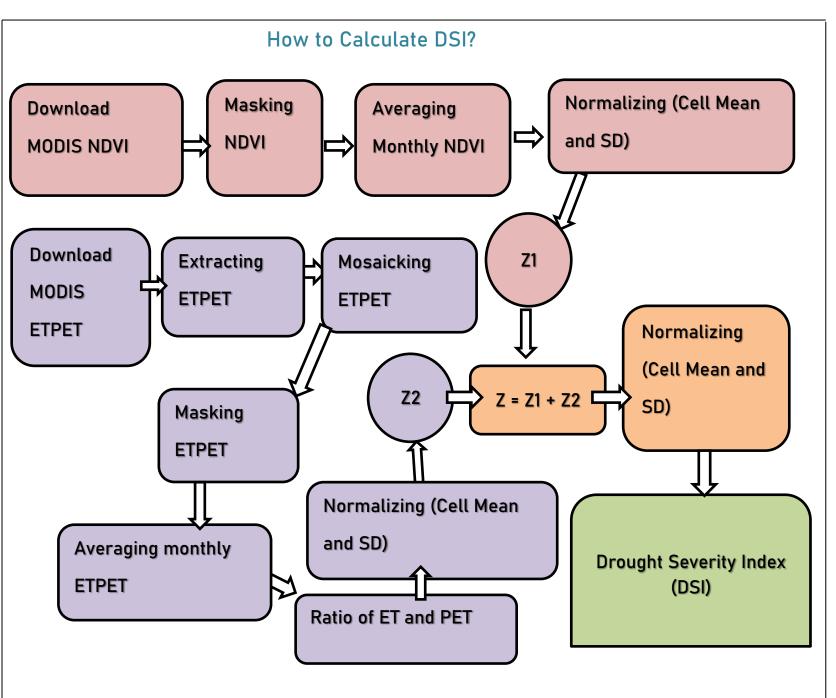
The Moderate-Resolution Imaging Spectrometer (MODIS) is an advanced narrowband-width sensor from which NASA and the USGS allow free composited reflectance data available every eight days via the Earth Resources Observation Systems (EROS) data center (Justice and Townshend, 2002a). MODIS products of Land cover, NDVI and ET/PET have been used for this study.

MODIS NDVI Data

This data includes MOD13A1 (MODIS/Terra Vegetation Indices 16-Day L3 Global 500m SIN Grid) NDVI products at 500m spatial resolution for twenty one years (2000-2020). Global MOD13A1 data are provided every 16 days at 500-meter spatial resolution as a gridded level-3 product in the Sinusoidal projection i.,e obtained from NASA Land Processes Distributed Active Archive Center (LP DAAC, https://lpdaac.usgs.gov/).

MODIS ET, PET

This data set includes 8-day MOD16A2 Gap-Filled ET/PET (MODIS/Terra Net Evapotranspiration Gap-Filled 8-Day L4 Global 500m SIN Grid V006). The MOD16A2GF Version 6 product is a year-end gap-filled 8-day composite dataset produced at 500 meter (m) pixel resolution. The ET/PET datasets are obtained from Earth Data (https://earthdata.nasa.gov/).



Drought Severity Index (DSI)

DSI was chosen to investigate the spatiotemporal variability of droughts across the country using observed satellite products from 2000 to 2020. This newly proposed remote sensing index by Mu et al., 2013 has performed well in many parts of the world. According to Mu et al. (2013), the DSI Index, which combines the NDVI and ET/PET, is calculated as shown in equations (1) to (4). The incorporation of both transpiration and vegetation indicator data in DSI has been regarded as an improvement over other drought index. To study drought in Sikkim, monthly DSI values were calculated over a twenty one year period (2000–2020). Following are the equation systems that were used:

7	$\underline{}$ ET/PET $\underline{}$ ET/PET	(1)
^L Ratio	$\sigma_{ET/PET}$	(1)

$$Z_{NDVI} = \frac{NDVI - \overline{NDVI}}{\sigma_{NDVI}} \tag{2}$$

$$Z = Z_{Ratio} + Z_{NDVI} (3)$$

$$DSI = \frac{Z - \bar{Z}}{\sigma_Z} \tag{4}$$

Where Z_{Ratio} and Z_{NDVI} is the standardized value of ET/PET ratio and NDVI respectively. ET/PET and \overline{NDVI} is mean. σ_{Ratio} and σ_{NDVI} is the standard deviation of ET/PET ratio and NDVI respectively. \overline{Z} and σ_{Z} represents the mean and standard deviation of the sum of Z_{Ratio} and Z_{NDVI} respectively. Drought Severity Index is represented by the DSI calculated in equation (4). Positive

DSI value indicates wet condition, while negative values indicate dry conditions, Mu et al. (2013) classified DSI, as shown in table.

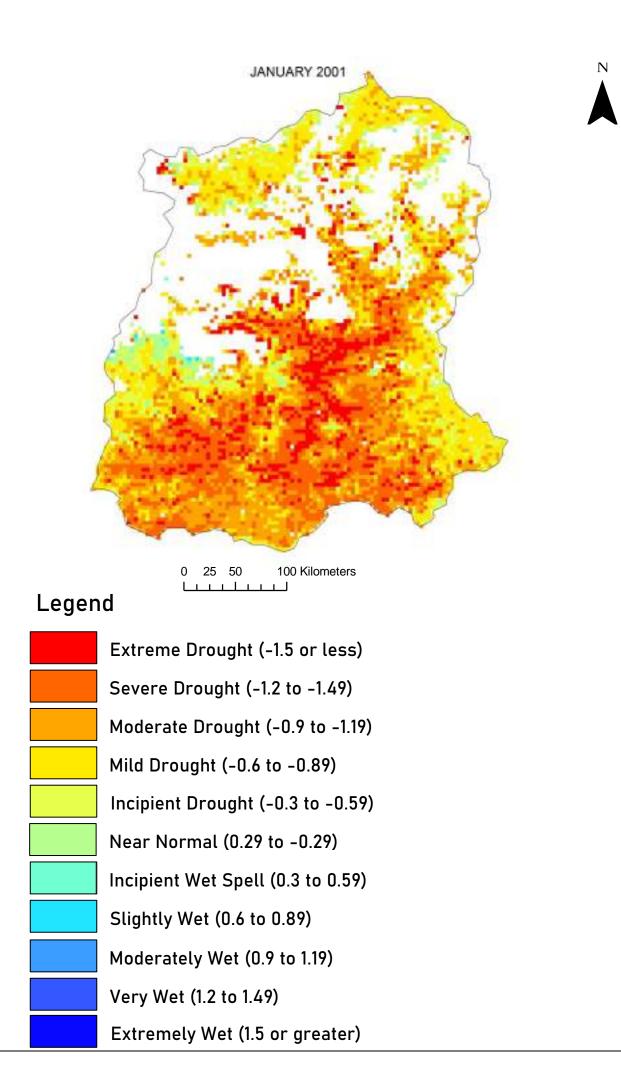
The generate DSI is then imported to ArcGis to export monthly DSI maps i.,e displayed in this atlas. In mean monthly DSI maps of Sikkim, extreme dry condition is denoted by Red colour whereas dark blue colour denotes extreme wet condition.

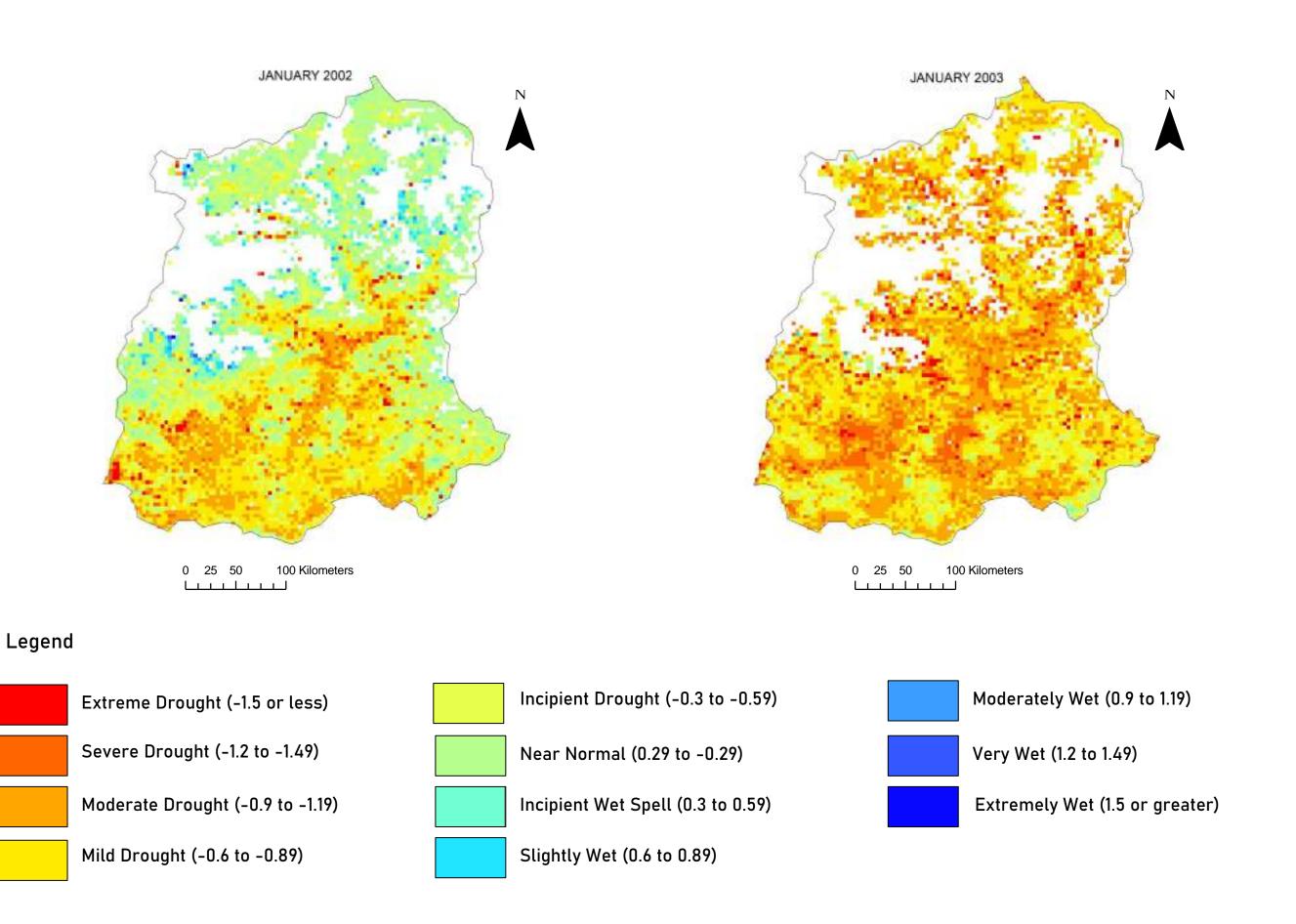
Category	DSI Values	Colour
Extreme Drought	-1.5 or less	
Severe Drought	-1.2 to -1.49	
Moderate Drought	-0.9 to -1.19	
Mild Drought	-0.6 to -0.89	
Incipient Drought	-0.3 to -0.59	
Near Normal	0.29 to -0.29	
Incipient Wet Spell	0.3 to 0.59	
Slightly Wet	0.6 to 0.89	
Moderately Wet	0.9 to 1.19	
Very Wet	1.2 to 1.49	
Extremely Wet	1.5 or greater	

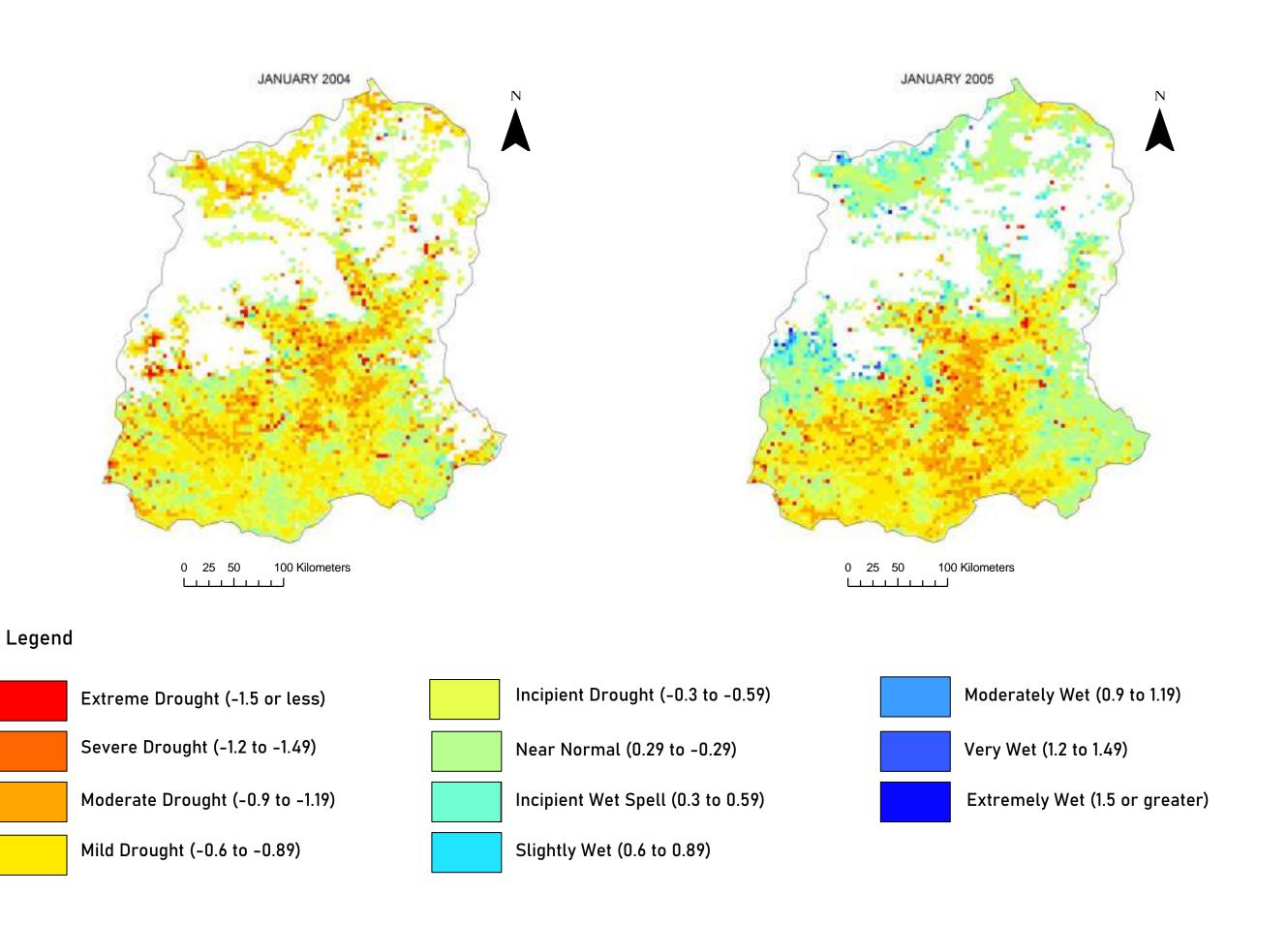
January DSI Maps

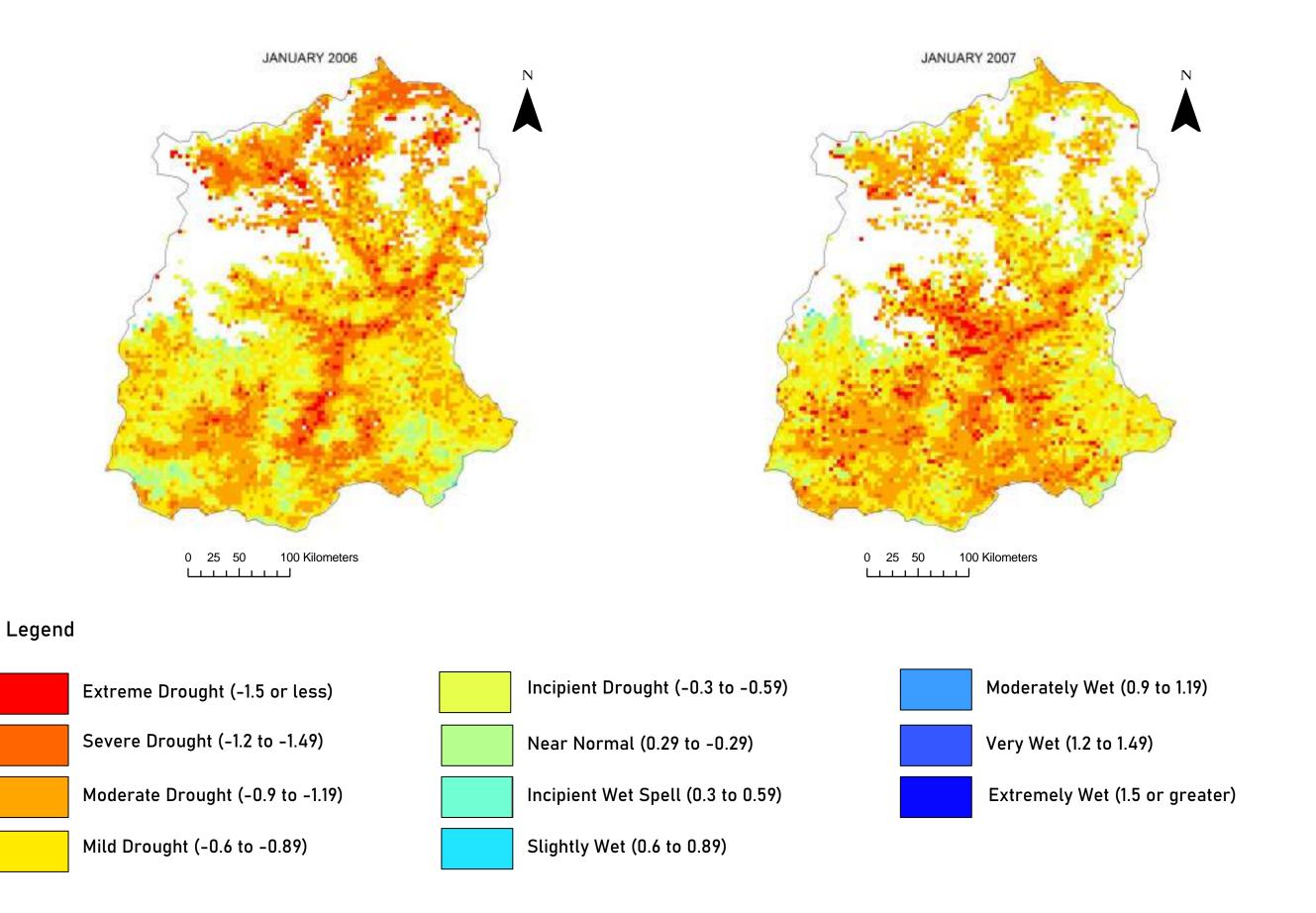
Drought conditions in January typically vary from moderate to incipient drought. The characteristics of this winter month are frequently characterized by moderate to mild drought.

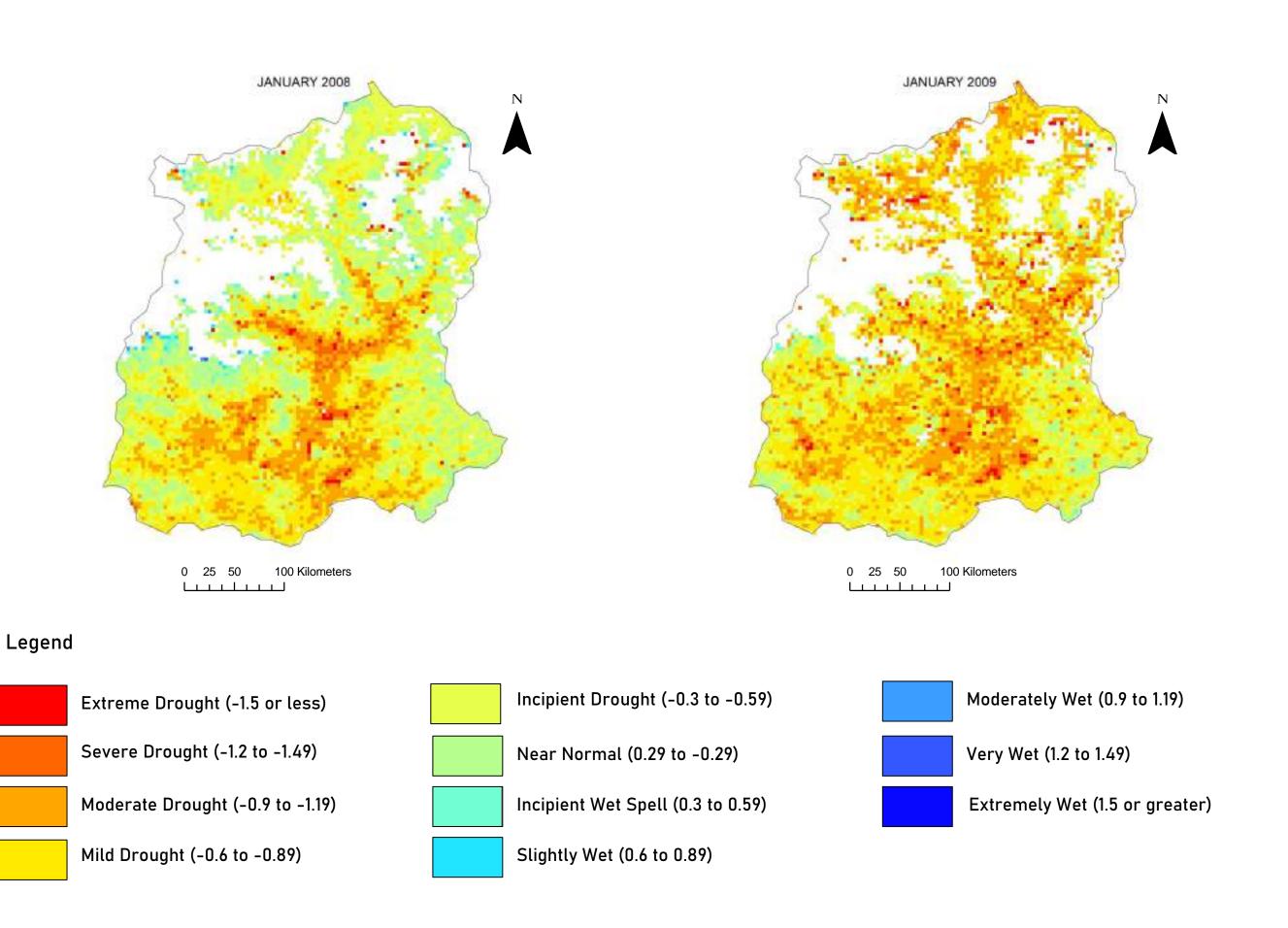
Mean January DSI Values		
Year	DSI Values	Drought Condition
2001	-1.06	Moderate Drought
2002	-0.38	Incipient Drought
2003	-0.92	Moderate Drought
2004	-0.69	Mild Drought
2005	-0.37	Incipient Drought
2006	-0.88	Mild Drought
2007	-0.91	Moderate Drought
2008	-0.60	Mild Drought
2009	-0.92	Moderate Drought
2010	-0.82	Mild Drought
2011	-0.72	Mild Drought
2012	-0.75	Mild Drought
2013	-1.05	Moderate Drought
2014	-0.77	Mild Drought
2015	-1.15	Moderate Drought
2016	-0.70	Mild Drought
2017	-0.96	Moderate Drought
2018	-0.89	Mild Drought
2019	-1.14	Moderate Drought
2020	-0.71	Mild Drought

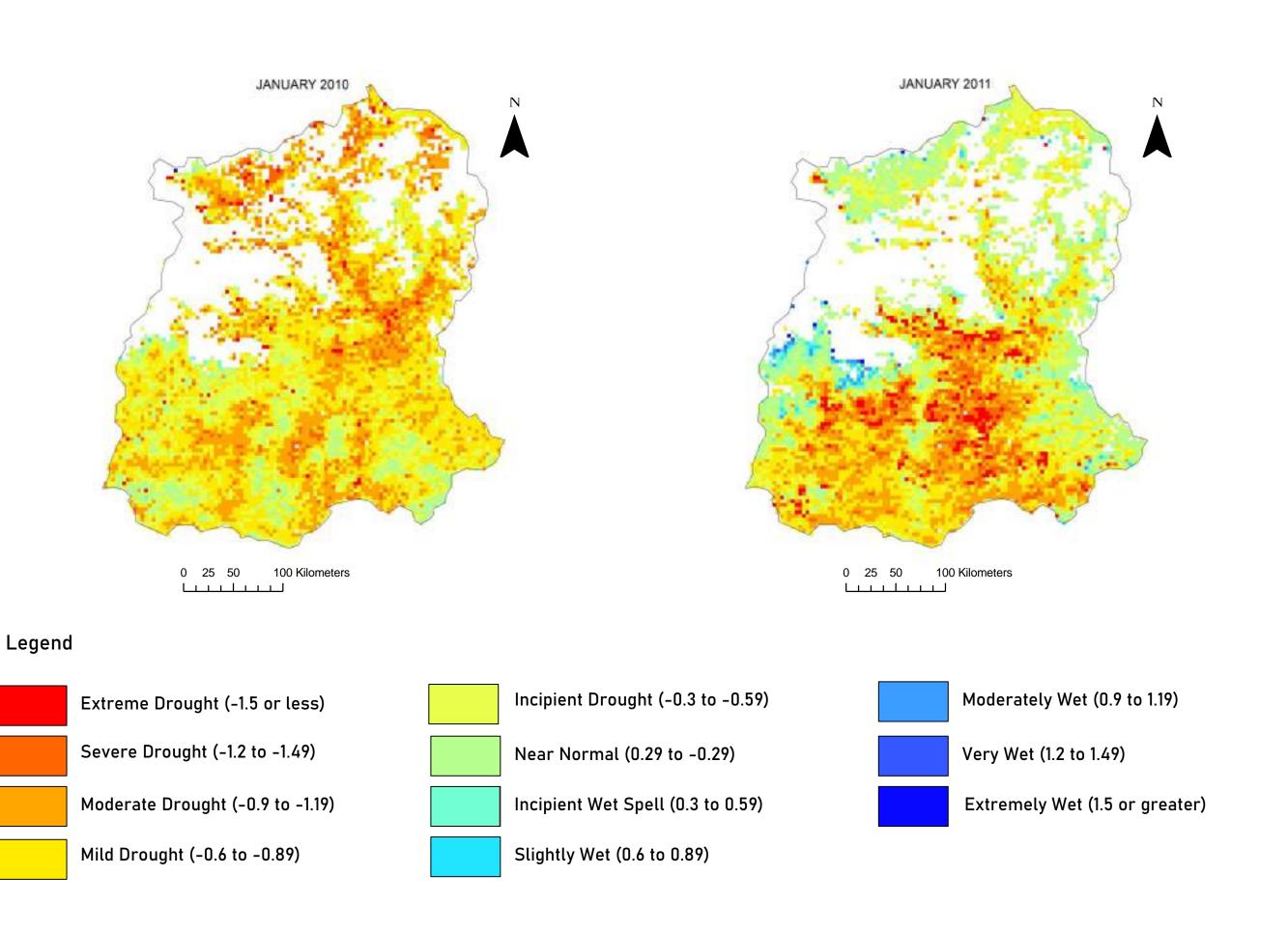


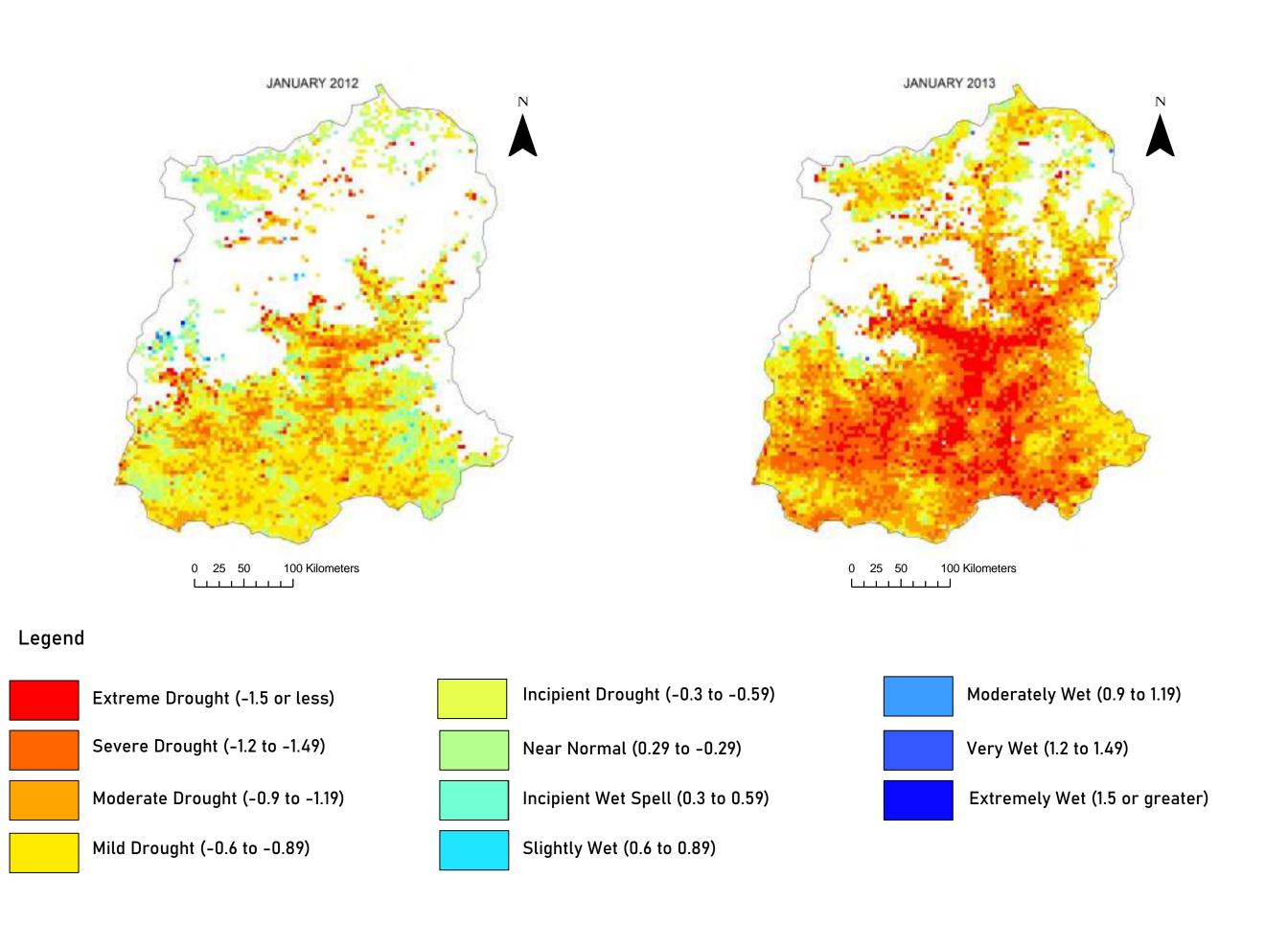


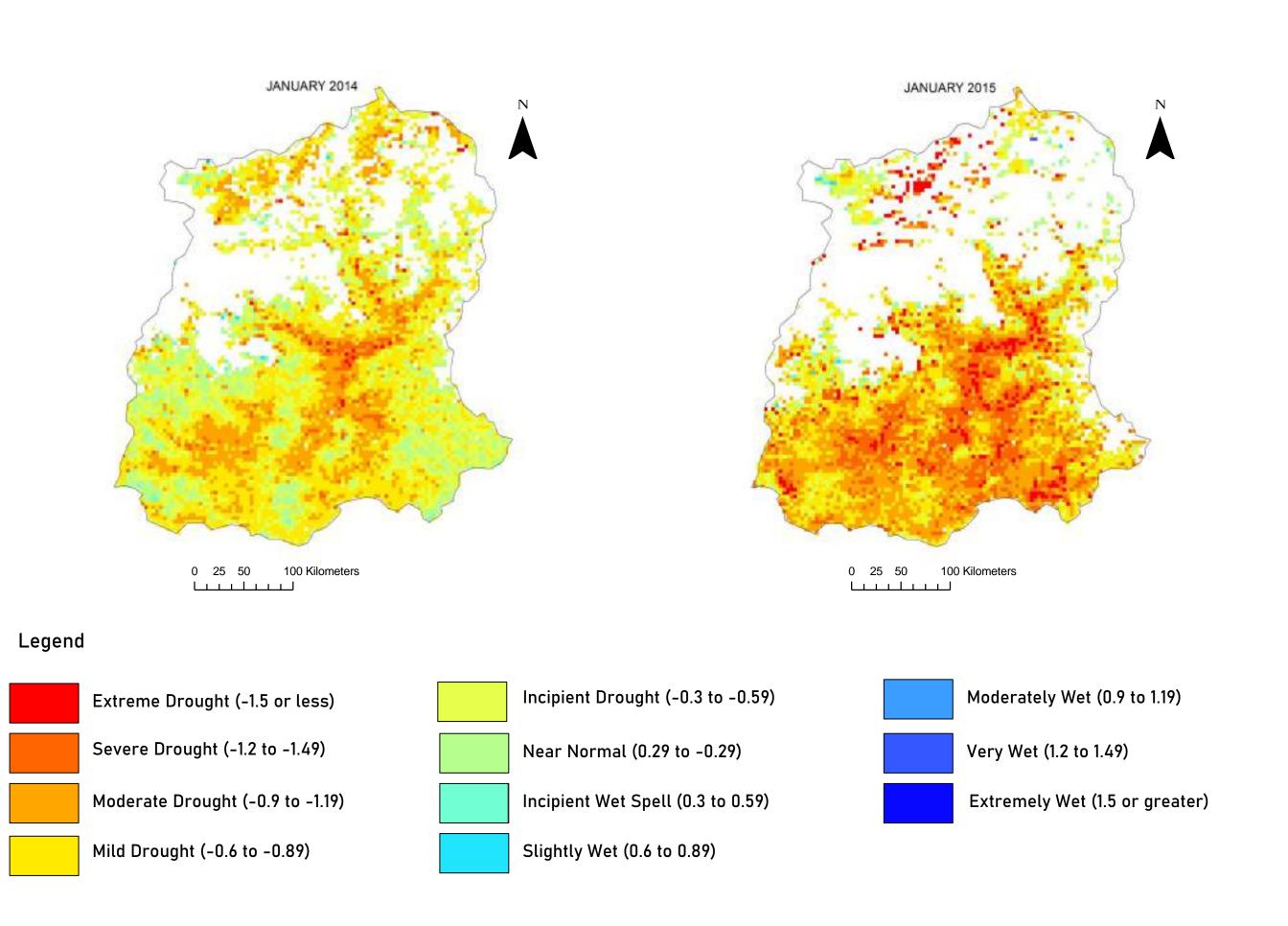


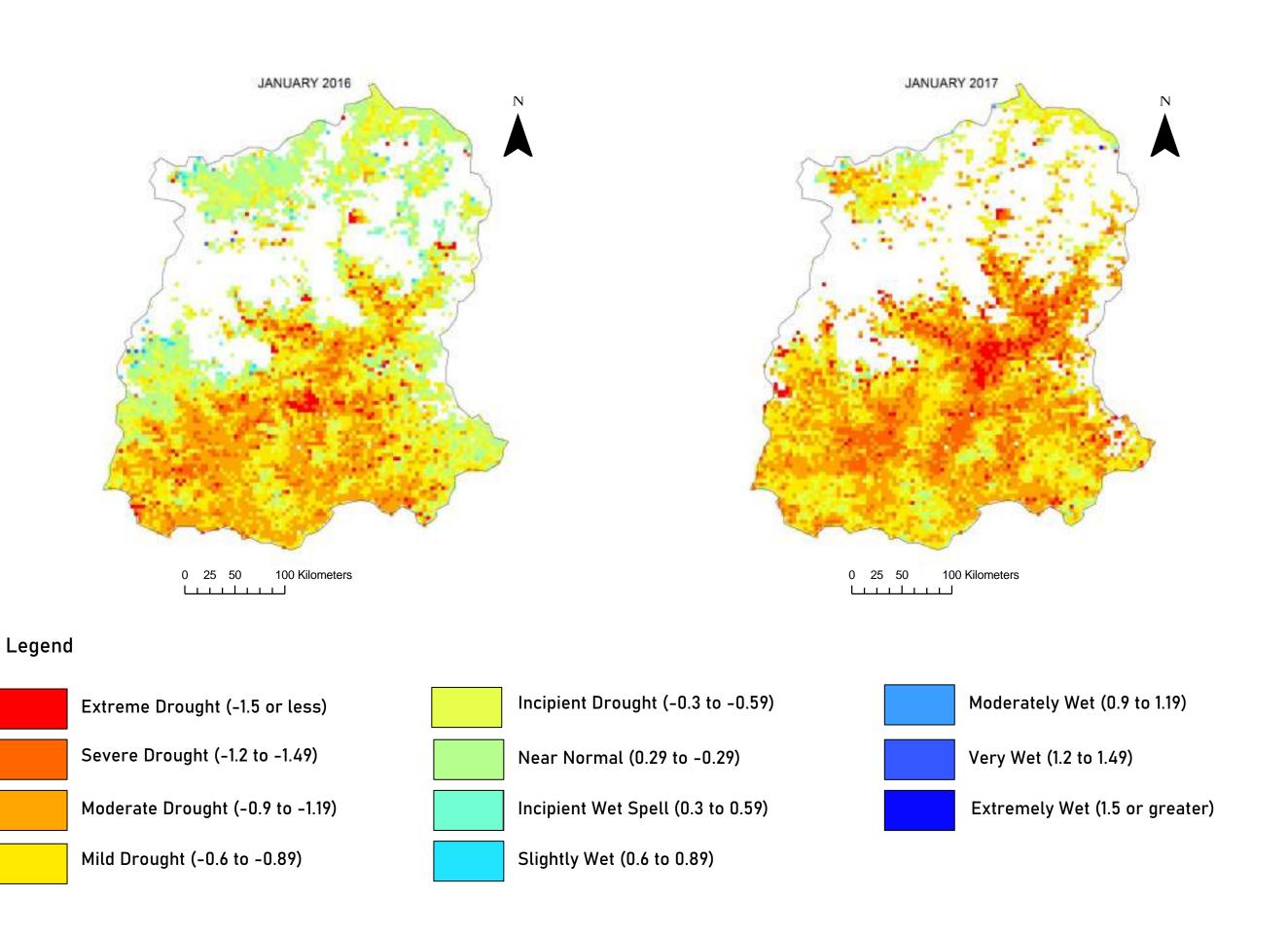


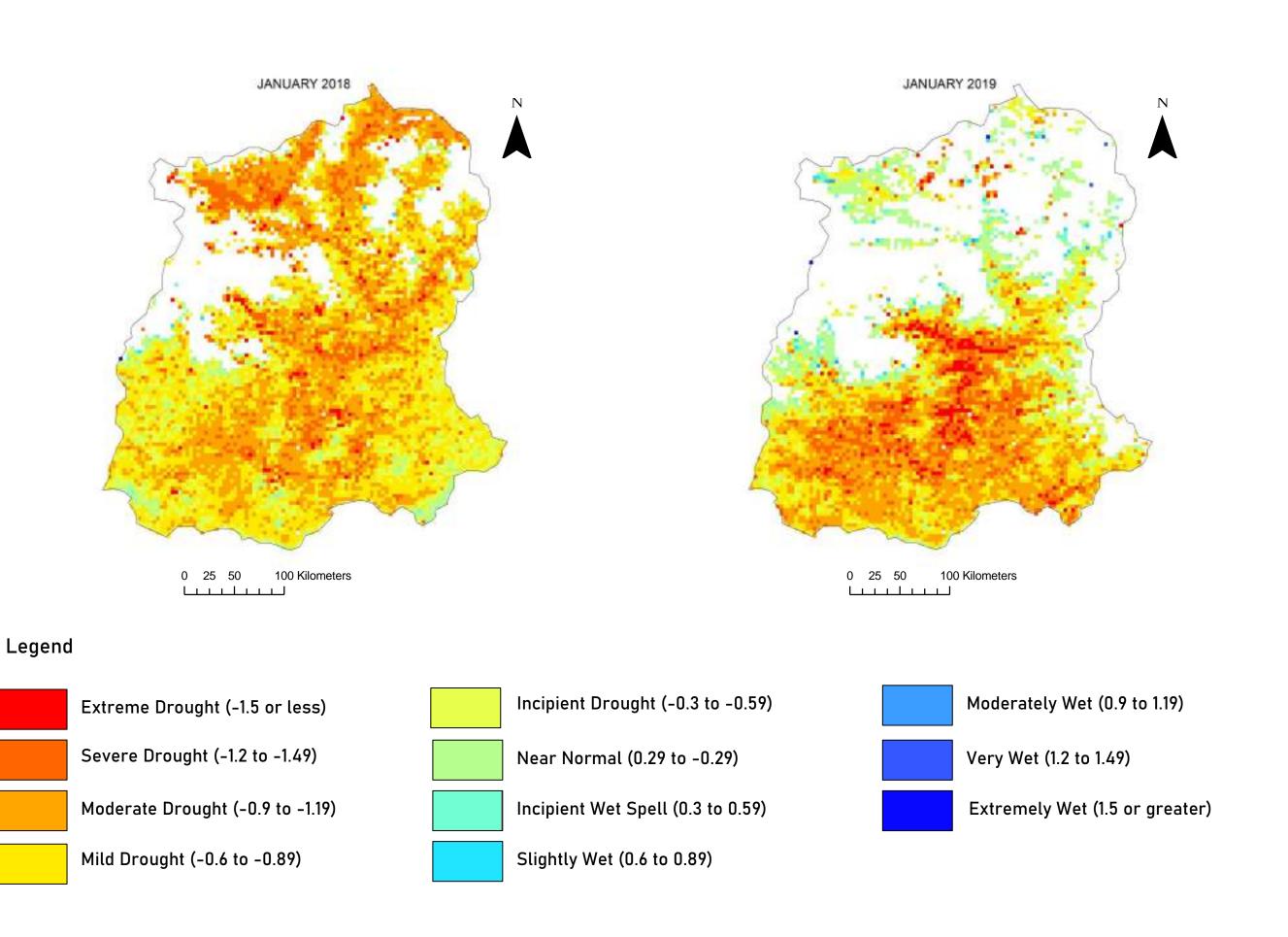


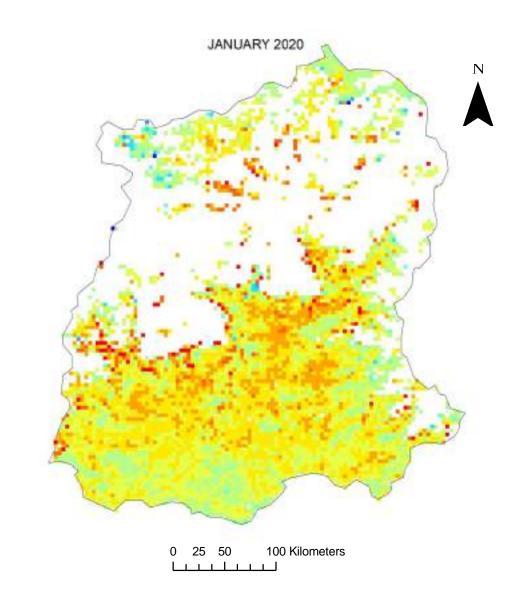




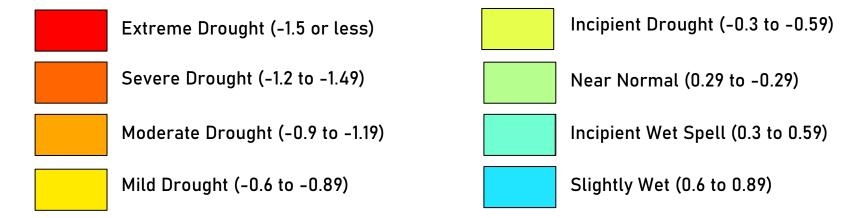


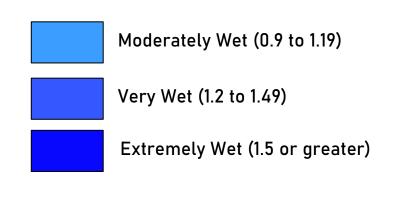






Legend

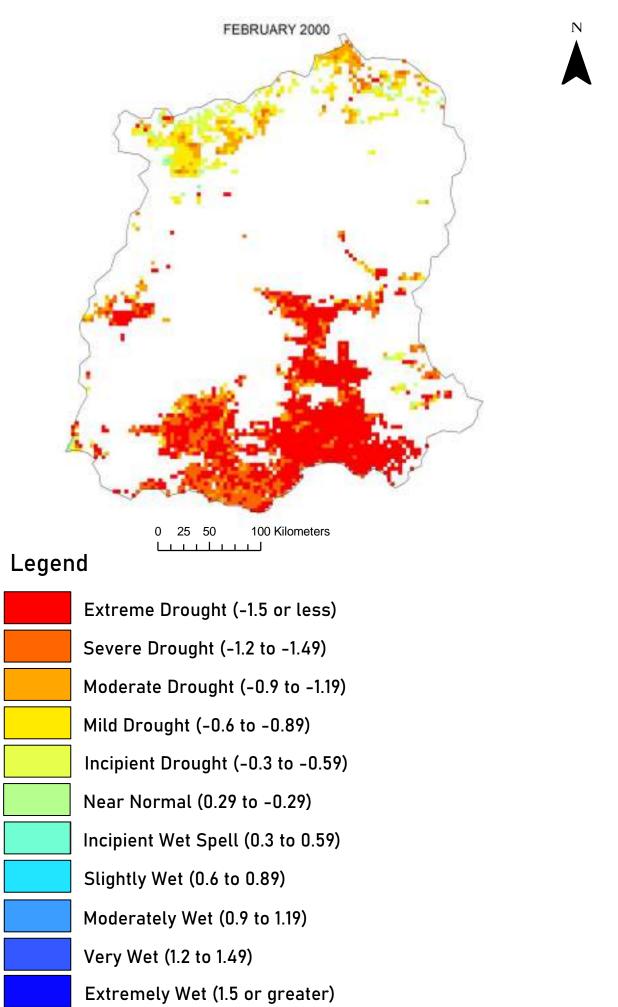


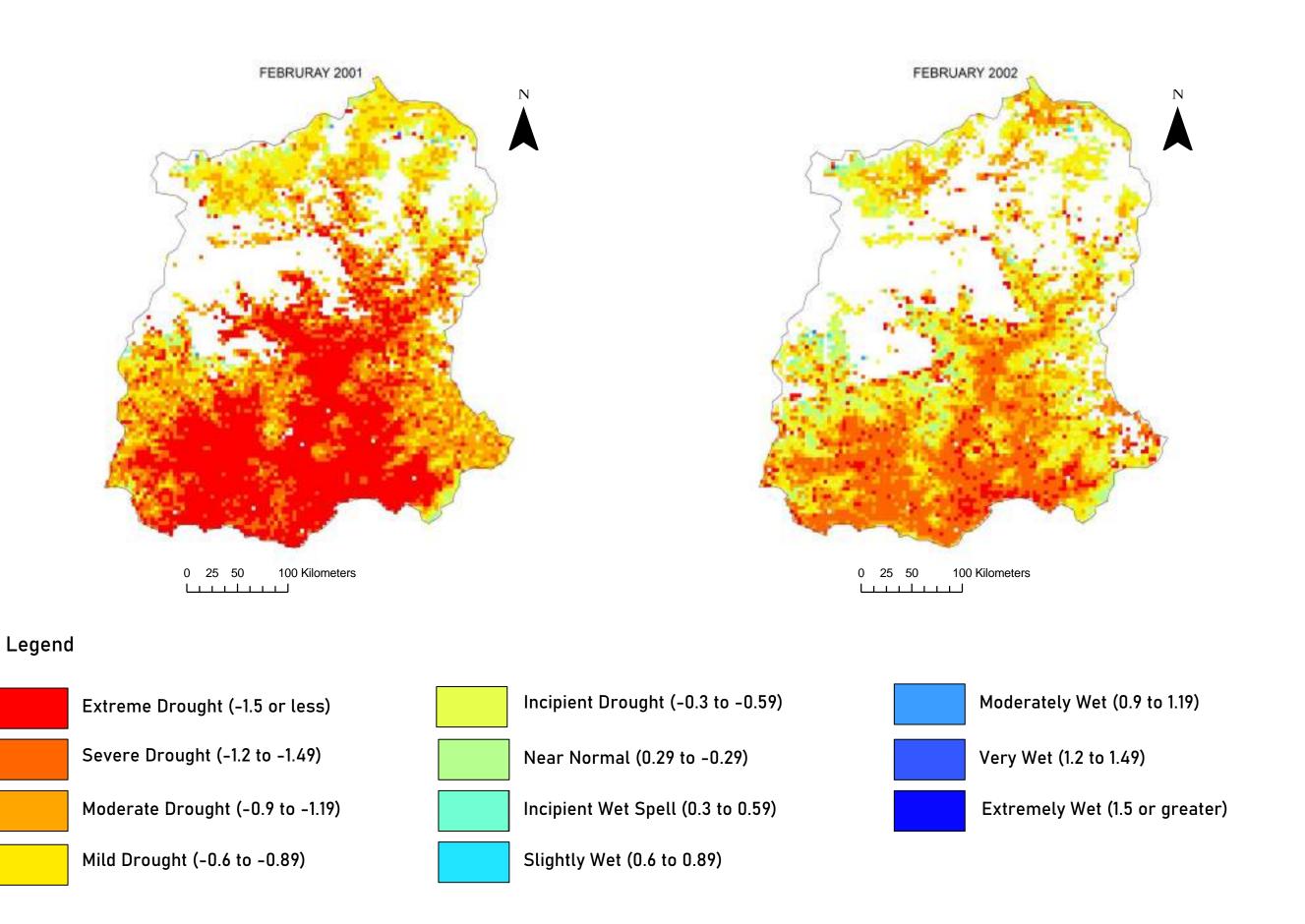


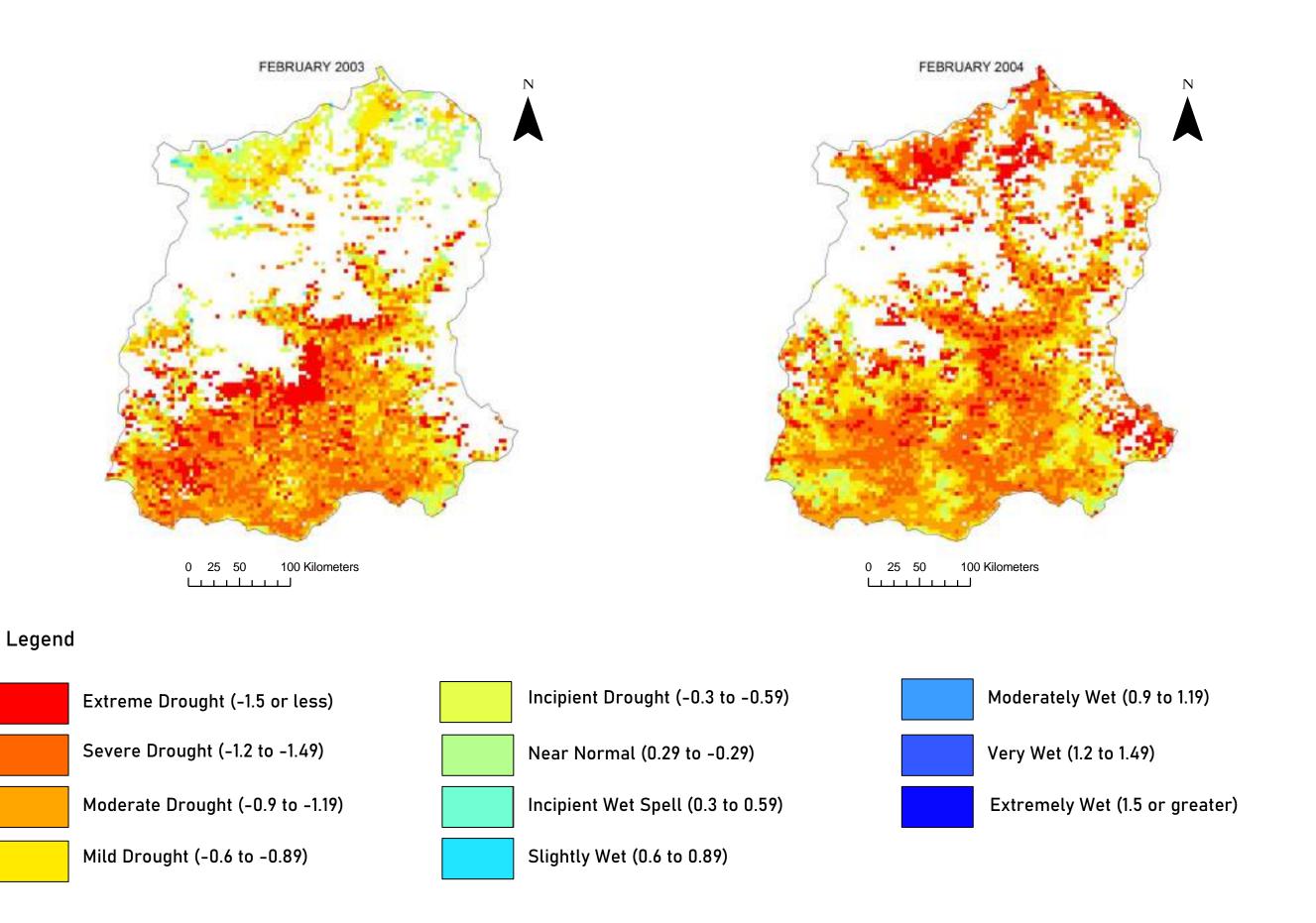
February DSI Maps

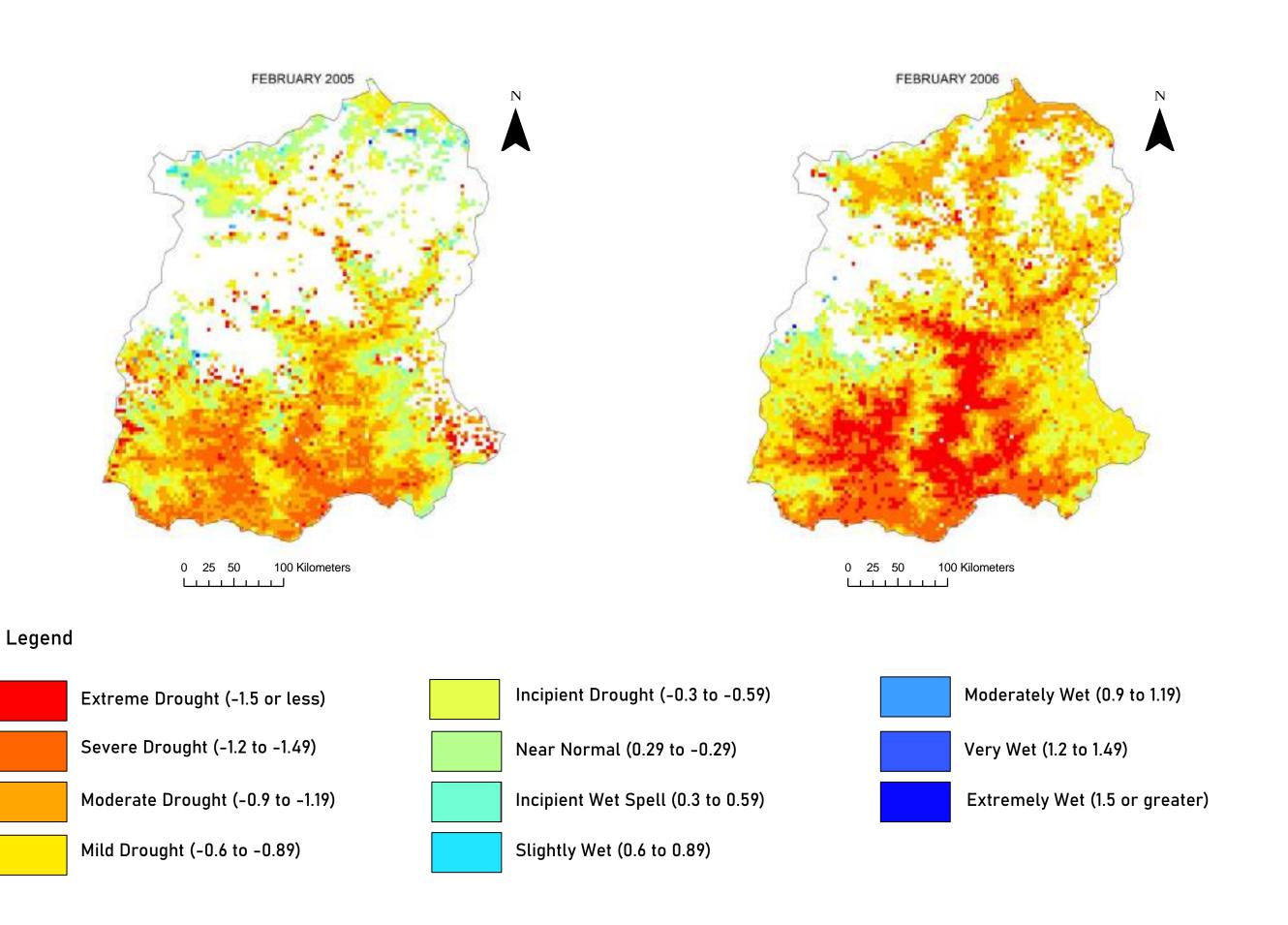
Drought conditions in February range from severe to mild drought. Moderate to mild drought were seen quite often in this cold month. Severe droughts were identified in year 2000, 2001, 2009, 2015, 2017 and 2019.

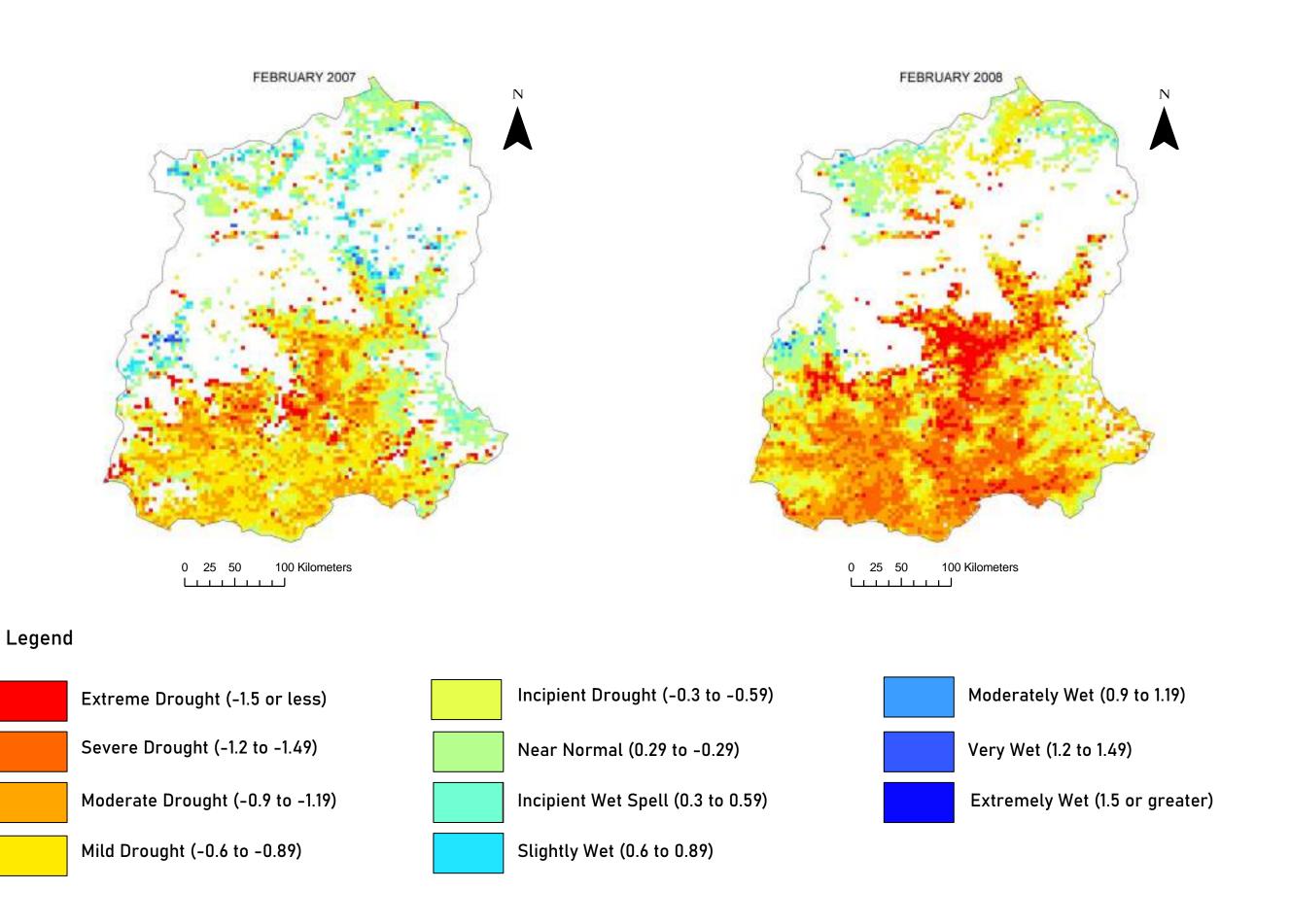
Mean February DSI Values		
Year	DSI Values	Drought Condition
2000	-1.44	Severe Drought
2001	-1.28	Severe Drought
2002	-0.94	Moderate Drought
2003	-1.10	Moderate Drought
2004	-1.10	Moderate Drought
2005	-0.62	Mild Drought
2006	-1.03	Moderate Drought
2007	-0.75	Mild Drought
2008	-0.97	Moderate Drought
2009	-1.21	Severe Drought
2010	-0.88	Mild Drought
2011	-0.79	Mild Drought
2012	-0.95	Moderate Drought
2013	-1.14	Moderate Drought
2014	-0.75	Mild Drought
2015	-1.20	Severe Drought
2016	-1.08	Moderate Drought
2017	-1.36	Severe Drought
2018	-0.79	Mild Drought
2019	-1.33	Severe Drought
2020	-0.82	Mild Drought

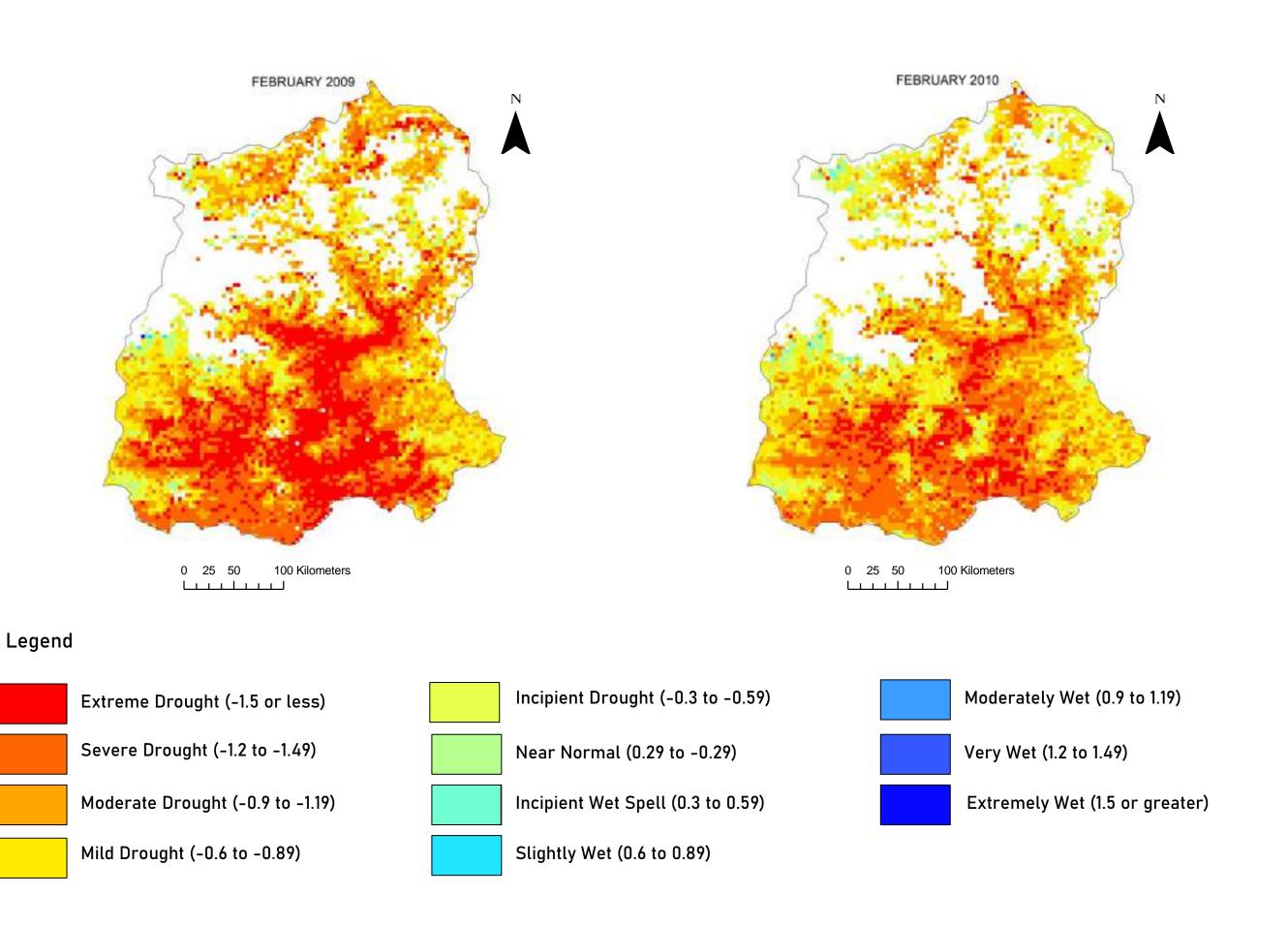


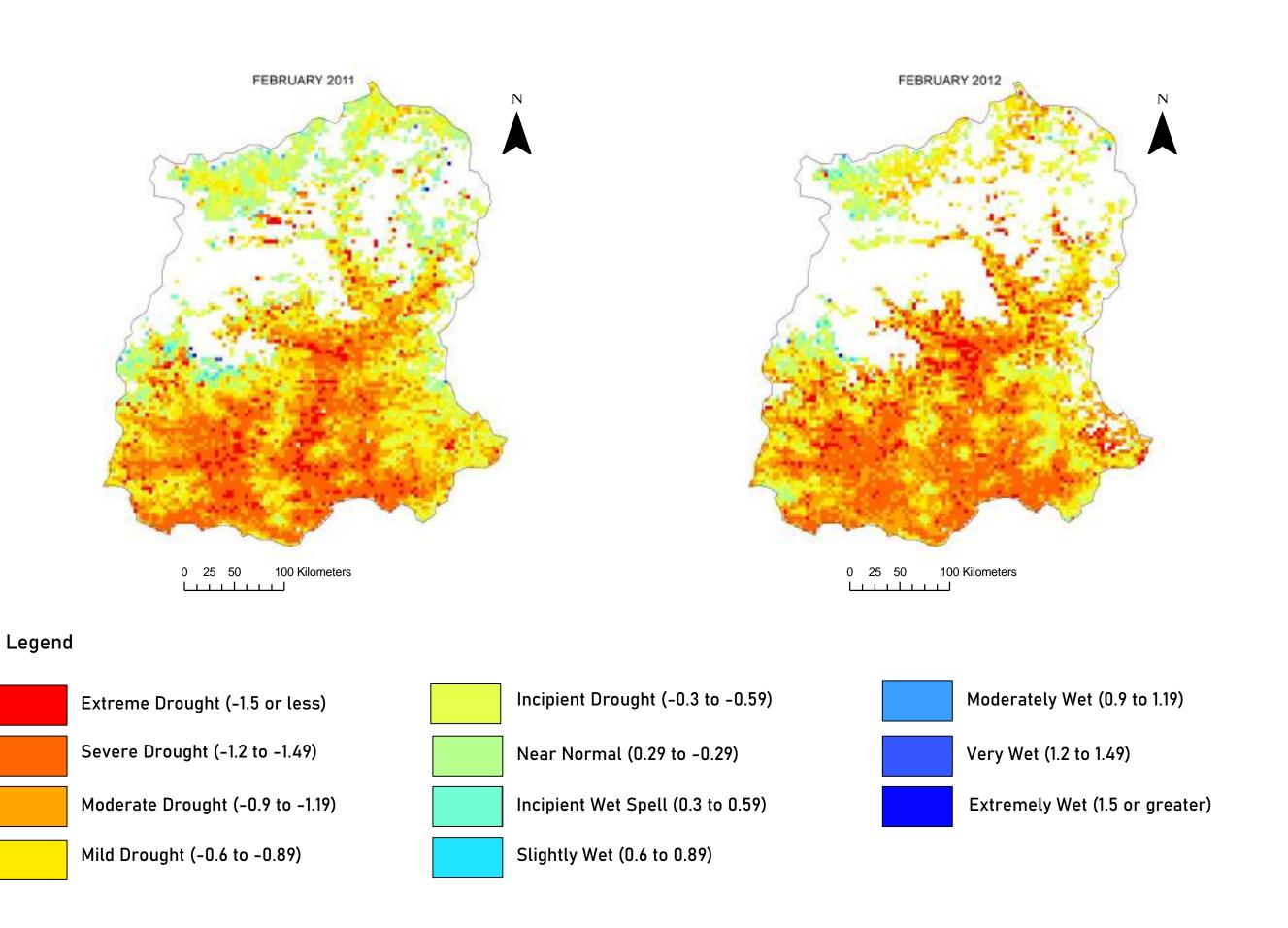


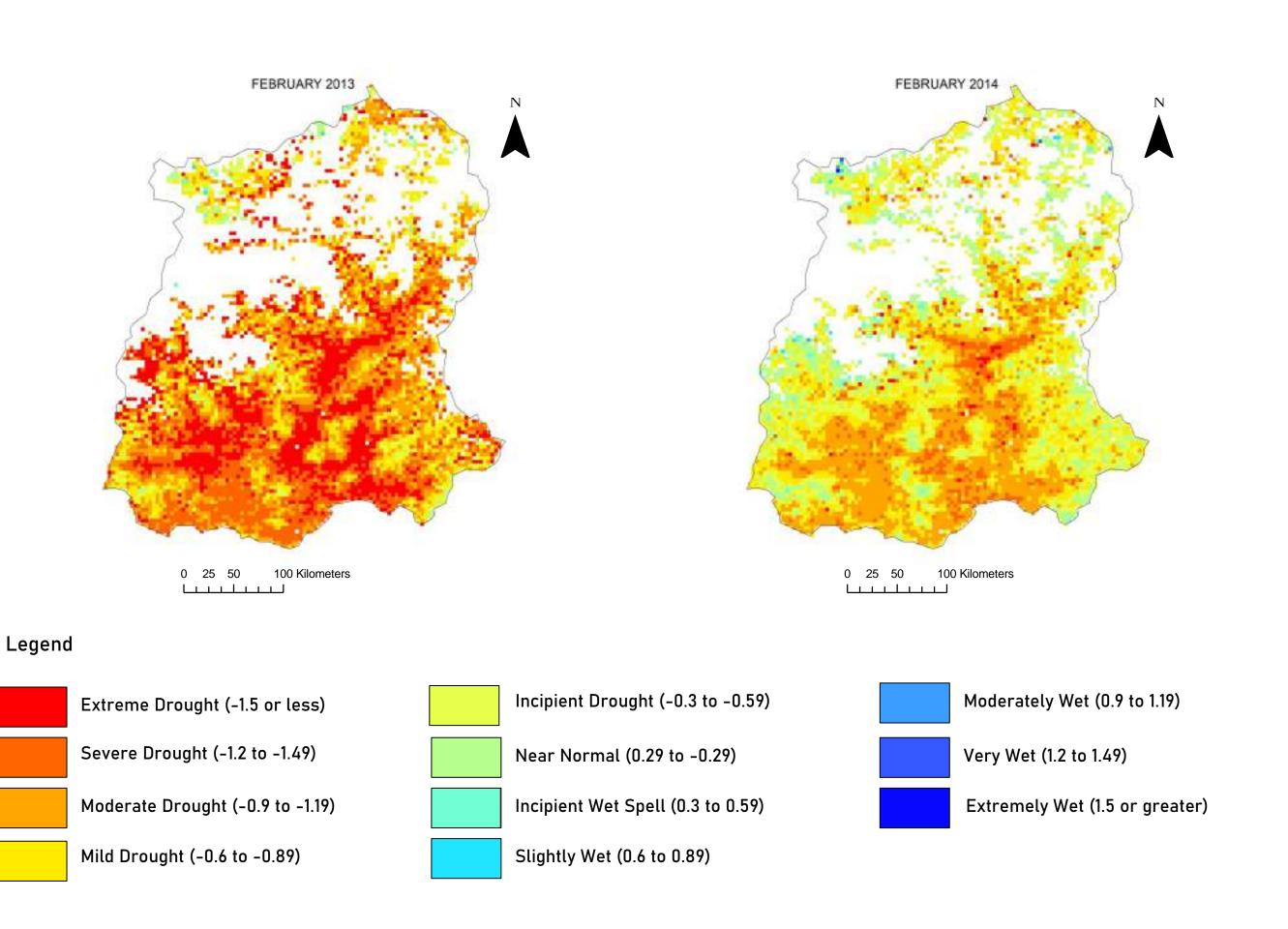


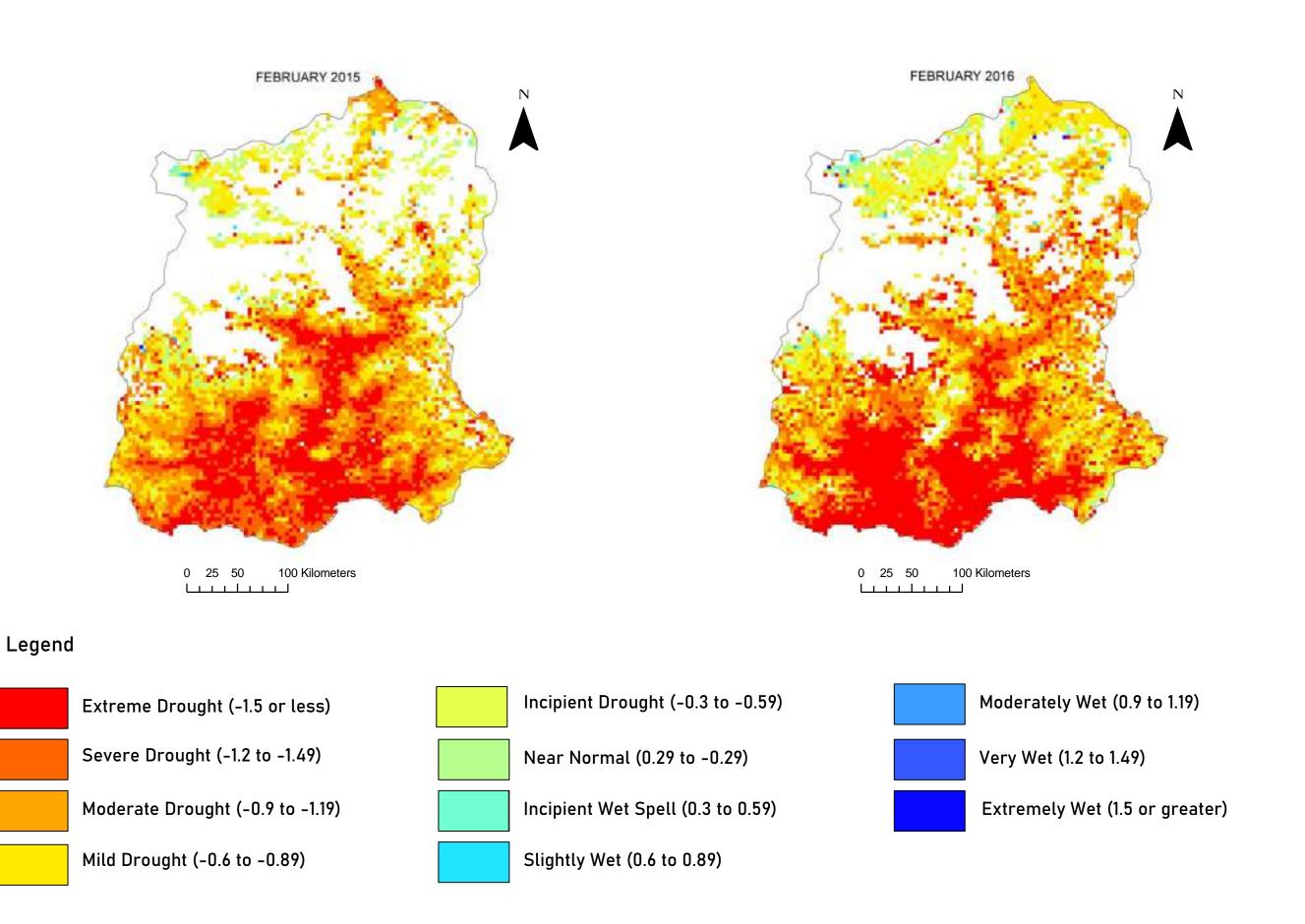


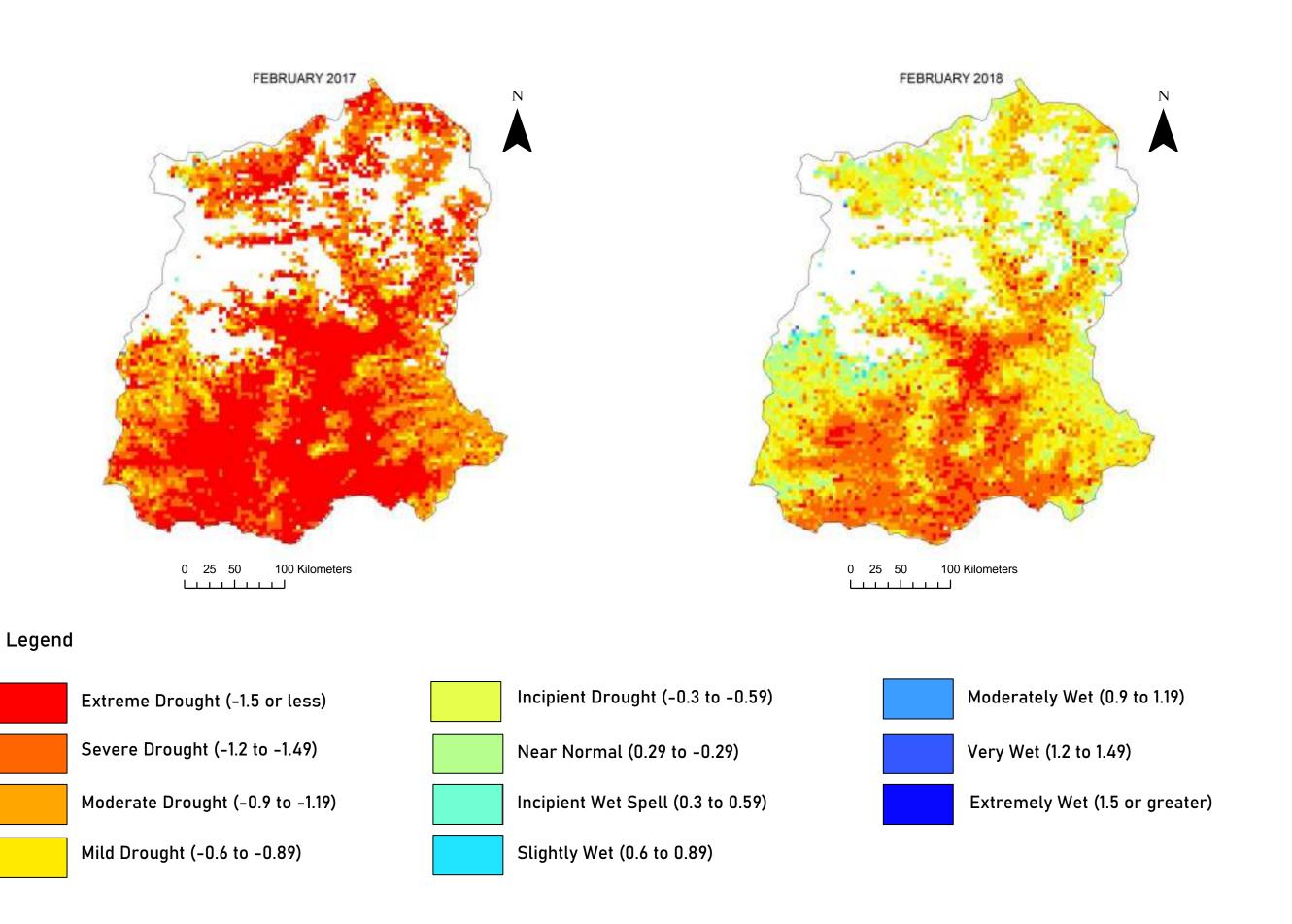


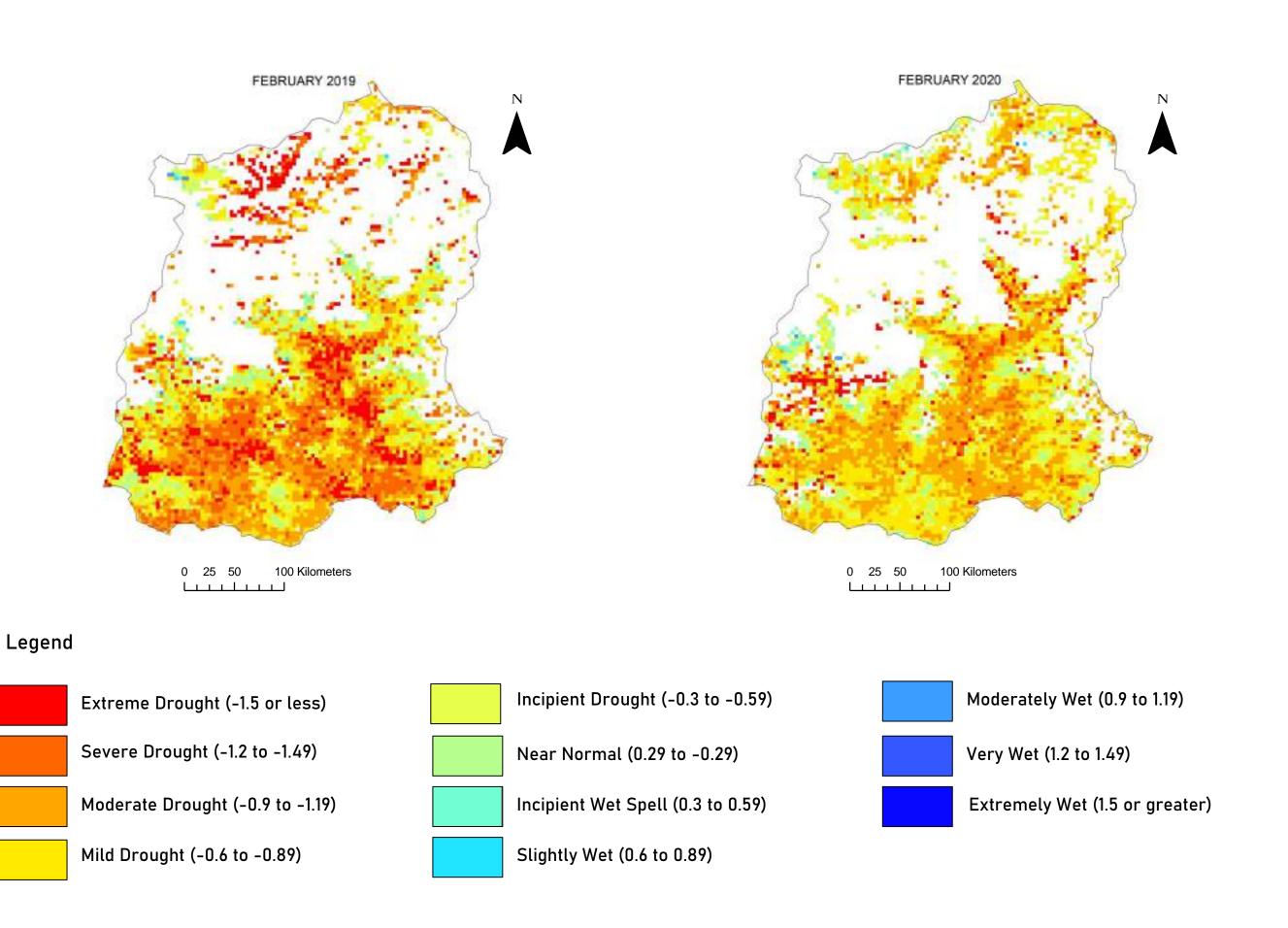








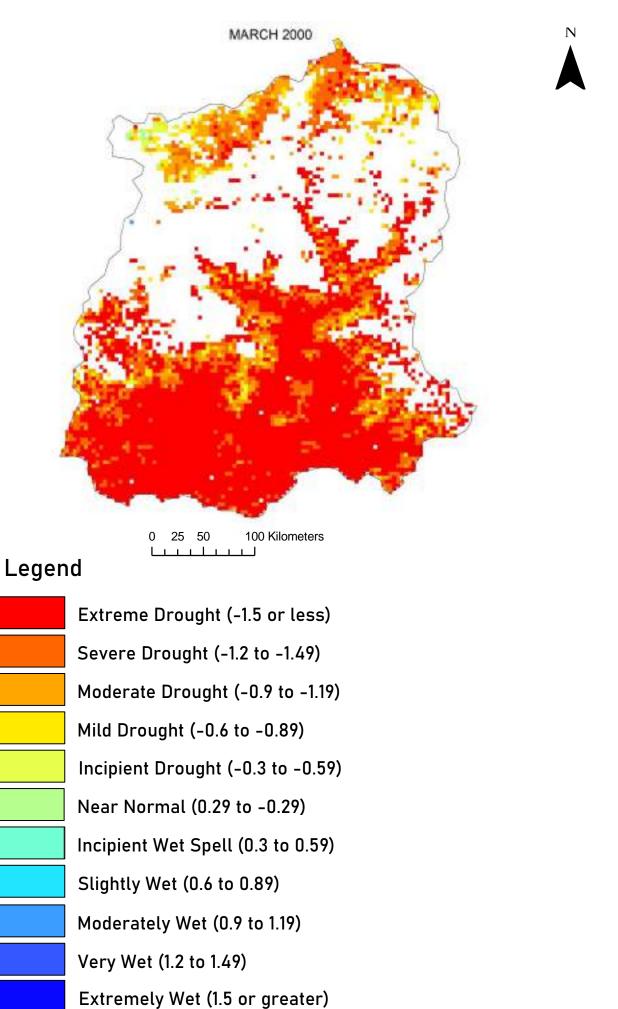


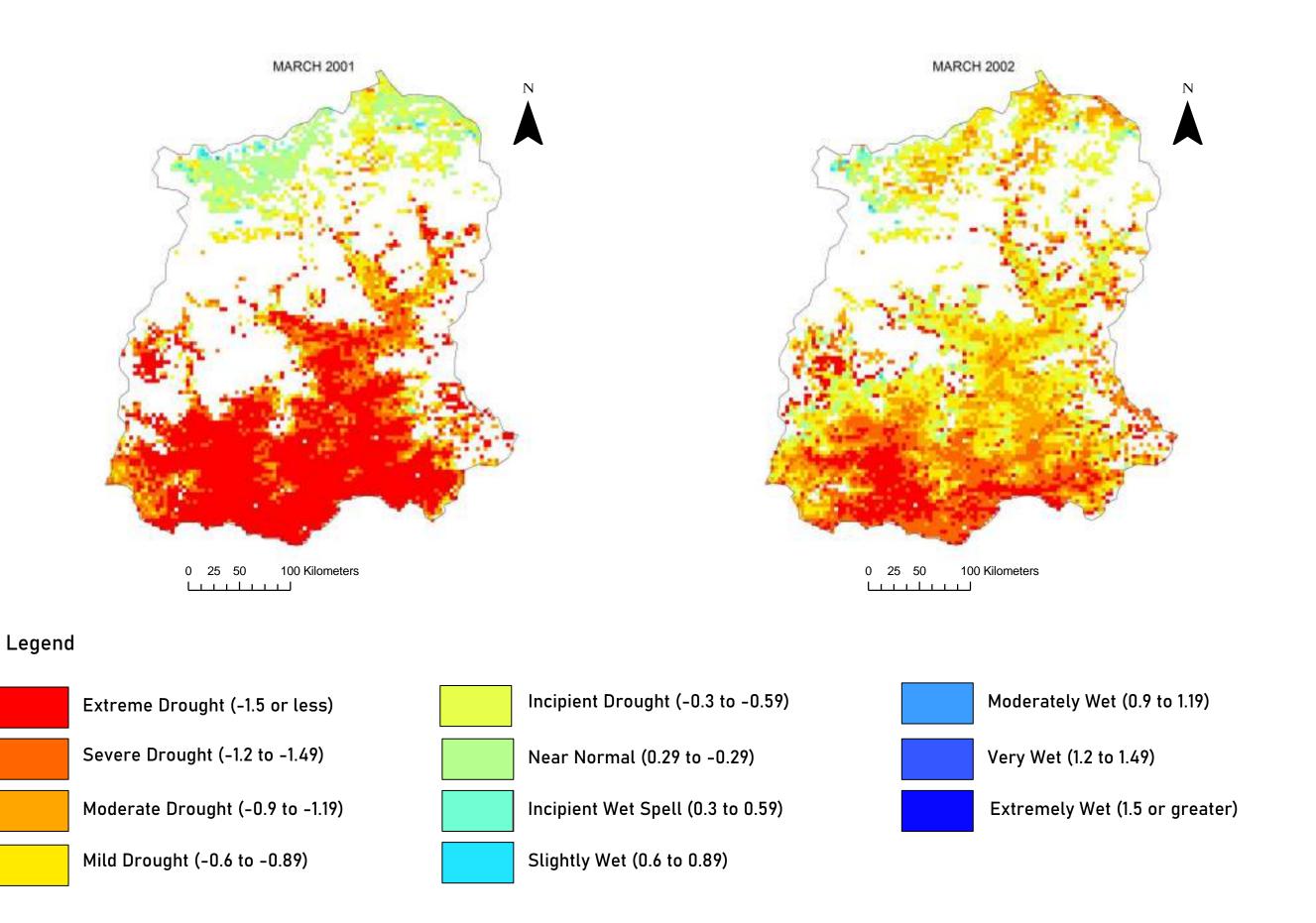


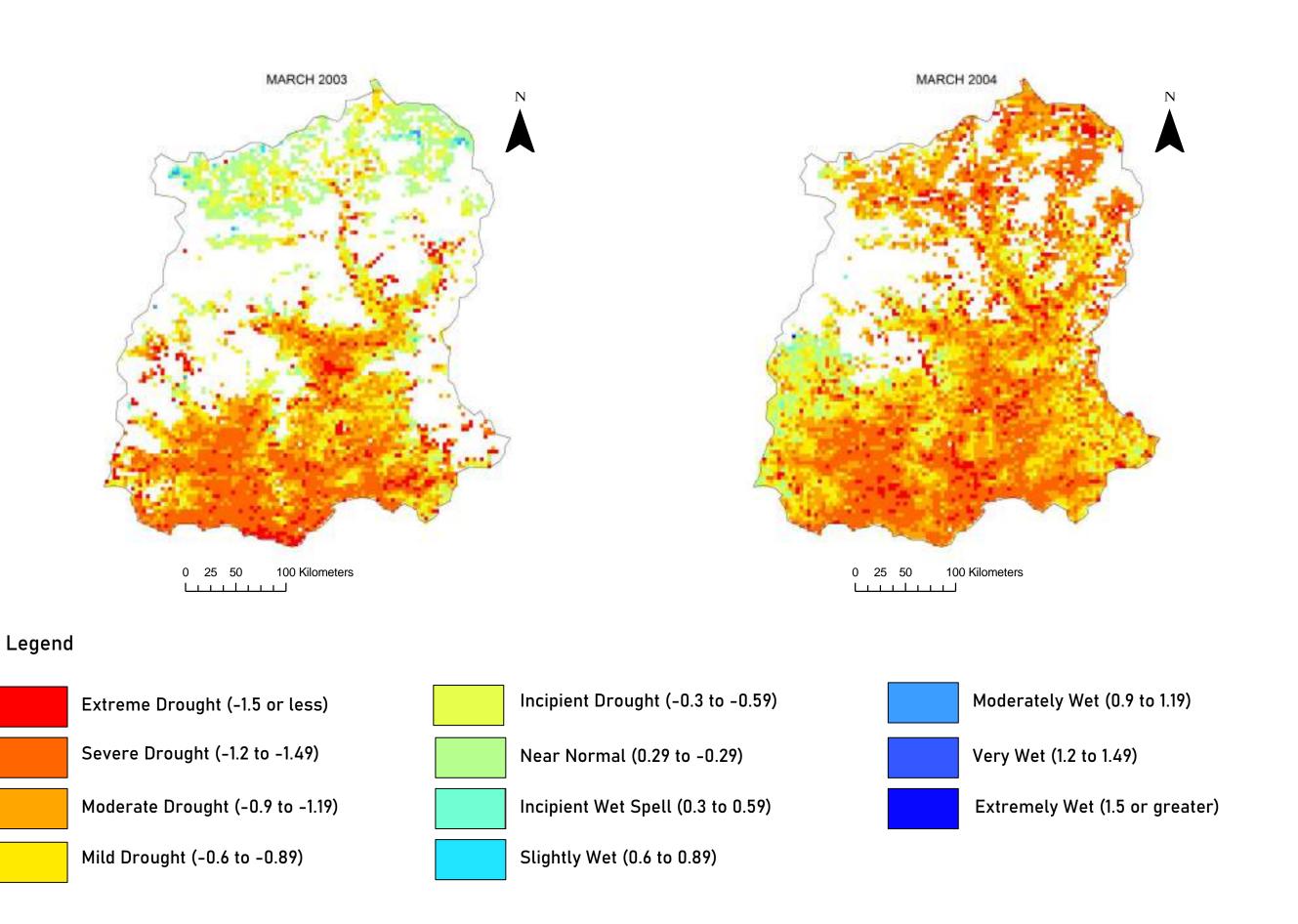
March DSI Maps

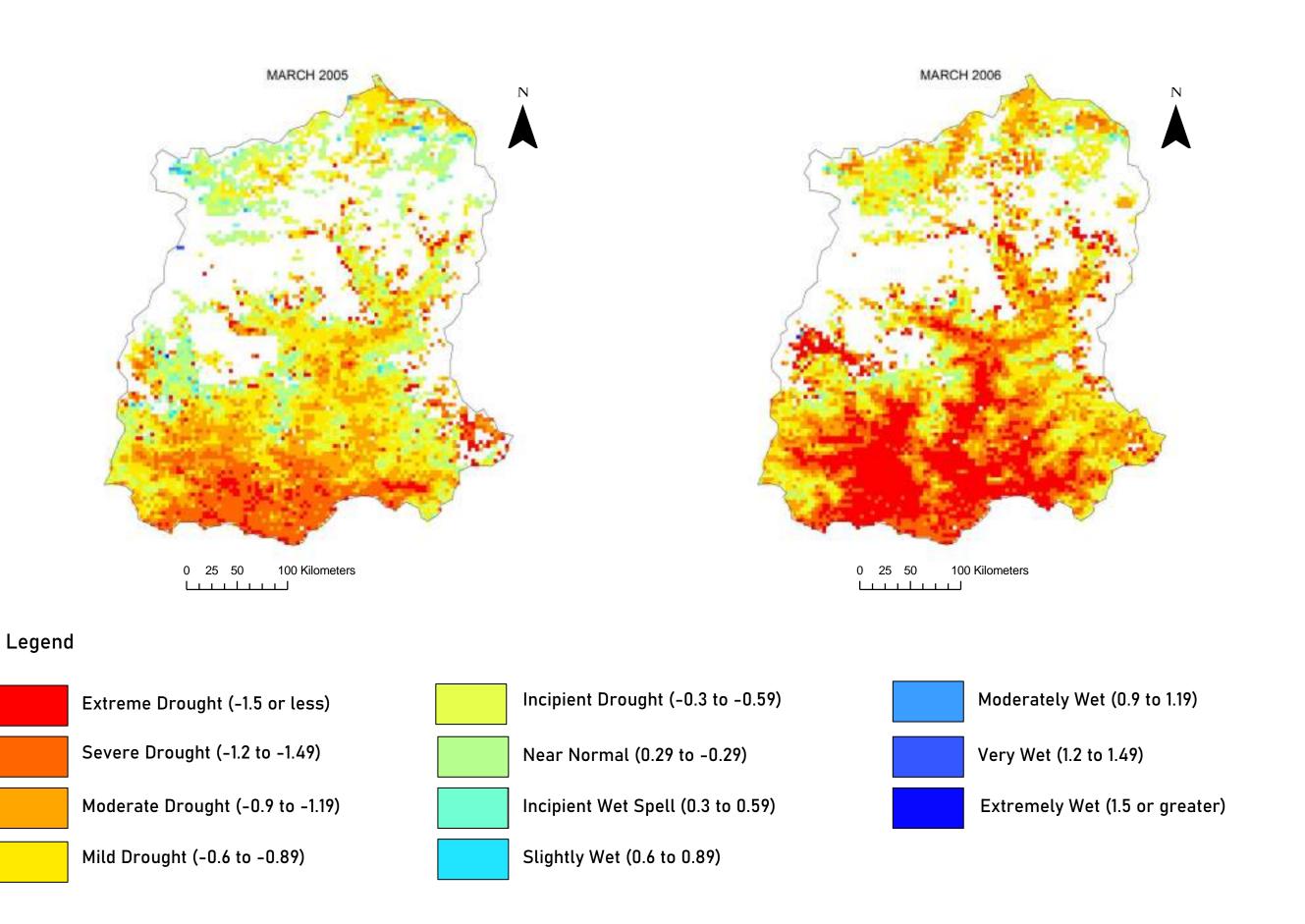
Drought conditions range from extreme to milder in March. Moderate drought was more common than other types of drought. Drought conditions were identified as extreme in the year 2000, and severe in the years 2001, 2007, 2012, and 2015.

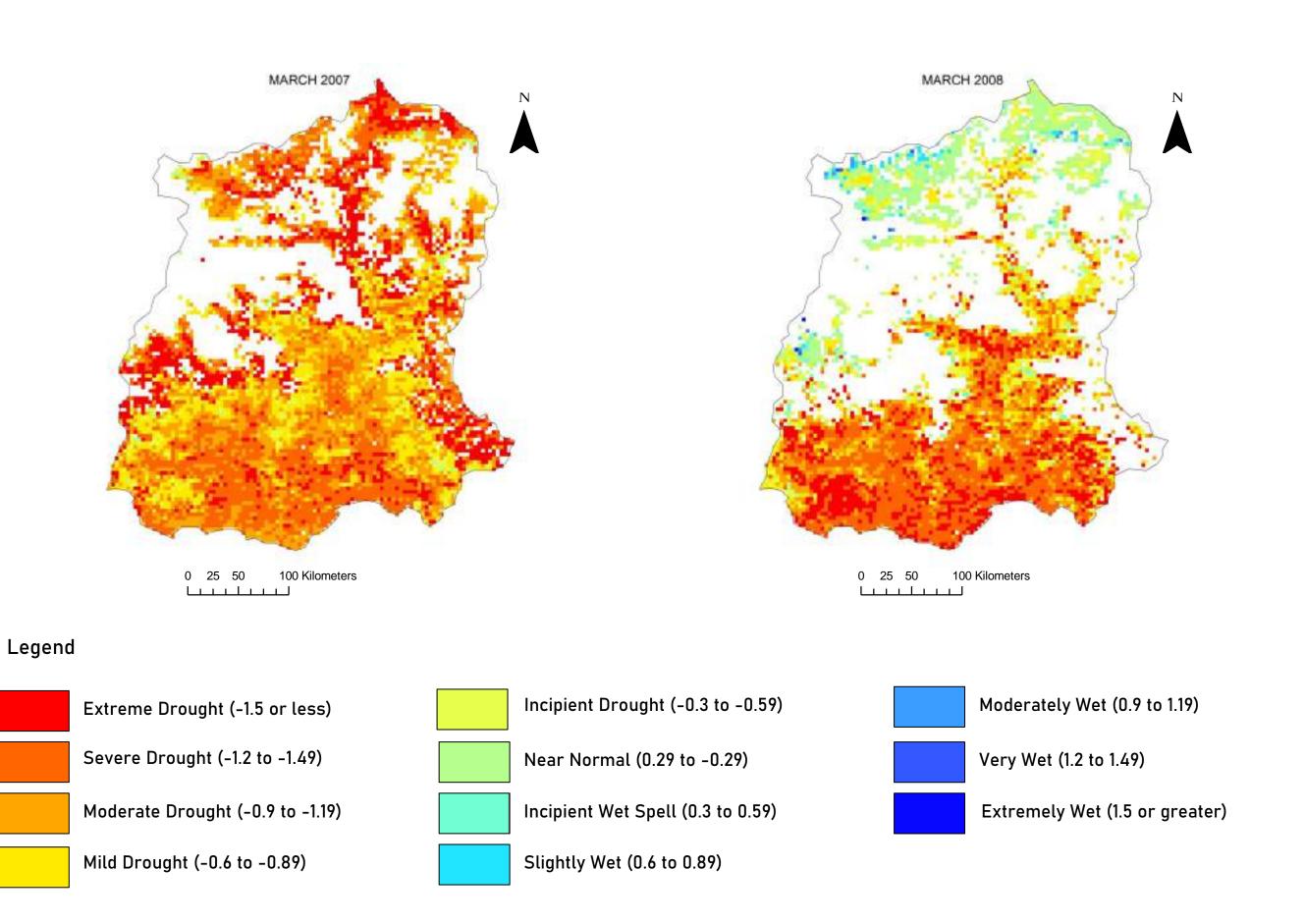
Mean March DSI Values		
Year	DSI Values	Drought Condition
2000	-1.53	Extreme Drought
2001	-1.29	Severe drought
2002	-1.03	Moderate Drought
2003	-0.75	Mild Drought
2004	-1.00	Moderate Drought
2005	-0.68	Mild Drought
2006	-0.96	Moderate Drought
2007	-1.34	Severe drought
2008	-0.73	Mild Drought
2009	-1.18	Moderate Drought
2010	-1.02	Moderate Drought
2011	-0.95	Moderate Drought
2012	-1.20	Severe drought
2013	-0.97	Moderate Drought
2014	-0.80	Mild Drought
2015	-1.31	Severe drought
2016	-0.96	Moderate Drought
2017	-1.10	Moderate Drought
2018	-0.85	Mild Drought
2019	-1.15	Moderate Drought
2020	-0.61	Mild Drought

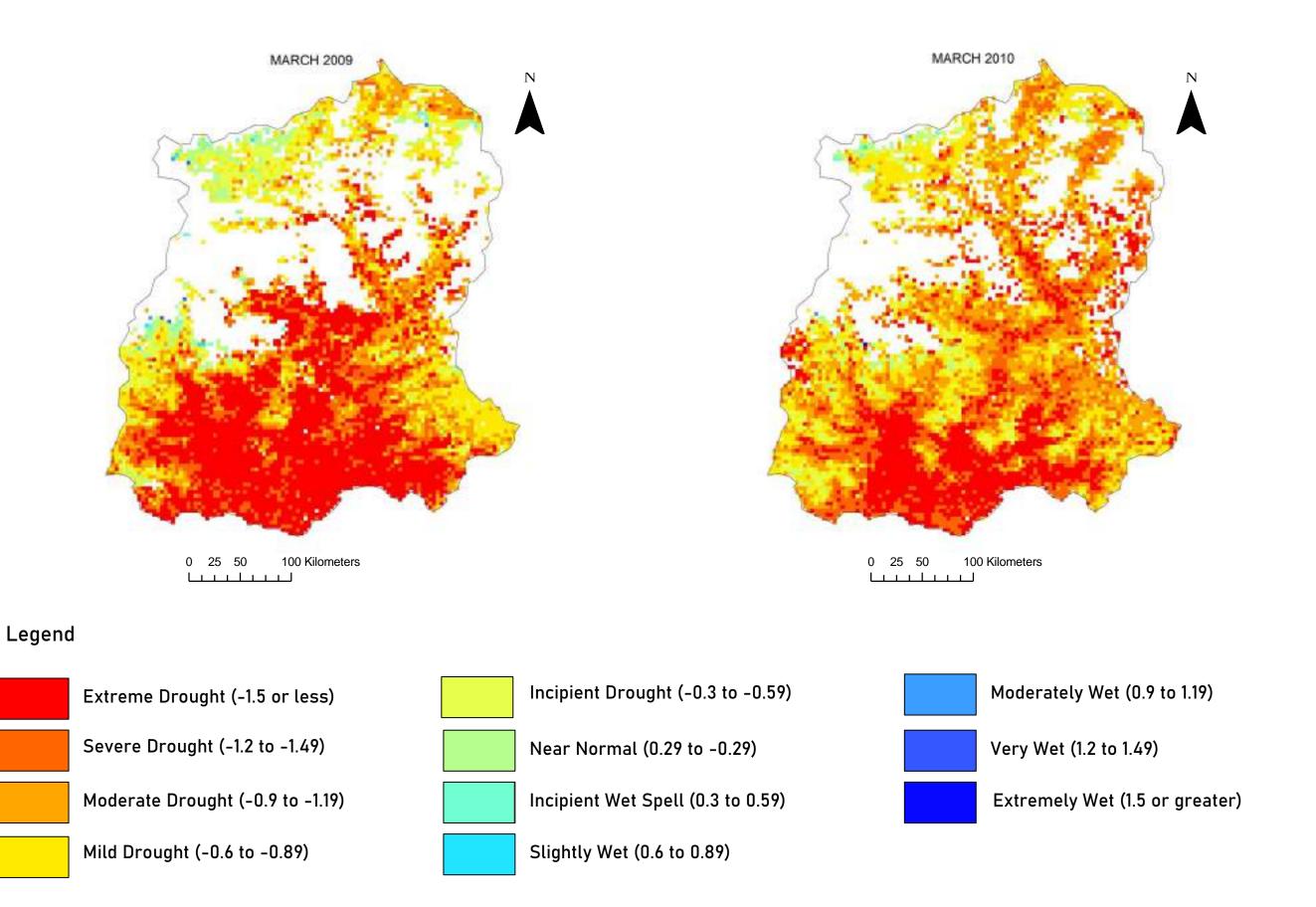


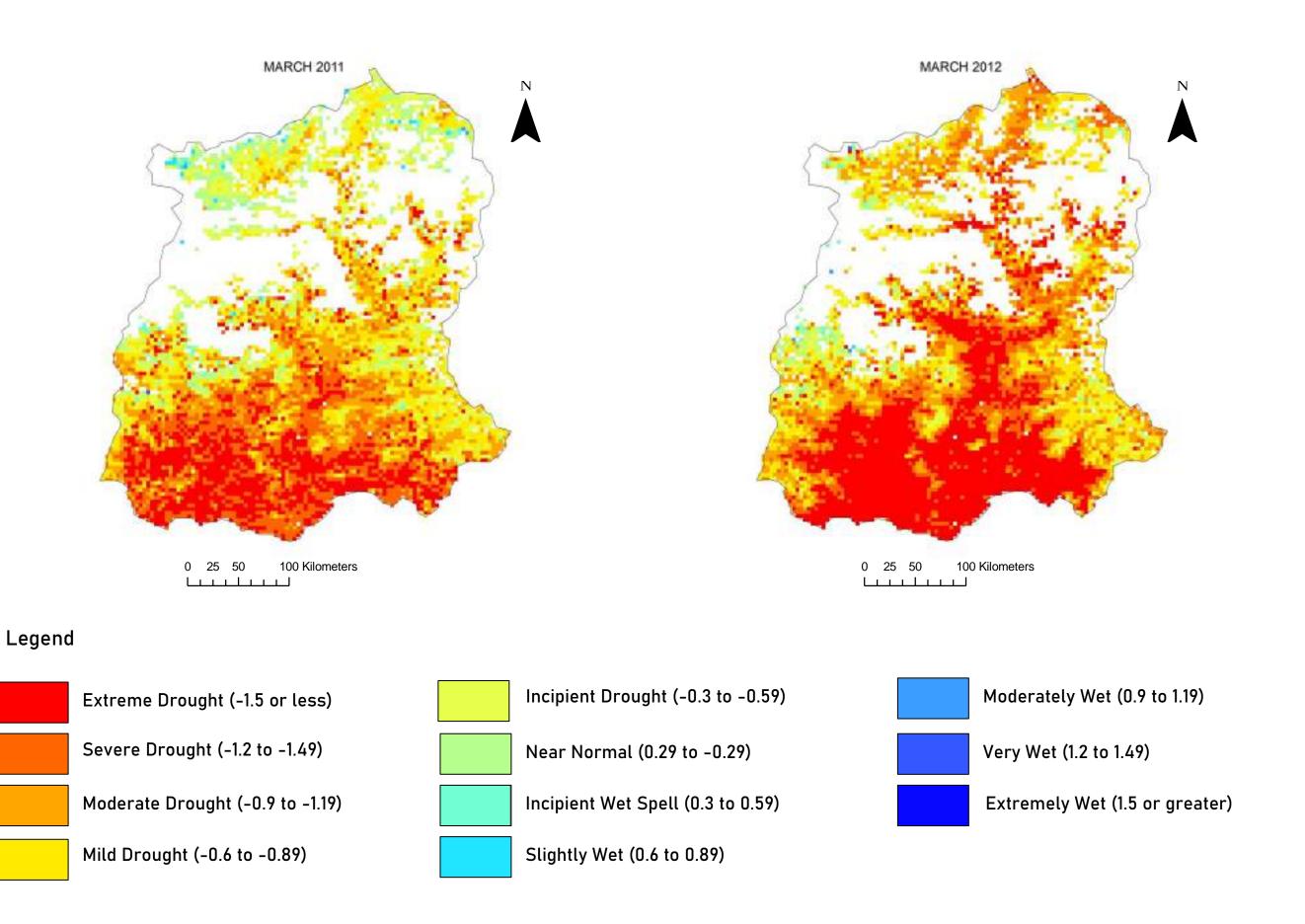


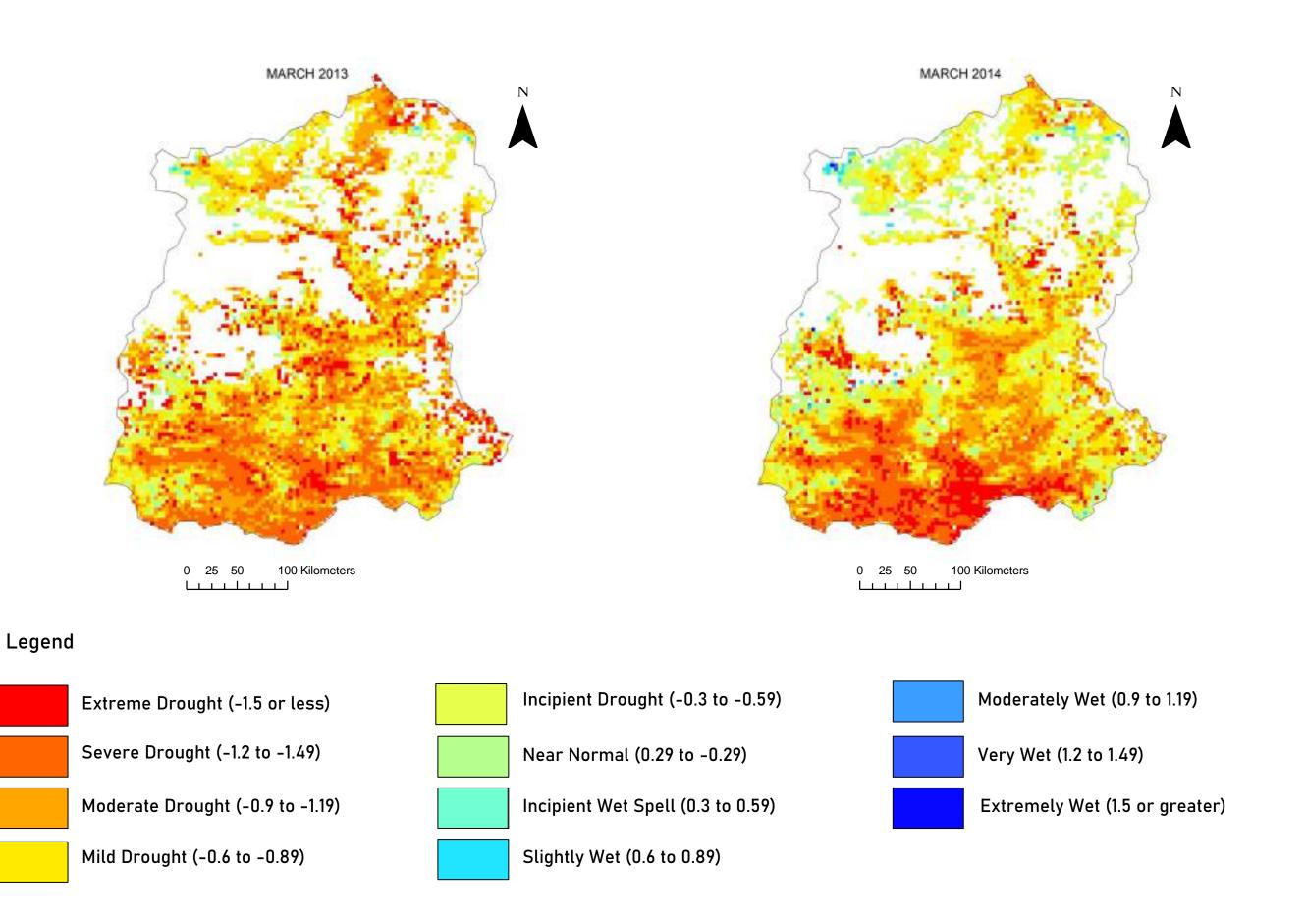


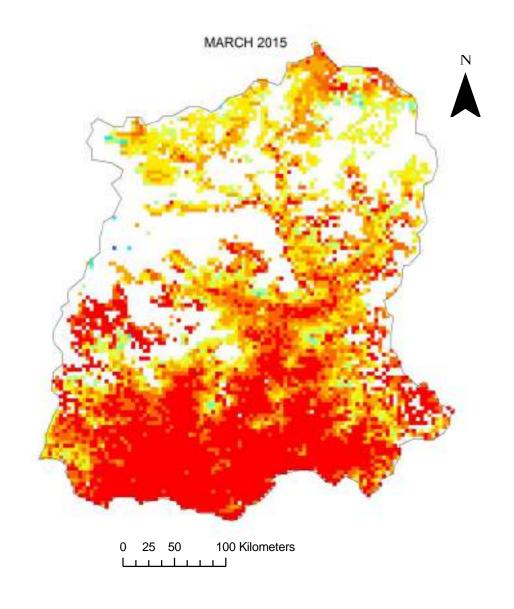


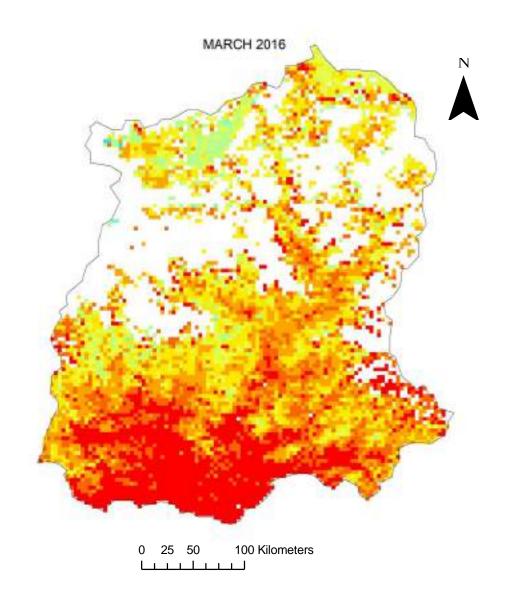






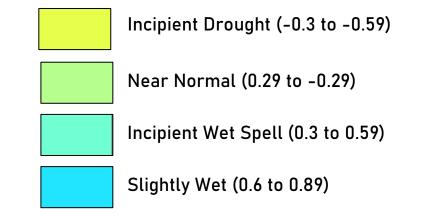


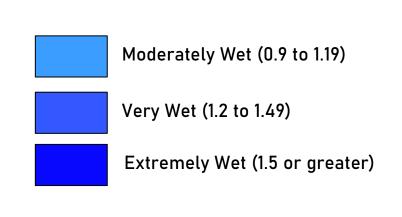


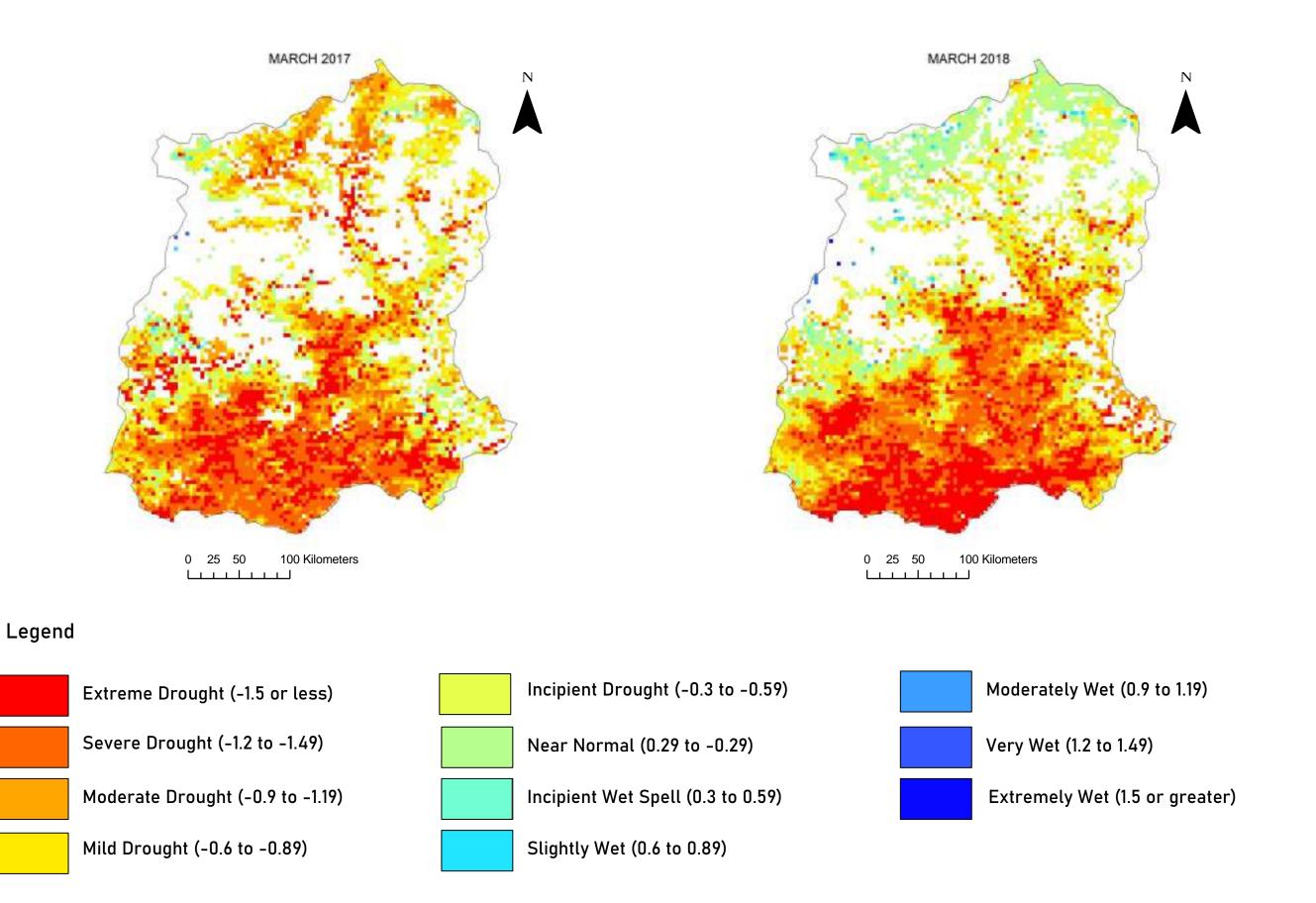


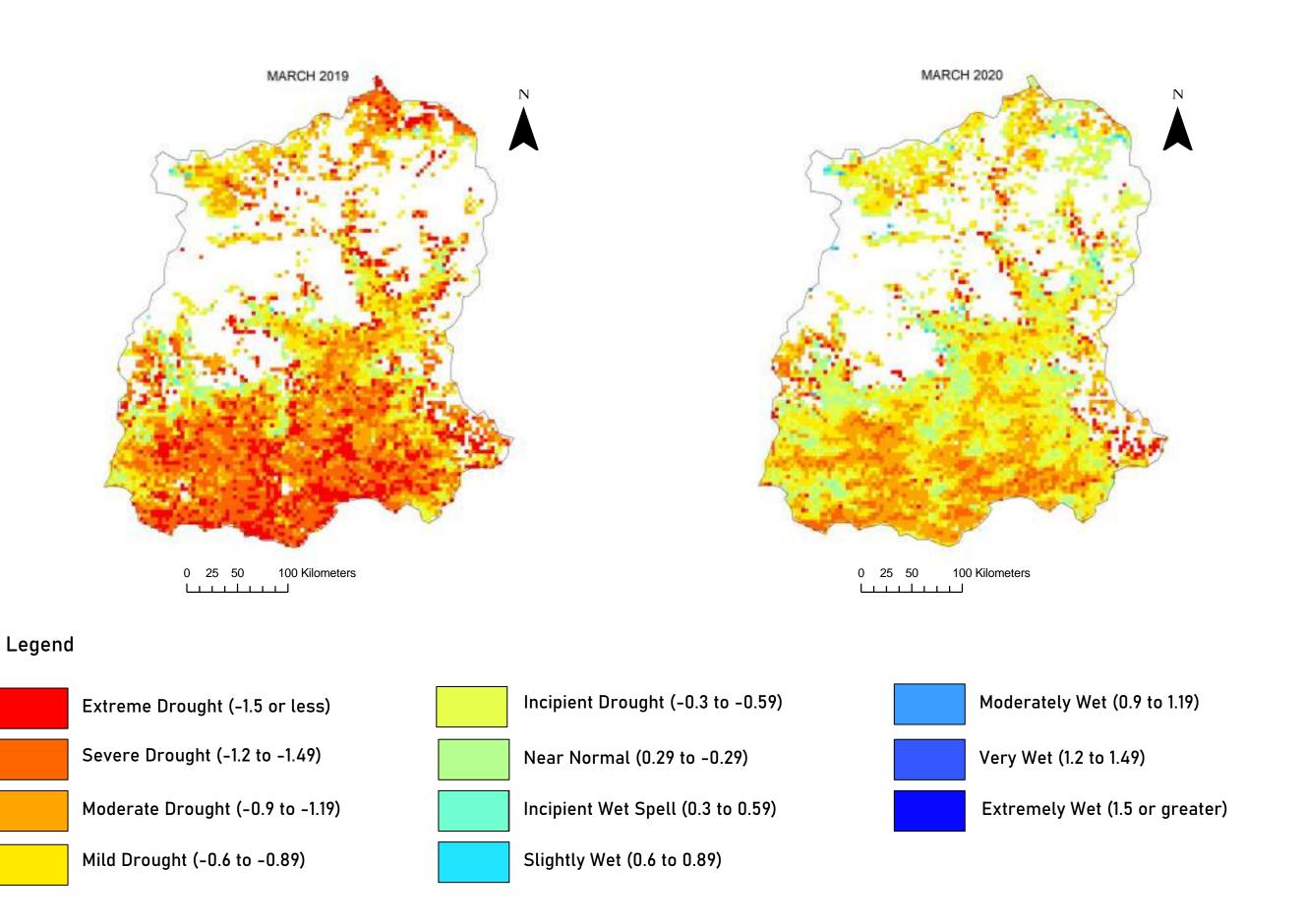
Legend







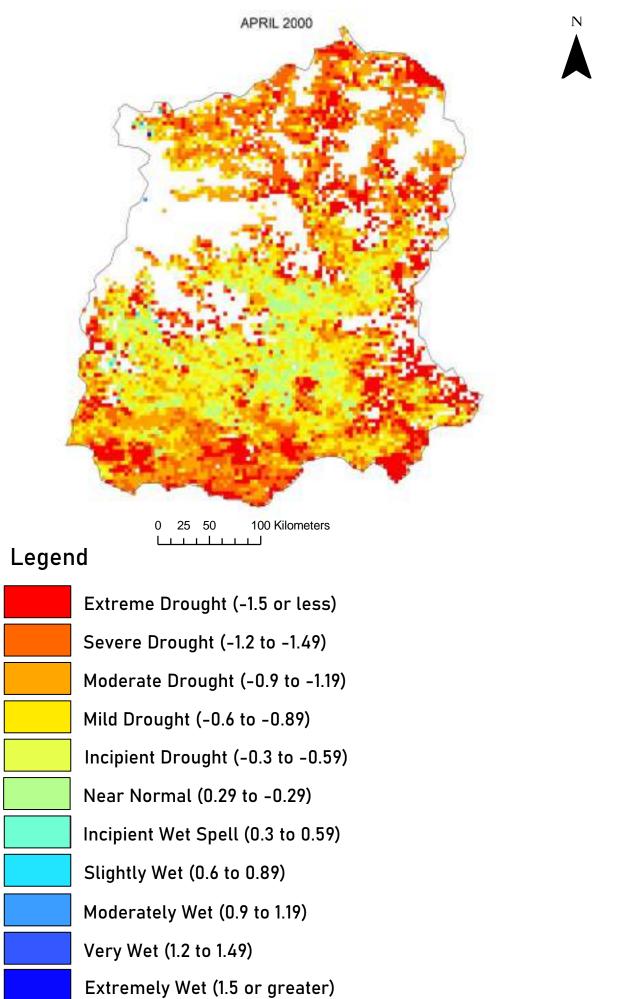


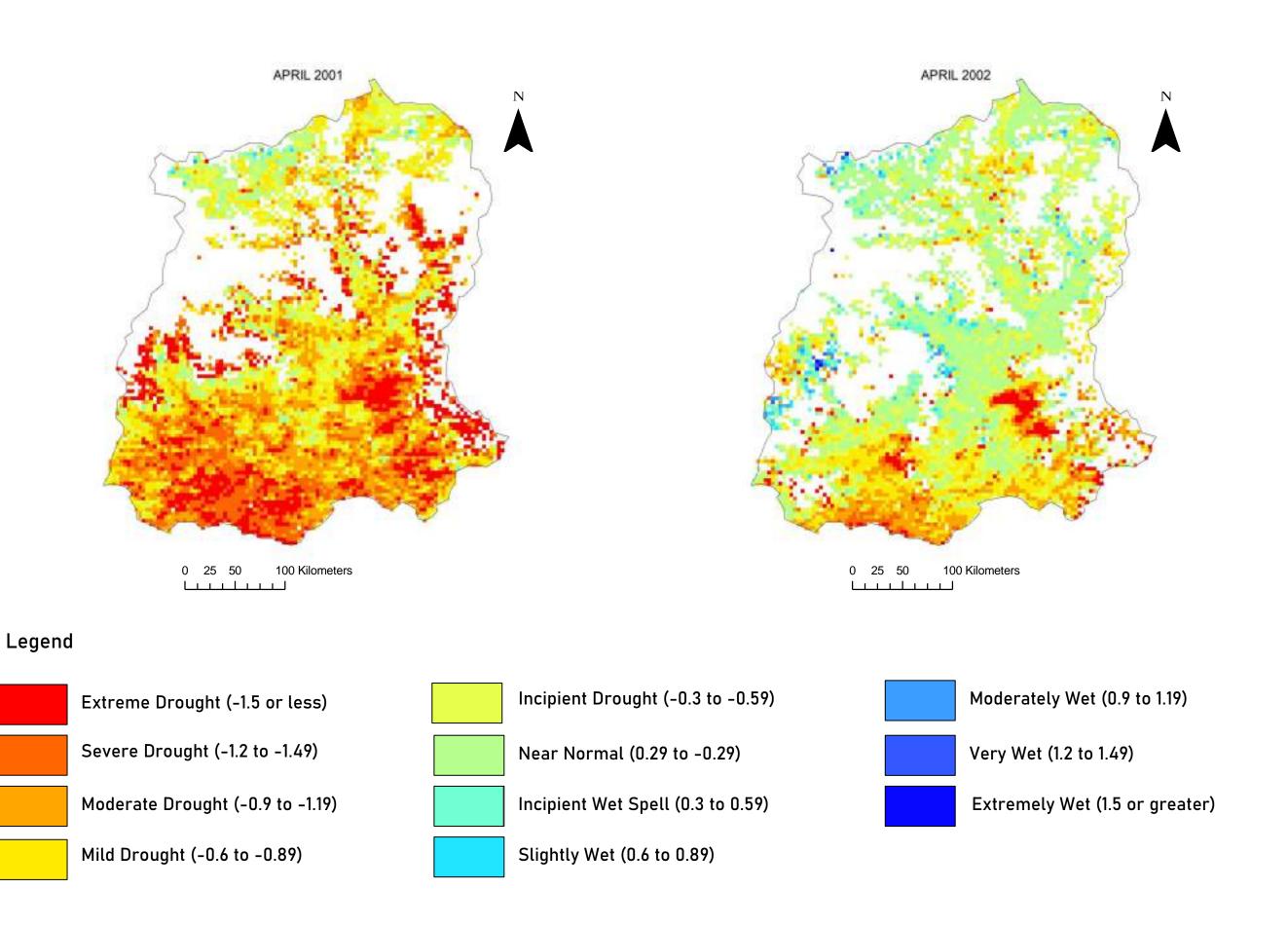


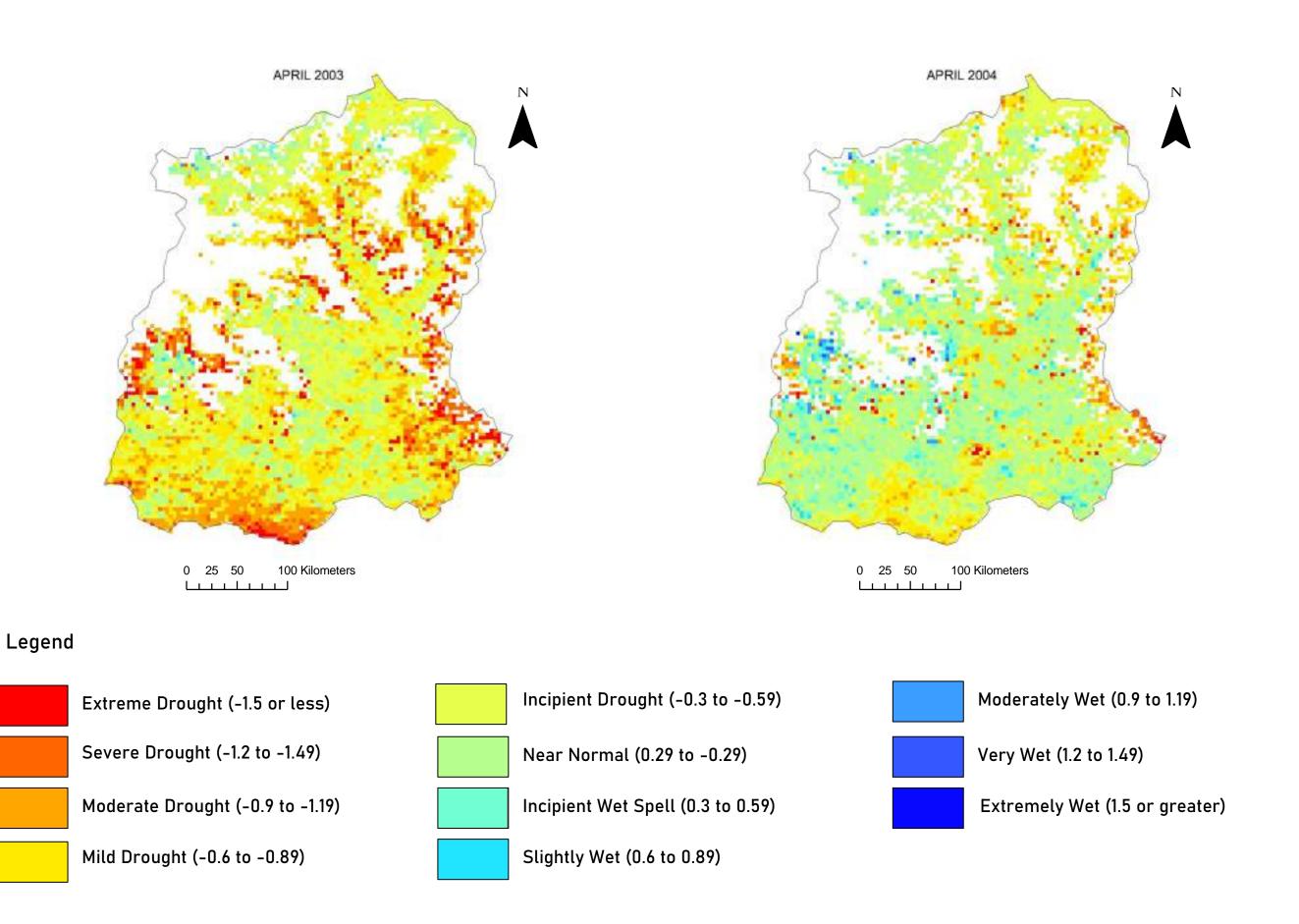
April DSI Maps

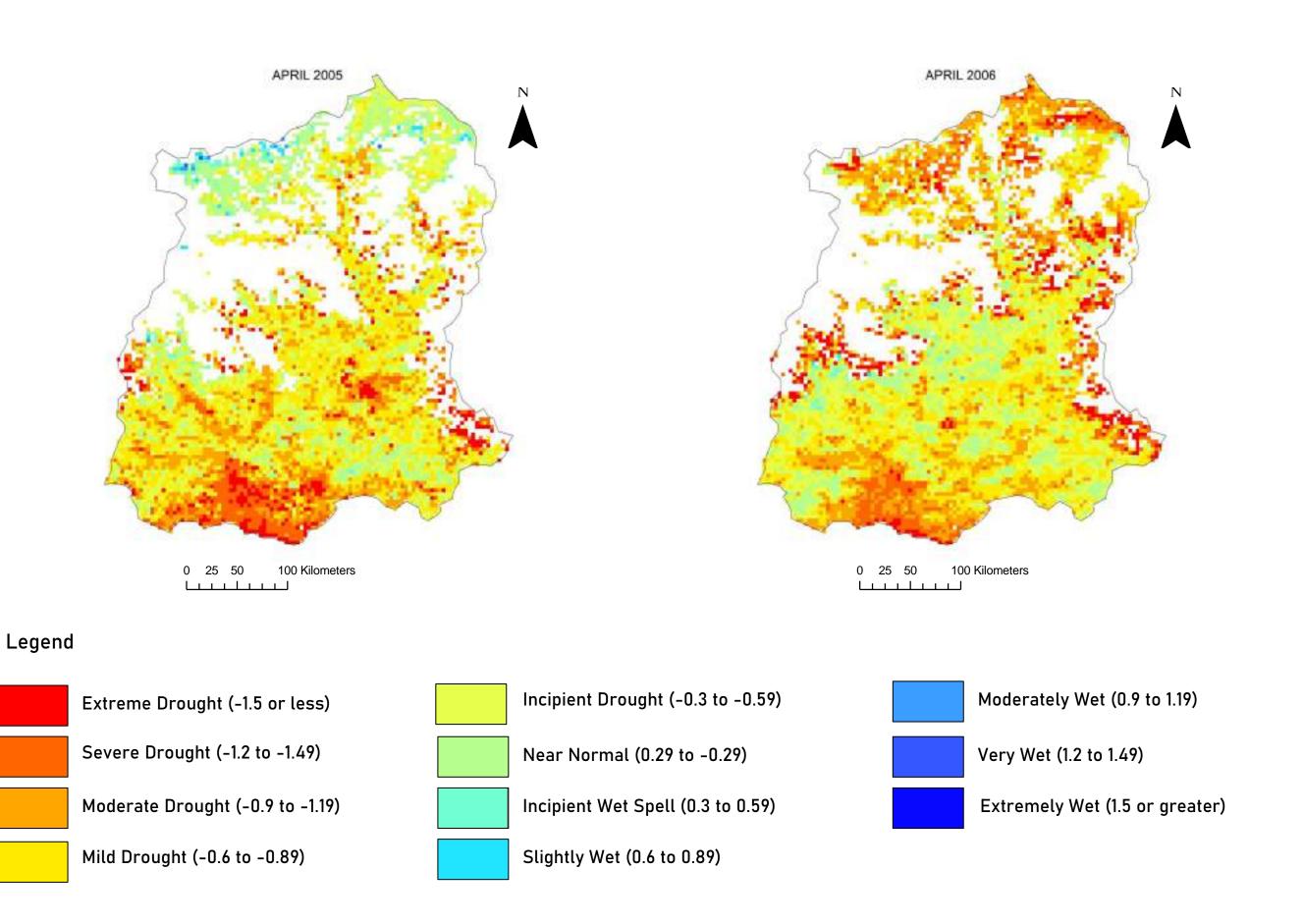
Drought conditions in April typically vary from mild to near normal conditions. The characteristics of this winter month are frequently characterized by incipient drought.

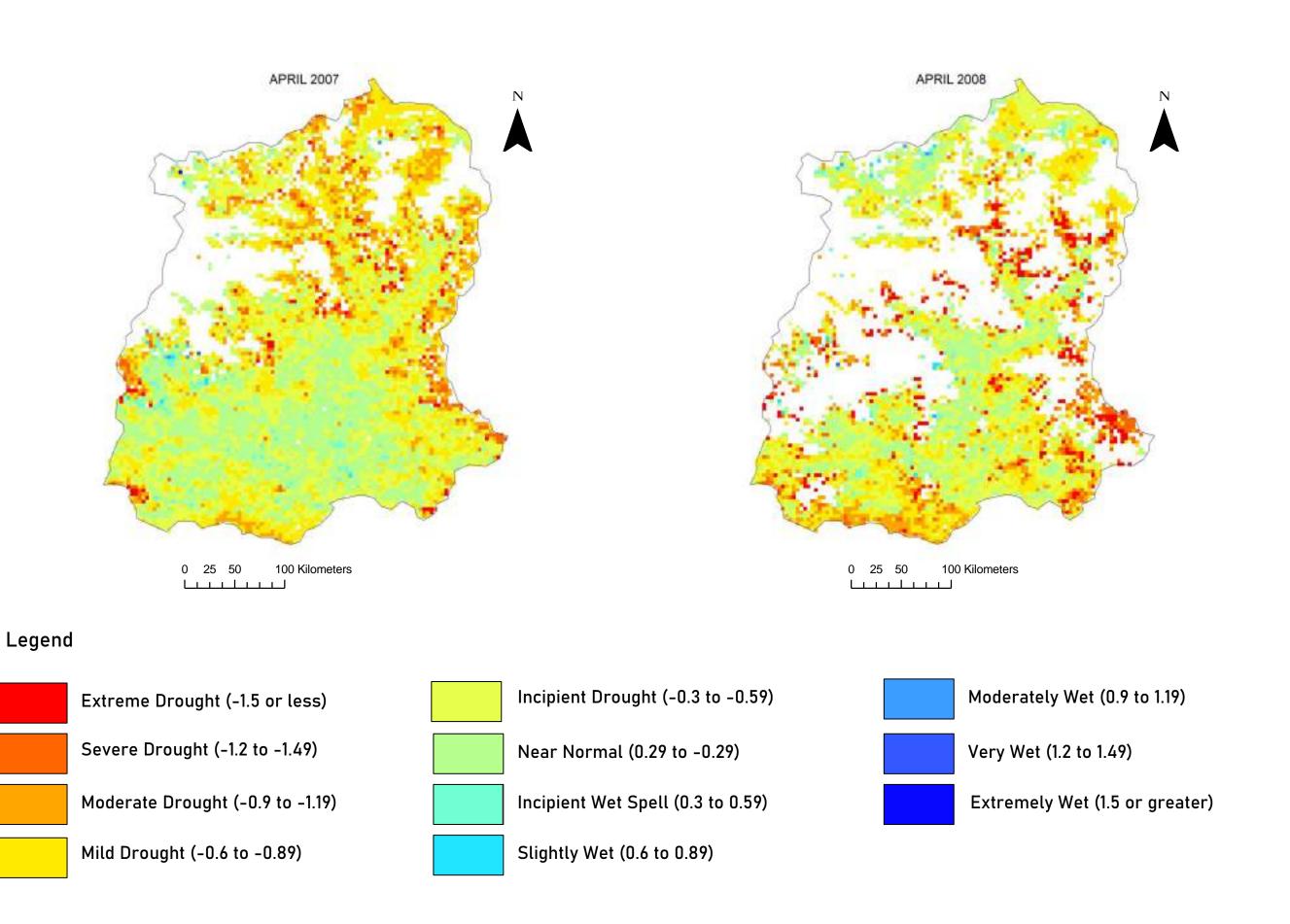
Mean April DSI Values			
Year	DSI Values	Drought Condition	
2000	-0.74	Mild Drought	
2001	-0.71	Mild Drought	
2002	-0.22	Near Normal	
2003	-0.55	Incipient Drought	
2004	-0.27	Near Normal	
2005	-0.33	Incipient Drought	
2006	-0.80	Mild Drought	
2007	-0.45	Incipient Drought	
2008	-0.47	Incipient Drought	
2009	-0.87	Mild Drought	
2010	-0.54	Incipient Drought	
2011	-0.38	Incipient Drought	
2012	-0.34	Incipient Drought	
2013	-0.46	Incipient Drought	
2014	-0.45	Incipient Drought	
2015	-0.24	Near Normal	
2016	-0.63	Mild Drought	
2017	-0.76	Mild Drought	
2018	0.21	Near Normal	
2019	-0.05	Near Normal	
2020	-0.10	Near Normal	

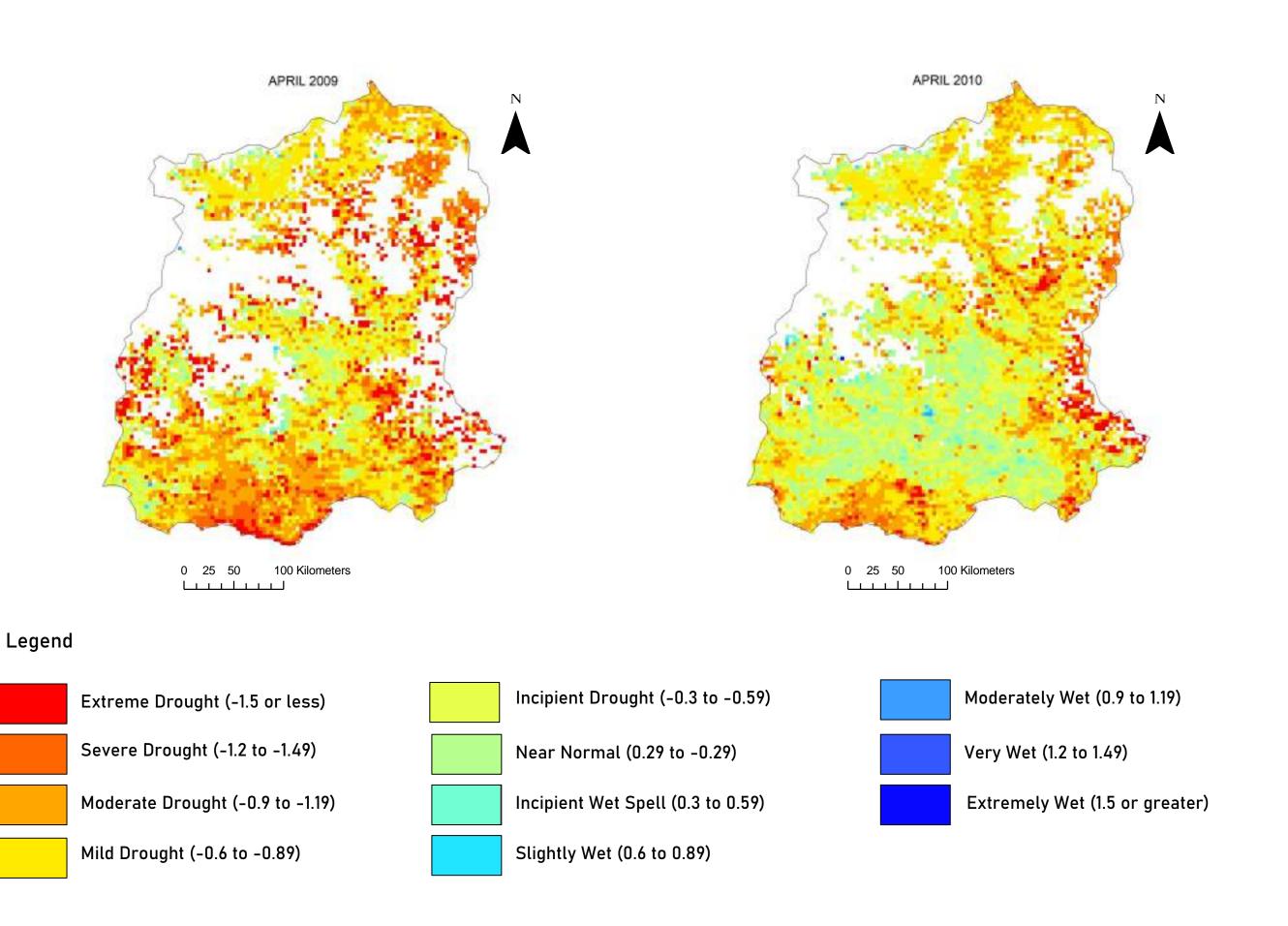


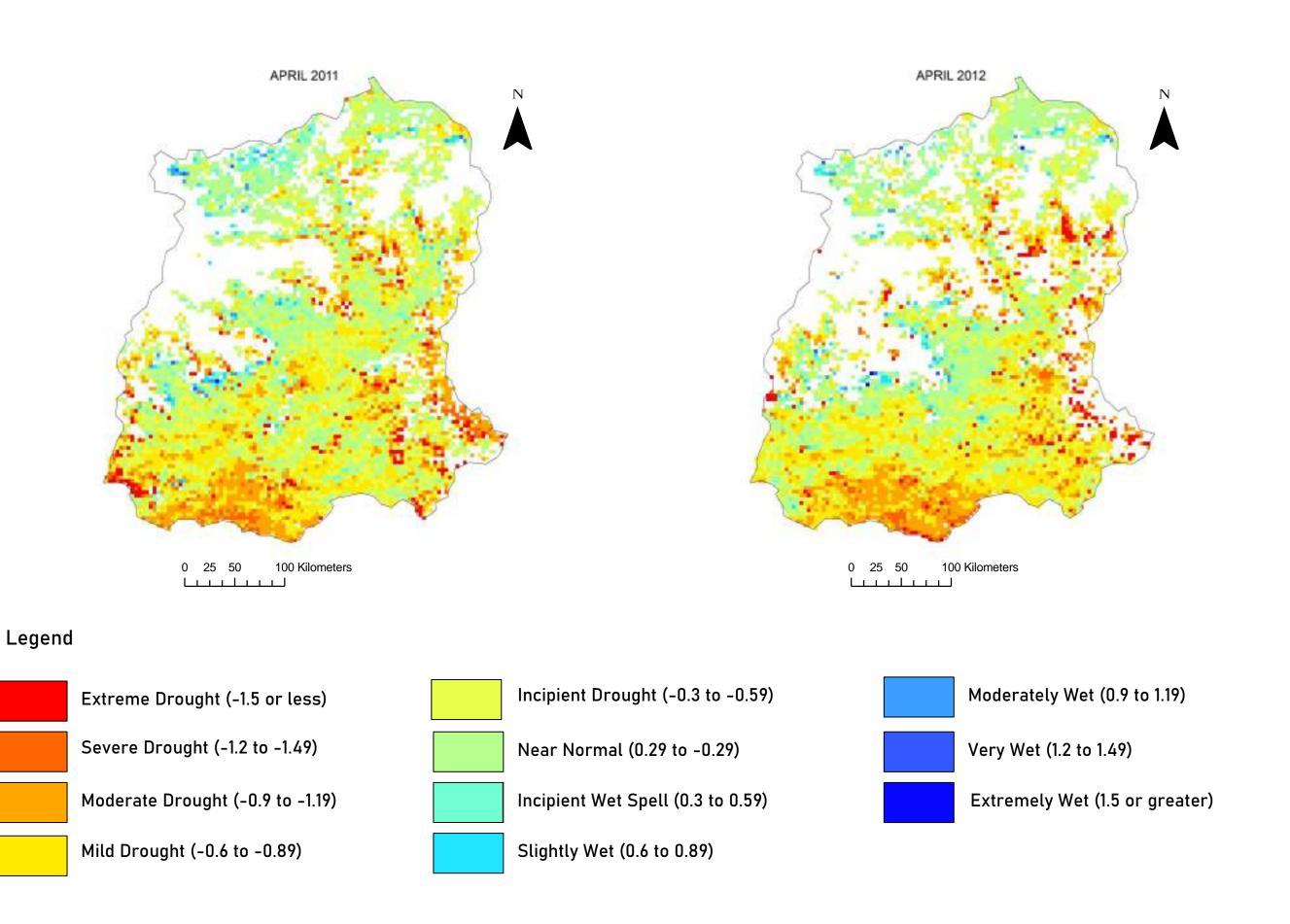


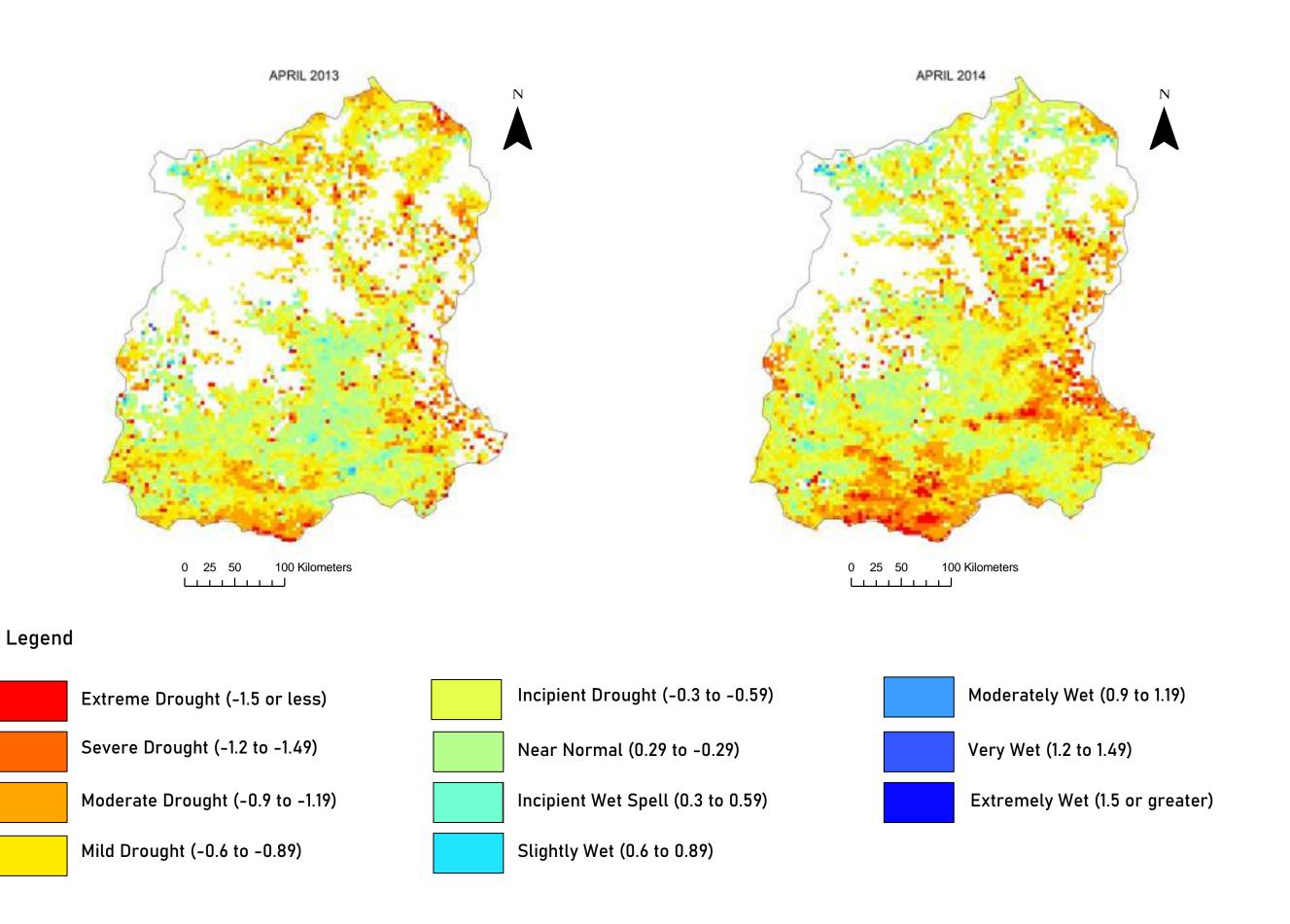


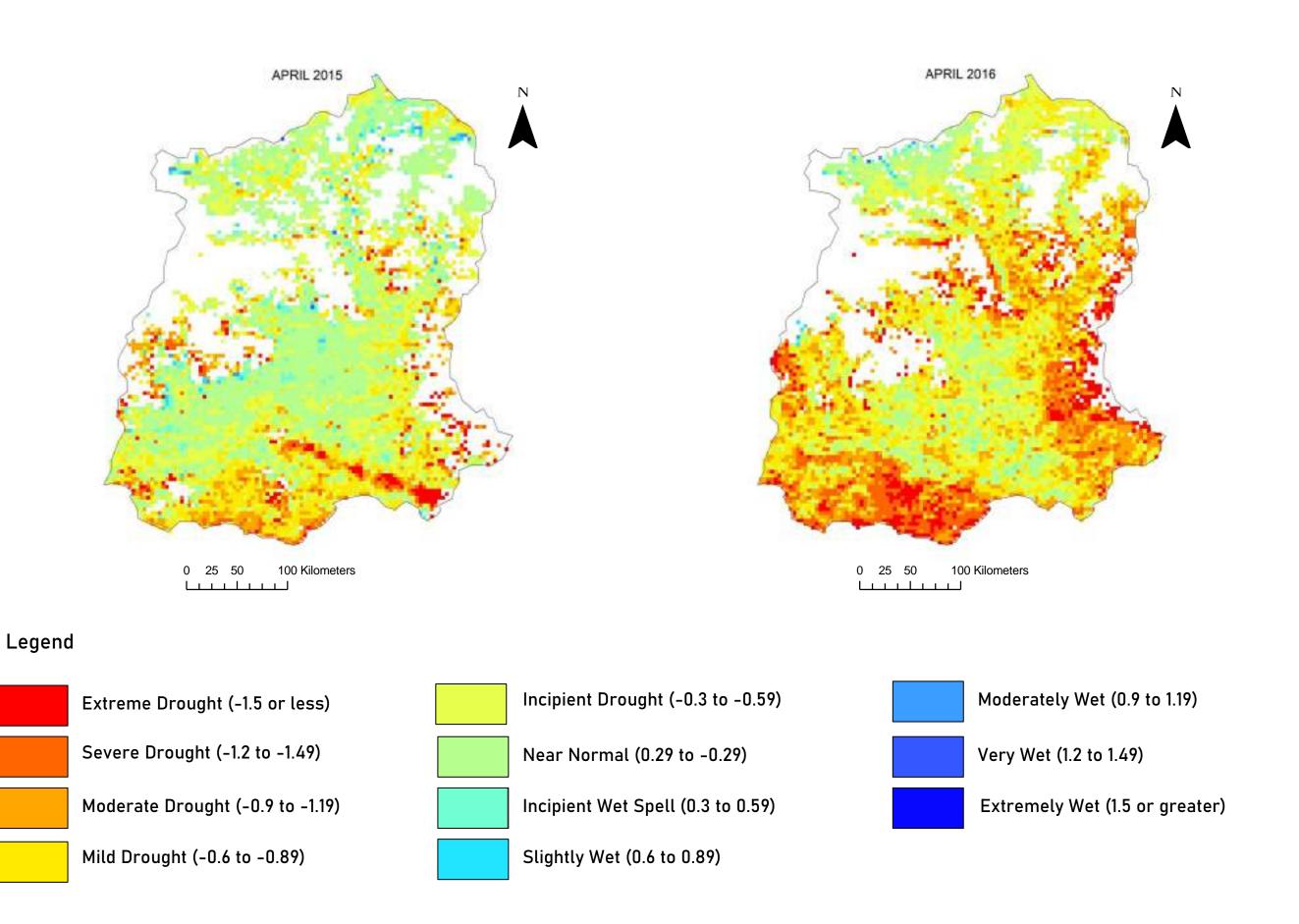


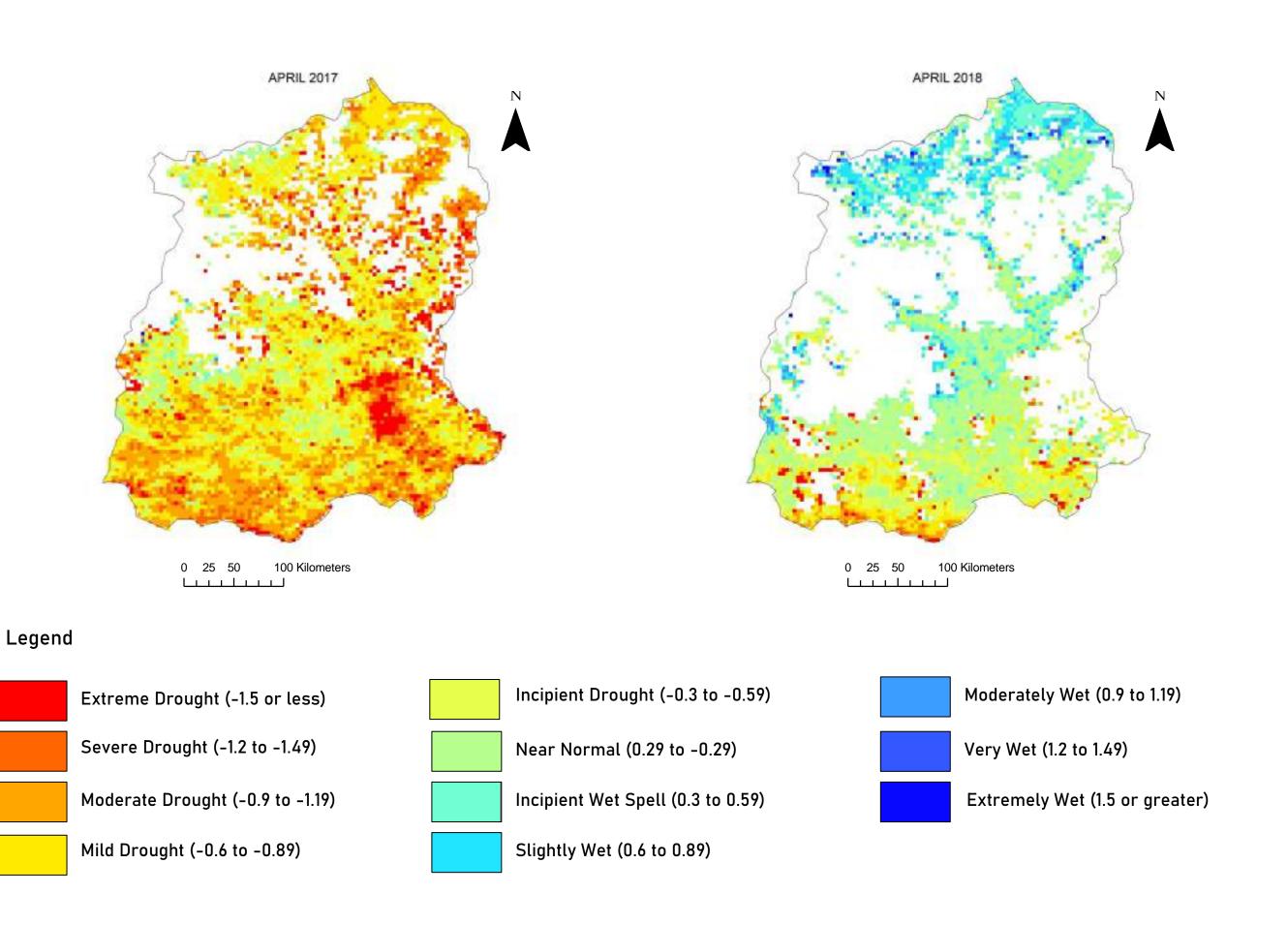


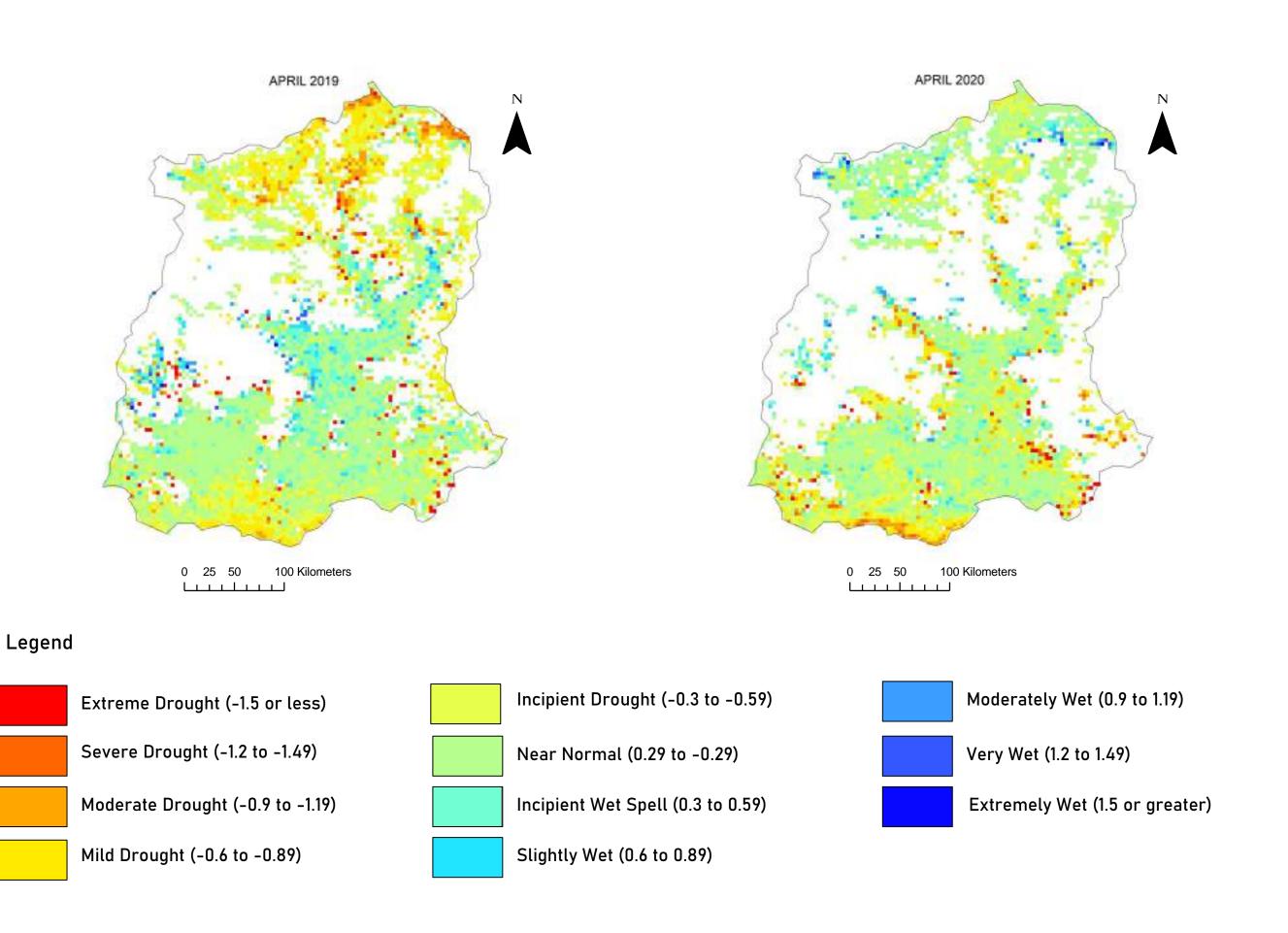








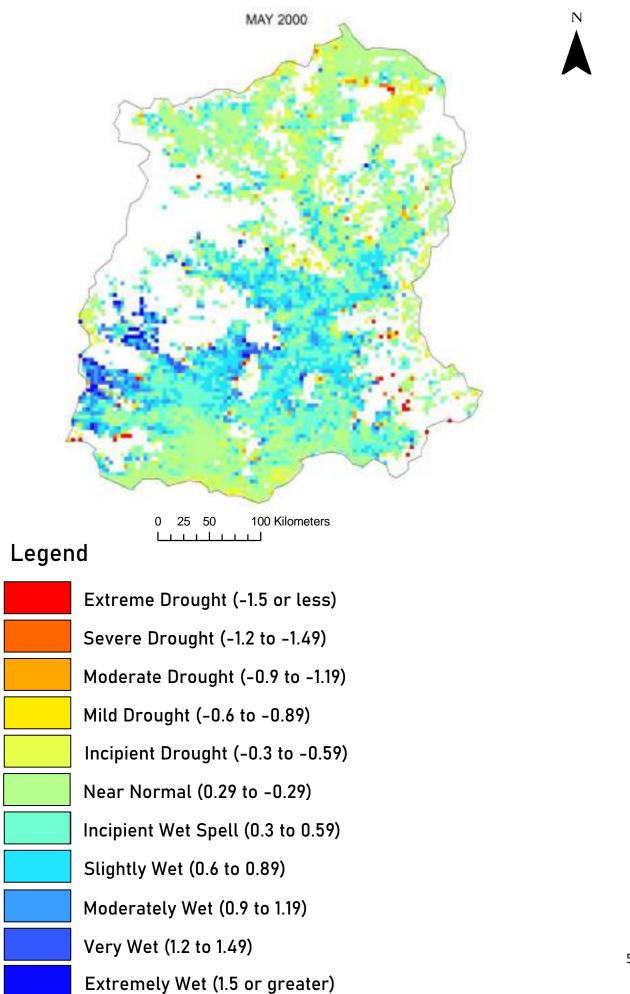


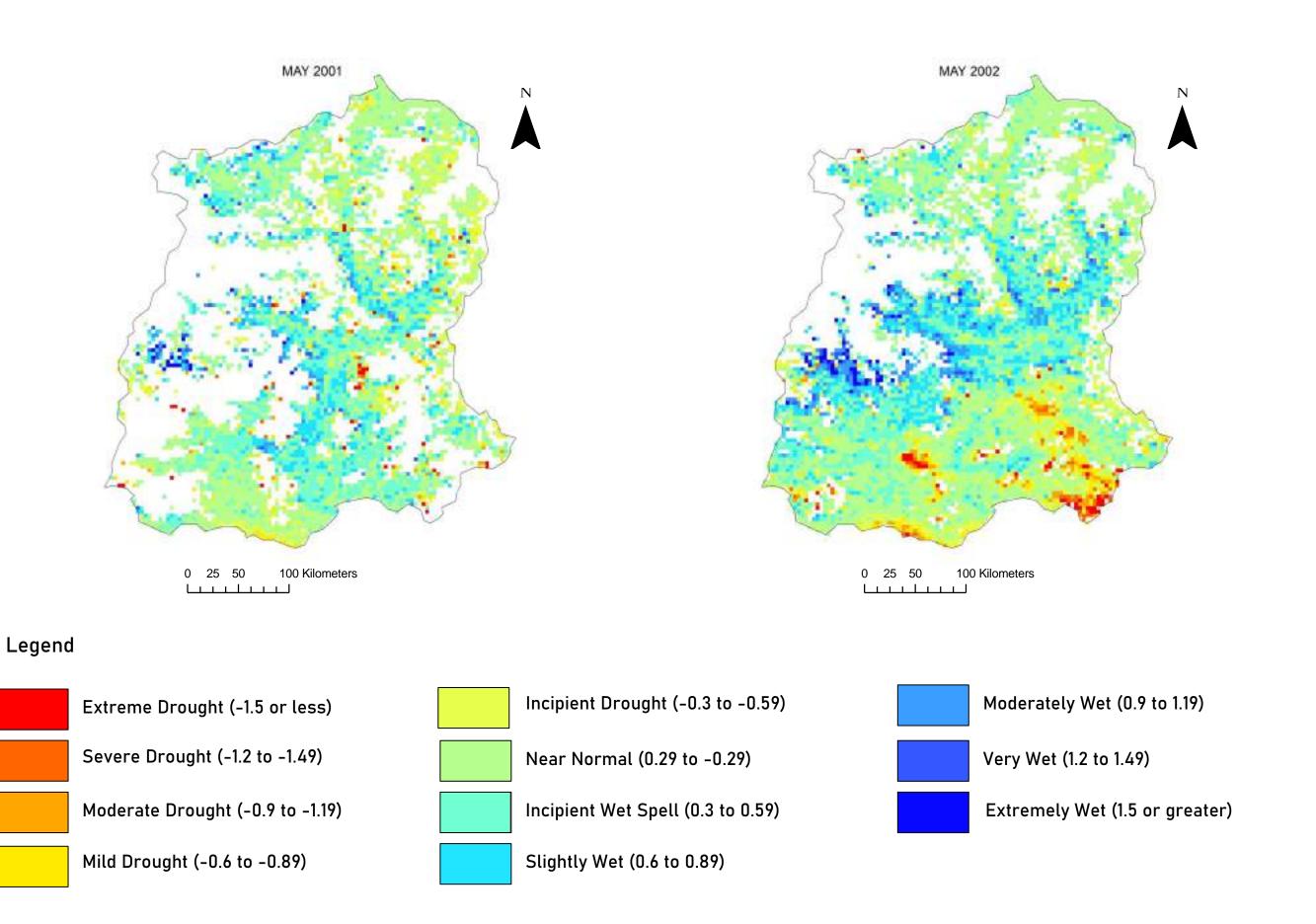


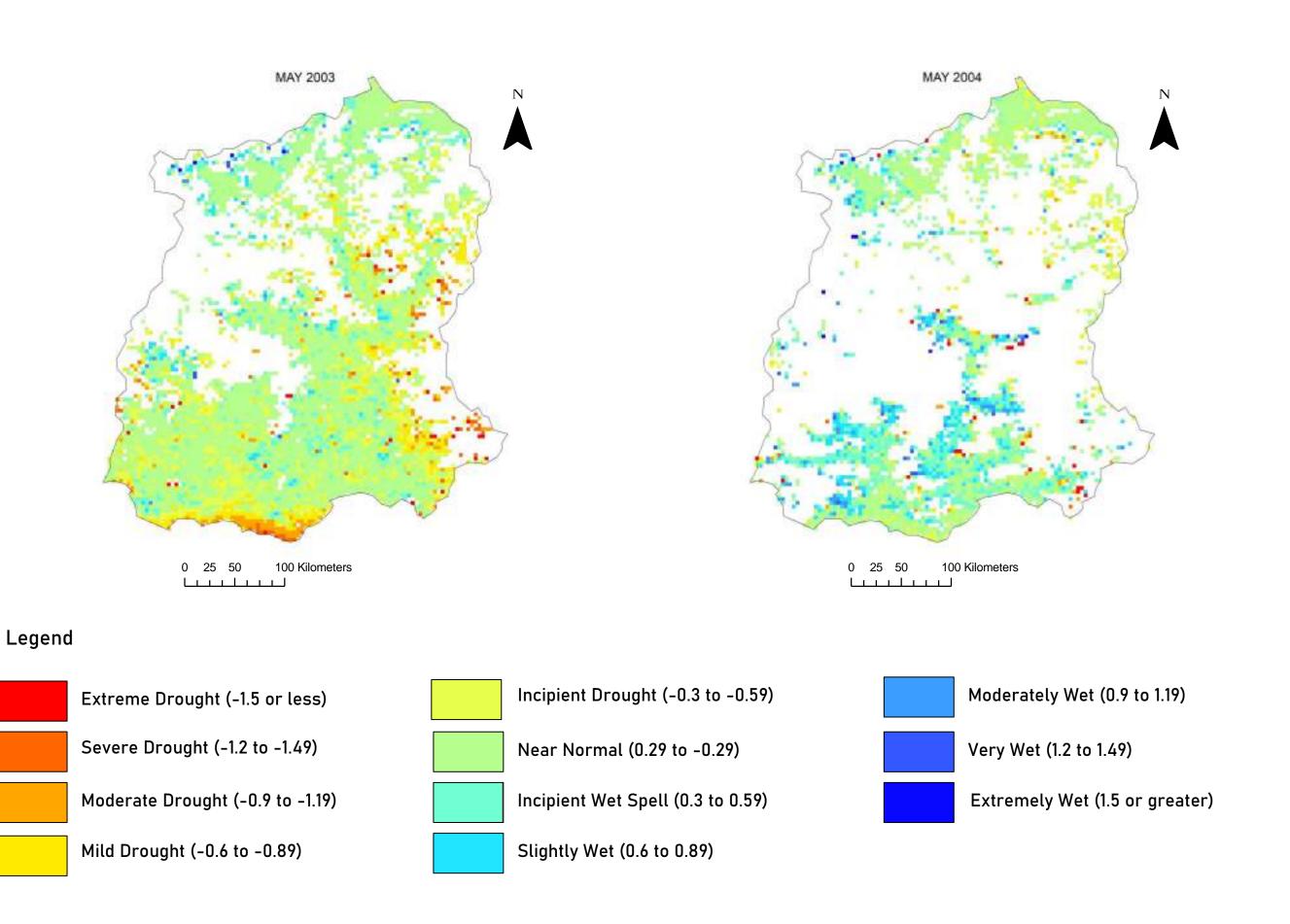
May DSI Maps

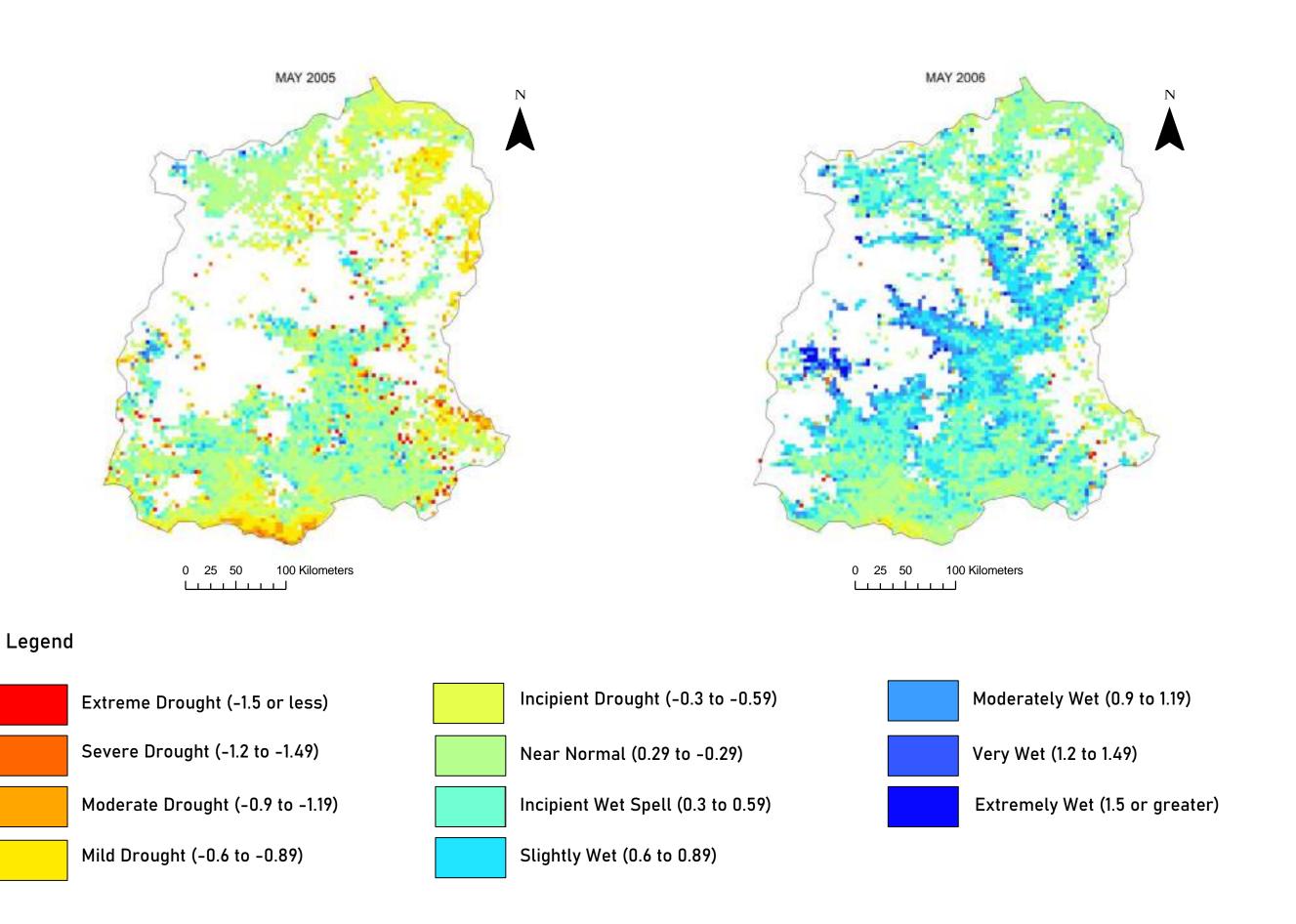
Drought conditions in May usually range from incipient drought to slightly wet. The characteristics of this winter month are frequently characterized by near normal to incipient wet spell conditions.

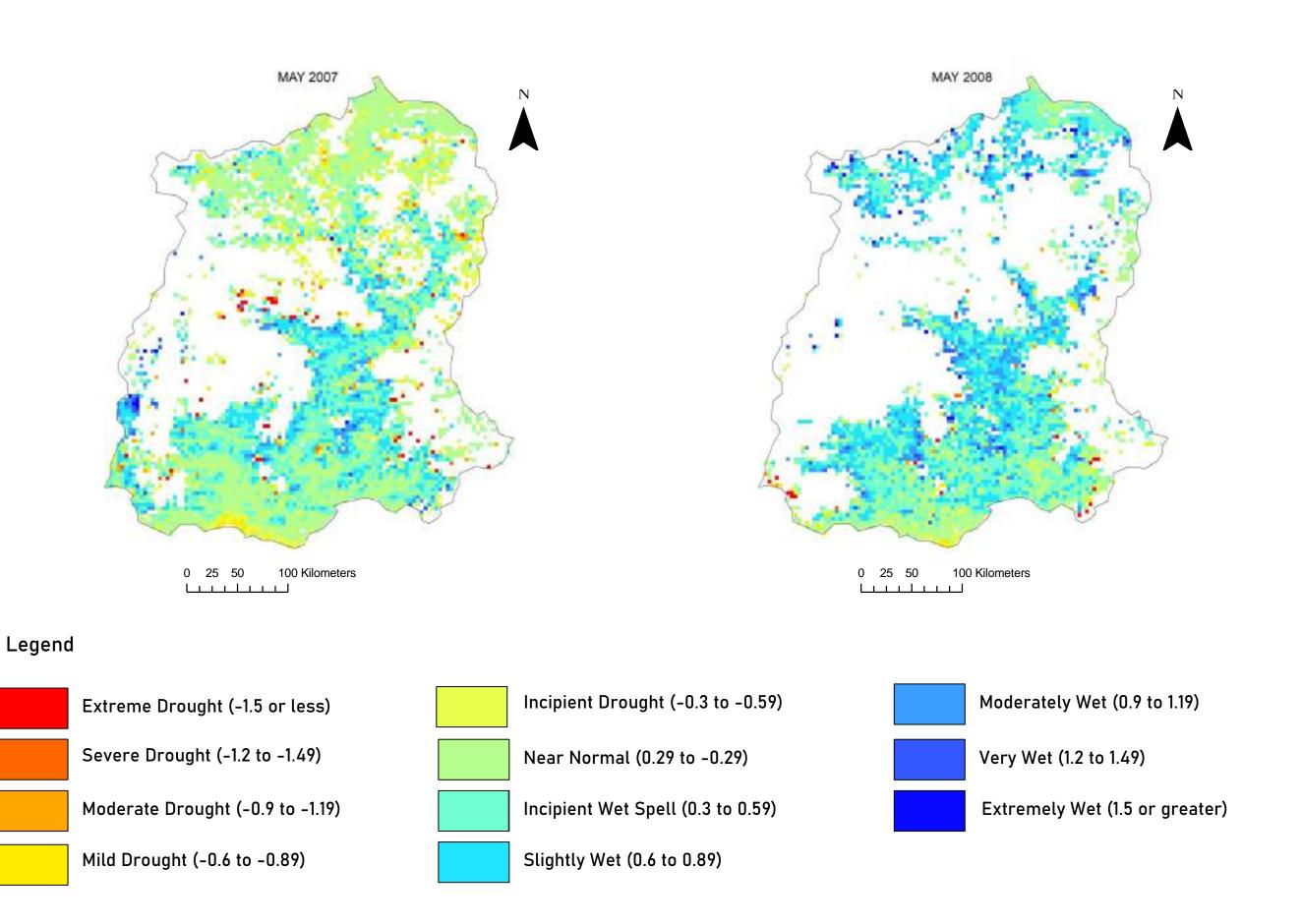
	Mean May DSI Values		
Year	DSI Values	Drought Condition	
2000	0.31	Incipient Wet Spell	
2001	0.33	Incipient Wet Spell	
2002	0.33	Incipient Wet Spell	
2003	0.09	Near Normal	
2004	-0.32	Incipient Drought	
2005	-0.04	Near Normal	
2006	0.52	Incipient Wet Spell	
2007	0.40	Incipient Wet Spell	
2008	0.68	Slightly Wet	
2009	0.24	Near Normal	
2010	0.39	Incipient Wet Spell	
2011	0.41	Incipient Wet Spell	
2012	-0.02	Near Normal	
2013	-0.53	Incipient Drought	
2014	0.25	Near Normal	
2015	-0.01	Near Normal	
2016	0.25	Near Normal	
2017	0.40	Incipient Wet Spell	
2018	0.57	Incipient Wet Spell	
2019	0.11	Near Normal	
2020	-0.05	Near Normal	

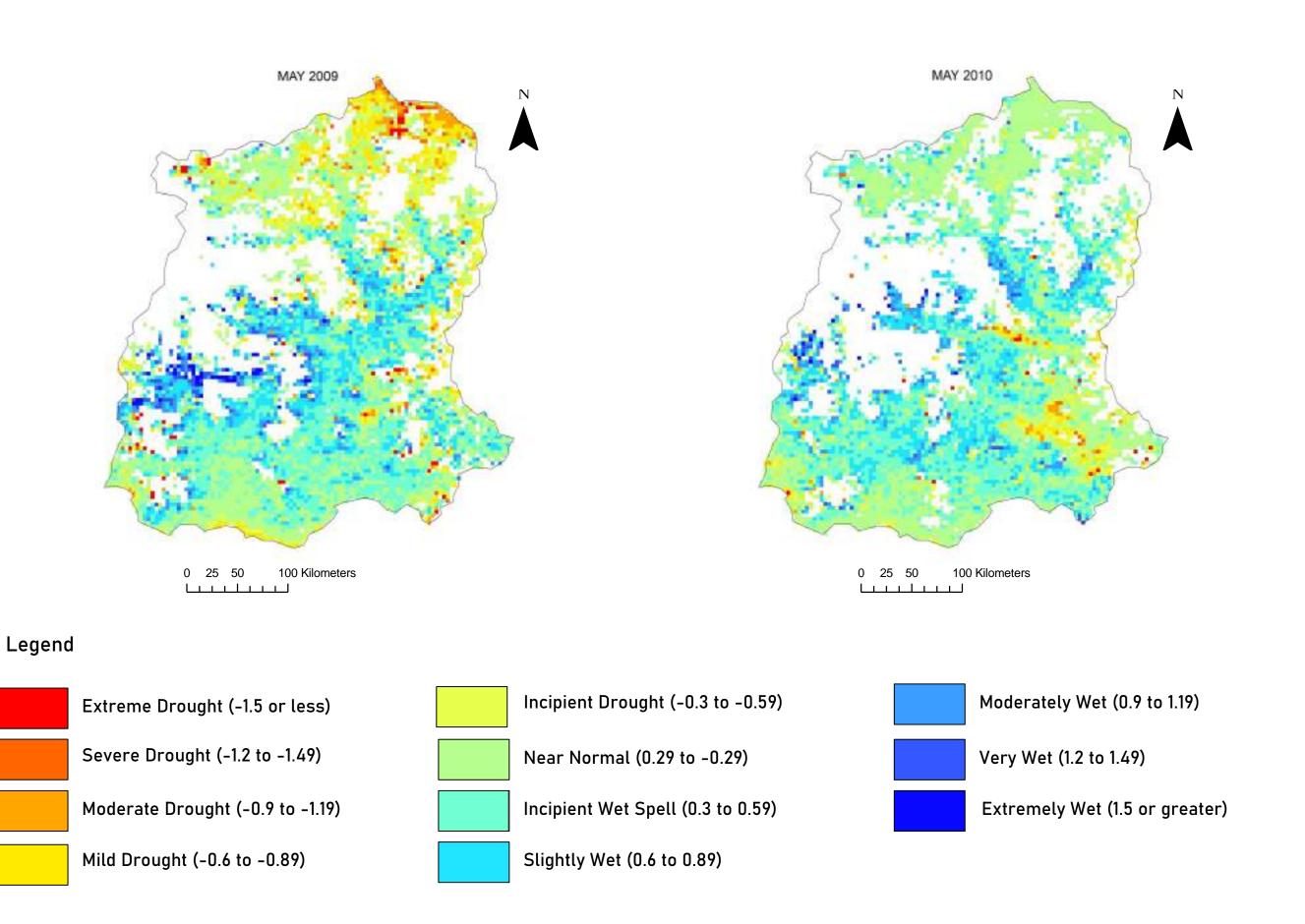


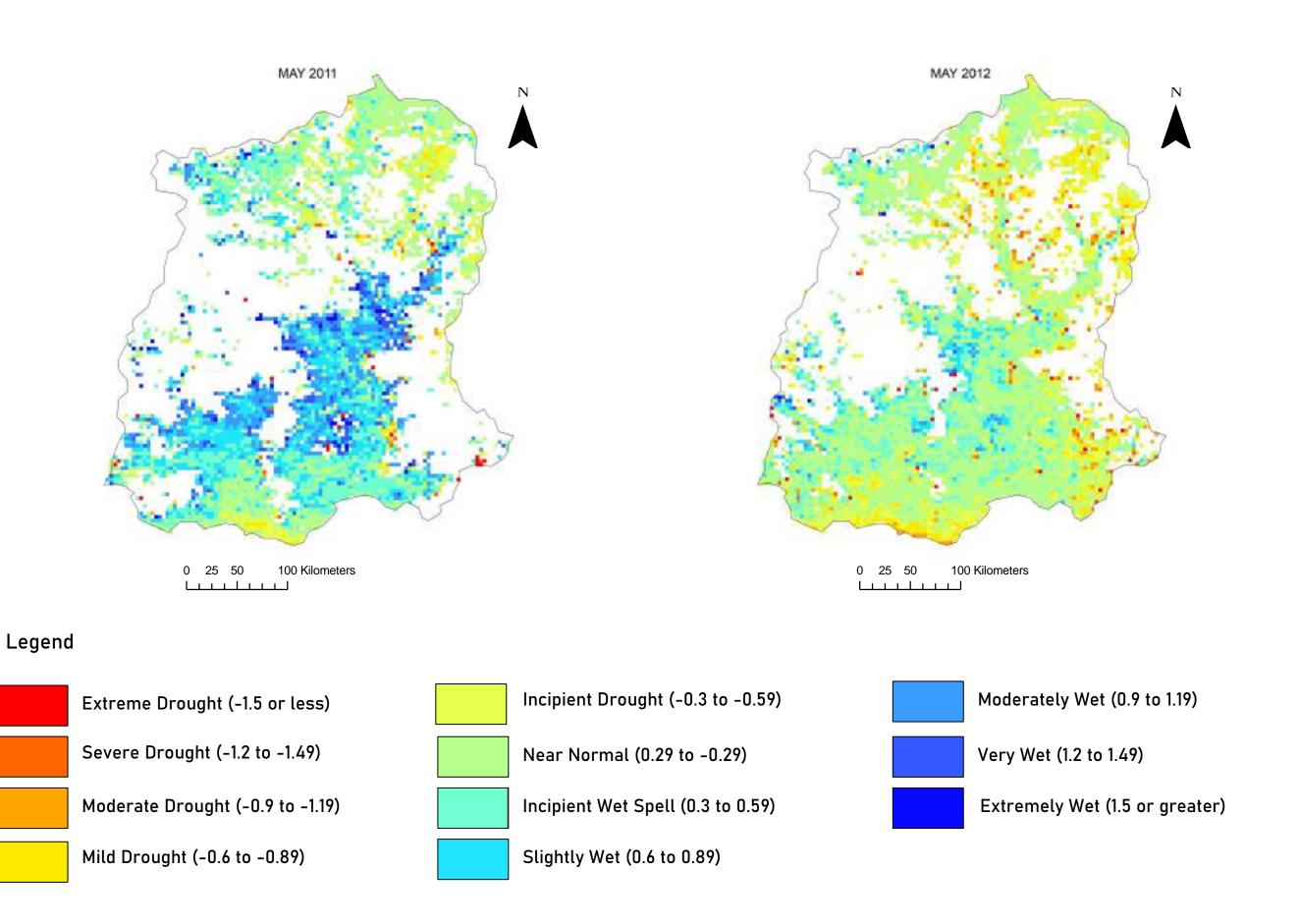


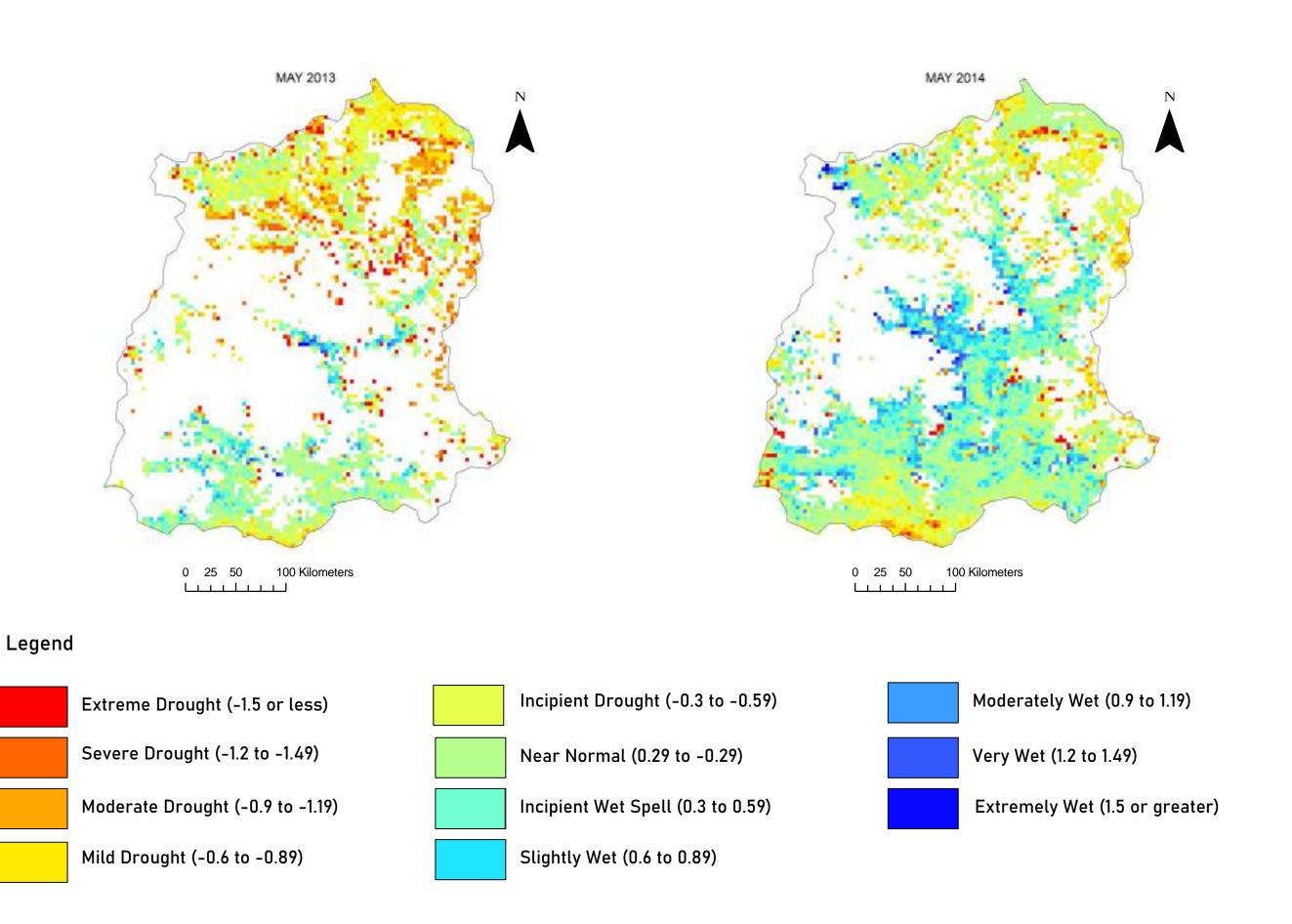


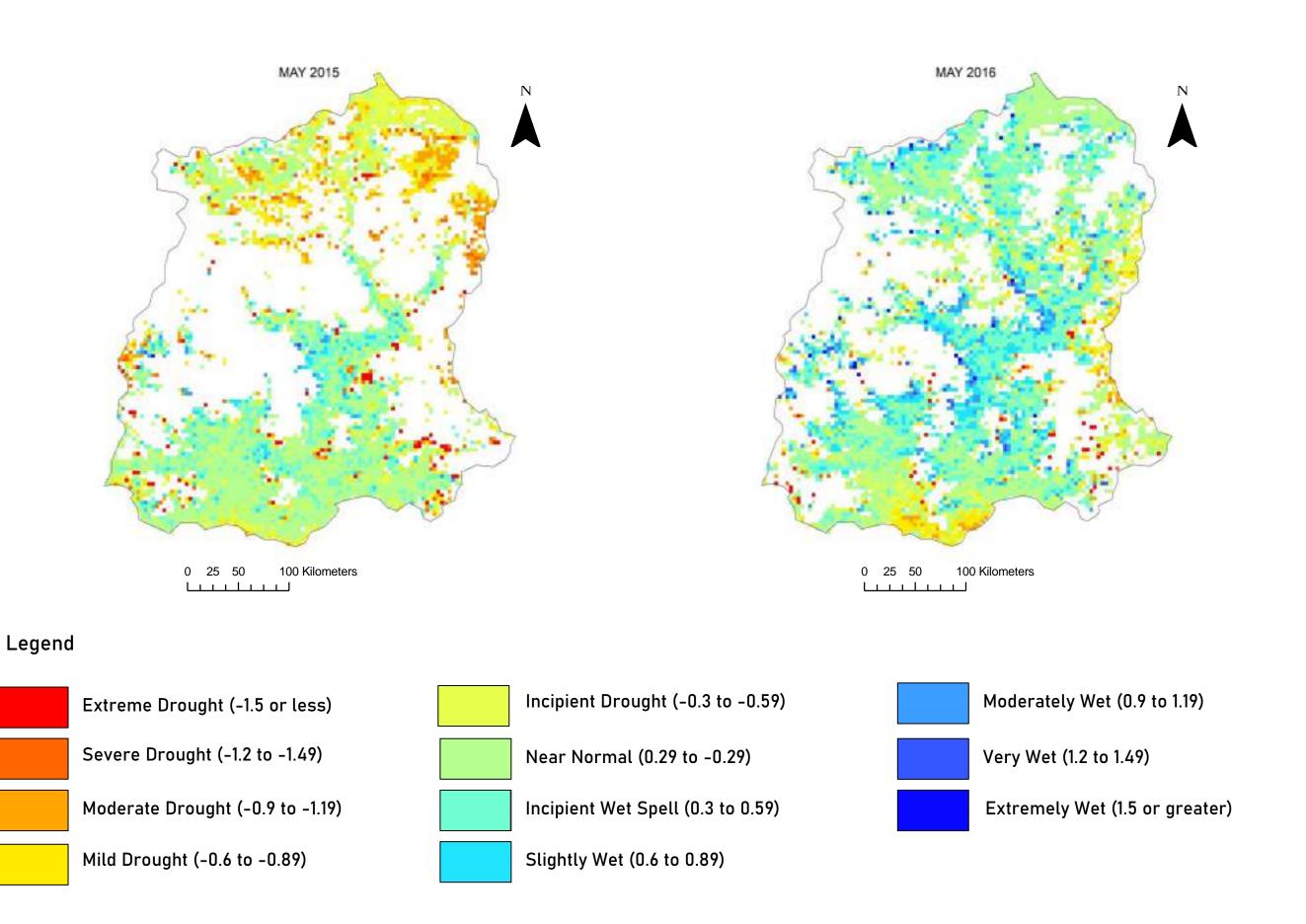


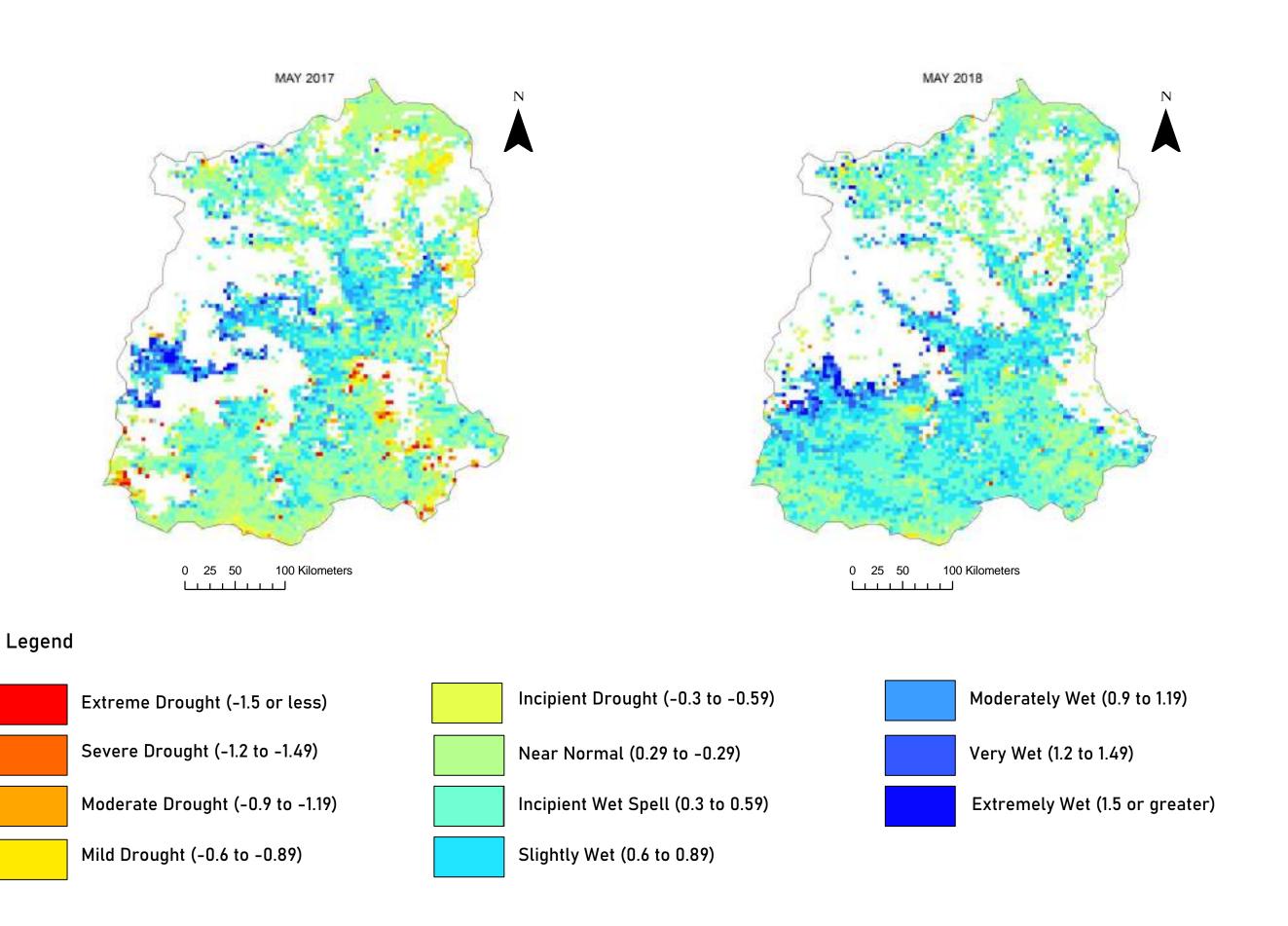


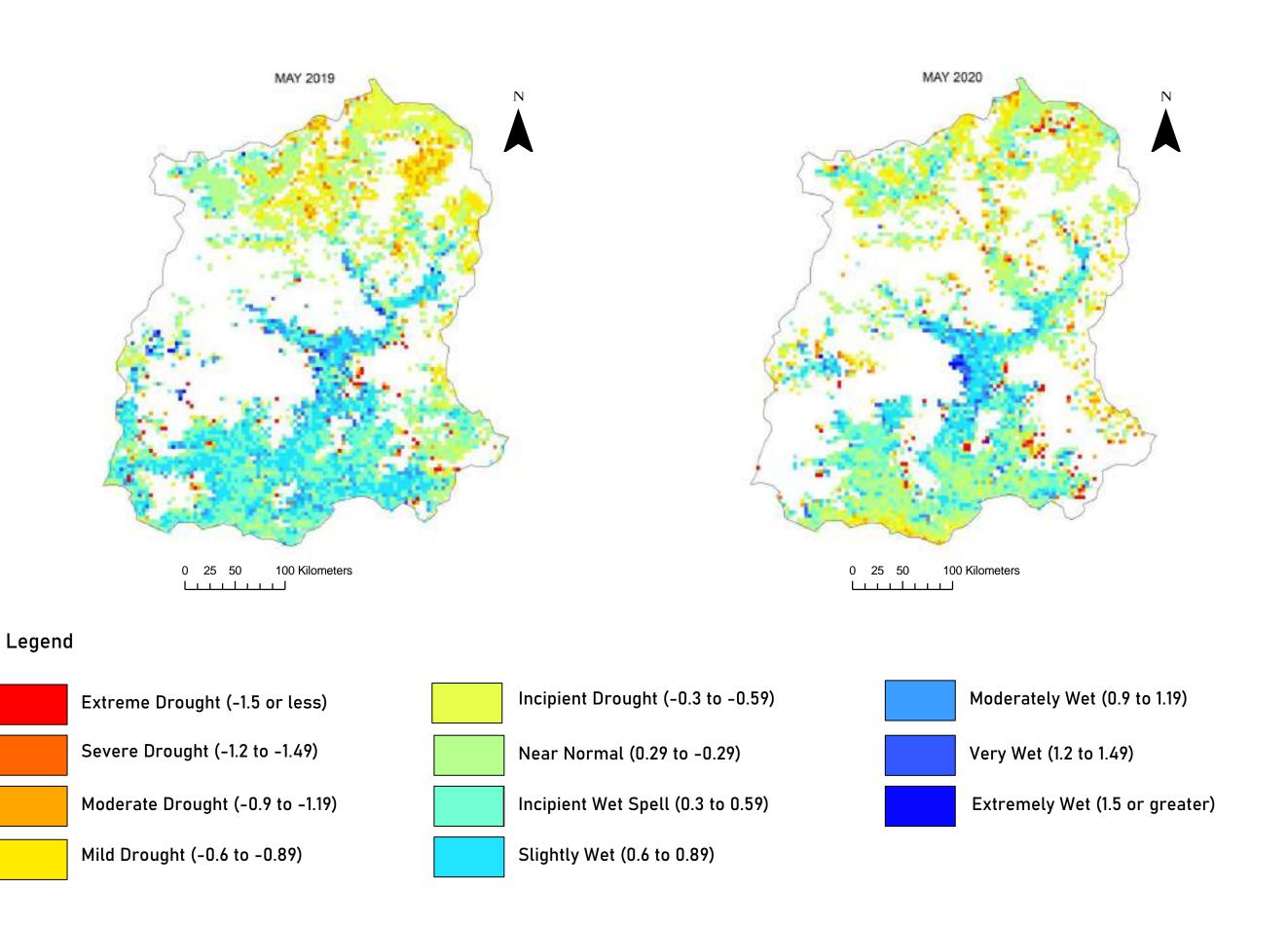








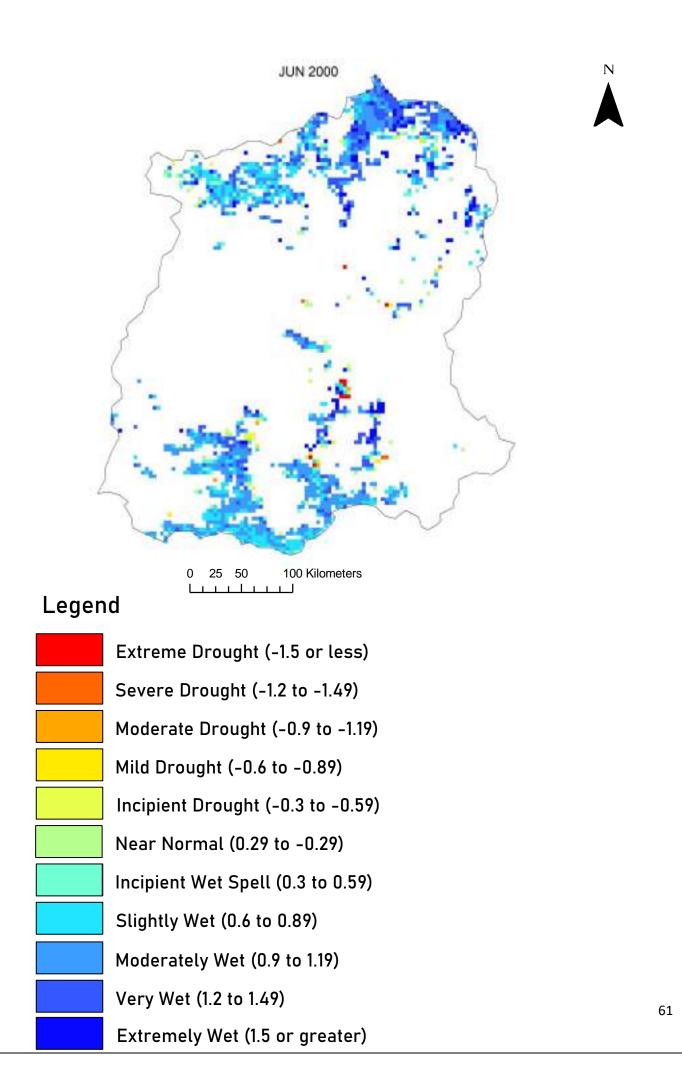


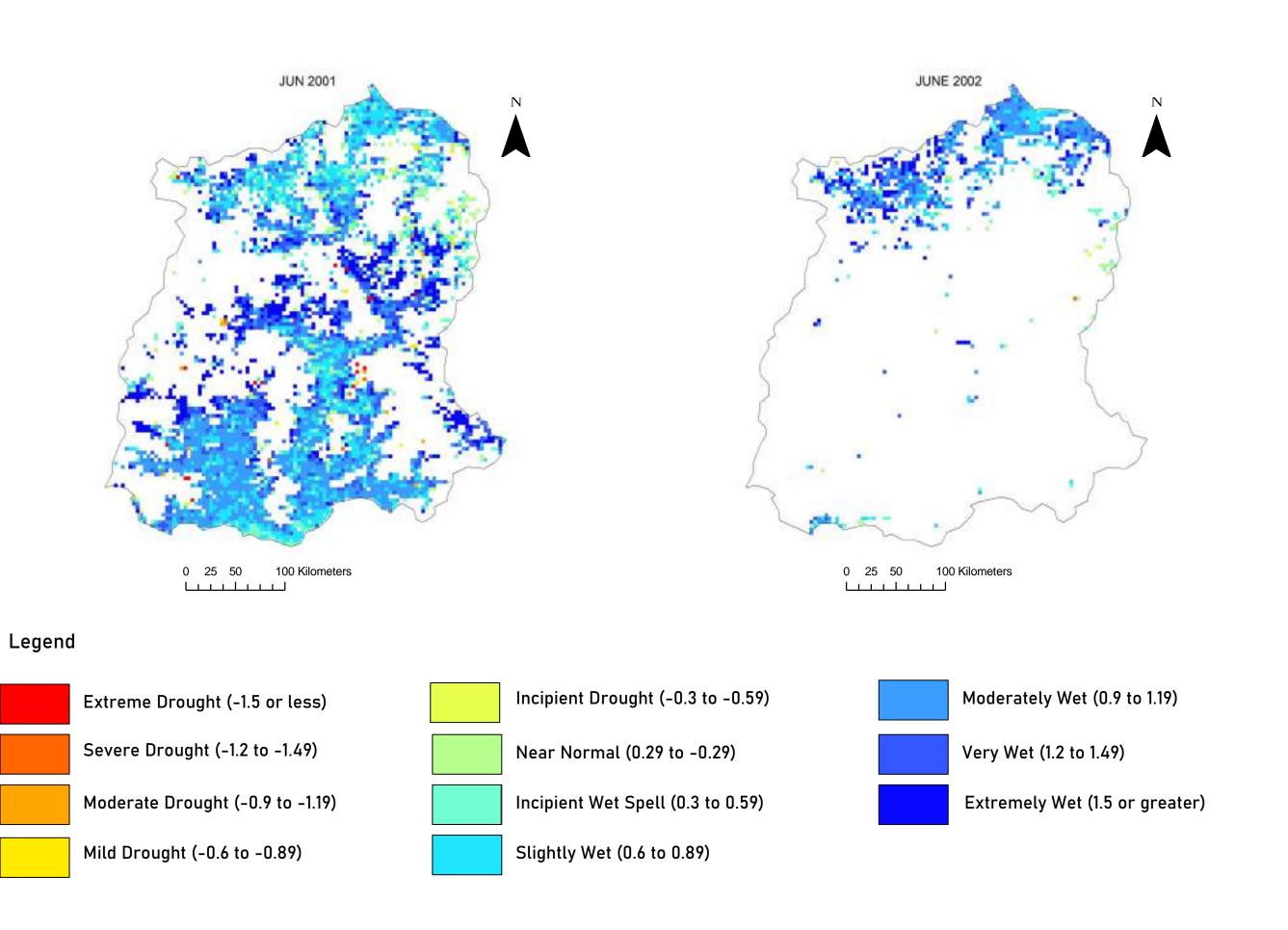


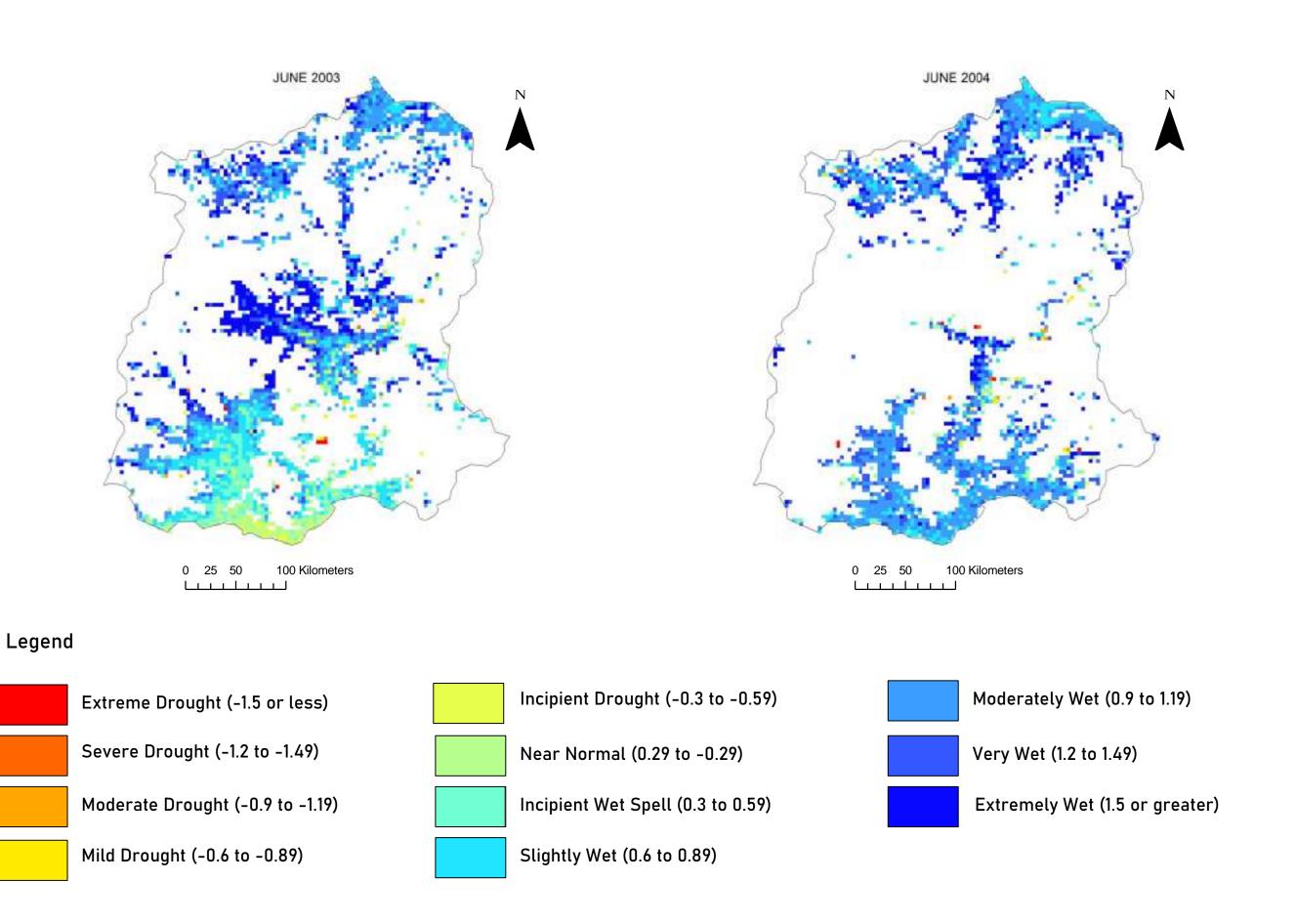
June DSI Maps

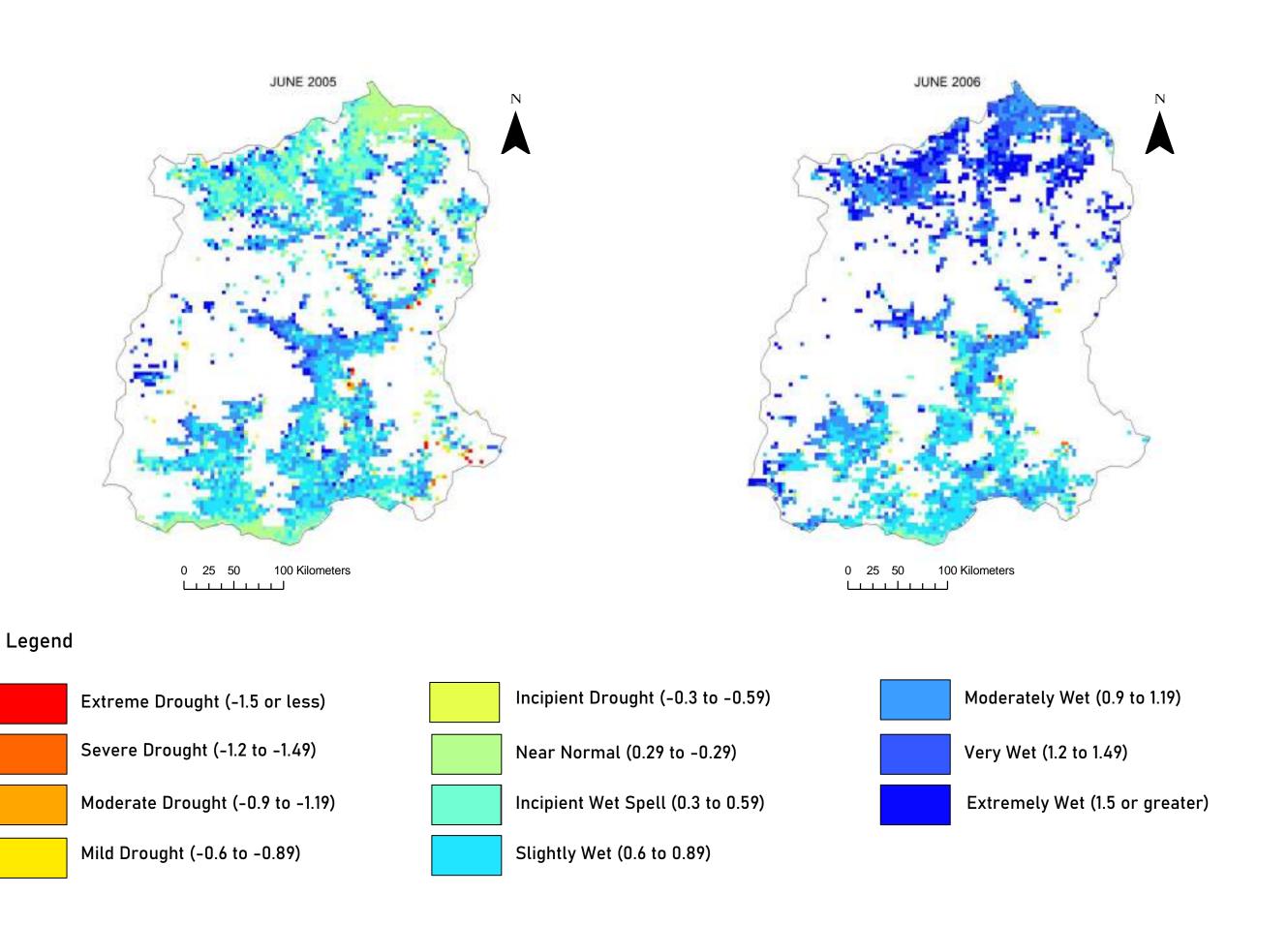
Drought conditions in June vary from incipient wet spell to very wet. This monsoon month is characterized by slightly and moderately wet condition.

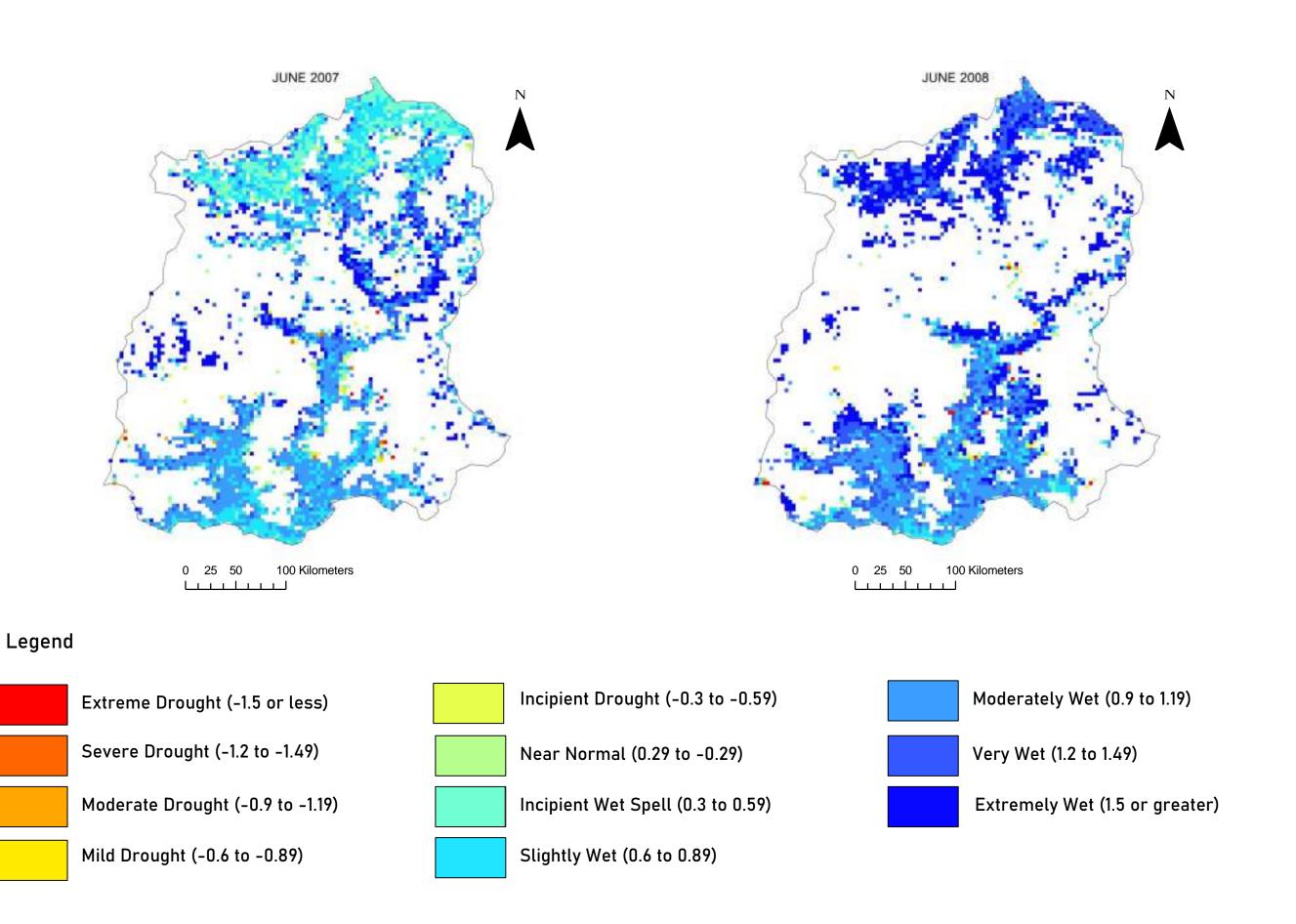
Mean June DSI Values			
Year	DSI Values	Drought Condition	
2000	0.65	Slightly Wet	
2001	1.19	Moderately Wet	
2002	1.06	Moderately Wet	
2003	1.18	Moderately Wet	
2004	0.86	Slightly Wet	
2005	0.87	Slightly Wet	
2006	0.98	Moderately Wet	
2007	1.28	Very Wet	
2008	0.92	Moderately Wet	
2009	0.77	Slightly Wet	
2010	0.67	Slightly Wet	
2011	0.79	Slightly Wet	
2012	0.82	Slightly Wet	
2013	0.80	Slightly Wet	
2014	0.99	Moderately Wet	
2015	0.55	Incipient Wet Spell	
2016	0.97	Moderately Wet	
2017	0.65	Slightly Wet	
2018	0.92	Moderately Wet	
2019	0.43	Incipient Wet Spell	
2020	1.40	Very Wet	

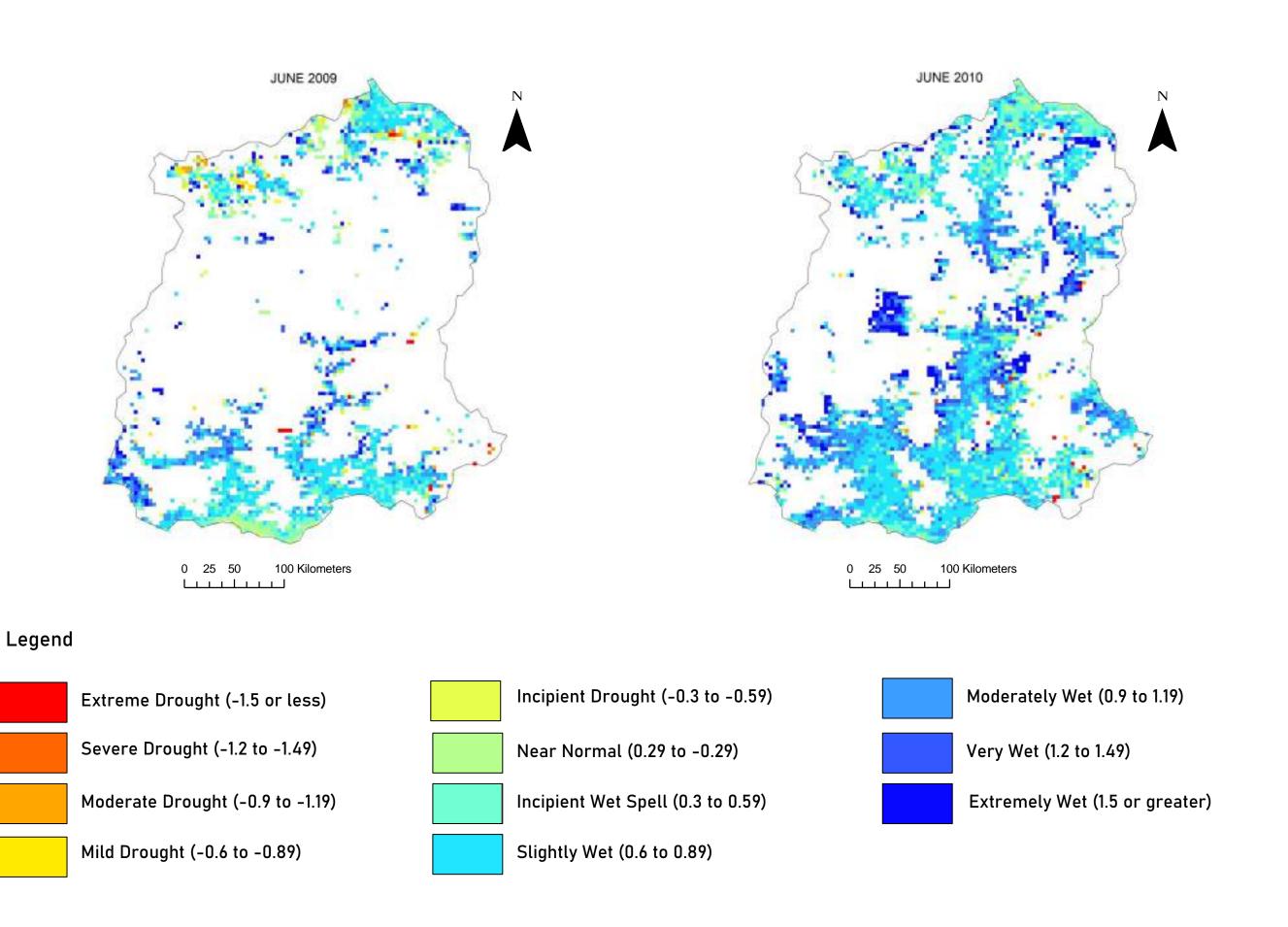


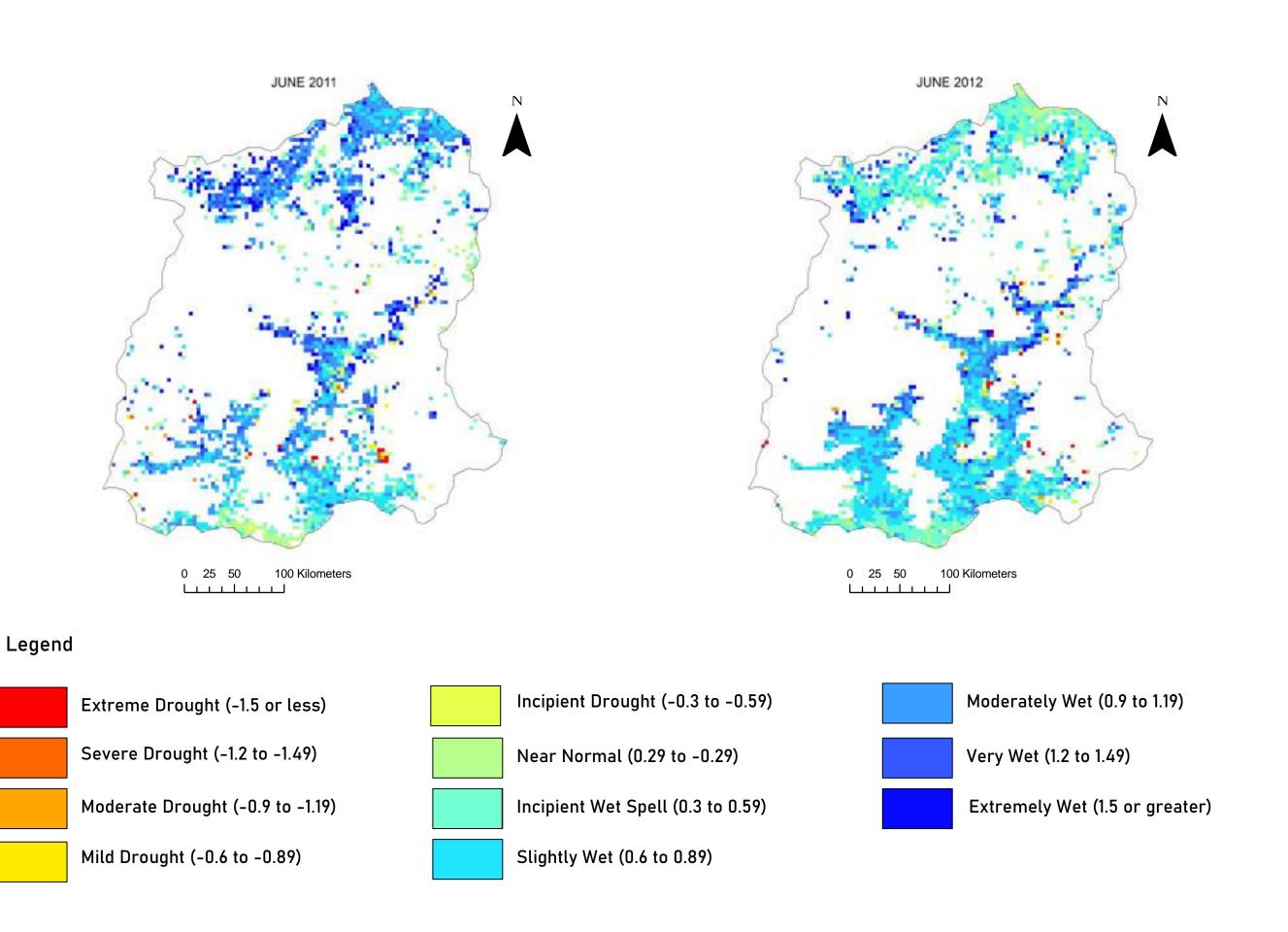


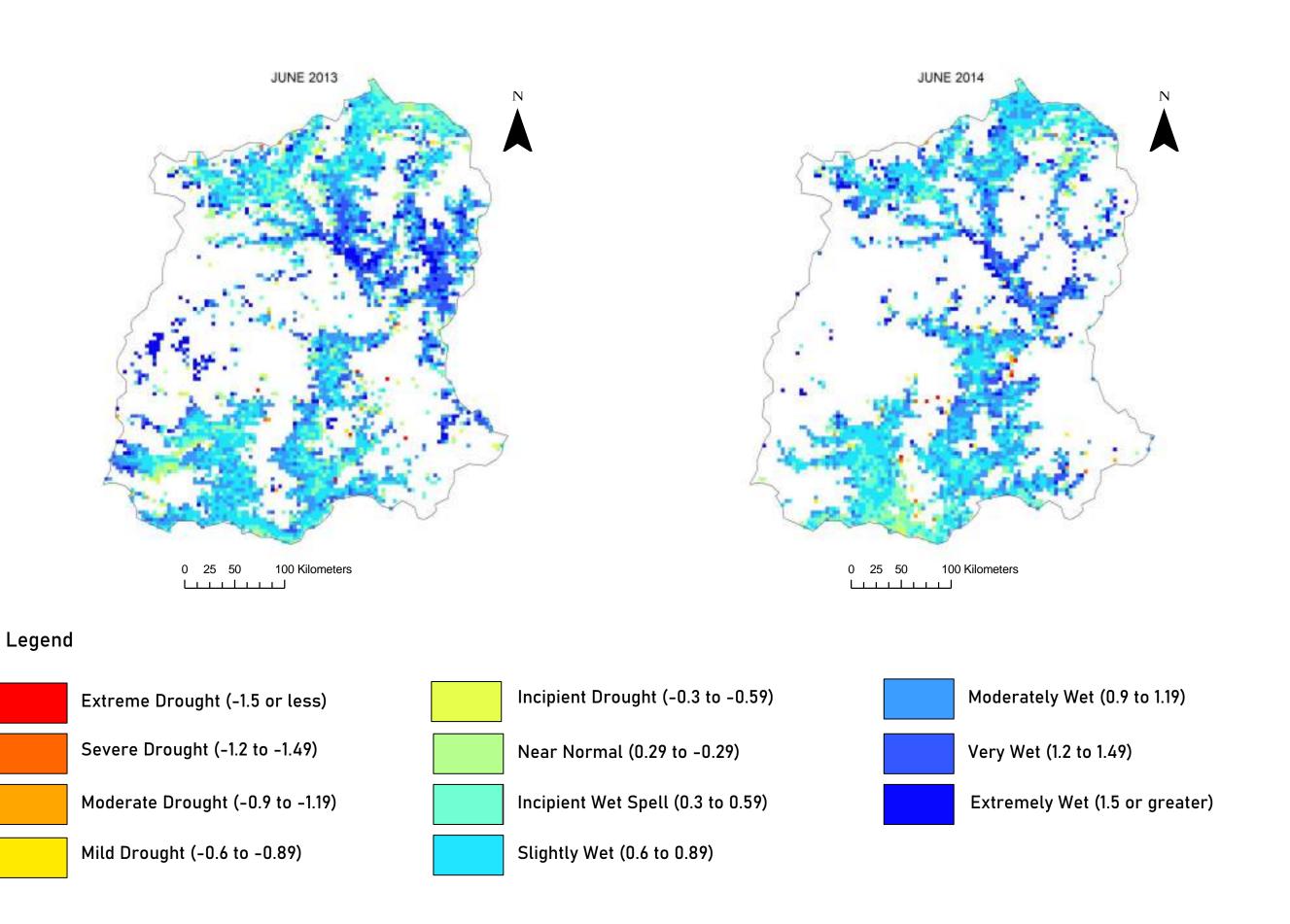


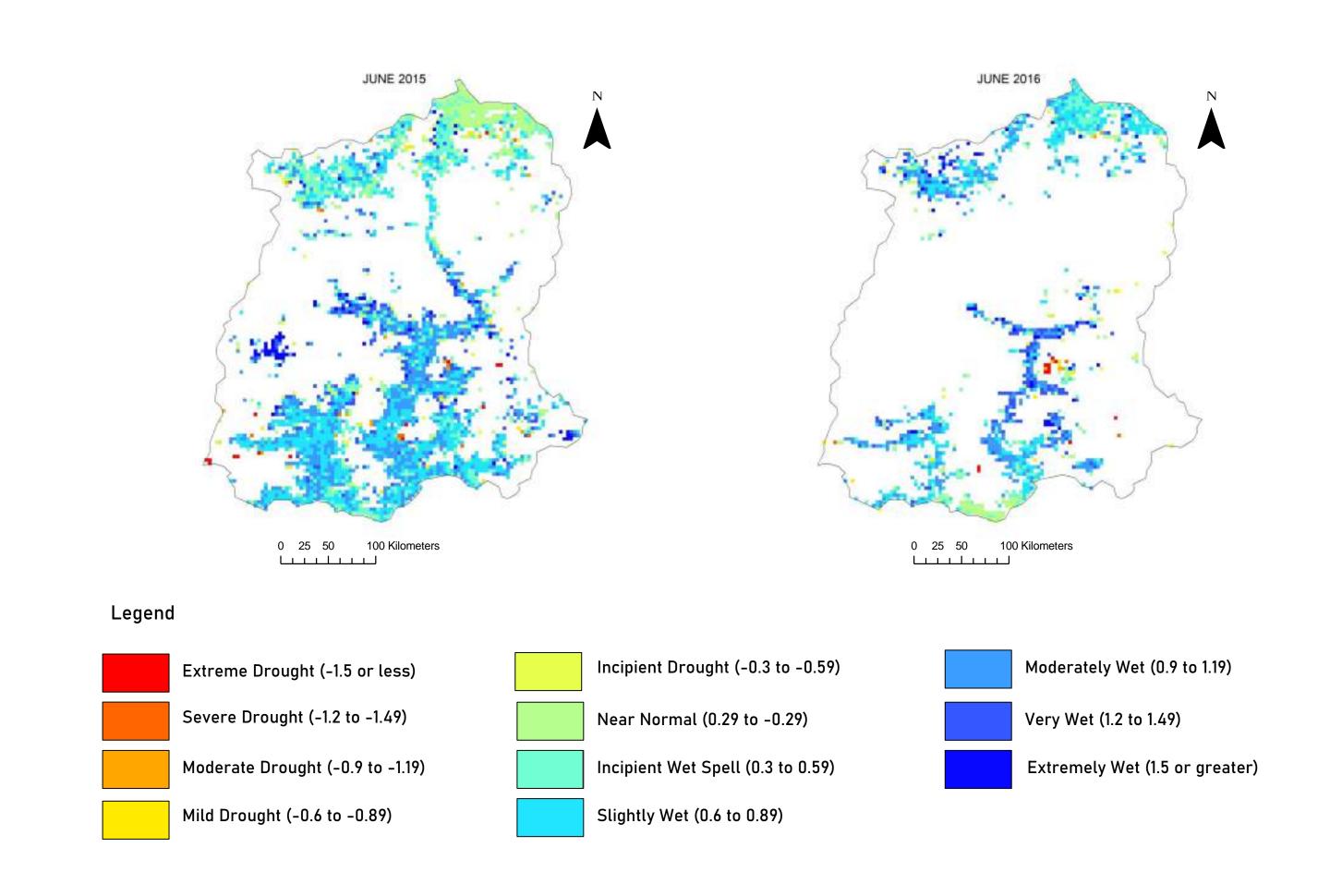


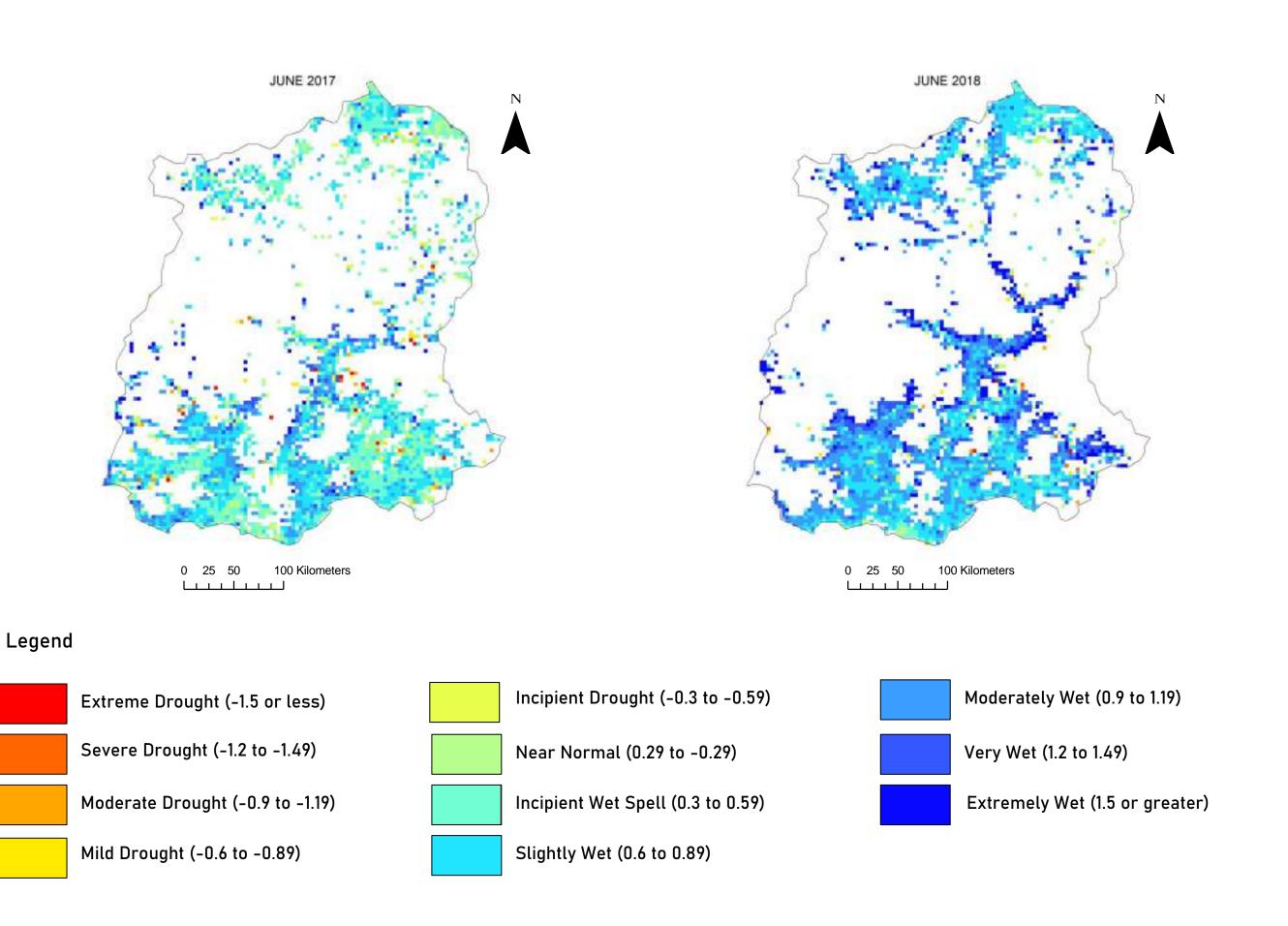


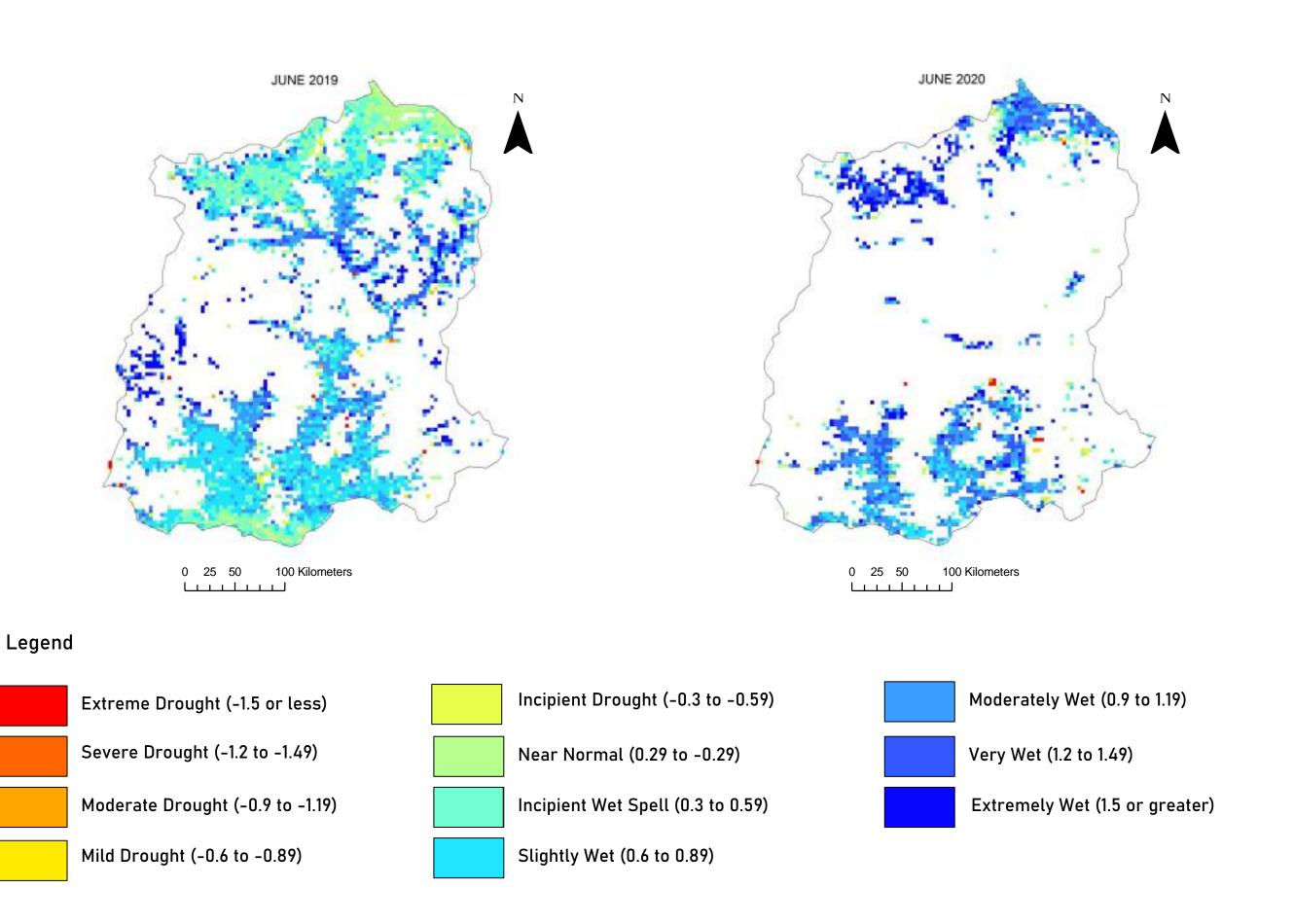








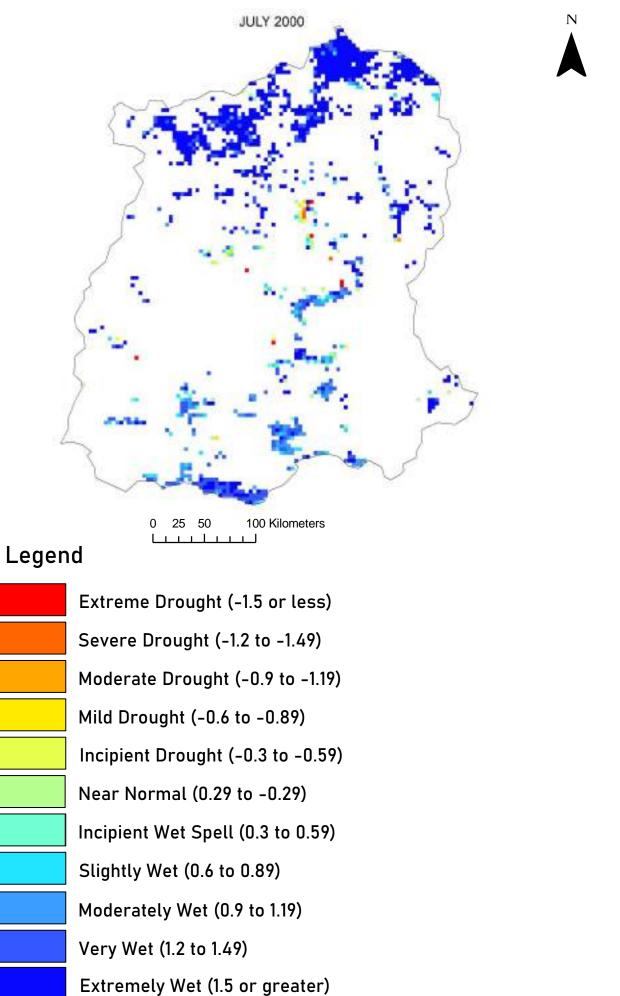


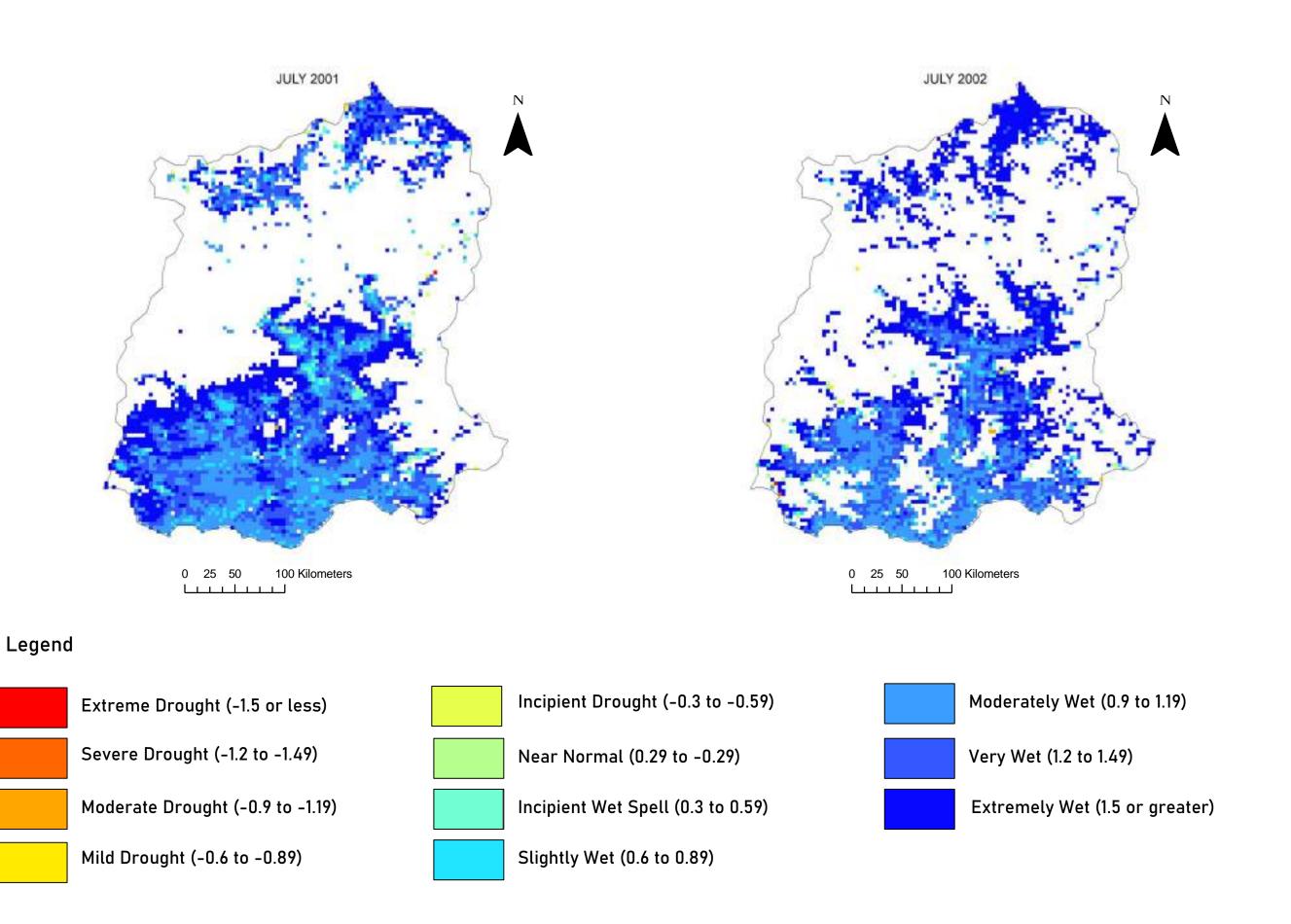


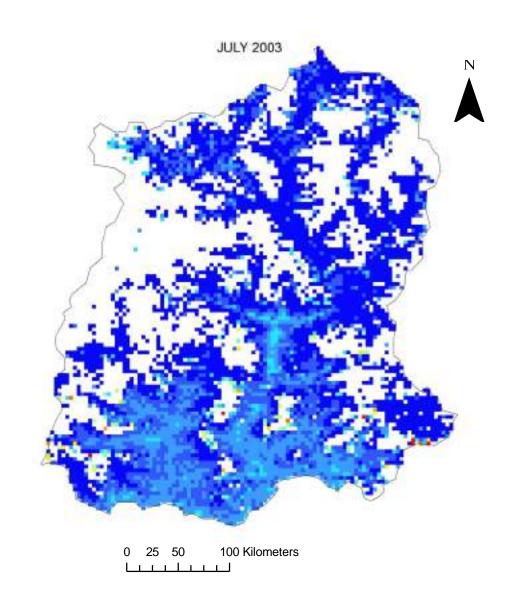
July DSI Maps

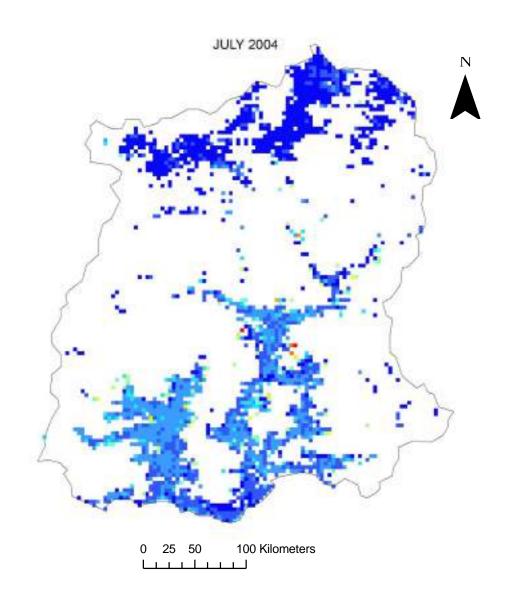
Drought conditions in July vary from incipient wet spell to extremely wet conditions. The characteristics of this monsoon month are frequently characterized by extremely wet condition.

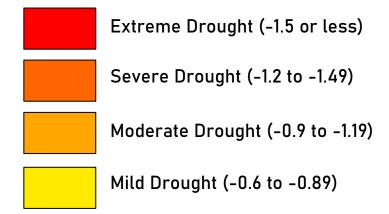
Mean July DSI Values			
Year	DSI Values	Drought Condition	
2000	1.65	Extremely Wet	
2001	1.33	Very Wet	
2002	1.52	Extremely Wet	
2003	1.31	Very Wet	
2004	1.56	Extremely Wet	
2005	1.66	Extremely Wet	
2006	1.47	Very Wet	
2007	1.03	Moderately Wet	
2008	1.60	Extremely Wet	
2009	0.43	Incipient Wet Spell	
2010	1.50	Extremely Wet	
2011	1.58	Extremely Wet	
2012	1.63	Extremely Wet	
2013	1.76	Extremely Wet	
2014	1.29	Very Wet	
2015	1.29	Very Wet	
2016	1.70	Extremely Wet	
2017	1.58	Extremely Wet	
2018	1.10	Moderately Wet	
2019	1.33	Very Wet	
2020	1.64	Extremely Wet	

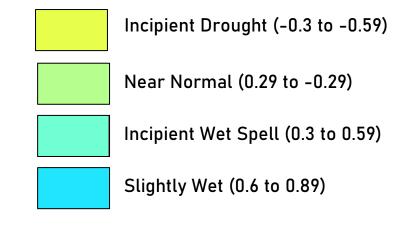


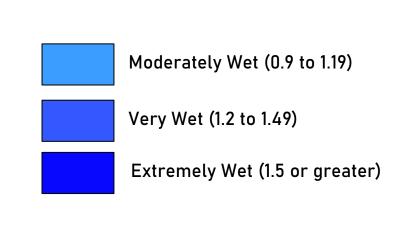


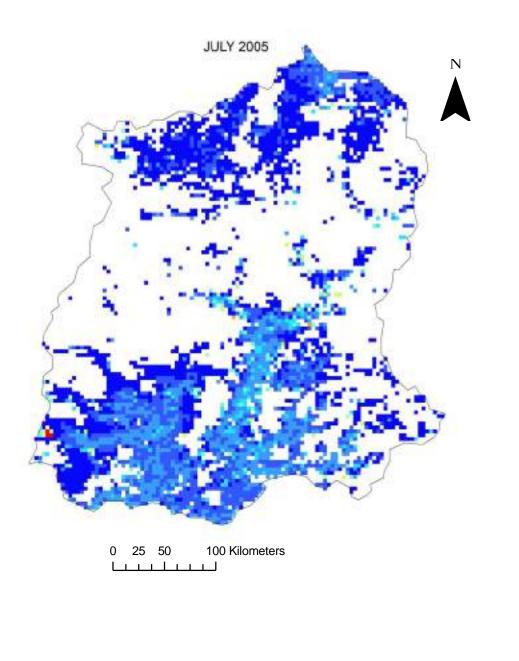


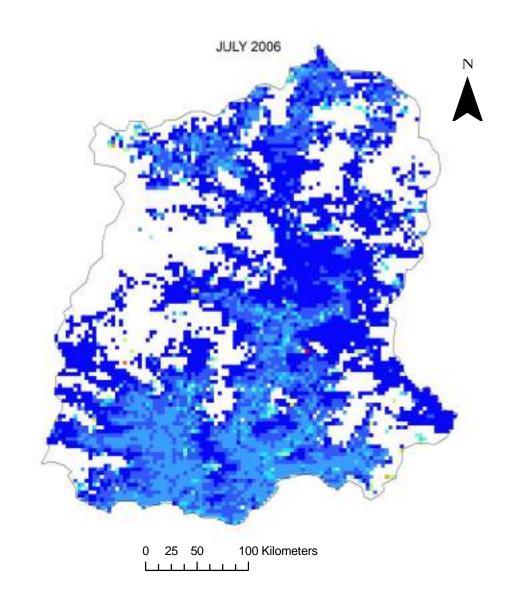


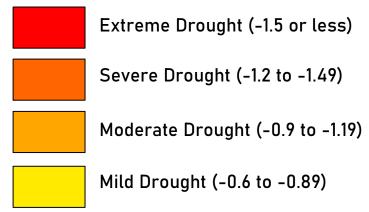


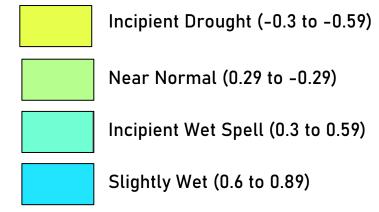


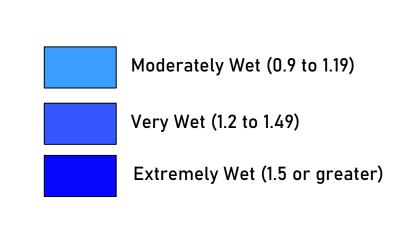


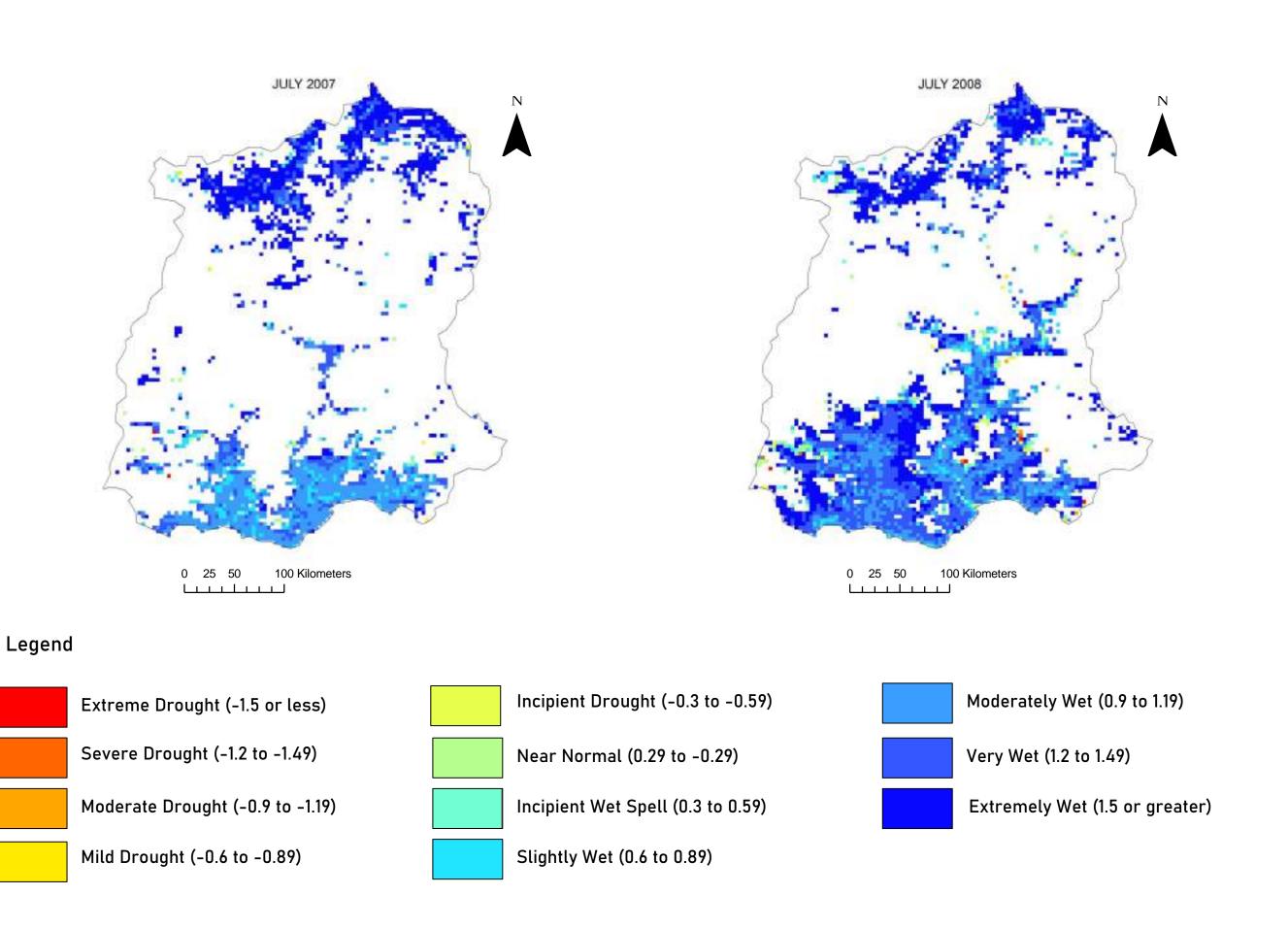


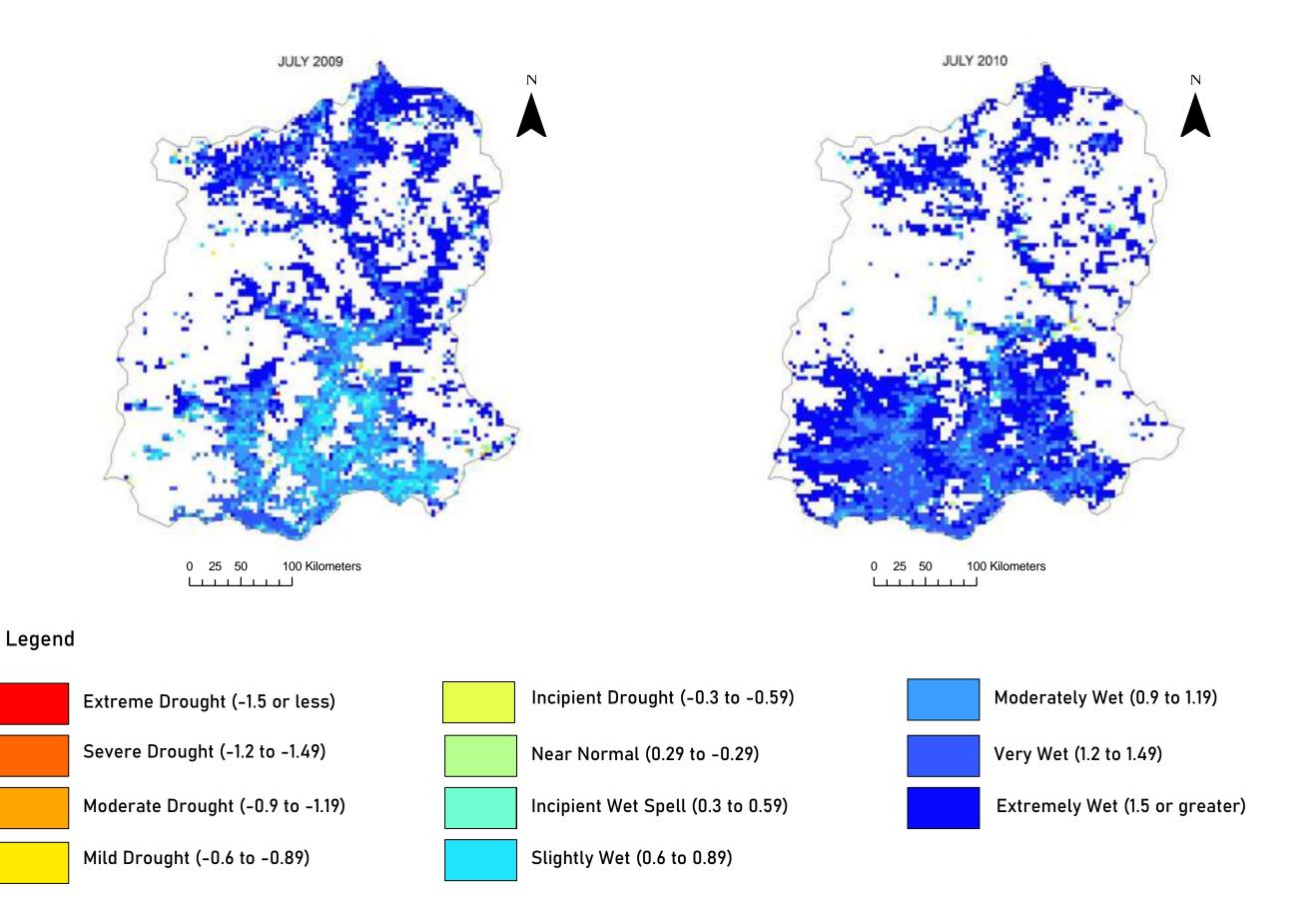


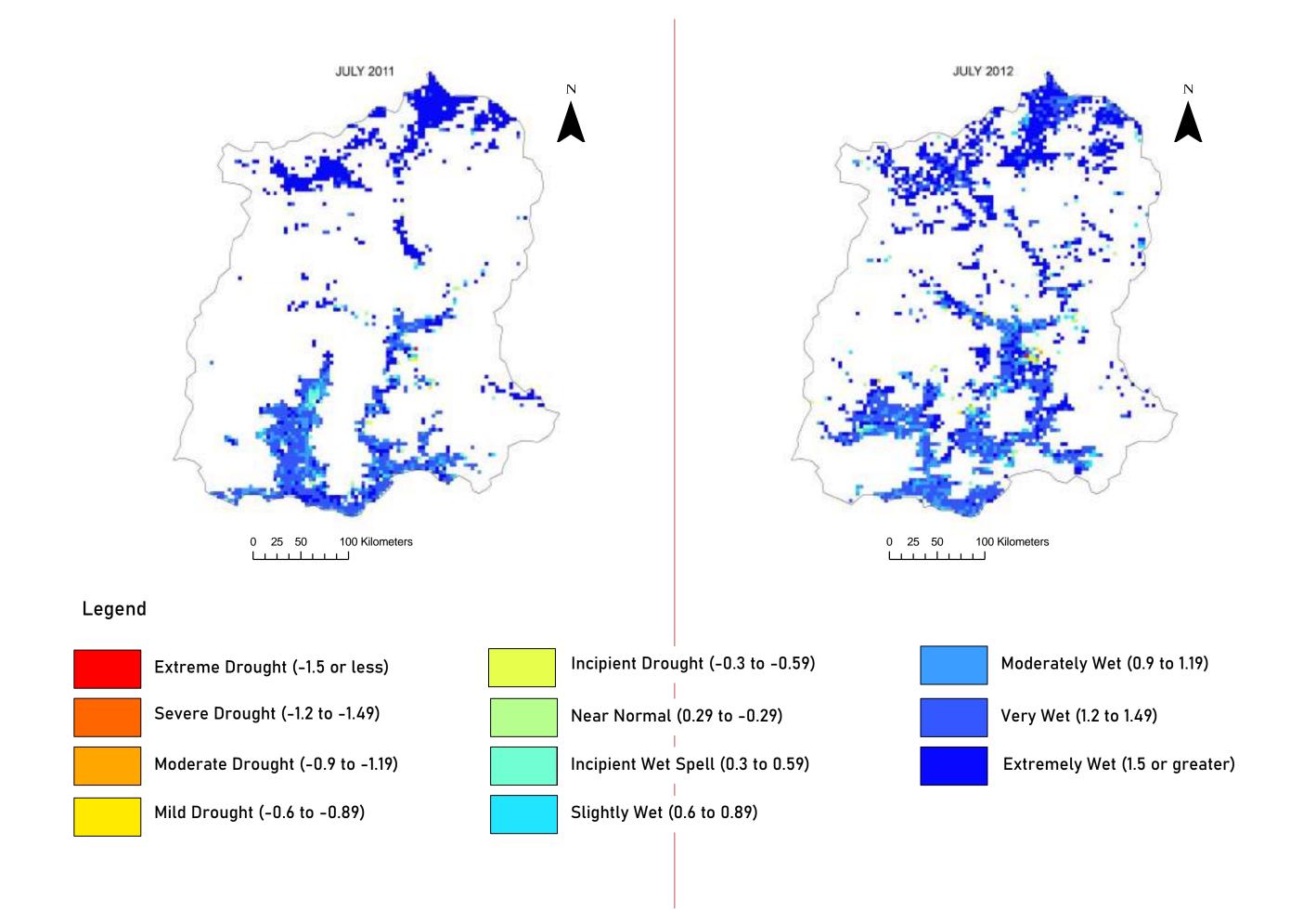


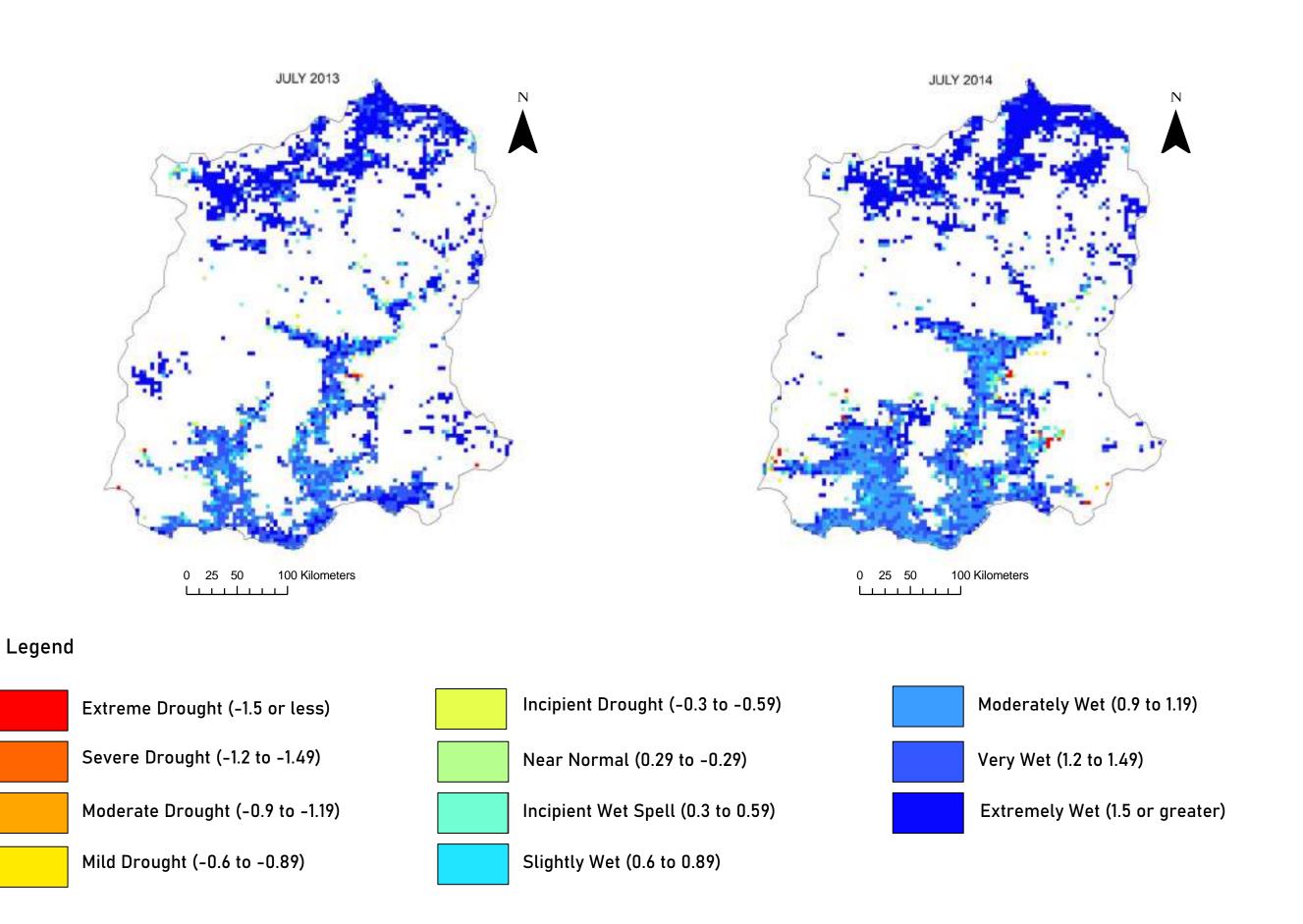


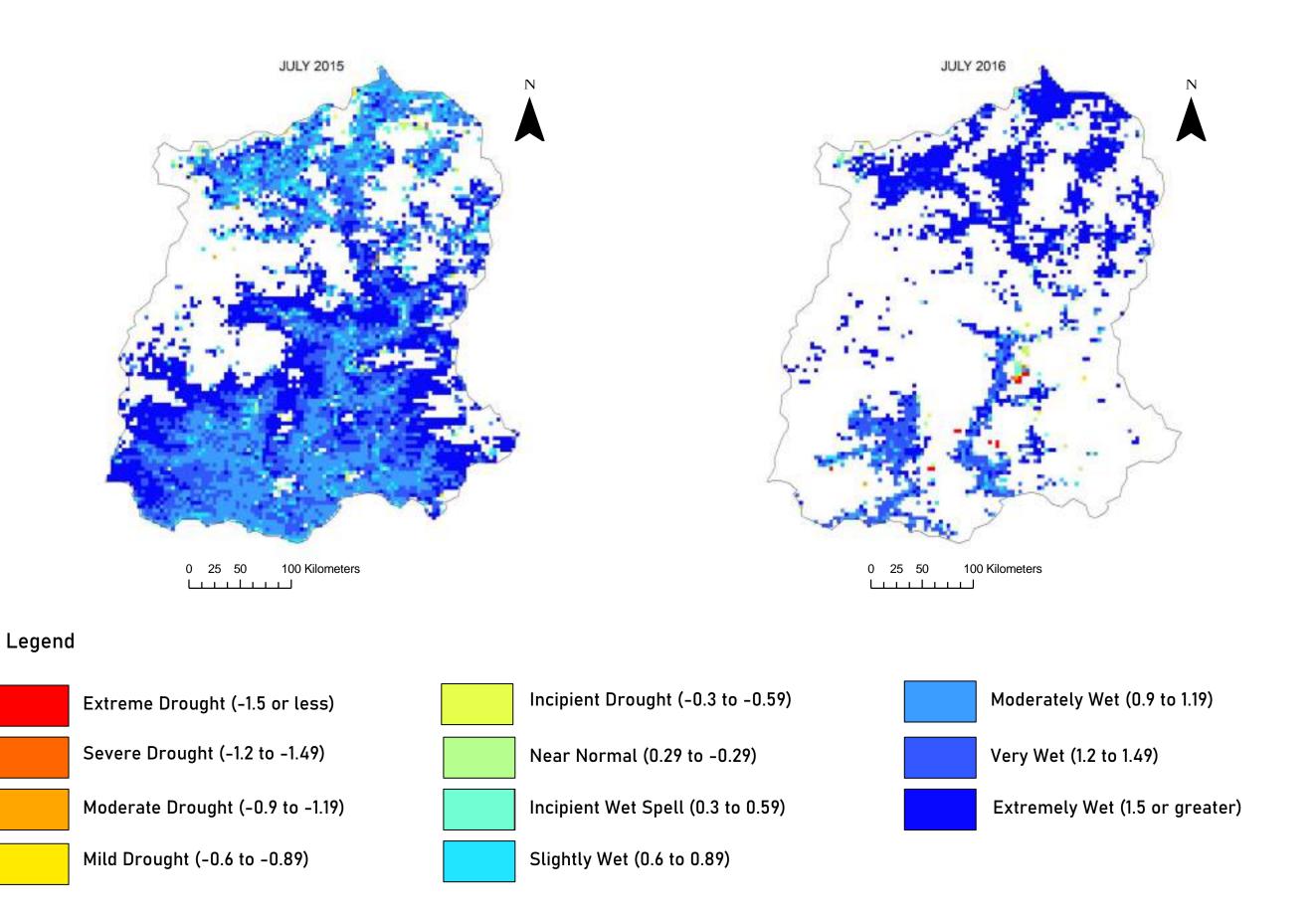


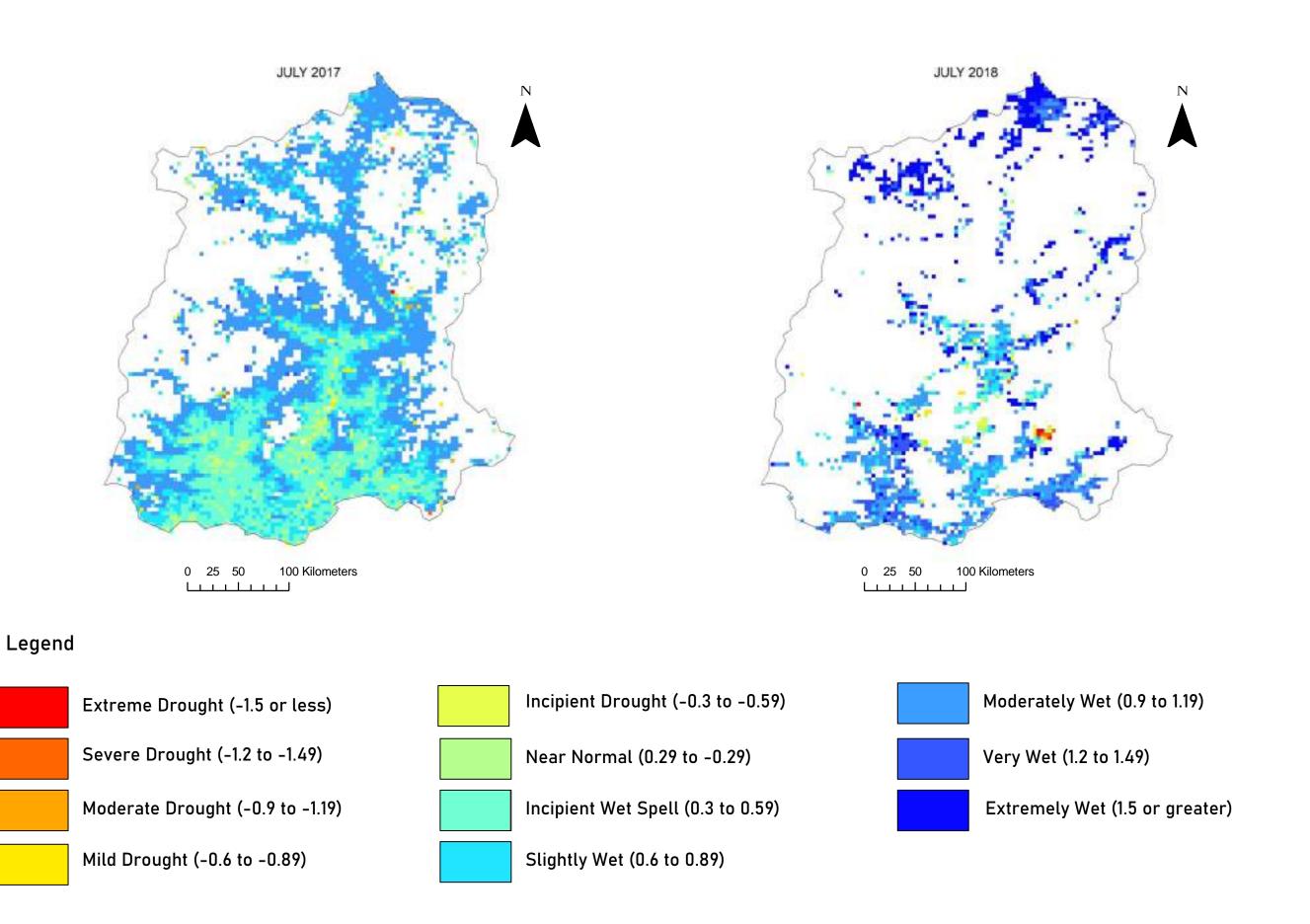


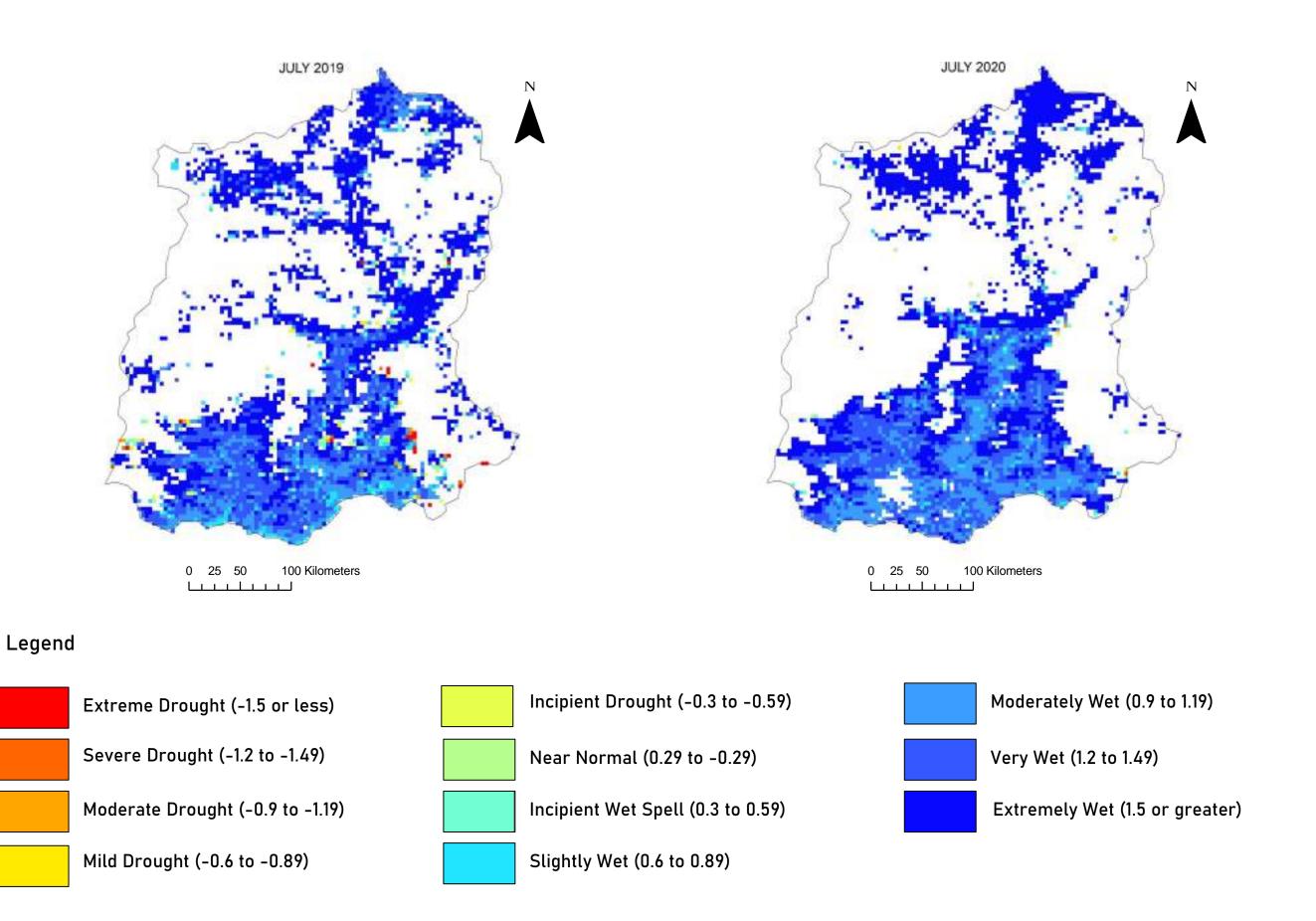








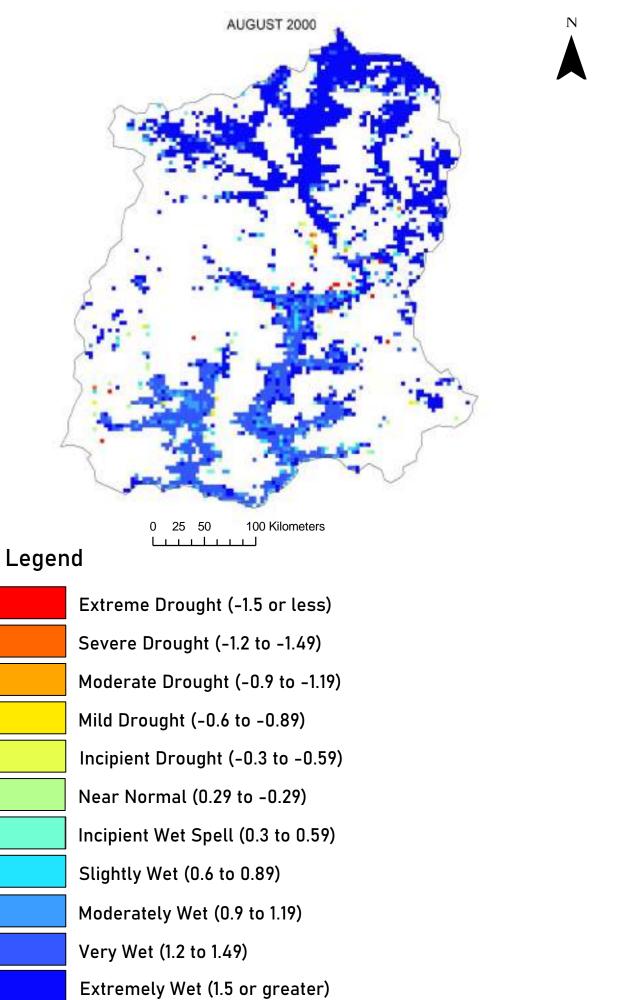


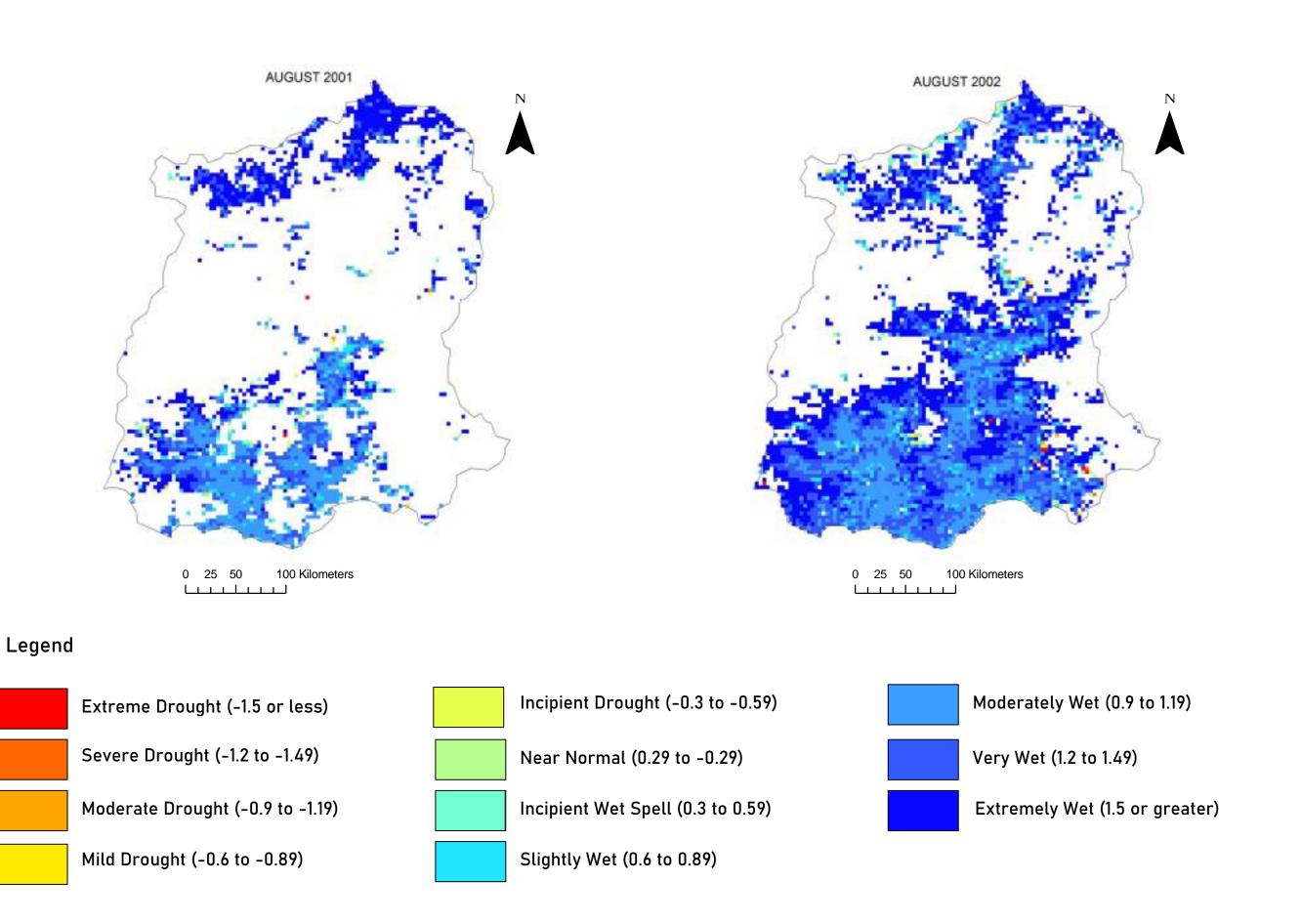


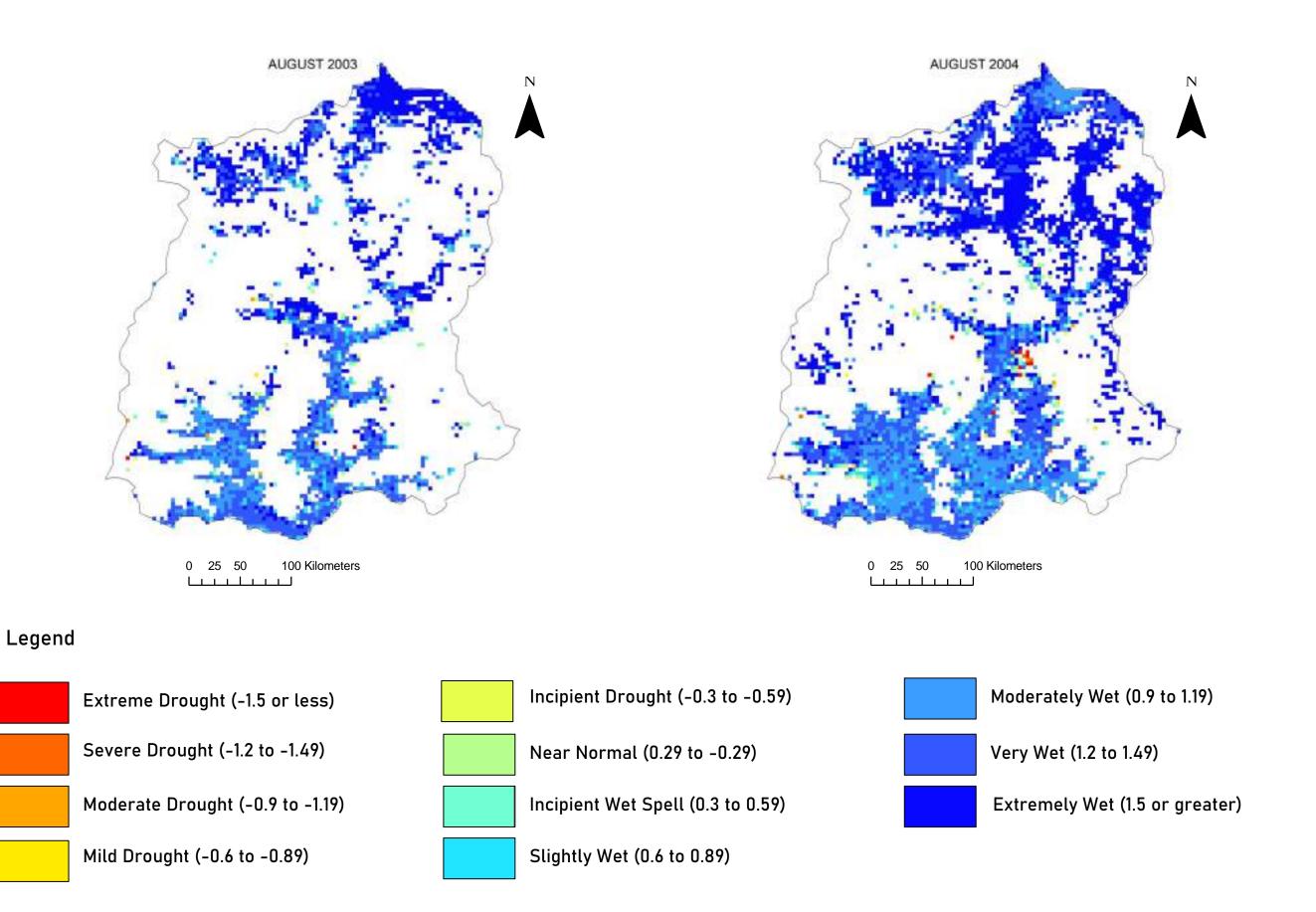
August DSI Maps

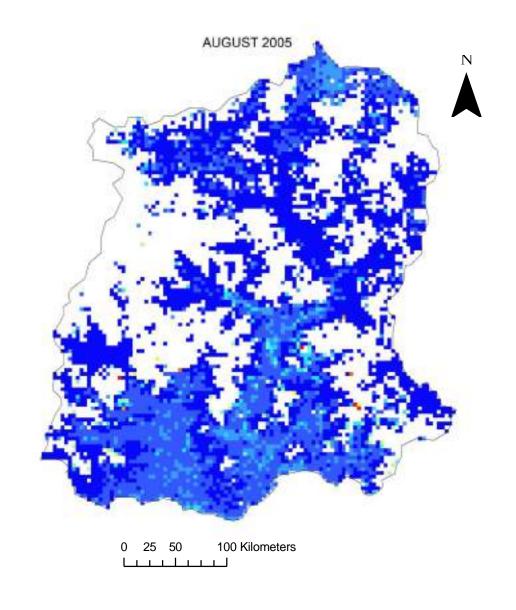
Drought conditions in August vary from moderately wet to extremely wet conditions. Very wet conditions marked this monsoon month.

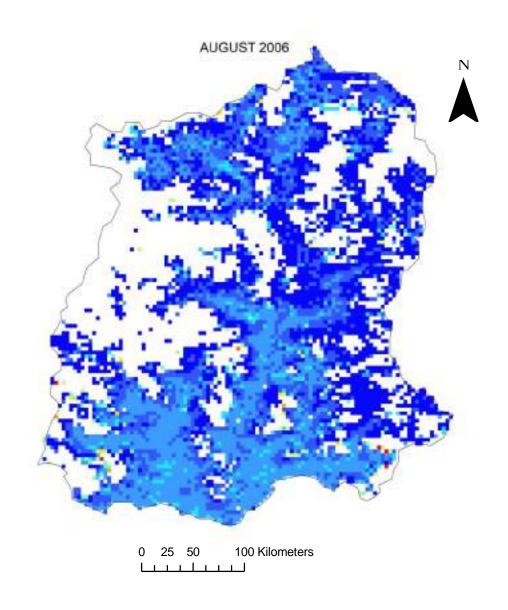
Mean August DSI Values			
Year	DSI Values	Drought Condition	
2000	1.66	Extremely Wet	
2001	1.38	Very Wet	
2002	1.38	Very Wet	
2003	1.17	Moderately Wet	
2004	1.47	Very Wet	
2005	1.81	Extremely Wet	
2006	1.60	Extremely Wet	
2007	1.27	Very Wet	
2008	1.63	Extremely Wet	
2009	1.33	Very Wet	
2010	1.75	Extremely Wet	
2011	1.57	Extremely Wet	
2012	1.47	Very Wet	
2013	1.43	Very Wet	
2014	1.56	Extremely Wet	
2015	1.43	Very Wet	
2016	1.31	Very Wet	
2017	1.25	Very Wet	
2018	1.38	Very Wet	
2019	1.49	Very Wet	
2020	1.25	Very Wet	

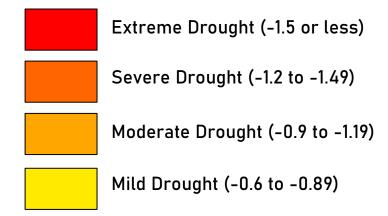


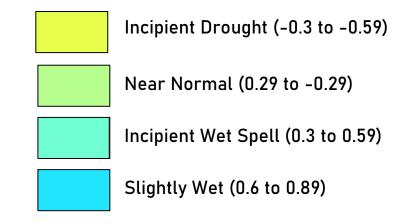


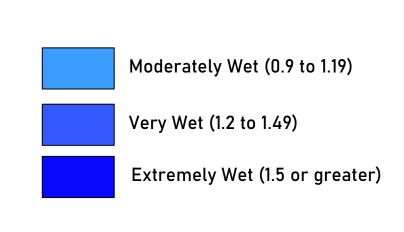


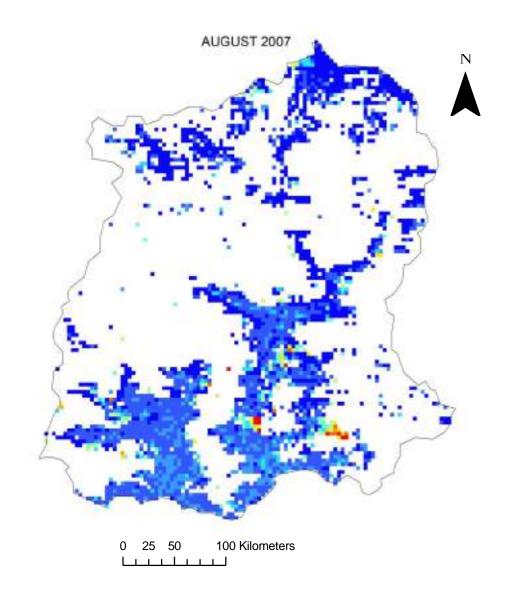


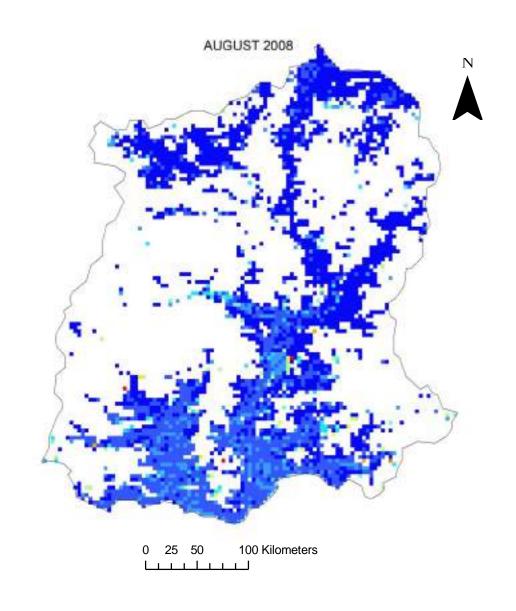


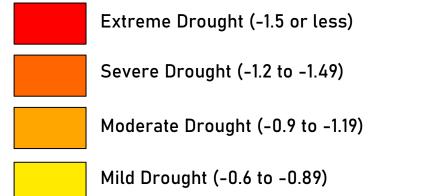


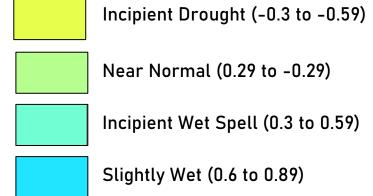


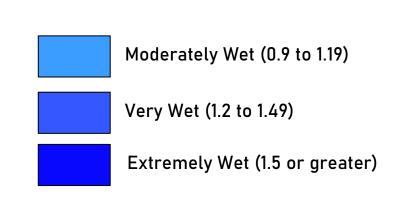


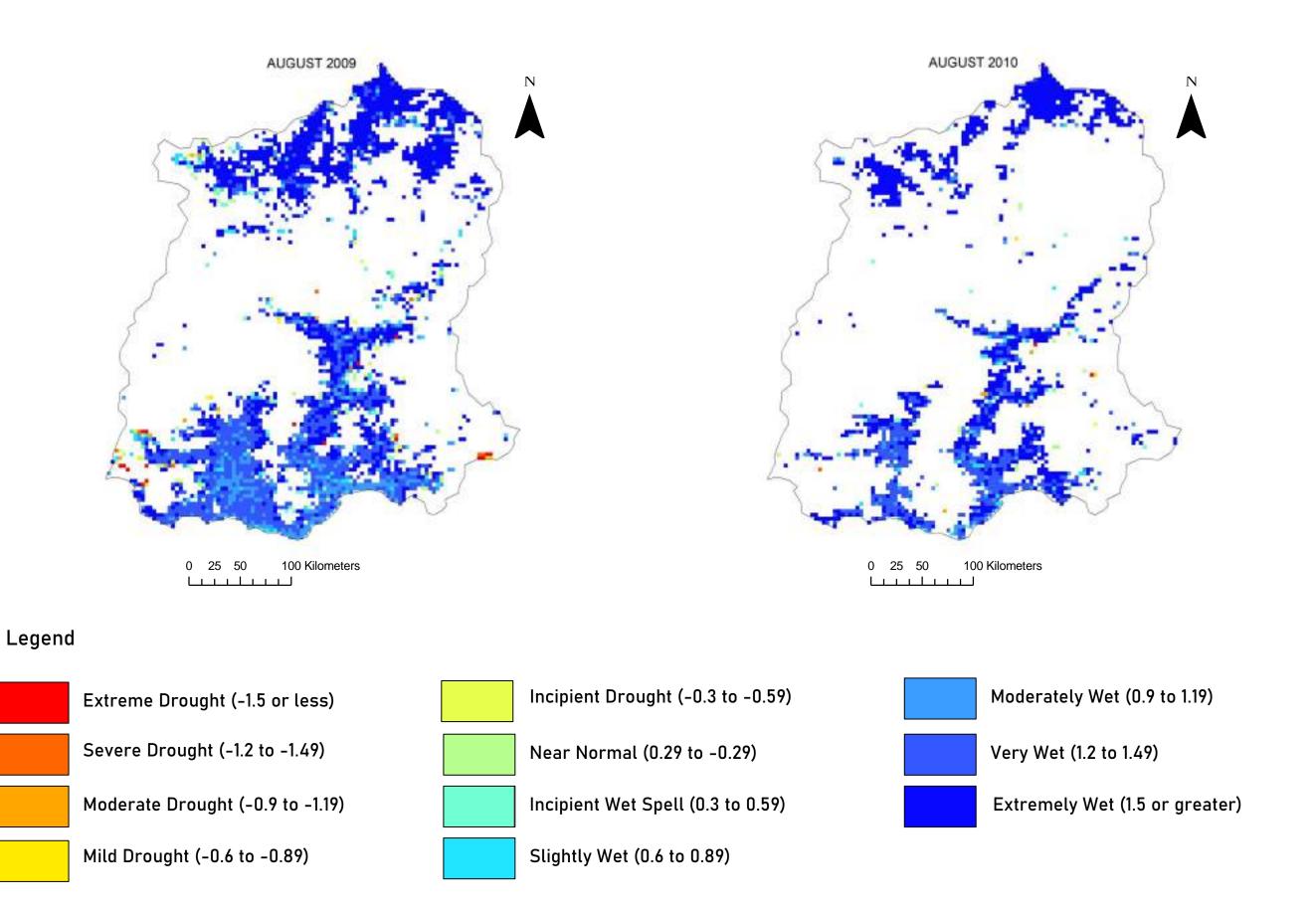


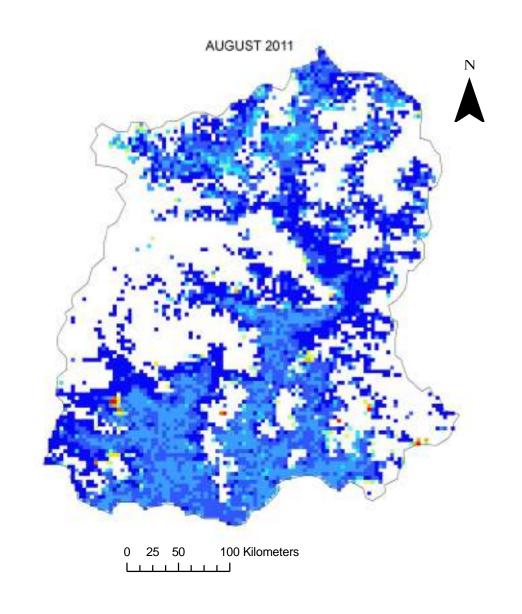


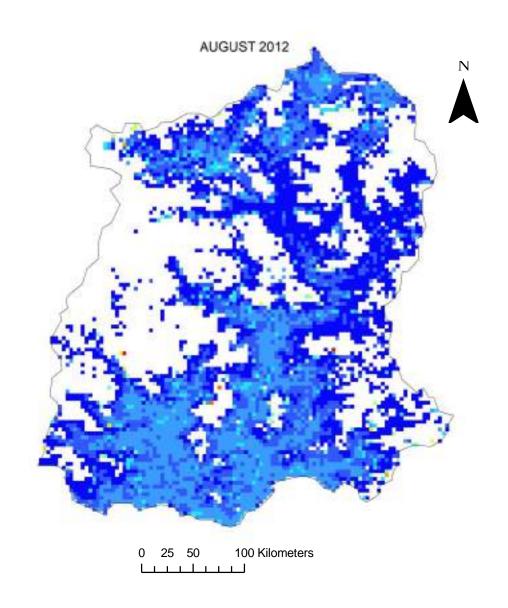


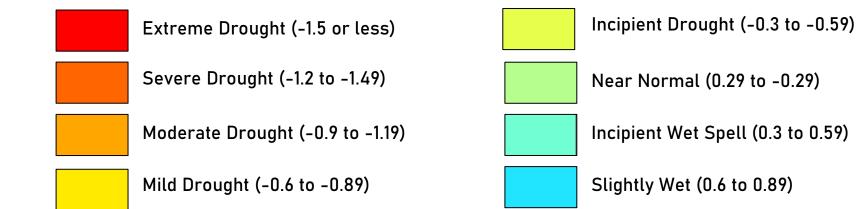


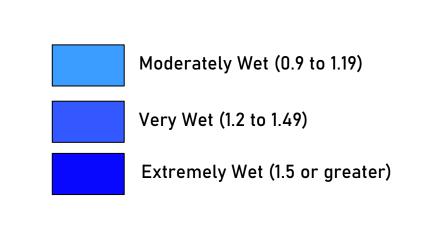


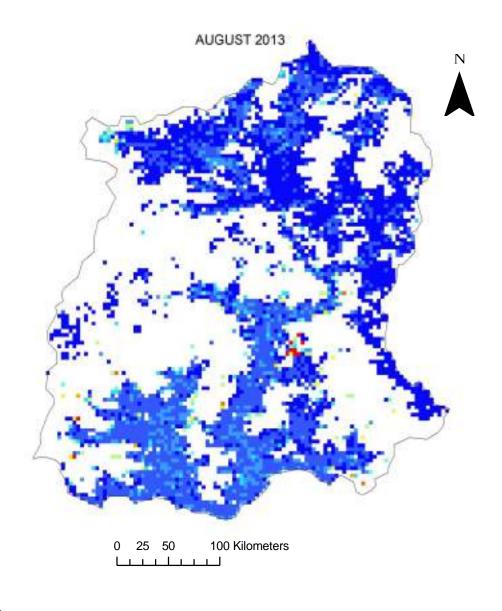


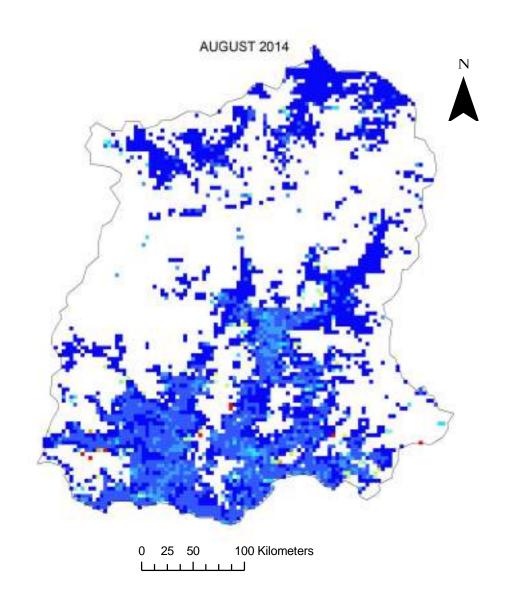


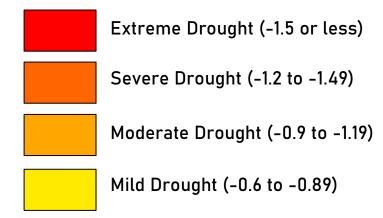


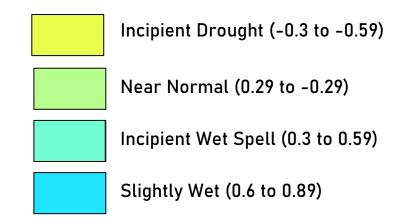


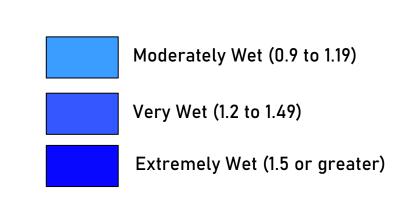


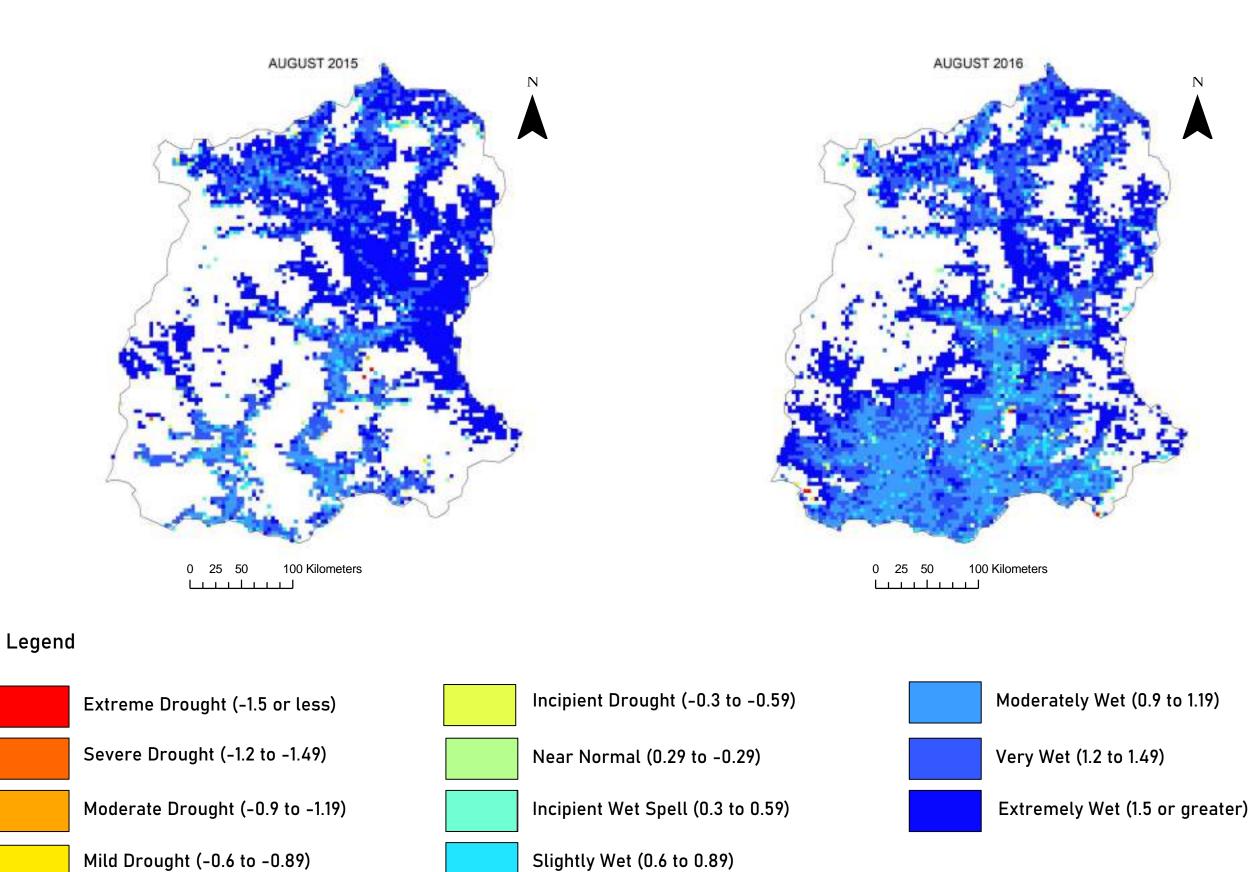


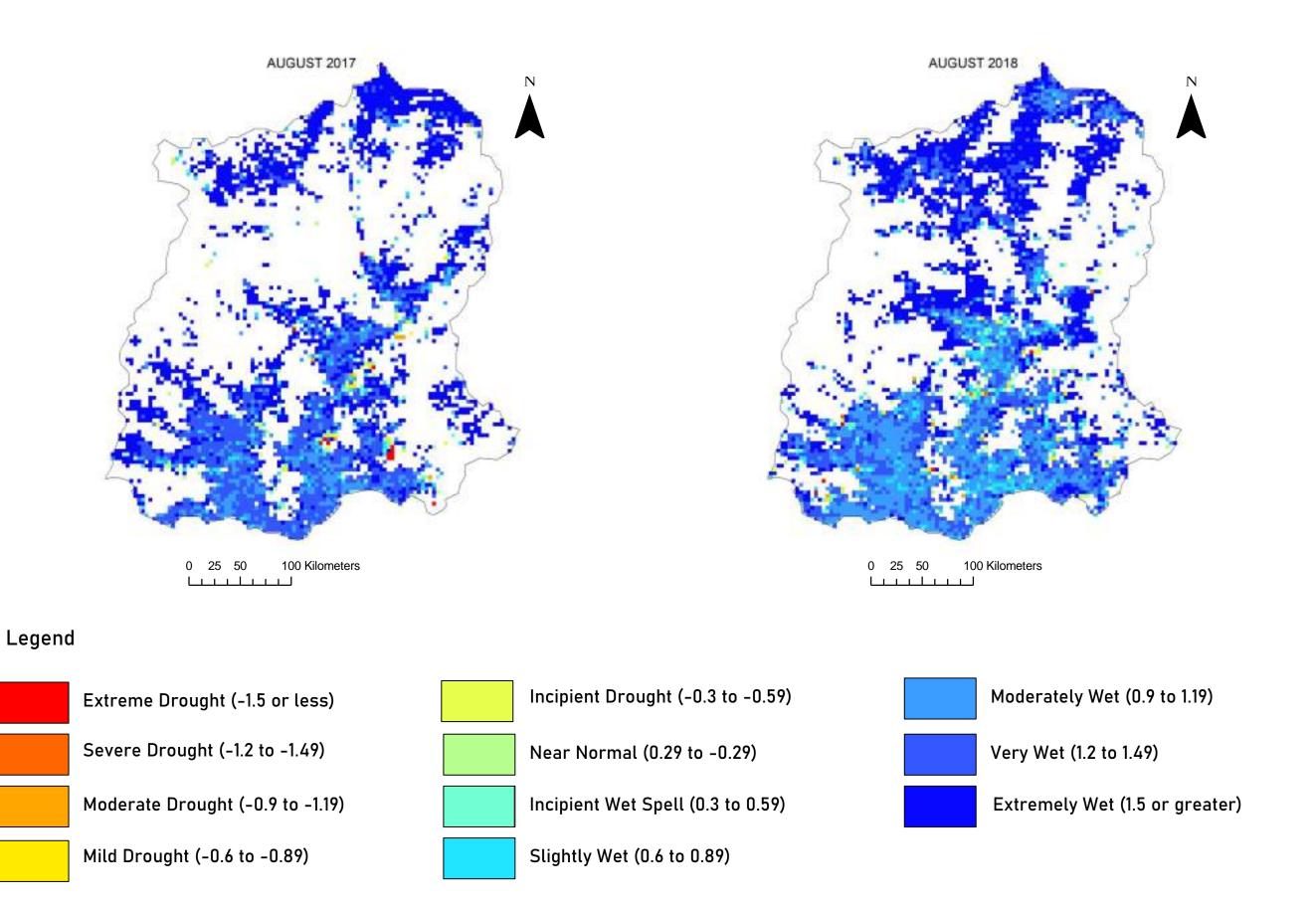


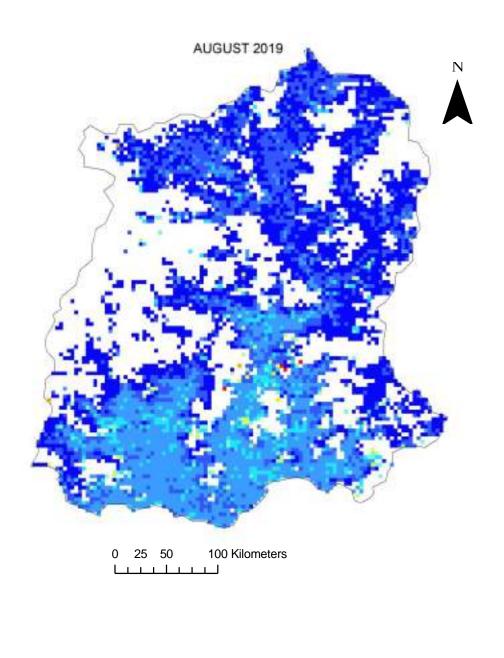


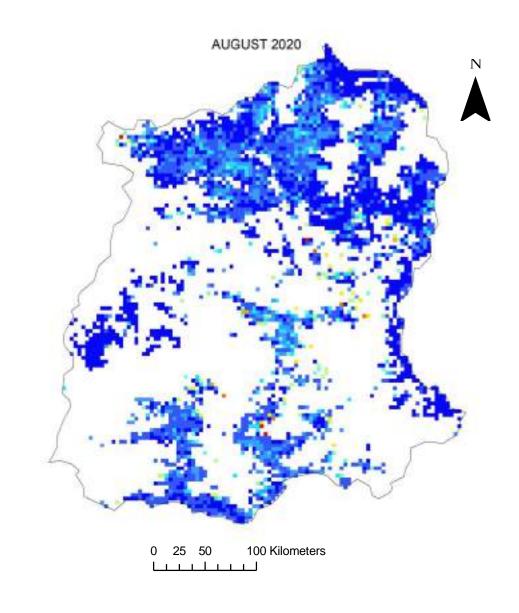


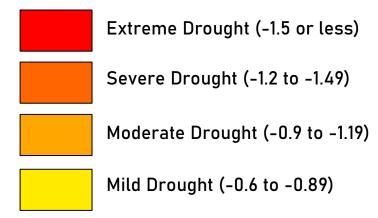


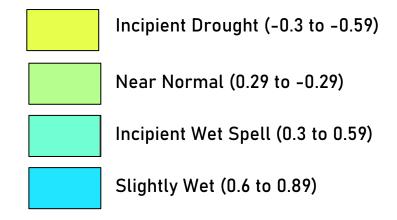


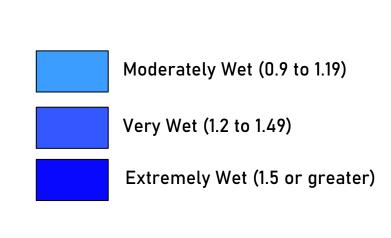








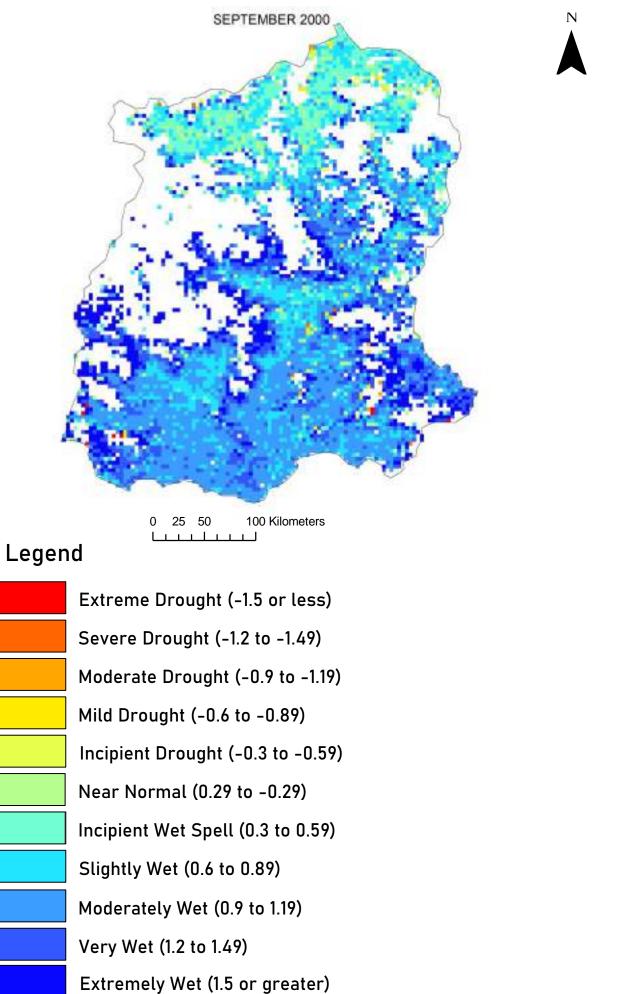


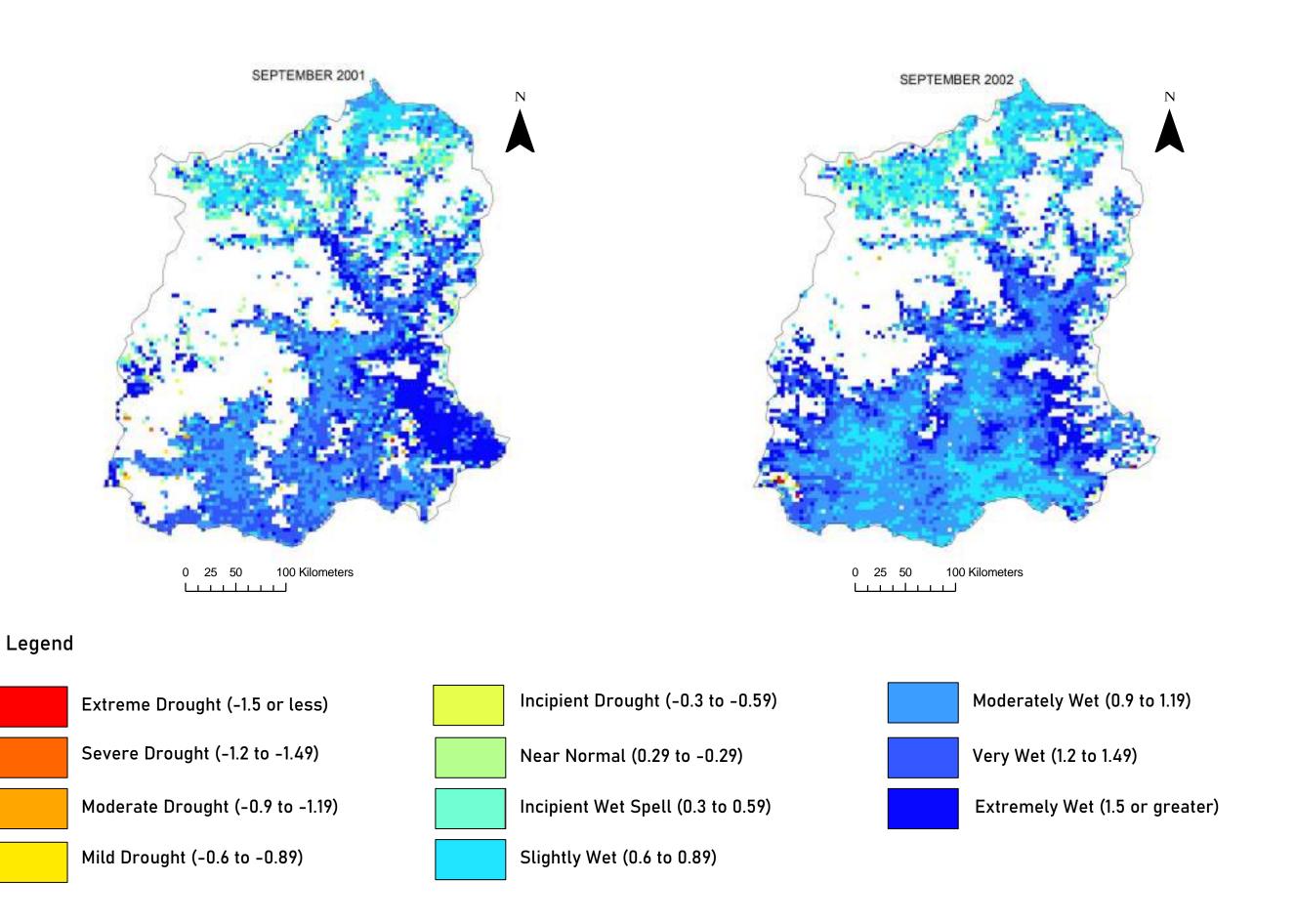


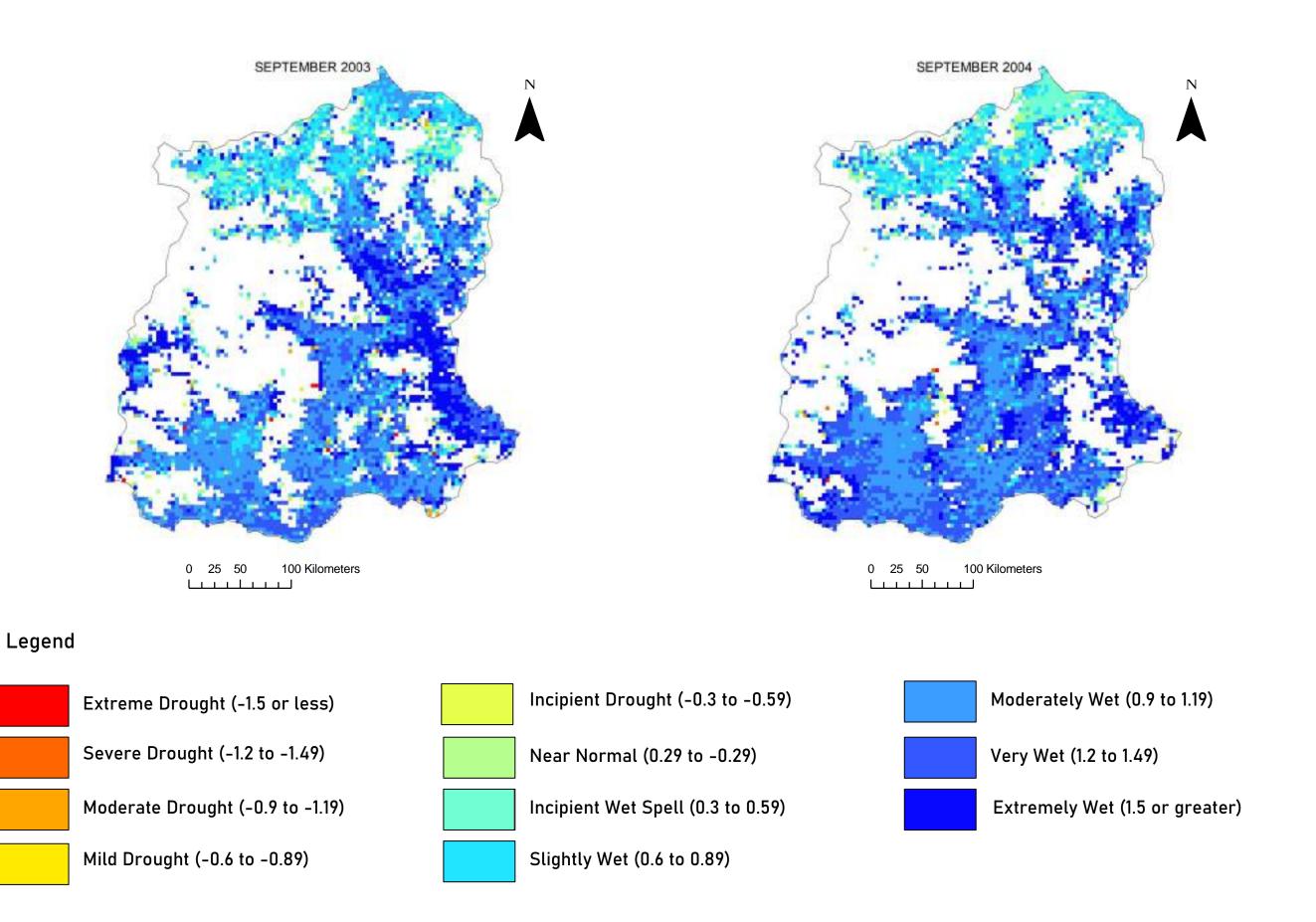
September DSI Maps

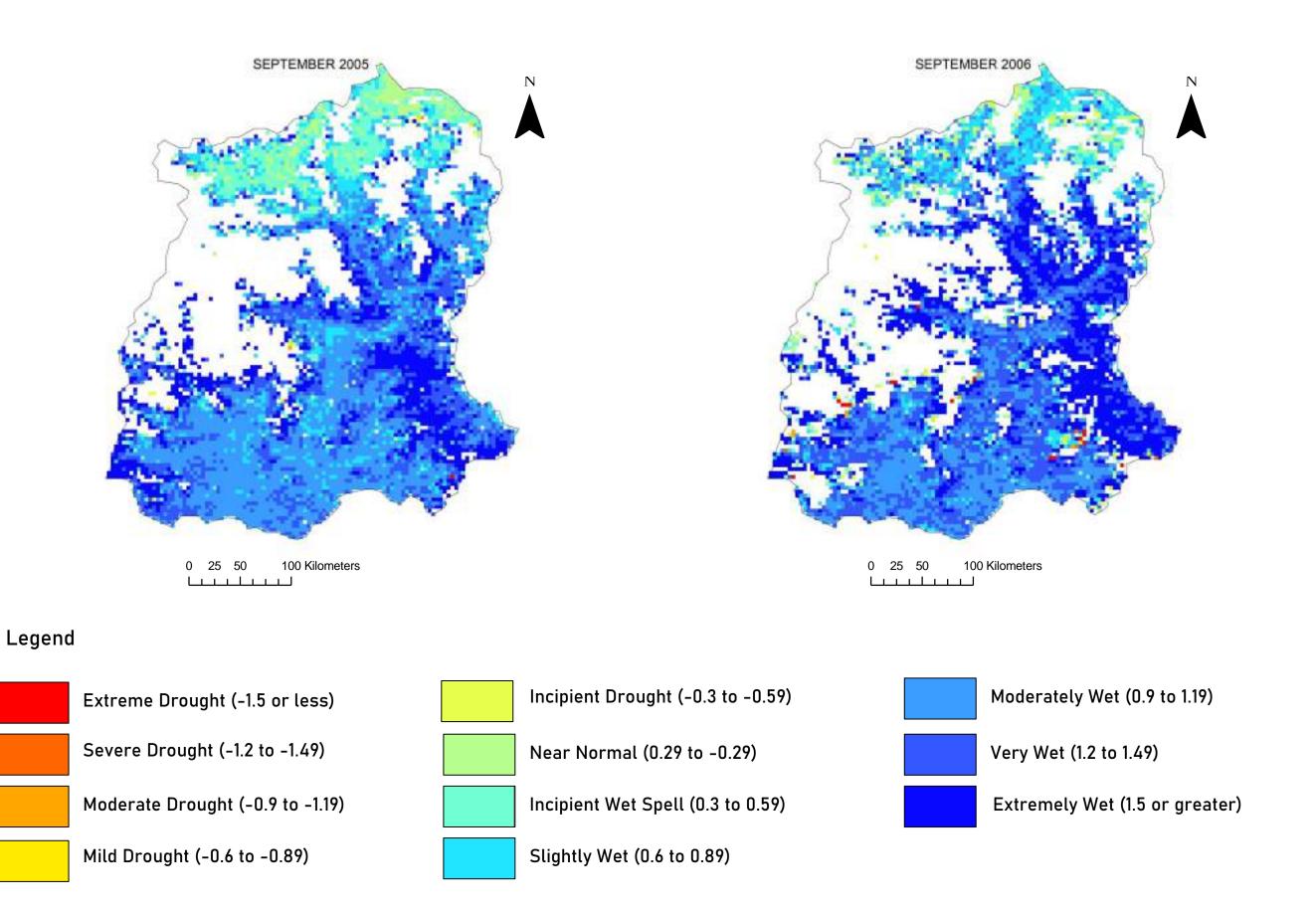
Drought conditions in September range from moderately wet to extremely wet condition. The characteristics of this monsoon month are marked by moderately wet conditions.

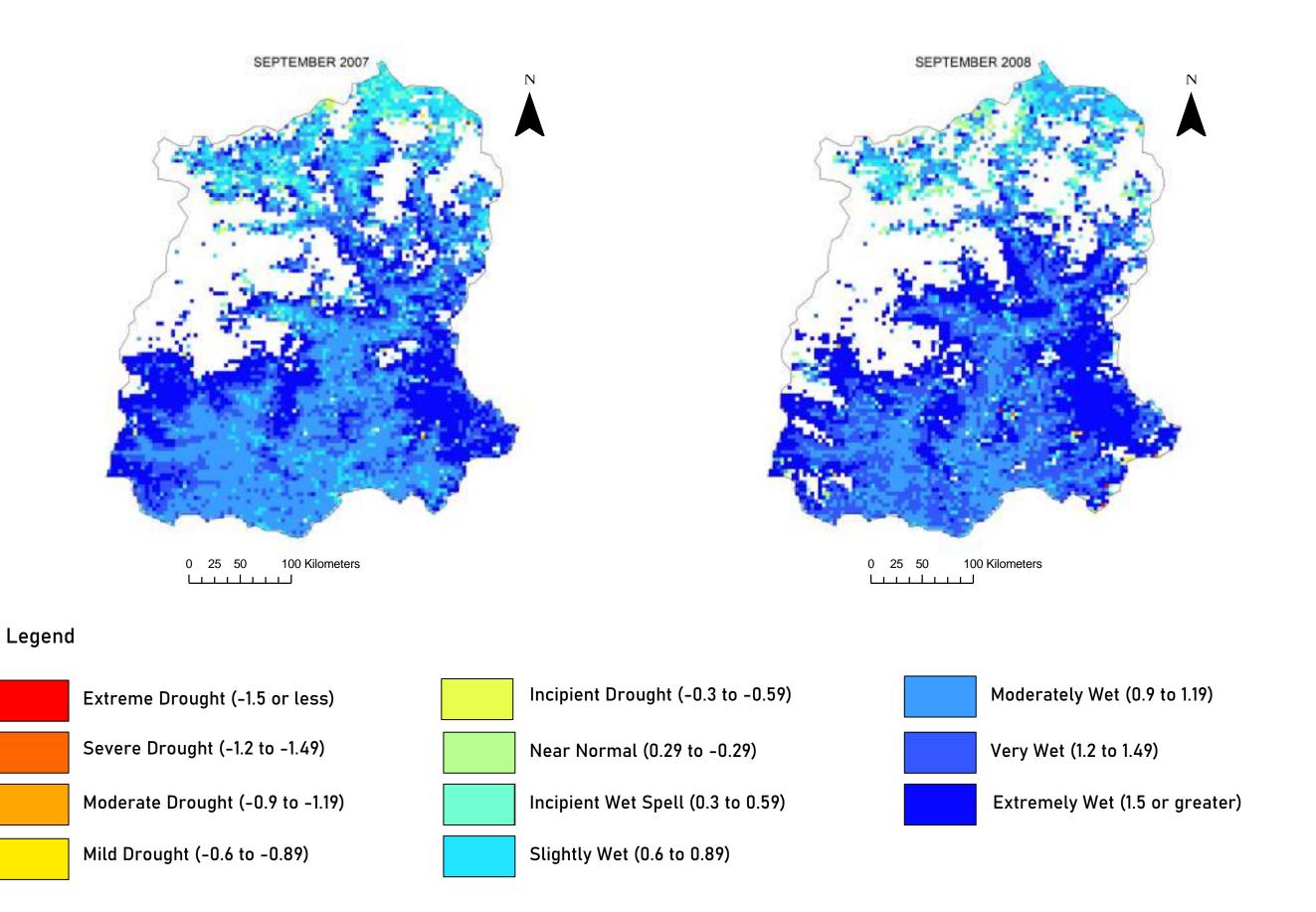
Mean September DSI Values			
Year	DSI Values	Drought Condition	
2000	1.06	Moderately Wet	
2001	1.11	Moderately Wet	
2002	0.96	Moderately Wet	
2003	0.92	Moderately Wet	
2004	1.15	Moderately Wet	
2005	0.93	Moderately Wet	
2006	1.13	Moderately Wet	
2007	1.18	Moderately Wet	
2008	1.38	Very Wet	
2009	1.18	Moderately Wet	
2010	1.07	Moderately Wet	
2011	1.06	Moderately Wet	
2012	0.95	Moderately Wet	
2013	1.09	Moderately Wet	
2014	1.29	Very Wet	
2015	0.90	Moderately Wet	
2016	1.54	Extremely Wet	
2017	1.30	Very Wet	
2018	0.93	Moderately Wet	
2019	1.03	Moderately Wet	
2020	1.18	Moderately Wet	

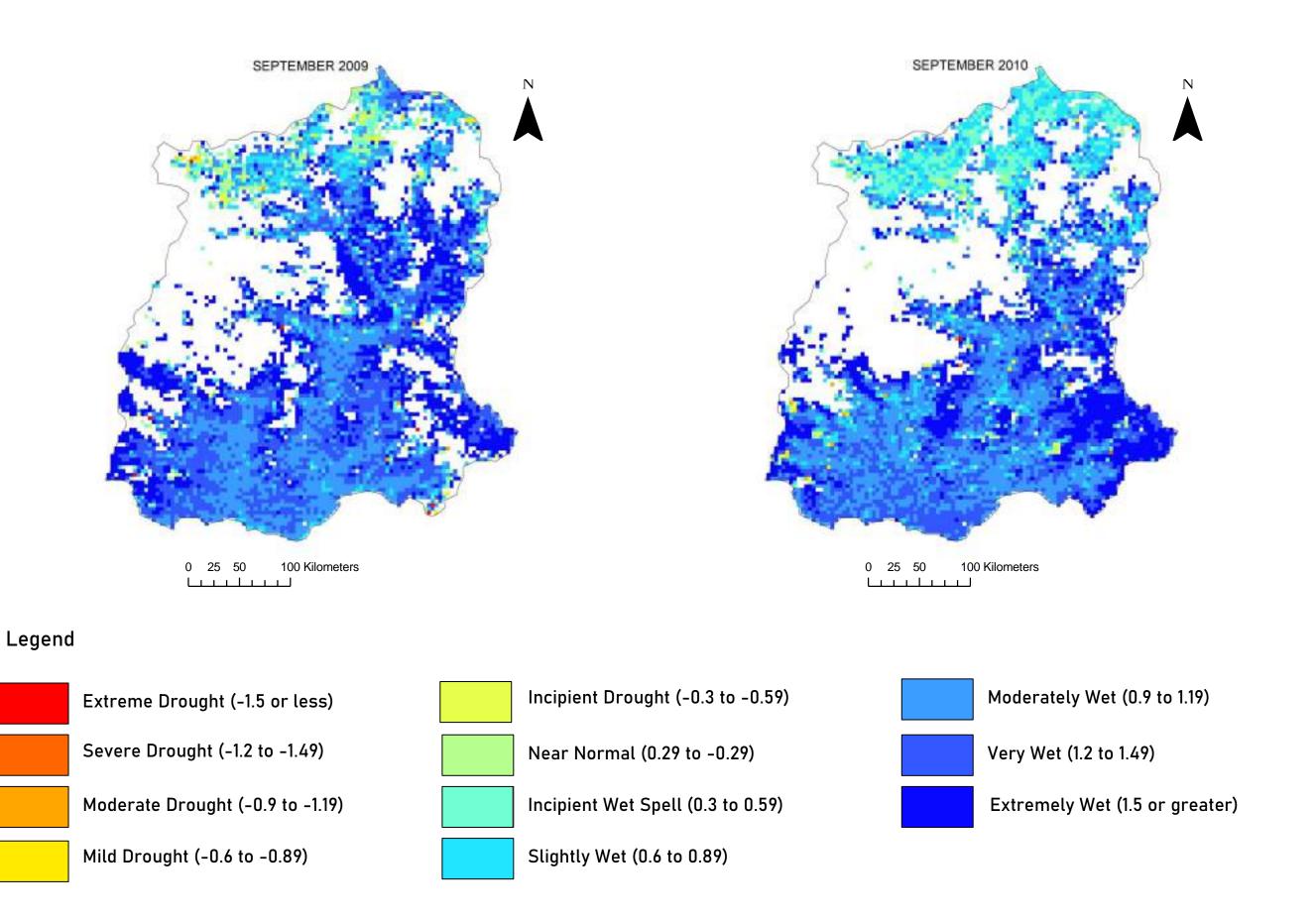


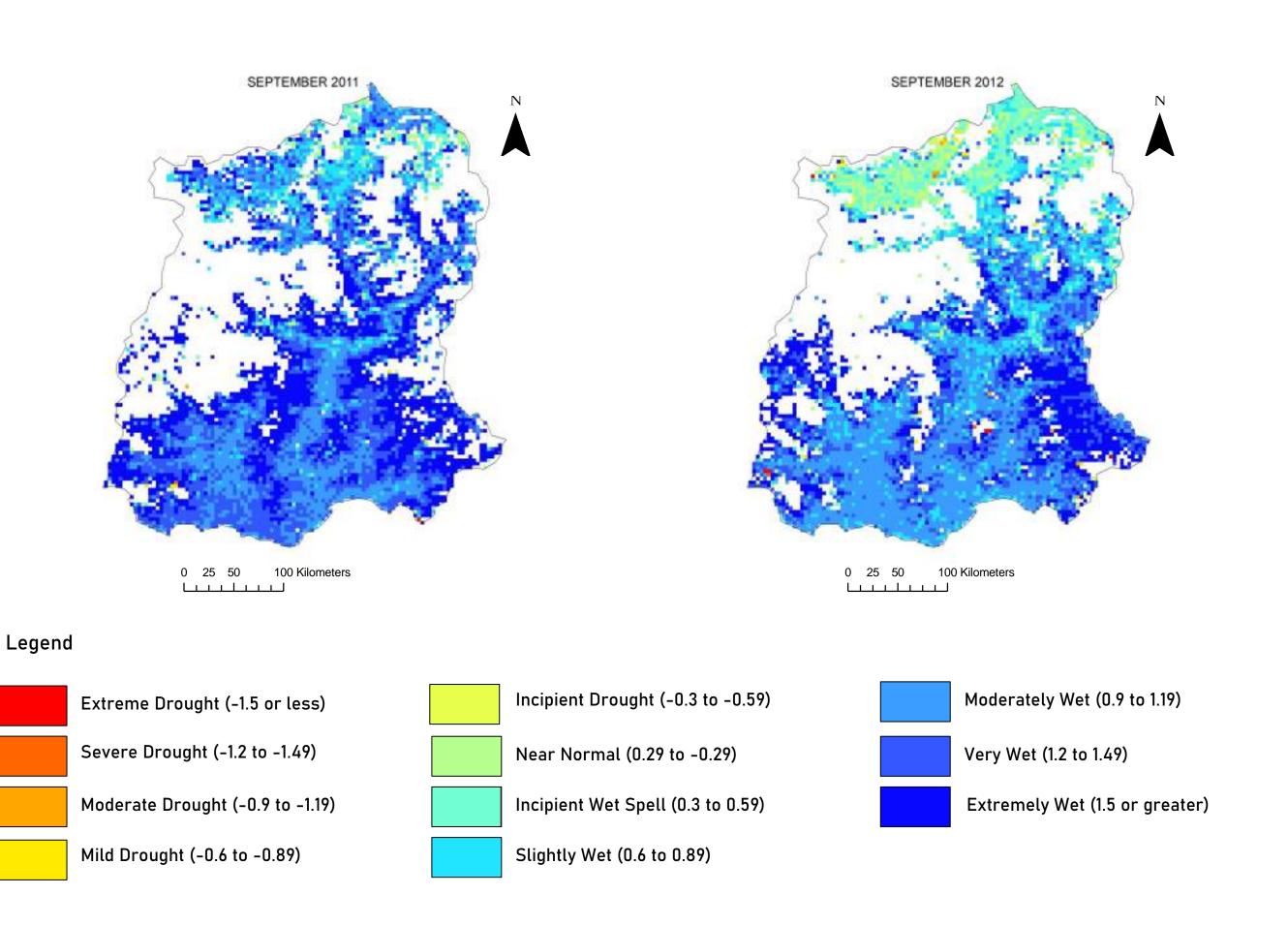


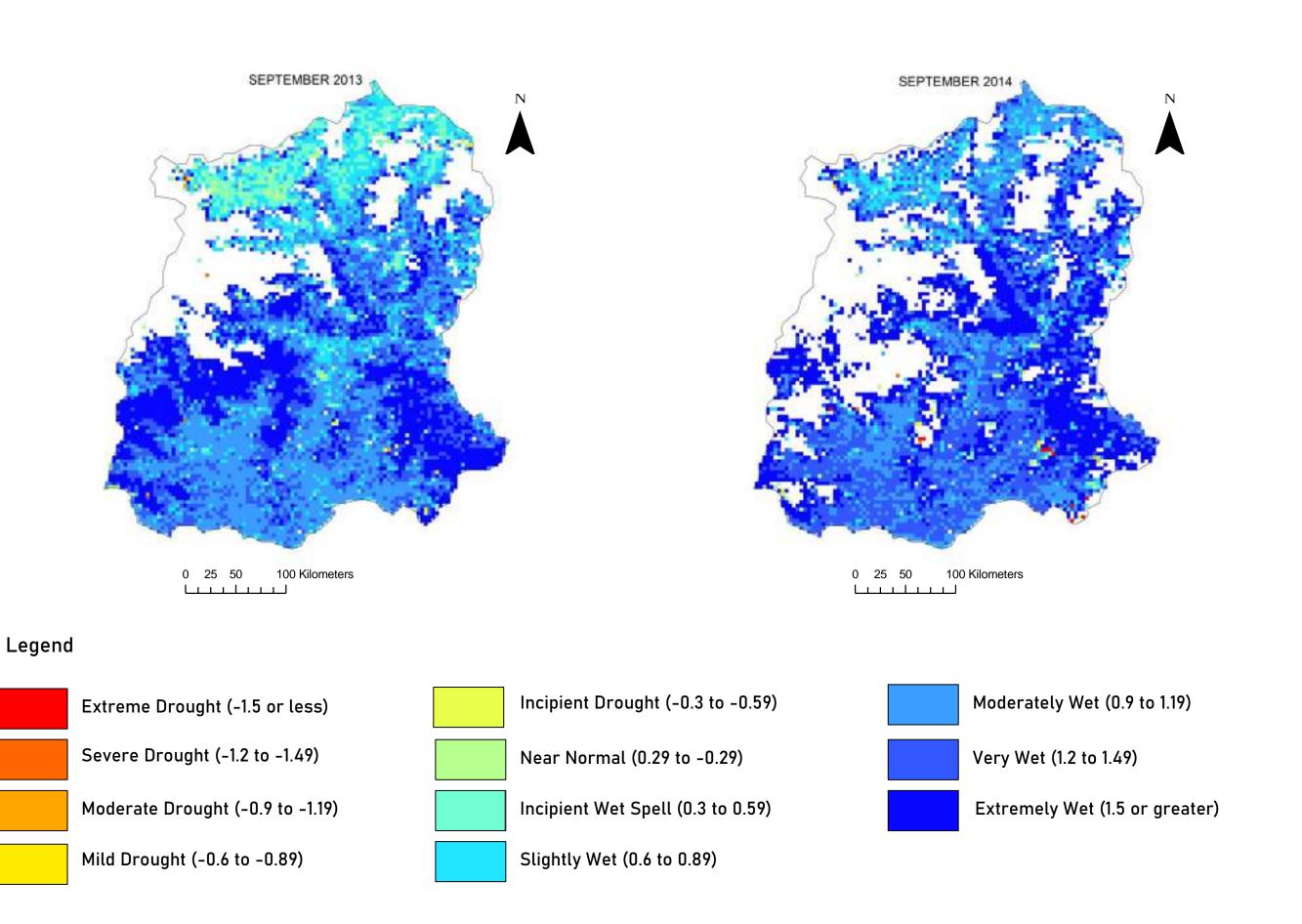


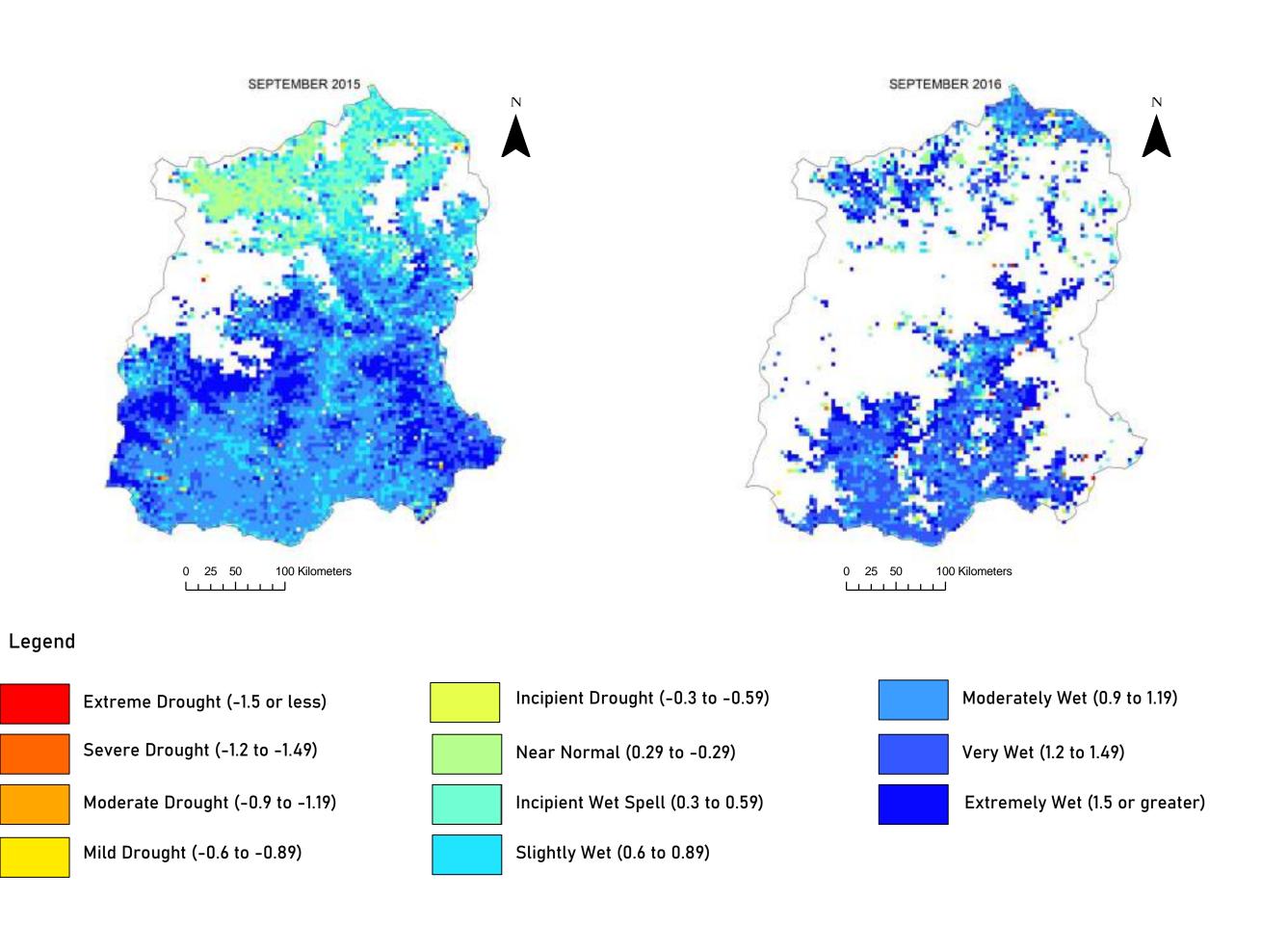


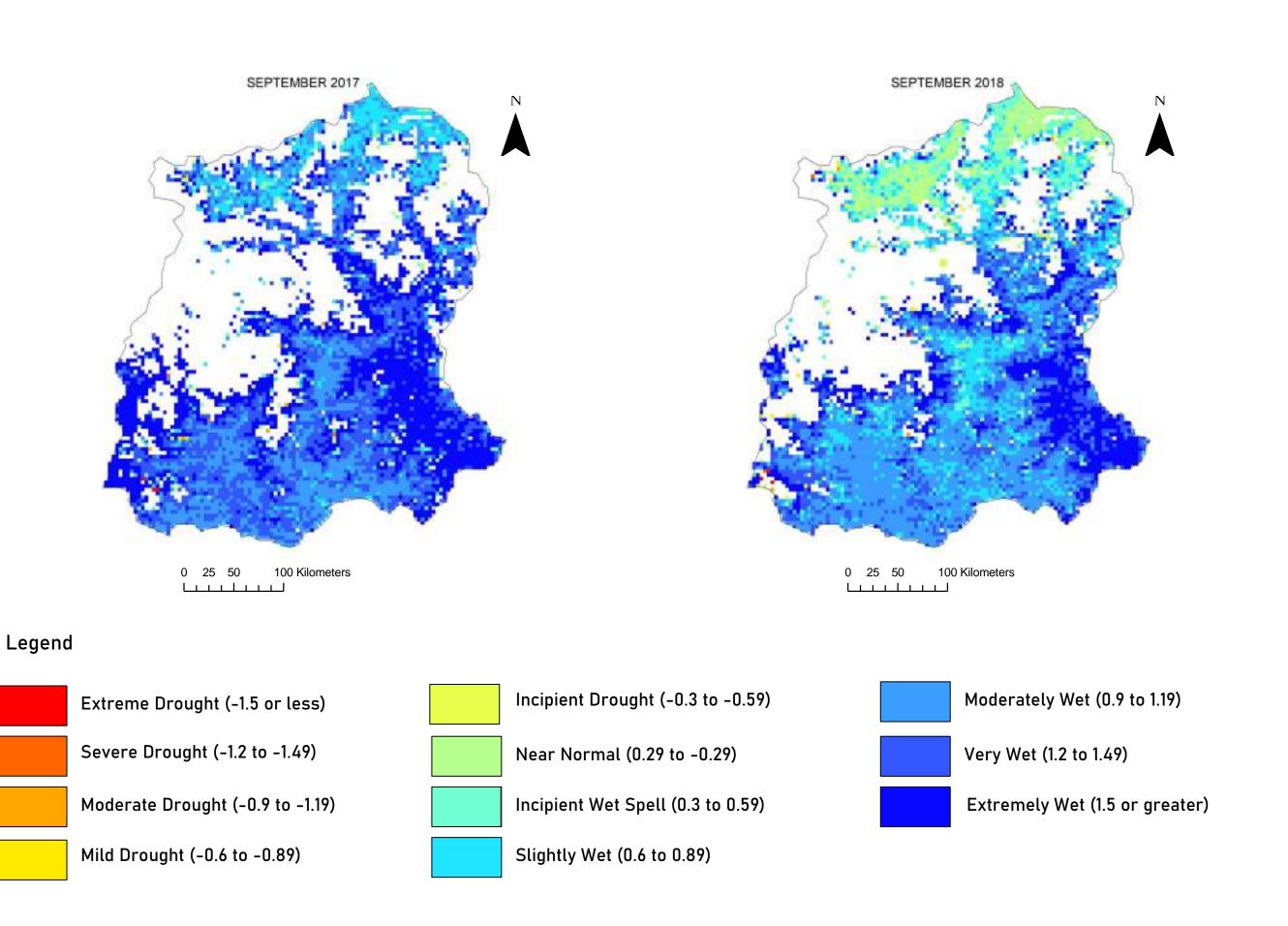


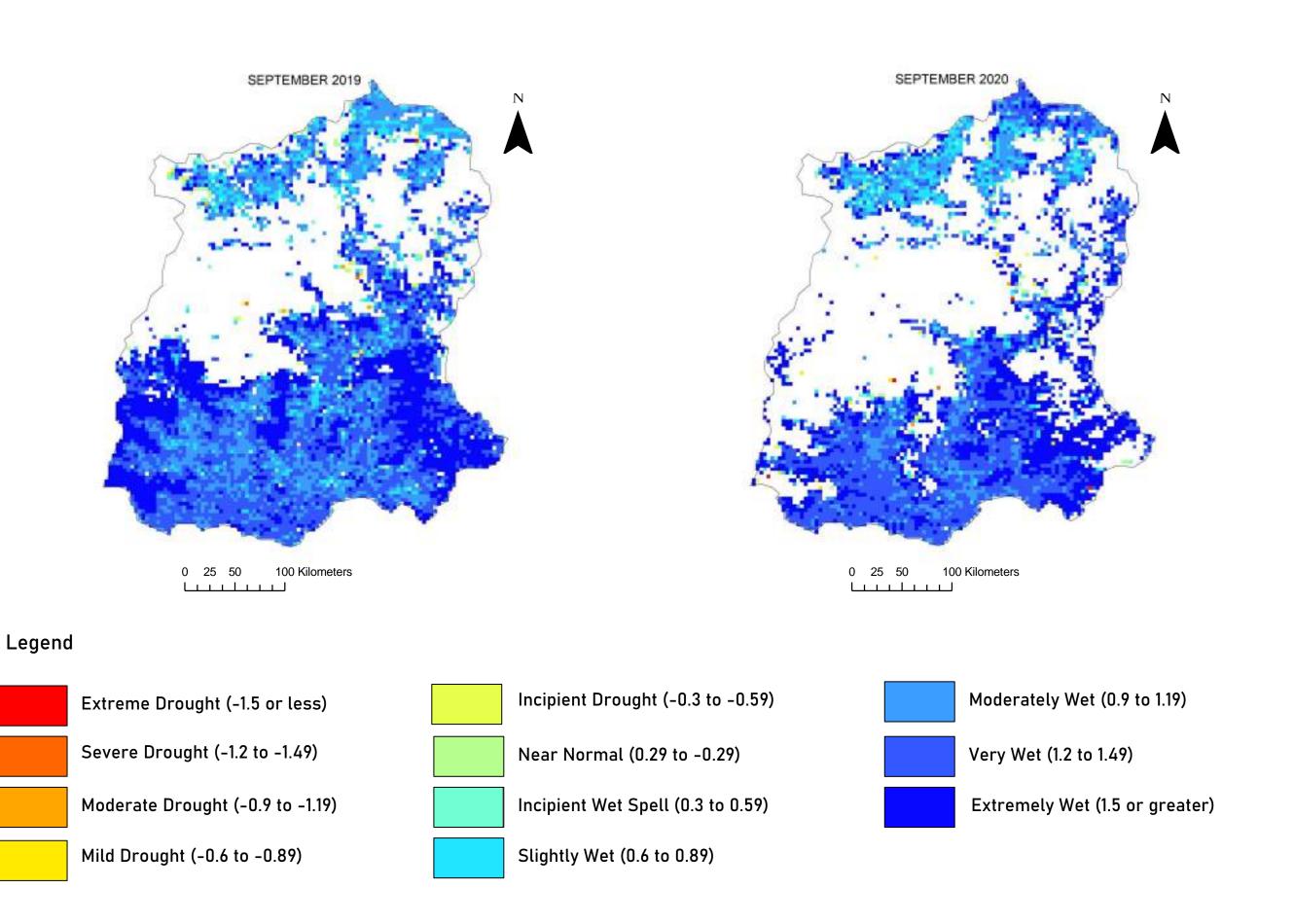








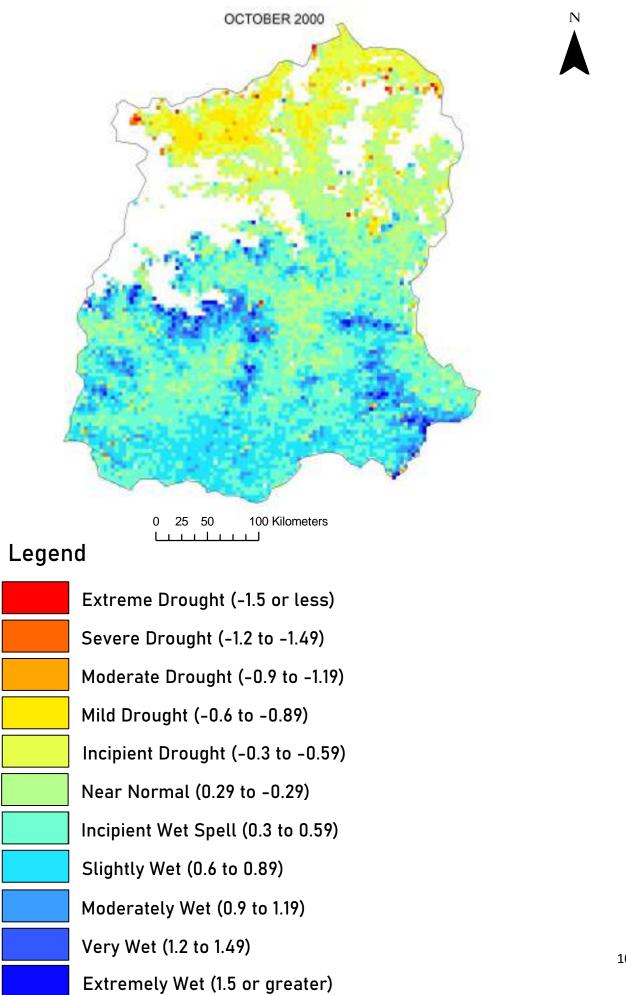


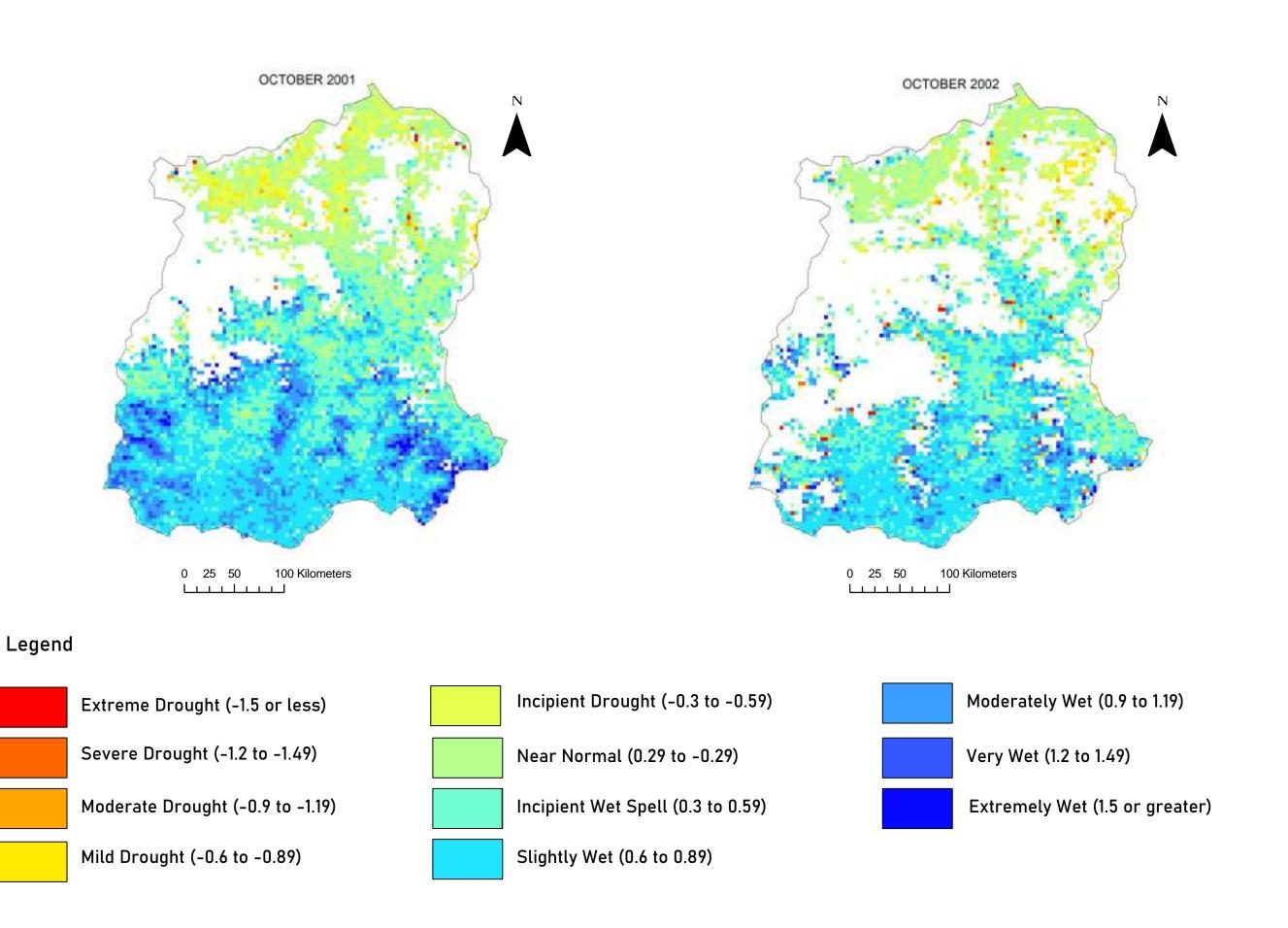


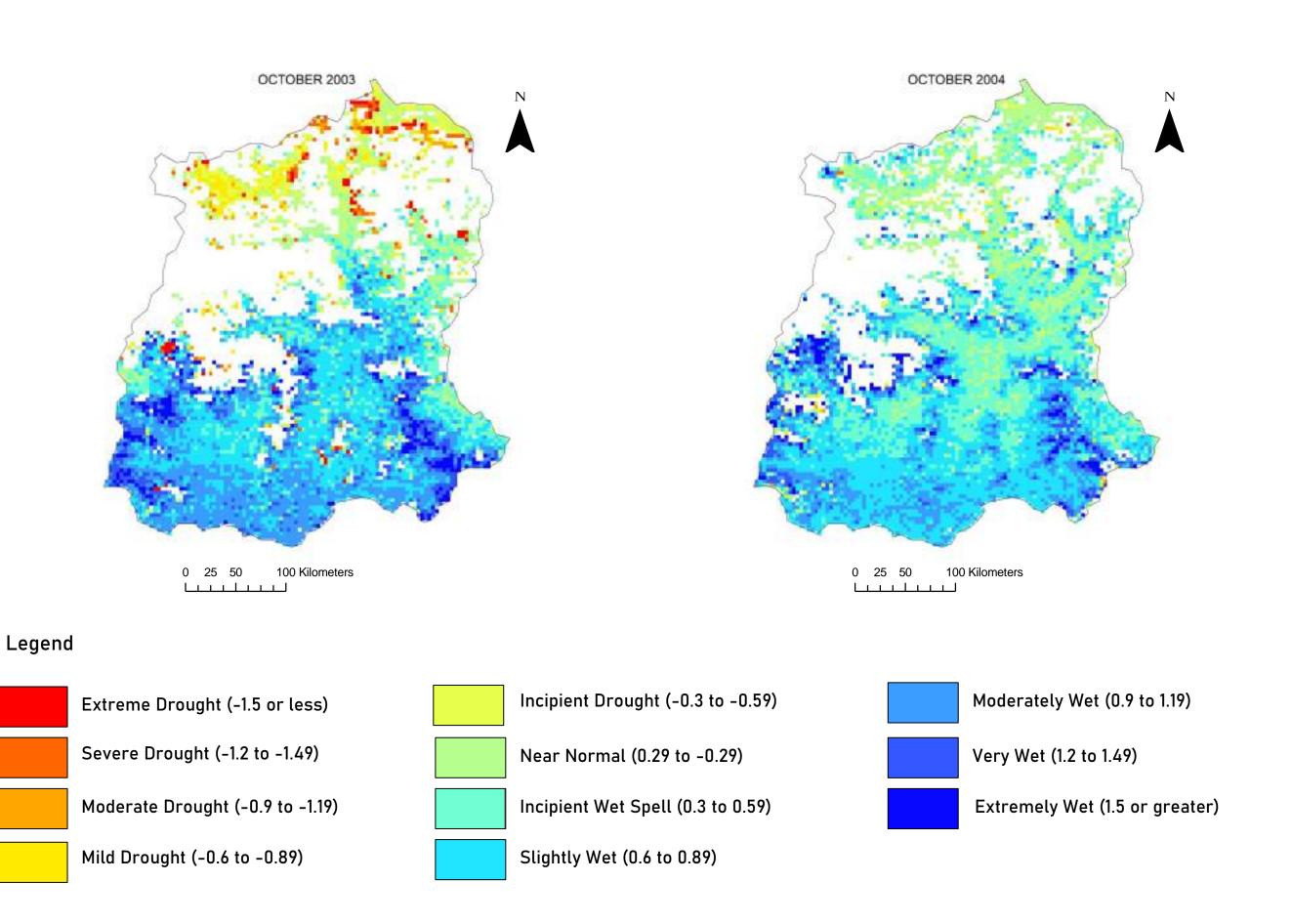
October DSI Maps

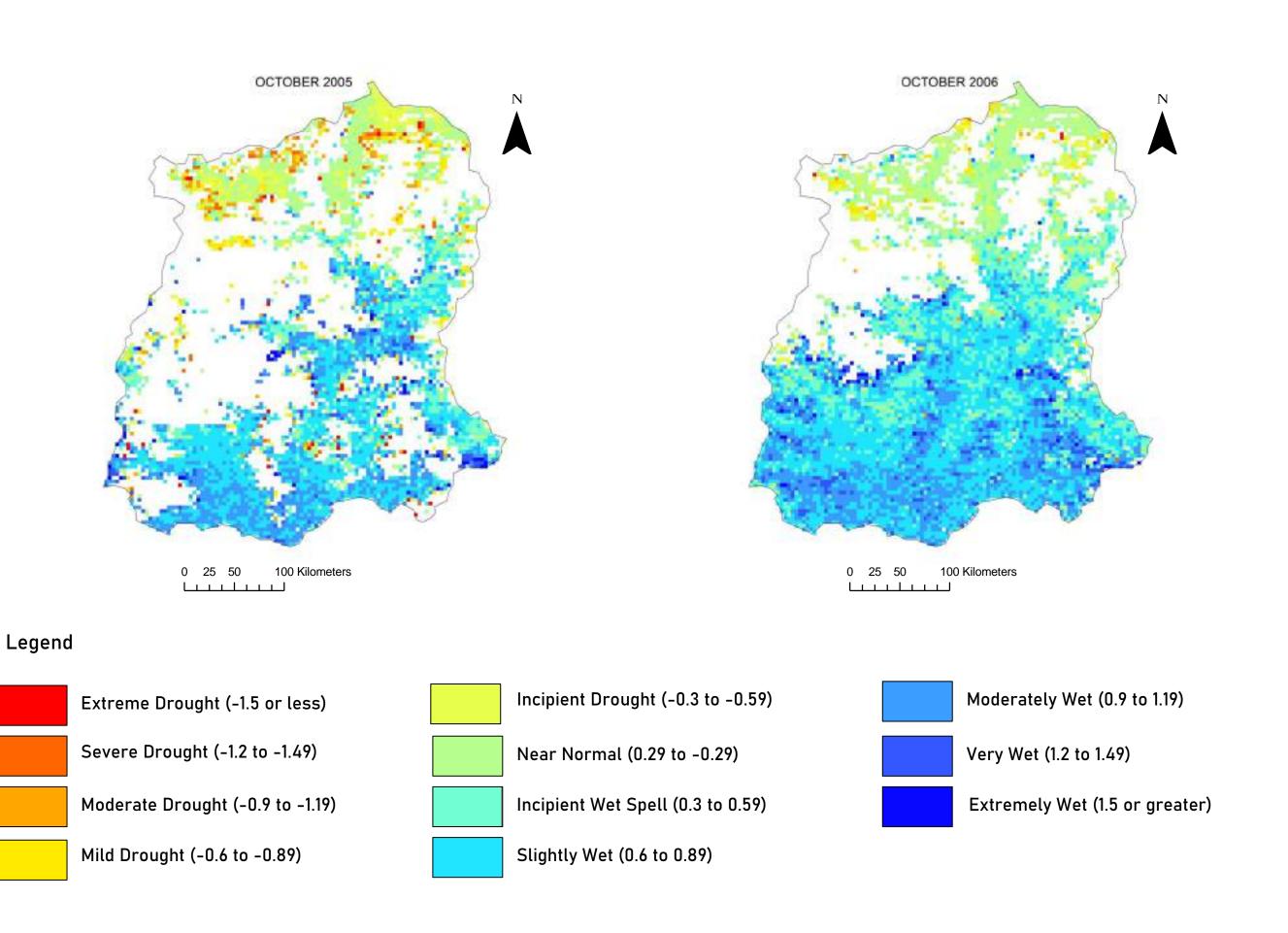
Drought conditions in October vary from near normal to slightly wet condition. The characteristics of month are characterized by incipient wet spell.

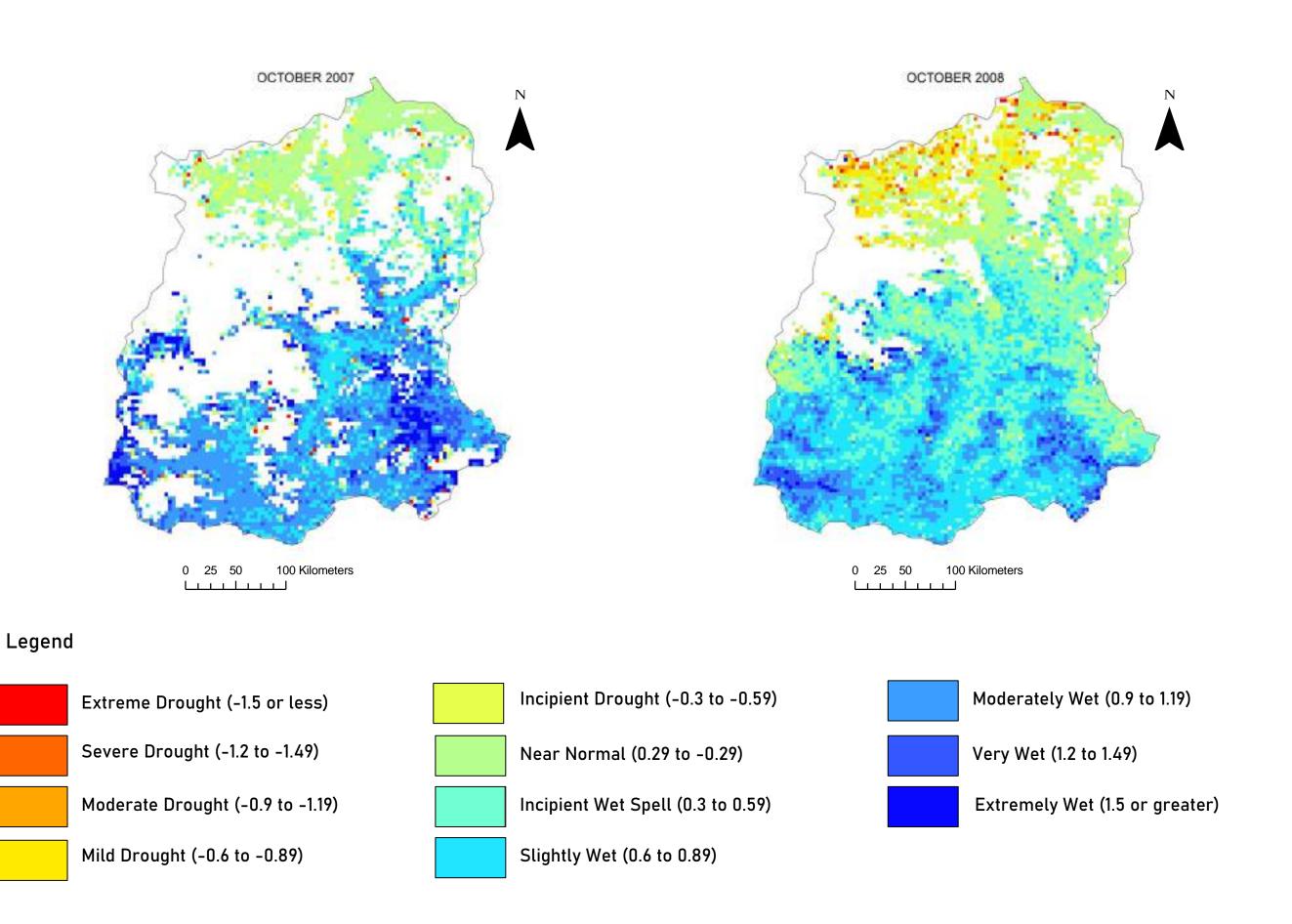
Mean October DSI Values			
Year	DSI Values	Drought Condition	
2000	0.01	Near Normal	
2001	0.26	Near Normal	
2002	0.38	Incipient Wet Spell	
2003	0.26	Near Normal	
2004	0.54	Incipient Wet Spell	
2005	0.08	Near Normal	
2006	0.38	Incipient Wet Spell	
2007	0.67	Slightly Wet	
2008	0.40	Incipient Wet Spell	
2009	0.12	Near Normal	
2010	0.30	Incipient Wet Spell	
2011	0.36	Incipient Wet Spell	
2012	-0.15	Near Normal	
2013	0.76	Slightly Wet	
2014	0.48	Incipient Wet Spell	
2015	0.30	Incipient Wet Spell	
2016	0.07	Near Normal	
2017	0.52	Incipient Wet Spell	
2018	-0.03	Near Normal	
2019	0.38	Incipient Wet Spell	
2020	0.12	Near Normal	

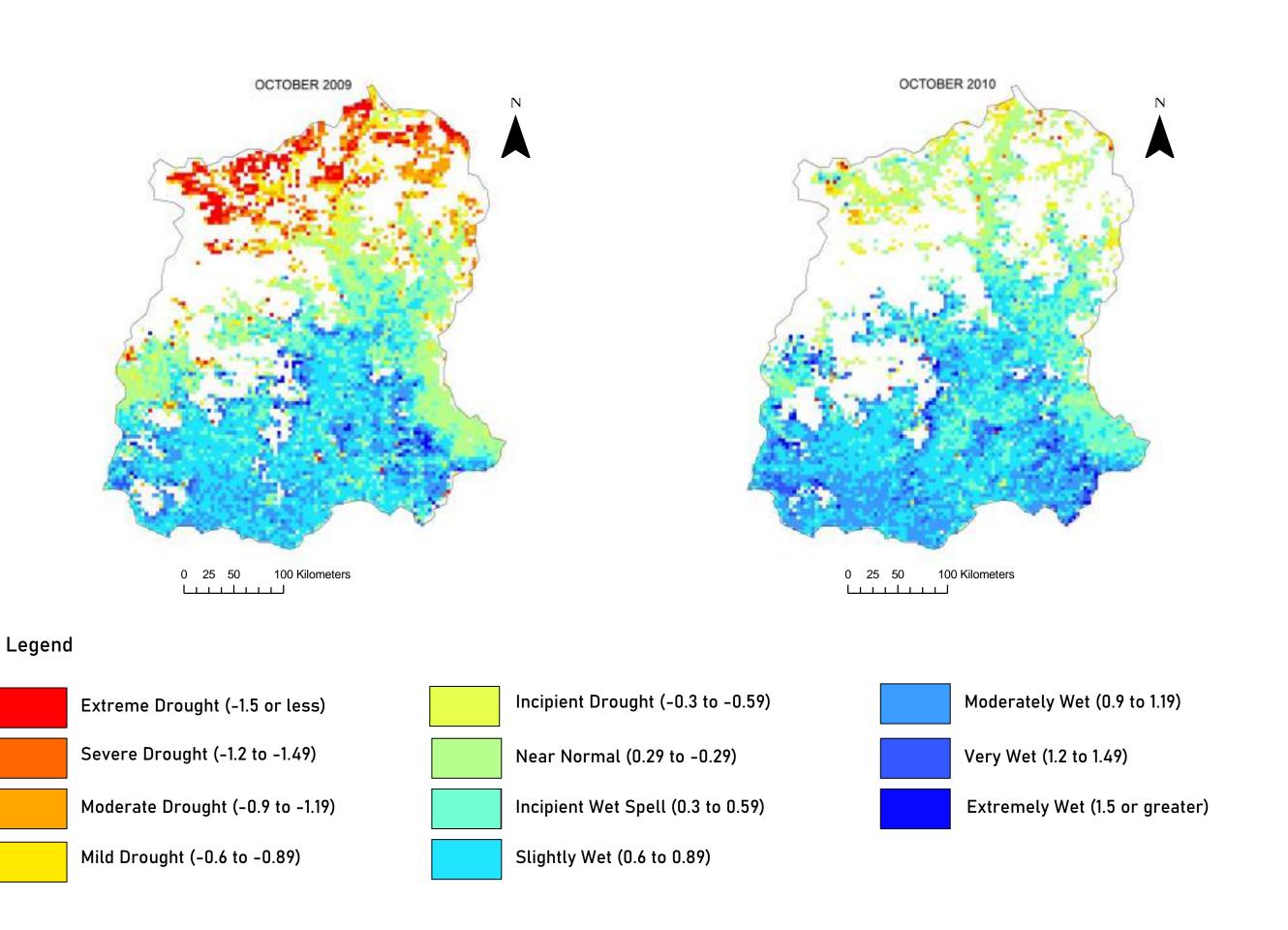


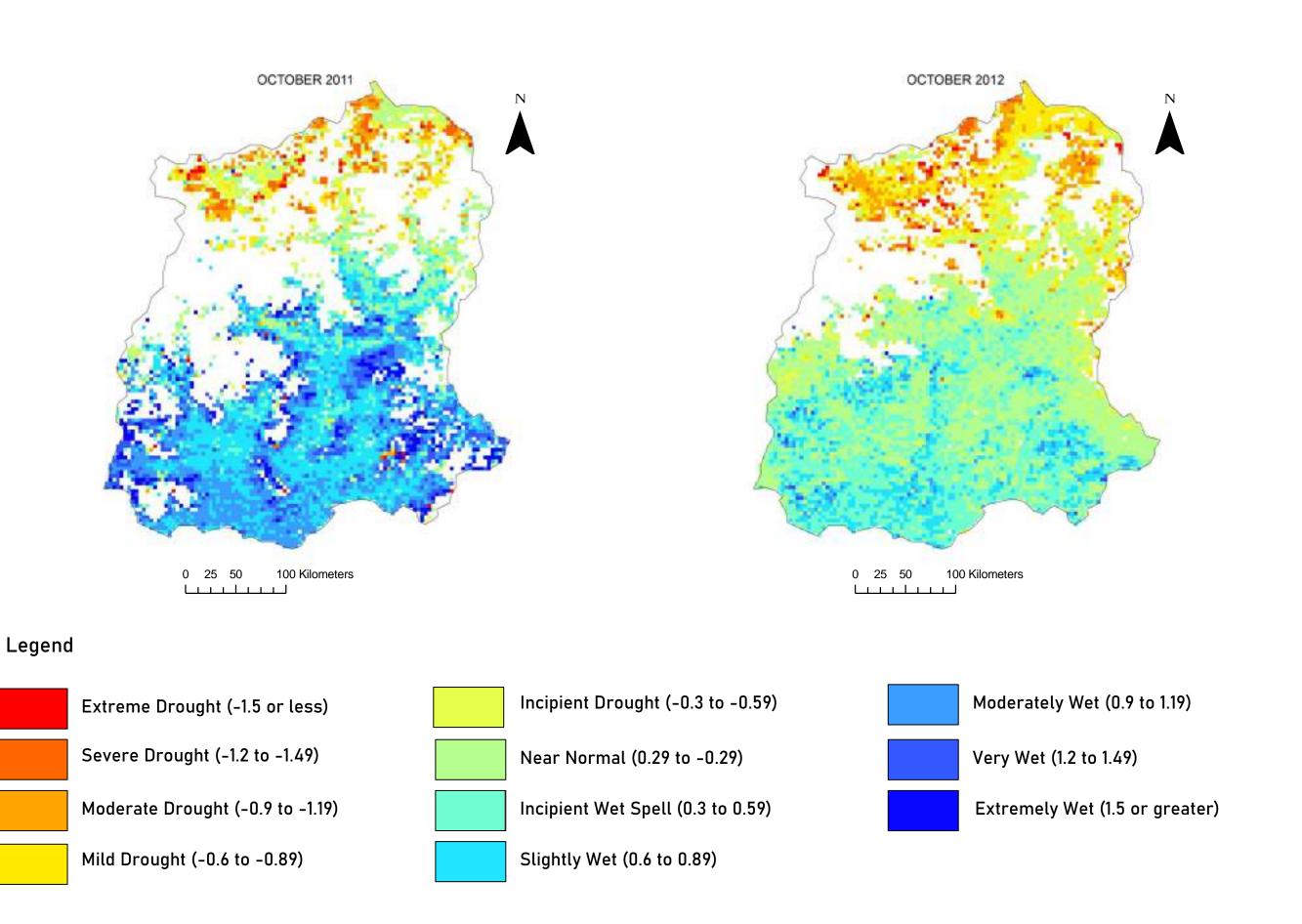


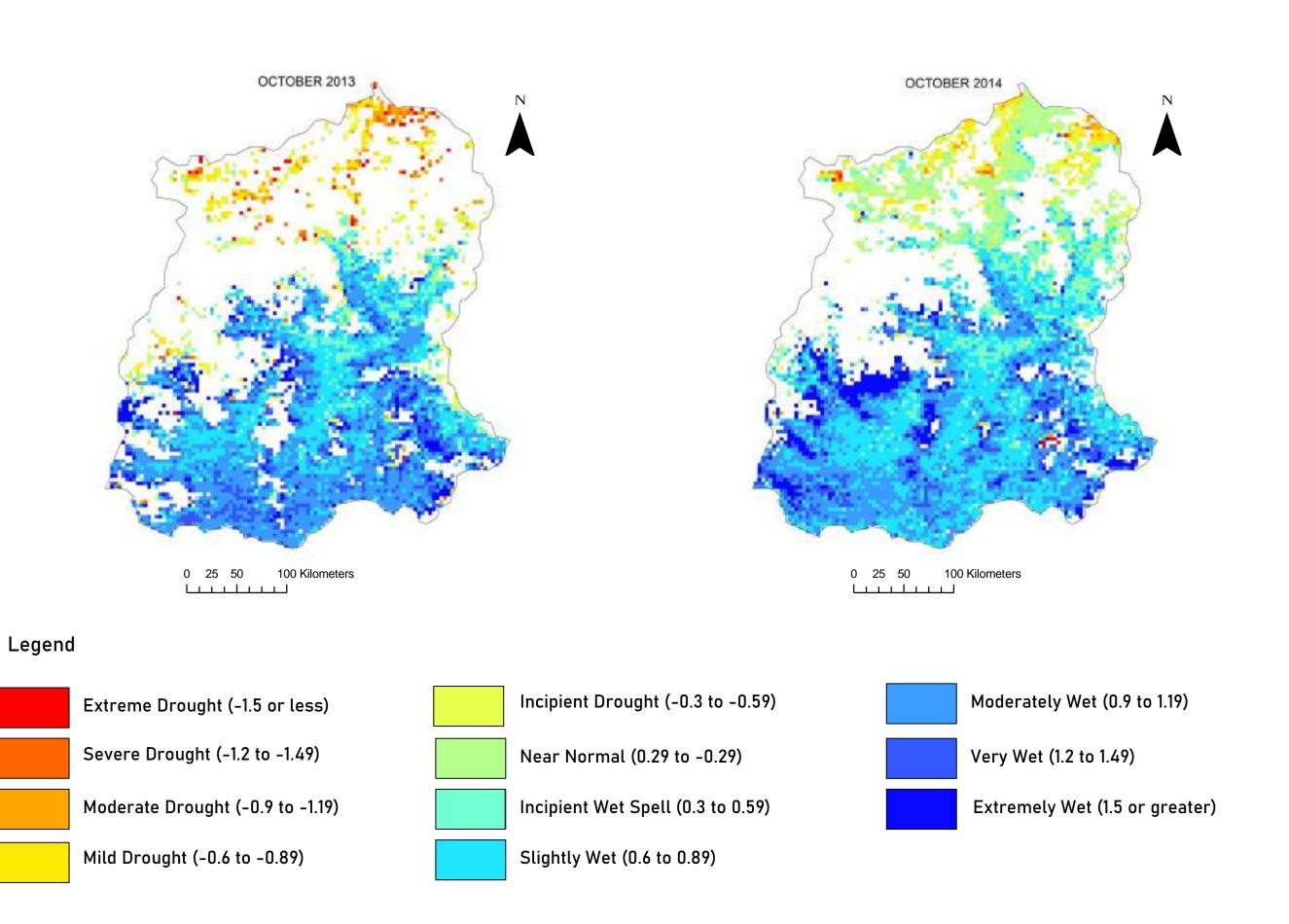


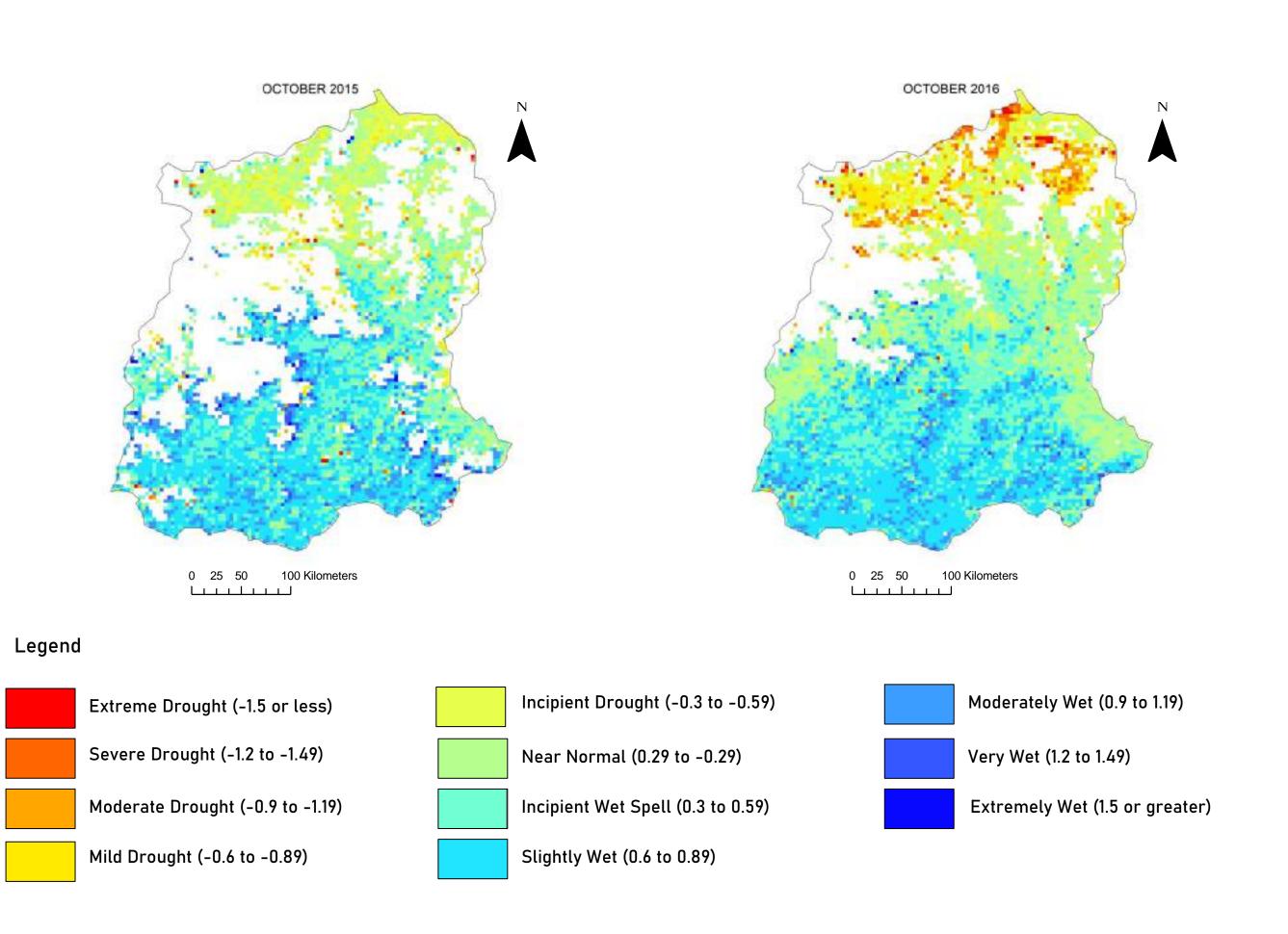


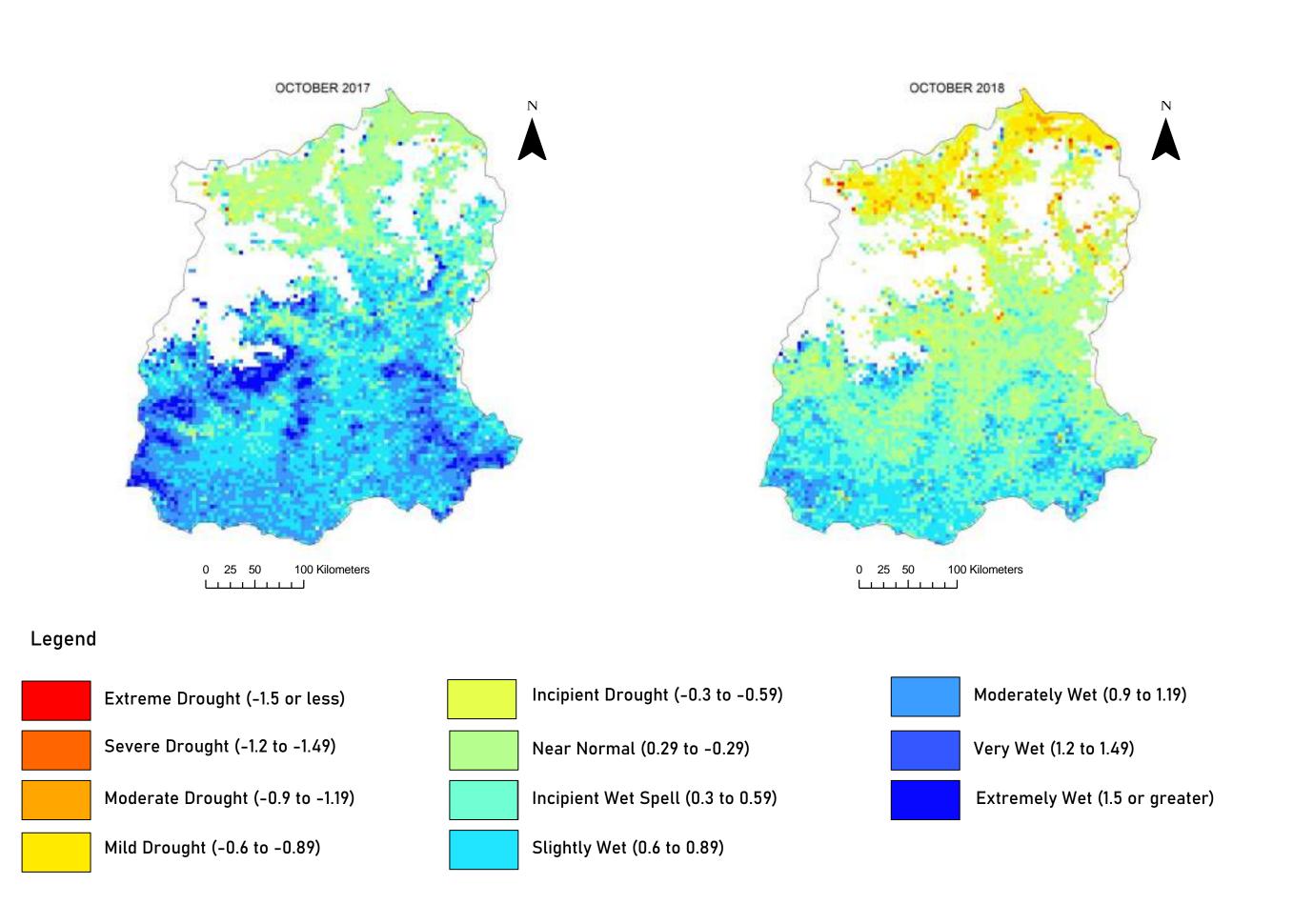


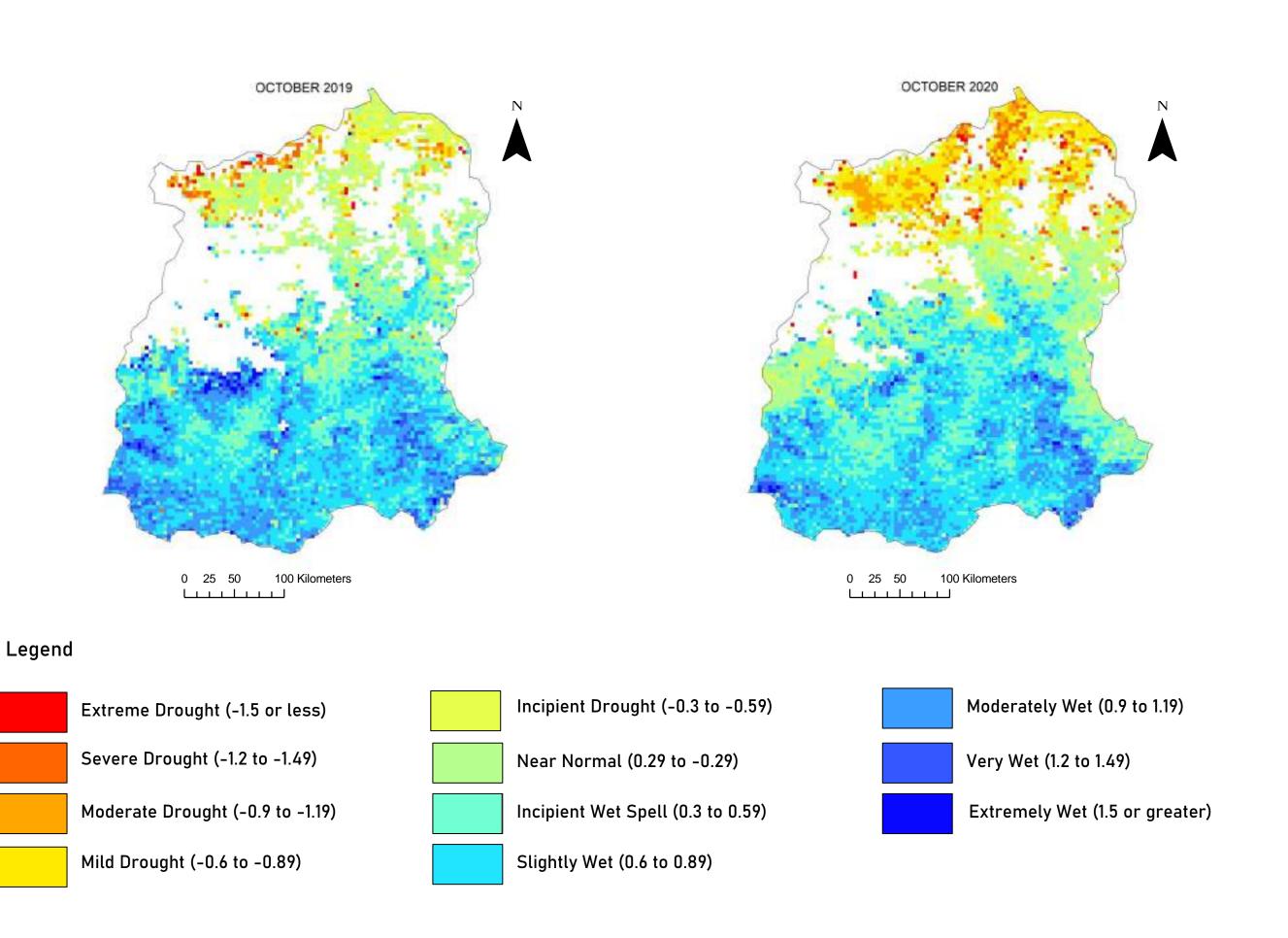








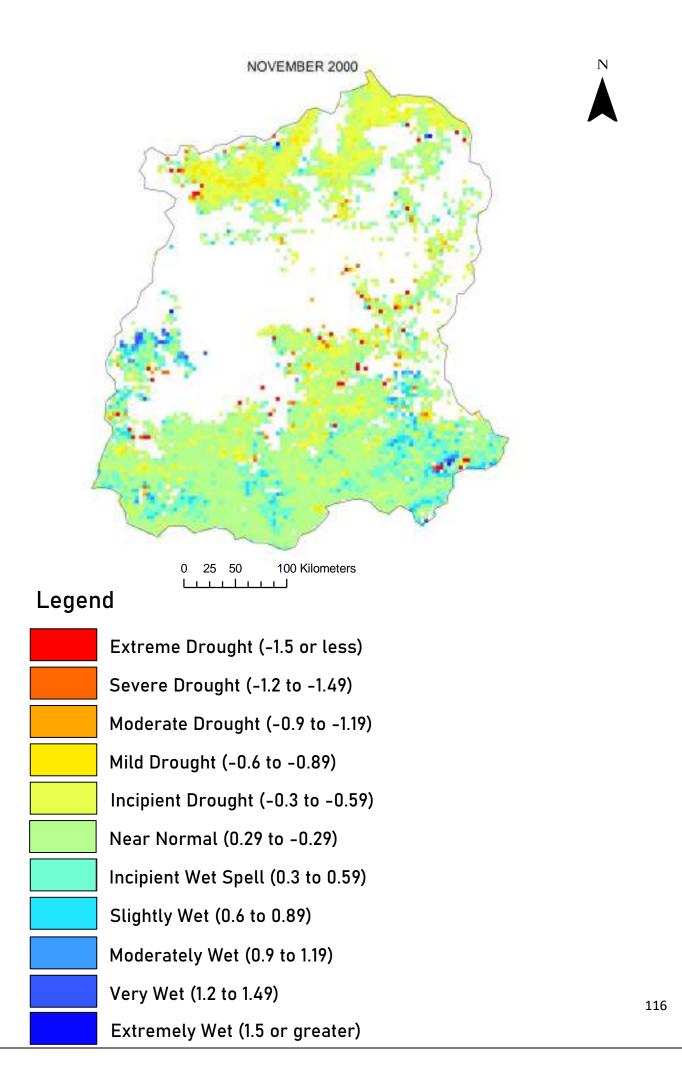


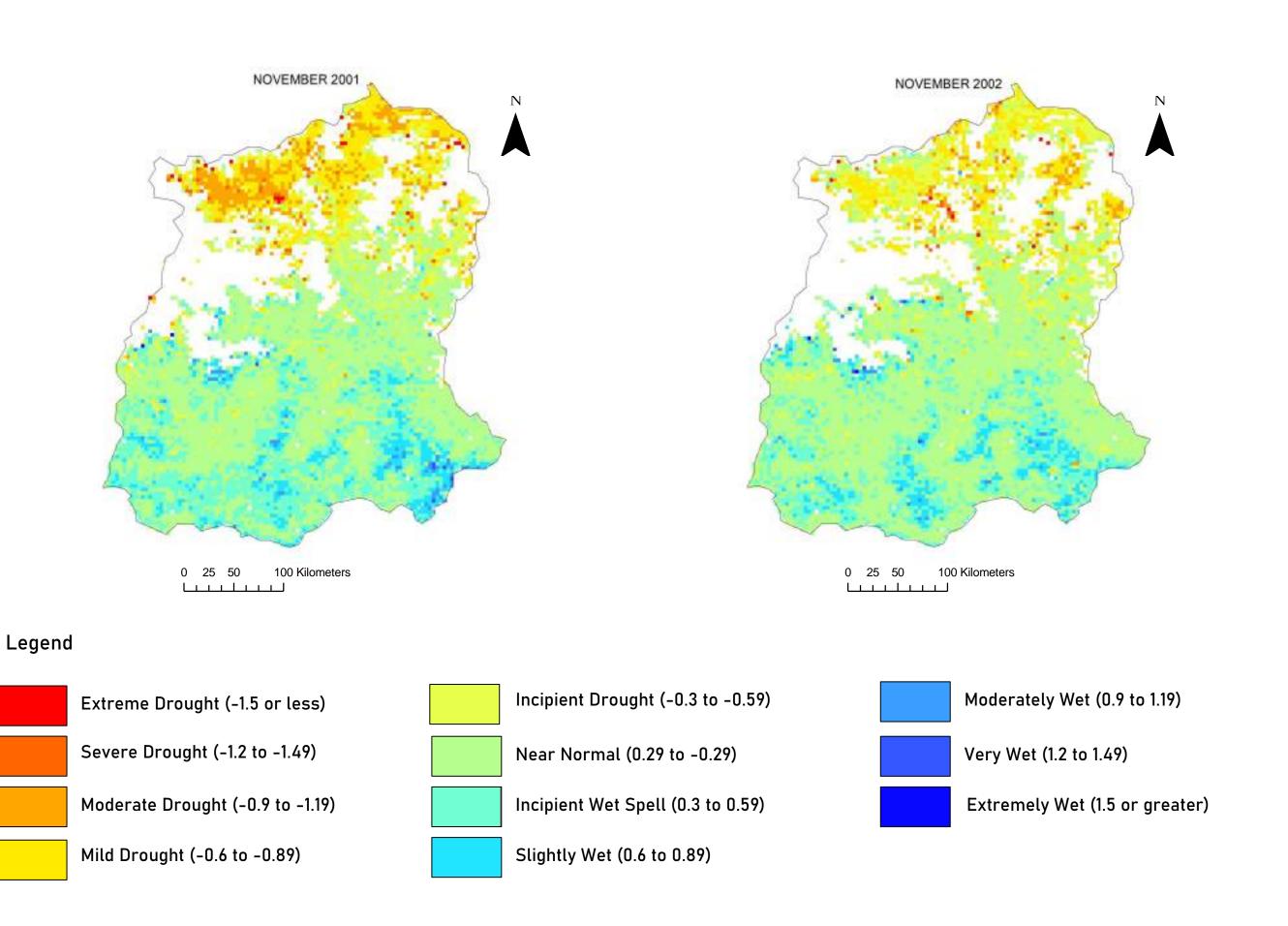


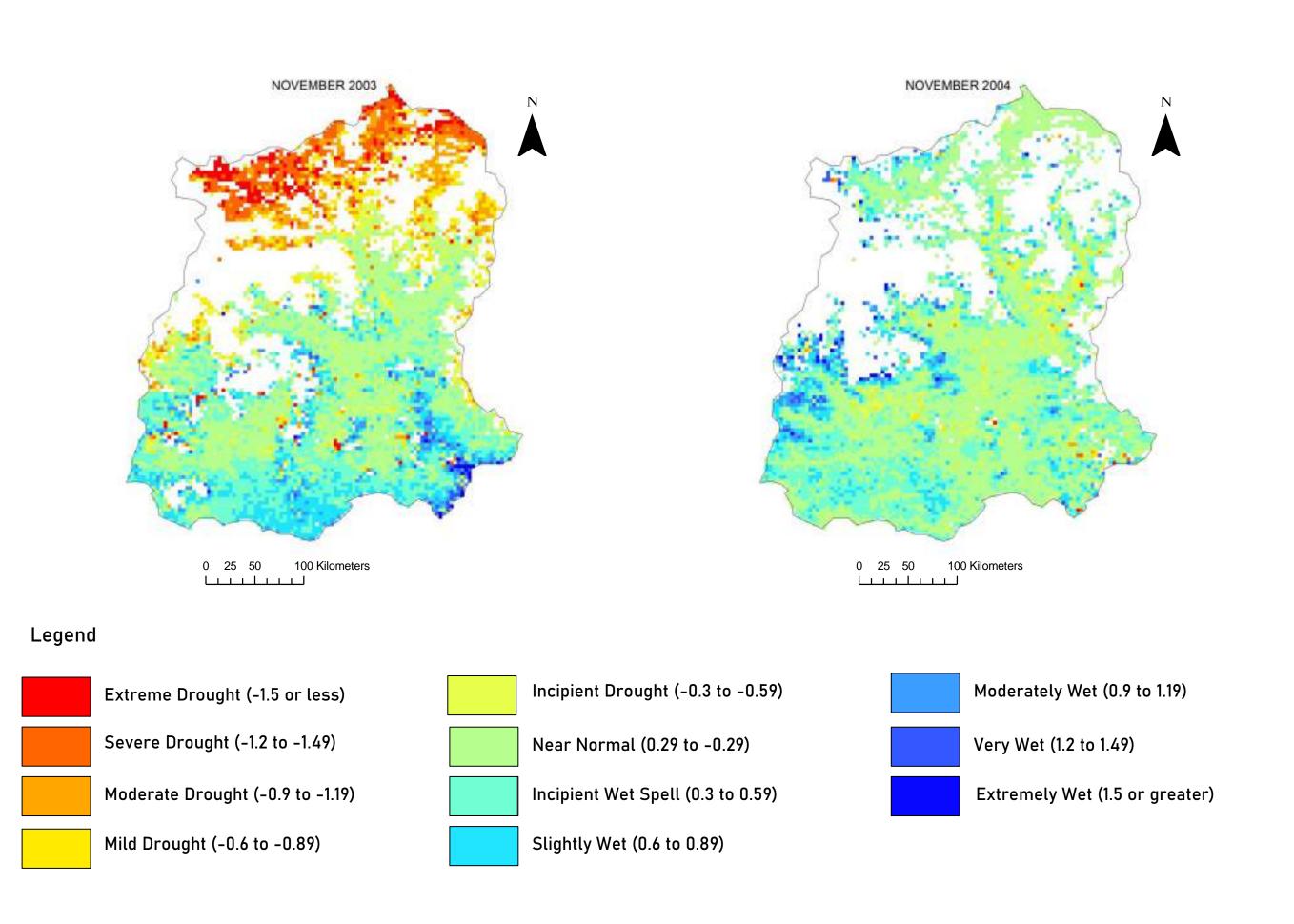
November DSI Maps

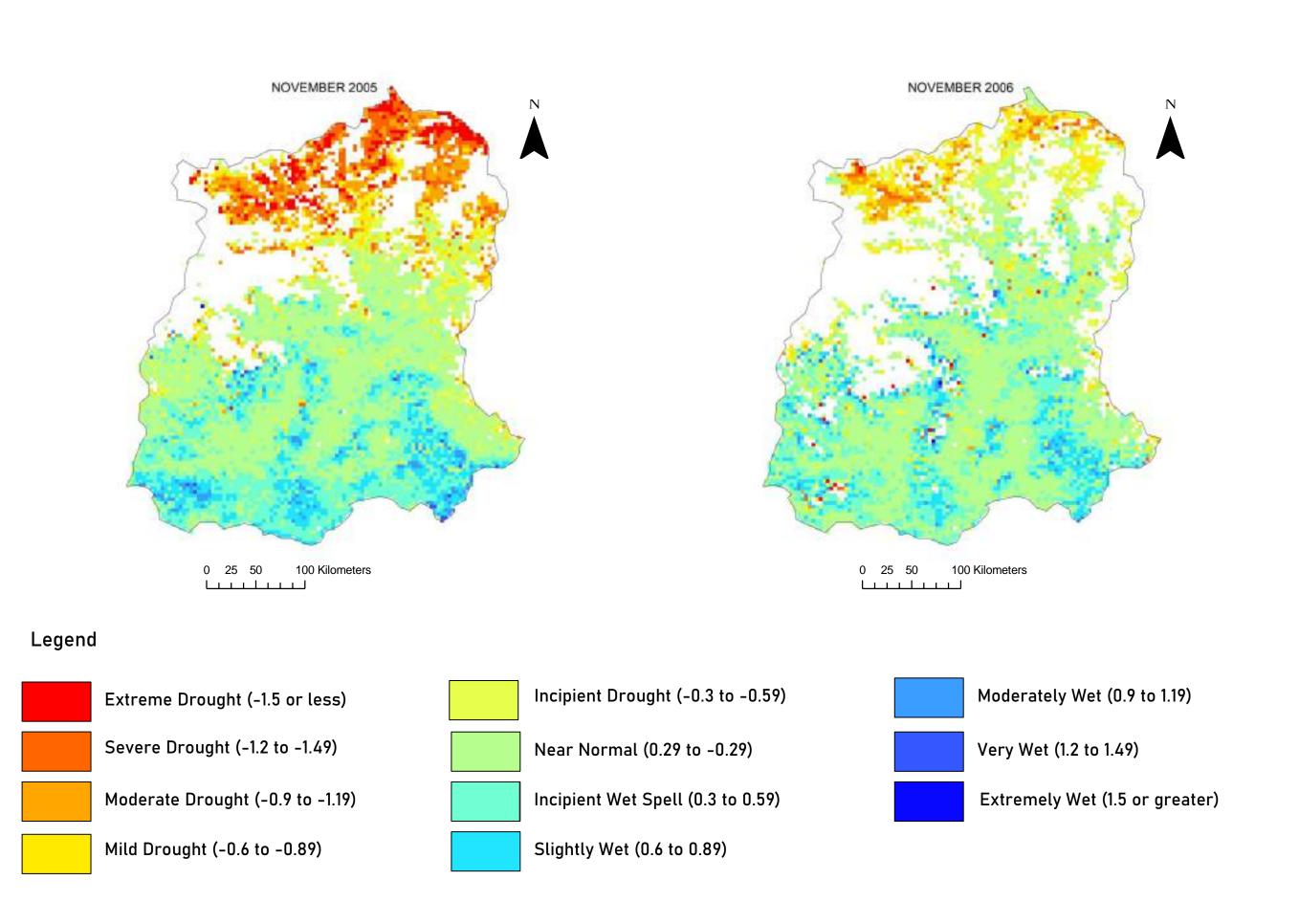
Drought conditions in November typically vary from moderate to incipient drought. Near normal condition dominate this month.

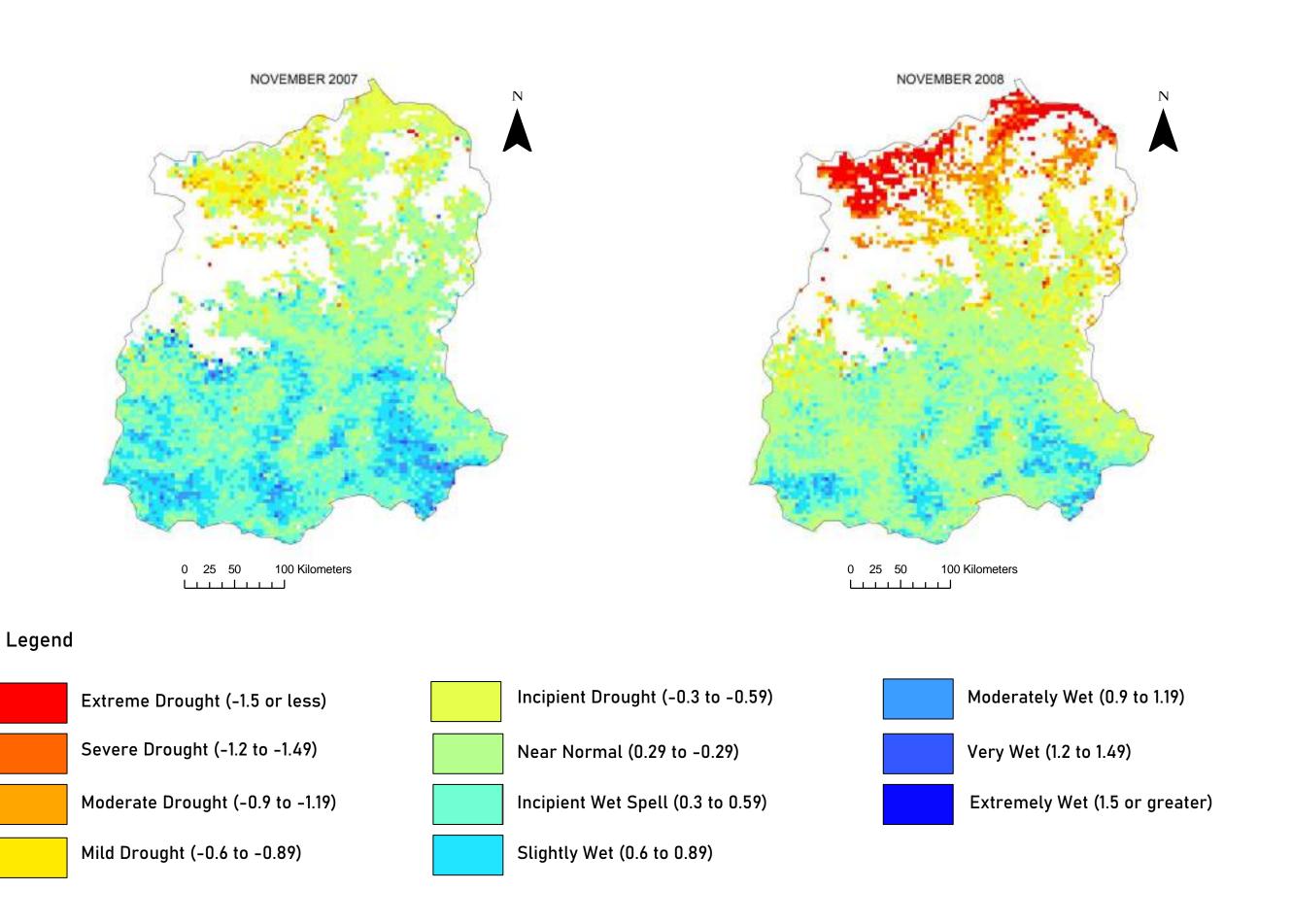
Mean November DSI Values			
Year	DSI Values	Drought Condition	
2000	-0.11	Near Normal	
2001	-0.13	Near Normal	
2002	-0.12	Near Normal	
2003	-0.10	Near Normal	
2004	0.23	Near Normal	
2005	-0.31	Incipient Drought	
2006	-0.09	Near Normal	
2007	0.14	Near Normal	
2008	-0.23	Near Normal	
2009	-0.12	Near Normal	
2010	0.08	Near Normal	
2011	-0.02	Near Normal	
2012	-0.33	Incipient Drought	
2013	-0.23	Near Normal	
2014	-0.09	Near Normal	
2015	-0.03	Near Normal	
2016	-0.41	Incipient Drought	
2017	0.02	Near Normal	
2018	-0.34	Incipient Drought	
2019	-0.20	Near Normal	
2020	-0.48	Incipient Drought	

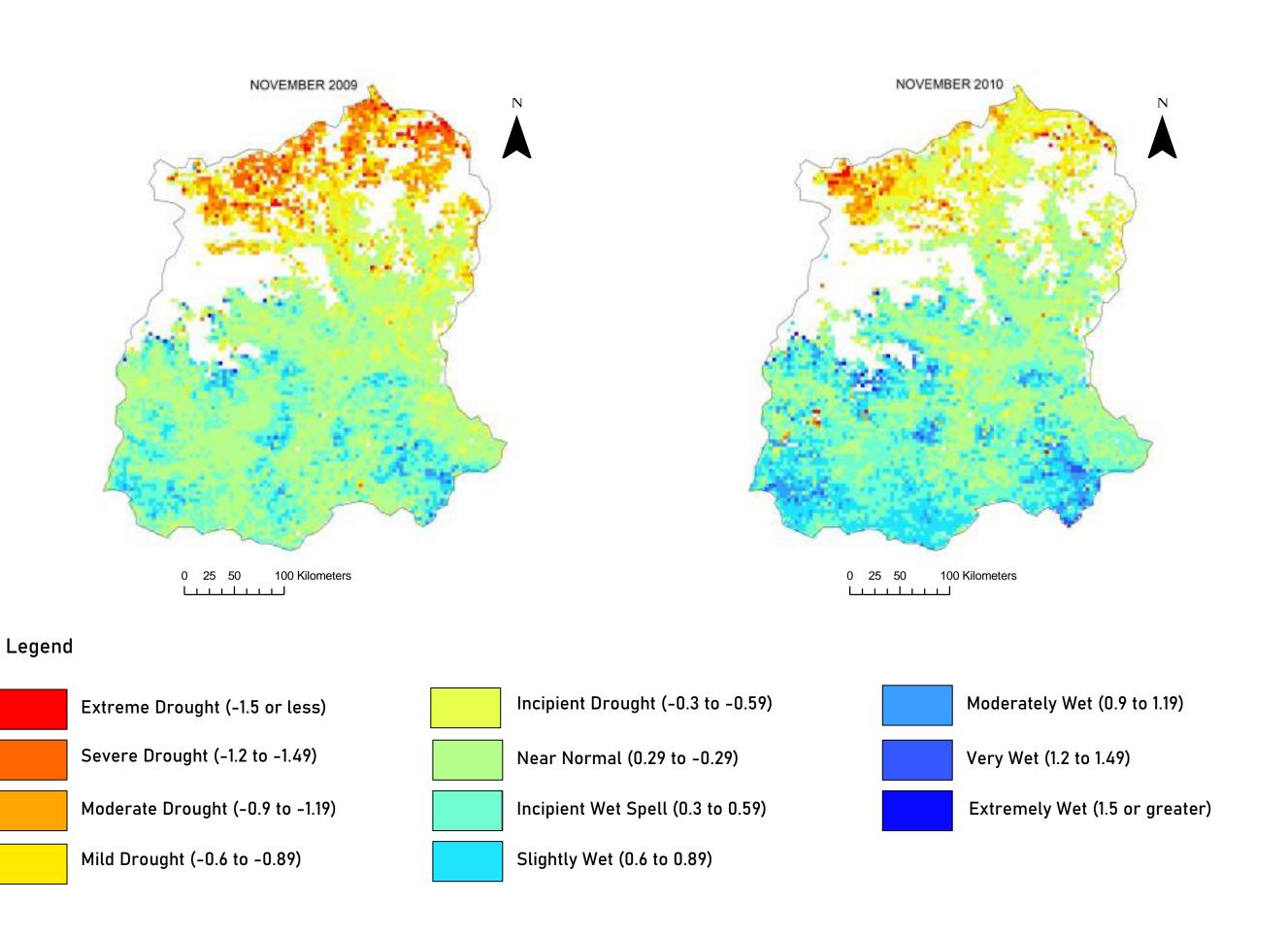


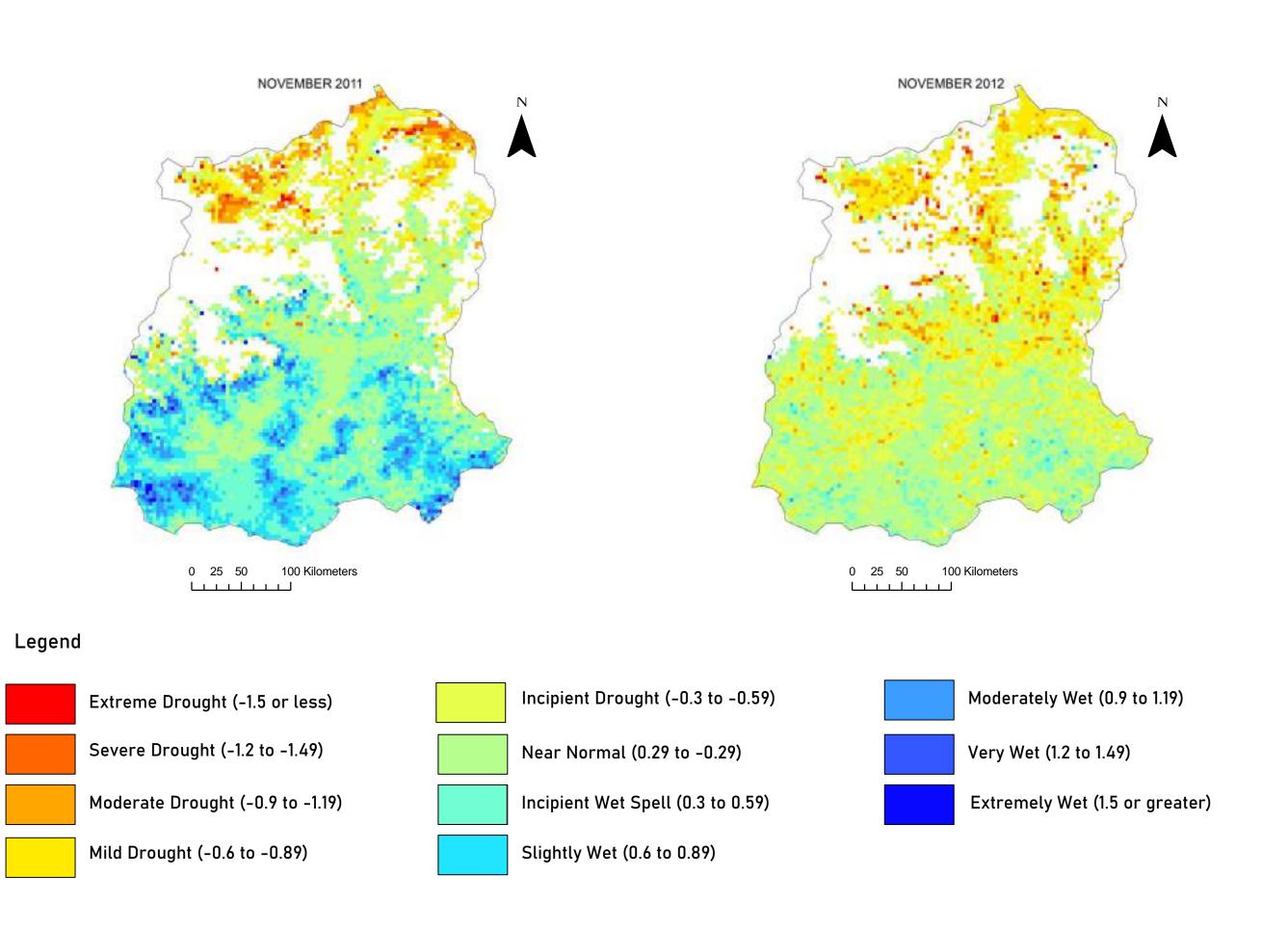


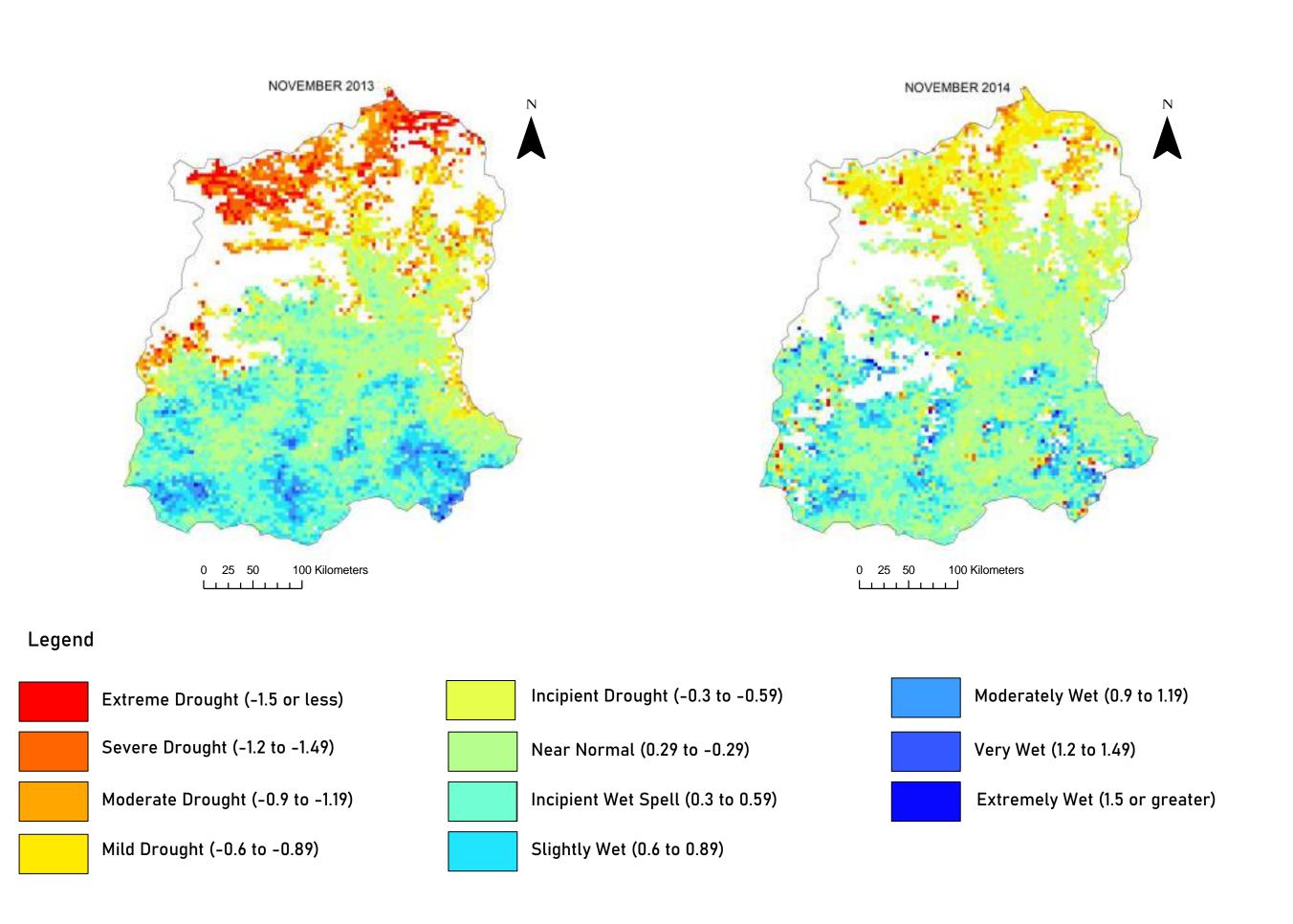


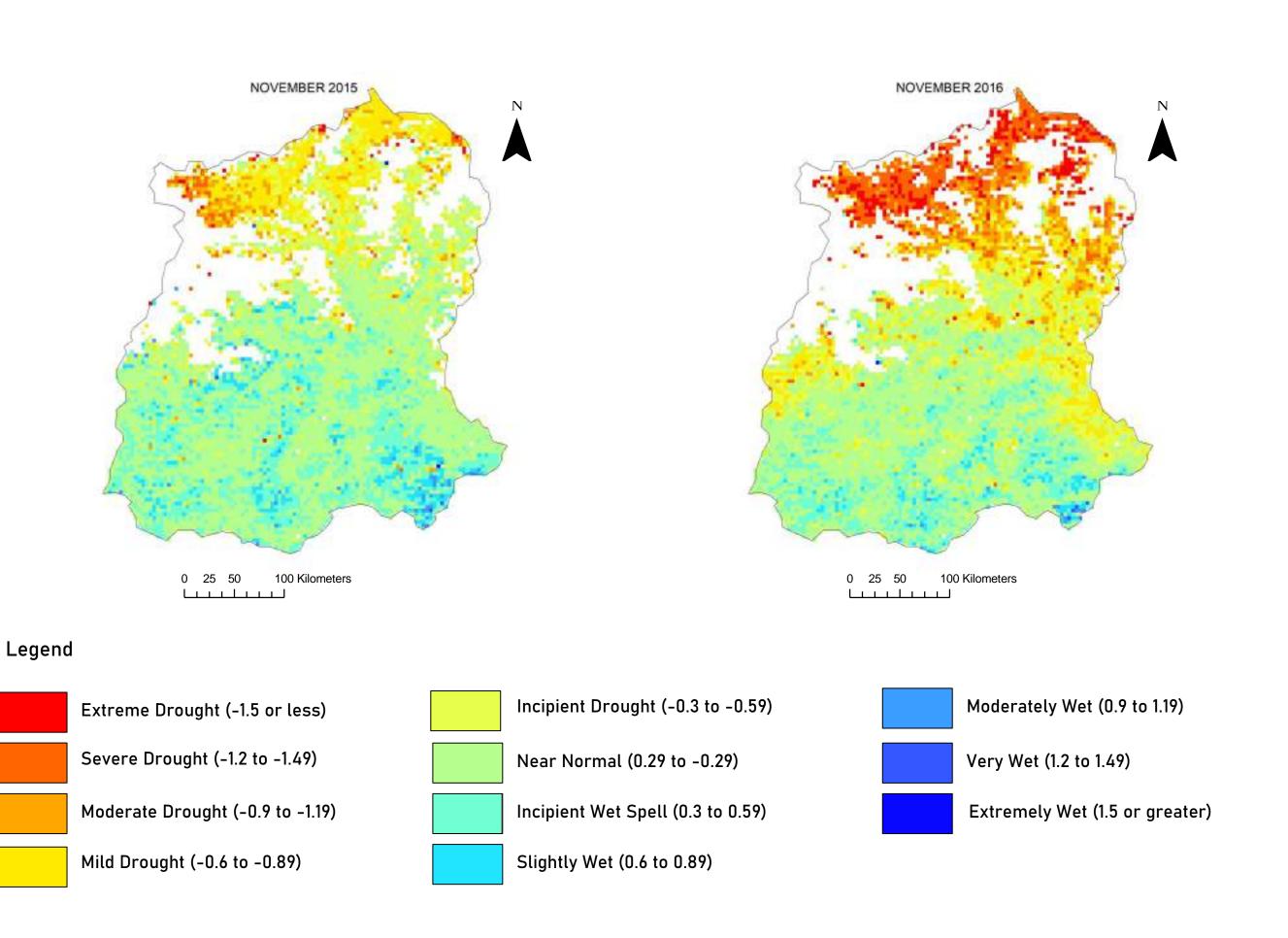


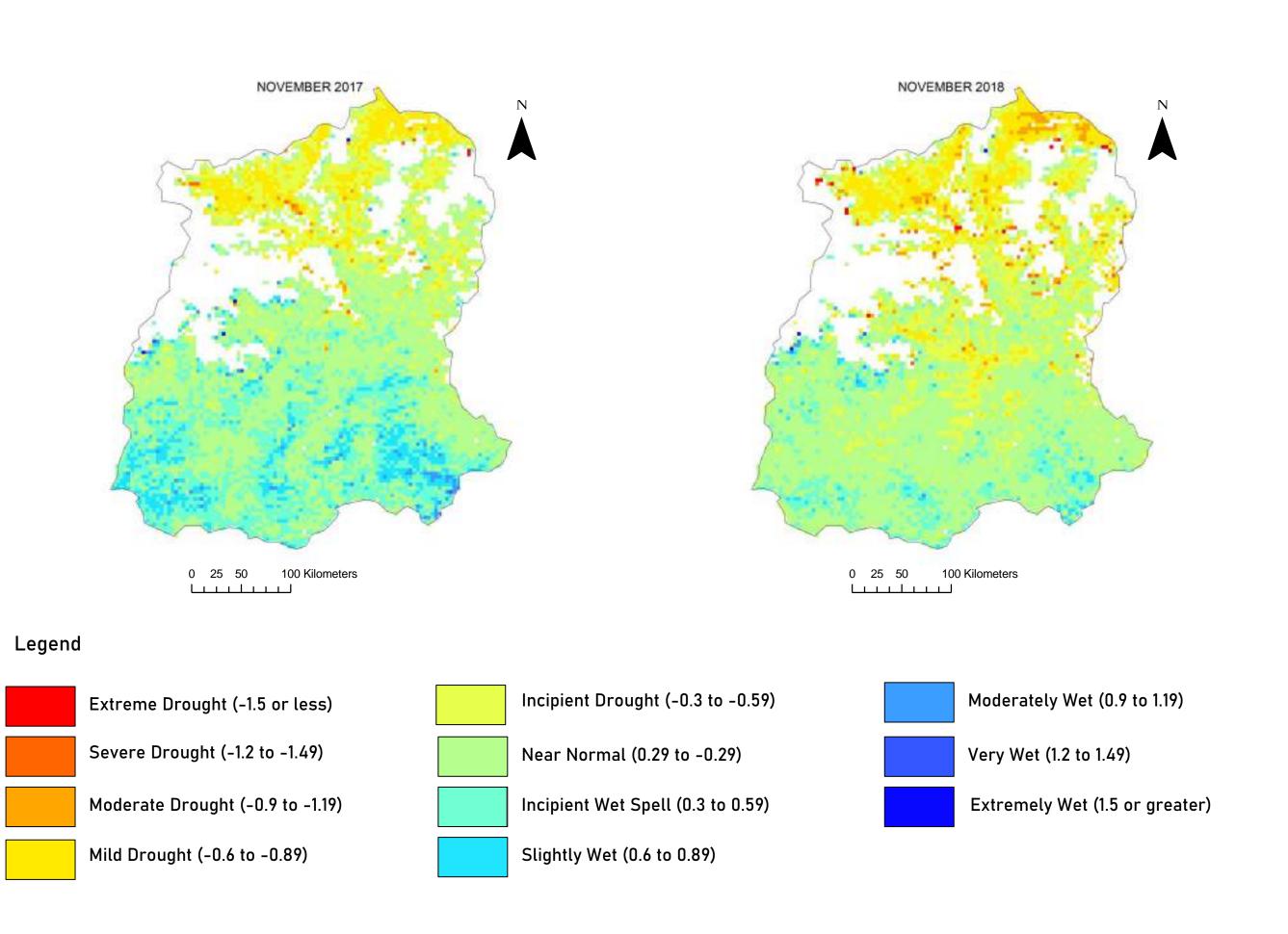


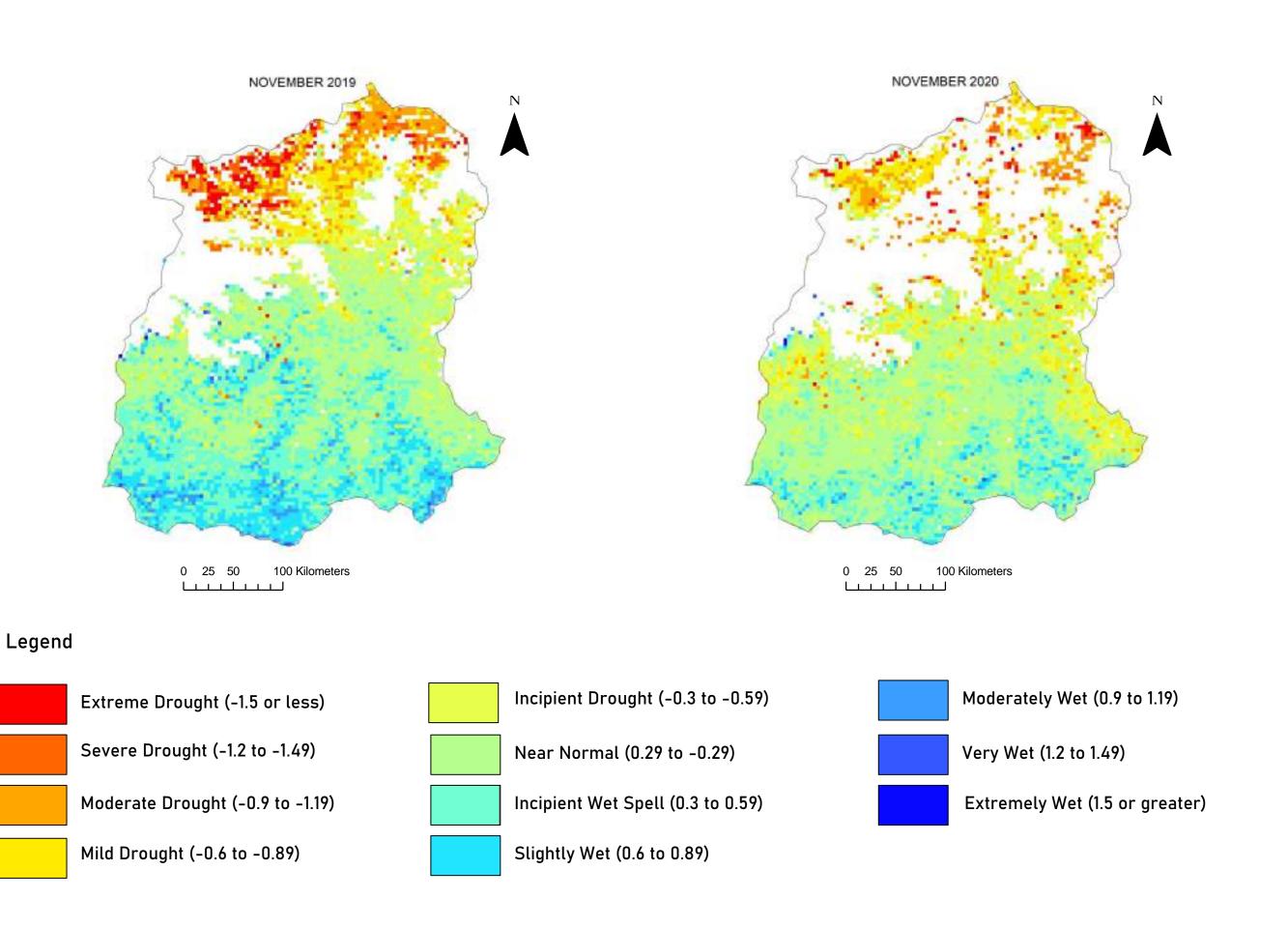








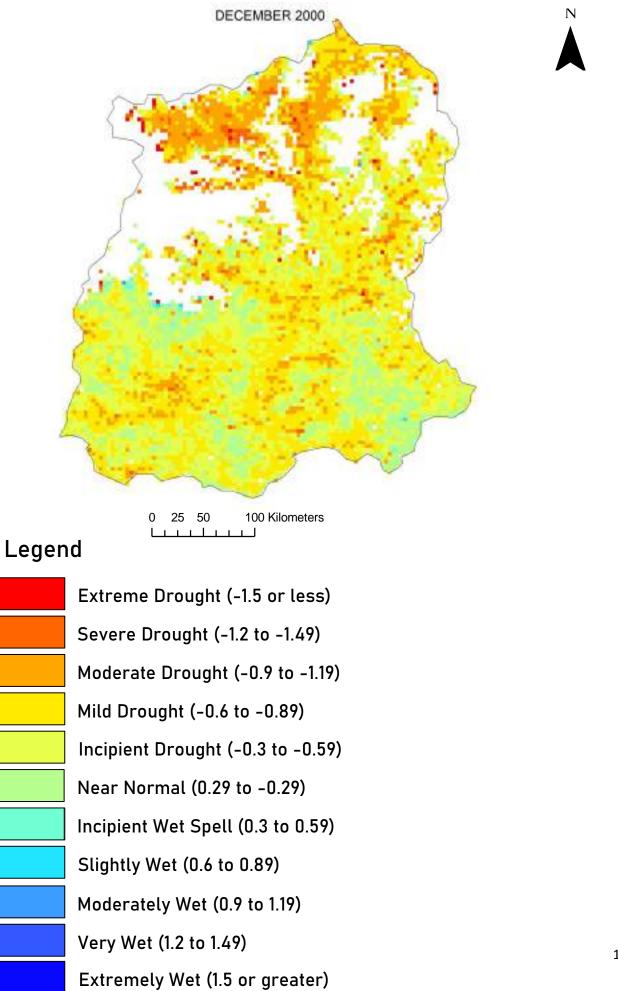


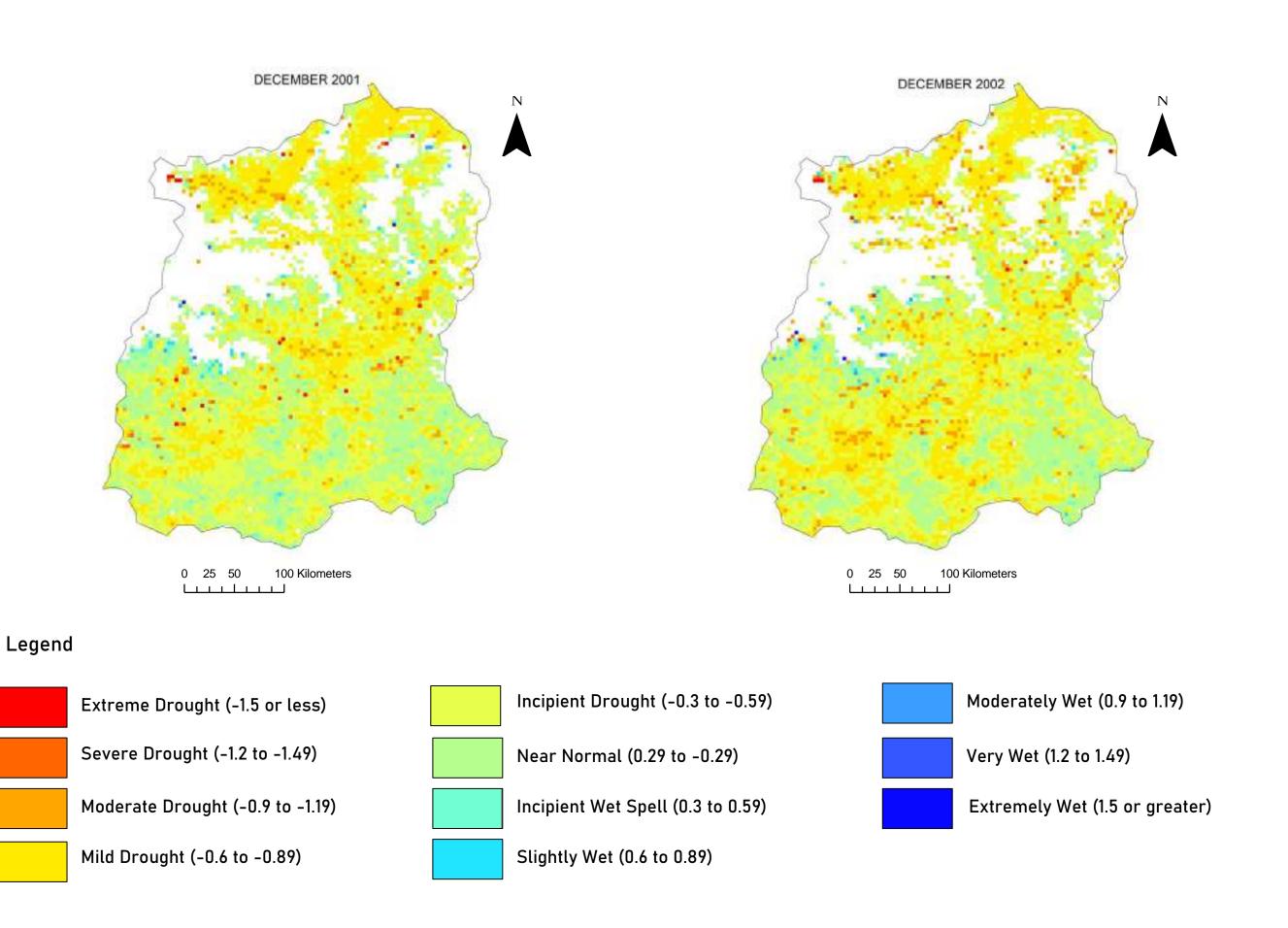


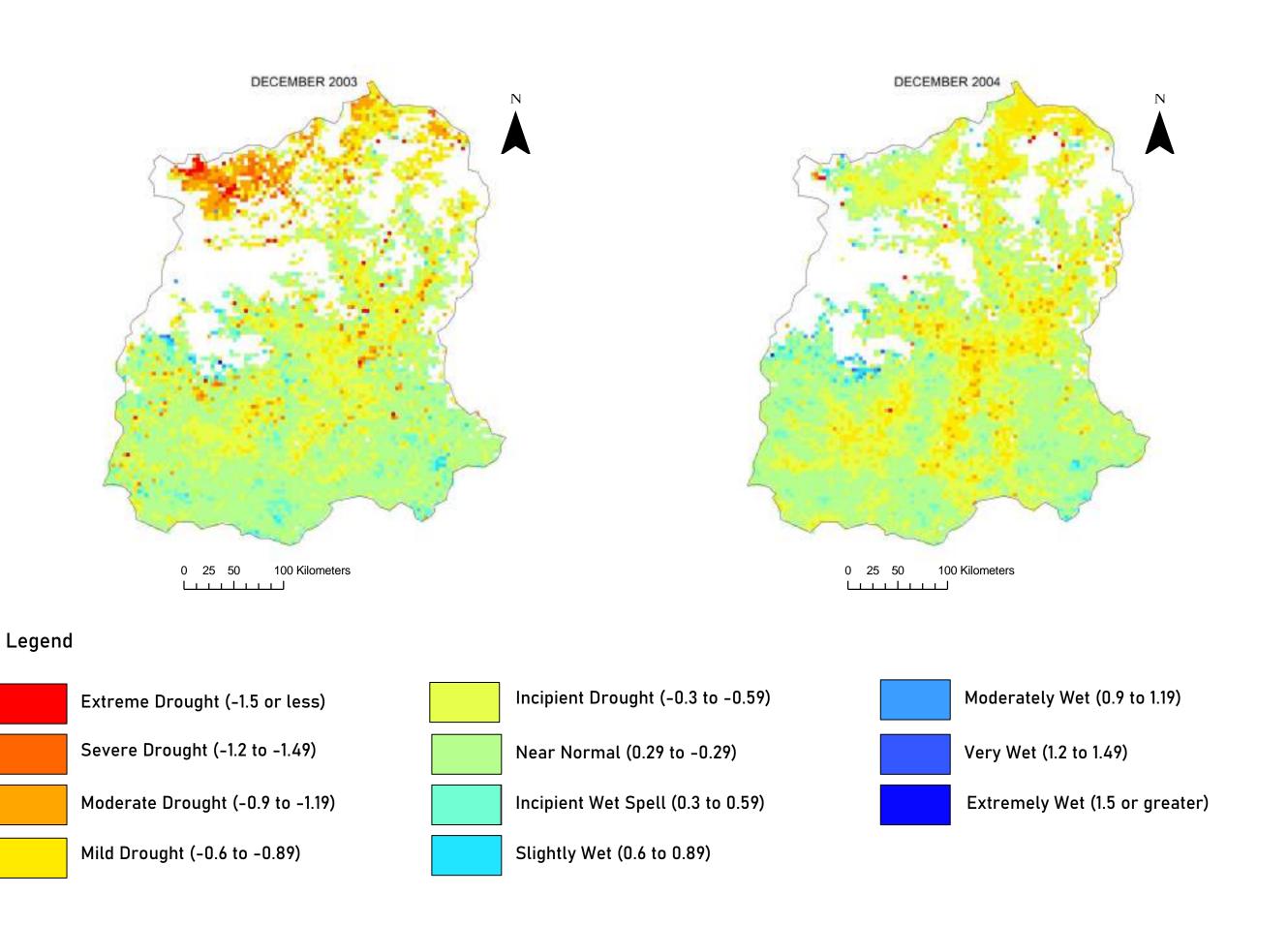
December DSI Maps

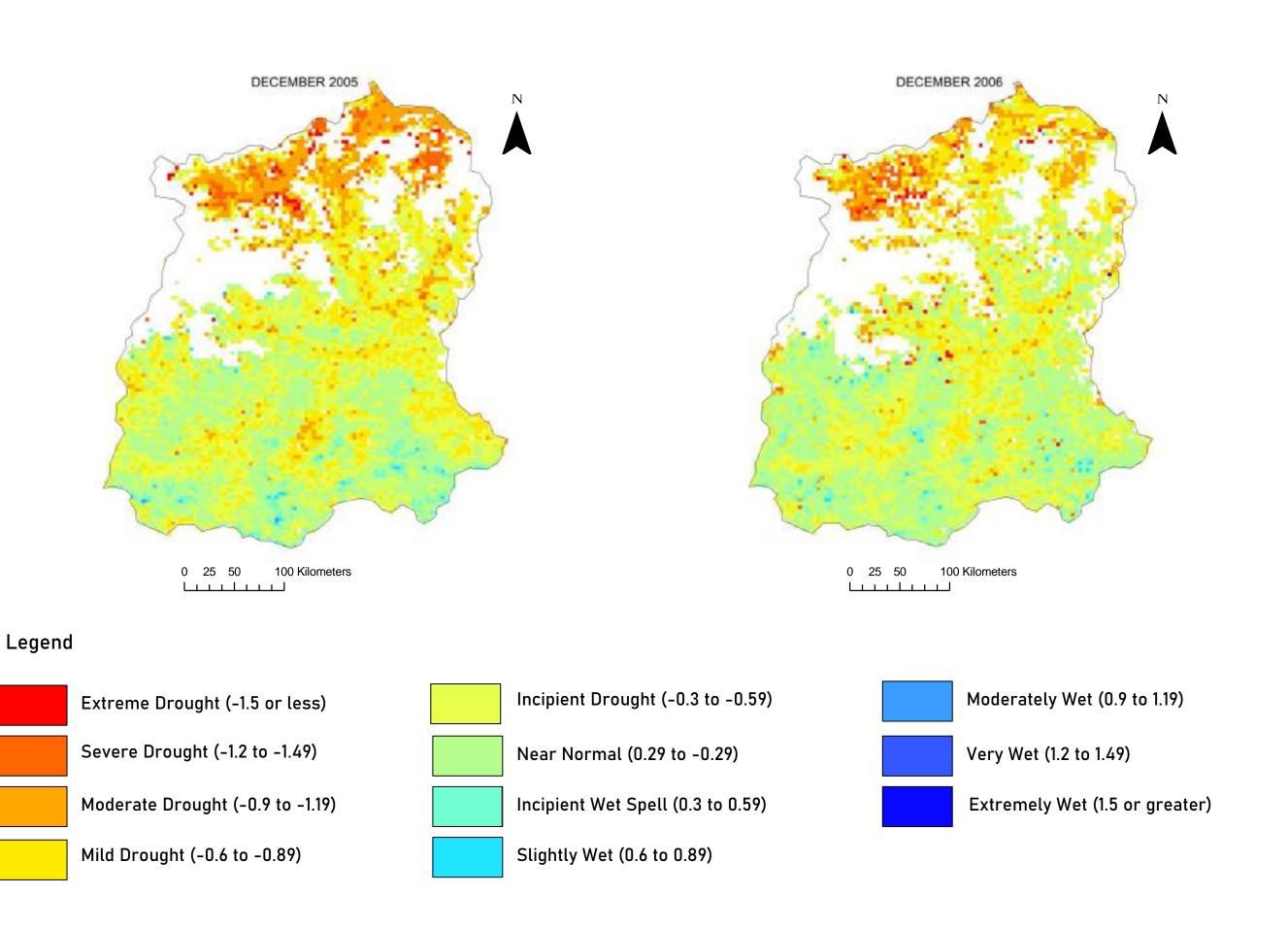
Drought conditions in January typically vary from moderate to incipient drought. The characteristics of this winter month are frequently characterized by incipient drought.

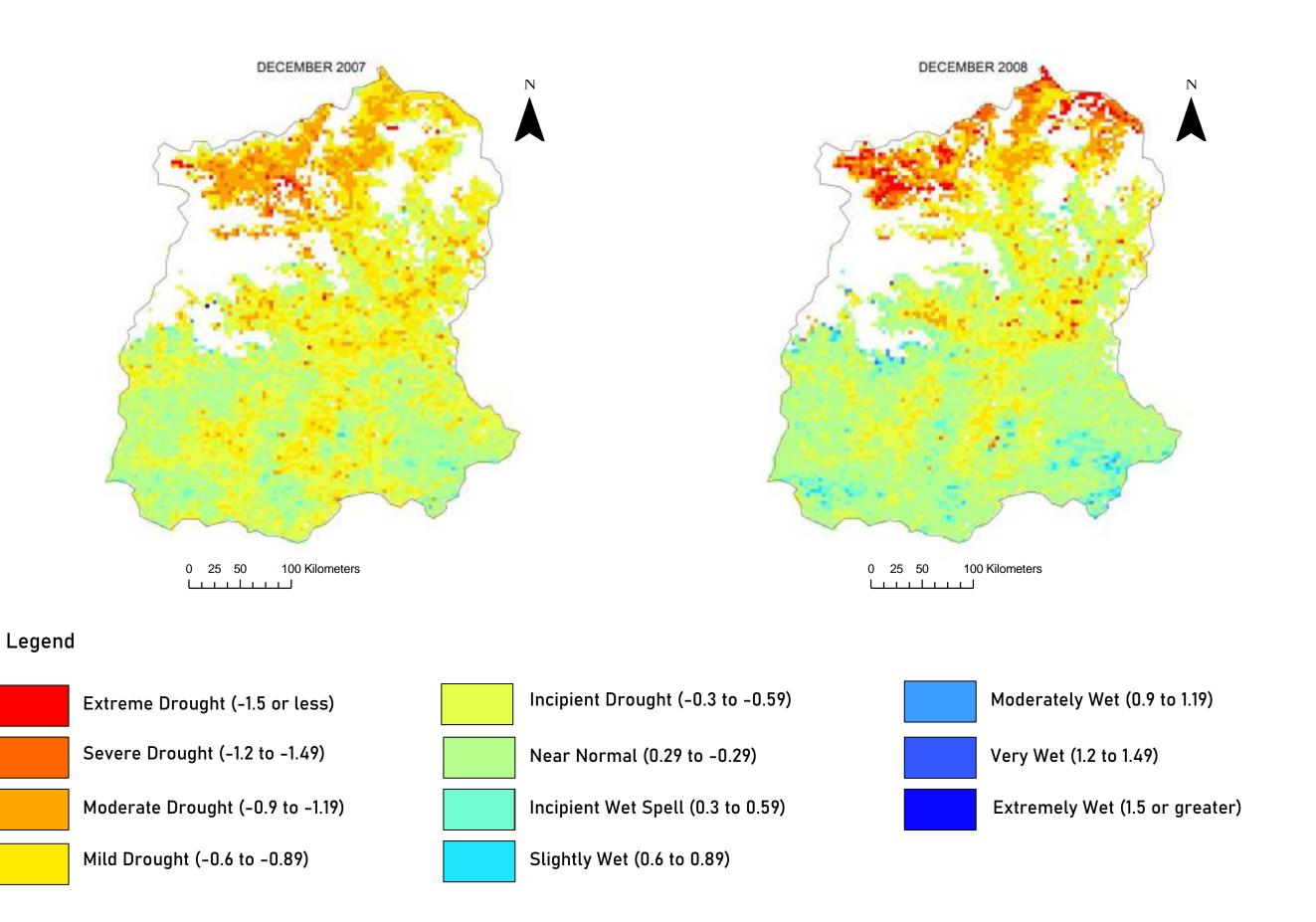
N	Mean December DSI Values			
Year	DSI Values	Drought Condition		
2000	-0.66	Mild Drought		
2001	-0.33	Incipient Drought		
2002	-0.44	Incipient Drought		
2003	-0.26	Near Normal		
2004	-0.37	Incipient Drought		
2005	-0.53	Incipient Drought		
2006	-0.49	Incipient Drought		
2007	-0.61	Mild Drought		
2008	-0.51	Incipient Drought		
2009	-0.65	Mild Drought		
2010	-0.66	Mild Drought		
2011	-0.48	Incipient Drought		
2012	-0.78	Mild Drought		
2013	-0.50	Incipient Drought		
2014	-0.42	Incipient Drought		
2015	-0.62	Mild Drought		
2016	-0.74	Mild Drought		
2017	-0.60	Mild Drought		
2018	-0.63	Mild Drought		
2019	-0.41	Incipient Drought		
2020	-0.56	Incipient Drought		

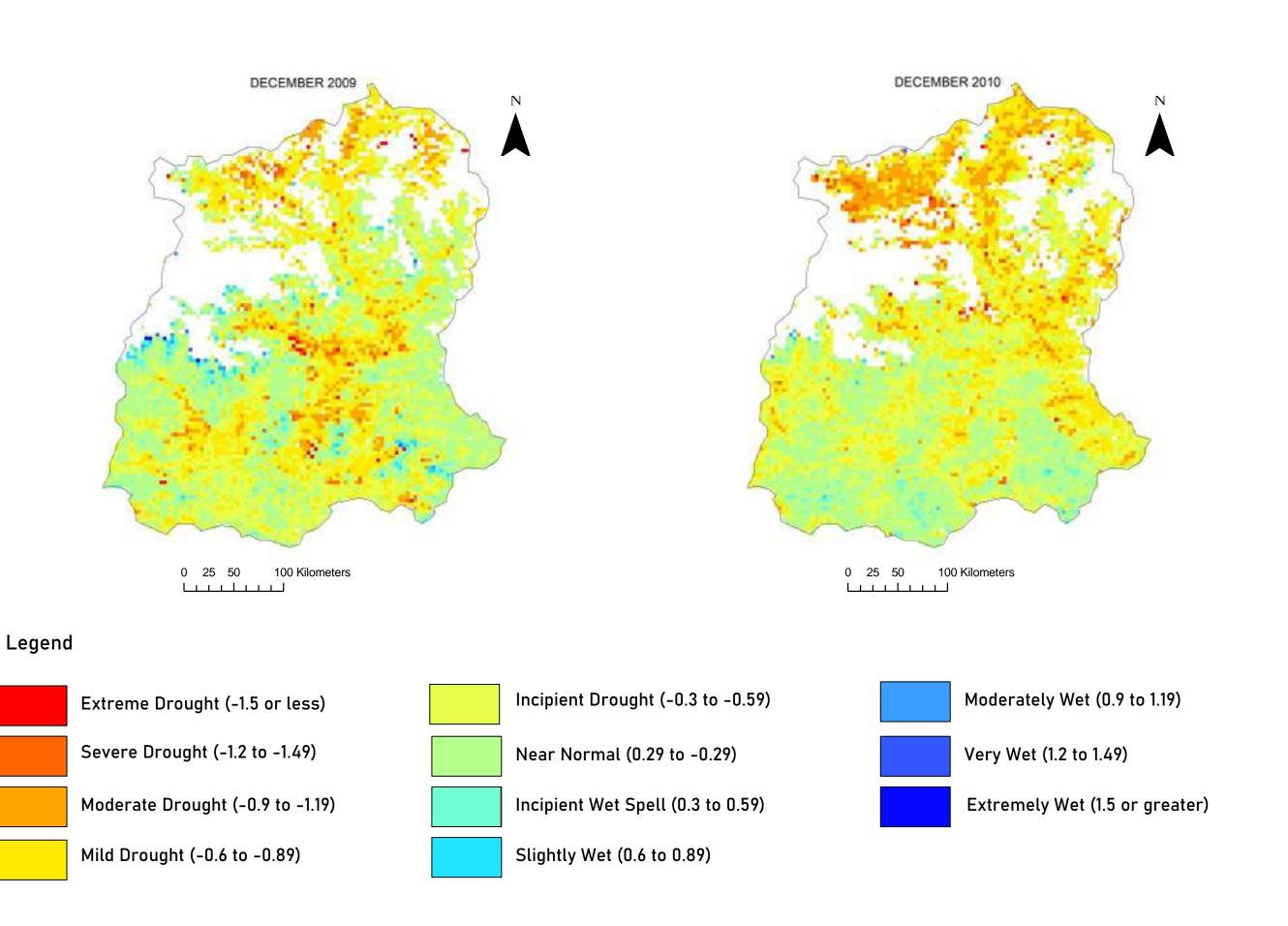


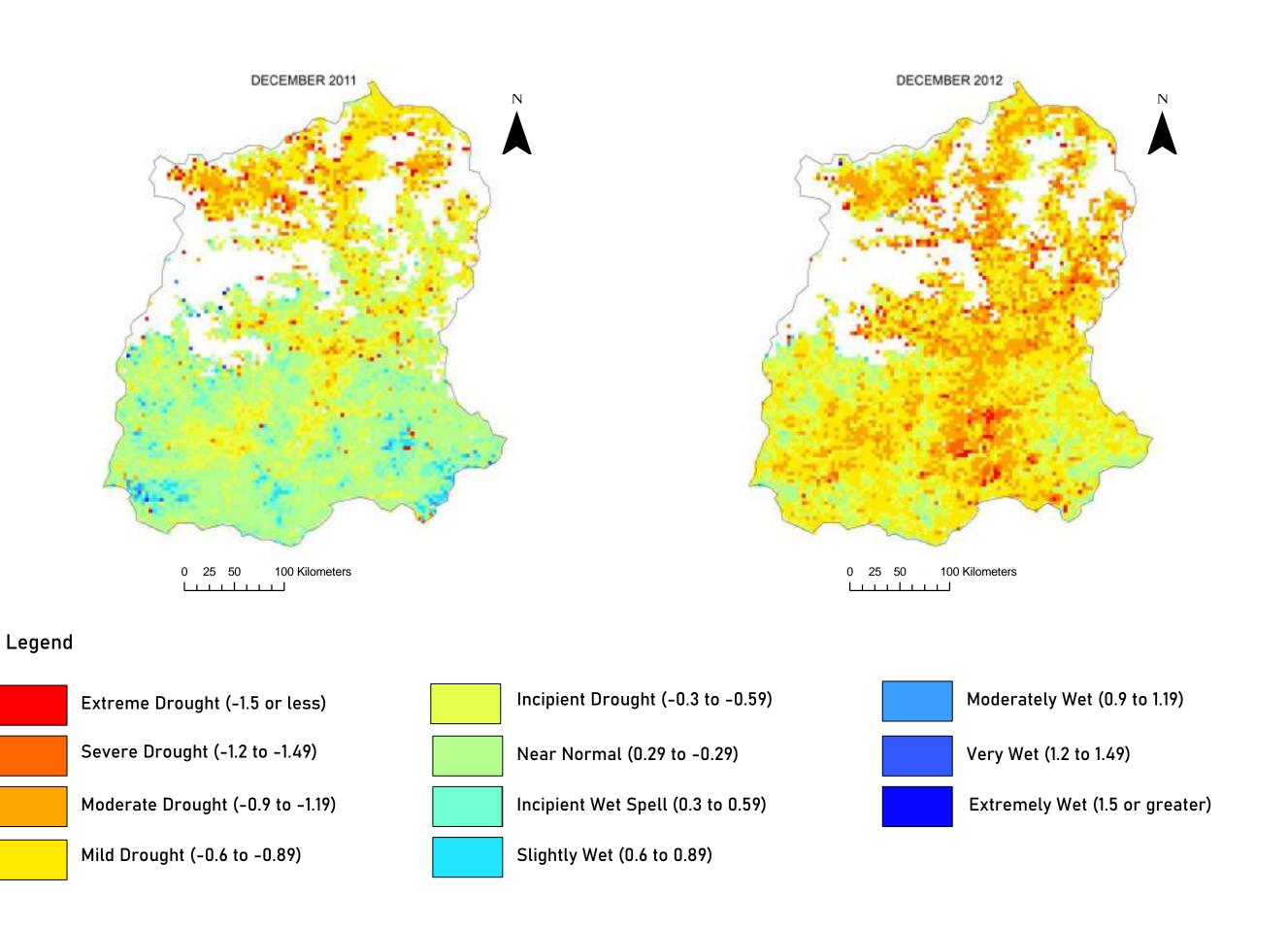


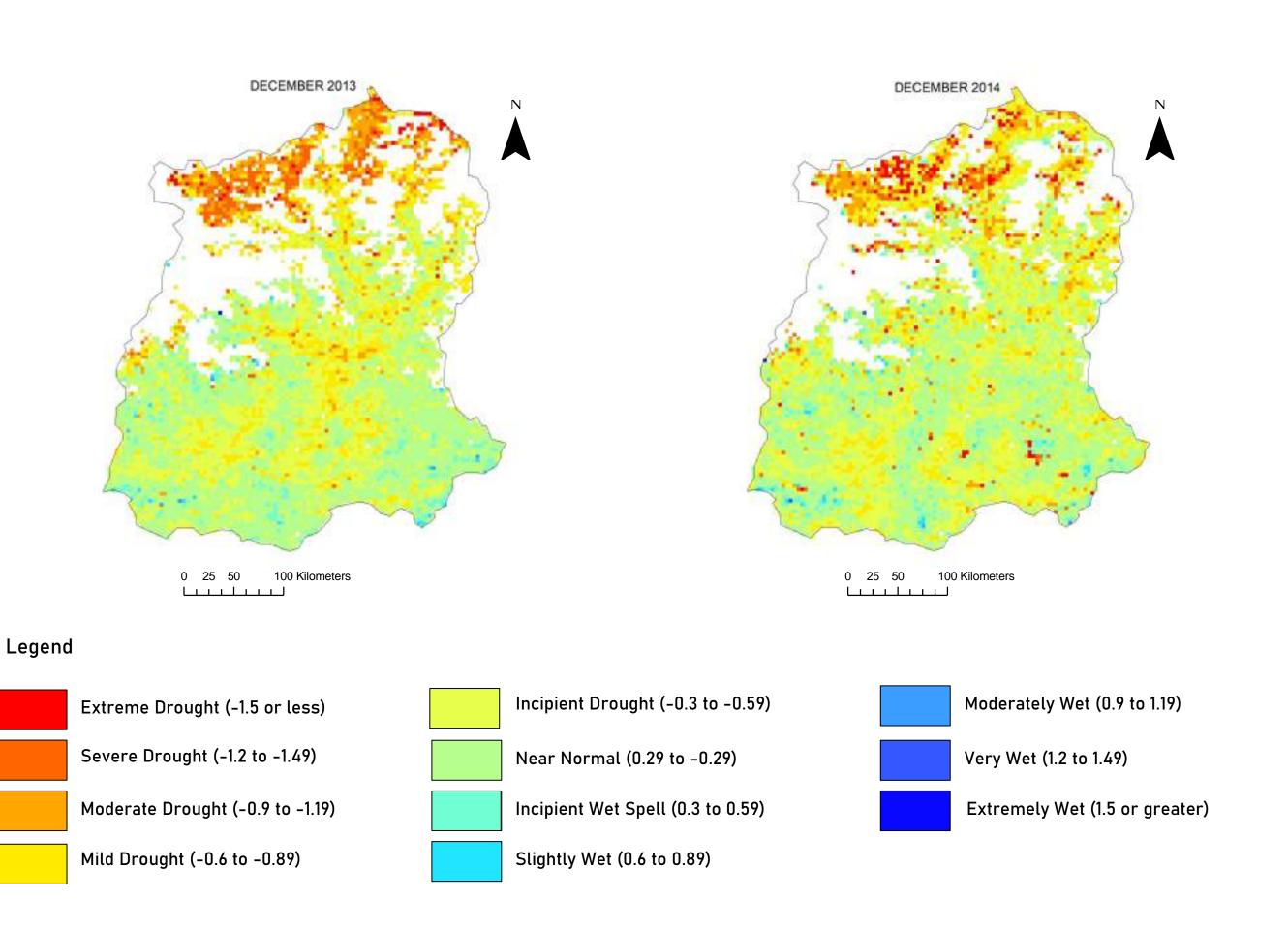


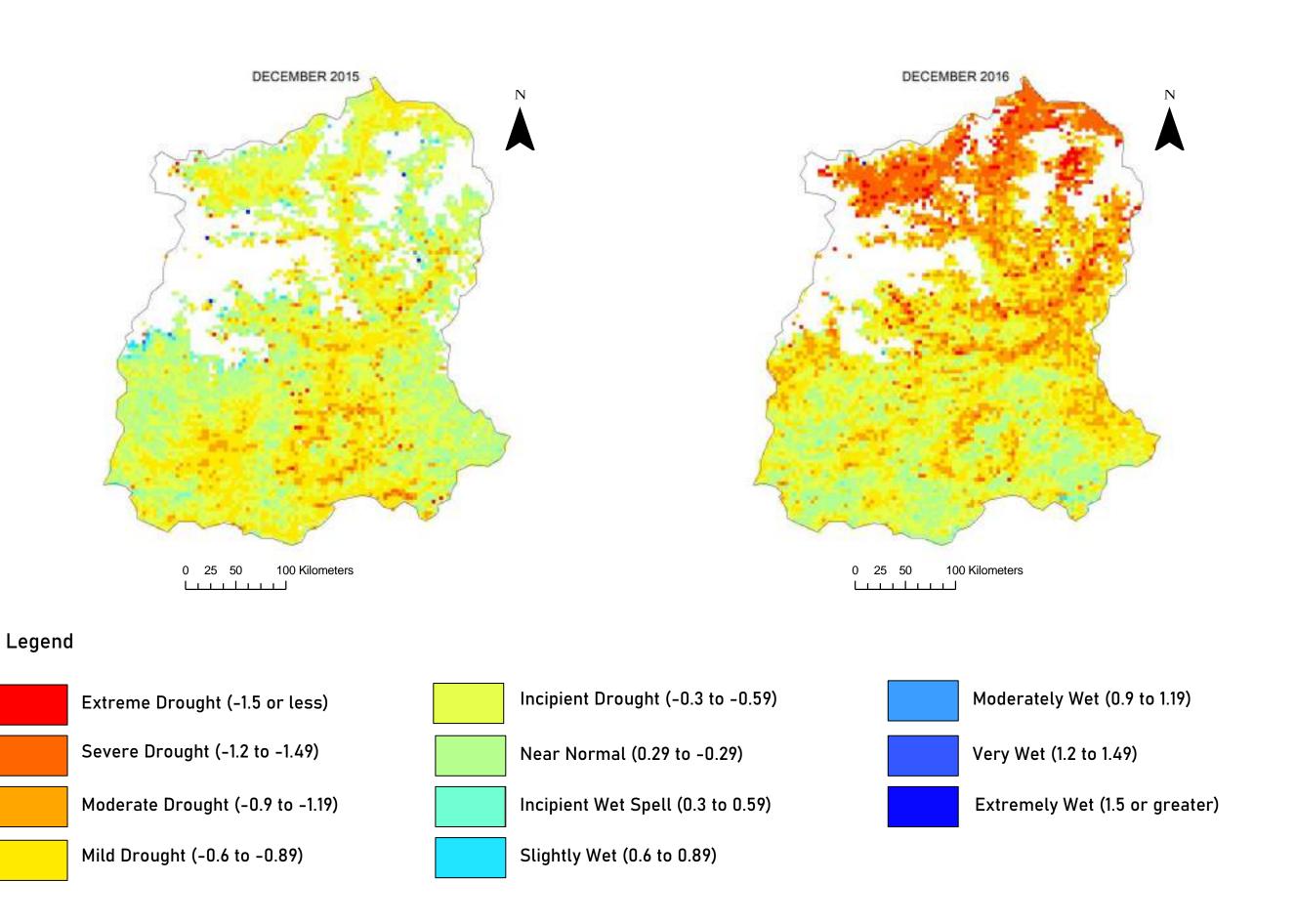


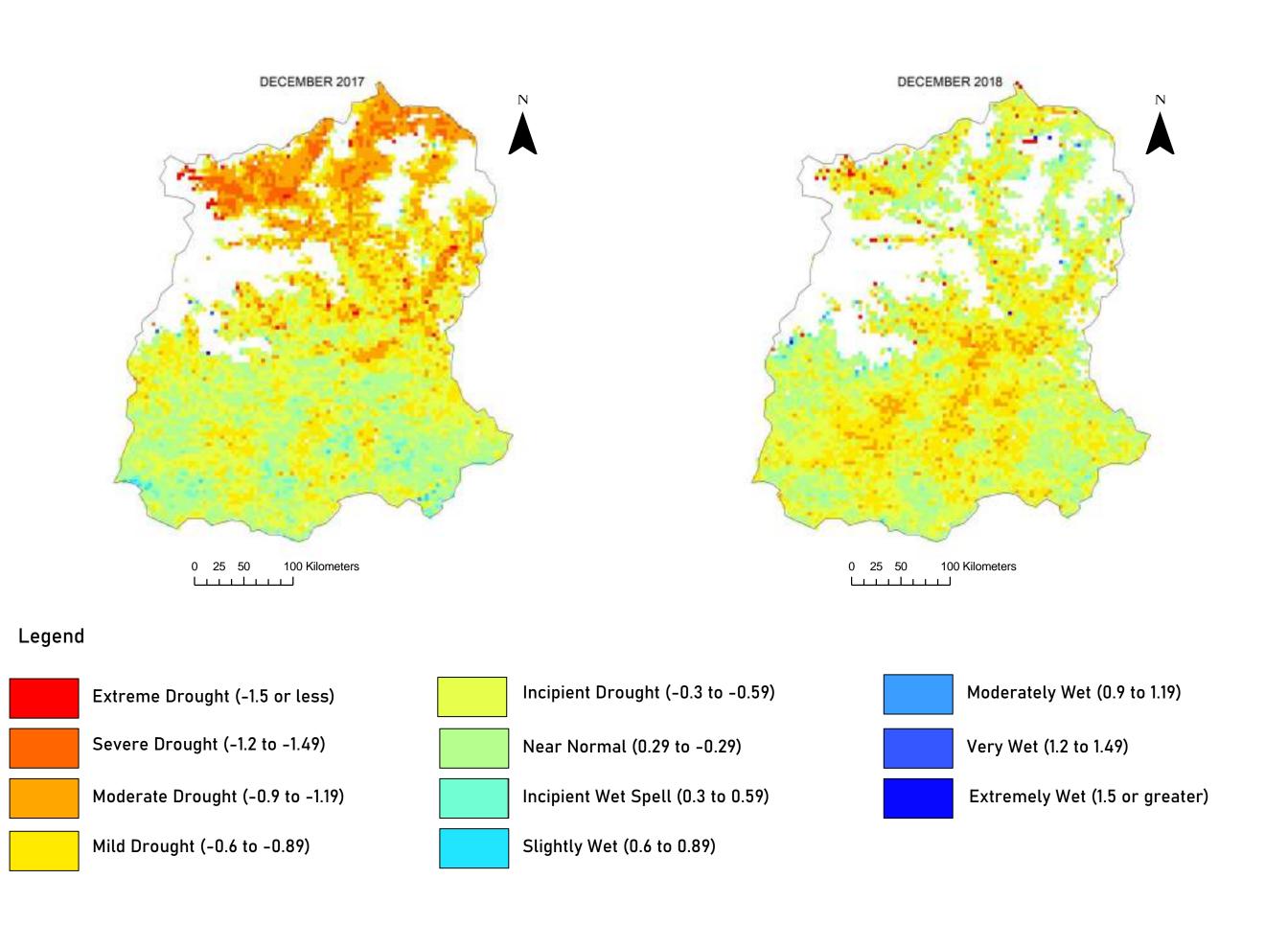


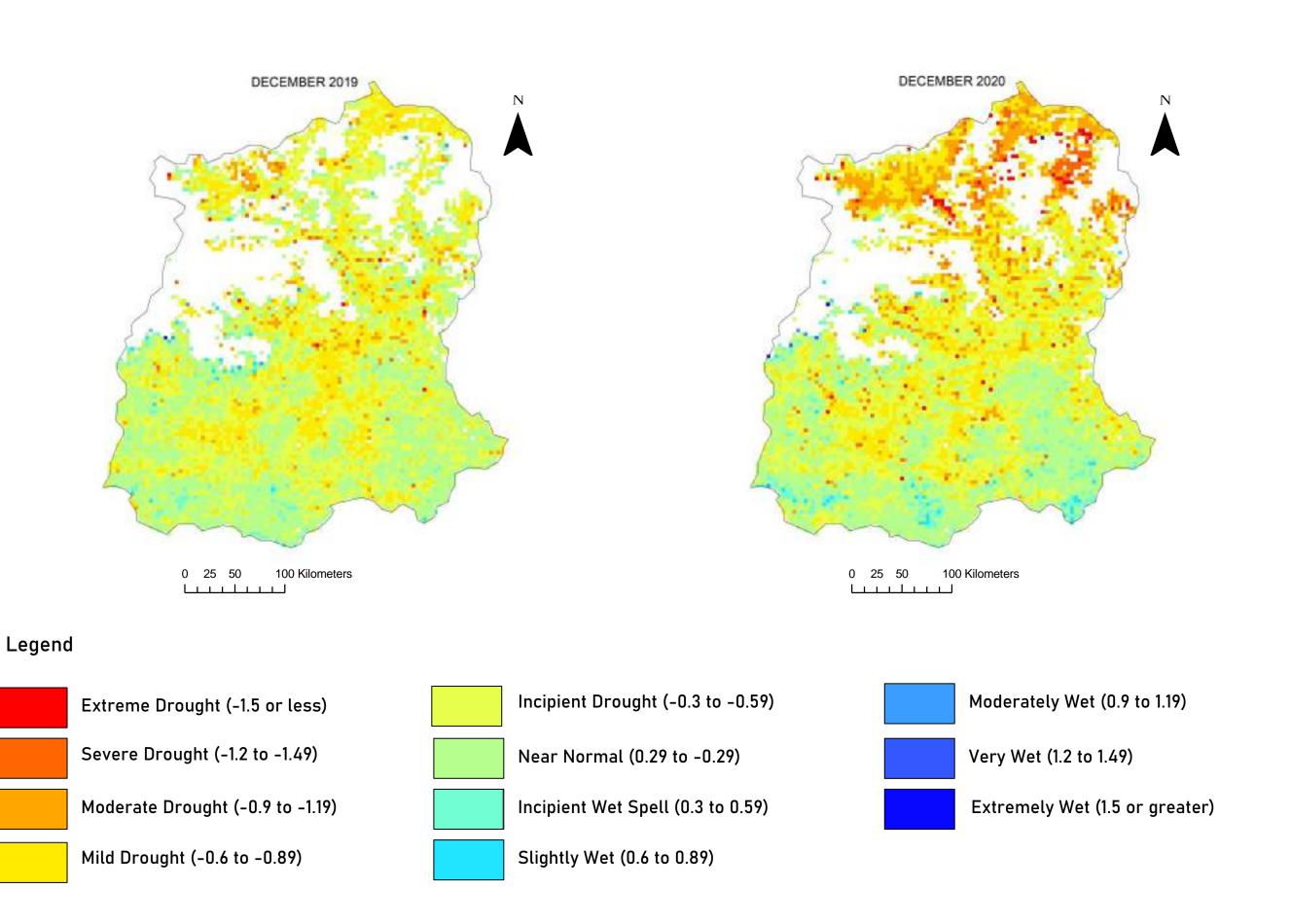








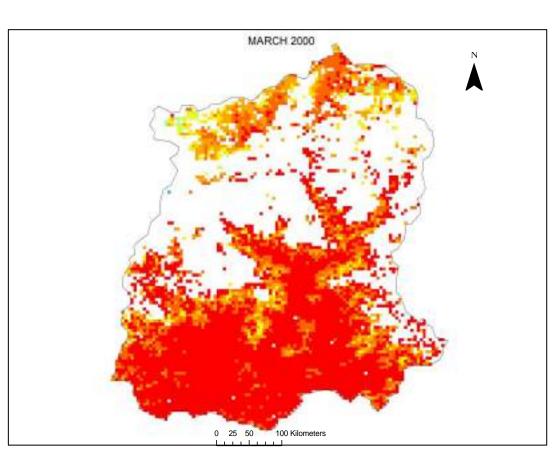


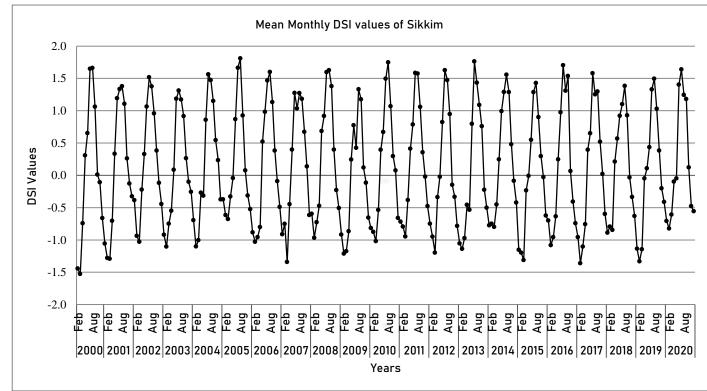


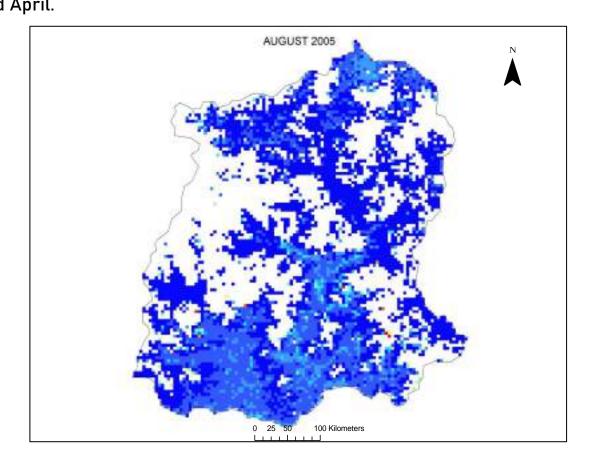
Drought Severity Index of Sikkim

Droughts are one of the most serious risks to Sikkim's agricultural crop production, as the country's economy is primarily largely dependent on agriculture. Using satellite-based MODIS data, this study shows geographical and temporal drought characteristics.

According to spatial maps, the south region of Sikkim was the worst impacted in February and March. The temporal aspects of the DSI were investigated by plotting the mean monthly DSI for Sikkim from 2000 to 2020. The lowest DSI value (-1.53) was recorded in March 2000, indicating significant drought throughout the research period. August 2005 was the wettest month (1.81). The years 2000 and 2001 were also the driest. In most of the analyzed year, March was the most affected by extreme drought intensity. Droughts intensity was seen higher in January, February, March and April.





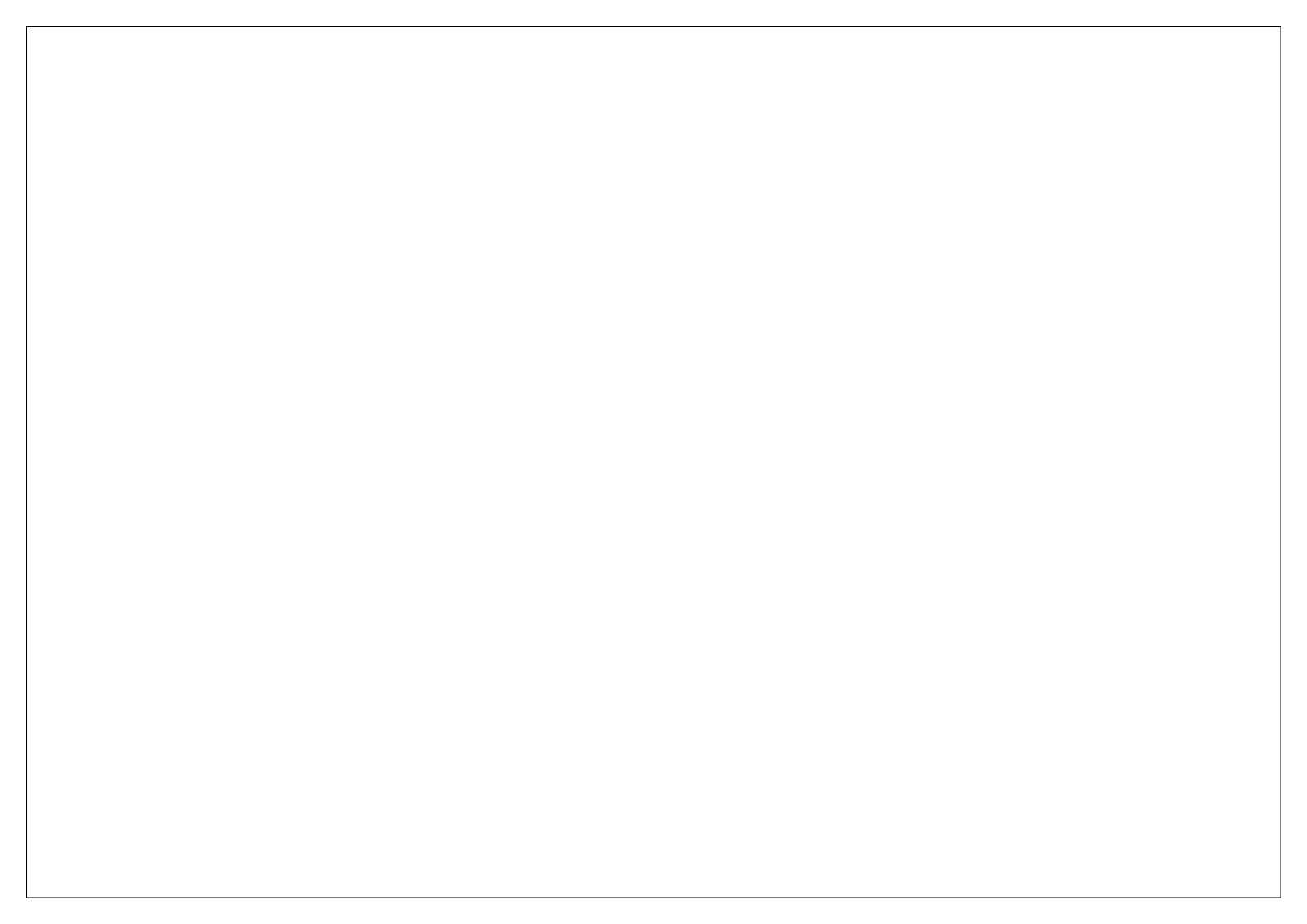


References

- 1. Hewitt, K. 1997. Regions at Risk: A Geographical Introduction to Disasters. Addison-Wesley Longman, UK.
- 2. Justice, C.; Townshend, J. 2002a. Special issue on the moderate resolution imaging spectroradiometer (MODIS): A new generation of land surface monitoring.

 Remote Sensing of Environment 83: 1–2.
- 3. Mu Q, Zhao M, Kimball JS, McDowell NG, Running SW (2013) A remotely sensed global terrestrial drought severity index. Bull Am Meteorol Soc 94:83-98
- 4. National Center for Atmospheric Research Staff (Eds). Last modified 10 Feb 2017. "The Climate Data Guide: CERES: IGBP Land Classification."

 Retrievedrom:https://climatedataguide.ucar.edu/climate-data/ceres-igbp-land-classification
- 5. Obasi, G.O.P. 1994. WMO's role in the international decade for natural disaster reduction. Bull. Am. Meteorol. Soc. 75 (9), 1655–1661.
- 6. Wilhite, D.A. 2000. Drought as a Natural Hazard: Concepts and Deinitions (Chapter 1, 3-18p.). In: *Drought: A Global Assessment* Wilhite, D.A. (ed.) (Volume 1), Routledge Publishers, London, U.K.
- 7. Wilhite, D.A. 2000b. Drought as a natural hazard: concepts and deinitions. In: *Drought: A Global Assessment* Wilhite, D.A. (Ed.), vol. 1. Routledge, New York, 1–18p.





As a result of changing climatic conditions, alter in precipitation events such as drought have emerged as a source of vulnerability in several South Asian nations, including Nepal, India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. Recent declines in agricultural productivity have weakened rural economies, encouraging widespread famine and urban migration.

Drought monitoring and assessment techniques are used to forecast drought and identify drought-prone areas, allowing drought mitigation measures to be put in place to lessen the

impact of drought on food production and water supplies. To estimate the severity of the drought in Sikkim, we applied the Drought Severity Index (DSI), which combines the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) and the ratio of Evapotranspiration to Potential Evapotranspiration (ET/PET).

This Atlas provides an overview of Sikkim's drought frequency during the last two decades. It portrays the spatiotemporal occurrences of drought in Sikkim. I hope this atlas will assist in the creation of policies and plans for timely drought mitigation and forecasting in the agricultural sector.

Dr. Hemu Kharel Kafle



ISBN: 978-9937-1-3062-2

