



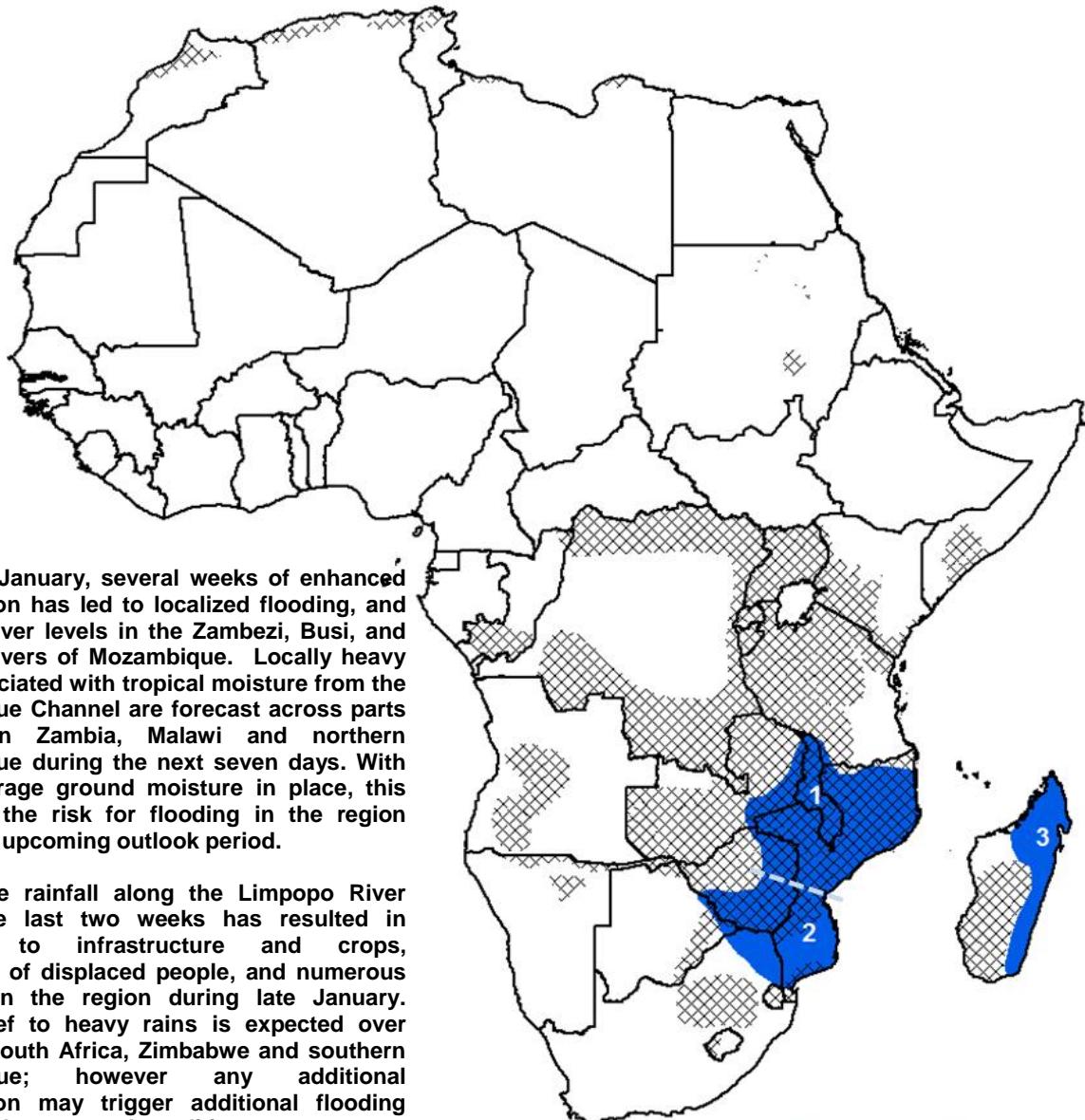
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FEWS NET
FAMINE EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS NETWORK

Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET January 31 – February 6, 2013

- Southern Mozambique is likely to experience some relief to extreme, flood inducing rains.
- Tropical Cyclone Felleng is expected to produce heavy rains and high winds off the eastern coast of Madagascar.



1) During January, several weeks of enhanced precipitation has led to localized flooding, and elevated river levels in the Zambezi, Busi, and Pungue Rivers of Mozambique. Locally heavy rains associated with tropical moisture from the Mozambique Channel are forecast across parts of eastern Zambia, Malawi and northern Mozambique during the next seven days. With above-average ground moisture in place, this increases the risk for flooding in the region during the upcoming outlook period.

2) Extreme rainfall along the Limpopo River during the last two weeks has resulted in damages to infrastructure and crops, thousands of displaced people, and numerous fatalities in the region during late January. Some relief to heavy rains is expected over much of South Africa, Zimbabwe and southern Mozambique; however any additional precipitation may trigger additional flooding and exacerbate ground conditions.

3) The development of Tropical Storm "Felleng" over the southern Indian Ocean is expected to impact the eastern coastline of Madagascar during the earlier portion of the outlook period. Although the center of the storm is not expected to make direct landfall, heavy rains and high winds could negatively impact the region.

Legend is very general, please see numbered descriptions for details.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXX	January Cropped Areas
~~~~~	Favorable
\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	Somewhat Favorable
~~~~~	Flooding
~~~~~	Short-term Dryness
~~~~~	Drought
~~~~~	Improving Drought
~~~~~	Potential Locust Outbreak

Flood threats extend northward into northern Mozambique, Malawi and eastern Zambia.

During the last seven days, heavy rainfall accumulations were again observed in southeastern Africa. The highest weekly accumulations (>150mm) were received over the Zambezi, Nampula and Cabo Delgado provinces of northern Mozambique (**Figure 1**). Further inland, lesser amounts of rainfall (50-100mm) were observed in parts of Malawi, southern Tanzania, and eastern Zambia. Compared to the previous seven days, there was marked shift in the excessive rainfall amounts. Little to no precipitation was observed across portions of Botswana, Zimbabwe, South Africa, and southern Mozambique where rainfall had been extreme during the last two weeks. Towards the southwest part of the continent, light to moderate rainfall (10-40mm) was received across parts of the Caprivi Strip region and into Angola, as the bulk of rains and moisture have remained concentrated near the Mozambique Channel.

The fourth consecutive week of above-average rainfall in southern Africa has resulted in significant rainfall surpluses spanning a large portion of the continent. Since the end of December, many local areas extending from the Caprivi Strip region to the eastern coastline of southern Africa has received nearly twice their normal rainfall accumulation for the month of January, with the core of the most anomalously wet conditions (400-600 percent of normal) located over parts of southern Mozambique, southern Zimbabwe and northern South Africa (**Figure 2**). However, anomalously dry conditions are beginning to surface across parts of Angola, southern Botswana and South Africa during the last two weeks.

The extreme rains and anomalously wet conditions have led to numerous floods, damages to infrastructure, inundated river basins, and the displacement of many local populations since the beginning of January. The area most recently impacted has been in the Gaza and Inhambane provinces of southern Mozambique, where high runoff along the Limpopo River (**Figure 3**) has caused a state of emergency within the country. Crops and livestock losses and numerous fatalities have been reported.

For the upcoming outlook period, precipitation forecasts suggest a decrease in precipitation over many areas in southern Mozambique, Zimbabwe and South Africa that experienced the heaviest rainfall accumulation during the last two weeks. This suppression of rainfall is expected to help mitigate saturated ground conditions. However, heavy precipitation associated with the development of Tropical Cyclone "Felleng", located east of Madagascar, is likely to increase the threat of flooding throughout parts of the island, as well as trigger heavy shower activity in northern Mozambique, Malawi and eastern Zambia during the next seven days.

Satellite Estimated Rainfall (mm)
Valid: January 22nd – January 28th, 2013

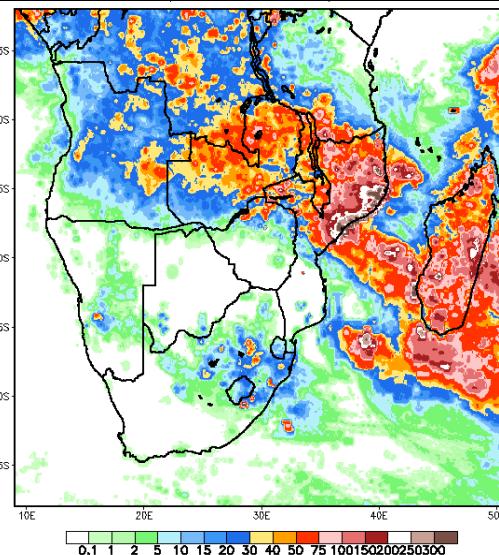


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Satellite Estimated Rainfall Percent of Normal (%)
Valid: December 28th, 2012 – January 26th, 2012

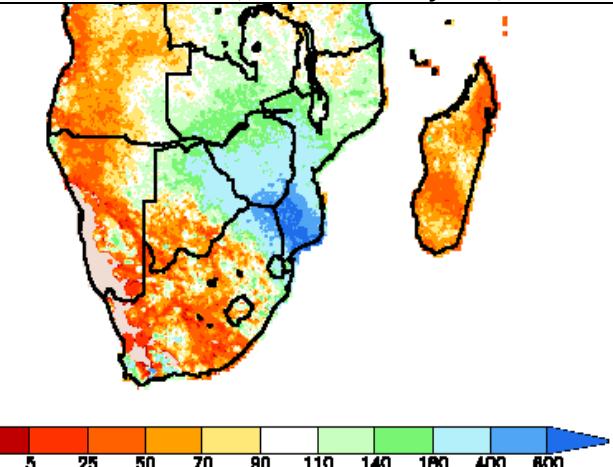


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

Daily Runoff
Valid: As of January 20th, 2013

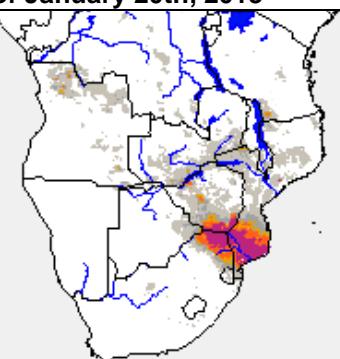
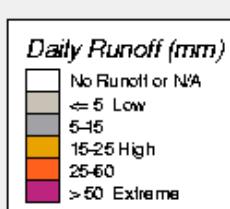


Figure 3: USGS/EROS

Note: The hazards outlook map on page 1 is based on current weather/climate information and short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week). It assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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