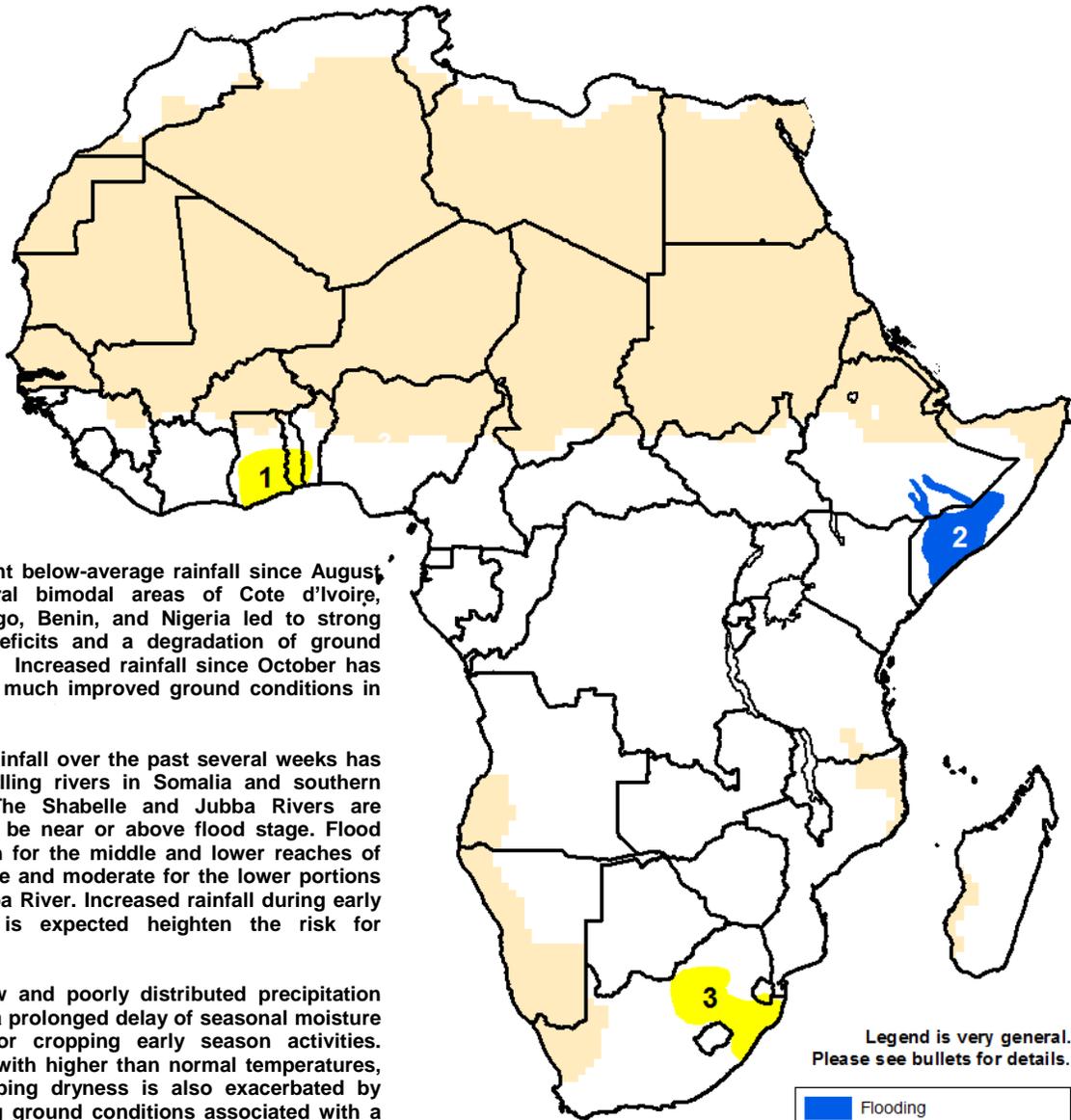




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook November 5 – November 11, 2015

- Above-average rains forecast for Greater Horn expected to sustain the risk of flooding during early November.
- Suppressed rains expected to continue for several parts of southern Africa.



1) Persistent below-average rainfall since August, over several bimodal areas of Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, and Nigeria led to strong moisture deficits and a degradation of ground conditions. Increased rainfall since October has resulted in much improved ground conditions in the region.

2) Heavy rainfall over the past several weeks has led to swelling rivers in Somalia and southern Ethiopia. The Shabelle and Jubba Rivers are forecast to be near or above flood stage. Flood risk is high for the middle and lower reaches of the Shabelle and moderate for the lower portions of the Jubba River. Increased rainfall during early November is expected heighten the risk for flooding.

3) Very low and poorly distributed precipitation has led to a prolonged delay of seasonal moisture available for cropping early season activities. Combined with higher than normal temperatures, the developing dryness is also exacerbated by pre-existing ground conditions associated with a poor monsoon last year which has depleted water resources, and may lead to an intensification of negative impacts. Suppressed rainfall is forecast across the region during early November.

Legend is very general.
Please see bullets for details.

	Flooding
	Abnormal Dryness
	Drought
	Severe Drought
	Tropical Cyclone
	Potential Locust Outbreak
	Heavy Snow
	Abnormal Cold
	Abnormal Heat
	Seasonally Dry

Early season wet conditions generally favorable across parts of Greater Horn.

During the last seven days, many areas in Greater Horn of Africa continued to experience well-distributed, above-average rainfall. Satellite estimated rainfall weekly accumulations between 10-25mm were received throughout much of eastern Ethiopia and Somalia, with locally heavier amounts (>50mm) along the Shabelle and Jubba River basins (Figure 1). Further west, unusually heavy rainfall amounts were observed across much of northwestern Ethiopia with torrential amounts in excess of 100mm in northern South Sudan and Uganda. Meanwhile, mostly dry weather prevailed across several coastal areas of southeastern Kenya and bimodal areas of Tanzania.

Since the beginning of October, several local areas in the Greater Horn have experienced a favorable and robust onset to their seasonal (Oct-Dec) rains. The largest October moisture surpluses have been observed in central and southern Somalia, as well as, across southern Sudan and northern South Sudan (Figure 2). The surpluses experienced in Sudan/South Sudan may not be favorable for late-season cropping activities. In addition, large moisture surpluses over the Shabelle and Jubba River basins have elevated the risk for flash floods and downstream river inundation. However, early season rainfall over other portions of Somalia, Ethiopia and parts of Kenya is expected to benefit several pastoral and agro-pastoral areas.

For the upcoming outlook period, rainfall forecasts suggest a continuation of enhanced rainfall throughout the Greater Horn, with the heaviest rainfall accumulations forecast for southeastern Ethiopia and Kenya. Both a strengthening and expansion of seasonal moisture surpluses into November is expected to lead towards more favorable ground conditions, except over the Shabelle and Jubba River basins where flooding remains a threat.

Southern Africa continues to experience slow, very dry start of rains season.

During the last week, largely suppressed precipitation was observed throughout southern Africa which has led to both a strengthening and expansion of early season moisture deficits in recent weeks. The highest weekly precipitation totals were observed across southern DRC, northern Angola, and Madagascar, with poorly distributed and lesser amounts (<25mm) received in parts of central Angola, Zambia, South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. An analysis of satellite-estimated precipitation percentiles for the month of October show prevailing dryness throughout several southern Africa countries, with some regions having experienced one of the poorest October rains over a 30-year record (Figure 3). Because the southern Africa monsoon season is relatively long, there remains much opportunity for moisture recovery later in the season, however, both the current developing dryness, and, pre-existing dryness associated with a poor monsoon last year, is expected to heighten the threat of negative ground impacts throughout several southern Africa countries. Satellite vegetation index analyses have begun to depict deteriorating ground conditions in Angola and in parts of Kwa-Zulu Natal and Maize Triangle region of South Africa.

Precipitation forecasts suggest a continuation of suppressed rainfall during early November. While there is some potential for increased rains throughout parts of Angola, little amounts of rain are forecast for much of South Africa, Botswana, and Zimbabwe during the next week.

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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