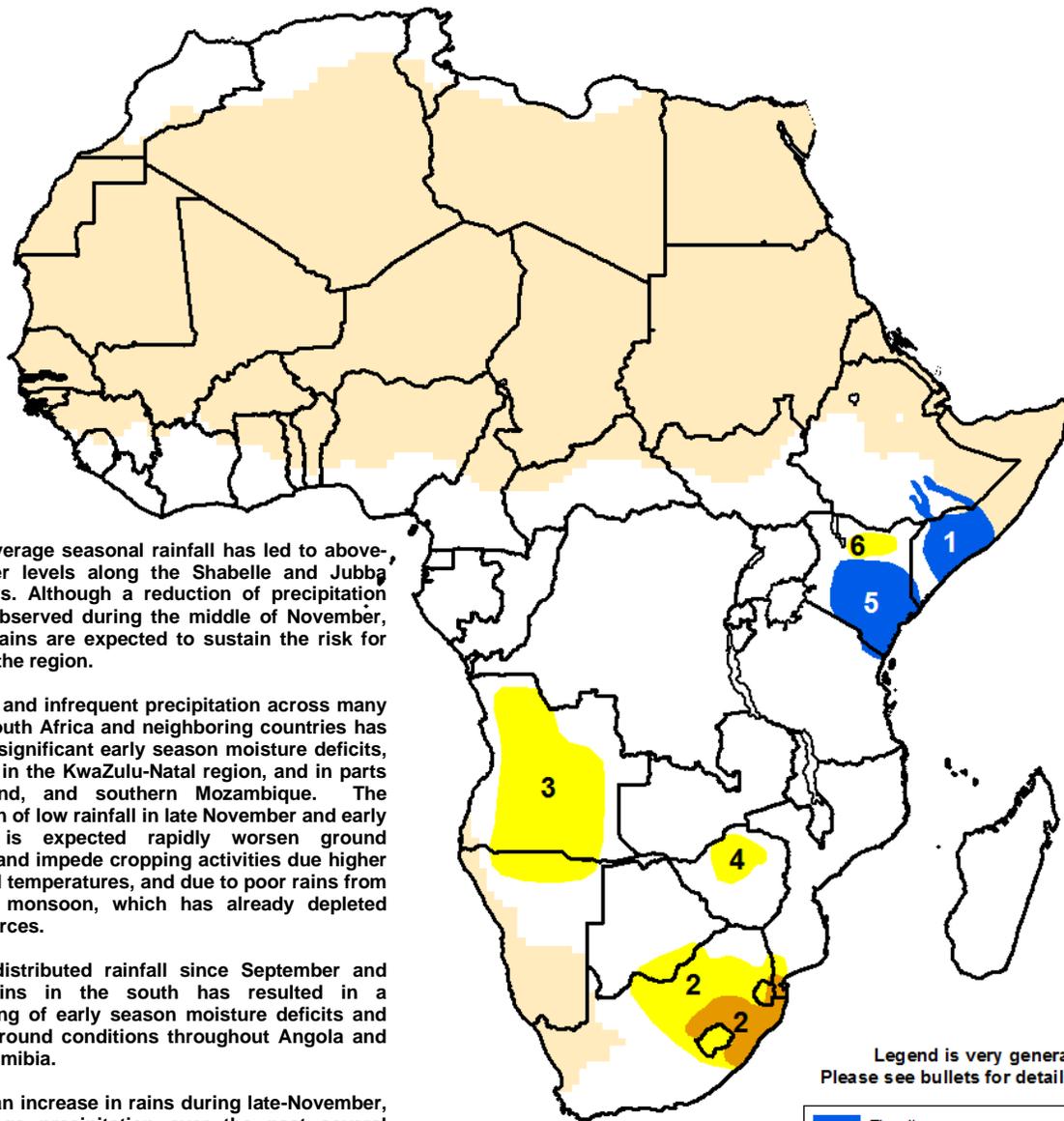




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook November 26 – December 2, 2015

- Despite some increase in precipitation, several regions experience strengthening dryness in southern Africa.
- Heavy rains sustain the risk of flooding throughout parts of Kenya and northern Tanzania.



1) Above-average seasonal rainfall has led to above-normal river levels along the Shabelle and Jubba River basins. Although a reduction of precipitation has been observed during the middle of November, additional rains are expected to sustain the risk for flooding in the region.

2) Very low and infrequent precipitation across many states in South Africa and neighboring countries has resulted in significant early season moisture deficits, particularly in the KwaZulu-Natal region, and in parts of Swaziland, and southern Mozambique. The continuation of low rainfall in late November and early December is expected rapidly worsen ground conditions and impede cropping activities due higher than normal temperatures, and due to poor rains from last year's monsoon, which has already depleted water resources.

3) Poorly distributed rainfall since September and delayed rains in the south has resulted in a strengthening of early season moisture deficits and degraded ground conditions throughout Angola and northern Namibia.

4) Despite an increase in rains during late-November, below-average precipitation over the past several weeks has led to developing dryness and strong moisture deficits in northern Zimbabwe.

5) Significantly heavy rains since early November have triggered numerous floods, river inundation, thousands of displaced people and fatalities throughout several provinces in Kenya. Forecasts suggest a continuation of above-average rains in late November.

6) Despite the recent increase in rainfall across Kenya, Poorly distributed rainfall since the beginning of October has resulted in pockets of strong seasonal moisture deficits throughout parts of northcentral Kenya.

Legend is very general.
Please see bullets for details.



Heavy rains remain over Kenya and Tanzania.

Since the middle of November, moderate to locally heavy rains continued across much of the Lake Victoria region, the bimodal areas of northern Tanzania and southern Kenya. In southeastern Kenya, locally high weekly accumulations (>75mm) were received mainly in the Eastern, Coast, and Nyanza provinces, with increased amounts extending southward into the Kilimanjaro, Manyara, and Tanga provinces of northern Tanzania (Figure 1). The increased rains in these regions follow a period where rains had been poorly distributed during the earlier portion of the season. Further north, reduced amounts of precipitation (<25mm) were received throughout much of South Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia which is expected to provide continued relief for many anomalously wet areas due to enhanced rainfall during October

Since the beginning of October, several regions in the Greater Horn of Africa have experienced a robust and enhanced rainfall season. At present, the largest seasonal moisture surpluses (>400 percent of normal) reside mainly over the more climatologically drier regions of eastern Ethiopia and throughout central and northern Somalia due to heavy rainfall in October (Figure 2). Further south, seasonal moisture surpluses throughout Uganda, South Sudan Kenya and northern Tanzania remain lesser in quantity compared to areas in the northern Horn, however, continued heavy rainfall in recent weeks has triggered numerous flash floods, river inundation, landslides, damages to infrastructure, and fatalities in November.

For the upcoming outlook period, rainfall forecasts suggest another week of torrentially heavy rainfall of several parts of Kenya and Tanzania. The potential for significantly heavy rains is expected to elevate the risk for localized flooding, river inundation and other adverse ground impacts in late November.

Increased rains bring some relief to South Africa, however other southern Africa regions experiencing significant dryness.

In the last seven days, an increase in the distribution and quantity of precipitation was received for the first time this season throughout a number of regions in southern Africa. Well-distributed and moderate amounts of weekly rainfall (25-50mm) were received across the Limpopo and Maize Triangle region of South Africa, the Gaza and Manica provinces of southern Mozambique, and in portions of southeastern Botswana, Caprivi Strip and western Zambia.

Despite this well needed increase in rains and moisture in mid-November, there remain several other regions in southern Africa that are still experiencing significant early season dryness. In the Kwa-Zulu Natal region of southern Africa and throughout many provinces in Angola, very low rainfall accumulations since the beginning of September have led to several consecutive weeks of strengthening dryness, which is likely to continue to negatively impact ground conditions and cropping activities. According to satellite rainfall data, many local areas in Angola, Namibia, Botswana, South Africa and Zimbabwe are now experiencing one of the worst starts of monsoon rains with seasonal values falling in the lowest 3rd percentile (Figure 3). Precipitation forecasts indicate average to slightly below average rainfall across many anomalously dry areas in southern Africa. The potential for more significant rainfall amounts are expected across parts of northern Angola, northern Zambia, and portions of Malawi and Tanzania for the upcoming outlook period.

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.

Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424.

