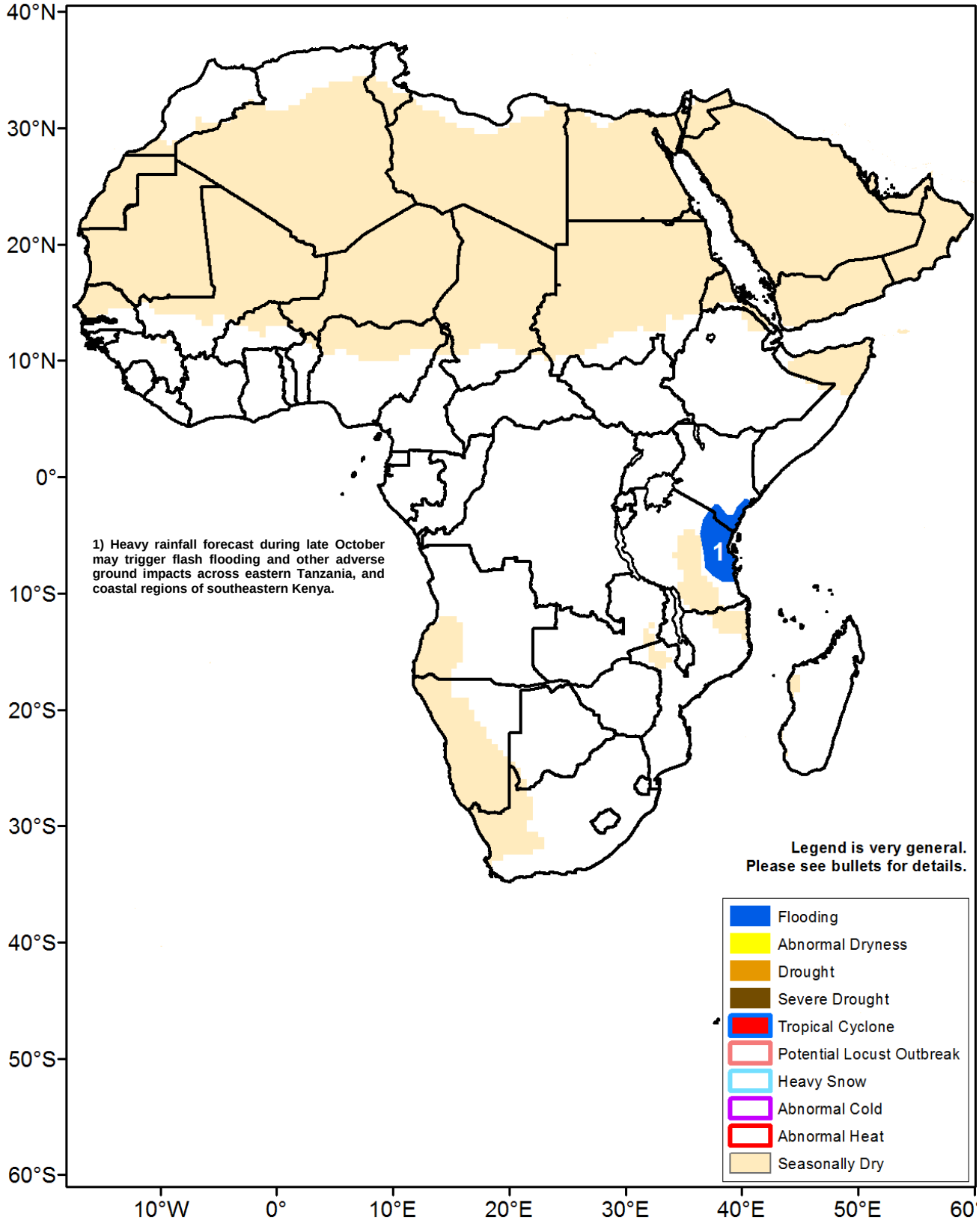
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
October 25 – 31, 2018

- **Seasonal dryness strengthens across parts of eastern Kenya and southern Somalia.**
- **Favorable, well distributed rainfall received across many parts of southern Africa.**



Late start to seasonal rainfall over many parts of East Africa.

Following a relatively dry first two weeks of October, increased rainfall activity was observed across the Greater Horn, with light to locally moderate precipitation accumulations during the last seven days. According to satellite rainfall estimates, rainfall was well distributed throughout the eastern Oromia and Ogaden regions of eastern Ethiopia and northwestern Somalia, however, the increase in seasonal moisture failed to extend southward into many parts of northern and eastern Kenya, and into southern Somalia. Towards the southwest, seasonably favorable accumulations were received across many parts of South Sudan, Uganda, and southwestern Kenya with weekly amounts ranging between 25-75mm (**Figure 1**). Rainfall remained limited over the bimodal regions of northern Tanzania.

An analysis of the precipitation performance since late September depicts a strengthening of negative moisture anomalies mainly concentrated across the Shabelle and Jubba River basins of southern Somalia and extending into parts of central and eastern Kenya where deficits have now exceeded 25mm (**Figure 2**). For many local areas in this region, seasonal precipitation has either been completely absent or quite limited in frequency and quantity over the past 30 days. Despite the increase in rainfall further north last week, poorly distributed rainfall has also been registered in pockets in eastern Ethiopia, which has also been indicative of a late start in seasonal precipitation here as well. Climatologically, seasonal rainfall typically reaches its peak in intensity during the next several weeks before decreasing by mid to late November.

During the next outlook period, precipitation models suggest the continuation of light to locally moderate shower activity throughout much eastern Ethiopia and northern Somalia, with decreased amounts again expected over eastern Kenya and southern Somalia. Near the Lake Victoria region of Kenya, rainfall is expected to be suppressed; however torrential rainfall accumulations are forecast over eastern Tanzania and southeastern Kenya which may trigger flooding and other adverse ground impacts.

Early season dryness developing in South Africa.

According to satellite rainfall estimates, favorably moderate to locally heavy rainfall was received throughout many countries in southern Africa during the last week. While the bulk of seasonal rainfall was concentrated across many parts of eastern Angola, southern DRC and northern Zambia, and South Africa, an increase in moisture resulted in the enhanced early season shower activity over many parts of Zimbabwe, Malawi, southern and northern Mozambique and Madagascar (**Figure 1**). Some coastal regions of Mozambique and Madagascar received rainfall amounts in excess of 50mm. However, seasonal rainfall was notably reduced across many parts of western Angola and northern South Africa during the last seven days.

Following a period of enhanced rainfall from early to mid-October, rainfall returned to being below average across many parts of South Africa. Since late September, moisture deficits continue to develop across the Eastern Cape, Kwa Zulu Natal, Free State, North West and Limpopo States of South Africa (**Figure 2**). Only a few local areas have registered near average to above-average rainfall conditions during this time. For the next seven days, precipitation models suggest a broad scale suppression of rainfall activity throughout much of South Africa, with very limited precipitation accumulations (<10mm) that are likely to strengthen early season dryness through the end of October.

Weekly Satellite Estimated Total Rainfall (mm)
Valid: October 17 – October 23, 2018

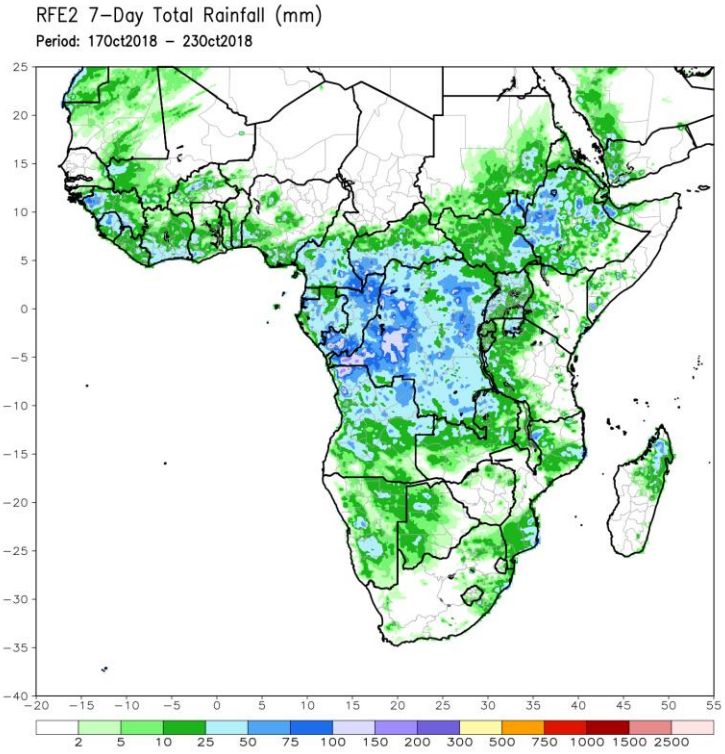


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

30-Day Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: September 24 – October 23, 2018

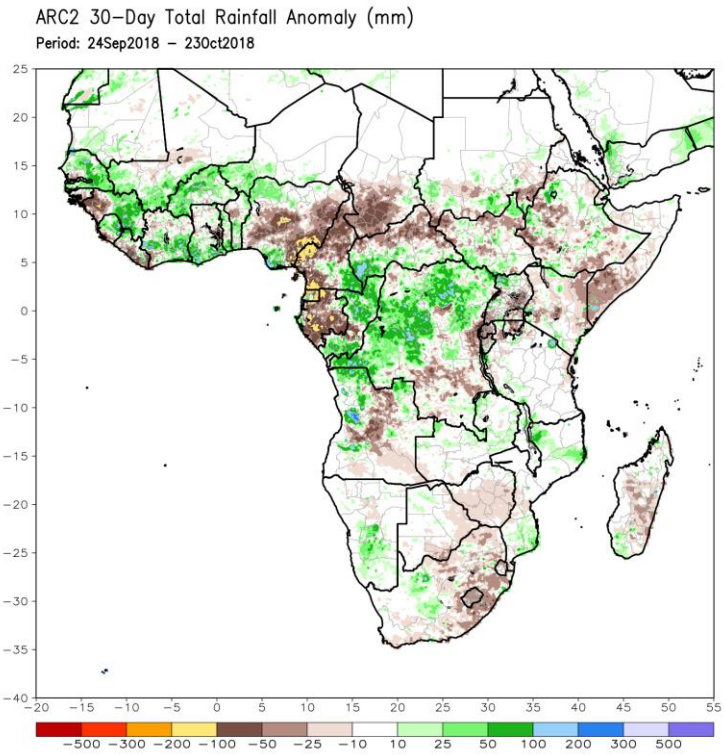


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

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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