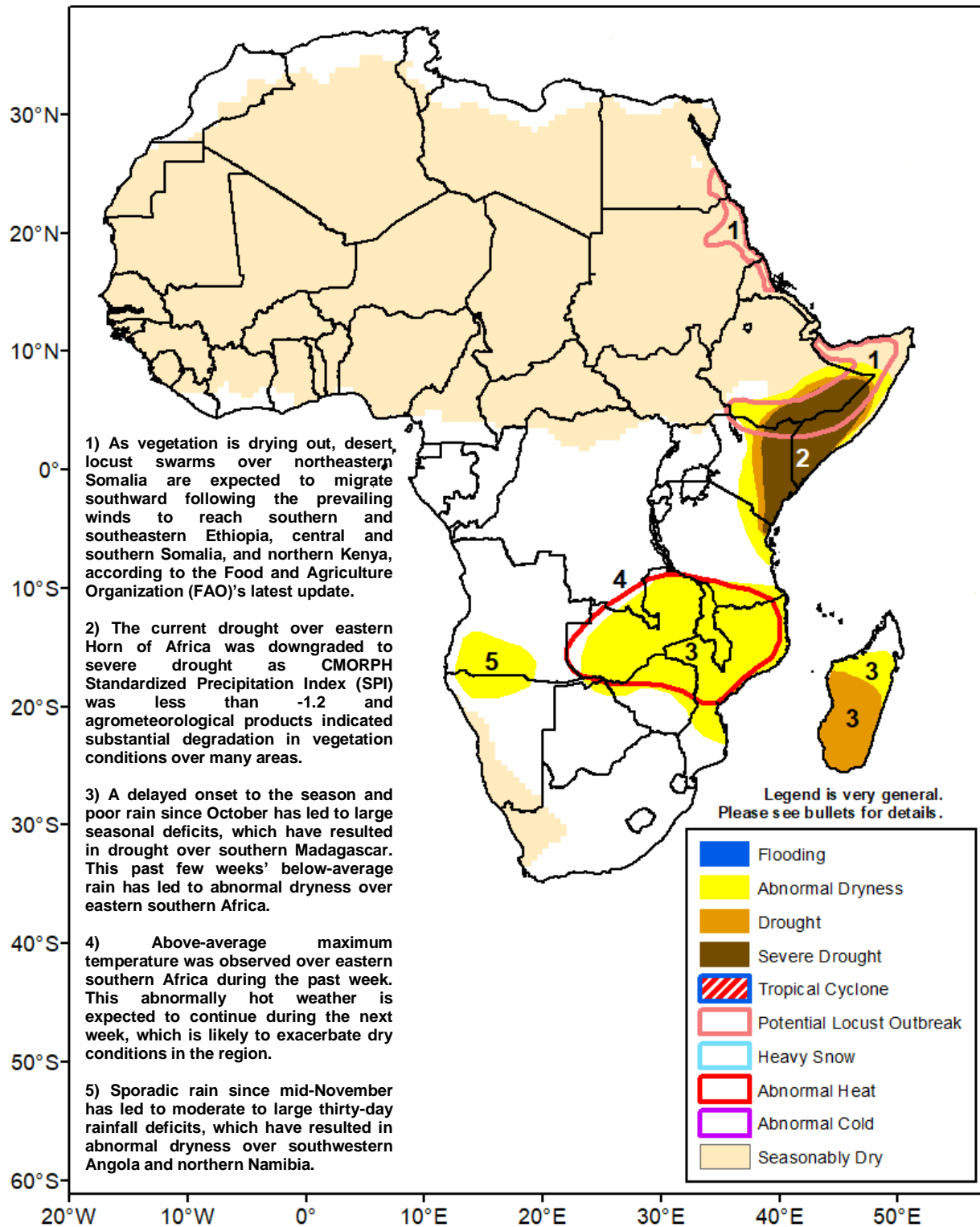




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook 30 December 2021 – 5 January 2022

- Despite late season heavy rains in eastern Kenya, severe drought persisted in the Horn of Africa.
- Unevenly-distributed rain strengthened dryness across central and eastern southern Africa.



Heavy rains persisted, eroding short-term deficits in eastern Kenya and southernmost Somalia.

During late December, copious amounts of rain fell over southwestern Ethiopia, southernmost Somalia, and eastern Kenya (**Figure 1**). The enhanced rains over upstream southwestern Ethiopia contributed to the persistence of inundation over the Sudd Wetlands in northern South Sudan. The consistent rains over eastern Kenya and southern Somalia over the past consecutive weeks had caused river flooding and fatalities in the Kitui County during early December, based on reports. The late season, enhanced rains were attributable to warmer-than-average sea-surface-temperatures over northwestern Indian Ocean, off of Kenya and Somalia, since late November. Consequently, previous thirty-day rainfall deficits were fully eroded and replaced with large surpluses in the region. However, the accumulated rain since the beginning of October remained below-average over much of southern Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia.

According to the latest vegetation products, the poor October – December rainfall performance resulted in well below-average and degraded conditions over the dry portions of the Horn of Africa. Also, small swarms of desert locust were still present over northeast Somalia despite ongoing control operations. A migration southward is expected during the winter breeding till February of the next year, based on the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)'s update.

During the outlook period, as the season is ending, dry conditions are, generally, forecast over the Horn of Africa. However, light to locally moderate rain is possible over southwestern and north-central Ethiopia.

Moderate to large seasonal rainfall deficits remain throughout central and eastern southern Africa.

Southern Africa experienced an uneven distribution in rainfall over the past several weeks. While moderate to heavy rains persisted in the northwest over northwestern Angola and to the south over South Africa, Lesotho, and Eswatini, reduced rains continued throughout the center and eastern parts of the sub-region from southern Angola, northern Namibia, Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, to Madagascar. During this past week, increased rains fell over the dry portions, including Zambia, parts of Zimbabwe, and Mozambique. However, weekly totals remained below-average. As a result, cumulative rain since October remained below-average across a wide portion of central and eastern southern Africa. Seasonal deficits were large and now ranged between 100 – 200 mm over areas of southern Angola, Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, and Madagascar (**Figure 2**).

The most recent vegetation products indicated that deteriorated conditions were evident over areas of northern Namibia, southern and eastern Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, central and southern Madagascar. Recently, above-average temperatures were also observed over eastern southern Africa, exacerbating dry conditions.

During the outlook period, abundant rains are forecast over northern Angola, eastern South Africa, Lesotho, Eswatini, central and western Madagascar. In contrast, limited and likely below-average rain is expected across eastern Zambia, Malawi, northern Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and southwestern Madagascar.

7-Day Satellite Estimated Total Rainfall (mm) Valid: 22 December – 28 December 2021

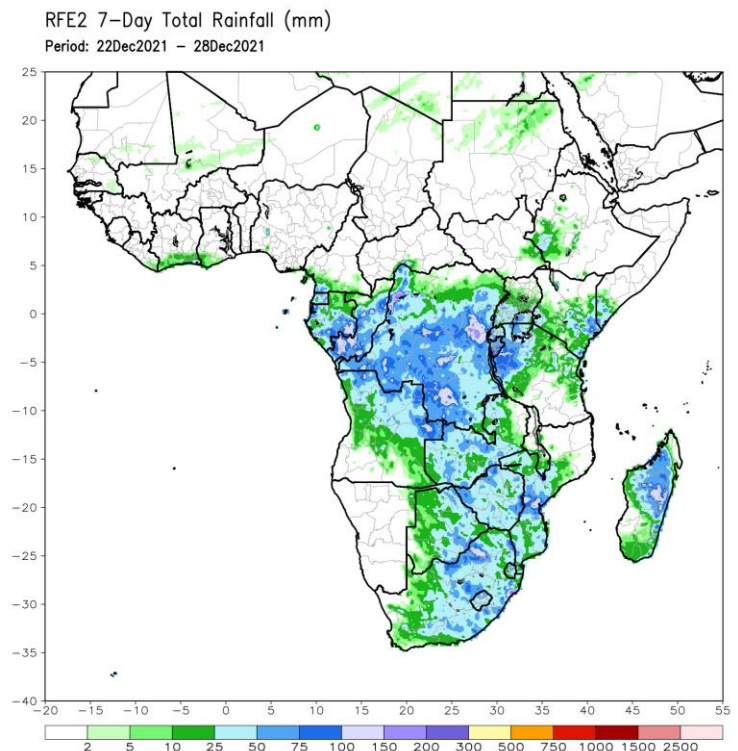


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

3-Month Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm) Valid: 01 October – 28 December 2021

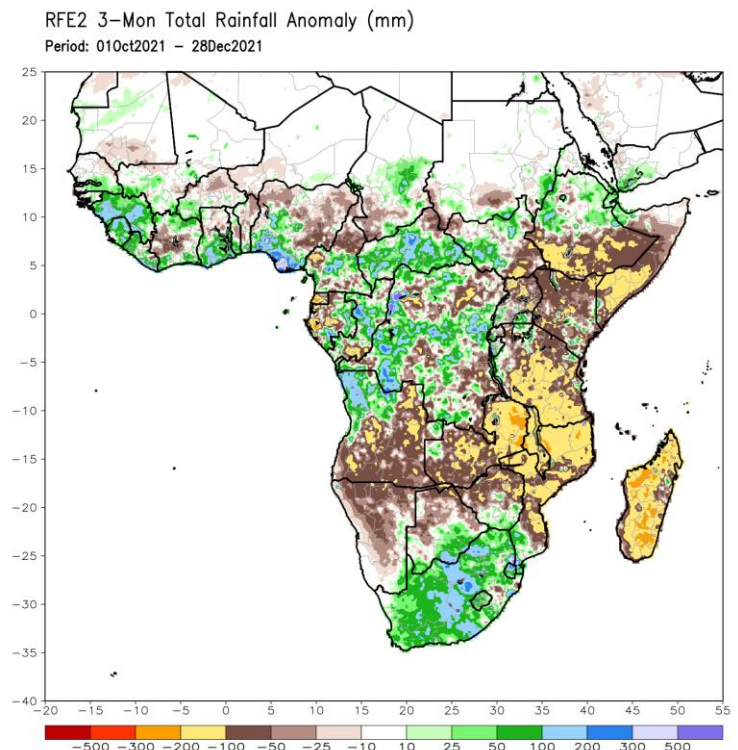


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

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.

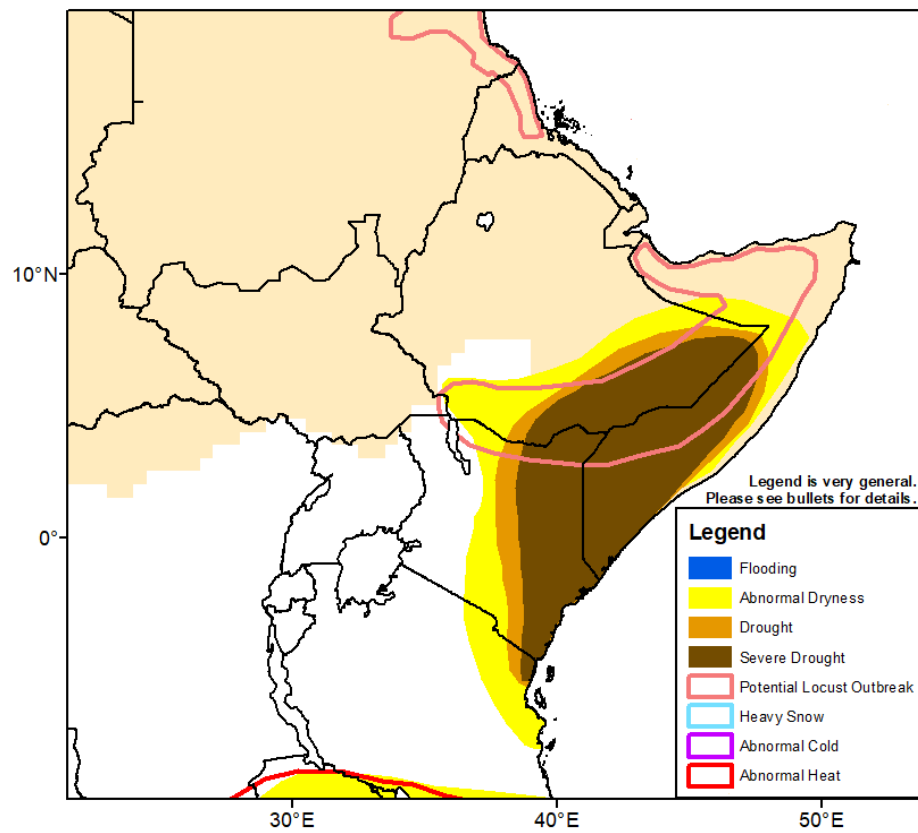


Figure 3: Hazards, focused over eastern Africa

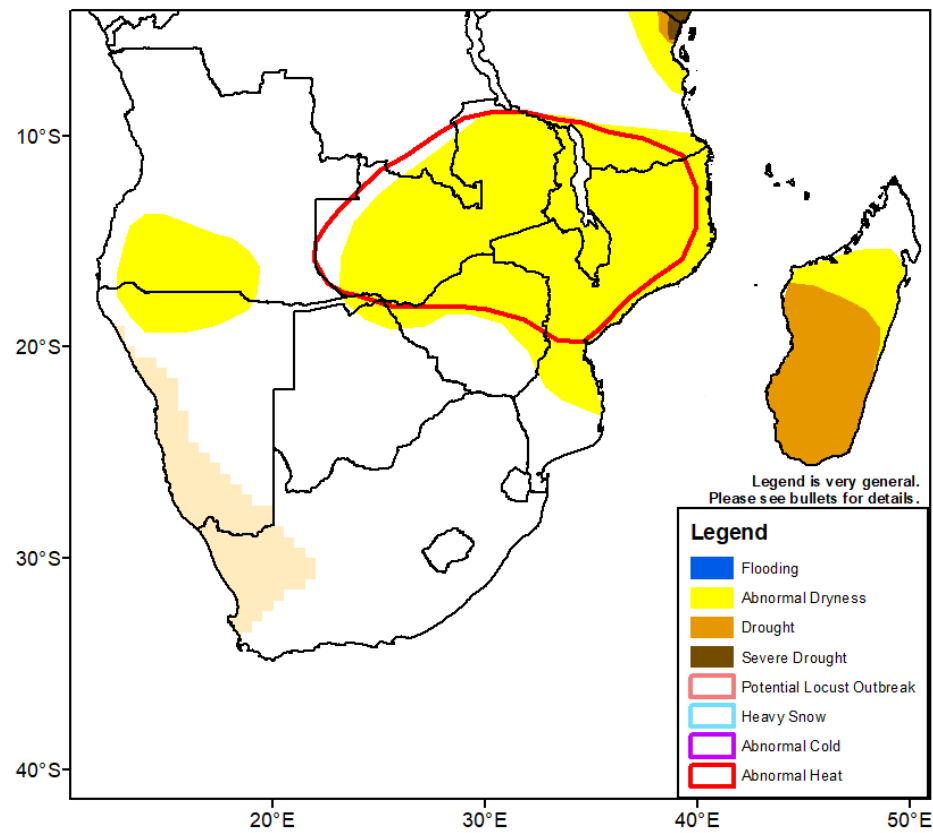


Figure 4: Hazards, focused over southern Africa