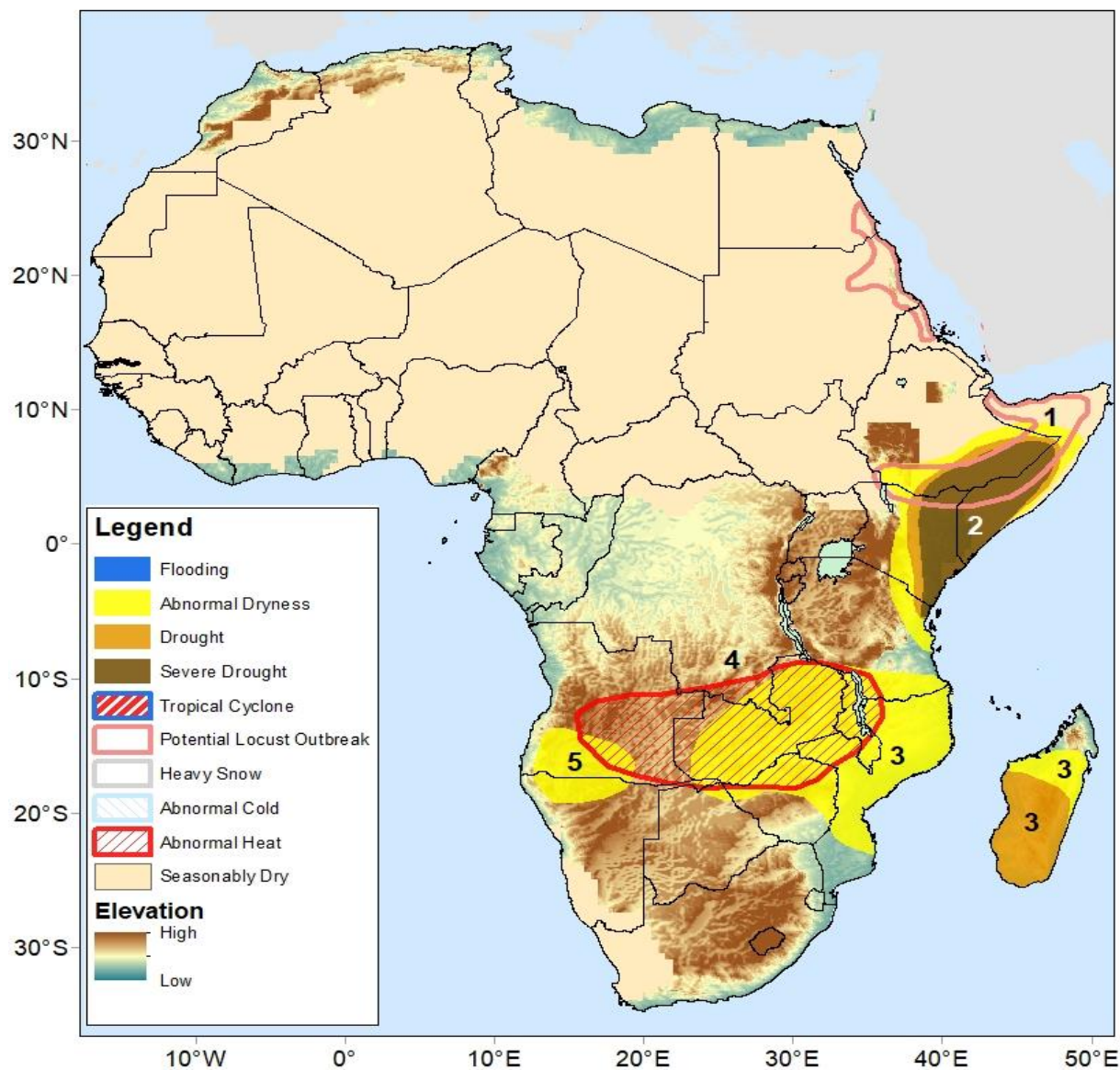




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook 13 January 2022 – 19 January 2022

- Deadly flash floods were reported across Buffalo City Metro Municipality in South Africa last week.



1) As conditions are drying out in northern Somalia, limited swarm movement is still expected to occur. The swarms reaching the Kenya/Ethiopia border, easterly and southeasterly winds are likely to carry them towards the Rift Valley in northern Kenya and southern Ethiopia, preventing movement further south into central Kenya.

2) Now that the dry season has started across the eastern part of Africa, the actual polygons reflect the previous season performance and the present ground conditions across Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya and will be updated next week.

3) Heavy rainfall has contributed to a relief from moisture stress across Madagascar and northern Mozambique this past week and could continue during the outlook period.

4) A continuation of above normal maximum temperature across eastern Angola, Zambia, and portions of northern Zimbabwe and Mozambique could be expected during the outlook period.

5) Erratic rainfall performance for the past two months could lead abnormal dryness toward drought conditions across southern Angola through northern Namibia.

Onset of dry season was observed across East Africa

During the past week, showers prevailed across the northern and western part of Ethiopia, southern Uganda, and western Tanzania which confirmed that the dry season has officially started this week across the Horn of Africa. The *Short-Rains* season performance remained catastrophic across the Horn of Africa despite recent heavy rainfall registered across Kenya and Tanzania from late December to the first week of January (**Figure 2**). With several weeks of suppressed rainfall which already caused a deterioration of vegetation health condition, abnormal dryness could be considered over central Tanzania if below normal rainfall continue during the outlook period. However, the surplus of rainfall has been beneficial for the ground vegetation coverage with an increase of vegetation health index indices across southern and eastern Kenya, far southern Somalia, Uganda, and a major part of Ethiopia.

The standardized precipitation index exhibited a shift from negative 1.5-2 SPI values during November to above 1.2 SPI values lately which confirmed the actual relief from moisture stress across Kenya and southern Somalia even though the season ended, and severe damage was already done over cropping fields areas.

During the outlook period, suppressed rainfall is expected across Kenya, Somalia, Ethiopia, and Uganda. Seasonable rainfall is expected across Democratic Republic of Congo and the northern part of Tanzania.

Flash flood was reported across Blantyre in Malawi this past week.

During the last seven days, heavy rainfall prevailed over northern Madagascar, northern Mozambique, northern Zimbabwe, and a major part of Angola. Widespread precipitation accumulations prevailed across Zambia, southern Tanzania and South Africa including Lesotho and EsWatini with lesser but well distributed amounts registered towards southern Democratic Republic of Congo, northeastern Namibia, Botswana, southern Zimbabwe, and southern Mozambique (**Figure 1**).

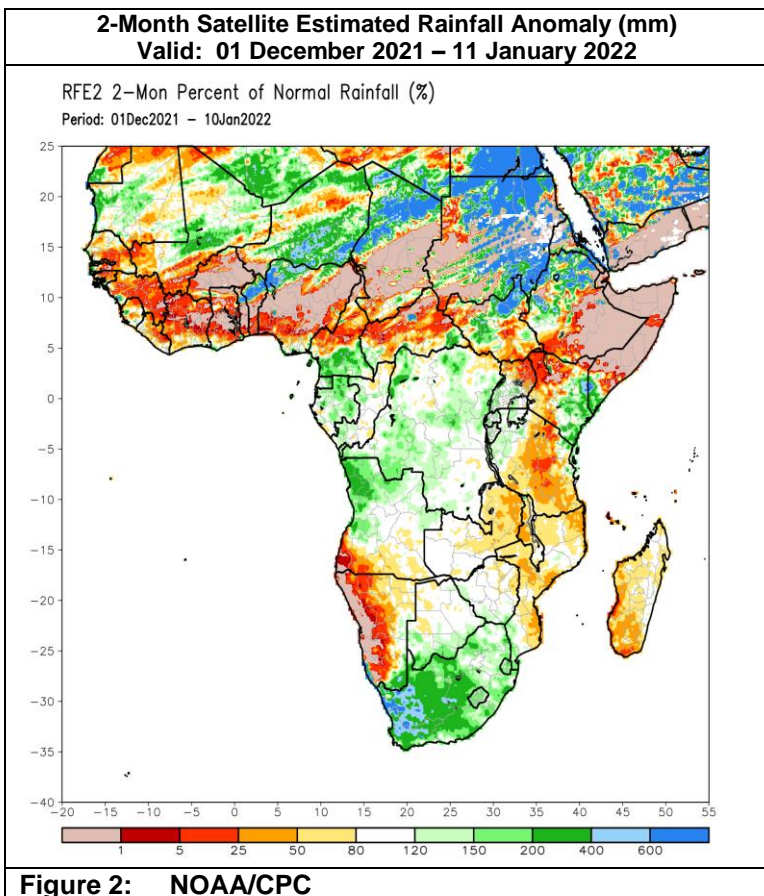
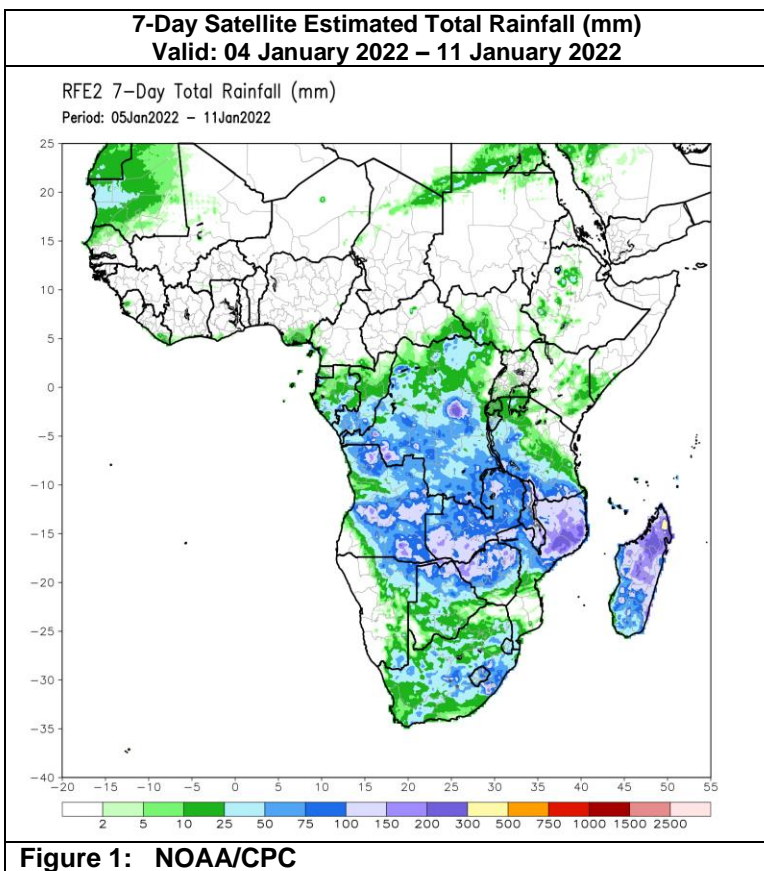
Since the beginning of December, widespread negative precipitation anomalies continue to prevail throughout much of the eastern part of southern Africa. Despite recent heavy rainfall, the southern part of Madagascar has experienced less than a quarter of their normal rainfall accumulation which affected tremendously crop activities and vegetation health. Evidence of the prolongation of the short-term dryness is also confirmed on the SPI values showing less than negative 1.5 SPI values during the past thirty days covering southern Madagascar, Tanzania, northern Mozambique, Zambia, and Malawi.

The lack of rainfall since the beginning of the southern African monsoon has reportedly led to drought across southern Madagascar and could potentially add several regions as northern Mozambique, Zambia and Malawi by the end of January. The actual ground moisture deficit has already negatively affected cropping activities over many areas, including Madagascar, northern Mozambique, southern Tanzania, Malawi, and Zambia. An analysis of recent remote sensing products indicates that unfavorable ground conditions have continued to worsen over the same regions.

For the upcoming outlook period, models suggest that heavy rainfall is expected across Madagascar, central Zambia, northern Zimbabwe, and Malawi. Above normal rainfall is expected across Lesotho, EsWatini and surroundings regions, eastern Angola and southern Tanzania. Seasonable rainfall is expected across Namibia, Botswana, southern Zimbabwe and southern Mozambique.

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.



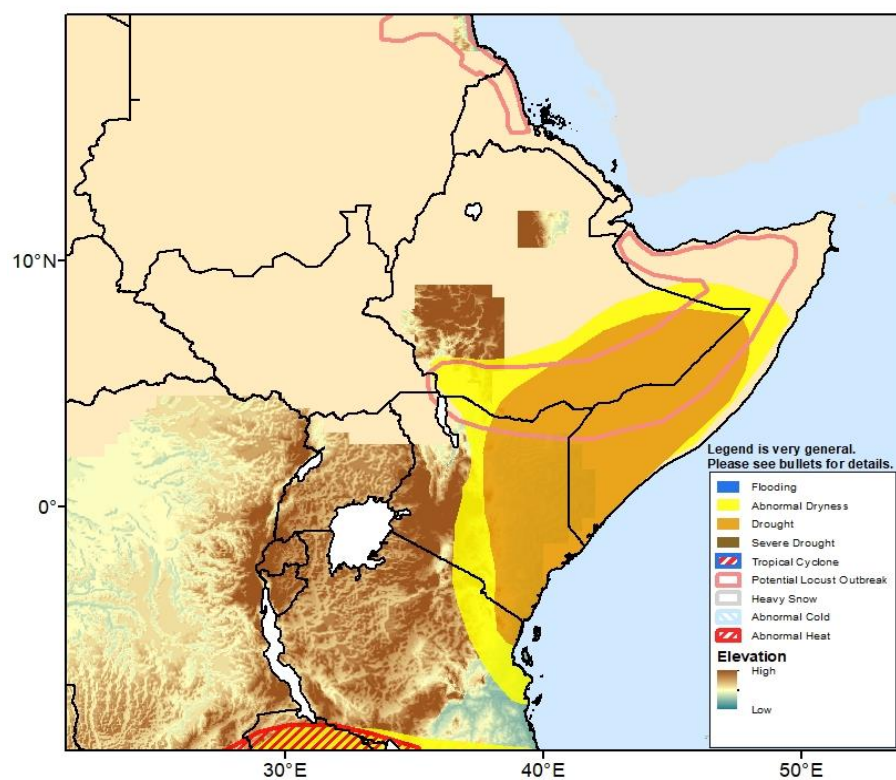


Figure 3: Hazards, focused over eastern Africa

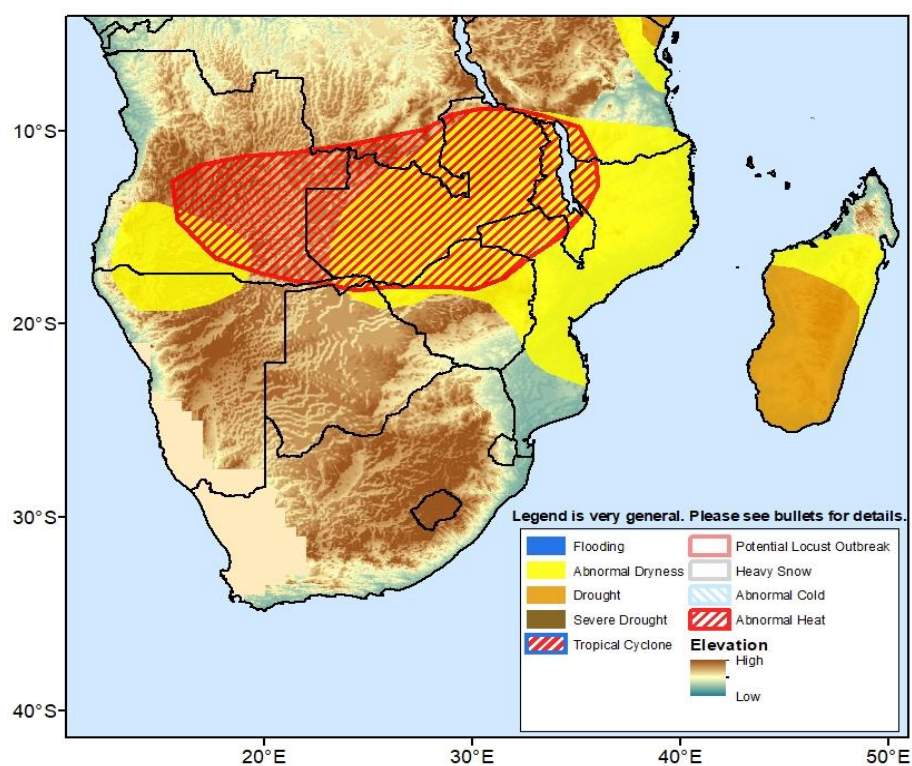


Figure 4: Hazards, focused over southern Africa