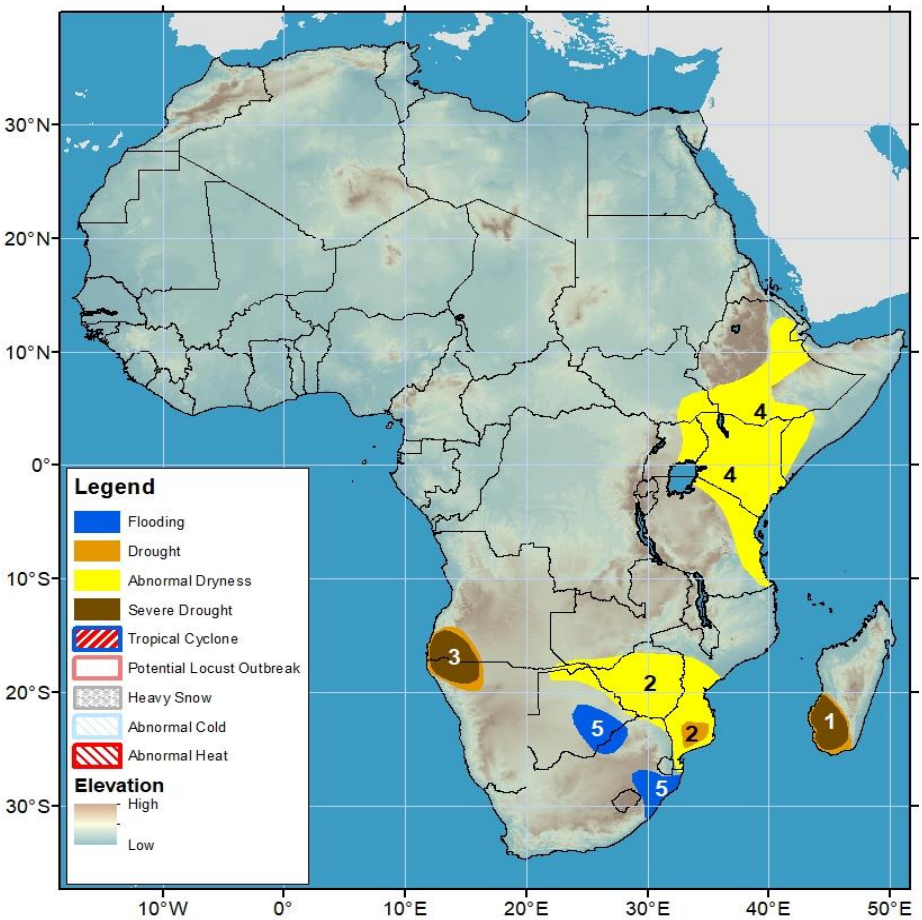
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
14 April – 20 April 2022

- **Very poor rains across the Horn of Africa are expected to negatively affect "Belg" season cropping activities.**
- **Heavy rainfall has caused flash flood and mudslides in KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa.**



1) Poorly distributed rainfall and extended dry spells along the rainfall season have led to several drought conditions across the southern part of Madagascar.

2) Unseasonable distribution of monsoonal rainfall has resulted in anomalous dryness across a broad portion of southern Mozambique, Zimbabwe, far southern Zambia, and far northern-eastern Botswana.

3) The rainfall performance showed consecutive below normal seasonal rainfall which let to deteriorated ground conditions, stressed vegetation, and negatively impacted cropping activities and livestock over southwestern Angola and northwestern Namibia.

4) Below normal rainfall during more than four consecutive weeks since the beginning of March has led to large moisture deficits and rapidly deteriorating ground conditions in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia. The mid-season absence of precipitation is likely to adversely affect cropping activities for several "Belg" producing areas of the countries.

5) Heavy rains during late rainfall season triggered flash floods and mudslides across northeastern South Africa and southeastern Botswana. Across the same area, the GEFS predicts moderate to heavy rainfall during the outlook period which could exacerbate more flash floods and potentially aggravate ground conditions over the flooded areas.

Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium-range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), sub-seasonal forecasts up to 4 weeks, and assesses the potential impact of extreme events on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed and predicted to continue during the outlook period. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at the spatial scale of the map. This product considers long-range seasonal climate forecasts but does not reflect current or projected food security conditions. FEWS NET is a USAID-funded activity whose purpose is to provide objective information about food security conditions. Its views are not necessarily reflective of those of USAID or the U.S. Government. The FEWS NET weather hazards outlook process and products include participation by FEWS NET field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and several other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned.

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Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, jverdin@usaid.gov

Strengthening of moisture deficit was observed across the Horn of Africa.

During the past week, between 25-50mm of rains prevailed across western Ethiopia, southern South Sudan, and portion of western Kenya. Suppressed rainfall prevailed across southern Somalia, Kenya, central and southern Ethiopia, northern-eastern Tanzania (**Figure 2**).

Since the beginning of the Belg season, poorly distributed rainfall performed across northeastern-central-southern Ethiopia, Kenya, northern and eastern Tanzania (**Figure 1**).

While rainfall has shown slight increase recently, poorly distributed rainfall over Ethiopia has led to a considerable strengthening of seasonal dryness and mid-season moisture deficits. Analysis of satellite rainfall estimates, and frequency of precipitation suggest that much of central and southern Ethiopia has registered less than 3 days of rainfall since March (**Figure 1**). Combined with a late onset of seasonal rainfall, the continuation of anomalously dry conditions throughout April is expected to adversely impact cropping and pastoral activities across Ethiopia, Kenya, southern and central Somalia, and portion of northern Tanzania.

For the upcoming outlook period, precipitation models suggest another week of suppressed rainfall over eastern and northern Ethiopia, with the potential for average to above-average rainfall over the pastoral regions of southern Ethiopia. The continuation of poor mid-season Belg rains is expected to worsen already moisture stressed regions of Ethiopia. Further south, below normal rainfall remains forecast for much of Kenya, and Somalia. Seasonable rainfall is expected across Uganda and a major part of Tanzania.

Late season rains provided some relief over Mozambique and Zimbabwe

During the past week, enhanced rainfall amounts prevailed (>75mm) over Angola, a major part of Mozambique, portion of northern South Africa, and portion of southern Botswana. Since the beginning of rainfall season, uneven rainfall distributed and several consecutives' days without rainy days led to severe drought across southern Madagascar, areas located over southwestern Angola and northwestern Namibia, which also caused loss of crops and deterioration of vegetation conditions over the regions. The southern part of Mozambique exhibited long-term moisture deficit which triggered a decline of vegetation health index and led to drought conditions. Despite recent increase of rainfall across the region, the late season rainfall would be beneficial for only the ground water balance and growing grass land.

During the coming outlook period, seasonable rainfall is expected across a major part of southern Africa except across Angola and portion of northern South Africa expected above normal rainfall.

30-Day Satellite Estimated Total Percent of Normal Rainfall (%)
Valid: 14 March – 12 April 2022

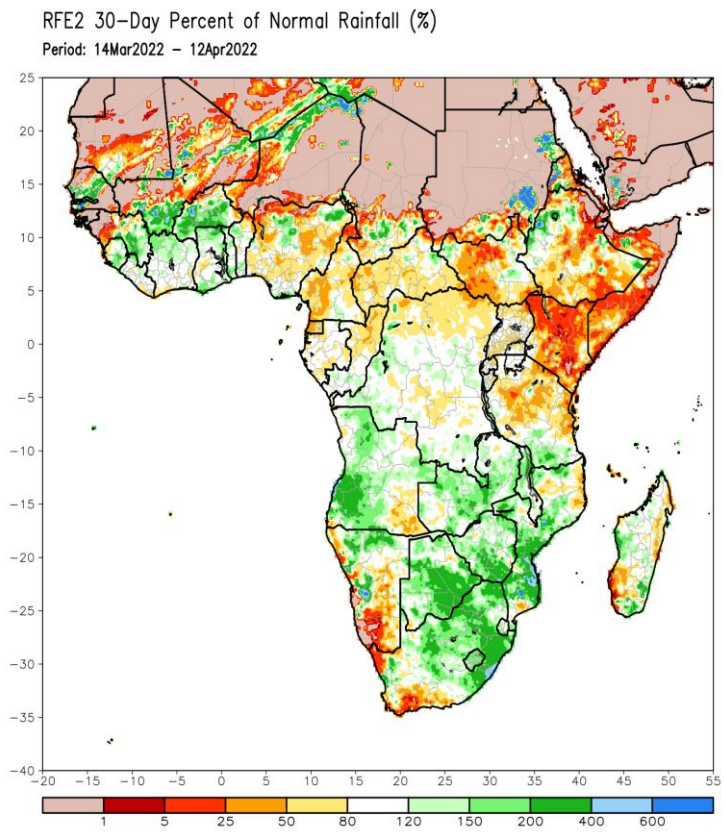


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

7-Day Satellite Estimated Total Rainfall (mm)
Valid: 6 March – 12 April 2022

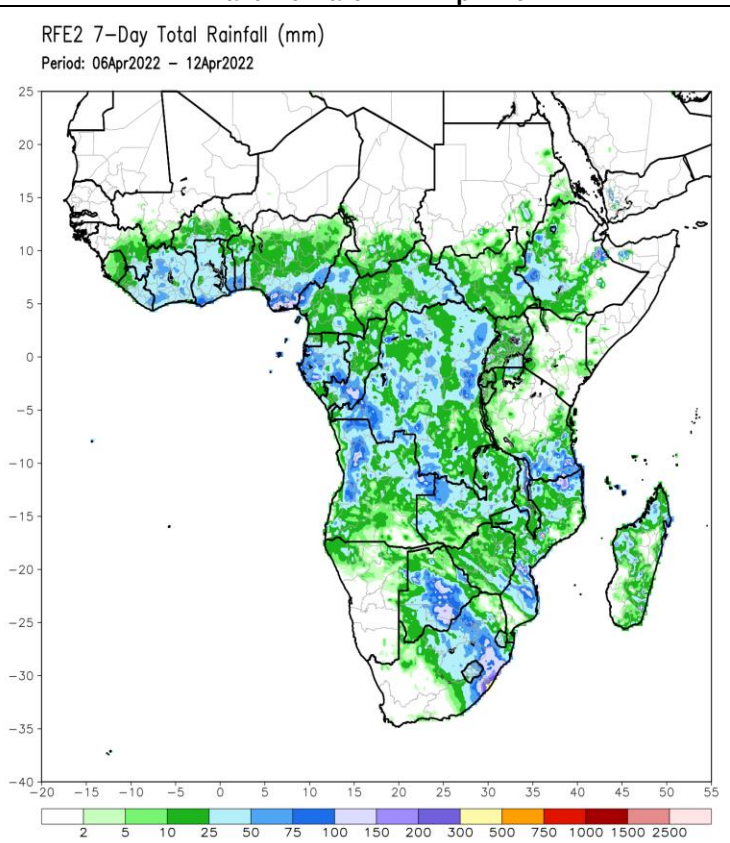


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

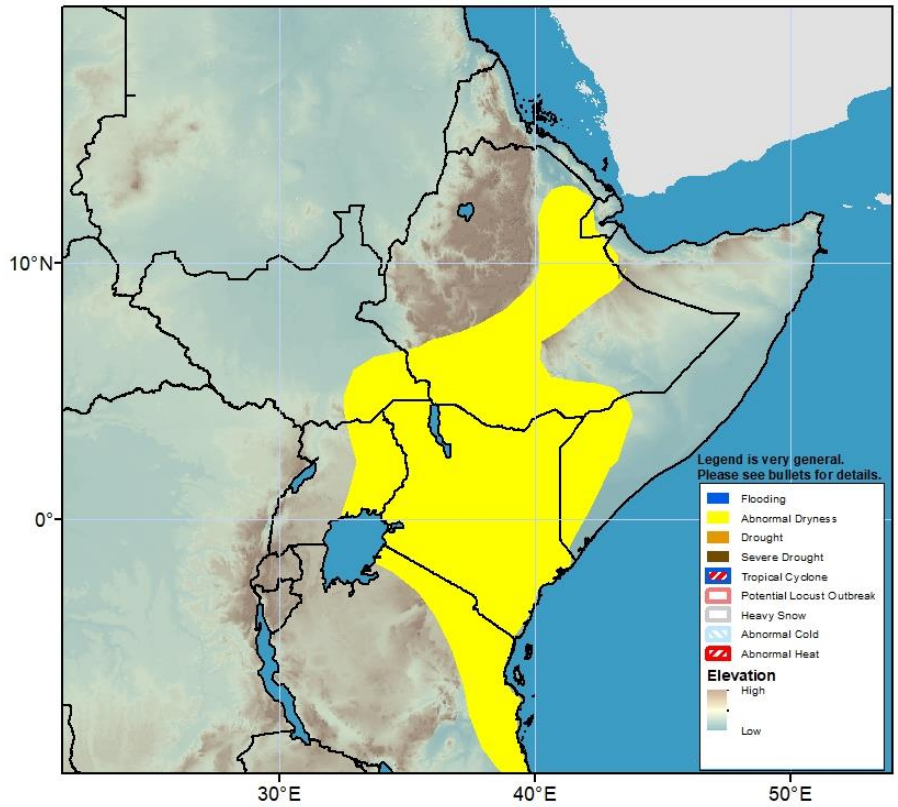
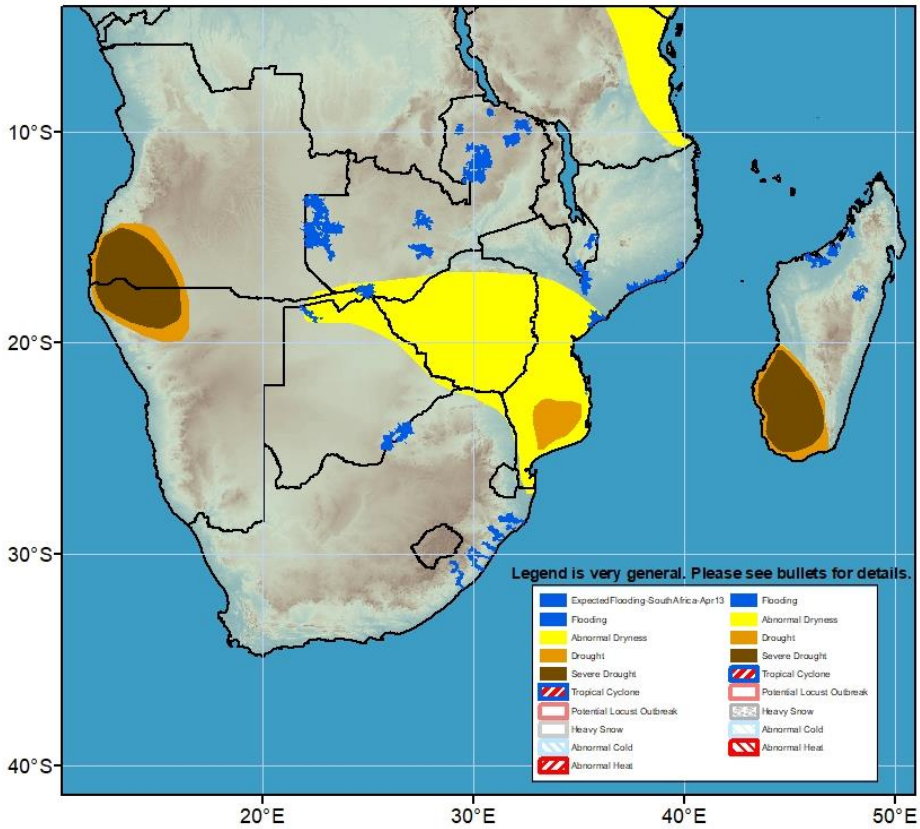


Figure 3: Hazards, focused over eastern Africa



Flash floods and mudslides were reported across localized area of far northeastern South Africa and along its border areas with Botswana, the remained flooded areas showed an improvement this week.

Figure 4: Hazards, focused over southern Africa