





Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 02 June – 08 June, 2022

- Drought and severe drought is present across much of the greater Horn of Africa.
- Mixed rainfall performance has been observed so far this season over West Africa.



1) A poor distribution of rainfall since the beginning of the March-May season developed abnormal dryness and drought across a large portion of East Africa. Areas, including north-central Ethiopia, along the Kenya-Ethiopia border, and southern Kenya where dryness is most acute (less than 50% of normal) and most persistent are now classified under severe drought.

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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The failure of the March–May rainy season has led to severe drought over the Horn of Africa.

This year, the Belg, March-May, rainfall season has performed extremely poorly over the Horn of Africa. Rainfall accumulation since March is well below-average throughout the sub-region. Seasonal rainfall deficits are at least 100-200mm over many areas, including southwestern and central Ethiopia, much of Kenva, southern Somalia, as well as northern and eastern Tanzania (Figure 1). In many cases, these anomalies correspond to at least half of the expected rainfall. Similar deficits are spreading through Uganda and South Sudan as well, though percent of normal values are less. The delayed onset to the season and poorly-distributed rain during March through May has led to droughts, affecting southern and central Ethiopia, Kenya, and southern Somalia. Much of the region is now experiencing failed cropping activities, highly degraded ground conditions, and low water reserves. This past week, the heaviest rains, 50-100mm and locally more, were located in southwestern Ethiopia, small portions of western Kenya and South Sudan. A thin swath of rainfall (10-50mm) stretched eastern Ethiopia and into northern Somalia.

The latest vegetation products show that below-average and unhealthy conditions spread across most of Ethiopia, to Kenya, Somalia, and northern Tanzania.

During the next outlook period, reduced and limited rains are again forecast over much of East Africa. The greatest departures from normal are expected in western Ethiopia South Sudan and Uganda. Hotter than average temperatures will also persist.

Lighter than average rains were recorded in a large part of western Africa.

During the 4th week of May, rains surged northward in western parts of the sub region. Rainfall totaling 10-50mm overspread Guinea, Senegal, the Gambia, and Mali, even leading to localized flooding. This is early rain for these parts of West Africa. Elsewhere, rain was lighter and below average. Nigeria, Ghana, Togo, and Benin were drier than normal by 10-50mm. Heavy and above average rainfall totaling more than 100mm was observed in central Cameroon (**Figure 2**). An analysis of the past 30 day's cumulative rain indicates mixed performance across the region. Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea and Senegal have received adequate to above-average rainfall while parts of southern Mali, Burkina Faso, Benin and Nigeria have received below average rain.

According to the latest agro climatic products, biomass conditions are a bit mixed. Lush conditions are reported in parts of Nigeria and Ghana, while some degradation is visible in Liberia and some regions of the Sahel, especially northern Benin.

During the next week, rain is expected to be suppressed for many parts of the sub region. Southern Senegal and northern Guinea should expect enhanced rainfall. A 7-day total of 25-50mm is forecast in southern Gulf of Guinea areas.







Figure 3: Hazards, focused over eastern Africa





Lingering inundation and saturated soils remain detected in central and western Zambia, the Caprivi Strip region and northern Botswana. Torrential rains on 21-22 May led to destructive flash flooding in Kwazulu-Natal South Africa, especially in and around Durban.