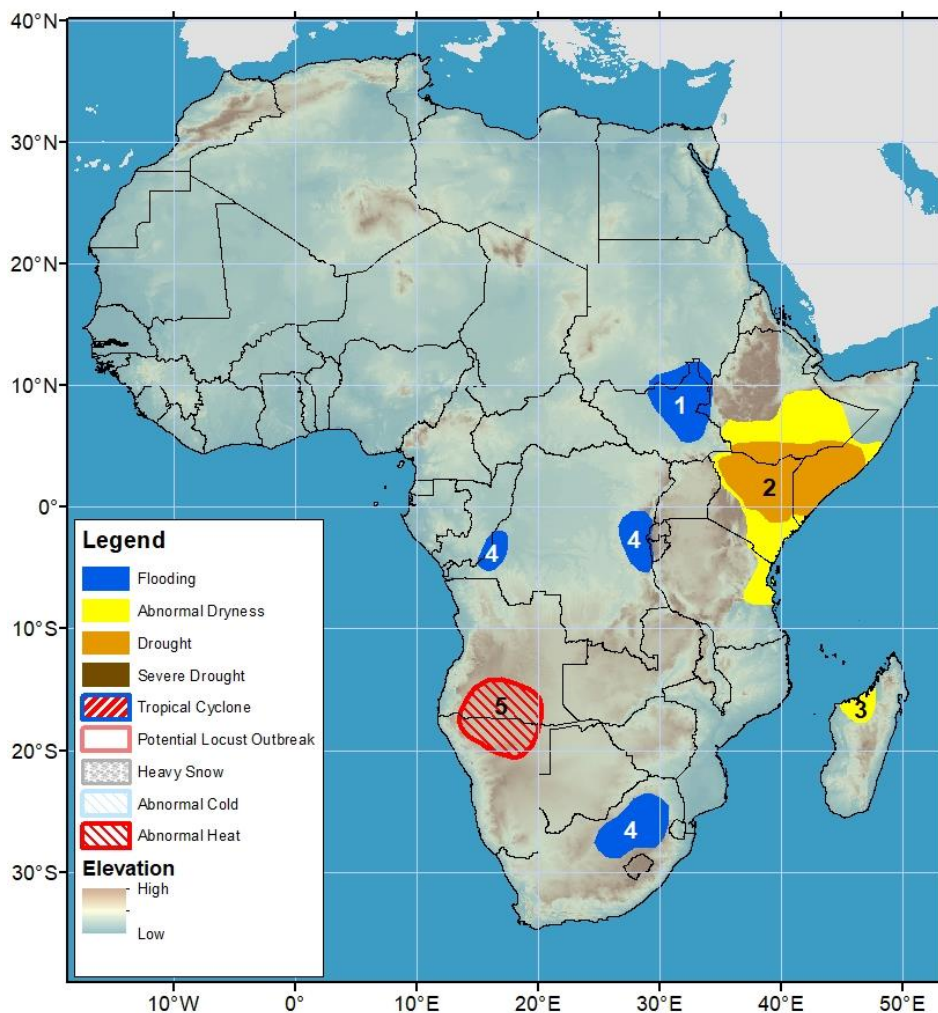


Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 22 – 28 December 2022

- A poor performance of the October-December rain has led to abnormal dryness and drought in East Africa.
- Enhanced rain was observed in many parts of Southern Africa during the past week.



- 1) Flooding have persisted over the Nile River Basin in Sudan and Sudd Wetland areas of South Sudan.
- 2) Dry and erratic conditions since the beginning of the October-December season over Eastern Africa have resulted in abnormal dryness over central and eastern Kenya, southern Ethiopia, and northeastern Tanzania. Drought has developed in southern Ethiopia, southern Somalia, and northern Kenya.
- 3) Below-average rain over the past seven weeks has resulted in moderate to large thirty-day moisture deficits, which have led to abnormal dryness in western Madagascar. Near to below-average rain is expected in the region during the next week.
- 4) The past few weeks' enhanced rain has overly saturated the soil, which has resulted in flooding and/or landslides, causing fatalities, destroyed infrastructures, and many people affected in Kinshasa in the DRC, North Kivu and South Kivu Provinces in eastern DRC, and Johannesburg area in South Africa. The forecast additional rain during the next week is likely to exacerbate conditions on the ground.
- 5) An abnormal heat hazard is posted in southern Angola and northern Namibia, where maximum temperature is expected to rise up to 6°C above average and exceed 35°C for at least three consecutive days during the next week.

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.

Questions or comments about the hazard's outlooks may be directed to Dr. Wassila Thiaw, Head, International Desks/NOAA, wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov. Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, jverdin@usaid.gov

Closing October-December rainfall season maintains dryness and drought in Eastern Africa.

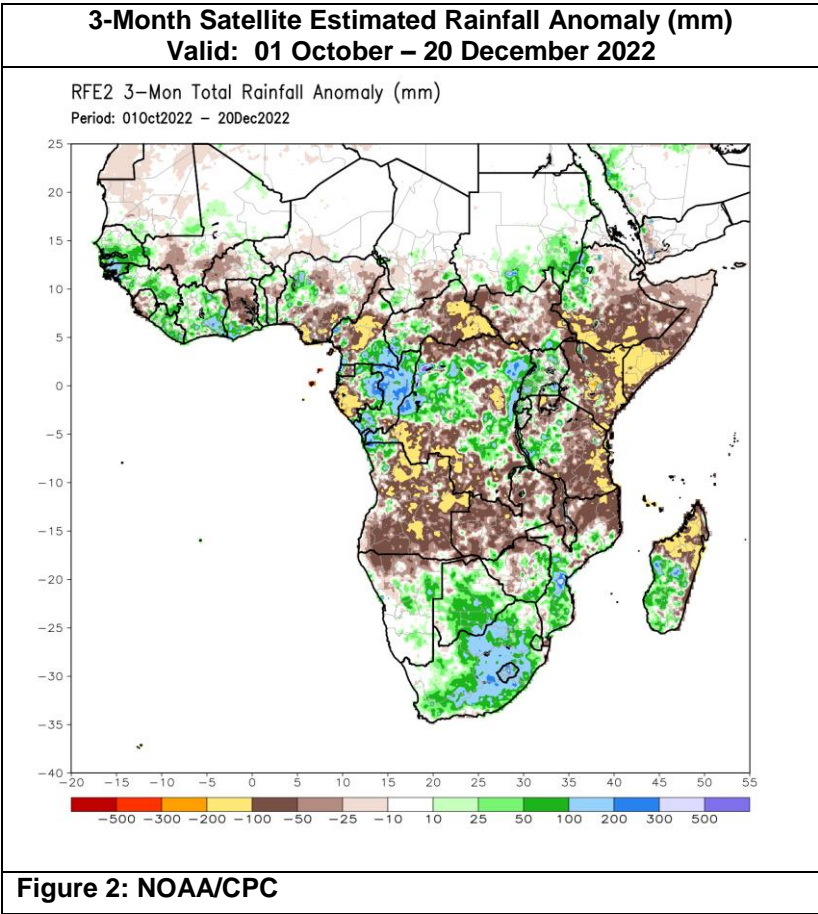
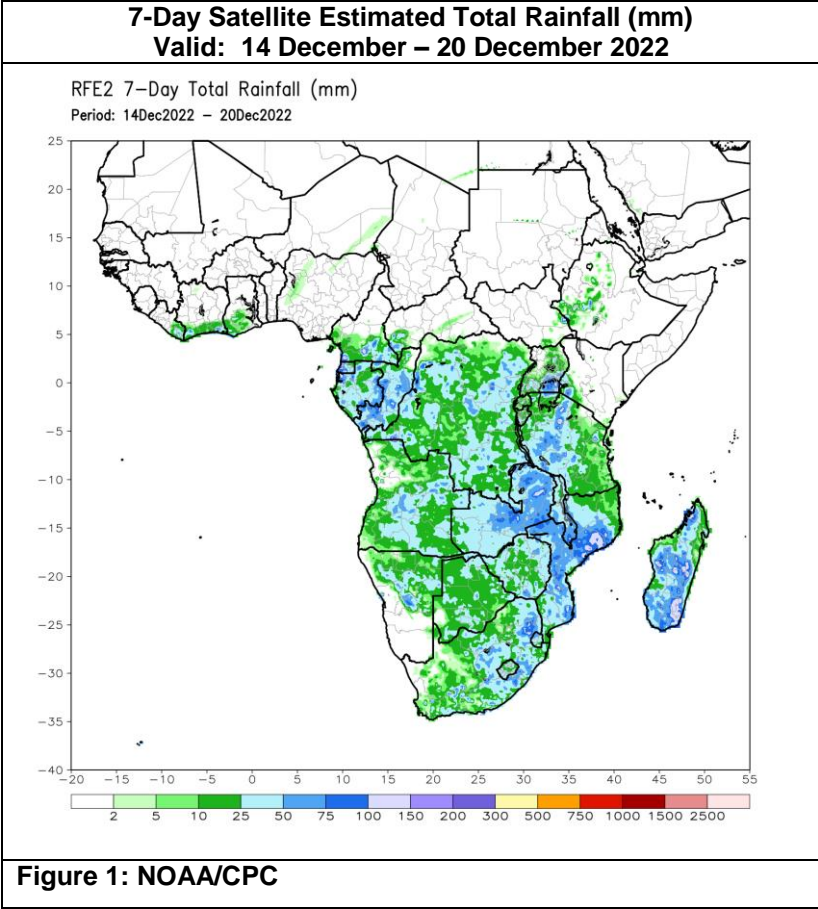
During the past week, Eastern Africa experienced a reduction in rainfall, with dry conditions and suppressed rain over most areas. Locally moderate rain was, however, received in southwestern Ethiopia and some parts of Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania (**Figure 1**). Since the beginning of the *Short Rains*, October-December, rainfall season, insufficient and poor rain has been received throughout Eastern Africa due to a delayed onset to the season, followed by an uneven spatial and temporal distribution in rainfall. The deficient rain has led to low soil moisture content, which has, in turn, already resulted in below average and unfavorable vegetation conditions across portions of southern Ethiopia, northern Kenya, parts of southern Somalia, and northern Tanzania, based on vegetation analyses. Abnormal dryness and drought have been posted in the dry portions of the sub-region, where moderate to large accumulated moisture deficits and stressed vegetation were present.

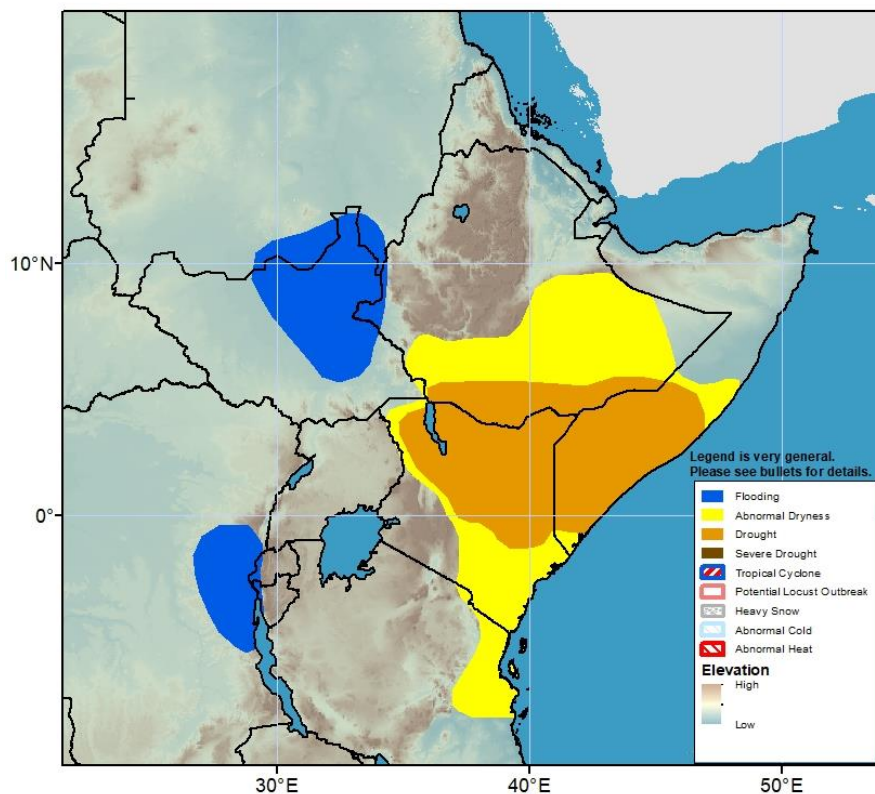
During the next week, a slight increase in rainfall is forecast in Eastern Africa, with moderate and likely above average rain in southern Kenya and central Ethiopia. However, little to no rainfall is forecast to prevail elsewhere. With the rainfall season already coming to an end, the chance for recovery remains slim.

The southern and eastern parts of Southern Africa have experienced excessive seasonal moisture.

Rainfall anomaly since the beginning of October showed that above average rain has been received across southern and eastern Southern Africa, with seasonal moisture surpluses, generally, ranging between 50-200 mm. Those areas included Botswana, South Africa, Lesotho, southern Mozambique, and southwestern Madagascar (**Figure 2**), where heavy and above average rain over the recent few weeks has already saturated the ground and has triggered flooding and or landslides, leaving fatalities and people affected in many local areas, including the Luanda Province in Angola, Johannesburg area in South Africa, and recently in Windhoek in Namibia. In contrast, below average seasonal rain has been observed in the northern sector from Angola, Zambia, Malawi, northern Mozambique, to northern Madagascar, where moisture deficits ranged between 50-200 mm. In Madagascar, an unevenly-distributed rainfall since November has led to growing 30-day rainfall deficits, which have resulted in abnormal dryness in the northwest.

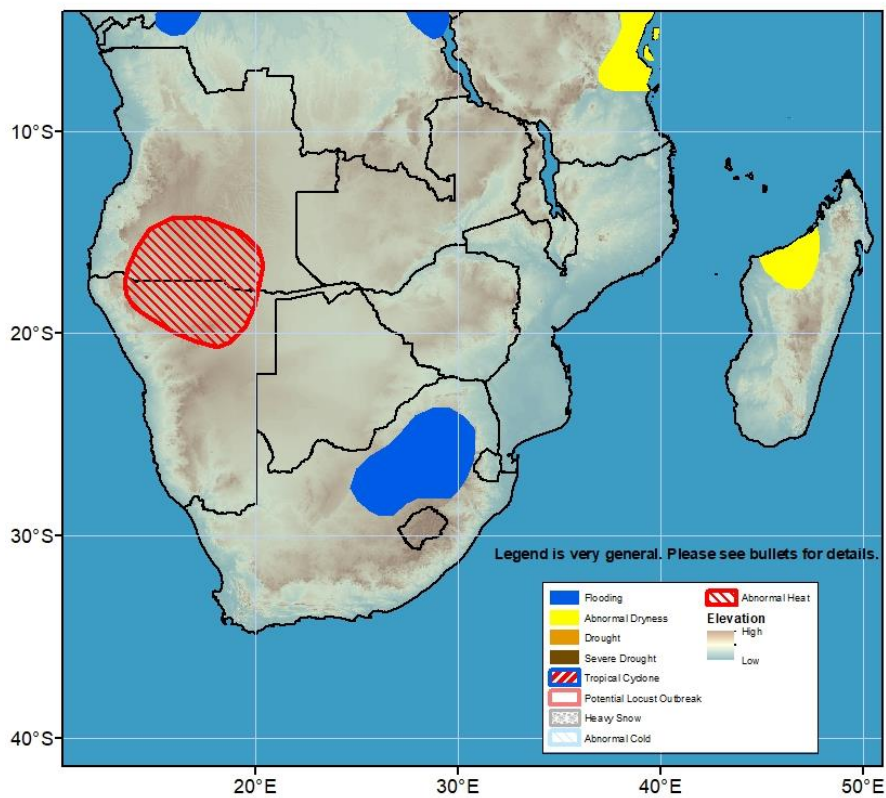
During the next week, rain-bearing systems could bring torrential rain in the northern and eastern sectors of Southern Africa from eastern Angola, Zambia, Malawi, southern Tanzania, northern Mozambique, to northern Madagascar, increasing the risks for flash flooding. Conversely, relatively drier and warmer conditions are expected in southern Angola, northern Namibia, southwestern Zambia, northern Botswana, northeast South Africa, and southern Mozambique.





Flooding continues over the Sudd Wetlands in South Sudan.
Flooding, river flooding, and landslides were reported in the North Kivu and South Kivu in eastern DRC.

Figure 3: Hazards, focused over eastern Africa



Flooding and landslides have resulted in fatalities in Kinshasa in the DRC.
Flash flood has led to fatalities, destroyed homes, and many people affected in the Johannesburg area in South Africa.

Figure 4: Hazards, focused over southern Africa