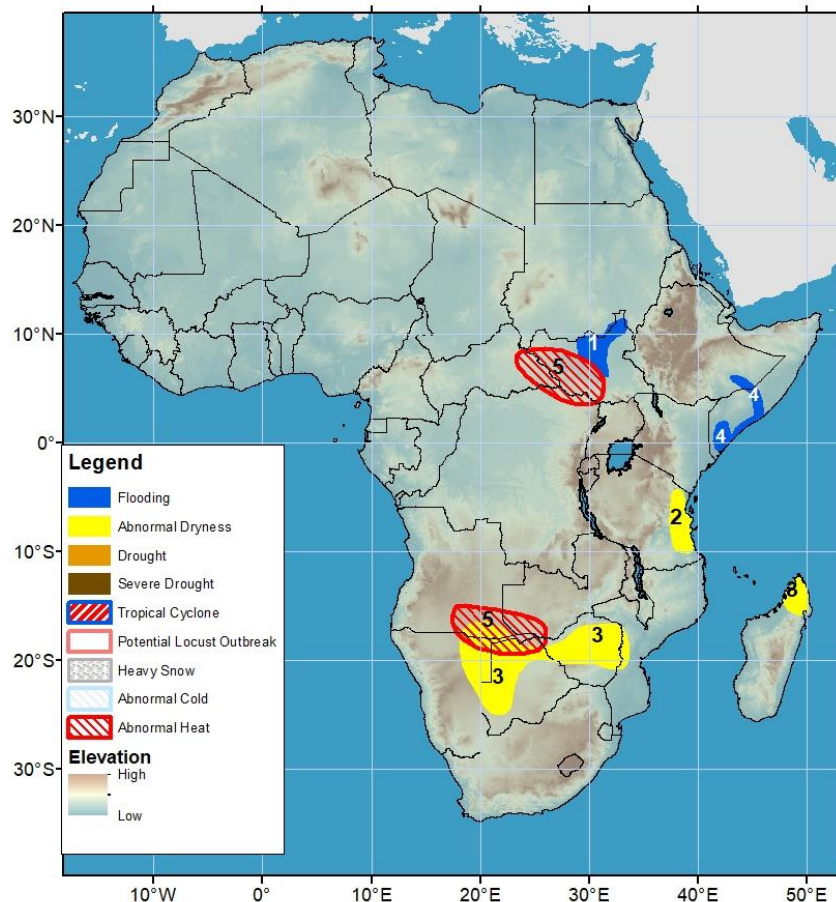


Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 25 May – 31 May, 2023

- Heavy seasonal rains have triggered serious flooding along the Shebelle River in East Africa.
- Abnormal Heat continues in CAR and South Sudan as well as Zambia, Angola, Namibia, and Botswana.



- 1) The extent of inundation remained unchanged in South Sudan.
- 2) Suppressed rainfall since November last year and corresponding soil moisture ranking less than the 30th percentile led to abnormal dryness in eastern Tanzania.
- 3) Poor rainfall since November resulted in abnormal dryness in southeastern Angola, northeastern Namibia, northern and western parts of Botswana, much of Zimbabwe, and western Mozambique. Northern Madagascar has shown significant dryness in recent months.
- 4) Heavy and above average seasonal rainfall in Ethiopia has caused ongoing flooding downstream along the Jubba and Shebelle rivers in central and southern Somalia. While river level has peaked in upstream areas near Ethiopian border, levels are quickly rising further south as water flows downstream.
- 5) Abnormal heat hazards are placed in South Sudan and eastern CAR, as well as southwestern Zambia, northeastern Namibia, northern Botswana, and southeastern Angola where temperatures are expected to be 4-8°C above average.

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

Rainfall decreased in coverage this past week in East Africa

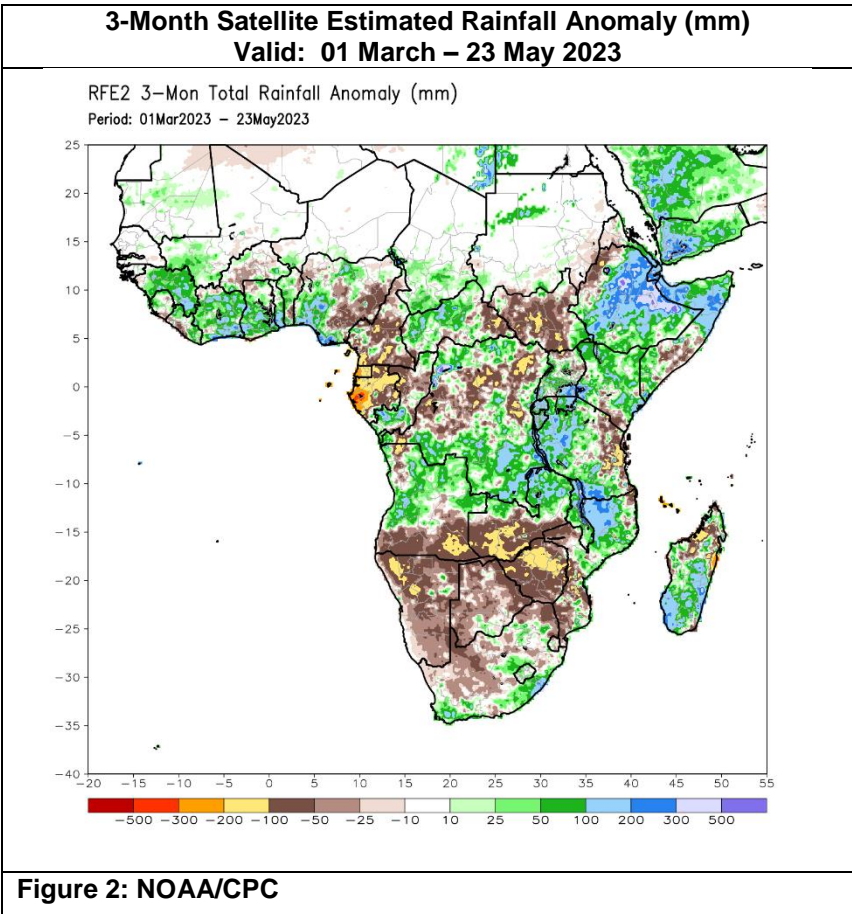
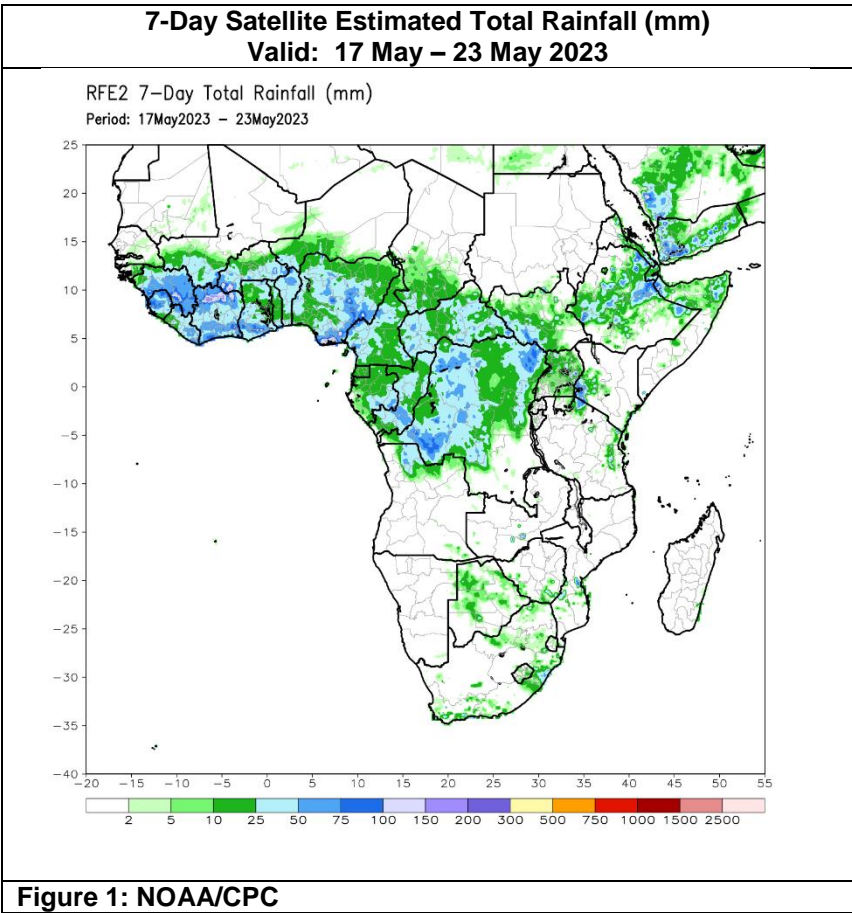
Rainfall coverage was a bit limited during the past 7 days. Moderate to locally heavy rainfall continued in central/southwestern Ethiopia, northern Somalia, and western South Sudan where up to 100mm and locally more was recorded according to satellite estimates (**Figure 1**). Uganda and western Kenya received moderate rains. Rwanda, Burundi, eastern South Sudan, and the remainder of Kenya and Somalia were dry. Due to this pattern, 10-50mm negative anomalies were registered in places including western Ethiopia, eastern South Sudan, and Uganda. Over the last 3 months (**Figure 2**), below-average rain, with 50-200mm deficits, has persisted over southwestern South Sudan accounting for more than a 20% reduction in rainfall. Similar conditions linger in eastern Tanzania and scattered deficits also persist in central Somalia. The widespread and heavy rainfall events built large surpluses in northern/eastern Ethiopia and northern Somalia. 3-month anomalies exceed 100-300mm, accounting for over twice the average rainfall. This has led to ongoing deadly flooding along the Shebelle River with inundation currently spreading downstream from Belet Weyne. Normalized vegetation health index (NDVI) indicates that lush conditions exist on the ground in Belg-producing regions of Ethiopia as well as southeastern South Sudan and northern/central Kenya. Pockets of degraded vegetation are present in eastern Tanzania, southern Kenya, central South Sudan, and Somalia.

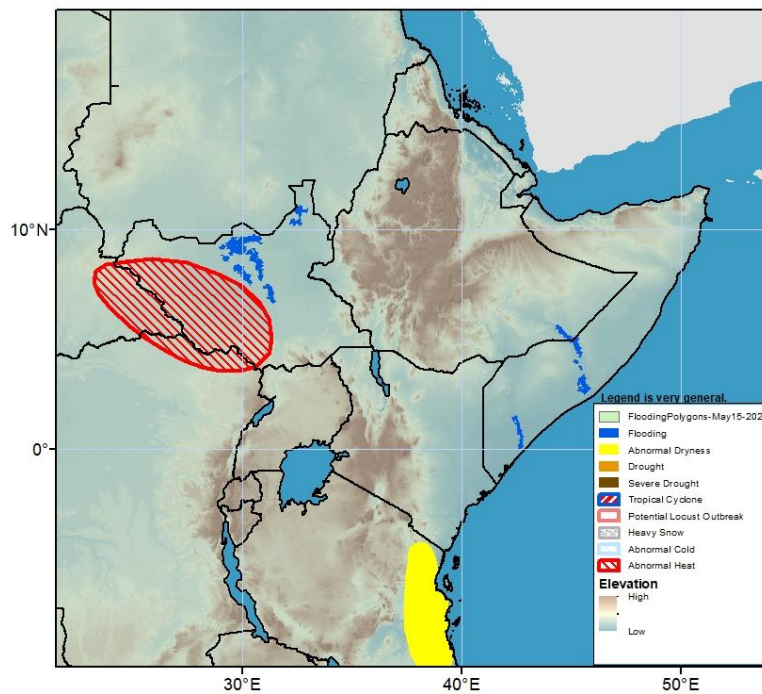
During the next week, moderate to heavy rainfall is forecasted to return to much of Ethiopia and the northern half of Somalia. Substantial rainfall totals of 25-75mm are expected. Suppressed rainfall of around 25mm or less is forecast for most of South Sudan and Uganda.

Rains increased in the Gulf of Guinea region.

West Africa received increased rainfall this past week. The heaviest 7-day totals (100-200mm) were observed in Guinea and northern southern Cote D'Ivoire, as well as Nigeria (**Figure 1**). Many other Gulf of Guinea regions received more than 50mm of rain. Rains gradually lightened towards the Sahel, where some light rain was received – even as far as Niger and central Mali. Such a pattern yielded positive 7-day rainfall anomalies across the Gulf of Guinea countries. Rainfall during the past 30 days has been less than average for portions of Liberia, northwestern Cote D'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, with deficits of 10-50mm, as well as Nigeria and Cameroon with deficits reaching 100mm. Analysis of NDVI indicates degraded vegetation conditions in portions of northern Togo, Benin, and central Nigeria, with decent to good conditions elsewhere.

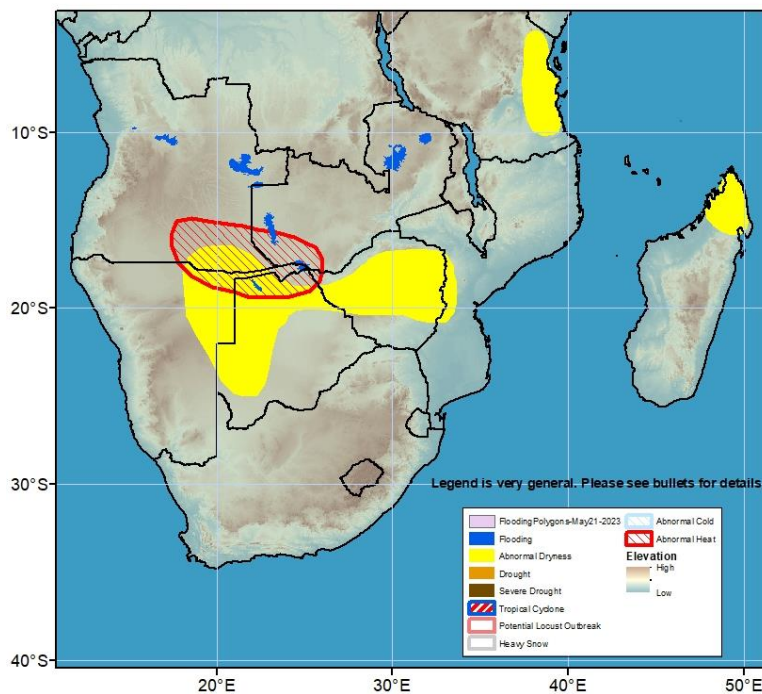
During the next week, near-normal rainfall is expected for most of the Gulf of Guinea countries. Sierra Leone and Liberia are favored to receive the highest rainfall, along with Cameroon, totaling 50-100mm. Remaining Gulf of Guinea areas should expect 25-50mm of rainfall.





Inundation remains unchanged in the Sudd Wetlands causing floods in South Sudan. The Jubba and Shebelle rivers are above the flood danger level causing widespread damage and fatalities around Belet Weyne. The flood danger is spreading down stream, bringing inundation to currently dry areas during the coming days.

Figure 3: Hazards, focused over Eastern Africa



High waters along the Luapula and Chambeshi Rivers has resulted in floods in Zambia. An abnormal heat hazard is posted for parts of southwestern Zambia, northeastern Namibia, northern Botswana, and southeastern Angola.

Figure 4: Hazards, focused over southern Africa