





Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 1 June – 7 June, 2023

- Heavy seasonal rains have triggered serious flooding along the Shebelle River in East Africa.
- Abnormal Heat is forecasted for central Mozambique and southern Malawi.



- 1) Flood conditions improved in South Sudan with the extent of inundation decreasing in the southern regions of the Sudd wetlands.
- 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) An early cessation to rains during May has led to late-season rainfall deficits and degraded vegetation health in central Somalia.
- 4) Heavy and above-average seasonal rainfall in Ethiopia has caused ongoing flooding downstream along the Shebelle River in central Somalia. While the river level has peaked in upstream areas near the Ethiopian border, levels are quickly rising further south as water flows downstream.
- 5) Suppressed rainfall since November, 2022 and corresponding soil moisture ranking less than the 30th percentile led to abnormal dryness in eastern Tanzania.
- 6) Weekly mean maximum temperatures are forecasted to be up to 4-6°C warmer than average and hotter than 30°C in central Mozambique and southern Malawi.

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, <u>wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov</u>. Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, <u>jverdin@usaid.gov</u>

Rainfall increased in coverage this past week in East Africa

Heavy rainfall (50-100mm) persisted across parts of southwestern Ethiopia and western South Sudan during the past 7 days (Figure 1). Light to moderate rainfall expanded into many parts of Sudan and western Eritrea. Scattered moderate shower activity (10-50mm) was observed in eastern Ethiopia, central and southern Somalia. Uganda also received moderate rainfall. Uganda and western Kenya received moderate rains. Due to this pattern, 10-50mm negative anomalies were registered in places including northwestern Ethiopia and eastern South Sudan. Scattered surpluses were present across Ethiopia, Eritrea, and northern Somalia. Over the last 3 months (Figure 2), below-average rain, with 50-200mm deficits, has deepened over South Sudan accounting for more than a 50% reduction in rainfall. Similar conditions are present in central Somalia, where the rains ended early during May. 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 southern Kenya, central South Sudan, and central/southern Somalia.

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

Rains improved in the western Gulf of Guinea region.

The far-western half of West Africa received increased rainfall this past week. The heaviest 7-day totals (50-100, locally more) were observed in Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, northern/southern Cote D'Ivoire, as well as eastern Nigeria (**Figure 1**). The eastern half of the region observed generally suppressed amounts between 10mm and 50mm. Rainfall during the past 30 days has been less than average for portions of Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, and Cameroon, with deficits of 25-100mm. Rainfall surpluses are observed to the east where early-season deficits have almost entirely disappeared. 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 or slightly wetter than normal conditions are favored across West Africa. Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia are favored to receive the highest rainfall, along with Cameroon, totaling 50-100mm.







Flood conditions improved in South Sudan with the extent of inundation decreasing in the southern regions of the Sudd wetlands. The Shebelle river is above the flood danger level causing widepread damage and fatalties around Belet Weyne. The flood waters are spreading down stream, bringing inundation to surrently dry areas during the coming days.

