





Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 7 – 13 September 2023

- Abnormally hot weather expected in Eastern Africa during the next week
- While flooding continue in many parts of West Africa, dryness strengthens in western and southern Mali.



- 1) Flood conditions are persisting in the Sudd wetlands in northern South Sudan.
- 2) Below-average rain since May and corresponding Standardized Precipitation Index values less than 1.5 standard deviations below the mean have led to abnormal dryness in South Sudan, Uganda, and southwestern/central/northeastern Ethiopia. Significantly degraded vegetation health is also observed
- 3) Suppressed rainfall since early June led to abnormal dryness in Liberia.
- 4) Torrential and above-average rain has caused floods to continue in the Niger and Benue Rivers in Nigeria. Flooding is also continuing along the Blue Nile in eastern Sudan.
- 5) Heavy rains during the past several weeks have caused floods to emerge in Chad and northern Nigeria.
- 6) Below-average rain since June has led to abnormal dryness in southern Mali, southeastern Mauritania, and northeastern parts of Nigeria.
- 7) Recent heavy rains in the vicinity have caused rivers to rise in central Mali as well as northern Senegal, according to observations and hydrological models.
- 8) Abnormally hot weather is forecast across northern Sudan, southern Egypt, parts of Libya, and Chad, where maximum temperature is expected to exceed 40°C and rise 2-6°C above normal 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, <u>wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov</u>.

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Unevenly-distributed rain has affected Eastern Africa.

During the past week, an uneven distribution in rainfall was observed in Eastern Africa. While enhanced, moderate to heavy rain was received in Eritrea, northern Ethiopia, and central southern Sudan, limited amounts with light to moderate rain was measured elsewhere (Figure 1). As a result, this past week's rain was aboveaverage in Eritrea, northern Ethiopia, and parts of southern Sudan, whereas it was near to below-average over most areas in the sub-region. The deficiency in rainfall has persisted over the past few weeks, which has contributed to strengthen 30-day moisture deficits over a wide area, including South Sudan, Uganda, southwestern Kenya, southwestern and central Ethiopia, where deficits were up to 200 mm. Moreover, an analysis of Normalized Difference Vegetation Index anomaly has shown belowaverage vegetation conditions over localized areas in northeastern and southwestern Ethiopia, eastern South Sudan, and southwestern Kenya. Further worsening in biomass conditions is likely if insufficient rain continues over the upcoming weeks.

For next week, heavy and above-average rain is forecast in southwestern Ethiopia, Uganda, and southwestern Kenya, which could help alleviate dryness in the region. Conversely, little to no rain is expected in northeastern Ethiopia, potentially adversely impacting cropping activities in the region. Meanwhile, abnormally hot weather, with maximum temperature exceeding 35°C and up to 6°C above average is expected in northeast Ethiopia, northern Sudan and southern Egypt.

Wetness continues in the far Western West Africa; but dryness deepens in Mali.

Since the beginning of June, cumulative rain has been above-average over many areas of West Africa. Over the far western West Africa, seasonal rainfall surpluses have exceeded 100 mm in Senegal, parts of Guinea-Conakry and Sierra Leone (Figure 2). Similar wetness has also been observed along the Gulf of Guinea, including southeastern Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana. During this past week, abundant rain persisted in Senegal, Burkina Faso, and western Nigeria, which further exacerbated flooding over many areas, including central Mali, parts of Burkina Faso, central and northern Nigeria, and southern Chad. In contrast, insufficient rain has led to acute dryness with large seasonal deficits up to 500 mm in western and southern Mali and eastern Nigeria. As the West African monsoon is progressing toward its end, the continuation of poor rain could lead to drought that could substantially reduce crop yields in the region. The most recent agrometeorological indicators have already shown stressed and below-average biomass conditions over localized areas along the Mauritania-Mali border and other areas in southern Mali.

During the next week, rain is expected to be at or belowaverage in Mali, which will likely maintain dryness in the region. Meanwhile, enhanced rainfall is expected to return along the Gulf of Guinea.







Flooding has persisted in the Sudd wetlands of South Sudan as well as along the Blue Nile in eastern Sudan.



Figure 3: Hazards, focused over Eastern Africa

Heavy rains in parts of West Africa have led to flooded areas along the Niger and Benue Rivers in Nigeria; flooding has emerged and expanded in Chad. Flood waters are also emmerging in a few areas of southern Mali and parts of Burkina Faso.

Figure 4: Hazards, focused over West Africa