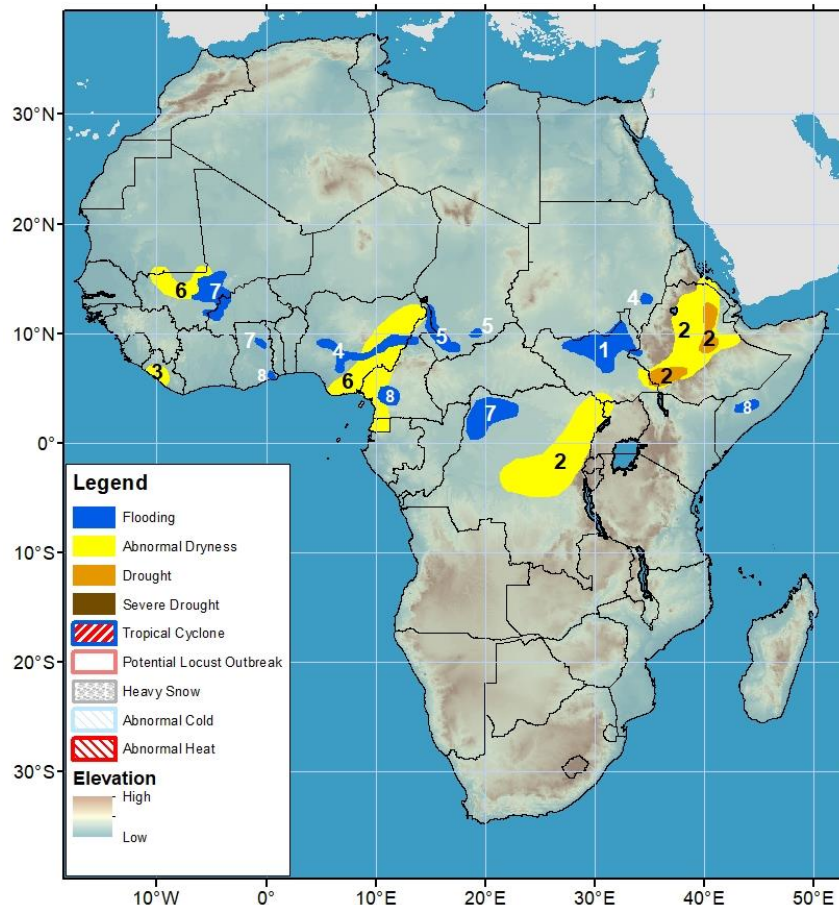


Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 19 October – 25 October 2023

- Dry conditions have improved in some areas of Eastern Africa.
- West Africa is experiencing heavy rainfall, leading to persistent flooding.



- 1) Flooding conditions continue in the Sudd wetlands in northern South Sudan.
- 2) Unevenly distributed rainfall since July has led to moderate to large seasonal rainfall deficits, negatively impacting vegetation.
- 3) Below-average rainfall was observed and has maintained abnormal dryness in Liberia.
- 4) Torrential and above-average rain has caused floods to continue in Nigeria's Niger and Benue Rivers. Flooding has improved substantially along the Blue Nile in eastern Sudan.
- 5) During the past weeks, below-average rainfall has caused flooding to ease along the Sokoto and Komadugu catchments and across southern Chad.
- 6) Over the past several weeks, below-average rainfall has resulted in abnormal dryness in western Mali, eastern Nigeria, west Cameroon, and Equatorial Guinea.
- 7) Heavy rains over the past few weeks have caused rivers to rise in central Mali. Flooding has eased marginally in northern Ghana and Togo and remains unchanged in northwestern DRC, where landslides have resulted in fatalities, based on reports.
- 8) Heavy rains during the past weeks have caused floods and damages in southwestern Cameroon and southwestern Somalia, and floods have affected southeastern Ghana caused by the Akosombo dam overflow in the River Volta, leading to casualties and damage based on reports.

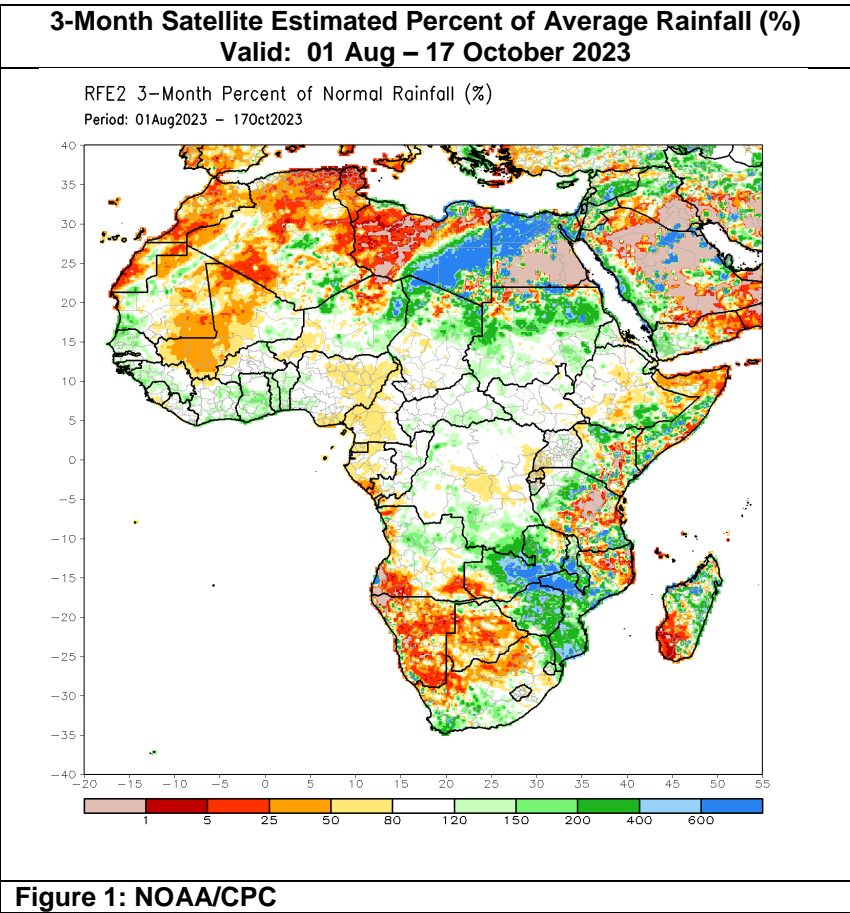
Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium-range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), sub-seasonal forecasts up to 4 weeks, and assesses the potential impact of extreme events on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous 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

Dry conditions have partially been improved in some places in Eastern Africa.

Since the beginning of July, Eastern Africa has witnessed a poor rainfall distribution concerning temporal and spatial factors. The worst affected areas are central and southern parts of Ethiopia, northern portions of Somalia, and north and central Kenya, recording deficient rainfall with less than 50% of normal rainfall (**Figure 1**). Nevertheless, dryness has improved in recent weeks over areas including south-central Ethiopia, isolated places of Kenya, central and southern parts of Somalia, and north and south Tanzania. In the past 30 days, above-average rainfall (25-50 mm) has caused vegetation conditions to enhance over some areas in Eastern Africa, including southern Sudan, much of South Sudan, southeastern Ethiopia, and central Somalia. A report indicates that flooding along the Blue Nile in Sudan has improved, with conditions easing in the Sobet and Akobor catchments in South Sudan. For the past few weeks, the eastern part of Southern Africa has experienced moderate to heavy rainfall.

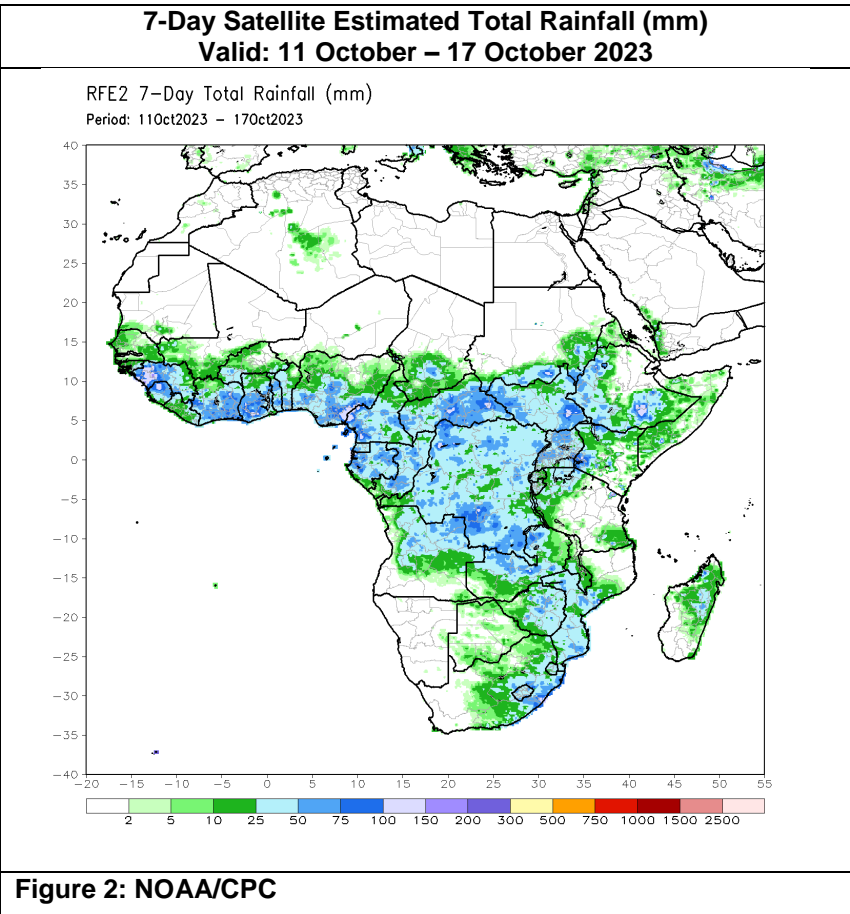
In the next week, light to moderate rain with above-average (10-30 mm) rainfall is expected over South Sudan, Uganda, Kenya’s western and northern borders, and the north and central part of Somalia. In addition, moderate to heavy rain with above-average (30-100 mm) rainfall is forecasted over much of Ethiopia except in the northern and central parts.

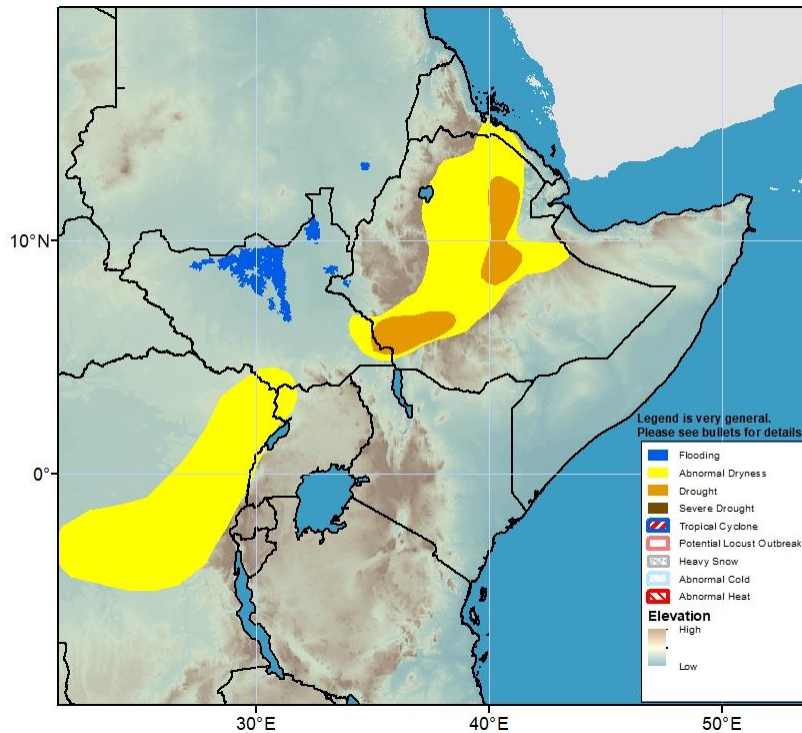


Heavy rainfall continues in West Africa, causing floods to remain.

Moderate to heavy rainfall has continued over the Gulf of Guinea countries for the past weeks, with a significant amount (>75 mm) over Guinea-Conakry, Sierra Leone, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, central and southern Nigeria, southern Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and Congo. Likewise, heavy rainfall has been observed in the Central African Republic and northern and southern DR Congo. This has caused floods to remain in several areas, including central Mali and parts of Burkina Faso, northern Ghana, central Nigeria, southern Chad, southeastern Cameroon, and northwestern DR Congo (**Figure 2**). A recent report also indicated heavy rain in Ghana has caused the Akosombo Dam in the River Volta to overflow, which has caused casualties and damage. Due to the continuous heavy rainfall, vegetation conditions have improved over West Africa. Good vegetation is concentrated along the Sahel region (Senegal, Mali, Niger, Chad). It even extends to some parts of the Sahara region (Libya), which can be attributed to Storm Daniel, which caused floods over countries in Northern Africa.

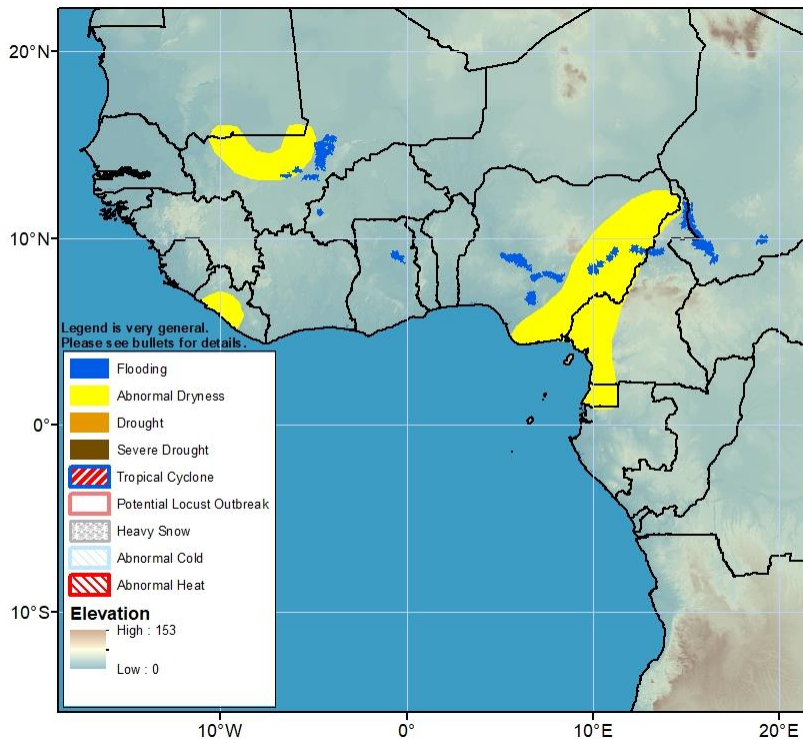
During the next week, light to moderate rain is expected along the Gulf of Guinea countries, with greater than 50mm expected over Sierra Leone, Liberia, southern Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Congo, southern Central African Republic, and DR Congo. High above-average rain (>30 mm) is forecasted over southern DR Congo. Below-average rainfall (5-20 mm) is predicted over the Gulf of Guinea countries, and northern Central African Republic.





Flooding along the Blue Nile in Sudan has improved, with conditions easing in the Sobet and Akobor catchments in South Sudan. Floods have persisted in the Bay Region of Somalia.

Figure 3: Hazards, focused over Eastern Africa



Inundation conditions remained unchanged in Central Mali but improved in Burkina Faso and northern Ghana. In Nigeria, flooding conditions have improved along the Sokoto and Komadugu catchments but deteriorated along Niger and Benue catchments. Floods have remained in Mbankolo District in Yaounde, the capital of Cameroon. Flooding conditions have improved across southern Chad.

Figure 4: Hazards, focused over West Africa