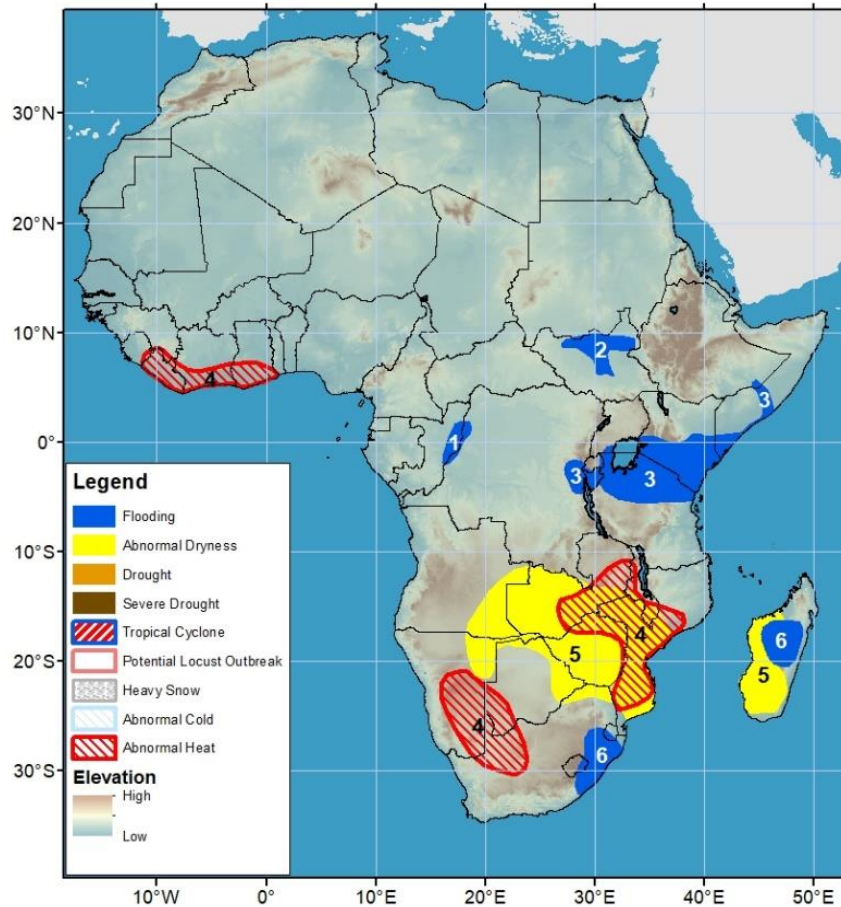


Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 21 December – 27 December 2023

- Waters have started to recede in East Africa; but high risks for flooding remain for many areas.
- Erratic rainfall and abnormally hot conditions have led to abnormal dryness in southern Africa.



- 1) Flooding is ongoing in Congo-Brazzaville and Congo-Kinshasa. The forecast additional rainfall maintain elevated risks for flooding.
- 2) Flooding conditions persist in the Sudd wetlands in South Sudan.
- 3) High risks for riverine flooding remain downstream along the Jubba and Shabelle Rivers in Somalia. Media have reported that 650 acres of rice crop have been lost due to flooding in Kisumu in southwestern Kenya. The past weeks' heavy rainfall has triggered landslides, killing many people in the Bukavu City in the South Kivu Province in eastern DRC, according to reports. In Tanzania, heavy rainfall has caused flooding and landslides, resulting in fatalities and damages in the Manyara Region during the past few weeks. The past weeks' abundant rain has led to the overflowing of tributaries to the Lake Tanganyika, flooding maize and bean crops in the lowlands in Burundi.
- 4) Abnormal heat hazards are posted along western Gulf of Guinea, southeastern Namibia, southwestern Botswana, northwestern South Africa, eastern Zambia, Malawi, western and central Mozambique, where maximum temperature is expected to range between 35-40°C and rise 2-8°C above average during the next week. Maximum temperature and heat index is expected to exceed the 90th percentile for at least three consecutive days, potentially affecting sensitive people.
- 5) Due to a delayed start to the rainfall season and continued lack of rainfall, abnormal dryness is placed over portions of Angola, northeastern Namibia, Zambia, Malawi, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and Madagascar, where rainfall deficits have exceeded 50 mm over the past 30 days.
- 6) Heavy rain is forecast in eastern South Africa and central Madagascar, increasing risks for localized flooding 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

Drier conditions have impacted southern Africa.

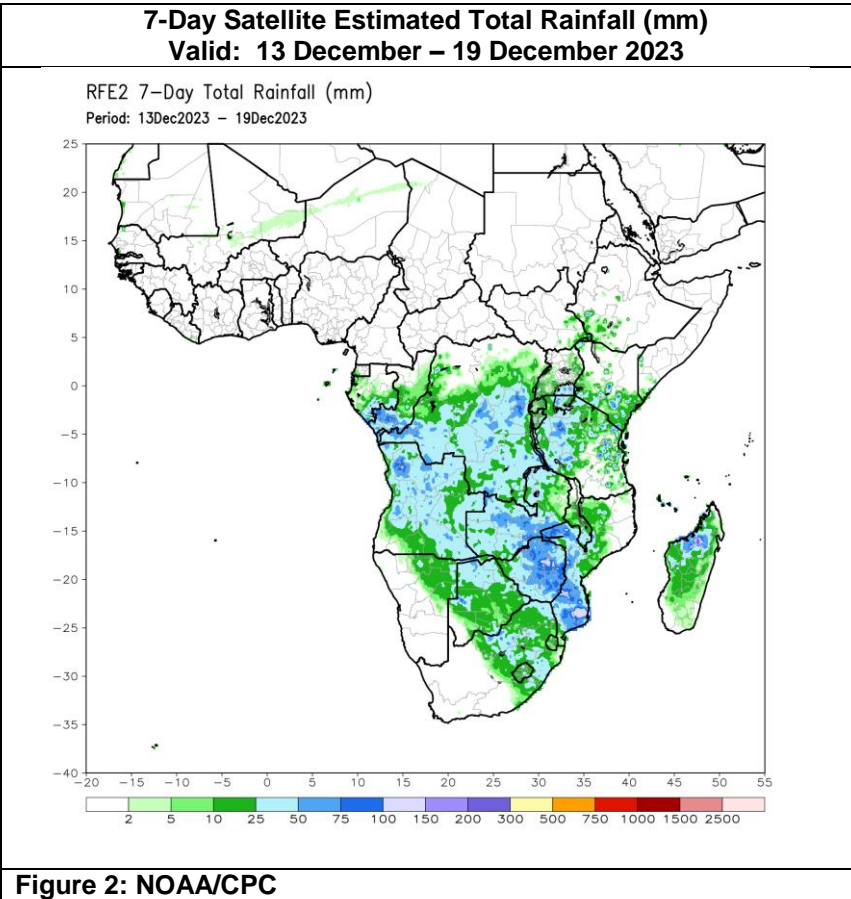
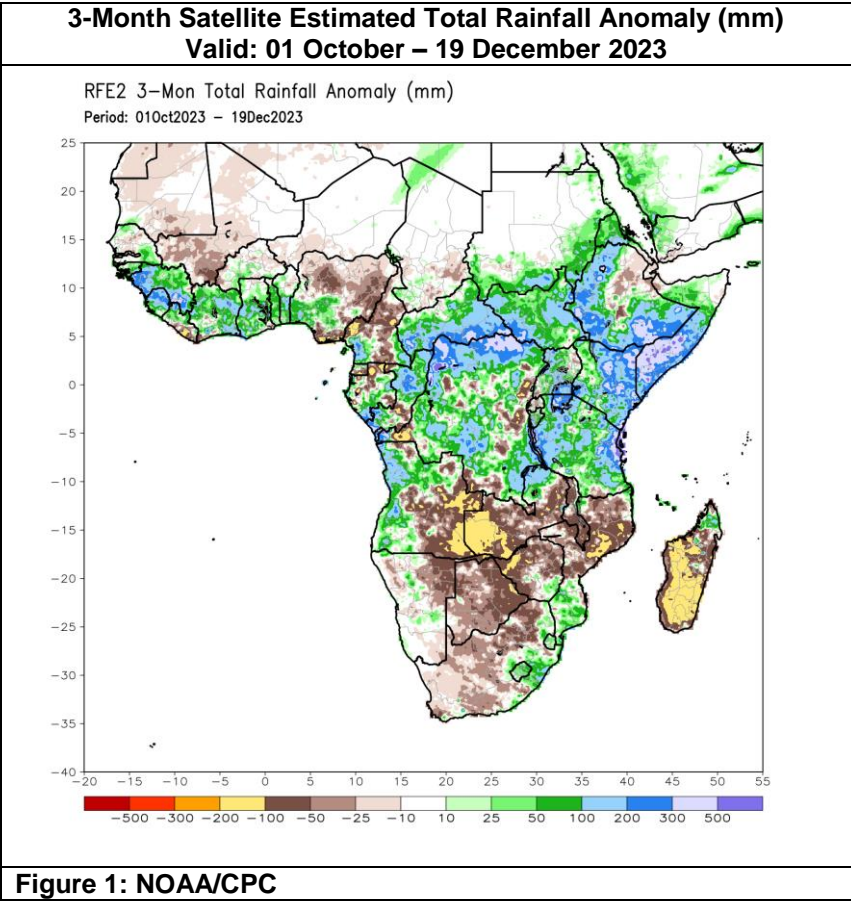
An analysis of the cumulative rainfall since the beginning of October has shown that well below-average rainfall has been received in the central and eastern parts of southern Africa, including southeastern Angola, northeastern Namibia, Zambia, eastern Botswana, parts of northern South Africa, northern Zimbabwe, southern Malawi, northern Mozambique, and Madagascar (**Figure 1**). Although, some increase in rainfall was observed in the eastern parts of the sub-region in early December, insufficient rainfall, compounded by above-average temperatures has led to moderate to large moisture deficits, which have already delayed planting, reduced grazing, leading to livestock deaths and poor body conditions in many areas, including northeastern Namibia, according to reports. The observed dryness is typical of El Niño conditions, which raises concerns for food production in southern Africa for the current growing season.

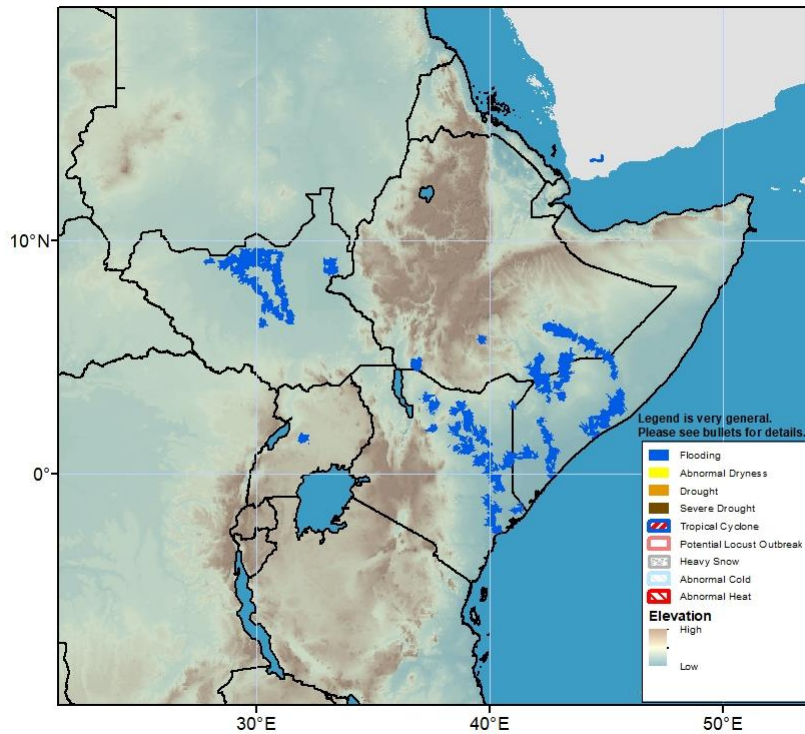
During the outlook period, rainfall forecasts indicate that heavy and above-average rainfall is likely across northern southern Africa from Angola, Zambia, Malawi, to northern Mozambique. Torrential rainfall is forecast in eastern South Africa and central Madagascar, which could trigger flash flooding over many local areas. In contrast, reduced and below-average rainfall is expected along the coastal areas in northern Mozambique and southwestern Madagascar, potentially worsening dryness in the region.

Flooding continue in parts of East Africa.

During mid-December, while dry conditions were observed in southeastern Ethiopia, northern Kenya, and most areas in southern Somalia, scattered moderate rainfall was observed in southern Kenya. In Kenya, waters have already started to recede in many areas, including the Lamu, Tana River, and Garissa Counties. However, flooding situation is closely monitored in other areas such as the Taita Taveta, Narok, Migori, Homabay, and Siaya Counties. Farther south, moderate to locally heavy rainfall persisted in western Tanzania (**Figure 2**). According to reports, flooding have continued to affect many areas in Tanzania, including the Geita Region, where floodwaters killed one person recently. In Burundi, the past weeks' abundant and above-average rainfall has led tributaries to the Lake Tanganyika to overflow, flooding maize and bean crops in the lowland areas of the country.

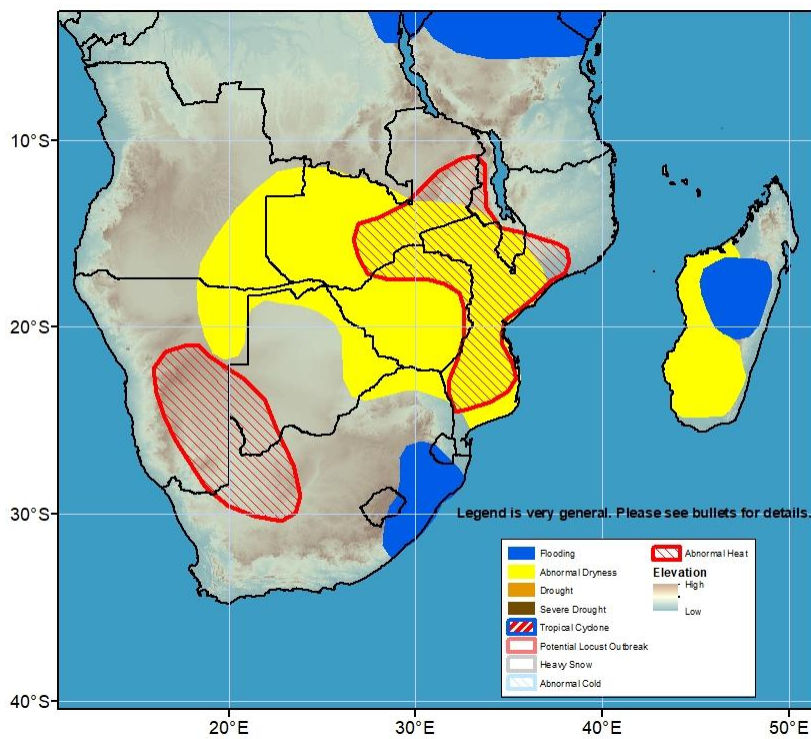
During the outlook period, moderate to locally heavy rainfall is forecast in southern and eastern Kenya, potentially causing flooding in the region. Light rainfall is expected in southern Ethiopia and southern Somalia. Farther south, heavy rainfall is forecast to continue in eastern DRC, Rwanda, Burundi, and most places in Tanzania, which heightens risks for flooding and landslides in the region.





Flooding is ongoing in the South Sudan's Sudd Wetlands. Inundation persists along the Juba and Shabelle Rivers with some stations still showing bankful levels. Flooding also extends into eastern and northern Kenya. Millions of people have been affected in the region.

Figure 3: Hazards, focused over Eastern Africa



The forecast, torrential rainfall elevates risks for flooding in eastern South Africa, eastern Lesotho, western Eswatini, and central Madagascar during the next week.

Figure 4: Hazards, focused over Southern Africa