



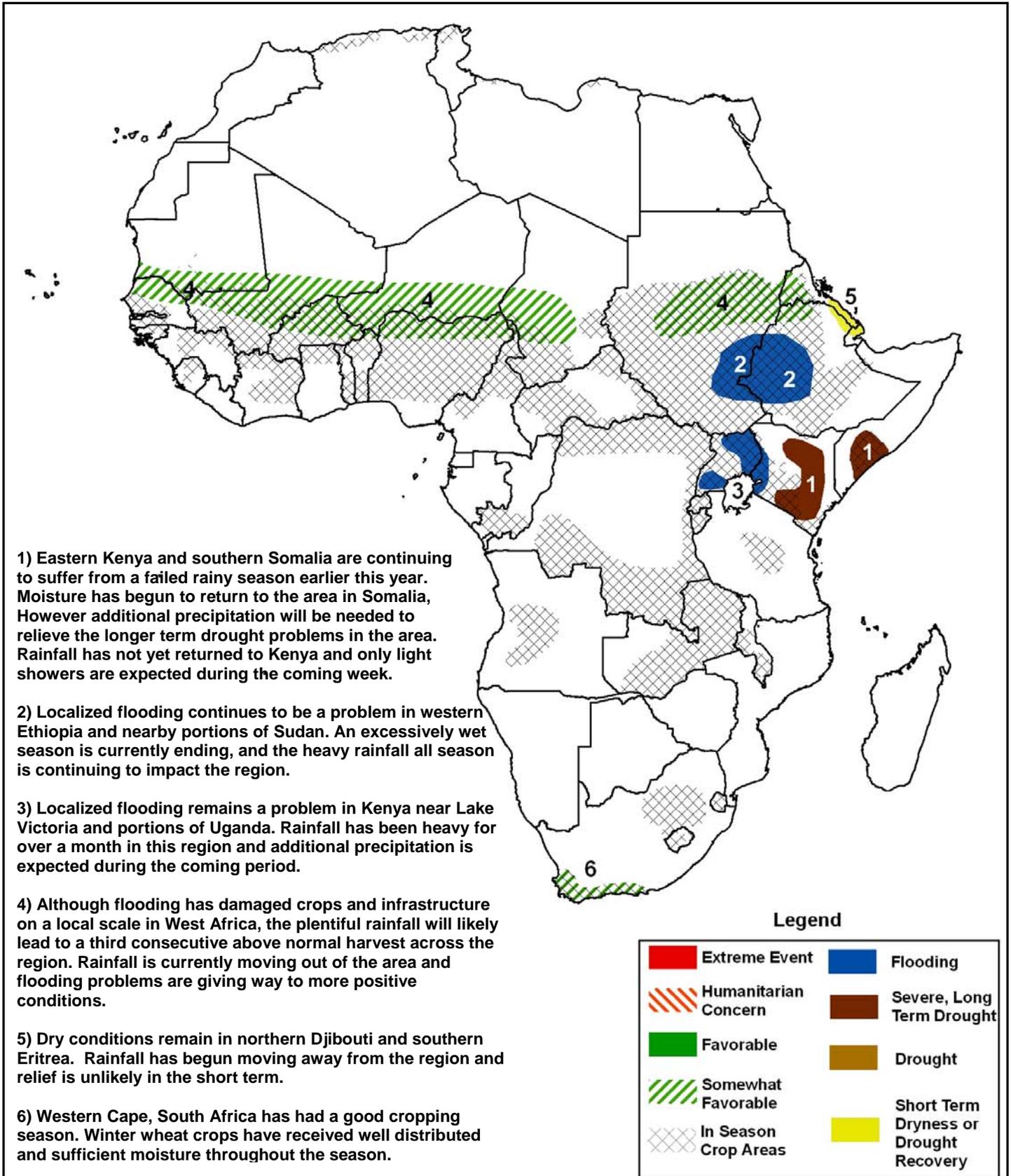
Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Africa

October 11 - 17, 2007



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- Despite flooding in the Sahel and the Greater Horn, the overall season has had generally positive impacts on most regions. Flooding continues to hamper portions of Ethiopia, Sudan, Uganda, and western Kenya.
- Rainfall is beginning to return to parched portions of Kenya and Somalia as the ITCZ moves south more rapidly than normal.



Heavy rainfall caused flooding this season, but also good growing conditions.

Throughout most of the season, heavy rainfall has been falling over most of West Africa. Although the season is not quite over yet, it does appear that the rainfall has provided good growing conditions throughout the region. This is in contrast to the beginning of the season in parts of Burkina Faso, Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire where a delayed start to the rains brought concerns that the season was not progressing well. Power generation from Lake Volta was significantly reduced and warnings of potential crop failures began emerging. The poor conditions changed abruptly as heavy rainfall began to inundate these regions. Power generation has returned to normal in Lake Volta, and crop conditions have returned to normal for almost all areas.

Associated with the heavy rains, flooding became a concern, across the region with heavy rainfall having destroyed crops and infrastructure in certain areas. These localized problems are not the norm, however and almost all areas have benefited from the above normal rains during the 2007 wet season.

ITCZ rapidly drops south, rains return to southern Somalia

The ITCZ began moving south faster than normal during the last dekad of September. Due to the excess moisture across most of Africa during the last few months, this is not likely a concern for crops and pastures. This could, however, have implications for the October – December period in the Greater Horn.

Rainfall has moved into southern Somalia earlier than normal and has begun to ease conditions from the failed March – May wet season. It will take a good season in this region to improve crop and pasture conditions but this is a good start. Some light showers also have begun moving into coastal Kenya. These have not yet reached the areas suffering from drought, but there is the potential for some moisture to make it into the area during the coming period.

Desert Locusts threaten coastal Sudan, Eritrea and northern Somalia

Adult Desert Locusts laid eggs in coastal Sudan and Eritrea last month, and these eggs are likely to hatch during the coming days. Swarms in Yemen have the potential to cross the Gulf of Aden during October into northern Somalia as vegetation dries out north of the Gulf.

