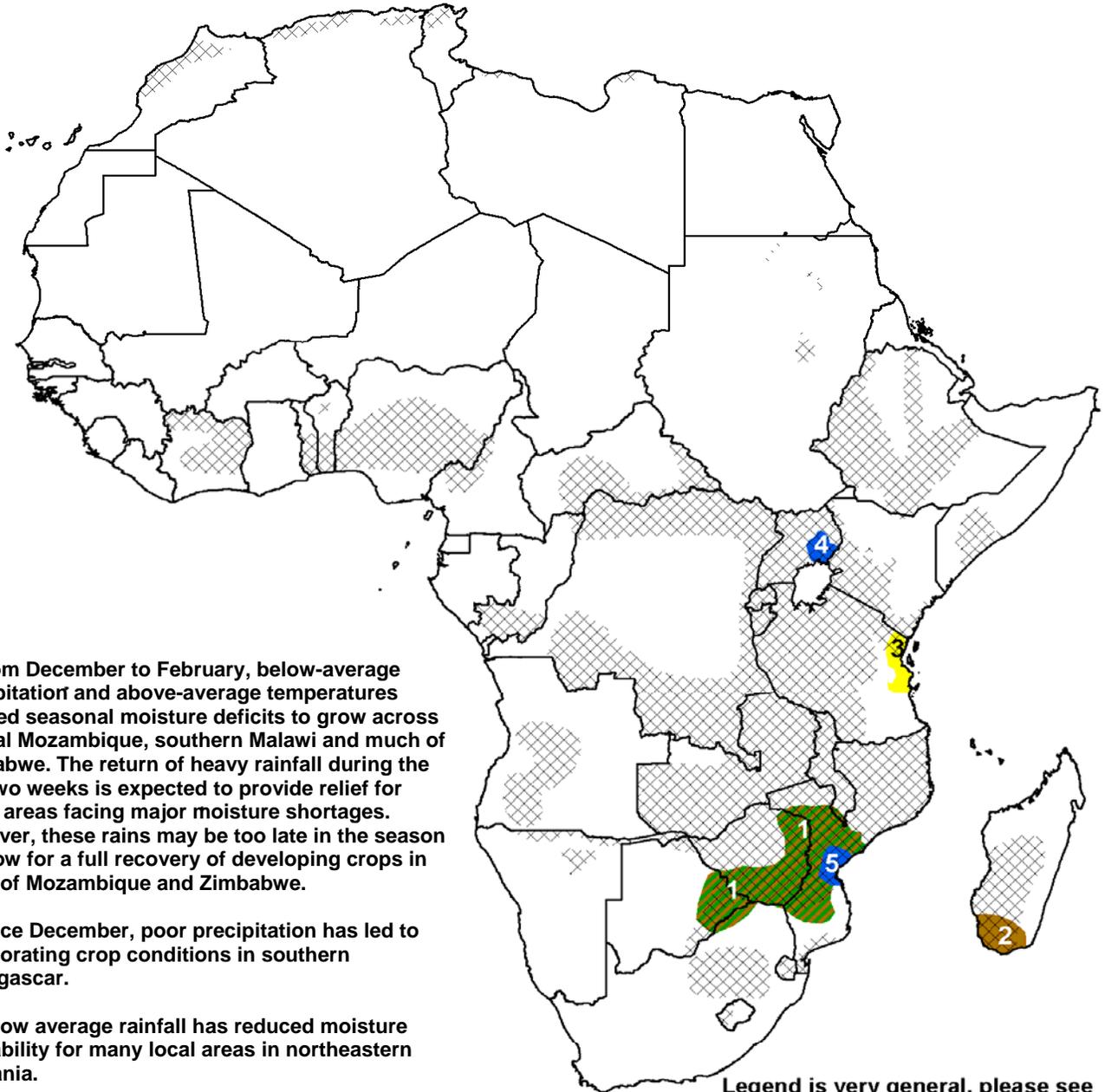


- Above average rainfall continues to help relieve many local areas impacted by seasonal dryness in southern Africa.
- Favorable precipitation in East Africa helps to saturate soils for early season crop activities across much of Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia.



1) From December to February, below-average precipitation and above-average temperatures allowed seasonal moisture deficits to grow across central Mozambique, southern Malawi and much of Zimbabwe. The return of heavy rainfall during the last two weeks is expected to provide relief for these areas facing major moisture shortages. However, these rains may be too late in the season to allow for a full recovery of developing crops in parts of Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

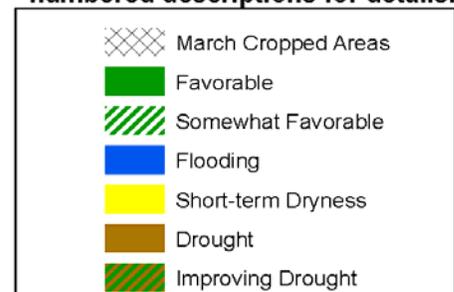
2) Since December, poor precipitation has led to deteriorating crop conditions in southern Madagascar.

3) Below average rainfall has reduced moisture availability for many local areas in northeastern Tanzania.

4) Heavy rainfall in the last week triggered flooding and landslides, resulting in a number of fatalities and damages to infrastructure in many local parts of eastern Uganda.

5) Flooding along the Buzi and Metuchira Rivers has caused damages to infrastructure and possible damages to crops in the Sofala province of Mozambique.

Legend is very general, please see numbered descriptions for details.



## Abundant rainfall continues to provide much-needed relief in southern Africa.

Another week of heavy precipitation was observed across a large portion of southern Africa. In Mozambique, seven-day rainfall totals between 50 – 150 mm were received from the Cahora Bassa region, towards parts of the lower Zambezi and Nampula provinces, and extending as far south as the Save River (**Figure 1**). In Zimbabwe, rainfall remained marginally lighter, with high totals (> 50 mm) concentrated in the northern tier of the country, with more moderate totals received in the south and across the border and into parts of the Maize Triangle of South Africa. Further west, parts near the Caprivi Strip and southern Angola also saw favorable amounts of rainfall in the last week.

Since late February, precipitation in southern Africa continues to remain well above-average. This excess rainfall has continually reduced both seasonal and short term moisture deficits across many local parts of Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe in the last two weeks. Many areas in central Mozambique that were facing considerable rainfall deficits in the last month are presently 150-200 percent above-average in rains over the last 30 days (**Figure 2**). After a markedly dry start of the rains in southern Africa, a large percentage of crops remain recoverable in Mozambique. The recent increase in rains and soil moisture is expected to benefit these recoverable areas, and promote development for areas that have recently replanted.

Forecasts suggest another week of high, well-distributed rainfall across much of Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe in the next seven days. Rainfall amounts ranging between 50 -75 mm are expected for parts of western and central Mozambique and northern Zimbabwe for the next seven days.

## Favorable early season precipitation observed in East Africa.

In the last seven days, moderate to high amounts of precipitation were received in parts of Somalia and Kenya, with well-distributed rains observed across the SNNP, Oromia and Somalia regions of Ethiopia. Since early February, both the consistency and distribution of East Africa precipitation has led to beneficial ground moisture (**Figure 3**). This is expected to benefit early season cropping activities across parts of southwestern Kenya and the belg-producing regions of Ethiopia.

Precipitation forecasts show another week of beneficial rains across much of Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. Rainfall totals in excess of 25 mm are expected for eastern Kenya and southern Somalia, with locally higher amounts along Ethiopia's Rift Valley and into parts of Djibouti and northern Somalia in the next seven days.

**Note:** This product is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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### Satellite Estimated Precipitation (mm) Valid: February 21, 2010 – February 27, 2010

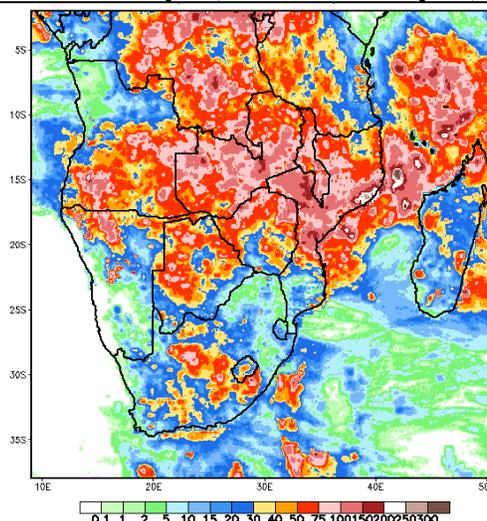


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

### Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (%) Valid: January 29<sup>th</sup> - February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010

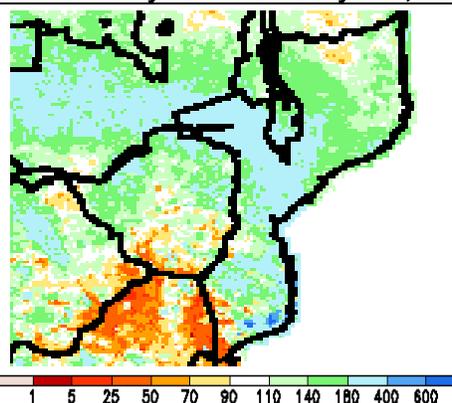


Figure 2: : NOAA/CPC

### 10-Day Moisture Index As of: February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010

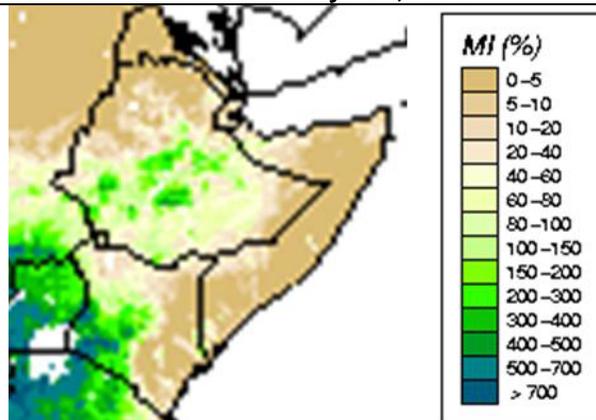


Figure 3: USGS / EROS