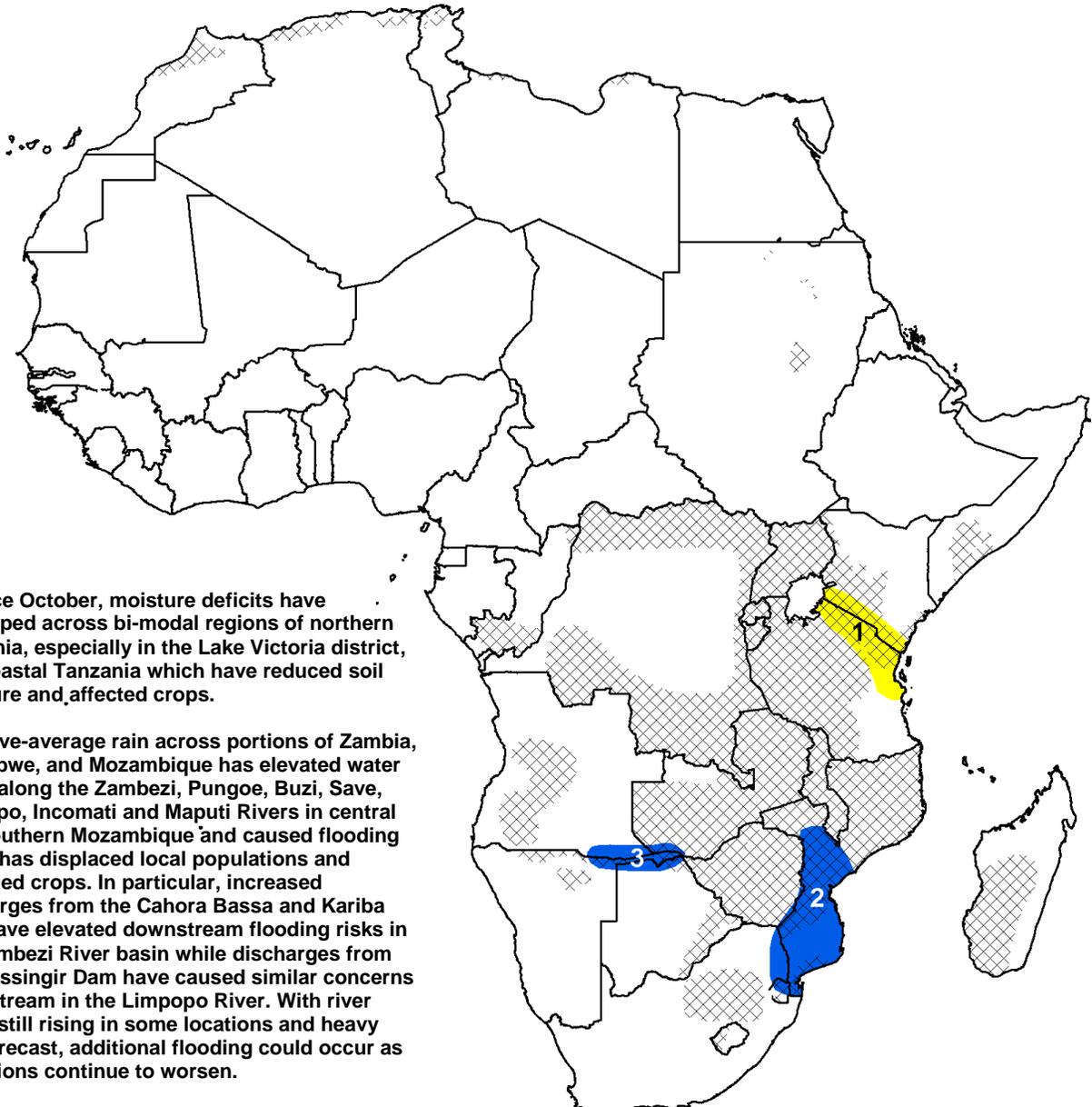


- A week of above-average rainfall over Mozambique, northern Namibia and southern Angola has continued to elevate river levels and increase the potential for flooding.

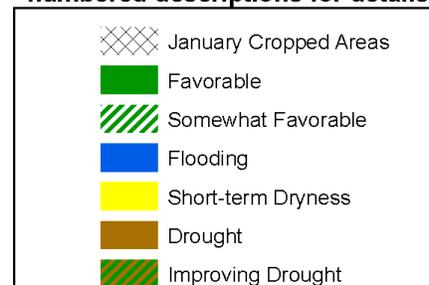


1) Since October, moisture deficits have developed across bi-modal regions of northern Tanzania, especially in the Lake Victoria district, and coastal Tanzania which have reduced soil moisture and affected crops.

2) Above-average rain across portions of Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique has elevated water levels along the Zambezi, Pungoe, Buzi, Save, Limpopo, Incomati and Maputi Rivers in central and southern Mozambique and caused flooding which has displaced local populations and damaged crops. In particular, increased discharges from the Cahora Bassa and Kariba dam have elevated downstream flooding risks in the Zambezi River basin while discharges from the Masingir Dam have caused similar concerns downstream in the Limpopo River. With river levels still rising in some locations and heavy rain forecast, additional flooding could occur as conditions continue to worsen.

3) Ample precipitation during the past few weeks has saturated the ground and has led to elevated water levels in the Okavango and Zambezi rivers along the Angola/Namibia border and Caprivi Strip. With additional heavy rain forecast, river or flash flooding could occur.

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



River levels continue to rise across eastern southern Africa.

During the past week, ample rainfall (> 50mm) was observed across Zambia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, central and southern Mozambique, eastern Angola, Namibia, and Madagascar. The highest rainfall totals (> 75 mm) were located over central Mozambique, the Caprivi Strip, central Zimbabwe, Botswana and northern Madagascar. The abundant rainfall has occurred across areas already saturated from above-average precipitation during the past month. This includes the Zambezi River Basin in western Mozambique which has seen additional dam discharges and elevated river levels downstream in Mozambique. With the increased discharge rates, flooding potential is high during the next week along downstream locations. The heavy rain during the past week in Namibia and Angola has also brought little relief to saturated ground conditions and rising water levels along the Okavango and Zambezi Rivers. In contrast, the Maize Triangle observed moderate rainfall (10-30mm) while limited rainfall (< 10mm) continued for a second week over most of northern and eastern Tanzania (**Figure 1**).

Over the past thirty days, rainfall surpluses have been strengthening over much of southern Africa. The largest rainfall surplus (> 150mm) has been located along the Angola/Namibia border, Zimbabwe, and southern Mozambique. Several weeks of torrential rainfall in southern/central Mozambique, where rainfall surpluses are over 150 mm, has brought rivers above alert levels along the Incomati, Maputo, Limpopo, Buzi, Pungoe and Save Rivers. Additional dam discharges in the Incomati and Limpopo basin could lead to downstream flooding. In contrast, locations in northern Mozambique, Madagascar and Tanzania have observed below-average precipitation during the past month. Rainfall deficits (> 50mm), in particular have been strengthening in bi-modal regions of northern Tanzania as well as across central and northern portions of Madagascar (**Figure 2**).

An analysis of excess rainfall across southern Africa for the second dekad of January indicates that a wide area stretching from Angola/Namibia to Mozambique is at an elevated risk for flooding. These areas include the Caprivi Strip, Zambezi River Basin as well as southern Mozambique where river levels are already elevated (**Figure 3**).

Forecasts for the next week indicate abundant rain (> 50mm) will fall over western Mozambique, northern Zimbabwe, southern Zambia, and the Angola/Namibia border. These rains could increase the flooding risks along the Zambezi River. Light to moderate rainfall is expected across South Africa and recently wet southern Mozambique providing relief to these areas.

Failed October-December short-rains season in Somalia and Kenya.

Conditions in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas of southern Somalia and Kenya are still poor with reduced water availability and significant dryness after a failed Oct-Dec rainy season. However, at present, seasonable dryness prevails with limited rainfall expected until the start of the long-rains season in several weeks.

Note: The hazards assessment map on page 1 is based on current weather/climate information and short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week). It 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: January 17th– January 23rd, 2011

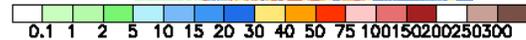
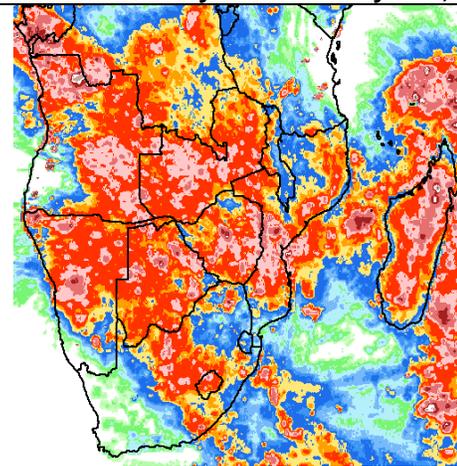


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Satellite Estimated Precipitation Anomaly (mm) Valid: December 25th, 2010 – January 23rd, 2011

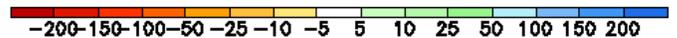
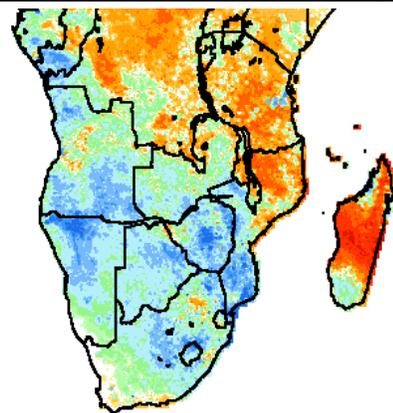


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

Basin Excess Rainfall Map - Catchments Valid: As of 2nd Dekad of January, 2011

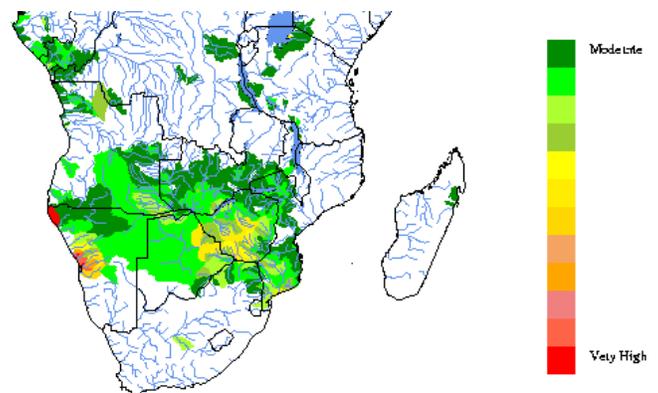


Figure 3: USGS/EROS