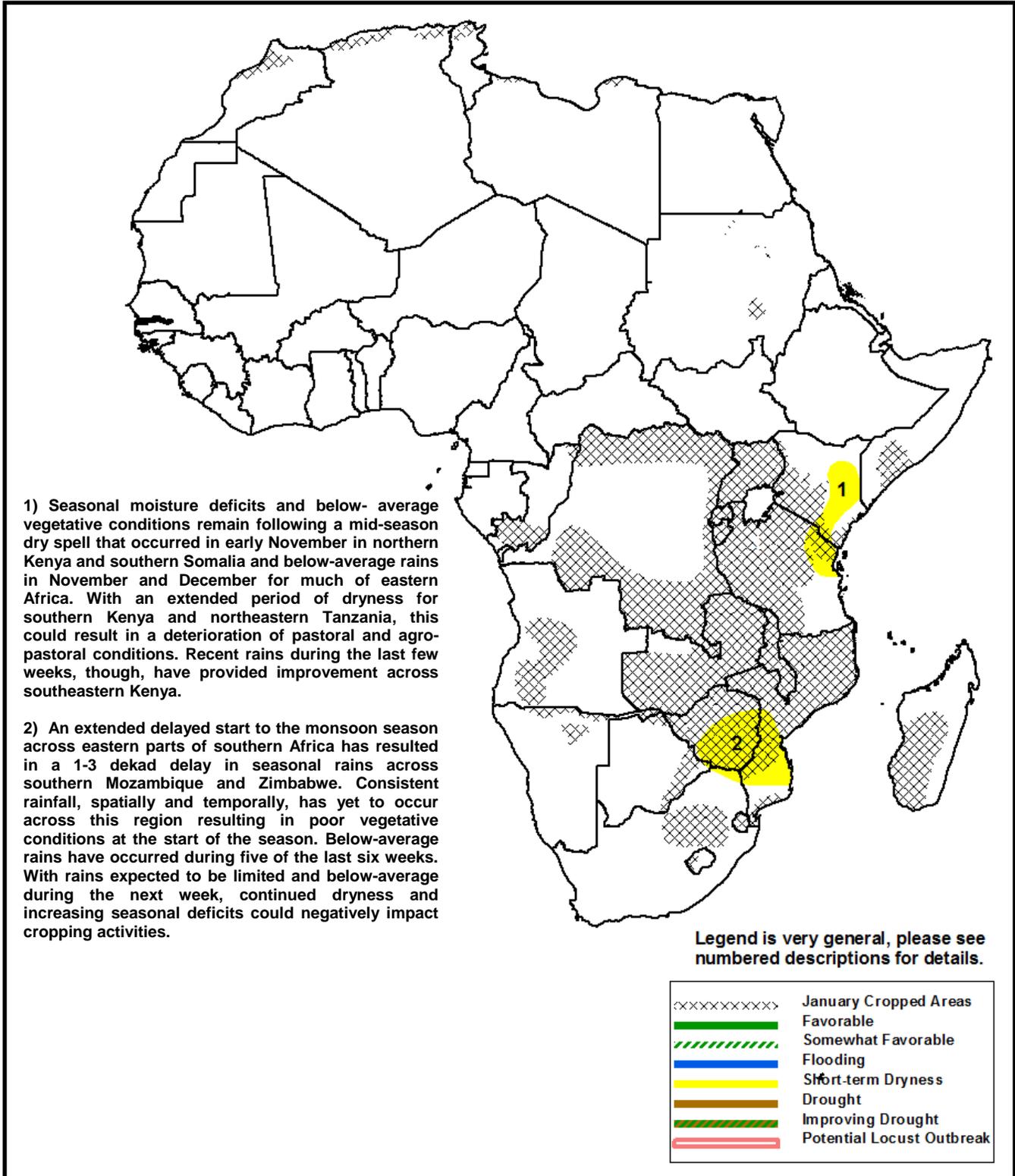


Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET January 3 – January 9, 2013

- Below-average rain was observed in southern Mozambique and southern Zimbabwe, increasing deficits.
- Torrential daily rainfall in southwestern Kenya resulted in flash flooding and fatalities.



Below-average rains are recorded in southern Mozambique and southern Zimbabwe.

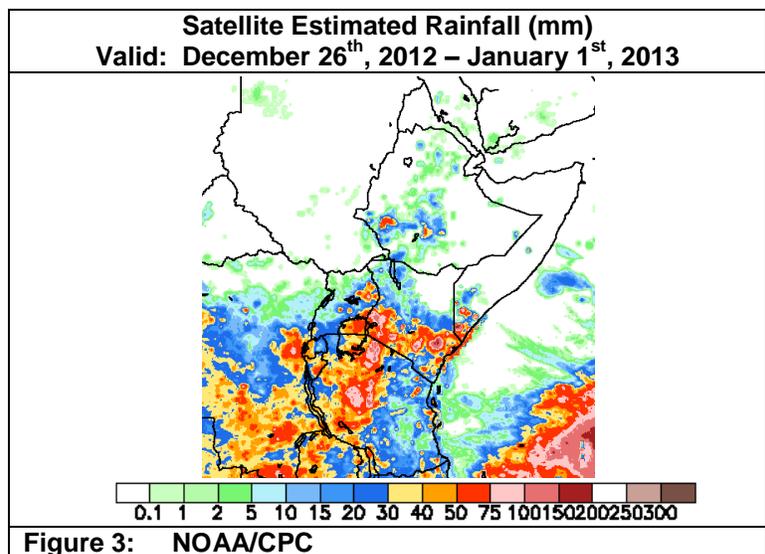
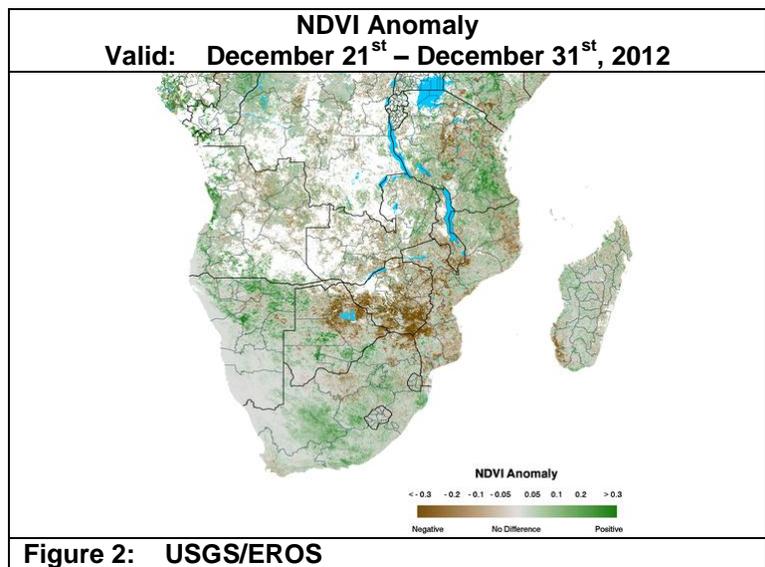
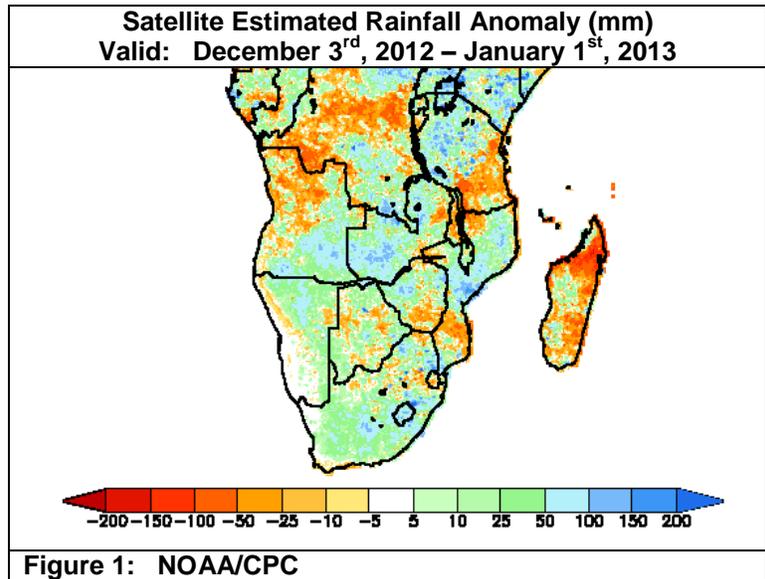
During the past seven days, widespread heavy rains (>40mm) were observed across much of southern Africa. The highest rainfall totals (>50mm) were recorded in central Mozambique, Zambia, Tanzania, Madagascar, Angola, northern Namibia and eastern South Africa. The above-average weekly rains further increased thirty-day rainfall surpluses in central/northern Mozambique, Zambia, eastern Angola, Namibia and South Africa. In particular, the thirty-day surpluses in South Africa and central/northern Mozambique represent a wet recovery to a delayed start to the rainy season in both locations. In contrast, rains have yet to recover across portions of southern Zimbabwe and southern Mozambique, where light rains (<15mm) fell during the past week and thirty-day rainfall deficits range between 25-100mm (Figure 1). This past week marked five out of the past six weeks of below-average weekly rainfall in the area.

While conditions have improved across northern Mozambique and South Africa, poorly distributed rainfall, both spatially and temporally, across Zimbabwe and southern Mozambique has led to below-average vegetative conditions, according to NDVI vegetative anomalies (Figure 2). Poor conditions also exist across coastal northern Mozambique and central Mozambique. Although, both of these areas have observed a recovery of seasonal rains during the past thirty-days and have observed improving ground conditions and NDVI values as a result. Elsewhere, good vegetative conditions exist across Tanzania, Zambia, Angola, northern Namibia and much of South Africa, which is consistent with the amount of rainfall observed.

For the next week, a developing tropical system is to track close to, but likely not impacting, eastern Madagascar. Elsewhere, heavy rains (>50mm) are expected in Zambia, eastern Angola, central/northern Zimbabwe, northern Mozambique and northwestern Madagascar. The heaviest rains (>75mm) are forecast for coastal northern Mozambique and coastal northwestern Madagascar. Light to moderate rains (5-40mm) are forecast for dry areas in southern Mozambique.

Torrential rains cause flooding southwestern Kenya.

During the past week, Torrential weekly rains (>50mm) was observed across southern/western Kenya, and Tanzania. The heaviest rains (>75mm) were observed in central Tanzania and southern Kenya. Copious amounts of rain in the Keiyo valley of southwestern Kenya caused flash flooding, which resulted in 10 deaths and damages to infrastructure. Farther east, the moderate to heavy rain (>30mm) (Figure 3) that fell continued a two to three week recovery of rains across an area which had seen drier than average conditions during the past few months. In contrast, rains were light (<20mm) in coastal Tanzania, continuing dryness concerns. For the next week, light rains (<20mm) are forecast for much of Kenya and Uganda, while moderate to heavy rain (>25mm) is expected across Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi.



Note: The hazards outlook 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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