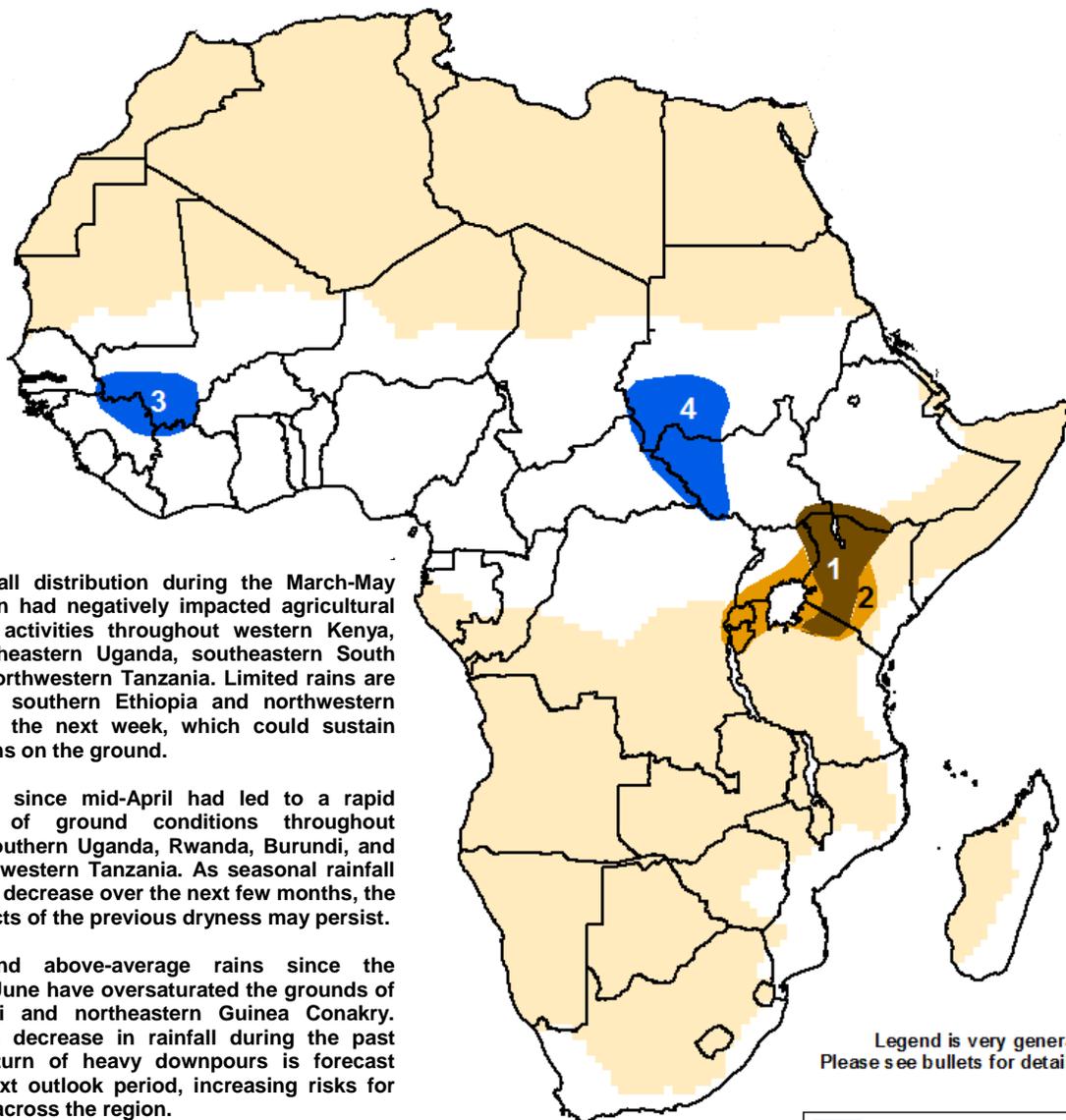




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook June 26 – July 2, 2014

- Increased rains observed over the central parts of West Africa.
- Slow start of the June-September rains observed over parts of Eastern Africa.



1) Poor rainfall distribution during the March-May rainfall season had negatively impacted agricultural and pastoral activities throughout western Kenya, parts of northeastern Uganda, southeastern South Sudan, and northwestern Tanzania. Limited rains are forecast over southern Ethiopia and northwestern Kenya during the next week, which could sustain poor conditions on the ground.

2) Dry spells since mid-April had led to a rapid deterioration of ground conditions throughout portions of southern Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, and parts of northwestern Tanzania. As seasonal rainfall is expected to decrease over the next few months, the adverse impacts of the previous dryness may persist.

3) Heavy and above-average rains since the beginning of June have oversaturated the grounds of southern Mali and northeastern Guinea Conakry. After a slight decrease in rainfall during the past week, the return of heavy downpours is forecast during the next outlook period, increasing risks for new flooding across the region.

4) Enhanced rains over the past several weeks have resulted in large positive rainfall anomalies over parts of southern Sudan and South Sudan. Forecasts favor the development for torrential rains throughout western South Sudan and southwestern Sudan during the next week. Therefore, there is an increased potential for flooding over many local areas of the region.



Enhanced rains continued over central West Africa.

Similar to previous week, rainfall totals during the past seven days showed continued abundant rainfall scattered across parts of the Sahel and Guinean-Sudanian region of West Africa. Many parts of central West Africa received heavy rains, increasing rainfall surpluses over the past thirty days. These include southern Mali and western Burkina Faso, where some local areas have accumulated rainfall over 200 percent of their averages. Heavy rains were also observed over central Ghana, Togo, Benin, and western Nigeria, while torrential rains continued along the coastal areas of the region (Figure 1). Meanwhile, light to moderate rains were recorded elsewhere. Although, the observed increase in rainfall across the central portions of West Africa has helped reduce thirty-day rainfall deficits over many previously dry local areas of the region, some areas as northern Nigeria have received insufficient rainfall over the past few weeks.

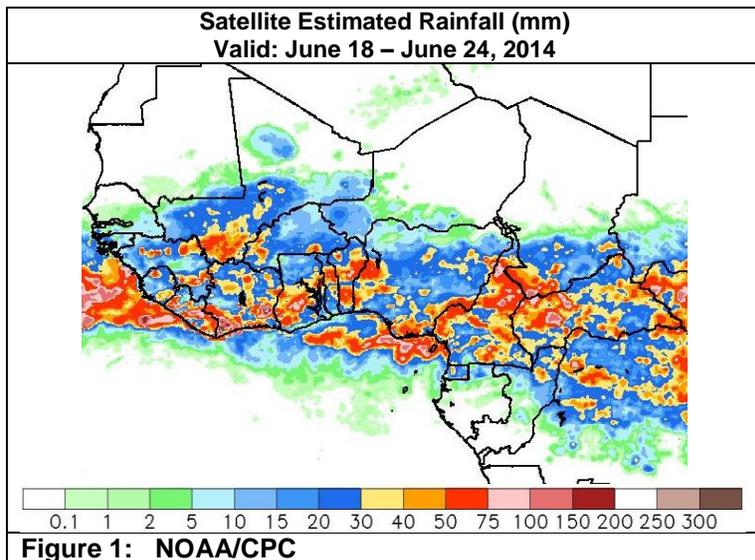


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

The increase in rainfall during the second dekad (10-day period) of June has resulted in positive rainfall anomalies over a wide portion of central West Africa, including western Mali, Cote d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Togo, Benin, and western Nigeria (Figure 2). This was attributable to enhanced southwesterly flow, which enhanced low-level convergence and moisture advection across the region. In contrast, negative rainfall anomalies were observed over western Guinea Conakry, Sierra Leone, and southern and eastern Nigeria. Vegetation indices exhibited average to above-average conditions across much of West Africa.

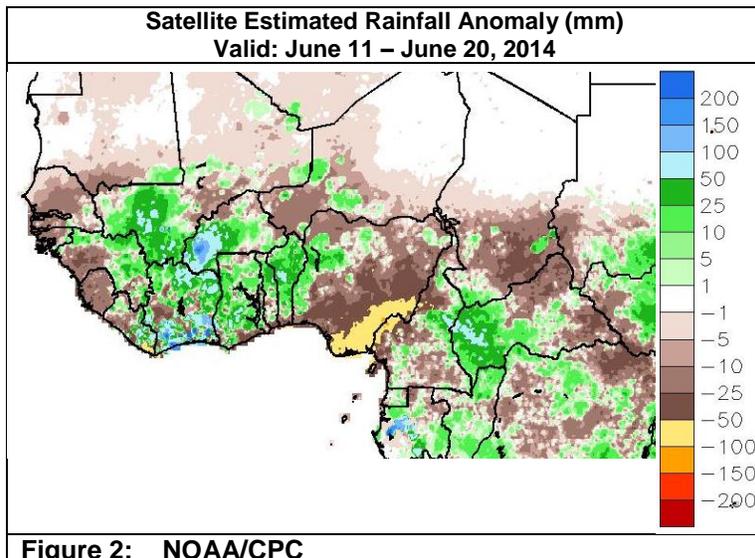


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

For next week, the return of heavy rains is forecast over southern Mali, Sierra Leone, and Guinea-Conakry, which could trigger localized flooding over the region. Locally heavy rains are also expected over northern Nigeria, western Niger, and central Ghana. Light to moderate rains are, however, expected across central Gulf of Guinea region.

Slow start of the June-September rains observed over parts of Eastern Africa.

Since the beginning of June, below-average rainfall has been observed over localized areas of western Ethiopia and eastern Sudan. The largest seasonal deficits were observed over northwestern Ethiopia and bordering eastern Sudan, where negative anomalies ranged between 25 and 100 mm (Figure 3). Moderate to heavy rains were recorded over western Ethiopia during the past week. However, slightly below-average rains fell over those dry portions of Eastern Africa. Recent vegetation indices showed the development of poor conditions over localized areas of eastern Sudan. For next week, heavy rains are expected over western South Sudan and southwestern Sudan, which could potentially lead to localized flooding. Seasonal rainfall is expected to continue over western Ethiopia. Light to moderate rains are expected elsewhere.

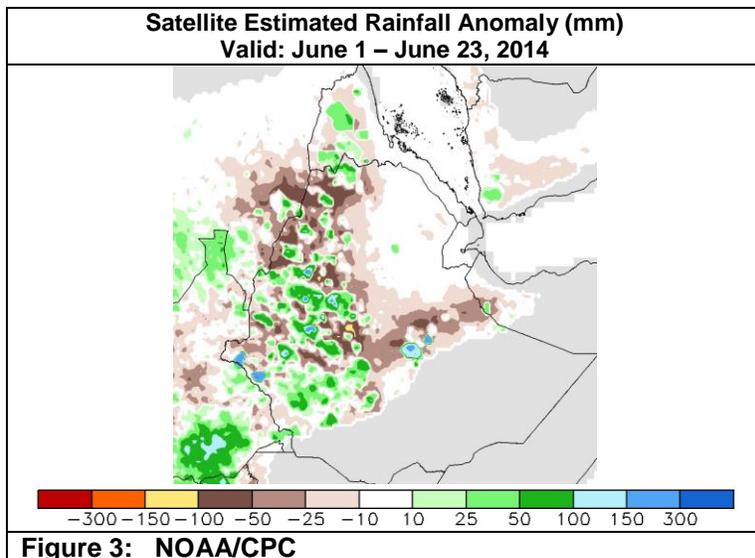


Figure 3: NOAA/CPC

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.