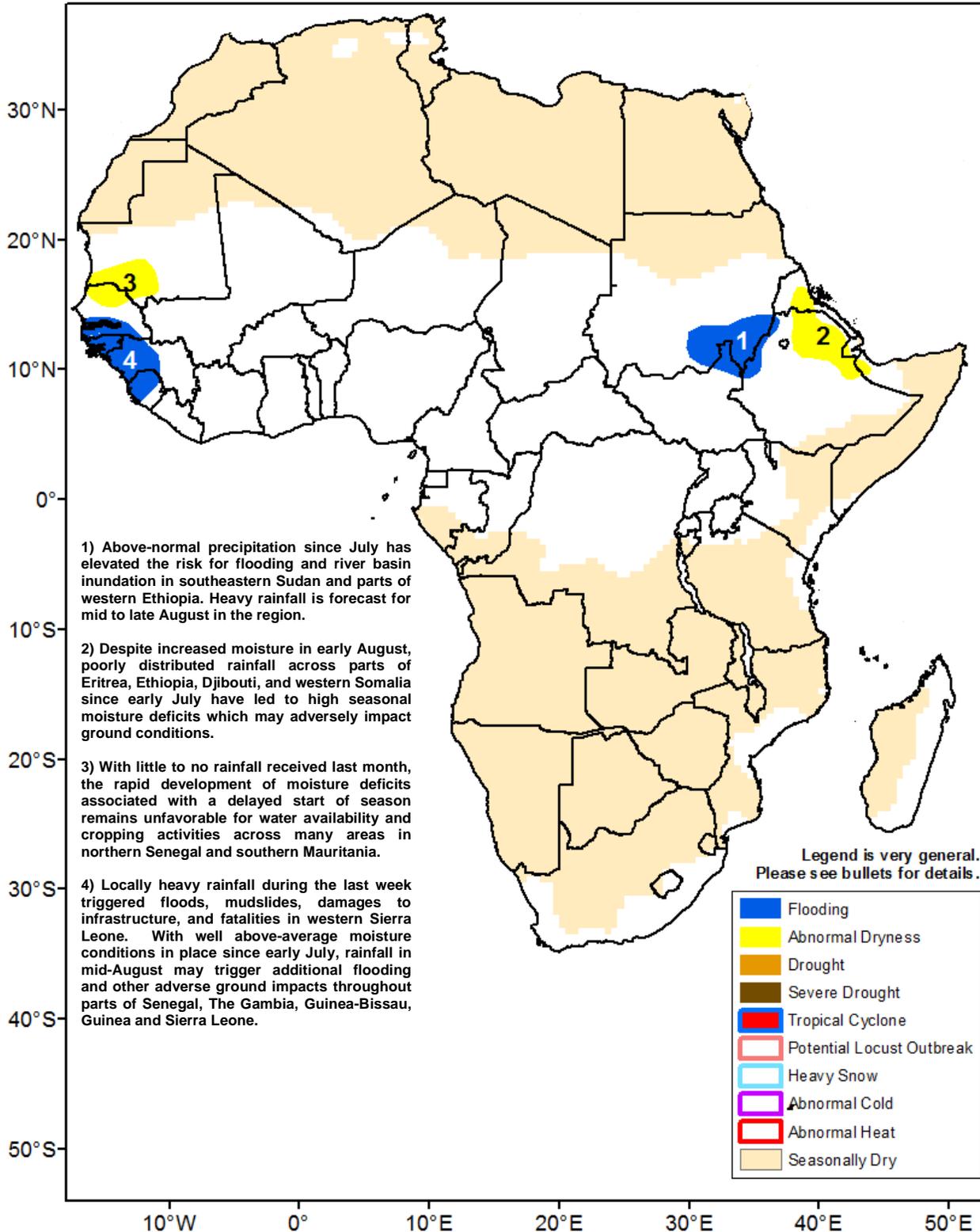




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook August 17 – August 23, 2017

- Heavy rainfall in the western Gulf of Guinea region has triggered flooding and damages to infrastructure.



Increased rains help offset anomalous dryness in northern Senegal and southern Mauritania.

During the previous week, increased amounts of rainfall were received across many areas in the northern Sahel, with noted improvement over several areas that have experienced a delayed onset of seasonal precipitation since July. According to satellite rainfall estimates, the highest weekly accumulations (>100mm) were recorded across central Nigeria, as well as, over central Mali (figure 1). More moderate and well distributed rains (50-75mm) were observed across Guinea, Senegal, Mauritania and Burkina Faso. Lighter weekly rainfall accumulations (<25mm) were received across southern Niger, and over southern Gulf of Guinea countries.

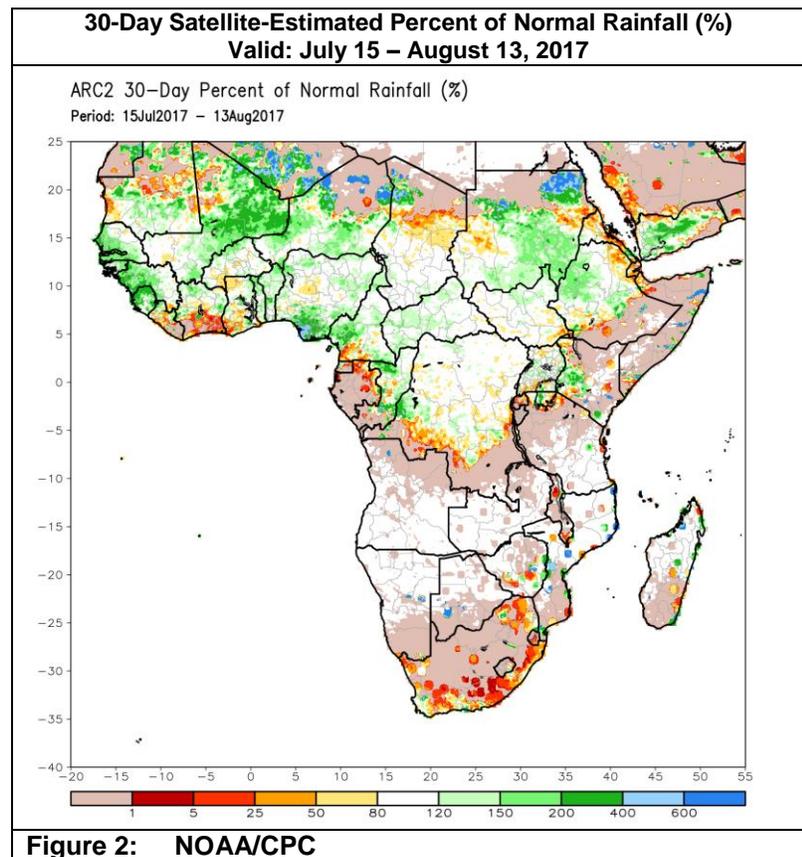
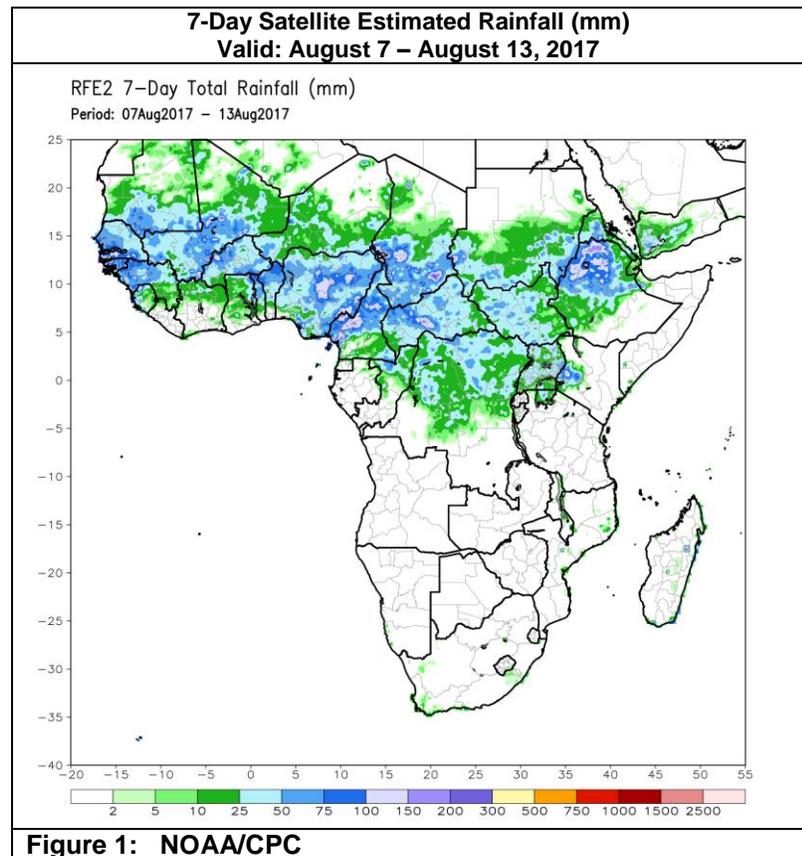
Analysis of 30-day rainfall anomalies continue to show generally favorable conditions throughout much of West Africa with the exception of few pockets where rainfall has been slightly below average. In central Nigeria, southern Burkina Faso, and northern portions of Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana, minor to moderate negative precipitation anomalies have emerged as a result of decreased rainfall and intermittent dry spells since early July (Figure 2). However, rainfall has gradually improved in many of these areas over the past two weeks, as moisture deficits have been gradually reduced during this span. Over the past 90 days, the magnitude and frequency of seasonal precipitation has been quite favorable over West Africa, which is expected to be benefit ongoing cropping activities.

During the next outlook period, precipitation models suggest another week of seasonable distribution of rainfall over West Africa, with the potential for above-average rainfall over western Guinea and the Darfur region of Chad and Sudan. Increased rainfall amounts are also expected across the lower Gulf of Guinea countries, with lesser rainfall forecast over northern Senegal.

Improved moisture conditions observed over northern Ethiopia.

According to satellite rainfall estimates during the last week, a slight eastward shift in the monsoon convergence led to continuation of increased rainfall over the Afar region and higher elevations of Ethiopia. Areas in eastern Eritrea, Djibouti and western Somalia also received more rainfall compared to the previous week. With two consecutive weeks of average to above-average rainfall, short term negative moisture anomalies have been reduced, some local area are still experiencing between 50 and 80 percent of normal in the region (Figure 2). Given the brevity of the seasonal rainfall period in this region, a continuation of enhanced rainfall amounts are needed over the next several weeks to help offset anomalies in the region.

During the next outlook period, average to above-average rainfall is again likely over western Ethiopia and southern Sudan, which may trigger flooding. However, lesser rains are expected over the anomalously dry areas towards the east.



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.