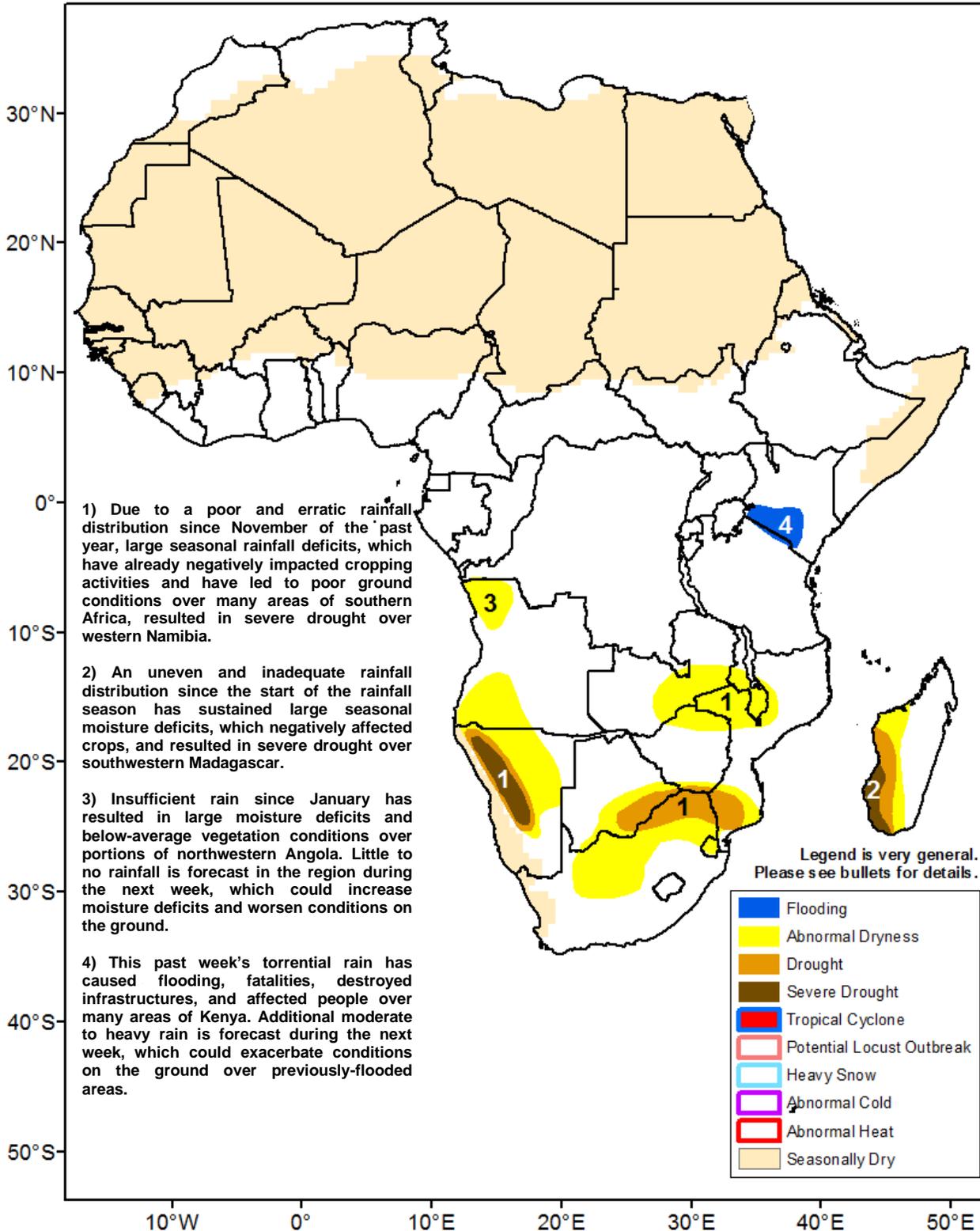




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook March 22 – 28, 2018

- An erratic seasonal rainfall performance has left many areas of Southern Africa with large moisture deficits.
- High risks for flooding remain over southern Kenya following torrential rain that caused flooding, fatalities, displace people, and destroyed infrastructures during this past week.



Torrential rain wreaked havoc over Kenya and northeastern Madagascar.

During the past week, Tropical storm Eliakim made landfall in northeastern Madagascar, leaving fatalities, flooding, destroyed infrastructures, and affected people over the northern and eastern parts of the Island, according to reports. Satellite rainfall estimates indicated high rainfall totals in excess of 200 mm over northeastern Madagascar (**Figure 1**). Over Southern Africa, areas that received moderate to heavy rain included southern Angola, southern DRC, northern Zambia, Tanzania, Lesotho, and eastern South Africa. In contrast, limited and suppressed rain was recorded over northwestern Angola, Botswana, Zimbabwe, southern Malawi, southern Mozambique, and southern Madagascar.

Farther north, over the Greater Horn of Africa, widespread heavy rain also resulted in flooding, overflowing of rivers, fatalities, damaged infrastructures, and affected people over many parts of Kenya, including the Nairobi area, the southwest and southeast regions, based on media reports. Heavy rain was also recorded over Uganda and much of Tanzania. To the north, light to moderate rain was recorded over southern and central Ethiopia. While many southern areas of Eastern Africa received above-average rain during the past week, some local areas of central Ethiopia continued to receive insufficient rain.

Moisture deficits strengthened over western Angola and southern Madagascar.

Due to this past week's limited and below-average rain, thirty-day negative rainfall anomalies have increased across western Angola and southern Madagascar, with deficits exceeding 100 mm over some areas (**Figure 2**). Thirty-day rainfall deficits also persisted over northeastern Mozambique, southern Botswana, western and north-central South Africa. Meanwhile, positive rainfall anomalies were registered throughout southeastern Angola, Zambia, northeastern Botswana, Zimbabwe, northern Malawi, southern Mozambique, and northeastern Madagascar.

An analysis of recent vegetation conditions, inferred from remote sensing techniques, indicated that poor and below-average conditions persisted over many local areas of Southern Africa, including southwestern Angola, western Namibia, the northern and western portions of South Africa, and southwestern Madagascar.

For next week, wet weather conditions, with scattered moderate to heavy rain is forecast southern Ethiopia, including the Ogaden region, southwestern and central Kenya, which maintains the risks for flooding over saturated and previously-flooded areas of the country. Widespread, light rain is expected over southern and central Somalia and is expected to help cropping activities in the region. Farther south, widespread, moderate to heavy rain is forecast from Angola, Zambia, Botswana, western Zimbabwe, to eastern South Africa. The forecast abundant rain could trigger flash flood over local areas of east-central South Africa. In contrast, limited rain is expected over southern Mozambique and the inland of Madagascar.

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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