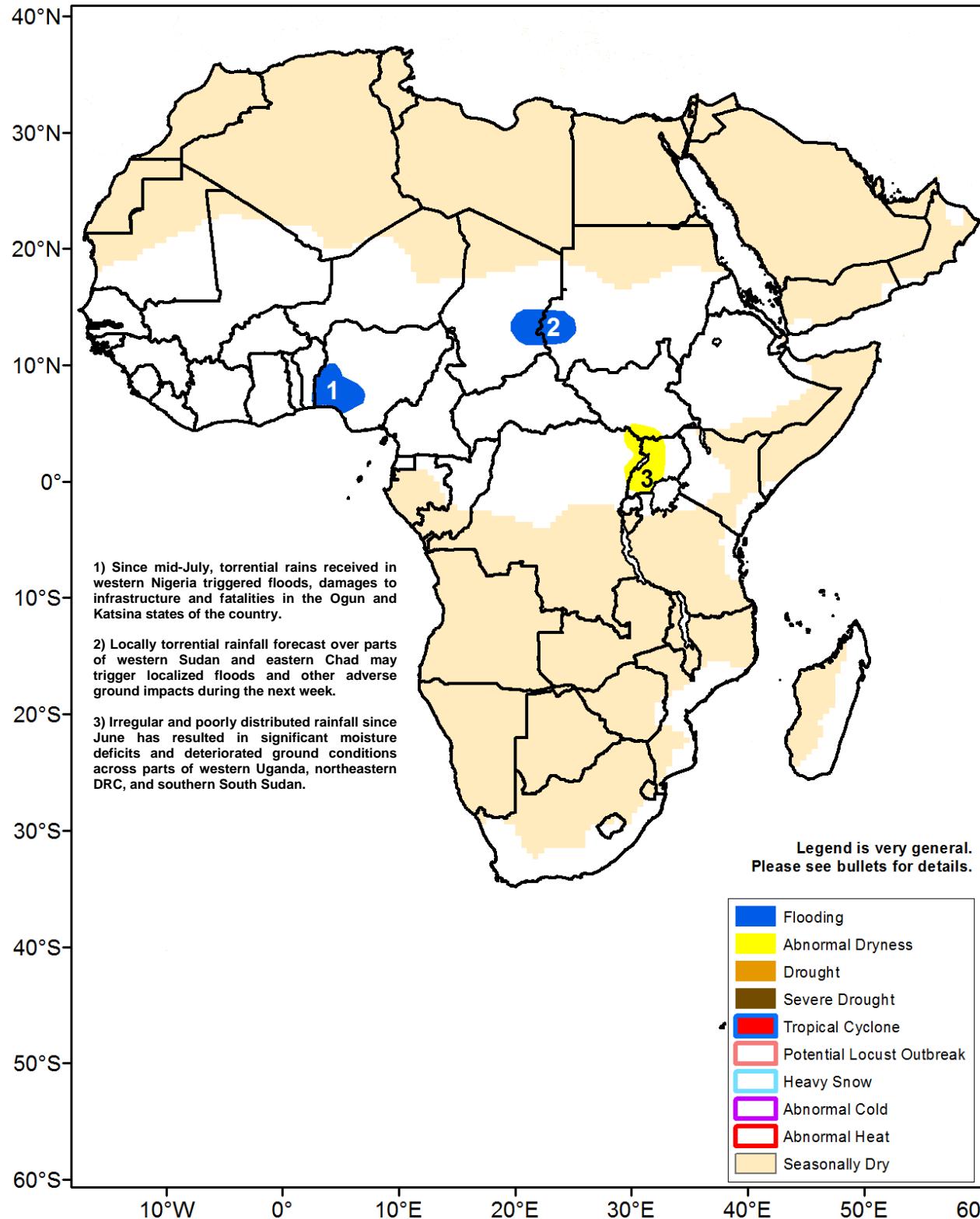




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook

July 26 – August 1, 2018

- Enhanced rains received over the western Sahel and Gulf of Guinea countries during the last week.
- Moisture deficits continue to strengthen over the SNNP region of Ethiopia.



Enhanced rains received over Senegal, Guinea, and Sierra Leone.

During the last week, a southward shift of the normal West African monsoon convergence brought heavy rainfall accumulations over several Gulf of Guinea countries with lesser rainfall totals throughout the Sahel. According to satellite rainfall estimates, the highest weekly accumulations (>100mm) were registered over the parts of southern Senegal, Guinea, southern Mali and Sierra Leone (**Figure 1**) with flooding and other adverse ground impacts reported over parts of Liberia. Locally heavy rainfall was also received in parts of Nigeria following flood events that affected the Ogun and Katsina states of the country. Lesser, but well distributed rainfall amounts were also received across much of the Sahel.

As of late-July, the performance of the West Africa continues to be favorable, with much of the domain experiencing average to above-average precipitation over both short and long-term timescales. Although locally heavy rains across the Gulf of Guinea countries have triggered floods and other adverse ground impacts since June, the quantity and distribution of seasonal rainfall is expected to benefit several cropping and pastoral areas of West Africa. Analysis of rainfall anomalies since mid to late-June suggests there has been much moisture improvement over areas that were experiencing anomalously mid-season dryness. In Senegal and Sierra Leone, the return of heavy rains has helped to mitigate moisture deficits, and return conditions closer towards normal for the season. However, at least two consecutive weeks of suppressed rainfall has led to marginally below average conditions over northeastern Nigeria (**Figure 2**).

For the upcoming outlook period, precipitation models suggest another week for average to above-average rainfall throughout much of West Africa. The highest weekly accumulations (>75mm) are forecast for parts of Guinea, western Mali, eastern Burkina Faso and in parts of Nigeria. There is some potential for decreased rainfall amounts over parts of southern Mauritania and northern Senegal.

Anomalous dryness continues over parts of Ethiopia, South Sudan, Uganda and DRC

According to satellite rainfall estimates, another week of heavy rainfall (>100mm) was received across the North Kurdufan, White Nile and Kassala provinces of the country, and in parts of western Ethiopia (**Figure 1**). The continuation of moderate to locally heavy rainfall over saturated areas may trigger floods and other adverse ground impacts across the region during the next week.

As portions of eastern Sudan and western Ethiopia have continued to experience above-average seasonal rainfall, there are several local areas in Ethiopia that have not benefitted from the enhanced rainfall regime this season. In the northern portion of the SNNP region, central Oromia, and eastern Amhara and Tigray region, moisture deficits have strengthened over the past couple of weeks. In the SNNP, much of the dryness has been associated with a prolonged dry spell and a decreased frequency of seasonal rains during July, resulting in less than 25 percent of their normal rainfall accumulation since late June (**Figure 2**). Further south, moisture deficits of similar magnitude have also developed across parts of western Uganda, northeastern DRC, and southern South Sudan due to poorly distributed June and July precipitation. The continuation of suppressed rainfall in these areas is expected to adversely impact crop and ground conditions.

Precipitation models suggest the potential for average to above-average rainfall during the next week over western Ethiopia, with possibility of suppressed rainfall amounts over the SNNP region of Ethiopia.

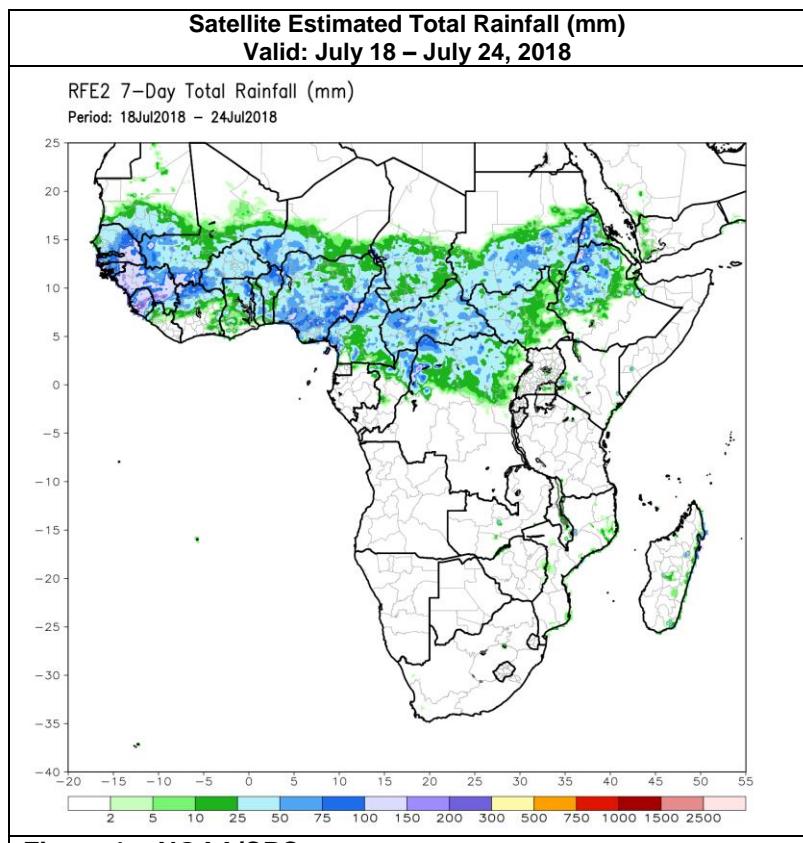


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

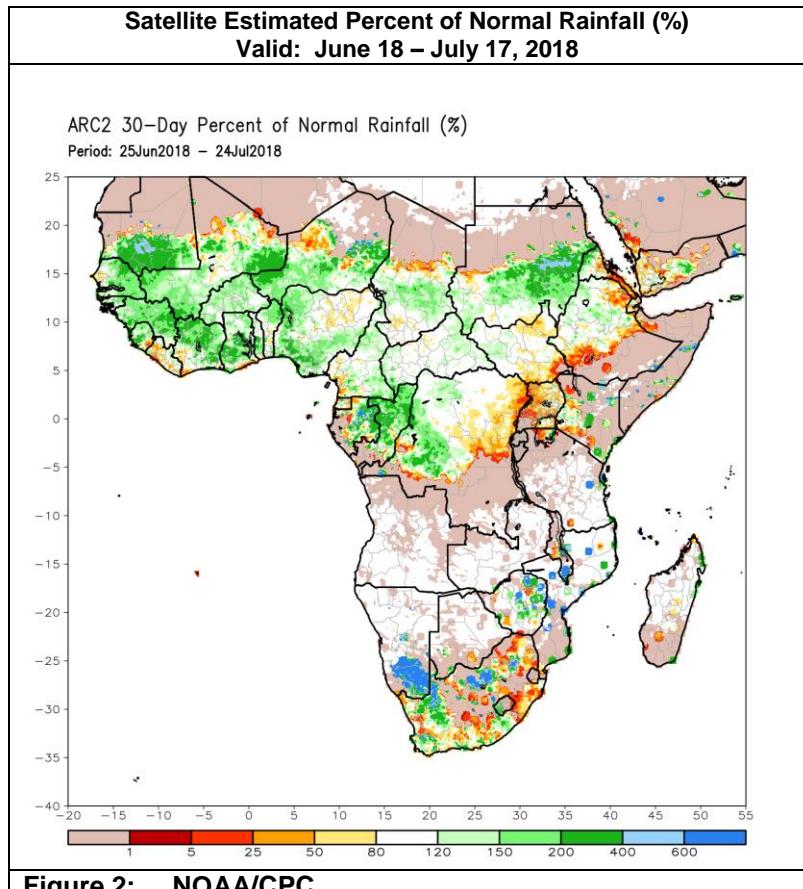


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

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.