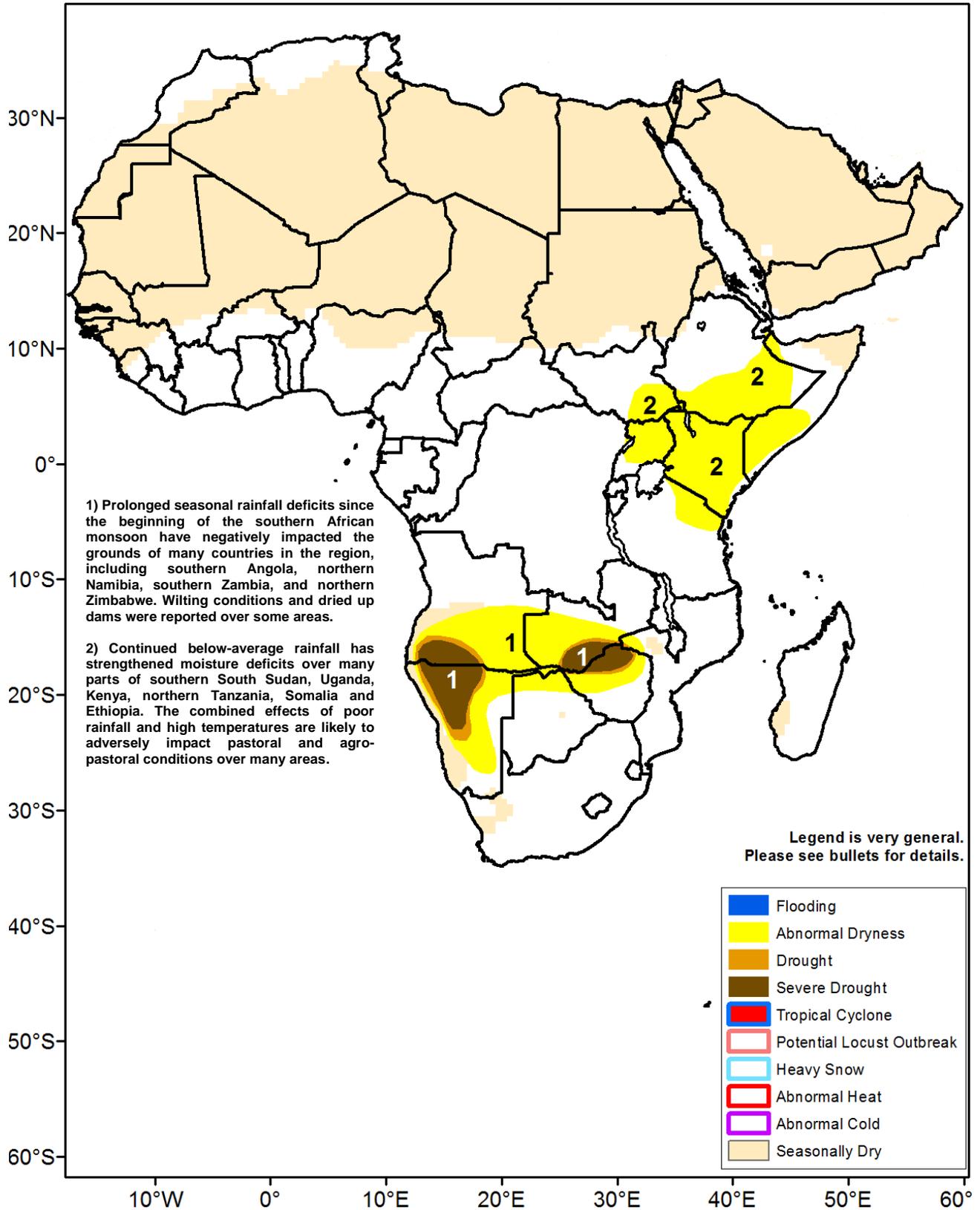




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook April 18 – 24, 2019

- Seasonal rainfall deficits continue to strengthen over many parts of the Greater Horn of Africa during mid-April.



Seasonal rainfall fails to push eastward across many parts of Ethiopia and Somalia.

In the last week, an increase in seasonal rainfall was received throughout southwestern Ethiopia and into parts of South Sudan, with well distributed weekly amounts in excess of 50mm. Further east, parts of central Ethiopia continued to receive light to locally moderate amounts concentrated along the higher elevations. However, east of the Oromia, little to no precipitation was registered according to satellite rainfall estimates, prolonging the delayed start of season for many local areas (**Figure 1**). Similarly, several portions of Somalia, Kenya and northern Tanzania failed to see any increase in seasonal precipitation with the exception of isolated shower activity along the Kenya and Somalia border. Elsewhere in the East Africa, seasonable rainfall was received across parts of Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi.

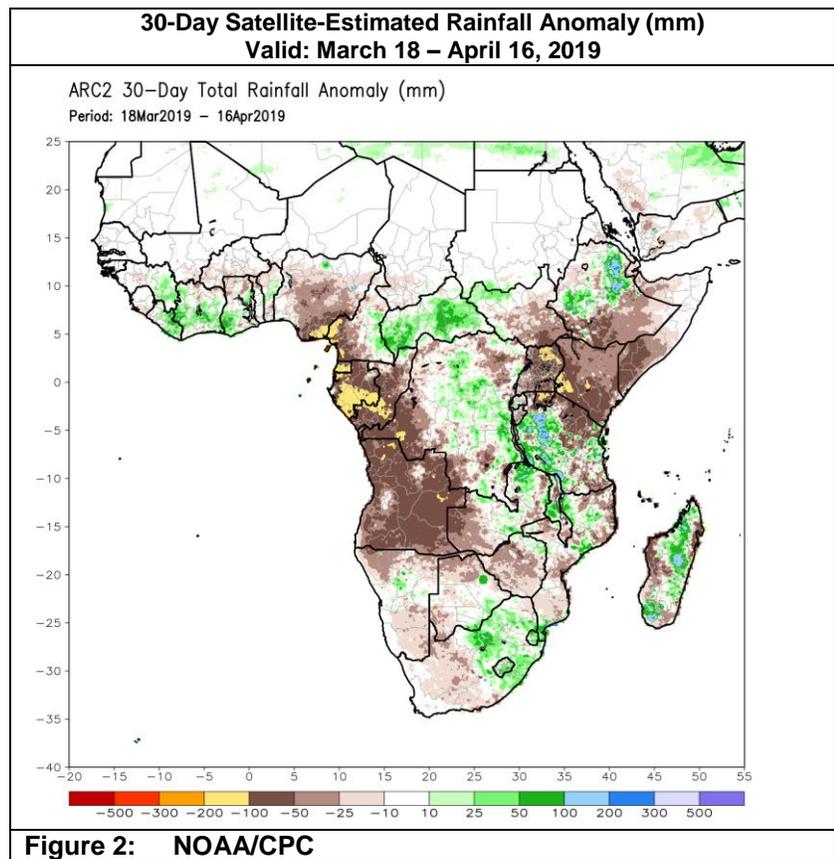
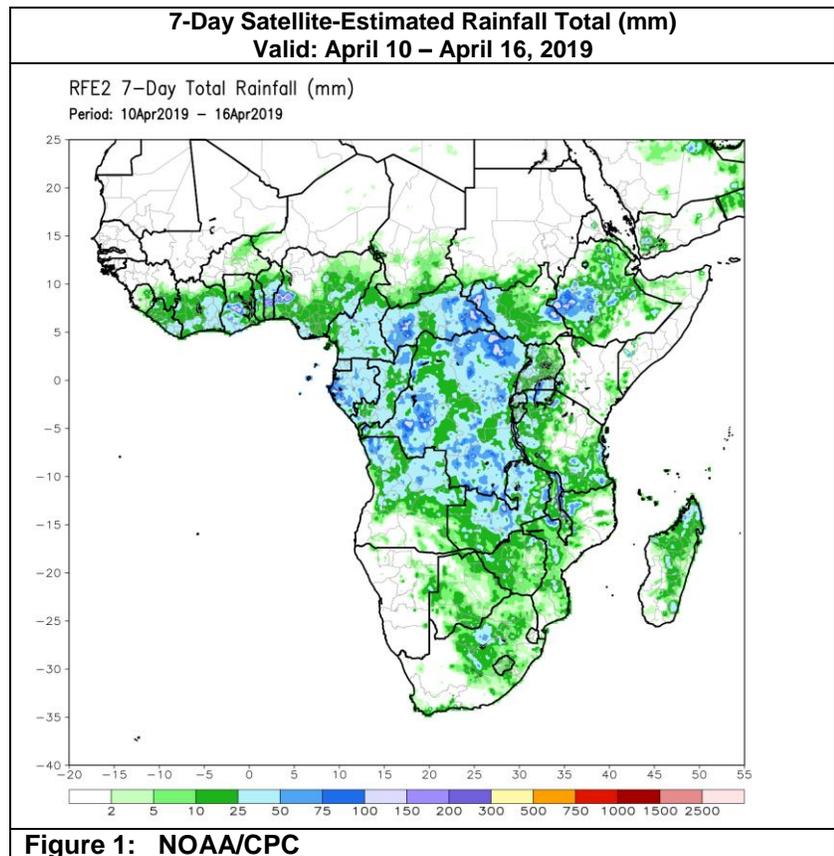
Analysis of changes in the running 30-day rainfall anomalies across East Africa depicts a rapid strengthening of anomalous dryness over the past several weeks. Notably, moisture deficits (25-200mm) can now be seen throughout much of East Africa, reflecting both the delayed start of season for eastern Ethiopia and Somalia, and the poorly distributed, infrequent rainfall over other areas in Uganda, Kenya, and northern Tanzania (**Figure 2**). With the combined effects of above-average temperatures collocated over areas with below-average rainfall since early March, the continuation of suppressed rainfall during April is increasingly likely to adversely impact many agro-pastoral and pastoral areas. Additionally, poor rainfall from last year's Oct-Dec rains season is likely to exacerbate ground conditions, increasing the concern for water shortages and food insecurity throughout the Greater Horn.

During the next outlook period, models suggest the potential for increased rainfall over eastern Ethiopia and northern Somalia, however suppressed precipitation is expected to throughout central and southern Somalia, Kenya, northern Tanzania, South Sudan and Uganda into late April.

Increased rainfall registered over many Gulf of Guinea countries.

During the last week, locally heavy rainfall was received across parts of southern Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Benin and southwestern Nigeria, with amounts in excess of 100mm according to gauge and satellite estimates. The excessive rainfall reportedly resulted in adverse ground impacts including in flooding, displaced populations and fatalities in Ghana. In Nigeria, the increase in rainfall registered over central and northern parts of the country marked the first week with favorable moisture following a slow start to the rainfall season. However, analysis of rainfall anomalies since mid-March continues to show anomalous dryness throughout the central and southwestern region (**Figure 2**). Above-average moisture conditions remain over of eastern Guinea, Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, and Ghana.

For the next seven days, models suggest the return to drier conditions across Nigeria with more seasonable rainfall forecast over the western Gulf of Guinea countries.



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.