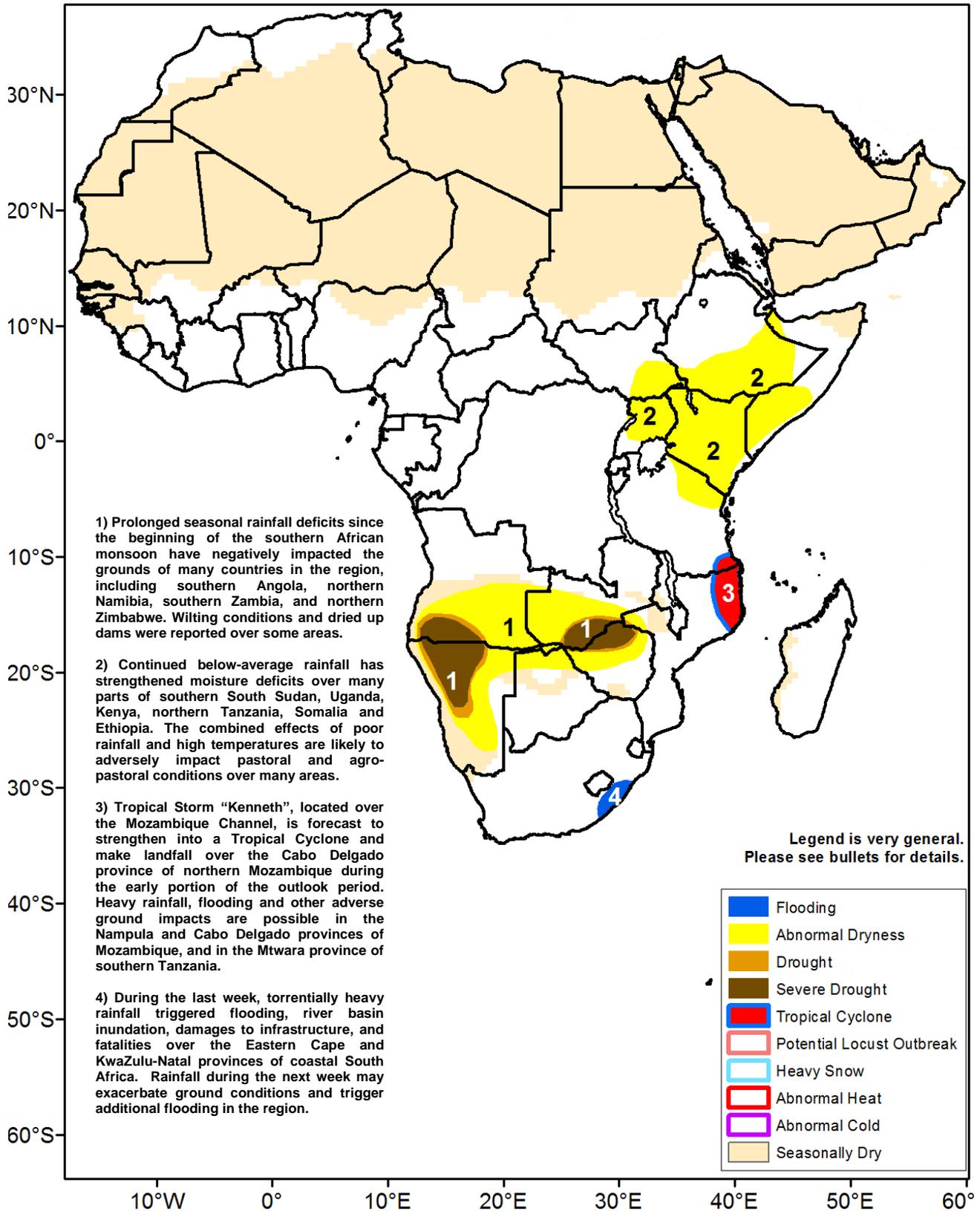




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook April 25 – May 1, 2019

- Heavy rainfall forecast for several anomalously dry areas of Kenya and northern Tanzania during late April.
- Tropical Cyclone Kenneth is expected to make landfall over northern coastal Mozambique.



Seasonal rainfall experiences its first favorable increase over East Africa during late April.

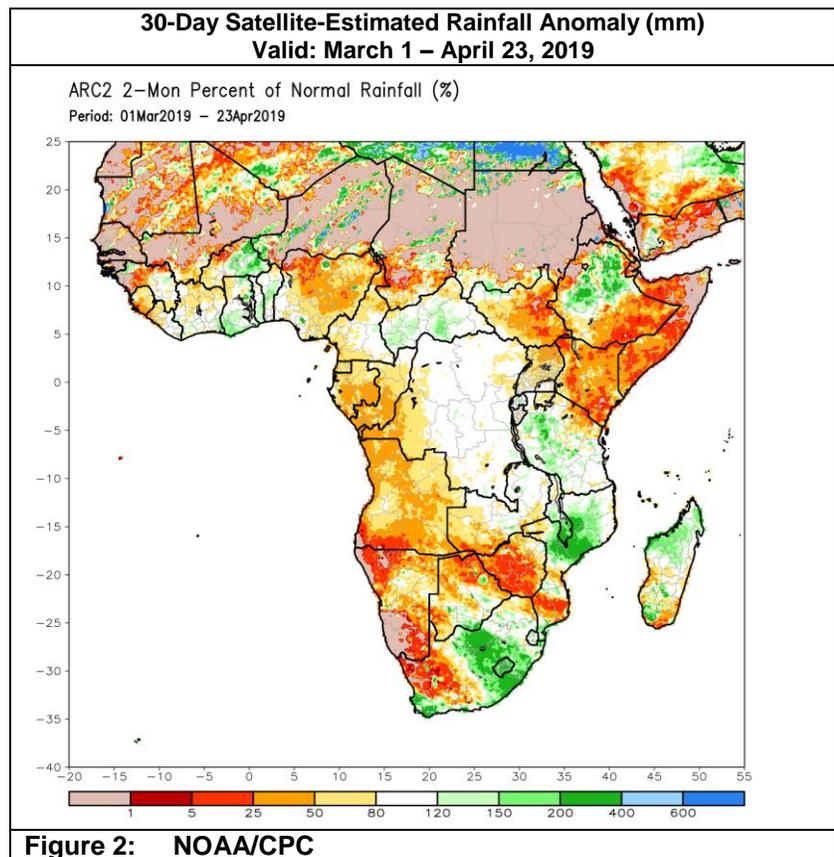
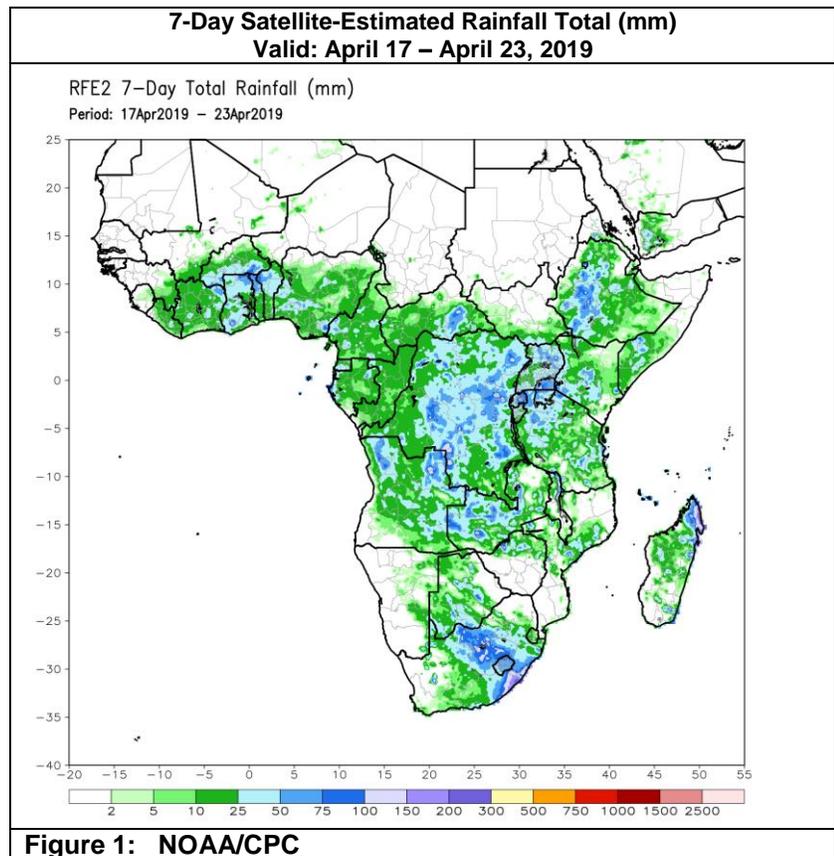
During the last seven days, widespread moderate to locally heavy rainfall continued over portions of western Ethiopia, with better distributed, and favorable higher amounts of precipitation over parts of eastern Ethiopia and neighboring regions of southern Somalia. Further south, a much needed increase in seasonal rainfall was observed across parts of Kenya and northern Tanzania (Figure 1). This increase in the region follows a period where little to no rainfall has been accumulated. Towards the west, seasonal rainfall was well distributed, with amounts ranging between 10-50mm across parts of northeastern DRC, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi.

Analysis of season to date rainfall precipitation anomalies over East Africa largely depicts very poor moisture conditions for several countries. In some parts of southern Kenya and northern Tanzania where seasonal rainfall normally begins during early March, some local areas have experienced less than five percent of their normal rainfall accumulation for the period (Figure 2). Many surrounding areas have experienced seasonal moisture deficits similar in magnitude which has been attributed to a delayed start of season followed by persistently suppressed and infrequent precipitation over the past several weeks. 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 significantly enhanced rainfall over many anomalously dry parts of southern Kenya and northern Tanzania. While the increase in rainfall is expected to help mitigate seasonal dryness, the onset of convective shower activity may trigger flooding over the region during late April. Increased, but lesser amounts, of precipitation are also forecast for many anomalously dry regions of Ethiopia and Somalia.

Tropical Cyclone Kenneth likely to bring heavy rainfall, adverse ground impacts to northern Mozambique.

Over the past few months, an anomalously warm Indian Ocean has helped to support the development of Tropical Cyclone activity during the southern Africa monsoon season. Following the devastating impacts of Tropical Cyclone Idai in March over Mozambique, the latest weather models depict the development of another cyclone, Tropical Storm "Kenneth" over the Mozambique Channel. This late season cyclone is forecast to strengthen and make landfall over the Cabo Delgado province of northern Mozambique during the early portion of the outlook period. Locally torrential rainfall, high winds from Kenneth may result in flooding, river basin inundation, damages to infrastructure, and the displacement of populations over northern Mozambique and into southeastern Tanzania.



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.