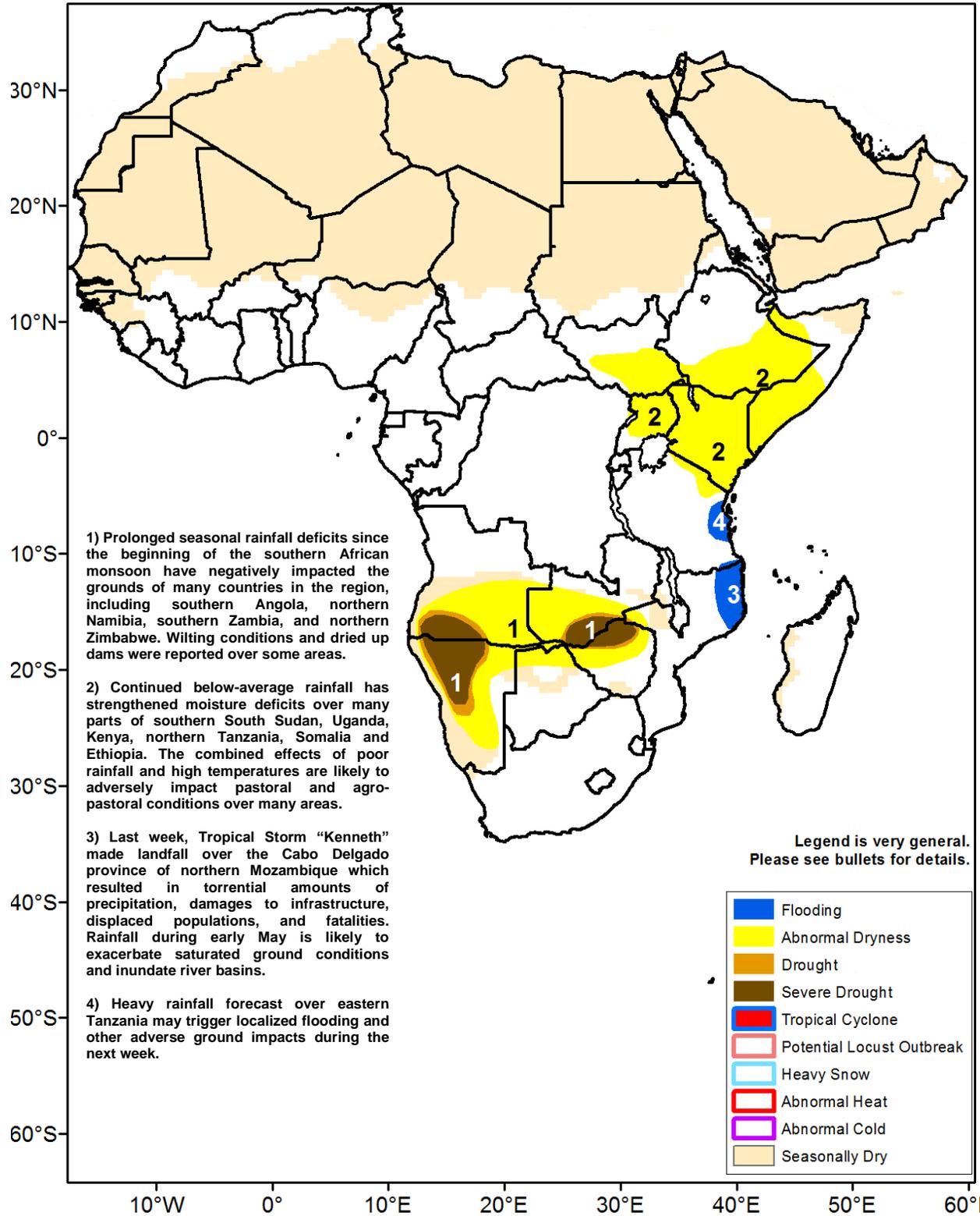




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook May 2 – May 8, 2019

- Enhanced rainfall provides moisture relief for many anomalously dry areas of East Africa during the last week.
- Heavy rainfall from Tropical Cyclone Kenneth leaves many areas at risk for flooding in northern Mozambique.



Much needed, enhanced rains received over many parts of East Africa.

During the last seven days, widespread moderate to locally heavy rainfall accumulations were received throughout much of East Africa which helped to mitigate many anomalously dry areas of the region. According to gauge and satellite rainfall estimates, the highest weekly precipitation totals (>100mm) were registered across eastern Uganda, Kenya, and northwestern Tanzania (Figure 1). The locally heavy rainfall in these areas reportedly led to flooding, damages to infrastructure, losses in livestock, and fatalities in Eastern region of Uganda, and in the Busia and Nakuru counties of Kenya. Towards the east, lesser, but above-average and well distributed seasonal rainfall was recorded throughout eastern Kenya, and over the Jubba and Shabelle river basin of southern Somalia. The weekly rainfall in this region follows a period where little to no rainfall has been accumulated over the past several weeks. In Ethiopia, a seasonable distribution of precipitation was received throughout the SNNP, Oromia, Amhara, and Somali regions of the country.

Following the latest period of enhanced rainfall activity in the Greater Horn, analysis of changes in season to date precipitation anomalies shows considerable improvement over several regions. However, much of the East Africa still remains below-average in total seasonal performance due to the suppressed and infrequent rainfall activity that prevailed throughout March and much of April. Currently, many regions in Uganda, Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia are still experiencing less than 80 percent of their normal rainfall accumulation, with the poorest conditions (<25 percent of normal) concentrated over more climatologically arid areas of southeastern Kenya, eastern Ethiopia, and neighboring provinces of Somalia (Figure 2). Seasonal rainfall has also failed to reach many areas of South Sudan, resulting in strengthening of anomalous dryness throughout the country over the past few weeks. The continuation of suppressed rainfall into May is 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 a more seasonable distribution of precipitation over the Greater Horn, with the potential for highest rainfall amounts (>50mm) over southern Kenya and eastern Tanzania.

Adverse ground impacts and disaster response expected in the wake Tropical Cyclone Kenneth

As Tropical Cyclone made landfall during the early portion of previous outlook period, torrential rainfall accumulations (>300mm), and category 4 force winds (>209 km/h) reportedly resulted in flooding, damages to infrastructure and fatalities over the Comoros islands and northern Mozambique. Any planned disaster and humanitarian response from Kenneth will follow those from Tropical Cyclone Idai which struck central Mozambique last month. Although much of the country will begin to experience seasonably drier conditions, additional rainfall may worsen ground conditions, and elevate river levels to inundate affected river basins during late April and early May.

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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