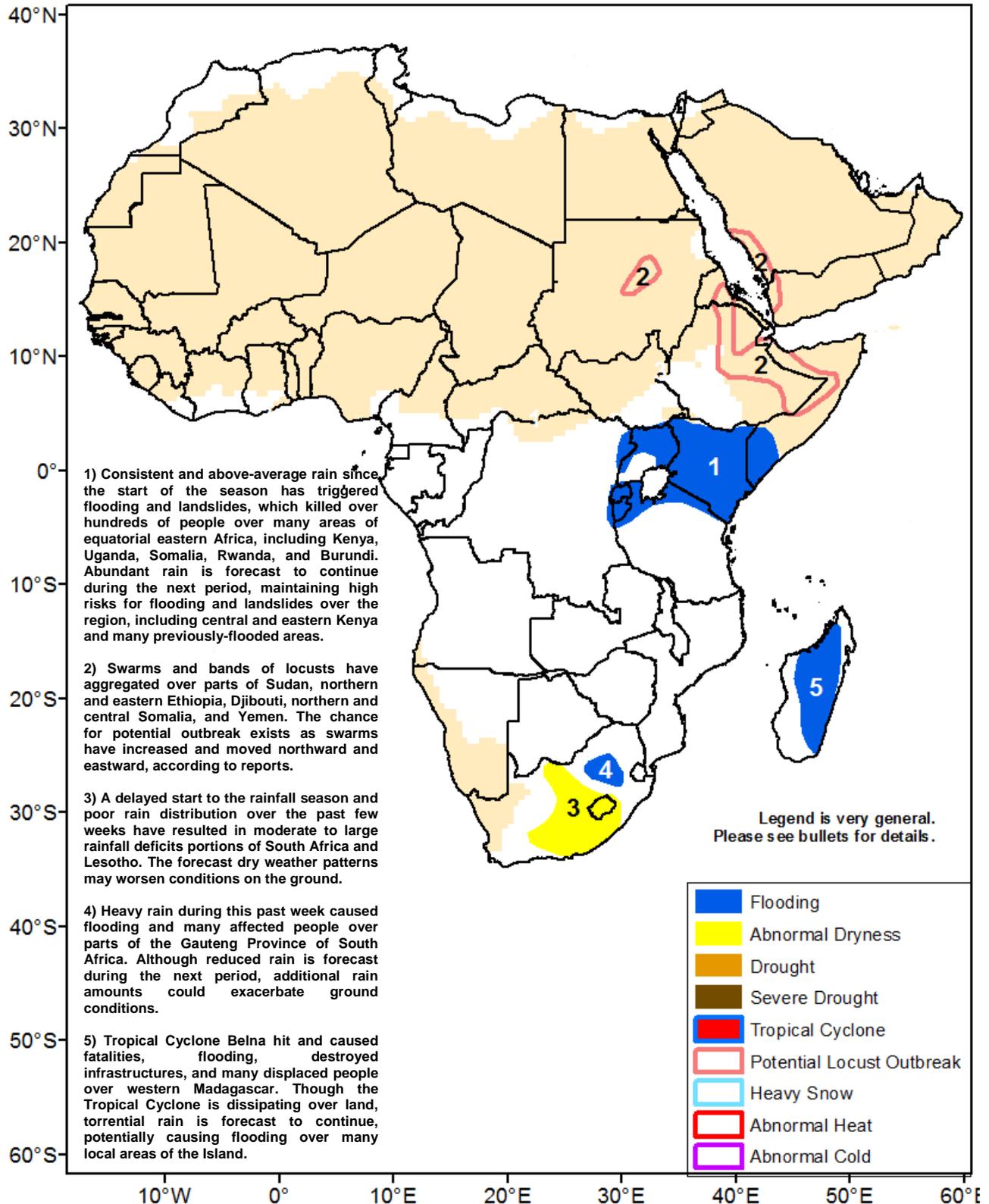




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook December 12 – 18, 2019

- Flooding and landslides have continued to affect many people in eastern Africa.
- Tropical Cyclone Belna left fatalities, flooding, destroyed infrastructures, and displaced people in Madagascar.



Tropical Cyclone Pawan impacted the Puntland region of Somalia, while flooding and landslides continued over many areas of eastern Africa.

Tropical Cyclone Pawan, which formed over the northwestern Indian Ocean Basin during the past period, made landfall near Eyl of the Puntland region of northern Somalia on December 7. The Tropical Cyclone caused flooding, fatality at sea, and submerged cars, according to reports. Meanwhile, heavy rain was observed over localized areas of southern Somalia, southwestern Ethiopia, western and central Kenya, eastern Uganda, southern Rwanda, Burundi, and western Tanzania (Figure 1). The consistent rain over the past several weeks has resulted in flooding and landslides, which killed many people in the Bundibugyo and Bududa District of western and eastern Uganda, respectively; Cibitoke Province of northwestern Burundi, West Pokot County of western Kenya, and Musanze District of Rwanda, according to reports. The continuation of heavy and above-average rain over the upcoming weeks would further oversaturation and therefore would increase risks for flooding and landslides over many previously-affected and flood-prone areas, including central and eastern Kenya.

During the outlook period, widespread, moderate to heavy rain is forecast to continue over eastern Africa. Moderate to heavy rain is expected over southern Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, and Burundi. Widespread light rain is forecast over southern Somalia.

Increased rain contributed to ease dryness over many parts of southern Africa; but rainfall deficits persisted over some areas.

During the past observation period, enhanced rain was, overall, observed over southern Africa. Favorably-distributed rain fell across Angola, Namibia, Zambia, Botswana, and northern South Africa. This past week's abundant rain caused flooding and affected residents in southern Angola, northern and central Namibia, and northern South Africa, based on reports. Over Madagascar, Tropical Cyclone Belna made landfall in the west and caused flooding, fatalities, destroyed infrastructures, and many displaced people. Light rain was received elsewhere. As a result, thirty-day rainfall deficits were reduced over many local areas. Positive rainfall anomalies also emerged over parts of northern Namibia, Botswana, and northern South Africa (Figure 2). However, short and long-term moisture deficits persisted over some areas, including western Angola and portions of central South Africa.

According to recent agroclimatic products, soil moisture was very low throughout southern Namibia, southern Botswana, southern Zimbabwe, western South Africa, southern Mozambique, and southwestern Madagascar. The return of wet weather patterns is needed to replenish soil moisture and alleviate dryness in the region.

During the outlook period, wet weather patterns are forecast over eastern southern Africa, including southern DRC, eastern Zambia, Malawi, eastern Zimbabwe, southern Tanzania, northern Mozambique, and Madagascar. The forecast ample rain could trigger flooding or worsen conditions over many previously-impacted areas of the region. Little to light rain is expected over southern Angola and Namibia.

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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