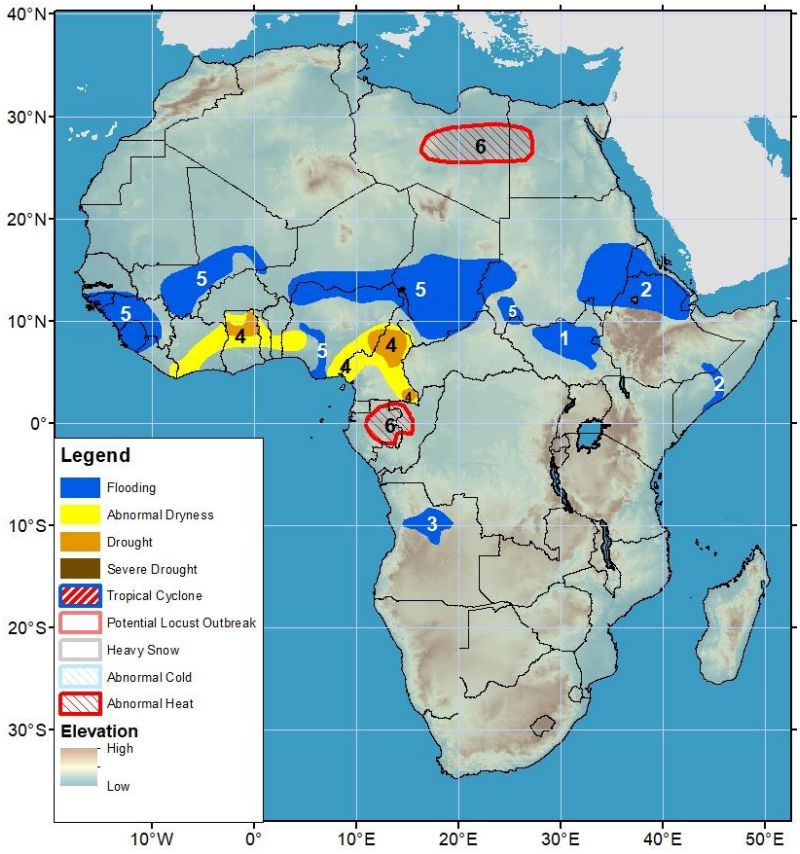
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
29 August – 4 September 2024

- **Floods persist, and even worsen, across the Sahel, while drought has emerged in northern Ghana.**
- **Eastern Africa continues to experience heavy rainfall, leading to floods.**



1) Inundation is steadily increasing in the Sudd wetlands of South Sudan.

2) According to reports, heavy and above-average rainfall has led to flooding in southern and eastern Sudan, western Ethiopia, resulting in casualties and damage. 30 thousand people are displaced in Gambela region, where the Baro and Gilo rivers have overflowed. Recent and forecasted heavy rain may exacerbate flooding in northern Ethiopia and Eritrea. The upper Shabelle River has also risen above 'High risk' level in Somalia do to upstream rainfall.

3) River level are slow to dip to normal levels in northern Angola.

4) Below-average rainfall since June has maintained 30-day and 2-month moisture deficits, resulting in abnormal dryness in eastern Liberia and southwestern Cote d'Ivoire. Deficient July and august rainfall led to abnormal dryness across northeastern Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, central Togo, central Benin, and part of western Nigeria. The dry spell has been severe enough in northern Ghana to rapidly dry out soils potentially reducing crop yield by 50% or more according to reports. Also, abnormal dryness has settled across eastern Nigeria and central and eastern Cameroon due to below-average rainfall since early April. As a result, drought conditions exist in eastern Nigeria and central and southeastern Cameroon.

5) Heavy rainfall has caused deadly flooding in Guinea Bissau, Guinea (Conakry city), and northern Sierra Leone, central and southern Mali (significant damage in low-lying areas of Ségou, Sikasso, and parts of Mopti), southern Niger, northern Nigeria (Komadugu River), (54 fatalities), and western Sudan. Due to recent and forecasted heavy rain, flooding may occur in Guinea, and Sierra Leone. Inundation is expected along the Niger River in central and southern Nigeria this week.

6) Abnormally hot conditions are forecasted in Mauritania, northwest Mali, and Gabon in equatorial Africa. Maximum temperatures and humidity will lead to high probably of large heat index values that could be harmful to vulnerable populations.

Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium-range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), sub-seasonal forecasts up to 4 weeks, and assesses the potential impact of extreme events on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed and predicted to continue during the outlook period. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at the spatial scale of the map. This product considers long-range seasonal climate forecasts but does not reflect current or projected food security conditions. FEWS NET is a USAID-funded activity whose purpose is to provide objective information about food security conditions. Its views are not necessarily reflective of those of USAID or the U.S. Government. The FEWS NET weather hazards outlook process and products include participation by FEWS NET field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and several other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned.

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The band of heaviest rainfall shifted slightly further south in West Africa during the past 7 days.

For the past 7 days, the heaviest rainfall shifted further south into areas of Guinea, Sierra Leone, northern Liberia, northern Cote D'Ivoire, northern, Togo, Benin, most of Nigeria, and Chad. As much as 100-200mm of rainfall was received locally. Moderate rains continued across areas of southern Mauritania, central Mali and southern Niger. Lighter rain occurred across many places along the Gulf of Guinea coast as well as northern Niger (**Figure 1**). Over the past 30 days, the sub-region has experienced above-average rainfall in the Sahel region, which has caused floods to worsen and expand in coverage, especially in Mali, northern Nigeria, and southern Niger. In contrast, drier than normal conditions are present, but have, in part, improved, in Cote D'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, and Cameroon. In Ghana, the dry spell, negatively affected conditions on the ground, as evidenced by VHI and soil moisture, enough that significant impacts to crop yields seem likely. Over the Past 90-days, the significant rainfall deficits (200 – 500 mm) and associated negative ground impacts have resulted in drought conditions in eastern Nigeria and Cameroon.

Next week, the band of heavy and above-average rainfall will return northward once again across the Sahel. The largest 7-day totals may reach 100-200 mm in Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, northern Nigeria and southern Niger. This is likely to exacerbate flooding in many areas with already-saturated soils and elevated streamflow. Heavy rain of 75-100 mm is also likely in Burkina Faso, southern Mali, Cameroon and Chad. Light to moderate rainfall is forecasted along the Gulf of Guinea coast and many areas of the Sahara. In addition, an abnormal heat hazard is placed in Libya where above-average maximum temperatures will exceed 40°C with elevated humidity.

7-Day Satellite Estimated Total Rainfall
Valid: 21 Aug – 27 Aug 2024

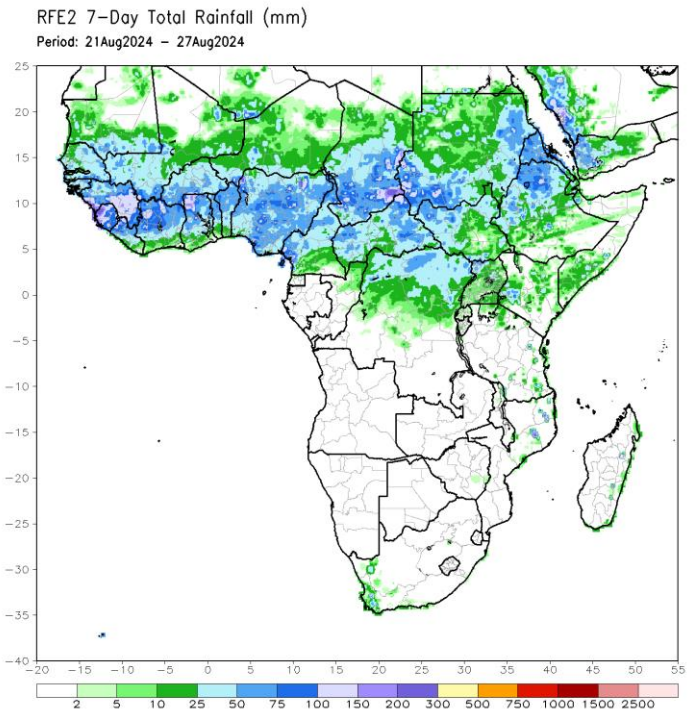


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

3-Month Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: 01 June 2024 – 27 August 2024

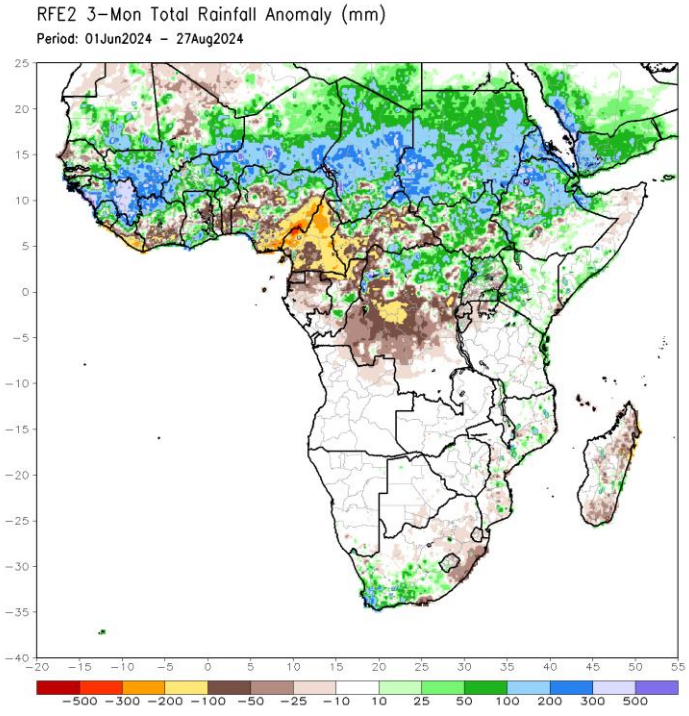
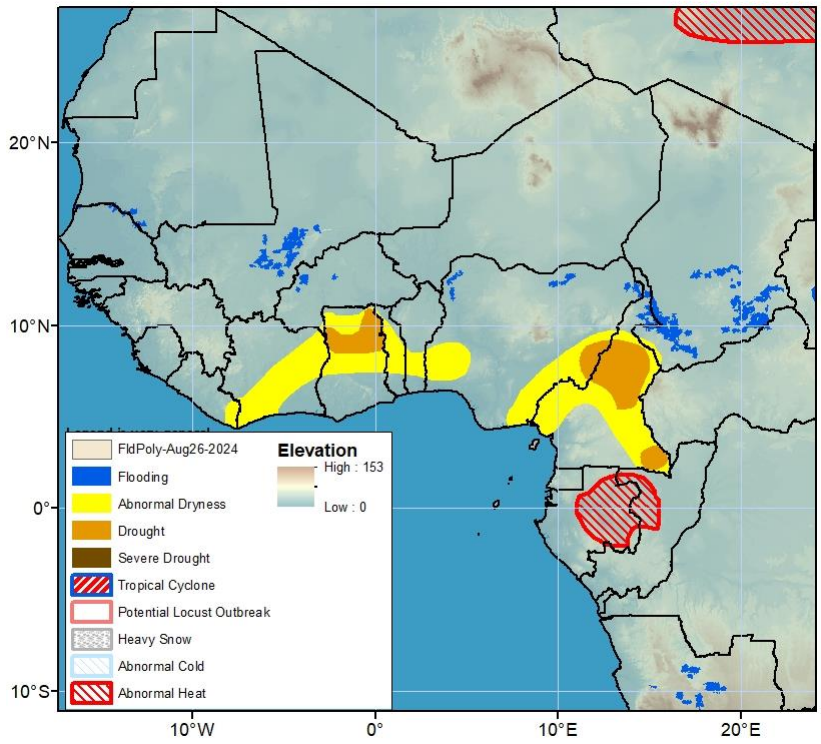


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

Recent heavy rainfall is causing floods in East Africa.

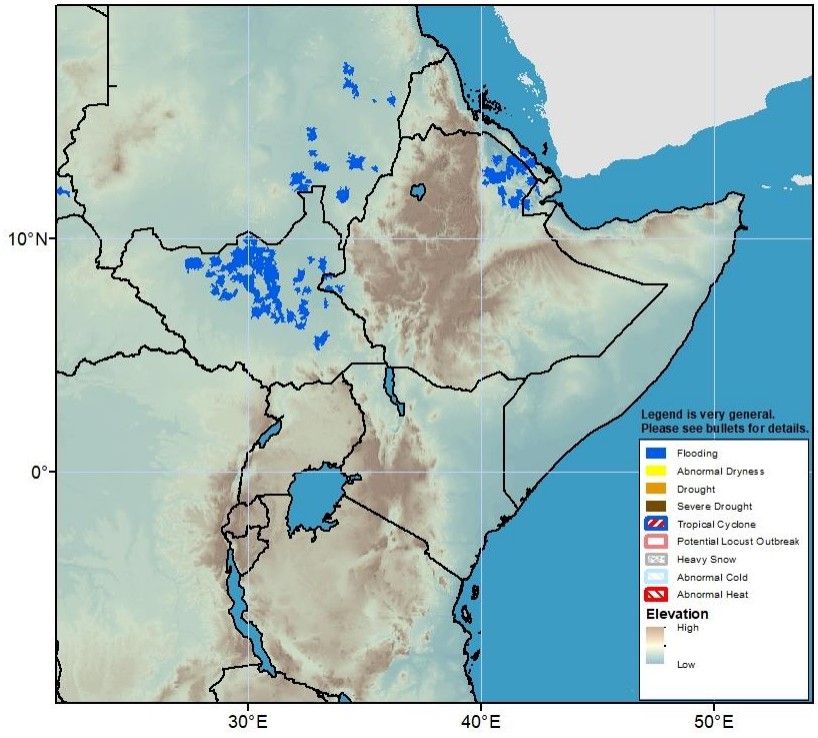
For the past week, there has been heavy rainfall in northern Ethiopia, Eritrea, southern and eastern Sudan, and northern South Sudan, with light to moderate rainfall across much of the remainder of the region. 7-day totals locally exceeded 75 mm to 100 mm in Ethiopia and Eritrea. For the past 30 days, above-average rainfall has occurred in much of the region, with the exception of western Ethiopia and small areas of eastern Sudan and western South Sudan. The highest surpluses (100 - 200 mm) were observed in western Sudan, northeastern Ethiopia and parts of Sudan and South Sudan. In western and eastern Sudan, and western Ethiopia this has caused floods impacting many livelihoods. Since June 1, the region has similarly experienced widespread above-average rainfall. However, some pockets of South Sudan, Uganda and east-central DRC have experienced below-average rainfall **(Figure 2**). Despite abundant rain, vegetation health is still uneven in the region but has generally improved over recent weeks.

During the outlook period, northern/western Ethiopia and Eritrea are expected to experience heavy and above-average rainfall of 75 – 150 mm. Moderate and still above-average rain (25 – 75 mm) is expected in Sudan, South Sudan, and Uganda. However, a few portions of southwestern Ethiopia and western Kenya could experience small deficits. Somalia may also receive rain this week. Due to the abundant rain and cloud cover, maximum temperatures are forecast to be 2-4°C cooler than average.



Flooding is detected in many parts of southern Chad. Flooding is building due to heavy seasonal rains in the Niger River inland delta of Mali. Inundation is still detected in Angola. Inundation is increasing along the Komadugu River in northern Nigeria
(Please note that the flood risk shape files are sourced from NOAA VIIRS).

Figure 3: Hazards, focused over West Africa



Inundated areas have been increasing in the Sudd wetlands in South Sudan. Flooding has been detected in the Blue Nile catchment along the border between Sudan and Ethiopia. Inundation is detected and landslides have been reported in northern Ethiopia.
(Please note that the flood risk shape files are sourced from NOAA VIIRS).

Figure 4: Hazards, focused over Eastern Africa