FEWS NET
Famine Early Warning Systems Network

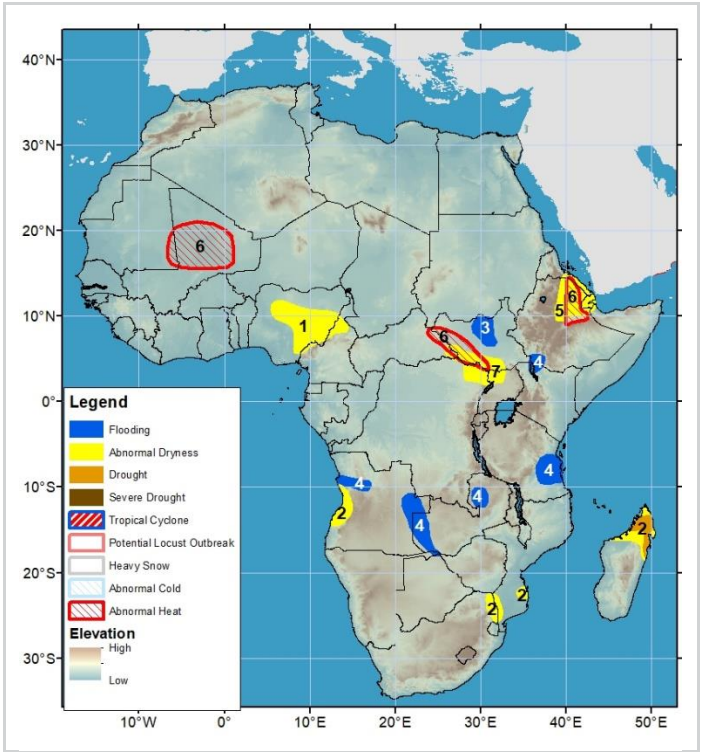
Global Weather Hazards Summary May 22, 2025 – May 28, 2025

Global Overview: ENSO-neutral conditions continue. Dryness has settled in over Nigeria and parts of East Africa; hot conditions and heightened flooding risks continue in Central America and Hispaniola; hot and dry conditions persist in Central Asia.

Africa Weather Hazards

Localized severe weather has affected several parts Africa, while early-season rainfall deficits have caused dry conditions in Nigeria.

1. Insufficient rainfall to begin the rainy season has led to growing seasonal deficits in central and eastern Nigeria, as well as parts of Cameroon and degraded vegetation health there.
2. Insufficient rainfall led to abnormal dryness in western Angola and northern Madagascar. Deficient rainfall since late February has resulted in abnormal dryness in northeastern South Africa and the southern part of Mozambique.
3. Inundation remains in the Sudd wetlands of northern South Sudan.
4. Heavy rainfall from previous weeks triggered flooding and led to lingering inundation in parts of Angola, northeastern Namibia, Zambia, eastern Tanzania, as well as southwestern Ethiopia and northern Kenya.
5. Drier than normal conditions during the 'Belg' season have led to substantial rainfall deficits with less than 80% of average rainfall received. This has resulted in degraded vegetation health and the placement of abnormal dryness
6. Abnormally hot conditions are likely to occur in eastern South Sudan, western and northern Ethiopia, and northern Mali, as high and much above-average temperatures are expected to persist for at least three consecutive days during the following week.
7. A poor start to the rainy season since mid-April has started to degrade vegetation in southern South Sudan, northwestern Uganda, and northeastern DRC



Note

The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium-range weather forecasts (up to one week), sub-seasonal forecasts up to four 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 Its views are not necessarily reflective of those of USAID or the U.S. Government.

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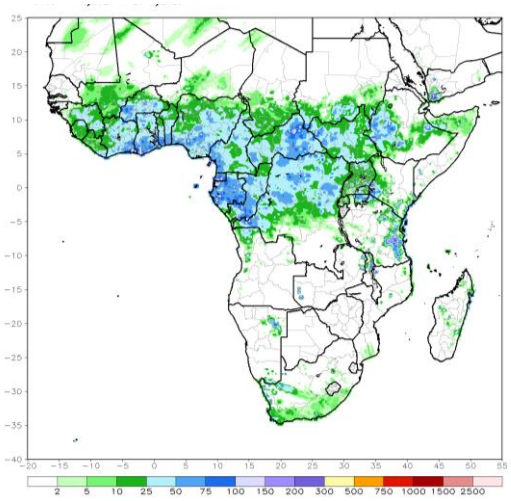
Africa Overview

Rains decreased in coverage this past week in East Africa.

In East Africa, during the past 7 days, heavy rain fell in localized parts of the area, including in western and eastern Ethiopia, western and coastal Kenya, and eastern Tanzania. In general, though, rainfall coverage decreased with many areas of northern and southern Ethiopia, eastern Kenya, central Tanzania, and central/southern Somalia experiencing dry conditions. Moderate, but still near-to below-average rainfall, was observed in southern Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, and northeastern DRC (**Figure 1**). As a result, conditions after the first month of the rainy season are becoming poor in southern South Sudan, Uganda, and northeastern DRC. 30-day deficits are present and growing in these areas. On this time scale, deficits are also returning to many parts of central and southern Ethiopia and northern Somalia. Much-above average 30-day rainfall is observed in Kenya, southern Somalia, and eastern and western Tanzania. On the seasonal time scale, since March 1, similar areas in the rift valley of Ethiopia and northern Somalia are drier than average.

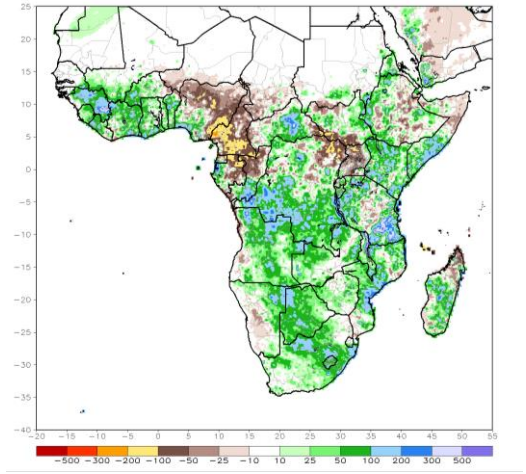
Next week, rainfall is expected to be suppressed again across the region. Pockets of western Ethiopia, Uganda, eastern DRC and western Kenya will likely receive moderate to locally heavy rainfall amounts. Scattered light rain is expected in eastern Ethiopia and Somalia, while little rain is forecasted in northern Ethiopia and eastern Kenya. In addition to dryer than normal conditions, temperatures are also expected to be hotter than normal. Mean maximum temperature anomalies of 2 - 6°C are forecasted in southwestern South Sudan and rift valley portions of Ethiopia.

Figure 1: **7-Day Satellite & Gauge Estimated Rainfall (mm). Period: 14 May 2025 – 20 May 2025**



Source: NOAA/CPC

Figure 2 **2-Month Satellite & Gauge Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm). Period: 01 Apr 2025 – 20 May 2025**



Source: NOAA/CPC

The rainy season has started erratically in the eastern half of the West Africa region.

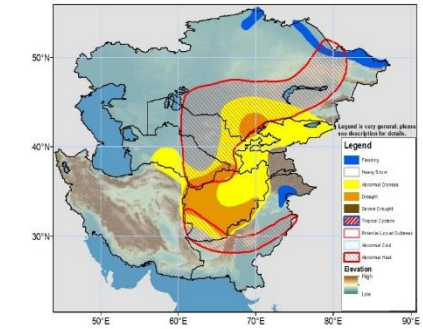
The beginning of the rainfall season has been wetter than usual across many of the western Gulf of Guinea countries. Total rainfall has been 50 to 200 mm above average in many areas (**Figure 2**). Meanwhile, in Nigeria and Cameroon, rain has been suppressed early in the season. There, deficits range from 25 mm to locally more than 100 mm and equate to more than 50% of the average in some cases. As a result, vegetation already degraded greatly in parts of Nigeria and Cameroon according satellite monitored vegetation health indices. During the past week, coastal Gulf of Guinea region, and parts of central Nigeria received the heaviest rainfall greater than 50 mm. Moderate rains over spread most of the rest of seasonally active West Africa, including northern Nigeria. These amounts did little to resolve deficits there, and negative 7-day anomalies extended deficits in Cameroon.

Next week, light to moderate (and drier than average) rainfall conditions are in the forecast over the region. The greatest amounts, more than 50 mm, are likely in Liberia, Sierra Leone, and southern Cameroon. Otherwise, below average rainfall will likely worsen conditions in Nigeria and Cameroon.

Central Asia Overview

Temperatures

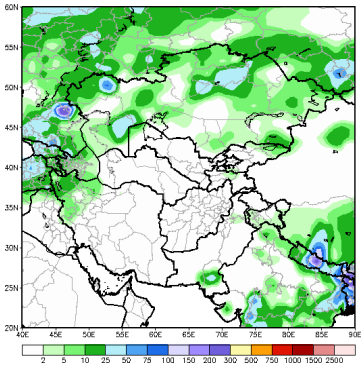
During the past week, mean maximum temperatures were above-average across Central Asia, with warmest anomalies between 6 to 10ºC in central, southern, southeastern, northeastern and eastern Kazakhstan, northern and northeastern Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, western Tajikistan, and central-southeastern Afghanistan. Weekly average maximum temperatures were observed between 40 to 45ºC in southern Afghanistan. Next week, models is forecasted above-average weekly mean maximum temperatures in eastern and Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and eastern Uzbekistan. An abnormal heat polygon is placed in parts of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, and southern Afghanistan, where daily maximum temperature anomaly is forecasted above-average by 6 to 10ºC during the period 22 May 2025 – 23 May 2025, and daily maximum temperatures are forecasted to be between 30 to 40ºC, with 40 to 45ºC in parts of southern Afghanistan.



Precipitation

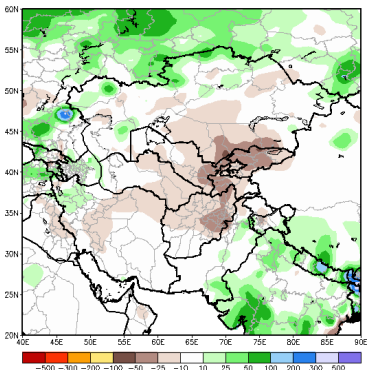
During the past week, moderate to heavy precipitation (10 to 50mm) was observed in parts of western, southwestern, northern, eastern and southeastern Kazakhstan (**Figure 3**). For the past 30 days, precipitation has been below average in southern and southwestern Kazakhstan, much of Kyrgyzstan, and many parts of Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Afghanistan and Tajikistan, and above-average precipitation in parts of northern and far-eastern Kazakhstan (**Figure 4**). The magnitude of streamflow at multiple hydrograph locations is much lower (lowest 25th percentile) in northern, western, southern, and southeastern Afghanistan in May 2025. Next week, GEFS weekly ensembles mean forecasts moderate to heavy precipitation in parts of northern, eastern and southeastern Kazakhstan, northern and central Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and some parts of eastern and northeastern Afghanistan. Light precipitation is forecasted in northeastern and central-eastern Kazakhstan. Higher amounts of precipitation (50 to 150mm) is forecasted in far western parts of Gujarat, India.

Figure 3 **7-Day CPC Unified Gauge Total Rainfall (mm). Period:13 May 2025 – 19 May 2025**



Source: NOAA/CPC

Figure 4 **30-Day CPC Unified Gauge Rainfall Anomaly (mm). Period: 20 Apr 2025 – 19 May 2025**

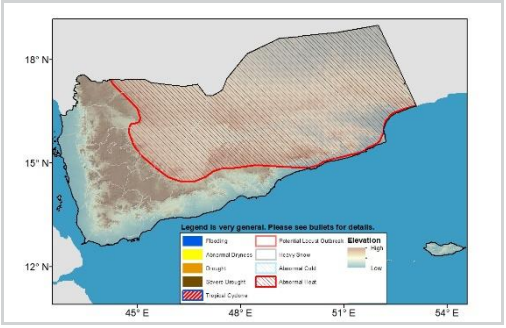


Source: NOAA/CPC

Yemen Overview

Temperature

Last week, maximum temperatures were above-average over Yemen, with the largest anomalies in the West. Maximum temperatures ranged from 35°C to 45°C with the highest temperatures in the Northeast and West. Next week, mean maximum temperatures will remain above average across Yemen. Positive anomalies are forecasted to be uniformly 2 - 4°C.



Precipitation

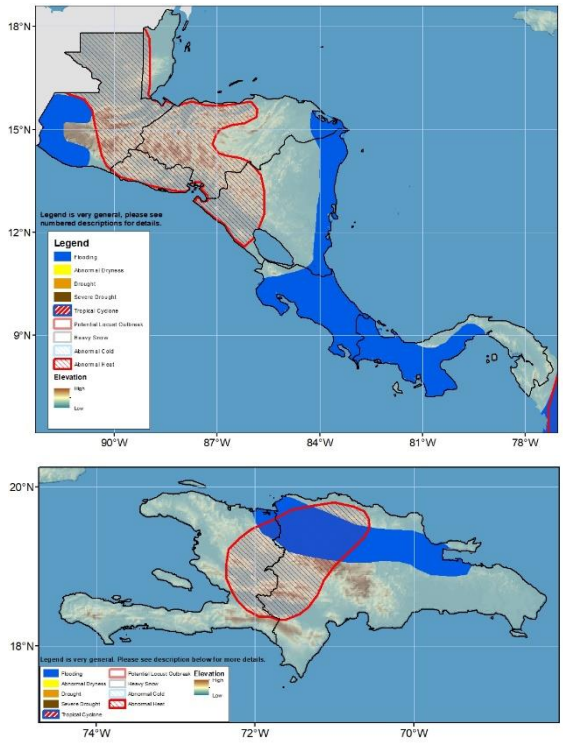
During the past week, heavy rain continued over southwestern areas and localized heavy showers were located over other parts of the western mountains. Over the past 30 and 90 days, many places in the West have experienced above-average rainfall with improved moisture conditions. Next week, dry conditions are forecasted across the country with a suppression of moisture over the area.

Central America Overview

Elevated risks for flooding and hot conditions expected

During the past week, local areas of Central America received moderate to locally heavy rainfall. Those areas included southwestern Guatemala, western and eastern El Salvador, eastern and southern Honduras, northwestern Nicaragua, north-central Costa Rica, western and central Panama (**Figure 5**). Over the past 30 days, northern and southern areas of Guatemala, Belize, central El Salvador, southwestern Honduras, central and eastern Nicaragua, southern Costa Rica, and the interior of Panama registered below-average rainfall, while western Guatemala, the Gulf of Fonseca, and coastal areas of Costa Rica and Panama recorded above-average rainfall (**Figure 6**).

Next week, much of Central America will see below-average rainfall. However, central and southern Guatemala, El Salvador, western and eastern Honduras, eastern Nicaragua, and the southern Caribbean are forecast to receive moderate to heavy rainfall, potentially leading to flooding over many local areas. Moreover, northern and eastern Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and northwestern Nicaragua will face hot conditions.

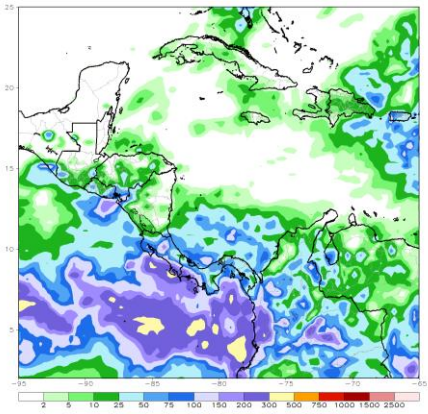


Hispaniola Overview

Potential for flooding and hot conditions expected

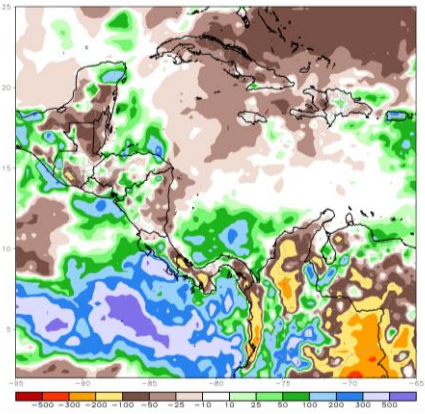
During the past week, Hispaniola experienced a reduction in rainfall, with light rainfall in central Dominican Republic and little to no rainfall elsewhere (**Figure 5**). Consequently, below-average rainfall has emerged in central, southern, and northern Haiti and western and eastern Dominican Republic, whereas near to above-average rainfall spread over central Dominican Republic (**Figure 6**). Next week, Hispaniola will likely receive below-average rainfall. However, central Haiti and western and eastern Dominican Republic may see moderate rainfall, which could exacerbate conditions over previously-flooded areas. The remainders of the Island will experience light rainfall. Also, central Haiti and bordering western and northwestern Dominican Republic could face hot conditions.

Figure 5 7-Day CMORPH Total Rainfall (mm). Period: 13 May 2025 – 19 May 2025



Source: NOAA/CPC

Figure 6 30-Day CMORPH Rainfall Anomaly (mm). Period: 20 April 2025 – 19 May 2025



Source: NOAA/CPC

Northern South America Overview

Flooding and hot conditions expected

During the past week, heavy rainfall occurred in western, central, and southern Colombia and southern Venezuela, while little to no rainfall was received in northern Venezuela (**Figure 7**). Colombia reported flooding in Medellin and the Magdalena and Meta River levels are expected to approach or exceed their warning levels. Over the past 30 days, western and central Colombia and areas of western and southeastern Venezuela received above-average rainfall, while parts of western and southern Colombia and southern Venezuela experienced below-average rainfall (**Figure 8**).

Next week, western and southern Colombia and western and southern Venezuela will receive heavy and above-average rainfall, which could result in localized flooding in the region. In addition, western and part of northern Colombia will likely face hot conditions.

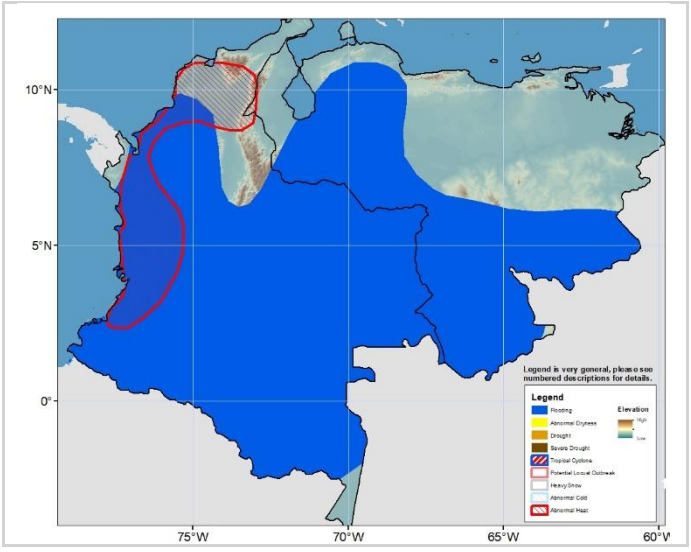
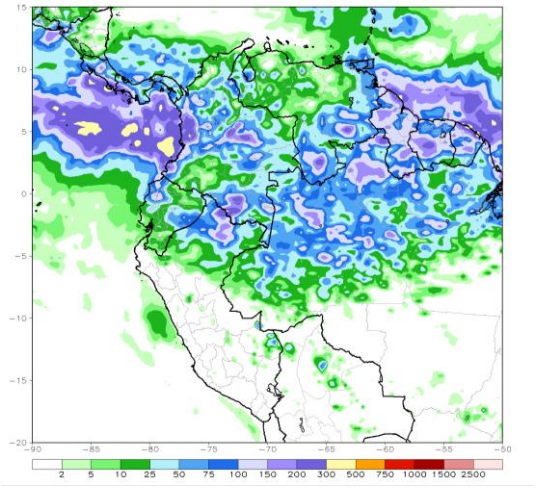
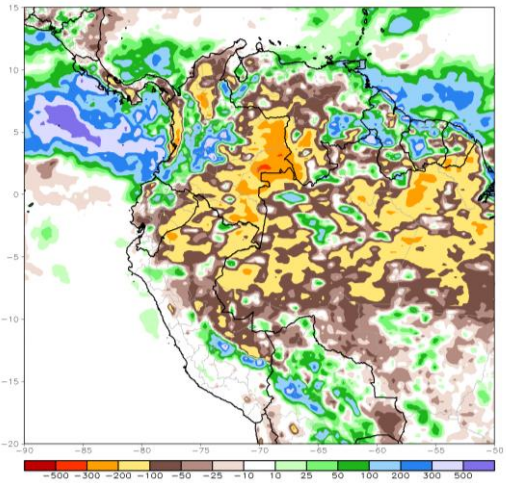


Figure 7 7-Day CMORPH Total Rainfall (mm). Period: 13 May 2025 – 19 May 2025



Source: NOAA/CPC

Figure 8 30-Day CMORPH Rainfall Anomaly (mm). Period: 20 April 2025 – 19 May 2025



Source: NOAA/CPC

About Weather Hazards

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