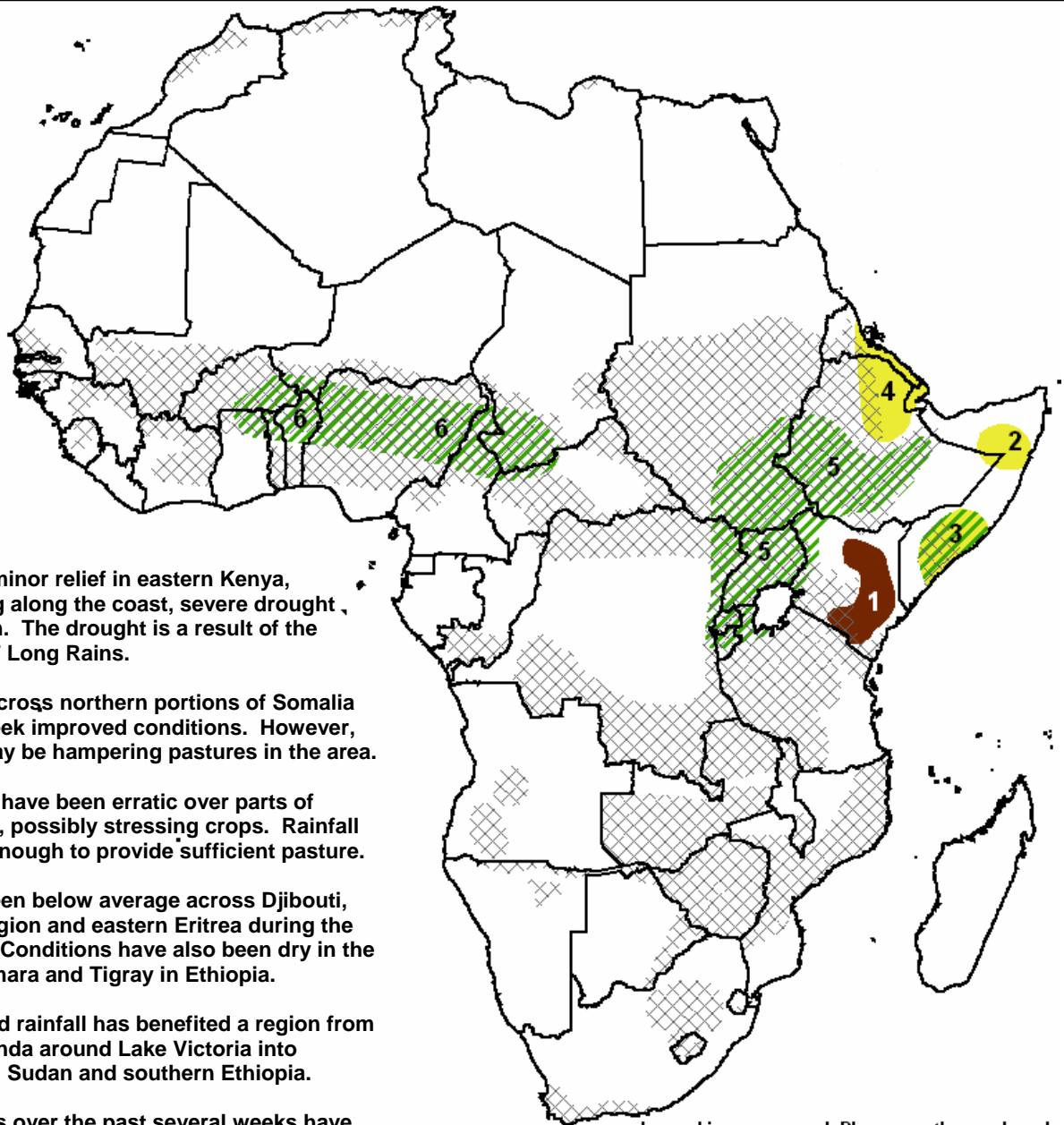





# The USAID FEWS-NET Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Africa June 7 – June 13, 2007

- Rainfall remains abundant across the western portions of the Lake Victoria basin and further northward into southern portions of Sudan and portions of southern and eastern Ethiopia. In west Africa, early season rains have benefited an area stretching from eastern Burkina Faso to southern Chad.
- The failure of the Long Season rains has left eastern Kenya in a drought. Meanwhile short term dryness has impacted northern Ethiopia, southern Eritrea, much of Djibouti and sections of Somalia.



- 1) Despite some minor relief in eastern Kenya, including flooding along the coast, severe drought, conditions remain. The drought is a result of the failure of the 2007 Long Rains.
- 2) Some rainfall across northern portions of Somalia during the last week improved conditions. However, dry conditions may be hampering pastures in the area.
- 3) Seasonal rains have been erratic over parts of southern Somalia, possibly stressing crops. Rainfall has been plenty enough to provide sufficient pasture.
- 4) Rainfall has been below average across Djibouti, Ethiopia's Afar region and eastern Eritrea during the past few months. Conditions have also been dry in the Belg areas of Ahmara and Tigray in Ethiopia.
- 5) Well distributed rainfall has benefited a region from Burundi and Rwanda around Lake Victoria into Uganda, southern Sudan and southern Ethiopia.
- 6) Abundant rains over the past several weeks have favored recently sown crops while giving moisture supplies an early boost across an area stretching from southern Chad to eastern Burkina Faso.

Legend is very general. Please see the numbered descriptions for each area depicted on the map.

	Extreme Event		Flooding
	Humanitarian Concern		Severe, Long Term Drought
	Favorable		Drought
	Somewhat Favorable		Short Term Dryness or Drought Recovery
	In Season Crop Areas		

**The start of the season in west Africa has brought good rains, flooding, and slightly dry conditions to different areas.**

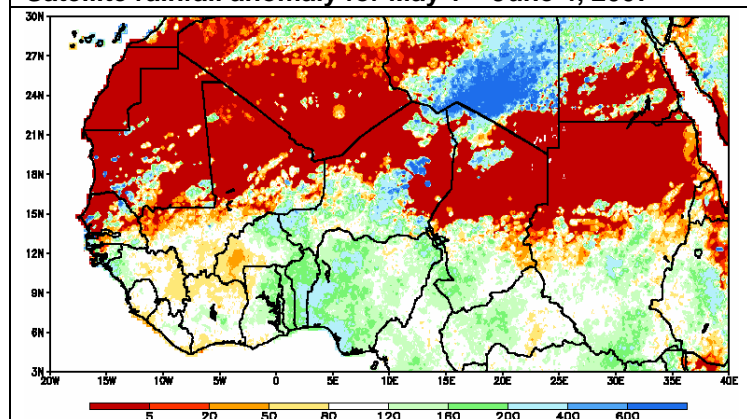
Rains have been abundant in an area stretching from northern Burkina Faso into Niger, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, and southern Chad. These early season rains have helped with land preparation in a large portion of west Africa.

The abundant rainfall has caused isolated issues along the Gulf of Guinea coast in Ghana, Togo and Benin. Flooding has been reported along the immediate coast and there are concerns that the area impacted will possibly expand inland. The flooding has been isolated thus far and widespread impacts are not expected. Precipitation totals in this region are likely to ease up as the ITCZ continues to make its way northward.

Two areas have shown some signs of dryness. Western portions of Burkina Faso and adjacent areas in Mali and Côte d'Ivoire have missed the steady precipitation that has benefited much of the rest of the region. Few or no impacts are expected in the area if the rains begin during the next couple of weeks. However, if moisture does not arrive in the area soon impacts may become significant.

Rainfall also normally starts this time of year in the West Darfur area of Sudan and the neighboring provinces of Biltine and Quaddai in Chad. The slight delay in the rains will mean that there will be more opportunity to get aid into the conflict area. However lack of precipitation could become an additional hardship on the region if rains do not arrive by July.

**Satellite rainfall anomaly for May 1 – June 4, 2007**



**Conditions have been dry across Djibouti, northern portions of Ethiopia's Afar region, and Eritrea's Red Sea Zone.**

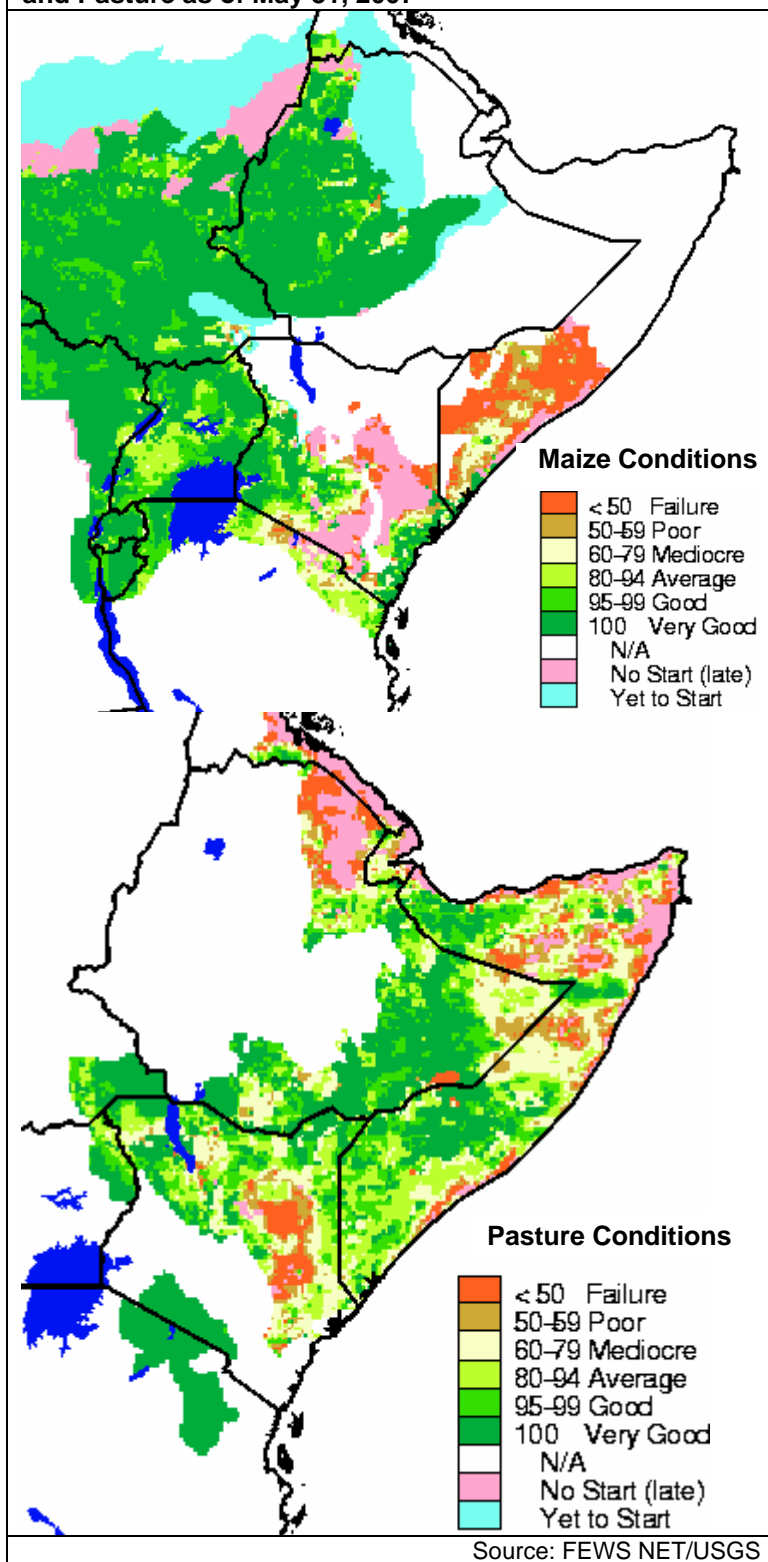
Less than half of the average rainfall has fallen during the past few months over this region. While this is not uncommon in this arid region, the dry conditions may have stressed pastures and reduced water supplies in this marginal pastoral region. Rainfall is usually light during May and June, but typically picks up during July as the Meher Rains set in.

**Rainfall distribution has been poor over southern Somalia and Kenya remains in a drought after the 2007 Long Season rains failed.**

In Southern Somalia, rainfall distribution has been poor with rainfall frequently coming down heavily for several days followed by long stretches of dry weather. This has been problematic for crop growth in the area. Pastures, however, do not require evenly distributed rainfall for a good season. Thus pastures are doing well in Somalia, while crops have fared poorly.

In Kenya, the failure of the 2007 Long Rains has negatively impacted crops and pastures throughout the eastern portion of the country. The exception is along the immediate Kenyan coastline, where heavy rains during the last several weeks have caused flooding in various areas. Both Somalia and Kenya can hope for relief in October when the next wet season normally begins.

**Water Requirements Satisfaction Index (WRSI) for Maize and Pasture as of May 31, 2007**



Source: FEWS NET/USGS

**Rainfall remains abundant from the area west of Lake Victoria into western and southern Ethiopia.**

Moisture remains plentiful over a wide area of eastern Africa stretching from Burundi, Rwanda and parts of Tanzania west of Lake Victoria, northward into Uganda, southern Sudan, the northwestern corner of Kenya and much of southern and western Ethiopia. Rains throughout this area have been plentiful and well distributed. There are likely localized areas that have experienced various amounts of flooding, but on the whole the area is experiencing a good season for crops, pastures and drinking water availability.