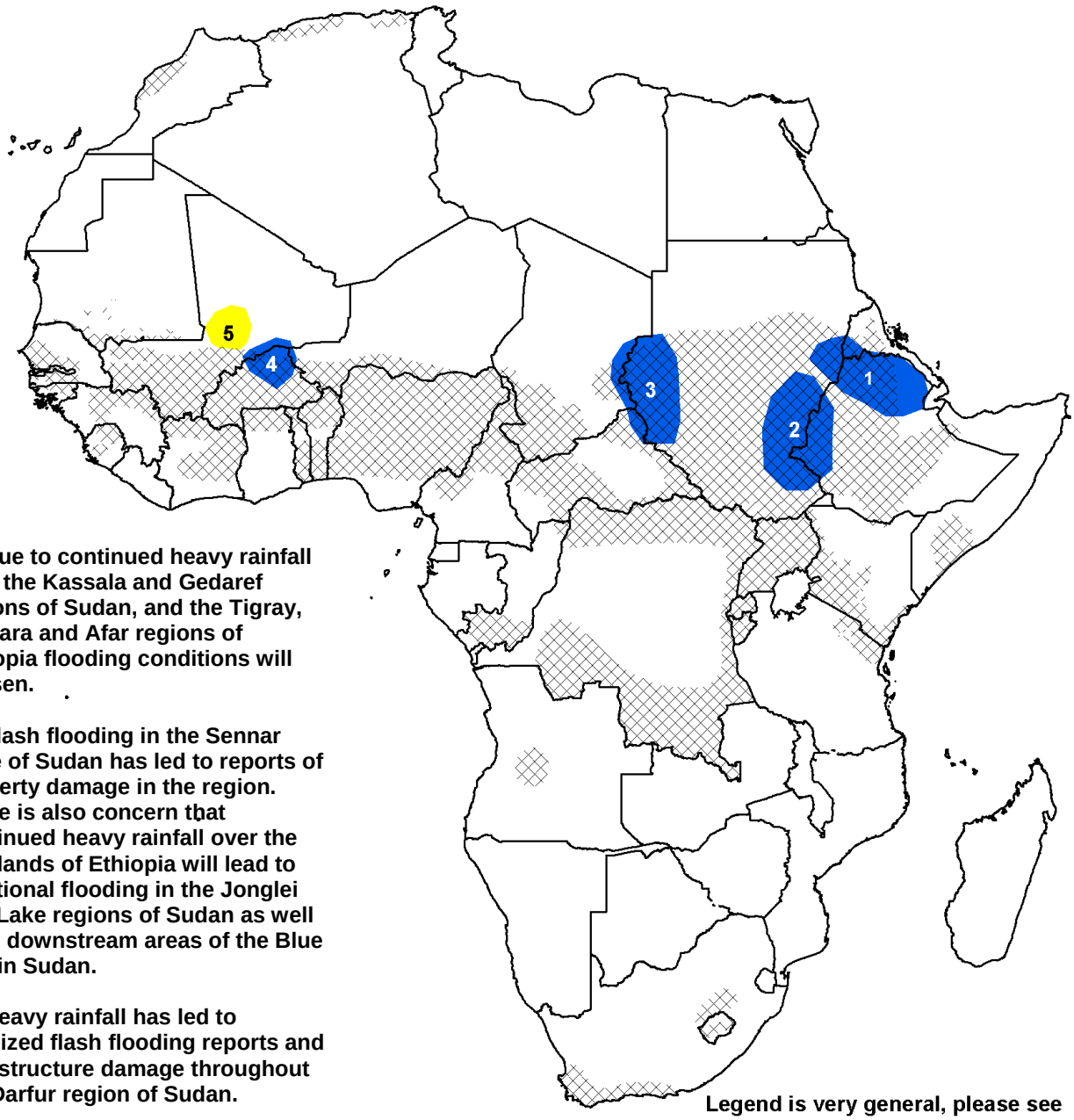
The USAID FEWS NET Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Africa
July 29 – August 4, 2010

- **Continued heavy rainfall across Ethiopia and Sudan has led to localized flooding.**
- **Less rainfall and decreasing WRSI values over central Mali have brought concerns over crop conditions in the region.**



1). Due to continued heavy rainfall over the Kassala and Gedaref regions of Sudan, and the Tigray, Amhara and Afar regions of Ethiopia flooding conditions will worsen.

2). Flash flooding in the Sennar state of Sudan has led to reports of property damage in the region. There is also concern that continued heavy rainfall over the highlands of Ethiopia will lead to additional flooding in the Jonglei and Lake regions of Sudan as well as in downstream areas of the Blue Nile in Sudan.

3). Heavy rainfall has led to localized flash flooding reports and infrastructure damage throughout the Darfur region of Sudan.

4). Very heavy rain has caused significant flooding, 5 fatalities, and crop and infrastructure damage across central and northern areas of Burkina Faso. 50 villages and over 60,000 people have been affected so far.

5). Several weeks of light rainfall has led to short-term dryness in central Mali.

Legend is very general, please see numbered descriptions for details.

- July Cropped Areas
- Favorable
- Somewhat Favorable
- Flooding
- Short-term Dryness
- Drought
- Improving Drought

Rainfall across northeastern Nigeria and northern Burkina Faso provide relief from drier past weeks while central Mali remains drier than normal.

During the last observation period, heavy rain fell across most of Nigeria, western Mali and northern Burkina Faso. These areas, which in past weeks had seen less rainfall, saw upwards of 30 mm of rain with some locations in northeastern Nigeria, northern Burkina Faso and western Mali receiving between 75-100 mm of rainfall. The heavy rainfall has led to flooding which has caused a large displacement of people, fatalities, infrastructure and significant crop damage to portions of northern Burkina Faso. Heavy rainfall between 40-75 mm, also extended further north into central Niger as the ITF continued its seasonal movement north through the Sahel countries. However, areas in central Mali continued to receive less rainfall (20-30 mm less) than surrounding areas. While most of the heavier rainfall was located across the Sahel countries, countries along the Gulf of Guinea like Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and Benin received much less rainfall with totals generally less than 10 mm. Areas directly along the coast in Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana saw even less precipitation (< 5 mm) (**Figure 1**).

Due to the heavy rainfall over north and northeastern Nigeria, WRSI values during the second dekad of July suggest improving cropping conditions across northern Nigeria. WRSI values over the majority of West Africa also suggest average to good growing conditions during the second dekad of July. An area of concern, however, lies across central Mali as decreasing WRSI values suggest deteriorating conditions (**Figure 2**). While the past week saw heavy rainfall which provided some relief across portions of Burkina Faso, localized areas across central Mali were not as lucky.

For the next week, models forecast heavy rainfall across portions of western Mali, northern Burkina Faso and western Niger which should continue to provide relief to many dry areas. Central and eastern Nigeria are expected to continue to see higher rainfall totals while Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana should continue to observe smaller rainfall totals.

Heavy rains continue across Ethiopia and Sudan bringing flooding concerns.

Heavy rainfall in excess of 40 mm was observed over a large portion of Ethiopia and Sudan. Kiremt dependent areas of Ethiopia saw another week of rainfall exceeding 75 mm with the heaviest amounts, over 100 mm, observed in Tigray, Amhara, Gambela, Afar and Oromiya regions of Ethiopia. Flooding and property damage was reported in Mile Woreda in the Afar region of Ethiopia. Areas across western, eastern and southern Sudan also observed rainfall exceeding 75 mm in the past week including the Darfur, Kordofan, Kassala, Jonglei, Lakes and Bahr El Ghazal regions of Sudan (**Figure 3**). This has led to reports of flooding, fatalities and property damage during the second dekad and into the third dekad of July in the Kassala, Gedaref, Sennar, South Darfur and South Kordofan regions of Sudan. Reports from southern Sudan also indicated isolated flooding in Awerial County in the Lakes region and in the Jonglei region of Sudan with localized negative effects on crops.

Forecast models predict heavy rainfall across western Ethiopia as well as the Darfur, Kordofan and southern regions of Sudan. This is expected to exacerbate flooding conditions along downstream areas of the Blue Nile into the Sennar state of Sudan and in northern Ethiopia, Kassala, Gedaref, Darfur and southern regions of Sudan.

Satellite Estimated Precipitation (mm)
Valid: July 20 – July 26, 2010

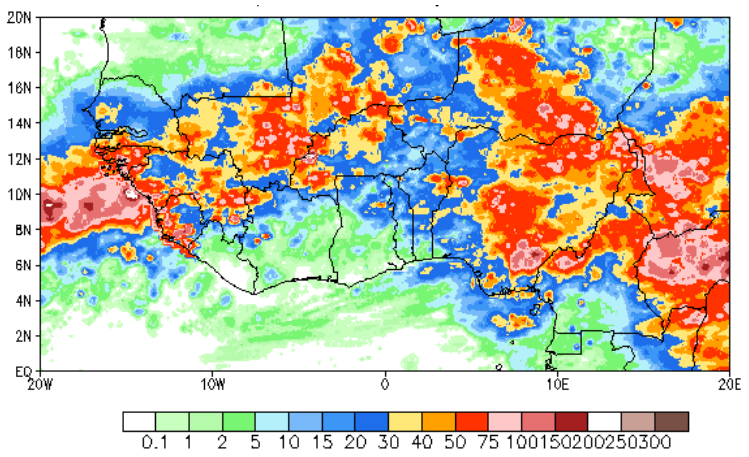


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

WRSI, Valid: July 2010, dekad 2

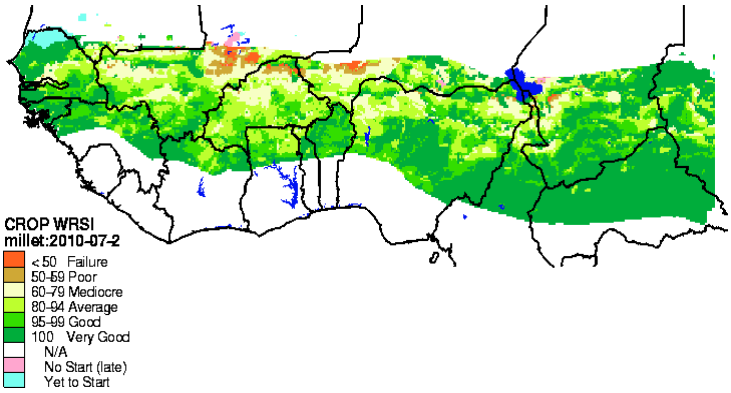


Figure 2: USGS/EROS

Satellite Estimated Precipitation (mm)
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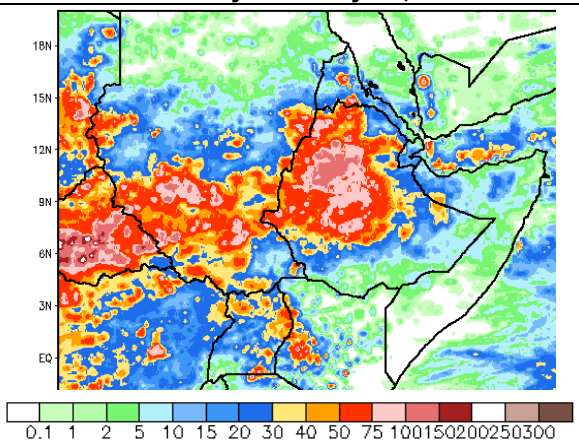

Figure 3: NOAA/CPC

Note: The hazards assessment 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.