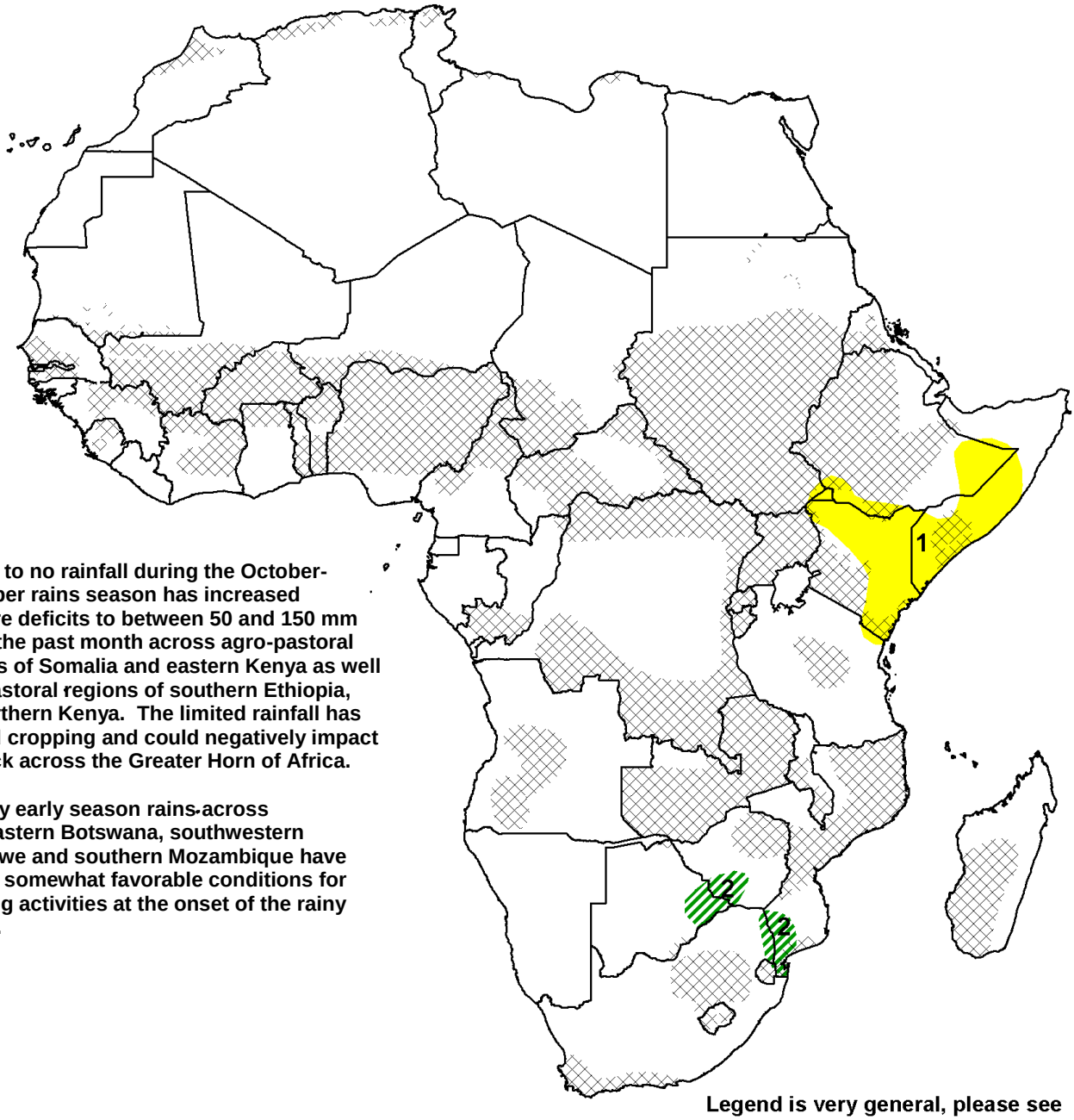
The USAID FEWS NET Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Africa
November 18 – November 24, 2010

- **Deyr rains continued to be absent over large portions of east Africa increasing rainfall deficits while seasonal rains increased in intensity across South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambia.**



1) Little to no rainfall during the October-December rains season has increased moisture deficits to between 50 and 150 mm during the past month across agro-pastoral portions of Somalia and eastern Kenya as well as in pastoral regions of southern Ethiopia, and northern Kenya. The limited rainfall has delayed cropping and could negatively impact livestock across the Greater Horn of Africa.

2) Heavy early season rains across southeastern Botswana, southwestern Zimbabwe and southern Mozambique have created somewhat favorable conditions for cropping activities at the onset of the rainy season.

Deyr rains continue to be delayed across eastern Africa.

During the past week, little to no rainfall was observed across much of southern Somalia, northern Kenya and southern Ethiopia. This marked a further delaying of the onset of Deyr seasonal rains. The rains, which should begin during October, have yet to materialize with the highest negative seasonal rainfall anomalies (-100 to -150 mm) located over croplands in southern Somalia. As many locations in southern Somalia have observed little to no rainfall since June, stress on local water supplies has been increasing. The October-December seasonal rains have also been delayed over rangeland portions of southeastern Ethiopia and northern Kenya with rainfall deficits between -50 and -100 mm (**Figure 1**). The lack of moisture over pastoral lands could begin to negatively affect livestock if rains do not fall. In contrast, localized abundant rainfall (> 50 mm) was observed throughout Uganda, Burundi and Rwanda as well as across cropland areas in eastern Kenya which had experienced a late onset of seasonal rainfall.

While the delayed start of seasonal rains has continued to negatively affect cropland areas in southern Somalia and the bordering region in Kenya, rainfall which began two weeks prior has helped improve cropping conditions across southern Kenya according to WRSI analysis **(Figure 2**). However, conditions across pastoral areas in Somalia, Ethiopia and northern Kenya have been poor as the arrival of rainfall is up to 4 dekads late in some locations.

Rainfall forecasts for the next seven days do not indicate an increase in precipitation across dry areas around the Greater Horn of Africa. However, rains (10-20 mm) are expected to continue across southeastern Kenya.

Seasonal rainfall increases across Angola, South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

After a slow start to the rainy season, rainfall during the past two weeks has increased across much of southern Africa. During the past seven days, moderate rainfall (20-40 mm) was observed in eastern Botswana, the northern Maize Triangle and southern Mozambique. The rains have followed on favorable early season rainfall across these regions. In addition, moderate rainfall (15-30 mm) was observed across the southern Maize Triangle which had seen a slow start to the rainy season during the beginning of November. The heaviest rainfall (> 50 mm) was experienced in Zimbabwe, Angola, Zambia and along coastal areas in South Africa. In contrast, rainfall totals were light (< 5 mm) over northern Mozambique (**Figure 3**). However, monthly rainfall deficits are only between -10 and -25 mm in the region as the seasonal rains have just begun.

During the next seven days, rainfall is forecast to be heavy (> 40 mm) across Angola, Zambia and the Maize Triangle in South Africa while continuing to bring favorable cropping conditions across portions of Botswana and Zimbabwe.

Satellite Estimated Precipitation Anomaly (mm)
Valid: October 1st – November 14th, 2010

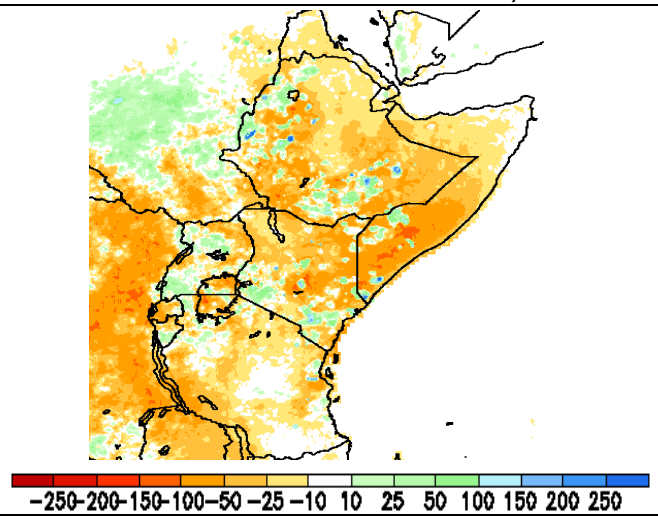


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Water Requirements Satisfaction Index (WRSI)
Valid: As of 1st Dekad of November, 2010

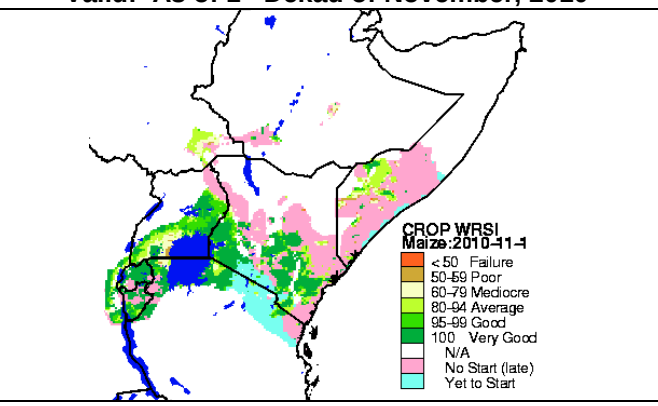


Figure 2: USGS/EROS

Satellite Estimated Precipitation (mm)
Valid: November 7th – November 14th, 2010

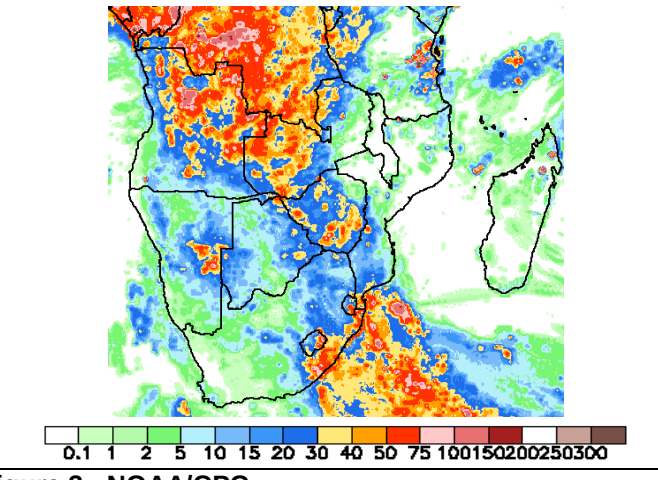


Figure 3: NOAA/CPC

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.

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