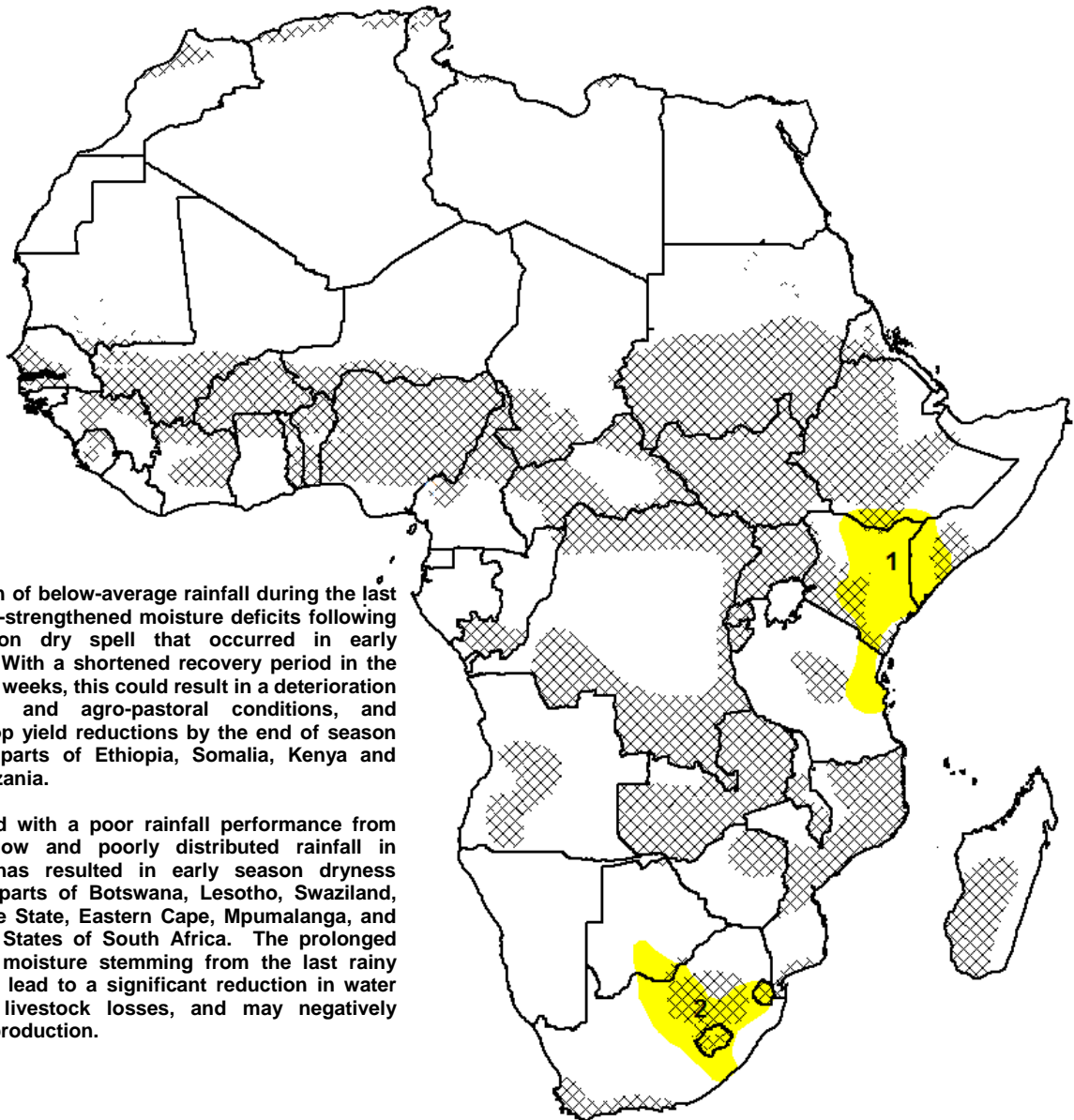


Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET November 29 – December 5, 2012

- Little to no rainfall observed throughout the Greater Horn during the last week has strengthened mid-season moisture deficits in portions of Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia.



1) The return of below-average rainfall during the last week has re-strengthened moisture deficits following a mid-season dry spell that occurred in early November. With a shortened recovery period in the next several weeks, this could result in a deterioration of pastoral and agro-pastoral conditions, and possible crop yield reductions by the end of season throughout parts of Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya and eastern Tanzania.

2) Combined with a poor rainfall performance from last year, low and poorly distributed rainfall in November has resulted in early season dryness throughout parts of Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, and the Free State, Eastern Cape, Mpumalanga, and North West States of South Africa. The prolonged absence of moisture stemming from the last rainy season may lead to a significant reduction in water availability, livestock losses, and may negatively affect crop production.

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

XXXXXX	November Cropped Areas
Green	Favorable
Green with diagonal lines	Somewhat Favorable
Blue	Flooding
Yellow	Short-term Dryness
Brown	Drought
Green with diagonal lines	Improving Drought
Red	Potential Locust Outbreak

Anomalous dryness returns in East Africa.

During the last observation period, there was a considerable reduction in precipitation over many local areas in the Greater Horn. The heaviest precipitation accumulations in the last seven days were localized, as portions of the western SNNP and Gambella region of Ethiopia, and the coast province of southeastern Kenya received rainfall amounts in excess of 50mm. In many other pastoral and agro-pastoral areas of Kenya and Somalia, precipitation was virtually absent during the last week with rainfall amounts less than 10mm (**Figure 1**). Further south, a more seasonable distribution of heavy precipitation was observed across portions of western Tanzania, however light to moderate rainfall amounts were received in the eastern and coastal provinces of the country.

Following a partial recovery of seasonal (Oct-Dec) rainfall across many parts of Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya in mid-November, below-average rainfall during the last week has re-strengthened seasonal moisture deficits in the region. Analysis of satellite rainfall anomaly estimates over the last 30 days depicts the mid-season cessation of rainfall, with the greatest negative rainfall anomalies (>50mm) for many pastoral parts of southern Somalia, as well as northern and eastern Kenya (**Figure 2**). Both the timing and persistence of poor November rainfall is likely to lead to deteriorating ground conditions, and possible livestock losses and crop reductions by the end of season.

For the upcoming outlook period, an increase in rainfall is expected in the region; however it is becoming less likely that moisture deficits will be completely mitigated before the end of the season.

Dryness worsens in South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

Low and poorly distributed rainfall during the last month has led to the development of early season moisture deficits throughout many areas in southern Africa. With more areas now beginning to experience less than half of their normal rainfall accumulation since October, this has exacerbated ground conditions in areas where rainfall was also below average during last year's monsoon season. The latest NDVI anomaly analysis suggest deteriorating vegetation conditions are not limited to South Africa, but are also occurring throughout many parts of Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique (**Figure 3**). A prolonged absence of moisture stemming from last season may lead to a significant reduction in water availability, livestock losses, and negatively affect crop production.

For the next seven days, much of South Africa, Zimbabwe and portions of Mozambique are expecting to receive below-average amounts of rainfall.

Satellite Estimated Rainfall (mm)
Valid: November 18th – November 24th, 2012

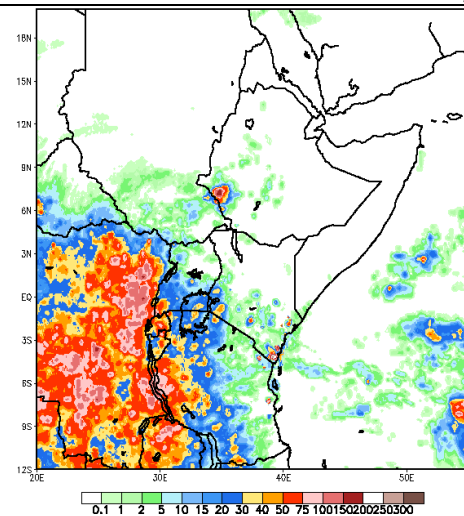


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: October 26th – November 24th, 2012

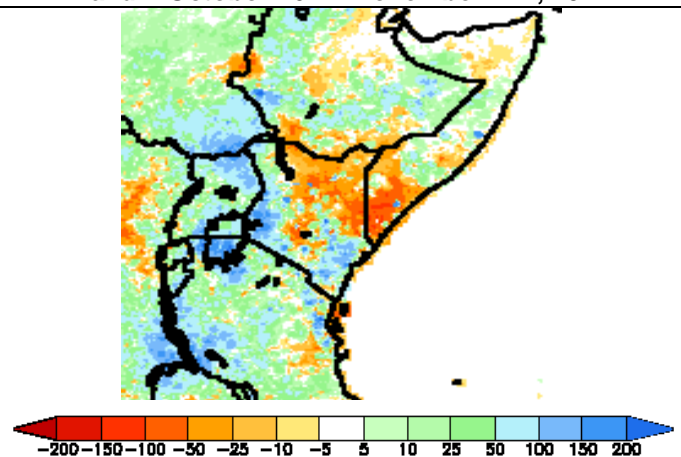


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

NDVI Anomaly
Valid: As of the 2nd dekad of November, 2012

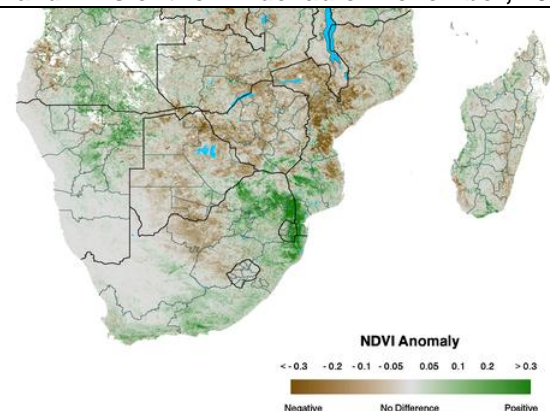


Figure 3: USGS/EROS

Note: The hazards outlook 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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