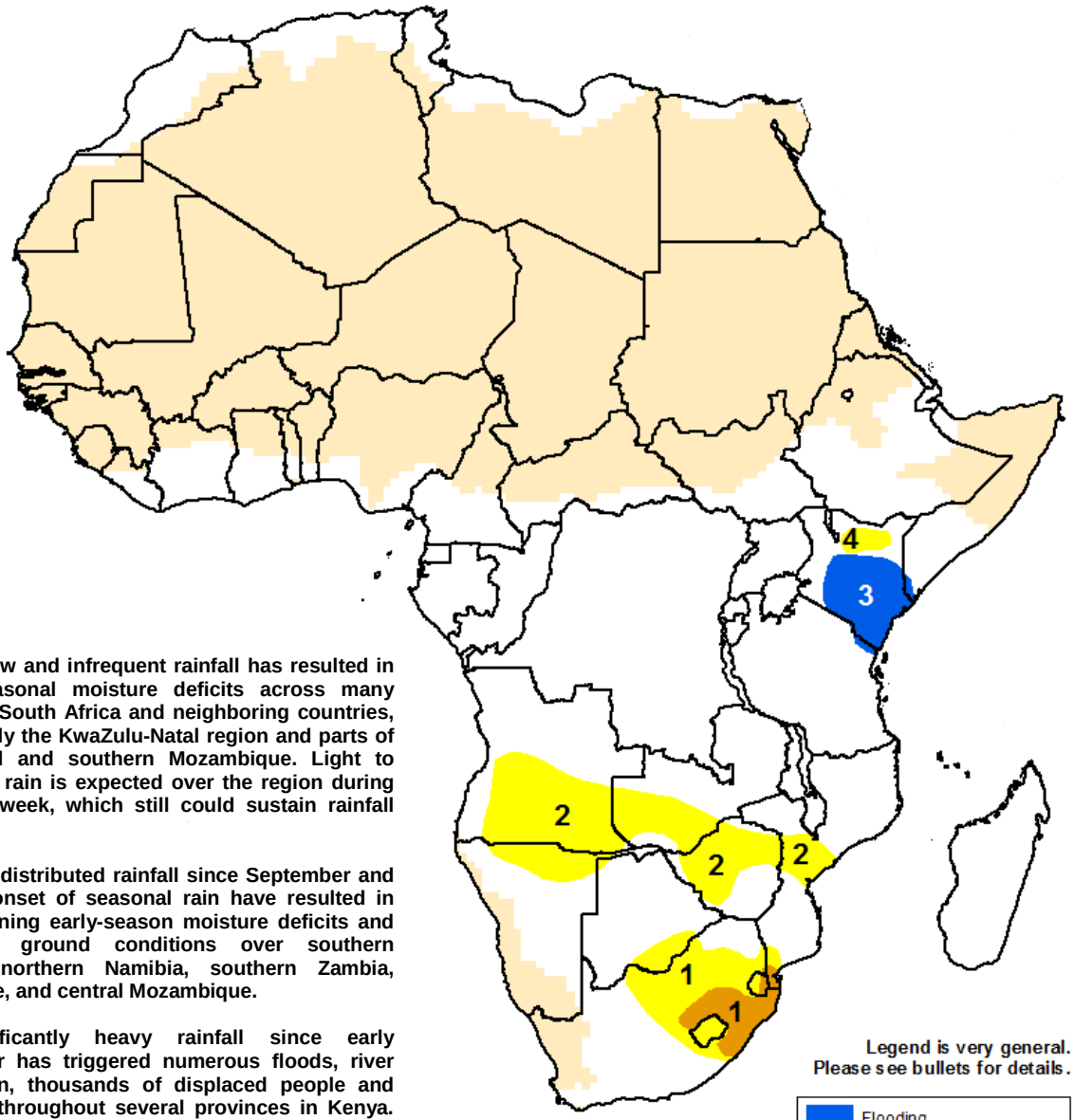
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
December 3 – 9, 2015

- **The forecast suppressed rain is expected to increase rainfall deficits further in eastern Southern Africa.**
- **The Risks for flooding remain high as enhanced rain is forecast to continue over Kenya during the next week**



1) Very low and infrequent rainfall has resulted in large seasonal moisture deficits across many states of South Africa and neighboring countries, particularly the KwaZulu-Natal region and parts of Swaziland and southern Mozambique. Light to moderate rain is expected over the region during the next week, which still could sustain rainfall deficits.

2) Poorly-distributed rainfall since September and delayed onset of seasonal rain have resulted in strengthening early-season moisture deficits and degraded ground conditions over southern Angola, northern Namibia, southern Zambia, Zimbabwe, and central Mozambique.

3) Significantly heavy rainfall since early November has triggered numerous floods, river inundation, thousands of displaced people and fatalities throughout several provinces in Kenya. Forecasts suggest a continuation of moderate to heavy rain during the next week, which could worsen conditions on the grounds.

4) Despite a recent increase in rainfall across Kenya, poorly-distributed rainfall since the beginning of October has maintained moderate seasonal moisture deficits over parts of north-central Kenya.

Dryness prevails throughout Southern Africa.

During November, many regions of Southern Africa received below-average rainfall. These included Angola, northeastern Namibia, Botswana, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, central Mozambique, and western Madagascar. The lack of rain has strengthened moisture deficits associated with a delayed onset of seasonal rainfall and has worsened dryness across the sub-region. The largest (50-200 mm) thirty-day rainfall deficits were observed throughout south-central Angola, the KwaZulu-Natal region of eastern South Africa, and western Madagascar (**Figure 1**). The deficient rain since the beginning of October has already negatively impacted cropping and pastoral activities over many local areas. Reports have also indicated livestock deaths associated with the current severely-reduced water availability and a poor rainfall performance during the past season in many countries. If poor rains continue over the upcoming few weeks, seasonal moisture deficits will increase further, delay planting, and adversely affect agricultural activities over wide areas. During the past week, while the northern portions of Southern Africa, including northern Angola and northern Zambia received abundant and above-average rain, much of the southern counterparts recorded limited and reduced, light rain. Little to light rain was observed over the drier than average areas of northern Namibia, eastern Zambia, South Africa, and southern Mozambique (**Figure 2**).

During the next week, heavy rain is forecast over Angola, southern DRC, and northern Zambia, which should help to erode rainfall deficits partially over the region. Moderate to locally heavy rain is expected across northern South Africa and central Madagascar. However, suppressed rain is forecast across eastern Zimbabwe, southern Mozambique, and southwestern Madagascar, which will likely worsen dryness over the eastern portions of Southern Africa.

Satellite-Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: November 01 – November 30, 2015

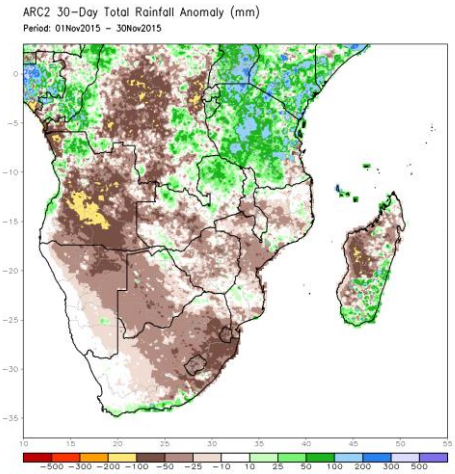


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Satellite-Estimated Rainfall (mm)
Valid: November 25 – December 01, 2015

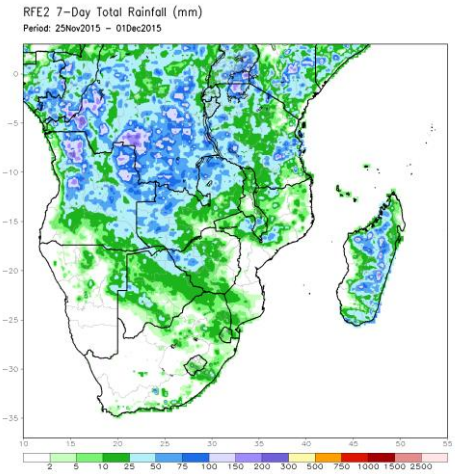


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

Wetness continues over the Greater Horn of Africa.

During late November, widespread, enhanced rain continued over most parts of the Greater Horn of Africa. The heaviest rain fell across the Lake Victoria region, with rainfall amounts in excess of 75 mm (**Figure 3**). Moderate to locally heavy rain was also observed over east-central Kenya, western and east-central Tanzania. In Kenya, the continued ample amounts of rain have exacerbated conditions over local areas after many flooding events during the previous weeks. Light to moderate rain was received in southern Somalia, while little to no rainfall was observed over northwestern Kenya. Since November, Eastern Africa has experienced wetter than average conditions, with thirty-day moisture surpluses ranging between 50-200 mm. These included southern Ethiopia, eastern Uganda, Kenya, and central Tanzania. For next week, rainfall forecasts suggest continued moderate to heavy rain over southern and coastal Kenya. This, therefore, maintains elevated risks for flooding over many already-saturated grounds of the country. Moderate to heavy rain is expected over Uganda and western Tanzania.

Satellite-Estimated Rainfall (mm)
Valid: November 25 – December 01, 2015

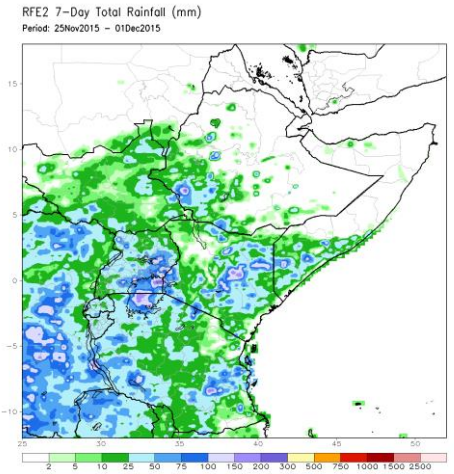


Figure 3: NOAA/CPC

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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