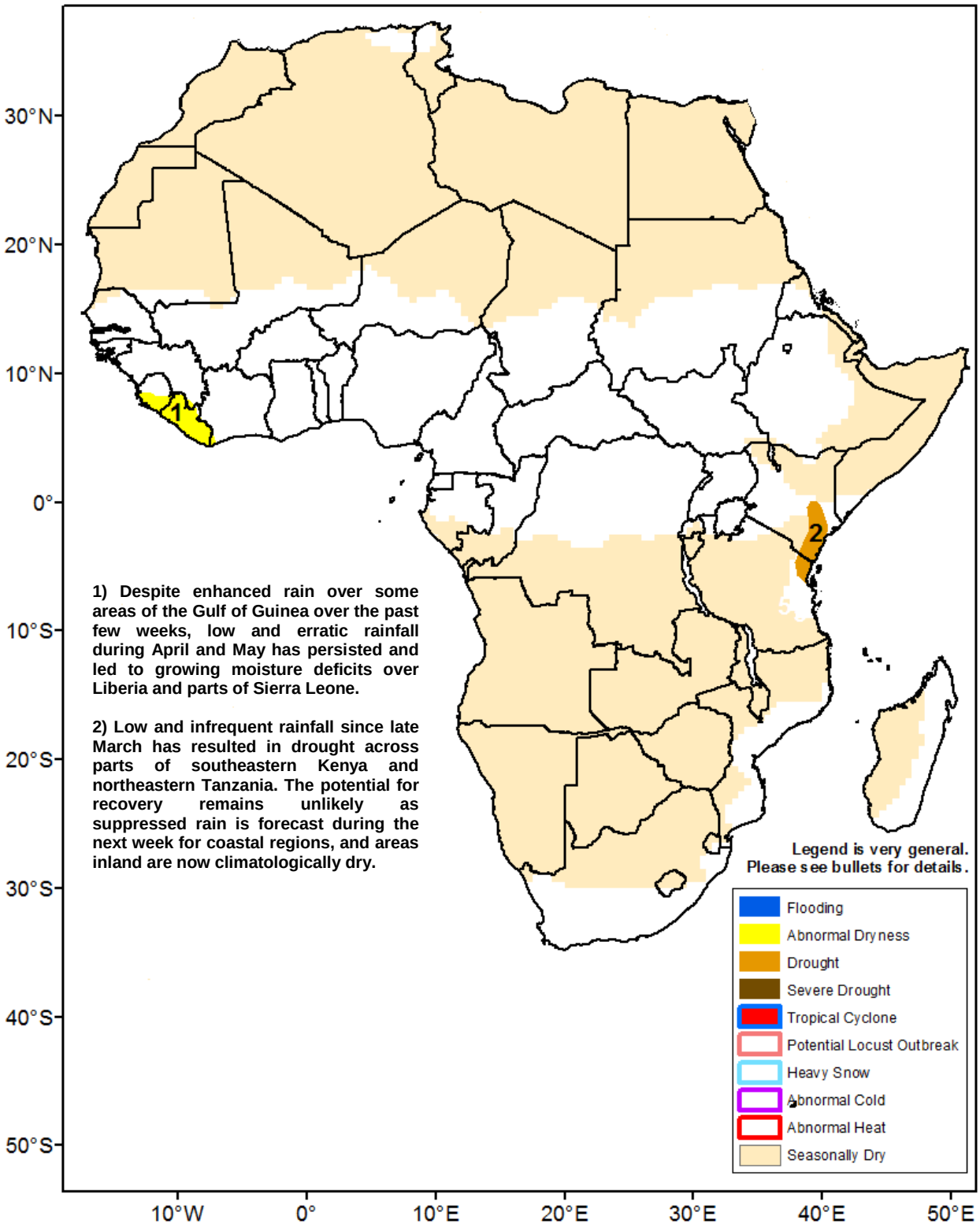
# Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
## June 9 – June 15 2016

- **Rainfall was generally suppressed during the last week; however, above-average rains are expected next week for eastern portions of the Gulf of Guinea region.**



**Below-normal rain was received by most regions**

The spatial distribution of rainfall during the past 7 days shows widespread suppression of rain throughout the region. Many areas recorded rainfall deficits between 10-50mm, some received less than 10mm of total rainfall (**Figure 1**). A few local areas received heavier, and even above-average, amounts of rain. These include parts of Sierra Leon and western Guinea, parts of central Mali, and along southern Nigeria. Already-dry portions of far western Africa such as Liberia and parts of Sierra Leone remained abnormally dry with the exception of northern Sierra Leone, which did receive beneficial rain. This past week's limited rain has begun to broaden the region of significant moisture deficits.

An analysis of the cumulative rainfall during the last 90 days indicates a favorable rainfall performance across much of central Gulf of Guinea, with higher (> 70%) rainfall percentile rankings over portions of Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Ghana, Togo, and Benin (**Figure 2**). This was due to a surge in on-shore, southerly flow, bringing moisture and inducing weather disturbances within the region. In contrast, very low (< 10%) percentile rankings, indicating that the past month has been among the driest in record, are observed across Liberia, portions of Sierra Leone, and localized areas of Guinea-Conakry, and southern Togo. Southern portions of Nigeria register similar percentile rankings as well. The drier than average conditions over areas of Liberia and Sierra Leon are attributed to an extremely poor and erratic start to the rainfall season since mid-April.

During the forthcoming week, model forecasts suggest that rains will increase for the eastern part of the gulf of guinea region. Rainfall amounts could exceed 100mm in parts of Nigeria. More seasonable, but still substantial rainfall totals are to be expected in far western portions of the region, which could favorably impact areas of abnormal dryness.

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**Conditions on the ground seem favorable for most areas of Eastern Africa.**

During the past week, moderate to heavy rain was observed in western Ethiopia and western South Sudan. While these regions received above-average precipitation, satellite rainfall estimates recorded a strip of below-average precipitation from eastern Sudan, through eastern South Sudan, and into Uganda (**Figure 3**). Deficits in these areas ranged from 10-50mm. Rainfall also remained diminished in moisture starved coastal regions of Kenya and Tanzania. The March-May period has ranked in the driest 10$^{th}$ percentile of seasons in these areas leading to poor vegetation conditions. During the next week, scattered, heavy rain is expected to continue in western Ethiopia, though perhaps still below average for some areas. Additionally, only light, suppressed rain is forecast over Uganda, the Lake Victoria region, and parts of South Sudan. Little improvement is expected for coastal Kenya and Tanzania.

**Satellite-Estimated Total Rainfall (mm)**
**Valid: June 1 – June 7, 2016**

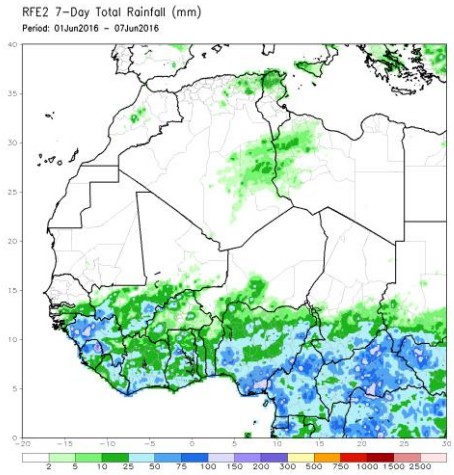


**Figure 1: NOAA/CPC**

**Satellite Estimate Rainfall Percentile (%)**
**Valid: March 09 – June 6, 2016**

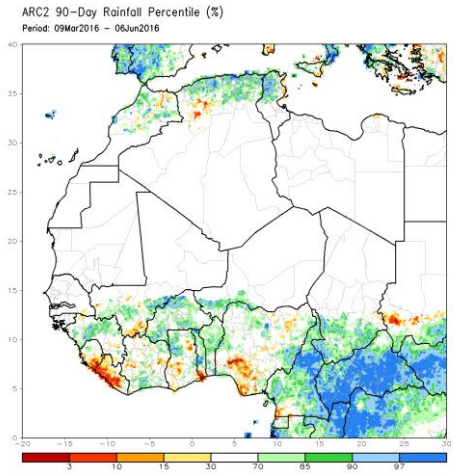


**Figure 2: NOAA/CPC**

**Satellite-Estimated Rainfall Anomaly**
**Valid: June 1 – June 7, 2016**

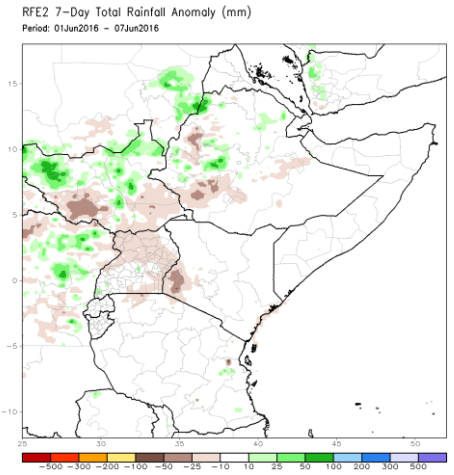


**Figure 3: NOAA/CPC**

**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.**

Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424.