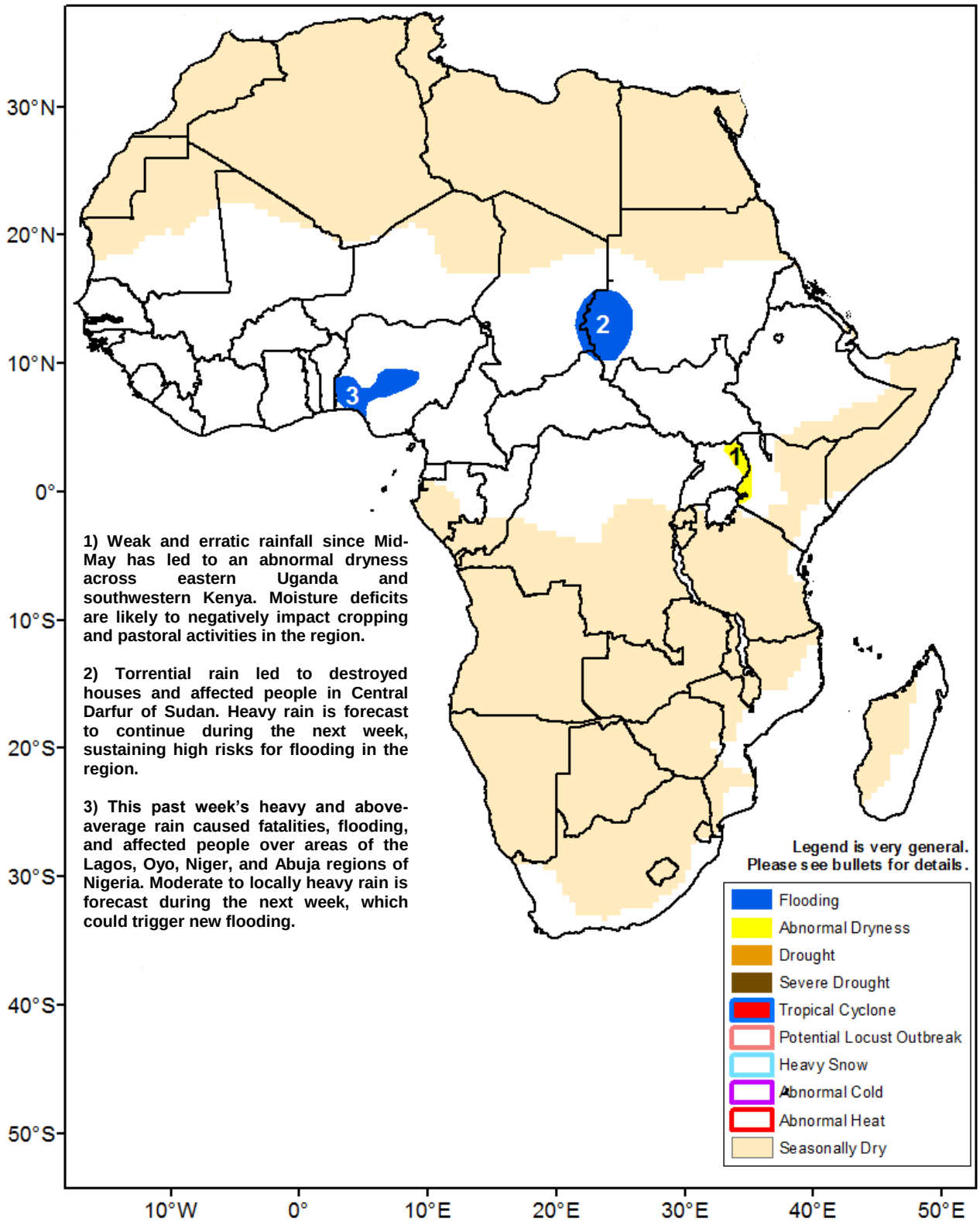
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
July 13 – 19, 2017

- **Consistent and enhanced rain triggered flooding over areas of West Africa and Eastern Africa.**



1) Weak and erratic rainfall since Mid-May has led to an abnormal dryness across eastern Uganda and southwestern Kenya. Moisture deficits are likely to negatively impact cropping and pastoral activities in the region.

2) Torrential rain led to destroyed houses and affected people in Central Darfur of Sudan. Heavy rain is forecast to continue during the next week, sustaining high risks for flooding in the region.

3) This past week's heavy and above-average rain caused fatalities, flooding, and affected people over areas of the Lagos, Oyo, Niger, and Abuja regions of Nigeria. Moderate to locally heavy rain is forecast during the next week, which could trigger new flooding.

Torrential rain caused fatalities and flooding in Nigeria.

During early July, heavy rain continued over much of West Africa. Rainfall totals in excess of 50 mm were observed throughout Guinea-Conakry, Sierra Leone, Liberia, central Mali, coastal Cote d'Ivoire, southern Ghana, Togo, Benin, and southwestern Nigeria (**Figure 1**). In Nigeria, reports have indicated flooding and even fatalities over areas of the Niger, Lagos, Oyo, and Abuja States due to consistent, abundant rain. Meanwhile, light to locally moderate rain was recorded elsewhere.

Since early June to present, much of West Africa has accumulated above-average rain with surpluses ranging between 50-300 mm. Rain frequency analysis has also indicated that the Gulf of Guinea and western Sahel regions have above-average number of rainy days over the past thirty days. The favorable distribution of rainfall over the past several weeks resulted in mostly positive biomass conditions throughout West Africa, based on the recent vegetation performance indices.

For next week, heavy downpours are forecast throughout Guinea-Conakry, eastern Senegal, southern Mali, and western Burkina Faso. Farther east, moderate to locally heavy rain is expected over Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, and southern Chad. The forecast enhanced rain could trigger new flooding or exacerbate conditions over previously-flooded areas of the region.

7-Day Satellite Estimated Total Rainfall (mm)
Valid: July 05 – July 11, 2017

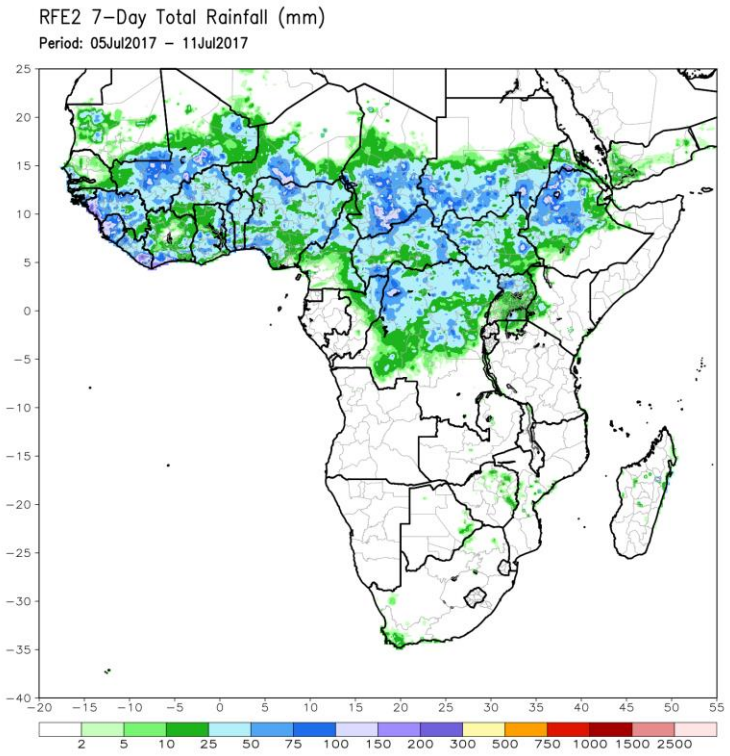


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Heavy rain led to flooding, affecting many people in South Darfur region of Sudan.

Over the past thirty days, above-average rain was observed across much of Eastern Africa. The largest rainfall surpluses were registered in eastern Sudan, where positive anomalies ranged between 100-200 mm (**Figure 2**). Wetness was also depicted over western and southern Sudan, western Ethiopia, and northeastern South Sudan. The enhanced rain over the past two weeks has contributed to eliminate moisture deficits over portions of central Ethiopia. Similarly, negative thirty-day rainfall anomalies were now confined over small areas along the Uganda-Kenya border of Uganda. An analysis of the most recent vegetation indices has shown mostly favorable conditions across Eastern Africa, with the exception of few localized areas of South Sudan, southern Ethiopia, and northeastern Uganda.

During the past week, heavy rain fell over the Darfur region of Sudan, western South Sudan, and western Ethiopia. The consistent abundant rain over the past few weeks has exacerbated conditions over some areas. In Sudan, this past week's torrential rain led to flash flooding that affected several thousands of people in South Darfur, according to media reports. Elsewhere, widespread light to moderate rain was recorded.

During the next week, model rainfall forecasts suggest continued heavy showers in the Darfur region of Sudan and western Ethiopia, which could result in localized flooding over many local areas. Moderate to locally heavy rain is also expected in southern Sudan, South Sudan, and portions of northern Uganda.

30-Day Satellite-Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: June 12 – July 11, 2017

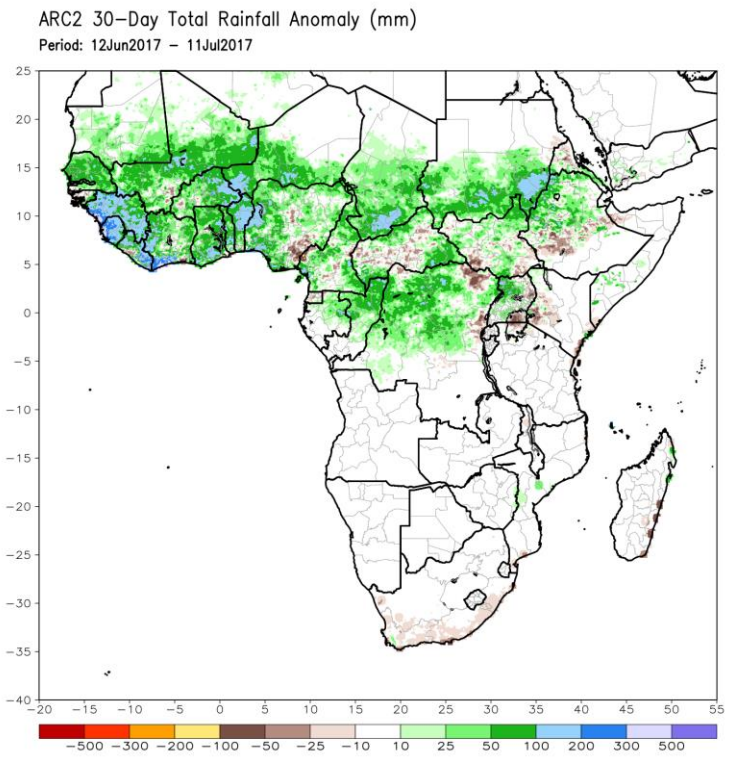


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

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.