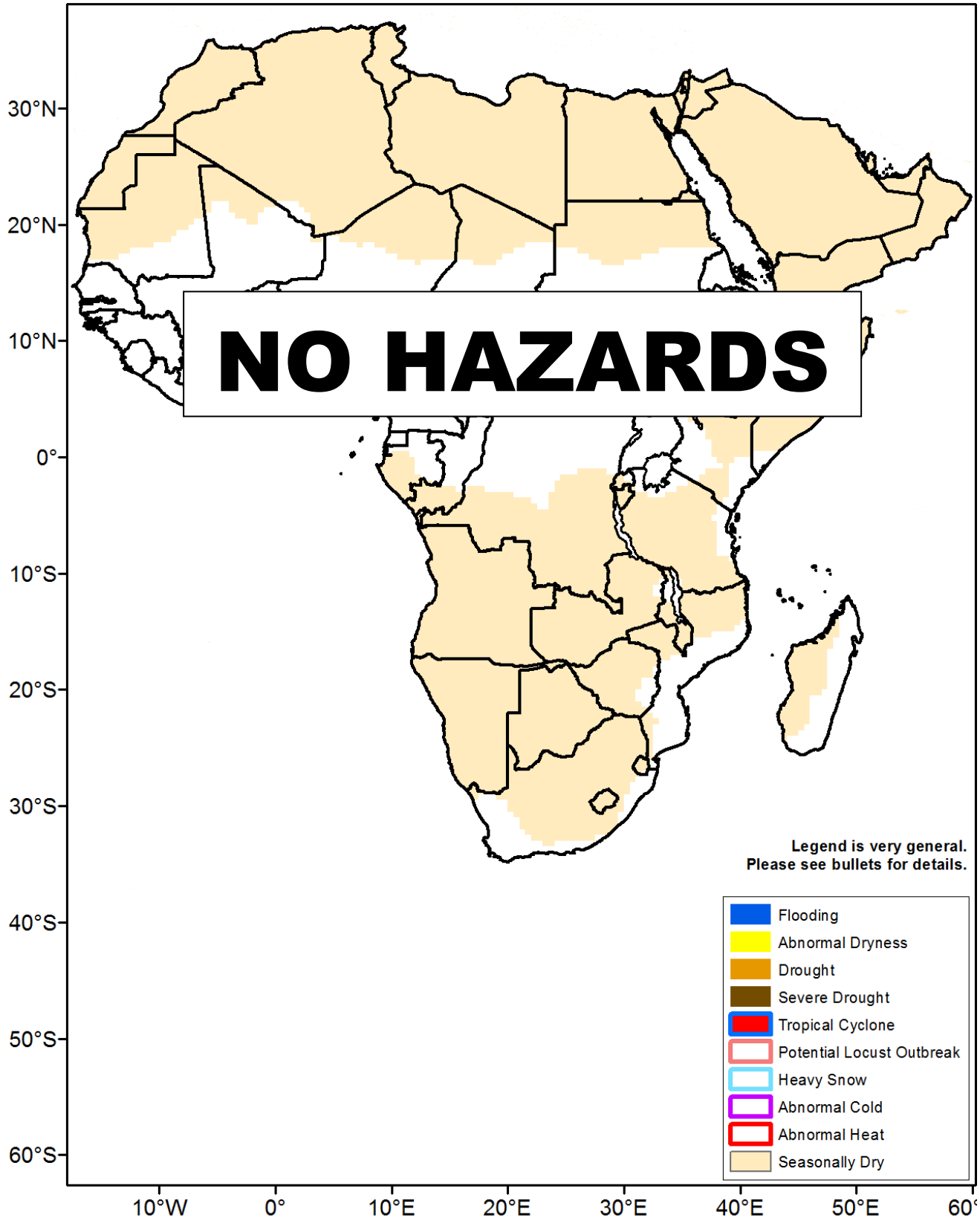
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
July 5 – July 11, 2018

- **Increased rains received across many western Sahel areas.**
- **Average to above-average rains continue throughout many areas in western Ethiopia and eastern Sudan.**



Moisture recovery observed over parts of Guinea, Senegal and southern Mali.

During the past seven days, an increase in the quantity and spatial distribution of seasonal precipitation was received over the western Sahel region, with locally heavy rainfall reportedly resulting in floods, damages to infrastructure, displaced populations, and fatalities over parts of Ghana, as well as, a sandstorm in Senegal reportedly resulting in infrastructure damages and loss of livestock. According to satellite rainfall estimates, locally heavy rainfall accumulations were also registered across parts of western and southeastern Nigeria, western Niger, with lighter but well distributed rainfall across the Sahelian zones of Mauritania, Mali Niger, and Chad (**Figure 1**). Light to locally moderate rainfall was received across parts of Sierra Leone and Liberia.

Although the increase in seasonal rainfall over parts of Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and Nigeria has triggered localized floods and other adverse ground impacts, seasonal moisture deficits have continued to weaken across the region. Ground reports in southern Ghana reflect heavy rainfall measurements and increased moisture since mid-June with rising ground waters and adequate cropping conditions. Analysis of rainfall anomalies depict only localized pockets of seasonal dryness across the Gulf of Guinea countries, with most of West Africa generally receiving average to above-average rainfall since early June (**Figure 2**). Analysis of the anomalous number of rain days since the beginning of June also suggests favorable conditions throughout West Africa, with only a few areas in Burkina Faso and Senegal registering a few rain days below normal.

During the next week, another week of potentially heavy rainfall is forecast across the western Sahel, with weekly rainfall accumulations (>75mm) expected over Guinea-Conakry, Sierra Leone, southern Mali, Senegal and farther east over northern Nigeria. More seasonable rainfall is expected throughout the Gulf of Guinea countries.

Favorably average to above-average rainfall continues over East Africa

According to satellite rainfall estimates, Well distributed, moderate to locally heavy precipitation was received over much of eastern Africa during late June, with the highest weekly accumulations (>75mm) registered in the Tigray province of Ethiopia, the Al Qadarif province of eastern Sudan and into Eritrea (**Figure 1B)**. Light to moderate rainfall amounts were also throughout parts of Yemen, South Sudan, Uganda and Kenya. Similar to West Africa, much of East Africa continues to experience largely average to above-average rainfall, with very few localized regions where rainfall has performed poorly since the beginning of June. The significantly anomalous position of the ITF during mid to late June has resulted in heavy rains and considerable early season moisture surpluses across eastern Sudan (**Figure 2**). While average to above-average rain has benefited agricultural activities over areas of Sudan, consistent rain could also pose threats for flooding and water-borne disease outbreaks over some areas. During the next week, a decrease in seasonal rainfall is expected to continue eastern Sudan, with increased rains forecast over western Ethiopia and Eritrea. The potential for above-average rainfall is expected to benefit Kiremt fed cropping areas, and alleviate local areas in western Oromia where some anomalous dryness has been observed.

Satellite Estimated Total Rainfall (mm)
Valid: June 25 – July 1, 2018

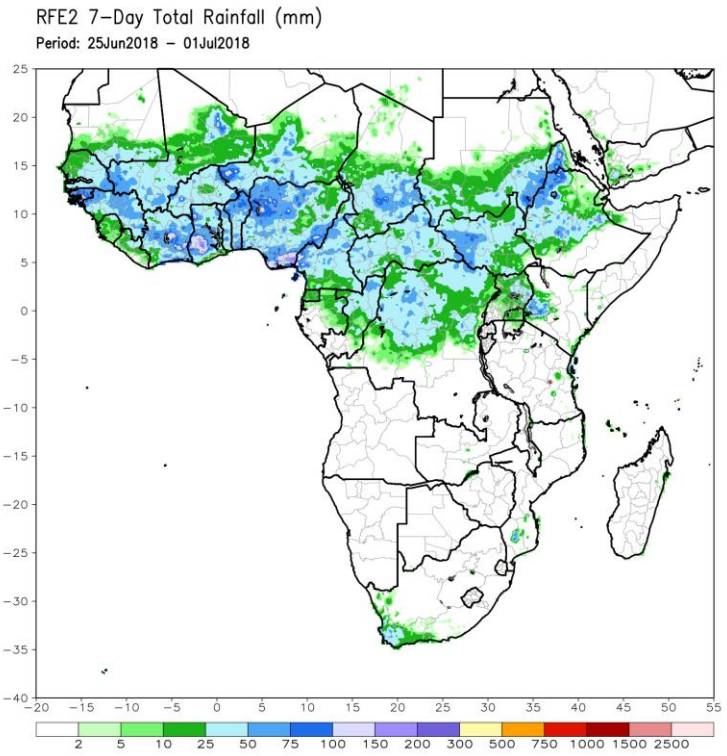


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: June 2 – July 1, 2018

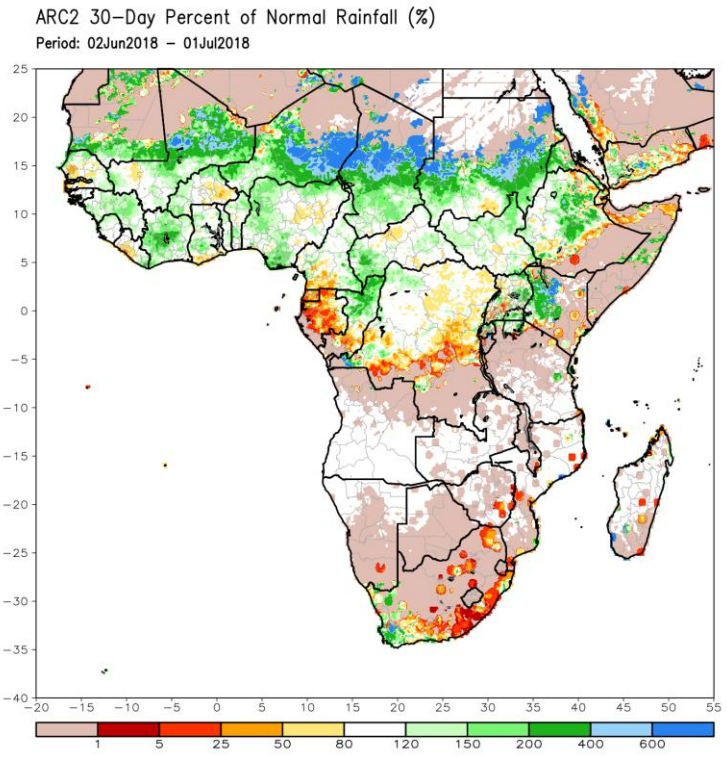


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

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.

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