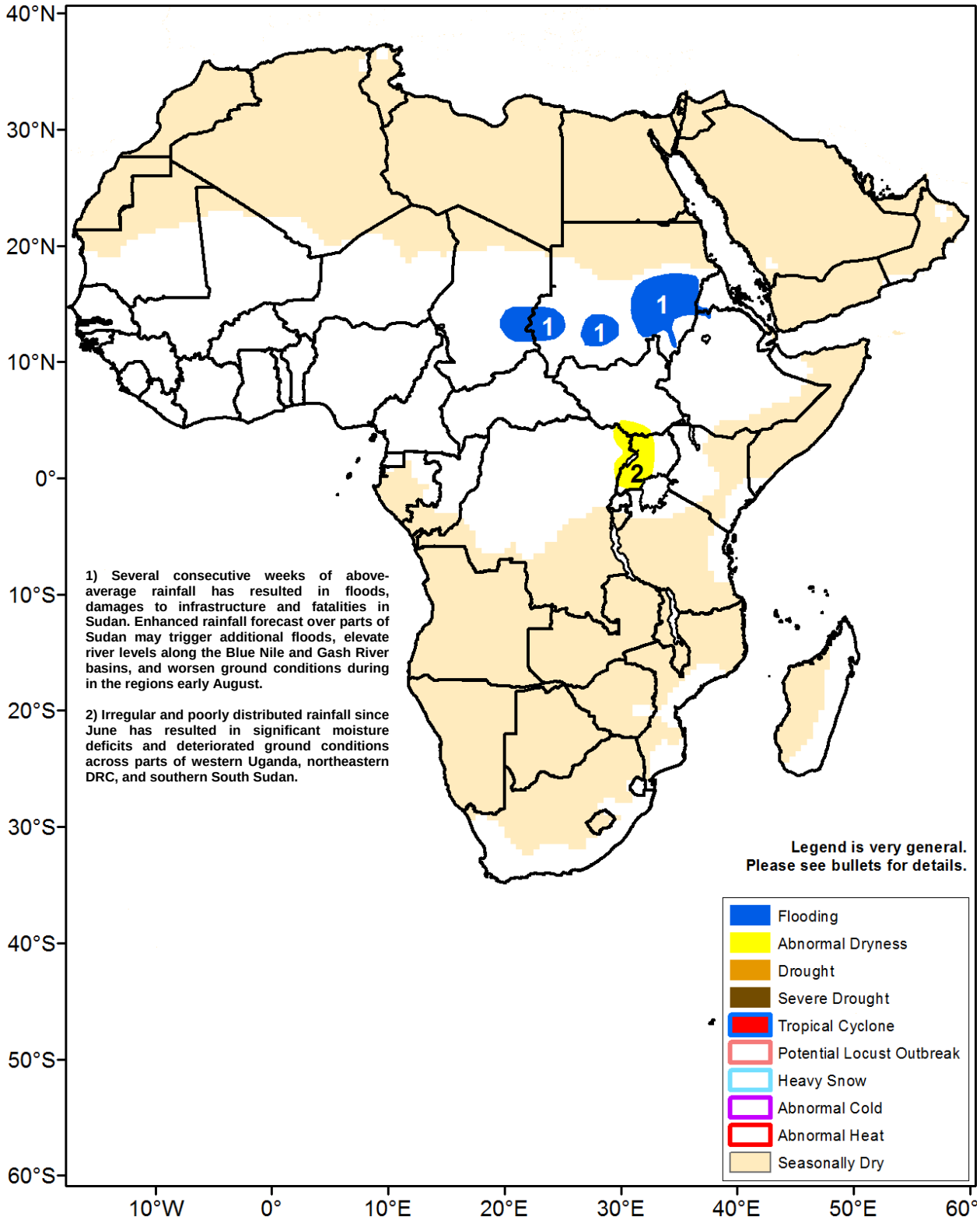
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
August 2 – August 8, 2018

- **The risks for heavy rains and floods continue over parts of the Sudan during early August.**
- **Anomalous dryness strengthens in parts of Ethiopia, South Sudan and Uganda.**



Above-average rainfall continues throughout many West African countries.

During late July, locally heavy rainfall accumulations were received throughout several West African regions including Guinea, Sierra Leone, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, and southeastern Nigeria. For many western countries, it was the second consecutive week of heavy, above-average seasonal rainfall which is expected to help improve moisture conditions following a drier first half of July. Lesser, but well distributed rainfall amounts were also received across Cote D'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and Benin (**Figure 1**). Portions of northeastern Nigeria, southeastern Niger and wester Chad experienced comparatively lighter amounts.

As of late-July, the performance of the West Africa monsoon continues to be favorable, with much of the domain experiencing average to above-average precipitation over both short and long-term timescales. Since the beginning of May, the highest moisture surpluses remain along the Sahel, where portions of southern Mauritania, Mali, Niger, and Chad have experienced more than twice their normal rainfall accumulation (**Figure 2**). Towards the south, positive seasonal anomalies remain more moderate. However, parts of northeastern Nigeria and western Senegal depict marginally drier than average conditions. Despite the improved rainfall amounts over many western countries during late July, some local parts of western Senegal failed to receive the increase in precipitation, as areas near Dakar have registered little to no rainfall since the beginning of the month according to satellite estimated rainfall and rain gauge measurements.

For the upcoming outlook period, precipitation models suggest another week for average to above-average rainfall throughout much of West Africa. The highest weekly accumulations (>75mm) are forecast for parts of Mali, southern Niger, northern Nigeria and in parts of Chad. There is potential for another week of decreased rainfall amounts over parts of southern Mauritania and northern Senegal.

Satellite Estimated Total Rainfall (mm)
Valid: July 25 – July 31, 2018

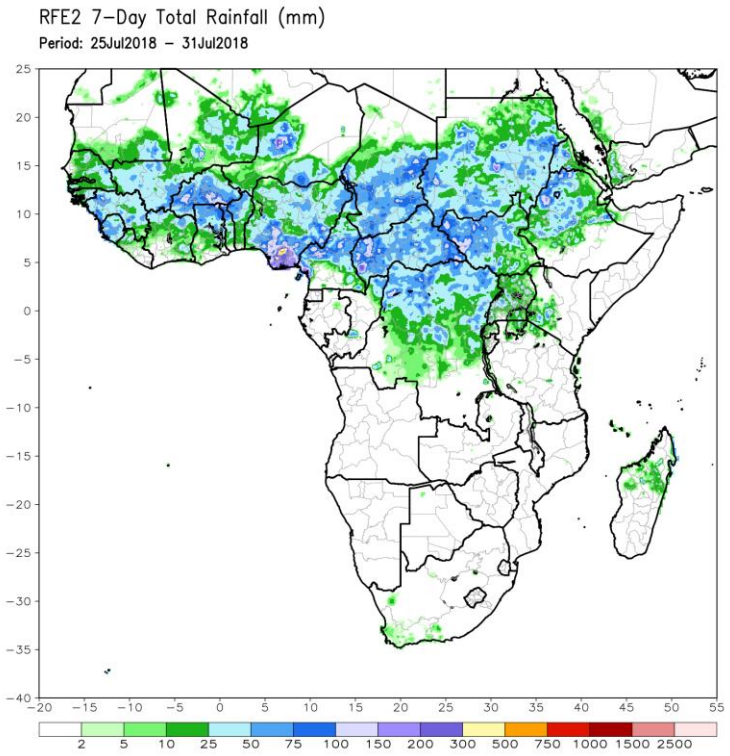


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Anomalous dryness continues over parts of Ethiopia, South Sudan, Uganda and DRC

According to satellite rainfall estimates, widespread torrential rainfall amounts (>75mm) were registered across the North Kurdufan, Al Jazirah, Khartoum, Al Qadarif, River Nile and Kassala provinces of the Sudan, and in parts of western Ethiopia (**Figure 1**). The continuation of moderate to locally heavy rainfall over saturated areas may trigger floods and other adverse ground impacts across the region during the next week.

While portions of eastern Sudan and western Ethiopia have continued to experience above-average seasonal rainfall, there are several areas towards the south that have experienced a rapid strengthening of anomalous dryness during the past several weeks. In parts of northern Uganda, northeastern DRC and southern South Sudan, significant moisture deficits and deteriorating ground conditions have been identified according to remote sensing products, as some local areas have recorded fewer than 7 days of rain since late June. In parts of Ethiopia, mid seasonal dryness has expanded throughout much of SNNP region, as well as throughout parts of the eastern Amhara, western Oromia, eastern Tigray, and the Afar region, where many local areas have experienced less than half of the normal rainfall since the beginning of July. The continuation of suppressed rainfall is expected to adversely impact ongoing cropping activities.

Precipitation models suggest the potential for average to above-average rainfall during the next week over western Ethiopia, with possibility of suppressed rainfall amounts over the SNNP region of Ethiopia.

Satellite Estimated Percent of Normal Rainfall (%)
Valid: May 1 – July 31, 2018

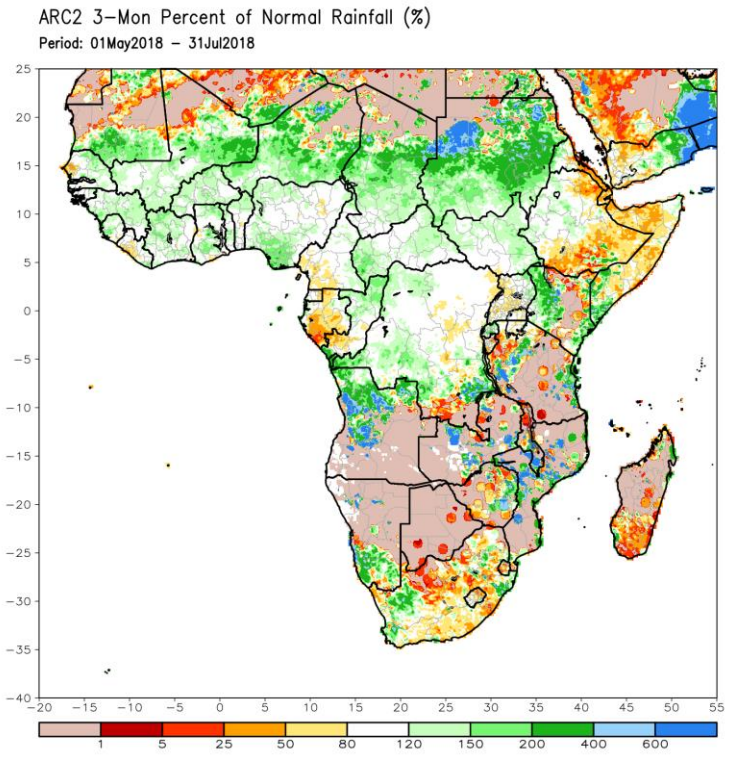


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

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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