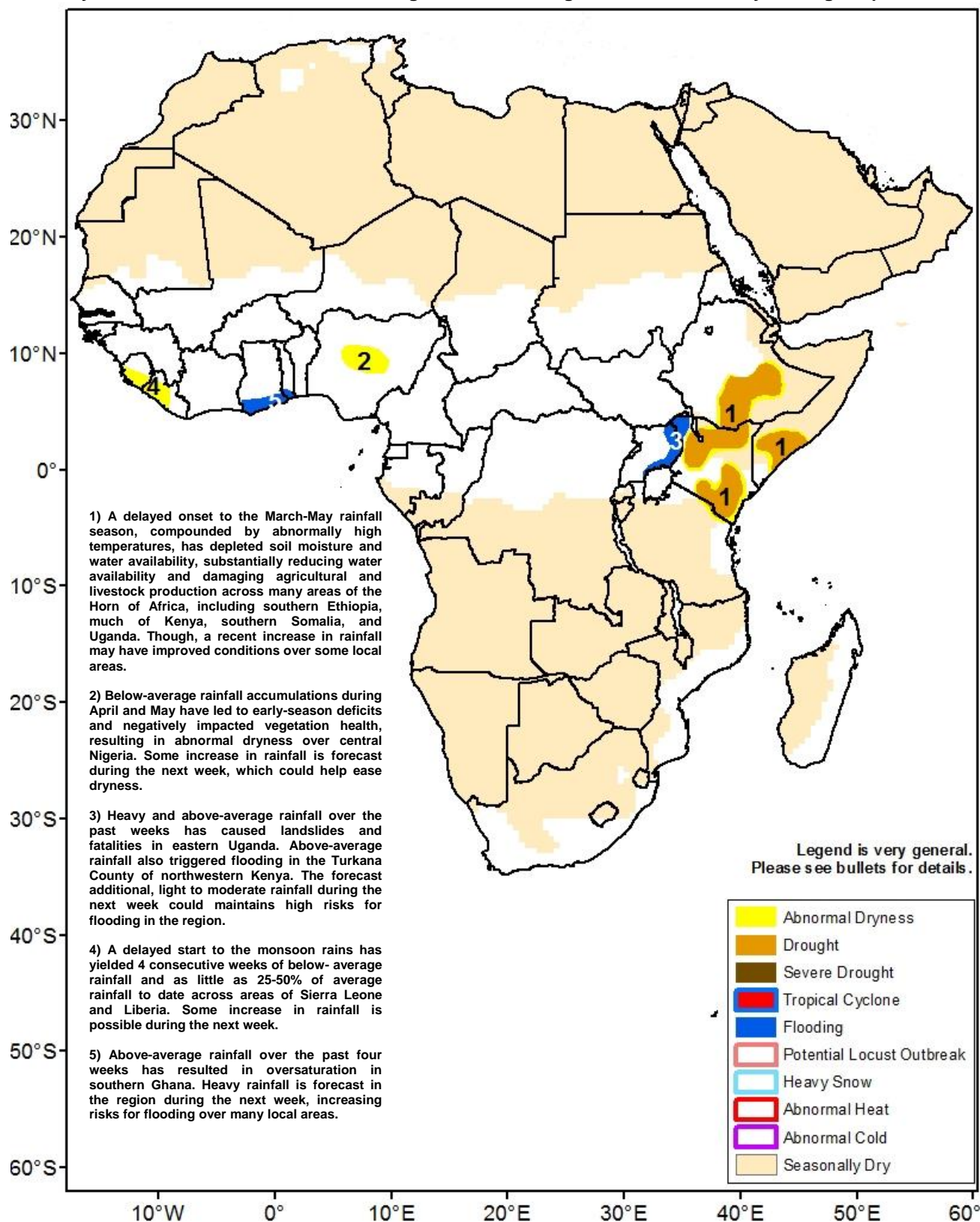




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook June 13 – 19, 2019

- The forecast heavy rainfall during the next week maintains high risks for flooding in southern Ghana.
- Heavy rainfall caused fatalities in eastern Uganda and flooding in northwestern Kenya during the past week.



Increased rainfall observed over many areas of West Africa.

During early June, a favorable distribution of rainfall, with widespread moderate to locally heavy amounts, was observed over West Africa. Abundant (> 75 mm) rainfall was recorded over certain areas such as eastern Liberia, eastern Guinea-Conakry, the southern parts of Togo, Benin, and Nigeria, and southern Chad (**Figure 1**). Meanwhile, light to moderate rainfall was registered elsewhere. Due to an increase in rainfall over the past few weeks, above-average rainfall was registered across many areas of West Africa, including eastern Guinea-Conakry, southern Mali, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Togo, Benin, southern Niger, many parts of Nigeria, and southern Chad over the past thirty days. In contrast, below-average rainfall persisted over western Guinea-Conakry, Sierra Leone, and western Liberia.

An analysis of soil moisture anomaly from hydrologic models indicated drier than average conditions over the far western portions of West Africa and portions of eastern Nigeria during May. Hence, the return of good rainfall is needed over the upcoming few weeks to overcome moisture deficits and ensure adequate cropping activities over the dry portions of West Africa.

For next week, model rainfall forecasts suggest an increase in rainfall along the Gulf of Guinea. Heavy rainfall is expected from Guinea-Conakry, Sierra Leone, Liberia, southern Cote d'Ivoire, southern Ghana, southern Togo, southern Benin, southern Nigeria, to southern Chad. This, however, maintains high risks for flooding over many flood-prone and saturated areas.

Wet conditions prevailed over eastern Africa.

Over the past thirty days, positive rainfall anomalies were registered throughout much of the Horn of Africa. The largest surpluses were recorded over southern Sudan and northern South Sudan, parts of southwestern Ethiopia, where anomalies exceeded 100 mm (**Figure 2**). The observed wetness was partly attributable to an anomalously north position of the Inter-Tropical Front, which brought moist southwesterly flow from the central African region into the sub-region. In contrast, below-average rainfall strengthened over western Ethiopia as the June-September rainfall season continued. During the past week, heavy showers fell across South Sudan, southern Sudan, west-central Ethiopia, western Yemen, southwestern Kenya, and Uganda. In Uganda, heavy rainfall resulted in landslides and fatalities in the eastern region. Flooding was also reported over the Turkana County of northwestern Kenya. While the continuation of seasonal rainfall should benefit agricultural activities over many areas, excessive moisture may also trigger flooding, destroy crops, and adversely impact the livelihoods of residents.

As far as soil moisture is concerned, hydrologic models indicated that average to above-average soil moisture prevailed, except parts of western Kenya, south east-central Ethiopia, and northern Somalia during May. This reflected the late-season increased rainfall over many areas during mid to late May.

For next week, wet weather pattern is forecast to continue over eastern Africa. Heavy rainfall is expected over southwestern Kenya, northern Uganda, parts of South Sudan, Eritrea, and western Ethiopia, which maintains increased risks for flooding over many local areas.

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.

