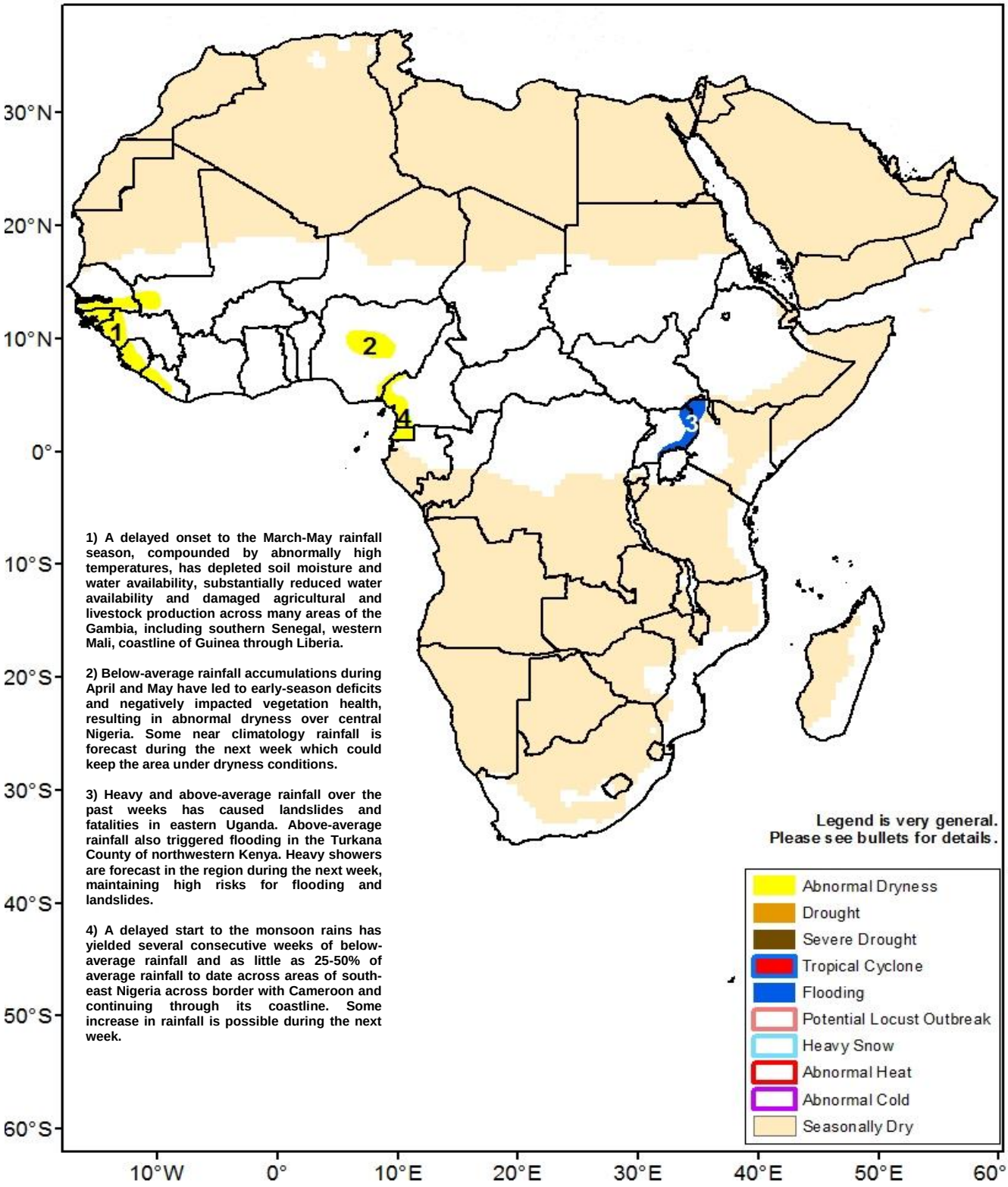
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
June 27 – July 03, 2019

- **Dry conditions persisted in the far western West Africa despite increased rainfall during this past week.**
- **Heavy rainfall triggered flash flood in the eastern Uganda through north-west Kenya.**



1) A delayed onset to the March-May rainfall season, compounded by abnormally high temperatures, has depleted soil moisture and water availability, substantially reduced water availability and damaged agricultural and livestock production across many areas of the Gambia, including southern Senegal, western Mali, coastline of Guinea through Liberia.

2) Below-average rainfall accumulations during April and May have led to early-season deficits and negatively impacted vegetation health, resulting in abnormal dryness over central Nigeria. Some near climatology rainfall is forecast during the next week which could keep the area under dryness conditions.

3) Heavy and above-average rainfall over the past weeks has caused landslides and fatalities in eastern Uganda. Above-average rainfall also triggered flooding in the Turkana County of northwestern Kenya. Heavy showers are forecast in the region during the next week, maintaining high risks for flooding and landslides.

4) A delayed start to the monsoon rains has yielded several consecutive weeks of below-average rainfall and as little as 25-50% of average rainfall to date across areas of south-east Nigeria across border with Cameroon and continuing through its coastline. Some increase in rainfall is possible during the next week.

This past week's moderate rainfall helped reduce dryness in the far western West Africa.

The far western region of West Africa saw an increase in rainfall during the past week. Moderate to heavy rainfall fell throughout the frontier of northern Guinea-Conakry and southern Mali, southeastern Senegal, Sierra Leone, Liberia, southern Mali, and Cote d'Ivoire (**Figure 1**). This has contributed to partially reduce rainfall deficits that have accumulated since April and May. Meanwhile, widespread light to moderate rainfall continued across the Sahel and Gulf of Guinea. In addition, moderate to locally heavy rainfall persisted and helped to maintain favorable moisture over the countries over the Gulf of Guinea including the southern part of Nigeria. Over the past five weeks, drier-than-average conditions were registered over southern Senegal, coastal area of Guinea-Bissau, Guinea-Conakry, coastal parts of Sierra Leone and Liberia, southern Cote d'Ivoire, and central Nigeria. In contrast, wetter-than-average conditions were recorded over portions of the Sahel, including southeastern Mali, Burkina Faso, southern Niger; and central Gulf of Guinea, covering Ghana, Togo, and Benin.

During the next week, moderate to heavy rainfall is forecast along the Gulf of Guinea, while near climatology is expected to continue over the far western West Africa. In contrast, suppressed rainfall is forecast across central Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin and western portion of Nigeria. Widespread, light to moderate rainfall is expected elsewhere.

7-Day Satellite-Estimated Rainfall Total (mm)
Valid: June 17 – June 23, 2019

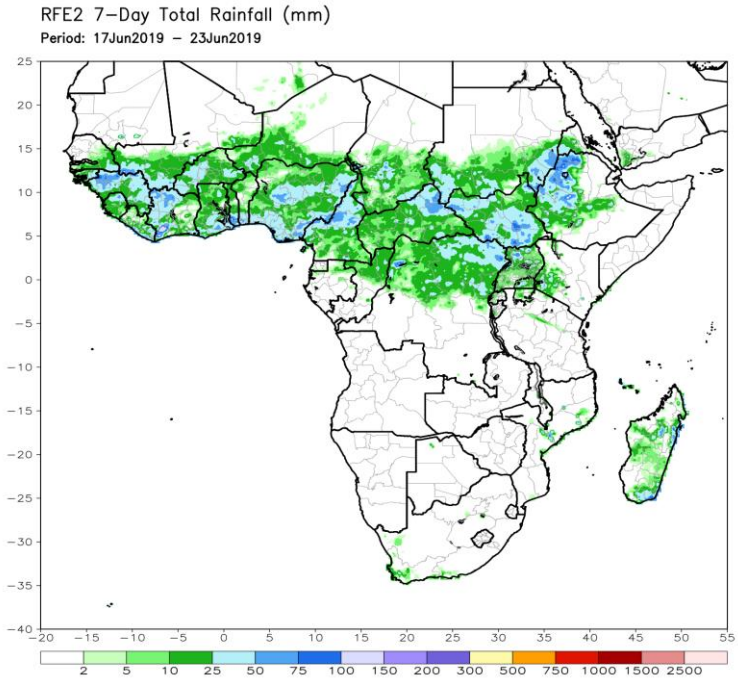


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Rainfall deficits persisted in western Ethiopia despite this past week's increased rainfall.

An analysis of the thirty-day cumulative rainfall showed that insufficient (< 80 percent of average) rainfall was received over western Ethiopia (**Figure 2**) despite some increased rainfall in eastern Africa over the past few weeks. While the southwestern and northwestern parts of the country saw above-average rainfall, below-average rainfall amounts and rainfall frequency reflected a sluggish and uneven distribution of the *Kiremt*, June-September season over this region. Overall, wetter-than-average conditions, however, prevailed throughout much of the Horn of Africa. During the past week, heavy downpours fell across northwestern Ethiopia, western South Sudan, and southwestern Sudan. The continuation of seasonal rainfall should help benefit agricultural and pastoral activities in the region, but a surge of and consistent moisture could also lead to oversaturation and flooding over many local areas. A below-average has been observed in the far western Africa including Senegal, western Mali and Gambia which has been monitored since the beginning of the season. The distribution of rainfall this past week in far West Africa has contributed to reduce the suppression but still considerably present. The late start of the season has forced less coverage condition of the vegetation from Senegal through Gambia and a portion of Guinea. Gambia government has issued a food security alert this past week which will be monitored.

As far as vegetation status is concerned, recent remote-sensing products have already indicated poor and below-average conditions over western Ethiopia and localized areas of the region.

During the next week, heavy rainfall is forecast over parts of South Sudan, northern Uganda, western Kenya, western Ethiopia, and Eritrea. Light rainfall is expected over western Sudan. In Ethiopia, the forecast heavy rainfall should help reduce accumulated deficits in the west.

30-Day Satellite-Estimated Percent of Average Rainfall (%)
Valid: May 25 – June 23, 2019

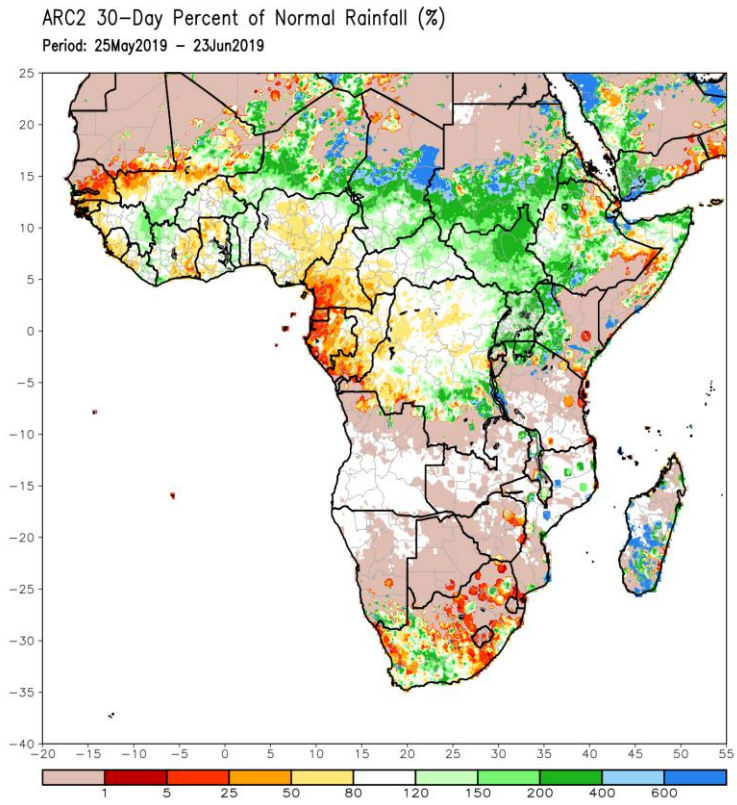


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

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.