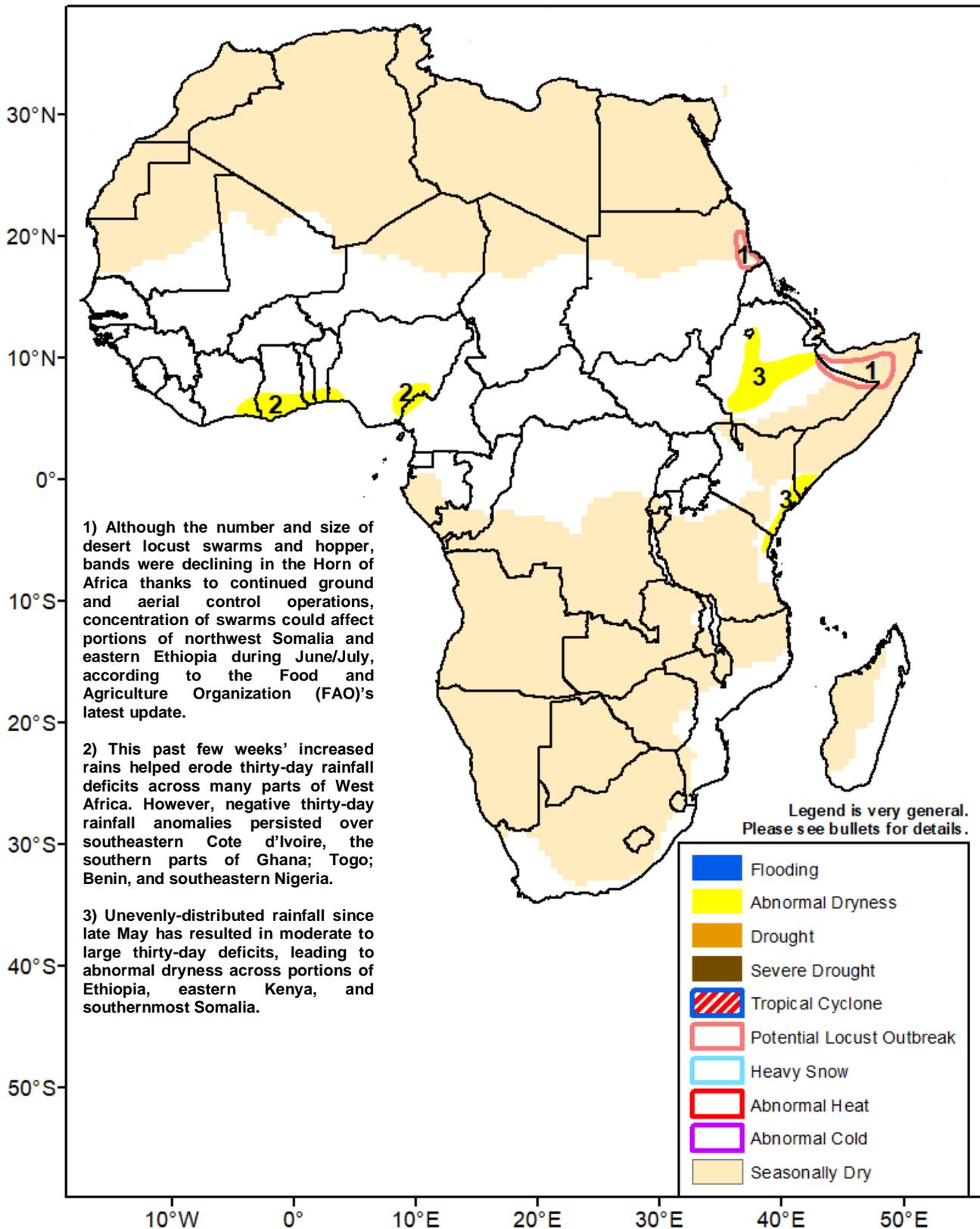




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook 1 – 7 July 2021

- This past four weeks' below-average rainfall maintained dryness in parts of West Africa and eastern Africa.



1) Although the number and size of desert locust swarms and hopper, bands were declining in the Horn of Africa thanks to continued ground and aerial control operations, concentration of swarms could affect portions of northwest Somalia and eastern Ethiopia during June/July, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)'s latest update.

2) This past few weeks' increased rains helped erode thirty-day rainfall deficits across many parts of West Africa. However, negative thirty-day rainfall anomalies persisted over southeastern Cote d'Ivoire, the southern parts of Ghana; Togo; Benin, and southeastern Nigeria.

3) Unevenly-distributed rainfall since late May has resulted in moderate to large thirty-day deficits, leading to abnormal dryness across portions of Ethiopia, eastern Kenya, and southernmost Somalia.

This past week's enhanced rains helped ease dryness over many parts of West Africa.

During late June, an increase in rainfall was observed over much of West Africa. Widespread moderate to heavy rains fell over Guinea-Conakry, Sierra Leone, and Liberia, and the southern parts of Togo, Benin, and Nigeria (Figure 1). Abundant rains also fell over southernmost Mali and Burkina Faso. Meanwhile, light to locally moderate rains were registered elsewhere. This past few weeks' increased rains helped reduce thirty-day rainfall deficits over many local areas. Moreover, the Inter-Tropical Front (ITF), rain-bearing system, was positioned near or anomalously north of the long-term average position for the first time since April during the second dekad (10-day period) of June. However, drier-than-average conditions persisted along the southern parts of Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, and southeastern Nigeria.

The latest moisture index product has indicated that favorable soil moisture was observed over much of West Africa as a response to a good rainfall distribution over the recent weeks. However, low soil moisture status was depicted over areas of Burkina Faso, southern Niger, and northern Nigeria.

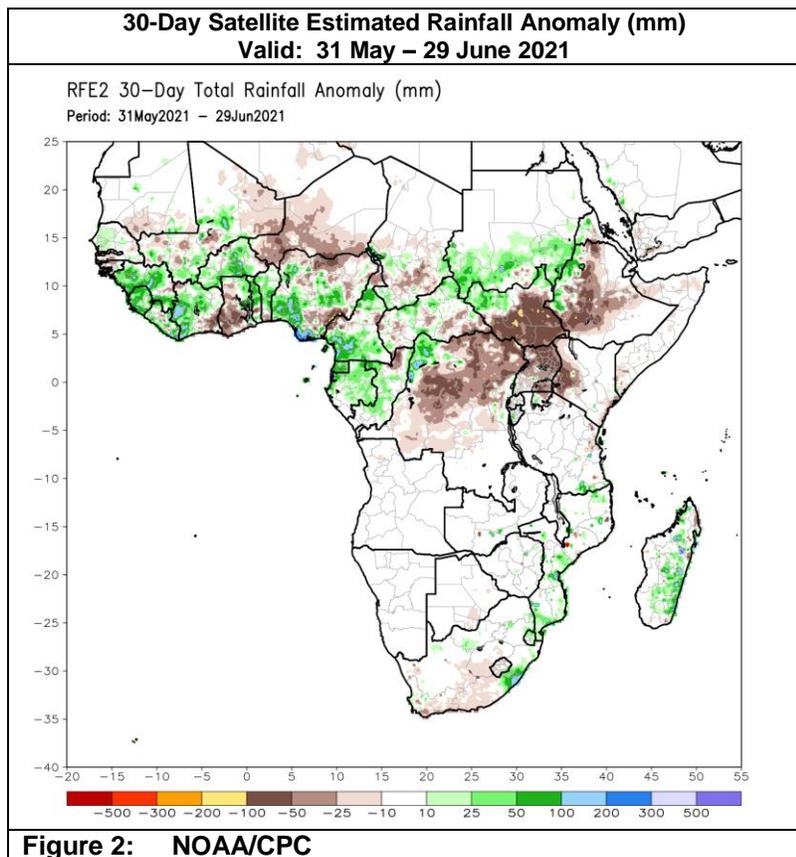
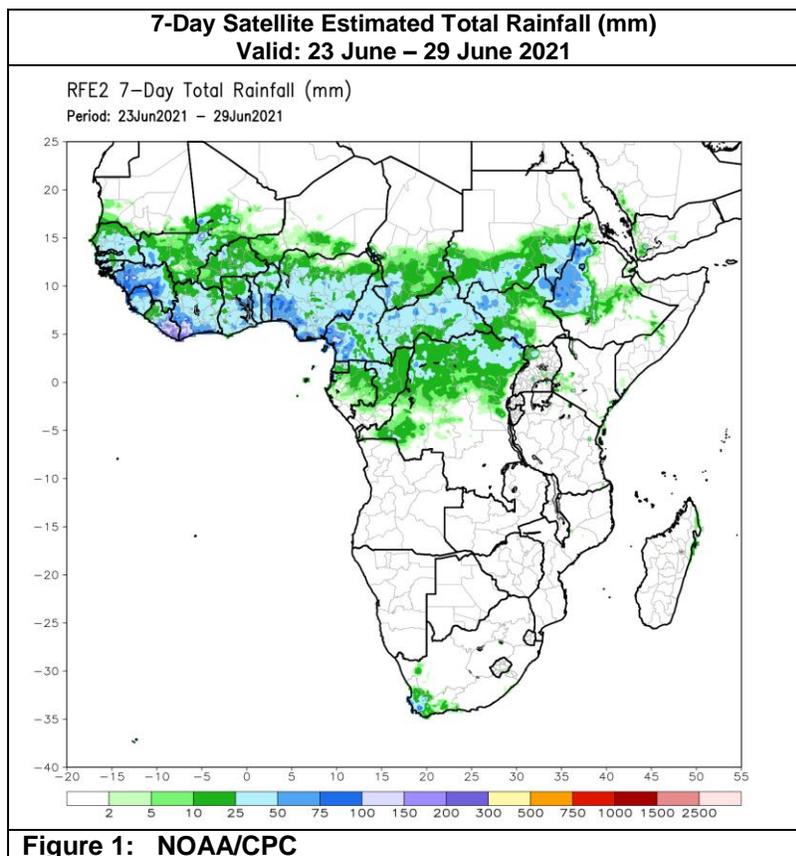
For next week, heavy and above-average rainfall is likely over the far western West Africa and along the central and eastern Gulf of Guinea countries. Widespread moderate to locally heavy rains are expected across southern Mali, Burkina Faso, and north-central Nigeria, while little to light rains are expected elsewhere. The forecast progress of the West Africa monsoon should help ease dryness and aid cropping activities further over many local areas.

Insufficient rainfall led to abnormal dryness over parts of eastern Africa.

Over the Horn of Africa, the accumulated rainfall since late May was mostly below-average. Moderate to large (up to 100 mm) thirty-day rainfall deficits were now present over much of South Sudan, western and eastern Ethiopia, northern Uganda, and southwestern Kenya (Figure 2). The resulting drier-than-average conditions were attributable to a sluggish and delayed onset to the *Kiremt*, June – September, rainfall season. This past week alone, although enhanced rains continued over western Ethiopia, southern and eastern Sudan, limited or even suppressed rainfall was observed elsewhere.

An analysis of the latest soil moisture status has indicated that a mix of above-normal and below-normal conditions were observed over western Ethiopia, whereas below-normal conditions were depicted in the east of the country. An adequate spatial and temporal distribution in rainfall is needed to erode short-term deficits and aid cropping activities in the region.

For next week, rainfall forecasts suggest that torrential and above-average rainfall is expected over western Ethiopia, where rainfall amounts could exceed 100 mm. Moderate rains are expected in southern and eastern Sudan, South Sudan, northern Uganda, and southwestern Kenya. The forecast near to above-average rainfall should help reduce moisture deficits over the dry areas of eastern Africa.



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.