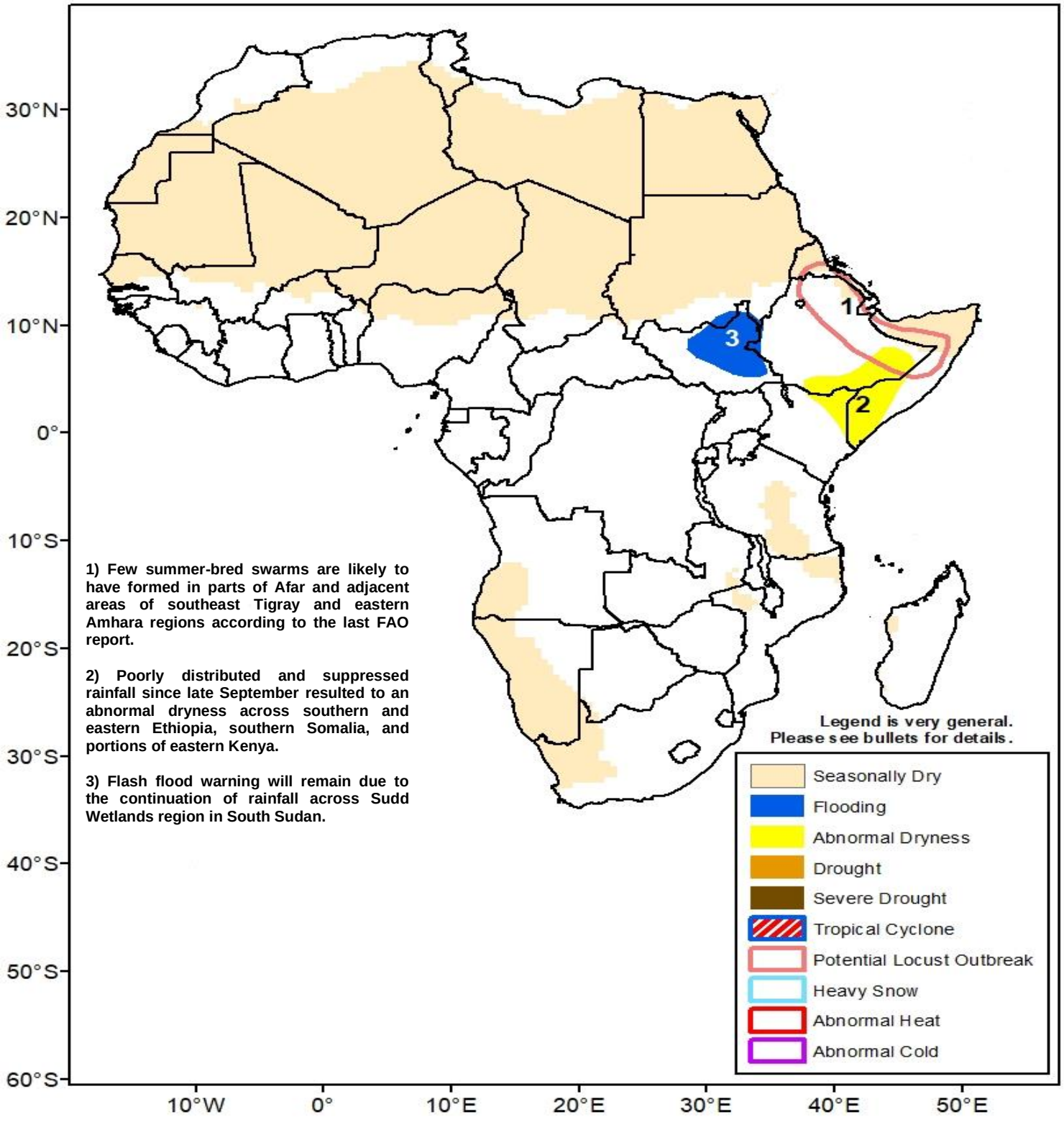
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
21 October – 27 October 2021

- **Abnormal dryness was observed across southern and eastern Ethiopia, southern Somalia and eastern Kenya**



1) Few summer-bred swarms are likely to have formed in parts of Afar and adjacent areas of southeast Tigray and eastern Amhara regions according to the last FAO report.

2) Poorly distributed and suppressed rainfall since late September resulted to an abnormal dryness across southern and eastern Ethiopia, southern Somalia, and portions of eastern Kenya.

3) Flash flood warning will remain due to the continuation of rainfall across Sudd Wetlands region in South Sudan.

Above normal rainfall continued over Gulf of Guinea countries

During the first dekad of October, the ITF moved further south compared to the last dekad of September. The western portion was also well south of the climatological position. This ITF trend and location helps explain the decreasing and presently below average rainfall across Chad, northern Nigeria, and northern Cameroon (**Figure 2**). During the past seven days, 5-10mm of rain prevailed across southern Mali, southern Burkina Faso, eastern Nigeria. Between 25-50mm of rain prevailed across Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, southern Ghana, and southern Nigeria. Seasonal performance is characterized by anomalous late season dryness over northern and eastern Nigeria while anomalous wetness prevailed across the Gulf of Guinea countries (**Figure 2**).
The normal difference vegetation index of the first dekad of October indicated growing vegetation across Sahel region countries compared to the first dekad of September. A deterioration of ground vegetation coverage was observed across eastern Nigeria which could be explained by the lack of rainfall this past thirty days over the area.

Models suggest that heavy rainfall is expected across western Cameroon. Between 50-75mm of rain is expected across Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, and southern Benin. Seasonable rainfall is expected across southern Nigeria.

An abnormal dryness was observed across eastern Kenya.

The eastern (20E-35E) portion of the ITF was south of the climatological position and displaced further south than the previous dekad. Despite the location, above normal rainfall persisted in eastern Sudan and a major part of Ethiopia (**Figure 2**). During the past seven days, between 50-75mm of rain prevailed over far western Ethiopia, far southern Sudan, western and central South Sudan. Suppressed rainfall prevailed across southern and eastern Ethiopia, southern and central Somalia, and portion of far northeastern Kenya. Looking at longer period performance, the thirty-day rainfall anomalies showed that several consecutive weeks of below normal rainfall was experienced across eastern and portions of southern Ethiopia, southern Somalia, and northeastern Kenya. This strengthened moisture deficit was essentially due to the delayed onset of October-December rainy season and has already affected nearly half-million pastoral and agropastoral communities. The vegetation health index and the normalized difference vegetation index showed respectively similar growing vegetation coverage across southern Sudan, western and northern Ethiopia, and western Kenya. Degradation of vegetation condition was observed across southern Somalia, eastern Kenya, and eastern Ethiopia. This result from the erratic rainfall performance for the past thirty days across the area.

Breeding is likely to occur in areas that receive rainfall during October and November in the Somali region of eastern Ethiopia, on the plateau in northern Somalia, on the coast of northwest Somalia, and the Red Sea coast in Eritrea.

During the outlook period, below normal average is expected across Ethiopia except local area over its eastern part, Somalia, Kenya, and portion of South Sudan.

3-Month Satellite Estimated Percent of Normal Rainfall (%)
Valid: 1 August – 19 October 2021

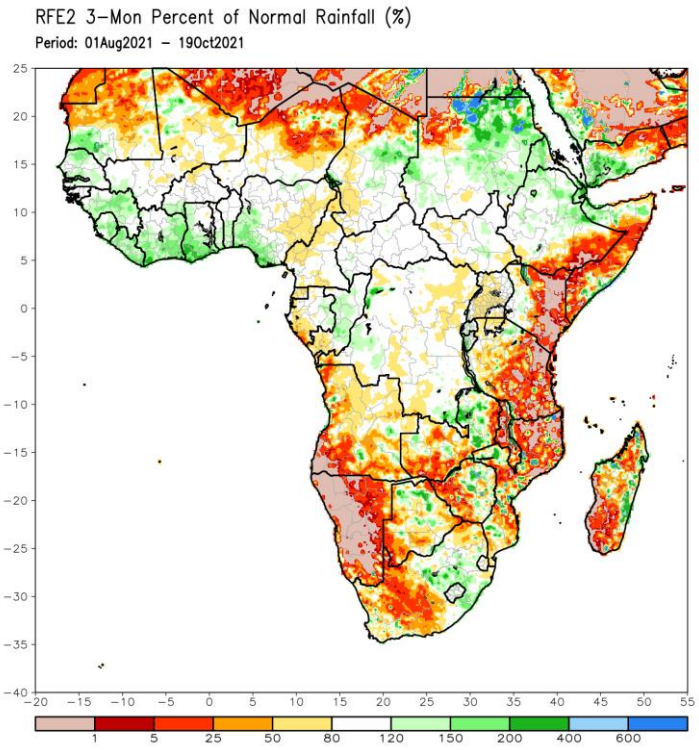


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

7-Day Satellite Estimated Total Rainfall (mm)
Valid: 13 October – 19 October 2021

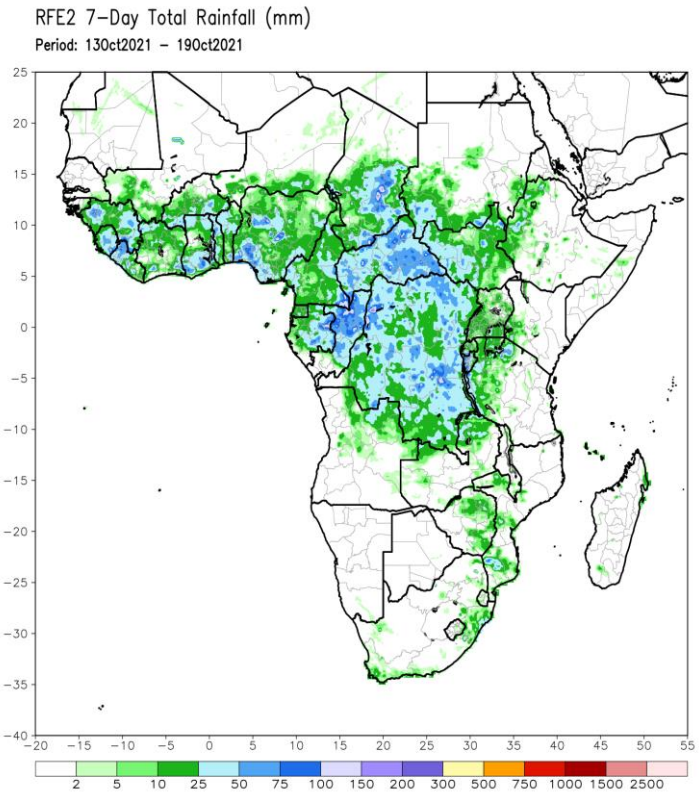


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

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.

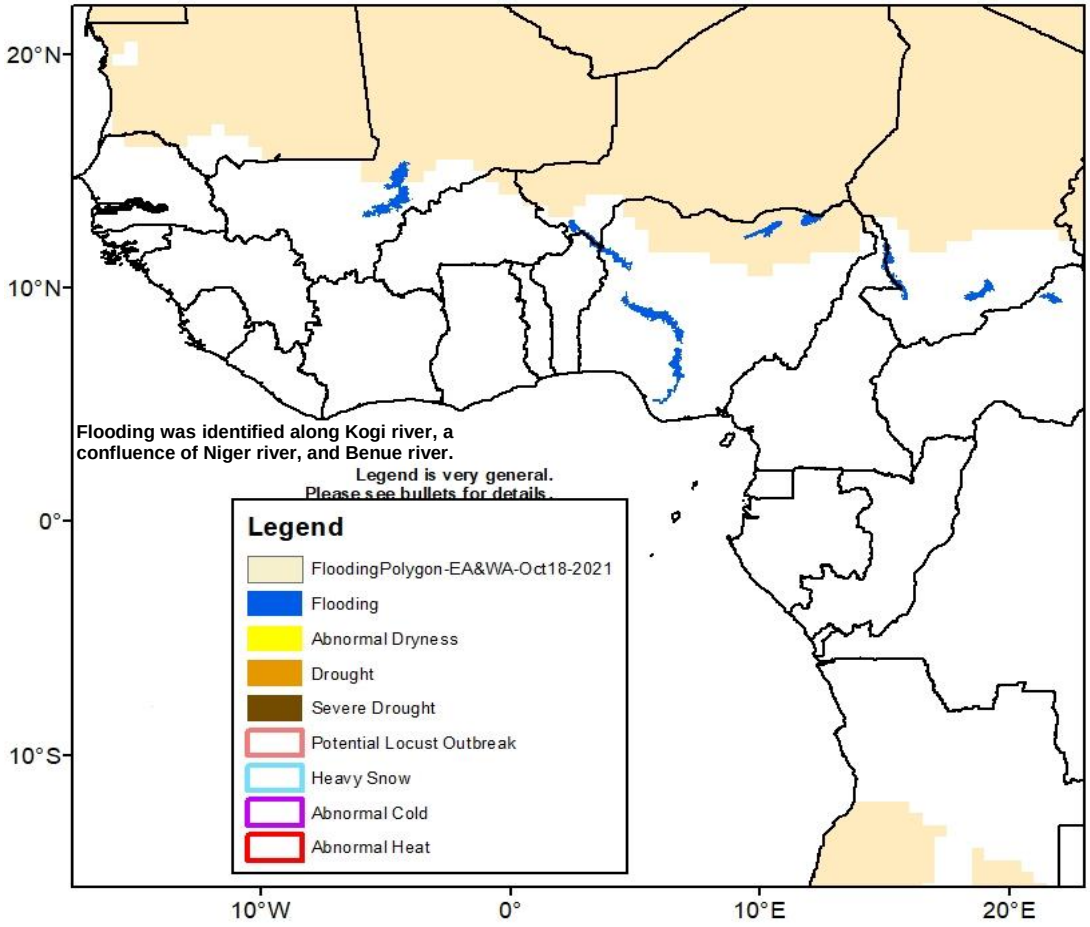


Figure 3: Hazards, focused over West Africa

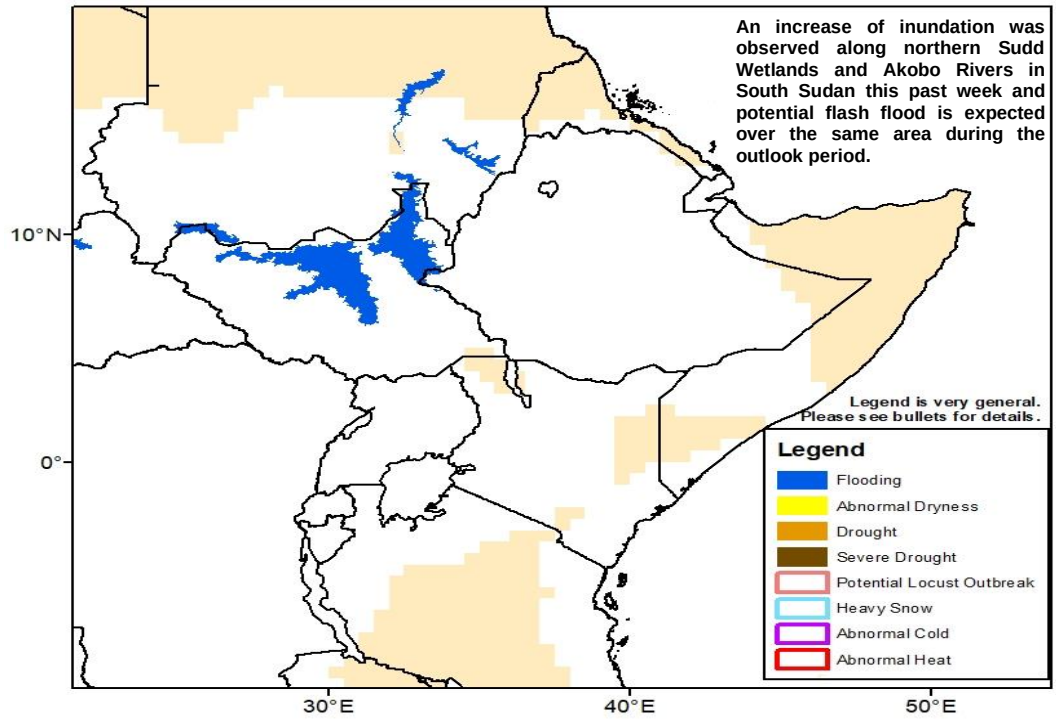


Figure 4: Hazards, focused over eastern Africa