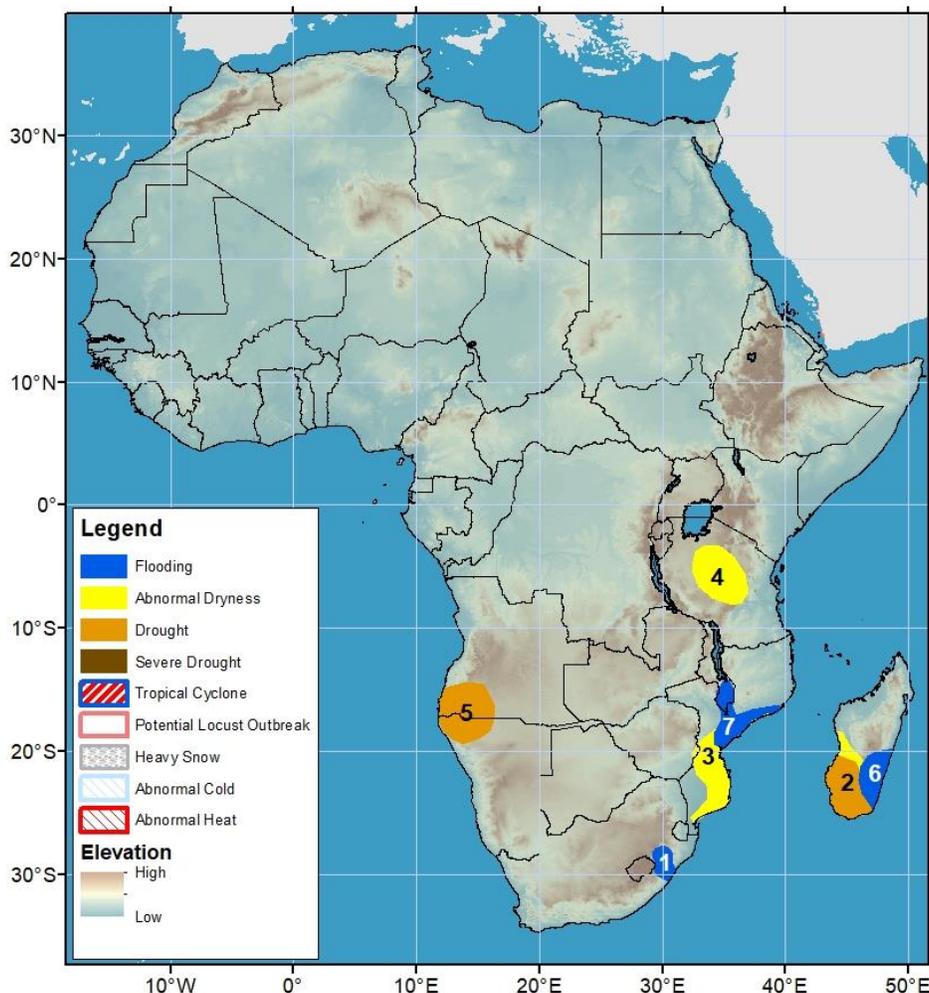




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook 10 – 16 February, 2022

- Tropical Cyclone Batsirai made landfall along the east coast of Madagascar on February 5
- The pattern has not been favorable to relieve drought conditions in Angola and Namibia.



1) Floods from localized heavy rainfall this past week caused dozens of people to be evacuated from their homes in Gauteng and Kwazulu-Natal provinces of South Africa.

2) Little rainfall so far this season in southern Madagascar has led to large seasonal moisture deficits and very negatively impacted conditions on the ground. This is especially sensitive as the area is in a multi-year drought.

3) Uneven rainfall performance during the past couple of months has led to abnormal dryness in central and southern Mozambique. Forecast is for a return to drier conditions.

4) Despite heavy rainfall the past couple weeks, the central part of the Tanzania is still showing some below normal rainfall.

5) Below normal rainfall for the past 3 months has led to drought conditions over southwestern Angola and northwestern Namibia.

6) Widespread flooding has occurred in southeastern Madagascar after the passage of Tropical Cyclone Batsirai. At least 20 fatalities reported.

7) Earlier rains from Tropical Cyclone Ana as well as recent heavy rainfall upstream has led to high river levels and stream flows that have been slow to recede in southern Malawi and central Mozambique.

A dry rainfall pattern prevailed across eastern Africa again this past week.

During the past week, rain was suppressed to the south for a second straight period. Little rainfall was observed in Ethiopia, South Sudan, and Somalia. Some moderate or localized heavy rain was observed along southern Uganda and southwestern Kenya. Widespread moderate to heavy rainfall of 50-150mm was observed over Tanzania (Figure 1). Rwanda and Burundi received 25-75mm of rainfall. Though dry the past 2 weeks, previous January rains improved seasonal moisture conditions for many areas. The NDVI vegetation health index showed much improved vegetation condition across southern Kenya and southern Somalia, with poor values over much of the rest of the region. The standardized precipitation index showed values above 1.5 which confirmed a return of ground moisture coverage across Kenya, central Ethiopia, southern Somalia, and Uganda.

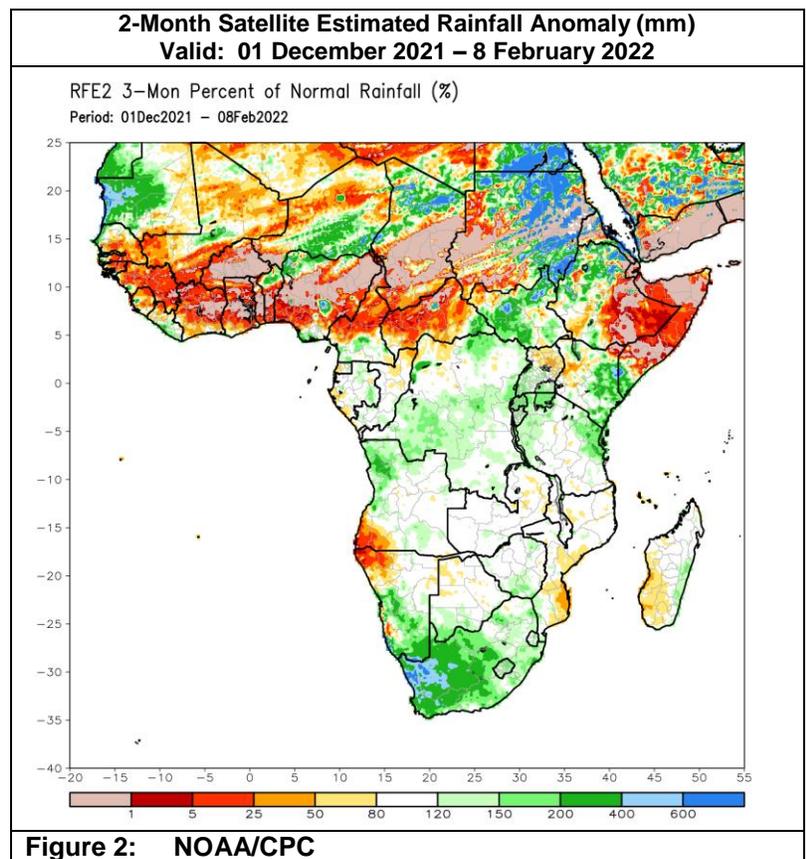
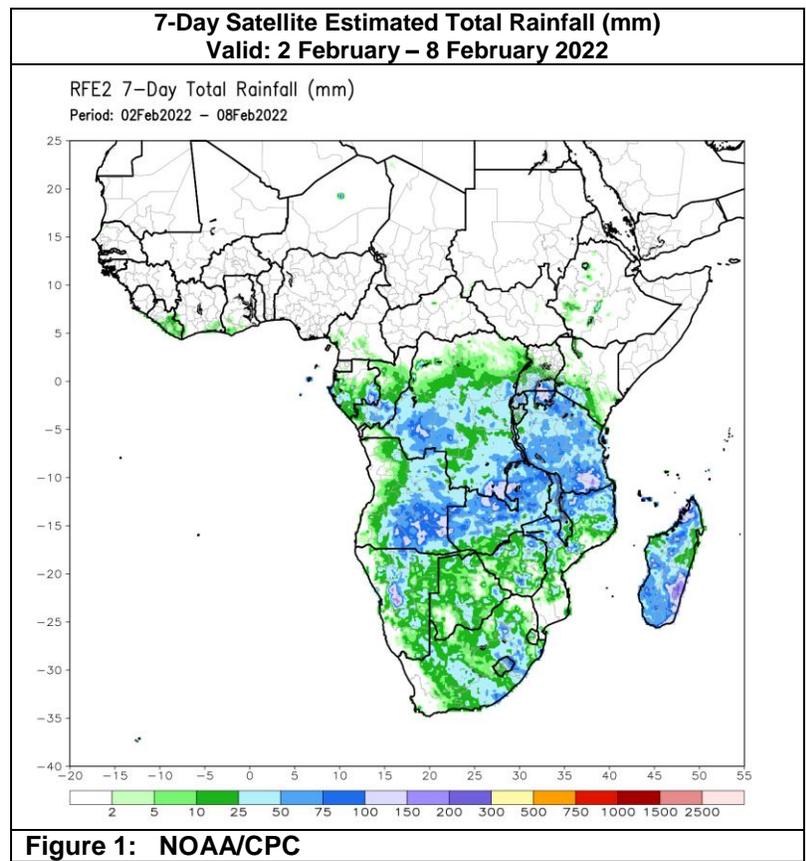
During the outlook period, the region is forecast to remain in a dry pattern. Rains should be relegated to Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi and Southeastern DRC. However, rainfall totals are likely to exceed 75mm in southern Tanzania.

Tropical Cyclone Batsirai brought heavy rain, wind and many negative impacts to Madagascar and Mozambique.

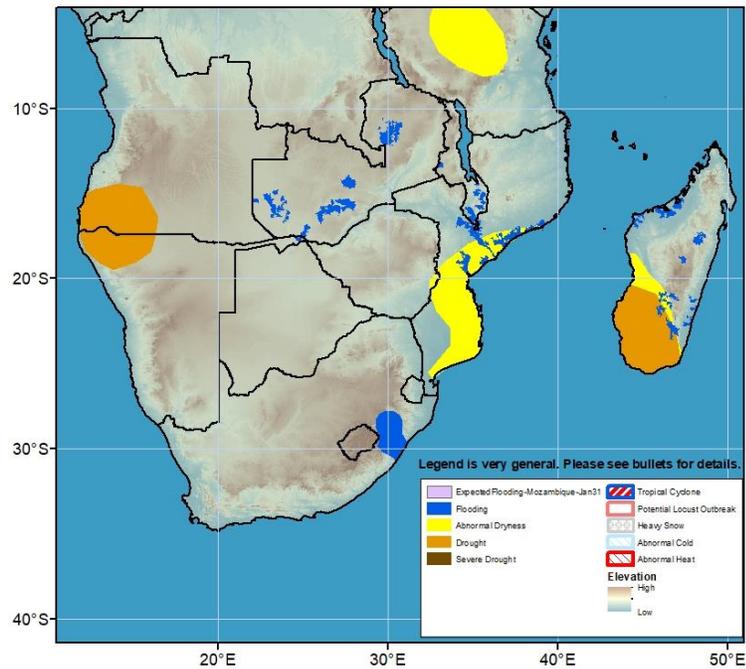
This past week, Tropical Cyclone Batsirai made landfall in central Mozambique close on the heels of Tropical Cyclone Ana. It brought damaging winds (200kph) and much heavy rainfall - flooding out whole towns. At least 20 fatalities have been reported so far. An area of rains in excess of 100mm was recorded by satellite estimates in southeastern Mozambique (Figure 1). Gauges in the region measured more than 200mm. Similar totals were observed in northern Madagascar. Elsewhere, locally heavy rainfall also caused flooding in Maniema, DRC and in Kwazulu-Natal and Gauteng provinces of South Africa. Widespread moderate or locally heavy rain was observed over the subcontinent according to Satellite estimates. These were wetter than normal conditions for many areas, especially across South Africa, southern Botswana and eastern Namibia. Positive anomalies were measured 25-100mm in these areas. A large portion of Mozambique, northeastern South Africa, western Angola, and northwestern Namibia were the dry regions during the period.

Over the course of the monsoon season, two historically significant extremes have developed over the region. Persistent suppressed of rainfall has led from abnormal dryness to drought conditions across southern Madagascar, and a region over southwestern Angola and northwestern Namibia (Figure 2). These large moisture deficits are likely to have many adverse impacts on cropping activities and water availability.

For the upcoming outlook period, enhanced rainfall is forecasted to persist over Zambia, Malawi and Tanzania. Meanwhile, dry conditions are expected in Mozambique and other southern portions of the region. Madagascar is also likely to see drier than average conditions return. Improved rains are possible in southwestern Angola.



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.



Tropical Batsirai brought heavy rainfall and strong winds to Madagascar, which causes flash flooding, landslides, mudslides, and riverine flooding. A broad geographic range of the country has seen impacts from floods. Many river levels remain above 20 year return periods. Flash floods and landslides were reported over southern Zambia and near Blantyre City in southern Malawi. There are still high discharges at levels of 5 and 20-year return period in Mozambique and southern Malawi after TC Ana brought a wide swath of very heavy rain. During the outlook period, heavy rains are expected to continue over Zambia, Malawi, Tanzania, and northern Mozambique, possibly reinforcing flood hazards for those and down stream areas.

Figure 3: Hazards, focused over southern Africa