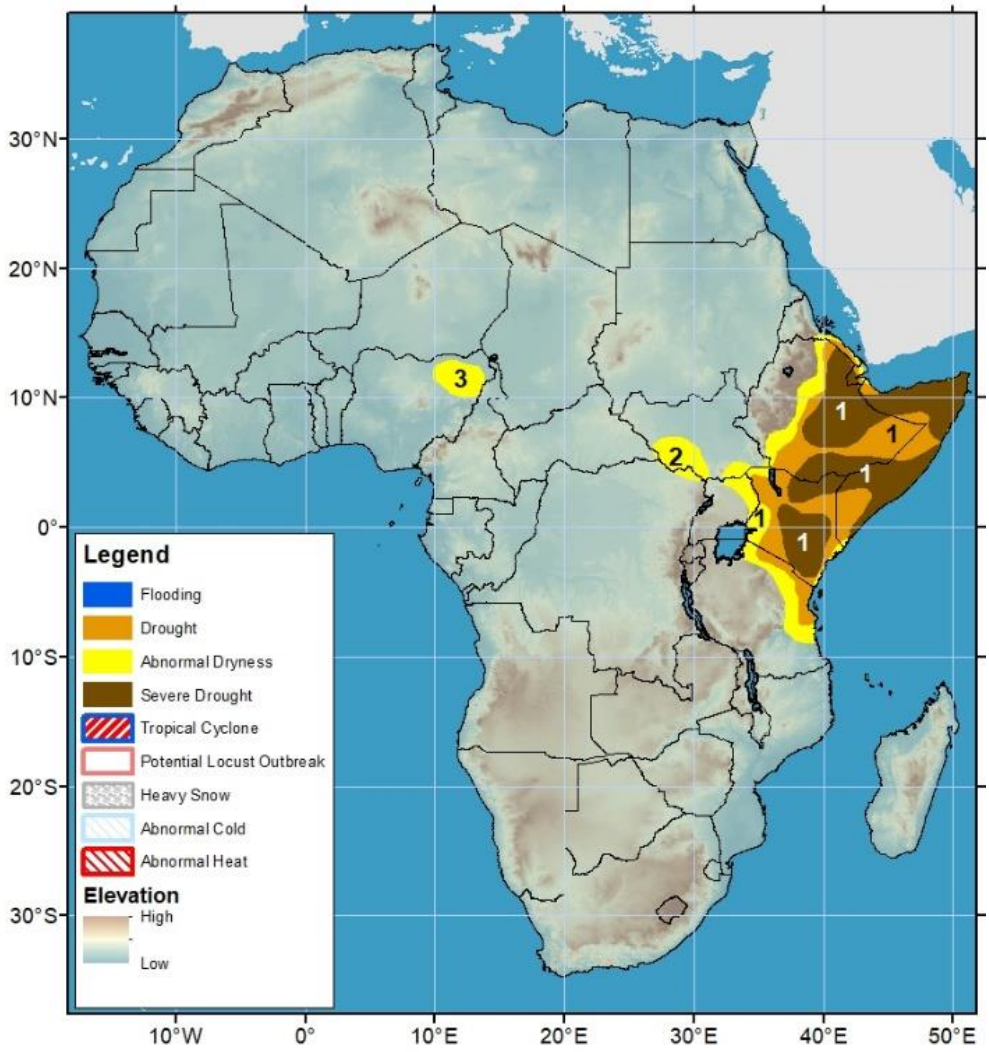
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
16 June – 22 June, 2022

- **Widespread drought observed over the Greater Horn of Africa due to a failed March – May rainfall season**
- **Mixed rainfall performance registered over West Africa, with increasing rains in the far-west.**



1) **A poor distribution of rainfall since the beginning of the March-May season developed droughts across a large portion of East Africa. Areas, including north-central and eastern Ethiopia, along the Kenya-Ethiopia border, much of Somalia, and southern Kenya, where dryness is most acute (less than 50% of normal) and most persistent are now classified under severe drought.**
2) **Insufficient rain since early May has resulted in growing moisture deficits and abnormal in southwestern South Sudan.**
3) **Insufficient and uneven rainfall since the start of the monsoon has resulted in significant moisture deficits and abnormal in northeastern Nigeria.**

Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium-range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), sub-seasonal forecasts up to 4 weeks, and assesses the potential impact of extreme events on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed and predicted to continue during the outlook period. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at the spatial scale of the map. This product considers long-range seasonal climate forecasts but does not reflect current or projected food security conditions. FEWS NET is a USAID-funded activity whose purpose is to provide objective information about food security conditions. Its views are not necessarily reflective of those of USAID or the U.S. Government. The FEWS NET weather hazards outlook process and products include participation by FEWS NET field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and several other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned.

Questions or comments about the hazard's outlooks may be directed to Dr. Wassila Thiaw, Head, International Desks/NOAA, wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov.
Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, jverdin@usaid.gov

Very poor March – May rainfall over the Horn of Africa is shifting toward South Sudan in June.

The Greater Horn of Africa experienced a very poor March–May rainfall performance. Rainfall accumulation accounted for only 25 – 50 percent of the average over most areas (**Figure 1**). Localized areas registered even less than 25 percent of their average rainfall. The onset to the rainfall season was delayed by more than twenty days for many areas. This late onset was also followed by a poor temporal and spatial rainfall distribution. Although favorable rains were received over some areas during May, the timing was too late and amounts were not sufficient to fully erode accumulated moisture deficits. Some recent light or moderate rainfall in the past week over central Ethiopia and northern Somalia is also too late. Since early May, sporadic rainfall has shifted into South Sudan where deficits are now more than 100-200mm.

Consequently, vegetation products depicted that widespread, poor and below-average conditions spread over the sub-region. The adverse impacts on the grounds included but are not limited to reduced water availability, failed crops, and food insecurity, indicating one of the worst droughts over the past several decades, according to reports.

For next week, heavy rains are forecast over western Ethiopia. In contrast, limited rains are expected elsewhere. Warmer weather with above-average maximum temperature is also expected over western Ethiopia, South Sudan, Uganda, and Kenya.

3-Month Satellite Estimated Total Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: 01 April – 14 June 2022

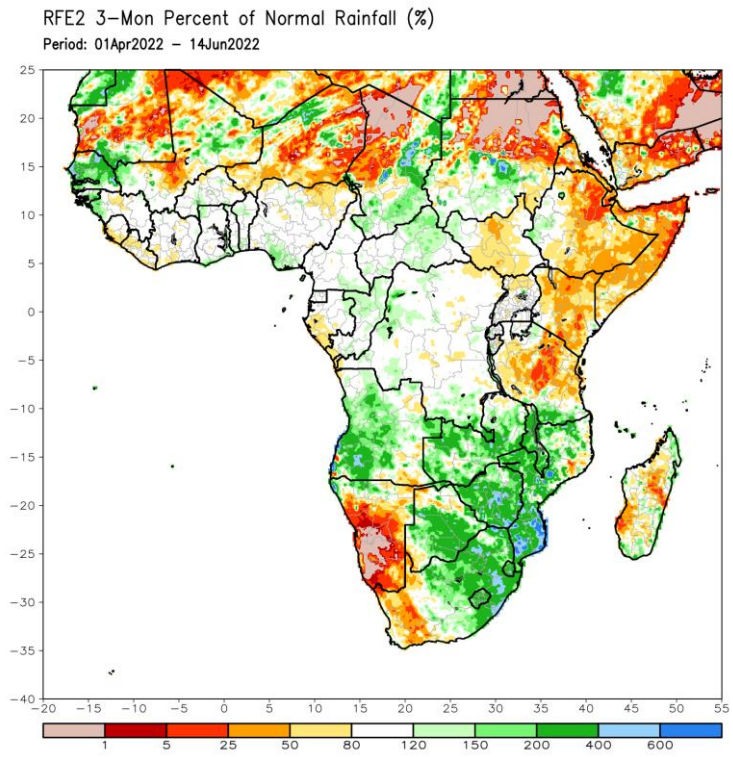


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Mixed rainfall conditions were observed over West Africa.

Much of West Africa continued to receive its seasonal rain during the past week, though not everywhere as much as is typical. Abundant rains fell over localized areas in western Guinea Conakry, eastern Senegal, southern Nigeria, northern Ghana, Togo and Benin (**Figure 2**). The largest totals in Senegal, Nigeria, and northern Benin exceeded 100mm. Meanwhile, lighter and suppressed rains were present over parts of Mali, Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, southwestern Ghana, and parts of eastern Nigeria. This past 30 days, drier-than-average conditions were registered over portions of central and western Gulf of Guinea. Deficits have increased over the same period in southern Mali and northeast Nigeria.

The latest vegetation products indicated that near to above-average conditions resided over the southern portion of the sub-region. However, degraded and below-average conditions were already present over areas in northern Guinea-Conakry, southern Mali, northern Benin, and north-central Nigeria.

7-Day Satellite Estimated Total Rainfall (mm)
Valid: 8 June – 14 June 2022

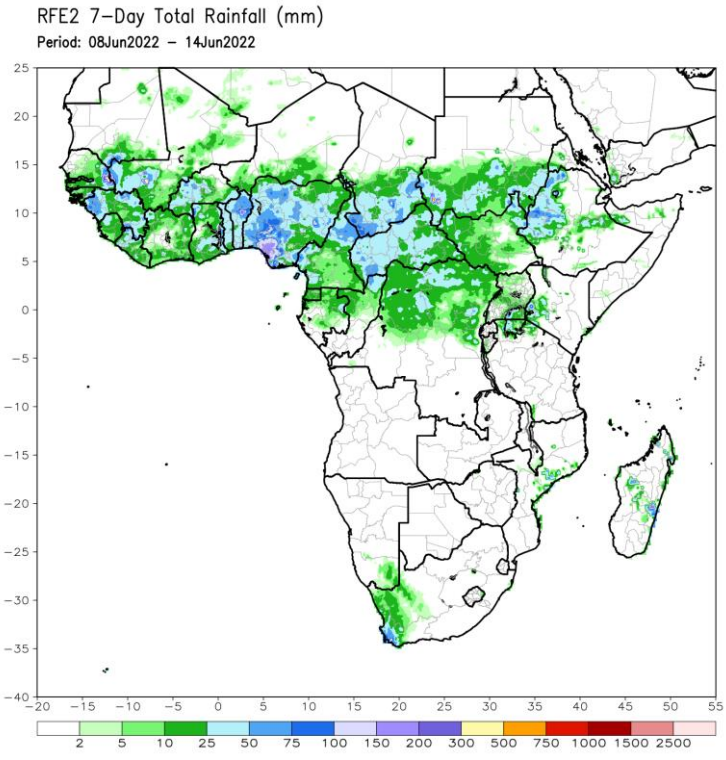


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

For next week, heavy and enhanced rain is forecast over the majority of West Africa. The greatest totals, more than 100mm, are expected in Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and southern Nigeria. Lighter and suppressed rain is favored in the central Sahel.

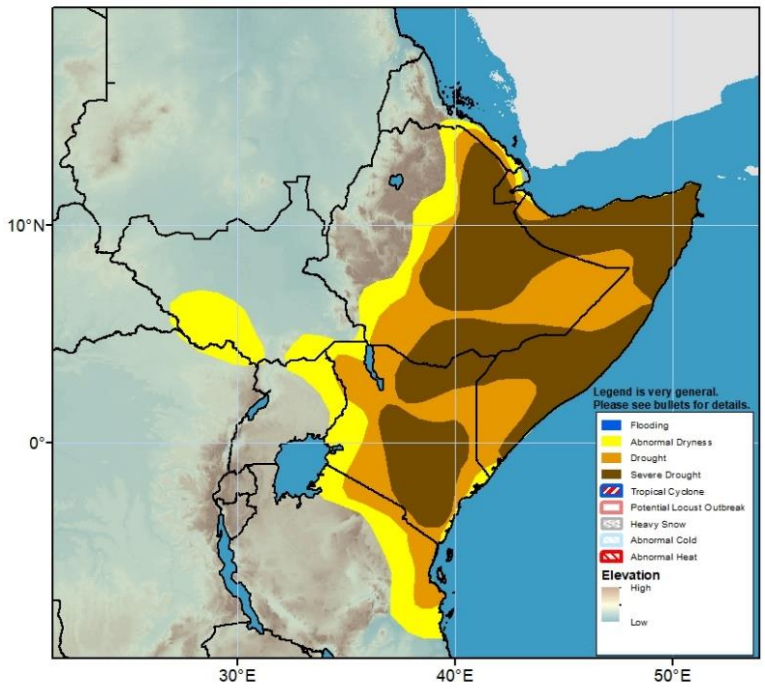


Figure 3: Hazards, focused over eastern Africa