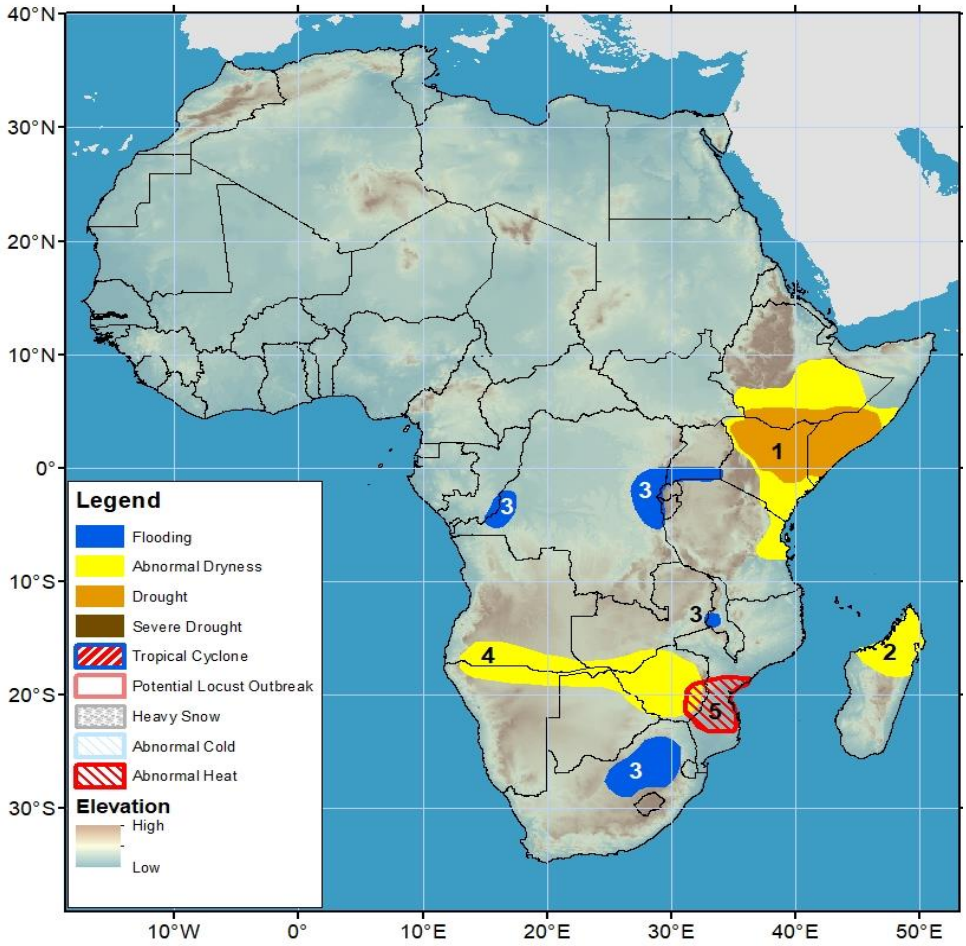
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
5 January – 11 January, 2023

- **An erratic October-December rainfall season has led to dryness and drought in Eastern Africa.**
- **Enhanced rainfall has resulted in flooding in eastern DR Congo, southern Uganda and South Africa**



1) **Dry and erratic conditions since the beginning of the October-December season over Eastern Africa have resulted in abnormal dryness over central and eastern Kenya, southern Ethiopia, and northeastern Tanzania. Drought has developed in southern Ethiopia, southern Somalia, and northern Kenya.**

2) **Below-average rain over the past eight weeks has resulted in moderate to large thirty-day moisture deficits, which have led to abnormal dryness in northern Madagascar. Below-average rain is expected in the region during the next week.**

3) **The past few weeks' enhanced rain has overly saturated the soil, which has resulted in flooding and/or landslides, causing fatalities, destroyed infrastructures, and many people affected in Kinshasa, the North Kivu and South Kivu Provinces in DRC, southern parts of the Central Region in Uganda, several districts in Malawi including Lilongwe, and Johannesburg area in South Africa. The forecast additional rain during the next week may exacerbate conditions on the ground.**

4) **An erratic rainfall distribution since November has resulted in abnormal dryness in southern parts of Angola and Zambia, northern portions of Namibia and Botswana, and much of Zimbabwe.**

5) **An abnormal heat hazard is posted in eastern Zimbabwe and southern Mozambique, where maximum temperature could exceed 35°C and rise up to 4°C above average for at least three consecutive days during the next week.**

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.
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Scattered moderate rain fell in Eastern Africa.

During late December, dry conditions with suppressed rainfall prevailed in Eastern Africa (**Figure 1**). However, scattered moderate rain was received in southwestern Ethiopia, southeastern Uganda and Kenya. Over the past thirty days, below average rain, with deficits ranging between 10-50 mm persisted across southern Ethiopia, most areas in Kenya, and southern Somalia, maintaining abnormal dryness over the dry portions of the sub-region. Conversely, above average rain with surpluses up to 100 mm was depicted over parts of central Kenya, western Ethiopia, and Uganda due to wet episodes during late November through mid-December. Since October, large (up to 200 mm) seasonal rainfall deficits have been observed across southern Ethiopia, Kenya, and southern Somalia, which have already negatively impacted vegetation conditions, water availability, and have resulted in drought across the dry portions of Eastern Africa.

Light rain is expected over western Ethiopia and southeastern Kenya during the next week. Much of Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya rainfall are expected to be close to average.

7-Day Satellite Estimated Total Rainfall (mm)
Valid: 28 December 2022 – 03 January 2023

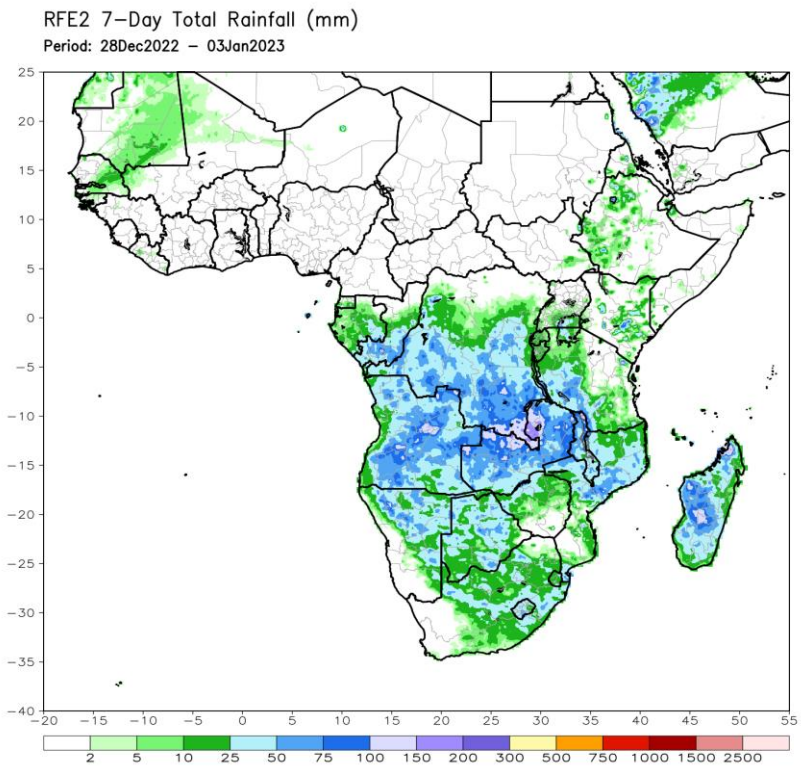


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Drier conditions experienced in the northern sectors of southern Africa since the beginning of the season

Since October, the accumulated rain in the northern sectors of southern Africa has been below average. Seasonal rainfall deficits have ranged between 50-200 mm over Angola, northern Namibia, parts of Zambia and Mozambique, and northern Madagascar (**Figure 2**). The drier conditions were attributable to an uneven spatial and temporal distribution in rainfall since the beginning of the season and the ongoing *La Niña*, cold phase of the El Niño Southern Oscillation, which tends to bring above average rain over the southeastern portions of the sub-region. Hence, well above average seasonal rain, with surpluses in excess of 100 mm has been observed across South Africa, Lesotho, Eswatini, parts of Namibia, Botswana, Mozambique, and southern Madagascar, which has already triggered flooding causing fatalities in many areas, including the Luanda Province in western Angola and Johannesburg area in central South Africa, based on reports. For the past week, the rain-bearing system shifted to the northeast part of southern Africa, bringing heavy rain across eastern Angola, Zambia, Malawi, northern Mozambique, and Madagascar.

During the next week, heavy and above average rain is to continue over a major part of Angola and Zambia, northern and southern parts of Mozambique, northeastern and southern parts of South Africa, much of Lesotho and Eswatini, and southern parts of Madagascar, potentially causing flash flooding and or landslides. Meanwhile, little to light and below average rain is expected throughout northeastern Namibia, parts of Botswana, and Zimbabwe.

3-Month Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: 01 November 2022 – 03 January 2023

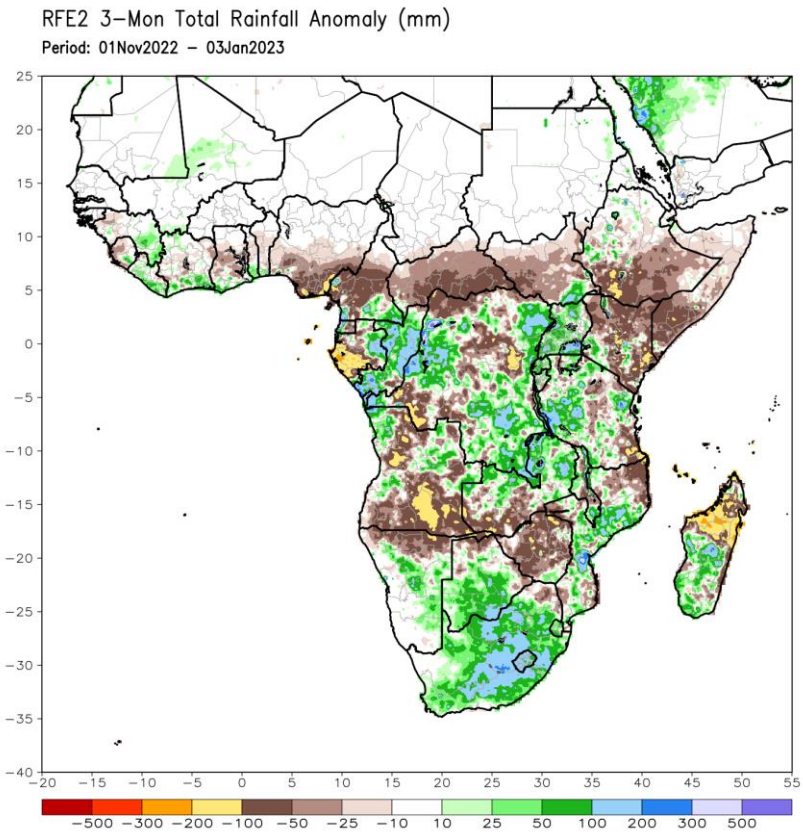
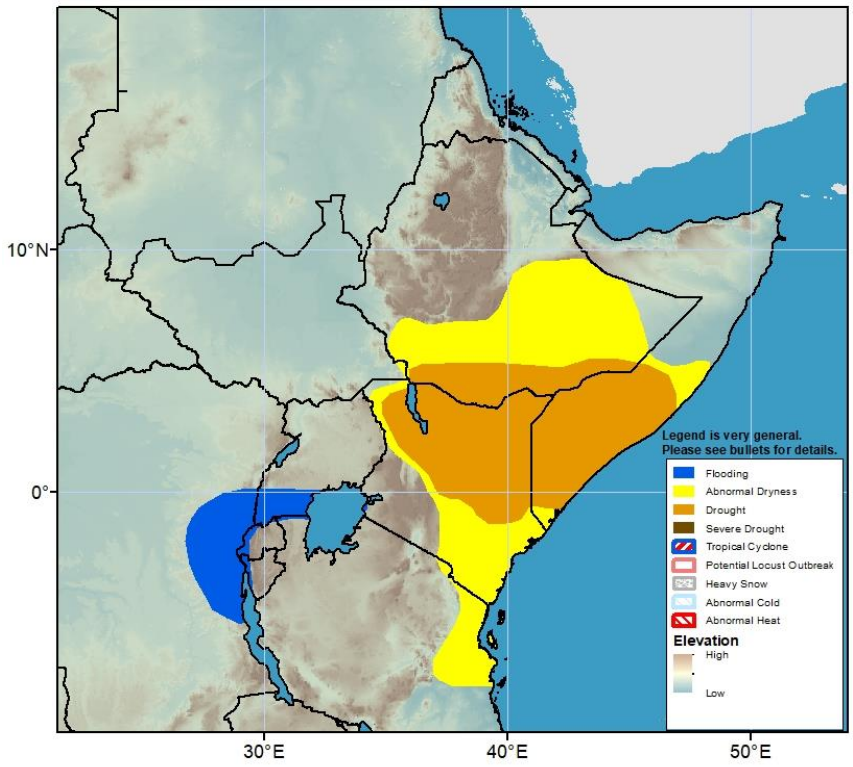
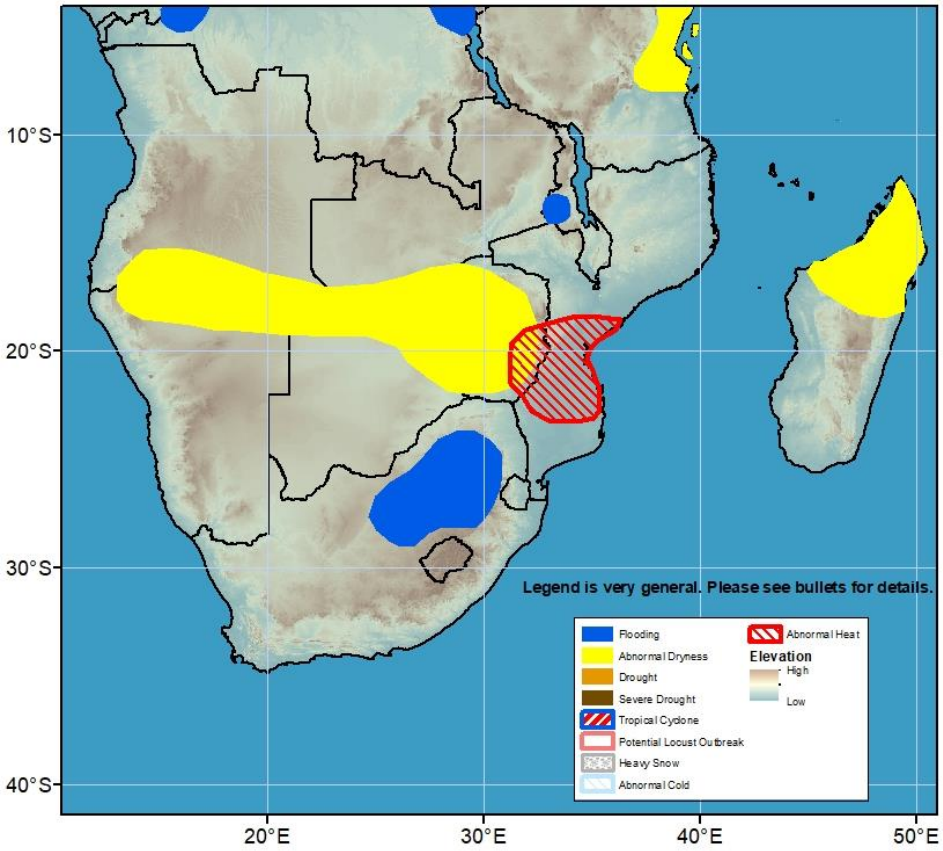


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC



Flooding and landslides have resulted in fatalities in Kinshasa in the DRC. Flooding, river flooding, and landslides have been reported in the North Kivu and South Kivu in eastern DRC, southern parts of the Central Region in Uganda.

Figure 3: Hazards, focused over Eastern Africa



Flash flood has led to fatalities, destroyed homes, and many people affected in several districts in Malawi including Lilongwe, . and Johannesburg area in South Africa. An abnormal heat hazard is posted in eastern Zimbabwe and southern Mozambique.

Figure 4: Hazards, focused over southern Africa