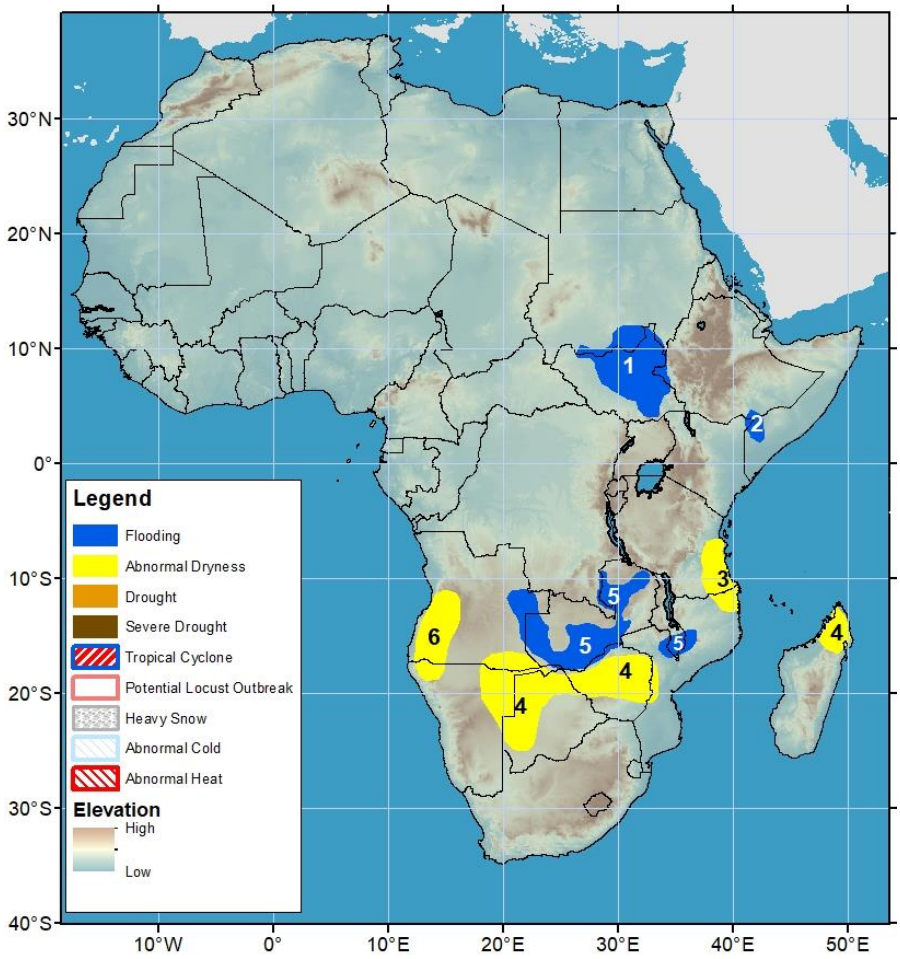
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
30 March – 5 April, 2023

- **Heavy rains were observed across much of equatorial Eastern Africa with flooding reported over the Greater Nairobi Metropolitan area and Marsabit County in Kenya, Borana zone in Ethiopia, and Jubaland in Somalia.**
- **Abnormal dryness continued over southeastern Tanzania and parts of southern Africa.**



1) The extent of inundation remained unchanged in South Sudan.

2) Moderate to heavy rainfall in cross-border regions of Ethiopia, Somalia, and Kenya has increased Jubba river level.

3) Suppressed rainfall since November last year and corresponding soil moisture ranking less than the 30th percentile have led to abnormal dryness in southeastern Tanzania and northeastern Mozambique.

4) An uneven rainfall distribution since November has resulted in abnormal dryness in much of Botswana, central parts of Zimbabwe, central Mozambique, and north-central parts of South Africa. Northern Madagascar has shown significant dryness in recent months.

5) Flooding is present along the Zambezi River in eastern Angola and western Zambia and around Lusaka along the Kafue River. The expected moderate rainfall may exacerbate existing flood conditions.

6) Lack of rainfall and extended dry spells since the beginning of 2023 have led to abnormal dryness in southwestern Angola.

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.

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Drier than average conditions dominated across southern Africa except over northern Madagascar, northern Mozambique, northern Zambia, Tanzania and a few parts of South Africa where significant rainfall was recorded.

Since early December, the accumulated rain in many parts of southern Africa's northern sectors has been below average. Large negative 3-month anomalies ranging between 100-300 mm still persisted over Zimbabwe, northern Botswana, southern Zambia, and southern and western Angola (**Figure 2**). On the other hand, heavy rains have been recorded over Mozambique, eastern Malawi, northern Zambia, and southern DRC.

During the next week, drier than average conditions will persist over the southern sector of southern Africa while wetter than average rainfall is forecasted from Madagascar to south-central Angola through southern DRC. The heaviest weekly rainfall total of 100-150 mm is expected over northern/central Madagascar, northern Zambia and eastern Angola, while 75-100 mm is expected to cover western Tanzania, parts of Zambia, southern DRC and west-central Angola.

7-Day Satellite Estimated Total Rainfall (mm)
Valid: 21 – 27 March 2023

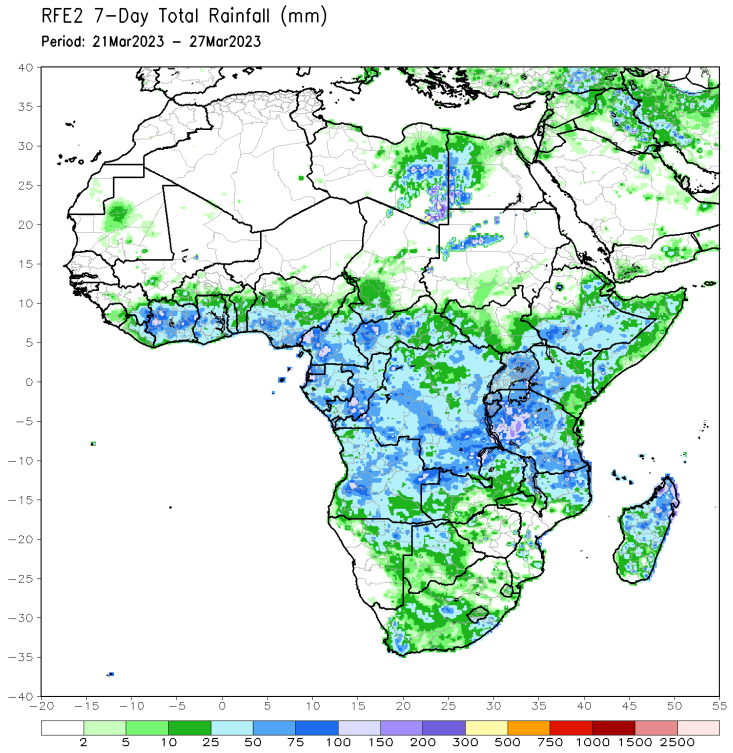

Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Heavy rainfall will continue along the Rift Valley and bordering highlands in Ethiopia but decreases over Kenya and Somalia.

The long rains were widespread and at places heavy across equatorial Eastern Africa. Flooding and fatalities were reported over the Greater Nairobi Metropolitan area and Marsabit County in Kenya, Borana zone in Ethiopia and Jubaland in Somalia. The heaviest rainfall with weekly rainfall totals reaching 150 mm was observed in Lake Victoria regions, western and southern Tanzania, northern Zambia, few places in Angola and southern DRC, and over northern Madagascar (**Figure 1**). Over the past 30 days, below average rain, with deficits ranging between 20-100 mm persisted at some locations in southeastern Tanzania. As dry spells are present since the start of the year and deficits are increasing above 50 mm, abnormal dryness is placed in eastern Tanzania. While the abnormal dryness in eastern Tanzania is continuing, the recent widespread and heavy rainfall events have significantly improved the rainfall situation over Kenya, central Somalia, and near-equatorial parts of Ethiopia.

During the next week, the 'Belg'/long rains are expected to continue with heavy intensity along the Rift Valley and bordering highlands in Ethiopia while decreasing from Kenya and Somalia. The heavy rains across the southern and eastern highlands and rangelands of Ethiopia will continue adding to the ongoing elevated river levels observed in Jubaland in Somalia. Lake Victoria regions and northwestern Tanzania are expected to receive significant rainfall in the range of 75-100 mm.

3-Month Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: 01 January – 27 March 2023

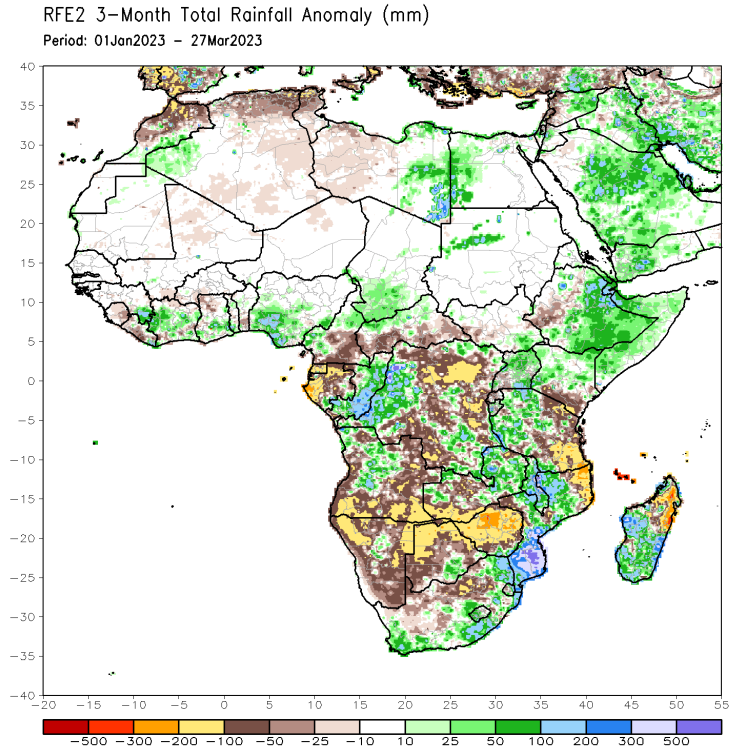

Figure 2: NOAA/CPC