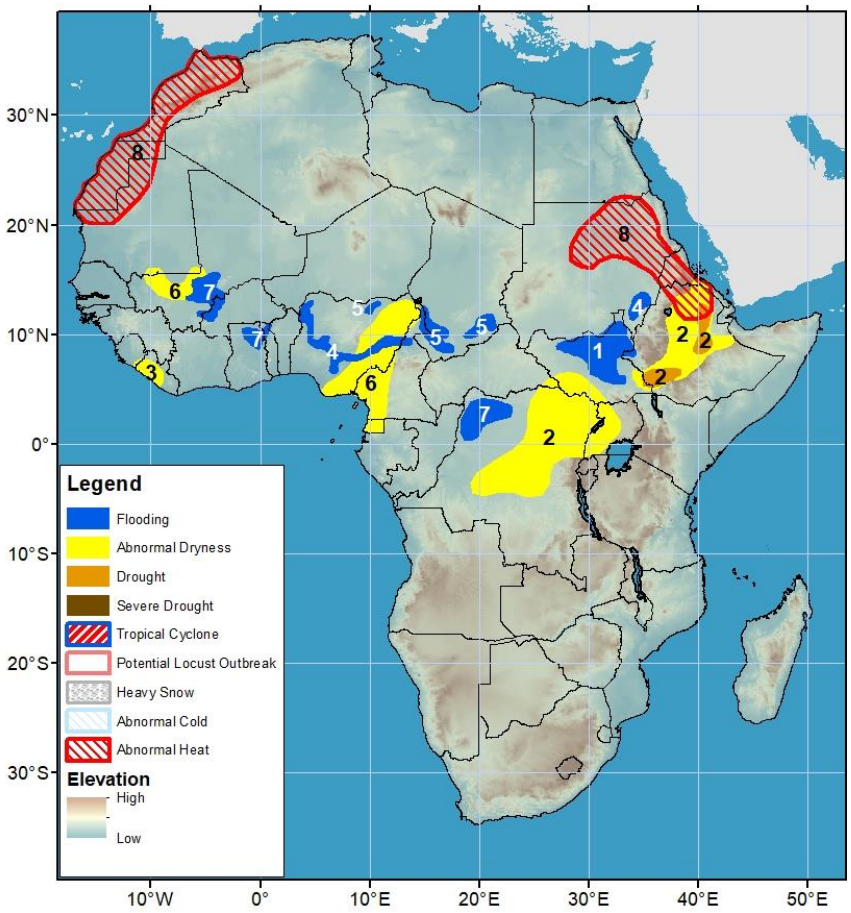
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
5 October – 11 October 2023

- **Insufficient rainfall and high temperatures have led to drought in southwestern and northeastern Ethiopia.**
- **Flooding in West Africa continues with ongoing seasonal rainfall.**



1) Flooding conditions persist in the Sudd wetlands in northern South Sudan.

2) Unevenly-distributed rainfall since July has led to moderate to large seasonal rainfall deficits, which have already negatively impacted vegetation conditions.

3) Below-average rainfall was observed and has maintained abnormal dryness in Liberia.

4) Torrential and above-average rain has caused floods to continue in the Niger and Benue Rivers in Nigeria. Flooding is also continuing along the Blue Nile in eastern Sudan.

5) Heavy rains during the past several weeks have caused floods to continue in Chad and northern Nigeria.

6) Below-average rainfall over the past several weeks has resulted in abnormal dryness in western Mali, eastern Nigeria, western Cameroon, and Equatorial Guinea.

7) Heavy rains over the past few weeks have caused rivers to rise in central Mali. Flooding have eased marginally in northern Ghana, and northern Togo, and remains unchanged in northwestern DRC, where landslides have resulted in fatalities, based on reports.

8) Abnormally hot conditions are forecast in Western Sahara, Morocco, northern and western Mauritania, northern and eastern Sudan, much of Eritrea, and northern Ethiopia, where well above-average (up to +4°C) maximum temperatures and elevated heat index are expected 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.

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Ethiopia is experiencing drought despite increased rainfall.

Since the beginning of July, Eastern Africa has witnessed a poor distribution of rainfall with regard to temporal and spatial factors. However, southeastern Sudan, southwestern Uganda, and central and southern Ethiopia are among the most affected areas, recording deficient rainfall with season-long accumulation ranging from 25-80% of the average (**Figure 1**). Notably, southwestern Ethiopia has borne the brunt of this situation, receiving less than 50% of the average rainfall. Although there has been an upswing in rains over the past two weeks, the lack of precipitation has already taken a toll on vegetation conditions and resulted in southwestern, eastern, and northeastern Ethiopia experiencing a drought. As the rainfall season nears its end, the likelihood of recovery is minimal. Active river breakages are reported on the Juba and the Shabelle Rivers despite low water levels.

In the next week, light to moderate rain is expected over a few places in Eastern Africa. South Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda, Rwanda, and Burundi will have below-average rainfall, while above-average rainfall is expected along the southern coast of Kenya. Maximum temperature could average up to 4°C above average in northern and eastern Sudan, much of Eritrea, and northern Ethiopia.

3-Month Satellite Estimated Percent of Average Rainfall (%)
Valid: 01 Aug – 02 October 2023

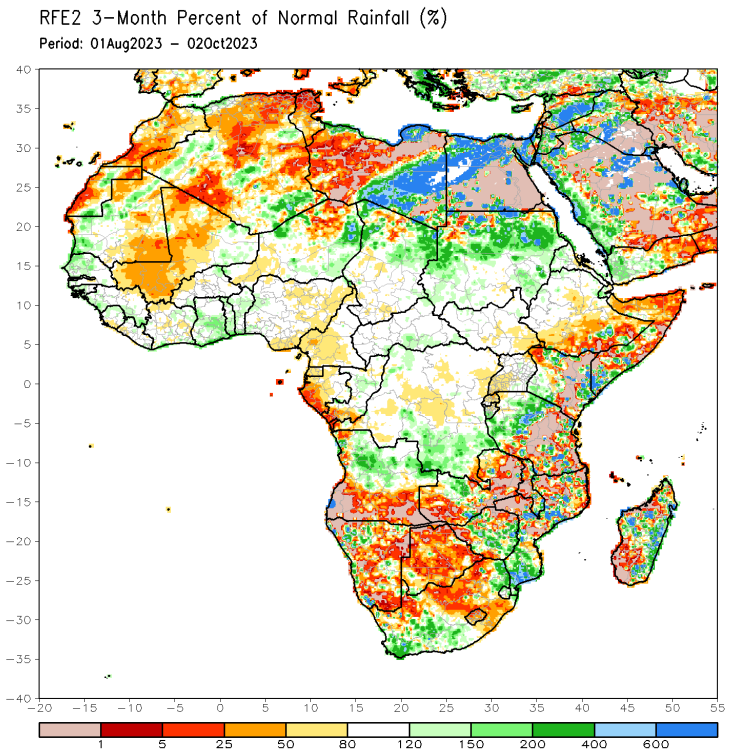


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Flooding continues in West Africa.

Over the past week, heavy rainfall in West Africa has caused flooding to remain in several areas, including central Mali and parts of Burkina Faso, northern Ghana, central Nigeria, and southern Chad. Moderate rain has continued along the Gulf of Guinea (**Figure 2**). The northward shift of the Intertropical Front (ITF) may have caused this observed wetness since early September. Besides the detected flooding, vegetation conditions were at or above average over much of West Africa, especially along the Sahel region. Poor vegetation conditions were, however, indicated over localized areas such as southeastern Mauritania, parts of northern and central Mali, Niger, and Chad.

During the next week, heavy rainfall is forecast along the Gulf of Guinea, with significant rainfall (>100 mm) over Sierra Leone, Liberia, southern and eastern parts of Nigeria, and the western and south coast of Cameroon. In addition, above-average rainfall (20-50 mm) is expected over the Gulf of Guinea, with the highest (50 mm) over the southern part of Ghana, Togo and Benin, and southwestern Nigeria. Meanwhile, abnormal heat hazards are posted in Western Sahara, western Mauritania, and Morocco, and above-average maximum temperatures and elevated heat index are forecasted in the region, potentially affecting vulnerable people.

7-Day Satellite Estimated Total Rainfall (mm)
Valid: 27 September – 03 October 2023

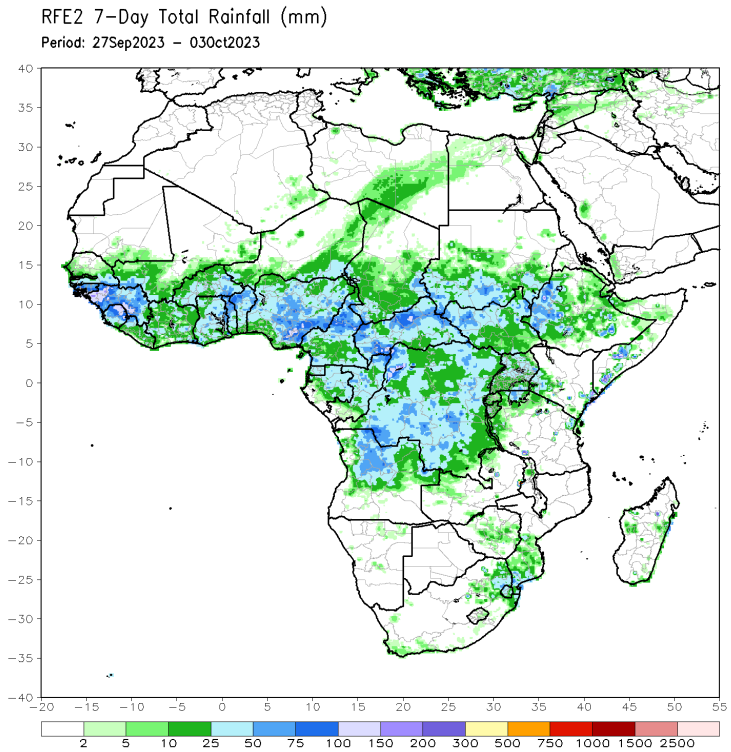
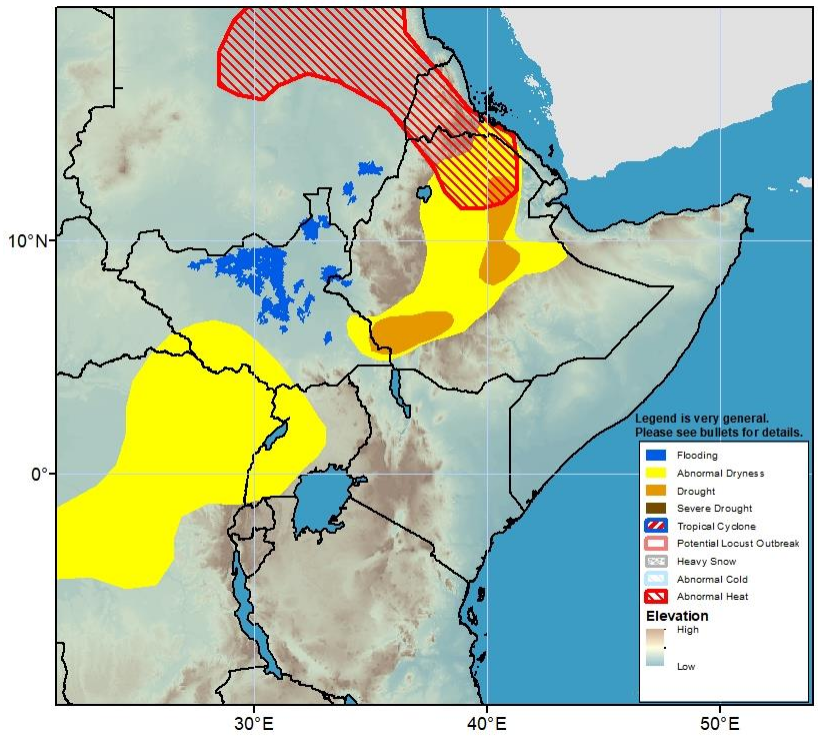
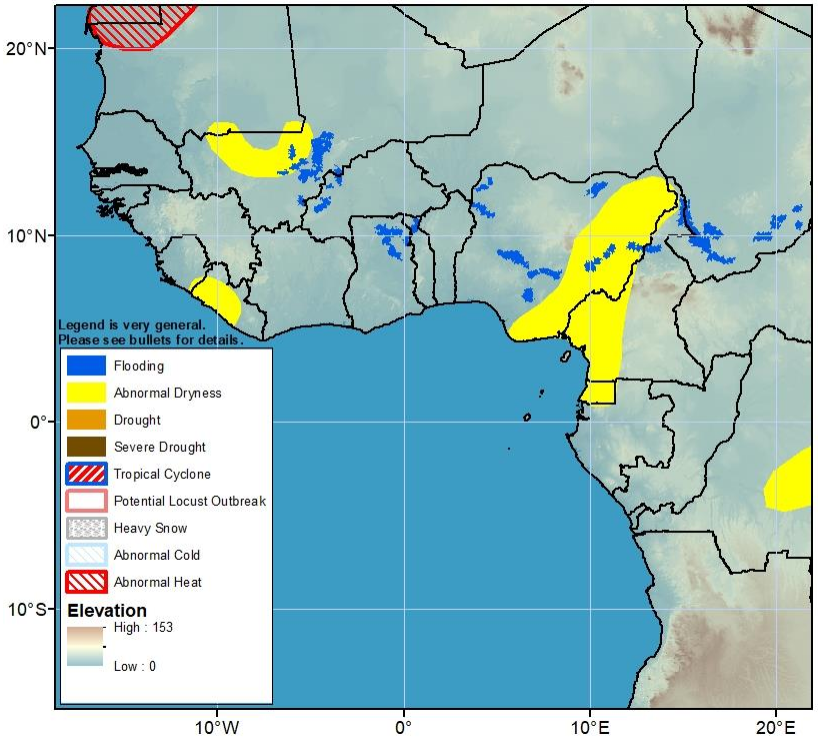


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC



Flooding has persisted in the Sudd wetlands in South Sudan as well as along the Blue Nile and White Nile Rivers in eastern Sudan.

Figure 3: Hazards, focused over Eastern Africa



Flooding has persisted in central Mali, western Burkina Faso, northern Ghana, northern Togo, Nigeria, and Chad.

Figure 4: Hazards, focused over West Africa