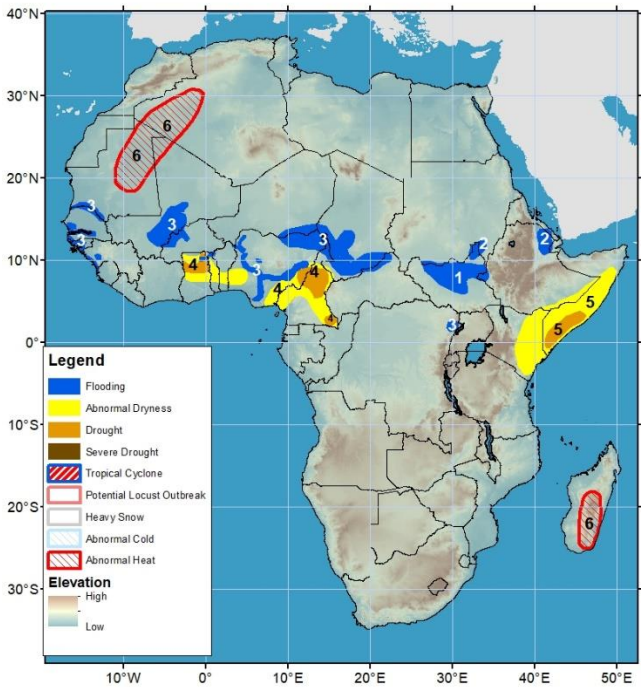
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
14 November – 20 November 2024

- **The October – December (OND) season has started poorly in East Africa. The first heavy and above average rainfall was observed in central and eastern Kenya in mid-November.**



1) The Sudd wetlands in South Sudan remain inundated, although there are improvements along the upstream White Nile.

2) Heavy and above-average rainfall has led to flooding in northeastern Ethiopia.

3) Heavy rainfall has led to severe flooding in Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, northern Sierra Leone, central and southern Mali (particularly affecting low-lying areas of Ségou, Sikasso, and parts of Mopti), Senegal, southern Niger, northern Nigeria (around the Komadugu River), central and southern Chad, and northern Cameroon. However, flooding conditions improved substantially across Nigeria. Northeastern DR Congo have experienced heavy rain and floods due to the overflow of Lake Albert since beginning of November.

4) Insufficient rainfall during July and August has led to moisture deficits, causing abnormal dryness in Ghana, central Togo, central Benin, and parts of western Nigeria. In northern Ghana, a dry spell significantly dried out soils, potentially reducing crop yields by 50% or more. Additionally, eastern Nigeria and central and eastern Cameroon are experiencing abnormal dryness due to below-average rainfall for many months, leading to drought conditions in these regions.

5) Since late September, below-average rainfall persisted across southeastern Ethiopian lowlands and central and southern Somalia. The dry conditions continued through October, the peak rainfall month for that region, and are reflected in many indicators and indices. As a result, the abnormal dryness polygon has been expanded into Kenya, and a drought polygon has been placed in parts of Somalia.

6) Abnormally hot conditions are forecasted in northwestern Africa and parts of Madagascar. In these regions, the probability of prolonged periods with high maximum temperatures and humidity is high, which could negatively impact vulnerable populations and crop yields.

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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A few coastal areas of the Gulf of Guinea received light to moderate rainfall. Most of the Sahel remained dry.

Recent rainfall anomalies indicate the cessation of the summer rainfall in the Sahel and its withdrawal in the Gulf of Guinea. While isolated location in coastal Cote d'Ivoire, southwestern Ghana, and southwestern Nigeria received heavy rainfall in excess of 75 mm, most of the coastal regions received light to moderate rainfall during the last week. Positive anomalies were limited to between 10-50 mm during this period (**Figure 1**). The heaviest and widespread rainfall occurred in Central Africa. Weekly totals exceeded 100 mm in coastal areas of Gabon and Congo, over central Congo, and in isolated areas in northwestern and eastern DRC. As the rains expand into the southern hemisphere, moderate to heavy rainfall exceeding 25 mm was observed from Angola to South Africa and Madagascar. Most of these regions received above-average rainfall for the week. During the last 30 days, above-average rainfall was observed over most areas in western Africa. Rainfall surpluses of 100-300 mm have been recorded in southeastern Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, central Ghana, southwestern Nigeria, central Congo, and parts of DR Congo. According to the report, these rainfall surpluses have led to floods in northeastern DR Congo due to the overflow of Lake Albert. During the last 90 days, above-average rainfall has been observed over most of the Western African region (**Figure 2**). Excessive seasonal rains had swollen the Niger River, especially in Mali and Nigeria, Flooding was observed along the Sokoto and Benue Rivers and downstream after their confluence. Meanwhile, deficits remained high (200-500 below average) in southeastern Nigeria and parts of Cameroon. 90-day deficits are also expanding in Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and Angola.

With a continuing southward shift of the summer rains next week, the rainfall will likely clear from the coastal areas of the Gulf of Guinea and continue over Central Africa. The rain will further expand into Angola, western Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

7-Day Satellite Estimated Total Rainfall
Valid: 06 November - 12 November 2024

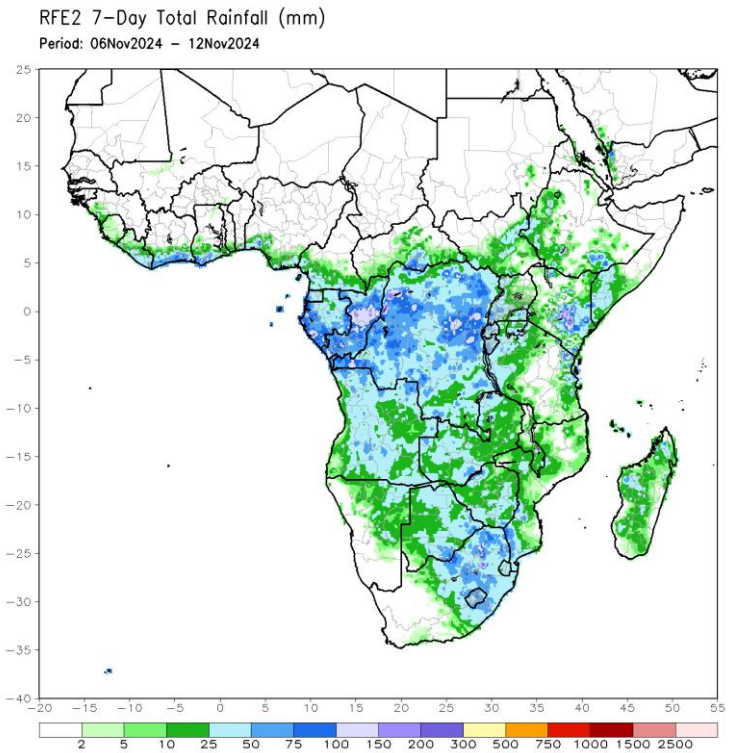


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

90-day Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: 15 August 2024 – 12 November 2024

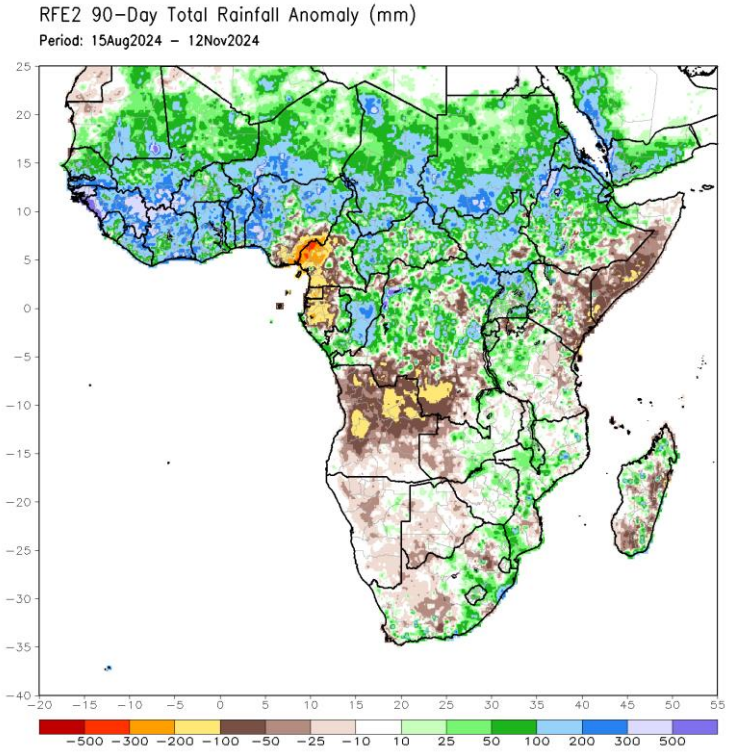
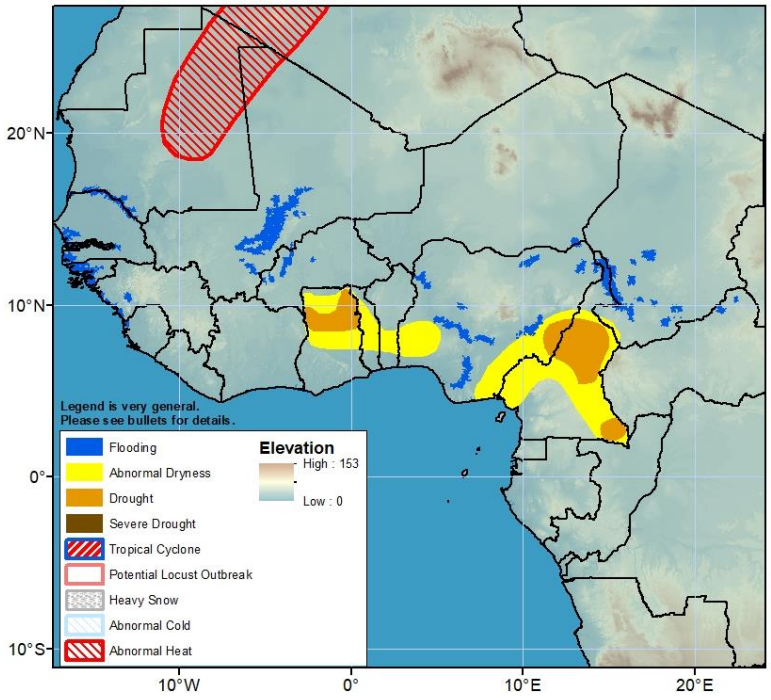


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

The rains have cleared from northern Ethiopia and expanded into equatorial East Africa. The first heavy and above average rainfall was observed in central and eastern Kenya.

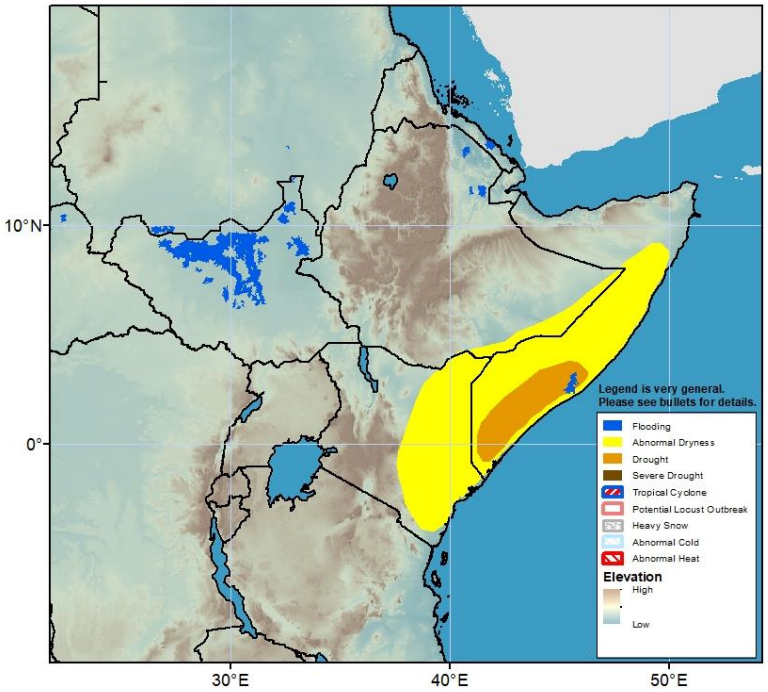
During the last week, the rainfall has shifted towards equatorial regions. As a result, dry conditions prevailed over most of Ethiopia, which favors harvesting activities. On the other hand, rainfall increased in equatorial Eastern Africa, with the first heavy and above average rainfall occurring in central and eastern Kenya. Rainfall was locally heavy (100-150 mm) from Meru to Garissa in central and eastern Kenya (**Figure 1**). Despite the localized enhanced rains in central regions, below-average rainfall has persisted in the coastal regions of Somalia. VHI and NDVI indicate poor vegetation health, with negative NDVI anomalies continuing in Somalia and central and eastern Kenya. On the 90-day timescale, most areas in the northern sectors have received above-average rainfall since August (**Figure 2**).

Next week, below-average rainfall is expected in southern Ethiopia and Tanzania, while central and eastern Kenya and parts of southern Somalia are expected to experience wetter than average conditions. An Abnormal Dryness polygon is maintained in parts of Somalia and Kenya.



Inundation is receding from many parts of West Africa. Inundation receded substantially across Chad, but flooding remained unchanged in Central Mali. Flooding remained unchanged in downstream but improved marginally in the upstream in Senegal River. Flooding conditions gradually improving along the coastal Senegal, Guinea-Bissau and Guinea. Flooding conditions improved substantially across Nigeria.
(Please note that the flood risk shape files are sourced from NOAA VIIRS).

Figure 3: Hazards, focused over West Africa



Inundated areas have been persistent in the Sudd wetlands of South Sudan. Gradual improvement in inundation especially along the upstream White Nile. Inundation is detected and unseasonal rain expanded into northern Ethiopia and Eritrea.
(Please note that the flood risk shape files are sourced from NOAA VIIRS).

Figure 4: Hazards, focused over Eastern Africa