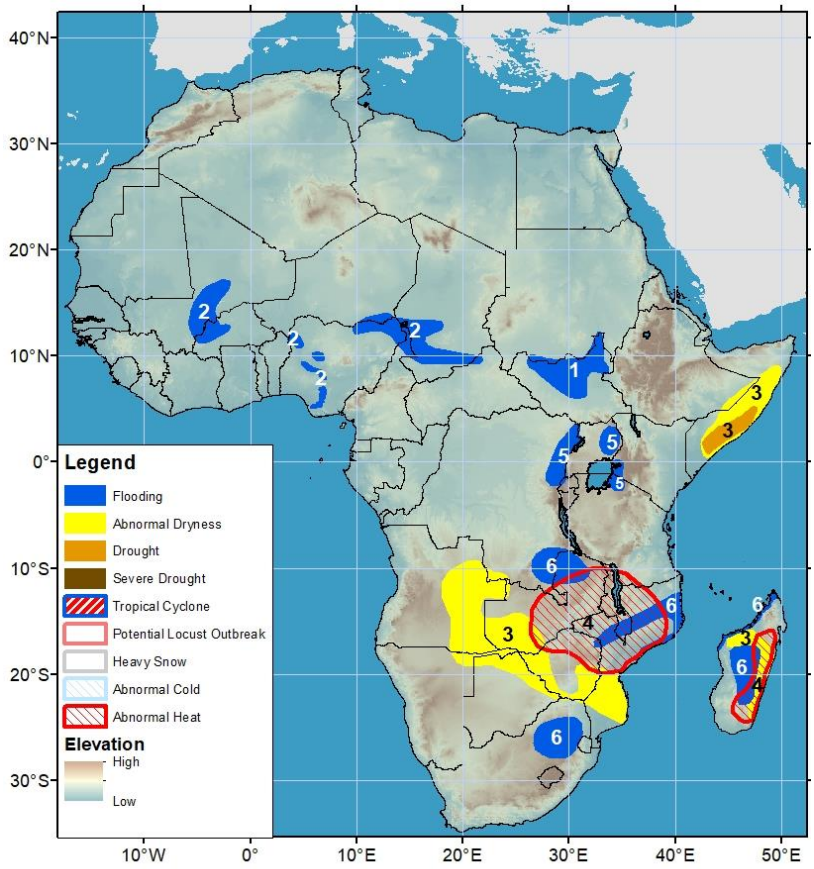
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
26 December 2024 – 1 January 2025

- **High flooding risks exist over east-central South Africa and central Madagascar during the next week.**
- **Seasonal rainfall ends; but inundation persists over many areas of Eastern Africa.**



1) Inundation remains in the Sudd wetlands of South Sudan.

2) Heavy rainfall has led to severe flooding in central and southern Mali (particularly affecting low-lying areas of Ségou, Sikasso, and parts of Mopti), southern Niger, northwestern and central Nigeria (around the Komadugu River), central and southern Chad, and northern Cameroon.

3) Poorly-distributed rainfall since late September has resulted in abnormal dryness and drought across southeastern Ethiopia, central and southern Somalia. In Southern Africa, a lack of rainfall since late October has led to abnormal dryness across eastern Angola, southwestern Zambia, northern Botswana, southern Zimbabwe, southern Mozambique, and parts of Madagascar.

4) Abnormally-hot conditions are forecasted across eastern Southern Africa and eastern Madagascar as above-average maximum temperatures are expected to persist in the region for three or more consecutive days during the next week.

5) Localized heavy rainfall may result in isolated flash floods in DRC and northern Zambia. The Ituri province in northeastern DRC has experienced heavy rain and floods due to the overflow of Lake Albert since the beginning of November. Heavy rainfall has caused flooding, resulting in casualties and damage in northern Tanzania, particularly in the Mara region, which borders southern Kenya. Heavy rain triggered landslides, causing fatalities in eastern Uganda.

6) The passage of Tropical Cyclone CHIDO during mid-December has resulted in flooding in northern Mozambique, southern Malawi, and northwestern coastal areas of Madagascar. This past week's heavy rainfall has caused flooding and fatalities in the City of Tshwane in South Africa. Heavy rainfall is forecasted in central Madagascar, heightening the risks of flooding in the region 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.
Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, jverdin@usaid.gov

Increased in rainfall observed in central Southern Africa

During the past week, an increase in rainfall was observed in central Southern Africa. Heavy rainfall was received across western Zambia, eastern Botswana, southwestern Zimbabwe, and northeastern South Africa (**Figure 1**). In South Africa, heavy rainfall has led to flooding in the City of Tshwane in the Gauteng Province, which has killed people, according to reports. Widespread moderate to locally heavy rainfall was seen over Angola, Botswana, southern Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Eswatini, and eastern South Africa. While this past week's rainfall was above-average over Zambia, Botswana, western Zimbabwe, and northern South Africa, rainfall was, once again, below-average across eastern Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, and Madagascar. Over the past 30 days, moderate to large (50-200 mm) rainfall deficits spread across eastern Angola, Zambia, eastern Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi, and Madagascar. In contrast, small to moderate (25-100 mm) rainfall surpluses were shown in northwestern Angola, eastern Botswana, southern Zimbabwe, northern South Africa, and southern Mozambique. Moreover, above-average maximum temperatures dominated across Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe over the past recent weeks.

Next week, moderate to heavy and above-average rainfall is forecasted across Angola, western Zambia, northeastern Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, northeastern South Africa, central Mozambique, and central Madagascar. The forecasted amounts could trigger localized flooding over many local areas of the region. In contrast, little to light and below-average rainfall is expected in eastern Zambia, Malawi, northern Mozambique, and eastern Madagascar. Also, abnormally-hot conditions are expected over eastern South Africa and eastern Madagascar, which could impact vulnerable people and exacerbate dry conditions in the region.

7-Day Satellite Estimated Total Rainfall (mm)
Valid: 19 December - 25 December 2024

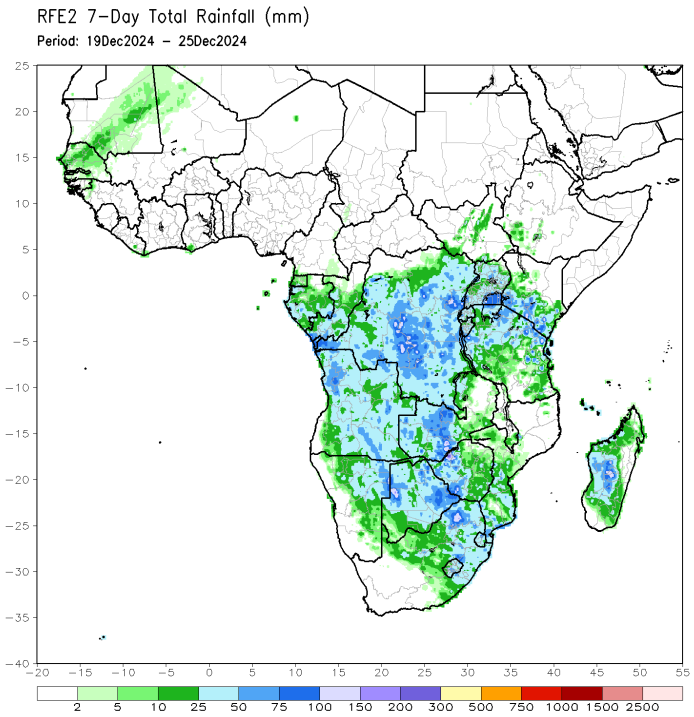


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Wet conditions persist in Equatorial Eastern Africa.

Over the past 30 days, rainfall was above-average in western Ethiopia, Uganda, western and southern Kenya, Rwanda, and Tanzania (**Figure 2**). The observed wet conditions were attributable to increased rainfall over Equatorial East Africa during late November and consistent rainfall since early December, which have already led to flooding over many local areas, according to reports. In contrast, rainfall was below-average in south-central Ethiopia, central and east-central Kenya, and parts of southern and central Somalia. Since late September, southeastern Ethiopia, northeastern Kenya, and much of Somalia have received below-average rainfall, with seasonal moisture deficits between 50-200 mm. This poor spatial and temporal rainfall distribution has already negatively impacted vegetation and ground conditions, resulting in abnormal dryness and drought in the region.

Next week, dry conditions are forecasted to prevail over Eastern Africa. Little to light (< 25 mm) rainfall is expected in southern Uganda, southern Kenya, and northeastern Tanzania. However, moderate to locally heavy rainfall is forecasted in Rwanda, Burundi, and western Tanzania, which could exacerbate conditions on the ground over previously-flooded areas in the region.

30-Day Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: 26 November – 25 December 2024

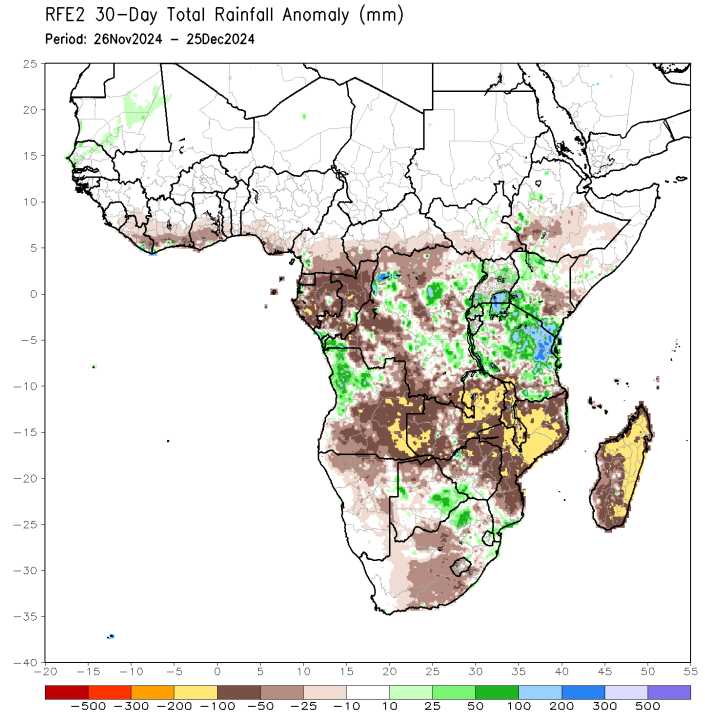
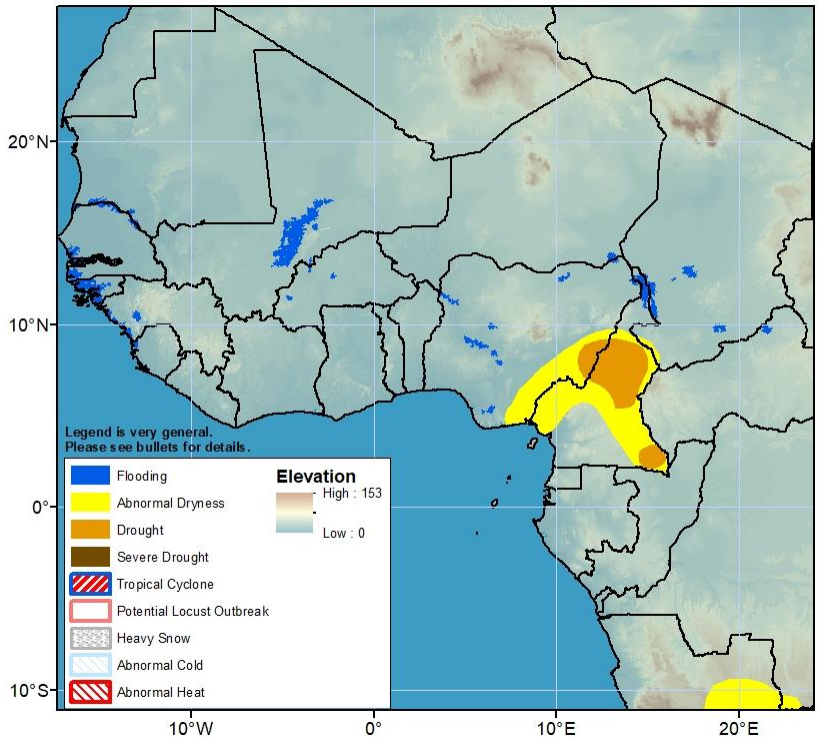
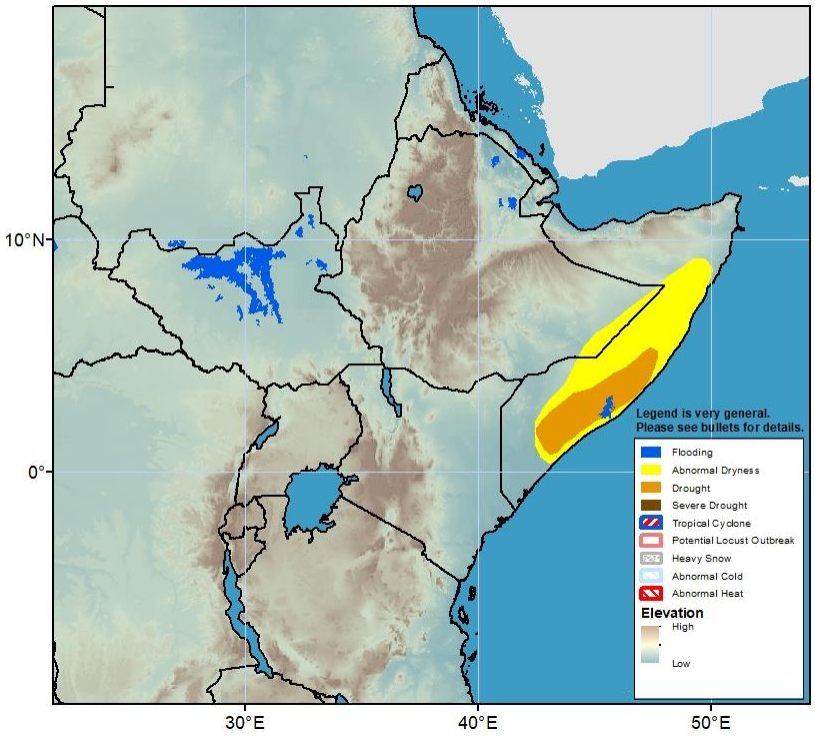


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC



Inundation is receding from many parts of West Africa. Inundation receded substantially across Chad, but flooding remained unchanged in Central Mali. Flooding gradually improving along the Senegal River. 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. There is a gradual improvement in inundation especially along the upstream White Nile. Although improving, inundation is detected in northeastern Ethiopia and Eritrea.
(Please note that the flood risk shape files are sourced from NOAA VIIRS).

Figure 4: Hazards, focused over Eastern Africa