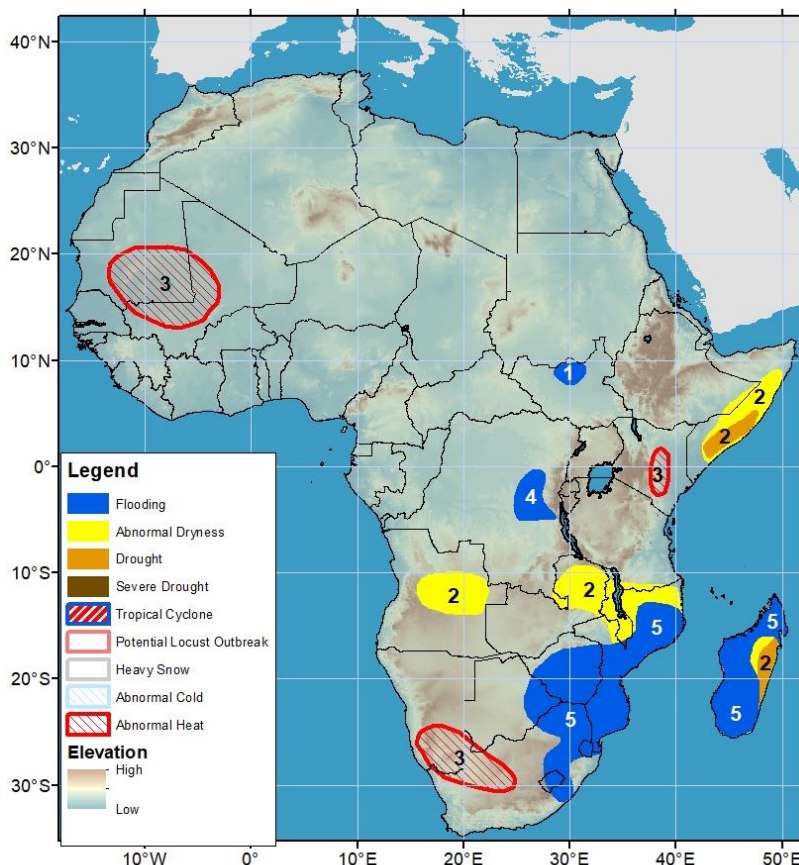


## Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 23 January – 29 January 2025

- Heavy rainfall in eastern Southern Africa has led to ongoing flooding conditions.
- Insufficient seasonal rain from October to December has led to drought in Somalia of Eastern Africa.



- 1) Inundation remains in the Sudd wetlands of South Sudan.
- 2) Poorly-distributed rainfall since late September has resulted in abnormal dryness and drought across central and southern Somalia. In Southern Africa, a lack of rainfall since late October has led to abnormal dryness in central Angola, eastern Zambia, Malawi, northern Mozambique, and eastern Madagascar. Dry conditions have intensified in Madagascar, leading to drought over the east-central region and along the east coasts.
- 3) Over the next week, maximum temperatures are forecast to be up to 6°C above average in southern Mauritania, central and southern Mali, central Kenya, southern Namibia, and western and central South Africa. The expected abnormal heat could affect sensitive and vulnerable people in the region.
- 4) In the past few weeks, heavy rainfall has impacted the central Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), especially in the Maniema Province, causing floods that have caused casualties and damage.
- 5) This past week's passage of Tropical Cyclone DIKELEDI has led to flooding in northern Madagascar and northern Mozambique. Over the past few weeks, heavy rainfall has triggered flooding in Francistown in eastern Botswana, Matabeleland and Harare in Zimbabwe, Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal Provinces in South Africa, and Maputo City in Mozambique. Heavy rainfall is forecast for much of Madagascar, which maintains high risks of flooding in the region and previously flooded areas.

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](mailto: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](mailto:jverdin@usaid.gov)

Heavy rainfall has occurred in eastern parts of Southern Africa.

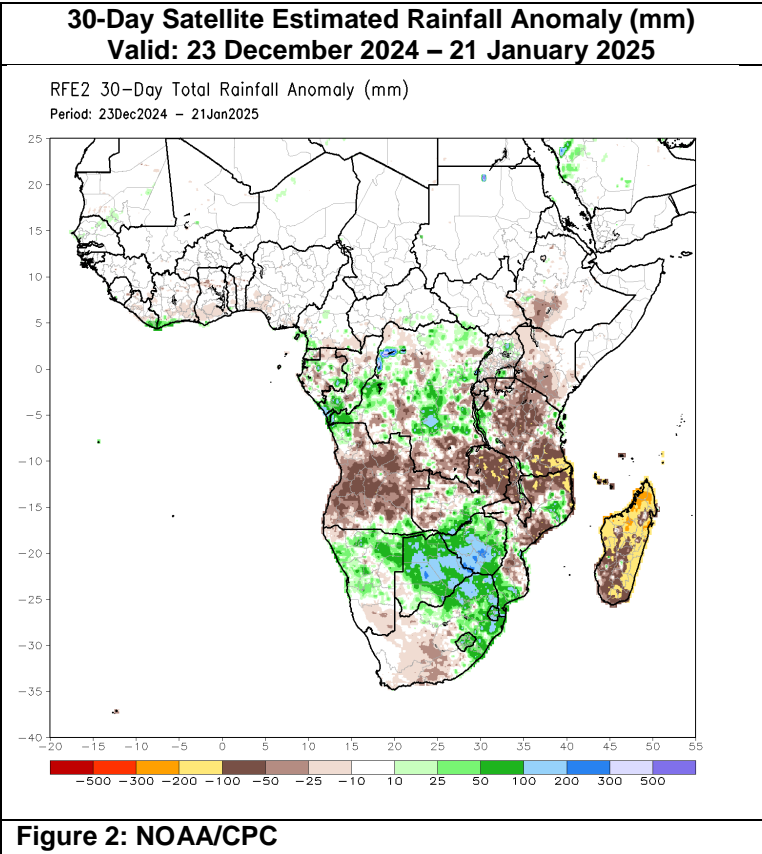
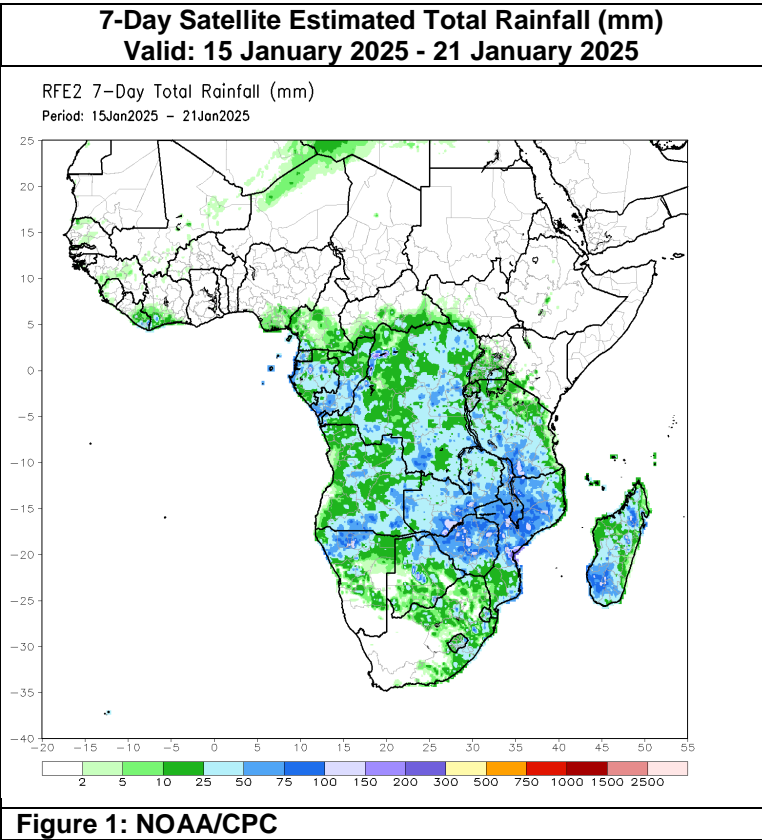
Last week's tropical cyclone DIKELEDI brought very heavy rainfall to northeastern Mozambique and southwestern Madagascar. Reports indicate that severe rainfall in Mozambique has impacted thousands of individuals and infrastructure. Additionally, heavy rain has been observed in eastern Botswana, Zimbabwe, and localized areas of South Africa, Lesotho, Eswatini, and central Mozambique (**Figure 1**). Over the past 30-days, drier-than-average conditions persisted in northern Southern Africa, including Angola, northern Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, and Madagascar, due to poorly-distributed rainfall. In addition, dryness has increased in central and southern Angola. Meanwhile dryness has improved slightly in northern Mozambique which can be related to the passage of the recent Tropical Cyclone DIKELEDI. The prolonged dryness has led to drought, which has left thousands of hectares of rice fields in central and eastern Madagascar extremely dry, hindering farmers from planting rice. Conversely, enhanced rainfall resulted in wetness, with moisture surpluses exceeding 100 mm across Botswana, southern Zimbabwe, northeastern South Africa, Lesotho, Eswatini, and southernmost Mozambique.

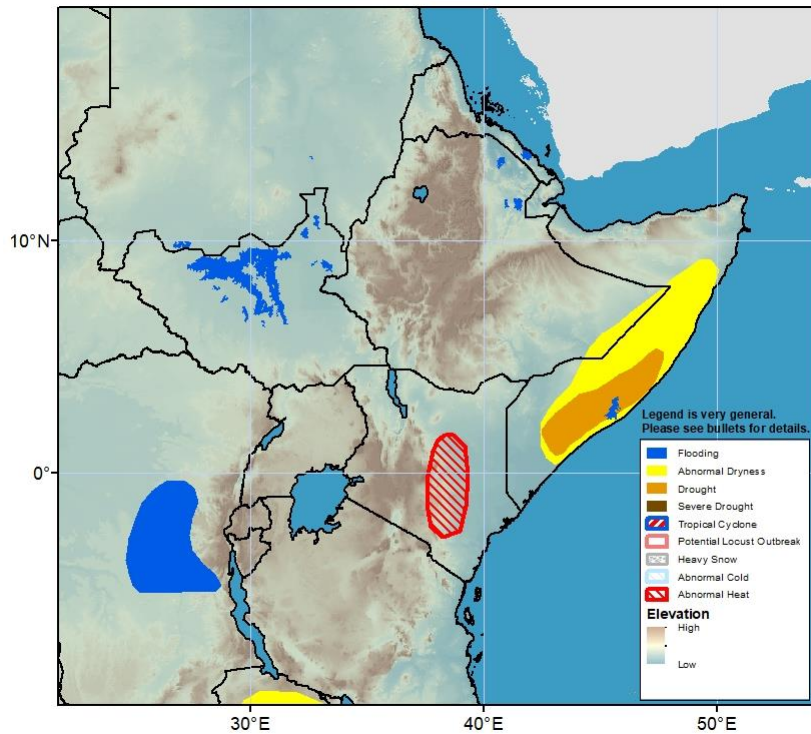
Next week, moderate to heavy rainfall is expected across eastern Zambia, Malawi, northern and central Mozambique, and much of Madagascar, which can exacerbate conditions over many previously-flooded areas. Light to moderate and above-average rainfall is expected over eastern Angola, central Zambia, eastern and southern DR Congo, Rwanda, Burundi, and Tanzania. In contrast, western and northern parts of Angola, eastern Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, and northern and eastern parts of South Africa, Lesotho and Eswatini will experience below-average rainfall. Abnormally-hot conditions are forecast for southern Namibia, western and central South Africa.

Below-average rainfall persisted in southwestern Ethiopia

Over the past 30 days, cumulative rainfall has been below average, with 10-50 mm deficits in southwestern Ethiopia, southern Kenya, and much of Tanzania. Larger rainfall deficits (50-200 mm) were experienced in southern Tanzania (**Figure 2**). In contrast, total rainfall was near to above-average in parts of the north and south regions, and isolated places in the western border of Tanzania. Over the past 90 days, drier-than-average conditions, with rainfall deficits between 50-100 mm, were observed in southwestern Ethiopia, eastern Kenya, and central and southern Somalia due to insufficient rainfall during the previous *short-rains*, October – December rainfall season. The previous season's poor rainfall distribution has already led to drought, negatively impacting ground conditions over many areas of central Somalia. During the past week, Eastern Africa experienced dry conditions, except for pocket areas of southwestern Ethiopia, southwestern Kenya, southern Uganda, and western and southern Tanzania, which experienced light to moderate rainfall. Moreover, seismic activity with recurrent earthquakes has been reported in the southern Afar and northern Oromia regions of Ethiopia, causing many people affected.

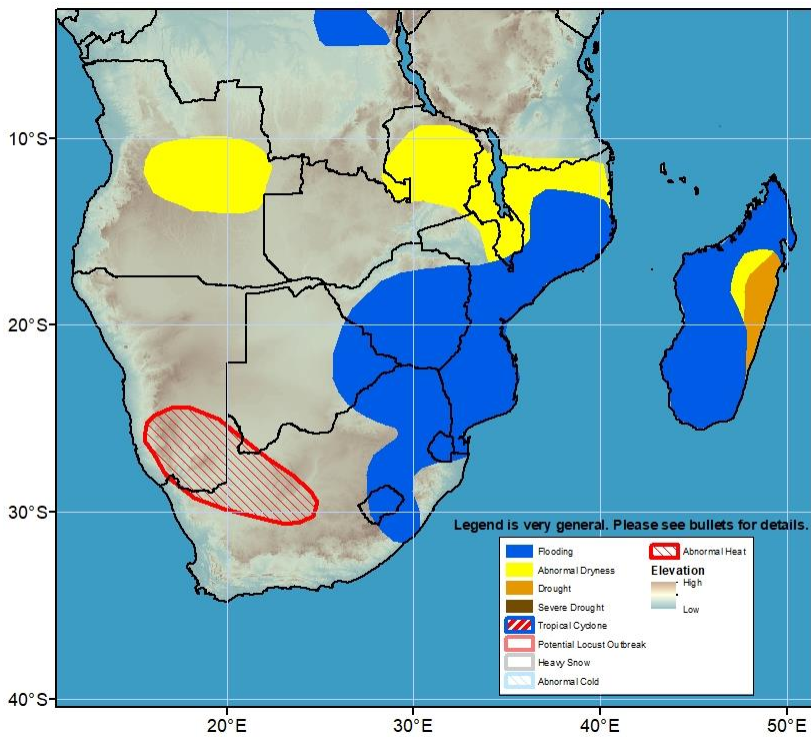
Next week, dry conditions are forecast to continue in Eastern Africa, which could strengthen rainfall deficits over southwestern Ethiopia. Light to moderate rainfall is expected in much of Tanzania, Rwanda, and Burundi, whereas light rainfall is forecast in southern Uganda and southern Kenya. Abnormally hot conditions are forecast for southern Mauritania, as well as central and southern Mali.





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 3: Hazards, focused over Eastern Africa**



The passage of Tropical Cyclone DIKELEDI has caused flooding in northeastern Mozambique and northern Madagascar. Forecasted heavy rainfall in much of Madagascar maintains high risks of flooding in the region and previously flooded areas. Localized to substantial flooding have been reported in the Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal of South Africa, Francistown of eastern Botswana, Matabeleland and Harare of Zimbabwe, and Maputo City of Mozambique.

**Figure 4: Hazards, focused over Southern Africa**