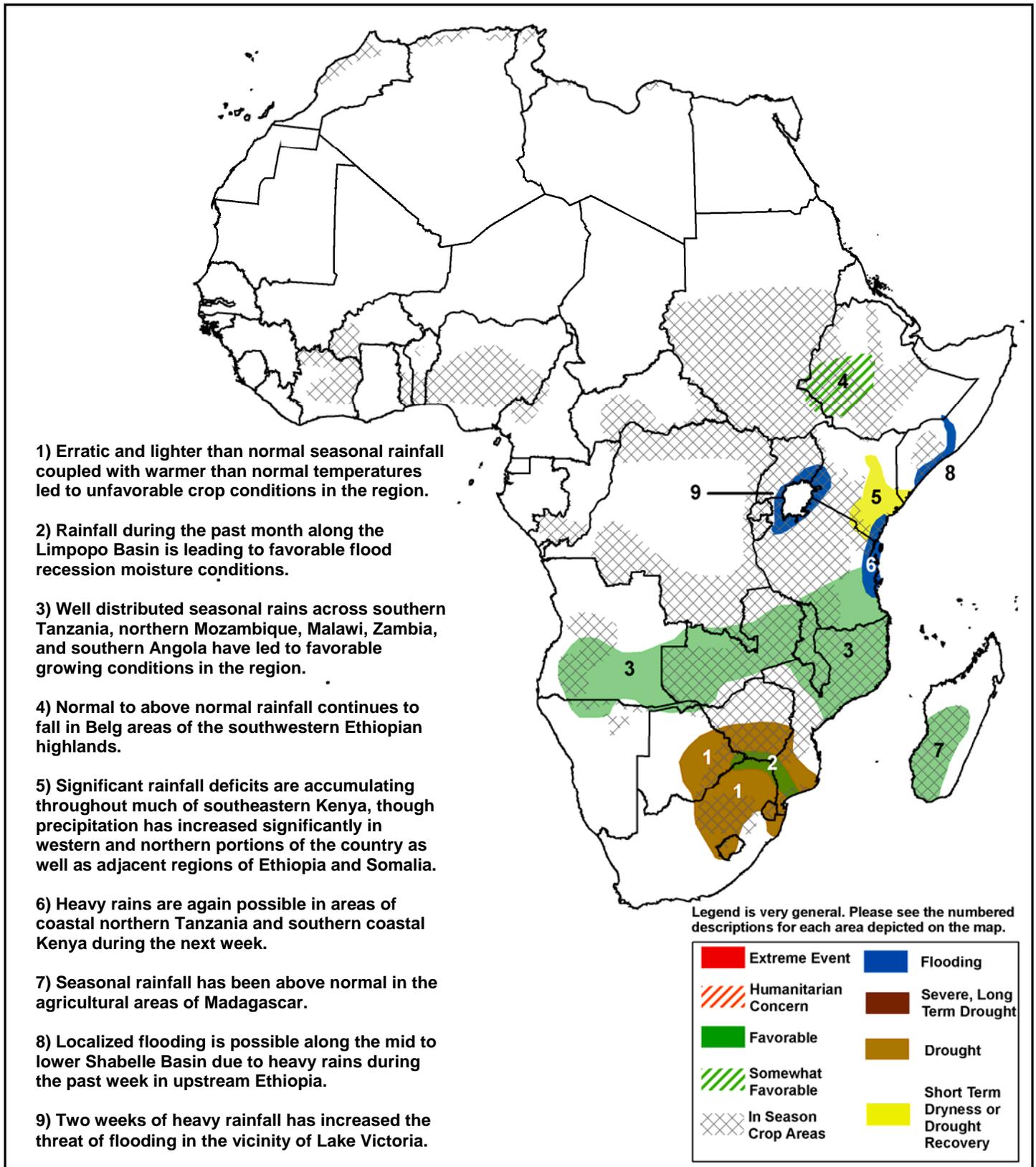
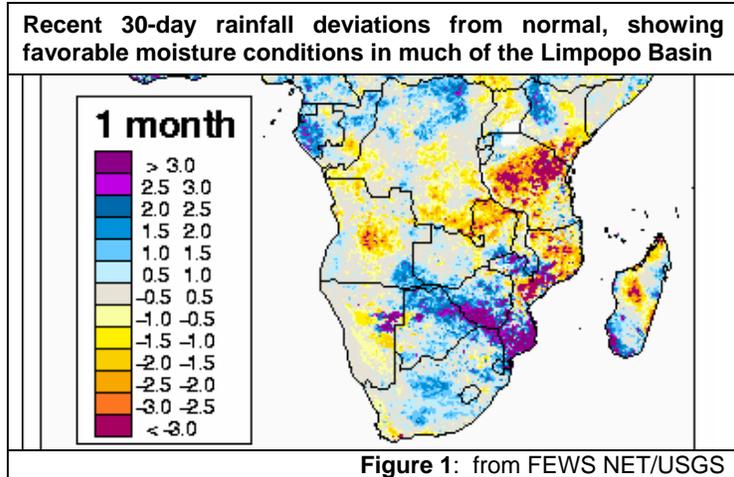


- Heavy rains in western and northern Kenya have helped to alleviate dryness in the region, though portions of eastern and southern Kenya remain dry.
- Flooding along the mid to lowewr Shabelle Basin in Somalia should decrease throughout the week as rainfall diminishes.



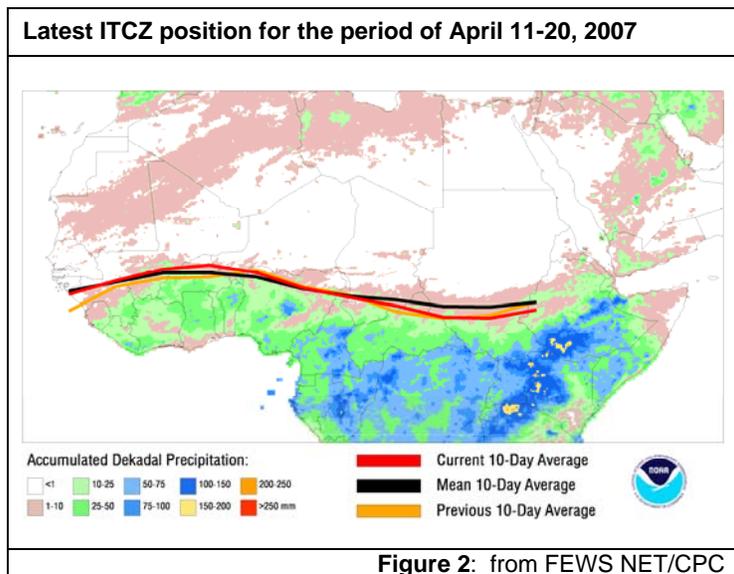
## Recession Crops Benefit from Recent Rainfall

Continued heavy rain during the second half of March has dramatically increased moisture, as shown in Figure 1, in areas of southern Mozambique and southern Zimbabwe along the Limpopo Basin. Two-week accumulated precipitation totals exceeded 150 mm in some locations, with widespread amounts greater than 50 mm in the area. Through long season crops were negatively affected by poor performing rainfall, flood recession agriculture is continuing to benefit from the recent rainfall.



## ITCZ Movement Surges in West, Lags in East

Daily monitoring of the position of the African portion of the Intertropical Convergence Zone has resulted in the map shown below as Figure 2. The image depicts current vs. mean dekadal position of the ITCZ, as well as the location during the previous period, with accompanying 10-day accumulated rainfall. Rains have been near normal in much of the Gulf of Guinea region thus far during the current season, though are somewhat lagging in the east, near CAR, Chad, and Sudan.



## Dryness in Eastern Kenya / Rainfall Observed

Seasonal rainfall has been slow to start throughout much of eastern Kenya and adjacent parts of southern Ethiopia and Somalia, as concerns for short term dryness continue to grow (See Figure 3 below). However, rainfall has begun to increase in the region, and additional precipitation is expected during the next week. Dryness does remain, however, in areas of southern and eastern Kenya due to a lack of seasonal rainfall. Some areas in western Kenya have reported localized flooding due to excessive rainfall during the past two weeks.

