Following a brief period of suppressed rainfall, Guatemala registers heavy precipitation during the last week

Africa Weather Hazards

1. Prolonged heavy rainfall during the season throughout the Niger River basin has triggered flooding and inundation along the Niger River in Mali, Niger, and Nigeria. Inundation is also expected to be greater than it has been for many years through the inner Niger delta.

2. Low and poorly distributed seasonal rainfall across parts of central Senegal have led to strengthening moisture deficits and deteriorating ground conditions.

3. Below-average seasonal rainfall and persistent moisture deficits in the region have negatively impacted developing crops across parts of the eastern Oromia and SNNP provinces of Ethiopia. Similar conditions have also begun to negatively impact ground conditions in many parts of Uganda, South Sudan, and eastern DRC.

4. There is a potential for increased number of locusts migrating from the Arabian Peninsula which may negatively impact cropping activities.

Source: FEWS NET/NOAA
Africa Overview

A normal pattern of rains were observed as the ITF continues its seasonal southward retreat

Seasonable moderate to heavy rain was observed this past week across many western Africa countries. According to satellite rainfall estimates, accumulations greater than 100mm were received in some parts of Guinea (Figure 1). Similar totals were also received in southern Nigeria. Scattered rain showers remained present throughout northern parts of the region, including Mauritania, northern Mali and Niger. Light rains were received in southern portions of Liberia, Cote D’Ivoire, and central/northern parts of Nigeria.

Most of the West Africa region shows positive rainfall anomalies over the previous 30-day period (Figure 2). The only areas exhibiting significant rainfall deficits are central Senegal, The Gambia, southern Liberia, northern Ghana and north-central Nigeria. Moisture deficits have been persistent for the longest in central Senegal and the Gambia, but rains have been relatively frequent there and increased the previous week. As a result, cropping activities have not appeared to be greatly affected. Heavy and above-average rainfall since late July in the region continues to cause inundation along the Niger River in Mali, Niger, and Nigeria. Vegetation Indices indicate normal to better-than-normal vegetation conditions across the entire region. Even in Senegal, index trends show rapidly improving conditions.

For the upcoming outlook period, precipitation models suggest that the monsoon circulation will continue to shift further south. Enhanced precipitation is forecasted for most of the Gulf of Guinea countries.

Abnormal dryness persists despite some increased rains

The heaviest rain this past week was observed in western Ethiopia, southern Sudan and southern South Sudan. Locally, greater than 150mm of rain was observed according to satellite estimates. Lighter and slightly below-normal rainfall was observed in parts of central Ethiopia. A strip of above-average rainfall stretching from western Ethiopia, through South Sudan and into Uganda and Rwanda (Figure 3) has benefitted some of the driest parts of the region. Suppressed and erratic rainfall since August had slowly strengthened negative rainfall anomalies for portions of southern Ethiopia, southern South Sudan, and Uganda. Deficits expanded into eastern regions of the Democratic Republic of the Congo as well. Last week’s rain has helped, but deficits are still widely between 25 and 100mm. A few local areas in South Sudan and Uganda have seen deficits erased. Comparison with remotely sensed vegetation health indices corroborates a shortage of available ground moisture, most notably in the central Oromia region of Ethiopia and in southern Uganda.

For the upcoming outlook period, above-normal rains are expected in western Ethiopia and in northeastern DRC. Moderate rains may also occur in western Kenya. Elsewhere, precipitation is expected to remain seasonable.
Central Asia Weather Hazards

No hazards posted.

**Temperatures**
Near to above-normal temperatures were observed across most of the region from September 11 to 17. However, slightly below-normal temperatures were observed across western Kazakhstan. The GFS model indicates that above-normal temperatures are likely to prevail across Central Asia during the next week. Minimum temperatures are forecast to remain above freezing except for the higher elevations of Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan.

**Precipitation**
A low pressure system and cold front resulted in widespread rainfall (10 to 40 mm) across northwestern Kazakhstan. Elsewhere, scattered showers (locally more than 25 mm) fell across northern Pakistan. The CPC unified gauge analysis indicates small precipitation deficits (less than 25 mm) limited to northeast Kazakhstan during the past 30 days.

The Indian Monsoon began its seasonal shift away from Pakistan earlier this month. Therefore, mostly dry weather is forecast across Pakistan. Mostly dry weather is also expected to prevail across most of the remainder of Central Asia with light precipitation amounts (less than 25 mm) confined to western Kazakhstan.

Central America and the Caribbean Weather Hazards

1. Insufficient and infrequent rain over the past several weeks has led to growing rainfall deficits and abnormal dryness throughout parts of Haiti and neighboring western Dominican Republic.
Central America and the Caribbean Overview

Following a brief period of suppressed rainfall, Guatemala registers heavy precipitation during the last week.

During September, heavy and widespread weekly rainfall accumulations were received throughout Guatemala, with the highest totals exceeding 200mm in the northwestern. Elsewhere, widespread but more moderate rainfall amounts were received across many parts of Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua, with another round of heavy rainfall (100-150mm) observed over many departments in the Gulf of Fonseca. Over the past 30 days, there continues to be several areas within Central America that have experienced both positive and negative precipitation trends and anomalies. Several areas in southern Honduras and El Salvador are now experiencing well above-average rainfall. In western Guatemala, much improved rains during the last week have significantly helped to mitigate anomalous dryness in the region, and are now near-average since the middle of August. Conversely, strengthening moisture deficits have been observed throughout eastern Guatemala and southwestern Honduras, where both low weekly totals and a low number of rain days have persisted. Although satellite rainfall estimates depicted below-average rainfall in parts of Nicaragua, ground reports indicate no negative impacts on cropping activities. During the next week, the continuation of enhanced rainfall is expected across much of the Pacific Basin of Central America, and into interior Guatemala weekly accumulations possibly exceeding 150mm in the region. Elsewhere, average to below-average rainfall is expected. No tropical cyclone activity is expected to impact Central America for the next seven days.

Increased rainfall continues across parts of central and southern Haiti

In the last seven days, the continuation of seasonably favorable rainfall was observed throughout Haiti, with the highest weekly accumulations received across the central and southern departments of Haiti and western Dominican Republic. While rains have improved in the central and southern departments of Haiti, however, several weeks of suppressed precipitation throughout northern Haiti has resulted in below-average moisture conditions that may negatively impact cropping activities. Over the past 30 days, the strongest moisture deficits remain concentrated in the northwest, as some local areas have only received less than half of the their normal rainfall for the period according to satellite estimates. Remotely sensed vegetation health indices also depict unfavorable moisture conditions in the region. For the upcoming outlook period, average to below-average precipitation is forecast to continue over Hispaniola. Locally moderate to heavy rainfall totals are however, possible over portions of the southern peninsula of Haiti and central departments. No tropical cyclone activity is forecast to impact the island during the next week.

ABOUT WEATHER HAZARDS
Hazard maps are based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week) and their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.