Continued heavy rainfall and flooding is forecast across West and East Africa

Africa Weather Hazards

Flooding
Abnormal Dryness
Drought
Severe Drought
Tropical Cyclone
Potential Locust Outbreak
Heavy Snow
Abnormal Cold
Abnormal Heat
Seasonally Dry

1. Desert locust swarms remain present across parts of Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Eritrea, and Yemen. Desert locusts continue to seriously impact Yemen and other areas of the sub-region.

2. Heavy rainfall over the past several weeks caused flooding across Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Nigeria, Niger, Burkina Faso, and Ghana. Additional rainfall will maintain a high flood risk.

3. Above-average rainfall since July has caused widespread flooding across Sudan. The additional forecast rainfall is likely to worsen conditions over many local areas.

4. Heavy rainfall over the past several weeks has caused flooding across the South Kivu Province of eastern DRC. Heavy rainfall next week is likely to maintain a high flood risk.
Africa Overview

West African monsoon rains cause flooding across West Africa
This year the West African monsoon season is expected to have a favorable performance. Since July, the region has recorded above-average rainfall, especially over the Sahel (Figure 1). Over the past few weeks, heavy rainfall has caused flooding across Senegal, Mauritania, Guinea-Conakry, Mali, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Niger, Nigeria, and Chad. Last week, heavy rainfall caused flooding across the Niger State of west-central Nigeria. Meanwhile, below-average rainfall resulted in drier-than-average conditions along the Gulf of Guinea, eastern Liberia, Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, and Benin.

Despite favorable rainfall, some ground conditions remain poor were shown in Ghana, Togo, Benin, and Nigeria.

Next week, heavy rainfall is forecast for Guinea-Conakry, Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, central and southern Nigeria. Light to moderate rainfall is forecast for Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger, which is likely to maintain high risks for flooding over previously-flooded sub-region areas.

The Horn of Africa continues to experience favorable seasonal rains
Last week the Horn of Africa received seasonal rainfall. Meanwhile, heavy rainfall continued across western Ethiopia, southern and eastern Sudan, South Sudan, eastern DRC, and northern Uganda (Figure 2). Continued rainfall has maintained wetter-than-average conditions across east Africa. In Sudan, heavy rainfall has caused widespread flooding affecting most of the country. In Ethiopia, recent torrential rains have led to the Awash River’s overflowing and flooding of parts of the Afar region.

Ongoing mitigation measures have helped reduce desert locust swarms in parts of eastern Africa. However, desert locusts continue to seriously impact Yemen and other parts of the Horn of Africa. Hopper bands and locust swarms remain present in northwestern Kenya, central and northwestern Somalia, northeastern Ethiopia, western Yemen, and southwestern Saudi Arabia.

Next week, heavy rainfall is forecast for eastern DRC, western Ethiopia, northern Uganda, southwestern Kenya, and South Sudan, maintaining heightened risks for flooding over many local areas.
Central Asia Weather Hazards

**Temperatures**
Last week weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 3°C below normal across western Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, while weekly temperatures averaged slightly above normal across the rest of the region. Minimum temperatures remained above freezing except across the higher elevations of Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. Next week minimum temperatures are likely to be near or slightly above normal, suggesting that subfreezing temperatures are likely across higher elevations and northeast Kazakhstan.

**Precipitation**
Last week widespread rainfall alleviated short-term dryness across northwestern Kazakhstan. 30-day precipitation deficits are now limited to northeastern Kazakhstan. Before the start of next week, cold temperatures are forecast to bring additional rainfall to northern Kazakhstan, while high-elevation snow is forecast in northeast Afghanistan and Tajikistan next week. Rainfall is also forecast across northeastern Afghanistan and north Pakistan and may cause flooding.

Central America and the Caribbean Weather Hazards

1. Below-average rainfall over the past two months has strengthened abnormal dryness and drought over a large area in the east of Hispaniola.

2. Below-average rainfall persists across Belize. Below-average rainfall is forecast next week and will likely maintain dry conditions.

3. Heavy rainfall triggers flooding over several areas in the Peten Department of Guatemala.
Central America and the Caribbean Overview

Below-average rainfall is forecast across Belize next week
Last week heavy rainfall caused the Las Pasion, San Pedro, and Usumacinta rivers in Guatemala to flood, triggering additional floods in the Peten Department. La Niña conditions are present and are likely to continue through the Northern Hemisphere winter season. Western and southern Guatemala, El Salvador, southern Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama received moderate to heavy rainfall. Meanwhile, Belize, northern and eastern Honduras, and eastern Nicaragua. Over the past two months, rainfall performance has significantly decreased over Belize, the Gulf of Belize, and southeastern Nicaragua. Next week, above-average rainfall is forecast for the region, except over eastern Honduras, Belize, and eastern Nicaragua for the second consecutive week. Moderate to heavy rainfall is forecast for western Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, southern Honduras, Panama, and Costa Rica, which could trigger new flooding and landslides over already-saturated areas over the regions.

Figure 4: CMORPH Rainfall Climatology (mm)
Period: September 22 - 28, 2020

![CMORPH Rainfall Climatology](image1)

Figure 5: GEFS Mean Total Rainfall (mm)
Valid: September 30, 2020

![GEFS Mean Total Rainfall](image2)

Abnormal dryness strengthens across Hispaniola
La Niña conditions are present and are likely to continue through the Northern Hemisphere winter season. Last week, central Haiti and the Dominican Republic received moderate to heavy rainfall, while light rainfall was recorded over Hispaniola’s coastal areas. Significant moisture deficits persist across the northern and eastern Dominican Republic and central Haiti. Meanwhile, southern Haiti and southwestern parts of the Dominical Republic have recorded a surplus of rainfall. Next week, below-average rainfall is forecast for Haiti and the eastern Dominican Republic.

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.