Delayed rainfall sustains dryness in Southern Africa, while flooding is likely to continue across East Africa

Africa Weather Hazards

1. Heavy rainfall triggered flooding in Accra, Ghana last week.
2. Rising water levels in the Ubangui River triggered flooding along the river basin into northern and western DRC.
3. Heavy rainfall during the past couple of months has significantly raised water levels in the Nile River and its tributaries in Sudan and South Sudan triggering floods.
4. Several weeks of heavy rainfall triggered flooding in parts of Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia. High risk for flooding persists along the Shabelle River in Somalia next week.
5. A locust warning has been issued for parts of Ethiopia, specifically in Tigray, Amhara, Afar, Diredawa and Oromia regions.
6. A delayed and poor start to the rainy season across parts of South Africa and Lesotho has led to abnormal dryness.
7. Heavy rainfall last week triggered flooding in KwaZulu-Natal province in South Africa.

Source: FEWS NET/NOAA
Africa Overview

Heavy rainfall continues across much of East Africa

Monsoon rains continued across the region with the heaviest rainfall over Somalia and parts of Ethiopia (Figure 1). Heavy rainfall was also recorded over parts of Kenya, and eastern Tanzania, with flash flooding, reported in Mombasa, Kenya. Meanwhile, parts of southern Kenya, Uganda, eastern DRC, and western Tanzania received below-average rainfall.

Consecutive weeks of heavy rainfall since October have resulted in considerable flooding and rising river levels during the recent weeks. High river levels are especially concerning along the Shabelle in southern Somalia, and the Nile River and its tributaries in Sudan and South Sudan. Flooding from the Kafu River in central and western Uganda is also likely. Over the last 30-days, there have been large rainfall surpluses in southern Ethiopia, southern Somalia, Kenya, and eastern Tanzania, with these parts receiving 4 to 6 consecutive weeks of above-normal rainfall (Figure 2).

Next week, rainfall is expected to continue across East Africa, although rainfall is expected to decrease over Somalia. Heavy rainfall is expected over much of southern Ethiopia, Kenya, and northern Tanzania, and even greater rainfall totals in eastern DRC. The continued rainfall will maintain a high risk for flooding in the region.

Rainfall last week relieves some dryness in parts of South Africa

Increased rainfall was observed over eastern South Africa and Eswatini last week, with similar amounts in northern Madagascar and parts of Zambia (Figure 1). Flash flooding was reported along the coast of South Africa. Meanwhile, lighter rainfall was received in parts of northern Angola and Zambia, resulting in large rainfall deficits. Significant dryness also persists in eastern South Africa and Angola (Figure 2). While Angola has a very wet climate these deficits are not currently concerning, however, South Africa and Lesotho’s climates are much more sensitive. Warmer-than-average temperatures have also exacerbated dryness in South Africa and Mozambique. Only parts of Madagascar and western Angola have recorded sufficient or above-average rainfall for the period.

Next week, heavy rainfall is forecast over eastern South Africa and western Angola. Monsoon rains are expected to cover more of the region and bring above-normal early-season rainfall to parts of Zambia and Zimbabwe.
Central Asia Weather Hazards

Temperatures
Last week, temperatures across Central Asia were average with some slightly warmer than average temperatures in northeastern Kazakhstan and slightly colder than average temperatures across Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan. The coldest temperatures reached below 5°C in western Tajikistan, while below freezing temperatures were recorded in northern Kazakhstan and the higher elevations of Afghanistan and Tajikistan. Next week, minimum temperatures are forecast to reach 8°C below normal across northern Kazakhstan. Meanwhile, warmer than average temperatures are expected in Kazakhstan and southeastern Central Asia. Colder to freezing temperatures are expected in northern Pakistan, northern Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan.

Precipitation
Last week, northern Pakistan received heavy rainfall while light amounts of rainfall were recorded in northern Kazakhstan, Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan. Next week, light rainfall is expected over northern Pakistan, and the border area of Afghanistan and Pakistan, and parts of northeastern Kazakhstan. Heavy snowfall is also likely over Tajikistan, northern Pakistan, northern Afghanistan, southern Kyrgyzstan, and northeastern Kazakhstan.

Central America and the Caribbean Weather Hazards

1. A poor rainfall performance during the Postrera season has resulted in abnormal dryness in southern and central parts of the Dominican Republic.

2. Insufficient rainfall over the past several weeks has resulted in abnormal dryness in eastern Honduras and parts of Nicaragua.
Central America and the Caribbean Overview

Dry conditions remain in areas of northern Central America
Last week, dry and near-average conditions persisted across Central America, with below-average rainfall recorded over much of the region. Northern Guatemala, central and northern Honduras, and central Nicaragua received light rainfall. Over the past 30-days, below-average rainfall was registered over the eastern half of Honduras and northeastern Nicaragua, causing abnormal dryness to develop. Meanwhile, Costa Rica and Panama received heavy rainfall, with above-average amounts of rainfall also recorded over western and southern Guatemala, El Salvador, and western Nicaragua. The August – November seasonal performance has been marked by deficits in Guatemala, Honduras, and northern Nicaragua, although some surpluses are registered over southern Guatemala, El Salvador, southern Nicaragua, and the southern Caribbean. As the season approaches its end, reduced amounts of rainfall are expected over much of the region, with moderate rainfall in the Atlantic facing countries. Next week, near to below-average rainfall is forecast over Central America, with little to no rainfall expected along areas of the Atlantic coast. Colder temperatures and strong winds are likely over parts of Guatemala and Honduras.

Below-average rainfall maintains dry conditions in Hispaniola
Last week, dry conditions strengthened in parts of Hispaniola, due to below-average rainfall over much of the island, except central and northwestern parts of Haiti, where light amounts of rainfall were recorded. Drier-than-average conditions have persisted in the central and northern portions of the Dominican Republic, which have been present since October. Over the past 90-days, large seasonal deficits have been registered in the southern Dominican Republic, while seasonal surpluses were recorded elsewhere, including much of Haiti and the western Dominican Republic. Next week, light to moderate rainfall is forecast over southern Haiti, while dry weather is expected over the Dominican Republic. Continued below-average rainfall is likely to strengthen dryness in the region.

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.