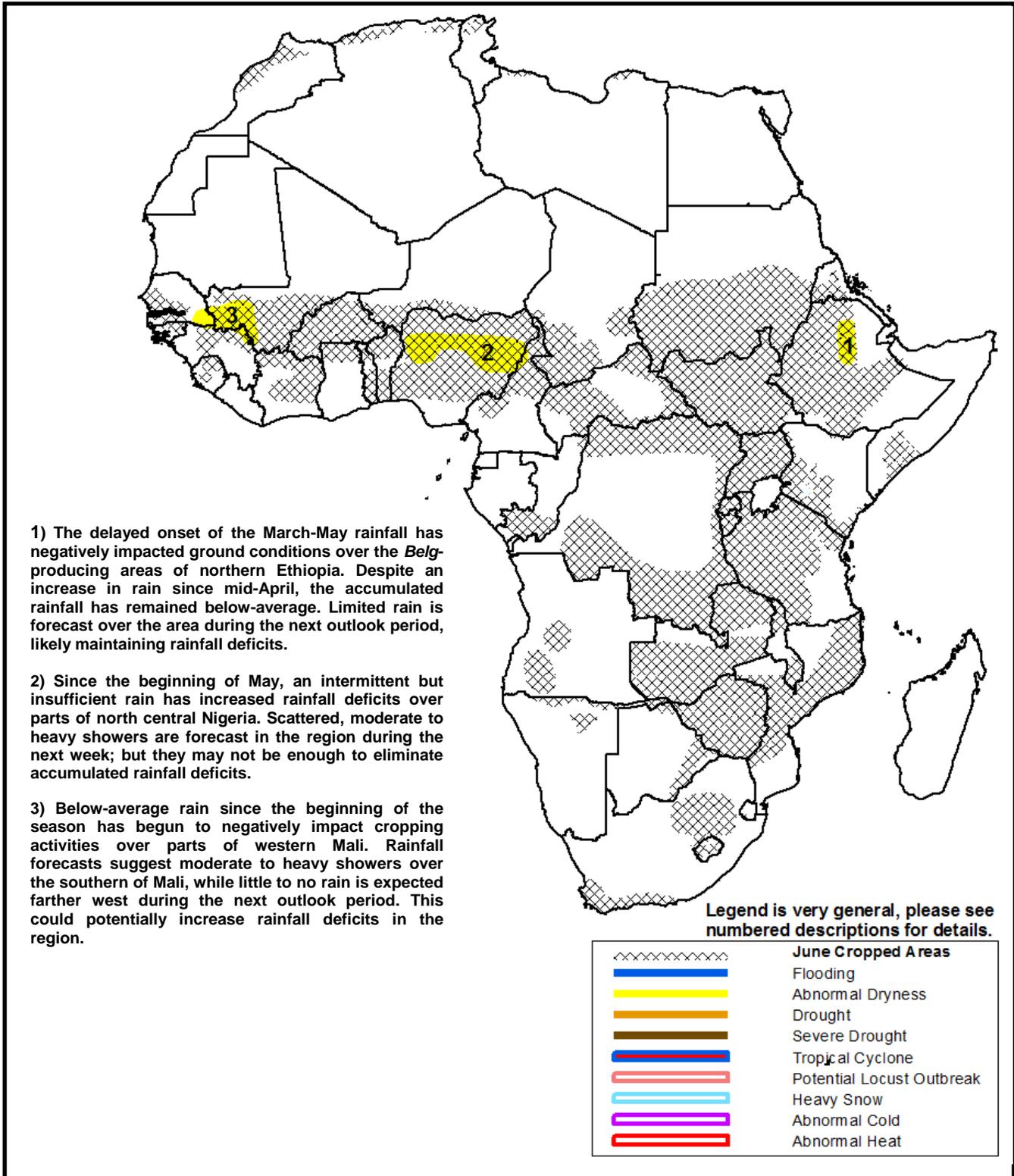


Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET June 20 – June 26, 2013

- Abnormal dryness has settled in across western Mali.
- A slight reduction in rainfall observed over Ethiopia.



A reduction in rain observed in West Africa.

During the past seven days, a reduction in rainfall was observed across West Africa. A wide portion of the region, including Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger received light to localized moderate rain, while the Gulf of Guinea continued to record abundant (> 50 mm) rainfall (**Figure 1**). The heaviest rain was again registered over Tabou, Cote d'Ivoire, with rainfall amounts exceeding 200 mm. While countries along the coasts of the Gulf of Guinea have generally maintained rainfall surpluses, parts of western Mali and central Nigeria have experienced increasing rainfall deficits over the past thirty days. Although it is early in the season, the continuation of insufficient rainfall could deplete water availability and negatively impact crops during their early stages of development.

An analysis of the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) anomaly during the recent ten day-period indicates below-average vegetation conditions over eastern Senegal, northern Guinea, western Mali, and northeastern Nigeria (**Figure 2**). In western Mali, the seasonal rainfall has not started until early June, hence impacting vegetation conditions over the region. In Nigeria, although the frequency of rain has neared average to above-average, seasonal accumulation has remained below-average, affecting biomass conditions over the east-central parts of the country. In contrast, positive NDVI anomalies were observed along the Gulf of Guinea region, including Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, and the southern parts of Ghana, Togo, Benin, and Nigeria, which have resulted from continuous and above-average rain since the start of the season.

During the next outlook period, there is an increased chance that above-average; heavy showers will develop across Guinea, Sierra Leone, and southern Mali. However, there is an increased likelihood for below-average, light rain across eastern Cote d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Togo, and Benin during the next week.

Reduced rain observed in western Ethiopia.

During the past week, moderate to locally heavy rain was observed over parts of the Oromiya and Amhara regions of Ethiopia, while below-average, light to moderate rain fell over the Beninshangul-Gumuz areas of the west. The uneven spatial distribution of rainfall during the past week has resulted in growing rainfall deficits over the low-lying areas of northwestern Ethiopia and eastern Sudan. Meanwhile, moderate to locally heavy rain was recorded over South Sudan and has maintained thirty day rainfall surpluses in the region. The continuation of seasonal rain is needed to sustain adequate soil moisture for agricultural and pastoral activities in eastern Africa. During the next week, seasonal, moderate to heavy rain is expected to continue in western Ethiopia, while localized heavy rain is forecast over southern Sudan and western South Sudan. Isolated showers may also develop over southwestern Kenya.

Note: The hazards outlook map on page 1 is based on current weather/climate information and short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week). It assesses 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.

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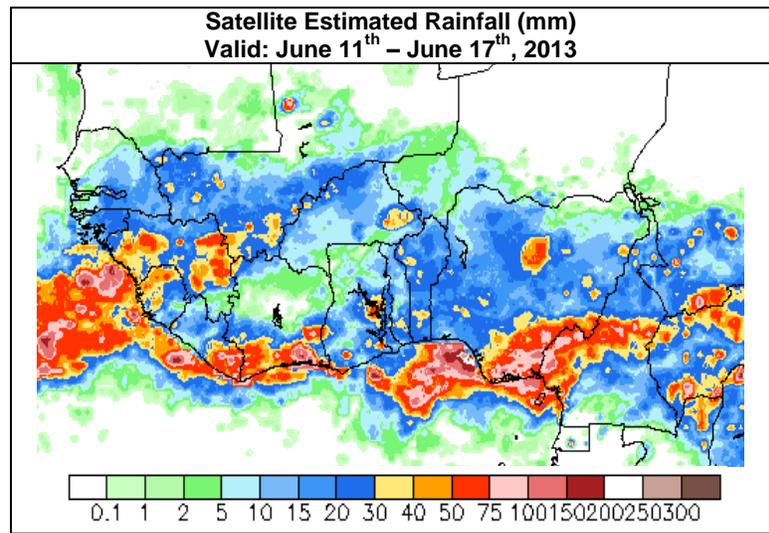


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

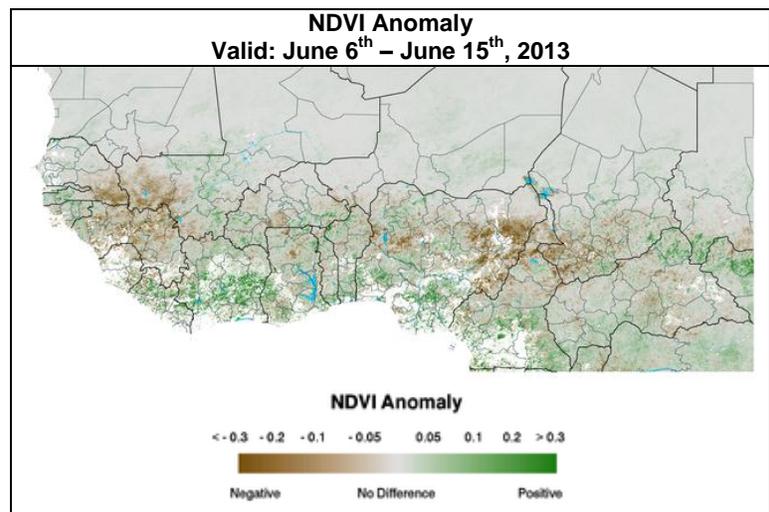


Figure 2: USGS/EROS

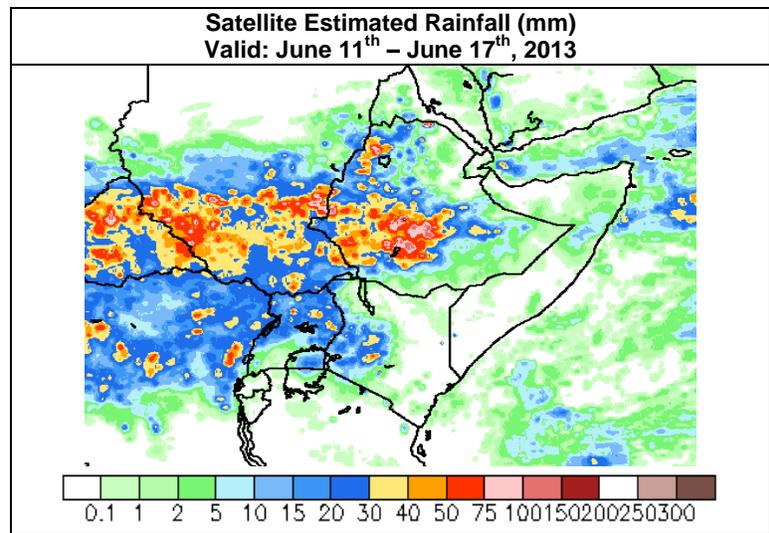


Figure 3: NOAA/CPC