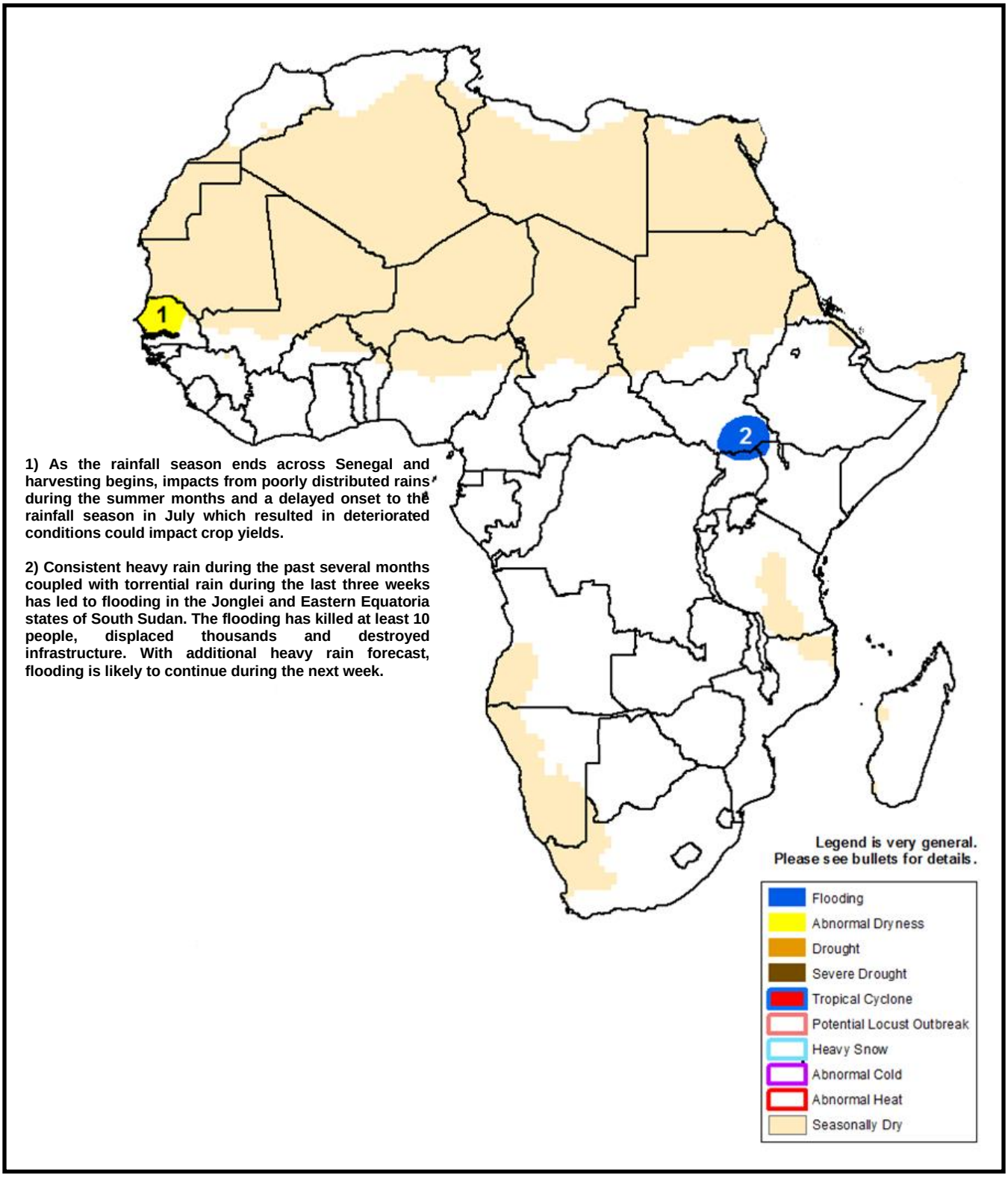
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
October 23 – October 29, 2014

- **Torrential rains continued across much of saturated and flood-affected South Sudan.**
- **Bi-modal regions of the Gulf of Guinea observed a second week of below-average rain.**



1) As the rainfall season ends across Senegal and harvesting begins, impacts from poorly distributed rains during the summer months and a delayed onset to the rainfall season in July which resulted in deteriorated conditions could impact crop yields.

2) Consistent heavy rain during the past several months coupled with torrential rain during the last three weeks has led to flooding in the Jonglei and Eastern Equatoria states of South Sudan. The flooding has killed at least 10 people, displaced thousands and destroyed infrastructure. With additional heavy rain forecast, flooding is likely to continue during the next week.

Heavy rain fell across saturated areas in South Sudan.

During the past week, heavy rains again fell across a wide portion of eastern Africa. The heaviest rains (>75mm) were recorded across South Sudan, southern Sudan, western Ethiopia, and locations around Lake Victoria. The abundant rains in South Sudan (10-50mm above-average) fell across areas that have experienced flooding during the past several weeks that damaged infrastructure and displaced thousands. Farther south, abundant rains in Rwanda has helped to continue to improve ground moisture after poor rains during September led to poor ground conditions. In contrast, only localized showers (10-40mm) were observed across central/southern Somalia leading to much of southern Somalia observing rains 10-25mm below-average during the past week (**Figure 1**).

Over the past several weeks, heavy rains have been observed across eastern Africa. This has resulted in much of the region recording above-average rainfall over the past thirty-days. In particular, western Ethiopia, the Somali region of Ethiopia, South Sudan, and central/northern Somalia have seen rains 50-200mm above-average. Farther south, recent heavy rain has led to growing thirty-day rainfall surpluses as surpluses ranging from 10-100mm are found around Lake Victoria, including previously dry areas in Rwanda. However, in contrast, a slow start to Deyr seasonal rains has led to rainfall deficits (10-50mm) in southern Somalia (**Figure 2**). Since the rainy season is short (October-December), rains are needed to begin during the next several weeks to avoid negative impacts on cropping activities.

For the next week, heavy rains (>50mm) are forecast for areas around Lake Victoria stretching north to southern parts of South Sudan. Another week of abundant rains in South Sudan will keep flooding risks elevated. Elsewhere, locally moderate to heavy rain (>25mm) is expected for the Somali region of Ethiopia and central/southern Somalia. However, little rain (<10mm) is forecast for central Ethiopia and coastal Kenya.

Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: October 15 – October 21, 2014

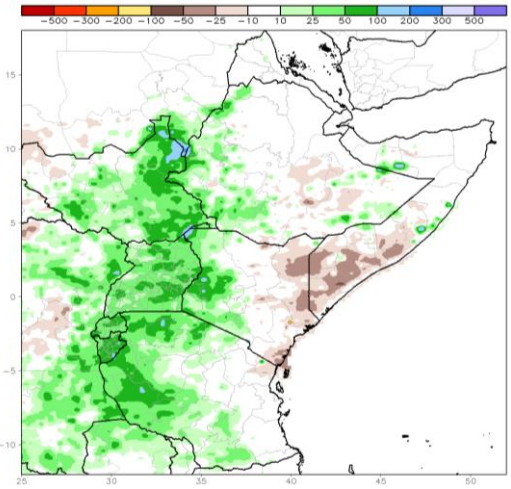


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: September 22 – October 21, 2014

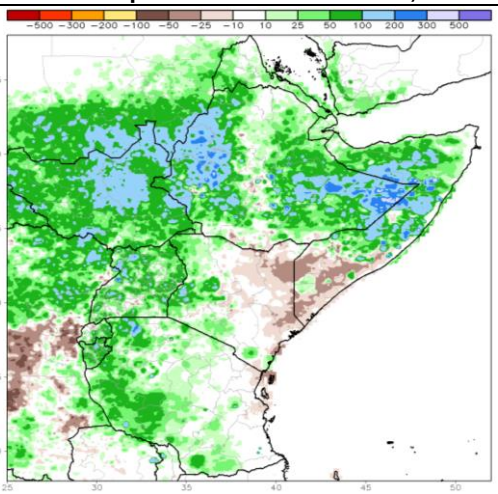


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

Bi-modal areas of West Africa observed below-average rains.

During the last seven days, rainfall across West Africa was average to below-average. The heaviest rains (>50mm) were observed across saturated areas in far western West Africa, including Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia, as well as Nigeria and localized areas in Ghana, Togo and Benin. Moderate rains (10-40mm) were observed across dry areas in Senegal. In contrast, little rainfall (<10mm) was recorded across the Sahel, as seasonal rains are ending, as well as coastal Cote D'Ivoire and Ghana. Since August 1st, much of West Africa has observed above-average rains with Burkina Faso and central/northern Mali observing rains above the 85th percentile. In contrast, rains in Nigeria have been below the 30th percentile (**Figure 3**), though rains have been adequate for cropping. For the next week, below-average rain is expected across West Africa, which will increase rainfall deficits across bi-modal areas along the Gulf of Guinea.

Satellite Estimated Rainfall Percentile (%)
Valid: August 01 – October 21, 2014

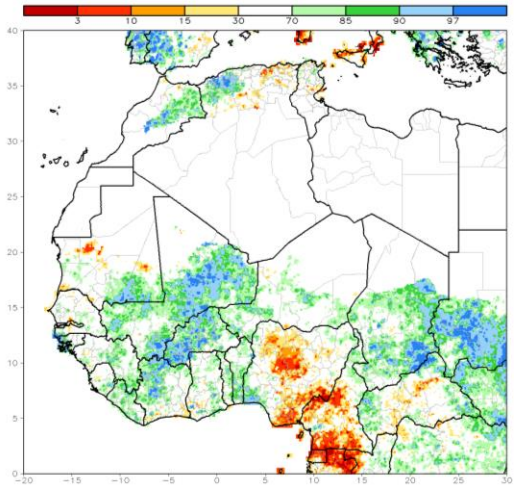


Figure 3: NOAA/CPC

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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